

**STUDIES ON
POLYSACCHARIDES OF *PUNICA GRANATUM* AND
*TINOSPORA CORDIFOLIA***

**THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

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2000

DECLARATION

I, M. Jahfar, do hereby declare that the research work entitled : **STUDIES ON POLYSACCHARIDES OF *PUNICA GRANATUM* AND *TINOSPORA CORDIFOLIA***, is an original research work done by me in the department of Chemistry, University of Calicut and that it has not previously been submitted for the award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship or other similar titles or recognition of any University, Institution or Board.

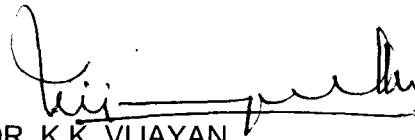
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Jahfar', with a horizontal line underneath it.

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that this thesis is an authentic record of the work carried out by Mr. M. Jahfar, under my supervision, guidance and preceptorship, and that no part thereof has been presented before for any other degree, diploma or fellowship of this or any other University.



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PREAMBLE

This thesis is an attempt to present the structural charecterisation of two polysaccharides isolated from plants widely used in folk medicine. In the field of biopolymer research, studies on water soluble polysaccharides of plant origin and their useful pharmacological activities forms a major thrust area. For the past two decades, many pharmacologically active polysaccharides have been isolated which includes antiinflammatory, antiulcer, antitumour and immunomodulatory compounds. The aqueous extracts of the chosen plant materials have given encouraging results. These compounds were found to be polysaccharides. Many water soluble polysaccharides with promising pharmacological activities reported earlier contain glucose, galactose, mannose, rhamnose, xylose, arabinose etc., as their monomer units. To understand the biological activity and functions of complex carbohydrates, information about their primary structure is essential. Hence the glycosyl composition and glycosyl linkage analyses of the polysaccharides were carried out.

The GC-MS study of the trimethylsilylated and partially methylated alditol acetates are presented. All the spectra are attached herewith. Since these facilities are not available in our lab I have to depend Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, USA.

The polysaccharides were analysed for several biological activities such as blast transformation in human lymphocyte culture, and immunomodulatory activities; the results are promising. Biological studies were carried out at Regional Cancer Center, Thiruvananthapuram.

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CHAPTER - I : INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Carbohydrates are, in terms of their quantity, the largest group of organic compounds on earth and are implicated in every form of living activity in plants, animals and microorganisms. They are one of the most important food constituents, the raw materials for human clothing and the raw materials of paper and for many biotechnological processes, such as production of beverages and antibiotics. It is obvious that methods are necessary to identify the individual species and to determine them quantitatively, either alone or as a mixture of more than one component in the presence of other compounds. A recent report of the U.S. Department of Energy Workshop on Complex Carbohydrates suggests that understanding the roles played by complex carbohydrates is the next greater frontier in the advancement of molecular biology. Evidence is rapidly growing on the key roles these molecules play in a broad range of biological recognition and regulatory phenomena- cellular communication, gene expression, immunology, organism defense mechanisms, growth and development. Carbohydrates are some of the most important chemical compounds of the biological world and are the key substances of life since they are the primary products of photosynthesis. They occur in nearly all living systems either as high molecular skeletal substances, as high or low molecular

energy resource compounds as well as key intermediates in human, animal and plant metabolism. In combination with proteins or lipids, they give highly physiologically active glycoproteins (e.g. blood group substances) or glycolipids. A lot of commercial products consists of carbohydrates, or contain carbohydrates, particularly most foods, and especially those of plant origin (cereals, pulses, fruits, and vegetables) or are products of daily use such as paper and textiles. It should be noted that sugar itself with the chemical name sucrose, is the most widespread chemical in the world produced in the highest purity.¹

Historically, the field of complex carbohydrates had been a difficult and not a very popular area of research compared to nucleic acids, proteins and lipids. The major reasons for these were the structural complexity of these molecules which complicates their analysis and synthesis, as well as the ignorance of the true functions of these molecules, and consequently the wrong perception that they were not as important as other biomacromolecules for the process of life. The study of carbohydrates and their derivatives have helped to understand the role of the molecular shape and conformations in chemical reactions². It has led to the discovery of enzymatic control mechanisms and has contributed significantly to the understanding of many fundamental biological processes, such as the interaction of cells with their environment. It has provided a basis for the

recognition of the enzymic defects of several genetic disorders. A number of specific uses of carbohydrates in pharmaceutical industry have come up as a result of developments in genetic engineering and microbial technology. Recently purified polysaccharides of bacterial origin have been prepared for use as vaccines against meningococcal and pneumococcal infections. Due to the ability of certain polysaccharides to cross react, with other antisera they could provide immunity against other infections and are used as anti-allergy antigens.

Complex carbohydrates are favourable candidates for encoding biological information because of the large number of structures possible in relatively short oligosaccharide sequences. A variety of complex carbohydrate structures exist in nature with ample diversity to serve as receptors in recognition phenomena. They exist either in free form as oligo or polysaccharides or in conjugation with lipids or proteins as glycolipids, glycoproteins and proteoglycans (glycoconjugates). The complexity of these molecules arises from the fact that the component monosaccharides are multifunctional and exhibit stereoisomerism. Polysaccharides have two ways of generating diversity mechanisms not available to proteins or nucleic acids, one is the formation of α - and β -anomeric linkages and the other is linear or branched chain formation or both, of the monosaccharide units in the formation of macromolecules. Thus, even three monosaccharide units can

form 1056 different trisaccharides. This diversity of structures carries with it the enormous potential for saccharides to function as informational molecules.

To understand the biological activity and functions of complex carbohydrates, information about their primary structure is essential. This task is much more complicated than the case in elucidating the structure of the other two biopolymers, (proteins and nucleic acids) where sequence alone will give ample information on the primary structure. For saccharides, in addition to the sequence of monosaccharides, position of linkage, anomeric configuration of the linkages and branching patterns must be determined. Because of these reasons the structural analysis of saccharides is slow and laborious. Moreover, due to the inherent heterogeneity of the saccharide components of glycoconjugates and the existence of a number of glycoforms, extensive fractionation is needed and hence only minute quantities of pure forms are obtainable.

It has been established that, polysaccharides as compounds of glycoconjugates and in free form are involved in a myriad of important functions and pharmacological activities. At both molecular and cellular levels, the saccharides serve as informational and recognition molecules, blood group antigens and as receptors for viruses, toxins, hormones etc.

They control vital events such as fertilization, implantation in the endometrium, embryonic development and targeting of aging cells for removal and destruction. When a cell undergoes malignant transformation, state of the surface-carbohydrate profile is drastically altered.³ Thus, majority of cancer-associated antigens are glycoconjugates, many of which are finding clinical application in the management of cancer patients. A major thrust area of research in pharmacology and pharmaceutical chemistry is on the development of saccharide drugs for treatment of rheumatism, and the role of carbohydrate as immunomodulatory and anticcomplimentary agents.

Earlier methods of analysis of carbohydrates deal with gravimetric, titrimetric and colorimetric procedures which enable only the qualitative and quantitative analyses of different groups of carbohydrates, but not the individual compounds. The major breakthrough began fifty years ago, with the developments of newer methods. Considerable progress has occurred in this field, in the last four decades, dealing with the new chromatographic and electrophoretic methods, such as thin layer chromatography (tlc), gas chromatography (gc), high pressure liquid chromatography (hplc), high voltage capillary electrophoresis, and the developments of new enzymatic methods. These procedures enable the qualitative and quantitative analysis of single species in complicated mixtures of carbohydrate compounds.

In the field of biopolymer research, studies on water-soluble polysaccharides of plant origin and their useful pharmacological activities forms a major thrust area. During the past few years, many pharmacologically active polysaccharides have been isolated and structural characterization have been accomplished. These include anti-inflammatory, antiulcer, antitumour and immunomodulatory compounds⁴⁻¹⁰. Most of these molecules are found to be copolymers of glucose, galactose, xylose, arabinose, rhamnose and mannose while some are even homopolymers of glucose with different degree of polymerization and molecular mass. Whistler *et al*¹¹ have reported that water-soluble β -D-glucans with a preponderance of, or long stretches of (1 \rightarrow 3) linkages in the main chain are active antitumour agents. It is well known that molecules exhibiting anticomplementary and immunomodulatory properties will usually be active as antitumour agents.

Over 7,500 species of medicinal plants in India are being used in the traditional system of medicine called *Ayurveda* – the indigenous system of medicine, dating back to the vedic ages – (1500 – 800 B.C) which has been an integral part of Indian culture – for preventive, promotive and curative properties for various human and veterinary health problems. The Indian Medical Heritage can be broadly classified into two separate but inter-related streams of traditional knowledge – the oral tradition or folk medicine and the codified tradition or the classical system of medicine. In

the codified medical texts of *Ayurveda*, a recent study enumerates that only about 1,700 species of plants that are fully documented in terms of their biological properties, actions and drug formulations. So, despite its efficiency in handling complex diseases, traditional medicine hasn't been accepted worldwide because of lack of documentation and authentication backed up by scientific data. The present work is for providing some information supporting the medicinal value of two of the widely used plants in *Ayurveda* for various ailments.

It is believed that the medicinal properties in plants are mainly due to the presence of 'secondary metabolites' which express in the plants only when they grow in their natural environments under particular conditions of stress and threat of predators etc. It is therefore doubtful if these under mono-culture would still express the same medicinal qualities, as in nature.

The plants selected for the present study are *Punica granatum* L. (Punicaceae) and *Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd) Miers ex. Hook F. & Thoms. (Menispermaceae). According to the literature^{12,13} these plants are used in folk medicine for various purposes. *Punica granatum* has long been esteemed as food and medicine and as a diet in convalescence after diarrhoea. The officinal part, rind of the fruit, is astringent, digestive, cardio-tonic, stomachic and is highly effective in chronic diarrhoea and dysen-

tery, dyspepsia, colitis and uterine disorders. The powdered drug boiled with buttermilk is an efficacious remedy for infantile diarrhoea. Recent investigations have indicated that a substance derived from *Punica granatum* can attack certain viruses and bacteria with unprecedented efficiency and it could become a vital force against the spread of many viruses. It is a glabrous shrub or a small tree widely cultivated throughout India; also reported in central and West Asia, and southern Europe. Its branchlets often spinescent, leaves simple, opposite, short-petioled, narrowly elliptic or lanceolate obtuse, entire glabrous to 8×2.3 cm, flowers bright red, solitary, axillary, short-pedicelled, calyx tube funnel shaped, thick, coriaceous, orange coloured, adenate to the ovary below, lobes 5-7, triangular, persistent on fruit; petals 5-7, stamens numerous, ovary inferior, style long, stigma capitate, fruit a large globose berry – yellowish red when ripe, up to 10 cm. across, with a thick coriaceous rind crowned with the persistent calyx lobes.¹⁴

Tinospora cordifolia (Willd.) Miers ex Hook f. & Thoms (Menispermaceae) is glabrous, succulent, climbing shrub, often attaining a great height and sending down long thread-like aerial roots. The plant seems to be particularly fond of climbing up the trunks of large trees. The bark is gray or creamy-white in colour, deeply cleft, the space between the clefts being usually dotted with large rosette-like lenticels. The wood is white,

soft and porous, and the freshly cut surface soon assumes a yellow tint on exposure to air. The branches bear smooth heart-shaped leaves and bunches of red berries. The sap is viscous and light yellow in colour having a peculiar slimy odour and a nauseating bitter taste.¹⁵

It is indigenous and found distributed throughout most parts of India. It is a fairly common wild plant of the deciduous and dry forests growing over hedges and small trees. It is commonly called *Amrta* in Malayalam. *Amrta* is a Hindu mythological term which refers to the heavenly 'elixir' which saved celestial people from senescence and kept them eternally young. This term is attributed to this drug in *Ayurveda* in recognition of its capacity to impart youthfulness, vitality and longevity to the consumer.¹⁴ *T. cordifolia* attracted the attention of European medical men in India and has been favourably spoken of by them as a tonic, antiperiodic and diuretic and is effective in dyspepsia and other conditions. The drug itself as well as tincture prepared from it are now official in the Indian Pharmacopoeia. In spite of the fact that this plant is so extensively used in folk medicine, the pharmacological action of the active principles isolated has not been worked out.¹⁶

Plate I

1. *Punica granatum* fruit



Plate II

2. *Tinospora cordifolia*

9D



2

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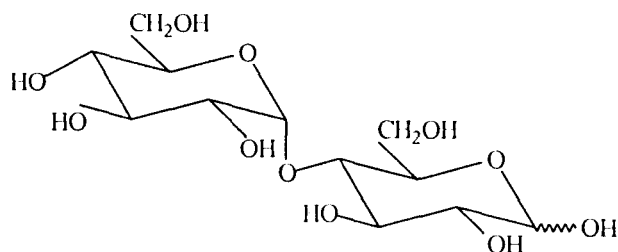
CHAPTER - II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

12

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Polysaccharides are natural macromolecules occurring in almost all living organisms, constituting one of the largest groups of natural compounds classified thus far, and functions either as an energy source or as structural units in the morphology of the living material in which they are endogenous. As one of the main sources of energy for living organisms, certain polysaccharides form part of the central pathway of energy in most cells. The starches and glycogens, long-chain polymers of D-glucose, are the media for energy storage in plants and animals respectively. The most common disaccharides prepared by hydrolysis of polysaccharides are maltose (fig. 1) and cellobiose (fig. 2) obtained from starch and cellulose respectively. Polysaccharides also perform more specific roles, such as being responsible for the type specificity of pneumococcal polysaccharides. Other natural macromolecules, which are not composed entirely of sugar units, contain blocks of monosaccharide units as part of the molecular structure, and contribute extensively to the production and maintenance of living tissues of animals. The blood group substances constitute a group of glycoproteins in which the arrangement of monosaccharide residues in the carbohydrate subunits contribute towards the blood-group specificity

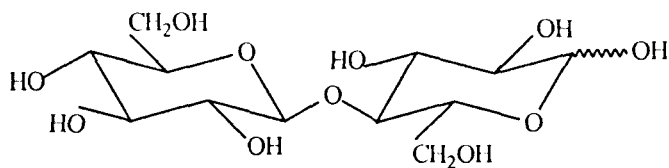
of the overall molecule. There is, at present, no proof of the existence of polysaccharides which contain more than about six different types of monosaccharide unit.



α -D-Glc *p*-(1→4)-D-Glc *p*

Figure 1

The most common constituents are the pentose and hexose monosaccharides, and monosaccharides derived from them – for example, hexuronic acids, deoxy hexoses etc., these usually form a regular repeating unit throughout the polymer.



β -D-Glc *p*-(1→4)-D-Glc *p*

Figure 2

This repeating unit is usually found in any chemical representation of the

polysaccharide but, with our increasing knowledge of polysaccharide structure obtained by physicochemical methods, such repeating units are known to represent the average case, minor differences in degree of substitution of derivatives, chain length and composition of minor components exist, because the many varied reactions which form the biosynthetic processes are not fully complimented. Such phenomena lead to minor structural deviations, known as microheterogeneity; this does not affect the overall structure but does cause differences between samples of the same polysaccharide from different sources¹.

Complex carbohydrates are often subjected to different chemical modifications in order to gain information on sequences and anomeric configurations. Investigations are being carried out in many laboratories around the world to explore new bioactive polysaccharides from micorbial, animal and plant origin with high potential activity. The role of polysaccharides in immunology was demonstrated first in 1917 by Dochez and Avery². They showed that a specific substance secreted by pneumonococci during growth, precipitated antibodies to the bacterium of the pneumonococcus type from which it was derived. Subsequent studies by Herdelbergen *et al*,³ showed that the specific soluble substances were complex carbohydrates. This was the first time that any material other than protein had been shown to be antigenic⁴. In recent years, the

use of polysaccharides as antigens and immunogens has contributed greatly to the classification and identification of bacteria, to a better understanding of the immune response, to the definition of the active site in antigen-antibody interactions and to the detection and prevention of human disease caused by invasive micro organisms.

A polysaccharide designated as MVSIVA, isolated from the seeds of *Malva verticillata* has anticomplementary and hypoglycemic activities. It showed remarkable reticuloendothelial system potentiating activity in the carbon clearance test – stimulating the phagocytic activity of cells. Chemical and spectroscopic studies demonstrated that the polysaccharide is rich in α -L-arabino furanose residues and possesses mainly an α -1,5-linked L-arabino- β -3,6-branched D-galactan structure accompanied with rhamnogalacturonan type units. Both α -1,3-linked L-arabinopyranose and β -1,4-linked D-xylopyranose residues were also identified as component units⁵. A glycoprotein isolated from jack bean (*Canavalia ensiformis*) was found to be a protease inhibitor, equally active on bovine and porcine trypsins⁶. From *Rosa davurica*, a traditional Chinese medicine, methyl-3-O- β -glucopyranosyl gallate was isolated⁷.

Antitumour activity of polysaccharide fractions from the brown seaweed, *Saragassum kjellmanianum* was reported. Iizima-Mizui *et al* in

1985⁸. Antitumour activity of grifolan NMF-SN, a β -1 \rightarrow 3-glucan obtained from mycelia of *Grifolan frondosa* was examined and found to have antitumour activities in allogenic and syngenic tumour systems⁹. The polysaccharide fractions from the rhizome of *Trichosanthus kirilowii* showed marked antitumour and cytotoxic activity with immunopotentiating activity. It was composed of glucose, galactose, mannose and xylose, and a small amount of protein¹⁰. Polysaccharide fractions from *Panax ginseng* have also been studied for their antitumour and immunomodulatory activities¹¹. An alkali soluble glucan isolated from a crude fungal drug 'Leiwan' (*Omphalia lapidescens*) showed potent antitumour activity against the solid form of sarcoma 180 in ICR mice¹². Methylation analysis suggested that it was a (1 \rightarrow 3)- β -O-glucan with approximately one branch at every three main chain glycosyl units at each C-6 position. (Fig. 3).

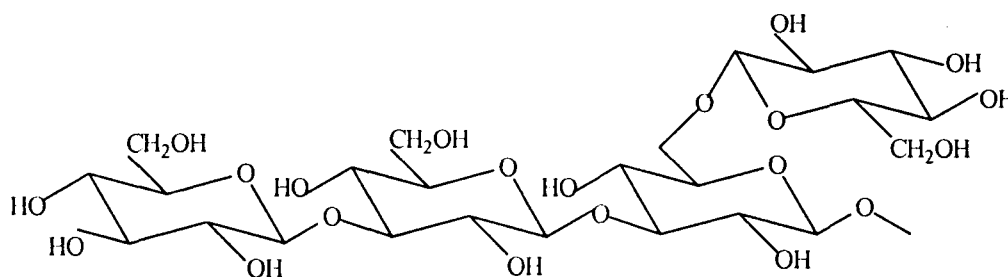


Figure 3

Carbohydrates that also function as immunomodulating agents have been isolated from several medicinal plants in recent years. Polysaccharide K

(PSK), a protein bound polysaccharide extracted from *Basidiomycetes* fungus was found to have potent immunomodulatory activity^{13,14}. A higher cumulative survival rate and better results in immunological parameters such as counts of peripheral lymphocytes and skin reactions to PPD and PHA were observed after the administration of PSK. The chemical structure of PSK is however, unknown.

Polysaccharides isolated from *Tamarindus indica* was found to have different biological activities such as mitotic inhibition, preventing cell proliferation of peripheral blood lymphocytes in cultures, leukocyte migration inhibition and phagocytic enhancement¹⁵. Another polysaccharide isolated from *Mangifera indica* has haemagglutinating activity¹⁶. Other useful pharmacological properties are also exhibited by polysaccharides. Heparin, a carbohydrate polymer consisting of sulphated D-glycosamine and D-glucuronic acid unit, has been in use as an anticoagulant since 1936. Dextran is yet another example which is used therapeutically and as a tool in preparative and analytical chemistry. Lentulose is a glucan which is used in ulcer therapy.

A water-soluble polysaccharide–1,4 linked xylose and rhamnose units with glucuronic acid attached to rhamnose as end groups, was isolated from a green seaweed, *Spongomorpha indica*¹⁷. Another water-soluble

polysaccharide has been extracted from *Pinus densiflora*¹⁸. Spectroscopic and methylation analysis indicated that amylose, amylopectin, glucomannan, arabinan and arabino-gluconoxylan are the major components of the polysaccharide. Crude fungal extracts composed mainly of β -D-(1 \rightarrow 3) linked D-glucose (fig. 4) and small proportions of D-galactose and D-mannose have been reported to be active against solid tumours.^{19,20}

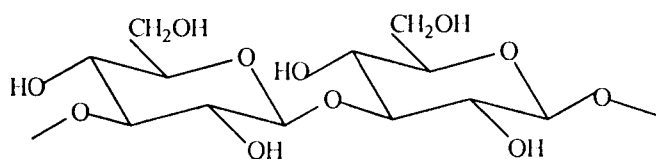


Figure 4

Oka *et al* had reported the antitumour activity of some plant polysaccharides²¹. In 1971 Haumuro *et al* isolated a new water-soluble polysaccharide, carboxymethyl pachymaran with marked antitumour activity²². Lentinan, a β -1 \rightarrow 3-glucan with β -1 \rightarrow 6 branches, (fig. 5) purified completely from *Lentinus edodes*, an edible mushroom in Japan, has also been found to have marked antitumour activity.

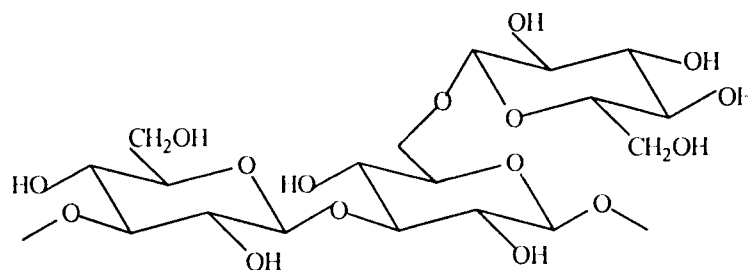


Figure 5

Structure determination of polysaccharides in *Aloe arborescens* var *natalensis* was done by Yagi *et al*²⁷. They isolated a linear polymer of a (1→6)-O-linked α -D-glucopyranose, a brached polymer of an arabinogalactan (molar ratio of galactose to arabinose 1:1.5) with two principal linear chains of (1→2)-O-L-arabinopyranose and (1→2)-O-D-galactopyranose at O-2 and O-6 of the D-galactopyranose residue; a linear polymer of a (1→4)-O-linked β -D-mannopyranose (fig. 8) with 10% acetyl group.

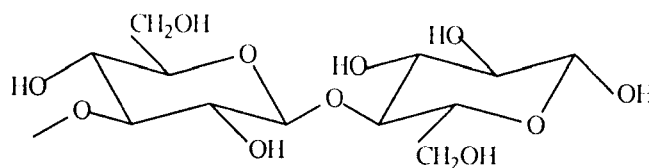


Figure 8

It was shown that oral administration of *Aloe* extract showed efficacy for chronic bronchial asthmatics of various ages as well as intrinsic types. The linear chain of (1→4)-O-linked β -D-mannopyranose with 10% acetyl groups and the glycoprotein present in the extract enhanced phagocytosis in adult bronchial asthmatic. Japanese workers have isolated a rhamnogalacturonan with (1→4)-linked galacturonic acid and (1→2)-linked rhamnose and arabinose-3,6 and 4-galactan composition, which also acts as an anticomplementary agent²⁸. A number of herbal drugs have been studied for their hypoglycemic activity and quite a few have been proven to be

potent hypoglycemic agents. Structural studies by Hikino *et al*²⁹ and Tomada *et al*³⁰ showed that the activity is associated with glycans and proteoglycans. The major acidic polysaccharide named Saponhnikovia A, was isolated from the roots and rhizomes of *Saponhnikovia divericata*³¹. It showed remarkable reticuloendothelial system-potentiating activity in a carbon clearance test. It was composed of L-arabinose, D-galactose and D-galacturonic acid in the molar ratio 6:15:10, and its molecular weight was estimated to be 54,000 D. About 35% of the D-galacturonic acid residues exist on the methyl esters. Methylation analysis, ¹³C NMR and controlled Smith degradation studies indicated that the polysaccharide has the α -(1→4)-linked D-galcturonan backbone bearing α -(1→5)-linked L-arabino- β -3,6 branched D-galactan side chains. The chemical composition of polysaccharide fractions from *Strychnos nux-vomica* and *S. innocua* and comparison with those from *S. potatorum* were reported³². The structural studies of the galactomannans from these three *Strychnos* species were also carried out, with a view to examining chemotaxonomic relationships.

Thus many kinds of biologically active polysaccharides have been isolated from various sources, notably compounds having antitumour activity. It is possible that this activity is due to a host-mediated action of the polysaccharides; they may activate the depressed functions of

phagocytes in tumour-bearing hosts²⁷. Isolation and characterization of a Mucous polysaccharide, Narcissus-T-glucomannan, from the bulbs of *Narcissus tazetta* var. *chinensis* was carried out by Tomoda *et al*³³. Similarly another polysaccharide, Lycoris-R-glucomannan was isolated from the bulbs of *Lycoris radiata* HERBERT (*Amaryllidaceae*), which has been used as a crude drug with expectorant and emetic properties.³⁴ Another polysaccharide Lycoris-S-glycomannan, was isolated from the bulbs of *Lycoris squamigera* MAXIM, and structural analysis was carried out.³⁵

The two plant sources chosen for the present study are also reported to have medicinal properties. *Punica granatum* is at the centre of some extra ordinary pioneering research at British Universities.³⁶ It could become a vital force against the spread of many viruses. Investigations have indicated that a substance derived from it can attack certain viruses and bacteria with unprecedented efficiency. Two tannins—punicalagin and punicalin—were isolated from the rind of the fruit and their structures determined (fig 9)³⁷. Pectin isolated from fruits contained mannose, galactose, rhamnose, arabinose and glucose in the ration 1:1.3:2.1:4.4:6.2; principal sugar acid was galacturonic acid.³⁸

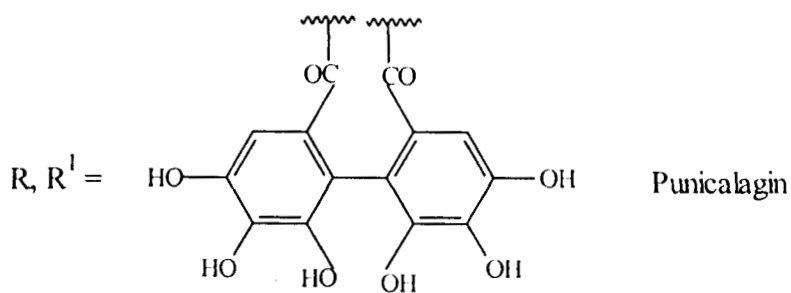
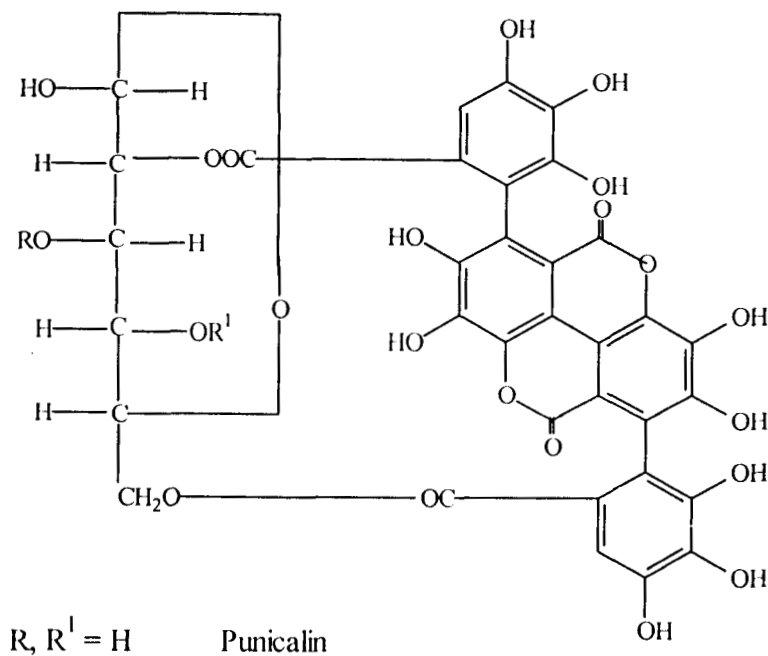
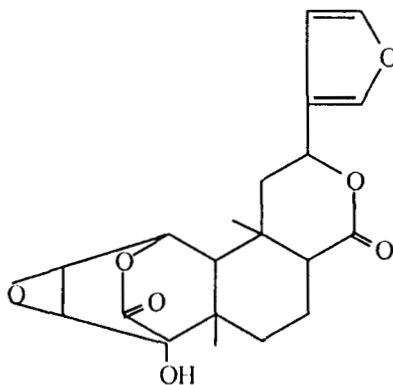


Figure 9

Tinospora cordifolia has been extensively used in Ayurveda. Clinical and pharmaceutical studies have revealed that an aqueous extract of the stem helps in reducing the blood sugar in alloxan induced hyperglycaemic rats and rabbits.³⁹ The aqueous extract was also found to be an effective remedy for different types of rheumatic afflictions⁴⁰. The antipyretic and

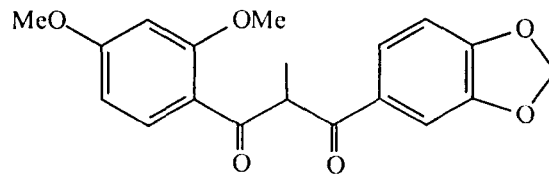
anti-inflammatory actions of the aqueous extract have been studied⁴¹. *T. cordifolia* decoction was administered orally in the dose level of 1ml/100 g body weight in Albino rats to screen their antipyretic activity. The pyrexia was induced in rats by injecting subcutaneously TAB vaccine. The extract showed significant antipyretic activity. The anti-inflammatory action of the aqueous extract was studied by Gulati and Pandey⁴². Detailed pharmacognostic studies on this plant have been made by Khosla and Prasad⁴³. Tinosporide, a diterpene isolated from the fresh stems of *T. cordifolia* is reported to be $C_{20}H_{22}O_7$ and its structure was elucidated (fig . 10)⁴⁴.



Tinosporide (Magnoflorine 0.07%)

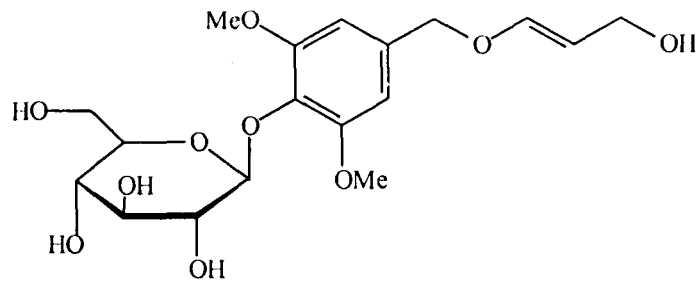
Figure 10

Other compounds isolated include Tinosporinone (fig 11)⁴⁵ and a phenolic glucoside, Tinotuberide⁴⁶ (fig 12)



Tinosporinone

Figure 11



Tinotuberide

Figure 12

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CHAPTER - III
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CHEMICAL STUDIES

Two different polysaccharides were isolated from *Punica grantum* (Pg) and *Tinospora cordifolia* (Tc). Standard procedure was followed for the isolation of polysaccharides¹. The powdered fruit rind of Pg and shade-dried stem pieces of Tc were treated with water at room temperature for 48 hours with stirring. From the aqueous extract, polysaccharides were precipitated by addition of 3 volumes of 95% Ethanol. Solutions were concentrated at or below 60°C with rotary flash evaporator under reduced pressure. The precipitate was collected by centrifugation at 20,000 rpm, 15 min, dissolved in water, and dialyzed. The collected polysaccharides were dried over fused calcium chloride under reduced pressure. The desiccated polysaccharides were redissolved in water. The proteins from the solution of polysaccharide was removed by Sevag method.^{2, 2a} The proteins are denatured by shaking in a chloroform emulsion, after which they form a gel which remains in the water-chloroform interface, and were removed. To facilitate the denaturation a pH 4 – 5 buffer was used instead of water and small quantities of 1-butanol was added. Since this technique removed only small quantities of protein, it was repeated four times and significant losses of polysaccharides resulted. The clear aqueous layer

was again treated with 95% Ethanol to precipitate the polysaccharides, dialyzed against distilled water for 48 hours in the cold. The solution in the dialysis bag was concentrated under reduced pressure and lyophilized.

Homogeneity of the polysaccharides was ascertained by purification by gel filtration chromatography on Sephadex G 200 and Ultrogel AcA-44. Elutions of the polysaccharide fractions were monitored by the absorbance of effluents at 490 nm using the phenol-sulphuric acid method³. The purified samples of polysaccharides from the two plant sources showed apparent homogeneity by giving single bands in zone electrophoresis experiments in polyacrylamide gel.

The total carbohydrate and uronic acid contents were determined by the phenol-sulphuric acid method³ and m-hydroxydiphenyl method⁴ respectively, using arabinose and galcturonic acid as the respective standards. Anthrone assay for hexoses was also carried out⁵. The percentage of carbohydrate in each of the crude sample was estimated as 10% and 76% for Pg and Tc respectively.

Molecular weights were determined by gel filtration studies on Sephadex G-200 using a series of dextrans of different molecular sizes as reference standards. From the data obtained in these experiments the average molecular weights were calculated by linear correlation between the

logarithm of the molecular weights of the standards and ratios of their elution volumes to the void volume of the column⁶. Molecular weight of the polysaccharides from Pg and Tc were determined to be approximately 1,10000 D and 40,000 D respectively.

III. 1. Hydrolysis

Complete hydrolysis of the homogeneous polysaccharides was done according to Kram and Franz⁷ by 1M H₂SO₄ for 6 hours in sealed tubes in a boiling waterbath. Graded hydrolysis was carried out with 25 mM H₂SO₄ at 100° C- Sulphate ions and charged sugars were removed from the hydrolyzate by passage through a column of Dowex 50-X4 200–400 mesh (H⁺ form) coupled to a column of Dowex 1-X8, 200– 400 mesh (formate form).⁸ [The Dowex 1-formate resin was prepared from the chloride form of the resin by passage of 3N Sodium formate through it until a negative test for chloride is obtained, followed by extensive wash with distilled water].

Thin layer chromatography (t.l.c) and paper chromatography (p.c) of their hydrolysates after 15, 30, 45, 60, 90 and 120 minutes indicate the early release of D-glucose, D-galactose, D-galacturonic acid followed by D-mannose. These were identified by co-chromatography with authentic samples.

Partial acid hydrolysis followed by characterization of the product is often used in structural carbohydrate chemistry. The method is of particular value when a polymer contains a limited number of acid-labile glycosidic linkages, which may be cleaved without significant hydrolysis of the other glycosidic linkages. Such acid-labile linkages are generally associated with furanosidic sugars or deoxy sugars.⁹

TLC of the sugars and uronic acid was done on silica gel and cellulose with different solvent systems. Paper chromatography (p.c) was conducted using the descending technique on (31 ET Chr) Chromatographic paper and Whatman No.1 filter paper with the following solvent mixtures.

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (A) | 1-butanol/ethanol/water | 5:1:4 ¹⁰ |
| (B) | 1-butanol/2-propanol/water | 11:6:3 ¹¹ |
| (C) | ethyl acetate/pyridine/water | 10:4:3 ¹² |
| (D) | ethyl acetate/pyridine/water | 2:1:2 ¹³ |
| (E) | 1-butanol/ethanol/water | 31:11:9 ¹⁴ |

Detection of sugar spots was achieved by aniline–diphenylamine – H_3PO_4 ¹⁵, anthrone and alkaline AgNO_3 ¹⁶ and uronic acid with p-anisidine hydrochloride¹⁷.

In recent years, classical methods of structure determination in carbohydrate chemistry have been supplemented by newer techniques.

The application of gas chromatography (g.c) to carbohydrate derivatives introduced a convenient method for the examination and small-scale separation of complex mixtures, such as those resulting from hydrolysis of polysaccharides.¹⁸ Methyl ethers, acetates and trimethylsilyl ethers (TMSi) of carbohydrates have been shown to be amenable to this method of analysis. Trimethylsilyl ethers appear to be the most suitable, both with regard to their ease of preparation and to the excellent separations which have been achieved. The successful use of TMSi derivatives in mass spectral investigations of hydroxy steroids¹⁹⁻²¹ and the demonstrations of the utility of TMSi ethers in the investigation of complex carbohydrate-containing antibiotics²²⁻²⁶ and nucleotides and related substances,²⁷ suggest that the technique might generally be applied to the field of carbohydrate chemistry. In addition, the requirement of submicrogram amounts of material for the determination of mass spectrum and the possibility of analysis with a gas chromatograph directly coupled to a mass spectrometer present obvious advantages for the study of trimethylsilyl ethers²⁸. The exact mass measurement studies as well as deuterium labelling in TMSi groups have also been applied in many reported compounds to verify the results.

Mass spectroscopy plays a crucial role in the glycosyl composition and linkage analyses of polysaccharides. Most underivatized mono and oligo saccharides are thermally unstable and non-volatile and are therefore

unsuitable for mass spectrometric analyses. Even though the electron impact (EI) mass spectrum often fails to give the molecular ion of these compounds, it gives most valuable information on the structural features of the molecule from the major fragmentation patterns.

Analyses of carbohydrates by gas-liquid partition chromatography must be carried out with volatile derivatives of the substance. Extensive studies have been made of chromatographic behaviour of trimethylsilyl derivatives and excellent separations were obtained. The volatilities of the derivatives were generally sufficient for gas chromatography (g.c) under a wide variety of operating conditions. The reaction yielding a derivative must be rapid and quantitative with any carbohydrate, preferably it should be carried out at room temperature, and it must be suitable for use over a wide range of concentration of the starting material. Non polar derivatives are usually less reactive than polar ones, and are therefore preferred for quantitative determinations. For preparative gas chromatography, a further requirement is that the derivative will subsequently yield a quantitative recovery of free carbohydrate by a mild hydrolytic procedure. The TMSi derivatives of carbohydrates are virtually ideal in these respects, and therefore are probably the most satisfactory form for general analytical studies.²⁹

When TMSi derivatives are made from free sugars, more than one product can be obtained, due to the presence of various anomeric and ring forms. Combined GC-MS is used to record the mass spectra of the components of such reaction mixtures. The combination of GC retention behaviour with mass spectral data provides a powerful tool for structural elucidation of carbohydrates on the submicrogram scale.

III. 2. Glycosyl composition analysis

The samples were freeze-dried prior to methanolysis. The polysaccharide was hydrolyzed using freshly prepared 1M methanolic - HCl—for 16 hours at 80^o C. The released sugars were treated with 5ml of anhydrous pyridine (Reagent grade pyridine dried over KOH pellets), 1ml of hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS) and 1ml of trimethylchlorosilane (TMCS). The reaction was carried out in a stoppered tube. The mixture was warmed for 20 minutes at 75–85^oC. It was shaken vigorously for about 30 seconds and then allowed to stand for 5 minutes at room temperature. The solutions became cloudy on addition of trimethylchlorosilane owing to precipitation, presumably of ammonium chloride. No attempt was made to remove this, which in no way interfered with the subsequent gas chromatography. The resulting reaction mixture was used for injection into the gas chromatograph. The derivatized samples were analyzed by GC-MS using a SP 2330 supelco column. Myo-Inositol was also added as an internal standard.

III. 3. Analysis of Trimethylsilylated products.

The relative retention times of the products and their main fragments in the mass spectra are listed for Pg in Table I and Tc in Table II. Response factor and peak areas of Pg and Tc alongwith myo-inositol, used as internal standard, are given in Table III and Table IV. Table V shows the mole % of glycosyl residues of Pg and Tc.

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TABLE I
Retention Times (min) on GC and Main Fragments in MS of Trimethylsilyl derivatives of Pg

| Sugar | Retention Times | Main fragments (m/z) |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| Arabinose | 11.26 | 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 88, 89, 98, 101, 103, 105, 115, 116, 117, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 159, 189, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 219 |
| | 11.50 | 76, 89, 98, 101, 103, 116, 117, 129, 131, 133, 134, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 189, 204, 205, 217, 218, 219 |
| Rhamnose | 12.00 | 57, 59, 61, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 83, 89, 99, 101, 103, 115, 117, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 189, 191, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218 |
| Xylose | 13.78 | 59, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 89, 101, 102, 103, 116, 129, 131, 133, 147, 191, 204, 205, 217, 218 |
| Galacturonic acid | 16.56 | 53, 55, 57, 59, 60, 61, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 82, 84, 89, 90, 91, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 112, 114, 115, 117, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 175, 187, 189, 191, 217, 218, 219, 220, 227, 234, 235, 236, 243, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 261, 277, 278, 288, 319 |
| | 17.84 | 59, 60, 61, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, 89, 90, 101, 103, 105, 116, 117, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 143, 145, 146, 147, 149, 157, 159, 160, 161, 169, 187, 217, 218, 219, 234, 245, 247, 261, 277 |
| | 20.05 | 53, 55, 57, 59, 60, 61, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 82, 84, 89, 90, 91, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 112, 114, 115, 117, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 175, 187, 189, 191, 192, 199, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 215, 217, 218, 219, 220, 227, 231, 234, 235, 236, 243, 245, 247, 248, 257, 259, 260, 261, 272, 274, 304, 318, 331, 332, 333 |
| | 20.36 | 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 83, 85, 89, 90, 91, 99, 101, 103, 105, 111, 113, 115, 116, 117, 119, 127, 129, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 175, 187, 189, 190, 191, 199, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 217, 218, 219, 234, 235, 247, 259, 279 |
| Mannose | 18.03 | 59, 73, 74, 75, 89, 01, 103, 115, 116, 117, 129, 131, 133, 134, 146, 147, 148, 149, 157, 189, 191, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 231 |
| Galactose | 19.34 | 54, 59, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 81, 89, 101, 103, 115, 116, 117, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 147, 148, 149, 159, 189, 191, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 217, 218, 219, 242 |
| | 20.52 | 59, 73, 74, 75, 89, 103, 117, 129, 131, 133, 134, 147, 148, 149, 191, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218 |
| Glucose | 21.44 | 52.5, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 81, 85, 87, 89, 90, 99, 101, 103, 104, 105, 111, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 146, 147, 148, 149, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 169, 189, 191, 192, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 217, 218, 219, 221, 231, 232, 233, 242, 247, 265, 279, 291, 305, 319 |
| | 22.3 | 52.5, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 67, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 81, 85, 87, 89, 90, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 111, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 169, 171, 174, 176, 189, 190, 191, 192, 197, 204, 205, 206, 207, 217, 218, 219, 221, 231, 232, 242, 246, 265, 279, 291 |
| Myo-Inositol | 30.06 | 53, 55, 59, 73, 74, 75, 82, 84, 101, 102, 103, 104, 110, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 147, 148, 149, 191, 192, 193, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 219, 221, 265, 266, 291, 292, 305, 306, 307, 308, 318, 319, 320, 369, 392, 431, 432 |

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TABLE II

Retention Times (min) on GC and Main fragments in MS of Trimethylsilyl derivatives of Tc

| Sugar | Retention Times | Main fragments (m/z) |
|--------------|-----------------|--|
| Arabinose | 11.27 | 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 88, 89, 98, 101, 103, 105, 115, 116, 117, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 159, 189, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 219 |
| | 11.50 | 76, 89, 98, 101, 103, 116, 117, 129, 131, 133, 134, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 189, 204, 205, 217, 218, 219 |
| Rhamnose | 12.00 | 57, 59, 61, 71, 73, 74, 75, 77, 83, 89, 99, 101, 103, 115, 117, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 142, 146, 147, 148, 149, 189, 191, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218 |
| Xylose | 13.78 | 59, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 89, 101, 102, 103, 116, 129, 131, 133, 147, 191, 204, 205, 217, 218 |
| | 14.36 | 59, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 89, 101, 102, 103, 116, 129, 131, 133, 147, 191, 204, 205, 217, 218 |
| Mannose | 18.03 | 59, 73, 74, 75, 89, 101, 103, 115, 116, 117, 129, 131, 133, 134, 146, 147, 148, 149, 157, 189, 191, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 231 |
| Galactose | 19.37 | 54, 59, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 81, 89, 101, 103, 115, 116, 117, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 147, 148, 149, 159, 189, 191, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 217, 218, 219, 242 |
| Glucose | 21.67 | 52.5, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 69, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 81, 85, 87, 89, 90, 99, 101, 103, 104, 105, 111, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 143, 146, 147, 148, 149, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 169, 189, 191, 192, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 217, 218, 219, 221, 231, 232, 233, 242, 247, 265, 279, 291, 305, 319 |
| | 22.62 | 52.5, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 67, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 81, 85, 87, 89, 90, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 111, 113, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 169, 171, 174, 176, 189, 190, 191, 192, 197, 204, 205, 206, 207, 217, 218, 219, 221, 231, 232, 242, 246, 265, 279, 291 |
| Myo-Inositol | 30.06 | 53, 55, 59, 73, 74, 75, 82, 84, 101, 102, 103, 104, 110, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 142, 147, 148, 149, 191, 192, 193, 204, 205, 206, 217, 218, 219, 221, 265, 266, 291, 292, 305, 306, 307, 308, 318, 319, 320, 369, 392, 431, 432 |

Table III
Trimethylsilyl derivatives of Pg

| RES (peak) | Response Factor | PEAK AREA | Weight (μg) | nmol CHO / mg Sample |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Ara | | 1359 | | |
| Ara | | 595 | | |
| | 0.476895324 | | 3.99.97502 | 44.31463138 |
| Rha | | 805 | | |
| Rha | | | | |
| | 0.444900041 | | 1.762426536 | 17.8890229 |
| Xyl | | 273 | | |
| Xyl | | | | |
| | 0.669726642 | | 0.397047677 | 4.408701725 |
| Gal UA | | 3186 | | |
| Gal UA | | 1251 | | |
| Gal UA | | 9261 | | |
| Gal UA | | 2672 | | |
| | 0.576703386 | | 27.64863954 | 237.4088918 |
| Man | | 1017 | | |
| | 0.62878024 | | 1.575431977 | 14.57114296 |
| Gal | | 1462 | | |
| Gal | | 658 | | |
| Gal | | | | |
| Gal | | | | |
| | 0.74630763 | | 2.766913407 | 25.59113399 |
| Glc | | 16504 | | |
| Glc | | 6684 | | |
| | 0.864628336 | | 26.12230019 | 241.6047002 |
| $\mu\text{g INOS} =$ | 20 | 20533 | | |
| | | | | |
| mg Sample= | 0.6 | | | |
| mg CHO = | 0.064263735 | | | |
| % CHO = | 10.71062251 | | | |

Table IV
Trimethylsilyl derivatives of Tc

| RES (peak) | Response Factor | PEAK AREA | Weight (μg) | nmol CHO / mg Sample |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Ara | | 813 | | |
| Ara | | 366 | | |
| | 0.476895324 | | 2.786565191 | 37.1294459 |
| Rha | | 802 | | |
| Rha | | | | |
| | 0.444900041 | | 2.031844134 | 24.74840601 |
| Xyl | | 1802 | | |
| Xyl | | .784 | | |
| | 0.669726642 | | 4.352205683 | 57.99074861 |
| Gal UA | | | | |
| Gal UA | | | | |
| Gal UA | | | | |
| Gal UA | | | | |
| | 0.576703386 | | 0 | 0 |
| Man | | 822 | | |
| | 0.62878024 | | 1.473504272 | 16.35409847 |
| Gal | | 1134 | | |
| Gal | | | | |
| Gal | | | | |
| Gal | | | | |
| | 0.74630763 | | 1.7126698 | 19.00854384 |
| Glc | | 16560 | | |
| Glc | | 113991 | | |
| | 0.864628336 | | 369.641042 | 4102.564284 |
| ug INOS = | 20 | 17744 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| mg Sample = | 0.5 | | | |
| mg CHO = | 0.381997831 | | | |
| % CHO = | 76.39956621 | | | |

Table V

| Glycosyl residues | Mole % | |
|-------------------|--------|------|
| | Pg | Tc |
| Arabinose | 5.4 | 0.5 |
| Rhamnose | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| Xylose | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Galacturonic acid | 33.5 | --- |
| Mannose | 1.7 | 0.2 |
| Galactose | 4.6 | 0.3 |
| Glucose | 52.8 | 98.0 |

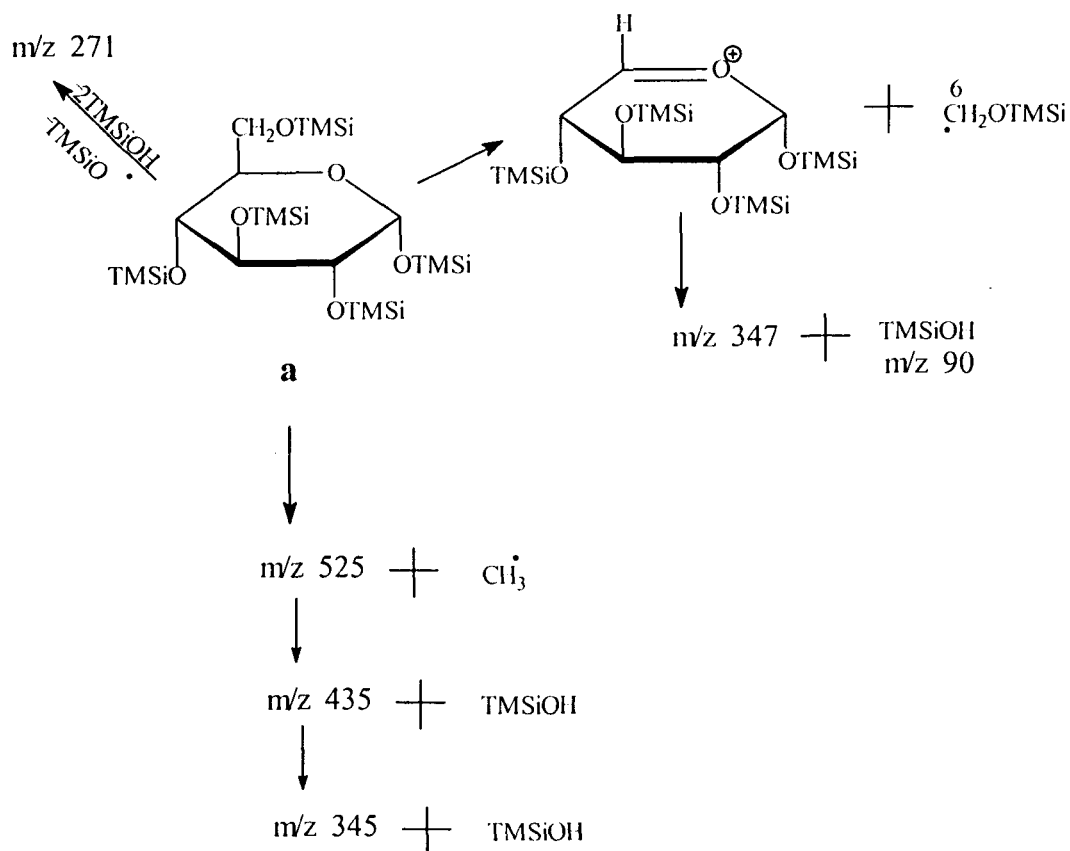
III. 4. Structural assignments for the ions

Mass spectrometry has been widely applied in the field of carbohydrate research.³⁰ The mass spectra of trimethylsilylated glycosides have been investigated in great detail try using high resolution mass spectrometer. The molecular ion was weak, but stronger fragments appeared at $(M-CH_3)^+$ and $(M-CH_3 - Me_3 SiOH)^+$. The major fragmentation pathways were analogous to those of permethylated glycosides.^{30a} It was found that the spectra contained additional fragmentation series due to losses of a methyl or trimethyl silyloxy ($Me_3 SiO$) group from anion radicals. The relative intensities of molecular ion peaks are very low. Generally, a high sample pressure has to be maintained in the ion source, if a molecular ion is to be seen.

“M-15” ion fragments by a stepwise elimination of two molecules of trimethylsilanol ($TMSiOH$). A trimethylsilyloxy radical and trimethylsilanol are also lost from the molecular ion. Scheme I shows the possible fragmentation of penta-O-trimethylsilyl- α -D-glucopyranose (**a**) – similar to penta-O-trimethylsilyl- α -D-galactopyranose and penta-O-trimethylsilyl- α -D-mannopyranose. A series of low intensity peaks results following the loss of C-6 and its substituent followed by $TMSiOH$. Fragments retaining one, two, three and four carbon atoms of the ring are

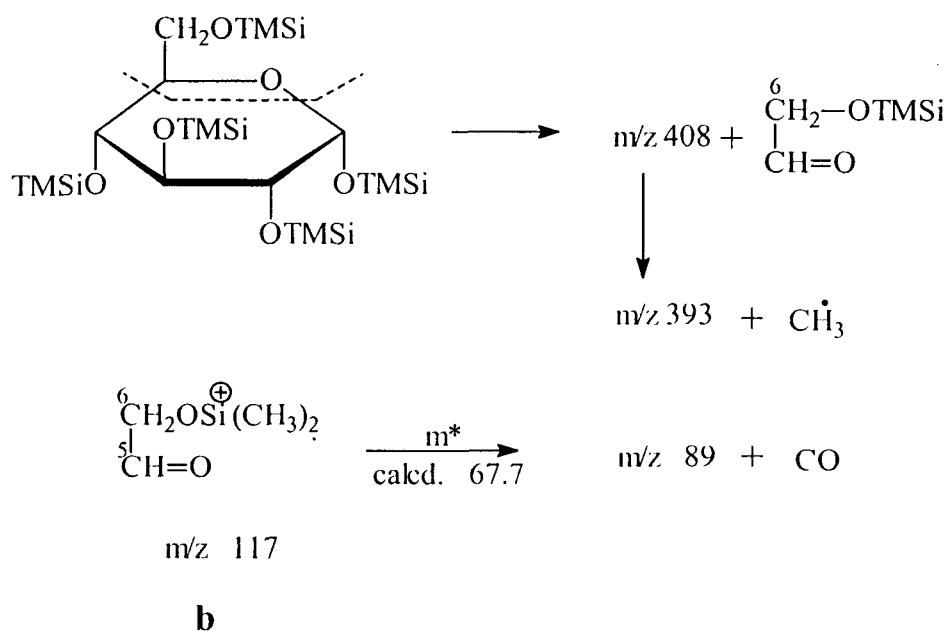
prevalent in the mass spectrum of **a**.

Scheme I



A peak at m/z 408 is possible due to the cleavage of the molecule into a fragment retaining C-1 through C-4. A further loss of $\text{CH}_3\cdot$ corresponds to a peak at m/z 393. Scheme II illustrates which part of the molecule is eliminated in the formation of m/z 408.

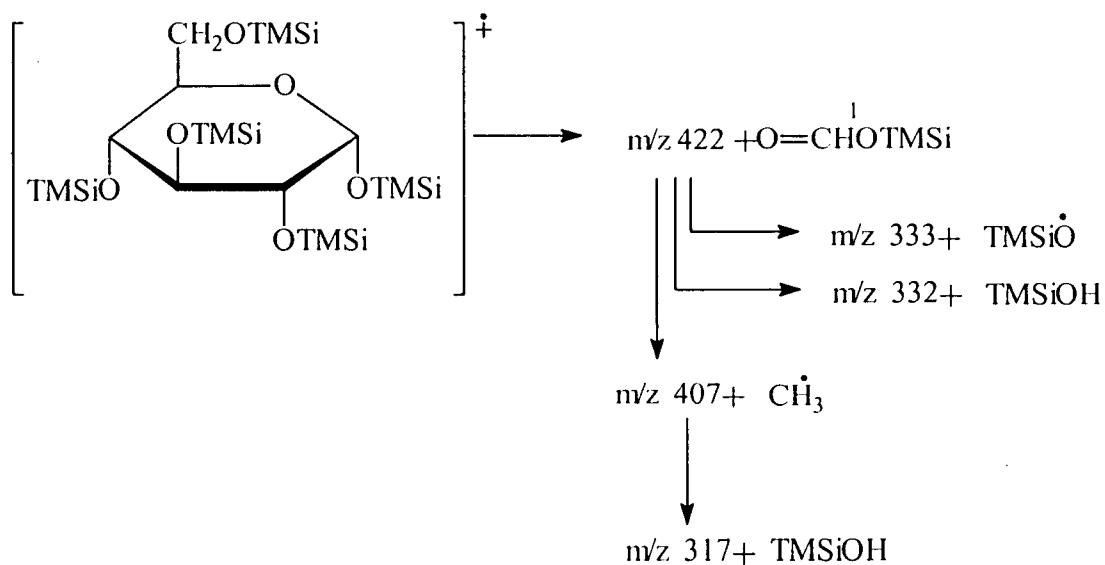
Scheme II



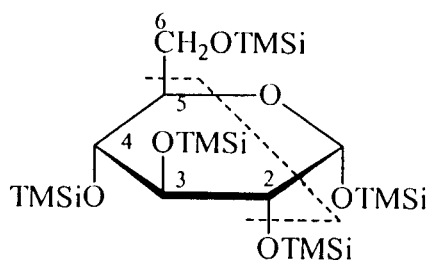
A fragment retaining C-5, C-6 and the ring oxygen and losing C-1 through C-4 is found at m/z 117. Carbon monoxide is subsequently expelled from m/z 117, a transition supported by a metastable peak.

The ring also fragments by elimination of C-1 and the ring oxygen. Structure **c** illustrates the part of the molecular ion which is lost. In addition, peaks are present for prior or subsequent eliminations of $\text{CH}_3\cdot$ and of $\text{TMSiO}\cdot$ and TMSiOH . (Scheme III)

Scheme III

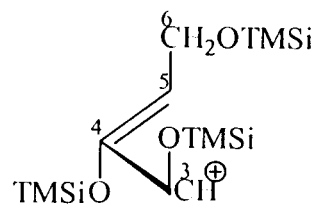


The fragment at m/z 319 retains four carbon atoms of the glucose molecule and three TMSiO groups. Structures **c** and **d** summarize two possibilities for this peak. Also, the peak at m/z 319 might result from a fragmentation pathway involving loss of TMSiO \cdot from m/z 408 **e**. Labeling data in similar cases do indicate that C-1 and C-6 are not present. Thus **c** is the major contributor to m/z 319.



m/z 319
C 2 — C 5

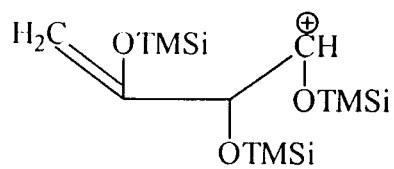
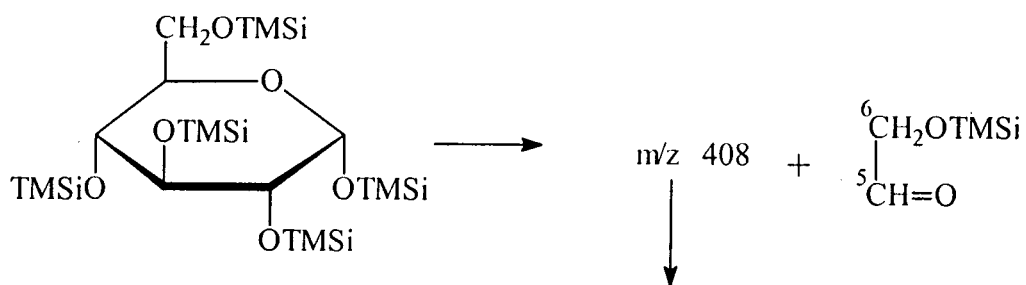
c



m/z 319
C 3 — C 6

d

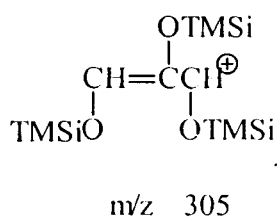
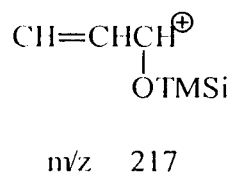
Scheme IV



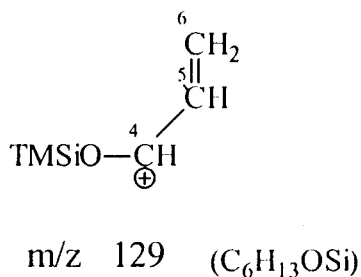
m/z 319
C 1 — C 4

e

Fragments at m/z 305 and 217 are common from trimethylsilyl derivatives of carbohydrates.^{31,32} These peaks retain C-2, C-3 and C-4 mainly. However, their general occurrence suggests that they can be formed from other portions of the molecule, sometimes with rearrangement

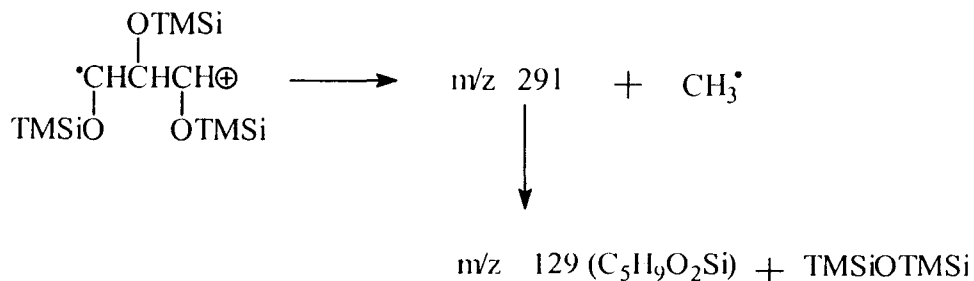
**f****g**

The formation of m/z 129 may be due to two different fragmentation pathways. [High resolution measurements on m/z 129 show that it is a doublet, approximately two-thirds of which is a $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{OSi}$ ion and the remaining $\text{C}_5\text{H}_9\text{O}_2\text{Si}$ ion]. The presence of C-6 and four of the hydrogens of the glucose molecule can be deduced for this fragment. Structure **h** represents the part of the original molecule which comprises this ion.

**h**

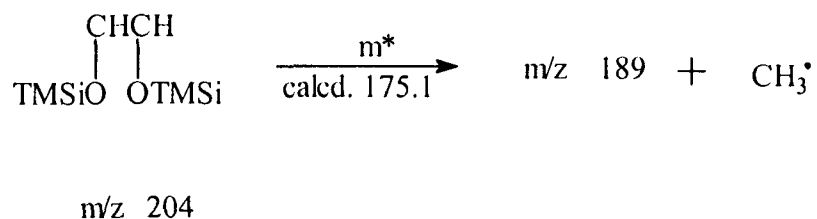
Other pathway is from an isotope of m/z 305. i.e. m/z 306 (Scheme V)

Scheme V



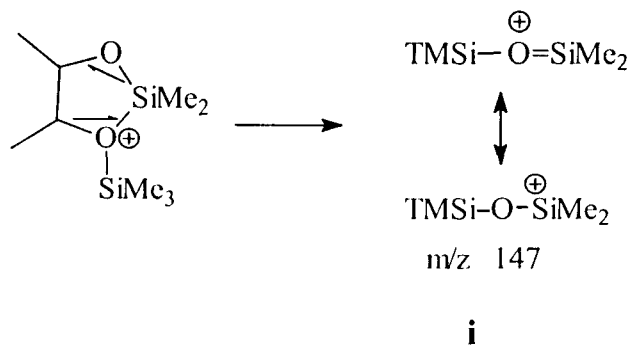
No metastable peaks were found for these transitions and no other important pathways were found to involve elimination of TMSiOTMSi. Therefore this assignment is tenuous.

The two-carbon fragment, m/z 204, is a common characteristic fragment from TMSi ethers of carbohydrates³³. It originates, for the most part, from C-2 – C-3 and C-3 – C-4. A metastable peak is present for its further fragmentation to m/z 189.



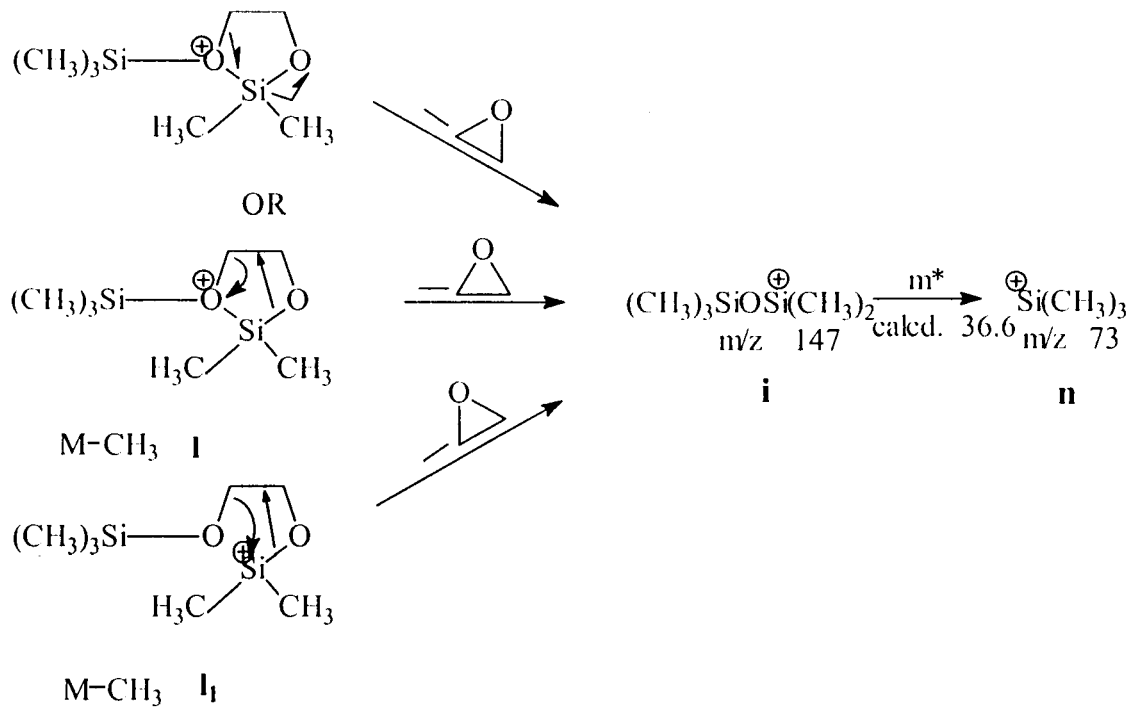
Rearrangements are common in the mass spectra of trimethylsilyl ethers of carbohydrates—a factor which must be taken into account when interpreting their spectra. The fragment m/z 147 is expelled by way of a

cyclic intermediate³⁴. This ion is present in the mass spectra of all TMSi derivatives of carbohydrates. **i** seems to be the most plausible representation.



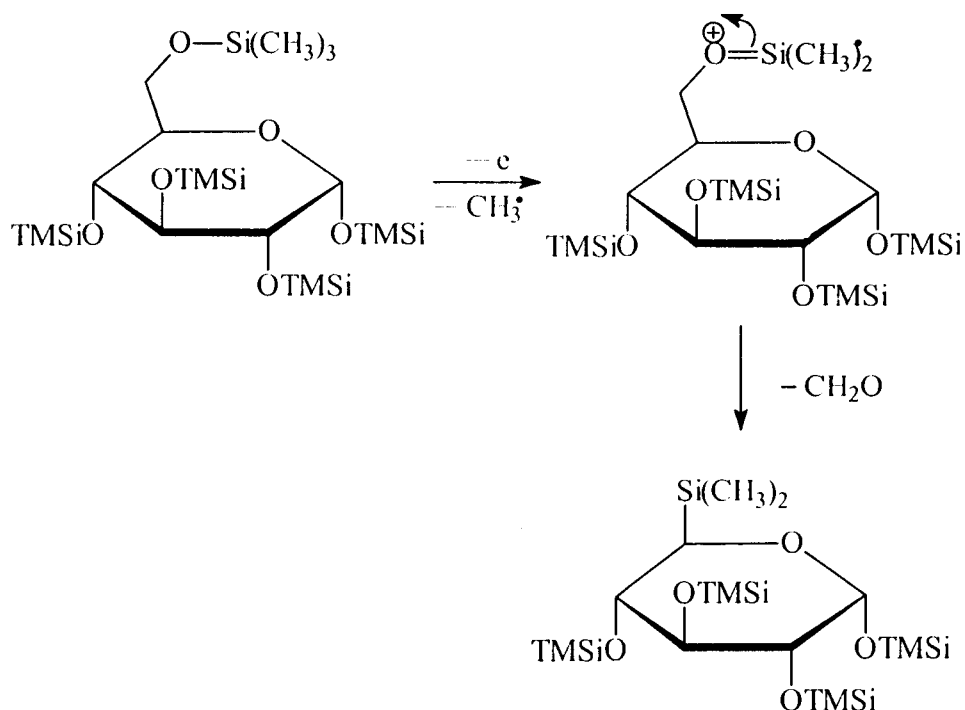
In view of the results presented by J. Dickman *et al*³⁴, the m/z 147 ion is formed by collapse of the cyclic oxonium ion form of an M-CH₃, **I** and **I**₁, precursor with elimination of the elements of propylene oxide. (Scheme VI). It was reported by the same authors that in every case of Scheme VI, a metastable ion was observed for the formation of **i** from an (M-CH₃) progenitor, and it seemed likely that the silicon-oxygen bond was already formed in the precursor. Also a 1,4 shift in **I**₁ seems as likely as the formation and collapse of **I**.

Scheme VI

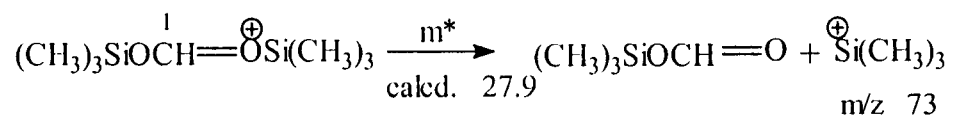


Several electron-impact induced skeletal rearrangements in which sequential loss of a methyl radical and of formaldehyde is possible (Scheme VII).

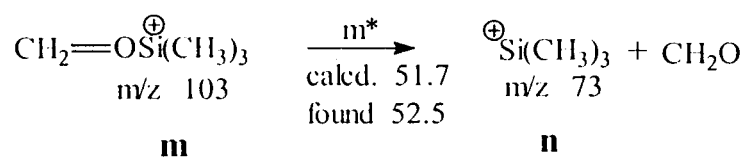
Scheme VII



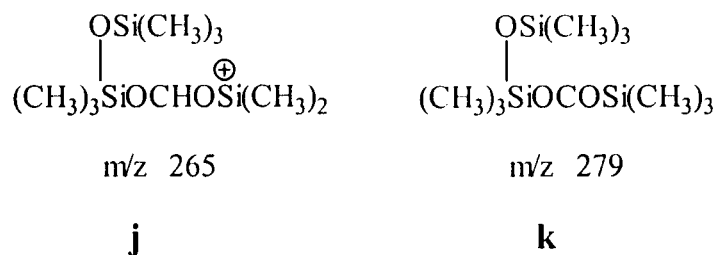
Another fragment which is formed via a rearrangement is found at m/z 191. It is composed of two TMSiO groups and one C-H of the glucose molecule. [About 90% of m/z 191 retains C-1. One of these TMSiO groups originates from C-3 and is rearranged to C-1]³⁰. A metastable peak will be present for the decomposition of m/z 191 to 73



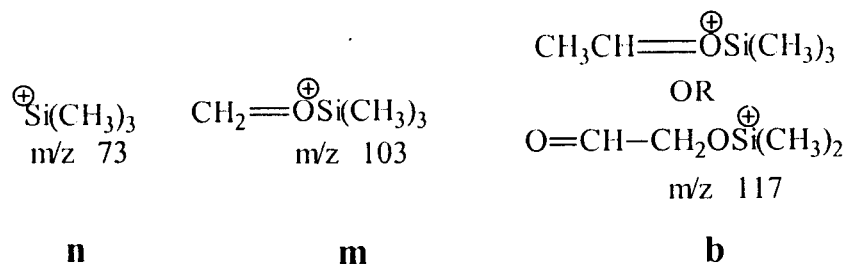
The peak at m/z 103 retains one carbon atom of the glucose molecule. This fragment could arise directly by cleavage of C-5 – C-6 with charge retention on C-6. Another possibility is by rearrangement of a hydrogen atom to one of the carbons of the ring. A metastable peak indicates that m/z 73 arises by elimination of formaldehyde from m/z 103.³⁵



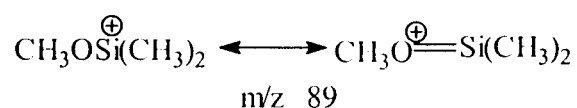
Possible structures for another set of fragments having m/z 265 and m/z 279 formed by rearrangement are given as **j** and **k**. Both contain only one carbon atom of the sugar.



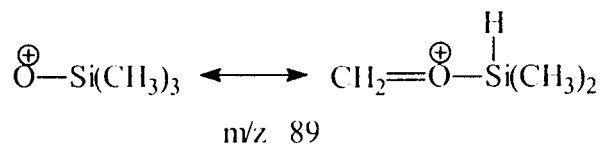
The most intense peak occurs at m/z 73 **n** and the α -cleavage fragments **m** and **b** are also of appreciable abundance.



Metastable peaks at m/z 51.7 (calcd. $\frac{73^2}{103} = 51.7$) and 36.6 (calcd. $\frac{73^2}{147} = 36.6$) provide evidence for the genesis of **n** m/z 73 from the α -cleavage ion **m** m/z 103 and the rearrangement ion **i** m/z 147. Another common abundant peak in the mass spectra occurs at m/z 89. This fragment could be depicted either in terms of **p** or **q**.

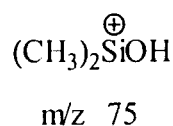


p



q

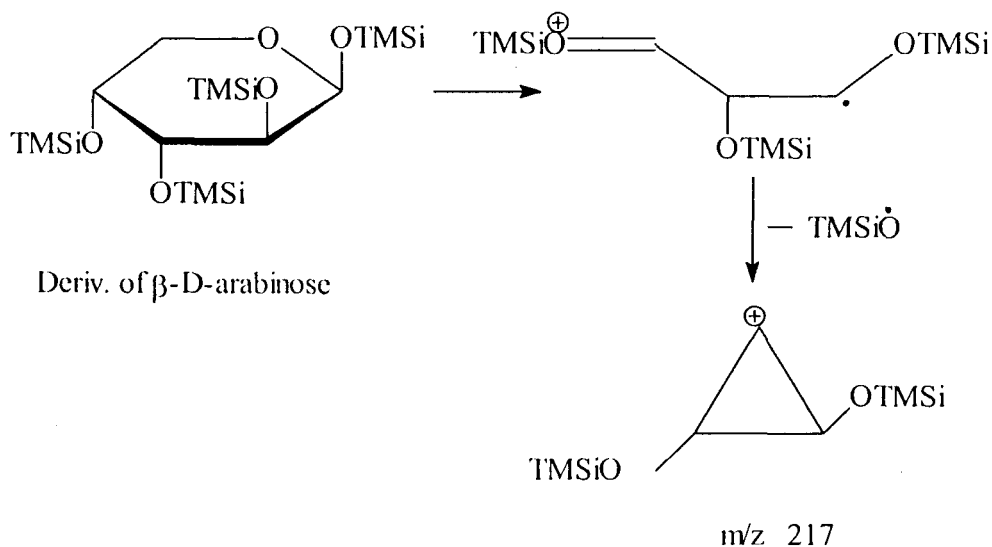
In all cases a moderately strong peak at m/z 75 for **r** is seen



r

The per (trimethylsilyl)ated D-arabinose and L-xylose give practically identical mass spectra, and the fragments obtained originate by the same pathways as above. The abundance of m/z 217 can be explained by Scheme VIII

Scheme VIII



III. 5. The composition of equilibrium mixtures

It has been shown by gas-liquid partition chromatography that two major components result from trimethylsilylation of D-glucose and these have been assigned to α and β anomers by comparison of their retention times with those of the TMSi ethers of pure α and β -D-glucose. The mass spectra of penta-*O*-trimethylsilyl- α and β -D-glucopyranoses are identical³⁰. The compositions of the equilibrium anomers calculated on the basis of the retention times and relative areas of the peaks are given in Table VI.³⁶ This agreed well with the known compositions of the equilibrium solutions established by optical rotations. It is generally agreed that aqueous equilibrium solutions of sugars consist almost entirely of α and β anomers with at most small amounts of “ γ ” sugars (probably free aldehydes or furanose modifications).

Table VI
The composition of Equilibrium mixtures
as determined by Gas chromatography of Trimethylsilyl derivatives.

| | α | β | γ |
|-------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| Arabinose | 50.8 | 43.8 | 5.4 |
| Rhamnose | - | - | - |
| Xylose | 41.3 | 55.2 | 3.4 |
| Galacturonic acid | - | - | - |
| Mannose | 72.0 | 28.0 | |
| Galactose | 31.9 | 62.6 | 5.4 |
| Glucose | 39.8 | 60.2 | |

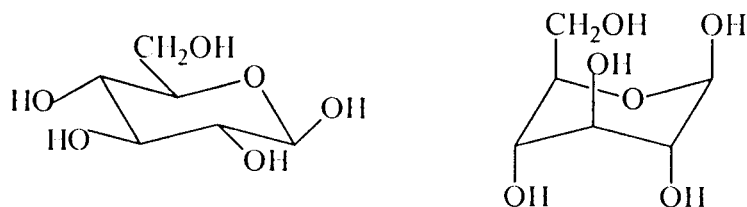
It was proposed by Bishop *et al* that “for any methylglycopyranoside, the anomer in which the C-1 methoxy group exists in *trans* relationship with the C-2 substituent, will have the lower retention volume except when the C-2 OH is unsubstituted, in which case the order is reversed.”³⁷ But Sweeley *et al* suggested that this generalization cannot be extended to tetratrimethylsilyl ethers of the pentoses nor to the pentatrimethylsilylethers of the hexoses.³⁸ For example, in glucose and galactose, the *trans* relationship is found in the slower moving β -anomers. Furthermore, the generalization does not hold true with the TMSi derivatives of the methyl glycosides. They revealed another possible generalization for the TMSi derivatives. “When the normal conformation of the sugar is one of the chair forms, 4C_1 or 1C_4 (Reeves notation C1 or 1C), and when there is no evidence of conformational instability, that anomer in which the anomeric OH group is equatorial has the longest retention time”. For the following D-sugars of 4C_1 conformation, the β -anomer moves more slowly on polar and non polar columns; glucose, galactose mannose and xylose. Similarly, for D-arabinose of 1C_4 conformation (Reeves notation 1C), the α -anomer with the equatorial OH group has the longer retention time. For equatorial anomeric ether of arabinose, there is little difference in relative retention times³⁹. It has a single axial OH group at C-4. This generalization is also true for both polar and non polar columns.

Similarly with the hexose sugars nearly identical retention times are observed with β -mannose and β -galactose, with one axial OH group at C-2 and C-4, respectively (relative retention times are 1.06 and 1.08).

In reality, the open-chain configuration of aldoses and ketoses exist only as minute quantities in solution. The main forms are the cyclic pyranosides and furanosides derived from the hypothetical "acetal" of the open-chain form by dehydration. This "hemiacetal" formation provides a new chiral centre at C-1, forming two additional diastereoisomers, the α - and β -form of such aldoses. In the Haworth projection of the structures, the hydroxyl group at C-1 of the D-sugars is below the pyranoside or furanoside plane in the α -form and above in the β -form. The configuration of these pyranosides and furanosides is not planar. The preferred structure of the pyranose compounds is the chair conformation which also exists in two different forms due to the positions of the single hydroxyl groups, these being either axial or equatorial according to their thermodynamic stabilities.^{39a}

Molecules with the C-4 carbon in the upper position of the chair conformer are named as having 4C_1 conformation (C1 in Reeves notation), whilst molecules with the C-4 carbon in the lower position of the conformer are said to have 1C_4 conformation (1C in Reeves notation) as shown in the

case of β -D-Glucopyranose (fig X). For most pyranoses, the 4C_1 conformation is preferred due to the lower interaction between the single hydroxyl groups.



Conformation of β -D-Glucopyranose

Figure X

Reeves used the terms C1 and 1C to define the ring shapes, but it can be shown that the enantiomeric (D-and L-) forms of a sugar in the same conformation (that is, with the same axial-equatorial arrangement) have different symbols, and must therefore always be linked to the absolute configuration of the sugar. Therefore, β -D-glucopyranose in the 4C_1 (D) conformation has all its substituents in equatorial positions, at the greatest distance from other substituents; hence a possible reason why D-glucose is a very common monosaccharide in nature – it has a preferred conformational structure containing little strain. Hexoses can, under certain conditions exist in rings other than pyranose. The next most common ring is the furanose ring which is adopted by some hexoses and pentoses. This

ring is only slightly puckered and exists in two forms, the more common envelope (E) [fig. Y] and the less common twist (T) [fig. Z]. For the envelope forms, the conformation is defined by the one atom that is above, or below, the plane described by the other atoms. Thus in fig. Y, the conformation is 3E since C-3 is above the plane described by C-1, C-2, C-4 and O-4.

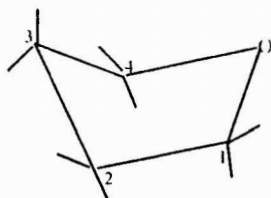


Figure Y

The defined plane for the twist conformation is described by C-1, C-4 and O-4 and the conformation of fig Z is therefore 3T_2

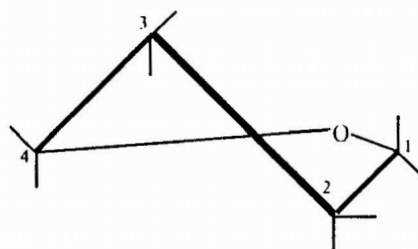
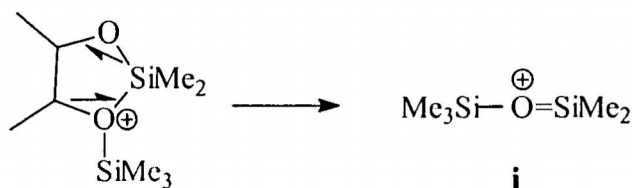


Figure Z

In order to investigate the stereochemical differences in the monosaccharides, Computer-aided Mass spectrometric Identification of stereoisomeric monosaccharides, is also being used.⁴⁰ The mass spectra

of the trimethylsilyl (TMSi) derivatives of the aldohexopyranoses, α -D-glucose, α -D-galactose, β -D-glucose, β -D-mannose and α -L-mannose turned out to be very similar, as might be expected on account of the uniform carbon skeleton. For stereoisomeric monosaccharides, a close investigation of the peak intensities shows minor but definite reproducible differences.

Another approach to obtaining stereochemical information was suggested⁴¹. The fragment m/z 147 **i** is expelled from anomeric forms of per-O-trimethylsilyl derivatives of D-glucopyranose, D-galactopyranose, and D-mannopyranose, by way of a cyclic intermediate. The relative intensities of this ion could be predicted on stereochemical grounds.



III. 6. Glycosyl linkage analysis

Complex carbohydrates are often subjected to different chemical modifications in order to gain information on sequences and anomeric configurations. Methylation analysis has proved to be valuable for following the results of such modifications. A manual on methylation analysis, giving relative retention times on Gas chromatography of partially methylated alditol

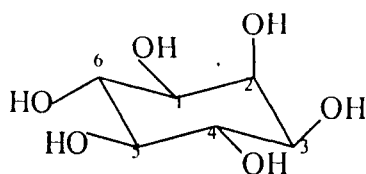
acetates, as well as a collection of computer-drawn bar graph mass spectra of these derivatives has been published.⁴² A minor modification in the procedure is that the time for the acetylation of the partially methylated alditols with pyridine-acetic anhydride is extended from 10 minutes to 3 hours. The reason for this is that the secondary hydroxyl groups in some derivatives, e.g., 2,3,5,6-tetra-O-methyl-D-galactitol, was only partially acetylated during the shorter reaction time. Analyses by GC-MS, of partially methylated alditol acetates are then performed. More information is obtained when the methylated polysaccharide is subjected to partial hydrolysis, reduced with a deuterated reagent, acetylated and the mixture analyzed by GC-MS⁴³.

The samples were methylated using the NaOH / MeI method⁴⁴. To a solution of the carbohydrate sample (4–5 mg) in Me₂SO (0.3–0.4 mL) were added finely powdered NaOH (20 mg) and methyl iodide. (0.1 mL). Each mixture was stirred (100 rpm) for 6 minutes in a closed vial at 25°C. Water (1mL) and chloroform (1mL) were then added, and the chloroform layer was washed with water (3 × 10 mL) and dried (Na₂SO₄).

The method is characterized by short reaction times, high yields and clean gas chromatograms. It is proved to be simple and rapid for the permethylation of carbohydrates, and is superior over procedures described

by Hakomori⁴⁵, Lindberg⁴⁶ and Finne⁴⁷ *et al.* In the Hakomori method, the $\text{CH}_3\text{SOCH}_2^-$ anion, generated from methyl sulphoxide and sodium hydride, is considered to be the effective basic agent⁴⁸. In spite of the low yields (0.3 mol of permethylated derivative per mol of sugar) the Hakomori method has been used extensively in structural investigations of carbohydrates. Potassium tertiarybutoxide when used instead of NaH improved the stability of the reagent but did not substantially increase the yield of permethylated product.⁴⁹

The methylated samples were hydrolyzed in 2M TFA at 121^oC for 2 hours and the hydrolyzed carbohydrate was reduced with Sodiumborodeuteride at room temperature. The product was acetylated using acetic anhydride at 120^oC for 3 hours. The derivatized samples were analyzed by GC-MS using SP 2330 supelco column. Internal standard (myo-inositol) was added (25mg) to each sample prior to the reduction step.



myo-Inositol

The polysaccharide (Pg) was also methylated under different conditions in order to obtain the galacturonic acid linkage. The sample

was pre-reduced with superdeuteride for 3 hours at room temperature prior to the 2M TFA hydrolysis and reduction step.

The polysaccharide (Tc) was difficult to dissolve in dimethyl sulphoxide. The first attempt of methylation analysis of the sample produced about 60% undermethylation which results from some of the sample not dissolving well in the first stage of permethylation of the carbohydrate. Undermethylation is very common in large polymers.

The derivatized samples were subjected to GC-MS analysis using Sp 2330 Supelco column. Myo-Inositol was added as internal standard.

The recorded mass spectra were compared with the reference spectra in the mass spectral database of the associated computers using the probability based matching (PBM) search algorithm supplied by the manufacturer. The response factors, relative to the internal standard, myo-inositol, are determined empirically by injecting the standards and determining the peak areas for each sugar derivative. Peak areas give the percentage of different carbohydrate residues in Pg and Tc; [Table VII and Table VIII].

Table VII
Percentage of carbohydrate residues in Pg

| Carbohydrate Residues | % present |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Terminal-rhamnose | 3.4 |
| Terminal-arabinose (furanose) | 7.2 |
| Terminal-arabinose | 0.8 |
| Terminal-xylose | 1.7 |
| 2-arabinose (furanose) | 1.3 |
| Terminal mannose | 1.7 |
| Terminal-glucose | 31.6 |
| Terminal-galactose | 2.1 |
| 4-arabinose or 5-arabinose (furanose) | 6.0 |
| 4-xylose | 2.2 |
| 3-glucose | 3.4 |
| 2-mannose | 0.6 |
| 2-glucose | 2.5 |
| 3-galactose | 1.5 |
| 6-glucose | 6.0 |
| 4-galactose | 2.0 |
| 4-glucose | 21.7 |
| 4,6-glucose | 3.0 |
| 3,6-galactose | 1.3 |

The sample (Pg) also contained galacturonic acid, that was tested in a separate experiment. The galacturonic acid was 4-galacturonic acid.

Table VIII
Percentage of carbohydrate residues in Tc

| Carbohydrate residues | % present |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Terminal-glucose | 8.4 |
| 4-xylose | 2.3 |
| 4-glucose | 79.2 |
| 4,6-glucose | 7.0 |
| 2,3,4,6-glucose | 3.1 |

This polysaccharide (Tc) seems to be a polymer of 4-glucose with about 8% terminal glucose showing the 1-glucose linkage.

The mass spectra of the peracetyl derivatives of the pyranose and furanose ring forms of monosaccharides have been systematically investigated and a detailed interpretation of their fragmentation processes presented.⁵⁰ Mass spectrometry is sensitive to structural differences such as ring size and hexoses v/s pentoses v/s deoxy hexoses, whereas epimers and anomers exhibit very similar mass spectra except for minor relative-intensity differences.

In the method of forming alditolacetate derivatives of the glycosyl residues of the polysaccharide, each glycosyl component affords a single derivative, producing simple chromatograms that are easily interpreted. This method will not detect glycosyluronic acids unless the carboxyl groups of the glycosyluronic acids have been reduced.⁵¹ These residues are subject to elimination reactions during the methylation procedure. In general, it is best to reduce glycosyluronic acids to the corresponding 6,6-dideuterio-glycosyl residues before methylation analysis. This has two advantages : it minimizes β -elimination reactions and allows glycosyluronic acid residues to be detected as PMAA.

III. 7. Identification and Quantitation of PMAA

The positions of O-acetyl and O-methyl groups on the PMAA are determined by GC-MS. GC-MS analysis is performed with a fused-

silica, 30 meter (0.25 mm i.d) capillary column (Supelco SP 2330) in a splitless mode. The following temperature program is used. Two minutes at an initial temperature of program is used: Two minutes at an initial temperature of 80°, increased to 170° at 30°/minute, then to 240° at 4°/minute, and held for 5 minutes at 240°.

The electron impact fragmentation patterns of the mass spectra of the PMAA are well known.⁵² Some of the rules that can be used to determine the position of O-methyl and O-acetyl groups are reviewed here. These rules are illustrated for 1, 5-di-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-2,3,4,6-tetra-O-methyl glucitol and 1,3,5-tri-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-2,4,6-tri-O-methyl glucitol. Fig s.

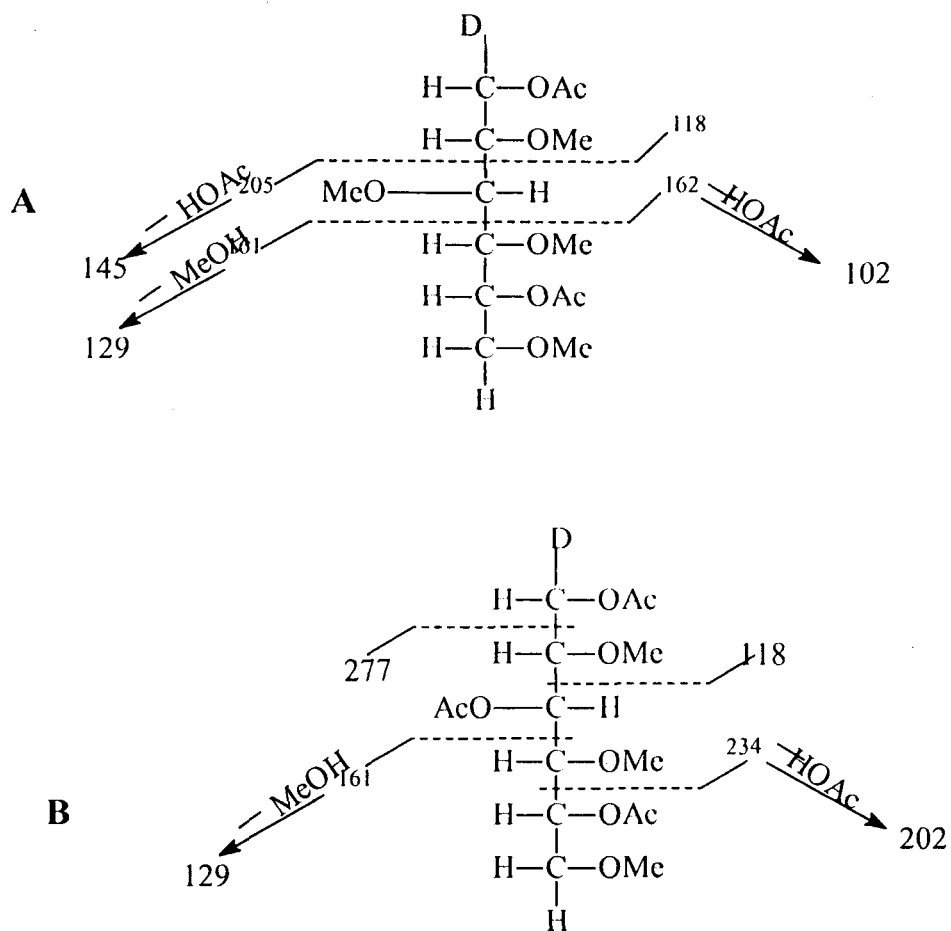


Figure s

Fragmentation of 1,5-di-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-2,3,4,6-tetra-O-methyl glucitol **A** and 1,3,5-tri-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-2,4,6-tri-O-methyl glucitol **B** during EI mass spectrometry.

Rule 1: Primary fragments are formed by cleavage of the alditol backbone.

Rule 2: The charge always resides on the fragment with a methoxy-bearing carbon atom adjacent to the cleavage point.

Rule 3: Fragmentation between two adjacent methoxy-bearing carbon atoms is favoured over fragmentation between a methoxy-bearing carbon atom and an acetoxy-bearing carbon atom, which itself is highly favoured over fragmentation between two acetoxy bearing carbon atoms.

Rule 4: Secondary fragment ions are produced by the loss of methanol or acetic acid. The loss of the substituent on the carbon β to the carbon bearing the charge is strongly preferred [See fig s].

Rule 5: When the PMAA are labeled at C-1 with a deuterium atom, the (nominal) charge-to-mass ratio (m/z) of a fragment ion that contains C-1 is even, whereas m/z of a fragment ion that does not contain C-1 is odd.

These fragmentation rules allow the rearrangement of the O-acetyl and O-methyl groups of most of the common PMAA to be readily determined. Two derivatives (1,2,3,4,-tetra-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-5-O-methyl pentitol and 1,2,3,4,5-penta-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-6-O methyl hexitol) however afford electron-impact mass spectra that are not readily interpreted by these rules. The spectra are illustrated in Fig. (t).

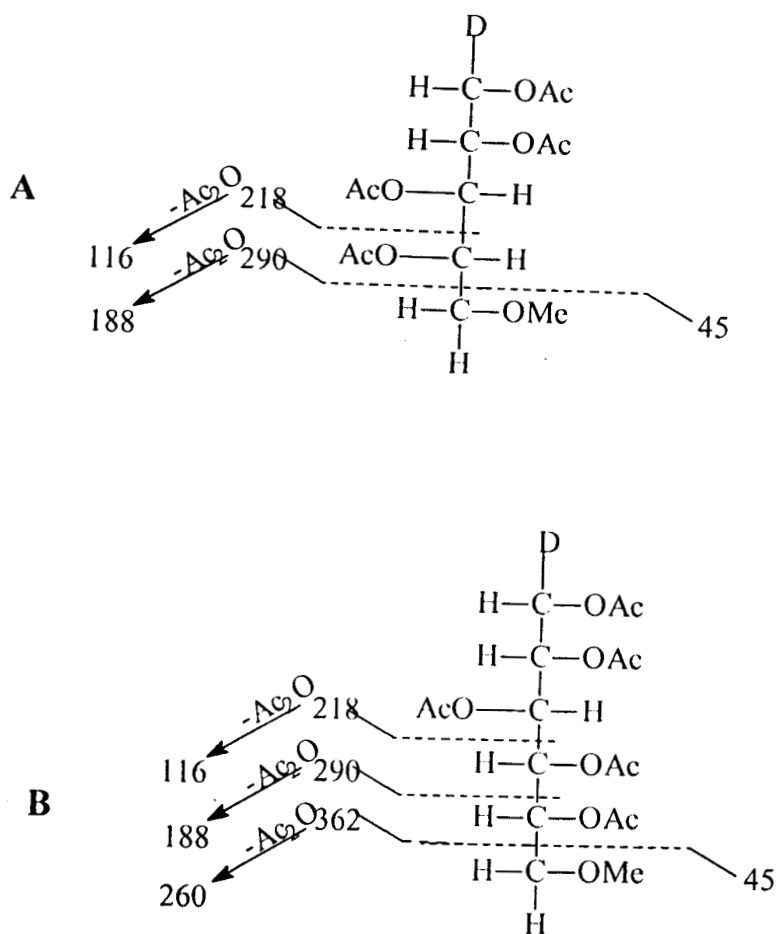


Figure t

Fragmentation of 1,2,3,4-tetra-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-5-O-methyl arabinitol **A** and 1,2,3,4,5-penta-O-acetyl-1-deuterio-6-O-methyl glucitol **B** during EI-MS.

Different stereoisomers of PMAA (e.g: glucitol v/s galactitol) that have the same arrangement of O-acetyl and O-methyl groups give

indistinguishable electron-impact mass spectra. However, such stereoisomers can be distinguished. The most common method to determine the stereochemistry of the PMAA is to compare its GC retention time with the retention times of standard compounds. The positions of O-acetyl and O-methyl groups can be determined by GC-MS, and since a pure glycoside was used as starting material, the GC retention time of each PMAA is unambiguously established. The retention times of PMAA prepared from Pg and Tc are compared to the retention times of appropriate standard PMAA.

GC analysis is used both to identify and to quantitate PMAA. The peak areas corresponding to each of the PMAA are divided by the appropriate response factor and the resulting quotients are normalized to 100%. Response factors are calculated by the effective carbon-response method as described.⁵³ See Table IX and Table X.

Table IX

Pg

| RES (peak) | Retention time (min.) | Peak area |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Terminal-rhamnose | 10.79 | 2691 |
| Terminal-arabinose (furanose) | 11.19 | 4833 |
| Terminal-arabinose | 12.16 | 3079 |
| Terminal-xylose | 12.39 | 28794 |
| 2-arabinose (furanose) | 13.65 | 8680 |
| Terminal mannose | 13.81 | 3777 |
| Terminal-glucose | 13.96 | 159442 |
| Terminal-galactose | 14.78 | 2124 |
| 4-arabinose or 5-arabinose (furanose) | 15.3 | 5821 |
| 4-xylose | 16.09 | 5539 |
| 3-glucose | 16.77 | 27804 |
| 2-mannose | 16.9 | 4084 |
| 2-glucose | 17.06 | 3671 |
| 3-galactose | 17.35 | 4725 |
| 6-glucose | 17.95 | 5165 |
| 4-galactose | 18.08 | 4902 |
| 4-glucose | 18.39 | 16739 |
| 4,6-glucose | 21.80 | 4734 |
| 3,6-galactose | 22.25 | 3672 |
| Myo-Inositol | 28.33 | 33408 |

Table X
Tc

| RES (peak) | Retention time (min.) | Response factor | Peak area |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Terminal glucose | 13.93 | 0.8 | 9951 |
| 4-xylose | 16.03 | 0.7 | 2769 |
| 4-glucose | 18.45 | 0.8 | 93282 |
| 4,6-glucose | 21.81 | 0.8 | 8274 |
| 2,3,4,6-glucose | 26.8 | 0.8 | 3399 |
| Myo-Inositol | 28.35 | | 32359 |

A summary of the response factors used for the common derivatives resulting from methylation analysis of polysaccharides is presented in Table XI.

Table XI
Response Factors for PMAA commonly produced during analysis of polysaccharide

| Type of derivative | Number of O-acetyl groups* | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Pentitol | 0.60 | 0.66 | 0.7 | 0.75 | |
| Hexitol | 0.70 | 0.74 | 0.8 | 0.84 | 0.89 |
| Deoxyhexitol | 0.70 | 0.75 | 0.79 | 0.84 | |

* The remaining positions of the alditols are substituted with O-methyl groups. The arrangement of the O-methyl and O-acetyl groups has such a small effect on the response factors that it need not be considered. Thus, for example, the Response factor for all hexitols containing two O-acetyl groups is 0.7, regardless of the arrangement of O-acetyl and O-methyl groups.

The carbohydrate analyses presented here (colourimetric analyses, glycosyl composition analyses and glycosyl-linkage composition analyses) are sufficient to determine the identity and purity of plant polysaccharides. Clearly these analyses are not sufficient to determine the complete primary structure of most polysaccharides. More detailed structural characterizations of polysaccharides such as glycosyl-residue sequencing is possible by means of other techniques,^{54,55} combined liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry⁵⁶ and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy.⁵⁷

III. 8. Biological studies

Carbohydrates from Pg and Tc were found to inhibit cell proliferation of cultured peripheral blood lymphocytes and the human leukaemic cell line K₅₆₂. It acted at the early stages of M phase (prophase) and prevented most of the cells from further progression in division. This resulted in several morphological changes in prophase. Lymphocyte proliferation studies (Blast transformation) were carried out in human lymphocyte culture, using polysaccharides from Pg and Tc, and both gave encouraging results. See Table XI a and XI b.

Table XI a
 Percentage of Blast transformation in human lymphocyte culture
 using **Pg** polysaccharide.

| | Sample | Lymphocyte | Blast |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|-------|
| Cultured (72 hrs). | Control | 78 | 22 |
| | Trial-1 | 38 | 62 |
| | Trial-2 | 41 | 52 |

Table XI b
 Percentage of Blast transformation in human lymphocyte culture
 using **Tc** polysaccharide.

| | Sample | Lymphocyte | Blast |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|-------|
| Cultured (72 hrs). | Control | 76 | 24 |
| | Trial-1 | 16 | 84 |
| | Trial-2 | 18 | 82 |

The mode of action of the polysaccharide on cell proliferation could be better understood from cytological investigations on the bone marrow preparations of Swiss inbred mice which were given intraperitoneal injection of three different concentrations of the polysaccharide. The results are summarized in Table XII. The carbohydrate from Pg caused cell division arrest mostly at prophase.

Mitotic index, percentage of aberrations and percentage of aberrations in cells undergoing mitosis in the normal bone marrow and that from animals treated with various concentrations of the polysaccharide are given in Tables XIII and XIV.

Table XII

Effects of the polysaccharide from Pg on mice bonemarrow

| Drug concentration | Normal interphase | Abnormal interphase | Normal prophase | Abnormal prophase | Normal metaphase | Abnormal metaphase | Normal anaphase | Abnormal anaphase | Normal telophase | Abnormal telophase |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Normal control | 200 | 10 | 300 | - | 80 | - | 20 | - | 390 | - |
| 1 µg/ml | 140 | 130 | 40 | 650 | - | 30 | - | 10 | - | - |
| 10 µg/ml | 120 | 180 | - | 690 | - | 10 | - | - | - | - |
| 100 µg/ml | 110 | 185 | - | 705 | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table XIII

Effect of Pg polysaccharide on mice bone marrow

| Sample | Concentration $\mu\text{g/ml}$ | Percentage of aberration |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Pg Polysaccharide | 1 | 82.0 |
| | 10 | 88.0 |
| | 100 | 89.0 |

(% Aberration in the control was taken as 1).

Table XIV

Effect of Pg polysaccharide on mitotic index and aberrations on mice bone marrow

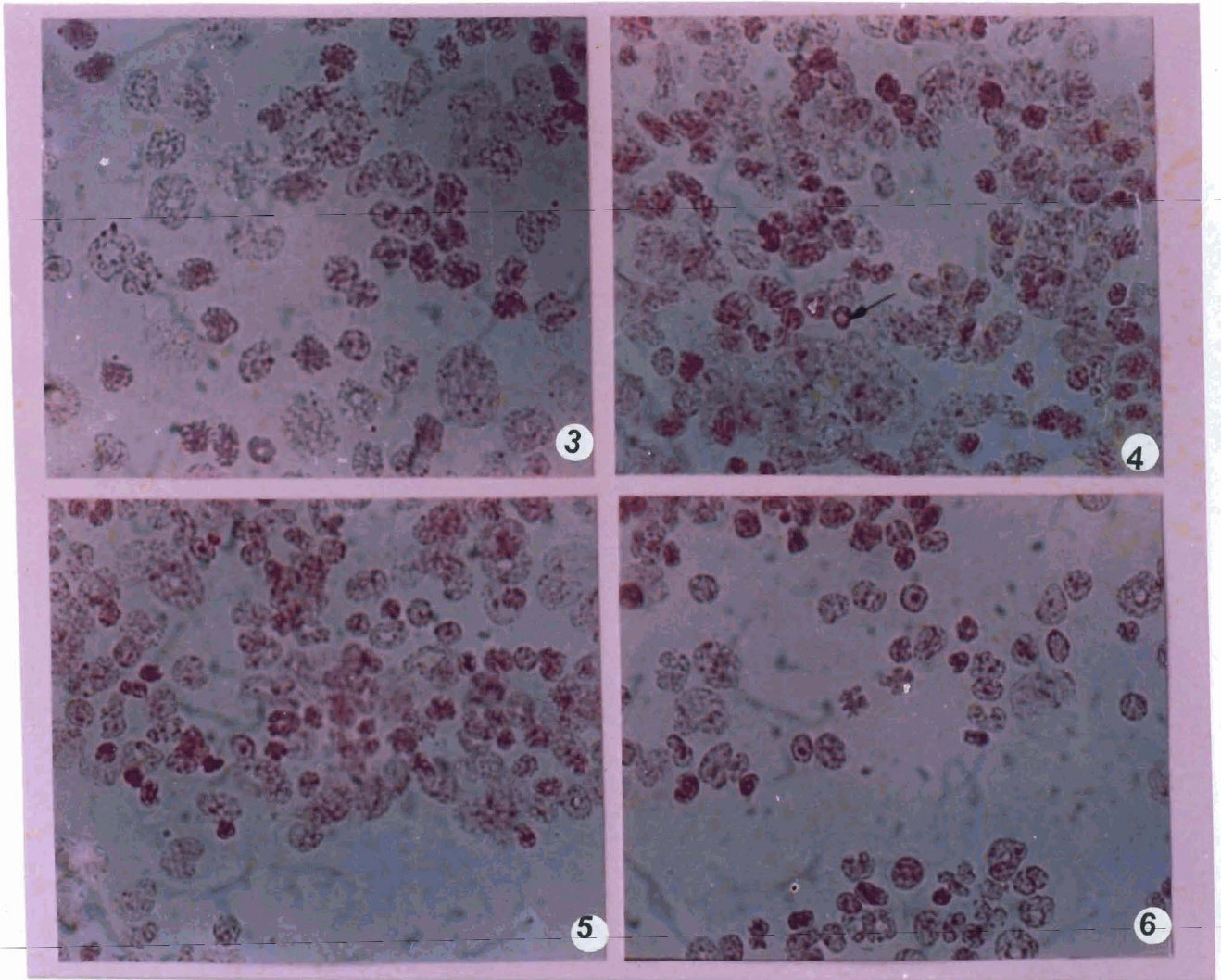
| Drug concentration | Mitotic index | % of aberrations | % of aberrations in cells undergoing mitosis |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| Normal controls | 79 | 1 | - |
| 1 $\mu\text{g} / \text{ml}$ | 73 | 82 | 69 |
| 10 $\mu\text{g} / \text{ml}$ | 67.5 | 88 | 70 |
| 100 $\mu\text{g} / \text{ml}$ | 67 | 89 | 70.5 |

Polysaccharide from Pg lowered mitotic index in treated bone marrow. Also there was a high incidence of mitotic aberrations. Stickiness of chromosomes at prophase, metaphase and anaphase leading to pycnotic irregular nuclei was also observed. [Plate III Fig 3-6 and Plate IV Fig 1-3].

Plate III

3. Bonemarrow preparation after treatment with 100 µg/ml *Punica granatum* polysaccharide. Mitotic arrest even at G₂ resulting in the picnosis of chromatic segments within the nucleus.
4. A bonemarrow preparation showing mitotic arrest at various stages resulting in picnotic irregular nucleus with a prominent central vacuole (arrow) is also seen in the picture – 100 µg/ml *Punica granatum* polysaccharide
5. Mitotic arrest after chromosome condensation resulting in picnotic irregular nuclei – 100 µg/ml *Punica granatum* polysaccharide
6. Chromosome stickiness at metaphase leading to rosette like formation. The chromosome number appears to be less. Picnotic nuclei were also seen in the same figure – 10 µg/ml *Punica granatum* polysaccharide.

84A



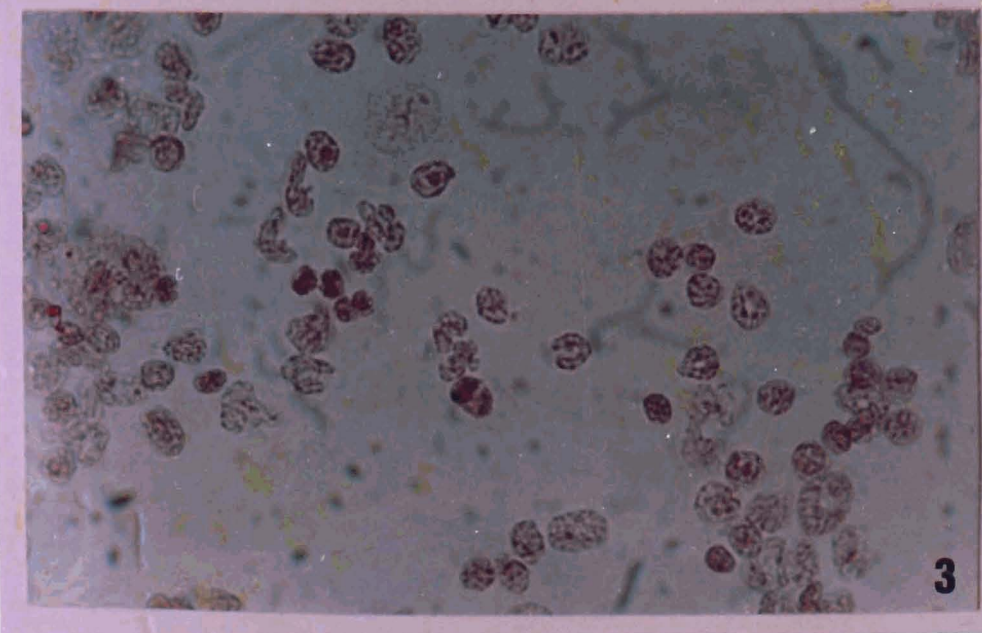
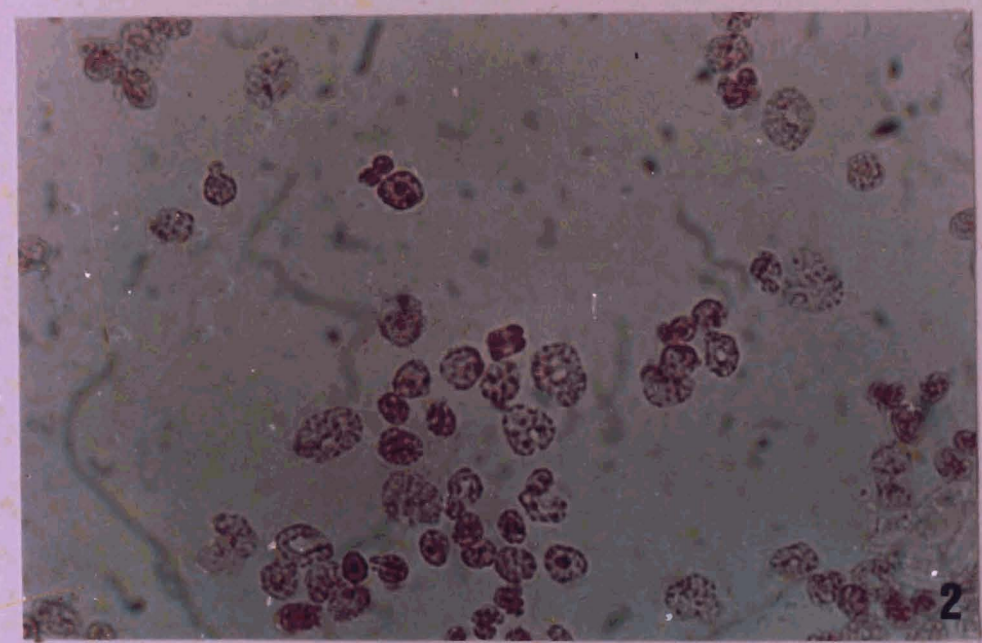
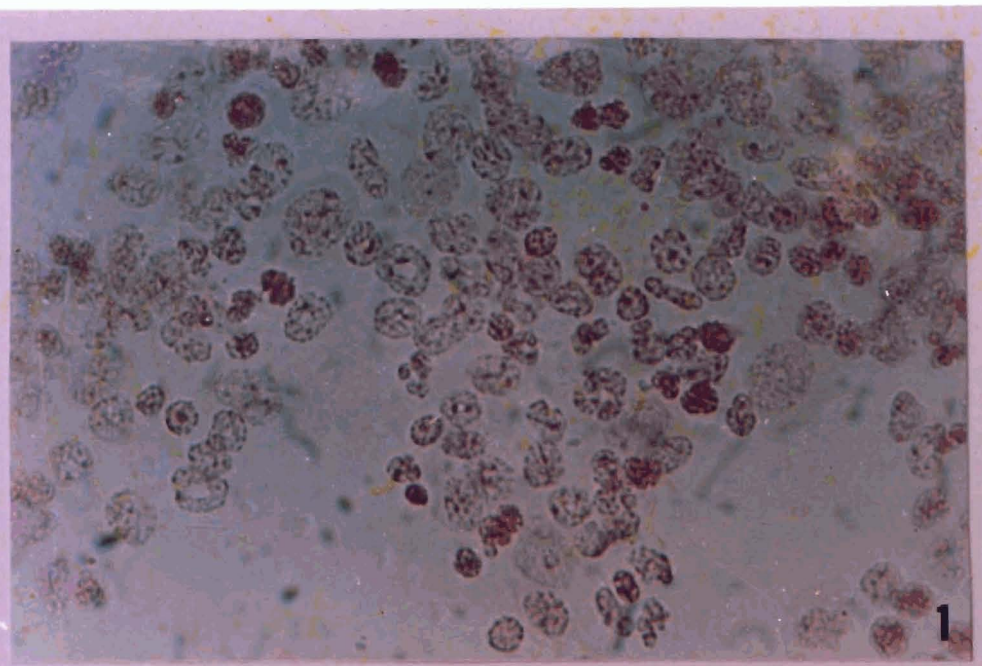
20

Plate IV

Bonemarrow preparations after treatment with 10 μg / ml *Punica granatum* polysaccharide

1. Mitotic arrest at prophase, metaphase and anaphase leading to picnotic irregular nuclei.
2. A bonemarrow cell at anaphase with stickness
3. Arrested anaphases, three neighbouring cells

85A



Administration of very low quantity of the polysaccharide of Pg in normal human leukocytes and also human leukaemic cell line K₅₆₂ in culture caused in the inhibition of cell proliferation, as described in the results.⁵⁸ Also, it was found that the polysaccharide from Pg blocked the cell division even from very early prophase.

Results from the cytological investigations on the bone marrow samples in Swiss inbred mice, which were given intraperitoneal injection with three different concentrations. The study revealed the mode of action of the polysaccharide. The mitotic index was lowered with increase in drug concentration. The percentage of mitotic arrest and mitotic abnormalities increased with increasing concentrations.

In the case of cultured normal leukocytes and leukaemic cell line K₅₆₂, the polysaccharide from Pg blocked cell division at prophase. Clumping and stickiness of chromosome at prophase and metaphase was a salient feature of treated bone marrow cells. Structural aberrations of chromosomes and micronuclei were observed only rarely. These effects qualify the polysaccharide to be in the group of antimitotic substances described by several authors.^{59,60} Nagl has expressed the view that endoreduplication, endomitosis and C-mitosis occur as a result of blockage to the cell cycle at G₂, early prophase and metaphase respectively.⁶¹

Blockage of the cell cycle at G₂ phase results in the lengthening of the synthetic phase (S-phase) giving more chance for extra replication of chromatin which results in endoreduplication.

It is to be noted that the polysaccharide is also capable of causing stickiness of chromosome, spindle abnormalities and arrest of cell cycle at anaphase or early telophase stages. Deysson stated that several antimitotic substances share these properties.⁶⁰

In the light of the present results, it will be desirable to subject these polysaccharides to further drug screening programmes. These polysaccharides are not toxic to animals or human beings.

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CHAPTER - IV
EXPERIMENTAL

EXPERIMENTAL

IV. 1. Plant materials

The plant materials used in this investigation were collected from Malappuram district of Kerala, India and were authenticated by Dr.A.K.Pradeep, of Botany department, University of Calicut where voucher specimens have been deposited. The fruit rind of *Punica granatum* and stem pieces of *Tinospora cordifolia* were shade dried and powdered, 500g each of the powdered sample were taken for extraction.

IV. 2. Methods

All the chemicals were purchased from E.Merck, Sigma Chemicals Company, Pharmacia Fine Chemicals, Qualigen, BDH, Kasei Kogyo Co. Ltd.(Tokyo) and Pierce Chemical Company (USA)

Names and structures of the sugars are given according to IUPAC rules of Carbohydrate nomenclature. (1997).¹

(a) GC of sugar derivatives was carried out using a Varian 3700 instrument (30 W,0.25 mm/30 m) with a WCOT OV 225 capillary column (Durabond fused-silica column) and a temperature programme: 175° - 205° (1°/min) 205° isothermal (15 minutes)²

(b) GC/MS analyses were performed with Quadrex and Hewlett-Packard model. GLC-MS HP 5970 equipped with HP 9825 B-100% methyl silicon-and a printer HP 2671 G, with a fused-silica, 30 meter (0.25 mm i.d) capillary column (Supelco Sp 2330) in a splitless mode. The following temperature programme is used: Two minutes at an initial temperature of 80°, increased to 170° at 30°/ min, then to 240° at 4° /min. and held for 5 min at 240°–scanning every 2 seconds for 5 minutes and every 1 second for 40 minutes (50-650) and every 1 second for 40 minutes (30-600). The response factors, relative to the internal standard, myo-inositol are determined empirically by injecting the standards and determining the peak areas for each sugar derivative.

The recorded mass spectra were compared with the reference spectra in the mass spectral data base of the associated computers using the probability based matching (PBM) search algorithm supplied by the manufacturer.

(c) Lyophilization was carried out using SAVANT (USA) RVT 400 speed vac. SC 110 concentrator and freeze drier.

(d) Ultracentrifugation was performed on analytical centrifuge, KUBOTA KR 20000T (Japan) machine with RA-2 12 ml×12 tubes at 10°C.

- (e) Ion-exchange resin chromatography was carried out using a column of Dowex 50-X4 200-400 mesh (H⁺ form) coupled to a column of Dowex 1-X8 200-400 mesh (formate form). The Dowex 1-formate resin was prepared from the chloride form of the resin by passage of 3N sodium formate through it until a negative test for chloride is obtained, followed by extensive wash with distilled water.
- (f) Column chromatographic separation of the crude and semipurified extracts were carried out using Silica gel (60, Merck 230-400 mesh). The column was prepared as a slurry with hexane or chloroform and eluted with selected chromatographic solvents.
- (g) The thin layer chromatographic analysis was performed on 1mm coated microscope slides, 5 × 20 cm, and 10 × 20 cm. Adsorbents for TLC were Silica gel G (Merck) and Cellulose powder (Sigma). Slurries were prepared in the medium, chloroform-methanol (2:1, v/v) in the proportion 35 g/100 ml with Silica gel G, and in the medium, chloroform-methanol(50:50, v/v) in the proportion 50 g/100 ml with Cellulose powder.
- (h) Paper chromatography was carried out using the descending technique on 31 ET Chr 460 × 570 Chromatographic paper and Whatman No. 1 filter paper.
- (i) Elution was done with the following solvent mixtures.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| (A) 1-butanol/ethanol/water | 5 : 1 : 4 |
| (B) 1-butanol/2-propanol/water | 11 : 6 : 3 |
| (C) ethyl acetate/pyridine/water | 10 : 4 : 3 |
| (D) ethyl acetate /pyridine/water | 2 : 1 : 2 |
| (E) 1-butanol/ethanol/water | 31 : 11 : 9 |
| (F) 1-butanol/acetic acid/water | 3 : 1 : 2 |

(j) Detection of sugar spots was achieved by the following reagents;

(A) Phenol –Sulphuric acid

Reagent: 3 g of phenol + 5 ml of concentrated sulphuric acid in 95 ml of ethanol

Procedure: Spray and heat 10 to 15 minutes at 110° . Spots may be intensified by additional heating.

Carbohydrates show brown spots.

(B). Aniline phosphate

Reagent : Add 20 ml of aniline to 200 ml of water , then add 180 ml of acetic acid followed by 10 ml of phosphoric acid. Store at 4° .

Procedure: Dilute 2 parts of the reagent with 3 parts of acetone for spraying. Heat plate at 100° for 2 to 5 min.

Pentoses show red-brown, aldoses yellow or yellow brown.

(C) Aniline phthalate

Reagent: 0.93 g of aniline + 1.66g of phthalic acid in 100ml of moist butanol

Procedure: Spray, then heat for 10 minutes at 105° .

(D) Diphenylamine-aniline- phosphoric acid

Reagent : Mix 4 g diphenylamine, 4 ml aniline and 20 ml syrupy (80%) ortho phosphoric acid in 200 ml acetone. This is to be prepared as required and used fresh. If kept at 0° , the reagent appears to be satisfactory for 1-2 weeks.

Procedure: Spray, then heat at 80° for 4 minutes. Grey-brown spots for D-glucose, D-galactose, D-mannose. Bright red-brown for D-galacturonic acid and orange spot for L-rhamnose.³

(E) Anthrone

Reagent: (i) 10% sulphuric acid

(ii) 1% (w/v) anthrone in benzene

Procedure: Spray with (i) followed by (ii). Heat at 100° for 10 minutes. Colours are not stable and disappear on cooling. Reappear on reheating.

(F) p-Methoxy benzaldehyde

Reagent: 1 ml of p-methoxy benzaldehyde and 1ml of sulphuric acid in 18 ml of ethanol.

Procedure : Spray reagent and heat plate to 110° .

Sugars show green, blue and violet spots in 10 min.

(G) Naphthoresorcinol

Reagent: 200 mg naphthoresorcinol in 100ml of ethanol + 10 ml of phosphoric acid.

Procedure: After spraying , heat plates to 110° for 5 to 10 min

(H) Anisidine phthalate

Reagent : 0.1 M solution of p-anisidine and phthalic acid in 96% ethanol.

Hexoses show green, pentoses red-violet and uronic acids brown.⁴

(k) Gel filtration chromatography

In GFC, the stationary phase is solvent-swollen hydrophilic gel in the form of porous beads; and mobile phase is an aqueous solvent. The liquid outside the beads (the mobile phase) and that inside the beads is the same except that the liquid inside is immobilized. Small molecules penetrate the gel particles and are retarded and eluted later than large molecules which will move only in interstitial volume.

Sephadex G-200 (Pharmacia Fine Chemicals) was used for gel filtration in aqueous media. It was allowed to swell in water for 3 days at room temperature. Ultrogel AcA-44 (LKB) is also used.

(l) Phosphate buffer (0.025 M)

3.40 g of KH_2PO_4 and 3.55 g of Na_2HPO_4 (dried for 2 hours at 110- 130⁰) were dissolved in CO_2 free water and diluted to 1 litre. The solution is stable when protected from undue exposure to the atmosphere.

pH 6.88 at 20⁰

pH 6.86 at 25⁰

pH 6.85 at 30⁰

Phosphate buffered saline (PBS)

2.56 g $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 11.94 g Na_2HPO_4 and 87.66 g NaCl were dissolved in CO_2 free water and diluted to 1 liter.

pH 7.2 - 7.4 at 25⁰

IV. 3. Isolation of polysaccharides

The powdered plant material (500 g) was extracted with petroleum ether (boiling point 60-80⁰) at room temperature for 72 hours (800 ml \times 3) followed by methanol, (800 ml \times 3) filtered and dried. This was then suspended in cold water (2000 ml) and kept

overnight with occasional stirring. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated (500 ml) using a rotary flash evaporator at 50° under reduced pressure. To this 95% ethanol (1500 ml) was added slowly and stirred for 6 hours. It was then allowed to stand at 4° for 24 hours; the precipitate was collected by ultracentrifugation (20,000 rpm at 10° for 15 min). The supernatant liquid was removed and the residue obtained was dissolved in a minimum quantity of distilled water (300 ml). This solution was again precipitated by treating with 95% ethanol (1000ml) and the precipitated polysaccharide was collected by ultracentrifugation at 20,000 rpm. The process was repeated 3 times and the residue was collected and dissolved in minimum quantity of distilled water (200 ml) followed by dialysis against distilled water for 48 hours at several changes of water. The collected polysaccharide was dried over fused calcium chloride under reduced pressure. The desiccated polysaccharide was dissolved in water and shaken well with chloroform (100ml) in a separating funnel, the denatured protein in the form of gel which collected at water/chloroform interphase, was removed.^{5,6} The procedure was repeated four times to get the polysaccharide free from protein, when the water/chloroform interphase became clear. To facilitate the denaturation a pH 4-5 buffer was used instead of water and small quantities of 1-butanol was added. The clear aqueous layer was again treated with 95% ethanol (500 ml) to precipitate the polysaccharide. This was then collected by ultracentrifugation (20,000 rpm at 10° for

15 min) and dissolved in water (200 ml), dialyzed against distilled water for 48 hours in the cold; freeze-dried using a Savant Lyophilizer for 6 hours. The yield of polysaccharide from each plant material was as follows:

Punica granatum 900 mg

Tinospora cordifolia 1300 mg

IV. 4. Purification of polysaccharides

The polysaccharides were purified by gel filtration chromatography using Sephadex G-200 and Ultrogel AcA-44 (LKB), 0.001 M Phosphate buffered saline (PBS) was used as the eluent. 500 mg lyophilized crude sample was suspended in the buffer and chromatographed through a column of Sephadex G-200 (2.5 cm × 75 cm) equilibrated with the buffer. 3 ml fractions were collected in test tubes and monitored by the absorbance of the eluent at 490nm using phenol-sulphuric acid. For Pg saccharide, a single peak was obtained for fractions 4 to 36, by plotting absorbance as abscissa and fraction number as ordinate. This was pooled and concentrated under vacuum (10 ml). The concentrate thus obtained was again chromatographed using Ultrogel Ac A-44 column (2.5 cm × 75 cm) and PBS as eluent. This process also gave a single peak. The pooled fraction containing the polysaccharide was lyophilized and stored at 4° for analyses (yield 400 mg)

In the case of Tc polysaccharide, two peaks were obtained, a major peak for fractions 12 to 30 and a minor one for fractions 38 to 42, with an area ratio 5:1 in the chromatography on Sephadex G-200 column (2.5 × 75 cm). The major peak fractions were pooled and concentrated under vacuum (10 ml) and were then subjected to Ultrogel AcA-44 column chromatography (2.5 cm × 75 cm) to yield only a single peak. The volume under the peak was collected and lyophilized and stored at 4° for analyses (yield 300 mg).

IV. 5. Zone electrophoresis

To test the homogeneity of the purified polysaccharides, sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis was performed.⁷ A 10% gel at pH 7.2 was used.

For the preparation of 10% gel : Working solution (a) contained 30 g acrylamide and 0.735 g bis-acrylamide. (b) 0.05 M phosphate buffer pH 7.5 and (c) ammonium persulphate 10 mg/ml

Pipette out 2 ml (a) and 3.5 ml (b) into a conical flask. 50 µl TEMED was added to the conical flask followed by 4.5 ml (c). Immediately after the addition of ammonium persulphate, gel is transferred to the tube. A constant and rapid flow must be required. Over that a little distilled water is added to avoid miniscus formation of gel. Kept 45 min at room temperature. After removing the upper layer of water, wells were cut using the appropriate comb.

Samples were prepared in buffer containing 1% (w/v) SDS and 5% (v/v) 2-mercaptoethanol and kept at 100⁰ for 3-4 minutes before application. The preparation of the polysaccharide samples were then applied to the gel and electrophoresis was carried out at 3 mA current per gel the bromophenol blue marker the other end of the gel. The gel was then treated with a solution of isopropanol, acetic acid, water (25:10:65) (2 times, 1 hour each) in bromosilicate tubes to fix the polyacrylamide. This was then placed in a solution of thymol (0.2 % w/v) for 3 hours, decanted and drained to remove the solution completely. A solution of concentrated sulphuric acid- absolute alcohol (80: 20 v/v 10 ml) was added to the tube and shaken for about 3 hours at 35⁰ until the opalescence disappeared. Zones containing polysaccharides stained red, with an yellow colour for the rest of the gel portion. Single bands were obtained for the two polysaccharides.

IV. 6. Molecular weight estimation

Average molecular weights of the purified polysaccharide samples were estimated from gel filtration chromatographic experiments using Sephadex G-200 column (2 cm × 75 cm). It was eluted with 0.001M PBS at a flow rate of 20 ml per hour . A series of dextrans 10, 20, 40, 70 and T- 500 (Pharmacia Fine Chemicals) was used as reference standard and molecular weights were estimated from the linear correlation between the logarithm of the molecular

weights of the standards and the ratios of their elution volumes to the void volume of the column^{8,9}.

The following molecular weights were obtained

Punica granatum (Pg) 110,000 D

Tinospora cordifolia (Tc) 40,000 D

IV. 7. Colourimetric method

2 ml of sugar solution containing between 10 and 70 μg is pipetted into a colourimetric tube, and 1 ml of 5% phenol in water is added. Then 5 ml concentrated H_2SO_4 is added rapidly, the stream of acid being directed against the liquid surface rather than against the side of the test tube in order to get good mixing. The tubes are allowed to stand 10 minutes, then they are shaken and placed for 10 to 20 min in a water bath at 25° – 30° before readings are taken. The colour is stable for several hours. The absorbance of characteristic yellow orange colour is measured at 490 nm for hexoses and 480nm for pentoses and uronic acid. Blanks are prepared by substituting distilled water for sugar solution. The amount of sugar are then determined by reference to the standard curve previously drawn for the particular sugar under examination.¹⁰ The percentage of sugar in each of the sample was estimated as 10% and 76 % for Pg and Tc respectively.

IV. 8. Anthrone assay

To a 16 × 125 – mm test tube containing less than 20 µg of hexose in 500 µl of water, carefully added 1 ml of 0.2% anthrone in concentrated H₂SO₄. Mixed thoroughly, heated in boiling-water bath for 5 minutes. Cool and read absorbance at 620nm.¹¹

IV. 9. Orcinol assay for pentoses and uronic acid

To a 16 × 125 – mm test tube containing less than 10µg of pentose and /or uronic acid in 0.5 ml water, added 67 µl of 6% orcinol in 95% ethanol. Added 1 ml of 0.1% FeCl₃.6H₂O in conc. HCl. Mixed thoroughly, heated in a boiling-water bath for 20 min., and are allowed to cool. Read absorbance at 665 nm.¹²

IV. 10. Meta-hydroxy biphenyl assay

To a 16 × 125 – mm test tube containing less than 20µg of uronic acid in 200 µl of water, carefully added 1.2 ml of ice- cold borate solution (4.77 g Na₂B₄O₇.10 H₂O per litre of conc. H₂SO₄), mix thoroughly, heat in boiling- water bath for 5 min., and immediately cool in an ice-water bath. Add 20 µl of 0.15% m – hydroxy biphenyl in 0.5% NaOH and mix thoroughly. Allow colour to develop for 5 min. and read absorbance at 520 nm.¹³

IV. 11. (a) Hydrolysis

The polysaccharide sample (20mg) was hydrolyzed with 1M H₂SO₄ (20 ml) at 100⁰ in sealed tubes for 6 hours. After cooling, the excess acid was removed by passage over a small column

(1 cm × 50cm) of Dowex 50-X4, 200-400 mesh (H⁺ form) coupled to a column of Dowex 1-X8, 200 – 400 mesh (formate form), anion exchange resin and eluted with deionized water. The eluate was concentrated (to 10 ml) in a rotory flash evaporator.

The hydrolysates (0.5 μl) were applied on TLC plate cellulose (Sigma, 1 mm thick 10 cm × 20 cm) and the chromatogram was developed using 1-butanol / acetic acid/water (3:1:2) and other solvent mixtures, given earlier. For identification of spots, aniline-diphenyl amine-phosphoric acid³ spray reagent and other spray reagents given earlier were used. Constituent saccharides were identified by comparison with R_f values of authentic samples and also by co-chromatography with authentic samples.

IV. 11 (b) Graded hydrolysis

50 mg each of the polysaccharide were hydrolyzed with 50 mM H₂SO₄ (10 ml) in sealed tubes for 4 hours at 100⁰. Paper chromatography (pc) of their hydrolysates after 15, 30, 45, 60, 90 and 120 minutes indicated the early release of D-glucose, D-galactose, D-galacturonic acid followed by D-mannose. These were identified by co-chromatography with authentic samples.

IV. 12. Trimethylsilylation

100 mg each of the freeze dried polysaccharide samples were transferred to 13 × 100-mm test tubes. 250 μl of 1 M HCl in methanol is added, and the resulting solutions are heated at 80° for

16 hours. [The 1M HCl in methanol can be prepared either by slowly adding acetyl chloride to methanol (special care is to be taken as this is a very exothermic reaction) or by bubbling HCl gas into methanol, determining the HCl concentration by titration, and then diluting to proper concentration]. This converts the polysaccharide into a mixture of methyl glycosides and methyl ester methyl glycosides of the glycosyluronic acids. The methanolic HCl is removed by adding 100 μ l of t-butyl alcohol and then evaporating with a stream of air at room temperature.¹⁴ The methyl glycosides and methyl ester methyl glycosides are silylated using 5 ml of anhydrous pyridine (reagent grade pyridine dried over KOH pellets), 1 ml of hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS) and 0.5 ml trimethylchlorosilane (TMCS), which is purchased conveniently in these proportions as Tri-Sil (Pierce Chemical company, USA). The samples are heated to 80° for 20 min., and the silylating reagent is gently evaporated at room temperature. The solutions became cloudy on addition of trimethylchlorosilane owing to precipitation, presumably of ammonium chloride. No attempt was made to remove this, which in no way interfered with the subsequent gas chromatography. The derivatives are redissolved in hexane (10 ml) and insoluble salts are allowed to settle. The supernatant is transferred to a clean test tube and carefully evaporated. The residue is dissolved in 100 μ l of hexane, and 1 μ l of this solution is analyzed by GC.

IV. 13. Methylation, Hydrolysis, Reduction and Acetylation

The polysaccharides were methylated using NaOH/Mel method.¹⁵ To a solution of the carbohydrate sample (5 mg) in dimethyl sulphoxide (0.5 ml) were added finely powdered NaOH (20 mg) and methyl iodide (0.1 ml). Each mixture was stirred (100 rpm) for 6 minutes in a closed tube at 25°. [13 × 100-mm test tube fitted with a Teflon-lined screwcap]. Water (1 ml) and chloroform (1 ml) were then added, and the chloroform layer was washed with water (3 × 10 ml) and dried (Na₂SO₄).

The methylated polysaccharides are then hydrolyzed to form free glycoses as follows: 2M trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) [250 µl containing myo-inositol (25 µg) as an internal standard] is added to each sample, including the standard. The samples are placed in a heating block at 121° for 2 hours. The 2M TFA is then evaporated at 40° under a stream of air. When the tube appears dry, 250 µl of isopropyl alcohol is added and evaporated at room temperature. The evaporation of isopropyl alcohol results in more complete removal of the TFA. The resulting partially O-methylated glycoses are reduced to be corresponding partially O-methylated alditols by dissolving them in 95% ethanol (220 µl) and adding aqueous NaBD₄ (200 µl of 10 mg/ml in 1M NH₄OH). The test tube is closed with Teflon-lined screwcap and kept for 1 hour at room temperature. Acetic acid (50 µl) is then added to the tube to convert the excess borodeuteride into

borate. Acetic acid-methanol (1:9 v/v, 200 μ l) is added to the tube, its contents are mixed, and the solvents are evaporated with air at room temperature. Three more evaporations of 1:9 (v/v) acetic acid-methanol (200 μ l) are followed by two evaporations of methanol (200 μ l).

The partially O-methylated alditols are O-acetylated as follows: Acetic anhydride (50 μ l) is added to the test tube containing the partially O-methylated alditols. The tube is sealed and heat for 3 hours at 120°. The tube is then allowed to cool to room temperature and water (500 μ l) is added. Solid Na₂CO₃ is added a small amount (25 mg) at a time, until effervescence ceases. If all of the Na₂CO₃ does not dissolve, more water can be added. Dichloromethane (500 μ l) is then added to the tube, and the contents of the tube are mixed. The organic and water phases are separated by centrifugation at low speed. The methylene chloride phase is removed, transferred to a fresh tube and carefully evaporated. Great care must be taken in evaporating the methylene chloride to prevent loss of some of the more volatile partially O-acetylated, partially O-methylated alditols. These products are analyzed by GC and by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)

IV. 14. Biological studies

Sterile precautions were taken while carrying out these experiments.

(a) Leukocyte migration inhibition (LMI)

Leukocytes were collected from normal controls and prepared at a concentration of 1×10^8 cell/ml. LMI was carried out by the method of Roklin (1976)¹⁶.

$$\text{Calculation of migration index} = \frac{\text{Area of migration in test}}{\text{Area of migration in control}}$$

Tissue culture medium (TC 199) used alone, served as the control.

(b) Phagocytosis

The reaction mixture consisted of approximately 1.2×10^6 neutrophils in 1ml of Hank's balanced salt solution and 5% fetal calf serum and the polysaccharide (5 μg in 50 μl). This mixture was preincubated in a water bath at 37° for 7 min. A suspension of yeast particles was diluted with saline solution to 25×10^7 particles per ml and heated at 100° for 30 min. To the preincubated reaction mixture, 0.1 ml of the suspension of the yeast particles was added and incubation continued at 37° for 60 min. The number of yeast particles phagocytosed by neutrophils was counted after staining with 5% Fuchsin in phenol solution.⁹

$$\text{Phagocytic index} = \frac{\text{Number of yeast phagocytosed by 100 neutrophils in test}}{\text{Number of yeast phagocytosed by 100 neutrophils in test control}}$$

0.1 M Phosphate buffered saline (PBS pH 7.2) was used as the control

(c) Anti-complimentary activity

The method of Yamada *et al*¹⁷ was used. Gelatin-Veronal-buffered saline (pH 7.4) containing 500 μ M magnesium chloride and 150 μ m calcium chloride (GVBP²⁺) was prepared and normal human serum (NHS) was obtained from a healthy adult. Various dilutions of the sample in the mixtures were pre-incubated at 37° for 30 min and 350 μ l of GVBP²⁺ was added. The residual hemolytic complement (TCH₅₀) was determined. NHS was incubated with water to provide a control.

(d) Toxicity profile

The toxicity studies on the plant extracts in mice were carried out. The purified polysaccharides were administered and the animals were observed continuously for 2 hours, 4 hours and finally over night.

(e) Cytogenetical studies

The experiments were in mice, in human leukemic cell line K₅₆₂ and also in human perpheral blood lymphocytes.

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CHAPTER - V
SUMMARY

SUMMARY

Carbohydrates are some of the most important chemical compounds of the biological world and are the key substances of life. Understanding the roles played by the carbohydrates is one of the greater frontiers in the advancement of molecular biology. It has been established that, polysaccharides are involved in a myriad of important functions and pharmacological activities. In recent years, many pharmacologically active plant polysaccharides have been isolated and structural characterization have been accomplished.

Extracts of *Punica granatum* and *Tinospora cordifolia* have been extensively used in folk medicine for various ailments. Biological studies of the polysaccharides isolated from these plant sources gave encouraging results, which in turn suggest that the active principles were polysaccharides. The chemical and structural characterization of these macromolecules are presented in this study.

For the isolation and purification of the polysaccharides, standard procedures for water soluble polysaccharides were followed. Final purification was carried out by gel permeation chromatography. The homogeneity of the purified compounds were tested using sodium dodecylsulphate

polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and found to be homogeneous. Molecular weights were determined by gel filtration chromatography using Sephadex G-200 with a series of dextrans as standard. The molecular weights obtained were as follows:

Punica granatum 1,10,000 D

Tinospora cordifolia 40,000 D

For characterization, various chemical and spectroscopic analyses were carried out. Complete hydrolysis, graded hydrolysis and thin layer chromatographic analysis and co-chromatography using standard sugars revealed the constituent monosaccharides to be glucose, galactose, mannose, rhamnose, arabinose, xylose and galacturonic acid.

Glycosyl composition analysis of the purified polysaccharides were carried out in the following manner:

The samples were freeze dried prior to methanolysis. They were hydrolyzed using freshly prepared 1 M methanolic – HCl for 16 hours at 80° C. The released sugars were treated with anhydrous pyridine, hexamethyldisilazane and trimethylchlorosilane, and converted to trimethylsilyl derivatives. The derivatized samples were analyzed by GC-MS studies. Myo-inositol was added as an internal standard. The relative retention times of the products and their main fragments in the mass spectra, response factors and peak areas gave the mole % of glycosyl residues

of the polysaccharides from *Punica granatum* and *Tinospora cordifolia*.

Polysaccharide from *Punica granatum* was found to contain glucose (52.8%), arabinose (5.4%), galactose (4.6%), mannose (1.7%), rhamnose (1.5%), xylose (0.5%) and galacturonic acid (33.5%). Polysaccharide from *Tinospora cordifolia* was completely different and is mostly a glucose polymer; glucose (98%), xylose (0.8%), arabinose (0.5%), galactose (0.3%), rhamnose (0.2%) and mannose (0.2%).

Complex carbohydrates are often subjected to different chemical modifications in order to gain information on sequences and anomeric configurations. Methylation analysis has proved to be valuable for following the results of such modifications. Here, the glycosyl linkage analyses were carried out in the following manner:

The samples were methylated using the NaOH/MeI method. The methylated samples were hydrolyzed in 2 M TFA at 121°C for 2 hours and the hydrolyzed carbohydrate was reduced with sodium borodeuteride at room temperature. The product was acetylated using acetic anhydride at 120°C for 3 hours. The partially methylated alditol acetates were analyzed by GC-MS using Sp 2330 Supelco column. Internal standard, myo-inositol, was added to each sample prior to reduction step.

Polysaccharides from *Punica granatum* was also methylated under different conditions in order to obtain the galacturonic acid linkage. The

sample was pre-reduced with superdeuteride for three hours at room temperature prior to the 2 M TFA hydrolysis and reduction step.

The recorded mass spectra were compared with the reference spectra in the mass spectral database of associated computers using the probability based matching (PBM) search algorithm supplied by the manufacturer. The response factors, relative to the internal standard, myo-inositol, are determined empirically by injecting the standards and the peak areas for each sugar derivative are determined. Peak areas gave percentage of different carbohydrate residues in *Punica granatum* as follows.

| Carbohydrate residues | % Present |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Terminal-rhamnose | 3.4 |
| Terminal-arabinose (furanose) | 7.2 |
| Terminal-arabinose | 0.8 |
| Terminal-xylose | 1.7 |
| 2-arabinose (furanose) | 1.3 |
| Terminal mannose | 1.7 |
| Terminal-glucose | 31.6 |
| Terminal-galactose | 2.1 |
| 4-arabinose or 5-arabinose (furanose) | 6.0 |
| 4-xylose | 2.2 |

| | |
|---------------|------|
| 3-glucose | 3.4 |
| 2-mannose | 0.6 |
| 2-glucose | 2.5 |
| 3-galactose | 1.5 |
| 6-glucose | 6.0 |
| 4-galactose | 2.0 |
| 4-glucose | 21.7 |
| 4,6-glucose | 3.0 |
| 3,6-galactose | 1.3 |

The sample also contained galactronic acid that was tested in a separate experiment. The galactronic acid was 4-galactronic acid.

The polysaccharide from *Tinospora cordifolia* was difficult to dissolve in dimethyl sulphoxide. The first attempt of methylation analysis of this sample produced about 60% undermethylation which results from some of the sample not dissolving well in the first stage of permethylation of the carbohydrate. Undermethylation is very common in large polymers. This sample seems to be a polymer of 4-glucose with about 8% terminal glucose showing the 1-glucose linkage.

| Carbohydrate residues | % Present |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Terminal glucose | 8.4 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 4-xylose | 2.3 |
| 4-glucose | 79.2 |
| 4,6-glucose | 7.0 |
| 2,3,4,6-glucose (undermethylation) | 3.1 |

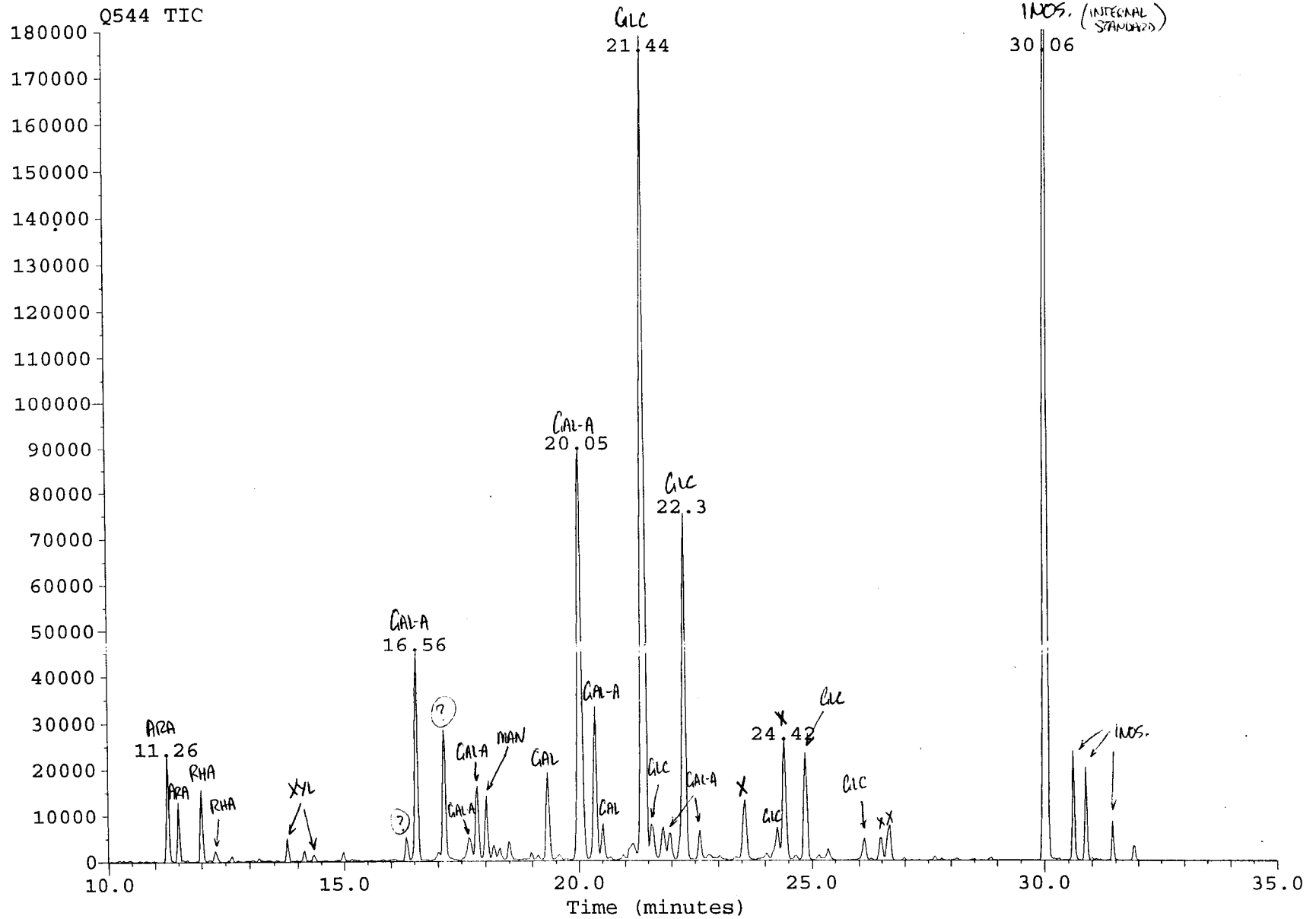
Biological studies were carried out at Regional Cancer Center,
Thiruvananthapuram, India.

SPECTRA

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COMPOSITION ANALYSIS

MS-1 TMS



27

Quadrex

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Acquired on Tue Aug 31 11:39:01 1999

Sample mj-1, Vol 2 Dil 1 Group 0

tms

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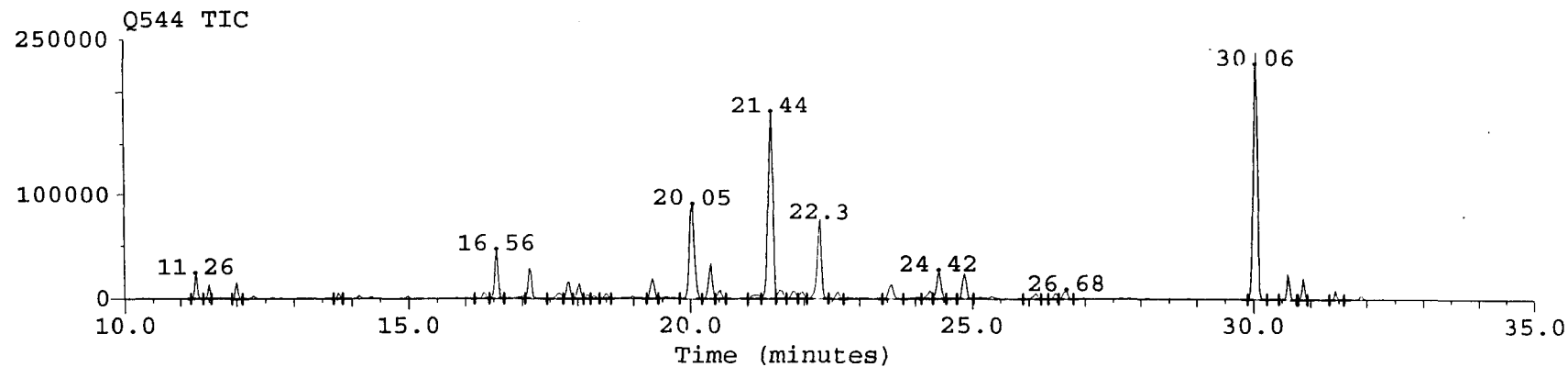
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Scan Parameters:

SCAN every 2 secs for 5 min

SCAN every 1 secs for 40 min

50-650



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| 11.50 | 594.569 | 13017 | 0.71 | 2.90 |
| 12.00 | 804.791 | 15600 | 0.96 | 3.92 |
| 13.78 | 273.448 | 5213 | 0.32 | 1.33 |
| 16.32 | 373.808 | 5273 | 0.44 | 1.82 |
| 16.56 | 3185.977 | 45519 | 3.78 | 15.52 |
| 17.14 | 2241.682 | 28534 | 2.66 | 10.92 |
| 17.66 | 582.551 | 5069 | 0.69 | 2.84 |

MJ-1 TMS

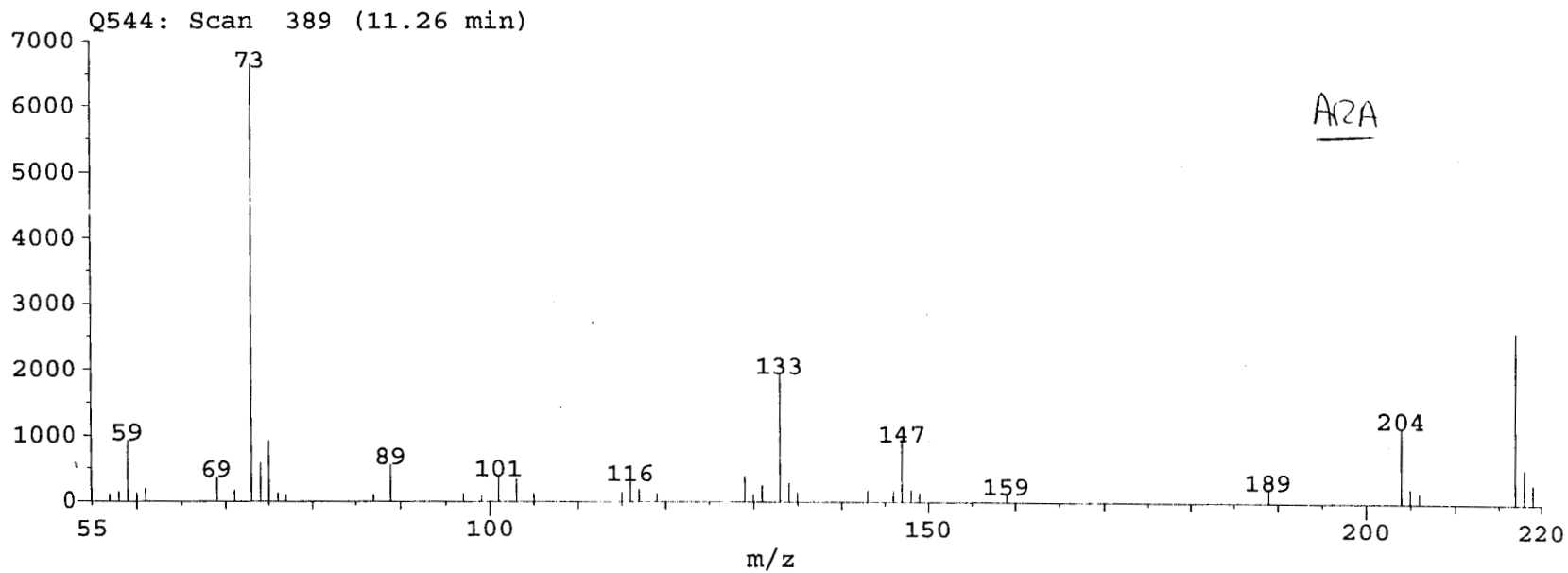
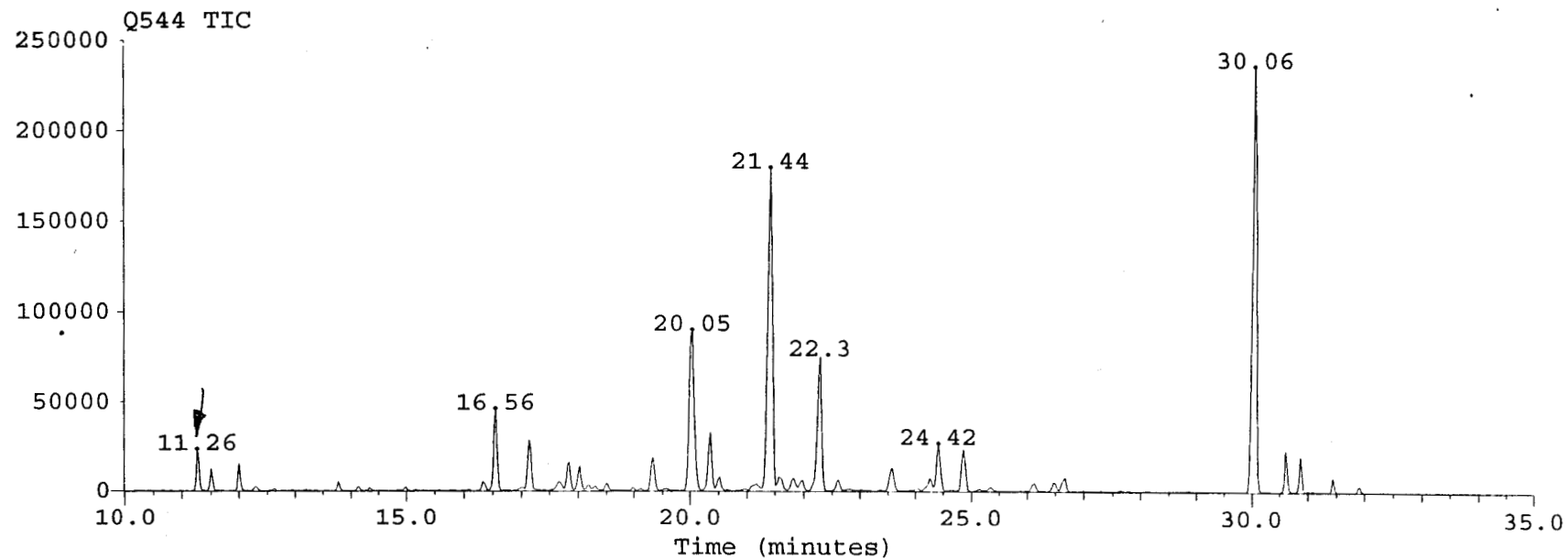
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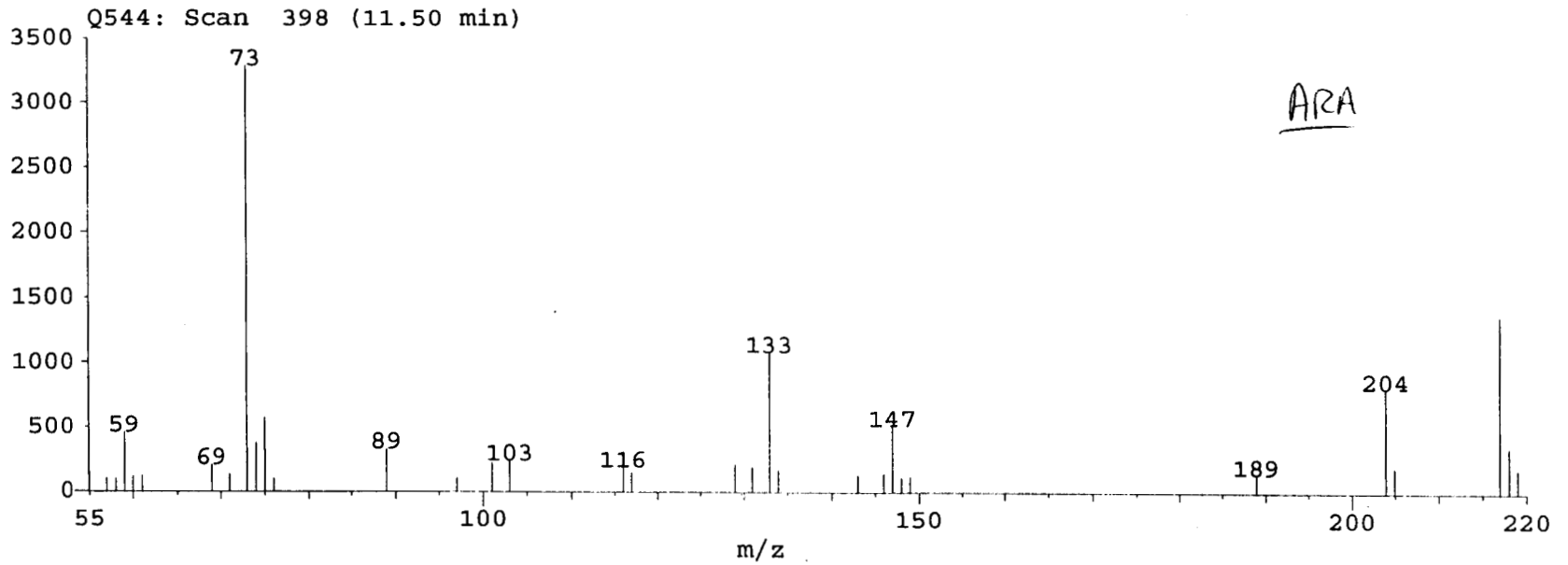
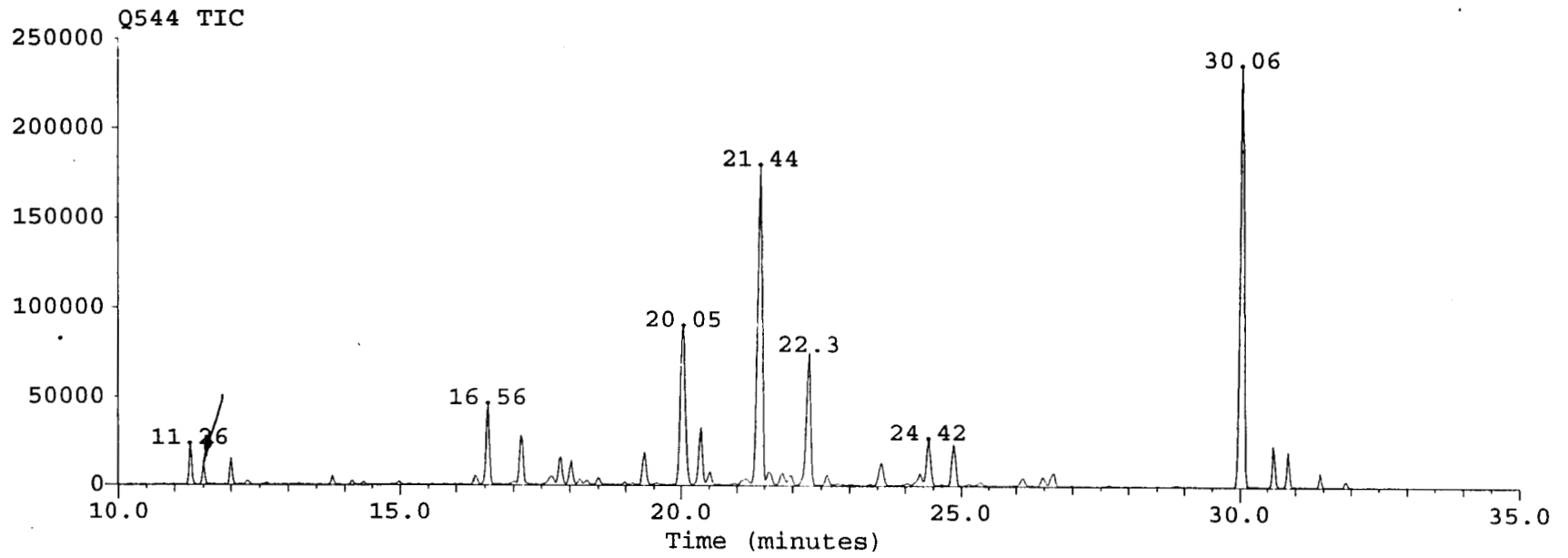
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|---------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|
| 17.84 | 1251.179 GALA | 16223 | 1.49 | 6.09 |
| 18.03 | 1017.318 MAN | 14136 | 1.21 | 4.95 |
| 18.19 | 281.112 | 3419 | 0.33 | 1.37 |
| 18.50 | 341.036 | 4158 | 0.41 | 1.66 |
| 19.34 | 1461.670 GAL | 19188 | 1.74 | 7.12 |
| 20.05 | 9260.678 CALA | 89449 | 11.00 | 45.10 |
| 20.36 | 2671.950 GAL-A | 33331 | 3.17 | 13.01 |
| 20.52 | 657.621 GAL | 8064 | 0.78 | 3.20 |
| 21.17 | 581.895 | 3694 | 0.69 | 2.83 |
| 21.44 | 16503.625 GIC | 178766 | 19.60 | 80.38 |
| 21.57 | 861.201 | 7975 | 1.02 | 4.19 |
| 21.83 | 726.719 | 7239 | 0.86 | 3.54 |
| 21.96 | 538.201 | 5984 | 0.64 | 2.62 |
| 22.30 | 6683.781 GIC | 75368 | 7.94 | 32.55 |
| 22.62 | 565.002 | 6586 | 0.67 | 2.75 |
| 23.59 | 1372.496 | 13355 | 1.63 | 6.68 |
| 24.27 | 718.461 | 7318 | 0.85 | 3.50 |
| 24.42 | 2326.983 | 26094 | 2.76 | 11.33 |
| 24.87 | 1936.004 | 23404 | 2.30 | 9.43 |
| 26.13 | 438.318 | 4808 | 0.52 | 2.13 |
| 26.47 | 441.664 | 4908 | 0.52 | 2.15 |
| 26.68 | 705.008 | 7650 | 0.84 | 3.43 |
| 30.06 S | 20533.271 INS. | 236474 | 24.39 | 100.00 |
| 30.61 | 1366.961 | 23793 | 1.62 | 6.66 |
| 30.87 | 1120.574 | 20335 | 1.33 | 5.46 |
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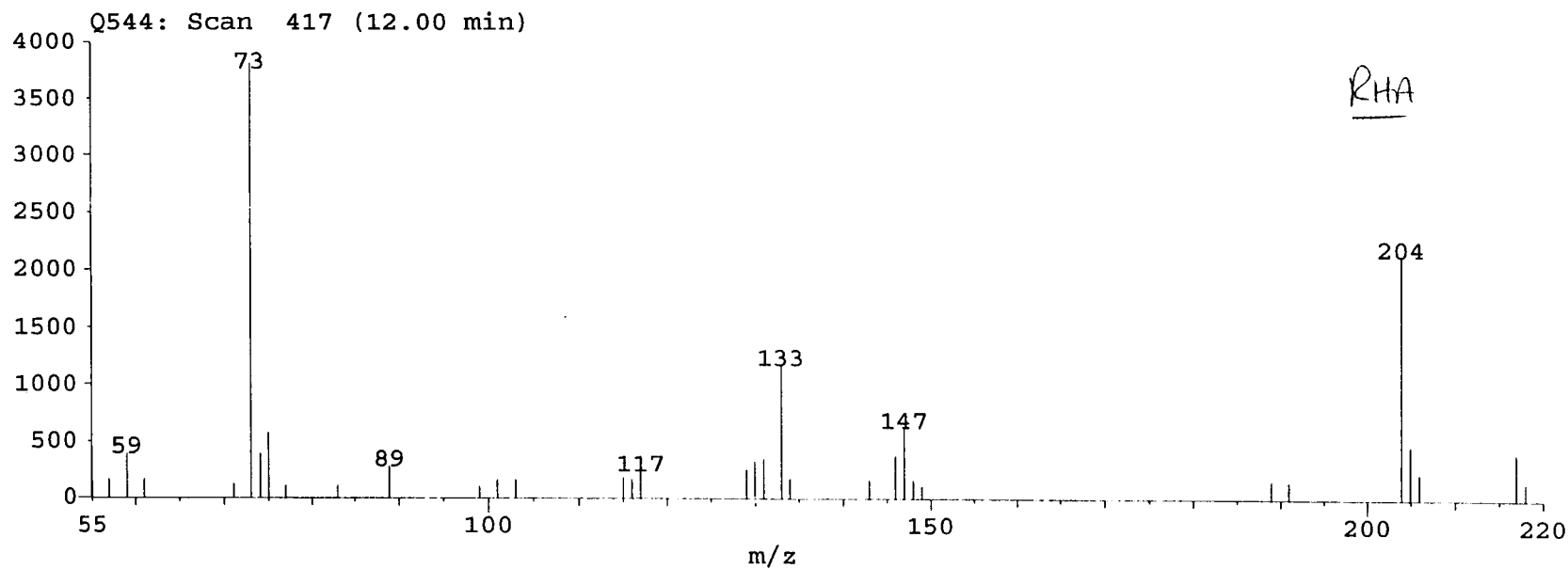
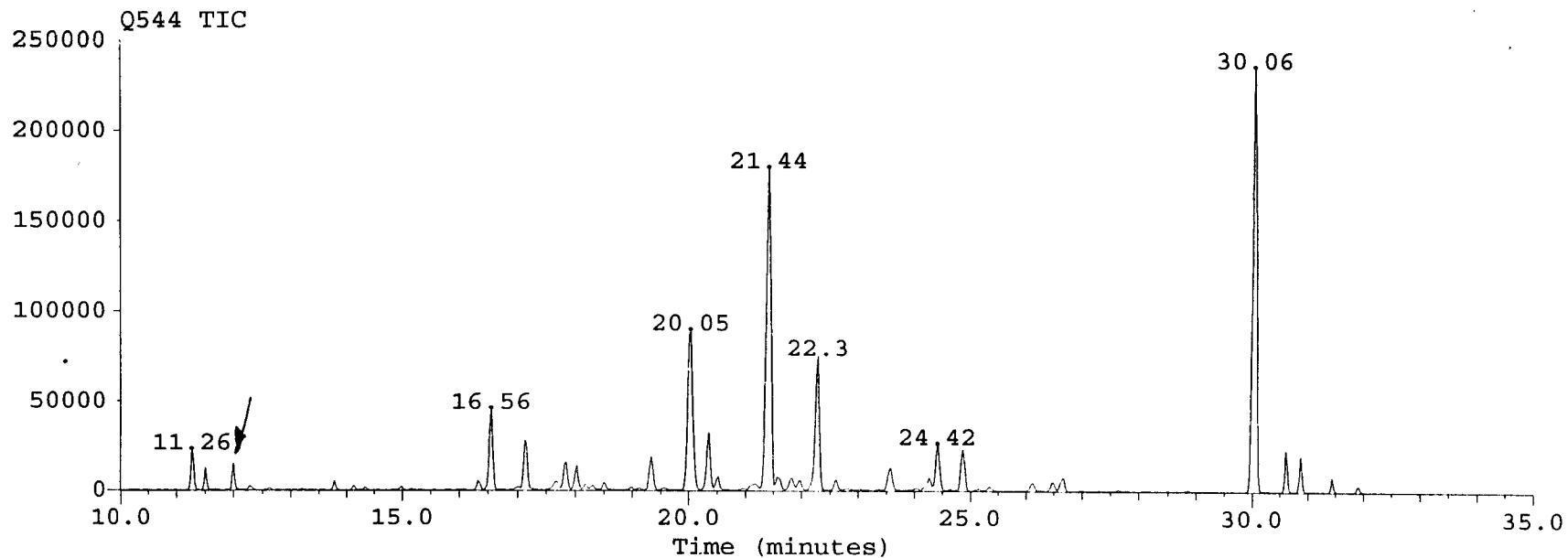
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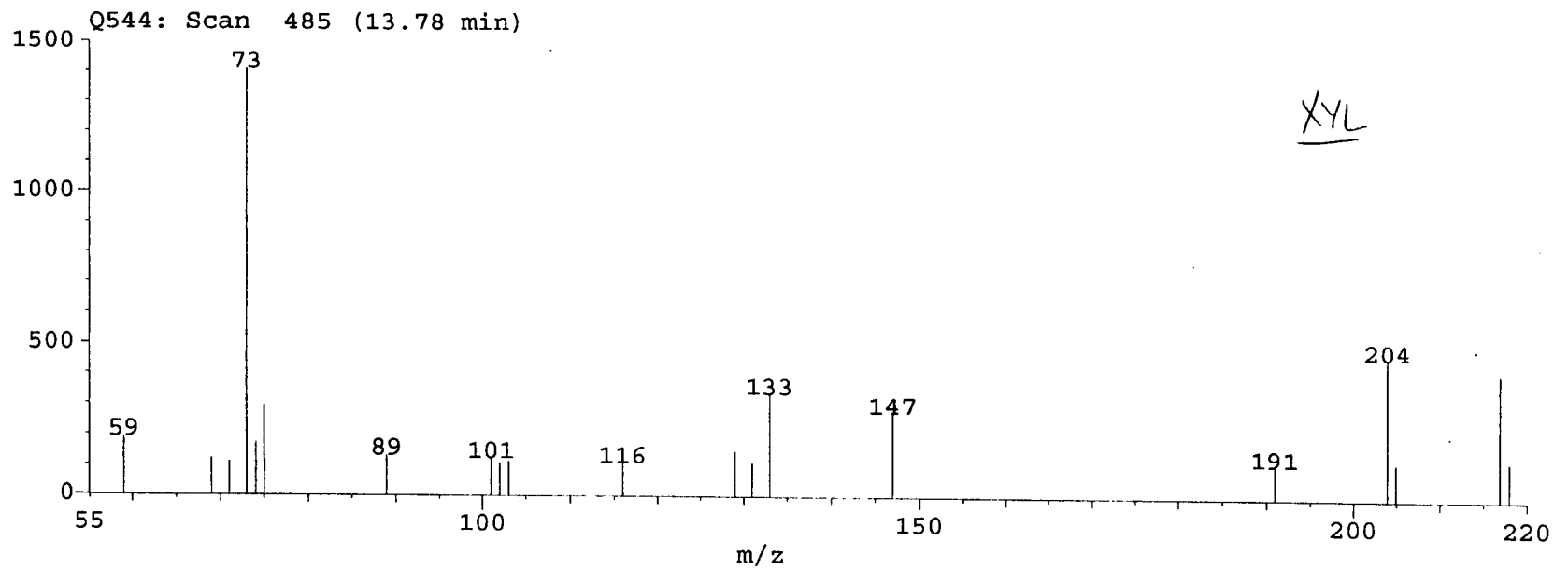
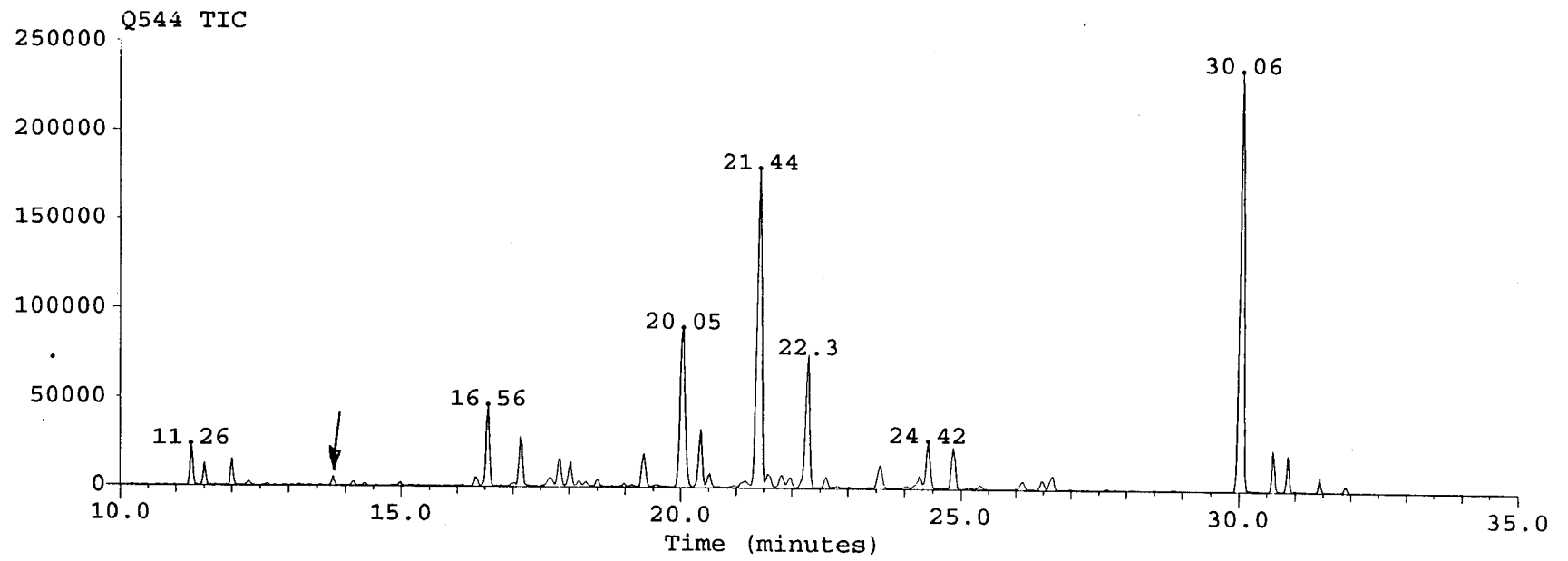


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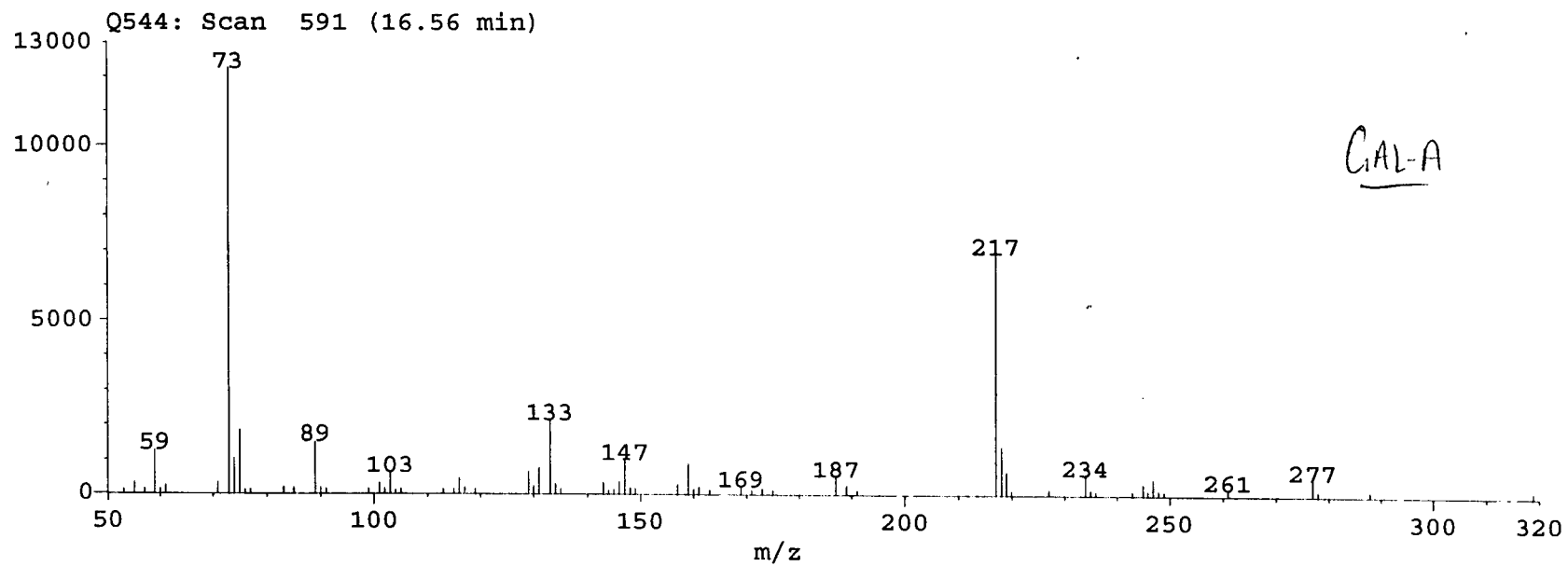
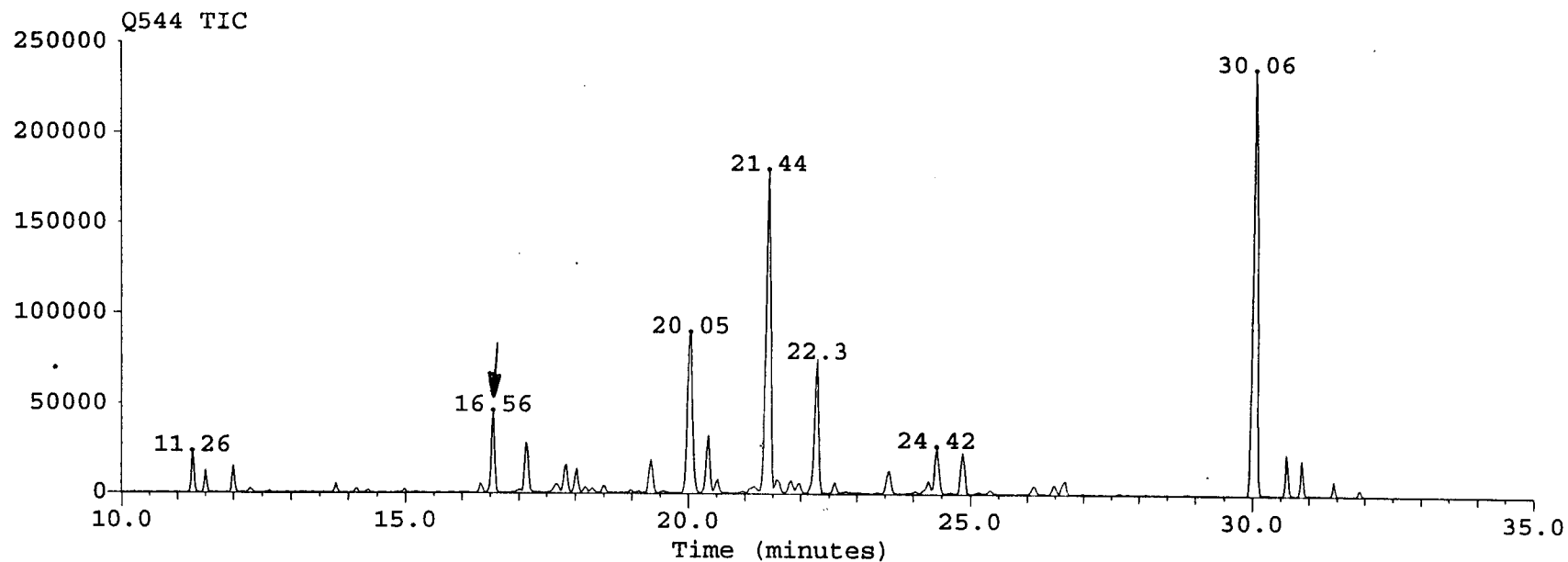
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52

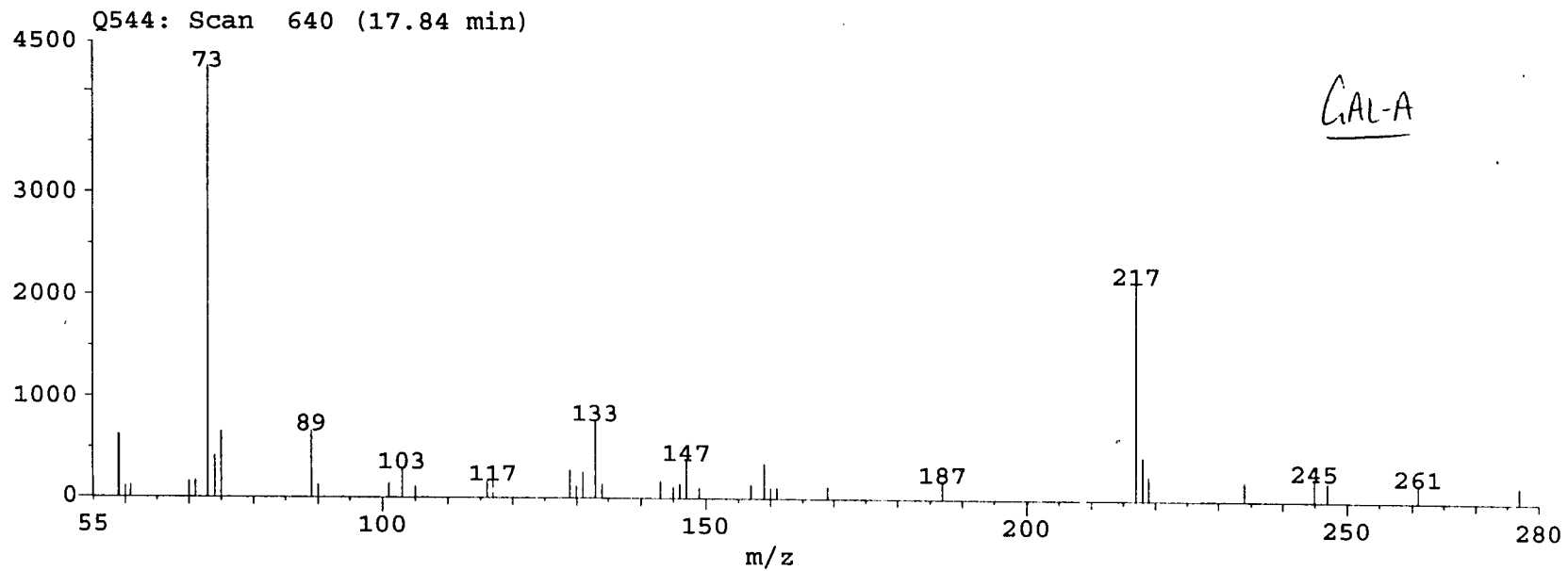
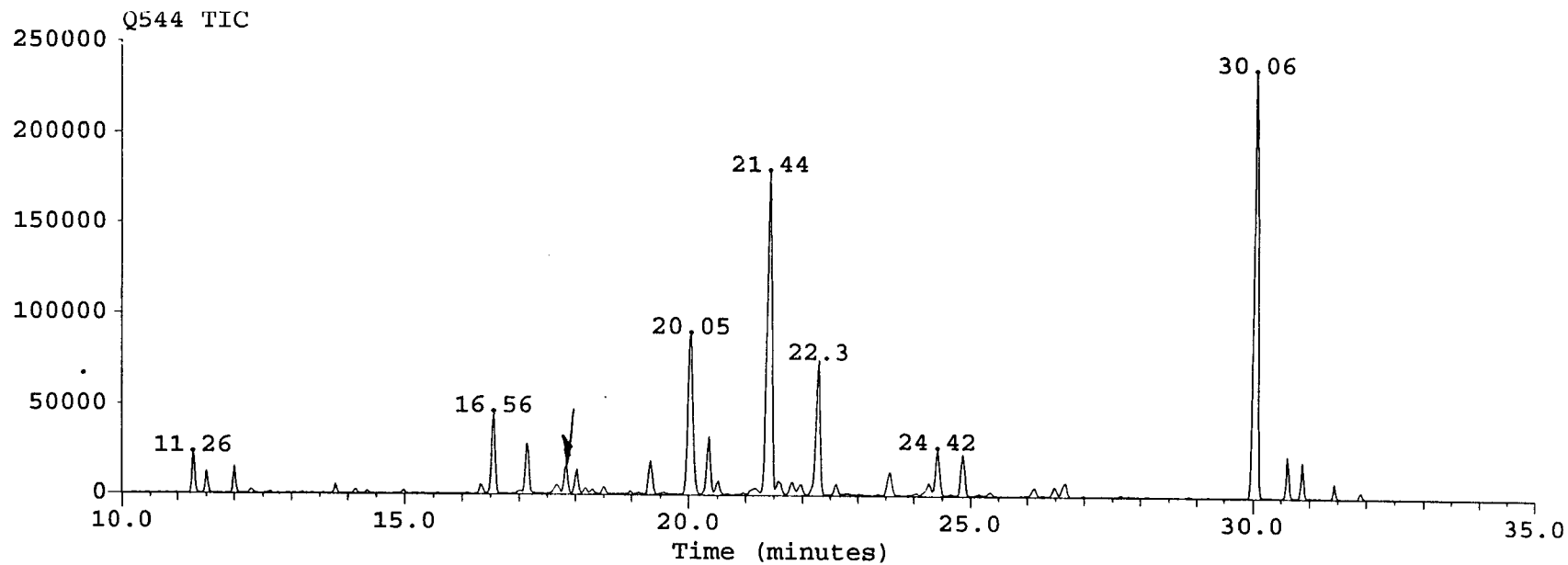


A

53

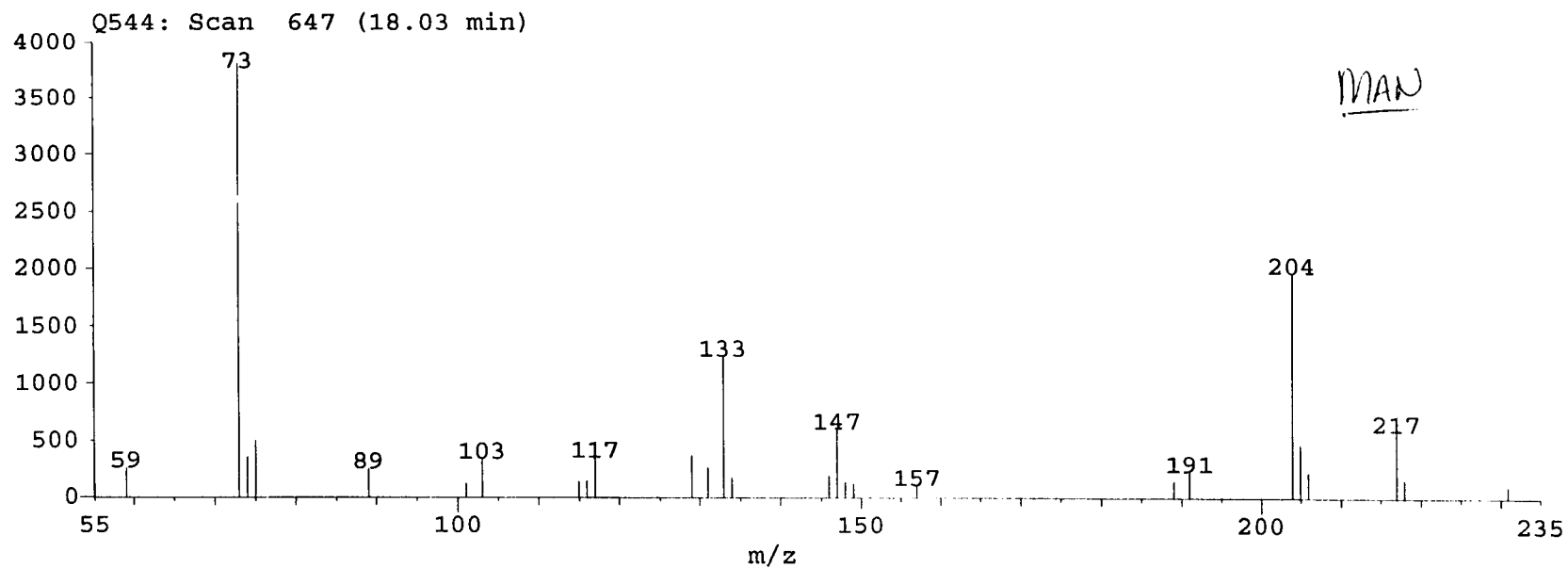
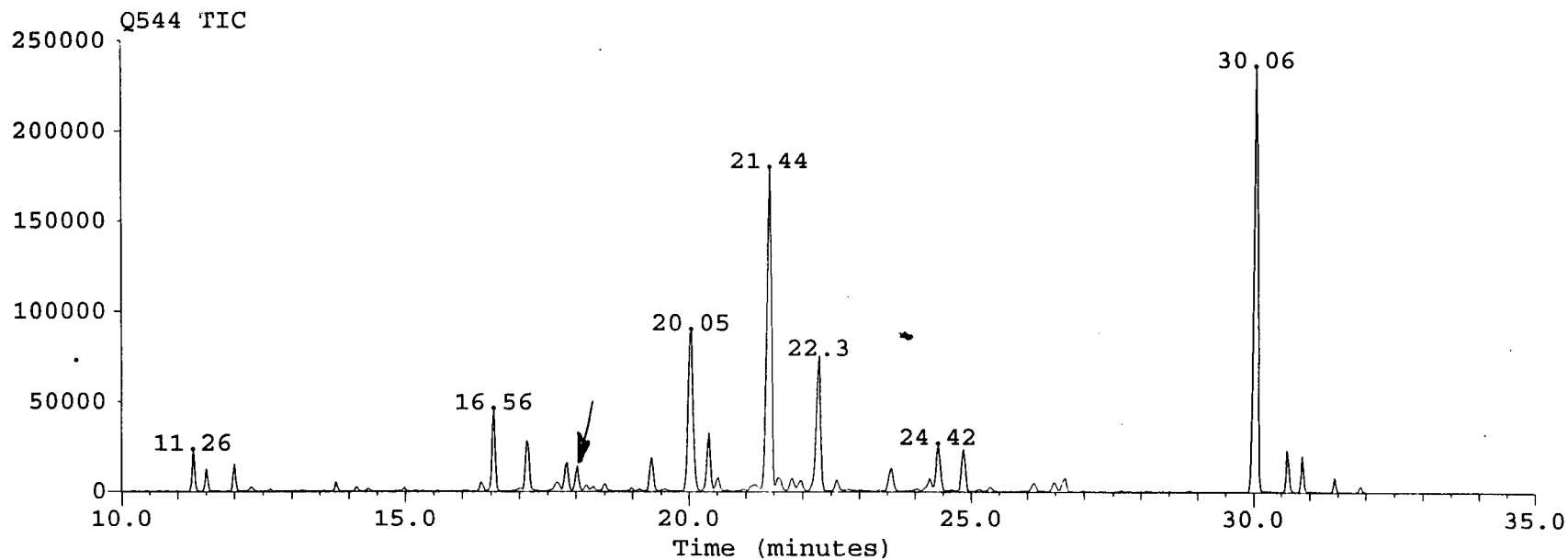


h6



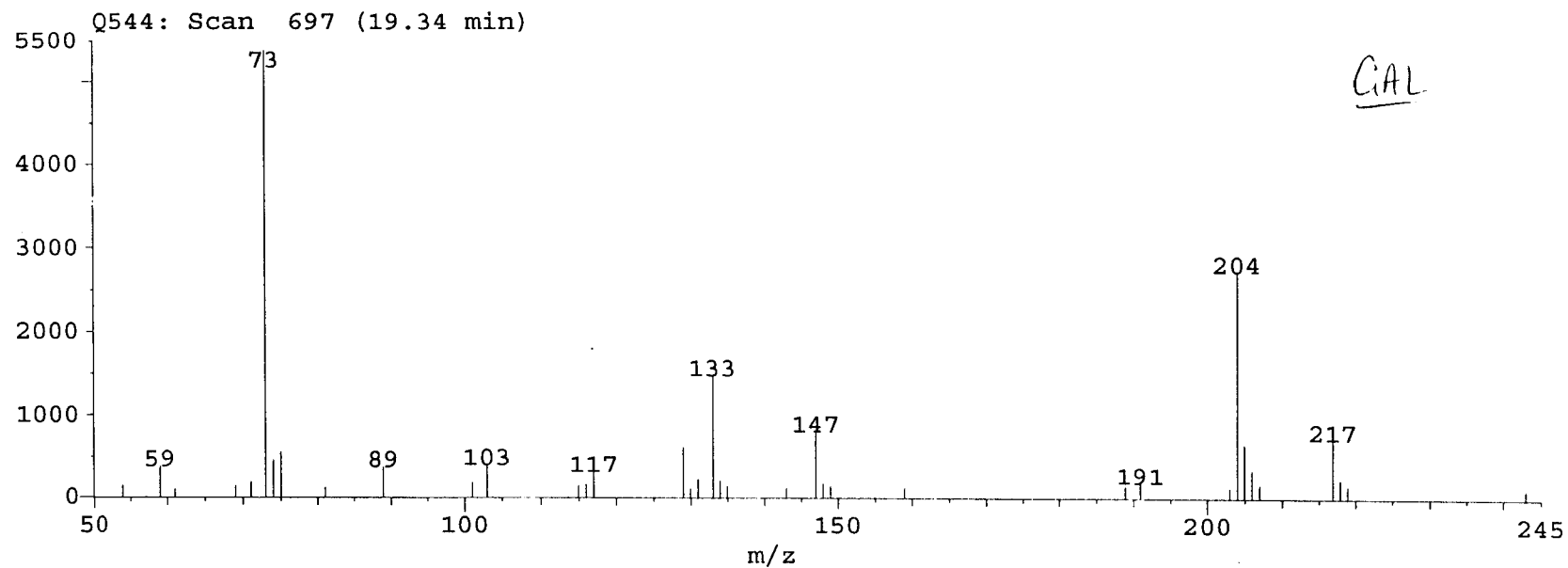
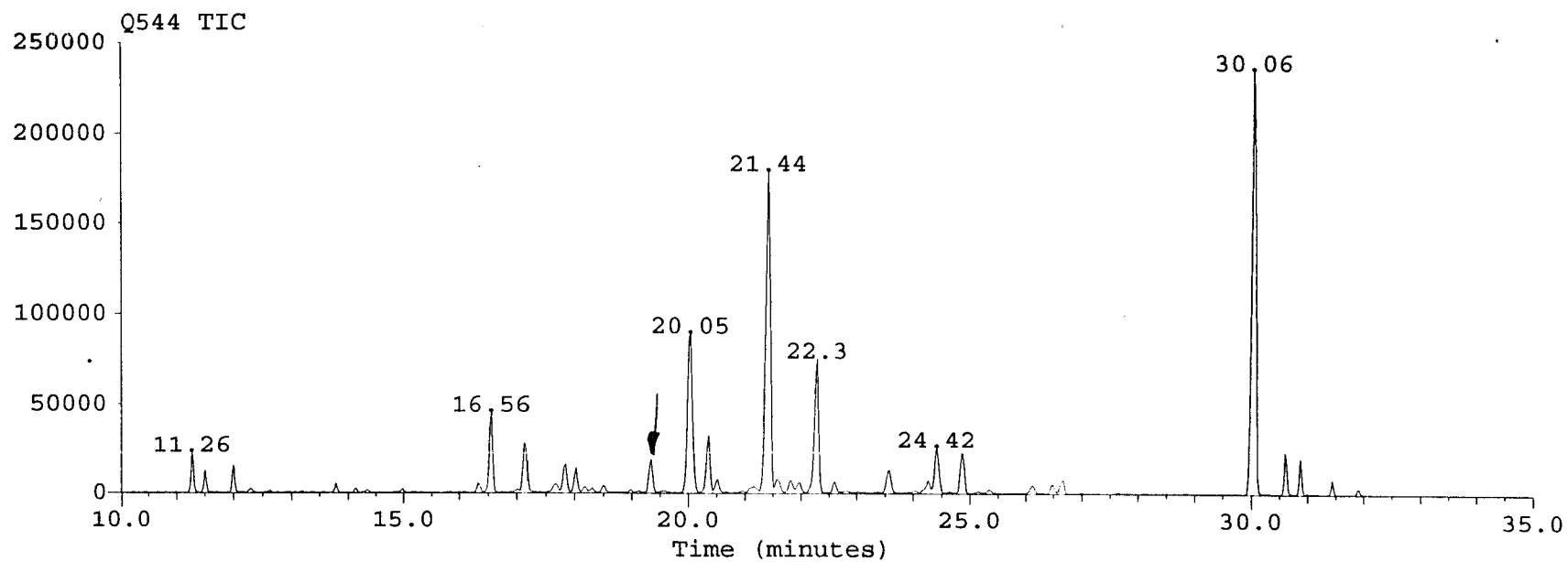
4

35



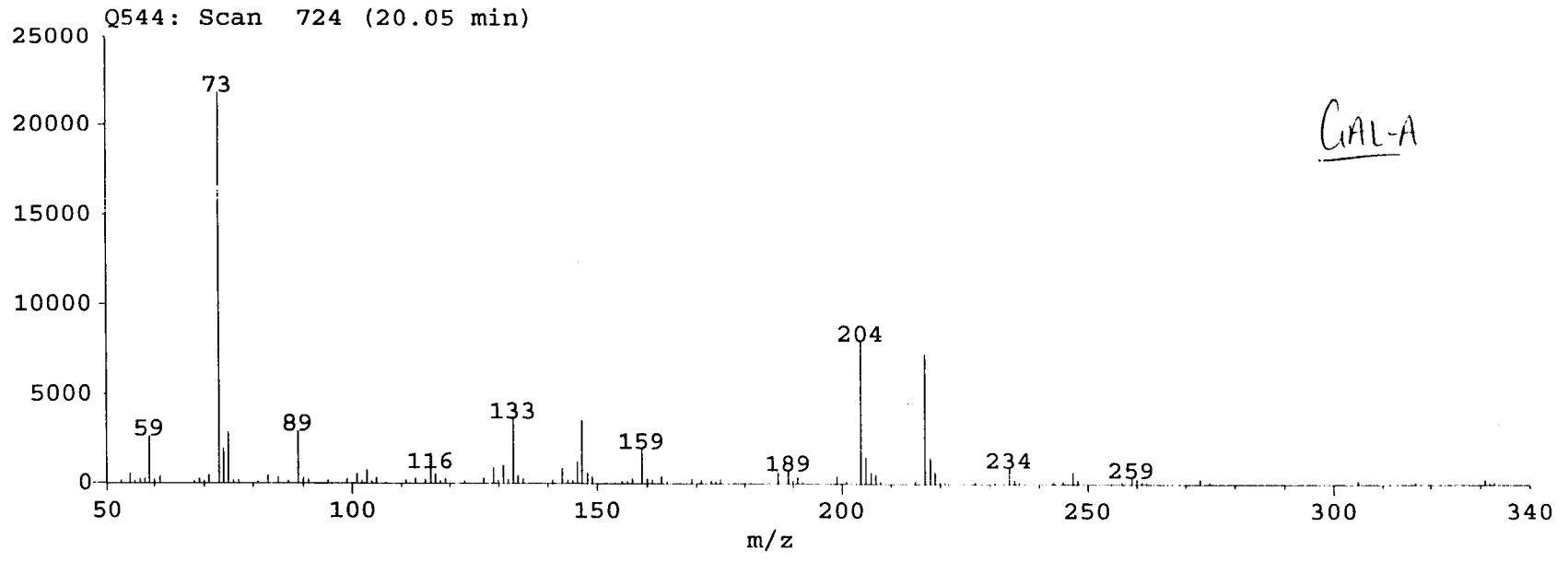
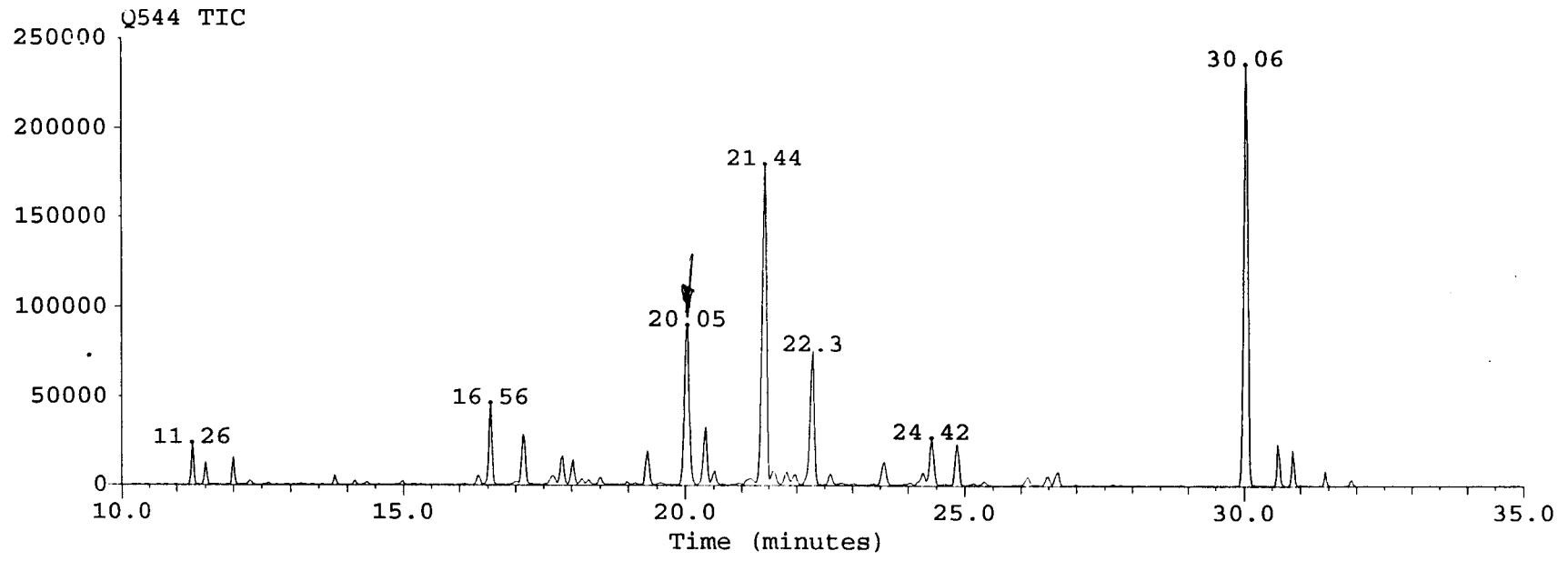
7

96



7

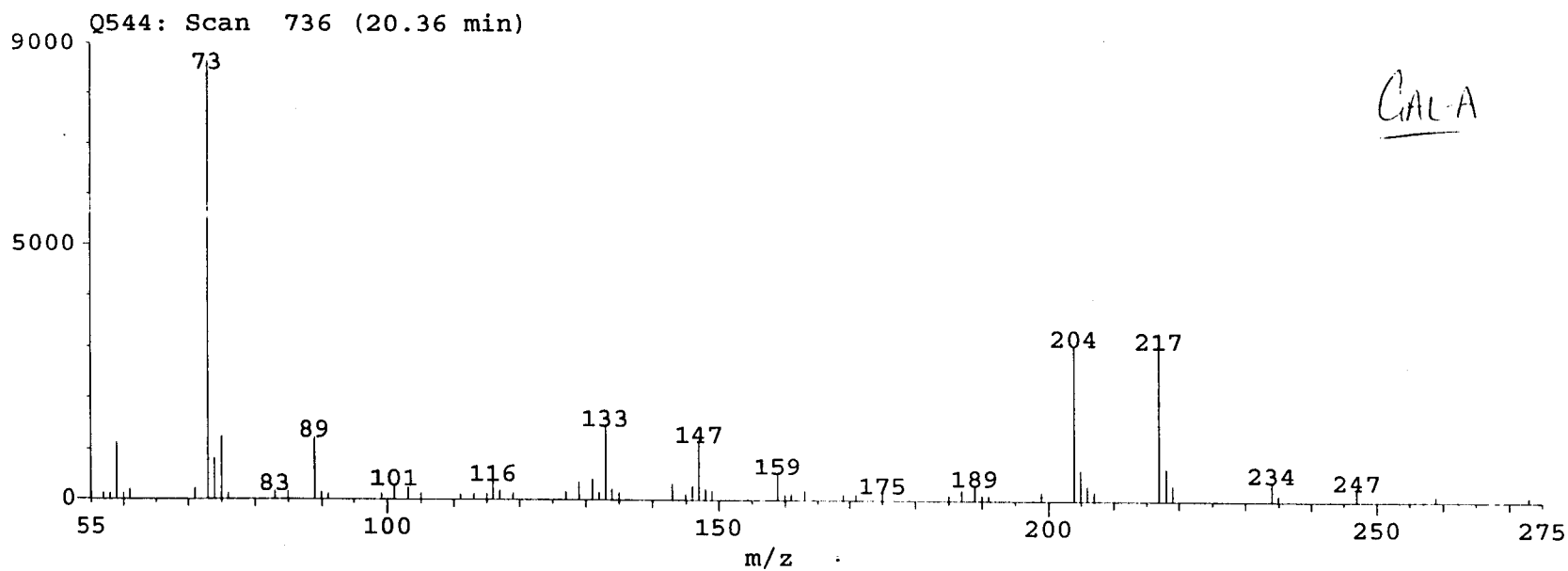
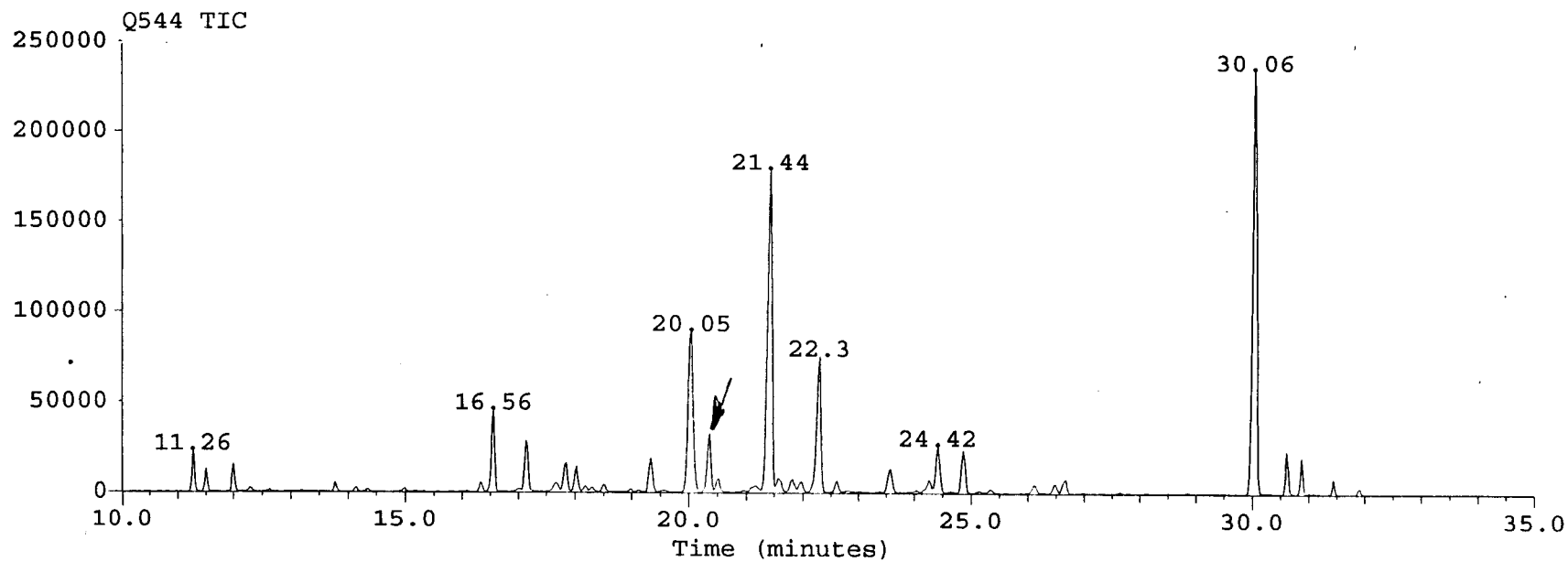
32



CIAL-A

3

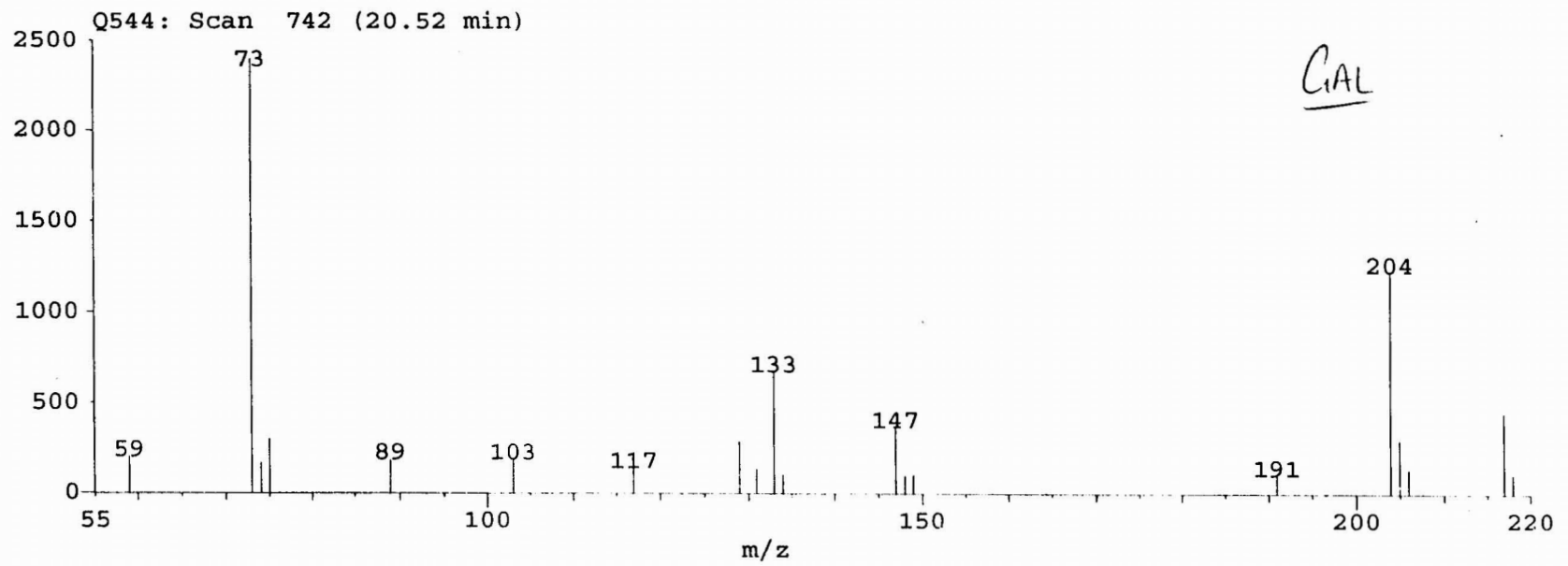
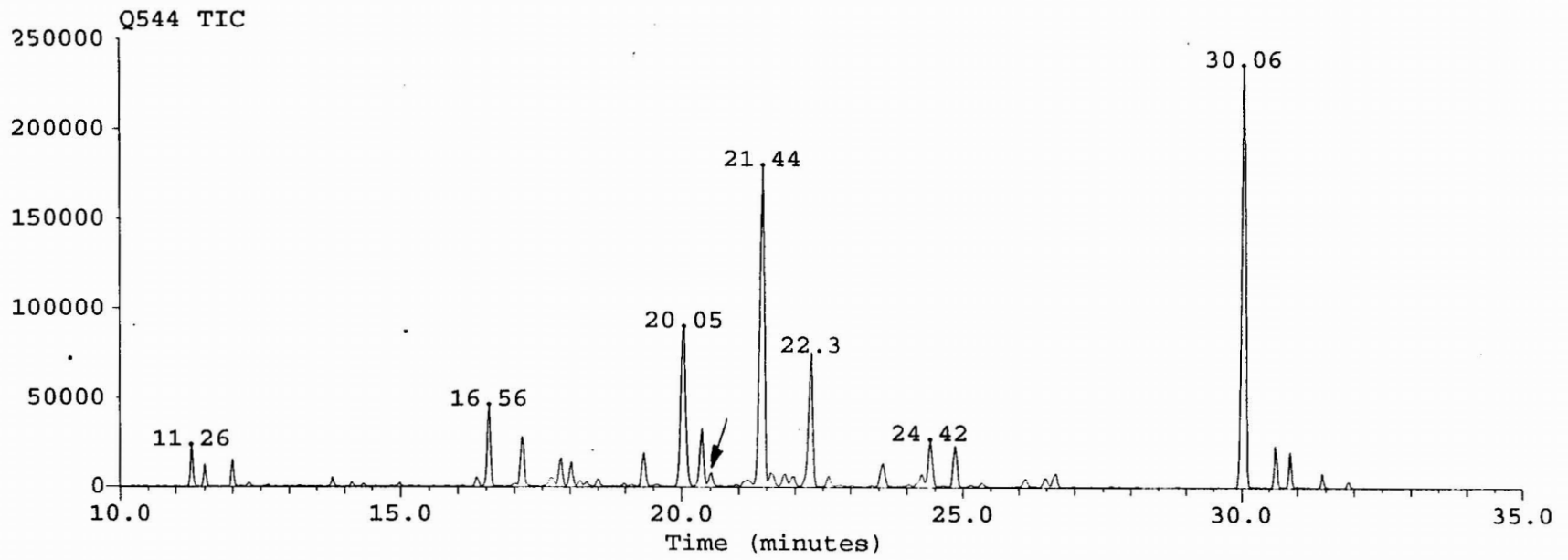
95



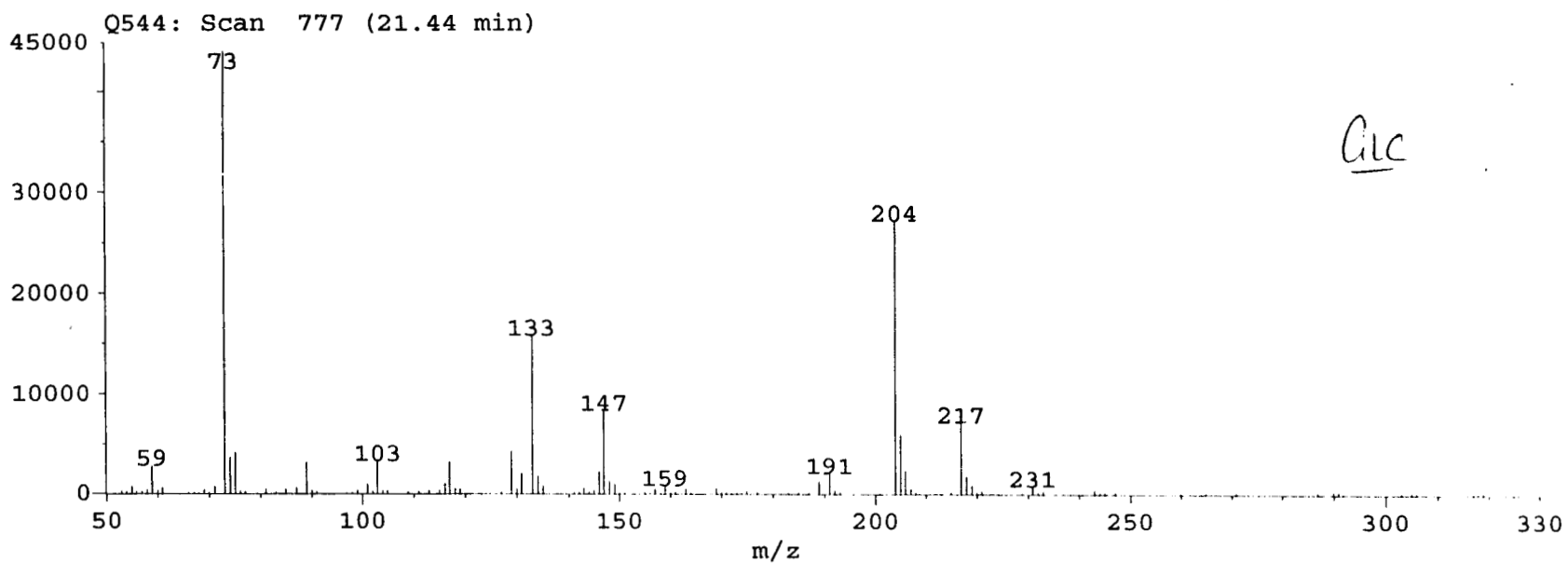
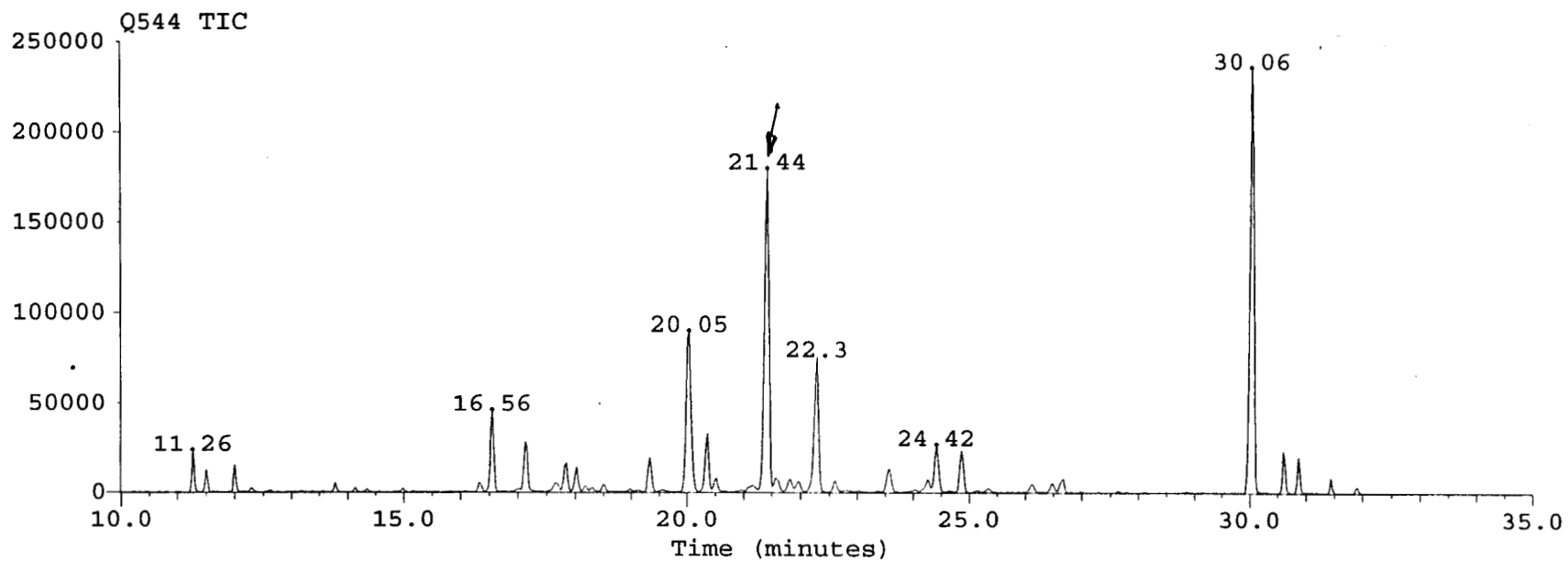
CAL-A

2

54

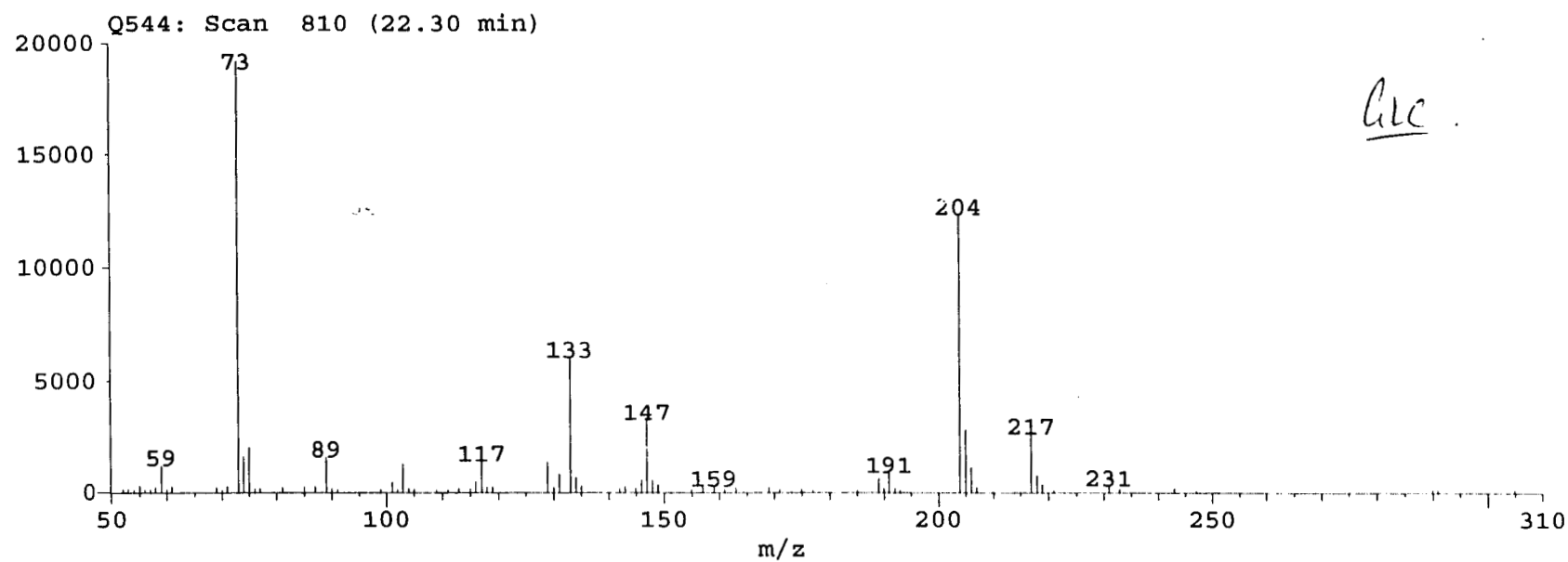
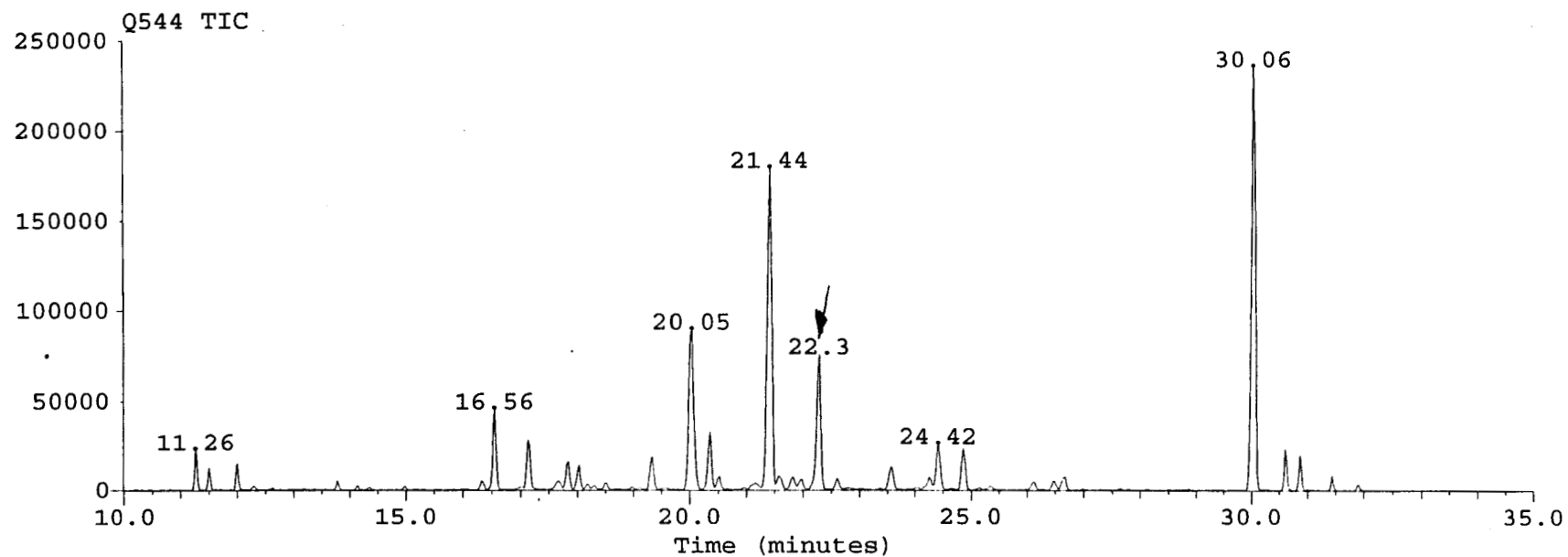


H6



8

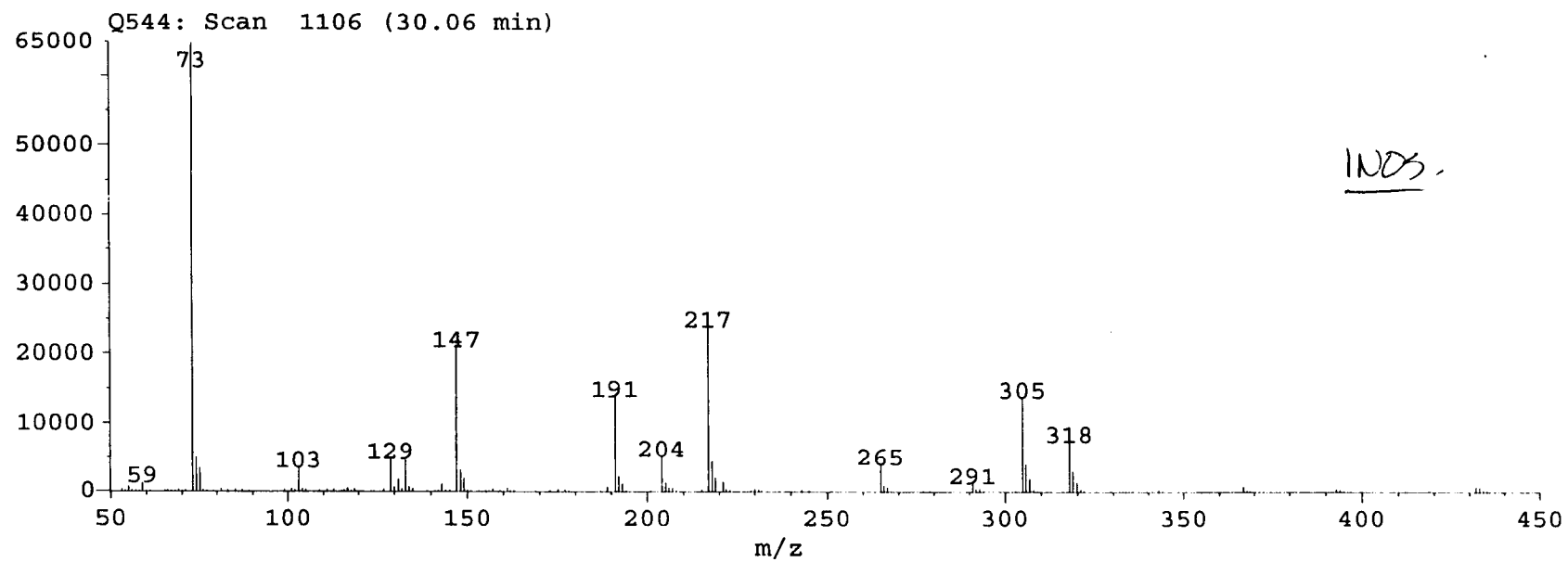
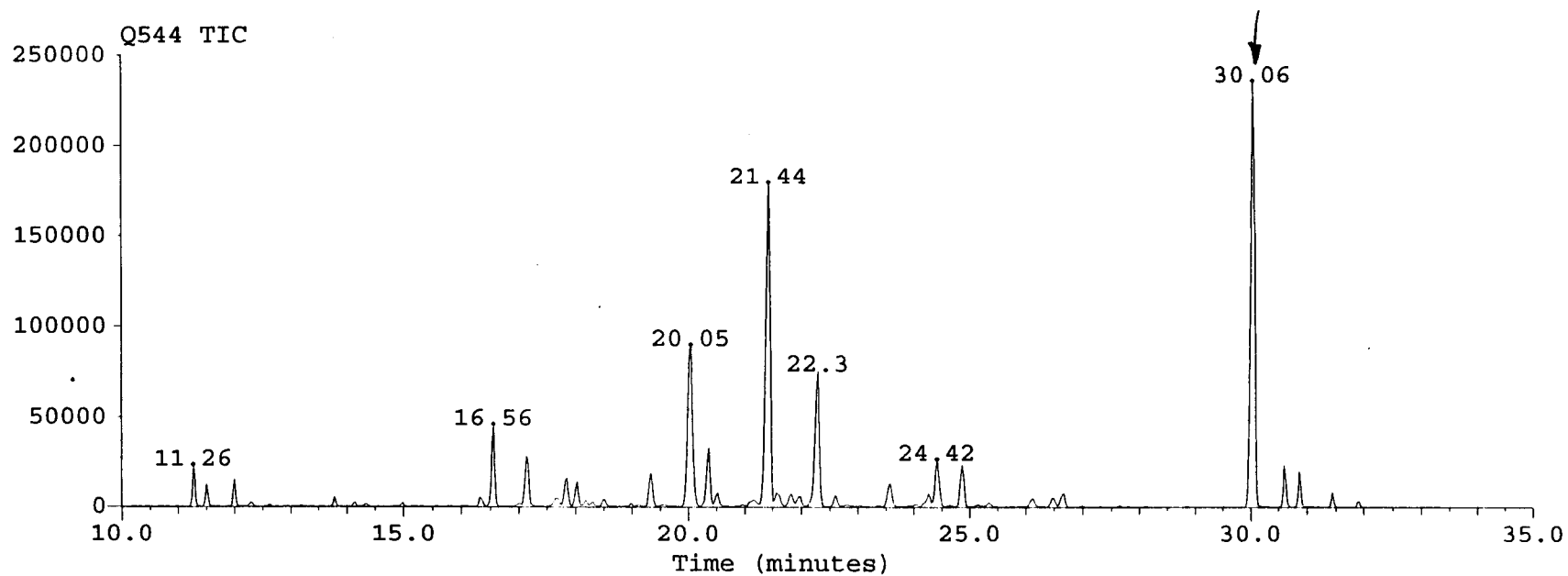
14



GC

2

42



R

44

Quadrex

C:\VECTOR2\DATA\INST1\Q545.TKF

Acquired on Tue Aug 31 12:39:37 1999

Sample mj-2, Vol 2 Dil 1 Group 0

tms

Instrument Parameters:

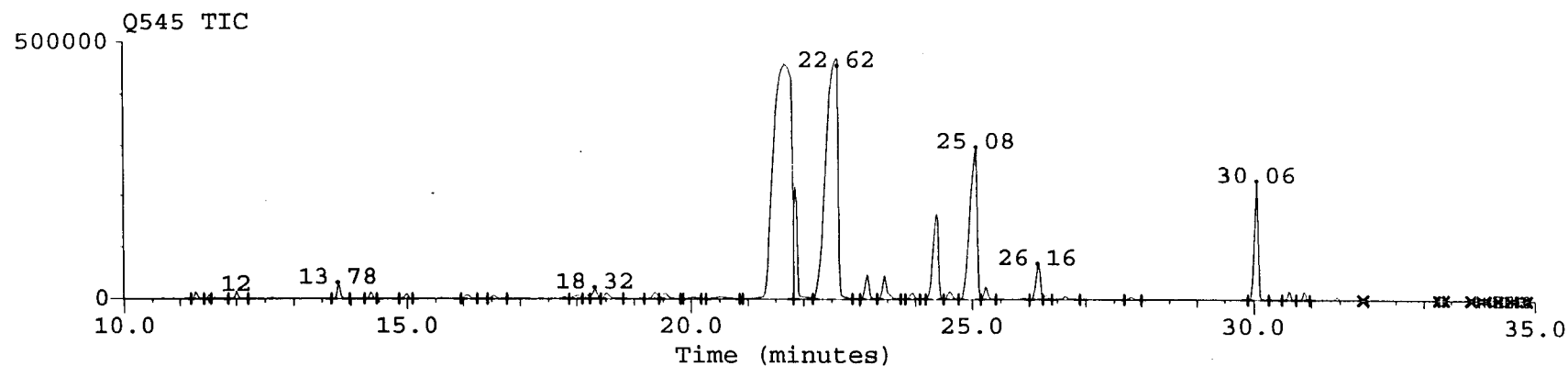
StartInjection

Scan Parameters:

SCAN every 2 secs for 5 min

SCAN every 1 secs for 40 min

50-650



| RT | AREA | HEIGHT | %T AREA | %S AREA |
|-------|----------|--------|---------|---------|
| 11.27 | 813.193 | 11897 | 0.20 | 0.48 |
| 11.50 | 366.436 | 6821 | 0.09 | 0.22 |
| 12.00 | 801.623 | 14219 | 0.20 | 0.47 |
| 13.78 | 1801.855 | 27683 | 0.44 | 1.06 |
| 14.36 | 783.958 | 11813 | 0.19 | 0.46 |
| 14.99 | 584.711 | 8827 | 0.14 | 0.34 |
| 16.06 | 716.574 | 6944 | 0.17 | 0.42 |
| 16.53 | 568.122 | 6218 | 0.14 | 0.34 |

MJ-2 TMS

T

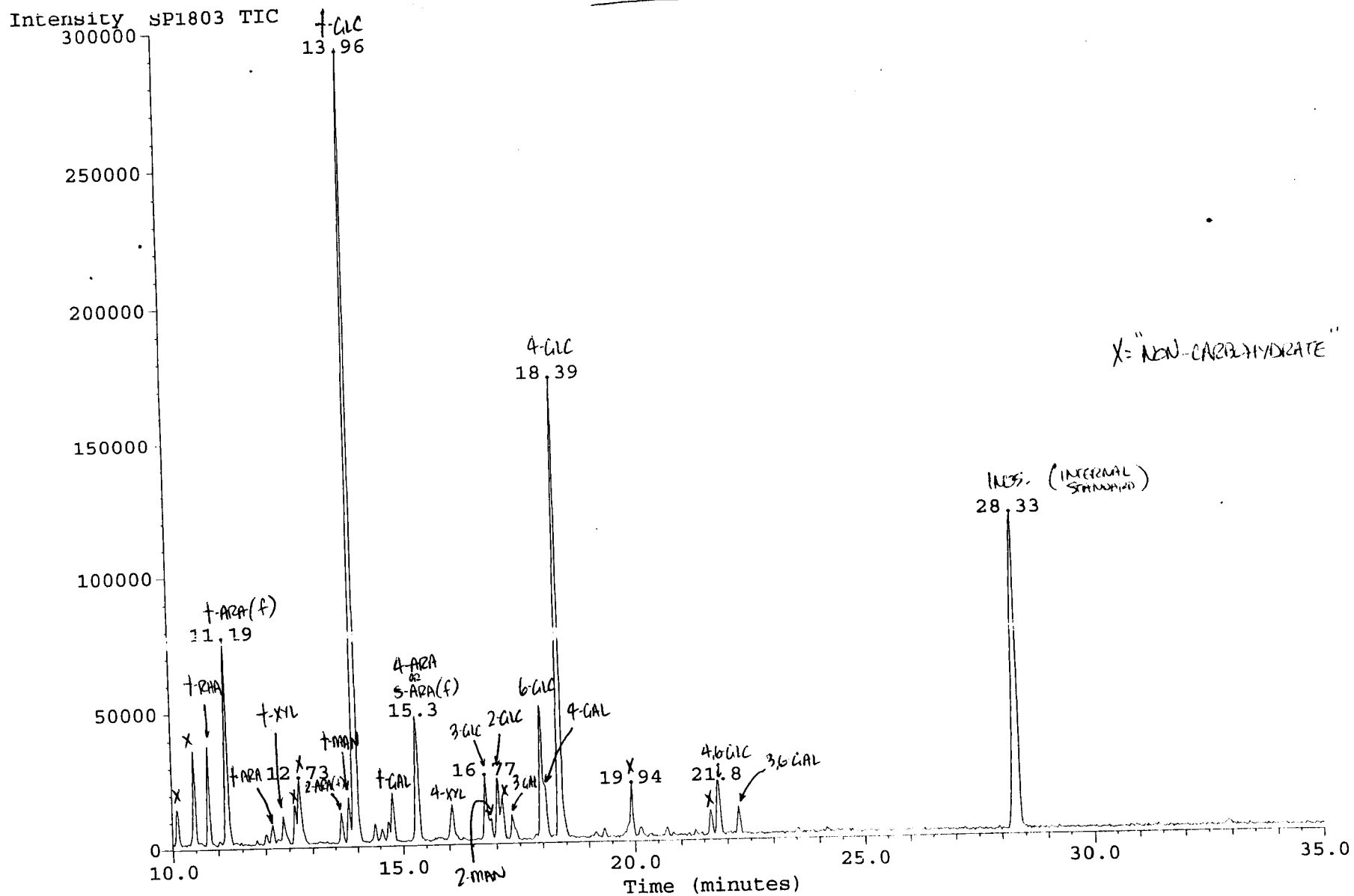
45

| | | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|
| 18.03 | 822.469 MAW | 6227 | 0.20 | 0.49 |
| 18.19 | 540.470 | 6576 | 0.13 | 0.32 |
| 18.32 | 1674.528 | 19004 | 0.41 | 0.99 |
| 18.53 | 1080.146 | 9893 | 0.26 | 0.64 |
| 19.37 | 1133.555 GAL | 12217 | 0.28 | 0.67 |
| 19.55 | 1228.271 | 10040 | 0.30 | 0.72 |
| 20.02 | 385.484 | 2736 | 0.09 | 0.23 |
| 20.55 | 791.699 | 3092 | 0.19 | 0.47 |
| 21.67 S | 169559.658 ALC | 454683 | 41.25 | 100.00 |
| 21.86 | 13868.237 | 217404 | 3.37 | 8.18 |
| 22.62 | 113990.889 ALC | 464754 | 27.73 | 67.23 |
| 23.14 | 3902.545 | 47142 | 0.95 | 2.30 |
| 23.46 | 4427.769 | 45226 | 1.08 | 2.61 |
| 23.95 | 1026.286 | 10824 | 0.25 | 0.61 |
| 24.37 | 17996.025 | 163922 | 4.38 | 10.61 |
| 24.61 | 1339.819 | 14792 | 0.33 | 0.79 |
| 25.08 | 41473.953 | 293373 | 10.09 | 24.46 |
| 25.24 | 1947.675 | 23976 | 0.47 | 1.15 |
| 26.16 | 5998.551 | 66045 | 1.46 | 3.54 |
| 26.31 | 600.970 | 7310 | 0.15 | 0.35 |
| 26.65 | 637.123 | 5885 | 0.15 | 0.38 |
| 27.81 | 457.492 | 5491 | 0.11 | 0.27 |
| 30.06 | 17743.911 LOS | 228430 | 4.32 | 10.46 |
| 30.61 | 1035.020 | 17049 | 0.25 | 0.61 |
| 30.87 | 952.503 | 16405 | 0.23 | 0.56 |

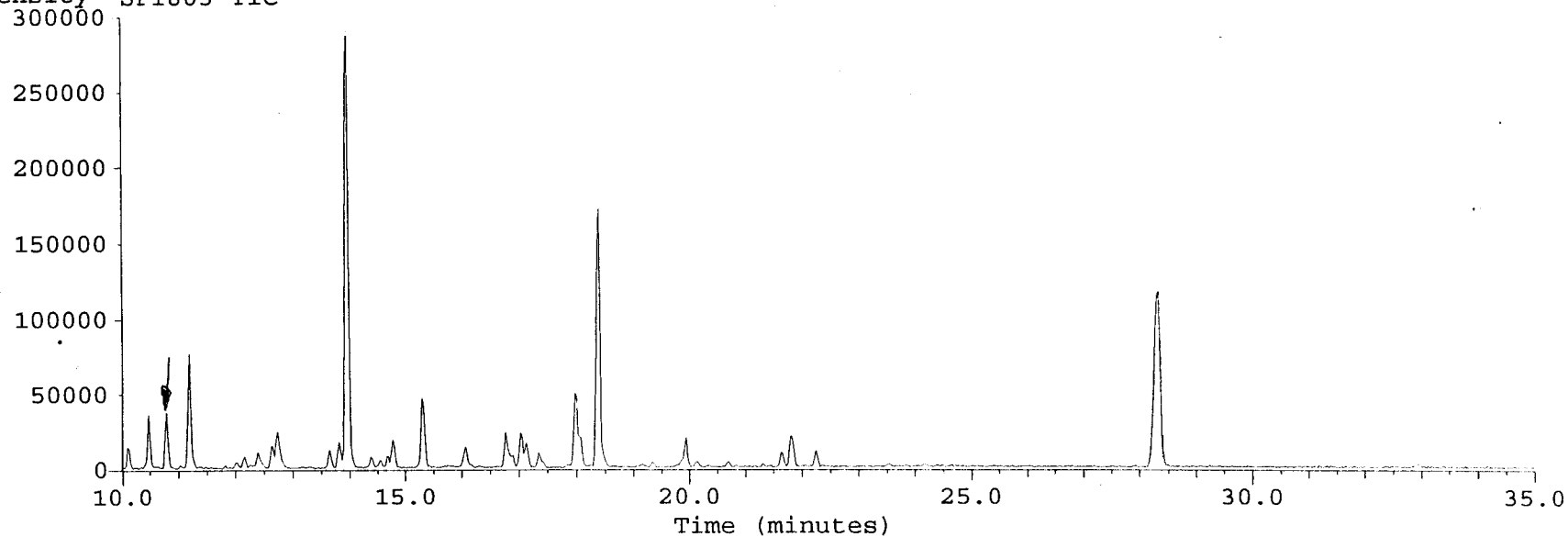
47C

LINKAGE ANALYSIS

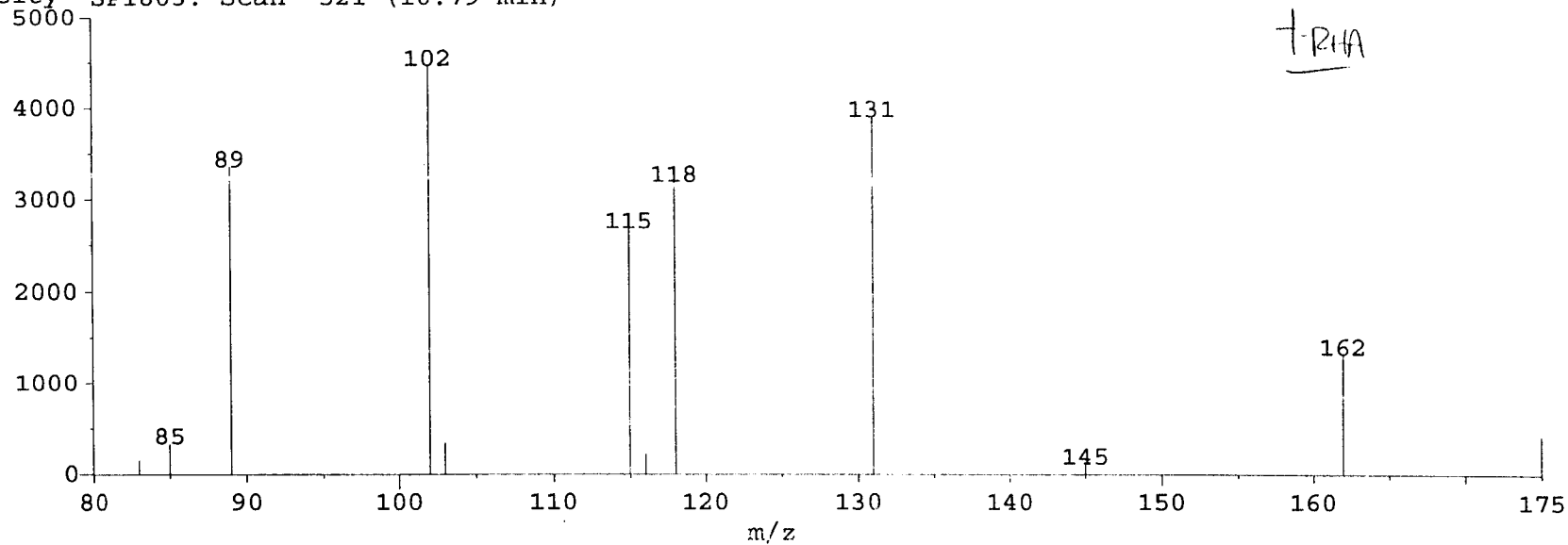
MS-1 PMAA (NaOH)



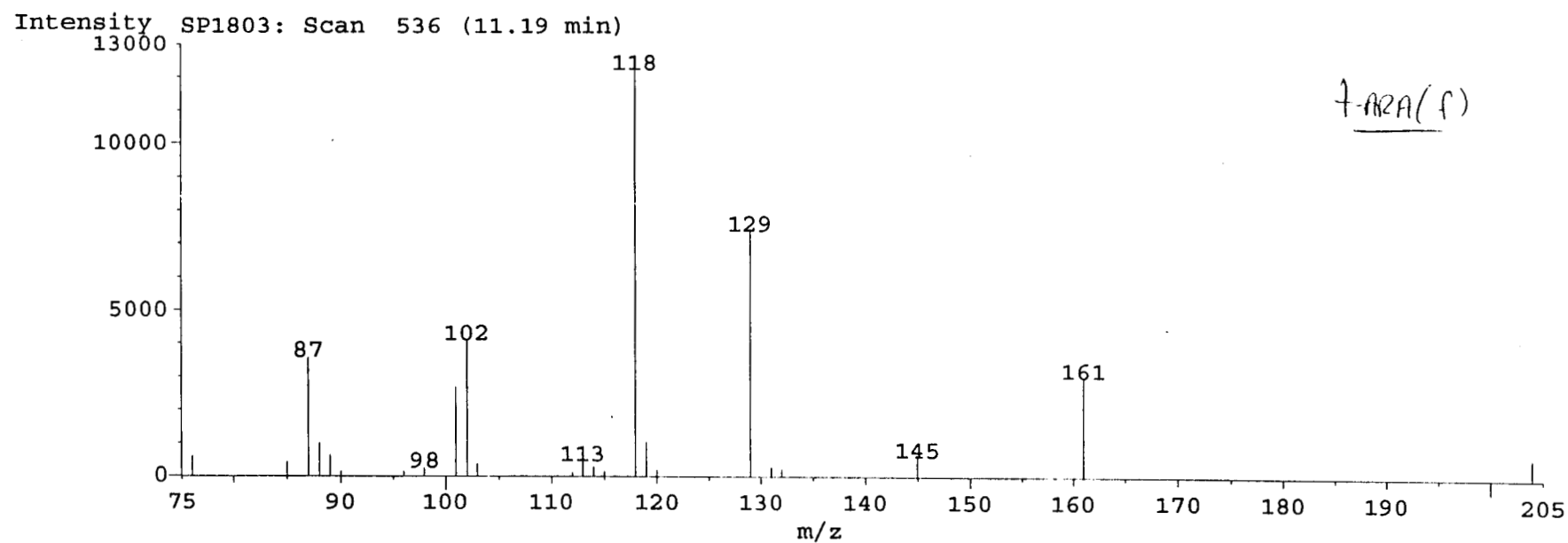
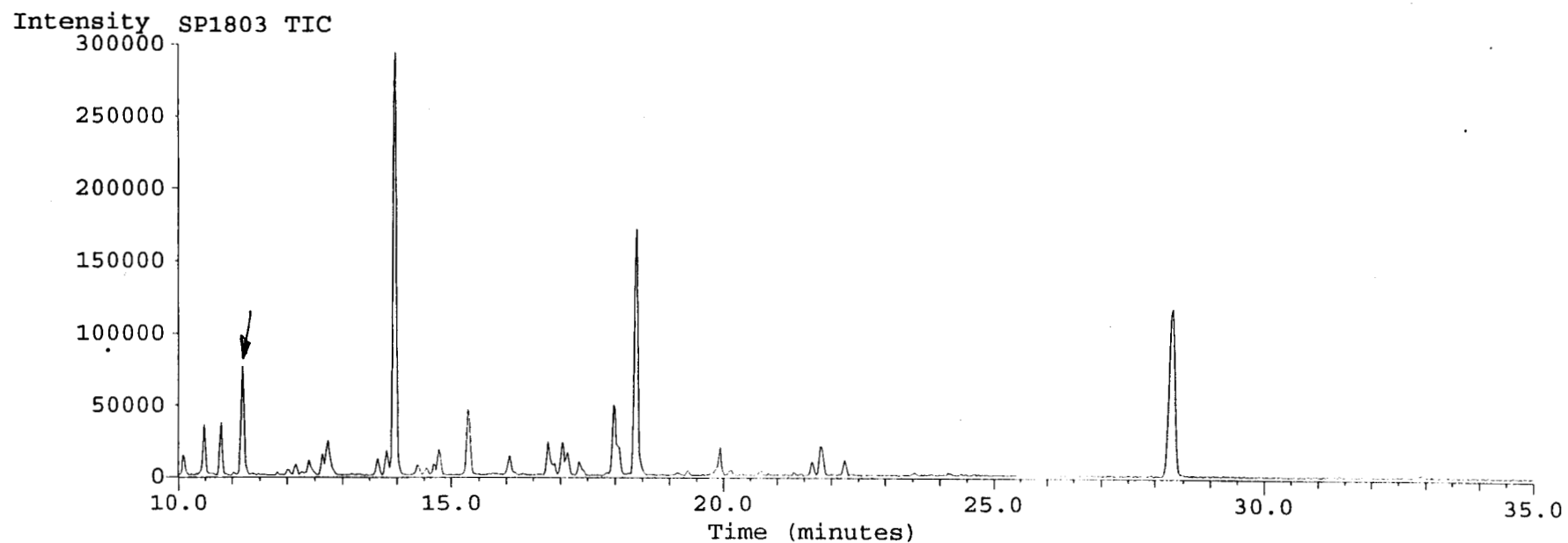
Intensity SP1803 TIC



Intensity SP1803: Scan 521 (10.79 min)



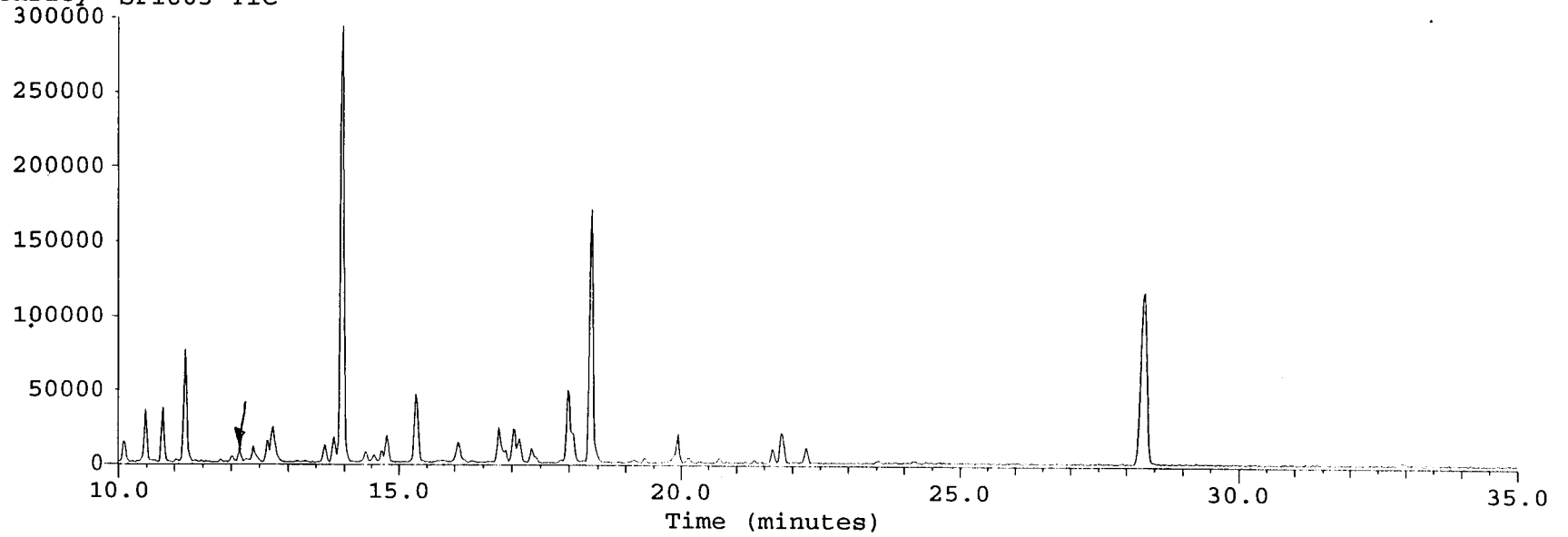
848



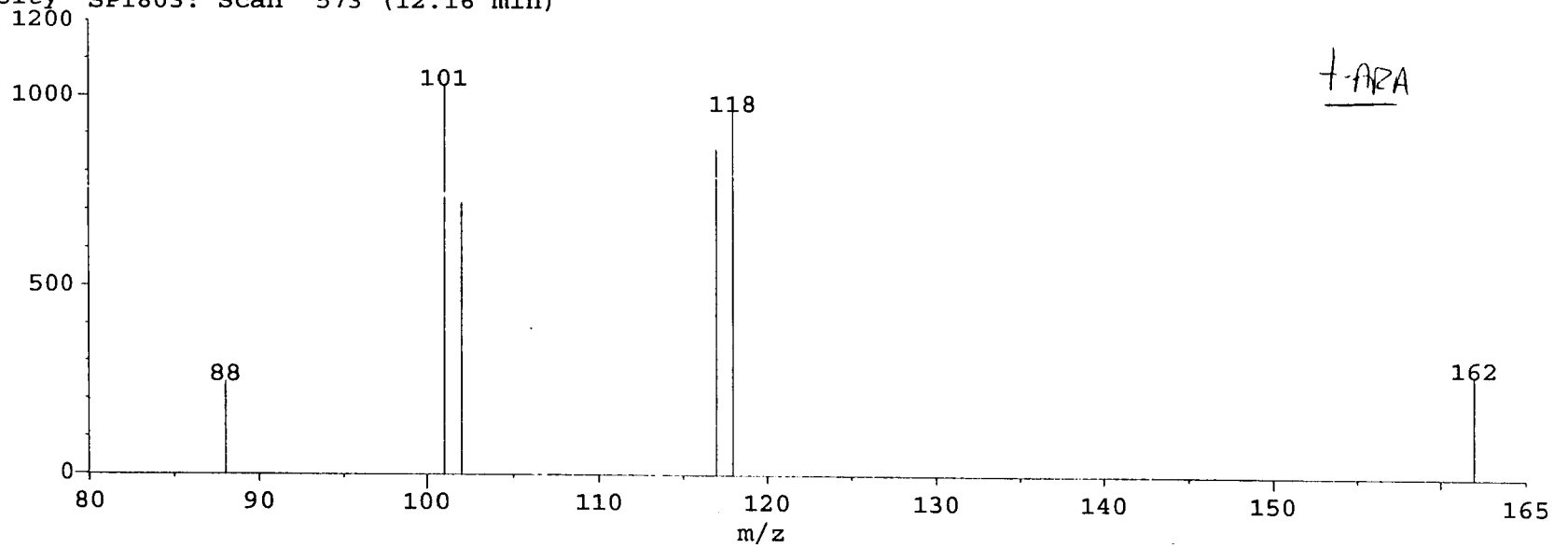
X

4/9

Intensity SP1803 TIC

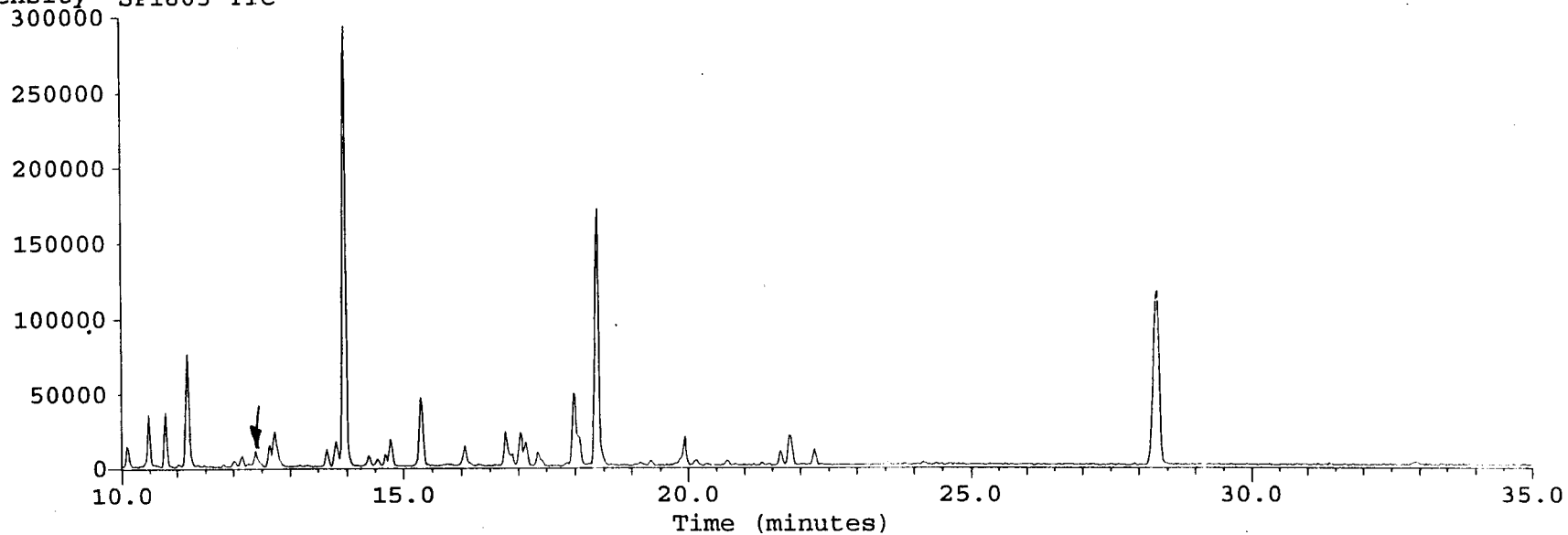


Intensity SP1803: Scan 573 (12.16 min)

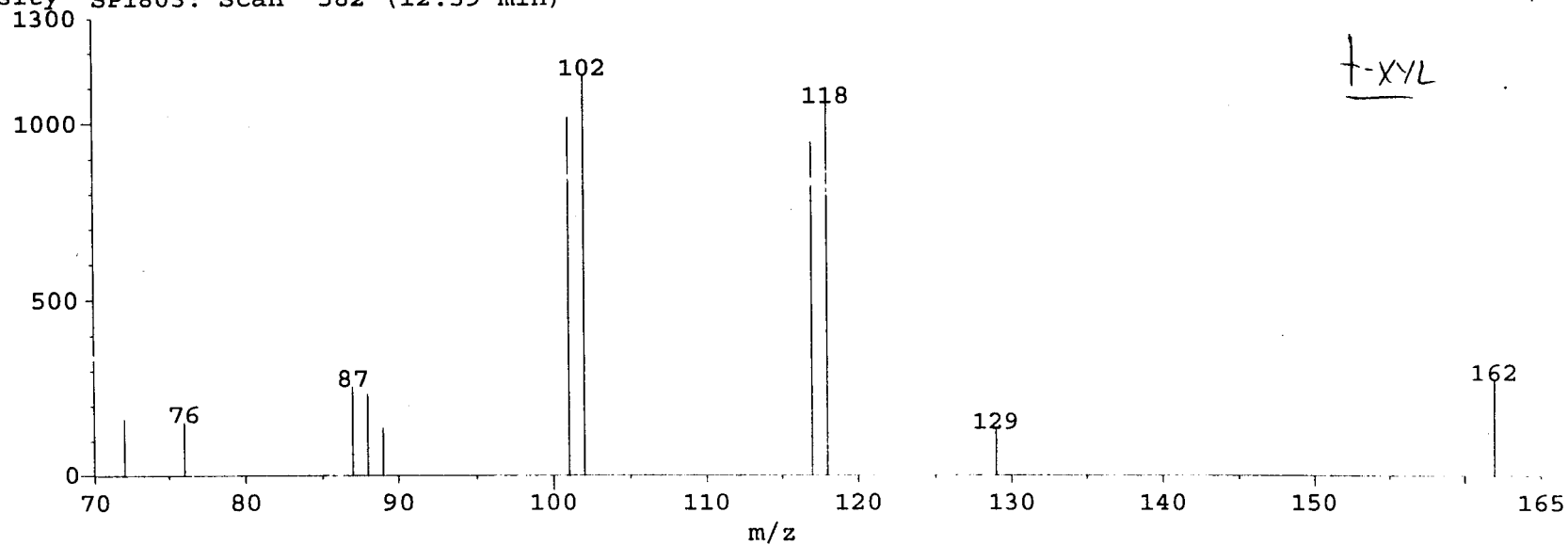


K

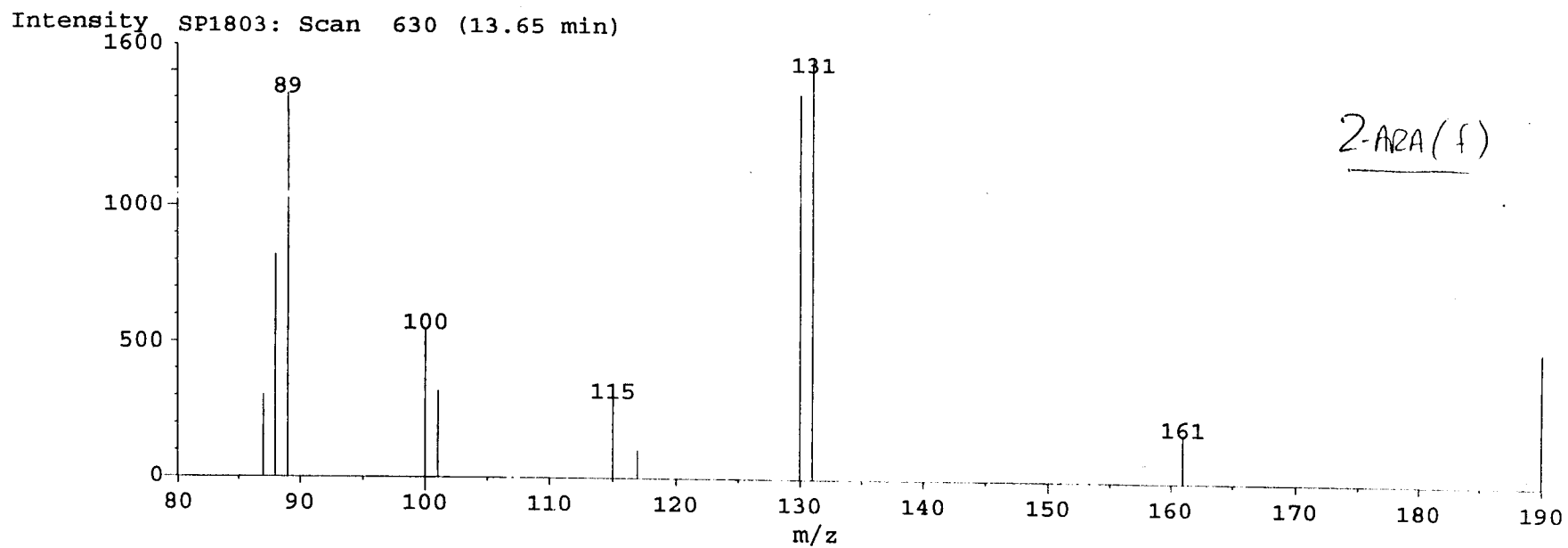
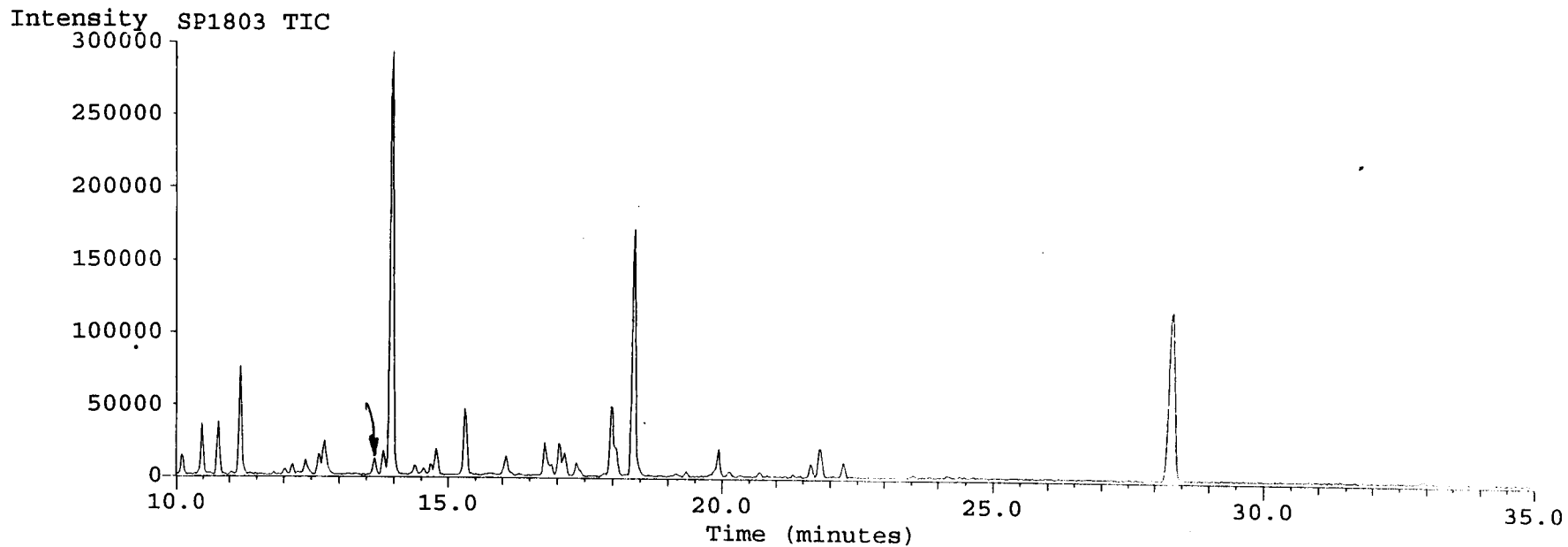
Intensity SP1803 TIC



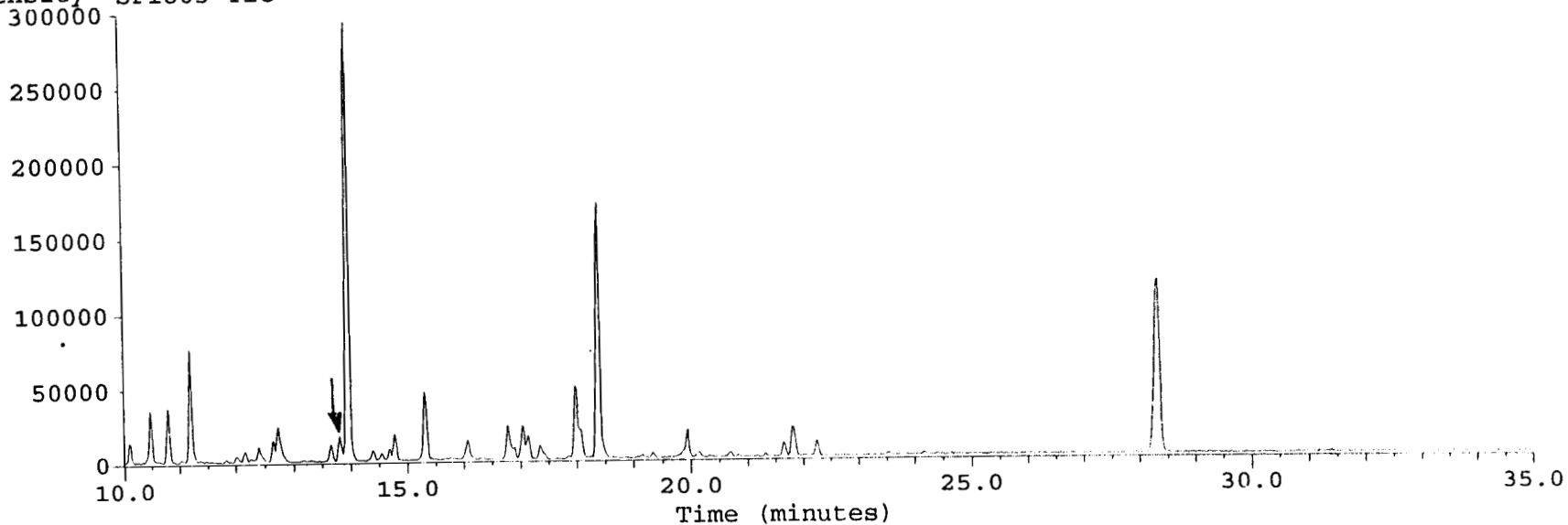
Intensity SP1803: Scan 582 (12.39 min)



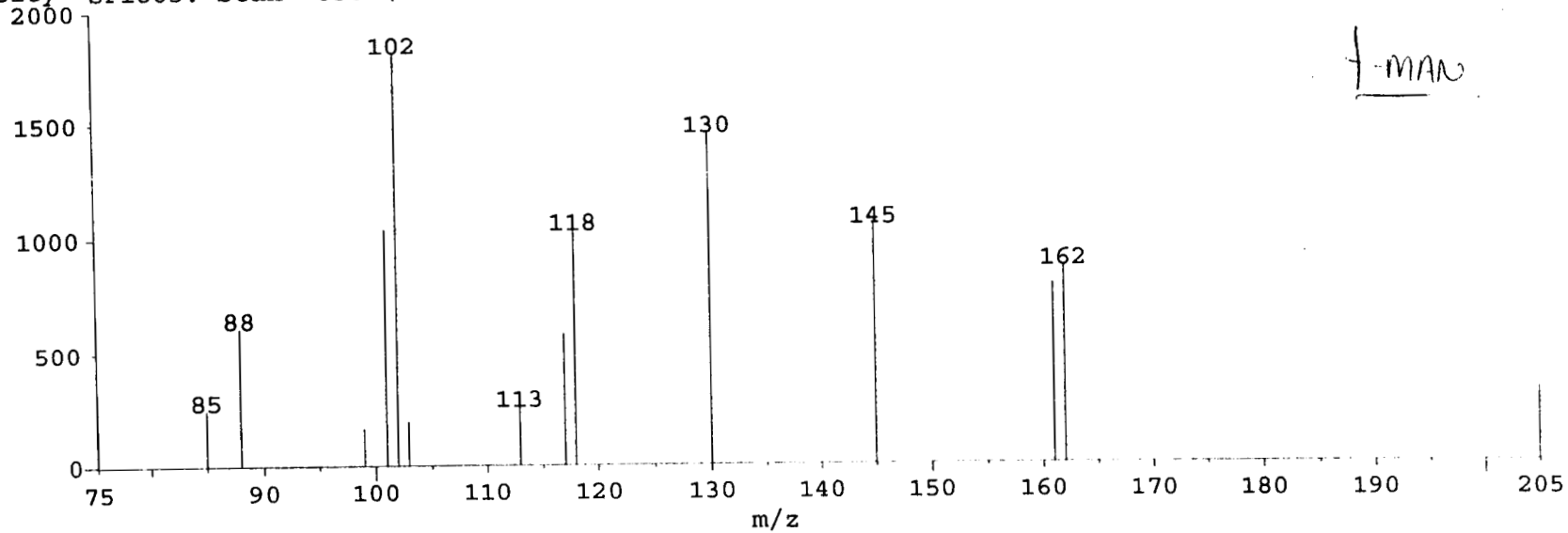
51

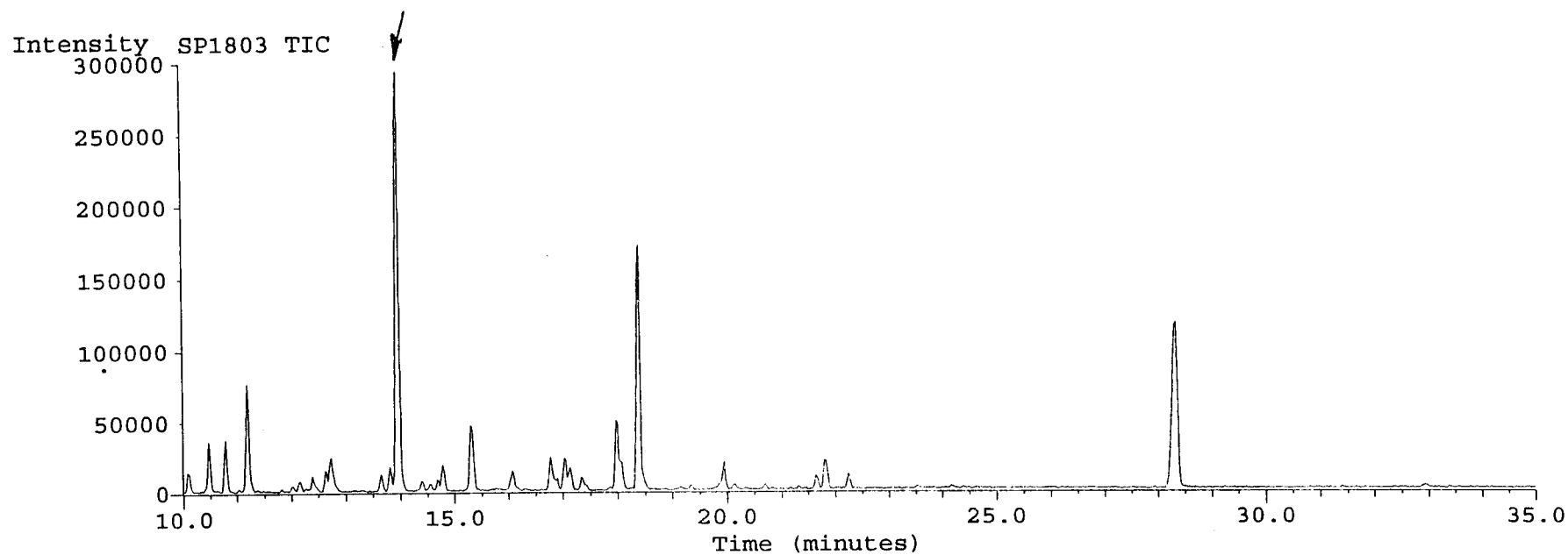


Intensity SP1803 TIC

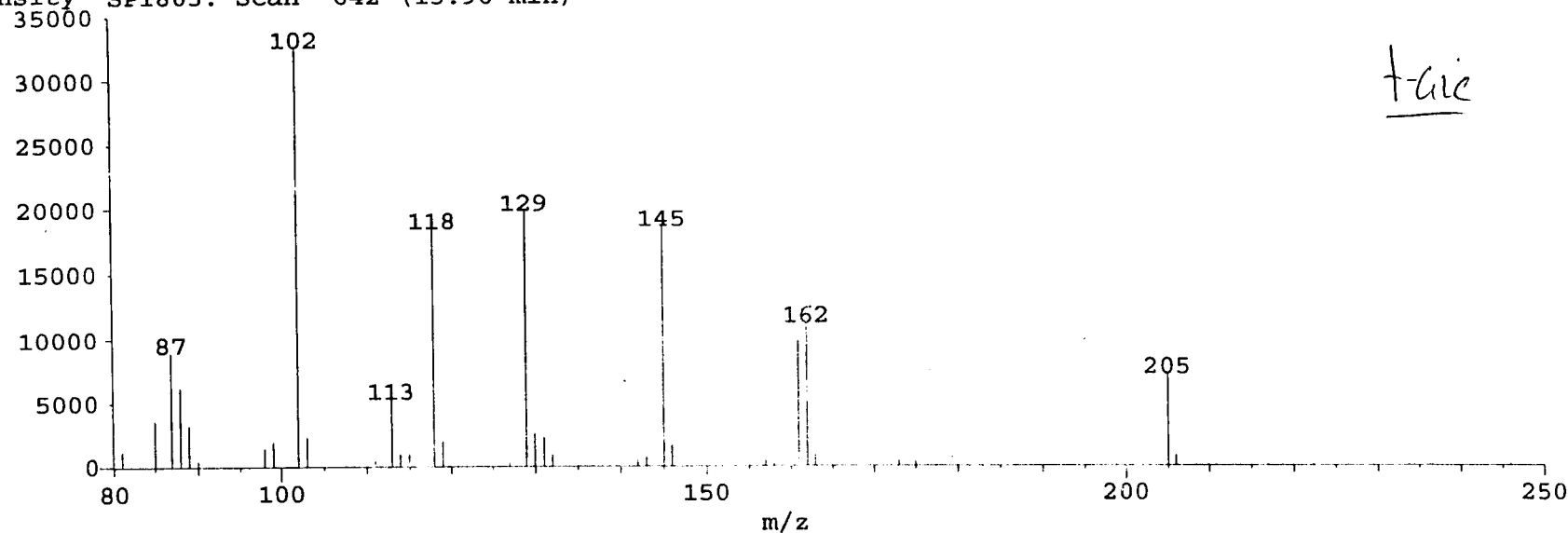


Intensity SP1803: Scan 636 (13.81 min)



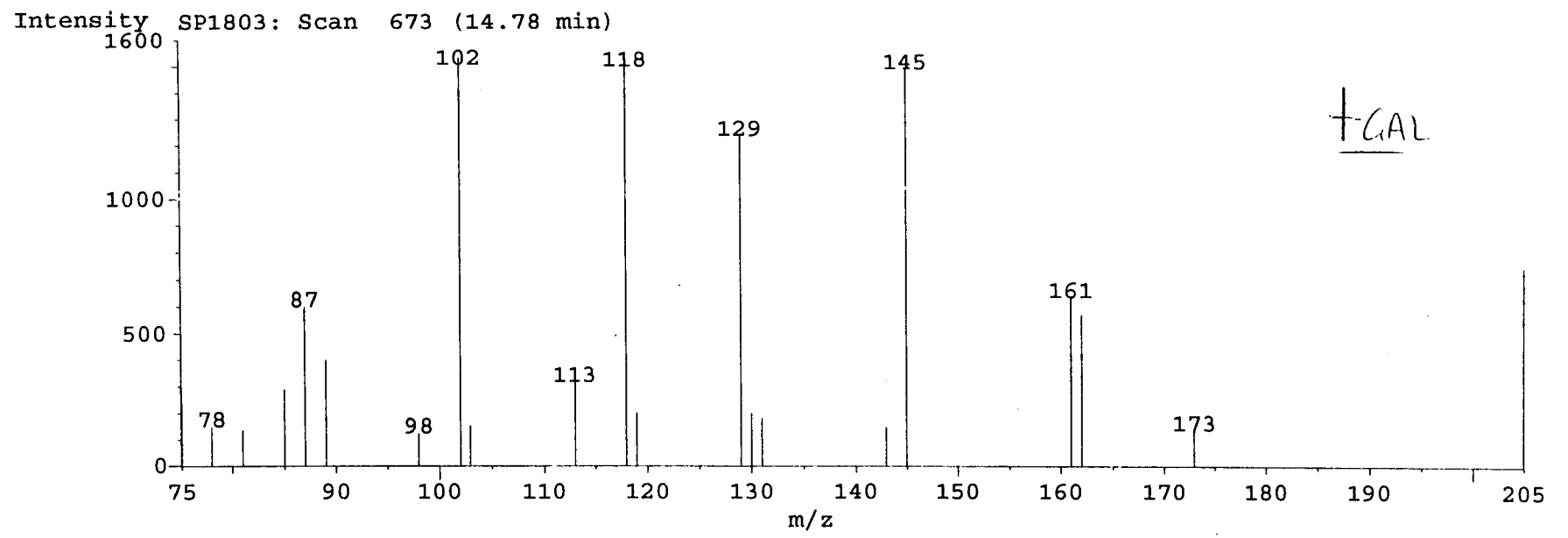
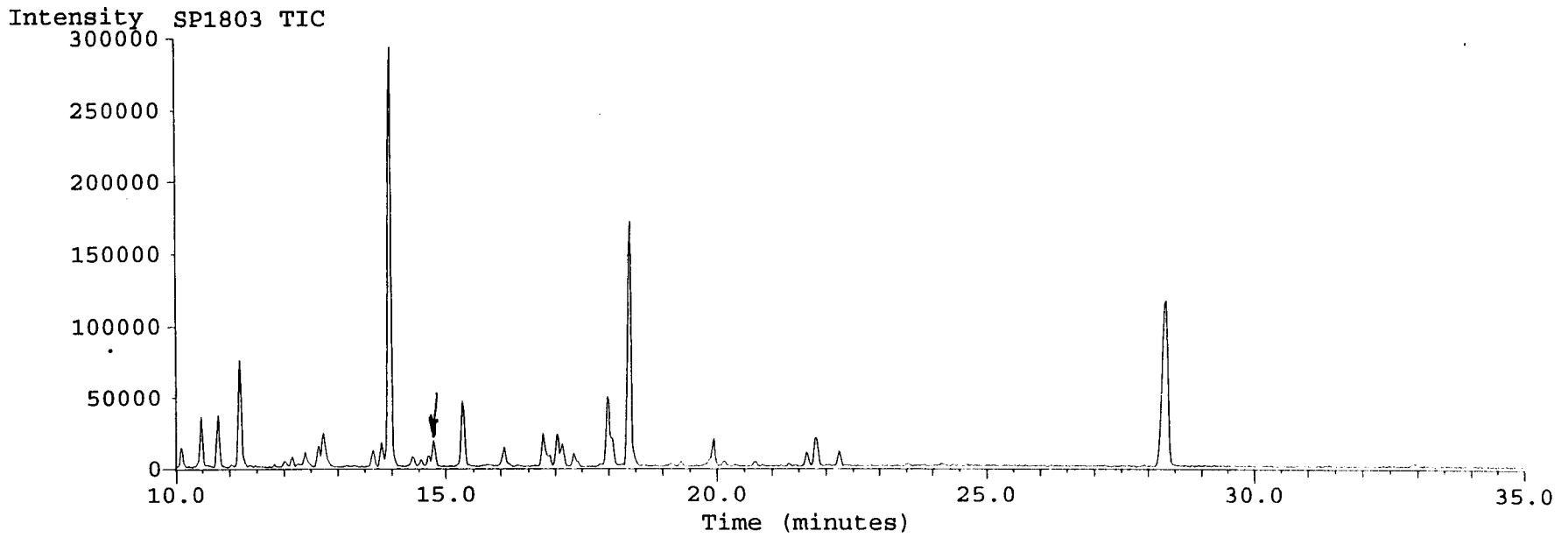


Intensity SP1803: Scan 642 (13.96 min)

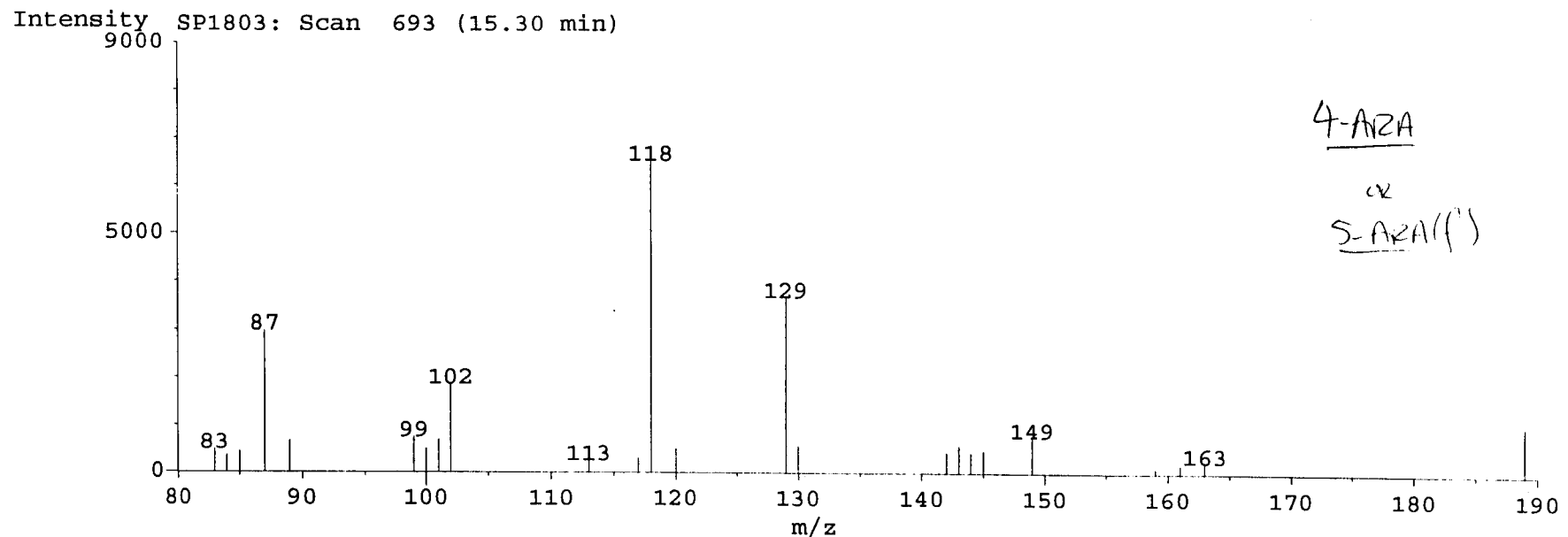
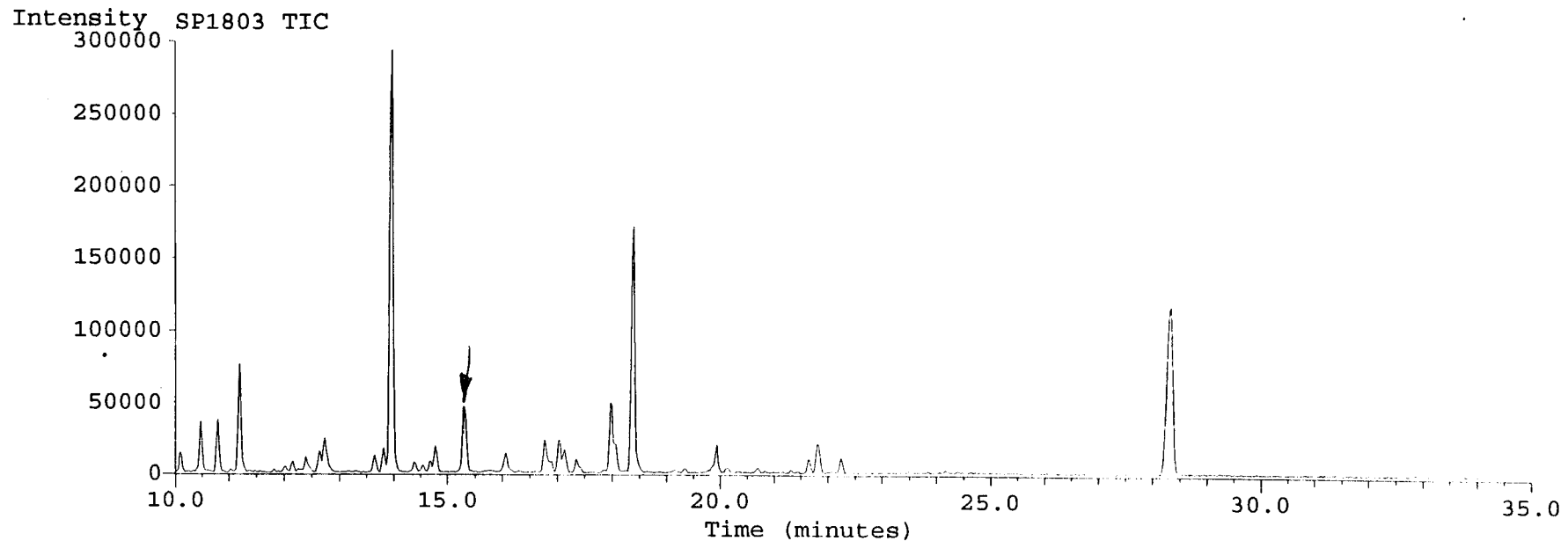


tic

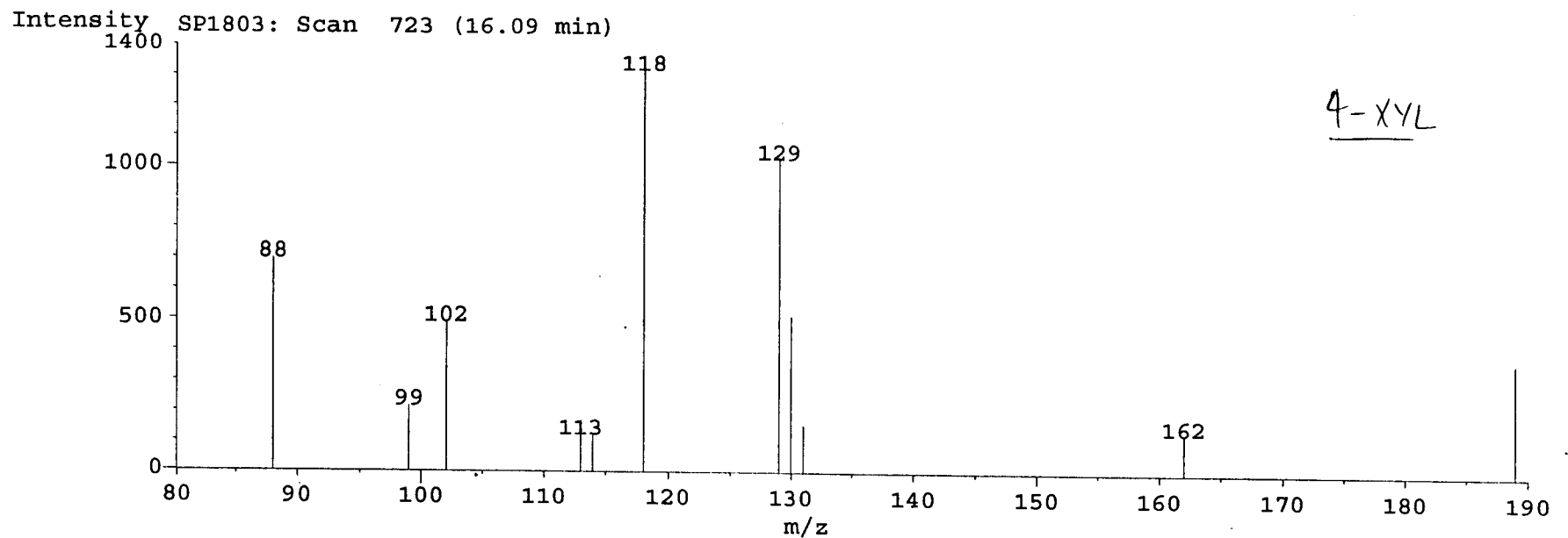
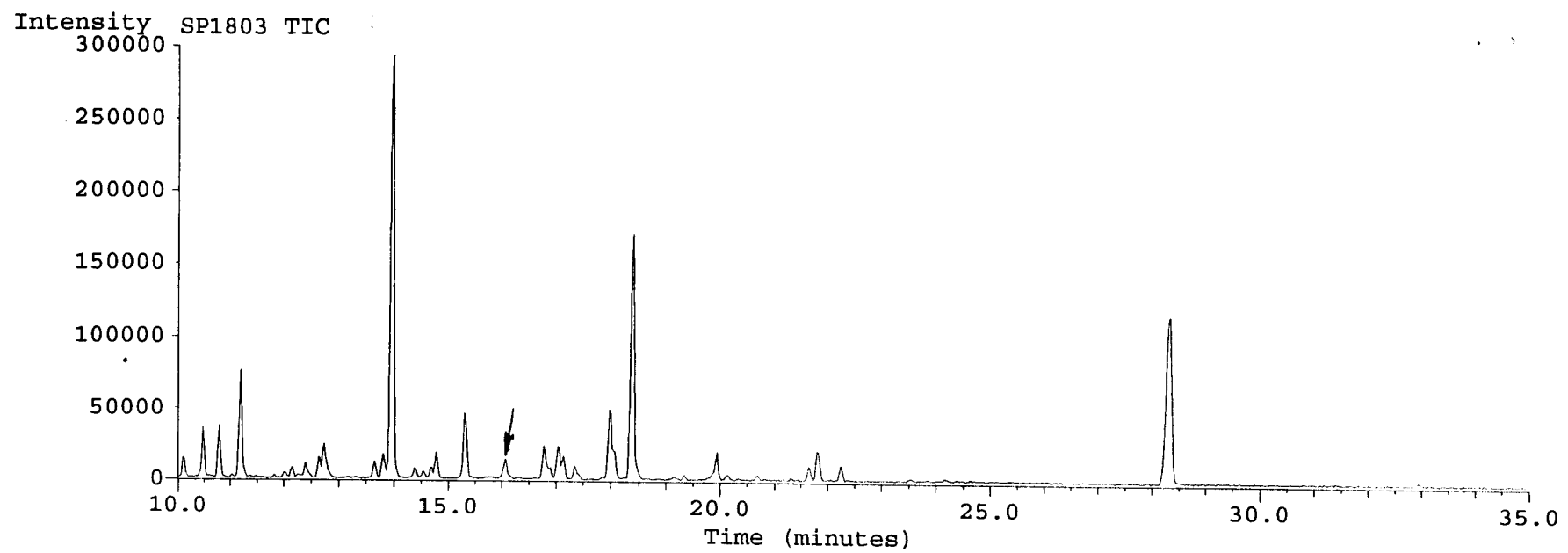
54



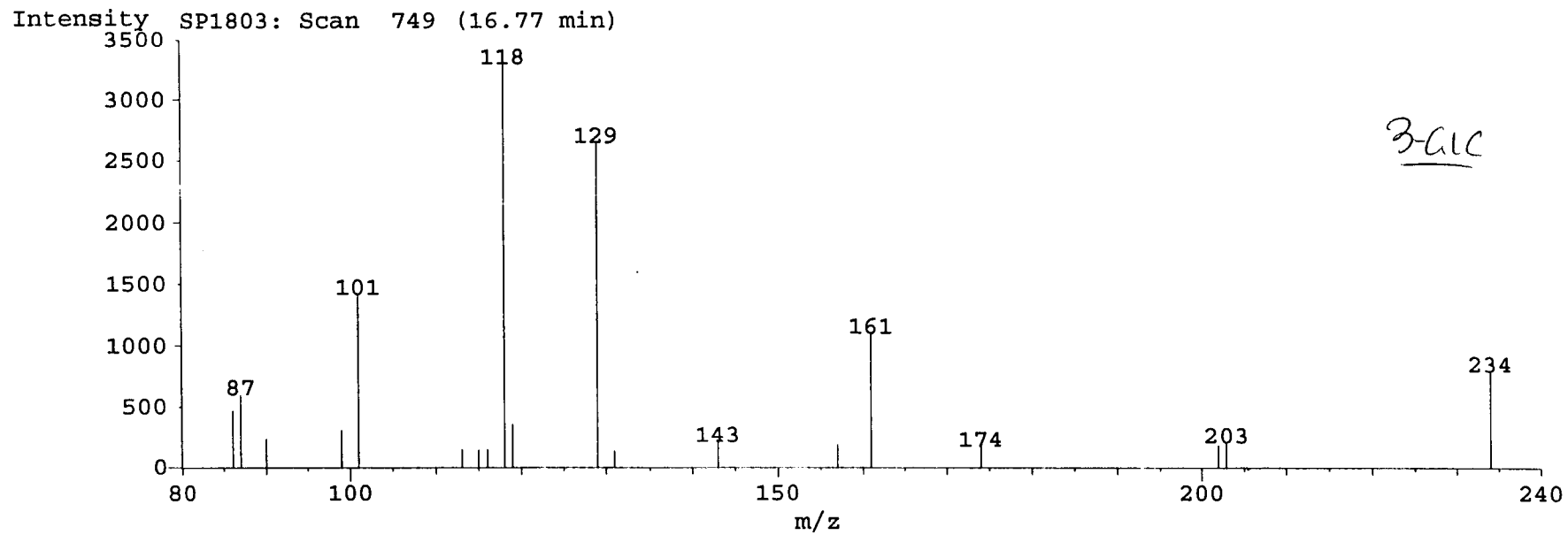
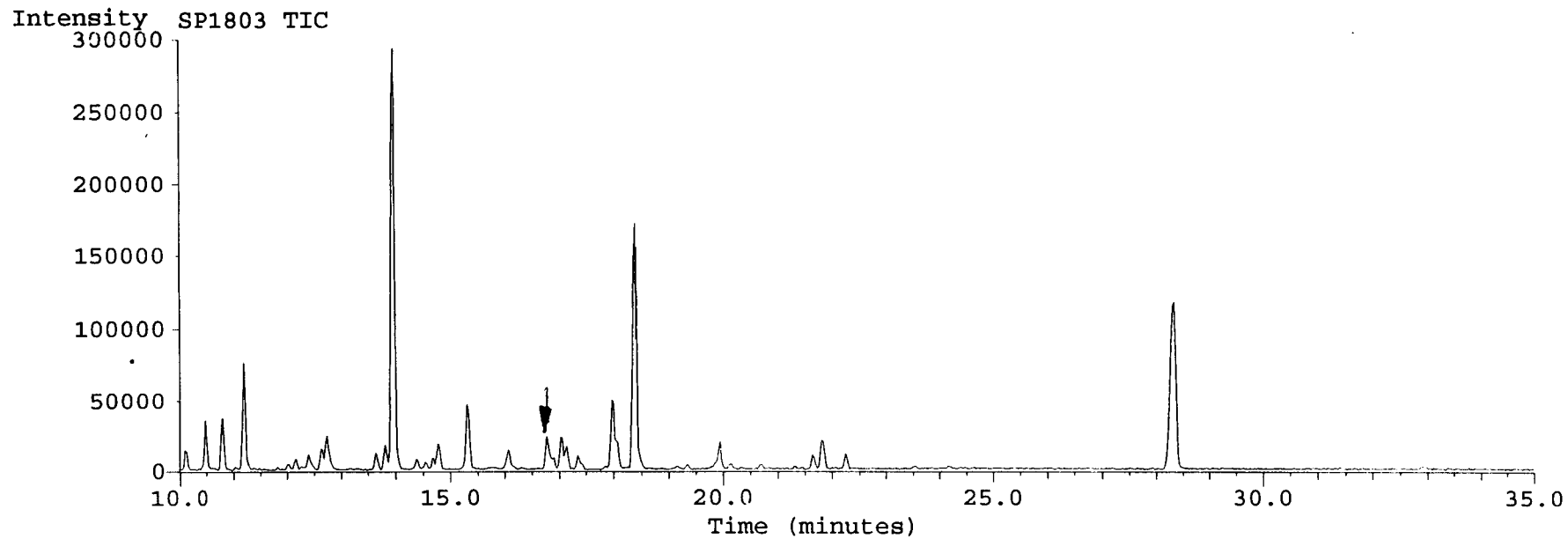
55



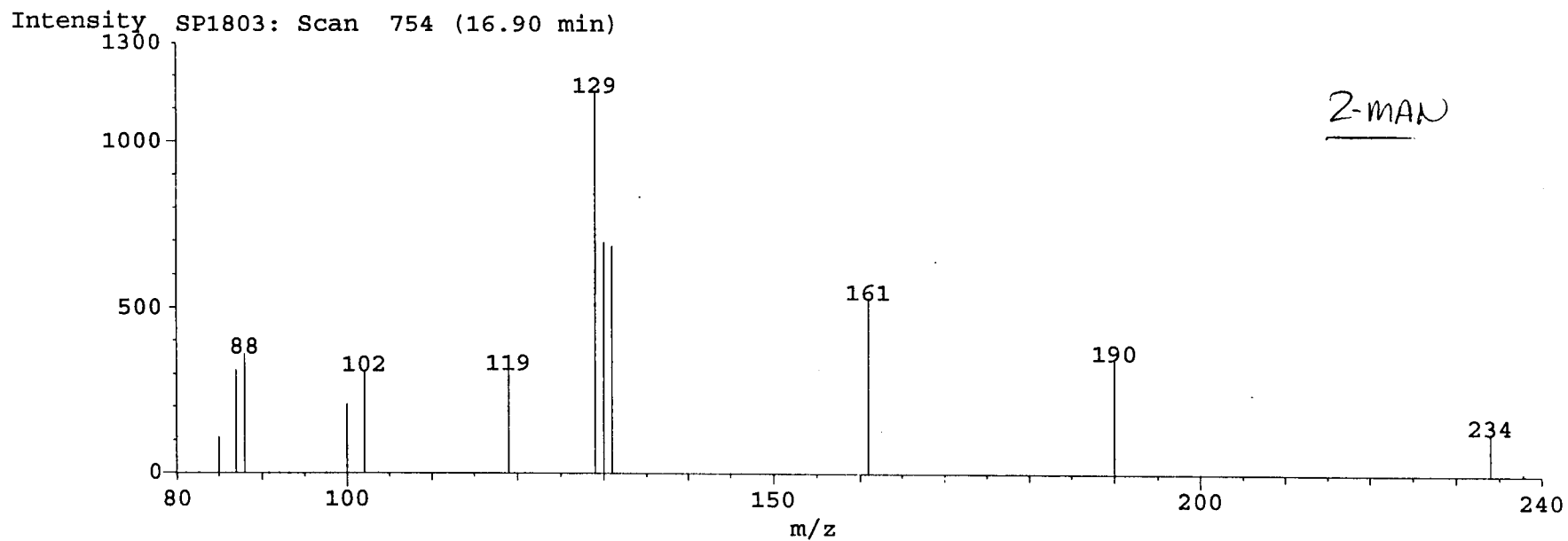
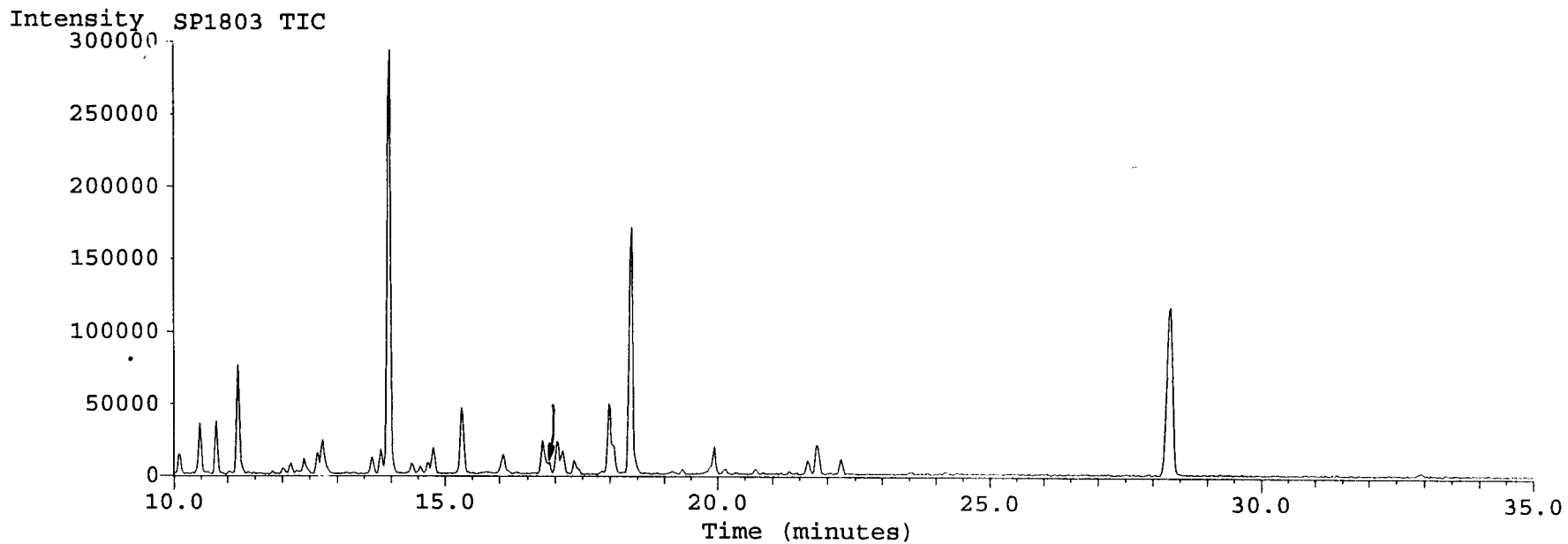
52

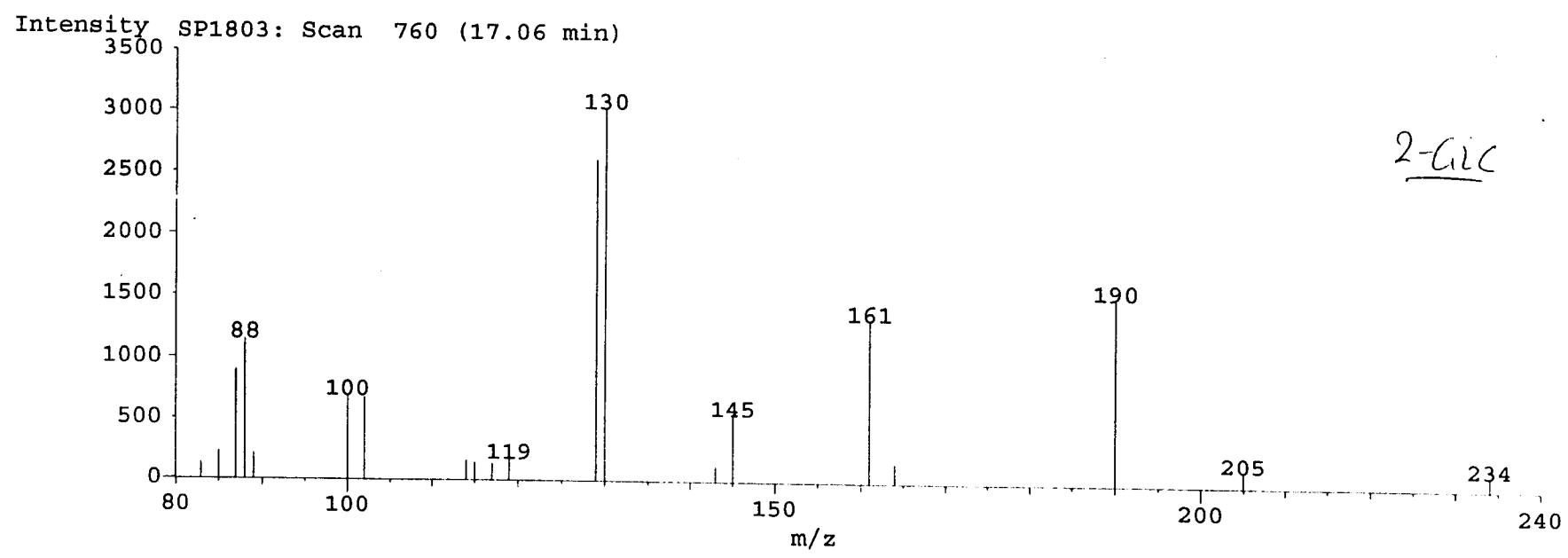
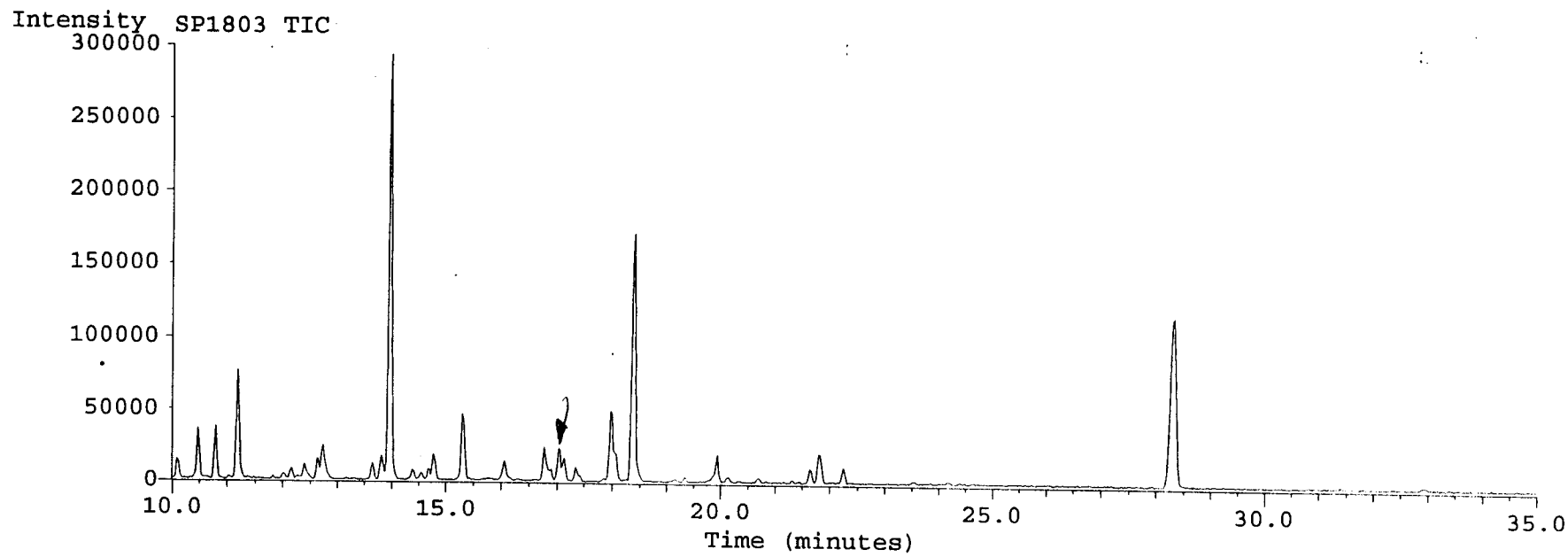


5

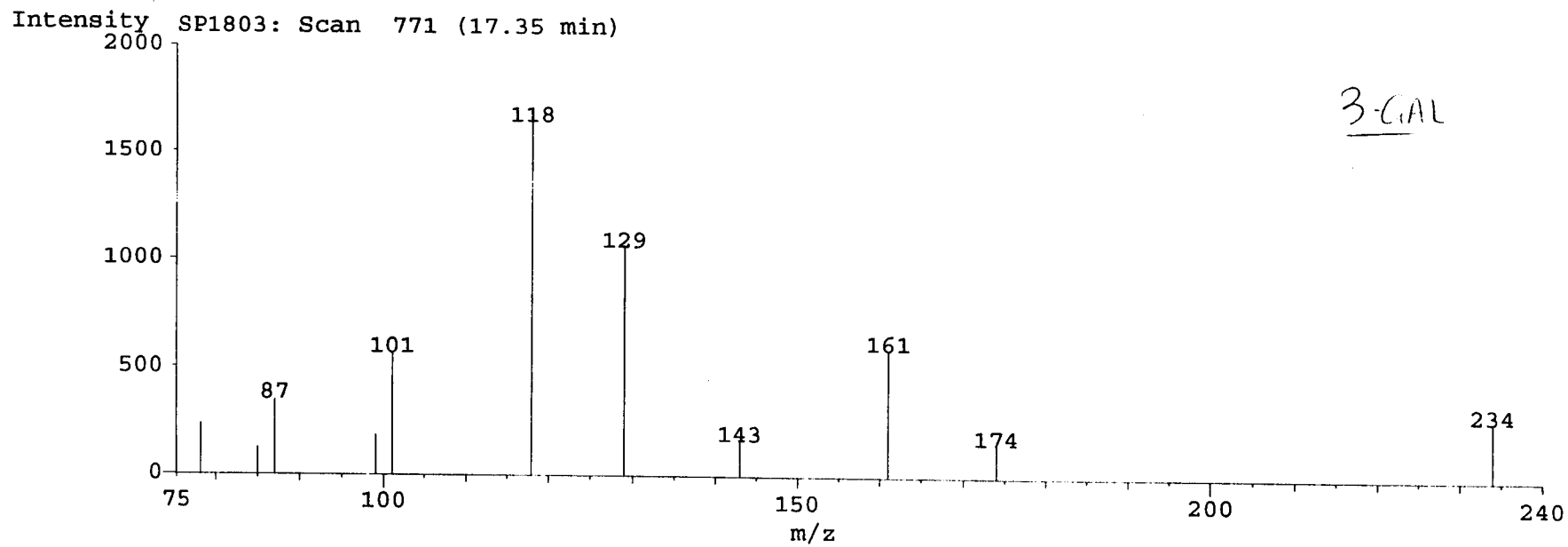
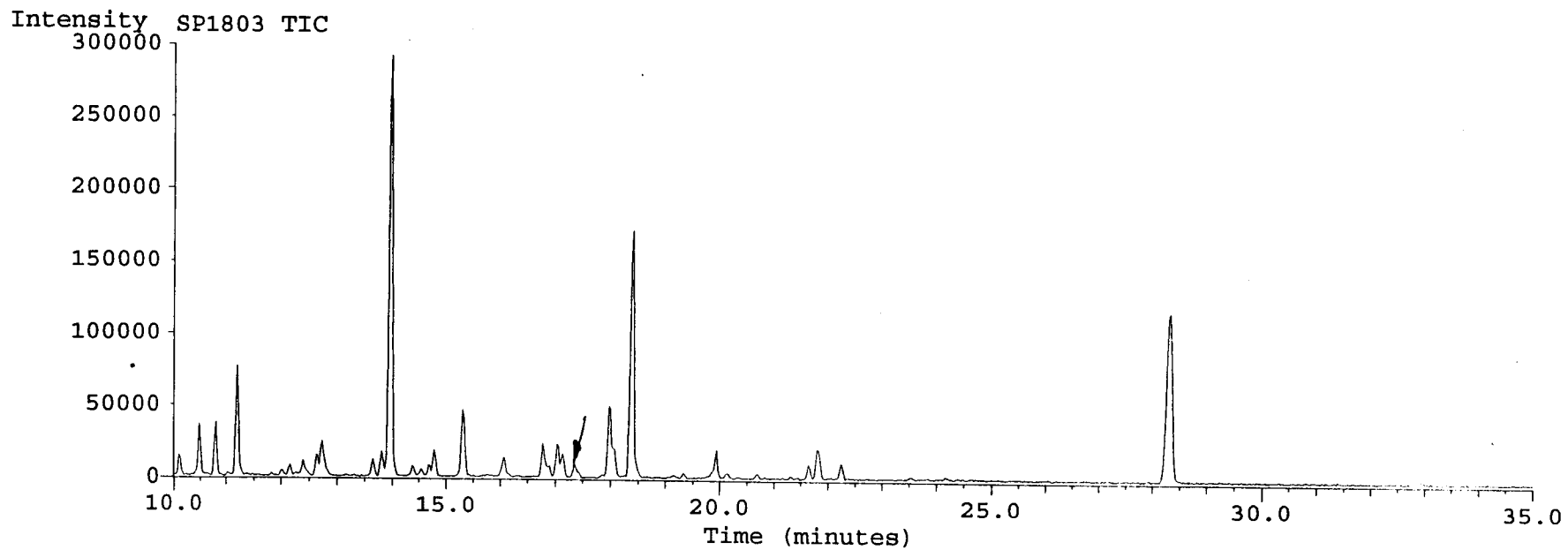


58



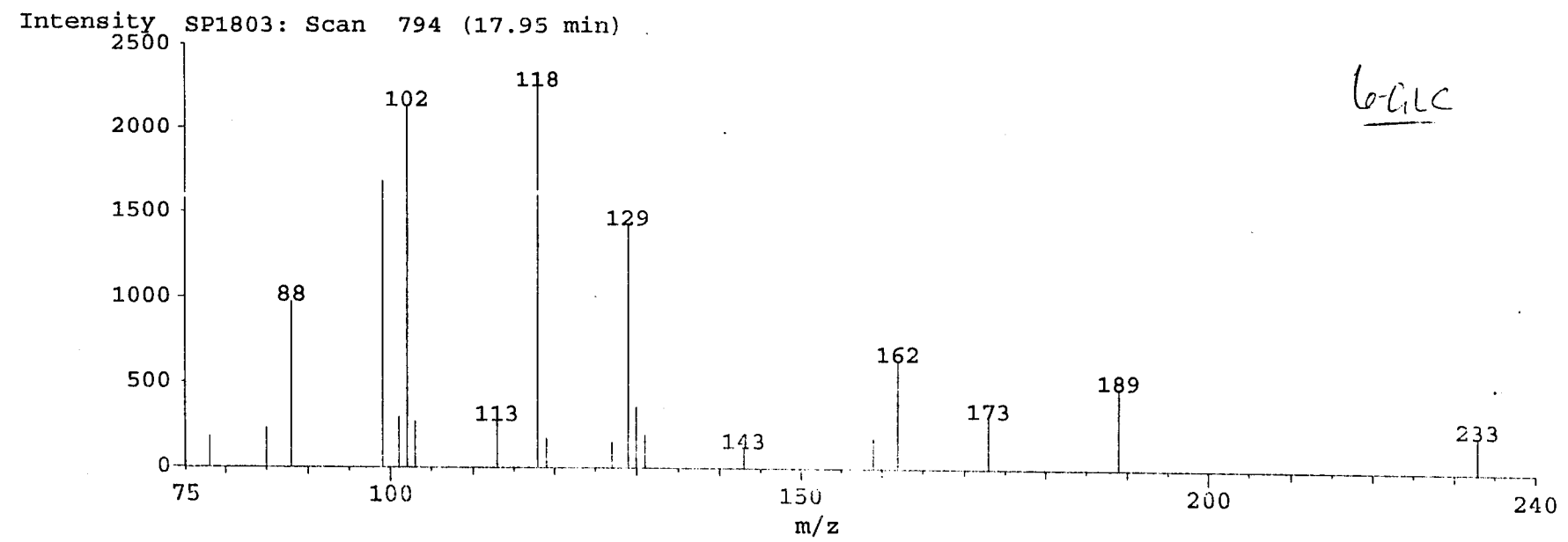
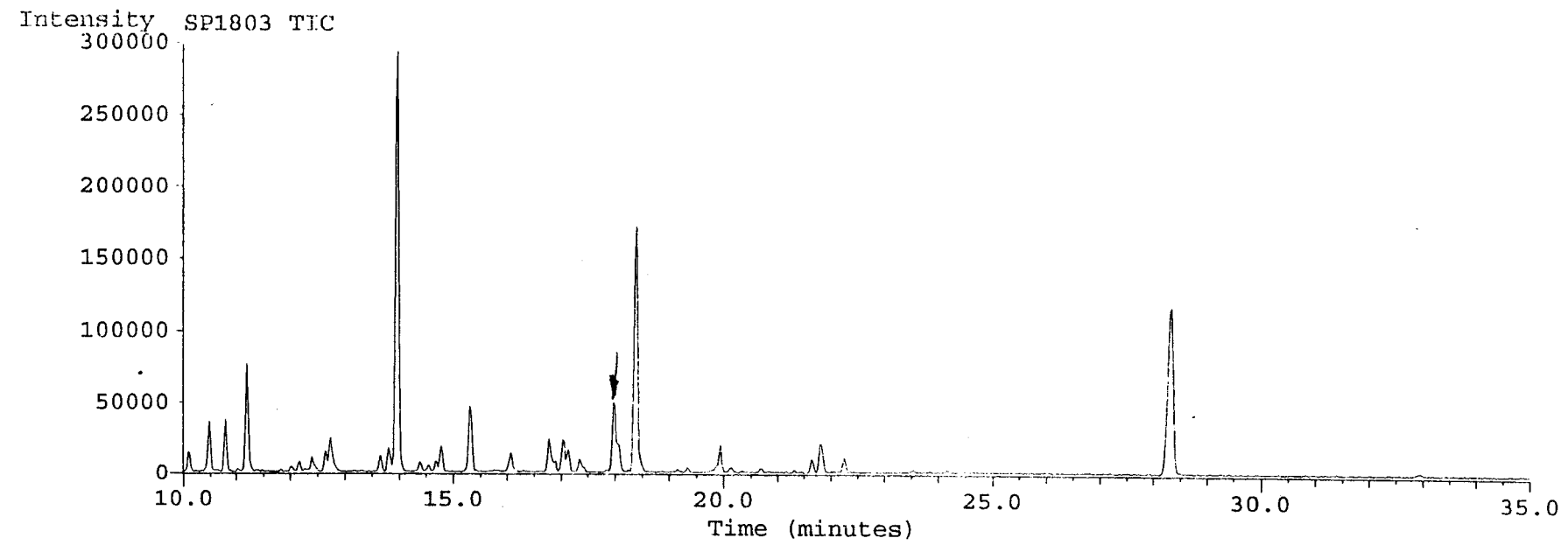


69

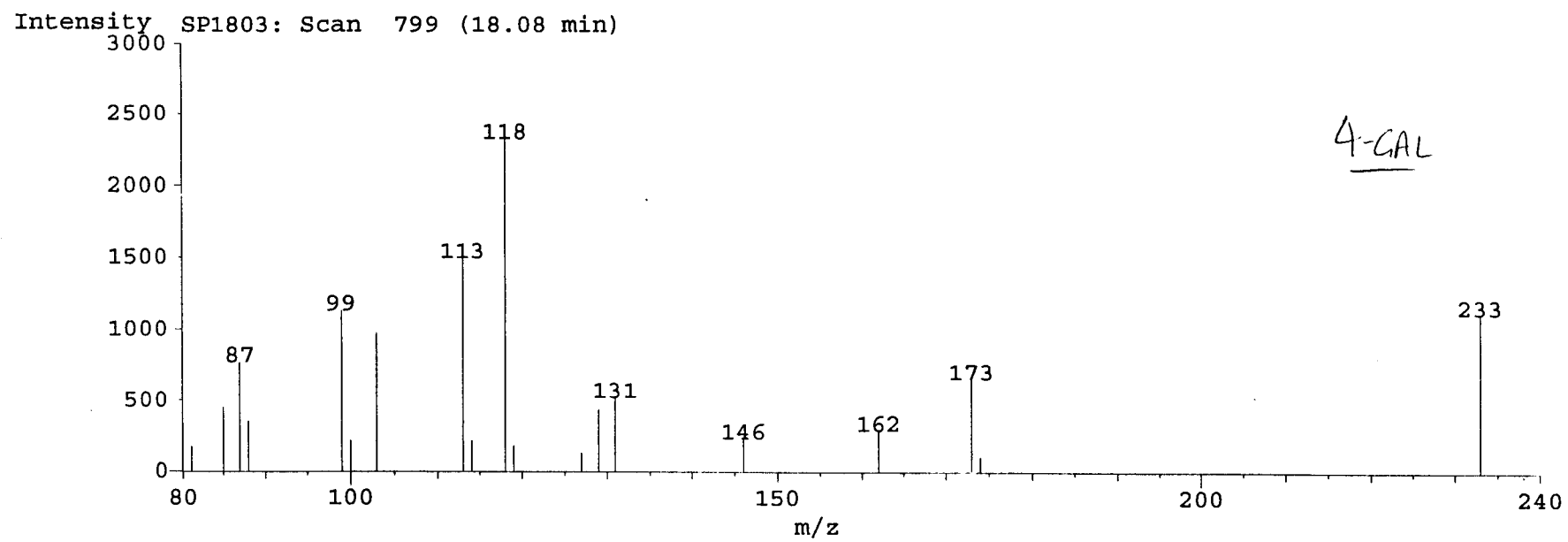
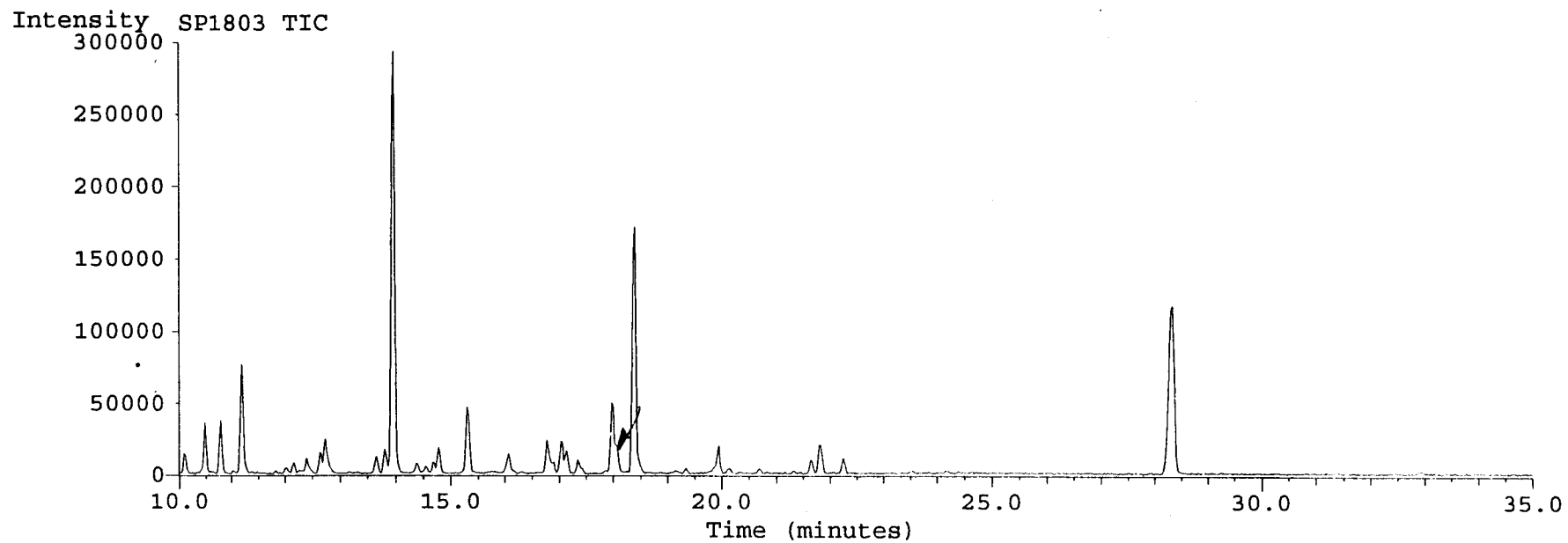


l.

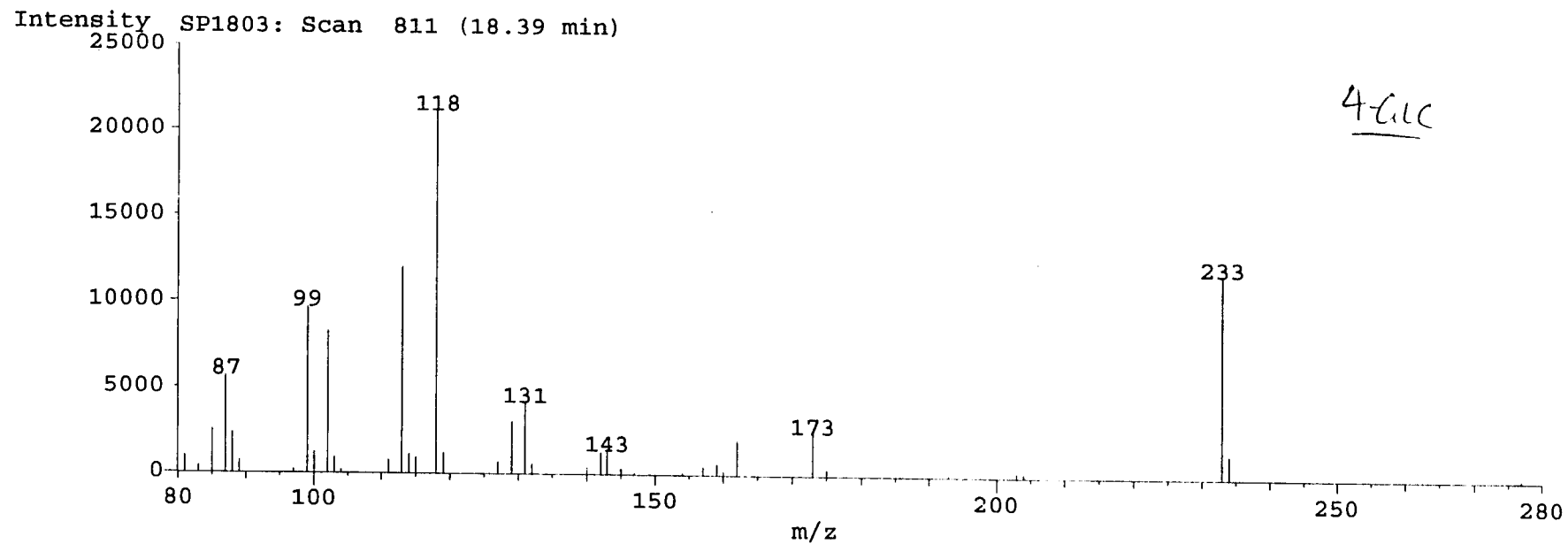
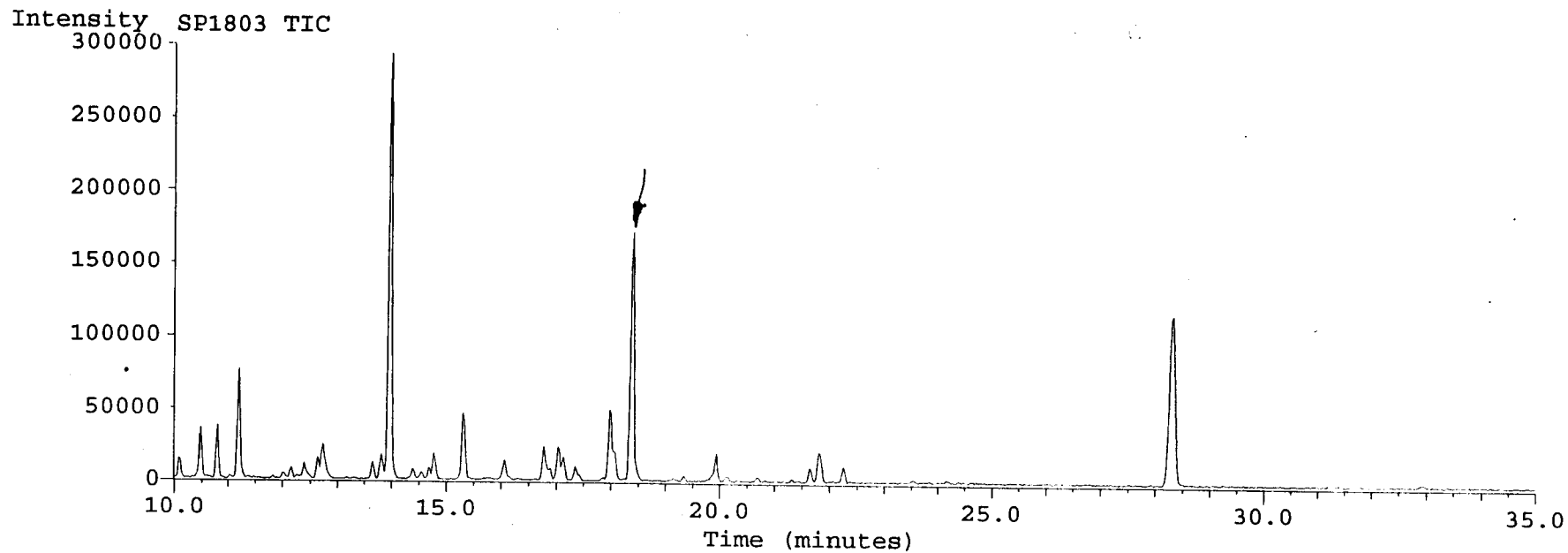
61



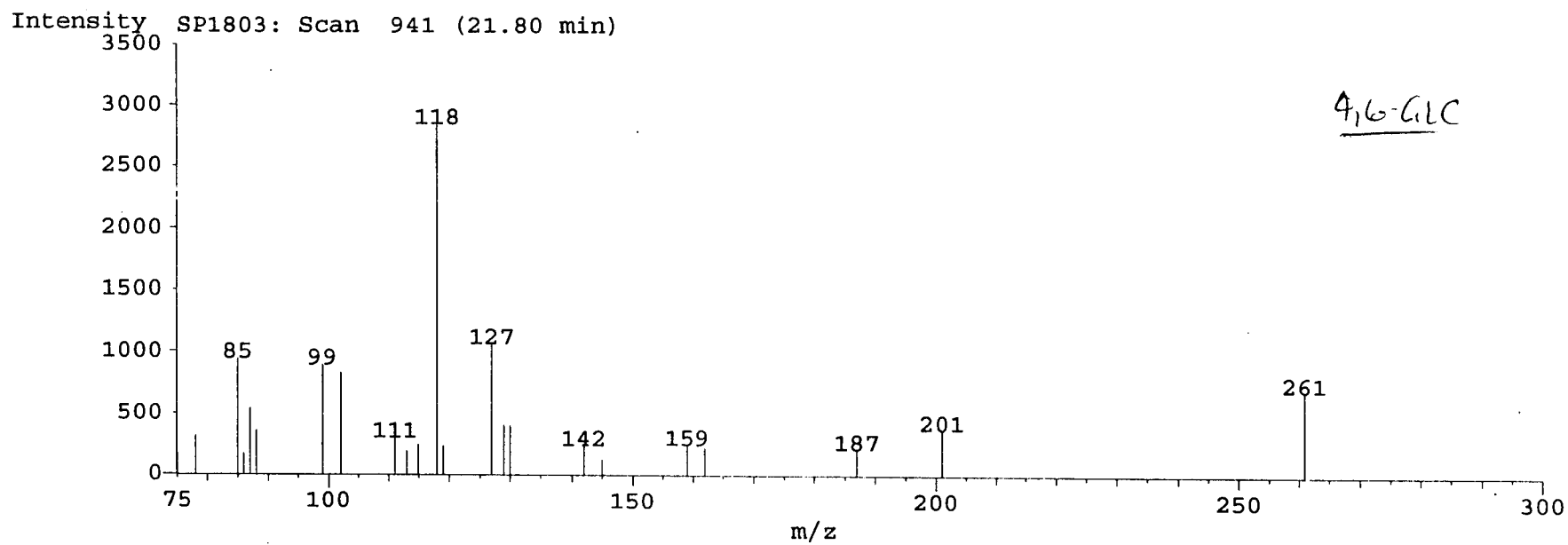
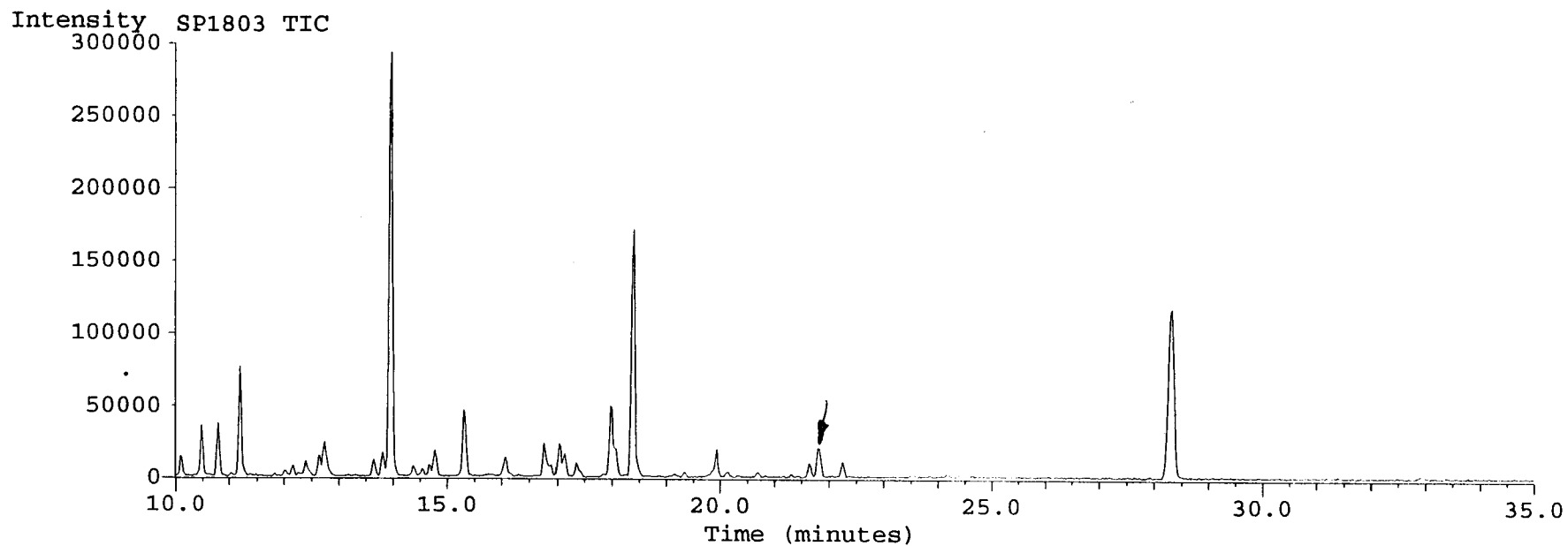
62

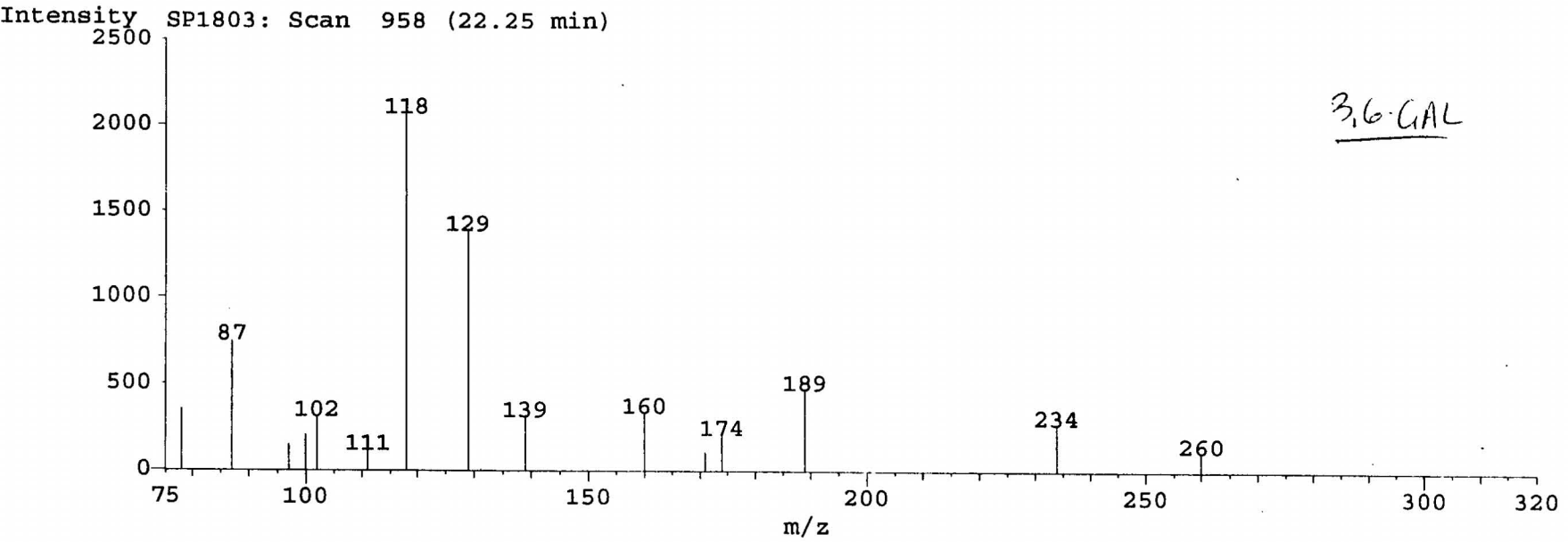
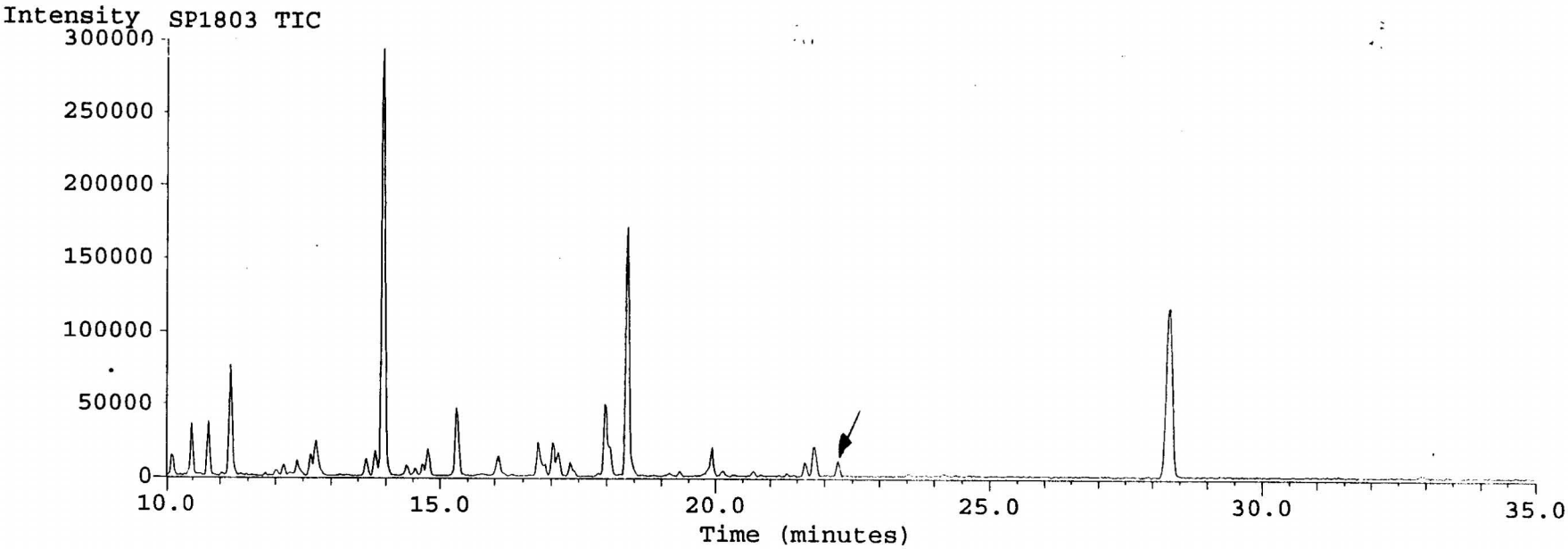


63



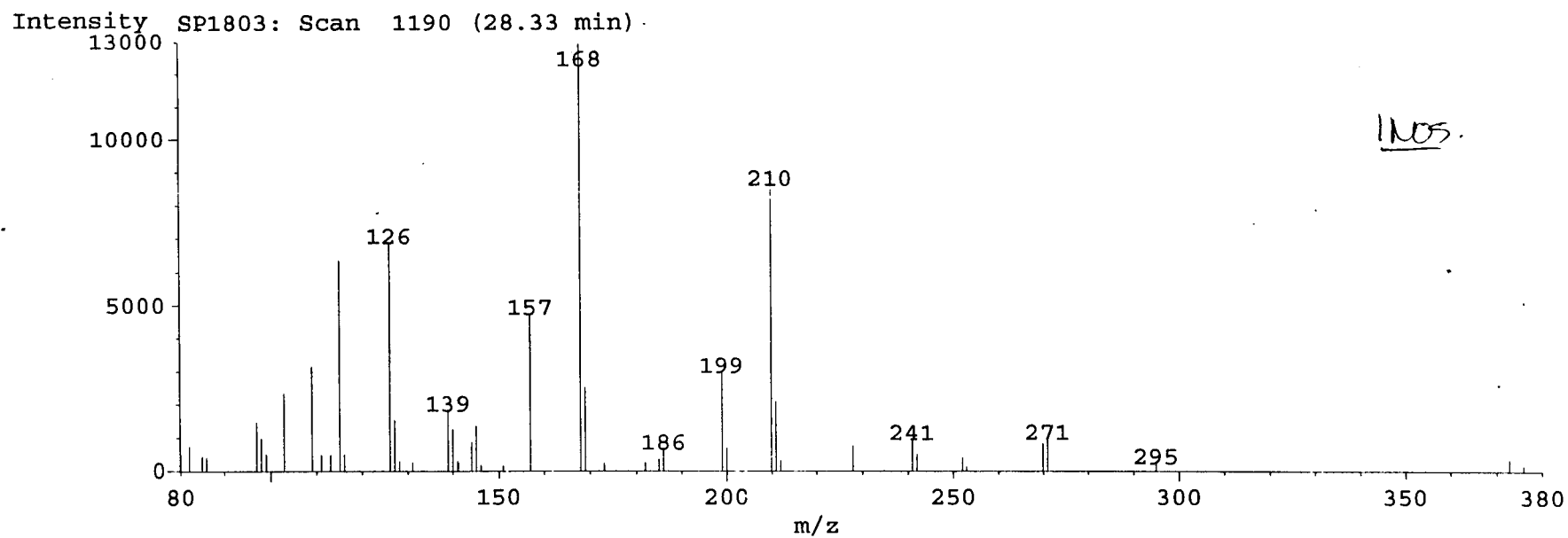
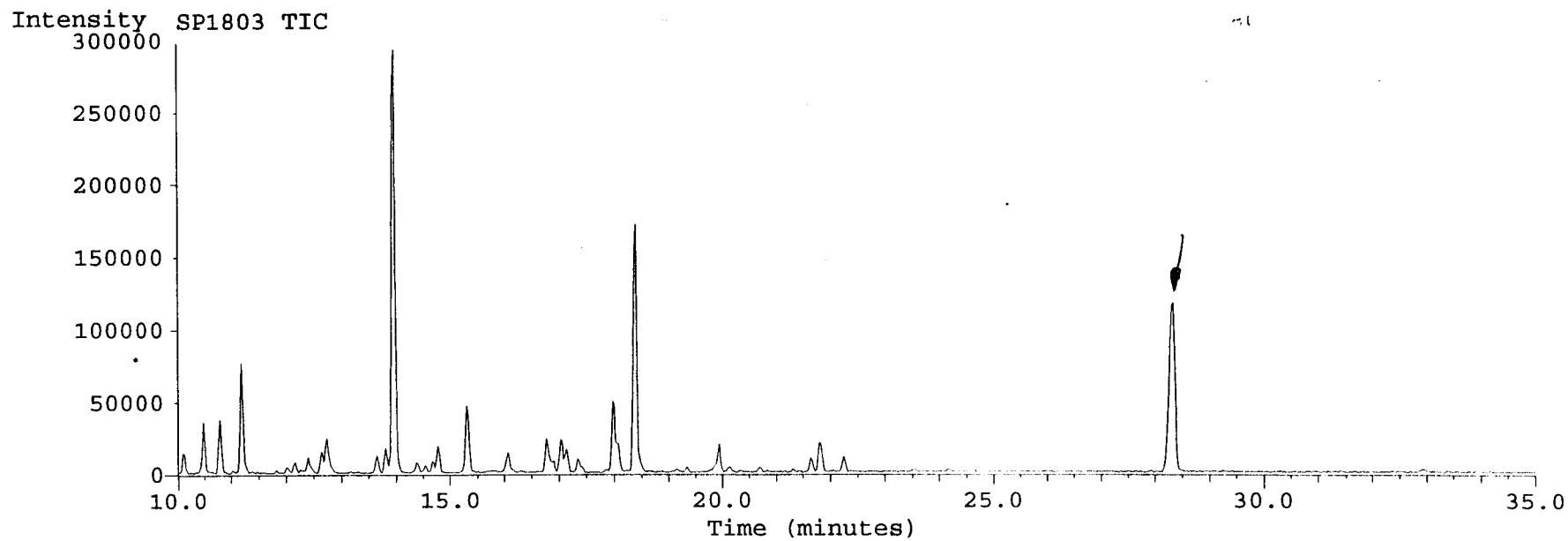
649





3,6-GAL

9



HP5970 SP2330 column Log Dev14

Data: (Thu Sep 30 12:07:52 1999) C:\VECTOR2\DATA\inst2\SP1835.TKF

Method: (Tue Sep 28 15:00:26 1999) C:\VECTOR2\METHODS\INSTR2\PMMA.MTH

Cal: C:\VECTOR2\METHODS\INSTR2\EI.CAL

Sample mj-1, Vol 1 Dil 1 Group 0

ua/pmaa

Instrument Parameters:

StartInjection

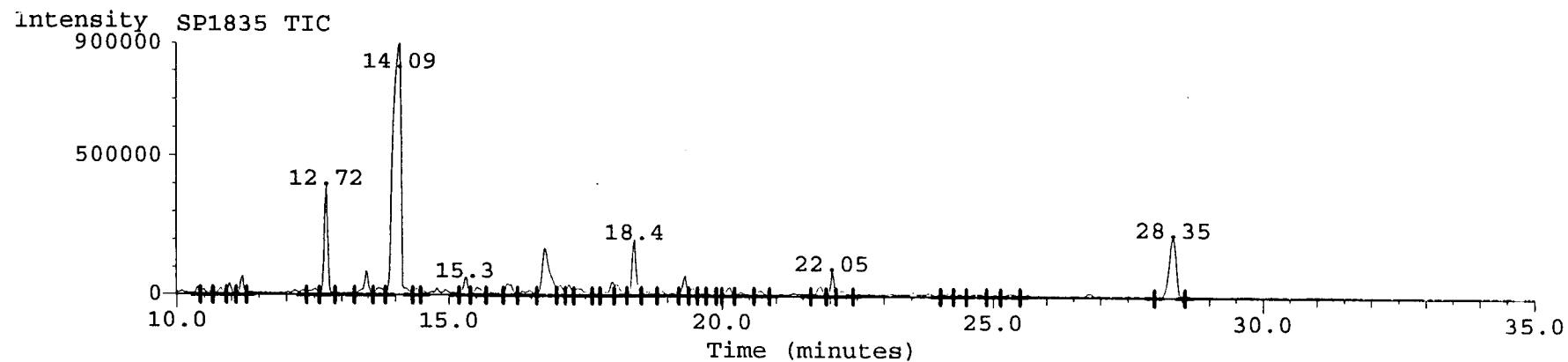
Scan Parameters:

SCAN every 1 secs for 5 min

SCAN every 1 secs for 35 min

30-600

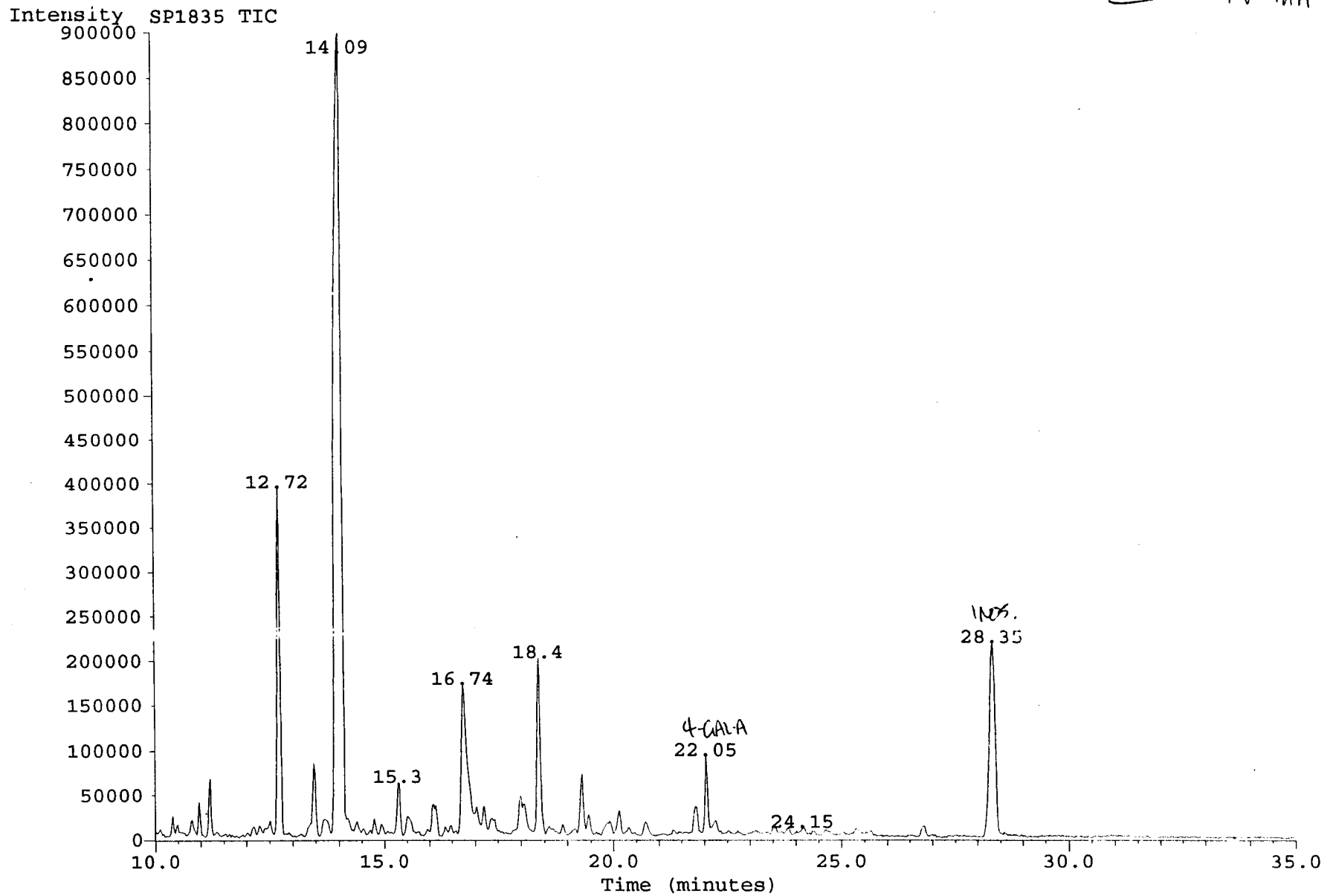
MJ-1 UA/PMMA

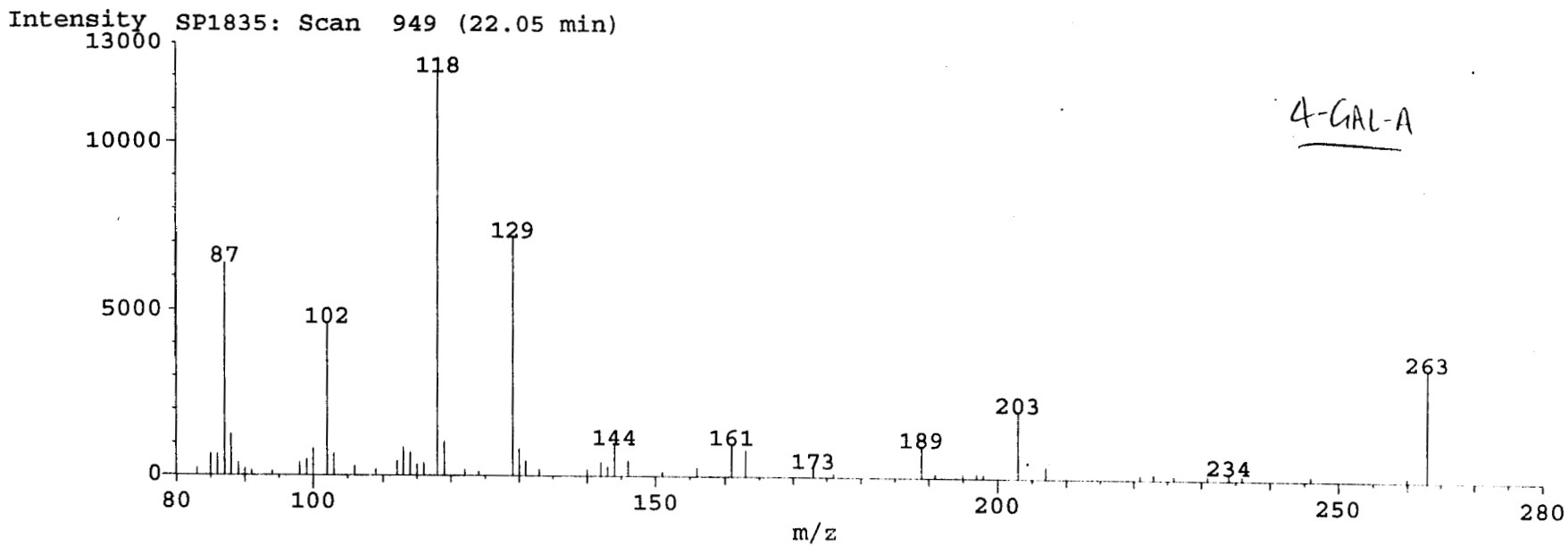
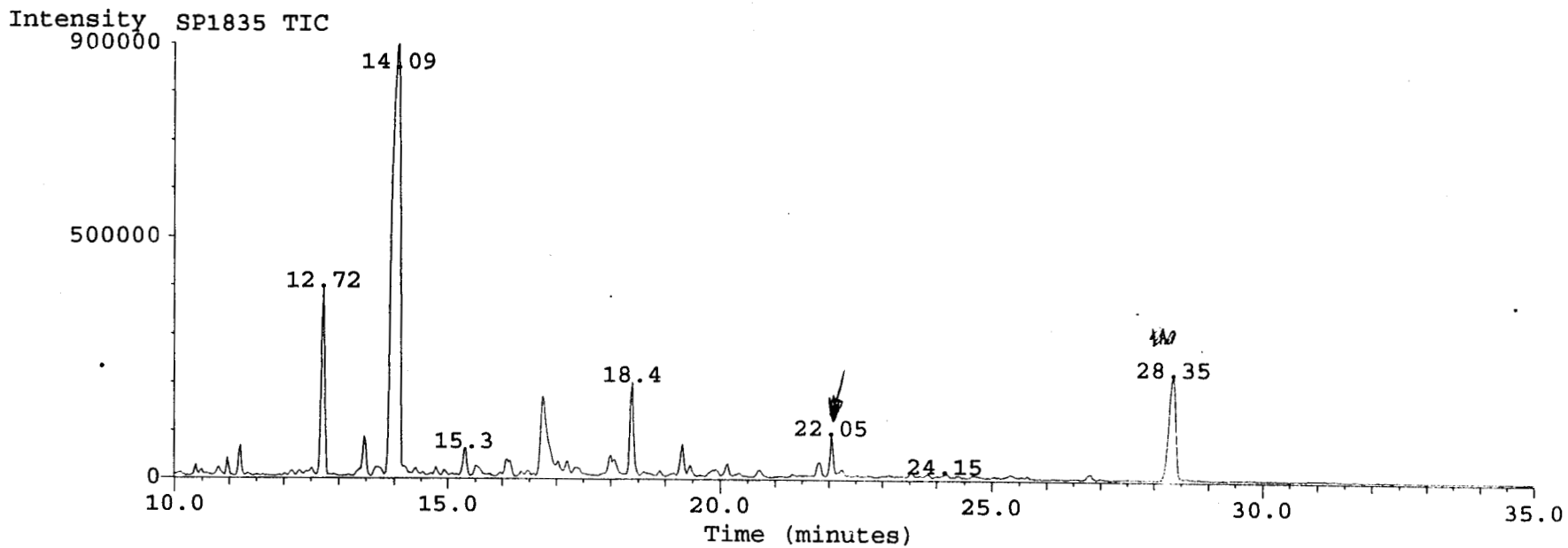


69

Linkage analysis (GALA linkage).

MS-1 UA/6777AA





ol

| RT | AREA | HEIGHT | %T | AREA %S | AREA |
|---------|------------|--------|-------|---------|--------|
| 6.76 | 4299.001 | 36280 | 1.09 | 2.70 | |
| 7.71 | 4161.642 | 68747 | 1.06 | 2.61 | |
| 9.15 | 3595.297 | 32213 | 0.91 | 2.25 | |
| 9.60 | 4340.407 | 50195 | 1.10 | 2.72 | |
| 10.49 | 2307.853 | 16951 | 0.59 | 1.45 | |
| 10.81 | 2691.128 | 22114 | 0.68 | 1.69 | |
| 10.96 | 2728.001 | 41482 | 0.69 | 1.71 | |
| 11.20 | 4833.119 | 68472 | 1.23 | 3.03 | |
| 12.51 | 3079.066 | 21081 | 0.78 | 1.93 | |
| 12.72 | 28794.238 | 394064 | 7.31 | 18.06 | |
| 13.46 | 8679.600 | 85835 | 2.20 | 5.44 | |
| 13.69 | 3776.524 | 22552 | 0.96 | 2.37 | |
| 14.09 S | 159442.369 | 897538 | 40.46 | 100.00 | |
| 14.40 | 2123.863 | 20082 | 0.54 | 1.33 | |
| 15.30 | 5820.886 | 63145 | 1.48 | 3.65 | |
| 15.51 | 4185.915 | 25262 | 1.06 | 2.63 | |
| 16.08 | 5538.831 | 39063 | 1.41 | 3.47 | |
| 16.74 | 27804.148 | 172138 | 7.06 | 17.44 | |
| 17.03 | 4084.235 | 35912 | 1.04 | 2.56 | |
| 17.19 | 3671.029 | 36343 | 0.93 | 2.30 | |
| 17.37 | 4725.329 | 22893 | 1.20 | 2.96 | |
| 18.00 | 5165.068 | 48375 | 1.31 | 3.24 | |
| 18.08 | 4902.449 | 38862 | 1.24 | 3.07 | |
| 18.40 | 16738.554 | 202091 | 4.25 | 10.50 | |
| 18.61 | 2842.135 | 14241 | 0.72 | 1.78 | |
| 19.32 | 6615.894 | 73407 | 1.68 | 4.15 | |
| 19.45 | 2673.378 | 27115 | 0.68 | 1.68 | |
| 19.87 | 2227.954 | 17818 | 0.57 | 1.40 | |
| 20.13 | 3478.019 | 31732 | 0.88 | 2.18 | |
| 20.71 | 2841.505 | 18996 | 0.72 | 1.78 | |
| 21.81 | 4733.675 | 35517 | 1.20 | 2.97 | |
| 22.05 | 7194.450 | 92312 | 1.83 | 4.51 | 4-CA-A |
| 22.26 | 3672.115 | 19954 | 0.93 | 2.30 | |
| 24.15 | 2042.072 | 12009 | 0.52 | 1.28 | |

16

| | | | | |
|-------|----------------|--------|------|-------|
| 24.65 | 2292.018 | 9370 | 0.58 | 1.44 |
| 25.33 | 2584.586 | 11421 | 0.66 | 1.62 |
| 28.35 | 33408.455 nos. | 218279 | 8.48 | 20.95 |

2

HP5970 SP2330 column Log Dev14

Data: (Thu Sep 30 13:04:41 1999) C:\VECTOR2\DATA\inst2\SP1836.TKF

Method: (Tue Sep 28 15:00:26 1999) C:\VECTOR2\METHODS\INSTR2\PMAA.MTH

Cal: C:\VECTOR2\METHODS\INSTR2\EI.CAL

Sample mj-2, Vol 1 Dil 1 Group 0

doub. pmaa

Instrument Parameters:

StartInjection

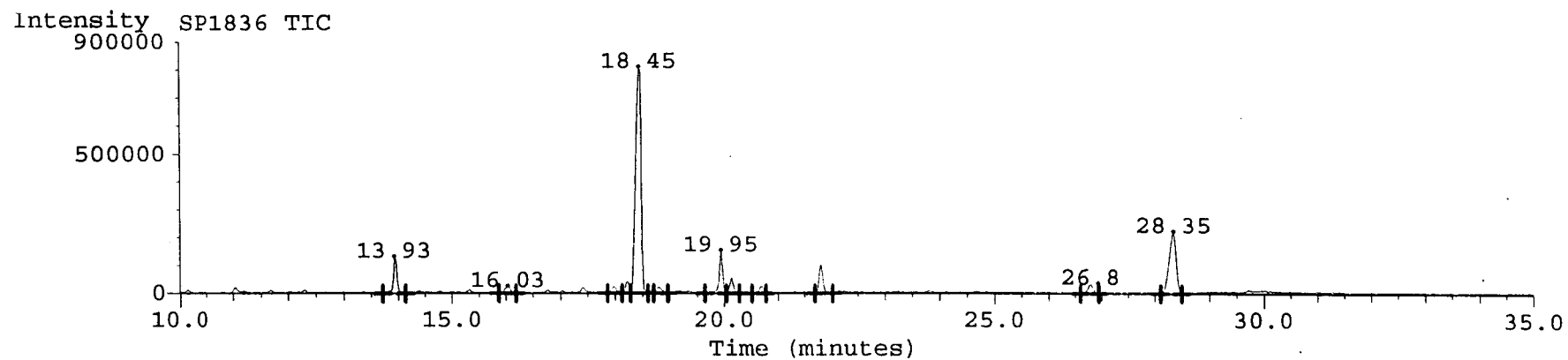
Scan Parameters:

SCAN every 1 secs for 5 min

SCAN every 1 secs for 35 min

30-600

MJ-2 Doub. meth / Rvina



73

Linkage analysis

MS-2 Dub. meta. / ANOVA

NB4449

