

A new safety catch photolabile protecting group

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Supplementary material

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General experimental

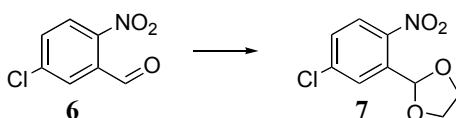
Reactions were generally carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen. Solvents were dried by filtration, under an argon atmosphere, through a purification system similar to the one proposed by Grubbs *et al.*^[1] Thin layer chromatography (TLC) analyses were done using aluminium sheets coated with silica gel 60 F₂₅₄. Flash column chromatography (FC) was carried out using Brunschwig silica gel 60 Å (32-63 mesh). Commercially available products were used without further purification.

NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance DPX 360 (¹H: 360 and ¹³C: 90.55 MHz) spectrometer in CDCl₃. Chemical shifts are given in ppm, calibrated to the residual solvent peak 7.27 ppm and 77.0 ppm for ¹H and ¹³C respectively, coupling constants “*J*” are expressed in hertz (multiplicity: s = singlet, bs = broad singlet, d = doublet, dd = double doublet, t = triplet, q = quadruplet, quint = quintet, sext = sextet, m = multiplet). IR were recorded on a FTIR Unicam Mattson 5000 spectrometer. Electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectra (MS) were obtained with a FT/ICR mass spectrometer Bruker 4.7T BioApex II, relative intensities are given in parenthesis. Photochemical irradiations were made in a Rayonet photoreactor, in a quartz vessel, with 16 300 nm lamps (spectral distribution available from www.rayonet.org). All melting points are uncorrected.

^[1] Pangborn, A. B.; Giardello, M. A.; Grubbs, R. H.; Rosen, R. K.; Timmers, F. J. **Safe and Convenient Procedure for Solvent Purification**, *Organometallics* **1996**, *15*, 1518-1520.

I Experimental procedure for the synthesis of the substrates

5-Chloro-2-nitrobenzaldehyde ethylene acetal 7



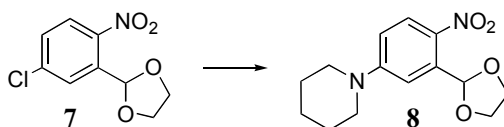
In a flask equipped with a *Dean-Stark* water separator, 5-chloro-2-nitrobenzaldehyde **6** (1g, 5.38 mmol), ethylene glycol (900 µL, 16.16 mmol) and *para*-toluenesulfonic acid (51 mg, 0.26 mmol) were dissolved in 25 mL of toluene. The mixture was stirred at reflux for 4 h. CH₂Cl₂ was then added, and the organic phase was washed once with satd NaHCO₃ and once with brine. The organic phase was then dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by FC (silica gel)(hexane/CH₂Cl₂ 4/6). After evaporation, compound **7** was obtained as a pale yellow oil (1.1g; 4.80 mmol, 89%).

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.95-4.02 (m, 4 H), 6.44 (s, 1 H), 7.42 (dd, , *J* = 8.6 Hz, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1 H)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 65.83, 99.45, 126.47, 128.34, 130.05, 135.83, 139.94, 147.33

Product described in :

Meanwell, N. A.; Dennis, R. D.; Roth, H. R.; Rosenfeld, M.J.; Smith, Edward, C. R.; Wright, J. J. Kim; Buchanan, J. O.; Brassard, C. L.; Gamberdella, M.; Gillespie, E.; Seiler, S. M.; Zavoico, G. B.; Fleming, J. S. *J. Med. Chem.* **1992**, *14*, 2688-2696.

5-(N-piperidinyl)-2-nitrobenzaldehyde ethylene acetal 8

Compound **7** (650 mg, 2.83 mmol) was dissolved in 4 mL of piperidine. The mixture was then heated to reflux. After 16 hours the mixture was allowed to room temperature and CH₂Cl₂ was added. The organic phase was washed twice with water. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. Purification by FC (silica gel) (CH₂Cl₂) gave compound **8** (695 mg, 2.49 mmol, 88 %) as a yellow oil.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.65 (s, 6 H); 3.40 (s, 4 H); 4.0 (s, 4 H); 6.58 (s, 1H); 6.75 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1 H); 7.17 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz); 8.01 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1 H)

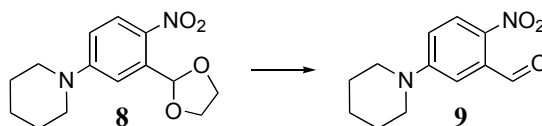
¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.57; 25.68; 48.95; 65.67; 100.35; 111.56; 113.06; 128.64; 136.24

TLC *R_f* = 0.21 (CH₂Cl₂)

MS (ESI) *m/z* : 301 ;12 [M+Na]⁺

Product described in :

Meanwell, N. A.; Dennis, R. D.; Roth, H. R.; Rosenfeld, M.J.; Smith, Edward, C. R.; Wright, J. J. Kim; Buchanan, J. O.; Brassard, C. L.; Gamberdella, M.; Gillespie, E.; Seiler, S. M.; Zavoico, G. B.; Fleming, J. S. *J. Med. Chem.* **1992**, 14, 2688-2696.

5-(N-piperidinyl)-2-nitrobenzaldehyde 9

Compound **8** (675 mg, 2.43 mmol) was dissolved in acetone/water (3 mL/3 mL). Then *p*-toluenesulfonic acid was added (23 mg, 0.12 mmol) and the mixture was heated to reflux. After 4 h CH₂Cl₂ was added and the organic layer was washed once with satd NaHCO₃ and once with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. Compound **9** was obtained in a pure form, without further purification, as a yellow solid (555 mg, 2.37 mmol, 97 %).

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.66 (s, 6 H); 3.47 (s, 4 H); 6.87 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1 H); 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.7, 1 H); 8.04 (d, *J* = 9.0, 1 H); 10.48 (s, 1H)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.51; 25.65; 48.71; 112.55; 115.23; 128.20; 135.62; 154.36; 190.72

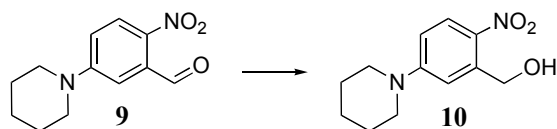
TLC *R_f* = 0.29 (CH₂Cl₂)

MS (ESI) *m/z* : 235.11 [M+ H]⁺; 257.09 [M+Na]⁺; 289.11 [M + MeOH + Na]⁺

Product described in :

Meanwell, N. A.; Dennis, R. D.; Roth, H. R.; Rosenfeld, M.J.; Smith, Edward, C. R.; Wright, J. J. Kim; Buchanan, J. O.; Brassard, C. L.; Gamberdella, M.; Gillespie, E.; Seiler, S. M.; Zavoico, G. B.; Fleming, J. S. *J. Med. Chem.* **1992**, 14, 2688-2696.

5-(N-piperidinyl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 10



Compound **9** (540 mg, 2.30 mmol) was dissolved in 8 mL of THF and NaBH₄ (87 mg, 2.30 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 1h the mixture was partitioned between ether and satd NH₄Cl. After two extractions of the aqueous layer with Et₂O, the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The expected product **10** was isolated by FC (silica gel)(CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc 95/5) as yellow solid (520 mg, 2.20 mmol, 95 %).

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.68 (s, 6 H); 3.10 (bs, 1 H); 3.46 (bs, 4 H), 4.89 (s, 2 H); 6.70 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1 H); 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1 H)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.17; 25.26; 48.18; 64.12; 111.37, 112.82; 128.70; 135.89; 140.11; 154.35

TLC *R_f* = 0.76 (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc)(60/40)

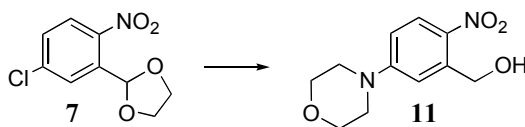
mp = 83 °C

IR (neat) 3290, 2941, 2856, 1606, 1573, 1481, 1447, 1385, 1352, 1316; 1254; 1168; 1124; 1089; 1031; 1019; 849; 801; 750 cm⁻¹

MS (ESI) *m/z* : 237.12 [M+ H]⁺; 259.10 [M+Na]⁺

HR-MS (ESI): 237.1231 (calcd for [C₁₂H₁₆N₂O₃ + H]⁺: 237.1233)

5-(N-morpholin)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 11



Compound **7** (500 mg, 2.17 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of morpholine. The mixture was then heated to reflux. After 16 hours the mixture was allowed to room temperature and CH₂Cl₂ was added. The organic phase was washed twice with water. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. Purification by FC (silica gel) (CH₂Cl₂) gave the expected acetal (450 mg, 1.60 mmol, 73 %) as a pale yellow oil.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.37 (t, *J* = 5.00 Hz, 4 H); 3.85 (t, *J* = 5.00 Hz, 4 H); 4.06 (bs, 4 H); 6.58 (s, 1 H); 6.80 (dd, *J* = 9.08 Hz, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 7.22 (d, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 8.04 (d, *J* = 9.08 Hz, 1 H)

TLC *R_f* = 0.15 (Cyclohexane/EtOAc)(95/5)

The acetal (500mg, 1.783 mmol) was dissolved in acetone/water (2 mL/2 mL). Then *p*-toluenesulfonic acid was added (17 mg, 0.089 mmol) and the mixture was heated to reflux.

After 4 h EtOAc was added and the organic layer was washed once with satd NaHCO₃ and once with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The crude aldehyde was obtained without specific purification as a yellow solid (360mg).

To a suspension of the crude aldehyde (360 mg) in THF/EtOH (2 mL/2 mL), NaBH₄ (51mg, 1.354 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 1h the mixture was partitioned between ether and satd NH₄Cl. After two extractions of the aqueous layer with Et₂O, the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The expected product was isolated by FC (silica gel)(CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc 95/5). After evaporation compound **11** (322 mg, 1.351 mmol, 76 %) was obtained as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.90 (bs, 1H); 3.40 (t, *J* = 5.00 Hz, 4 H); 3.85 (t, *J* = 5.00 Hz, 4 H); 4.94 (s, 2 H); 6.75 (dd, *J* = 9.50 Hz, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 7.03 (d, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.50 Hz, 1 H)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.88; 63.73; 66.32; 111.62; 112.98; 128.28; 137.51; 139.87; 154.55

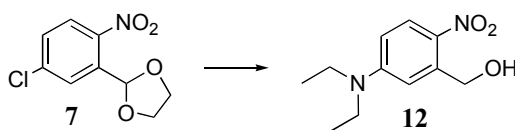
TLC *R_f* = 0.33 (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc)(60/40)

mp = 157 °C

IR (neat) 3346, 2967, 2901, 2871, 1603, 1574, 1479, 1445, 1389, 1319, 1306 1242, 1181, 1120, 1092, 1050, 1021, 971, 945, 876, 851, 820, 753 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 261.0847 (calcd for [C₁₁H₁₄N₂O₄ + Na]⁺: 261.0845)

5-(*N,N*-diethyl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol **12**



Compound **7** (1.6 g, 6.968 mmol) and diethylamine (14.5 mL, 139 mmol) were dissolved in 20 mL of DMSO. The mixture was then heated at 80 °C. After 48 hours the mixture was allowed to room temperature and CH₂Cl₂ was added. The organic phase was washed twice with water. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. Purification by FC (silica gel) (CH₂Cl₂) gave the expected acetal (750 mg, 2.816 mmol, 40 %) as a pale yellow oil.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.26 Hz, 6 H); 3.45 (q, *J* = 7.26 Hz, 4 H); 4.05 (m, 4 H); 6.53 (dd, *J* = 9.5 Hz, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 6.66 (s, 1 H); 6.97 (d, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 8.06 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1 H)

The acetal (650 mg, 2.440 mmol) was dissolved in acetone/ water (1 mL/1 mL). *p*-Toluenesulfonic acid was then added (93 mg, 0.488 mmol) and the mixture was heated to reflux. After 4 h EtOAc was added and the organic layer was washed once with satd NaHCO₃ and once with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The crude aldehyde was obtained as a yellow solid (500 mg).

To a suspension of the crude aldehyde (500 mg) in THF/EtOH (1 mL/1 mL), NaBH₄ (76 mg, 2.024 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 1h the mixture was partitioned between ether and satd NH₄Cl. After two extractions of the aqueous layer with Et₂O, the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The expected product was isolated by FC (silica gel)(CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc

95/5). After evaporation, compound **12** (430 mg, 1.917 mmol, 78 % overall yield) was obtained as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.26 Hz, 6 H); 3.18 (t, *J* = 6.36 Hz, 1 H); 3.46 (q, *J* = 7.26 Hz, 4 H); 4.89 (d, *J* = 6.36 Hz, 2 H); 6.52 (dd, *J* = 9.54 Hz, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 6.72 (d, *J* = 2.73 Hz, 1 H); 8.12 (d, *J* = 9.54 Hz, 1 H)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.38; 44.87; 64.37; 109.32; 110.72; 129.10; 134.85; 140.46; 152.05

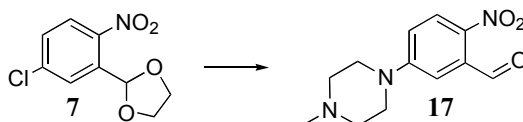
TLC *R_f* = 0.36 (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc)(90/10)

mp = 121 °C

IR (neat) 3276, 2974, 2926, 1606, 1567, 1513, 1477, 1468, 1444, 1403, 1382, 1359, 1303, 1264, 1252, 1197, 1189, 1086, 1029, 974, 958, 845, 807, 790, 751 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 225.1231 (calcd for [C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₃ + H]⁺: 225.1233)

5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzaldehyde 17



Compound **7** (1.5 g, 6.532 mmol) was dissolved in *N*-methylpiperazine (13.085 g, 130.650 mmol). The mixture was then heated at 100 °C for 4 hours. The mixture was cooled to RT and CH₂Cl₂ was added; the organic phase was washed twice with water. The organic layer was then dried over Na₂SO₄ filtered and evaporated. The residue was dissolved in a mixture of acetone and HCl 1M (50 mL/50 mL) and heated at 60 °C for 2 hours. After cooling at RT the mixture was slowly neutralized with Na₂CO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer over Na₂SO₄ filtered and evaporated. The crude product was purified by FC (CH₂Cl₂) (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(95/5) to afford compound **17** as a yellow solid (1.4 g, 5.616 mmol, 86 %).

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.34 (3 H, s) 2.54 (2 H, t) 3.48 (2 H, t) 6.93 (1 H, dd, *J* = 9.31, 2.95 Hz) 7.12 (1 H, d, *J* = 3.18 Hz) 8.08 (1 H, d, *J* = 9.08 Hz) 10.49 (1 H, s)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 45.87; 46.63; 54.25; 112.36; 115.17; 127.51; 134.74; 138.04; 153.94; 189.93

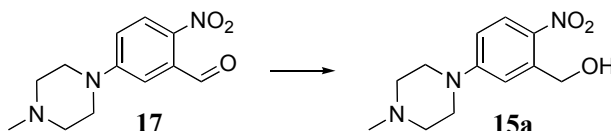
TLC *R_f* = 0.60 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(90/10)

mp = 154 °C

IR (neat) 2943, 2862, 2852, 2803, 2776, 1687, 1592, 1575, 1488, 1458, 1439, 1431, 1397, 1323, 1294, 1256, 1234, 1151, 1146, 1093, 1076, 1044, 1004, 872, 825, 794 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 250.1187 (calcd for [C₁₂H₁₅N₃O₃ + H]⁺: 250.1186)

5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 15a



Compound **17** (600 mg, 2.407 mmol) was dissolved in 20mL of isopropanol and basic aluminum oxide (2 g) was added. The mixture was heated at reflux overnight. The mixture was then filtered and the Alox was washed with (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(70/30). Solvents were evaporated and the residue was purified by FC (CH₂Cl₂) (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(90/10). Compound **15a** was obtained as a yellow solid (540 mg, 2.148 mmol, 90 %).

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.34 (3 H, s) 2.53 (4 H, t) 3.43 (4 H, t) 3.64 (1 H, br. s.) 4.93 (2 H, s) 6.72 (1 H, dd, *J*=9.54, 2.72 Hz) 7.05 (1 H, d, *J*=2.72 Hz) 8.10 (1 H, d, *J*=9.08 Hz)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 45.96; 46.62; 54.43; 63.37; 111.63; 112.65; 128.22; 136.88; 140.34; 154.33

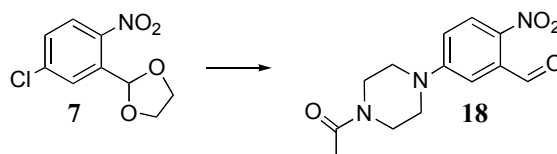
TLC *R*_f = 0.16 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(95/5)

mp = 129 °C

IR (neat) 3110, 2954, 2900, 2834, 2816, 1607, 1578, 1488, 1442, 1382, 1320, 1303, 1256, 1213, 1166, 1141, 1098, 1069, 1039, 1002, 971, 862, 854, 834, 814, 797, 752 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 274.1159 (calcd for [C₁₂H₁₇N₃O₃ + Na]⁺: 274.1162)

5-(4-acetylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzaldehyde 18



Compound **7** (500 mg, 2.177 mmol) was dissolved of *N*-acetylpiperazine (5.597 g, 43.666 mmol). The mixture was then heated at 100 °C. After 4 hours, the mixture was allowed to room temperature and CH₂Cl₂ was added. The organic phase was washed twice with satd NH₄Cl. The organic layer was then dried over Na₂SO₄ filtered and evaporated. The crude product was then dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL). Amberlite-H⁺ was added and the mixture was heated at reflux for 24 hours. After cooling to RT, the Amberlite-H⁺ was filtered and washed three times with 50 mL of CH₂Cl₂. The solvent was evaporated. The crude product was purified by FC (silica gel) (CH₂Cl₂ and CH₂Cl₂/MeOH (90/10)) and recrystallization (Hexane/EtOAc) to afford compound **18** (230 mg, 0.829 mmol, 38 %) as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.15 (3 H, s); 3.40 - 3.60 (4 H); 3.61 - 3.73 (2 H); 3.72 - 3.86 (2 H); 6.94 (1 H, dd, *J*=9.31, 2.95 Hz); 7.11 (1 H, d, *J*=2.72 Hz); 8.10 (1 H, d, *J*=9.54 Hz); 10.48 (1 H, s)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 21.28; 40.50; 45.20; 46.48; 46.55; 112.49; 115.40; 127.53; 134.63; 138.71; 153.54; 169.18; 189.64

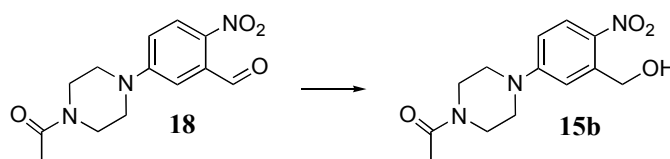
TLC *R*_f = 0.13 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(95/5)

mp = 147 °C

IR (neat) 3107, 3009, 2993, 2923, 2900, 2863, 1689, 1649, 1589, 1576, 1491, 1475, 1430, 1395, 1362, 1324, 1286, 1243, 1228, 1167, 1154, 1085, 1035, 1028, 995, 972, 866, 833, 828, 752 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 300.0950 (calcd for [C₁₃H₁₅N₃O₄ + Na]⁺: 300.0955)

5-(4-acetylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 15b



Compound **18** (200 mg, 0.721 mmol) was dissolved in THF (5 mL) and NaBH₄ (27 mg, 0.721 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30min. The reaction was quenched by satd NH₄Cl and the solution was then extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer

was dried over MgSO_4 filtered and evaporated. The crude product was purified by FC (silica gel, CH_2Cl_2 and $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$ (95/5)) to afford compound **15b** (190 mg, 0.680 mmol, 94%) as a yellow solid.

^1H NMR (360 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 2.04 (3 H, s) 3.42 - 3.49 (2 H, m) 3.49 - 3.56 (2 H, m) 3.56 - 3.68 (4 H, m) 4.85 (2 H, d, $J=5.45$ Hz) 5.49 (1 H, t, $J=5.45$ Hz) 6.92 (1 H, dd, $J=9.54$, 2.72 Hz) 7.24 (2 H, d, $J=2.72$ Hz) 8.05 (1 H, d, $J=9.54$ Hz)

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 21.23; 40.29; 44.77; 45.88; 46.14; 60.88; 110.37; 111.03; 127.57; 135.48; 142.21; 153.73; 168.53

TLC R_f = 0.33 ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$)(95/5)

mp = 161 °C

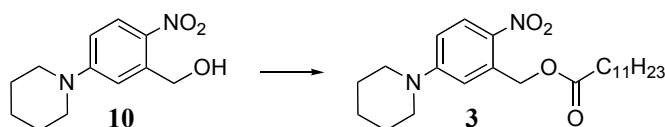
IR (neat) 3280, 2981, 2930, 2904, 2845, 1626, 1610, 1574, 1482, 1450, 1433, 1367, 1348, 1306, 1245, 1160, 1093, 1065, 1033, 1002, 980, 976, 851, 824, 803, 754 cm^{-1}

HR-MS (ESI): 302.1113 (calcd for $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4 + \text{Na}]^+$: 302.1111)

General procedure for the synthesis of the esters

Alcohols, triethylamine and DMAP were dissolved in anhydrous THF. Lauroyl chloride was then added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. CH_2Cl_2 was then added, the organic phase was washed once with satd NH_4Cl , once with satd NaHCO_3 and once with brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by FC (silica gel). Esters were obtained after evaporation as a yellow solid.

Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N*-piperidin)-2-nitrobenzyl ester **3**



Compound **10** (320 mg, 1.35 mmol), lauroyl chloride (386 μL , 2.70 mmol), DMAP (16 mg, 0.13 mmol), triethylamine (380 μL , 1.62 mmol).

Compound **3** (504 mg, 1.20 mmol, 89 %) was obtained after evaporation as a yellow solid.

^1H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.87 (t, $J = 6.81$ Hz, 3H), 1.2-1.4 (16 H); 1.6-1.7 (8H); 2.42 (t, $J = 7.49$ Hz, 2 H); 3.43 (bs, 4H), 5.53 (s, 2H); 6.73 (dd, $J = 9.31$ Hz, $J = 2.50$ Hz, 1 H); 6.84 (d, $J = 2.50$ Hz, 1 H); 8.12 (d, $J = 9.31$ Hz, 1H)

^{13}C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.08, 22.64, 24.16, 25.05, 25.23, 29.17, 29.27, 29.29, 29.41, 29.57, 31.86, 34.36, 48.29, 63.92, 111.59, 111.68, 128.34, 135.47, 136.00, 154.14, 173.06

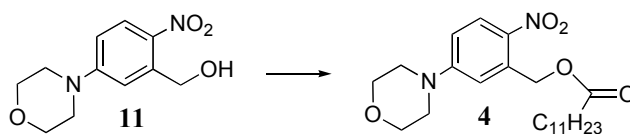
TLC R_f = 0,50 (CH_2Cl_2)

mp = 49 °C

IR (neat) 2918, 2849, 1732, 1605, 1569, 1505, 1483, 1468, 1449, 1381, 1359, 1314, 1238, 1163, 1083, 1023, 1005, 968, 883, 843, 803, 750 cm^{-1}

MS (ESI) m/z : 441.27 $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$

HR-MS (ESI): 419.2900 (calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}]^+$: 419.2904)

Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N*-morpholin)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 4

Alcohol **11** (200 mg, 0.839 mmol); lauroyl chloride (240 μ L, 1 mmol); DMAP (10 mg, 0.083 mmol); triethylamine (235 μ L, 1.678 mmol).

The product **4** was obtained after FC (328 mg, 0.780 mmol, 93 %)

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0,87 (t, J = 6.36 Hz, 3 H); 1.2-1.4 (16 H); 1.66 (2 H); 2.41 (t, J = 7.49 Hz, 2 H); 3.36 (q, J = 5 Hz, 4H); 3.85 (q, J = 5 Hz, 4H); 5.52 (s, 2 H); 6.77 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1 H); 6.88 (s, 1 H); 8.14 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1 H)

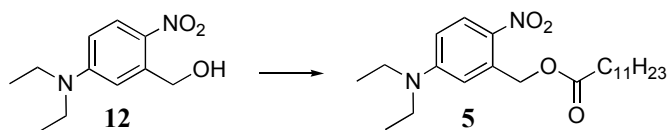
¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.10; 22.66; 25.03; 29.17; 29.29; 29.43; 29.57; 31.86; 34.31; 46.95; 63.69; 66.31; 112.01; 128.04; 135.25; 137.50; 154.25; 173.06

TLC R_f = 0.33 (Cyclohexane/EtOAc)(95/5)

mp = 80°C

IR (neat) 2948, 2921, 2854, 1740, 1605, 1579, 1497, 1473, 1433, 1379, 1326, 1301, 1266, 1240, 1167, 1124, 1090, 1044, 1021, 995, 974, 941, 885, 843, 825, 753 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 443.2516 (calcd for [C₂₃H₃₆N₂O₅ + Na]⁺: 443.2516)

Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N,N*-diethyl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 5

Alcohol **12** (150 mg, 0.669 mmol); lauroyl chloride (190 μ L, 0.802 mmol); DMAP (8 mg, 0.070 mmol); triethylamine (188 μ L, 1.337 mmol).

The product **5** was obtained after FC (250 mg, 0.615 mmol, 91 %)

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0,87 (t, J = 6.58 Hz, 3 H); 1.2-1.4 (m, 22 H); 1.6-1.7 (m, 2 H); 2.42 (t, J = 7.49 Hz, 2 H); 3.45 (q, J = 7.11 Hz, 4H); 5.56 (s, 2 H); 6.53 (dd, J = 9.5 Hz, J = 2.7 Hz, 1 H); 6.62 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1 H); 8.16 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1 H)

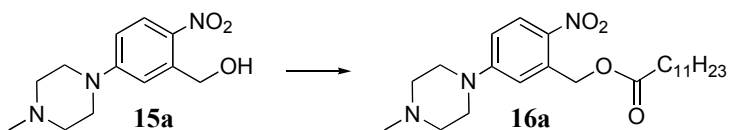
¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.38; 14.09; 22.65; 25.00; 29.19; 29.26; 29.29; 29.41; 29.56; 31.86; 34.38; 44.94; 64.10; 108.88; 109.19; 128.76; 134.69; 135.93; 151.57; 173.04

TLC R_f = 0.32 (CH₂Cl₂)

mp = 64 °C

IR (neat) 2916, 2849, 1728, 1603, 1569, 1510, 1482, 1465, 1450, 1417, 1403, 1377, 1355, 1299, 1259, 1197, 1187, 1168, 1081, 963, 884, 850, 832, 807, 786, 751 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 407.2906 (calcd for [C₂₃H₃₉N₂O₄ + H]⁺: 407.2904)

5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl dodecanoate 16a

Alcohol **15a** (350 mg, 1.392 mmol) ; lauroyl chloride (364 μ L, 1.532 mmol) ; DMAP (17 mg, 0.140 mmol) ; triethylamine (587 μ L, 4.178 mmol).

The product **16a** was obtained after FC (580 mg, 1.337 mmol, 96 %)

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.86 (3 H, t, J =6.58 Hz) 1.17 - 1.40 (16 H, m) 1.61 - 1.74 (2 H, m) 2.35 (3 H, br. s.) 2.41 (2 H, t, J =7.72 Hz) 2.54 (4 H, t) 3.43 (4 H, t) 5.52 (2 H, s) 6.76 (1 H, dd, J =9.08, 2.72 Hz) 6.87 (1 H, d, J =2.72 Hz) 8.13 (1 H, d, J =9.54 Hz)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 14.03; 22.58; 24.97; 29.10; 29.24; 29.35; 29.51; 31.80; 34.25; 45.95; 46.74; 54.39; 63.69; 76.64; 77.00; 77.35; 111.86; 128.03; 135.22; 136.86; 154.04; 172.96;

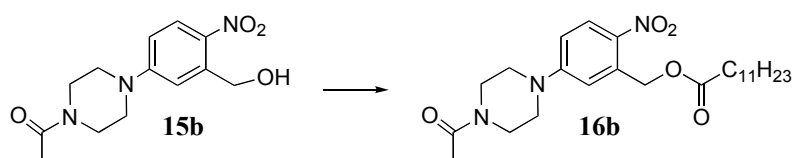
TLC R_f = 0.33 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(95/5)

mp = 48 °C

IR (neat) 2938, 2918, 2802, 1731, 1605, 1575, 1498, 1472, 1439, 1417, 1387, 1316, 1296, 1250, 1161, 1091, 1051, 1006, 975, 884, 859, 835, 808, 795, 751 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 434.3019 (calcd for [C₂₄H₃₉N₃O₄ + H]⁺: 434.3013)

5-(4-acetylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl dodecanoate 16b



Alcohol **15b** (100 mg, 0.358 mmol) ; lauroyl chloride (100 μ L, 0.802 mmol) ; DMAP (4.8 mg, 0.040 mmol) ; triethylamine (150 μ L, 1.060 mmol).

The product **16b** was obtained after FC (135 mg, 0.292 mmol, 82 %)

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.86 (3 H, t, J =6.58 Hz); 1.16 - 1.47 (16 H, m); 1.53 - 1.78 (2 H, m); 2.15 (3 H, s); 2.41 (2 H, t, J =7.49 Hz); 3.34 - 3.56 (4 H, m); 3.67 (2 H, br. s.); 3.80 (2 H, br. s.); 5.52 (2 H, s); 6.77 (1 H, d, J =9.08 Hz); 6.88 (1 H, br. s.); 8.14 (1 H, d, J =9.54 Hz)

¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 14.08; 21.28; 22.63; 24.99; 29.15; 29.28; 29.43; 29.56; 31.85; 34.27; 40.61; 45.38; 46.81; 63.61; 112.25; 112.32; 128.08; 135.33; 137.68; 153.61; 169.14; 173.04

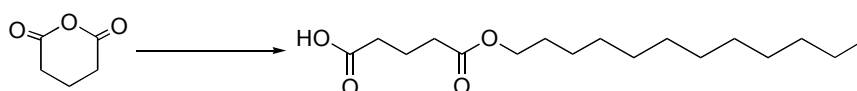
TLC R_f = 0.20 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH)(95/5)

mp = 74 °C

IR (neat) 2923, 2851, 1748, 1640, 1601, 1571, 1505, 1482, 1471; 1442, 1430, 1399, 1315, 1307, 1239, 1158, 1086, 1051, 1032, 995, 980, 845, 828, 814, 752 cm⁻¹

HR-MS (ESI): 556.3723 (calcd for [C₃₀H₅₁N₃O₅ + Na]⁺: 556.3721)

Pentanedioic acid monododecyl ester 19



Glutaric anhydride (500 mg, 4.322 mmol) and dodecanol (1.224 g, 6.573 mmol) were dissolved in 10 mL of THF. Triethylamine (1.8 mL, 13.146 mmol) and DMAP were then added. The mixture was stirred at reflux for 4 hours. Dichloromethane was then added and the organic layer was washed once with HCl 10% and twice with water. The organic layer was

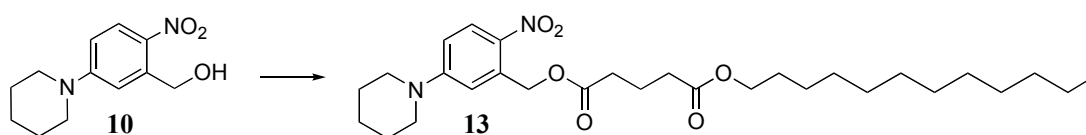
then dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and evaporated. The expected product **19** was isolated (1 g, 3.328 mmol, 76%) as a white solid, by FC (silica gel) (CH_2Cl_2 followed by $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$ 95/5).

^1H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.87 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H); 1.2-1.4 (m, 18H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.95 (q, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H); 2.41 (m, 4H); 4.06 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H)

^{13}C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.25; 19.98; 22.82, 26.04, 28.73, 29.38, 29.48, 29.65, 29.70, 29.76, 29.78, 32.05, 33.11, 33.34, 64.89, 173.13, 178.99.

TLC $R_f = 0.42$ ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$)(95/5)

Pentanedioic acid dodecyl ester 2-nitro-5-piperidin-1-yl-benzyl ester 13



Compound **10** (350 mg, 1.165 mmol) and compound **19** (302 mg, 1.281 mmol) were dissolved in 10 mL of THF. DCC (288 mg, 1.397 mmol) and DMAP (28 mg, 0.230 mmol) were then added. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. The mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was purified by FC (silica gel)(CH_2Cl_2). After evaporation of solvent, the expected product **13** (497 mg, 0.958 mmol, 82%) was obtained as a yellow oil.

^1H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.86 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H); 1.2-1.4 (m, 18 H); 1.6-1.7 (m, 8H); 2.0 (q, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2 H); 2.39 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2 H); 2.49 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2 H); 3.43 (bs, 4H), 4.04 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H); 5.52 (s, 2H); 6.73 (dd, $J = 9.5$ Hz, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1 H); 6.83 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1 H); 8.12 (d, $J = 9.5$ Hz, 1H)

^{13}C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.07, 20.14, 22.63, 24.15, 25.21, 25.86, 28.56, 29.20, 29.29, 29.46, 29.52, 29.57, 29.59, 31.86, 33.23, 33.26, 48.28, 64.18, 64.63, 111.71, 128.37, 135.15, 135.95, 154.13, 172.21, 172.90

TLC $R_f = 0.55$ ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{EtOAc}$)(90/10)

mp = 45 °C

IR (neat) 2927, 2855, 1738, 1603, 1575, 1500, 1497, 1391, 1317, 1243, 1174, 1149, 1085, 1022, 852, 815 cm^{-1}

HR-MS (ESI): 541.3242 (calcd for $[\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{46}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6 + \text{Na}]^+$: 541.3248)

II Photolysis of compounds 3, 4, 5, 16a and 16b

General procedure for the kinetic measurements

Esters (60 μmol) were dissolved in 10 mL of acetonitrile in a quartz vessel. The solution was deaerated by a stream of argon for 10 minutes and the mixture was irradiated at 300 nm in a Rayonet apparatus equipped with 15 fluorescent tubes RPR3000. Aliquots were taken after a given time, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was analysed by ^1H NMR in CDCl_3 . The percentage of the remaining starting material was evaluated by relative integration of the benzylic methylene protons and the side chain terminal methyl group (^1H NMR).

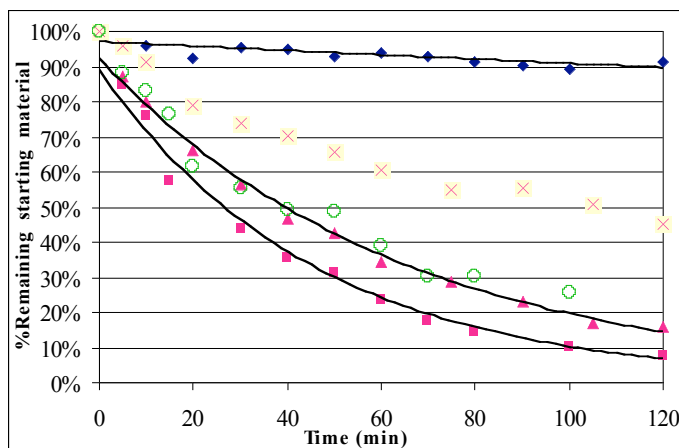
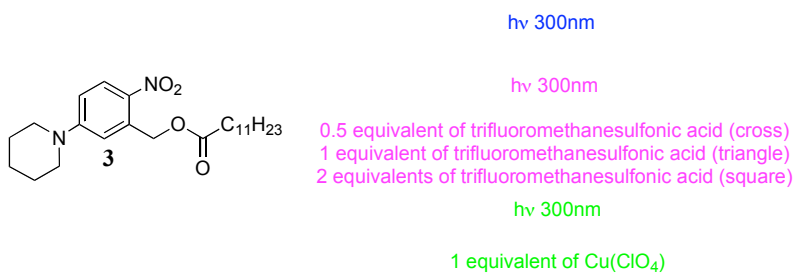


Compound **3** 60 μmol in 10 mL of acetonitrile

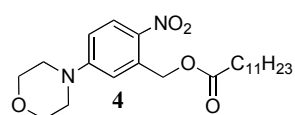


Compound **3** 60 μmol in 10 mL of acetonitrile after addition of 1 equiv of trifluoromethane sulfonic acid

Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N*-piperidin)-2-nitrobenzyl ester **3**



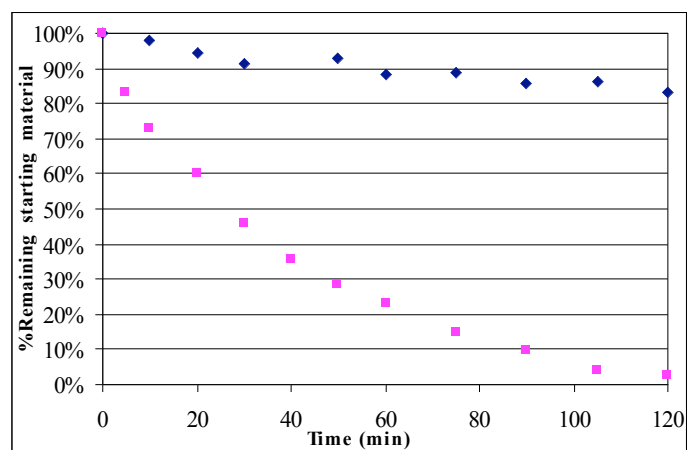
Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N*-morpholin)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 4



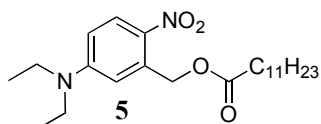
$h\nu$ 300nm

$h\nu$ 300nm

2 equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid



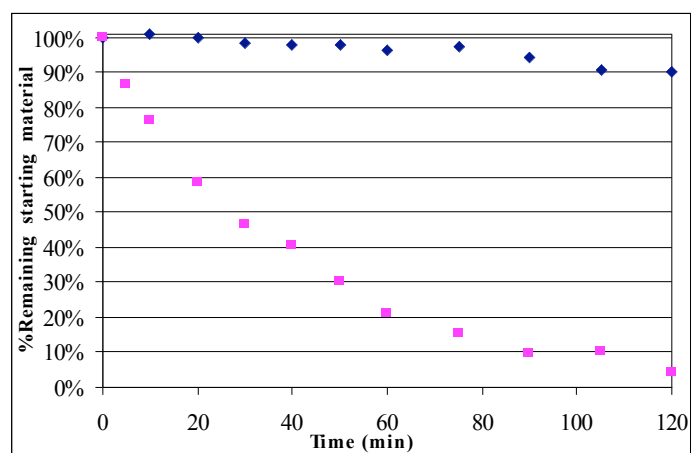
Dodecanoic acid 5-(*N,N*-diethyl)-2-nitrobenzyl alcohol 5



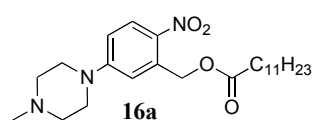
$h\nu$ 300nm

$h\nu$ 300nm

2 equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid

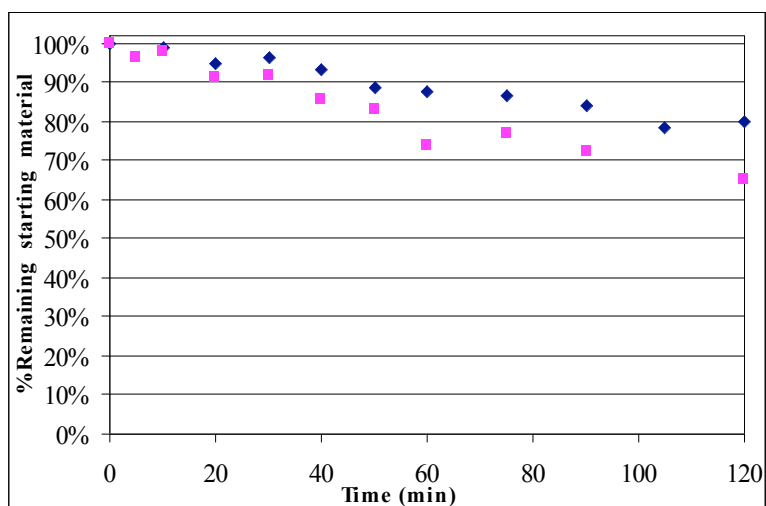


5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl dodecanoate 16a

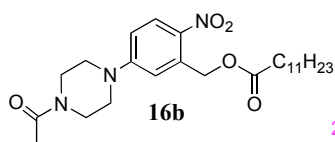

 $h\nu$ 300nm

 $h\nu$ 300nm

2 equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid

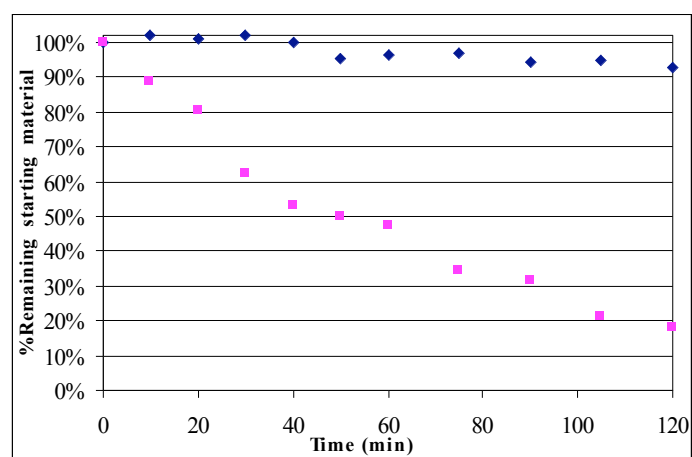


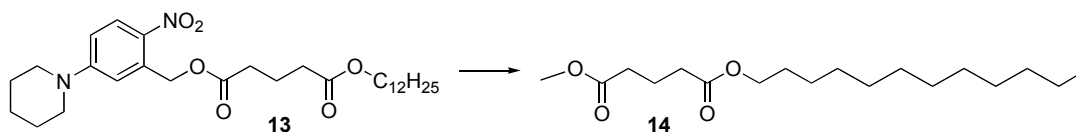
5-(4-acetylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-nitrobenzyl dodecanoate 16b


 $h\nu$ 300nm

 $h\nu$ 300nm

2 equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid



Pentanedioic acid dodecyl ester methyl ester 14

In a quartz vessel, compound **13** (78 mg, 150 μ L) was dissolved in 15 mL of CH_3CN . HCl was then added (1.5 mL of 1M solution in ether, 1.5 mmol). The solution was deaerated by a stream of argon for 10 minute; the mixture was irradiated at 300 nm for 4 hours and the solvent was then evaporated. The crude product was dissolved in 4 mL of a mixture of benzene/methanol (1/1) and (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane (1.5 mmol): The solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by FC (silica) (CH_2Cl_2 /Hexane 70/30). The expected product **14** was obtained as colourless oil (33 mg, 105 μ mol, 70%).

^1H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.87 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H); 1.29 (m, 18H); 1.60 (m, 2H); 1.94 (q, $J = 7.33$ Hz, 2H) 2.37 (m, 4H); 3.66 (s, 3H); 4.06 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H)

^{13}C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.09, 20.12, 22.66, 25.88, 28.58, 29.22, 29.32, 29.49, 29.54, 29.60, 29.62, 31.89, 33.05, 33.30, 51.57, 64.64, 173.01, 173.41

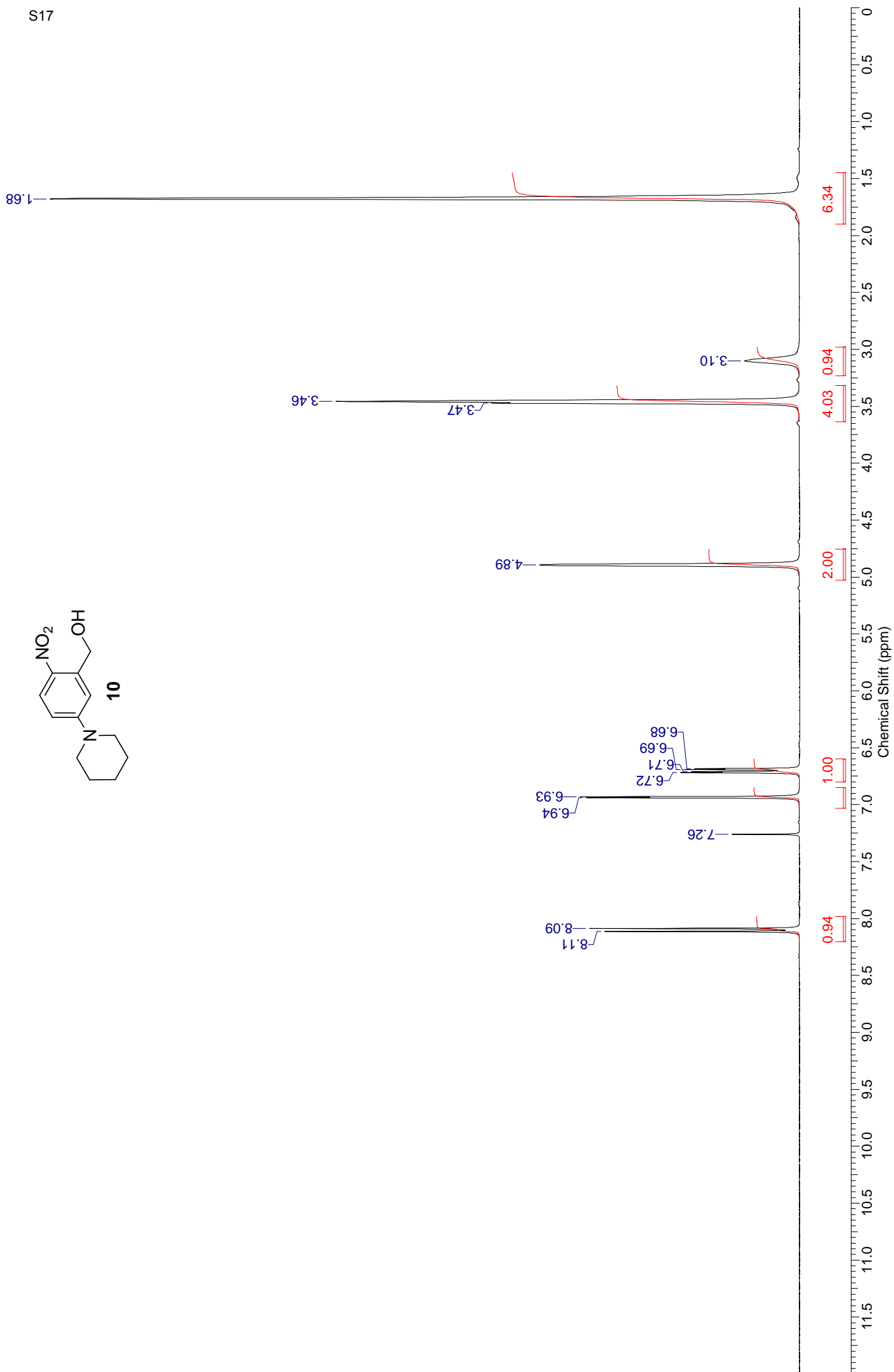
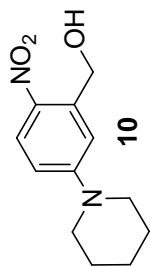
TLC $R_f = 0.35$ (CH_2Cl_2)

IR (neat) 2922, 2854, 1738, 1461, 1437, 1376, 1315, 1196, 1173, 1064, 1028, 998, 722 cm^{-1}

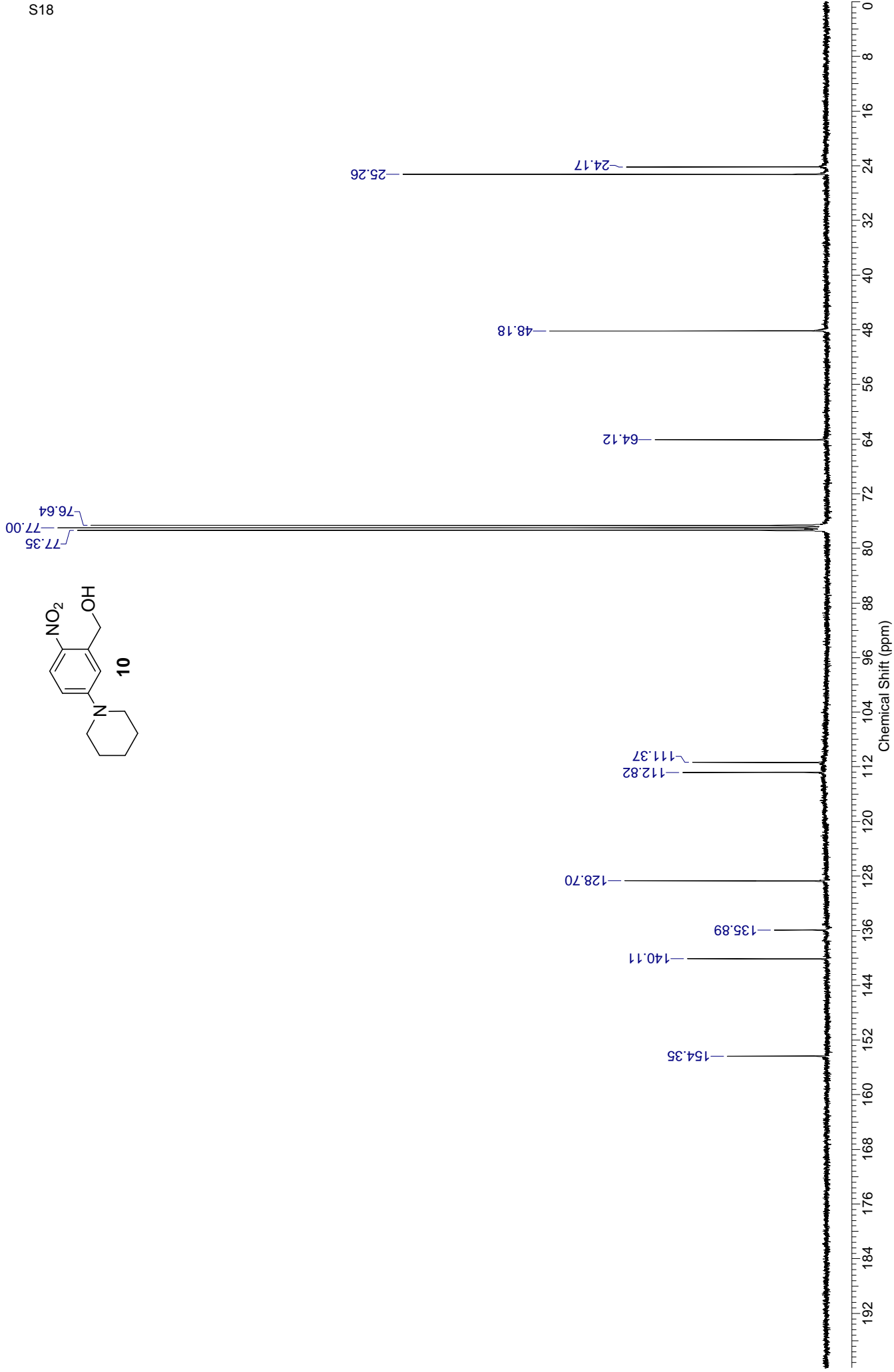
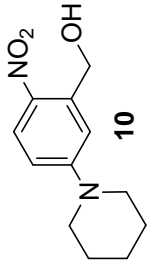
MS MS (ESI) m/z : 315.2 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$

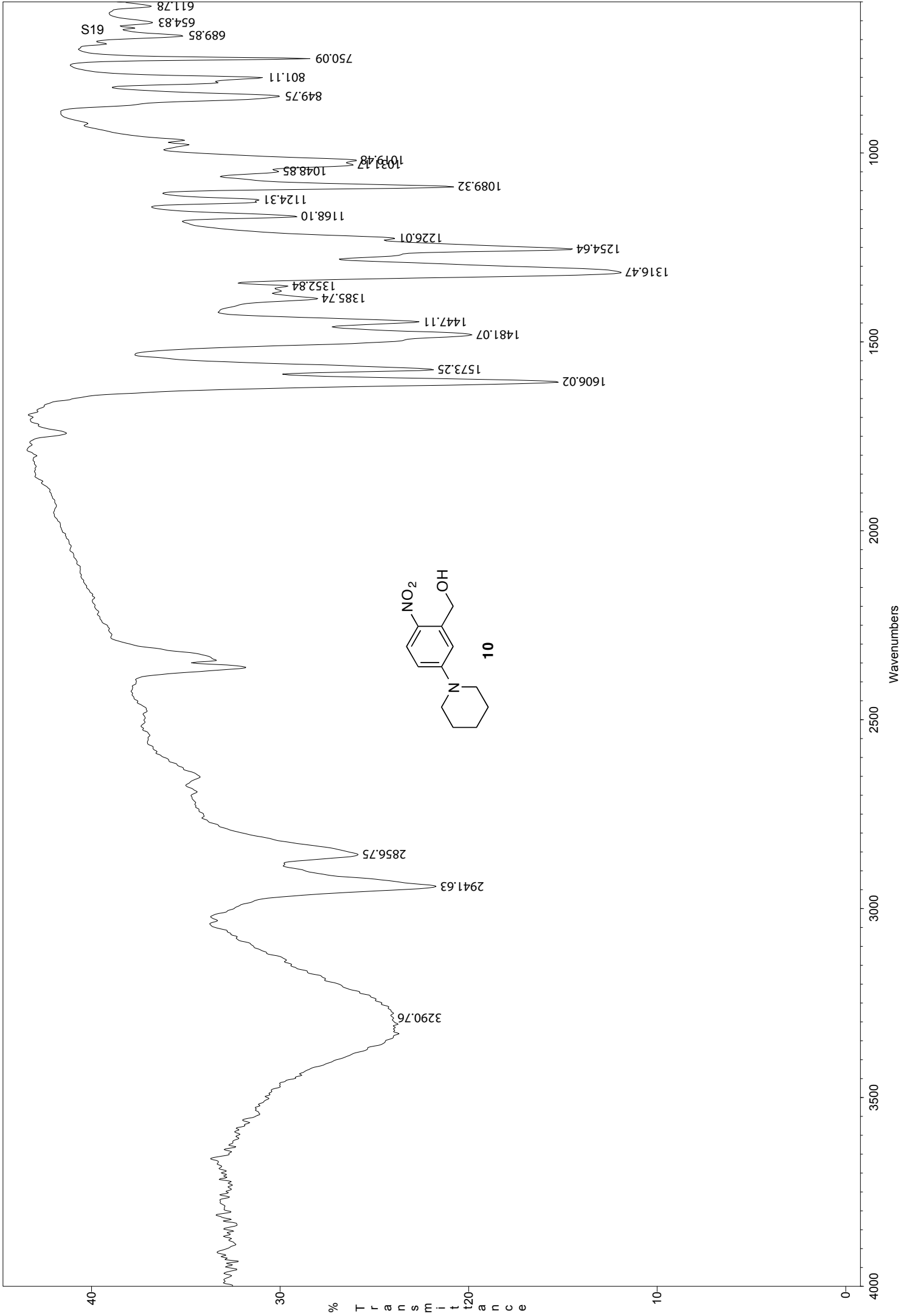
III ^1H and ^{13}C -NMR spectra of compounds 10, 11, 12, 17, 15a, 18, 15b, 3, 4, 5, 16a, 16b, 13 and 14

ER98

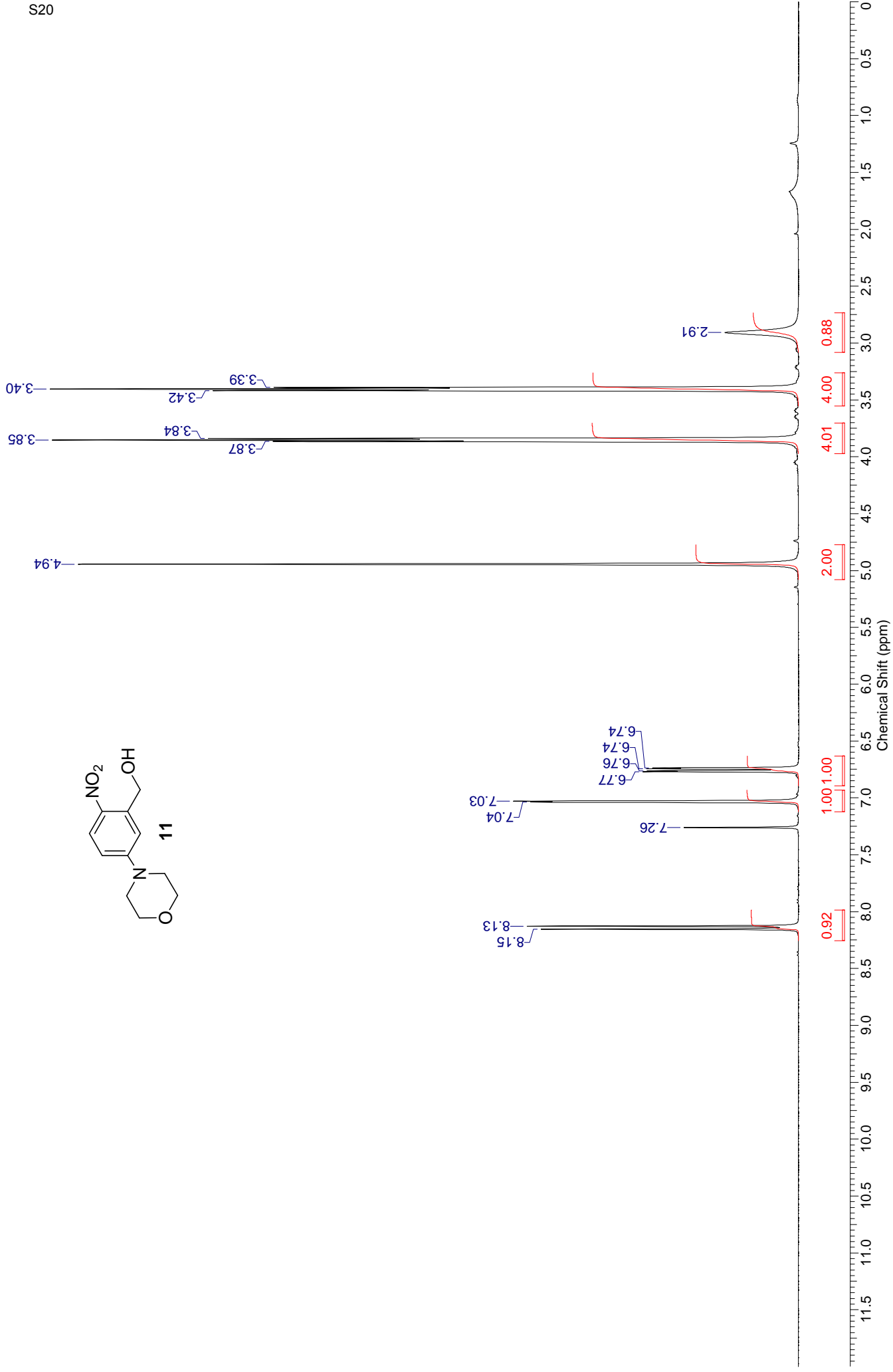
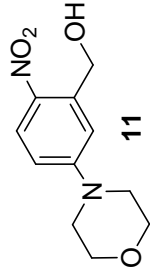


ER98

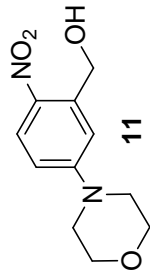




ER10



ER10



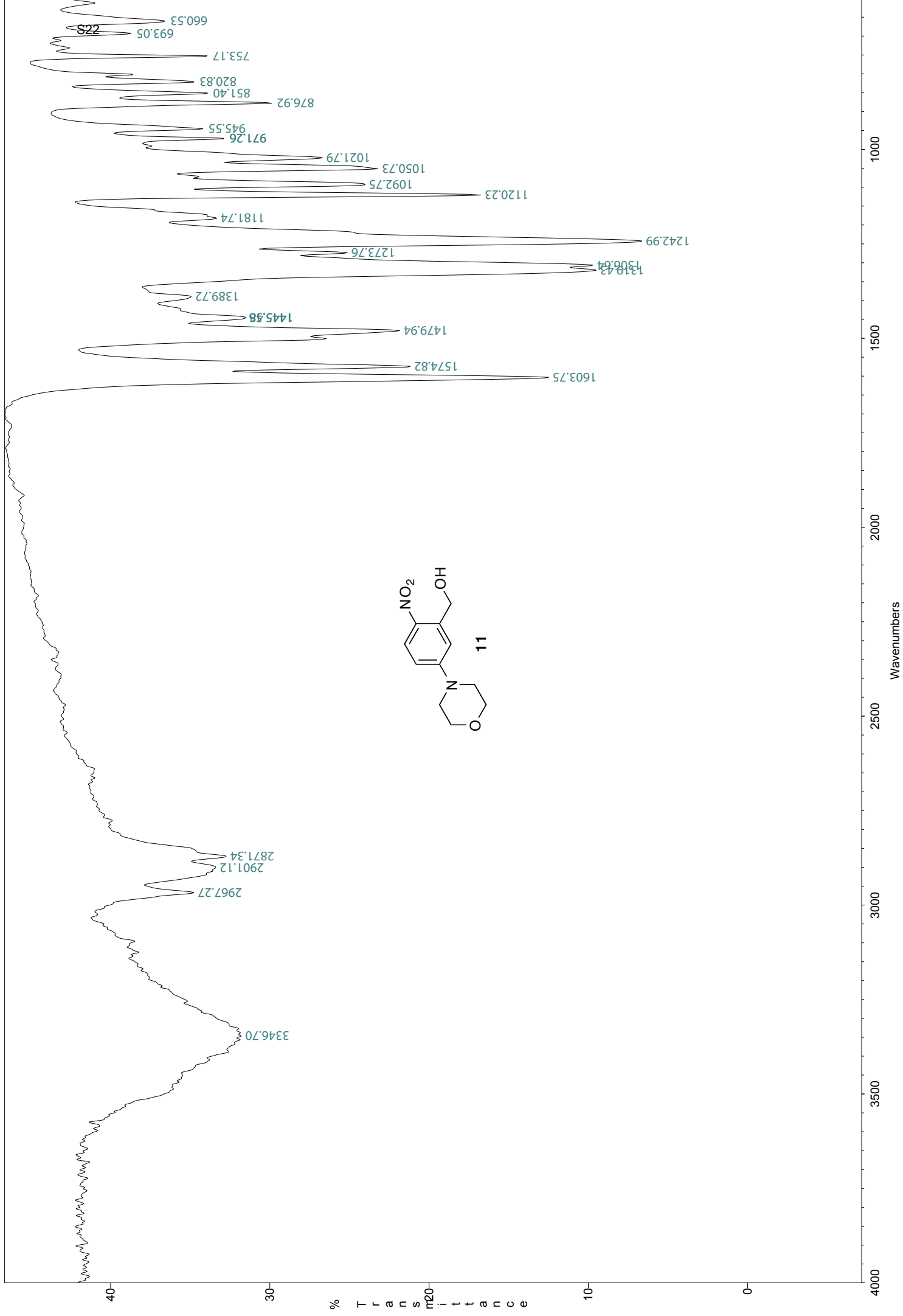
77.35
77.00
76.65

66.32
63.73
46.88

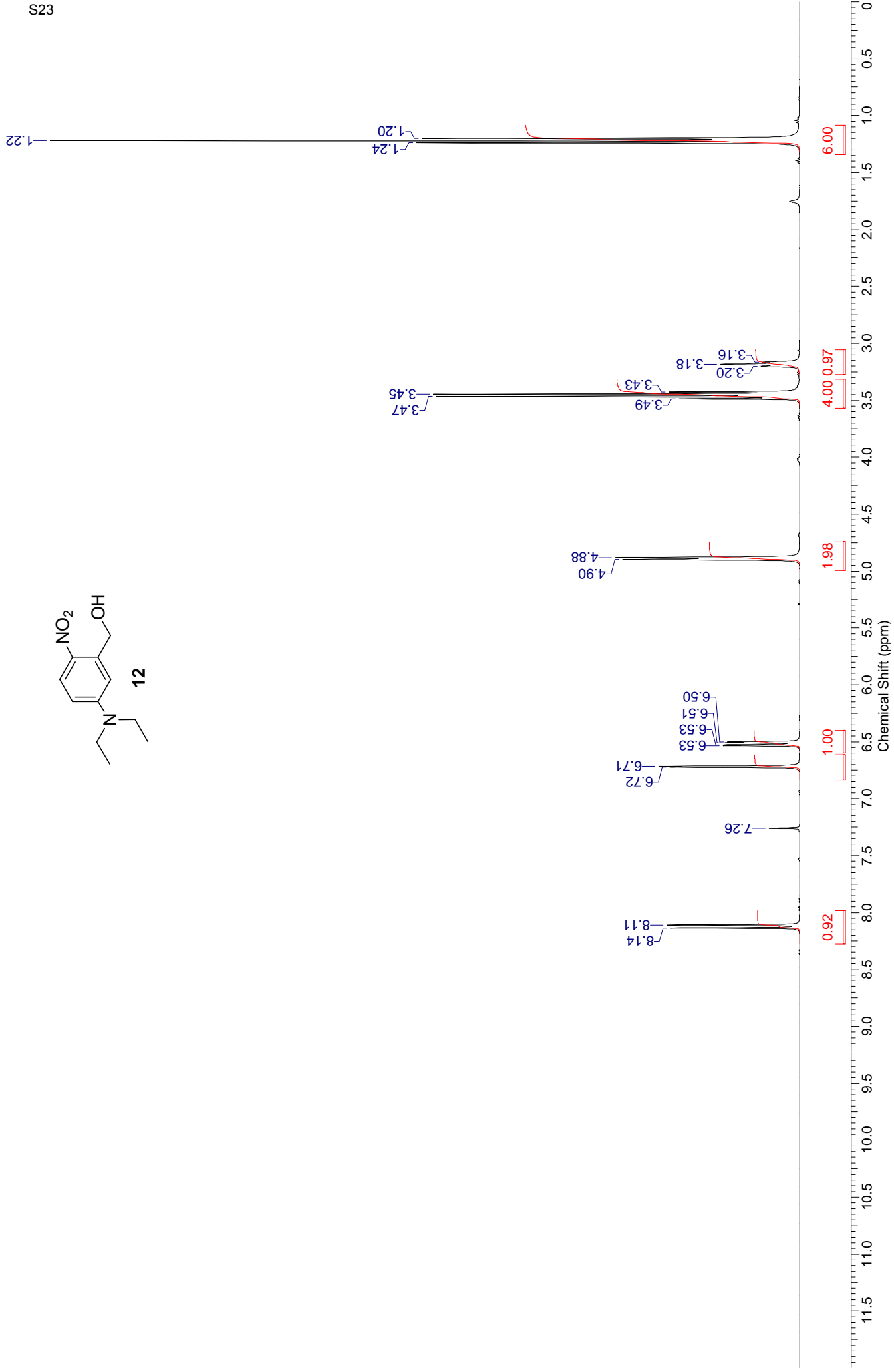
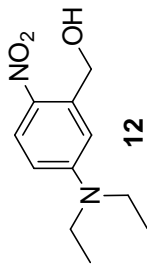
154.55
139.87
137.51
128.28
112.98
111.62

Chemical Shift (ppm)

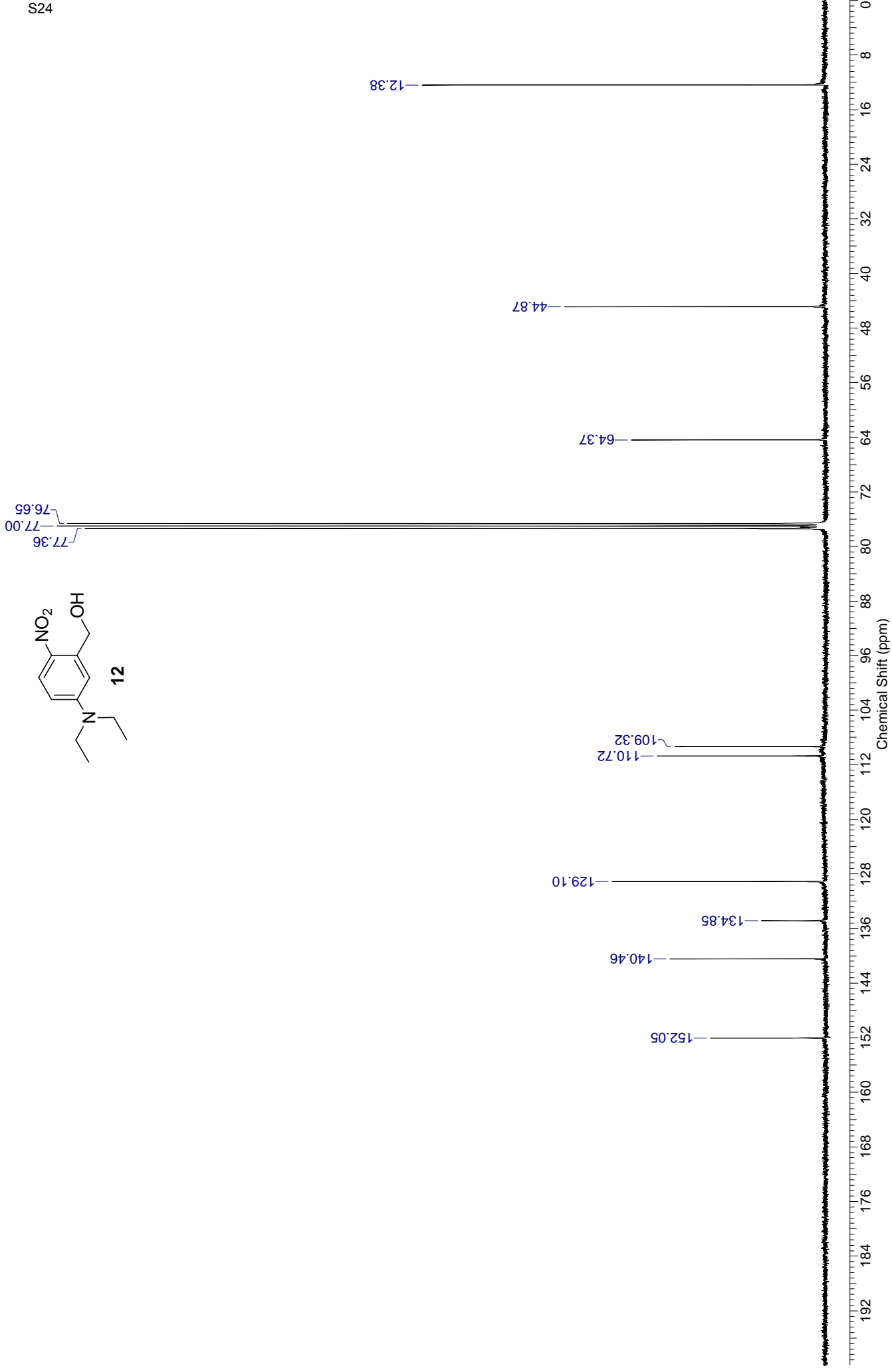
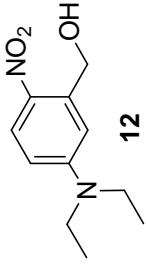
ER 10

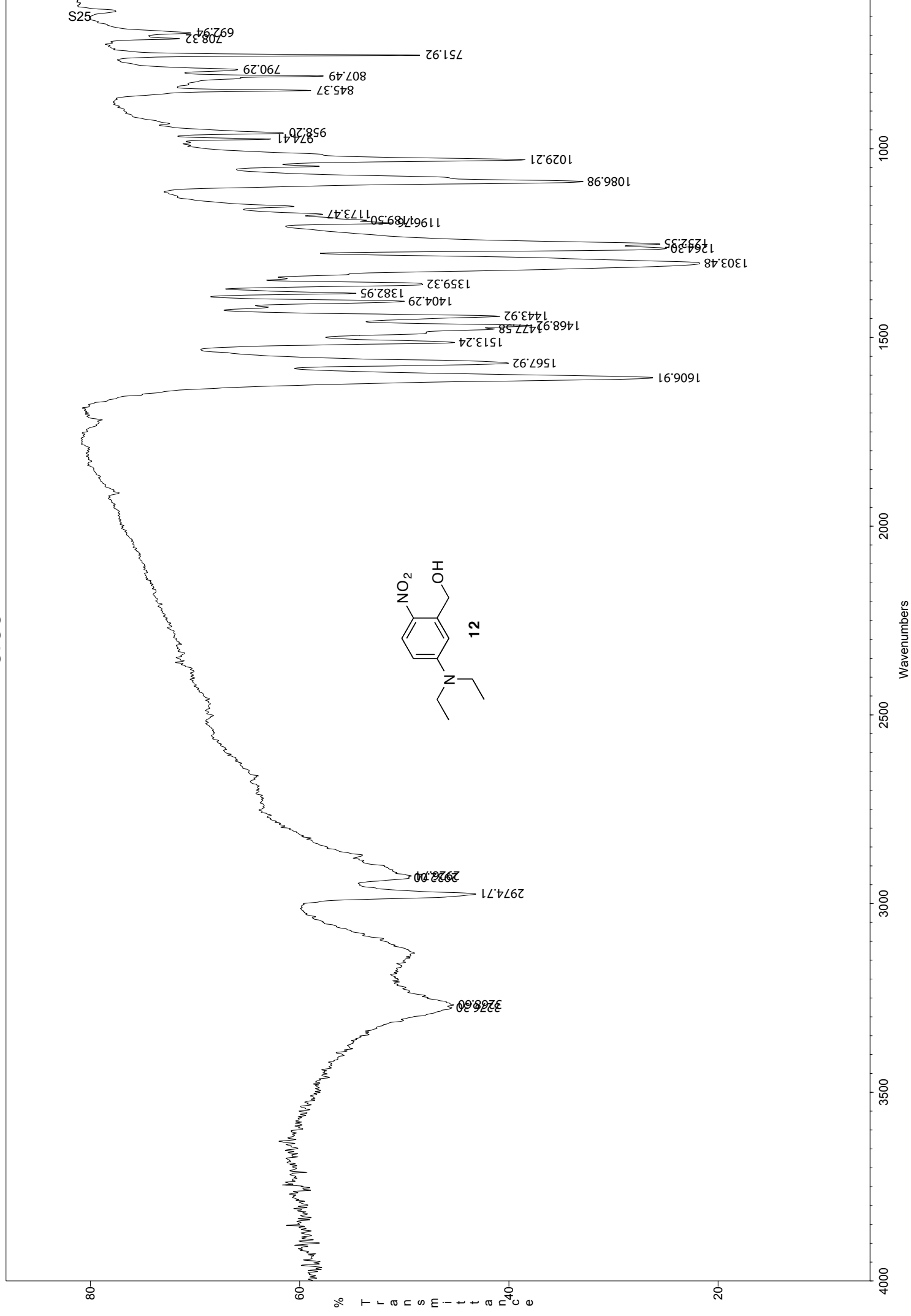


ER85

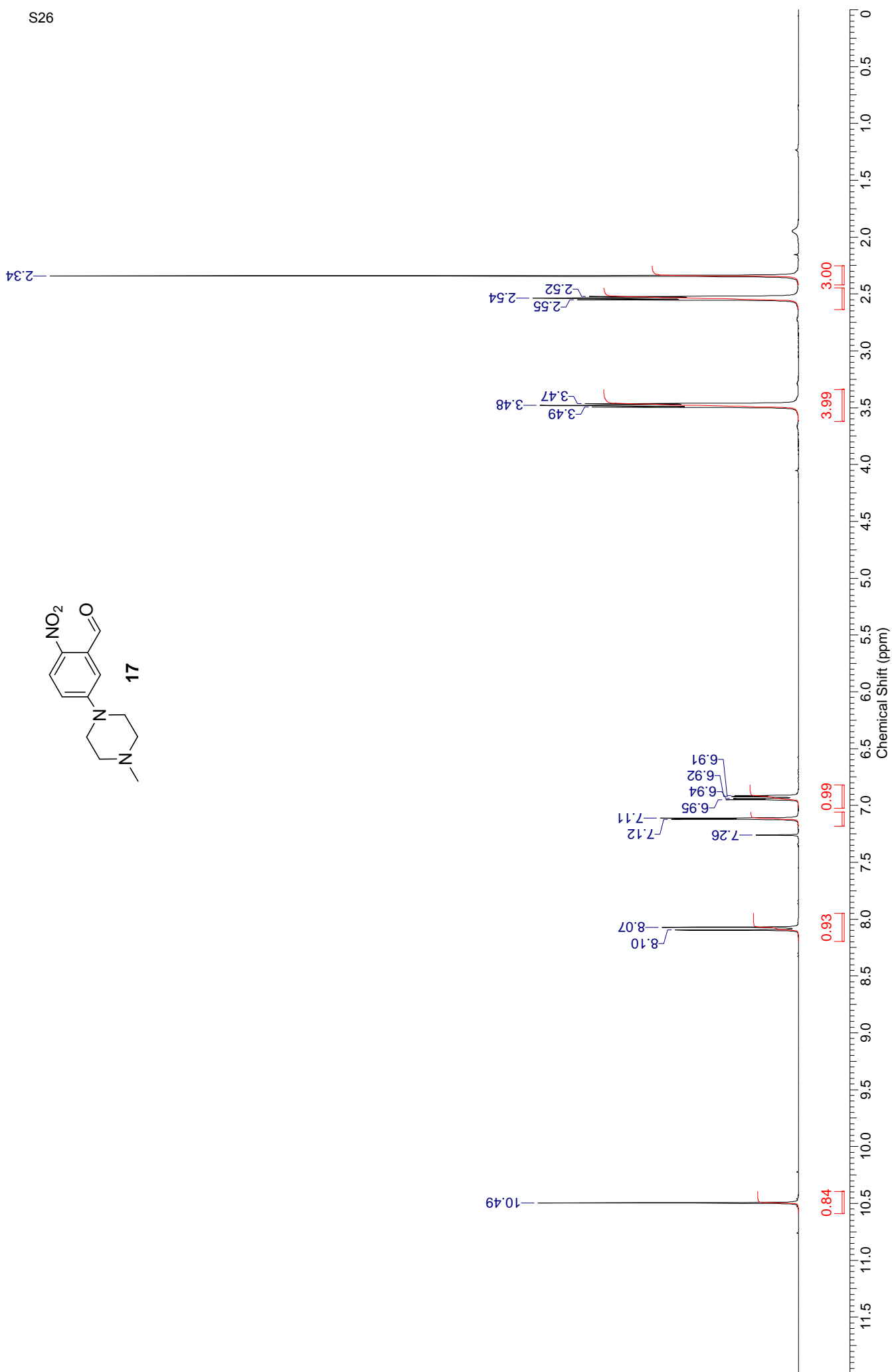
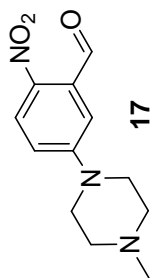


ER85

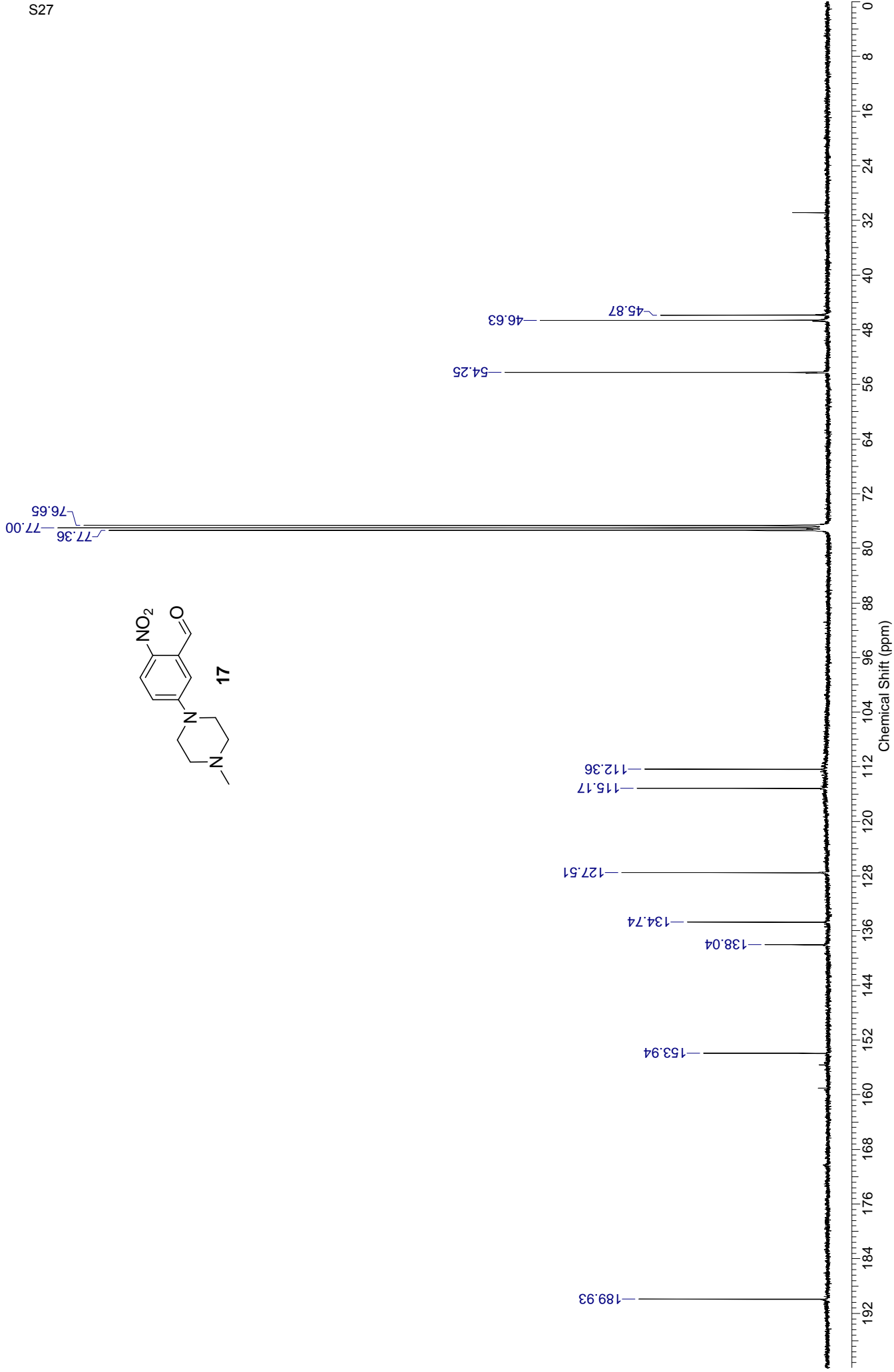
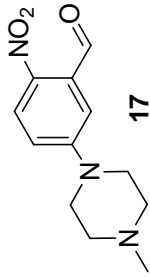




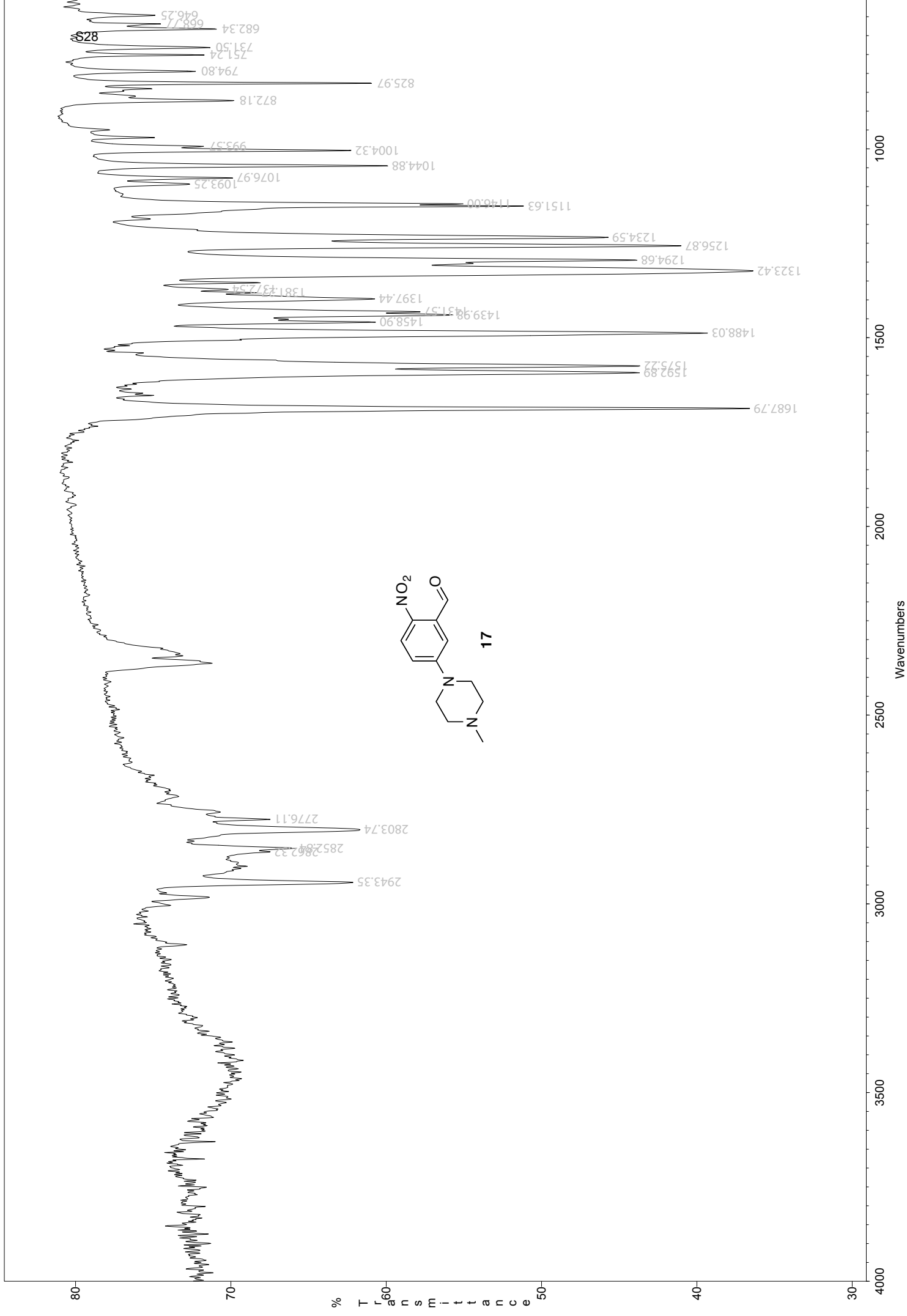
MR121



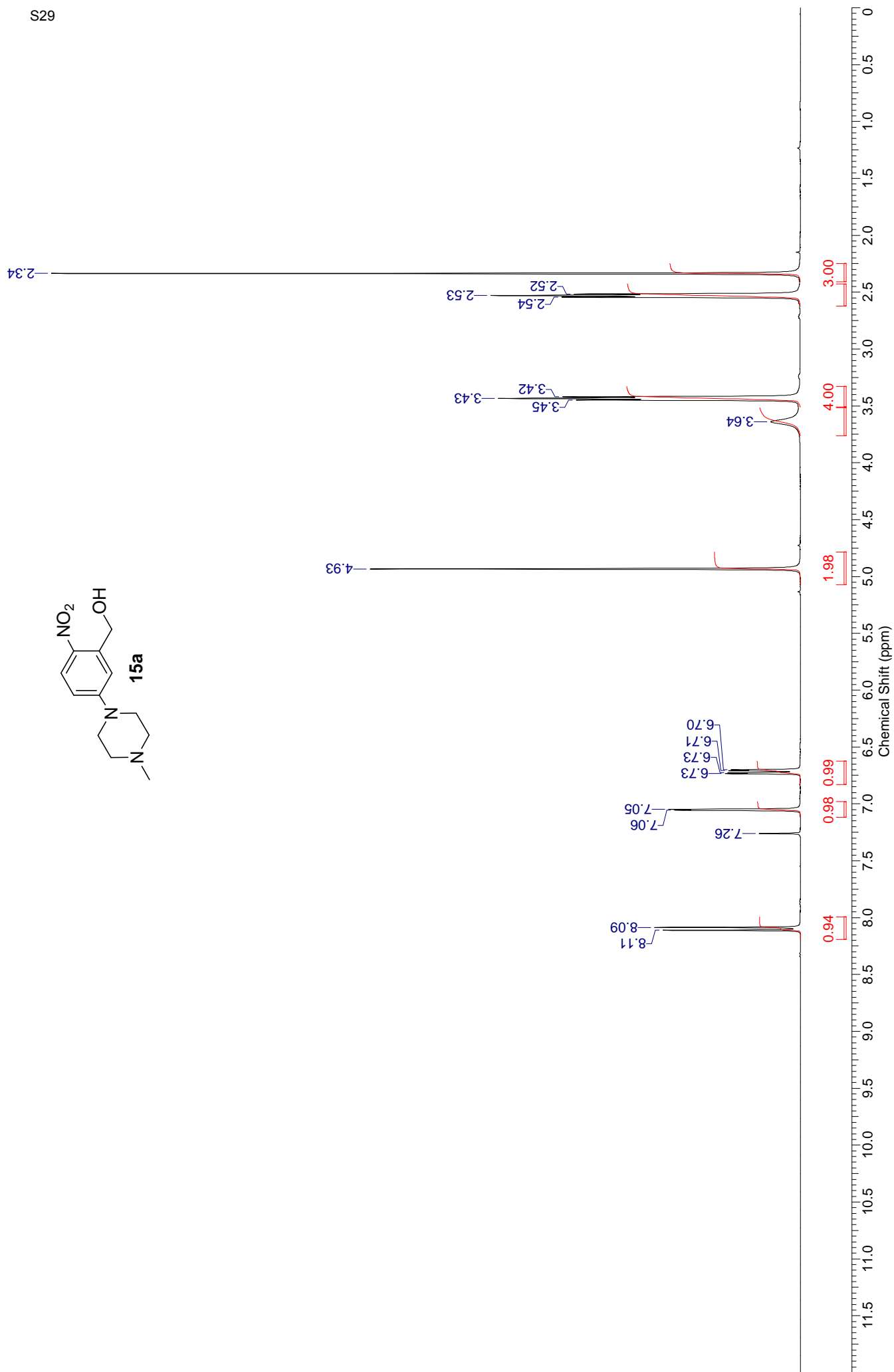
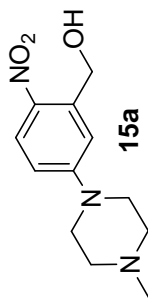
MR121



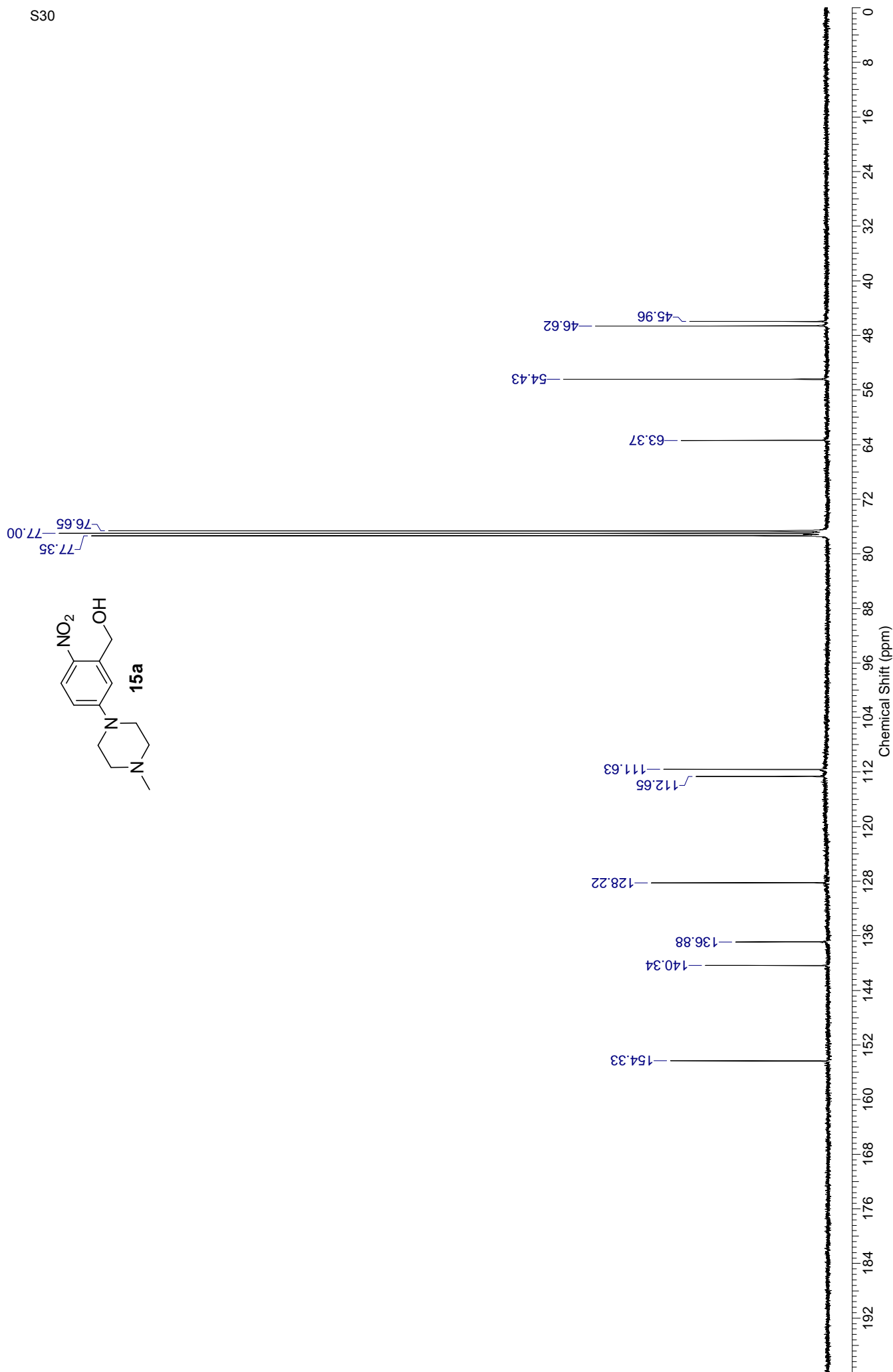
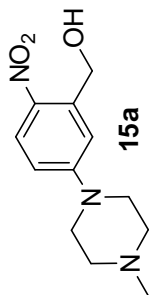
mr121

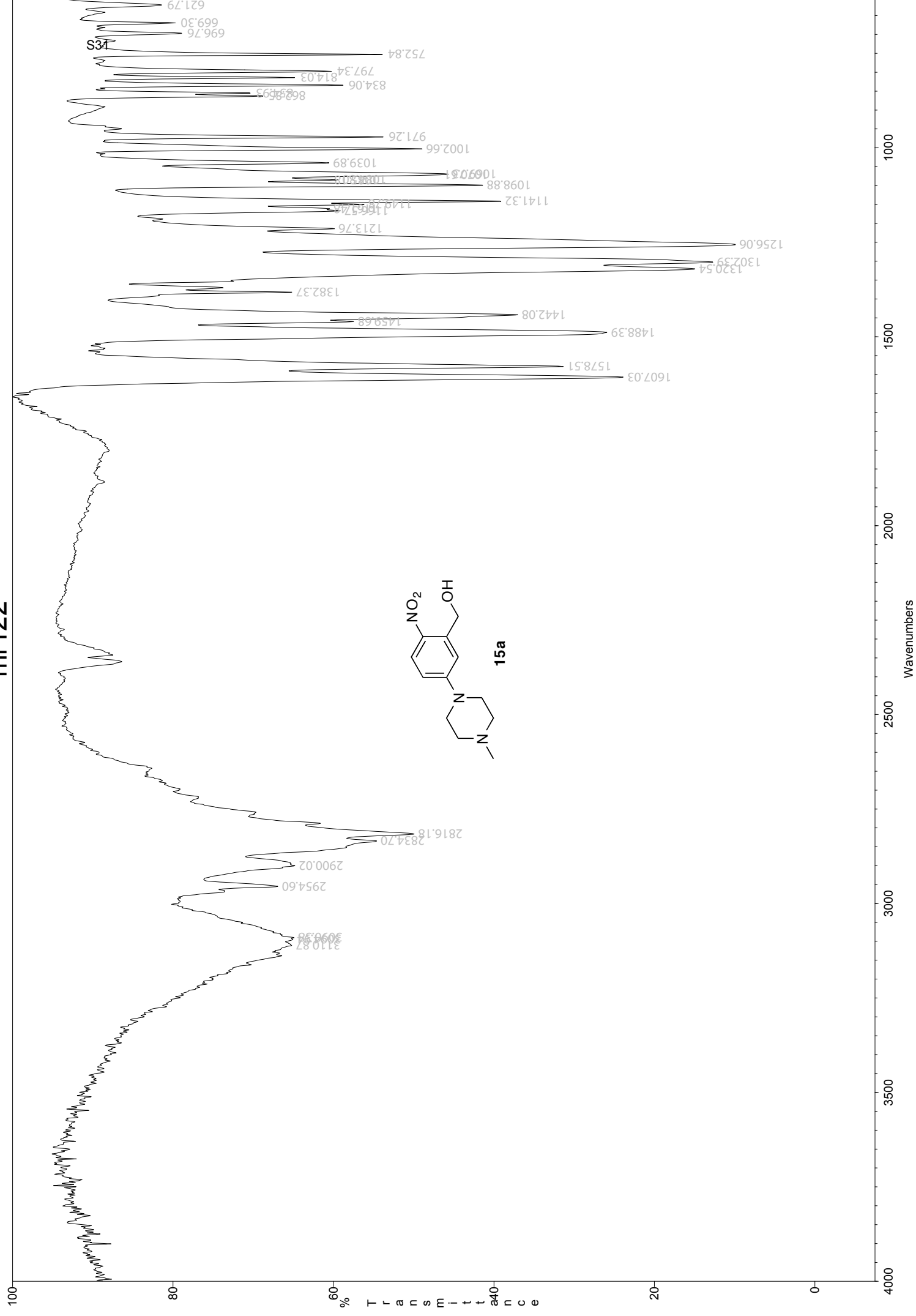


MR122

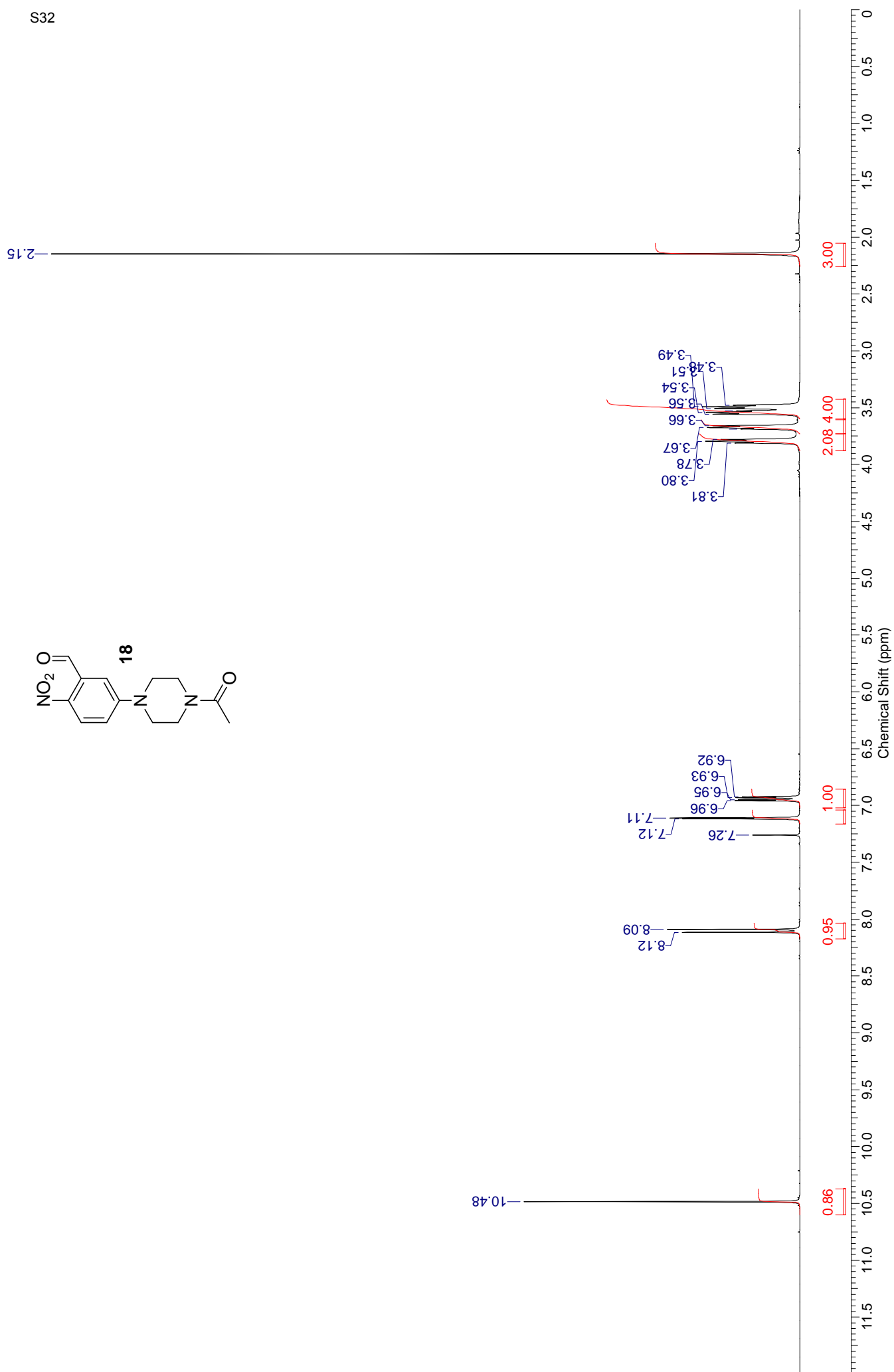
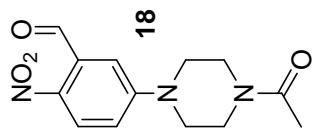


MR122

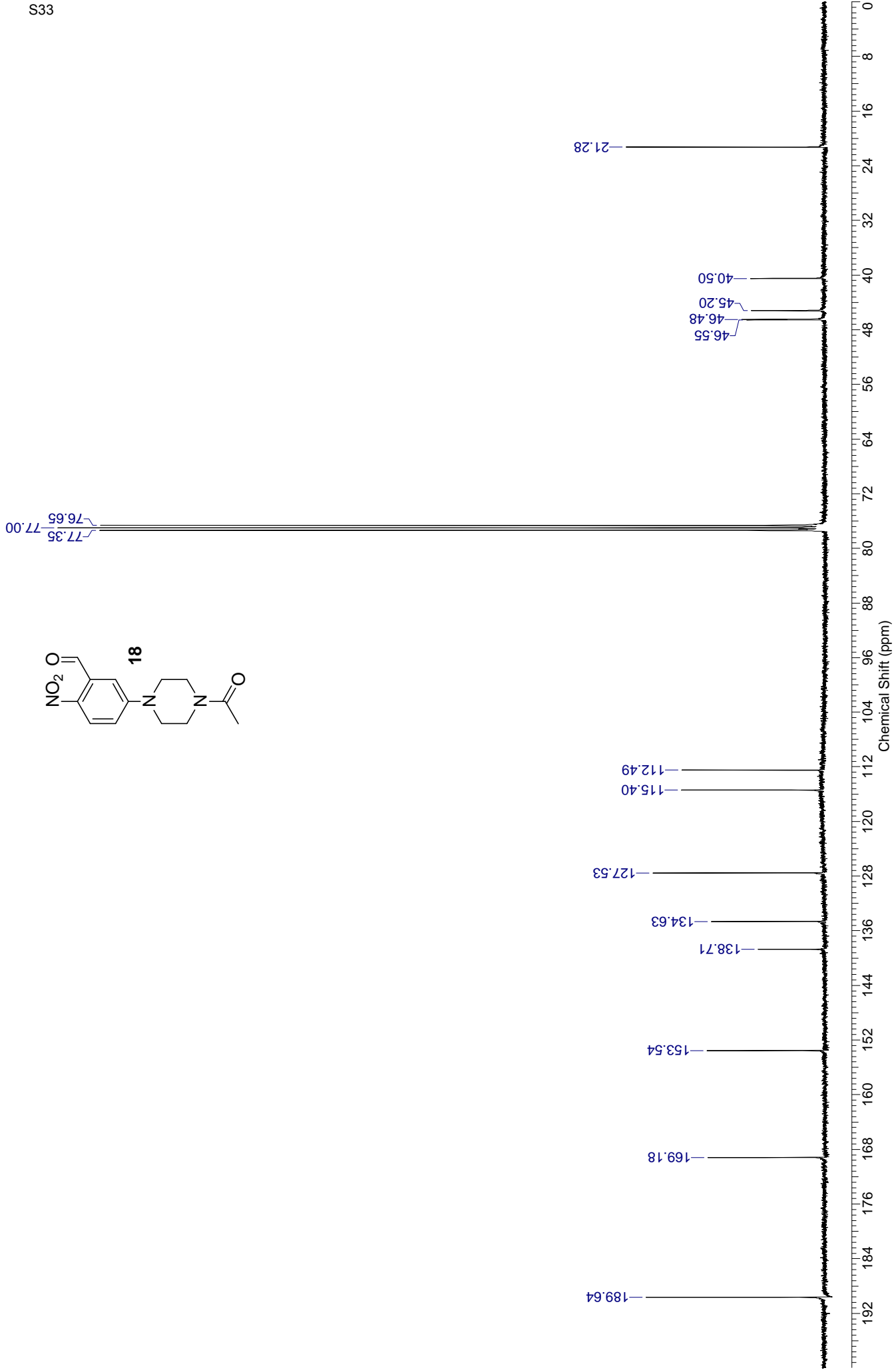
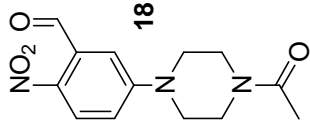




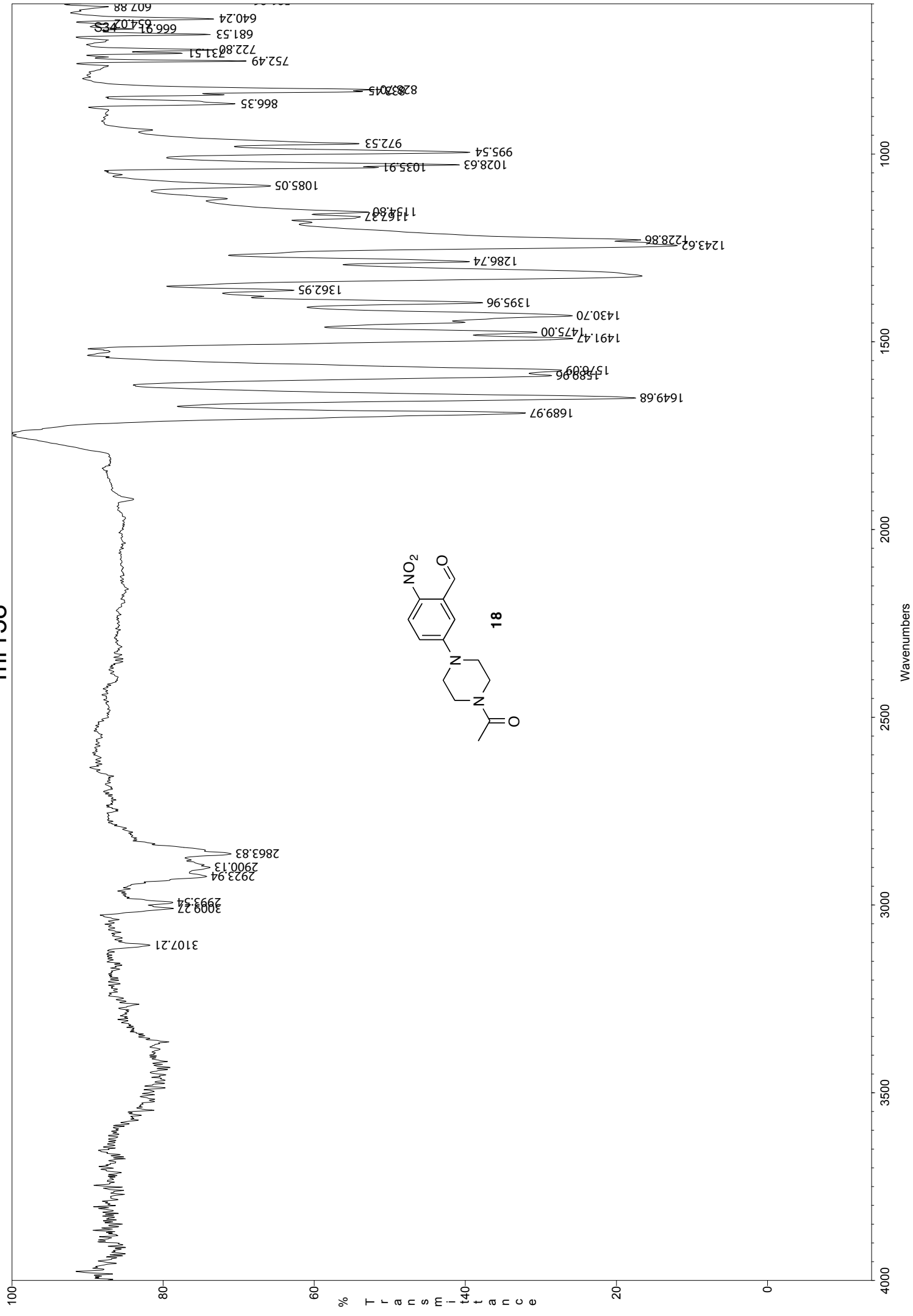
MR138



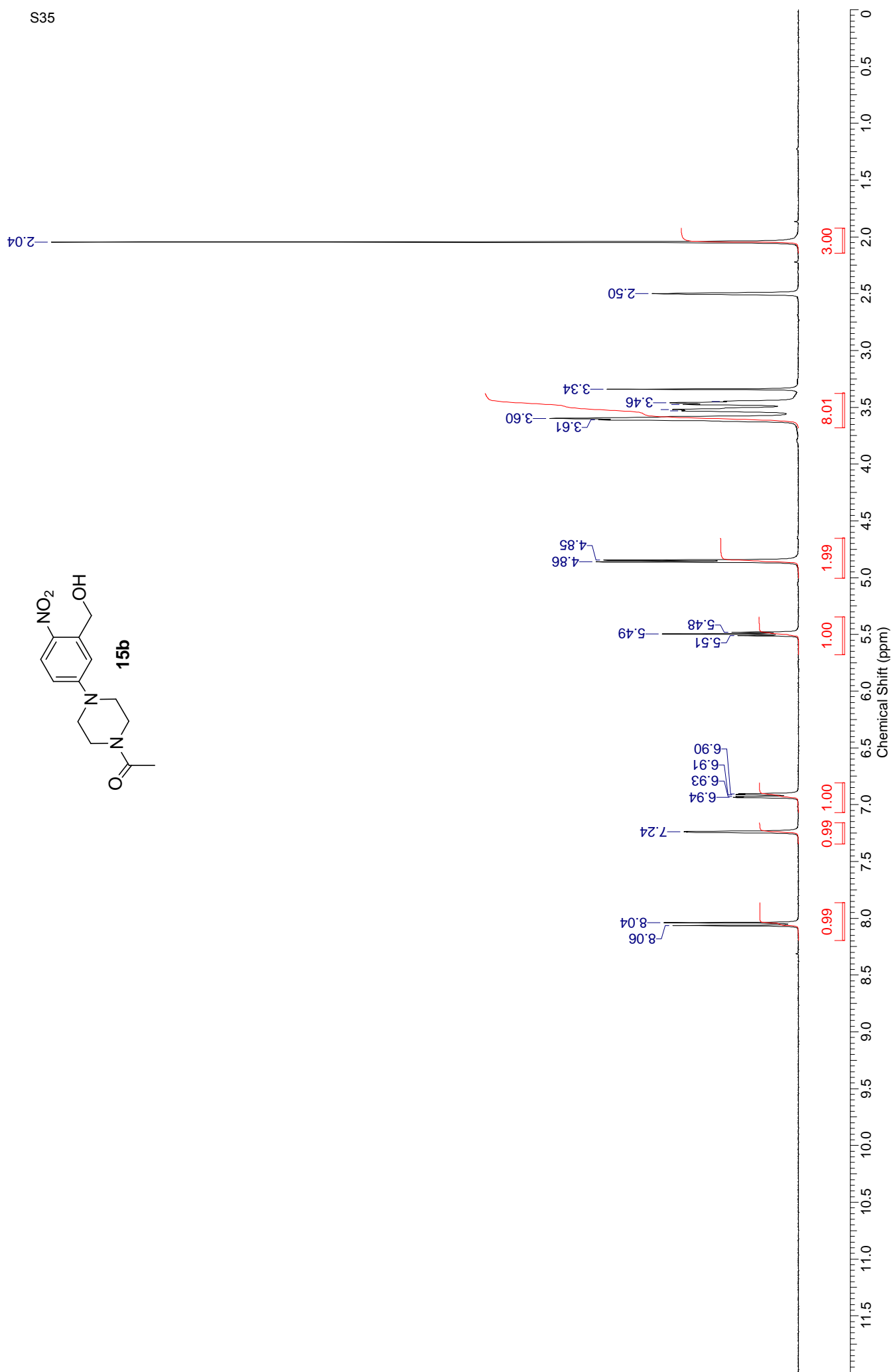
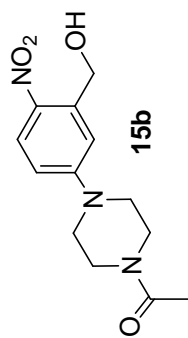
MR138



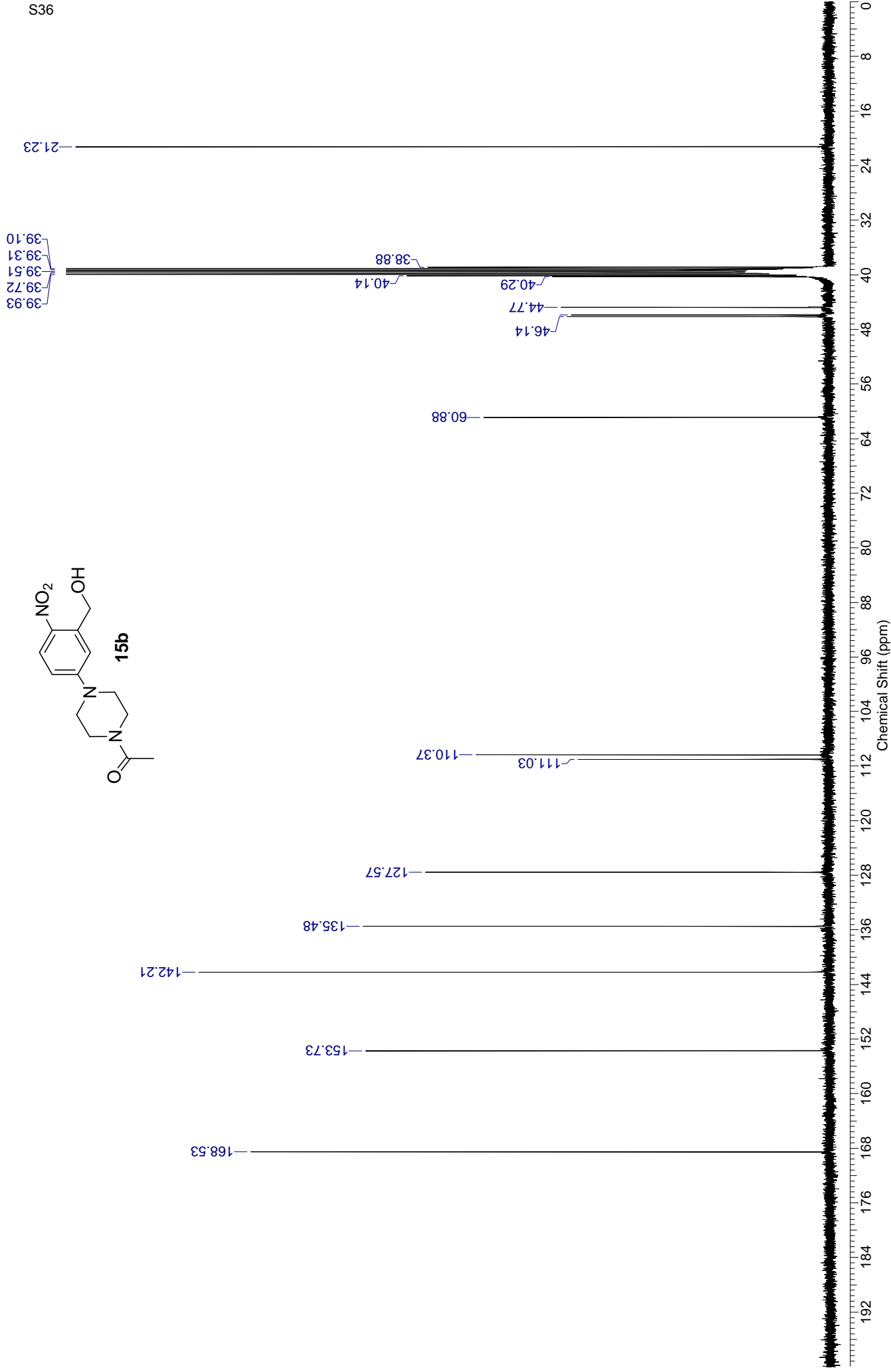
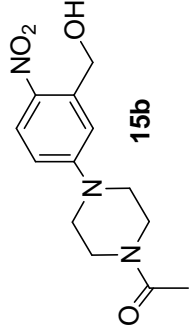
mr138



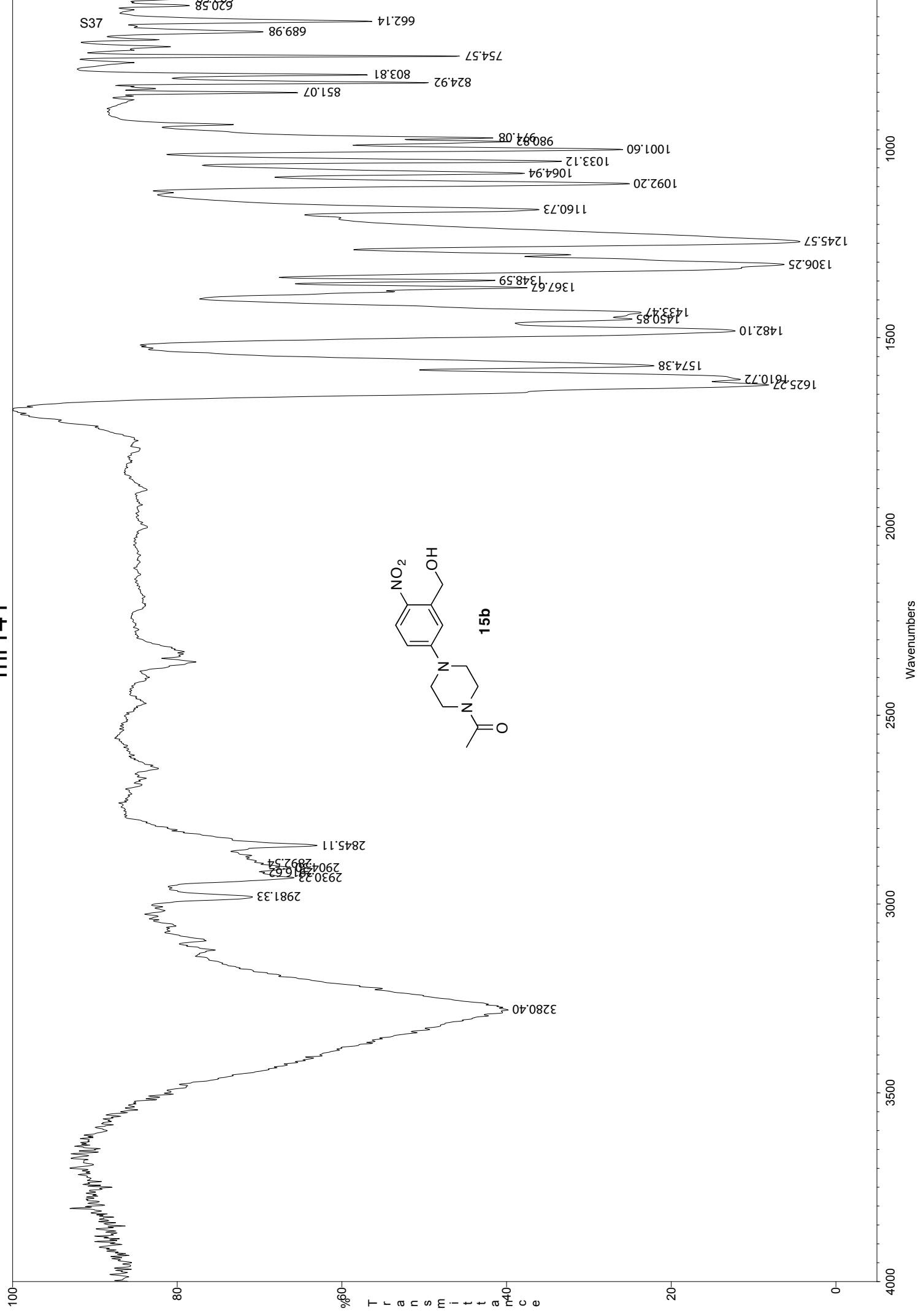
MR141



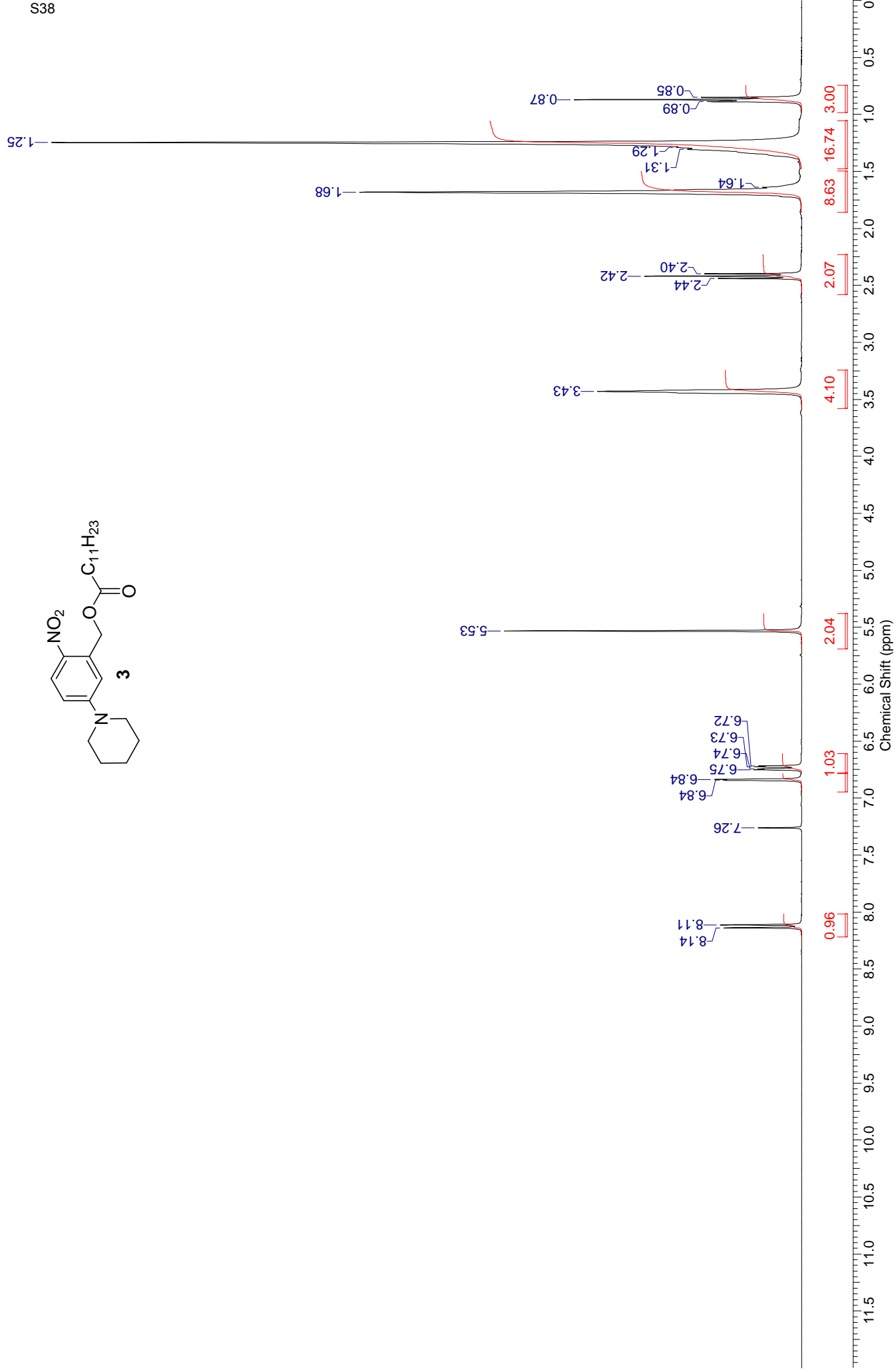
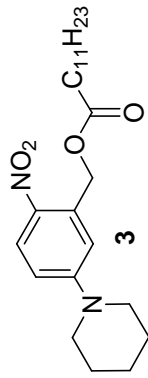
MR141



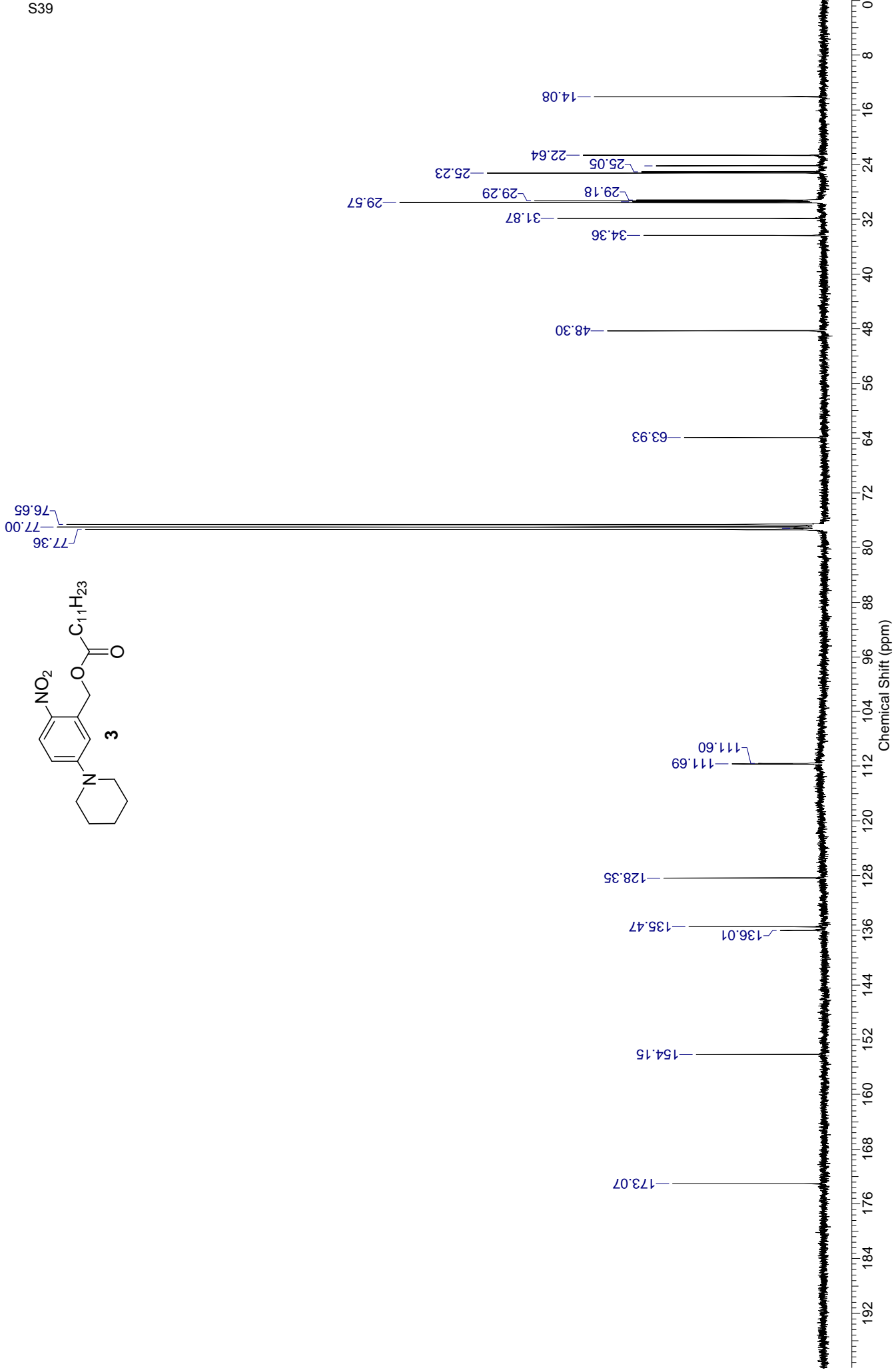
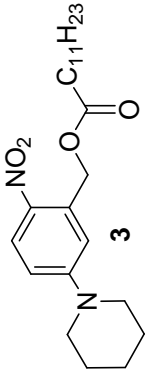
mr141

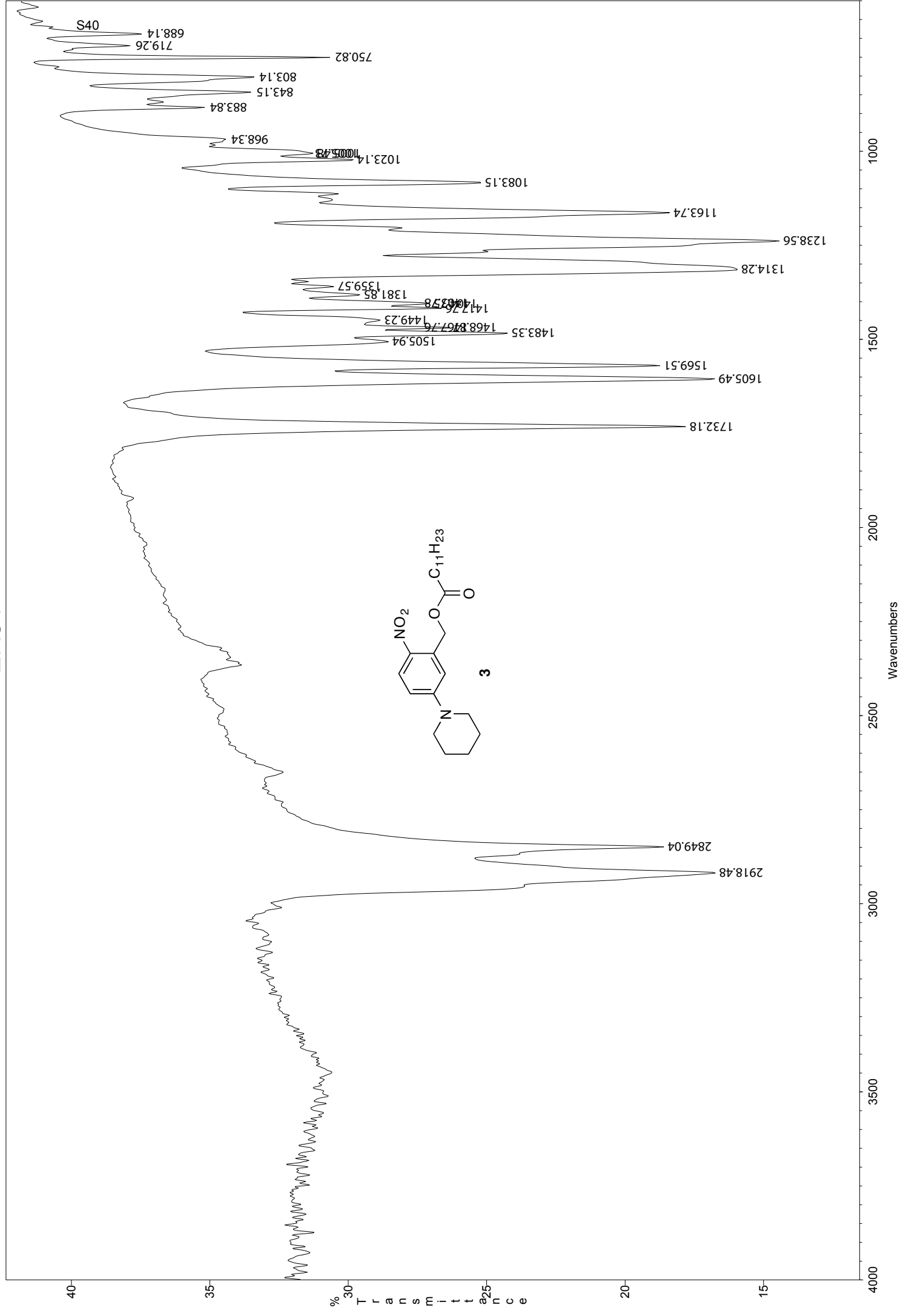


ER84

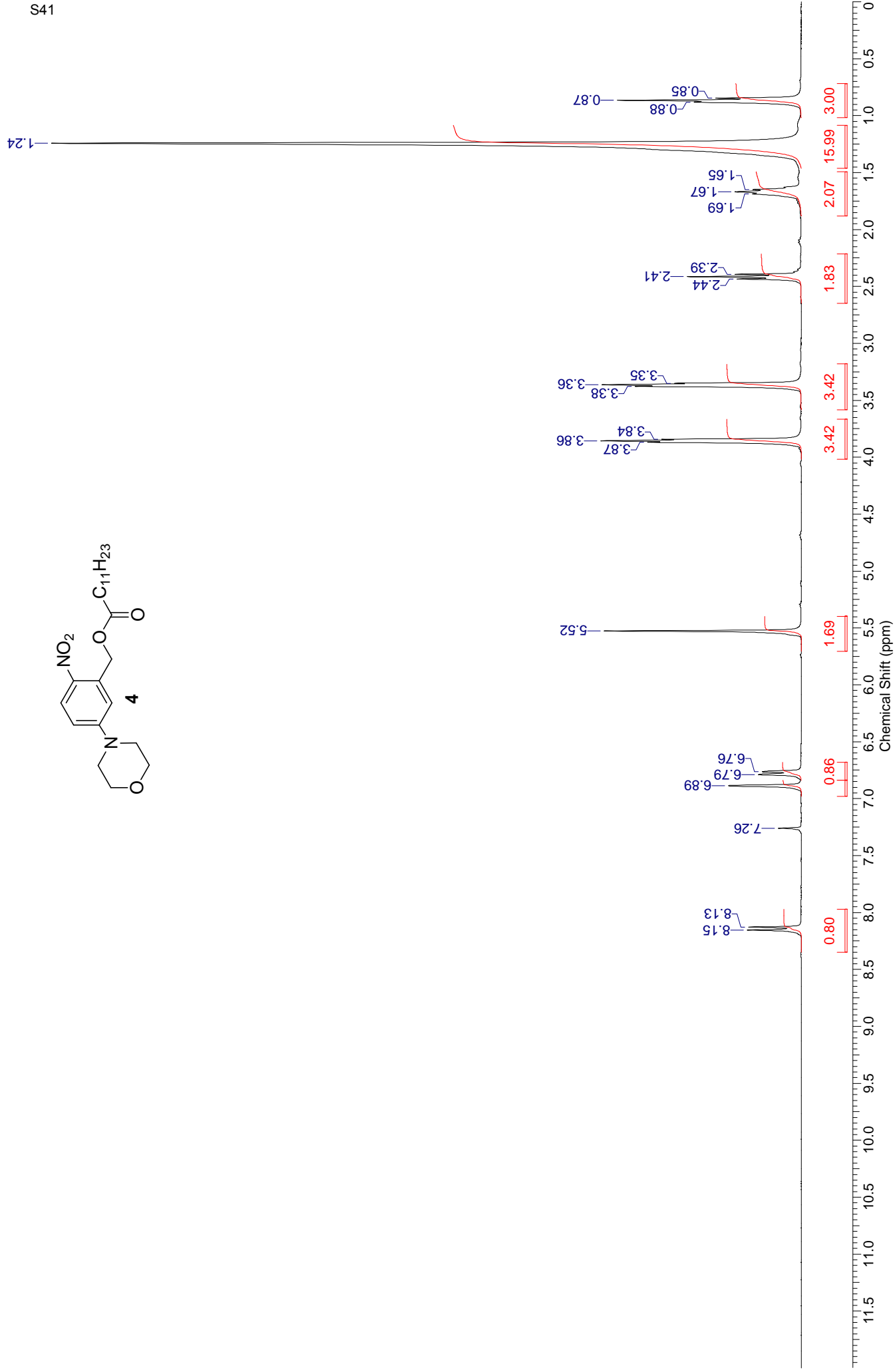
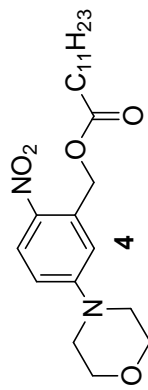


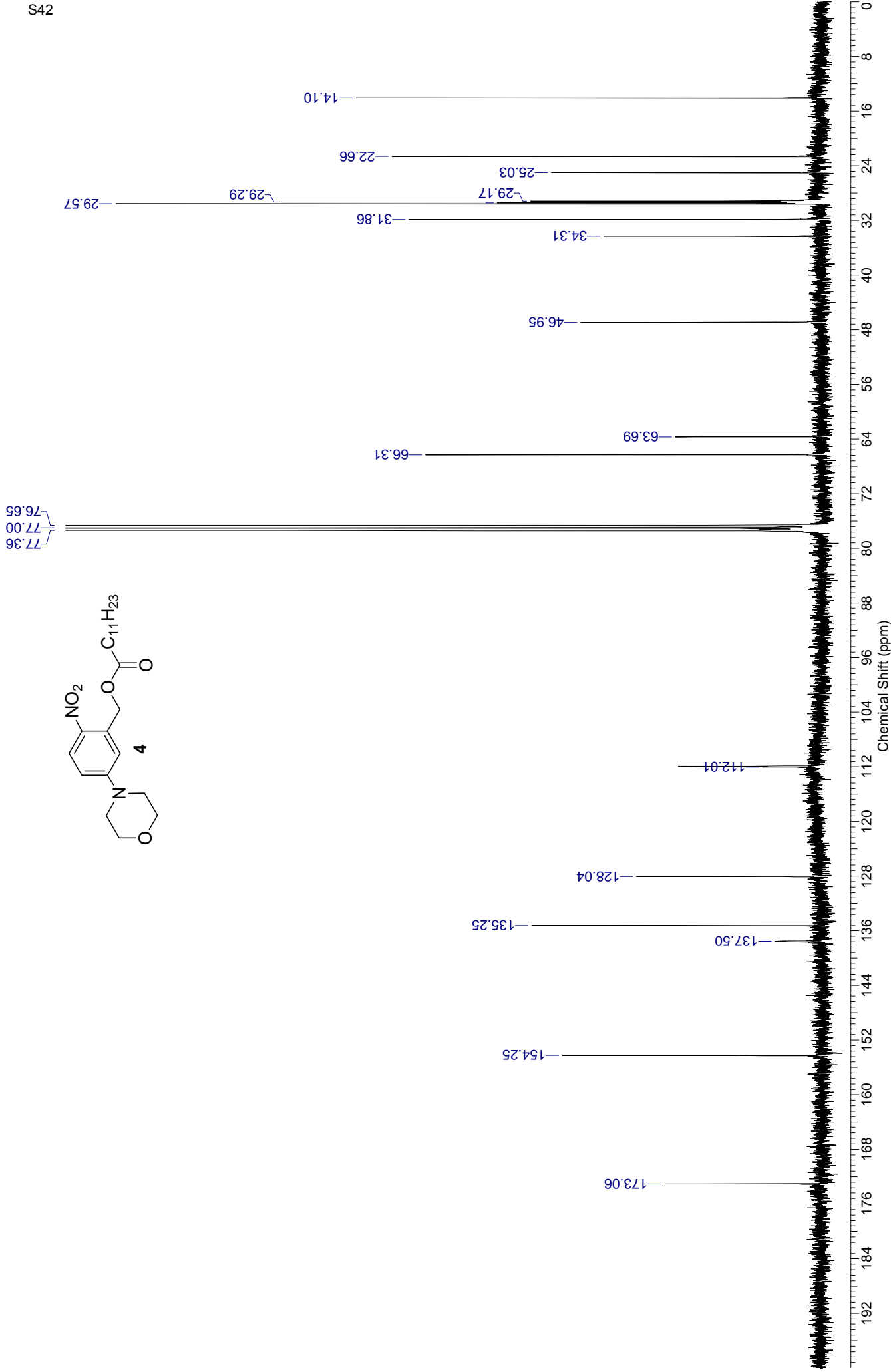
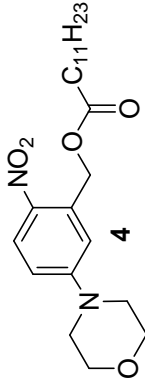
ER84





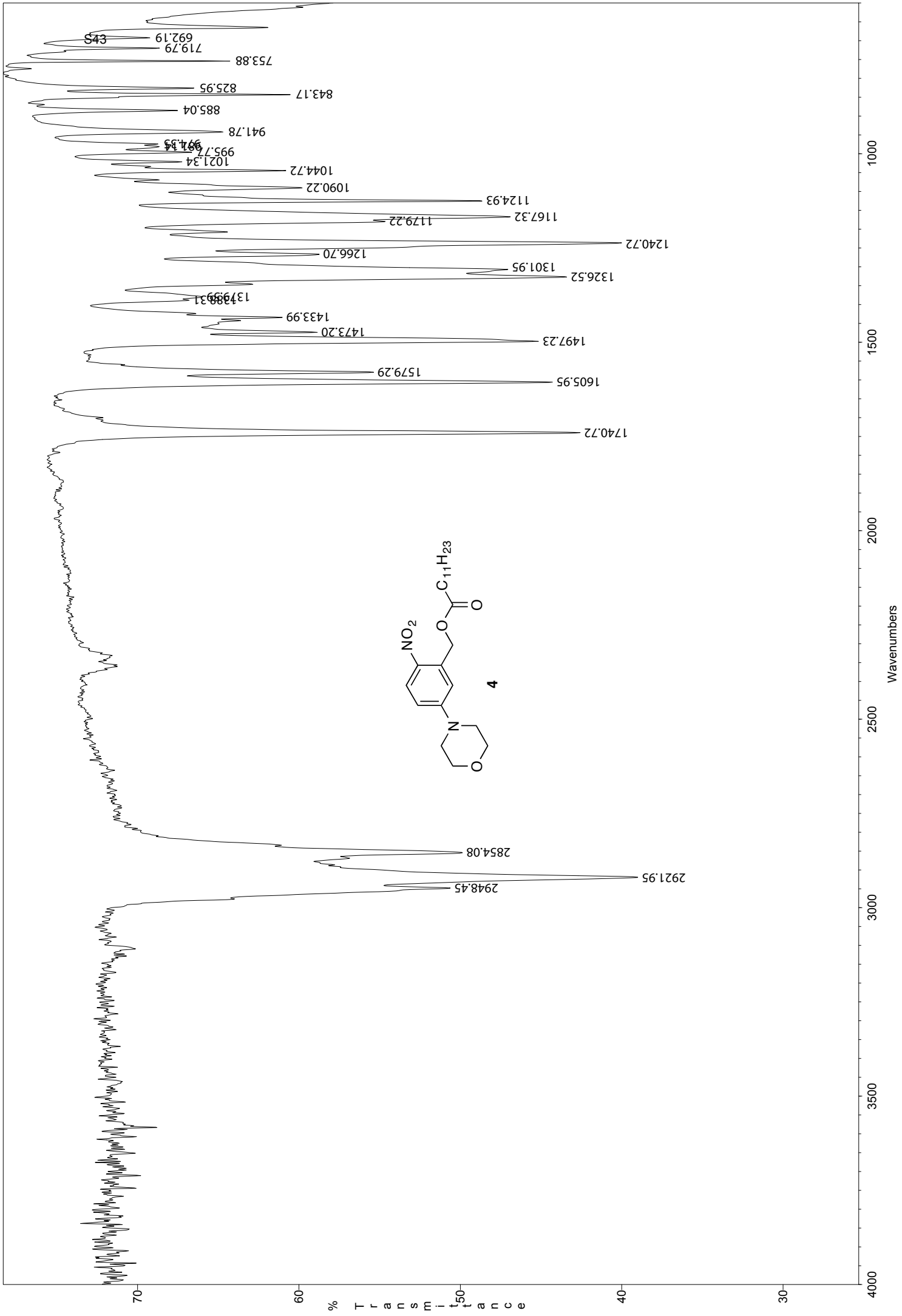
ER19



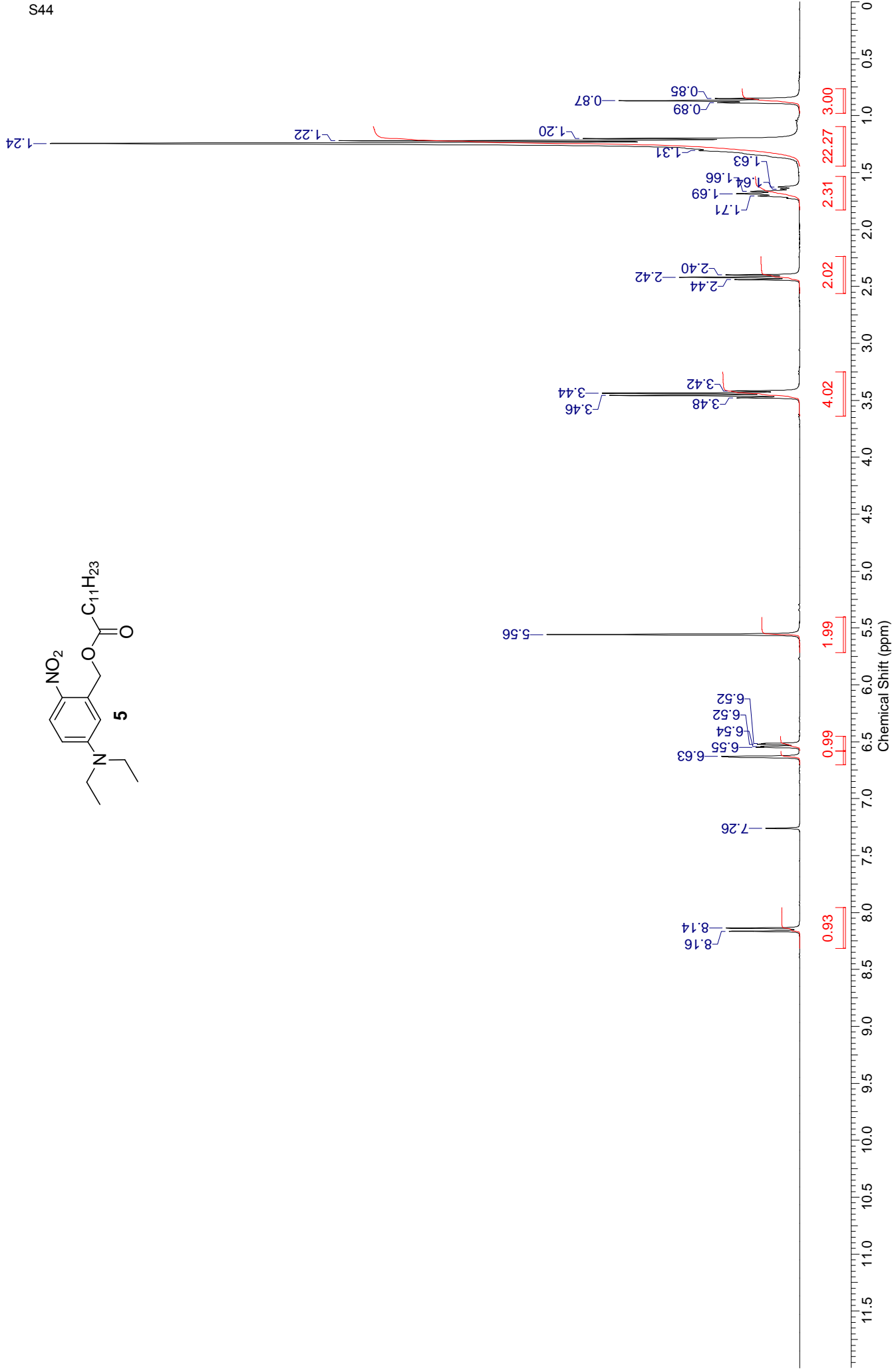
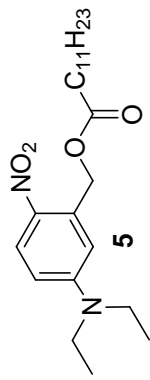


ER19

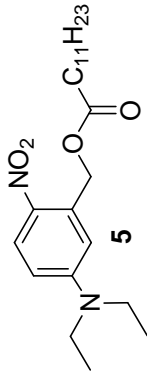
ER19



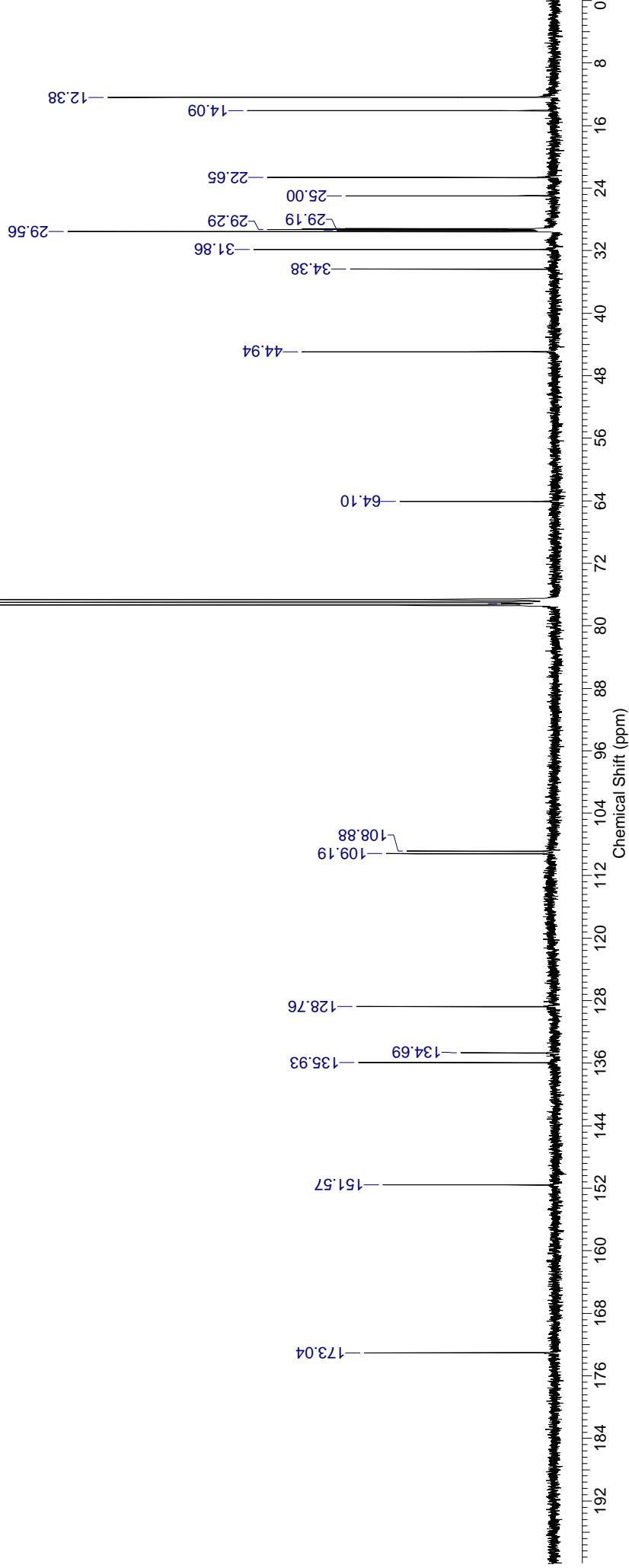
ER86



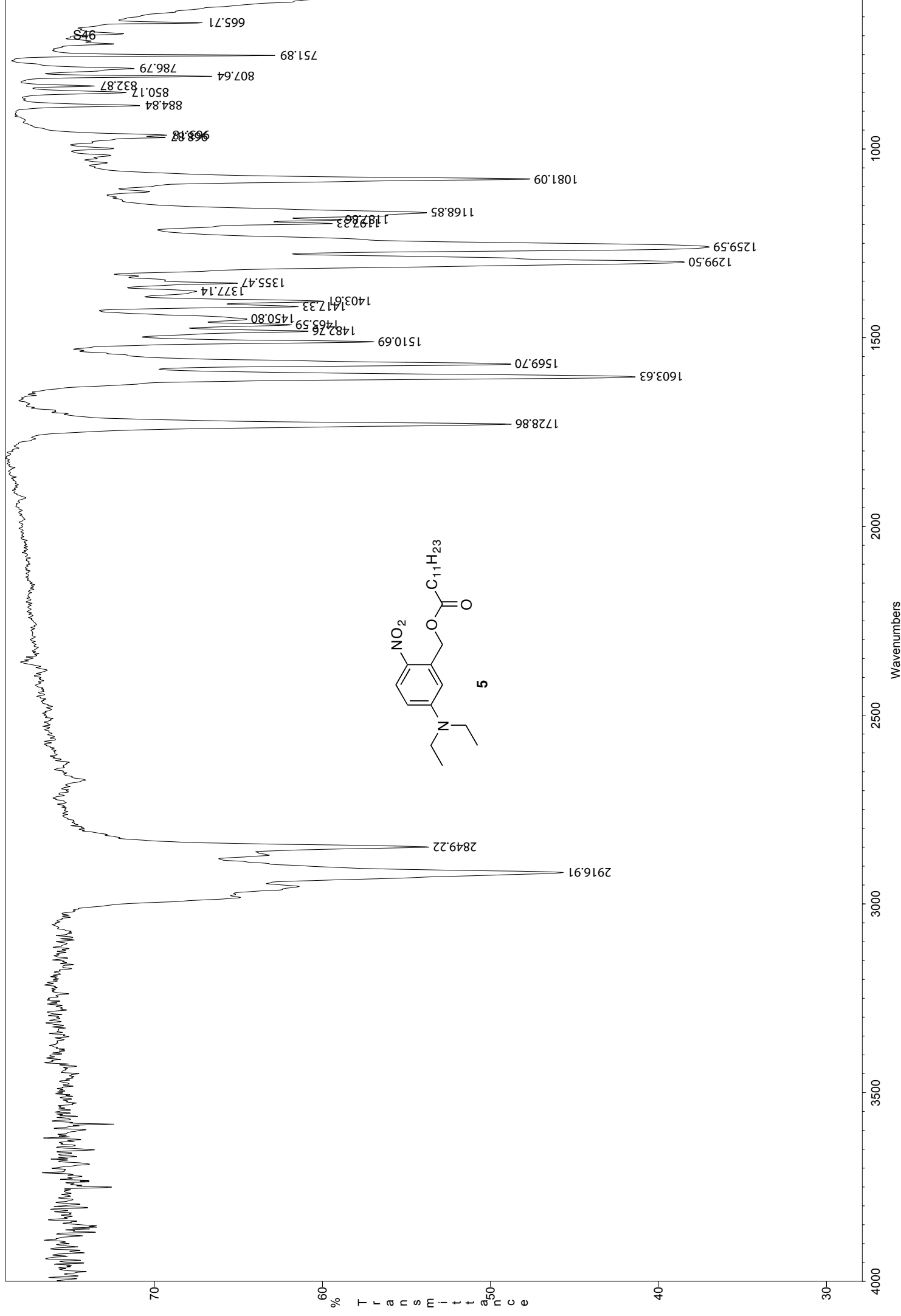
ER86



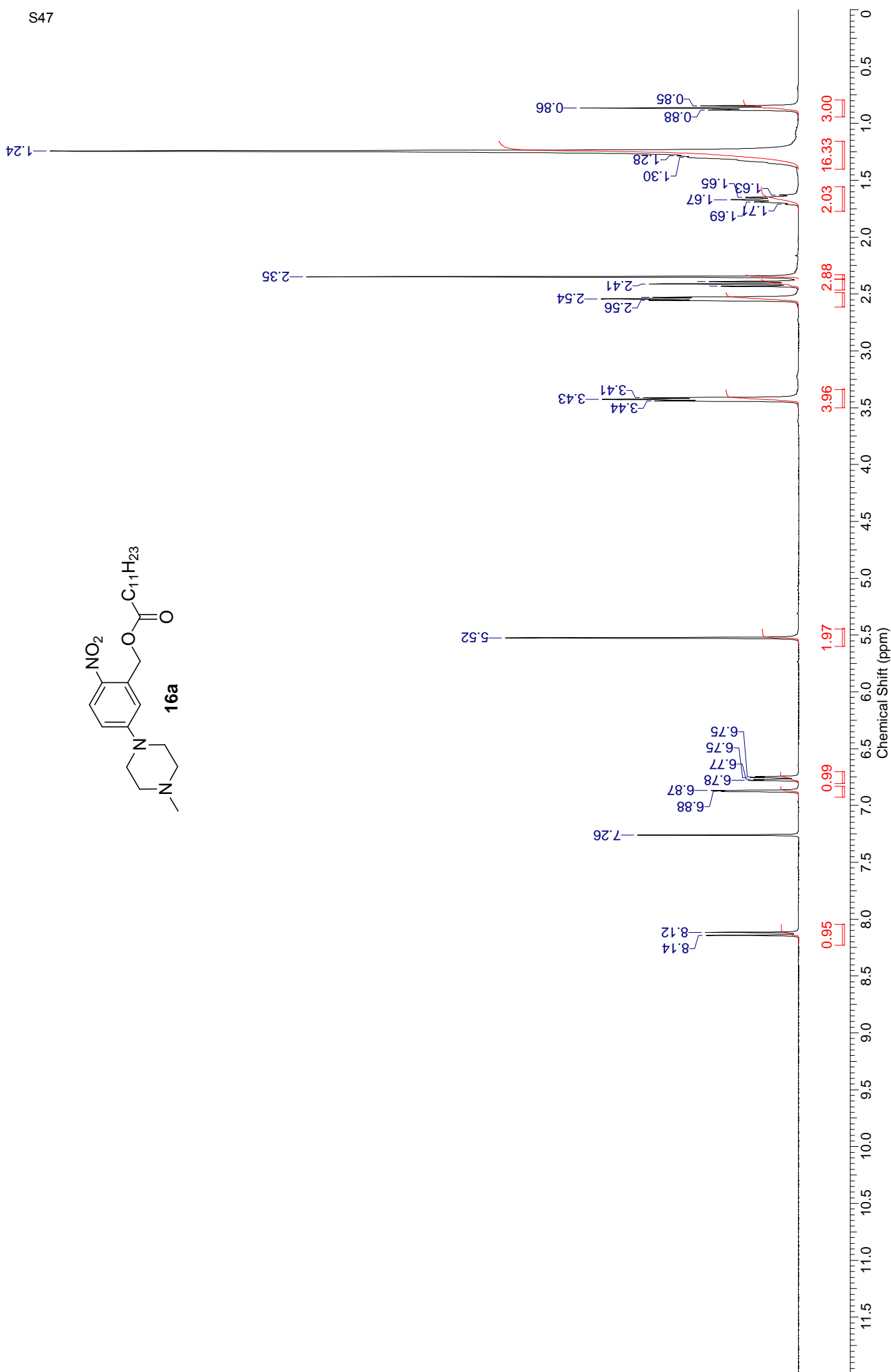
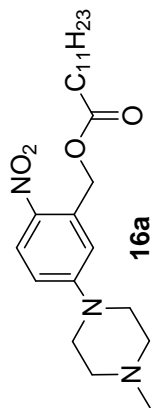
77.35
77.00
76.64



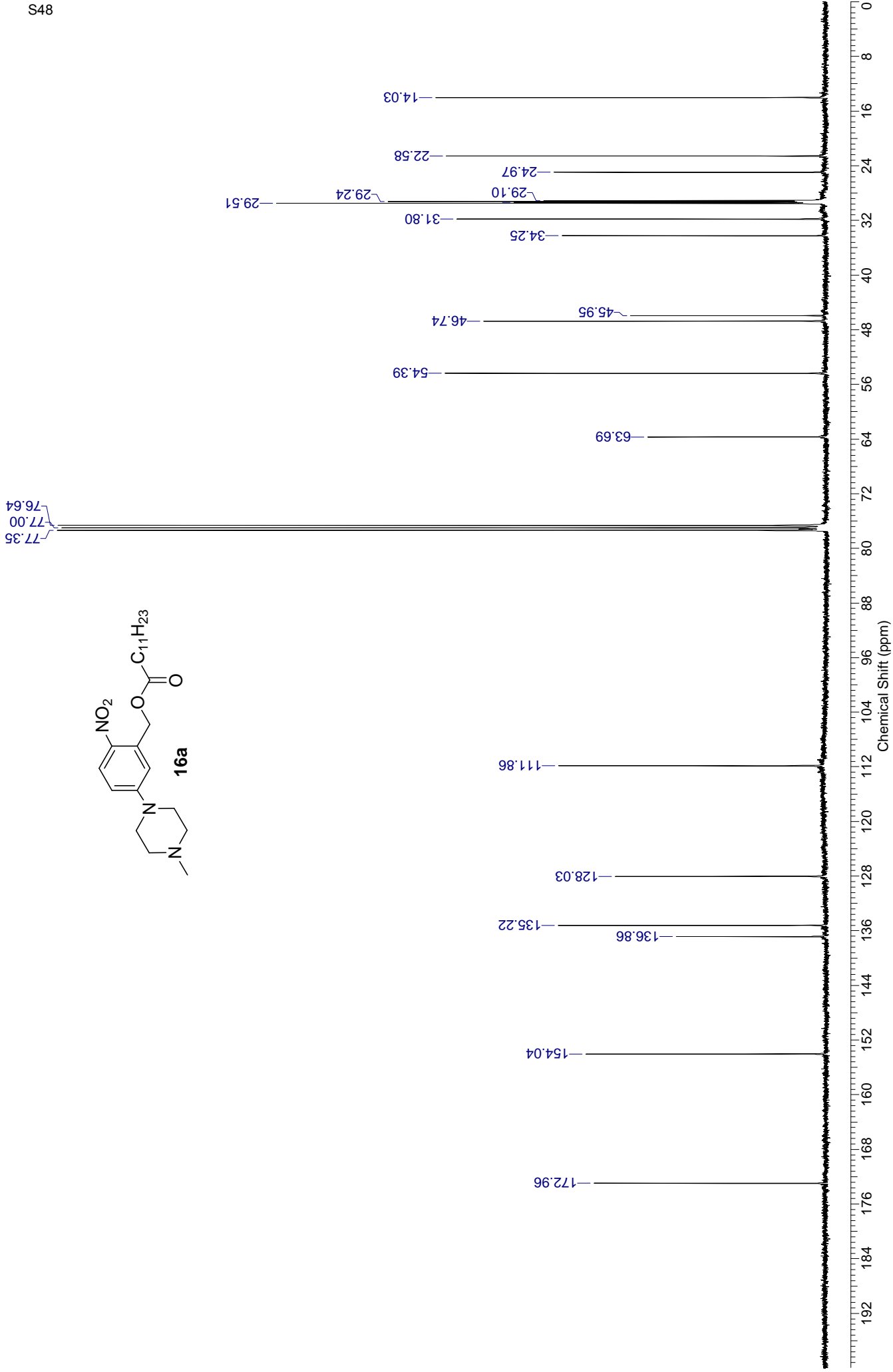
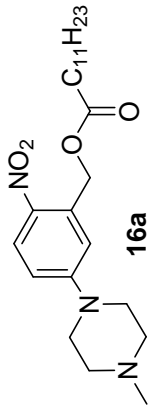
ER86

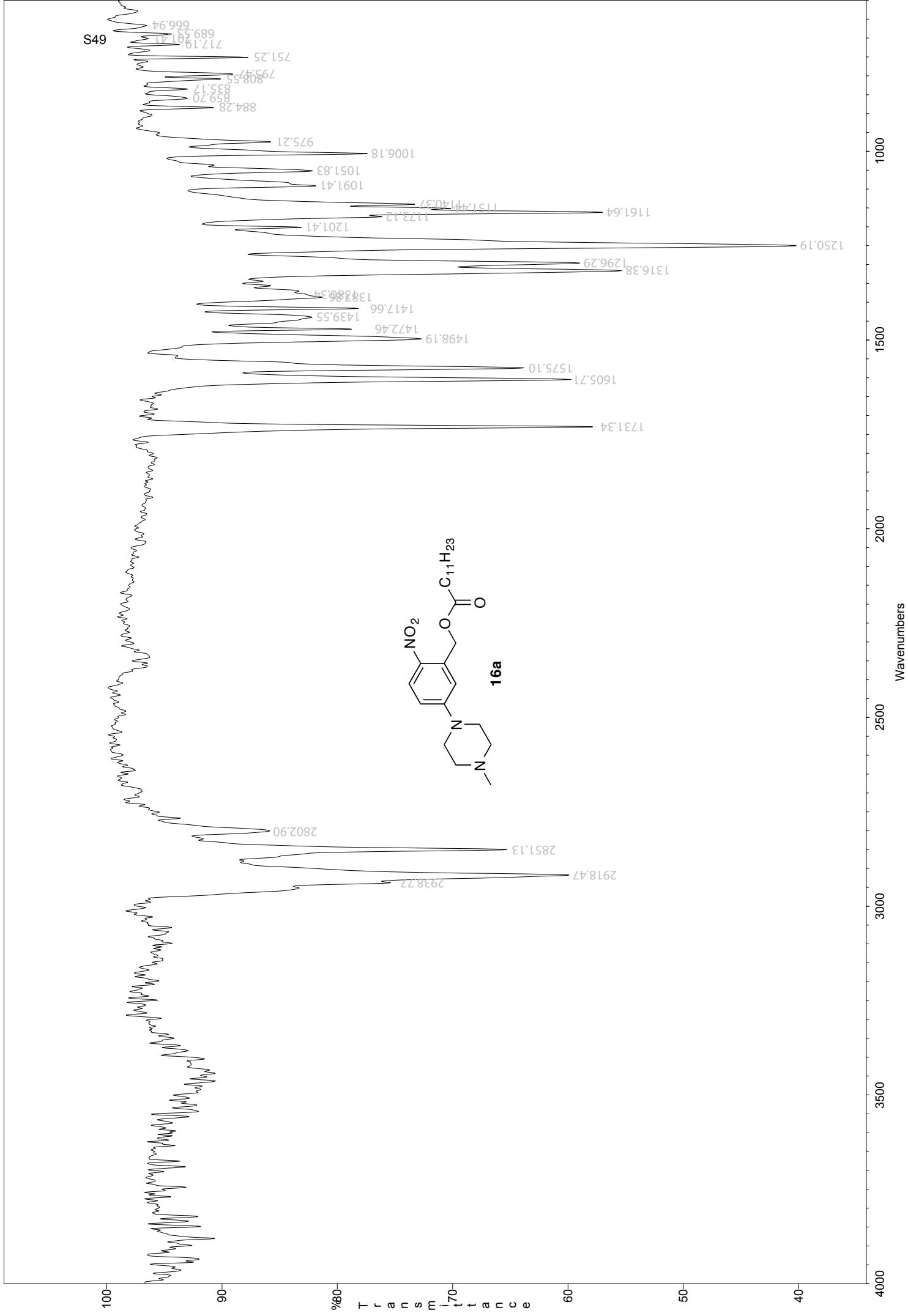


MR123

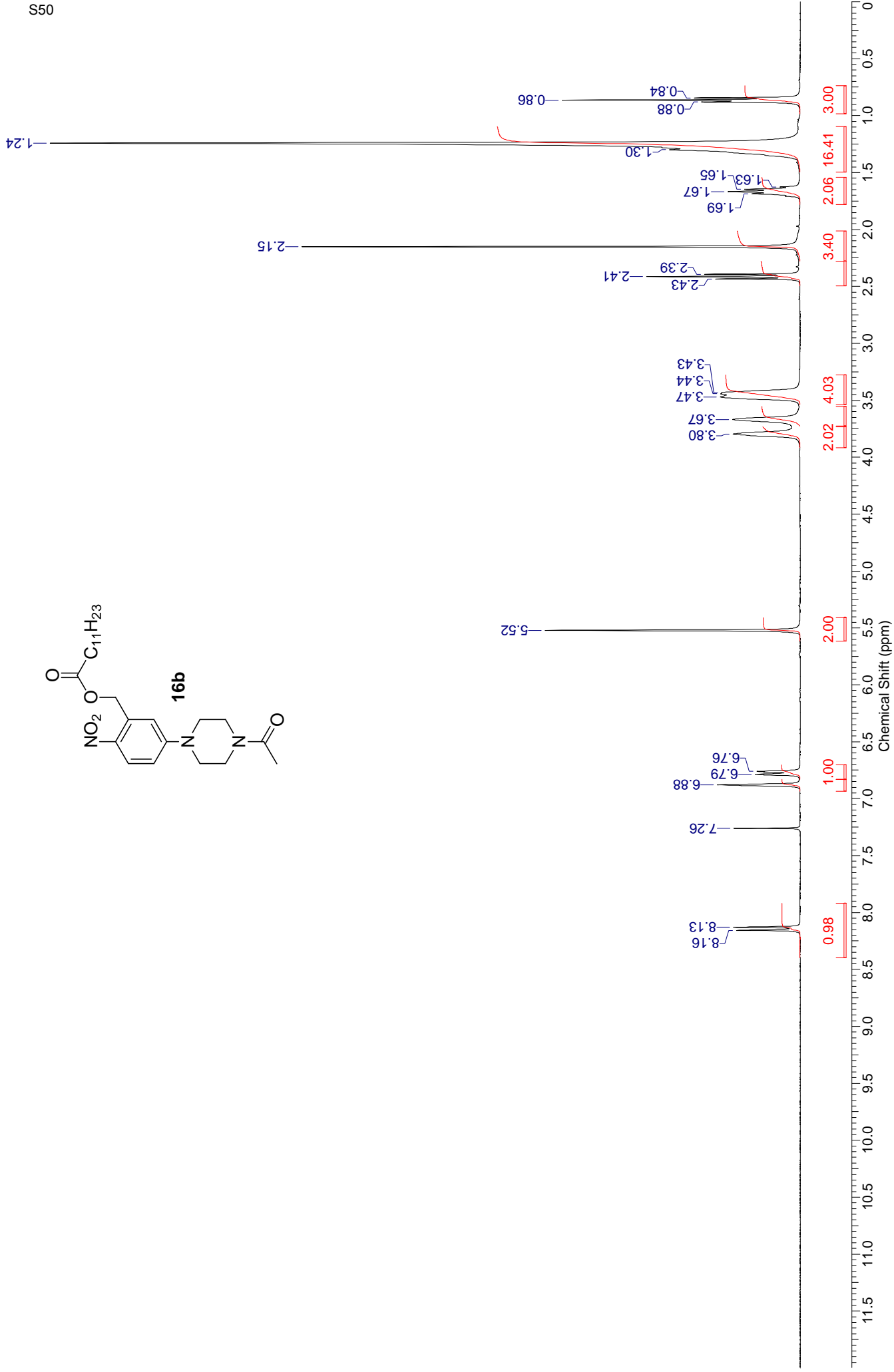
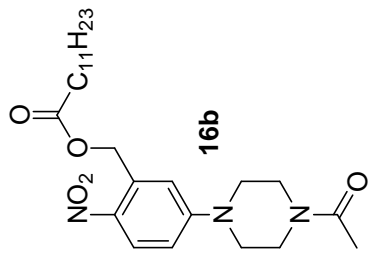


MR123

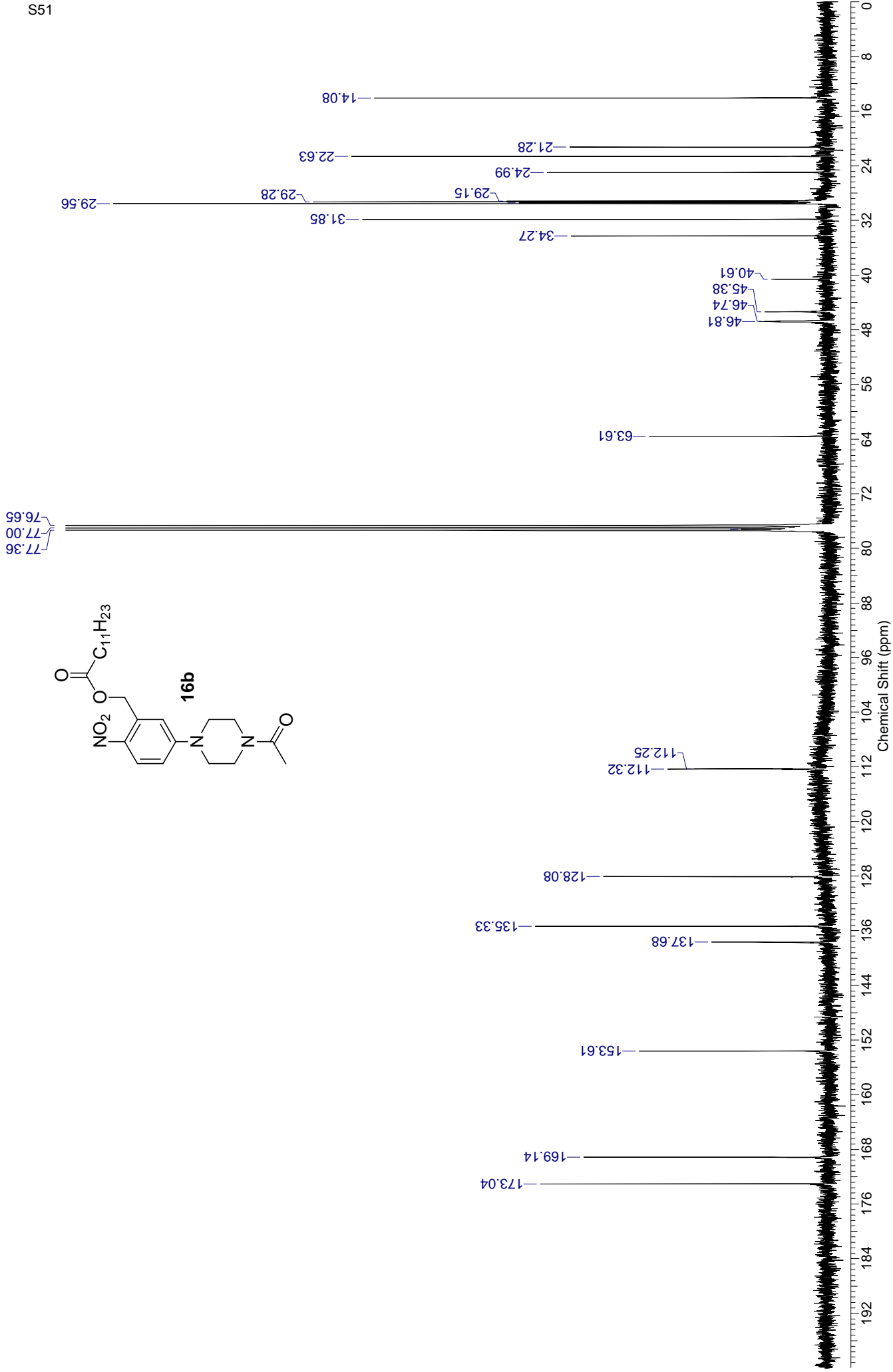
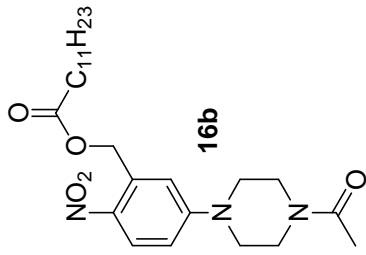


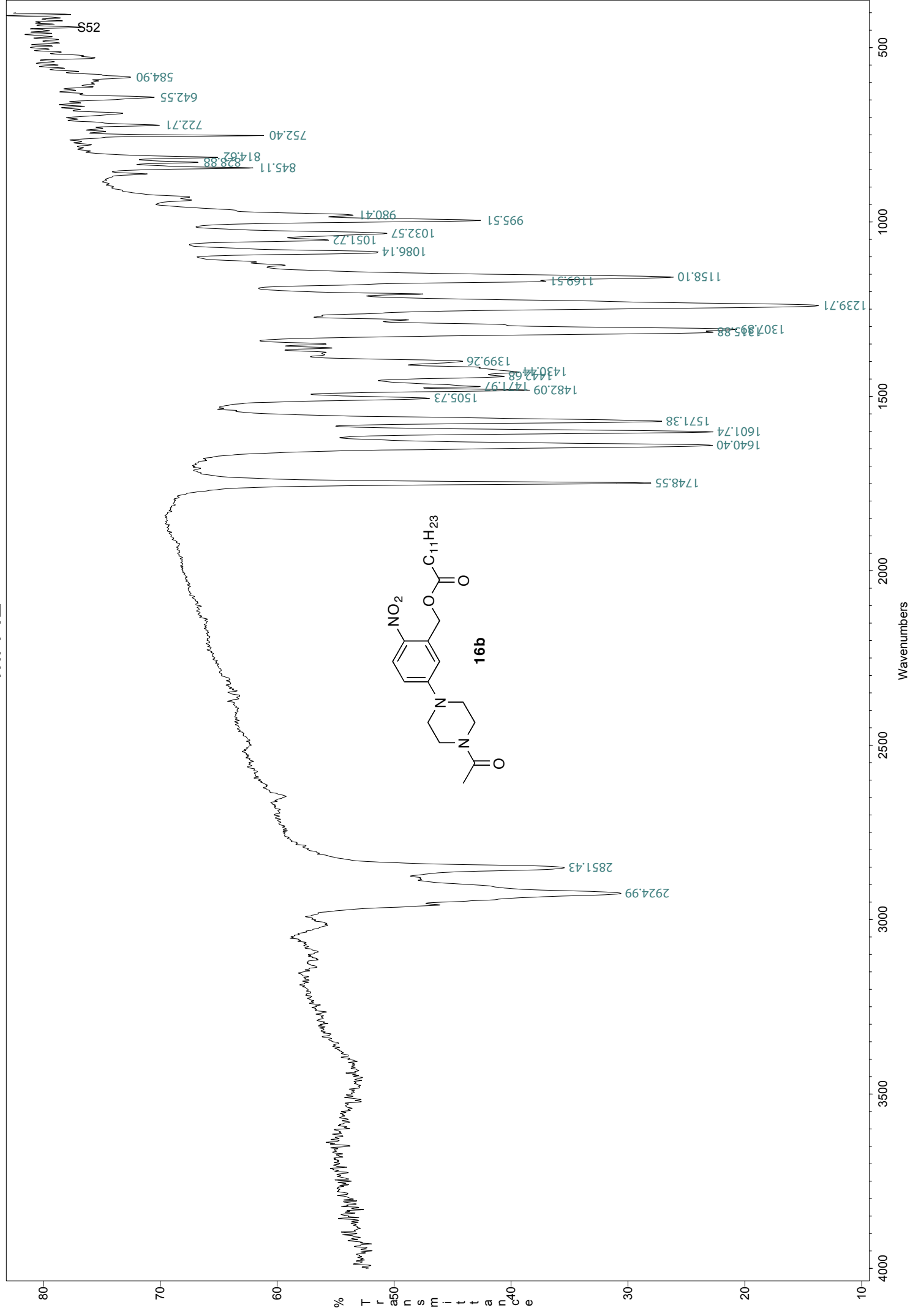


MR142

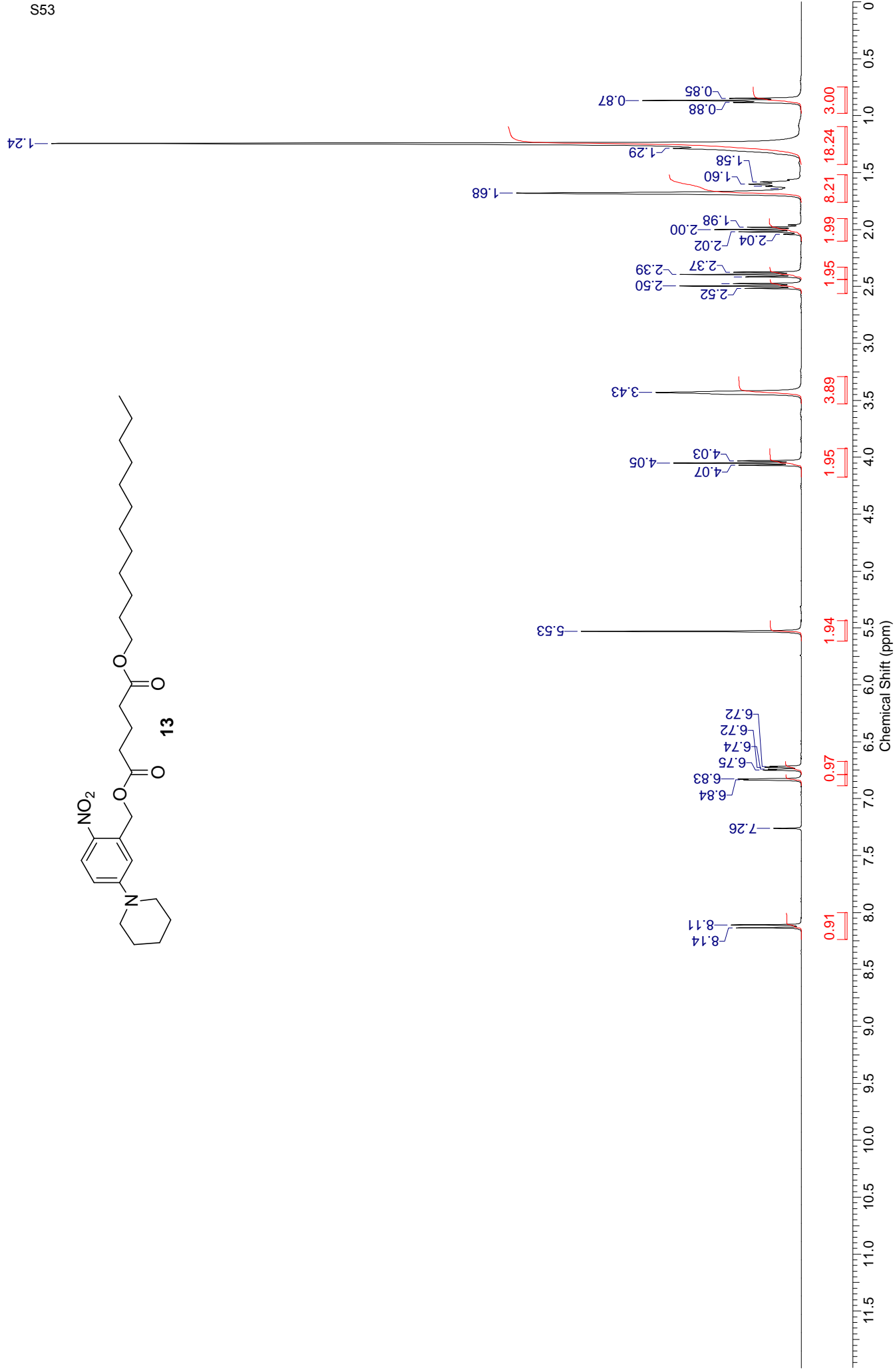
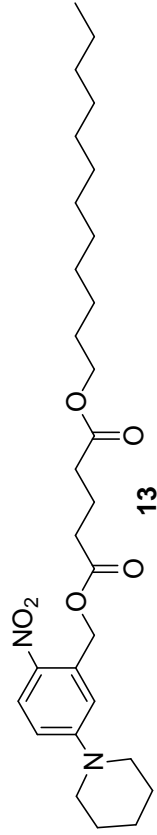


MR142

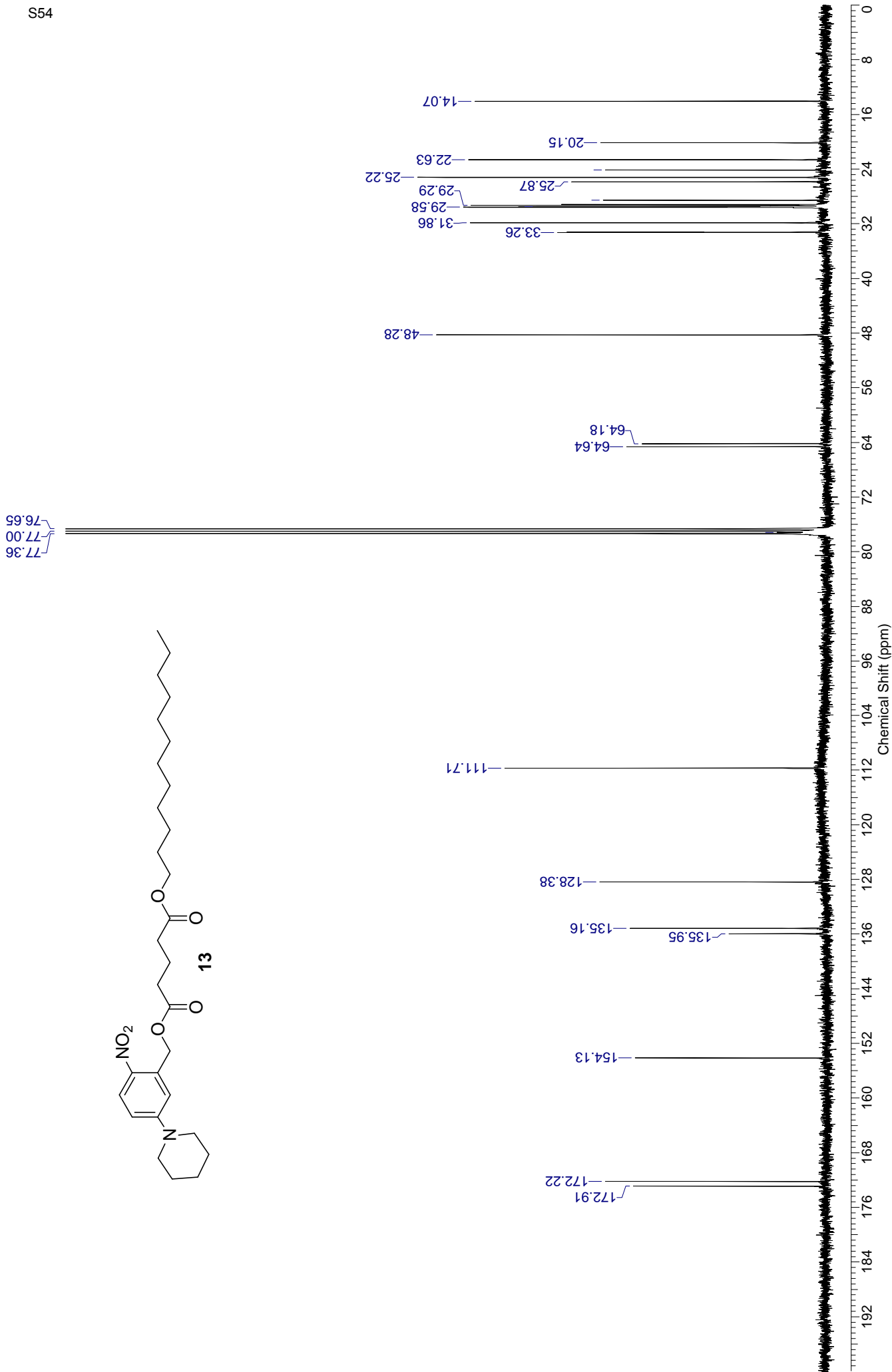




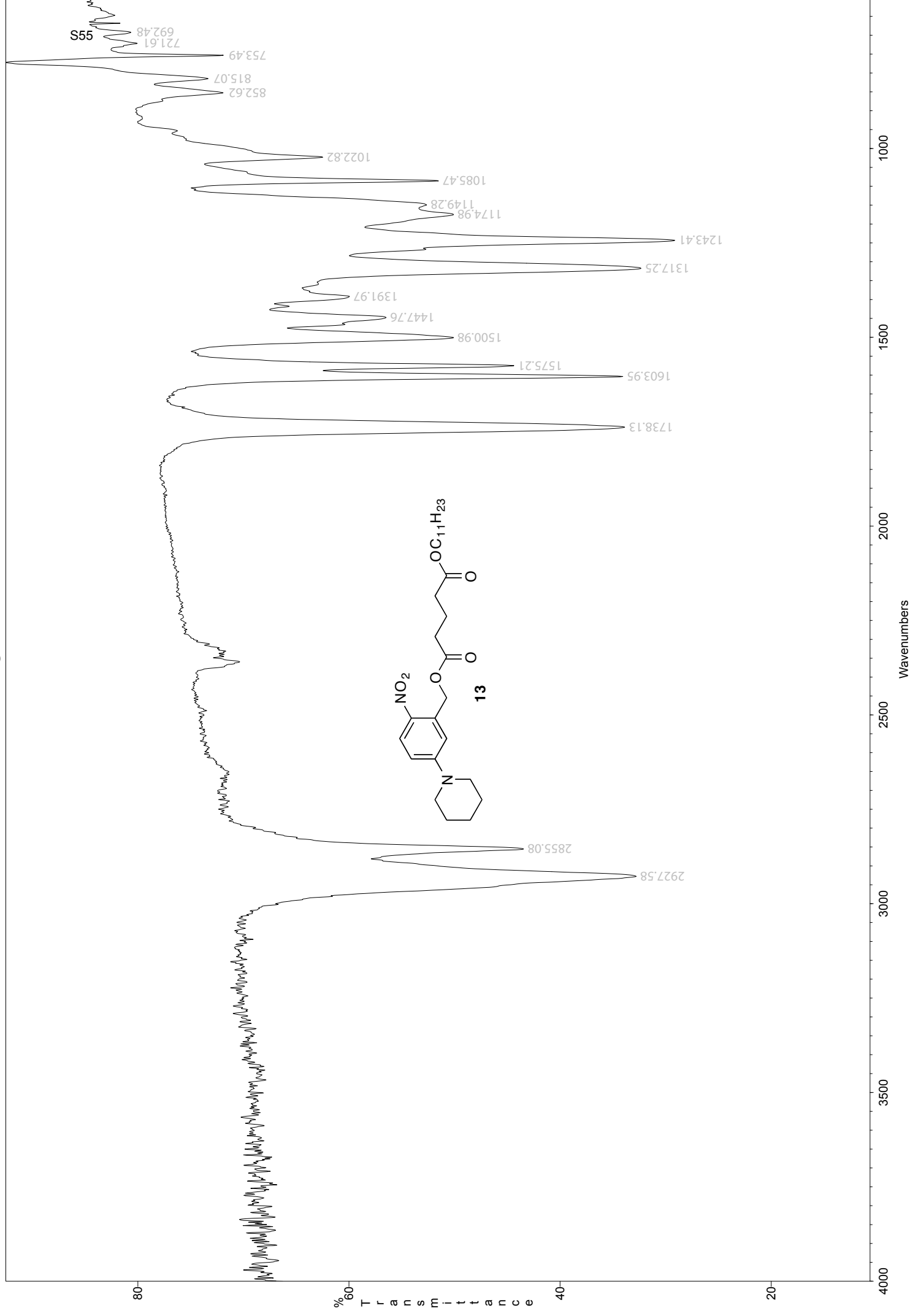
ER72



ER72

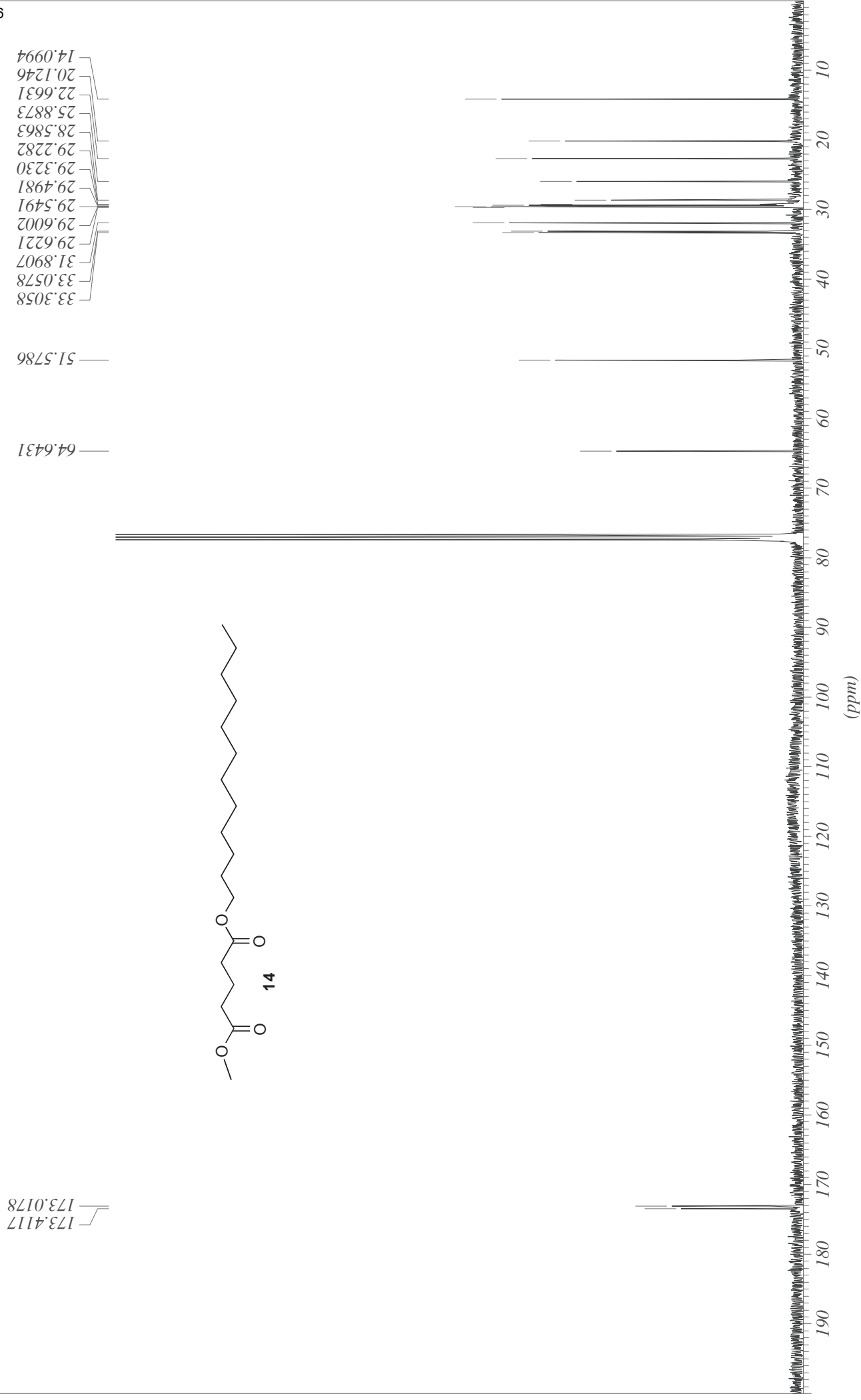


er72

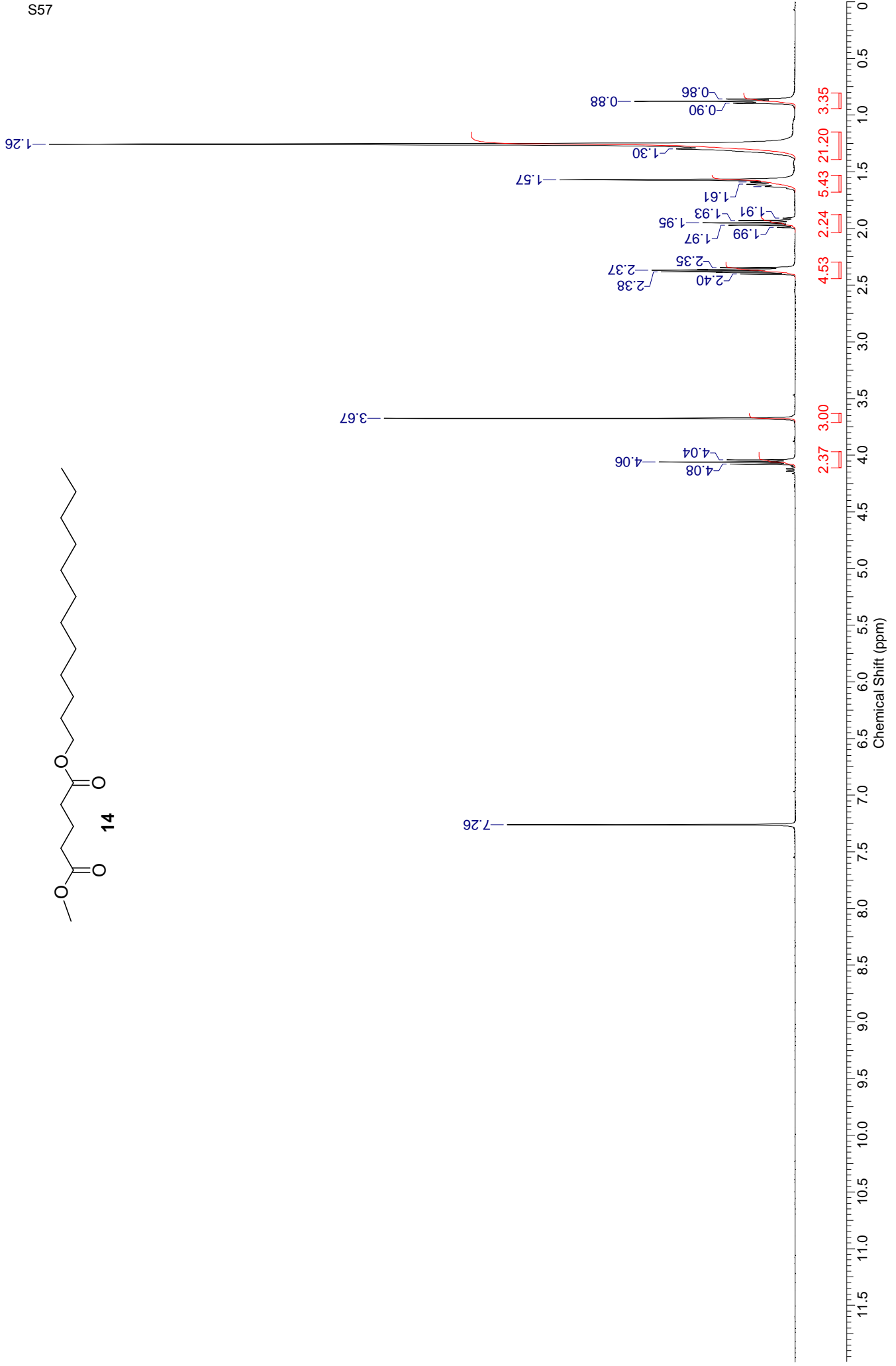
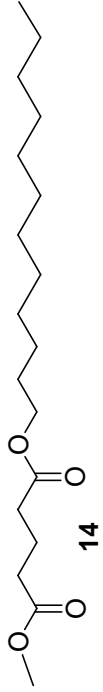


MR22

S56



MR22



mr22

