



# Isolation, characterization, and cytotoxic studies of secondary metabolites from the leaves of *Bauhinia foveolata* Dalzell: An endemic tree from the Western Ghats, India

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## ABSTRACT

*Bauhinia foveolata* Dalzell is an endemic tree, native to Southwest India (the Western Ghats). 13-Docosenamide was isolated from ethyl acetate fraction, and quercetin (1), isorhamnetin (2), and odoratin-7-glucoside (3) were isolated from butanol fraction of leaves. A spectroscopic analysis, including mass spectra and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), and also comparison with reported data were used to elucidate the chemical structures of isolated compounds. Furthermore, all the isolated compounds were analyzed for 3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide -based cytotoxicity studies on human colon cancer cell lines, HT-29 and HCT-15; among all the tested compounds, quercetin and odoratin-7-glucoside have shown a good cytotoxicity toward the selected cell lines.

## INTRODUCTION

One of the most ancient sources of traditional medicines are raw materials extracted from the plants, and the heritage knowledge on preventive and curative medicines is based on the works of *Atharva Veda*, *Charaka*, and *Sushruta*. Globally, around 13,000 plant species are known to have been used as drugs, as they possess a wide variety of biologically active compounds that are essential to protect human health. Phytopharmaceuticals are one of the important parts of modern therapy for the alleviation of diseases of the cardiac and vascular system (Baharvand-Ahmadi *et al.*, 2016), nervous system (Srivastava and Yadav, 2016), and

immune system (Ford *et al.*, 2016). Besides their therapeutic use, a large number of herbal drugs have been known for their prophylactic effect (Amirghofran *et al.*, 2009; Kim *et al.*, 2009). To develop new anticancer drugs in an estimated 7–10 years, we require a cost over \$5,000,000, and it is an inclusive cost for the initial collection of plant material; evaluation of crude fractions; purification, identification, and laboratory synthesis of the bioactive compounds; and preclinical and clinical studies. Many medicinal plants available in the market might contain chemical substances with potential mutagenic (Rattanachaikunsopon *et al.*, 2009; Yao *et al.*, 2007) as well as antitumor properties (Orfali *et al.*, 2016; Wang *et al.*, 2016). Such constituents act by destroying or blocking the DNA-damaging mutagens, thereby acting as protective agents by preventing cell mutation. Hence, herbs have a vital role in the prevention and treatment of cancer.

*Bauhinia foveolata* Dalzell (Leguminosae) is an endemic tree, native to Southwest India (the Western Ghats), naturally

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occurring only in Uttara Kannada district. Leaves are suborbicular, deeply cordate at base, glabrous above, and pubescent beneath, 15–17 nerved with minutely pitted beneath. Flowers are small, unisexual, in dense much-branched panicles, 5-lobed calyx tomentose, not much exerted and white-to-light cream corolla, alternatively long and short stamens, densely hairy ovary, linear-oblong pods, and red tomentose. The scientific name “*foveolata*” is derived from the minute pores covered on the underside of the leaves (*foveoli*). Recent literature reveals the antibacterial activity of *B. foveolata* Dalzell acetone fraction of bark against *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Gamit *et al.* 2018). No pharmacological/phytochemical reports are available for *B. foveolata* leaves until now. However, the phytochemical and pharmacological literatures are available on the other species of *Bauhinia*.

*Bauhinia* species contain a diversified group of secondary metabolites. The phytochemical constituents with varied chemical nature have been isolated from *B. racemosa* which chiefly include flavonoids (kaempferol and quercetin), coumarins (Prakash and Khosa, 1976), triterpenoids ( $\beta$ -amyryn), steroids ( $\beta$ -sitosterol) (El-Hossary *et al.*, 2000), stilbenes (resveratrol) (Aneyulu *et al.*, 1984), and recently, pentacyclic phenolics (racemosolone from root bark) (Jain *et al.*, 2013). A new linoleyl-arabino-pyranoside from the stem bark of *B. racemosa* was isolated (Rahman and Akhtar, 2016). *Bauhinia vahlii*, another important species of *Bauhinia*, reported to contain compounds such as  $\beta$ -sitosterol (17.35%), hexadecanoic acid (10.15%), octadecanoic acid (1.97%), oleic acid (0.61%), cis-vaccenic acid (2.43%),  $\alpha$ -amyryn (9.84%), methyl salicylate (2.39%), and vitamin E (12.71%). A new lactone, 7-epi-griffonilide (Almeida *et al.*, 2017), was found in the leaves of *Bauhinia pentandra*. Lectins were isolated from the *Bauhinia forficata* and *Bauhinia variegata* fractions possessing anticancer (Lubkowski *et al.*, 2017) and antibacterial (Klafke *et al.*, 2016) activities, respectively. Attenuation of H/R-induced myocardial apoptosis strength by improving mitochondrial dysfunction through PI3K/Akt signaling pathway was observed for a flavone isolated from *Bauhinia championii* (Liao *et al.*, 2016). Rutinoside and rhamnoside derivatives of kaempferol and quercetin, kaempferitin, were isolated from the leaves of *B. uruguayensis* and *B. forficata* subsp. *Pruinosa* (Santos *et al.*, 2018).

A wide range of investigations on the cytotoxicity of flavonoids, such as apigenin, eriodictyol, 3-hydroxyflavone, kaempferol, luteolin, naringenin, taxifolin, quercetin, and rutin, toward cultured and tumor cells has been reported (Akbas *et al.*, 2005; Matsuo *et al.*, 2005). Although several bioactive constituents including flavonoids have been isolated from *Bauhinia* species, this is the first report on cytotoxic secondary metabolites from the leaves of *B. foveolata* Dalzell. The reported constituents were also isolated from several other medicinal plants, and some biological activities are reported (Dos *et al.*, 2019; Rukshana, *et al.*, 2017;).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Collection and authentication of plant material

The leaves of *B. foveolata* Dalzell were collected from Dandeli reserve forest, Karnataka, India, and were authenticated by Dr. Harsha Hegde, Scientist, Regional Medical Research Centre, Belagavi, India. A voucher specimen has been kept in

the herbarium of pharmacognosy department (SETCPD/Ph.cog/herb/04/09/2016) for future reference.

### Extraction and preparation of crude fractions

The authenticated leaves of *B. foveolata* Dalzell were dried and reduced to coarse powdered material. It was passed through 120-mesh sieves to remove any fine dust or powder, and the coarse powder was used for extraction. The powder was extracted exhaustively with 95% ethanol in a Soxhlet extractor. The total ethanolic extract was further fractionated with ethyl acetate and n-butanol by solvent-solvent extraction technique.

### Isolation of secondary metabolites from ethyl acetate fraction

About 15 g of the ethyl acetate fraction was mixed with 15 g of silica gel (60–120) mesh, using ethyl acetate as the solvent. The drug adsorbed silica was then loaded on top of the glass column which was previously packed with 230 g of silica gel (60–120 mesh) using petroleum ether by the wet packing method. The column was eluted first with 100% petroleum ether followed by petroleum ether:ethyl acetate graded mixtures (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), then with 100% ethyl acetate followed by EtOAc:MeOH graded mixtures (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), and then with 100% MeOH. Each test tube contained 10 ml of elutes which were concentrated and monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) (Silica Gel GF 254, visualization under UV 254 and 366 nm). Elutions were carried out with graded mixtures of EtOAc:MeOH (80:20 and 70:30), resulted in a single spot on TLC with EtOAc:methanol (7.5:2.5) as mobile phase. After removing the solvent, a brownish residue was obtained (1.5 g), with  $R_f$  value of 0.52 at water:MeOH:BuOH (1:3:6) as the solvent system. These portions were further subjected to flash chromatography.

### Flash chromatography

About 1.5 g of the EtOAc:MeOH (80:20 and 70:30) fraction was adsorbed on 4 g of flash grade silica (230–400 mesh) using mortar and pestle. Prepacked silica column RediSep (12 g) was used. The sample was loaded and placed in flash chromatography instrument. All the parameters were set and monitored using CombiFlash software. The column was eluted with gradient elution system using EtOAc:MeOH and MeOH, with concentration ranging from 0% to 50%. The eluents were monitored on TLC and visualized under UV 254 and 366 nm. Detection was performed using ferric chloride as spraying reagent. Identical elutes were collected, combined (TLC monitored), concentrated, and kept aside. A prominent peak was obtained with 10% of methanol in ethyl acetate. Elutions which were collected separately in test tubes and TLC studies were performed using EtOAc:MeOH (8:2) as a mobile phase with the  $R_f$  of 0.52. After concentration of the solvent, a dark brown residue was obtained, which was designated as **DN 1** (70 mg).

### Isolation of secondary metabolites from butanol fraction

Nearly 30 g of butanol fraction was adsorbed with 30 g of silica (60–120 mesh). The sample was loaded on a column 1 packed with 840 g of silica (60–120 mesh) by wet packing method. The column was first eluted with 100% petroleum ether followed

by petroleum ether:ethyl acetate graded mixtures (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), then with 100% ethyl acetate followed by EtOAc:MeOH graded mixtures (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), and then finally with 100% MeOH. All the elutions were monitored on TLC (Silica gel GF 254; visualization by UV 254 nm and 366 nm) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> as spraying reagent. Eluates obtained with 80:20, 70:30, and 60:40 of EtOAc:MeOH (8:2) resulted in a single prominent spot on TLC nearly having the same R<sub>f</sub> value. These three fractions were pooled, combined together, and evaporated to obtain 15 g which was further subjected to rechromatography.

15 g of the above-obtained fraction was adsorbed with 15 g of flash grade silica (230–400 mesh). The sample was loaded on a column 2 packed with 200 g of silica (60–120 mesh) by wet packing method. The column was first eluted with 100% petroleum ether followed by petroleum ether:ethyl acetate graded mixtures (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), then with 100% ethyl acetate followed by EtOAc:MeOH graded mixture (99:1, 98:2, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), and then finally with 100% MeOH. All the elutions were monitored by TLC (Silica gel GF 254; visualization by UV 254 nm and 366 nm) and detected using FeCl<sub>3</sub> as spraying reagent.

Eluates obtained with 99:1 and 95:5 of 100% EtOAc:MeOH (9:1) resulted in a single prominent spot on TLC. These elutions were pooled and concentrated to obtain 5 g which was further subjected to rechromatography.

5 g of the above-obtained fraction was adsorbed with 5 g of flash grade silica (230–400 mesh). The sample was loaded on a column 3 packed with 30 g of flash grade silica (230–400 mesh) by wet packing method. The elutions were carried out by 100% CHCl<sub>3</sub> followed by CHCl<sub>3</sub>:ethyl acetate graded mixtures (50:50 and 25:75), then by 100% ethyl acetate followed by EtOAc:MeOH graded mixture (99.5:0.5, 99:1, 98.5:1.5, 98:2, 97.5:2.5, 97:3, 95:5, 90:10, 80:20, 70:30, 60:40, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, and 10:90), and then finally with 100% MeOH. All the elutions were monitored by TLC. Eluates obtained with 100% EtOAc resulted in a single spot on TLC for flavonoids (EtOAc:FA:GA:H<sub>2</sub>O, 100:11:11:26). After removing the solvent, yellowish brown-colored compound was obtained (75 mg), which was designated as **DN 2**. Eluates obtained with EtOAc:MeOH (95:5) resulted in three spots on TLC for flavonoids (EtOAc:FA:GA:H<sub>2</sub>O, 100:11:11:26). After removing the solvent, yellow-colored compound was obtained (400 mg), which was designated as **DN 3** which was subjected to rechromatography. Eluates obtained with EtOAc:MeOH (90:10 and 80:20) resulted in two spots with nearly the same R<sub>f</sub> values on TLC for flavonoids (EtOAc:FA:GA:H<sub>2</sub>O, 100:11:11:26).

### Rechromatography of DN 3

Four hundred milligrams of the fraction was adsorbed on 500 mg of flash grade silica (230–400 mesh) using mortar and pestle. The sample was loaded on a prepacked column 4 with 30 g of flash grade silica by wet packing method. The elutions were carried out at a very slow flow rate, i.e., 10 drops per min with 100% EtOAc, then with EtOAc:MeOH graded mixture (99.9:0.1, 99.5:0.5, 99:1, 98:2, 97:3 till 90:10), and then finally by 100% MeOH. Elutions in the test tubes were collected and subjected

for TLC. Test tube (0–8) showed no spots. Fractions eluted with EtOAc:MeOH (99.5:0.5) in the test tubes (9–23) showed prominent single spot with the R<sub>f</sub> of 0.72. After removing the solvent, yellow-colored compound was obtained (90 mg), which was designated as **BF-1(1)**. Eluates obtained with EtOAc:MeOH (99:1) in test tubes (24–41) showed one single spot with the R<sub>f</sub> of 0.51. Later removing the solvent, pale yellow-colored compound was obtained (85 mg), which was designated as **BF-2 (2)**. The test tube (42–52) eluted with EtOAc:MeOH (98:2) resulted in one single spot with the R<sub>f</sub> of 0.25. After concentrating the eluents, whitish yellow-colored compound was obtained (72 mg), which was designated as **BF-3(3)**. The solvent system used for TLC was EtOAc:FA:GAA:H<sub>2</sub>O (100:11:11:26), and the detection was done using FeCl<sub>3</sub> reagent.

### Conditions used for liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC-MS) analysis

The mobile phase consisted of water containing 0.05% phosphoric acid (A) and acetonitrile (B) at a flow rate of 0.8 ml minute<sup>-1</sup> using the following gradients: 0.1–23 minutes, 10%–40% of solvent B in A, and 23.01–40 minutes, 10% solvent B and 90% solvent A. The detection was done on a Diode-Array Detection (DAD) detector set at 340 nm. The mobile phase was prepared daily, filtered through a 0.45-mm membrane filter (Millipore), and sonicated before use. The LC/Electrospray ionization (ESI)-MS was conducted in positive-ion mode and operated according to the defined conditions: nitrogen gas temperature—320°C, drying gas flow rate—7 l minute<sup>-1</sup>, capillary voltage—4,000 V, and nebulizing pressure – 27 psi. Mass spectra were recorded using the full scan mode in the range of 200–800 Daltons.

Mass spectra (MS) were recorded using a JEOL GCMATE II GC-Mass spectrometer and Shimadzu QP 20105 GC-Mass spectrometer. Analytical TLC was performed on precoated TLC sheets of silica gel 60 F254 (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) visualized by long- and short-wavelength UV lamps. Chromatographic purifications were performed on Merck aluminum oxide (70–230 mesh) and Merck silica gel (70–230 mesh).

### IN VITRO CYTOTOXICITY STUDY

#### Chemicals

Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM), fetal bovine serum (FBS), 3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT), phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), trypsin, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), and propanol were obtained from Merck Ltd., Mumbai, India. Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, glucose, and antibiotics were purchased from HiMedia Laboratories Ltd., Mumbai, India.

#### Cell cultures

HT-29 and HCT-15 (Human colon cancer) cells were procured from the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, India. The stock cells of all cell lines were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10% inactivated FBS, penicillin (100 IU/ml), and streptomycin (100 µg/ml) in a humidified atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub> at 37°C until confluent. The cells were dissociated with

TPVG solution (0.2% trypsin, 0.02% EDTA, and 0.05% glucose in PBS). The stock cultures were grown in 25-ml flat bottles, and all the experiments were carried out in either 96-well microtiter plates.

### Cell proliferation assessment-MTT assay

The monolayer of cell culture was trypsinized and the cell count was adjusted to  $3.0 \times 10^4$  cells/ml using DMEM medium containing 10% FBS. 0.1 ml of the diluted cell suspension was added to each well of the 96-well microtiter plate. After 24 hours, the supernatant of monolayer formed was removed and washed with medium, and 100  $\mu$ l of different concentrations of phytoconstituents were added on to the partial monolayer in microtiter plates. Microscopic examination of the samples was carried out, and the observations were noted every 24 hours interval after incubating the plates at 37°C for 3 days in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After 72 hours, 50  $\mu$ l of MTT in PBS was added to each well after discarding the drug solutions. The plates were gently shaken and incubated for 3 hours at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The supernatant was removed and 100  $\mu$ l of propanol was added, and the plates were gently shaken to solubilize the formed formazan. The absorbance was measured using a microplate reader (ELISA reader, BioTek) at a wavelength of 570 nm. The growth inhibition percentage was calculated, and the concentration of test compound required to inhibit 50% cell growth by CTC<sub>50</sub> values is generated from the dose-response curves for each cell line (Alley *et al.*, 1988; Langner *et al.*, 2019).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The structure of isolated compounds depicted in (Fig. 1). 13-Docosenamide (DN1) was obtained as amorphous dark brown powder, mp 76°C–78°C;  $R_f$ : 0.52 (EtOAc:MeOH, 8:2); IR (KBr): 2,922 (NH), 2,850 (CH), 1,701 (C=O) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) (400 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 0.83 (3H, d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, -CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.93–1.33 (30H, s, C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>, C<sub>9</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>, C<sub>11</sub>, C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>18</sub>, C<sub>19</sub>, C<sub>20</sub>, C<sub>21</sub>-H), 1.46–2.33 (6H, m, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>15</sub>-H), 5.29 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12 Hz, C<sub>13</sub>-H), 5.48 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, C<sub>14</sub>-H), 6.21 (2H, s, -NH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 17.45 (C<sub>22</sub>), 28.32 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>21</sub>), 29.00 (C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>, C<sub>9</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>, C<sub>11</sub>, C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>17</sub>, C<sub>18</sub>, C<sub>19</sub>), 32.20 (C<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>15</sub>, C<sub>20</sub>), 38.99 (C<sub>2</sub>), 134.15 (C<sub>13</sub>, C<sub>14</sub>), 177.69 (C=O); Mass spectra EI-MS: m/z (%) = 337.2 [M<sup>+</sup>] (100).

Quercetin(1) was obtained as amorphous yellow powder, mp 180°C–182°C;  $R_f$ : 0.72 (EtOAc:MeOH, 99.5:0.5); IR(KBr): 3253 (OH), 2,926 (CH), 1,784 (C=O), 1,656 (C-O) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 5.21 (1H, s, C<sub>6</sub>-H), 5.27 (1H, s, C<sub>8</sub>-H), 6.84 (3H, d, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>-H), 9.58 (2H, s, OH), 10.83 (2H, s, OH), 12.66 (1H, s, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 98.66 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>), 104.04 (C<sub>5</sub>), 115.62 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 120.71 (C<sub>6</sub>), 121.08 (C<sub>1</sub>), 134.17 (C<sub>2</sub>), 145.16 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>), 148.39 (C<sub>3</sub>), 157.26 (C<sub>3</sub>), 161.26 (C<sub>9</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>), 164.17 (C<sub>7</sub>), 177.70 (C<sub>4</sub>); Mass spectra GC-MS: m/z (%) = 303.06[M<sup>+</sup>+1].

Isorhamnetin (2) was obtained as pale yellow amorphous powder, mp 184°C–186°C;  $R_f$ : 0.51 (EtOAc:MeOH, 99:1); IR(KBr): 3,253, 2,926, 1,784, 1,656, 1,454, 1,355 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 3.73 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.21 (1H, s, C<sub>6</sub>-H), 5.27 (1H, s, C<sub>8</sub>-H), 6.84 (3H, d, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>-H), 9.58 (1H, s, OH),

10.83 (2H, s, OH), 12.66 (1H, s, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 93.59 (C<sub>7</sub>), 98.66 (C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>), 104.04 (C<sub>5</sub>), 115.62 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 120.71 (C<sub>6</sub>), 121.08 (C<sub>1</sub>), 134.17 (C<sub>2</sub>), 145.16 (C<sub>4</sub>), 148.39 (C<sub>3</sub>), 157.26 (C<sub>3</sub>), 161.26 (C<sub>9</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>), 164.17 (C<sub>7</sub>), 177.70 (C<sub>4</sub>); Mass spectra GC-MS: m/z (%) = 317.07 [M<sup>+</sup>+1] (100).

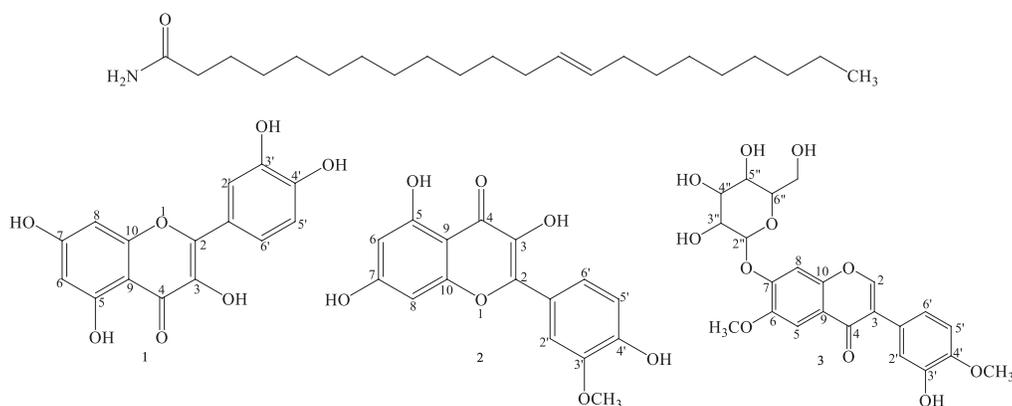
Odoratin-7-glucoside (3) was obtained as pale yellow amorphous powder, mp 184°C–186°C;  $R_f$ : 0.25 (EtOAc:MeOH, 98:2); IR(KBr): 3,482 (OH), 1,771 (C=O), 1,626 (C-O) cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 3.45 (1H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.57 (1H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.64 (2H, s, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>-H), 3.73 (1H, s, C<sub>4</sub>-H), 3.76 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (3H, s, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.99 (1H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 4.19 (1H, s, C<sub>3</sub>-H), 4.73 (2H, s, -OH at C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>-H), 4.88 (1H, s, -OH at C<sub>5</sub>), 5.59 (1H, s, C<sub>2</sub>-H), 6.48–6.64 (1H, m, C<sub>8</sub>-H), 6.85–6.94 (2H, m, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>-H), 7.04 (1H, s, C<sub>6</sub>-H), 7.26–7.39 (1H, s, C<sub>5</sub>-H), 8.06 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8 MHz, C<sub>2</sub>-H), 9.72 (1H, s, -OH at C<sub>3</sub>-H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$ , ppm): 63.04 (-OCH<sub>3</sub>), 69.88 (-CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 70.02 (C<sub>5</sub>), 74.06 (C<sub>3</sub>), 76.46 (C<sub>4</sub>), 77.48 (C<sub>6</sub>), 100.86 (C<sub>8</sub>), 104.05 (C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>), 115.18 (C<sub>5</sub>), 115.75 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>9</sub>), 121.56 (C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 144.76 (C<sub>6</sub>), 148.41 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>), 156.41 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>), 177.44 (C=O); Mass spectra (GC-MS) m/z (%): 475.33 [M<sup>+</sup>-1].

### Cytotoxicity study

All the isolated constituents were subjected for cytotoxicity studies on human colon cancer cell lines, i.e., HT-29 and HCT-15. Among the compounds tested, quercetin and odoratin-7-glucoside have shown a good cytotoxicity with IC<sub>50</sub> of 75.33 ± 10.01, 95.00 ± 5.56 towards HT-29 cancer cell line and 105.06 ± 6.52, 102.45 ± 10.22 towards HCT-15 cancer cell line. The results are shown in Table 1. The study also supports the presence of these constituents in many medicinal plants with therapeutic potential as reported by many authors, namely, essential oil obtained from *Zingiber collinsii* Mood and Theilade found to contain 13-Docosenamide (2.7%) (Chau *et al.* 2014). GC-MS analysis of the ethanol extract of leaf of *Pergularia daemia* (Forssk.) Chiov. found to contain 13-docosenamide (Rukshana *et al.*, 2017). It is reported to possess antibacterial, antifungal (Dos Reis CM *et al.*, 2019), and cytotoxic (Sharma *et al.*, 2018) activities. Odoratin was isolated from the aerial parts of *Taverniera aegyptiaca* Bioss. (Hassan *et al.*, 2019), *Derris eriocarpa* (Wang *et al.*, 2015), and *Chromolaena odorata* (Zhang *et al.*, 2012). It exhibited PPAR $\gamma$  transactivation, estrogenic (Umehara *et al.*, 2008), antiangiogenic (Khan *et al.*, 2000), and cytotoxic (against the human epidermoid carcinoma of the nasopharynx and the lymphocytic leukemia) activities (Hoffmann *et al.*, 1978). Hence, these secondary metabolites may be ideal candidates for the development of anticancer phytopharmaceutical formulation.

**Table 1.** *In vitro* cytotoxicity study of phytoconstituents on HT-29 and HCT-15 cell lines (n = 3).

Phytoconstituents	CTC 50% ± SEM ( $\mu$ g/ml)	
	HT-29	HCT-15
13-Docosenamide	747.33 ± 10.26	572.33 ± 12.21
Isorhamnetin	115 ± 18.02	211 ± 08.02
Quercetin	75.33 ± 10.01	105.06 ± 6.52
Odoratin-7-glucoside	95 ± 5.56	102.45 ± 10.22



**Figure 1.** Structures of isolated phytoconstituents: 13-Docosenamide [DN1], (1) Quercetin; (2) Isorhamnetin; (3) Odoratin-7-Glucoside.

## CONCLUSION

The research work successfully explores the cytotoxic principles from the leaves of *B. foveolata* Dalzell, an endemic tree of the Western Ghats, India. It is evident that these metabolites belong to the class polyphenolic compounds. Among the compounds studied against HT-29 and HCT-15 colon cancer cell lines of human, odoratin-7-glucoside and quercetin have proved to be highly cytotoxic by inducing apoptosis of cancer cells. Further research on the *in vivo* anticancer activity of potential fractions and to study the chemical diversity of this plant for other pharmacological activities is under progress in the laboratory.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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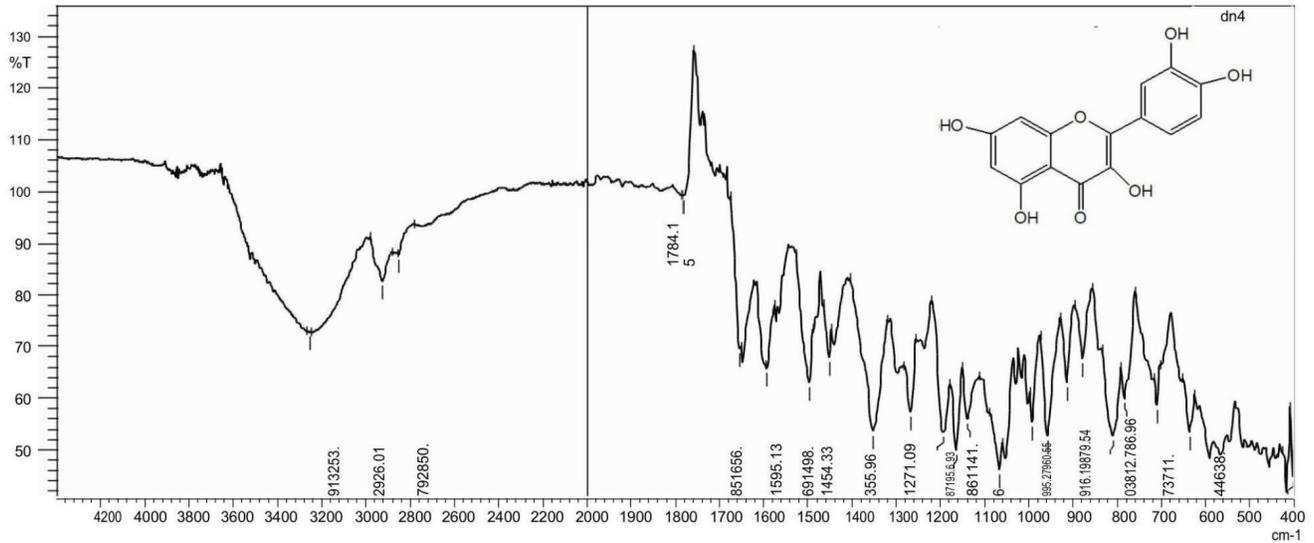
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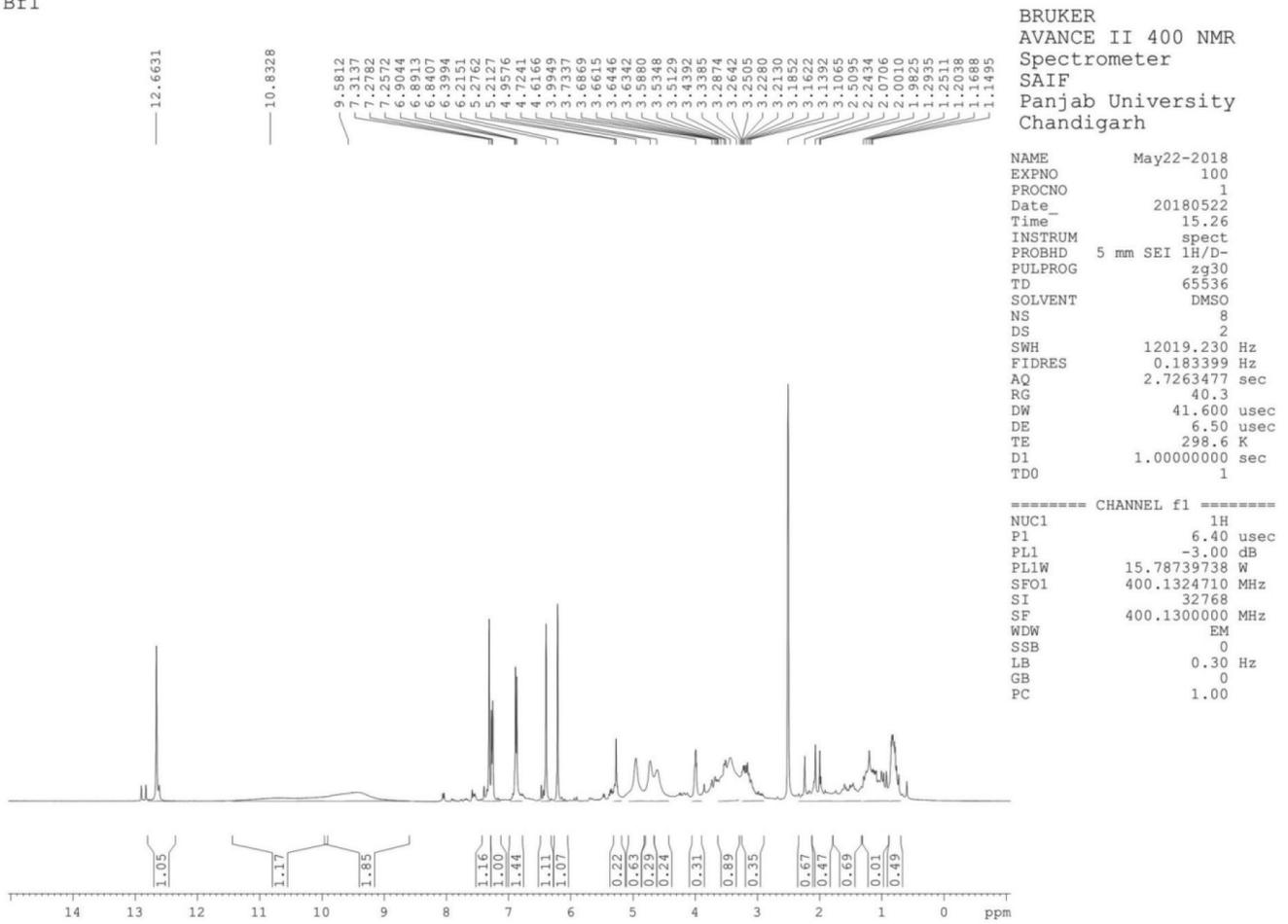






IR Spectrum of BF 1

Bf1



BRUKER  
AVANCE II 400 NMR  
Spectrometer  
SAIF  
Panjab University  
Chandigarh

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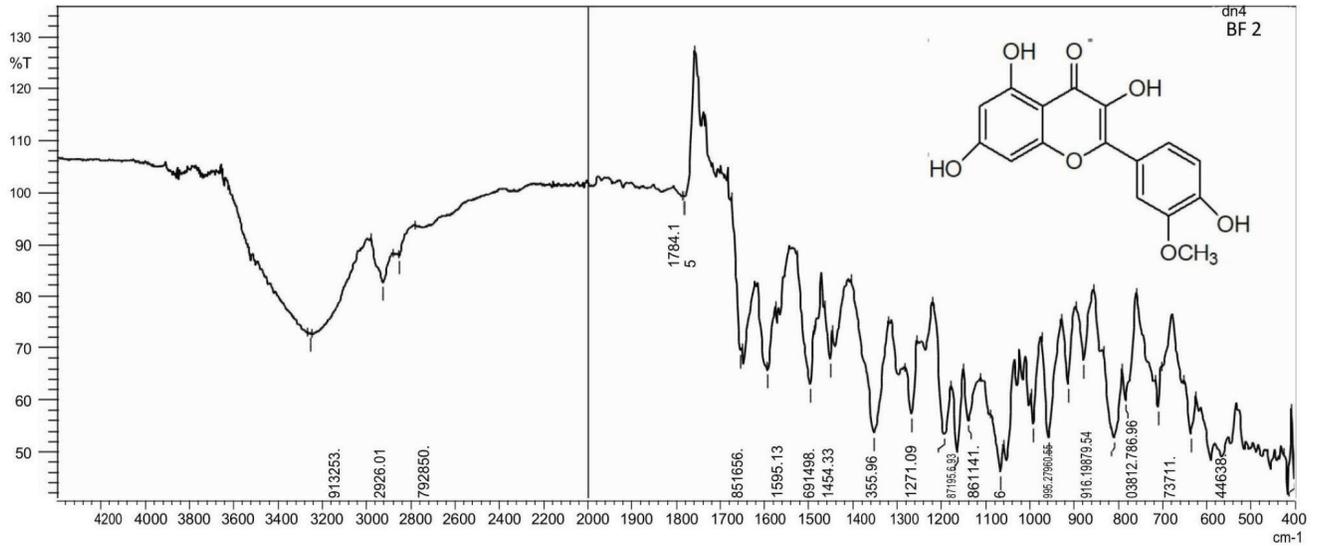
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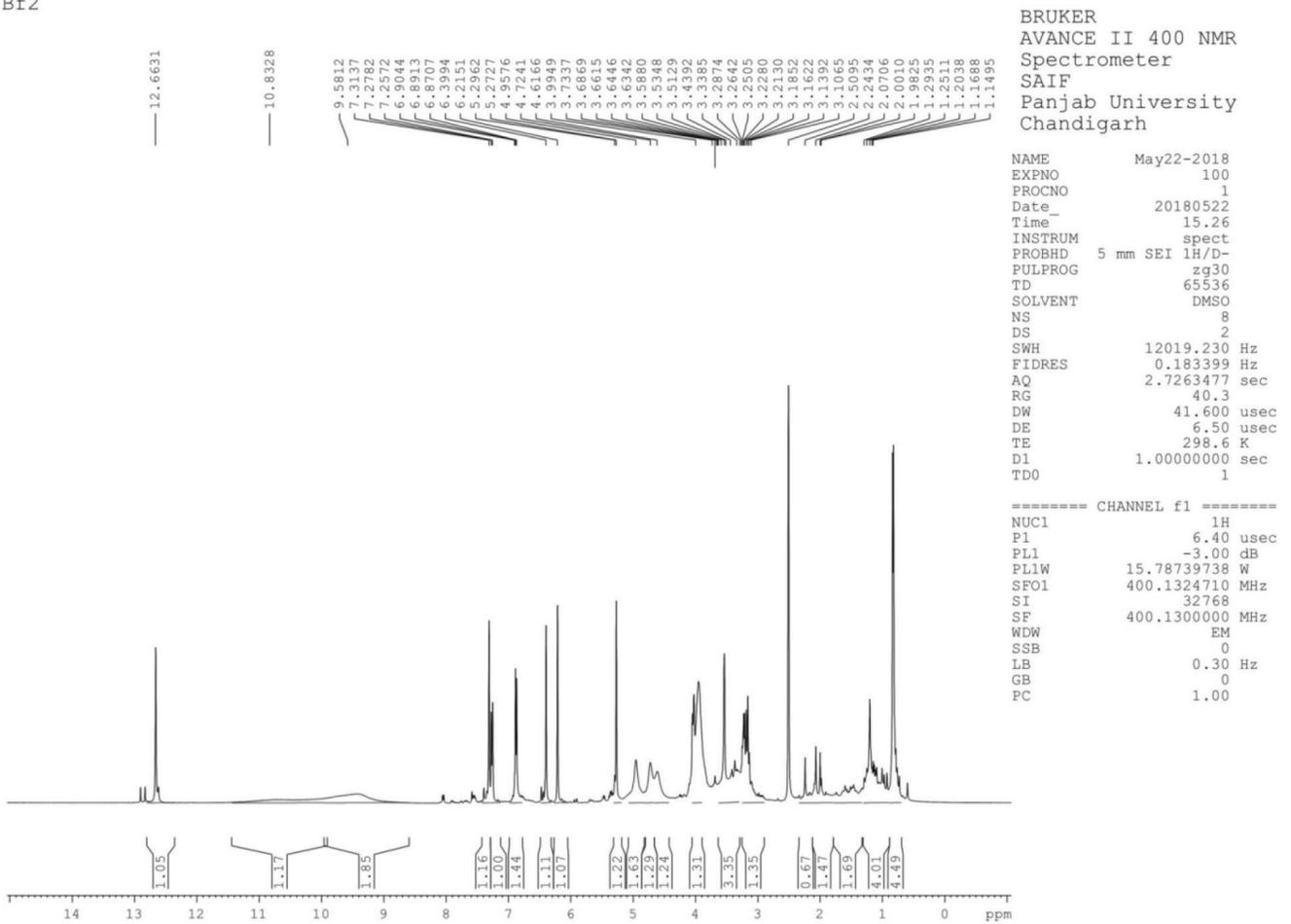
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of BF 1





IR Spectrum of BF 2

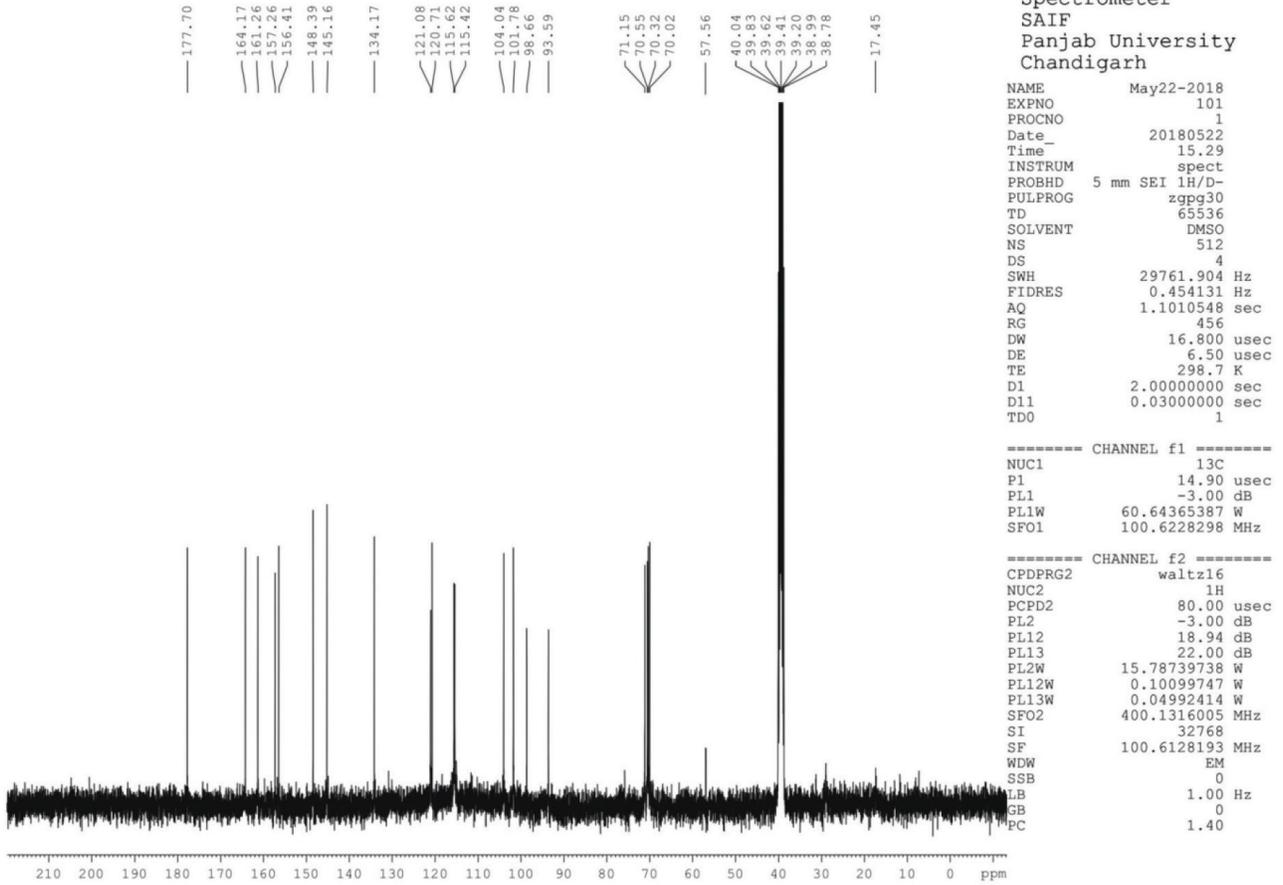
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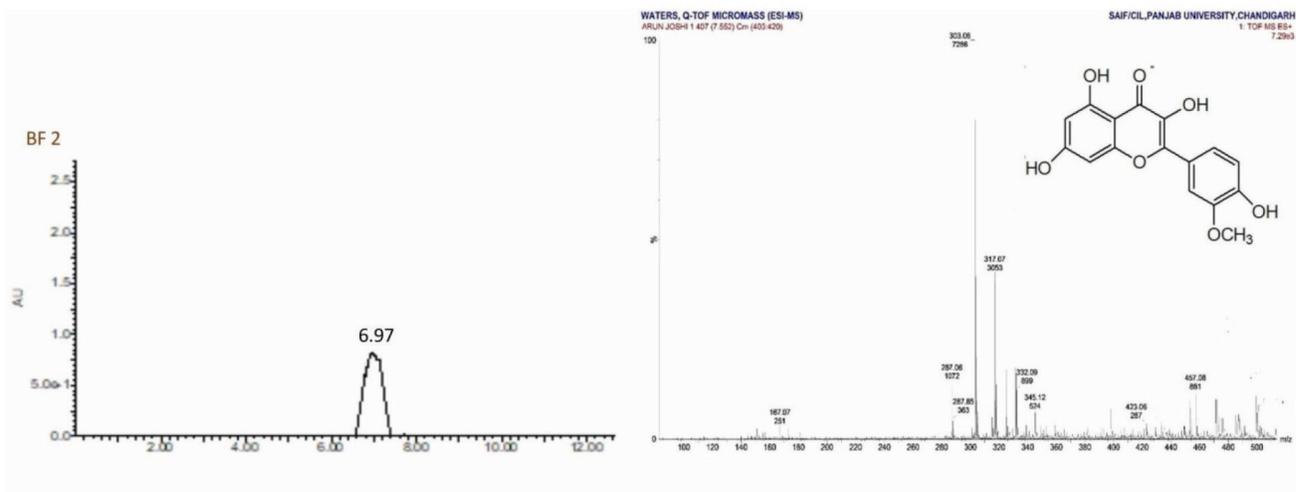
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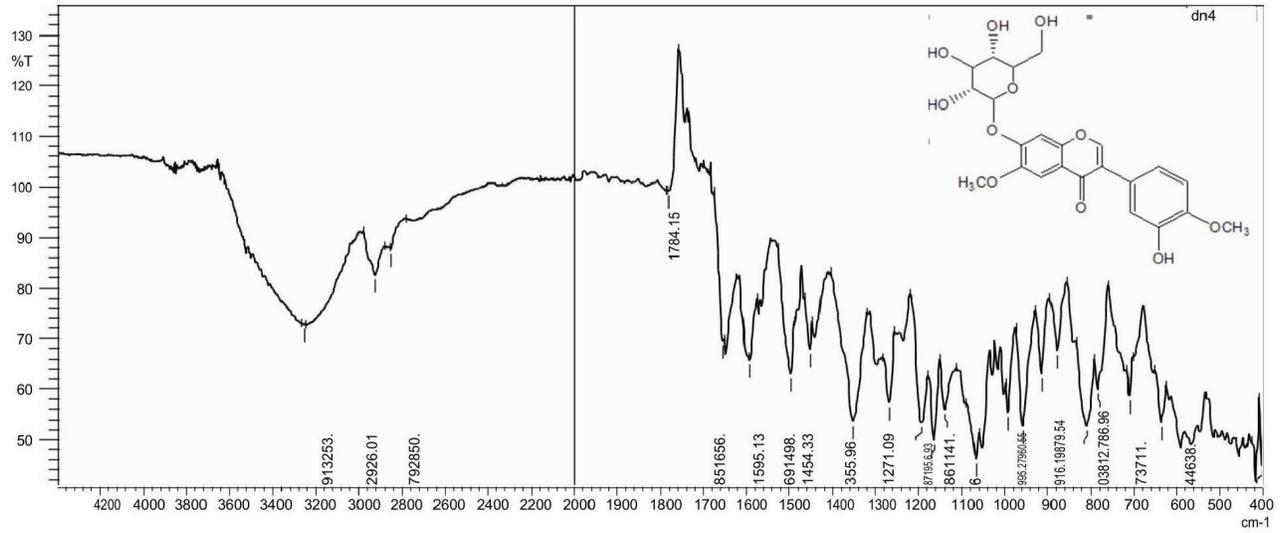
BF2



**13C NMR Spectrum of BF2**

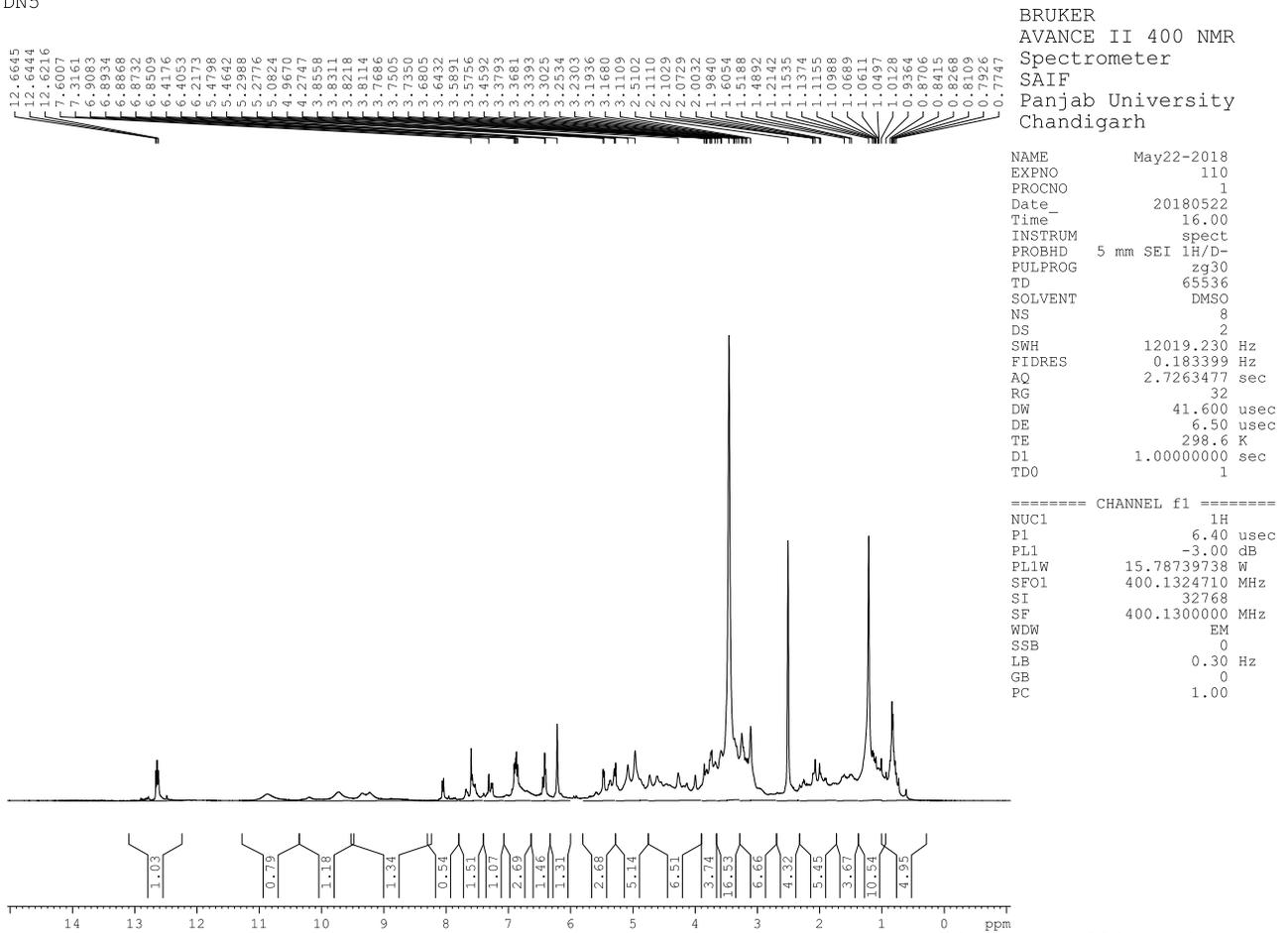


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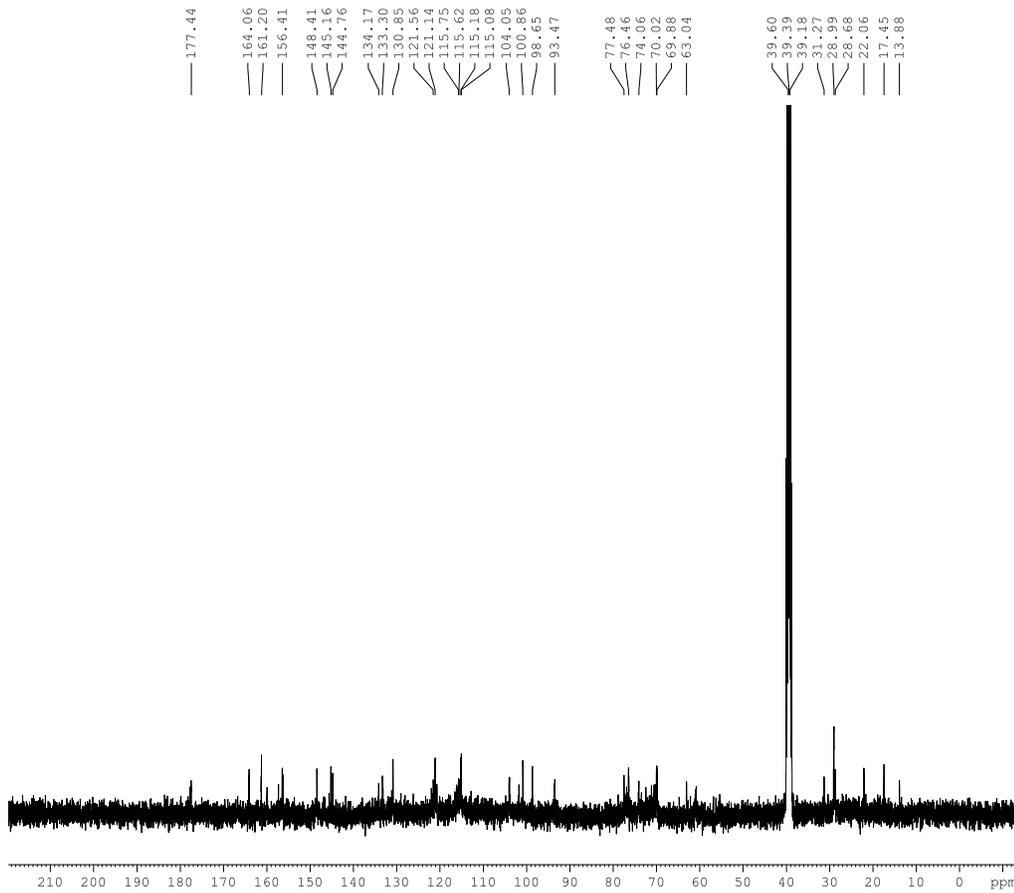
IR Spectrum of BF 3

DN5



<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of BF<sub>3</sub>

DN5



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Panjab University  
Chandigarh

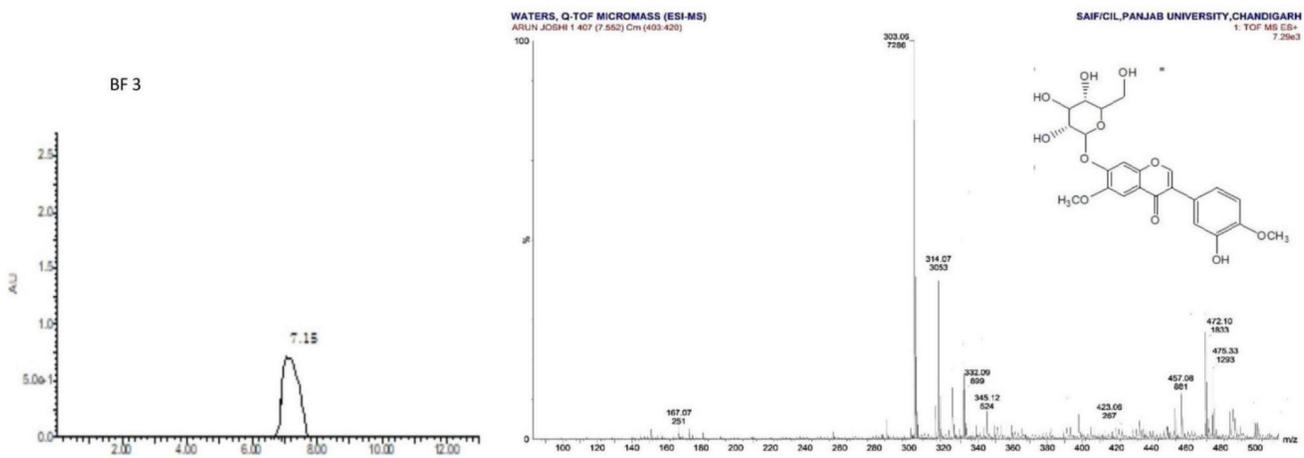
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<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of BF3



LC-MS Spectrum of BF3