



## Supporting Information

for

### Unnatural $\alpha$ -amino ethyl esters from diethyl malonate or ethyl $\beta$ -bromo- $\alpha$ -hydroxyiminocarboxylate

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*Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2018**, *14*, 2853–2860. doi:10.3762/bjoc.14.264

### Characterization of all the compounds described, scans of $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra

## Experimental

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer at 400 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. Shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm with respect to the TMS signal and cross-coupling constants ( $J$ ) are given in Hertz. Column chromatography were performed either on Merck silica gel 60 (0.035 - 0.070 mm) or neutral alumina using a solvent pump and an automated collecting system driven by a UV detector set to 254 nm unless required otherwise. Sample deposition was carried out by absorption of the mixture to be purified on a small amount of the solid phase followed by its deposition of the top of the column. The low resolution mass spectra were obtained on an Agilent 1200 series LC/MSD system using an Agilent Jet-Stream atmospheric electrospray ionization system and the high resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained using a Waters Micromass Q-TOF with an electrospray ion source.

**General preparation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters 2a–aj:** Step 1, Knoevenagel condensation of diethyl malonate and aldehydes, preparation of substituted diethyl 2-methylenemalonate **6**. Under an inert atmosphere, the corresponding aldehyde (0.047 mol), diethyl malonate (7.54 g, 0.047 mol), acetic acid (0.14 g, 0.002 mol), piperidine (0.2 g, 0.002 mol) and 4 Å molecular sieve (15 g) were heated in dry ethanol (20 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves) without stirring at 60 °C for 10 hours. Unless stated below in particular cases, the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of a crude sample pointed out the complete disappearance of the starting aldehyde. Step 2, reduction of the substituted diethyl 2-methylenemalonates **6**, preparation of the substituted malonates **3**. The suspension containing the 4 Å molecular sieve described above was filtered and the solid washed with dry ethanol. When relevant, 10% palladium over charcoal (1.27 g, 0.001 mol) was added to the resulting ethanol solution (160 mL total volume) and this was stirred overnight under a hydrogen atmosphere (1 atm). The resulting suspension was filtered, the filtrate concentrated to dryness to give fairly pure substituted malonates **3**. Alternatively, this hydrogenation was achieved by the addition, at 0 °C, of

sodium boron hydride (1.1 equiv) in small portions to the ethanolic solution and stirring overnight at 0 °C. This was followed by its (cautious) acidification with acetic acid, dilution in an excess of water extraction with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was then washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness to yield the crude substituted malonates **3**. Step 3, preparation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters **2**. The crude substituted malonate (0.0422 mol) was dissolved in ethanol (60 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieve) and cooled to 0 °C. A 21% solution of sodium ethoxide in ethanol was added (18.4 mL, 0.0493 mol) followed by a slow addition of isoamyl nitrite (6.2 mL, 0.046 mol). This was stirred at 0 °C for two hours, made slightly acid by the addition of 1 N hydrochloric acid and diluted in water (200 mL). The solution was extracted with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness to yield the crude  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters **2** which were further purified as described below.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-phenylpropanoate (2a):** Obtained as a white solid (3.55 g, 60% from 3 g of benzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.76 (s, 1H, OH), 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.2, 151.0, 135.7, 129.2, 128.5, 126.7, 61.9, 30.5, 26.9, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 230.0793, found, 230.0800.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(o-tolyl)propanoate (2b):** Obtained as a white solid (3.38 g, 61% from 3 g of 2-methylbenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 10.09 (s, 1H), 7.16 (m, 4H), 4.28 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.4, 151.2, 136.5, 133.9, 130.3, 128.6, 126.7, 126.0, 61.9, 27.9, 19.7, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 244.0950, found, 244.0942.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(m-tolyl)propanoate (2c):** Obtained as an oil (3.71 g, 63% from 3.15 g of 3-methylbenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 6/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.59 (s, 1H), 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$

Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.2, 151.1, 138.1, 135.6, 129.9, 128.4, 127.4, 126.2, 61.9, 30.4, 21.3, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 244.0950, found, 244.0954.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(p-tolyl)propanoate (2d):** Obtained as a white solid (3.31 g, 60% from 3 g of 4-methylbenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 10.07 (s, 1H), 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.1, 136.2, 132.7, 129.2, 129.1, 61.9, 30.1, 21.0, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 244.0950, found, 244.0944.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4-isopropylphenyl)propanoate (2e):** Obtained as a solid (2.04 g, 48% from 2.5 g of 4-isopropylbenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.74 (s, 1H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.87 (hept, 1H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.23 (d, 6H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.2, 147.2, 133.0, 129.1, 126.6, 61.8, 33.7, 30.1, 24.0, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 272.1263, found, 272.1258.

**Ethyl 3-cyclopentyl-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2f):** Obtained as a white solid (2.50 g, 35% from 3.49 g of cyclopentanecarbaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 85/15).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.51 (s, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 2.67 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 2.20 (m, 1H), 1.70 (m, 4H), 1.53 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 1.25 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.8, 152.9, 61.6, 37.4, 32.5, 29.9, 24.7, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 222.1106, found, 222.1164.

**Ethyl 3-cyclohexyl-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2g):** Obtained as a white solid (4.34 g, 50% from 4.50 g of cyclohexanecarbaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 9/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.85 (s, 1H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 2.55 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.70 (m, 6H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 1.20 (m, 3H), 1.04 (m, 2H).



$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.8, 152.3, 61.6, 35.8, 33.3, 31.9, 26.2, 26.1, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 236.1263, found, 236.1291.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2h):** Obtained as a white solid (4.65 g, 39% from 7.5 g of 2-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde) after a recrystallization in n-heptane (plus charcoal decolourisation).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.66 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d(br), 1H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.6 (d(br), 1H,  $J = 7.7$  Hz), 4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 4.23 (s, 2H), 1.27 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 161.0, 150.5, 134.1, 131.9, 129.0, 128.5 (29 Hz), 126.6, 126.2 (6 Hz), 124.4 (273 Hz), 62.1, 27.3, 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 298.0667, found, 298.0660.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2i):** Obtained as a white solid (1.3 g, 41% from 2.01 g of 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1 to 3/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.87 (s, 1H), 7.62 (s(br), 1H), 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.42 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.9, 150.2, 136.6, 132.6, 130.9 (32 Hz), 128.9, 126.1 (4 Hz), 124.1 (273 Hz), 123.6 (4 Hz), 62.1, 30.3, 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 298.0667, found, 298.0643.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2j):** Obtained as a white solid (4.61 g, 62% from 4.71 g of 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 99/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.45 (m, 2H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 150.2, 139.7, 129.5, 129.1 (32 Hz), 125.4 (4 Hz), 124.3 (272 Hz), 62.1, 30.4, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3$ : 276.0847, found, 276.0834.

**Ethyl 3-(2-fluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2k):** Obtained as a white solid (3.11 g, 57% from 3 g of 2-fluorobenzaldehyde), after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 10.20 (s, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.05 (m, 2H), 4.30 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.04 (s, 2H), 1.31 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.1,

160.9 (247 Hz), 150.1, 130.6 (4 Hz), 128.3 (8 Hz), 124.0 (4 Hz), 122.8 (16 Hz), 115.3 (23 Hz), 62.0, 23.7 (4 Hz), 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{12}FNO_3Na$ : 248.0699, found, 248.0704.

**Ethyl 3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2l):** Obtained as a white solid (9.46 g, 65% from 7.95 g of 3-fluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 10.02 (s, 1H), 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.10 (m, 1H), 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.92 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.74 (m, 1H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0, 162.9 (245 Hz), 150.3, 138.0 (6 Hz), 129.8 (8 Hz), 124.8 (3 Hz), 116.2 (22 Hz), 113.6 (21 Hz), 62.0, 30.2, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{12}FNO_3Na$ : 248.0699, found, 248.0699.

**Ethyl 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2m):** Out of a 14.80 g crude batch, only a sample (0.51 g) was purified by a chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 99/1 to 98/2) to give a white solid (0.41 g).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.30 (m, 2H), 6.97 (m, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.91 (s, 2H), 3.74 (m, 1H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.1, 161.7 (245 Hz), 150.8, 131.3 (3 Hz), 130.7 (8 Hz), 115.3 (21 Hz), 62.0, 29.7, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{13}FNO_3$ : 226.0879, found, 226.0878.

**Ethyl 3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2n):** Obtained as a white solid (2.21 g, 50% from 2.57 g of 2,4-difluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 6/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 9.72 (s, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 4.30 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.98 (s, 2H), 1.33 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.1, 161.8 (12 and 248 Hz), 160.8 (12 and 249 Hz), 149.9, 131.2 (5 and 9 Hz), 118.5 (4 and 16 Hz), 111.1 (4 and 21 Hz), 103.7 (25 Hz), 62.1, 23.1 (4 Hz), 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{11}F_2NO_3Na$ : 266.0605, found, 266.0601.

**Ethyl 3-(2,6-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2o):** Obtained as a white solid (4.66 g, 54% from 5.03 g of 2,6-difluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.85 (m, 2H),

4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.01 (s, 2H), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.7, 161.4 (249 and 8 Hz), 148.8, 128.1 (10 Hz), 112.2 (19 Hz), 111.0 (two signals), 61.9, 18.5 (4 Hz), 13.8. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 266.0605, found, 266.0613.

**Ethyl 3-(2,3-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2p):** Obtained as a white solid (4.36 g, 51% from 5 g of 2,3-difluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 3.75/1.25).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.83 (s, 1H), 7.01 (m, 3H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.06 (s, 2H), 1.33 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.8, 150.7 (248 and 13 Hz), 149.5, 149.0 (248 and 13 Hz), 125.2 (7 Hz), 125.1 (2 Hz), 123.8 (7 and 5 Hz), 115.6 (17 Hz), 62.1, 23.4 (4 and 3 Hz), 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 266.0604, found, 266.0603.

**Ethyl 3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2q):** Obtained as a white solid (4.83 g, 50% from 5.17 g of 2,5-difluorobenzaldehyde, 96% pure) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.66 (s, 1H), 6.95 (m, 3H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.01 (s, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.8, 158.6 (242 and 2 Hz), 156.8 (242 and 3 Hz), 149.6, 124.3 (19 and 8 Hz), 117.0 (25 and 4 Hz), 116.2 (25 and 9 Hz), 114.7 (24 and 8 Hz), 62.1, 23.7 (3 and 1 Hz), 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ : 266.0605, found, 266.0615.

**Ethyl 3-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2r):** Obtained as a white solid (4.18 g, 46% from 5.35 g of 3,5-difluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.91 (s, 1H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 6.68 (m, 1H), 4.34 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0 (248 and 13 Hz), 162.9, 149.7, 139.2 (10 Hz), 112.2 (two signals), 102.3 (25 Hz), 62.2, 30.2, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$ : 244.0785, found, 244.0788.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(2,3,5-trifluorophenyl)propanoate (2s):** Obtained as a white solid (3.02 g, 35% from 5.12 g of 2,3,5-trifluorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1) and a recrystallization in cyclohexane.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 10.02 (s(br), 1H), 6.78 (m, 2H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 4.03 (s, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J$

= 7.2 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.7, 157.4 (244, 10 and 3 Hz), 150.3 (250, 28 and 13 Hz), 148.9, 145.6 (244, 12 and 3 Hz), 126.0 (14 and 9 Hz), 103.9 (27 and 21 Hz), 62.3, 13.9.

**Ethyl 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2t):** As described in the text, the preparation of oxime **2t** had to be optimized. The condensation of diethylmalonate was run as described above but in dry isopropanol, the reduction was undertaken as described above but with tetramethyl ammonium borohydride instead of sodium boron hydride. Pure oxime **2t** was obtained as a white solid (5.98 g, 49% from 7.01 g of 2-chlorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.47 (s, 1H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.18 (m, 3H), 4.30 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.13 (s, 2H), 1.31 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.1, 150.5, 134.0, 133.5, 129.7, 129.5, 128.0, 126.8, 62.0, 28.5, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClNO}_3\text{Na}$ : 264.0403, found, 264.0401.

**Ethyl-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2u):** The protocol described for the preparation of oxime **2t** was used to prepare compound **2u**, which was obtained as a light yellow solid (7.09 g, 59% from 7.01 g of 3-chlorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.60 (s, 1H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 150.4, 137.6, 134.3, 129.7, 129.4, 127.4, 126.9, 62.1, 30.1, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClNO}_3\text{Na}$ : 264.0403, found, 264.0406. Note:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data for diethyl 2-((3-chlorophenyl)(ethoxy)methyl)malonate (**7**) which were extracted from the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of a (concentrated to dryness) 3 weeks-old ethanol solution of compound **6u**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.88 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.2$  Hz), 4.29 (m, 2H), 3.98 (m, 2H), 3.70 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.2$  Hz), 3.37 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 1.13 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.05 (t, 3H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz).

**Ethyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2v):** The protocol described for the preparation of oxime **2t** was used to prepare compound **2v**, which was obtained as a light yellow solid (8.4 g, 62% from 7.83 g of 4-chlorobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.70 (s, 1H), 7.27 (m, 4H),

4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.96 (s, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 150.6, 134.1, 132.6, 130.6, 128.6, 62.0, 29.9, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClNO}_2\text{Na}$ , 264.0403, found, 264.0437. Spectroscopic data similar to the reported one [1].

**Ethyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2w):** Obtained as a white solid (1.43 g, 42% from 5.0 g of 4-bromobenzaldehyde), using sodium boron hydride at 4 °C overnight, after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.70 (s, 1H), 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.96 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 150.5, 134.7, 131.6, 130.9, 120.6, 62.0, 29.9, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrNO}_3$ , 286.0079, found, 286.0056.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (2x):** Obtained as a white solid (3.15 g, 60% from 3.0 g of 2-methoxybenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.65 (s, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.5, 157.2, 151.6, 129.7, 127.8, 124.3, 120.5, 110.4, 61.7, 55.4, 25.7, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ : 260.0899, found, 260.0904.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (2y):** Out of a 10.66 g batch, only a sample (0.43 g) was purified by a chromatography (dichloromethane – ethanol 98/2) to give a white solid (0.33 g).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.79 (s, 1H), 7.21 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.9$  Hz), 6.93 (m, 1H), 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.77 (m, 1H), 4.30 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.98 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.2, 159.7, 150.9, 137.2, 150.9, 137.2, 129.4, 121.5, 115.0, 112.1, 61.9, 55.1, 30.5, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ : 260.0849, found, 260.0898.

**Ethyl 3-(2-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2z):** Obtained as a white solid (10.78 g, 48% from 15.0 g of 2-(benzyloxy)benzaldehyde) after an initial recrystallization which gave 3.34 g of compound **2z** and a chromatography over silica gel of the filtrate (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1 to 7/3) followed by a recrystallization in

cyclohexane which gave an additional 7.44 g. Note: instead of 10 hours at 60 °C, for the condensation step, heating at 75 °C for 24 hours led to an almost complete disappearance of the starting aldehyde signal. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.14 (s(br), 1H), 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, 1H) 6.90 (m, 2H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 4.15 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.07 (s, 2H), 1.24 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.4, 156.4, 151.5, 137.1, 129.9, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 124.7, 120.8, 111.8, 70.1, 61.6, 25.8, 13.9.

**Ethyl 3-(3-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2aa):** Obtained as a white solid (8.09 g, 37% from 15.0 g of 3-(benzyloxy)benzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1 to 7/3) and a recrystallization in cyclohexane. Note: instead of 10 hours at 60 °C, for the condensation step, heating at 75 °C for 24 hours led to an almost complete disappearance of the starting aldehyde signal. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.41 (s(br), 1H), 7.46 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.27 (m, 1H), 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.94 (m, 1H), 6.85 (m, 1H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.2, 159.0, 150.9, 137.2, 137.1, 129.5, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 121.9, 115.9, 113.0, 70.0, 61.9, 30.5, 14.0.

**Ethyl 3-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2ab):** Obtained as a white solid (5.99 g, 40% from 10.03 g of 4-(benzyloxy)benzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1 to 1/2). Note: instead of 10 hours at 60 °C, for the condensation step, heating at 75 °C for 12 hours led to an almost complete disappearance of the starting aldehyde signal. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.63 (s(br), 1H), 7.46 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.27 (m, 2H), 6.92 (m, 2H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.94 (s, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.3, 157.6, 151.3, 137.3, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 114.9, 70.0, 61.9, 29.6, 14.0.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (2ac):** Obtained as a solid (4.94 g, 49% from 7.10 g of picolinaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 97/3). 10.53 (s, 1H), 8.53 (m, 1H), 7.61 (dt, 1H, *J* = 1.8, 7.5 Hz), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.17 (m, 1H), 4.29 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 4.23 (s, 2H), 1.30 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):

163.6, 156.6, 150.0, 149.0, 137.0, 123.5, 121.7, 61.8, 33.2, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{10}H_{13}N_2O_3$ : 209.0926, found, 209.0857.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propanoate (2ad):** Obtained as a tan solid (7.19 g, 43% from 8.47 g of nicotinaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 97/3 to 96/4).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 12.79 (s, 1H), 8.65 (m, 1H), 8.46 (dd, 1H,  $J = 1.6$ , 4.9 Hz), 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 4.30 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.01 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.7, 149.9, 149.6, 147.0, 137.6, 132.9, 123.7, 61.8, 28.1, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{10}H_{13}N_2O_3$ : 209.0926, found, 209.0921.

**Ethyl 3-(furan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2ae):** As mentioned in the text, in this specific case the reduction step with sodium borohydride was run in ethanol at -10 °C for 1h30 and compound **2ae** was obtained as a white solid (7.90 g, 47% from 8.07 g of furfural) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 9.72 (s, 1H), 7.31 (m, 1H), 6.30 (m, 1H), 6.13 (m, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.04 (s, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.25 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 162.8, 148.7, 148.4, 141.5, 110.4, 107.0, 62.0, 23.5, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_9H_{12}NO_4$ : 198.0766, found, 198.0775.  $^1H$  NMR similar to the reported one [2].

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (2af):** Obtained as an off white solid (5.99 g, 33% from 10.11 g of 5-methylfuran-2-carbaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 9.41 (s, 1H), 5.99 (m, 1H), 5.86 (m, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.98 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 162.9, 151.1, 148.8, 146.7, 107.6, 106.3, 61.9, 26.9, 14.0, 13.5. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{10}H_{13}NO_4Na$ : 234.0742, found, 234.0744.  $^1H$  NMR similar to the reported one [3].

**Ethyl 3-(4,5-dimethylfuran-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2ag):** As mentioned in the text, in this specific case the reduction step with sodium borohydride was run in THF (20 mL) and ethanol (20 mL) at -10 °C for 1h30 and compound **2ag** was obtained as a solid (0.84 g, 23% from 2.03 g of aldehyde **5ag**), after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane –

ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.89 (s, 1H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.94 (s, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 148.7, 146.3, 145.4, 114.6, 110.1, 61.9, 23.6, 14.0, 11.2, 9.8. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ : 248.0899, found, 248.0896.

**Ethyl 3-(5-ethylfuran-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2ah):** Obtained as a white solid (3.17 g, 34% from 5.14 g of 5-ethylfuran-2-carbaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.79 (s, 1H), 5.98 (m, 1H), 5.86 (m, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.60 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.20 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 156.8, 148.7, 146.6, 107.3, 104.6, 61.9, 23.7, 21.3, 14.0, 12.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ : 248.0899, found, 248.0868.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)furan-2-yl)propanoate (2ai):** Obtained as a white solid (0.62 g, 36% from 1.06 g of 5-trifluoromethylfuran-2-carbaldehyde), using sodium boron hydride at 0 °C, after two chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 99/1) and (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.70 (s, 1H), 6.72 – 6.64 (m, 1H), 6.21 – 6.15 (m, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 162.7, 152.0, 147.6, 141.0 (q,  $J = 42.7$  Hz), 119.2 (q,  $J = 266.7$  Hz), 112.7 (q,  $J = 2.8$  Hz), 108.18 (s), 62.4, 23.7, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_4$ : 266.0640, found, 266.0584.

**Ethyl 3-(5-ethylthiophen-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2aj):** Obtained as an oil (1.36 g, 29% from 2.69 g of 5-ethylthiophene-2-carbaldehyde), using sodium boron hydride at 0 °C, after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 10.06 (s, 1H), 6.75 (m, 1H), 6.59 (m, 1H), 4.34 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 4.09 (s, 2H), 2.78 (m, 2H), 1.38 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 150.1, 146.6, 133.9, 126.3, 122.8, 62.0, 24.8, 23.4, 15.8, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3\text{SNa}$ : 264.0670, found, 264.0676.



**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(3-methylthiophen-2-yl)propanoate (2ak):** Obtained as a yellow solid (1.38 g, 32% from 2.39 g of 3-methylthiophene-2-carbaldehyde), using sodium boron hydride at 0 °C, after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 6.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 4.33 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.09 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.36 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.0, 150.1, 135.0, 130.3, 129.7, 122.8, 62.0, 22.9, 14.0, 13.7. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na: 250.0514, found, 250.0513.

**Ethyl 3-(4,5-dimethylthiophen-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2al):** Obtained as an oil (0.69 g, 31% from 1.29 g of 4,5-dimethylthiophene-2-carbaldehyde; 90 % pure), using sodium boron hydride at 0 °C, after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 9.77 (s, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 4.34 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 163.0, 150.1, 132.6, 131.7, 131.6, 129.6, 62.0, 24.6, 14.0, 13.4, 12.8. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NSO<sub>3</sub>Na: 264.0670, found, 264.0656.

**General method for the preparation of the  $\alpha$ -amino esters by zinc-based reduction of the  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters:** The considered substituted  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino ester (0.065 mol) was dissolved in ethanol (70 mL) and 37% hydrochloric acid (49 mL, 0.58 mol) and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. Powdered zinc (12.9 g, 0.19 mol, less than 10  $\mu$ m size) was added in one portion. The mixture was stirred for 3 hours, diluted with water, made basic with 22% ammonia and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over sodium carbonate and concentrated to dryness to yield the  $\alpha$ -amino esters **1** which were in some cases further purified as described below. Note: these oily  $\alpha$ -amino esters are not very stable, and unless the corresponding hydrochloric salt is made (by adding 4 N HCl in dioxane and concentration to dryness), many of them will slowly dimerize into the corresponding solid piperazine-2,5-diones even when stored at -20 °C.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(*o*-tolyl)propanoate (1b):** Obtained as an oil (2.69 g, 85% from 3.38 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.16 (m, 4H), 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.71 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.7, 5.6$  Hz), 3.14 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.8, 5.6$  Hz), 2.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.8, 8.7$  Hz), 2.82 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.3, 136.5, 135.9, 130.5, 130.0, 126.8, 125.9, 60.9, 55.0, 38.9, 19.5, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ : 208.1338, found, 208.1332.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(*m*-tolyl)propanoate (1c):** Obtained as an oil (3.07 g, 85% from 3.68 g of oxime). Analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(*p*-tolyl)propanoate (1d):** Obtained as an oil (2.70 g, 87% from 3.31 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.11 (m, 4H), 4.19 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.70 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.3$  Hz), 3.07 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 5.3$  Hz), 2.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 7.9$  Hz), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.1, 136.3, 134.2, 129.4, 129.2 (two signals), 129.1, 60.9, 55.9, 40.7, 21.0, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ : 208.1338, found, 208.1333. Spectroscopic data similar to the reported one [5].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-isopropylphenyl)propanoate hydrochloride (1e):** Obtained from 2.02 g of the oxime as an oil which was immediately treated with a solution of hydrogen chloride in dioxane and concentrated to dryness to give the hydrochloride salt as a white powder (1.9 g, 91% pure).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 8.23 (s, 3H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 4.16 – 4.02 (m, 3H), 3.16 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.9, 5.8$  Hz), 3.01 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.9, 7.8$  Hz), 2.86 (hept, 1H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 1.18 (d, 6H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 1.06 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 169.3, 147.2, 132.2, 129.3, 126.3, 61.3, 53.4, 35.9, 33.0, 23.8, 13.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ : 236.1651, found, 236.1651.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra not similar to the reported one [6].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-cyclopentylpropanoate (1f):** Obtained as an oil (1.16 g, 85% from 1.46 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.42 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 8.1$  Hz), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.48 (m, 8H), 1.27 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.12 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.5, 60.6, 54.1, 41.4, 36.7, 32.9, 32.3, 25.1, 24.9, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ : 186.1494, found, 186.1491.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-cyclohexylpropanoate (1g):** Obtained as an oil (2.35 g, 92% from 2.73 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.48 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 8.7$  Hz), 1.72 (m, 5H), 1.61-1.37 (m, 5H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 1.28-1.10 (m, 3H), 0.92 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 60.6, 52.2, 42.7, 34.1, 33.7, 32.6, 26.5, 26.2, 26.1, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ : 200.1651, found, 200.1648.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra similar to the reported one [7].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (1h):** Obtained as an oil (7.22 g, 86% from 8.82 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.35 (m, 1H), 4.16 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.75 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 8.7$  Hz), 3.30 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 14.3$  Hz), 2.97 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.7, 14.3$  Hz), 1.69 (s(br), 2H), 1.22 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.9, 136.4 (2 Hz), 131.8, 131.6, 129.1 (32 Hz), 126.8, 126.2 (5 Hz), 124.5 (274 Hz), 61.0, 55.6, 38.0, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1065.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (1i):** Obtained as an oil (0.75 g, 78% from 1.01 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 3.74 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.5, 7.5$  Hz), 3.13 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.5, 13.8$  Hz), 2.96 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.5, 13.8$  Hz), 1.51 (s, 2H), 1.24 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 138.4, 132.8, 130.8 (32 Hz), 128.9, 126.0 (4 Hz), 124.2 (272 Hz), 123.6 (4 Hz), 61.1, 55.7, 40.9, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1054.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (1j):** Obtained as an oil (1.23 g, 91% from 1.41 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.58 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.3$  Hz), 7.35 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.3$  Hz), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 3.74 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 7.8$  Hz), 3.14 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.8, 13.4$  Hz), 2.96 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.8, 13.4$  Hz), 1.50 (s, 2H), 1.25 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 141.6, 129.6, 129.1 (32 Hz), 125.3 (4 Hz), 124.2 (270 Hz), 61.1, 55.6, 40.8, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1129.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra similar to the reported one [6].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-fluorophenyl)propanoate (1k):** Obtained as an oil (2.57 g, 88% from 3.11 g of oxime). Analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-fluorophenyl)propanoate (1l):** Obtained as an oil (4.89 g, 89% from 5.84 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.01-6.92 (m, 3H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.72 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.4, 7.9$  Hz), 3.08 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.4, 13.7$  Hz), 2.88 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 13.7$  Hz), 1.49 (s, 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.8, 162.9 (246 Hz), 139.9 (7 Hz), 129.9 (8 Hz), 125.0 (3 Hz), 116.2 (21 Hz), 113.7 (20 Hz), 61.0, 55.7, 40.8, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{FNO}_2$ : 212.1087, found, 212.1088.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra similar to the reported one [5].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)propanoate (1m):** Obtained from 2.89 g of the crude oxime **2m** described above as an oil (2.21 g, 81% from 4-fluorobenzaldehyde) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)propanoate (1n):** Obtained as an oil (1.11 g, 85% from 1.38 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.19 (m, 1H), 6.80 (m, 2H), 4.15 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.70 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.9$  Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 5.9$  Hz), 2.89 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 7.9$  Hz), 1.52 (s, 2H), 1.23 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.8, 162.0 (11 and 247 Hz), 161.3 (12 and 249 Hz), 132.1 (6 and 9 Hz), 120.3 (4 and 16 Hz), 111.1, (3 and 21 Hz), 103.7 (26 Hz), 61.0, 54.7, 34.1, 10.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$ , 230.0993, found, 230.1006.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2,6-difluorophenyl)propanoate (1o):** Obtained as an oil (3.46 g, 94% from 3.89 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.89 (m, 2H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.75 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.1, 6.2$  Hz), 3.14 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 6.1$  Hz), 2.97 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 8.1$  Hz), 1.54 (s, 2H), 1.25 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.8, 161.8 (247 and 8 Hz), 128.4 (10 Hz), 113.5 (20 Hz), 111.1, 61.1, 54.2, 28.3, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$ : 230.0993, found, 230.0995.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2,3-difluorophenyl)propanoate (1p):** Obtained as an oil (3.36 g, 92% from 3.86 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.03 (m, 3H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.76 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.9$  Hz), 3.13 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 5.9, 1.5$  Hz), 2.97 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 7.9, 1.3$  Hz), 1.53 (s, 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 150.6 (248 and 13 Hz), 149.4

(247 and 13 Hz), 127.1 (13 Hz), 126.2 (3 Hz), 123.8 (7, 5 Hz), 115.8 (17 Hz), 61.1, 54.7, 34.5, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}F_2NO_2$ : 230.0993, found, 230.1004.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)propanoate (1q):** Obtained as an oil (3.44 g, 95% from 3.85 g of oxime).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 6.96 (m, 3H), 4.19 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.75 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.9$  Hz), 3.08 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 13.7, 5.8, 1.2$  Hz), 2.91 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 13.8, 7.9, 0.9$  Hz), 1.52 (s, 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0 (248 and 13 Hz), 162.9, 149.7, 139.2 (10 Hz), 112.2, 102.3 (25 Hz), 62.2, 30.2, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}F_2NO_2$ : 230.0993, found, 230.1000.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3,5-difluorophenyl)propanoate (1r):** Obtained as an oil (3.33 g, 84% from 4.18 g of oxime).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 6.73 (m, 3H), 4.20 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.71 (s, 1H), 3.06 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 5.4$  Hz), 2.87 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 7.7$  Hz), 1.49 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 174.5, 163.0 (248 and 13 Hz), 141.4 (9 Hz), 112.1, 102.3 (25 Hz), 61.1, 55.5, 40.7, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}F_2NO_2$ : 230.0993, found, 230.0995.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2,3,5-trifluorophenyl)propanoate (1s):** Obtained as an oil (2.71 g, 94% from 3.04 g of oxime).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 6.86 – 6.75 (m, 2H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.74 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.9$  and 7.8 Hz), 3.10 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 1.6, 5.9$  and 13.7 Hz), 2.94 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 1.6, 7.8$  and 13.7 Hz), 1.67 (s(br), 1H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 174.4, 157.4 (244, 10 and 3 Hz), 150.2 (251, 12 and 14 Hz), 145.9 (243, 13 and 4 Hz), 127.9 (9 and 15 Hz), 104.0 (21 and 27 Hz), 61.2, 54.5, 34.3, 14.0.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-chlorophenyl)propanoate (1t):** Obtained as an oil (4.18 g, 94% from 4.72 g of oxime).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.5, 5.8$  Hz), 3.24 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.5, 5.8$  Hz), 3.96 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.5, 8.5$  Hz), 1.23 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 175.0, 135.5, 134.4, 131.6, 129.6, 128.2, 126.7, 61.0, 54.4, 39.2, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{11}H_{15}ClNO_2$ : 228.0791, found, 228.0791.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-chlorophenyl)propanoate (1u):** Obtained as an oil (2.31 g, 92% from 2.66 g of oxime).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 7.23 (td, 3H,  $J = 4.3, 2.5$  Hz), 7.14–7.08 (m, 1H), 4.18 (q,

2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.71 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.8, 5.5$  Hz), 3.06 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 5.5$  Hz), 2.86 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.6, 7.8$  Hz), 1.57 (s, 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 139.5, 134.3, 129.7, 129.4, 127.5, 127.0, 61.0, 55.7, 40.7, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$ : 228.0791, found, 228.0726.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanoate (1v):** Obtained as an oil (1.48 g, 85% from 1.84 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.16 (m, 2H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 3.69 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.6, 7.5$  Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.6, 13.7$  Hz), 2.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.5, 13.7$  Hz), 1.47 (s(l), 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.8, 135.9, 132.7, 130.6, 128.6, 61.0, 55.7, 40.5, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$ , 228.0791, found, 228.0806. Spectroscopic data similar to the reported one [5].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-bromophenyl)propanoate (1w):** Obtained as an oil (0.61 g, 86% from 0.74 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.10 (m, 2H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 3.69 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.3, 7.7$  Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.3, 13.7$  Hz), 2.84 dd, 1H,  $J = 7.7, 13.7$  Hz), 1.47 (s(l), 2H), 1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.8, 136.4, 131.6, 131.0, 120.7, 61.0, 55.7, 40.5, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrNO}_2$ , 272.0286, found, 272.0296. Spectroscopic data similar to the reported one [5].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (1x):** Obtained as an oil (2.47 g, 83% from 3.15 g of oxime). Analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (1y):** Obtained as an oil from 4.35 g of the crude compound **2y** described above (3.09 g, 75% from 3-methoxybenzaldehyde) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-(benzyloxy)phenyl)propanoate (1z):** Obtained as an oil (7.84 g, 91% from 8.94 g of oxime)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.46-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 6.87 (m, 3H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 4.19 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.73 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.1, 7.9$  Hz), 3.09 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.1, 13.4$  Hz), 2.85 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 13.4$  Hz), 1.52 (s (br), 2H), 1.27 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.9, 159.0, 139.0, 137.0, 129.5, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 121.9, 116.0, 113.1, 69.9, 60.9, 55.8, 41.2, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3$ : 300.1600, found, 300.1608.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-(benzyloxy)phenyl)propanoate (1aa):** Obtained as an oil (5.60 g, 92% from 6.33 g of oxime)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.18 (m, 2H), 6.94 (m, 2H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 4.12 (m, 2H), 3.88 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.6, 8.5$  Hz), 3.23 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.6, 13.1$  Hz), 2.88 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.5, 13.1$  Hz), 1.54 (s (br), 2H), 1.21 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.4, 156.8, 137.2, 131.3, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.0 (two signals), 126.4, 120.8, 111.8, 69.9, 60.7, 54.5, 36.8, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3$ : 300.1600, found, 300.1611.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)propanoate (1ab):** Obtained as an oil (11.08 g, 95% from 12.13 g of oxime) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (1ac):** Obtained as an oil (2.21 g, 56% from 4.28 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.55 (m, 1H), 7.61 (dt, 1H,  $J = 1.9, 7.6$ ), 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.15 (m, 1H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.98 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 8.2$  Hz), 3.28 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 14.2$  Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.2, 14.2$  Hz), 1.70 (s, 2H), 1.24 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.1, 158.1, 149.4, 136.3, 123.9, 121.6, 60.9, 54.5, 42.7, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ : 195.1134, found, 195.1062.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propanoate (1ad):** Obtained as an oil (4.07 g, 63% from 6.87 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.49 (m, 2H), 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.22 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 0.8, 4.8, 5.6$  Hz), 4.16 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.70 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.5, 7.5$  Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.5, 13.5$  Hz), 2.88 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.5, 13.5$  Hz), 1.46 (s, 2H), 1.23 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.6, 150.6, 148.2, 136.7, 132.9, 123.2, 61.1, 55.5, 38.2, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ : 195.1134, found, 195.1131.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(furan-2-yl)propanoate (1ae):** Obtained as an oil (2.55 g, 89% from 3.08 g of oxime) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1af):** Obtained as an oil (1.46 g, 88% from 1.76 g of oxime) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4,5-dimethylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1ag):** Obtained as an oil (0.79 g, 90% from 0.93 g of oxime). with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-ethylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1ah):** Obtained as an oil (1.87 g, 94% from 2.11 g of oxime) with analytical data identical with the one we reported previously [4].

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)furan-2-yl)propanoate (1ai):** Obtained as a 95% pure oil (0.53 g, 93% from 0.60 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 6.66 (dd, 1H,  $J = 3.3, 1.2$  Hz), 6.20 – 6.15 (m, 1H), 4.20 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.79 – 3.73 (m, 1H), 3.08 (dd, 1H,  $J = 15.0, 5.4$  Hz), 2.99 (dd, 1H,  $J = 15.0, 7.1$  Hz), 1.60 (s(br), 2H), 1.22 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.2, 154.7, 141.0 (q,  $J = 42.6$  Hz), 119.0 (q,  $J = 266.6$  Hz), 112.4 (q,  $J = 2.8$  Hz), 108.5, 61.3, 53.3, 33.4, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3$ , 252.0847, found, 252.0852.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-ethylthiophen-2-yl)propanoate (1aj):** Obtained as an oil (1.18 g, 92% from 1.36 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 6.66 (m, 1H), 6.61 (m, 1H), 4.21 (q, 2H,  $J = 5.1, 7.2$  Hz), 3.68 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 7.3$  Hz), 3.21 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 14.7$  Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.3, 14.7$  Hz), 2.80 (m, 2H), 1.62 (s, 2H), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.29 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.6, 146.7, 136.2, 126.1, 123.0, 61.0, 55.7, 35.4, 23.4, 15.8, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ : 228.1058, found, 228.1055.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-methylthiophen-2-yl)propanoate (1ak):** Obtained as an oil (1.10 g, 89% from 1.32 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.08 (d, 1H,  $J = 5.1$  Hz), 6.80 (d, 1H,  $J = 5.1$  Hz), 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.70 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.1, 7.6$  Hz), 3.23 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.1, 14.7$  Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.6, 14.7$  Hz), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.6, 134.8, 132.5, 130.0, 122.6, 61.0, 55.8, 33.2, 14.1, 13.8. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ : 214.0902, found, 214.0901.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4,5-dimethylthiophen-2-yl)propanoate (1al):** Obtained as an oil (0.46 g, 87%; 90% pure from 0.56 g of oxime).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.22 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.66 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 7.4$  Hz), 3.17 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8, 14.5$  Hz), 3.03 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.4, 14.5$



Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 2H), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.6, 133.9, 132.7, 131.7, 129.6, 61.0, 55.6, 35.1, 14.2, 13.4, 12.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ : 228.1058, found, 228.1053.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propanoate (9):** This compound was obtained when using 10% Pd/C for the hydrogenation step described above for the general preparation of oximes **2** but letting it run 48 hours. Out a 12.8 g batch, only a sample (0.68 g) was purified by a chromatography (dichloromethane – ethanol 97/3) to give compound **9** an oil (0.56 g).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.74 (s, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 4.28 (m, 1H), 3.90 (m, 1H), 3.74 (m, 1H), 2.96 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.5, 12.8$  Hz), 2.80 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.9, 12.8$  Hz), 1.88 (m, 3H), 1.62 (m, 1H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.6, 150.4, 67.7, 61.7, 58.4, 31.2, 30.6, 25.3, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ : 224.0899, found, 224.0874.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)propanoate (10):** This compound was obtained by following the general reduction protocol for the preparation of compounds **1** described above, as an oil (5.68 g, 35% from 8.28 g of furfural) as a mixture of two diastereoisomers in a 3/2 ratio.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): Major isomer: 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.3$ ), 4.01 (m, 1H), 3.85 (m, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.62 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.9, 3.5$  Hz), 2.03 (m, 1H), 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.68 (ddd, 2H,  $J = 3.5, 8.9, 13.8$  Hz), 1.68 (s, 2H), 1.51 (m, 1H), 1.27 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 176.1, 75.8, 67.6, 60.8, 52.5, 40.2, 31.7, 25.6, 14.2. Minor isomer: 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$ ), 4.01 (m, 1H), 3.85 (m, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.56 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.3, 5.4$ ), 2.03 (m, 1H), 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.61 (s, 2H), 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.27 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.6, 76.9, 67.7, 60.8, 53.3, 40.5, 31.7, 25.4, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$ : 188.1287, found, 188.1258.

**Isolation of diethyl 2-(furan-2-ylmethyl)malonate (3ae):** In this specific case, the following protocol was used: The ethanol solution obtained as described above and containing compound **6ae** was concentrated to dryness thoroughly. At 0 °C, under a calcium chloride-protected atmosphere, the resulting oil (5.86 g, 0.0246 mol) was dissolved in dry THF (100

mL) and sodium borohydride (0.65 g, 0.0172 mol) was added. This was stirred at 0 °C for 24 hours, diluted with water and ethyl acetate and made cautiously acidic with acetic acid. The resulting solution was extracted twice with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – dichloromethane 2/3 to 1/4) to yield compound **3ae** as an oil (2.91 g, 49%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.31 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.0, 0.9 Hz), 6.27 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.2, 2.0 Hz), 6.08 (m, 1H), 4.21 (qd, 2H, *J* = 7.1, 1.5 Hz), 3.73 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 3.06 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 1.26 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz).

**Isolation of compounds 11 and 12:** The crude mixtures resulting from the various trials to improve the reduction of **6ae** into **3ae** mentioned in the text and all containing <sup>1</sup>H NMR signals corresponding to compound **11** and **12** were gathered and purified by a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – dichloromethane 2/1 to 0/1 to dichloromethane / ethanol 95/5) and the most polar fraction subjected to a second chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1 to 1/2) to yield samples of compounds **11** (0.85 g, 9%) and **12** (0.21 g, 3%) as described below.

**Ethyl 3-(furan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)propanoate (11):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.33 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.9, 0.9 Hz), 6.30 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.2, 1.9 Hz), 6.09 (m, 1H), 4.20 (qd, 2H, *J* = 7.1, 2.1 Hz), 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.06 (m, 1H), 2.96 (m, 2H), 2.21 (t, 1H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 1.28 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.1, 152.4, 141.5, 110.2, 106.7, 62.4, 60.9, 46.5, 26.8, 14.1. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na: 221.0790, found, 221.0794.

**2-(Furan-2-ylmethyl)propane-1,3-diol (12):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.33 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.9, 0.9 Hz), 6.31 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.2, 1.9 Hz), 6.07 (m, 1H), 3.82 (dd, 2H, *J* = 10.8, 4.2 Hz), 3.70 (dd, 2H, *J* = 10.8, 6.5 Hz), 2.73 (s, 1H), 2.71 (s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 2H), 2.15 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 153.8, 141.3, 110.3, 106.3, 65.2, 41.7, 26.5. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na: 179.0684, found, 179.0685.

**Preparation of compounds 14, 18 or 30:** Step 1 Preparation of the brominated arylidenemalonate **13**, **17** or **29**. By using the Knoevenagel condensation described above,

these compounds were obtained respectively from 3-bromobenzaldehyde, 4-bromobenzaldehyde or 5-bromofuran-2-carbaldehyde and following a concentration to dryness, used directly. Step 2: cyclopropanation. The considered brominated alkylidenemalonate (14.8 mmol), cyclopropylboronic acid (1.66 g, 19.3 mmol) and caesium carbonate (18.84 g, 57.8 mmol) were dispersed in a 95/5 mixture of toluene and water (120 mL). This was degassed by passing a gentle stream of argon through the suspension, [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene] dichloropalladium complexed with dichloromethane (0.30 g, 0.36 mmol) was then added and this was heated to reflux under argon for 50 minutes. The resulting dark solution was diluted in ethyl acetate, washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness. The residues were purified as described below.

**Diethyl 2-(3-cyclopropylbenzylidene)malonate (14):** This compound was obtained as an oil (4.68 g, 60% from 3-bromobenzaldehyde; 90 % pure) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 95/5).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.11 (m, 1H), 4.36 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.32 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 0.99 (m, 2H), 0.69 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 166.7, 164.2, 144.6, 142.3, 132.9, 128.6, 128.1, 126.8, 128.5, 126.2, 61.6, 61.5, 15.2, 14.1, 13.9, 9.2.

**Diethyl 2-(4-cyclopropylbenzylidene)malonate (18):** This compound was obtained as an oil (2.05 g, 47% from 4-bromobenzaldehyde) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 95/5).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.08 (m, 2H), 4.36 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.33 (t, 6H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.04 (m, 2H), 0.75 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 166.9, 164.3, 147.6, 142.0, 130.0, 129.7, 125.9, 124.9, 61.6, 61.5, 15.6, 14.1, 13.9, 10.0 (two signals missing). HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ , 311.1259, found, 311.1258.

**Diethyl 2-((5-cyclopropylfuran-2-yl)methylene)malonate (30):** This compound was obtained as an oil (3.12 g, 75% from 5-bromofuran-2-carbaldehyde) after a chromatography

over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 8/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.32 (s, 1H), 6.65 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.4$  Hz), 6.09 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.4$  Hz), 4.37 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.25 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.89 (tt, 1H,  $J = 8.4, 5.0$  Hz), 1.37 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.01 – 0.93 (m, 2H), 0.88 – 0.79 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 166.8, 164.7, 162.5, 147.0, 127.4, 120.1, 119.9, 107.3, 61.5, 61.4, 14.3, 14.2, 9.7, 8.3, (one signal missing). HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5\text{Na}$ , 301.1052, found, 301.1034.

**Preparations of oximes 21 or 25:** The considered cyclopropyl-bearing arylidenemalonate **14** or **18** were reduced using two days-long catalytic hydrogenation with 10% palladium over charcoal as described above and the resulting compounds were then used directly to prepare the corresponding oximes as described above for the preparation of compounds **2** to give the target oximes as further described below.

**Ethyl-2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(3-propylphenyl)propanoate (21):** This compound was obtained as a white solid (1.40 g, 36%, un-optimized) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.74 (bs, 1H), 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.58 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.96 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.6, 143.0, 135.5, 129.3, 128.3, 126.8, 126.4, 61.9, 38.0, 30.5, 24.5, 14.0, 13.8. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 272.1263, found, 272.1250.

**Ethyl-2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4-propylphenyl)propanoate (25):** This compound was obtained as a white solid (2.64 g, 69%) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 6/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.64 (s, 1H), 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.98 (s, 2H), 2.57 (m, 2H), 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.95 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.2, 141.0, 132.8, 129.0, 128.6, 61.8, 37.7, 30.1, 24.5, 14.0, 13.8. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 272.1263, found, 272.1276.

**Preparations of oximes 23, 27 or 32:** The considered cyclopropyl-bearing arylidenemalonates **14**, **18** or **30** were reduced using sodium borohydride overnight at 4 °C as described above and the resulting malonates **16**, **20** or **31** were then used directly to

prepare the corresponding oxime as described above for the preparation of compounds **2** to give the target oximes which were purified and characterized as described below.

**Ethyl 3-(3-cyclopropylphenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (23):** This compound was obtained as a colourless oil (1.72 g, 50% from compound **14**) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 6/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.99 (bs, 1H), 7.20 (m, 3H), 6.91 (m, 1H), 4.31 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.58 (m, 2H), 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.34 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.96 (m, 2H), 0.69 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.0, 144.2, 135.6, 128.4, 126.8, 126.2, 123.8, 61.9, 30.4, 15.3, 14.0, 9.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 270.1106, found, 270.1112.

**Ethyl 3-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (27):** This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (1.03 g, 88% from compound **18**) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 6/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.31 (s, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.99 (m, 2H), 4.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.95 (s, 2H), 1.86 (m, 1H), 1.33 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.93 (m, 2H), 0.67 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.3, 151.2, 142.3, 132.6, 129.1, 125.8, 61.8, 30.0, 15.0, 14.0, 9.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 270.1106, found, 270.1109.

**Ethyl 3-(5-cyclopropylfuran-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (32):** This compound was obtained as an orange solid (1.09 g, 44% from compound **30**) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 4/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.42 (bs, 1H), 5.97 (m, 1H), 5.84 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.1$  Hz), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 0.84 (m, 2H), 0.73 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 156.5, 148.8, 146.3, 107.5, 104.2, 61.9, 23.7, 14.0, 8.7, 6.5. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ , 260.0899, found, 260.0892.

**Preparation of compounds 22, 24, 26, 28 and 33:** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, compounds **22**, **24**, **26**, **28** and **33** were isolated and characterized as described below.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-propylphenyl)propanoate hydrochloride (22):** Obtained as an oil which was immediately treated with a solution of hydrogen chloride in dioxane and concentrated to dryness to give the hydrochloride salt as a white powder (1.89 g 90%; still containing some ethanol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ): 8.72 (bs, 3H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.08 (m, 3H), 4.18 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.6$  Hz), 4.08 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.21 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.9, 5.6$  Hz), 3.03 (dd, 1H,  $J = 13.9, 7.9$  Hz), 2.53 (m, 2H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.08 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.89 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ): 169.4, 142.8, 135.0, 129.9, 128.9, 127.7, 127.2, 62.0, 53.7, 37.6, 36.5, 24.4, 14.2, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ : 236.1651, found, 236.1637.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-cyclopropylphenyl)propanoate (24):** Obtained as an oil (1.66 g, 89%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.19 (m, 1H), 6.95 (m, 3H), 4.19 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.71 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.2, 7.9$  Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.2, 13.5$  Hz), 2.83 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 13.5$  Hz), 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.53 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 0.95 (m, 2H), 0.68 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.0, 144.3, 137.2, 128.4, 126.8, 126.3, 124.0, 60.9, 55.8, 41.2, 15.3, 14.2, 9.2, 9.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ : 234.1494, found, 234.1496.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-propylphenyl)propanoate hydrochloride (26):** Obtained as an oil which was immediately treated with a solution of hydrogen chloride in dioxane and concentrated to dryness to give the hydrochloride salt as a white powder (2.46 g, 85%; still containing some ethanol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ): 8.59 (bs, 3H), 7.15 (s, 4H), 4.20 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.5, 5.9$  Hz), 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.16 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 5.9$  Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.2, 7.9$  Hz), 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.09 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.89 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ): 169.5, 142.6, 132.3, 129.8, 129.0, 62.0, 53.7, 37.3, 36.2, 24.5, 14.2, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$ : 236.1651, found, 236.1659.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)propanoate (28):** Obtained as an oil (0.71 g, 80%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.01 (m, 2H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.70 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.2, 7.9$  Hz), 3.06 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.2, 13.7$  Hz), 2.83 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.9, 13.7$  Hz), 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.54 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 0.95 (m, 2H), 0.68 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.0, 142.4,

134.2, 129.2, 125.9, 60.9, 55.9, 40.6, 15.0, 14.2, 9.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{20}NO_2$ : 234.1494, found, 234.1490.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-cyclopropylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (33):** Obtained as an oil (0.70 g, 88%; 93% pure).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.99 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.1$  Hz), 5.85 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.1$  Hz), 4.20 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.74 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.1, 5.1$  Hz), 3.03 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.8, 5.1$  Hz), 2.93 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.8, 7.1$  Hz), 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.36 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 0.84 (m, 2H), 0.73 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 174.7, 156.7, 149.0, 108.2, 104.0, 60.9, 53.7, 33.3, 14.1, 8.7, 6.4. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{12}H_{17}NO_3$ , 224.1287, found, 224.1282.

**Diethyl 2-(1-(furan-2-yl)ethyl)malonate (34):** The ethanol solution containing compound **6ae** and obtained as described above was concentrated to dryness thoroughly to give an oil (4.51 g, 0.0189 mol). This was dissolved under argon in dry THF (30 mL), cooled to 0 °C and a 3 M solution of methyl magnesium chloride in THF (16 mL, 0.0473 mol) was slowly added. This was stirred for 15 minutes at 0 °C, cautiously quenched with ethanol, diluted in water made acid with a 1 N solution of hydrochloric acid and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and the residue purified by a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – dichloromethane 4/1) to yield compound **34** as a 95% pure oil (3.41 g, 70%).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 7.32 (t, 1H,  $J = 1.8, 0.9$  Hz), 6.28 (dd, 1H,  $J = 3.2, 1.8$  Hz), 6.10 – 6.03 (m, 1H), 4.22 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.70 – 3.64 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.30 (m, 3H), 1.28 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.18 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 168.1, 168.0, 156.1, 141.3, 110.0, 105.4, 61.4, 61.3, 57.0, 33.5, 17.0, 14.0, 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{18}O_5Na$ , 277.1052, found, 277.1052.  $^1H$  NMR data similar to the reported one [8].

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-phenylbutanoate (37):** Step 1: preparation of diethyl 2-(1-phenylethyl)malonate (**36**): under a calcium chloride guard, diethyl malonate (5.32 g, 0.033 mol) was dissolved in dry DMF (50 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves) and 60% sodium hydride in mineral oil (1.39 g, 0.0348 mol) was added portion-wise while maintaining the solution temperature at 20 °C with a water bath. This was stirred until the end of hydrogen

evolution and (1-chloroethyl)benzene 4.8 mL, 0.036 mol) was added. This was stirred for 7 days, diluted in water and ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed 5 times with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness under high vacuum to remove most of the unreacted diethyl malonate and (1-chloroethyl)benzene to give an oil (6.22 g) pure enough for the next step. Step 2: reaction with isoamyl nitrite. Under an inert atmosphere, 4.68 g of the resulting oil was dissolved in dry ethanol (50 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves) and cooled at 0 °C with ice. A solution of 21% sodium ethoxide in ethanol (7.7 mL, 0.0207 mol) was added followed by isoamyl nitrite (2.6 mL, 0.0194 mol). This was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 16 hours. The resulting solution was then treated as described above for the general preparation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters **2** and compound **37** was obtained as an oil (1.07 g, 14% from diethylmalonate) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , for once it is a separable but slowly equilibrating mixture of the two oxime isomers): 10.69 (s, 0.2H), 9.72 (s, 0.8H), 4.82 (q, 0.8H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 4.21 (m, 2H), 4.02 (q, 0.2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.68 (d, 2.4H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.54 (d, 0.6H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.26 (t, 2.4H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 1.15 (t, 0.6H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , major/minor: 162.6/163.3, 154.3/152.3, 140.6/141.2, 128.5/128.6, 127.6/127.7, 126.6/127.0, 61.5/61.6, 35.0/42.1, 15.5/18.7, 13.9/13.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 244.0950, found, 244.0939.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-phenylbutanoate (38):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.76 g, 88%) containing a 1/2 mixture of two diastereoisomers.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.39-7.21 (m, 5H), 4.20 (q, 1.3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 4.20 (q, 0.7H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.62 (d, 0.3H,  $J = 6.0$  Hz), 3.56 (d, 0.7H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.18 (m, 0.3H), 3.12 (m, 0.3H), 1.44 (s, 2H), 1.36 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.34 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.0$  Hz), 1.29 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.16 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) major diastereoisomer: 174.7, 142.2, 128.5, 127.9, 126.9, 60.8, 60.6, 44.4, 18.4, 14.2. minor diastereoisomer: 174.6, 143.0, 128.3, 127.7, 126.7, 60.7, 60.4, 43.5, 15.1, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ , 208.1338, found, 208.1331.



**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-methyl-3-phenylbutanoate (40):** Under an inert atmosphere, ethyl 3-methyl-3-phenylbutanoate [9,10] (1.38 g, 6.68 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (20 mL). This solution was cooled to  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  and a 2 N solution of lithium diisopropylamide in THF (3.5 mL, 7.02 mmol) was added. This was stirred for 5 minutes and isoamyl nitrite (1 mL, 7.35 mmol) was added. The solution was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 hours. This was diluted in water, made acid with 1 N hydrochloric acid and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness. Under an inert atmosphere, this residue was diluted in dry ethanol (10 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves), a 21% solution of sodium ethoxide in ethanol (1 mL) was added and this was heated to reflux for 7 hours. The resulting “transesterified” solution was diluted with water, made acidic with 1 N hydrochloric acid and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness and purified by a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 7/1 to 4/1) to yield the target oxime as an oil (0.24 g, 15%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.57 (s, 1H), 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.11 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$ ), 1.62 (s, 6H), 1.06 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.4, 158.6, 144.3, 128.2, 126.7, 126.4, 61.2, 42.9, 27.1, 13.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ , 258.1106, found, 258.1087.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-methyl-3-phenylbutanoate (41):** Compound **40** (0.23 g, 0.97 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol (5 mL); To this solution was added 37% hydrochloric acid (0.72 mL, 8.79 mmol) and powdered zinc (0.19 g, 2.93 mmol). This was stirred for 12 hours and another portion of 37% hydrochloric acid (0.72 mL, 8.79 mmol) followed by powdered zinc (0.19 g, 2.93 mmol) were added. Stirring at room temperature was resumed for 8 hours, the resulting solution was diluted in water, made basic with 33% ammonia, extracted with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over sodium carbonate and concentrated to dryness to yield compound **41** as an oil (0.20 g, 92%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 4.07 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$ ), 3.65 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 6H), 1.15 (t, 3H,  $J$

= 7.2 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 173.9, 146.3, 128.2, 126.4, 126.3, 64.0, 60.5, 41.9, 25.5, 23.3, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ , 222.1494, found, 222.1490.

**Ethyl hydroxyphenylalaninate (42):** Compound **2a** (0.1 g, 0.483 mmol) and trifluoromethane sulfonic acid (0.64 mL, 7.2 mmol) were dissolved in diethyl ether (10 mL). To this was added an initial 2 equivalents of triethylsilane (0.15 mL, 0.965 mmol) and following the monitoring of the reaction by LC/MS, additional equivalent of triethylsilane were added to reach a sum of 6 equivalents on day six. Following another day of stirring, water and 1 N hydrochloric acid were added to the resulting solution. This was stirred for 15 minutes made basic by adding 1 N sodium bicarbonate and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, brine, concentrated to dryness and purified by a chromatography over silica gel (dichloromethane – ethanol 98/2, TLC detection using a  $\text{KMnO}_4$  solution) to yield compound **42** as a film (0.07 g, 69%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.34-7.21 (m, 5H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 4.21 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.89 (dd, 1H,  $J = 5.9$  and 8.5 Hz), 3.01 (dd, 1H,  $J = 6.0$  et 14.1 Hz), 2.92 (dd, 1H,  $J = 8.2$  et 14.0 Hz), 1.24 (t, 3H,  $J = 8.0$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 172.9, 136.6, 129.1, 128.6, 126.9, 66.2, 61.1, 35.5, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3$ , 210.1130, found, 210.1136.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data similar to the reported one [11].

**General protocol for the preparation of malonates 44a and 44b:** Step 1: preparation of diethyl 2-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)malonate (**43**). Diethylmalonate (9.16 g, 0.057 mol), 80% propargyl bromide in toluene (6.36 mL, 0.057 mol) and potassium carbonate (8.7 g, 0.063 mol) were stirred in dry acetone (100 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves) for 48 hours. The suspension was filtered and concentrated to dryness to give an oil still (15.52 g) containing about 55% of unreacted diethyl malonate. Since all our trials failed to purify this mixture, this was used directly. Step 2: In a calcium chloride-protected atmosphere, the crude diethyl 2-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)malonate described above (15.5 g), the relevant nitroalkane (0.078 mol) and phenylisocyanate (15.3 mL, 0.14 mol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (200 mL). To this solution were added 10 drops of triethylamine and this was stirred for 48 hours at 20 °C. The

resulting suspension was filtered, the filtrate concentrate to dryness and the residue further purified as described below.

**Diethyl 2-((3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)malonate (44a):** This compound was obtained as an oil (3.47 g, 23% from 1-nitroethane; still containing some aryl-bearing impurity) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1) and extensive drying under vacuum at 80 °C to distil off some 3,4-dimethyl-1,2,5-oxadiazole 2-oxide. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.90 (s, 1H), 4.22 (m, 4H), 3.77 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 3.33 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, 6H, *J* = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.9, 168.0, 159.8, 102.9, 61.9, 50.2, 25.9, 13.9, 11.3. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>Na, 278.1004, found, 278.1003.

**Diethyl 2-((3-ethylisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)malonate (44b):** This compound was obtained as an oil (5.8 g, 33% from 1-nitropropane; still containing some aryl-bearing impurity) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 5/1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.93 (s, 1H), 4.22 (m, 4H), 3.78 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 3.34 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.66 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 1.27 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.9, 168.0, 159.8, 102.9, 61.9, 50.2, 25.9, 13.9, 11.3. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.9, 168.0, 159.8, 102.9, 61.9, 50.2, 25.9, 13.9, 11.3. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>Na, 292.1161, found, 292.1161.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)propanoate (45a):** This compound was obtained when following the general protocol for the transformation of compounds **3** into **2** as a solid (3.39 g, 50%) after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 9/1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 10.17 (s(br), 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 4.34 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.10 (s, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 166.2, 162.6, 160.0, 146.8, 103.1, 62.3, 22.5, 14.0, 11.3. HRMS (*m/z*): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na: 262.1055, found, 262.1147.

**Ethyl 3-(3-ethylisoxazol-5-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (45b):** This compound was obtained when following the general protocol for the transformation of compounds **3** into **2** as a solid (2.85 g, 58%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 10.22 (s(br), 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 4.34 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 4.10 (s, 2H), 2.65 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 1.35 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.24 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6 Hz).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 165.2, 165.4, 162.6, 146.8, 101.7, 60.3, 22.5, 19.5, 14.0, 12.5. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ : 249.0851, found, 249.0854.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)propanoate (46a):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.43 g, 35%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.22 (qd, 2H,  $J = 7.2, 1.9$  Hz), 3.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.7, 5.0$  Hz), 3.20 (dd, 1H,  $J = 15.0, 5.0$  Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J = 15.1, 7.7$  Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 173.9, 168.9, 159.9, 103.5, 61.4, 53.1, 32.1, 14.2, 11.4. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ : 199.1083, found, 199.1085.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(3-ethylisoxazol-5-yl)propanoate (46b):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (2.26 g, 84%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.98 (s, 1H), 4.22 (qd, 2H,  $J = 7.1, 2.3$  Hz), 3.84 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.7, 5.1$  Hz), 3.21 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 15.0, 5.1, 0.7$  Hz), 3.06 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 15.1, 7.7, 0.7$  Hz), 2.68 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 1.29 (t, 4H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.27 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 173.9, 168.7, 165.2, 102.1, 61.4, 53.1, 32.2, 19.6, 14.2, 12.6. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ : 213.1239, found, 213.1237.

**Ethyl 3-bromo-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (47):** Two preparations were used to synthesize compound **47**. The first one is very much the protocol described in a patent [12]: 75% pure ethyl bromopyruvate (5 mL, 0.0299 mol) was dissolved in water (10 mL) and chloroform (10 mL). To this was added hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.52 g, 0.036 mol) and this was stirred in a closed vessel overnight. The resulting solution was diluted in dichloromethane, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and recrystallized from *n*-heptane to yield compound **47** (still containing traces of ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate;  $\delta = 2.12$  ppm) as white needles (5.43 g, 64%). Note: an improved yield (19.74 g, 77%) was obtained when following the same procedure but using 90% pure ethyl bromopyruvate. Alternatively, we used the following original protocol (very much inspired by a report [13] mentioning a one pot synthesis of ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)acetate from glyoxylic acid): 3-bromo-2-oxopropanoic acid (5.85 g, 0.0316

mol), hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.2 g, 0.0316 mol) and sodium bromide (6.5 g, 0.063 mol) were stirred overnight at 20 °C in dry ethanol (60 mL) and then heated to reflux for 30 minutes. This was dispersed in water and ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, concentrated to dryness and the residue recrystallized from *n*-heptane to yield compound **47** (4.67 g, 70%) still containing some amount of its (oily) chlorinated homolog. <sup>1</sup>H NMR data similar to the reported one [12].

**3-Ethyl-2-methylfuran (48ao):** In a 500 mL flask fitted with a condenser and a dropping funnel, lithium aluminium hydride (0.91 g, 0.024 mol) was weighted. Under an argon atmosphere, dry ether (20 mL) was added and the suspension stirred. In another flask, dry aluminium trichloride (3.2 g, 0.024 mol) was dissolved in dry ether (25 mL); note: a slight heating can be observed. This solution was then added to the suspension described above (no or little heating occurred). To this suspension 1-(2-methylfuran-3-yl)ethan-1-one, prepared from acetylacetone and chloroacetaldehyde as described below for the preparation of 6,7-dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one (2.97 g, 0.024 mol) dissolved in dry ether (50 mL) was added drop-wise, slowly enough to avoid too much reflux. The resulting solution was stirred for 2 hours, cautiously quenched with water, and cautiously diluted with a 3 N solution of sulfuric acid. This was diluted in water and ether, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated at atmospheric pressure to yield an oil containing compound **48ao** and some ether which was directly used for the cycloaddition reaction as described below.

**4,5,6,7-Tetrahydrobenzofuran (48ap):** Step 1, preparation of 6,7-dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one [14]: under argon, cyclohexanedione (20.71 g, 0.18 mol) was dissolved in methanol (100 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. To this was added potassium hydroxide (12.2 g, 0.18 mol) and after stirring 30 minutes at 0 °C the 50% solution of chloroacetaldehyde in water (26.3 mL, 0.203 mol) was added. This was stirred overnight, the resulting solution made acidic with 1 N hydrochloric acid, extracted with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness to give the volatile 6,7-

dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one (16.5 g) clean enough for the next step. Step 2, reduction with  $\text{AlLiH}_4/\text{AlCl}_3$ : from 6,7-dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one (3.62 g, 0.026 mol) the procedure is identical to the one described above for the preparation of **48ao**. Note: but for the purification, this reduction protocol is pretty much identical to the one reported previously [15]. Again the oil containing **48ap** and some ether was used directly for the cycloaddition reaction as described below.

**2-Ethyl-3-methylfuran (48aq):** Step 1: preparation of ethyl 2-ethylfuran-3-carboxylate. By using the protocol described above for the synthesis of 6,7-dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one, this volatile compound was obtained from ethyl 3-oxopentanoate (9.88 g, 0.068 mol) and chloroacetaldehyde after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – dichloromethane) as an oil still containing some cyclohexane (5.21 g). Step 2, reduction with  $\text{AlLiH}_4/\text{AlCl}_3$ : the procedure is identical to the one described above for the preparation of 3-ethyl-2-methylfuran (**48ao**) but for the differences that two equivalent of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  and two equivalent of  $\text{AlLiH}_4$  were used and that the reaction was left to stir for 50 hours before undertaking the work up procedure described above. This gave the volatile compound **48aq** as an oil still containing ether and cyclohexane which was used directly for the cycloaddition reaction as described below.

**2-isopropyl-3-methylfuran (48ar):** Step 1: preparation of ethyl 2-isopropylfuran-3-carboxylate. By using the protocol described above for the synthesis of 6,7-dihydrobenzofuran-4(5*H*)-one, this volatile compound was obtained from ethyl 4-methyl-3-oxopentanoate (6.92 g, 0.0437 mol) and chloroacetaldehyde after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – dichloromethane) as an oil still containing some cyclohexane (1.8 g). Step 2, reduction with  $\text{AlLiH}_4/\text{AlCl}_3$ : the procedure is identical to the one described above for the preparation of 3-ethyl-2-methylfuran (**48ao**) but for the differences that 2 equivalent of  $\text{AlCl}_3$  and two equivalent of  $\text{AlLiH}_4$  were used and that the reaction was left to stir for 50 hours before undertaking the work up procedure described above. This gave the volatile

compound **48ar** as an oil still containing ether and cyclohexane which was used directly for the cycloaddition reaction as described below.

**Protocols for the synthesis of furan-bearing  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimino esters by [2 + 4]**

**cycloaddition** Protocol b: The considered furan (0.013 mol), compound **47** (2.75 g, 0.013 mol) and sodium carbonate (1.5 g, 0.0144 mol) were dispersed in toluene (15 mL) before adding tetrabutylammonium bromide (0.042 g, 13 mmol). This was stirred for 1 hour, diluted in water and ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and further purified as described below. Protocol c: The considered furan (0.01 mol), compound **47** (2.10 g, 0.01 mol) and ammonium bicarbonate (0.86 g, 0.011 mol) were dispersed in ethyl acetate (10 mL) before adding water (2 mL). This was stirred for 1 hour, diluted in water and ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and further purified as described below. Protocol d: The considered furan (6.09 mmol), compound **47** (1.28 g, 6.09 mmol) and lithium carbonate (0.49 g, 6.69 mmol) were dispersed in ethyl acetate (10 mL) before adding water (2 mL). This was stirred for 1 hour, diluted in water and ethyl acetate made, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and the residue further purified as described below. Protocol e: The considered furan (0.0117 mol), compound **47** (2.56 g, 0.0117 mol) and sodium carbonate (1.42 g, 0.0129 mol) were dispersed in ethyl acetate (6 mL) and water (3 mL). This was stirred for 1 hour, diluted in water and ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated to dryness and further purified as described below.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(5-propylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (2am):** This compound was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 9.15 (s(br), 1H), 5.98 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.0$  Hz), 5.88 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.55 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.7$  Hz), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 0.95 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 163.0, 155.5, 148.8,

146.8, 107.3, 105.5, 61.9, 30.0, 23.7, 21.3, 14.0, 13.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{12}H_{17}NO_4Na$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1047.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (2an):** This compound was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 8.33 (s(br), 1H), 5.98 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.0$  Hz), 5.87 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.57 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.7$  Hz), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 1.32 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 162.9, 155.7, 148.7, 146.5, 107.3, 105.3, 61.9, 31.3, 30.0, 27.6, 23.7, 22.3, 14.0, 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{21}NO_4Na$ : 290.1368, found, 290.1366.

**Ethyl 3-(4-ethyl-5-methylfuran-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2ao):** This compound was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.93 (s, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.29 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.09 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0, 148.9, 145.5, 145.4, 121.4, 108.5, 61.9, 23.6, 18.0, 14.7, 14.0, 11.3. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{12}H_{17}NO_4Na$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1053.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate (2ap):** This compound was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.91 (s, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.54 (m, 2H), 2.36 (m, 2H), 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0, 149.7, 149.0, 146.0, 117.6, 107.8, 61.9, 23.7, 23.2, 23.1, 23.0, 22.0, 14.0. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{17}NO_4Na$ : 274.1054, found, 274.1057.

**Ethyl-3-(5-ethyl-4-methylfuran-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2aq):** This compound was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 8.56 (s(br), 1H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 4.33 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.54 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 1.89 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.16 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0, 151.5, 148.9, 145.3, 113.7, 110.0, 61.9,



23.6, 19.3, 14.0, 12.9, 9.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{12}H_{17}NO_4Na$ : 262.1055, found, 262.1053.

**Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(5-isopropyl-4-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (2ar):** This compound (90% pure) was obtained in the yield reported in Table 2, as a solid after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane - ethyl acetate 5/1).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.32 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.94 (sept, 1H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 1.91 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 1.20 (d, 6H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 163.0, 154.5, 149.0, 145.0, 112.6, 110.0, 61.9, 26.2, 23.6, 21.3, 14.0, 9.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{19}NO_4Na$ : 276.1212, found, 276.1213.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-propylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1am):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.93 g, 79%).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 6.00 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.0$  Hz), 5.88 (dt, 1H,  $J = 3.0, 1.0$  Hz), 4.20 (qd, 2H,  $J = 7.1, 2.6$  Hz), 3.75 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.1, 5.1$  Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.9, 5.1$  Hz), 2.95 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.9, 7.1$  Hz), 2.55 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 0.96 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 174.7, 155.7, 149.3, 108.1, 105.3, 60.9, 53.8, 33.7, 30.0, 21.3, 14.2, 13.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{12}H_{20}NO_3$ : 226.1443, found, 226.1449.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-pentylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1an):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.54 g, 90%).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 6.00 (d, 1H,  $J = 3.0$  Hz), 5.88 (m, 1H), 4.20 (qd, 2H,  $J = 7.1, 2.6$  Hz), 3.75 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.1, 5.1$  Hz), 3.07 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.9, 5.1$  Hz), 2.96 (dd, 1H,  $J = 14.9, 7.1$  Hz), 2.56 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 19.6 (s(br), 2H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.33 (m, 4H), 1.29 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 0.91 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 174.5, 156.0, 149.1, 108.2, 105.2, 61.0, 53.7, 33.5, 31.3, 28.0, 27.6, 22.4, 14.2, 13.9. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{24}NO_3$ : 254.1756, found, 254.1756.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-ethyl-5-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1ao):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was

obtained as an oil (0.95 g, 82%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.94 (s, 1H), 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.73 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 and 7.4 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 and 14.7 Hz), 2.90 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4 and 14.7 Hz), 2.29 (q, 2H,  $J$  = 7.5), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s (br), 2H), 1.27 (d, 3H  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 1.05 (d, 3H  $J$  = 7.5 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 148.2, 145.7, 121.2, 109.2, 60.9, 53.8, 33.6, 18.0, 14.8, 14.2, 11.3. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$ : 226.1443, found, 226.1446.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-2-yl)propanoate (1ap):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (1.57 g, 82%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.91 (s, 1H), 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.74 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0 and 7.4 Hz), 3.05 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0 and 14.8 Hz), 2.90 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4 and 14.8 Hz), 2.54 (m, 2H), 2.37 (m, 2H), 1.87 (s (br), 2H), 1.81 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.29 (d, 3H  $J$  = 7.2 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 150.0, 148.7, 117.4, 108.6, 61.1, 53.8, 33.7, 21.1 (two signals), 23.1, 22.0, 14.1. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$ : 238.1443, found, 238.1438.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-ethyl-4-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1aq):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.95 g, 82%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.94 (s, 1H), 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.73 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 and 7.4 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9 and 14.7 Hz), 2.90 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4 and 14.7 Hz), 2.29 (q, 2H,  $J$  = 7.5), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s (br), 2H), 1.27 (d, 3H  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 1.05 (d, 3H  $J$  = 7.5 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.7, 148.2, 145.7, 121.2, 109.2, 60.9, 53.8, 33.6, 18.0, 14.8, 14.2, 11.3.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(5-isopropyl-4-methylfuran-2-yl)propanoate (1ar):** By using the general protocol described above for the reduction of compounds **2** into **1**, this compound was obtained as an oil (0.41 g, 86%; 90% pure).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 5.87 (s, 1H), 4.21 (m, 2H), 3.73 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.1 and 6.8 Hz), 3.01 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.1 and 14.8 Hz), 2.94 (sept, 1H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 2.90 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.8 and 14.8 Hz), 1.91 (s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 2H), 1.29 (q, 2H,  $J$  = 7.1), 1.20 (d, 6H  $J$  = 7.0 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 174.6, 154.8, 147.6, 112.3, 111.1, 60.9, 53.6, 33.4,

26.1, 21.3, 21.2, 14.1, 9.7. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{22}NO_3$ : 240.1600, found, 240.1602.

**Ethyl 2-amino-3-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)propanoate (53):** Step 1: the previously described [16] diethyl 2-((1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)methyl)malonate (**51**) (7.8 g, 0.317 mol) was dissolved in ethanol (40 mL) and potassium hydroxide (1.78 g, 0.0317 mol) dissolved in ethanol (60 mL) was added dropwise. The solution was stirred overnight at room temperature and then briefly heated to reflux. This was concentrated, dissolved in water which was made more basic with 22% ammonia. The aqueous phase was washed with dichloromethane, made acidic with 37% hydrochloric acid, extracted with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness to yield 90% pure 2-((1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)methyl)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (**52**) (3.85 g, 55%).  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.05 (t, 1H,  $J = 3.7$  Hz), 4.24 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.98 (m, 2H), 3.82 (m, 2H), 3.64 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 2.40 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz). Step 2: Under argon, this compound (3.85 g, 0.0176 mol) was dissolved in toluene (50 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular). Triethylamine (2.95 mL, 0.021 mol) was added and then diphenylphosphoryl azide (4.18 mL, 0.021 mol). This was stirred at 80 °C for 1.5 h, the toluene was removed under vacuum and the resulting oil repeatedly extracted with cyclohexane. Concentration to dryness of this extract led to an oil which was stirred at room temperature in 4% hydrochloric acid (50 mL) overnight. The resulting solution was diluted in more acid, washed with ethyl acetate, the aqueous phase was made basic with 22% ammonia, extracted with ethyl acetate, and this organic layer was washed with water, brine, dried over sodium carbonate and concentrated to dryness to yield the  $\alpha$ -amino ester **53** as an oil (0.14 g, 16%). Alternatively, the same compound (0.44 g, 43%) was obtained from **53**, using the very mild reduction protocol described below for the preparation of  $\alpha$ -amino ester **56**.  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ): 5.03 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.3, 5.0$  Hz), 4.17 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 3.96 (m, 2H), 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.66 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.5, 8.3$  Hz), 2.14 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 4.5, 5.0, 14.4$  Hz), 1.93 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 4.3, 8.3, 14.4$  Hz), 1.86 (s, 2H),

1.26 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 175.3, 102.6, 64.9, 64.8, 61.0, 51.2, 38.3, 14.2. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_4$ , 190.1079, found, 190.1061.

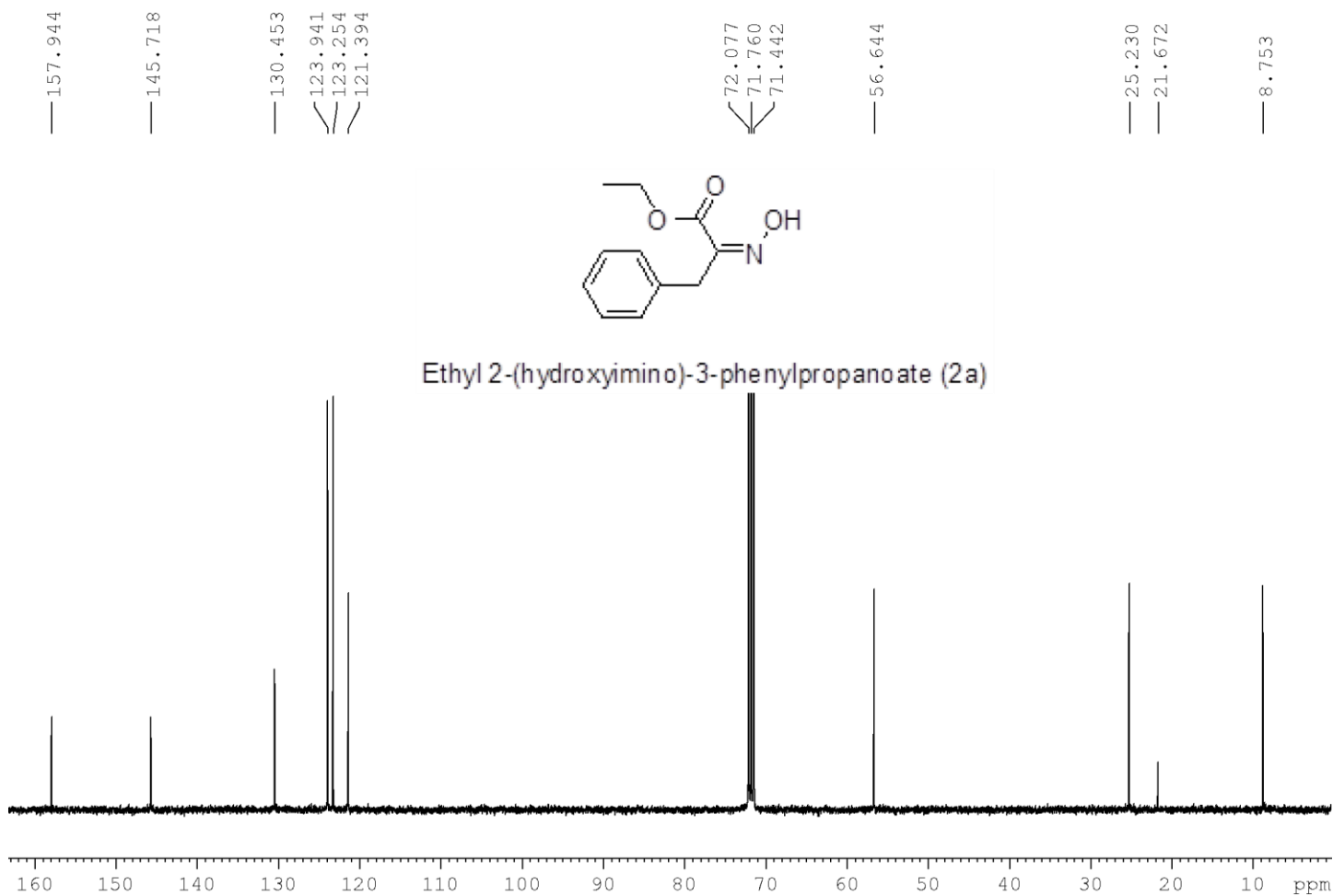
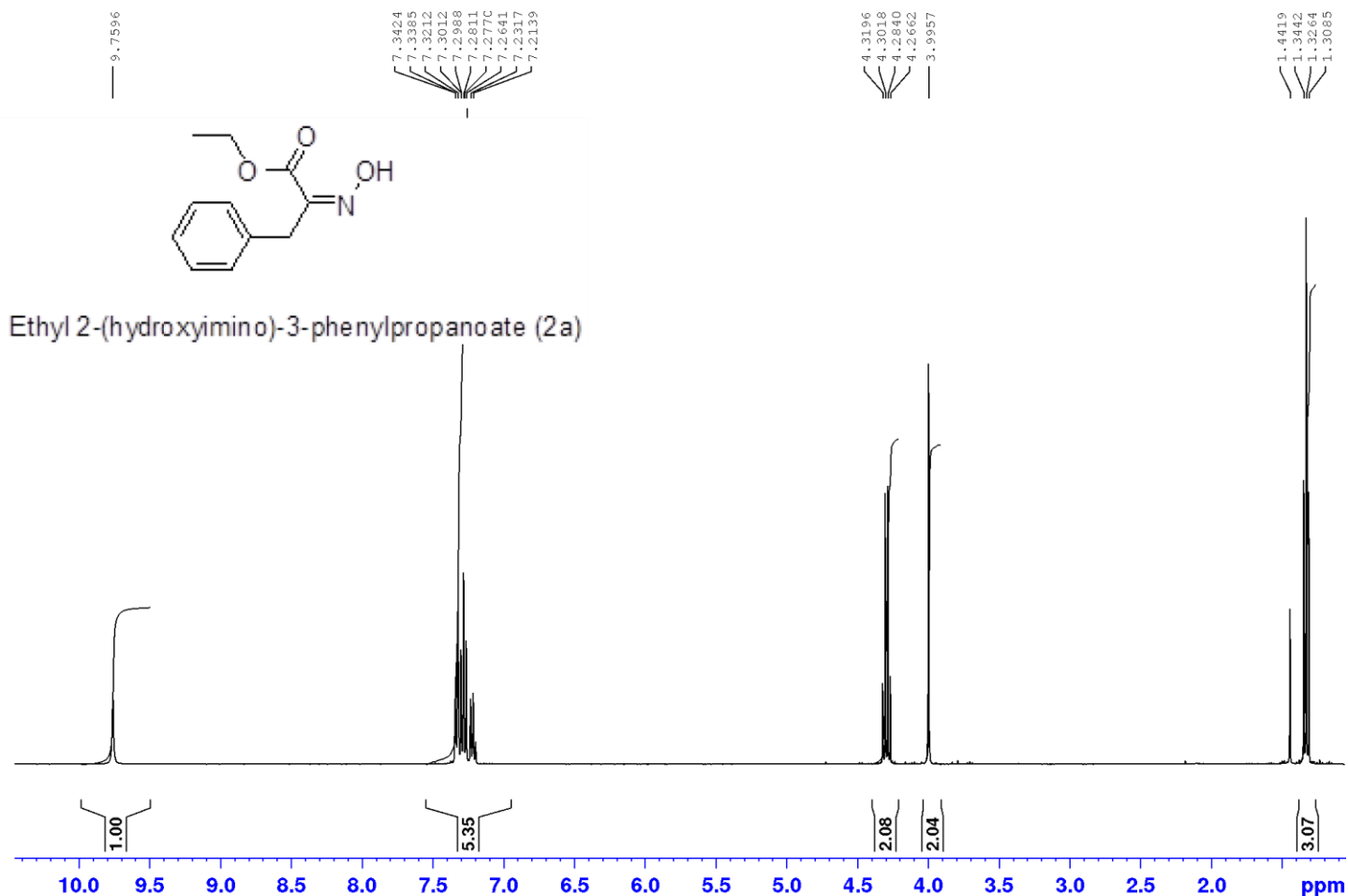
**Ethyl 3-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (54):** This compound was obtained from compound **51** [16] as a solid (3.81 g, 28% from diethyl malonate) using the general preparation of oximes **2** from malonates described above after a chromatography over silica gel (cyclohexane – ethyl acetate 3/2) and a recrystallisation from cyclohexane (two crops).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , not stable in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 12.34 (s (br), 1H), 5.11 (t, 1H,  $J = 5.5$  Hz), 4.19 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.87 (m, 2H), 3.75 (m, 2H), 2.83 (d, 2H,  $J = 5.2$  Hz), 1.24 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 164.1, 147.3, 100.5, 64.5, 61.3, 30.1, 14.4. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_5\text{Na}$ , 226.0691, found, 226.0698.

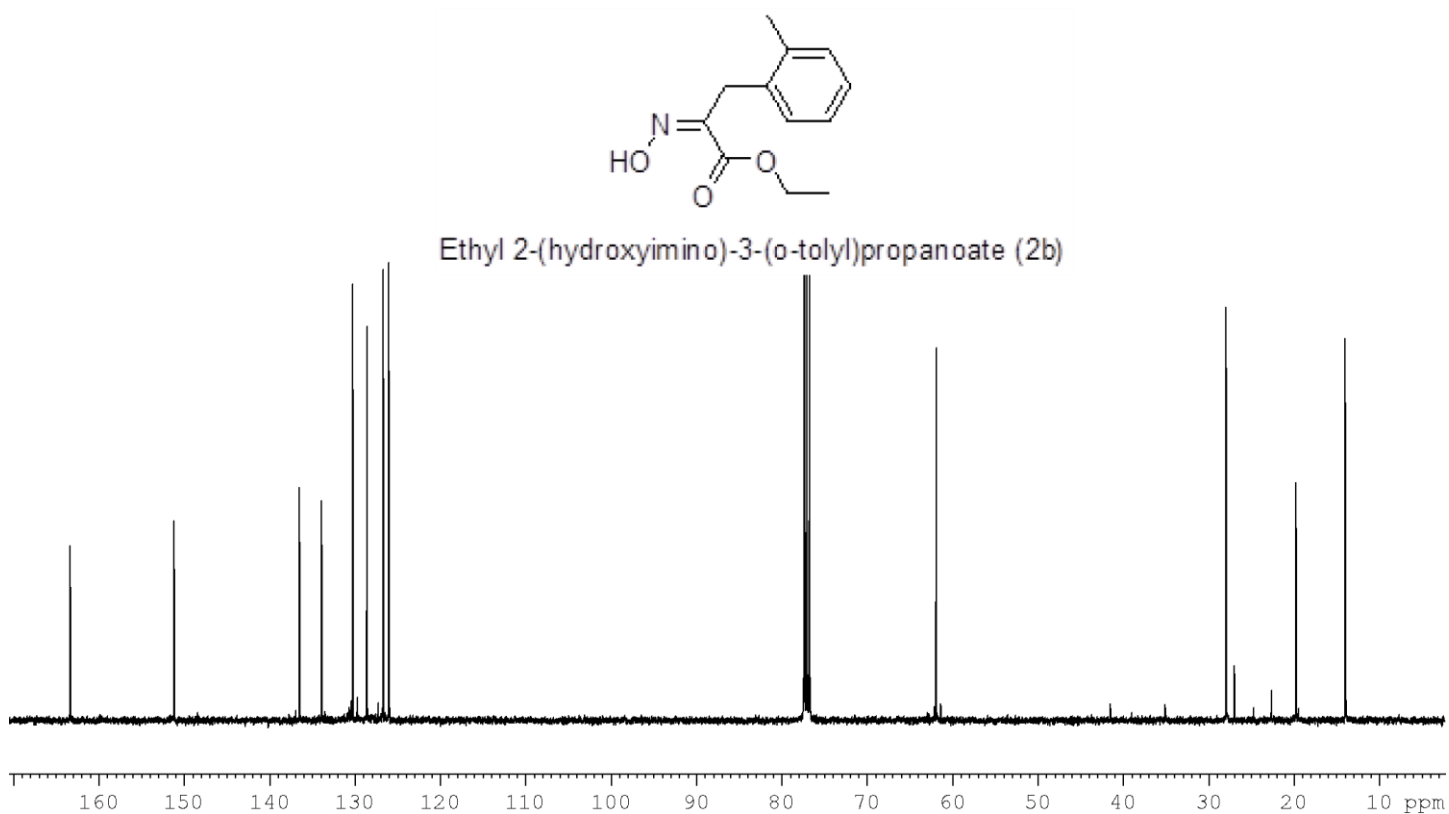
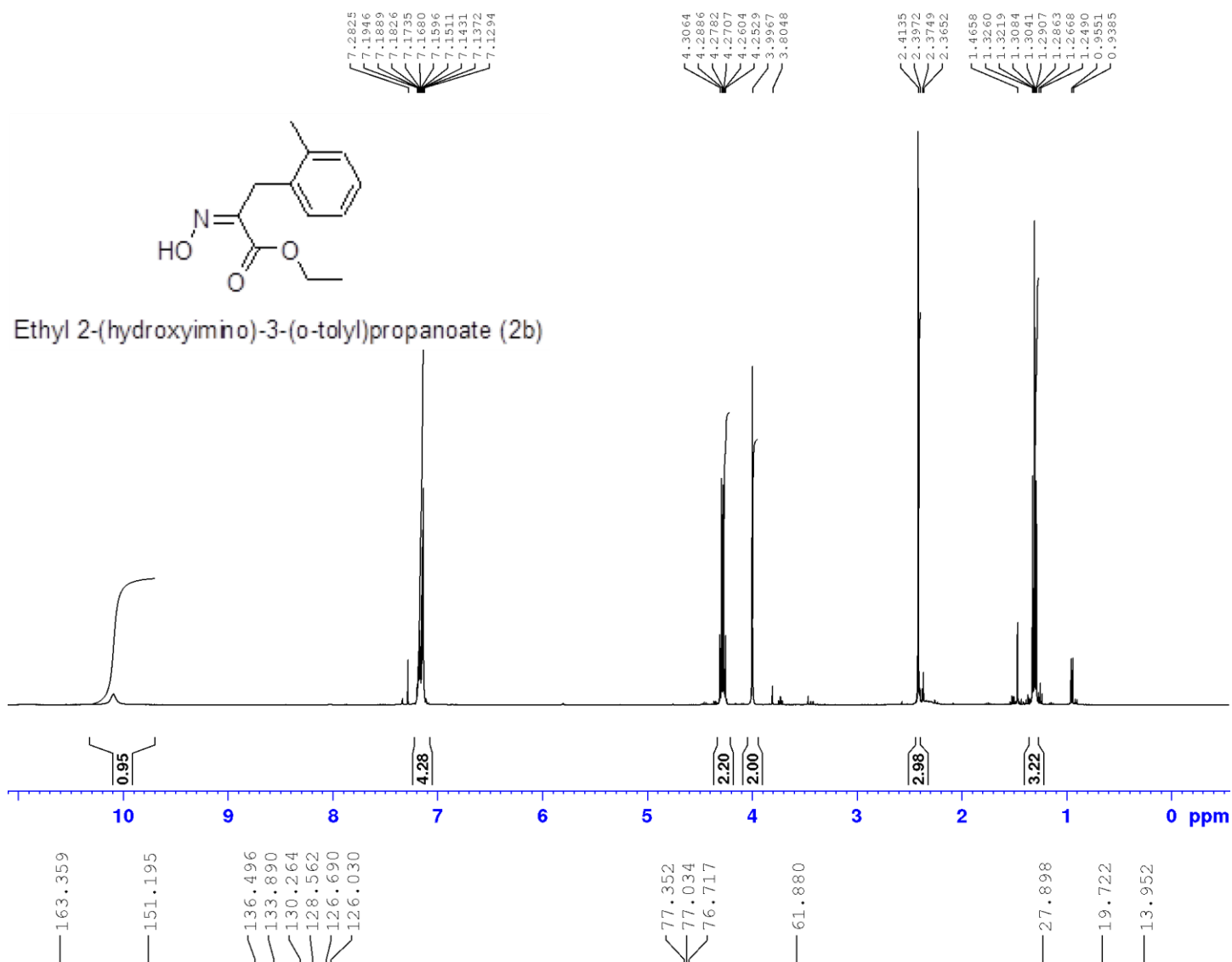
**Diethyl 2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)ethyl)malonate (56):** The following protocol is inspired from the reported procedure [17]. Under a calcium chloride-protected atmosphere, diethylmalonate (13.77 g, 0.0859 mol) was dissolved in dry DMF (110 mL, dried over 4 Å molecular sieves), This was cooled to 0 °C and 60% sodium hydride suspended in oil (3.33 g, 0.0832 mol) was added by portion. At the end of the hydrogen evolution, 2-(2-bromoethyl)-1,3-dioxolane (9.8 mL, 0.0834 mol) was added. The reaction vessel was brought back to room temperature and then heated at 80 °C for 4 hours. The resulting suspension was concentrated, the residue dissolved in a mixture of water and diethylether, the organic layer was washed with water four times, brine, dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated to dryness. A distillation under a 5 mbar vacuum led to a fraction boiling at 148-150 °C which contained pure compound **56** (13.28 g, 59 %).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) : 4.79 (t, 1H,  $J = 4.8$  Hz), 4.12 (m, 2H), 3.87 (m, 2H), 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.51 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.18 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 169.3, 103.4, 64.7, 61.3, 51.2, 31.0, 23.3, 14.4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data identical with the one reported previously [17].

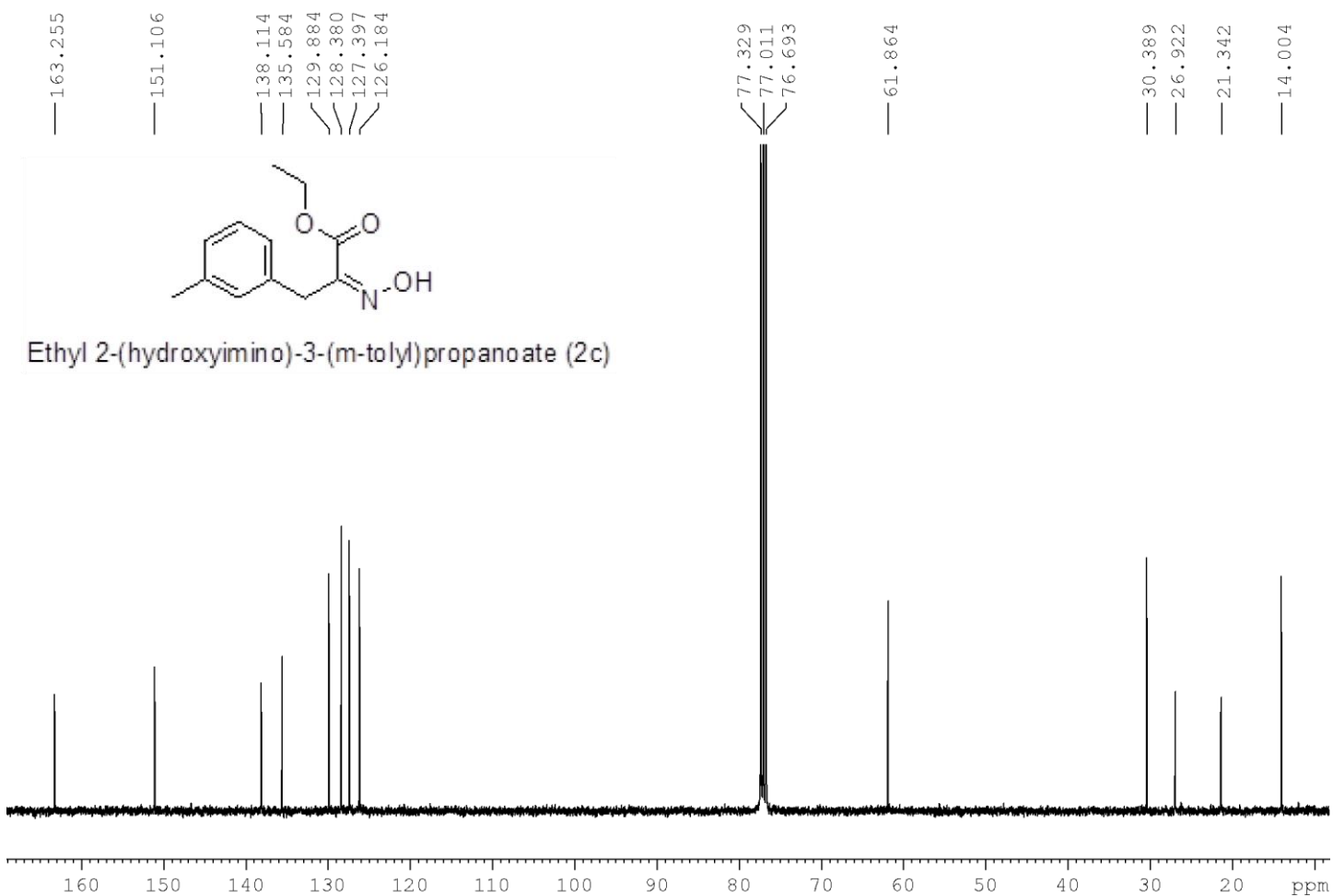
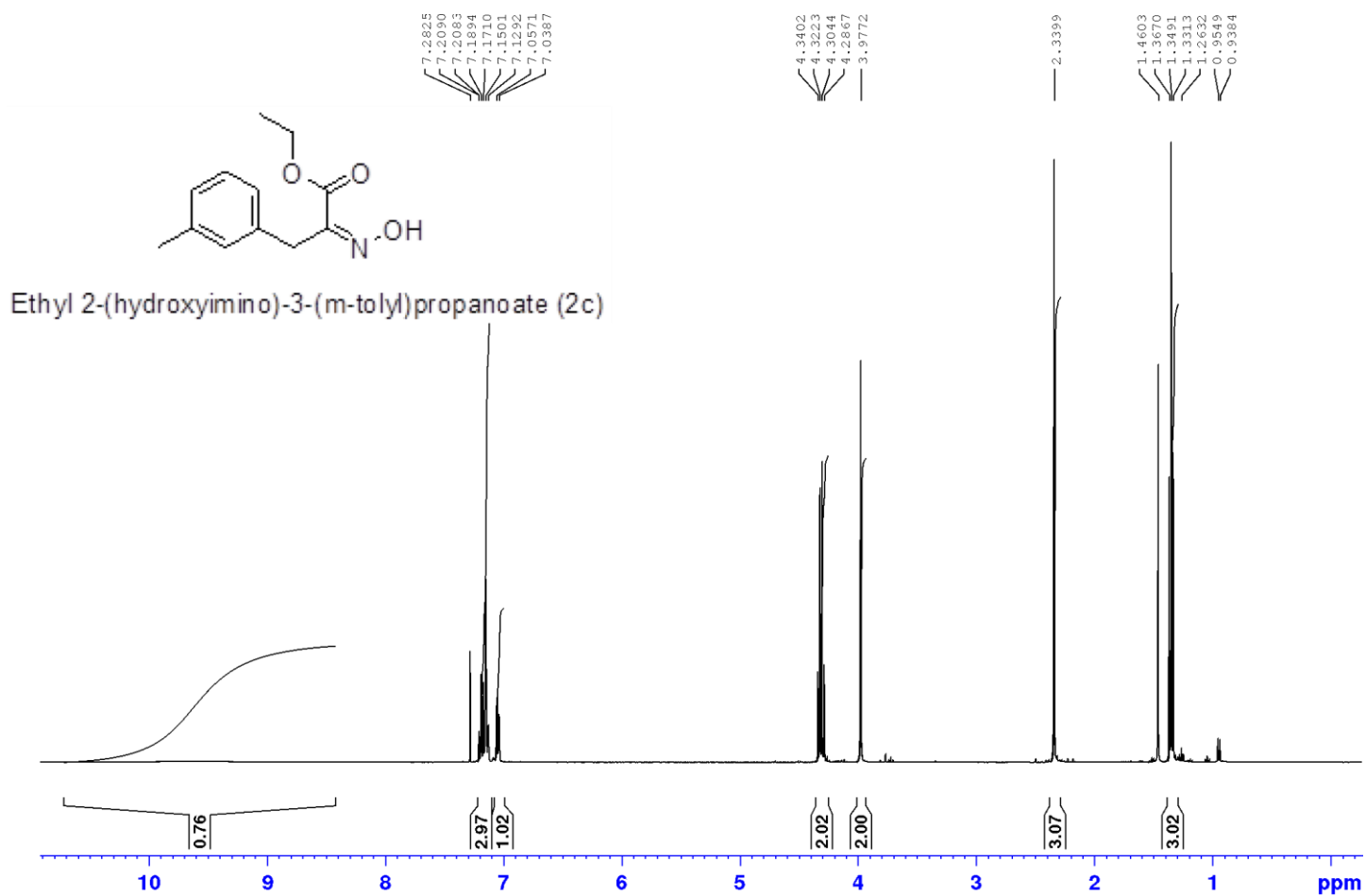
**Ethyl 4-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)butanoate (57):** This compound was obtained from compound **56** (5.46 g) as a white powder (3.27 g, 71%) using the general preparation of oximes **2** from malonates described above and a chromatography over silica gel

(dichloromethane – ethanol 98/2).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , not stable in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 12.14 (s (br), 1H), 4.79 (t, 1H,  $J = 4.4$  Hz), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.75 (m, 2H), 2.53 (m, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.23 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 164.2, 151.4, 103.4, 64.8, 61.1, 29.8, 19.4, 14.5. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5\text{Na}$ , 240.0848, found, 240.0845.

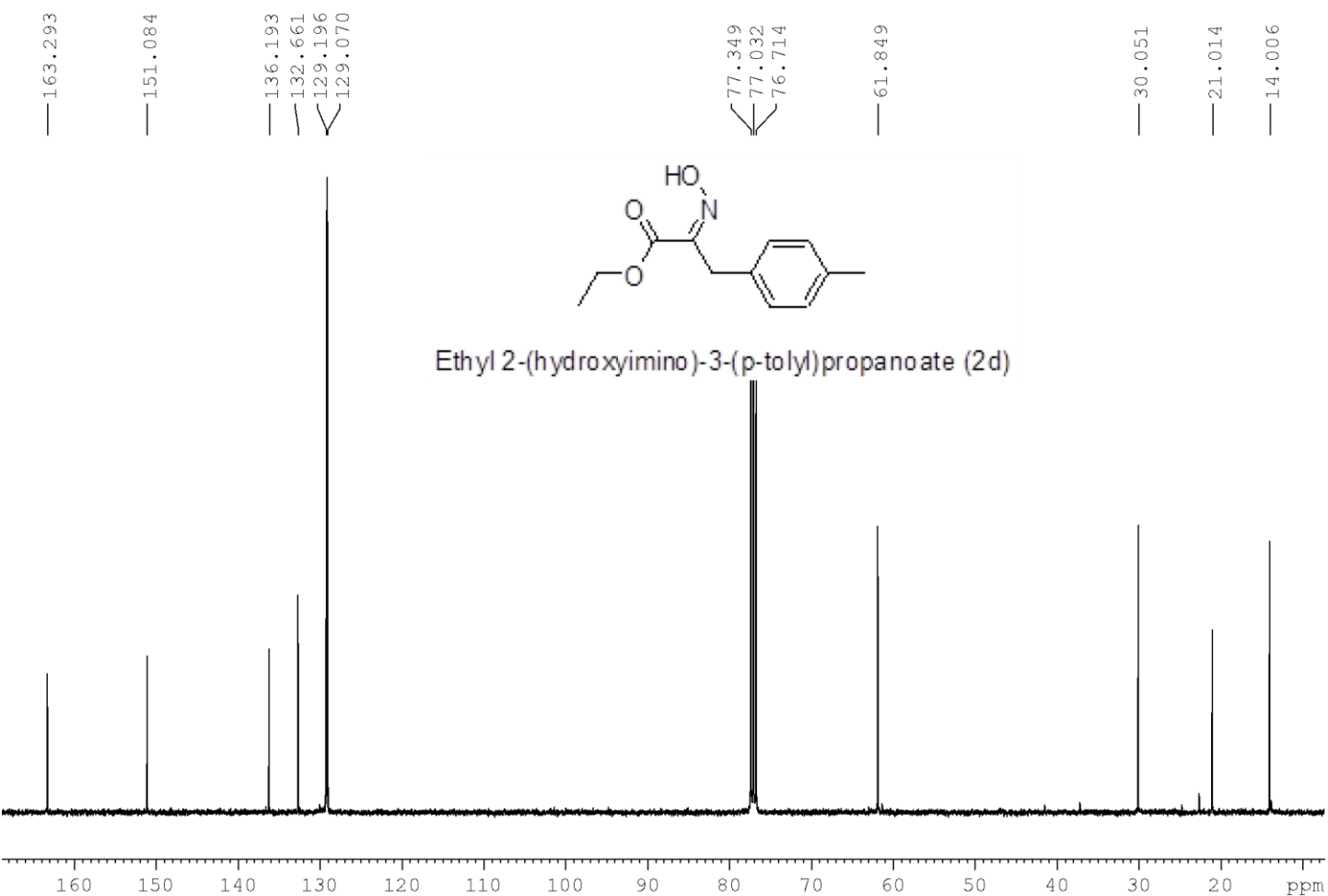
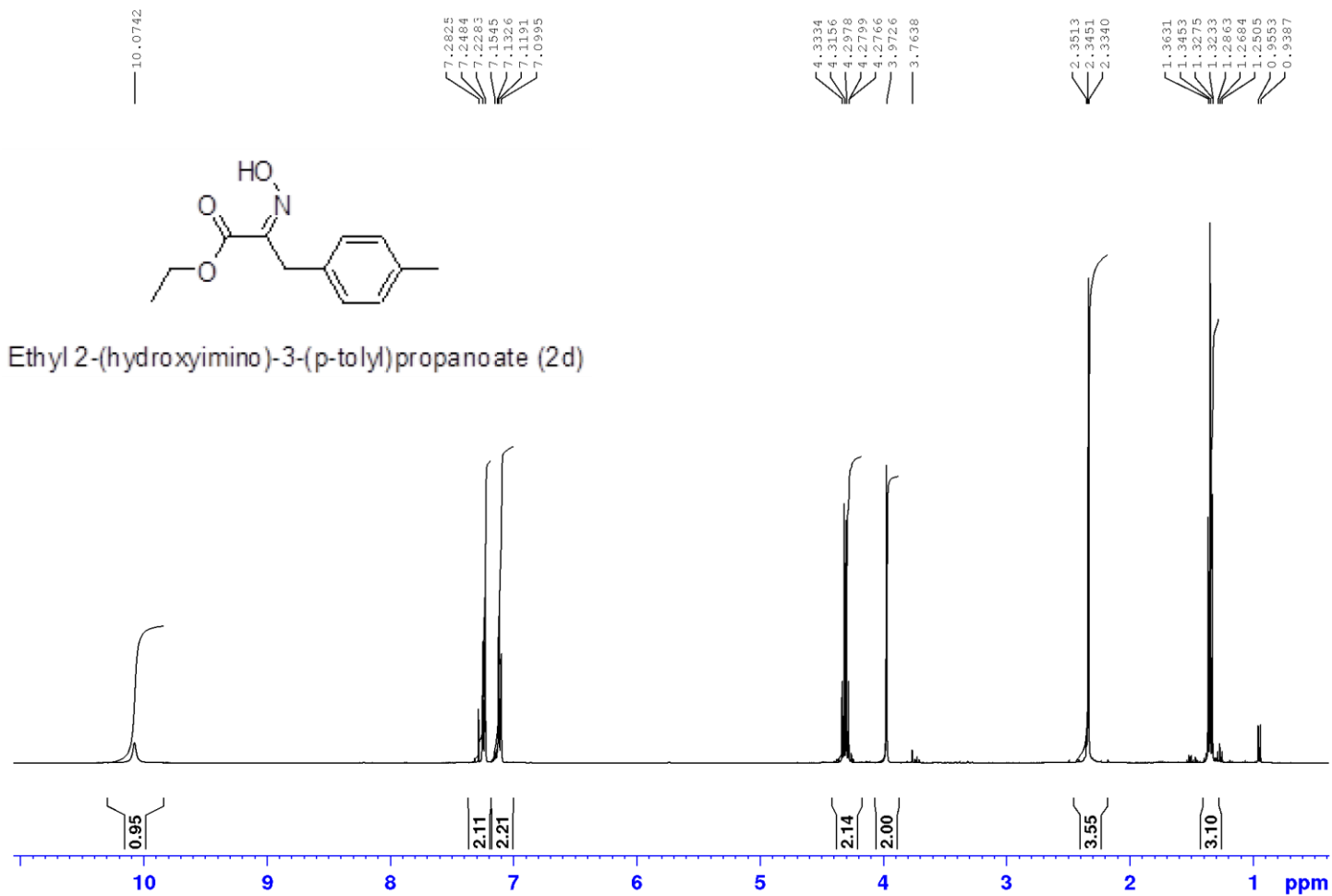
**Ethyl 2-amino-4-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)butanoate (58):** Compound **57** (0.26 g, 1.19 mmol) and 10 % palladium over charcoal (0.12 g, 0.119 mmol) were dispersed in acetic acid (10 mL). This was charged with hydrogen (1 atm) and stirred for 24 hours. The resulting solution was filtered, concentrated to dryness, the residue was dispersed in water, made basic with 30% ammonia and this was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium carbonate and concentrated to dryness to give compound **58** as a volatile oil (0.16 g, 65 %).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 4.77 (t, 1H,  $J = 4.6$  Hz), 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.86 (m, 2H), 3.75 (m, 2H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 1.76-1.45 (m, 6H), 1.19 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.06$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 176.1, 103.9, 64.7, 64.6, 60.4, 54.2, 30.1, 29.5, 14.6. HRMS ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_4$ , 204.1236, found, 204.1235.

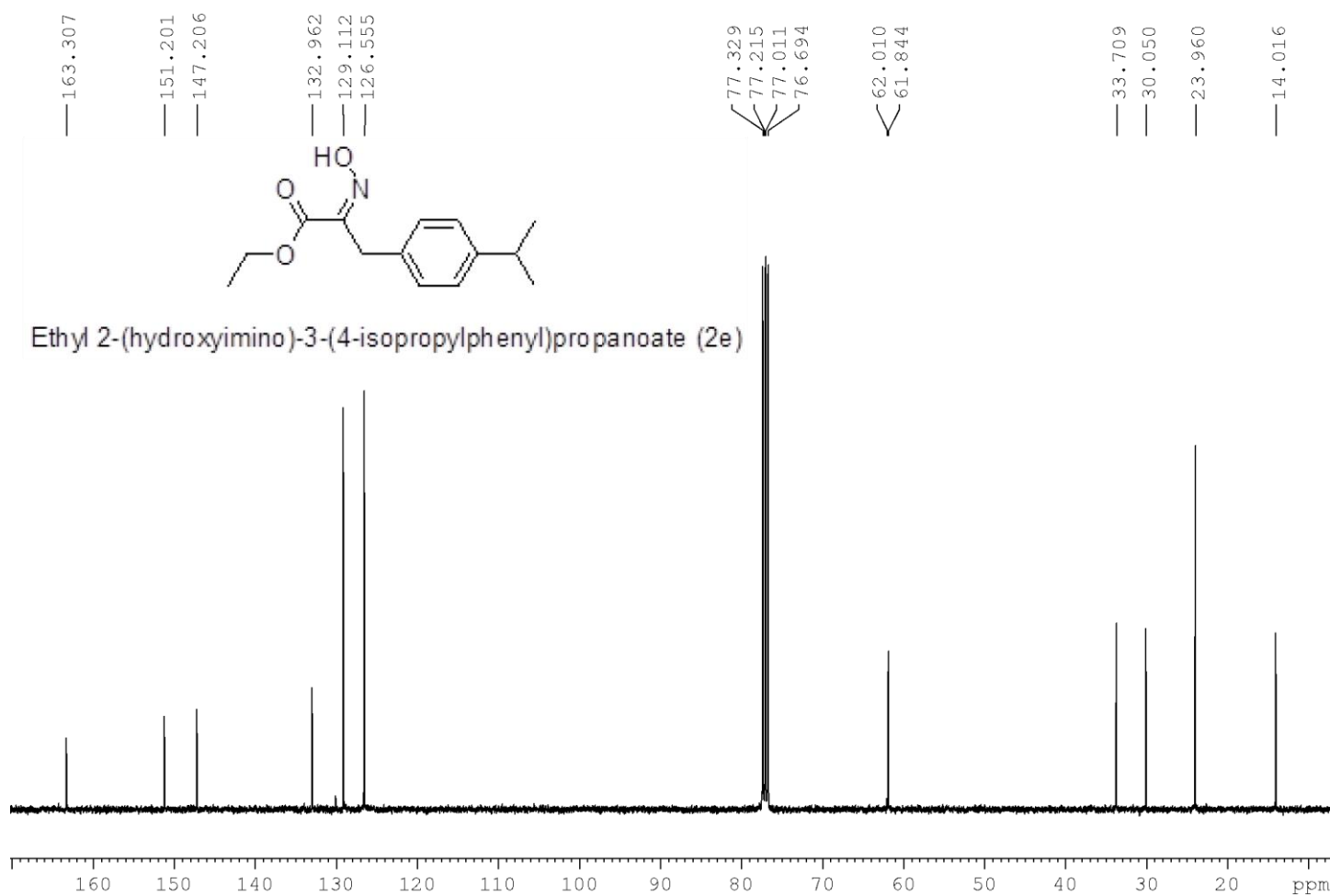
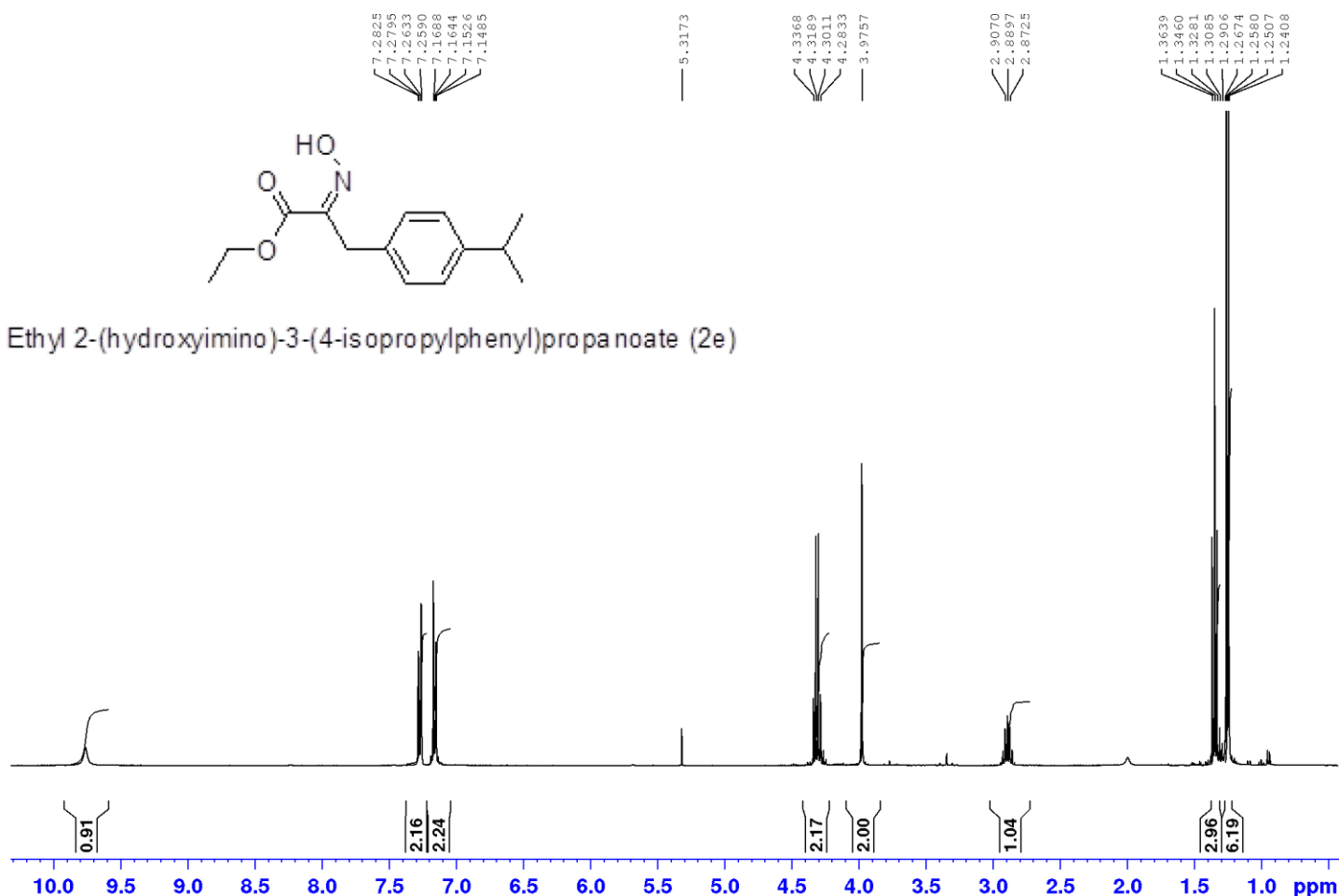


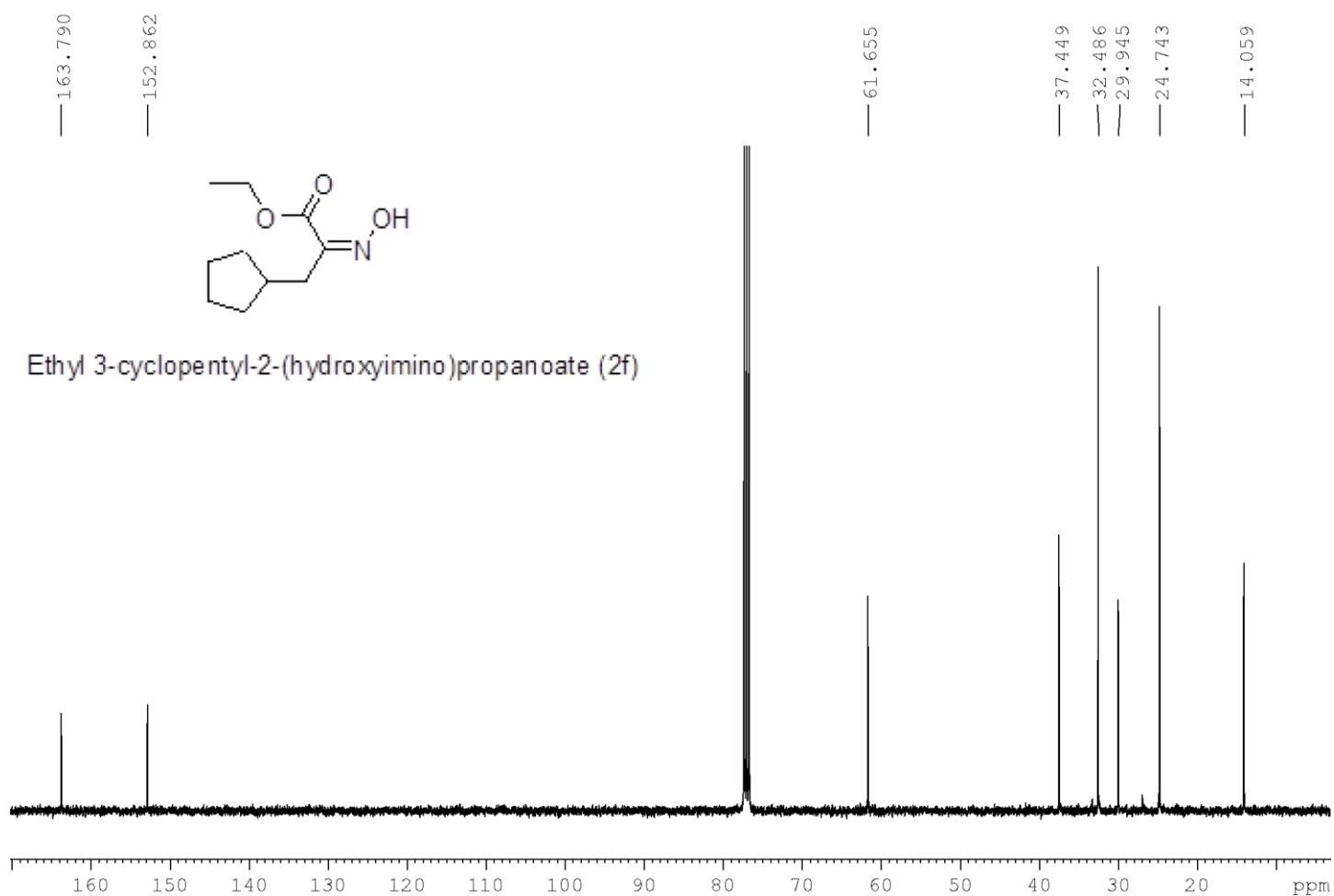
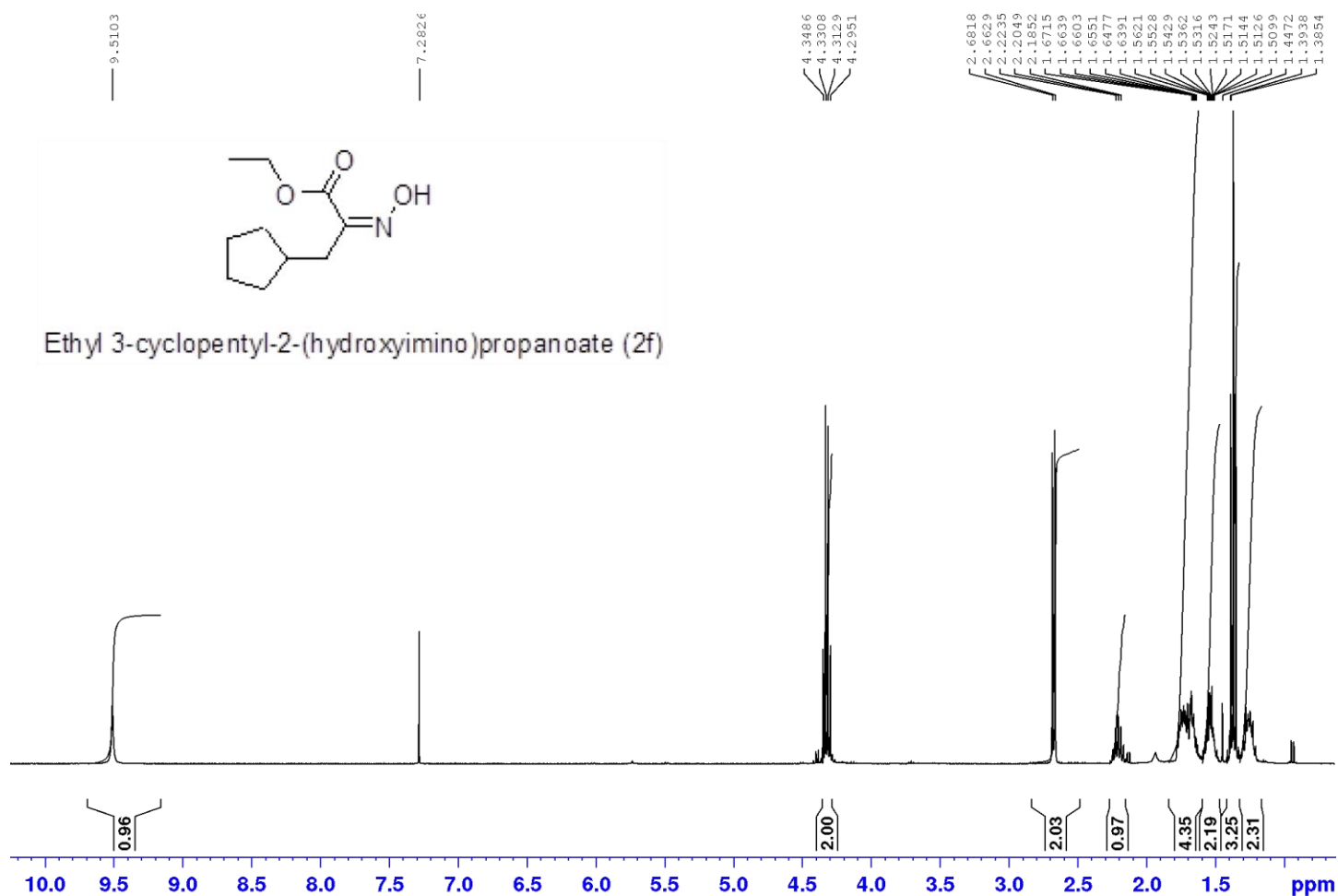


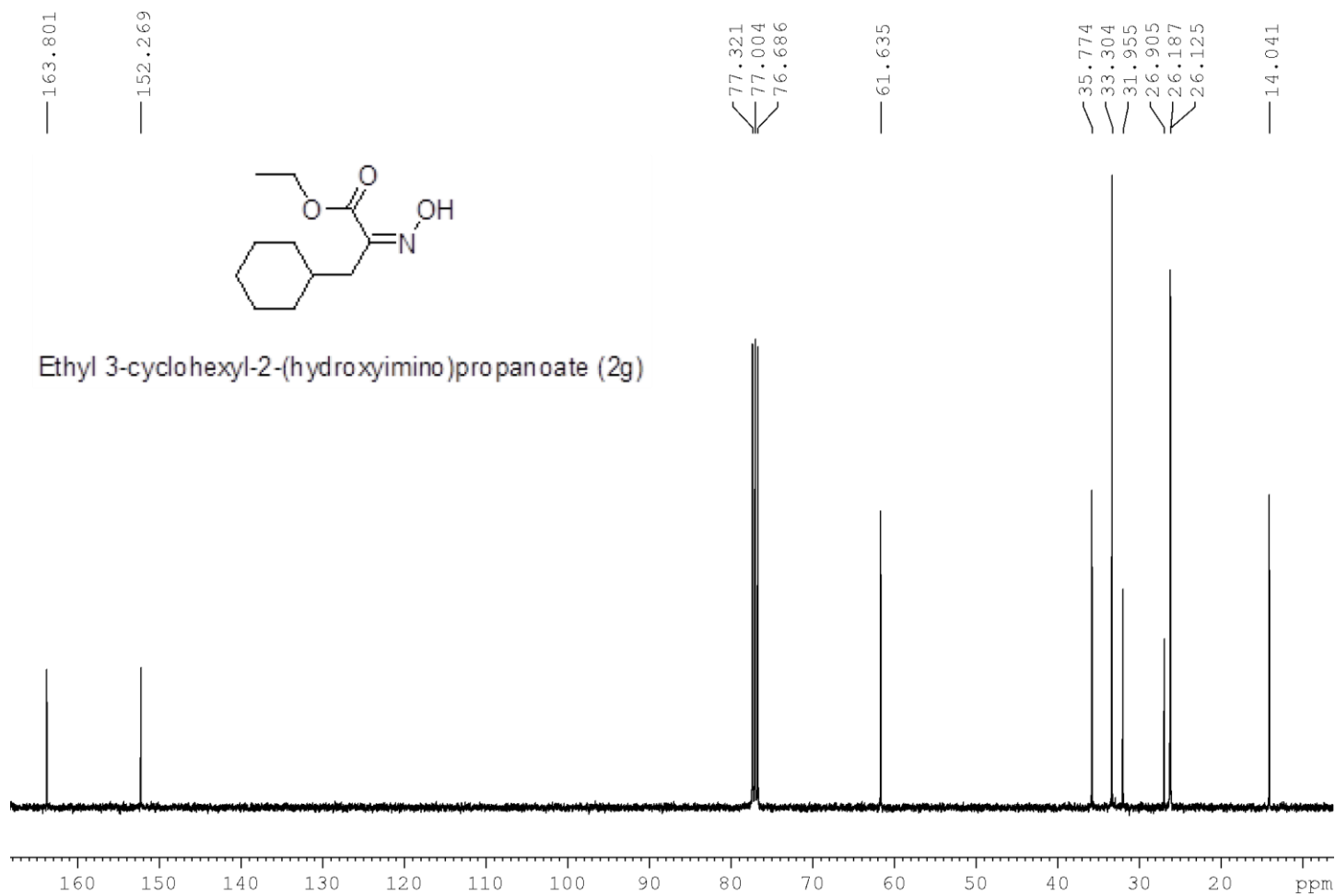
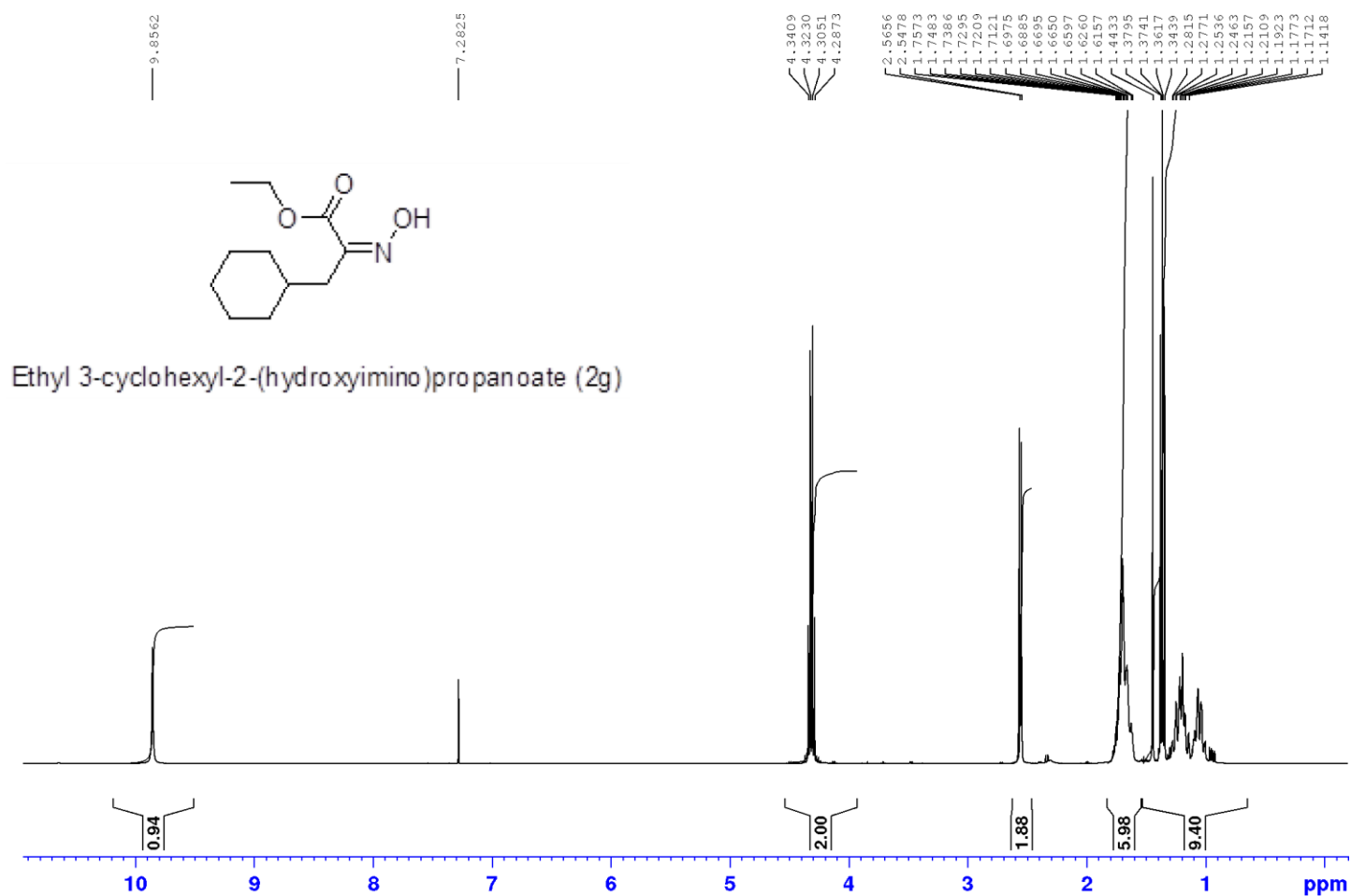


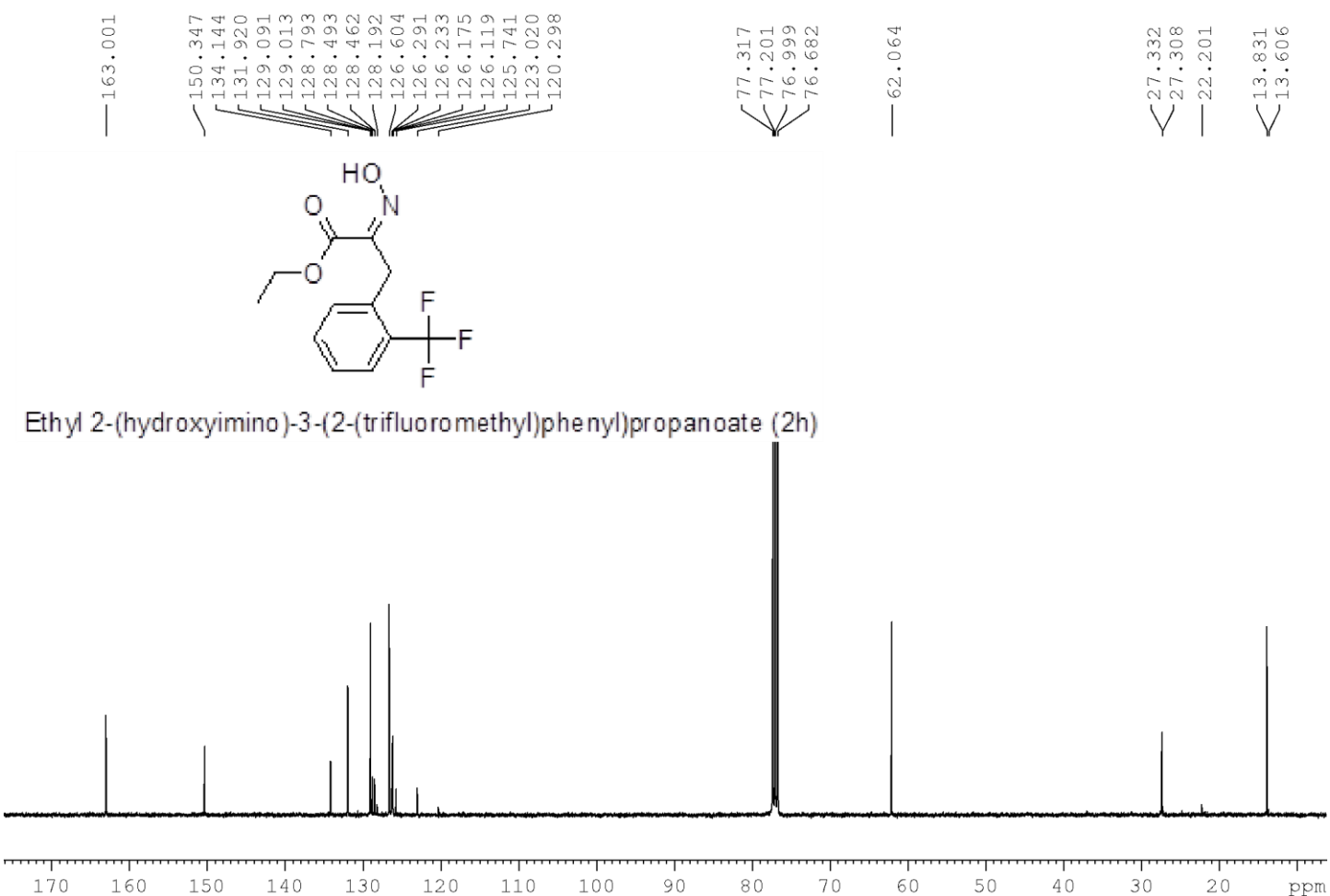
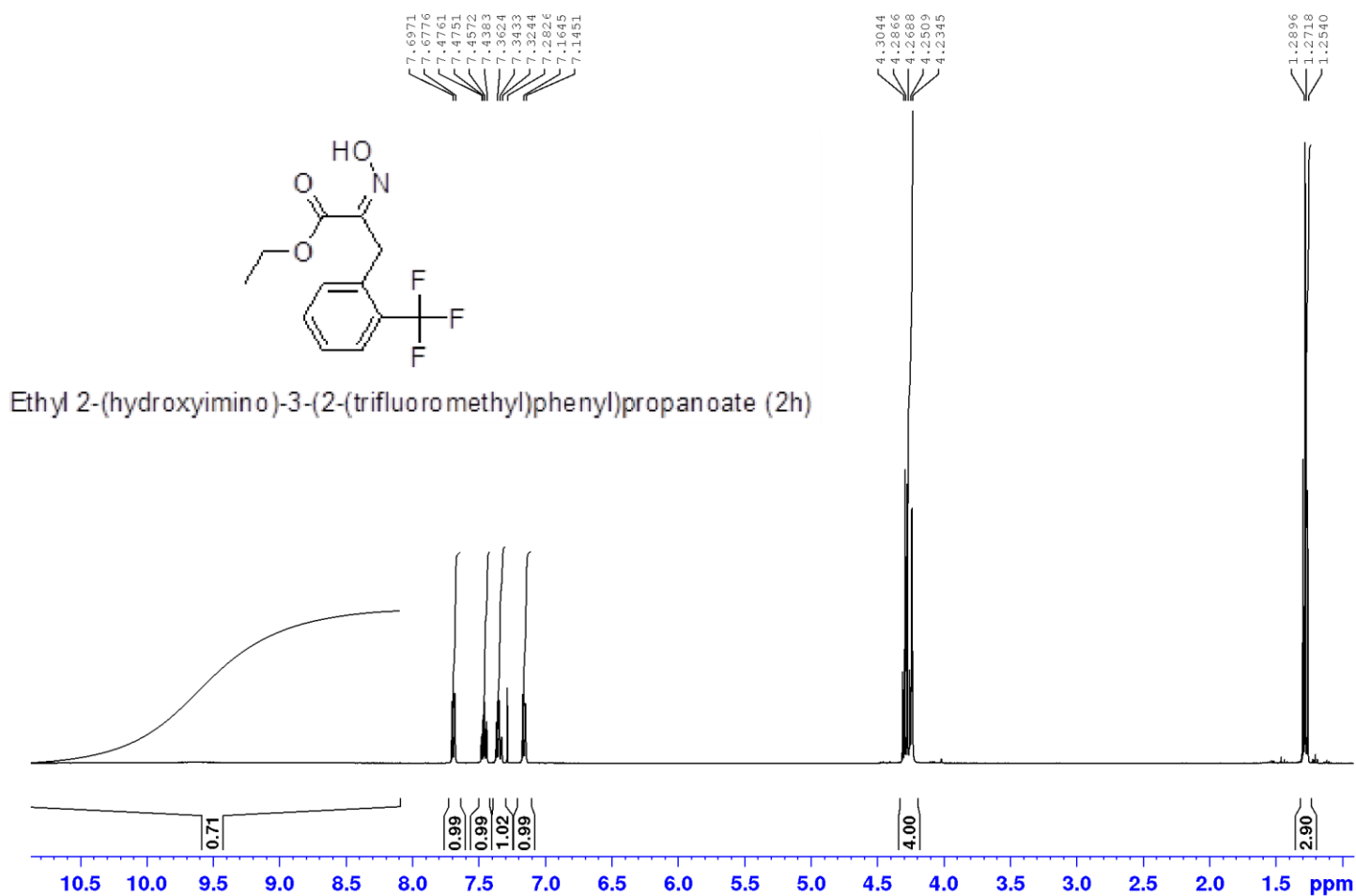


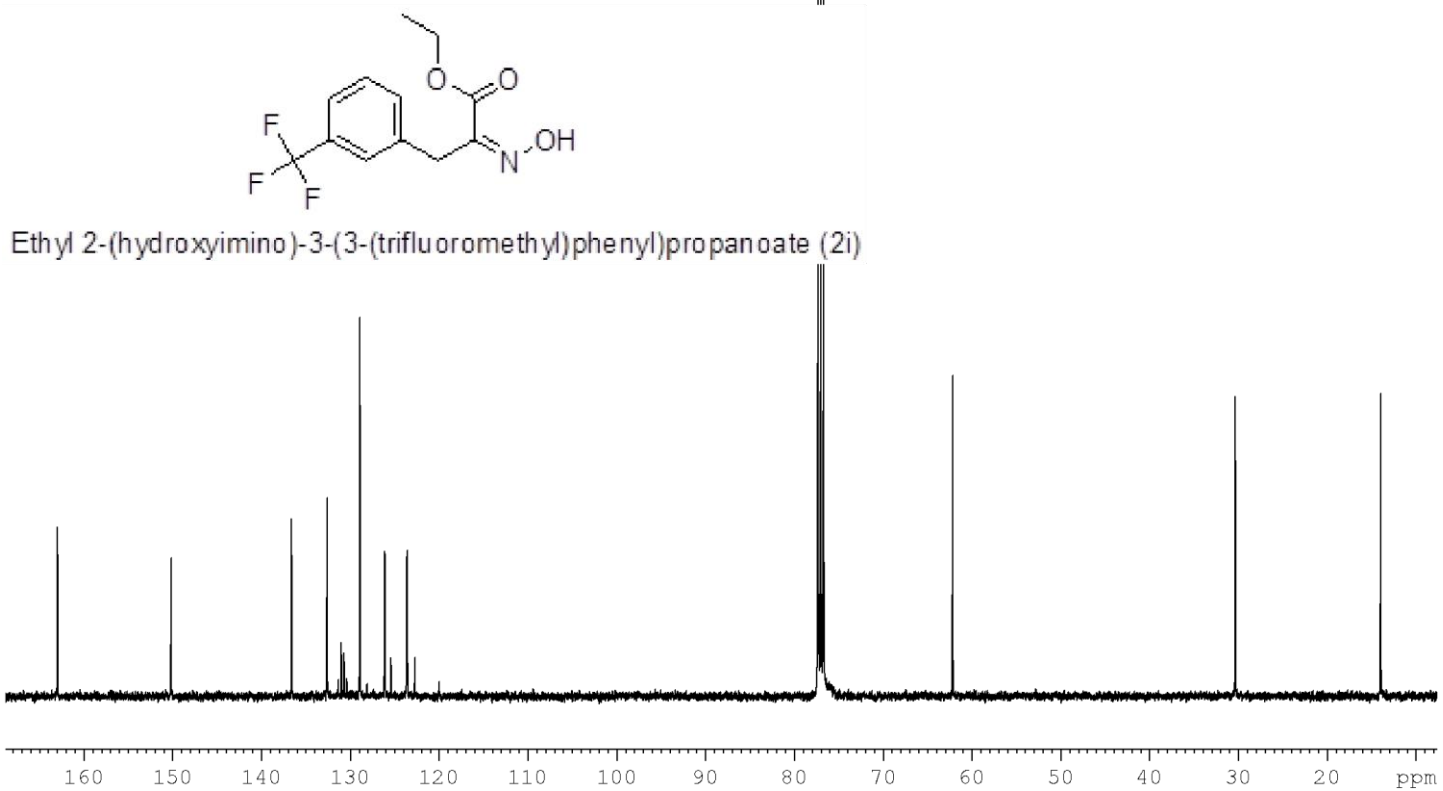
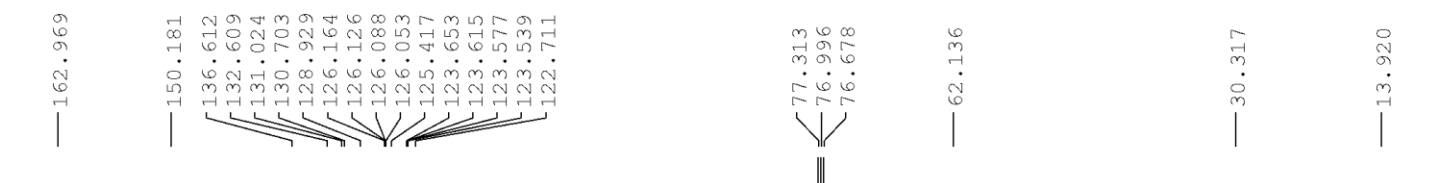
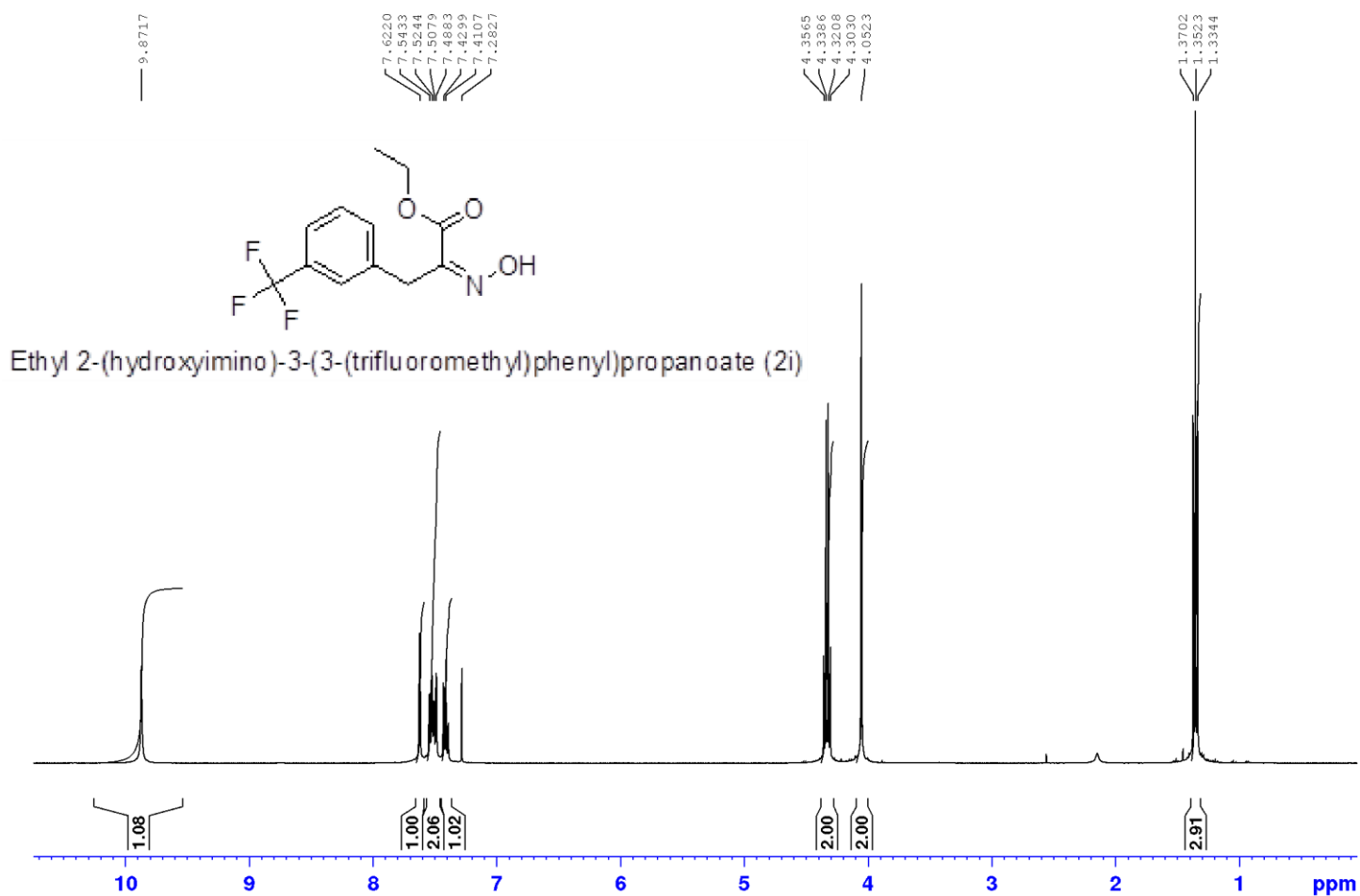


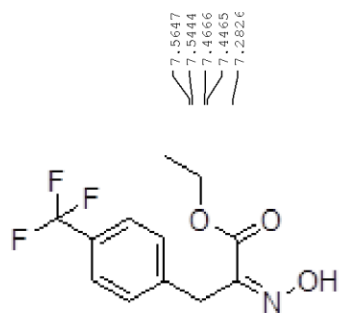




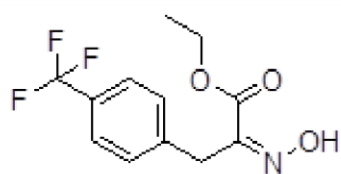
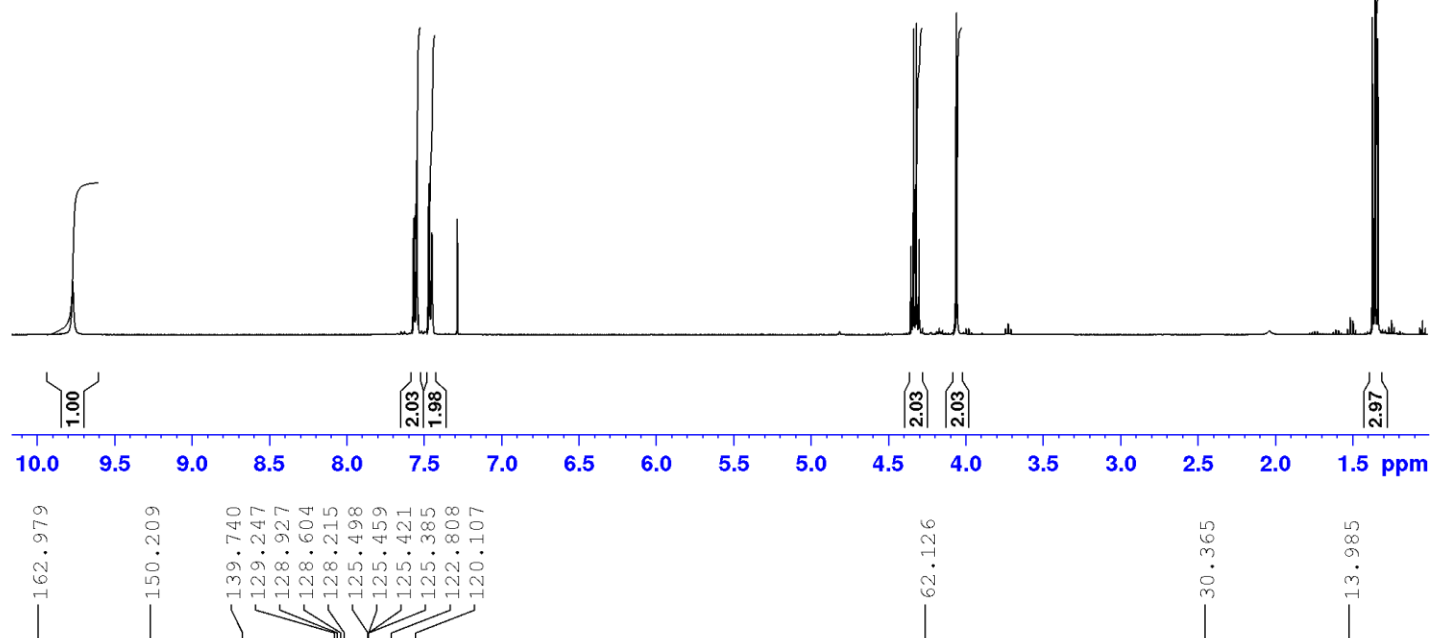




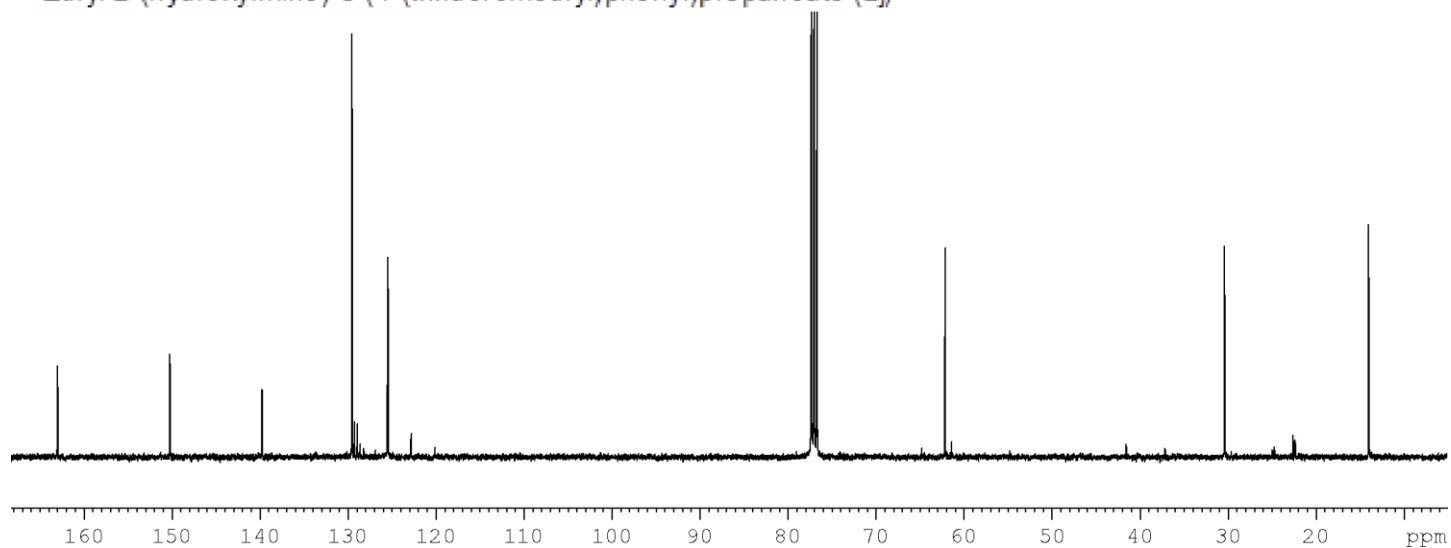


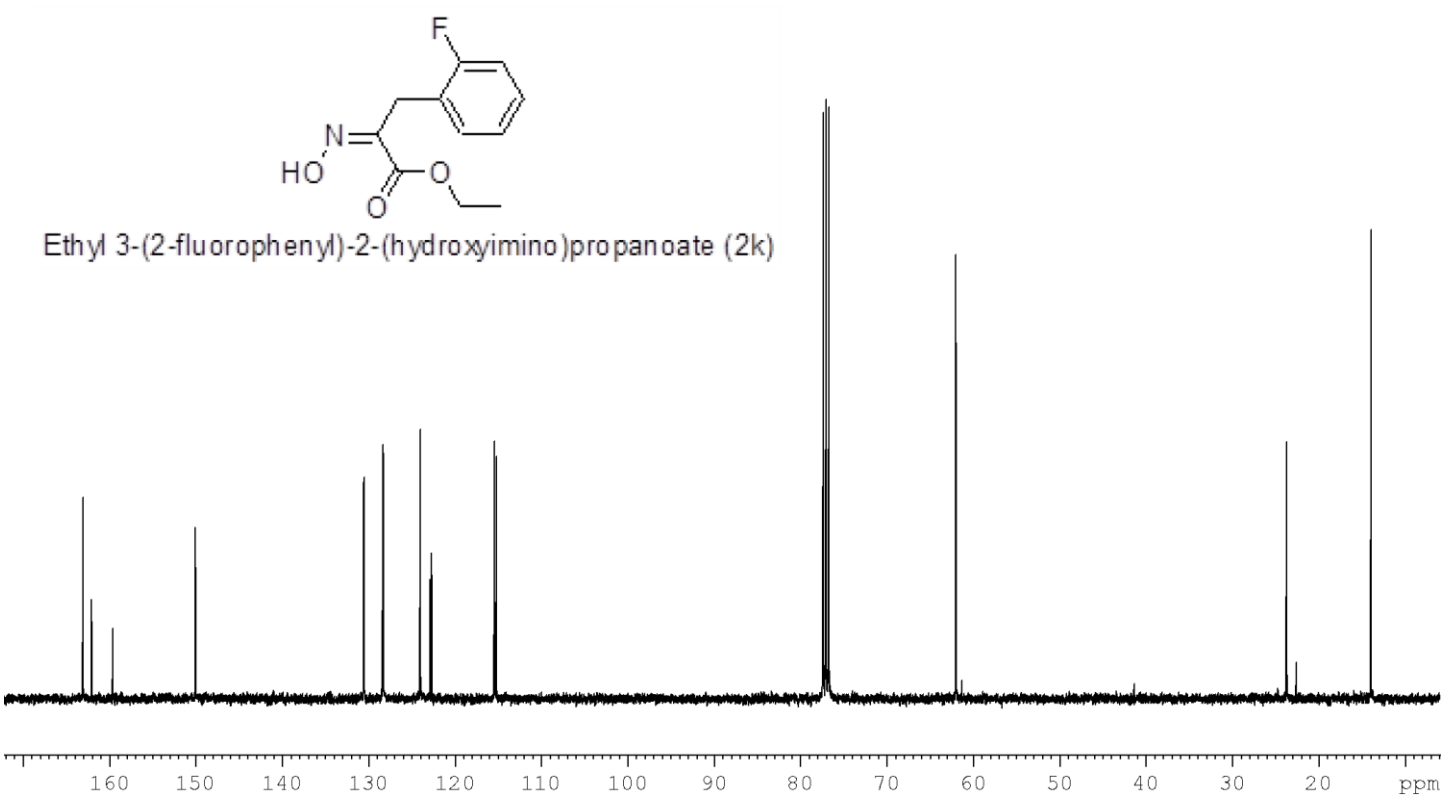
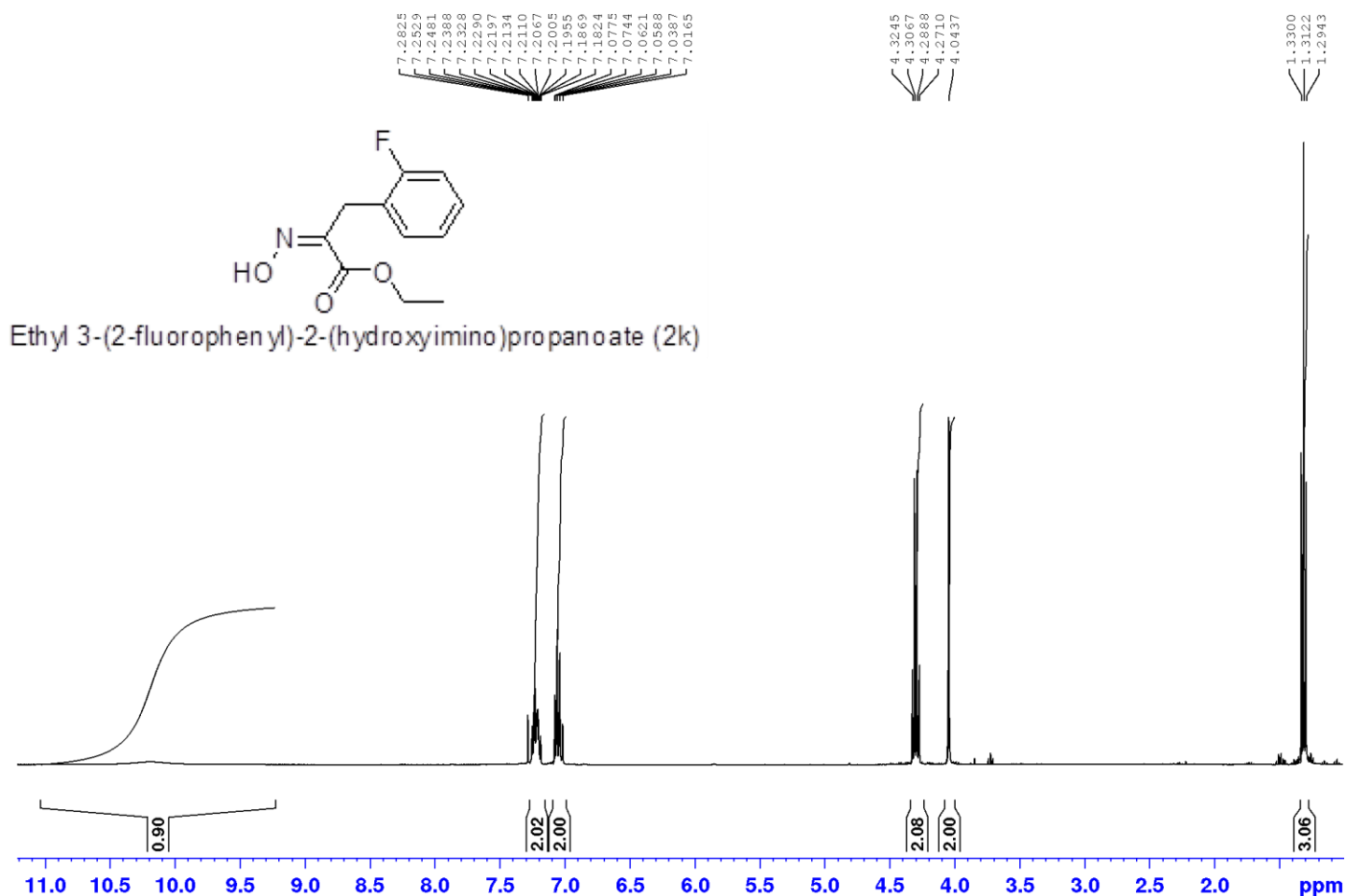


Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2j)

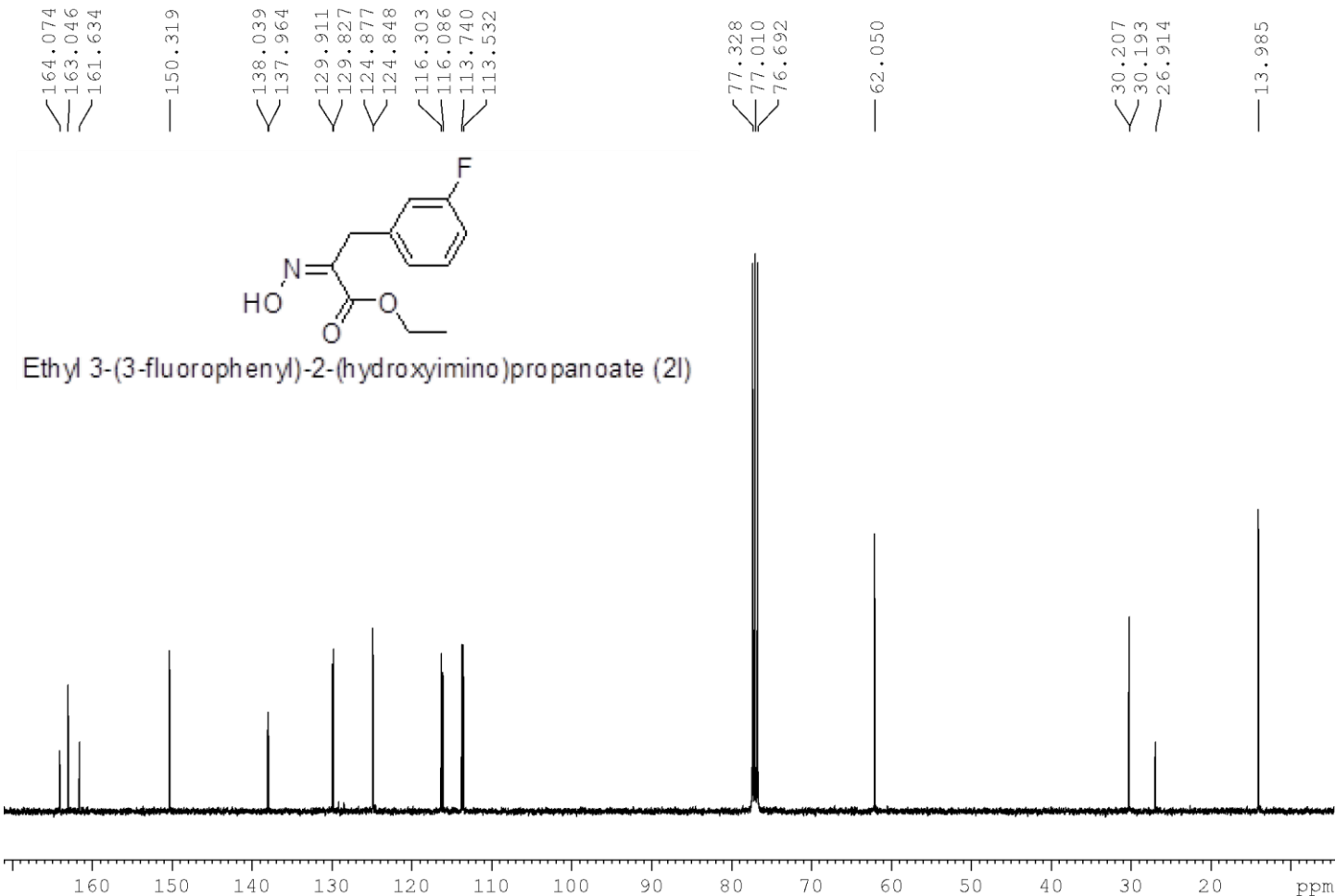
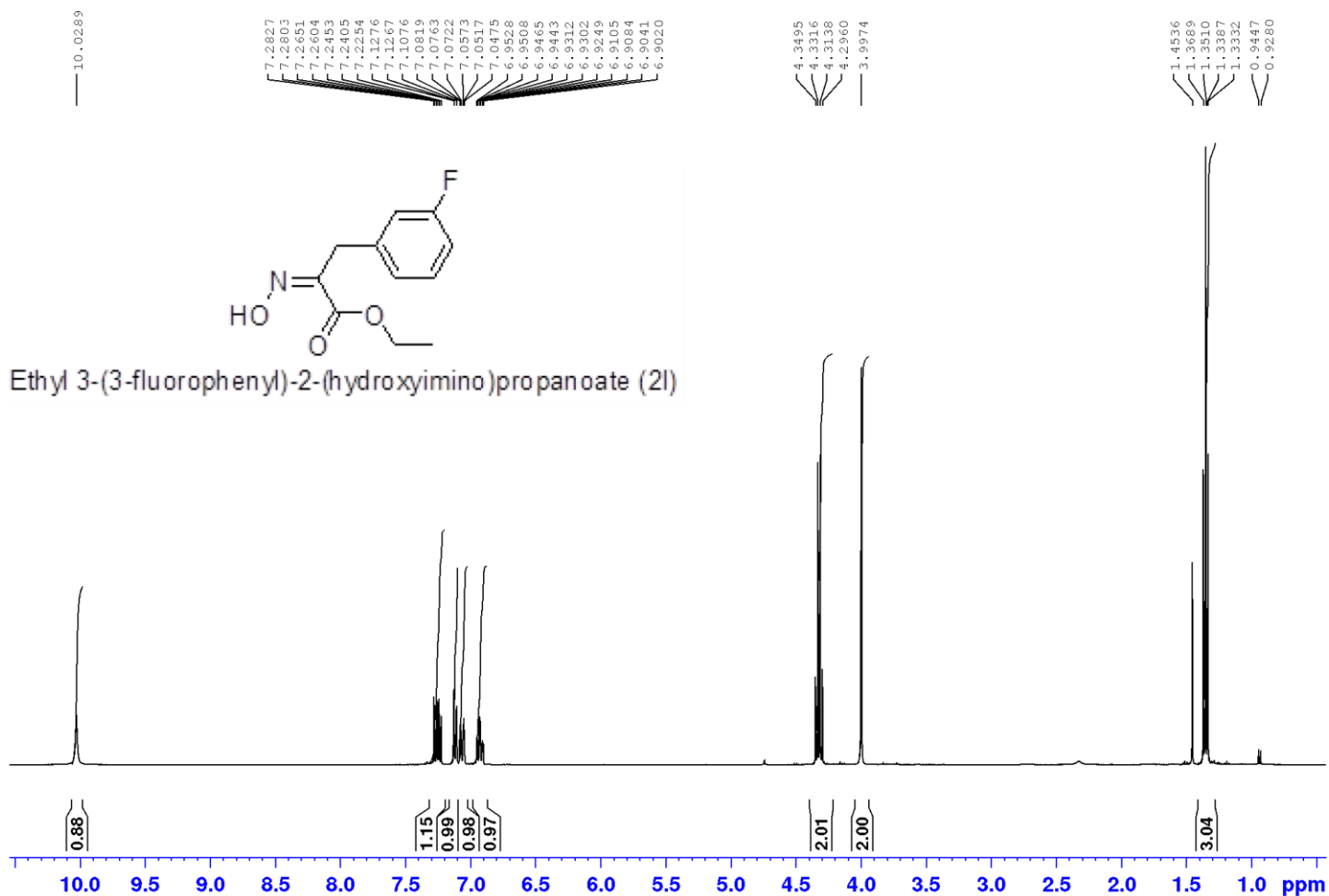


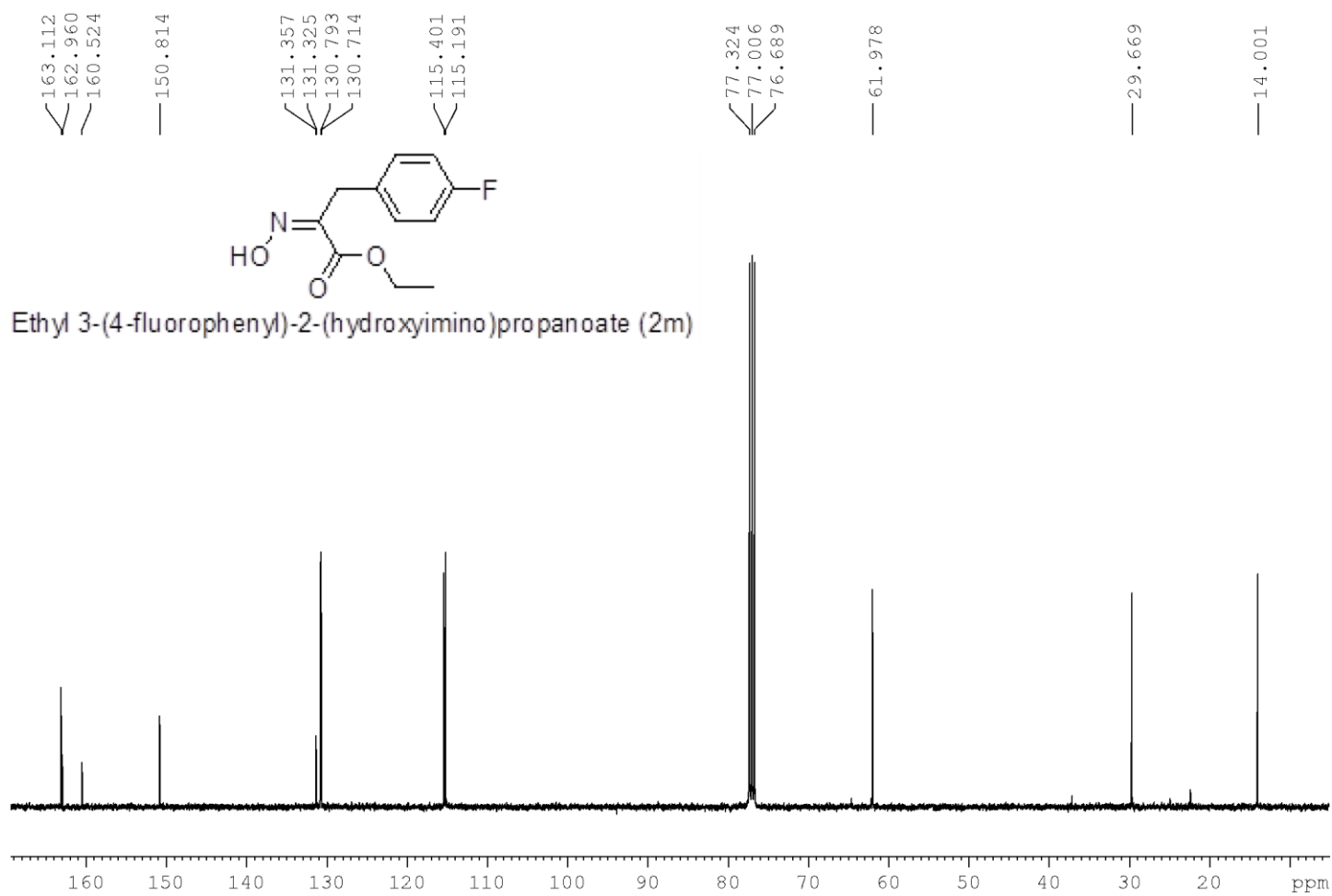
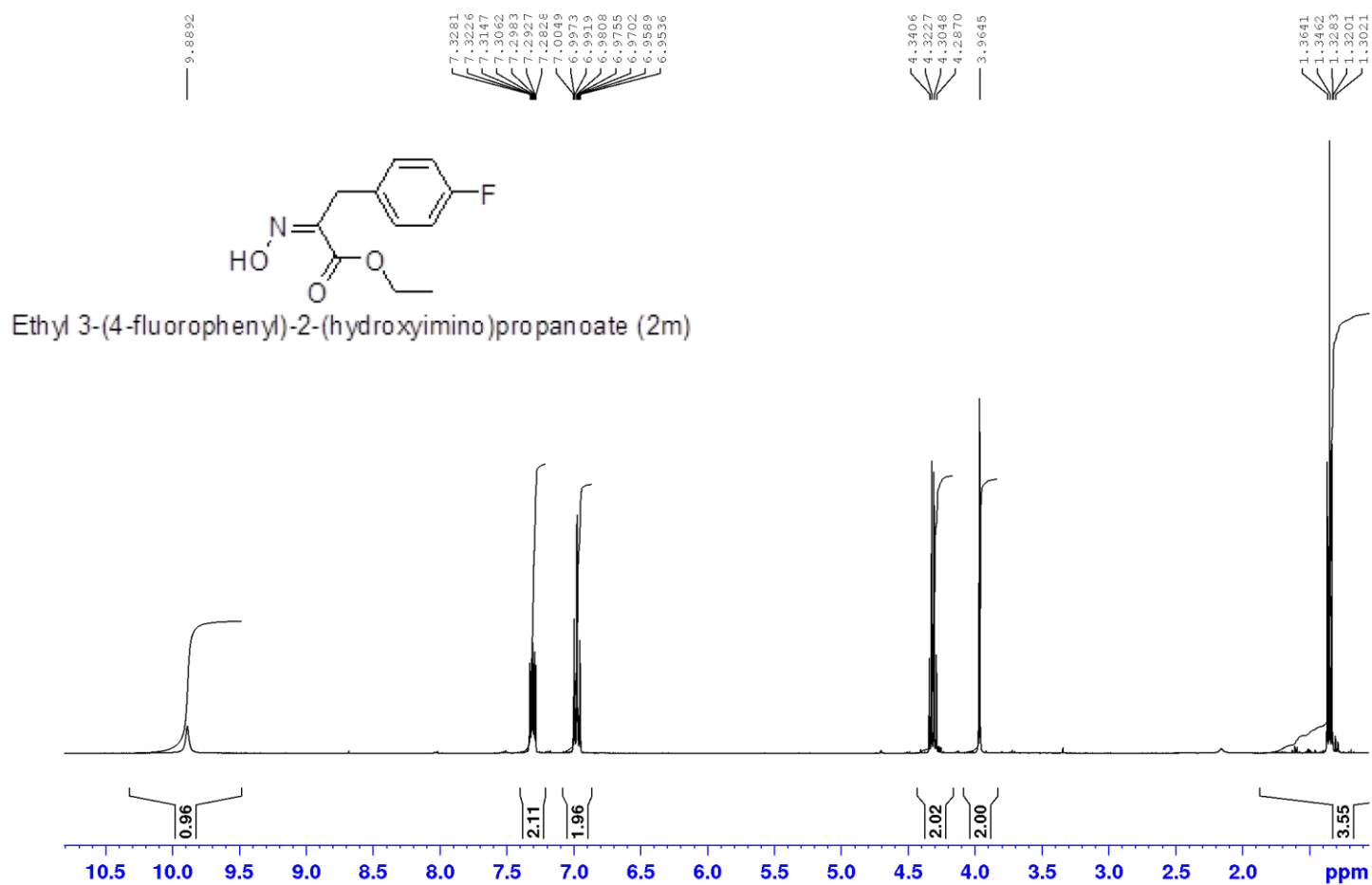
Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (2j)

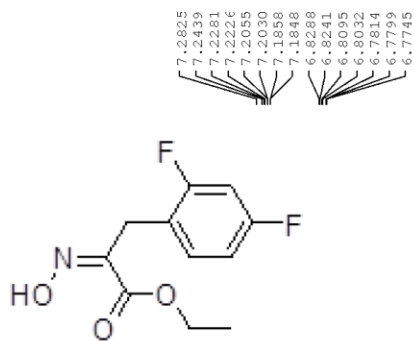




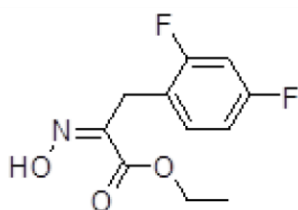
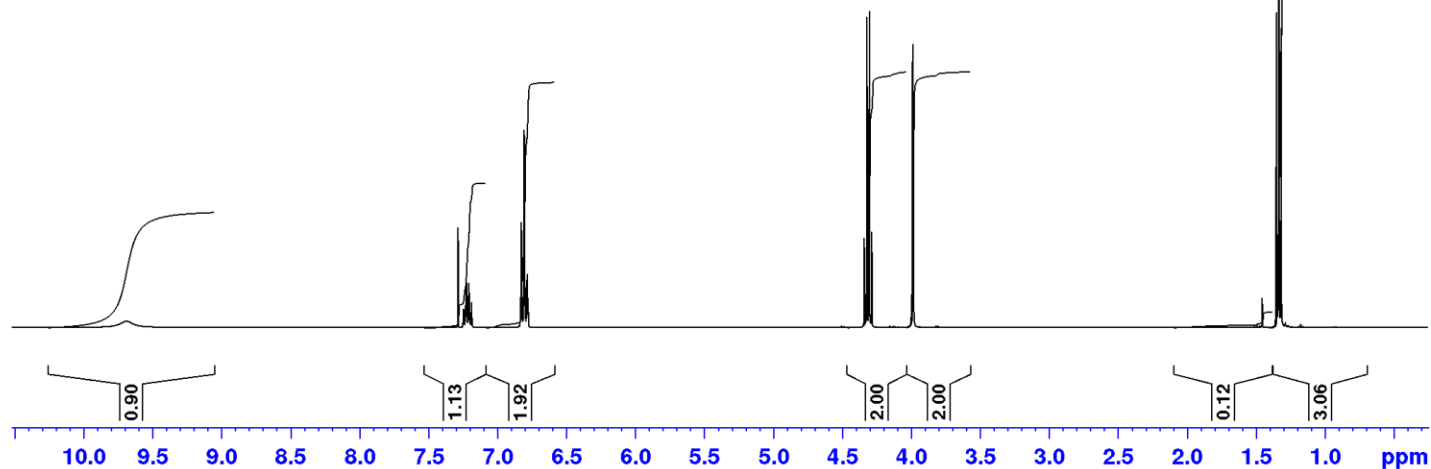




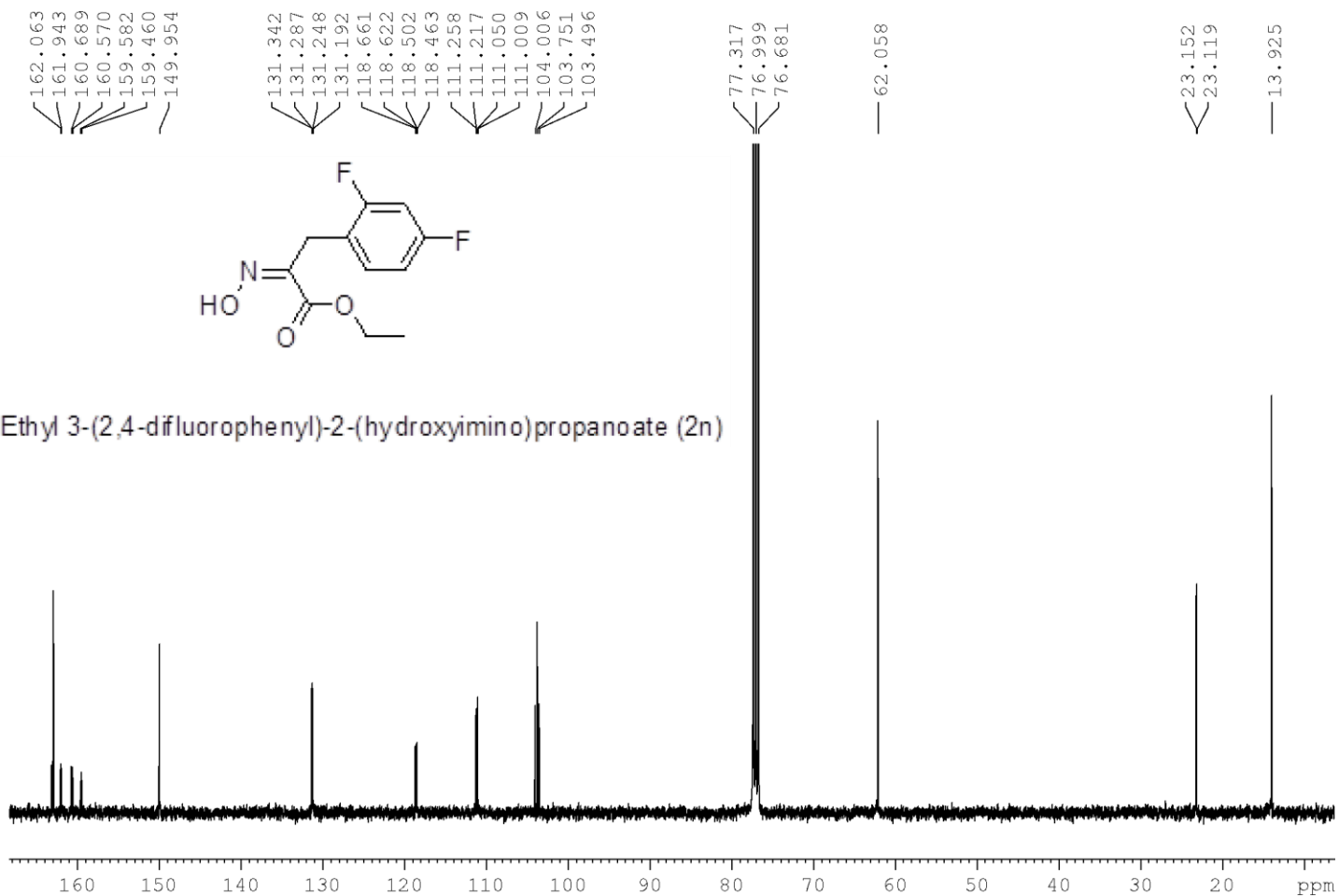


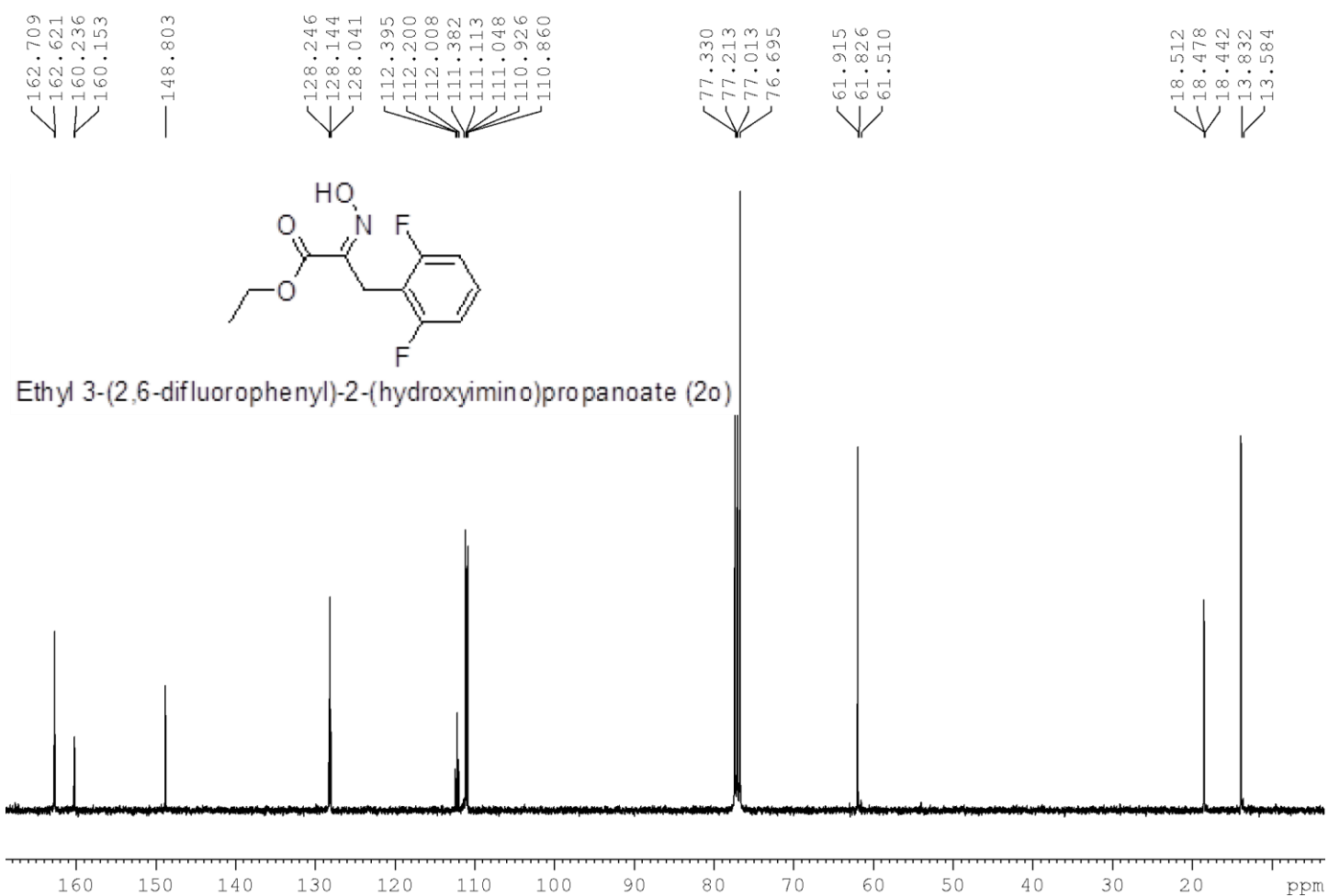
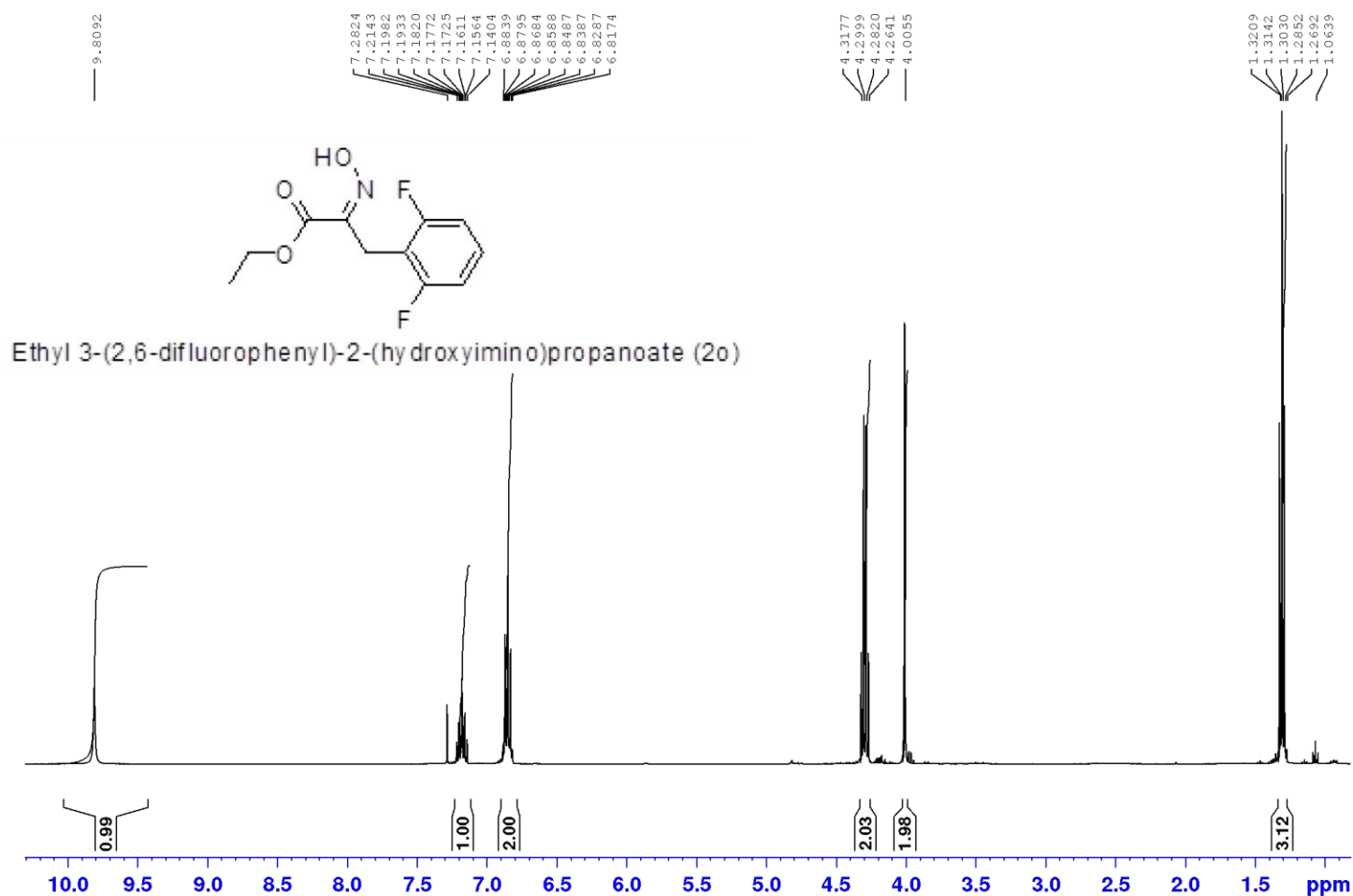


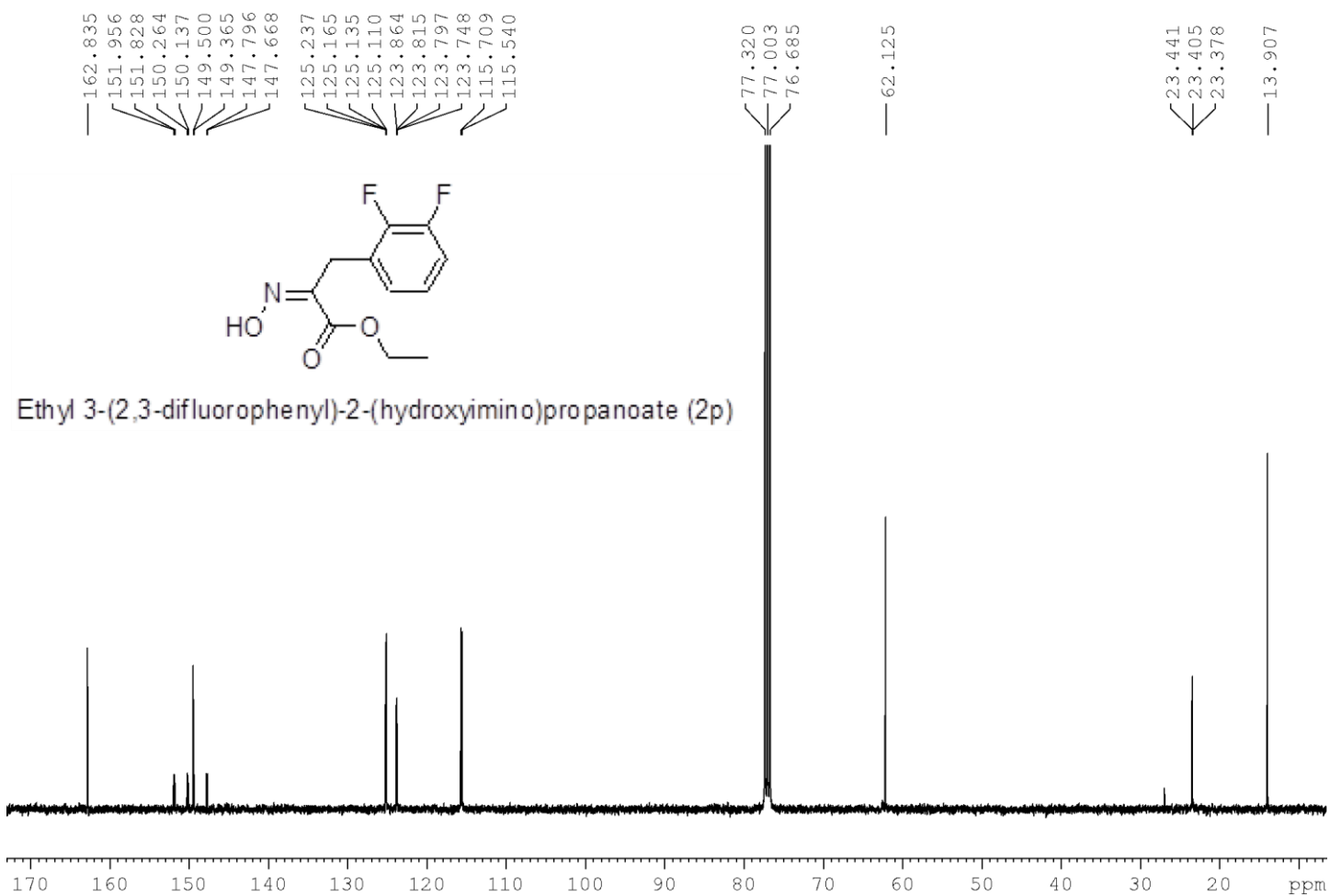
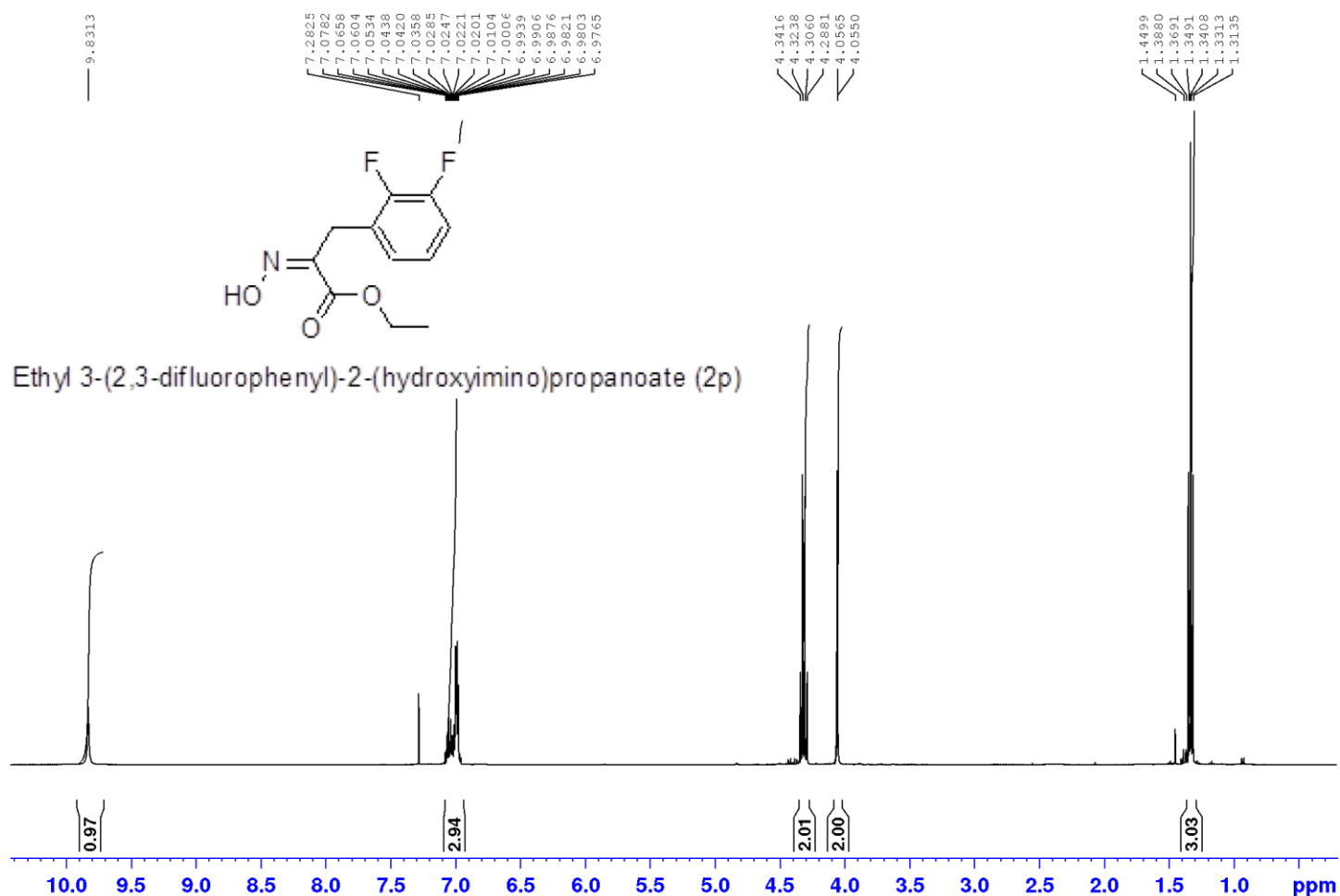
Ethyl 3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2n)

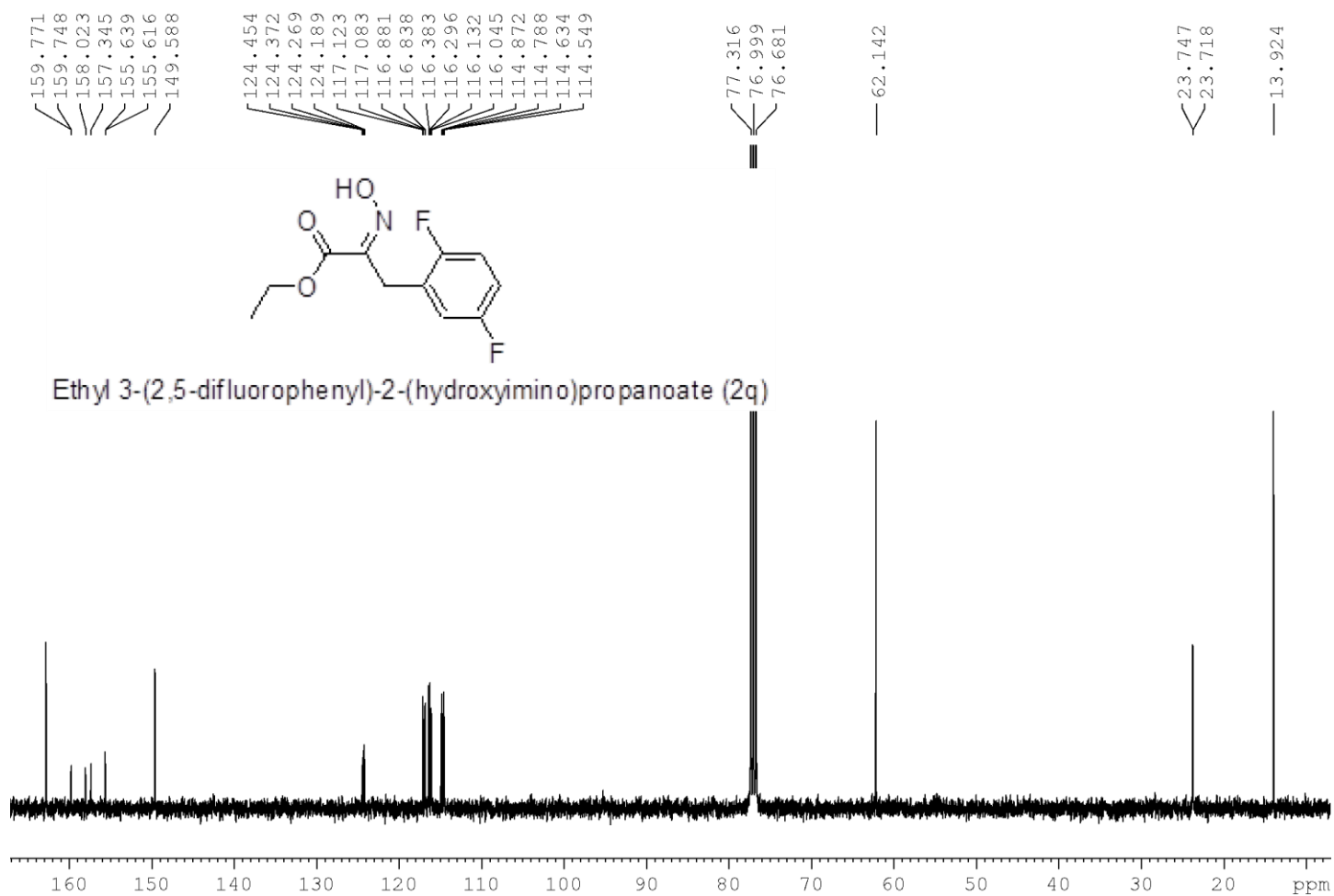
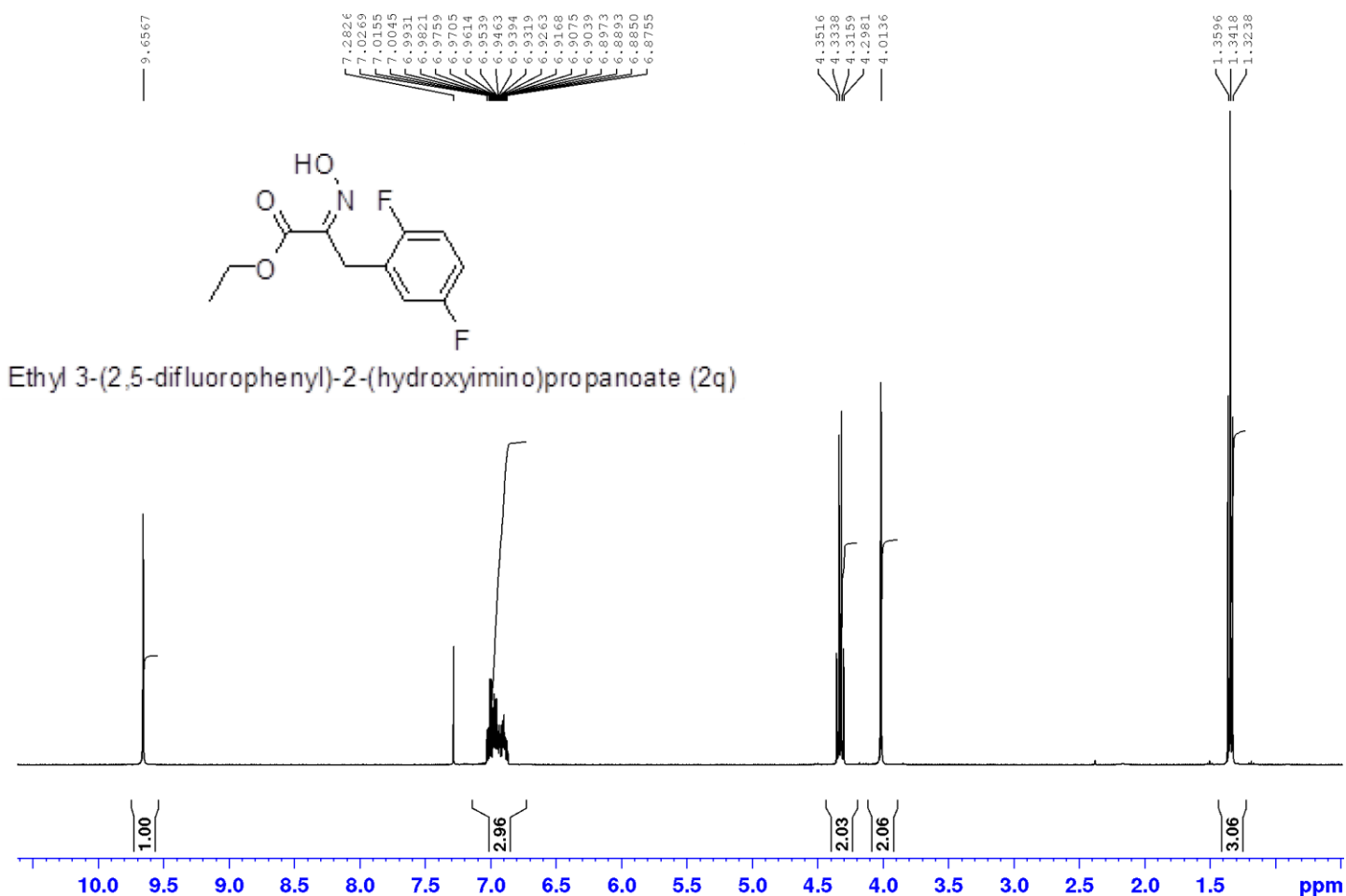


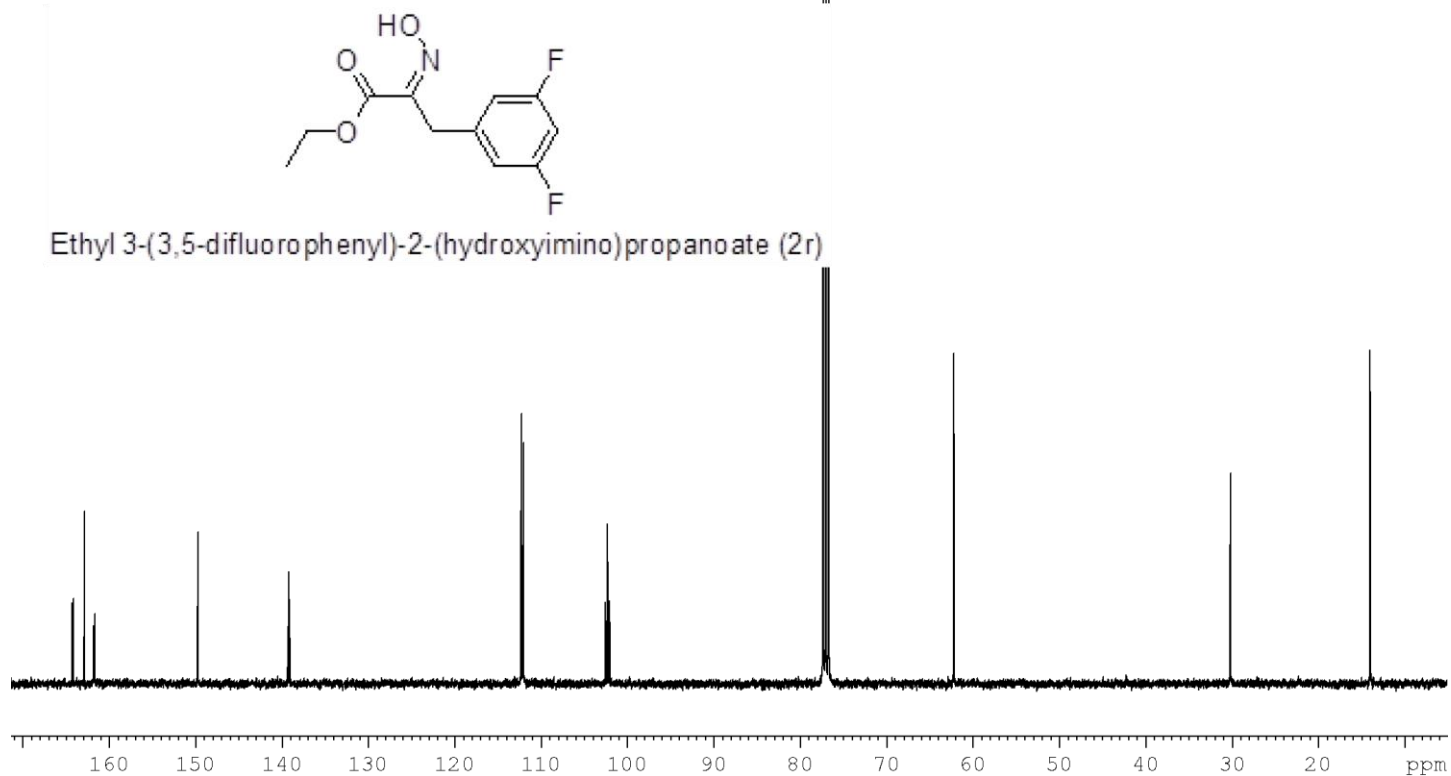
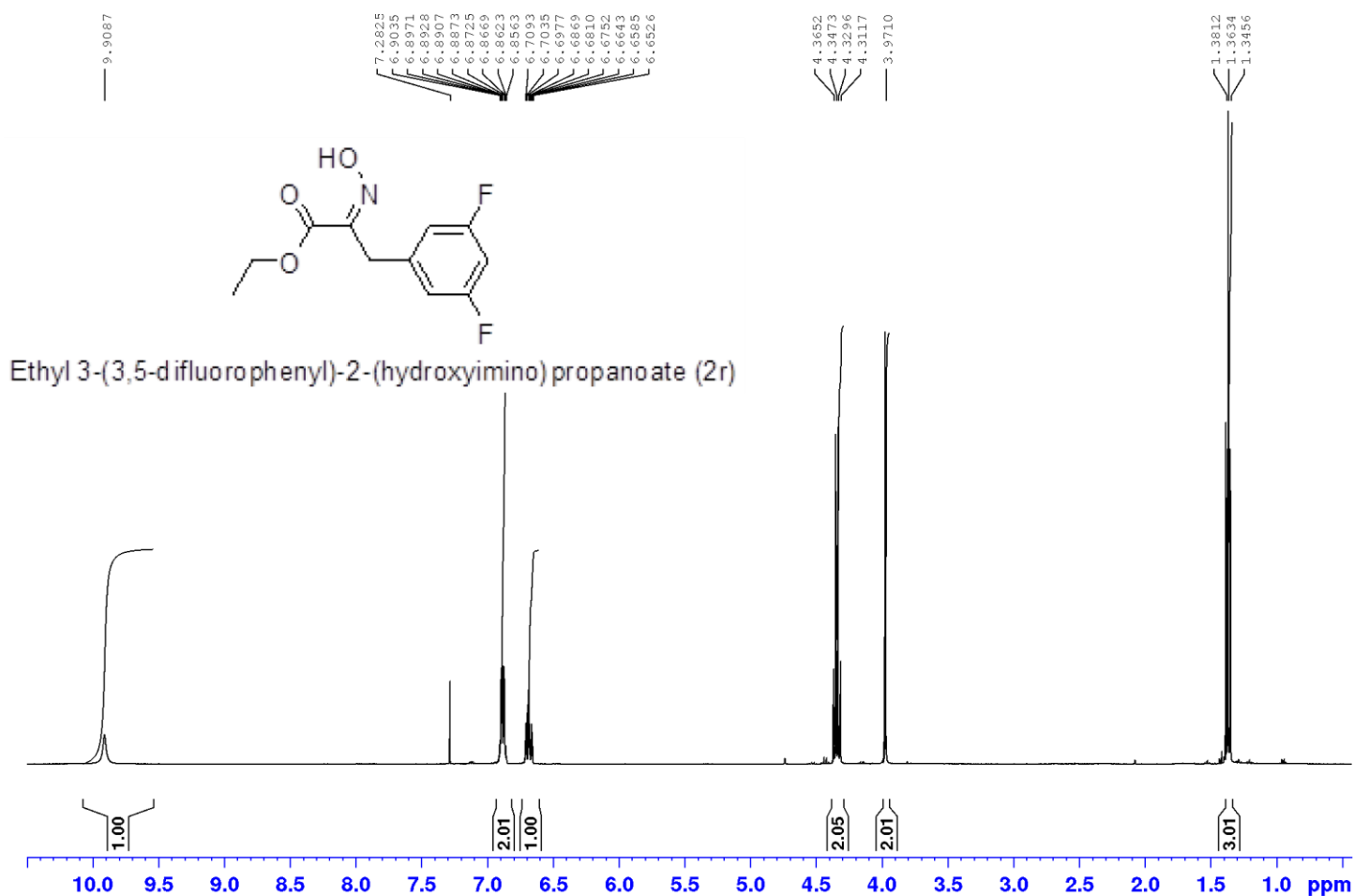
Ethyl 3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2n)

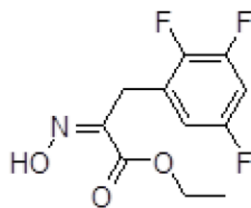




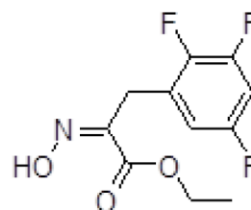
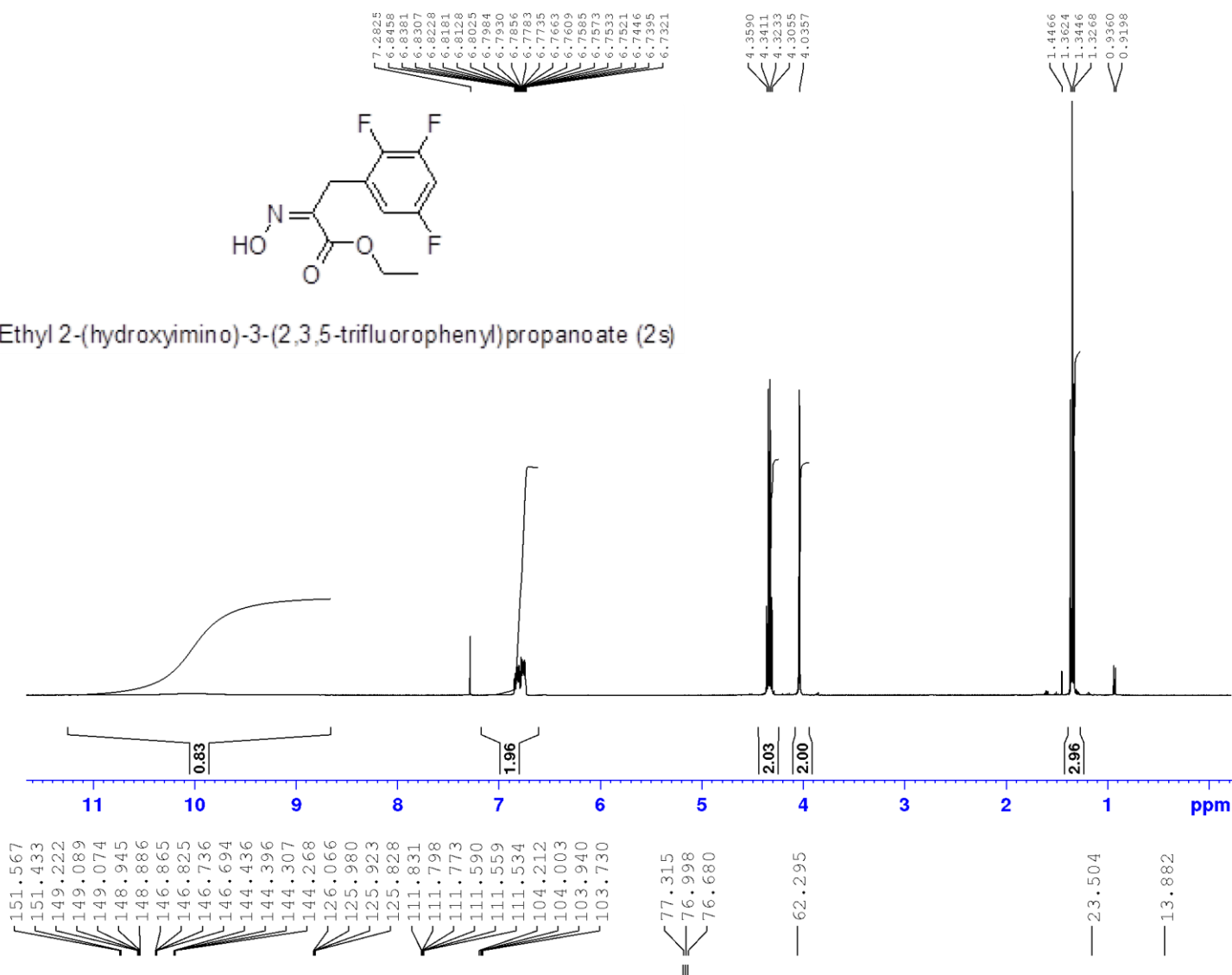




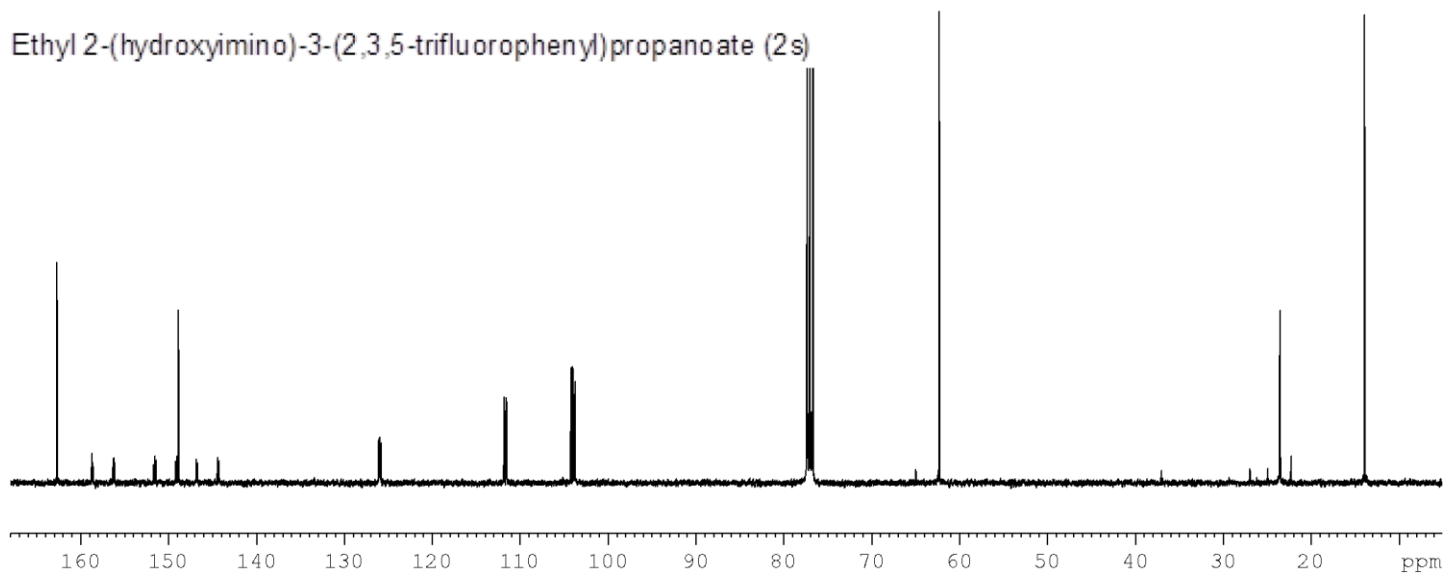




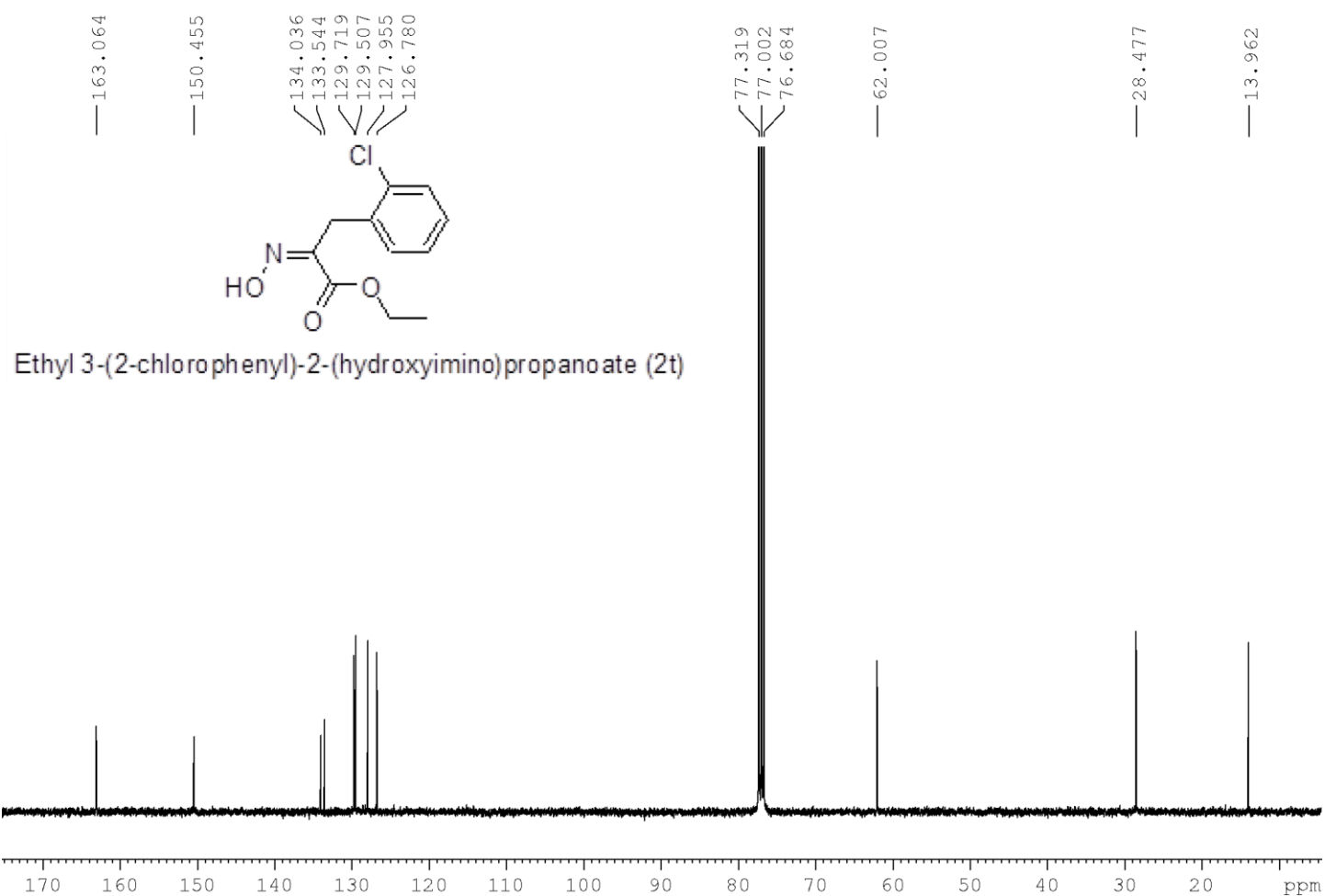
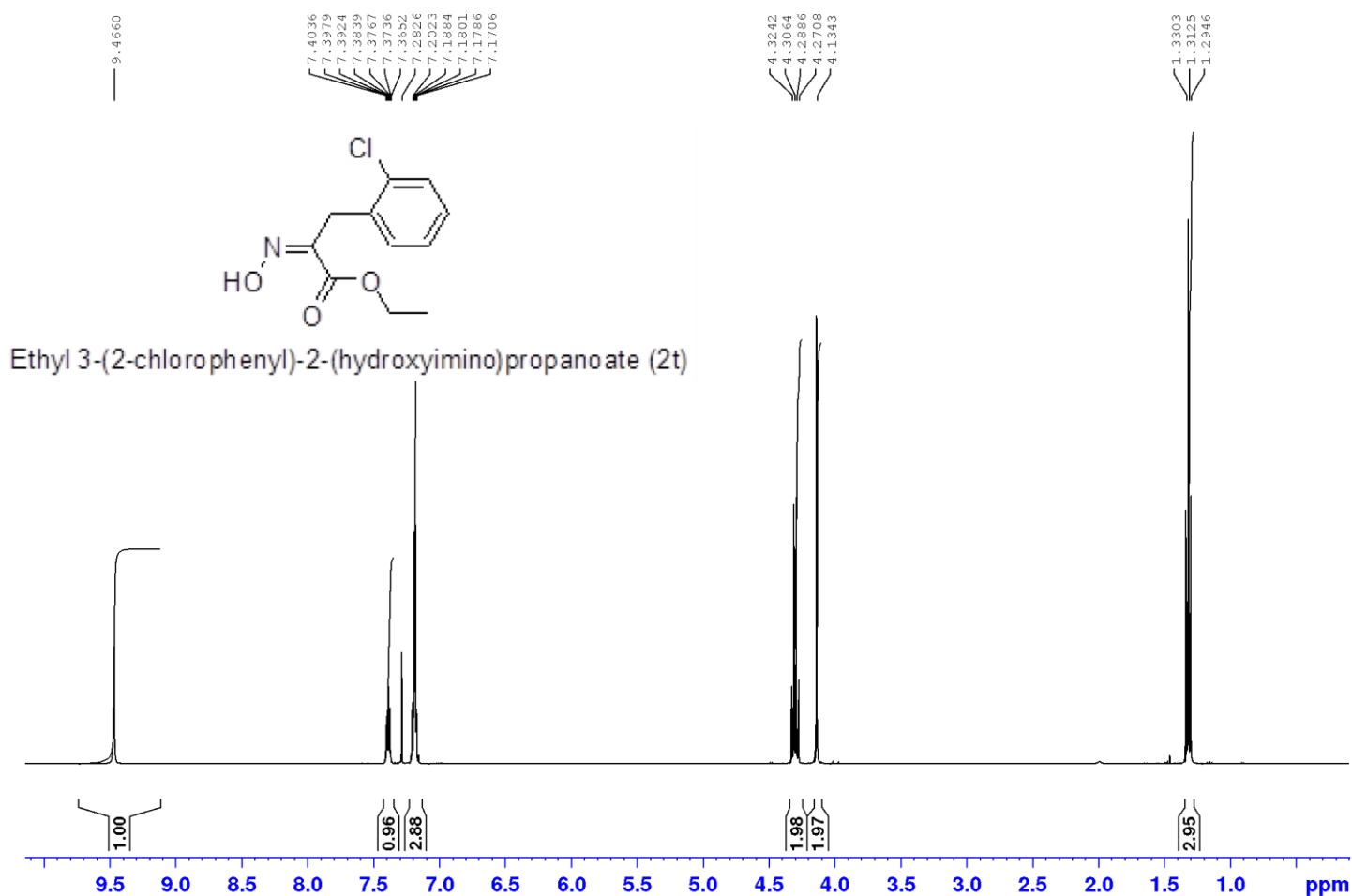
Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(2,3,5-trifluorophenyl)propanoate (2s)

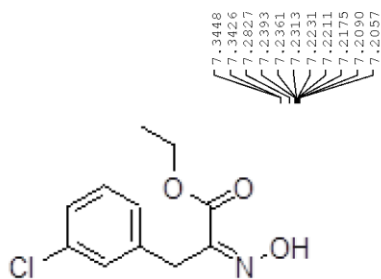


Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-(2,3,5-trifluorophenyl)propanoate (2s)

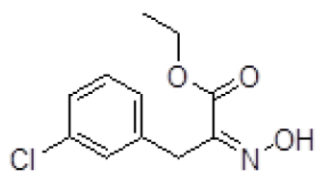
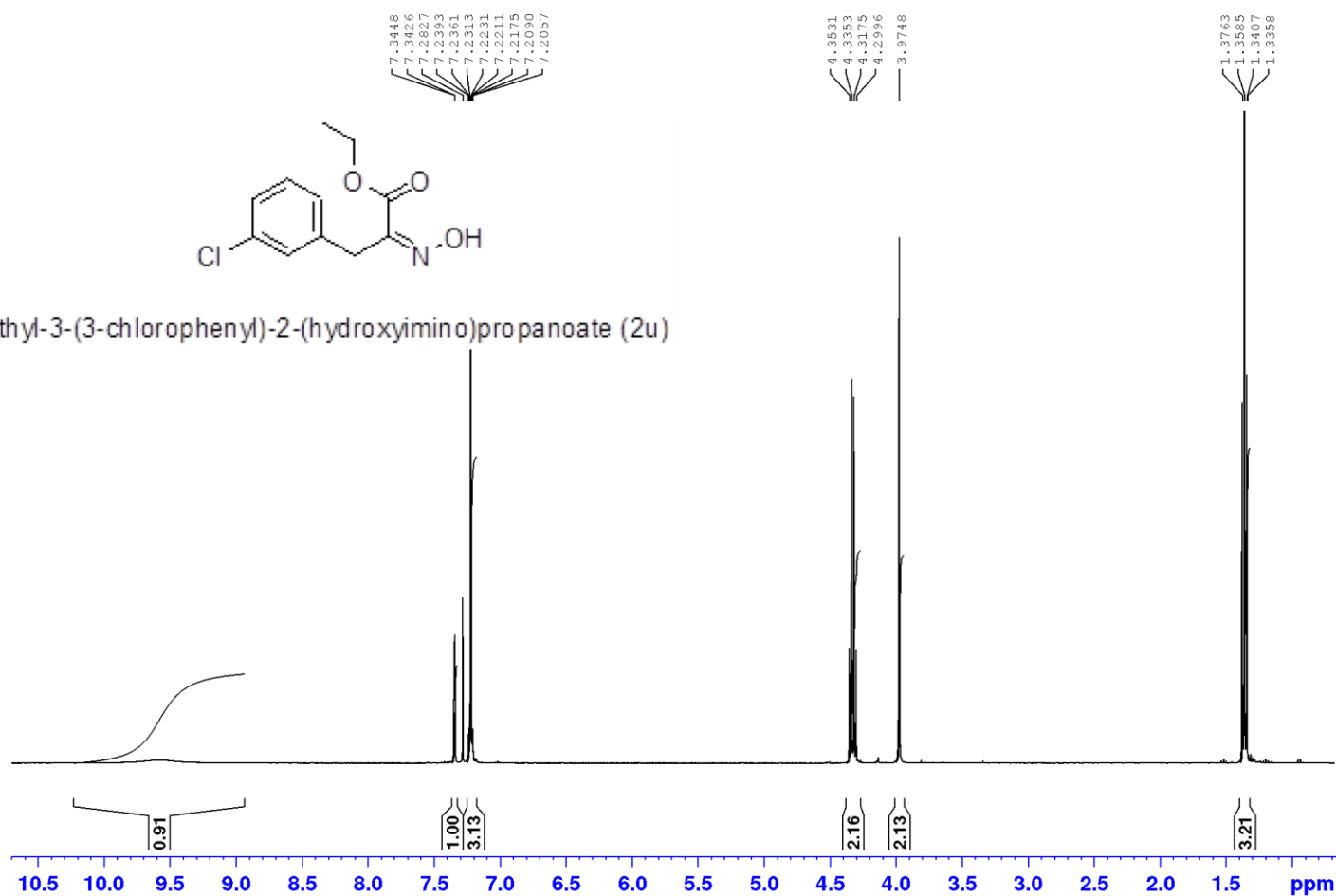




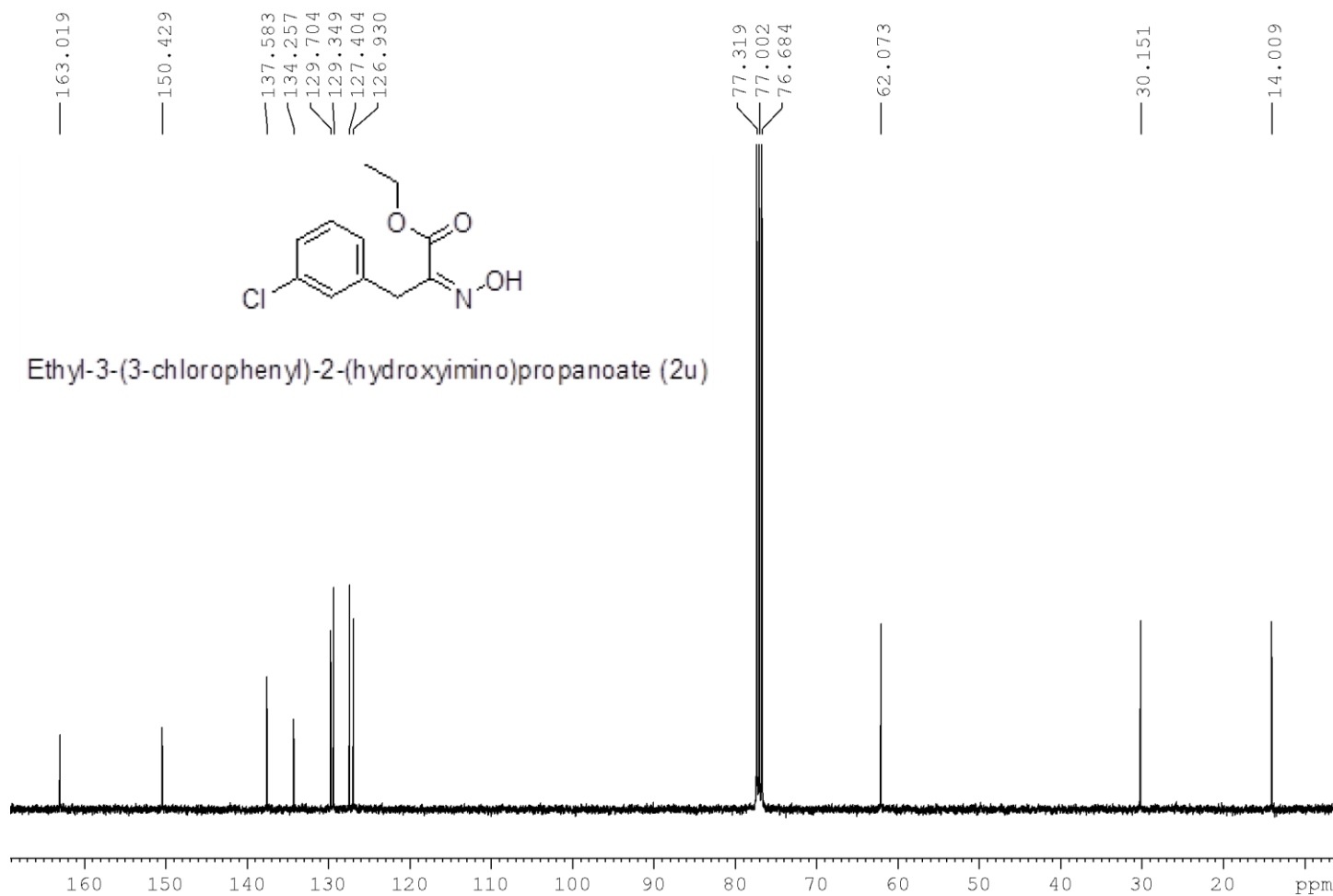




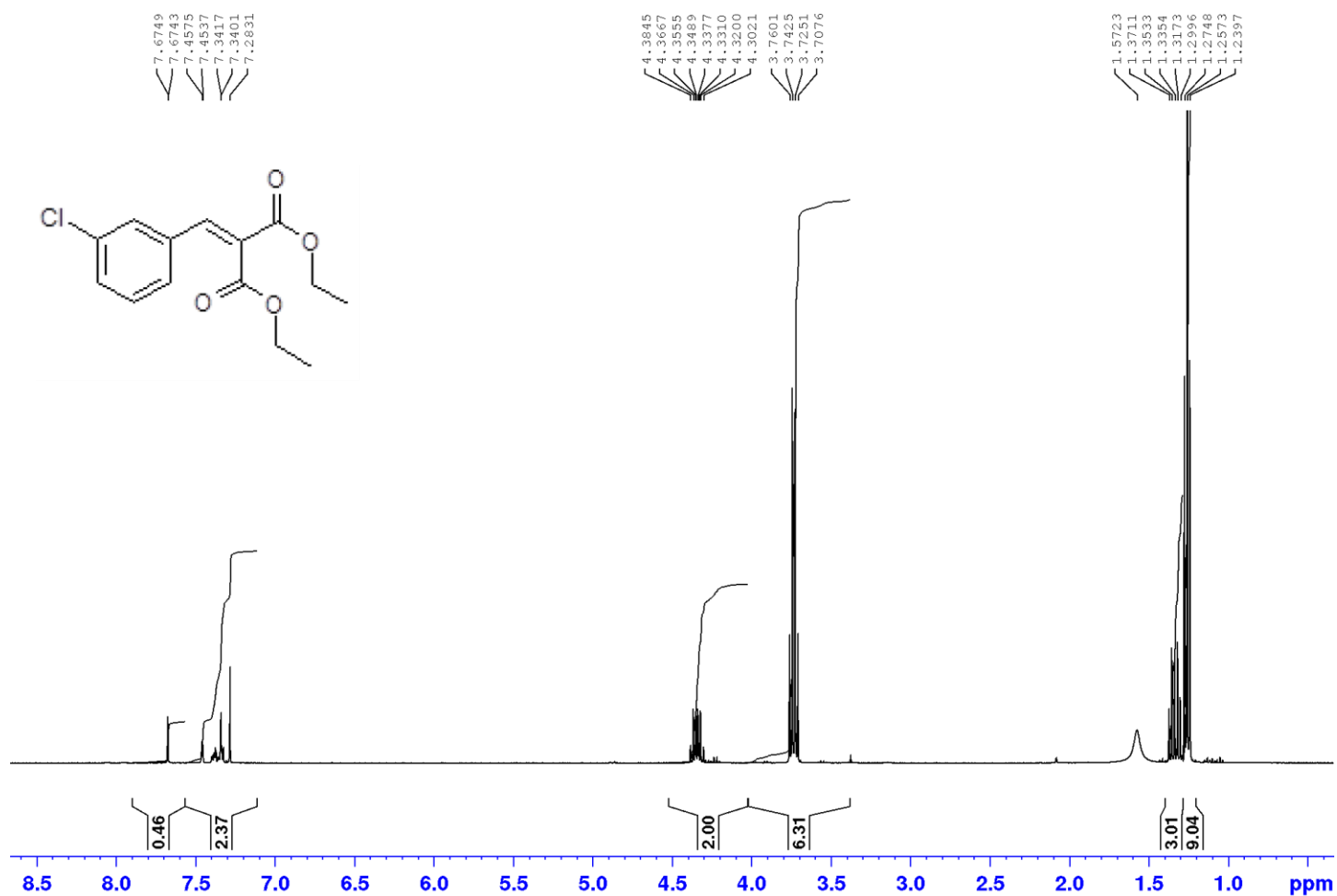
Ethyl-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2u)

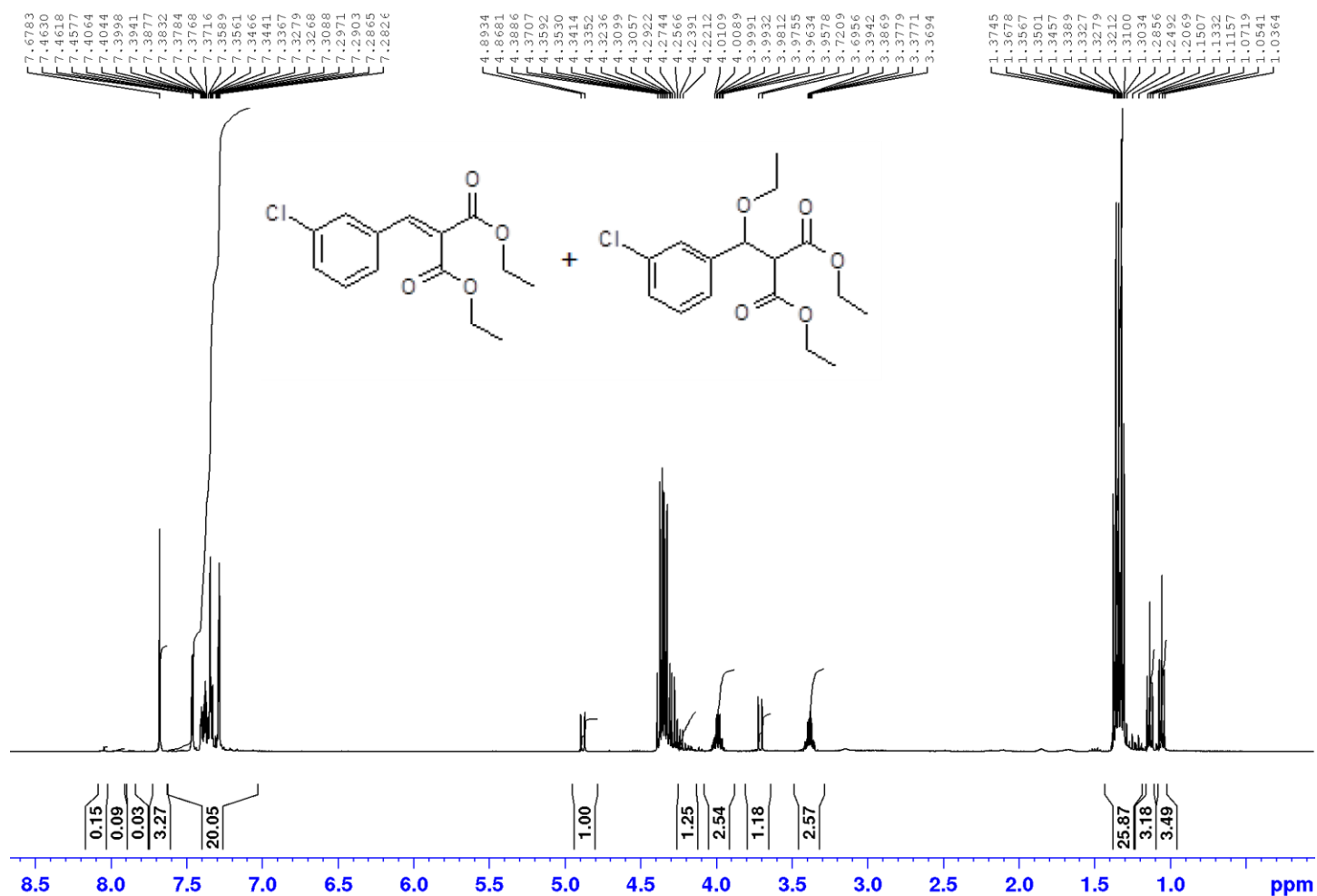


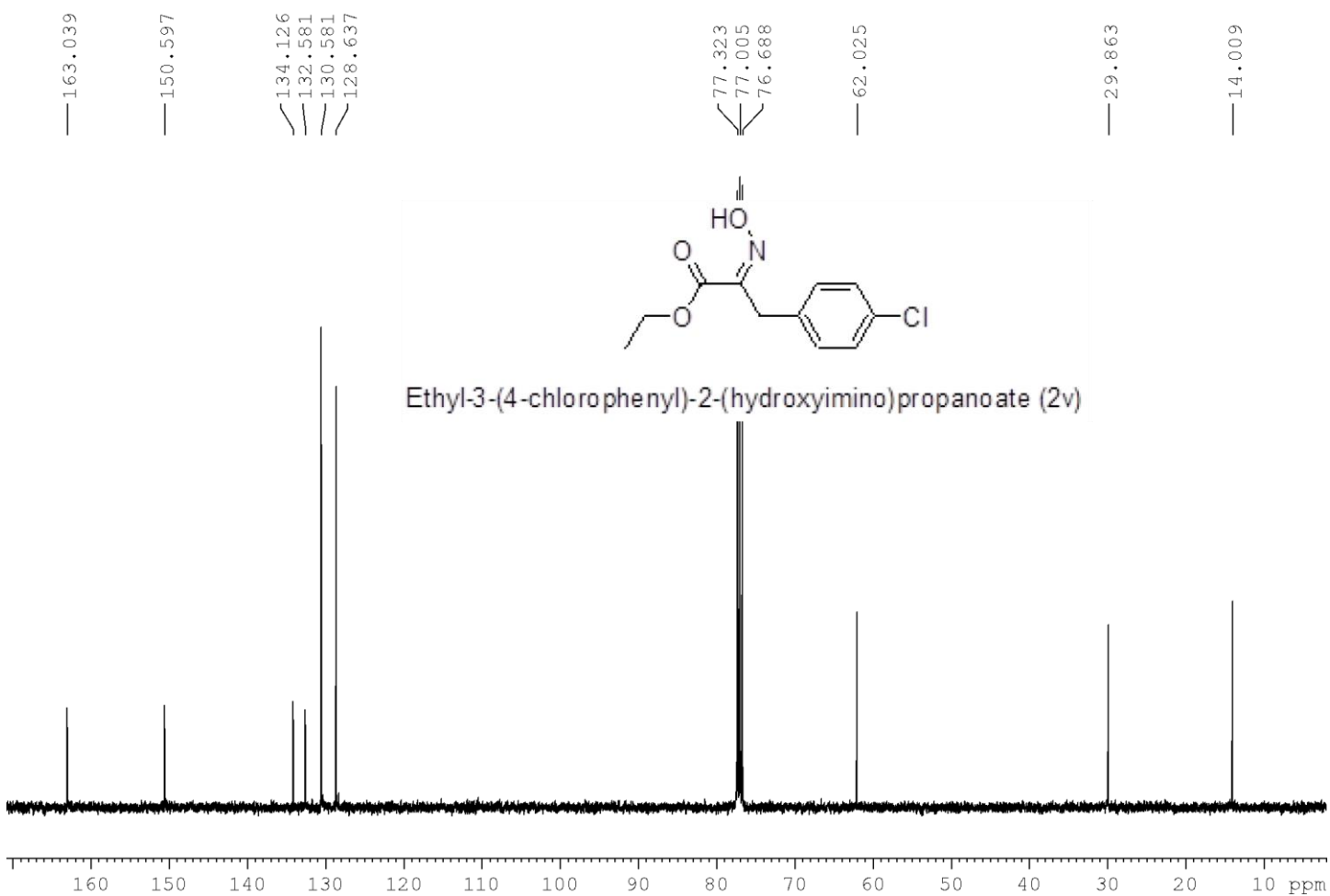
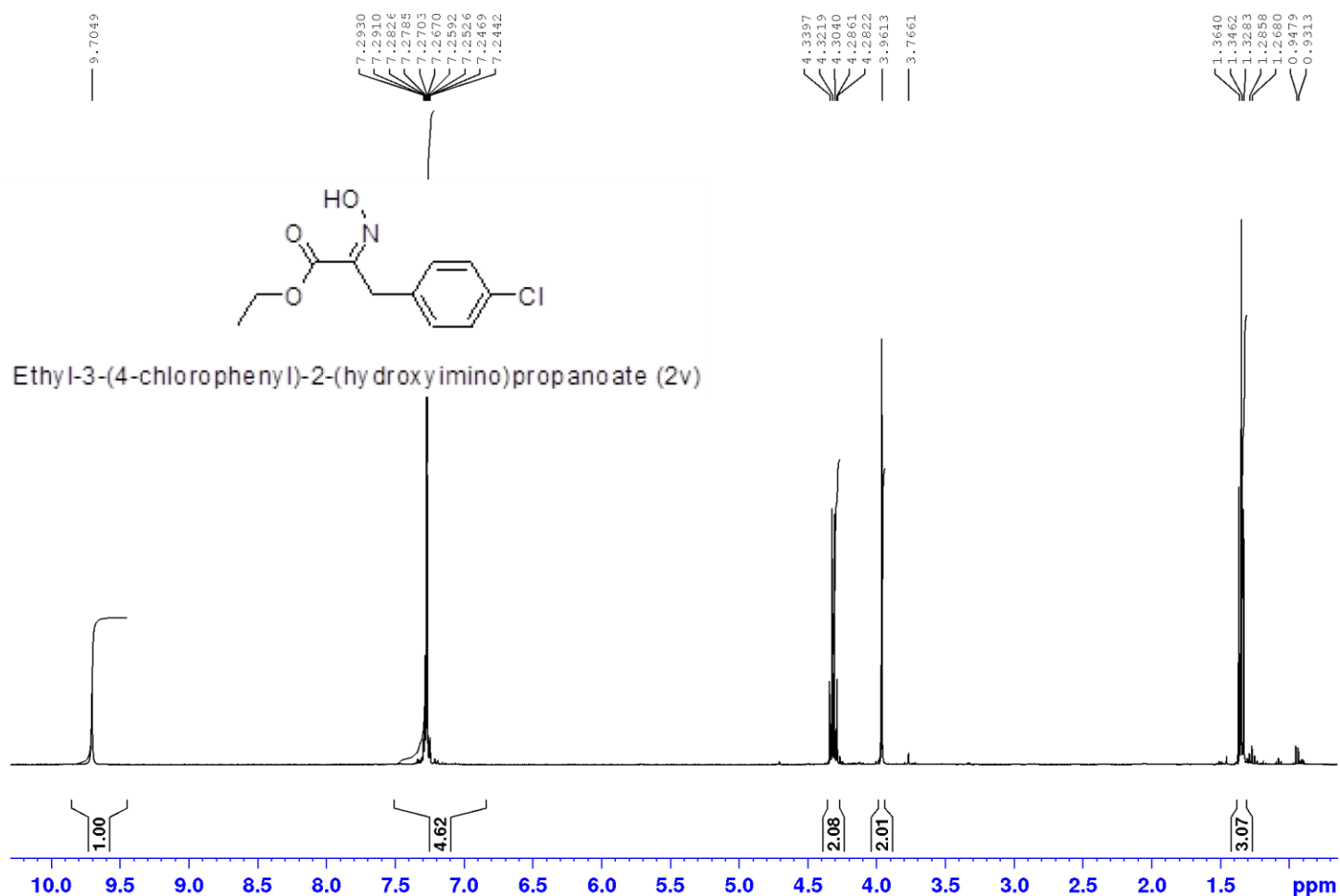
Ethyl-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2u)

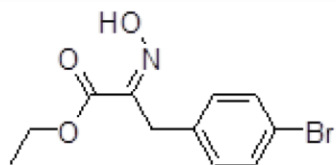


$^1\text{H}$  NMR of a new and an old (15 days) sample of **6u** (with ethanol), the second one (concentrated to dryness) is also containing the ethanol adduct **7** :

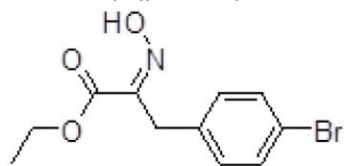
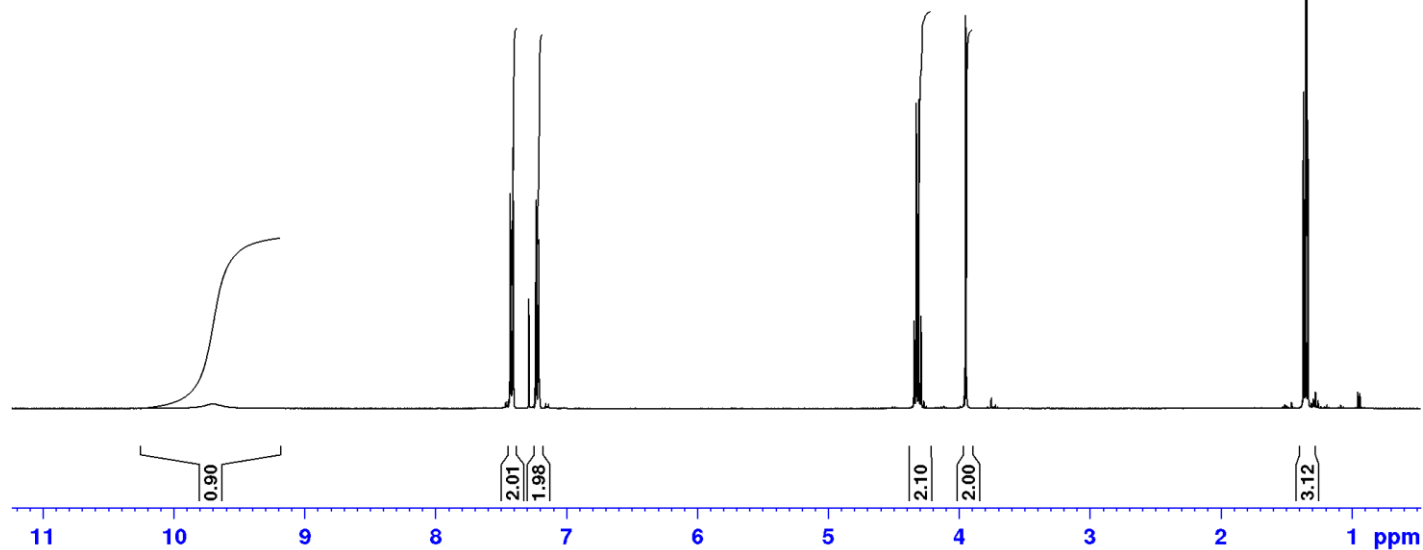




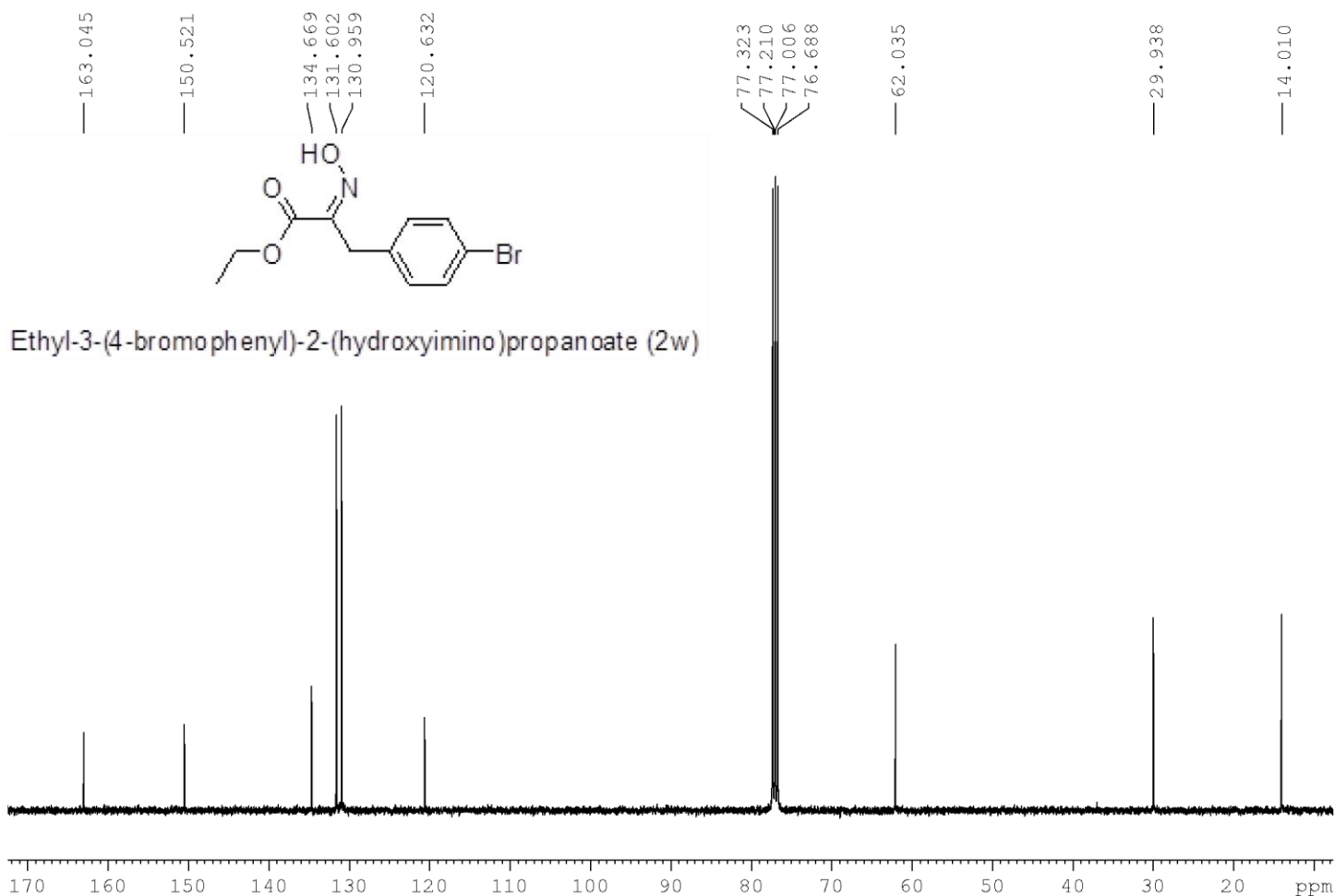


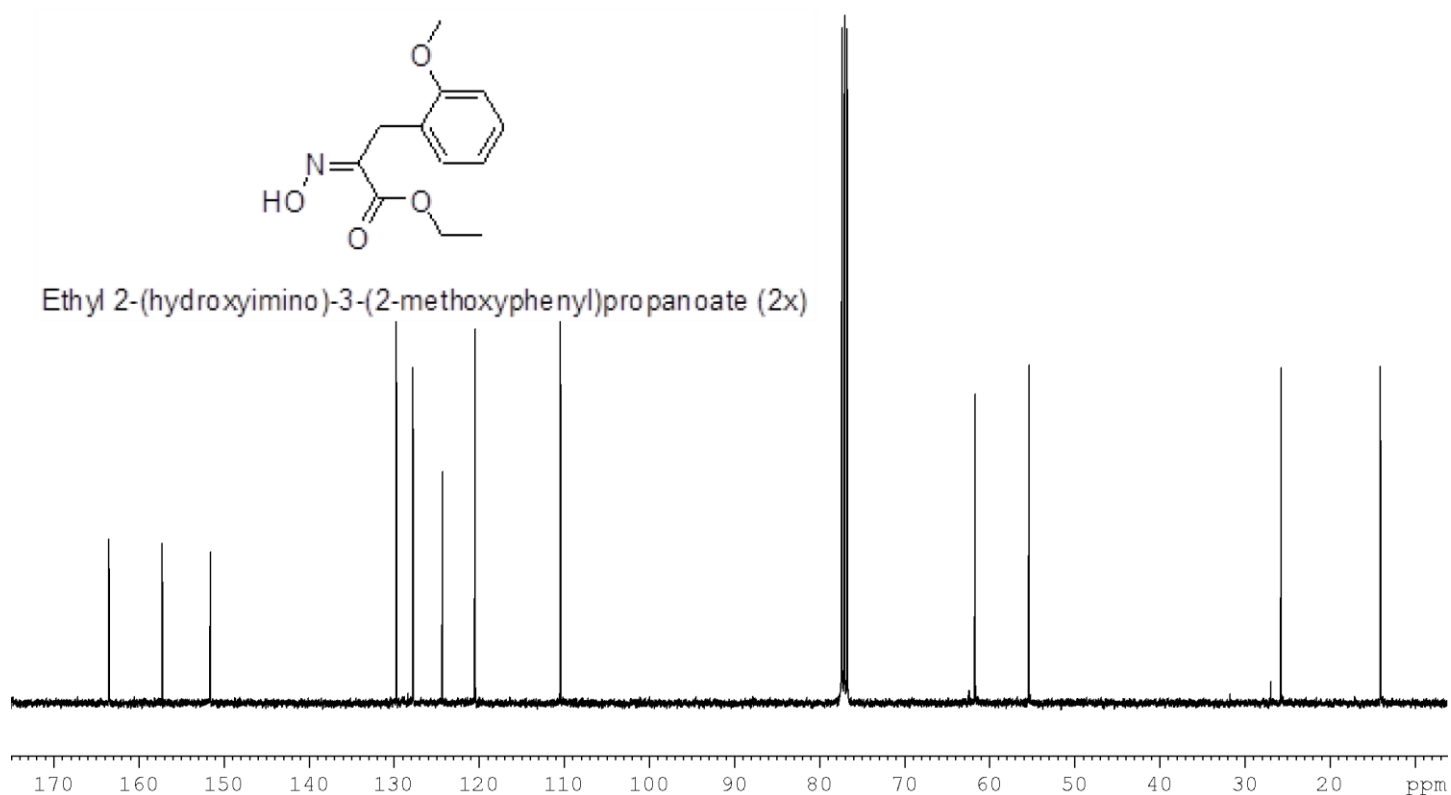
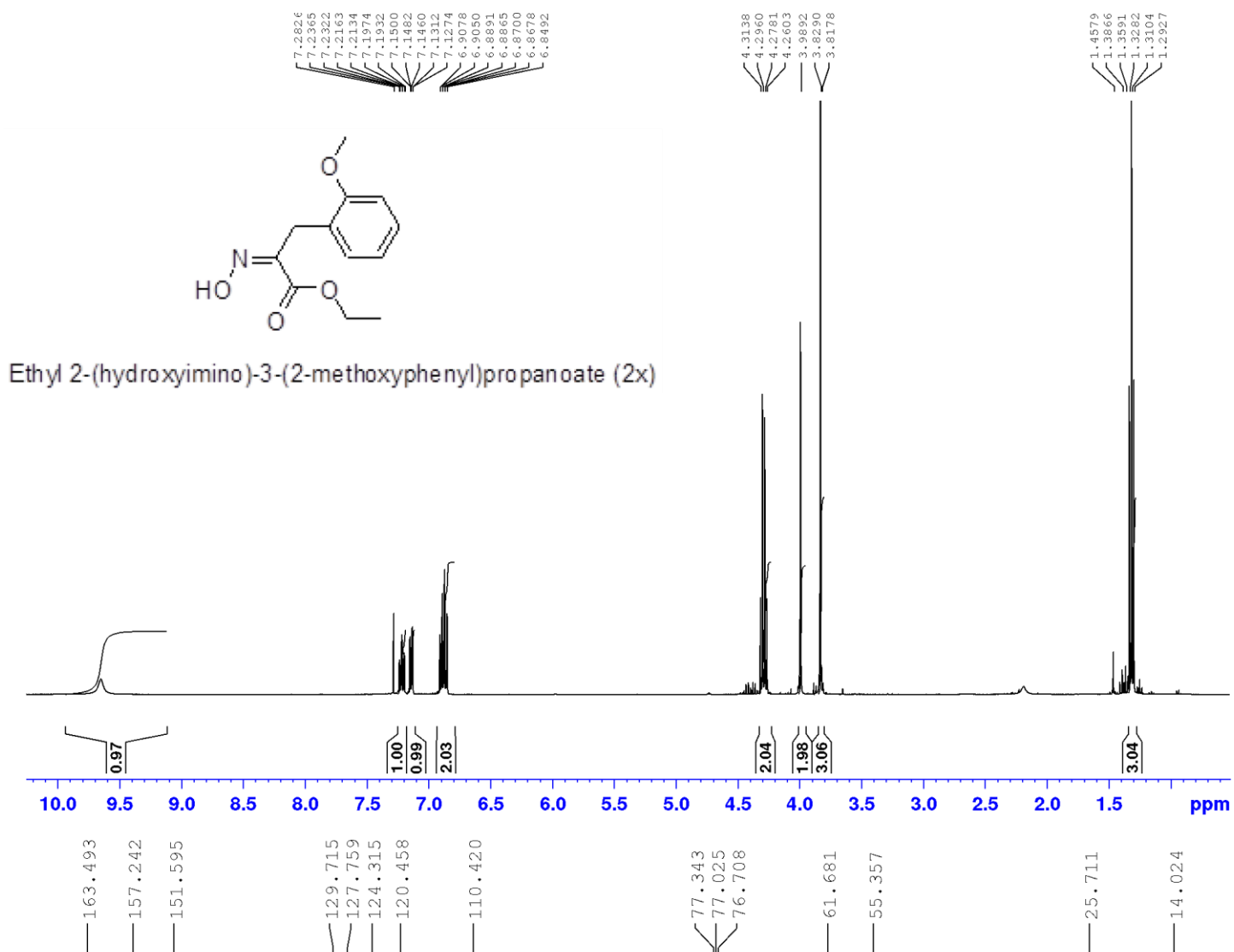


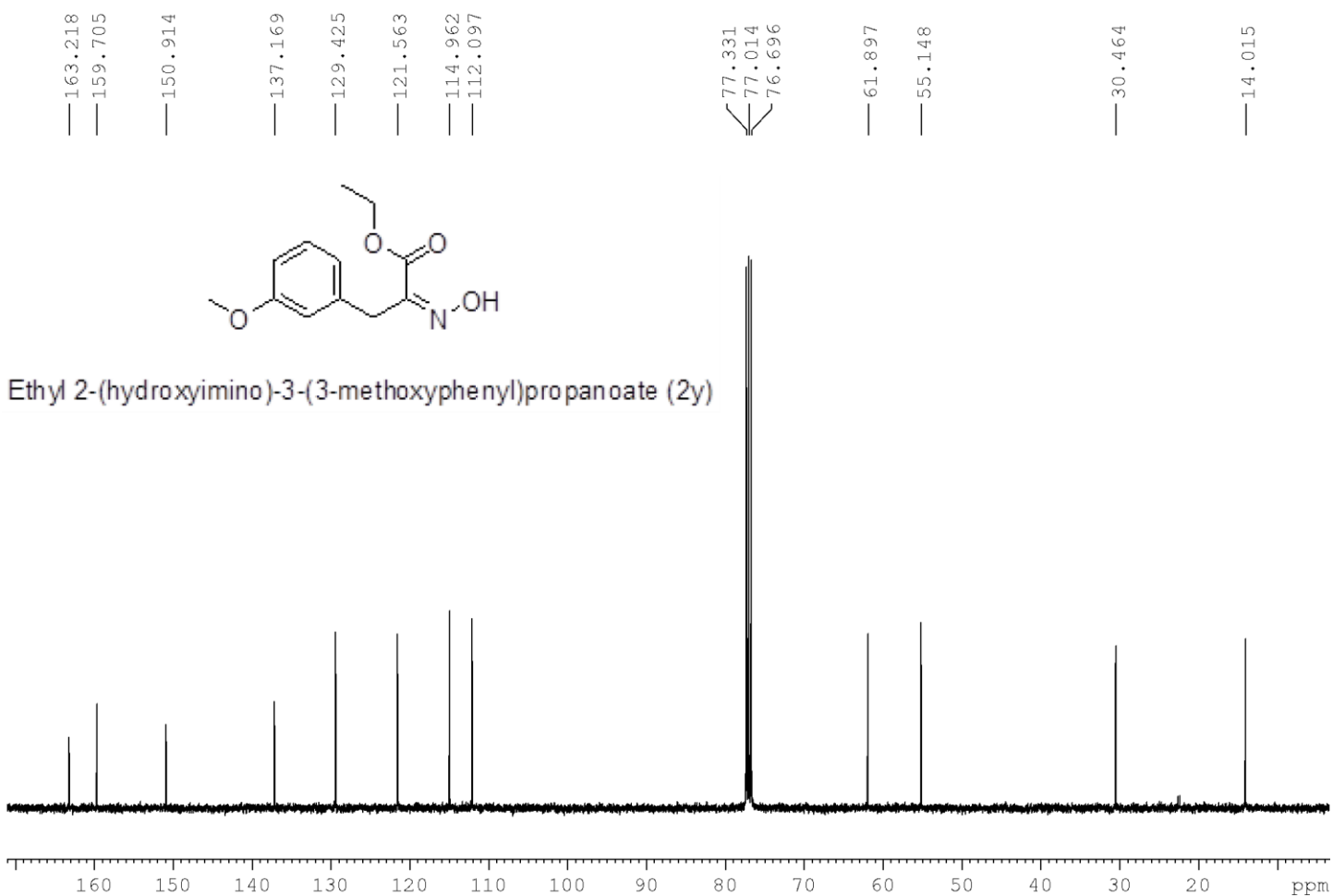
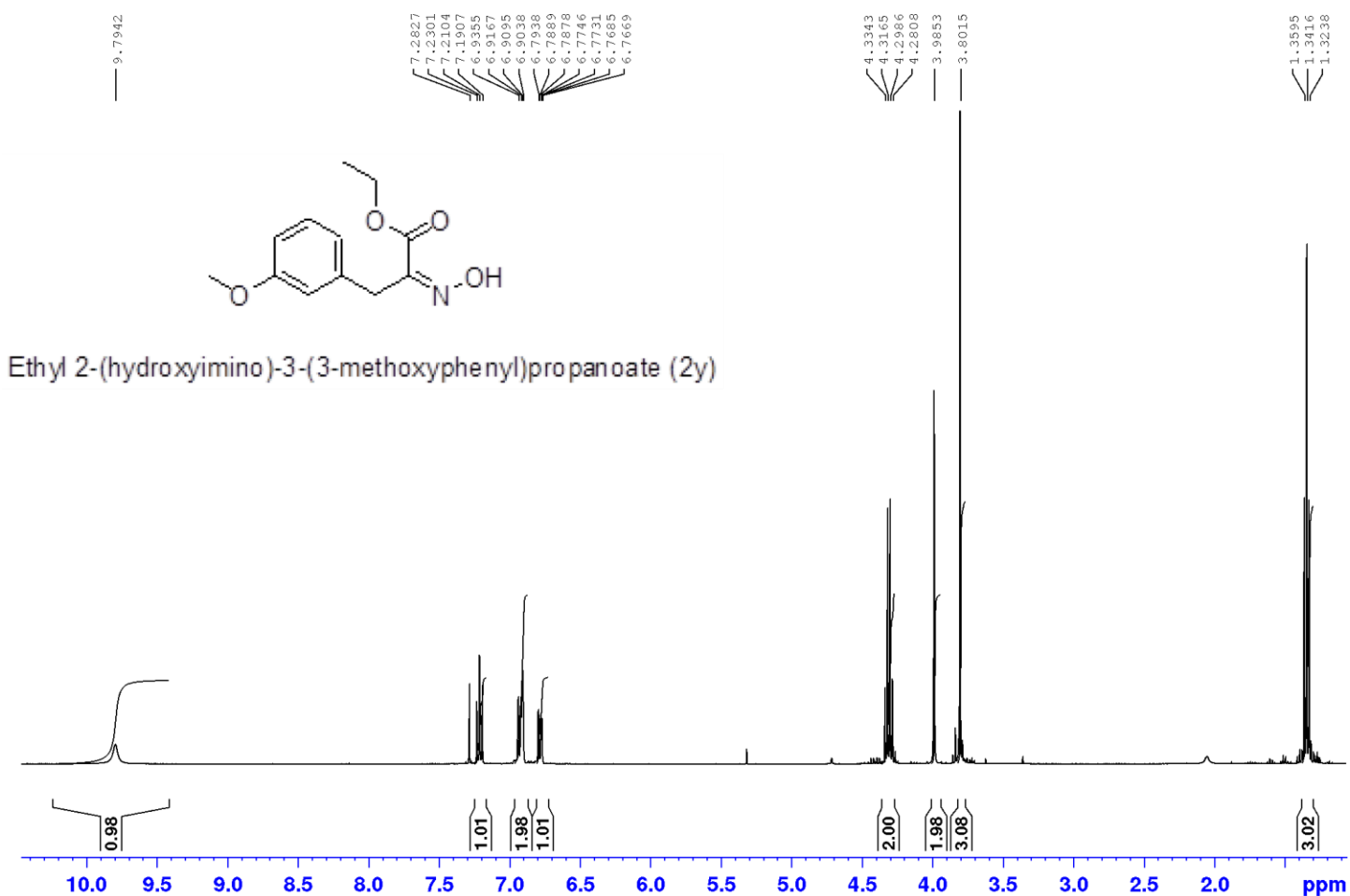
Ethyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2w)



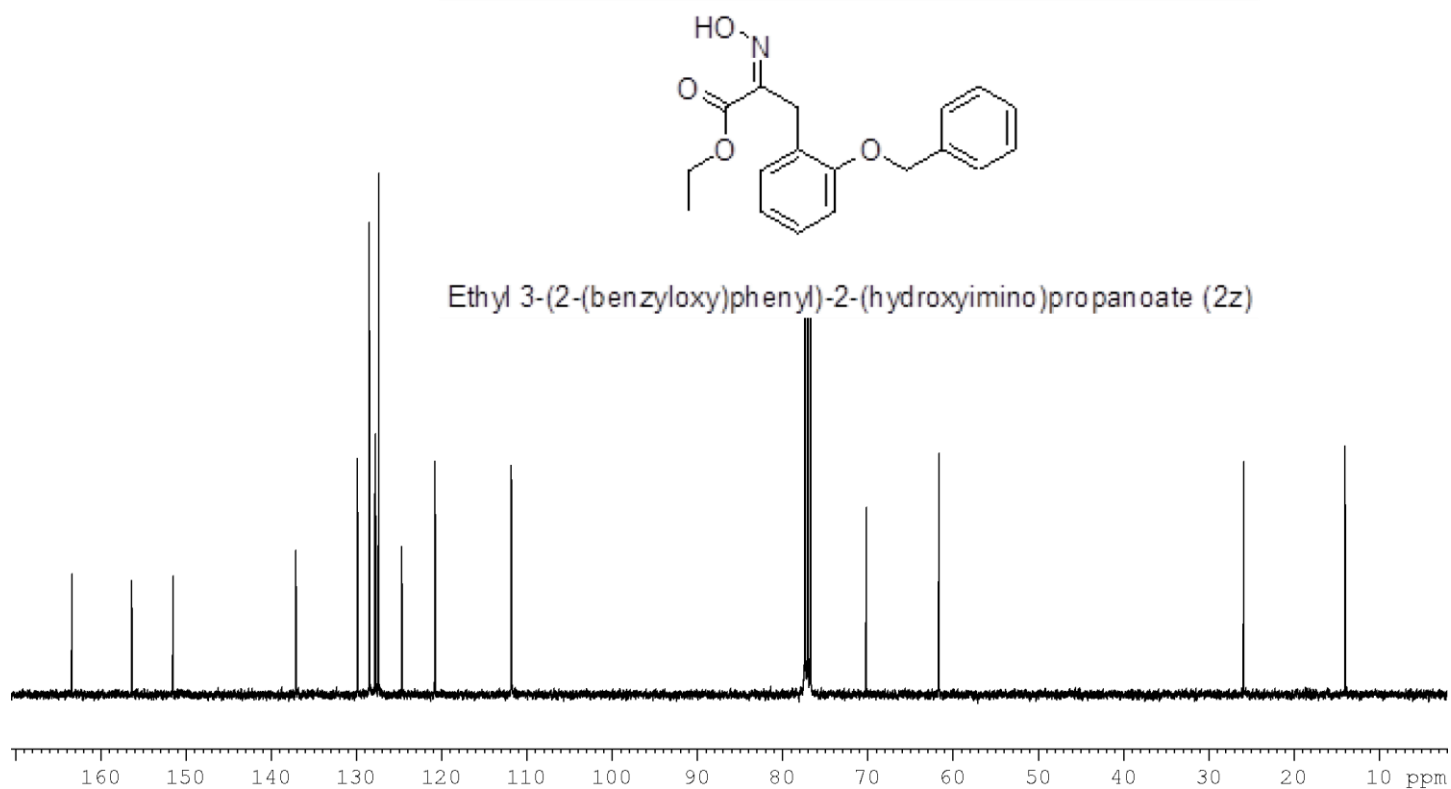
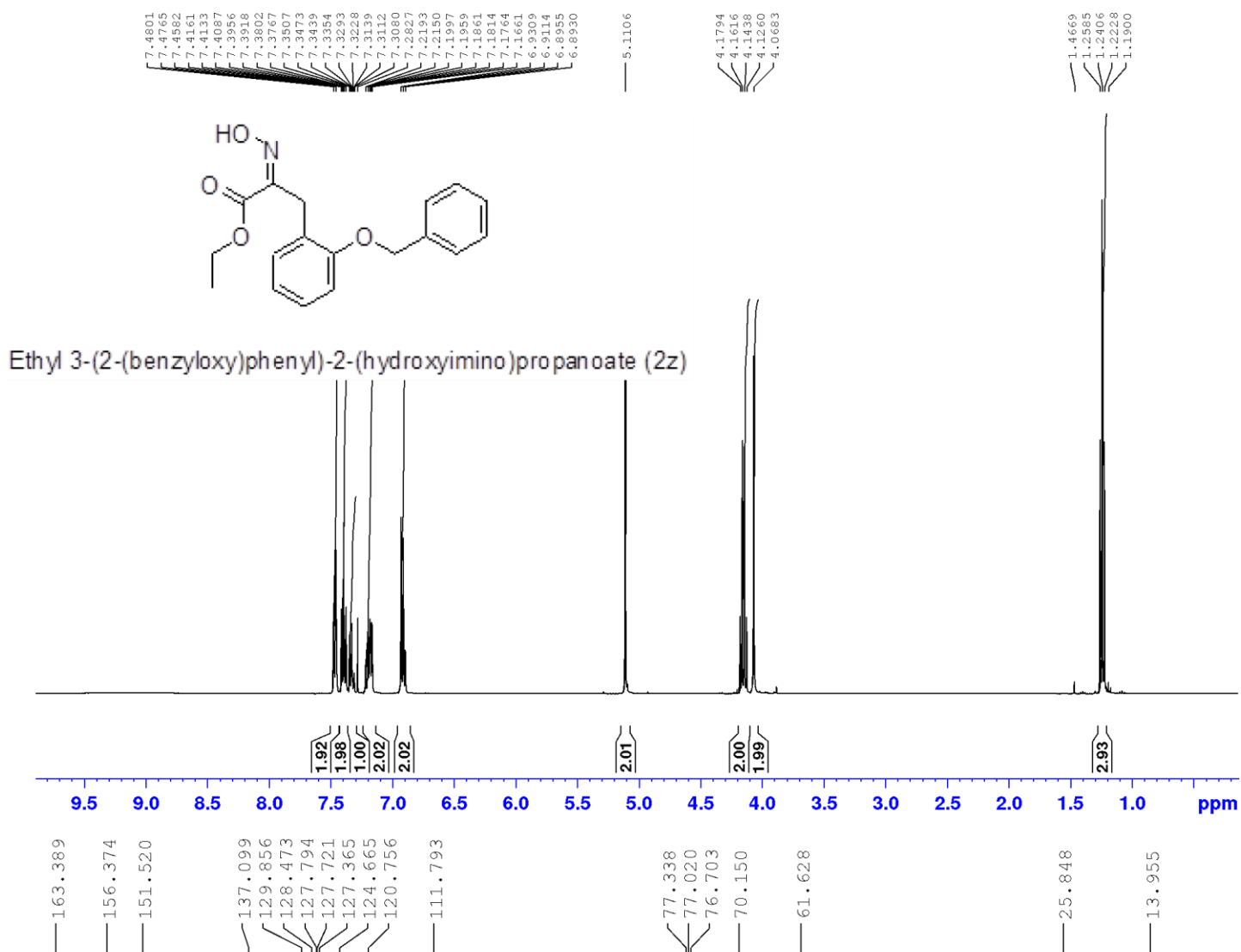
Ethyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2w)

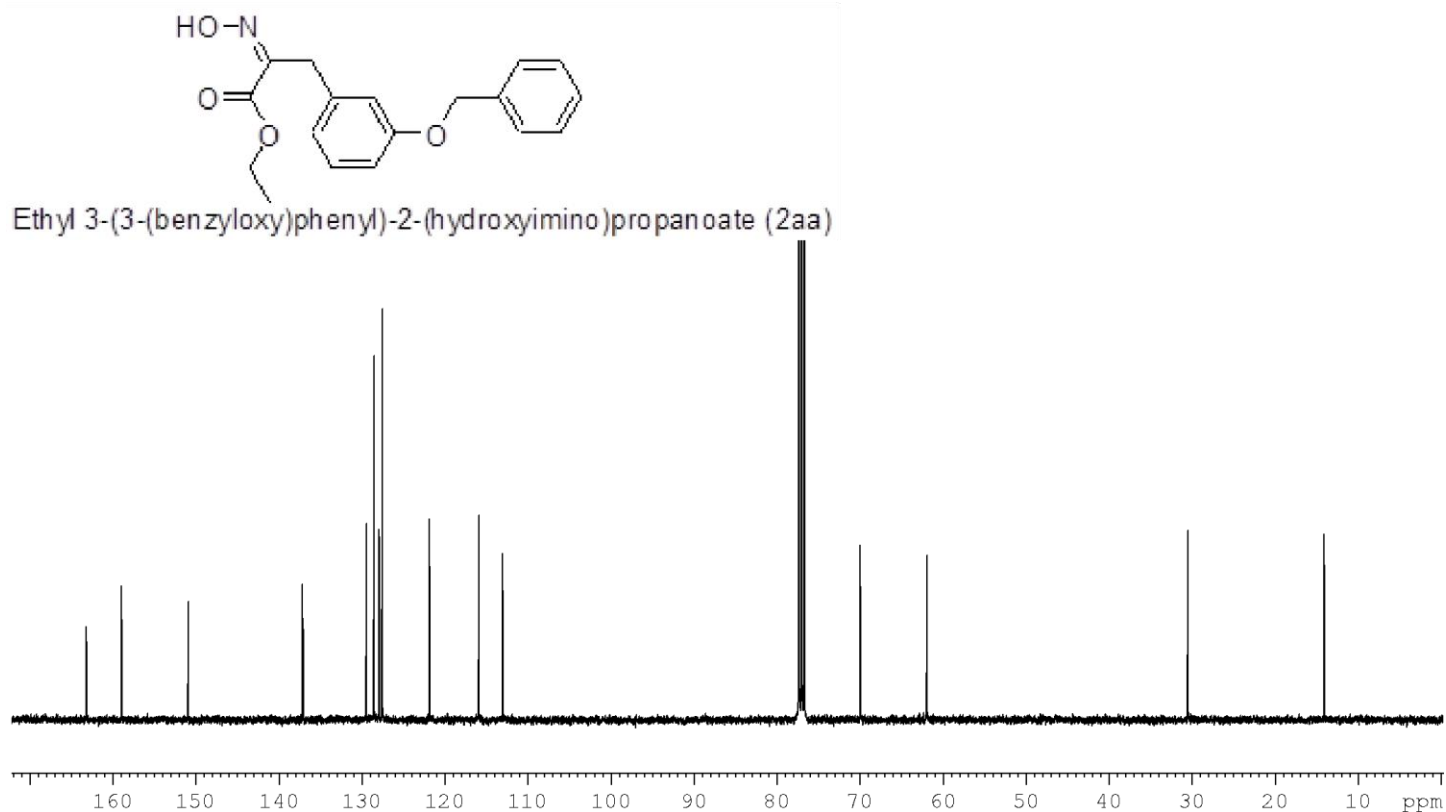
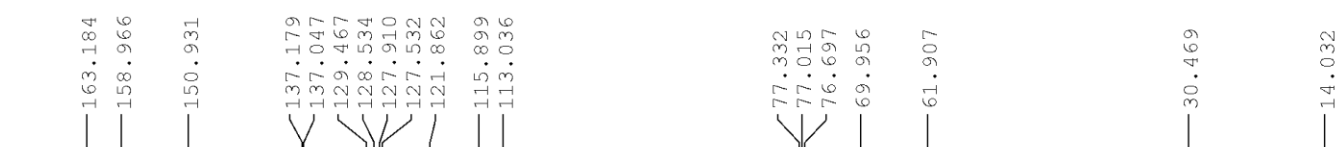
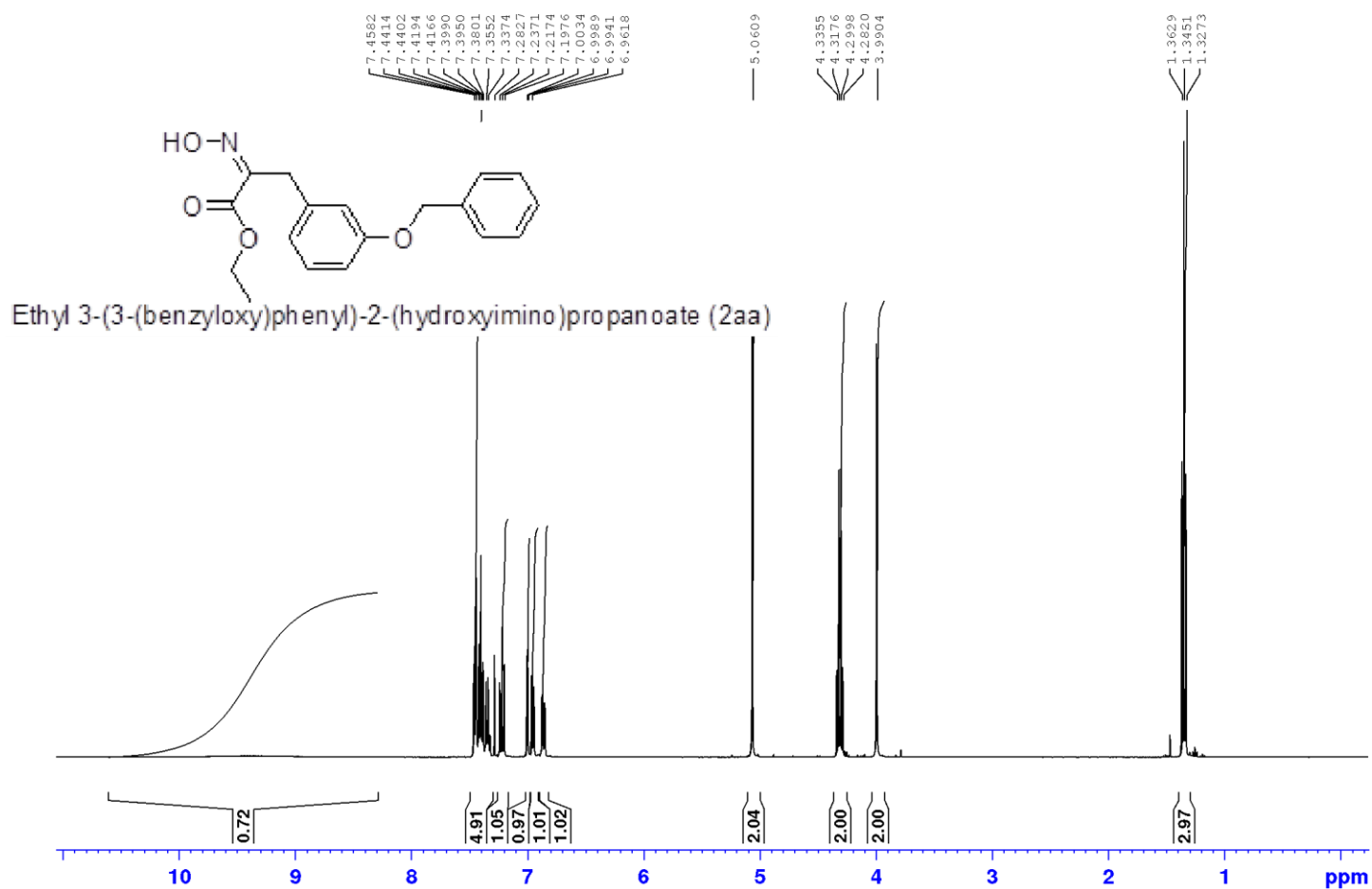


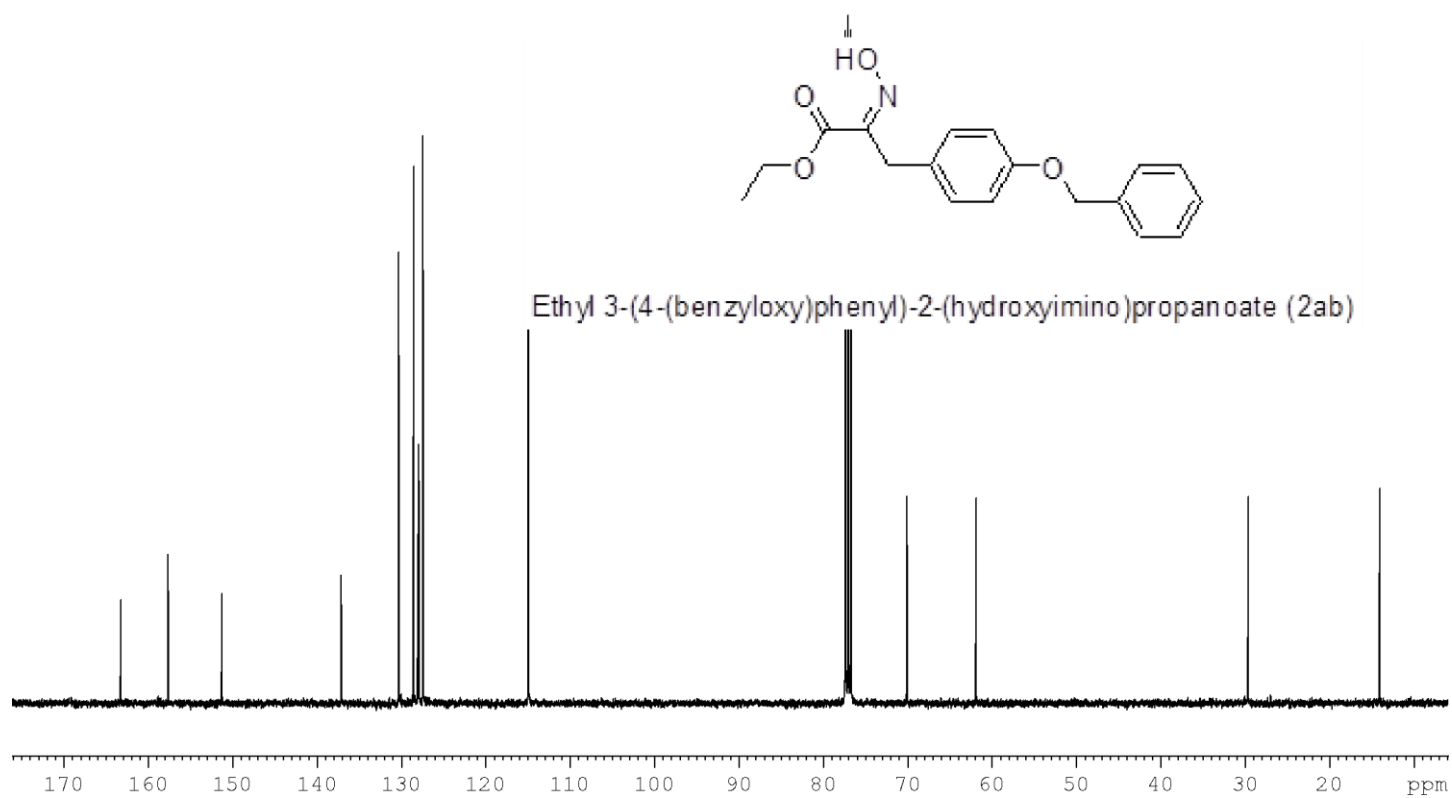
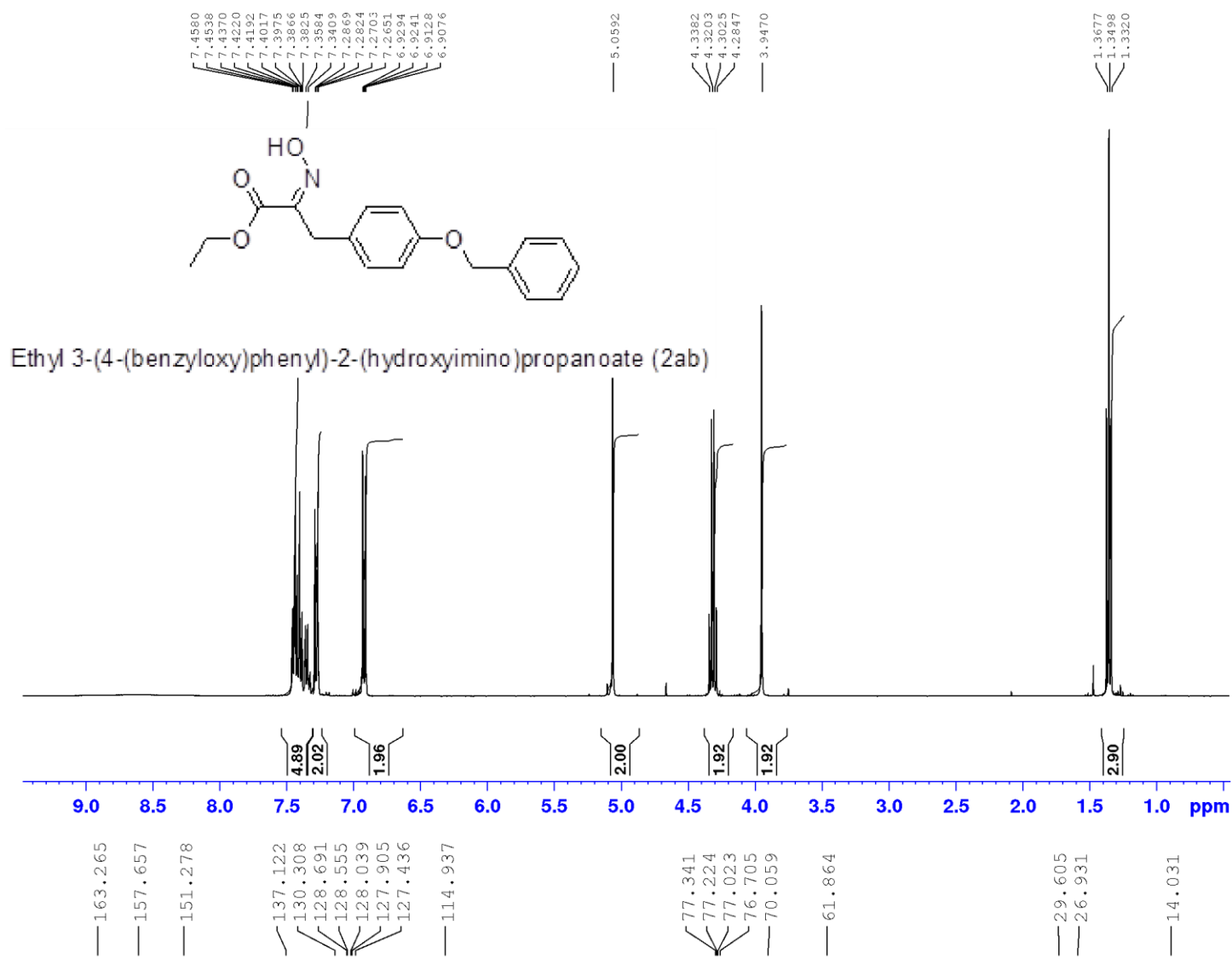


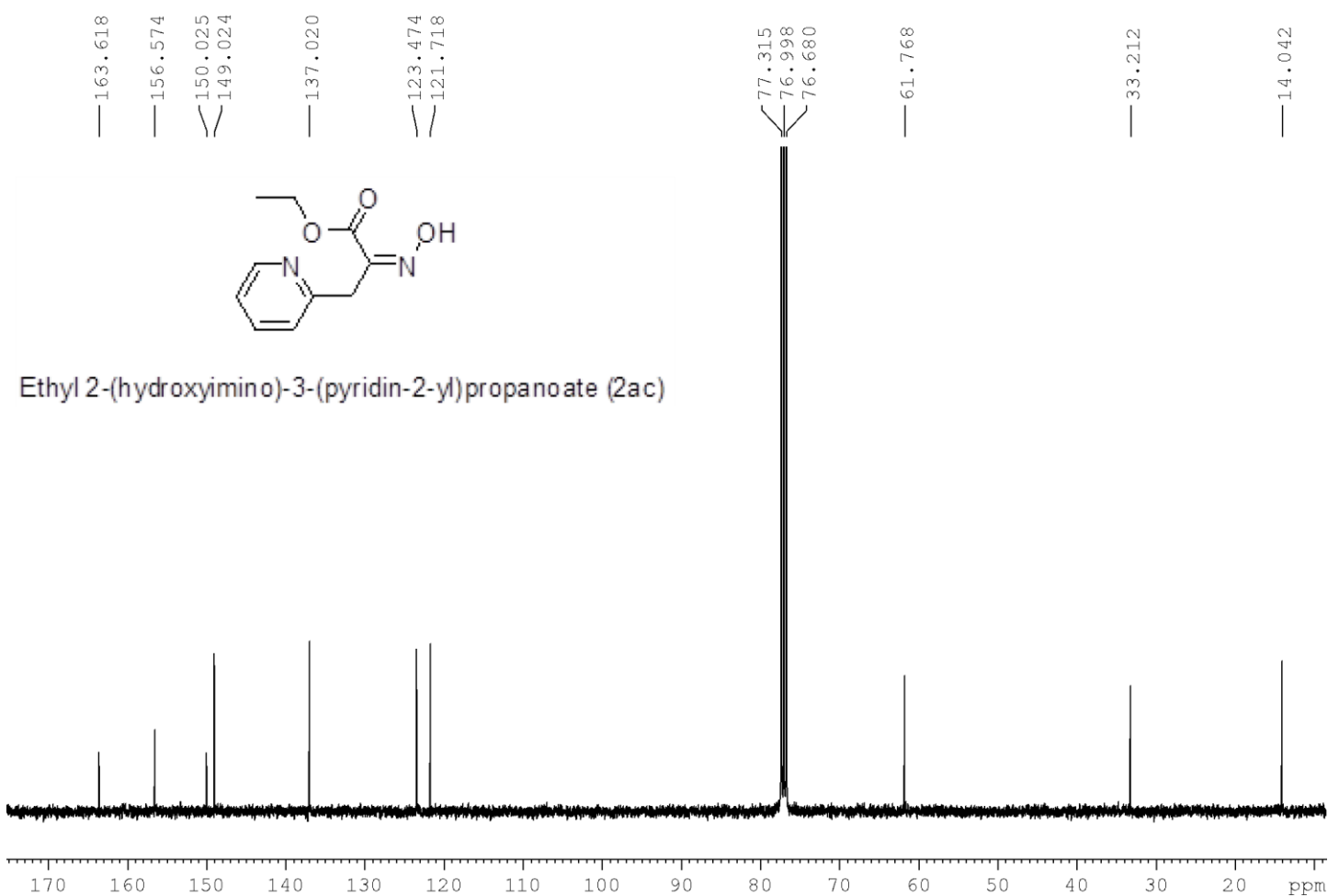
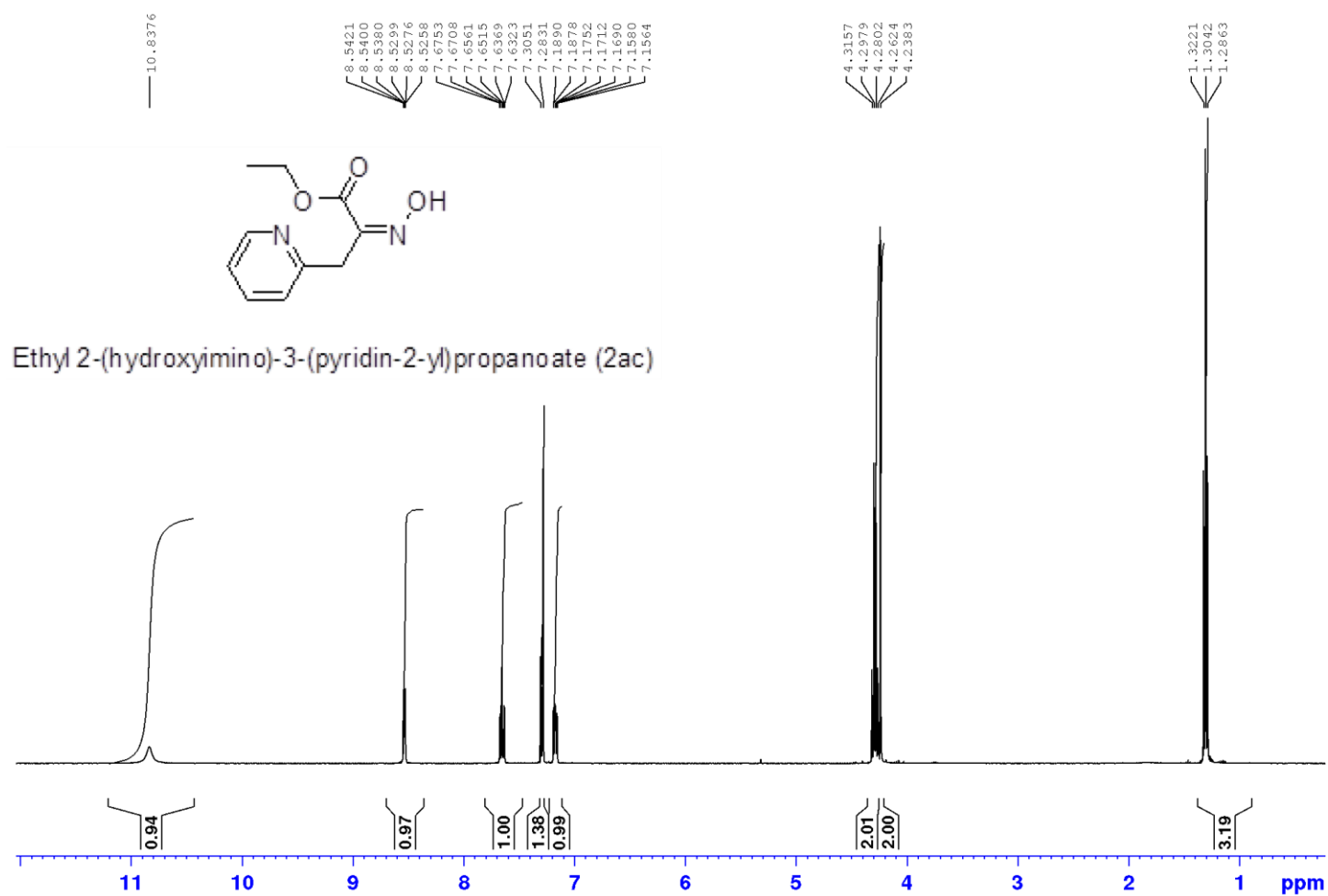








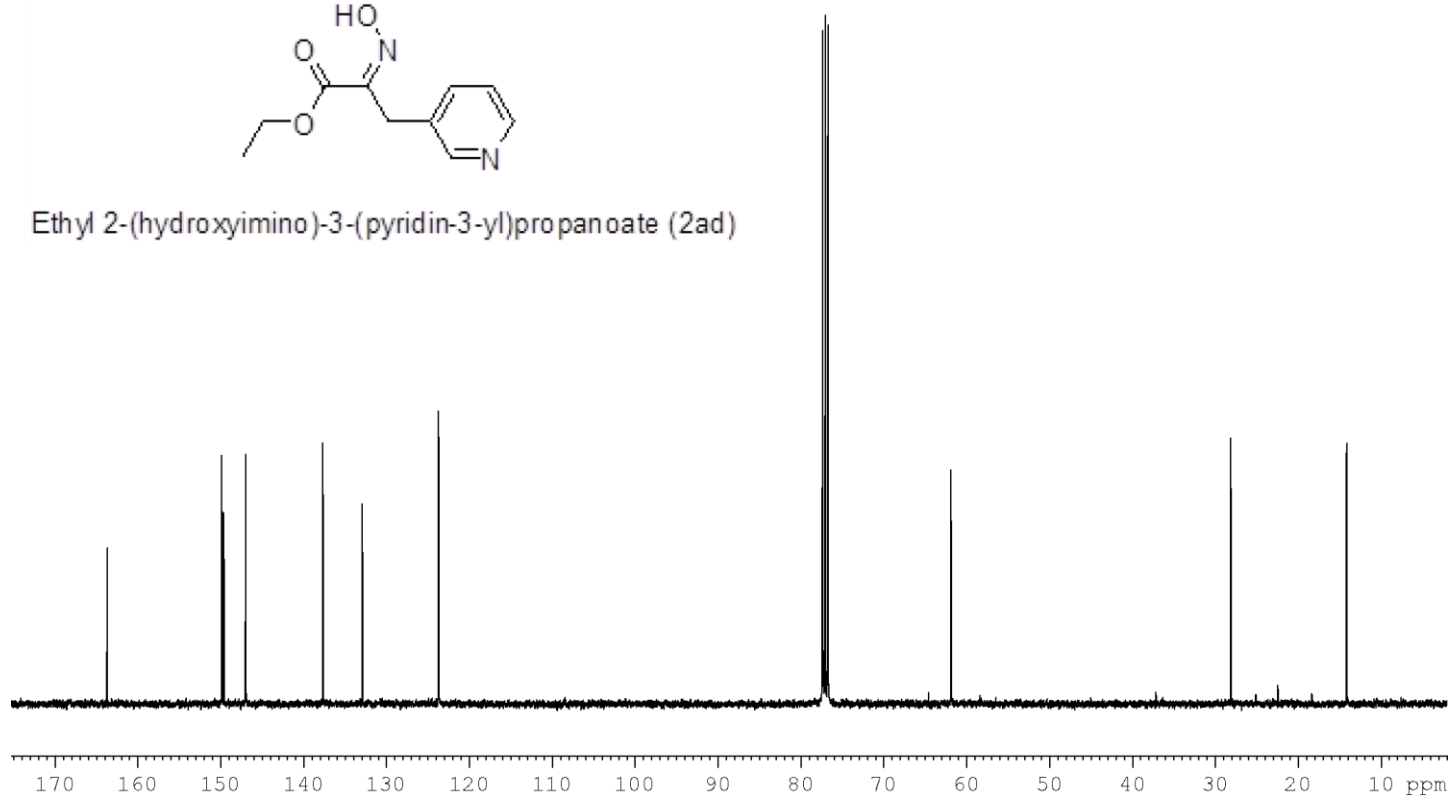


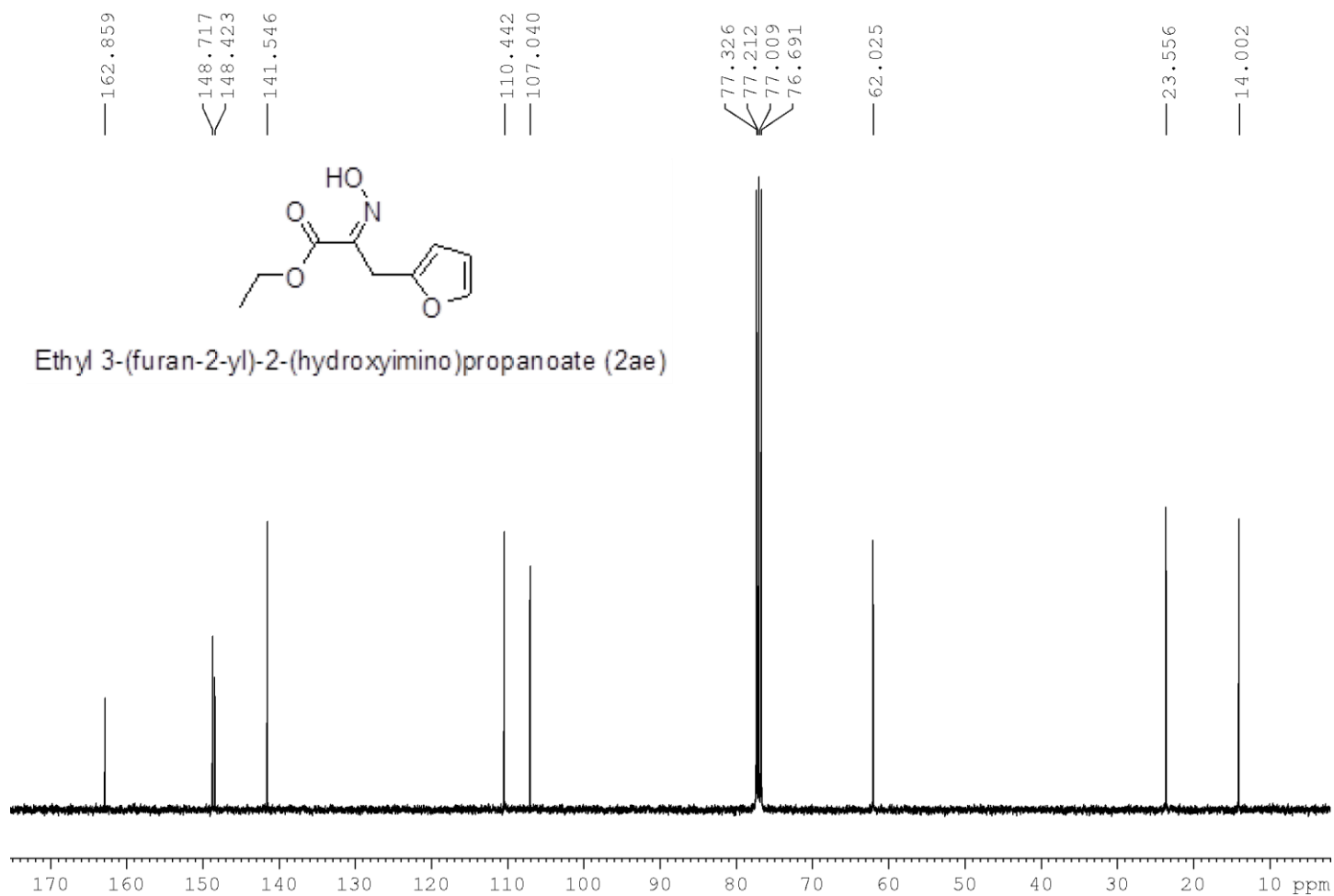
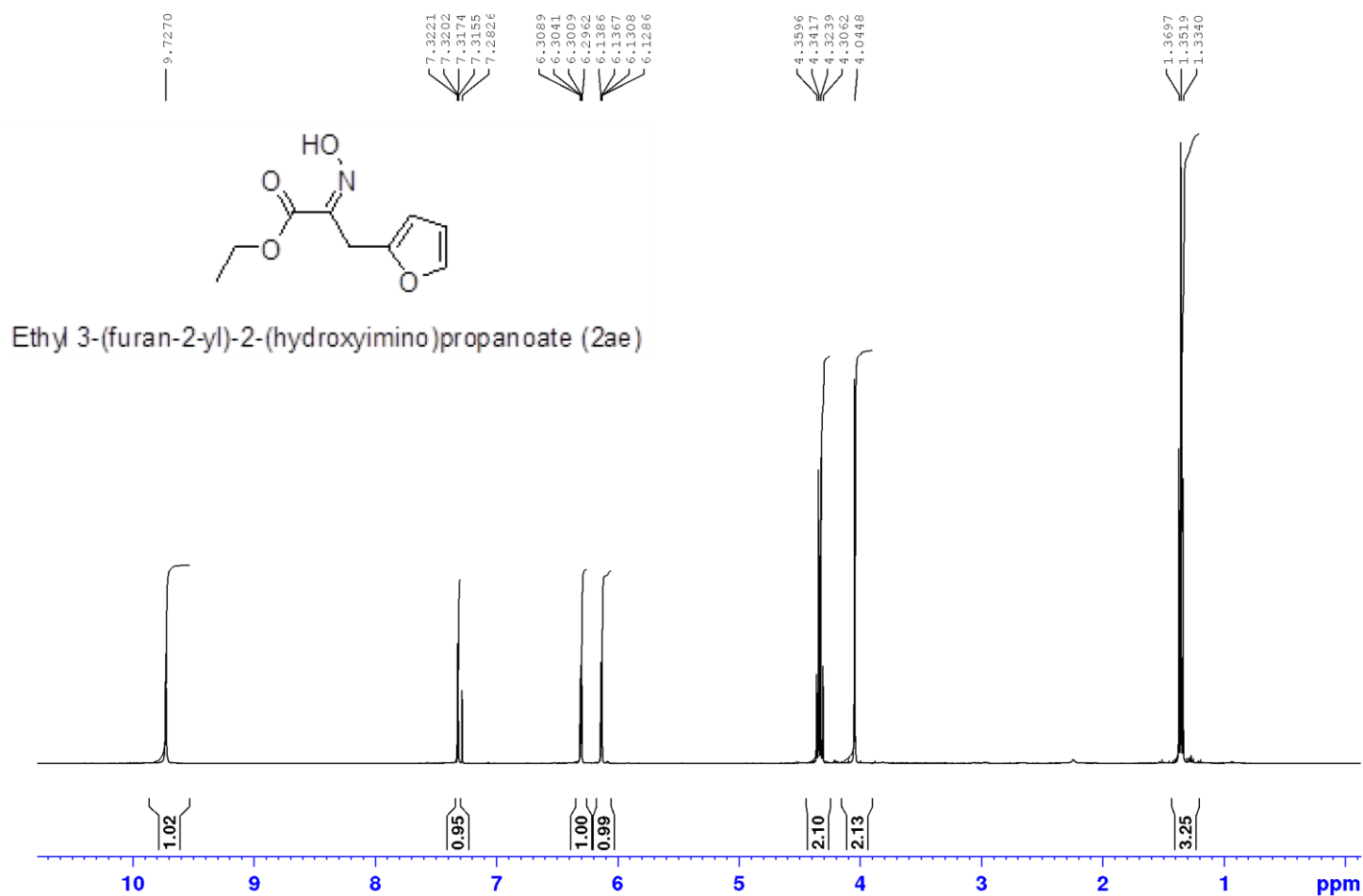


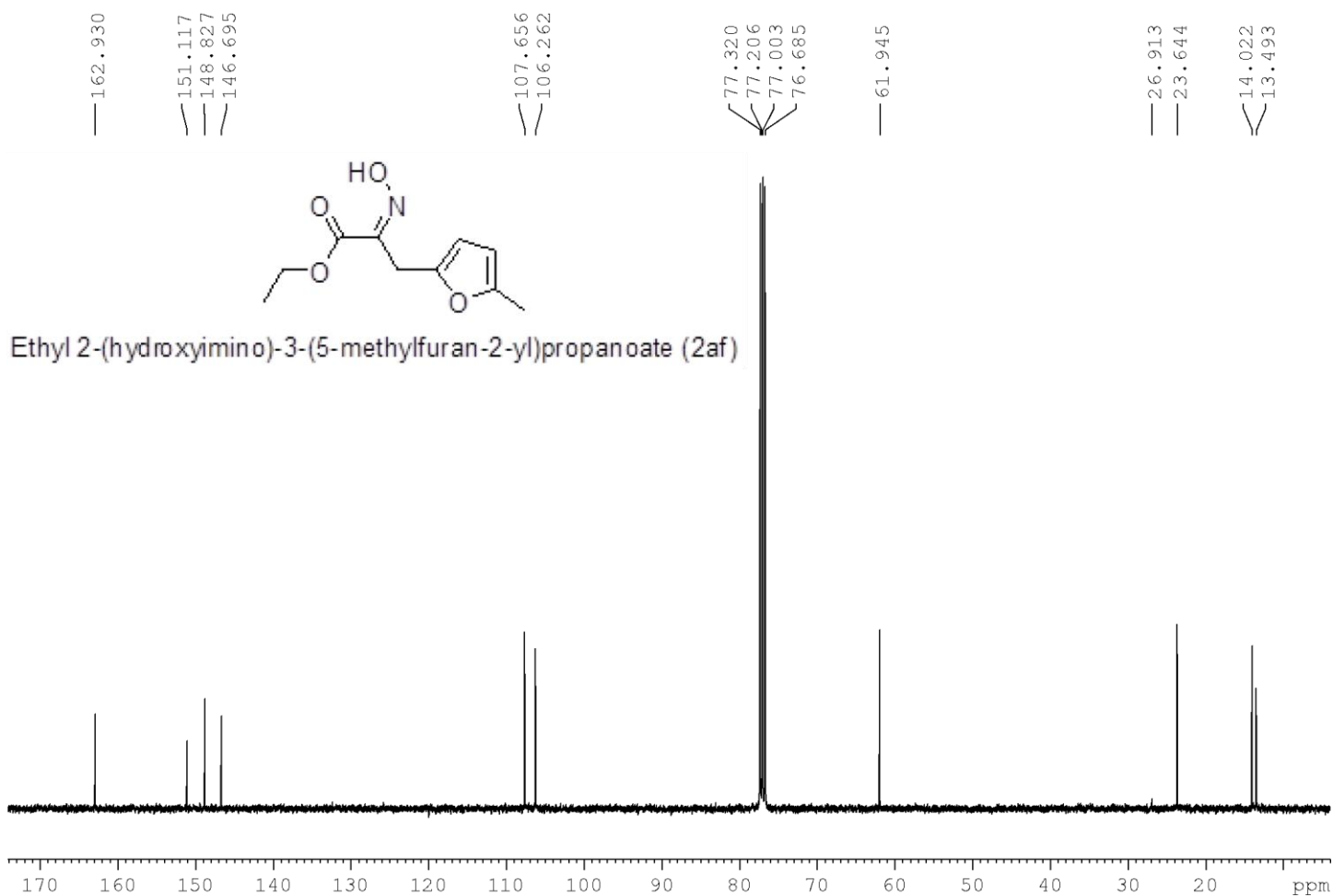
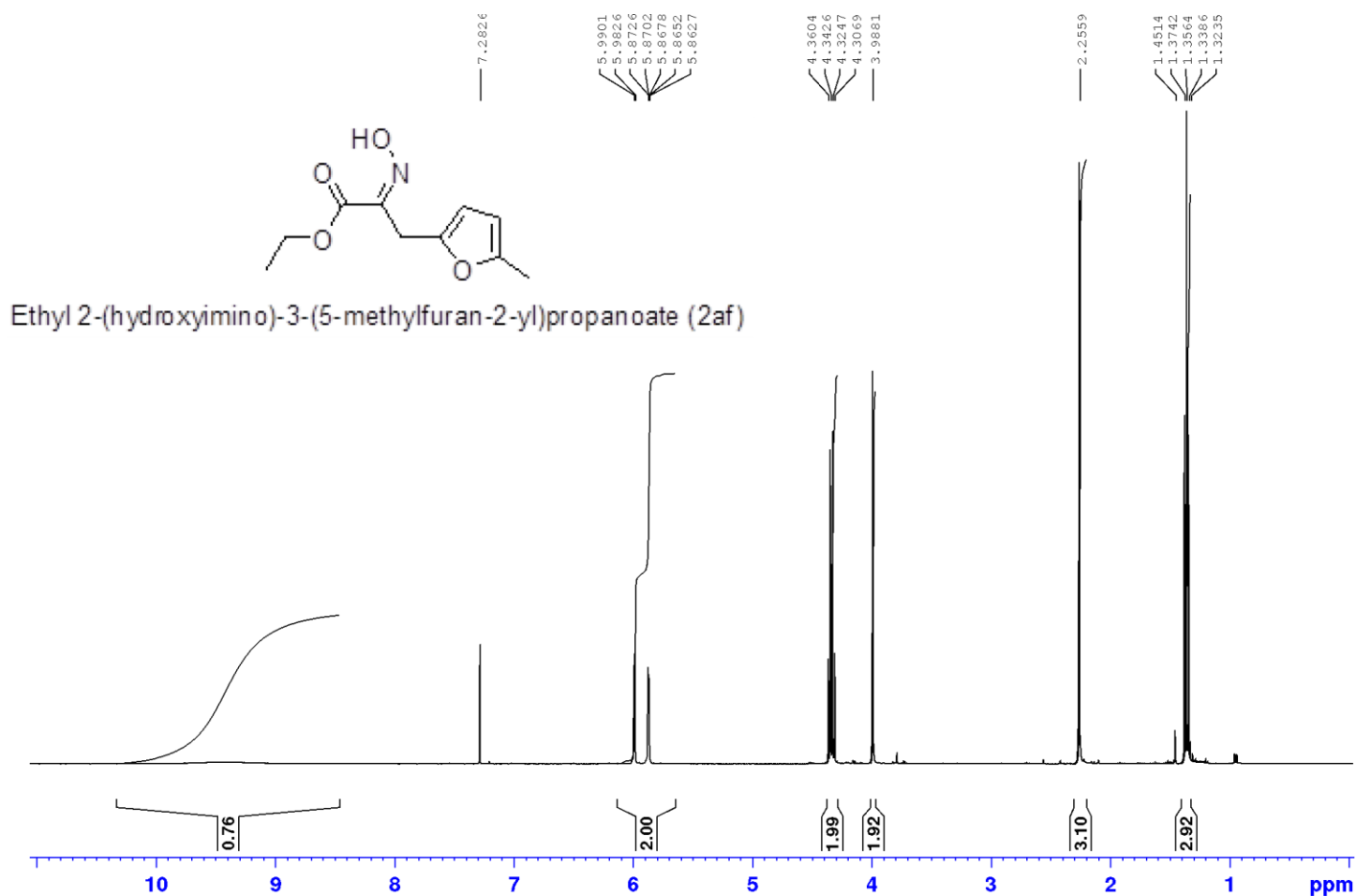


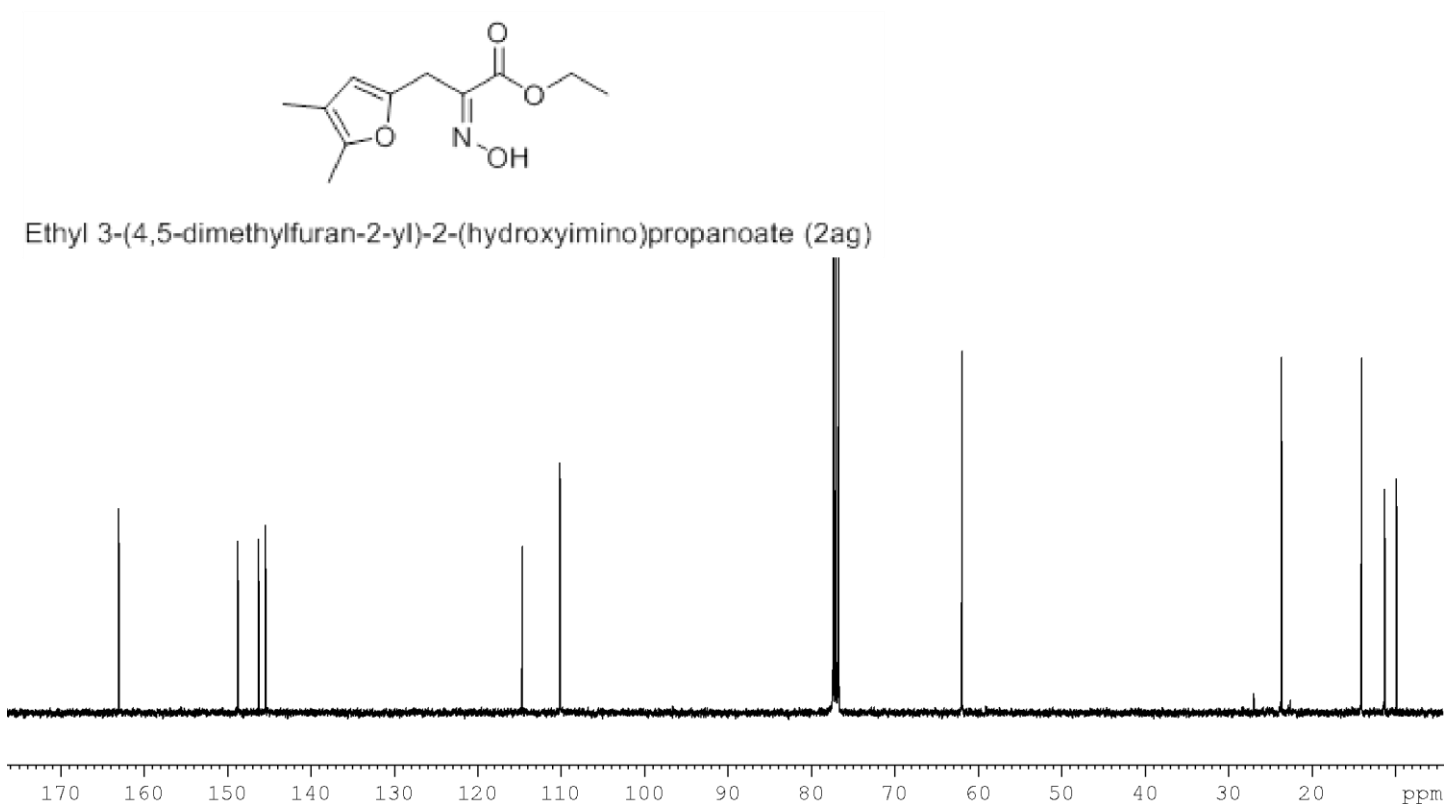
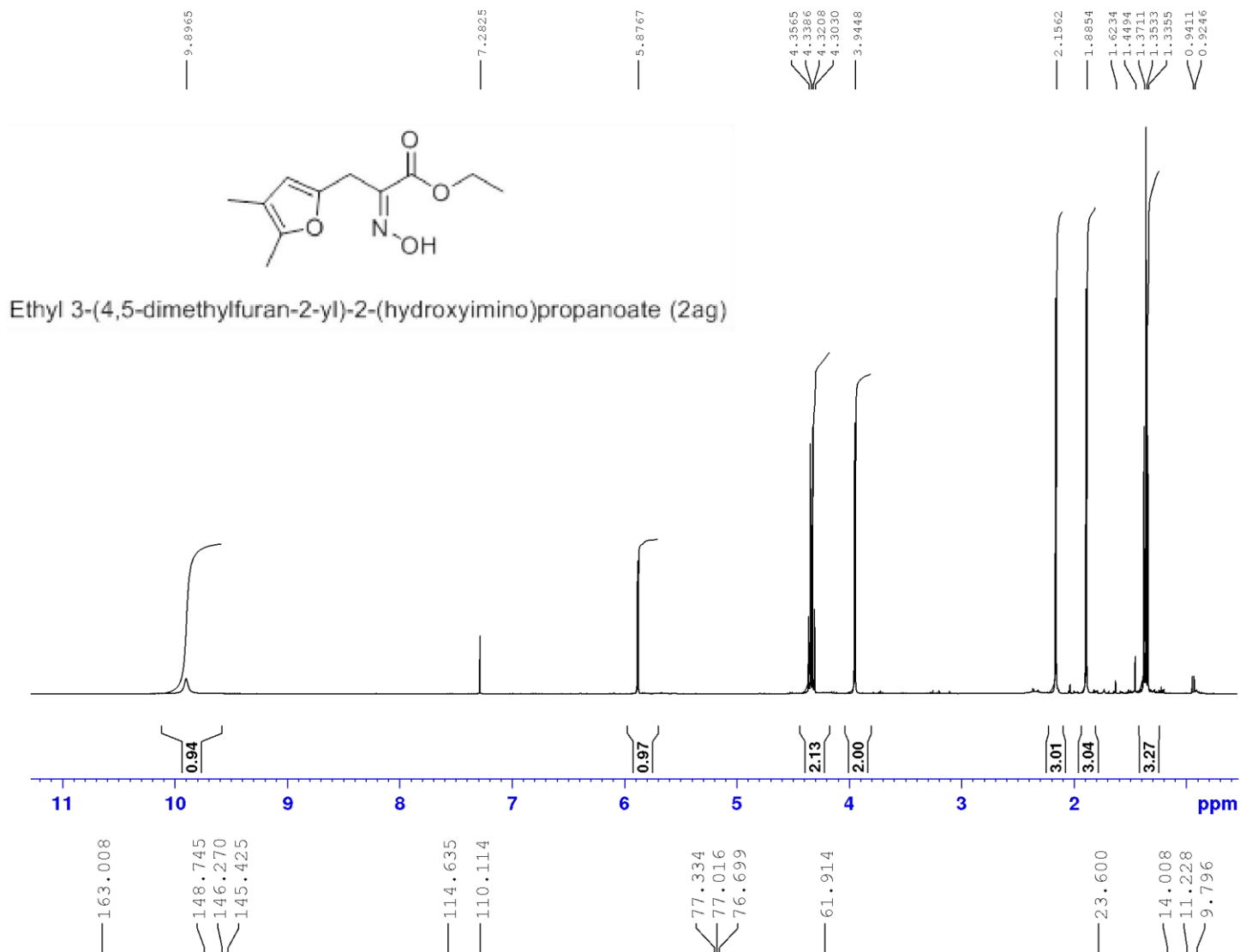
Chemical shift (ppm): 13.00, 8.50, 8.30, 7.70, 7.50, 4.20, 4.00, 1.20.

Integration: 0.98, 1.06, 1.07, 1.04, 1.22, 2.16, 2.11, 3.06.

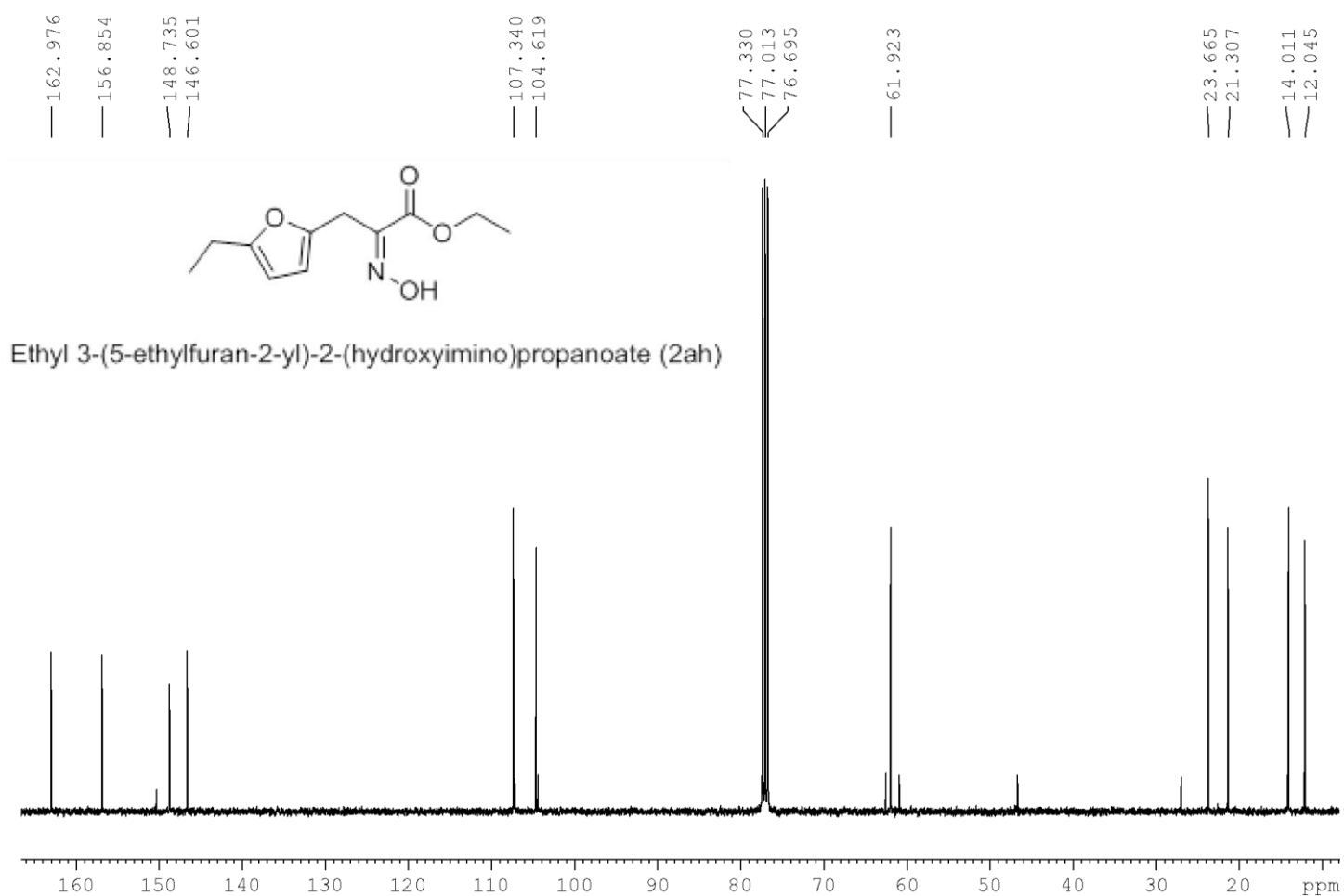
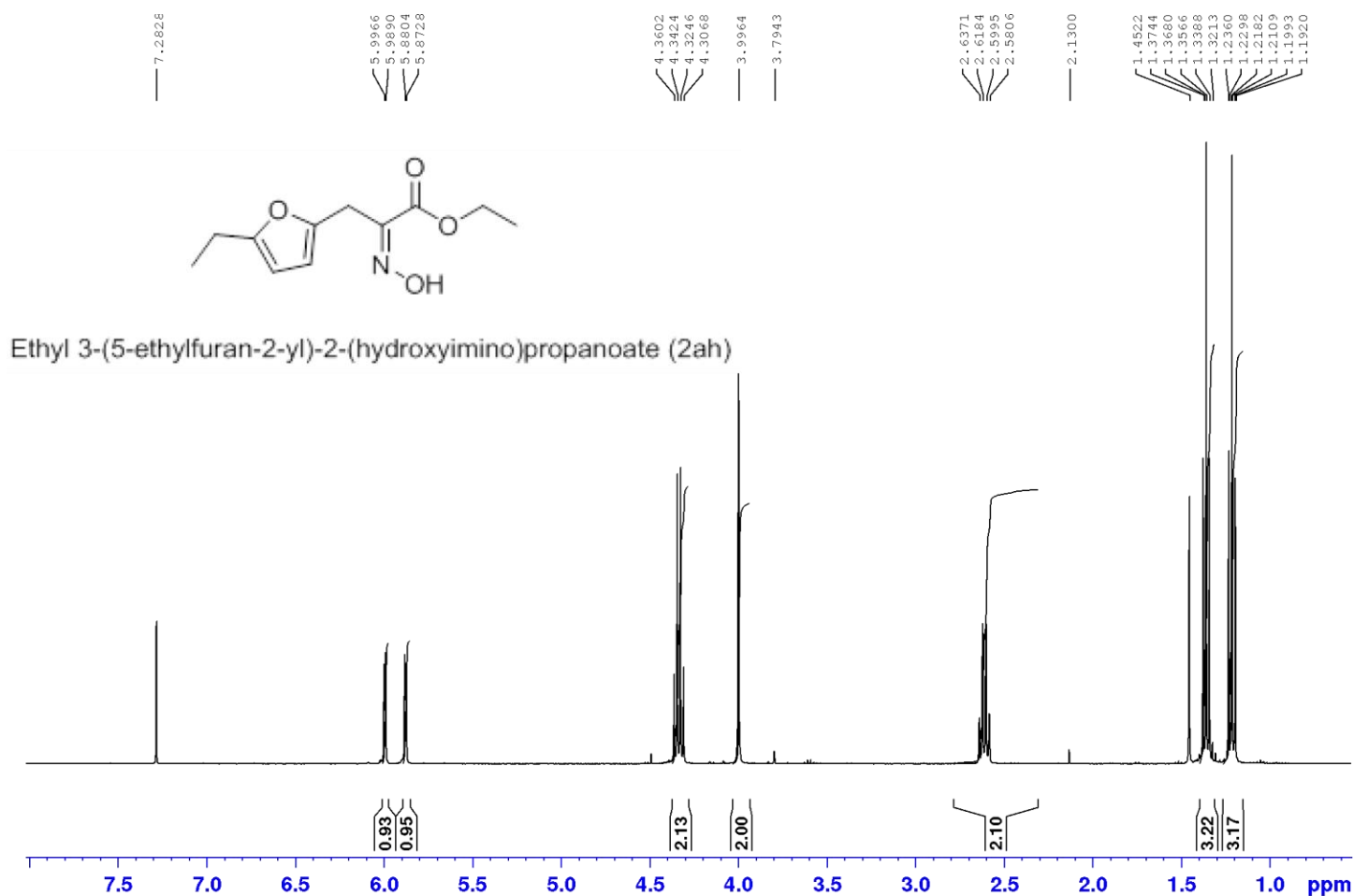


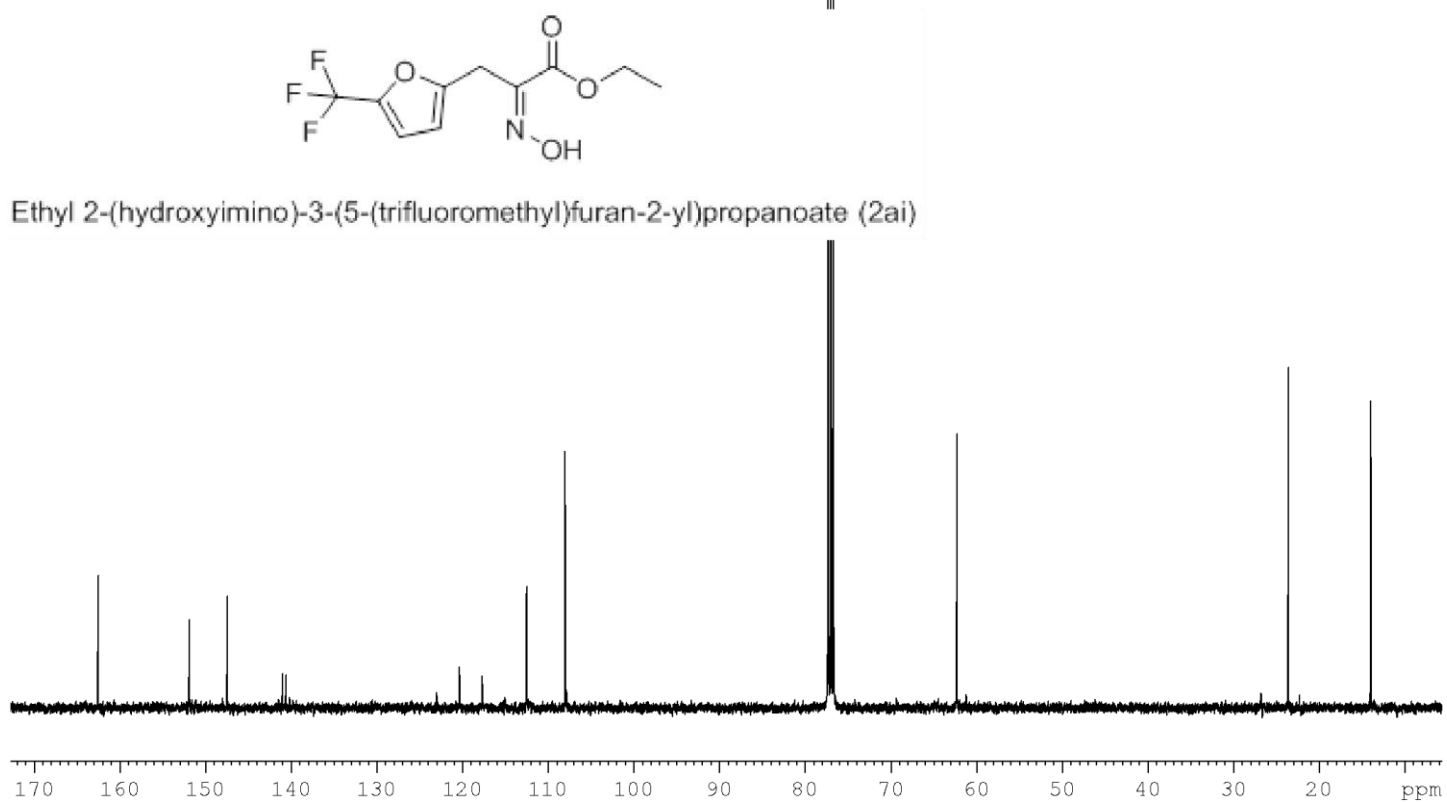
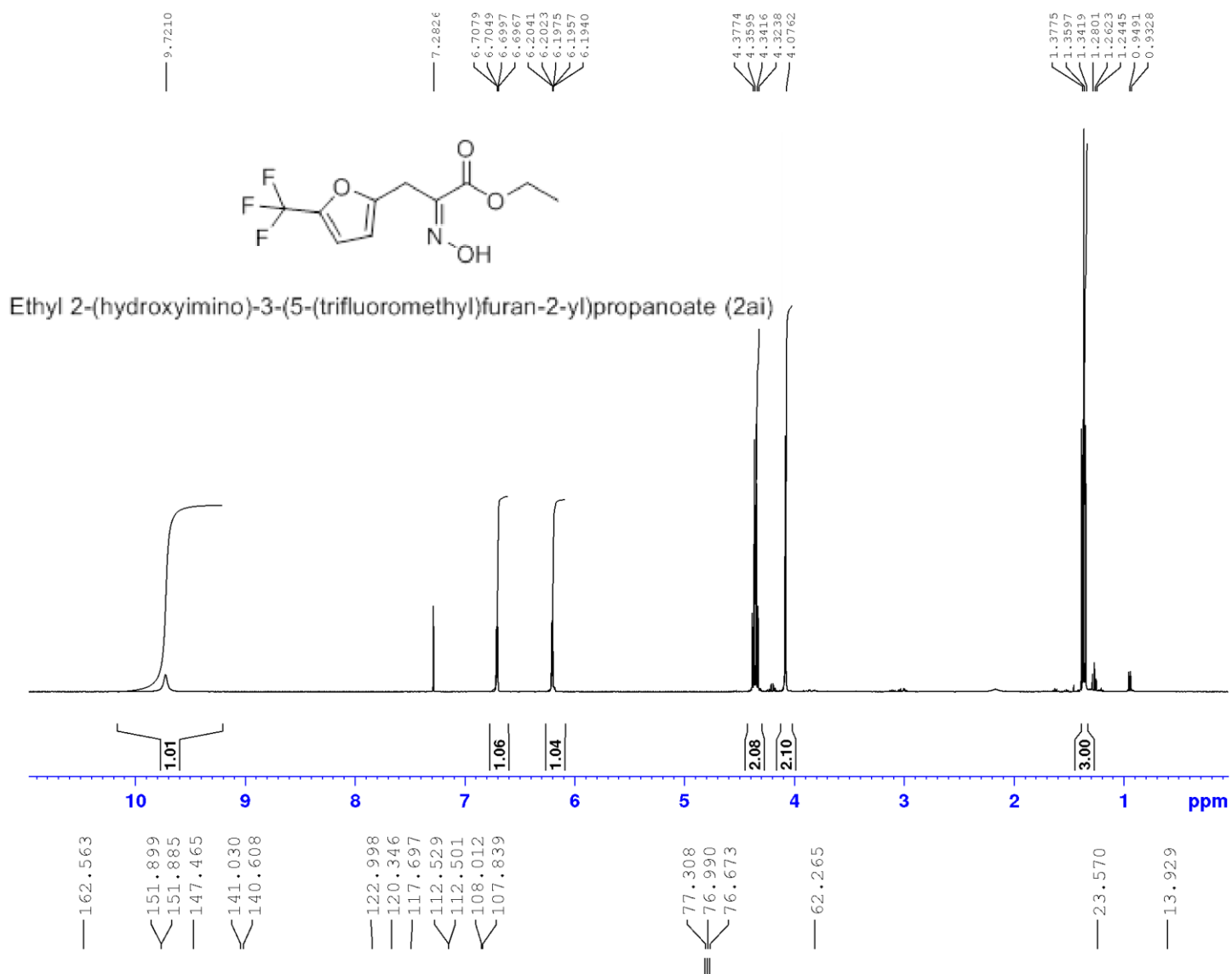












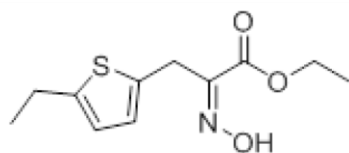
10.0624

7.2825  
6.7564  
6.7478  
6.5994  
6.5969  
6.5944  
6.5910  
6.5884  
6.5858

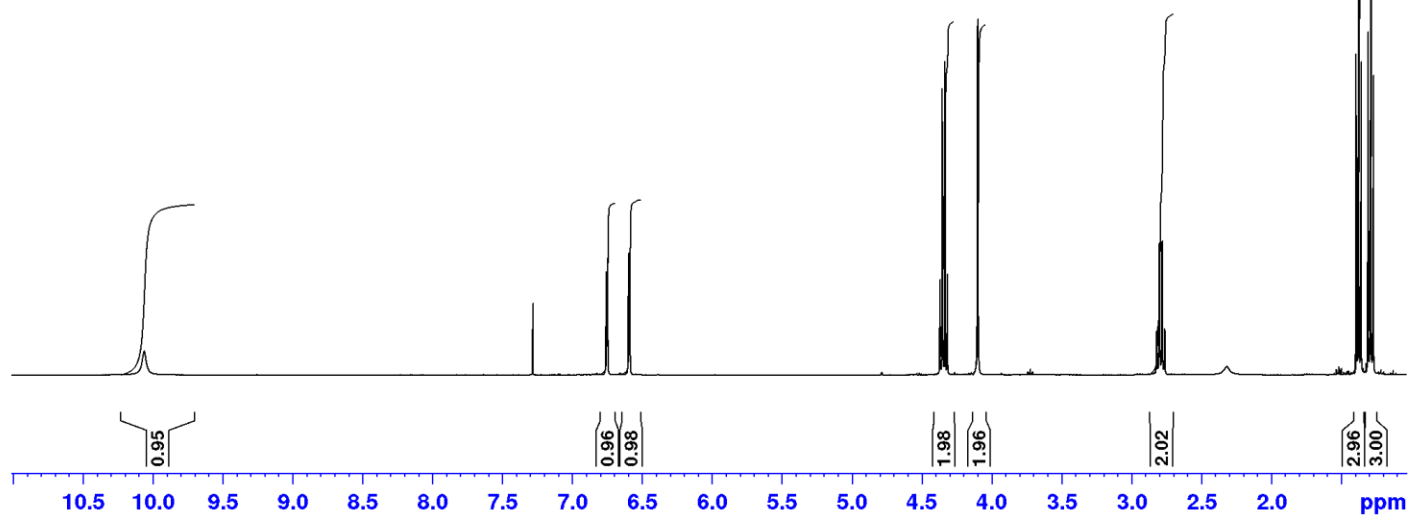
4.3699  
4.3520  
4.3341  
4.3163  
4.0990

2.8186  
2.8169  
2.7999  
2.7981  
2.7811  
2.7792  
2.7623  
2.7605

1.3924  
1.3838  
1.3745  
1.3566  
1.3067  
1.2879



Ethyl 3-(5-ethylthiophen-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2aj)



162.993

150.073  
146.572

133.867

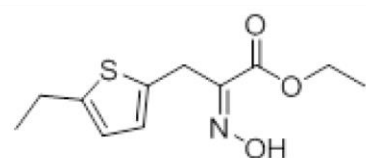
126.270  
122.821

77.340  
77.023  
76.705

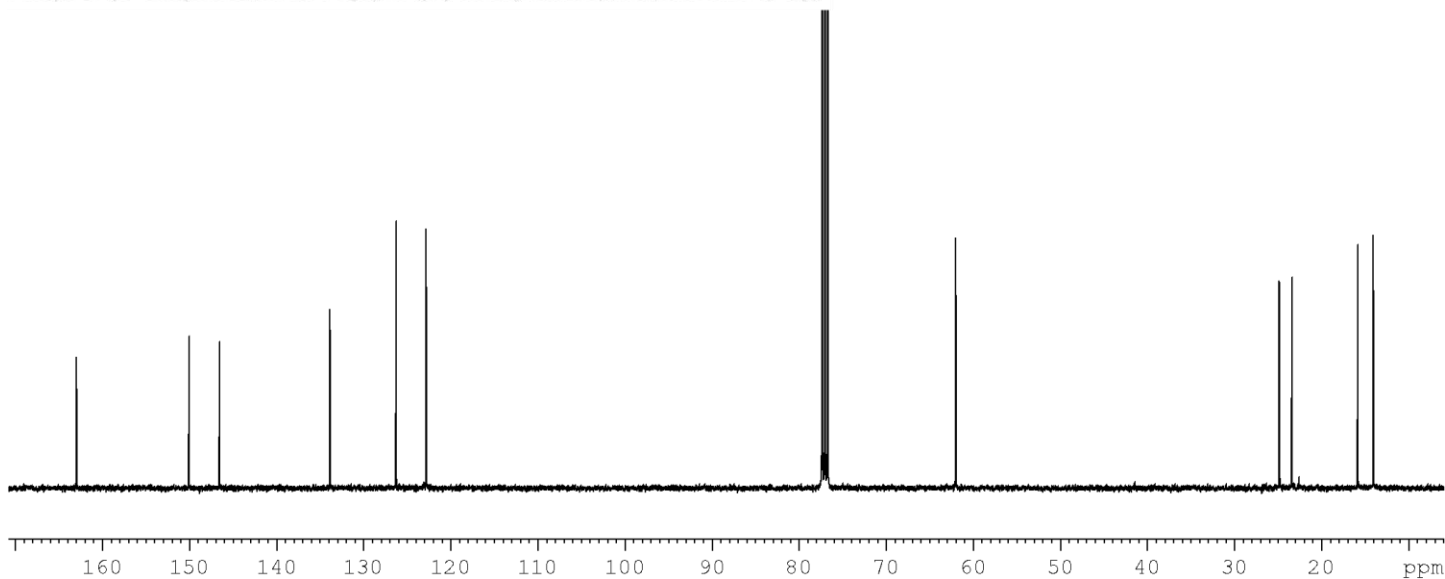
61.993

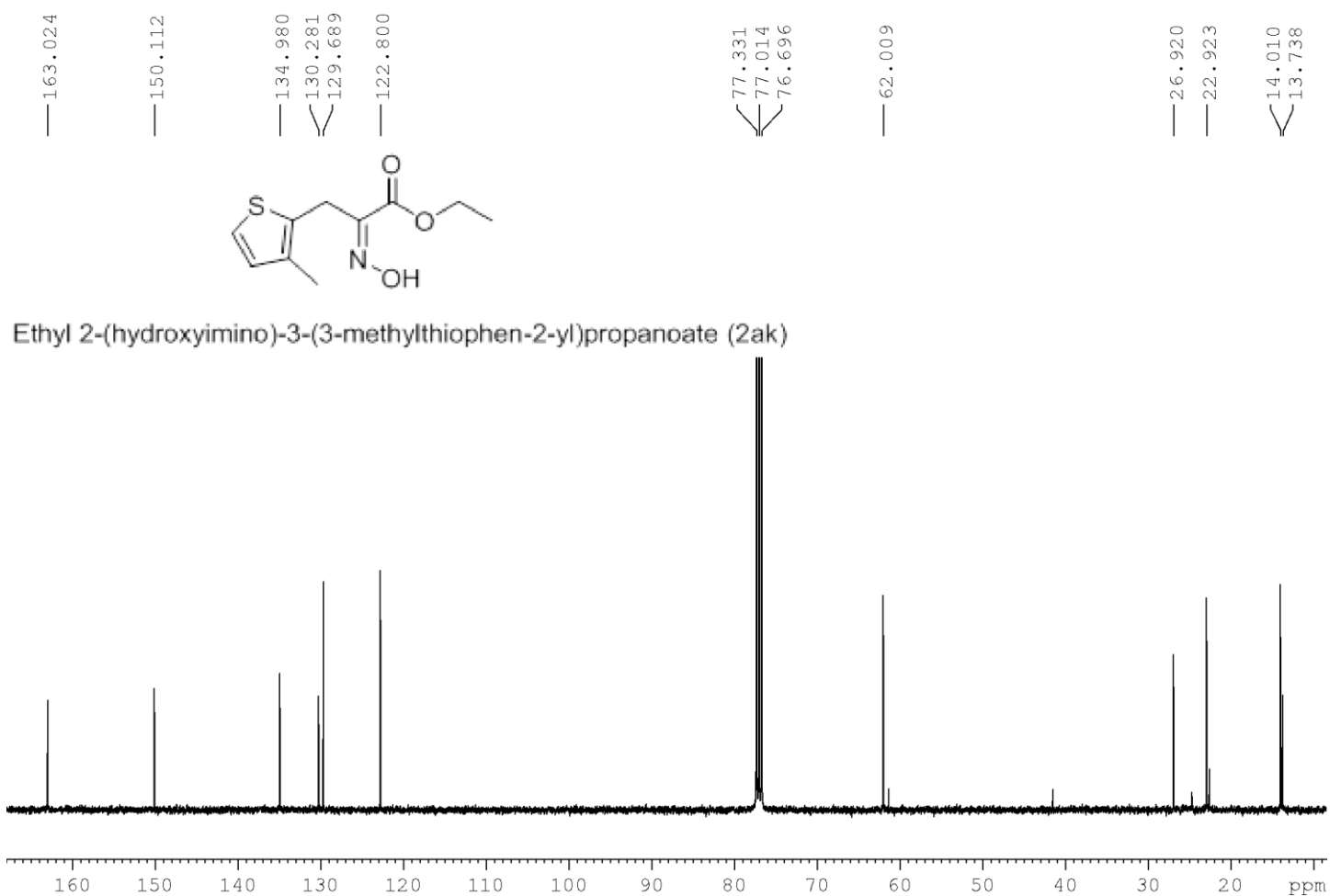
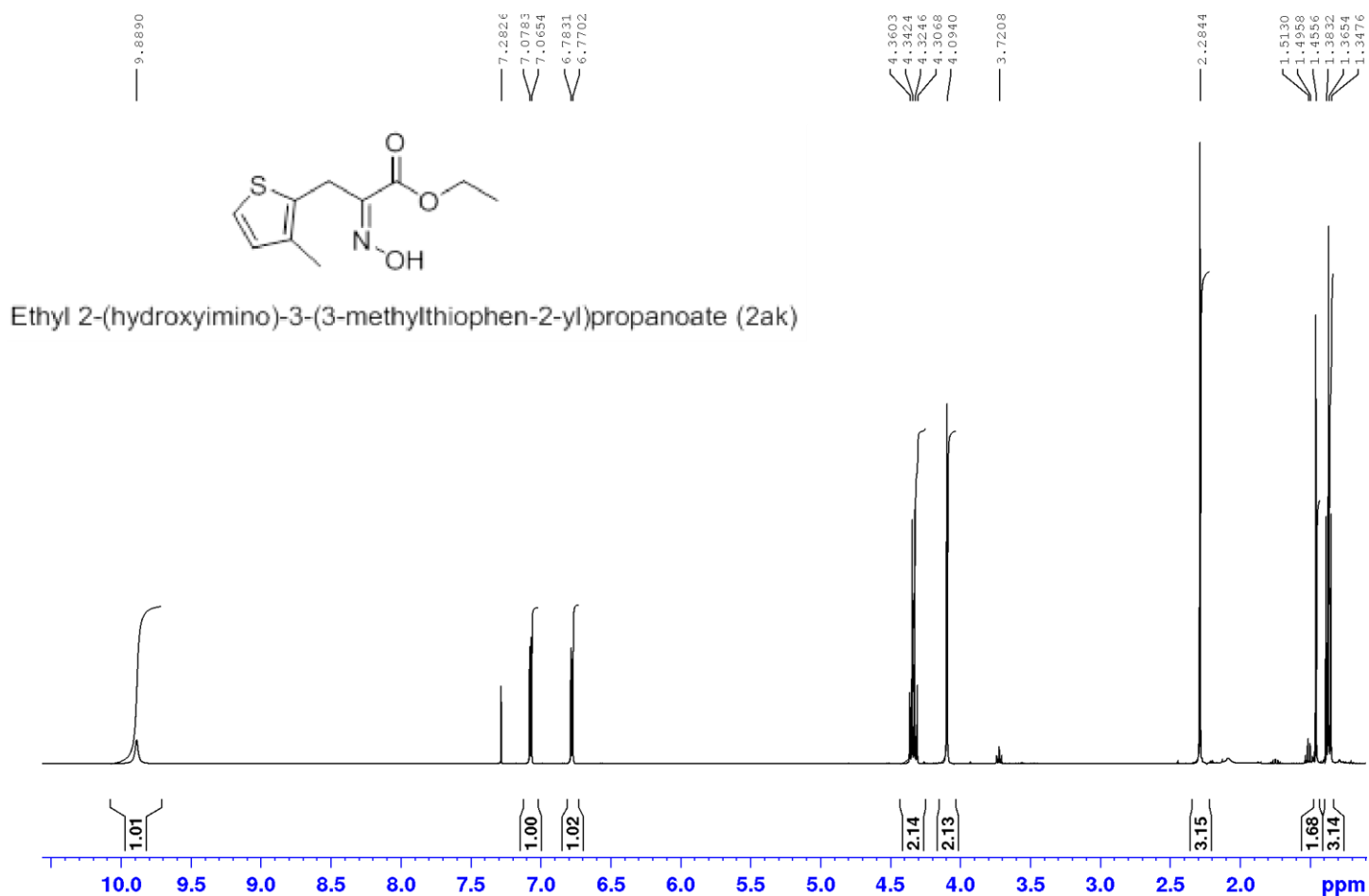
24.829  
23.386

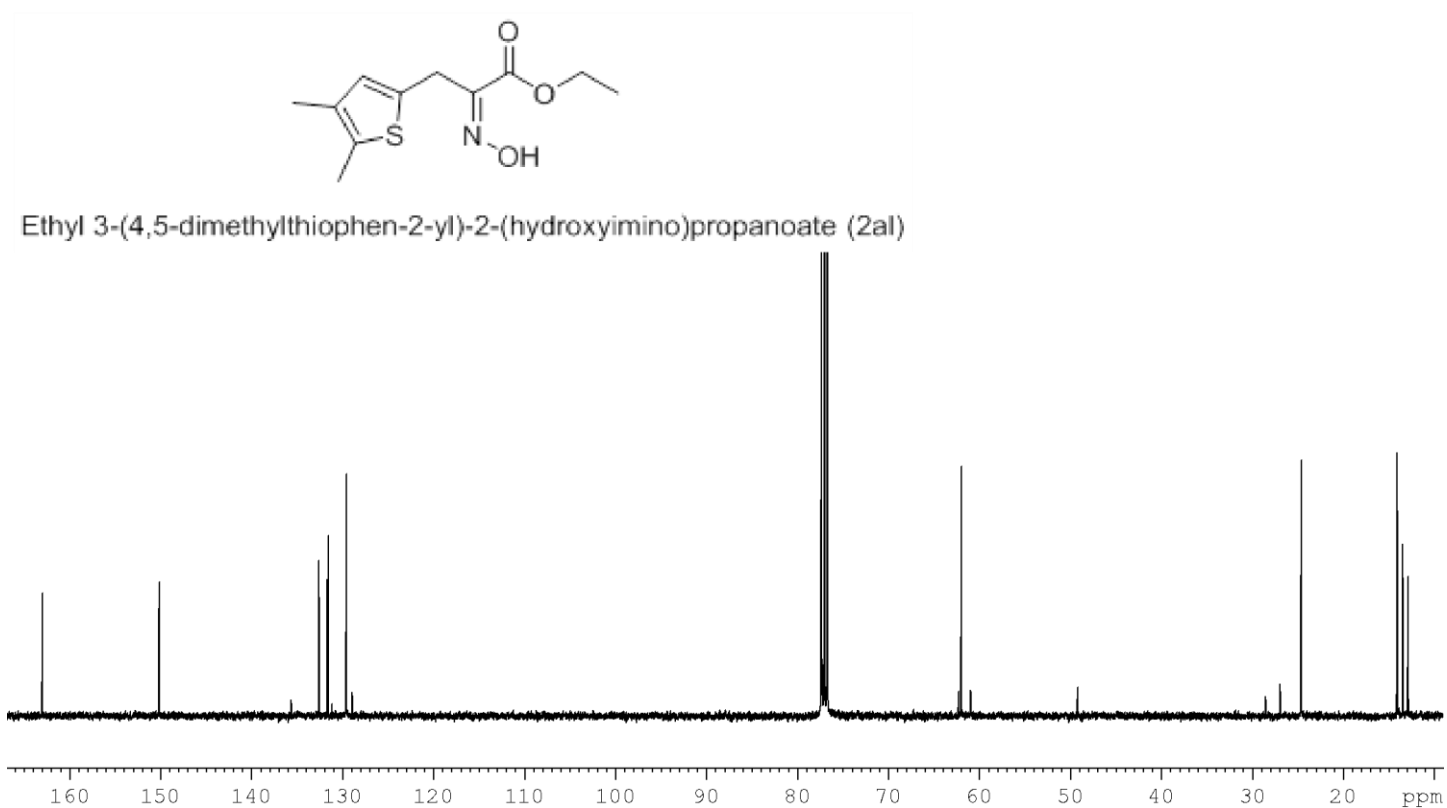
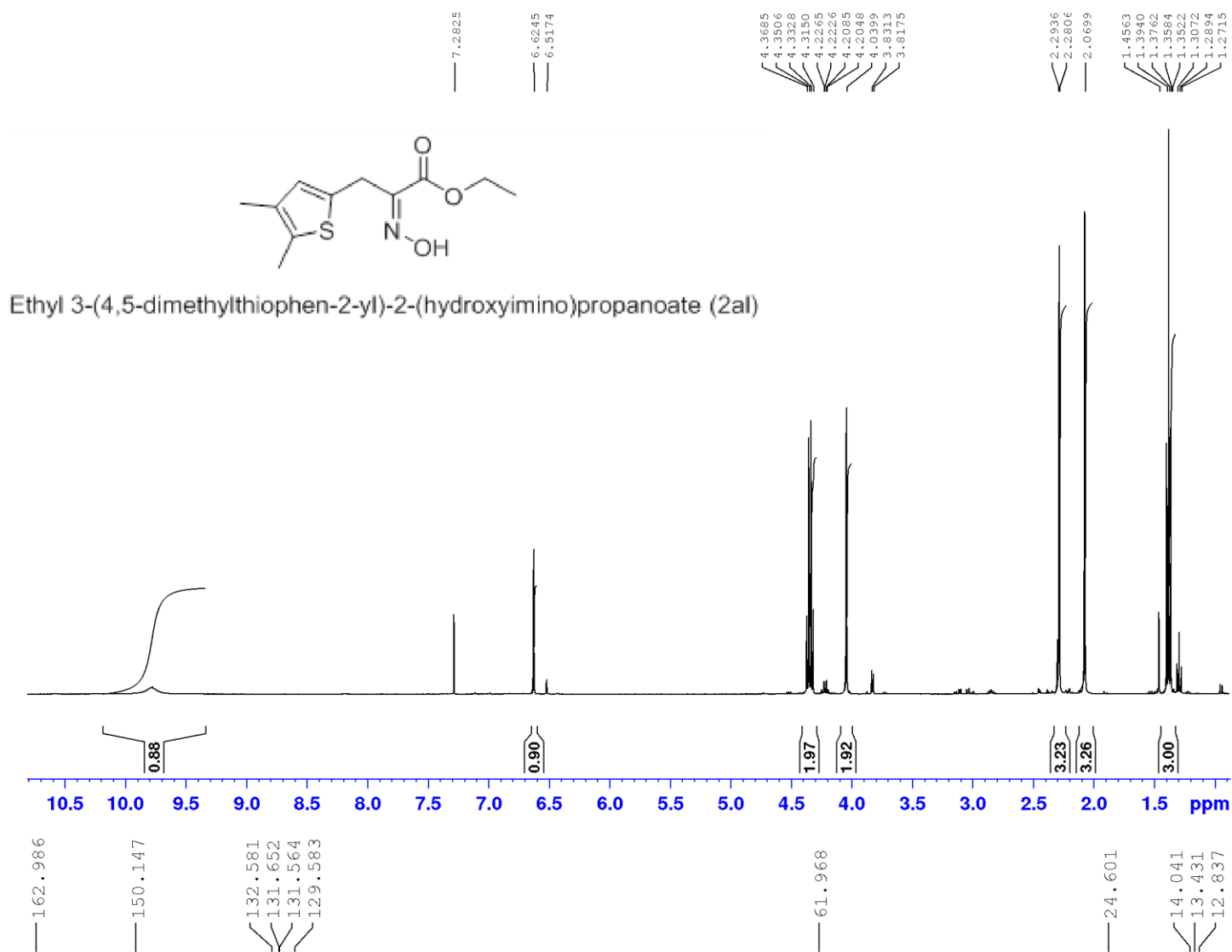
15.810  
14.032

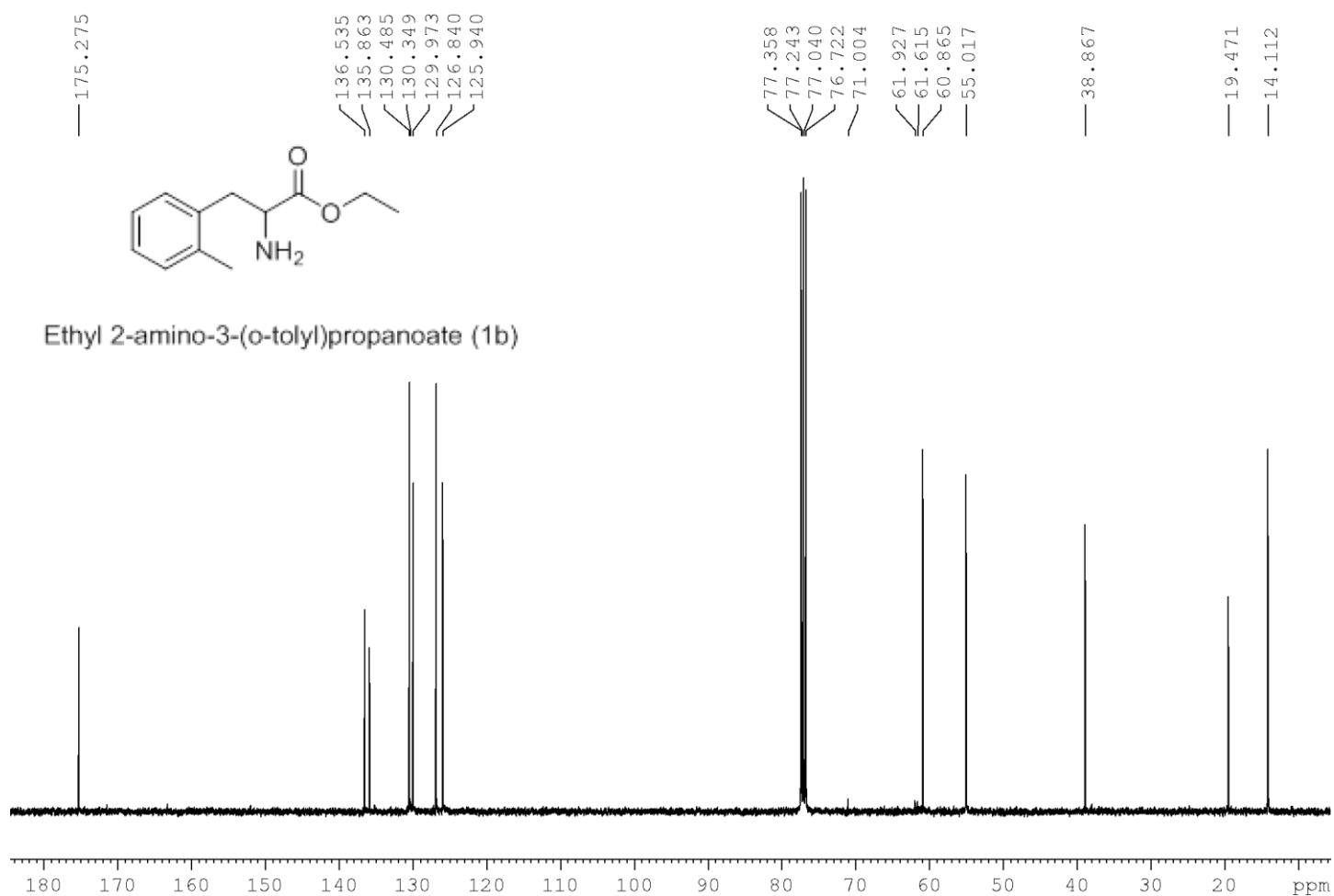
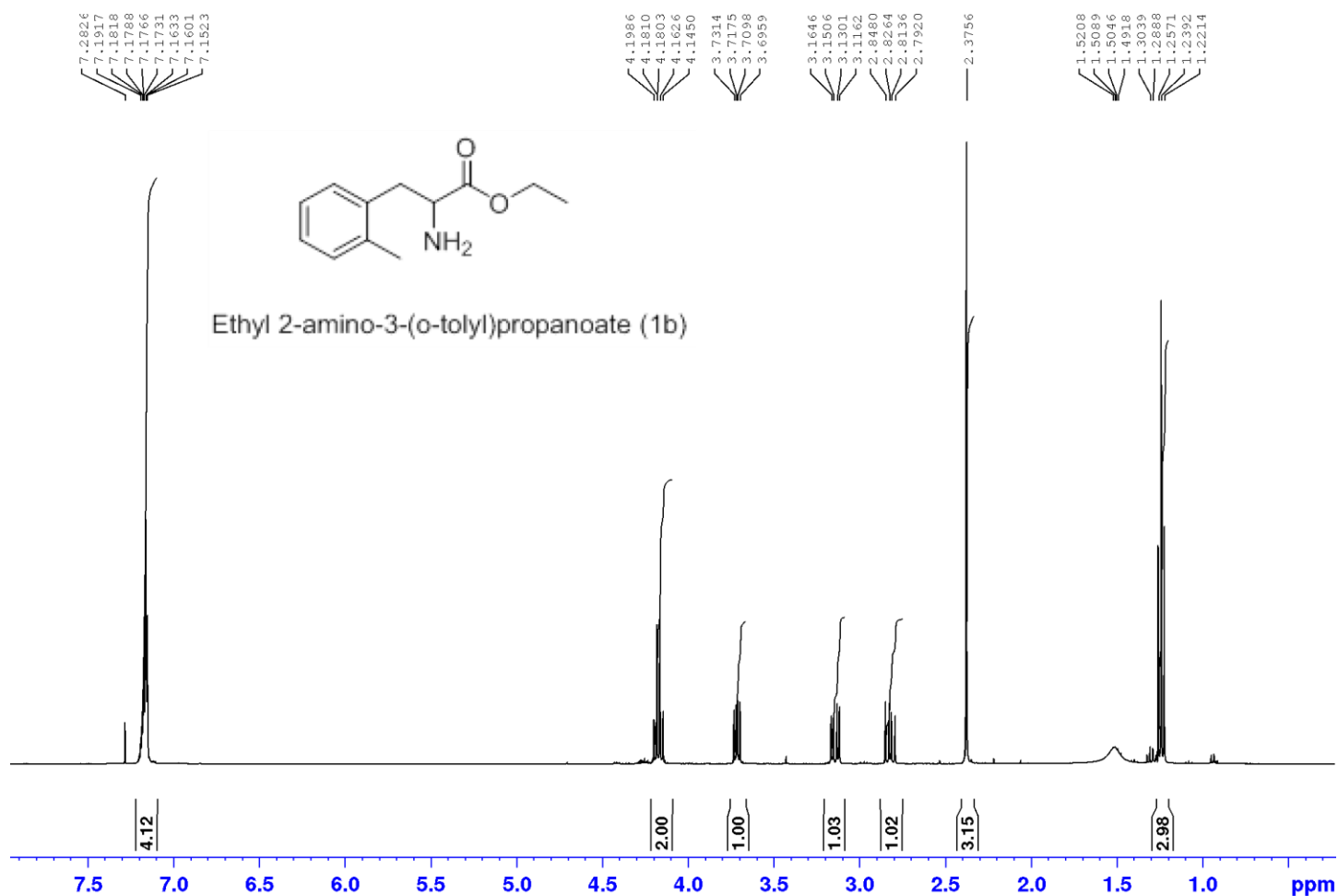


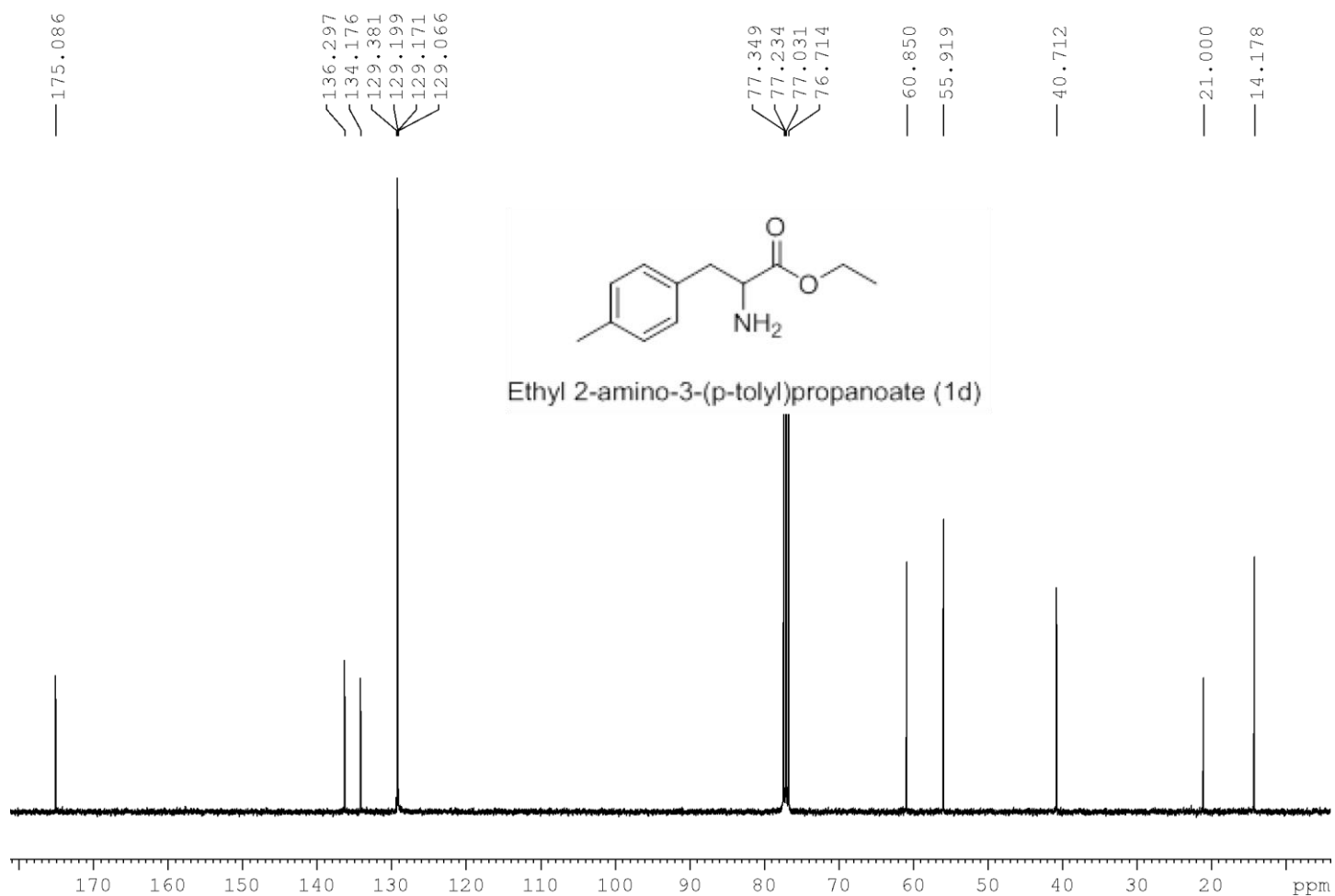
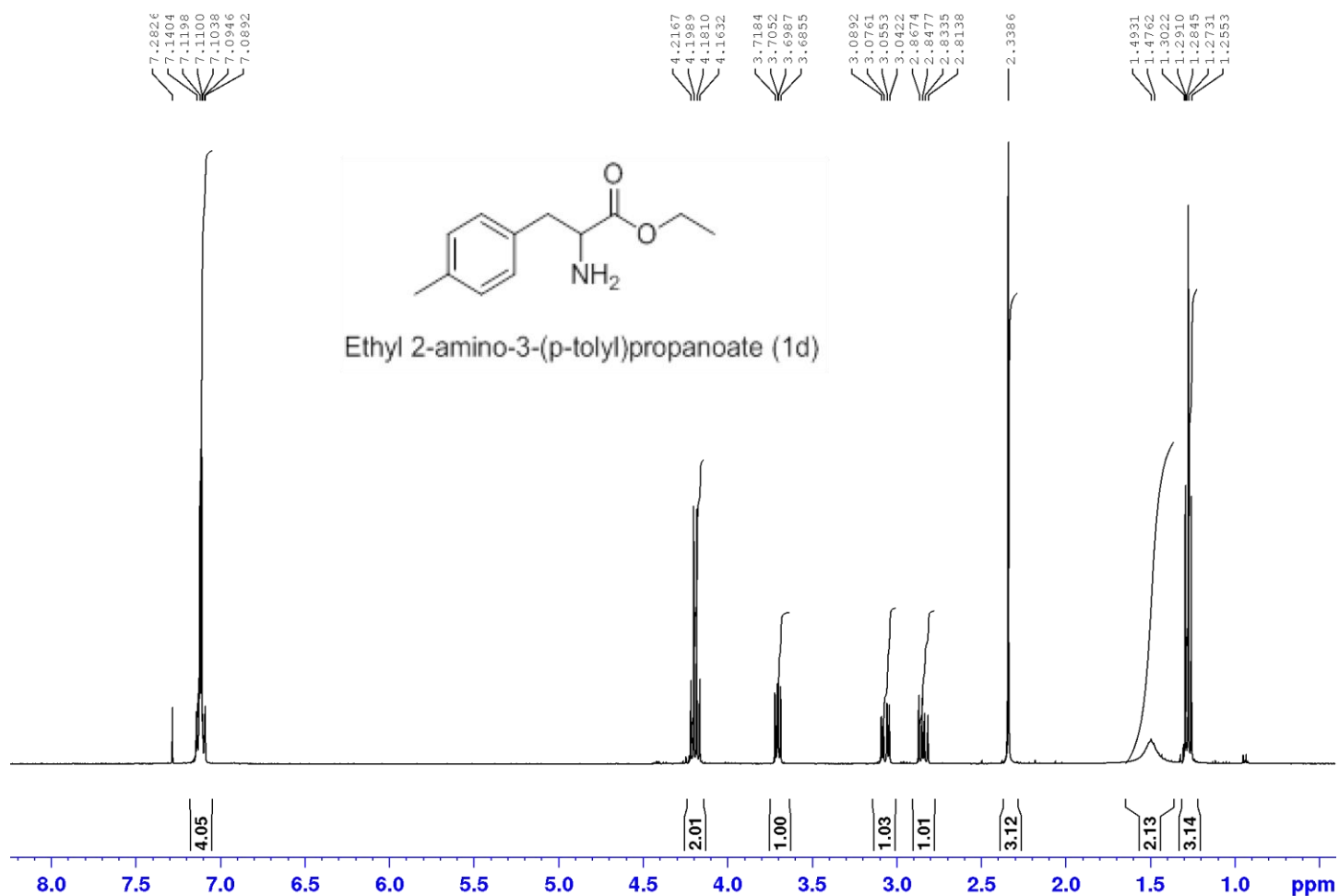
Ethyl 3-(5-ethylthiophen-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)propanoate (2aj)

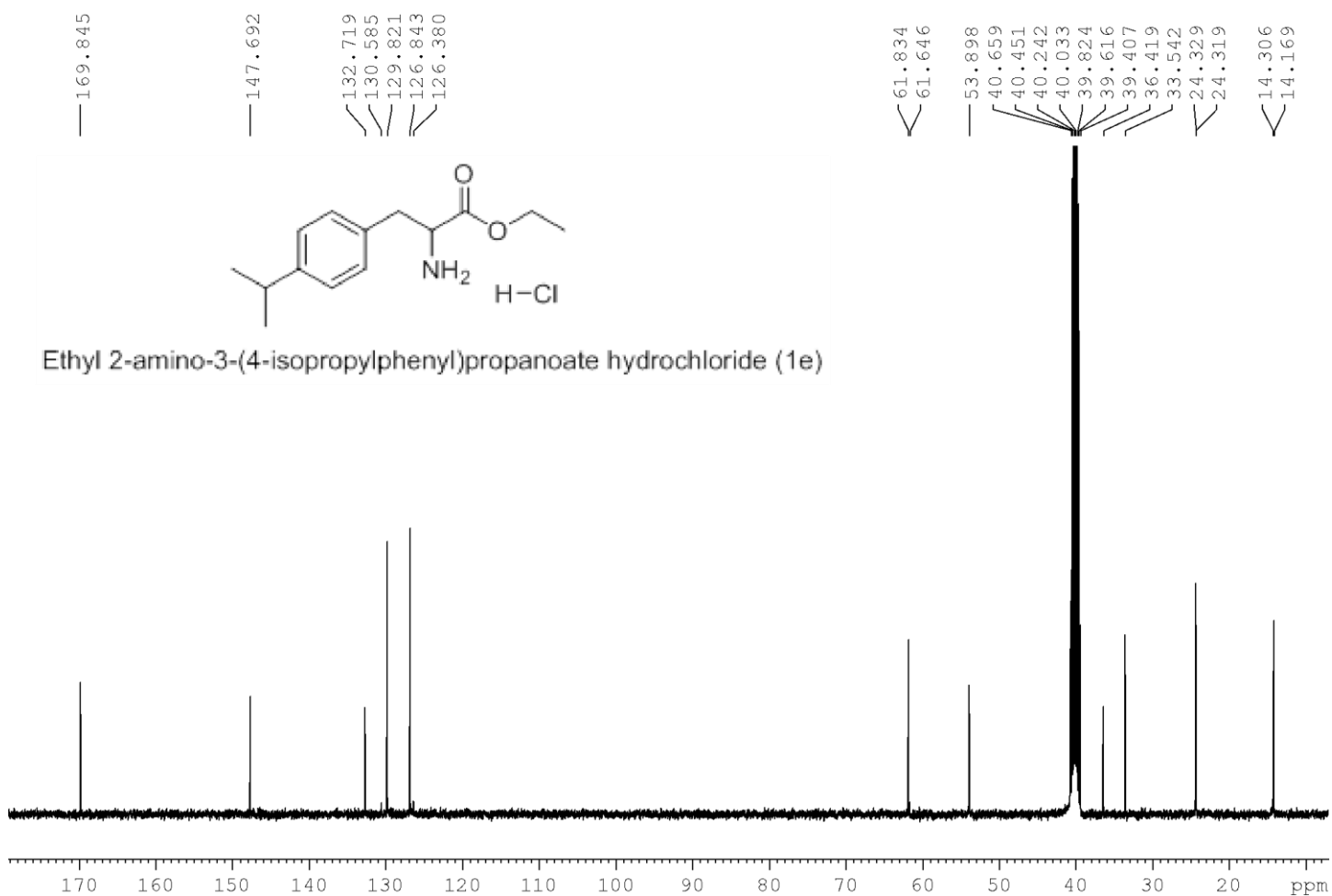
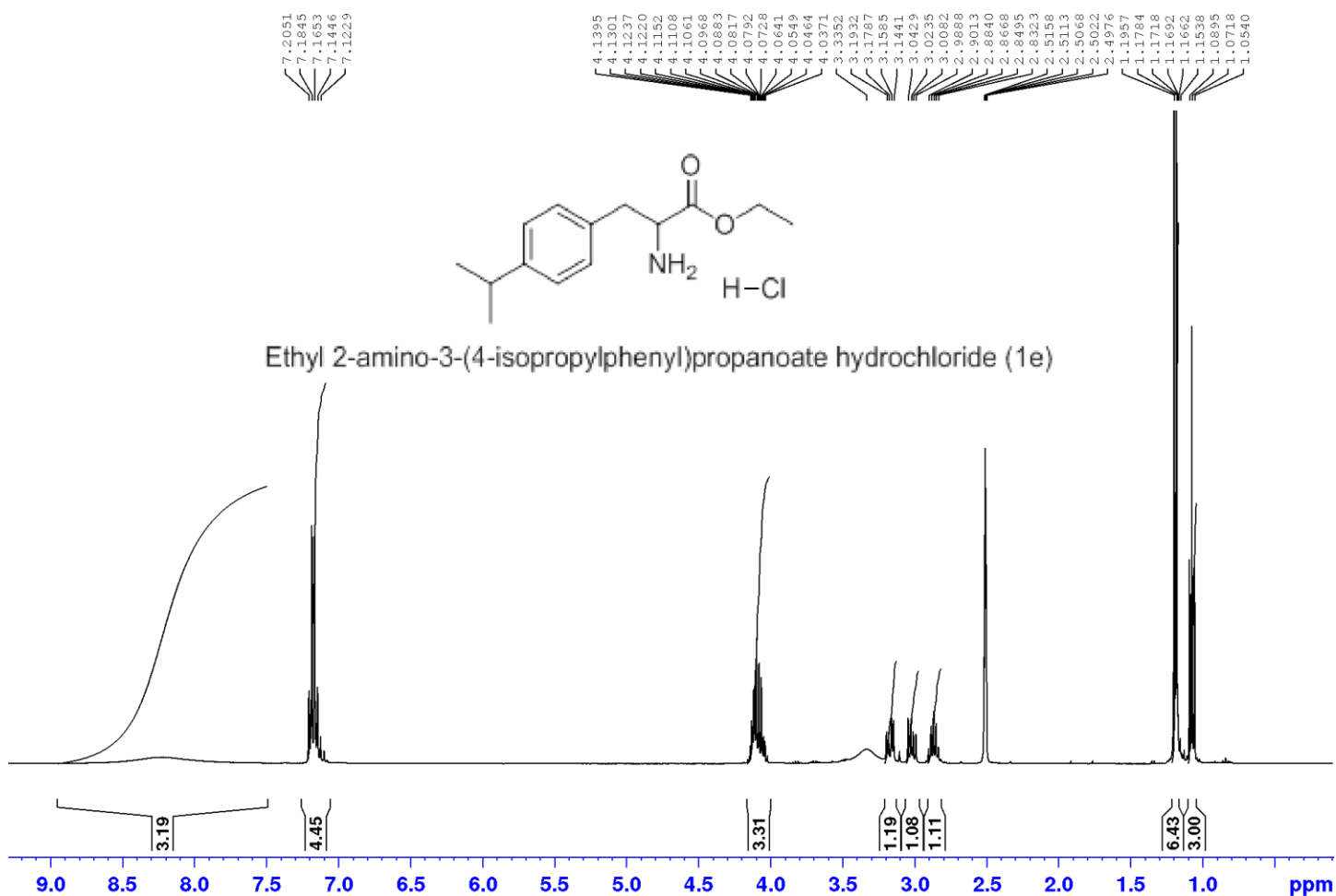




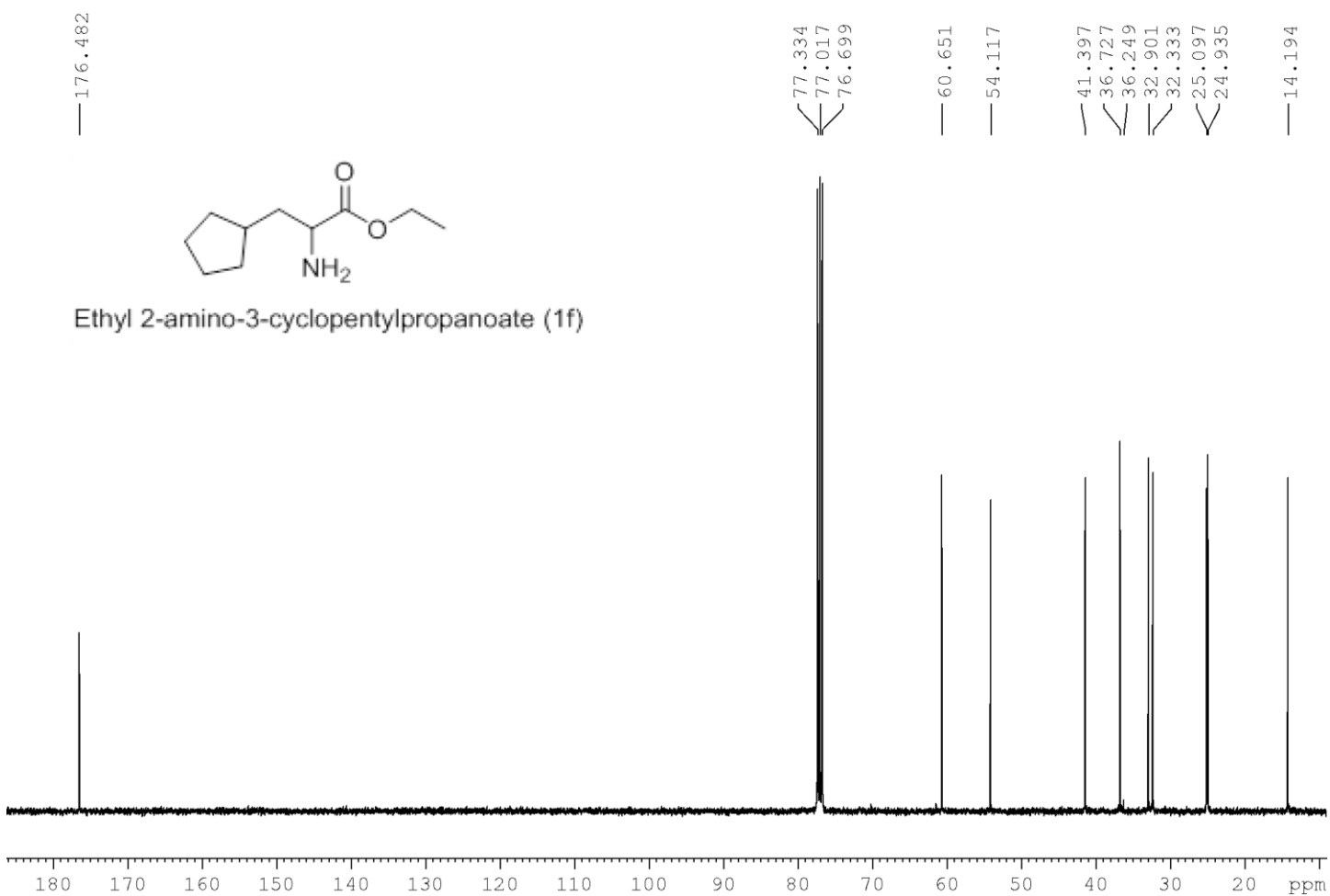
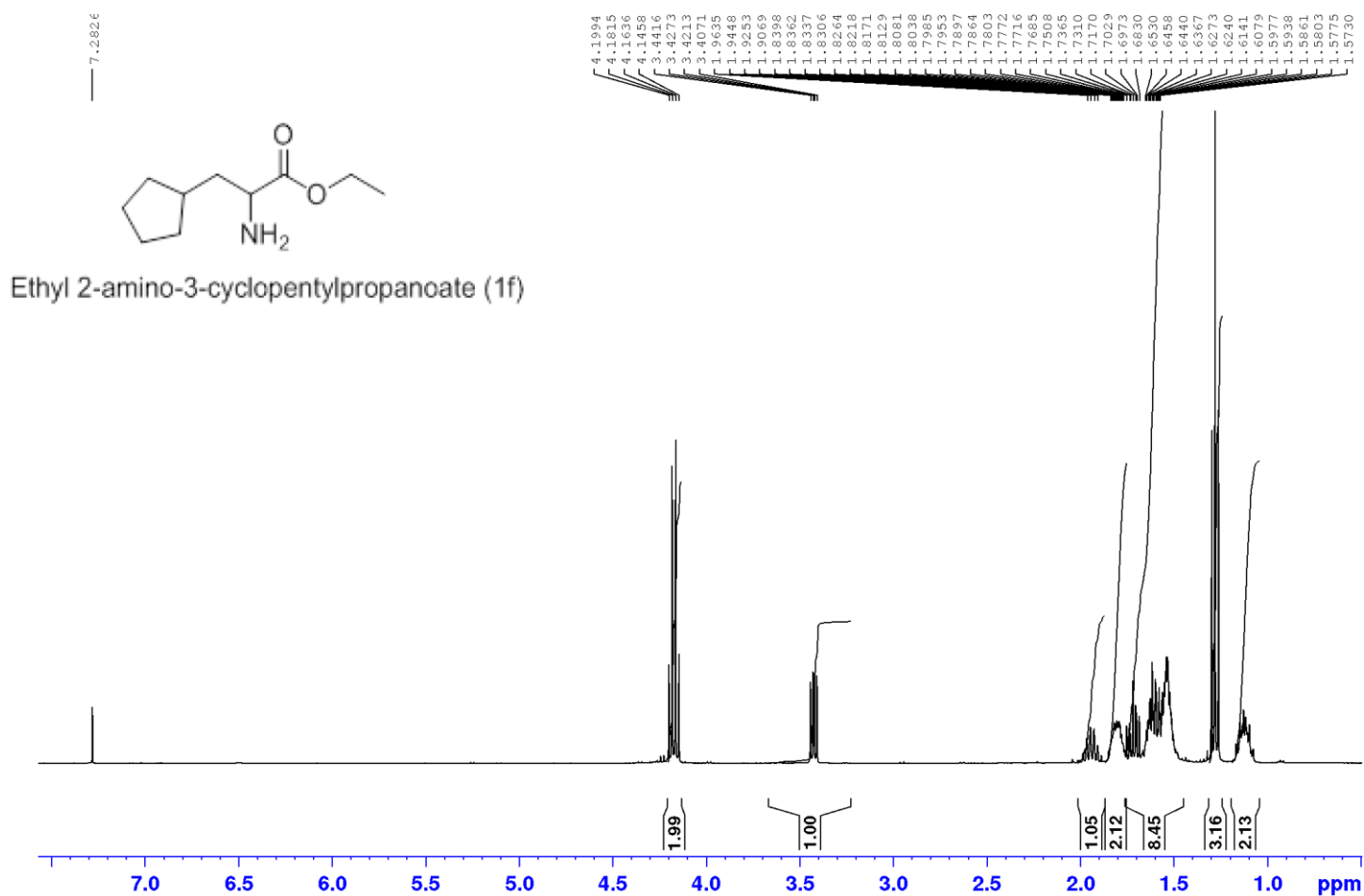


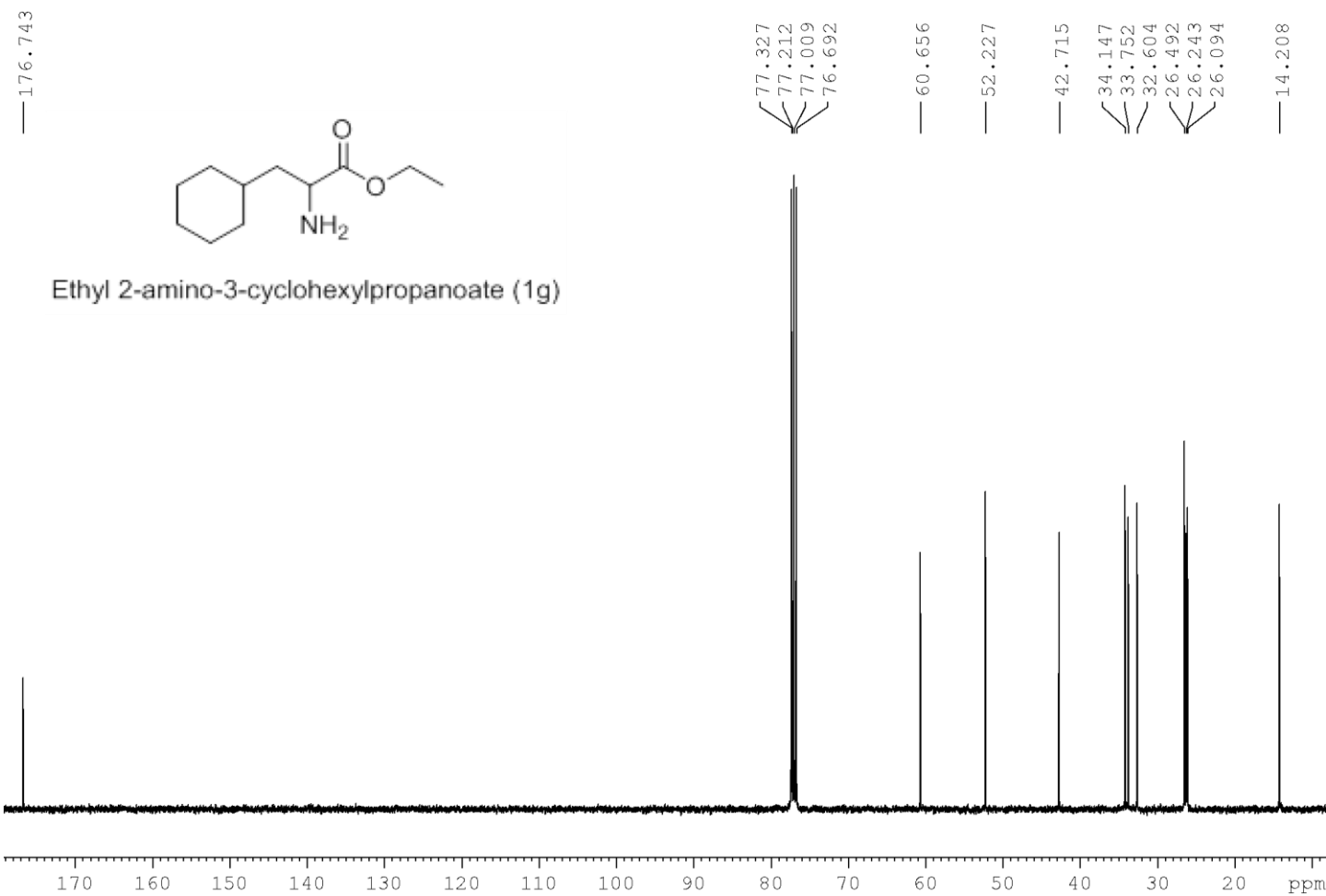
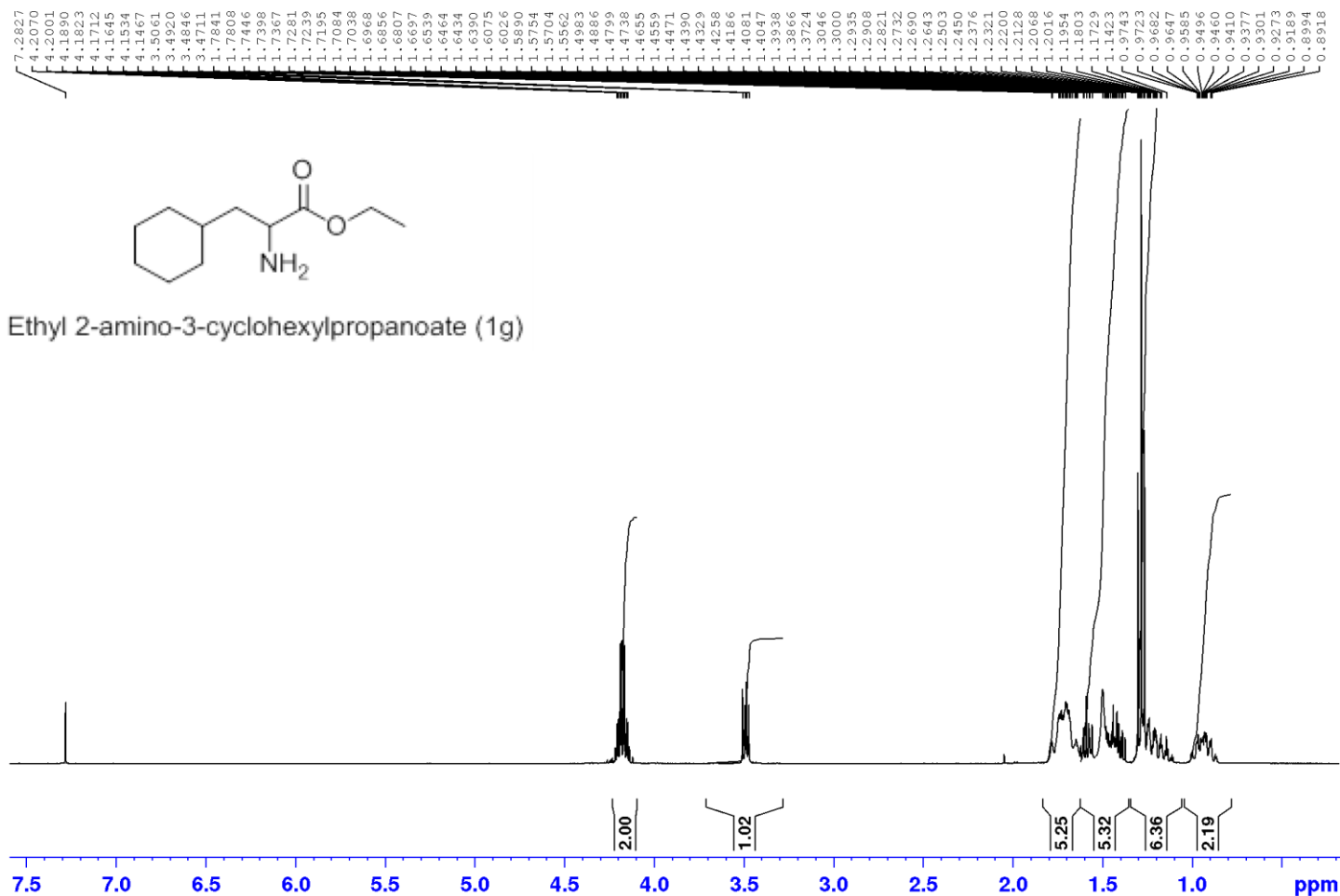


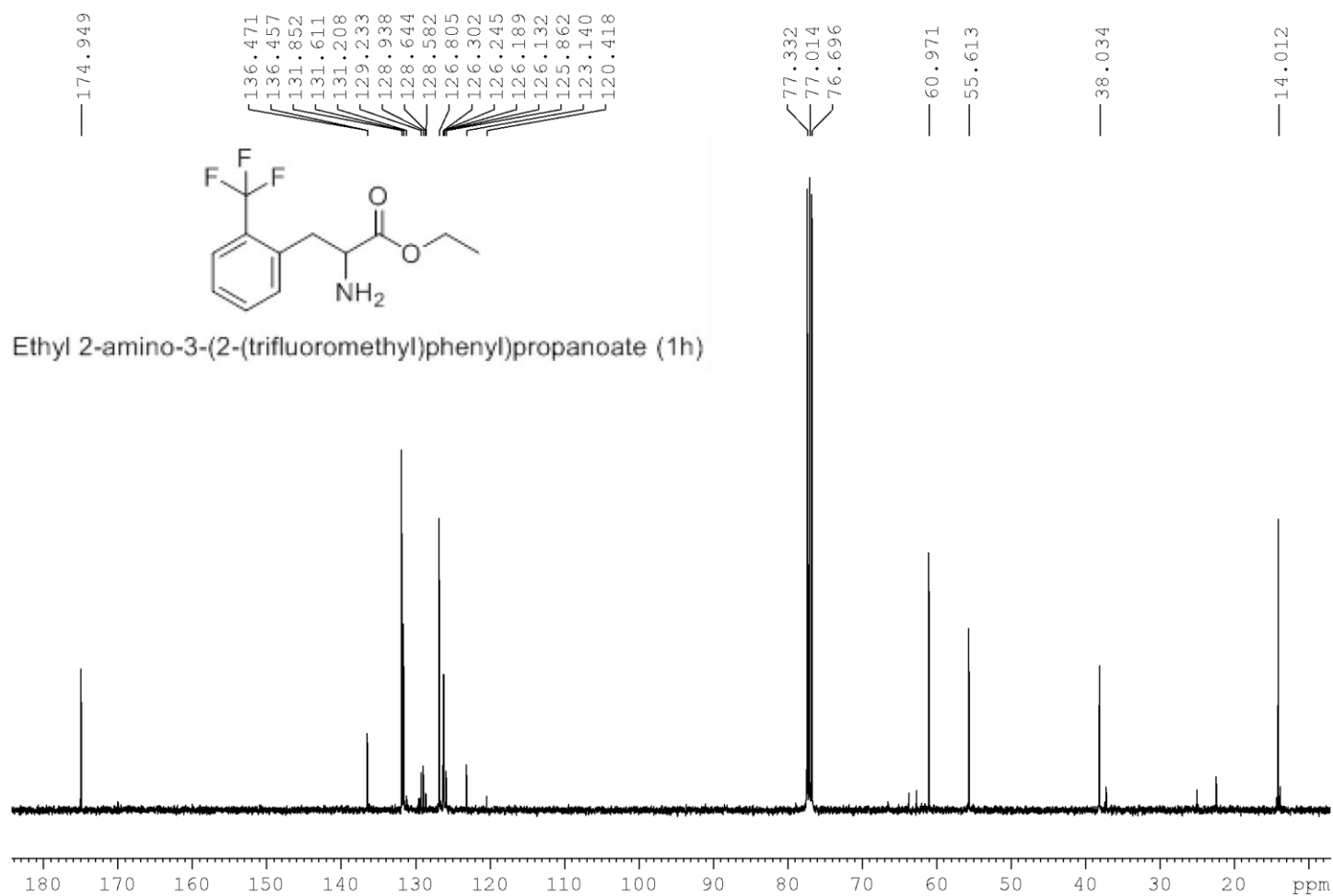
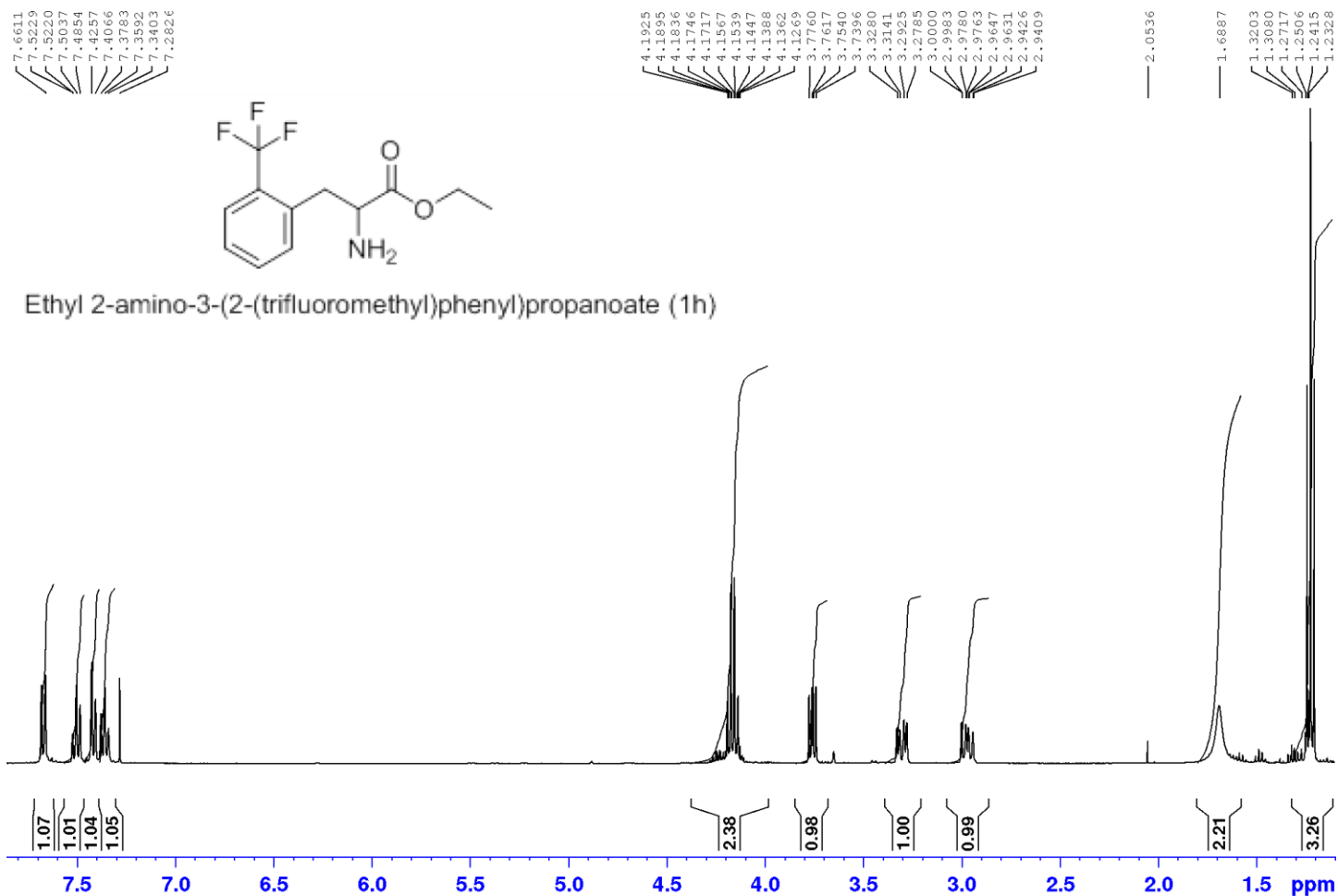


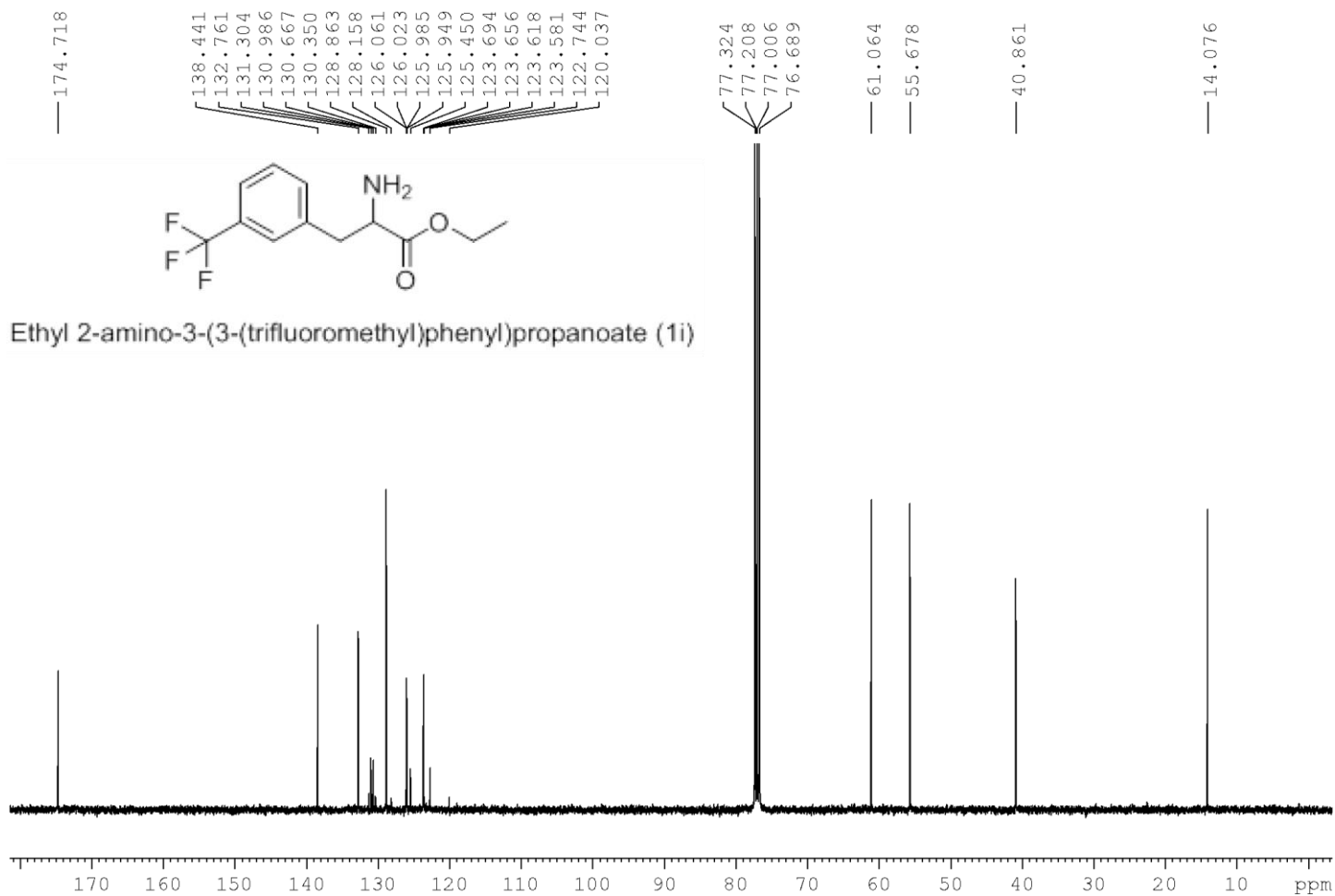
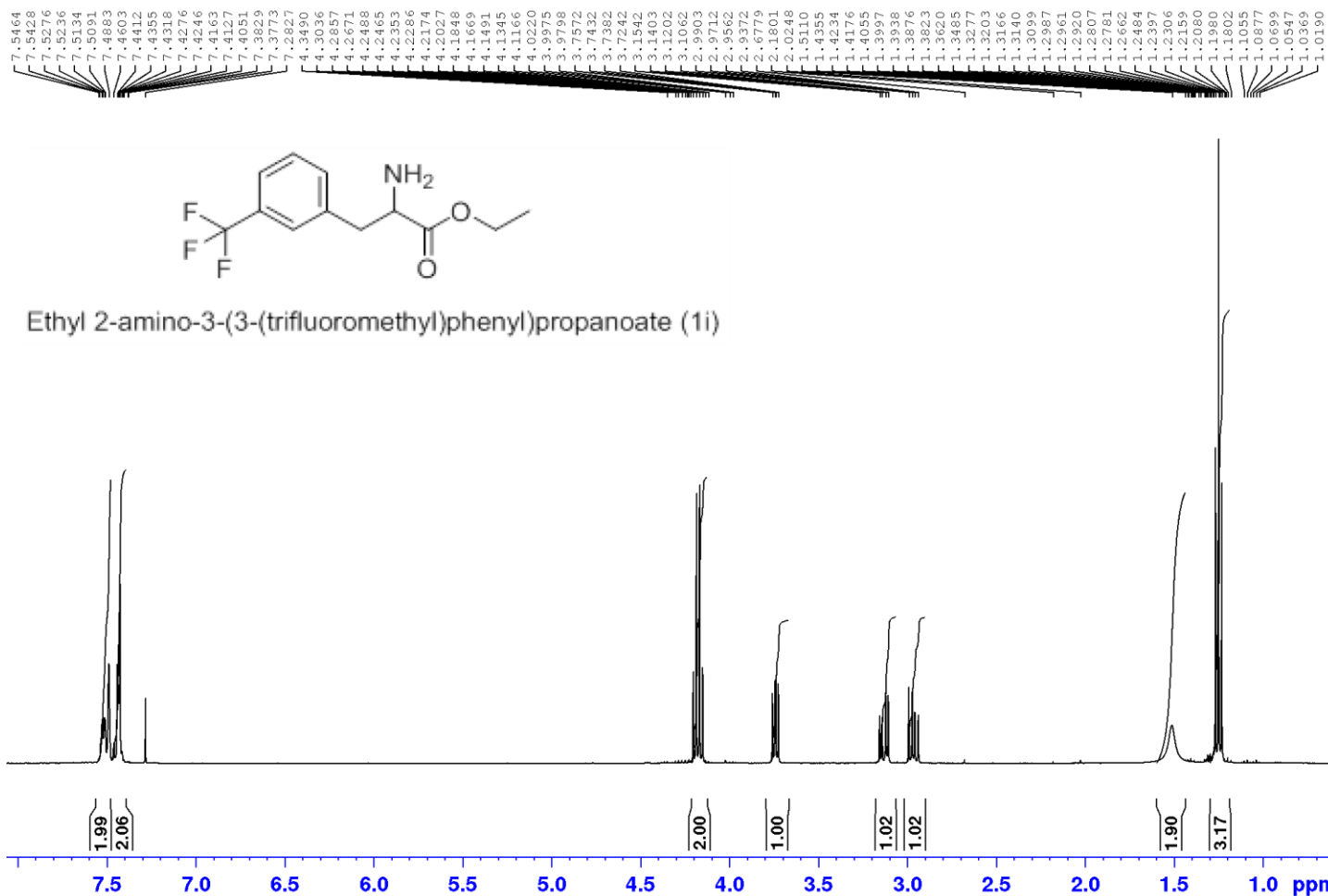


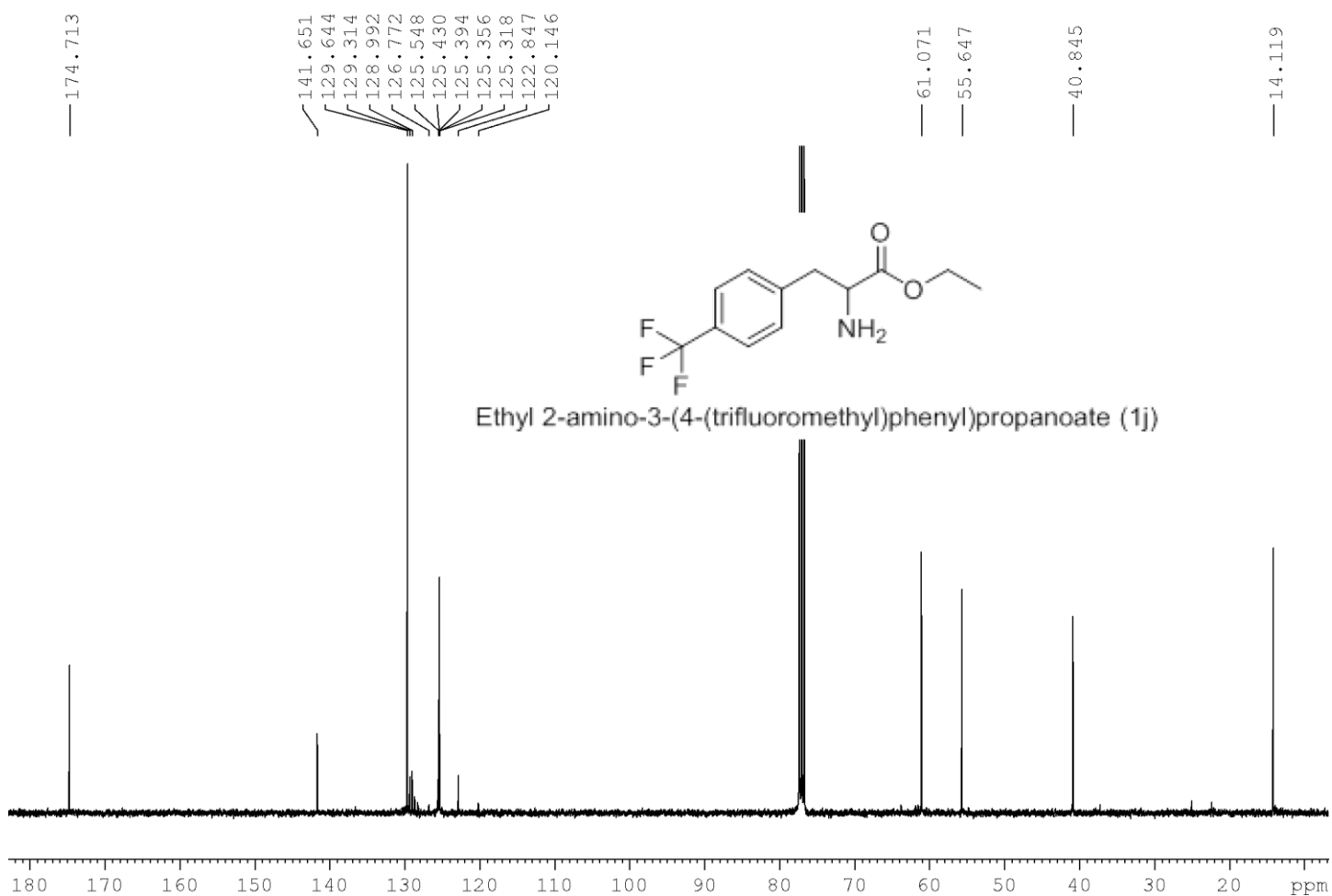
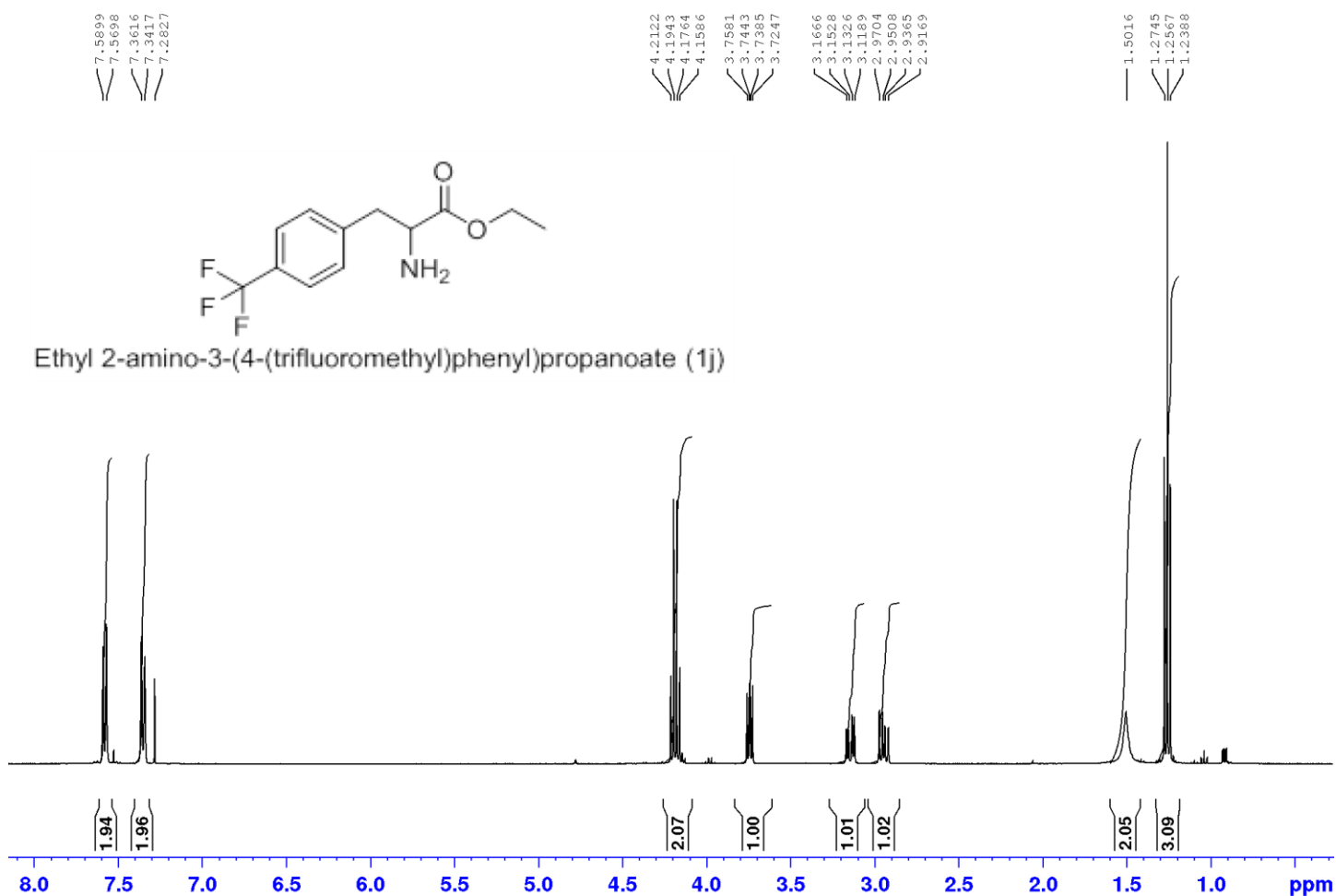


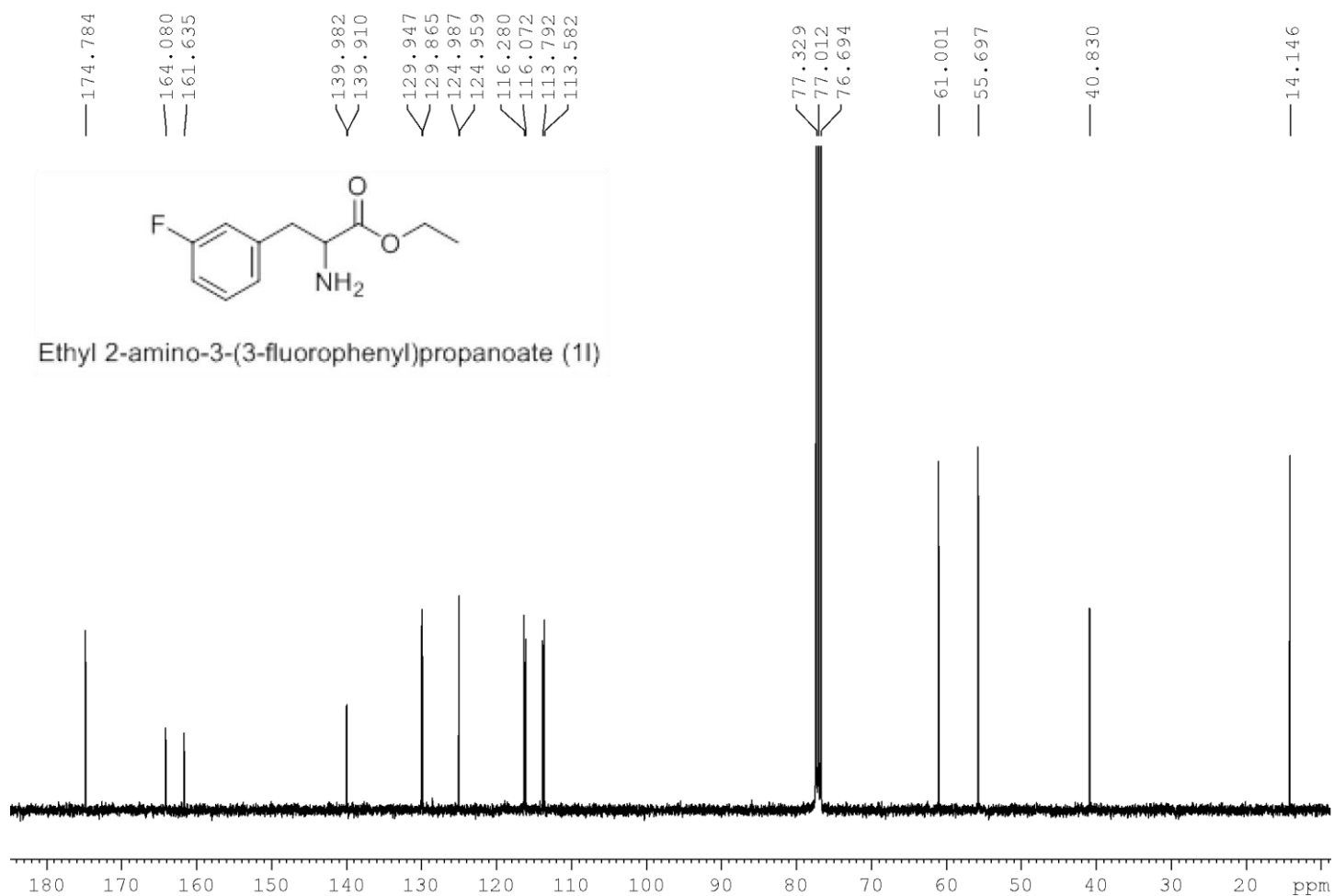
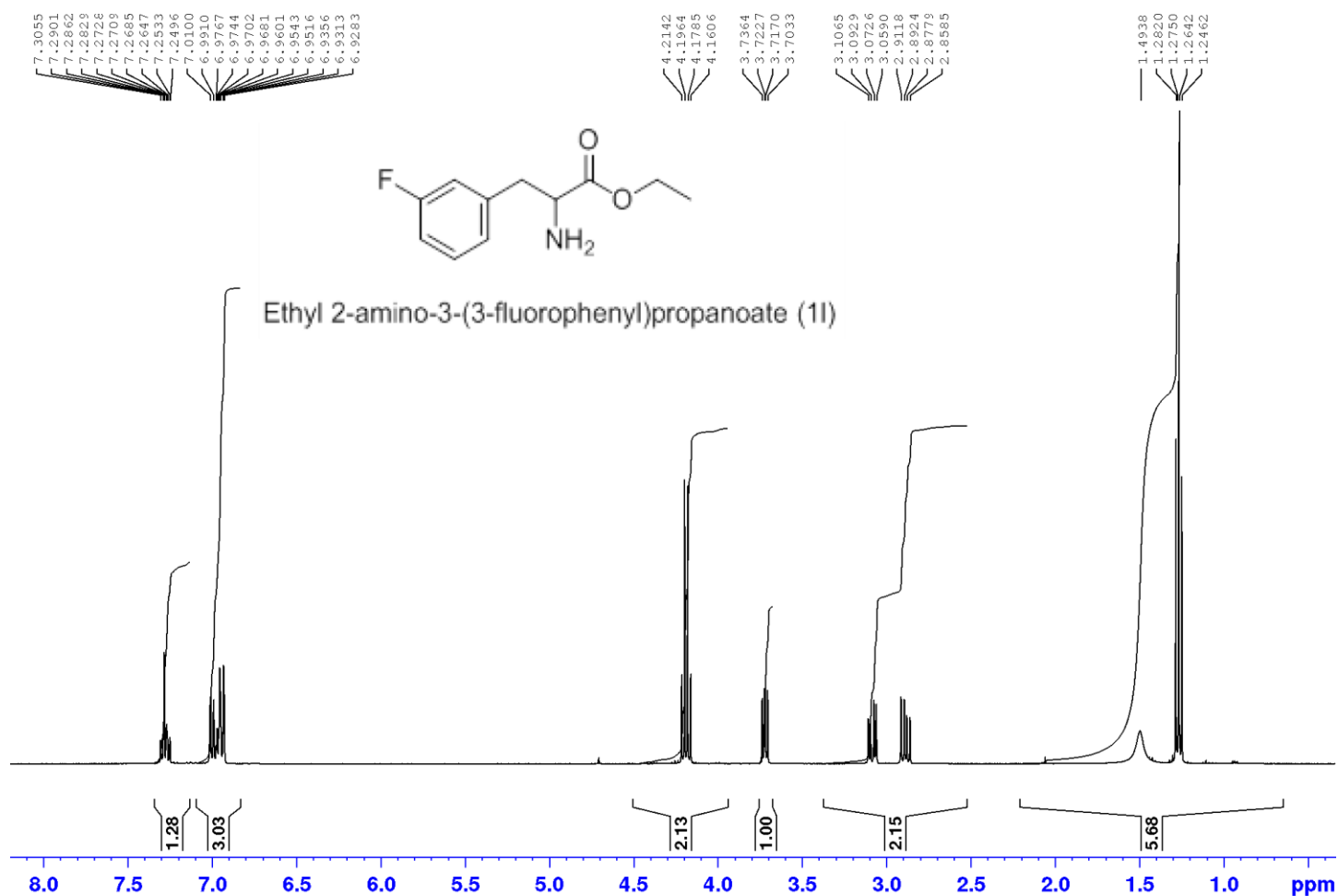


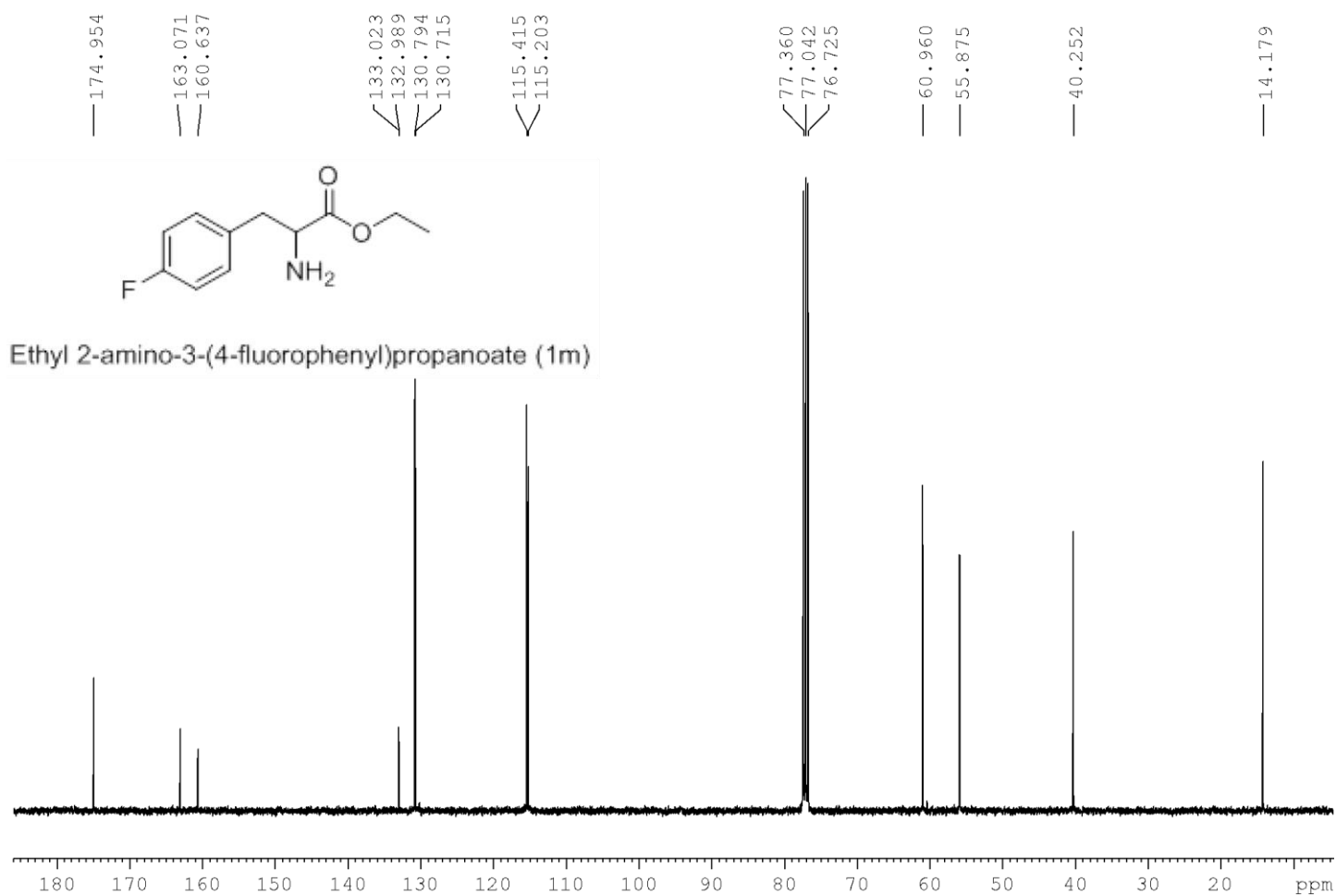
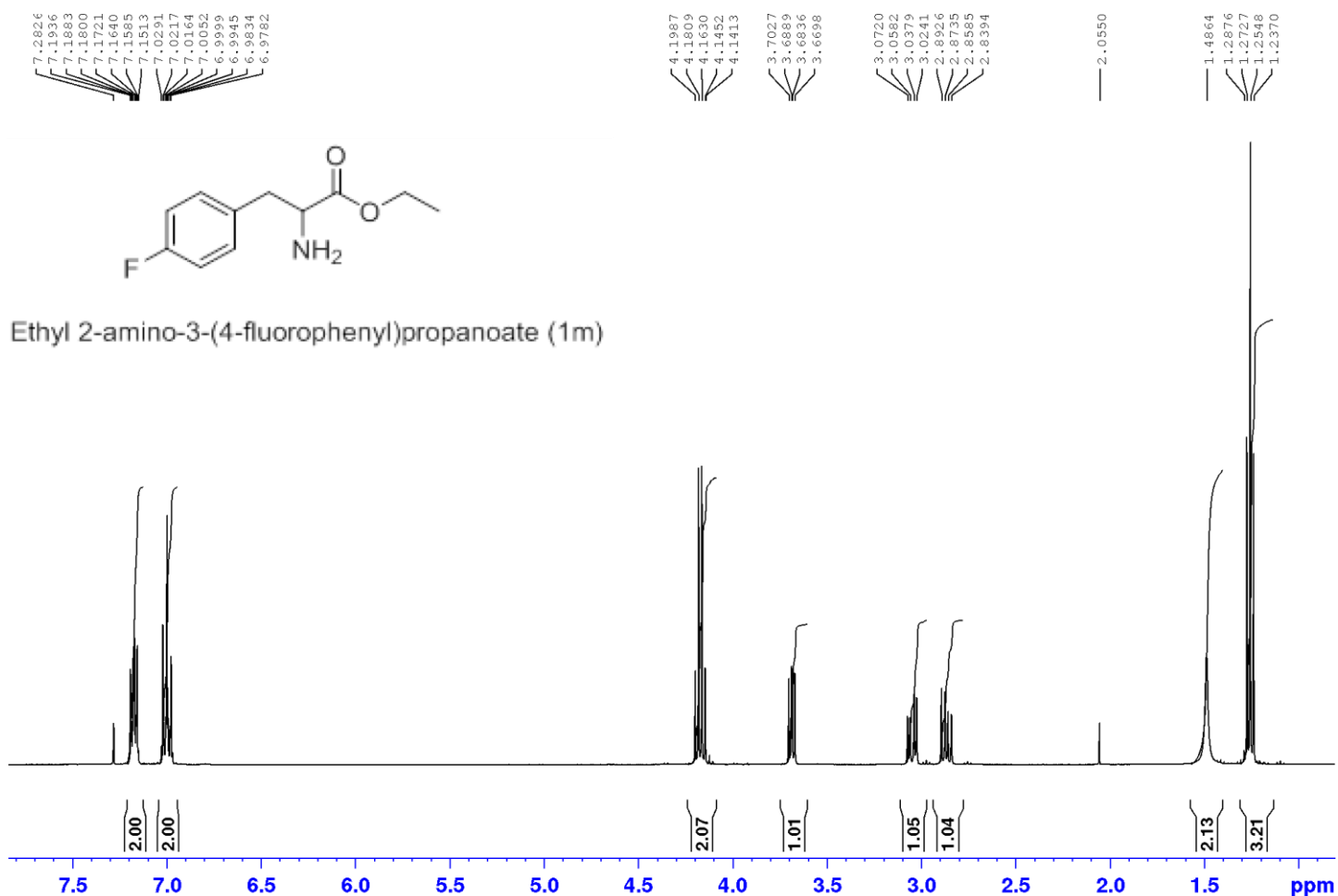


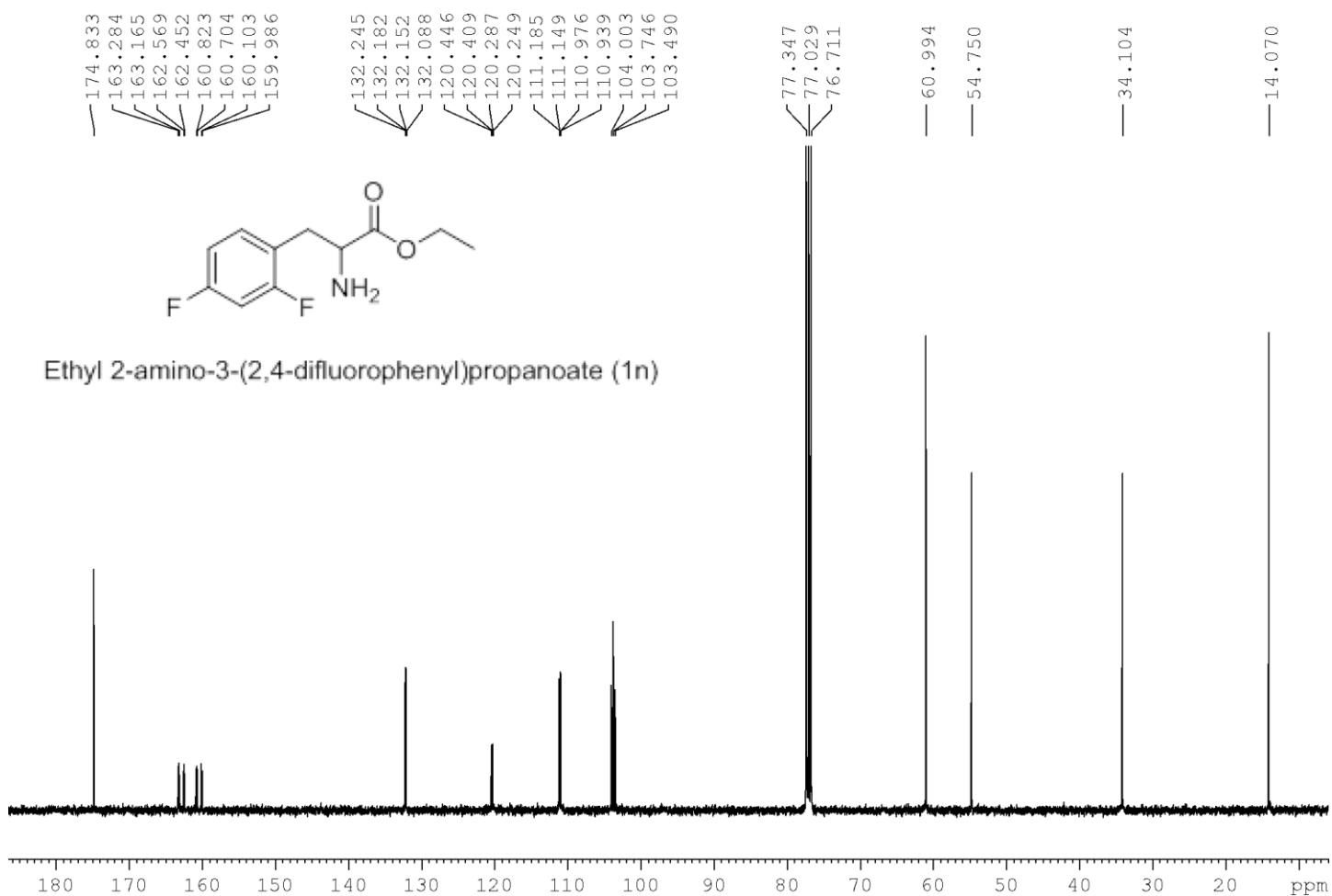
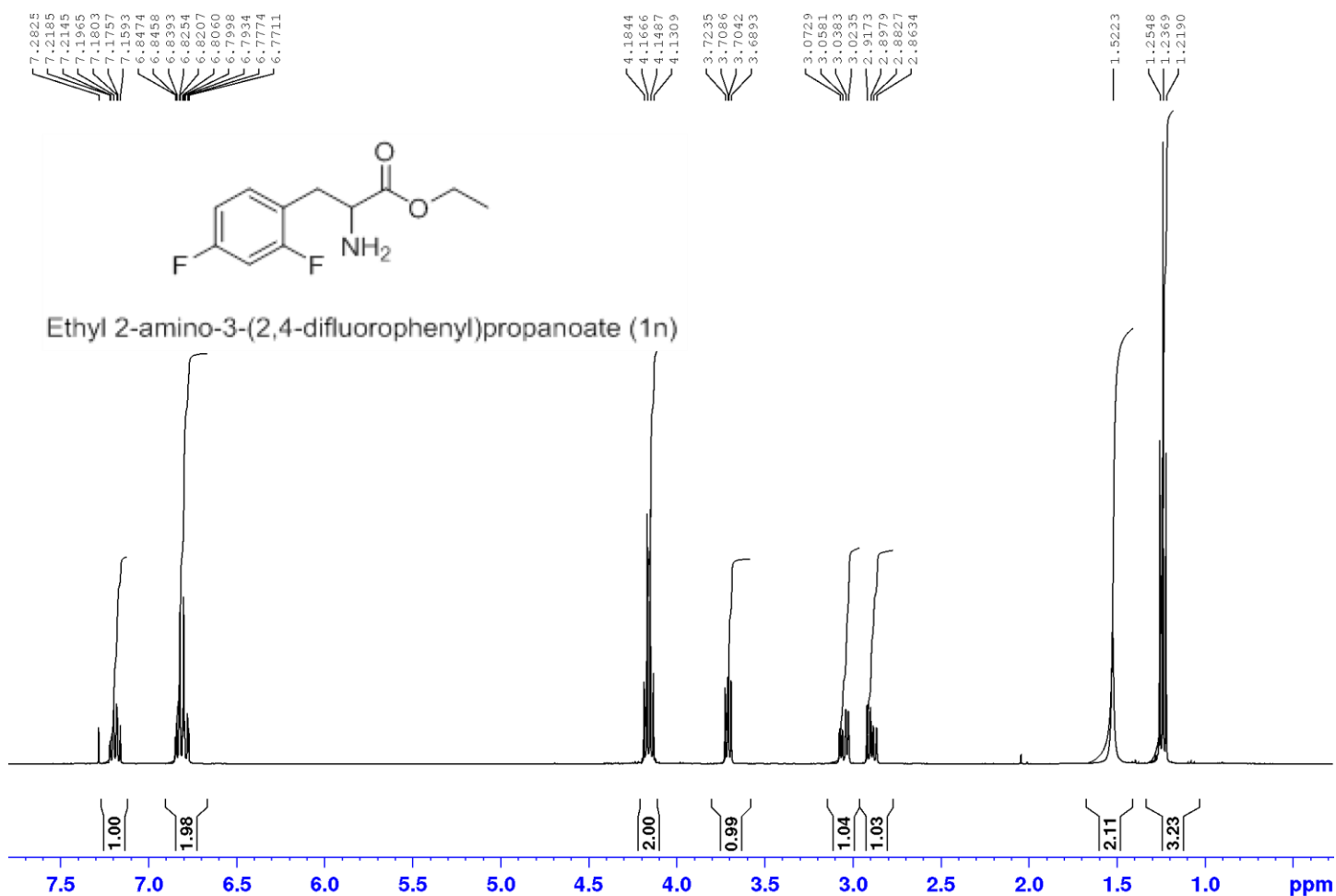




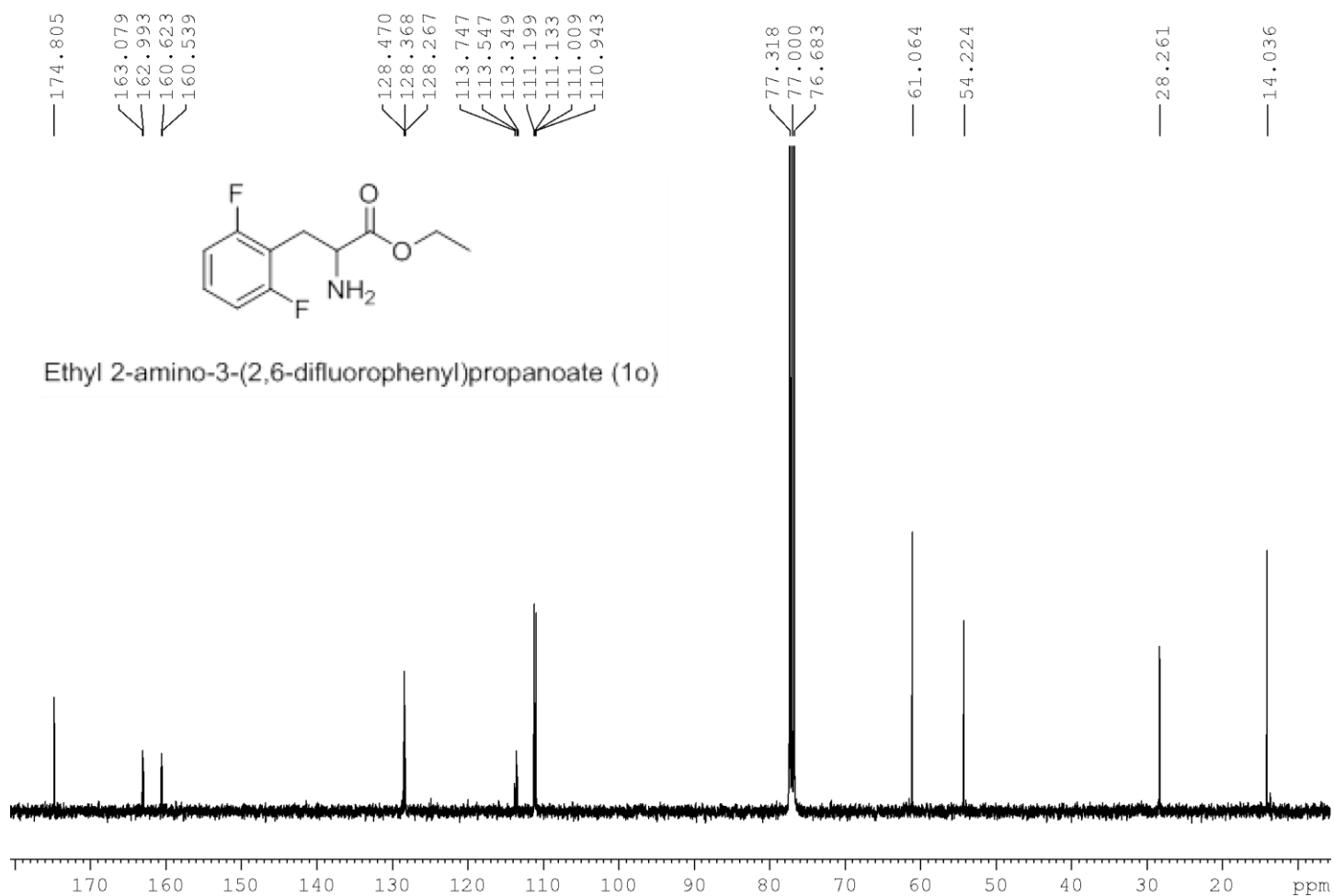
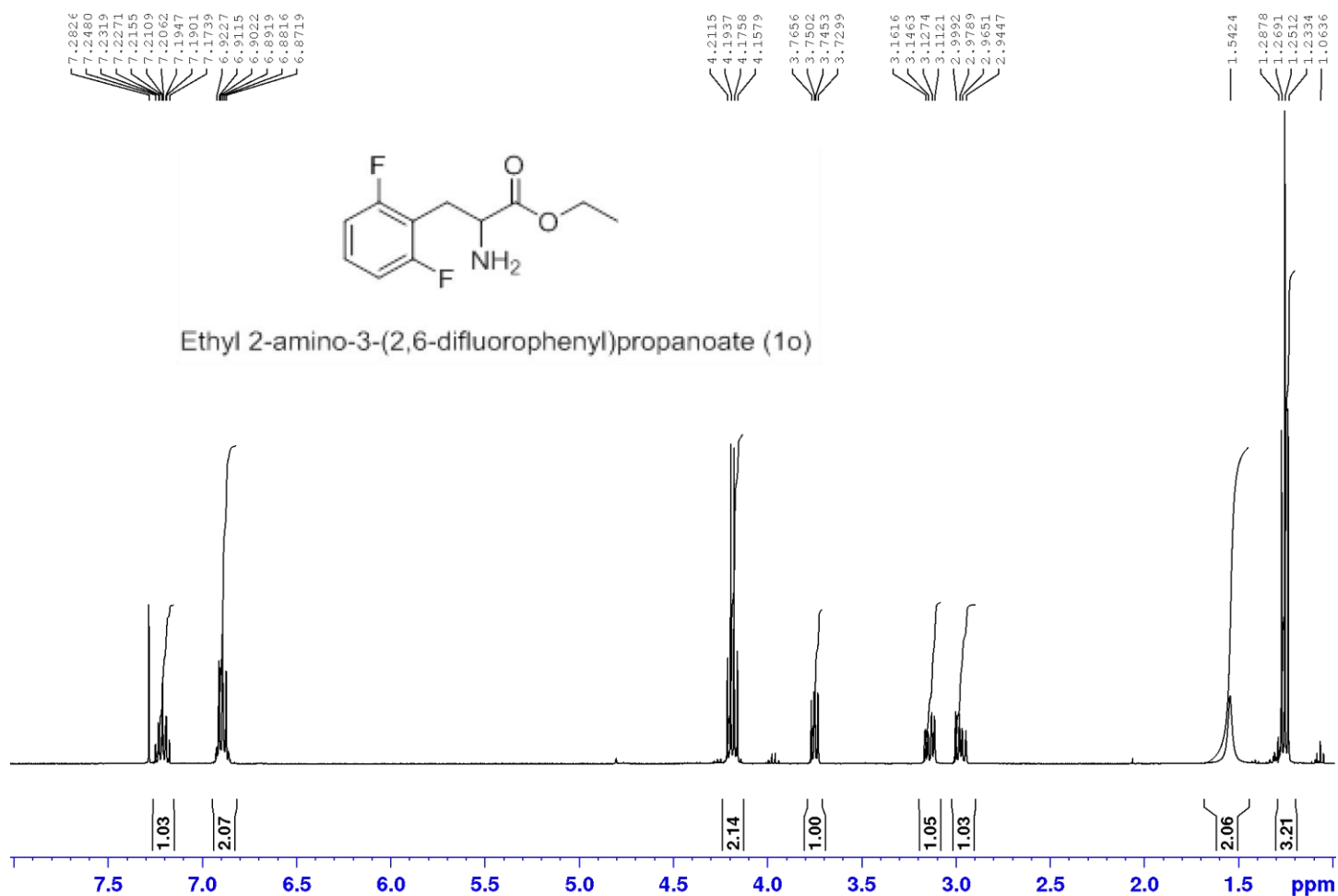


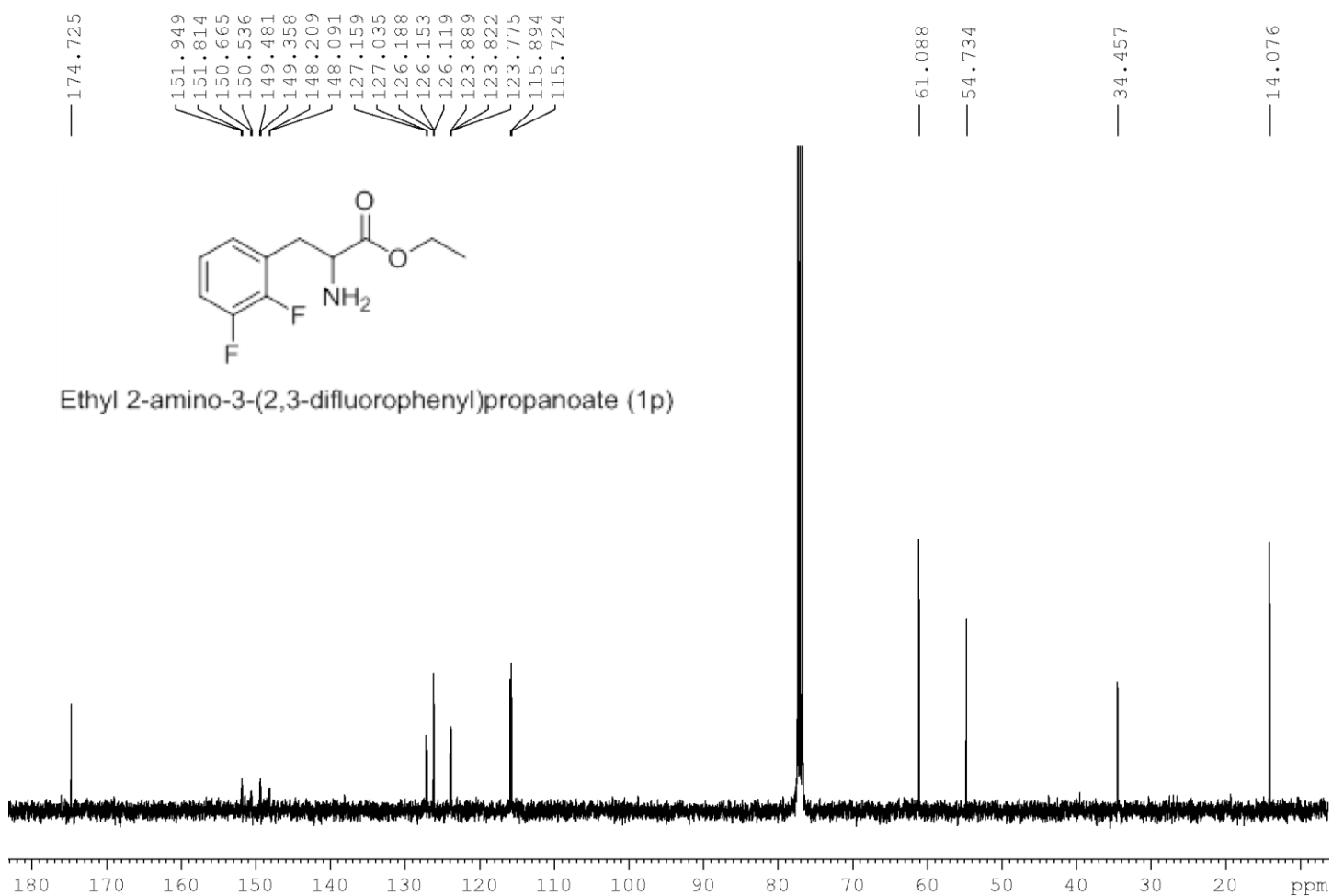
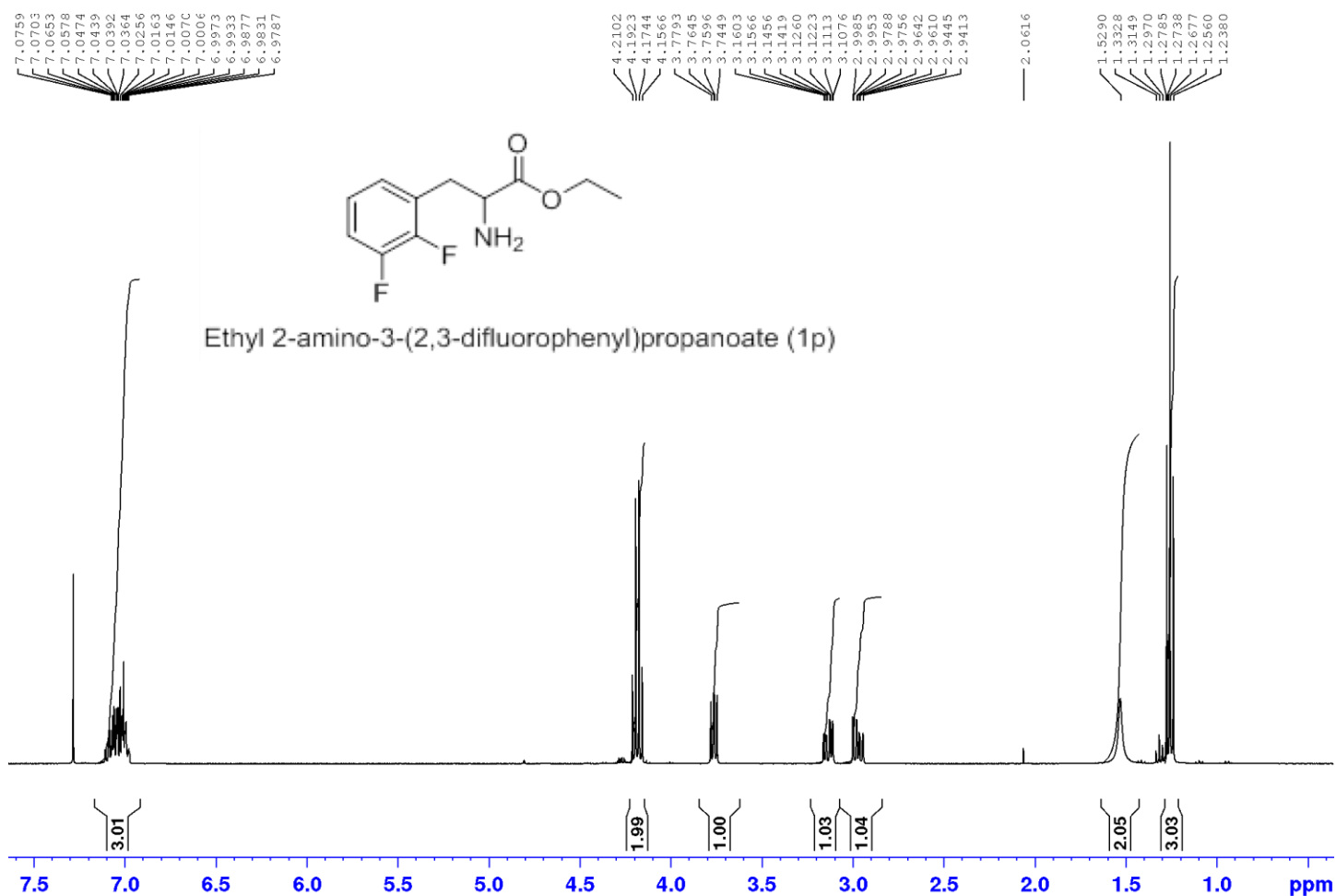


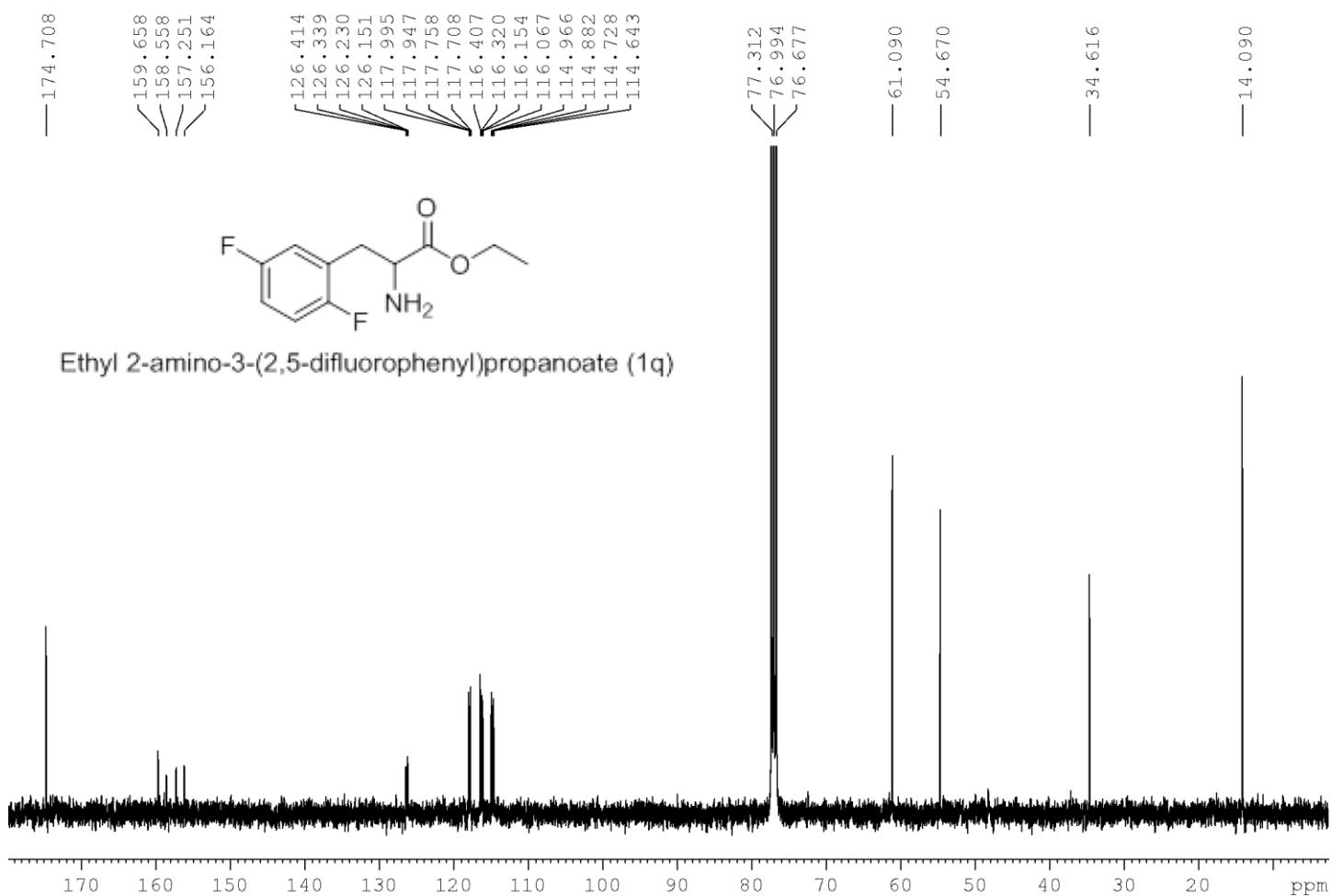
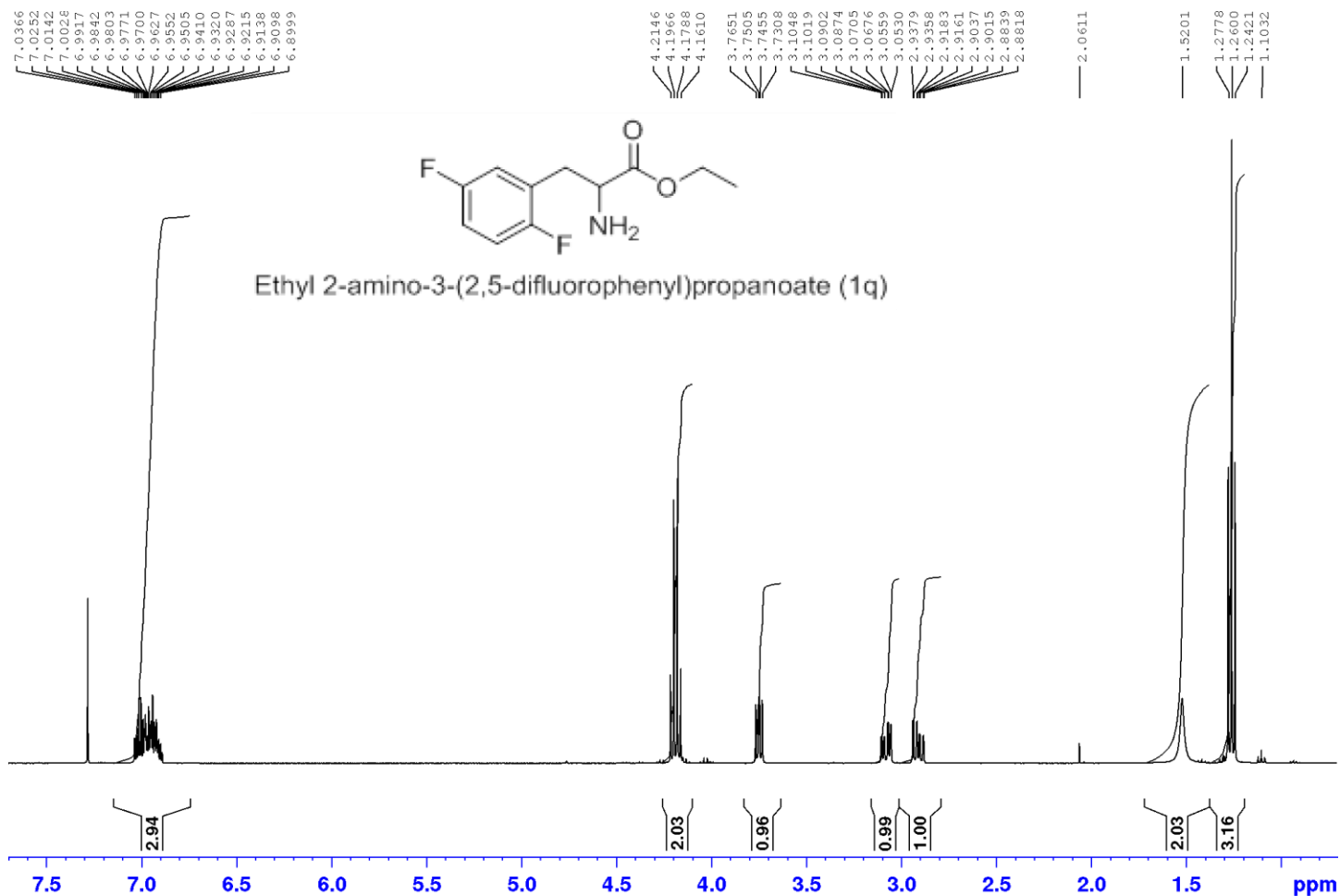


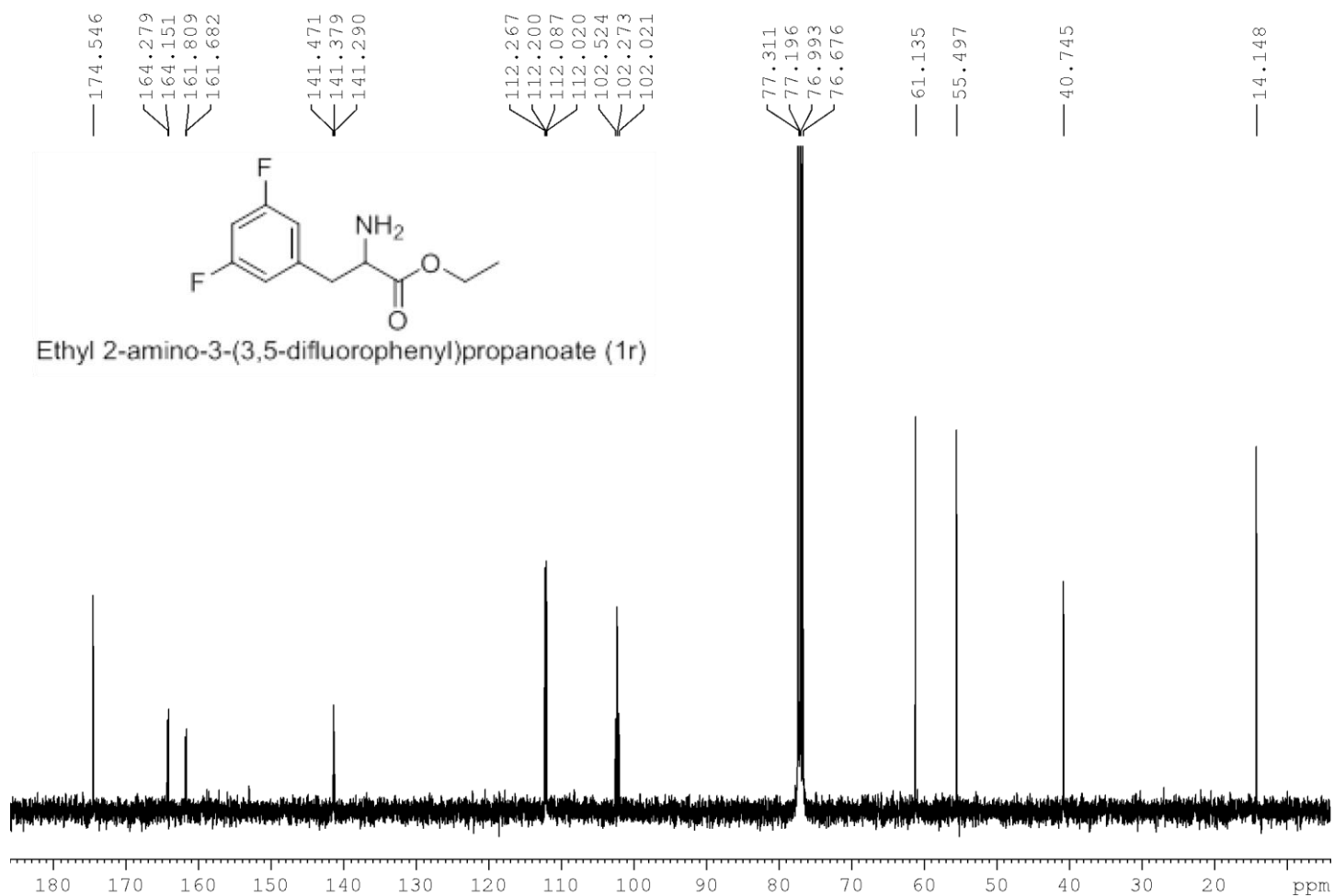
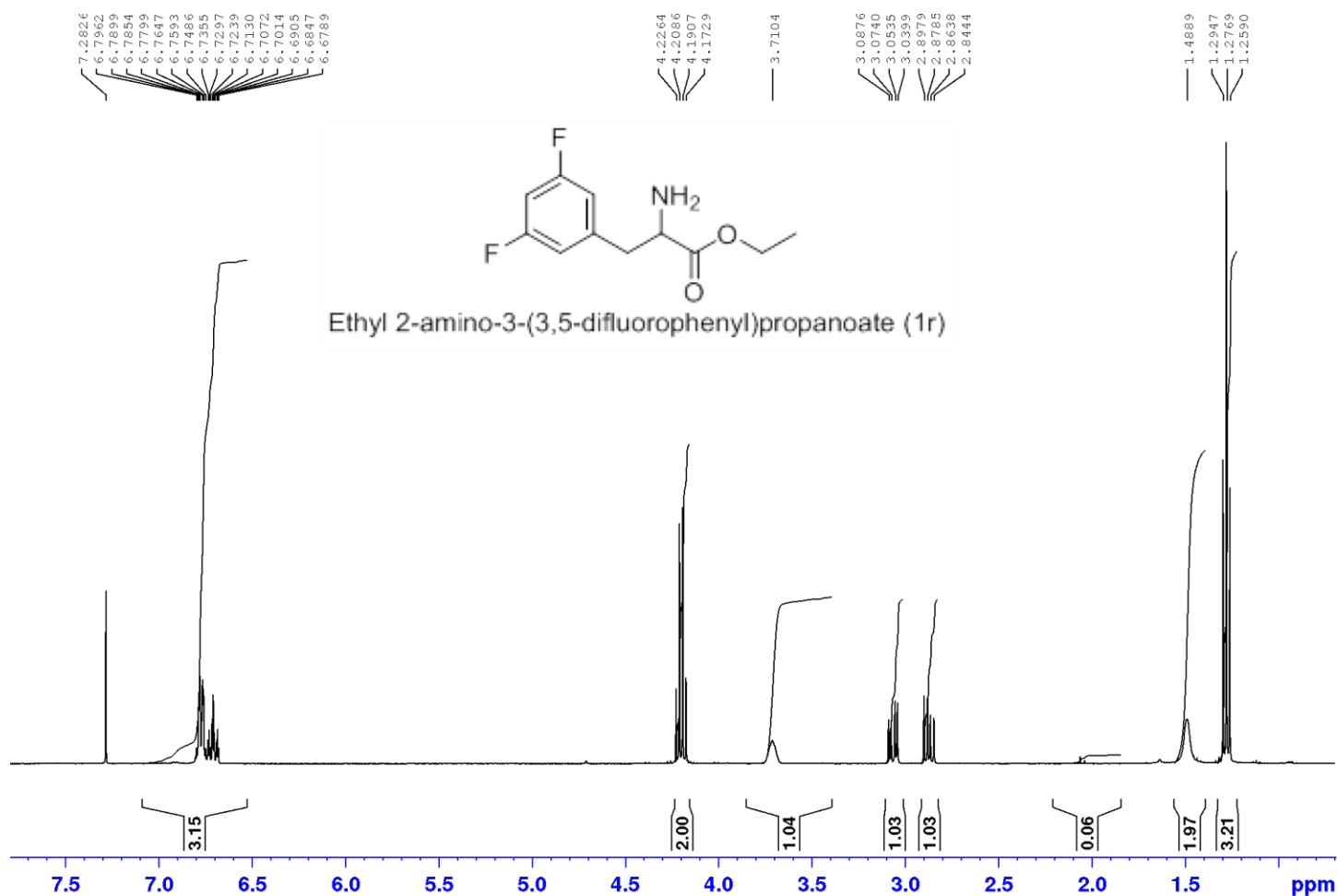


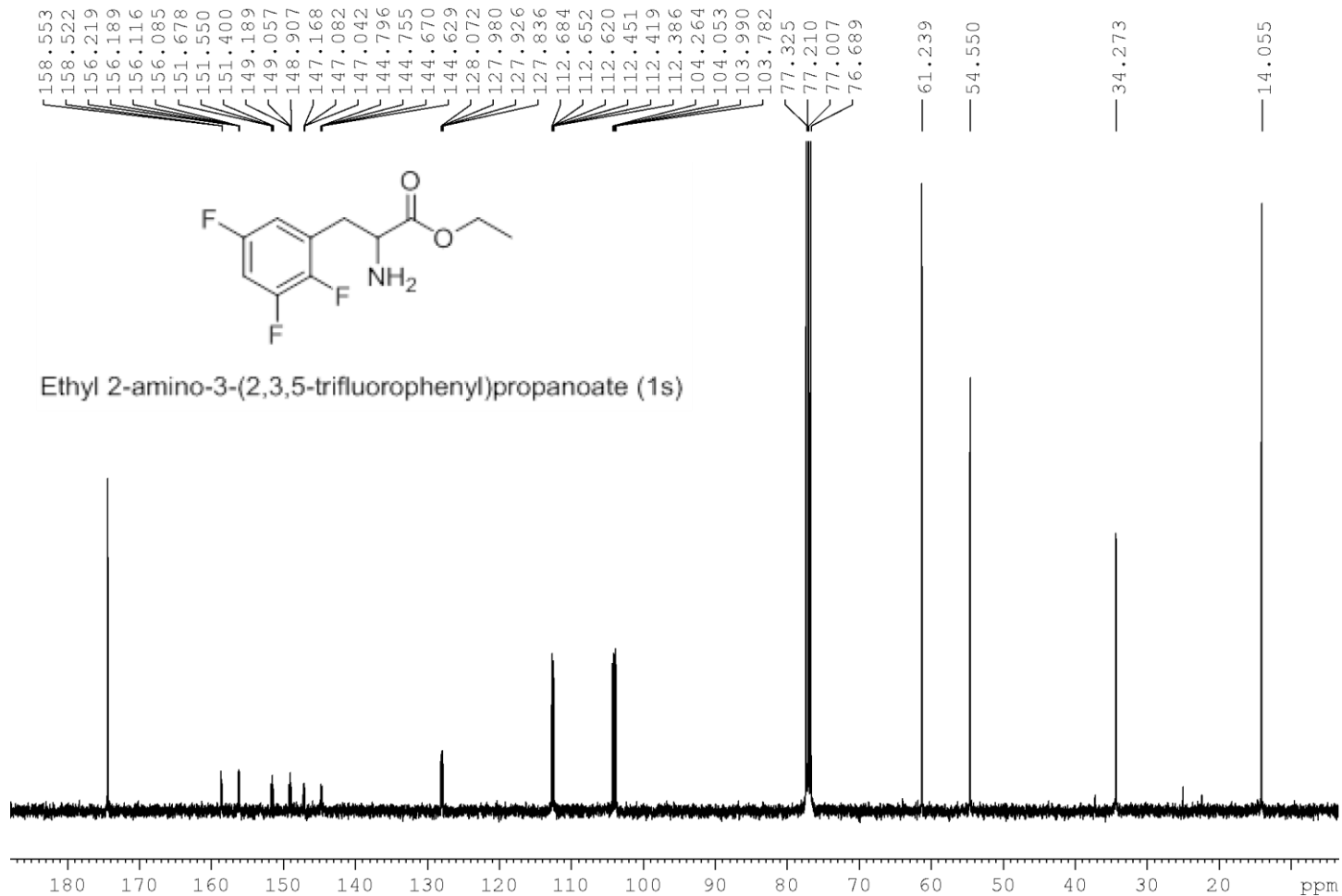
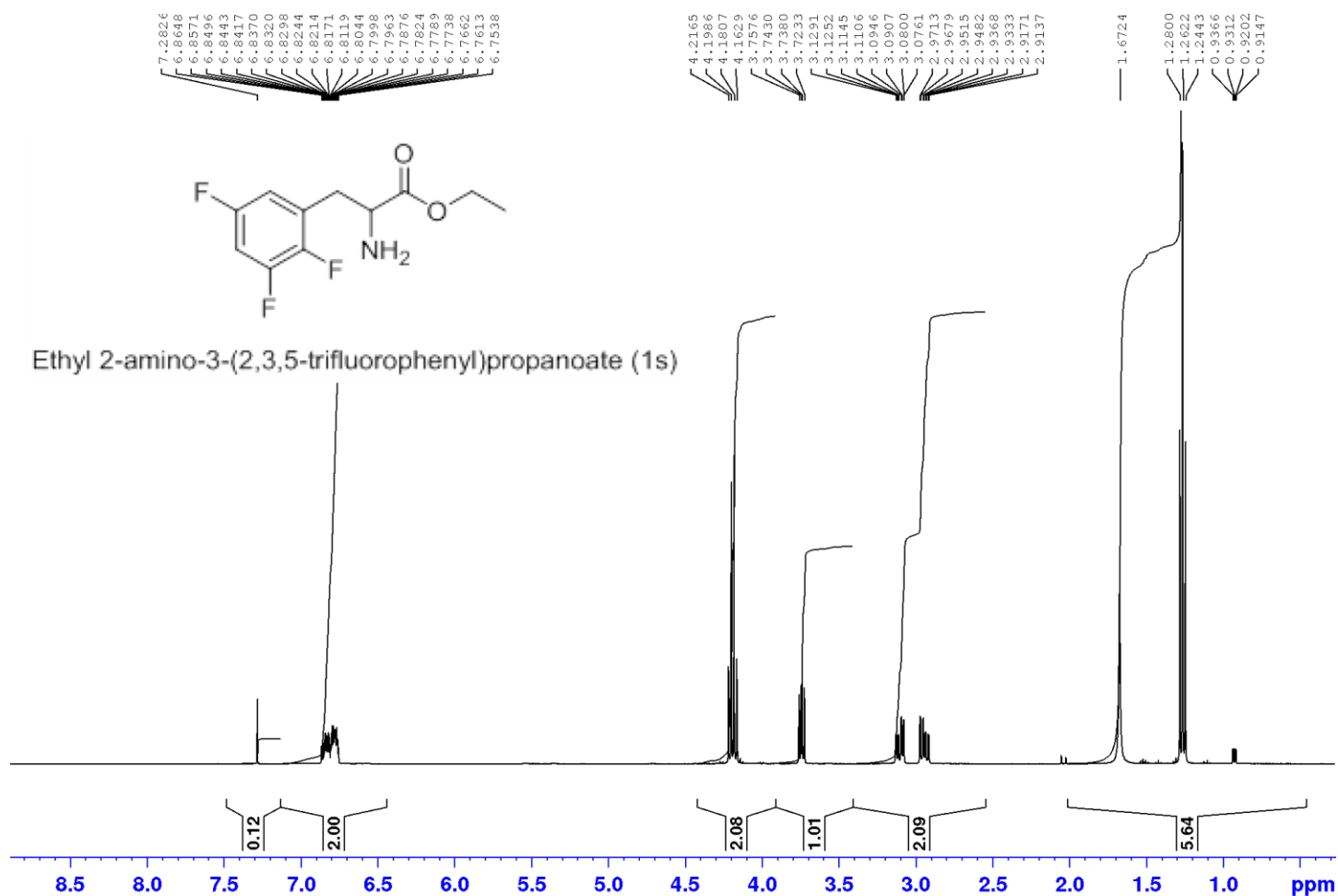


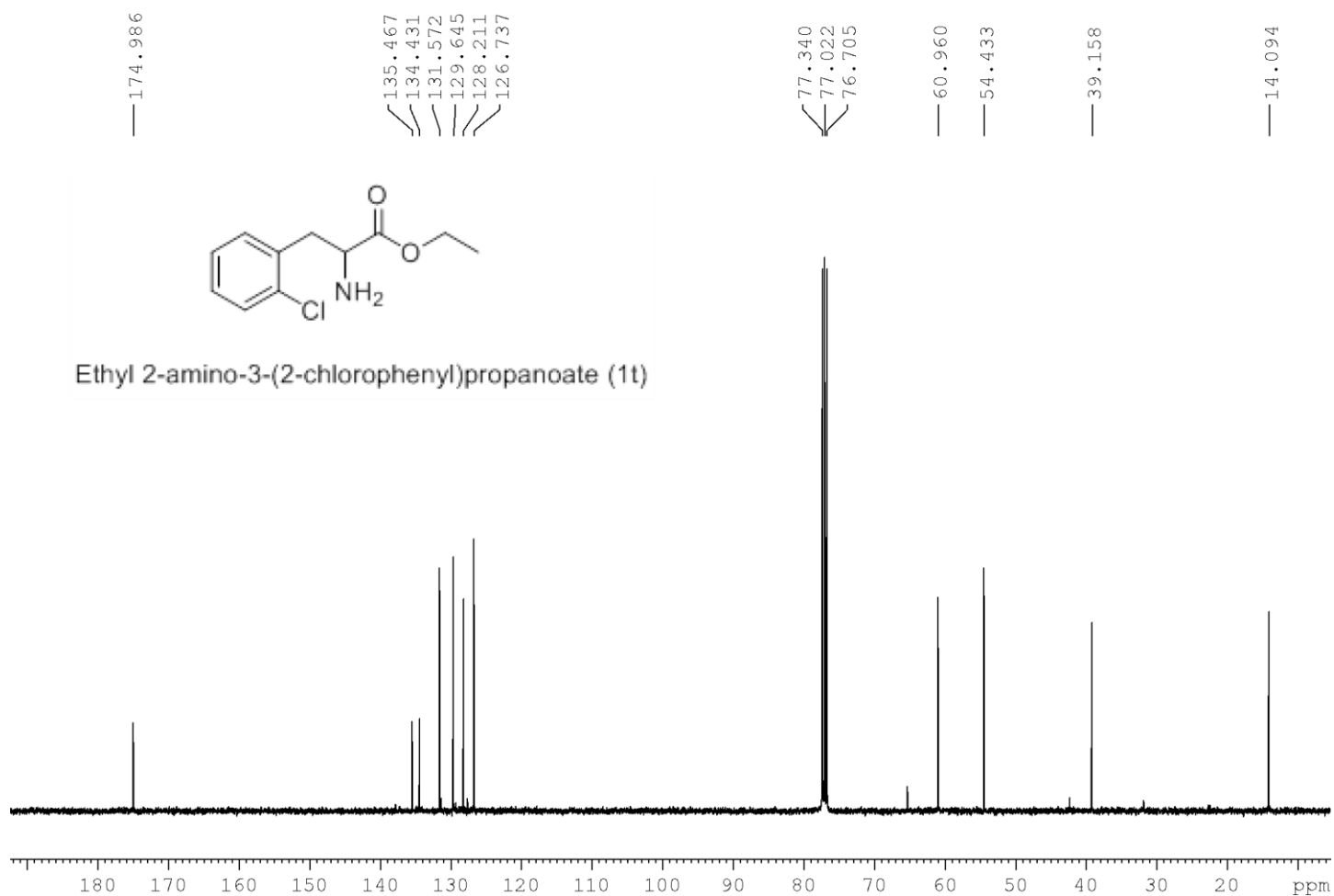
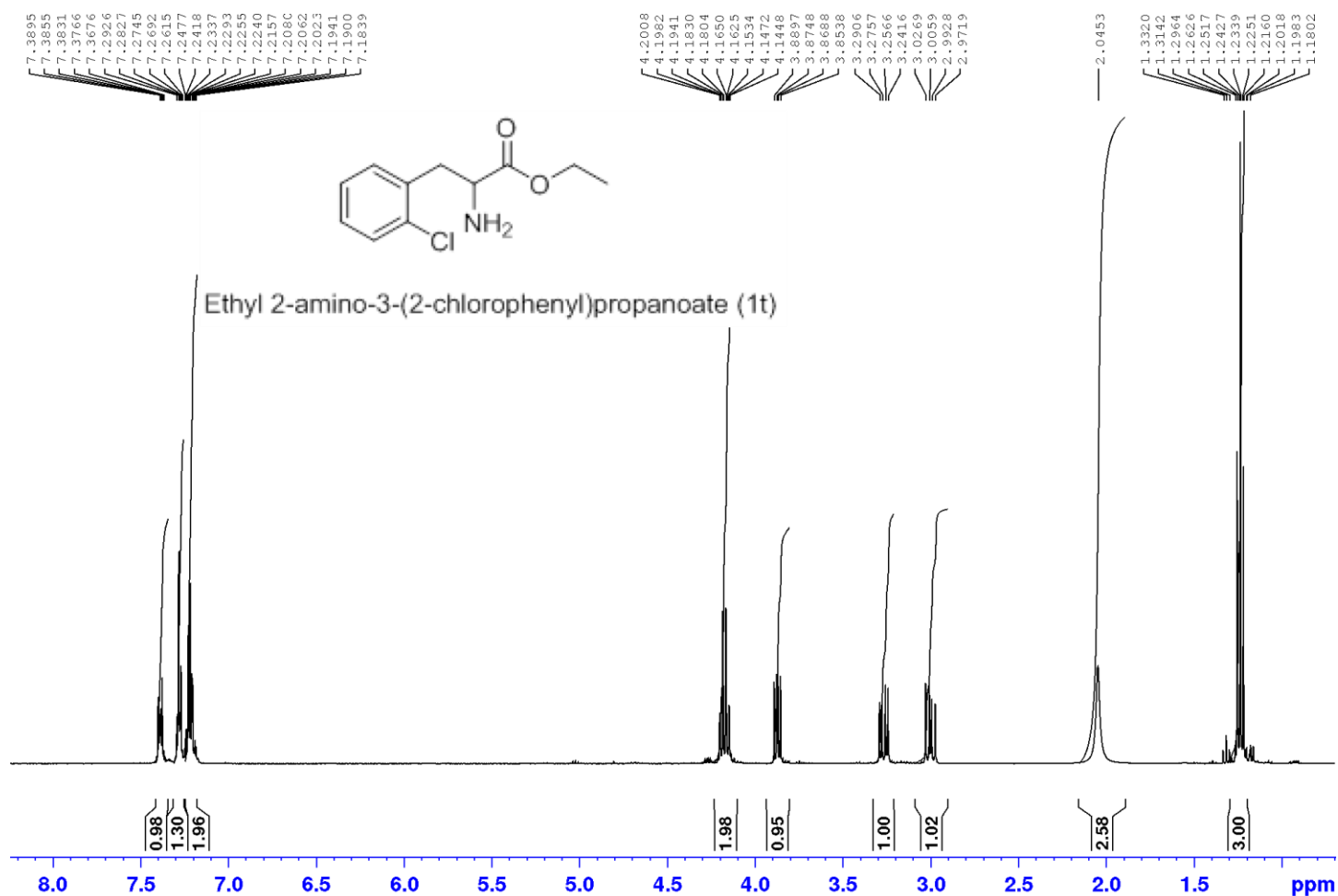


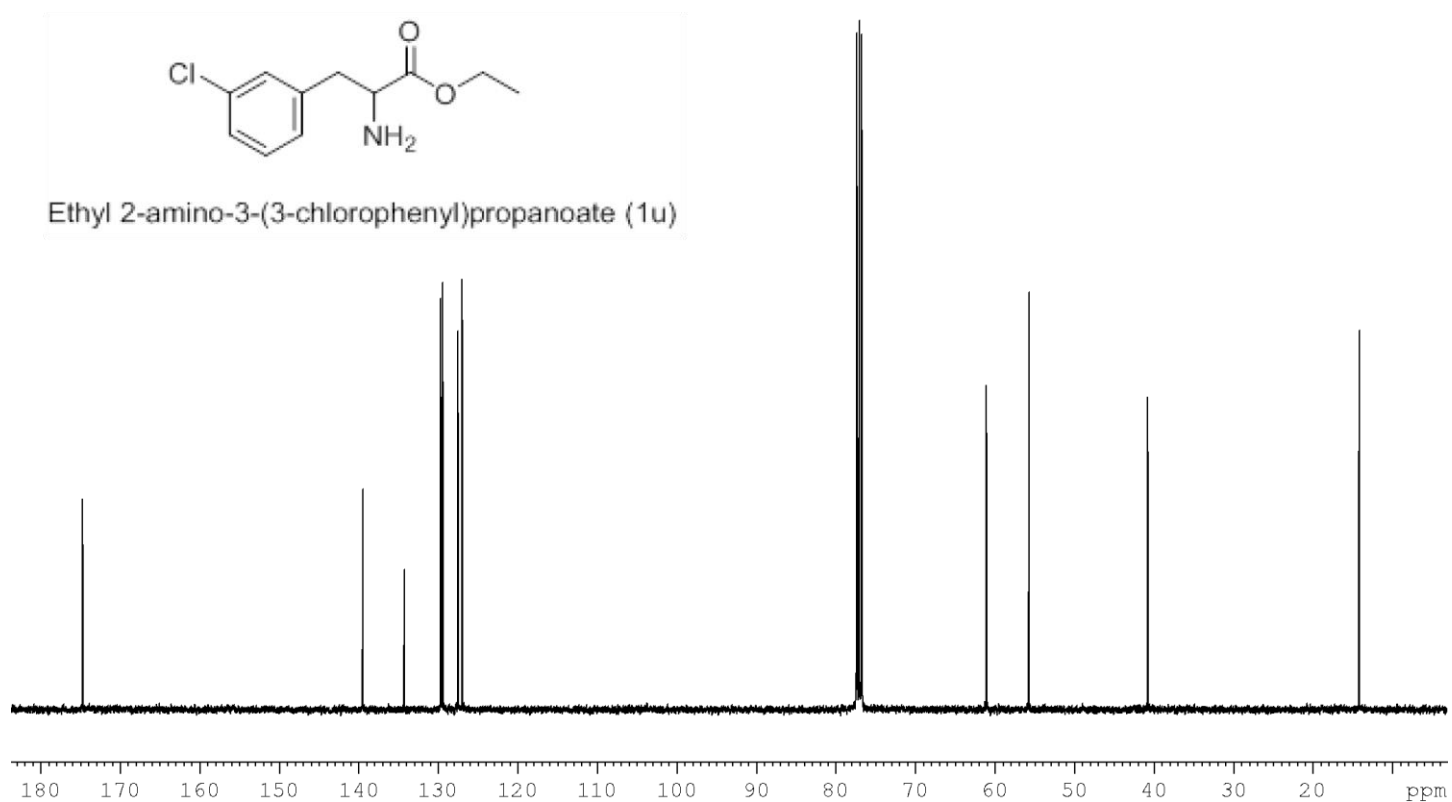
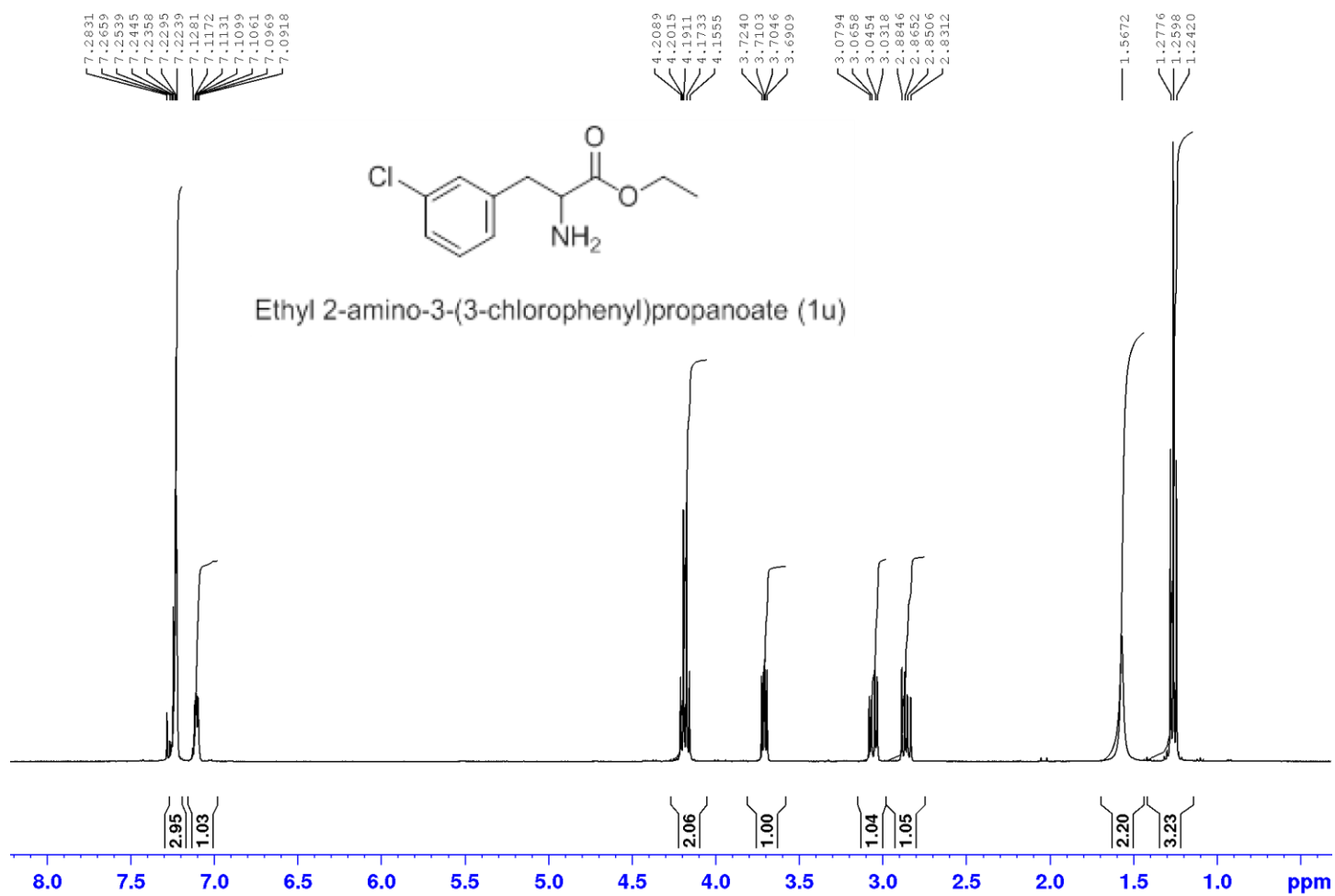


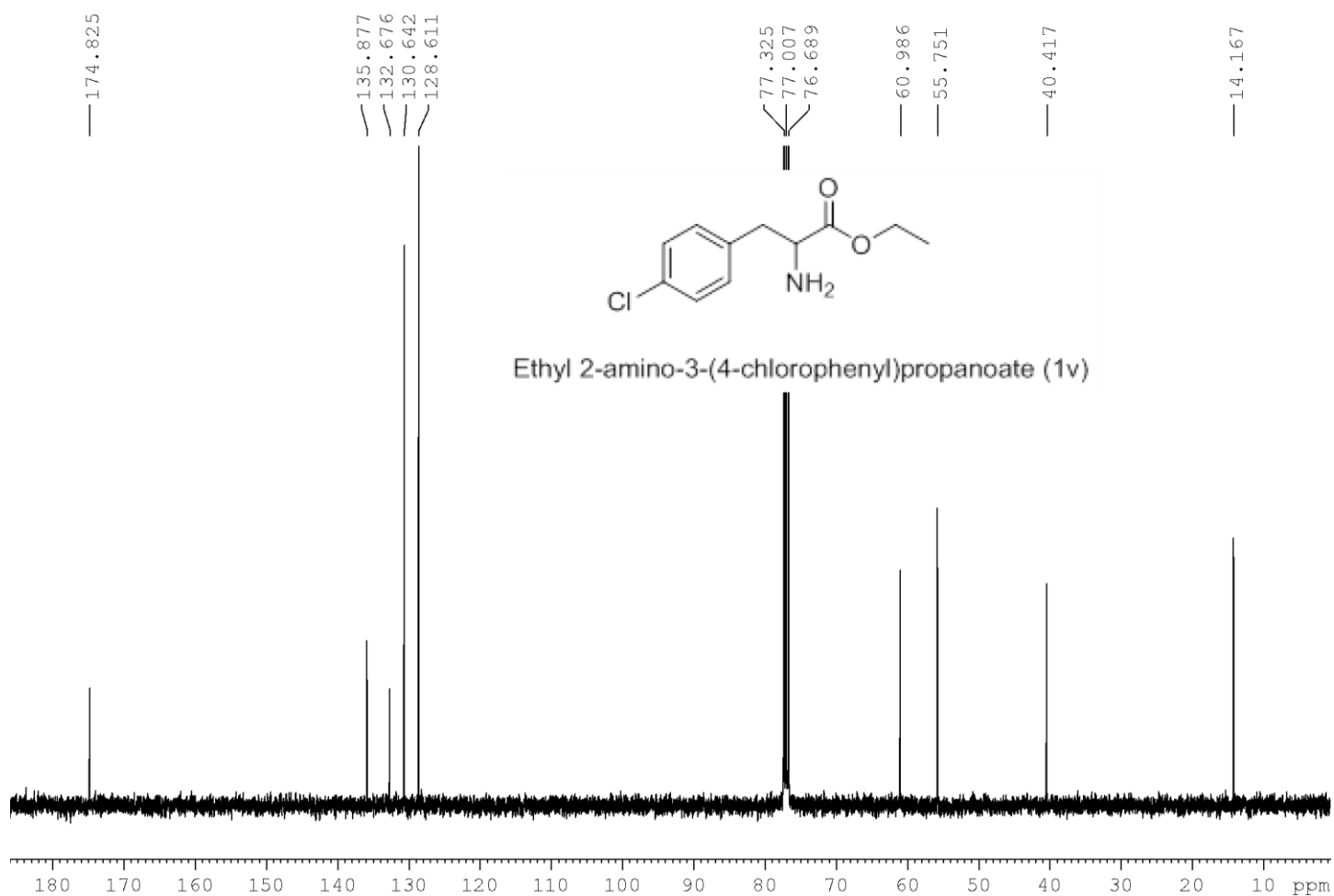
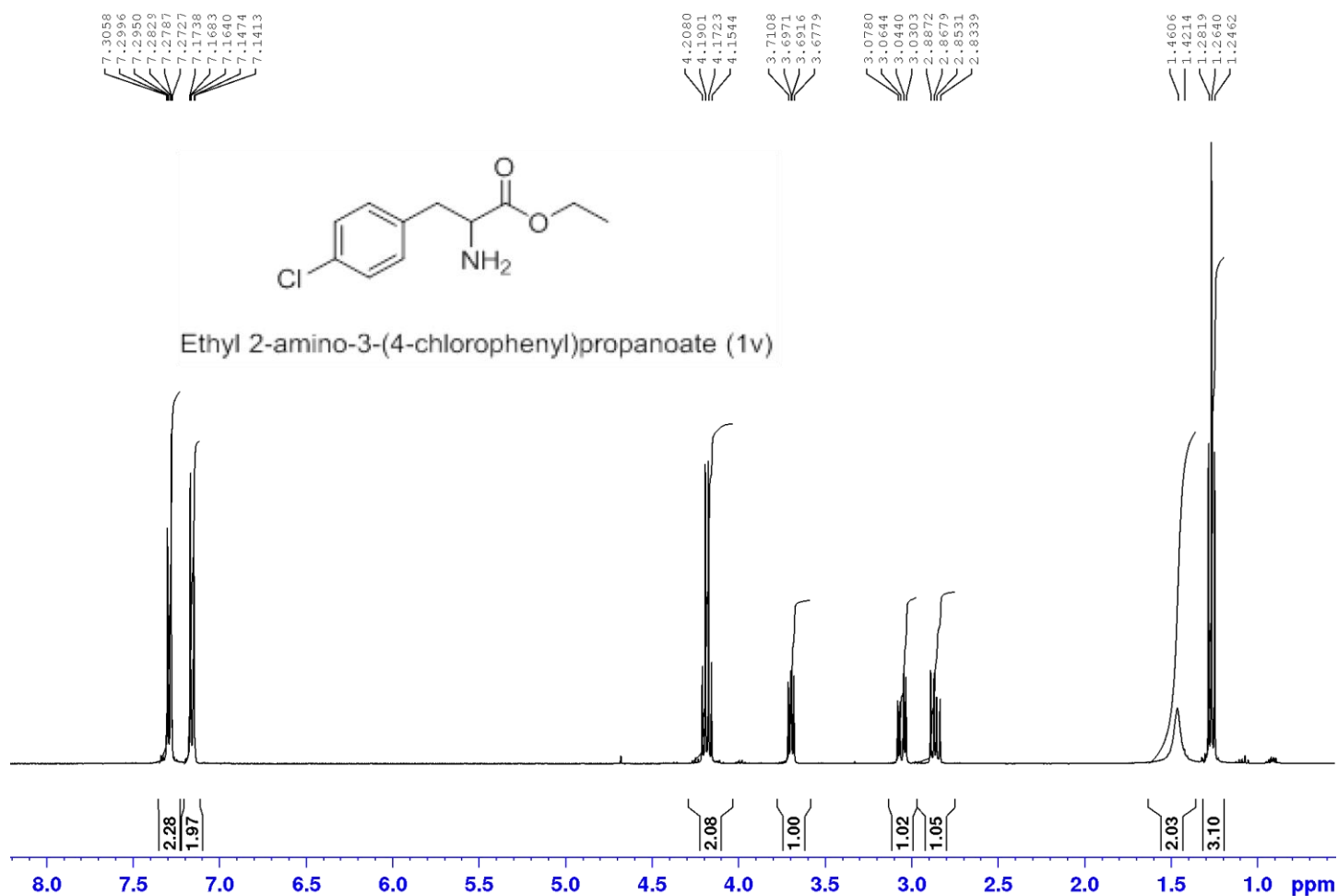




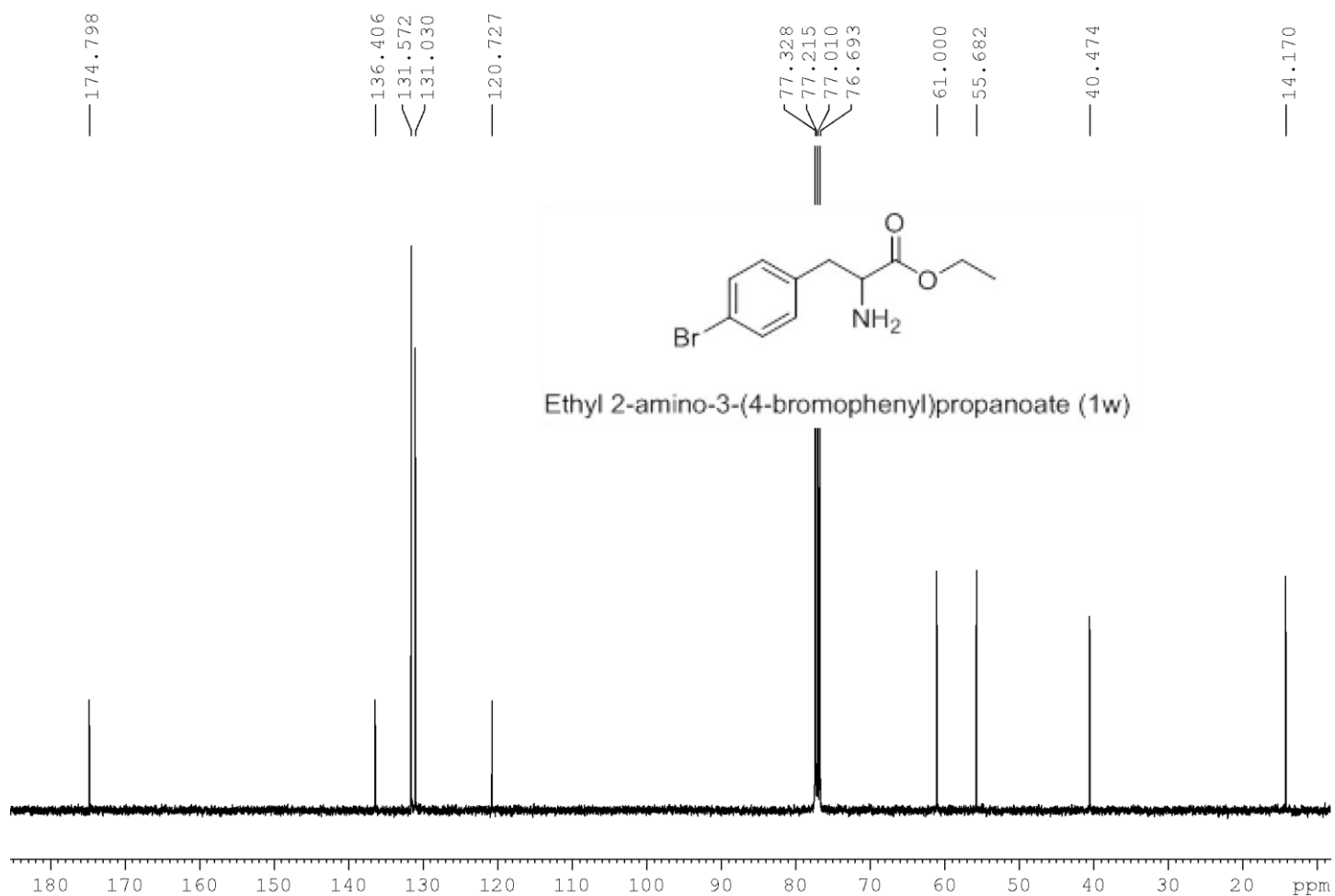
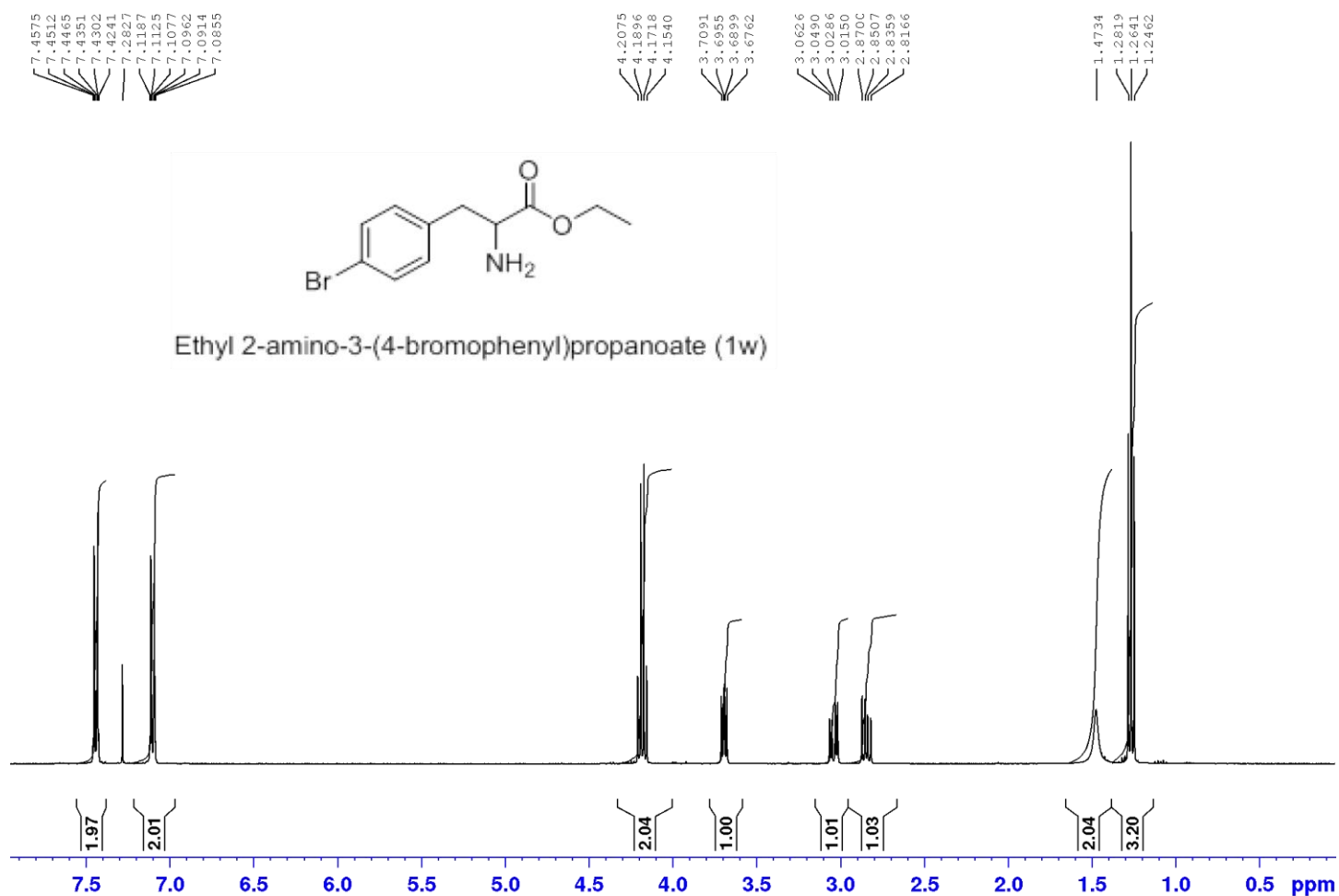


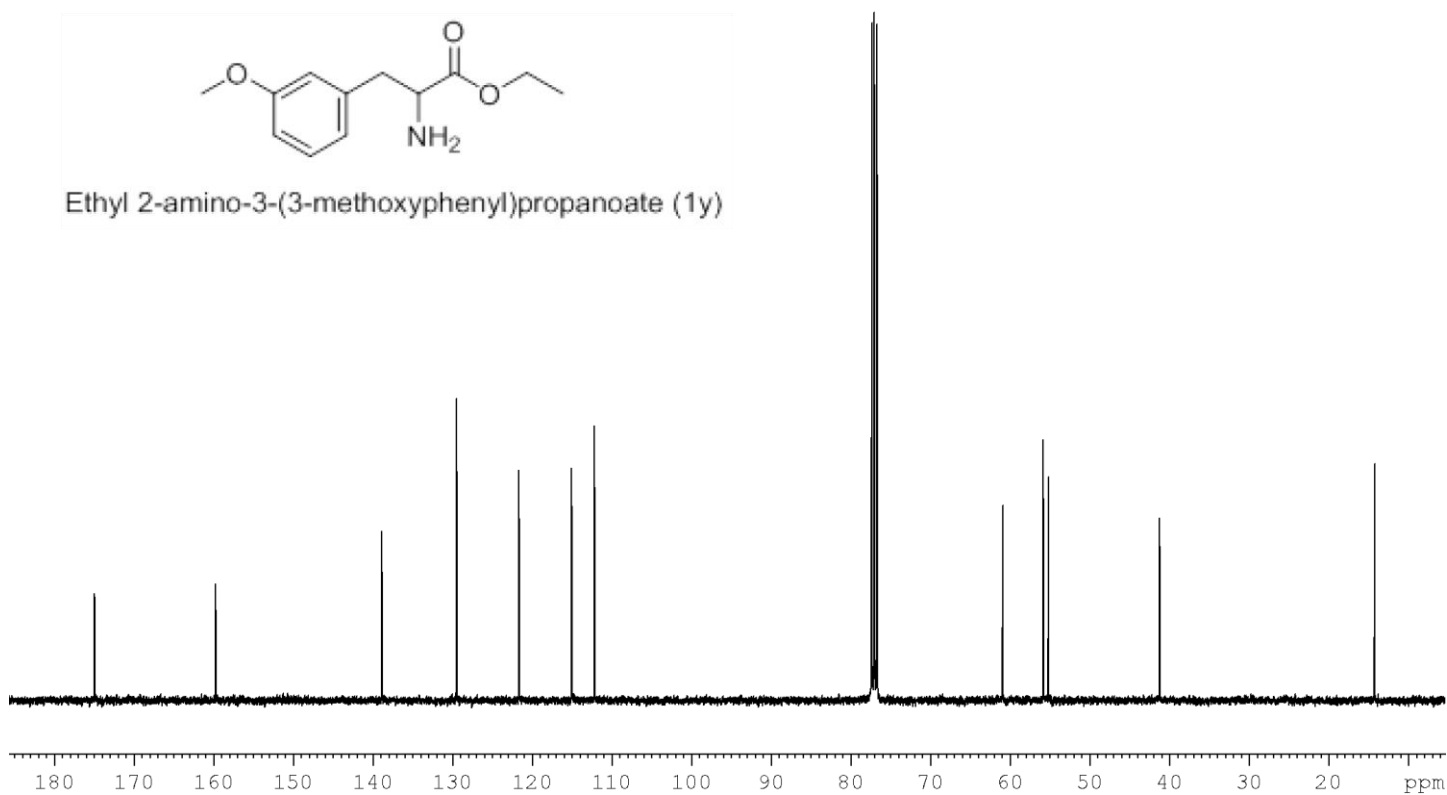
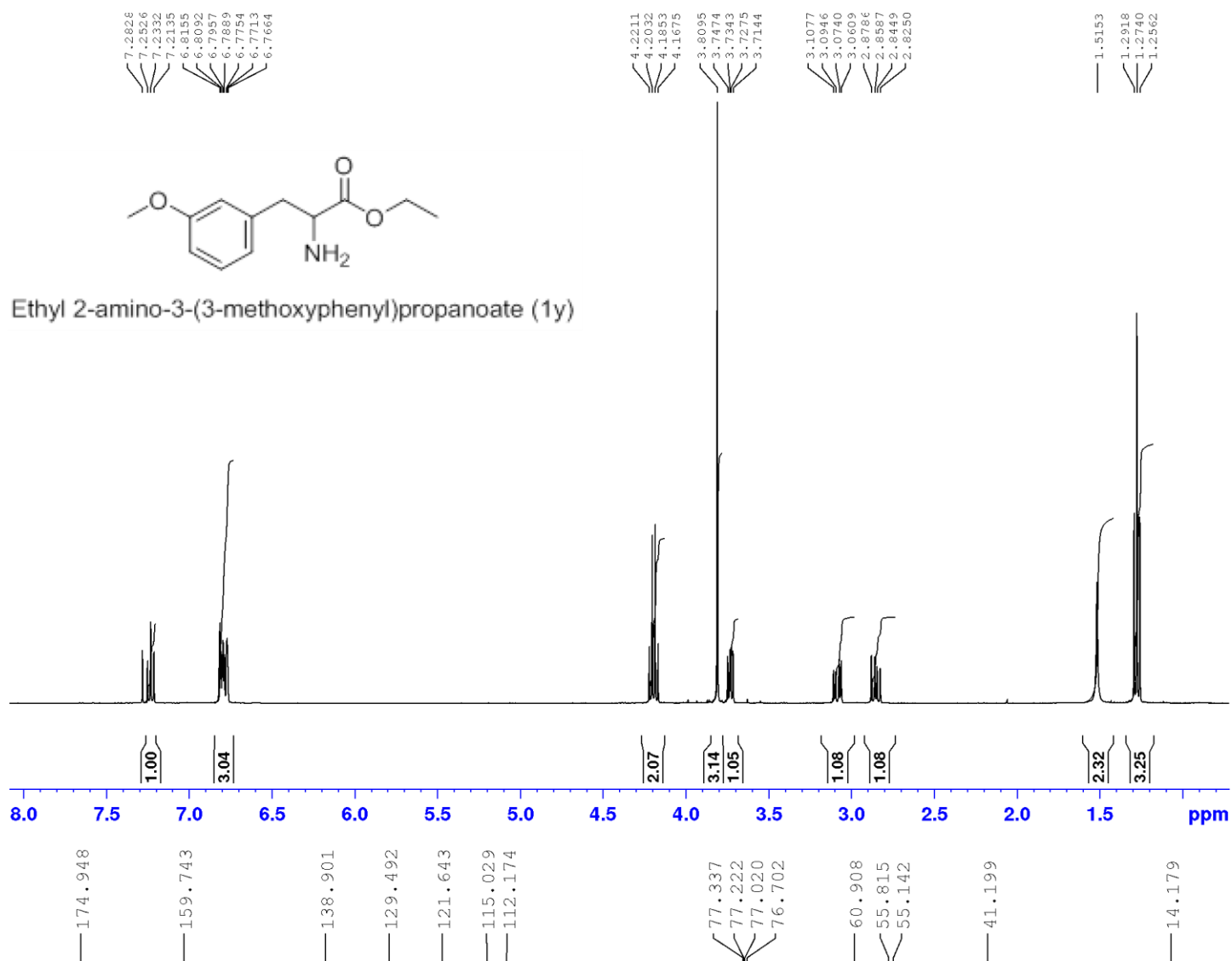


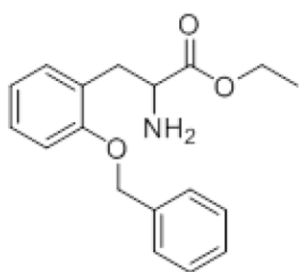
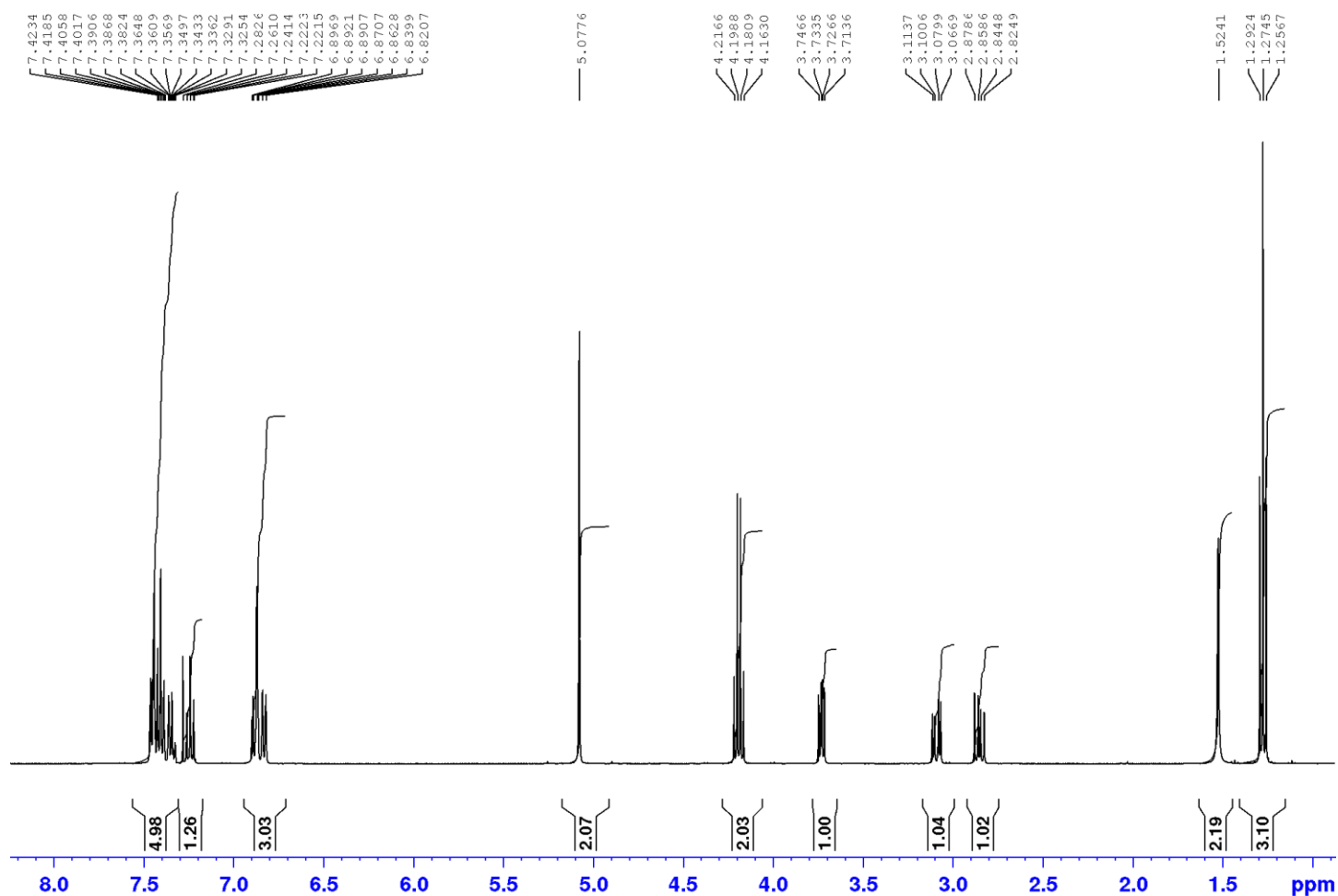




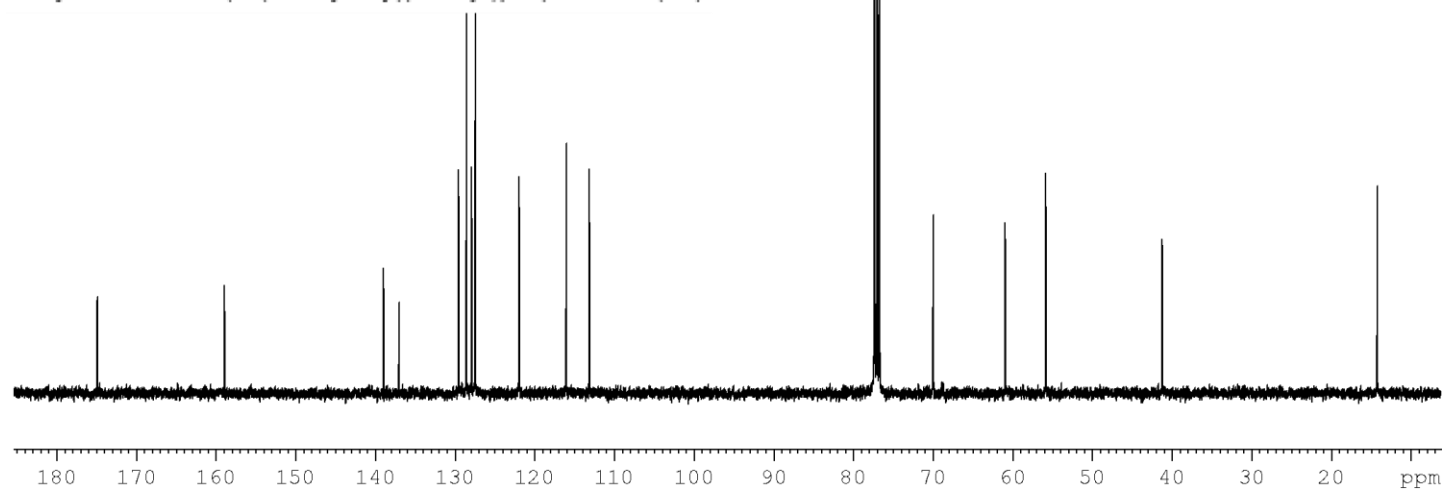


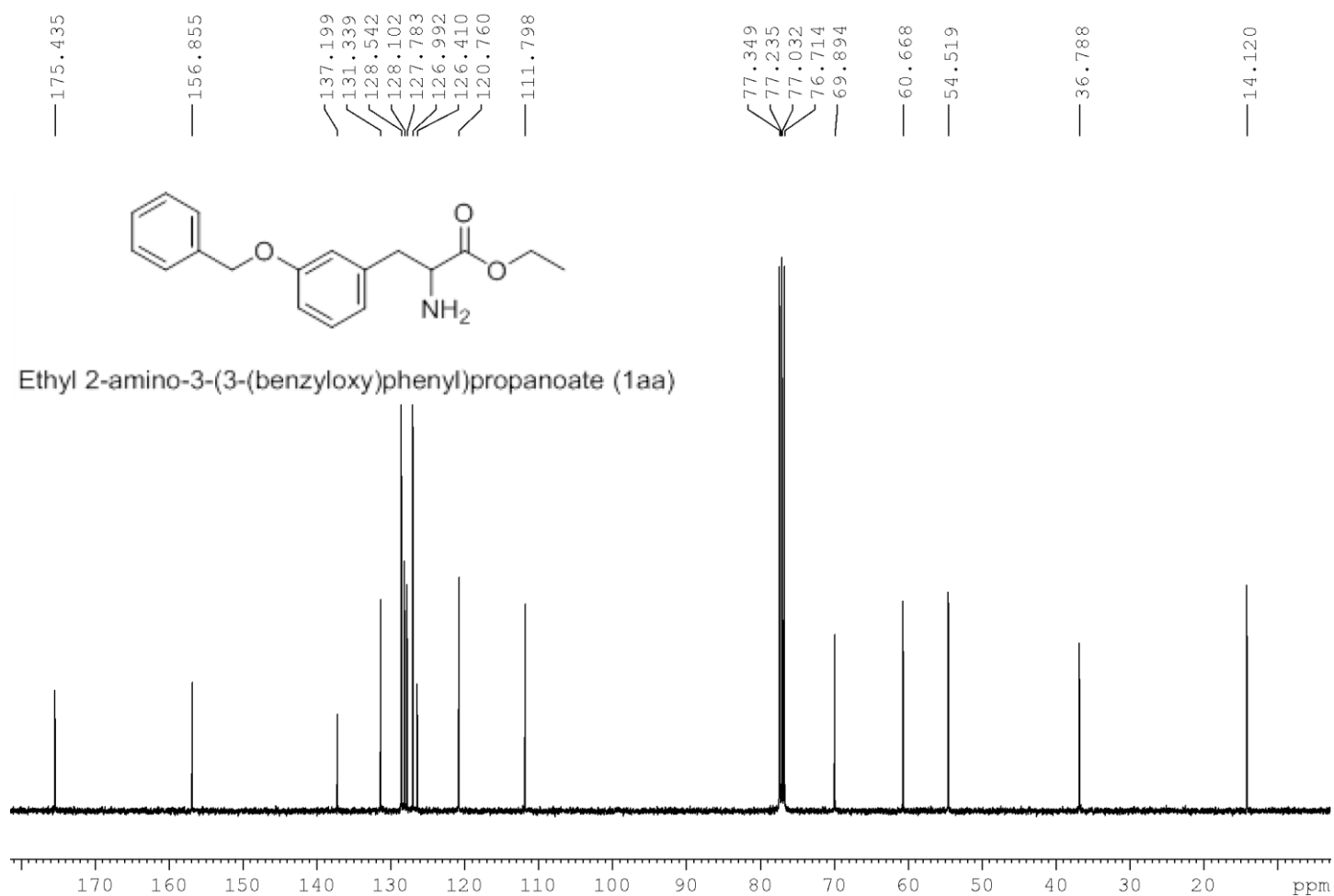
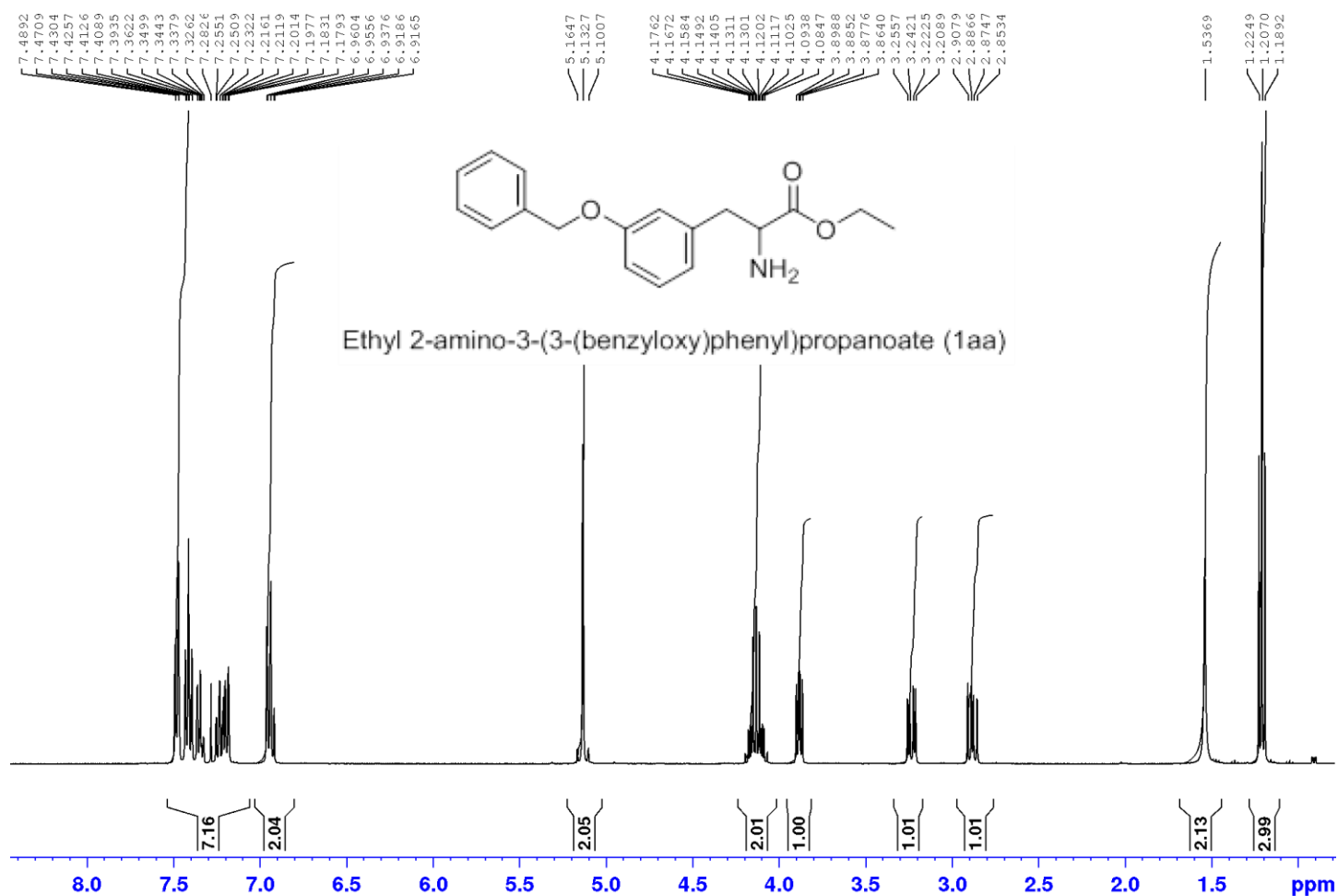


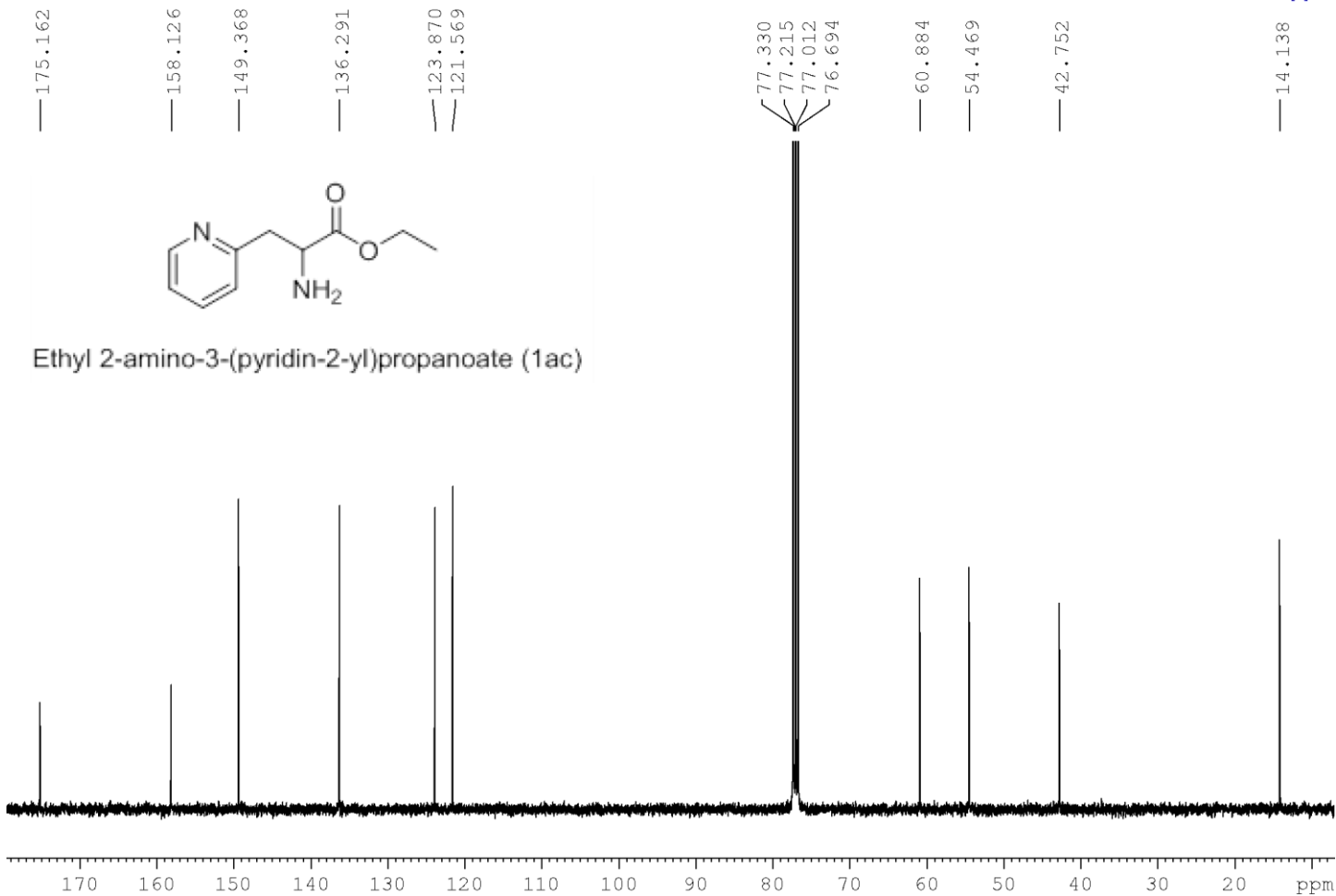
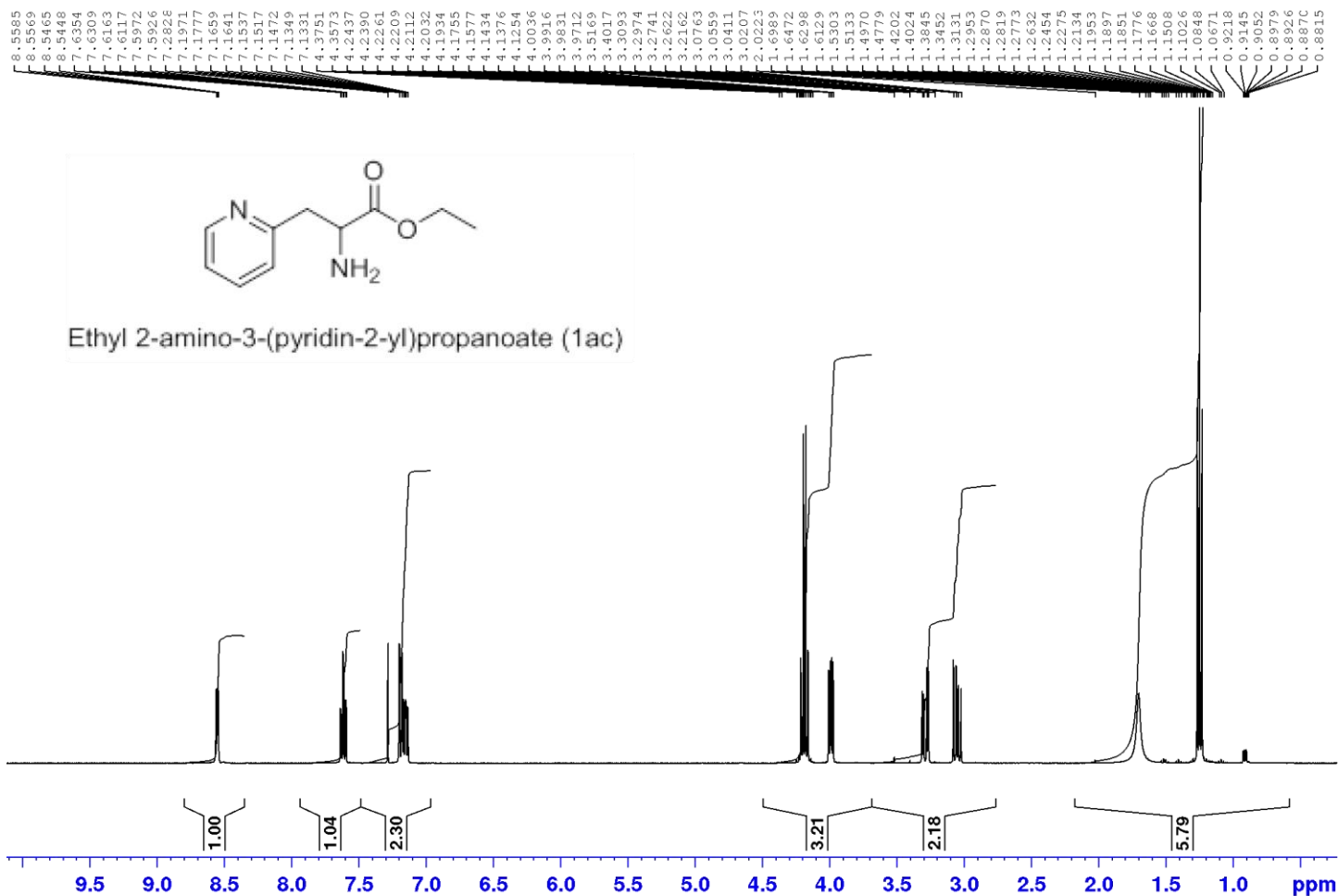




Ethyl 2-amino-3-(2-(benzyloxy)phenyl)propanoate (1z)



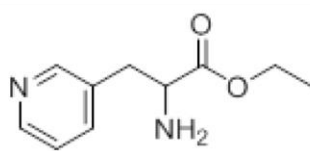




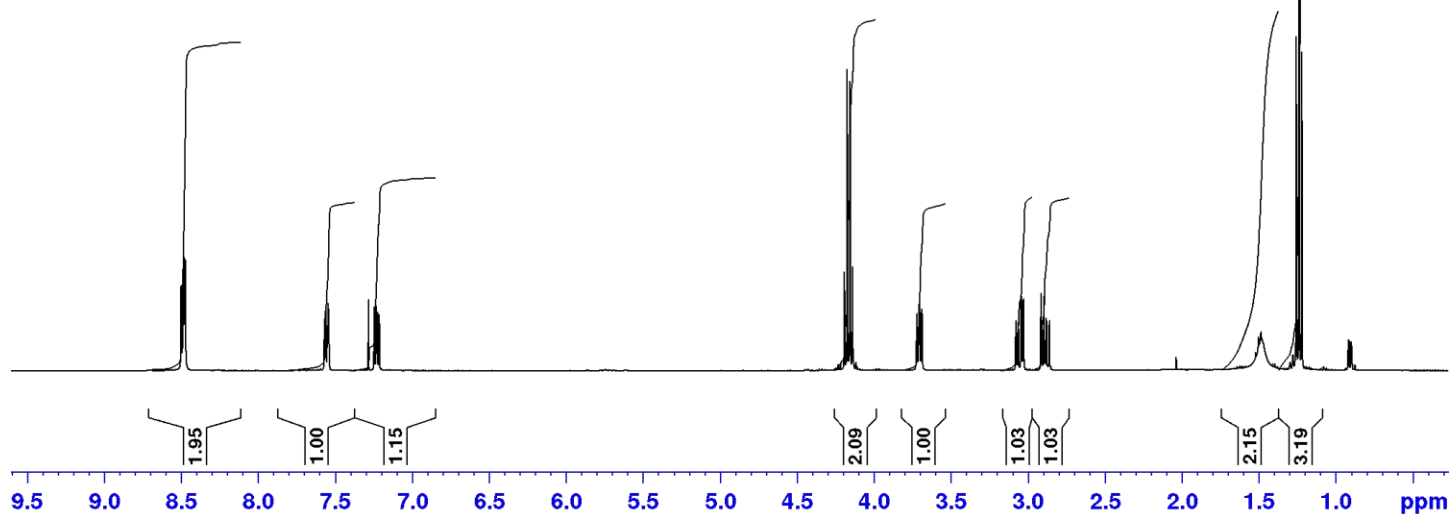
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8.4848  
8.4783  
8.4733  
7.5696  
7.5644  
7.5598  
7.5501  
7.5448  
7.5403  
7.2830  
7.2463  
7.2447  
7.2343  
7.2327  
7.2268  
7.2252  
7.2148  
7.2132

4.1914  
4.1735  
4.1557  
4.1378  
4.1334  
3.7204  
3.7063  
3.7015  
3.6875  
3.0764  
3.0624  
3.0420  
3.0279  
2.9136  
2.8947  
2.8792  
2.8603

2.0370  
1.5188  
1.5017  
1.4846  
1.4688  
1.2801  
1.2762  
1.2556  
1.2378  
1.2199  
0.9180  
0.9137  
0.9015  
0.8972



Ethyl 2-amino-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propanoate (1ad)



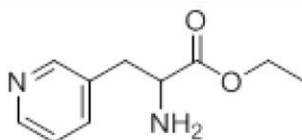
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150.606  
148.247  
136.743  
132.940  
123.260

77.353  
77.035  
76.717

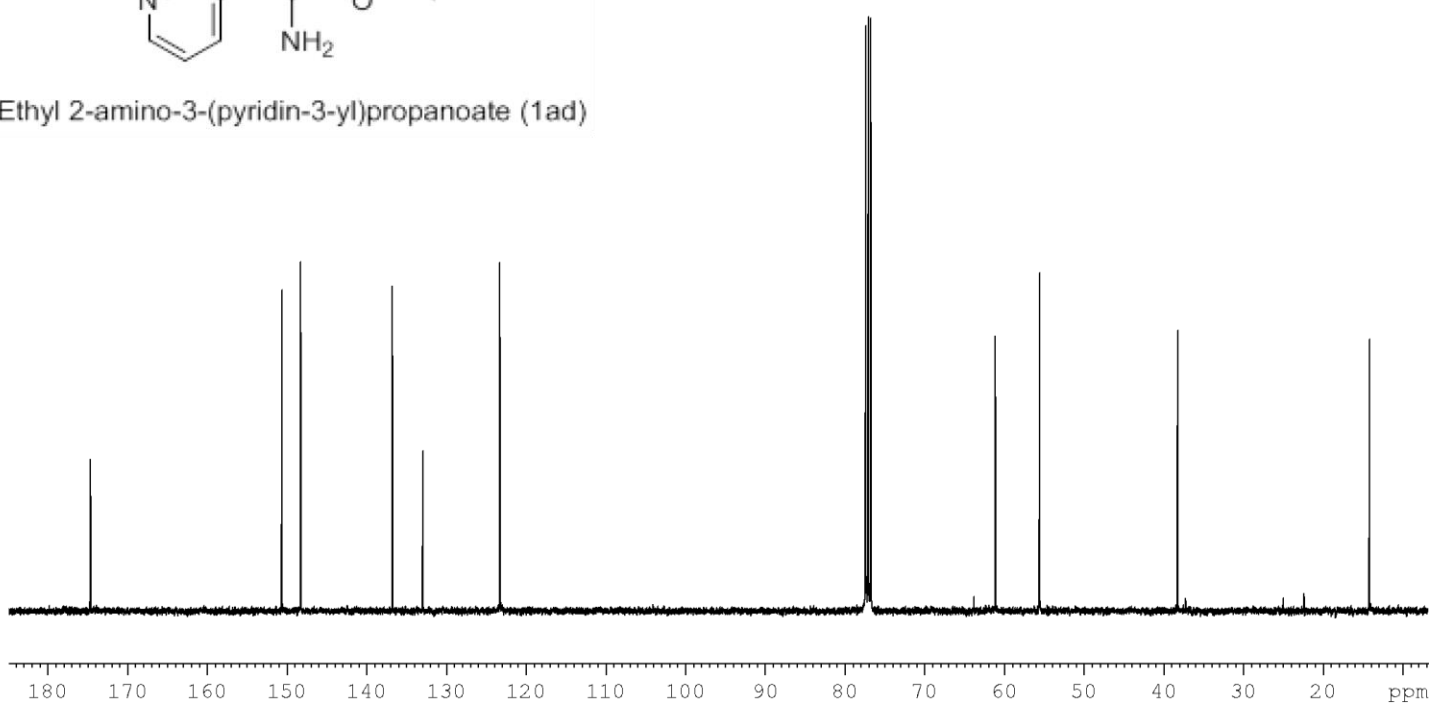
61.087  
55.522

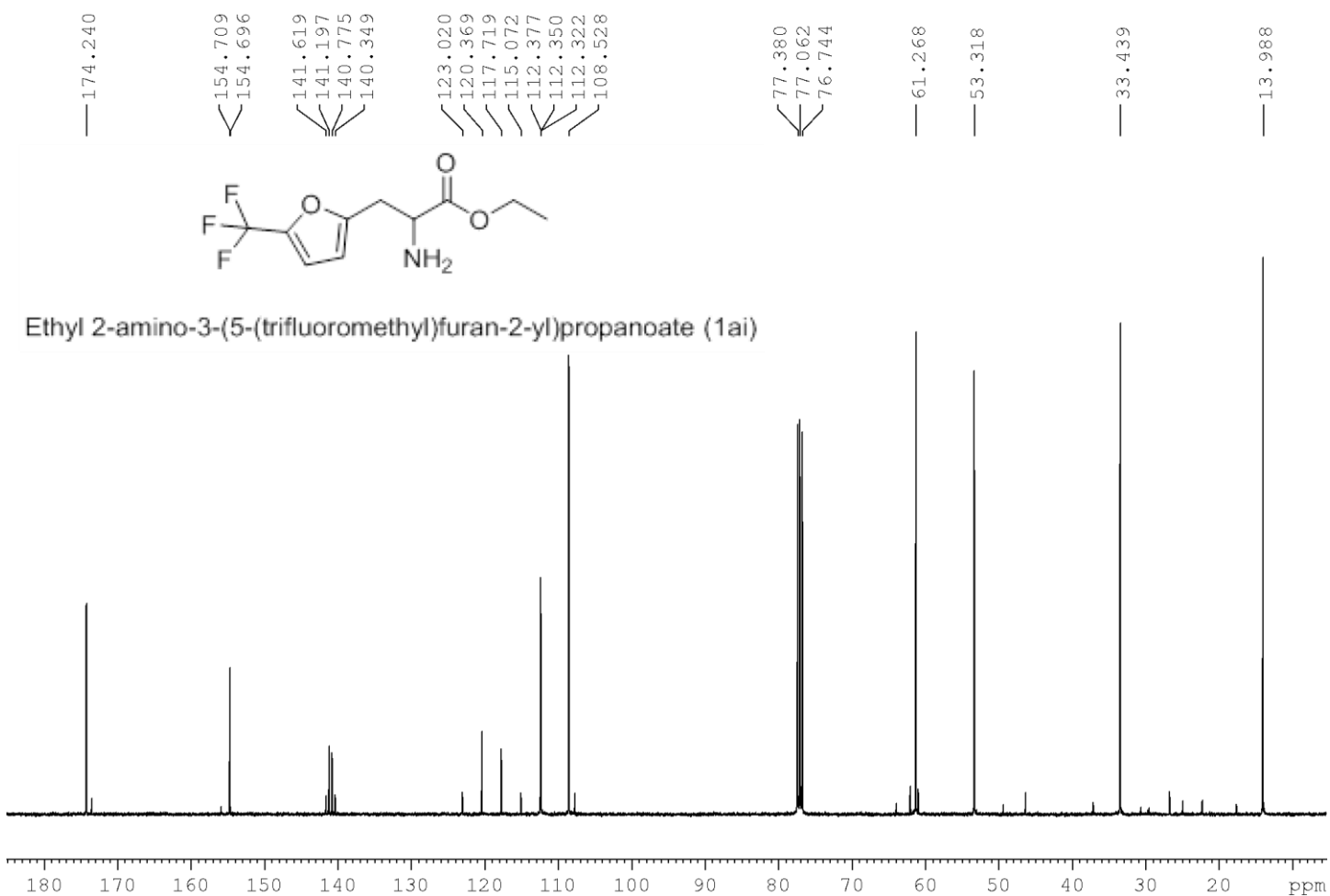
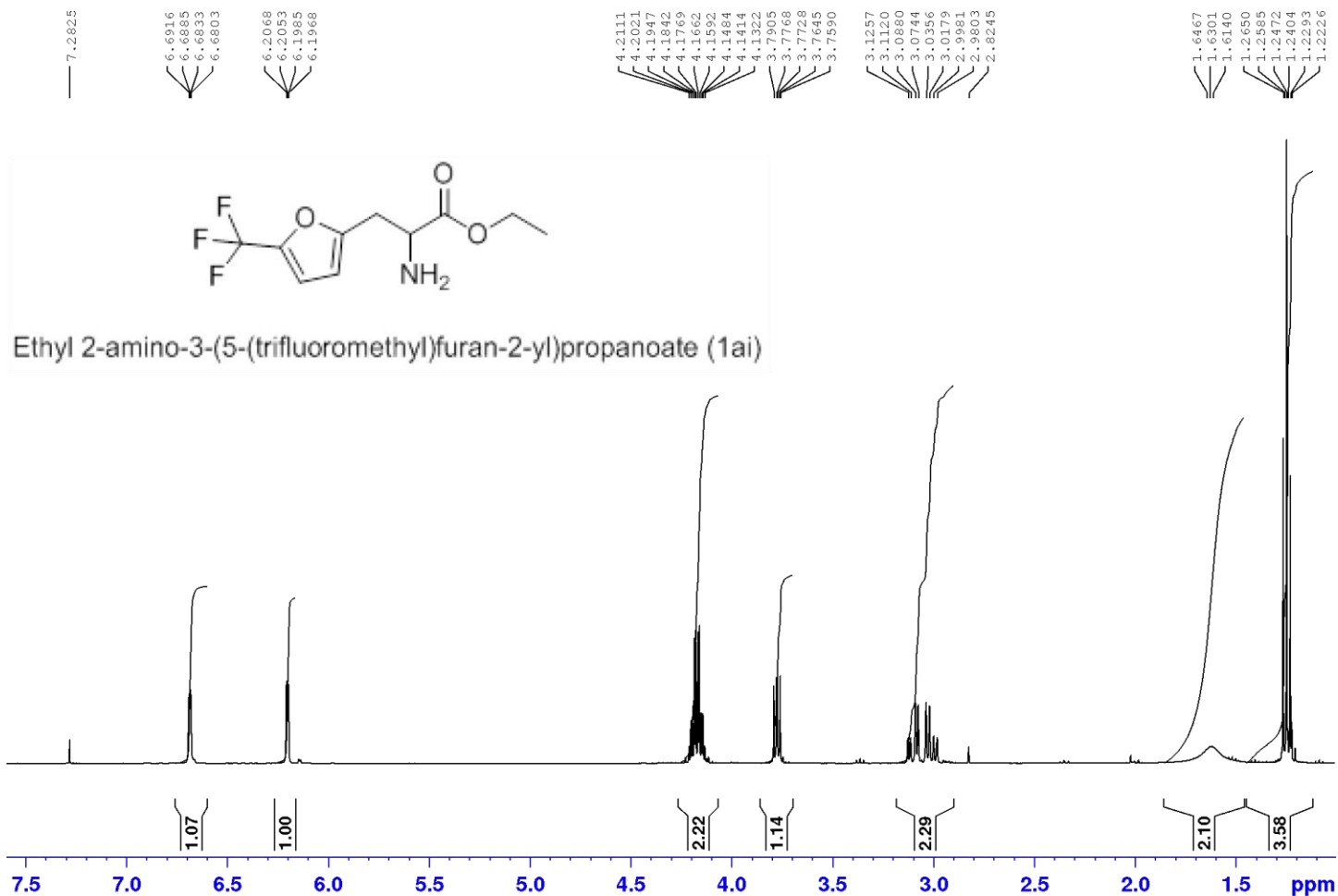
38.219

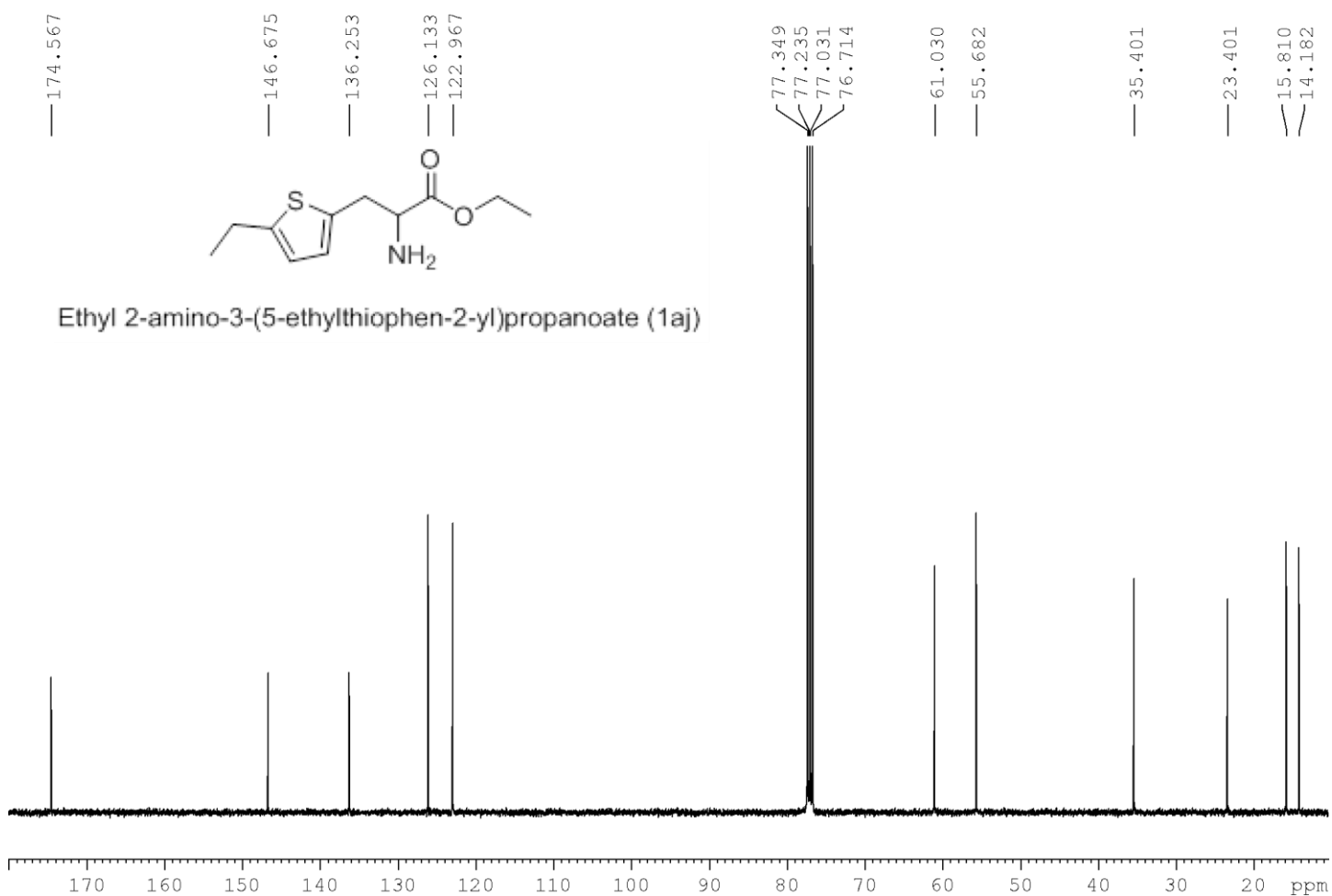
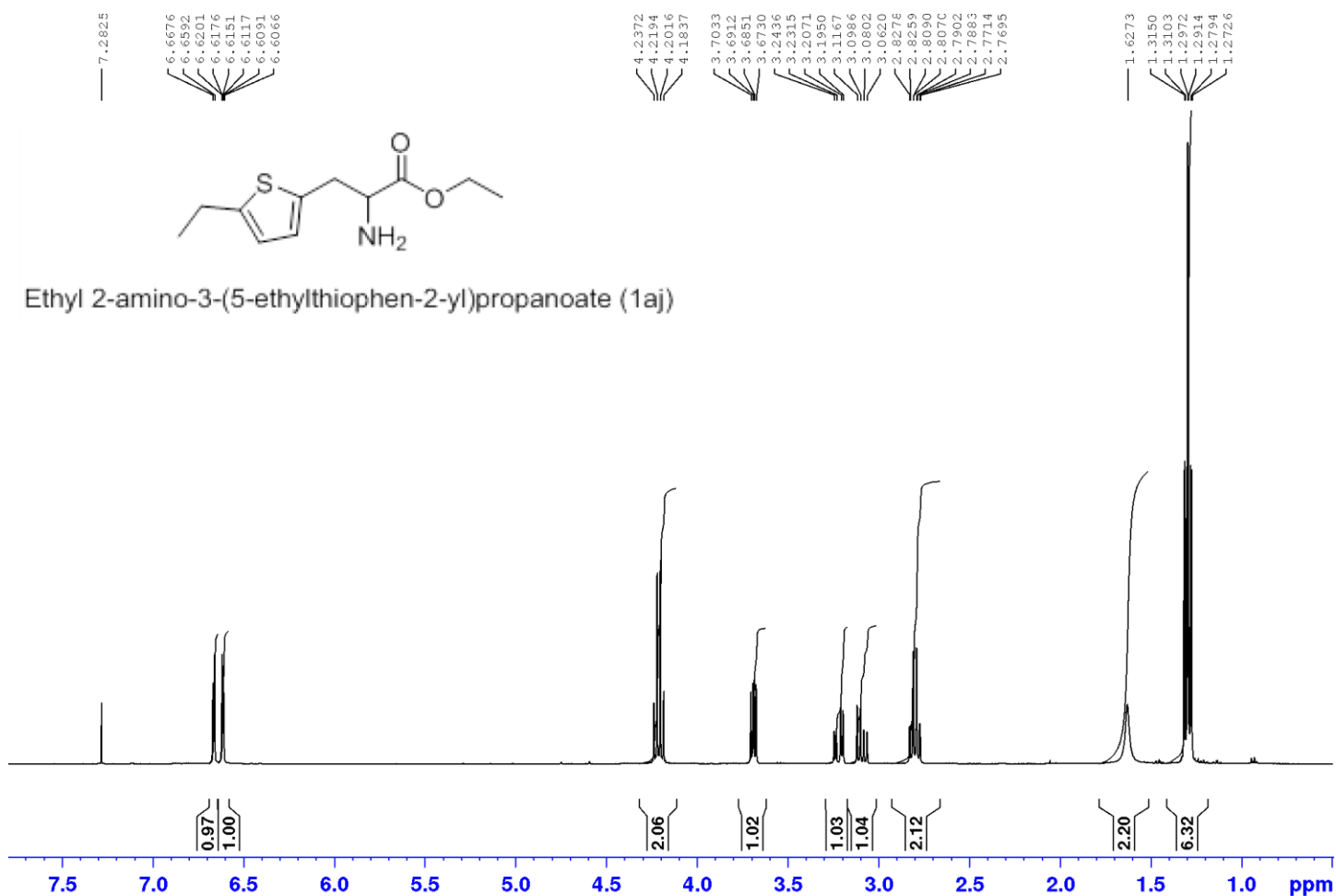
14.135



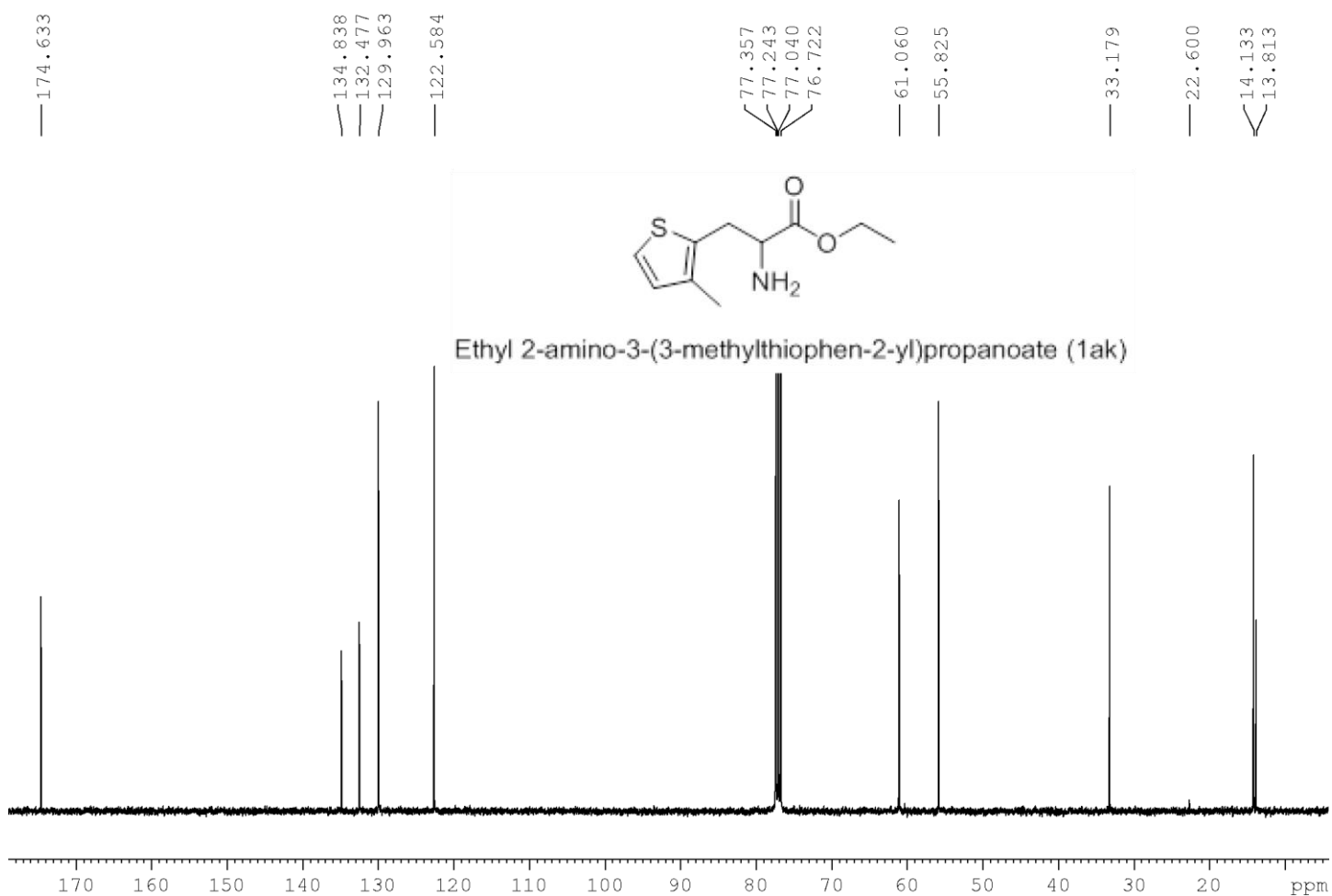
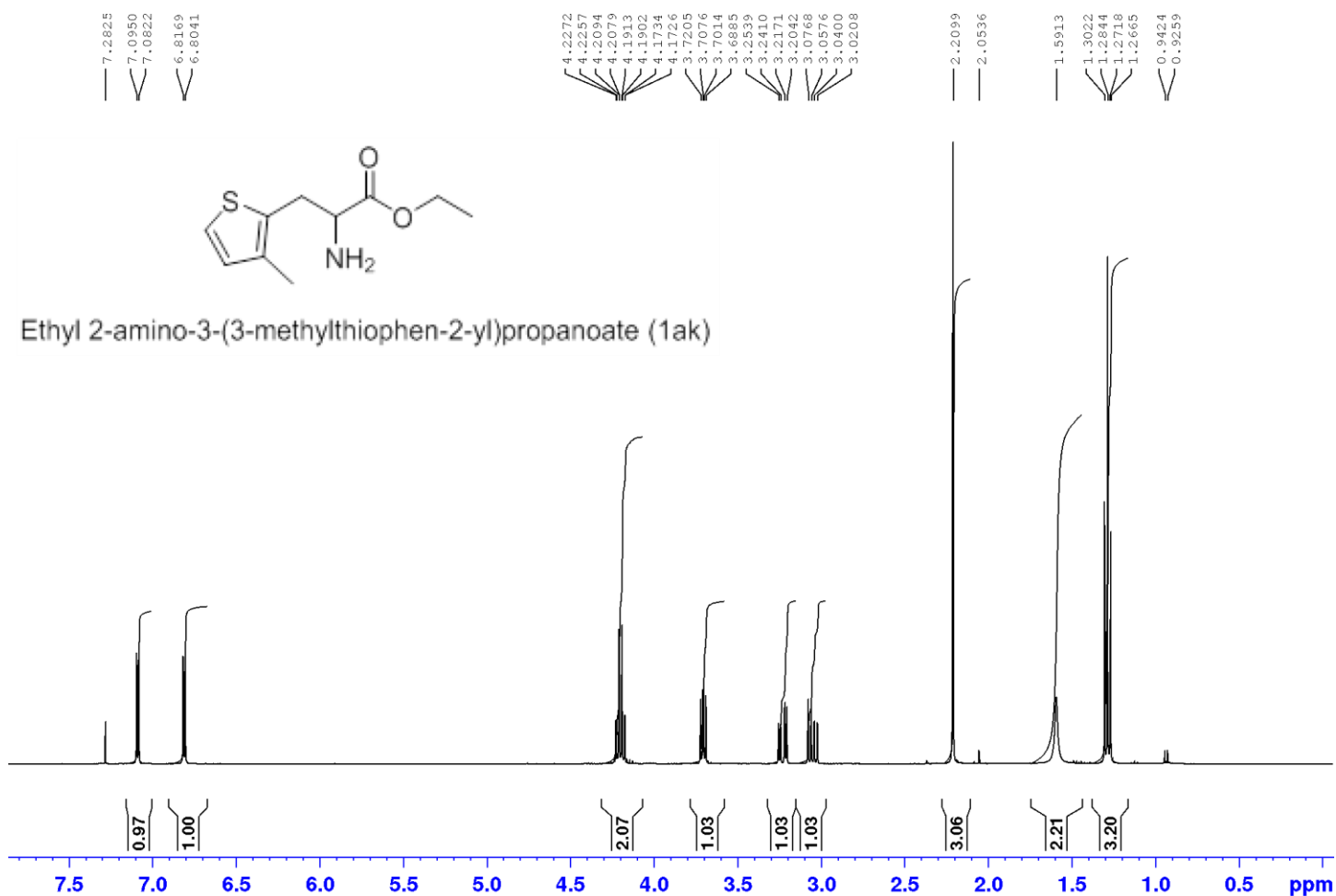
Ethyl 2-amino-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propanoate (1ad)

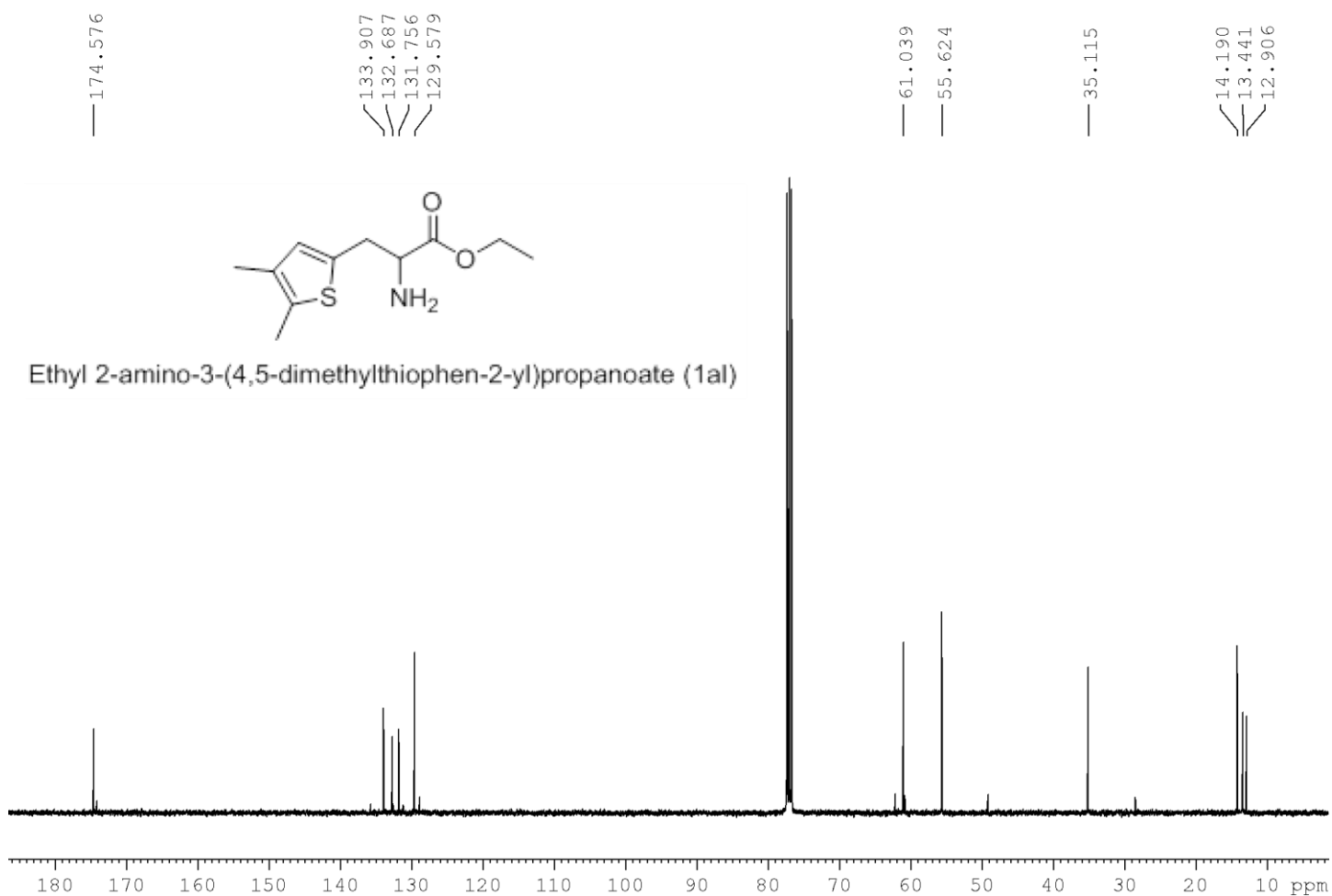
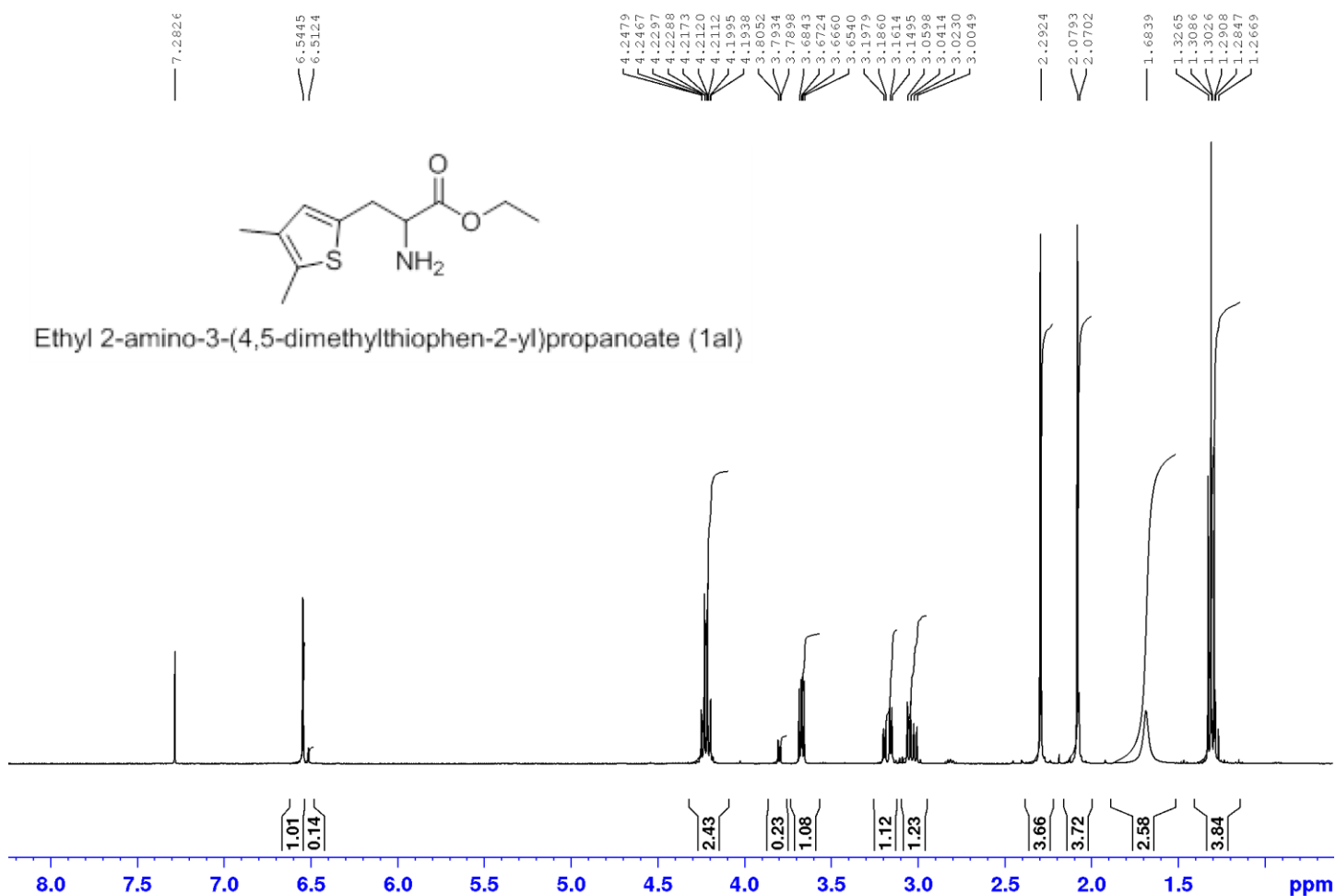


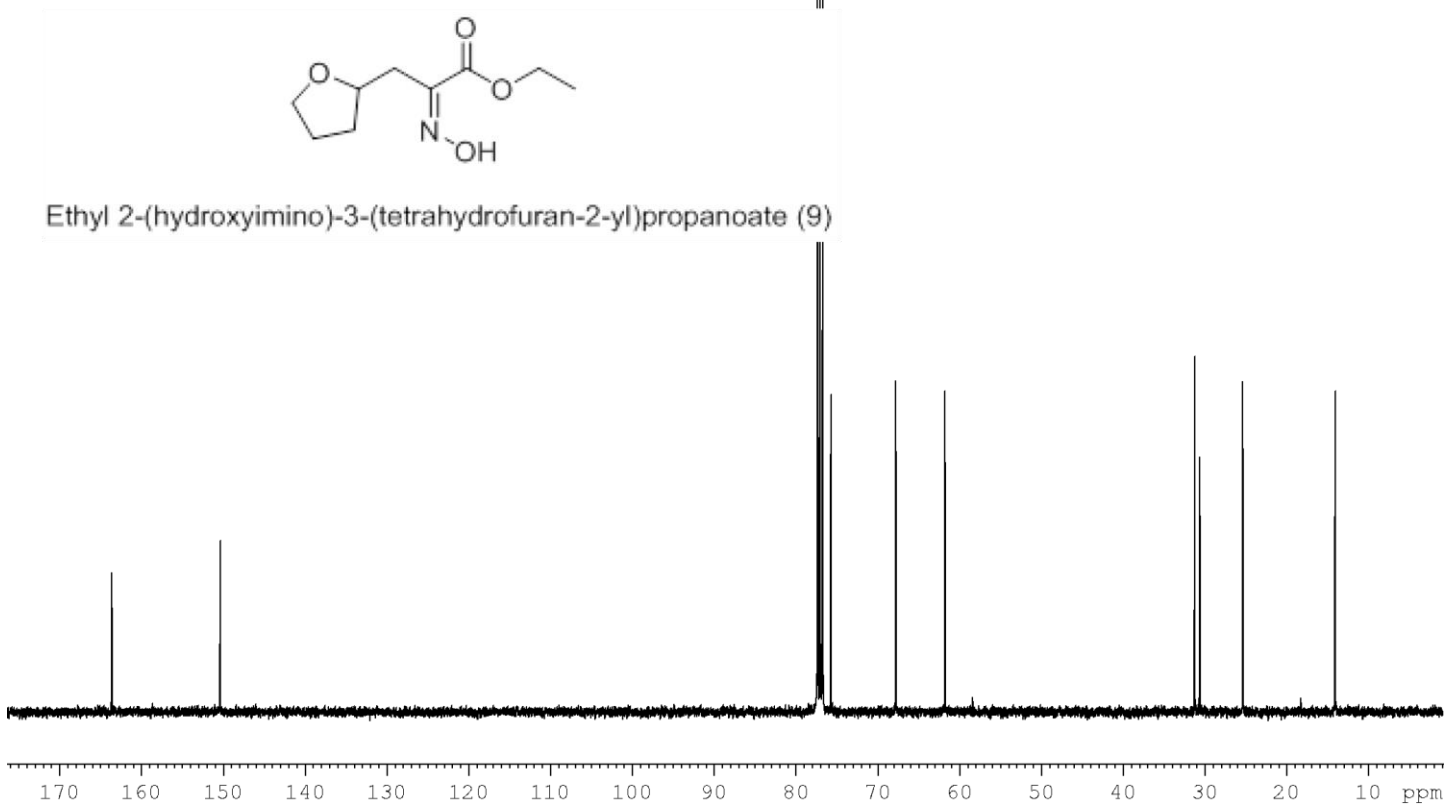
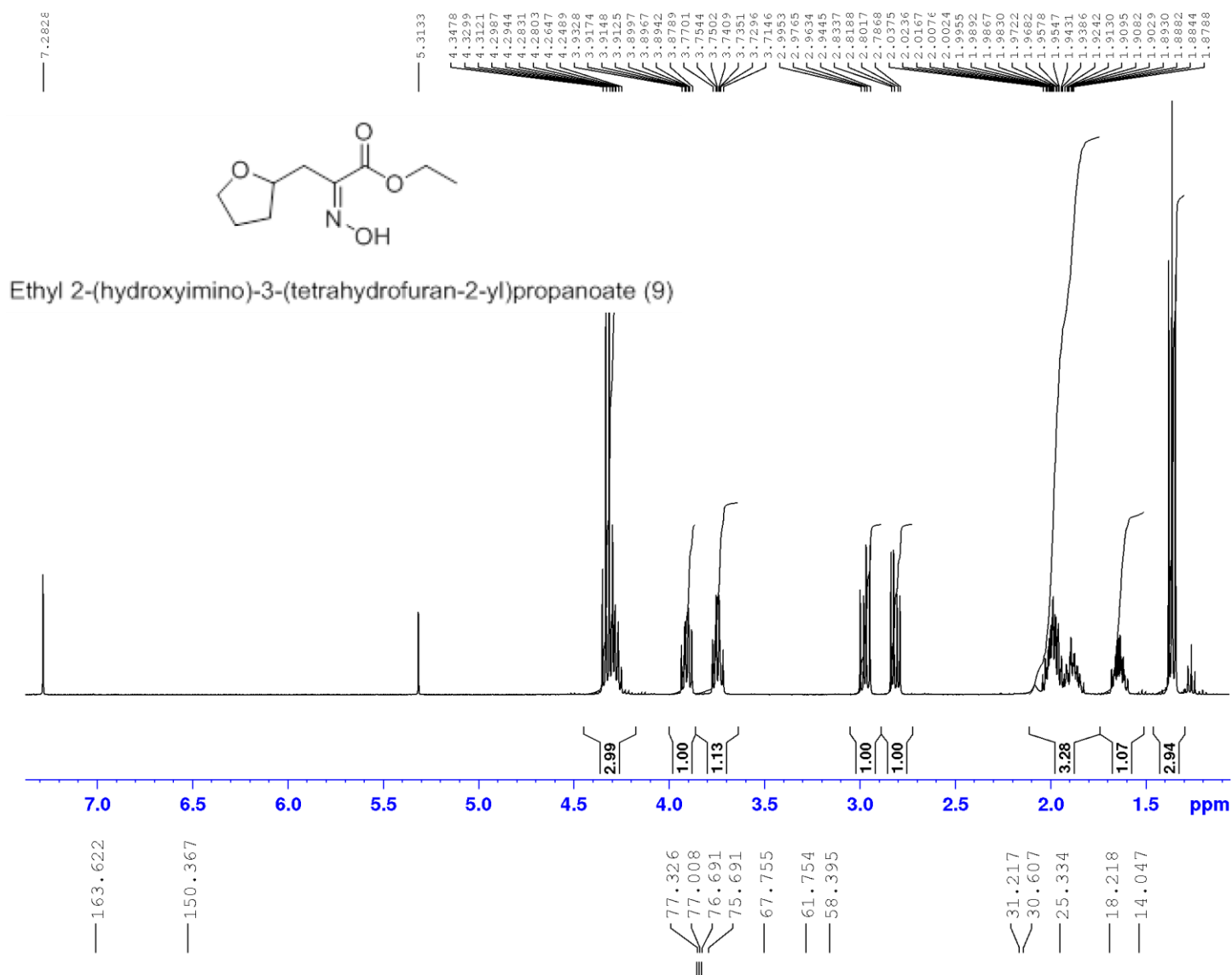


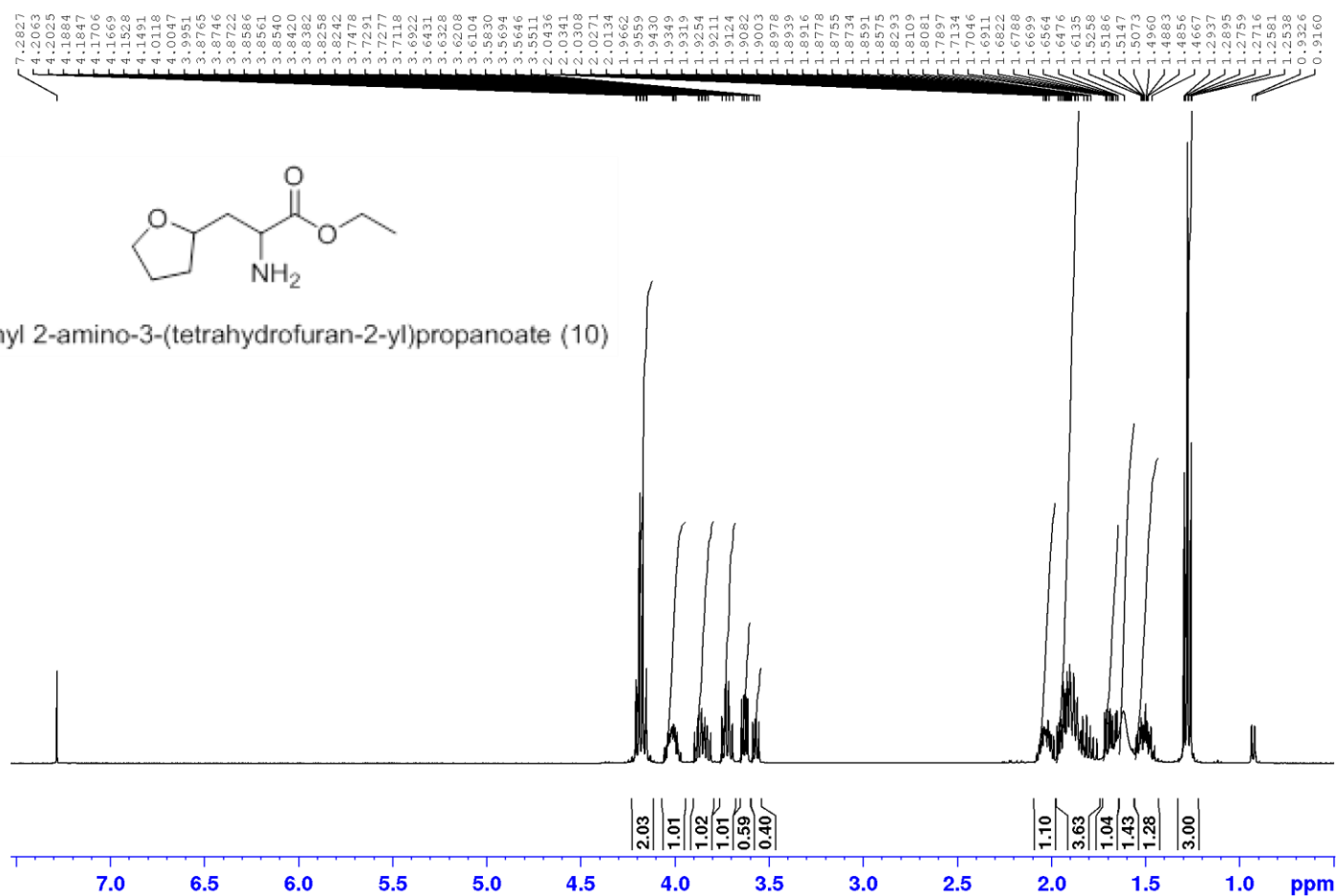
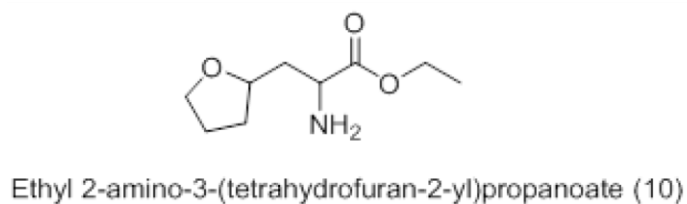






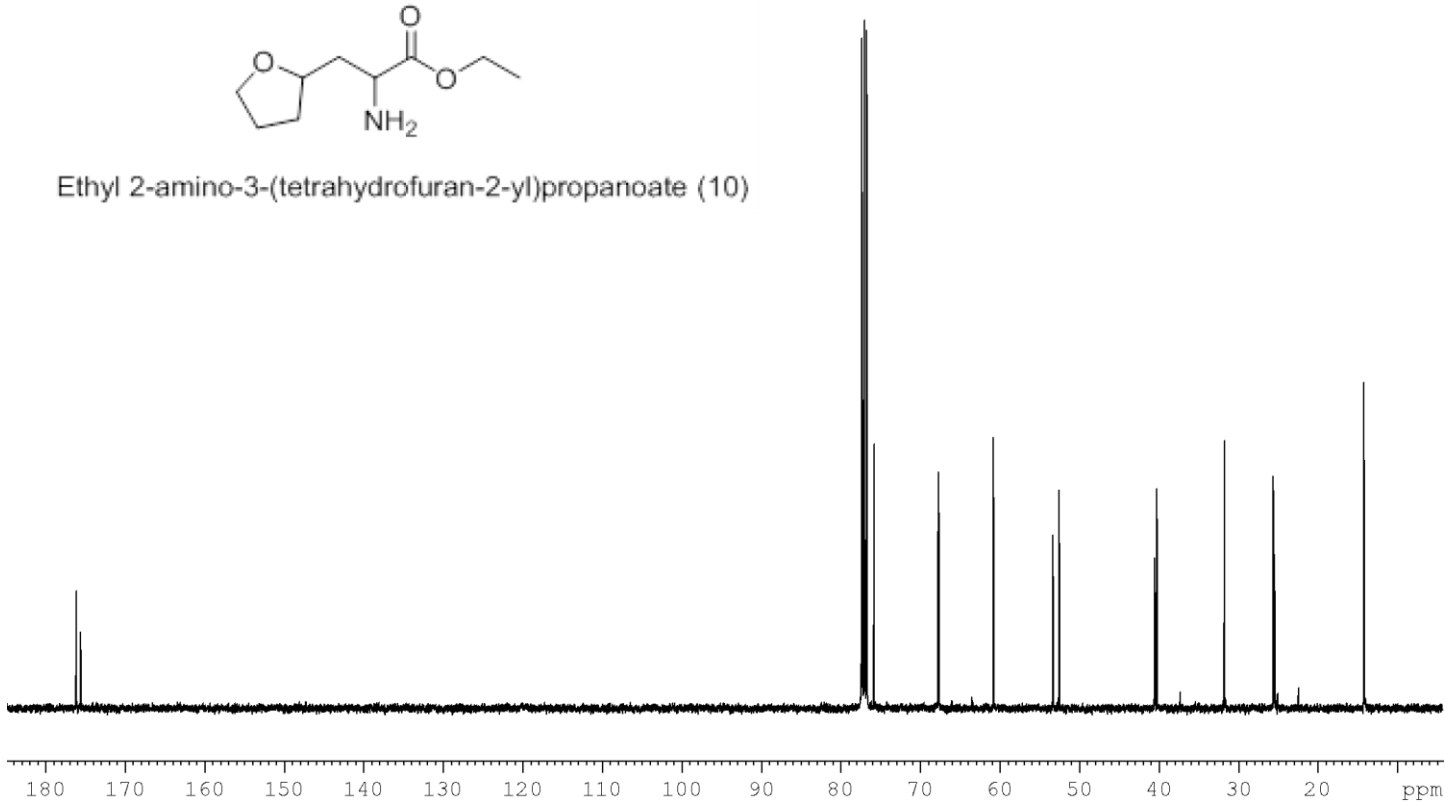
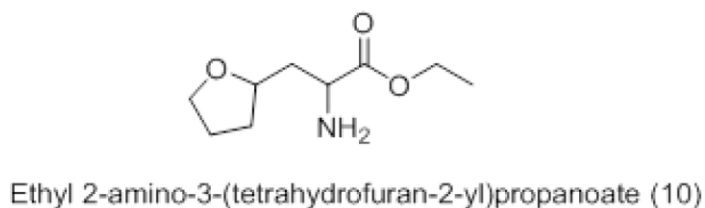


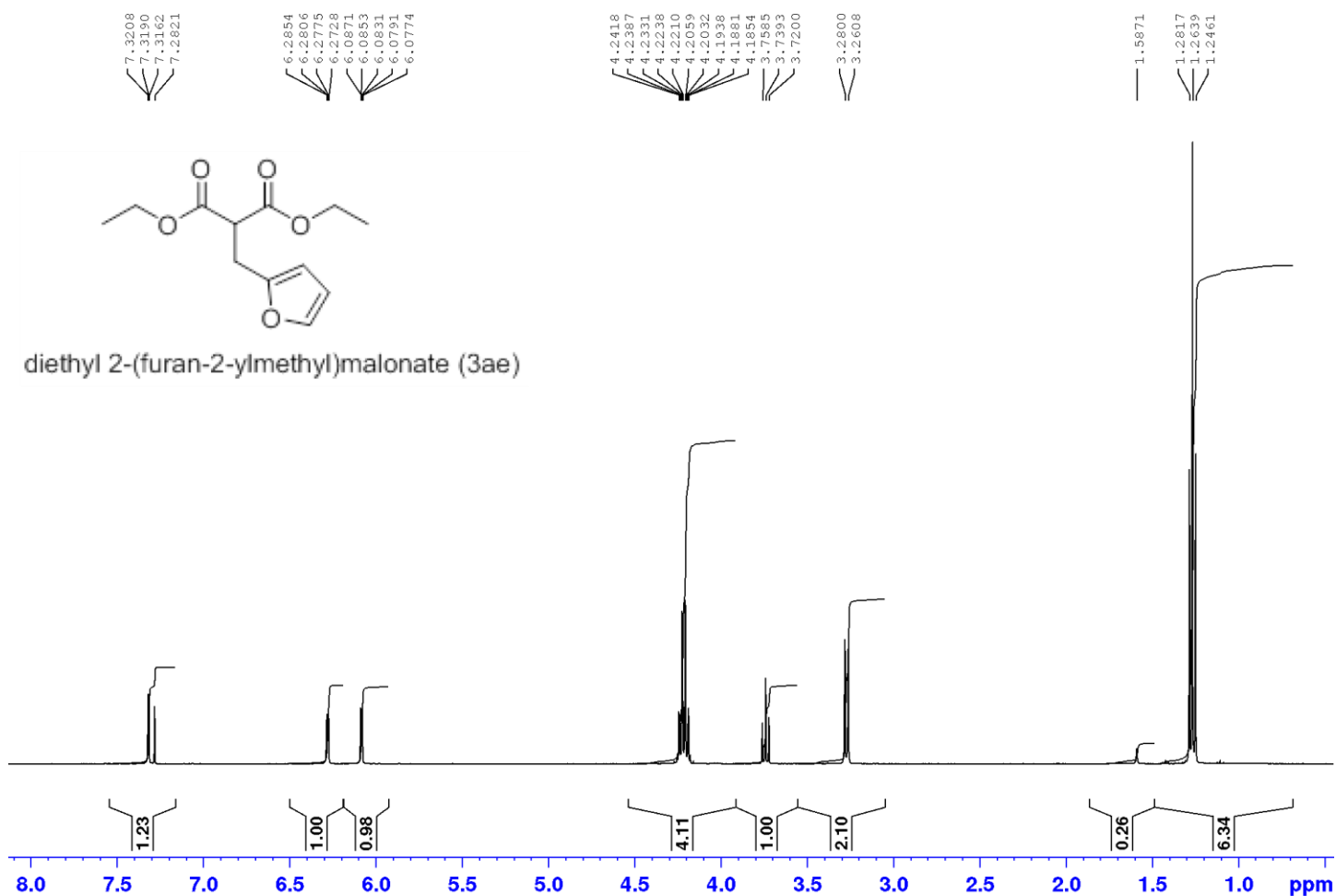




176.150  
 175.602

77.344  
 77.026  
 76.910  
 76.708  
 75.808  
 67.734  
 67.652  
 60.787  
 53.298  
 52.532  
 40.492  
 40.207  
 31.728  
 25.569  
 25.438  
 14.192

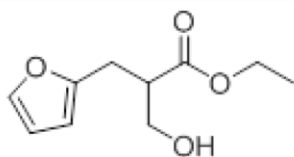




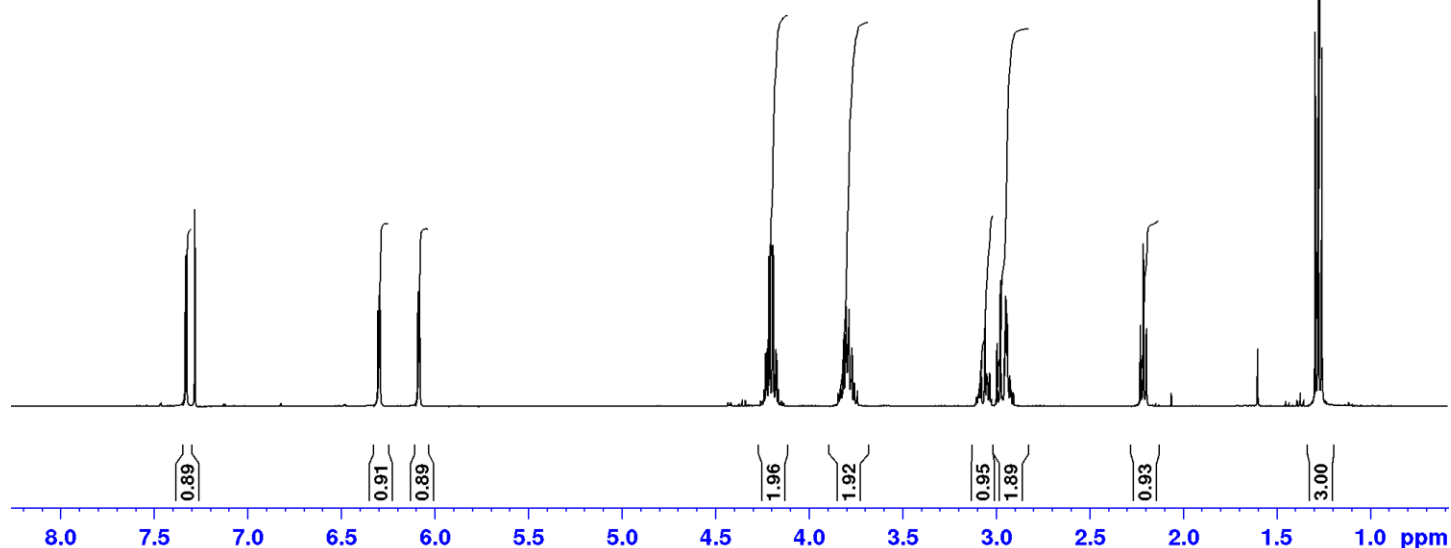
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7.3280  
7.3261  
7.2826

6.3035  
6.2988  
6.2957  
6.2910  
6.0897  
6.0881  
6.0816  
6.0804

4.2395  
4.2304  
4.2249  
4.2217  
4.2126  
4.2072  
4.1946  
4.1894  
4.1801  
4.1768  
4.1717  
4.1624  
3.8323  
3.8272  
3.8147  
3.8042  
3.7994  
3.7940  
3.7885  
3.7844  
3.7770  
3.7742  
3.7719  
3.7685  
3.7564  
3.0789  
3.0583  
3.0486  
3.0445  
3.0332  
2.9938  
2.9749  
2.9546  
2.9500  
2.9464  
2.9440  
2.9396  
2.9358  
2.9220  
2.9219  
2.9211  
2.9169  
2.2273  
2.2112  
2.1951  
1.6008  
1.2928  
1.2750  
1.2572



Ethyl 3-(furan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)propanoate (11)



— 174.091

— 152.444

— 141.491

— 110.242  
— 106.729

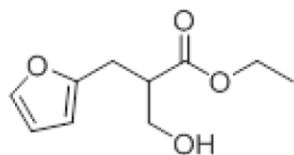
77.314  
76.996  
76.679

62.403  
60.858

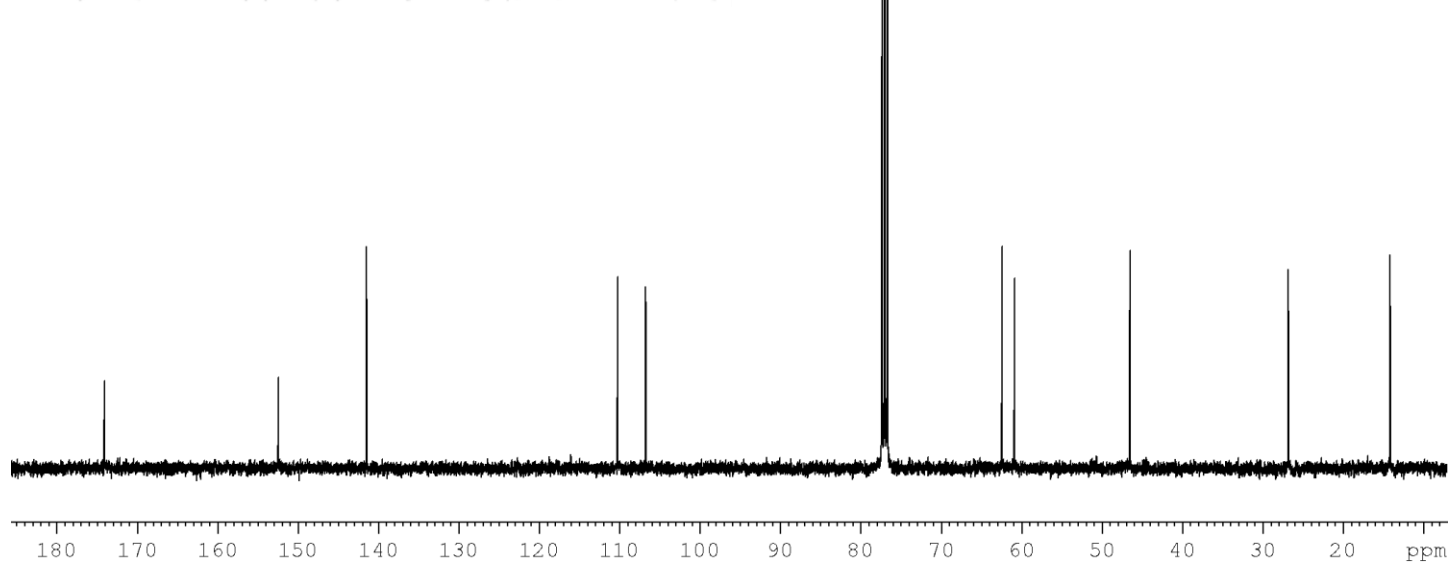
— 46.493

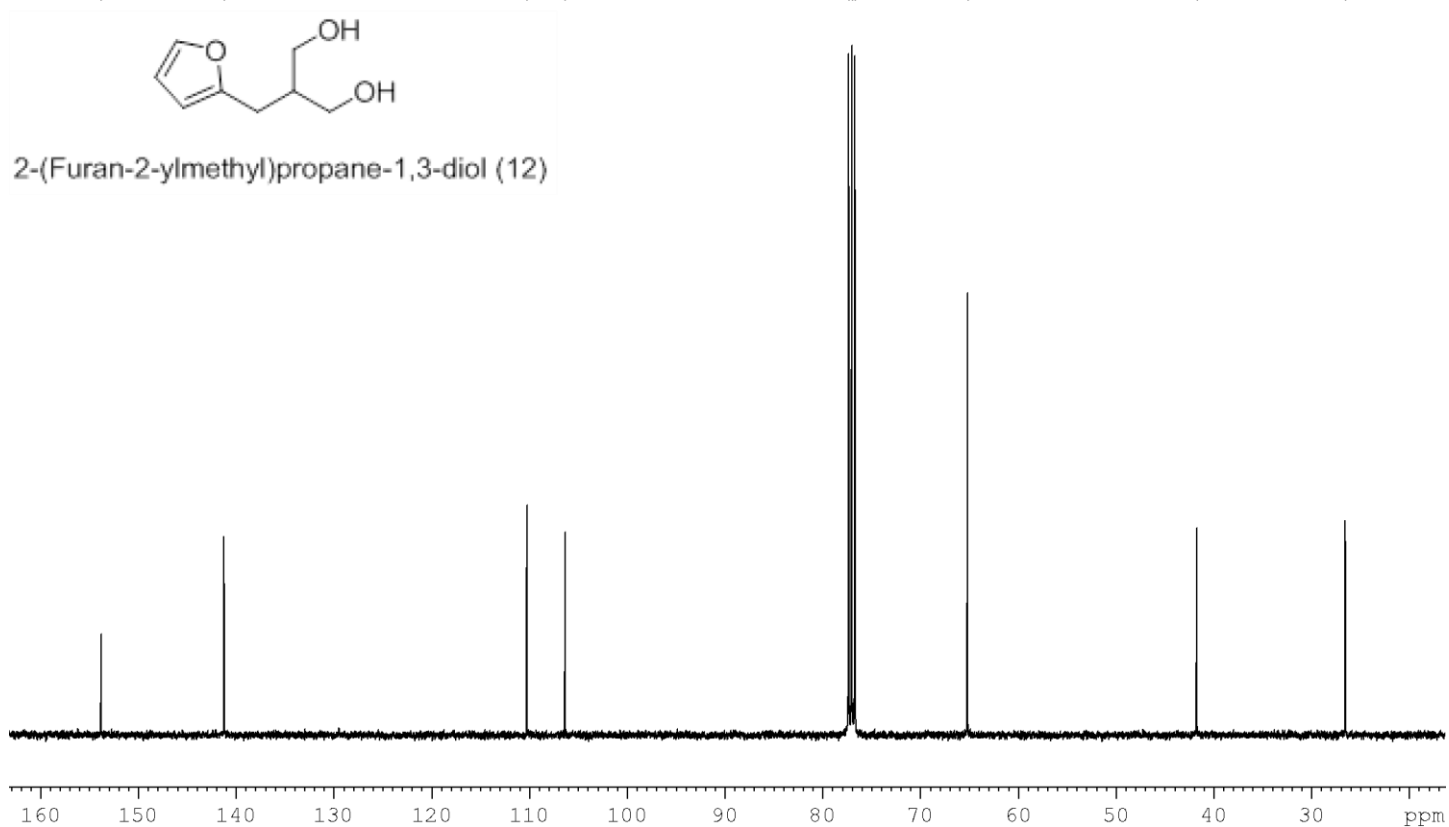
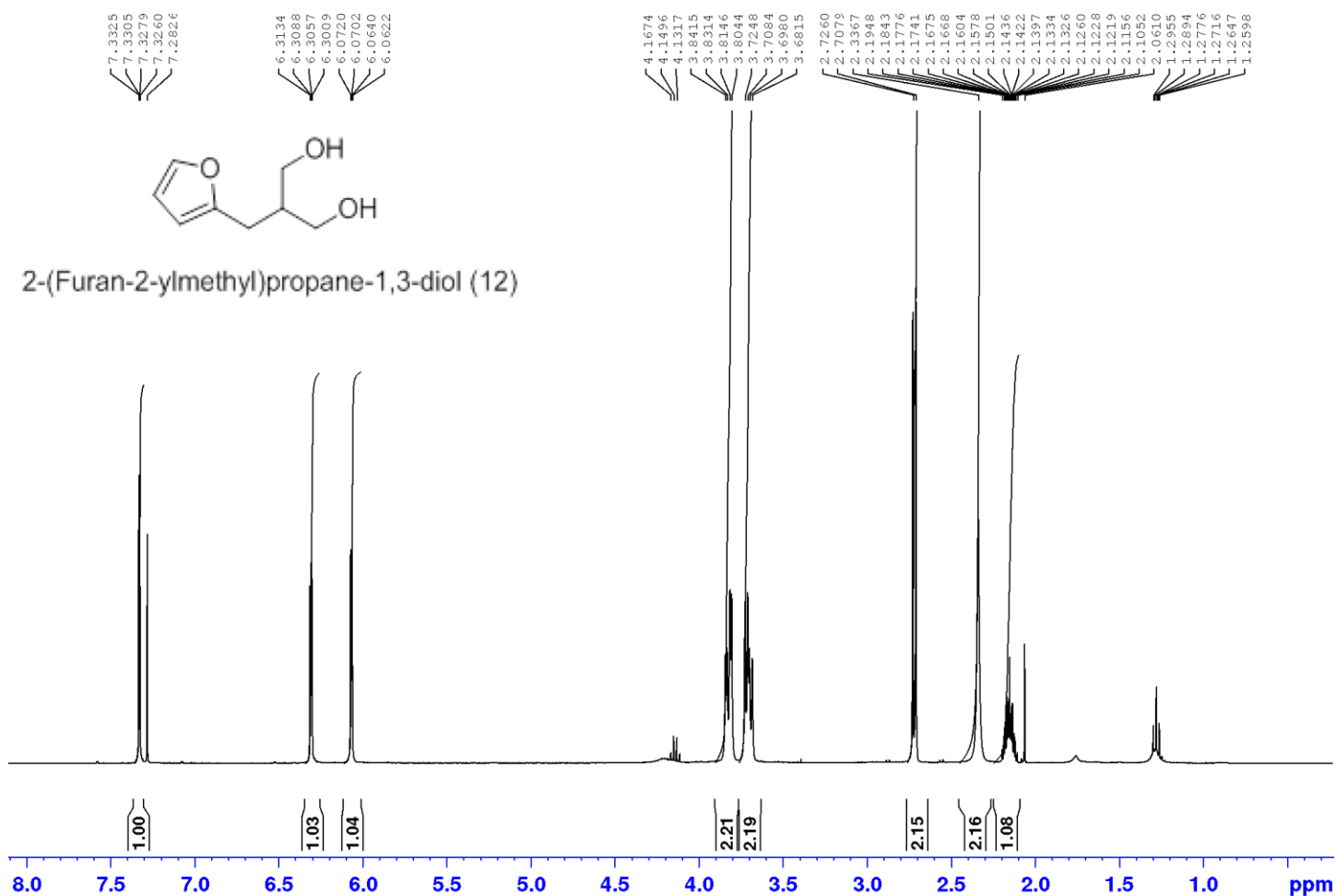
— 26.785

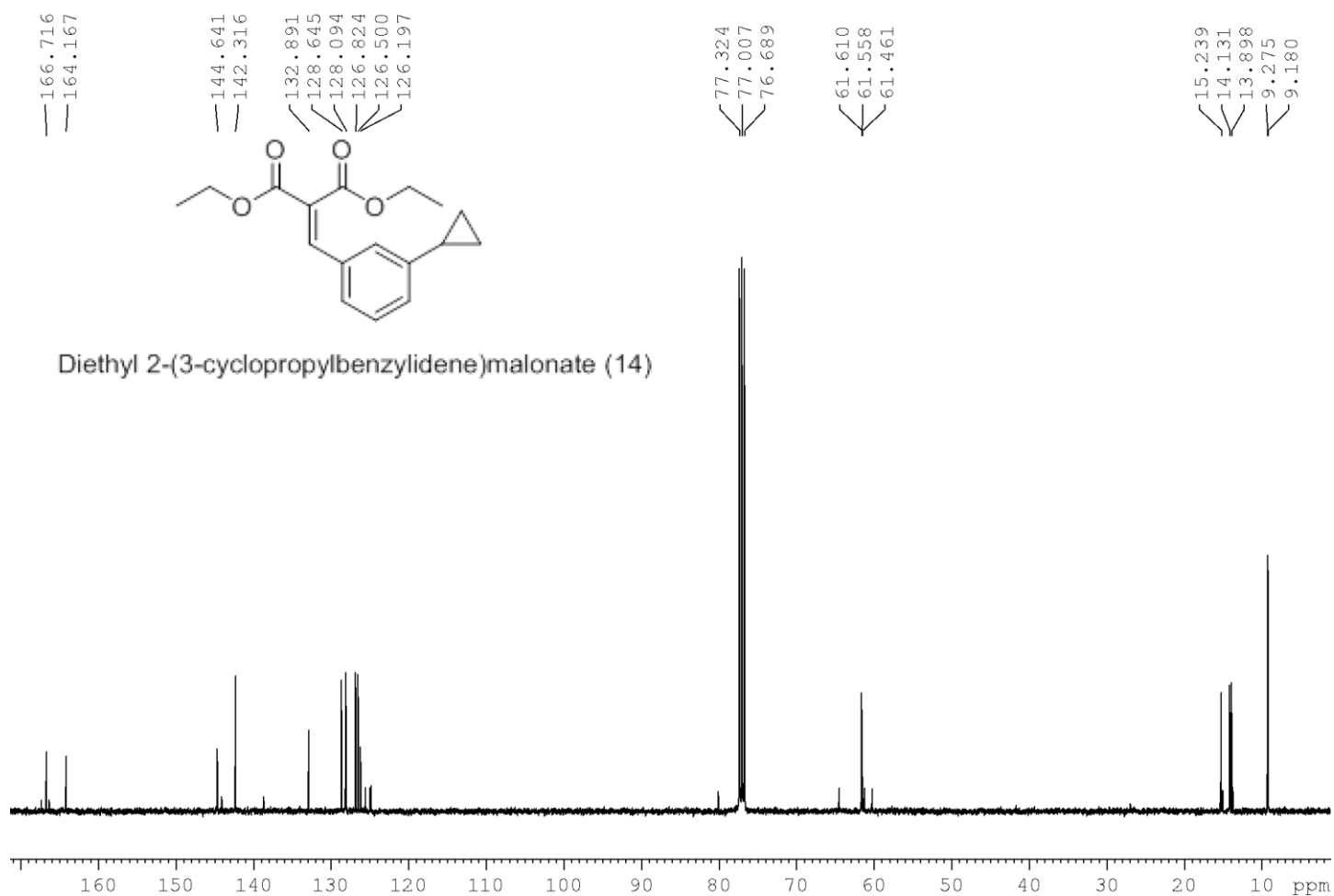
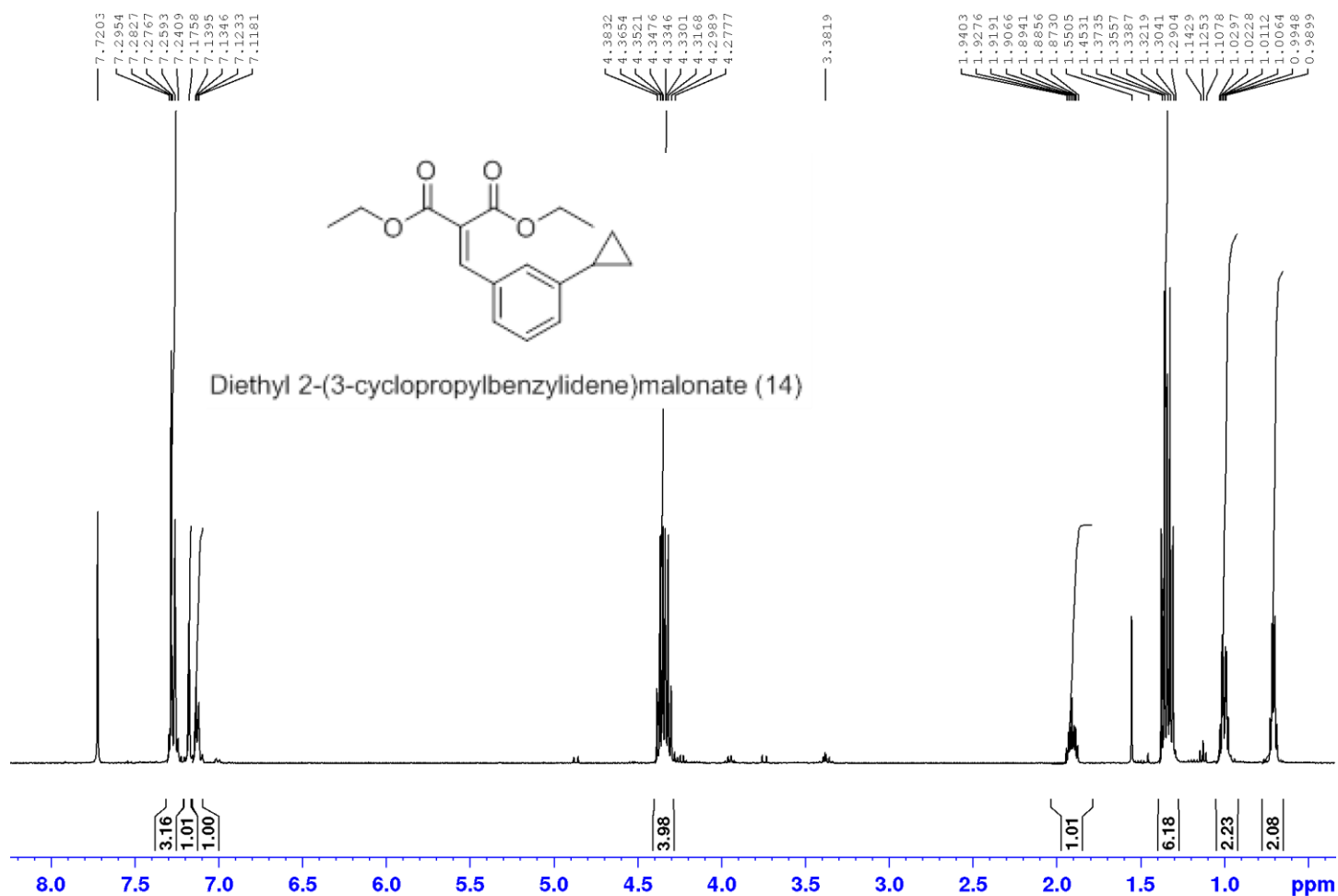
— 14.129



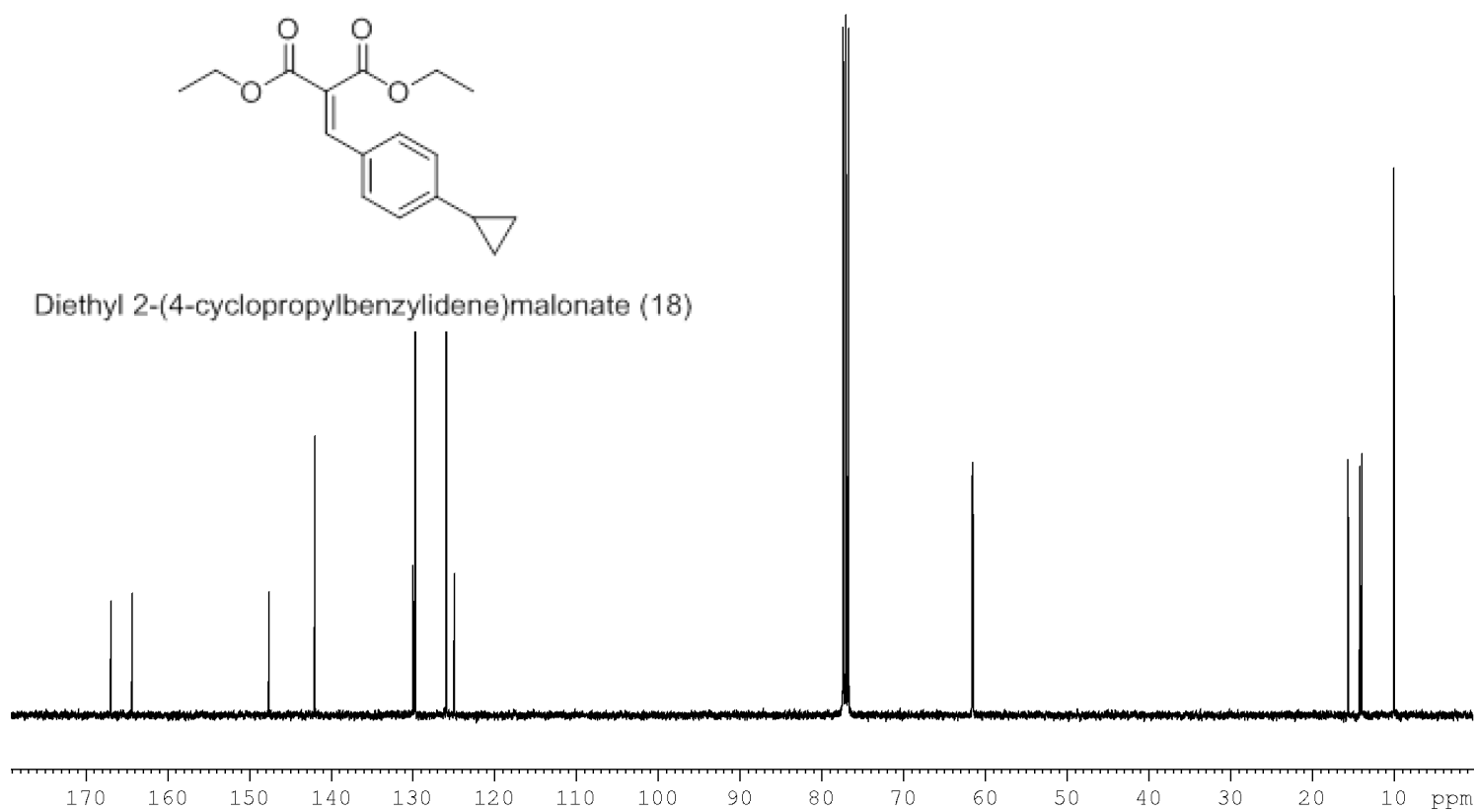
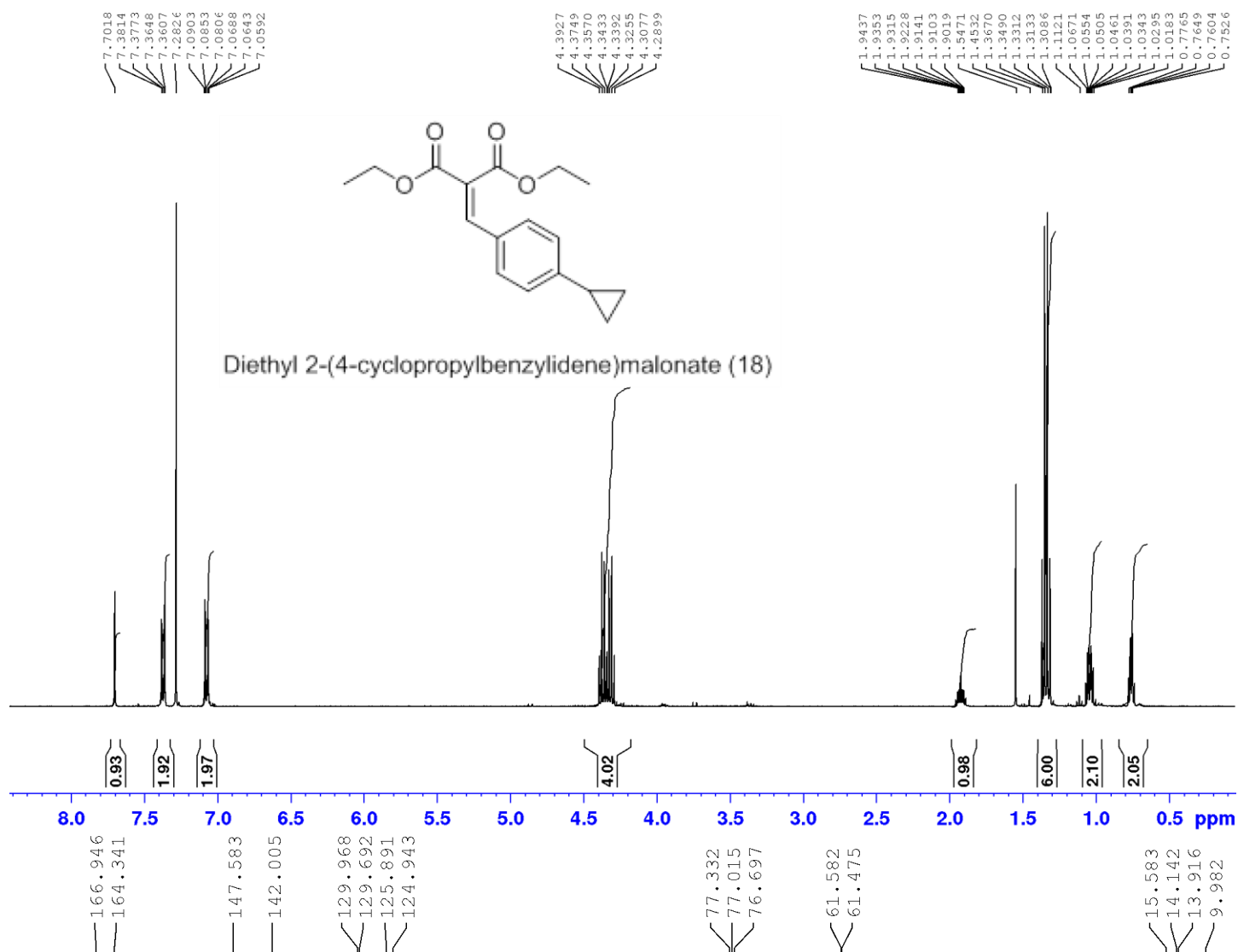
Ethyl 3-(furan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)propanoate (11)

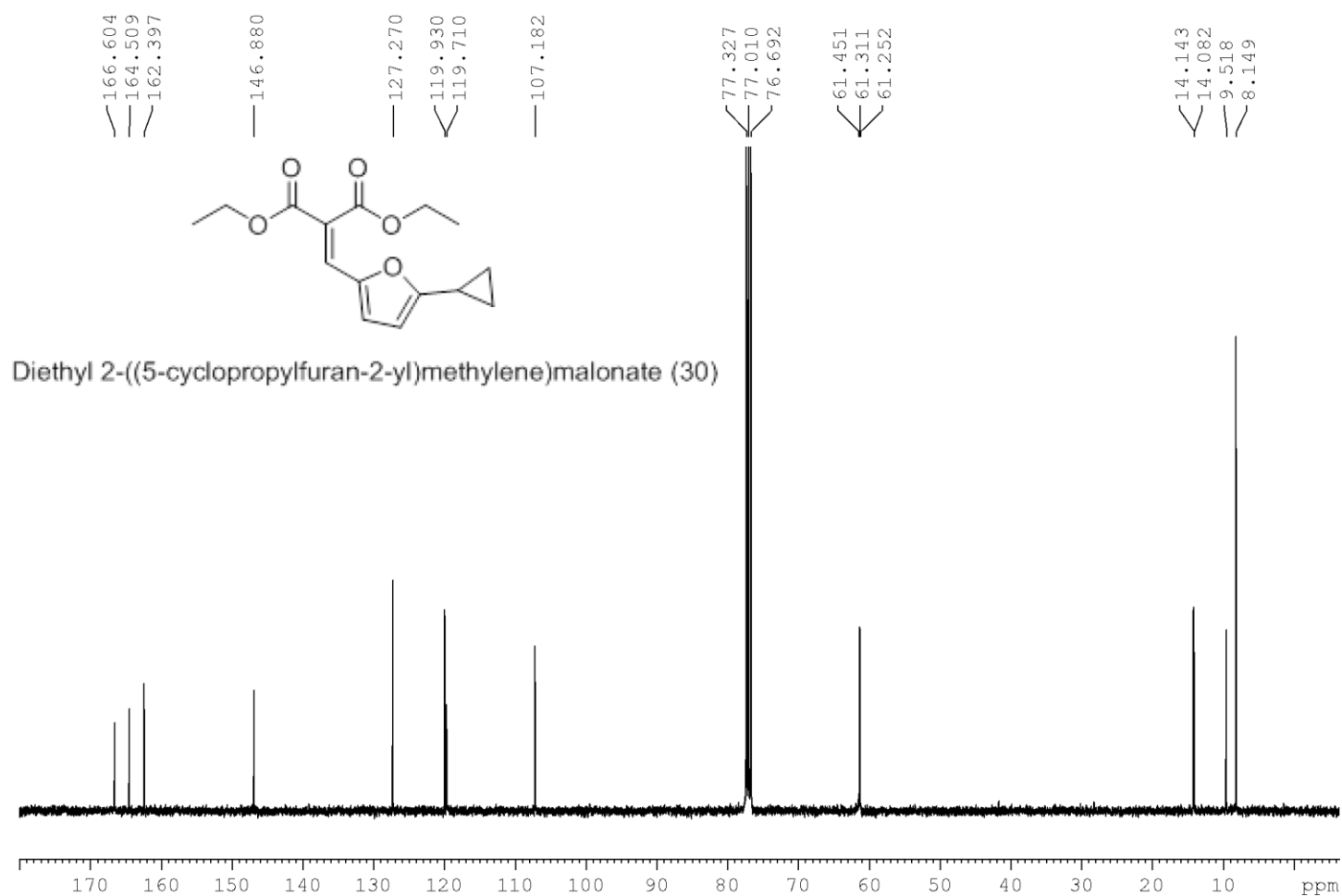
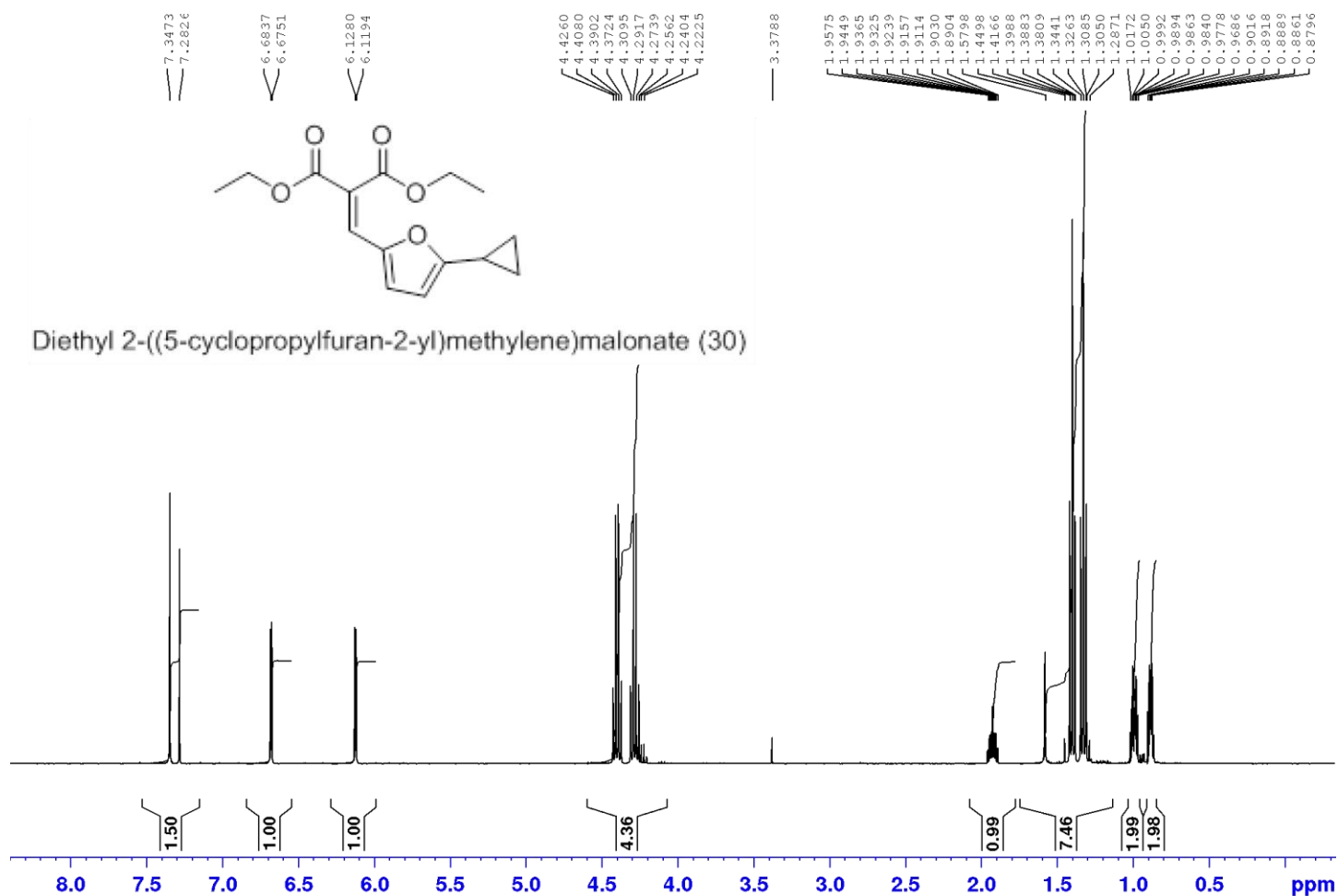


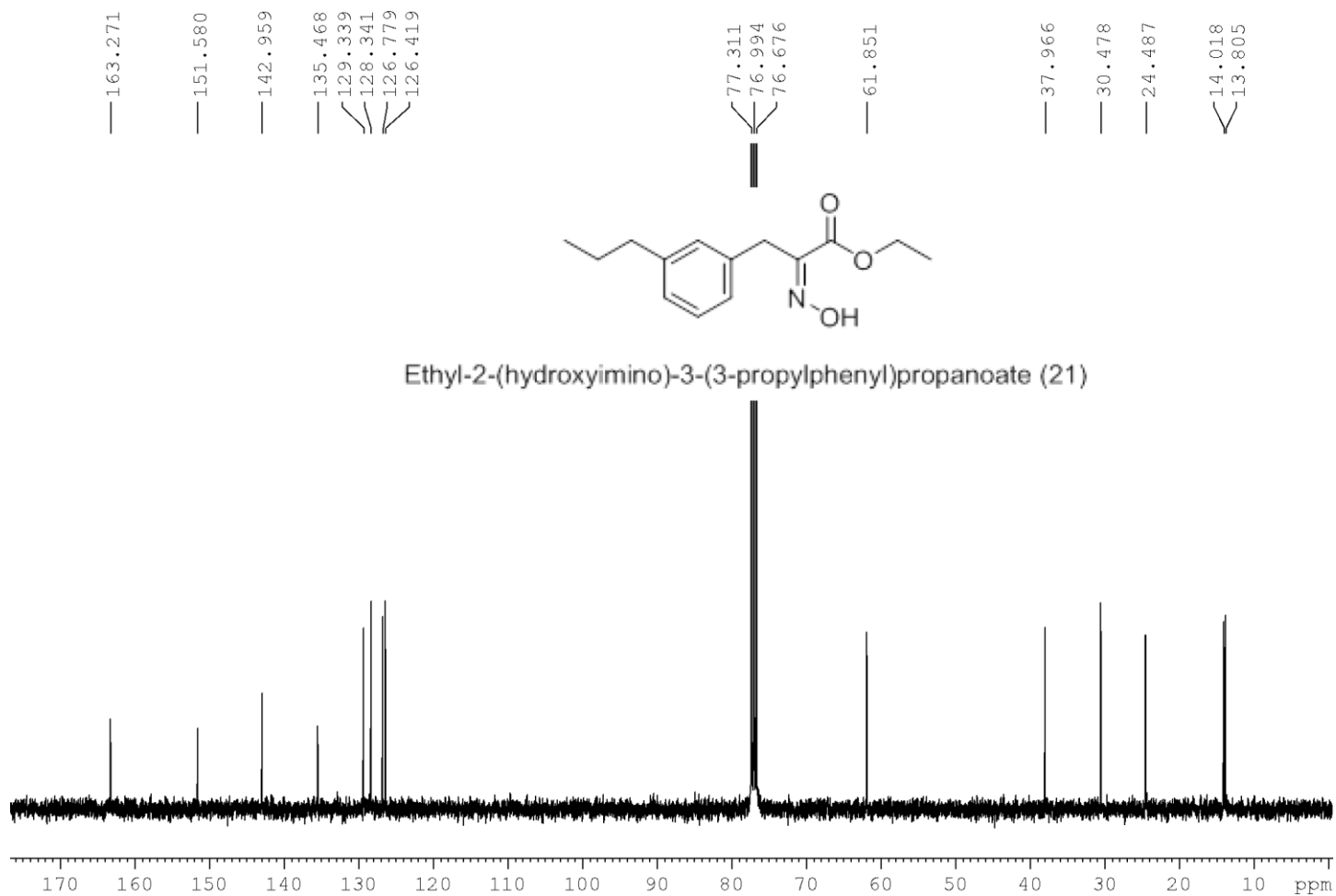
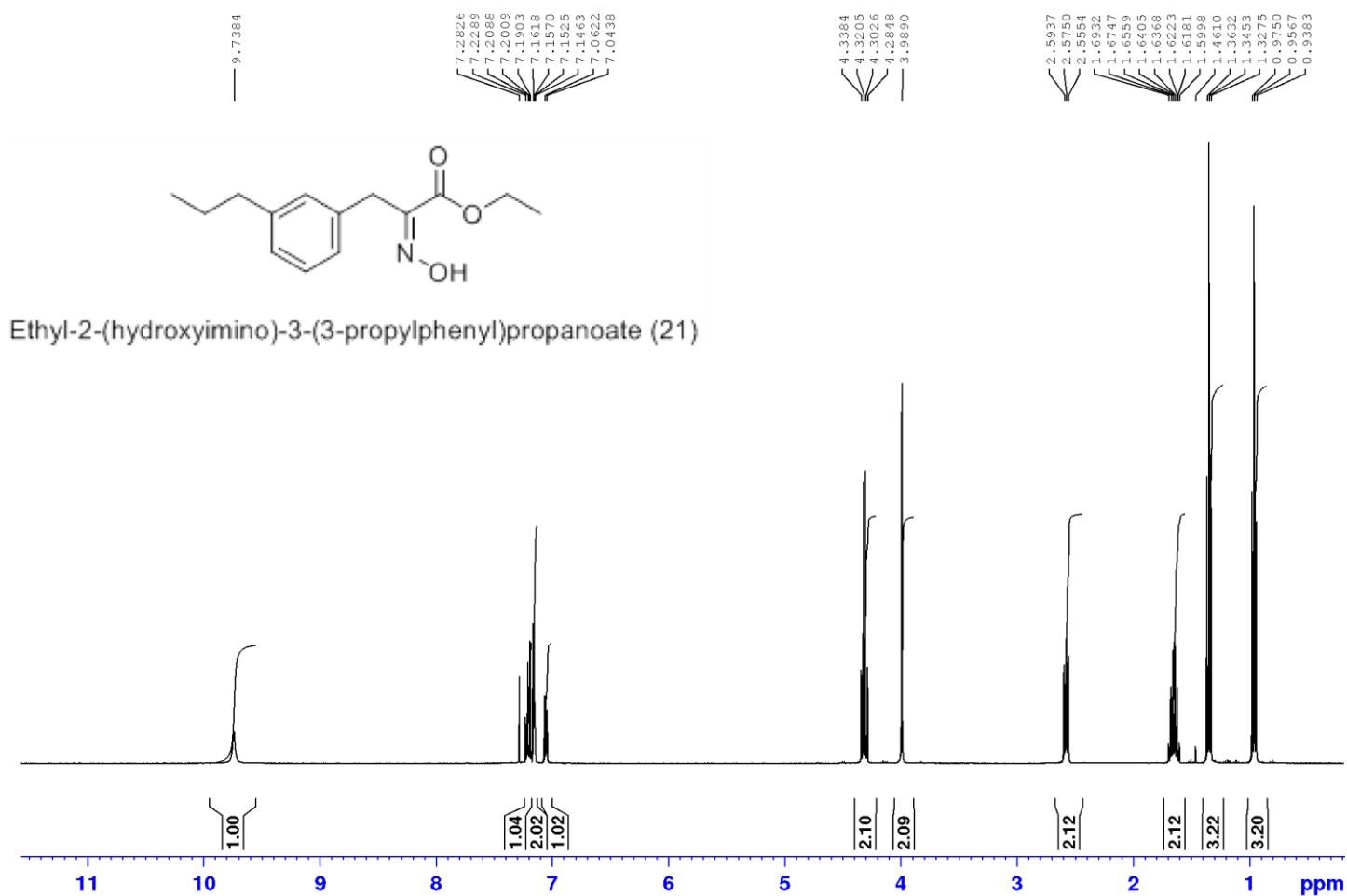


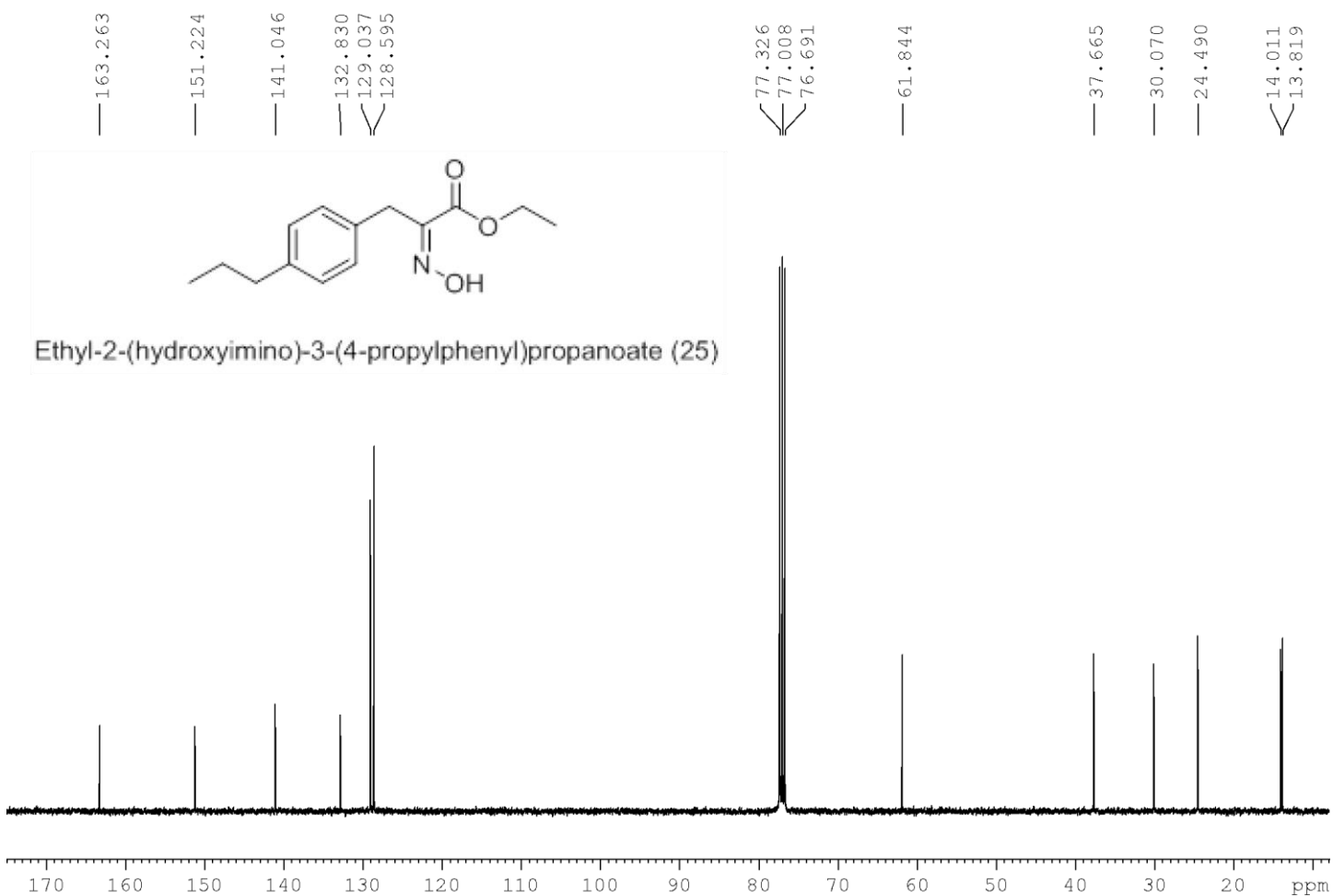
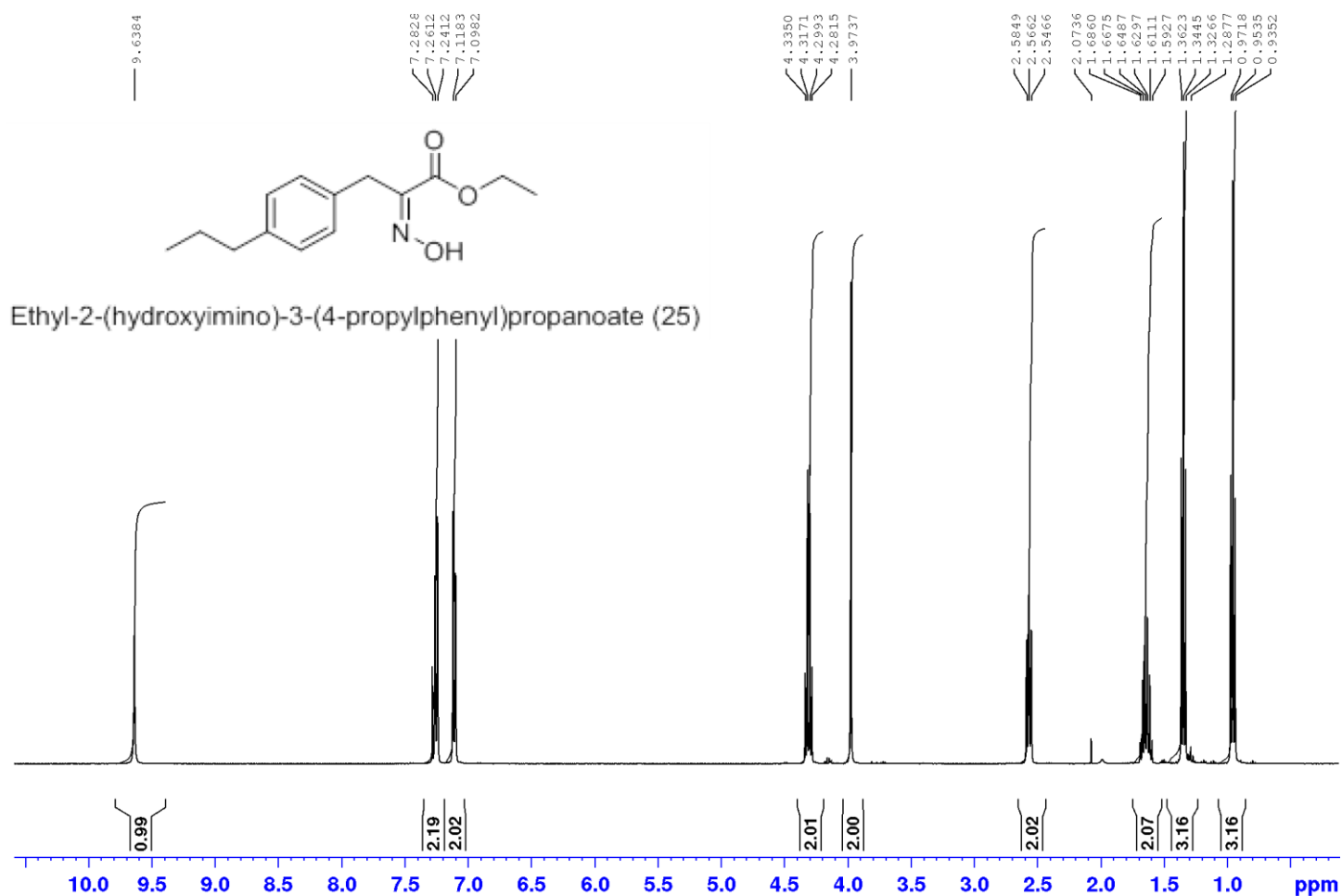


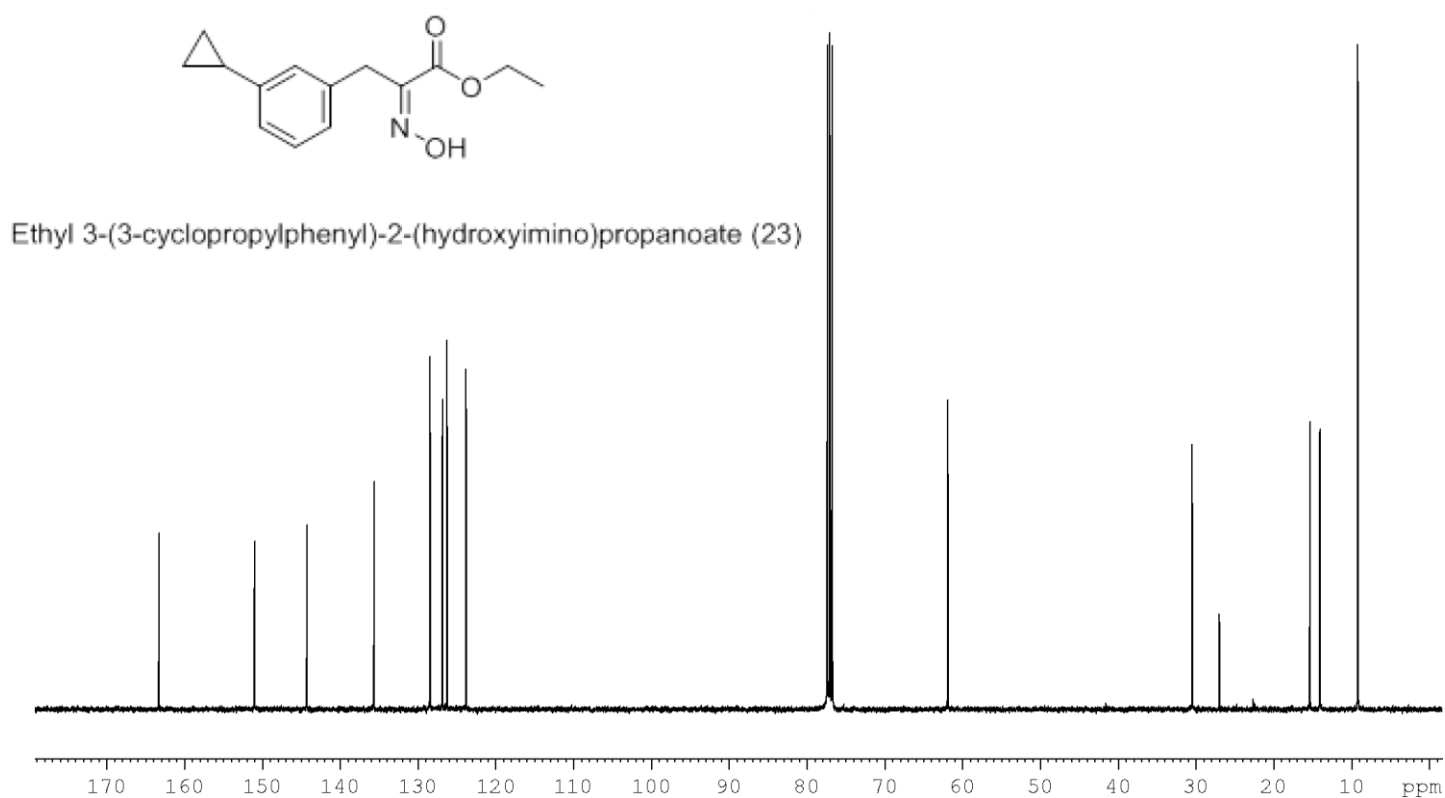
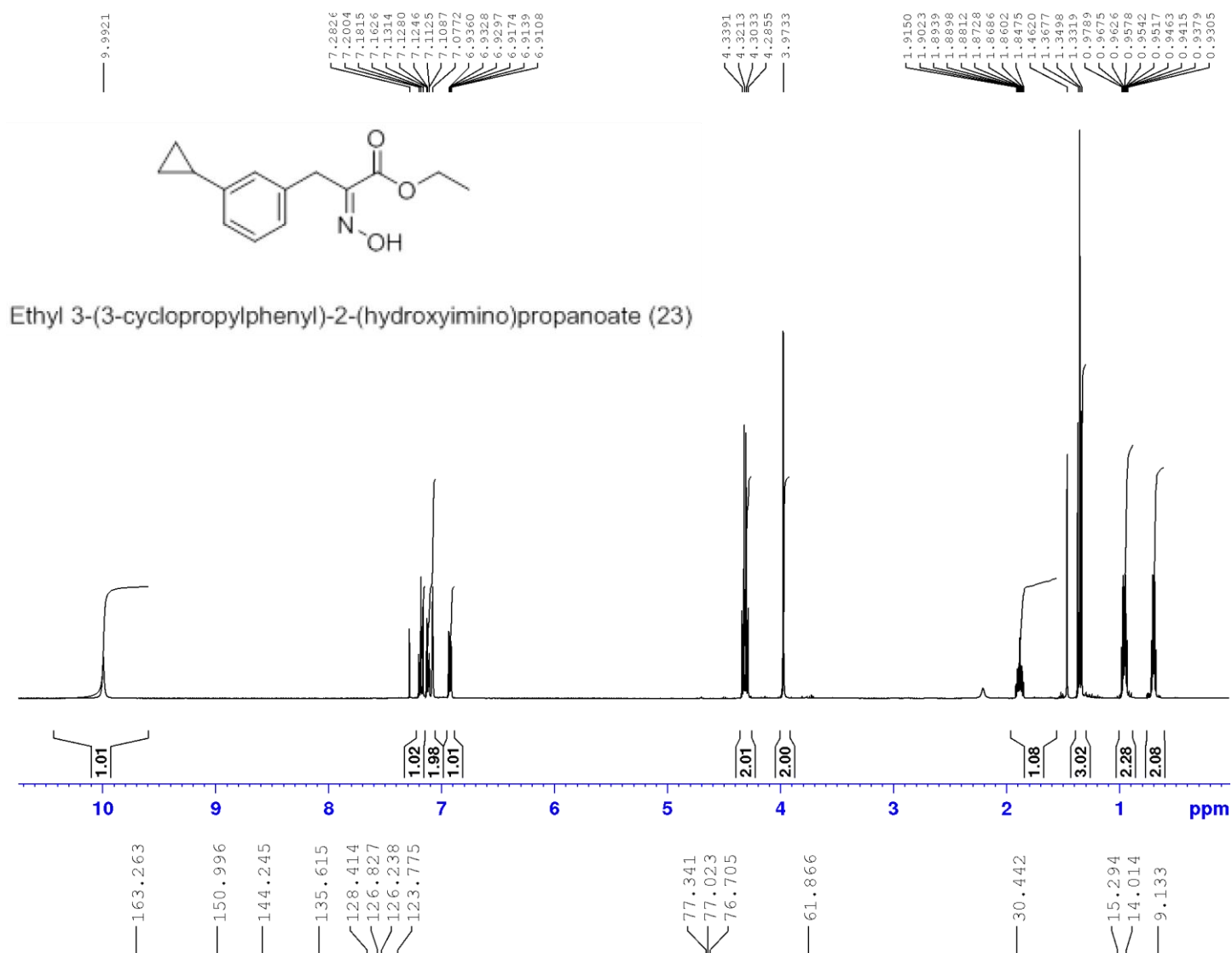


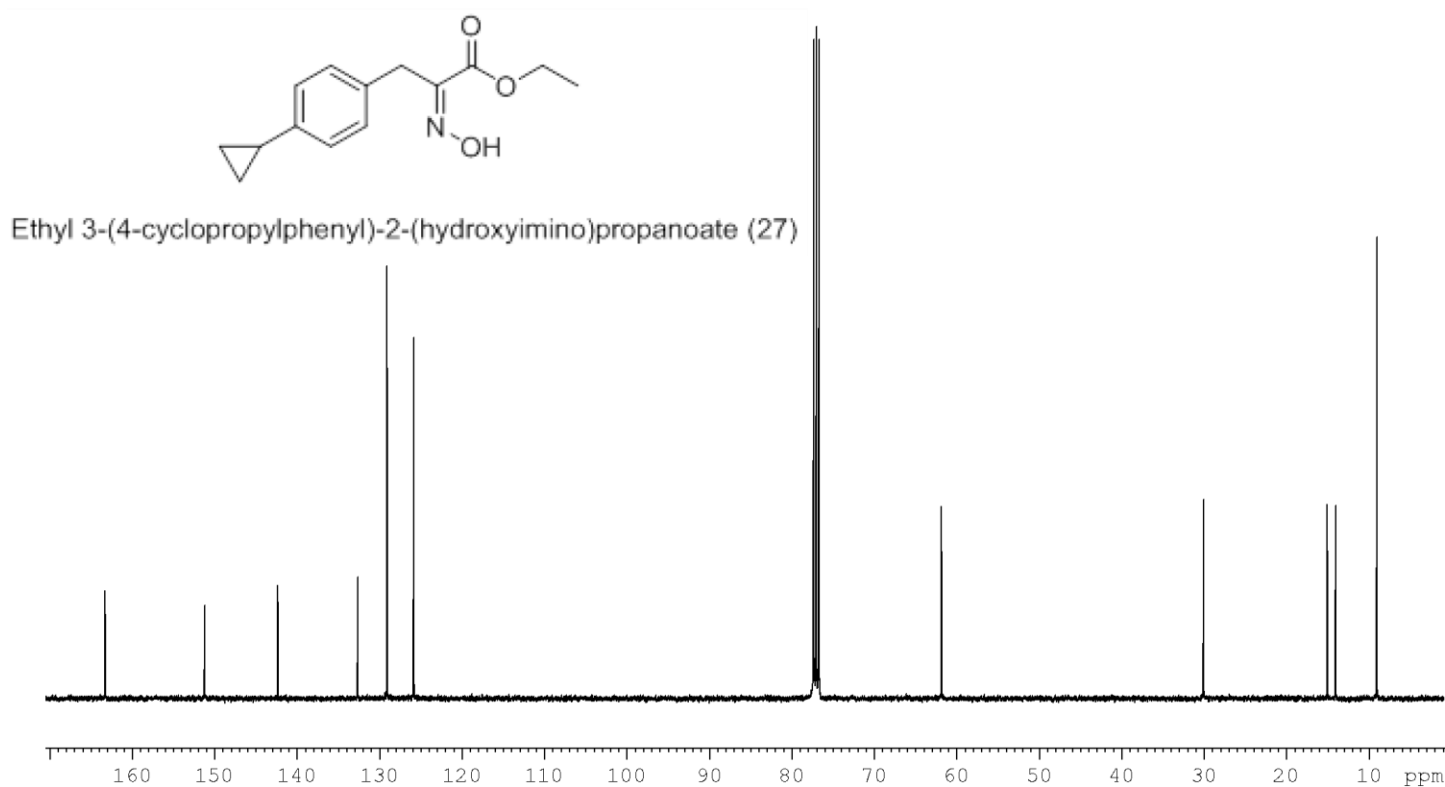
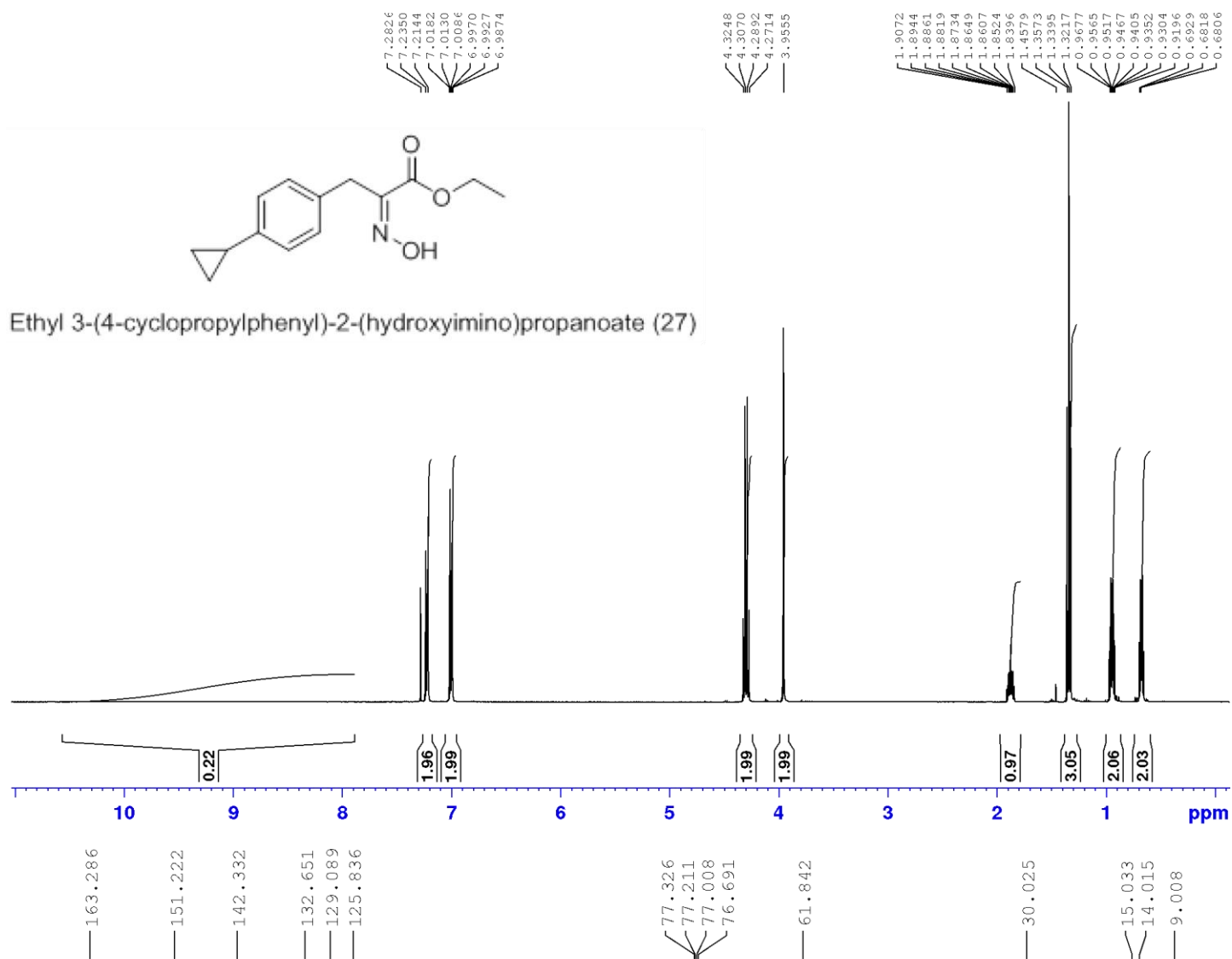


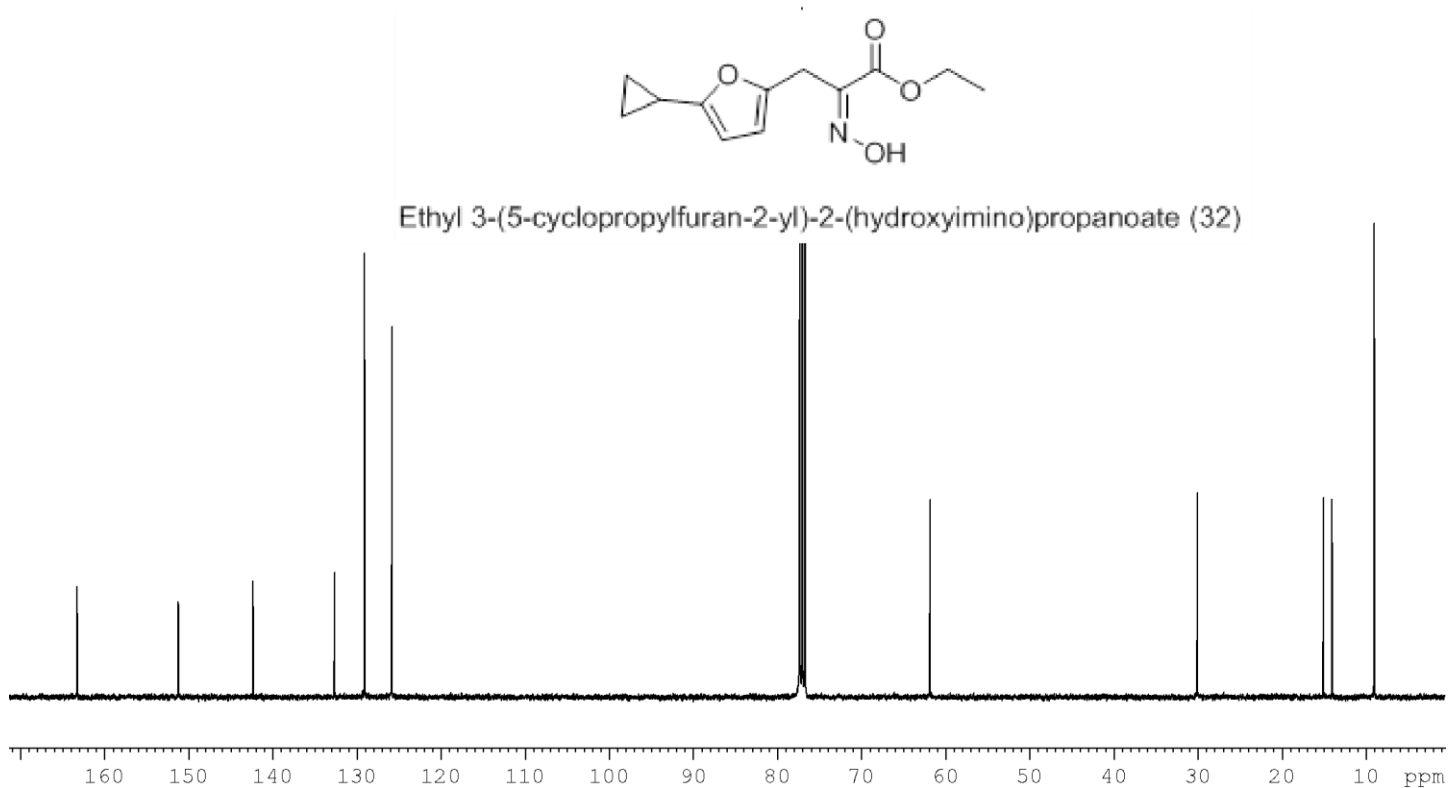
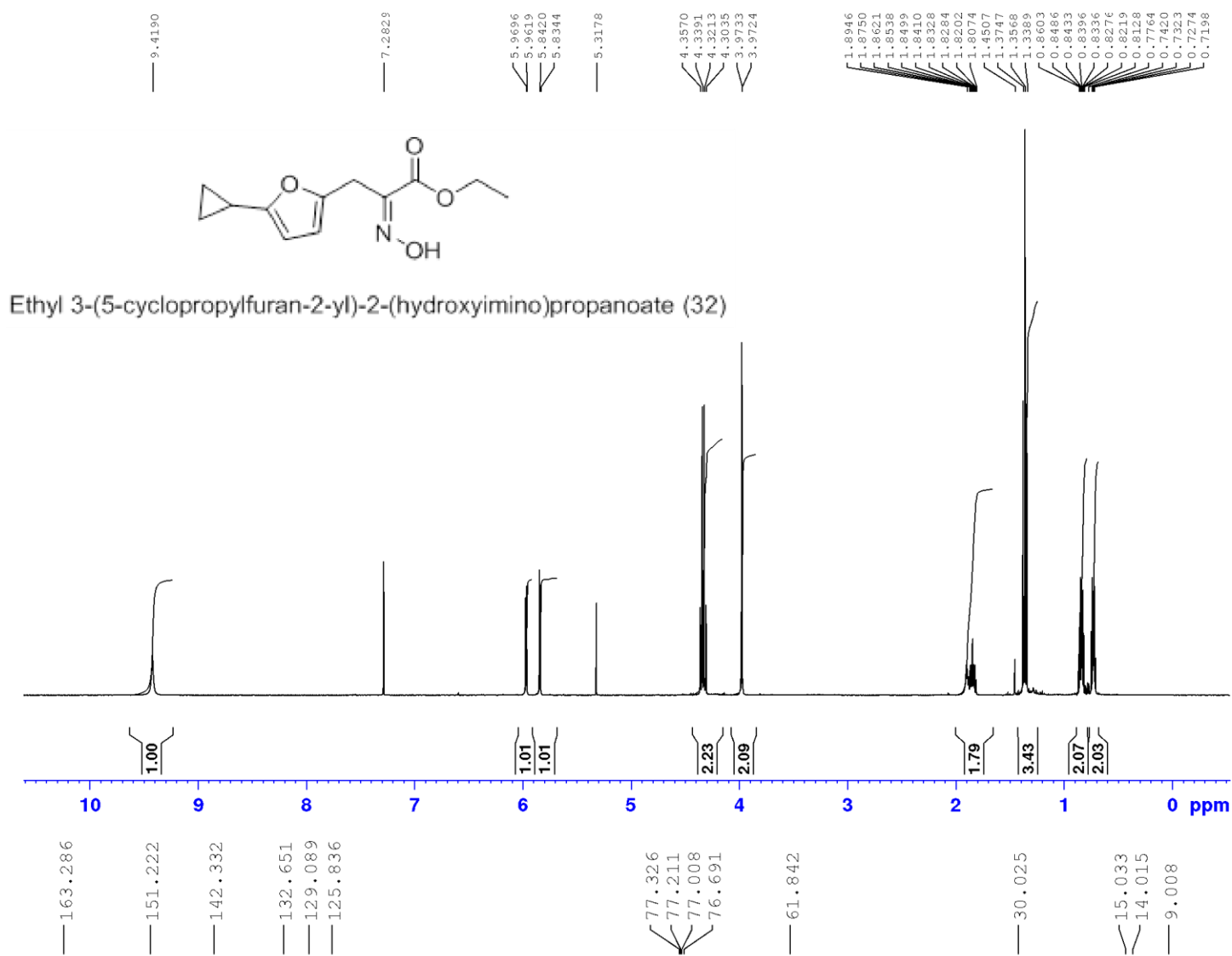


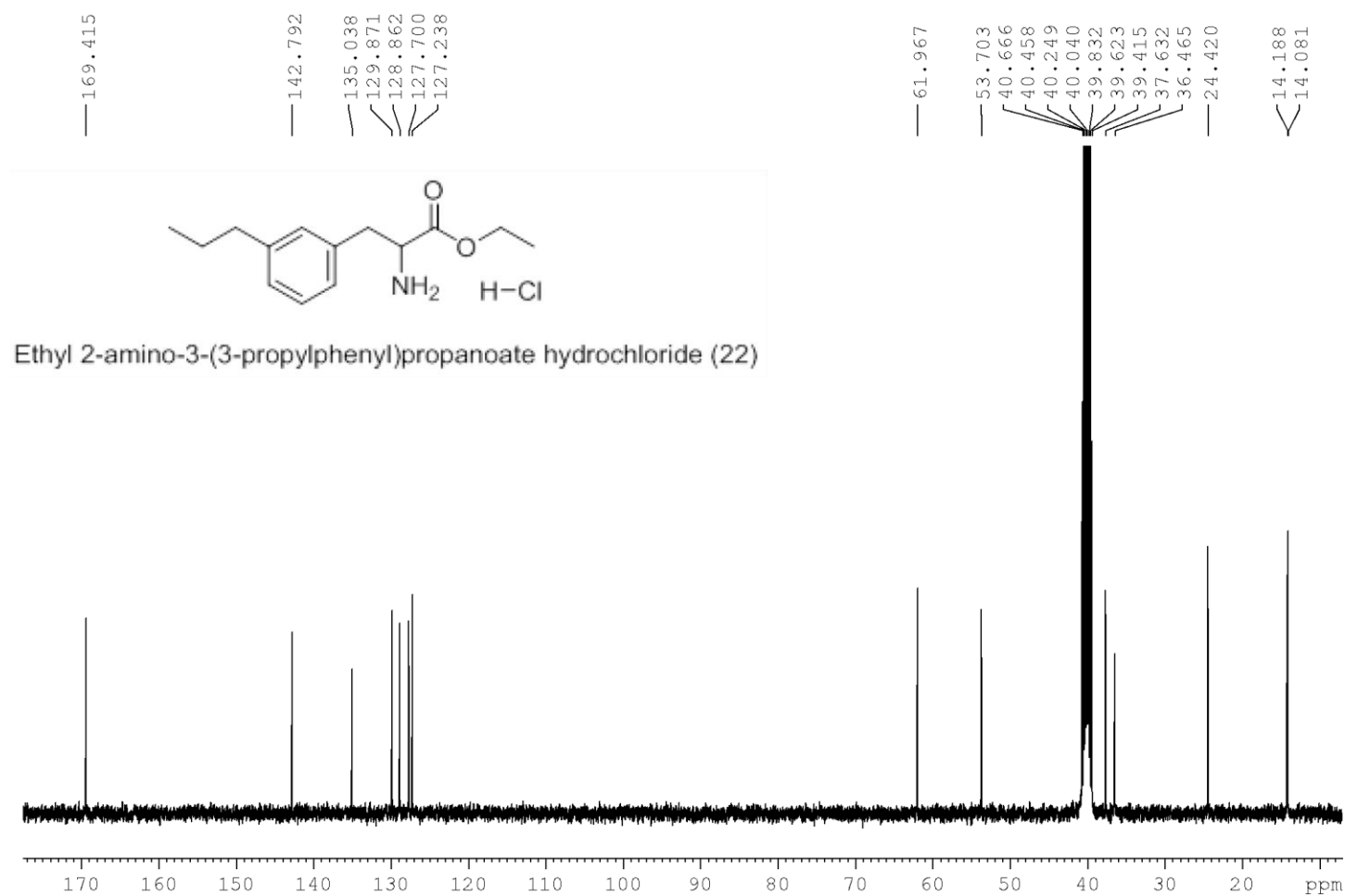
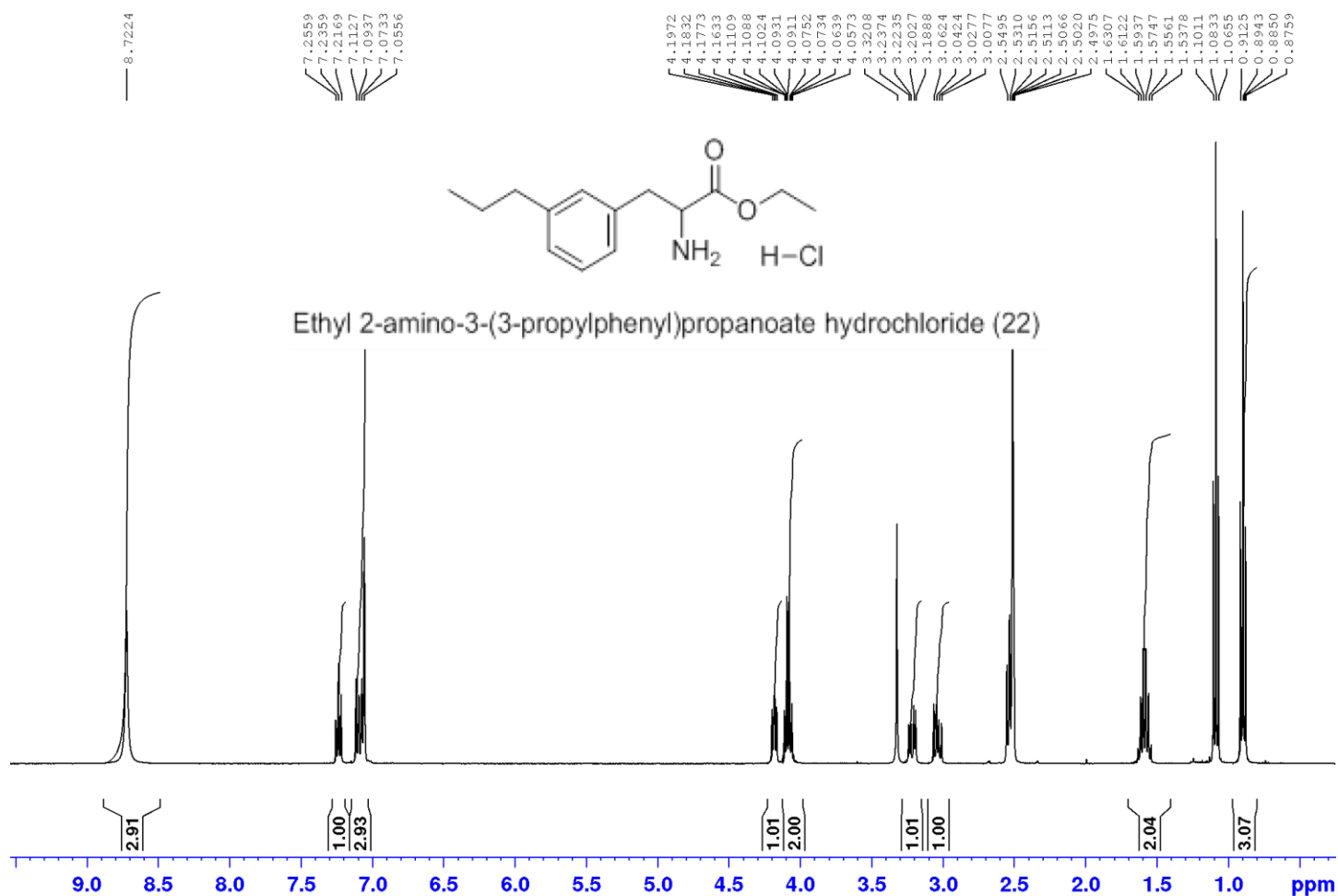




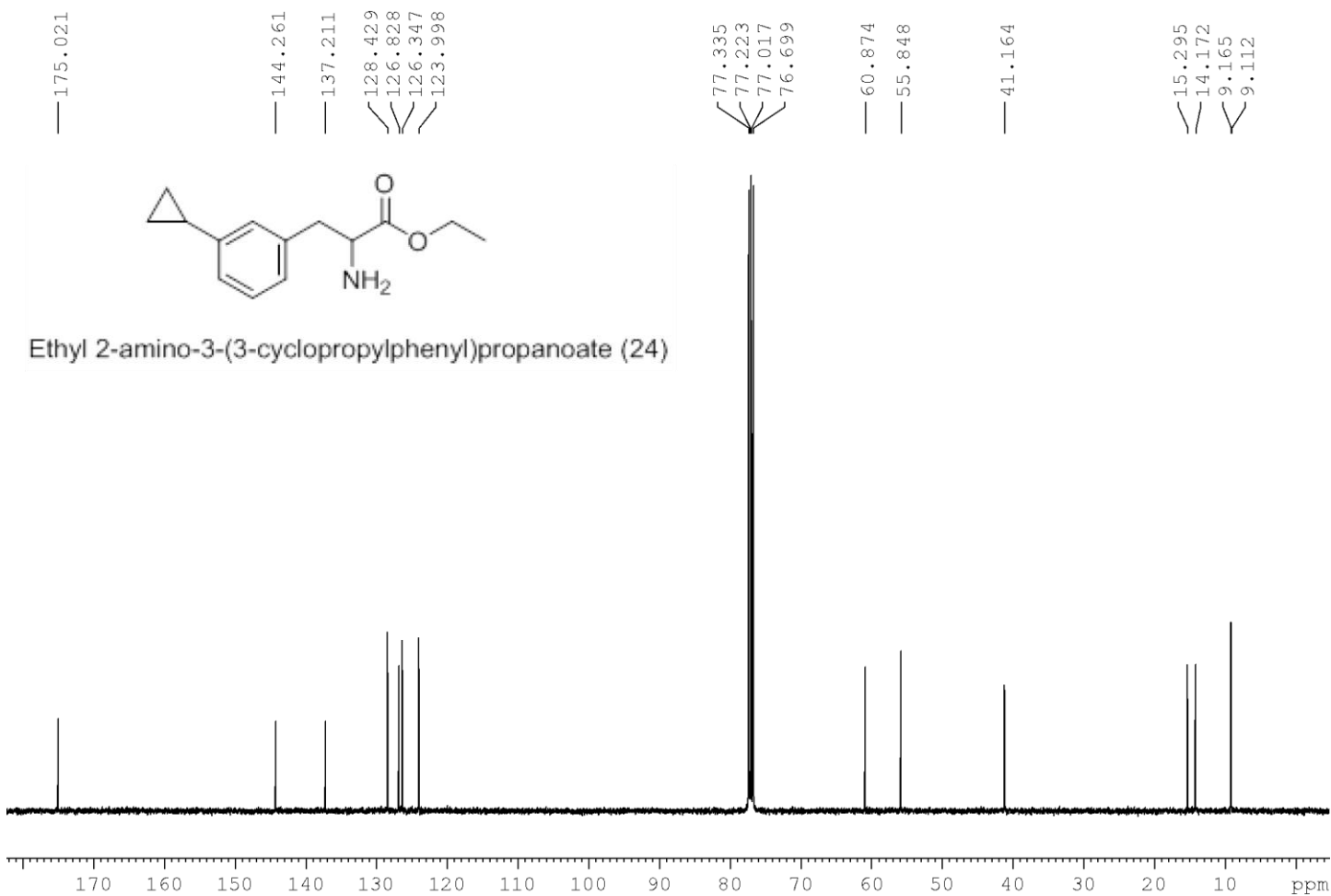
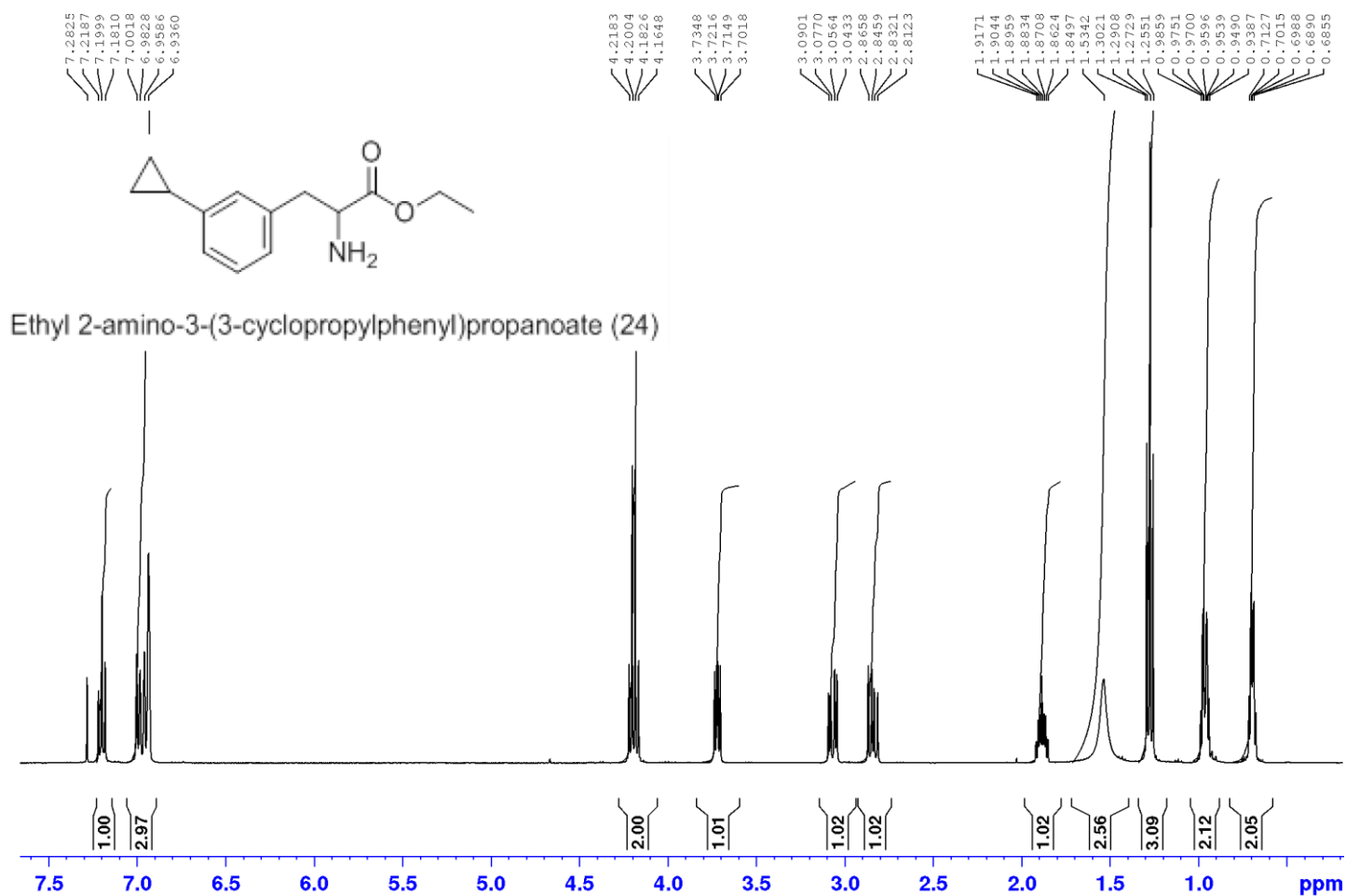


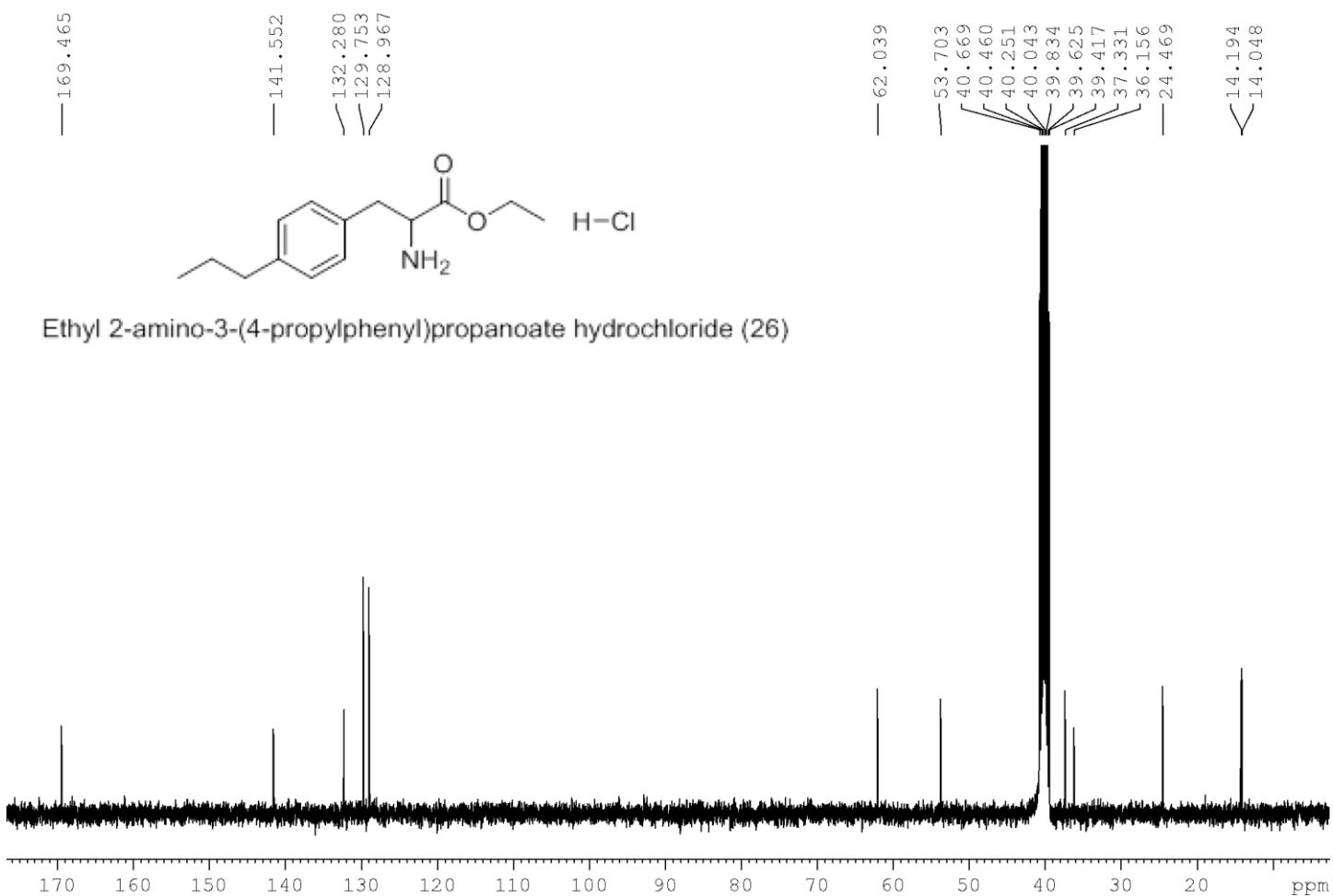
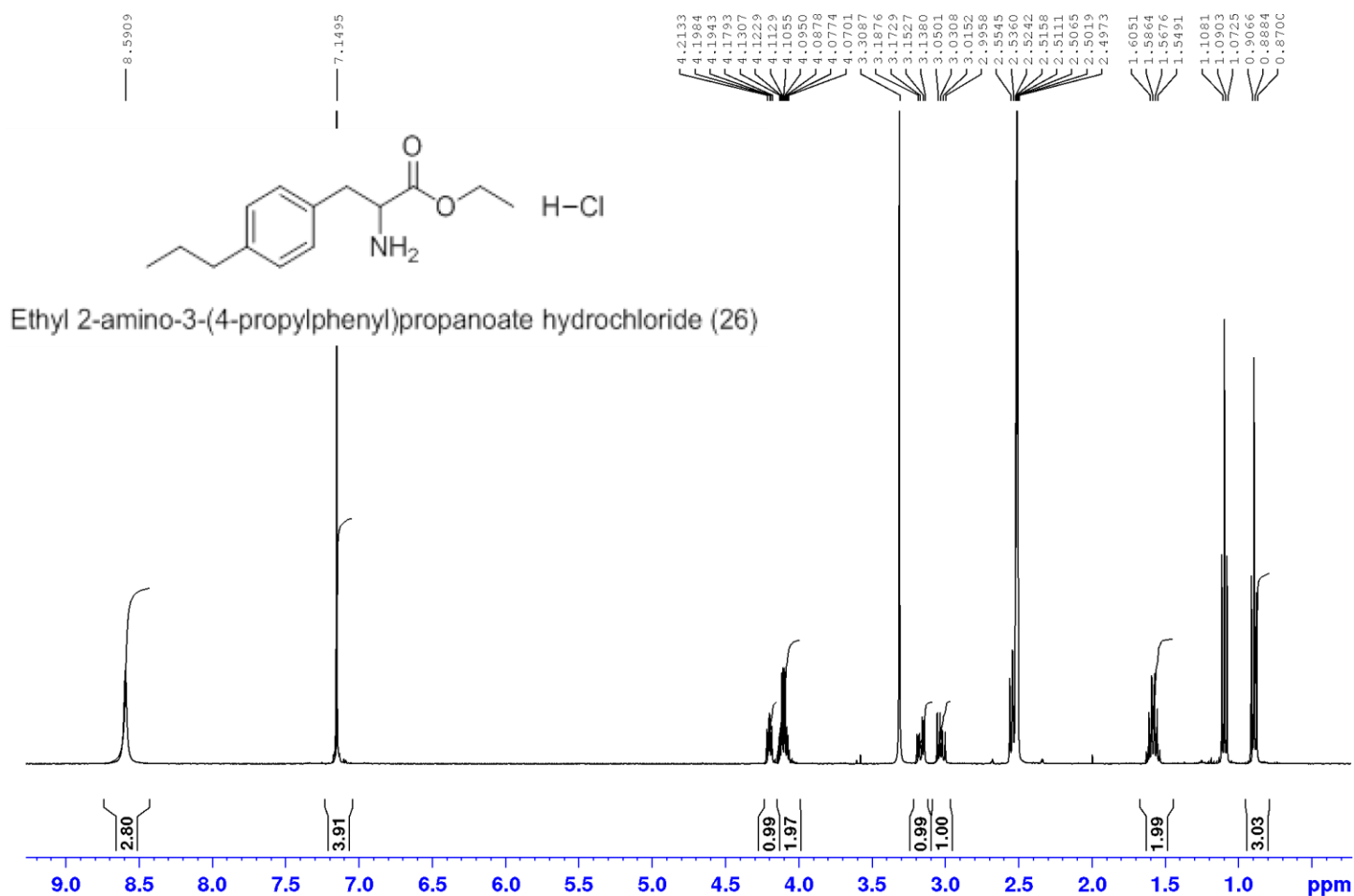












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7.0896  
7.0400  
7.0358  
7.0309  
7.0197  
7.0154  
7.0105

4.2151  
4.1972  
4.1794  
4.1616

3.7139  
3.7007  
3.6941  
3.6810

3.0837  
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3.0367

2.8617  
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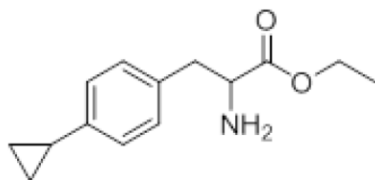
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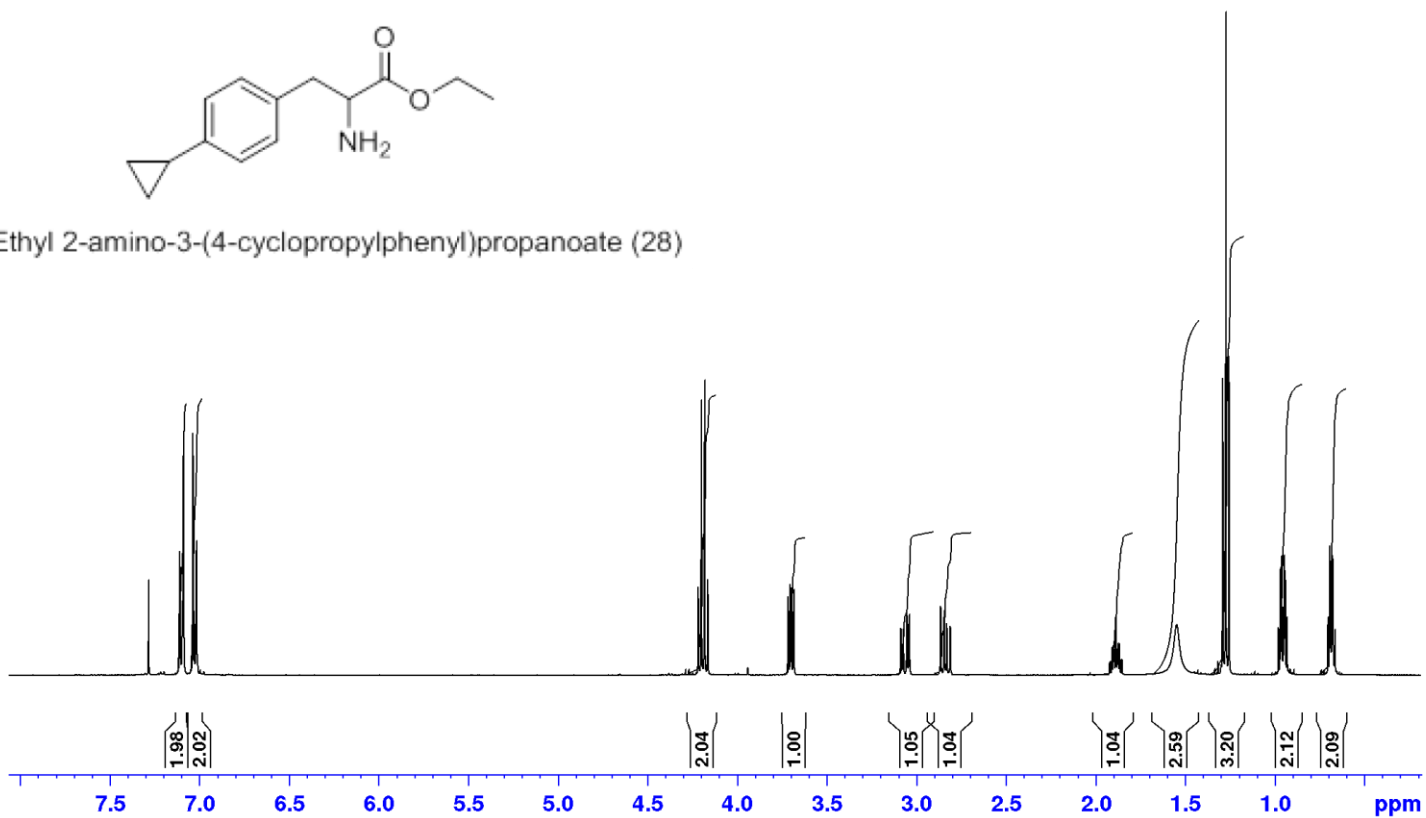
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0.7552  
0.7451

0.7433  
0.7337  
0.7231  
0.7133

0.7000  
0.6891  
0.6874



Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)propanoate (28)



175.048

142.456

134.195

129.201

125.863

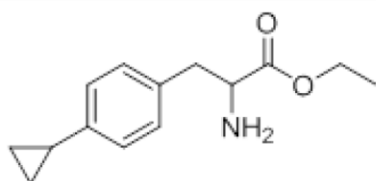
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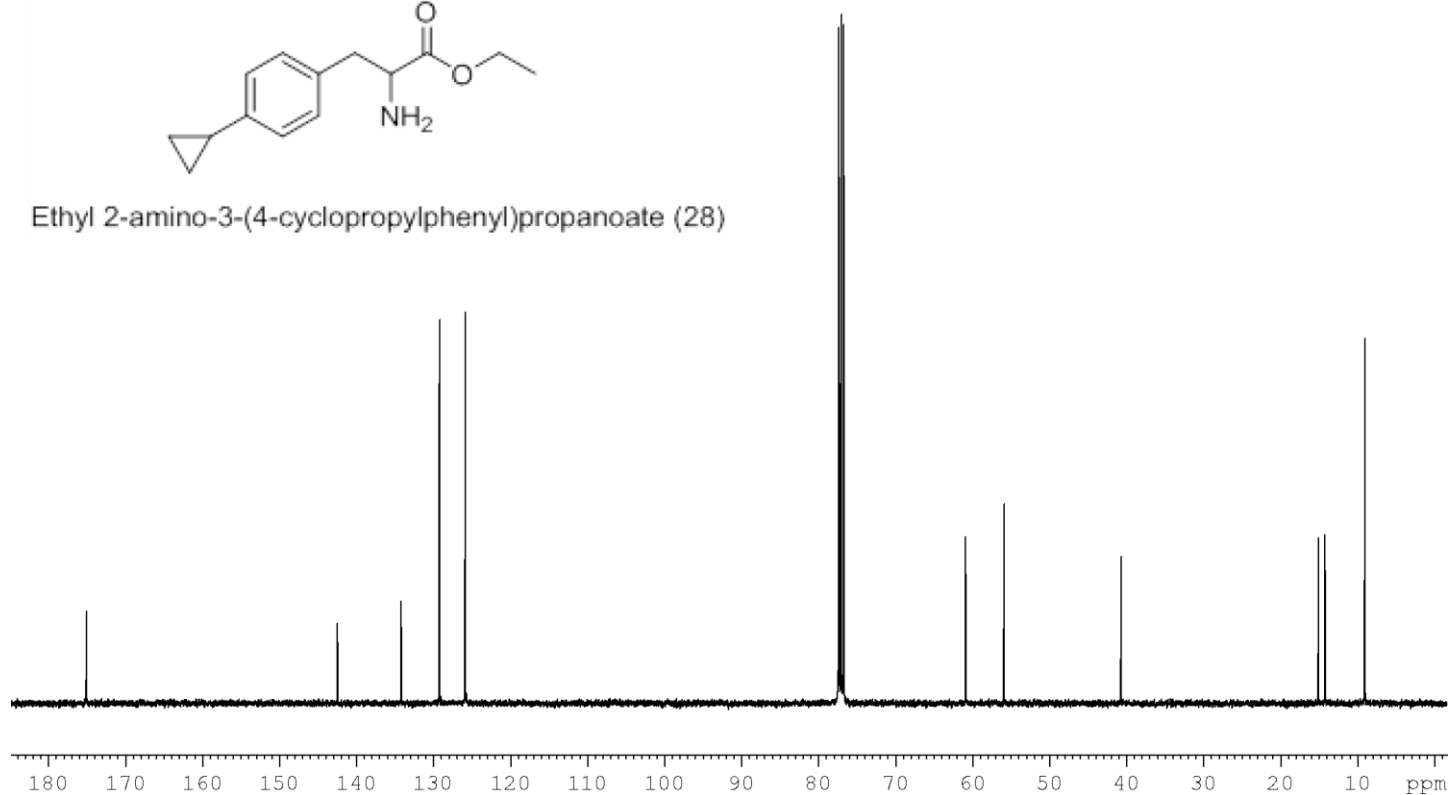
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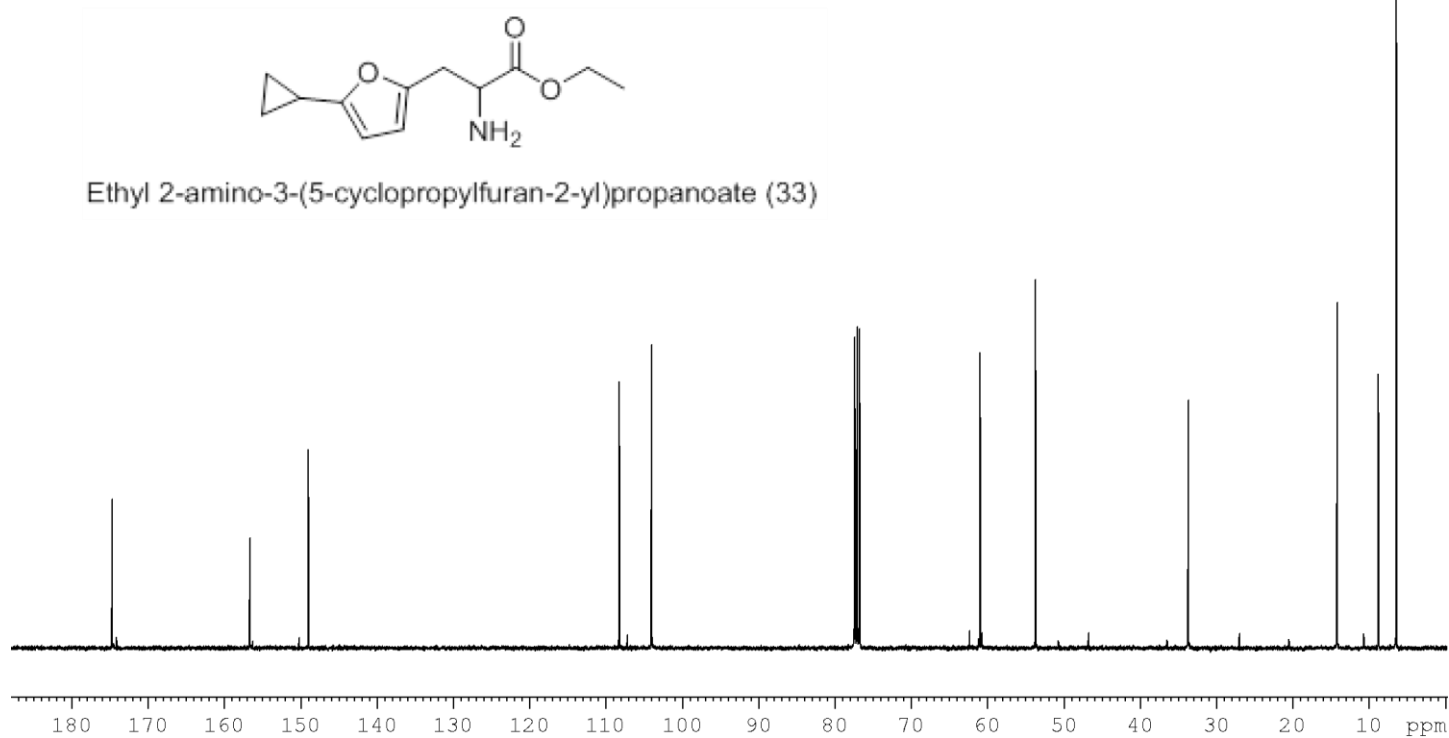
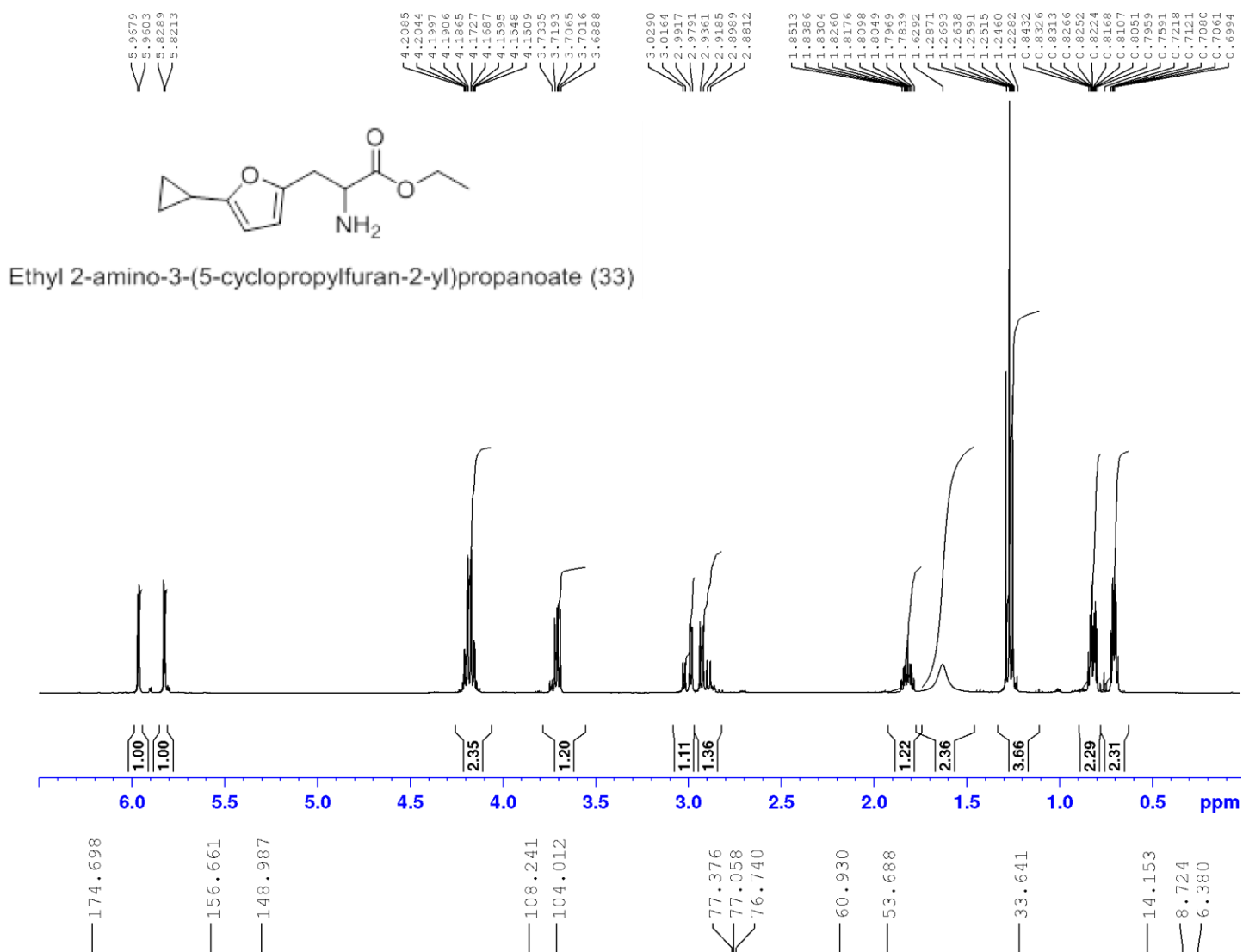
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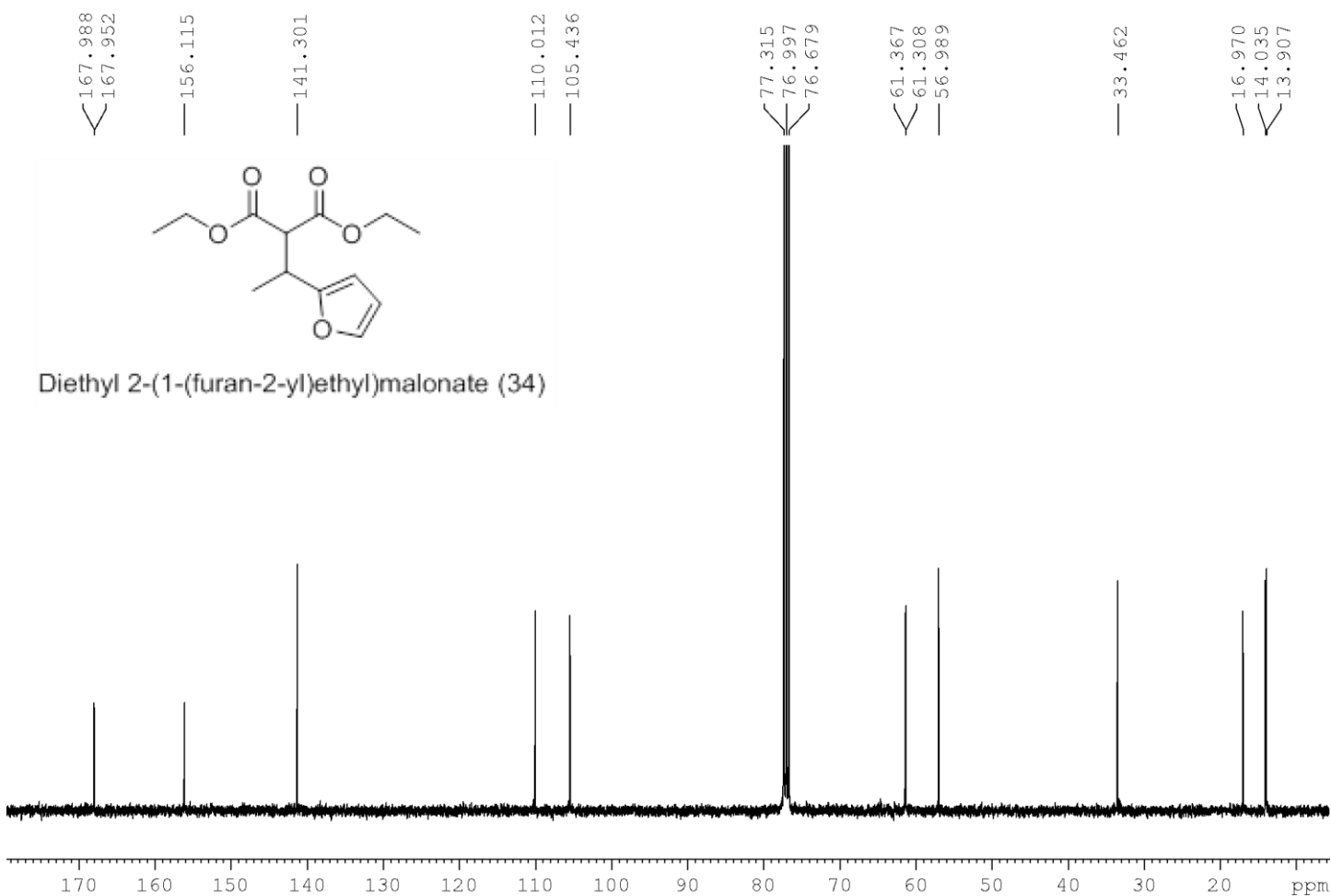
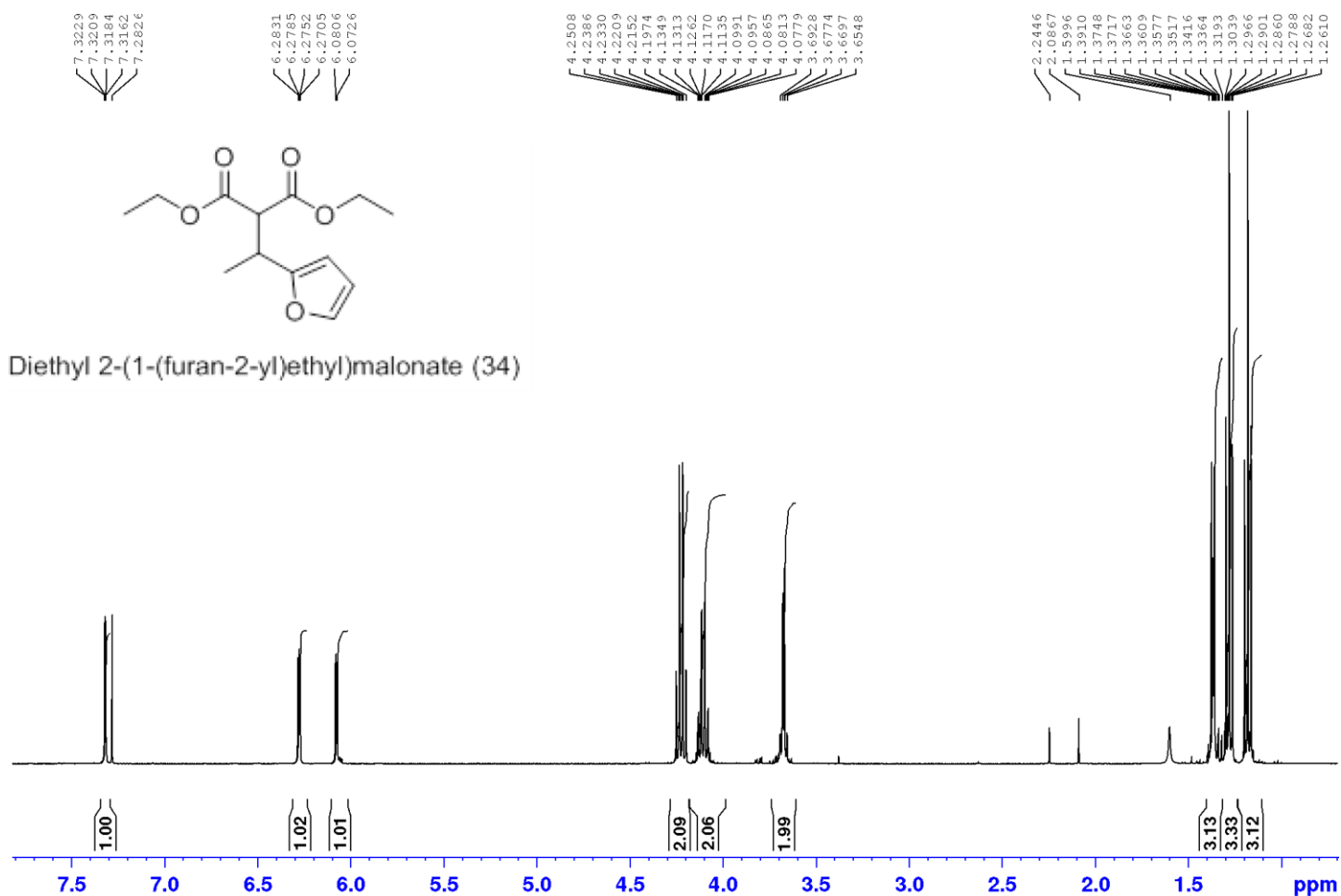
15.032  
14.173  
9.009

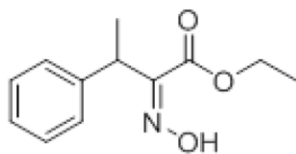


Ethyl 2-amino-3-(4-cyclopropylphenyl)propanoate (28)

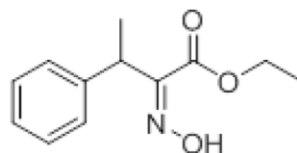
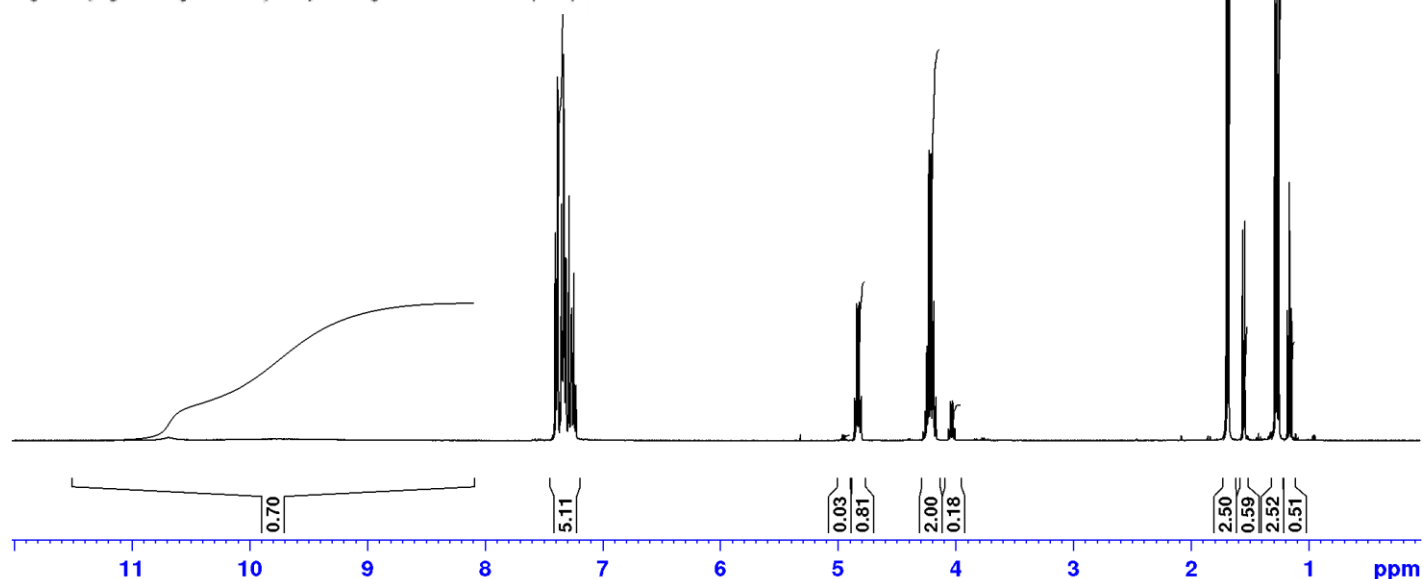




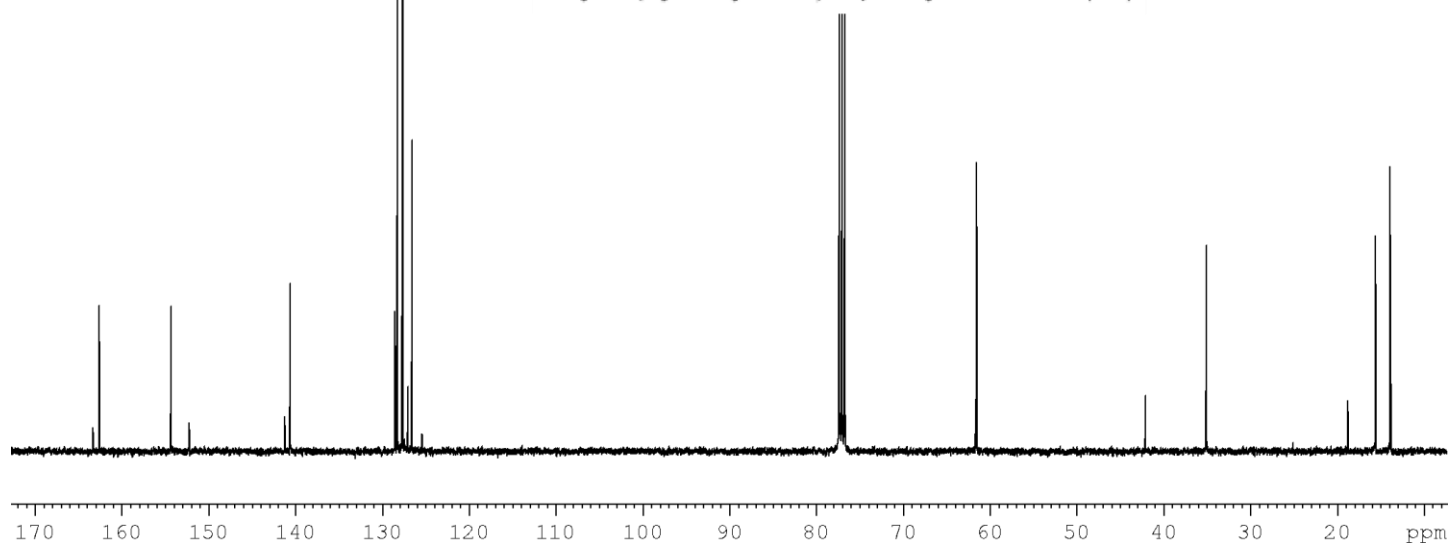


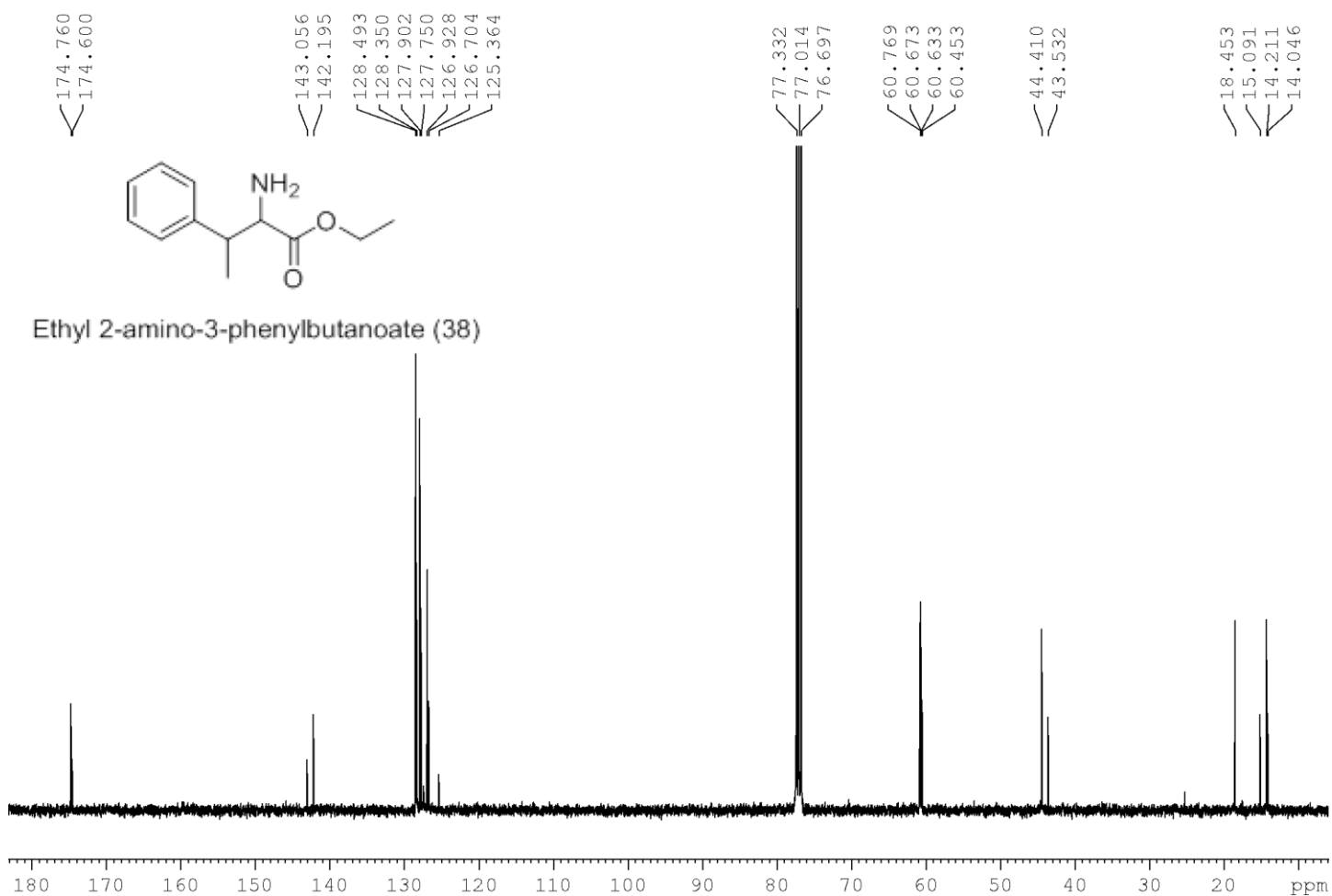
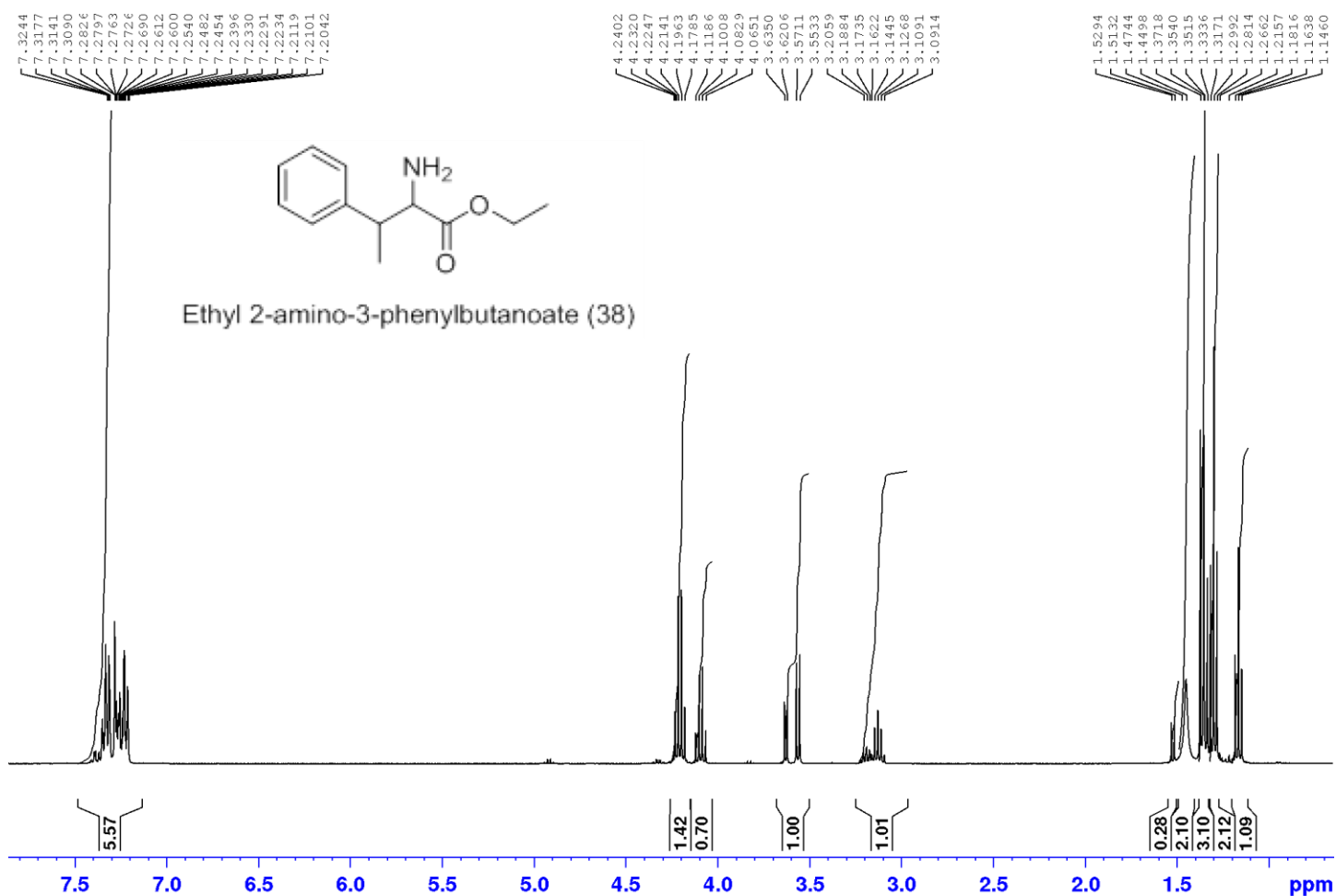


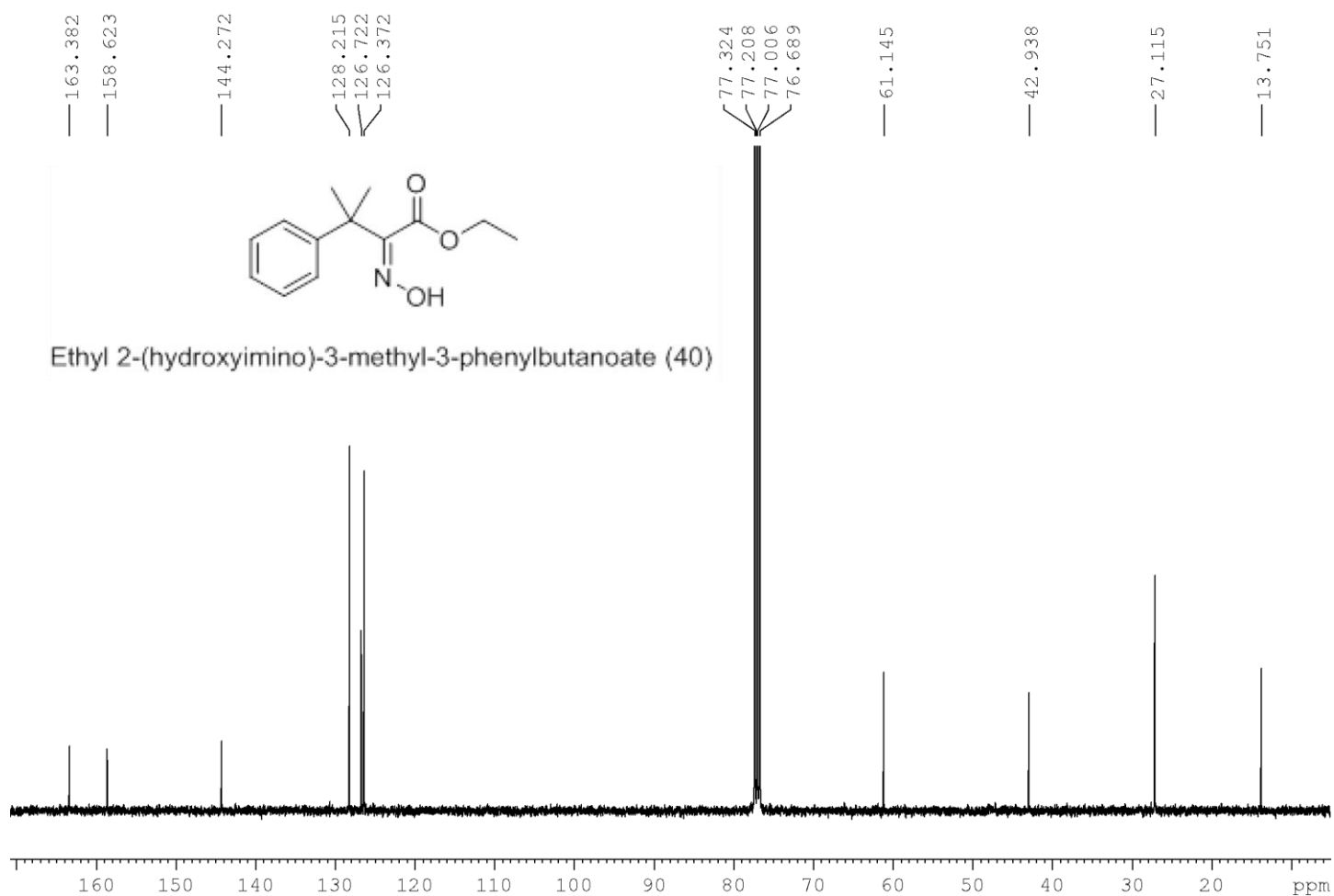
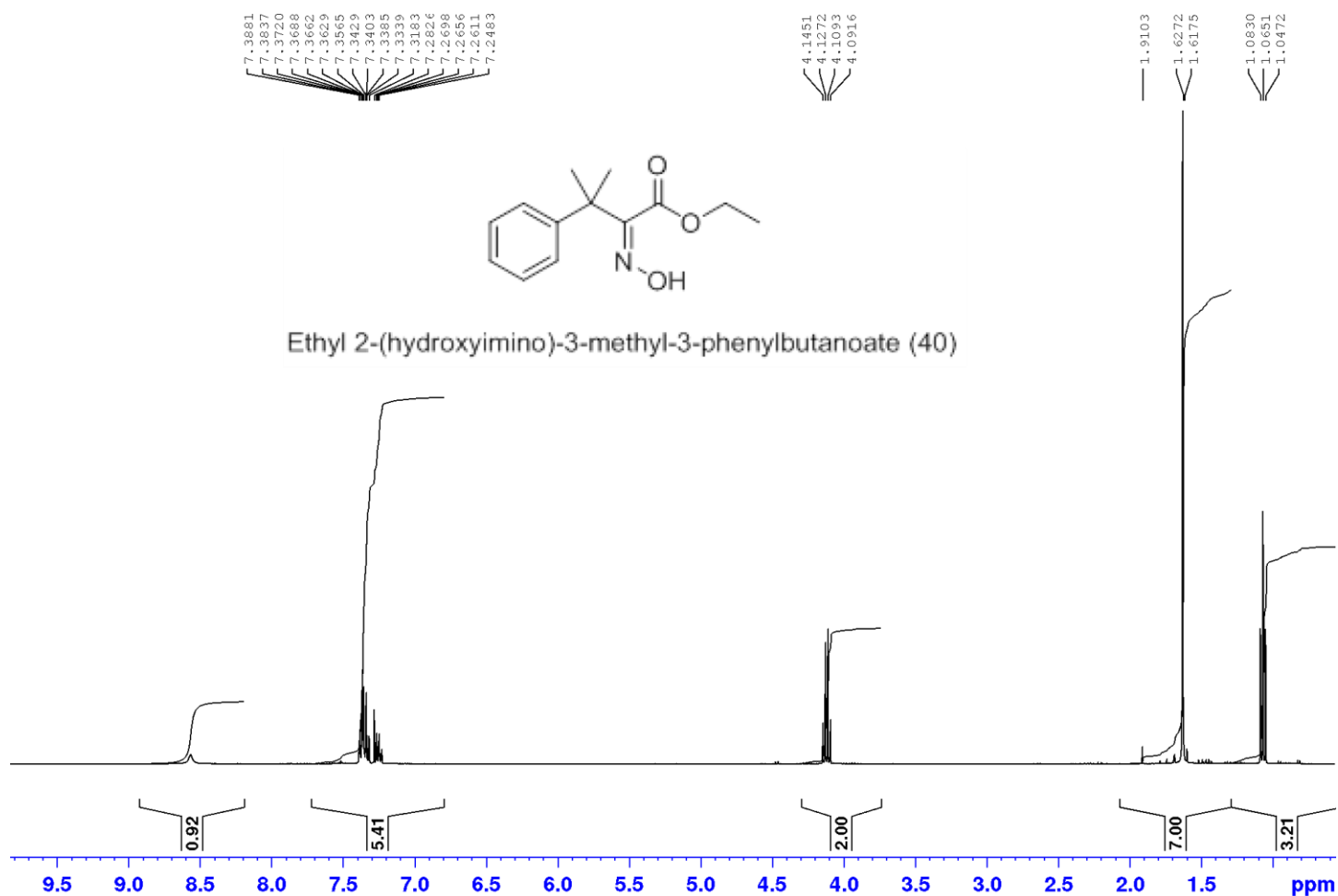
Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-phenylbutanoate (37)



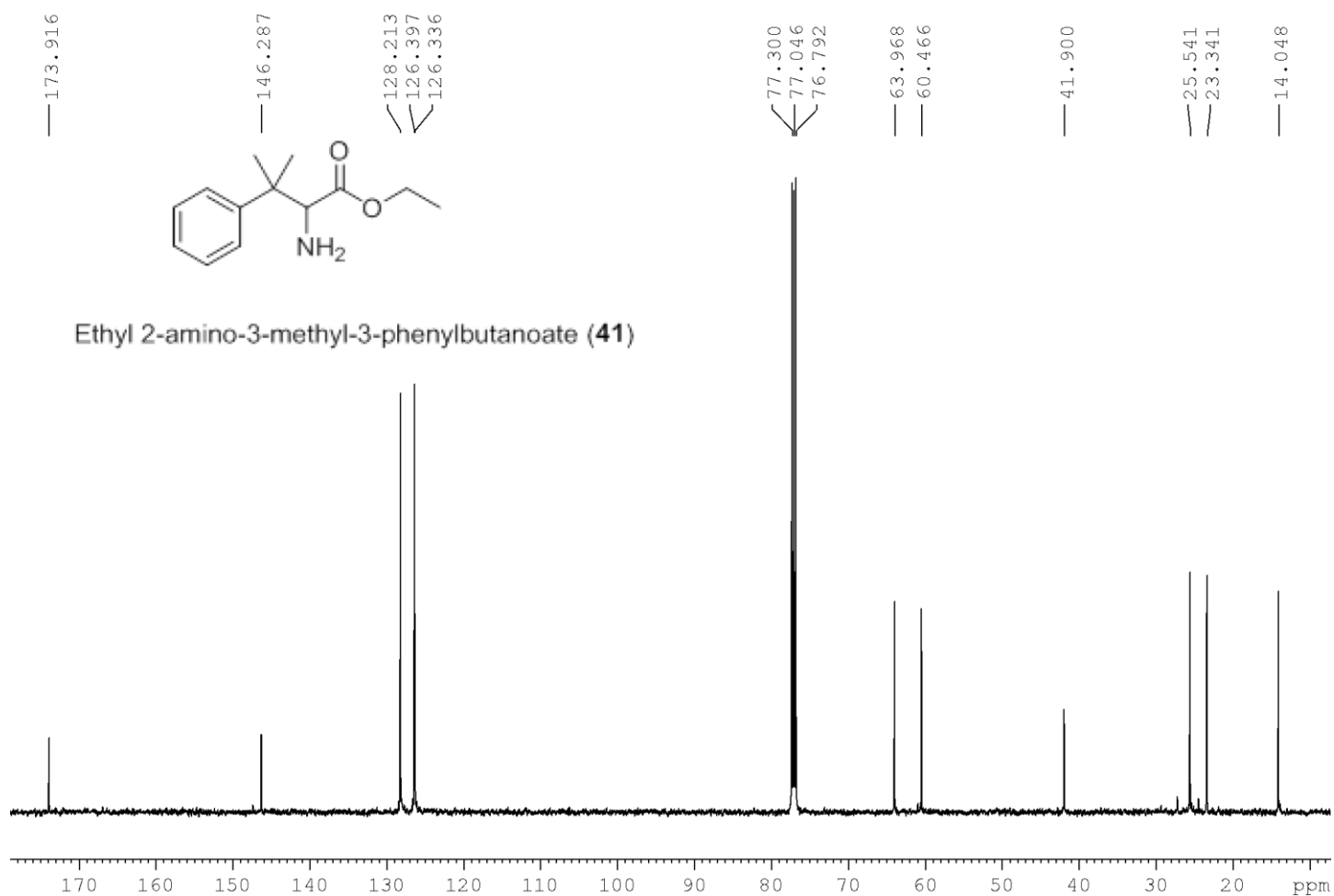
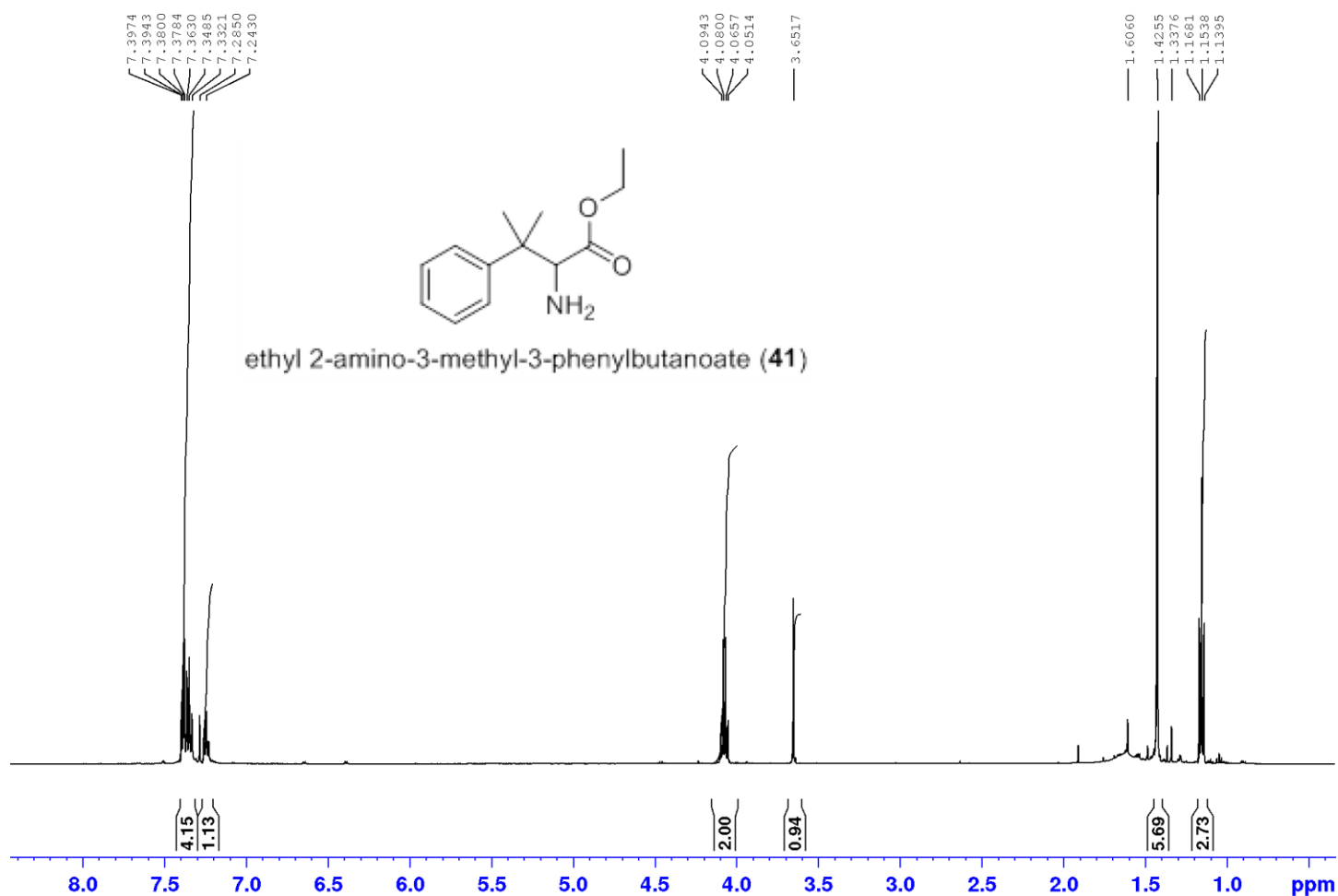
Ethyl 2-(hydroxyimino)-3-phenylbutanoate (37)

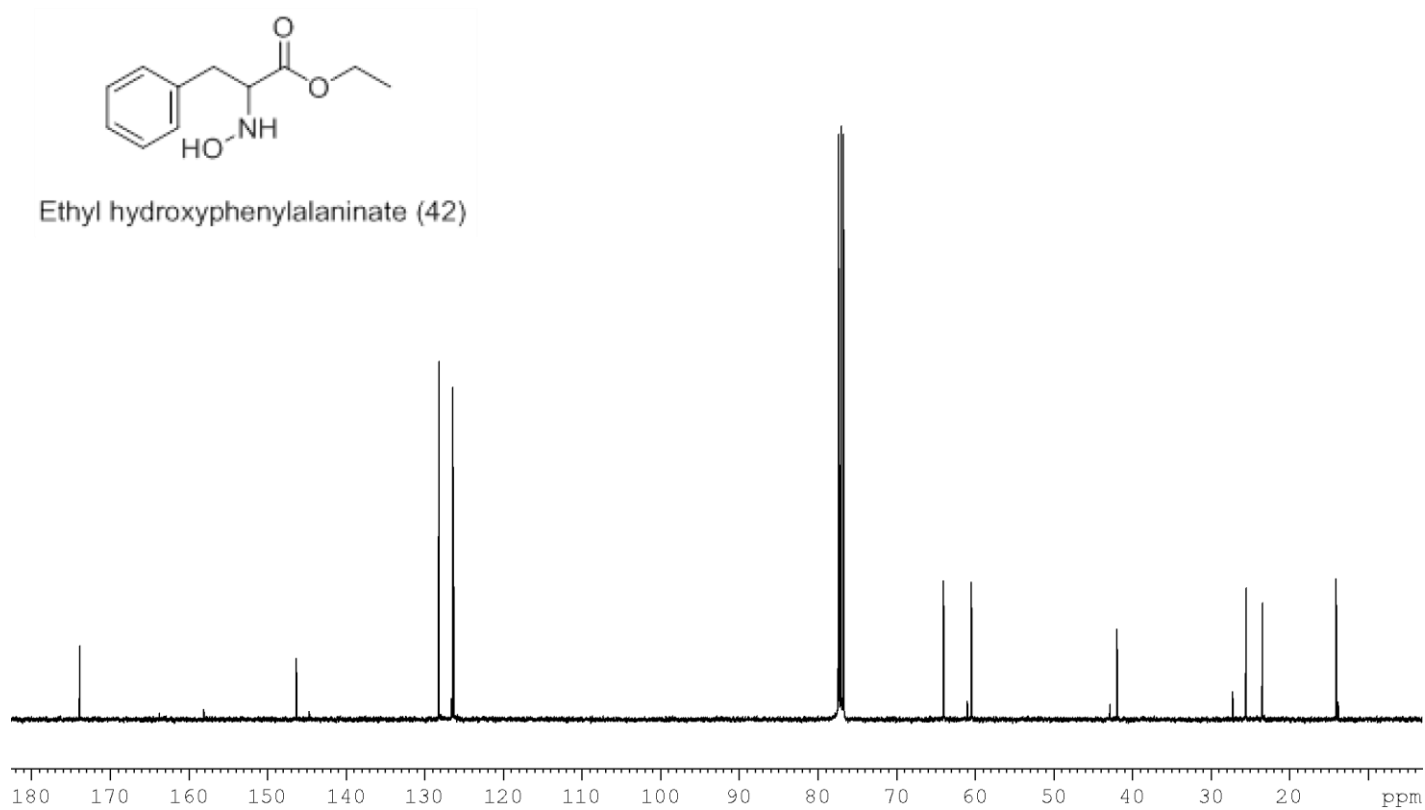
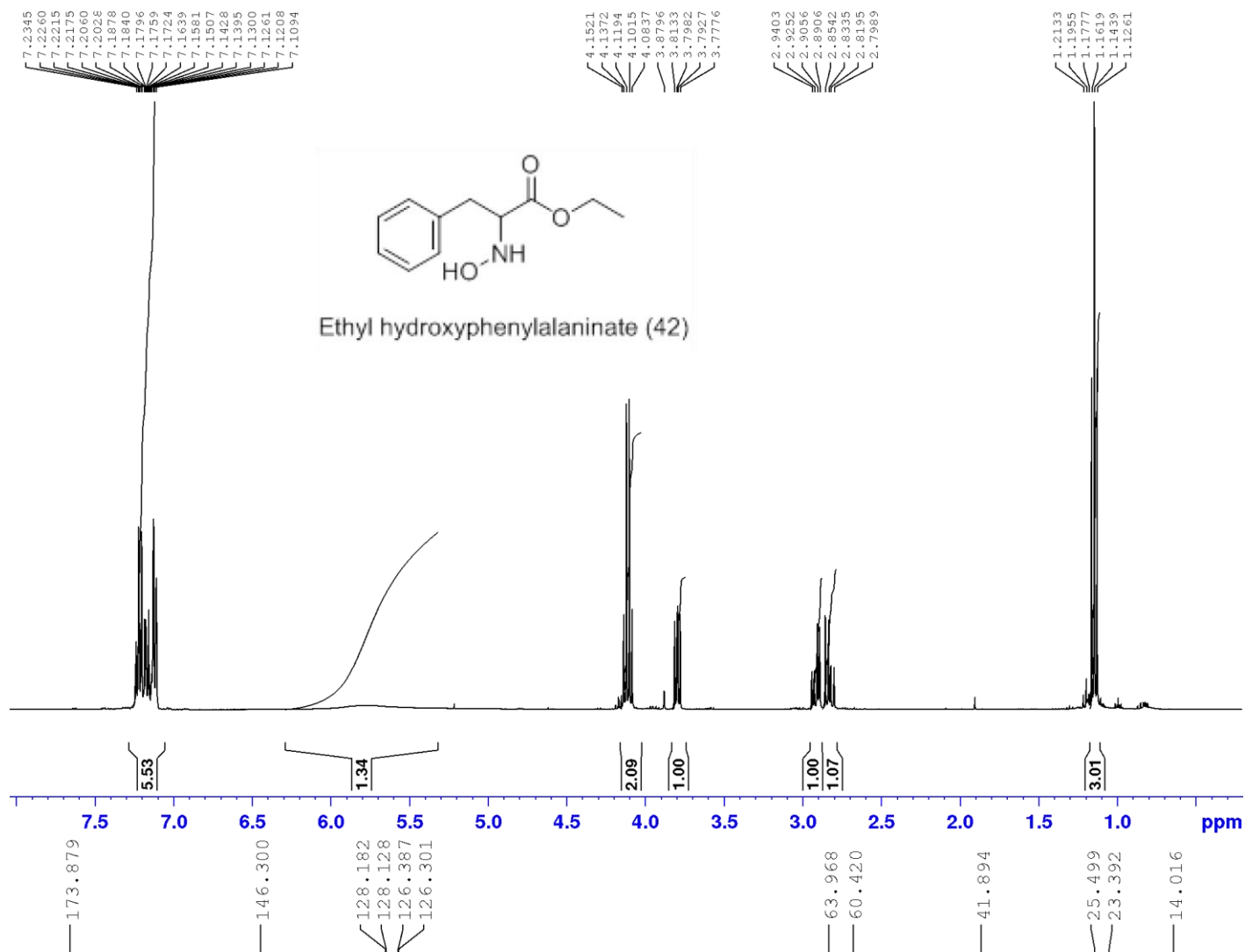


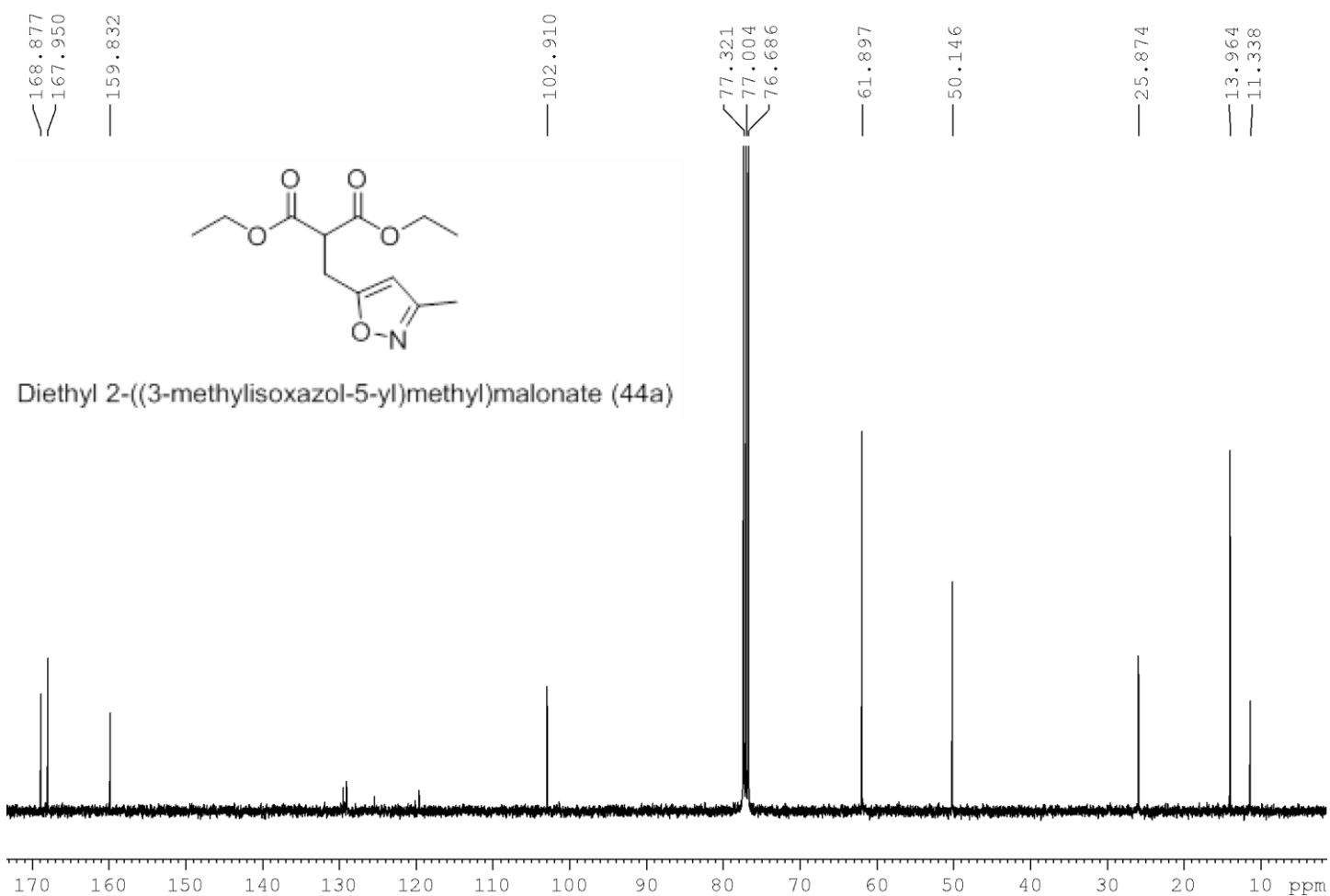
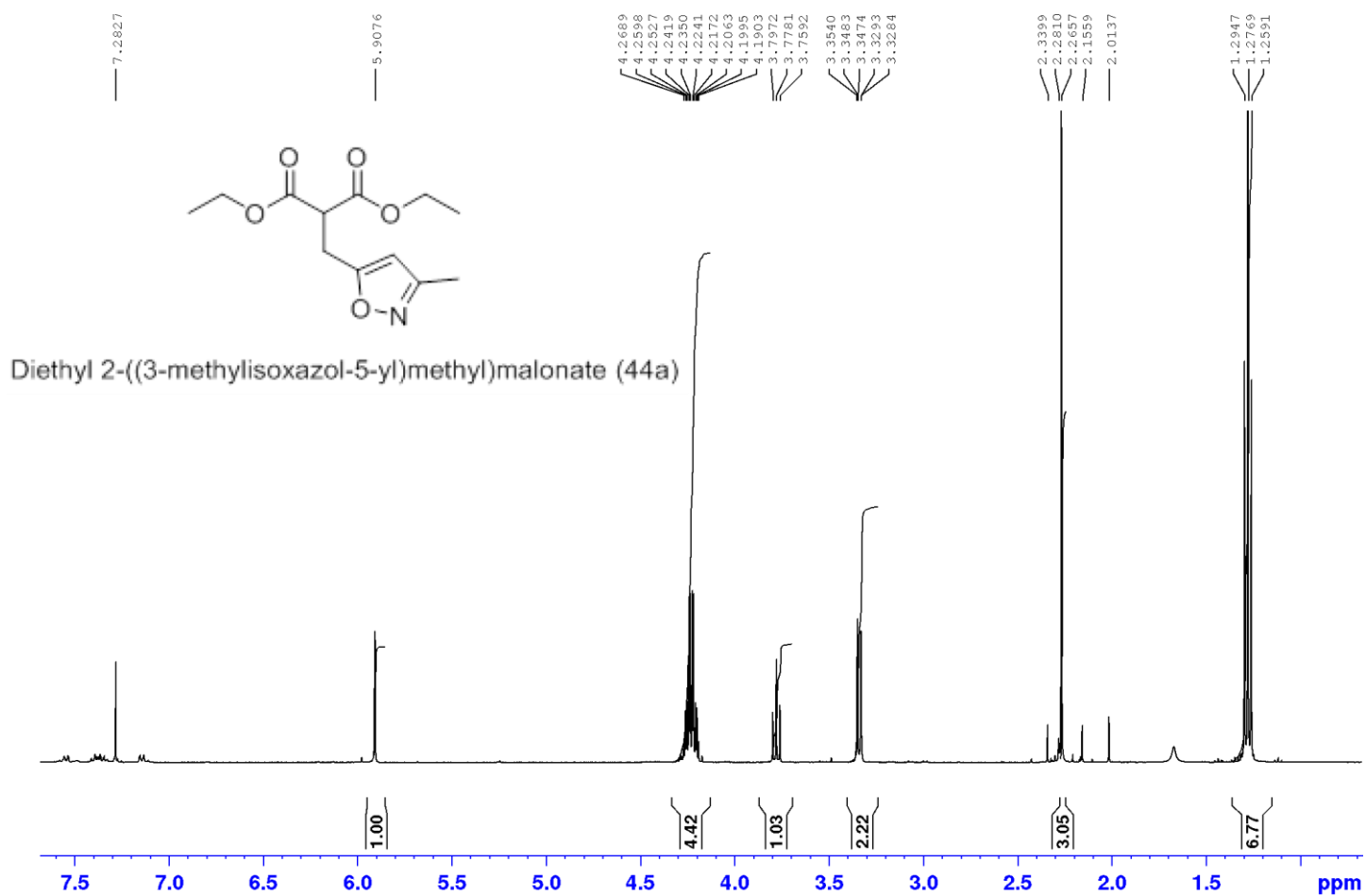


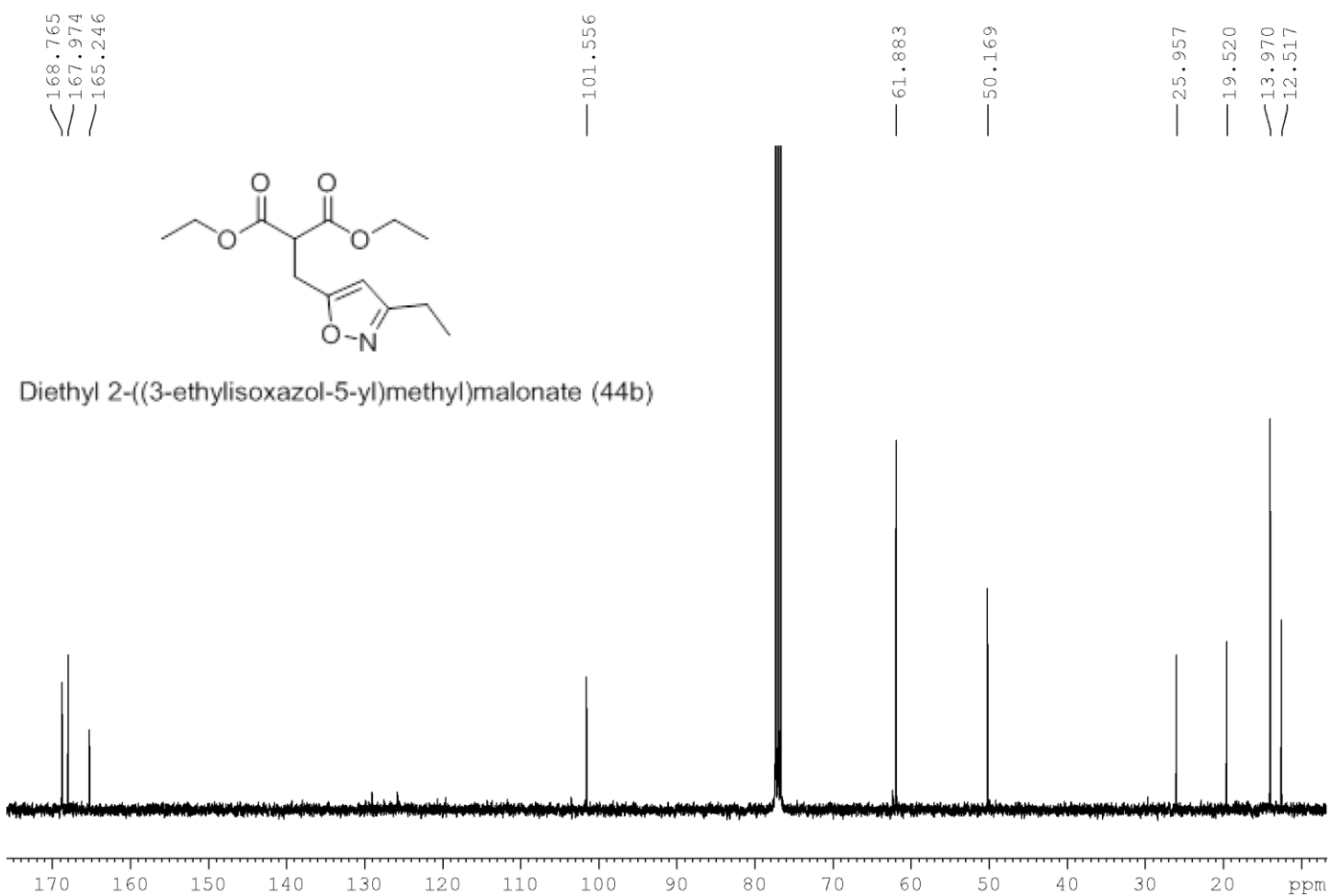
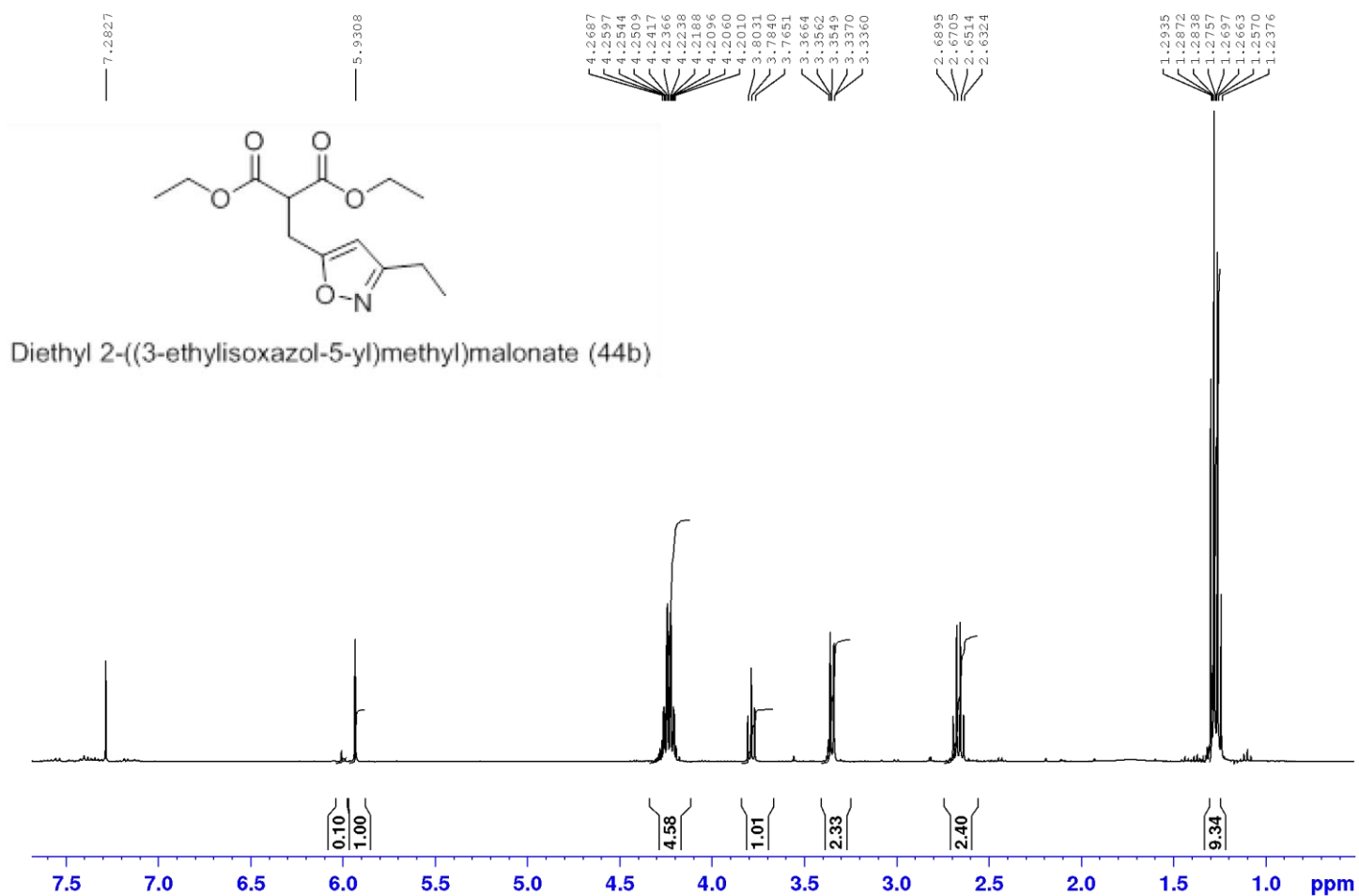


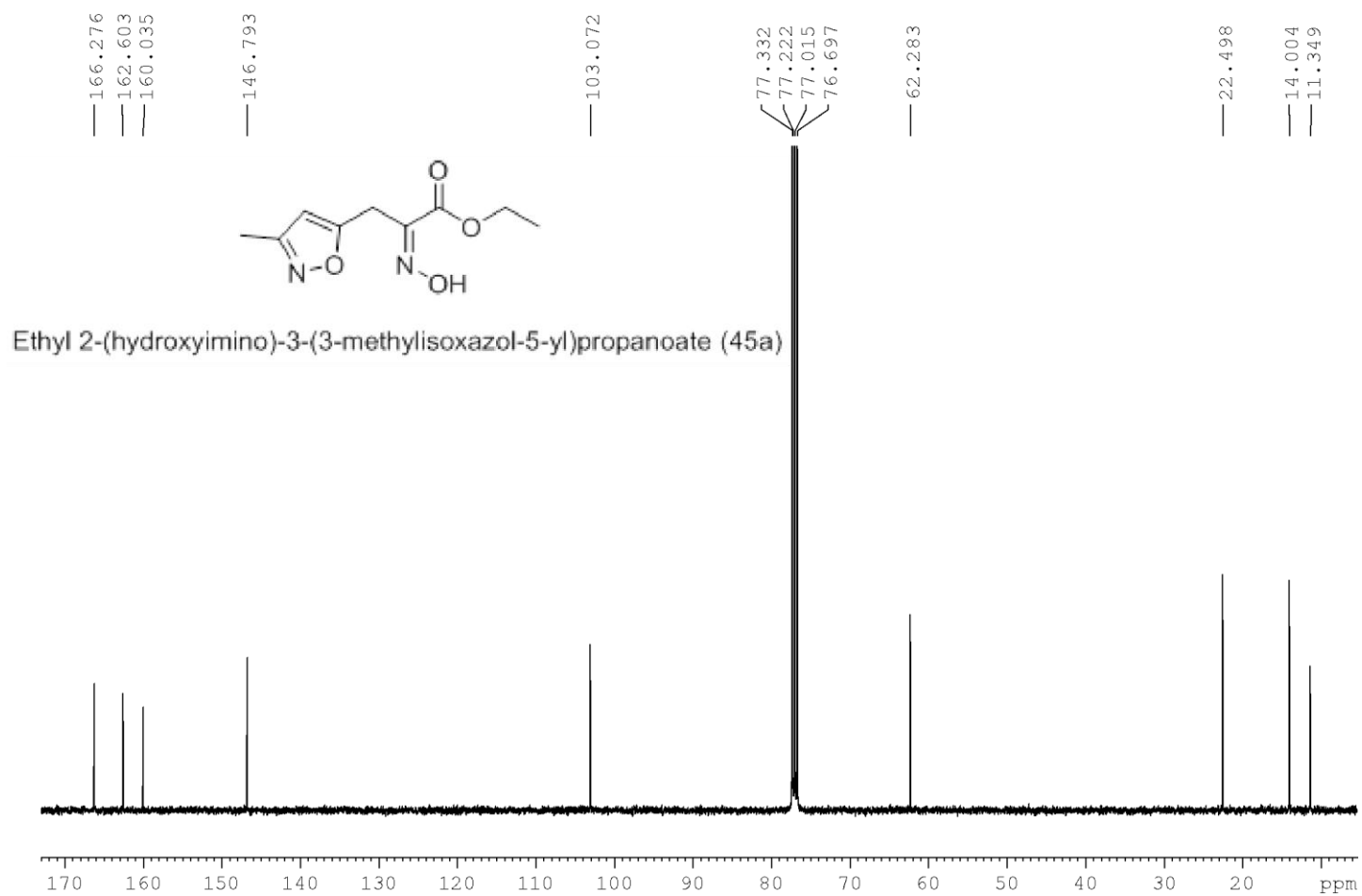
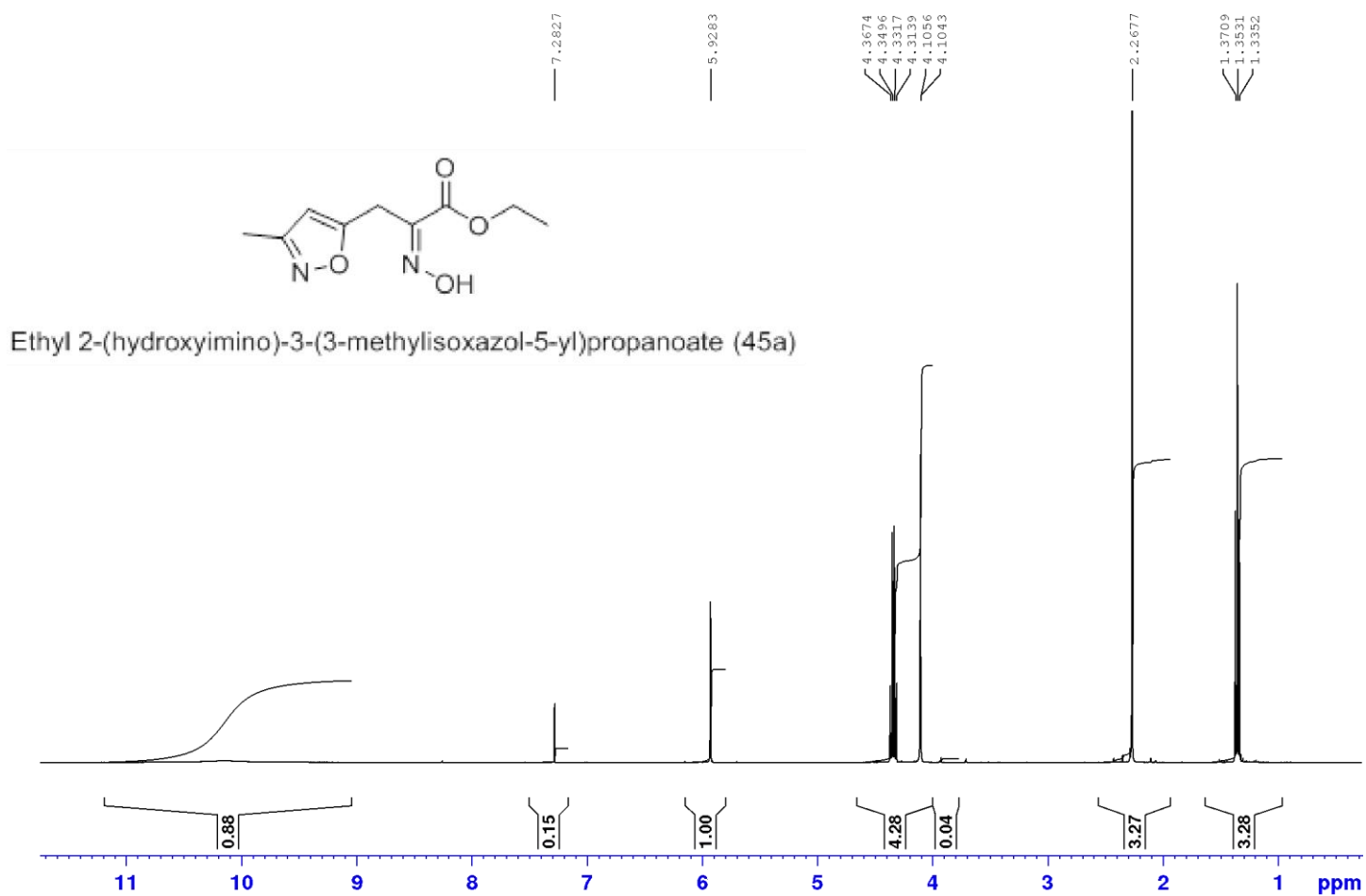


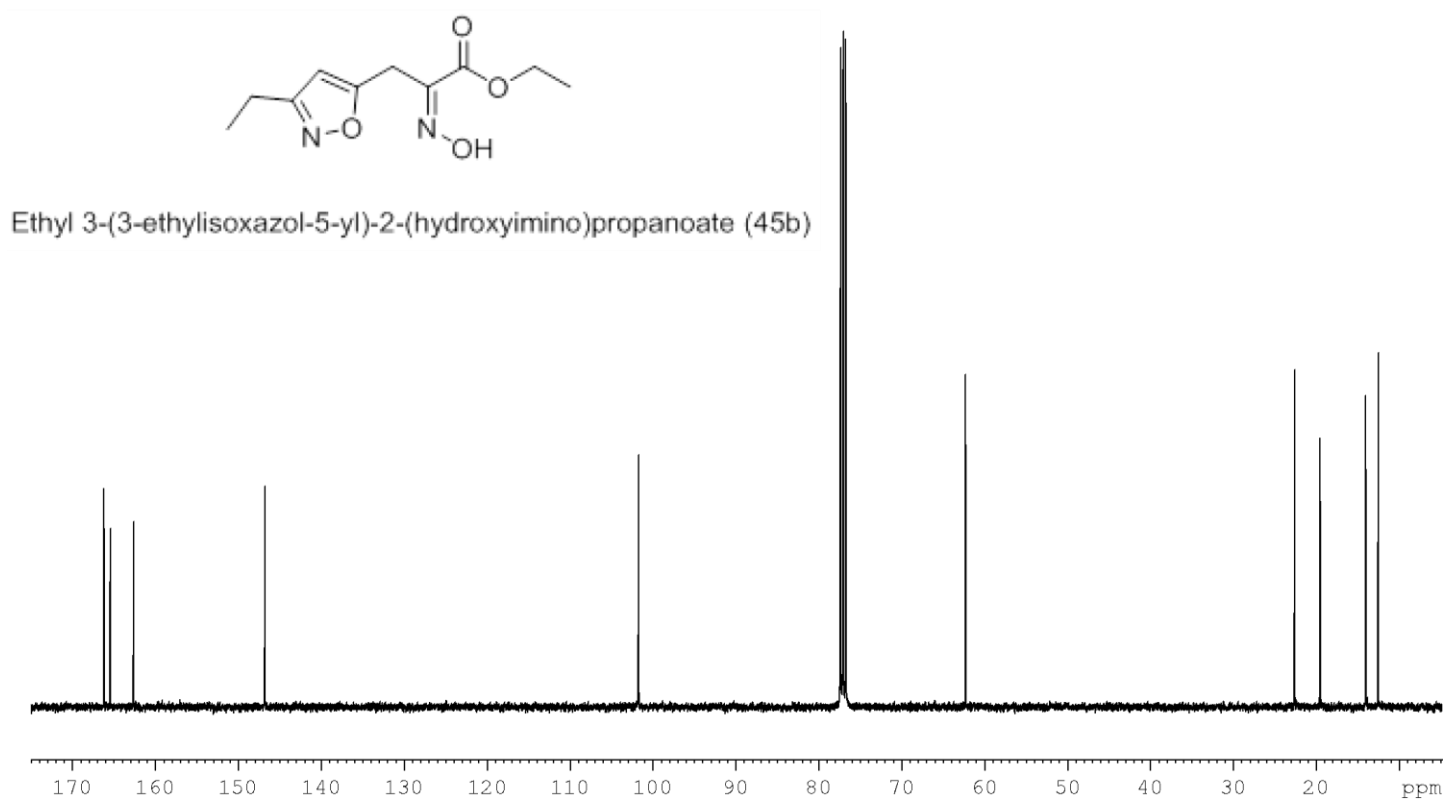
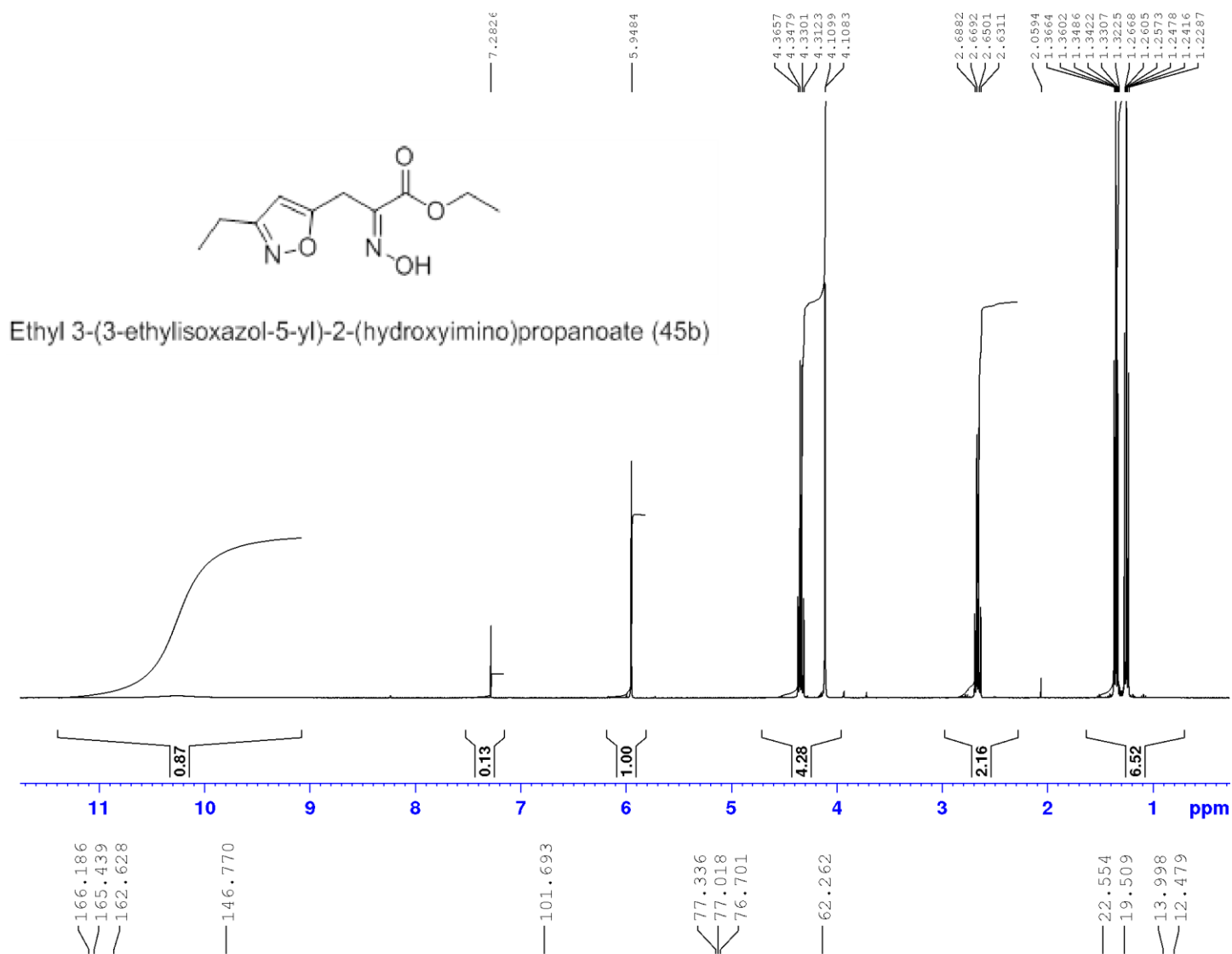


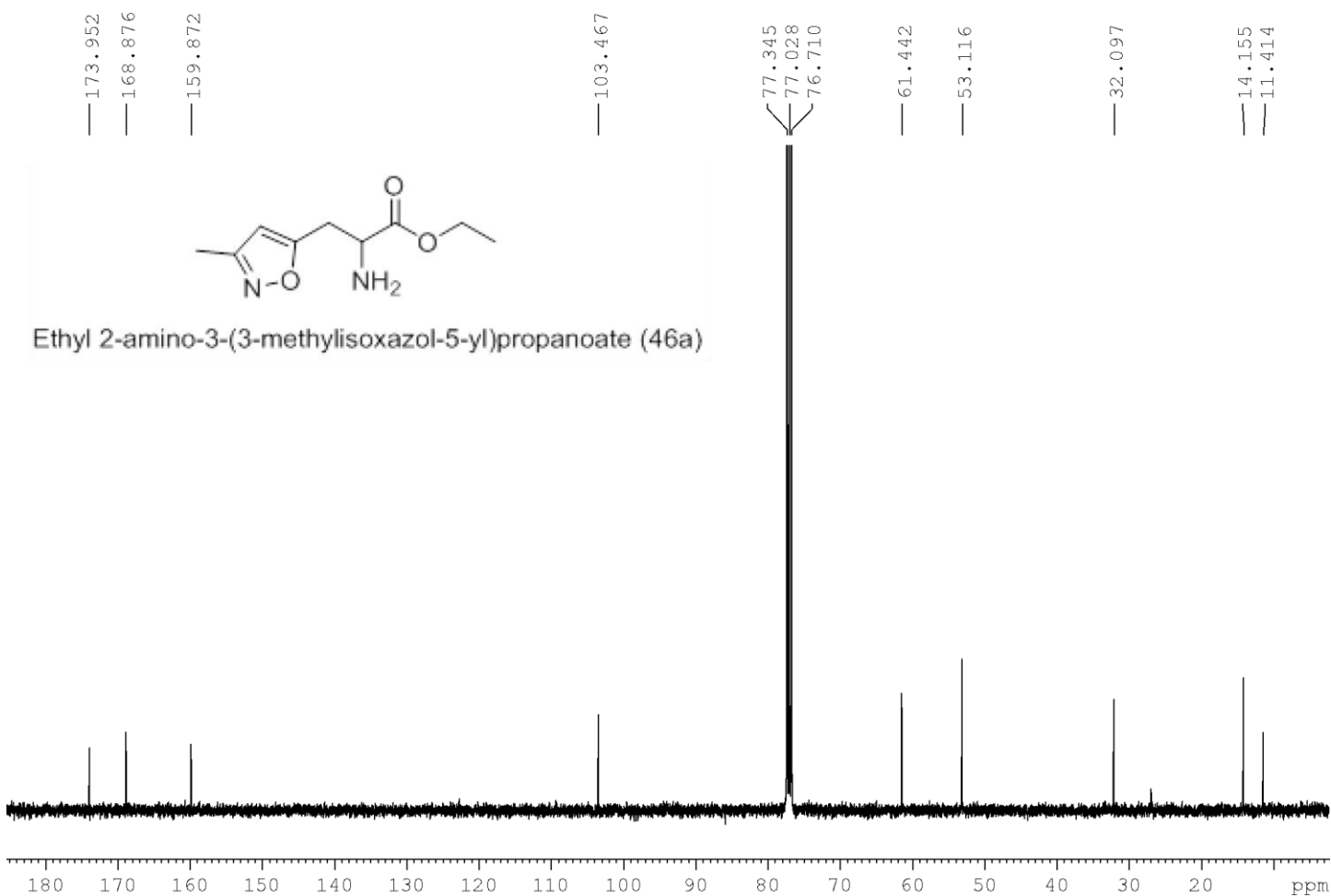
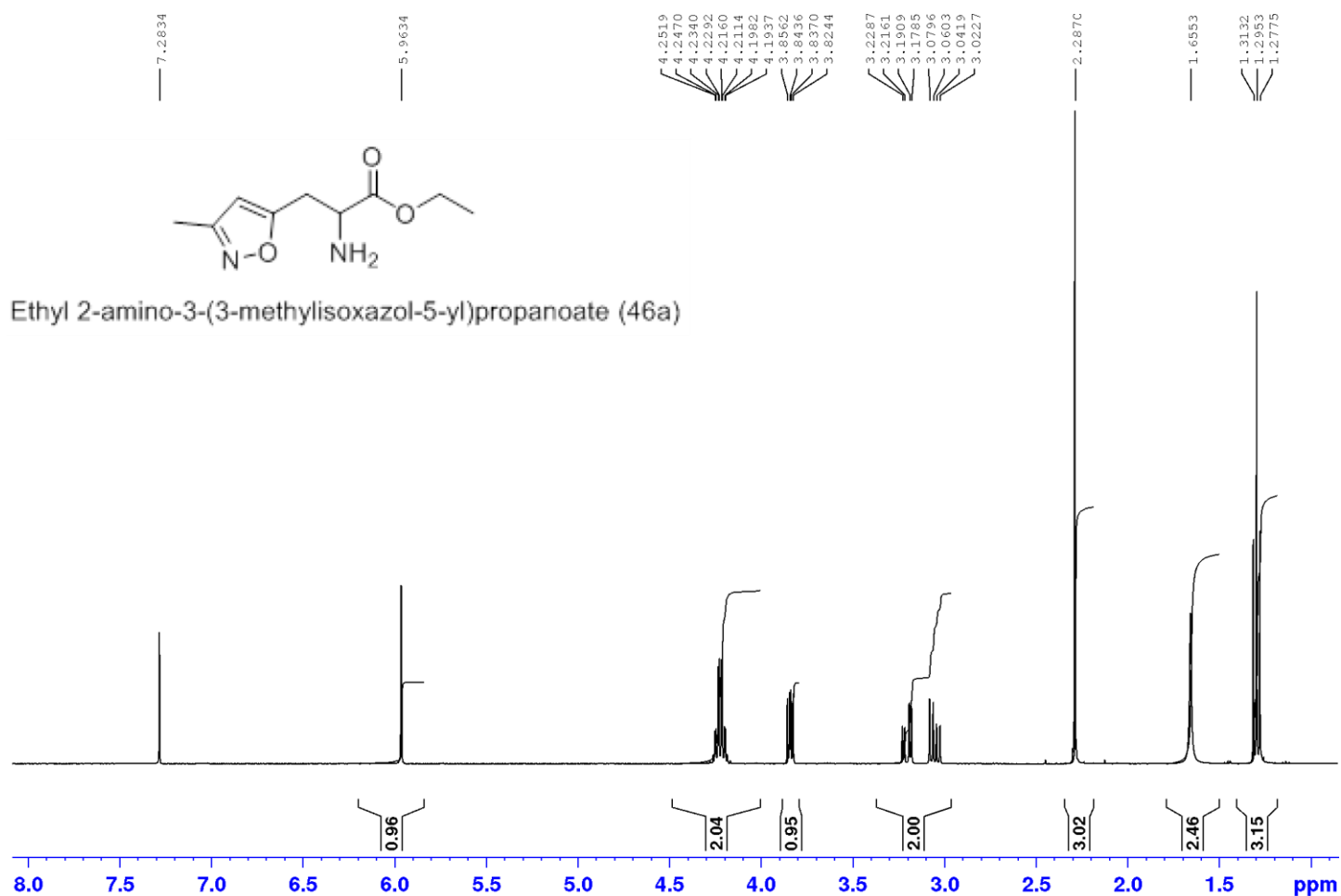


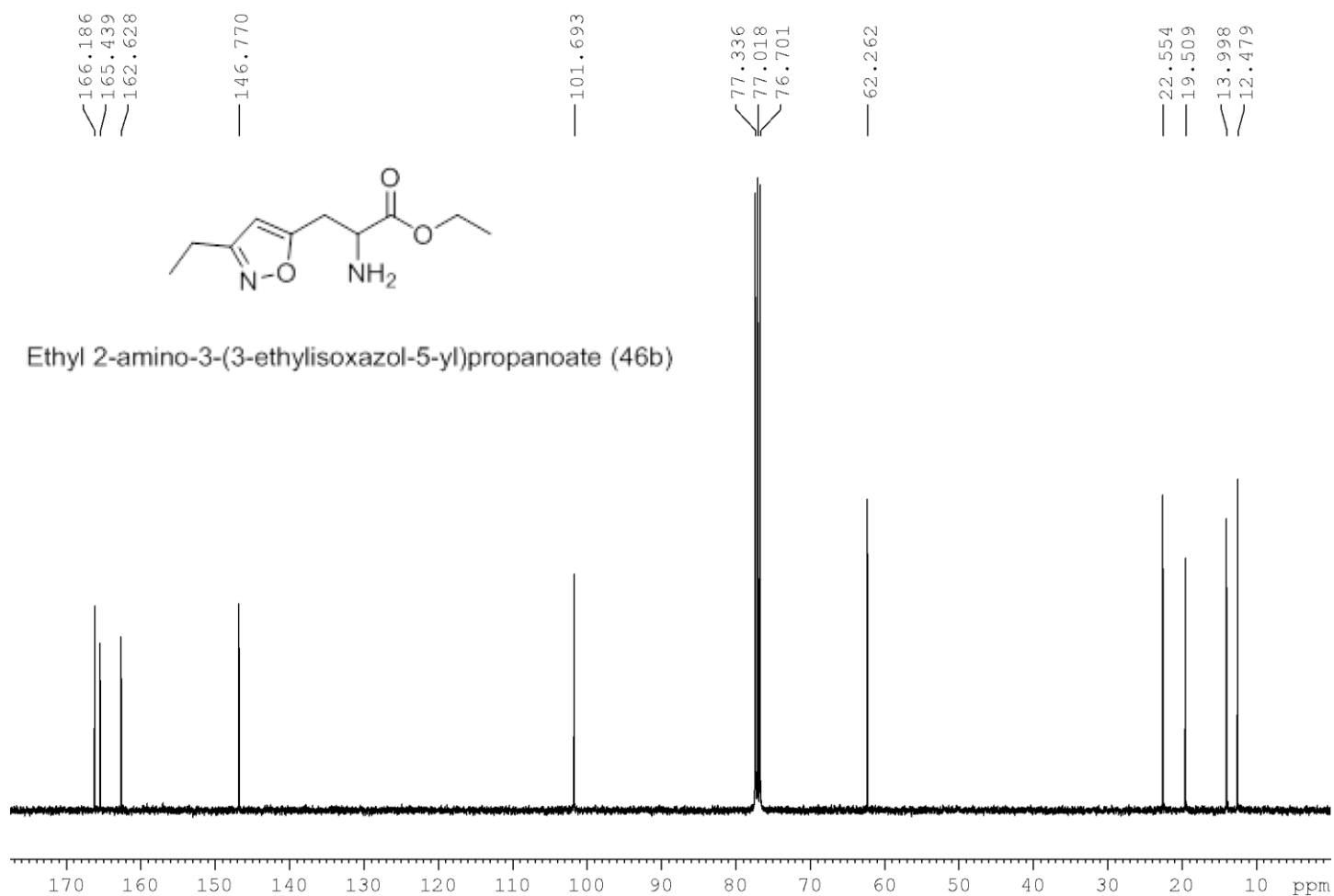
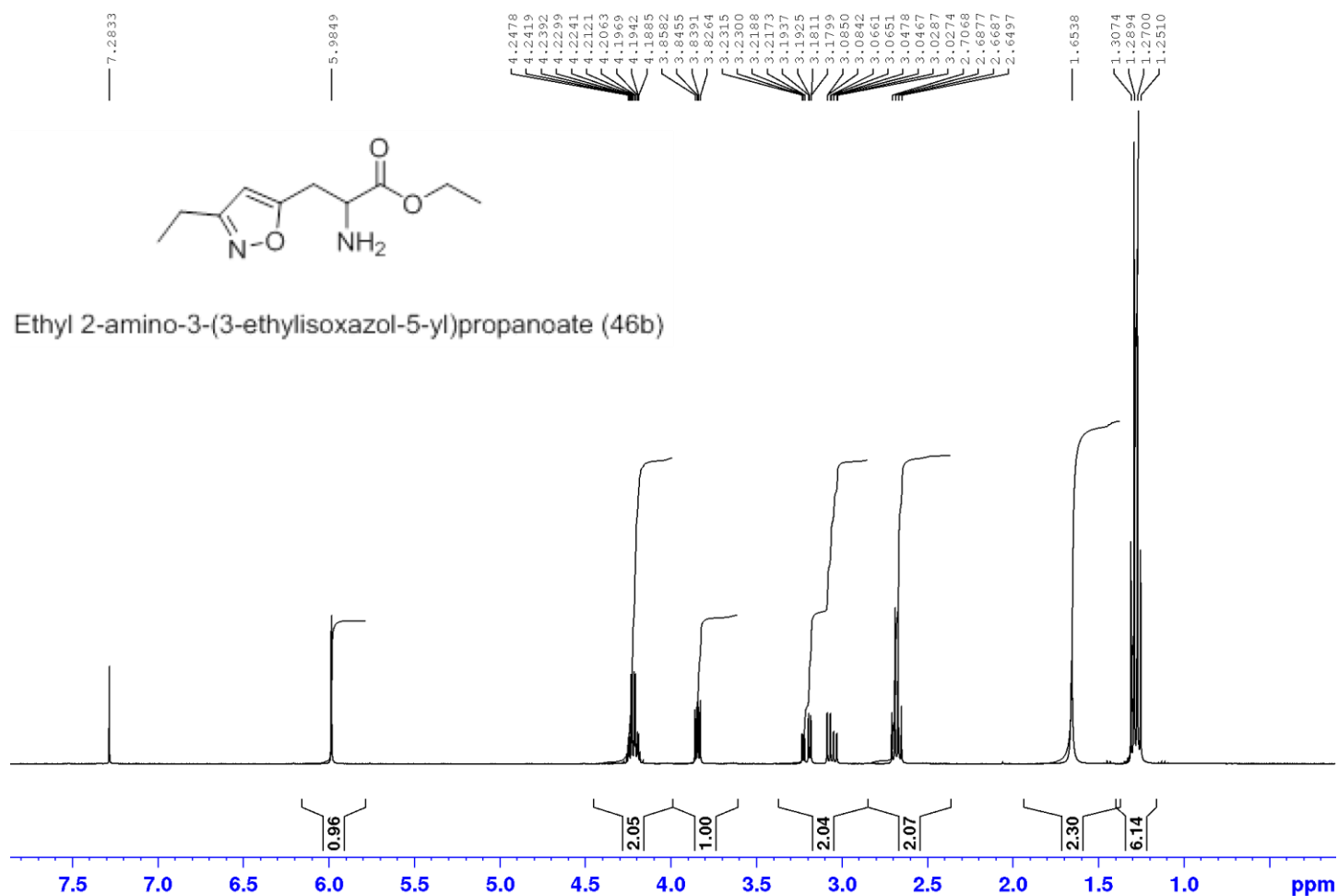




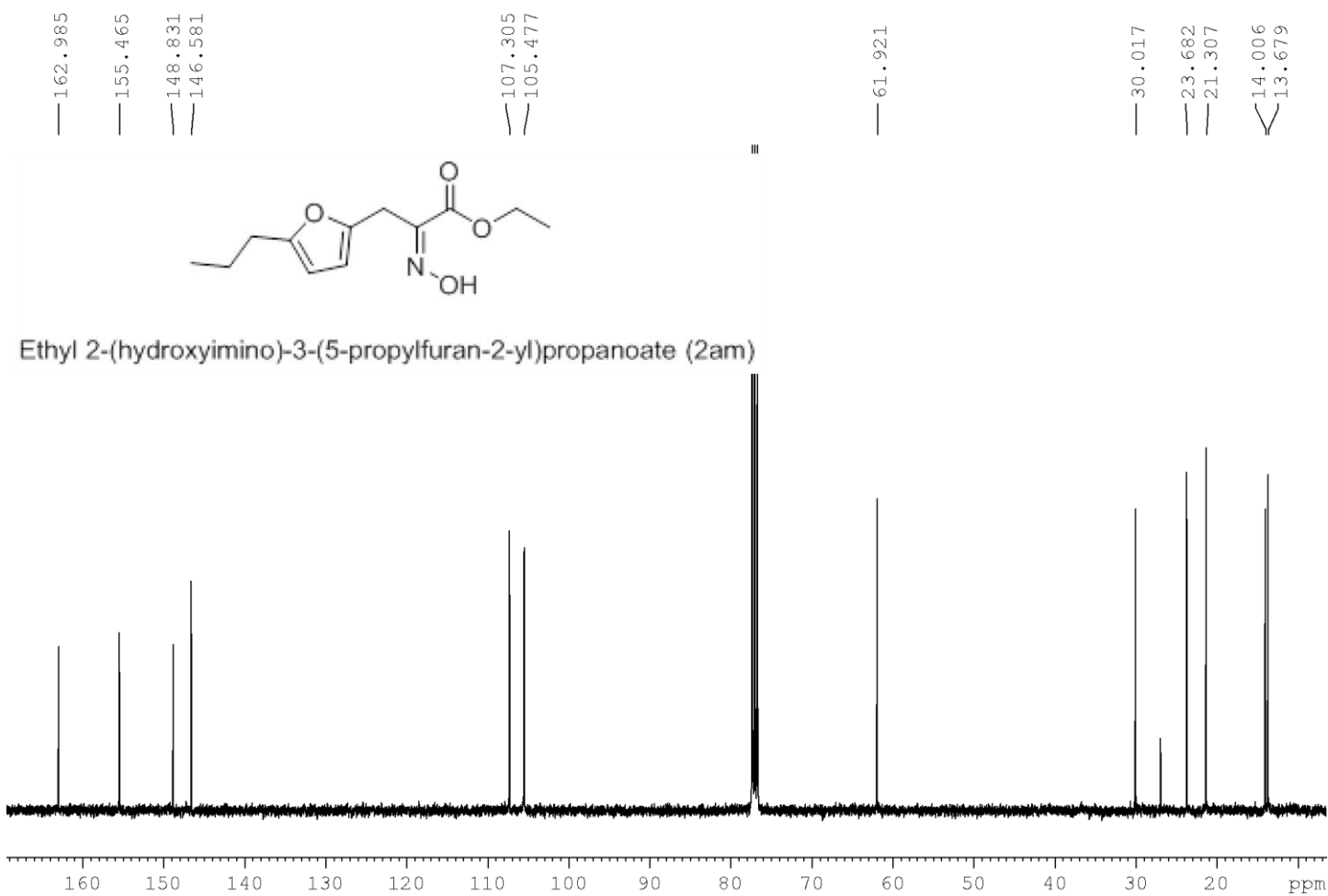
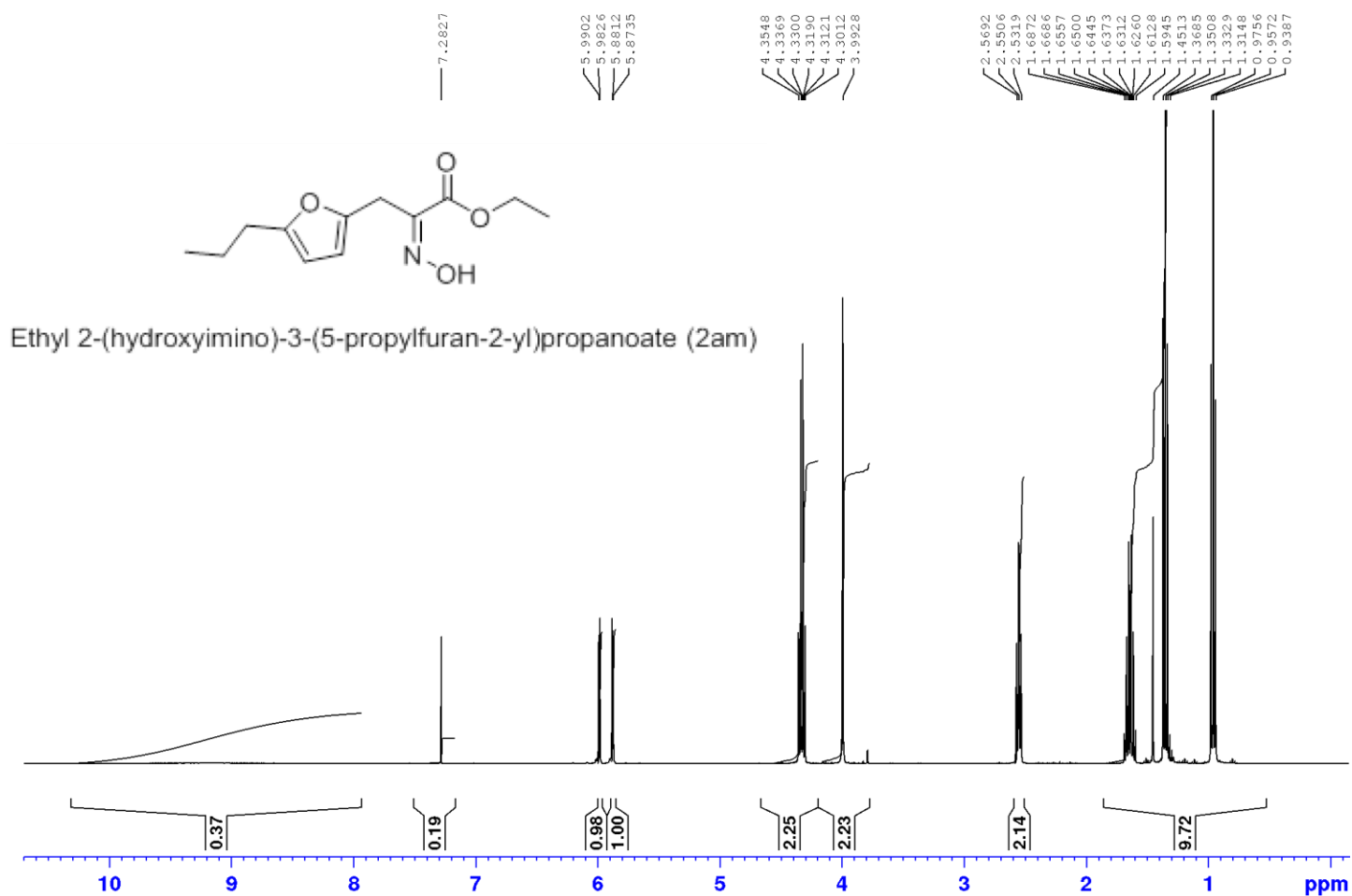


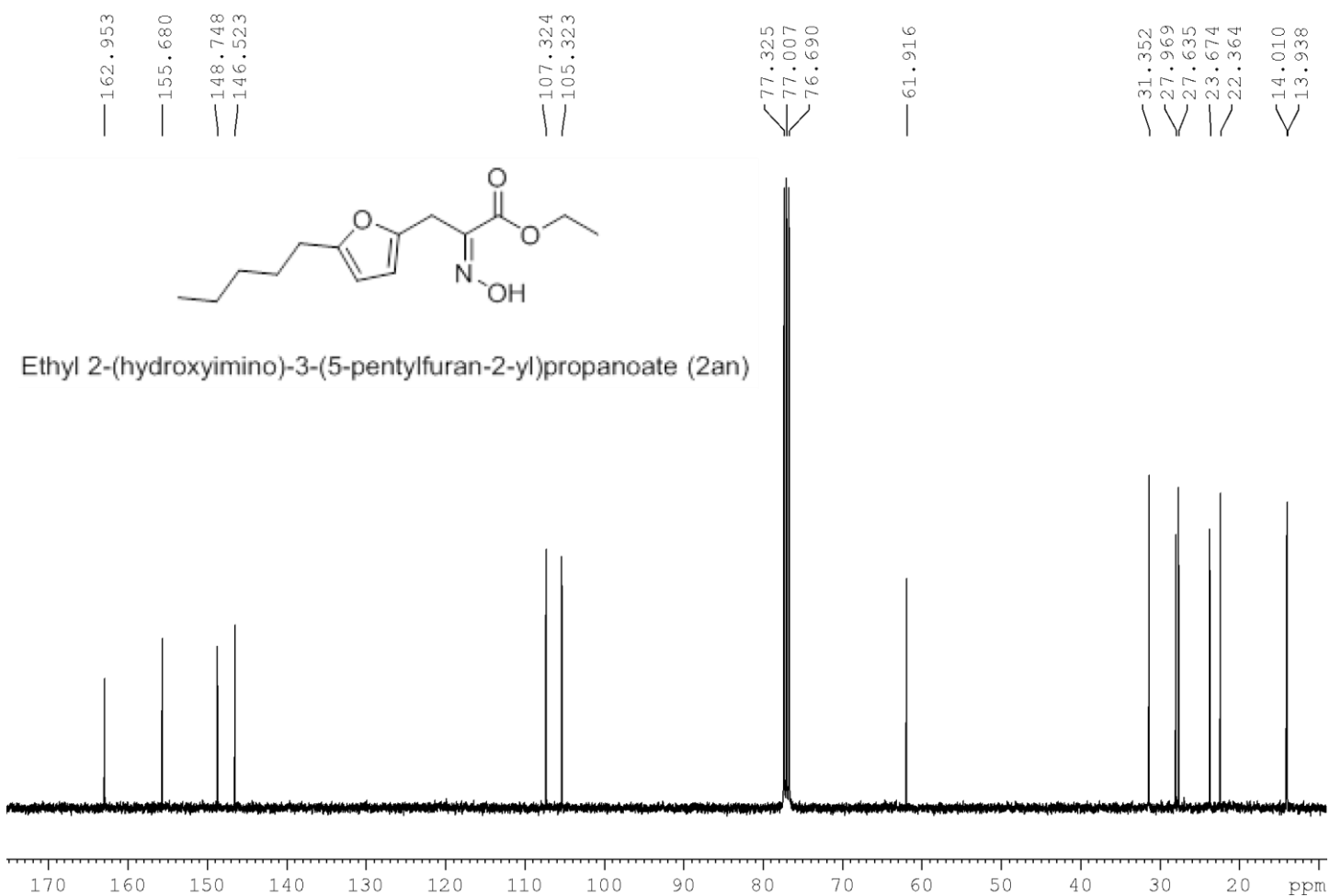
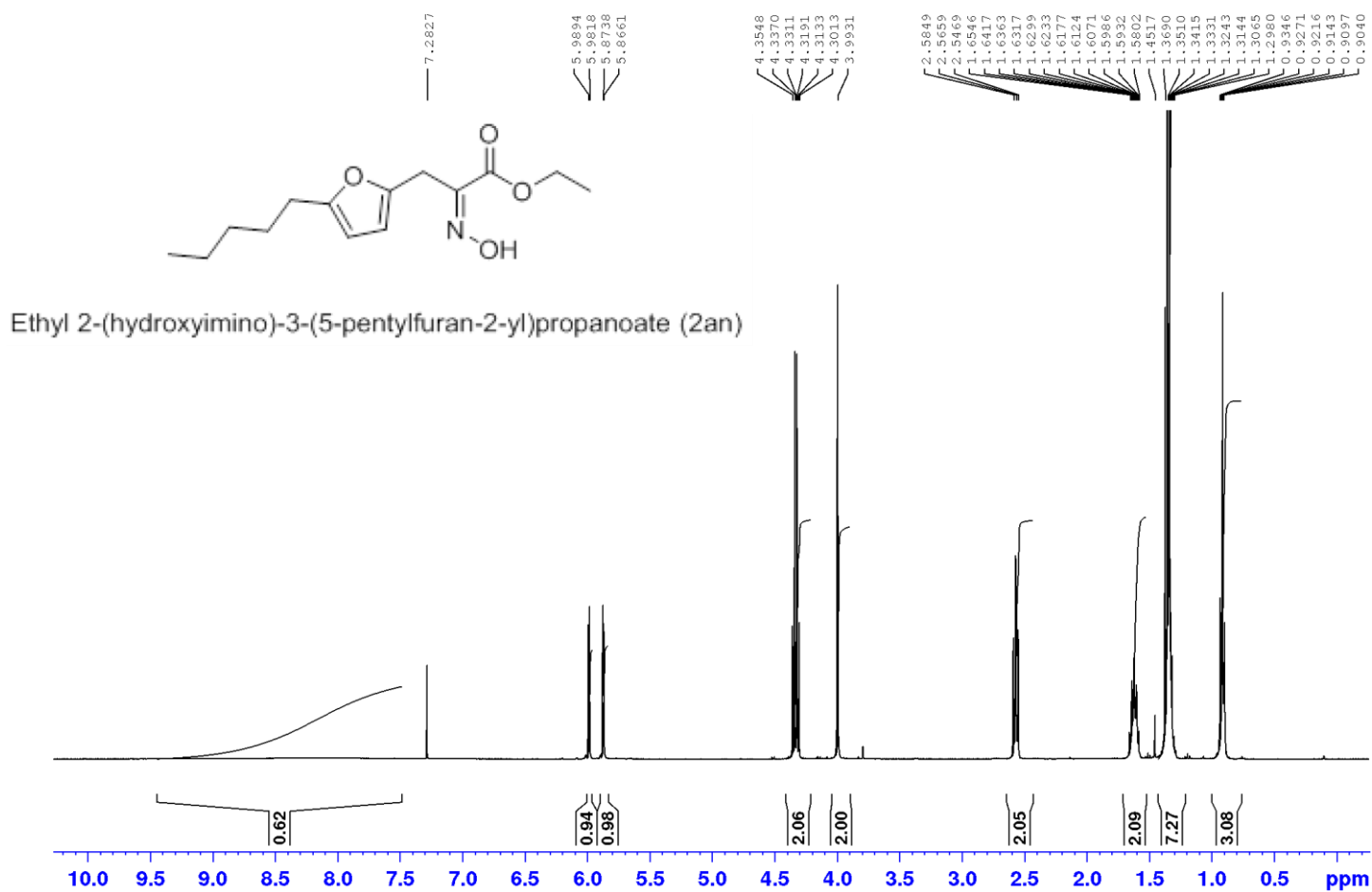


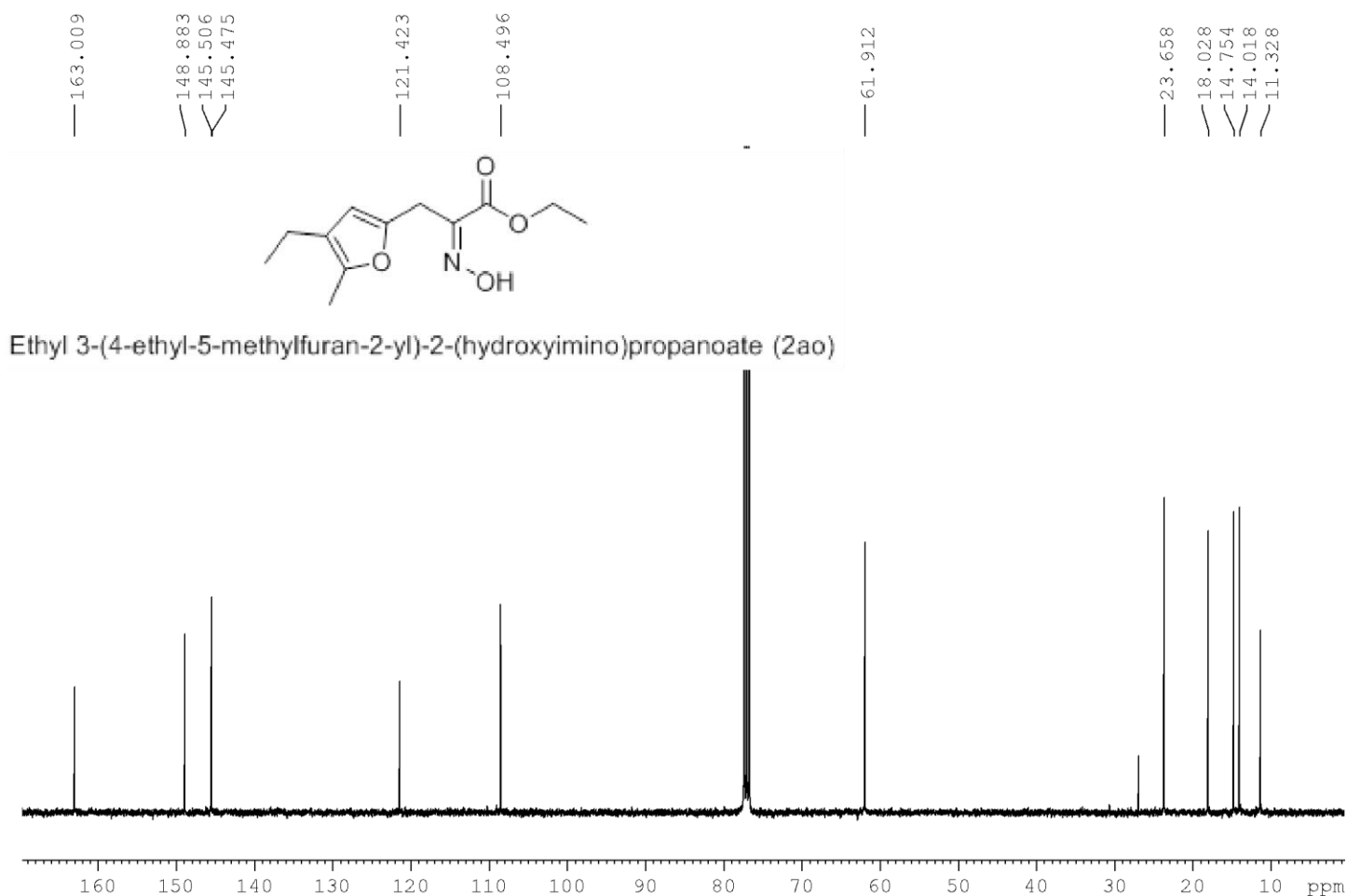
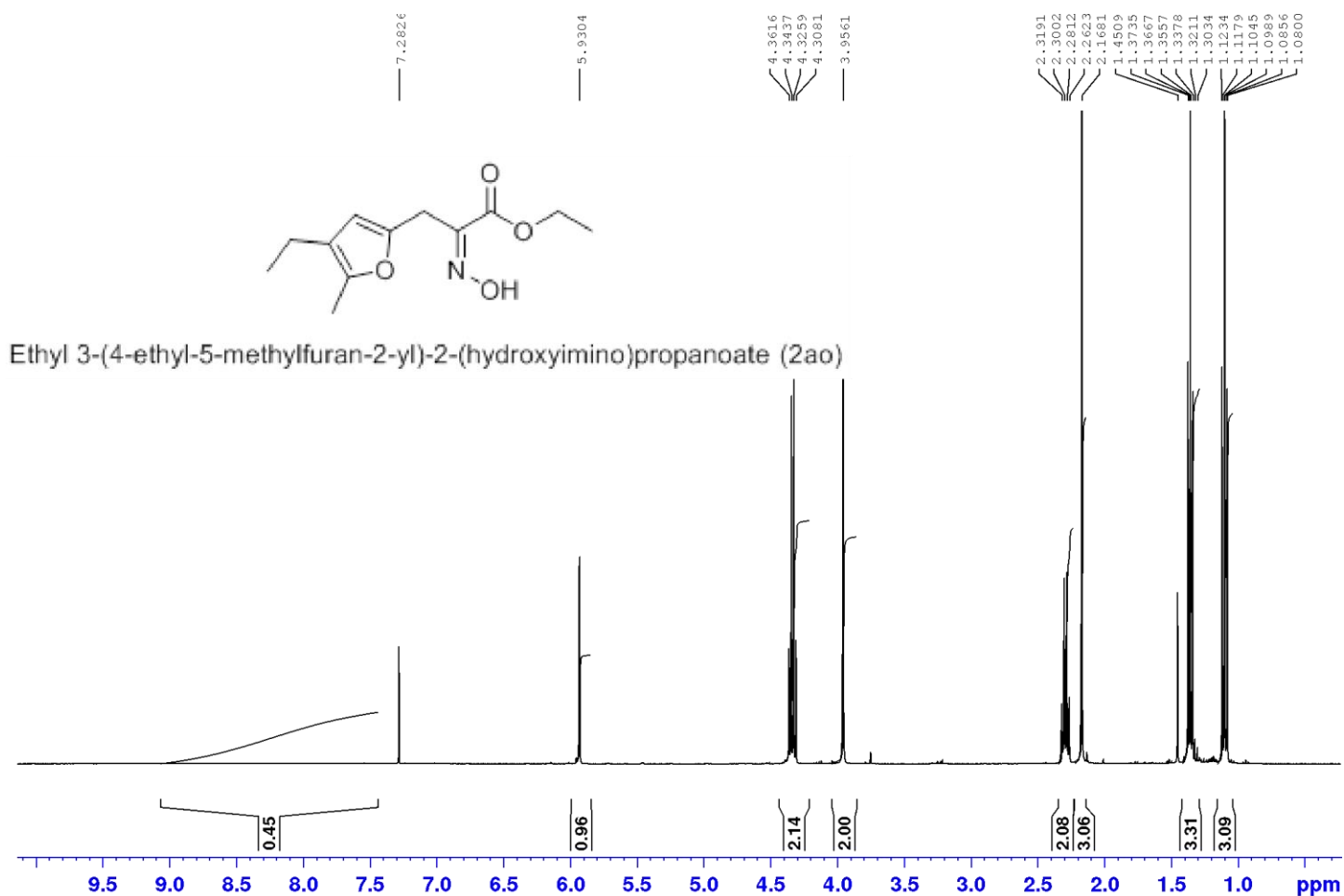


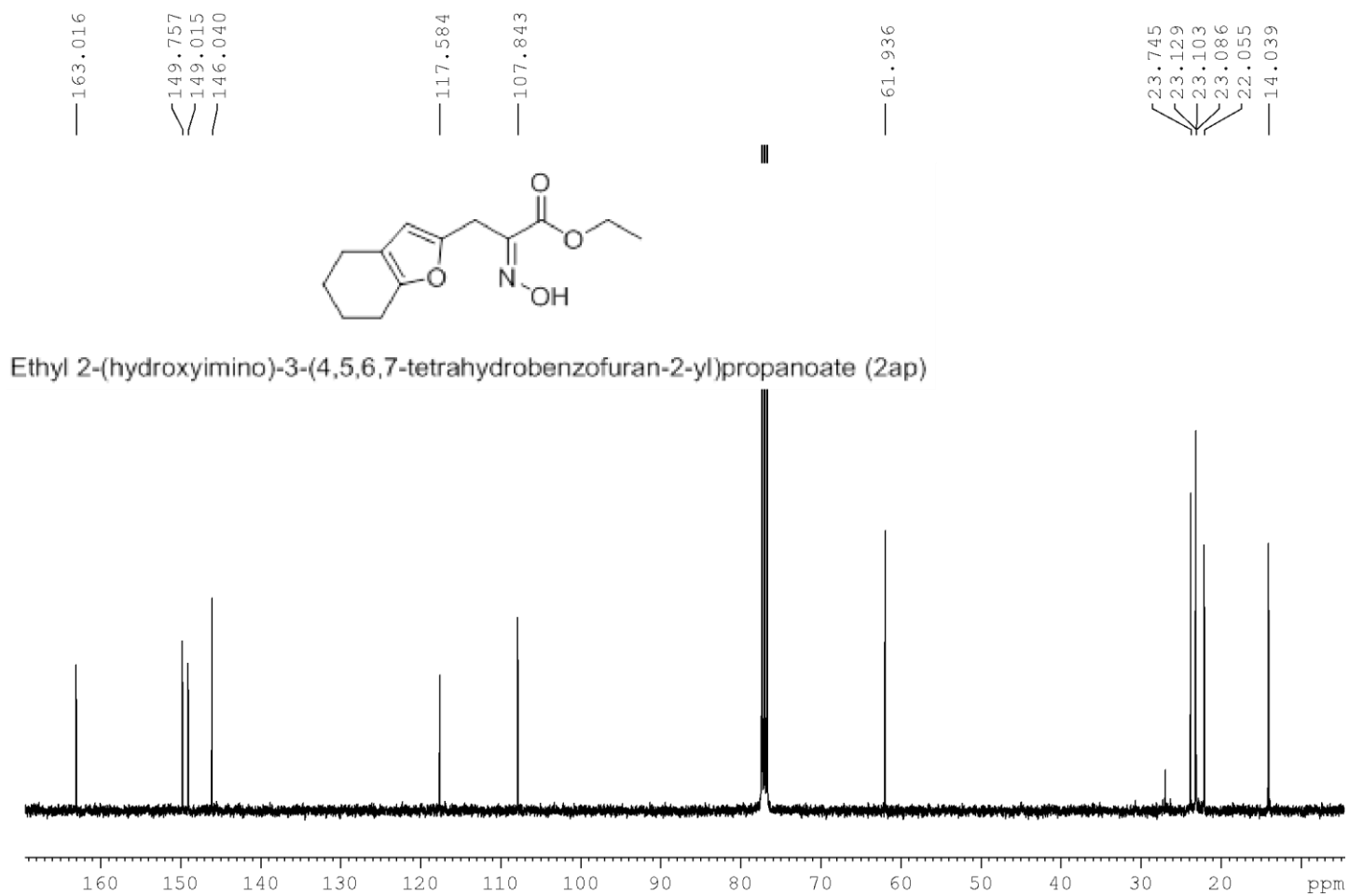
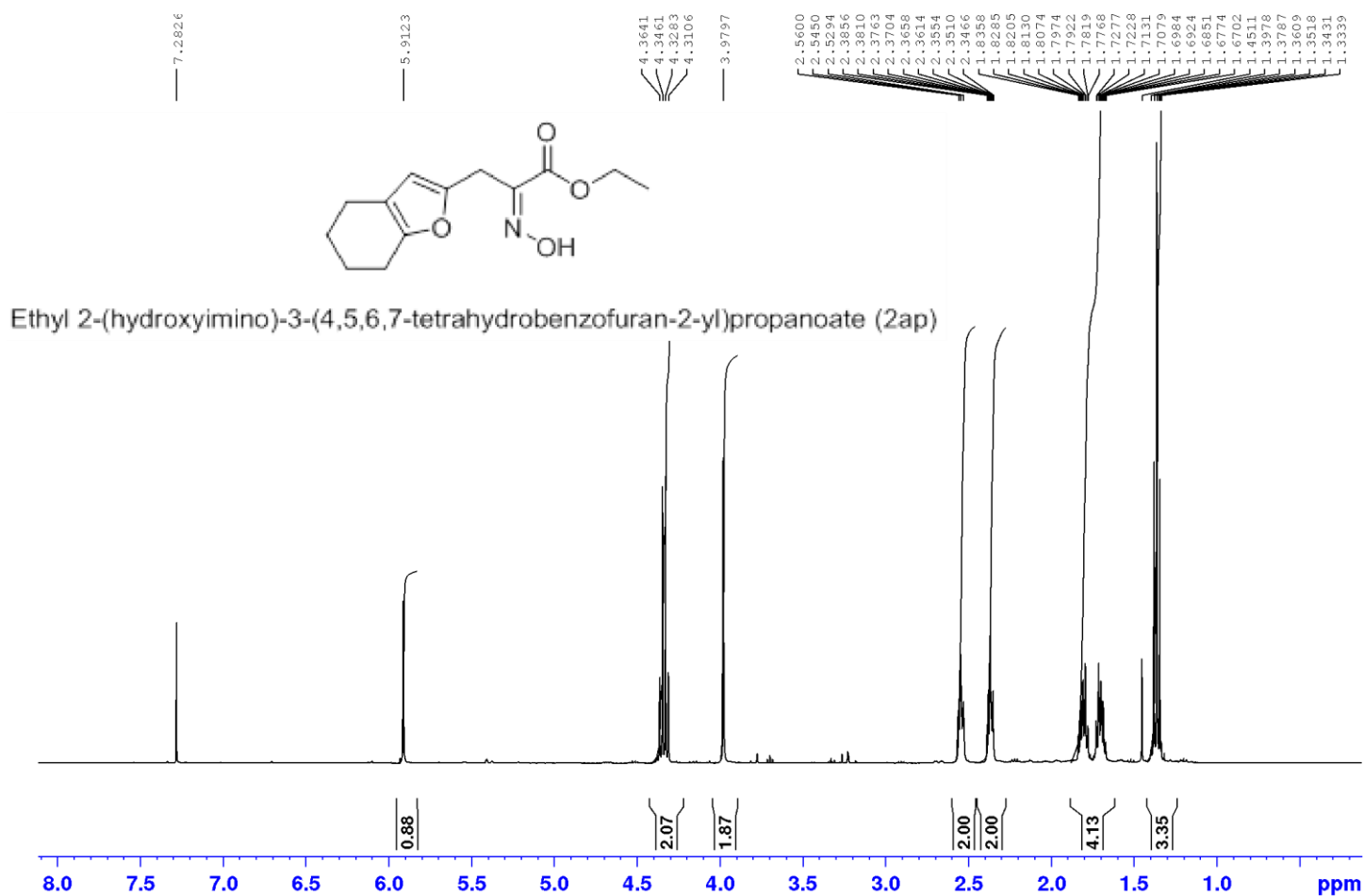


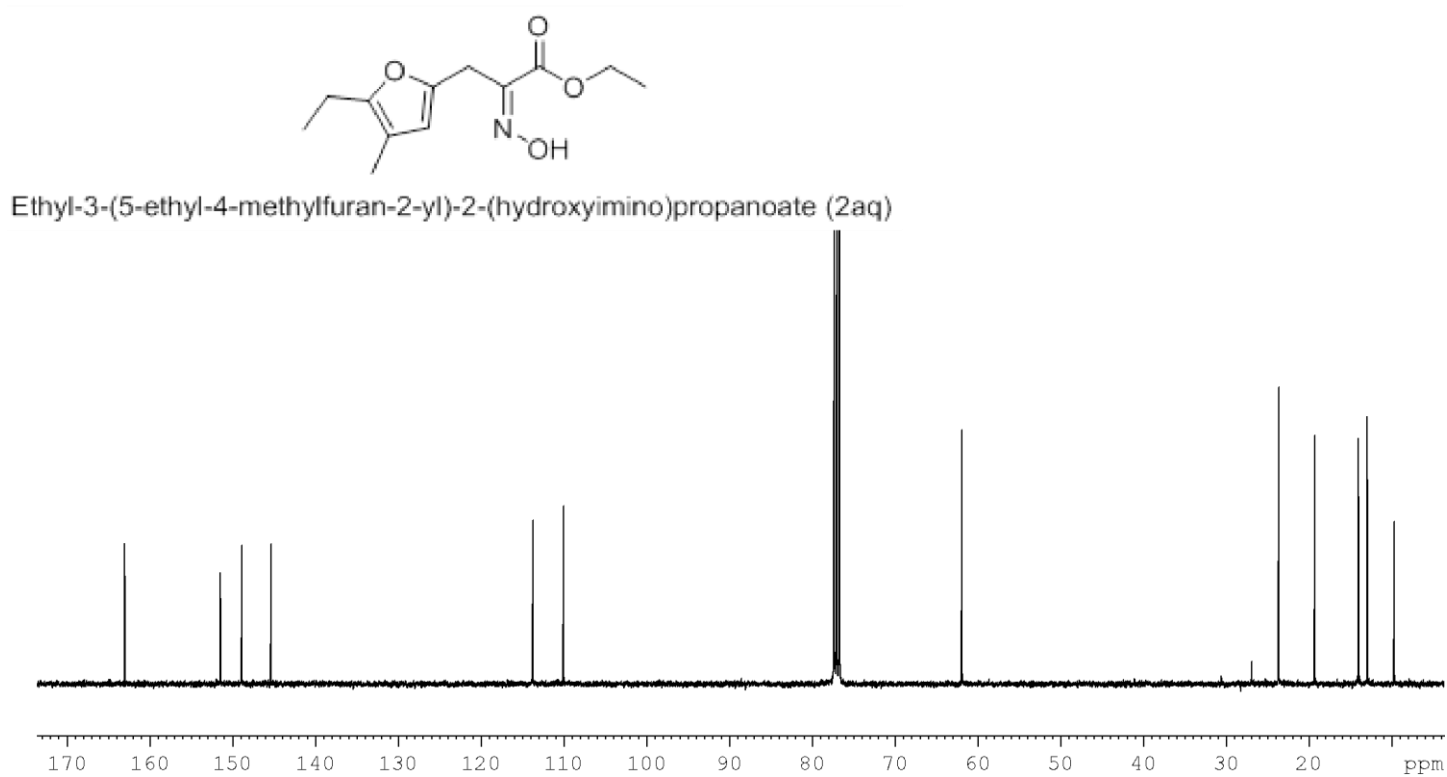
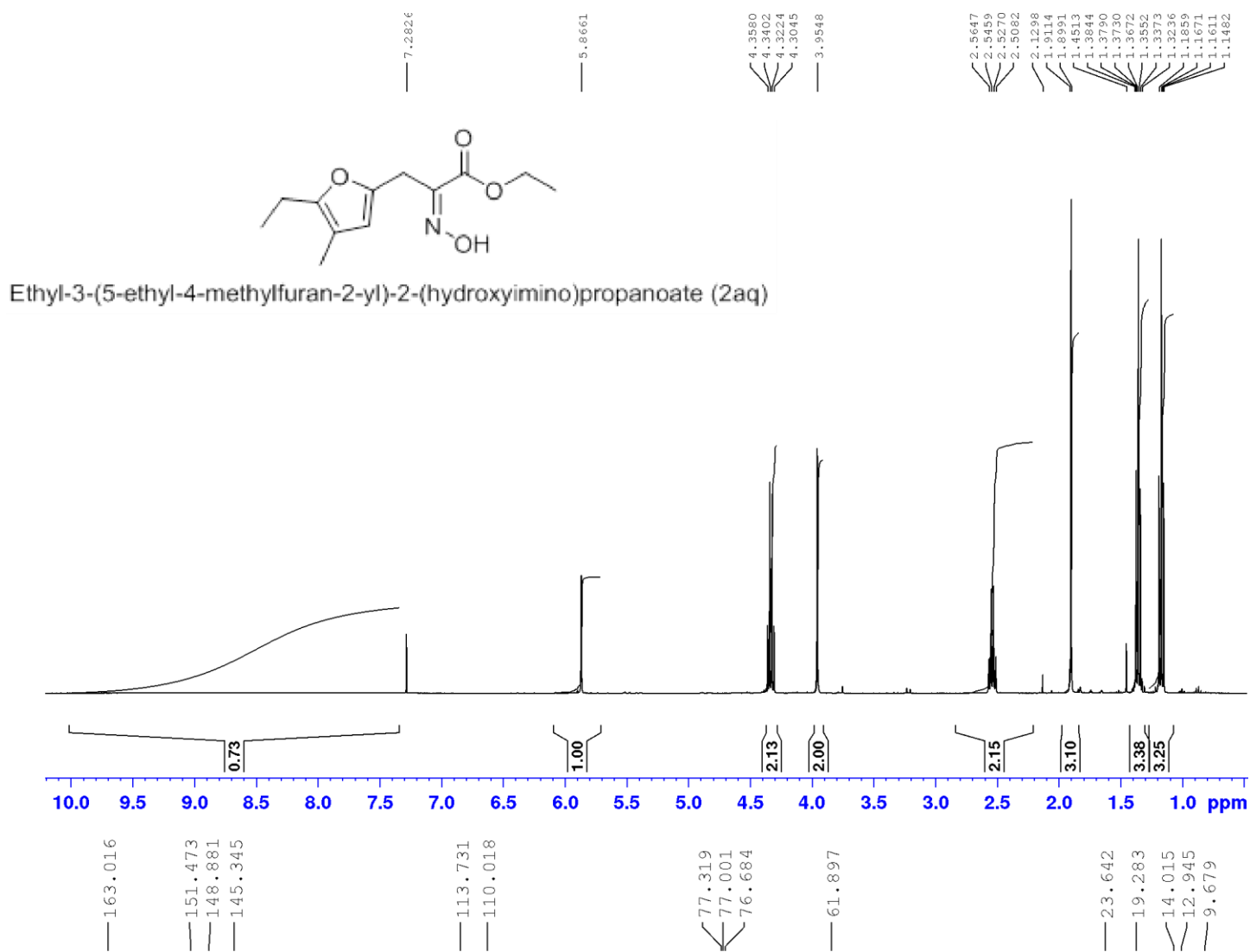


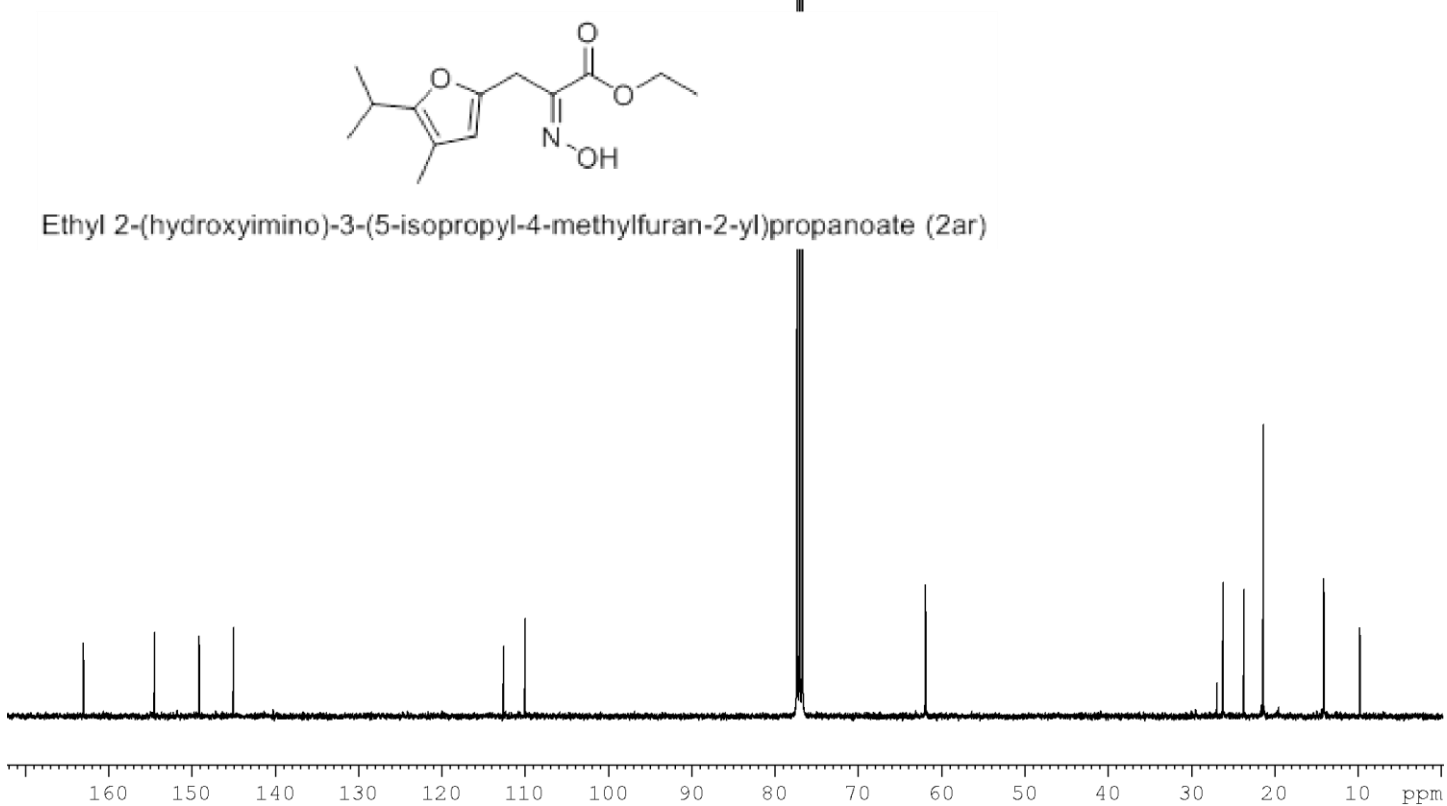
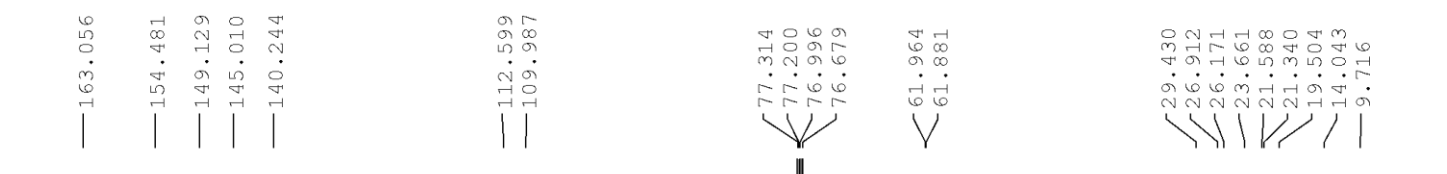
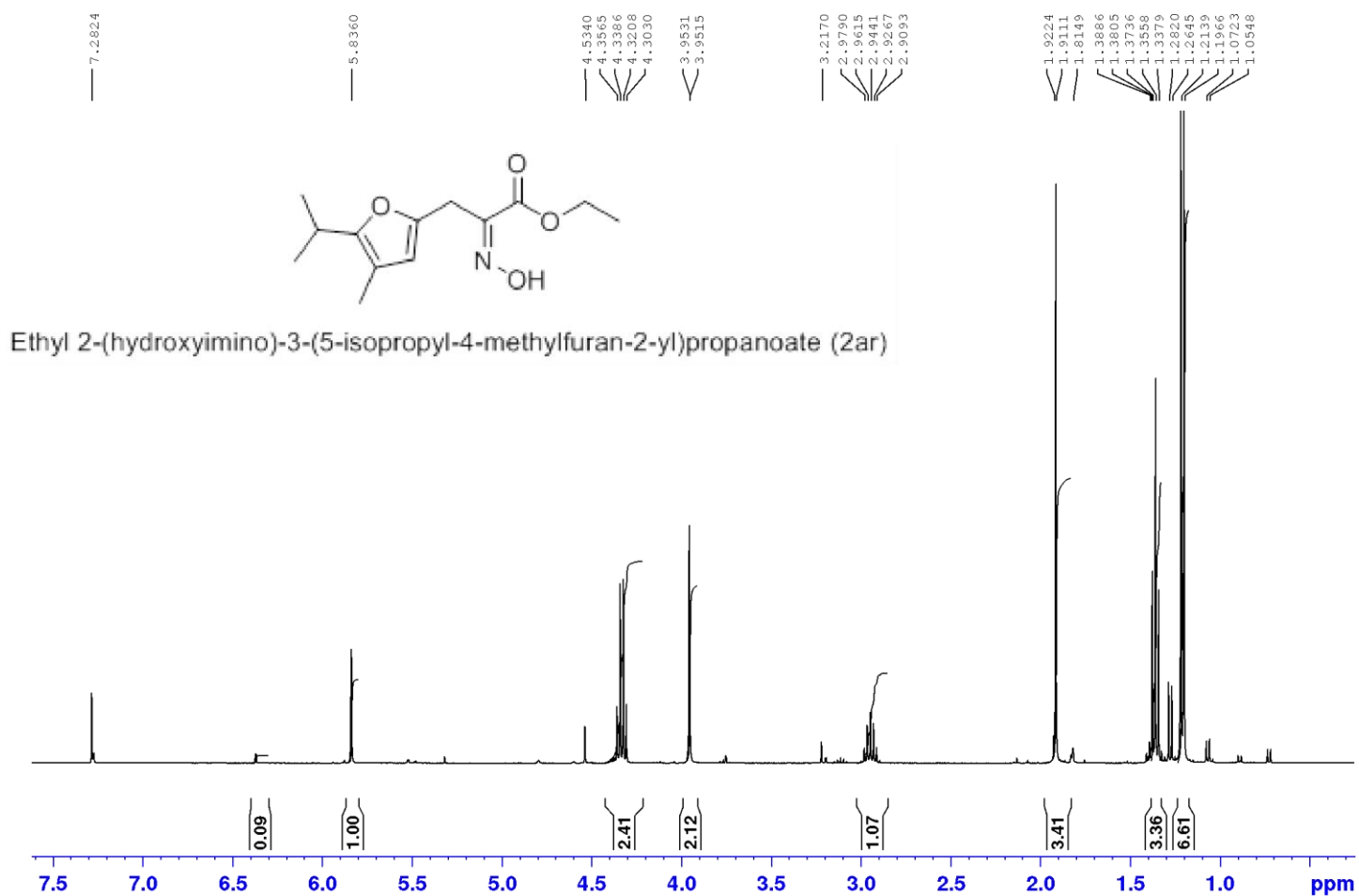


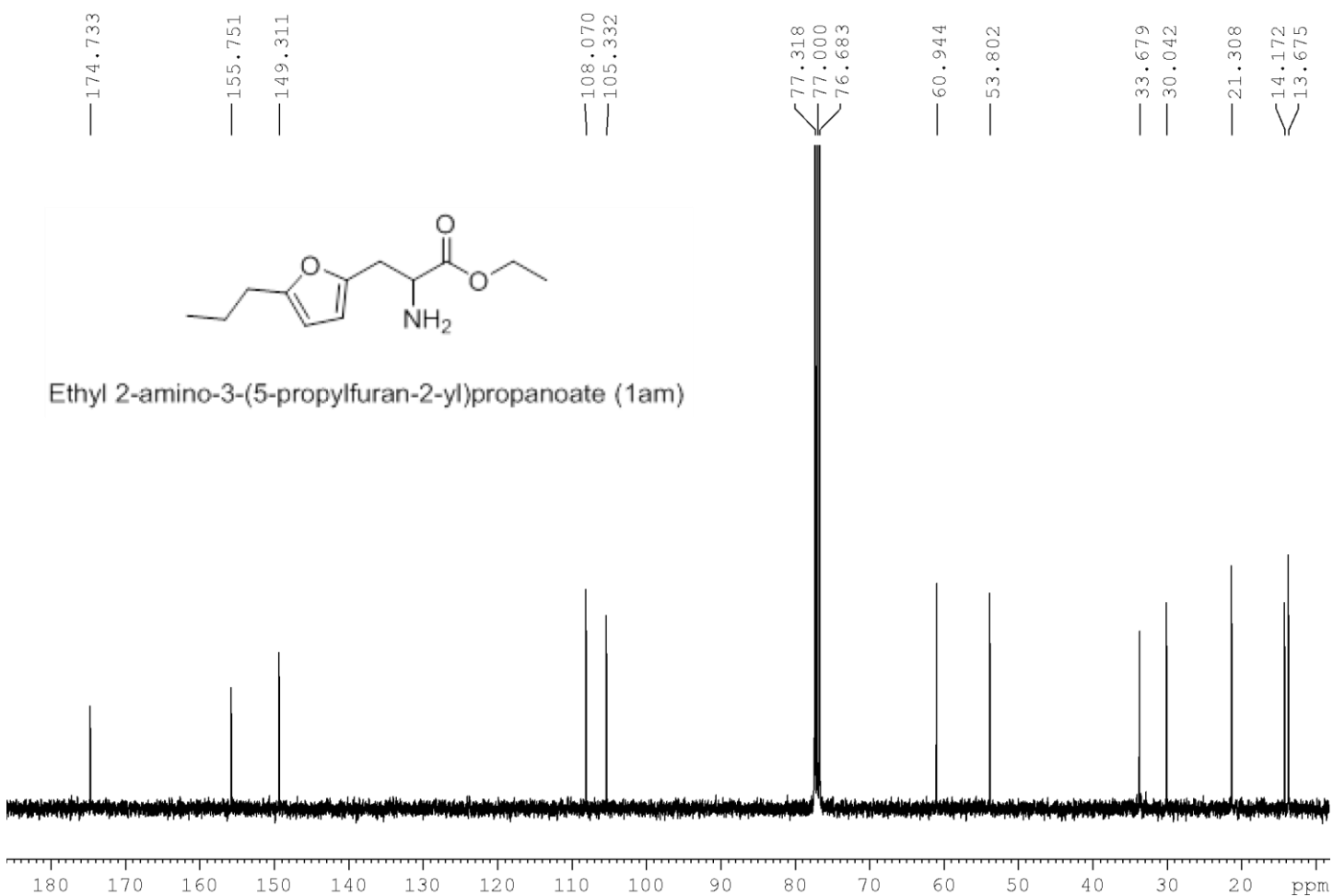
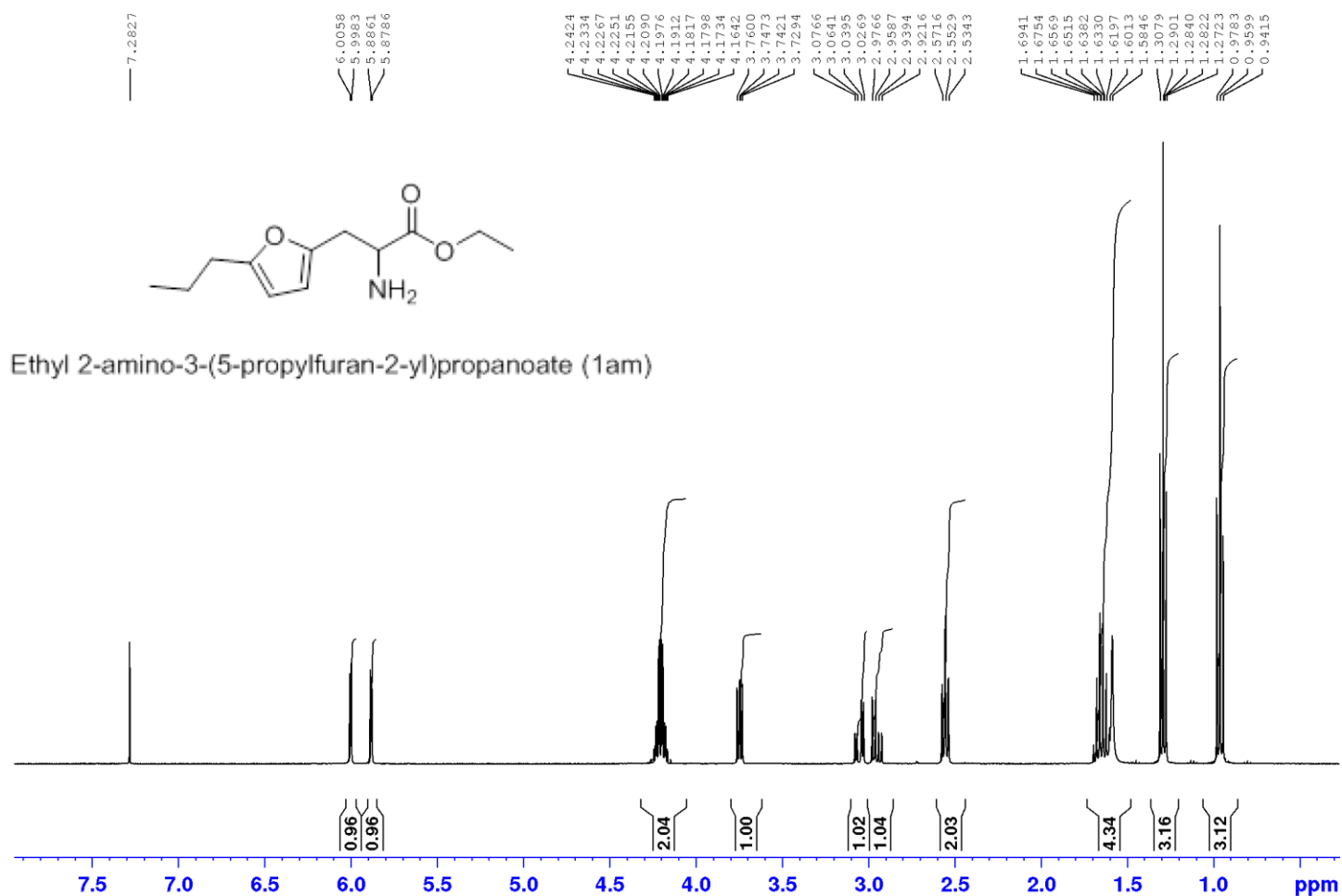


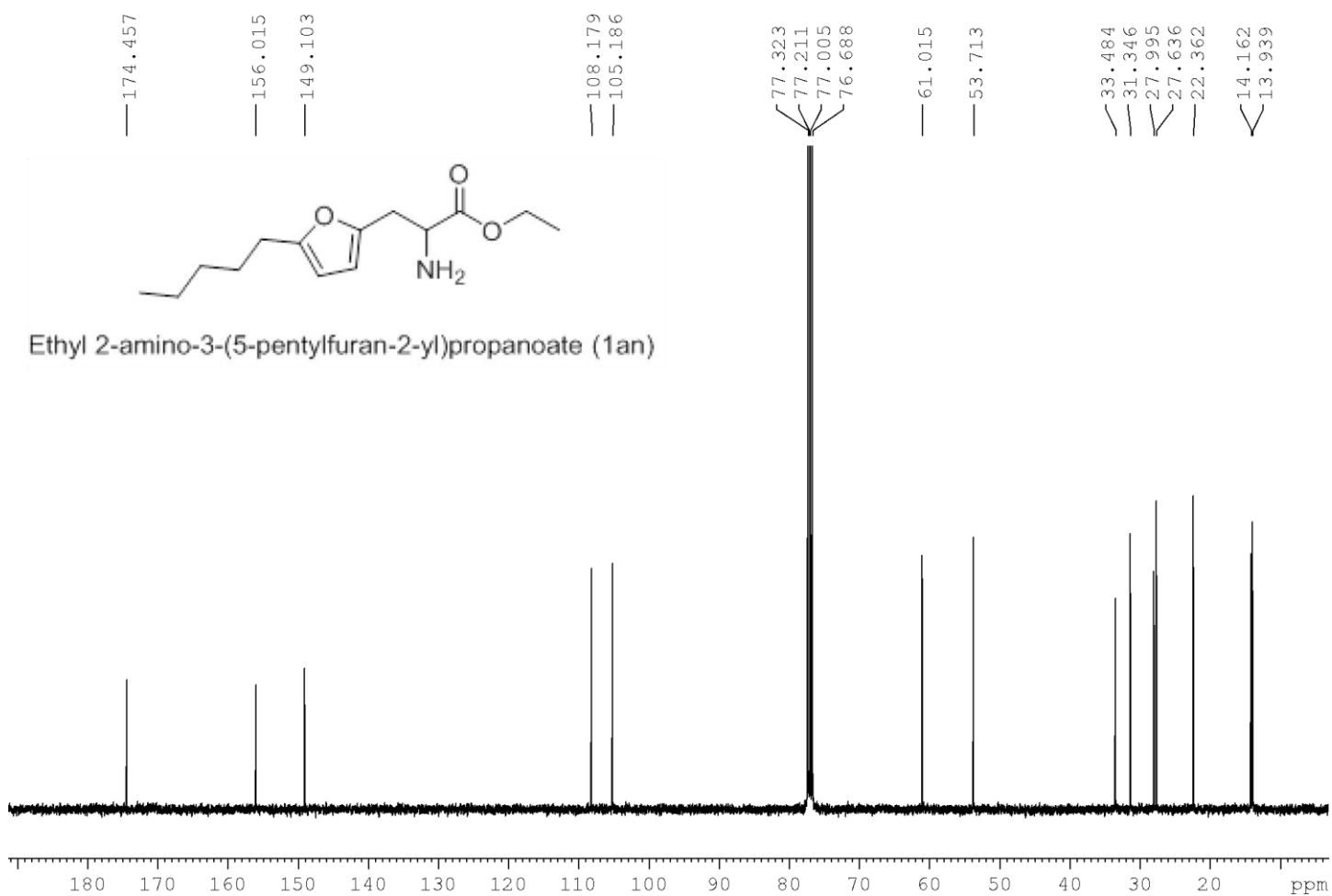
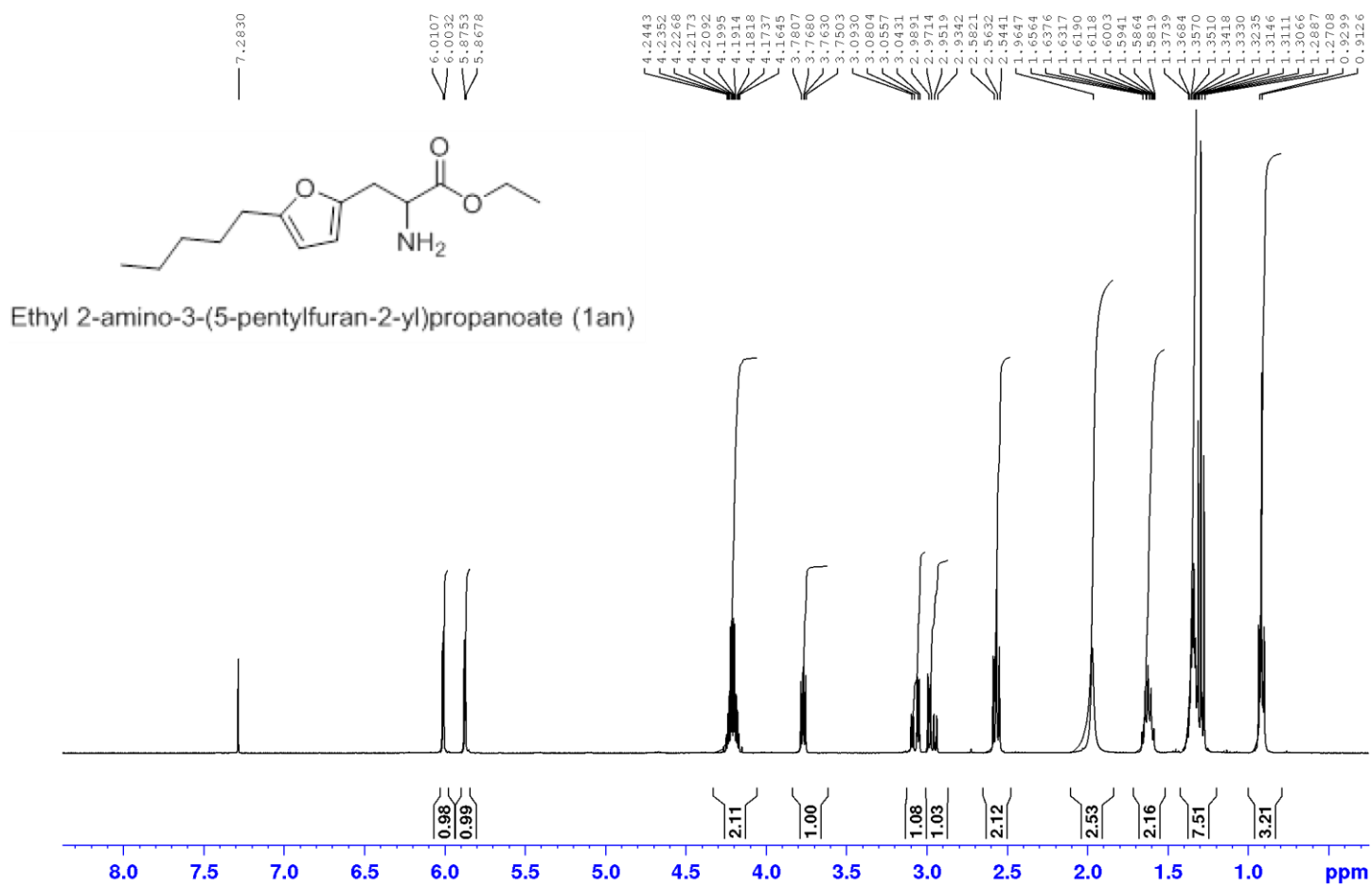




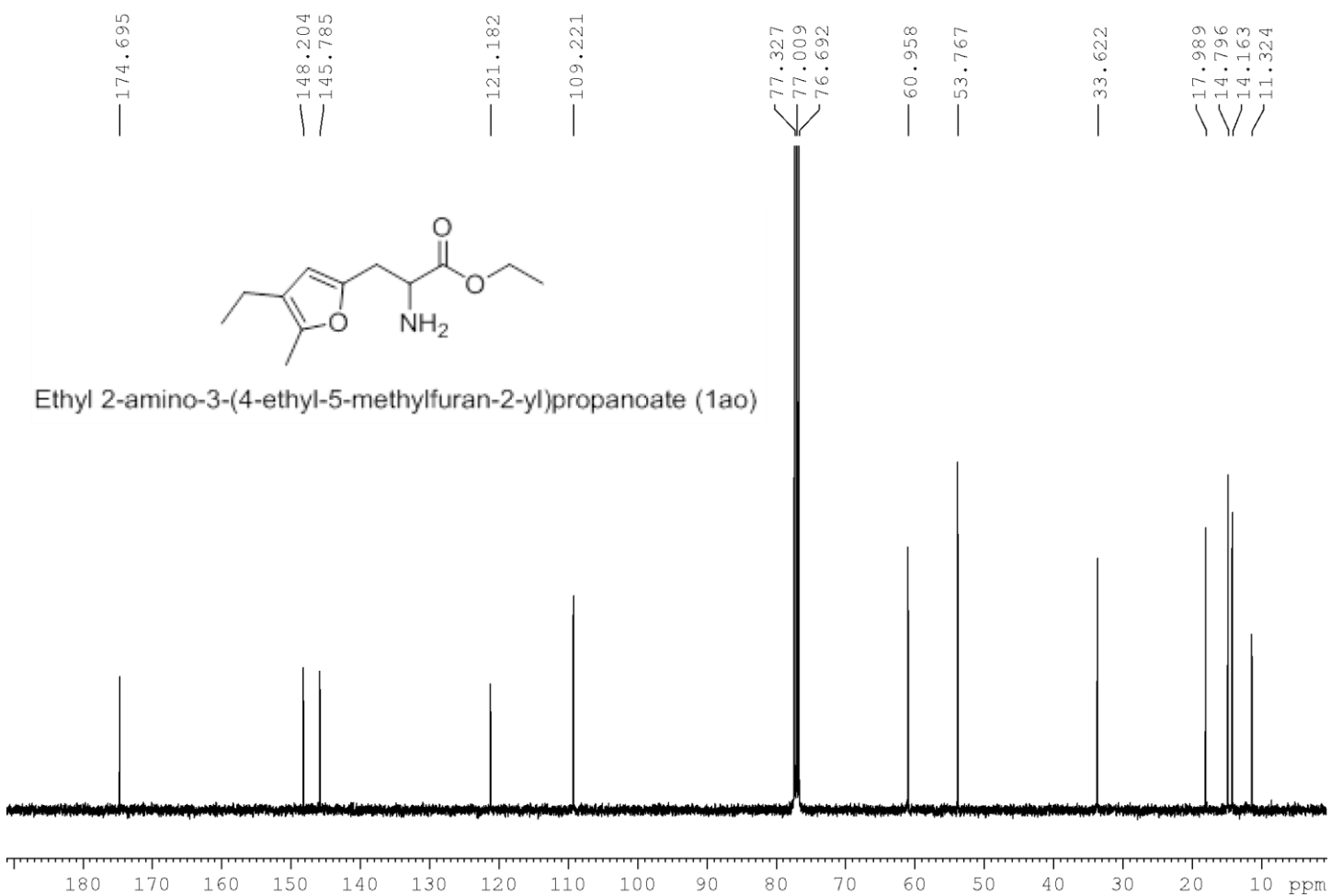
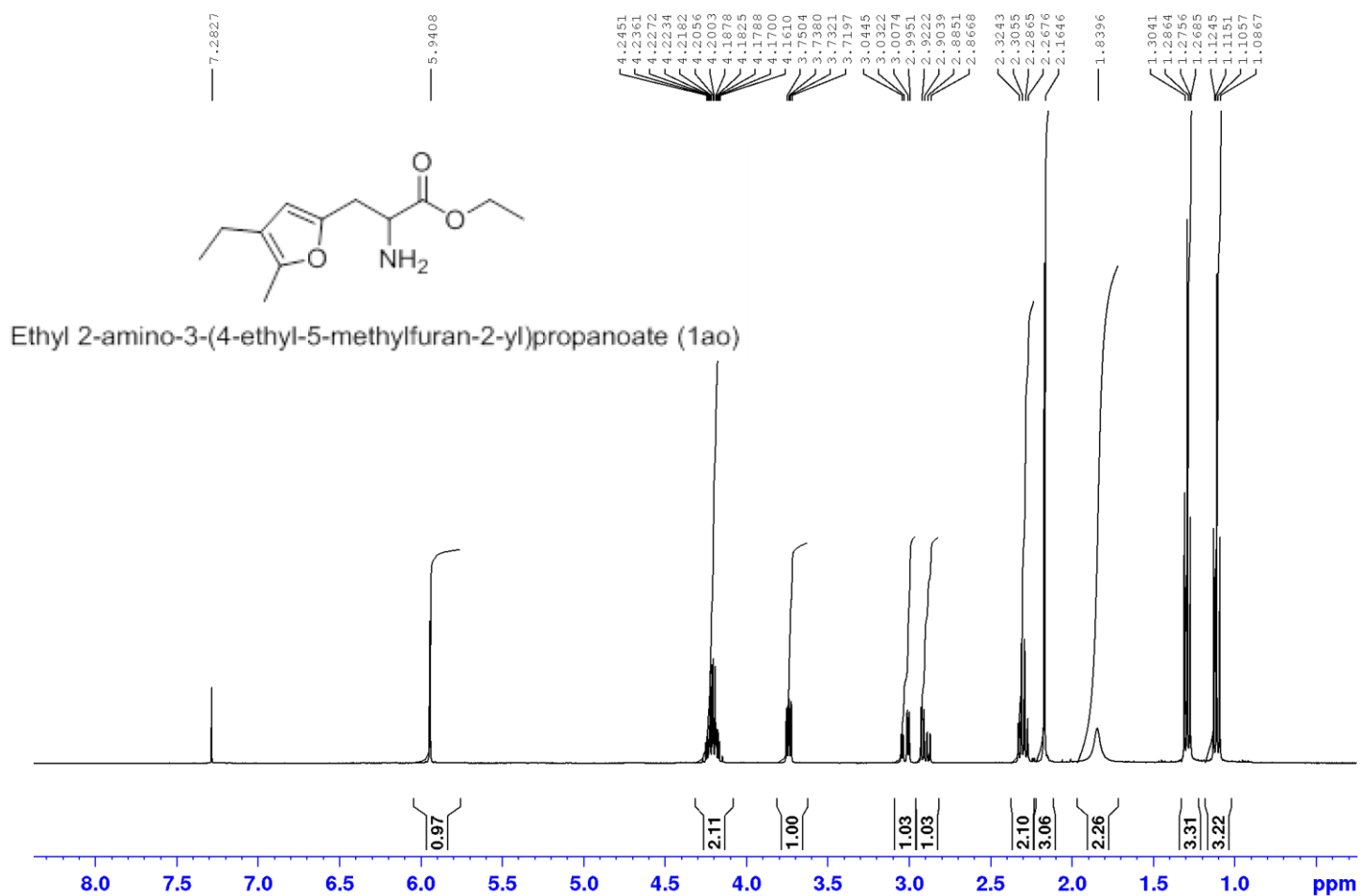


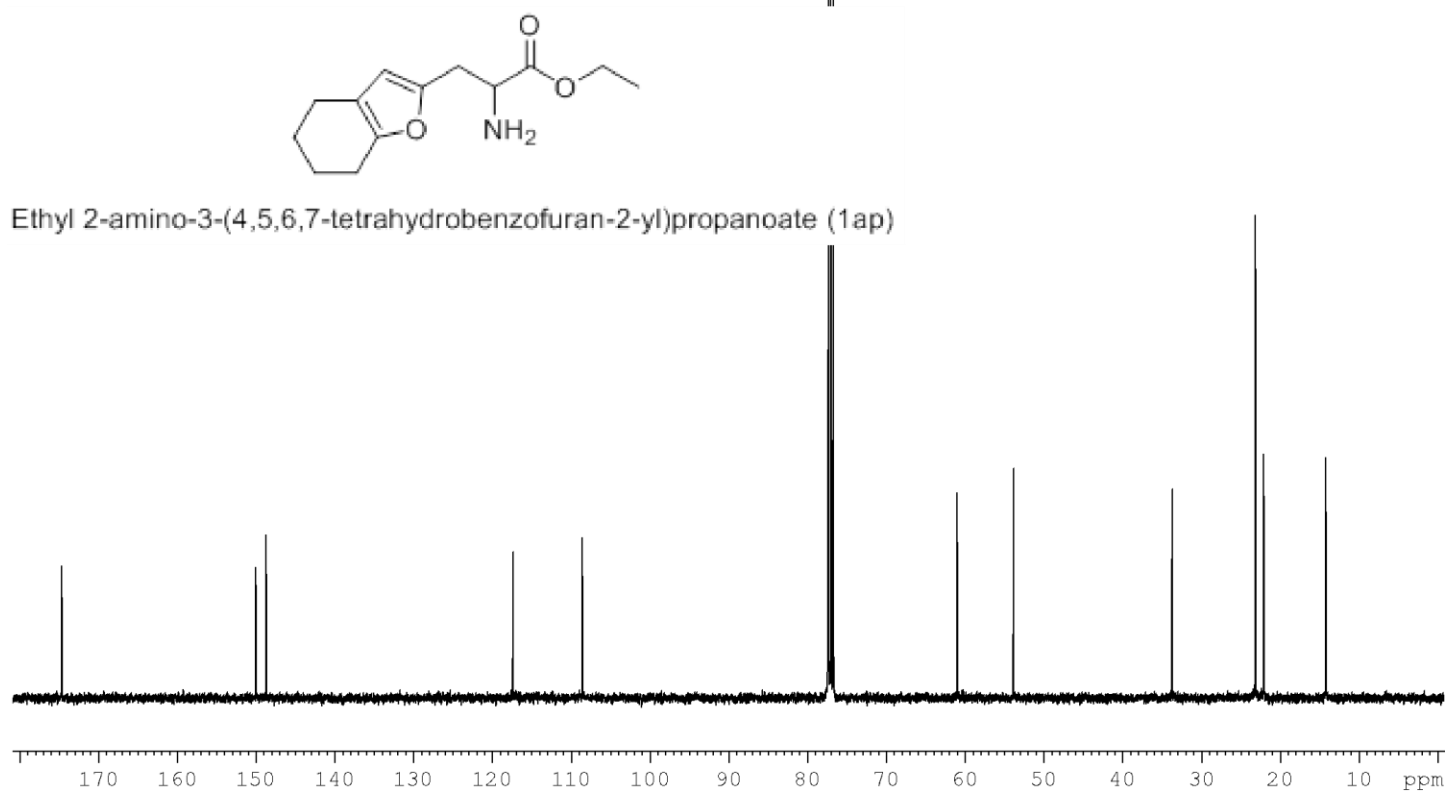
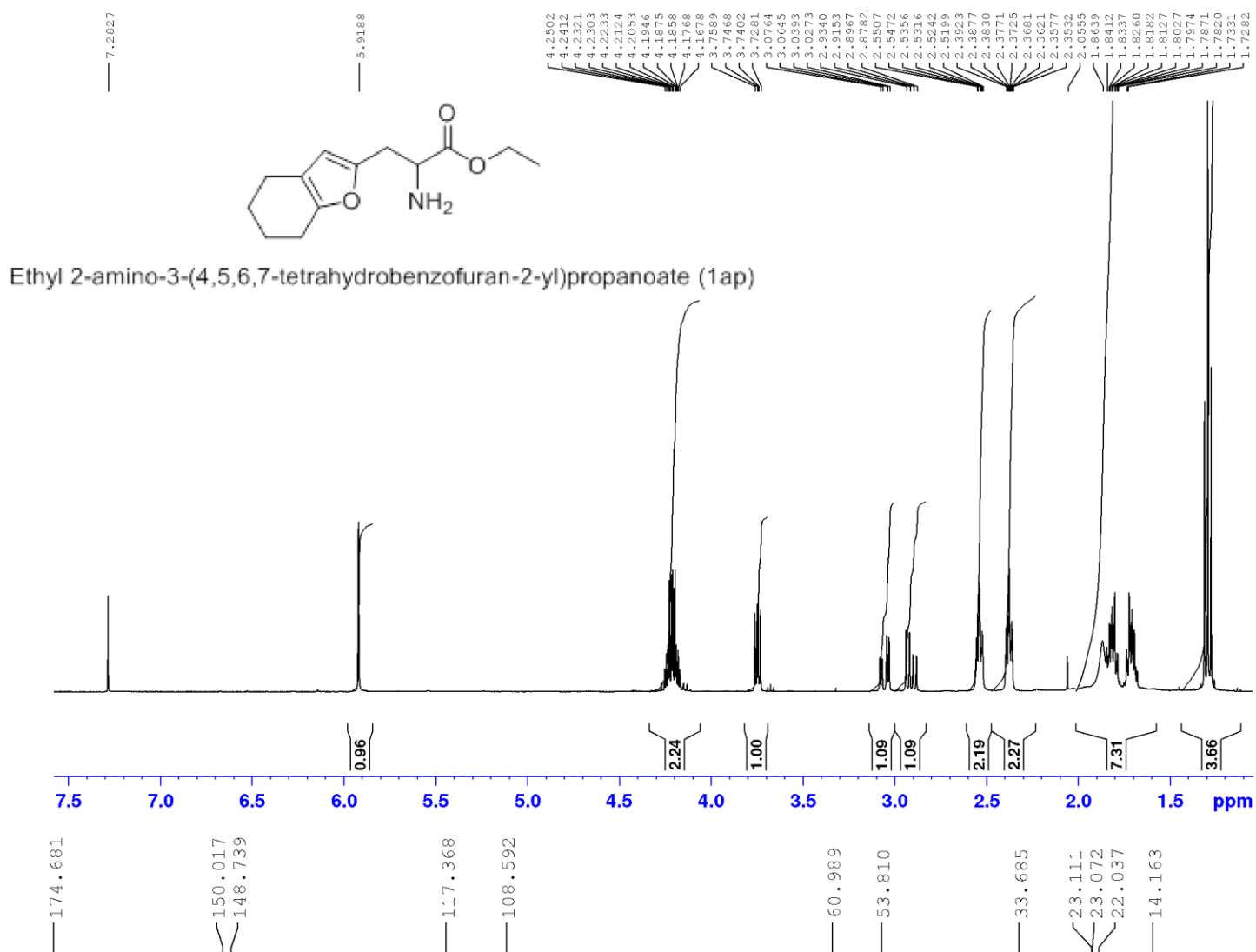


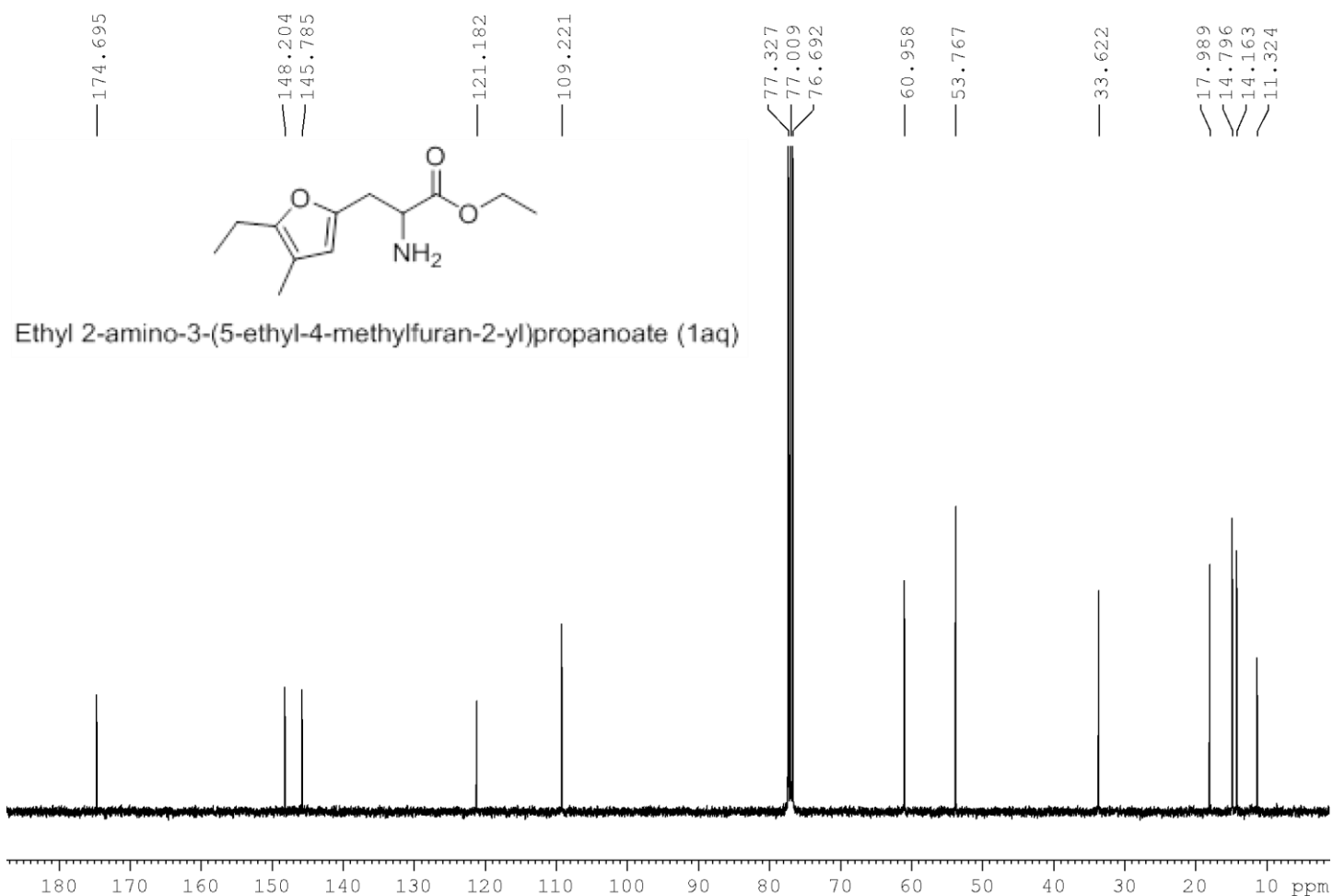
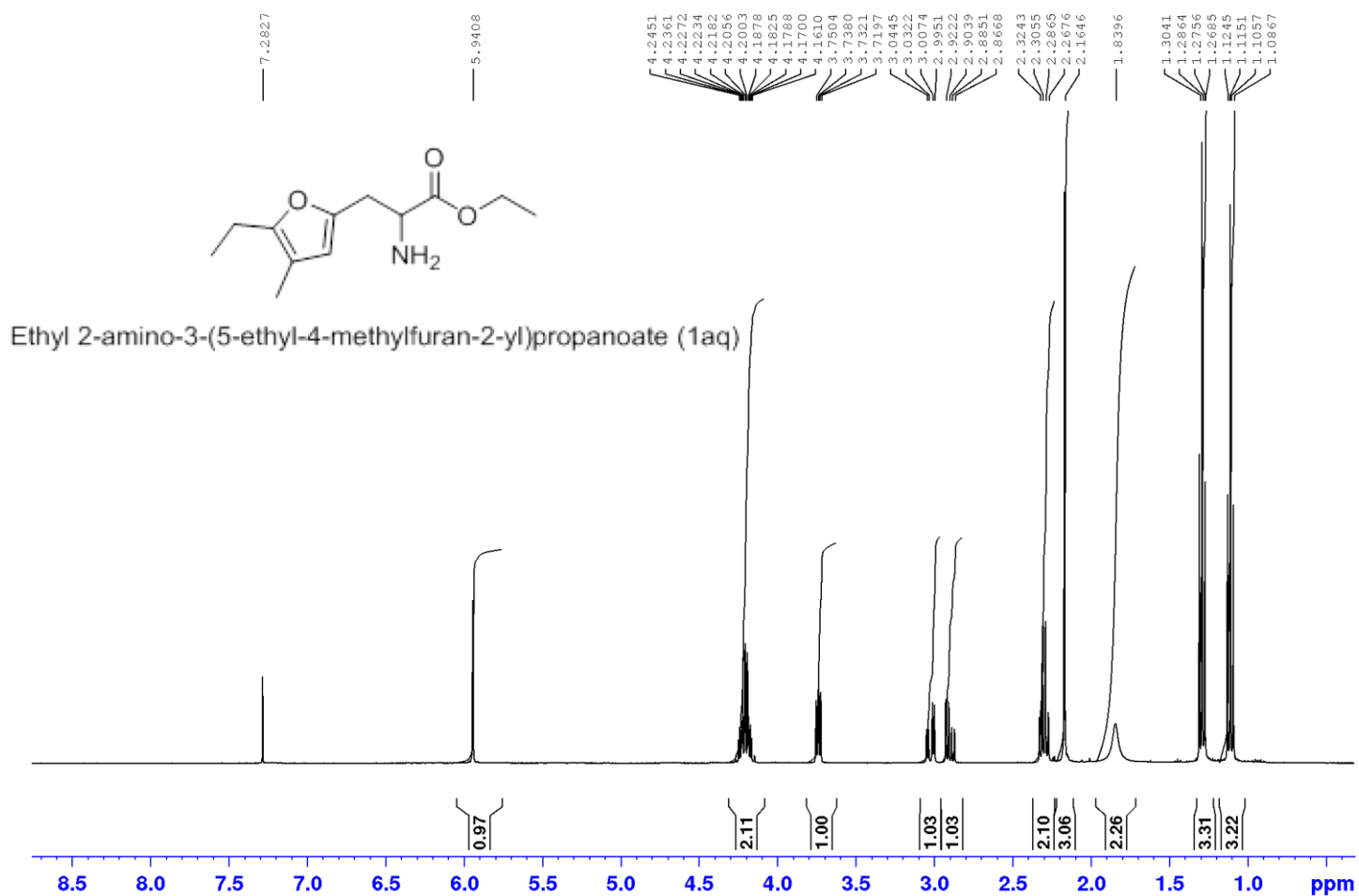


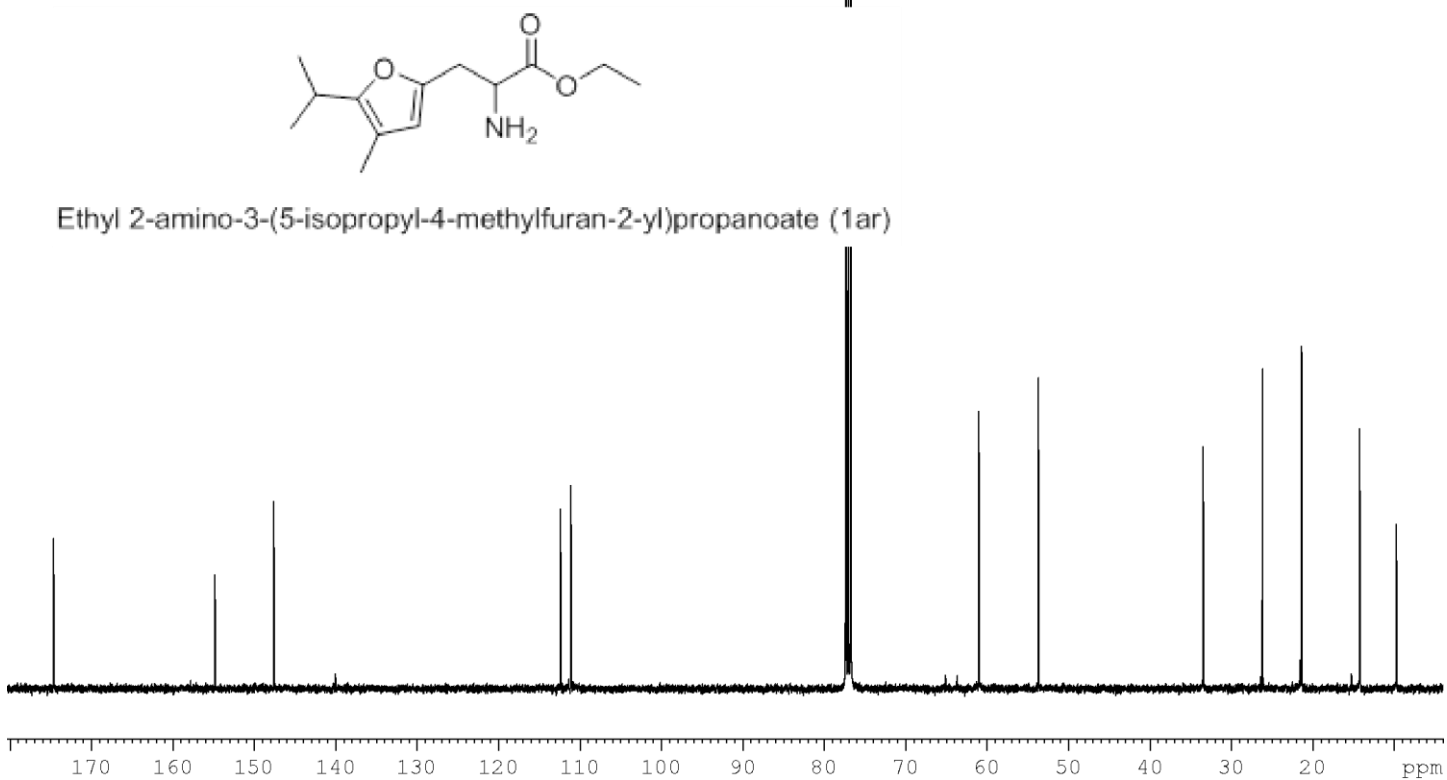
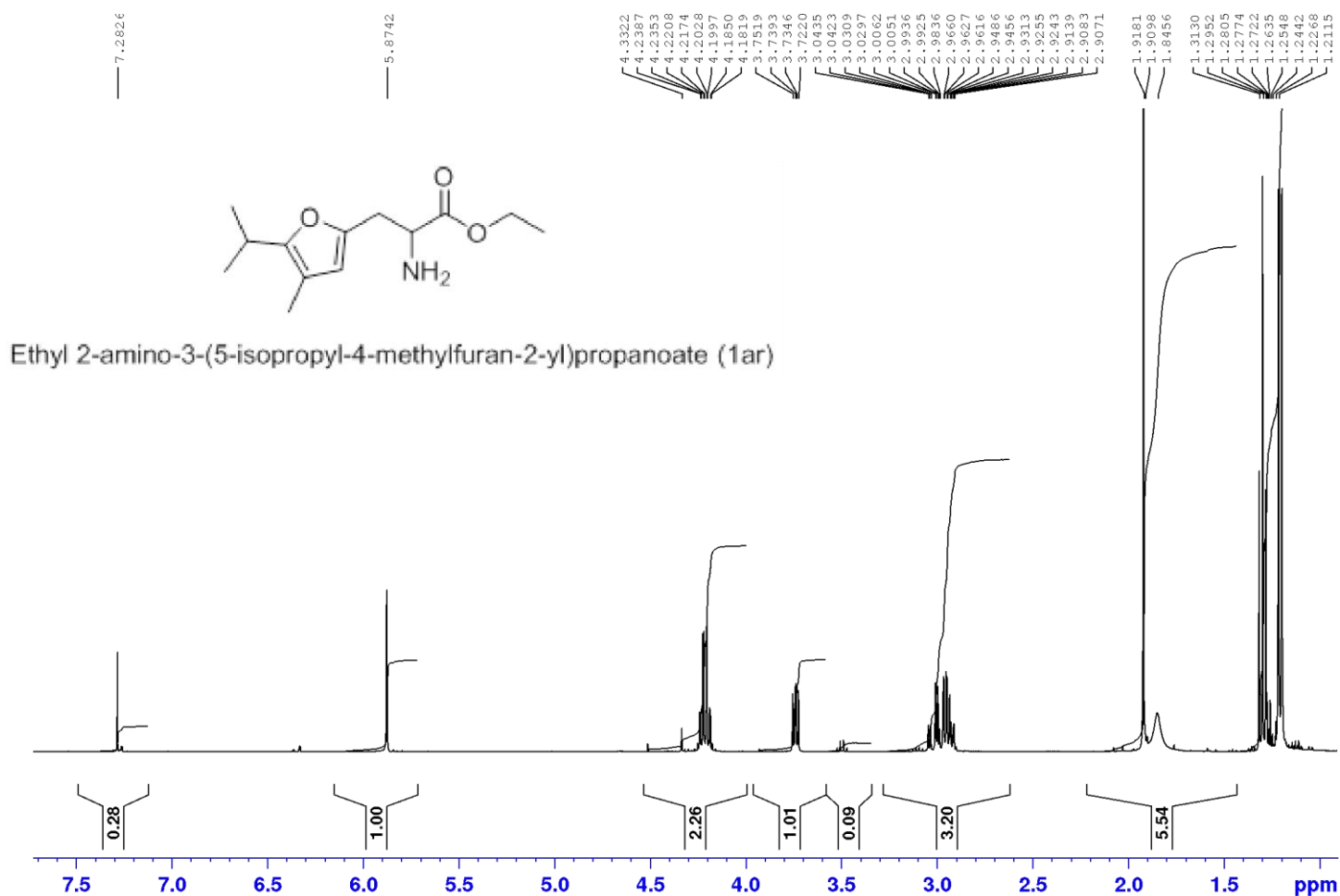




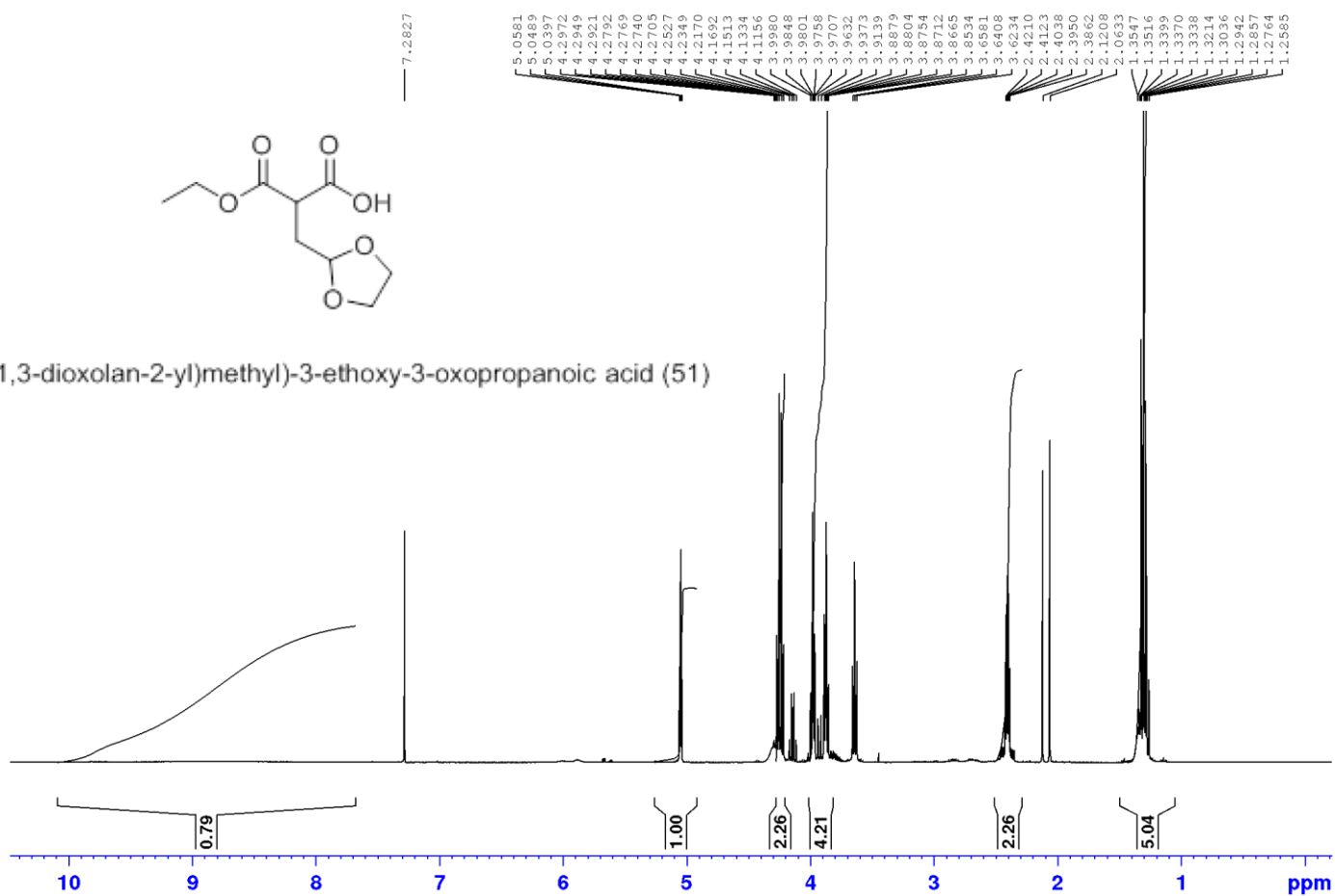




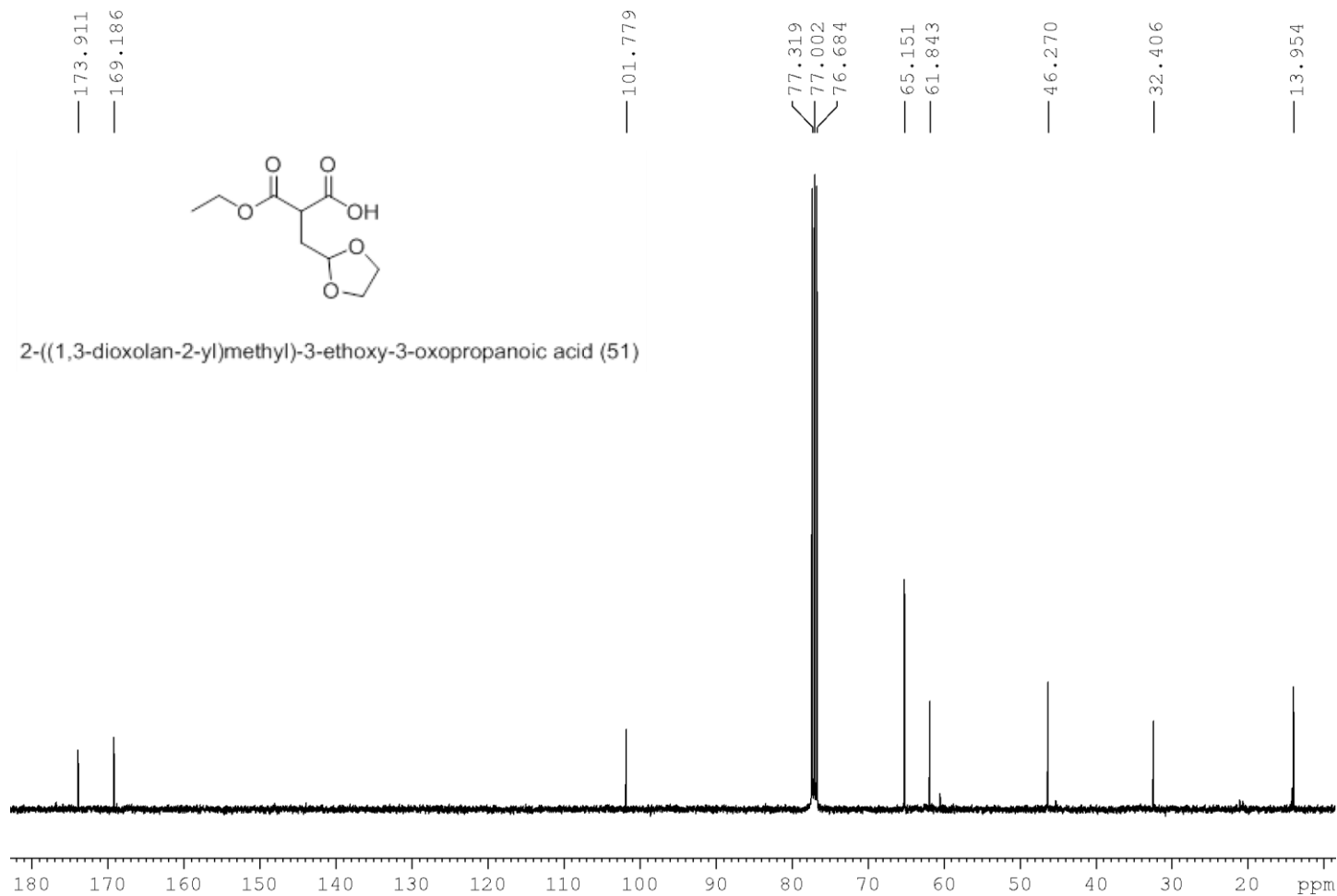




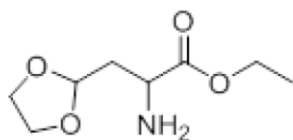
2-((1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)methyl)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (51)



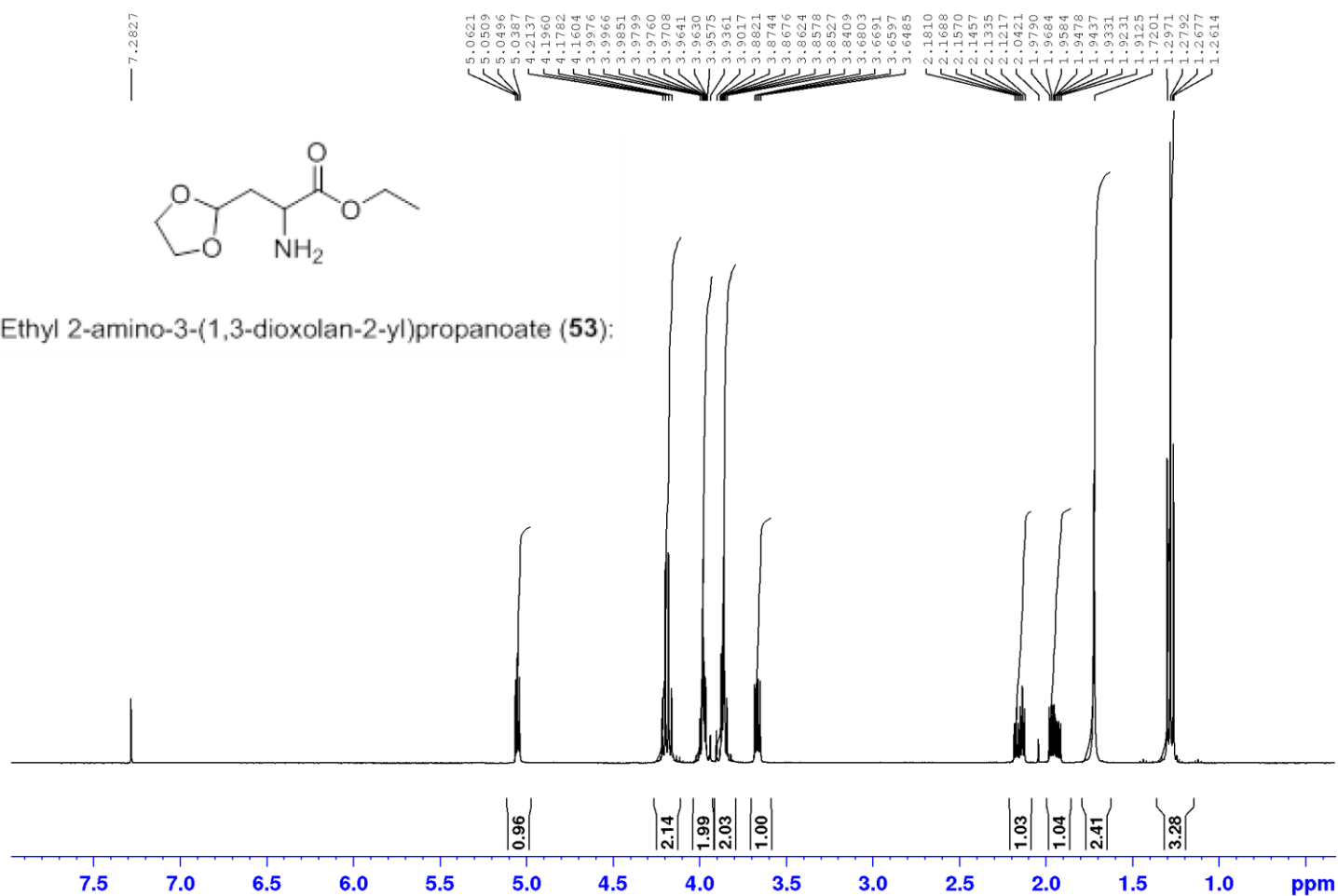
2-((1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)methyl)-3-ethoxy-3-oxopropanoic acid (51)



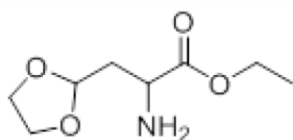
— 7.2827



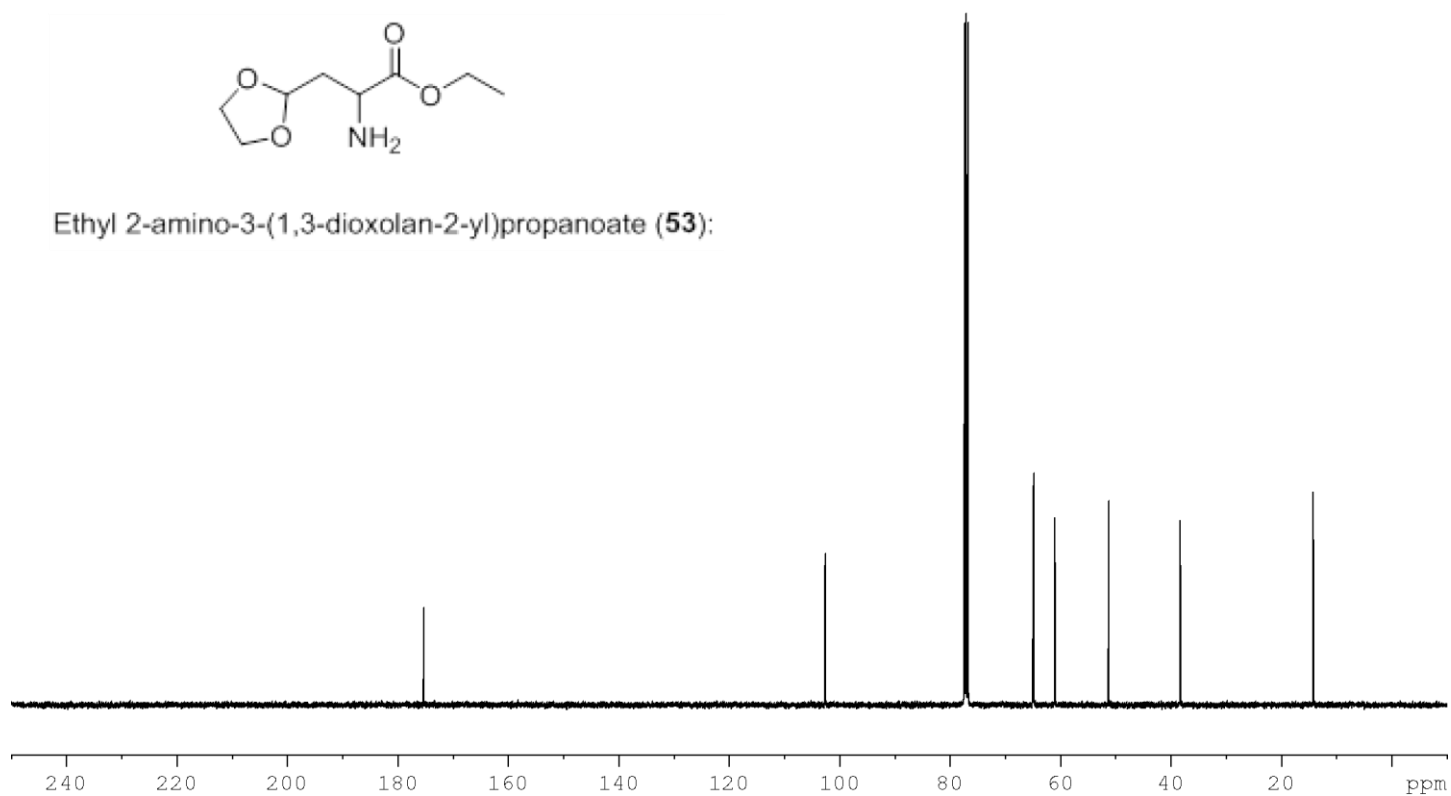
Ethyl 2-amino-3-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)propanoate (**53**):

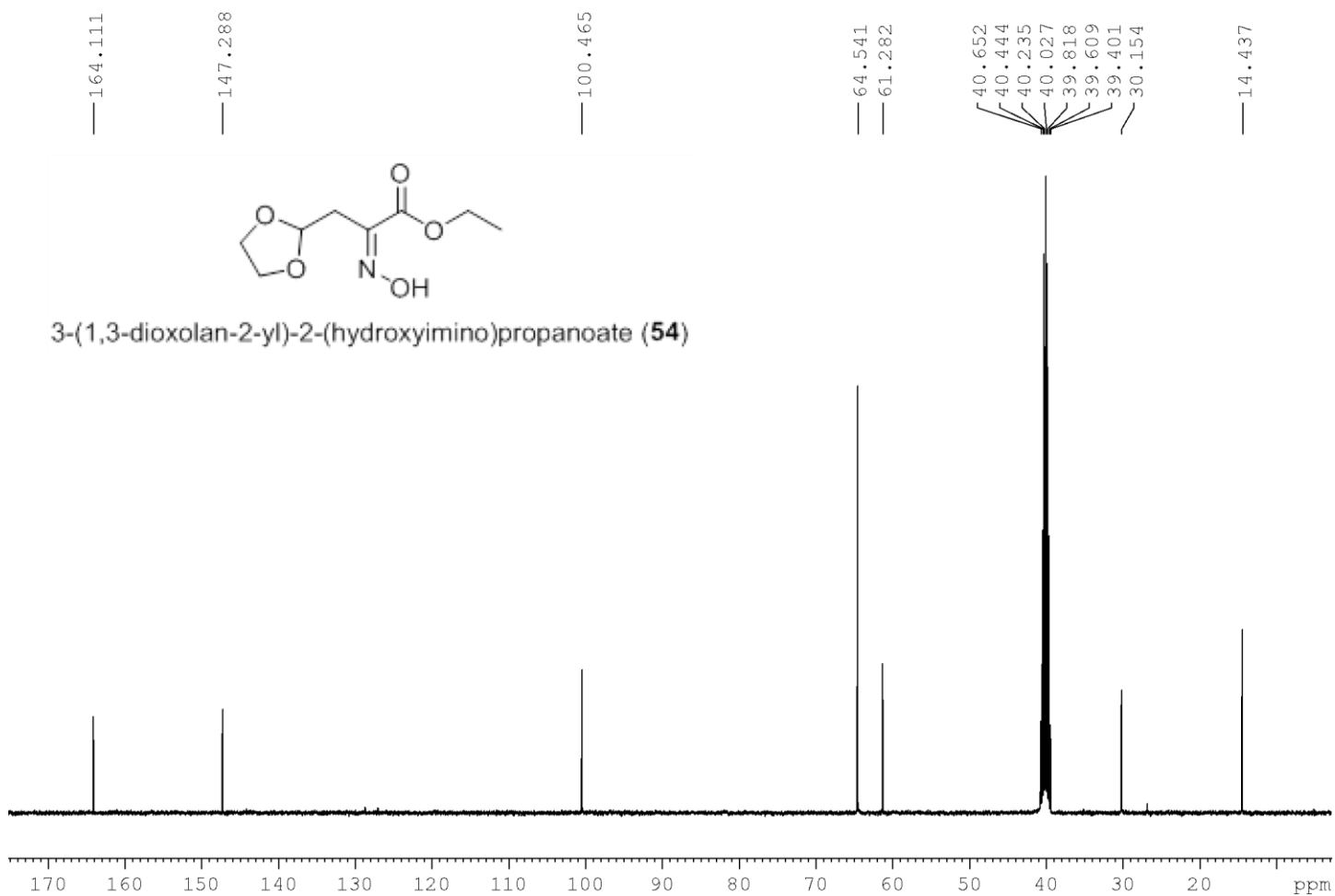
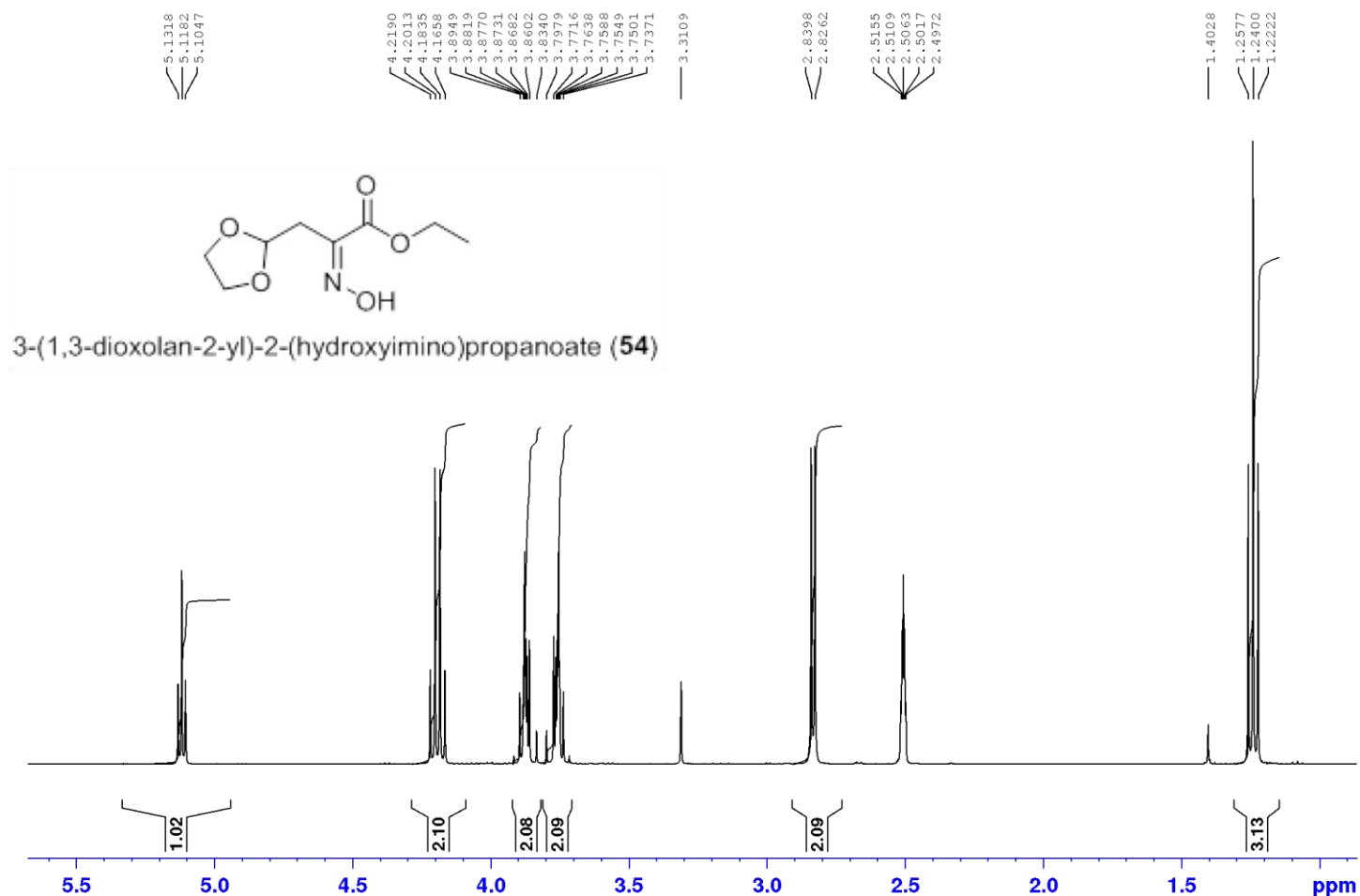


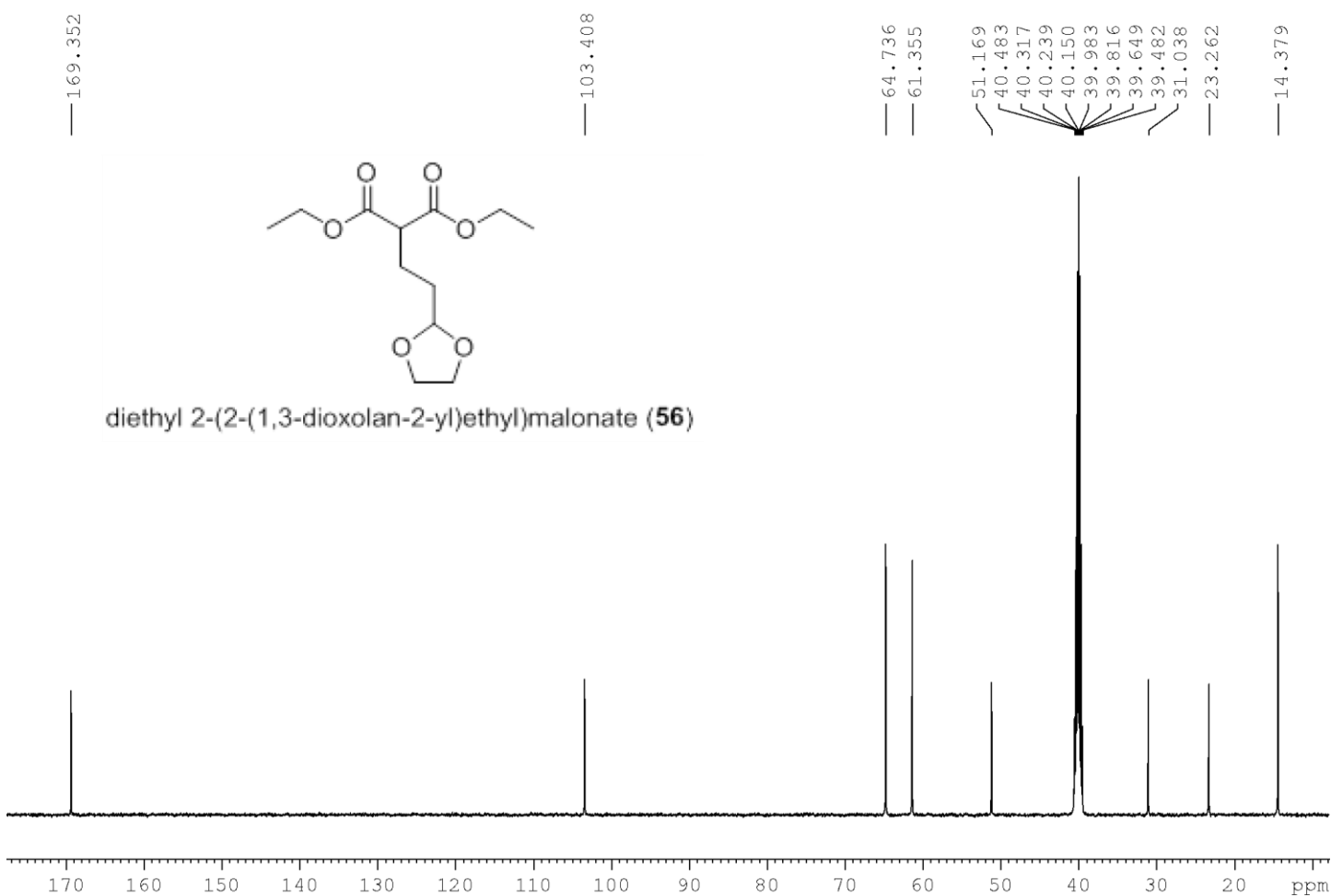
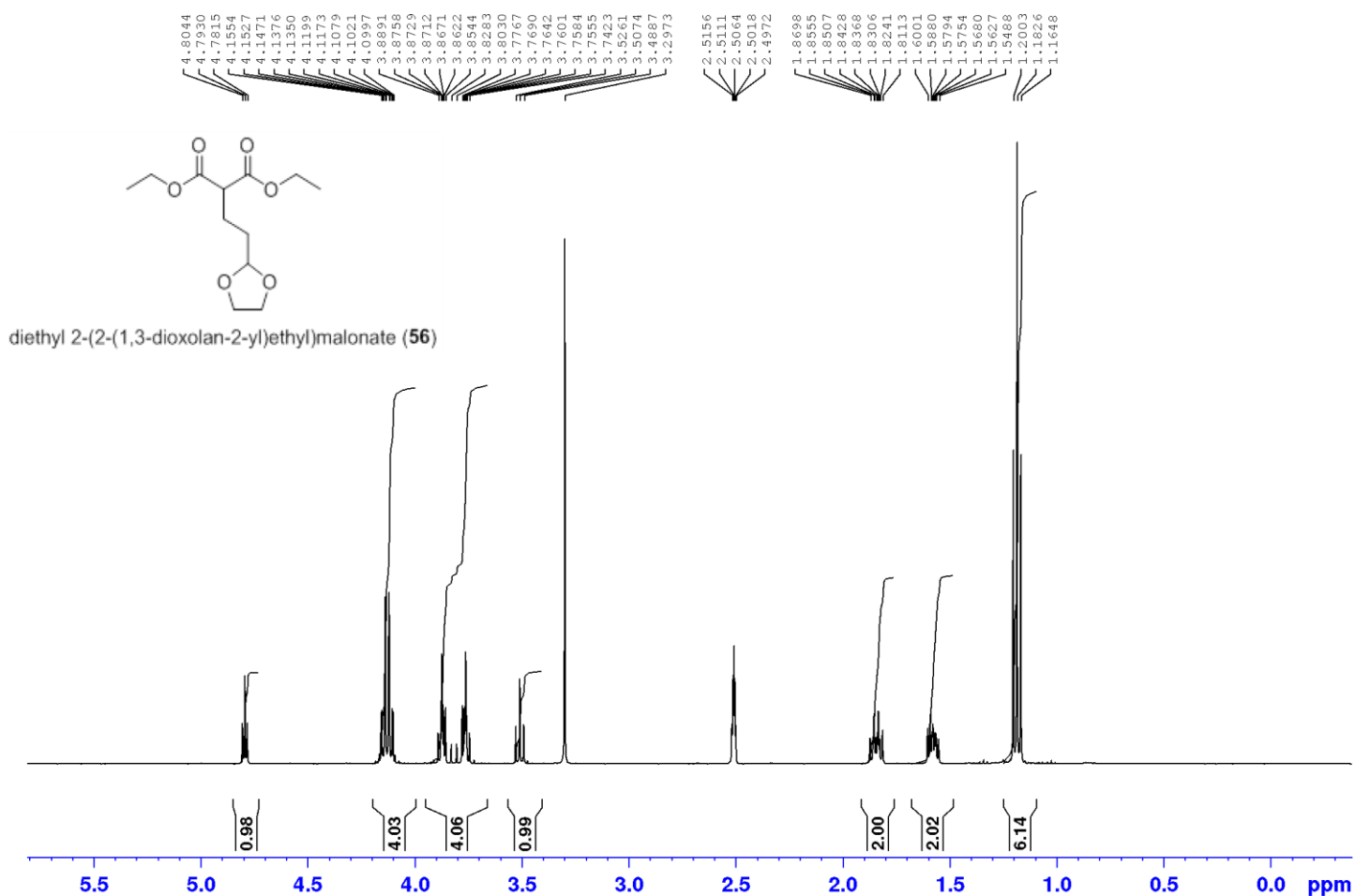
— 175.274



Ethyl 2-amino-3-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)propanoate (**53**):

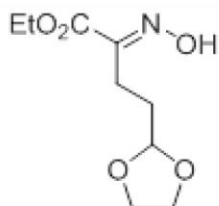




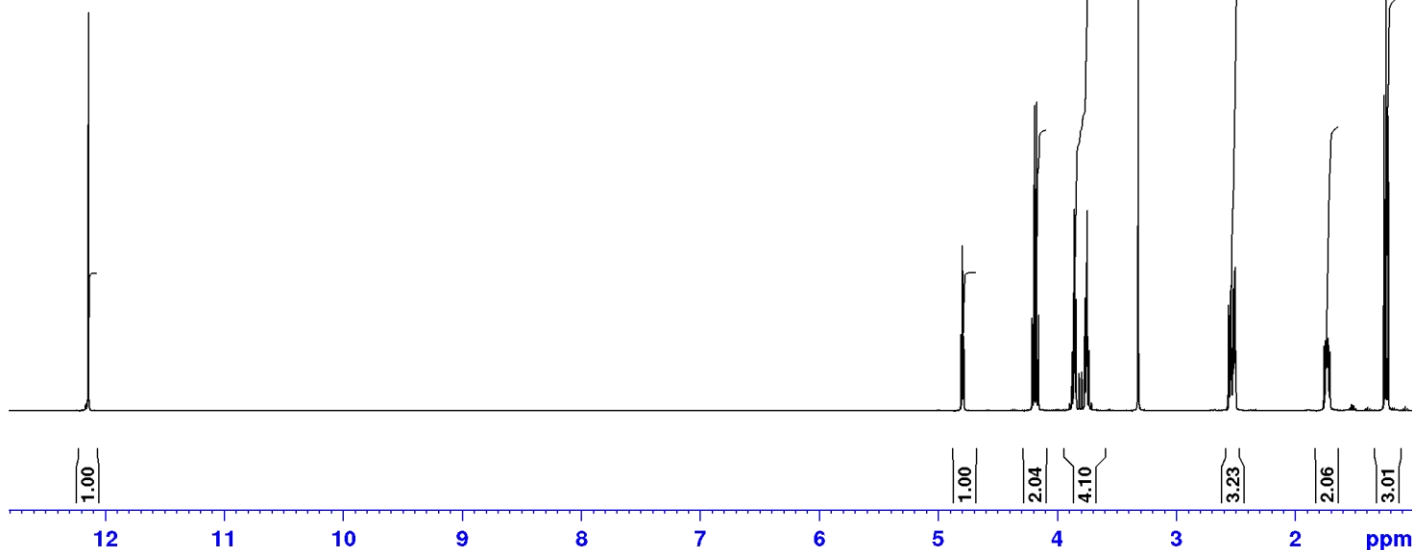




12.1414



4-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)butanoate (**57**)



4.8068  
4.7960  
4.7850  
4.2103  
4.1925  
4.1748  
4.1571  
3.8753  
3.8621  
3.8576  
3.8534  
3.8485  
3.8408  
3.8149  
3.7931  
3.7669  
3.7594  
3.7545  
3.7504  
3.7458  
3.7327  
3.3185  
2.5595  
2.5404  
2.5366  
2.5207  
2.5158  
2.5111  
2.5065  
2.5019  
2.4973  
1.7569  
1.7460  
1.7412  
1.7373

164.177

151.410

103.388

64.788

61.115

40.657

40.449

40.240

40.031

39.823

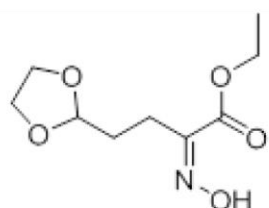
39.614

39.405

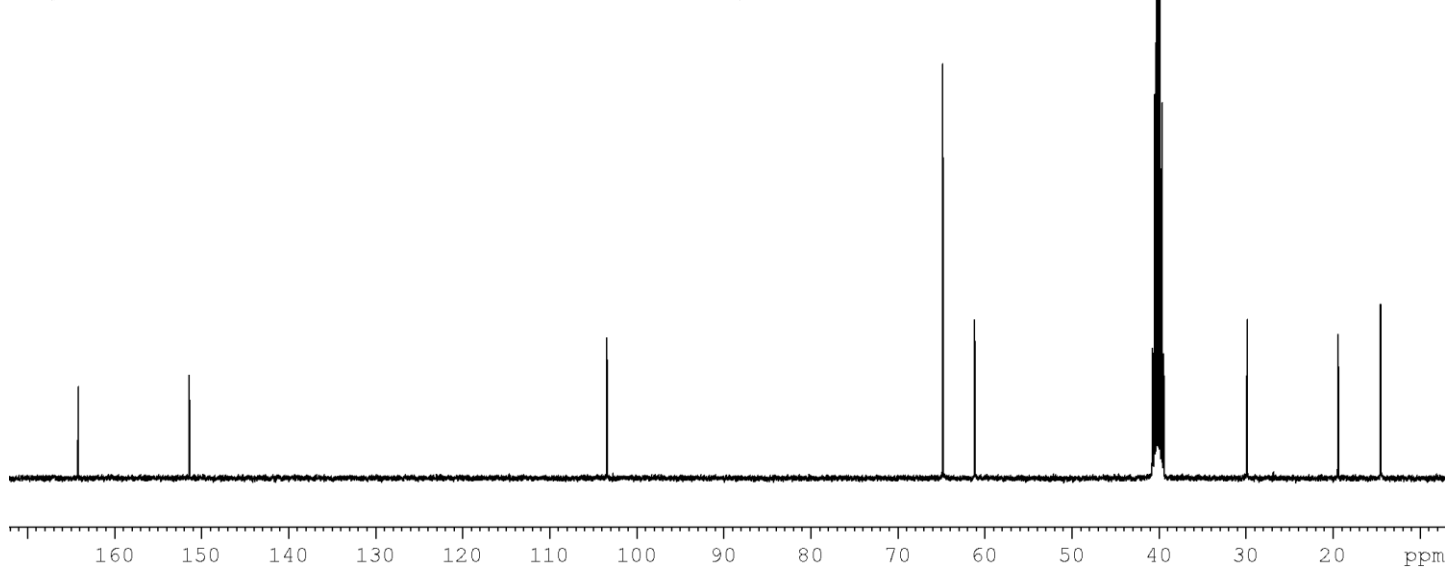
29.823

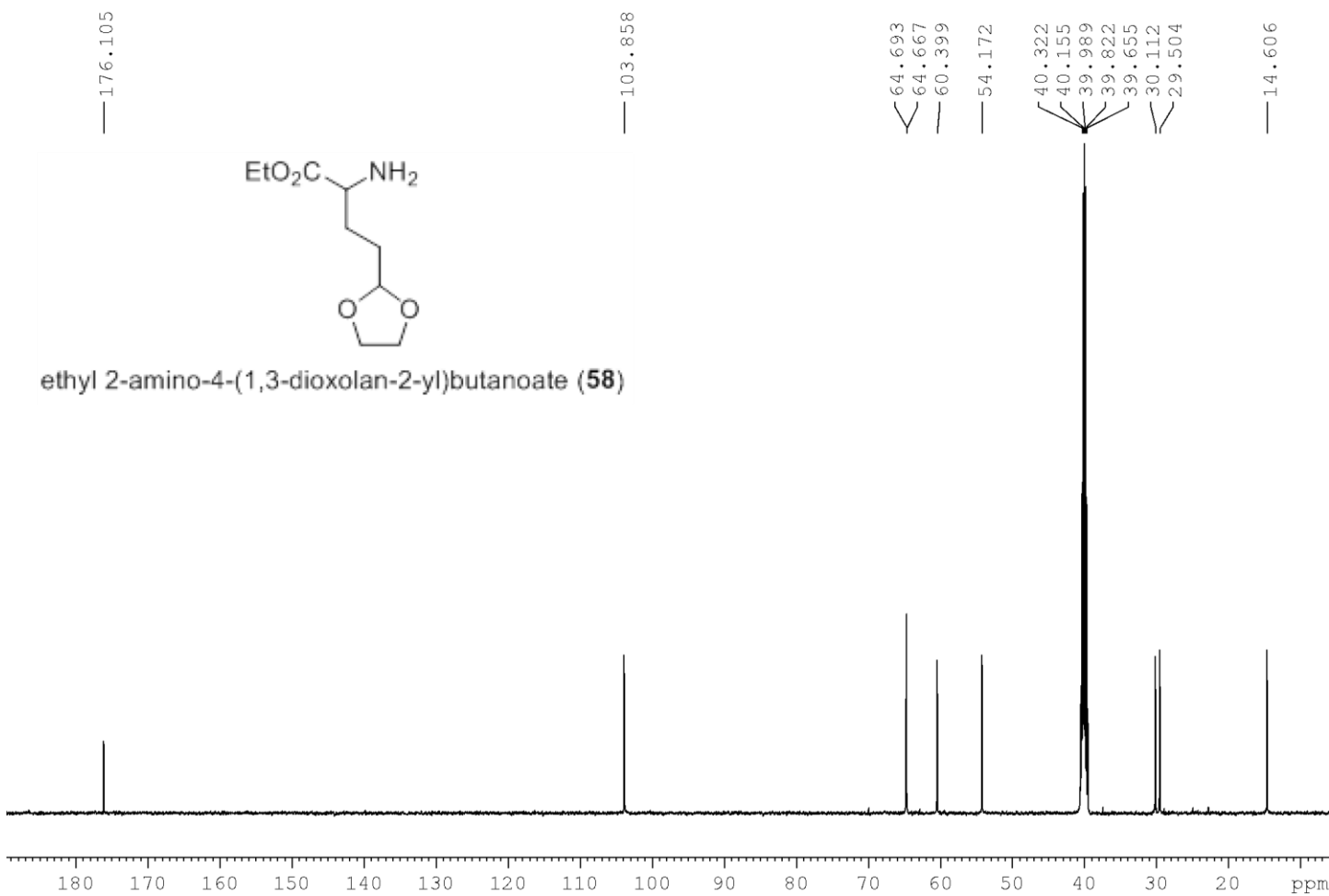
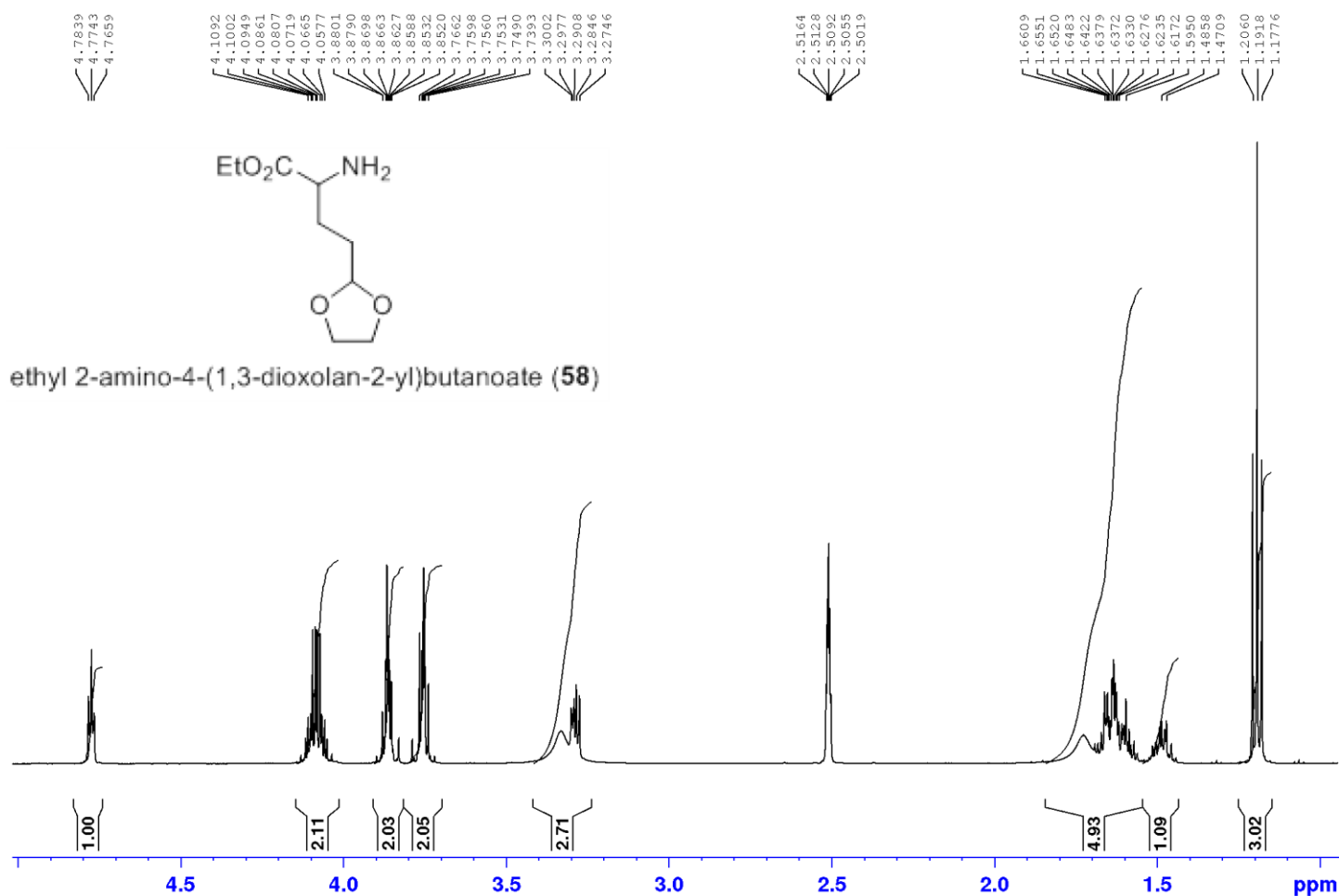
19.362

14.466



4-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-2-(hydroxyimino)butanoate (**57**)





## References

1. De Salas, C.; Heinrich, M. R. *Green Chem.* **2014**, *16*, 2982-2987.
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