

## **Supplementary material**

(<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and Mass spectra of synthesized compounds)

### **Alkylated histidine based short cationic antifungal peptides: synthesis, biological evaluation and mechanistic investigations**

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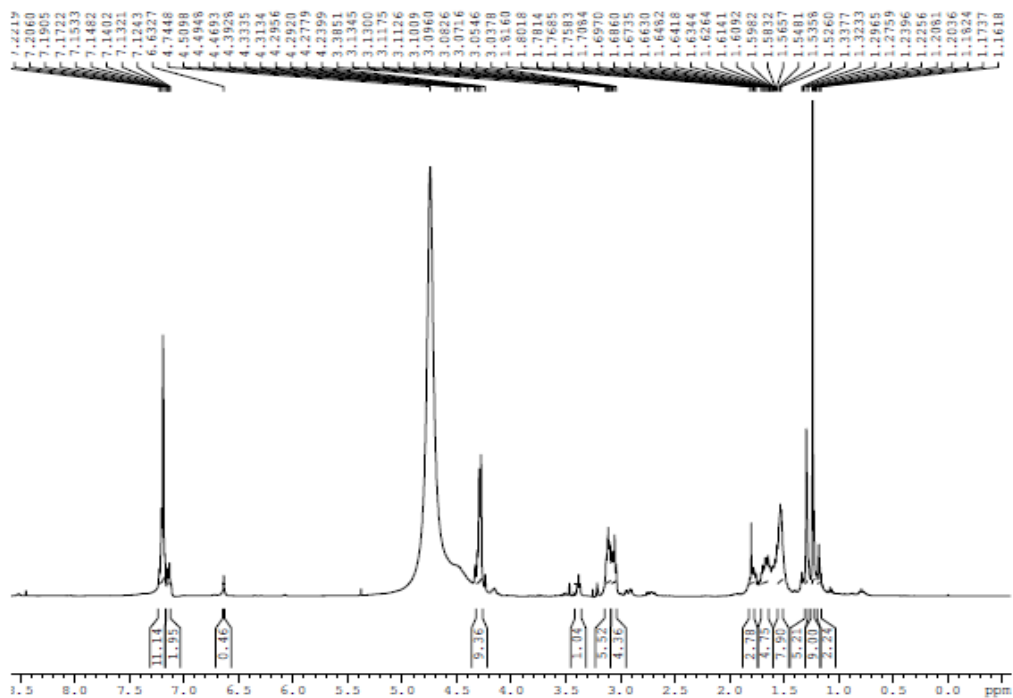
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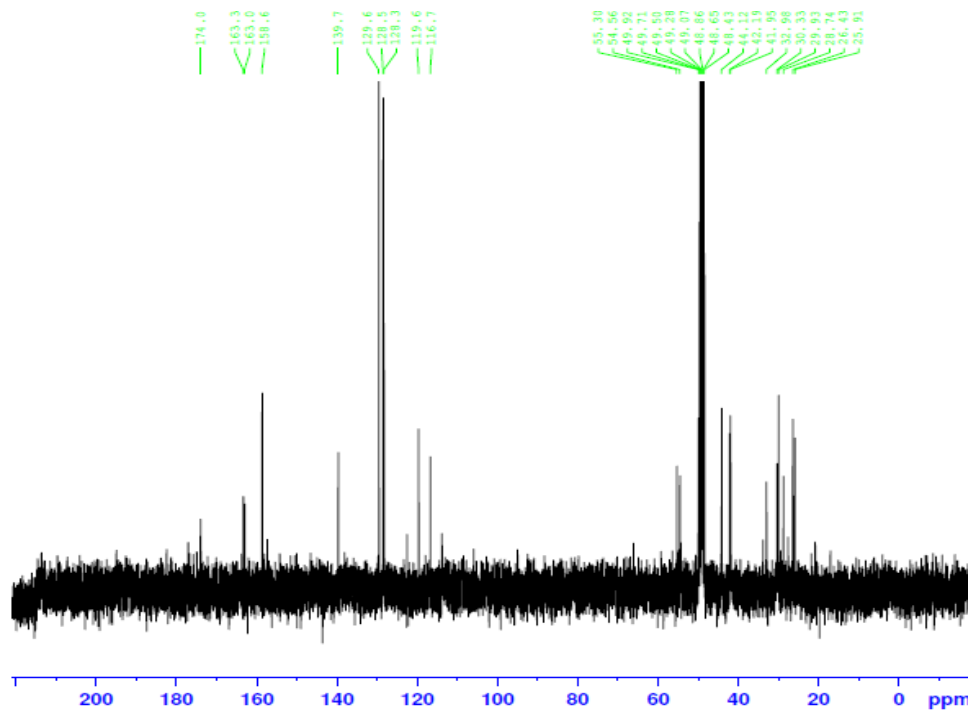
<sup>b</sup>*Department of Microbial Biotechnology, Panjab University, Sector-14, Chandigarh-160014, India*

<sup>c</sup>*Department of Medicinal Chemistry, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPER), Sector-67, S.A.S. Nagar, Punjab-160062, India*

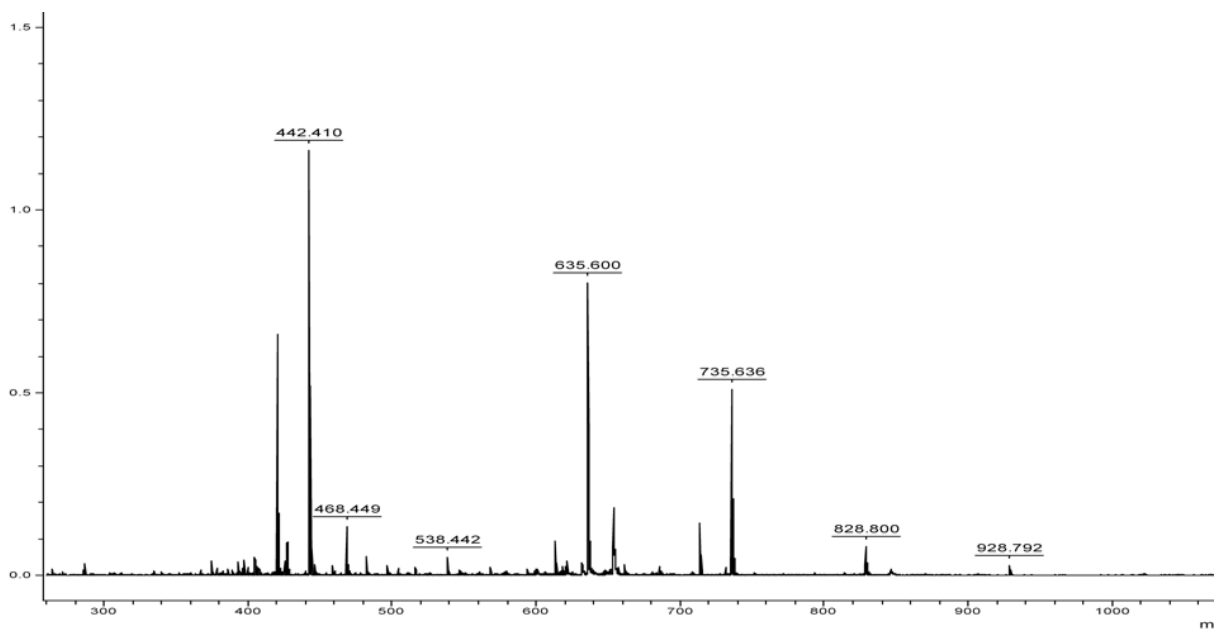
### Boc-His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14a):



<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of Boc-His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14a)

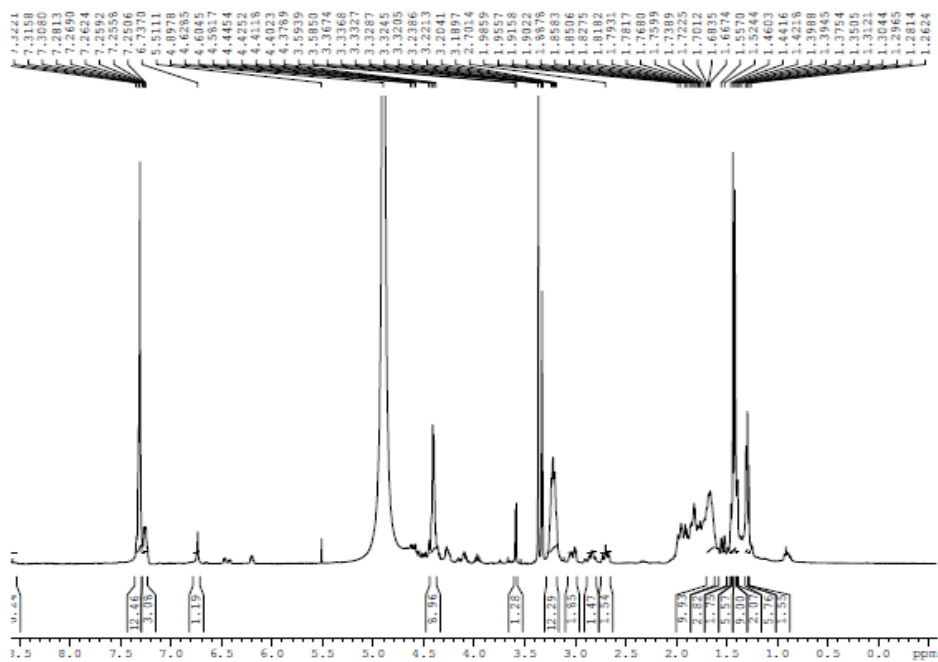


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR of Boc-His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14a)

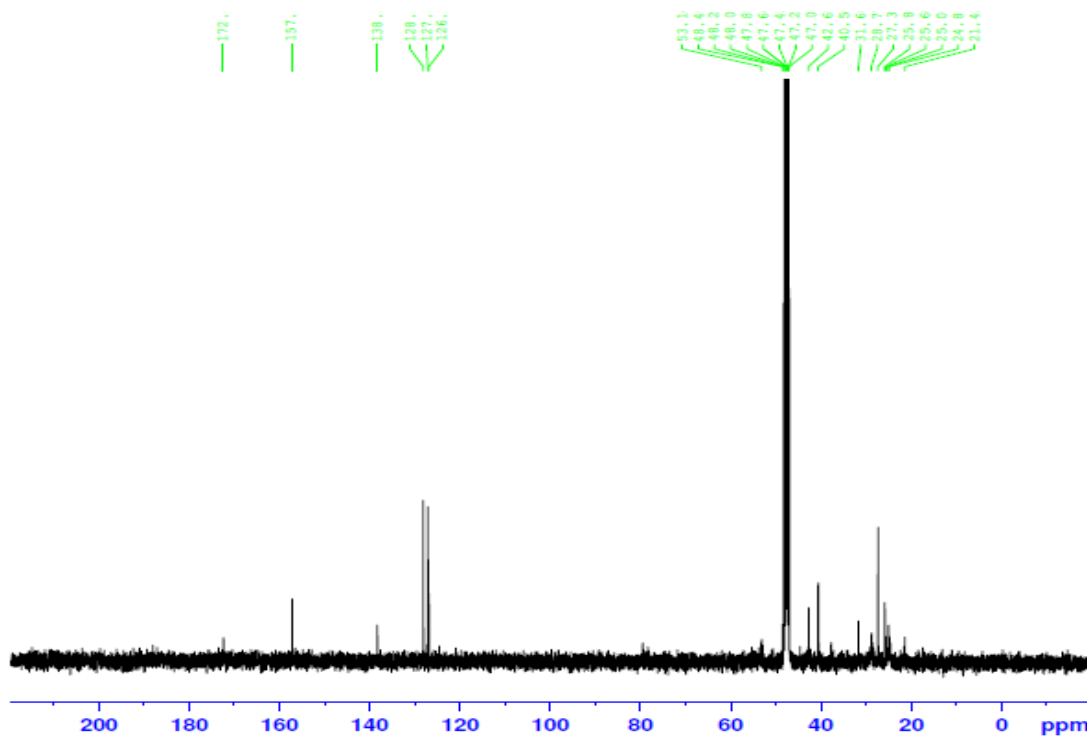


MALDI- MS of Boc-His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14a**),  $[MH]^+$  713.64

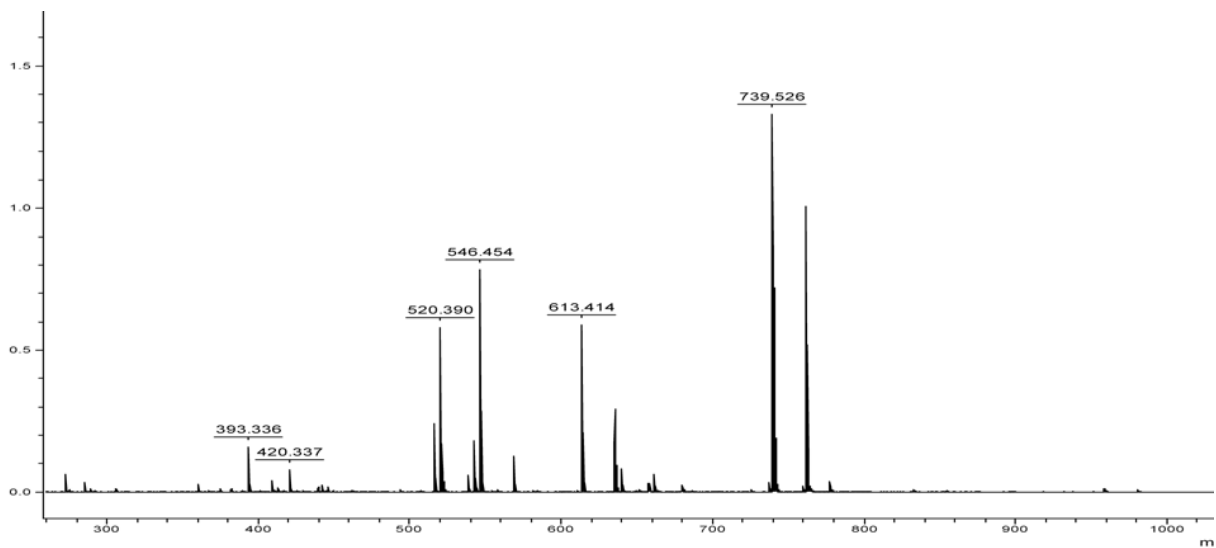
**Boc-His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14b**):**



$^1H$ -NMR of Boc-His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14b**)

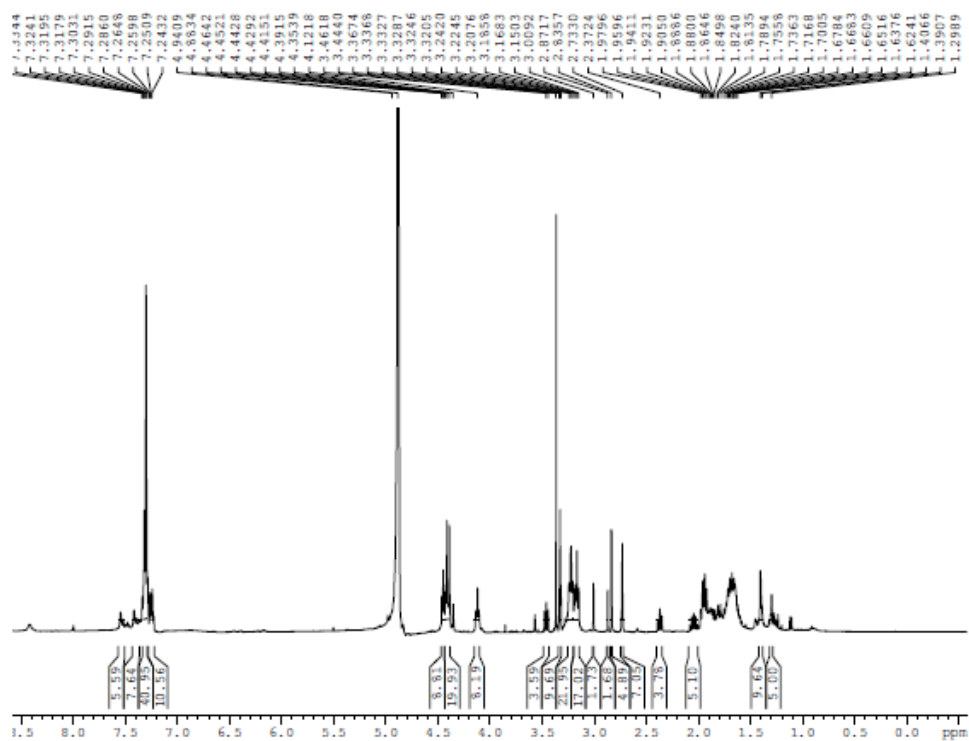


$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of Boc-His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14b**)

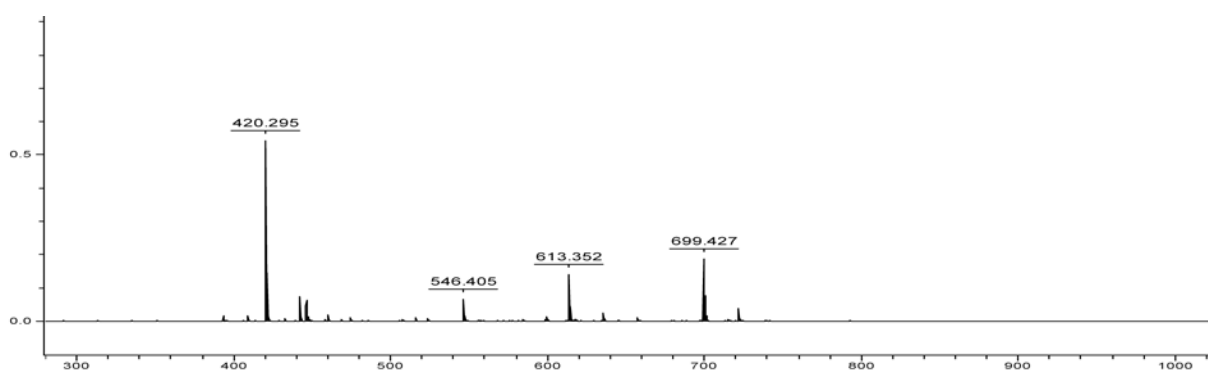


MALDI-MS of Boc-His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14b**),  $[\text{MH}]^+$  739.52

**Boc-His(2-i-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14c):**

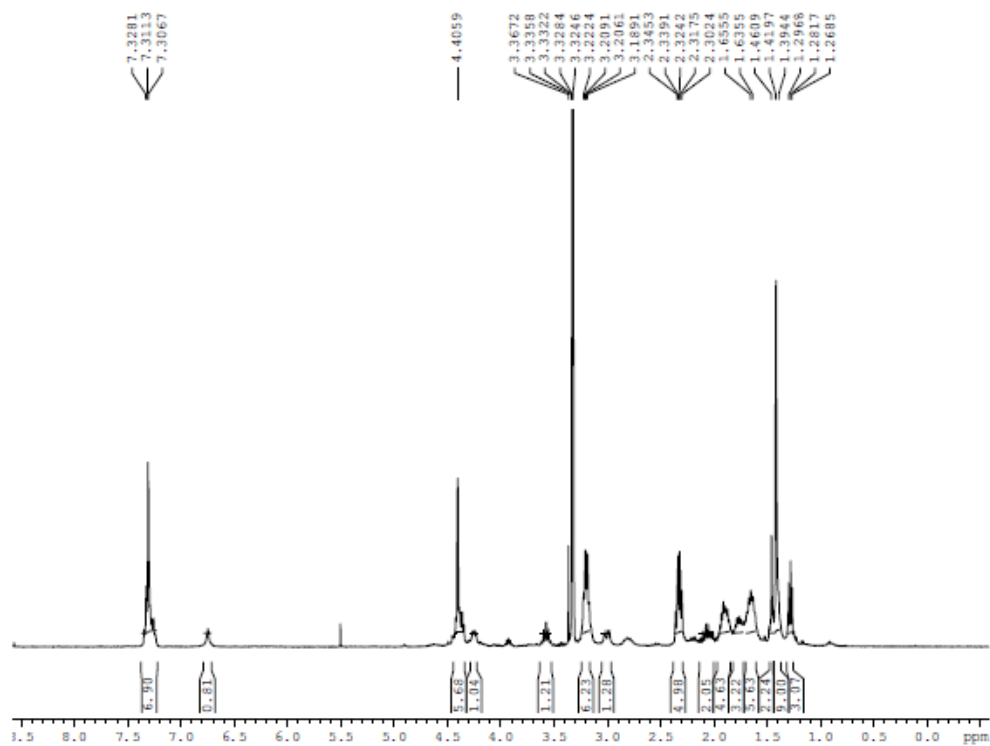


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of Boc-His(2-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14c)

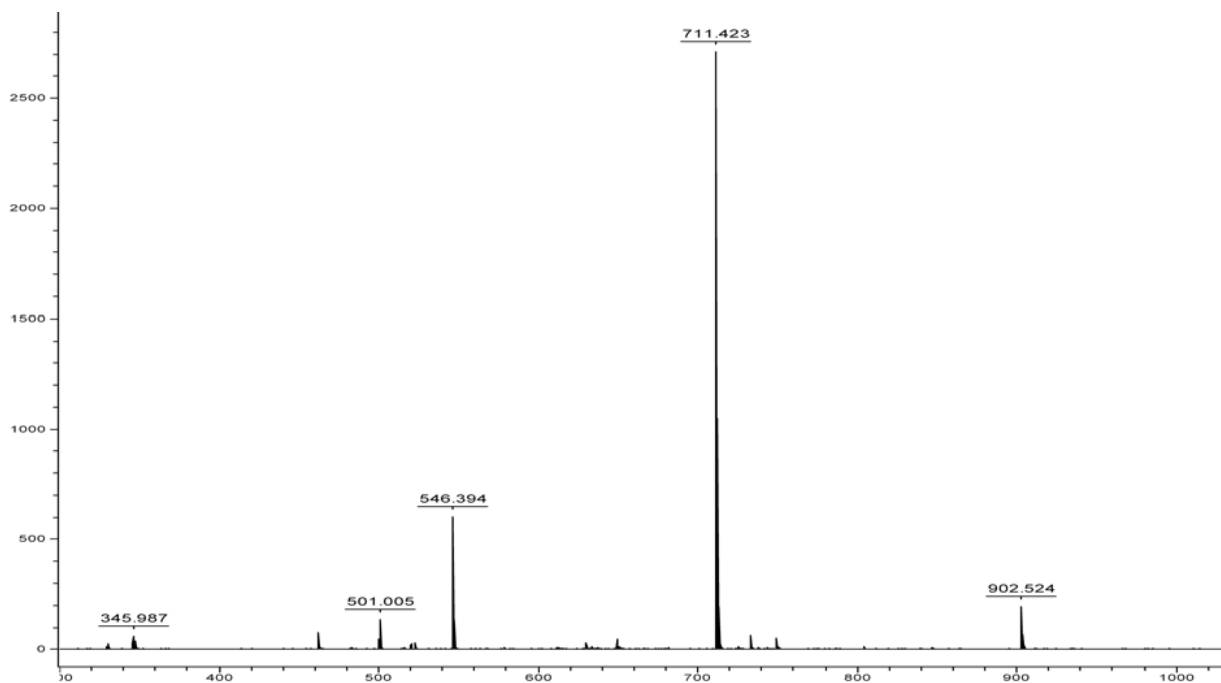


MALDI-MS of Boc-His(2-i-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14c), [MH]<sup>+</sup> 699.42

**Boc-His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14d):**

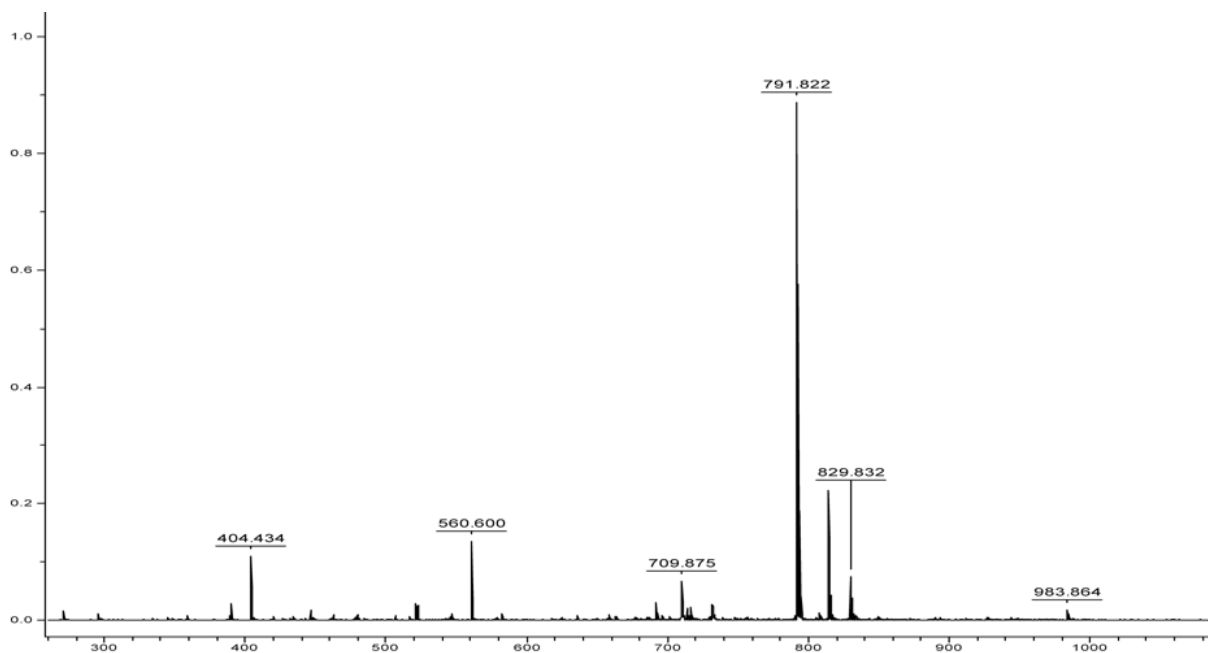


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of Boc-His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14d)



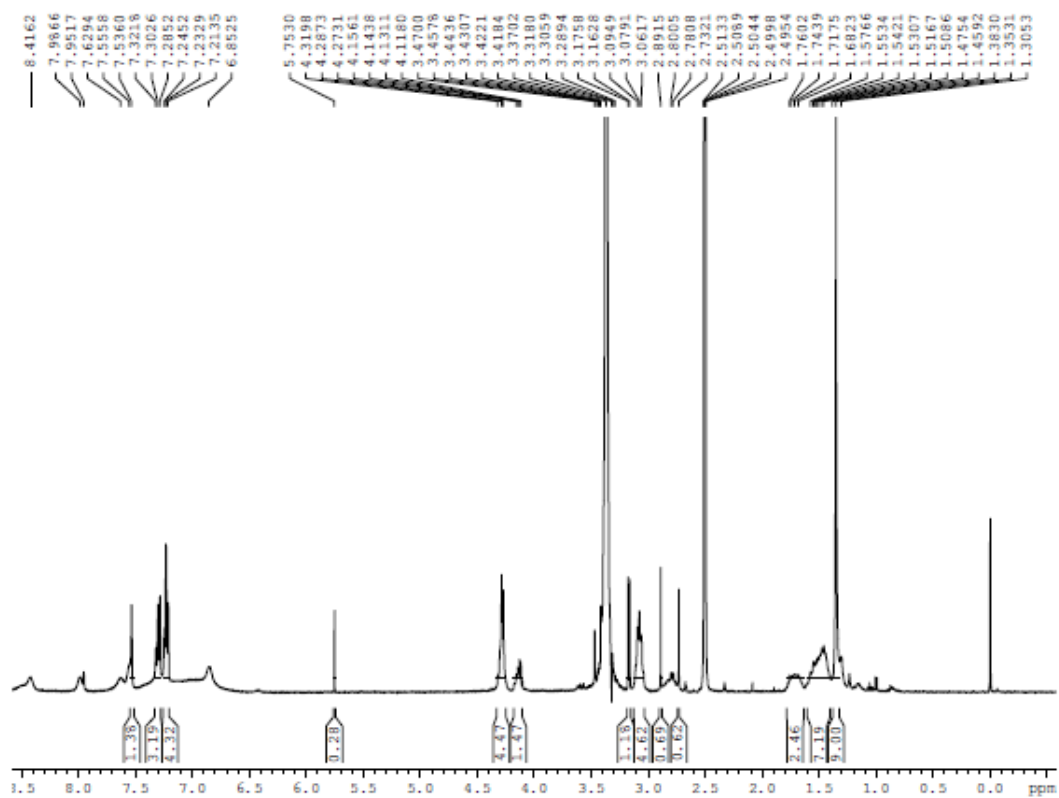
MALDI-MS of Boc-His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14d), [MH]<sup>+</sup> 711.42





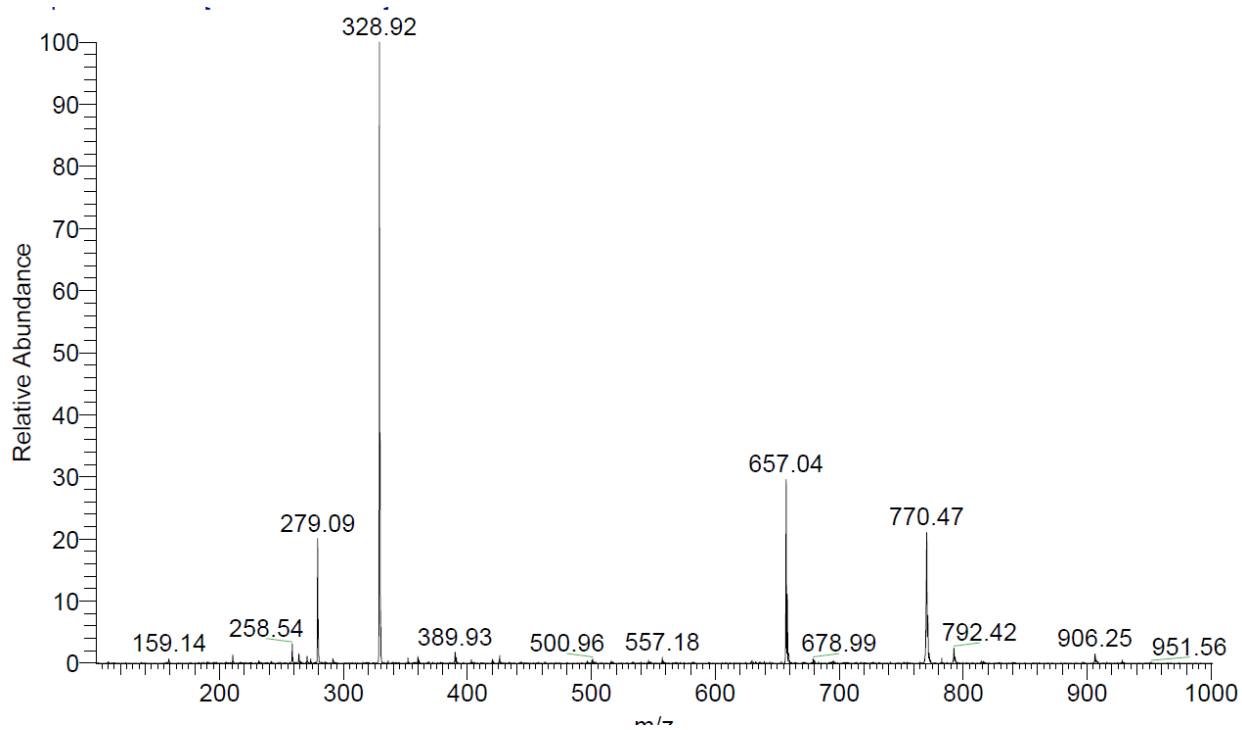
MALDI-MS of Boc-His(2-adamantyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14e**),  $[MH]^+$  791.82

**Boc-His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (14f):**



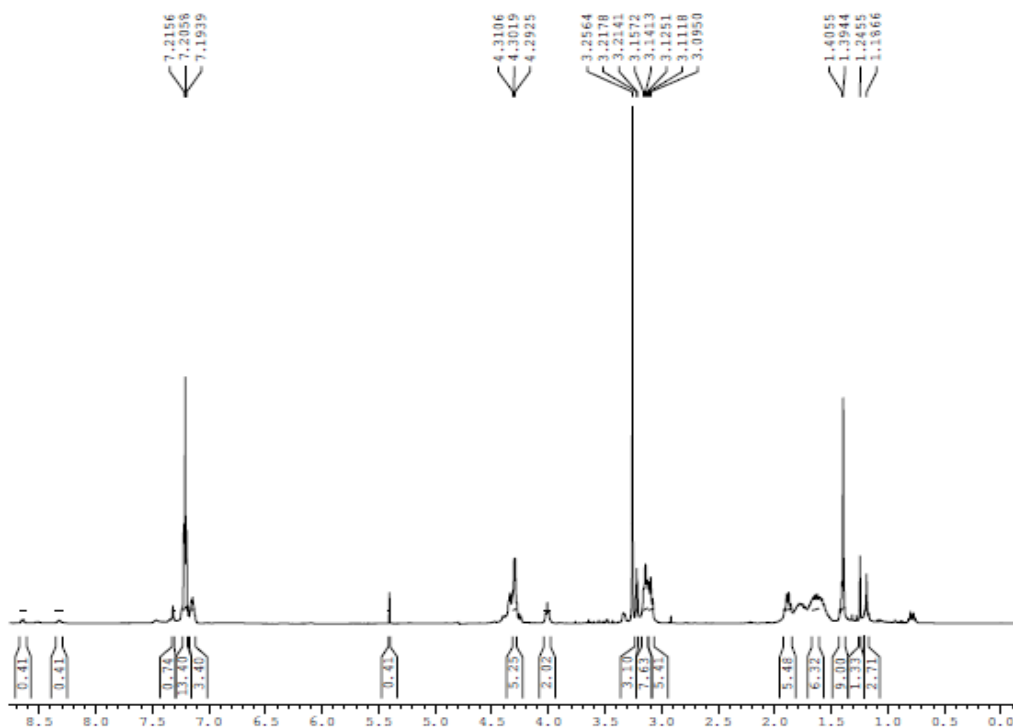
$^1H$ -NMR of Boc-His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14f**)



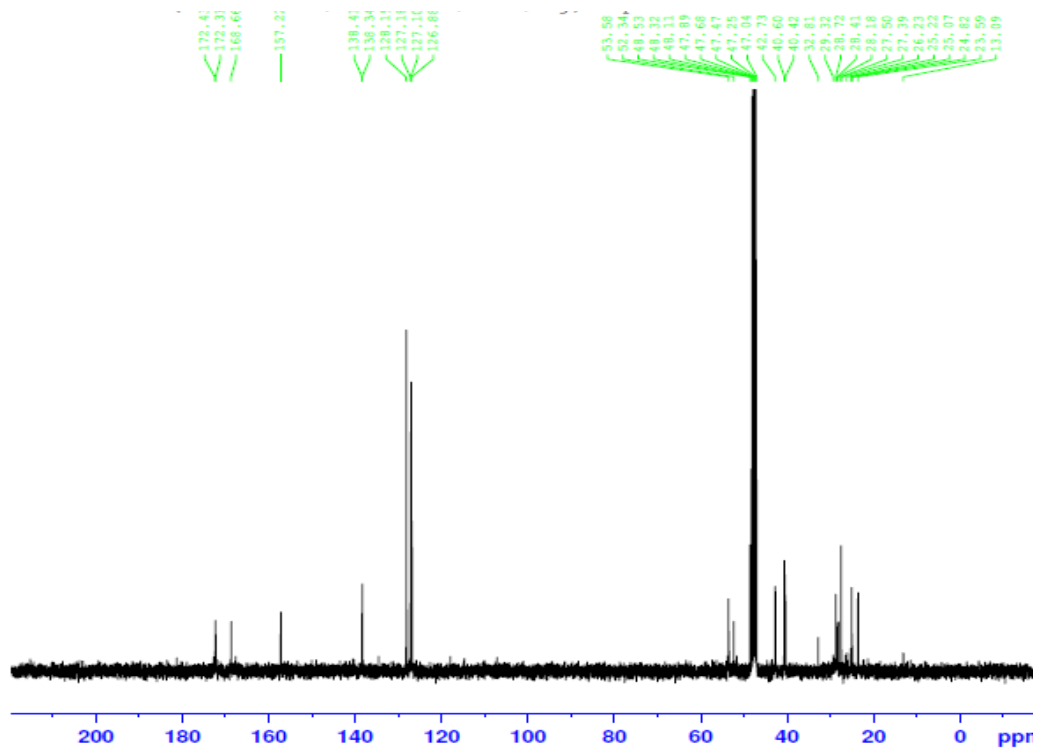


MS of Boc-His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**14f**),  $[MH]^+$  657.04

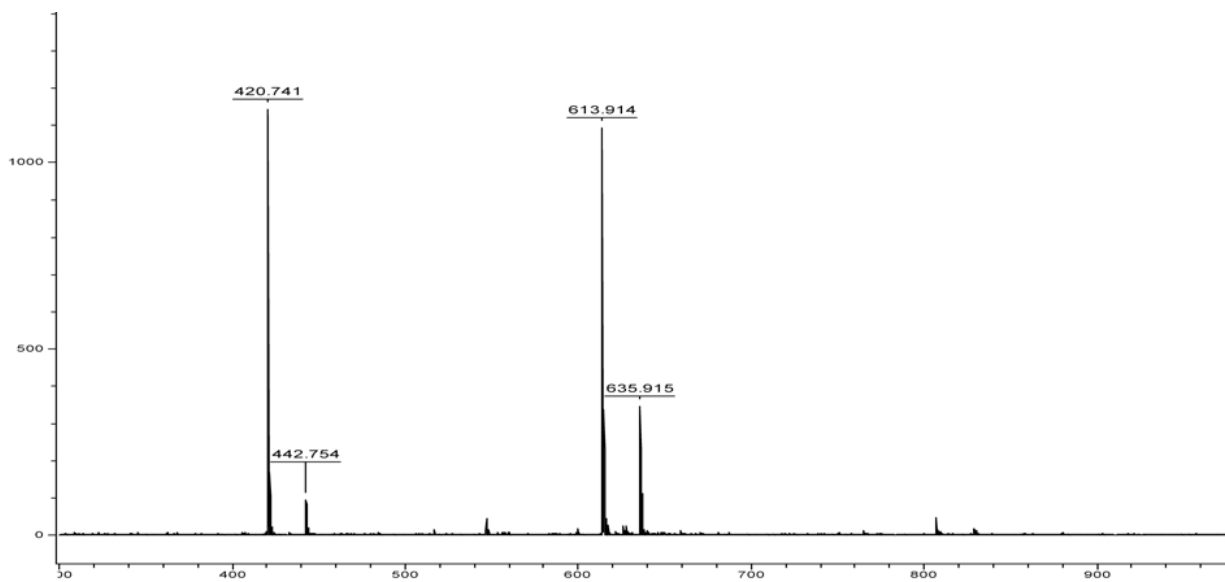
**His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15a):**



$^1H$ -NMR of His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15a**)

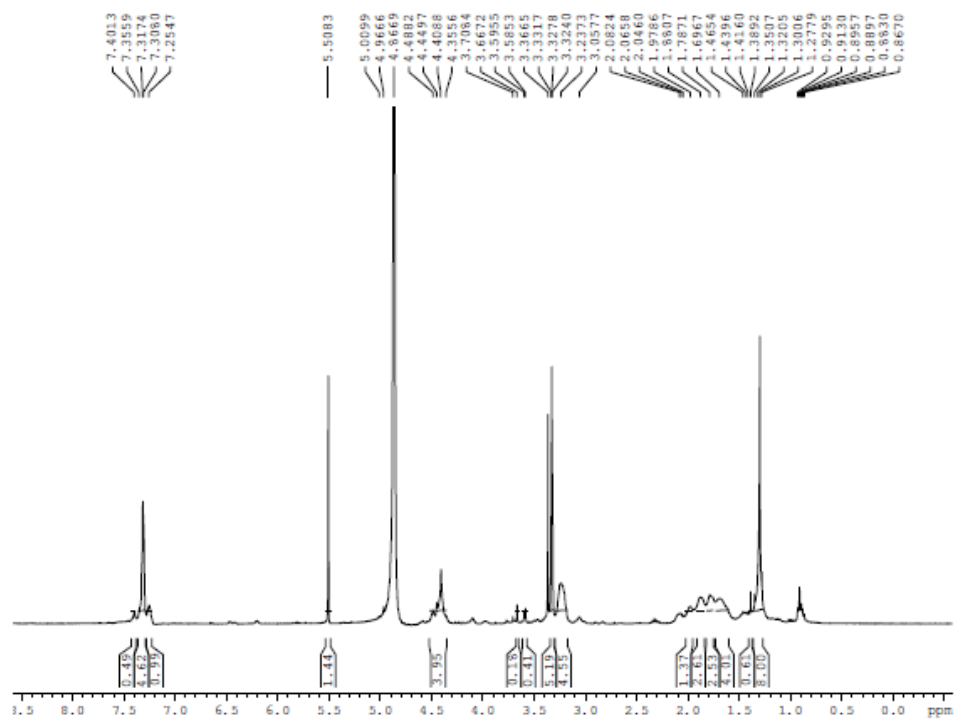


$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of His(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15a**)

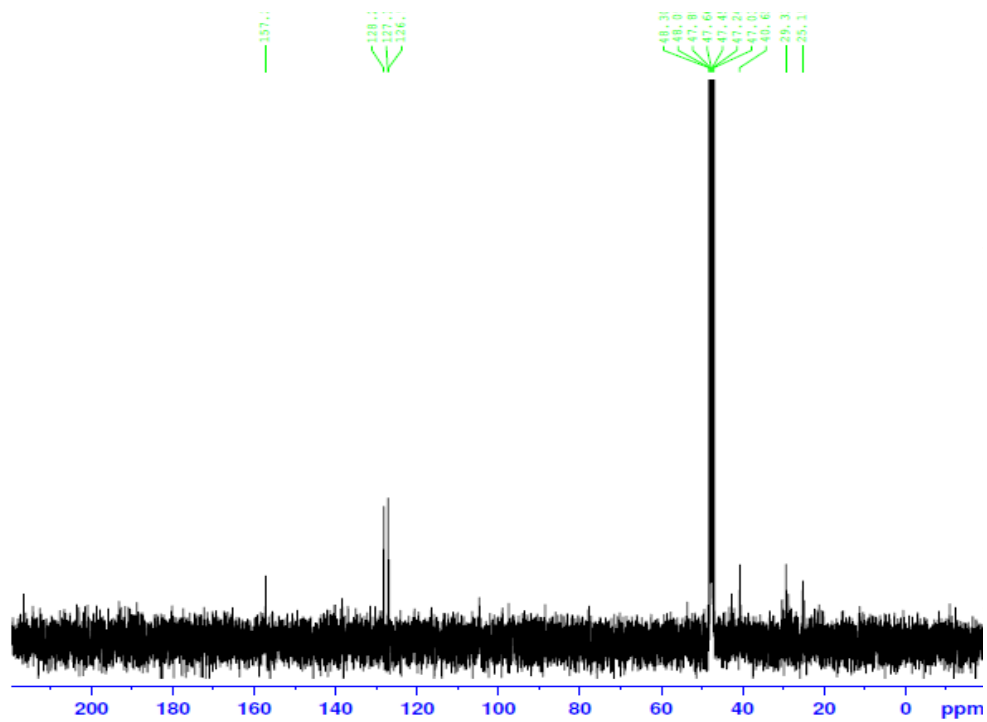


MALDI- MS of His-(2-t-butyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15a**),  $[\text{MH}]^+$  613.91

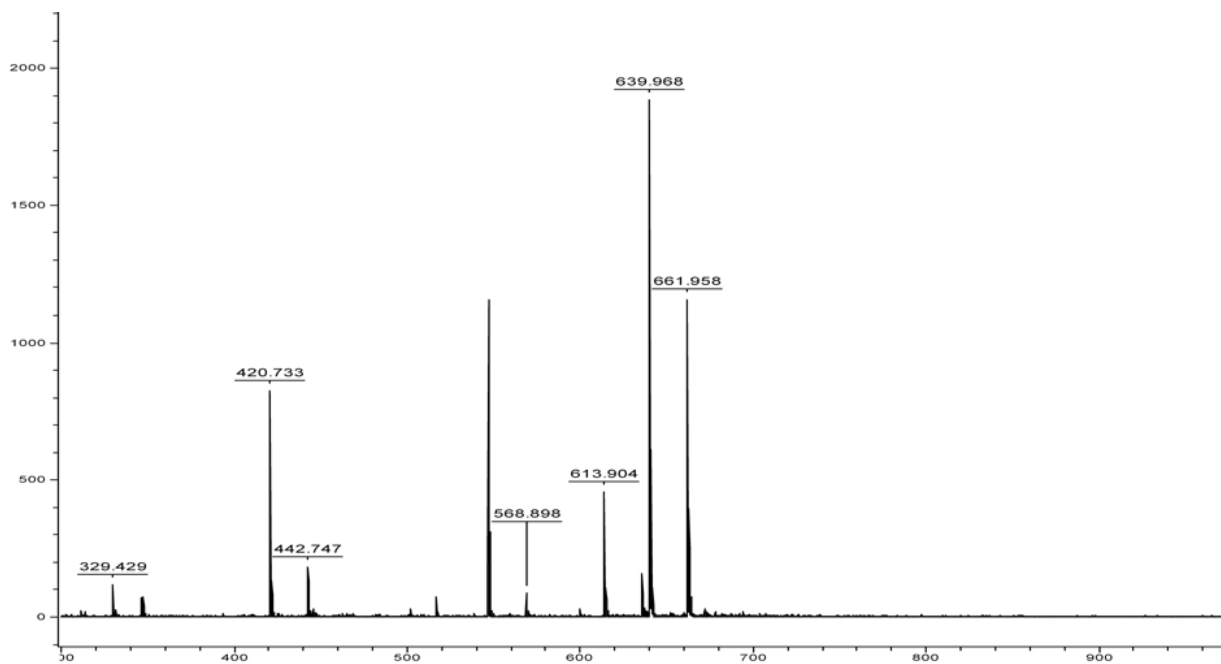
### His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15b):



<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15b)

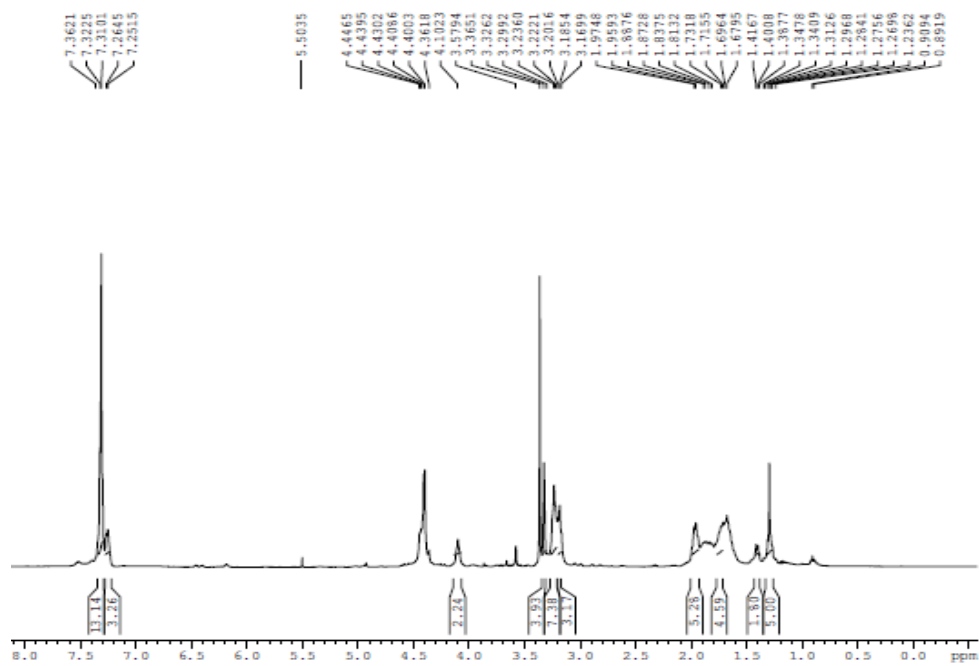


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR of His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15b)

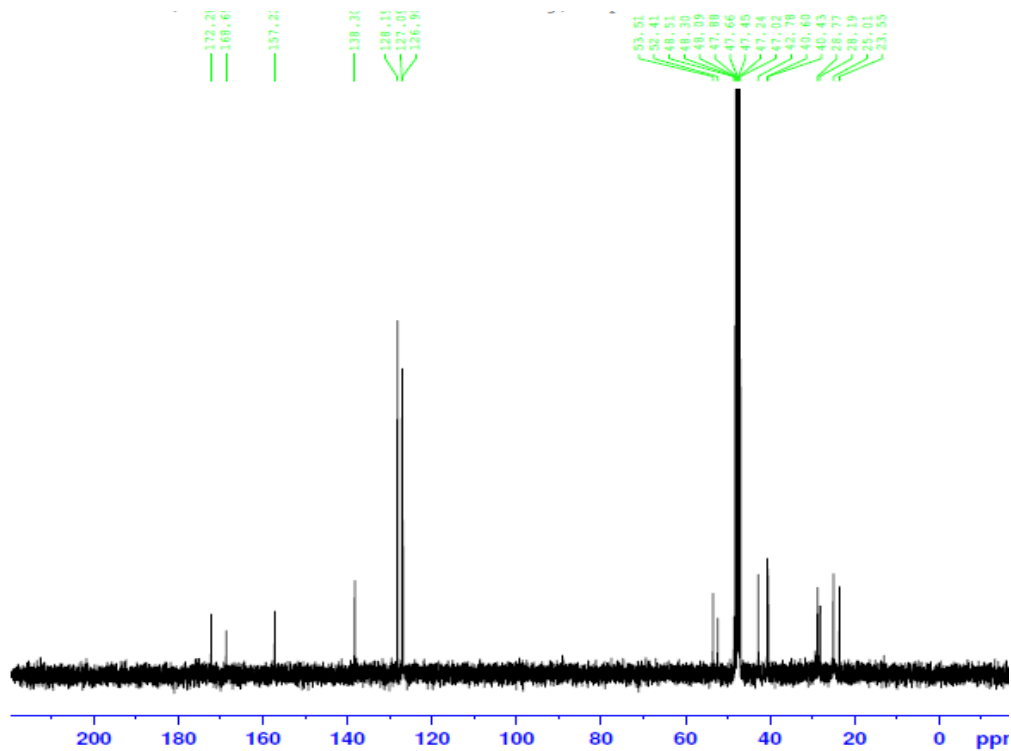


MALDI-MS of His(2-cyclohexyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15b**),  $[MH]^+$  639.96

**His(2-i-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15c):**

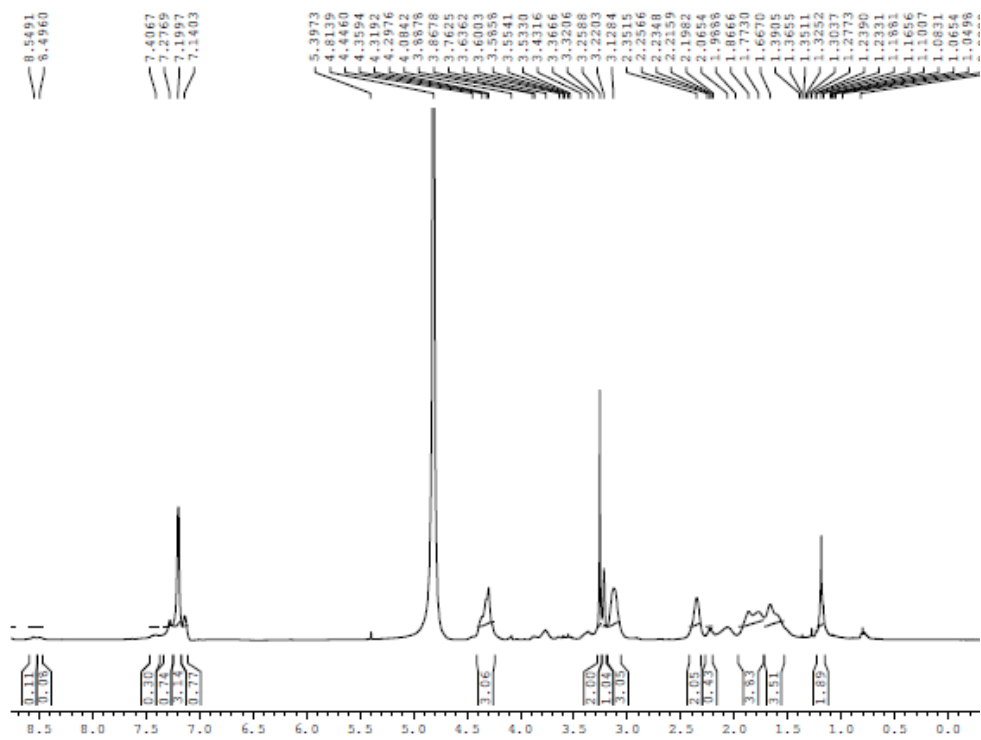


$^1H$ -NMR of His(2-i-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15c**)

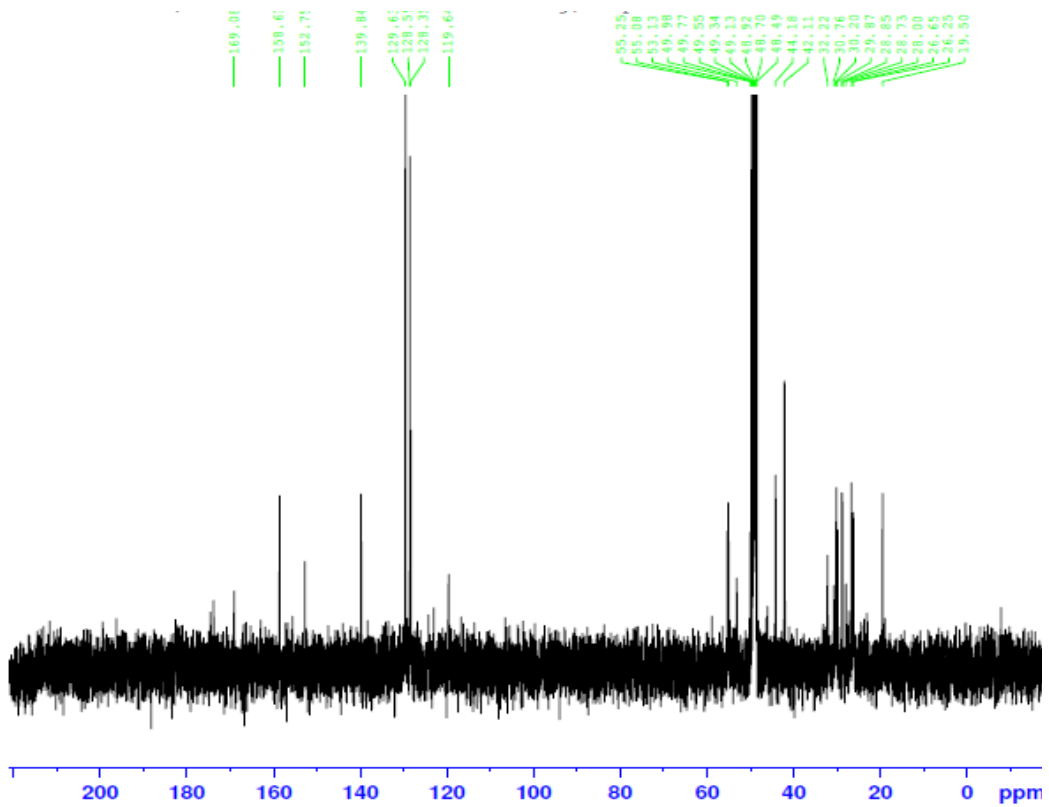


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR of His(2-i-propyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15c)

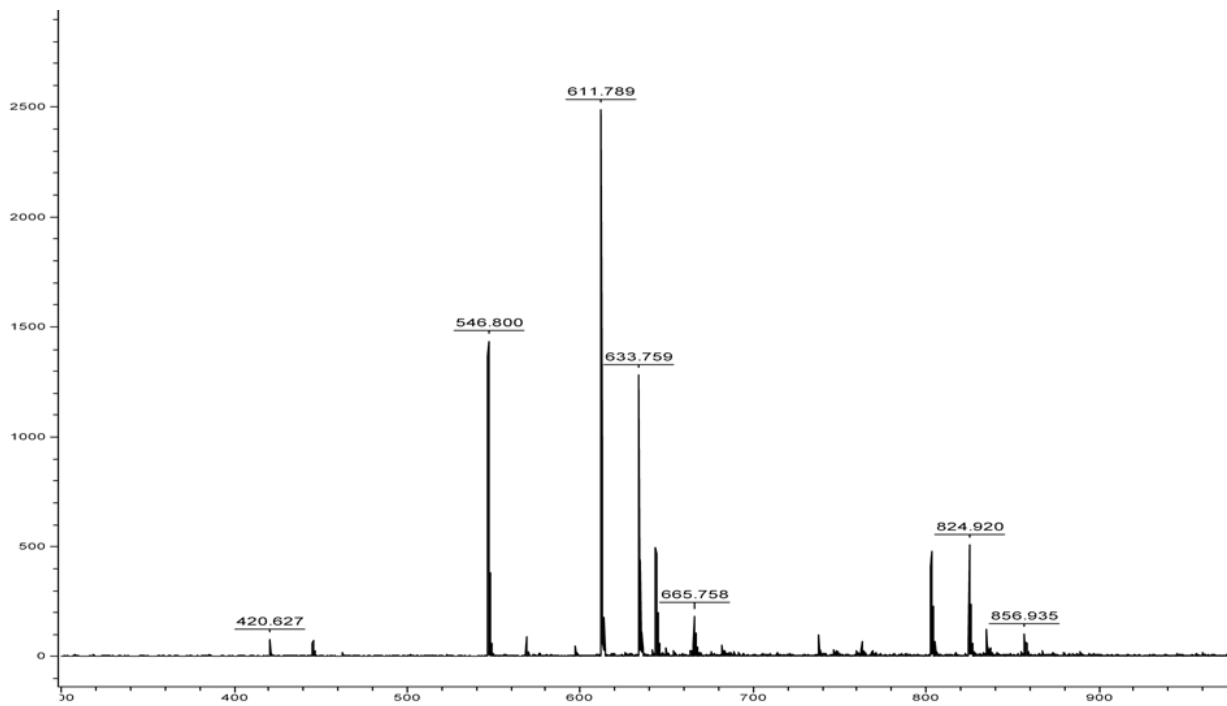
**His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15d):**



<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15d)

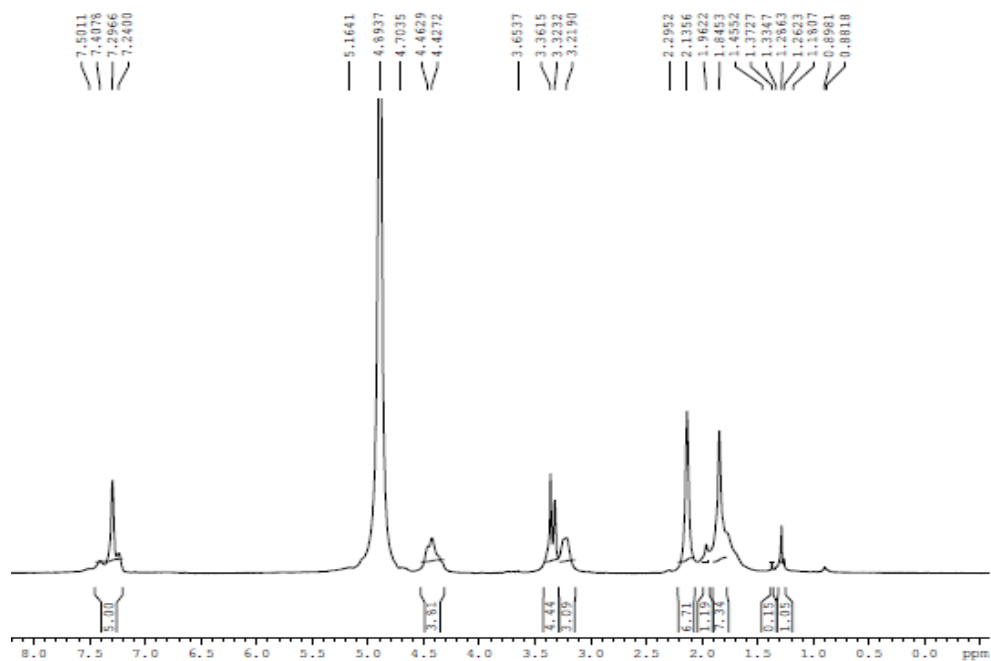


$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15d**)

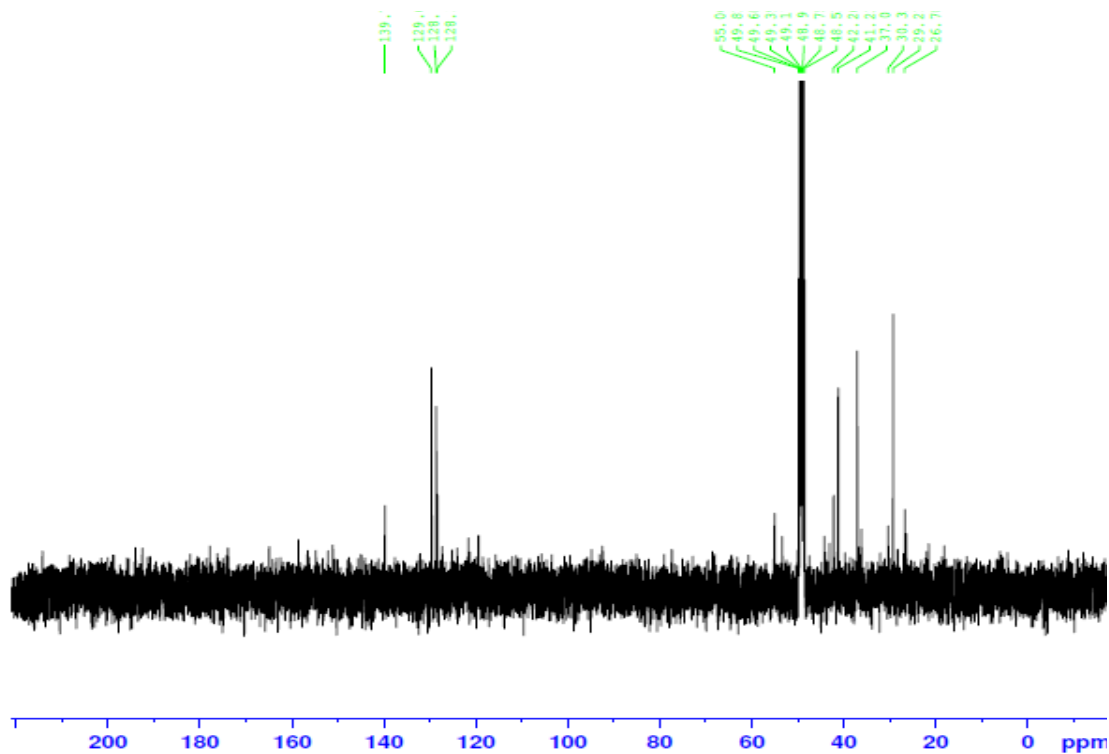


MALDI-MS of His(2-cyclobutyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15d**),  $[\text{MH}]^+$  611.78

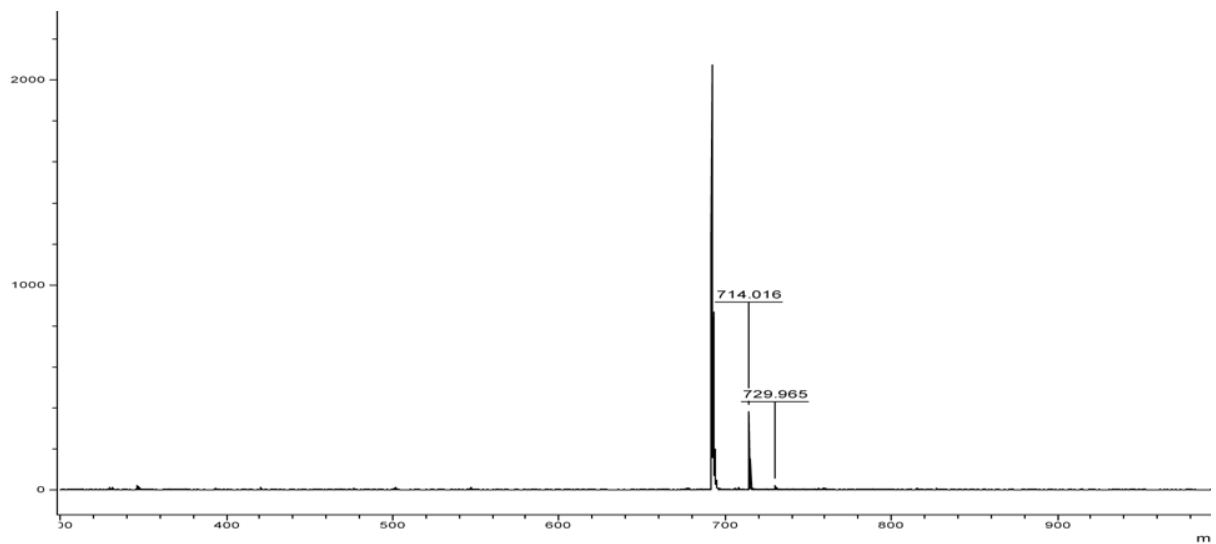
### His(2-adamantyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15e):



### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of His(2-adamantyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15e)

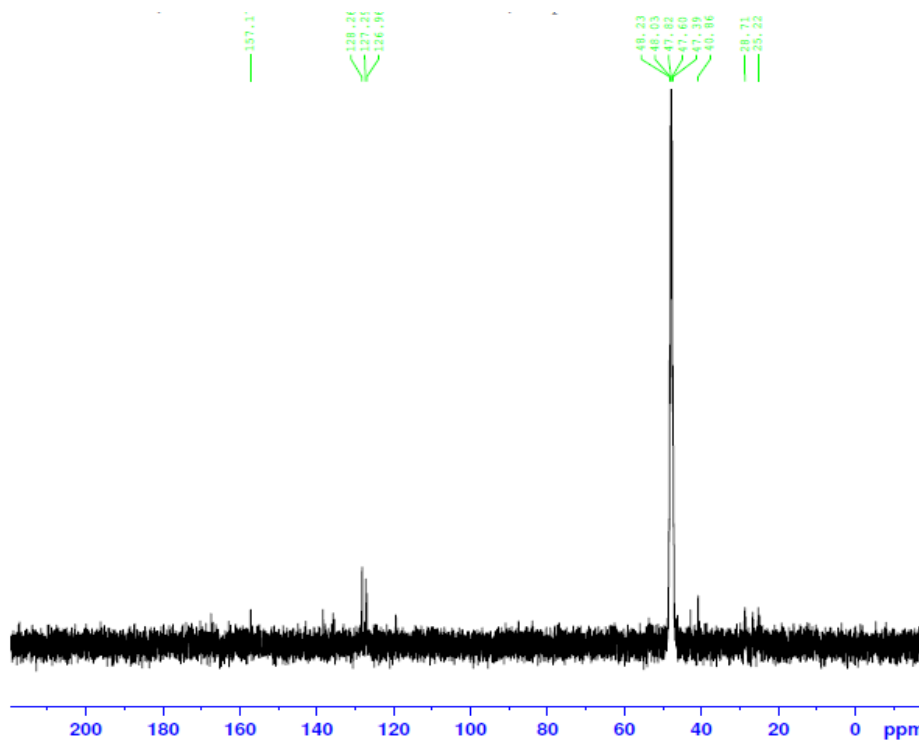


### <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of His(2-adamantyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15e)



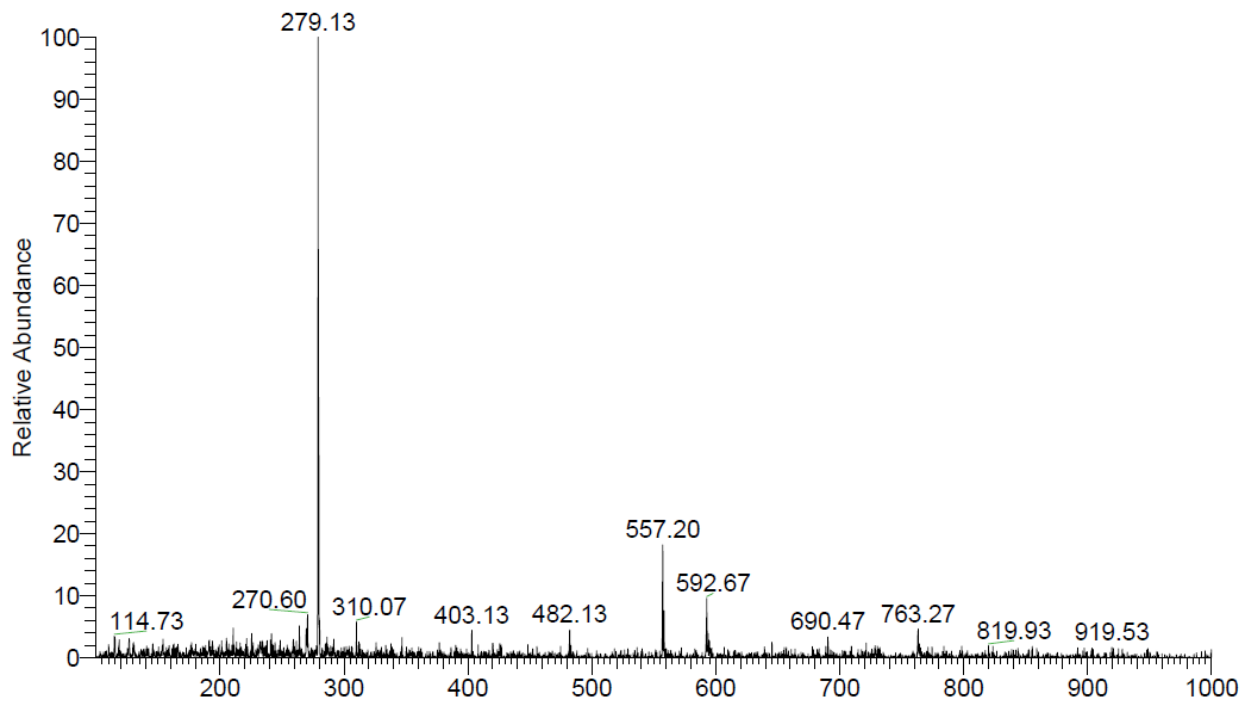
MALDI-MS of His(2-adamantyl)-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15e**),  $[MH]^+$  691.02

**His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (15f):**



$^{13}C$ -NMR of His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15f**)





MS of His-Arg-Arg-NHBzl (**15f**),  $[MH]^+$  557.20

**Table S1.** Antifungal activity of synthesized tripeptides (series I and II), MIC values along with standard deviation values of active compounds (Antifungal assay was carried out in three replicates and data expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation).

No.	R	R <sub>1</sub> <sup>[a]</sup>	<i>C. albicans</i> MIC <sup>[b]</sup>	<i>C. kyfer</i> MIC	<i>C. neoformans</i> MIC	<i>A. niger</i> MIC	<i>N. crassa</i> MIC
<b>Series I</b>							
<b>9a</b>	t-butyl	Boc	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>9b</b>	Cyclohexyl	Boc	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>9c</b>	i-propyl	Boc	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>9d</b>	Cyclobutyl	Boc	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>9e</b>	Adamantyl	Boc	>250	>250	<b>112.2 <math>\pm</math> 1.32</b> <b>(125 <math>\pm</math> 1.48)</b>	>250	<b>112.2 <math>\pm</math> 0.30</b> <b>(125 <math>\pm</math> 0.34)</b>
<b>9f</b>	H	Boc	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>10a</b>	t-butyl	H	>250	>250	>250	>250	250
<b>10b</b>	Cyclohexyl	H	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>10c</b>	i-propyl	H	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>10d</b>	Cyclobutyl	H	>250	>250	<b>18.2 <math>\pm</math> 0.97</b> <b>(31.25 <math>\pm</math> 1.68)</b>	>250	>250
<b>10e</b>	Adamantyl	H	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>10f</b>	H	H	>250	>250	>250	>250	>250
<b>Series II</b>							
<b>14a</b>	t-butyl	Boc	>250	>250	<b>44.6 <math>\pm</math> 0.43</b> <b>(62.5 <math>\pm</math> 0.61)</b>	>250	>250
<b>14b</b>	Cyclohexyl	Boc	<b>18.5 <math>\pm</math> 0.96</b> <b>(25 <math>\pm</math> 1.29)</b>	>250	<b>46.2 <math>\pm</math> 1.24</b> <b>(62.5 <math>\pm</math> 1.68)</b>	>250	>250
<b>14c</b>	i-propyl	Boc	>250	>250	<b>10.9 <math>\pm</math> 1.63</b> <b>(15.62 <math>\pm</math> 2.35)</b>	>250	>250
<b>14d</b>	Cyclobutyl	Boc	>250	>250	<b>11.1 <math>\pm</math> 0.22</b> <b>(15.62 <math>\pm</math> 0.31)</b>	<b>177.8 <math>\pm</math> 0.24</b> <b>(250 <math>\pm</math> 0.34)</b>	<b>177.8 <math>\pm</math> 0.34</b> <b>(250 <math>\pm</math> 0.48)</b>
<b>14e</b>	Adamantyl	Boc	<b>98.9 <math>\pm</math> 2.65</b> <b>(125 <math>\pm</math> 3.34)</b>	>250	<b>24.7 <math>\pm</math> 0.19</b> <b>(31.25 <math>\pm</math> 0.25)</b>	<b>98.9 <math>\pm</math> 3.33</b> <b>(125 <math>\pm</math> 4.21)</b>	<b>19.8 <math>\pm</math> 0.18</b> <b>(25 <math>\pm</math> 0.22)</b>
<b>14f</b>	H	Boc	>250	>250	<b>82.1 <math>\pm</math> 0.25</b> <b>(125 <math>\pm</math> 0.39)</b>	>250	>250
<b>15a</b>	t-butyl	H	>250	>250	<b>9.6 <math>\pm</math> 1.25</b> <b>(15.62 <math>\pm</math> 2.03)</b>	>250	>250
<b>15b</b>	Cyclohexyl	H	>250	>250	<b>1.25 <math>\pm</math> 0.44</b> <b>(1.95 <math>\pm</math> 0.68)</b>	>250	>250

<b>15c</b>	i-propyl	H	>250	>250	<b>74.8 ± 1.26</b> <b>(125 ± 2.12)</b>	>250	>250
<b>15d</b>	Cyclobutyl	H	>250	>250	<b>76.4 ± 0.29</b> <b>(125 ± 0.48)</b>	>250	>250
<b>15e</b>	Adamantyl	H	<b>86.3 ± 0.30</b> <b>(125 ± 0.44)</b>	<b>86.3 ± 0.22</b> <b>(125 ± 0.31)</b>	<b>86.3 ± 0.67</b> <b>(125 ± 0.98)</b>	<b>86.3 ± 0.62</b> <b>(125 ± 0.91)</b>	>250
<b>15f</b>	H	H	>250	>250	<b>34.8 ± 1.26</b> <b>(62.5 ± 2.28)</b>	>250	>250
	Amphotericin B	control	0.72 ± 0.06 (0.78 ± 0.07)	11.5 ± 0.11 (12.5 ± 0.12)	< 0.18 ± 0.16 (0.20 ± 0.18)	0.36 ± 0.11 (0.39 ± 0.12)	0.36 ± 0.14 (0.39 ± 0.16)

[a] Refer Figure 1; [b] MIC: Minimum Inhibitory Concentration [in µg/mL (µM)]