

## Electronic Supplementary Information

# 2'-*O*-Methyl- and 2'-*O*-propargyl-5-methylisocytidine: synthesis, properties and impact on the isoC<sub>d</sub> – dG and the isoC<sub>d</sub> – isoG<sub>d</sub> base pairing in nucleic acids with parallel and antiparallel strand orientation

Sunit K. Jana<sup>a</sup>, Peter Leonard<sup>a</sup>, Sachin A. Ingale<sup>a</sup> and Frank Seela\*<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Center for Nanotechnology,  
Heisenbergstrasse 11, 48149 Münster, Germany* and <sup>b</sup>*Laboratorium für Organische und  
Bioorganische Chemie, Institut für Chemie neuer Materialien, Universität Osnabrück,  
Barbarastrasse 7, 49069 Osnabrück, Germany*

Corresponding author: Prof. Dr. Frank Seela  
Phone: +49 (0)251 53 406 500; Fax: +49 (0)251 53 406 857  
E-mail: [Frank.Seela@uni-osnabrueck.de](mailto:Frank.Seela@uni-osnabrueck.de)  
Homepage: [www.seela.net](http://www.seela.net)

## Table of Contents

<b>Table S1.</b> $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR data of 2'- <i>O</i> -alkylated 5-methylpyrimidine nucleosides.....	3
<b>Table S2.</b> Selected $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ coupling constants of 2'- <i>O</i> -5-dimethylpyrimidine derivatives.....	4
<b>Fig. S1</b> MALDI-TOF spectra of selected oligonucleotides.....	5-6
<b>Fig. S2</b> Reversed-phase RP-18 HPLC profile of the acidic hydrolysis of dA.....	6
<b>Fig. S3</b> Anticipated mechanism for the fragmentation of oligonucleotides containing $^{\text{Me}}\text{iC}_d$ (1b).....	7
<b>References</b> .....	7
<b>Fig. S4</b> Reversed-phase HPLC profiles of purified oligonucleotides.....	8-9
<b>Fig. S5</b> Melting profiles of duplexes.....	10-13
<b>Fig. S6-S82</b> NMR spectra.....	14-52

**Table S1.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data of 2'-*O*-alkylated 5-methylpyrimidine nucleosides <sup>a,b</sup>

	C(2)	C(4)	C(5)	C(6)	C(1')	C(2') <sup>c</sup>	C(3')	C(4') <sup>c</sup>	C(5')	C≡C	OCH <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> qC	N=CH	CH <sub>3</sub> NCH <sub>3</sub>
<b>3</b>	154.5	170.3	114.4	134.7	90.0	81.4	68.3	86.3	60.8	-	57.5	-	13.6
<b>4</b>	154.1	169.7	114.0	134.6	89.6	78.1	67.9	86.0	60.5	77.6 79.4	56.7	-	13.2
<b>5</b>	150.6	163.7	109.4	136.1	85.6	82.4	68.3	85.1	60.6	-	57.4	-	12.3
<b>6</b>	150.4	163.6	110.2	136.7	87.8	78.5	75.5	78.4	68.3	-	57.8	-	12.1 21.1 21.2
<b>7</b>	150.4	163.3	109.9	135.4	85.0	79.2	77.0	82.5	60.1	-	57.4	-	12.0 20.9
<b>8</b>	150.1	163.4	109.7	135.5	86.5	81.1	68.0	80.6	69.5	-	57.4	-	11.8 20.9
<b>9</b>	156.5	170.8	117.2	138.6	96.7	87.5	71.5	86.0	73.9	-	57.9	-	12.8
<b>10</b>	150.4	163.7	109.6	135.5	86.4	82.9	68.7	82.3	63.1	-	57.7 85.9	-	11.7
<b>11</b>	150.5	163.6	110.2	135.5	86.3	80.5	70.2	79.7	62.8	-	55.0 58.2 86.2	-	11.7 20.6
<b>12</b>	150.7	163.6	110.1	135.7	85.4	80.3	70.8	82.9	60.8	-	58.1	-	12.3 20.7
<b>13</b>	150.2	163.3	110.0	135.7	86.8	79.0	69.6	78.4	69.1	-	57.9	-	11.9 20.8
<b>14</b>	156.6	169.7	117.6	138.7	96.5	84.9	73.5	84.4	73.8	-	58.7	-	13.1 20.5
<b>1d</b>	154.2	170.0	113.8	134.4	91.2	72.5	69.6	85.4	60.5	-	-	-	13.3
<b>17</b>	157.1	170.1	116.0	133.7	87.1	83.2	68.0	84.4	60.2	-	57.5	158.0	13.7 34.6 40.6
<b>18</b>	157.0	170.2	115.9	133.7	87.1	80.2	68.0	84.4	60.0	77.3 79.6	-	158.0	13.6
<b>19</b>	157.1	170.0	116.3	133.1	87.6	82.5	68.6	83.1	62.8	-	54.8 57.8 85.7	158.0	13.1 34.6 40.6
<b>20</b>	157.3	170.2	116.3	133.2	87.3	79.7	68.7	83.1	63.0	77.6 79.8	56.9 55.0 86.0	158.2	13.0
<b>23</b>	154.4	<sup>d</sup>	114.2	134.7	89.9	79.3	68.3	86.1	62.8	-	52.4	-	13.4
<b>24</b>	<sup>d</sup>	<sup>d</sup>	<sup>d</sup>	134.4	90.0	79.3	68.3	86.1	62.8	-	52.4	-	13.6

<sup>a</sup>Measured in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K. <sup>b</sup>Pyrimidine numbering. <sup>c</sup>Tentative. <sup>d</sup>Not detected.

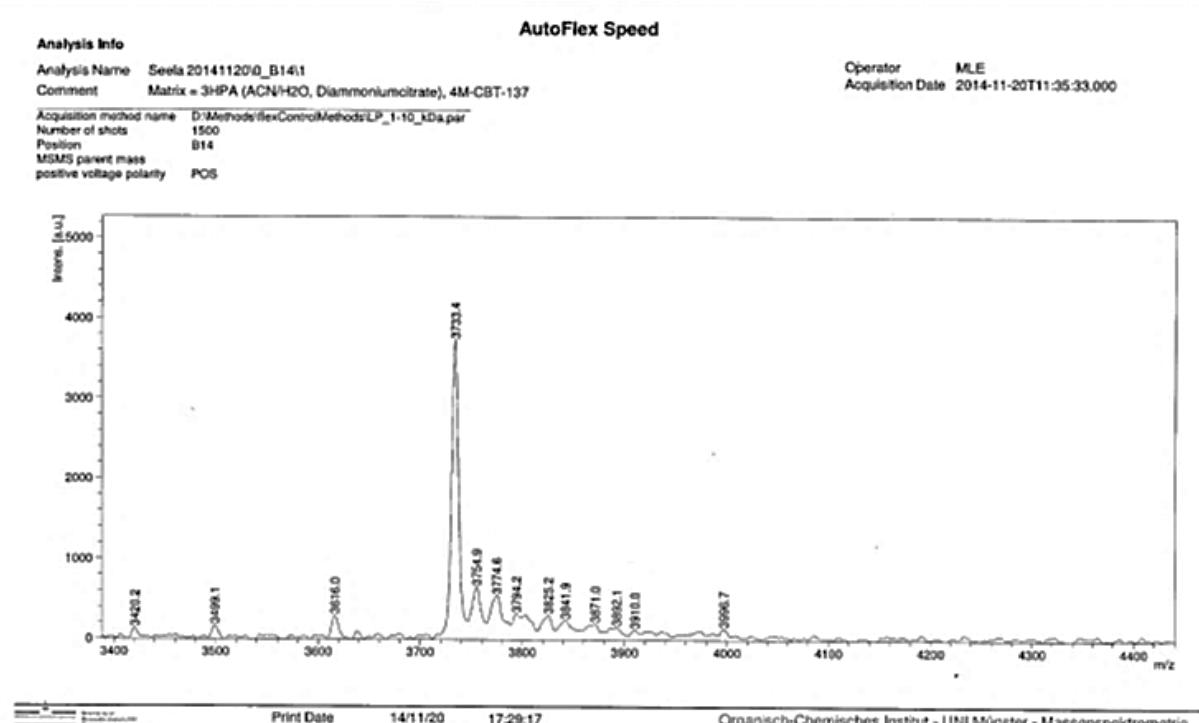
**Table S2.** Selected  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  coupling constants (Hz) of 2'-*O*-alkylated 5-methylpyrimidine nucleosides.<sup>a,b</sup>

$^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ Coupling Constants	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	
$^1J(\text{C}6, \text{H-C}6)$	180	179	181	182	174	183	180	180	181	180	183	180	185	173	179	177	183	
$^3J(\text{C}6, \text{H-C}1')$	4.9	n.d.	5.7	4.8	5.8	5.8	n.d.	5.3	6.0	n.d.	4.9	n.d.	5.7	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	
$^1J(\text{C}1', \text{H-C}1')$	164	163	167	168	167	170	168	166	166	164	171	171	170	171	171	163	163	
$^1J(\text{C}2', \text{H-C}2')$ <sup>c)</sup>	146	151	153	155	150	153	148	151	150	170	152	149	150	155	148	147	145	
$^1J(\text{C}3', \text{H-C}3')$	151	151	159	163	150	151	148	157	159	157	158	146	148	143	147	150	151	
$^1J(\text{C}4', \text{H-C}4')$ <sup>c)</sup>	148	149	153	151	151	152 <sup>c)</sup>	147	150	149	150	156	147	147	145	146	148	149	
$^1J(\text{C}5', \text{H-C}5')$	141	140	153	141	152	151	142	145	141	152	153	141	141	143	143	145	145	
$^1J(\text{N=CH})$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	181	182	172	181	-	-

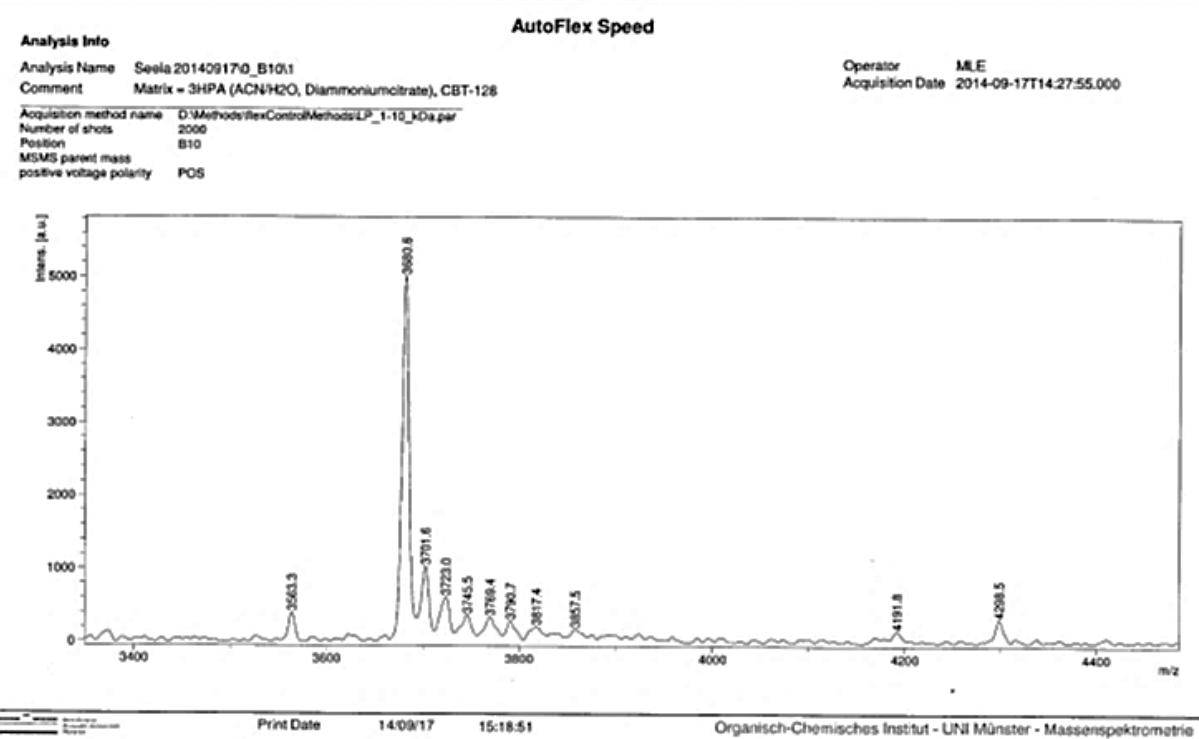
<sup>a</sup> Measured in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 298 K. <sup>b</sup> Pyrimidine numbering. <sup>c</sup>  $^1J(\text{C}2', \text{H-C}2')$  or  $^1J(\text{C}4', \text{H-C}4')$ . n.d.: not detected.

## Selected MALDI-TOF mass spectra of oligonucleotides

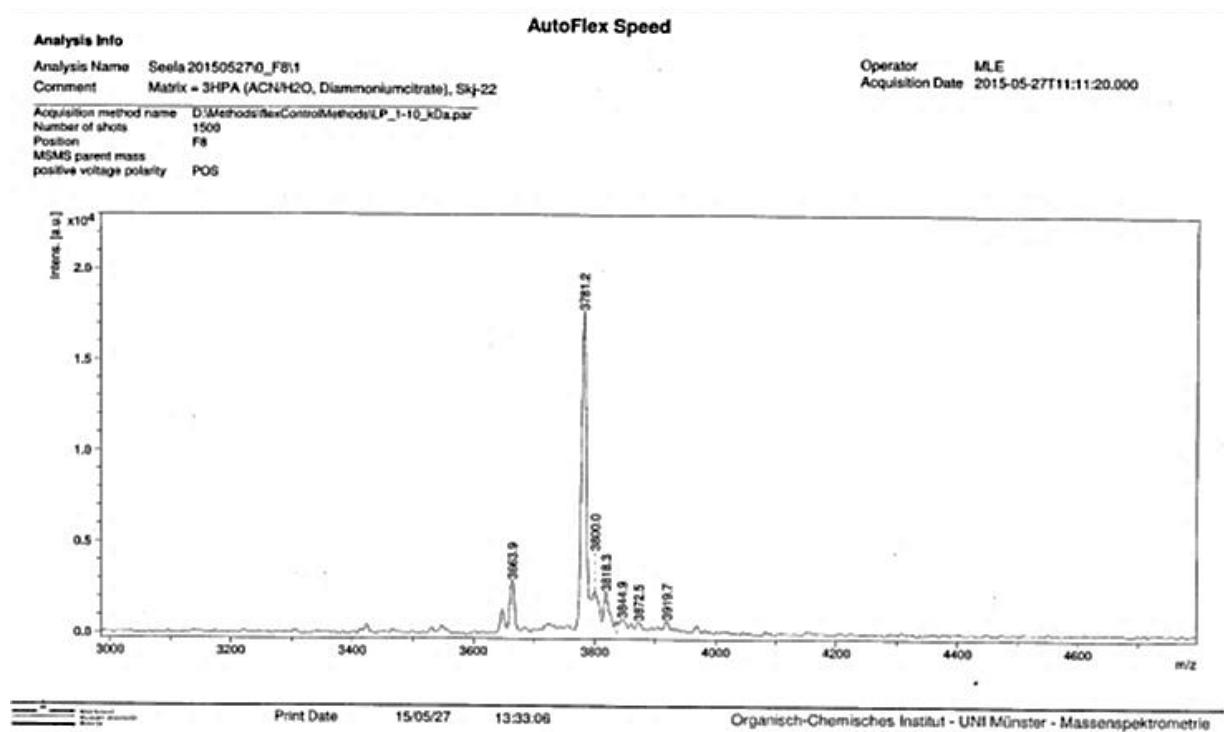
a)



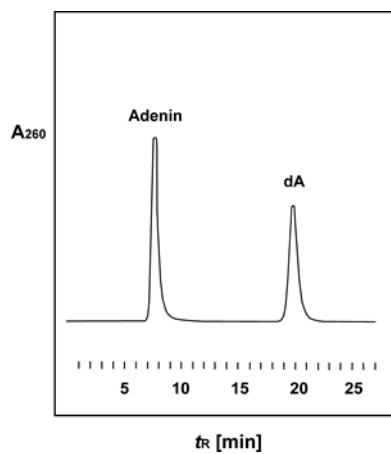
b)



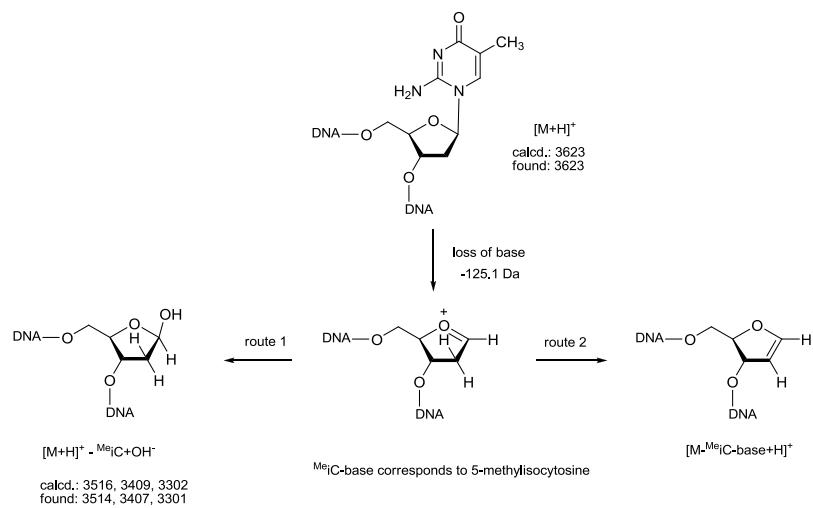
c)



**Fig. S1** MALDI-TOF spectra of a) ODN-5, b) 5'-d(AGTATTGAiC<sub>F</sub>iC<sub>F</sub>TA)<sup>1</sup> and c) ODN-9 measured in the linear positive mode.



**Fig. S2** Reversed-phase HPLC elution profiles of dA after treatment (240 min) with 0.1 N HCl at rt, monitored at 260 nm using an isocratic mixture of 0.1 M TEAA/MeCN 97:3.

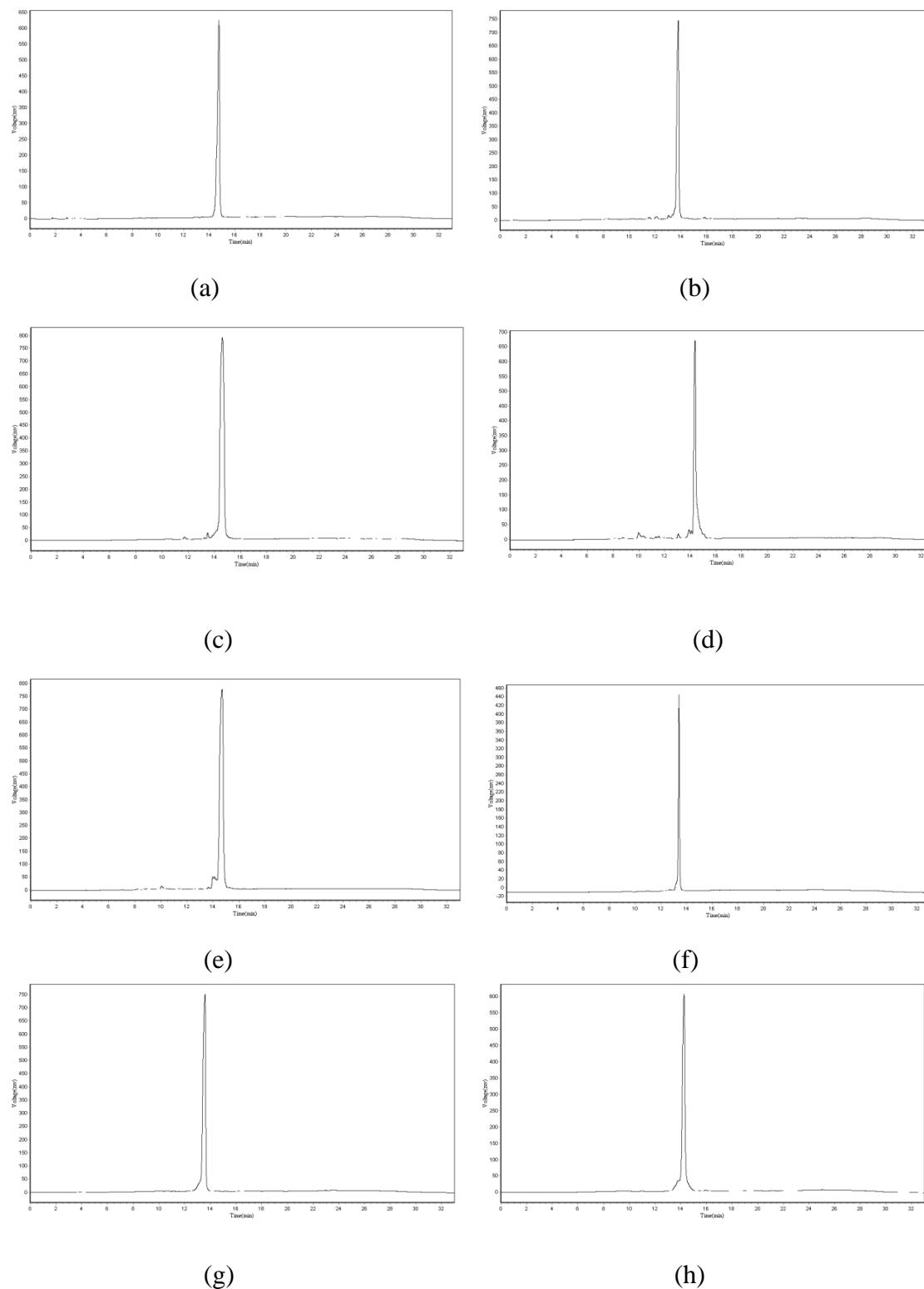


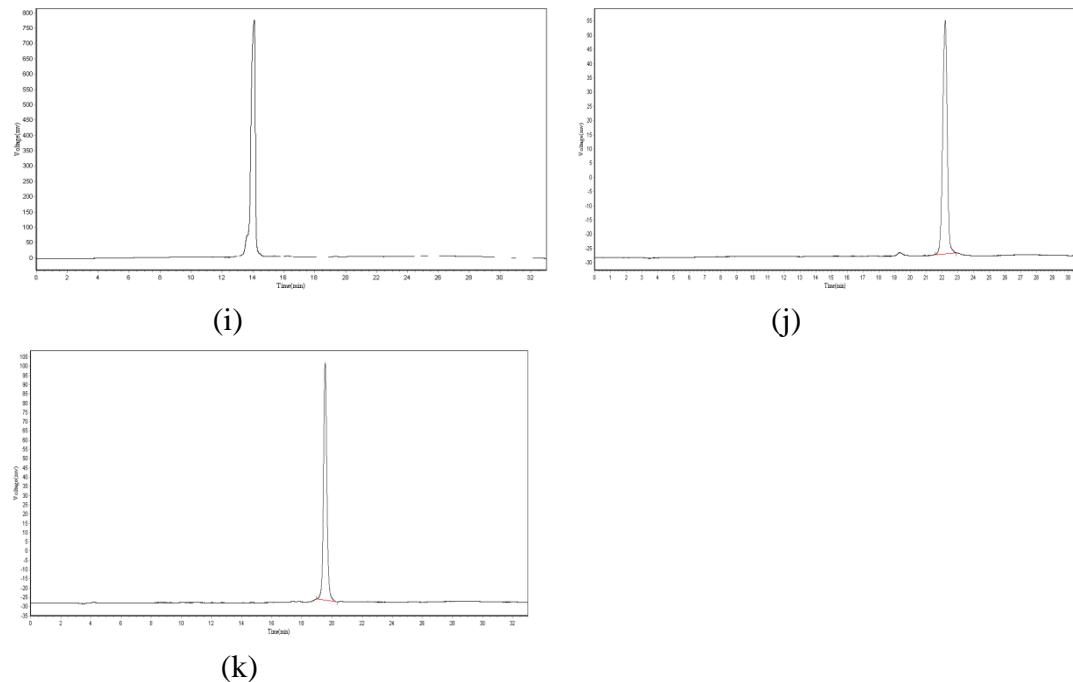
**Fig. S3** Anticipated mechanism for the fragmentation of oligonucleotides containing <sup>MeiC<sub>d</sub></sup> (**1b**).<sup>2,3</sup>

## References

- (1) S. A. Ingale, P. Leonard, Q. N. Tran and F. Seela, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2015, **80**, 3124-3138.
- (2) J. L. York, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1981, **46**, 2171-2173.
- (3) N. N. Kochetkov and E. I. Budovski, Organic Chemistry of Nucleic Acids, Part A, Chap. 3, Plenum: New York, 2002.

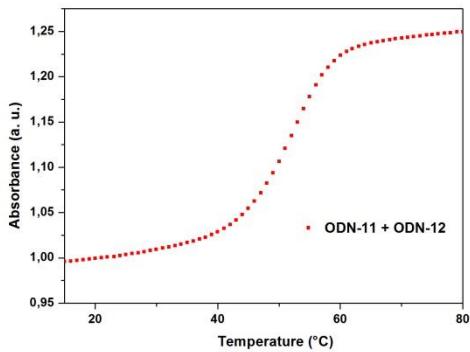
## Reversed-phase HPLC-profiles of purified oligonucleotides



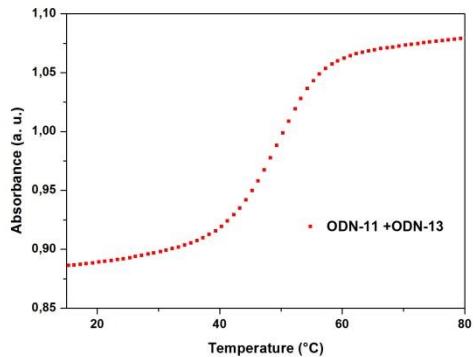


**Fig. S4** Selected reversed-phase HPLC profiles of purified oligonucleotides: (a) **ODN-14**, (b) **ODN-11**, (c) **ODN-4**, (d) **ODN-16**, (e) **ODN-15**, (f) **ODN-6**, (g) **ODN-12**, (h) **ODN-8**, (i) **ODN-9**, (j) **ODN-17**, (k) **ODN-18**. HPLC (RP-18) profiles of oligonucleotides were monitored at 260 nm. For elution the following solvent system was used: MeCN (A) and 0.1 M ( $\text{Et}_3\text{NH}$ )OAc (pH 7.0)/MeCN, 95:5 (B). Gradient I: 0-25 min 0-20% A in B, flow rate 0.7  $\text{mL min}^{-1}$ . For ODN-17 and ODN-18 the following gradient system was used: 0-30 min 0-20% A in B, flow rate 0.7  $\text{mL min}^{-1}$ .

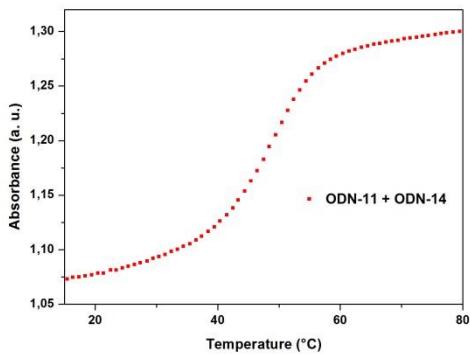
## Melting profiles of duplexes



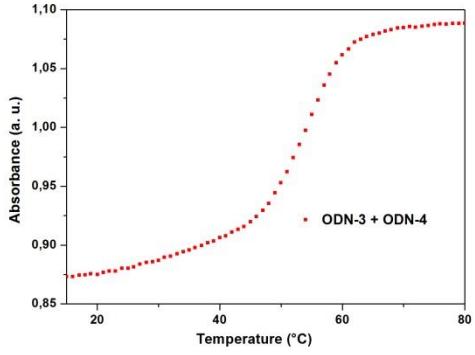
(a)



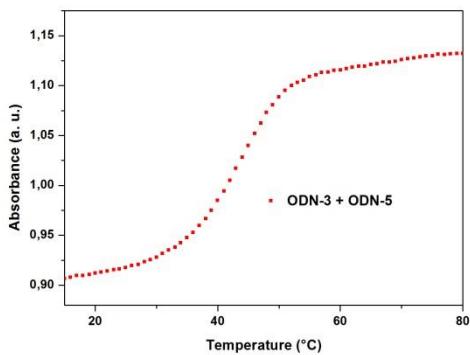
(b)



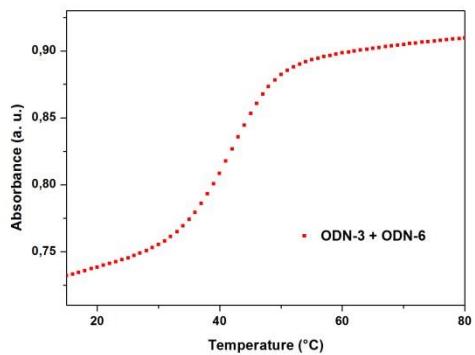
(c)



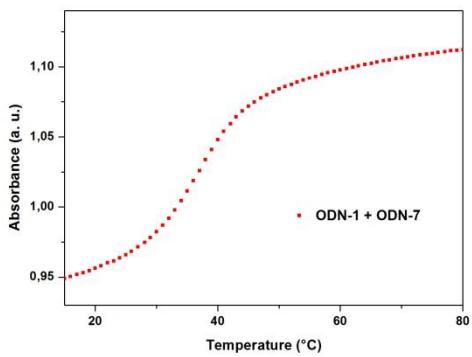
(d)



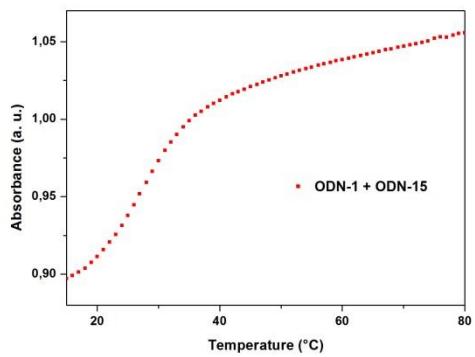
(e)



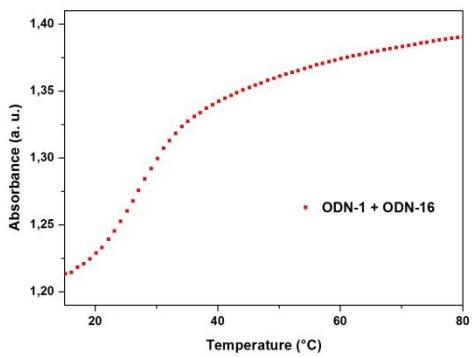
(f)



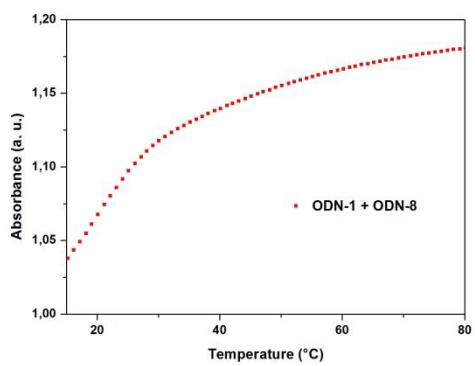
(g)



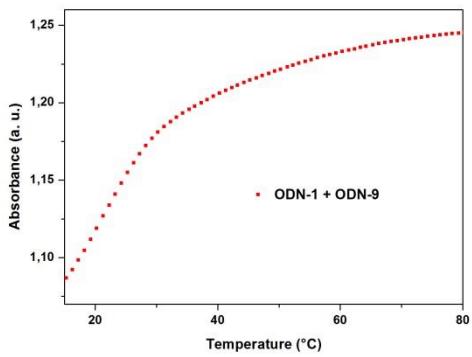
(h)



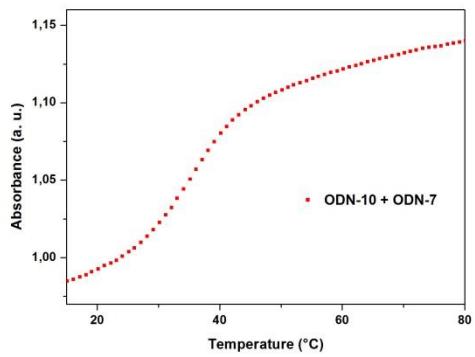
(i)



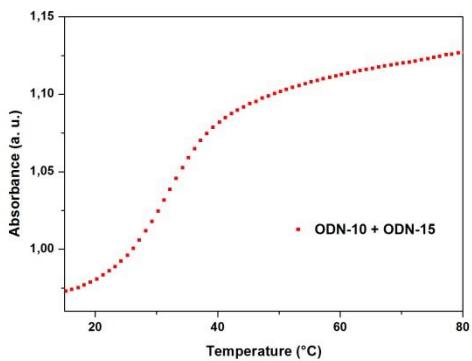
j)



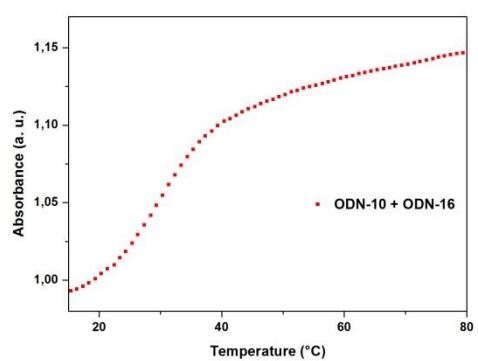
(k)



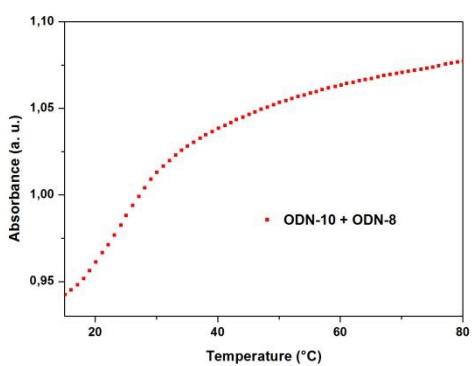
(l)



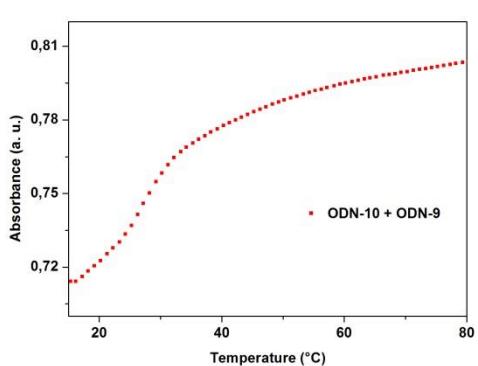
(m)



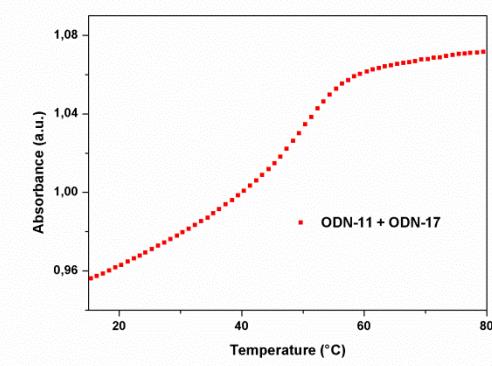
(n)



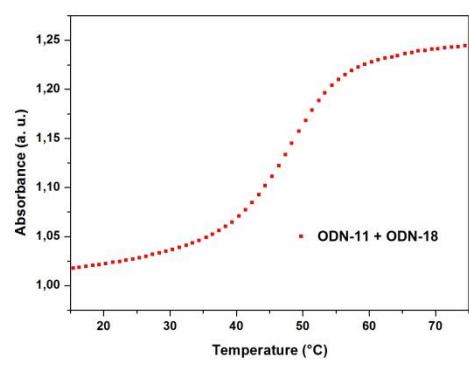
(o)



(p)

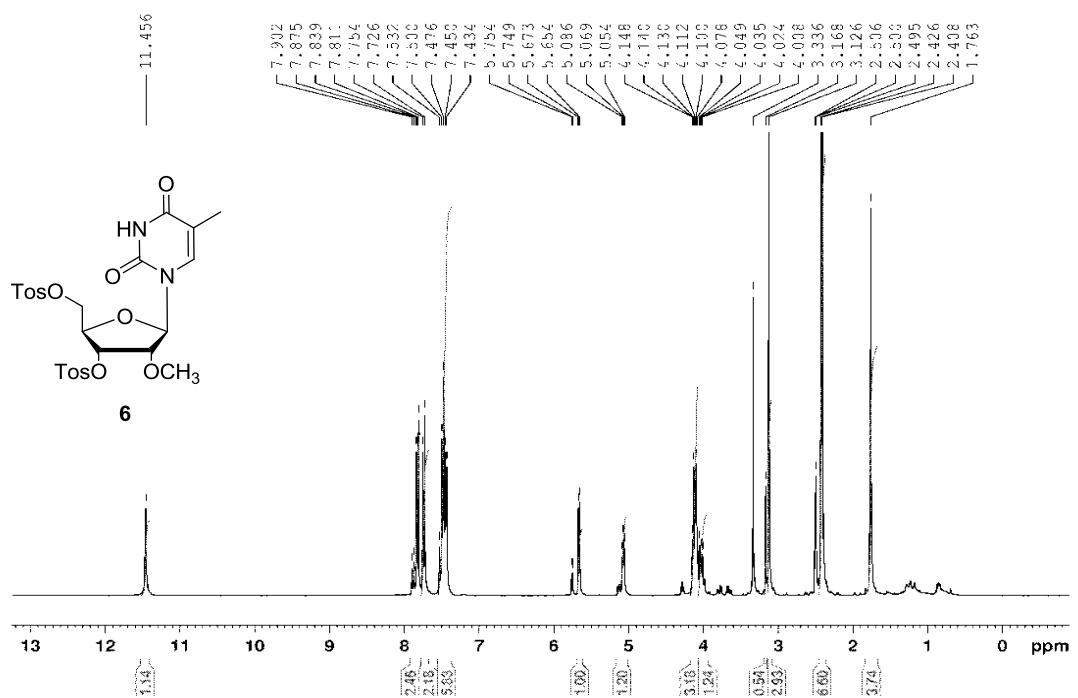


(q)

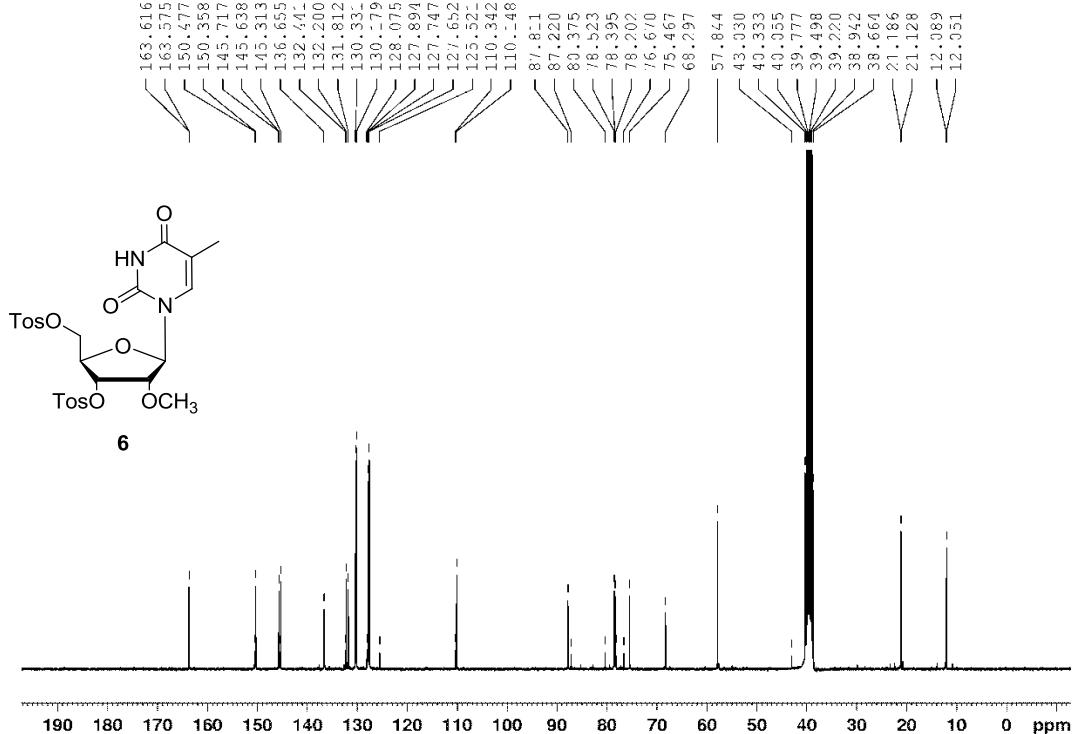


(r)

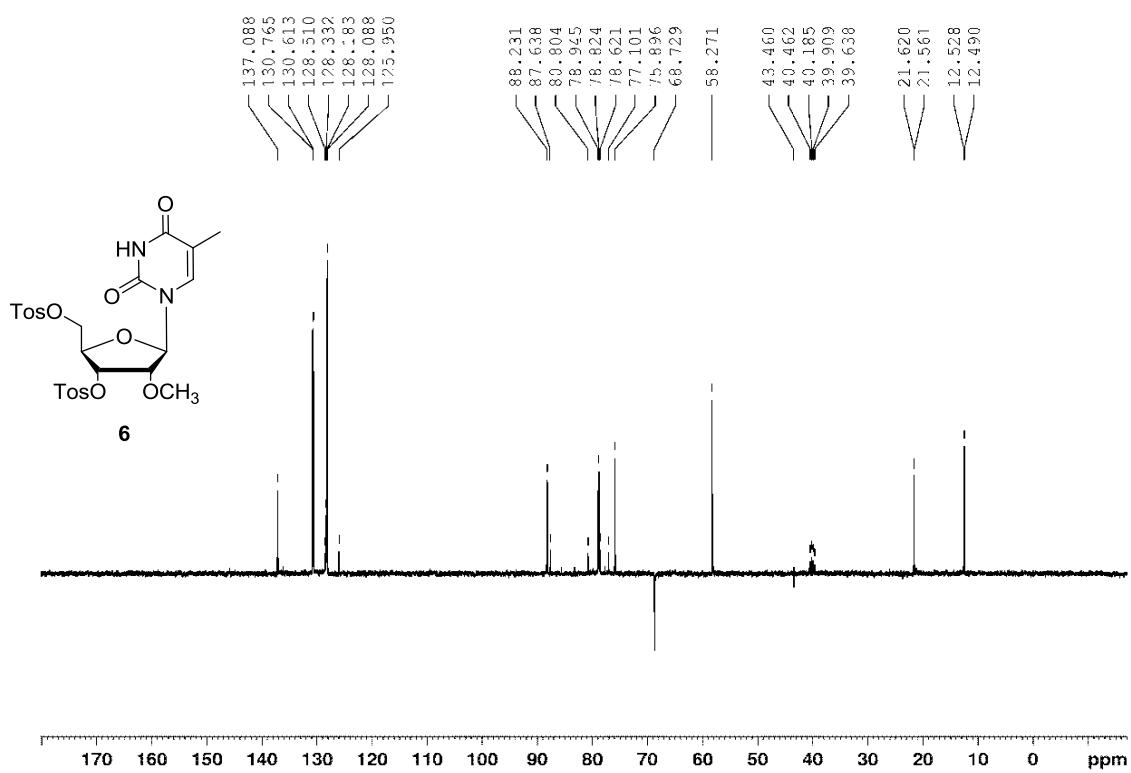
**Fig. S5** Original melting curves of duplexes obtained from heating experiments determined at 260 nm with a single-strand concentration of 5  $\mu\text{M}$  + 5  $\mu\text{M}$  in 0.1 M NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM Na-cacodylate (pH 7.0). (a) **ODN-11 • ODN-12**, (b) **ODN-11 • ODN-13**, (c) **ODN-11 • ODN-14**, (d) **ODN-3 • ODN-4**, (e) **ODN-3 • ODN-5**, (f) **ODN-3 • ODN-6**, (g) **ODN-1 • ODN-7**, (h) **ODN-1 • ODN-15**, (i) **ODN-1 • ODN-16**, (j) **ODN-1 • ODN-8**, (k) **ODN-1 • ODN-9**, (l) **ODN-10 • ODN-7**, (m) **ODN-10 • ODN-15**, (n) **ODN-10 • ODN-16**, (o) **ODN-10 • ODN-8**, (p) **ODN-10 • ODN-9**, (q) azido-functionalized duplex **ODN-11 • ODN-17**, (r) cross-linked duplex **ODN-11 • ODN-18**.



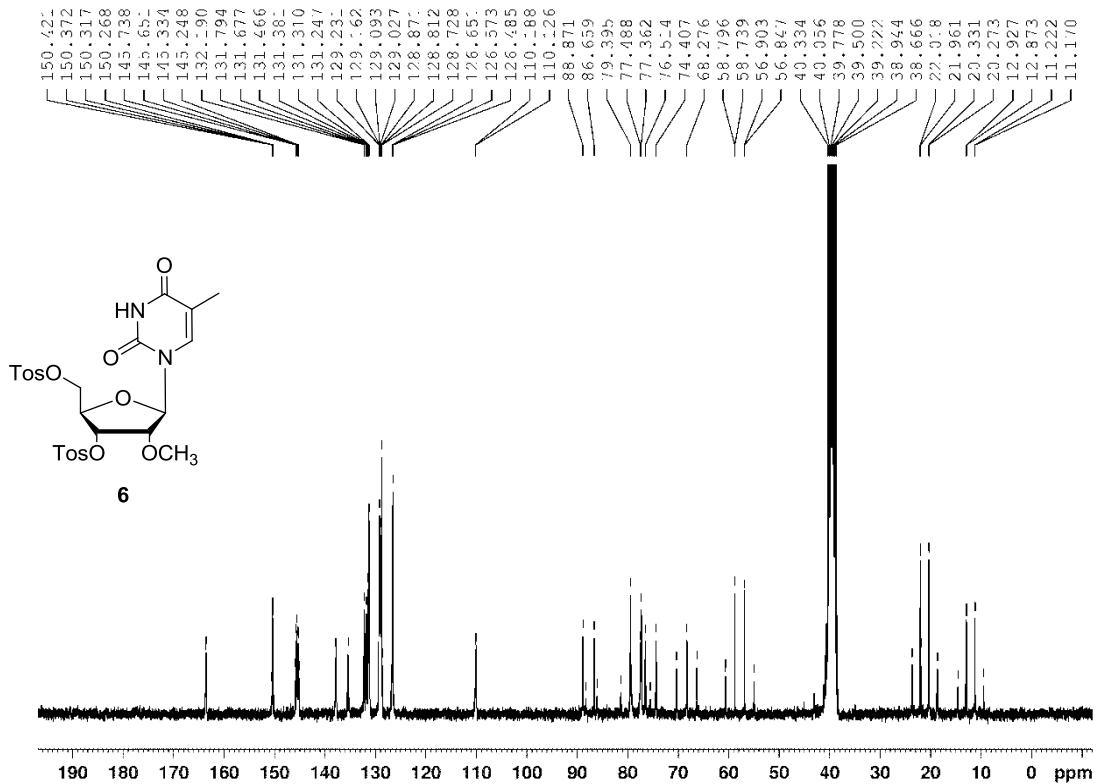
**Fig. S6** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound 6.



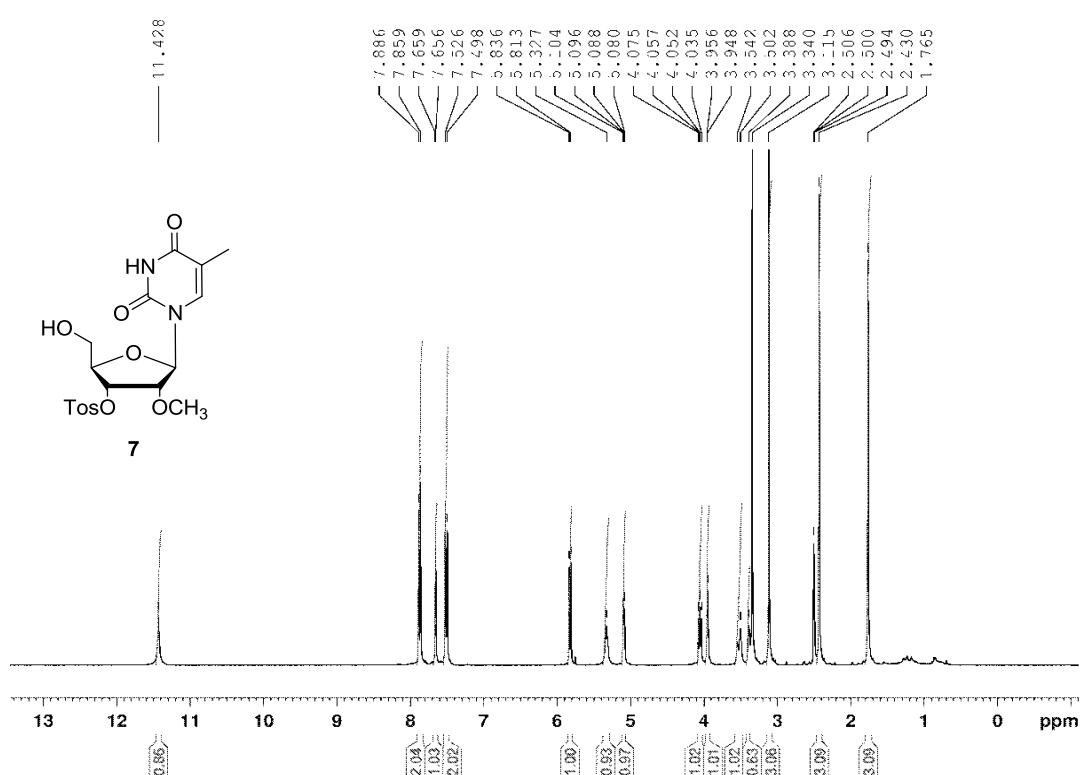
**Fig. S7** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of compound 6.



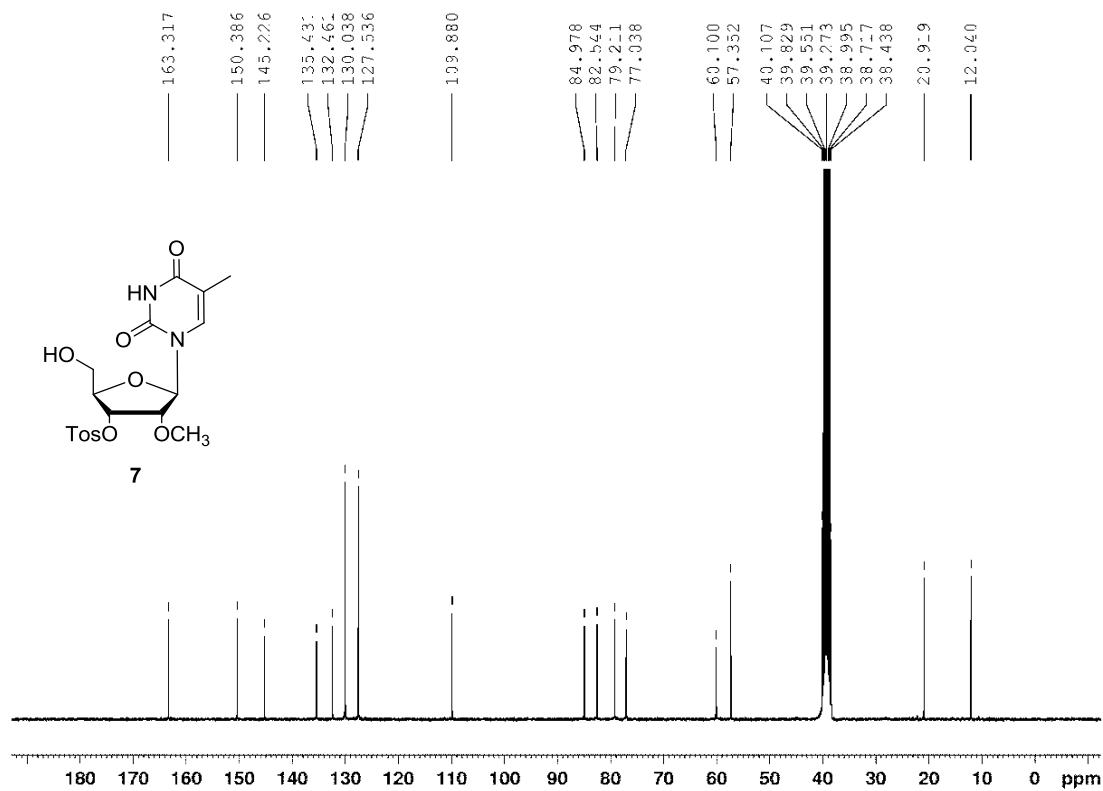
**Fig. S8** Dept-135 NMR spectrum of compound **6**.



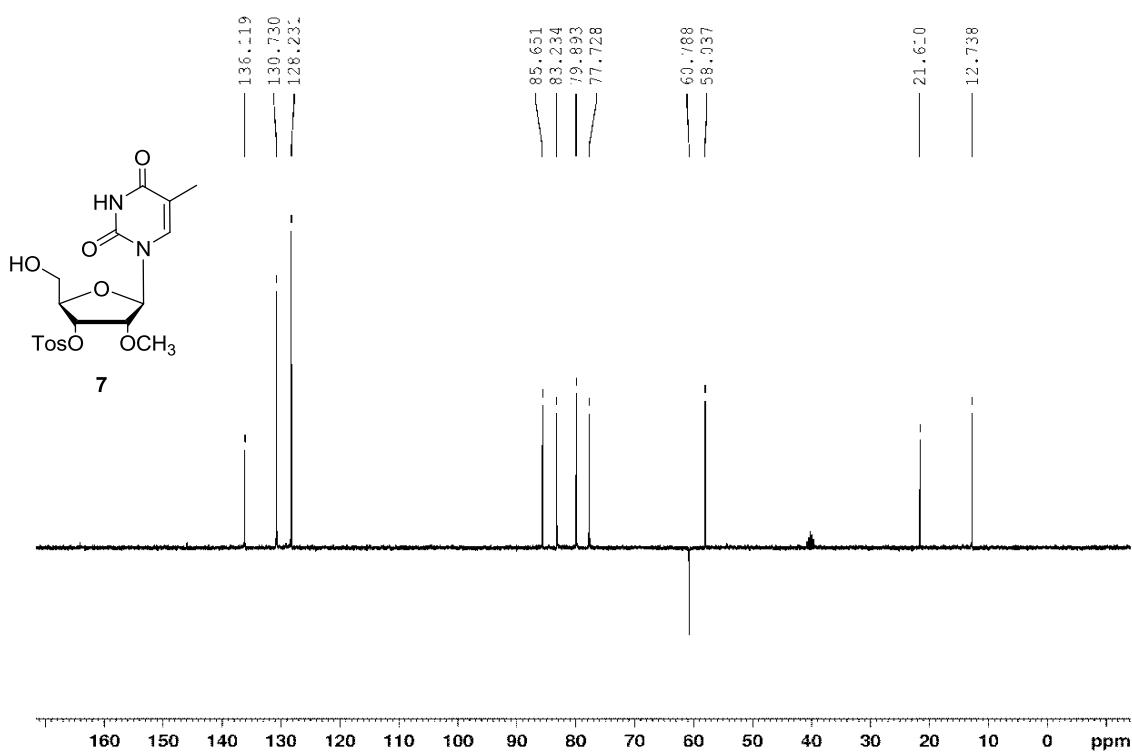
**Fig. S9**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **6**.



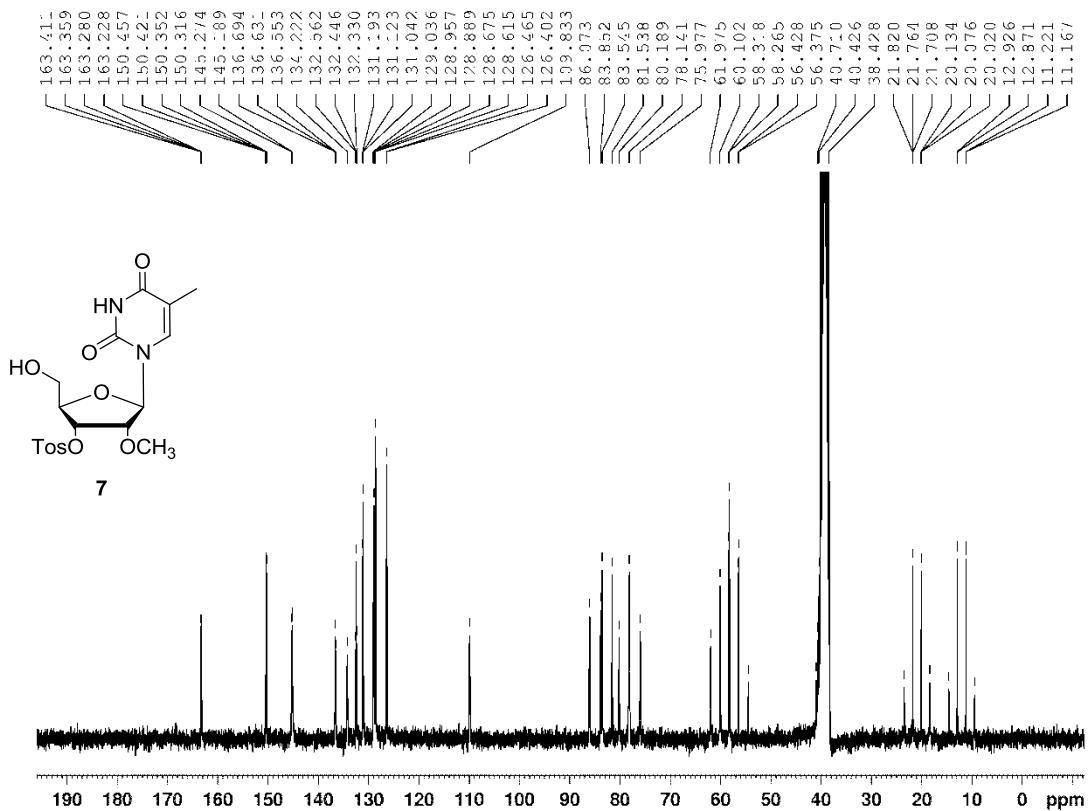
**Fig. S10**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound 7.



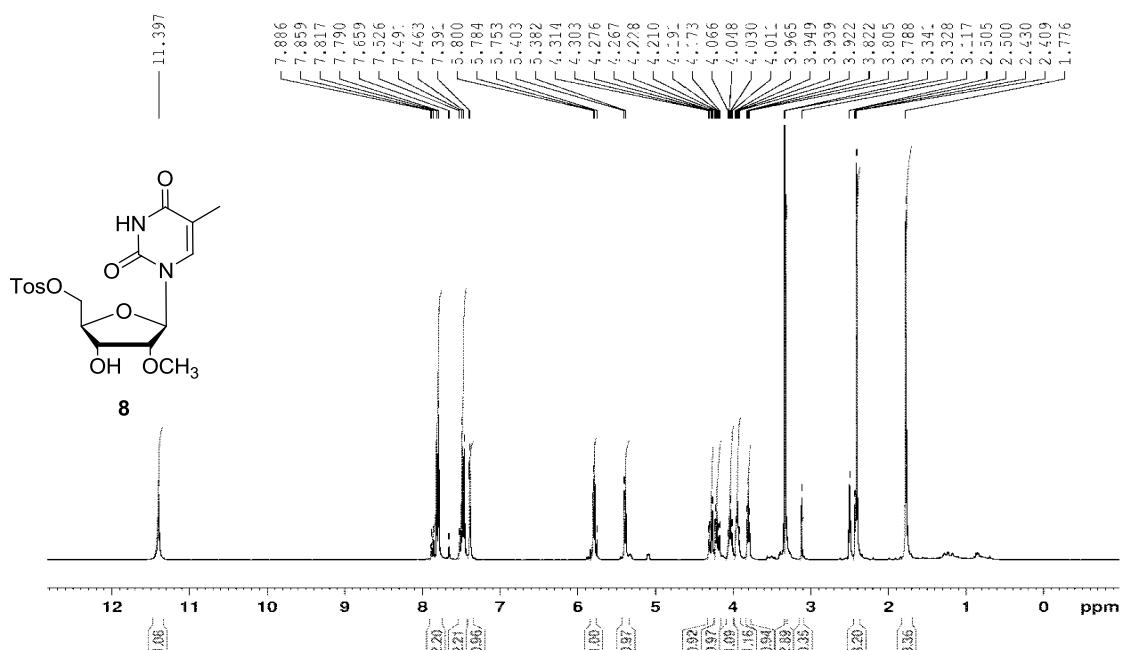
**Fig. S11**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound 7.



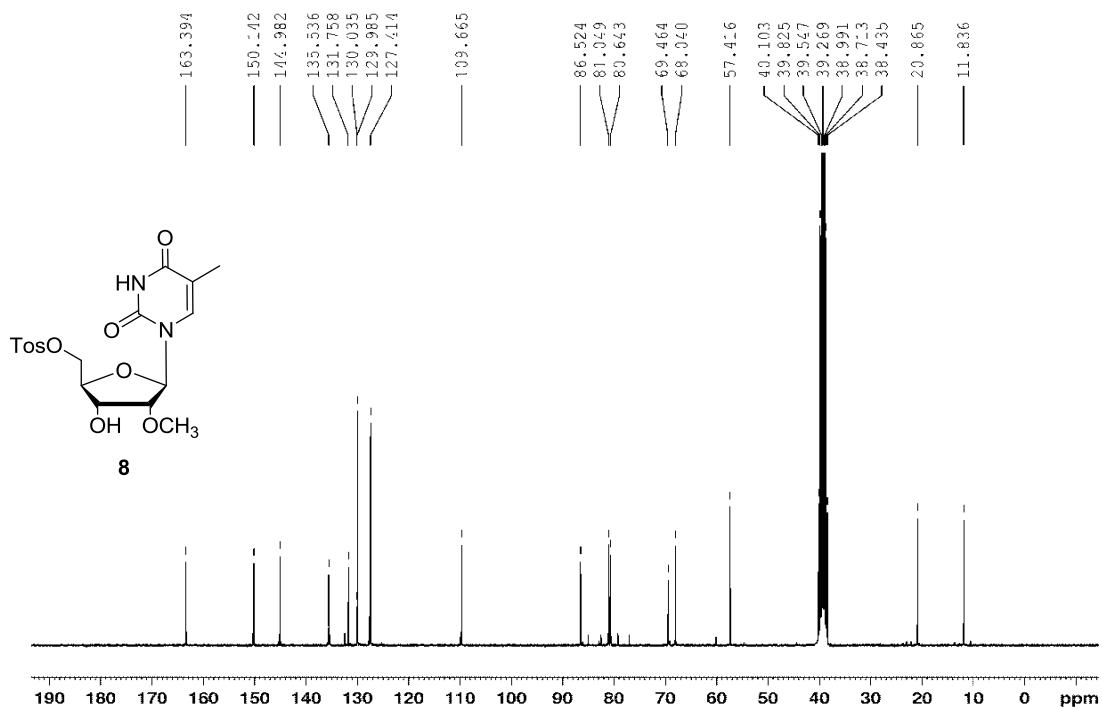
**Fig. S12** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound 7.



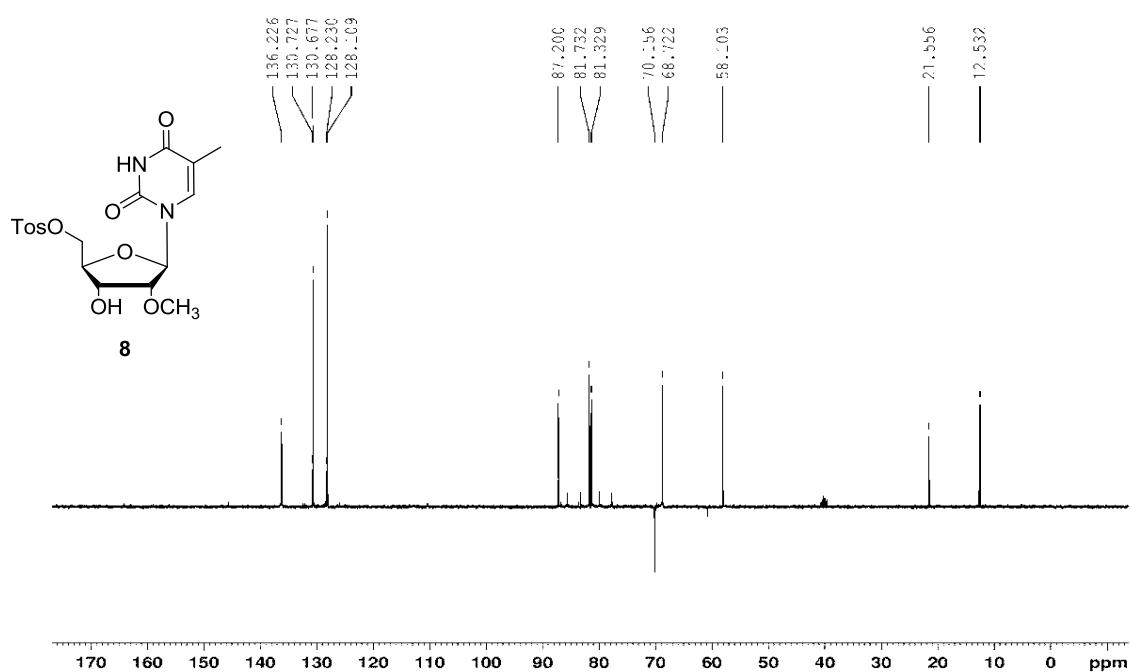
**Fig. S13** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C gated-decoupled spectrum of compound 7.



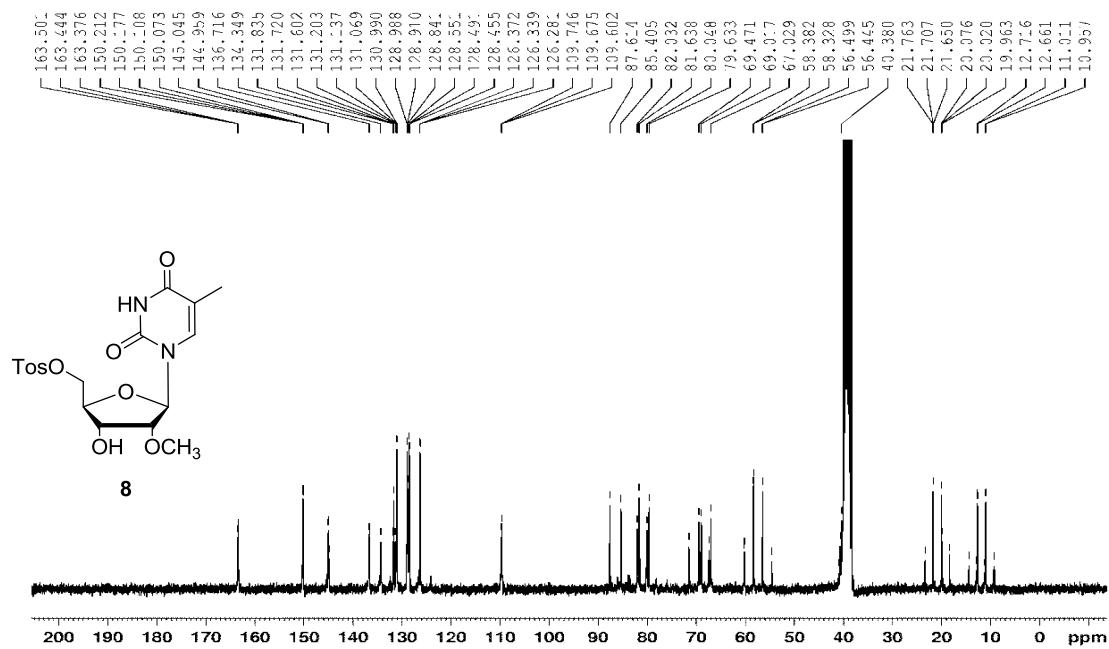
**Fig. S14**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **8**.



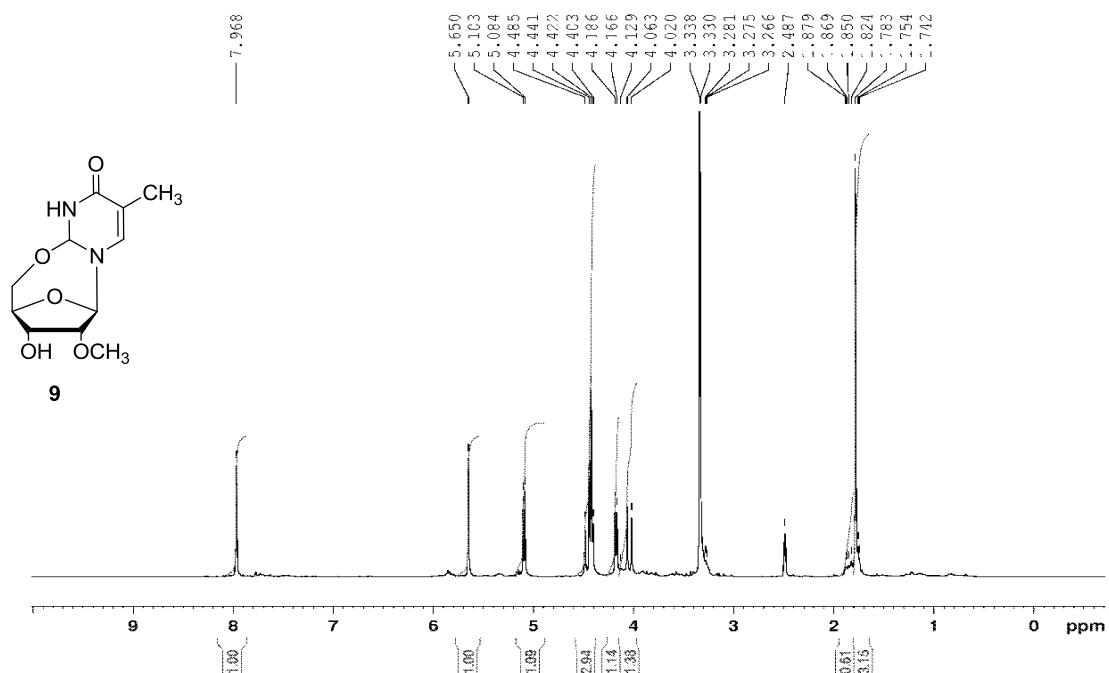
**Fig. S15**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **8**.



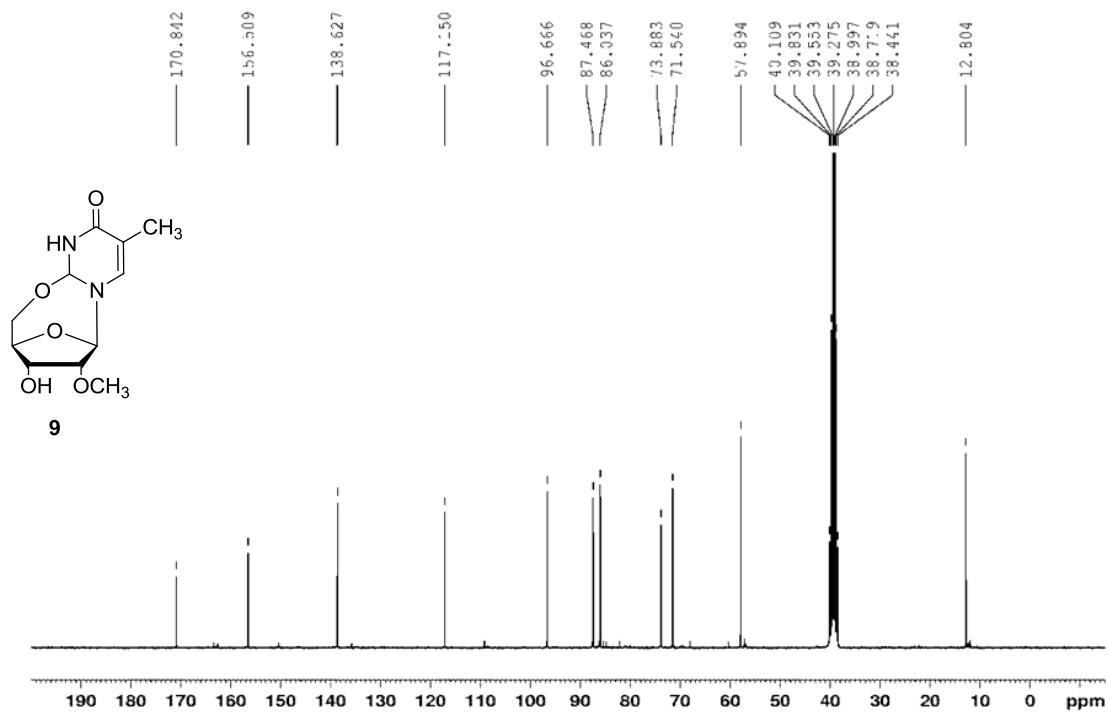
**Fig. S16** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **8**.



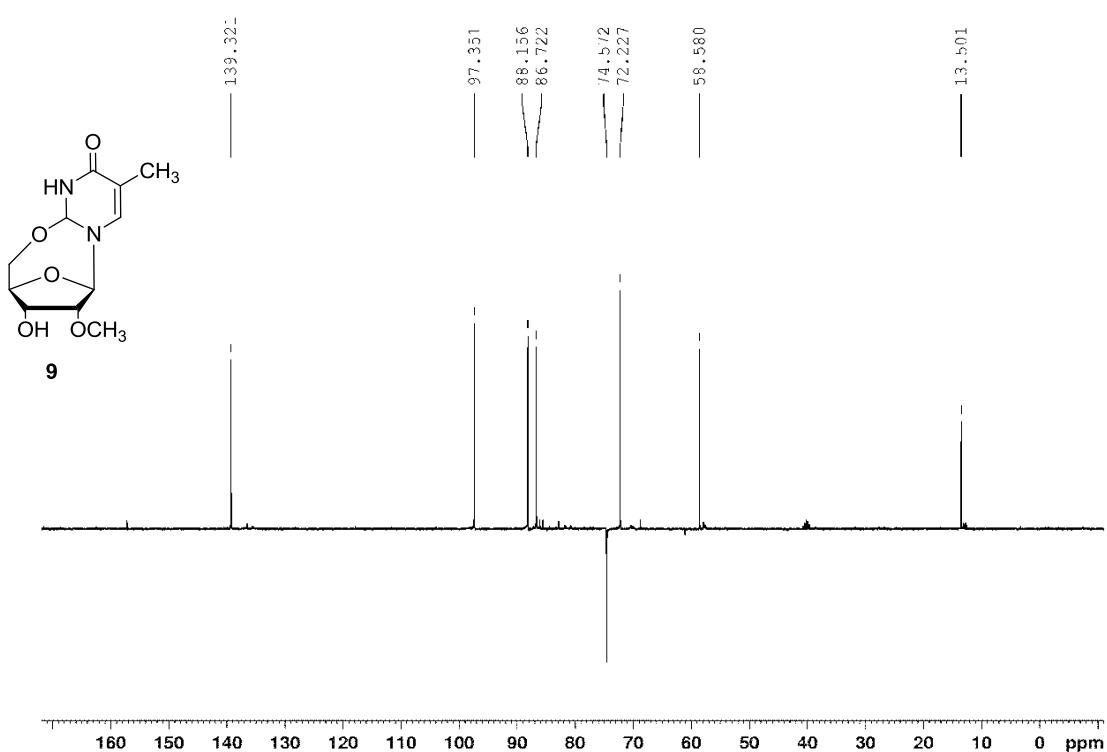
**Fig. S17**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **8**.



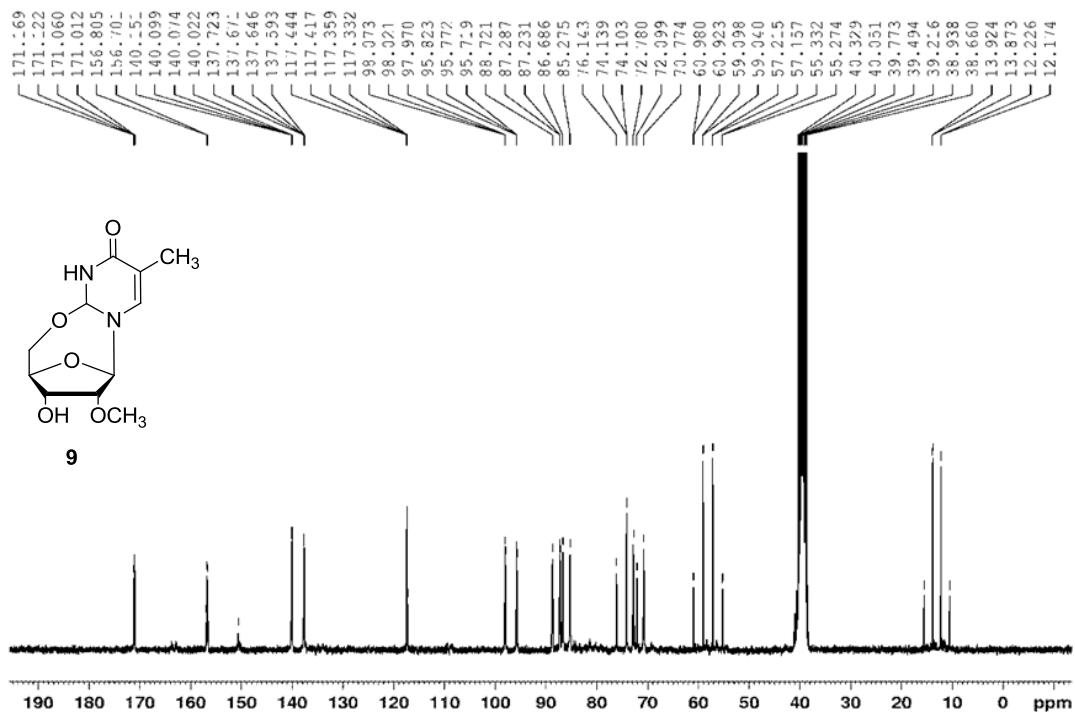
**Fig. S18** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound 9.



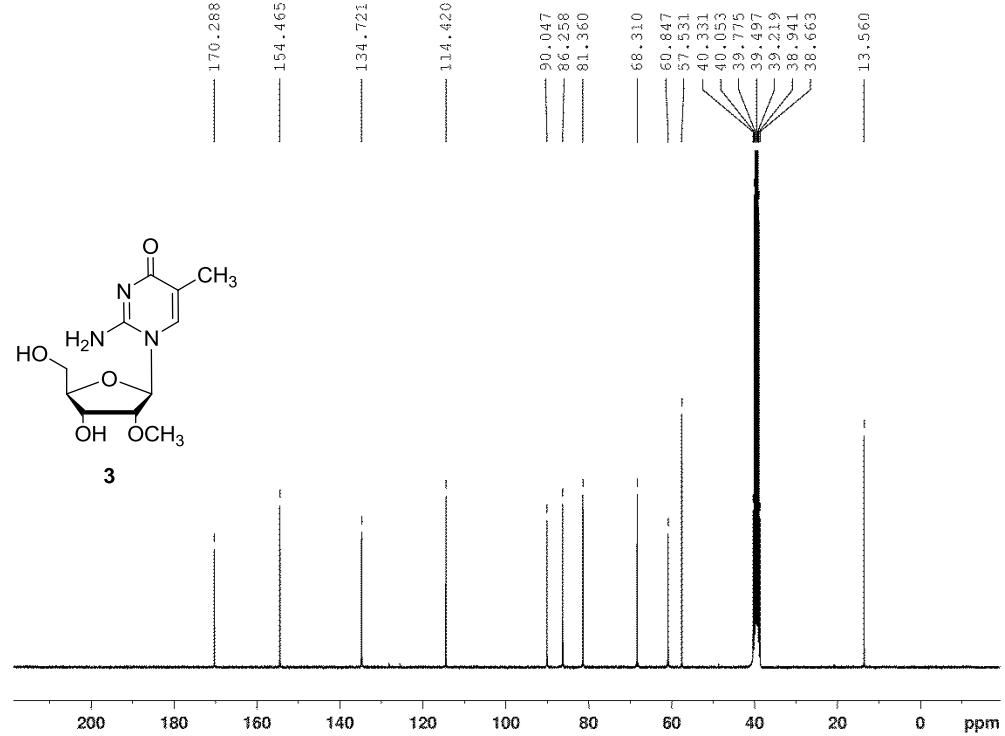
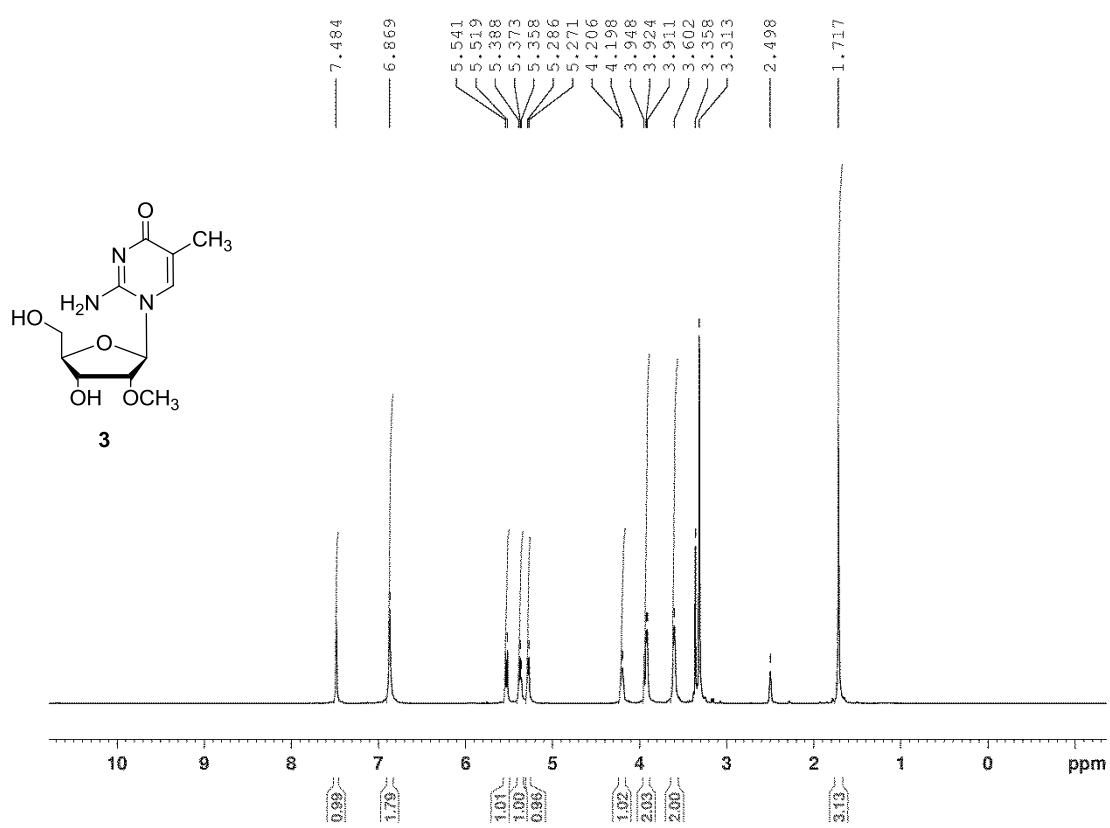
**Fig. S19** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of compound 9.

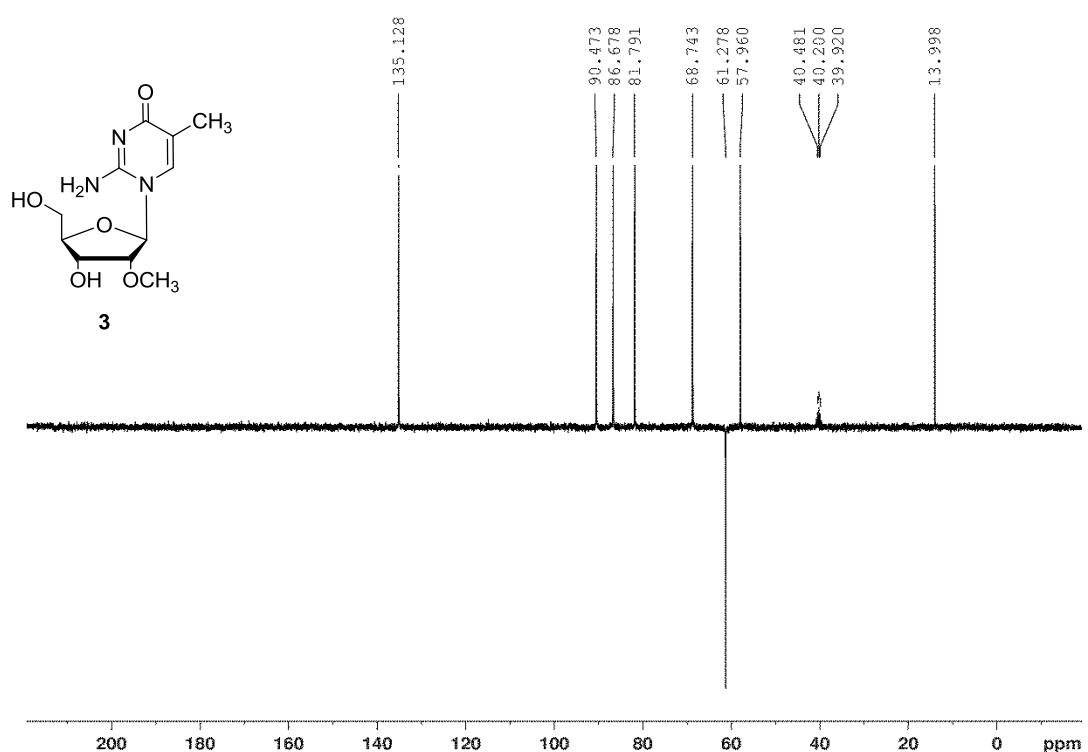


**Fig. S20** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **9**.

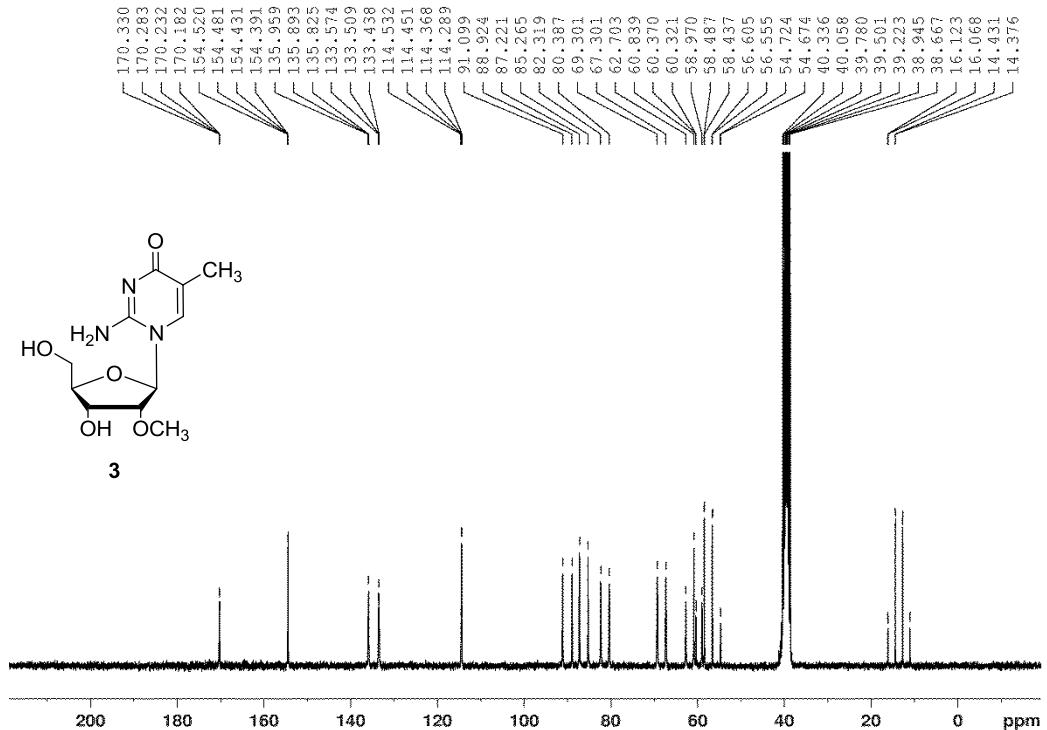


**Fig. S21**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **9**.

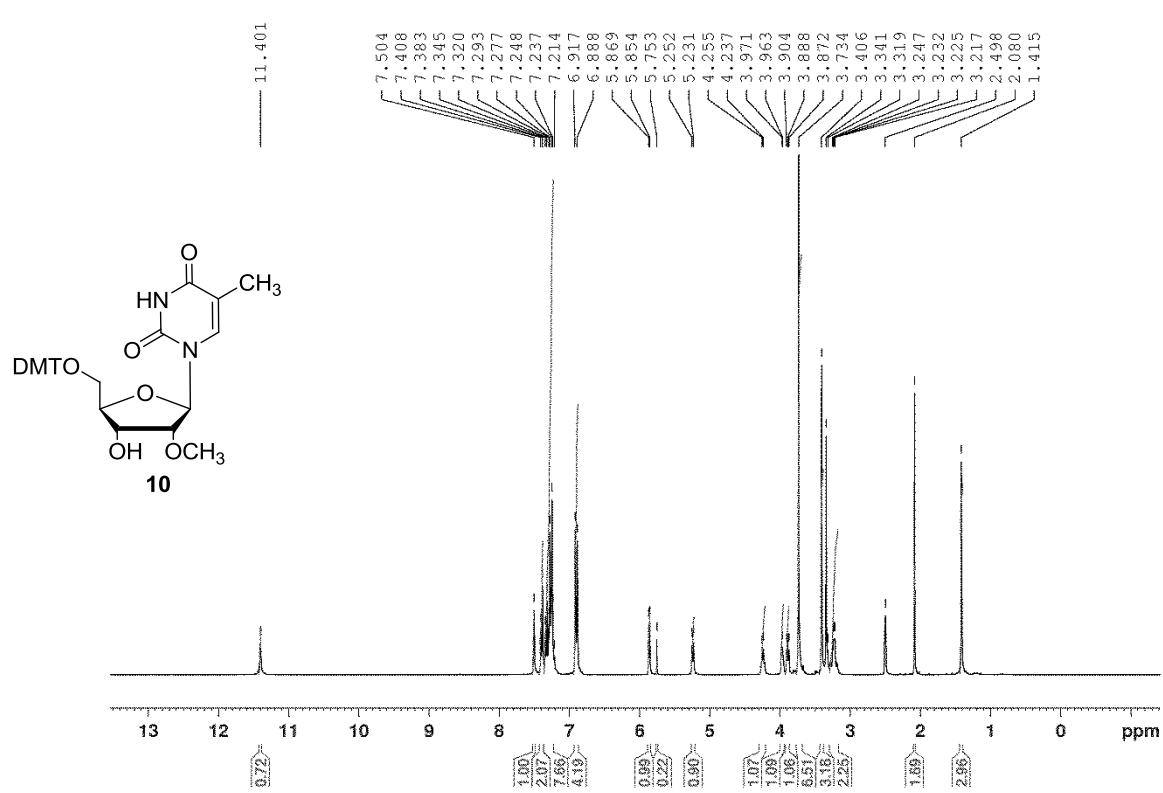




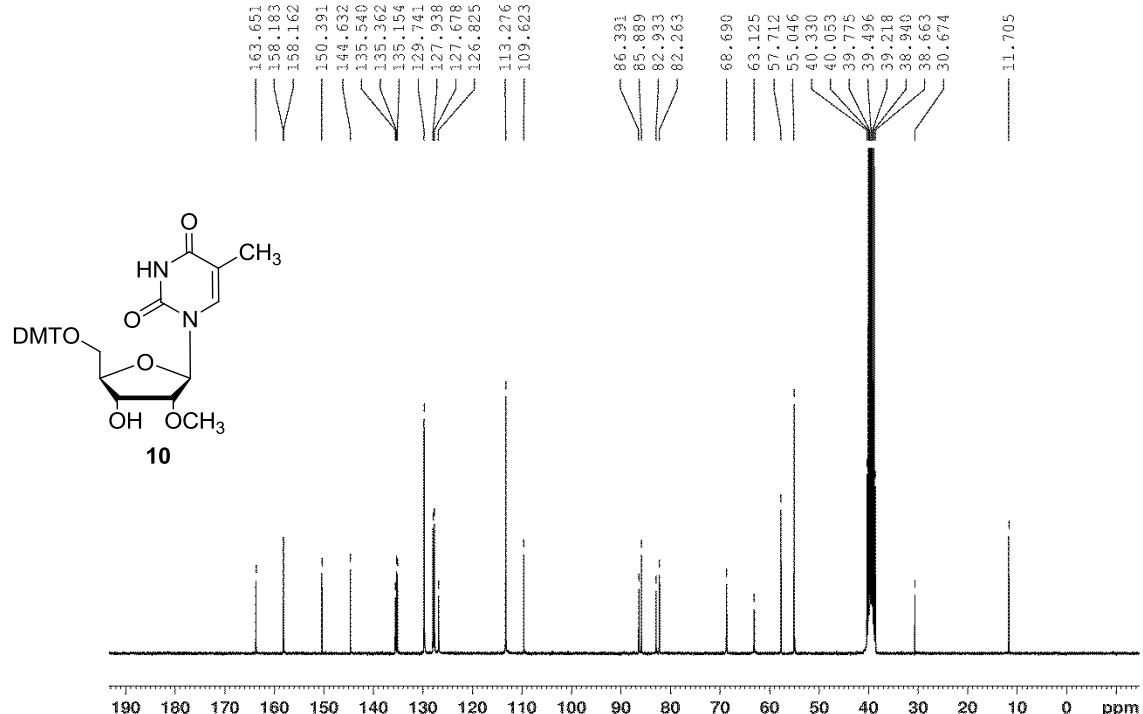
**Fig. S24** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **3**.



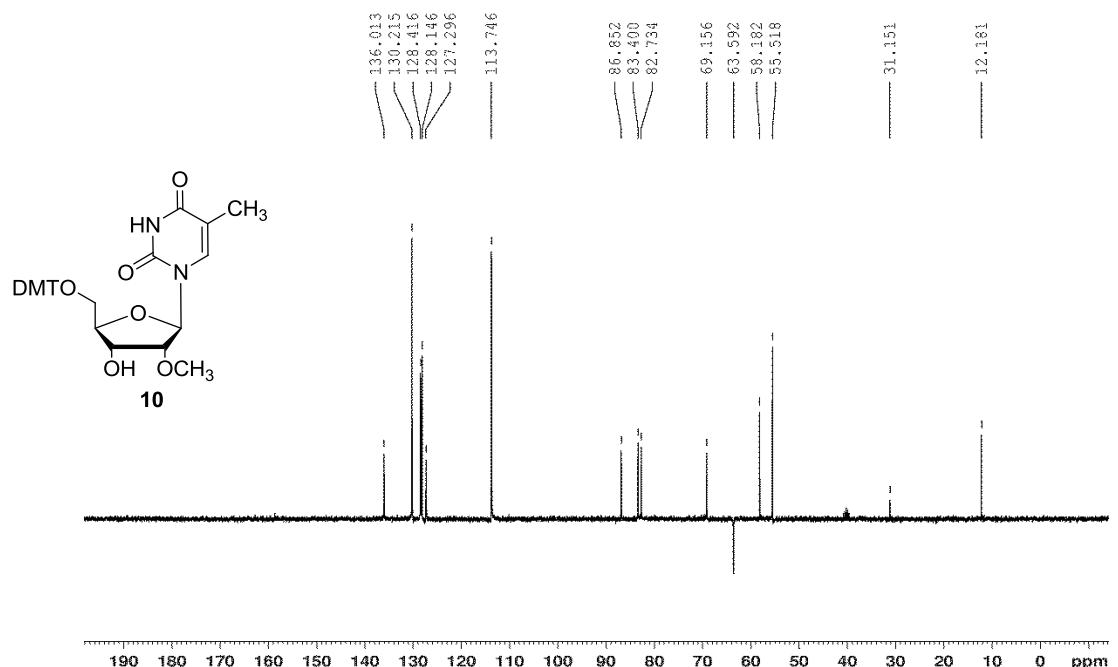
**Fig. S25**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **3**.



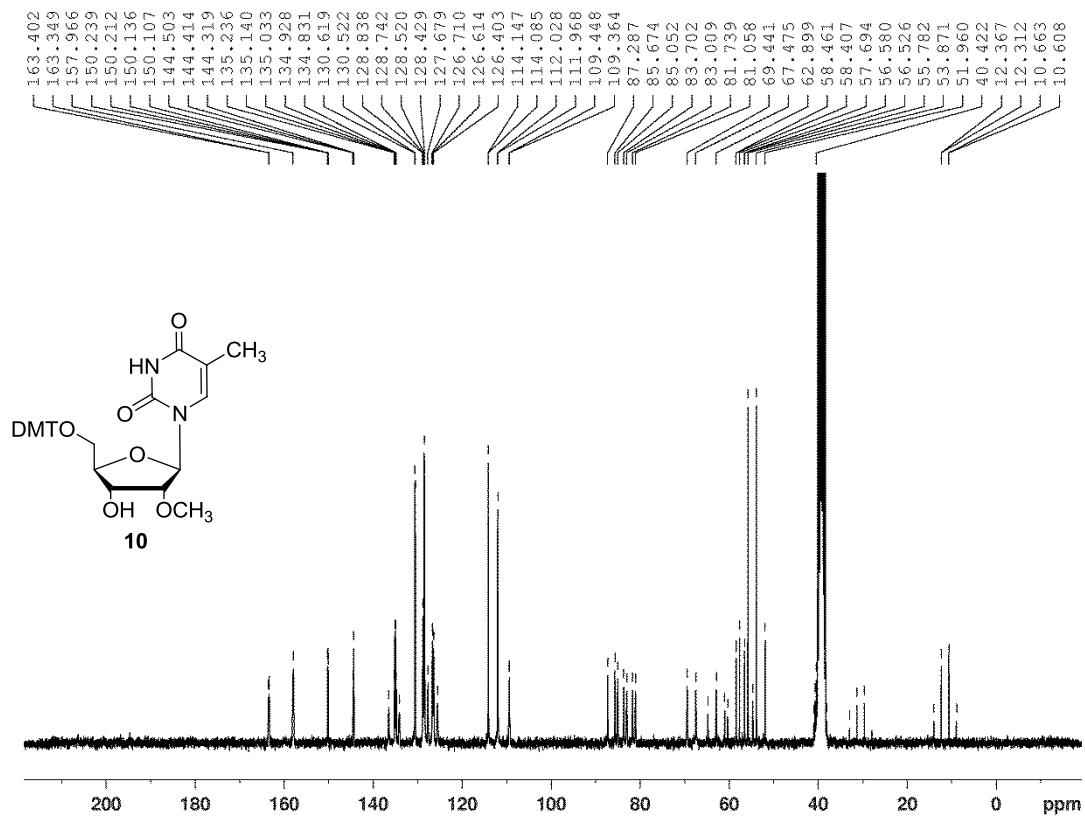
**Fig. S26** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **10**.



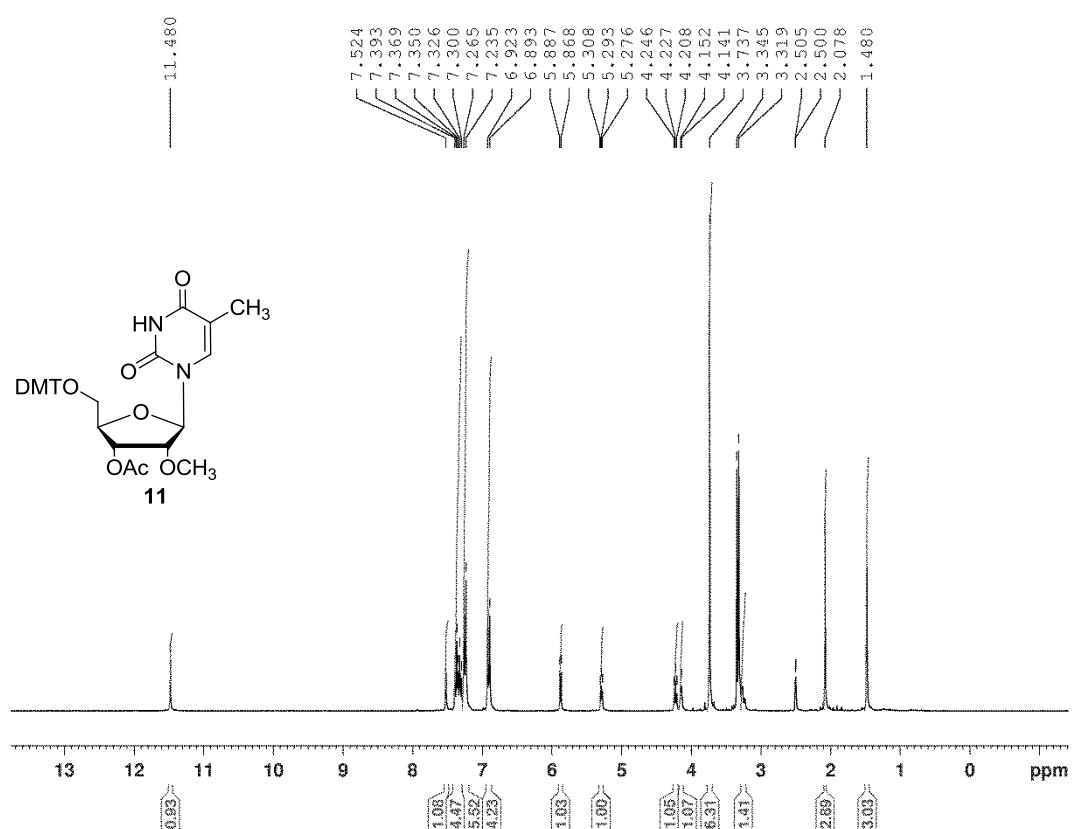
**Fig. S27** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of compound **10**.



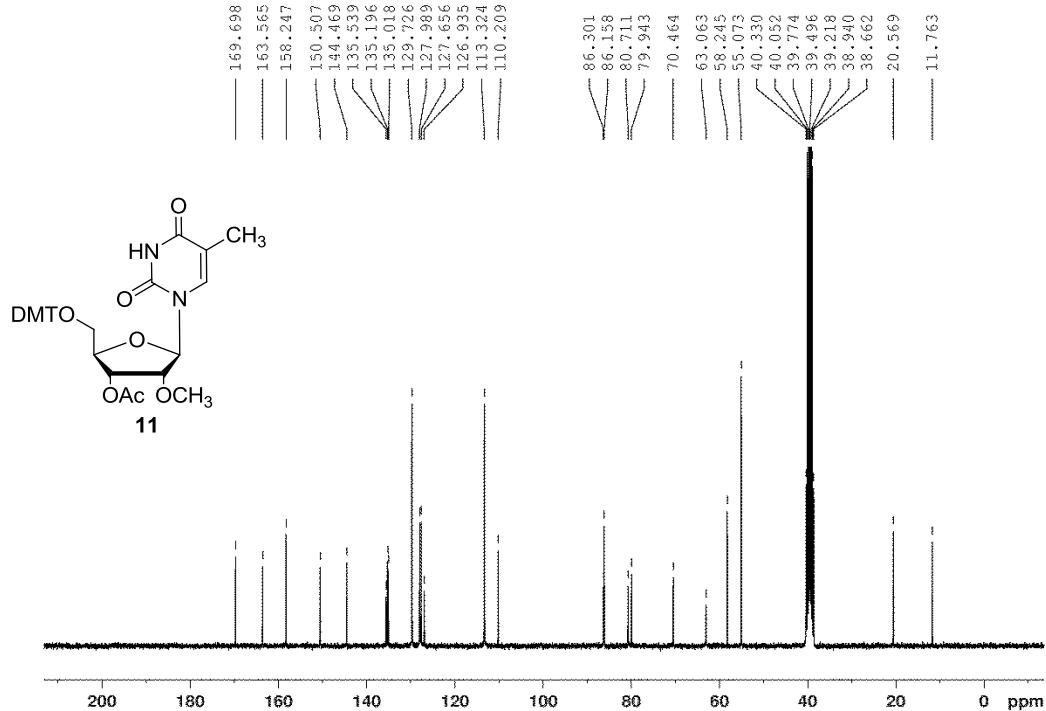
**Fig. S28** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **10**.



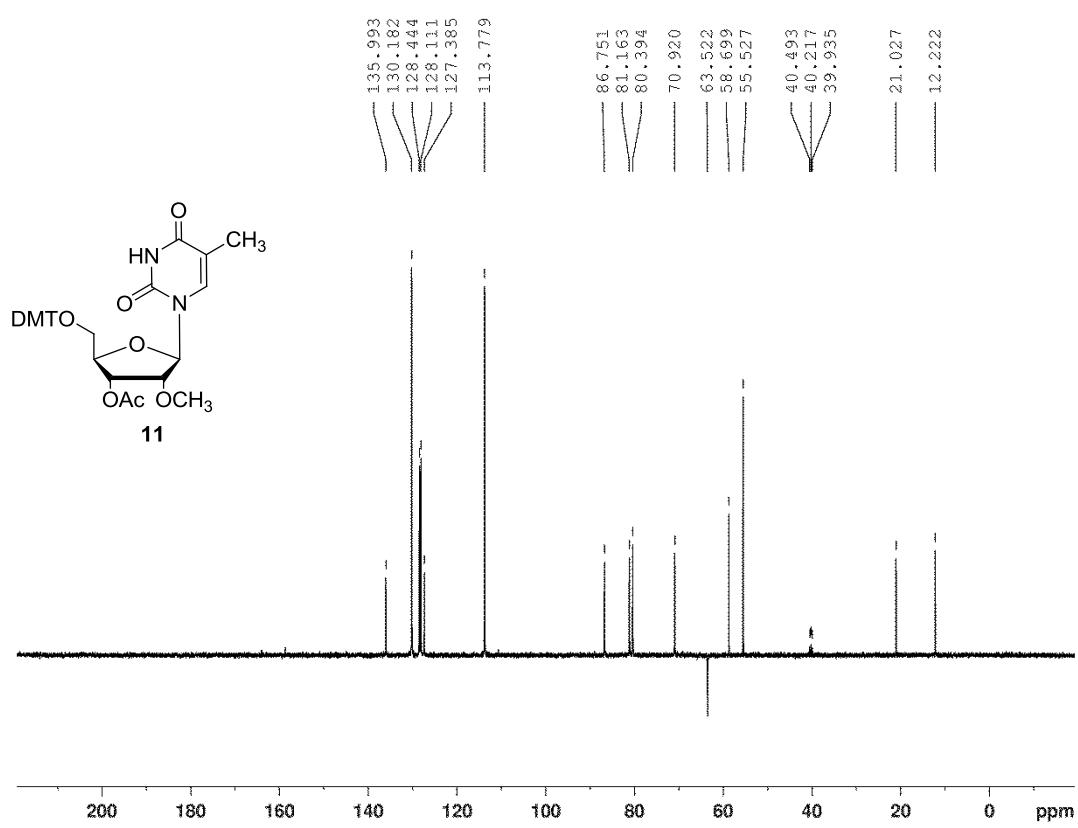
**Fig. S29**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **10**.



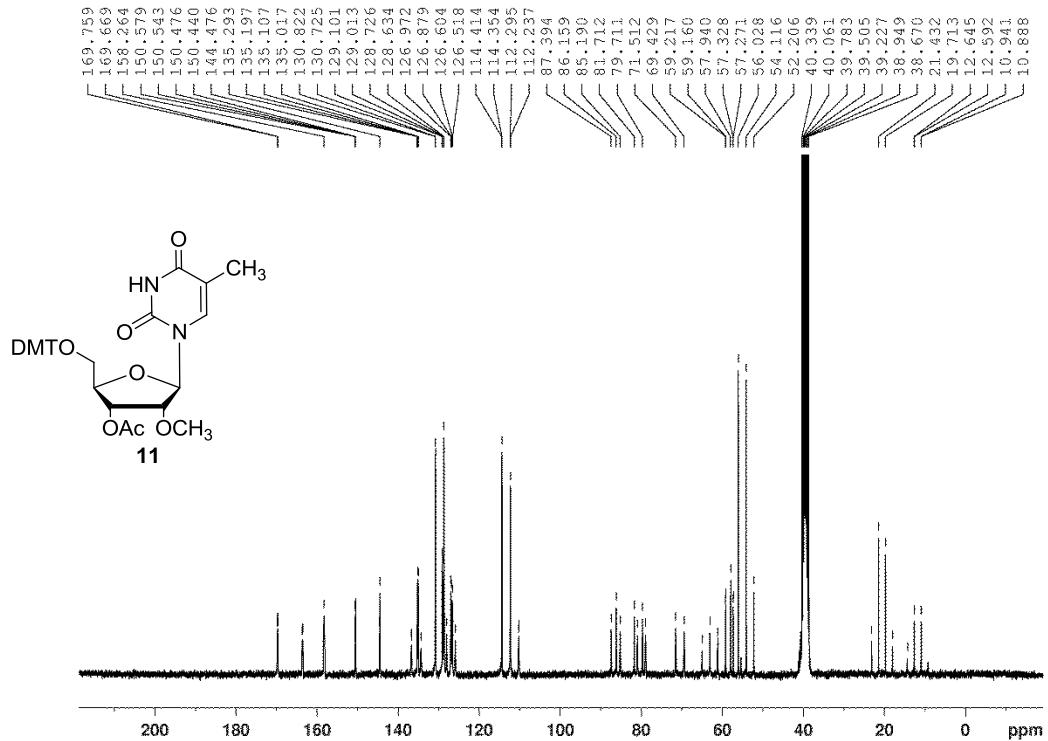
**Fig. S30**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **11**.



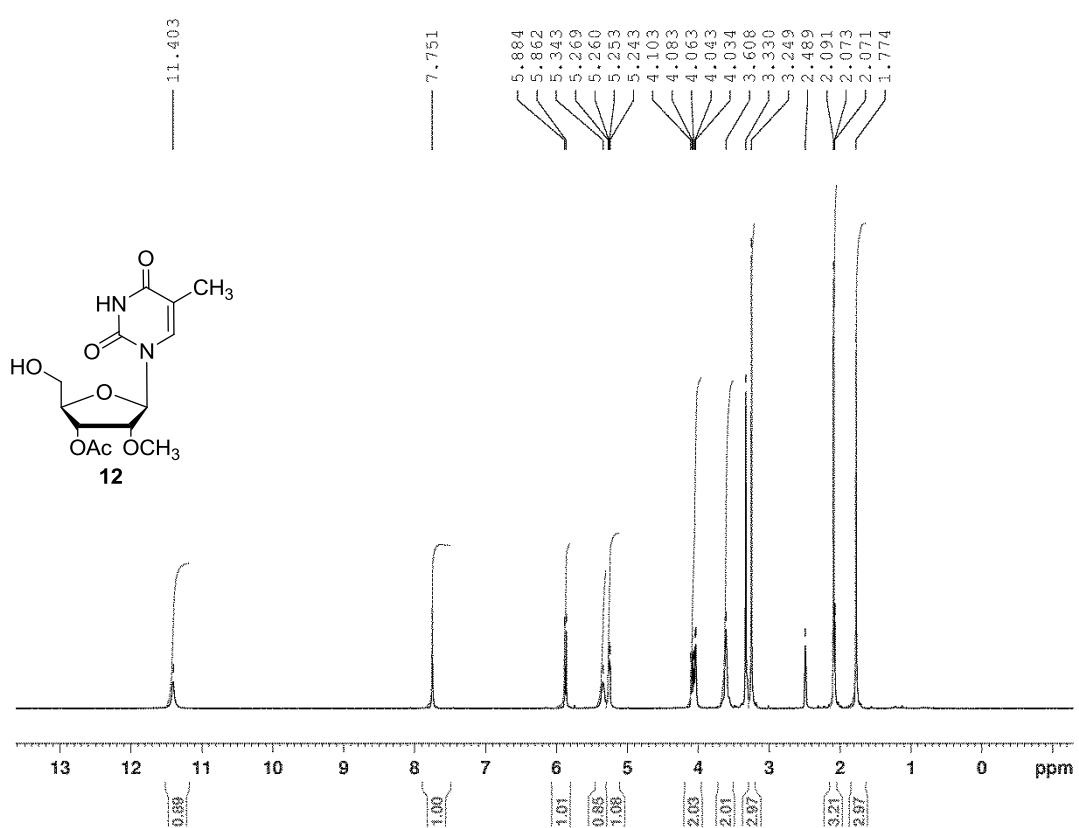
**Fig. S31**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **11**.



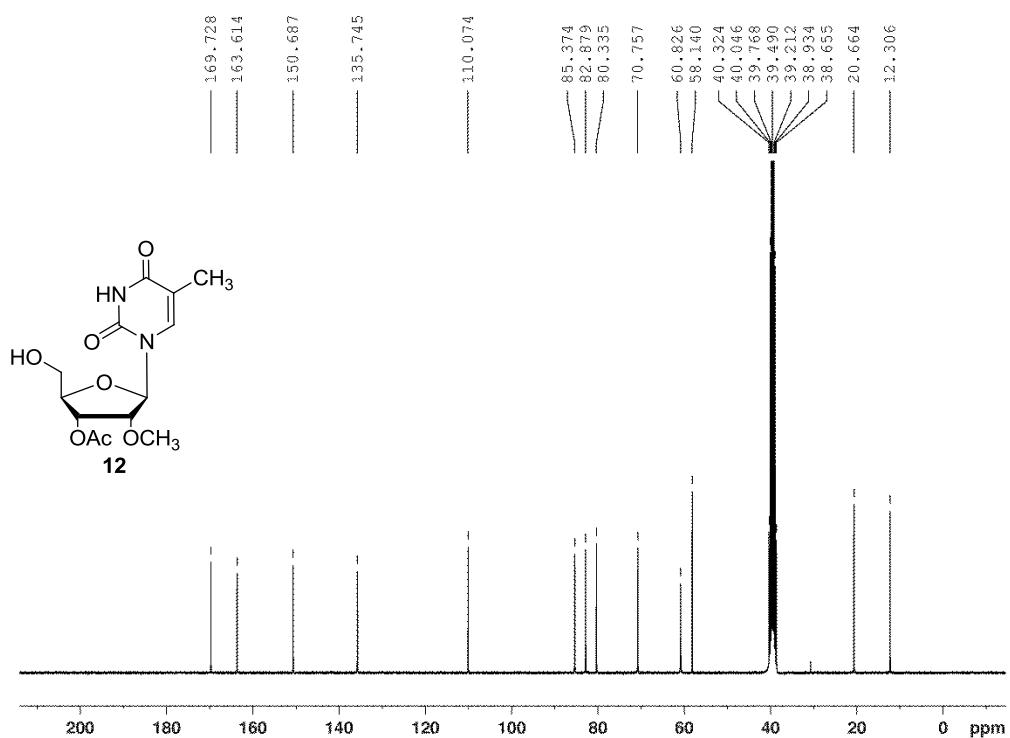
**Fig. S32** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **11**.



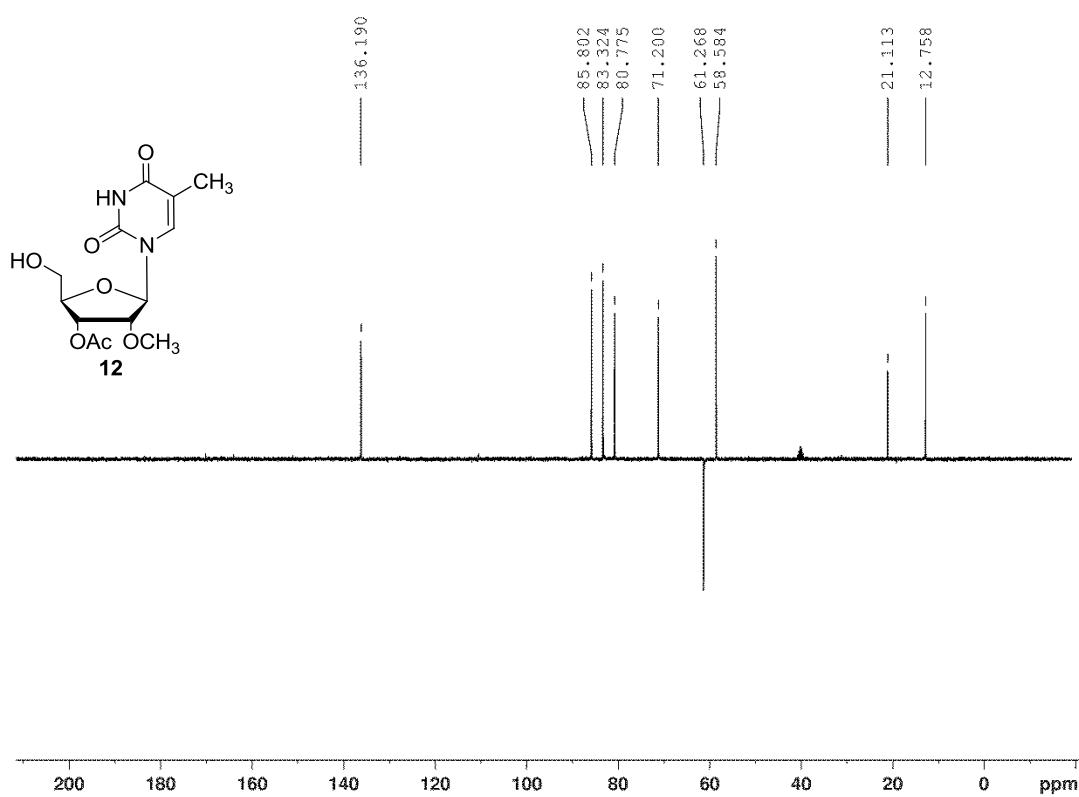
**Fig. S33**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **11**.



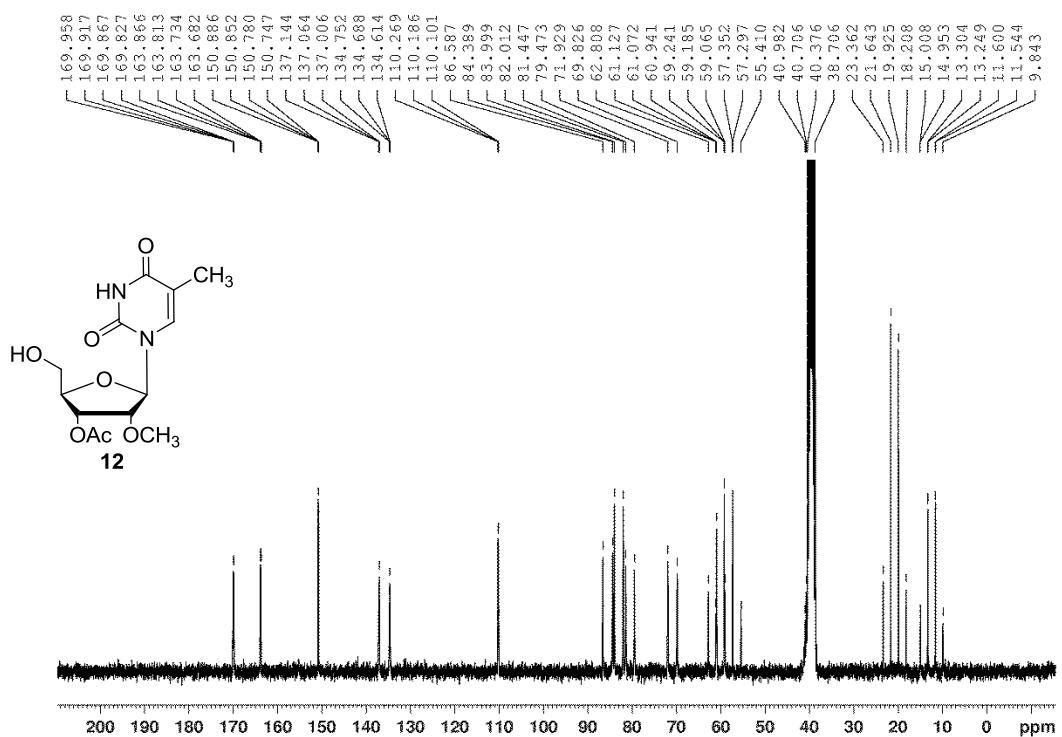
**Fig. S34**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **12**.



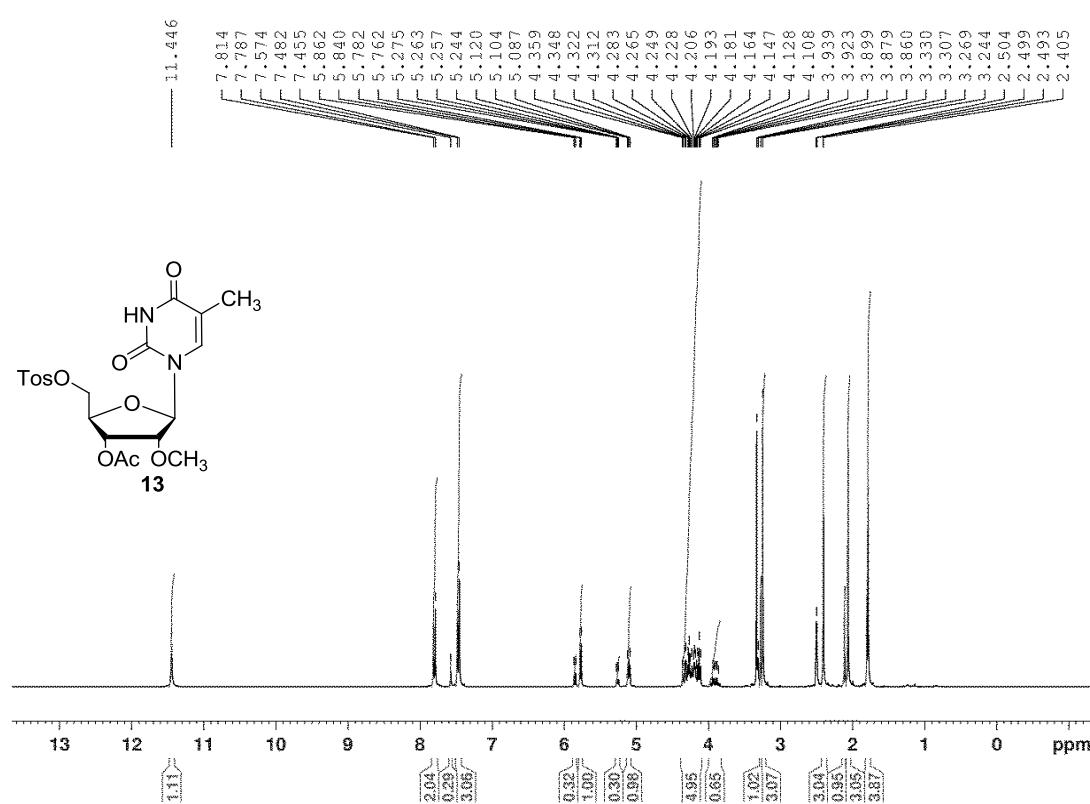
**Fig. S35**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **12**.



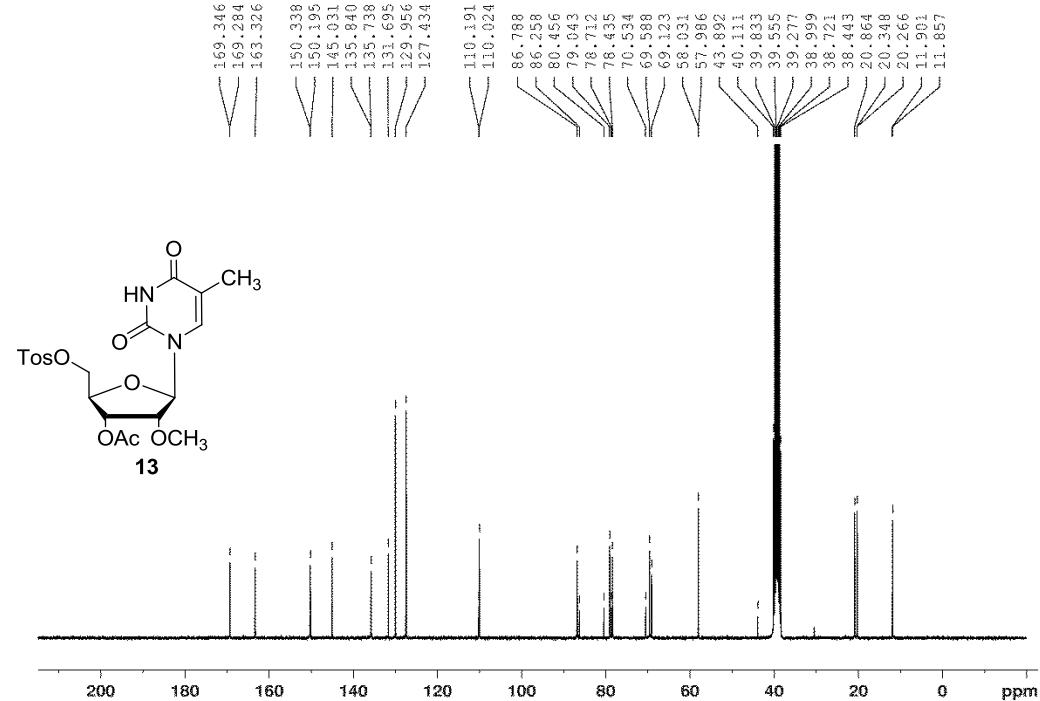
**Fig. S36** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound 12.



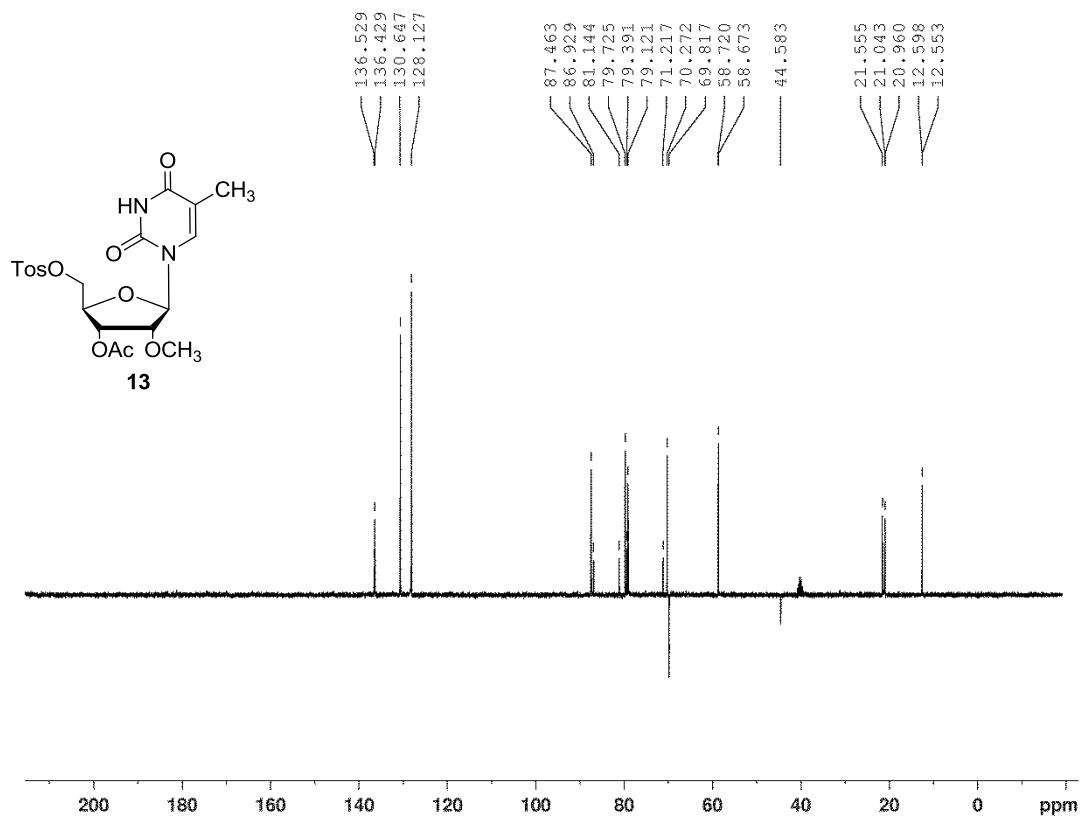
**Fig. S37**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound 12.



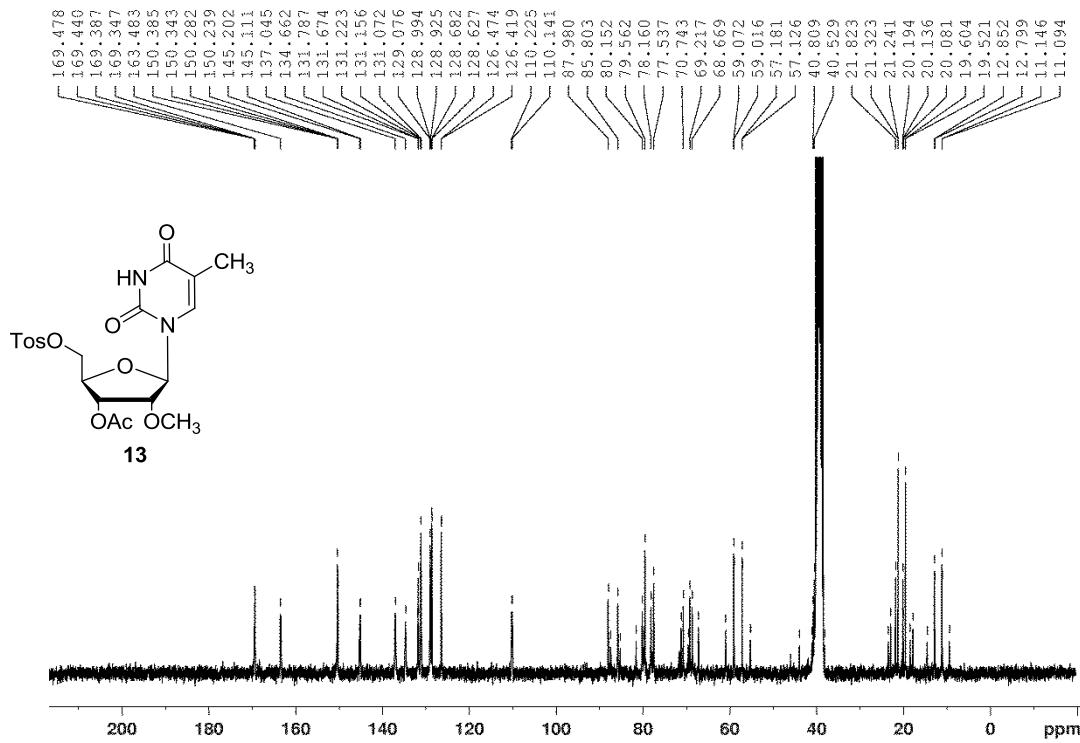
**Fig. S38** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound 13.



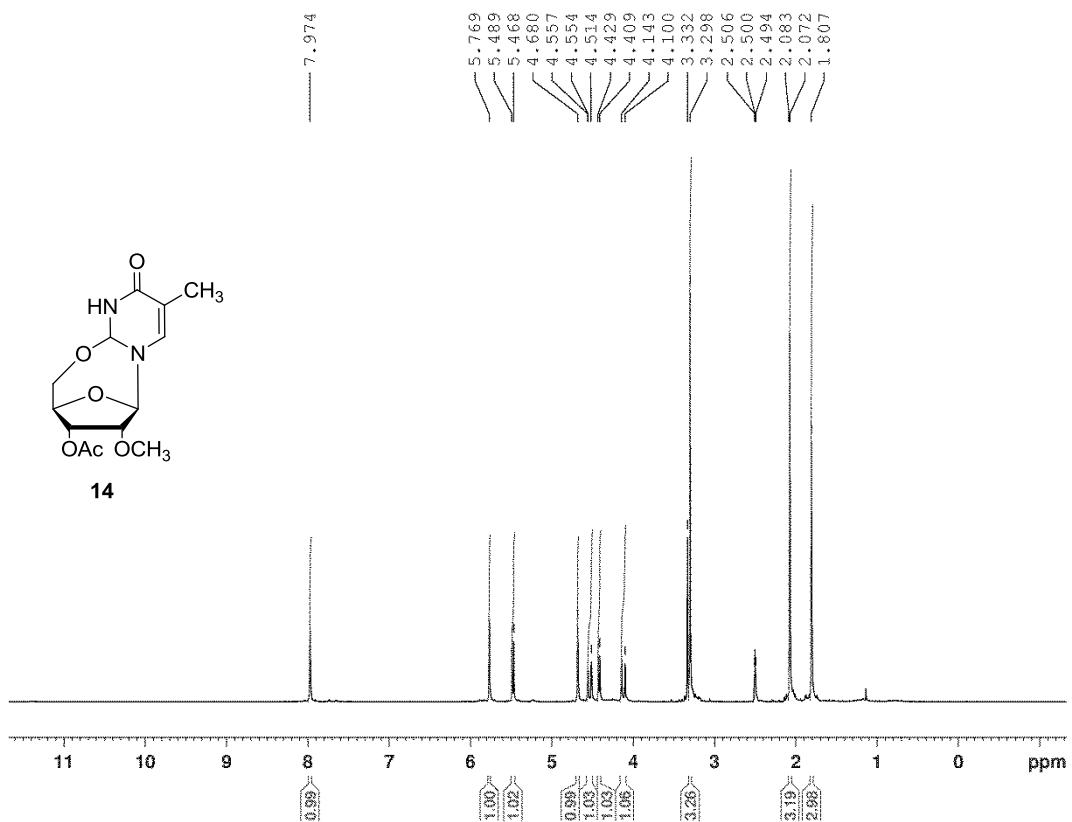
**Fig. S39** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of compound 13.



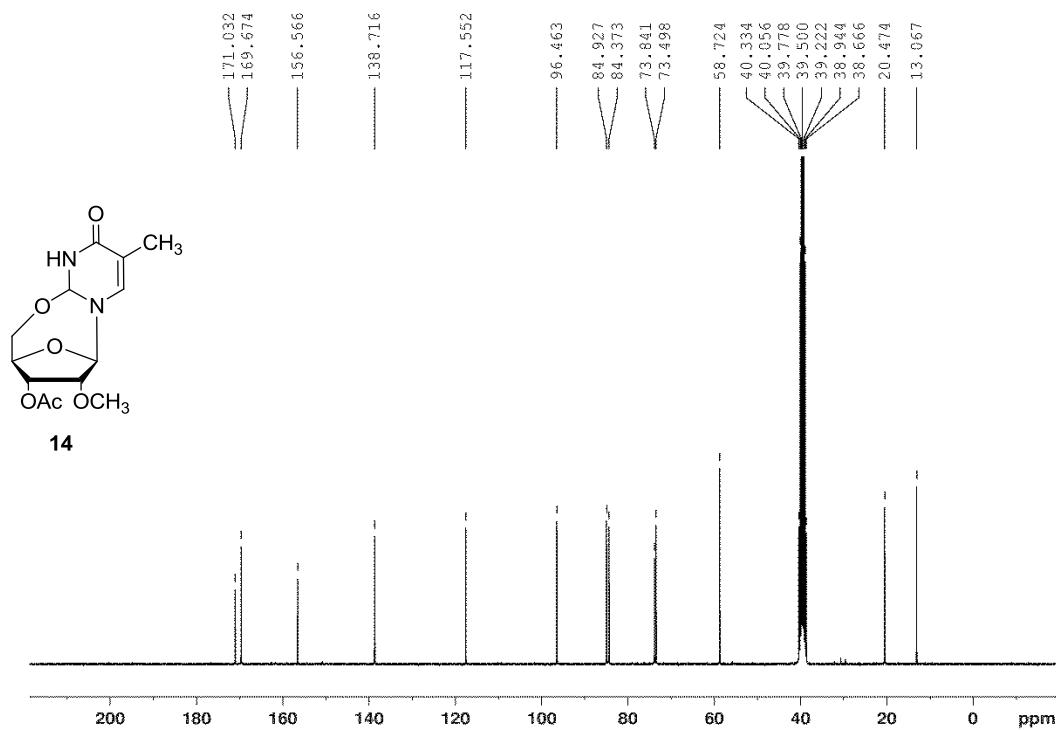
**Fig. S40** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound 13.



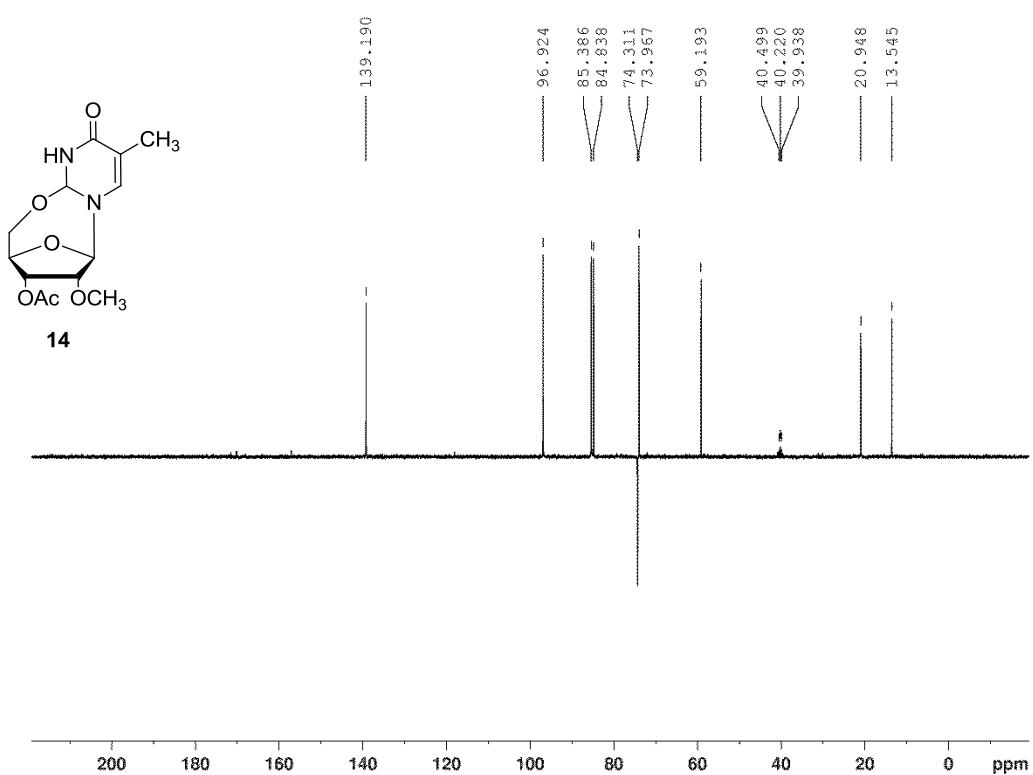
**Fig. S41**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **13**.



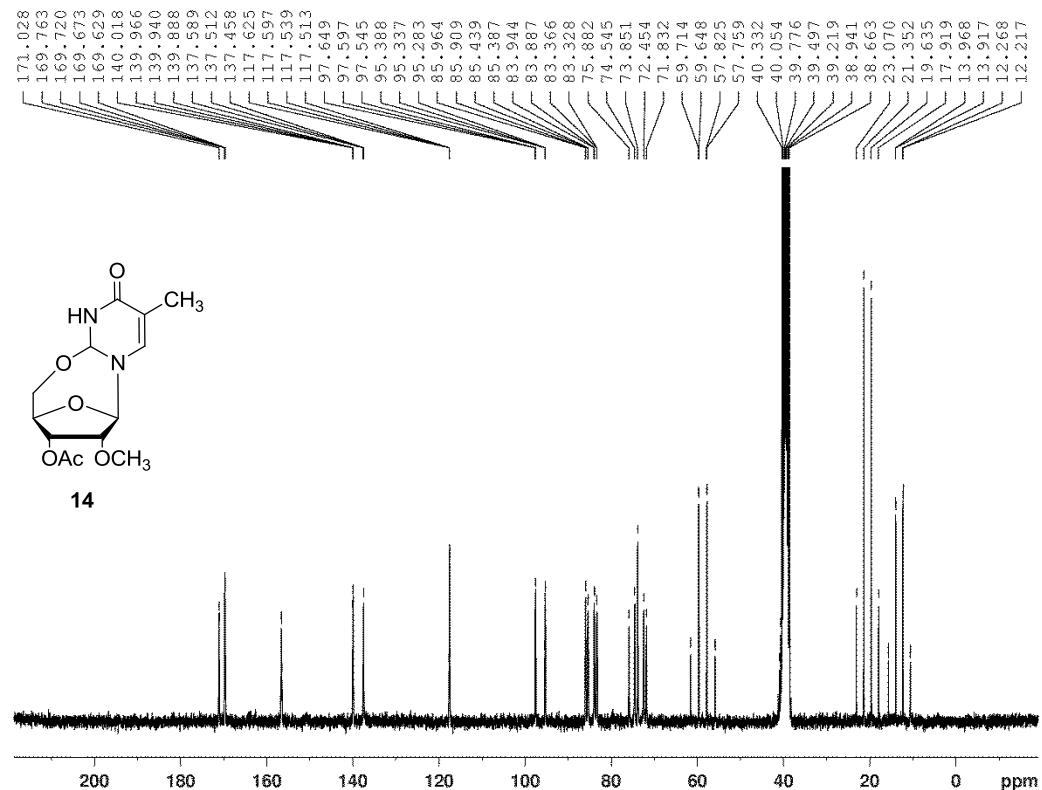
**Fig. S42**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **14**.



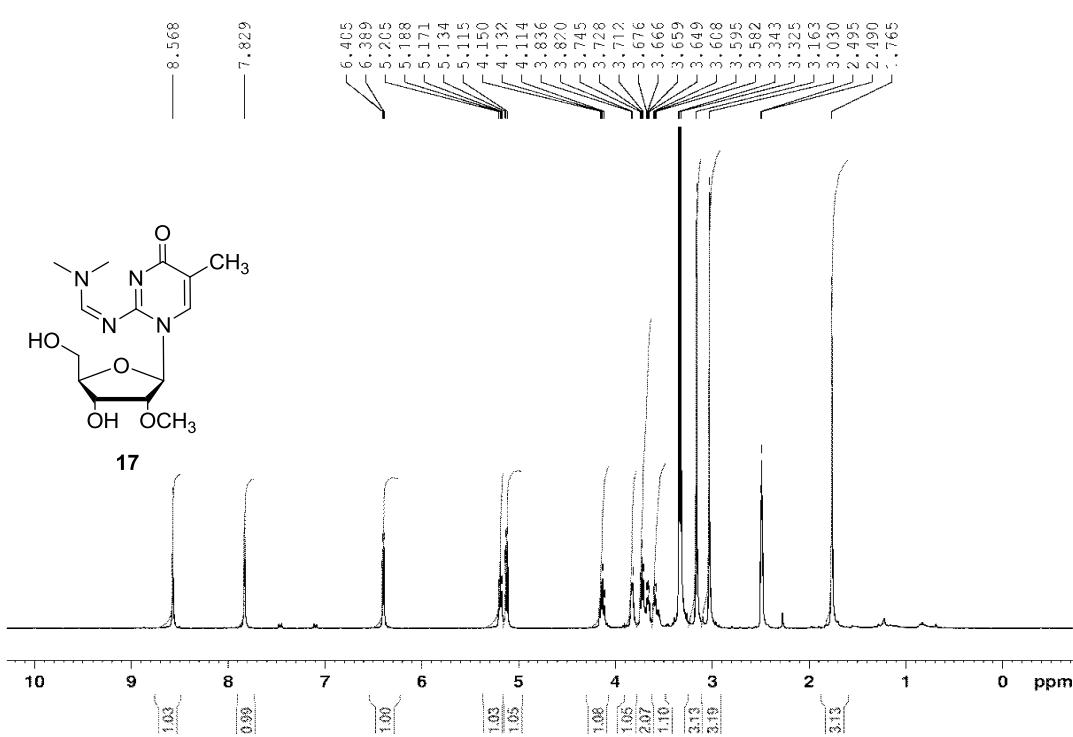
**Fig. S43**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **14**.



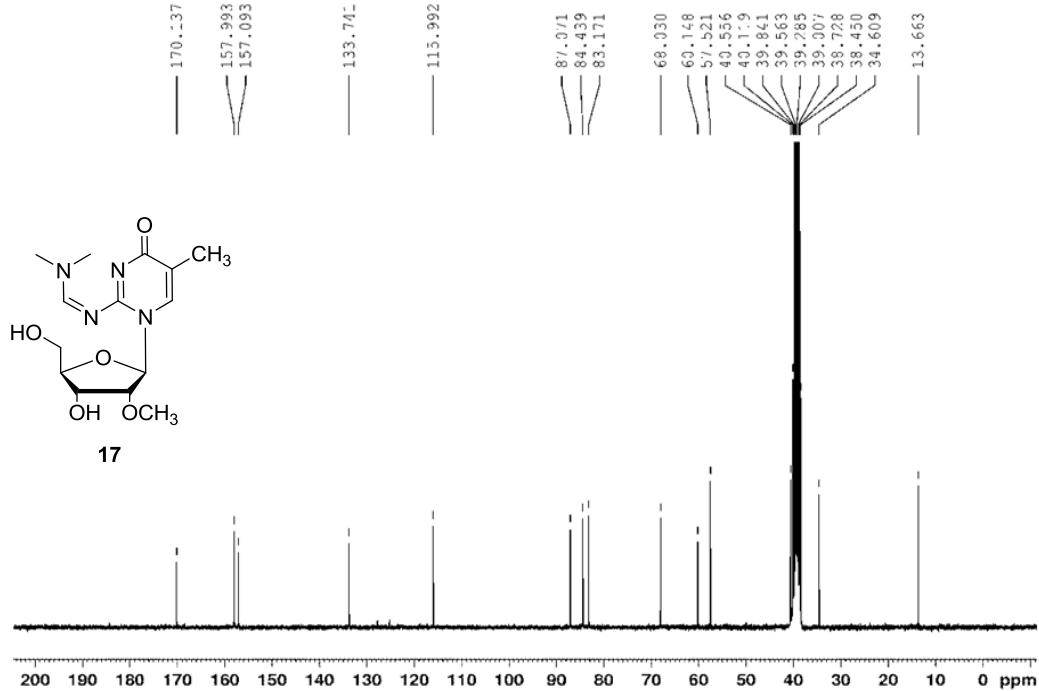
**Fig. S44** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **14**.



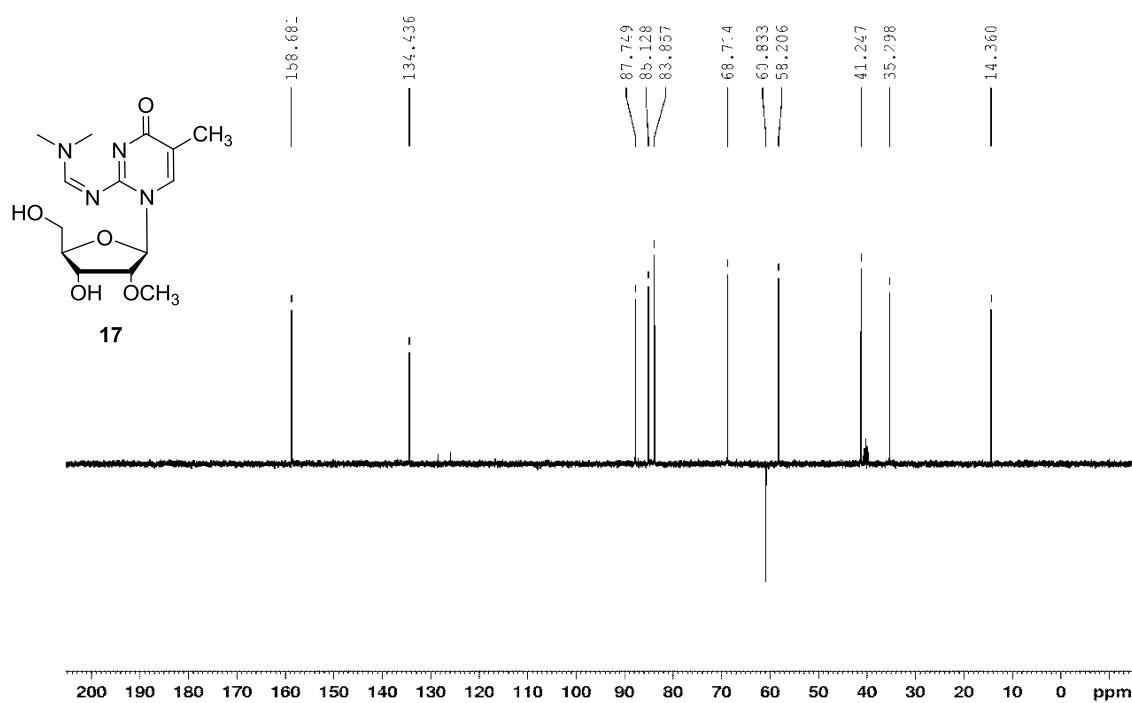
**Fig. S45**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **14**.



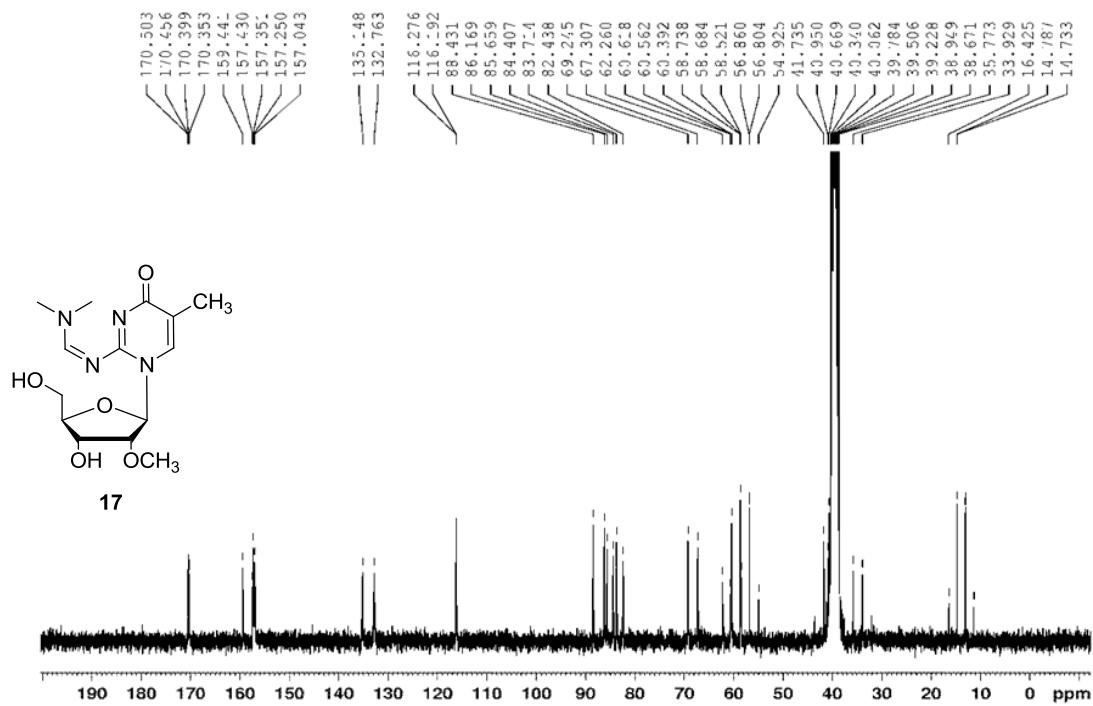
**Fig. S46**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **17**.



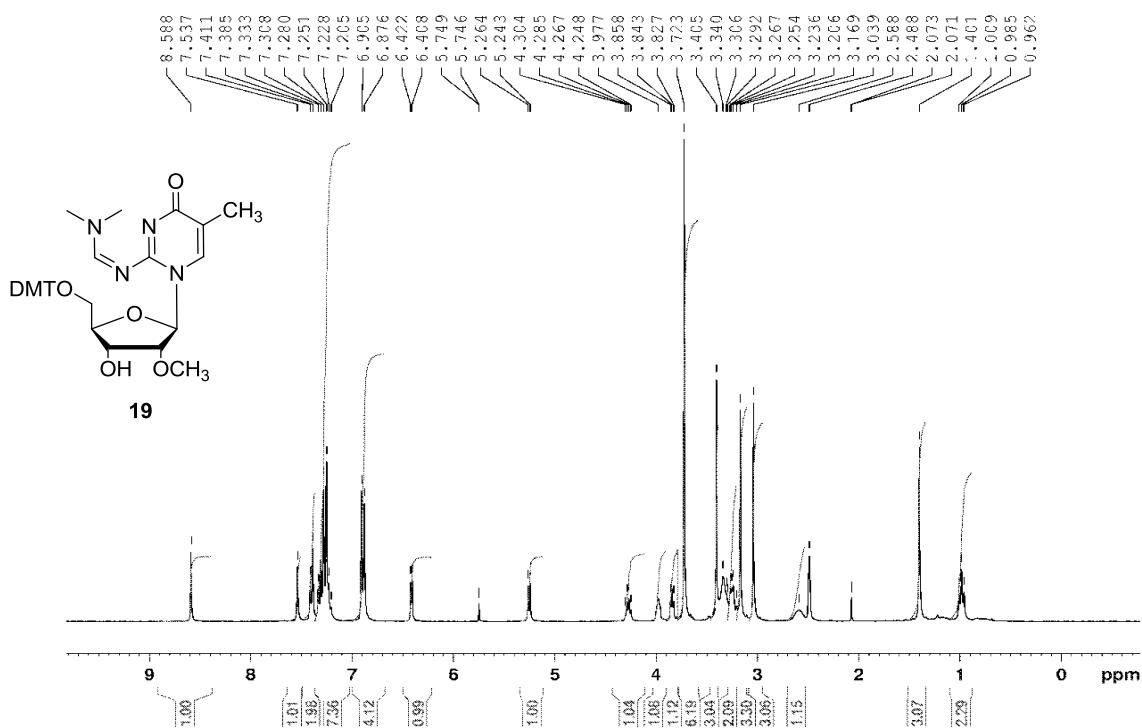
**Fig. S47**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **17**.



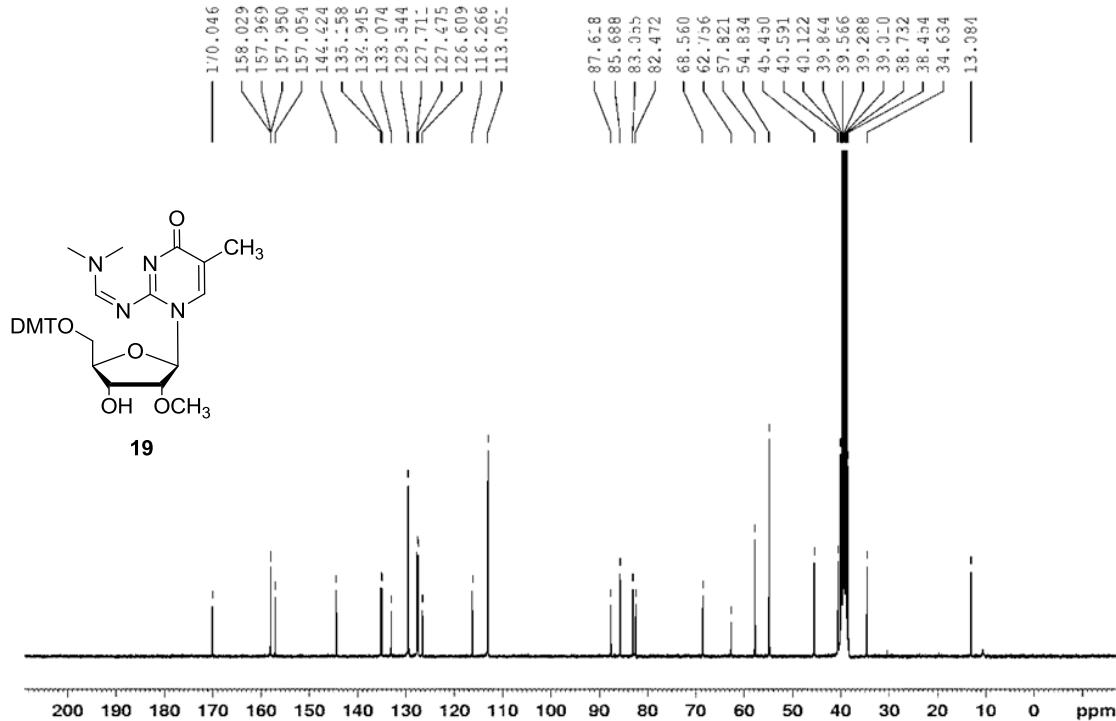
**Fig. S48** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **17**.



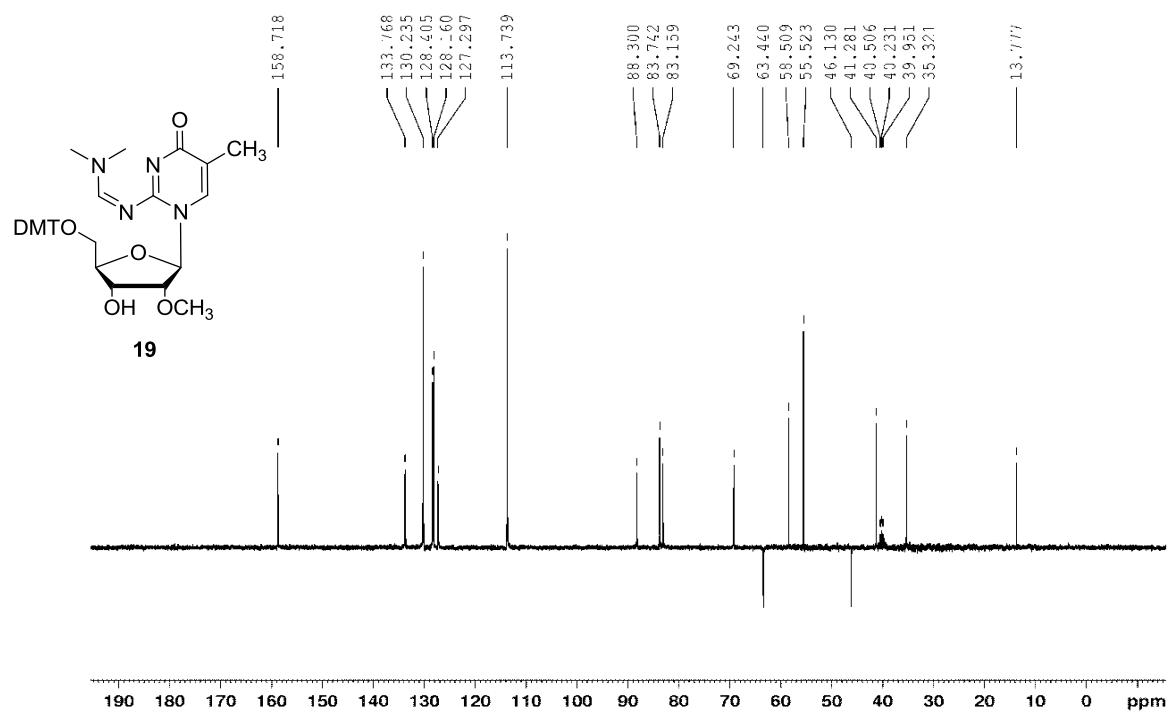
**Fig. S49**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **17**.



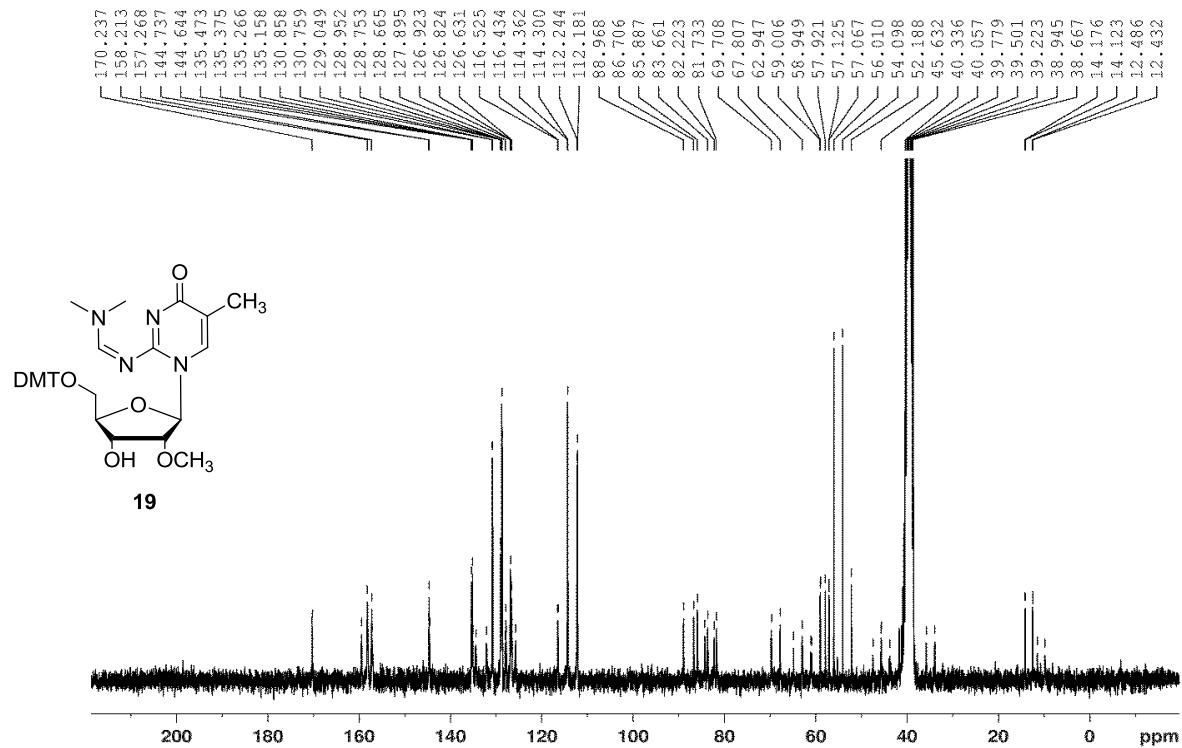
**Fig. S50**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **19**.



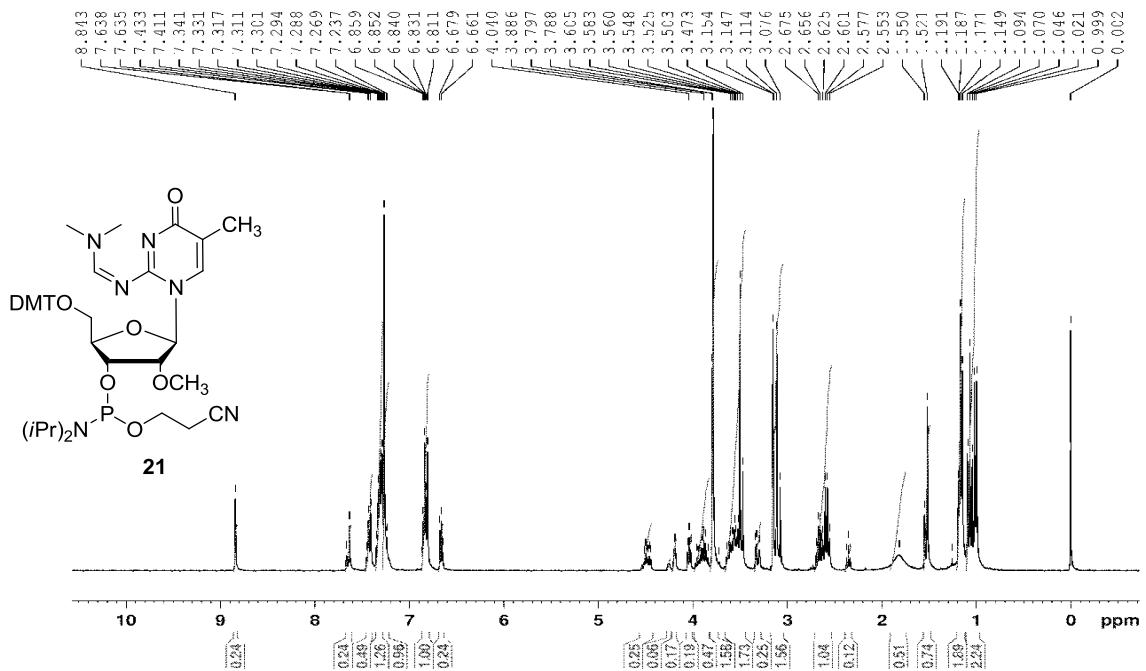
**Fig. S51**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **19**.



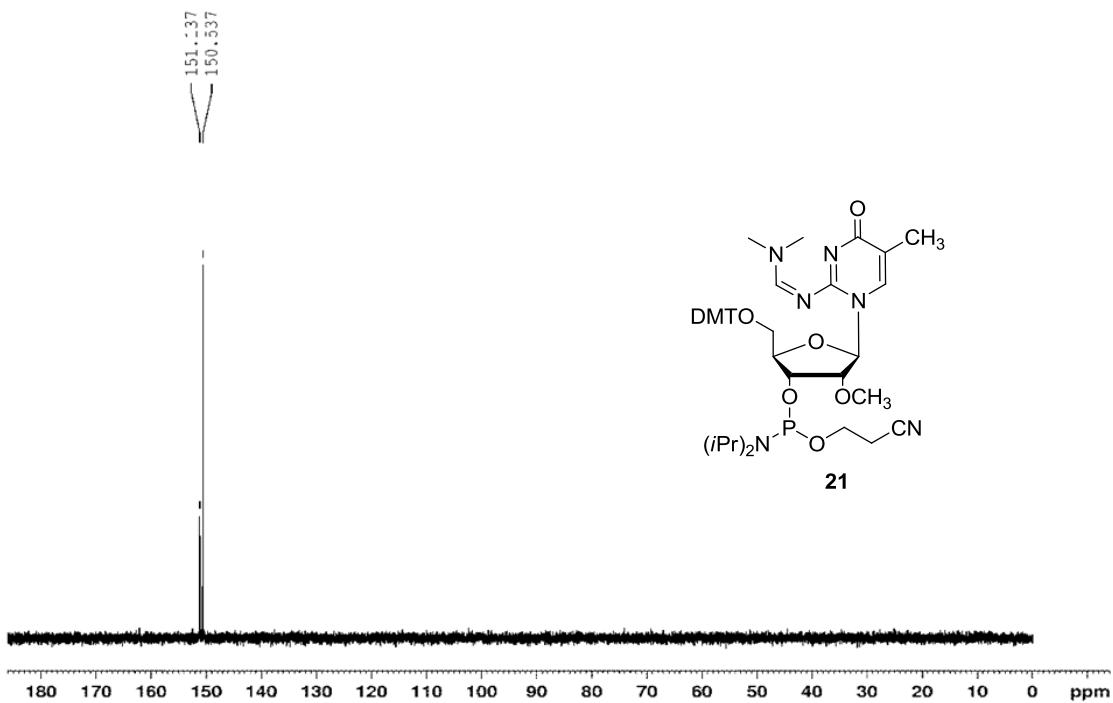
**Fig. S52** DEPT-135 spectrum of compound **19**.



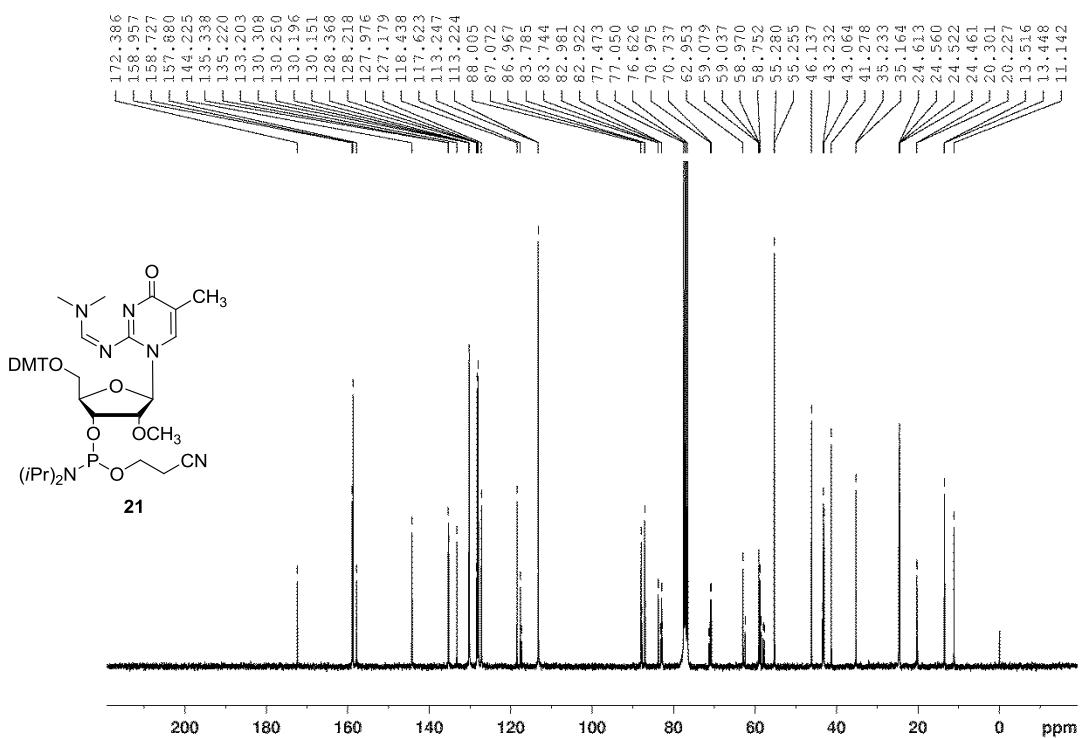
**Fig. S53**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **19**.



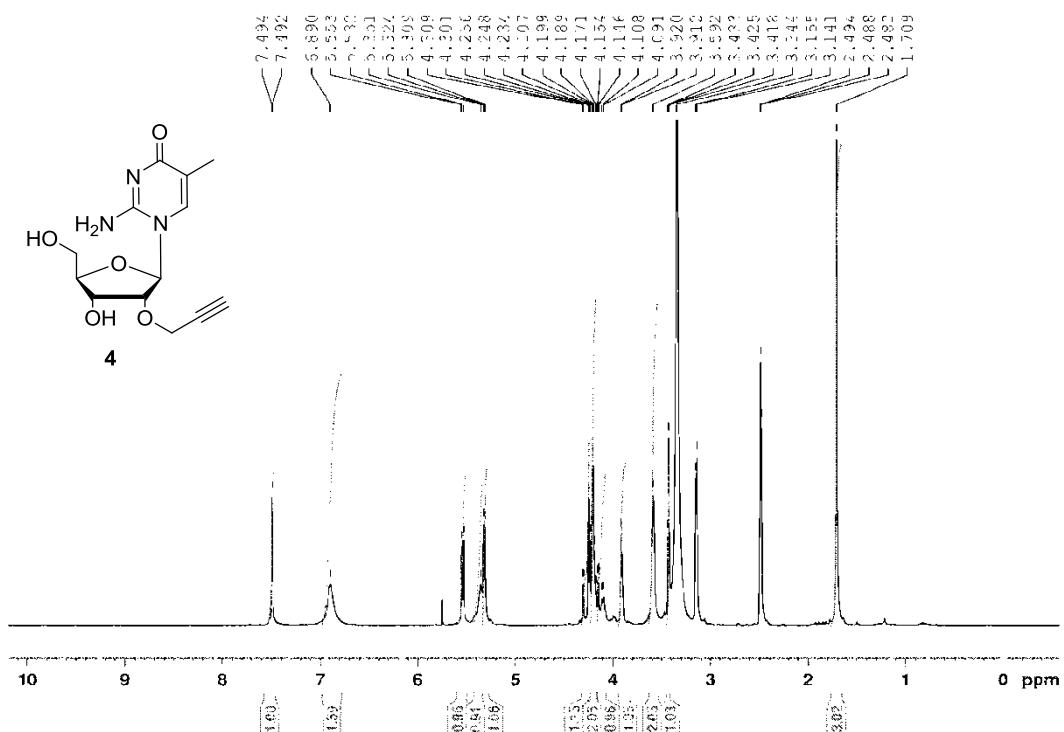
**Fig. S54**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **21**.



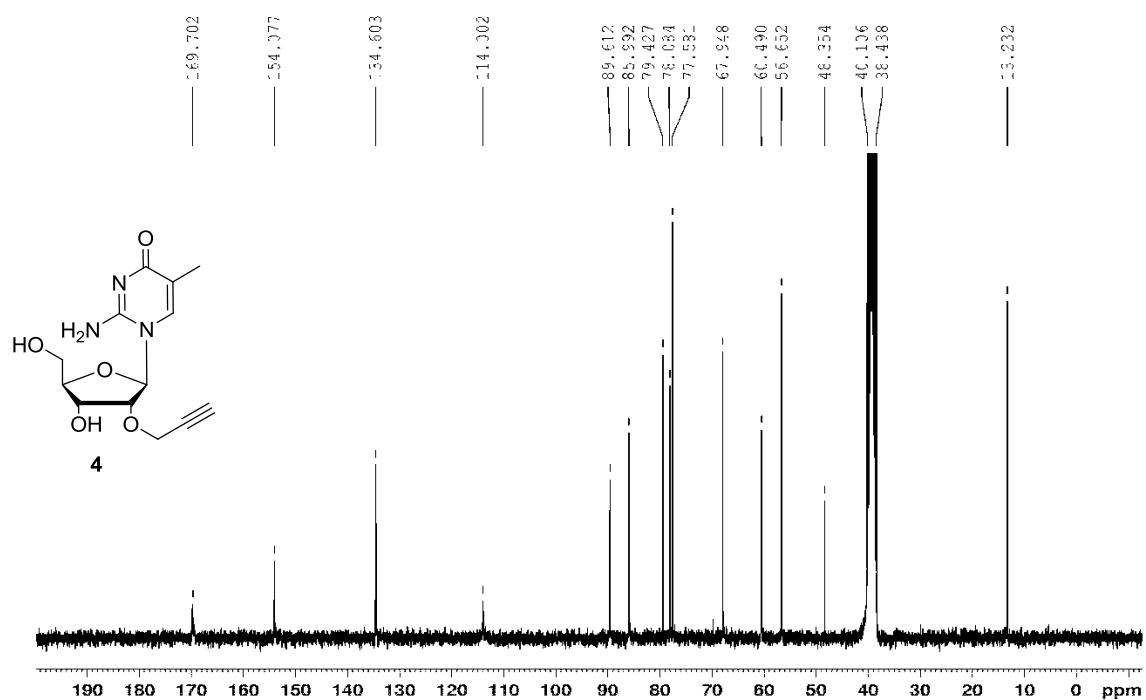
**Fig. S55**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **21**.



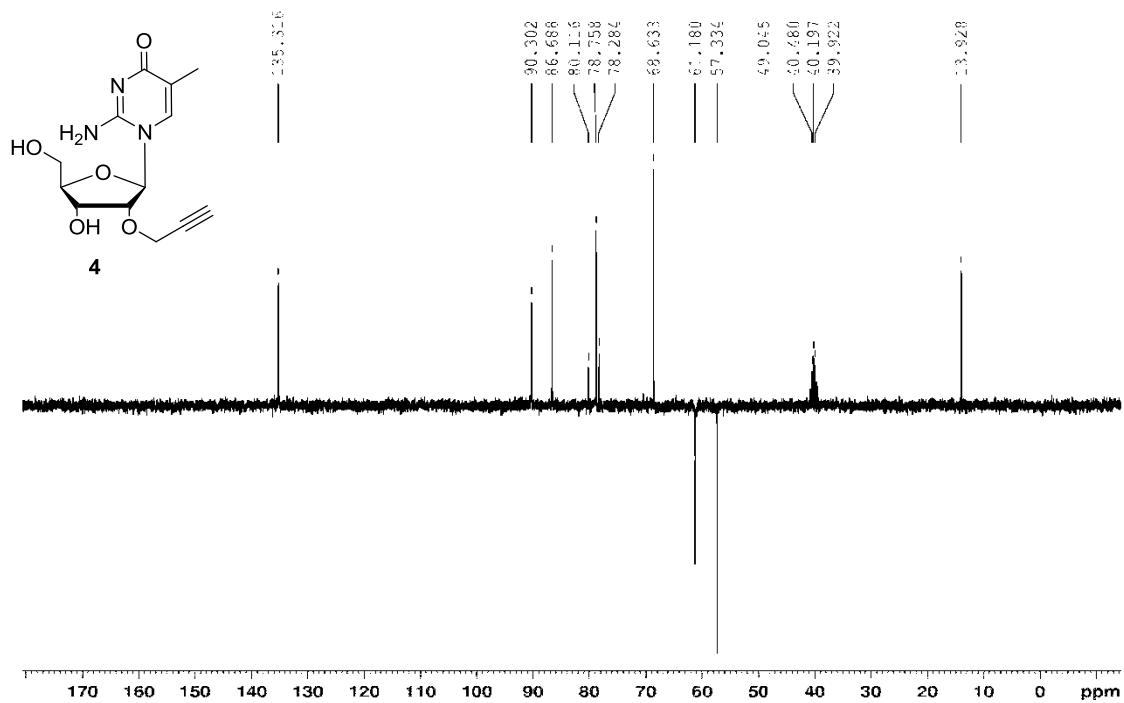
**Fig. S56**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **21**



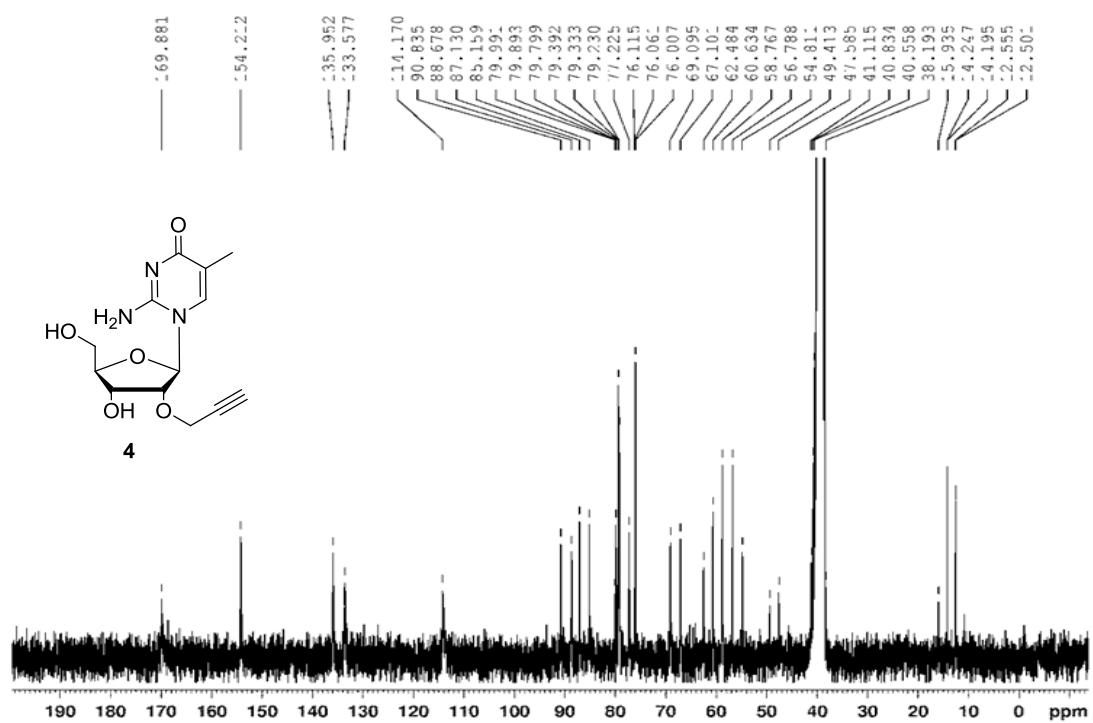
**Fig. S57**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **4**.



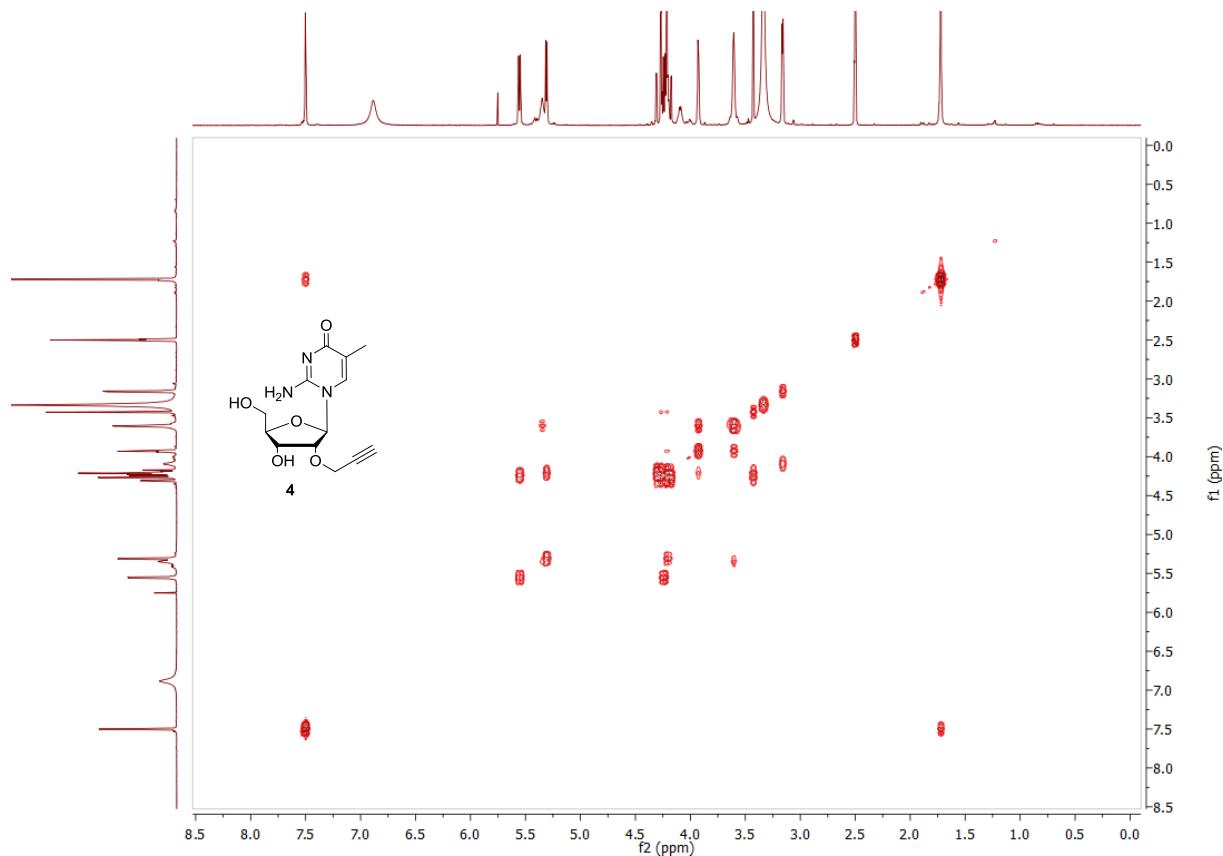
**Fig. S58**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound 4.



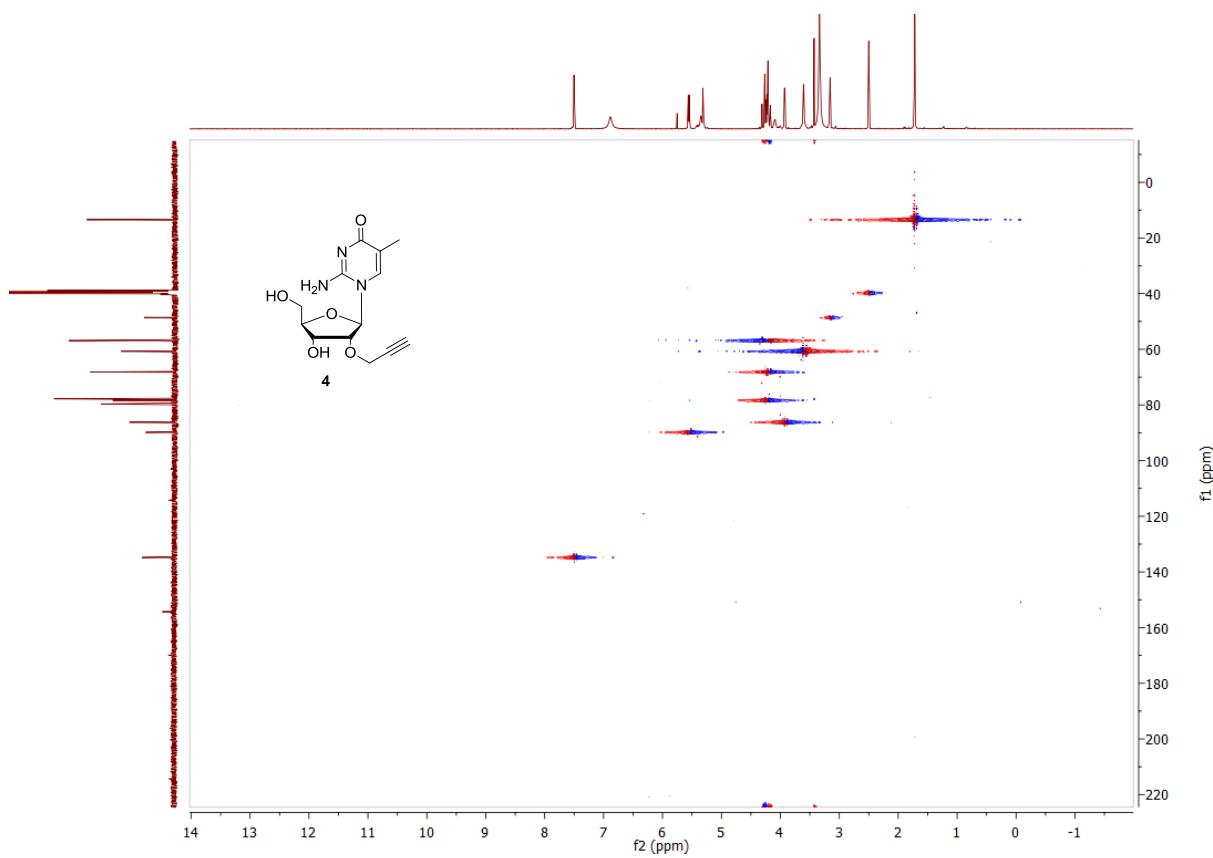
**Fig. S59** DEPT-135 spectrum of compound 4.



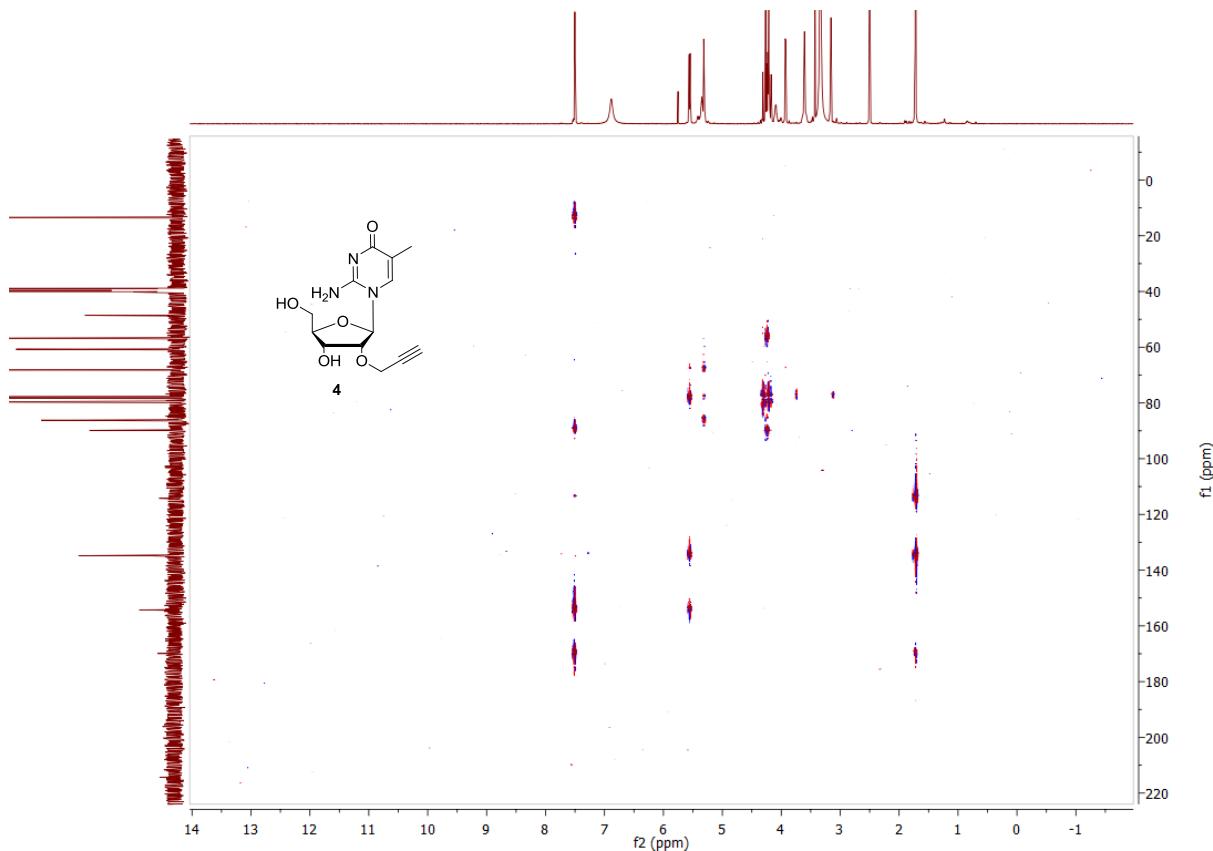
**Fig. S60**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated decoupled spectrum of compound **4**.



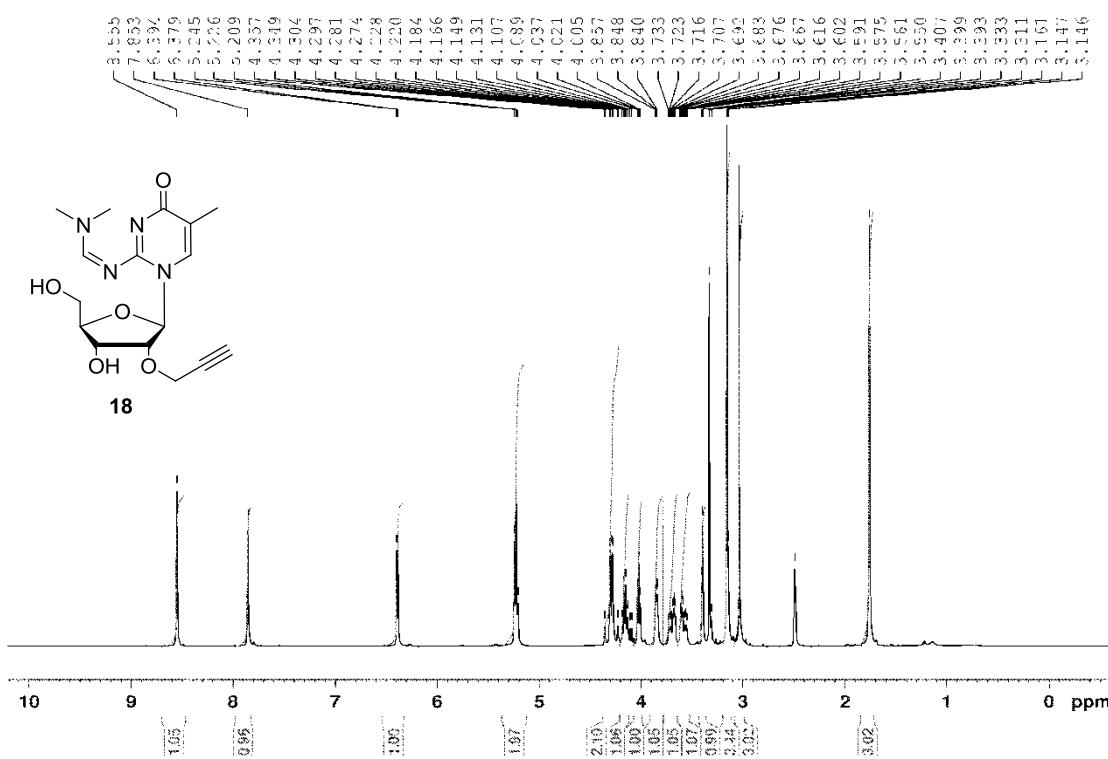
**Fig. S61**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  Cosy spectrum of compound **4**.



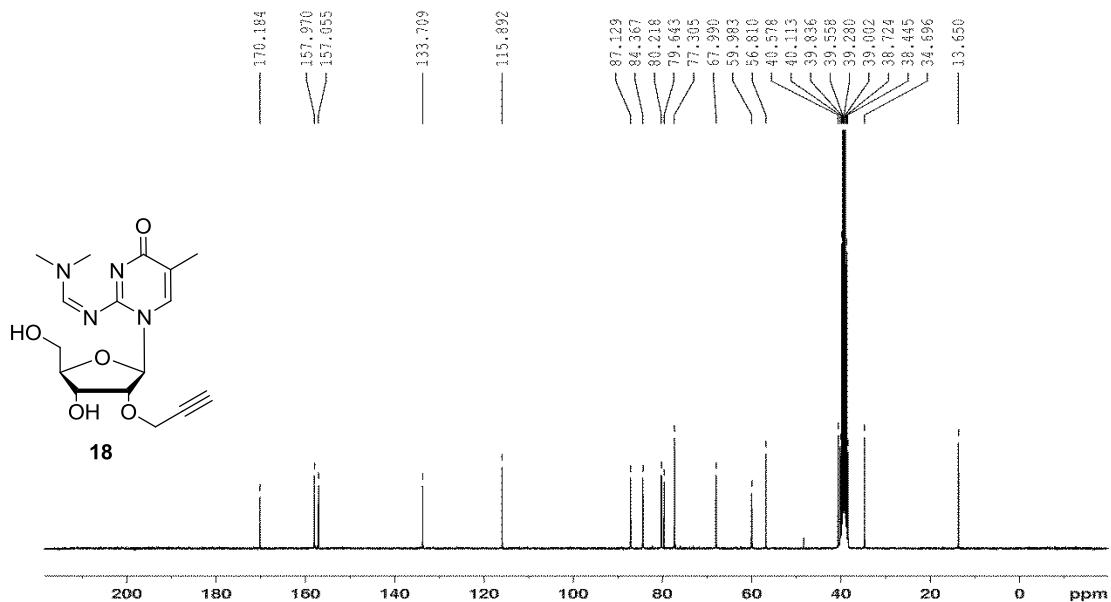
**Fig. S62**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC spectrum of compound **4**.



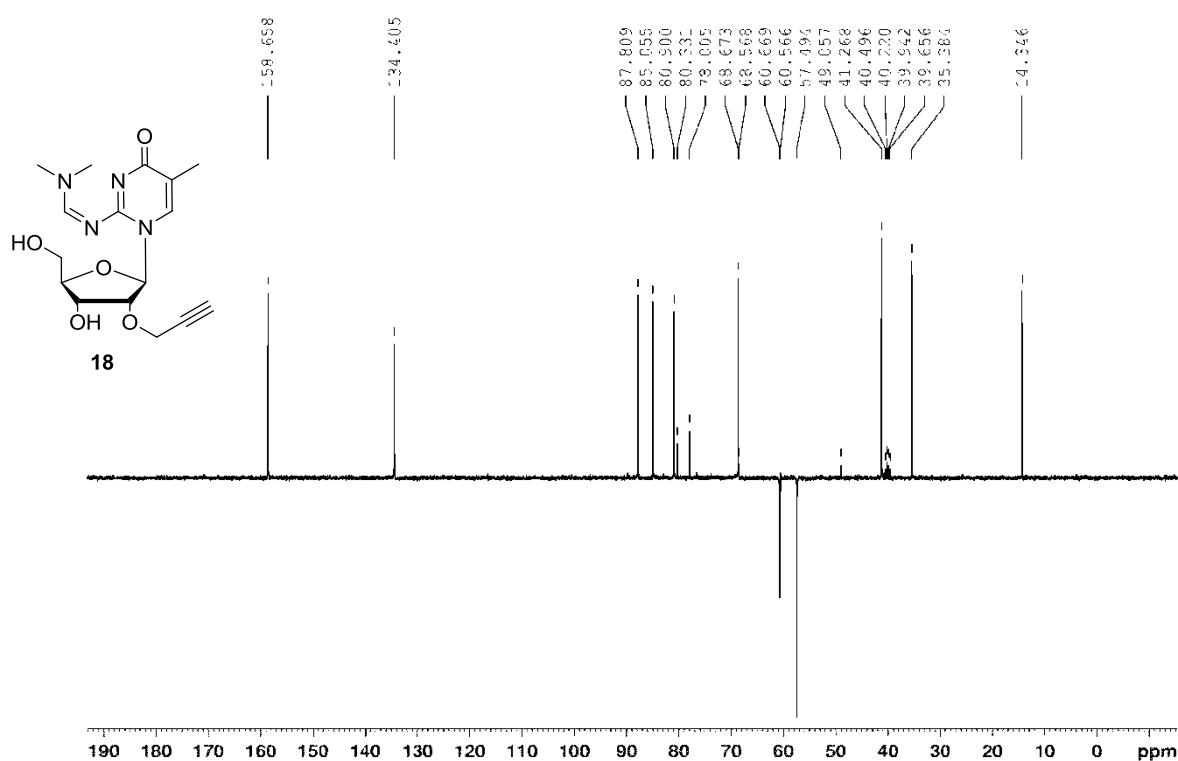
**Fig. S63**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC spectrum of compound **4**.



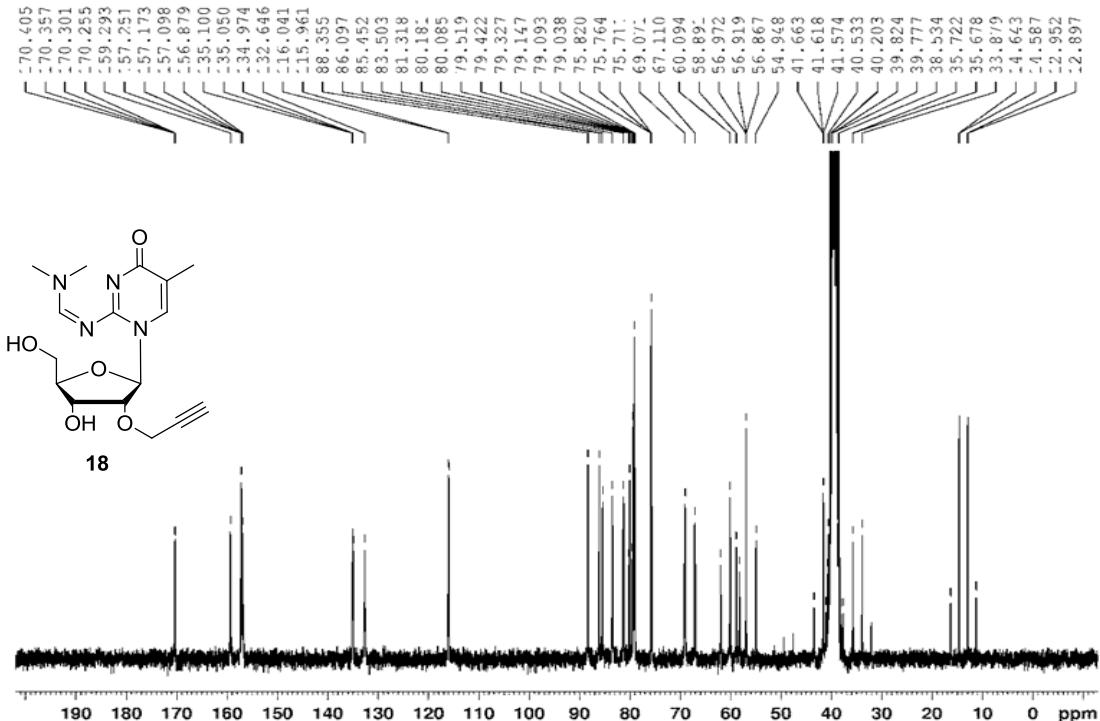
**Fig. S64**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **18**.



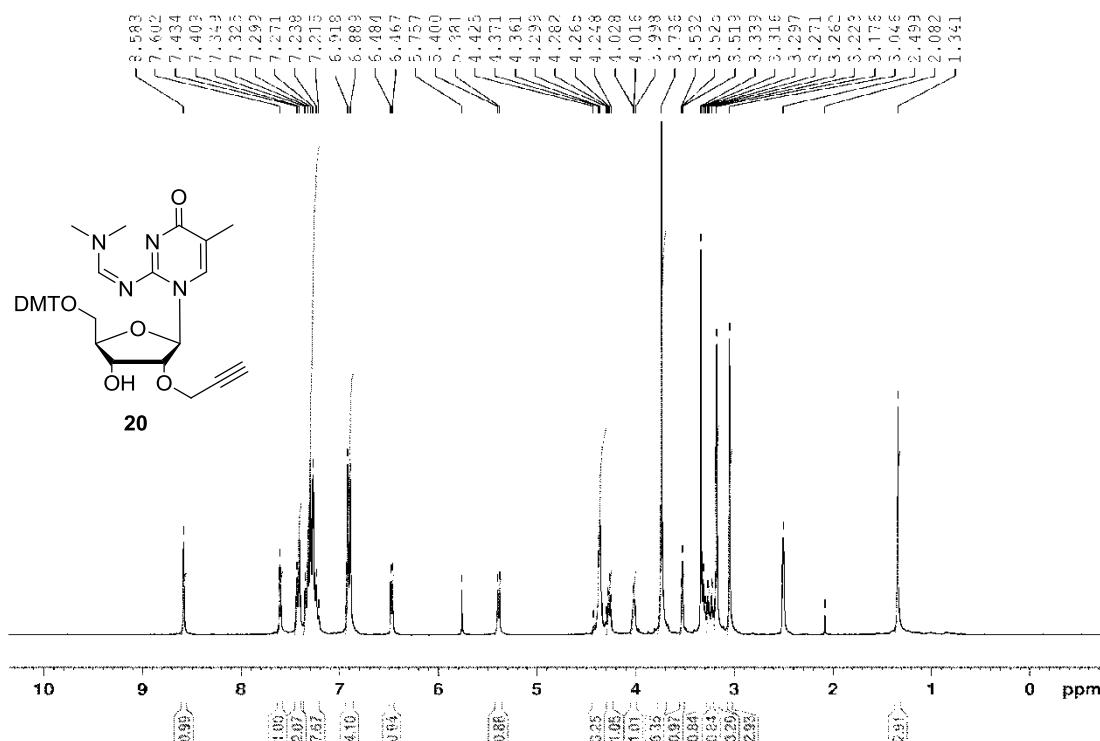
**Fig. S65**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **18**.



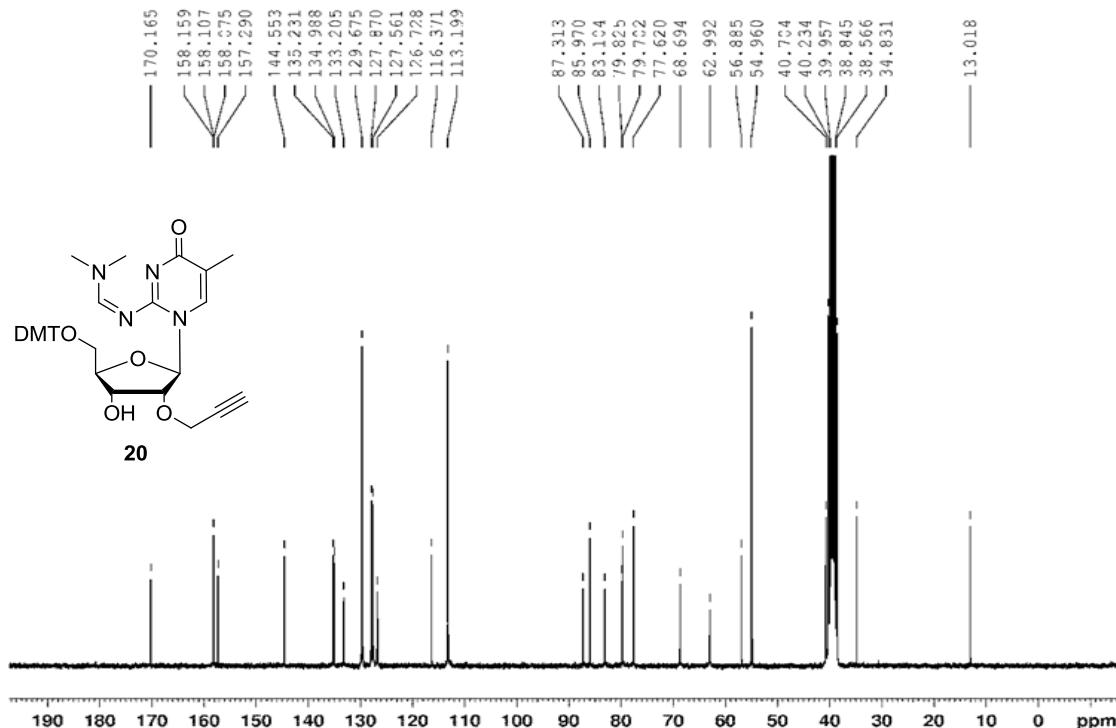
**Fig. S66** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound **18**.



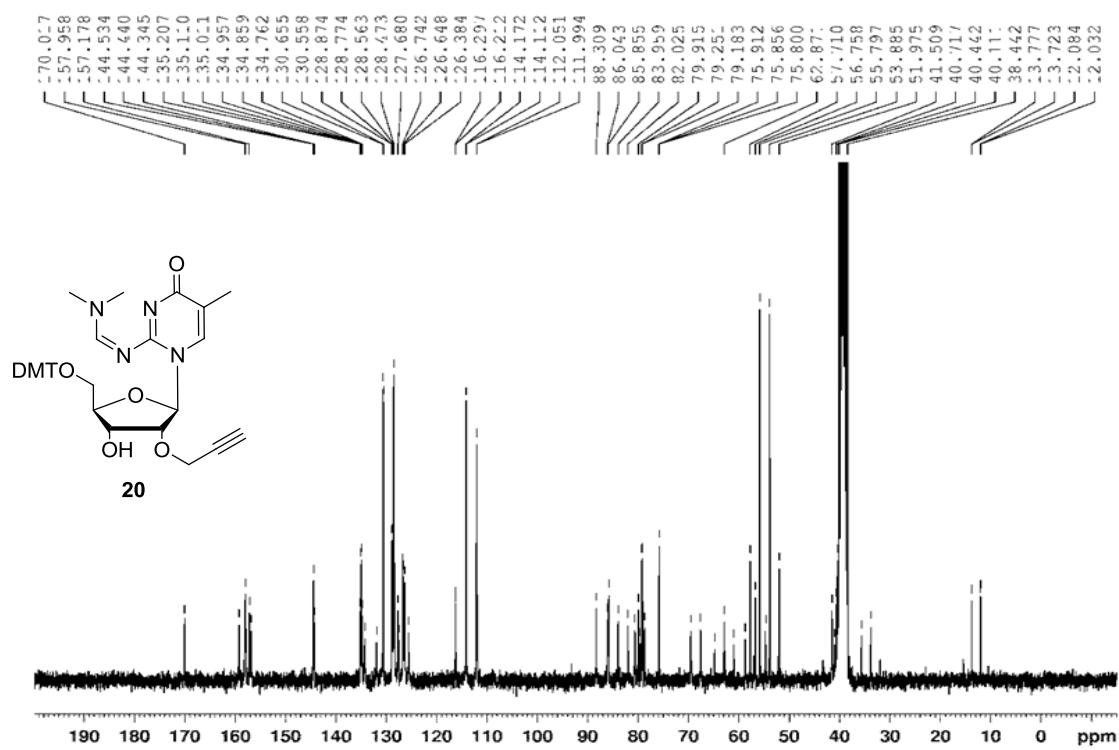
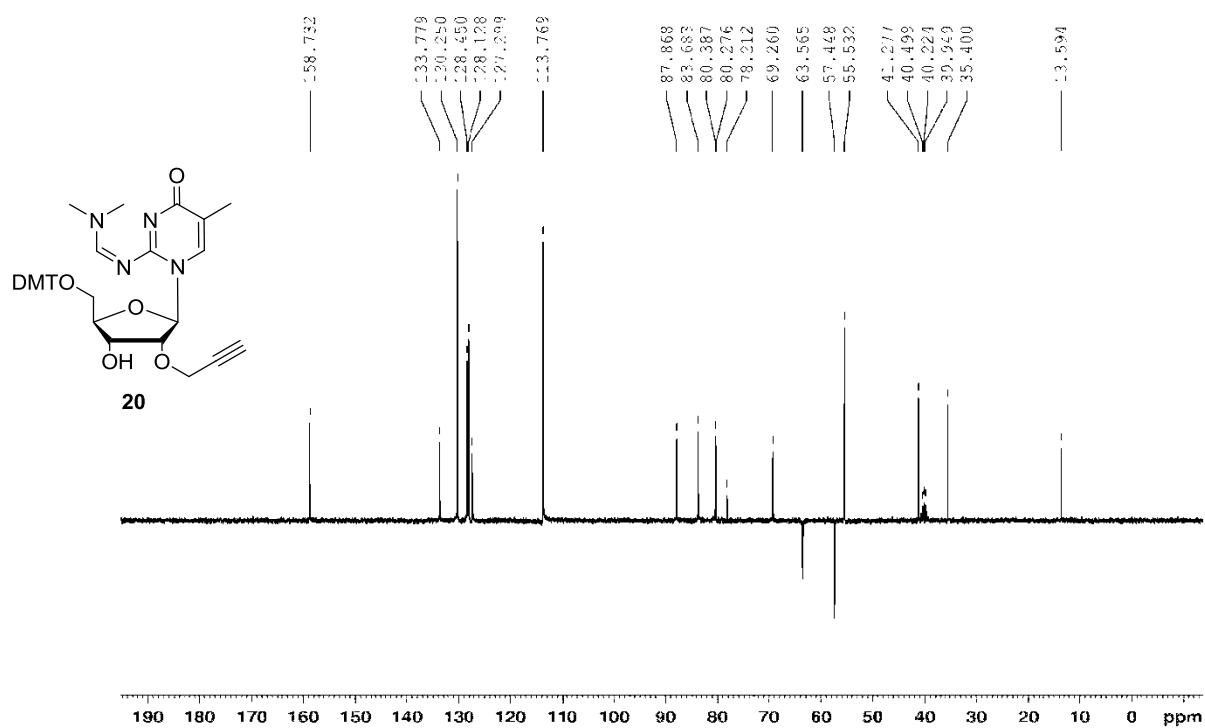
**Fig. S67**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **18**.

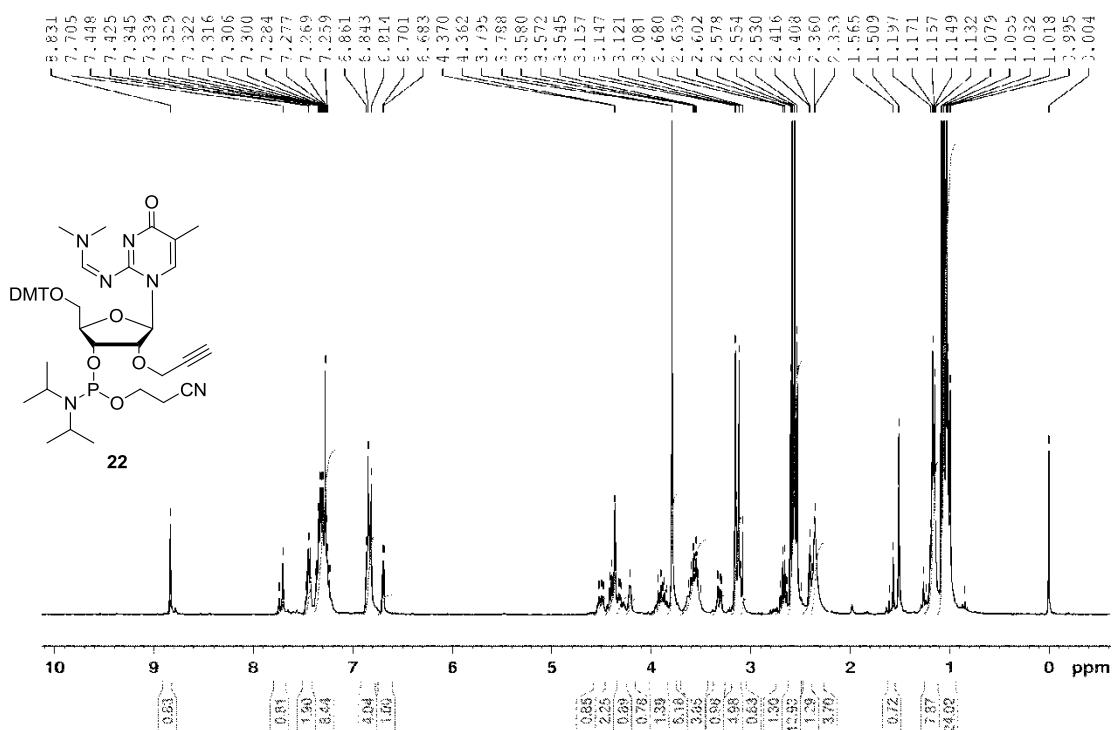


**Fig. S68**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **20**.

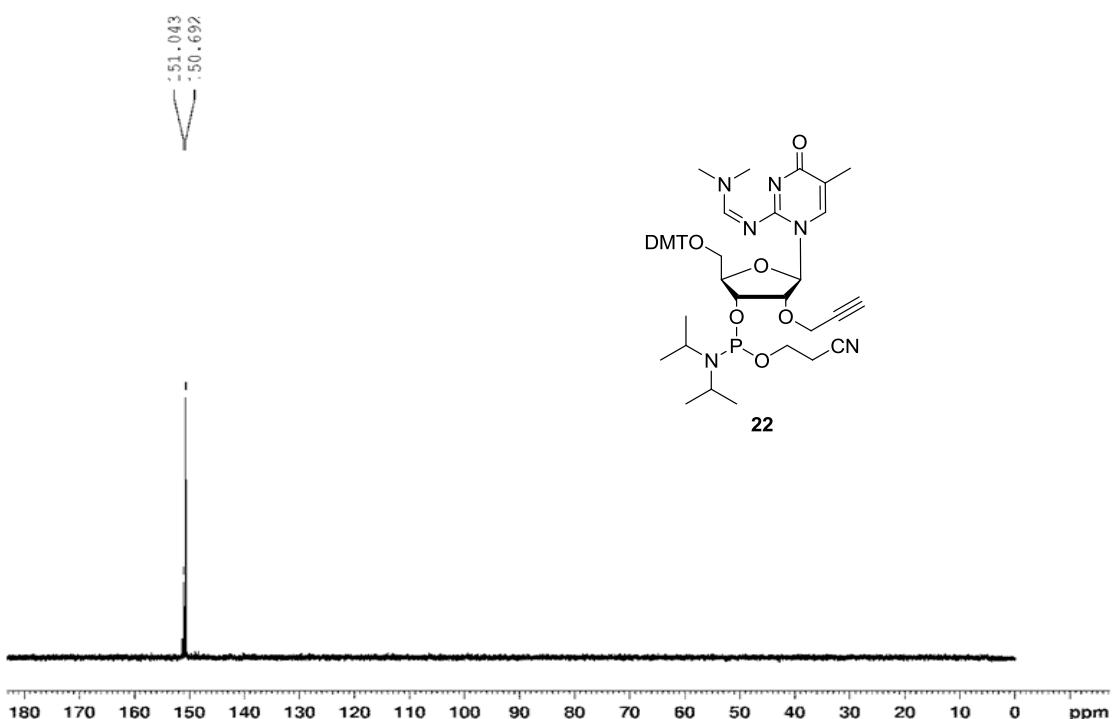


**Fig. S69**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **20**.

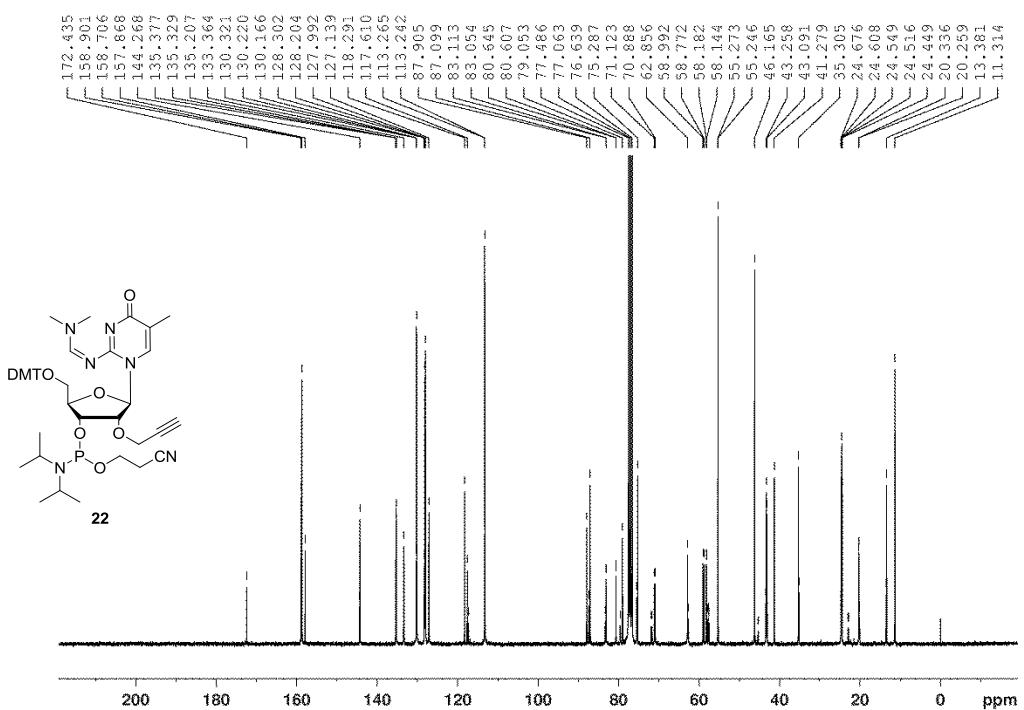




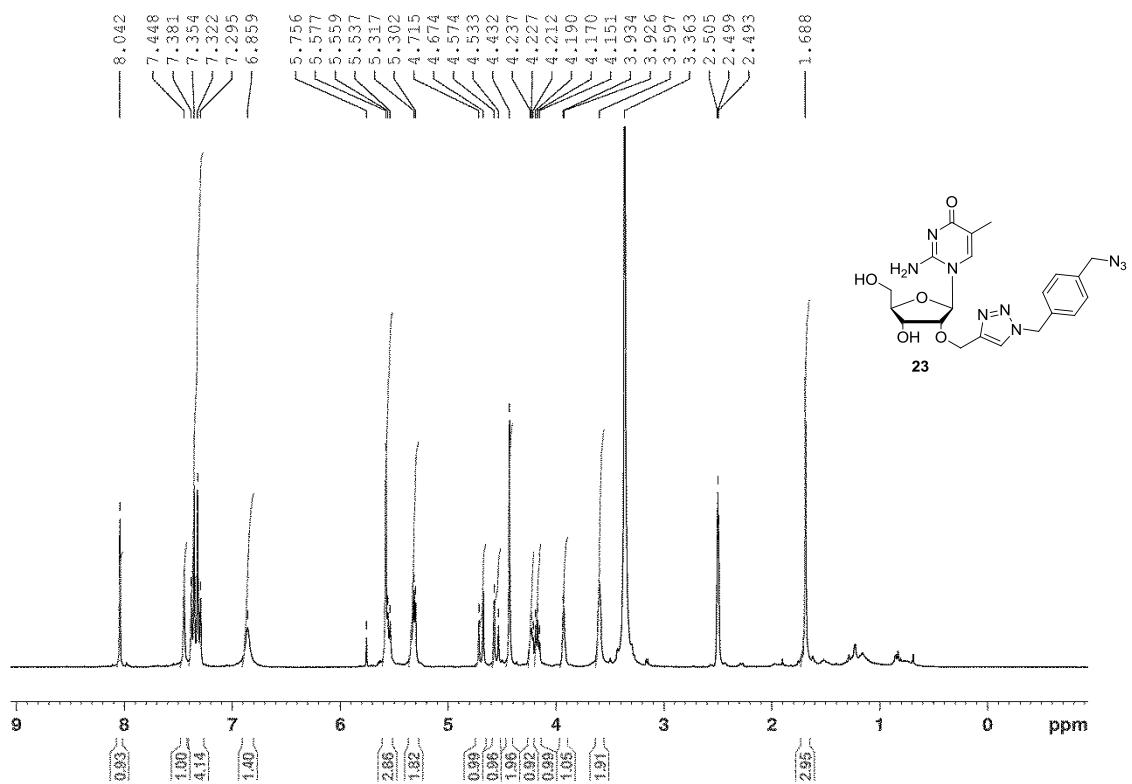
**Fig. S72** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound 22.



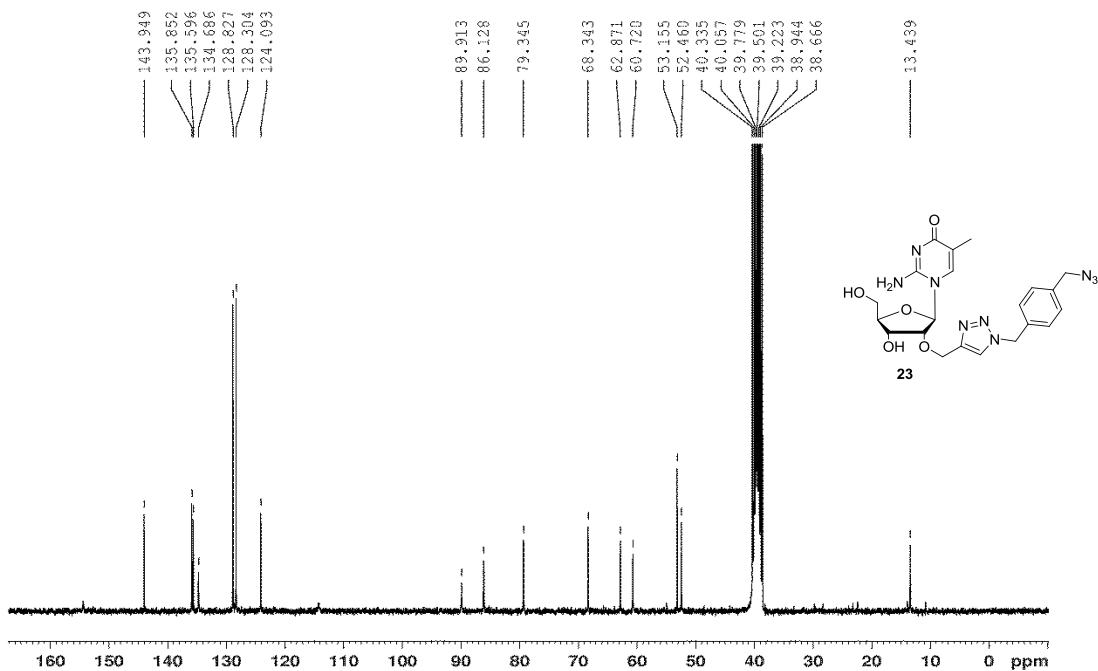
**Fig. S73** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectrum of compound 22.



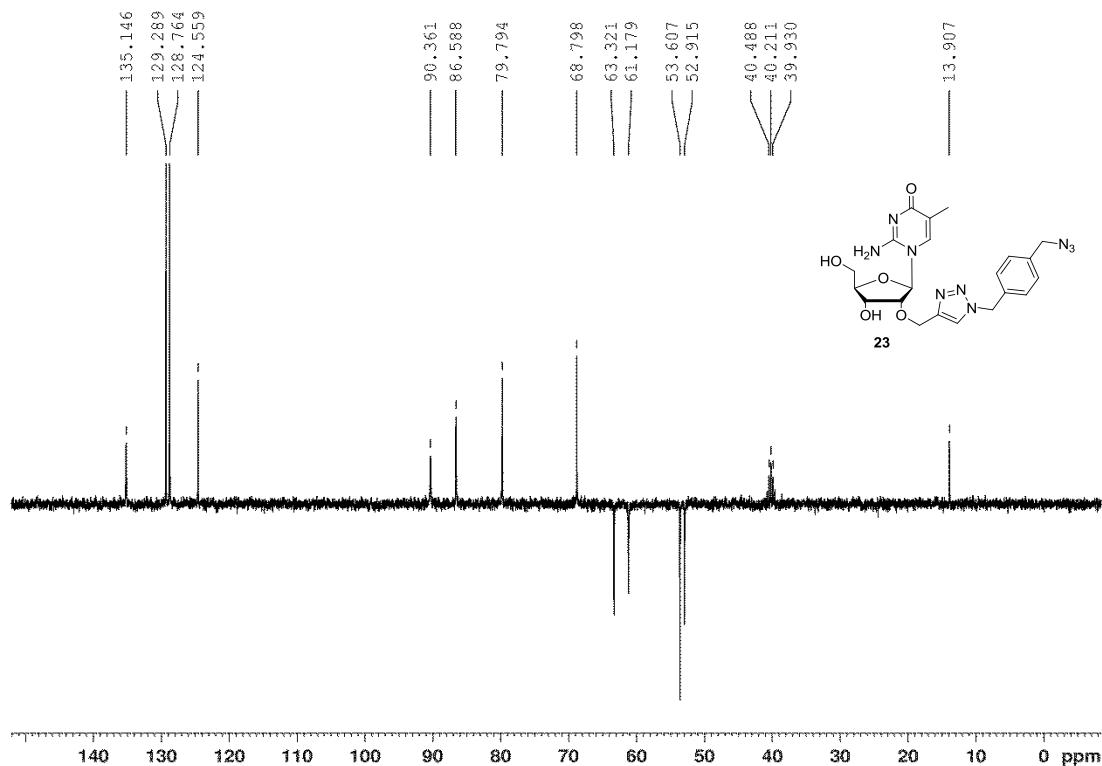
**Fig. S74**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound 22.



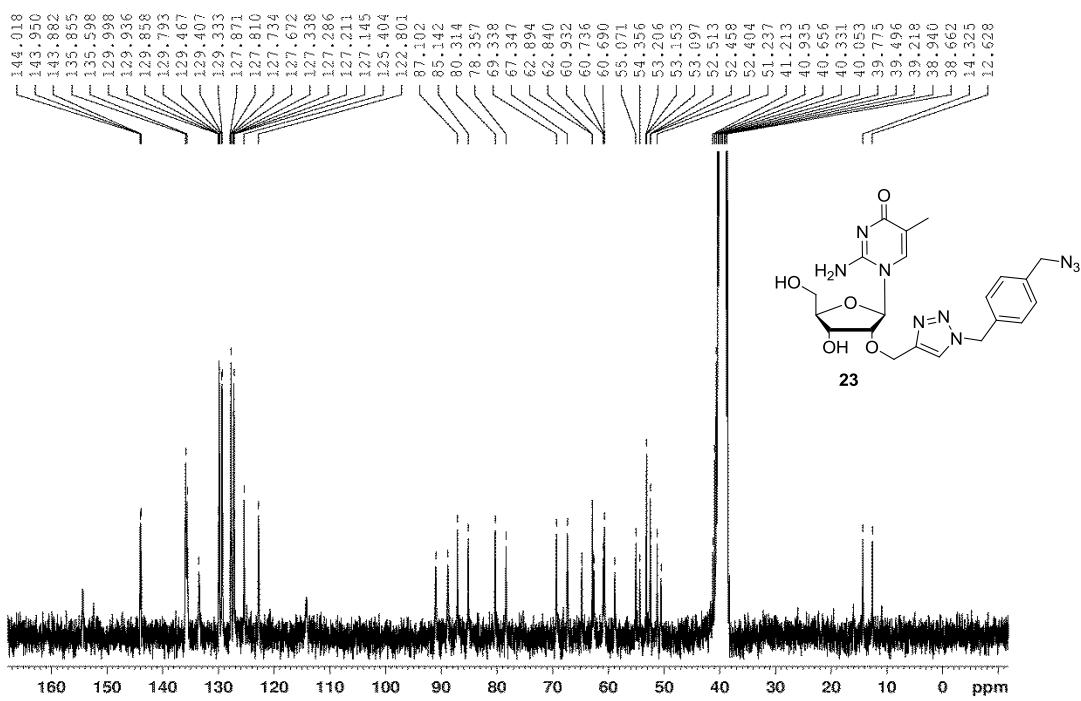
**Fig. S75**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **23**.



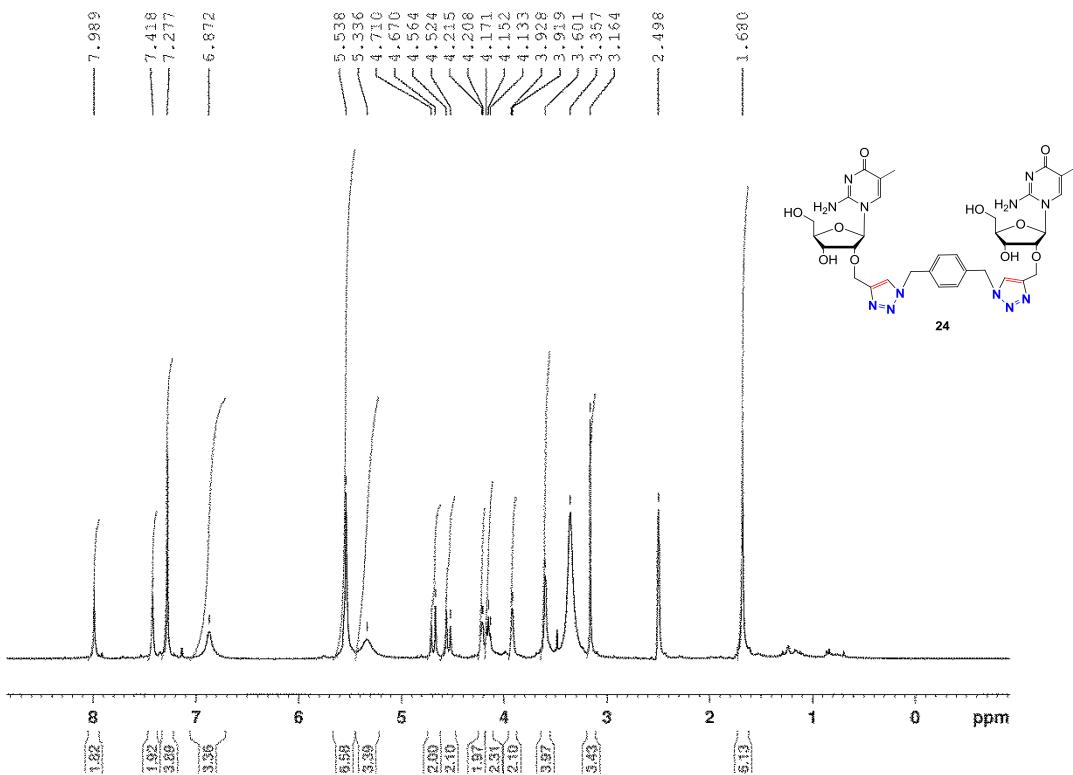
**Fig. S76** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of compound 23.



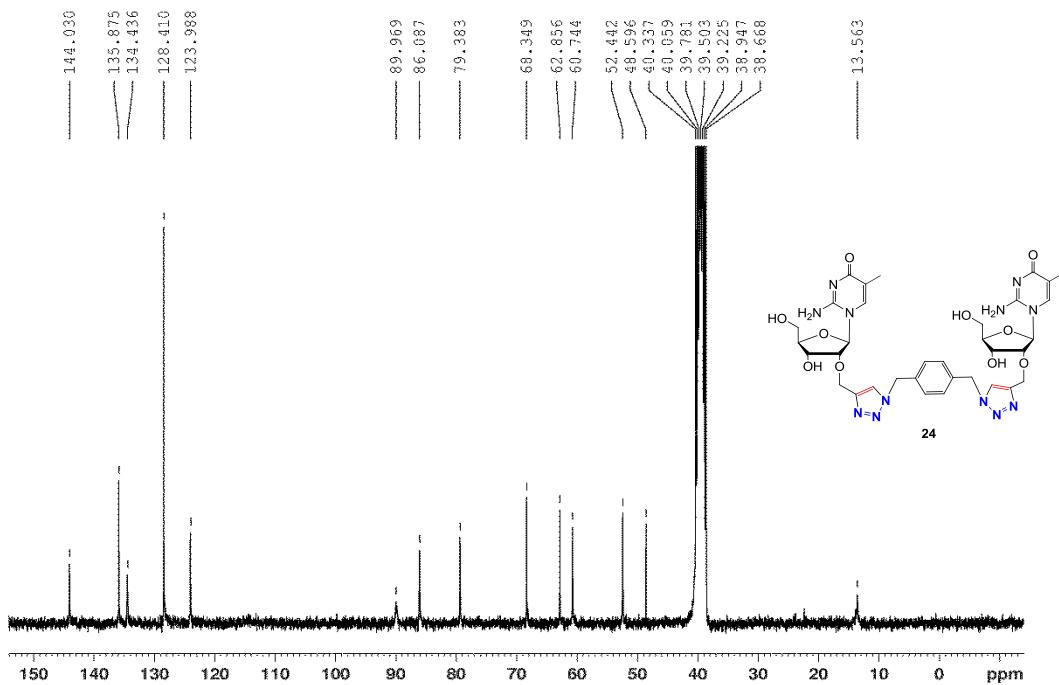
**Fig. S77** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound 23.



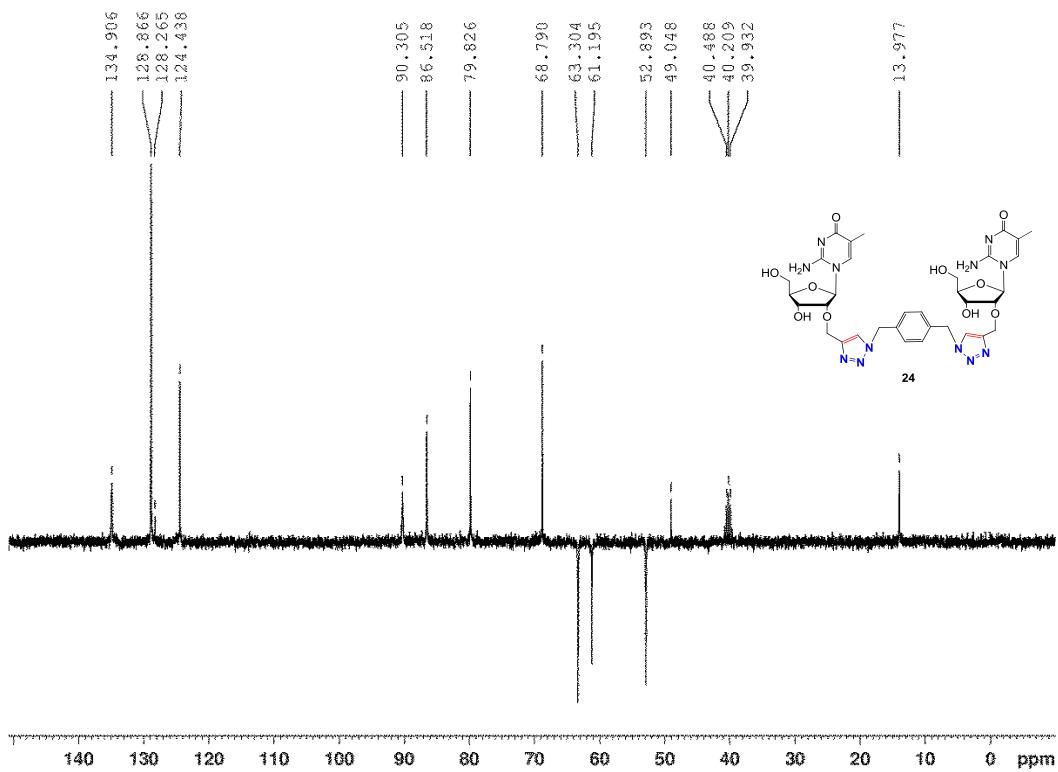
**Fig. S78**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **23**.



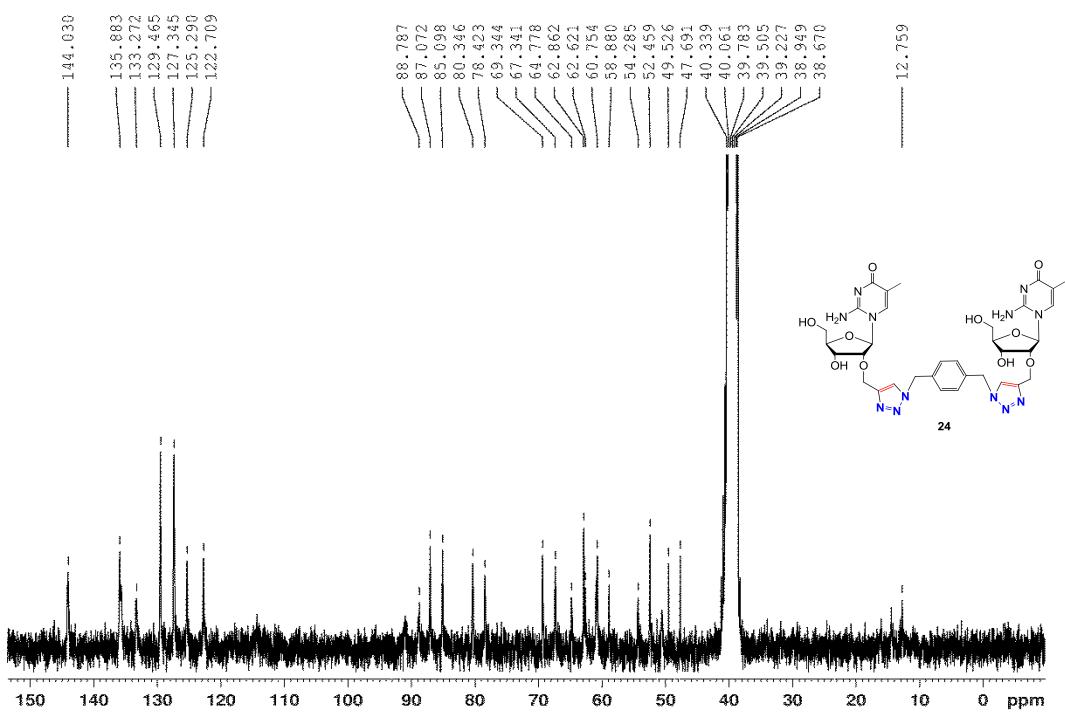
**Fig. S79**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **24**.



**Fig. S80**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound 27.



**Fig. S81** DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of compound 24.



**Fig. S82**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  gated-decoupled spectrum of compound **24**.