

Supporting Information
for
A new and expeditious synthesis of all
enantiomerically pure stereoisomers of rosaprostol,
an antiulcer drug

Wiesława Perlikowska, Remigiusz Żurawiński and Marian Mikołajczyk*

Address: Department of Heteroorganic Chemistry, Centre of Molecular and
Macromolecular Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Sienkiewicza 112, 90-363
Łódź, Poland

Email: Marian Mikołajczyk - marmikol@cbmm.lodz.pl

*Corresponding author

Experimental procedures, spectral data and copies of the ^1H , ^{13}C and
 ^{31}P NMR spectra for compounds **1** and **3–10** are provided

Table of Contents

1. Experimental procedures	S2
2. ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{31}P NMR spectra of compounds 1 and 3–10	S7

Experimental procedures

General

Unless stated otherwise, all air and water-sensitive reactions were carried out under a dry argon atmosphere using freshly distilled dry solvents. Glassware was dried prior to use by heating under vacuum. Commercial grade reagents and solvents were used without further purification except as indicated below. THF was distilled over Na/benzophenone prior to use. Benzene was distilled over Na wire and CH₂Cl₂ was distilled from CaH₂. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (70–230 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AV 200, Bruker DRX 500 or DRX 600 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million (ppm). ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts are reported relative to an external standard. ³¹P NMR downfield chemical shifts are expressed with a positive sign relative to an external standard of 85% H₃PO₄. HRMS were recorded on a Finnigan MAT 95 apparatus. Optical rotations were measured using a Perkin-Elmer MC 241 photopolarimeter. Melting points and boiling points are uncorrected.

Dimethyl {5-hexyl-2-[(1-(naphthalen-1-yl)ethyl)amino]cyclopent-1-en-1-yl}phosphonate (–)-(4a) and (–)-(4b): To a magnetically stirred mixture of 8 g of basic aluminum oxide, 15 g of silica gel and 27 g of powdered 5 Å molecular sieves was added a solution of racemic **3** (5.9 g, 0.0184 mol) and enantiopure (+)-(R)-1-(1-naphthyl)ethylamine (4.11 g, 3.9 mL, 0.024 mol) in CH₂Cl₂ (155 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt under nitrogen for 5 d and filtered through Celite. The resulting solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and the diastereoisomers were separated by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 15:1) to give the diastereoisomerically pure enamines (–)-(R)-**4a** (3.4 g, 43%) and (–)-(S)-**4b** (3.6 g, 45%) as colorless liquids. (–)-(R)-**4a**: [α]_D²⁰ = –214.3 (c 2.1, CH₂Cl₂); ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 28.08; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60–7.42 (m, 5H), 5.26 (quint., *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 3.70 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 2.63–2.57 (m, 1H), 2.57–2.49 (m, 1H), 1.98–1.91 (m, 1H), 1.75–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.58 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (m, 1H), 1.32–1.18 (m, 7H), 1.18–1.06 (m, 2H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.35 (d, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 141.49, 133.75, 129.91, 128.99, 127.21, 126.09, 125.81, 125.43, 122.33, 122.13, 86.11 (d, *J* = 193.1 Hz), 51.53 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 51.30 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 50.31, 44.27 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 35.40, 31.99 (d, *J* = 19.8 Hz), 31.90, 29.49, 28.29 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz), 27.17, 24.07, 22.61, 14.07; HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₂₅H₃₆NPO₃: 429.2439, found: 429.2433. (–)-(S)-**4b**: [α]_D²⁰ = –211.8 (c 2.5, CH₂Cl₂); ³¹P NMR (81 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 28.16; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.43 (m, 5H), 5.25 (p, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 3H), 3.71 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 3H), 2.70–2.64 (m, 1H), 2.45–2.37 (m, 1H), 2.10–2.03 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.66–1.60 (m, 1H), 1.59 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.28–1.15 (m, 8H), 1.11–0.95 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.23 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 141.52, 133.81, 129.95, 129.01, 127.28, 126.09, 125.72, 125.45, 122.27, 122.21, 85.56 (d, *J* = 193.2 Hz), 51.44 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 51.38 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 50.11, 44.23 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 35.22, 32.04 (d, *J* = 19.7 Hz), 31.91, 29.49, 28.44 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz), 27.02, 23.97, 22.57, 14.06. HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₂₅H₃₆NPO₃: 429.2439, found: 429.2435.

(2S,3R)-2-Dimethoxyphosphoryl-3-hexylcyclopentan-1-one (+)-(3): A solution of (–)-**4a** (3.4 g, 8.0 mmol) in MeOH/H₂O (50 mL/10 mL) was stirred at rt overnight with a weak acid cation exchanger Dowex 50 WX4 (3 g) and 4 drops of 3 N HCl. The diastereoisomers were separated by column chromatography by elution with acetone. The combined phase was evaporated and aqueous residue lyophilized to give the crude product which was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 5:1) affording (+)-**3** (2.12 g, 97%) as a colorless oil; [α]_D²⁰ = +60.0 (c 2.5, CH₂Cl₂); ³¹P NMR (81 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 25.33; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.81–3.69 (m, 6H), 2.62–2.50 (m, 1H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 26.3, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.34–2.21 (m, 3H), 1.73–1.66 (m, 1H), 1.52–1.44 (m, 1H), 1.39–1.31 (m, 1H), 1.30–1.18 (m, 8H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 211.94 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, C=O), 53.38 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 52.72 (d, *J* = 136.4 Hz), 52.68 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 38.61 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 38.55, 35.37 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 31.65, 29.10, 27.72 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz), 26.73, 22.51, 13.99.

(2R,3S)-2-Dimethoxyphosphoryl-3-hexylcyclopentan-1-one (-)-(3): According to the procedure described above, enamine (-)-**4b** was hydrolyzed to phosphonate (-)-**3** in 95% yield. Colorless oil; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -60.2$ (c 2.4, CH₂Cl₂); ³¹P NMR (81 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 25.33; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.81-3.72 (m, 6H), 2.63-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.39 (dd, *J* = 26.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.35-2.23 (m, 3H), 1.75-1.67 (m, 1H), 1.55-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.33 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.19 (m, 8H), 0.89-0.83 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 211.96 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, C=O), 53.40 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 52.73 (d, *J* = 136.4 Hz), 52.70 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 38.62 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 38.56, 35.38 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 31.66, 29.11, 27.73 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz), 26.74, 22.52, 14.00; HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₁₃H₂₅PO₄: 276.1492, found: 276.1491.

Methyl 7-[(2S)-2-hexyl-5-oxocyclopentylidene]heptanoate (+)-5: To a stirred solution of phosphonate (-)-**3** (1.8 g, 6.5 mmol) and methyl 5-formylpentanecarboxylate (1.14 g, 7.2 mmol) in benzene (50 mL) at rt was added Al₂O₃/KOH [obtained by evaporation of a mixture of Al₂O₃ (1.1 g) and saturated aqueous solution of KOH (0.37 g, 6.6 mmol) under reduced pressure]. After stirring for 3 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through a Celite pad, concentrated in vacuo and subjected to column chromatography (hexane/acetone 20:1) affording (+)-**5** (1.51 g, 75%) as a mixture of isomers (*E:Z*=3:1). For analytical purposes isomers were separated. (+)-(*E*)-(*S*)-**5**: *R*_f=0.30 (hexane:acetone 20:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +105.8$ (c 2.3, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.88 (q, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.40-2.18 (m, 4H), 2.18-2.09 (m, 2H), 1.94-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.49-1.41 (m, 2H), 1.41-1.30 (m, 5H), 1.30-1.19 (m, 7H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 207.74, 173.97, 141.99, 136.18, 51.40, 38.42, 35.97, 34.57, 33.81, 31.74, 29.27, 29.08, 28.81, 28.33, 27.45, 24.75, 24.63, 22.54, 14.00; HRMS (CI) (*M*+H)⁺ calcd. for C₁₉H₃₂O₃: 309.2430, found: 309.2434. (+)-(*Z*)-(*S*)-**5**: *R*_f=0.35 (hexane:acetone 20:1); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +12.5$ (c 1.0, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.82 (td, *J* = 7.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.71-2.54 (m, 2H), 2.35-2.25 (m, 3H), 2.25-2.13 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.54 (m, 3H), 1.48-1.21 (m, 15H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 209.19, 174.19, 140.03, 139.72, 51.43, 42.17, 38.51, 34.54, 33.95, 31.80, 29.39, 29.03, 28.76, 27.47, 26.77, 26.40, 24.75, 22.61, 14.06; HRMS (CI) (*M*+H)⁺ calcd. for C₁₉H₃₂O₃: 309.2430, found: 309.2430.

Methyl 7-[(2R)-2-hexyl-5-oxocyclopentylidene]heptanoate (-)-5: According to the procedure described above, phosphonate (-)-**3** (1.7 g, 6.2 mmol) was transformed into (-)-**5** (1.46 g, 77%) as a mixture of isomers (*E:Z*=2.5:1). For analytical purposes isomers were separated. (-)-(*E*)-(*R*)-**5**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -105.9$ (c 2.9, CH₂Cl₂); (-)-(*Z*)-(*R*)-**5**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -12.8$ (c 2.7, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were consistent with the corresponding spectra of (+)-(*E*)-(*S*)-**5** and (+)-(*Z*)-(*S*)-**5**.

Methyl 7-[(1S,2R)-2-hexyl-5-oxocyclopentyl]heptanoate (+)-6: To a magnetically stirred mixture of tellurium powder (1.6 g, 12.5 mmol) in ethanol (50 mL) under a positive pressure of an argon was added sodium borohydride (0.615 g, 16.3 mmol) in one portion. The reaction mixture was warmed to 40 °C and when a clear, almost colorless solution had formed, the temperature was lowered to 0 °C and acetic acid (0.6 mL) was added. Then a solution of (-)-(*R*)-**5** (1.32 g, 4.3 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h at rt, then filtered through a Celite pad and concentrated. The residual liquid was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 15:1) affording a mixture of *trans* and *cis* isomers as evidenced by the ¹³C NMR spectra (two carbonyl signals at δ = 221.2 ppm and 220.5 ppm for *trans* and *cis* isomers, respectively). The mixture was dissolved in MeOH (12 mL) and treated with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (0.09 g). After stirring overnight the reaction mixture was neutralized with NaHCO₃, filtered and evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 15:1) affording a mixture of (+)-(*1S,2R*)-**6** and its (*1R*)-epimer (1.23 g, 93%) as a colorless liquid in a ratio of 96:4. (+)-(*1S,2R*)-**6**: $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +29.3$ (c 2.3, CH₂Cl₂) (for *trans*:*cis* = 96:4); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.62 (s, 3H, CH₃O), 2.26 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO₂CH₃), 2.16-1.97 (m, 2H, CH₂ (ring)), 1.83-1.72 (m, 1H, CH (ring)), 1.69-1.52 (m, 4H), 1.52-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.10 (m, 17H), 0.90-0.80 (m, 3H, CH₃CH₂); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 221.38, 174.15, 54.94, 51.33, 41.47, 37.80, 34.69, 33.94, 31.75, 29.48, 29.42, 28.88, 27.88, 26.99, 26.95, 26.59, 24.80, 22.55, 14.01; HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₁₉H₃₄O₃: 310.2495, found: 310.2507.

Methyl 7-[(1*R*,2*S*)-2-hexyl-5-oxocyclopentyl]heptanoate (-)-(6): According to the procedure described above, enone (+)-5 (1.28 g, 0.0042 mol) was reduced to a mixture of (-)-(1*R*,2*S*)-6 and its (1*R*)-epimer (1.22 g, 95%) in a ratio of 93:7. (-)-(1*R*,2*S*)-6: $[\alpha]^{20}_D = -30.1$ (c 3.5, CH₂Cl₂) (for *trans:cis* = 93:7); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.25 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.15-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.51 (m, 4H), 1.51-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.13 (m, 17H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 221.37, 174.13, 54.93, 51.32, 41.45, 37.79, 34.68, 33.92, 31.73, 29.47, 29.41, 28.86, 27.85, 26.98, 26.94, 26.58, 24.78, 22.54, 13.99.

7-[(1*R*,2*S*)-2-Hexyl-5-oxocyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (-)-(7): A solution of (-)-6 (0.679 g, 2.2 mmol) in 95% ethanol (26 mL) was heated at 45 °C with 1 N NaOH (13 mL). After 3 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, acidified by the addition of 5% aqueous HCl and extracted with chloroform. The organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 2:1) to yield acid (-)-7 (0.58 g, 89%). $[\alpha]^{20}_D = -32.1$ (c 2.8, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO₂H), 2.30-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.19-2.01 (m, 2H, CH₂ (ring)), 1.86-1.75 (m, 1H, CH (ring)), 1.71-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.52 (q, *J* = 13.9, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.45-1.15 (m, 17H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH₂); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 221.80 (C=O), 179.95 (COOH), 55.02, 41.52, 37.87, 34.73, 33.97, 31.80, 29.51, 29.47, 28.83, 27.92, 27.04, 27.00, 26.62, 24.57, 22.60, 14.06; HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₁₈H₃₂O₃: 296.2351, found: 296.2352.

7-[(1*S*,2*R*)-2-Hexyl-5-oxocyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (+)-(7): According to the procedure described above methyl ester (+)-6 (0.687 g, 2.4 mmol) was hydrolyzed to give acid (+)-7 (0.649 g, 90%). $[\alpha]^{20}_D = +31.8$ (c 2.2, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 2.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 2.29 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.20-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.86-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.73-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.52 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.45-1.18 (m, 16H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 221.8, 179.9, 55.0, 41.5, 37.9, 34.7, 34.0, 31.8, 29.5, 29.5, 28.8, 27.9, 27.0, 27.0, 26.6, 24.6, 22.6, 14.1.

7-[(1*R*,2*S*,5*S*)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (+)-(1c): To a stirred solution of acid (-)-7 (0.424 g, 1.4 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at -75 °C was added dropwise L-Selectride (3 mL, 1 M in THF, 3 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. After 4 h at -75 °C the mixture was hydrolyzed with saturated NH₄Cl solution and left standing overnight. The organic layer was decanted and the aqueous layer extracted with Et₂O (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered, evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 1:1) to afford (+)-1c (0.369 g, 86%). $[\alpha]^{20}_D = +60.1$ (c 2.1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.47 (bs, 1H, CO₂H), 4.19 (t, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, CHOH), 2.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO₂H), 2.01-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 1H, CH (ring)), 1.68-1.53 (m, 4H), 1.53-1.44 (m, 1H), 1.44-1.06 (m, 19H), 1.06-0.96 (m, 1H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH₂); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 179.31, 74.54, 51.43, 41.79, 35.07, 34.01, 33.32, 31.88, 29.61 (2 C), 28.96, 28.89, 28.28, 28.11, 27.56, 24.59, 22.64, 14.08; HRMS (EI) calcd. for C₁₈H₃₄O₃: 297.2429, found: 297.2436.

7-[(1*S*,2*R*,5*R*)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (-)-(1a): According to the procedure described above ketoacid (+)-7 (0.377 g, 1.3 mmol) was transformed into rosaprostol stereoisomer (-)-1a (0.330 g, 87%). $[\alpha]^{20}_D = -61.0$ (c 2.6, CHCl₃); mp = 41-42 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.41 (bs, 1H), 4.15 (s, 1H), 2.27 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.97-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.50 (m, 3H), 1.50-1.05 (m, 14H), 1.05-0.93 (m, 1H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 179.5, 74.5, 51.4, 41.8, 35.1, 34.0, 33.4, 31.9, 29.6 (2 C), 29.0, 28.9, 28.3, 28.1, 27.6, 24.6, 22.7, 14.1.

7-[(1*R*,2*R*,5*R*)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptan-1-ol (8): To a stirred solution of (+)-6 (688 mg, 2.22 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at -70 °C was added dropwise L-Selectride (1 M in THF, 7 mL, 7 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at -70 °C for 0.5 h and then at -45 °C for 3 h and then saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl was added. After separation of the organic layer, the aqueous solution was extracted with Et₂O (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was subjected to column chromatography (petroleum ether/acetone 4:1) affording 8 (687 mg, 99%) as a colorless oil.

$[\alpha]_D^{20} = -67.7$ (c 2.2, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.18-4.16 (m, 1H), 3.6 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.98-1.77 (m, 4H), 1.66-1.46 (m, 6H), 1.44-1.07 (m, 19H), 1.04-0.95 (m, 1H), 0.86 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 74.38, 62.82, 51.44, 41.85, 35.08, 33.47, 32.66, 31.86, 29.95, 29.60, 29.27, 28.94, 28.26, 27.62, 25.62, 22.62, 14.05; HRMS (EI) ($\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$) calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_2$: 266.2600, found: 266.2609.

7-[(1S,2R,5R)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (-)-(1a): To a suspension of 10% Pd/C (26 mg, 0.244 mmol) in water (26 mL) was added sodium borohydride (20 mg, 0.53 mmol), potassium hydroxide (814 mg, 15.5 mmol) and a solution of diol **8** (686 mg, 2.42 mmol) in MeOH (13 mL). The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred in open air atmosphere at room temperature for 48 h. Then, the mixture was acidified with 0.1 M aqueous HCl and extracted with CHCl_3 (5 \times 20 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO_4 , concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/acetone 2:1) affording (-)-**1a** (649 mg, 90%). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -60.5$ (c 3.2, CHCl_3); mp 41-42 °C, ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.50 (bs, 2H), 4.16 (m, 1H), 2.27 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.94-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.52 (m, 4H), 1.50-1.12 (m, 19H), 1.09-0.94 (m, 1H), 0.82 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 178.73, 74.39, 51.37, 41.71, 35.02, 33.93, 33.22, 31.80, 29.54, 29.54, 28.91, 28.82, 28.21, 28.05, 27.49, 24.56, 22.56, 13.99.

Methyl 7-[(1R,2S,5S)-2-hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoate (+)-(9): To a magnetically stirred ethereal solution of diazomethane (0.078 g, 0.0019 mol, 1.5 equiv) at -30 °C was slowly added rosaprostol stereoisomer (+)-**1c** (0.368 g, 0.0012 mol) in Et_2O (10 mL). The yellow solution was stirred overnight, the solvent removed under reduced pressure and the crude product purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 15:1) affording methyl ester (+)-**9** (0.368 g, 95%) as a colorless liquid. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +64.0$ (c 2.1, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.15 (t, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H, CHOH), 3.62 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.27 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$), 1.99-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.73 (m, 1H, $\text{CH}(\text{ring})$), 1.62-1.52 (m, 4H), 1.52-1.09 (m, 20H), 1.04-0.93 (m, 1H), 0.84 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, CH_3CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.26, 74.24, 51.41, 51.37, 41.76, 35.04, 33.96, 33.44, 31.83, 29.58, 29.57, 29.00, 28.89, 28.24, 28.11, 27.53, 24.77, 22.60, 14.03; HRMS (EI) ($\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$) calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_2$: 294.2551, found: 294.2559.

Methyl 7-[(1S,2R,5R)-2-hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoate (-)-(9): According to the procedure described above rosaprostol stereoisomer (-)-**1a** (0.33 g, 1.1 mmol) was transformed into methyl ester (-)-**9** (0.314 g, 91%) as a colorless liquid. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -65.0$ (c 2.4, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.17 (t, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H, CHOH), 3.64 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.29 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$), 2.00-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.53-1.12 (m, 20H), 1.05-0.96 (m, 1H), 0.86 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, CH_3CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.38, 74.42, 51.52, 51.49, 41.89, 35.14, 34.08, 33.57, 31.94, 29.70, 29.68, 29.11, 29.01, 28.35, 28.23, 27.65, 24.89, 22.71, 14.14.

7-[(1R,2S,5R)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (+)-(1d): A stirred suspension of methyl ester (+)-**9** (216 mg, 0.693 mmol), Ph_3P (236 mg, 0.91 mmol) and *p*-nitrobenzoic acid (PNBA, 127 mg, 0.762 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was placed in an ice-water bath for 15 min. Then, diisopropylazodicarboxylate (DIAD, 168 mg, 0.831 mmol) was added dropwise. The yellow homogenous mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min, then at rt overnight. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was dissolved in EtOH (7 mL). A 1 M aq. solution of LiOH (6 mL) was added at rt and the mixture was stirred overnight. EtOH was evaporated in vacuo, the residue was acidified by addition of 5% aq. solution of HCl and extracted with CHCl_3 (3 \times 20 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO_4 , concentrated, and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 2:1) to yield rosaprostol stereoisomer (-)-**1d** (148 mg, 72%). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +25.0$ (c 0.6, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.21 (bs, 1H), 3.91-3.84 (m, 1H), 2.33 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 1.82-1.68 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.54 (m, 3H), 1.54-1.43 (m, 1H), 1.43-1.13 (m, 21H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.8$

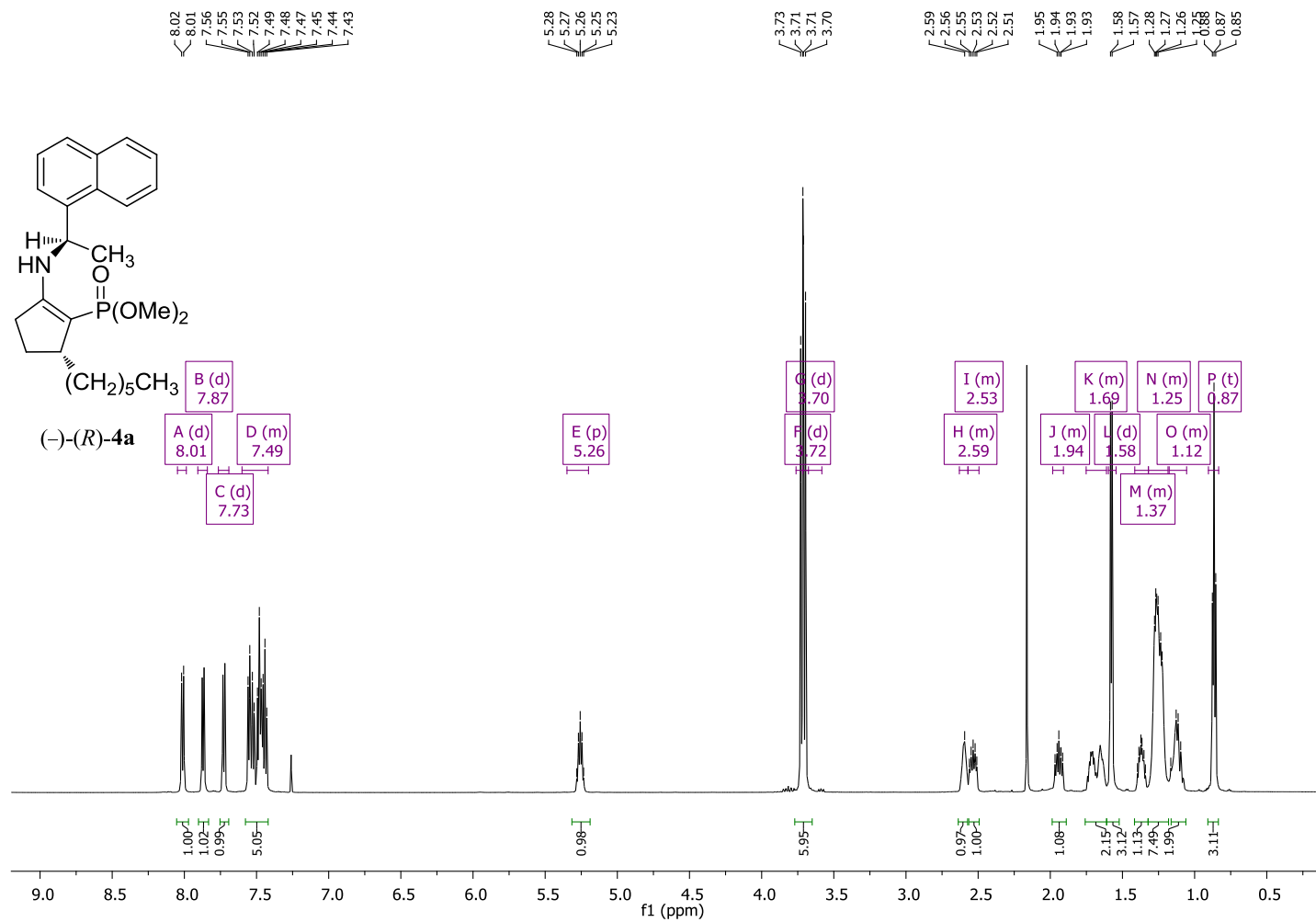
Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 179.38, 79.26, 54.39, 44.59, 35.98, 34.20, 34.01, 33.49, 31.88, 29.59, 29.55, 29.34, 28.97, 28.26, 27.61, 24.61, 22.65, 14.09.

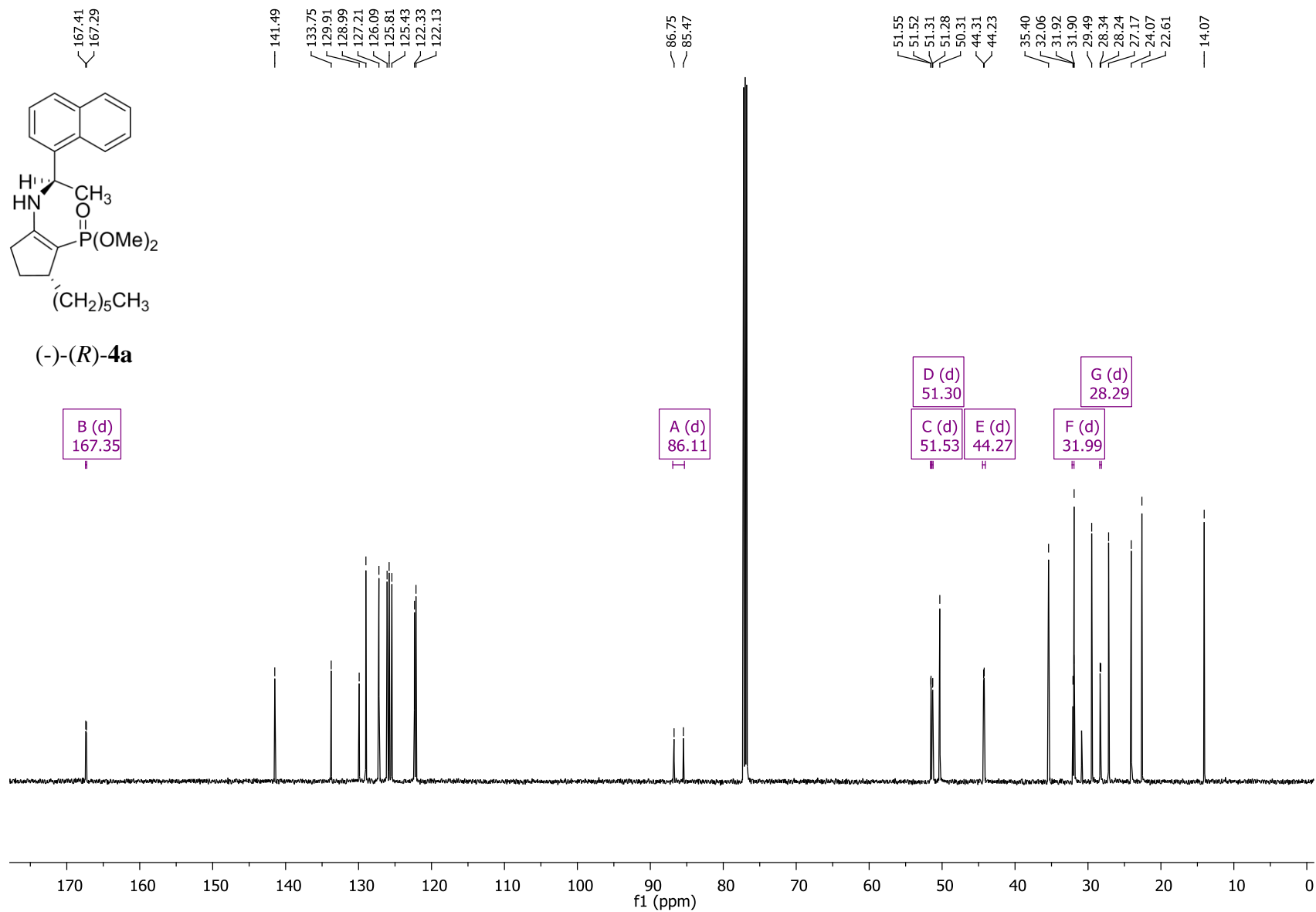
7-[(1*S*,2*R*,5*S*)-2-Hexyl-5-hydroxycyclopentyl]heptanoic acid (-)-(1*b*): By analogy to the procedure described above, ester (-)-**9** (211 mg, 0.675 mmol) was transformed into rosaprostol stereoisomer (-)-**1b** (157 mg, 78%). $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -24.7$ (*c* 1.7, CHCl_3); mp 28-30 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.75 (bs, 1H, CO_2H), 3.92-3.81 (m, 1H, CHOH), 2.31 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{H}$), 1.81-1.67 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.51 (m, 3H), 1.51-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.15 (m, 21H), 0.86 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, CH_3CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 179.31, 79.19, 54.29, 44.56, 35.96, 34.12, 34.03, 33.47, 31.86, 29.59, 29.54, 29.32, 28.96, 28.25, 27.58, 24.62, 22.63, 14.08.

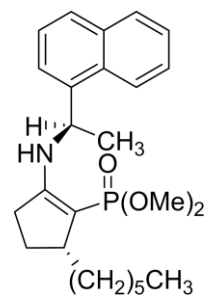
Methyl 7-[(1*R*,2*S*,5*R*)-2-hexyl-5-(4-nitrobenzoyloxy)cyclopentyl]heptanoate (-)-(10): A stirred suspension of methyl ester (+)-**9** (0.216 g, 0.693 mmol), Ph_3P (0.236 g, 0.91 mmol) and *p*-nitrobenzoic acid (PNBA, 0.127 g, 0.762 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was placed in an ice-water bath for 15 min. Then diisopropylazodicarboxylate (DIAD, 0.168 g, 0.831 mmol) was added dropwise. The yellow homogenous mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min, then at rt overnight. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/acetone 15:1) affording (-)-**10** (0.256 g, 80%). $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -29.6$ (*c* 1.6, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.27 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H, $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}\text{H}$), 8.16 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H, $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}\text{H}$), 5.11-5.06 (m, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.26 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$), 2.02-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.71-1.63 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.46 (m, 4H), 1.46-1.20 (m, 18H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, CH_3CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.24, 164.35, 150.43, 136.26, 130.61 (2 C), 123.53 (2 C), 83.49, 51.47, 51.29, 44.48, 35.87, 34.03, 33.40, 31.91, 31.68, 30.19, 29.58, 29.54, 29.07, 28.25, 27.52, 24.92, 22.69, 14.14; HRMS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{39}\text{NO}_6$: 461.2778, found: 461.2785.

Methyl 7-[(1*S*,2*R*,5*S*)-2-hexyl-5-(4-nitrobenzoyloxy)cyclopentyl]heptanoate (+)-(10): According to the procedure described above, methyl ester (-)-**9** (0.211 g, 0.676 mmol) was transformed into diester (+)-**10** (0.256 g, 82%). $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +30.2$ (*c* 2.4, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.27 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H, $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}\text{H}$), 8.17 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H, $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}\text{H}$), 5.12-5.04 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.26 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$), 2.01-1.86 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.72-1.65 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.47 (m, 4H), 1.47-1.21 (m, 18H), 0.87 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, CH_3CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.17, 164.29, 150.36, 136.19, 130.54 (2 C), 123.46 (2 C), 83.43, 51.40, 51.22, 44.41, 35.80, 33.97, 33.33, 31.84, 31.61, 30.12, 29.51, 29.48, 29.00, 28.18, 27.46, 24.86, 22.62, 14.08.

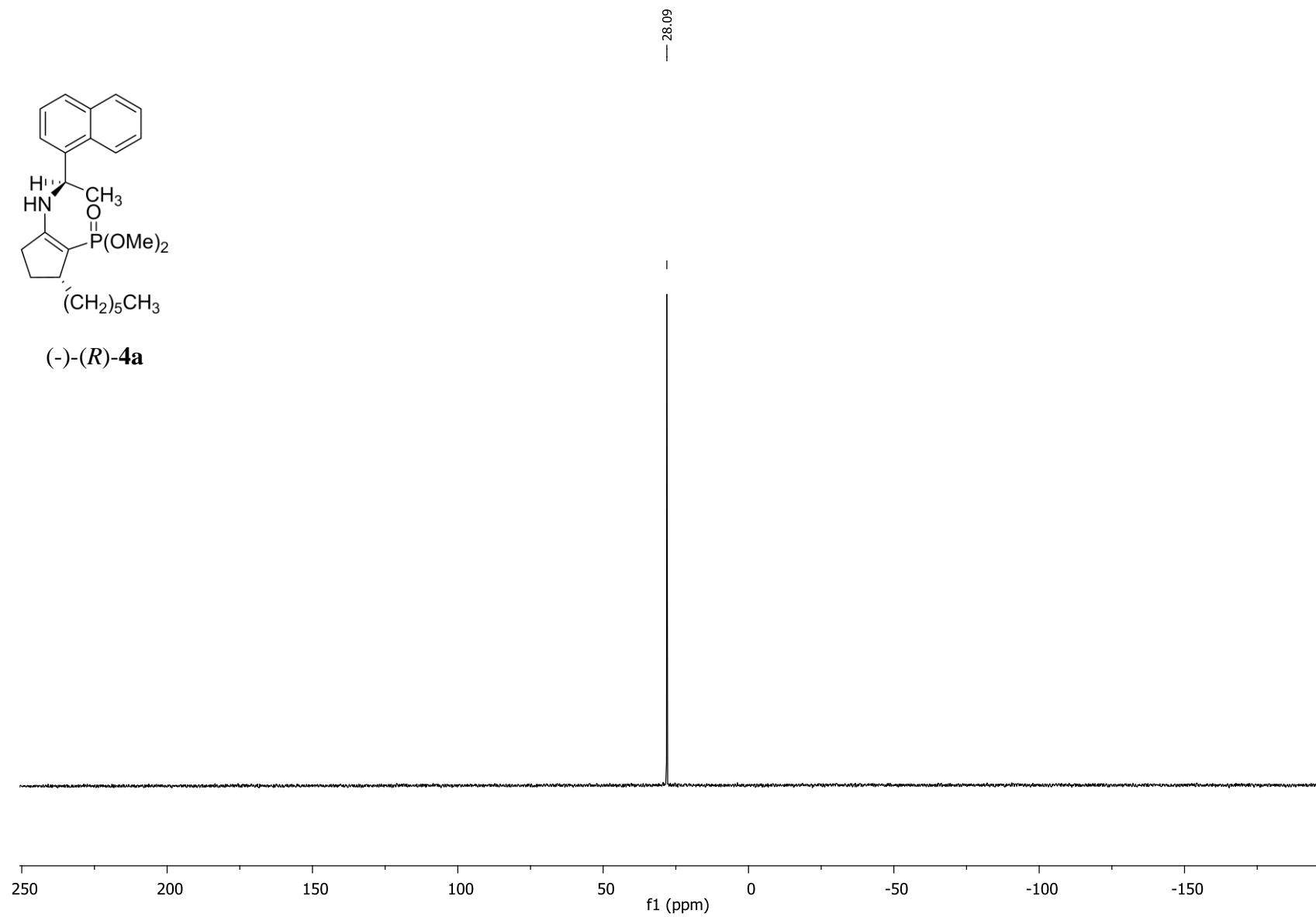
^1H , ^{13}C and ^{31}P NMR spectra of compounds 1 and 3–10

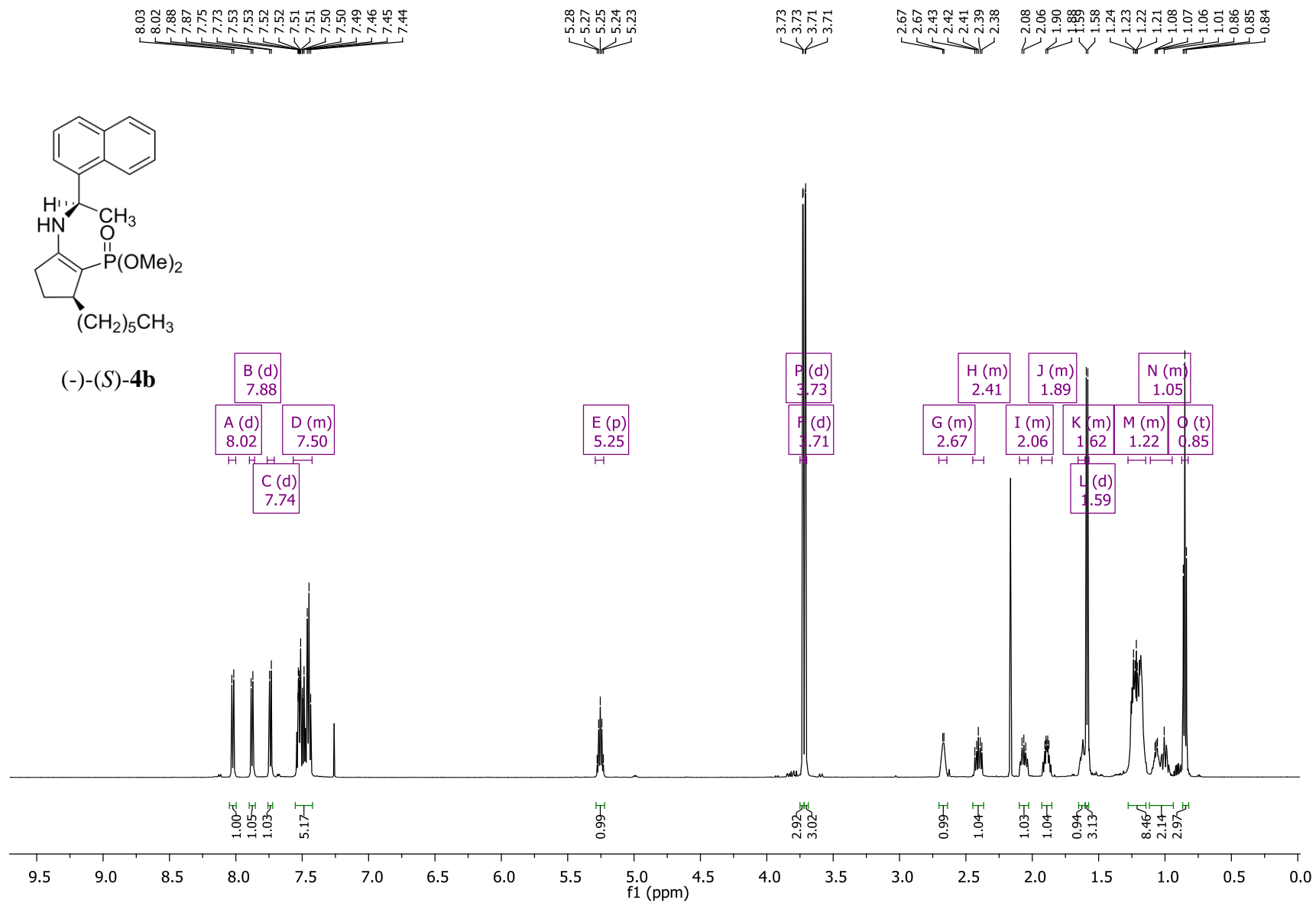


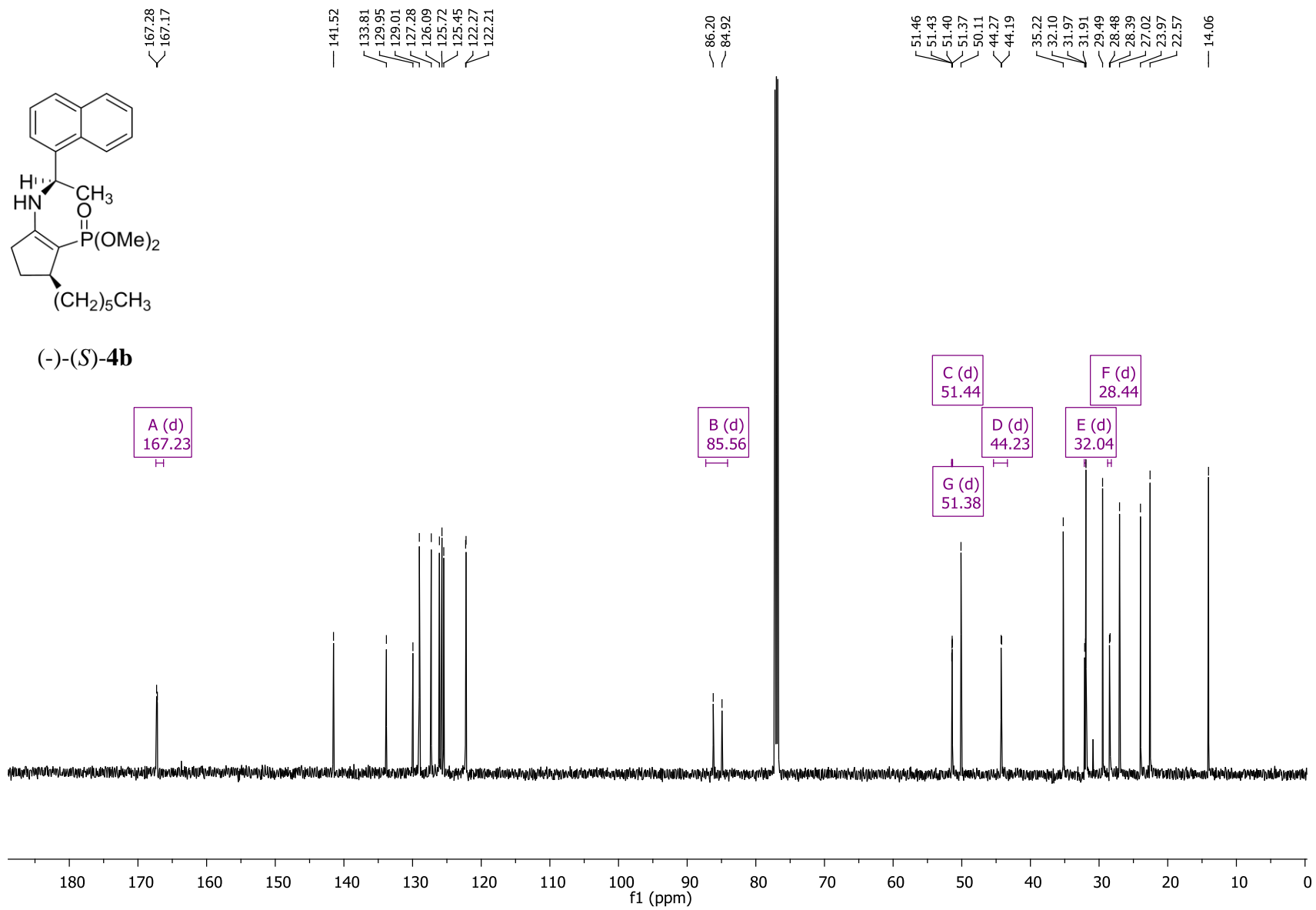


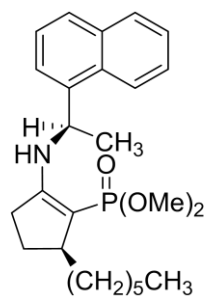


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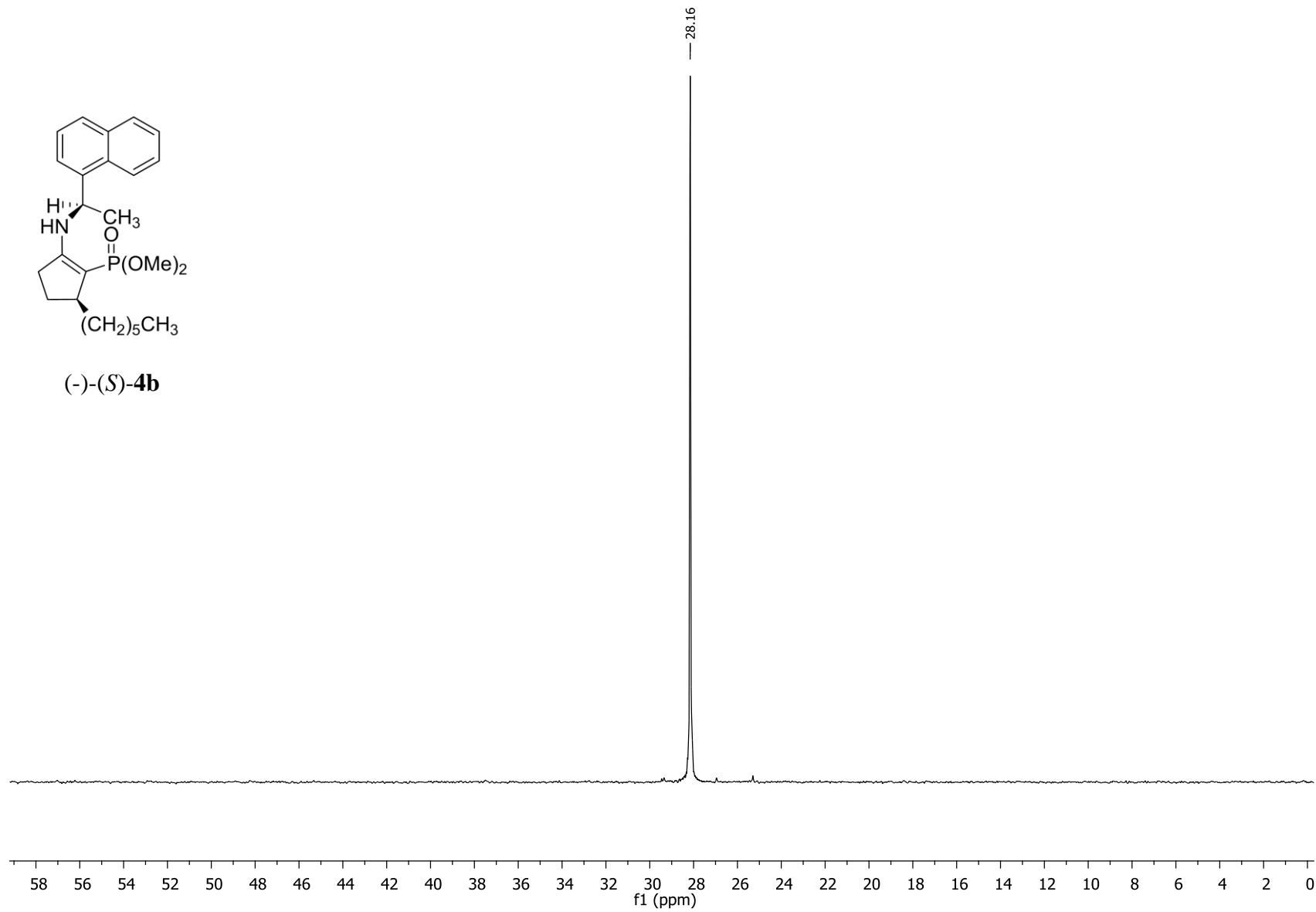


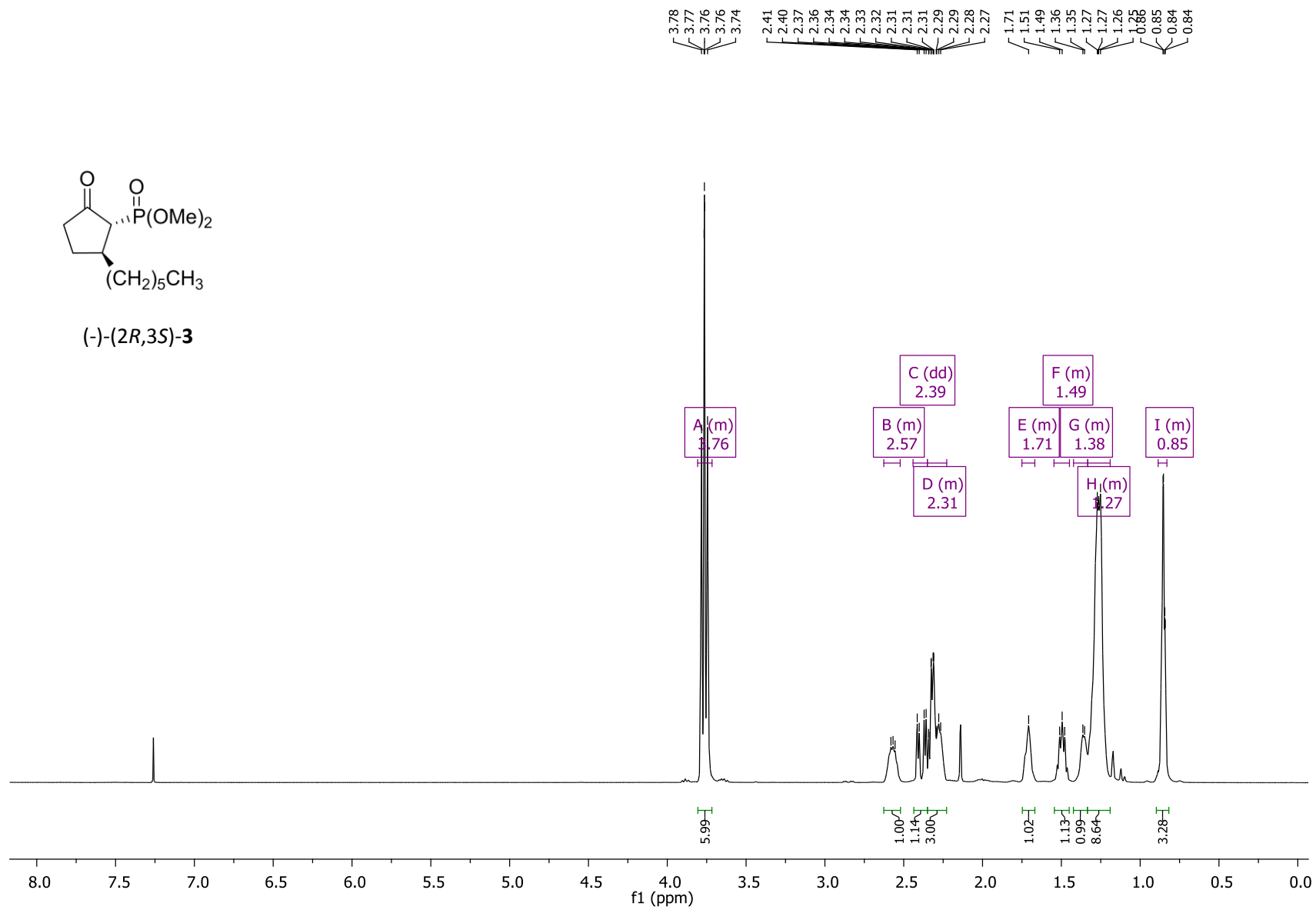


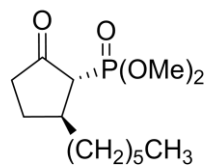




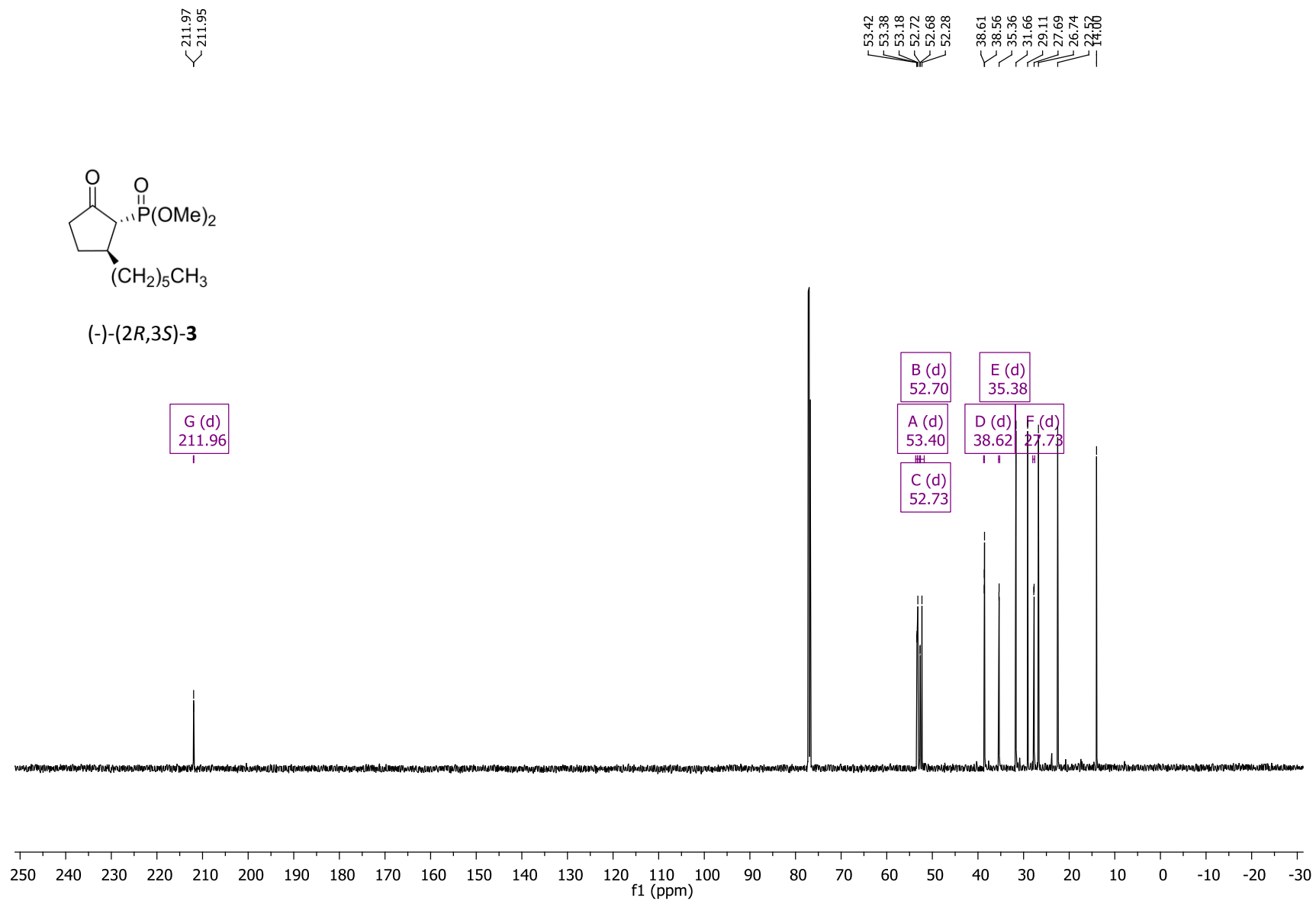
(-)-(S)-4b

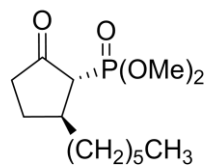




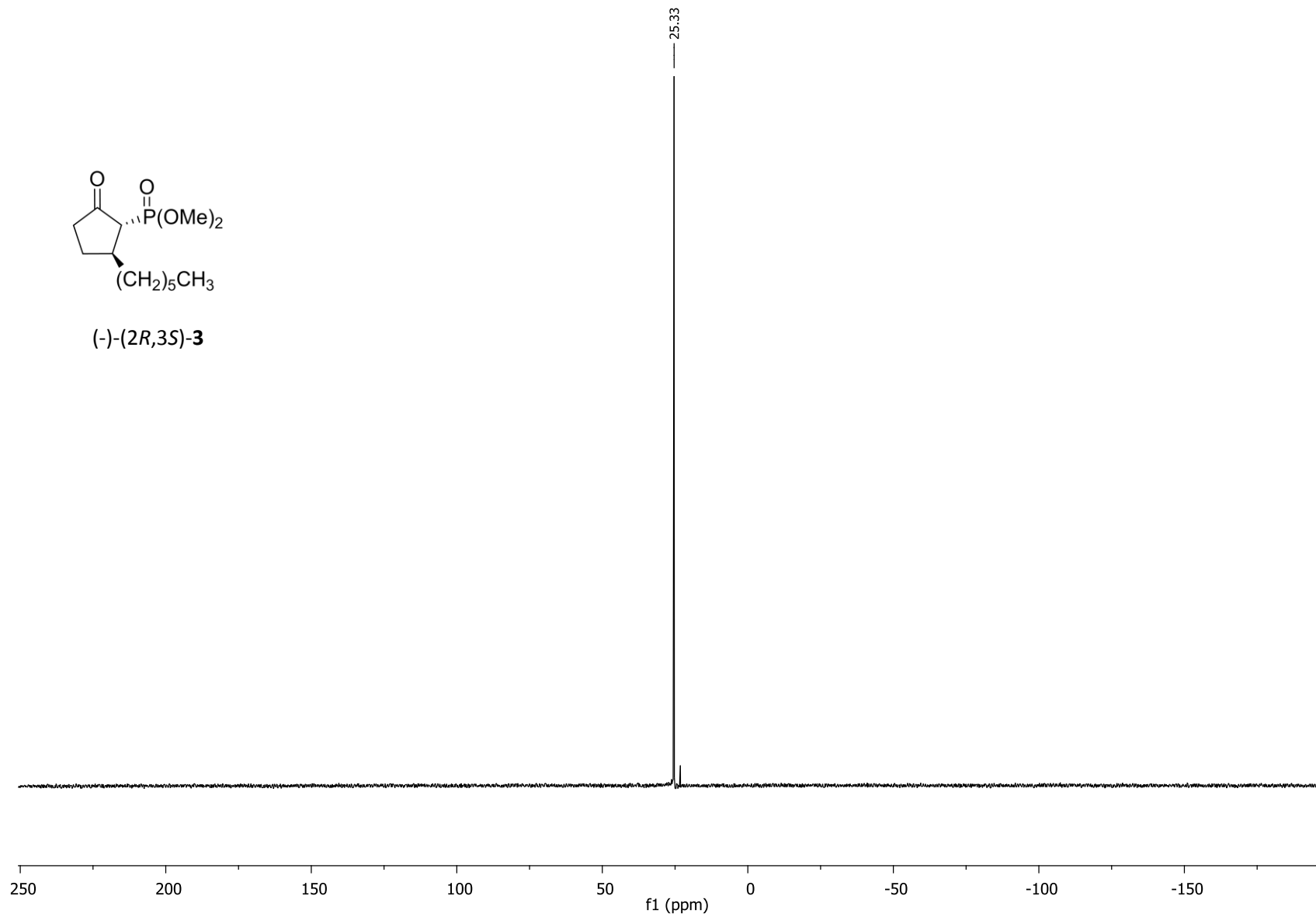


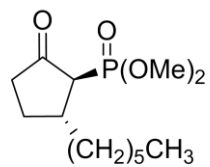
(-)-(2*R*,3*S*)-**3**



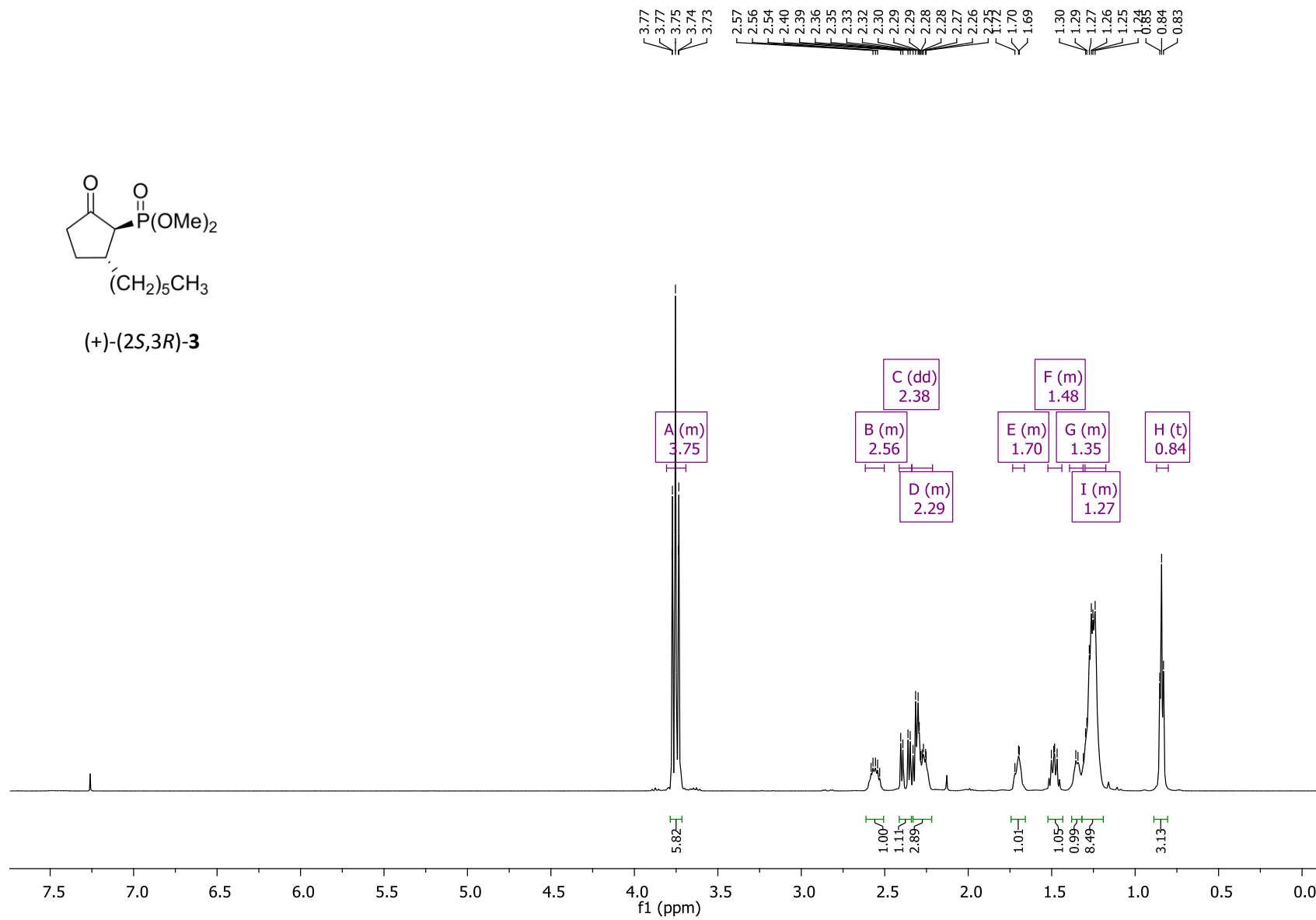


(-)-(2*R*,3*S*)-3

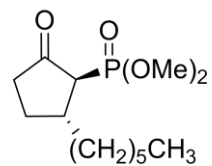




(+)-(2S,3R)-3



211.95
211.92



(+)-(2*S*,3*R*)-**3**

A (d)
211.94

53.41
53.36
53.17
52.71
52.66
52.26
38.62
38.60
38.55
35.39
35.35
31.65
29.10
27.76
27.68
26.73
22.51
13.99

C (d)
52.68

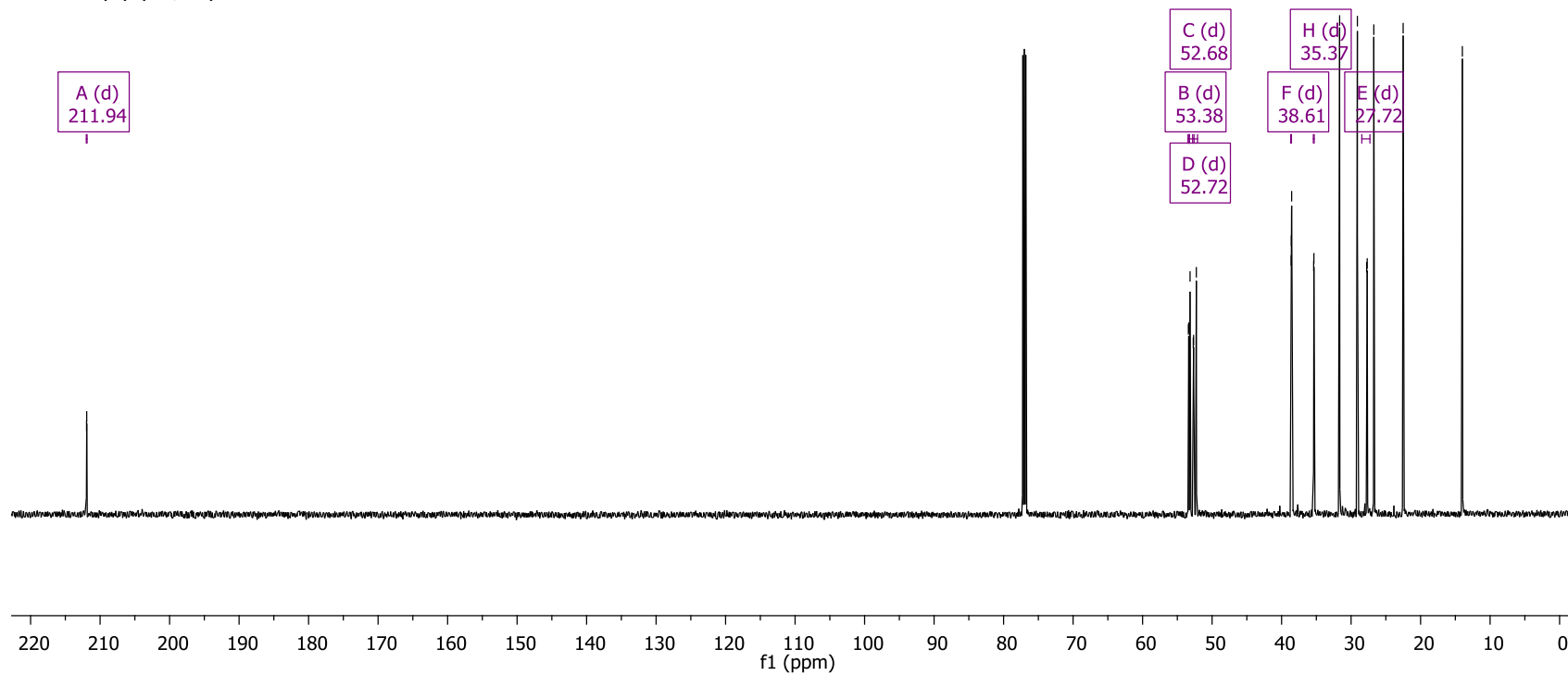
B (d)
53.38

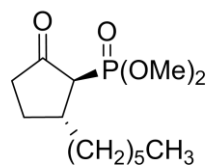
D (d)
52.72

H (d)
35.37

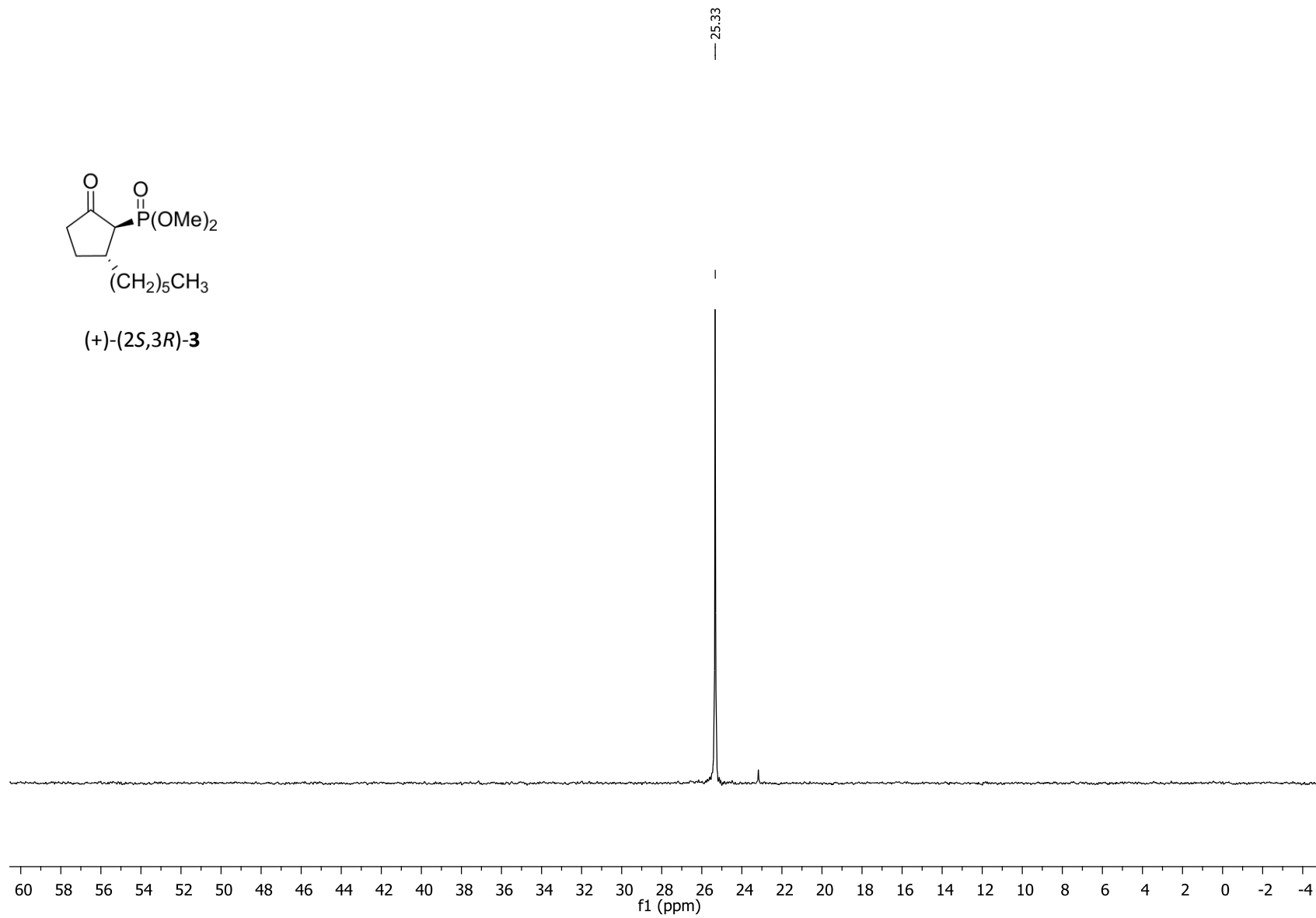
F (d)
38.61

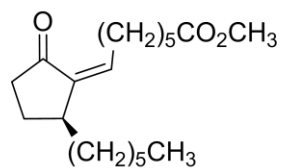
E (d)
27.72



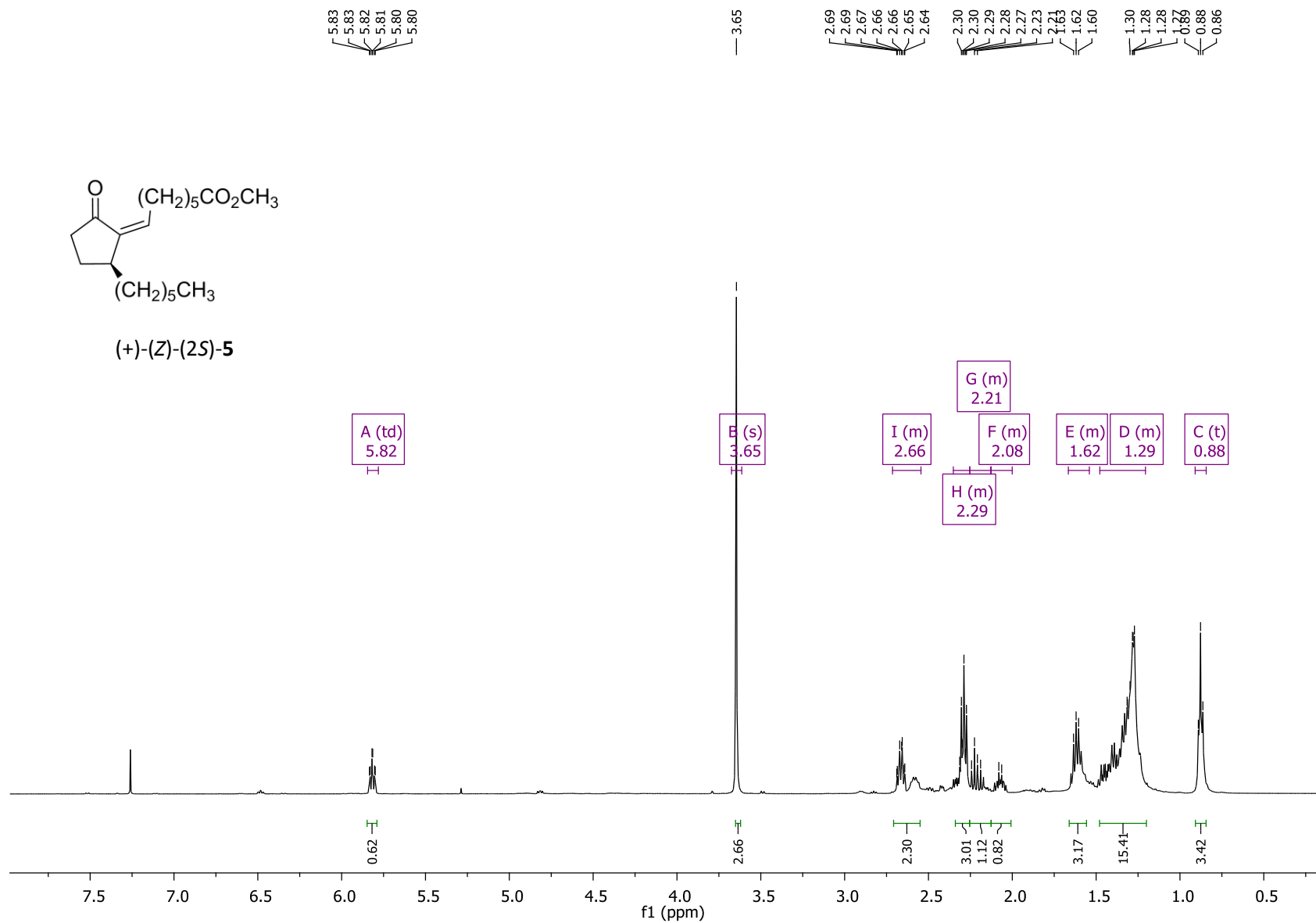


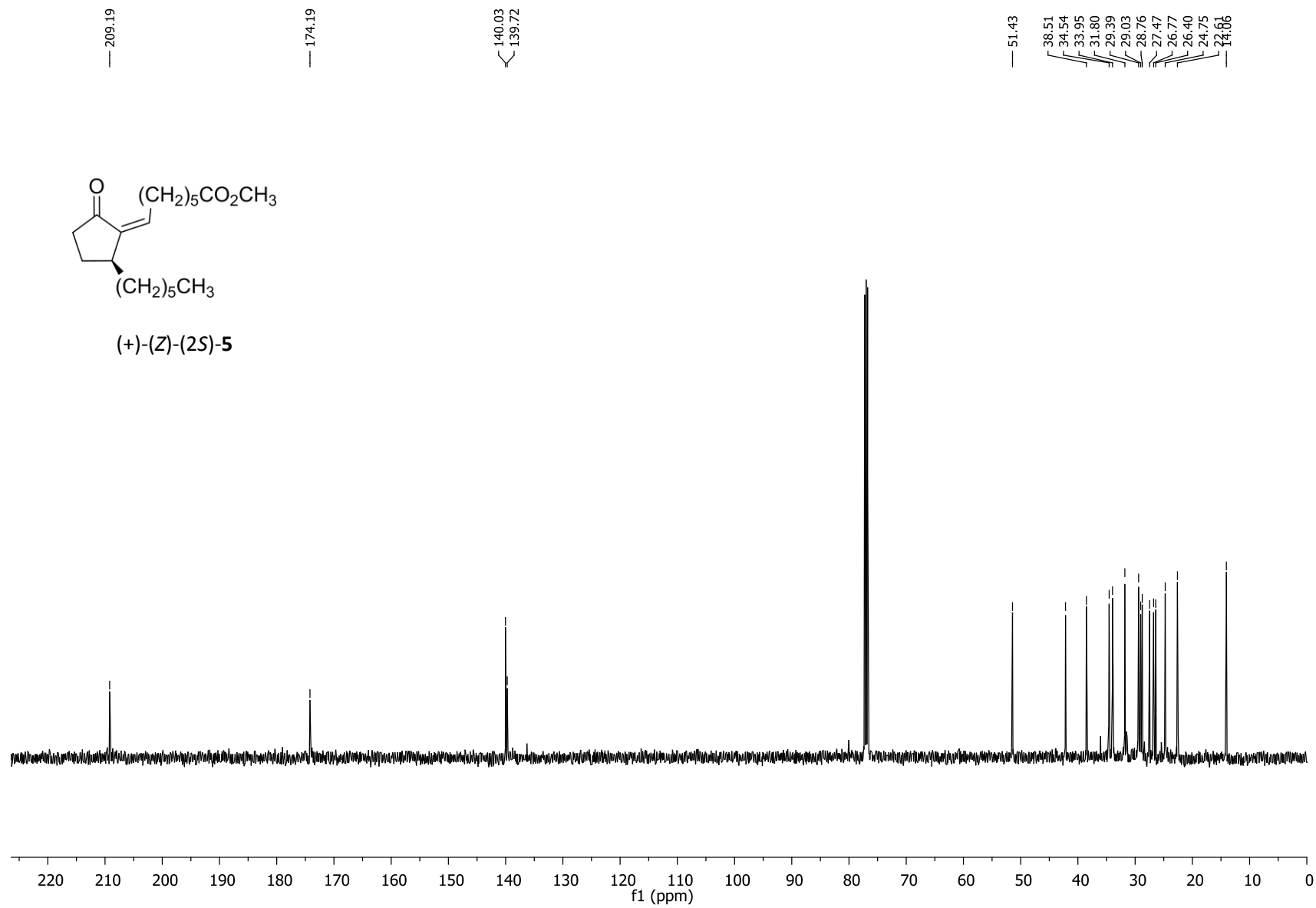
(+)-(2*S*,3*R*)-3

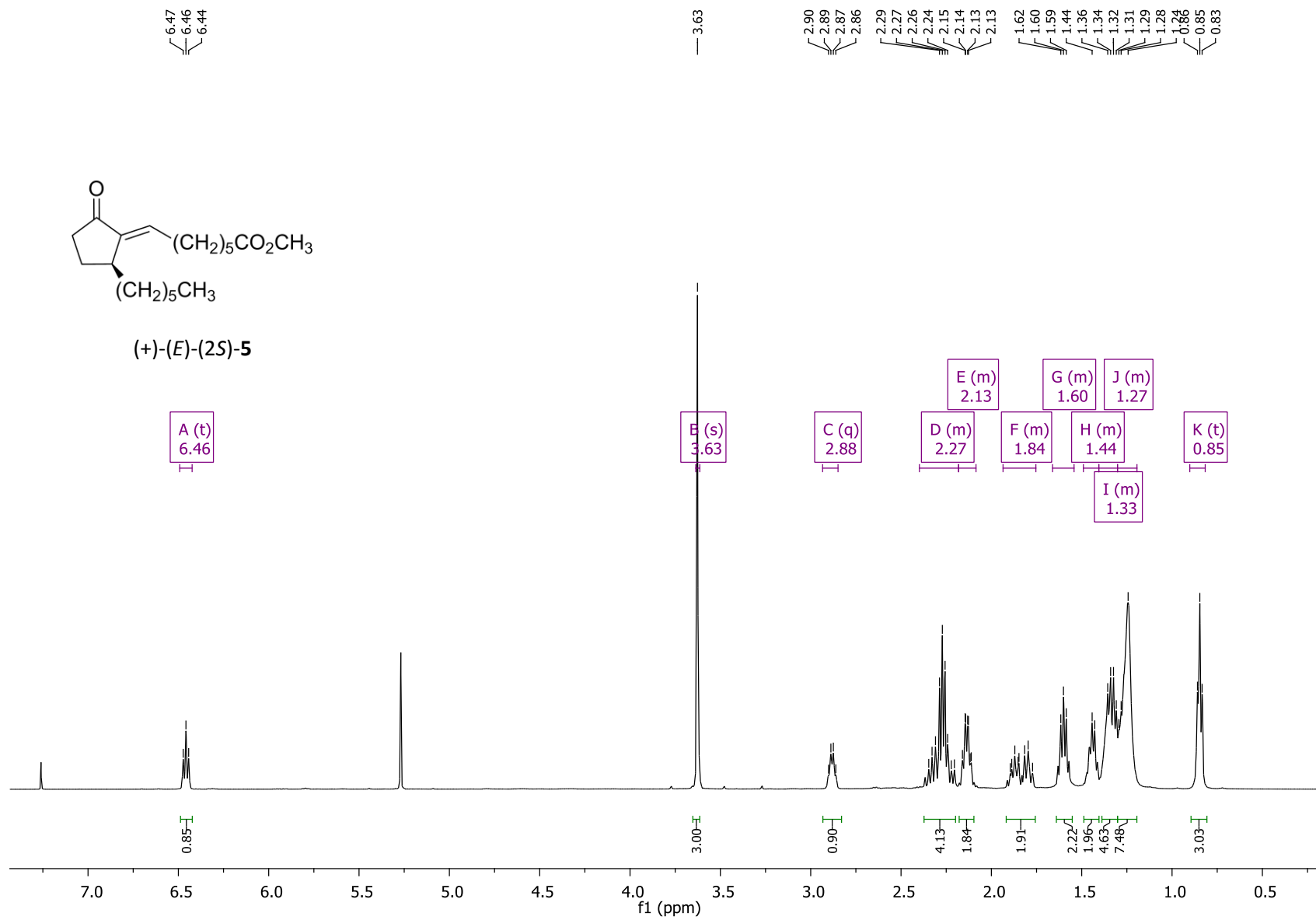




(+)-(Z)-(2S)-5







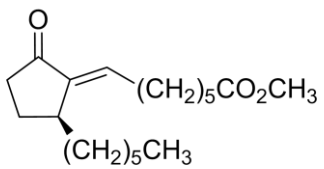
— 207.74

— 173.97

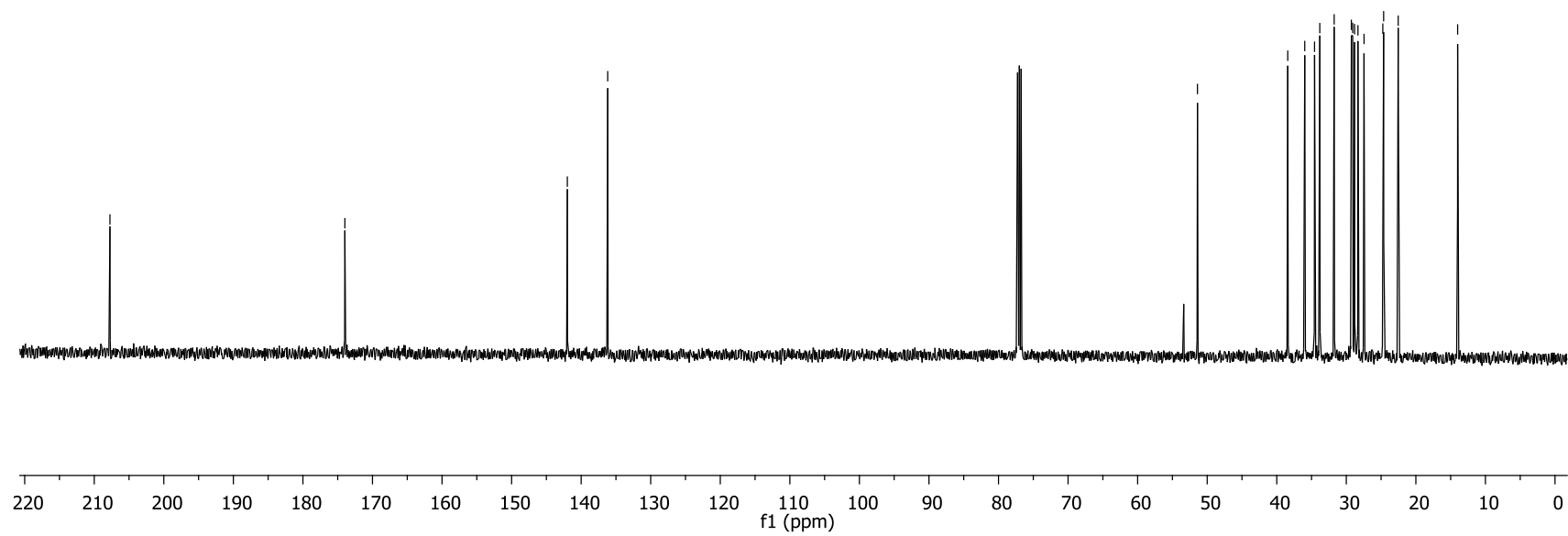
— 141.99

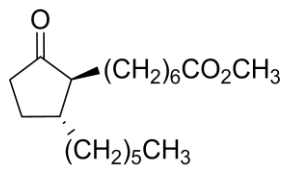
— 136.18

— 51.40
38.42
35.97
34.57
33.81
31.74
29.27
29.08
28.81
28.33
27.45
24.75
24.63
22.54
— 14.00

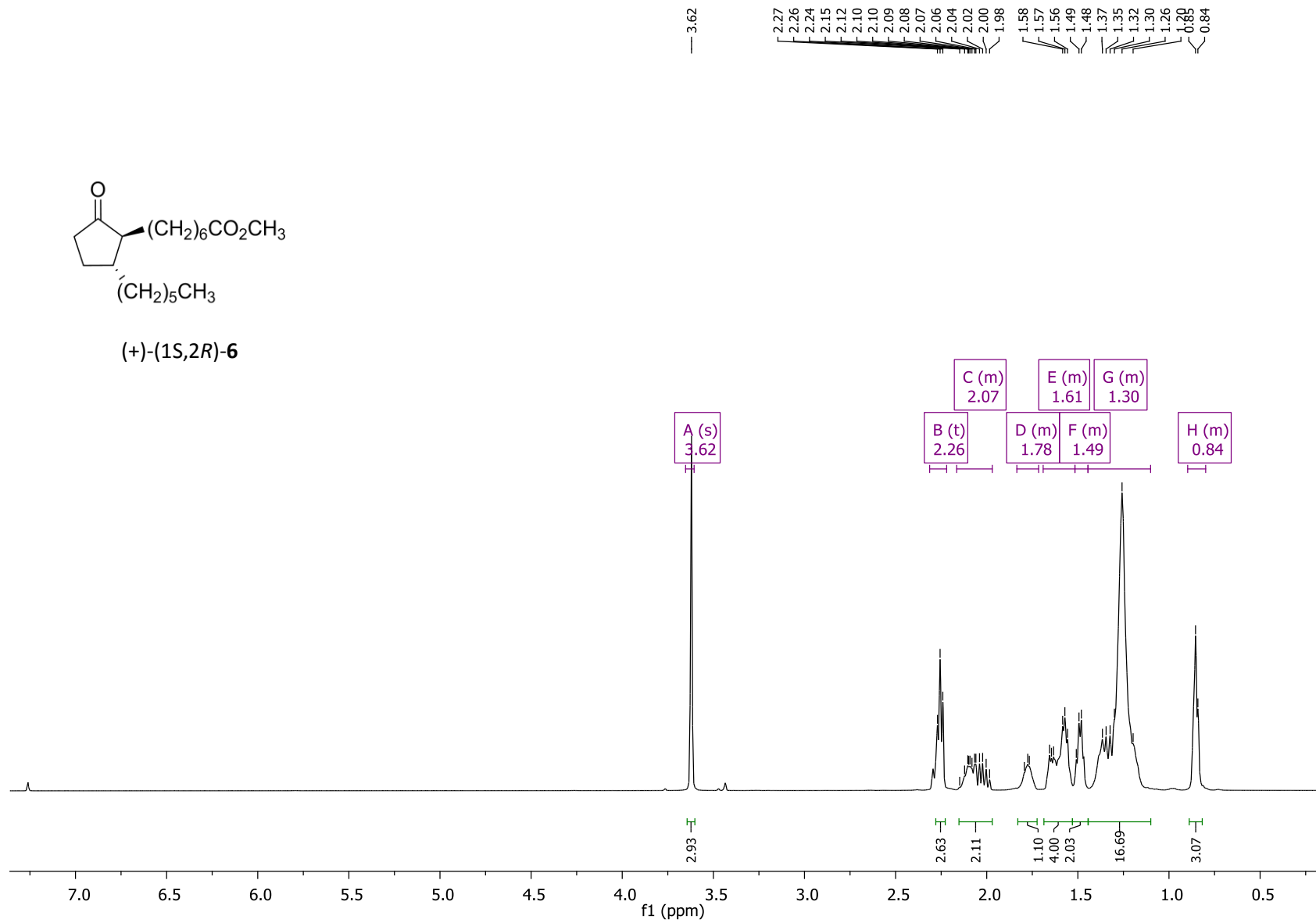


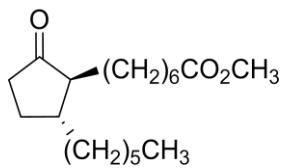
(+)-(E)-(2S)-5



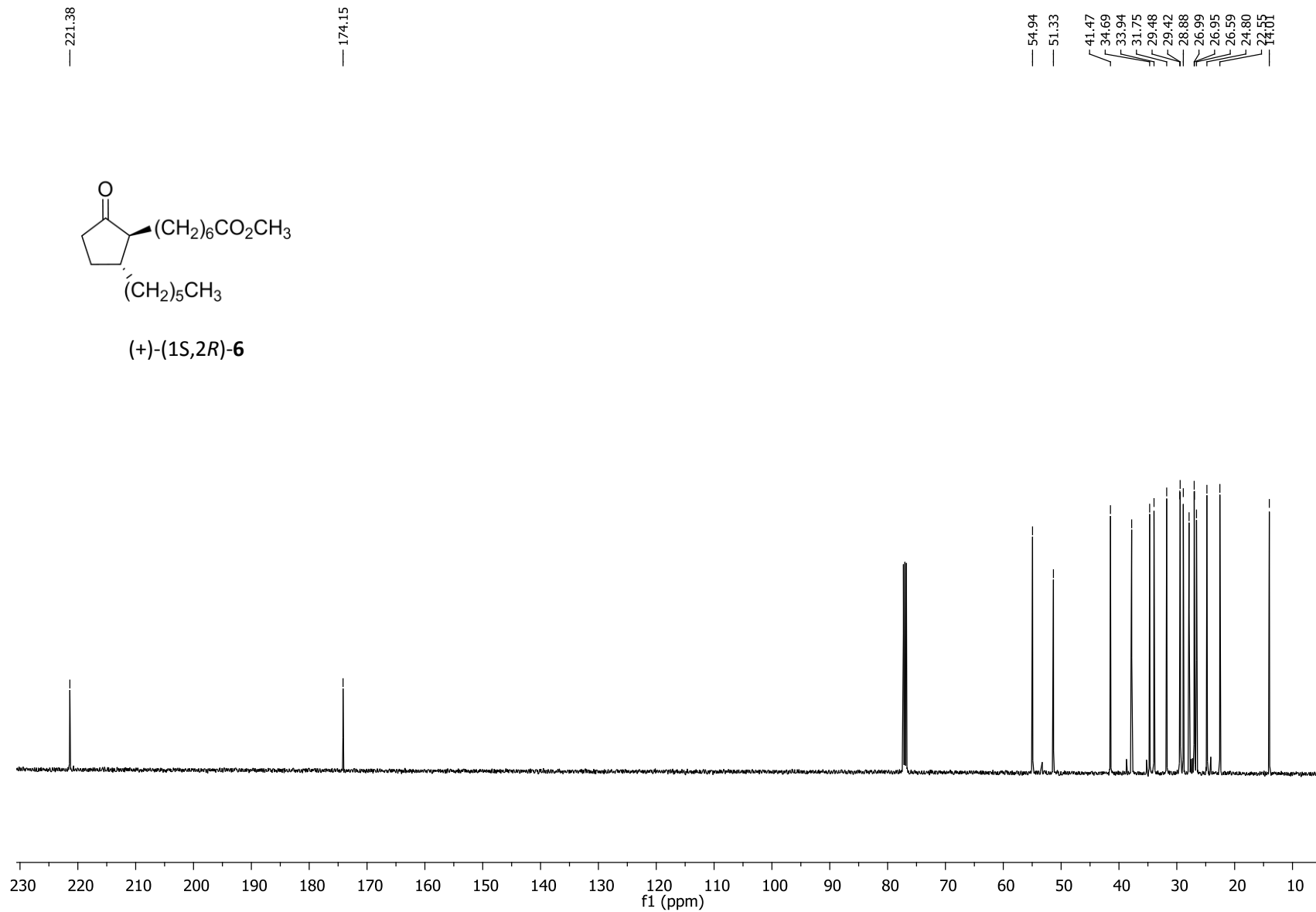


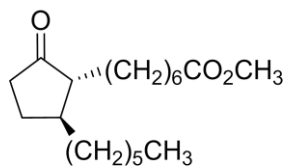
(+)-(1*S*,2*R*)-6



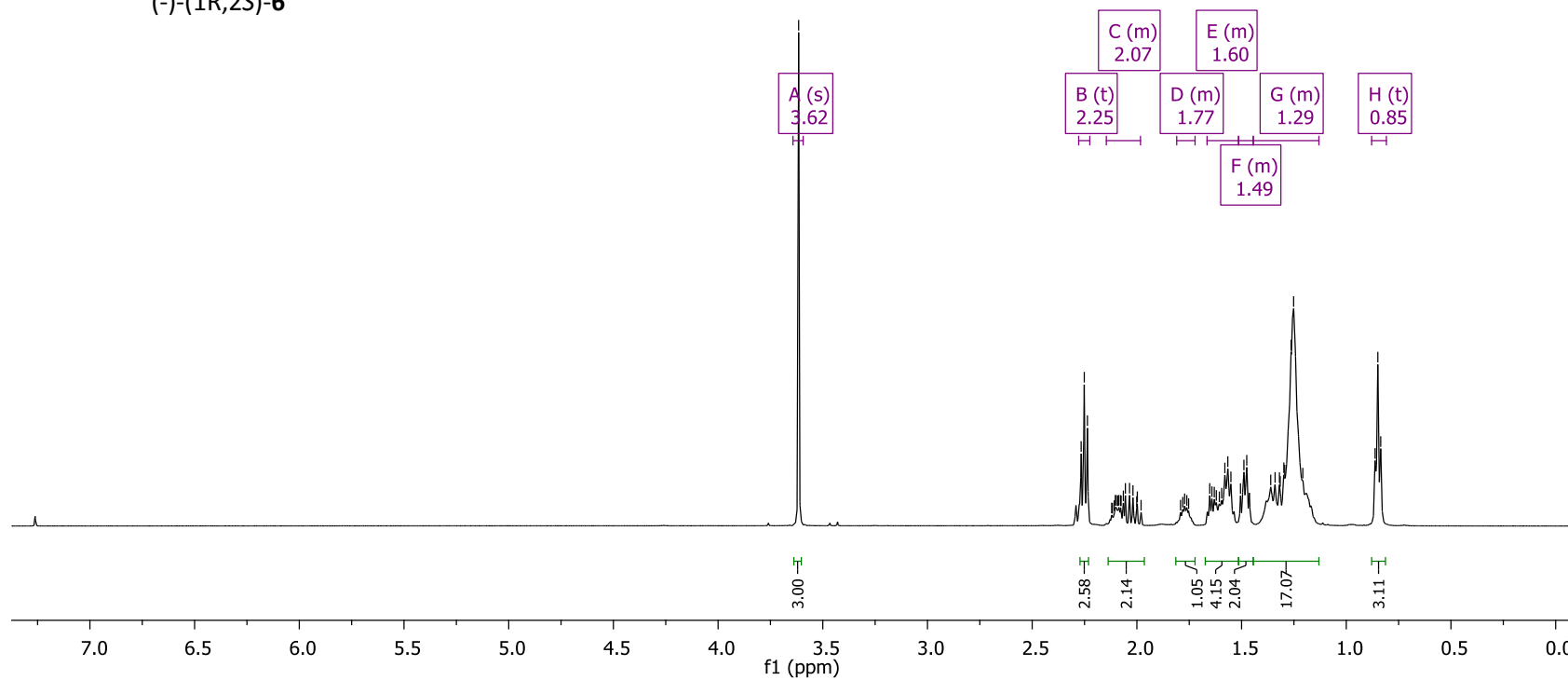


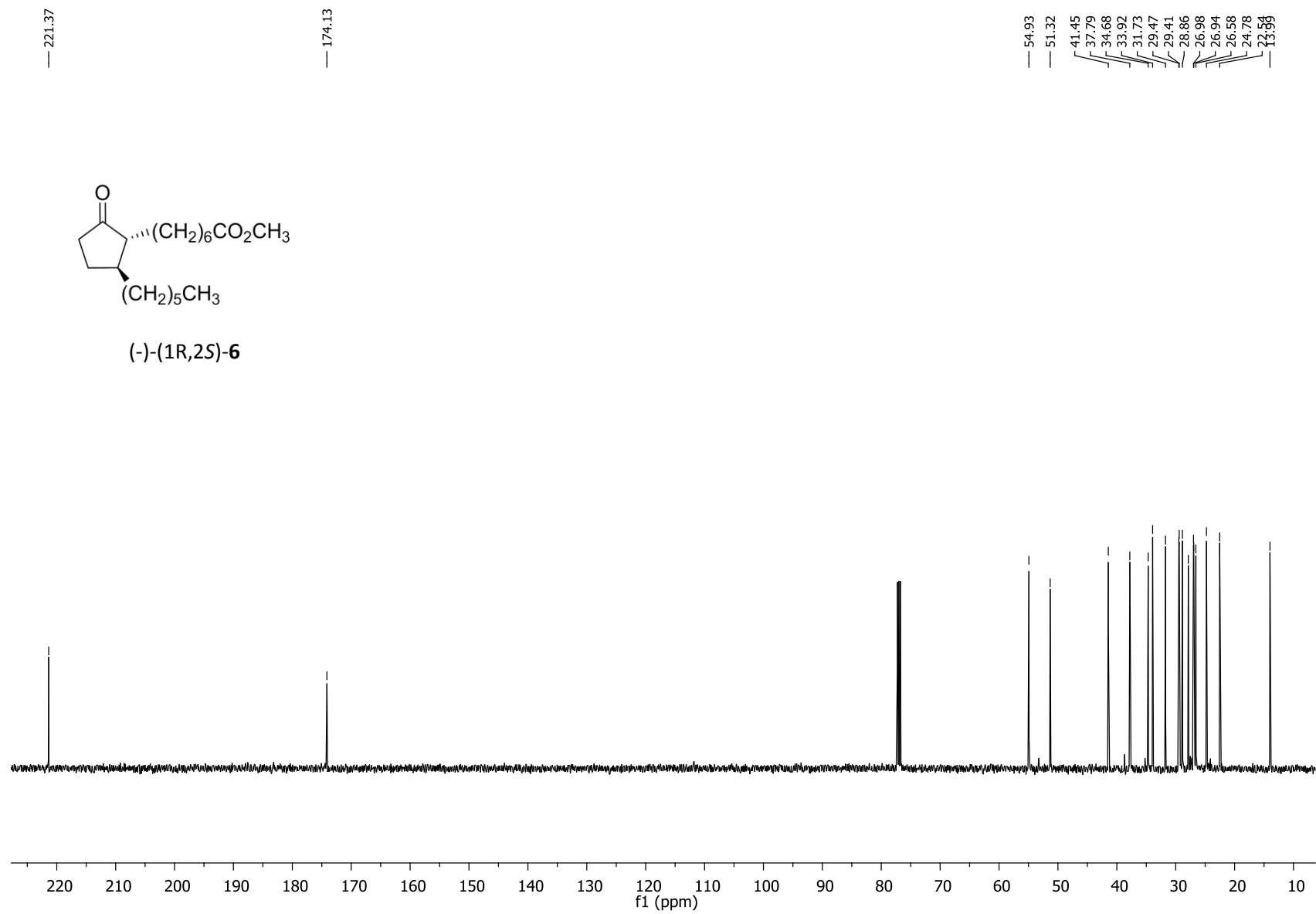
(+)-(1S,2R)-6

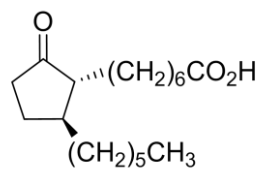




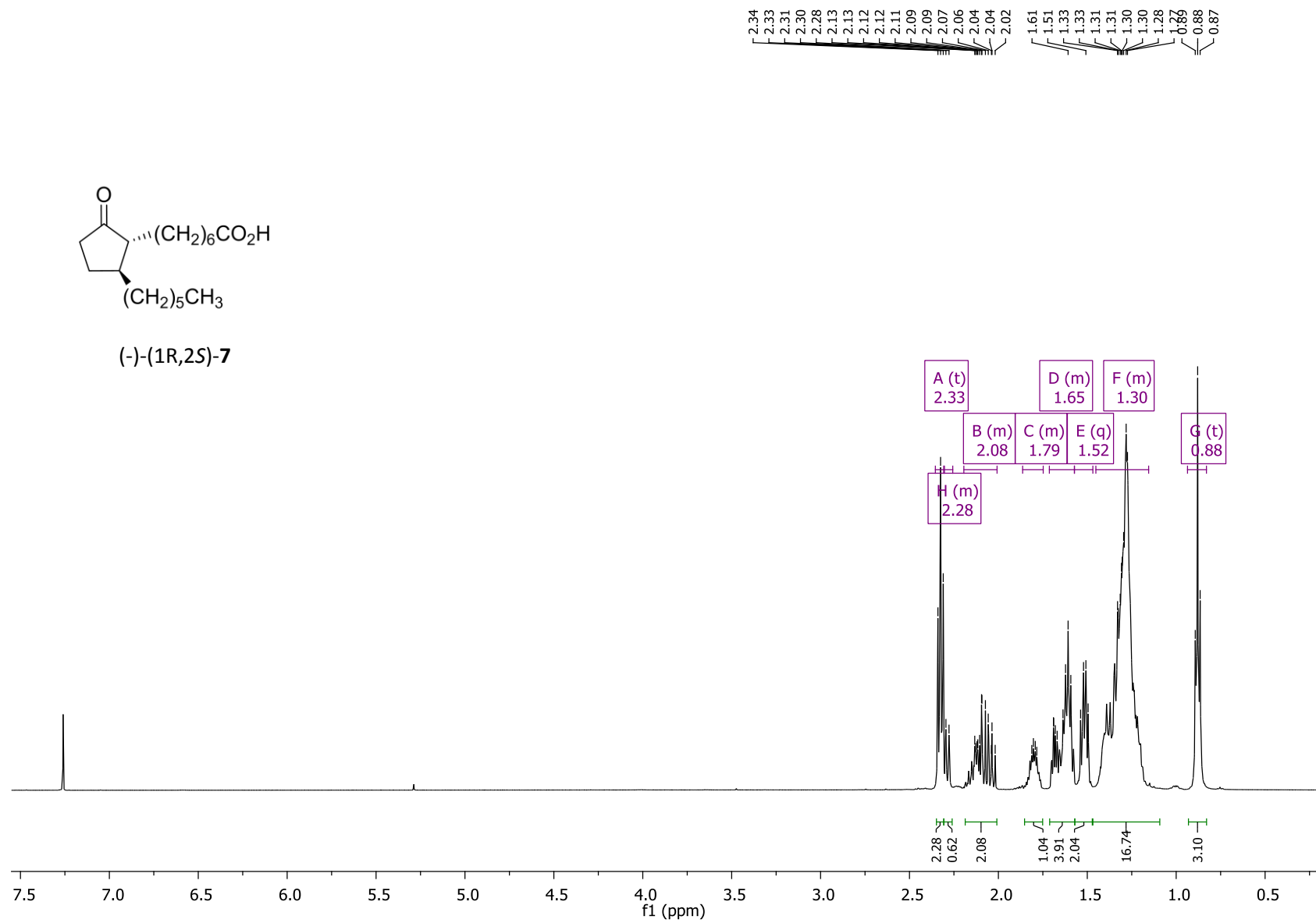
(-)-(1R,2S)-6

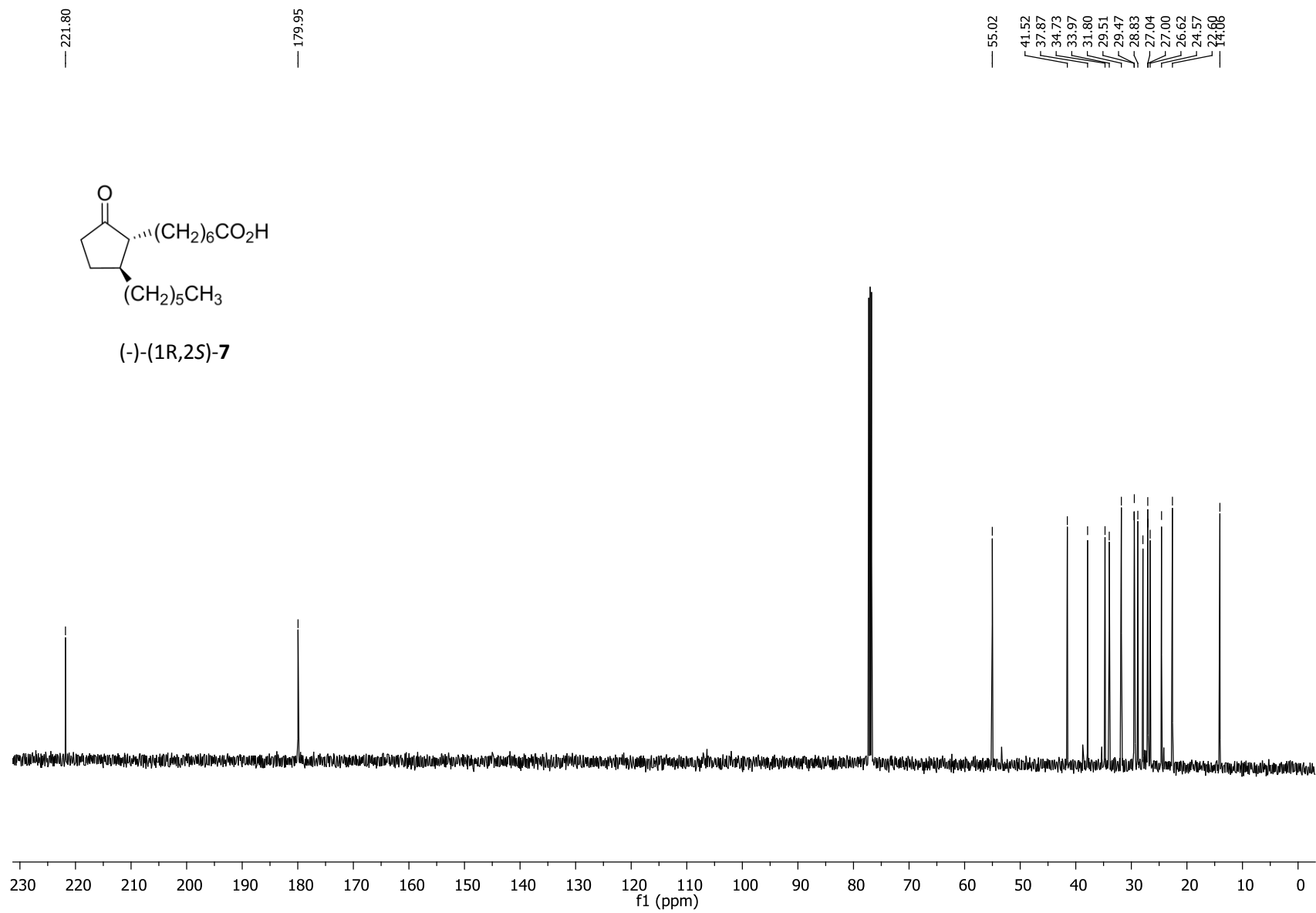


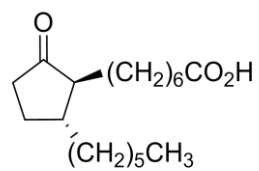




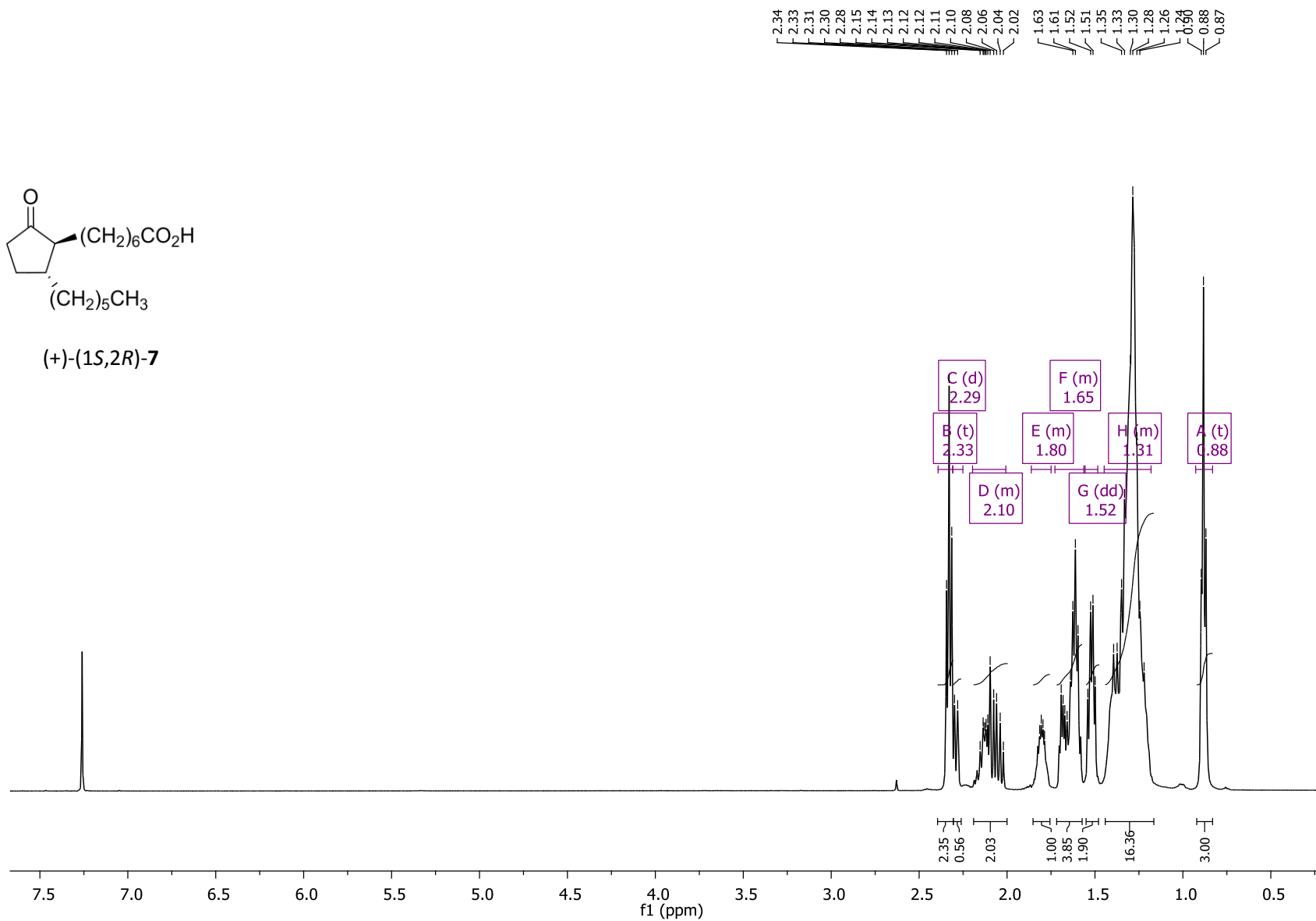
(-)-(1R,2S)-7

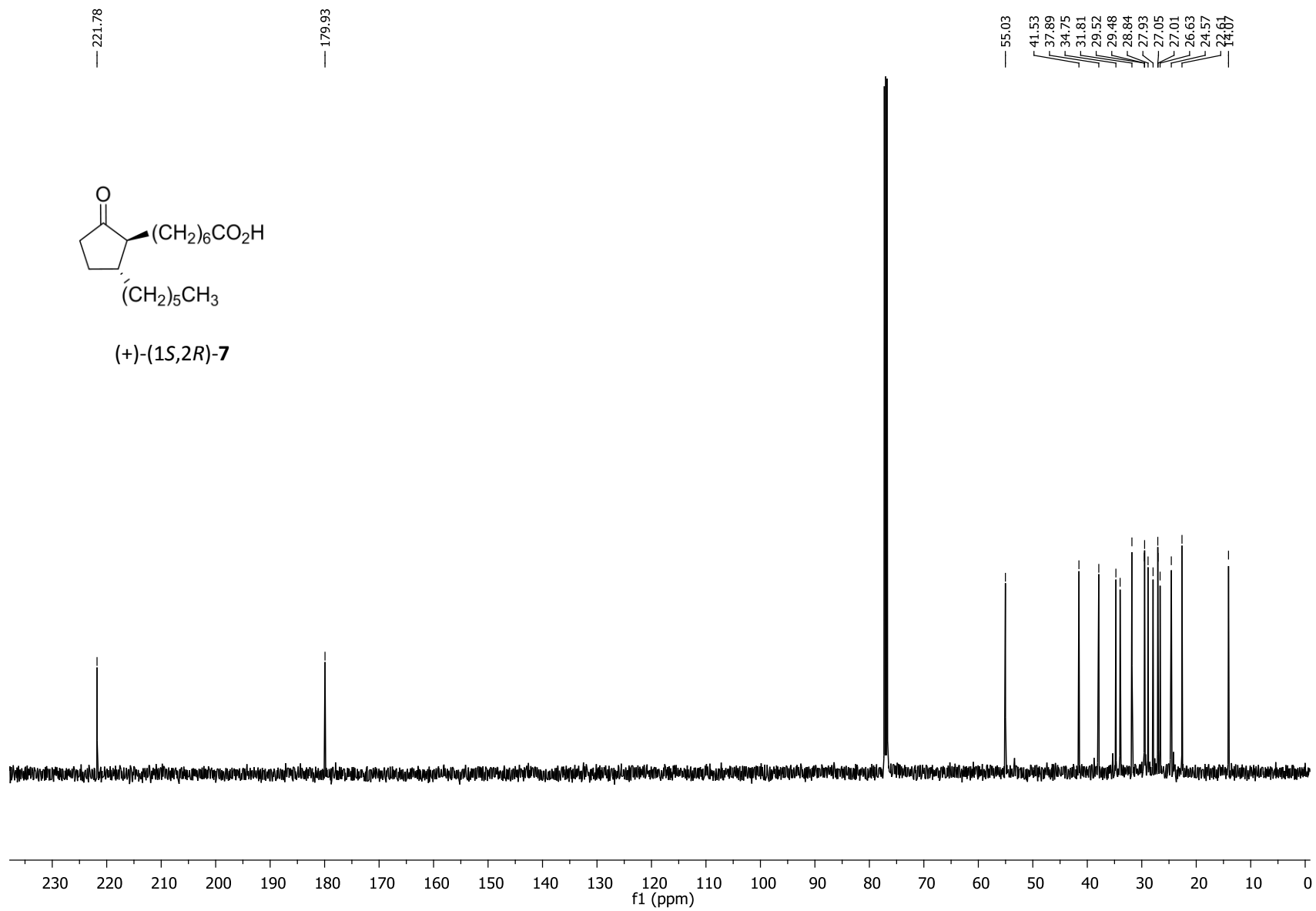


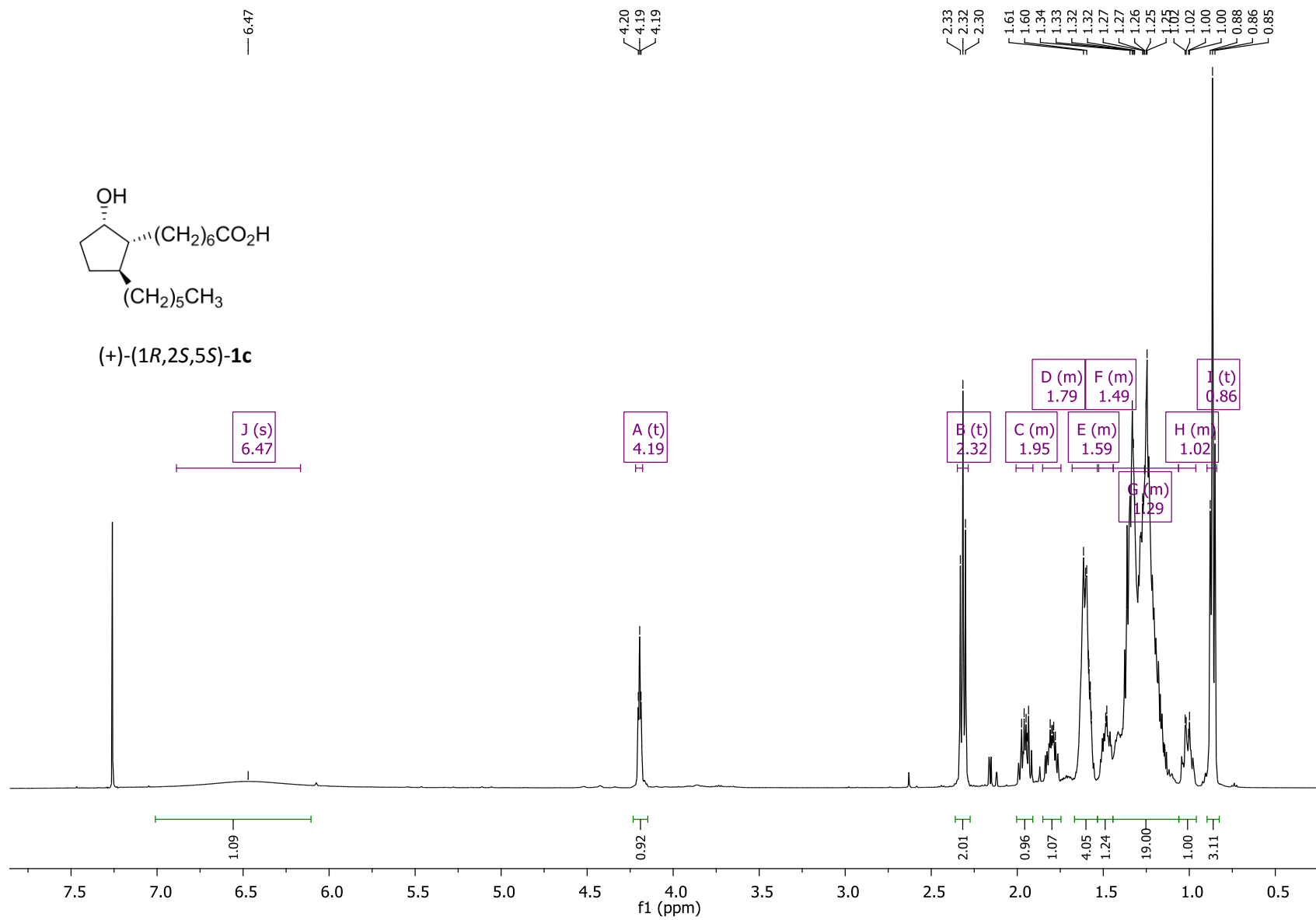


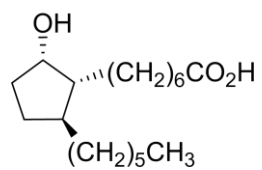


(+)-(1*S*,2*R*)-**7**

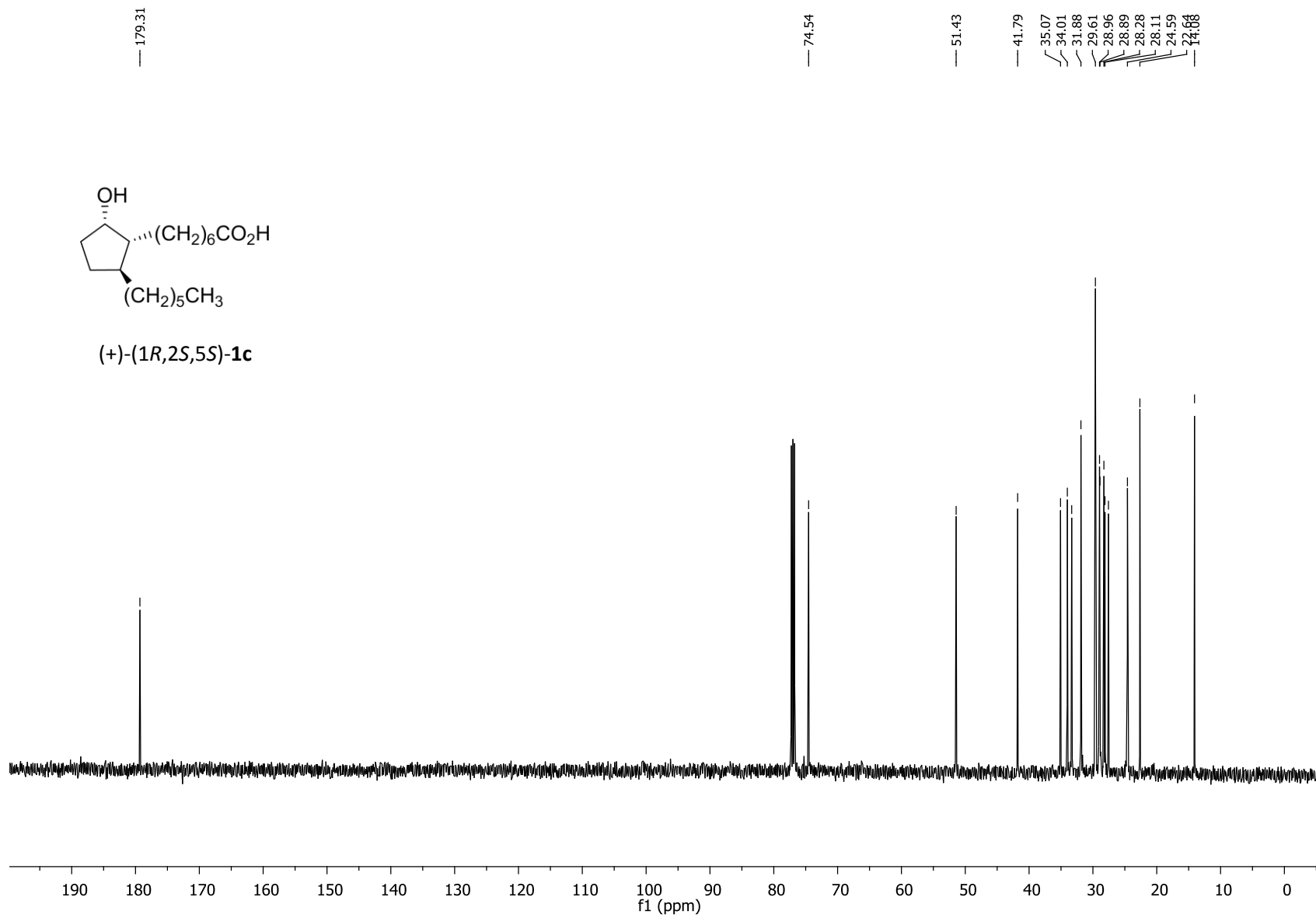


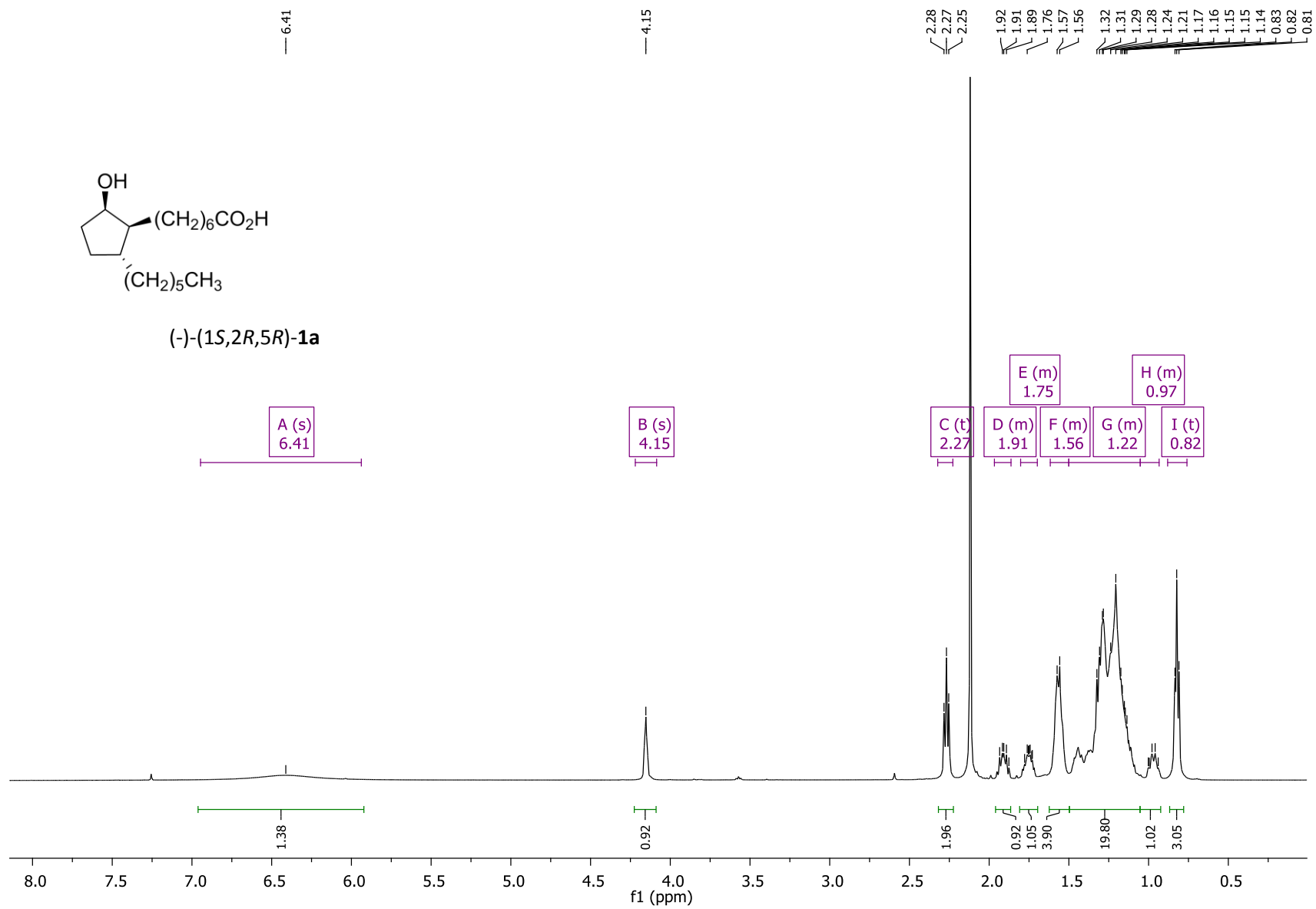


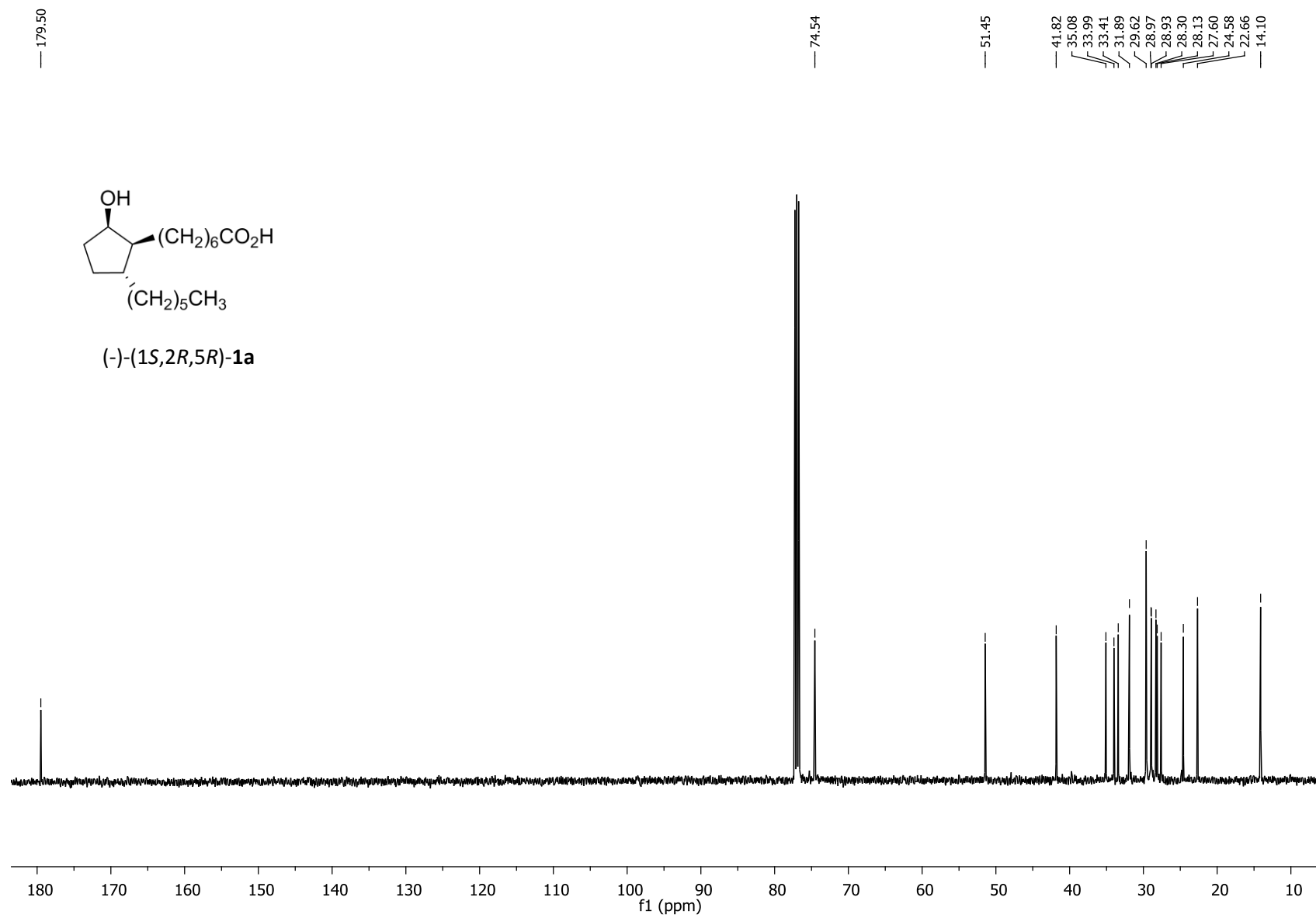


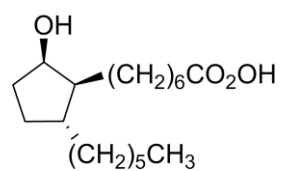


(+)-(1*R*,2*S*,5*S*)-**1c**

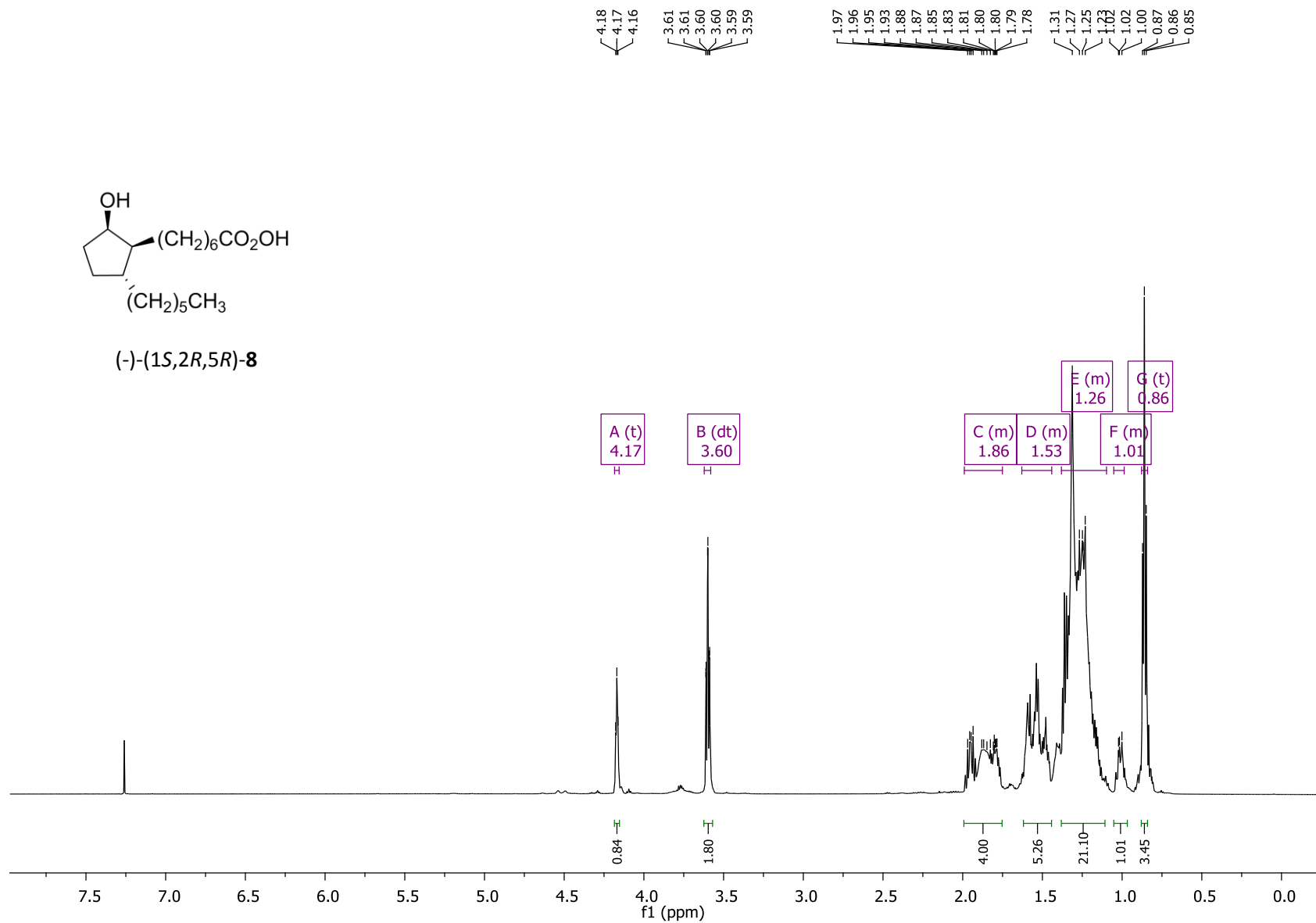


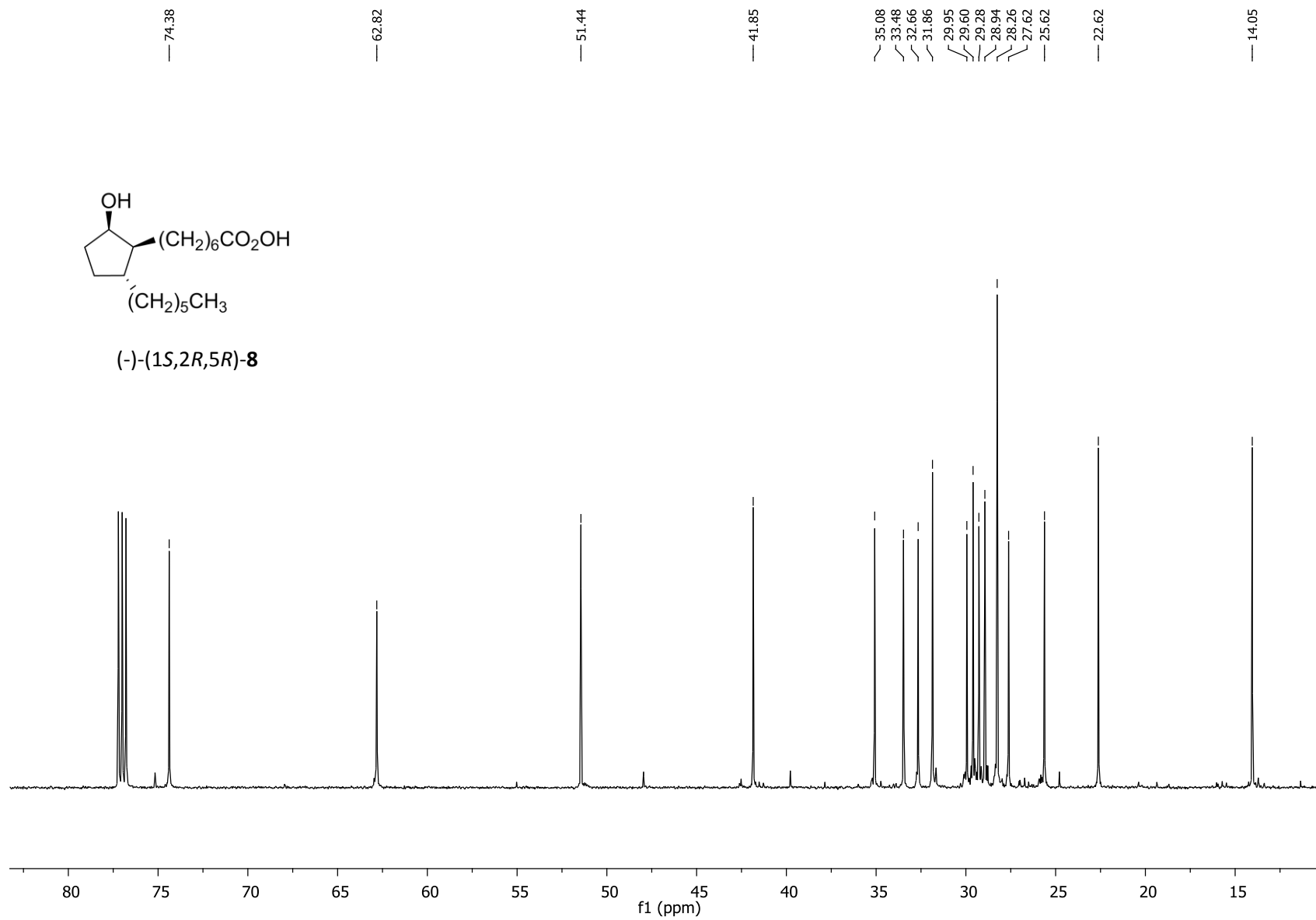


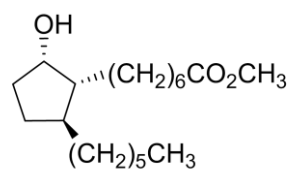




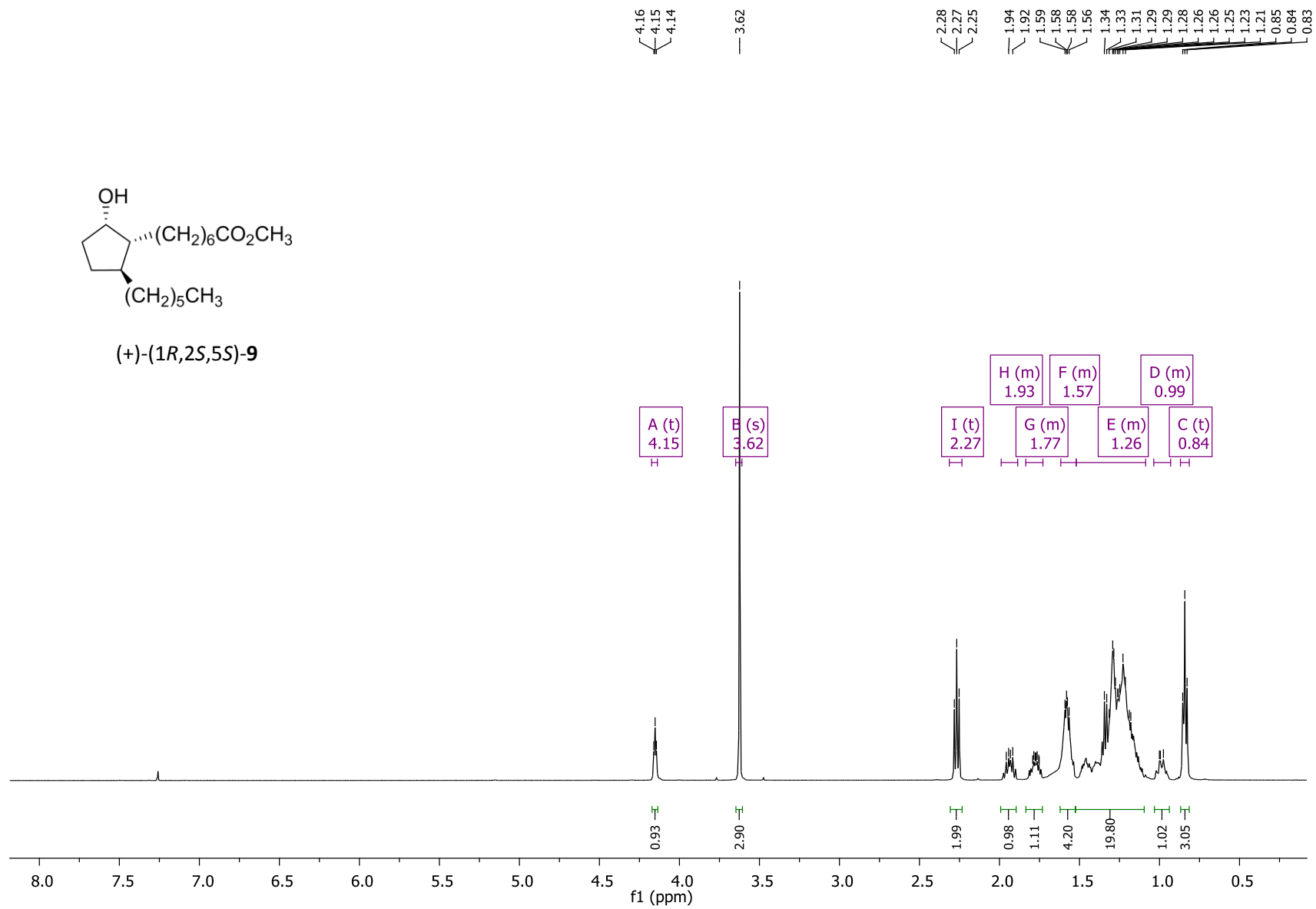
(-)-(1*S*,2*R*,5*R*)-8

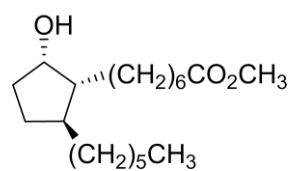




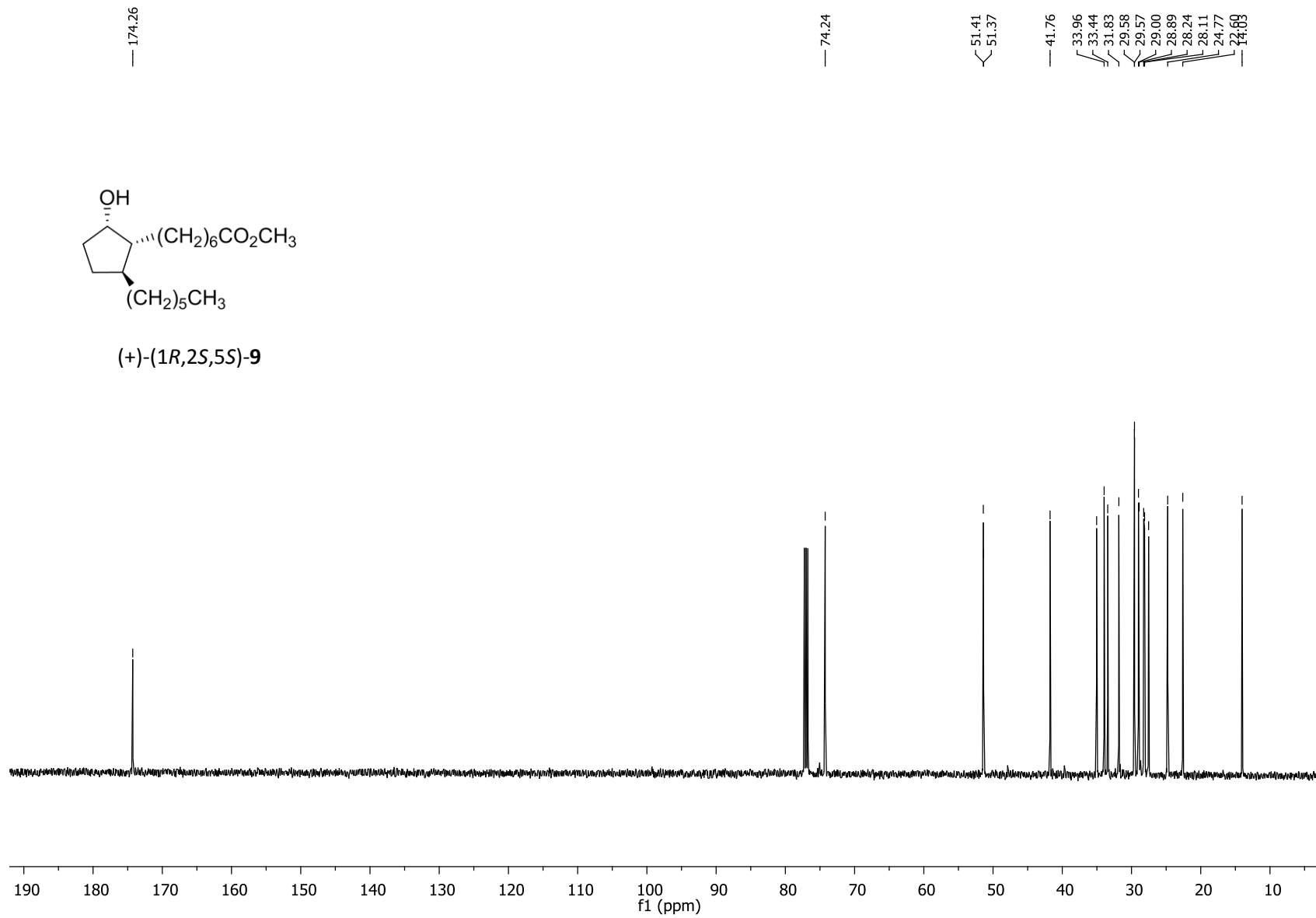


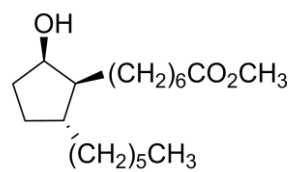
(+)-(1*R*,2*S*,5*S*)-9



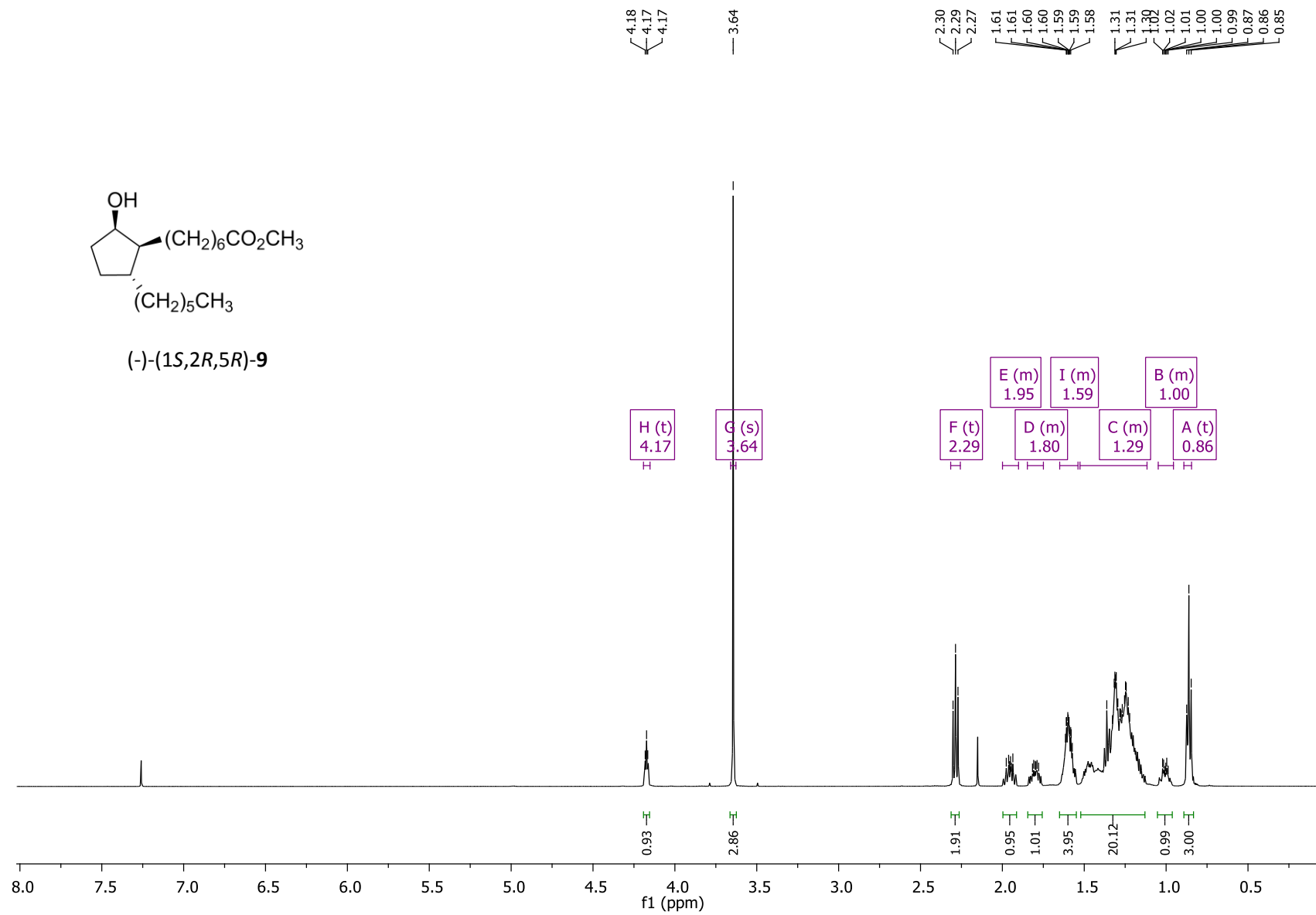


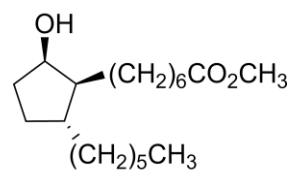
(+)-(1*R*,2*S*,5*S*)-9



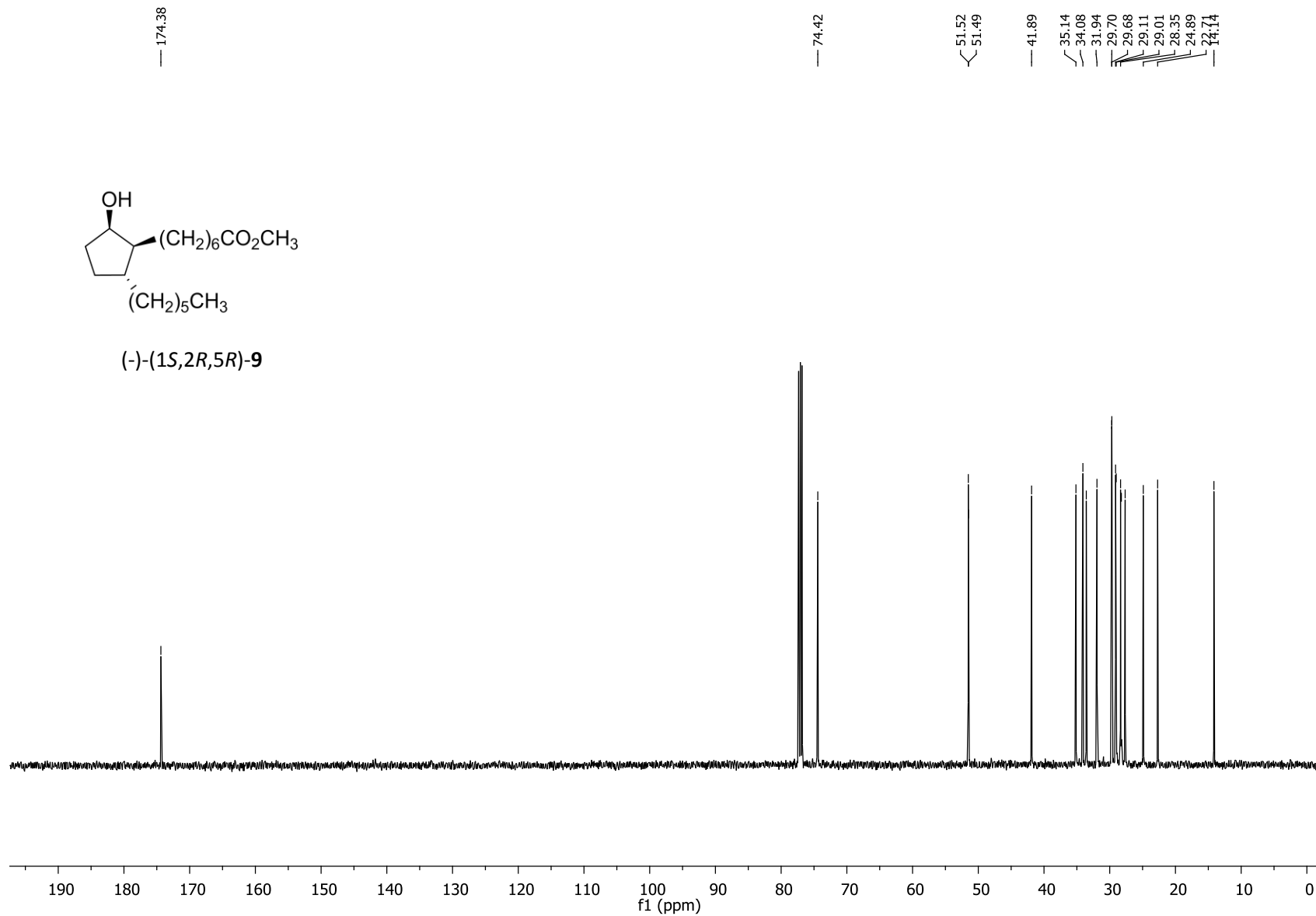


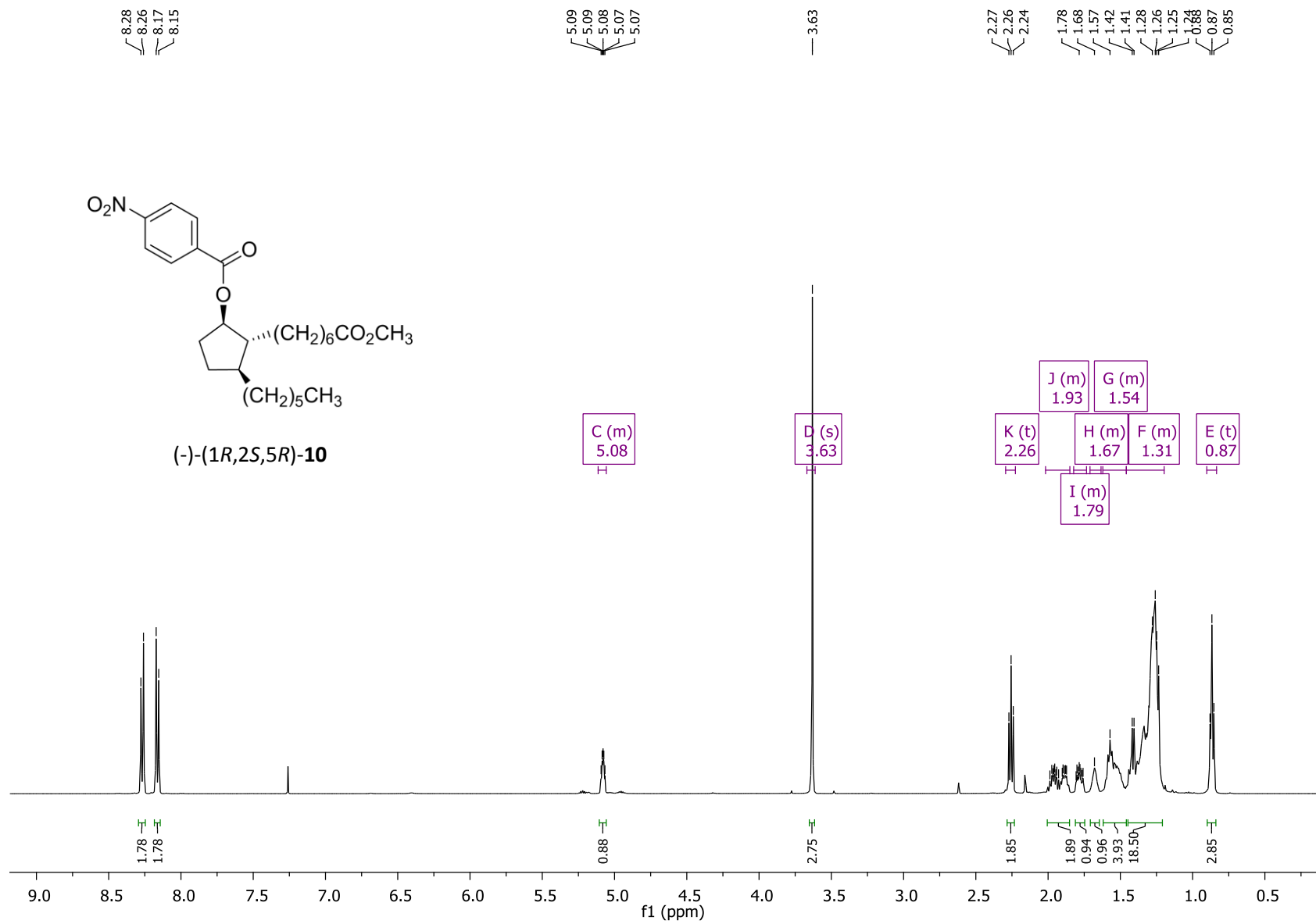
(-)-(1*S*,2*R*,5*R*)-9

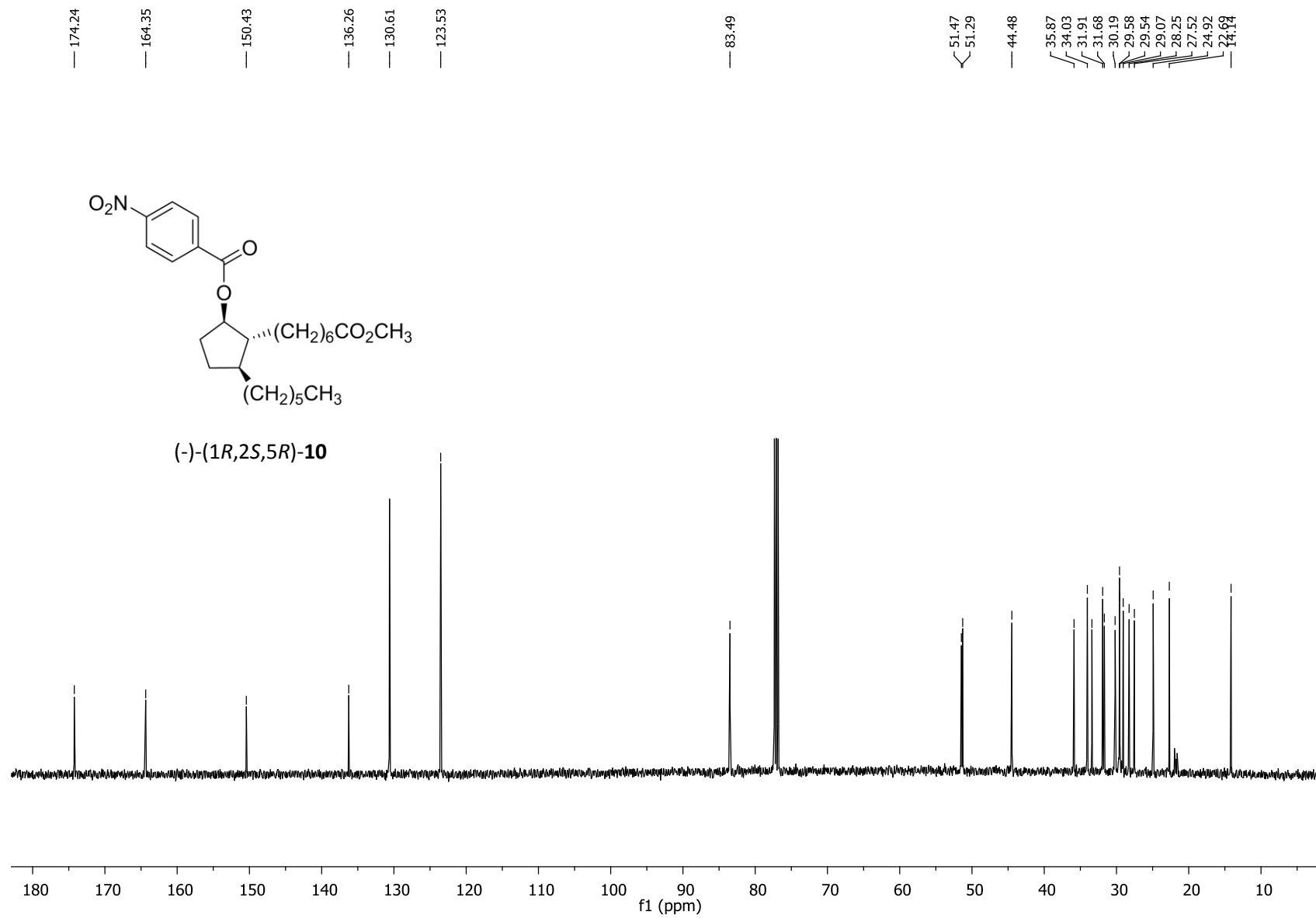




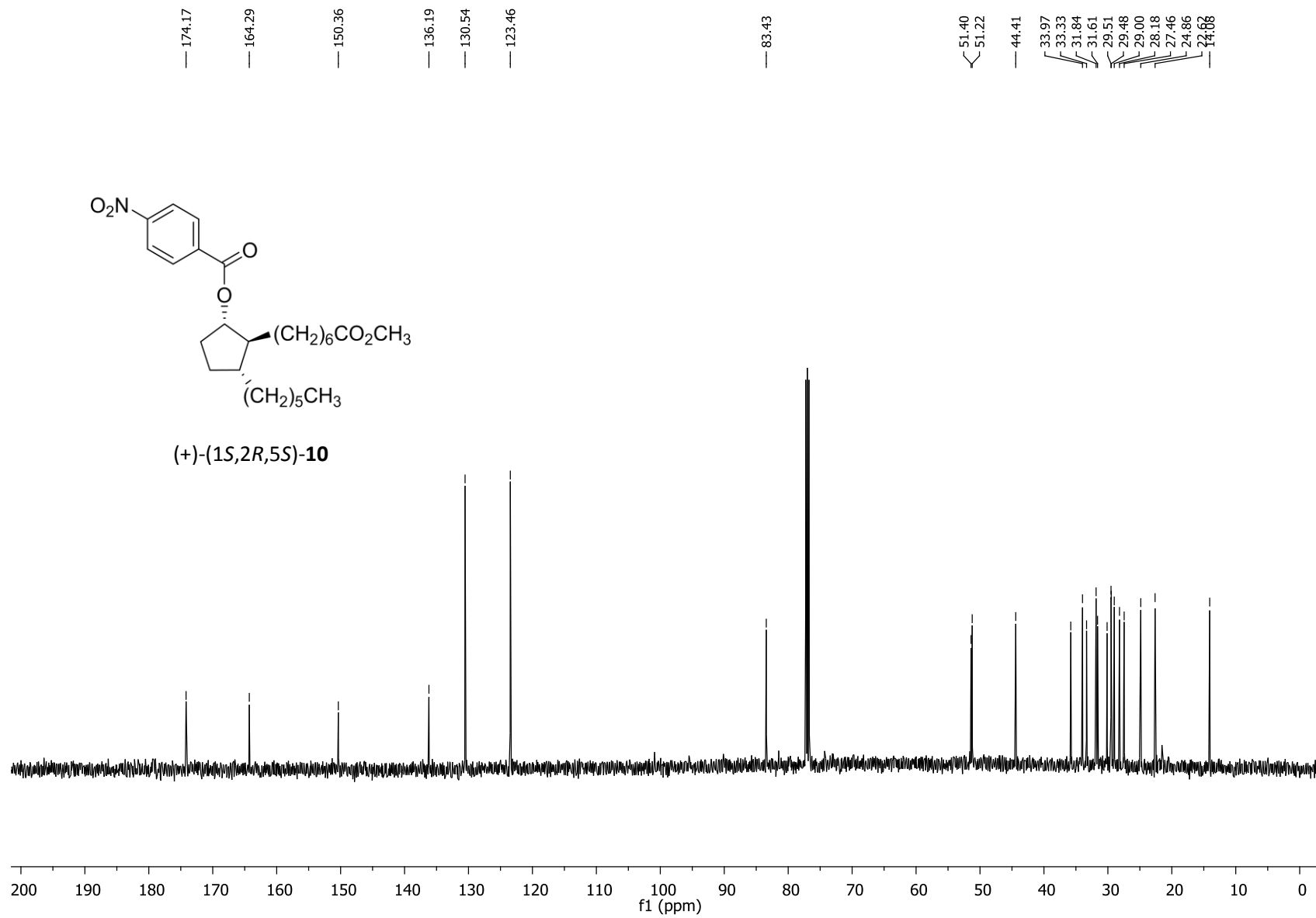
(-)-(1S,2R,5R)-9

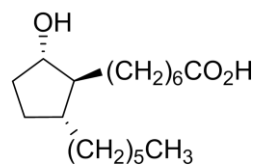




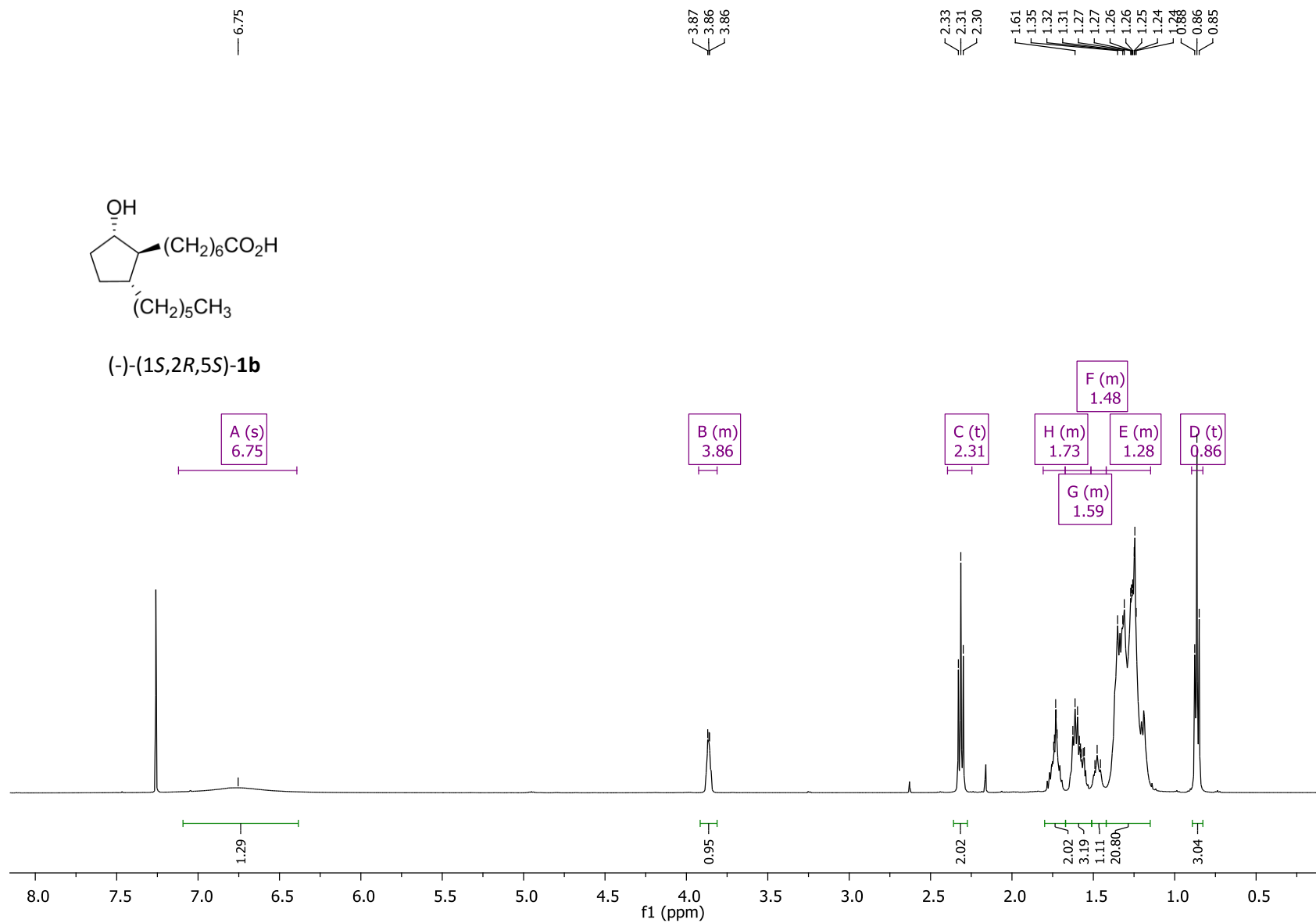


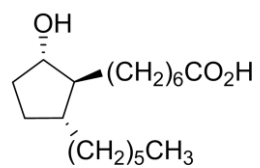




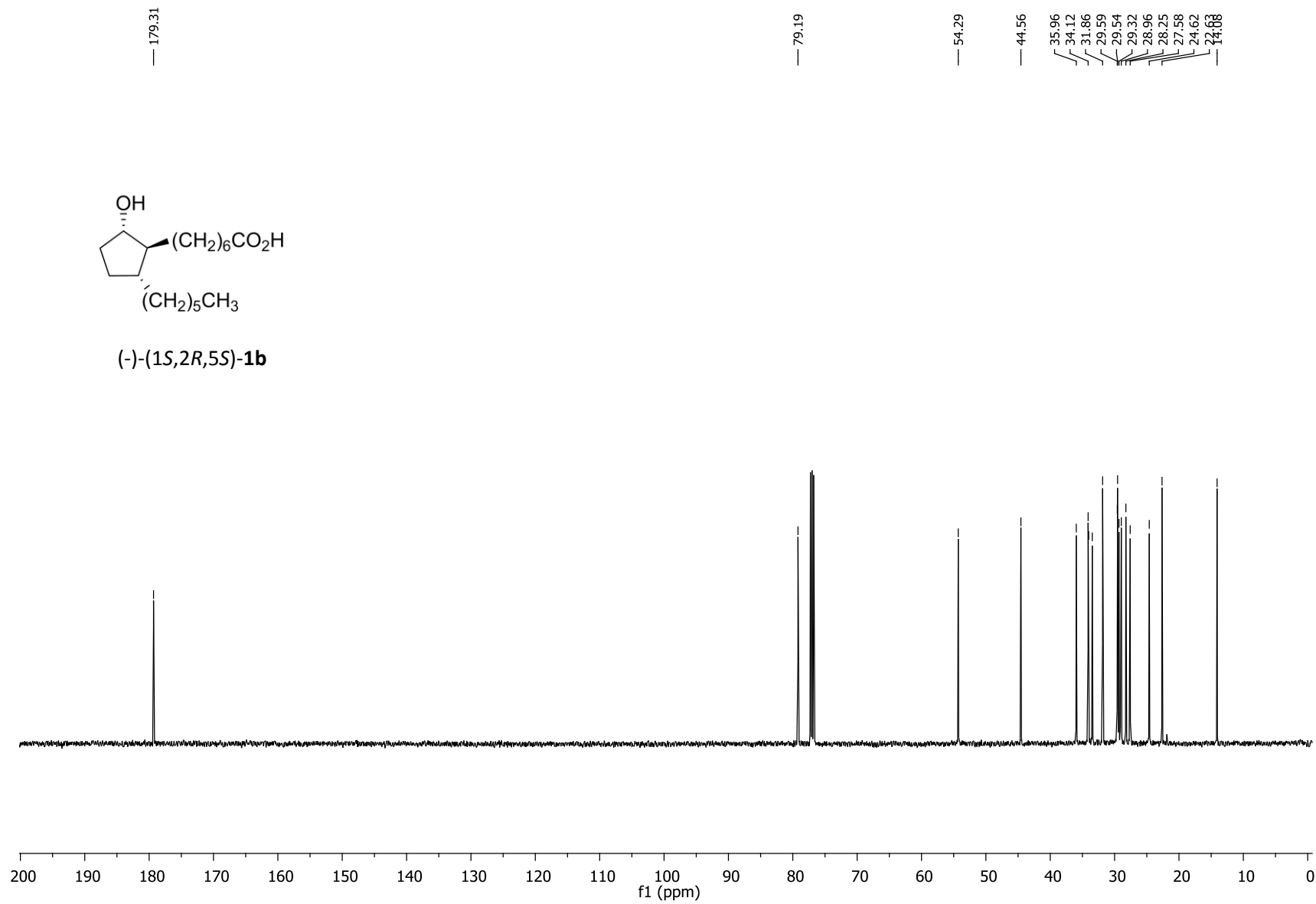


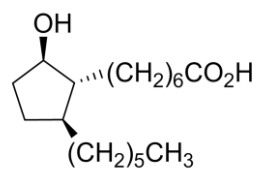
(-)-(1*S*,2*R*,5*S*)-**1b**





(-)-(1*S*,2*R*,5*S*)-**1b**





(+)-(1*R*,2*S*,5*R*)-**1d**

