

5'-Morpholino modification of the sense strand of an siRNA makes it a more effective passenger

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Electronic Supplementary Information

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1. Experimental Details:

1.1 General synthetic details

Commercially available starting materials, reagents, and solvents were used as received. All moisture-sensitive reactions were carried under anhydrous conditions under argon atmosphere. Flash chromatography was performed on a Teledyne ISCO Combi Flash system using pre-packed ReadySep Teledyne ISCO silica gel columns. TLC was performed on Merck silica-coated plates 60 F₂₅₄. Compounds were visualized under UV light (254 nm) or after spraying with the *p*-anisaldehyde staining solution followed by heating. ESI-HRMS spectra were recorded on Waters QToF API US spectrometer using the direct flow injection in the positive mode (capillary = 3000 kV, cone = 35, source temperature = 120 °C, and desolvation temperature = 350 °C). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on Varian spectrometers, and chemical shifts in ppm are referenced to the residual solvent peaks. Coupling constants are given in Hertz. Signal splitting patterns are described as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), broad signal (br), or multiplet (m). ³¹P NMR spectra were recorded under proton-decoupled mode; chemical shifts are referenced to external H₃PO₄ (80%).

1.2 Synthesis of nucleosides and phosphoramidites

Synthesis of nucleoside 1a-1d

Nucleoside **1a-1d** were prepared following literature procedure.¹

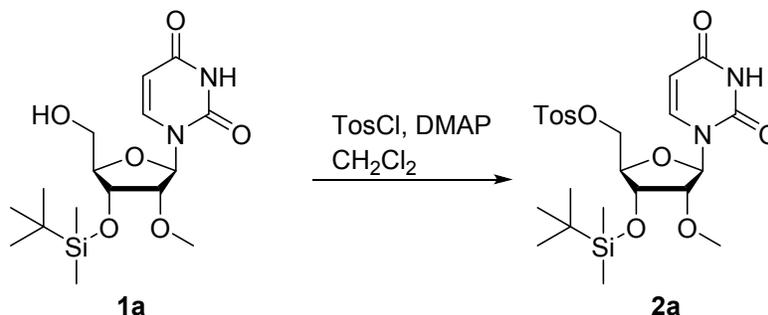
1a: ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.35 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.58 – 3.46 (m, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 9H), 0.08 (s, 6H). ¹³C (126 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.03, 150.47, 140.30, 101.86, 86.13, 85.00, 82.17, 69.68, 60.00, 57.58, 25.62, 17.78, -4.85, -4.96.

1b: ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.22 (s, 1H), 8.76 (s, 2H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.14 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.59 – 4.57 (m, 1H), 4.53 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (q, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 – 3.66 (m, 1H), 3.63 – 3.53 (m, 1H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.13 (s, 6H). ¹³C (126 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 165.58, 152.03, 151.70, 150.48, 143.05, 133.26, 132.43, 128.46, 128.43, 125.84, 86.37, 85.48, 81.91, 70.22, 60.76, 57.64, 25.65, 17.82, -4.84, -4.85.

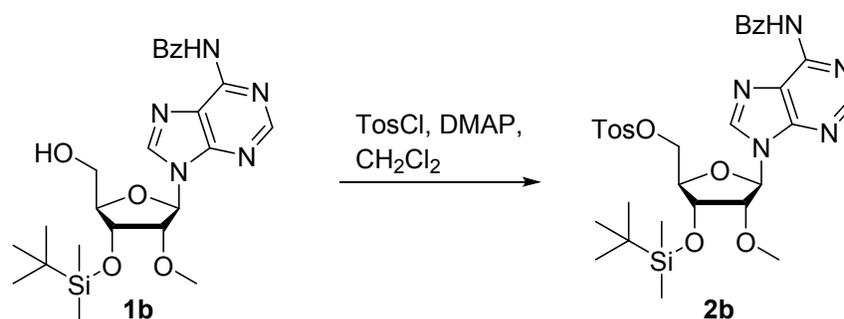
1c: ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 10.91 (s, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.85 (m, 1H), 3.81 – 3.68 (m, 1H), 3.60 – 3.50 (m, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 0.85 (s, 9H), 0.05 (s, 6H). ¹³C (126 MHz, d₆-DMSO) 170.98, 162.39, 154.42, 145.02, 95.25, 88.05, 84.06, 83.11, 68.68, 59.00, 57.77, 25.59, 24.32, 17.76, -4.86, -5.09.

1d: ^1H (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 12.10 (s, 1H), 11.60 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H), 5.86 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (t, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (dd, J = 4.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 6.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.93 – 3.90 (m, 1H), 3.64 – 3.58 (m, 1H), 3.57 – 3.50 (m, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 2.76 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.89 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 3H), 0.11 (s, 3H). ^{13}C (126 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) 180.12, 154.74, 148.82, 148.26, 137.33, 120.10, 86.65, 84.29, 82.36, 70.39, 60.79, 57.72, 34.70, 25.64, 18.84, 17.82, -4.88, -4.87.

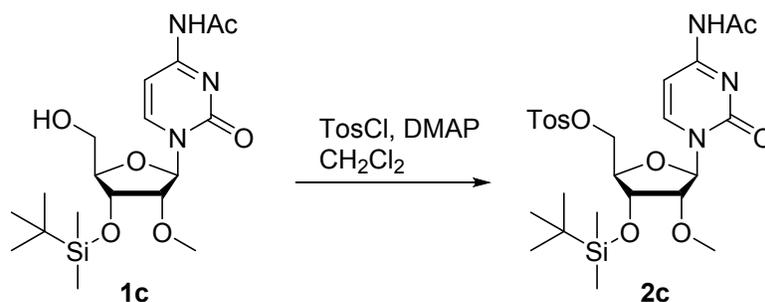
Synthesis of nucleoside **2a**



Alcohol **1a** (7.45 g, 20 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 4.89 g, 40 mmol) were dissolved in dry CH_2Cl_2 . 4-Methylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (TosCl, 5.72 g, 30 mmol) was added at 0 °C (ice bath), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and then at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was quenched by adding saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 (150 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 \times 100 mL). The combined organic phases were dried (MgSO_4), and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 70 % EtOAc in hexanes to afford nucleoside **2a** (8.40 g, 79%) as a white form. MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_2\text{O}_8\text{SSi}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$]⁺ 527.1878, found 527.1883. ^1H (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 11.40 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.73 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 8.9, 4.5 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.90 (m, J = 5.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 0.81 (s, 9H), 0.03 (s, 3H), 0.01 (s, 3H). ^{13}C (126 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 162.97, 150.27, 145.31, 140.47, 131.82, 130.24, 127.69, 102.04, 87.49, 80.90, 80.77, 69.49, 68.88, 57.63, 25.51, 21.09, 17.66, -4.89, -5.25.

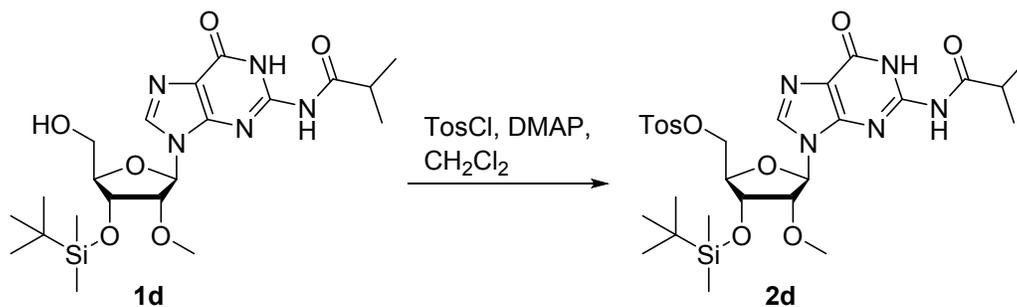
Synthesis of nucleoside 2b

Alcohol **1b** (1.00 g, 2.00 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 0.49 g, 3.00 mmol) were dissolved in dry CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), and the reaction mixture was cooled to 0–4 °C (ice bath). 4-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (TosCl, 0.48 g, 2.50 mmol) was added, and reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C (ice bath) for 1 h and then at room temperature for 3 h. The reaction was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 (100 mL), dried, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 4% MeOH in CH_2Cl_2 to obtain **2b** (1.10 g, 84%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_5\text{O}_7\text{SSi}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 654.2412, found 654.2423. ^1H (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 11.24 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.61 (s, 1H), 8.11 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.56 (dd, $J = 8.3, 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.10 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.61 (t, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.55 (t, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.28 (m, 2H), 4.09 – 4.06 (m, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 9H), 0.10 (s, 3H), 0.08 (s, 3H). ^{13}C (126 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 165.59, 151.73, 151.60, 150.53, 145.09, 143.34, 133.25, 132.46, 131.85, 129.99, 128.47, 128.44, 127.49, 125.90, 85.93, 81.98, 80.90, 69.93, 69.23, 57.71, 25.54, 20.99, 17.70, -4.92, -5.12.

Synthesis of nucleoside 2c

Alcohol **1c** (2.50 g, 6.04 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 1.47 g, 12.03 mmol) were taken in dry CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) and reaction mixture was cooled to 0–4°C (ice bath). 4-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (TosCl, 1.44 g, 7.55 mmol) was added and reaction mixture was stirred in ice bath for 3h. The reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (2 × 30 mL), dried, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 5% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to obtain **2c** (2.71 g, 79%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₃₈N₃O₈SSi [M + H]⁺ 568.2143, found 568.2144. ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 10.94 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.05 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 3.80 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 0.79 (s, 9H), 0.02 (s, 3H), -0.01 (s, 3H). ¹³C (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 171.04, 162.45, 154.18, 145.40, 144.50, 131.73, 130.28, 127.66, 95.43, 89.09, 81.95, 80.29, 69.12, 68.37, 57.78, 25.46, 24.34, 21.09, 17.59, -4.88, -5.39.

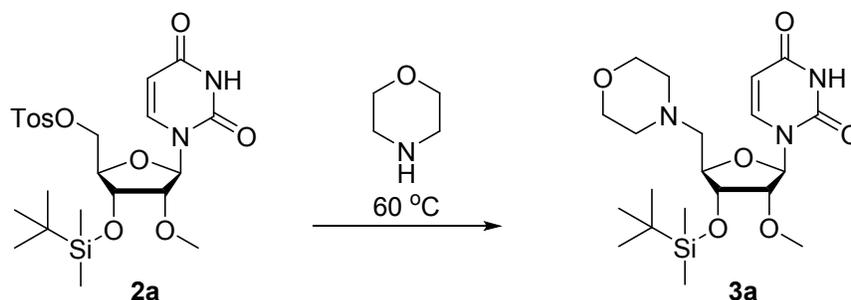
Synthesis of nucleoside **2d**



Alcohol **1d** (4.81 g, 10 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 2.45 g, 20 mmol) were dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL). 4-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (TosCl, 2.86 g, 15 mmol) was added at 0°C (ice bath) and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and then at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was quenched by adding saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (100 mL) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄), and the crude product was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 4% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford nucleoside **2d** (3.60 g, 56%) as a white form. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₈H₄₂N₅O₈SSi [M + H]⁺ 636.2518, found 636.2521. ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 12.08 (s, 1H), 11.53 (s, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.30 (m, 2H), 4.27 – 4.22 (m, 2H), 4.03 – 4.00 (m, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.77 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.11 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.85 (s, 9H), 0.07 (s, 3H), 0.06 (s, 3H). ¹³C (126 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ

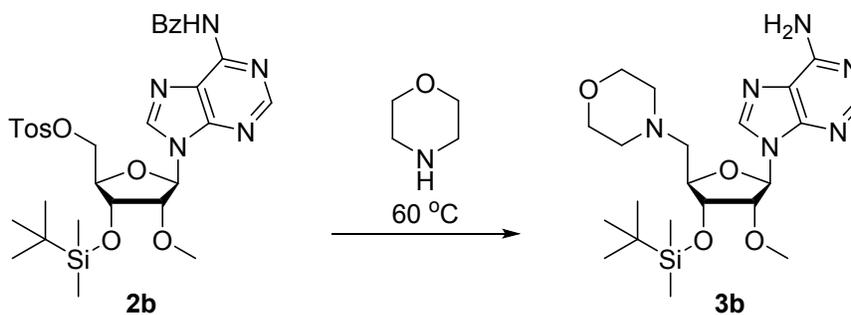
180.04, 154.75, 148.71, 148.24, 145.19, 137.33, 131.93, 130.10, 127.57, 120.19, 84.52, 82.49, 81.26, 69.92, 69.49, 57.83, 34.77, 25.56, 21.06, 18.85, 18.83, 17.72, -4.96, -5.12.

Synthesis of nucleoside **3a**



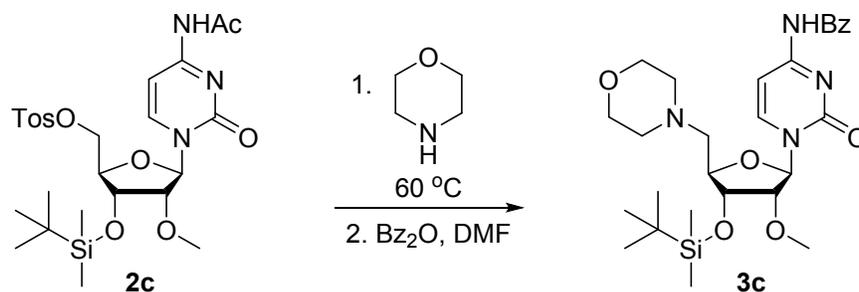
Nucleoside **2a** (2.0 g, 3.79 mmol) was dissolved in morpholine (25 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 18 h. Solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL) and washed with H₂O (50 mL). The aqueous phase was back extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 30 mL), and the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated, and the crude was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 5 % MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford nucleoside **3a** (1.1 g, 66%) as white powder. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₃₆N₃O₆Si [M + H]⁺ 442.2368, found 442.2378. ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.37 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.90 – 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.55 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 4H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 13.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.47 – 2.42 (m, 5H), 0.87 (s, 9H), 0.09 (s, 6H). ¹³C (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 162.96, 150.35, 140.90, 102.11, 87.07, 81.46, 80.92, 71.66, 66.14, 59.73, 57.42, 54.01, 25.61, 17.76, -4.70, -4.99.

Synthesis of nucleoside **3b**



Nucleoside **2b** (2.4 g, 3.6 mmol) was dissolved in morpholine (20 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 16 h. Solvents were removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (50 mL). The aqueous phase was back extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic phases were concentrated, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 7% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to yield nucleoside **3b** (1.35 g, 78%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₃₇N₆O₄Si [M + H]⁺ 465.2640, found 465.2630. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 5.99 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (s, 2H), 4.50 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.24 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 3.70 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 3.6 Hz, 2H), 2.63 – 2.45 (m, 4H); 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.14 (s, 3H), 0.13 (s, 3H). δ_c (101 MHz, CDCl₃) 155.74, 153.18, 149.69, 140.18, 120.75, 87.98, 82.58, 81.99, 72.77, 67.05, 60.89, 58.67, 54.75, 25.97, 18.38, -4.28, -4.56.

Synthesis of nucleoside **3c**



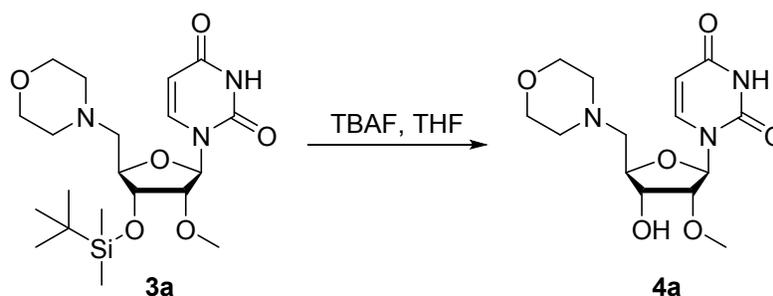
Nucleoside **2c** (3.7 g, 6.51 mmol) was dissolved in morpholine (20 mL). The resulting solution was heated at 60 °C for 24 h. Solvents were removed, and the crude was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0–12% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂. The isolated product (3.5 g) was dissolved DMF (15 mL). To this solution was added benzoic anhydride (1.61 g, 7.11 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. Solvent was removed, and the residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with H₂O (2 × 50 mL). The combined aqueous phases were back extracted with EtOAc (50 mL), and the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 5% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford nucleoside **3c** (2.35 g, 66% over 2 steps) as white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₄₁N₄O₆Si [M + H]⁺ 545.2790, found 545.2791. ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.33 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 4H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.63 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.52 – 2.43 (m, 5H), 0.87 (s, 9H), 0.08 (s, 6H). ¹³C (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 167.55, 163.09,

154.18, 145.29, 133.11, 132.71, 129.20, 128.43, 96.54, 88.72, 82.17, 81.29, 71.47, 66.17, 59.46, 57.57, 54.07, 25.59, 17.72, -4.65, -5.08.

Synthesis of nucleoside **3d**

Nucleoside **2d** (1.4 g, 2.20 mmol) was dissolved in morpholine (20 mL). The resulting solution was heated at 60 °C for 40 h. Solvent was removed, and the crude was dissolved in CHCl₃ (100 mL) and washed with H₂O (50 mL). The aqueous phase was back extracted with CHCl₃ (50 mL), and the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in MeOH (15 mL) and to this was added dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMF-DMA, 380 mg, 3.2 mmol). The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The solvents were removed, and the crude was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 6% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford nucleoside **3d** (0.78 g, 66%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₄₂N₇O₅Si [M + H]⁺ 536.3011, found 536.2994. ¹H (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.37 (s, 1H), 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 5.87 – 5.86 (m, 1H), 4.41 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (td, *J* = 6.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 4H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.54 – 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.46 – 2.34 (m, 4H), 0.90 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 6H). ¹³C (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 157.76, 157.50, 157.23, 149.72, 137.28, 120.02, 85.23, 82.41, 81.05, 72.18, 66.15, 60.14, 57.54, 53.91, 40.69, 34.63, 25.66, 17.84, -4.68, -4.86.

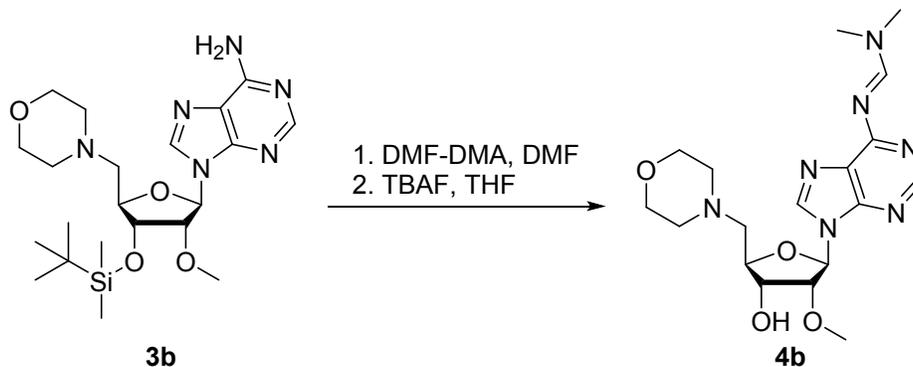
Synthesis of nucleoside **4a**



Nucleoside **3a** (500 mg, 1.13 mmol) was dissolved in THF (5 mL). To this was added tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF, 1 M in THF, 1.5 mL, 1.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Solvents were removed, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0-5% MeOH in EtOAc to obtain alcohol **4a** (320 mg, 86%) as white amorphous powder. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₂N₃O₆ [M + H]⁺ 328.1503, found 328.1501. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ

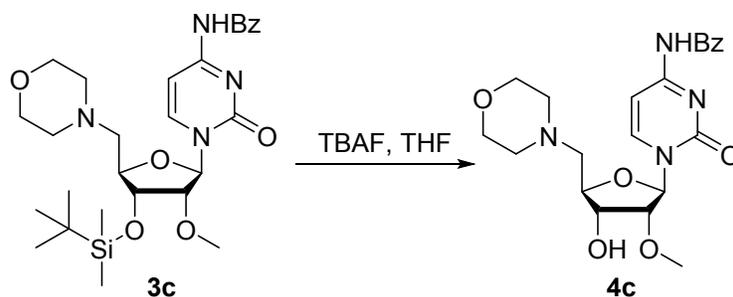
11.35 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.76 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.65 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.18 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.94 (q, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (td, $J = 6.4, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (dd, $J = 5.2, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.55 (t, $J = 4.7$ Hz, 4H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.63 (dd, $J = 13.6, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.56 – 2.36 (m, 5H). δ_c (101 MHz, d6-DMSO) 163.00, 150.31, 140.79, 101.96, 87.07, 81.63, 81.48, 70.23, 66.14, 59.88, 57.63, 53.99.

Synthesis of nucleoside **4b**



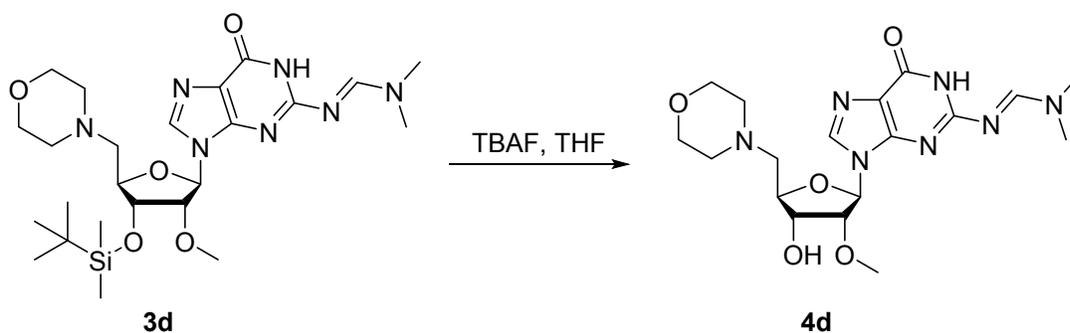
To a solution of nucleoside **3b** (1.3 g, 2.79 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was added dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMF-DMA, 0.75 mL, 5.60 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 5 h. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the crude was dissolved in THF (6 mL). TBAF (1M in THF, 3.3 mL, 3.3 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 7% MeOH in CH_2Cl_2 to yield **4b** (0.81 g, 69%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_7\text{O}_4$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$]⁺ 406.2197, found 406.2209. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d6-DMSO) δ 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 6.02 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.29 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.41 (t, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.31 (q, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.04 – 4.00 (m, 1H), 3.52 (t, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 4H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.67 (dd, $J = 13.4, 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dd, $J = 13.4, 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.44 – 2.33 (m, 4H). ¹³C (126 MHz, d6-DMSO) δ 159.27, 157.97, 152.00, 151.19, 141.46, 125.68, 85.60, 82.28, 81.50, 70.51, 66.11, 60.39, 57.62, 53.85, 40.63, 34.53.

Synthesis of nucleoside **4c**



Protected nucleoside **3c** (2.35 g, 1.13 mmol) was dissolved in THF (10 mL). To this was added tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF, 1M in THF, 6.5 mL, 6.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Solvents were removed, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0–8% MeOH in EtOAc to obtain alcohol **4c** (1.48 g, 80%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₂₇N₄O₆ [M + H]⁺ 431.1925, found 431.1936. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.30 (s, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.04 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.99 – 3.95 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.86 (m, 1H), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.56 – 2.41 (m, 4H), δ_c (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) 167.50, 163.07, 154.13, 145.19, 133.13, 132.70, 129.21, 128.43, 128.40, 96.36, 88.74, 82.81, 81.31, 70.09, 66.24, 59.36, 57.86, 54.12.

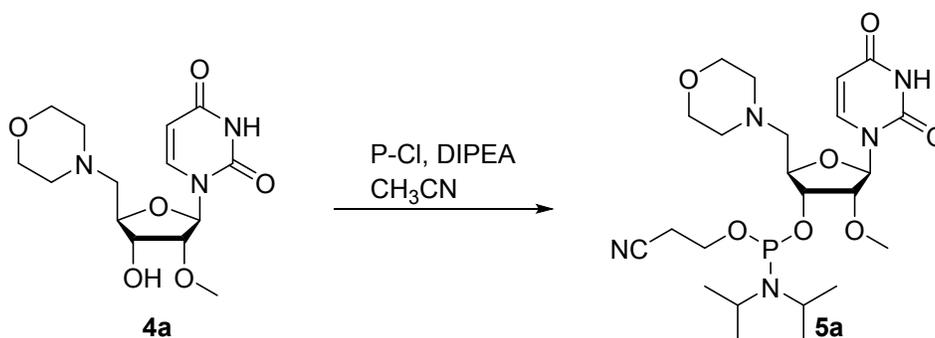
Synthesis of nucleoside 4d



To a solution of **3** (0.63 g, 1.25 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added tetra-*n*-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF, 1M in THF, 1.5 mL, 1.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 8% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to yield **4d** (0.46 g, 88%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₈N₇O₅ [M + H]⁺ 422.2146, found 422.2154. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.35 (s, 1H), 8.54 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 4.00 – 3.96

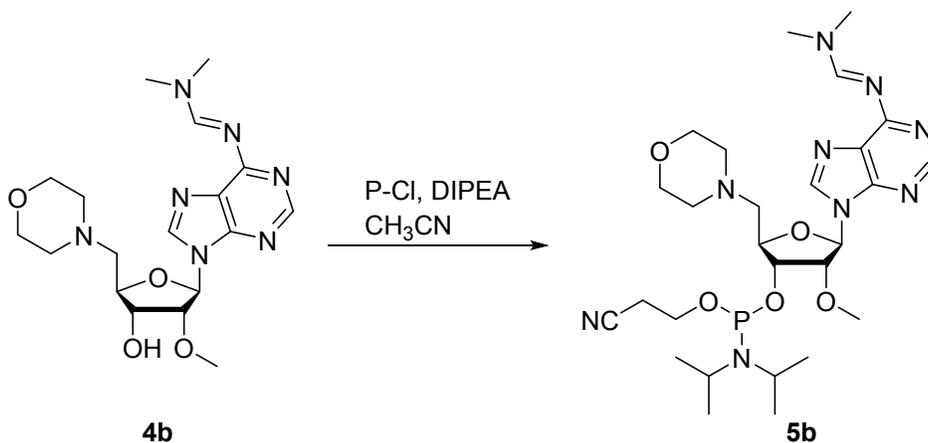
(m, 1H), 3.53 (t, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 4H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.65 (dd, $J = 13.3, 4.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.55 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.40 (dt, $J = 9.2, 4.9$ Hz, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{d}_6\text{-DMSO}$) δ 157.87, 157.52, 157.28, 149.79, 136.79, 119.76, 84.84, 82.34, 81.87, 70.52, 66.12, 60.54, 57.55, 53.85, 40.70, 34.67.

Synthesis of nucleoside 5a



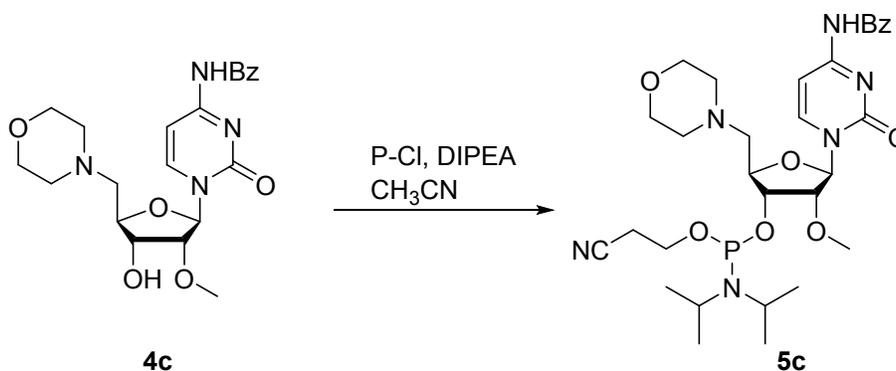
To a solution of **4a** (6.2 gm, 18 mmol) in dry CH_3CN (60 mL) was added ethyl thiotetrazole (2.4 g, 18 mmol). 2-Cyanoethyl N, N, N', N' -tetraisopropylphosphordiamidite (6.8 gm, 22 mmol,) was added slowly to the reaction mixture and stirred at room temperature for 3 h. The reaction mixture was filtered and purified by column chromatography using a gradient of EtOAc in hexanes containing 0.2% triethylamine to yield **5a** (5.0 g, 50%). MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_5\text{O}_7\text{P}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$]⁺ 528.2582, found 528.2592. ^{31}P NMR (202 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 151.04, 150.76.

Synthesis of nucleoside 5b

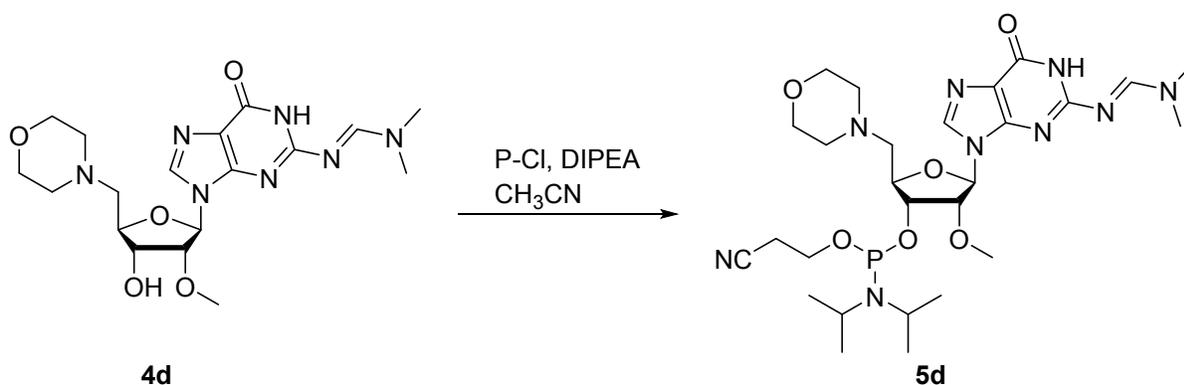


Nucleoside **4b** (0.82 g, 1.35 mmol) was co-evaporated with dry CH₃CN and re-dissolved in dry CH₃CN (6 mL). N, N-diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA, 1.0 g, 7.73 mmol) and 2-cyanoethyl N,N-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (P-Cl, 0.95 g, 4.03 mmol) were added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (20 mL) followed by brine (20 mL). The combined aqueous phase was back extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 3% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ (containing 0.2% Et₃N) to obtain phosphoramidite **5b** (0.90 g, 73%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₂₇H₄₅N₉O₅P [M + H]⁺ 606.3276, found 606.3286. ³¹P (202 MHz, CD₃CN) δ 151.04, 150.70

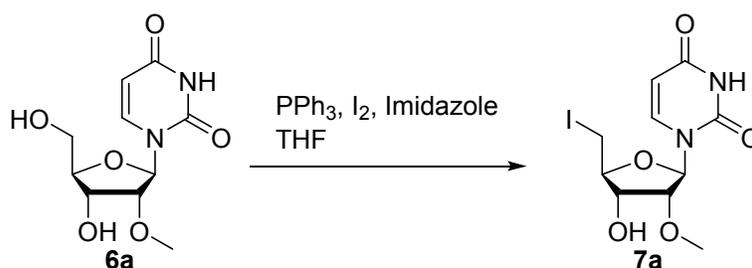
Synthesis of nucleoside **5c**



Nucleoside **4c** (0.50 g, 1.16 mmol) was co-evaporated with dry CH₃CN (5mL) and re-dissolved in dry CH₃CN (5mL). N, N -diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA, 0.60 g, 4.64 mmol) and 2-cyanoethyl N,N-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (P-Cl, 0.55 g, 2.32 mmol) were added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure, and the crude was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 2% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ (containing 0.2% Et₃N) to obtain phosphoramidite **5c** (0.40 g, 57%) as a white foam. MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for C₃₀H₄₄N₆O₇P [M + H]⁺ 631.3004, found 631.3034. ³¹P (202 MHz, CD₃CN) δ 151.25, 150.89.

Synthesis of nucleoside 5d

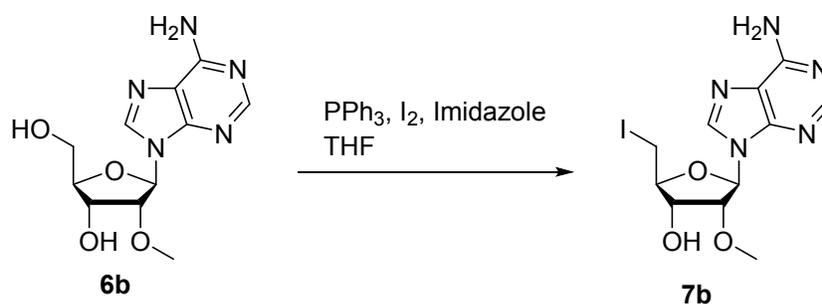
Nucleoside **4d** (0.40 g, 0.95 mmol) was co-evaporated with dry CH_3CN and re-dissolved in dry CH_3CN (5 mL). *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA, 0.60 g, 4.64 mmol) and 2-cyanoethyl *N,N*-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (P-Cl, 0.66 g, 2.78 mmol) were added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 (20 mL) followed by brine (20 mL). The combined aqueous phase was back extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), and the combined organic phases were dried (MgSO_4) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 3% MeOH in CH_2Cl_2 (containing 0.2% Et_3N) to obtain phosphoramidite **5d** (460 mg, 77%). MS (ESI⁺) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{45}\text{N}_9\text{O}_6\text{P}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$]⁺ 622.3225, found 622.3240. ^{31}P (202 MHz, CD_3CN) δ 151.24, 150.89.

Synthesis of nucleoside 7a

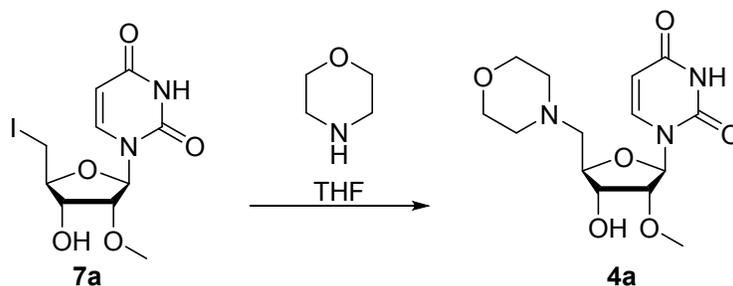
2'-*O*-Methyluridine (**6a**, 2.58 g, 10 mmol), imidazole (1.36 g, 20 mmol), and triphenylphosphine (3.93 g, 15 mmol) were suspended in dry THF (50 mL). To this was added a solution of iodine (3.16 g, 12.5 mmol)

in THF (20 mL) dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature and stirred for another 3 h. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 7% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford the desired nucleoside **7a** (3.26 g, 86%) as a pale-yellow foam. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₁₀H₁₄IN₂O₅ [M + H]⁺ 368.9942, found 368.9951. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.40 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (dd, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.04 – 4.00 (m, 1H), 3.97 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 – 3.79 (m, 1H), 3.54 (dd, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 162.87, 150.41, 140.86, 102.31, 86.70, 83.31, 81.22, 71.44, 57.60, 7.23.

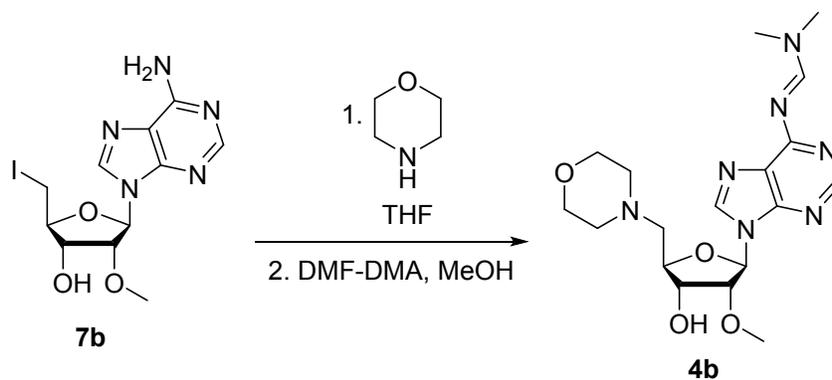
Synthesis of nucleoside **7b**



Nucleoside **6b** (1.44 g, 5.0 mmol), imidazole (0.70 g, 10.0 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.00 g, 7.5 mmol) were suspended in dry THF (30 mL). To this was added a solution of iodine (1.60 g, 6.3 mmol) in THF (10 mL) dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature and stirred for another 3 h. The solvent was removed at reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 8% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford the nucleoside **7b** (1.60 g, 82%) as an amorphous solid. MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* calcd for C₁₁H₁₅IN₅O₃ [M + H]⁺ 392.0214, found 392.0222. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.32 (s, 2H), 6.02 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.34 (m, 1H), 4.02 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H, OCH₃). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, d₆-DMSO) 156.12, 152.78, 149.27, 139.80, 119.11, 85.58, 84.42, 81.45, 71.45, 57.63, 7.52. Note: The compound was found to be unstable in solution. NMR samples were prepared at the time of the experiment.

Alternative synthesis of nucleoside 4a

5'-Iodo-2'-*O*-methyluridine **7a** (1.0 g, 2.71 mmol) was dissolved in THF (5 mL). Morpholine (5 mL) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. A white solid precipitated during this period. The solid was removed by filtration and washed with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL). The filtrate was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 8% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford the nucleoside **4a** (0.55 g, 62%) as a white powder.

Alternative synthesis of nucleoside 4b

Nucleoside **7b** (1.0 g, 2.55 mmol) was dissolved in THF (5 mL) and morpholine (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then stirred for 2 days at room temperature. A white solid precipitated. The solid was removed by filtration, washed with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL), and purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 8% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to obtain white solid (0.7 g). The solid was dissolved in dry MeOH (6 mL) and to this solution was added dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMF-DMA, 0.80 g, 6.7 mmol). The resulting

solution was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The solvents were removed, and the crude was purified by column chromatography using a gradient of 0 – 7% MeOH in CH₂Cl₂ to afford nucleoside **4b** (550 mg, 48% over 2 steps) as a white solid material.

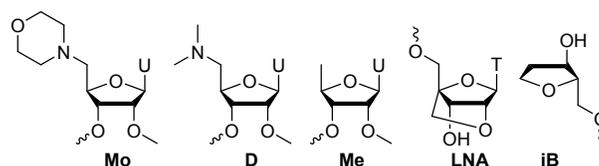
1.3 Oligonucleotide synthesis

Oligonucleotides were synthesized on a Mermade 192 synthesizer using universal or custom supports following protocol described by Schlegel et al.² A solution of 0.25 M 5-(*S*-ethylthio)-1*H*tetrazole in acetonitrile was used as the activator. The phosphoramidite solutions were 0.10 M in anhydrous acetonitrile or 9:1 acetonitrile:DMF (2'-OMe-C, 2'-OMe-A and 2'-OMe-G). The oxidizing reagent was 0.02 M I₂ in THF/pyridine/H₂O. *N,N*-Dimethyl-*N'*-(3-thioxo-3*H*-1,2,4-dithiazol-5-yl)methanimidamide (DDTT), 0.1 M in pyridine, was used as the sulfurizing reagent. The detritylation reagent was 3% dichloroacetic acid (DCA) in CH₂Cl₂. After trityl-off synthesis, oligonucleotides were removed from solid support by incubating the columns with 40% aqueous methylamine (150 μL for 30 min). A very light vacuum was applied to drain the solution into a plate, and procedure was repeated. The plate containing combined solution was shaken for 1h at room temperature whereupon a cold mixture of acetonitrile:EtOH (1.2 mL) was added, and the plate was left at –20 °C for 16h. This resulted in precipitation of oligonucleotides which were then recovered by centrifuging the plate at 3000 rpm at 4 °C for 45 minutes. The supernatant was removed and the pellets were dissolved in 20 mM aqueous NaOAc. The oligonucleotides were then desalted using GE Hi-trap desalting column using water as eluent. The oligonucleotides were identified by using HPLC-MS and were obtained in purity of ≥80%. Hybridization to generate siRNA duplexes was performed by mixing equimolar amounts of complementary strands in 1×PBS buffer, pH 7.4, and by heating in an over at 100 °C for 45 min followed by slow cooling to room temperature.

Table S1: Mass spec analysis of modified oligonucleotides

Entry	siRNA	siRNA duplex	Mass	
			calculated	found
1	Parent	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7531.9	8714.0 7530.7
2	S5'-Mo	5'-Mo•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8797.5 7531.9	8794.9 7530.6

3	S5'-D	5'-D•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8755.4 7531.9	8752.6 7531.0
4	S5'-Me	5'-Me•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8712.4 7531.9	8709.8 7530.5
5	S5'-LNA	5'-LNA•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8739.4 7531.9	8737.9 7530.9
6	S5'-iB	5'-iBU•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-u•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8895.4 7531.9	8893.6 7530.7
7	AS5'-Mo	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-Mo•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7602.0	8713.9 7599.2
8	AS5'-D	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-D•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7560.0	8714.0 7557.9
9	AS5'-Me	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-Me•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7516.9	8713.9 7514.3
10	AS5'-LNA	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-LNA•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7543.9	8713.8 7542.6
11	AS5'-iB	5'-U•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-iBU•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8715.3 7711.9	8713.8 7709.8
12	S/As-5'-Mo	5'-Mo•g•UgAcAaAUuGgGcAuCaA-GalNAc ₃ 5'-Mo•U•gAuGcCcAuauUuGuCaCa•a•a	8795.5 7602.0	8794.9 7599.2



Structure of modifications: 5'-deoxy-5'-morpholino-2'-O-methyl uridine (**Mo**), 5'-deoxy-5'-dimethylamino-2'-O-methyl uridine (**D**), 5'-deoxy-2'-O-methyl uridine (**Me**), locked nucleic acid (**LNA**), and inverted abasic site (**iB**).

1.4 *In vitro* RNAi activity

To 5 μL of siRNA in each well of a 384-well collagen-coated plate were added 4.9 μL of Opti-MEM and 0.1 μL of Lipofectamine RNAiMax (Invitrogen). The final siRNA concentrations were 0.1 or 10 nM. Plates were incubated at room temperature for 15 min, and 40 μL of William's E Medium (Life Technologies) containing $\sim 5 \times 10^3$ primary mouse hepatocytes cells were added. Each condition was assessed in quadruplicate. Cells were incubated for 24 h prior to RNA purification. RNA was isolated with DynaBeads (ThermoFisher), and reverse transcribed into cDNA according to manufacturer's protocol (Applied Biosystems). Multiplex qPCR reactions were performed in duplicate using a gene-specific TaqMan assay for *apob* (ThermoFisher Scientific, #Mm01545156_m1) and mouse *Gapdh* (#4352339E) as an endogenous

control. Real-Time PCR was performed on a Roche LightCycler 480 using LightCycler 480 Probes Master Mix (Roche). Data were analyzed using the $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method, normalizing *apob* expression to *Gapdh*, followed by normalization to the average of the control siRNA-transfected wells. Data were expressed as mean log difference from cells treated with the parent siRNA. Various designs were compared to parent design by multiple linear regression using the software package R.

1.5 Quantification of whole liver and Ago2-associated siRNA levels

Mice ($n=3$ per group) were sacrificed on days 3, 7, and 15 post-dose, and livers were snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and ground into powder for downstream analysis. Total siRNA liver levels and Ago2-bound siRNA were measured by SL-qPCR based on previously published methods.¹ For SL-qPCR of *apob*-targeting siRNAs, the following probes and primers were used: sense stem loop primer 5'-GTCGTATCCAGTGCAGGGTCCGAGGTATTCGCACTGGATACGACTGATGCCCAT-3', sense forward primer 5'-gccgcgctGTGACAAATATG-3', sense probe 5'-CTGATACGACTGATGCC-3', antisense stem loop primer 5'-GTCGTATCCAGTGCAGGGTCCGAGGTATTCGCACTGGATACGACTTTGTGACAA-3', antisense forward primer 5'-gccgcgctTGATGCCCAT-3', antisense probe 5'-CTGATACGACTTTGTGAC-3', and universal reverse primer 5'-GTGCAGGGTCCGAGGT-3'.

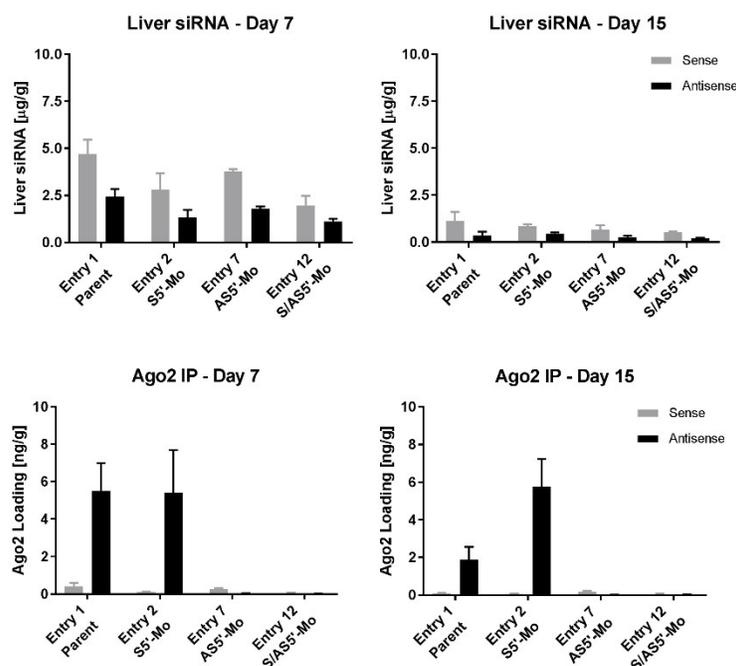


Figure S1. Mice (n=3 per group) were treated with a single dose of 3 mg/kg parent, AS5'-Mo, S5'-Mo, or S/AS5'-Mo siRNAs targeting *apob*. Cohorts of mice were sacrificed at 3, 7, and 15 days post-dose, and liver lysates were generated. (A) Liver levels of the antisense and passenger strand of siRNAs were quantified by RT-qPCR. (B) Ago2 was immunoprecipitated, and Ago2-bound antisense (antisense) and passenger (sense) strand levels were quantified by RT-qPCR.

1.6 *In vivo* RNAi activity targeting *FIX* gene

Table S2. siRNAs targeting *FIX* gene

Entry	siRNA	siRNA duplex
1	Parent	5'-u•g•gaagCfaGfUfAfuguugaugga-GalNAC ₃ 5'- u•Cf•cauCfaAfCfauacUfgCfuucca•a•a
2	S5'-Mo	5'- Mo u•g•gaagCfaGfUfAfuguugaugga- GalNAC ₃ 5'- u•Cf•cauCfaAfCfauacUfgCfuucca•a•a
3	AS5'-Mo	5'-u•g•gaagCfaGfUfAfuguugaugga-GalNAC ₃ 5'- Mo u•Cf•cauCfaAfCfauacUfgCfuucca•a•a

Abbreviations and symbols: S, sense strand; AS, antisense strand; Mo, morpholino; uppercase, 2'-F; lowercase, 2'-OMe; •, phosphorothioate; GalNAC₃, hydroxypropyl trivalent N-acetyl-galactosamine ligand.

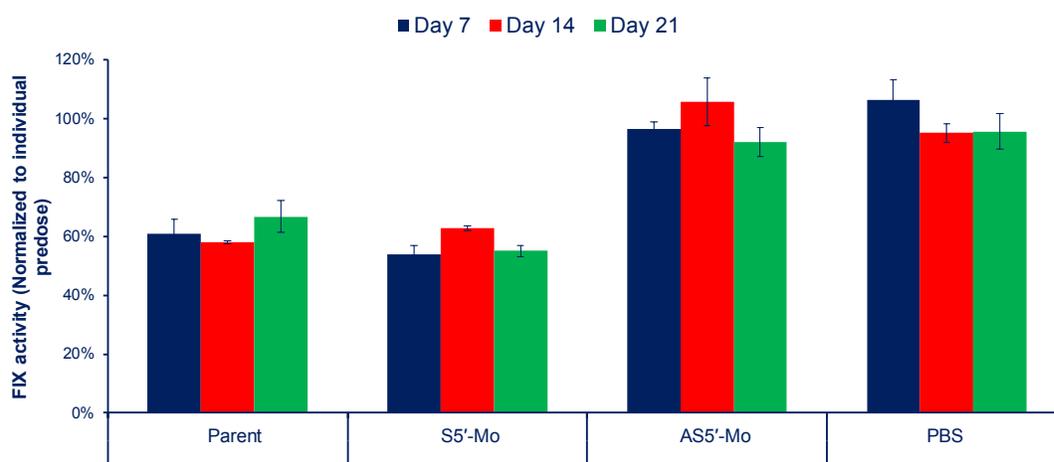
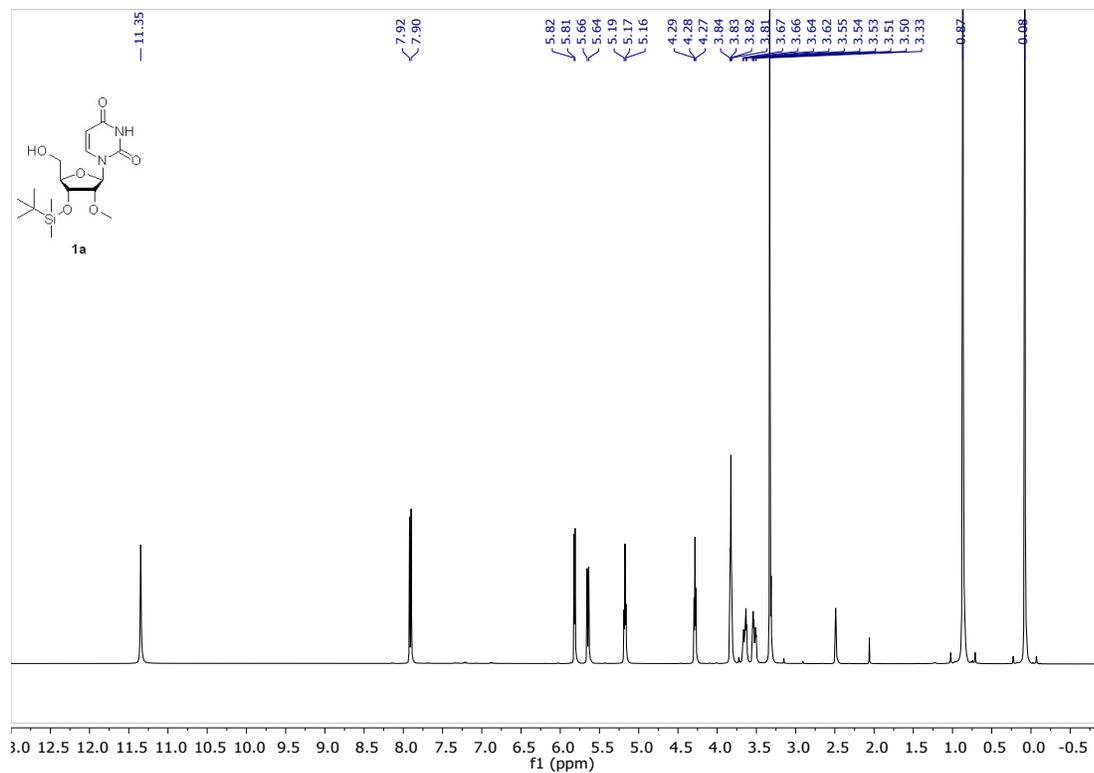
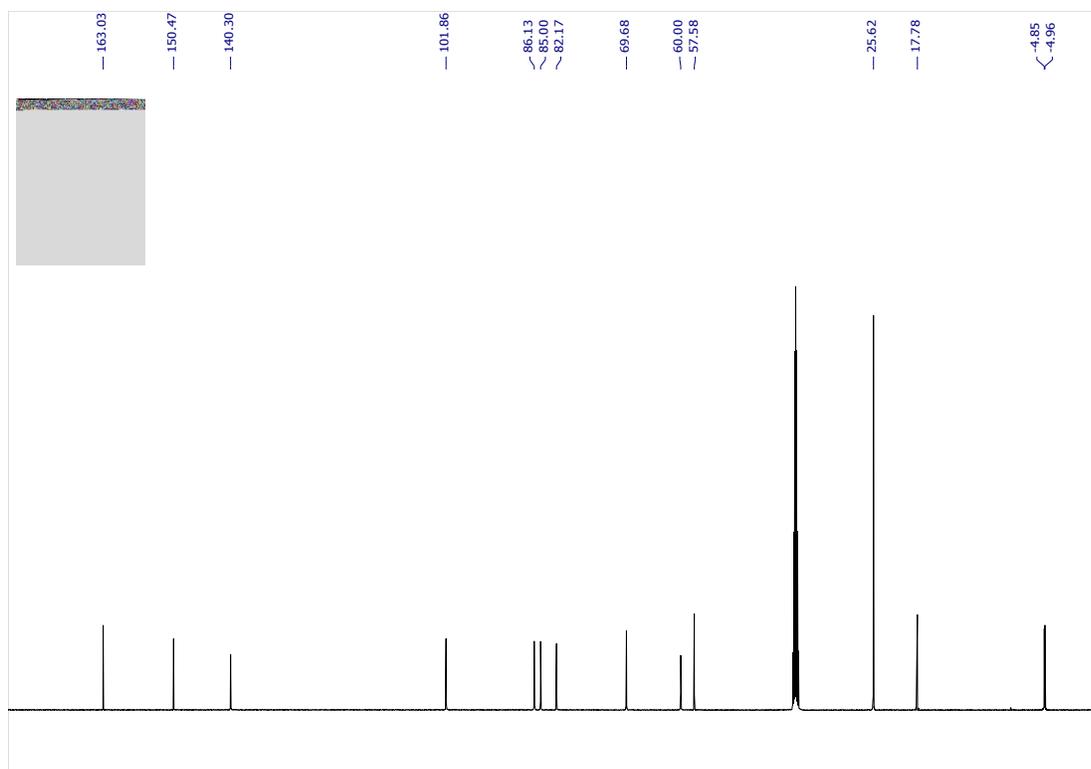
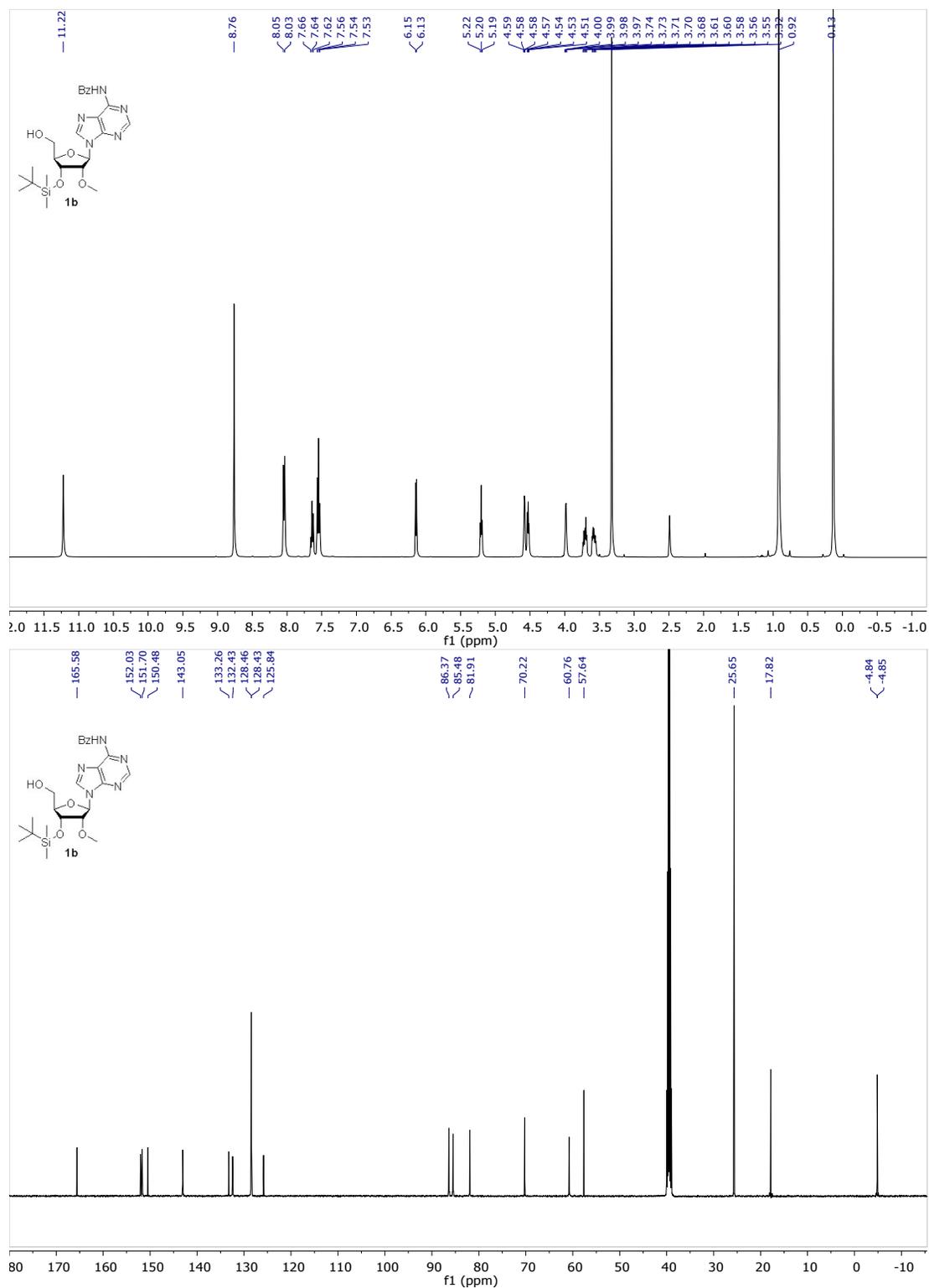


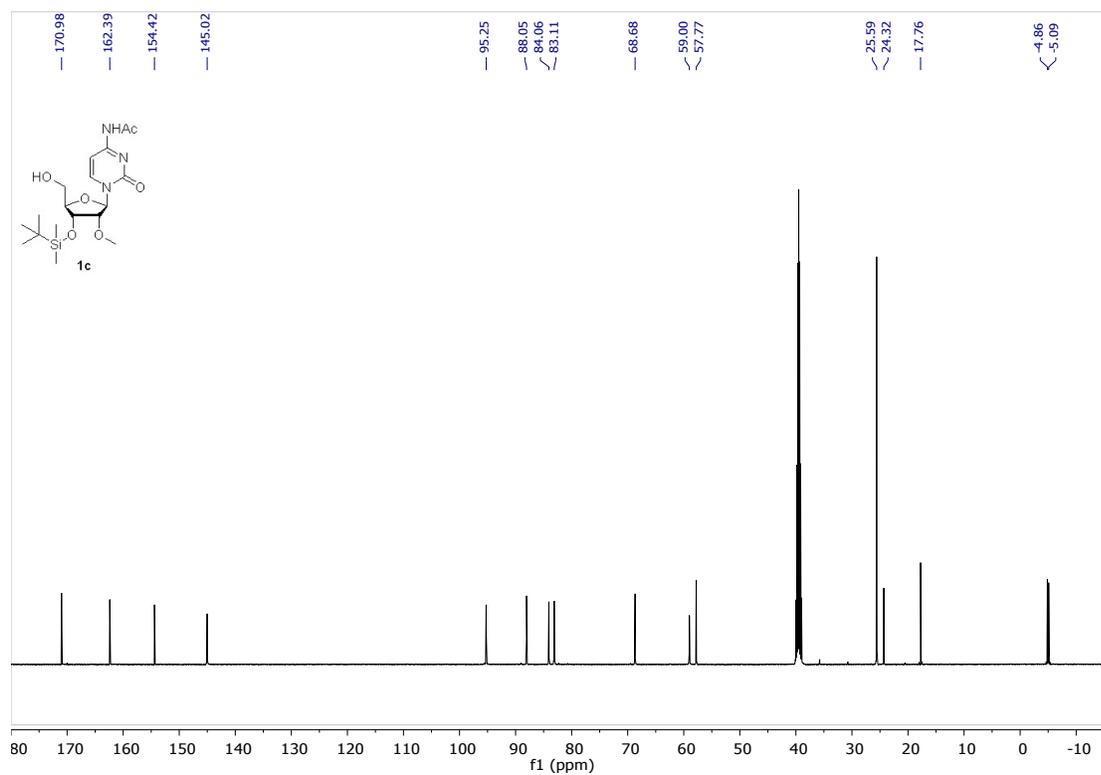
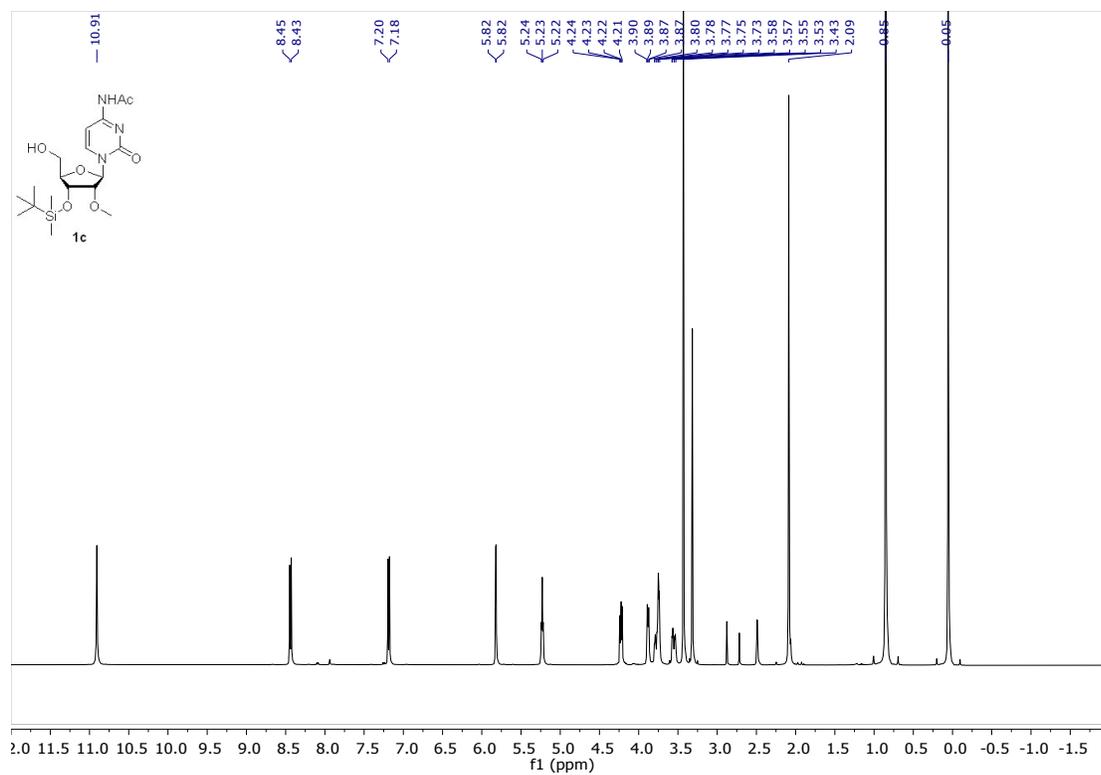
Figure S2: Serum FIX levels in mice on days 7 (blue), 14 (red), and 21 (green) following a single subcutaneous 1 mg/kg dose of indicated siRNAs (Table S2). FIX levels were normalized to the individual pre-dose values. The experiments were conducted as described in literature.³

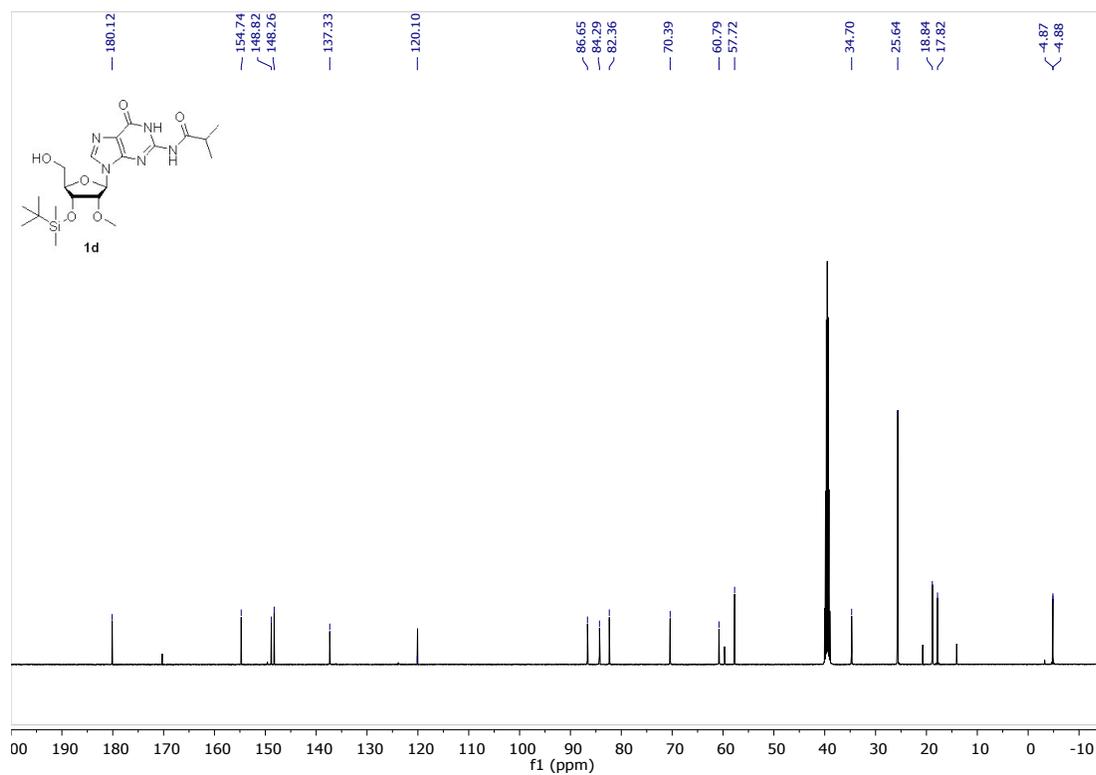
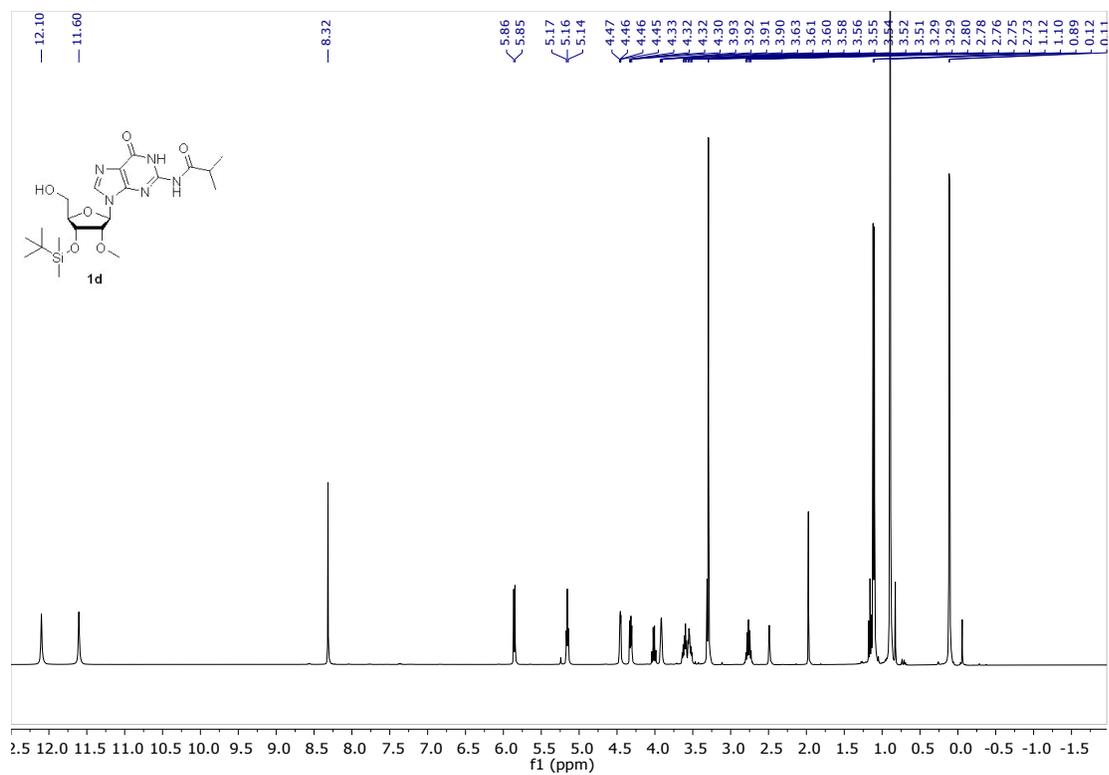
1.7 Representative NMR spectra

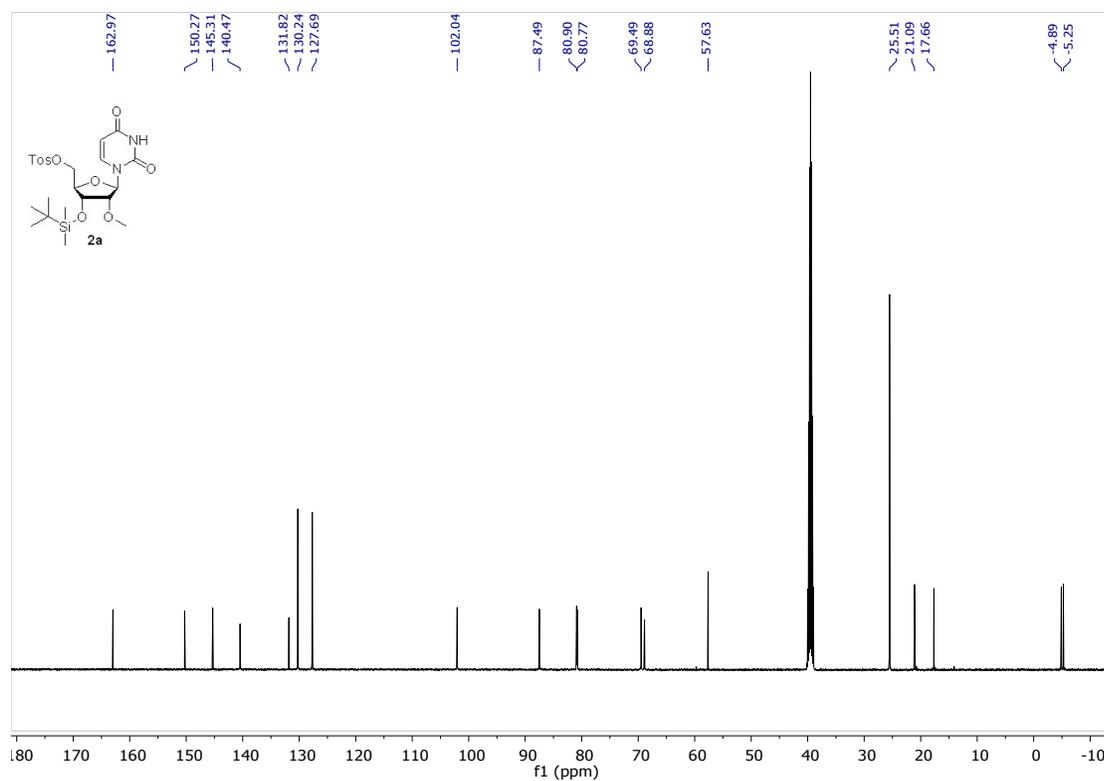
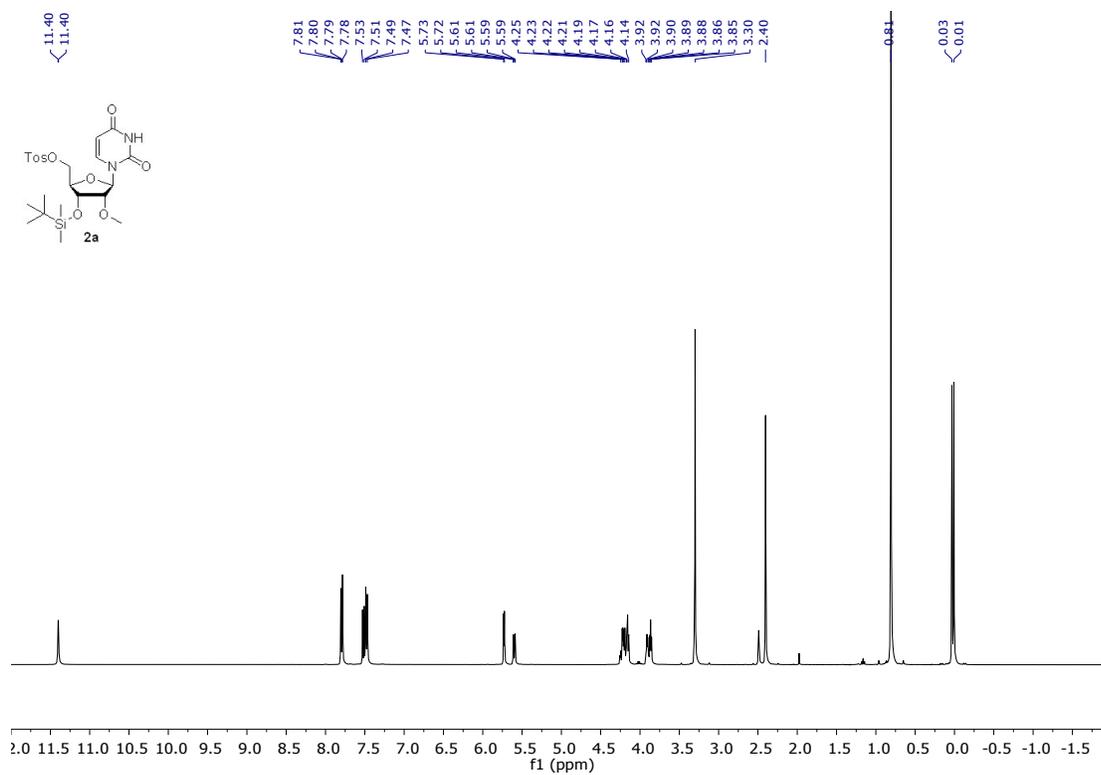


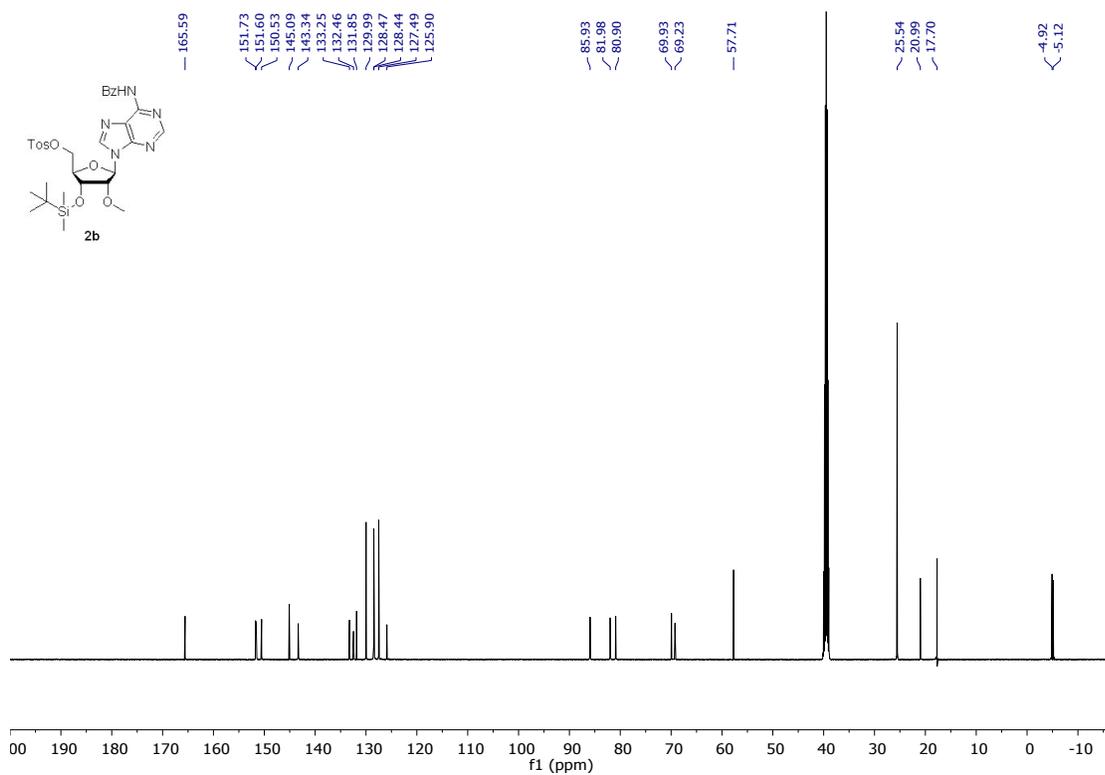
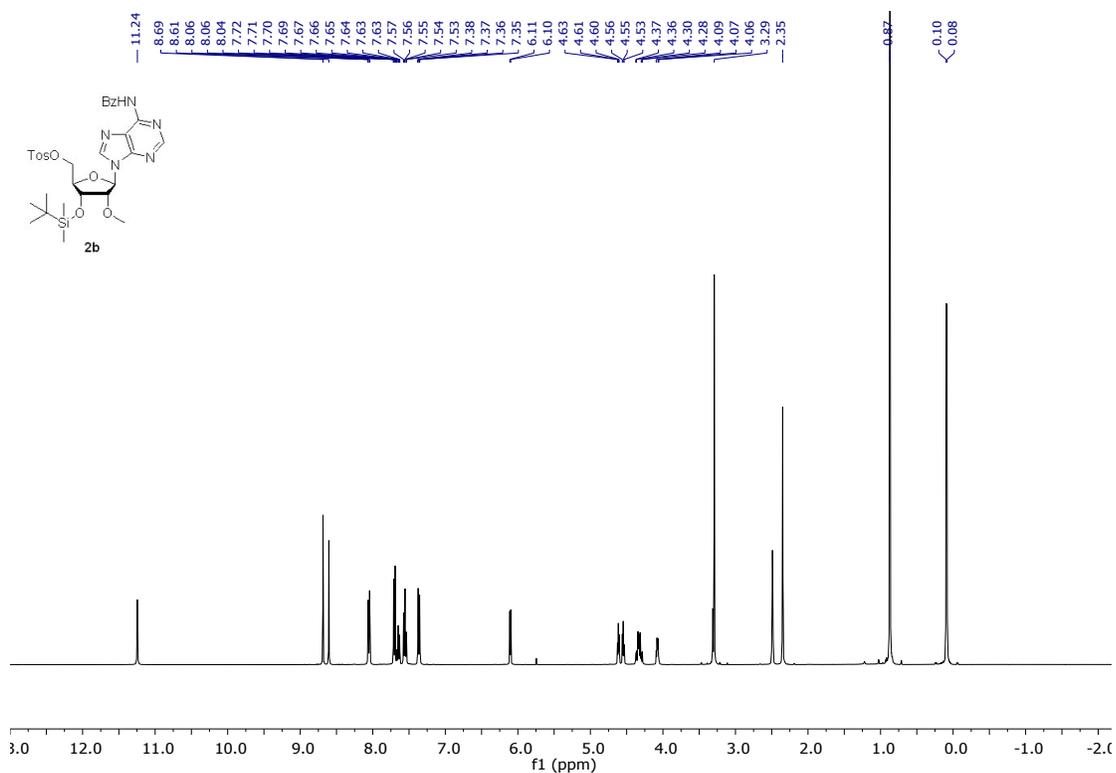


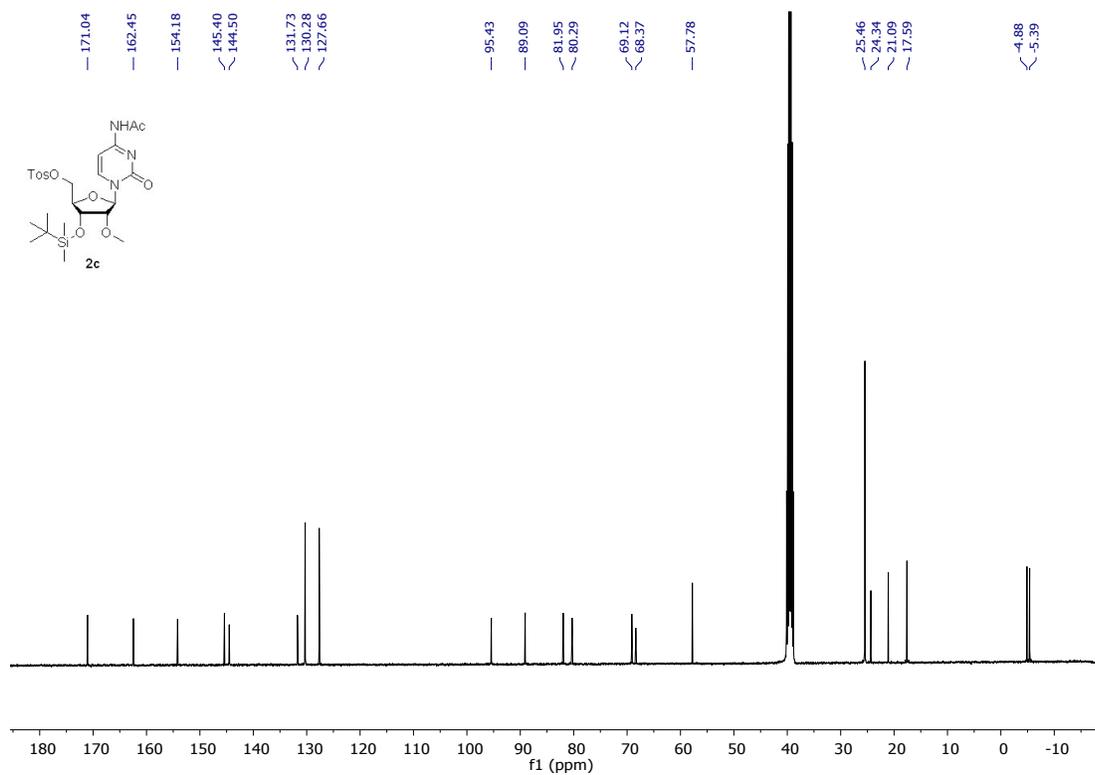
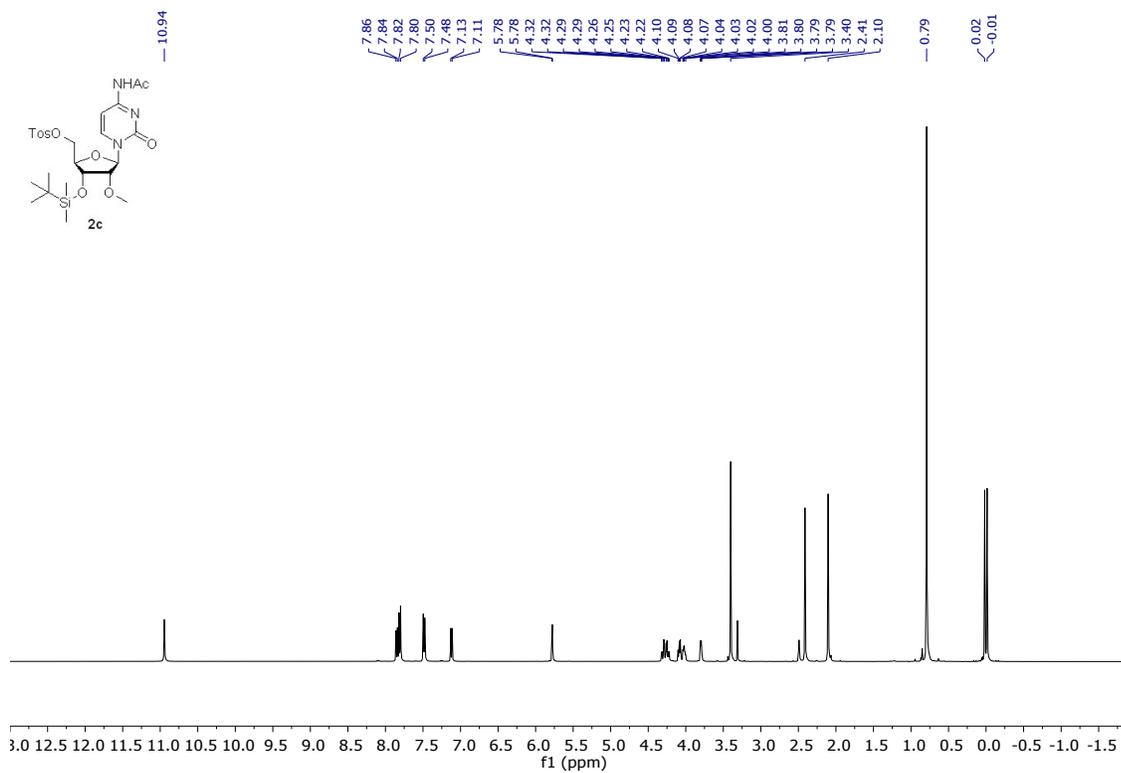


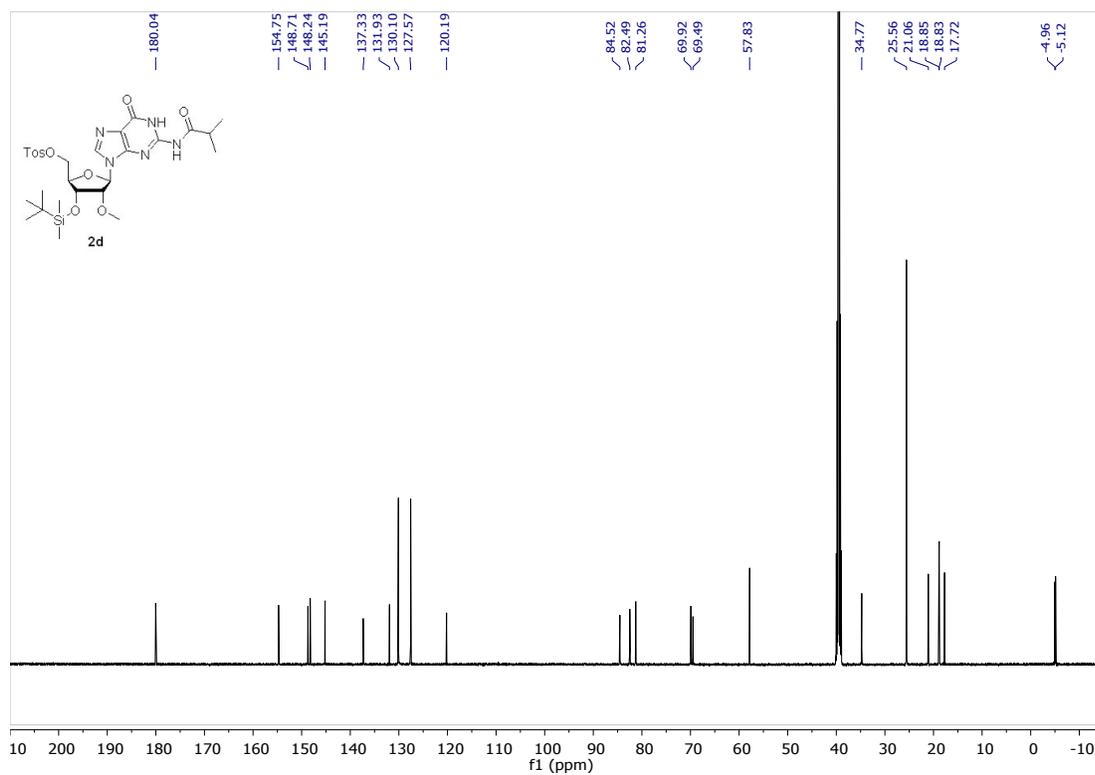
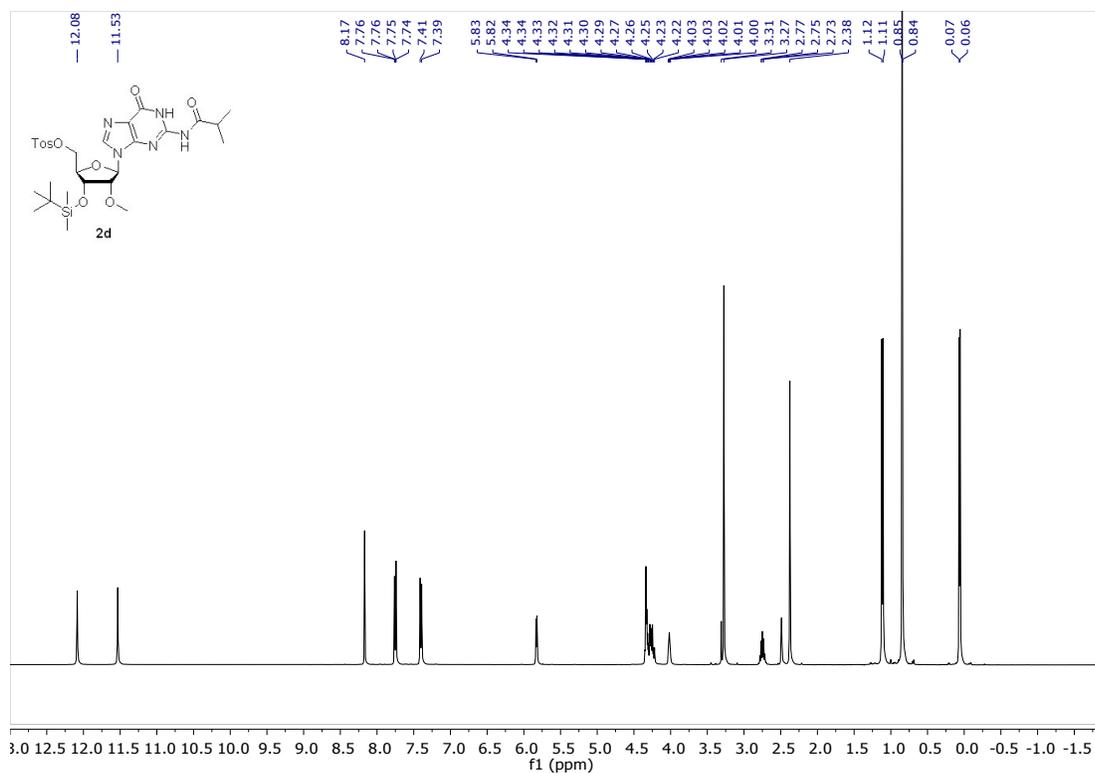


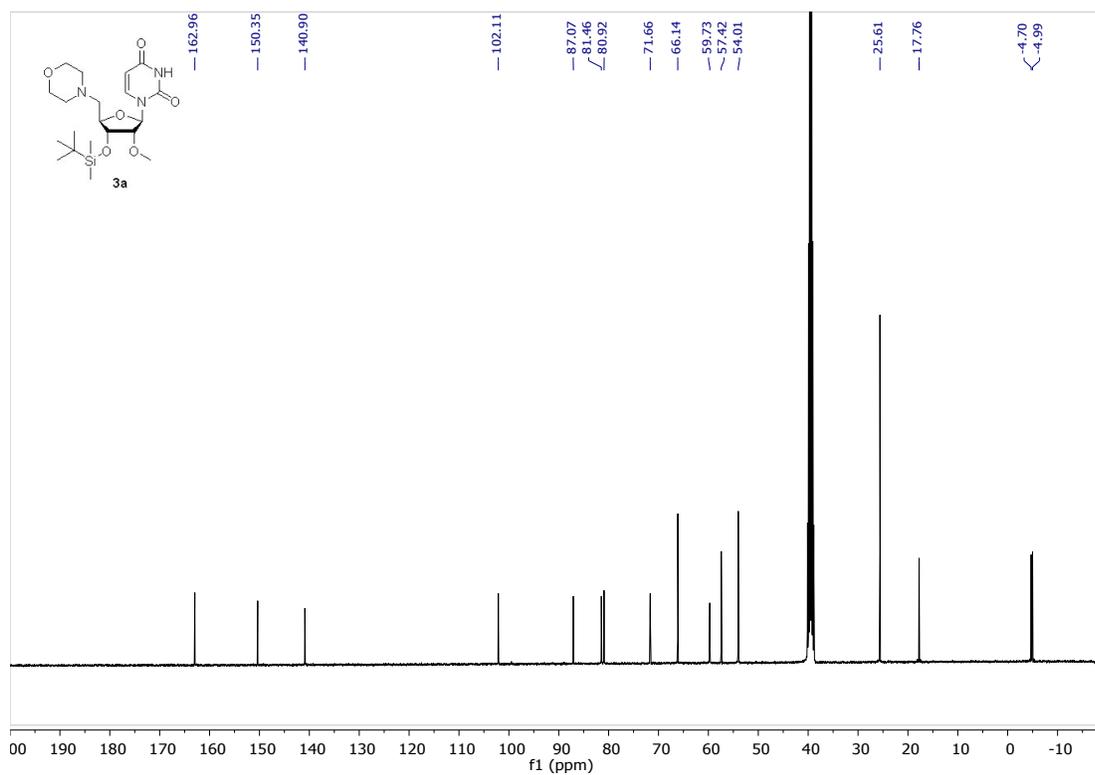
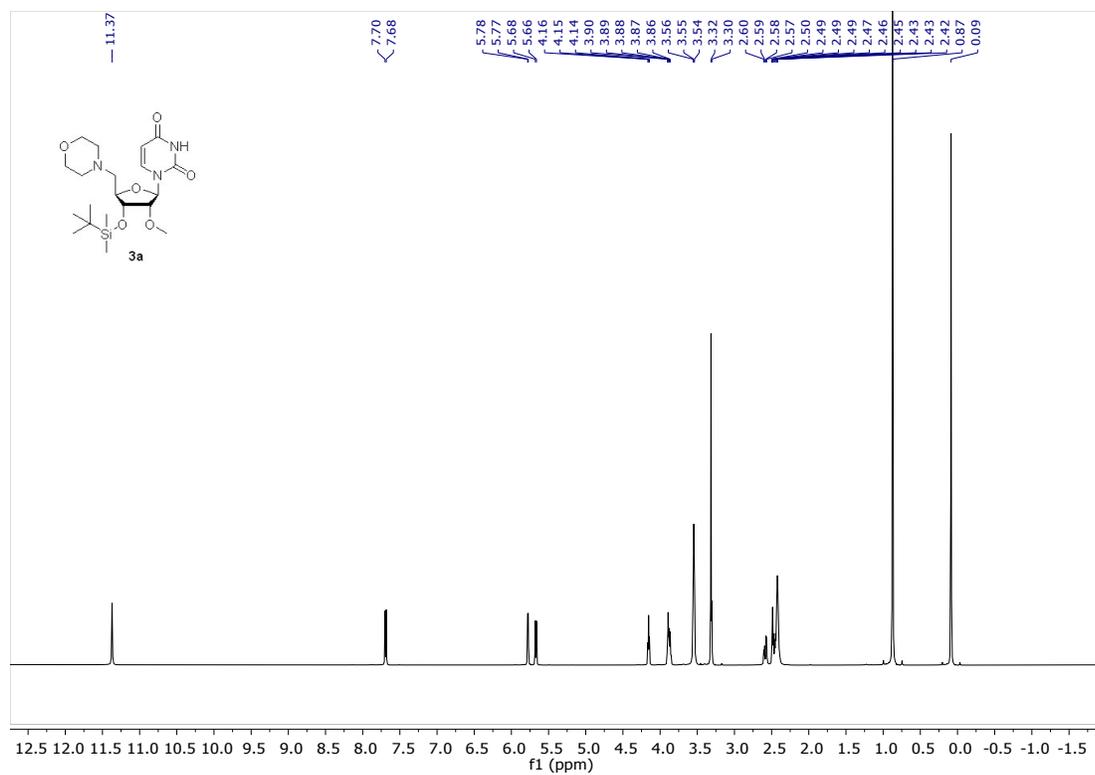


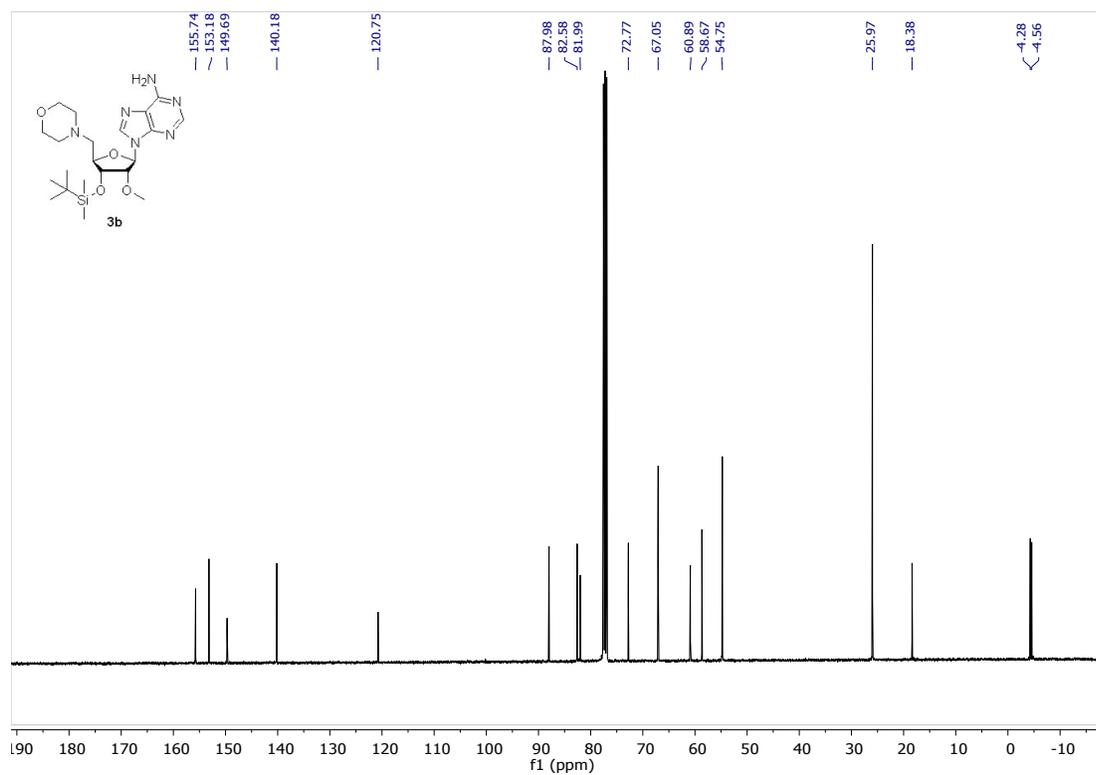
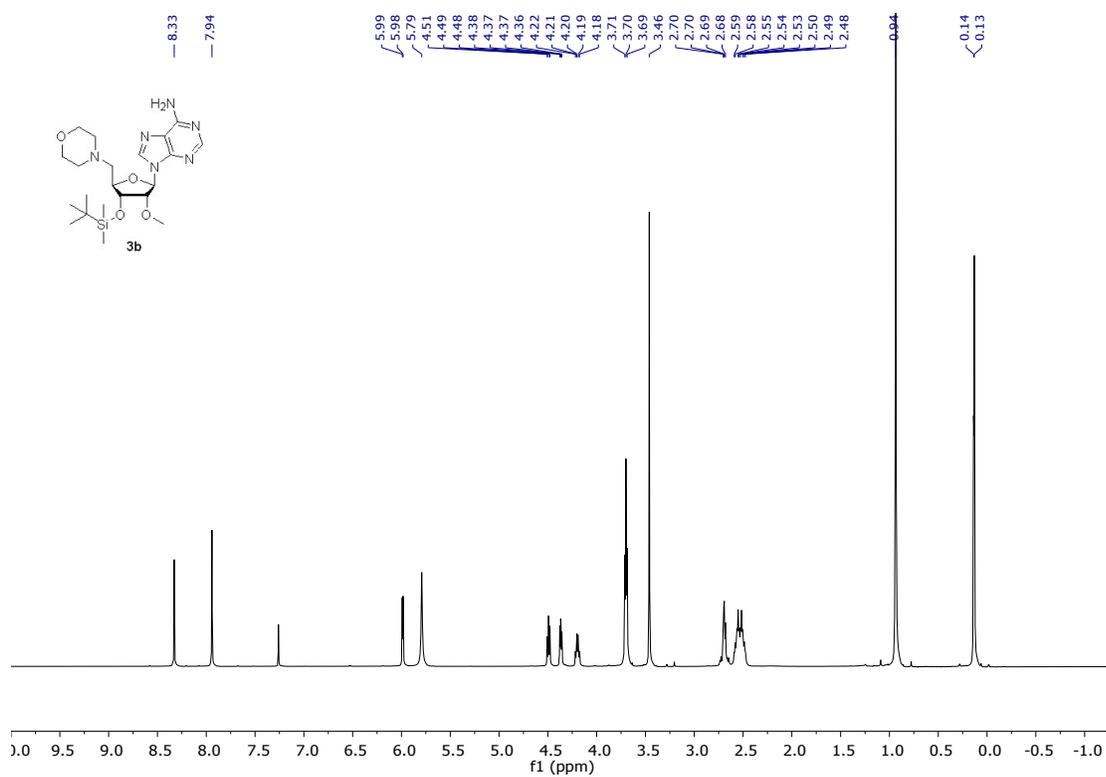


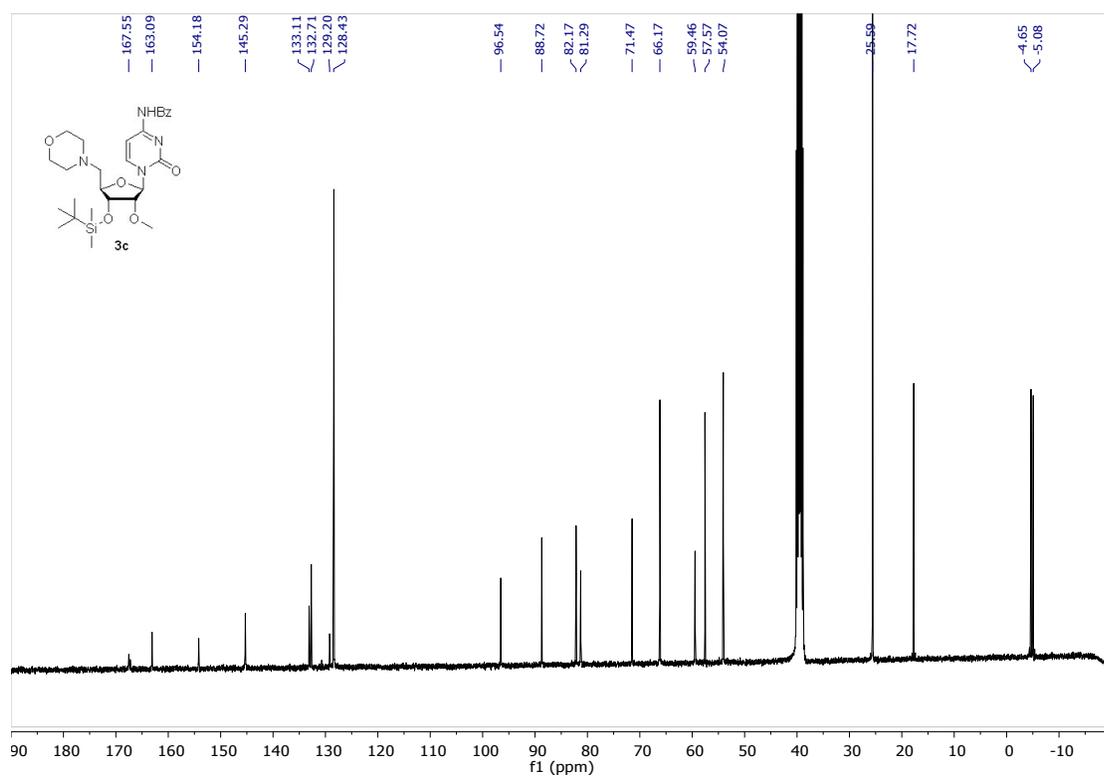
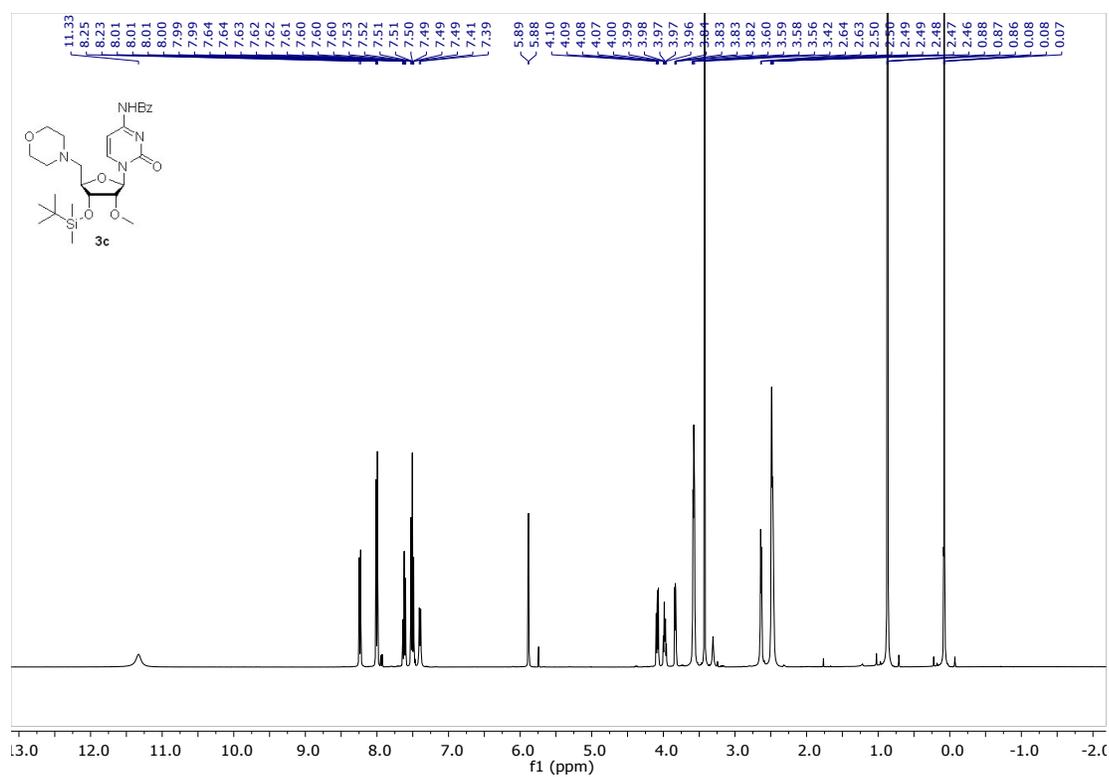


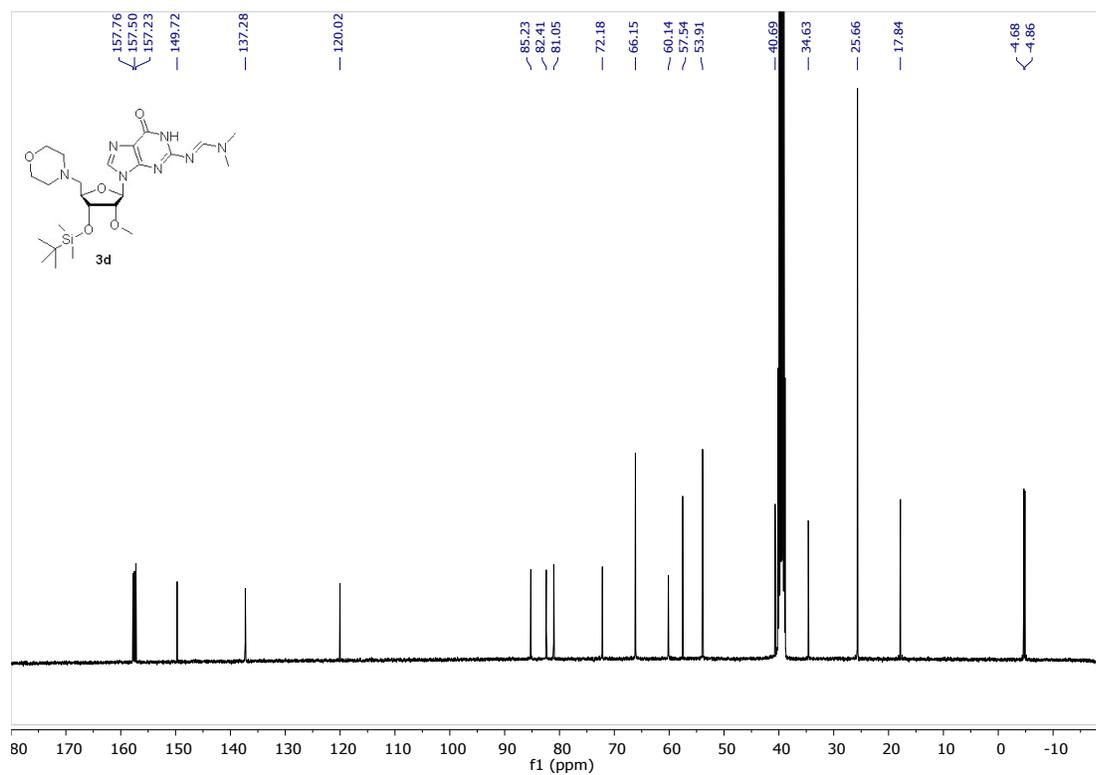
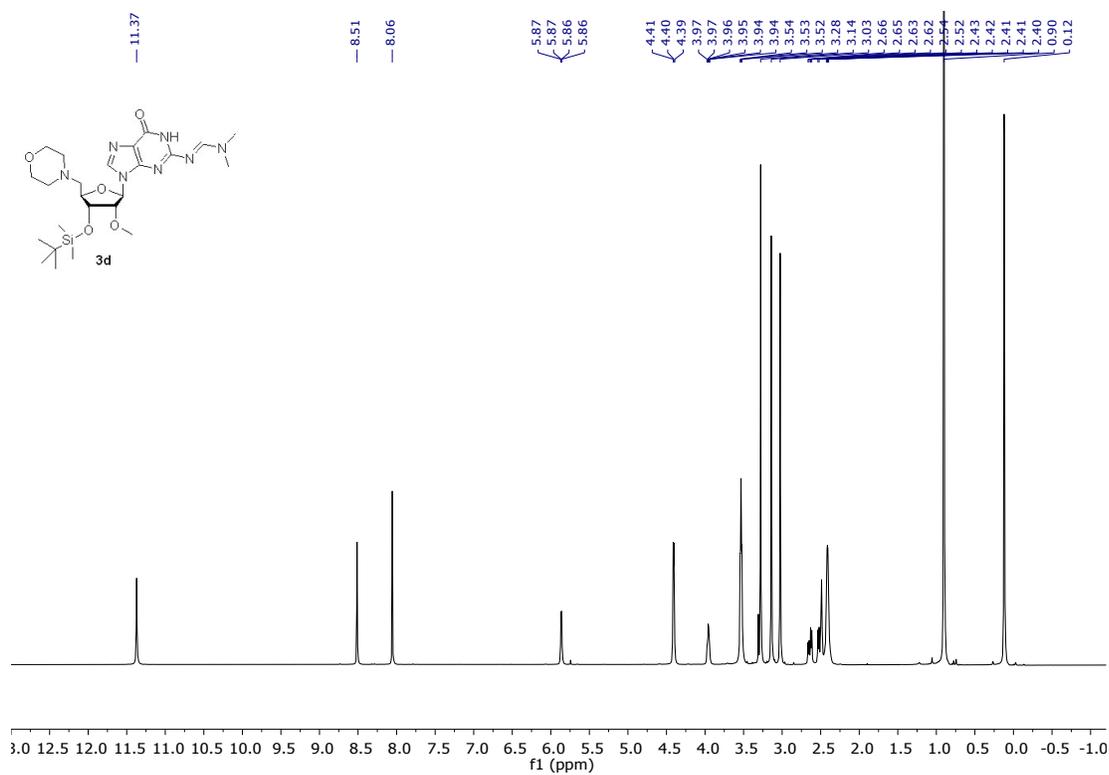


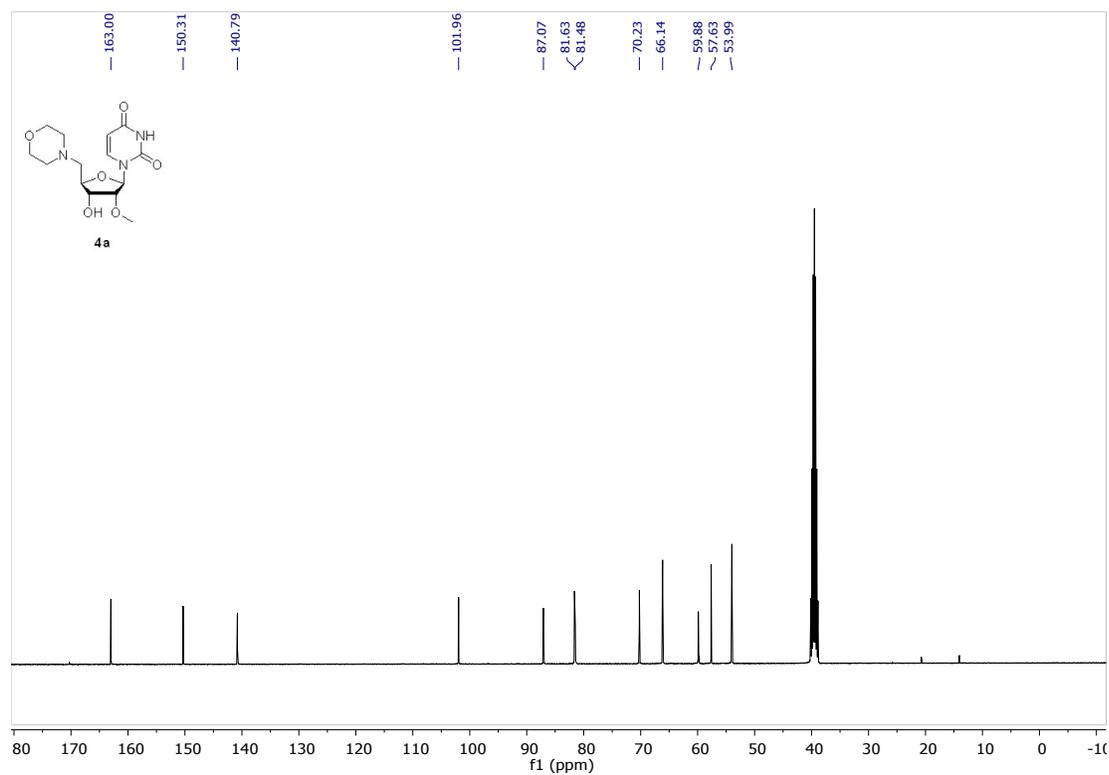
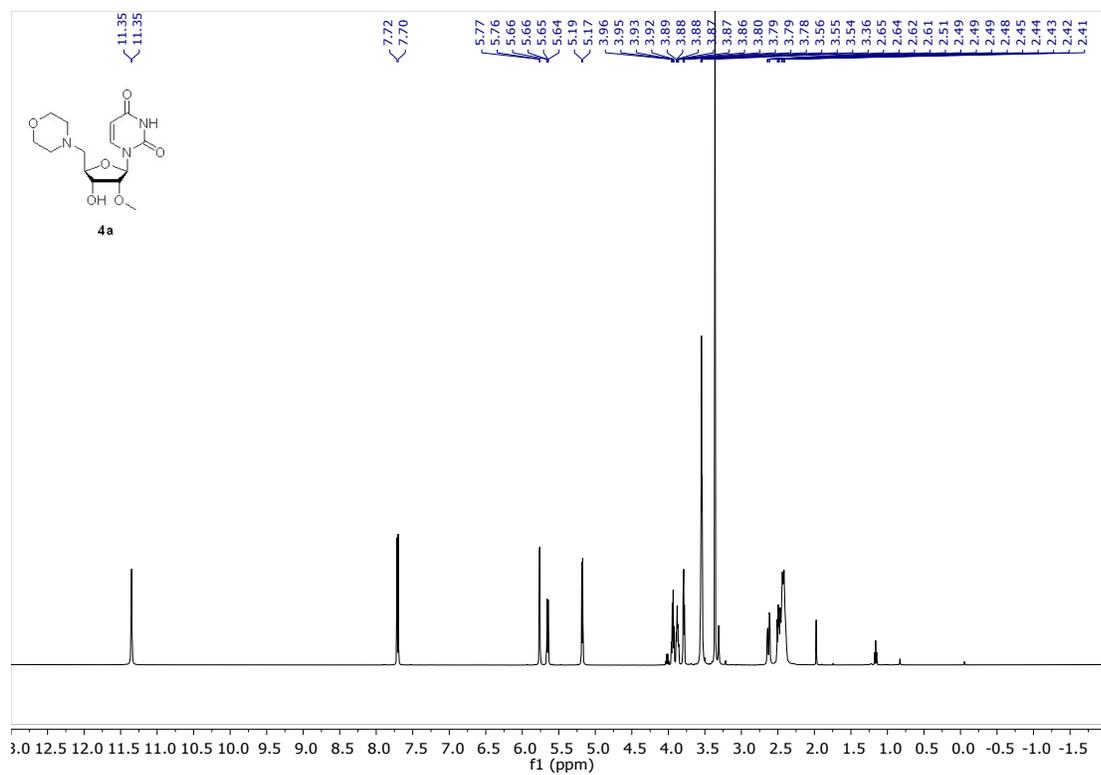


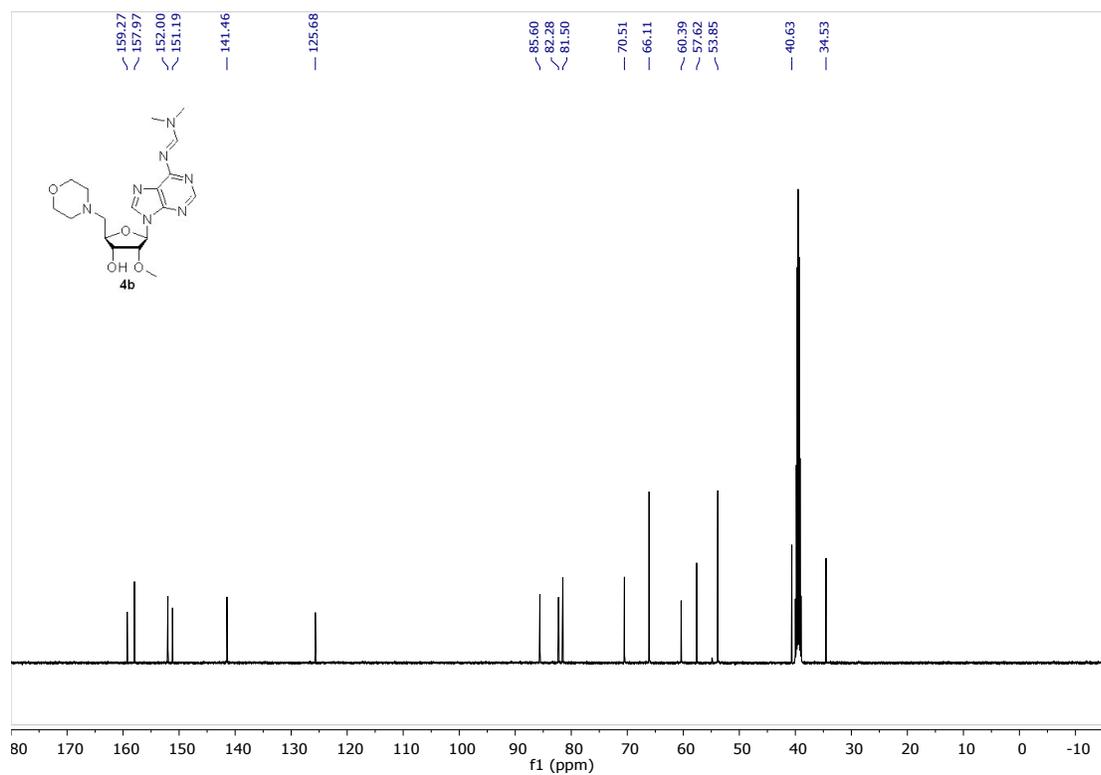
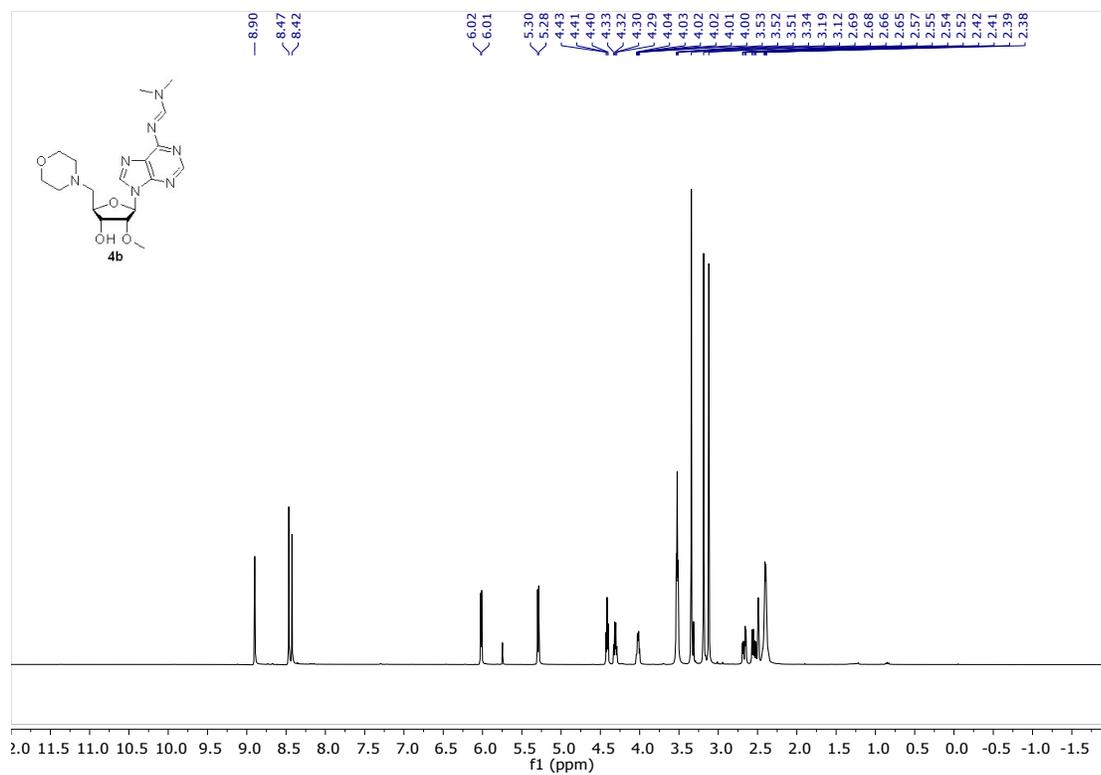


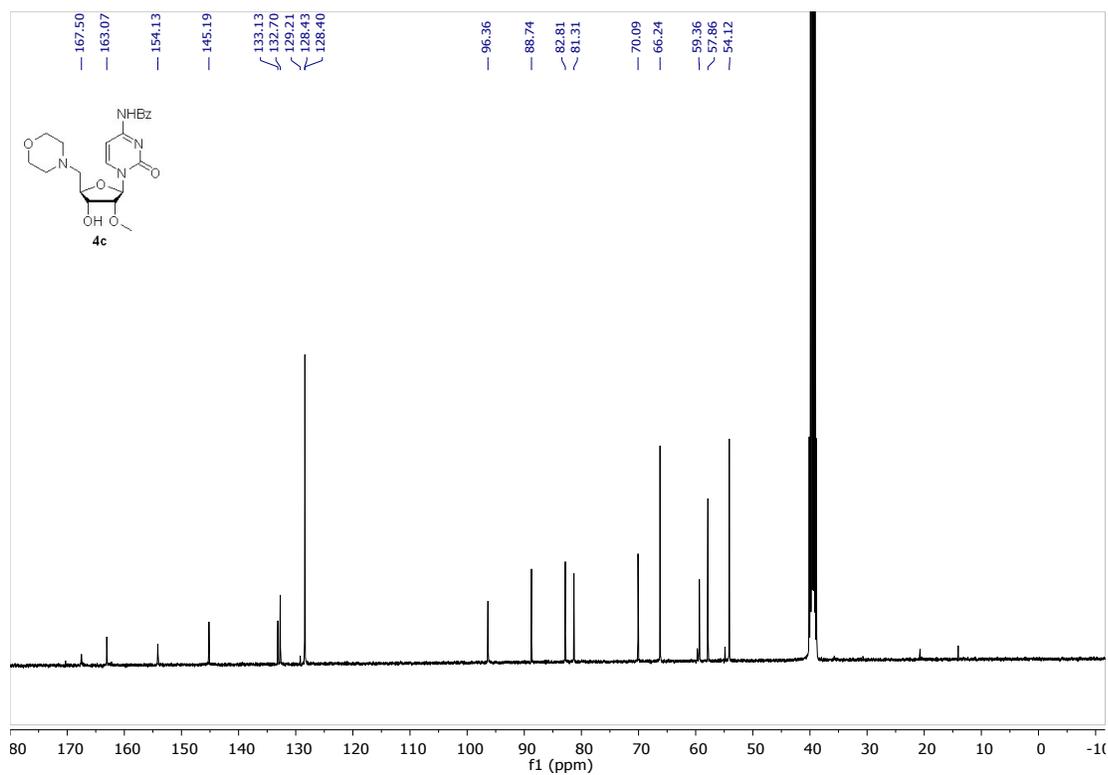
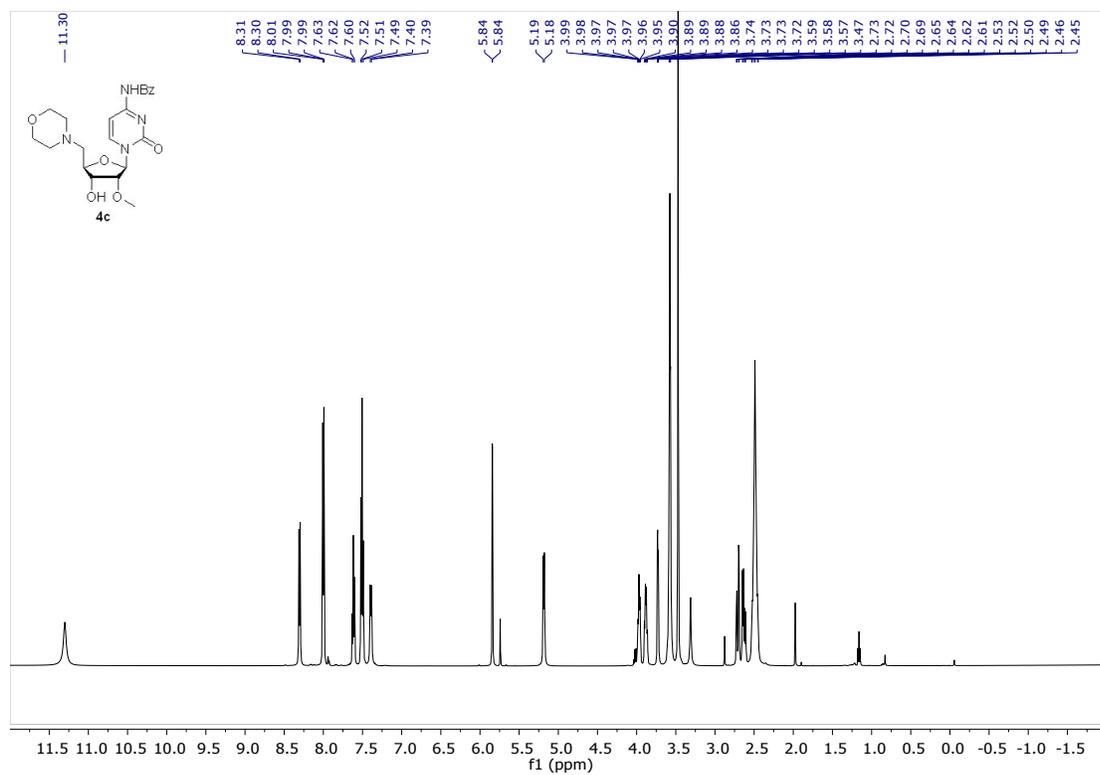


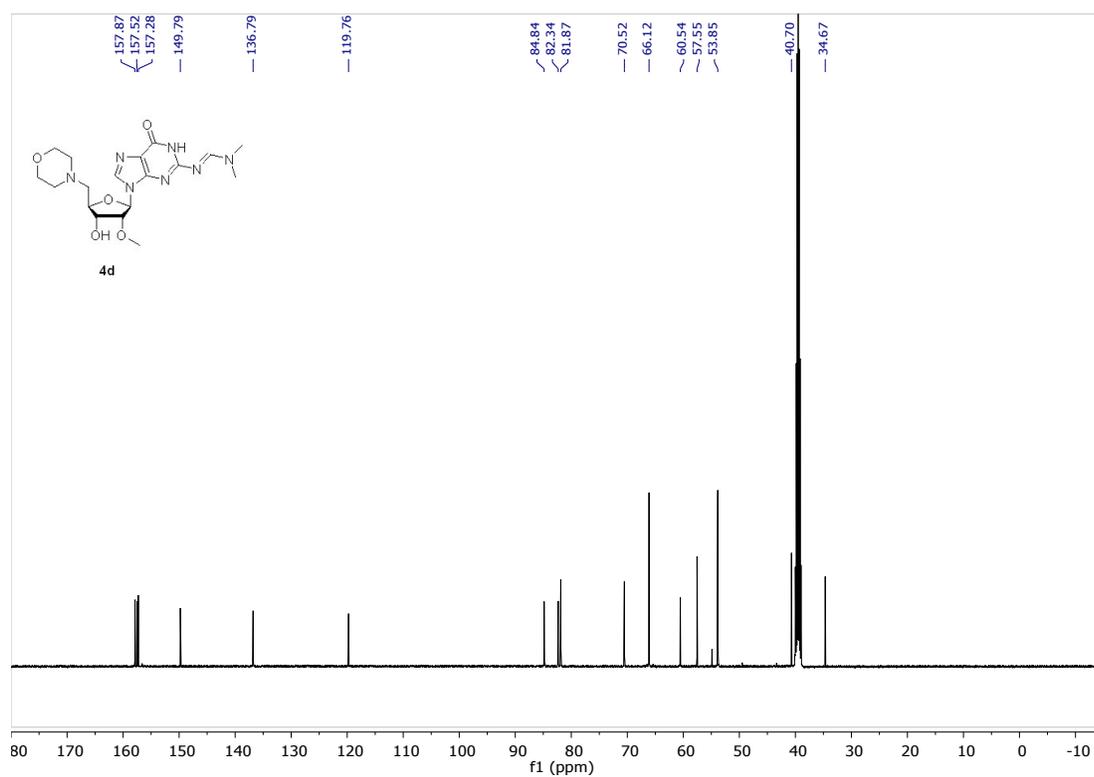
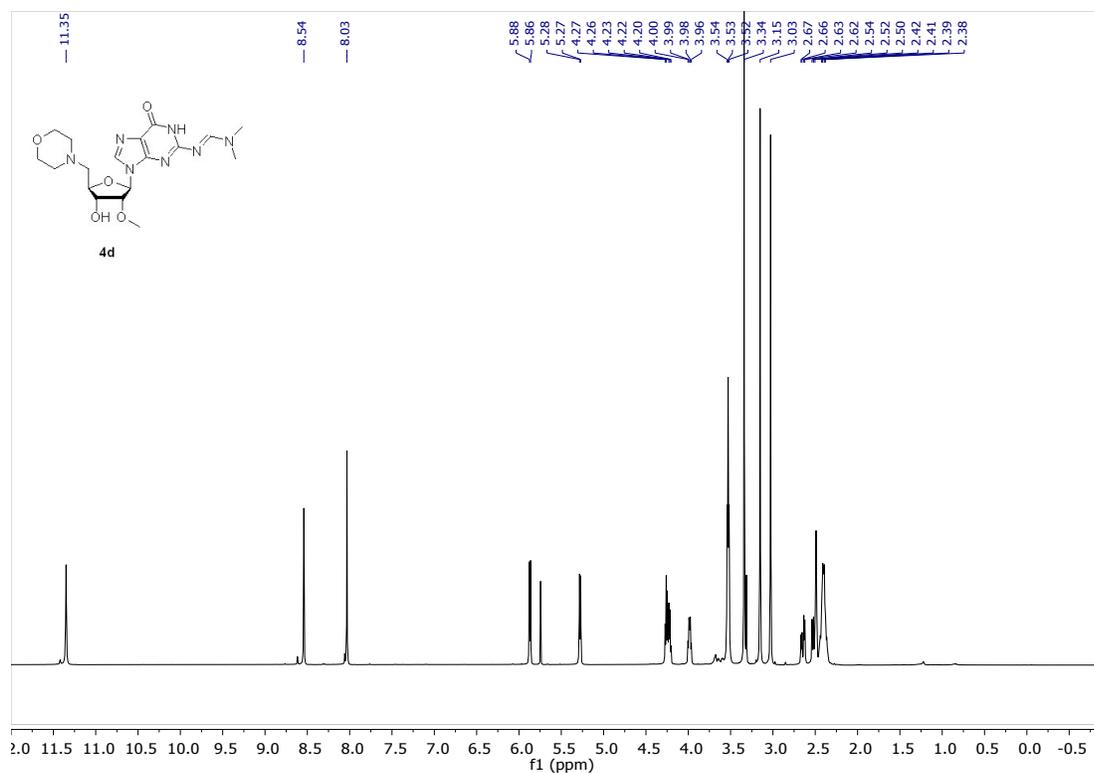


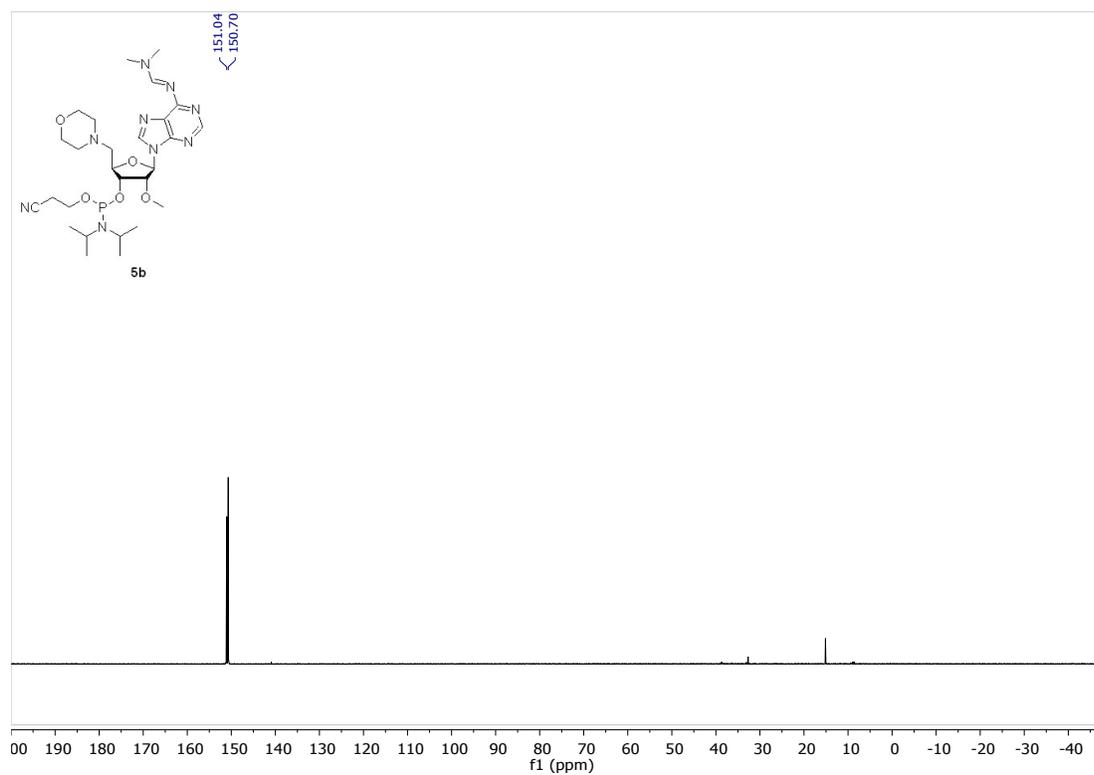
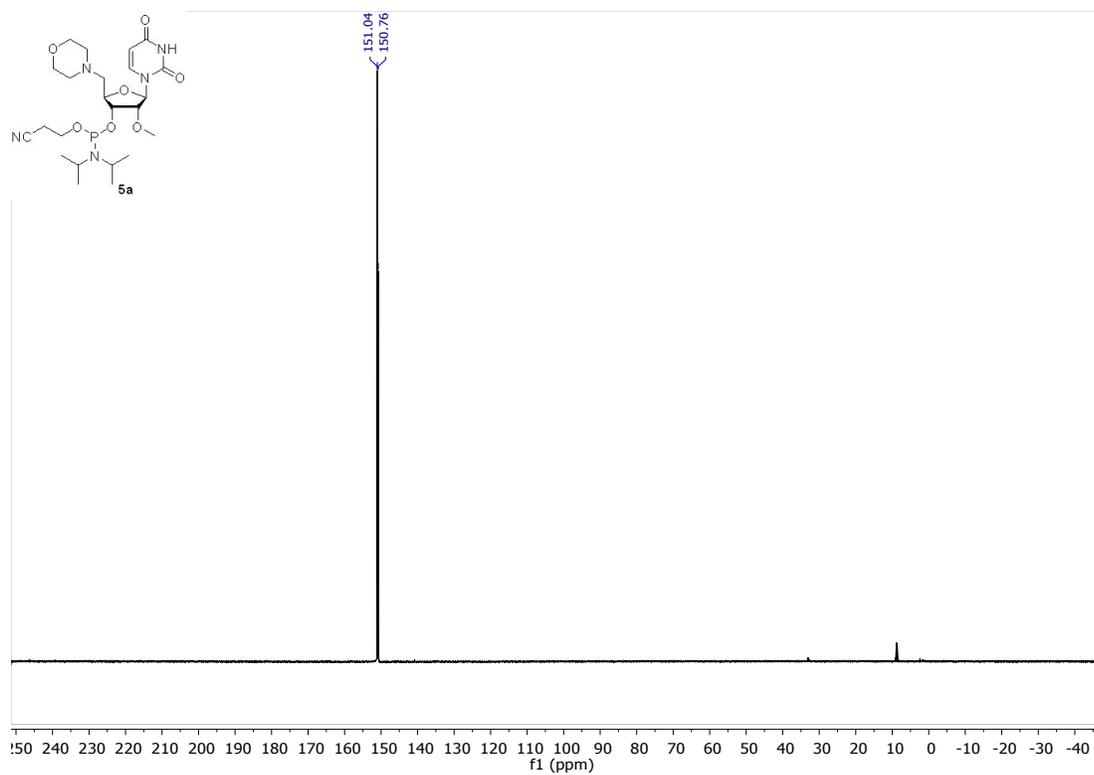


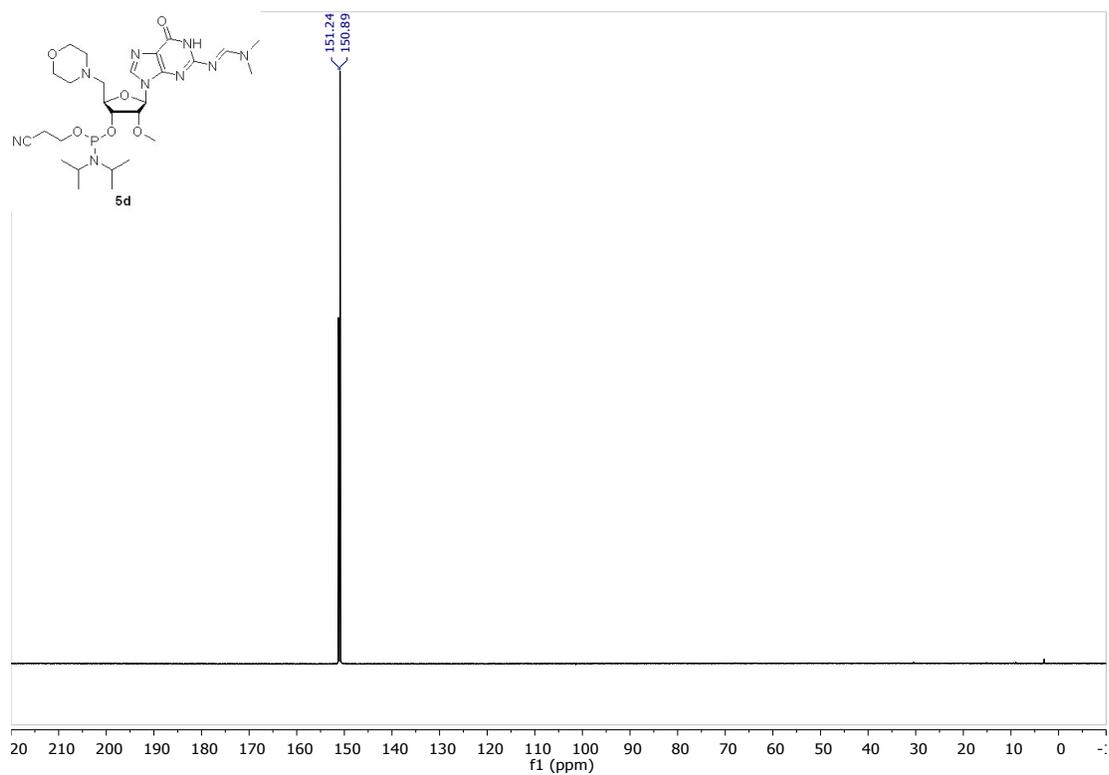
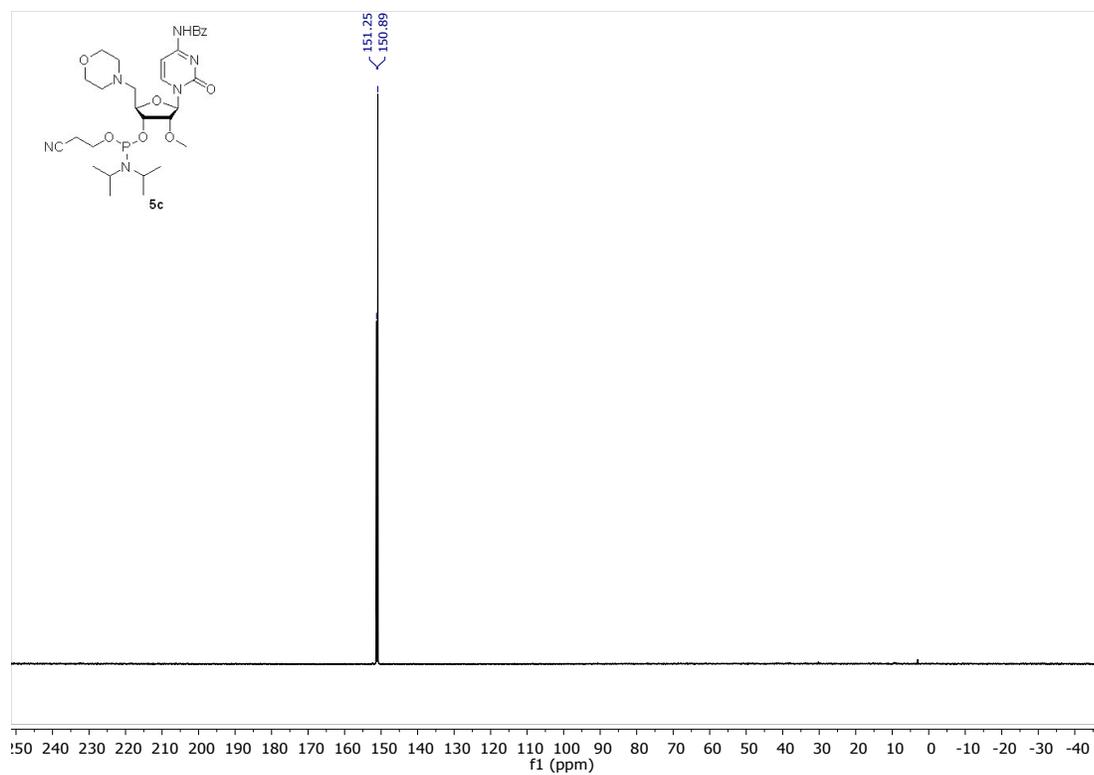


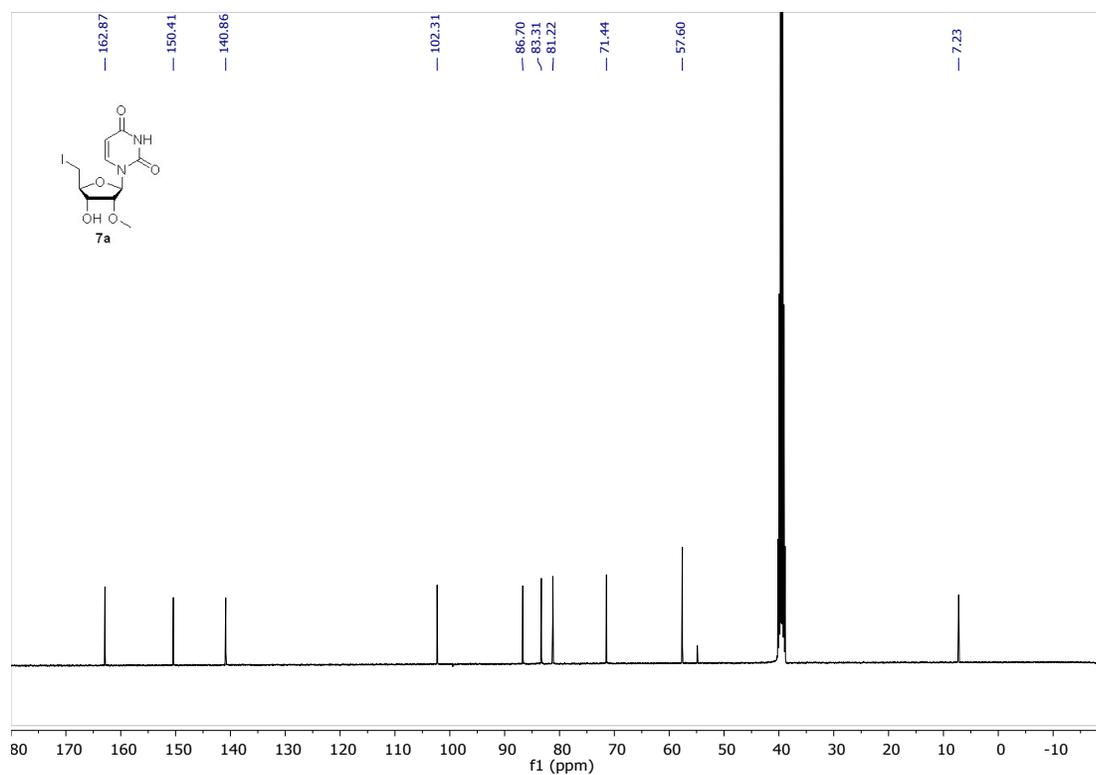
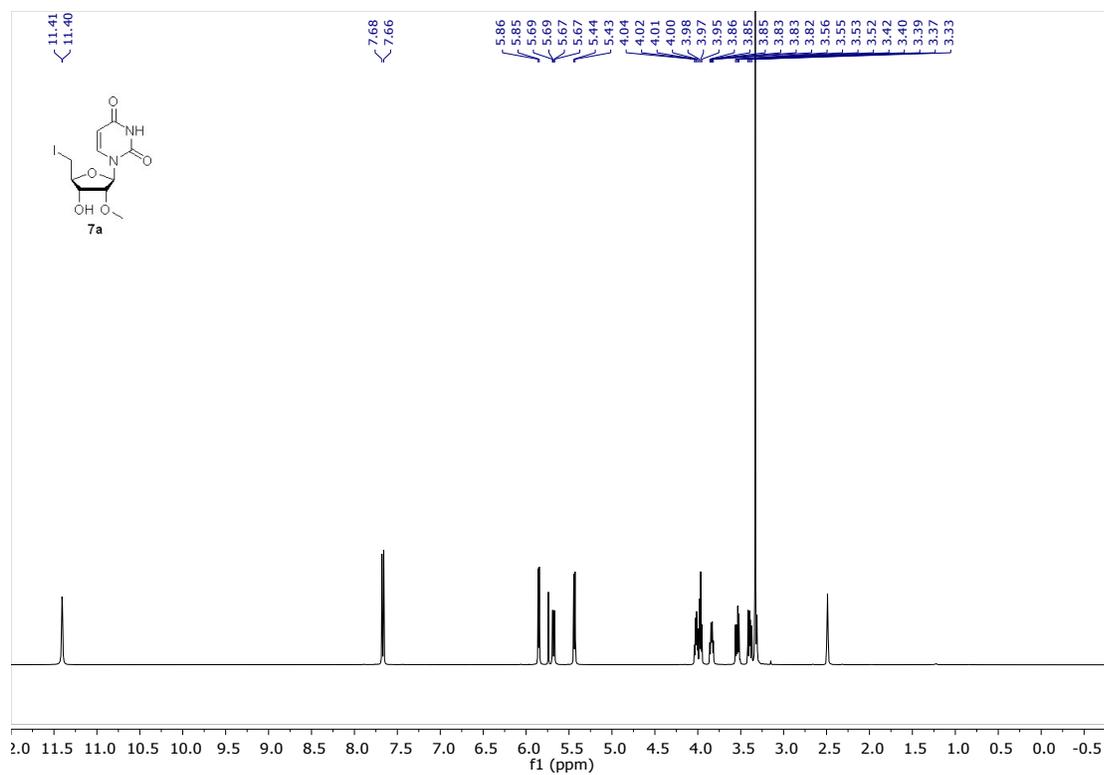


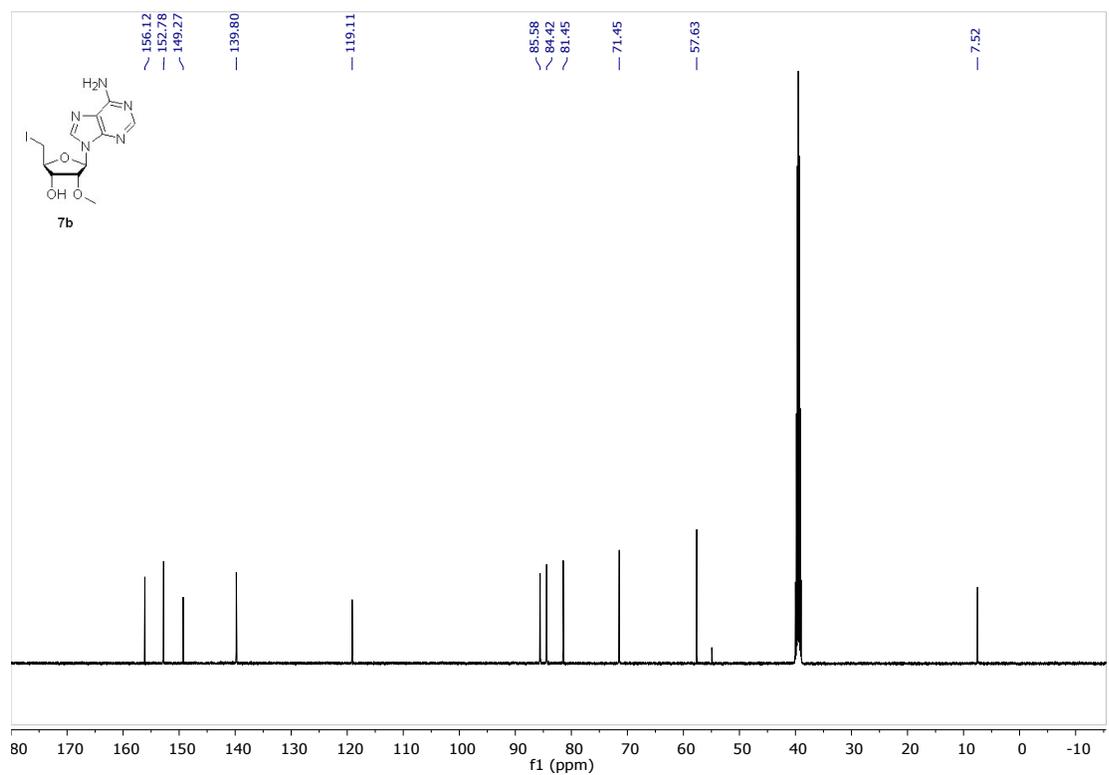
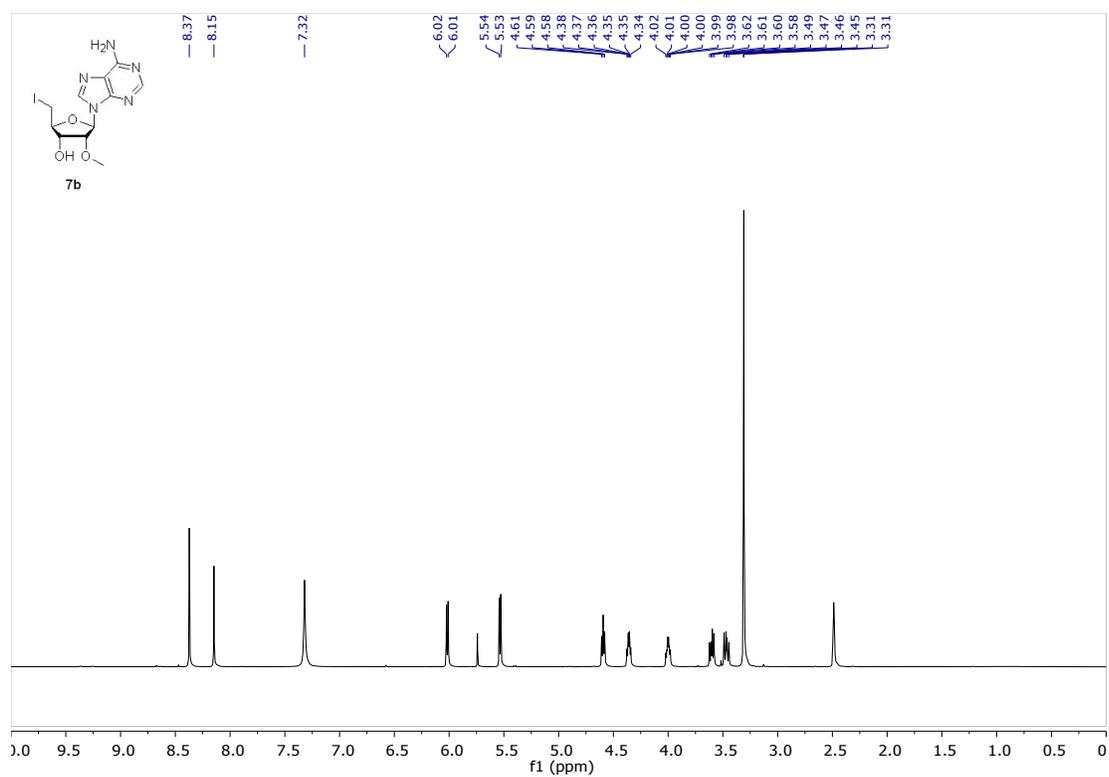




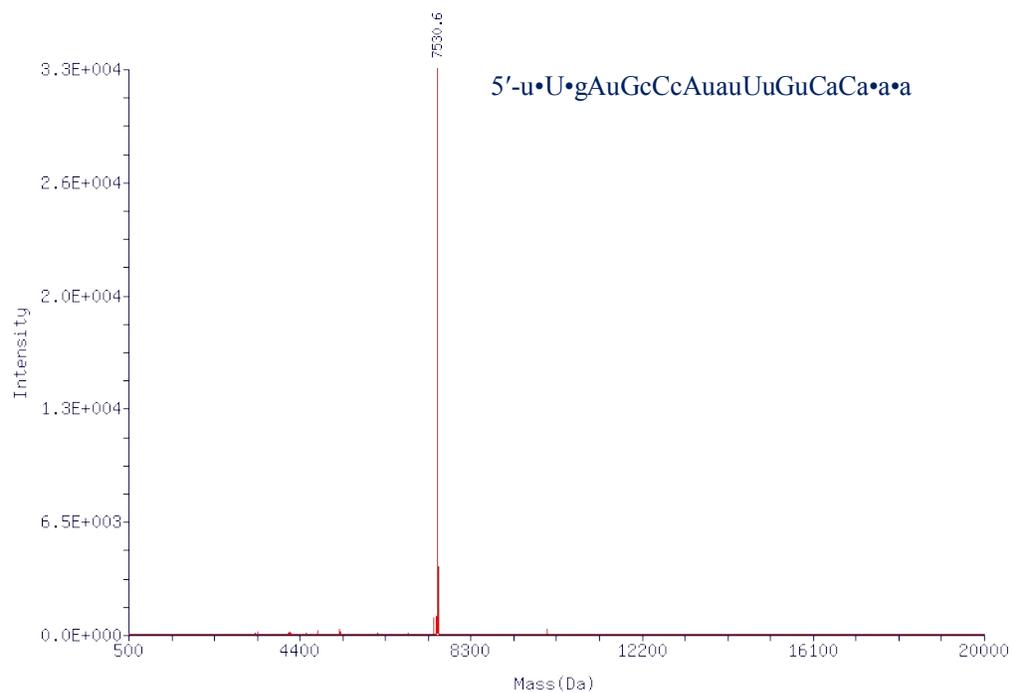
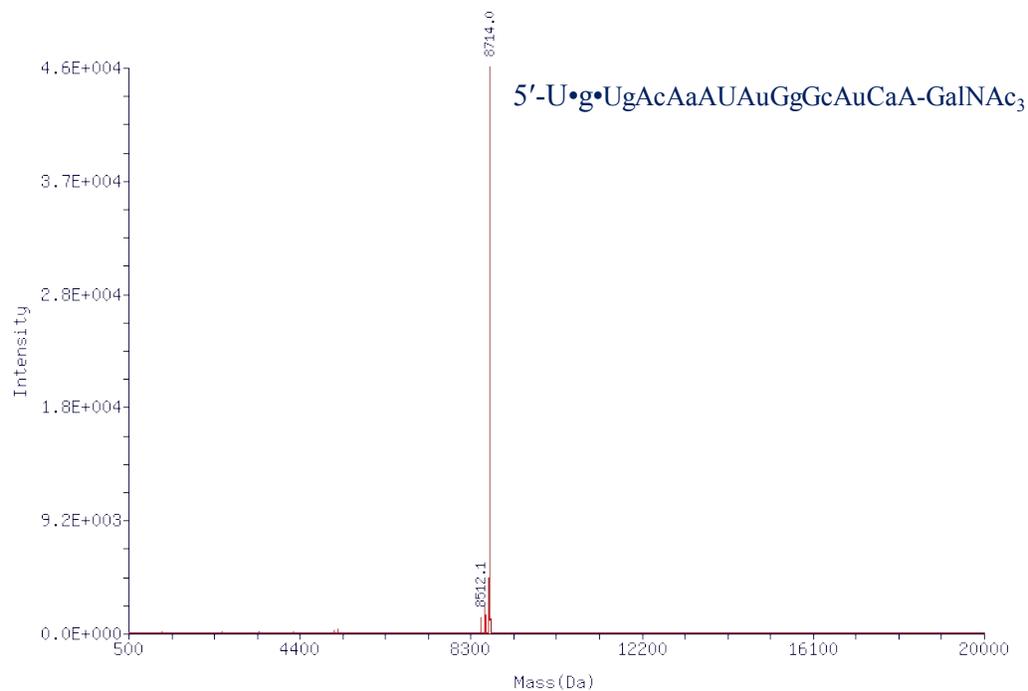


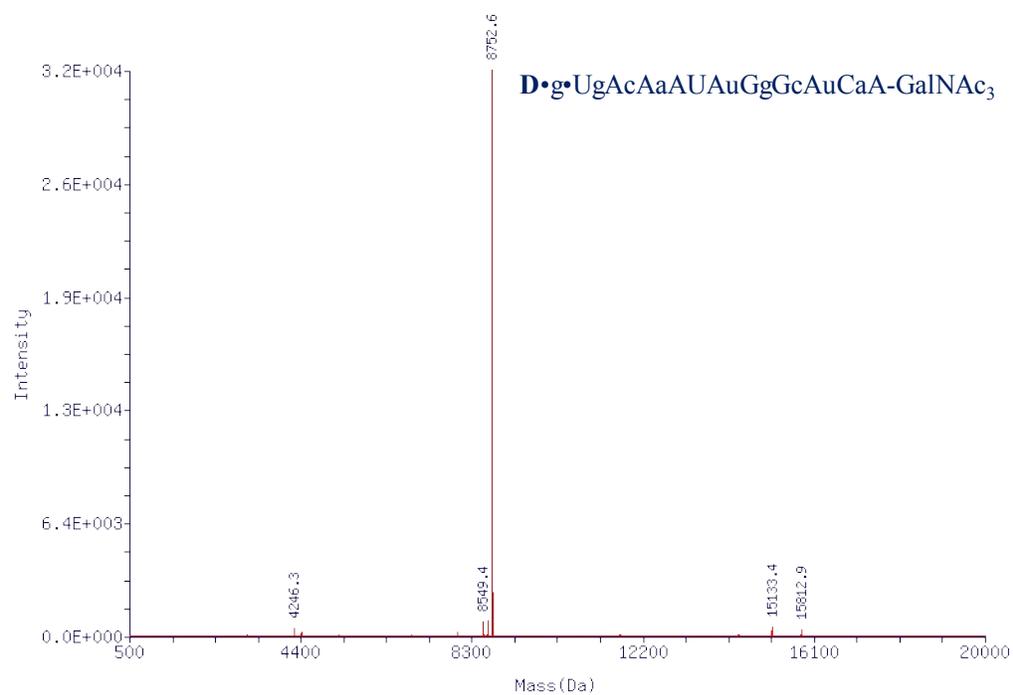
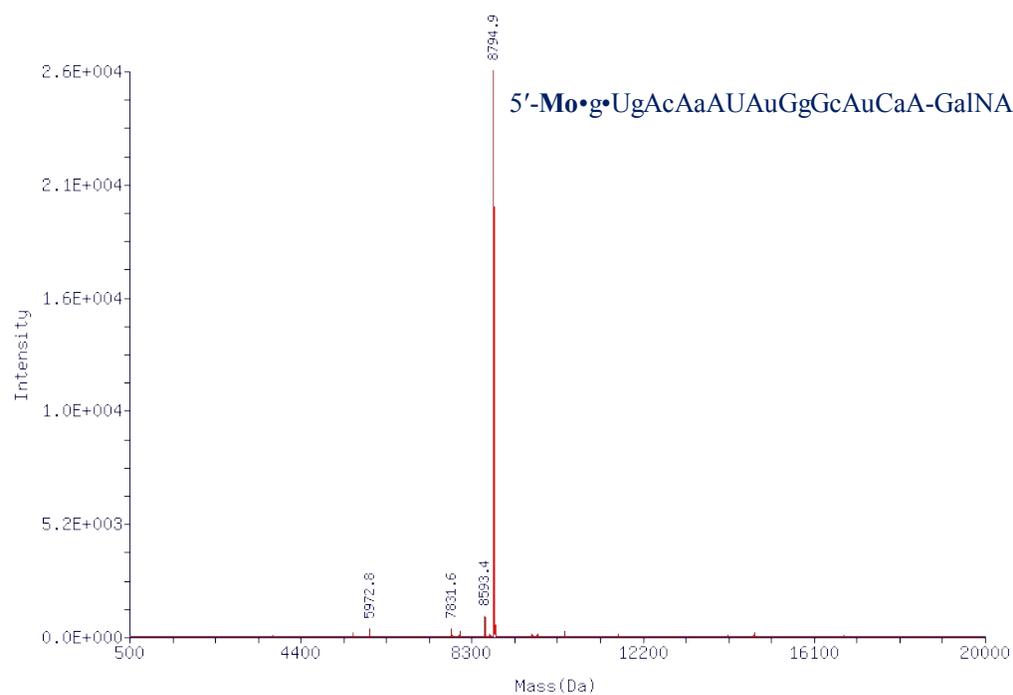


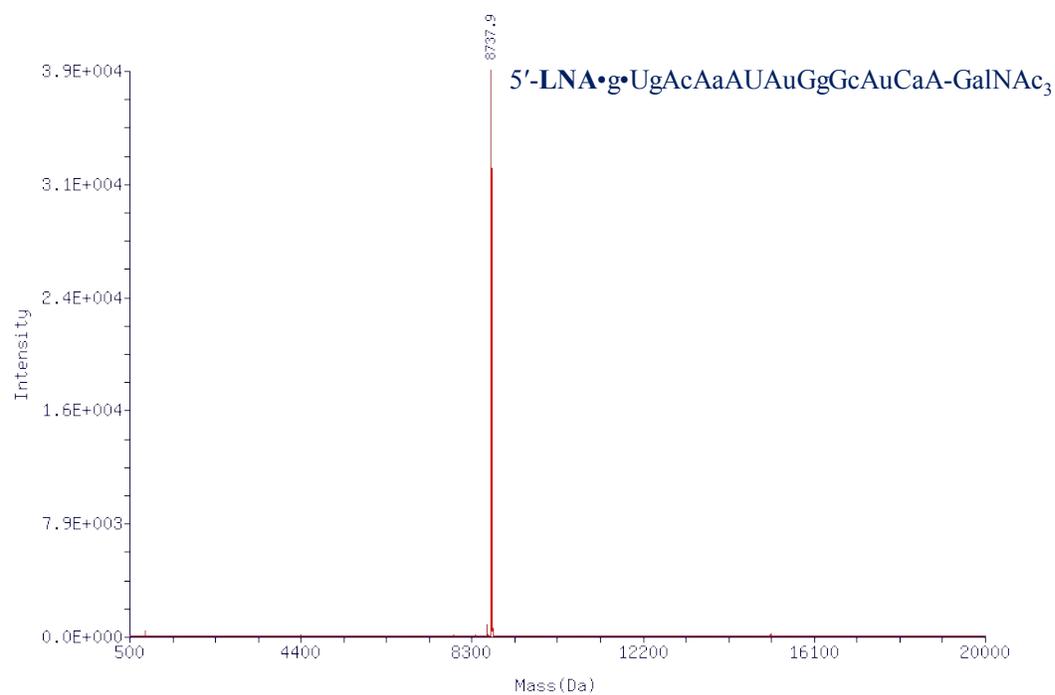
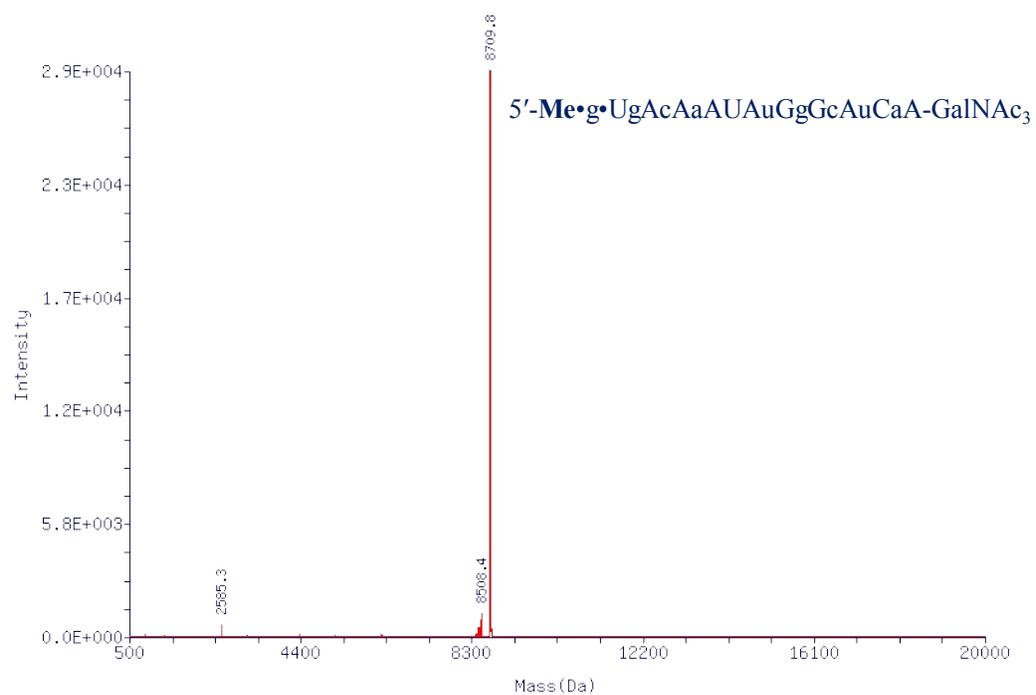


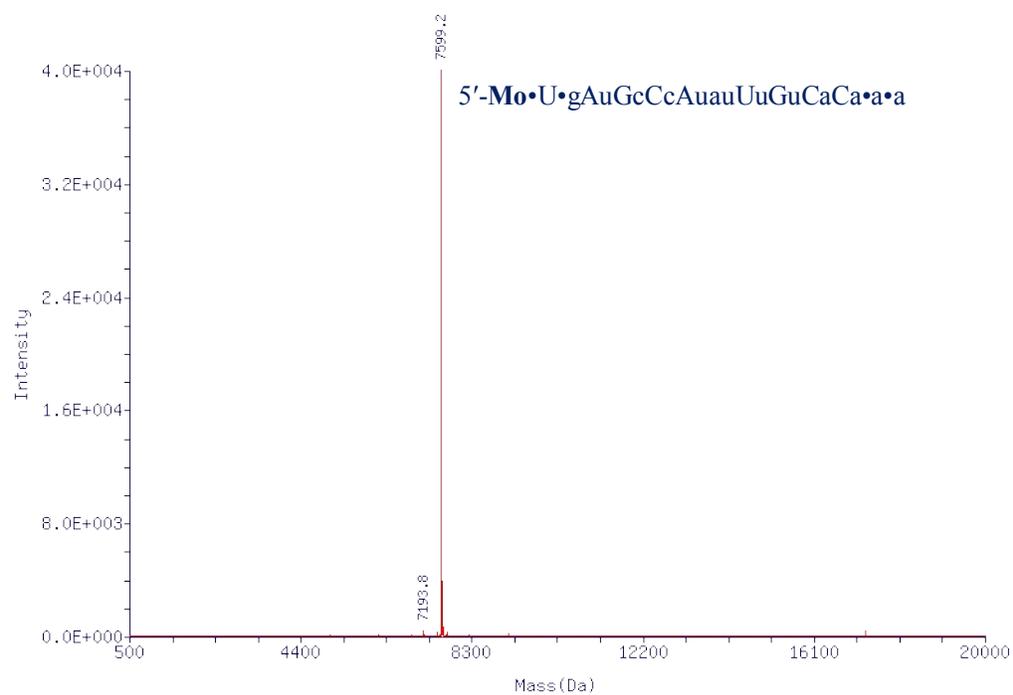
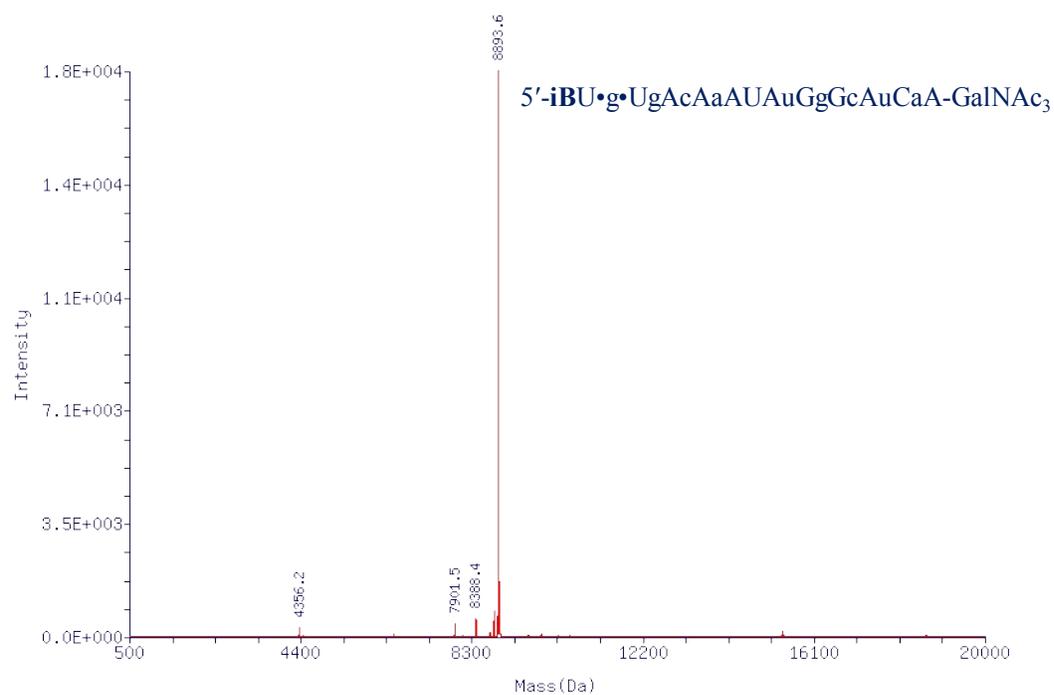


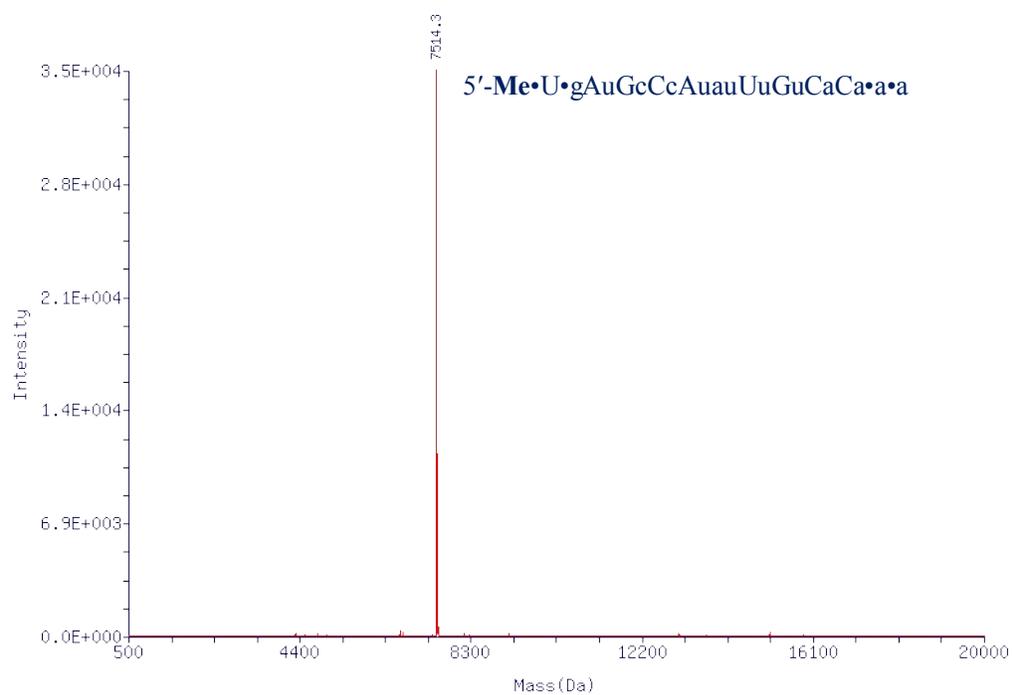
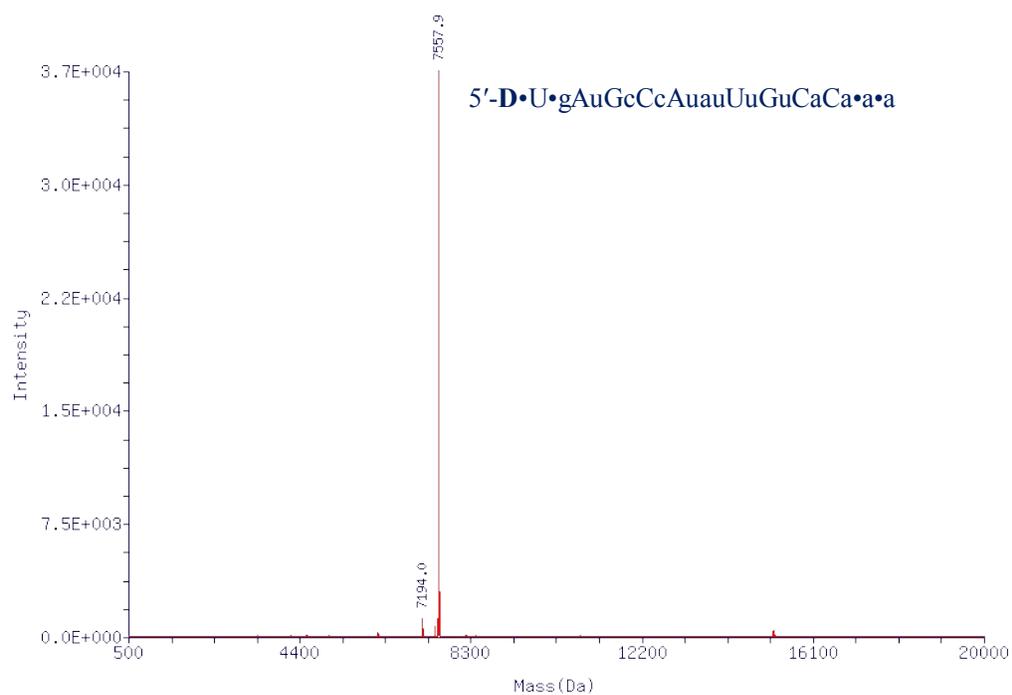
1.8 Representative MS spec of Oligonucleotides

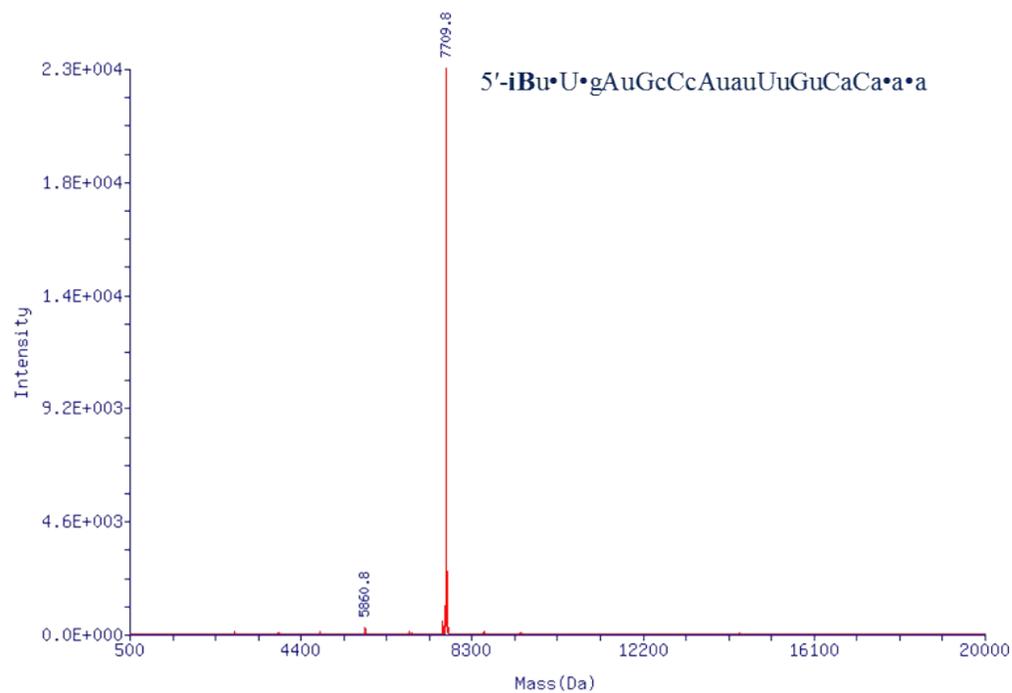
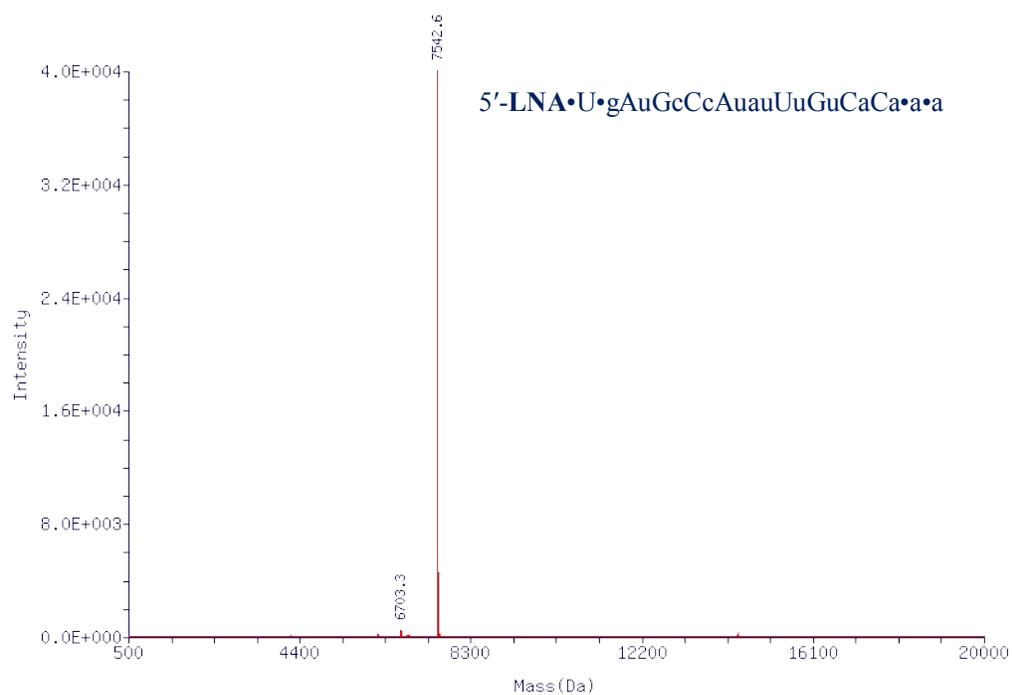


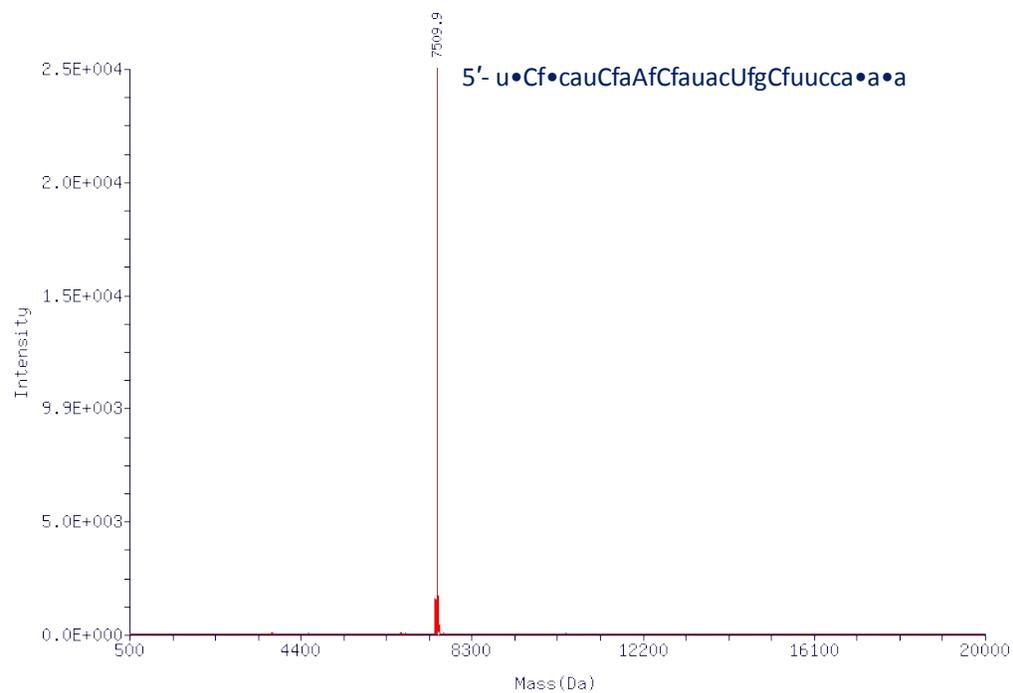
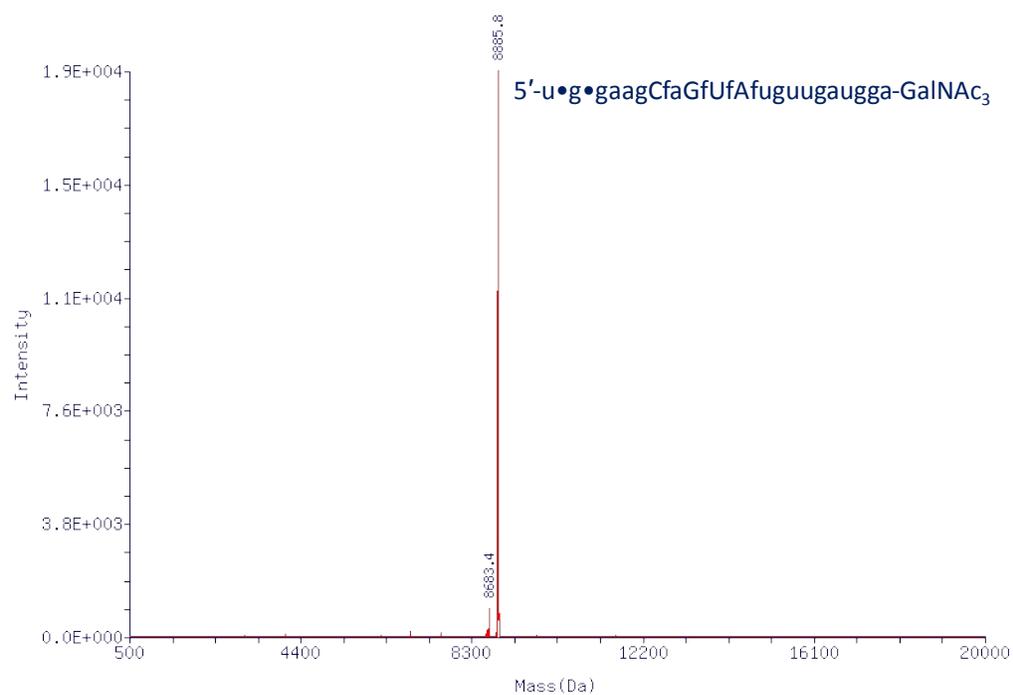


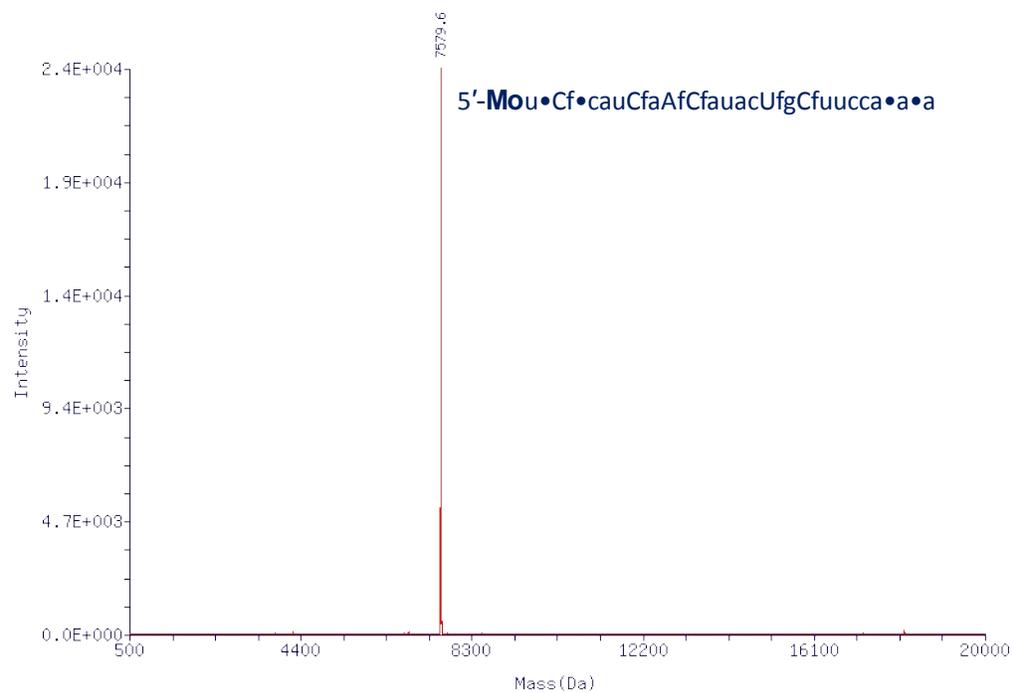
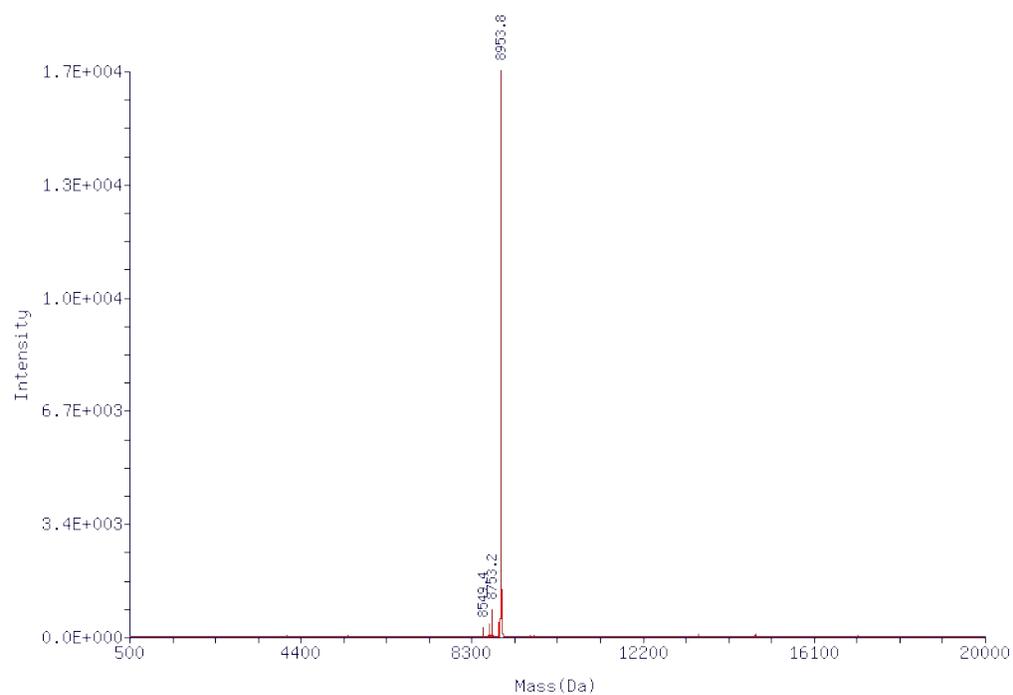












1. R. G. Parmar, C. R. Brown, S. Matsuda, J. L. S. Willoughby, C. S. Theile, K. Charisse, D. J. Foster, I. Zlatev, V. Jadhav, M. A. Maier, M. Egli, M. Manoharan and K. G. Rajeev, *J Med Chem*, 2018, **61**, 734-744.
2. M. K. Schlegel, D. J. Foster, A. V. Kel'in, I. Zlatev, A. Bisbe, M. Jayaraman, J. G. Lackey, K. G. Rajeev, K. Charissé, J. Harp, P. S. Pallan, M. A. Maier, M. Egli and M. Manoharan, *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 2017, **139**, 8537-8546.
3. R. Parmar, J. L. S. Willoughby, J. Liu, D. J. Foster, B. Brigham, C. S. Theile, K. Charisse, A. Akinc, E. Guidry, Y. Pei, W. Strapps, M. Cancilla, M. G. Stanton, K. G. Rajeev, L. Sepp-Lorenzino, M. Manoharan, R. Meyers, M. A. Maier and V. Jadhav, *ChemBioChem*, 2016, **17**, 985-989.