Supporting Information

Monomers for Preparation of Amide Linked RNA: Asymmetric Synthesis of All Four Nucleoside 5'-Azido 3'-Carboxylic Acids

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Experimental Procedures

Methylene chloride, pyridine, acetonitrile and toluene are dried by refluxing with CaH₂ followed by distillation. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium/benzophenone ketyl. (*1S*, *2R*, *5S*)-Menthyl Glyoxylate was prepared following a literature procedure. Reactions were carried out in oven (150 °C) dried glassware under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen. NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature. Chemical shifts for 1 H are given in ppm using internal standard (tetramethylsilane for spectra in CDCl₃) or the residual solvent peak (δ 3.31 ppm, for spectra in CD₃OD). Chemical shifts for 13 C are given in ppm using the residual solvent peak (δ 77.17 ppm, for spectra in CDCl₃, and δ 49.00 ppm for spectra in CD₃OD). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on 0.25 mm silica gel 60-F₂₅₄ plates. Column chromatography was done on 230-400 mesh silica gel.

(2R, 3R) -3-[2-(tert-Butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl] -2-hydroxy-4-pentenoic acid dimethylamide (6c). A solution of AlMe₃ in toluene (25.5 mL, 2 M, 51 mmol) was slowly added to a suspension of the dimethylamine hydrochloride (4.16 g, 51 mmol) in dry toluene (60 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h until gas evolution was ceased. This solution of the aluminum amide reagent was then added to a solution of (2R, 3R)-3-[2-(tert-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-2-hydroxy-4-pentenoic acid (1'S, 2'R, 5'S)-menthyl ester 6b (8.74 g, 16.3 mmol) in dry toluene (25 mL). The mixture was heated for 1 day at 70 °C and for 1 day at 90 °C. CH₂Cl₂ (340 mL) was added and the mixture was poured into 0.1 N HCl (350 mL). The aqueous layer was

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¹ Whitesell, J. K.; Lawrence, R. M.; Chen, H-H. J. Org. Chem. **1986**, *51*, 4779-4784.

extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 350 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (0.5-5% of isopropanol in CH_2Cl_2 , stepwise gradient by 1%) to afford **6c** as oil. Yield: 5.47 g, 79%, TLC R_f = 0.17 CH_2Cl_2 /isopropanol (100:1). NMR spectra reveled ~20% of unknown impurity which was also formed (~10%) in our previous synthesis from ethyl ester.² The impurity did not interfere with the next iodolactonization step and was completely removed afterward. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.68-7.61 (m, 4H), 7.45-7.33 (m, 6H), 5.71-5.59 (m, 1H), 5.13-4.91 (m, 2H), 4.48 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, H), 3.88-3.56 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 6H), 2.75-2.62 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.73 (m, 2H), 1.05 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) δ 173.2, 136.0, 135.6, 135.5, 133.94, 133.87, 129.7, 127.7, 127.7, 117.4, 70.8, 61.3, 42.9, 36.5, 36.0, 34.3, 27.0, 19.3.

(3R, 4S, 5S) -5-Azidomethyl -4-[2-(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl] -3-hydroxy-2-dihydrofuranone (mixture of 11a and 11b). NaN₃ (2.6 g, 40.0 mmol) was added to the solution of (3R, 4S, 5S)-4-[2-(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3-hydroxy-5-iodomethyl-2-dihydrofuranone (4.6 g of a mixture of 5a and 5b, 8.78 mmol) in dry DMF (60 mL). The mixture was stirred for 23 h at 50 °C and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10-30% of ethyl acetate in hexanes, stepwise gradient by 10%) to afford a non-separable mixture of C4-C5 *trans* (11a) and *cis* (11b) azidolactones in a ratio of 4:1. Yield: 3.03 g, 78%, TLC R_f = 0.24 CH_2Cl_2 /isopropanol (100:1). R 3430, 2107, 1781 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) major diastereomer δ 7.67-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.47-7.37 (m, 6H), 4.54-4.50 (m, 1H), 4.48-4.43 (m, 1H), 3.77-3.73 (m, 3H), 3.64-3.37 (m, 2H), 2.61-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.07-1.91 (m, 1H),

² Rozners, E.; Liu, Y. Org. Lett. **2003**, *5*, 181-184.

1.68-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.07 (s, 9H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) major diastereomer δ 176.2, 150.7, 135.8, 133.1, 133.0, 130.3, 128.2, 81.8, 69.1, 62.4, 53.0, 40.7, 27.1, 19.3.

5-Azido-3-[2-(tert-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-1,2-di-O-acetyl-3,5-dideoxy ribofuranose (4). DIBAL-H (5.9 mL, 1.5 M in toluene, 8.91 mmol, 2.3 equiv.) was added to a stirred solution of (3R, 4S, 5S)-5-azidomethyl-4-[2-(tert-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3-hydroxy-2-dihydrofuranone (mixture of 7a and 7b) (1.7 g, 3.87 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (14 mL) over 7 min at -78 °C. After the mixture was stirred for 110 min at -78 °C, saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (100 mL) was added to quench the reaction at −78 °C. The solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (4×150 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated, and co-evaporated with dry toluene (3×5 mL) to give crude diol (1.77 g) as a colorless oil that was used in the next step without further purification. The oil was dissolved in a mixture of acetic anhydride and pyridine (1:1, 20 mL). The mixture was stirred for 23 h at room temperature and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10-20% of ethyl acetate in hexanes stepwise gradient by 10%) to afford 4 as oil. Yield: 1.73 g, 86% two steps. IR 2104, 1750 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR showed the expected mixture of four diastereomers that was used in the next step without separation.

2'-O-Acetyl-5'-azido-3'-[2-(*tert***-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3',5'-dideoxy-4-***N***-propionylcytidine 12b.** TMSCl (0.40 g, 3.68mmol) was added to a solution of 2'-*O*-acetyl-5'-azido-3'-[2-(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3',5'-dideoxycytidine **12b'** (1.06 g, 1.84 mmol) in pyridine (20 mL). After stirring for 1 h, propionic anhydride (0.29 g, 2.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred for 16 h, H₂O (1 mL) was added and the

mixture was stirred for another 20 min. The solution was concentrated, co-evaporated with toluene (3 × 8 mL) and purified by silica gel column chromatography (5-30% of isopropanol in hexanes, stepwise gradient by 5%) to afford **12b** as a single 3',4'-*trans* diastereomer. Yield: 0.71 g, 61%. TLC R_f = 0.34 CH_2Cl_2 /isopropanol (96:4), IR 2103, 1668 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 10.43 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, H), 7.64-7.59 (m, 4H), 7.52 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 6H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 5.41 (d, J= 5.7 Hz, H), 4.13-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.86-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.76-3.61 (m, 2H), 3.57-3.51 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.49 (m, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.47 (m, 2H), 1.15 (t, J= 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.04 (s, 9H).). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) δ 175.0, 169.0, 163.3, 154.6, 144.2, 135.4, 133.4, 133.2, 129.8, 127.7, 96.8, 91.7, 82.8, 76.7, 61.3, 51.6, 38.2, 30.4, 27.3, 26.8, 20.5, 19.1, 8.6. MS (ESI) calculated for $C_{32}H_{40}N_6O_6Si$ 632.3, found $[M+H]^+$ 633.5.

2'-O-Acetyl-5'-azido-3'-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3',5'-dideoxy-4-*N***-propionylcytidine 13b.** Acetic acid (0.92 mL, 16 mmol) was added to 1M TBAF solution in THF (16 mL). To this solution of 1M TBAF/HOAc (1:1 mol/mol) was added 2'-*O*-acetyl-5'-azido-3'-[2-(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3',5'-dideoxy-4-*N*-propionylcytidine **12b'** (0.35g, 0.55mmol) dissolved in THF (200 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h, diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (1200 mL) and applied to silica gel chromatography (1-9% of methanol in CH₂Cl₂ stepwise gradient by 2%) to give crude product 227 mg, which was further purified by another silica gel column (1-7% of methanol in CH₂Cl₂, stepwise gradient by 2%) to afford **13b.** Yield: 217 mg, 99%. TLC R_f = 0.1 MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ (3:97), IR 2103, 1645 cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 9.93 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J= 7.8 Hz, H), 7.36 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, H), 5.89 (d, J= 5.1 Hz, H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 4.19-4.13 (m, 1H), 3.90-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.74-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.49 (m, 3H), 2.63-2.41 (m, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.56-1.53 (m, 3H), 3.74-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.49 (m, 3H), 2.63-2.41 (m, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.56-1.53 (m, 3H), 3.59-3.49 (m, 3H), 2.63-2.41 (m, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.56-1.53 (m, 3H)

2H), 1.13 (t, J= 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) δ 175.2, 169.6, 162.9, 155.0, 144.4, 96.7, 91.7, 83.3, 77.6, 59.8, 51.8, 38.3, 30.5, 27.2, 20.9, 8.7. MS (ESI) calculated for $C_{16}H_{22}N_6O_6+Na$ 317.2, found [M+Na]⁺ 417.1.

2'-O-Acetyl-5'-azido-3'-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3',5'-dideoxy-6-N-benzoyladenosine 13c. Acetic acid (17 µL, 0.3 mmol) was added to 1M TBAF solution in THF (0.30 mL). To this solution of 1M TBAF/HOAc (1:1 mol/mol) was added 2'-O-acetyl-5'-azido-3'-[2-(tert-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3',5'-dideoxy-6-N-benzovladenosine 12c (21 mg, 0.03mmol) dissolved in THF (12 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h, diluted with ethyl acetate (60 mL) and applied to silica gel chromatography (1-5% of methanol in ethyl acetate, stepwise gradient by 2%) to give crude product 17 mg, which was further purified by another silica gel column (1-7% of methanol in ethyl acetate, stepwise gradient by 2%) to afford 13c. Yield: 13 mg, 93%. TLC $R_f = 0.53$ CH₂Cl₂/isopropanol (90:10), IR 2104, 1641 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.77 (s, H), 8.32 (s, H), 8.03 (d, J= 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.49 (m, 3H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 5.86 (d, J= 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25-4.21(m, 1H), 3.81-3.56 (m, 4H), 3.10-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.18 (s, 1H), 1.86-1.60 (m, 2H).NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) δ 170.1, 165.0, 152.8, 151.2, 150.6, 149.6, 141.8, 133.7, 132.9, 129.0, 128.1, 123.3, 89.6, 83.7, 78.2, 60.5, 52.1, 39.5, 27.4, 20.9. MS (ESI) calculated for $C_{21}H_{22}N_8O_5+Na\ 489.2$, found $[M+Na]^+489.1$.

2'-O-Acetyl-5'-azido-3'-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3',5'-dideoxy-2-N-acetyl-6-O-

diphenylcarbamoylguanosine 13d. Acetic acid (1.37 mL, 24 mmol) was added to 1M TBAF solution in THF (24 mL). To this solution of 1M TBAF/HOAc (1:1 mol/mol) was added 2'-O-acetyl-5'-azido-3'-[2-(*tert*-butyldiphenylsilanoxy)ethyl]-3',5'-dideoxy-2-N-

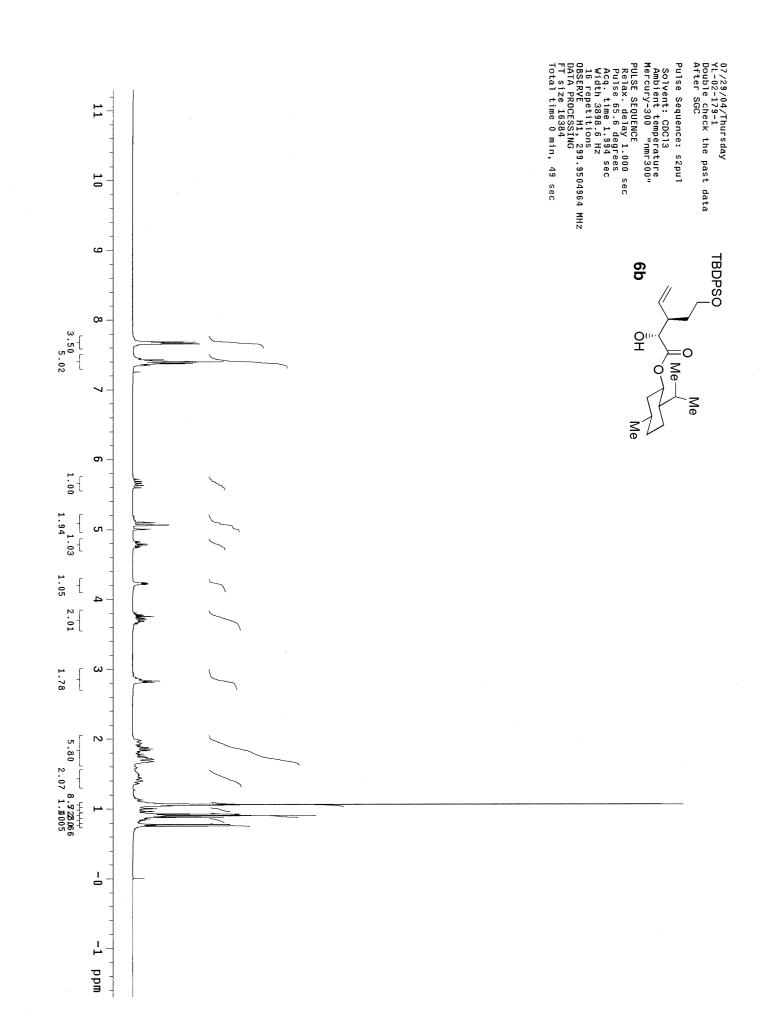
acetyl-6-O-diphenylcarbamoylguanosine **12d** (0.707 g, 0.83 mmol) dissolved in THF (300 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h, diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (700 mL) and applied to silica gel chromatography (2-10% of isopropanol in CH₂Cl₂, stepwise gradient by 2%) to afford **13d**.Yield: 0.498 g, 98%. TLC R_f = 0.22 MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ (3:97). IR 2104, 1741 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.64 (s, H), 8.05(s, H), 7.44-7.25 (m, 10H), 5.85 (s, H), 5.83 (d, J= 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.17-4.11 (m, 1H), 3.74-3.49 (m, 5H), 2.22(s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.91-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.56 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75.4 MHz) δ 170.3, 169.7, 156.1, 153.8, 151.6, 150.5, 143.9, 141.7, 129.2, 127.1, 121.6, 90.7, 84.4, 78.5, 60.0, 52.6, 39.3, 28.0, 24.8, 20.7. MS (ESI) calculated for C₂₉H₂₉N₉O₇+Na 638.2, found [M+Na]⁺ 638.1.

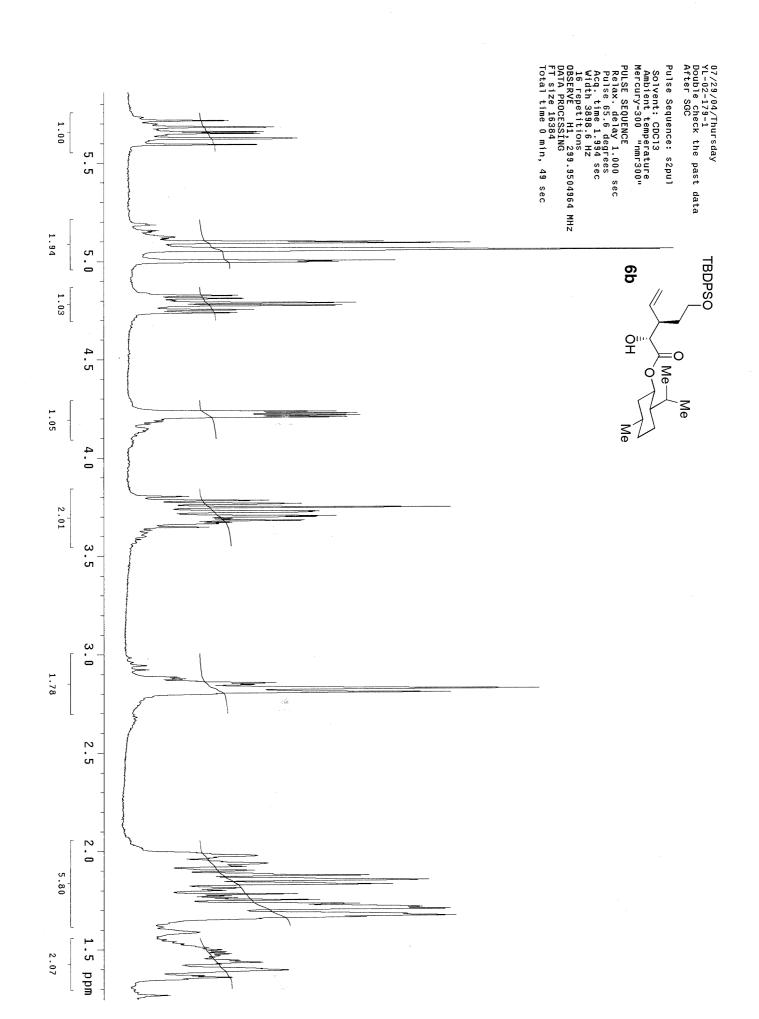
Dimer 17. 2-(6-chloro-1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HCTU) (16.8 mg, 0.04 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (9.56 mg, 0.074 mmol) were added to the solution of 2'-*O*-acetyl-5'-azido-3'-carboxymethyl-3',5'-dideoxyuridine **3a** (13 mg, 0.037 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1.5 h. Then, to this solution of activated ester in DMF was added a solution of 5'-amino-5'-deoxy-2',3'-*O*-isopropylideneuridine³ **16** (60 mg, 0.21 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 50 min, concentrated, and purified by silica gel column chromatography (2-10% of methanol in CH₂Cl₂, stepwise gradient by 2%) to afford dimer **17.** Yield: 19 mg, 83%. TLC R_f = 0.25 MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ (6:94). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 10.26 (s, 1H), 9.48 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (b, 1H), 5.86-5.78 (m, 3H), 5.55 (d, *J*= 6 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 5.23-5.20 (m, 1H), 4.93-4.89 (m, 1H), 4.26-4.23(m, 1H), 4.16-4.13 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.77 (m,

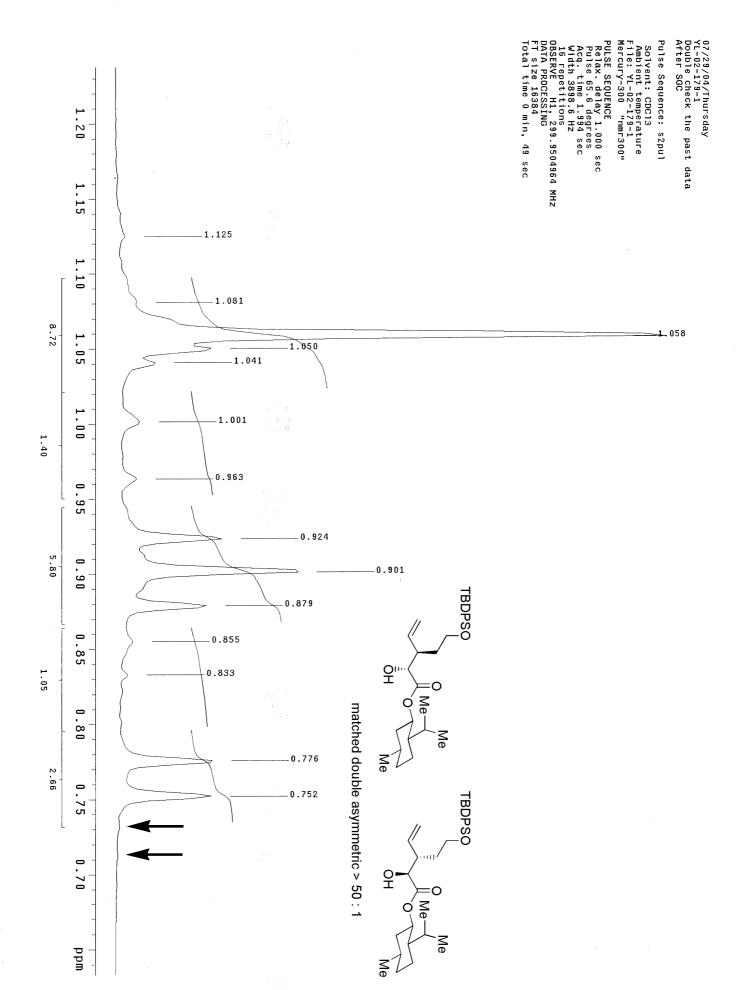
1H), 3.65-3.60 (m, 1H), 3.35 (d, J= 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11-3.07 (m, 1H), 2.55-2.48 (m, 1H), 2.33-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) calculated for $C_{25}H_{30}N_8O_{11}$ 618.2, found [M+H]⁺ 619.0.

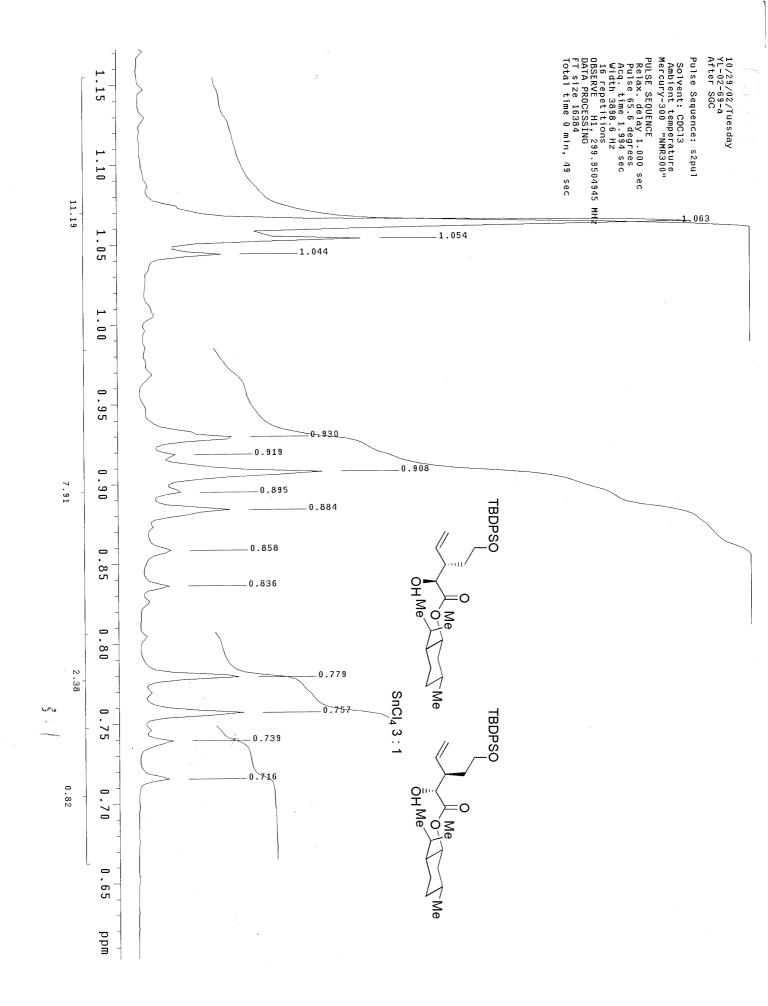
Dimer 18. A saturated solution of NH₃ in methanol (2 mL) was added to dimer **17** (3 mg, 0.0049 mmol). The solution was stirred for 20 min. It was concentrated and purified by preparative silica gel TLC eluting with 9% methanol in CH₂Cl₂ to afford **18**. Yield: 3 mg, >99%. TLC R_f= 0.35 MeOH/CH₂Cl₂(9:91). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 10.02 (s, 1H), 9.68 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, J= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (b, 1H), 5.78-5.76 (m, 3H), 5.32 (d, J= 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.17-5.14 (m, 1H), 4.83-4.79 (m, 1H), 4.44 (d, J= 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.25-4.20(m, 1H), 4.16-4.13 (m, 1H), 3.90-3.79 (m, 1H), 3.63-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.43-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.59 (m, 2H), 2.38-2.29 (m, 1H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₈N₈O₁₀ 576.2, found [M+H]⁺ 577.0.

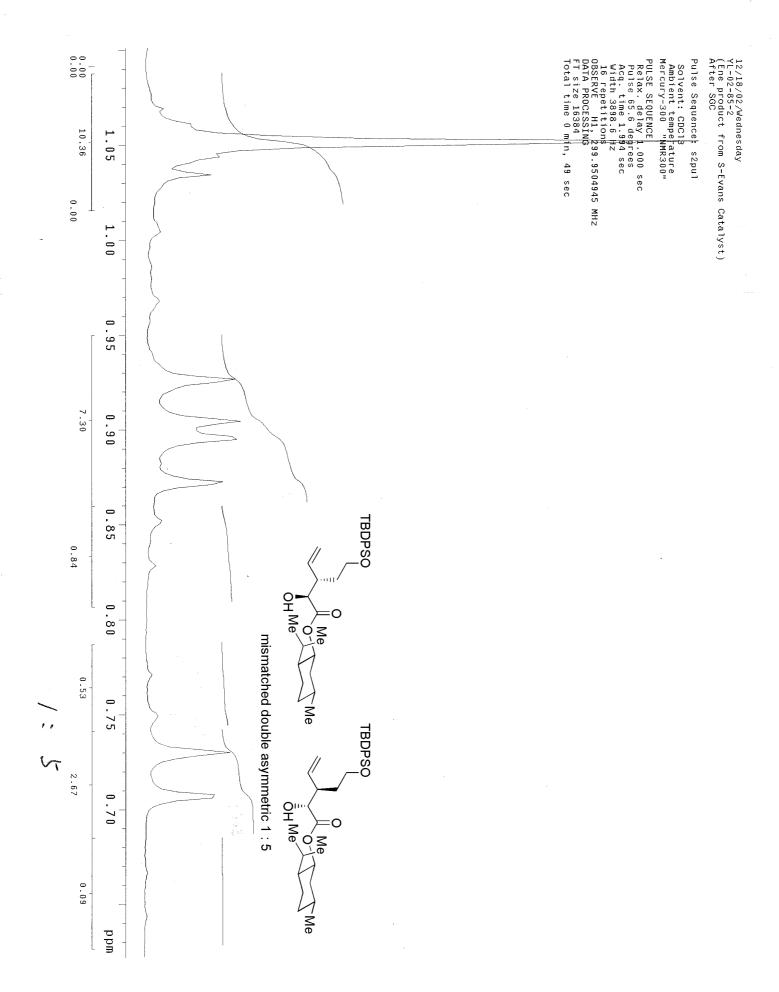
³ Isono, K.; Azuma, T. Chem. Pharm. Bull. 1972, 20, 193-196.

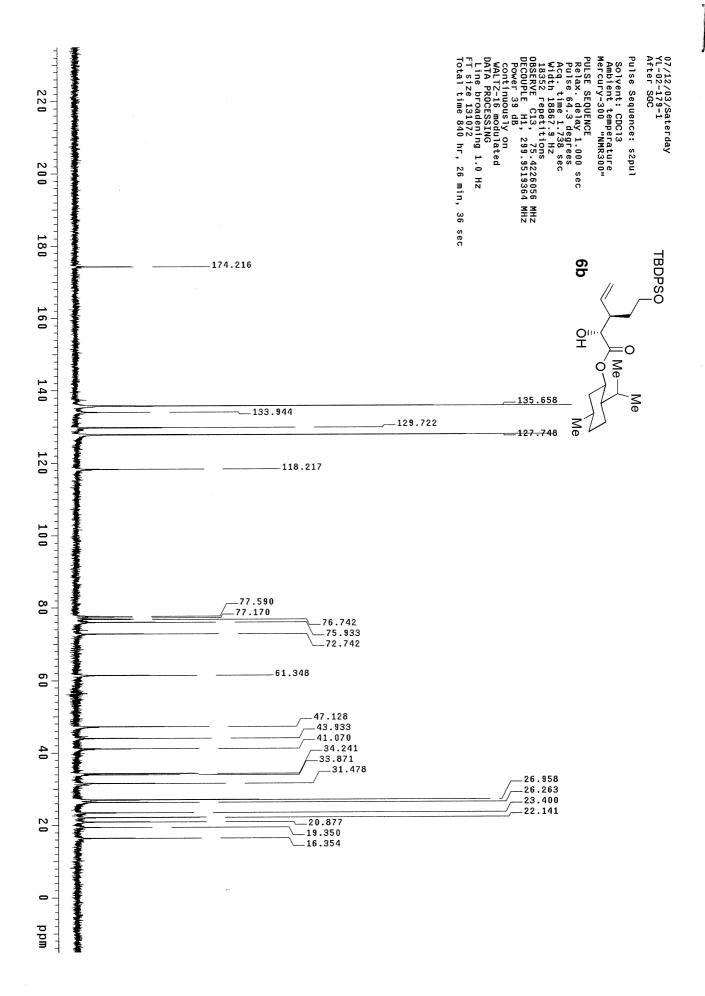


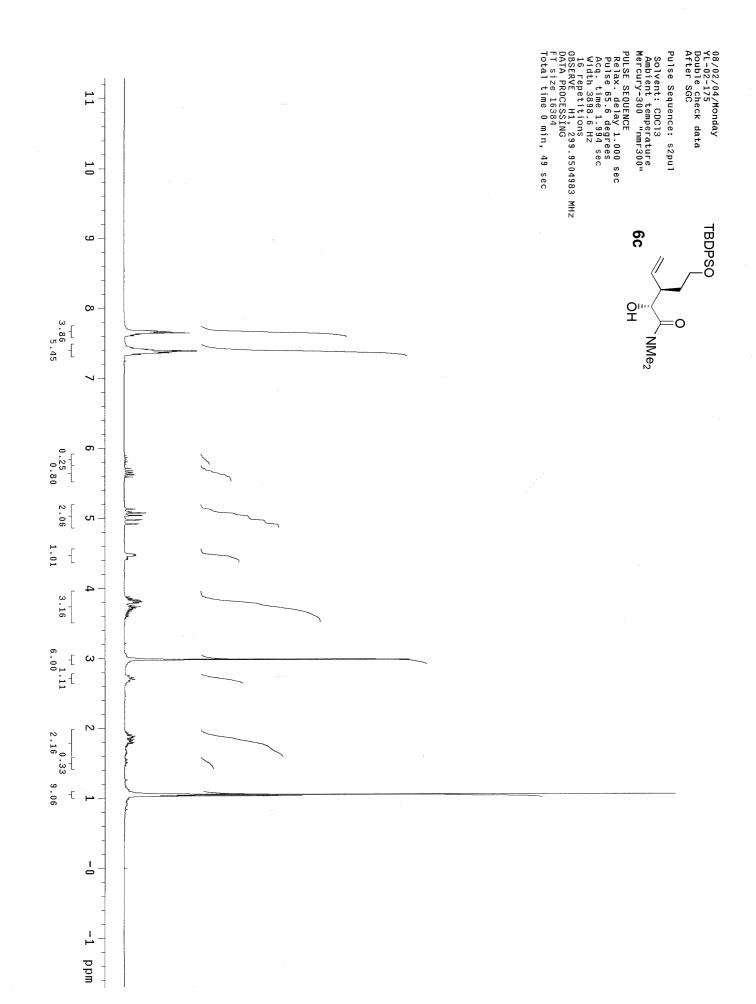


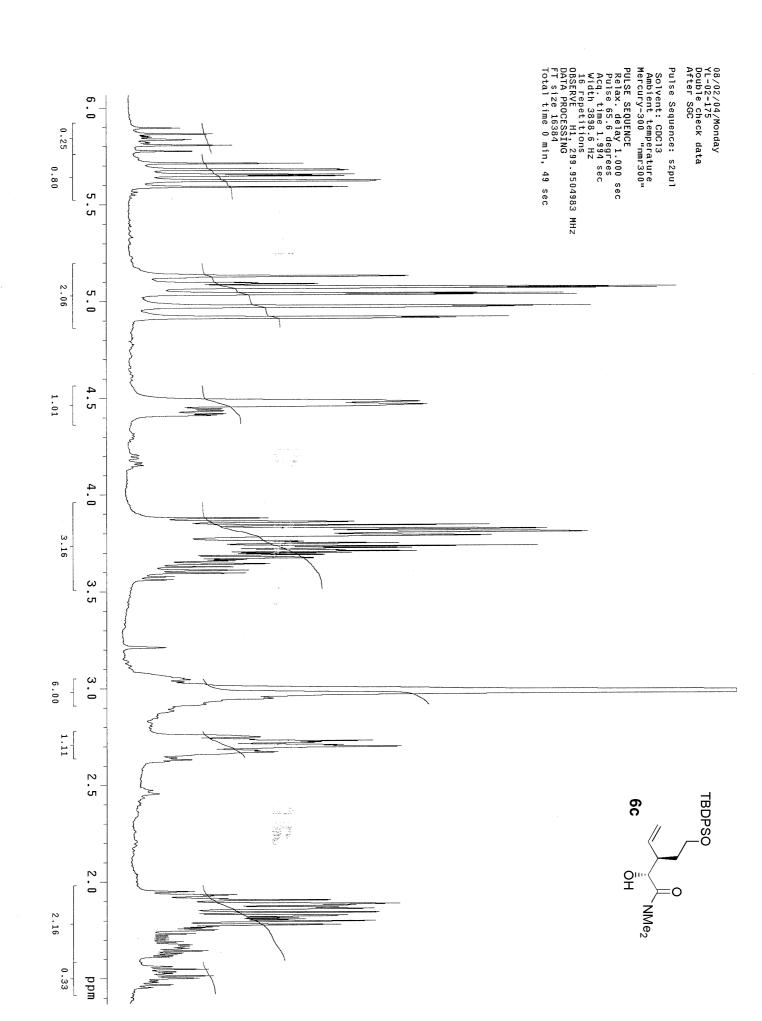


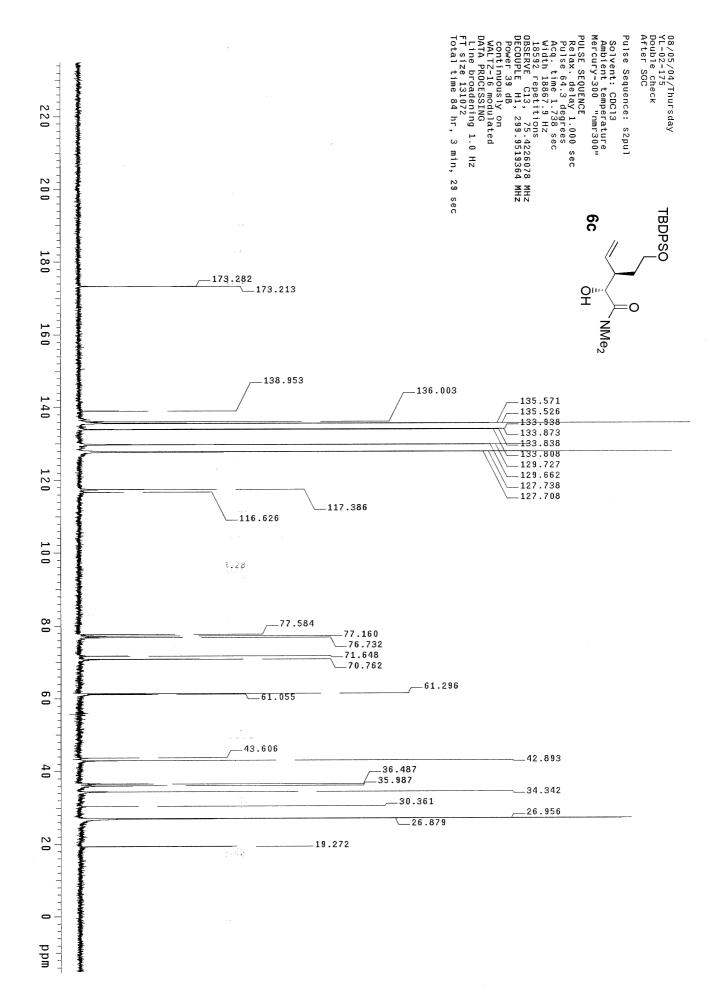


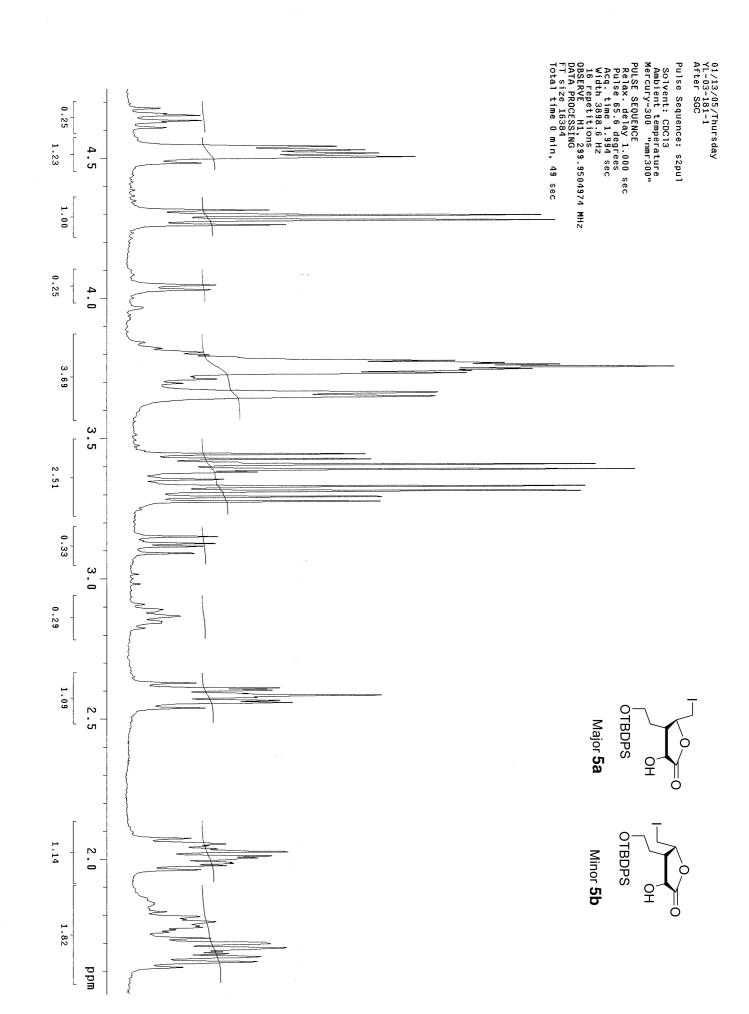


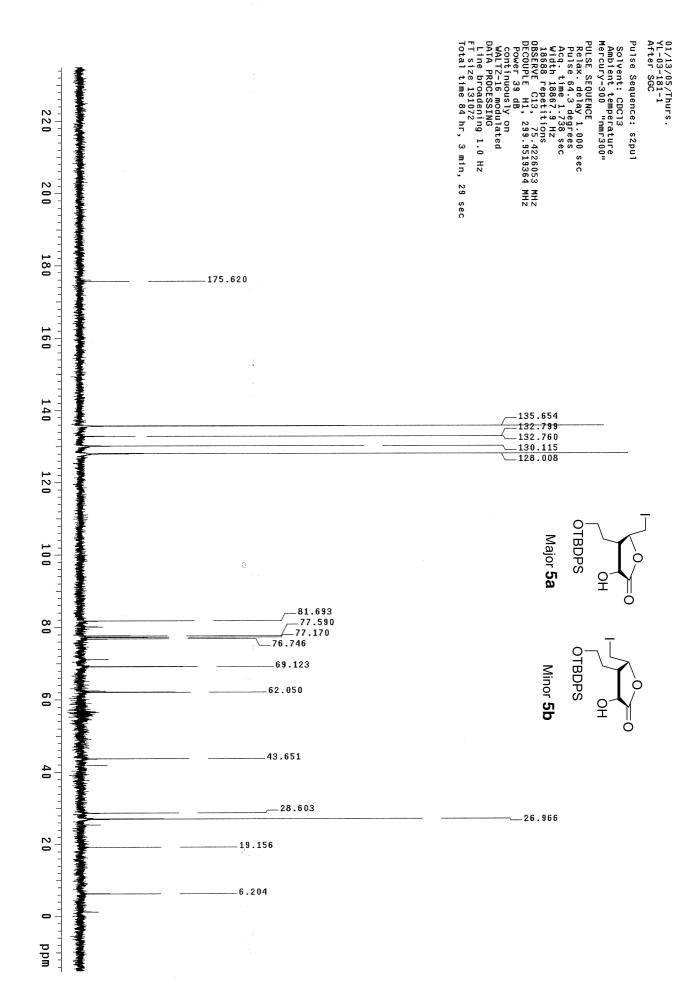




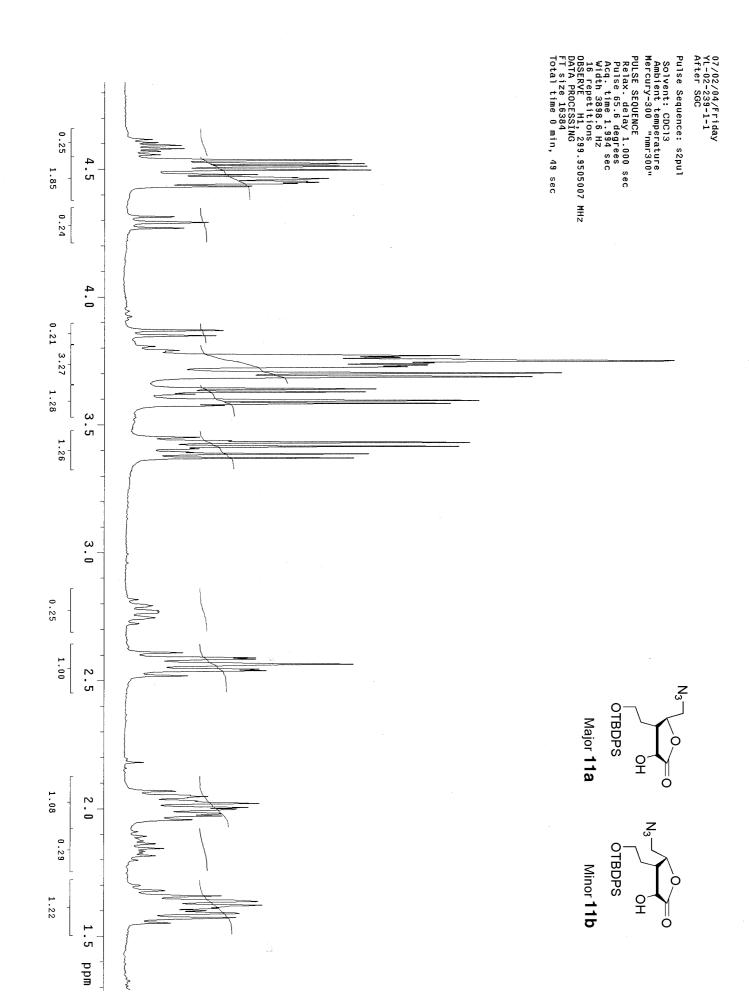


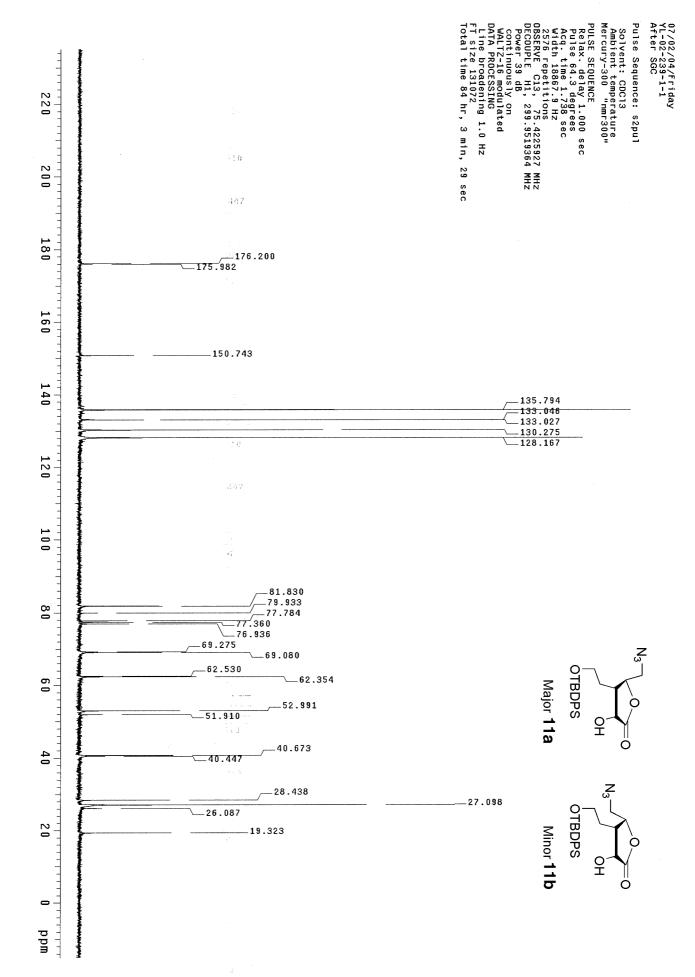


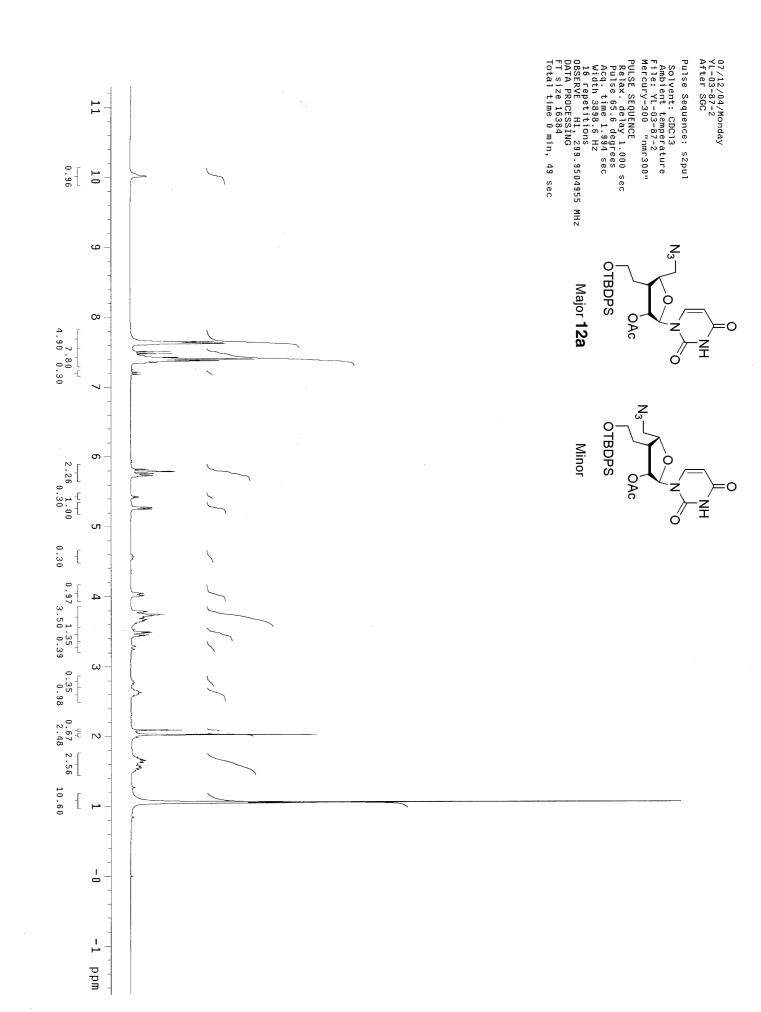


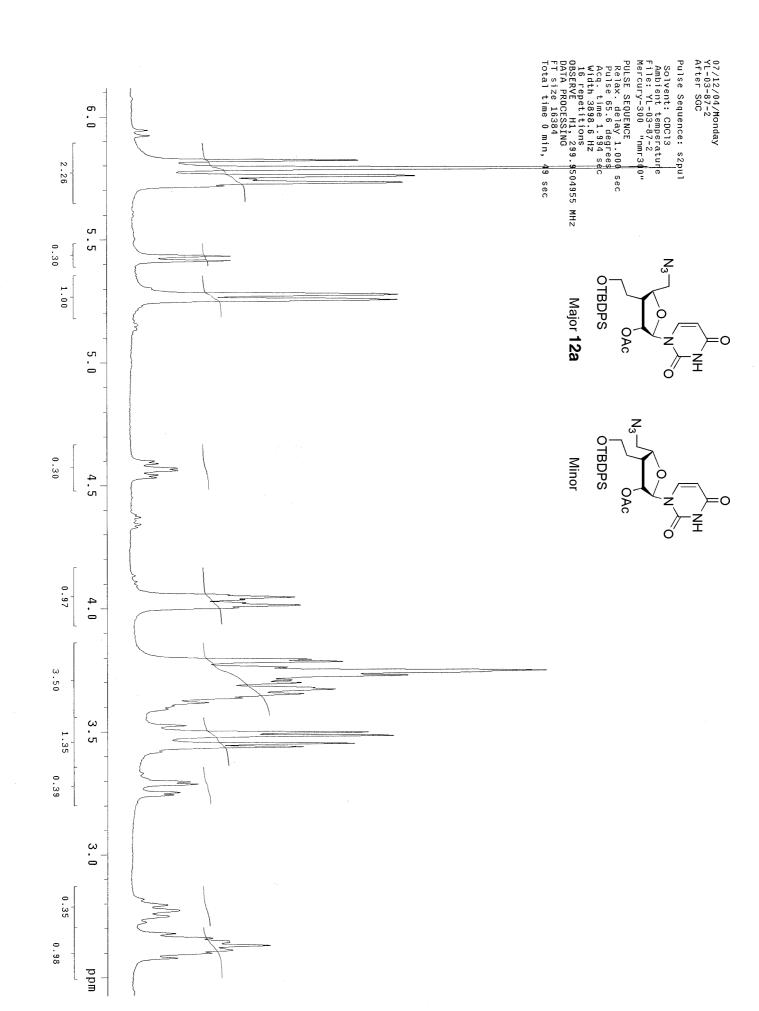


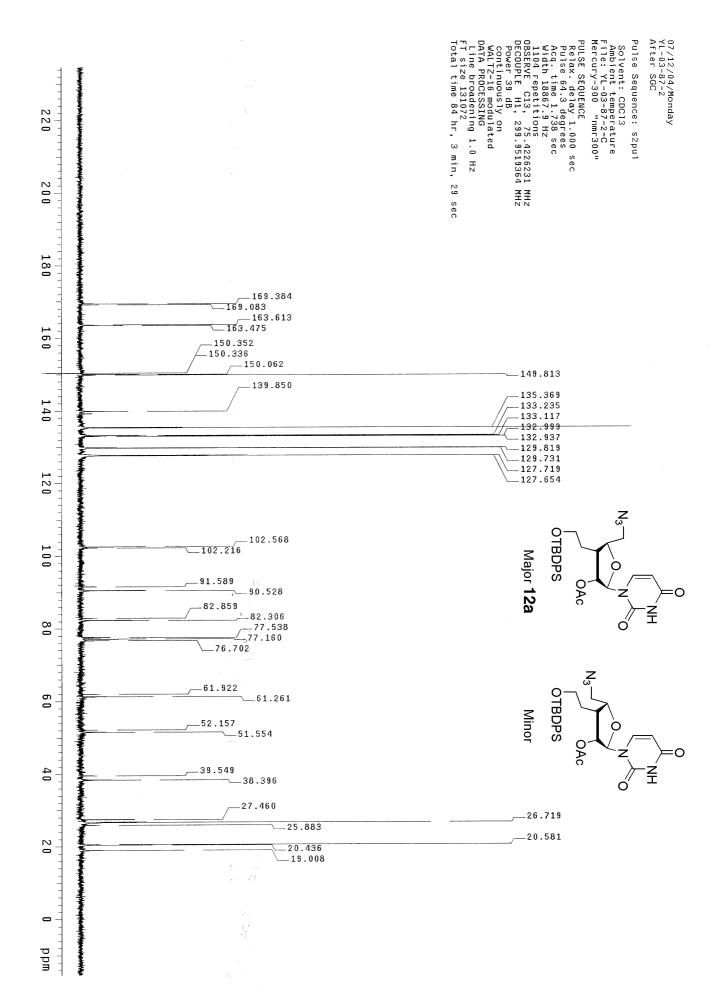
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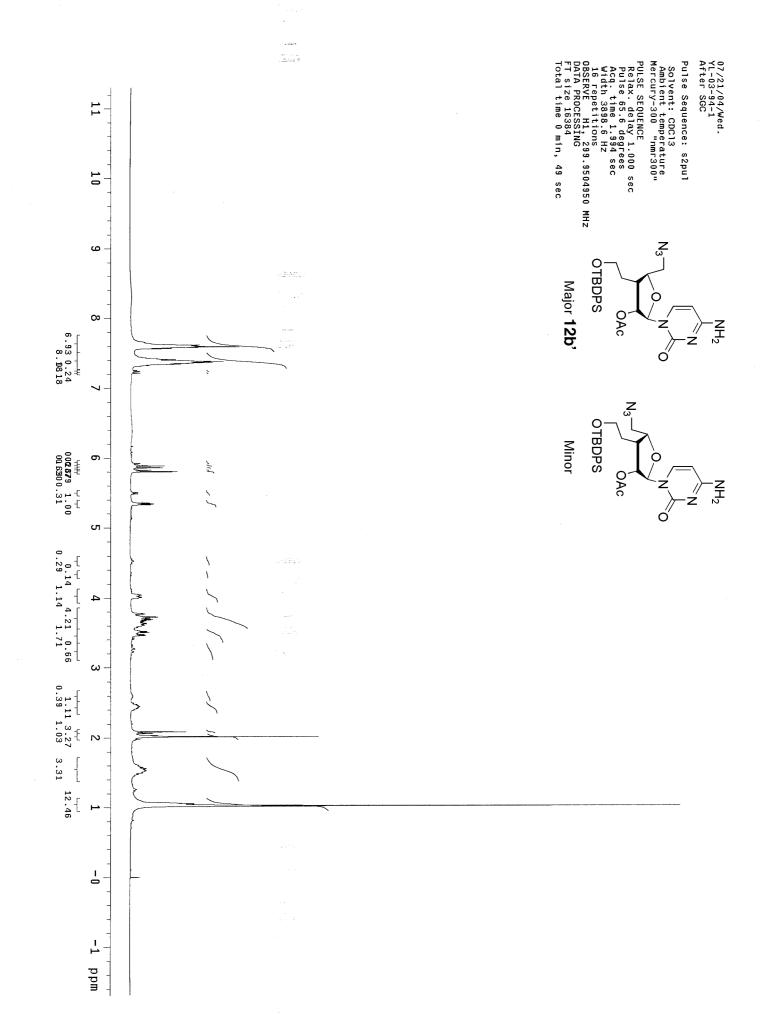


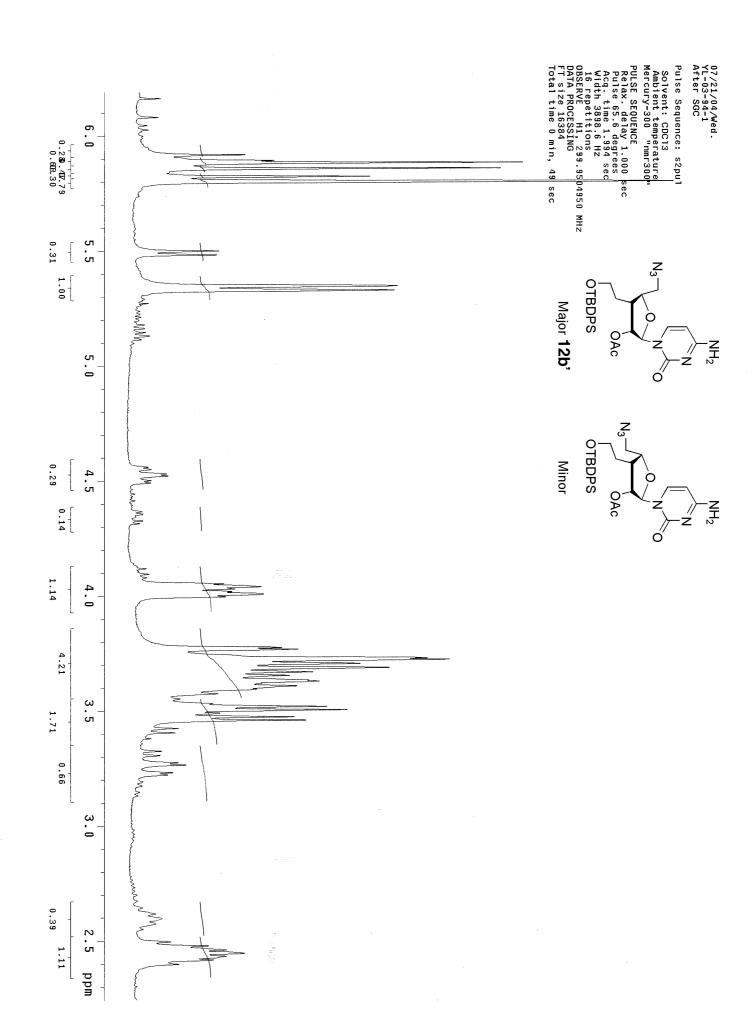


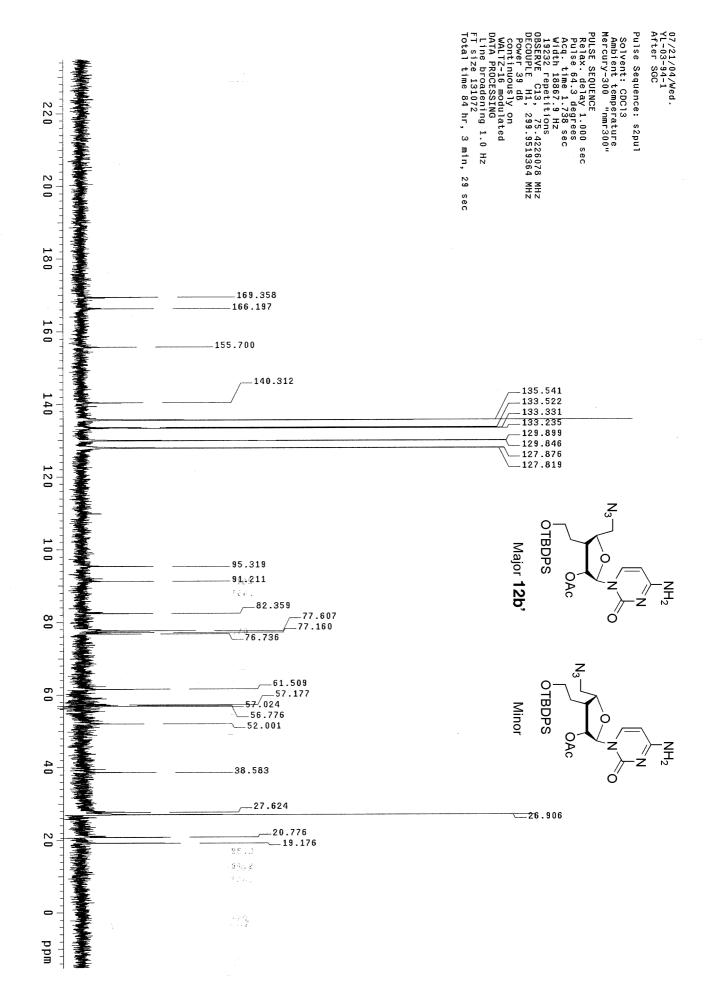


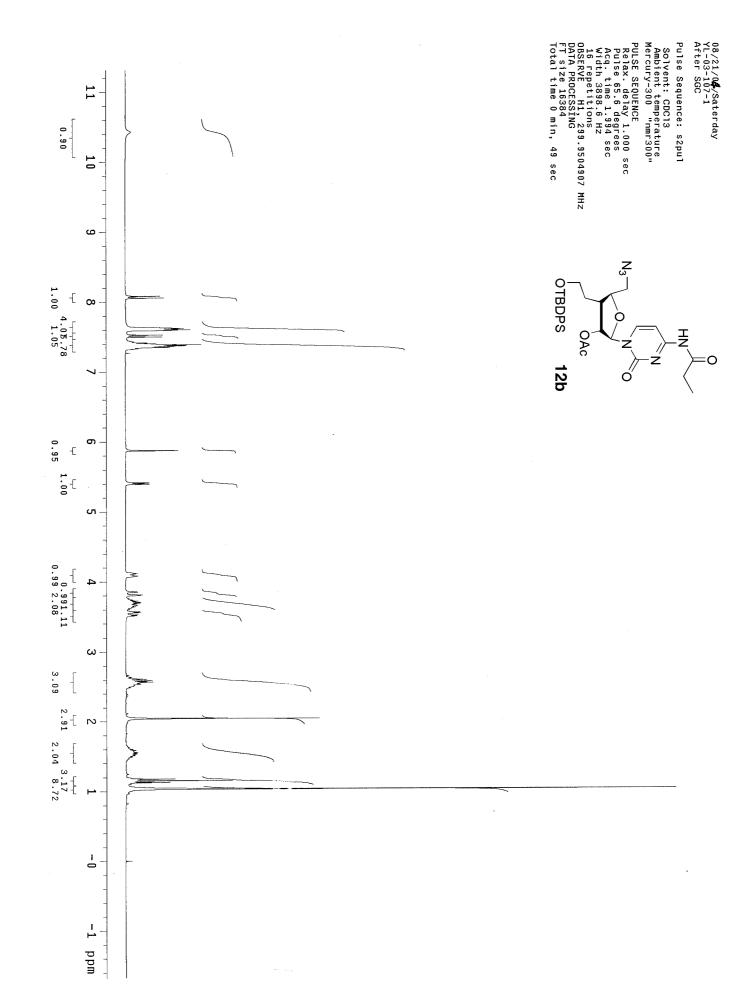


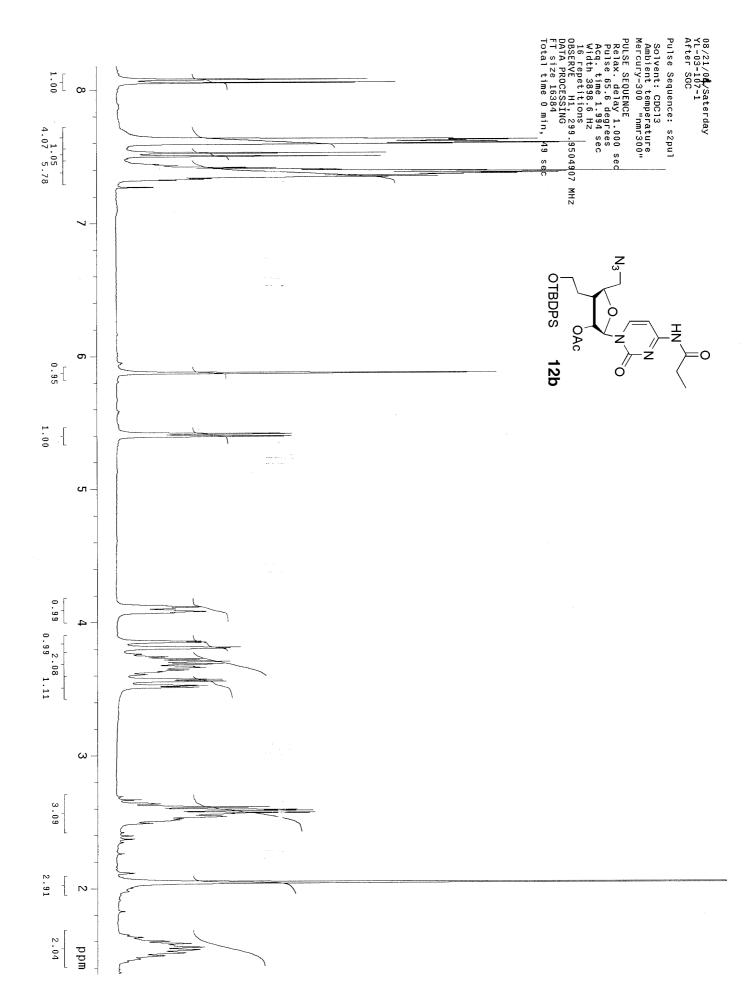


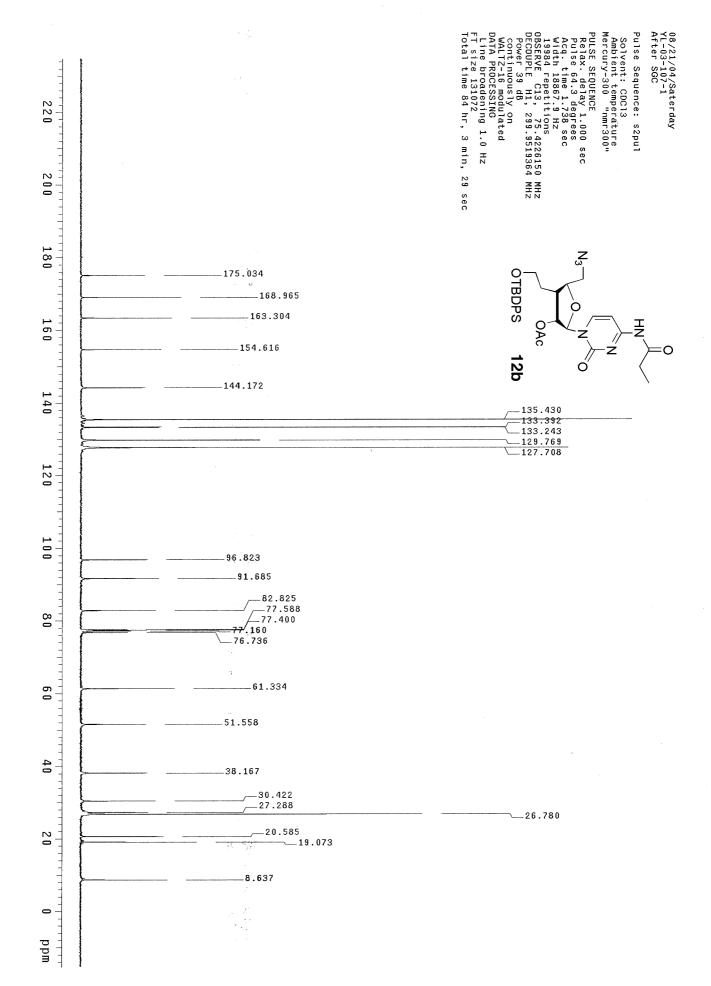


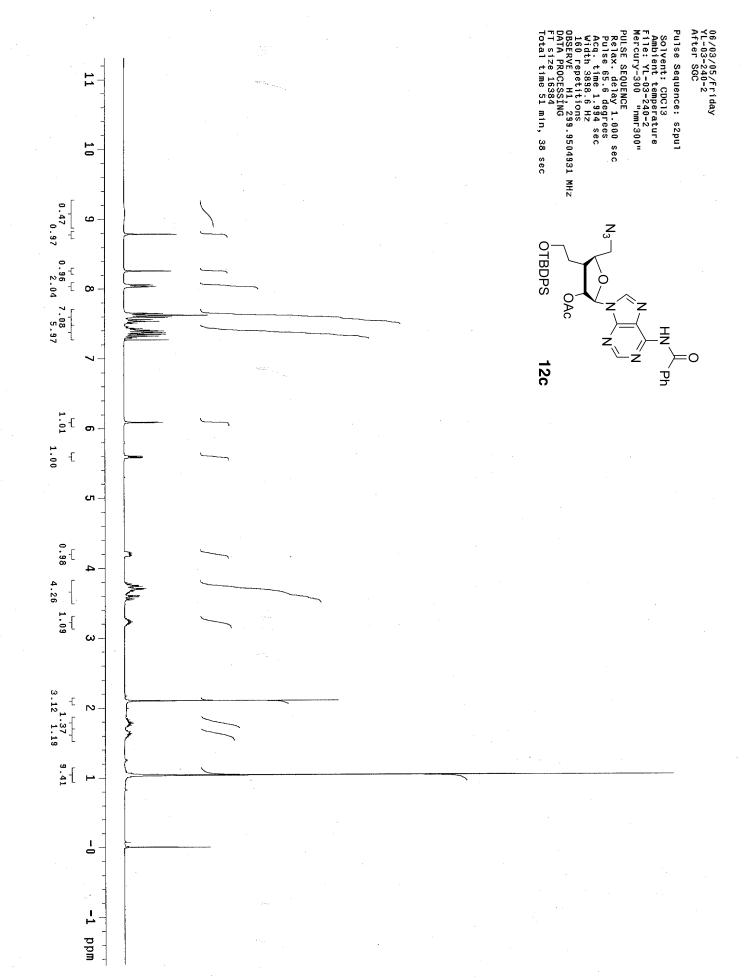


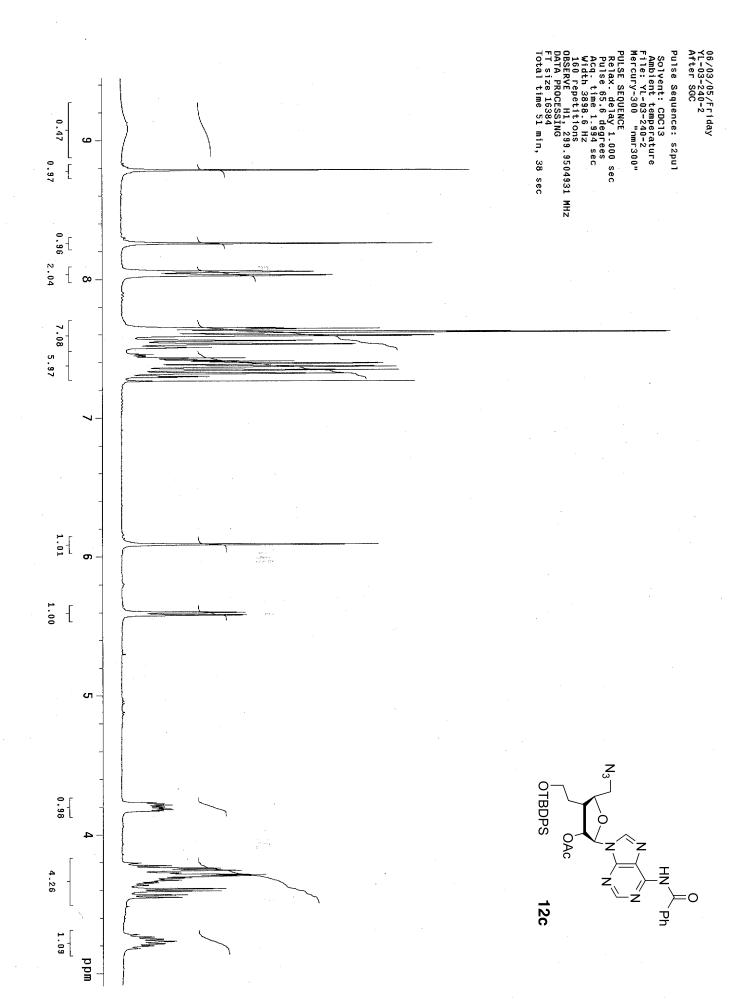


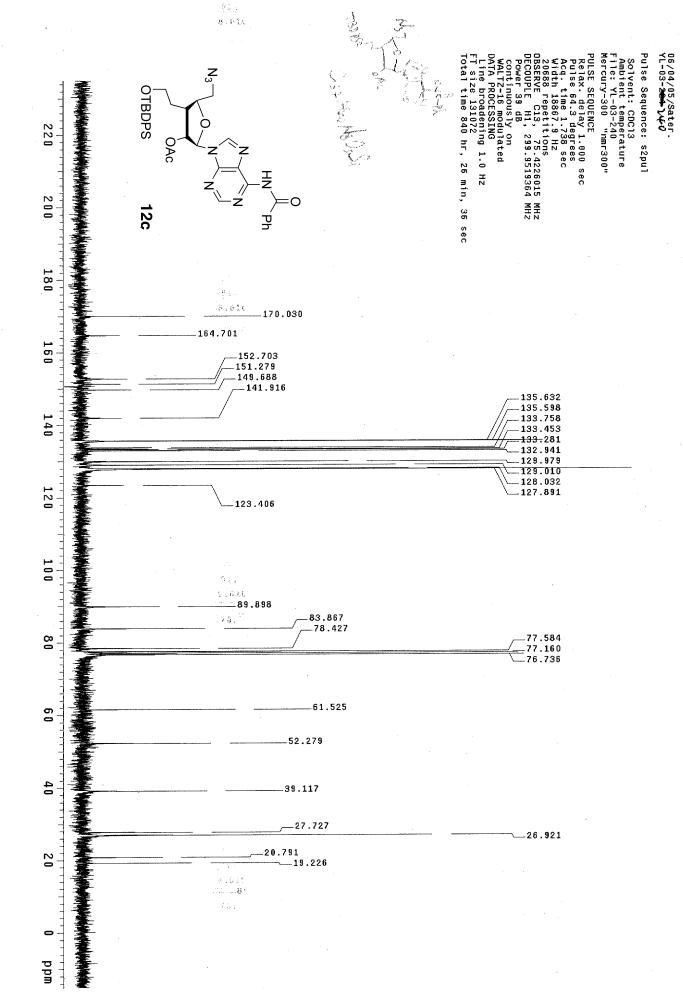


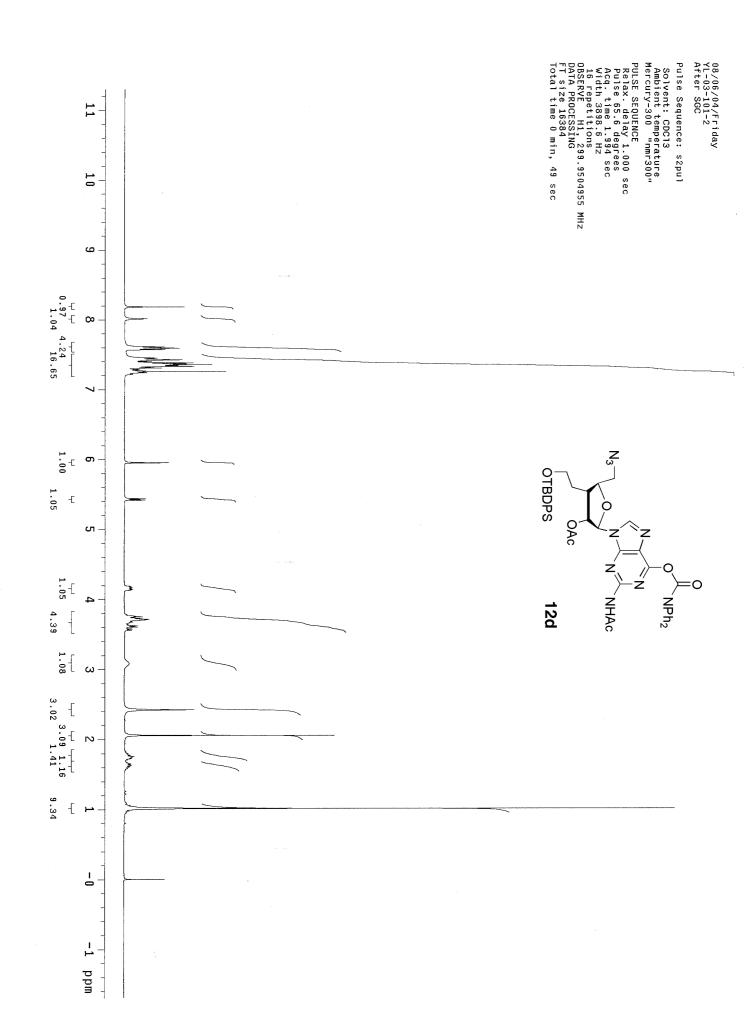


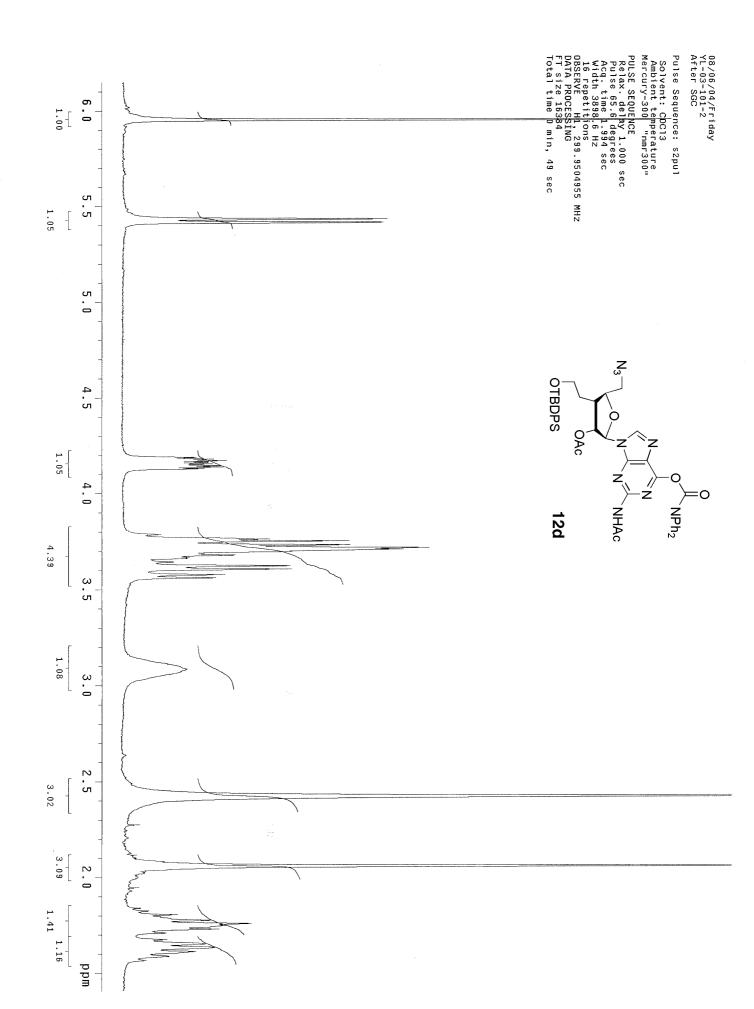


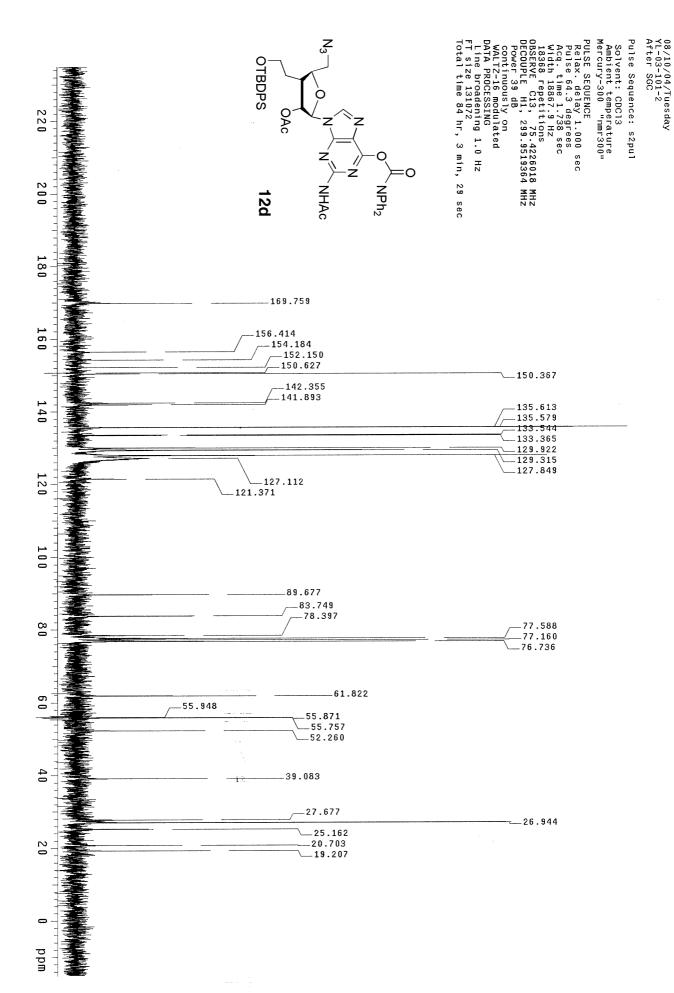


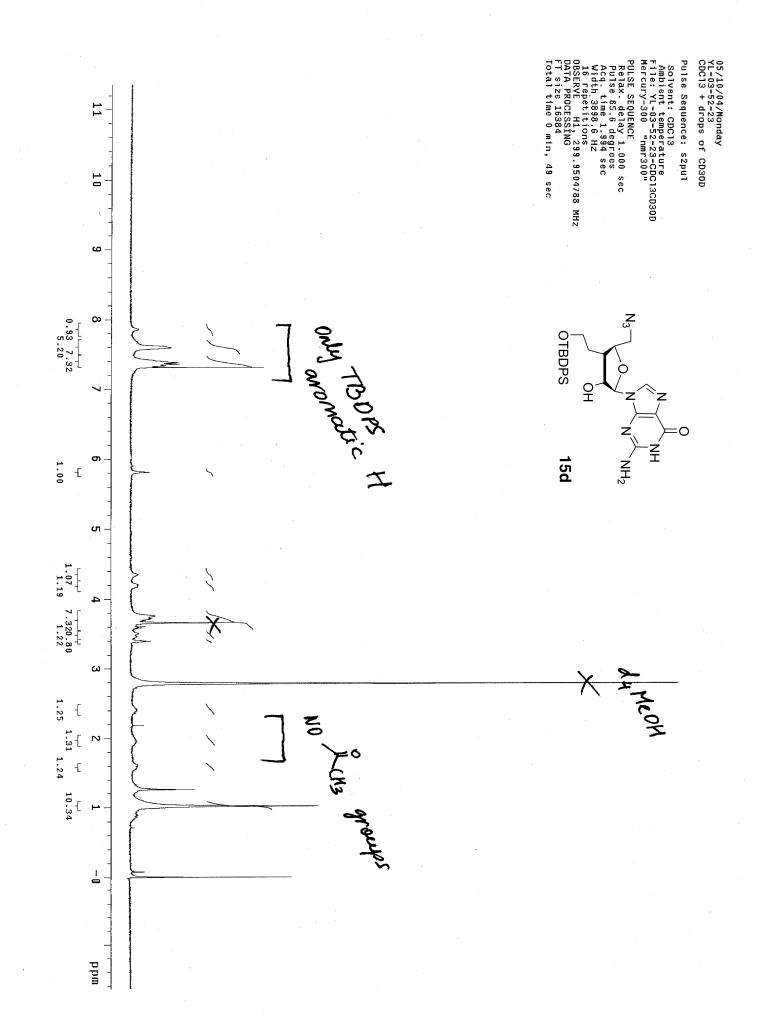


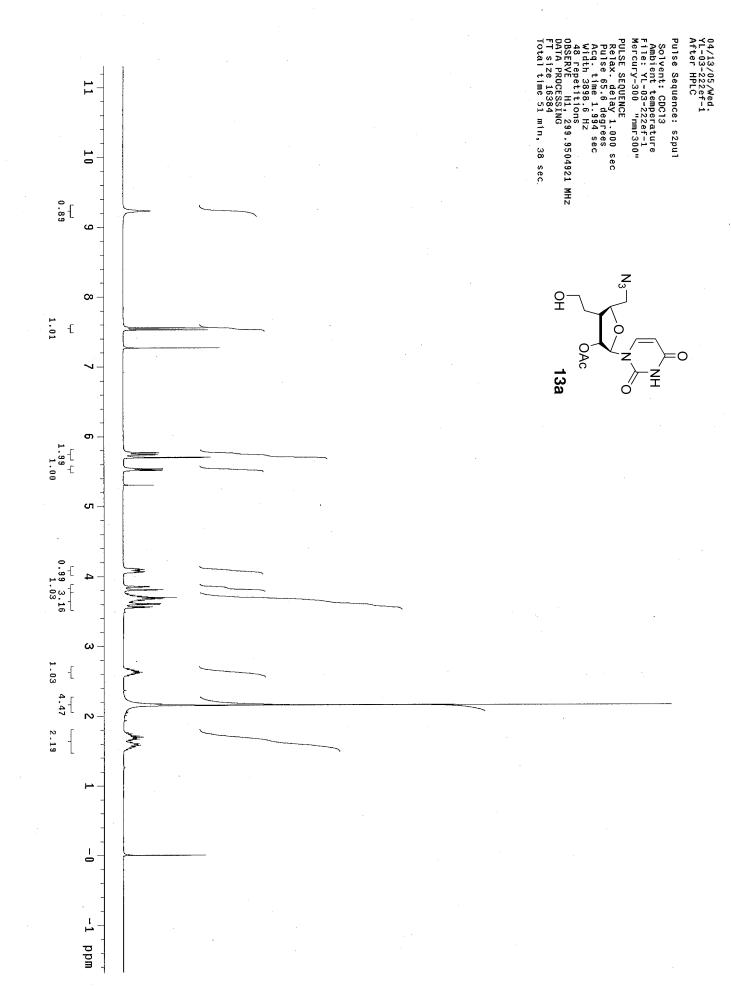


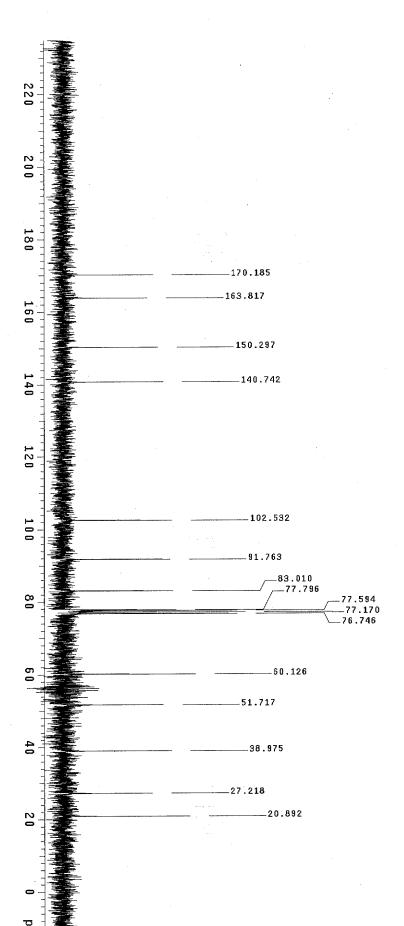


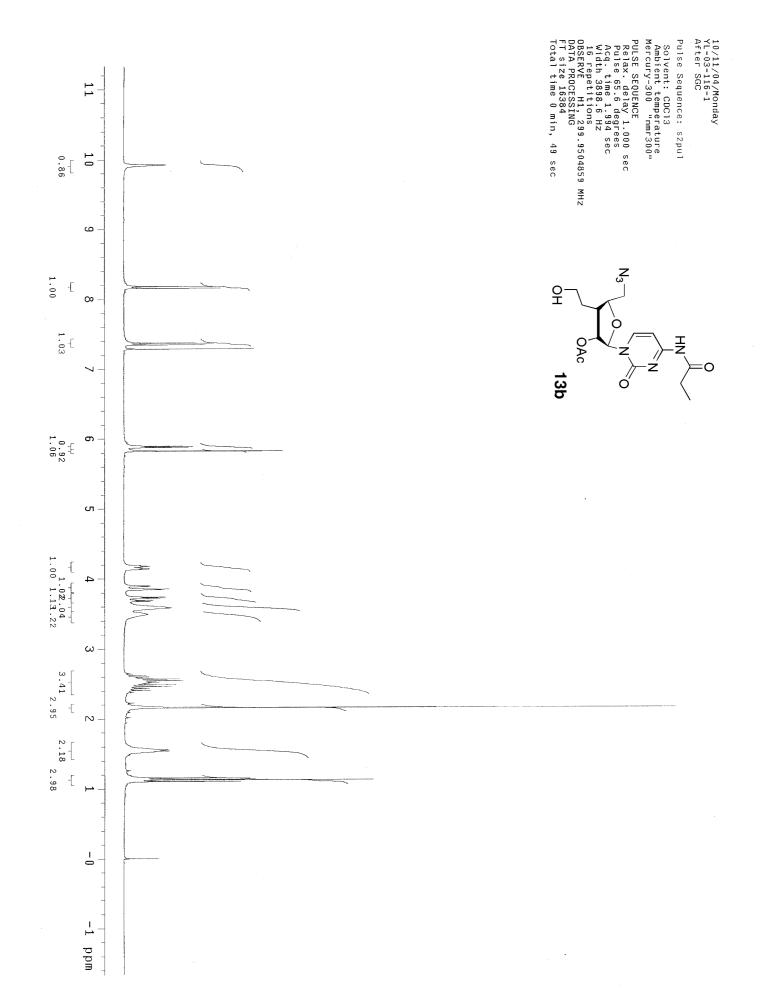


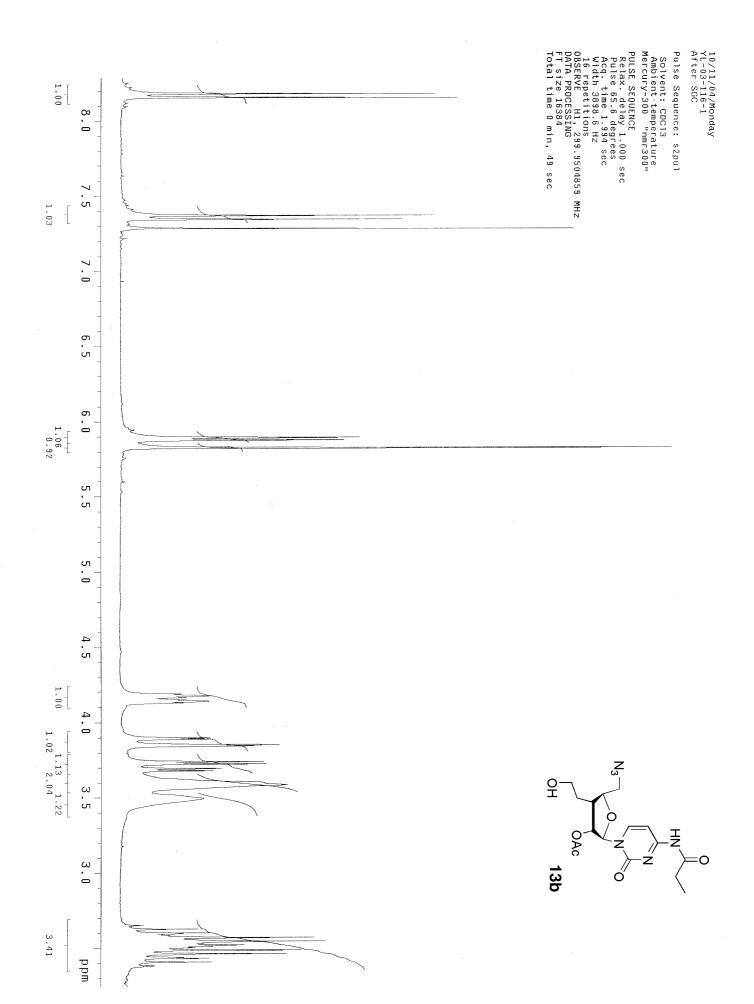


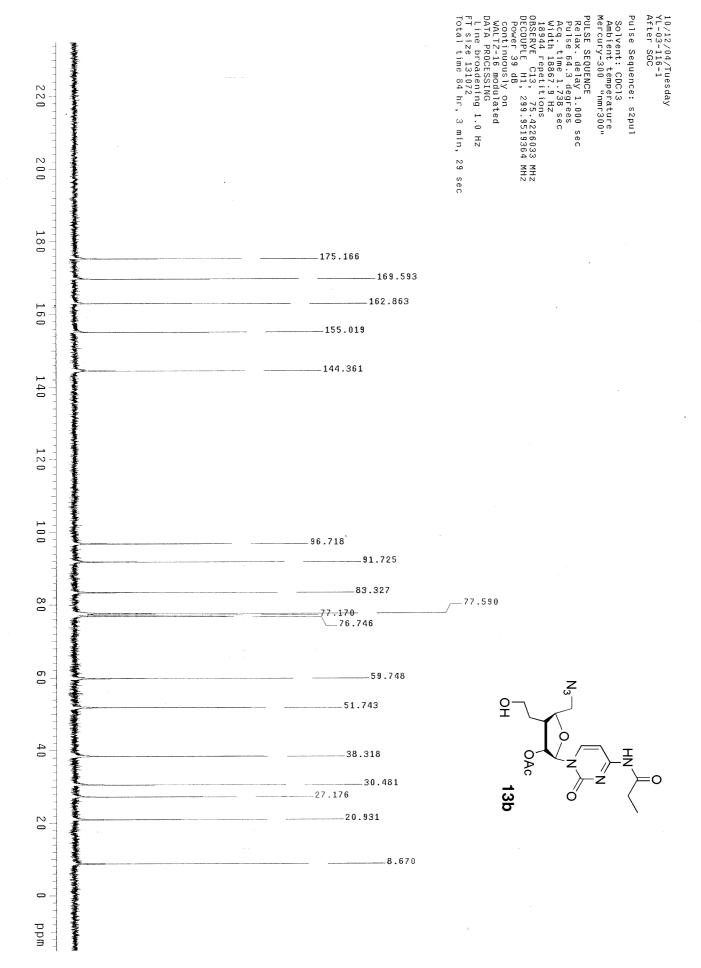


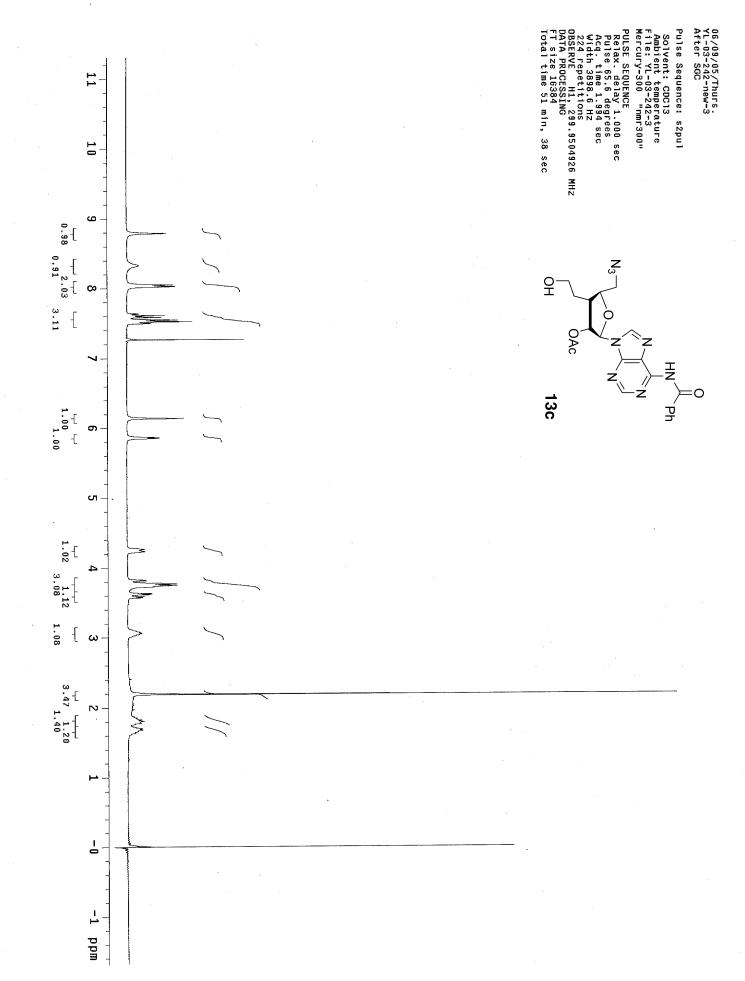


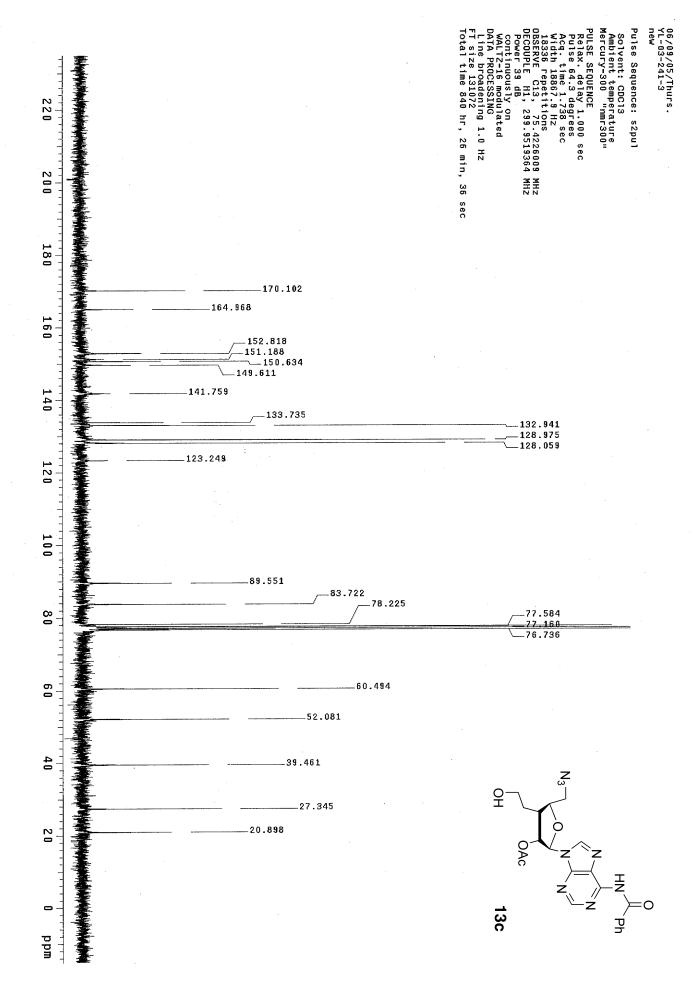


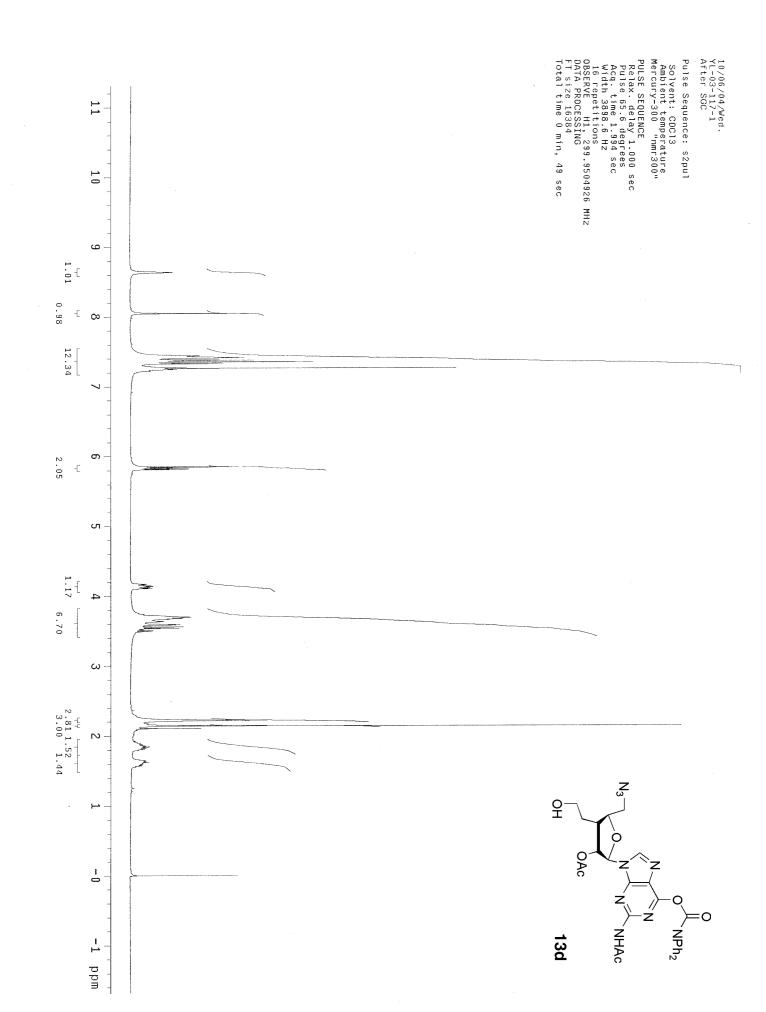


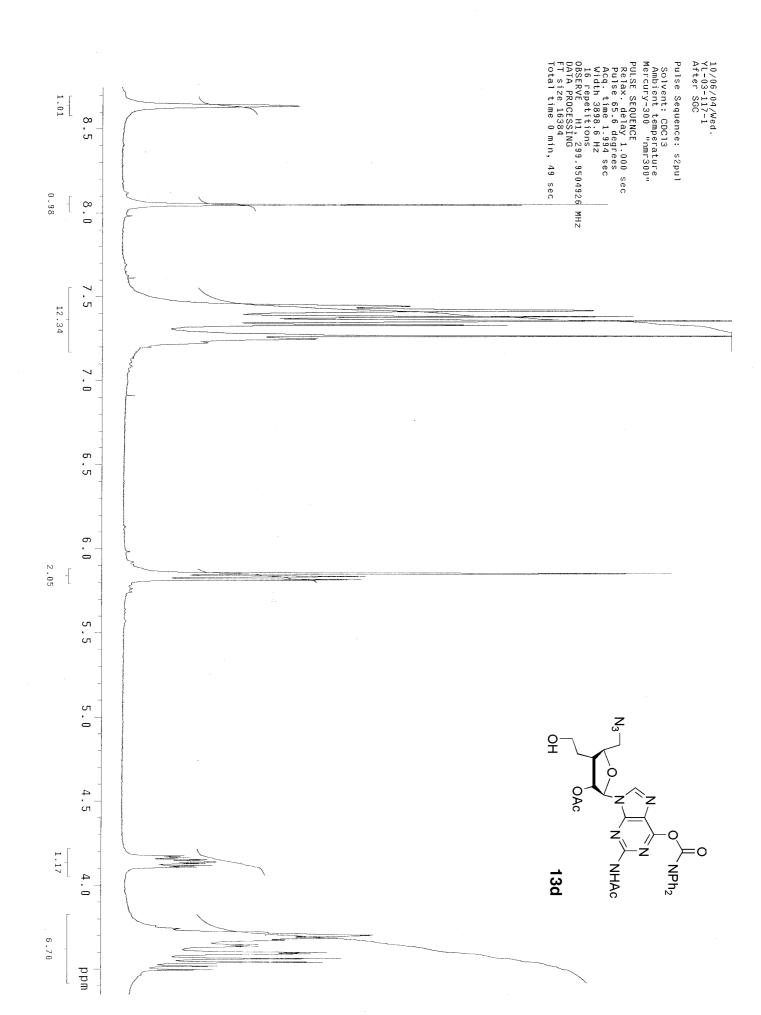


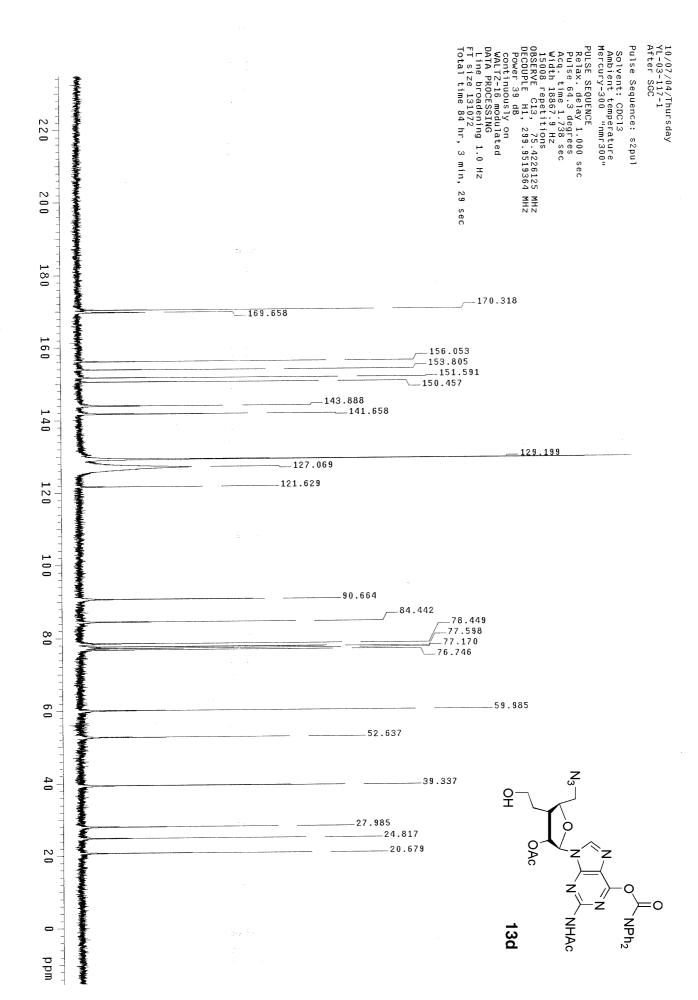


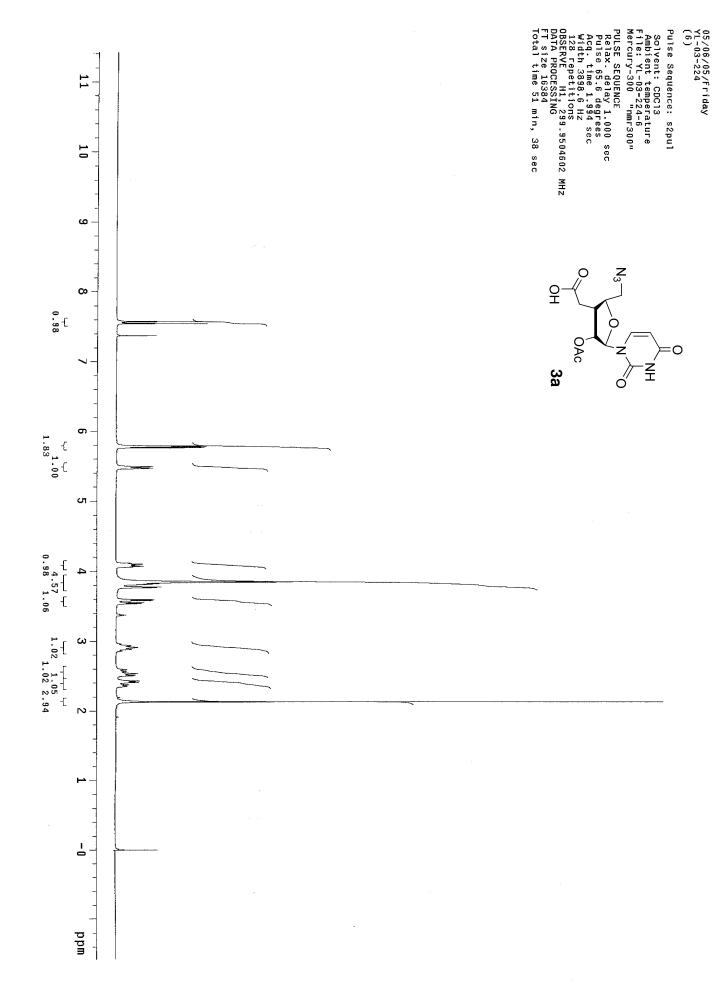


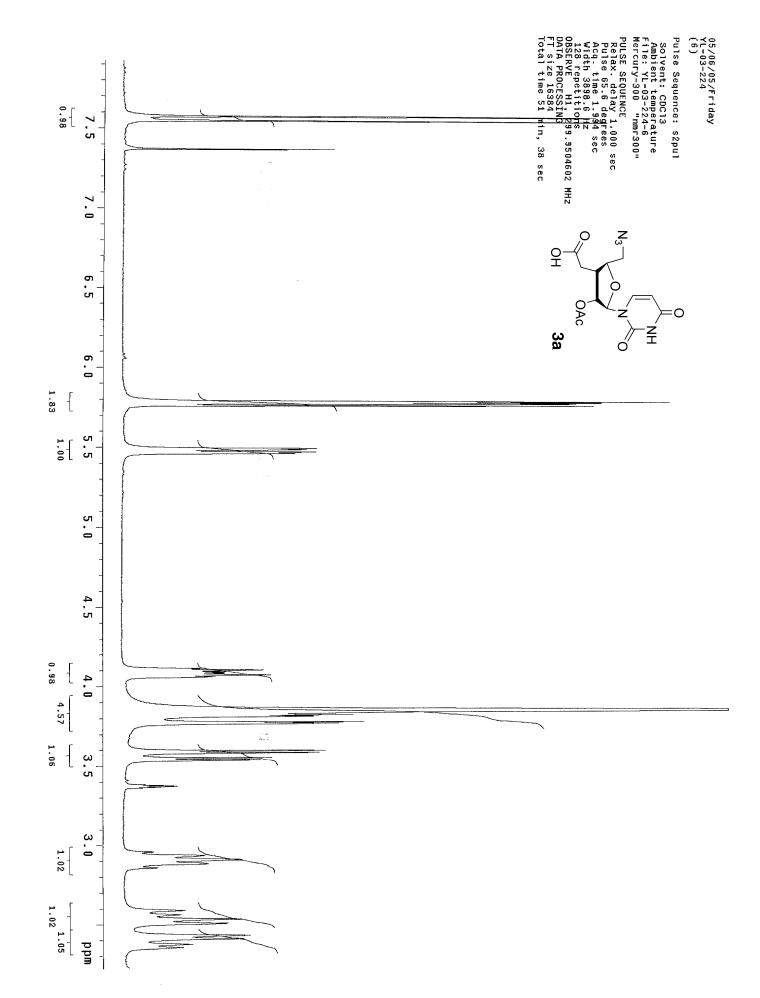


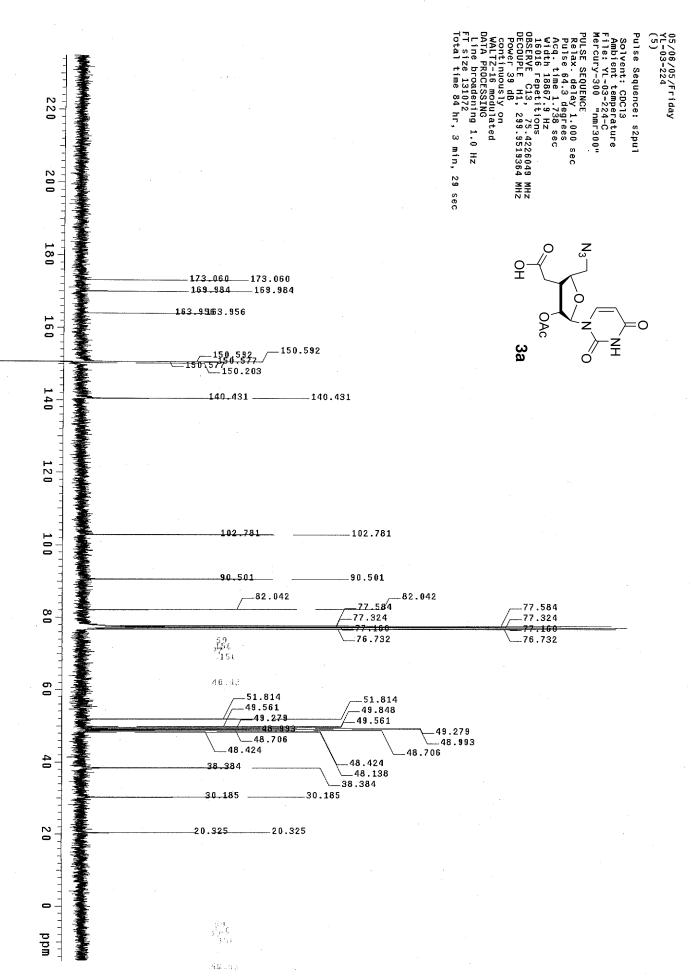


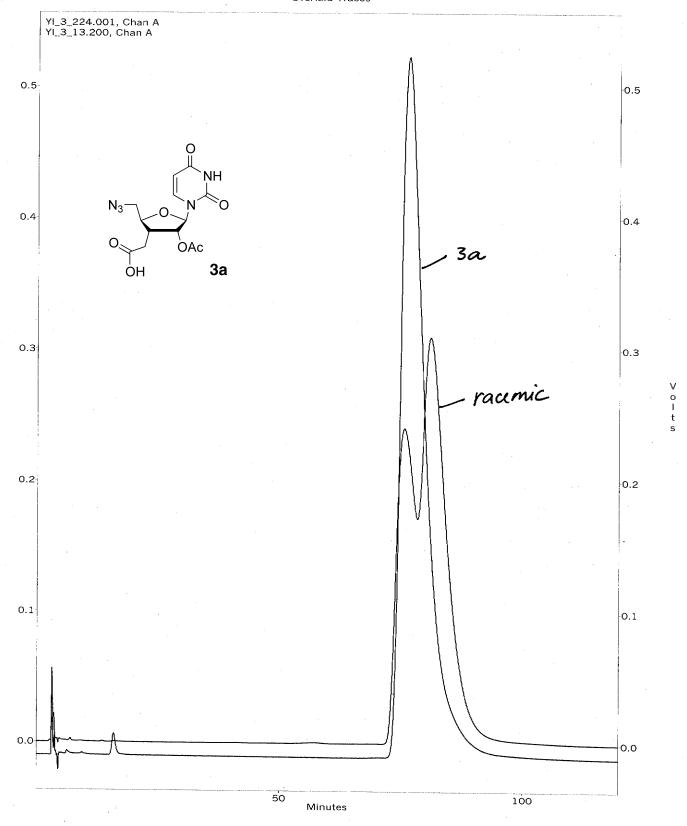


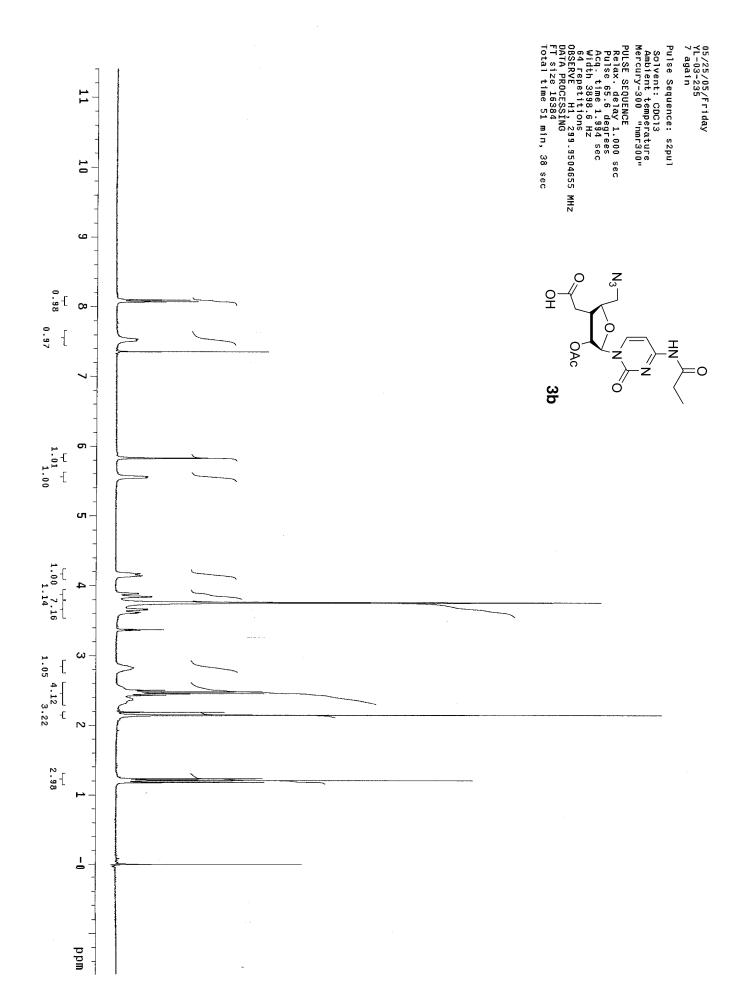


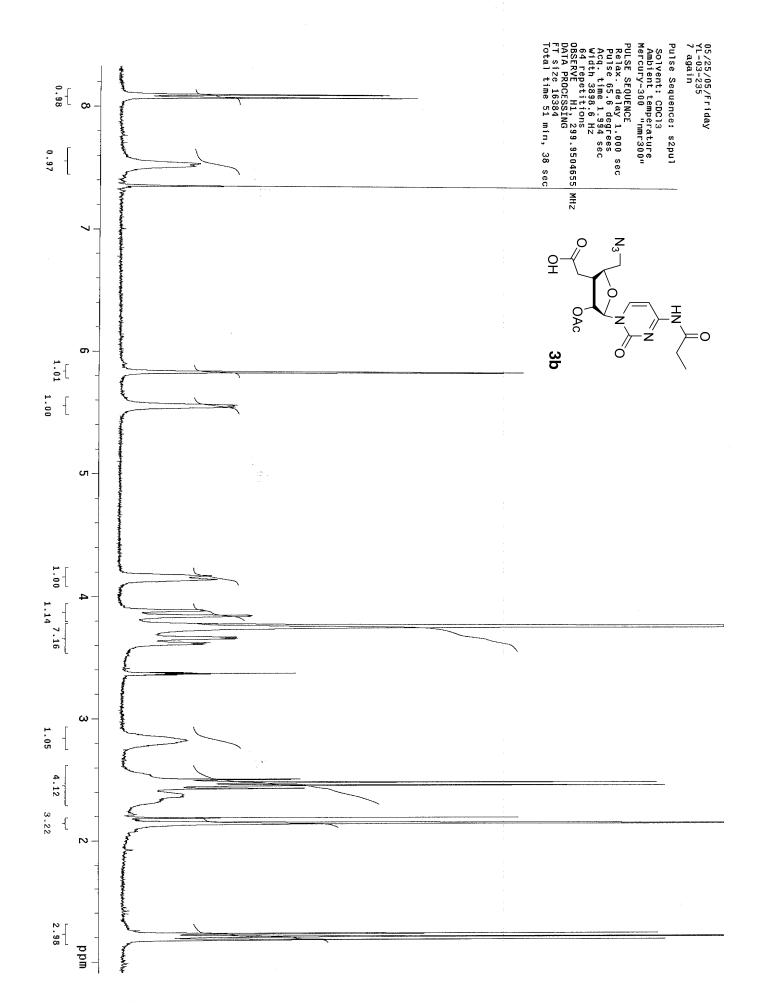


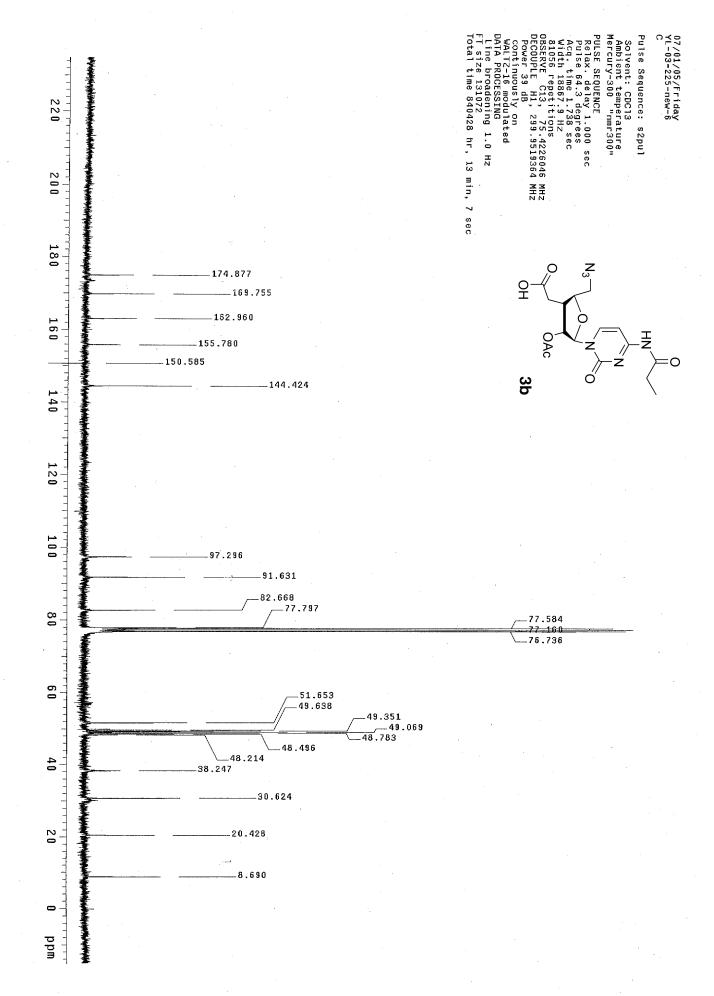


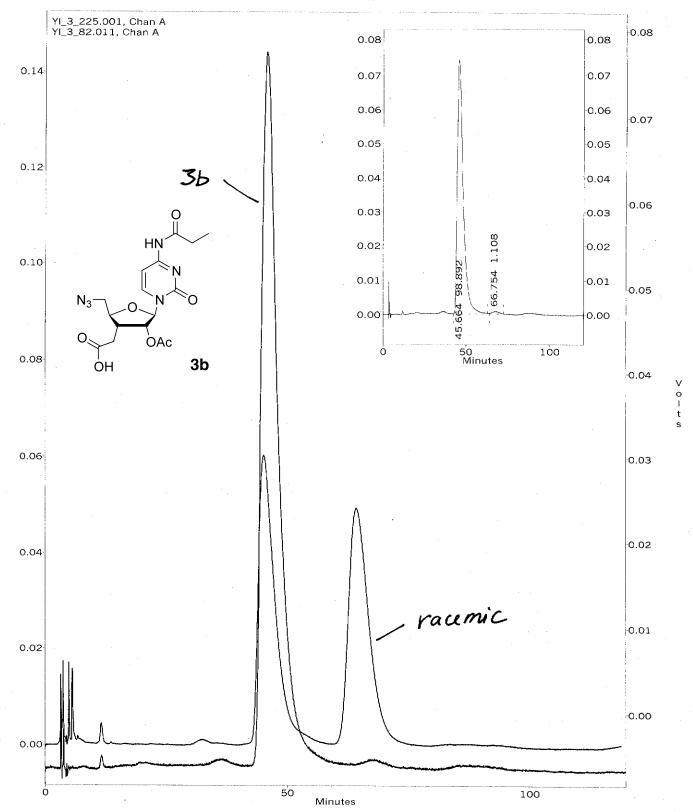












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