

# Prediction of the stability of modified RNA duplexes based on deformability analysis: Oligoribonucleotide derivatives modified with 2'-O-cyanoethyl-5-propynyl-2-thiouridine as a promising component

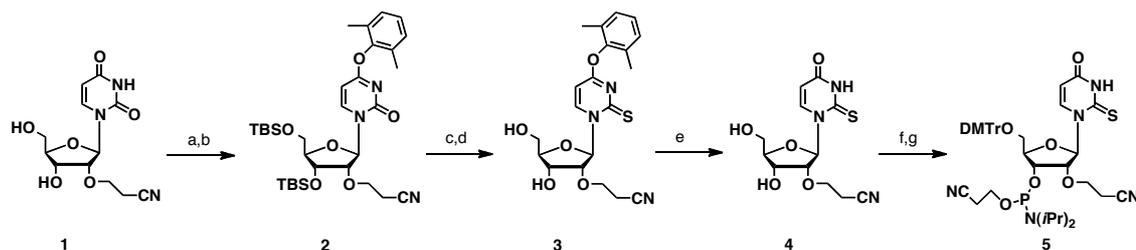
Yoshiaki Masaki, Ryuta Miyasaka, Kunihiro Hirai, Hirosuke Tsunoda, Akihiro Ohkubo, Kohji Seio, Mitsuo Sekine  
*Department of Life Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan*

## Supporting Information

### Contents

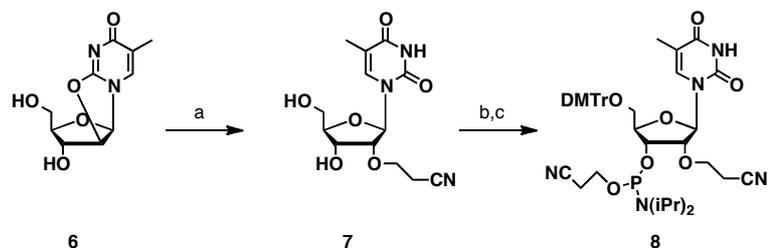
1. Synthetic scheme of phosphoramidite unit	S2
2. General remarks	S5
3. Synthesis of 2-thiouridine phosphoramidite unit <b>5</b>	S5
4. Synthesis of 5-methyl-2-thiouridine phosphoramidite unit <b>12</b>	S10
5. Synthesis of 5-bromo uridine phosphoramidite unit <b>16</b>	S14
6. Synthesis of 5-bromo-2-thiouridine phosphoramidite unit <b>20</b>	S16
7. Synthesis of 5-propynyl uridine phosphoramidite unit <b>25</b>	S19
8. Synthesis of 5-propynyl-2-thiouridine phosphoramidite unit <b>28</b>	S23
9. Synthesis of oligonucleotide	S26
10. Computational methods	S27
11. Resp charge distributions and atom types of the modified nucleobases	S28
12. Additional force field parameters	S29
13. Harmonic stiffness analysis	S30
14. Supplementary Figures S3-S5	S31
15. Calculated elastic constants	S32
16. Reference	S36
17. NMR spectra for new compounds	S37

### Synthesis of 2-thiouridine derivatives



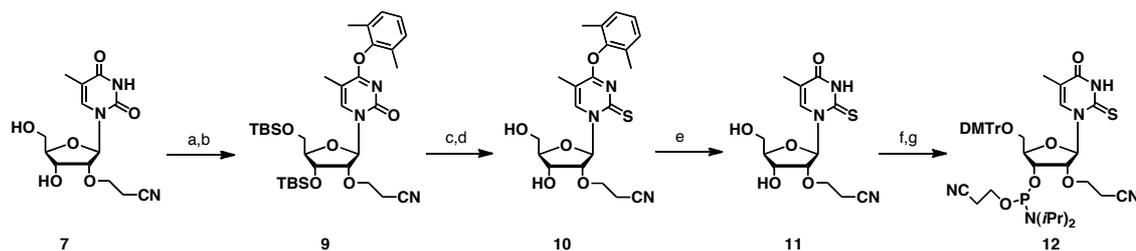
**Scheme S1** Reagents and conditions: (a) TBSCl, imidazole, MeCN, rt, 13 h, 90%. (b) 1. TPSCl, TEA, DMAP, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 1 h; 2. dimethylphenol, DABCO, TEA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 3h, 94% (2 steps). (c) Lawesson Reagent, PhMe, reflux, 1 h. (d) 3HF·TEA, TEA, THF, rt, 13 h, 85% (2 steps). (e) *syn-o*-nitrobenzoxime, TMG, MeCN, rt, 3 h, 90%. (f) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 4 h, 82%. (g) (CEO)P(NiPr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 13 h, 68%.

### Synthesis of 5-methyl uridine derivatives



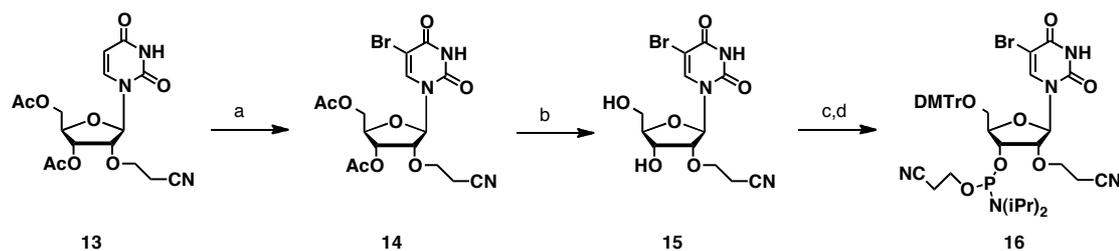
**Scheme S2** Reagents and conditions: (a) TMScyanoethanol, BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, DMA, reflux, 14 h, 62%. (b) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 4 h, 92%. (c) (CEO)P(NiPr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 12 h, 63%.

### Synthesis of 5-methyl-2-thiouridine derivatives



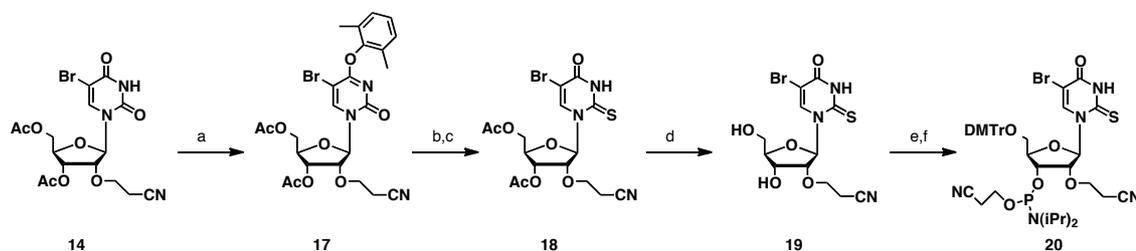
**Scheme S3** Reagents and conditions: (a) TBSCl, Im, DMF, rt, 12 h, 94%. (b) 1. TPSCl, TBAB, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, rt, 24 h ; 2. dimethylphenol, DABCO, TEA, MeCN, rt, 5 h , 75% (2 steps). (c) Lawesson's Reagent, PhMe, reflux, 2 h, (d) 3HF·TEA, TEA, THF, rt, 15 h, 84% (2 steps). (e) *syn-o*-nitrobenzaloxime, TMG, MeCN, rt, 5 h, 89%. (f) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 12 h, 93%. (g) (CEO)P(NiPr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 12 h, 62%.

### Synthesis of 5-bromo uridine derivatives



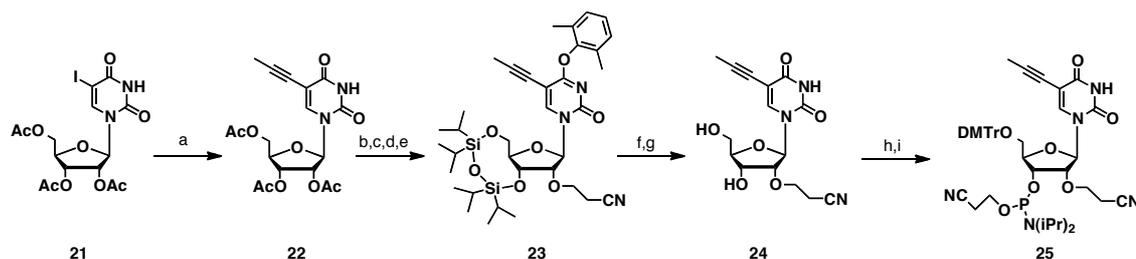
**Scheme S4** Reagents and conditions: (a) LiBr, CAN, MeCN, 80 °C, 1 h, 92%. (b) NH<sub>4</sub>OH, MeOH, THF, rt, 8 h, 69%. (c) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 14 h, 45%. (d) (CEO)P(N*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 23 h, 69%.

### Synthesis of 5-bromo-2-thiouridine derivatives



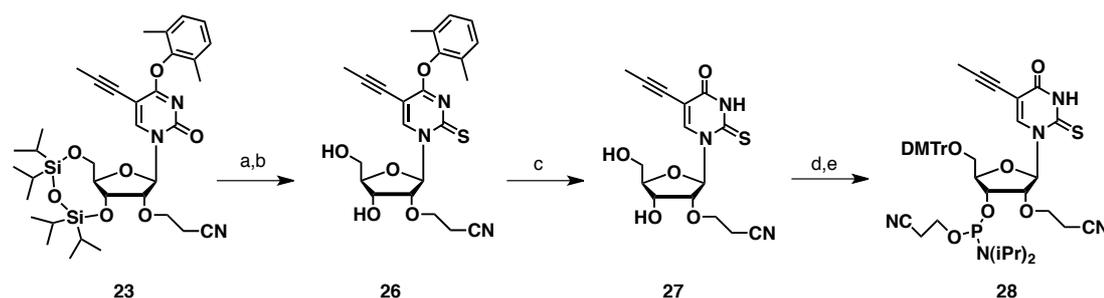
**Scheme S5** Reagents and conditions: (a) 1. TPSCl, TBAB, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, rt, 10.5 h ; 2. dimethylphenol, DABCO, TEA, MeCN, rt, 2.5 h , 82% (2 steps). (b) Lawesson's Reagent, PhMe, reflux, 1 h , 90% (c) *syn*-*o*-nitrobenzaldoxime, TMG, MeCN, rt, 3.5 h, 72%. (d) NH<sub>4</sub>OH, MeOH, THF, rt, 3 h, 79%. (e) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 11 h, 66%. (f) (CEO)P(N*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 23 h, 17%.

### Synthesis of 5-propynyl uridine derivatives



**Scheme S6** Reagents and conditions: (a) TMSpropyne, 3HF•TEA, TEA, CuI, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, DMF, rt, 24 h, 83%. (b) NaOMe, MeOH, rt, 1 h, 83%. (c) TIPDSCl<sub>2</sub>, pyridine, rt, 12 h, 91%. (d) 1. TPSCl, TBAB, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, rt, 17 h; 2. dimethylphenol, DABCO, TEA, MeCN, rt, 3 h, 82% (2 steps). (e) acrylonitrile, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, *t*BuOH, rt, 13 h, 97%. (f) 3HF•TEA, TEA, THF, rt, 3 h, 96%. (g) *syn-o*-nitrobenzaloxime, TMG, MeCN, 50 °C, 3 h, 82%. (h) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 3.5 h, 70%. (i) (CEO)P(N*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 10.5 h, 60%.

### Synthesis of 5-propynyl-2-thiouridine derivatives



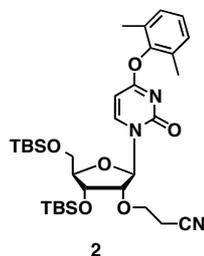
**Scheme S7** Reagents and conditions: (a) Lawesson Reagent, PhMe, reflux, 2 h. (b) 3HF•TEA, TEA, THF, rt, 1 h, 49% (2 steps). (c) *syn-o*-nitrobenzaloxime, TMG, MeCN, rt, 5 h, 84%. (d) DMTrCl, pyridine, rt, 4 h, 90%. (e) (CEO)P(N*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1*H*-tetrazole, *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, MeCN, rt, 12 h, 62%.

## Experimental Section

### General Remarks

Reagents were purchased at the highest commercial quality and used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. NMR spectra ( $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ ) were recorded on Varian inova-500 instruments and calibrated using residual undeuterated solvent as an internal reference ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ : 7.26 ppm  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, 77.0 ppm  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ : 2.49 ppm for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, 39.5 ppm  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR). NMR spectra ( $^{31}\text{P}$ ) were recorded on Varian inova-500 instruments and calibrated using an external reference (85% orthophosphoric acid). The following abbreviations (or combinations thereof) were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad. UV spectra were recorded with a U-2000 spectrometer. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel C-200 (purchased from Wako Co. Ltd.), C-300 (Wako Co. Ltd.), 60N (Kanto Chemical, Co., Inc.), and NH (Fuji Silysia Chemical Ltd.). High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed using the following systems: Reversed exchange HPLC was done on a Waters Alliance system with a Waters 3D UV detector and a Waters XTerra MS C18 column (4.6  $\times$  150 mm); a linear gradient (0–30%) of solvent I [0.1 M ammonium acetate buffer (pH 7.0)] in solvent II ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) was used at 50°C at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min for 30 min; anion-exchange HPLC was done on a Shimadzu LC-10 AD VP with a Shimadzu 3D UV detector and a Gen-Pak FAX column (Waters, 4.6  $\times$  100 mm); a linear gradient (10–67%) of solvent III [1 M NaCl in 25 mM phosphate buffer (pH 6.0)] in solvent IV [25 mM phosphate buffer (pH 6.0)] was used at 50°C at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min for 40 min. The synthesis of modified oligonucleotides was carried out by use of a DNA/RNA synthesizer 392 (Applied Biosystem). ESI mass was performed by use of Mariner<sup>TM</sup> (PerSeptive Biosystems Inc.) or microTOF II (Brüker Daltonics). MALDI-TOF mass was performed using a Brüker Daltonics [Matrix: 3-hydroxypicolinic acid (100 mg/mL) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -diammoniumhydrogen citrate (100 mg/mL) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10:1, v/v)].

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)uridine (2)

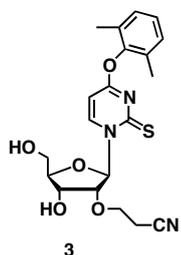


2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)uridine (2.4 g, 4.56 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (120 mL). To the solution were added triethylamine (1.0 mL, 6.85 mmol), 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (2.1 g, 6.85 mmol) and dimethylaminopyridine

(0.14 g, 1.14 mmol). After being stirred at room temperature for 1 h, the reaction mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and brine. The organic phase was collected, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry MeCN (120 mL). To the solution were added 2,6-dimethylphenol (0.84 g, 6.8 mmol), triethylamine (4.8 mL, 34.2 mmol), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (51 mg, 0.46 mmol). After being stirred at room temperature for 3 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated, diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate to afford compound **2**. (2.7 g, 94%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 0.07 (3H, s), 0.08 (3H, s), 0.14 (3H, s), 0.16 (3H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 0.97 (9H, s), 2.13 (6H, s), 2.63-2.74 (2H, m), 3.77-3.82(2H, m), 3.88 (1H, td, *J* = 8.5, 10.0), 4.11-4.14 (2H, m), 4.17-4.25 (2H, m), 5.83 (1H, s), 6.06 (1H, d, *J* = 7.5), 7.04 (3H, s), 8.51 (1H, d, *J* = 7.5); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ -5.6, -5.4, -5.1, -4.5, 16.5, 18.0, 18.4, 18.9, 25.6, 26.0, 59.9, 65.1, 67.3, 82.8, 82.9, 89.1, 94.0, 117.6, 125.8, 128.7, 130.1, 144.1, 149.1, 155.5, 170.9; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>52</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 630.3389, found 630.3210.

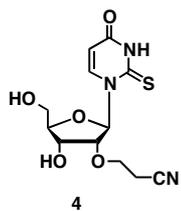
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2-thiouridine (**3**)



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)uridine **2** (1.96 g, 3.11 mmol) was dissolved in dry PhMe (100 mL). To the solution, Lawesson Reagents (0.75 g, 1.89 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 1 h and then cooled to room temperature. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in dry THF (60 mL). To the solution were added 3HF·NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.52 mL, 9.31 mmol) and triethylamine (1.29 mL, 9.31 mmol). After being stirred at room temperature for 13 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **3**. (1.11 g, 85%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.08 (6H, s), 2.64-2.71 (2H, m), 3.01 (1H, d, *J* = 10.0), 3.43 (1H, t, *J* = 4.5), 3.85(1H, dd, *J* = 3.0, 7.0), 3.97-4.05 (3H, m), 4.10 (1H, d, *J* = 4.5), 4.22-4.27 (1H, m), 4.46 (1H, td, *J* = 5.5, 11.0), 6.25 (1H, d, *J* = 7.5), 6.48 (1H, s), 7.05 (3H, s), 8.98 (1H, d, *J* = 7.5); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 16.3, 19.0, 58.5, 66.1, 66.6, 82.3, 83.8, 92.9, 98.3, 118.1, 126.3, 128.9, 130.0, 146.9, 148.7, 165.7, 180.6; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 418.1431, found 418.1431.

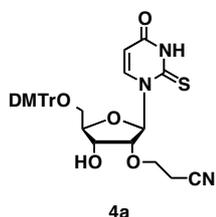
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-2-thiouridine (**4**)



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2-thiouridine **3** (1.11 g, 2.66 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (27 mL). To the solution was added 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (0.9 mL, 8.0 mmol) and *syn-o*-nitrobenzaloxime (1.3 g, 8.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **4**. (0.75 g, 90%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.52-2.84 (2H, m), 3.61 (1H, brd, *J* = 12.0), 3.75 (1H, brd, *J* = 12.0), 3.81-3.94 (3H, m), 3.97-4.03 (1H, brs), 4.07 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.0, 12.0), 5.21 (1H, d, *J* = 6.5), 5.30 (1H, t, *J* = 4.5), 5.97 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0), 6.50 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0), 8.23 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0), 12.68 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 18.3, 58.9, 65.7, 67.5, 82.3, 84.2, 91.3, 106.5, 119.0, 140.6, 159.6, 175.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 314.0805, found 314.0816.

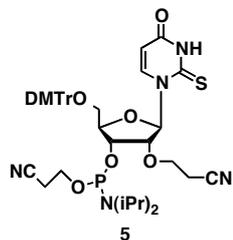
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-2-thiouridine (**4a**)



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-2-thiouridine **4** (0.158 g, 0.504 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (5 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.205 g, 0.6 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH containing 0.5% triethylamine to afford above compound **4a**. (0.255 g, 82%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.62-2.78 (2H, m), 3.59-3.69 (2H, br s), 3.80 (6H, s), 3.97-4.05 (1H, m), 4.05-4.16 (2H, m), 4.44 (1H, td, *J* = 6.0, 9.5), 4.60 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.0, 9.5), 5.47 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0), 6.51 (1H, s), 6.83-6.91 (4H, m), 7.22-7.45 (9H, m), 8.44 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 19.0, 55.1, 60.0, 66.1, 67.9, 82.8, 82.8, 87.1, 91.6, 106.8, 113.2, 117.6, 127.1, 127.9, 128.0, 130.0, 130.1, 134.7, 135.0, 140.7, 144.1, 157.6, 158.6, 160.2, 174.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 638.1931, found 638.1935.

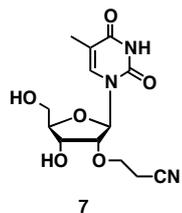
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-2-thiouridine (5)**



Compound **4a** (0.627 g, 1.02 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (95 μL, 0.67 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (47 mg, 0.67 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (338 μL, 1.12mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 13 h. The mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate containing 0.5% triethylamine to afford compound **5**. (0.573 g, 68%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 0.89-1.30 (12H, m), 2.32-2.72 (4H, m), 3.39-4.31 (16H, m), 4.45-4.65 (1H, m), 5.30-5.45 (1H, m), 6.38-6.45 (1H, m), 6.72-6.89 (4H, m), 7.12-7.45 (9H, m), 8.34-8.47 (1H, m), 10.7-11.3 (1H, br s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 18.9, 19.0, 20.1, 20.3, 24.3, 24.5, 24.5, 24.6, 43.0, 43.1, 55.1, 57.5, 57.6, 57.7, 57.9, 59.4, 59.5, 66.0, 66.1, 68.6, 68.7, 69.5, 69.6, 81.4, 81.6, 82.3, 86.8, 87.0, 92.5, 92.7, 106.6, 113.0, 117.3, 117.4, 117.5, 127.1, 127.8, 128.0, 128.1, 130.1, 134.6, 134.7, 134.8, 140.9, 143.9, 144.1, 158.5, 160.4, 174.6; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.3, 149.4; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>51</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>8</sub>PS<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 816.3190, found 816.3138.

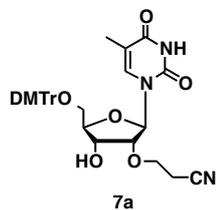
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-methyluridine (**7**)



Compound **6** (5.0 g, 20.8 mmol) was dissolved in DMA (40 mL) and added 2-cyanoethanol trimethylsilyl ester (14.9 mL, 104 mmol) under Ar atmosphere. To the solution was slowly added  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (6.5 mL, 52 mmol) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was warmed up to 120°C and stirred for 14 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH containing 2.0% triethylamine to afford compound **11**. (4.0 g, 62%)

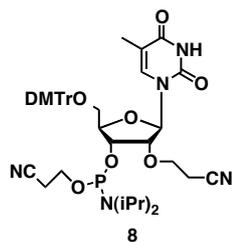
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.76 (3H, d,  $J = 1.0$ ), 2.71-2.84 (2H, m), 3.57 (1H, ddd,  $J = 3.2, 4.7, 13.5$ ), 3.65-3.72 (2H, m), 3.78 (1H, dt,  $J = 9.9, 6.0$ ), 3.84-3.88 (1H, m), 3.98 (1H, t,  $J = 5.0$ ), 4.12 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.0, 10.8$ ), 5.15-5.20 (2H, m), 5.84 (1H, d,  $J = 4.7$ ), 7.79 (1H, d,  $J = 1.0$ ), 11.34 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  12.4, 18.2, 60.4, 64.8, 68.1, 81.2, 84.8, 86.1, 109.4, 119.1, 136.1, 150.6, 163.8; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_6^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  312.1190, found 312.1139.

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-methyluridine (**7a**)



Compound **7** (1.0 g, 3.2 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (35 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.31 g, 3.9 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After filtration, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with hexane- $\text{CHCl}_3$  containing 2.0% triethylamine to afford compound **7a**. (1.82 g, 92%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.36 (3H, s), 2.51 (1H, d,  $J = 9.5$ ), 2.66-2.80 (2H, m), 3.47 (1H, dd,  $J = 2.5, 11.0$ ), 3.58 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$ ), 3.79 (6H, s), 3.91-3.98 (1H, m), 4.02-4.10 (2H, m), 4.19-4.27 (1H, m), 4.48-4.58 (1H, m), 5.89 (1H, s), 6.84 (4H, d,  $J = 8.0$ ), 7.21-7.44 (9H, m), 7.72 (1H, s), 8.97-9.08 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  11.9, 19.2, 55.2, 61.2, 65.4, 68.5, 82.9, 83.0, 86.8, 87.7, 111.1, 113.3, 117.5, 127.1, 128.0, 128.1, 130.1, 130.1, 134.8, 135.2, 135.3, 144.3, 150.4, 158.7, 158.7, 163.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_3\text{NaO}_8^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  636.2316, found 636.2319.

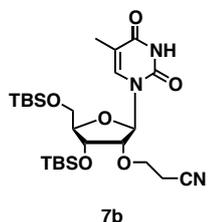
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyluridine (8)**



Compound **7a** (1.79 g, 2.9 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (250 μL, 1.8 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (120 mg, 1.8 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (1.4 mL, 3.5 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration, the mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate containing 2.0% triethylamine to afford compound **8**. (1.5 g, 63%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 0.95-1.34 (15H, m), 2.34-2.42 (1H, m), 2.58-2.76 (3H, m), 3.26-3.40 (1H, m) 3.44-4.31 (15H, m), 4.41-4.61 (1H, m), 5.82-5.94 (1H, m), 6.78-6.88 (4H, m), 7.18-7.45 (9H, m), 7.69-7.79 (1H, m), 9.81-9.99 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 11.6, 11.7, 18.9, 18.9, 20.1, 10.2, 20.3, 22.9, 24.4, 24.4, 24.5, 24.5, 24.6, 24.6, 43.0, 43.1, 43.1, 43.2, 55.1, 55.2, 57.7, 57.8, 57.9, 58.0, 60.7, 61.2, 65.2, 65.5, 69.3, 69.4, 69.8, 69.9, 81.5, 81.6, 81.8, 81.8, 81.9, 82.0, 82.4, 86.6, 86.7, 88.4, 88.5, 110.8, 111.0, 113.1, 113.1, 113.1, 117.4, 117.5, 117.8, 117.8, 127.0, 127.1, 127.8, 128.2, 128.2, 130.1, 130.2, 134.9, 134.9, 135.1, 135.2, 144.1, 144.2, 150.6, 150.7, 158.6, 158.6, 164.2, 164.2; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.6, 151.5; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>51</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sup>-</sup> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 812.3430, found 812.3415.

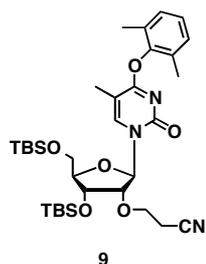
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)-5-methyluridine (7b)**



Compound **7** (1.94 g, 6.2 mmol) was dissolved in dry DMF (6.5 mL). To the solution was added imidazole (3.4 g, 49.8 mmol) and *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (3.75 g, 24.9 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub> to afford compound **7b**. (3.16 g, 94%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  0.10 (3H, s), 0.12 (3H, s), 0.13 (3H, s), 0.14 (3H, s), 0.91 (9H, s), 0.95 (9H, s), 1.93 (3H, s), 2.59-2.69 (2H, m), 3.72-3.84 (3H, m), 3.94-4.06 (3H, m), 4.23 (1H, t,  $J = 5.5$ ), 5.93 (1H, d,  $J = 3.2$ ), 7.53 (1H, s), 8.89-8.96 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  -5.4, -5.2, -4.9, -4.5, 12.6, 18.1, 18.6, 19.0, 25.7, 26.1, 61.4, 65.1, 69.3, 82.8, 84.2, 87.4, 111.0, 117.5, 135.0, 150.2, 163.6; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{46}\text{N}_3\text{O}_6\text{Si}_2^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  540.2920, found 540.2752.

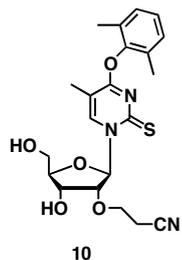
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyluridine (9)**



Compound **7a** (2.2 g, 4.1 mmol) was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (85 mL). To the solution were added 0.025M aq.  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (165 mL), tetrabutylammonium bromide (0.53 g, 1.6 mmol) and 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (1.85 g, 6.1 mmol). The resulting two-phase solution was stirred vigorously at room temperature for 24 h. The organic phase was collected and the aqueous phase was extracted twice with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The combined organic extracts were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was rendered anhydrous by coevaporated with dry PhMe and dry MeCN. Then the residue was dissolved in dry MeCN (40 mL). Dimethylphenol (0.75 g, 6.1 mmol), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (46 mg, 0.41 mmol) and triethylamine (170  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.2 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 5 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate to afford compound **17**. (2.0 g, 75%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  0.08 (3H, s), 0.09 (3H, s), 0.16 (3H, s), 0.18 (3H, s), 0.90 (9H, s), 0.99 (9H, s), 2.06-2.12 (3H, br s), 2.13-2.16 (3H, br s), 2.17 (3H, s), 2.61- 2.75 (2H, m), 3.78-3.88 (3H, m), 4.07-4.15 (2H, m), 4.16-4.24 (2H, m), 5.83 (1H, s), 7.01-7.08 (3H, br s), 8.00 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  -5.4, -5.0, -4.9, -4.4, 12.6, 16.5, 18.0, 18.7, 19.0, 25.7, 26.2, 60.5, 65.1, 68.0, 82.9, 83.1, 89.3, 103.8, 117.7, 125.7, 128.6, 128.7, 140.5, 149.3, 155.5, 169.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{54}\text{N}_3\text{O}_6\text{Si}_2^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  644.3546, found 644.3302.

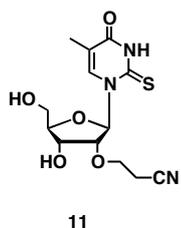
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine (**10**)



Compound **9** (1.24 g, 1.9 mmol) was dissolved in dry PhMe (25 mL). To the solution, Lawesson Reagents (0.70 g, 1.7 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 h and then cooled to room temperature. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in THF (20 mL).  $3\text{HF} \cdot \text{NEt}_3$  (0.65 mL, 4.0 mmol) and triethylamine (0.46 mL, 3.3 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 15 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **10**. (0.74 g, 92%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  2.06-2.15 (7H, m), 2.21 (3H, s), 2.56 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$ ), 2.66-2.79 (2H, m), 4.01 (1H, dd,  $J = 3.0, 12.0$ ), 4.07-4.16 (3H, m), 4.17-4.23 (1H, m), 4.32 (1H, dt,  $J = 5.0, 11.0$ ), 4.64 (1H, dt,  $J = 11.0, 5.5$ ), 6.57 (1H, s), 7.06 (3H, s), 8.79 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  12.9, 16.6, 19.3, 59.3, 66.1, 66.7, 82.3, 83.7, 92.6, 109.6, 117.9, 126.0, 128.8, 129.9, 143.5, 149.2, 164.3, 179.3; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  432.1588, found 432.1580.

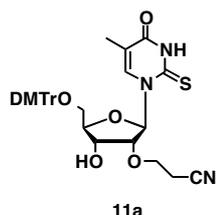
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine (**11**)



Compound **10** (0.86 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (20 mL). To the solution was added 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (750  $\mu\text{L}$ , 6.0 mmol) and *syn*-*o*-nitrobenzaloxime (1.0 g, 6.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **11**. (0.58 g, 89%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.79 (3H, s), 2.72-2.84 (2H, m), 3.62 (1H, br d,  $J = 12.0$ ), 3.76-4.00 (5H, m), 4.11 (1H, dd,  $J = 6.5, 12.0$ ), 5.18 (1H, d,  $J = 6.4$ ), 5.38 (1H, t,  $J = 4.3$ ), 6.50 (1H, d,  $J = 2.0$ ), 8.20 (1H, s), 12.55-12.69 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  12.6, 18.3, 58.9, 65.6, 67.4, 82.2, 84.1, 91.2, 114.8, 119.1, 136.8, 160.7, 174.4; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  328.0962, found 328.0920.

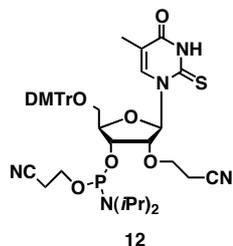
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine (11a)



Compound **11** (0.26 g, 0.84 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (10 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.34 g, 1.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The filtrate was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH containing 1.5% triethylamine to afford compound **11a**. (0.49 g, 93%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.27 (3H, s), 2.64-2.82 (2H, m), 3.46-3.56 (1H, br d,  $J = 11.0$ ), 3.61 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$ ), 3.79 (6H, s), 3.96-4.06 (1H, m), 4.07-4.20 (2H, m), 4.45-4.54 (1H, m), 4.54-4.63 (1H, m), 6.46 (1H, s), 6.84 (4H, d,  $J = 7.5$ ), 7.22-7.44 (9H, m), 7.98 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  11.9, 19.2, 55.2, 60.7, 66.3, 68.4, 82.8, 83.0, 86.9, 92.0, 113.2, 116.7, 117.6, 127.1, 128.0, 128.1, 130.0, 130.1, 135.0, 135.1, 136.1, 144.1, 158.6, 158.7, 160.7, 173.5; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_3\text{NaO}_7\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  652.2088, found 652.2073.

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-*N,N*-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine (12)

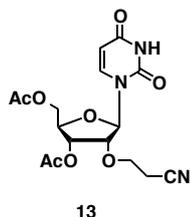


Compound **11a** (0.46 g, 0.74 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (8 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (63  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.44 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (31 mg, 0.44 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-*(N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (350  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.88 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was diluted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The filtrate was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **12**. (0.37 g, 62%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  0.91-1.35 (15H, m), 2.29-2.74 (4H, m), 3.30-3.42 (1H, m), 3.43-4.37 (15H, m), 4.50-4.61 (1H, m), 6.40-6.47 (1H, m), 6.78-6.90 (4H, m), 7.21-7.49 (9H, m), 8.00-8.09 (1H, m), 9.20-9.42 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  11.6, 11.8, 19.1, 19.2, 20.2, 20.3, 24.4, 24.5, 24.5,

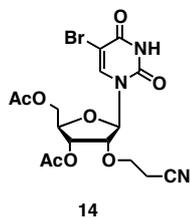
24.6, 24.6, 24.7, 29.4, 29.6, 29.6, 43.2, 43.3, 55.2, 55.3, 57.7, 57.9, 60.4, 66.2, 66.4, 69.3, 69.4, 81.7, 81.7, 82.0, 82.0, 86.8, 93.1, 93.3, 113.1, 113.2, 113.3, 116.6, 117.4, 117.4, 127.3, 127.9, 128.0, 128.5, 130.3, 130.4, 135.1, 136.2, 144.1, 158.8, 158.8, 160.3, 173.6;  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.1, 152.1; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{51}\text{N}_5\text{O}_8\text{PS}^-$   $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$  828.3201, found 828.3190.

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-uridine (13)



$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  2.06 (3H, s), 2.11 (3H, s), 2.51-2.64 (2H, m), 3.73 (1H, dt,  $J = 10.0, 6.0$ ), 3.94 (1H, dt,  $J = 10.0, 6.0$ ), 4.25-4.36 (3H, m), 4.36-4.42 (1H, m), 5.70 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$ ), 5.78 (1H, s), 7.55 (1H, d,  $J = 8.2$ ), 10.12-10.35 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  18.6, 20.4, 20.5, 61.9, 65.5, 69.4, 78.8, 80.1, 89.2, 102.3, 117.5, 138.9, 150.3, 163.3, 170.0, 170.2; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{NaO}_8^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  404.1064, found 404.1148.

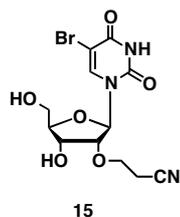
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromouridine (14)



Compound **13** (1.0 g, 2.6 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (39 mL). To the solution were added ceric ammonium nitrate (2.9g, 5.2mmol) and lithium bromide (0.27 g, 3.1 mmol). After being stirred at 80°C for 1 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and washed with aq.  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ . The organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with hexane- $\text{CHCl}_3$  to  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound 14. (1.11 g, 92%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  2.20 (3H, s), 2.23 (3H, s), 2.57-2.70 (2H, m), 3.80 (1H, dt,  $J = 9.5, 5.6$ ), 4.06 (1H, dt,  $J = 9.5, 5.6$ ), 4.29 (1H, d,  $J = 5.0$ ), 4.41-4.46 (2H, br s), 4.51 (1H, d,  $J = 8.5$ ), 4.81 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.5, 8.5$ ), 5.85 (1H, s), 8.03 (1H, s), 8.66-8.83 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  18.7, 20.4, 20.9, 61.3, 65.6, 68.9, 79.0, 80.4, 89.1, 97.1, 117.6, 138.3, 149.8, 159.0, 170.2, 170.4; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrN}_3\text{O}_8^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  460.0350, found 460.0316.

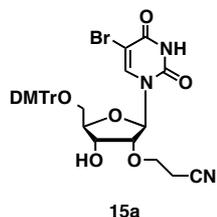
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromouridine (**15**)



Compound **14** (0.2 g, 0.4 mmol) was dissolved in THF (6 mL) and MeOH (6 mL). To the solution were added 28% ammonium hydroxide (6 mL). After being stirred at room temperature for 6 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **15**. (0.11 g, 69%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.71-2.85 (2H, m), 3.54-3.62 (1H, br d, *J* = 12.0), 3.68-3.82 (3H, m), 3.83-3.89 (1H, m), 3.98 (1H, t, *J* = 4.5), 4.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.5, 12.0), 5.17 (1H, d, *J* = 6.3), 5.29-5.36 (1H, br s), 5.76 (1H, d, *J* = 3.2), 8.51 (1H, s), 11.75-11.91 (1H, br s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 18.2, 59.3, 64.9, 67.4, 81.7, 84.4, 87.1, 95.7, 119.0, 140.0, 149.8, 159.3; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 376.0139, found 376.0188.

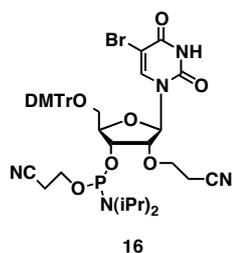
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-uridine **15a**



Compound **15** (0.72 g, 1.91 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (19 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.71 g, 2.11 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 14 h. After the addition of MeOH, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with hexane-CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **15a**. (0.58 g, 45%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.66-2.78 (2H, m), 3.46-3.57 (2H, m), 3.78 (6H, s), 3.91-3.98 (1H, m), 4.07-4.14 (2H, m), 4.20 (1H, dt, *J* = 10.0, 6.0), 4.53 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.0, 7.4), 5.84 (1H, s), 6.84 (4H, d, *J* = 8.0), 7.19-7.46 (9H, m), 8.15 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 19.0, 55.2, 61.0, 65.6, 68.4, 82.7, 83.3, 86.9, 88.2, 97.5, 113.4, 117.6, 127.0, 127.9, 128.1, 130.0, 135.2, 135.4, 138.5, 144.3, 150.0, 158.6, 158.6, 159.1; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>32</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>NaO<sub>8</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 700.1265, found 700.1267.

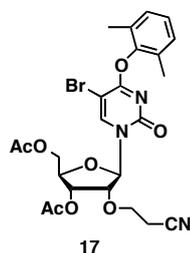
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-bromo-uridine (16)**



Compound **15a** (0.3 g, 0.4 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.4 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (38 μL, 0.3 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (19 mg, 0.3 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (150 μL, 0.5 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 23 h. The mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **16**. (0.27 g, 69%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.03-1.17 (12H, m), 2.34-2.46 (1H, m), 2.54-2.76 (2H, m), 2.80-2.90 (1H, m), 3.31-4.61 (17H, m), 5.80-5.87 (1H, m), 6.75-6.90 (4H, m), 7.15-7.51 (9H, m), 8.05-8.15 (1H, m), 10.00-10.25 (1H, br s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 9.3, 18.8, 18.8, 20.1, 20.2, 20.2, 24.3, 24.4, 24.4, 24.5, 24.5, 24.6, 43.0, 43.0, 43.1, 43.1, 44.7, 55.0, 55.0, 57.5, 57.7, 57.7, 57.9, 60.5, 61.1, 65.3, 65.5, 69.2, 69.3, 69.7, 69.8, 70.3, 81.2, 81.8, 81.8, 82.1, 82.1, 82.3, 86.5, 86.6, 89.0, 89.0, 97.4, 97.5, 113.1, 113.2, 117.5, 117.6, 117.8, 117.9, 126.8, 127.8, 127.9, 130.0, 135.1, 135.2, 135.2, 135.3, 138.1, 138.2, 144.1, 144.2, 150.8, 150.8, 158.4, 158.4, 160.1, 160.2; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.2, 151.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>48</sub>BrN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sup>-</sup> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 876.2379, found 876.2392.

**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-bromouridine (17)**

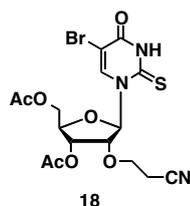


Compound **14** (1.1 g, 2.4 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (48 mL). To the solution were added 0.025M aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (96 mL), tetrabutylammonium bromide (0.31 g, 1.0 mmol) and 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (1.09 g, 3.6 mmol). The resulting two-phase solution was stirred vigorously at room temperature for 10.5 h. The organic phase was collected and the aqueous phase was washed twice with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and

concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was rendered anhydrous by coevaporated with dry PhMe and dry MeCN. Then the residue was dissolved in dry MeCN (24 mL). Dimethylphenol (0.44 g, 3.6 mmol), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (27 g, 0.2 mmol) and triethylamine (1.0 mL, 7.2 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 2.5 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate to afford compound **17**. (1.1 g, 82%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.05 (3H, s), 2.09 (3H, s), 2.12 (3H, s), 2.17 (3H, s), 2.43-2.51 (2H, m), 3.68-3.79 (1H, m), 3.98-4.08 (1H, m), 4.23 (1H, d, *J* = 5.0), 4.32-4.42 (2H, br s), 4.43-4.51 (1H, br d, *J* = 9.5), 4.62-4.75 (1H, m), 5.73 (1H, s), 6.91-7.08 (3H, br s), 8.27 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 15.9, 16.0, 18.2, 20.1, 20.7, 60.6, 65.1, 68.2, 78.5, 79.6, 87.3, 90.0, 117.5, 125.8, 128.3, 129.4, 142.9, 148.8, 153.3, 165.7, 169.7, 170.1; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>27</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 564.0976, found 564.0907.

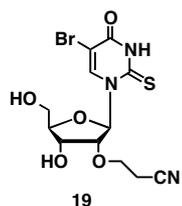
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromo-2-thiouridine (**18**)



Compound **17** (1.0 g, 1.8 mmol) was dissolved in dry PhMe (18 mL). To the solution, Lawesson Reagents (0.86 g, 2.1 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 h and then cooled to room temperature. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was coevaporated with pyridine and toluene, then dissolved in dry MeCN (18 mL). To the solution was added 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (0.68 mL, 5.4 mmol) and *syn-o*-nitrobenzaldoxime (0.90 g, 5.4 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3.5 h. The mixture was concentrated, diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-CHCl<sub>3</sub> to afford compound **18**. (0.61 g, 72%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.20 (3H, s), 2.27 (3H, s), 2.59-2.70 (2H, m), 3.79-3.95 (1H, m), 4.21-4.31 (1H, m), 4.39-4.61 (4H, m), 4.77 (1H, dd, *J* = 4.8, 9.6), 6.41 (1H, s), 8.21 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 19.1, 20.6, 21.2, 60.7, 66.7, 68.7, 79.1, 80.7, 93.2, 102.7, 117.5, 139.1, 155.6, 170.2, 170.8, 173.4; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 476.0122, found 476.0056.

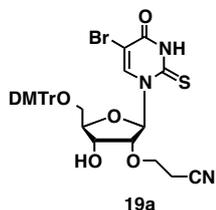
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine (**19**)



Compound **18a** (0.52 g, 1.1 mmol) was dissolved in THF (11 mL) and MeOH (11 mL). To the solution were added 28% ammonium hydroxide (0.7 mL). After being stirred at room temperature for 5 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **19**. (0.38 g, 89%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.73-2.85 (2H, m), 3.58-3.66 (1H, br d, *J* = 12.5), 3.78-3.98 (4H, m), 4.00-4.05 (1H, br d, *J* = 4.0), 4.07-4.14 (1H, m), 5.19 (1H, d, *J* = 6.5) 5.47-5.55 (1H, br s), 6.36 (1H, s), 8.87 (1H, s), 13.05-13.17 (1H, br s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 18.4, 58.0, 65.9, 66.7, 82.3, 83.9, 91.9, 101.7, 119.1, 140.6, 156.5, 174.2; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 391.9910, found 391.9844.

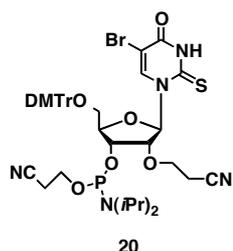
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine (**19a**)



Compound **19** (0.28 g, 0.71 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (7.1 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (0.54 g, 2.2 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After the addition of MeOH, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with hexane-CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **19a**. (0.44 g, 88%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.58 (1H, d, *J* = 10.0), 2.65-2.78 (2H, m), 3.53 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.5, 11.5), 3.57 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.0, 11.5), 3.79 (6H, s), 3.96-4.04 (1H, m), 4.12-4.17 (1H, br d, *J* = 8.5), 4.19 (1H, d, *J* = 5.0), 4.42 (1H, dt, *J* = 5.5, 10.0), 4.55-4.62 (1H, m), 6.37 (1H, s), 6.84 (4H, d, *J* = 8.5), 7.22 (1H, t, *J* = 7.5), 7.29 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5), 7.34 (4H, d, *J* = 8.5), 7.43 (2H, br d, *J* = 8.5), 8.36 (1H, s), 9.91 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 19.3, 55.2, 60.6, 66.5, 68.4, 82.8, 83.3, 87.1, 92.5, 103.2, 113.1, 113.4, 117.6, 127.1, 127.7, 127.8, 128.0, 128.1, 129.1, 130.1, 130.1, 135.1, 135.3, 139.6, 144.2, 155.9, 158.6, 158.7, 173.4; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>32</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>NaO<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 716.1037, found 716.0865.

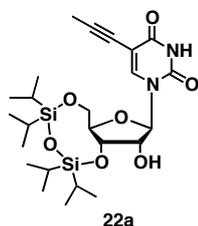
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 20**



Compound **19a** (0.41 g, 0.6 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.0 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (50 μL, 0.4 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (25 mg, 0.4 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (390 μL, 2.25 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h. The mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-CHCl<sub>3</sub> to CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **20**. (0.087 g, 17%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.00-1.23 (12H, m) 2.40-2.75 (4H, m), 3.38-4.62 (17H, m), 6.32-6.40 (1H, m), 6.79-6.91 (4H, m), 7.12- 7.50 (9H, m), 8.35-8.42 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 19.1, 19.2, 20.3, 20.4, 20.5, 20.5, 24.4, 24.5, 24.5, 24.6, 24.7, 24.7, 43.1, 43.3, 55.2, 55.2, 55.3, 57.7, 57.8, 60.3, 60.6, 66.3, 66.3, 66.4, 69.3, 69.4, 70.1, 70.2, 81.3, 81.3, 82.2, 82.3, 82.6, 86.9, 87.0, 93.5, 102.9, 102.9, 113.2, 113.2, 113.3, 117.3, 117.5, 117.6, 117.7, 127.0, 127.9, 128.2, 130.2, 130.2, 130.3, 130.3, 135.1, 135.2, 135.2, 135.3, 139.5, 139.6, 144.1, 144.2, 156.1, 158.6, 158.7, 173.6, 173.6; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.7, 152.2; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>48</sub>BrN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>8</sub>PS<sup>-</sup> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 892.2150, found 892.2158.

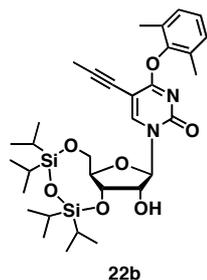
**3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-5-propynyluridine (22a)**



5-propynyluridine (3.18 g, 11.3 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine and finally dissolved in dry pyridine (113 mL). To the solution was added 1,3-dichloro-1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane (3.87 mL, 12.4 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12h. The solution was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **22a**. (5.35 g, 91%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  0.98-1.15 (28H, m), 2.01 (3H, s), 2.95 (1H, d,  $J = 1.0$ ), 4.00 (1H, dd,  $J = 2.7, 13.2$ ), 4.07-4.11 (1H, d,  $J = 4.9$ ), 4.15 (1H, d,  $J = 5.0$ ), 4.21 (1H, dd,  $J = 1.3, 13.2$ ), 4.38 (1H, dd,  $J = 4.9, 8.8$ ), 5.73 (1H, s), 7.77 (1H, d), 8.36 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.7, 12.5, 12.7, 13.0, 13.4, 16.8, 16.9, 17.0, 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, 17.4, 60.1, 68.9, 70.2, 75.2, 82.1, 90.8, 91.0, 100.7, 141.5, 148.7, 161.6; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{41}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7\text{Si}_2^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  525.2447, found 525.2427.

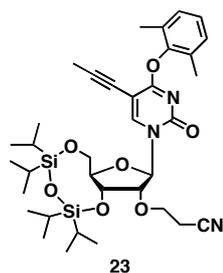
**3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine (22b)**



3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-5-propynyluridine **22a** (8.1 g, 15.4 mmol) was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (308 mL). To the solution were added 0.025M aq.  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (616 mL), tetrabutylammonium bromide (1.99 g, 6.2 mmol) and 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl chloride (7.01 g, 23.2 mmol). The resulting two-phase solution was stirred vigorously at room temperature for 14 h. The organic phase was collected and the aqueous phase was washed twice with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The combined organic extracts were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was rendered anhydrous by coevaporated with dry PhMe and dry MeCN. Then the residue was dissolved in dry MeCN (154 mL). Dimethylphenol (2.82 g, 23.1 mmol), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (0.17 g, 1.5 mmol) and triethylamine (6.43 mL, 4.62 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 3h, the reaction mixture was concentrated. The residue was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with hexane-ethylacetate to afford compound **22b**. (7.1 g, 73%)

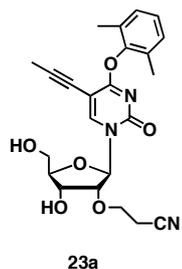
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  0.94-1.16 (28H, m), 2.04 (3H, s), 2.14 (6H, s), 2.89-2.94 (1H, br d,  $J = 4.9$ ), 4.02 (1H, dd,  $J = 2.4, 13.2$ ), 4.14-4.18 (1H, br d,  $J = 8.8$ ), 4.22 (1H, d,  $J = 4.4$ ), 4.24-4.29 (1H, br d,  $J = 13.2$ ), 4.38 (1H, dd,  $J = 4.9, 8.8$ ), 5.74 (1H, s), 7.03 (3H, s), 8.13 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.8, 12.7, 12.9, 13.1, 13.6, 16.6, 17.0, 17.1, 17.2, 17.2, 17.4, 17.4, 17.6, 60.4, 69.1, 69.8, 75.2, 82.3, 91.0, 92.2, 94.1, 126.0, 128.8, 130.2, 146.1, 149.6, 153.9, 169.5; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{49}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7\text{Si}_2^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  629.3073, found 629.0646.

**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine (23)**



3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine **22b** (7.1 g, 11.3 mmol) was dissolved in dry *t*-BuOH (113 mL). Acrylnitrile (14.79 mL, 225.8 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.68 g, 11.3 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 13 h, the reaction mixture was filtrated through celite pad. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with hexane-CHCl<sub>3</sub> to afford compound **23**. (7.44 g, 97%)  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 0.92-1.19 (28H, m), 2.03 (3H, s), 2.13 (6H, s), 2.62-2.77 (2H, m), 3.93 (1H, d, *J* = 2.4), 3.96-4.02 (1H, br d, *J* = 13.7), 4.02-4.11 (2H, m), 4.14-4.24 (2H, m), 4.26-4.33 (1H, br d, *J* = 13.7), 5.67 (1H, s), 7.03 (3H, s), 8.28 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 4.7, 14.7, 12.8, 13.0, 13.6, 17.0, 17.1, 17.3, 17.3, 17.3, 17.4, 17.6, 19.1, 59.3, 65.9, 67.8, 69.7, 82.0, 82.2, 90.2, 91.2, 94.1, 117.7, 126.0, 128.7, 145.5, 149.5, 154.1, 169.7; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>52</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Si<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 682.3338, found 682.3083.

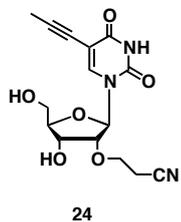
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyl-uridine (23a)**



Compound **23** (1.5 g, 2.2 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (22 mL). To the solution were added 3HF·NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.1 mL, 6.6 mmol) and triethylamine (0.61 mL, 4.4 mmol). After being stirred at room temperature for 3 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH to afford compound **23a**. (0.93 g, 96%)  
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.06 (3H, s), 2.12-2.18 (6H, brs), 2.51-2.57 (1H, brs), 2.63-2.76 (3H, m), 3.86-3.98 (2H, m), 4.03-4.12 (3H, m), 4.16-4.24 (1H, td, *J*=5.5, 10.0), 4.24-4.31 (1H, m), 5.76 (1H, s), 7.04(3H, s), 8.47 (1H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 4.7, 16.4, 19.0, 60.1, 65.3, 67.5, 69.4, 82.0,

84.2, 90.1, 91.1, 94.2, 117.7, 125.9, 128.6, 129.9, 130.0, 146.7, 149.3, 154.1, 169.6; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{25}N_3NaO_6^+$   $[M+Na]^+$  462.1636, found 462.1686.

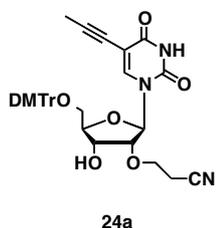
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-propynyl-uridine (**24**)



Compound **23a** (1.70 g, 3.9 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (39 mL). To the solution was added 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (1.45 mL, 11.6 mmol) and *syn-o*-nitrobenzaldoxime (1.93 g, 11.6 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 50°C for 5 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $CHCl_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **24**. (1.07 g, 82%)

$^1H$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.97 (3H, s), 2.71-2.82 (2H, m), 3.56 (1H, dd,  $J=2.0, 7.0$ ), 3.65-3.81 (3H, m), 3.83-3.87 (1H, m), 3.99 (1H, t,  $J = 4.5$ ), 4.10 (1H, t,  $J = 5.0$ ), 5.79 (1H, d,  $J = 4.0$ ), 8.21 (1H, s), 11.61 (1H, s);  $^{13}C$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.1, 18.1, 59.8, 64.8, 67.8, 72.0, 81.5, 84.7, 86.7, 89.2, 99.1, 119.0, 142.4, 149.5, 161.9; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $C_{15}H_{18}N_3O_6^+$   $[M+H]^+$  336.1190, found 336.1121.

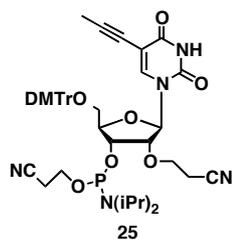
### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-propynyl-uridine (**24a**)



Compound **24** (1.07 g, 3.2 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (32 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.19 g, 3.5 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3.5 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with  $CHCl_3$ -MeOH containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **24a**. (2.04 g, 70%)

$^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.61 (3H, s), 2.67-2.79 (2H, m), 3.48 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$ ), 3.52 (1H, dd,  $J = 3.0, 11.0$ ), 3.78 (6H, s), 3.96 (1H, dt,  $J = 10.0, 6.0$ ), 4.07-4.14 (2H, m), 4.21 (1H, dt,  $J = 10.0, 6.0$ ), 4.51 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.6, 7.8$ ), 5.84 (1H, s), 6.84 (4H, d,  $J = 7.7$ ), 7.17-7.49 (9H, m), 8.03 (1H, s);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.3, 19.0, 55.2, 61.1, 65.5, 68.4, 69.8, 82.7, 83.2, 86.7, 91.3, 101.1, 113.2, 113.2, 117.7, 126.8, 127.8, 128.0, 129.9, 135.3, 135.5, 140.8, 144.5, 149.8, 158.5, 158.5, 162.1; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $C_{36}H_{35}N_3NaO_8^+$   $[M+Na]^+$  660.2316, found 660.2314.

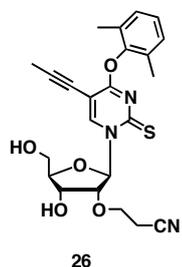
**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-propynyl-uridine (25)**



Compound **24a** (0.55 g, 0.86 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8.6 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (73 μL, 0.52 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (36 mg, 0.52 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (0.3 mL, 1.03 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10.5 h. The mixture was washed with sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH containing 1.0% triethylamine to afford compound **25**. (0.43 g, 60%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.05-1.27 (12H, m), 1.48-1.53 (3H, m), 2.36-2.80 (4H, m), 3.40-4.69 (17H, m), 5.78-5.83 (1H, m), 6.78-6.90 (4H, m), 7.15-7.58 (9H, m), 8.03-8.14 (1H, m); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 126 MHz): δ 4.1, 18.8, 20.1, 20.2, 20.2, 20.3, 24.3, 24.4, 24.5, 42.9, 43.0, 43.0, 55.0, 57.5, 57.5, 57.7, 57.8, 60.2, 60.9, 65.3, 65.5, 68.9, 69.0, 69.5, 69.6, 70.0, 70.1, 81.1, 81.8, 82.1, 82.4, 86.3, 86.5, 89.0, 89.2, 90.5, 100.6, 100.7, 113.0, 117.6, 117.9, 126.6, 127.7, 129.9, 135.2, 135.2, 135.3, 135.4, 140.8, 140.9, 144.3, 144.5, 149.8, 150.0, 158.3, 162.1, 162.2; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.9, 151.6; MS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>51</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sup>-</sup> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 836.3430, found 836.3423.

**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyl-2-thiouridine (26)**

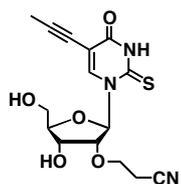


Compound **23** (0.5 g, 0.7 mmol) was dissolved in dry PhMe (7 mL). To the solution, Lawesson Reagents (0.36 g, 0.8 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 h and then cooled to room temperature. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in THF (7 mL). 3HF·NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.34 mL, 2.1 mmol) and triethylamine (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol) were added to the solution. After being stirred at room temperature for 1h, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced

pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **26**. (0.16 g, 49%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  2.08 (3H, s), 2.14 (6H, s), 2.66-2.79 (2H, m), 4.00-4.05 (1H, br d,  $J = 12.0$ ), 4.05-4.13 (2H, m), 4.15 (1H, d,  $J = 4.6$ ), 4.19-4.25 (1H, br d,  $J = 12.0$ ), 4.28-4.35 (1H, m), 4.60 (1H, td,  $J = 4.9, 10.0$ ), 6.53 (1H, s), 7.05 (3H, s), 9.00 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  5.0, 16.7, 19.4, 59.4, 66.4, 66.7, 69.4, 82.5, 84.0, 93.0, 94.0, 98.9, 118.0, 126.2, 128.9, 130.1, 147.6, 149.4, 163.7, 178.8; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  456.1588, found 456.1470.

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-propynyl-2-thiouridine (**27**)

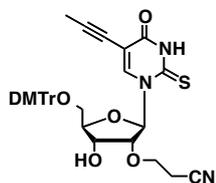


**27**

Compound **26** (1.49 g, 3.3 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (33 mL). To the solution was added 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine (1.23 mL, 9.8 mmol) and *syn*-*o*-nitrobenzaldoxime (1.63 g, 9.8 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **27**. (0.97 g, 84%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  2.05 (3H, s), 2.65-2.95 (2H, m), 3.95-4.04 (2H, m), 4.05-4.10 (2H, m), 4.20 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$ ), 4.31-4.38 (1H, br s), 4.45 (1H, td,  $J = 5.5, 11.0$ ), 6.48 (1H, s), 8.53 (1H, s), 9.23-9.41 (1H, br s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.2, 18.4, 58.5, 65.7, 67.2, 71.7, 82.3, 84.2, 91.6, 91.7, 103.8, 119.1, 142.7, 158.7, 174.1; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  352.0962, found 352.0965.

### 2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-propynyl-2-thiouridine (**27a**)

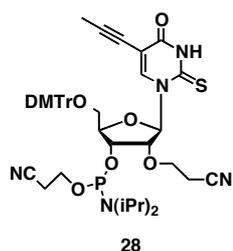


**27a**

Compound **27** (0.97 g, 2.8 mmol) was dissolved in dry pyridine (28 mL). To the solution was added 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl chloride (1.02 g, 3.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH to afford compound **27a**. (1.61 g, 90%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.45 (3H, s), 2.59-2.73 (2H, br s), 3.45-3.58 (2H, br s), 3.76 (6H, s), 3.92-4.05 (1H, br s), 4.10-4.25 (2H, m), 4.30-4.43 (1H, br s), 4.53-4.65 (1H, br s), 6.40 (1H, s), 6.75-6.91 (4H, m), 7.13-7.56 (9H, m), 8.24 (1H, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.2, 19.0, 55.1, 60.7, 66.4, 68.3, 69.7, 82.6, 83.1, 86.6, 92.2, 94.3, 105.6, 113.1, 113.1, 117.7, 126.7, 127.7, 127.8, 129.8, 129.8, 135.3, 135.4, 141.4, 144.4, 158.3, 158.4, 158.9, 173.0; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_3\text{O}_7\text{S}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  676.2088, found 676.1976.

**2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-propynyl-2-thiouridine (28)**



Compound **27a** (95 mg, 0.15 mmol) was rendered anhydrous by repeated coevaporation with dry pyridine. The residue was further coevaporated with dry toluene and finally dissolved in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1.5 mL). To the solution were added diisopropylamine (12  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.09 mmol), 1*H*-tetrazole (6 mg, 0.09 mmol) and (2-cyanoethoxy)-bis-(*N,N*-diisopropylamino)phosphine (50  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.17 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was washed with sat.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ . The organic phase was concentrated and purified by chromatography with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH containing 0.5% triethylamine to afford compound **28**. (70 mg, 53%)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.02-1.37 (15H, m), 2.57-2.78 (4H, m), 3.33-3.44 (1H, m), 3.50-3.73 (4H, m), 3.73-3.91 (7H, m), 4.01-4.62 (5H, m), 6.27-6.40 (1H, m), 6.74-6.90 (4H, m), 7.18-7.51 (9H, m), 8.27-8.40 (1H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  4.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20.5, 20.6, 24.5, 24.6, 24.6, 24.7, 43.2, 43.3, 55.2, 55.3, 57.7, 57.9, 61.0, 66.4, 69.9, 70.1, 70.2, 82.0, 82.0, 82.8, 86.8, 93.4, 93.5, 94.2, 105.6, 113.2, 117.6, 117.7, 126.9, 127.9, 128.1, 130.2, 130.2, 135.4, 135.5, 141.5, 141.7, 144.6, 158.6, 158.6, 158.8, 173.3;  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  149.5, 151.9; MS (ESI) calcd. for  $\text{C}_{45}\text{H}_{53}\text{N}_5\text{O}_8\text{PS}^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  854.3347, found 854.2712.

## Synthesis of oligonucleotides

The synthesis of 2'-*O*-methyl-oligoribonucleotides (CGUUUXUUUGC) containing 2'-*O*-cyanoethyluridine (X = U<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-2-thiouridine (X = <sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-methyluridine (X = <sup>5</sup>mU<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-bromouridine (X = <sup>5</sup>bU<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-propynyluridine (X = <sup>5</sup>pU<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-methyl-2-thiouridine (X = <sup>5</sup>m<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>), 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-bromo-2-thiouridine (X = <sup>5</sup>b<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>) and 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl-5-propynyl-2-thiouridine (X = <sup>5</sup>p<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>) residue was performed in an ABI 392 DNA synthesizer by the standard 1.0-μmol-scale RNA phosphoramidite approach, which consists of detritylation, coupling, capping, and iodine oxidation steps. Then, the synthesized oligomers were released from the resin by treatment with a solution of aq. NH<sub>3</sub>-NH<sub>4</sub>OAc (10:1, v/w) solution, at room temperature for 1 h. The polymer supports were removed by filtration and washed with 0.1 M ammonium acetate buffer (1 mL × 3). The filtrates were purified by anion-exchange HPLC to give oligoribonucleotides.

Oligonucleotide: X = U<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>150</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>82</sub>P<sub>10</sub><sup>+</sup>: 3574.6; found: 3575.1.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>150</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>81</sub>P<sub>10</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 3590.6; found: 3589.6.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>mU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>115</sub>H<sub>152</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>82</sub>P<sub>10</sub><sup>+</sup>: 3588.6; found: 3588.5.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>bU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>149</sub>BrN<sub>31</sub>O<sub>82</sub>P<sub>10</sub><sup>+</sup>: 3652.5; found: 3652.3.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>pU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>117</sub>H<sub>152</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>82</sub>P<sub>10</sub><sup>+</sup>: 3612.6; found: 3612.5.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>m<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>115</sub>H<sub>152</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>81</sub>P<sub>10</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 3604.6; found: 3604.4.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>b<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>149</sub>BrN<sub>31</sub>O<sub>81</sub>P<sub>10</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 3668.5; found: 3668.5.

Oligonucleotide: X = <sup>5</sup>p<sup>2</sup>sU<sub>OCE</sub>

MALDI-TOF Mass (M + H) calcd for C<sub>117</sub>H<sub>152</sub>N<sub>31</sub>O<sub>81</sub>P<sub>10</sub>S<sup>+</sup>: 3628.6; found: 3627.8.

## Computational methods

The simulations were carried out using the AMBER 9.0 program package with the parmBSC0 revision of the parm99 Cornell *et al.* force field<sup>1</sup>. The initial structures of each duplex were derived from NUCGEN module embedded in AMBER<sup>2</sup>. The charge of the 2'-*O*-methyl group (2'-OMe) and the 2'-*O*-cyanoethyl (2'-OCE) was taken from the Auffinger's parameter<sup>3</sup> and our previous report<sup>4</sup>. Parameterization of the modified nucleobase (2-thiouracil, 5-methyluracil, 5-bromouracil, 5-propynyluracil, 5-methyl-2thiouracil, 5-bromo-2-thiouracil, 5-propynyl-2-thiouracil) was done using the RESP/6-31G(d) charges (Figure S1)<sup>5</sup>. The additional force field parameters of the nucleobase were taken from the gaff force-field parameters (Figure S2)<sup>6</sup>.

The sequence of calculated modified-RNA/RNA hetero duplexes were CGUUUXUUUGC where C or G or U denoted the 2'-*O*-methyl nucleotides and X denoted modified or unmodified nucleotides with complementary unmodified RNA. The RNAs were solvated in a periodic box with a 10 Å buffer of water molecules, explicitly described by the SPC/E model and neutralized, resulting in a concentration of added NaCl of approximately 0.1 M by using ions08.lib<sup>7</sup>. An initial optimization of 1000 cycles, the first 500 cycles by steepest descent and the rest with a conjugate gradient method, was performed with the duplex constrained 500 kcal/(mol·Å<sup>2</sup>) to relax the solvent. Then, a further optimization of 5000 cycles with no constraints on the whole system was carried out to lead to a final relaxed geometry. The first equilibrations were carried out with a 10 kcal/(mol·Å<sup>2</sup>) constraint on the duplex for 100 ps at constant volume, constantly increasing the temperature from 0 to 300 K. Next, the equilibrations were continued to 200 ps at a constant pressure of 1 atm, and the temperature was kept constant with the Langevin algorithm. The production simulations were performed for 100 ns with the Berendsen algorithm to maintain the temperature<sup>8</sup>. During the MD calculation, hydrogen vibrations were removed using SHAKE bond constraints, allowing a longer time step of 2 fs<sup>9</sup>. Long range electrostatic interactions were treated using the particle mesh Ewald approach and a 10 Å cutoff<sup>10</sup>.

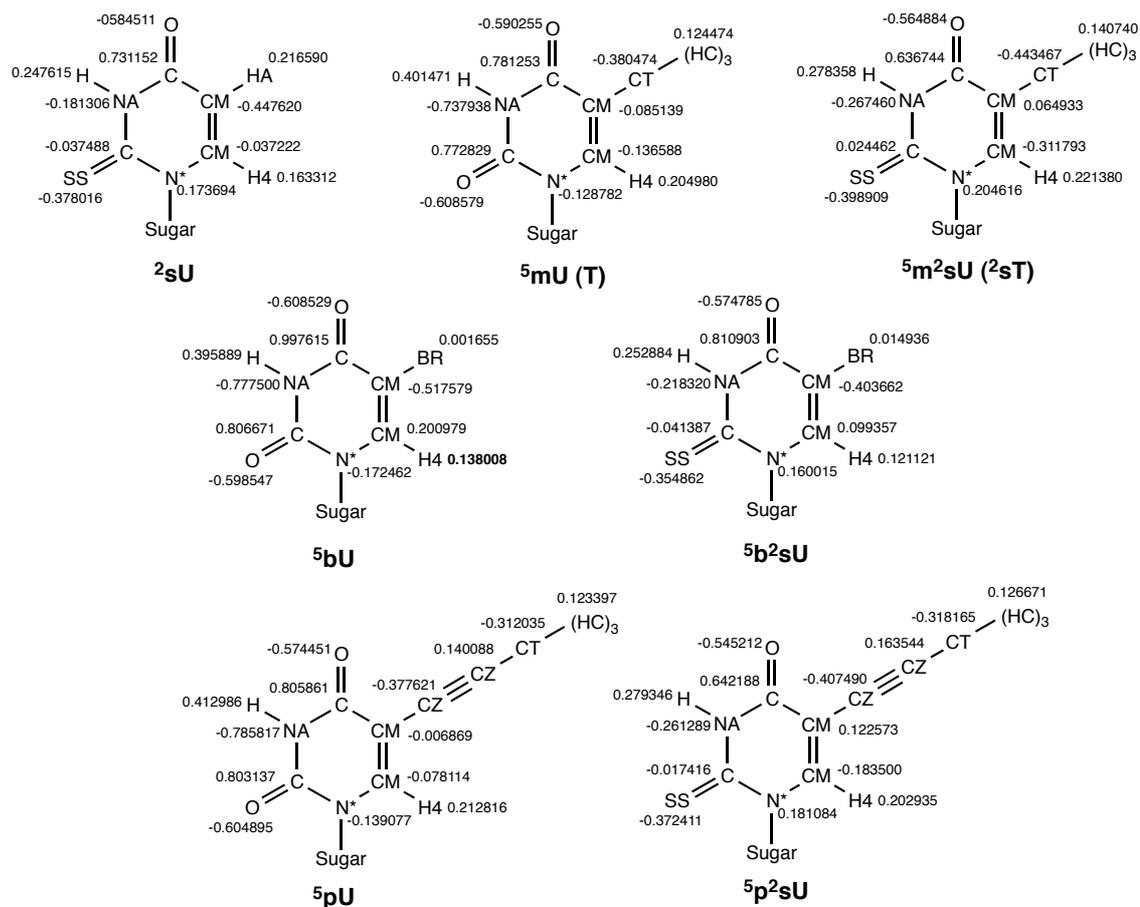


Figure S1. Resp charge distributions and atom types of the modified nucleobases.

MASS				
CY 12.010	0.360			nitrile C (Howard et al JCC,16,243,1995)
NY 14.010	0.530			nitrile N (Howard et al JCC,16,243,1995)
CZ 12.010	0.360			same as c1
SS 32.060	2.900			same as SS (JTCT 2007 2SU)
BR 79.900	2.880			same as br from GAFF
BOND				
CT-CY 400.00	1.458			Howard et al JCC,16,243,1995
CY-NY 600.00	1.150			Howard et al JCC,16,243,1995
C -SS 280.00	1.669			same as CA-SS (JTCT 2007 2SU)
OM-CZ 625.00	1.307			same as c1-c2
CZ-CZ 986.20	1.181			same as c1-c1
CZ-CT 368.30	1.470			same as c1-c3
OM-BR 269.60	1.897			same as br-ca from GAFF
ANGLE				
CT-CT-CY 63.000	110.000			Junmei et al, 1999
CT-CY-NY 80.000	180.000			Junmei et al, 1999
CY-CT-H1 50.000	110.000			Junmei et al, 1999
N*-C -SS 67.370	123.932			same as N*-CA-SS (JTCT 2007 2SU)
NA-C -SS 67.370	120.744			same as SS-CA-NA (JTCT 2007 2SU)
C -OM-CZ 67.966	117.825			Calculated with empirical approach
OM-CZ-CZ 60.800	180.000			same as c1-c1-c2
OM-OM-CZ 70.300	121.620			same as c1-c2-c2
CZ-CZ-CT 56.400	177.990			same as c1-c1-c3
CZ-CT-HC 48.300	109.750			same as c1-c3-hcn
C -OM-BR 63.500	118.130			same as br-ca-ca from GAFF
OM-OM-BR 63.500	118.130			same as br-ca-ca from GAFF
DIHE				
CT-CT-CY-NY 3	0.000	0.000	1.000	Junmei et al, 1999
H1-CY-CT-NY 3	0.000	0.000	1.000	Junmei et al, 1999
C -OM-CZ-CZ 1	0.000	180.000	2.000	same as X -c1-c2-X
OM-CZ-CZ-CT 1	0.000	180.000	2.000	same as X -c1-c1-X
OM-OM-CZ-CZ 1	0.000	180.000	2.000	same as X -c1-c2-X
CZ-CZ-CT-HC 1	0.000	180.000	2.000	same as X -c1-c3-X
IMPROPER				
N*-NA-C -SS 1.1		180.0	2.0	Using default value
C -C -NA-H 1.0		180.0	2.0	General improper torsional angle (2 general atom types)
OM-NA-C -O 10.5		180.0	2.0	General improper torsional angle (2 general atom types)
C -OM-OM-CZ 1.1		180.0	2.0	Using default value
OM-H4-OM-N* 1.1		180.0	2.0	General improper torsional angle (2 general atom types)
BR-C -OM-OM 1.1		180.0	2.0	Using default value
NONBON				
NY	1.8240	0.1700		N in nitrile
CZ	1.9080	0.0860		same as c1
SS	2.0000	0.2500		same as SS (JTCT 2007 2SU)
BR	2.2200	0.3200		same as br from GAFF

Figure S2. Additional force field parameters for the modified nucleobases.

## Harmonic stiffness analysis

Harmonic stiffness analysis for the helical parameters of nucleic acids, such as twist, roll, tilt, rise, shift and slide, was introduced by Lankas *et al.* and Olson *et al.* to quantitatively analyze the deformability of nucleic acid duplexes<sup>11</sup>. The harmonic stiffness analysis is based on the identical form of the Gauss distribution function (Eq. 1) and Einstein's formula of a harmonic oscillator (Eq. 2).

$$P(x) = N \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$P(x) = N \exp\left(-\frac{f(x - \mu)^2}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{k_B T}\right) \quad (2)$$

where  $x$ : any structural parameter,  $\mu$ : the average of  $x$ ,  $\sigma$ : the standard deviation,  $f$ : the elastic constant,  $N$ : the normalization constant,  $k_B$ : Boltzmann's constant, and  $T$ : the absolute temperature, respectively. In the simple case, by comparing these two formulas, one can calculate the  $f$  value as (Eq. 3) from the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) obtained by analyzing the distribution of parameter  $x$  throughout the molecular dynamic simulation.

$$f = \frac{k_B T}{\sigma^2} \quad (3)$$

In complex molecules, such as DNA duplexes, each of the structural parameters, such as roll, rise, shift, slide, tilt, and twist, are correlated. Therefore, a covariance-variance matrix ( $C$ ) of six parameters (twist, roll, tilt, rise, shift, and slide) was used instead of the  $\sigma^2$  value.

$$F = k_B T C^{-1} \quad (4)$$

where  $F$  is the stiffness matrix associated with helical deformation at the base pair step.

A global view of helical deformability can be obtained by defining the global translational ( $F_{\text{trans}}$ ), rotational ( $F_{\text{rot}}$ ), and their product ( $F_{\text{prod}}$ ) deformability indexes<sup>12</sup>.

$$F_{\text{trans}} = f_{\text{rise}} f_{\text{shift}} f_{\text{slide}} \quad (5)$$

$$F_{\text{rot}} = f_{\text{twist}} f_{\text{roll}} f_{\text{tilt}} \quad (6)$$

$$F_{\text{prod}} = F_{\text{trans}} F_{\text{rot}} \quad (7)$$

Our assumption here is that the deformability ( $F_{\text{total}}$ ) of a certain sequence could be expressed by simple sum of the deformability ( $F_{\text{prod}}$ ) of each base-pair step like nearest neighbor parameters.

$$F_{\text{total}} = \Sigma F_{\text{prod}} \quad (8)$$

In this study, the molecular dynamics simulations were carried out using AMBER 9.0, Ptraj modules of AMBER 9.0 and X3DNA<sup>13</sup>. The elastic constants ( $f$ ) could be calculated under harmonic approximation, as described above.

The stiffness matrix ( $F$ ) associated with helical deformation at the base pair step was determined as the inverse of the covariance-variance matrix ( $C$ ) of six parameters (twist, roll, tilt, rise, shift, and slide),

which were extracted by X3DNA. The diagonal elements of the stiffness matrix were used as the elastic constants of the helical parameters.

We analyzed the parameters of only the central base pairs (omitting terminal 3 base pairs) and averaged same base pair steps to provide more reliable values (Figure S3). We used the last 90 ns of 100.3 trajectory and check the convergence of  $F_{total}$  values (Figure S4).

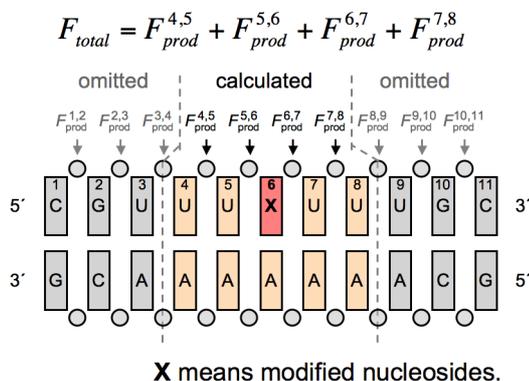


Figure S3. Definition of  $F_{total}$  value.

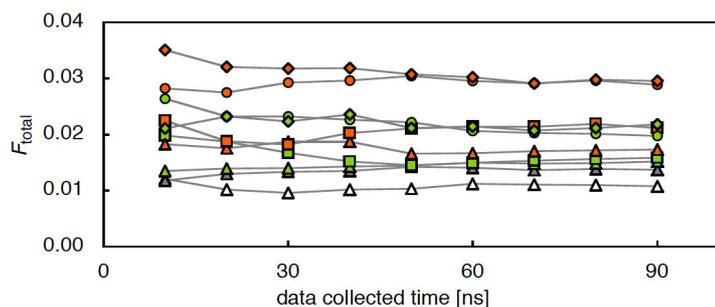


Figure S4. Convergence of  $F_{total}$  value during MD simulation. white triangle:  $U_{OH}$ , gray triangle:  $U_{OMe}$ , green triangle:  $U_{OCE}$ , orange triangle:  ${}^2sU_{OCE}$ , green square:  ${}^5mU_{OCE}$ , orange square:  ${}^2s{}^5mU_{OCE}$ , green circle:  ${}^2sbU_{OCE}$ , orange circle:  ${}^2s{}^5bU_{OCE}$ , green diamond:  ${}^5pU_{OCE}$ , and orange diamond  ${}^2s{}^5pU_{OCE}$ .

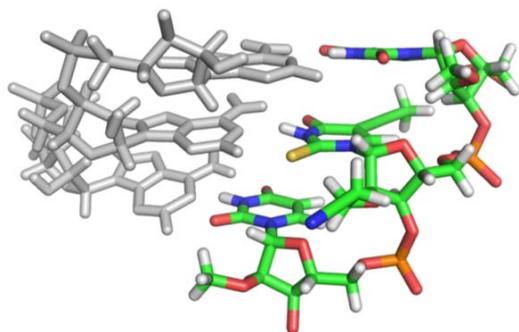


Figure S5. Last snapshot of the  ${}^2s{}^5pU_{OCE}$  duplex ( $U^2s5pU_{OCE}U/AAA$ ). The 2-thiocarbonyl moiety overlapped the 3'-downstream base and the 5-propynyl moiety overlapped the 5'-upstream base.

2'-O-modified or unmodified uridine derivatives (90 ns)

<b>U<sup>OH</sup></b> 5' 3'	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.039	0.013	0.023	3.3	1.1	3.1	0.000011	12	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.060	0.024	0.036	12.1	1.8	3.1	0.000051	66	0.0034
U-A	3-4	0.065	0.020	0.034	9.4	1.9	3.8	0.000043	66	0.0028
U-A	4-5	0.063	0.020	0.033	9.9	2.0	3.7	0.000041	75	0.0031
X-A	5-6	0.056	0.021	0.030	10.1	1.8	4.2	0.000035	78	0.0027
U-A	6-7	0.066	0.020	0.036	9.4	1.2	4.4	0.000048	50	0.0024
U-A	7-8	0.063	0.019	0.034	8.8	1.6	4.3	0.000041	61	0.0025
U-A	8-9	0.067	0.019	0.035	9.2	1.8	3.1	0.000044	51	0.0023
G-C	9-10	0.058	0.017	0.031	5.8	2.7	4.9	0.000030	77	0.0023
C-G	10-11	0.033	0.022	0.027	10.9	2.4	2.4	0.000019	61	0.0012

<b>U<sup>OMe</sup></b>	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.020	0.013	0.023	3.3	1.1	3.0	0.000006	11	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.056	0.024	0.035	12.1	1.8	3.0	0.000048	65	0.0031
U-A	3-4	0.064	0.020	0.035	9.3	1.9	3.9	0.000046	68	0.0031
U-A	4-5	0.067	0.021	0.035	10.2	1.8	4.1	0.000050	78	0.0039
X-A	5-6	0.065	0.021	0.035	10.1	1.9	4.4	0.000049	84	0.0041
U-A	6-7	0.065	0.021	0.034	9.5	1.6	4.5	0.000047	68	0.0032
U-A	7-8	0.064	0.020	0.033	9.0	1.7	4.1	0.000042	62	0.0026
U-A	8-9	0.063	0.020	0.034	9.1	1.8	3.0	0.000043	50	0.0021
G-C	9-10	0.057	0.017	0.031	5.8	2.7	4.7	0.000029	74	0.0022
C-G	10-11	0.032	0.021	0.026	10.7	2.0	2.4	0.000018	51	0.0009

<b>U<sup>OCE</sup></b> 5' 3'	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.027	0.012	0.014	3.2	0.9	2.9	0.000005	8	0.0000
G-C	2-3	0.061	0.024	0.035	12.3	1.7	3.0	0.000051	65	0.0033
U-A	3-4	0.067	0.021	0.035	9.9	1.8	4.0	0.000050	72	0.0036
U-A	4-5	0.067	0.021	0.036	10.3	1.8	4.3	0.000049	80	0.0039
X-A	5-6	0.065	0.021	0.035	10.1	2.0	4.6	0.000047	90	0.0043
U-A	6-7	0.068	0.021	0.036	10.0	1.9	4.3	0.000052	80	0.0041
U-A	7-8	0.064	0.020	0.033	9.1	1.7	4.1	0.000043	64	0.0028
U-A	8-9	0.067	0.020	0.035	9.3	1.7	3.2	0.000046	51	0.0023
G-C	9-10	0.060	0.017	0.031	5.9	2.9	5.2	0.000032	89	0.0028
C-G	10-11	0.034	0.022	0.027	11.0	2.4	2.3	0.000020	61	0.0012

5-modified uridine derivatives (90 ns)

<sup>5</sup> mU <sub>OC</sub> E	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.037	0.013	0.022	3.3	1.1	2.9	0.000010	11	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.061	0.023	0.036	12.1	1.7	3.2	0.000050	66	0.0033
U-A	3-4	0.068	0.019	0.036	9.9	1.9	4.0	0.000048	76	0.0036
U-A	4-5	0.061	0.020	0.036	10.2	2.2	4.6	0.000044	101	0.0044
X-A	5-6	0.065	0.024	0.043	9.4	1.7	4.8	0.000066	75	0.0050
U-A	6-7	0.069	0.022	0.036	10.1	1.7	4.2	0.000054	70	0.0038
U-A	7-8	0.063	0.020	0.033	9.0	1.8	4.0	0.000041	64	0.0026
U-A	8-9	0.063	0.020	0.034	9.4	1.9	3.2	0.000044	57	0.0025
G-C	9-10	0.058	0.018	0.031	6.1	2.9	5.2	0.000031	92	0.0029
C-G	10-11	0.033	0.021	0.026	10.9	2.2	2.4	0.000019	56	0.0010

<sup>5</sup> bU <sub>OC</sub> E	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.000	0.003	0.005	0.4	1.2	1.5	0.000000	1	0.0000
G-C	2-3	0.058	0.024	0.035	12.3	1.7	3.4	0.000050	69	0.0035
U-A	3-4	0.068	0.020	0.037	9.7	2.2	4.2	0.000051	91	0.0047
U-A	4-5	0.069	0.021	0.037	10.4	2.2	4.9	0.000054	113	0.0060
X-A	5-6	0.067	0.024	0.045	9.5	1.8	5.5	0.000071	92	0.0065
U-A	6-7	0.073	0.023	0.037	10.4	1.8	4.5	0.000062	84	0.0053
U-A	7-8	0.063	0.019	0.033	8.7	1.4	3.9	0.000041	47	0.0019
U-A	8-9	0.066	0.020	0.034	9.1	1.7	2.9	0.000044	45	0.0020
G-C	9-10	0.056	0.017	0.030	5.8	2.8	4.5	0.000029	72	0.0021
C-G	10-11	0.033	0.022	0.026	10.8	2.3	2.3	0.000019	56	0.0011

<sup>5</sup> pU <sub>OC</sub> E	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.033	0.013	0.020	3.2	0.8	2.9	0.000008	8	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.056	0.024	0.035	12.0	1.5	3.0	0.000046	53	0.0025
U-A	3-4	0.068	0.020	0.037	9.7	1.7	4.1	0.000049	68	0.0033
U-A	4-5	0.071	0.021	0.037	10.1	2.2	4.8	0.000055	105	0.0057
X-A	5-6	0.076	0.025	0.048	10.0	1.6	5.6	0.000091	92	0.0083
U-A	6-7	0.071	0.023	0.037	10.7	1.9	4.4	0.000060	88	0.0053
U-A	7-8	0.062	0.020	0.033	9.0	1.5	4.4	0.000040	61	0.0024
U-A	8-9	0.068	0.019	0.034	9.2	1.6	3.5	0.000045	53	0.0024
G-C	9-10	0.058	0.017	0.031	5.9	2.9	5.2	0.000031	88	0.0027
C-G	10-11	0.033	0.021	0.026	10.7	2.3	2.3	0.000019	57	0.0011

2-thio-5-modified or unmodified uridine derivatives (90 ns)

<sup>2</sup> S <sup>U</sup> OCE	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.040	0.013	0.023	3.3	1.1	3.0	0.000012	11	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.062	0.024	0.036	12.3	1.7	3.2	0.000054	68	0.0037
U-A	3-4	0.067	0.021	0.035	9.7	1.9	4.0	0.000049	73	0.0036
U-A	4-5	0.067	0.021	0.036	10.5	1.9	4.3	0.000050	86	0.0043
X-A	5-6	0.064	0.022	0.035	10.0	2.0	4.7	0.000049	94	0.0046
U-A	6-7	0.068	0.024	0.037	10.7	2.2	4.2	0.000059	102	0.0060
U-A	7-8	0.063	0.020	0.033	9.0	1.6	4.2	0.000041	59	0.0024
U-A	8-9	0.066	0.019	0.034	9.1	1.7	3.4	0.000043	53	0.0023
G-C	9-10	0.055	0.017	0.030	5.7	2.5	4.8	0.000028	69	0.0019
C-G	10-11	0.034	0.021	0.026	10.8	2.2	2.2	0.000019	54	0.0010

<sup>2</sup> S <sup>5</sup> UOCE	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.007	0.014	0.022	3.7	0.7	2.7	0.000002	7	0.0000
G-C	2-3	0.058	0.024	0.035	12.3	1.8	3.2	0.000049	69	0.0034
U-A	3-4	0.071	0.020	0.036	9.5	1.9	4.2	0.000051	75	0.0038
U-A	4-5	0.070	0.019	0.038	10.6	2.3	4.8	0.000052	115	0.0060
X-A	5-6	0.066	0.025	0.044	9.7	2.1	5.1	0.000071	102	0.0072
U-A	6-7	0.071	0.024	0.037	10.7	2.1	3.9	0.000063	89	0.0056
U-A	7-8	0.061	0.019	0.033	8.8	1.7	3.9	0.000039	60	0.0024
U-A	8-9	0.067	0.020	0.035	9.3	1.8	3.1	0.000047	54	0.0025
G-C	9-10	0.059	0.019	0.030	5.9	3.0	5.2	0.000033	91	0.0030
C-G	10-11	0.029	0.021	0.026	10.6	2.4	2.4	0.000016	60	0.0010

<sup>2</sup> S <sup>5</sup> bUOCE	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.031	0.009	0.014	3.1	0.8	2.7	0.000004	7	0.0000
G-C	2-3	0.057	0.025	0.036	12.2	1.8	3.0	0.000050	67	0.0033
U-A	3-4	0.067	0.021	0.037	9.7	2.1	4.2	0.000051	88	0.0044
U-A	4-5	0.074	0.021	0.038	10.4	2.3	5.0	0.000060	120	0.0072
X-A	5-6	0.070	0.025	0.046	9.7	2.2	5.9	0.000082	127	0.0104
U-A	6-7	0.076	0.026	0.039	11.4	2.4	4.3	0.000076	116	0.0088
U-A	7-8	0.064	0.020	0.033	9.0	1.5	4.3	0.000041	59	0.0024
U-A	8-9	0.067	0.019	0.035	9.1	1.7	3.5	0.000045	54	0.0024
U-A	9-10	0.058	0.017	0.031	5.9	2.8	5.2	0.000031	87	0.0027
G-C	10-11	0.033	0.020	0.025	9.0	2.3	1.8	0.000016	38	0.0006

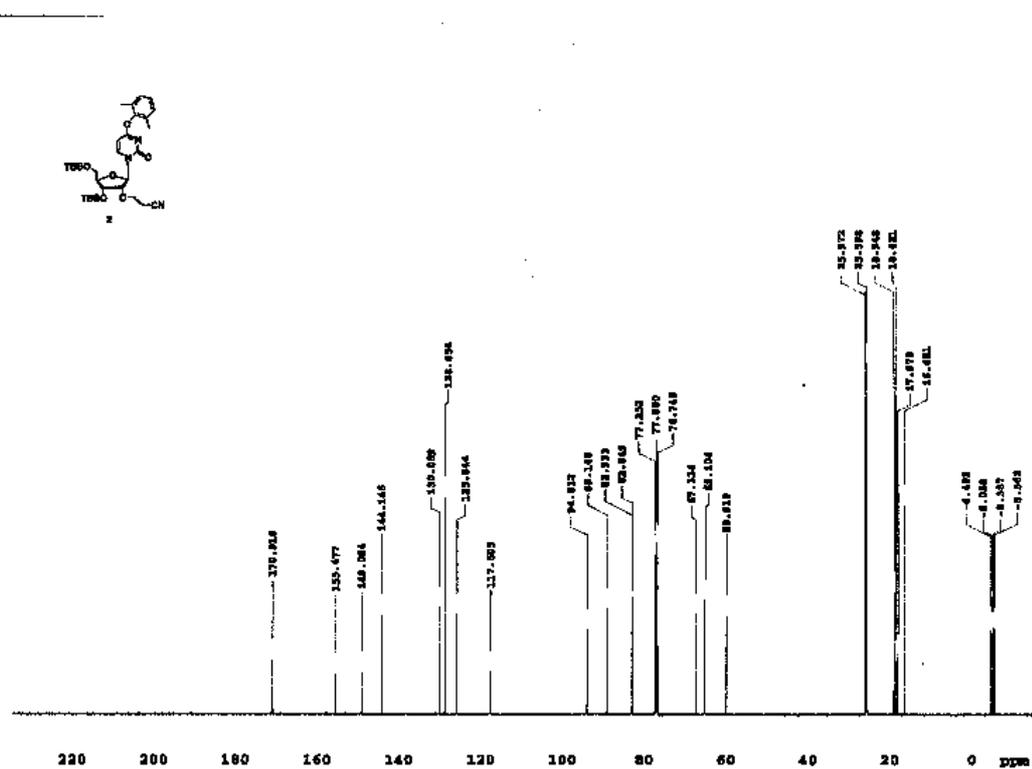
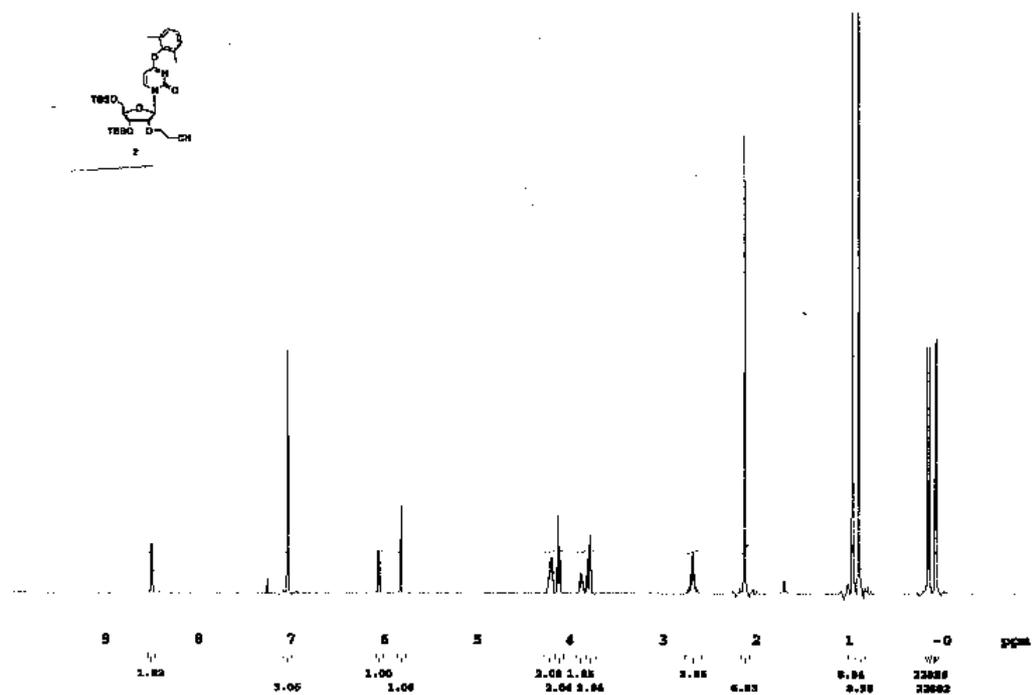
<sup>2</sup> S <sup>5</sup> PUOCE	base pair steps	$f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{tilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]	$F_{\text{prod}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> ]
C-G	1-2	0.033	0.012	0.020	3.3	0.9	2.9	0.000008	8	0.0001
G-C	2-3	0.061	0.025	0.035	12.3	1.7	3.1	0.000053	65	0.0035
U-A	3-4	0.064	0.020	0.037	9.8	1.7	4.2	0.000048	69	0.0033
U-A	4-5	0.074	0.021	0.038	10.4	2.1	4.7	0.000061	104	0.0063
X-A	5-6	0.081	0.027	0.049	10.5	2.1	5.9	0.000106	133	0.0142
U-A	6-7	0.073	0.025	0.038	11.2	2.2	4.1	0.000069	103	0.0071
U-A	7-8	0.063	0.019	0.032	8.9	1.5	3.7	0.000039	50	0.0020
U-A	8-9	0.067	0.020	0.034	9.3	1.9	2.7	0.000045	48	0.0022
G-C	9-10	0.057	0.018	0.031	6.1	3.1	4.9	0.000031	93	0.0029
C-G	10-11	0.034	0.022	0.026	10.8	2.4	2.4	0.000019	63	0.0012

Results of the sum of each value (excluded terminal 3 base-pairs)

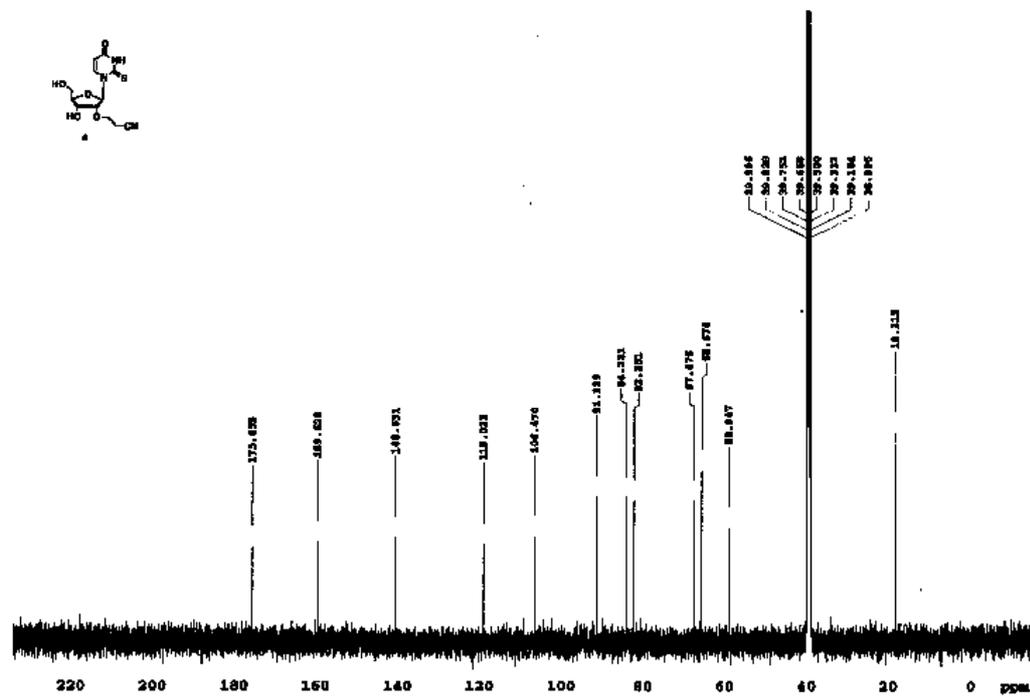
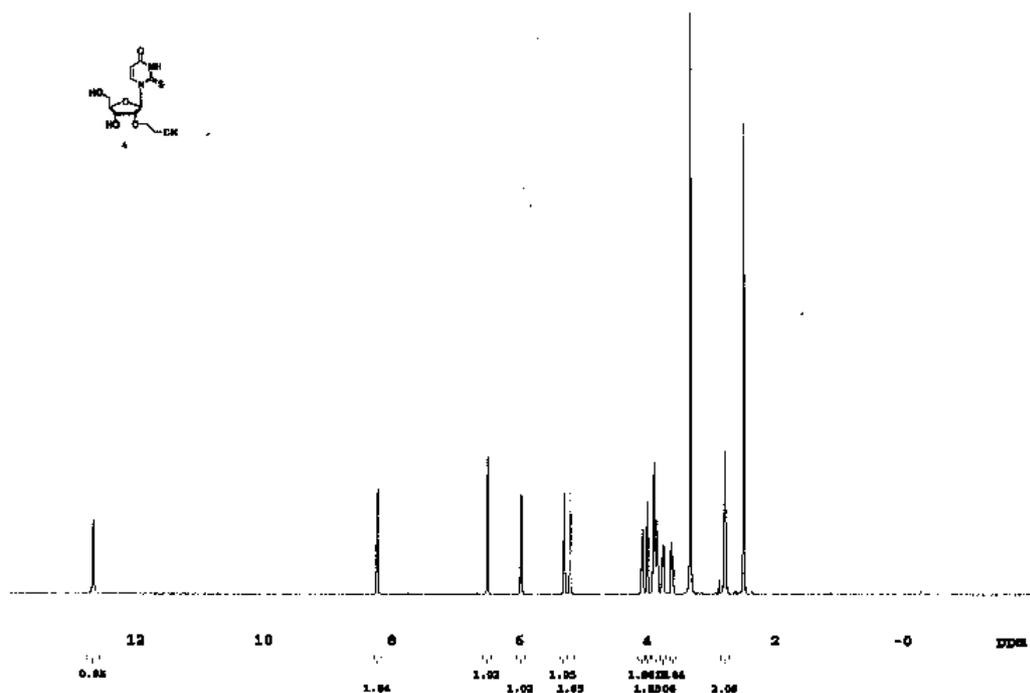
	$\Sigma f_{\text{twist}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma f_{\text{roll}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma f_{\text{iilt}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma f_{\text{rise}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma f_{\text{shift}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma f_{\text{slide}}$ [kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ]	$\Sigma F_{\text{rot}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>3</sup> ]	$\Sigma F_{\text{trans}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-2</sup> ) <sup>3</sup> ]	$F_{\text{total}}$ [(kcal·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·deg <sup>-1</sup> ·Å <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>6</sup> ]
U <sub>OH</sub>	0.247	0.080	0.134	38.2	6.7	16.7	0.00017	266	0.011
U <sub>OMe</sub>	0.261	0.083	0.138	38.8	7.0	17.1	0.00019	291	0.014
U <sub>OCE</sub>	0.265	0.083	0.140	39.5	7.4	17.3	0.00019	315	0.015
<sup>5</sup> mU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.257	0.085	0.149	38.6	7.3	17.6	0.00021	310	0.016
<sup>5</sup> bU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.273	0.087	0.152	39.0	7.2	18.9	0.00023	337	0.020
<sup>5</sup> pU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.280	0.088	0.155	39.8	7.2	19.2	0.00025	345	0.022
<sup>2</sup> sU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.262	0.086	0.140	40.2	7.7	17.5	0.00020	341	0.017
<sup>2</sup> s <sup>5</sup> mU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.268	0.087	0.153	39.8	8.2	17.7	0.00023	365	0.021
<sup>2</sup> s <sup>5</sup> bU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.284	0.092	0.157	40.5	8.4	19.6	0.00026	421	0.029
<sup>2</sup> s <sup>5</sup> pU <sub>OCE</sub>	0.292	0.092	0.157	41.1	8.0	18.4	0.00027	391	0.030

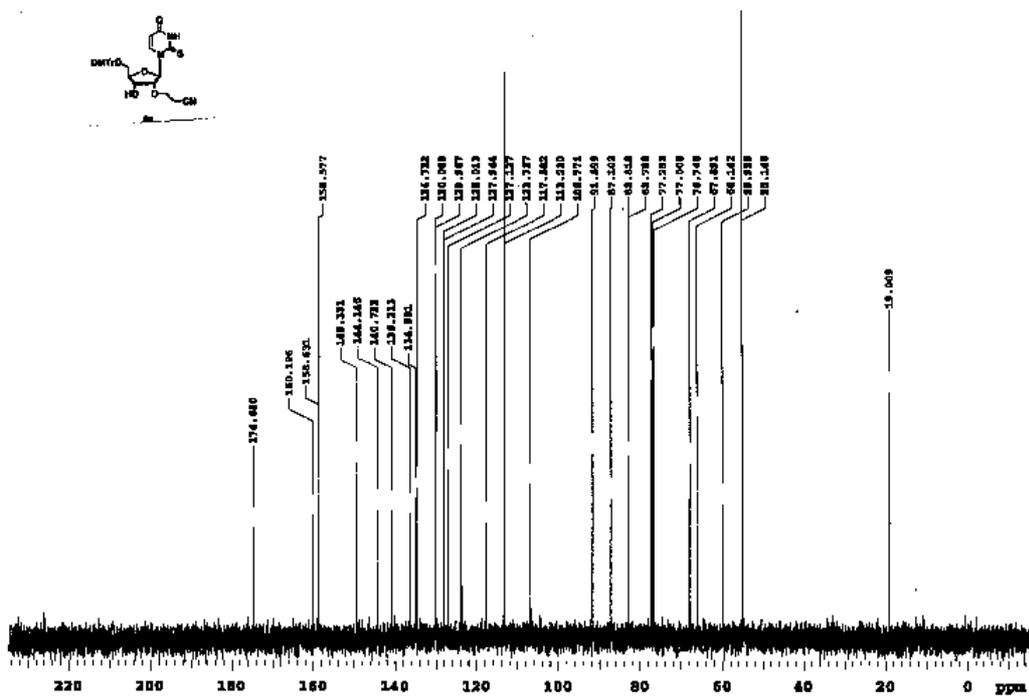
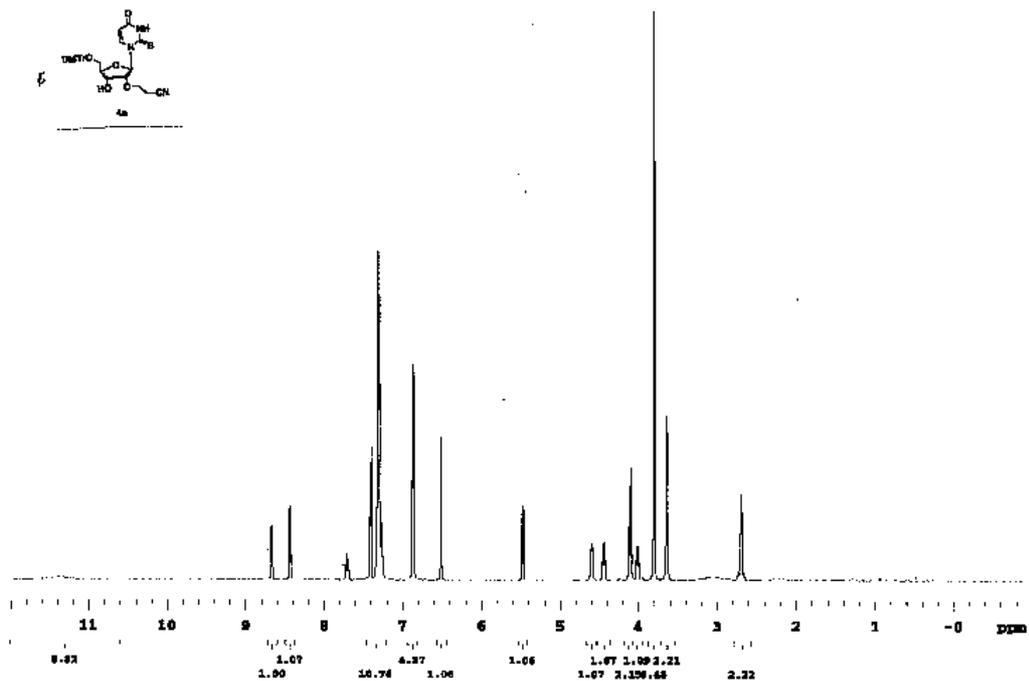
## References

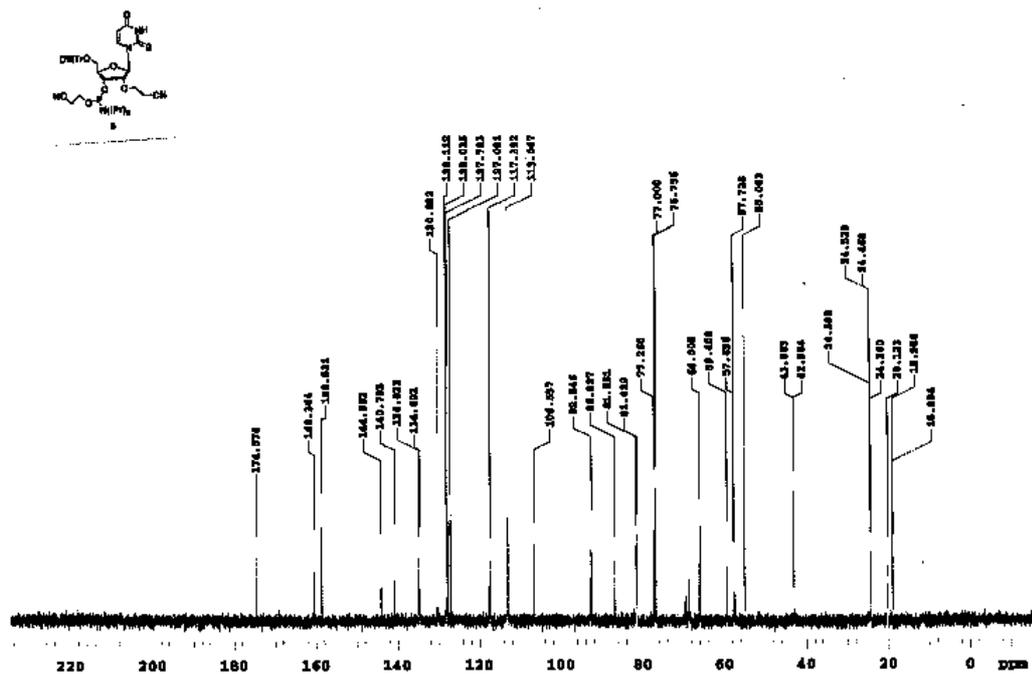
- (1) a) Cheatham, T. E. III; Cieplak, P.; Kollman, P. A. *J. Biomol. Struct. Dyn.* **1999**, *16*, 845–862. b) Perez, A.; Marchan, I.; Svozil, D.; Sponer, J.; Cheatham, T. E. III; Laughton, C. A.; Orozco, M. *Biophys. J.* **2007**, *92*, 3817–3829.
- (2) Case, D. A.; Darden, T. A.; Cheatham, T. E. III; Simmerling, C. L.; Wang, J.; Duke, R. E.; Luo, R.; Merz, K. M.; Pearlman, D. A.; Crowley, M.; Walker, R. C.; Zhang, W.; Wang, B.; Hayik, S.; Roitberg, A.; Seabra, G.; Wong, K. F.; Paesani, F.; Wu, X.; Brozell, S.; Tsui, V.; Gohlke, H.; Yang, L.; Tan, C.; Mongan, J.; Hornak, V.; Cui, G.; Beroza, P.; Mathews, D. H.; Schafmeister, C.; Ross, W. S.; Kollman P. A. (2006), AMBER 9, University of California, San Francisco.
- (3) Auffinger, P.; Westhof, E. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2001**, *40*, 4648-4650.
- (4) Masaki, Y.; Miyasaka, R.; Ohkubo, A.; Seio, K.; Sekine, M. *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2010**, *114*, 2517-2524.
- (5) a) Bayly, C. I.; Cieplak, P.; Cornell, W.; Kollman, P. A. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1993**, *97*, 10269–10280. b) Aduri, R.; Psciuk, B. T.; Saro, P.; Taniga, H.; Schlegel, H. B.; Santa Lucia, J. Jr. *J. Chem. Theory and Comput.* **2007**, *3*, 1464 -1475. c) Zhang, Q.; Schlick, T. *Biophys. J.* **2006**, *90*, 1865-1877.
- (6) Wang, J.; Wolf, R. M.; Caldwell, J. W.; Kollman, P. A.; Case, D. A. *J. Comput. Chem.* **2004**, *25*, 1157-1174.
- (7) Joung, I. S.; Cheatham, T. E. III *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2008**, *112*, 9020-9041.
- (8) Berendsen, H. J. C.; Postma, J. P. M.; van Gunsteren, W. F.; DiNola, A.; Haak, J. R. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1984**, *81*, 3684-3690.
- (9) Ryckaert, J. P.; Ciccotti, G.; Berendsen, H. J. C. *J. Comput. Phys.* **1977**, *23*, 327-341.
- (10) Darden, T.; York, D.; Pedersen, L. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 10089-10092.
- (11) a) Olson, W. K.; Gorin, A. A.; Lu, X. J.; Hock, L. M.; Zhurkin, V. B. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.* **1998**, *95*, 11163-11168. b) Lankas, F.; Sponer, J.; Langowski, J.; Cheatham, T. E. III. *Biophys. J.* **2003**, *85*, 2872-2883. c) Lankas, F. *Biopolymers* **2004**, *73*, 327-339.
- (12) Noy, A.; Luque, F. J.; Orozco, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 3486-3496.
- (13) Lu, X. J. ; Olson, W. K. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **2003**, *31*, 5108-5121.

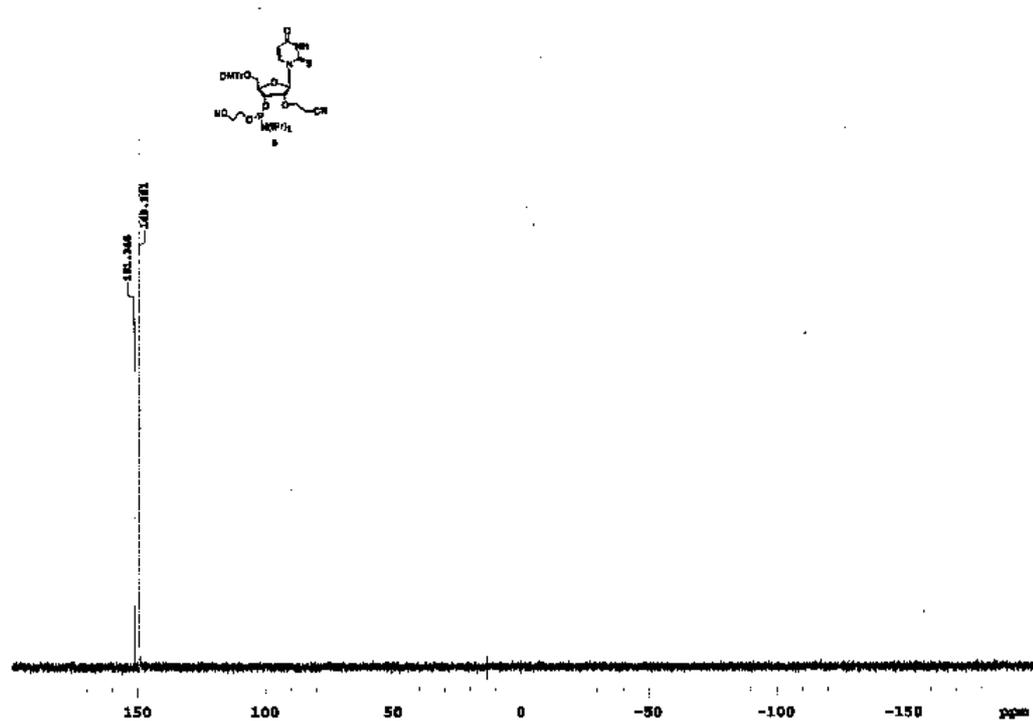




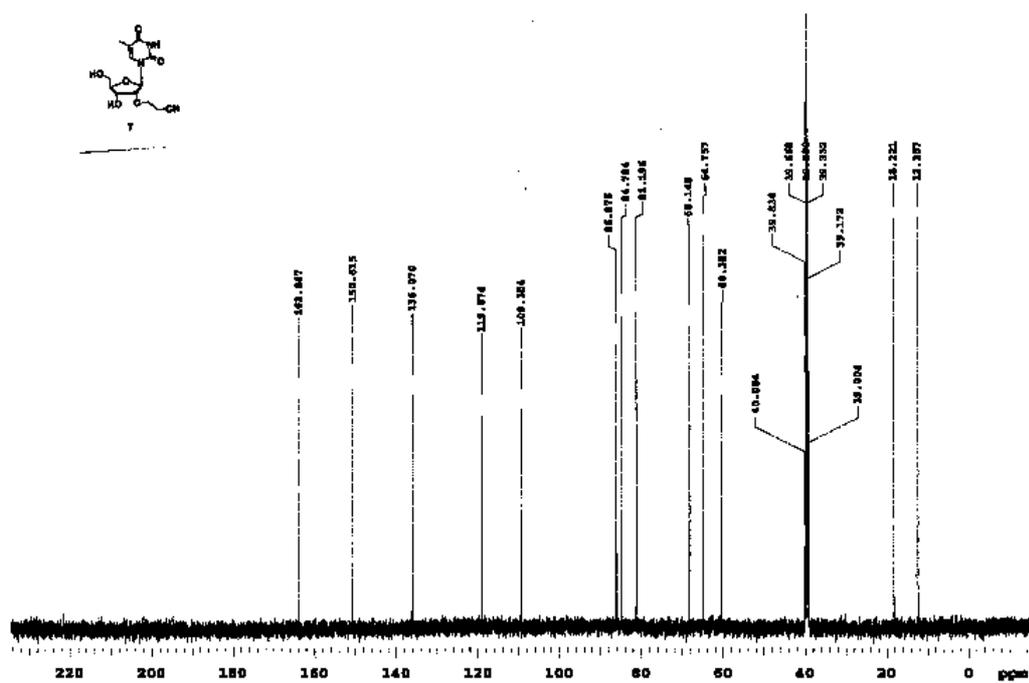
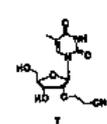
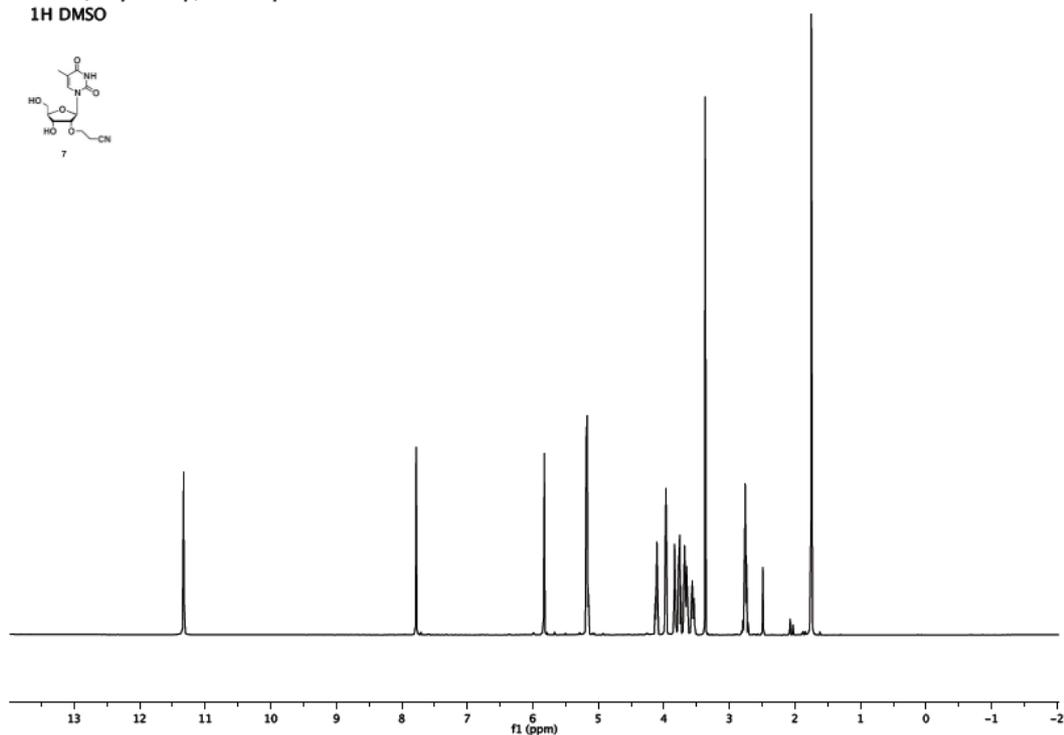
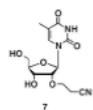




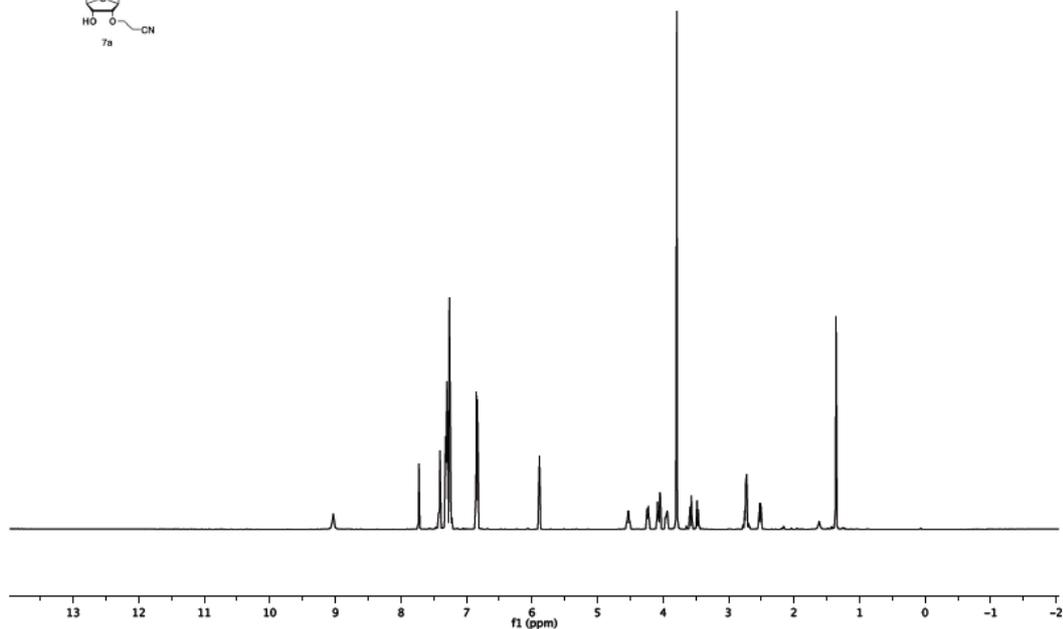
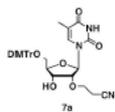




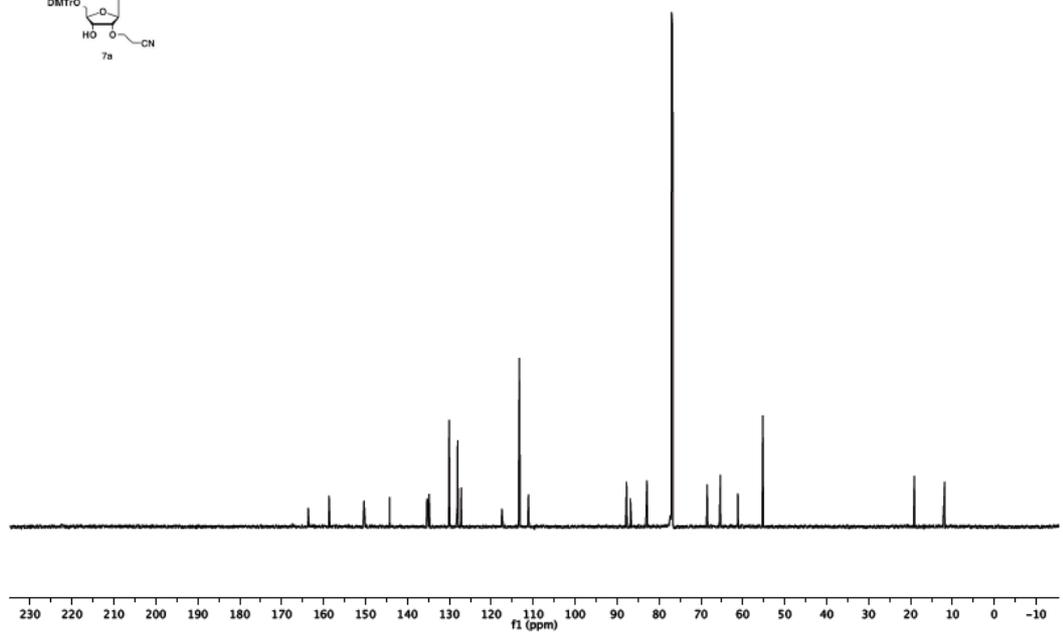
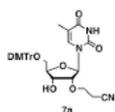
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-methyluridine 7  
1H DMSO



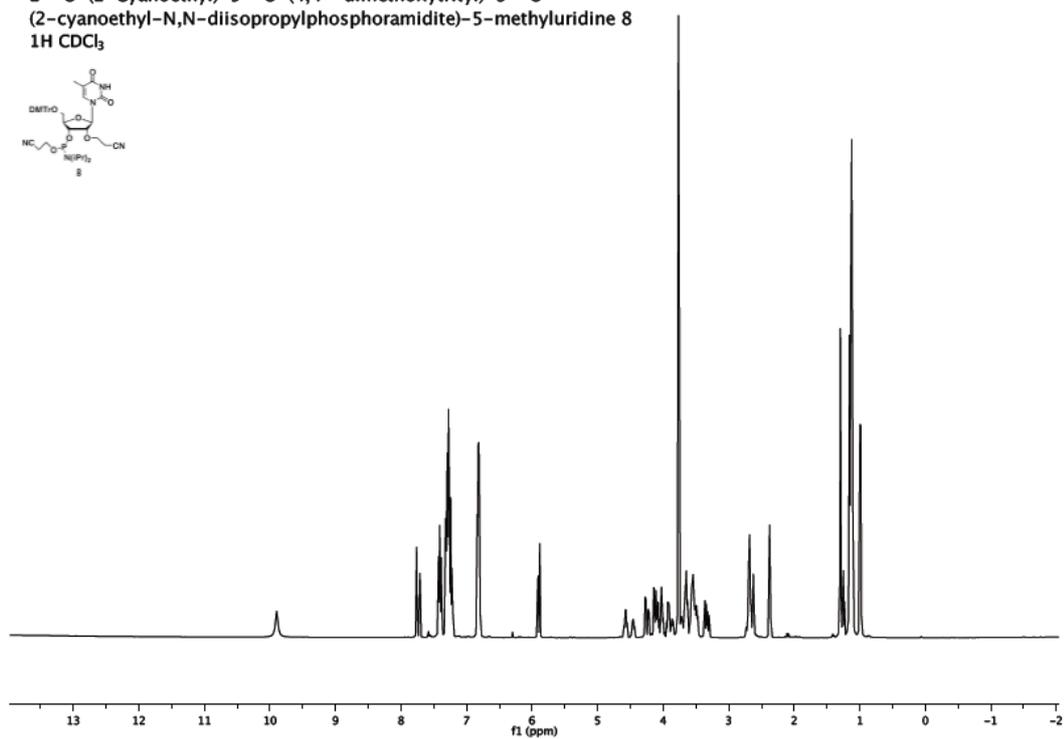
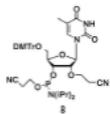
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-methyluridine 7a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



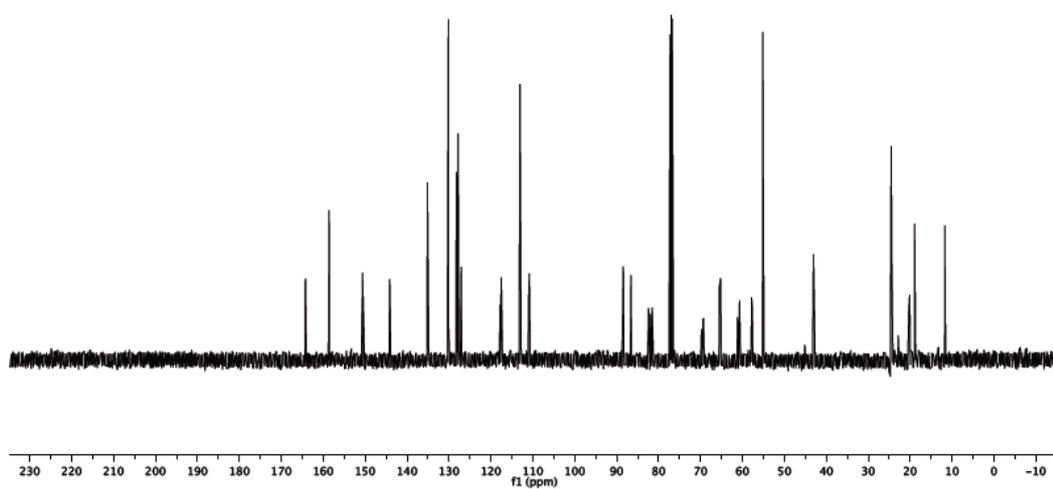
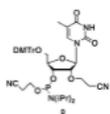
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-methyluridine 7a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



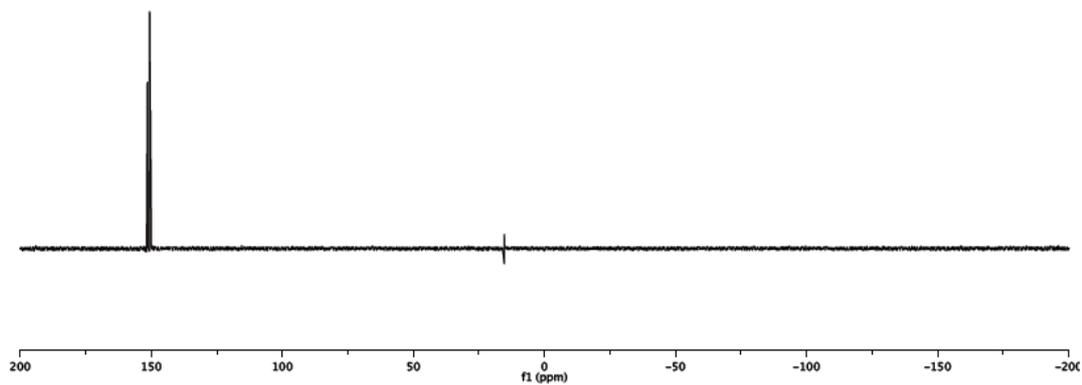
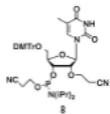
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyluridine **8**  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



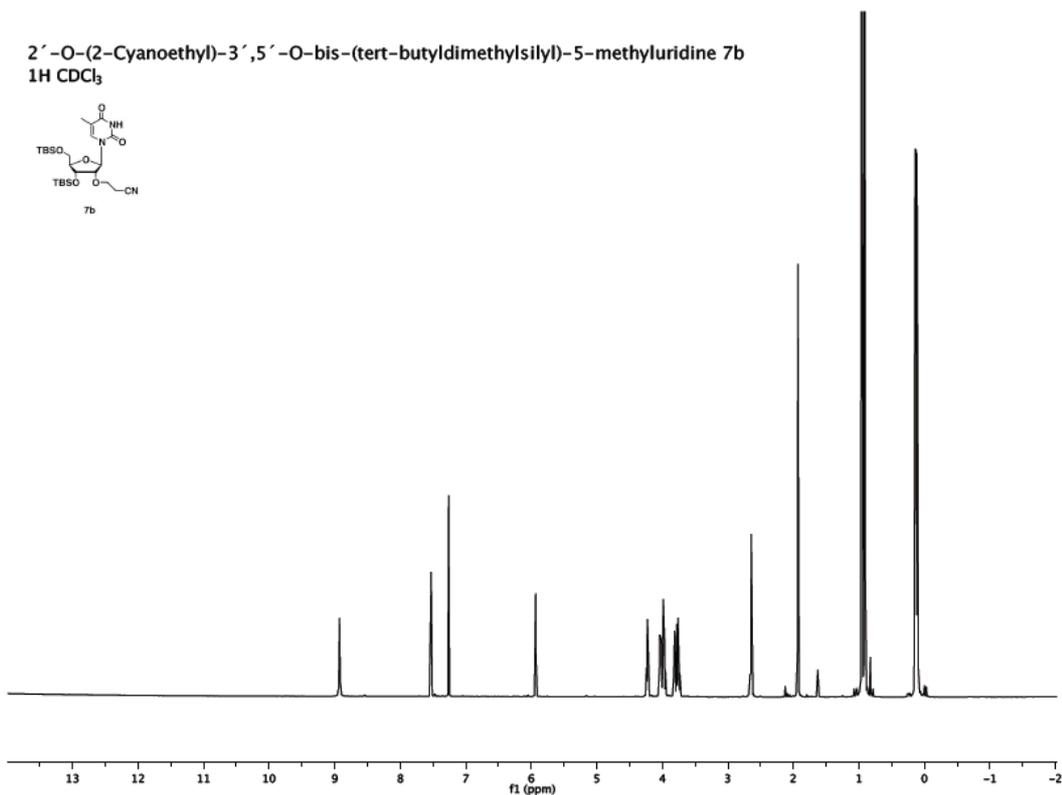
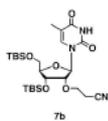
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyluridine **8**  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



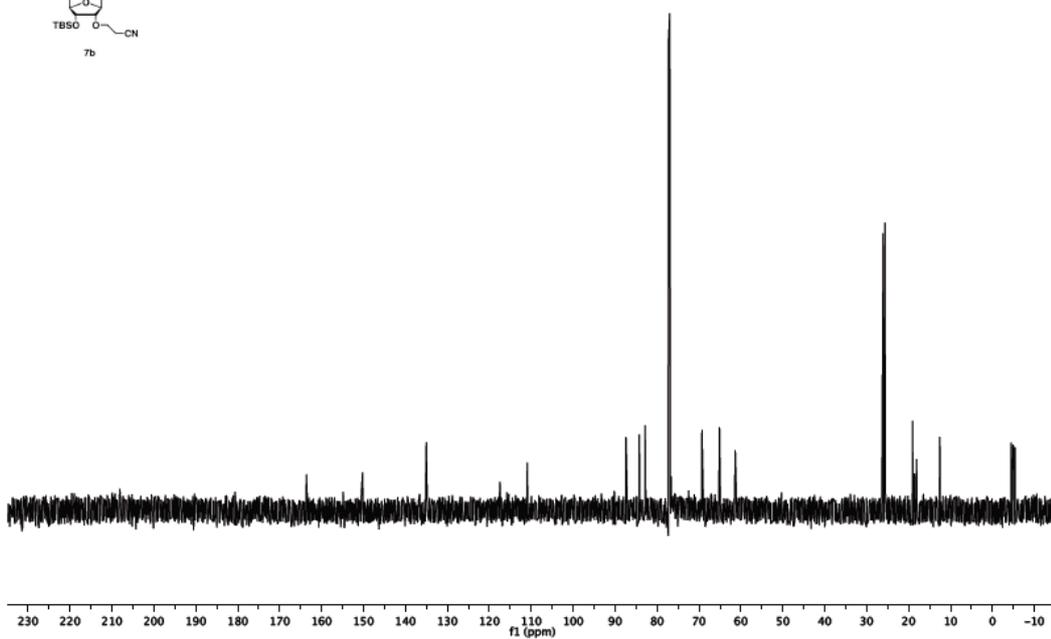
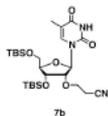
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyluridine **8**  
31P CDCl<sub>3</sub>



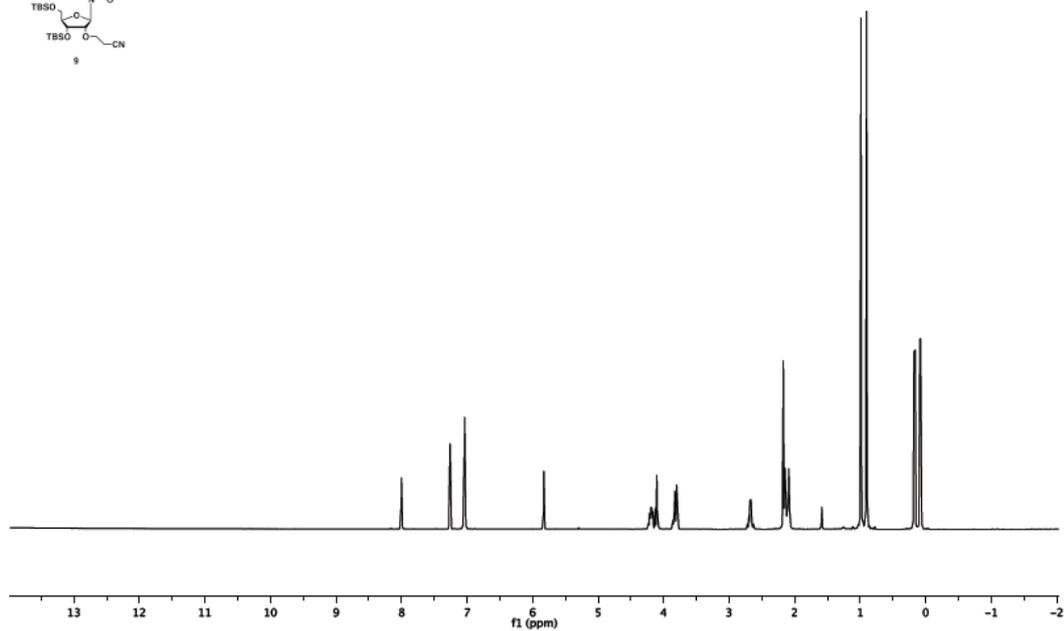
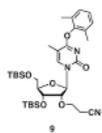
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(tert-butylidimethylsilyl)-5-methyluridine 7b  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



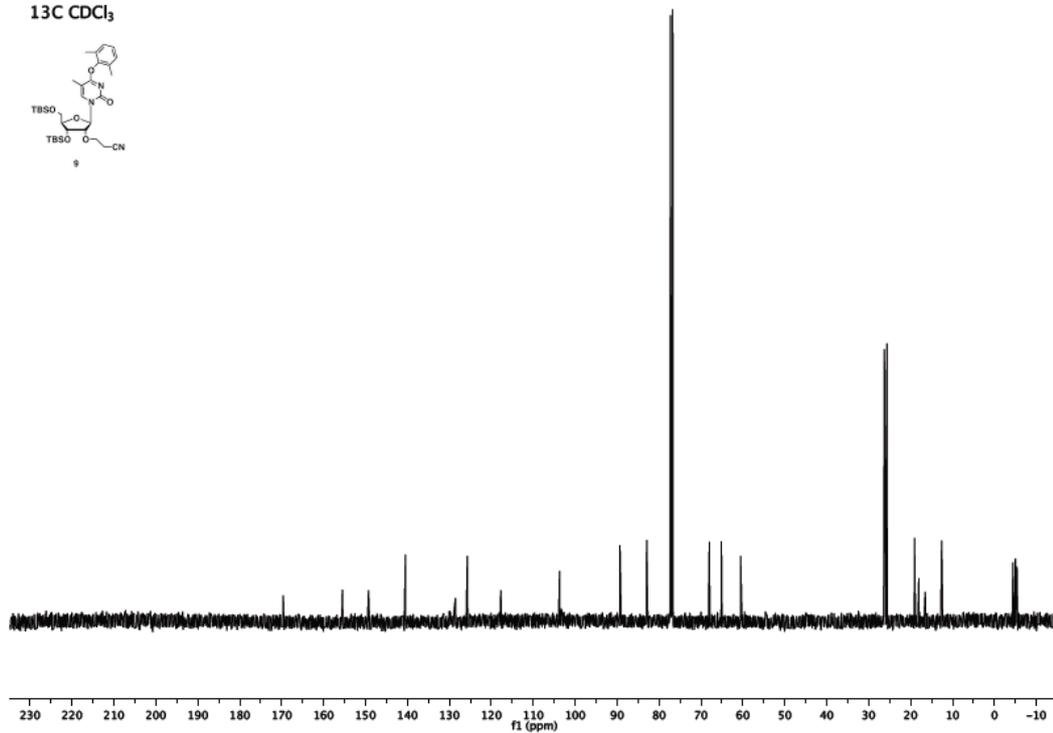
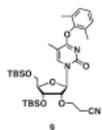
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(tert-butylidimethylsilyl)-5-methyluridine 7b  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



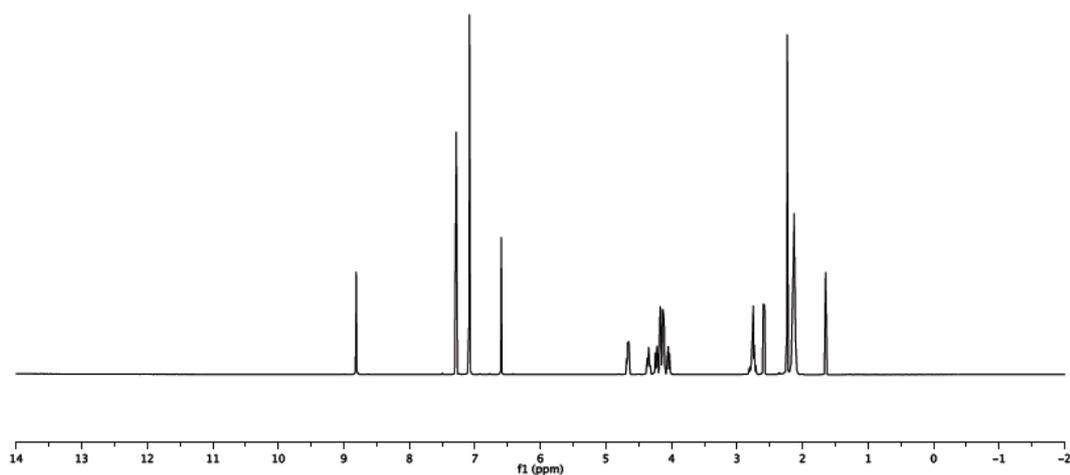
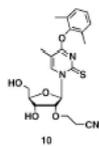
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(tert-butylidimethylsilyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyluridine 9  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



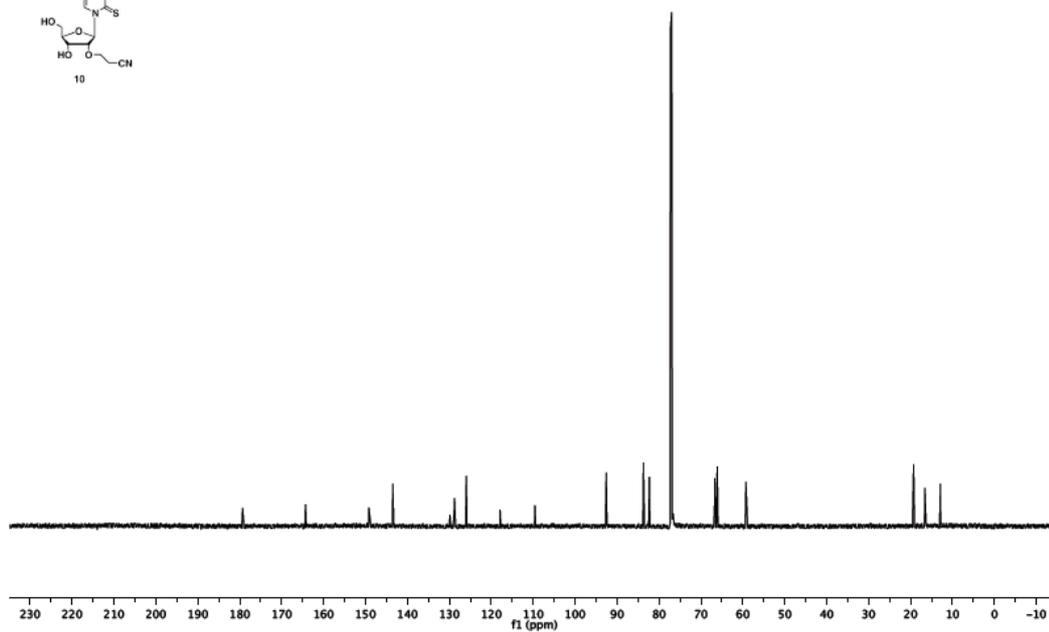
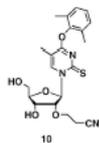
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-bis-(tert-butylidimethylsilyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyluridine 9  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



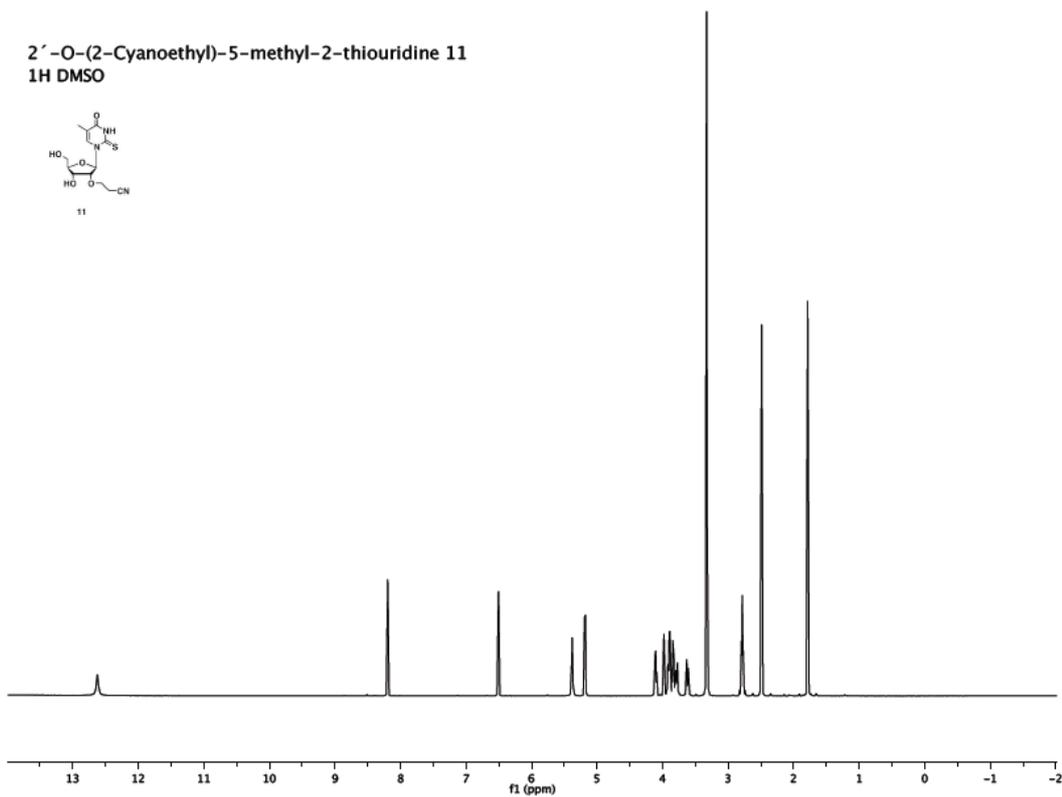
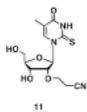
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 10  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



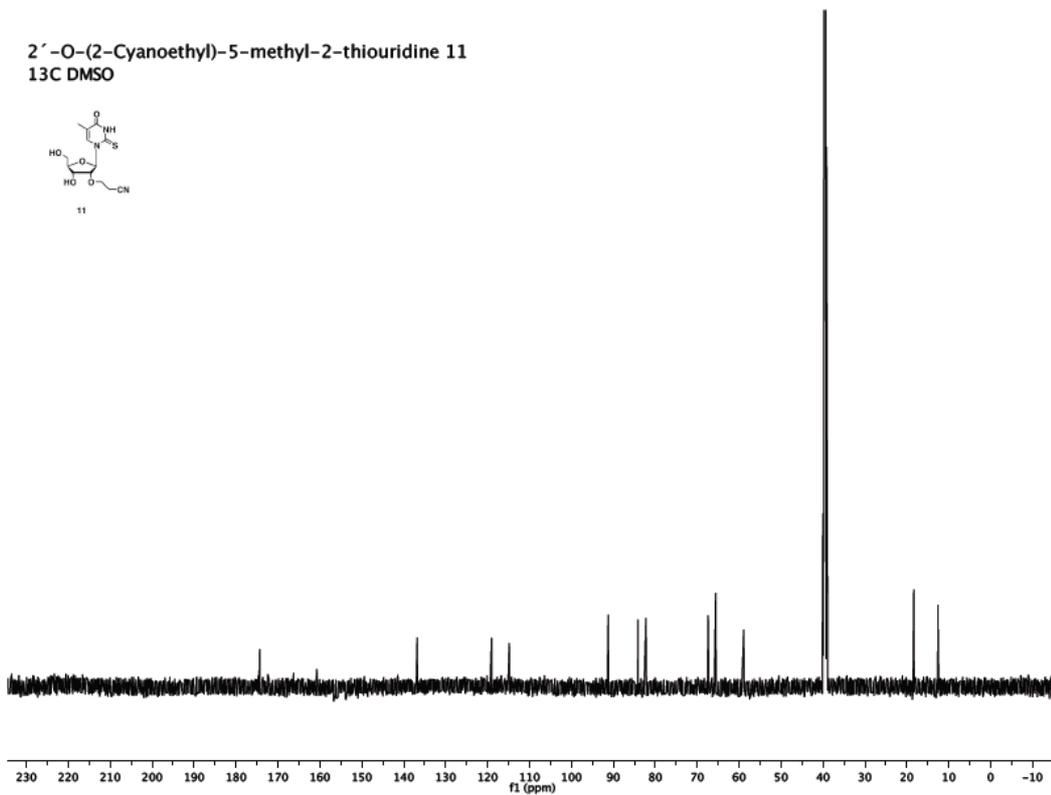
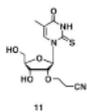
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 10  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 11  
1H DMSO

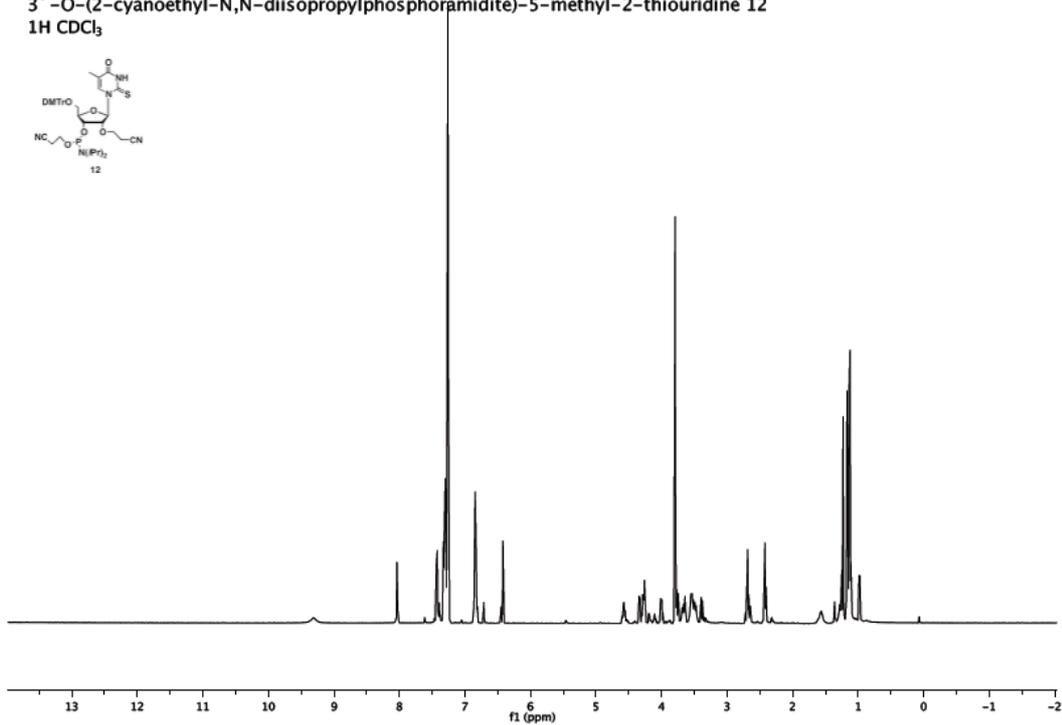
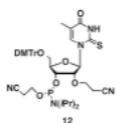


2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 11  
13C DMSO

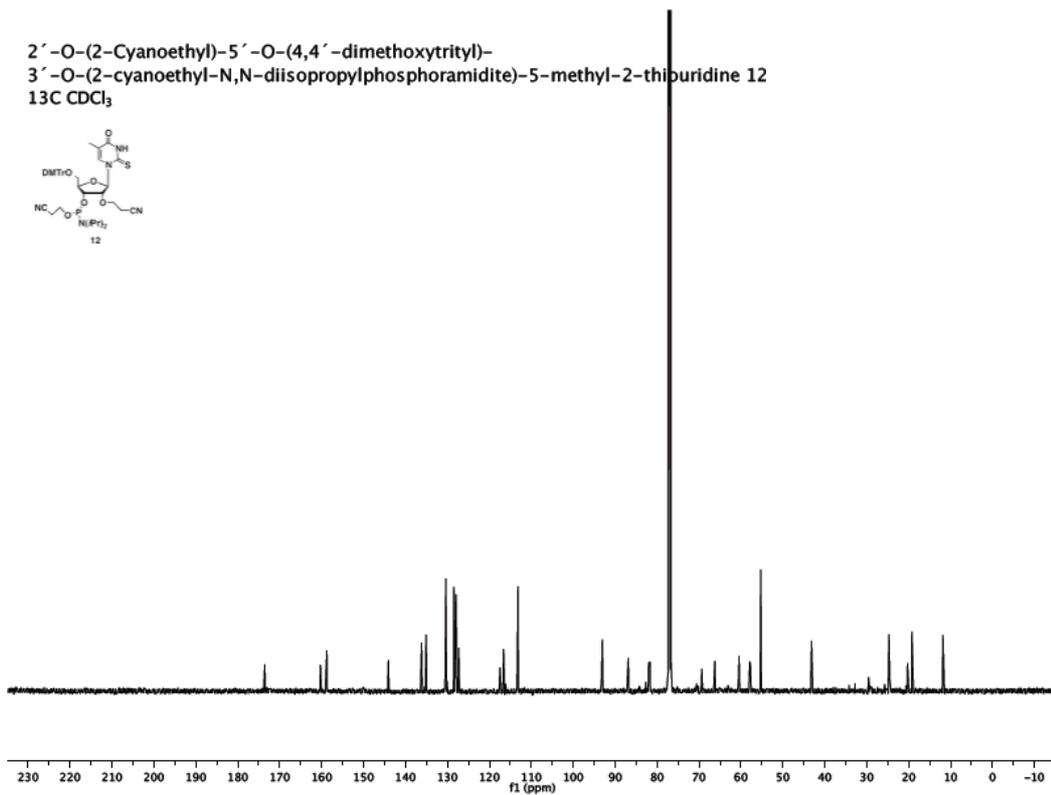
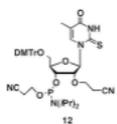




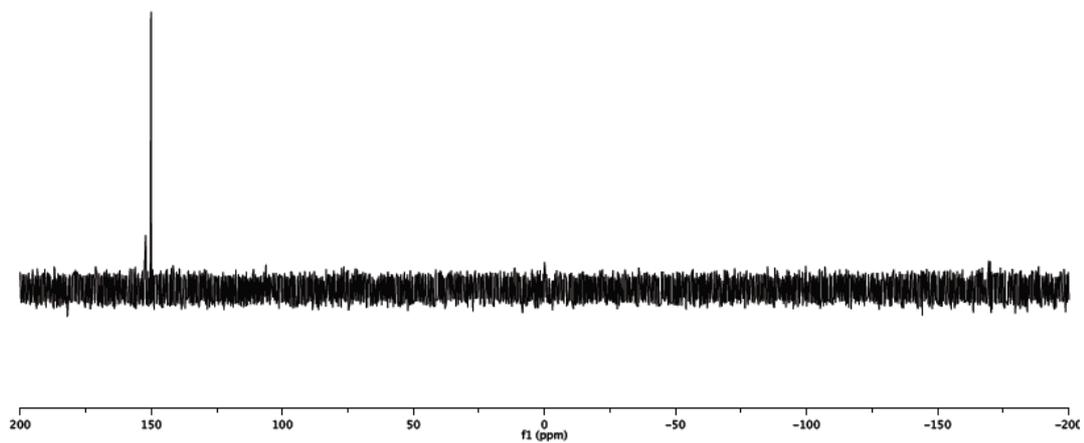
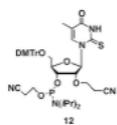
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 12  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



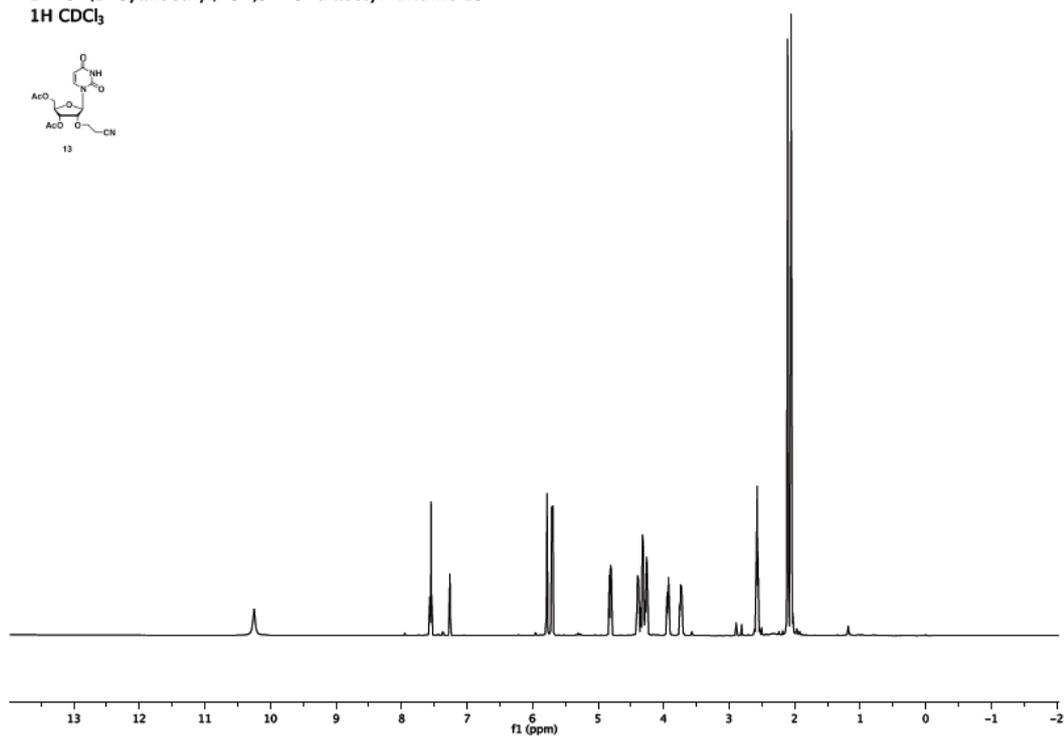
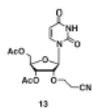
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 12  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



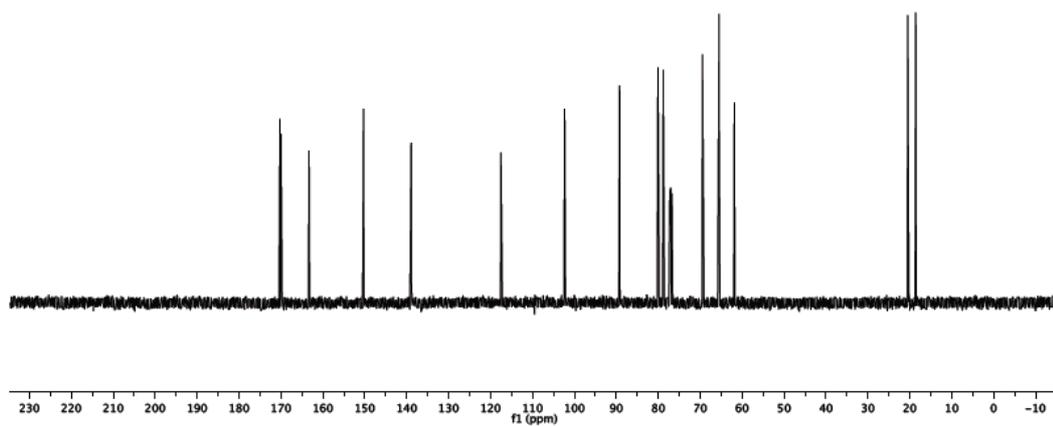
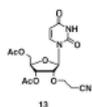
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-methyl-2-thiouridine 12  
31P CDCl<sub>3</sub>



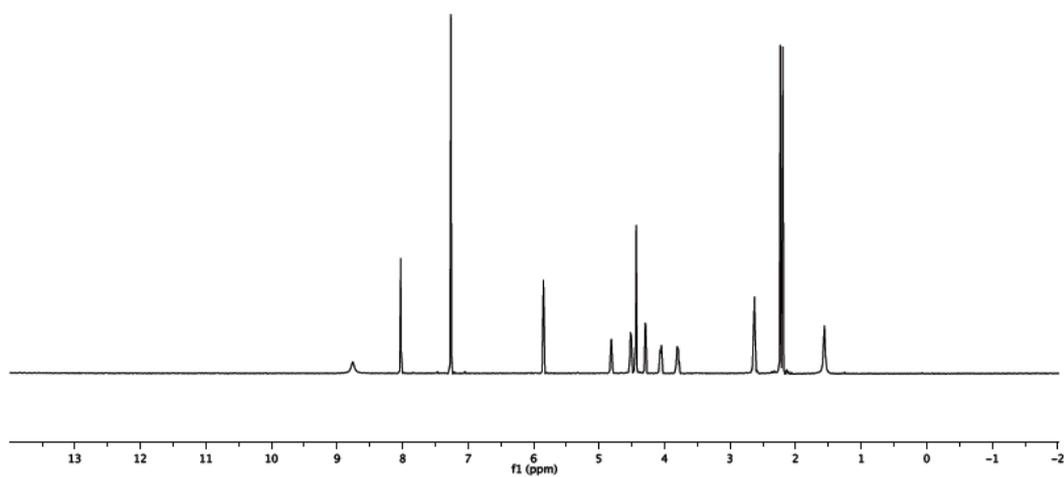
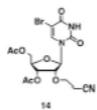
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-uridine 13  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



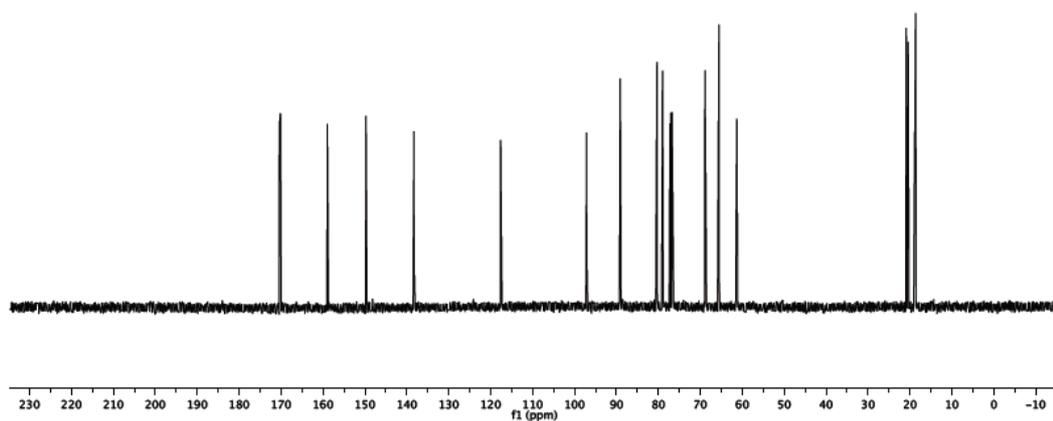
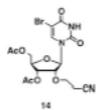
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-uridine 13  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



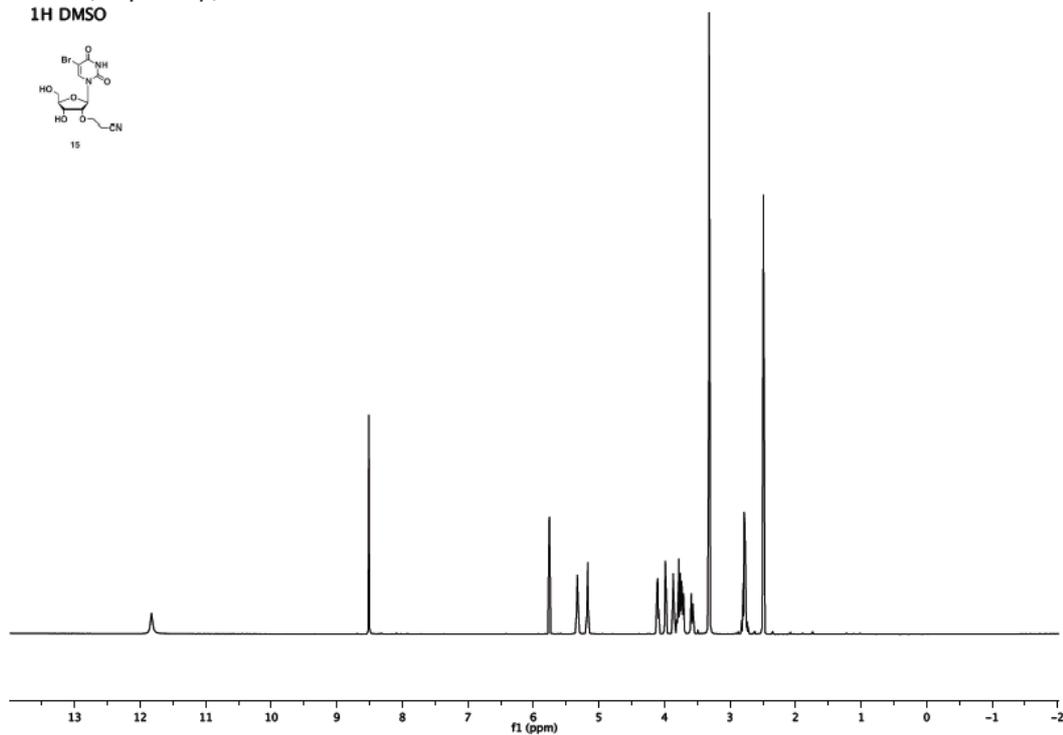
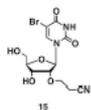
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromouridine 14  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



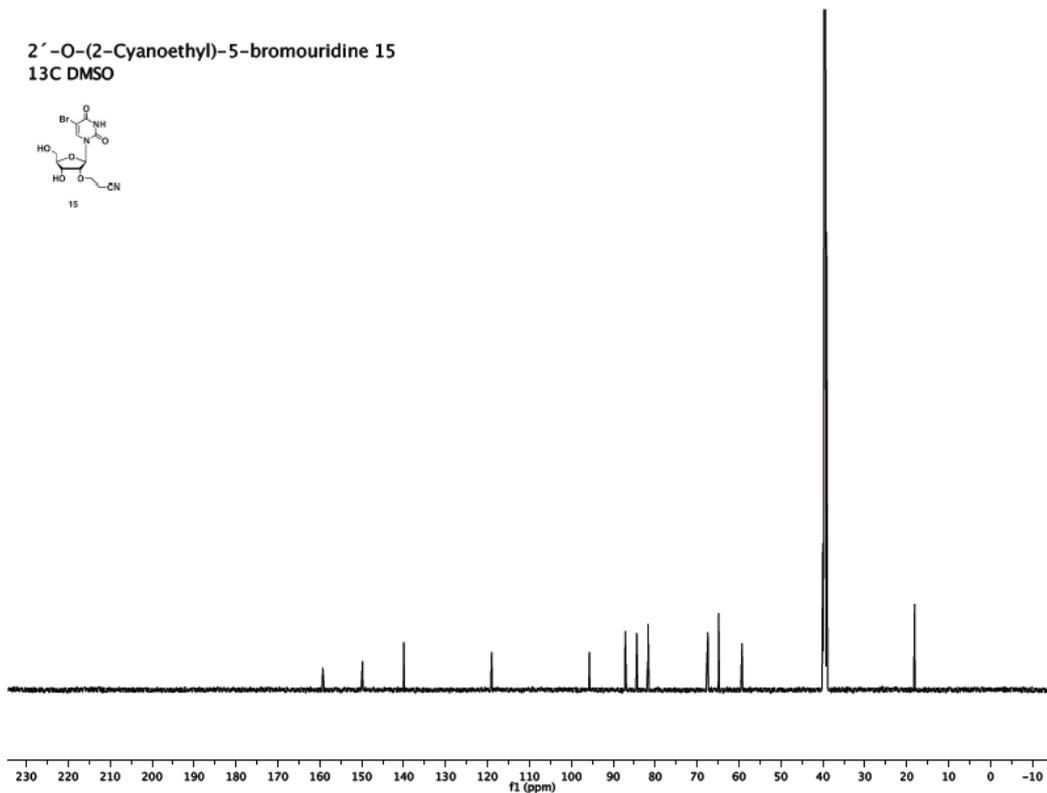
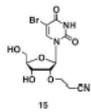
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromouridine 14  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



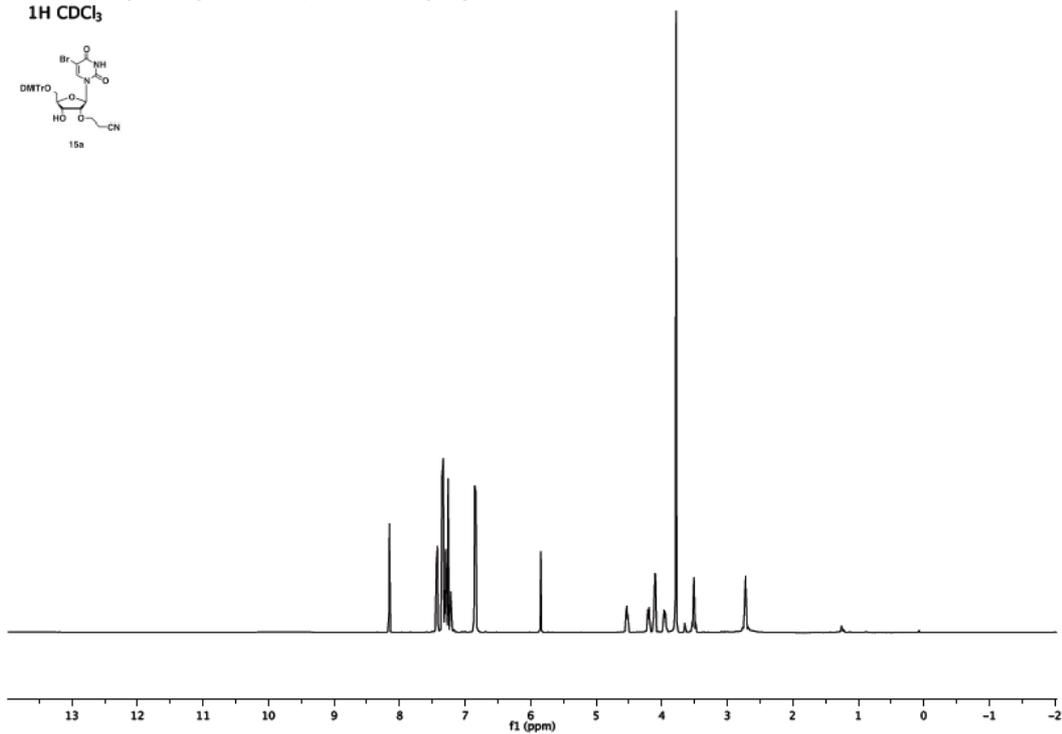
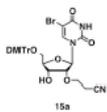
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromouridine 15  
1H DMSO



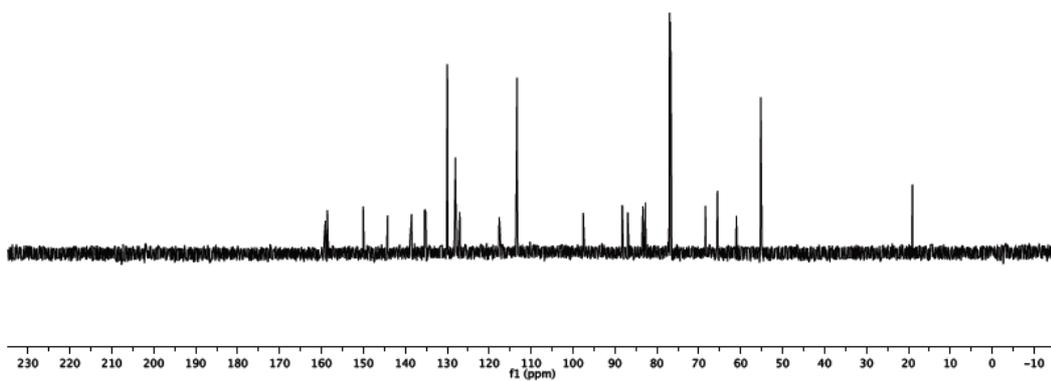
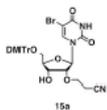
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromouridine 15  
13C DMSO



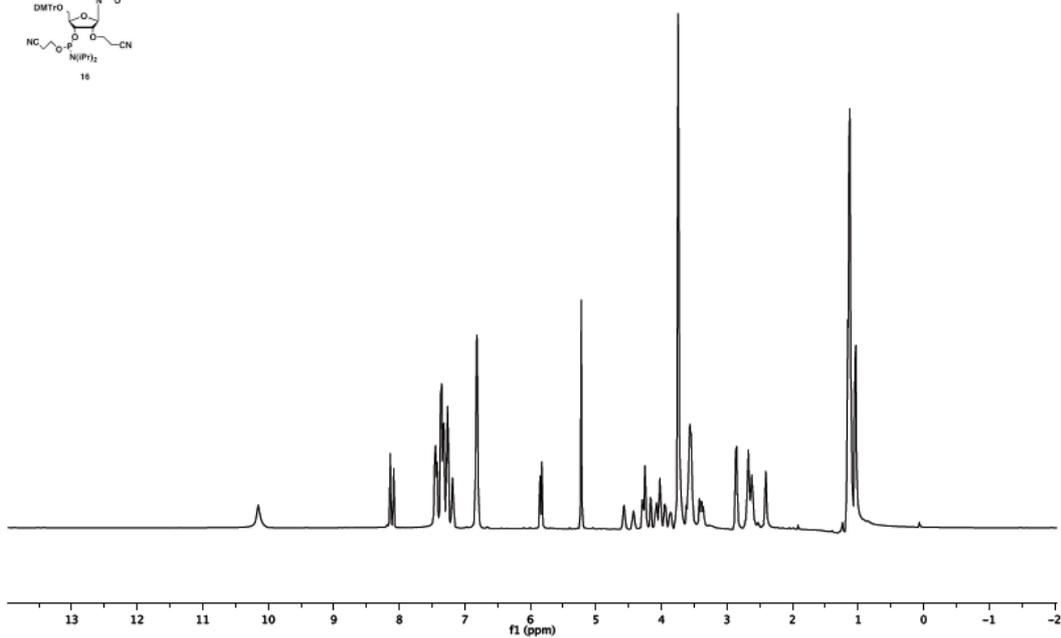
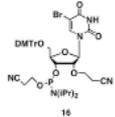
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-uridine 15a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



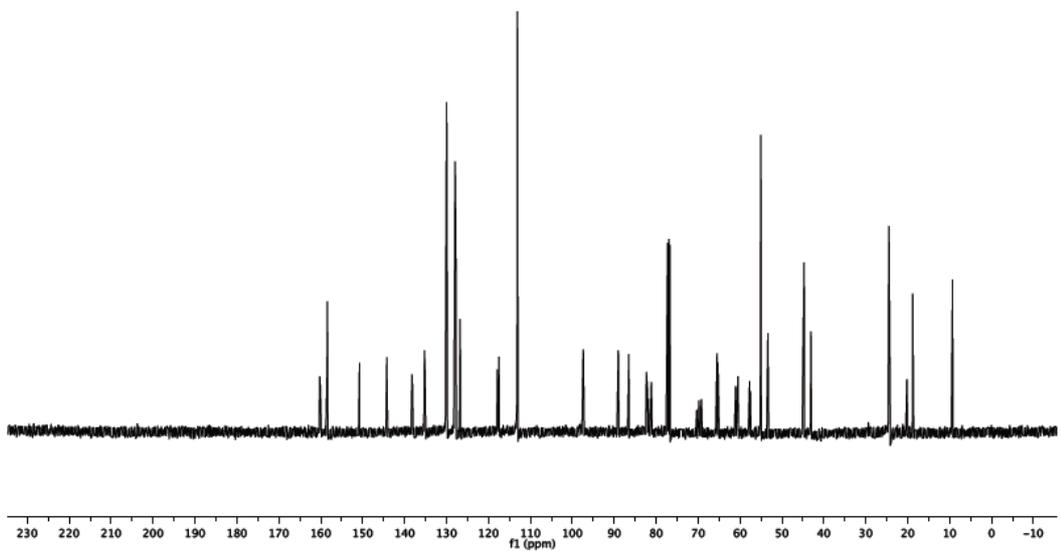
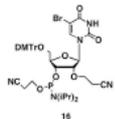
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-uridine 15a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



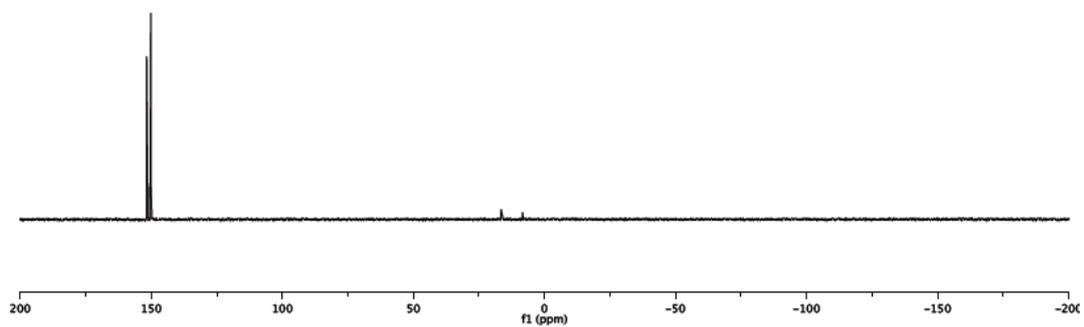
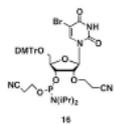
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-bromo-uridine 16  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>

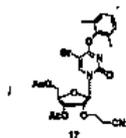


2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-bromo-uridine 16  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>

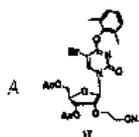
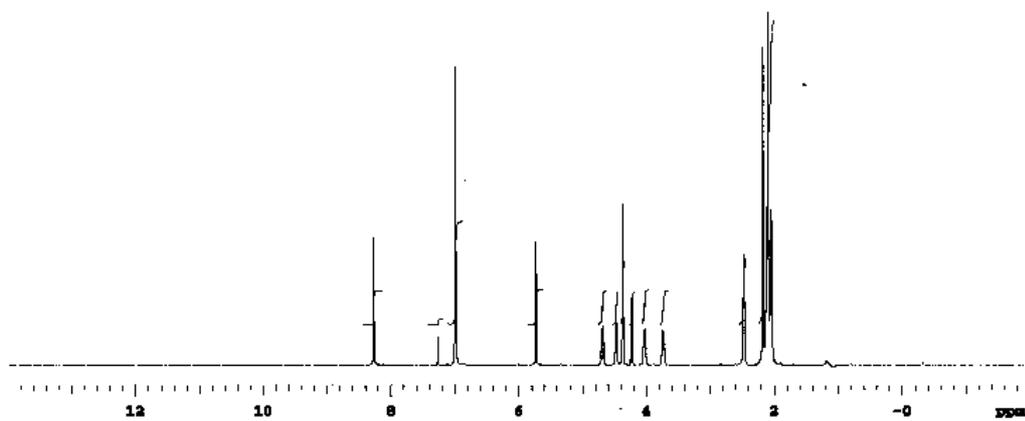


2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-bromo-uridine 16  
31P CDCl<sub>3</sub>

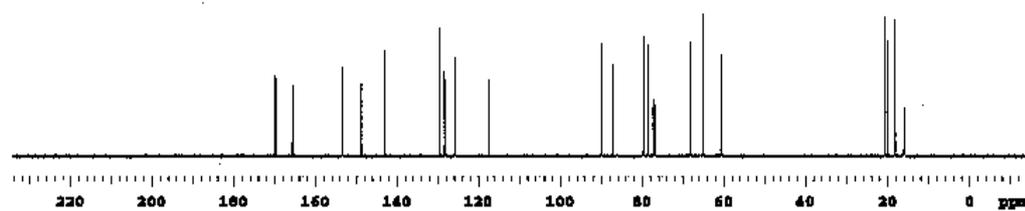




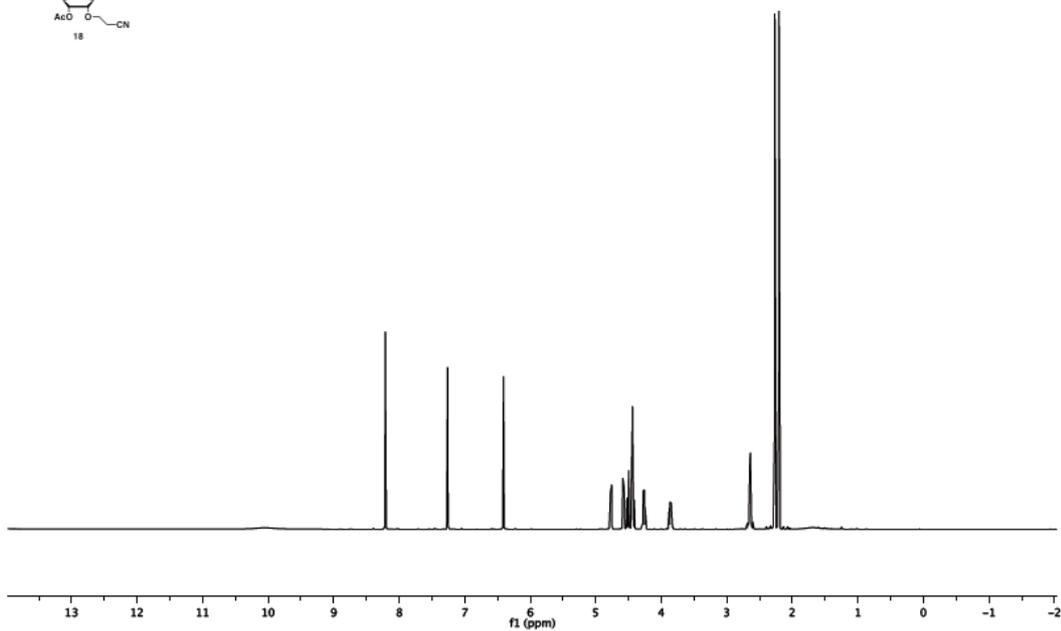
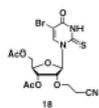
$^1\text{H}$ .  $\text{CDCl}_3$



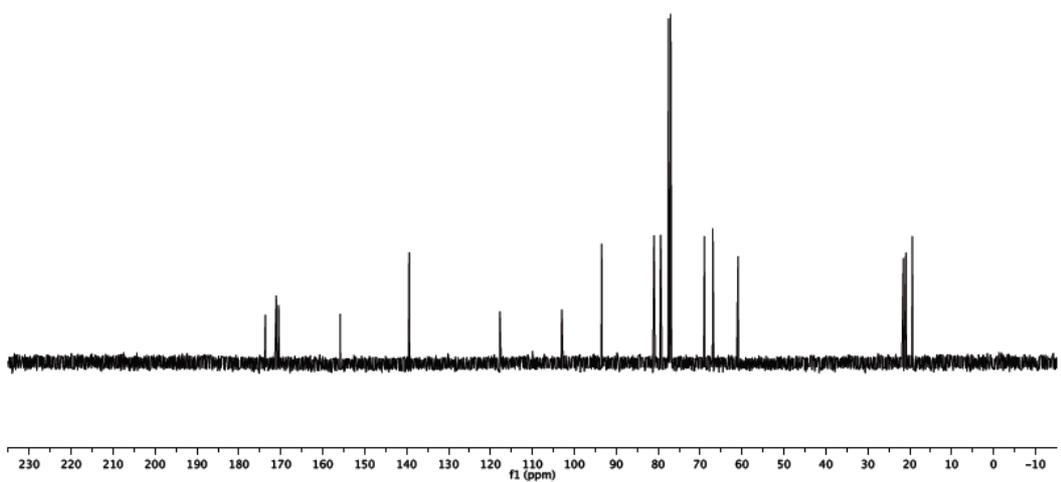
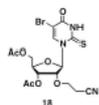
$^{13}\text{C}$ .  $\text{CDCl}_3$



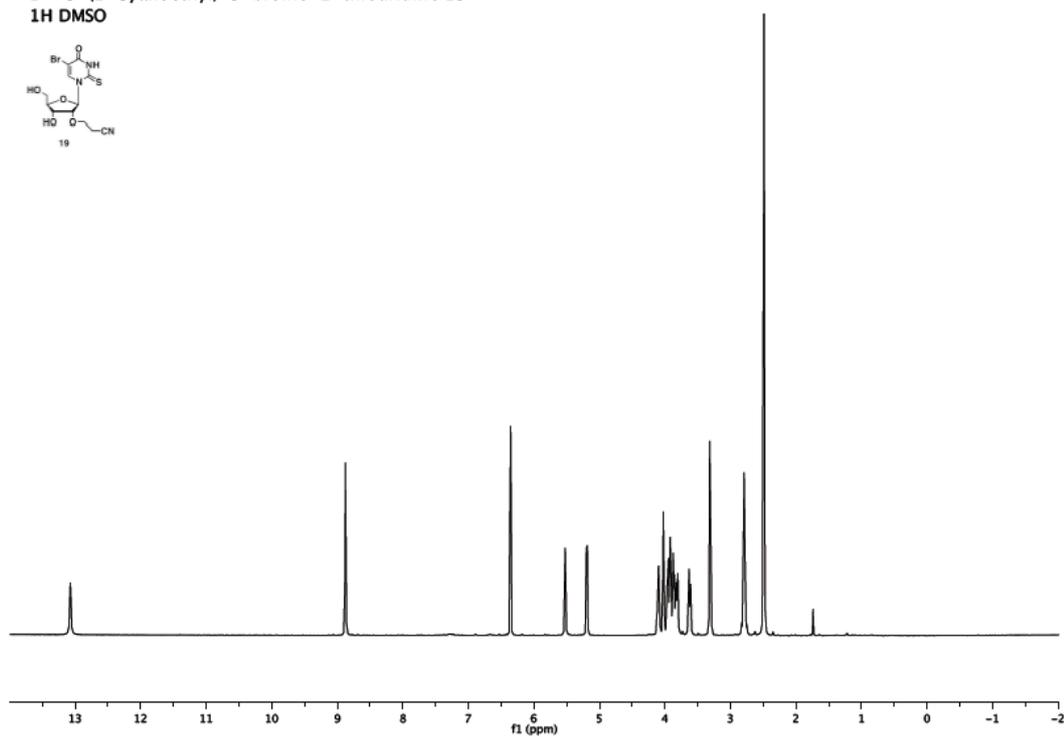
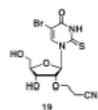
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 18  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



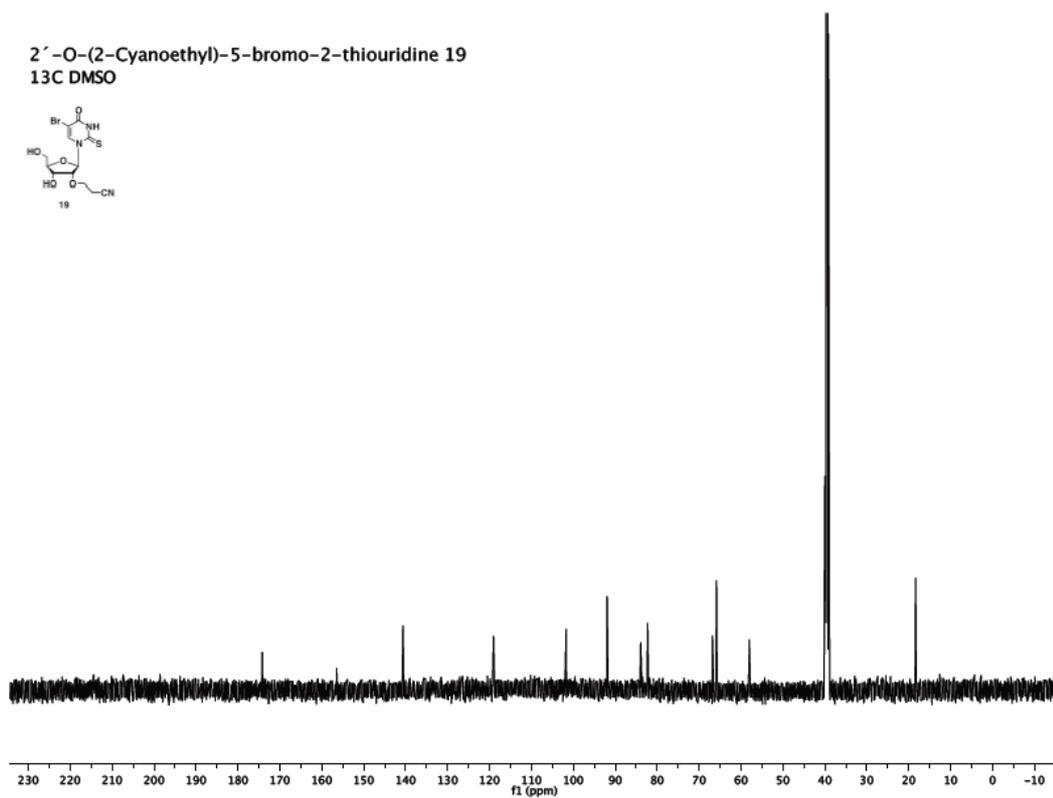
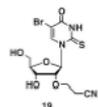
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-diacetyl-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 18  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



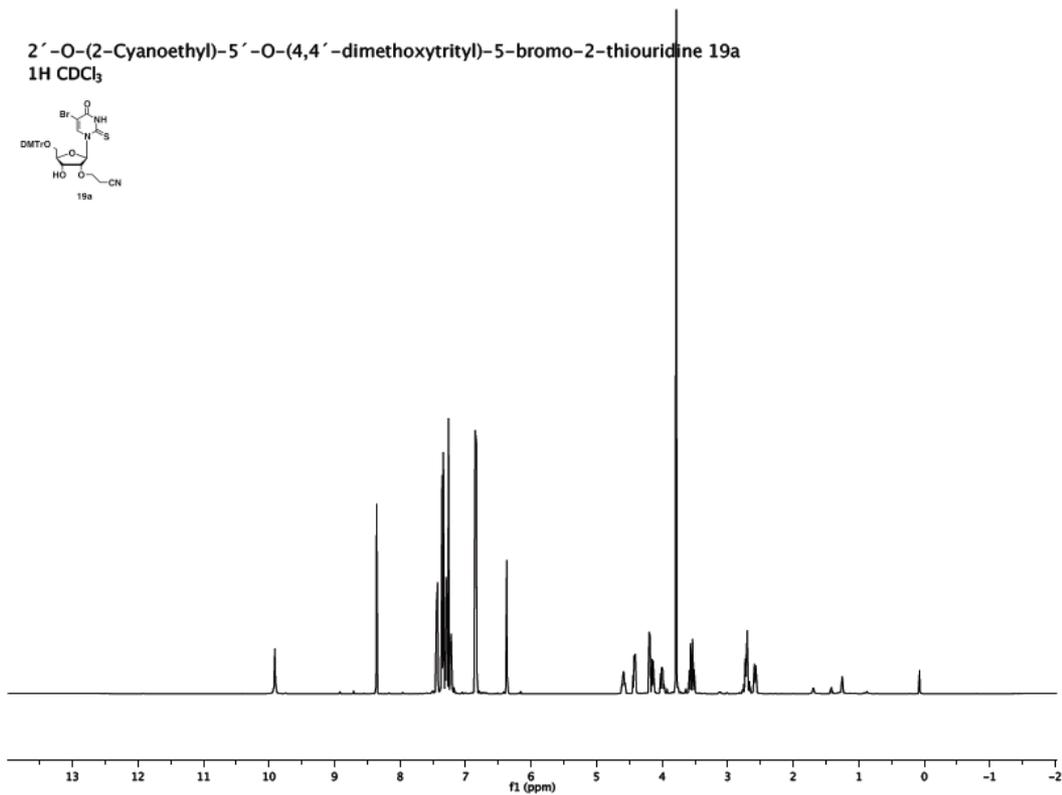
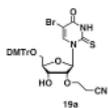
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 19  
1H DMSO



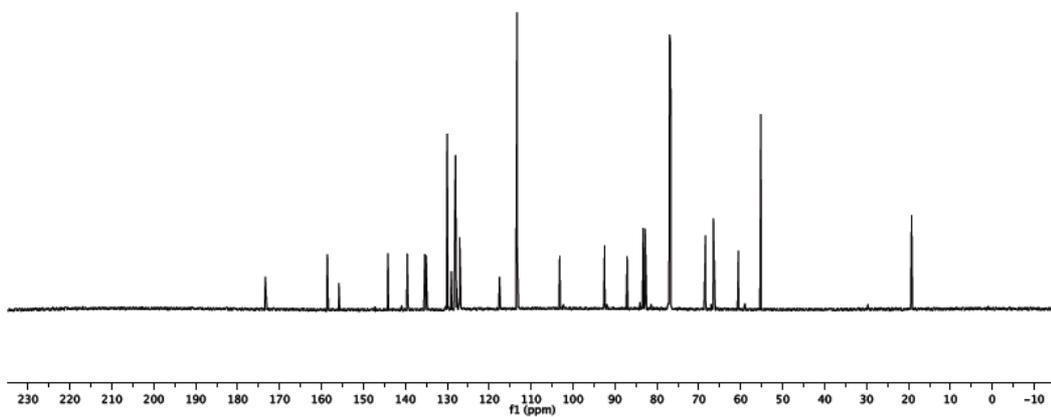
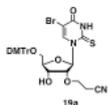
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 19  
13C DMSO



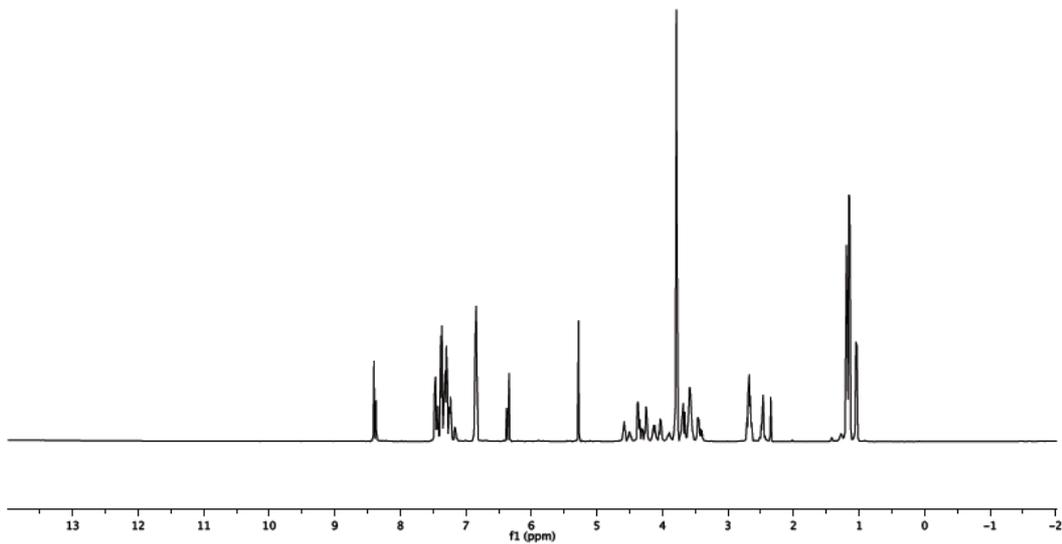
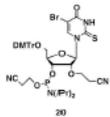
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 19a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



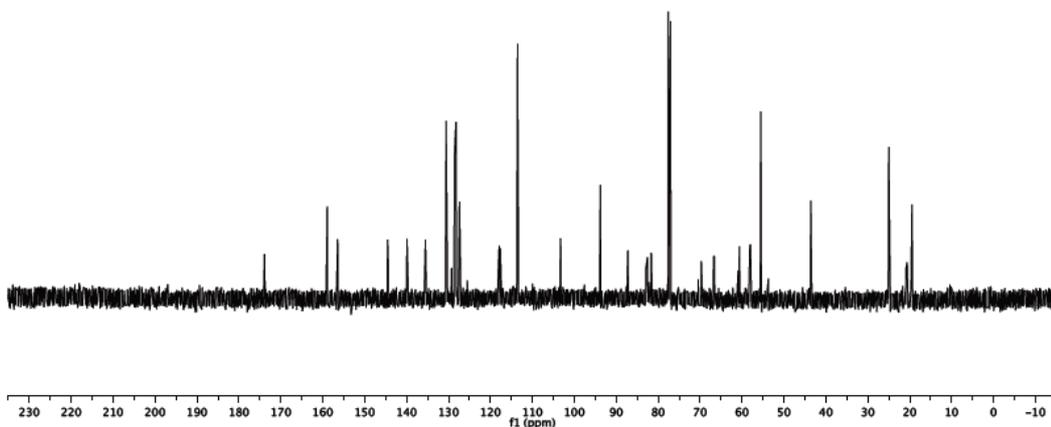
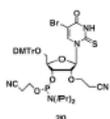
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 19a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



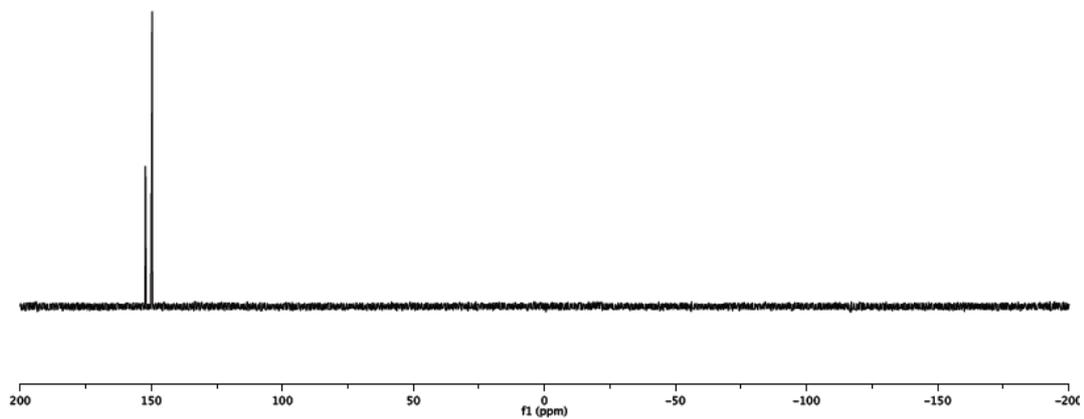
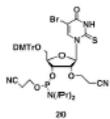
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 20  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



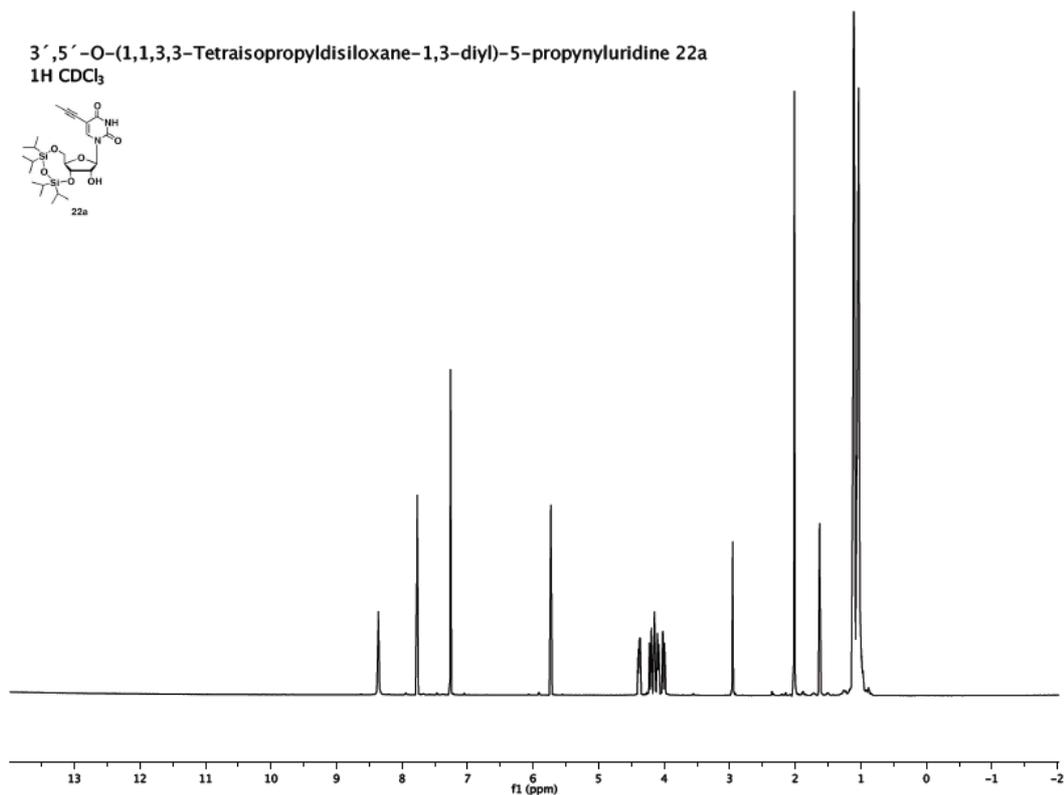
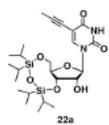
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 20  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



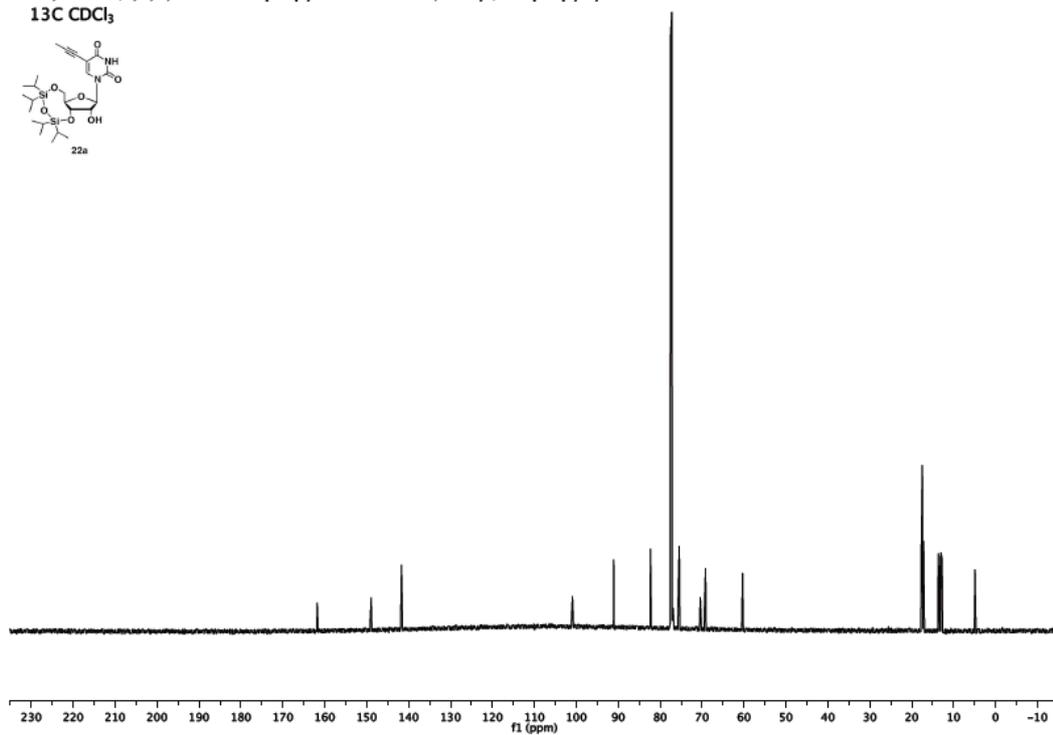
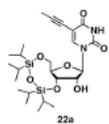
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)-5-bromo-2-thiouridine 20  
31P CDCl<sub>3</sub>



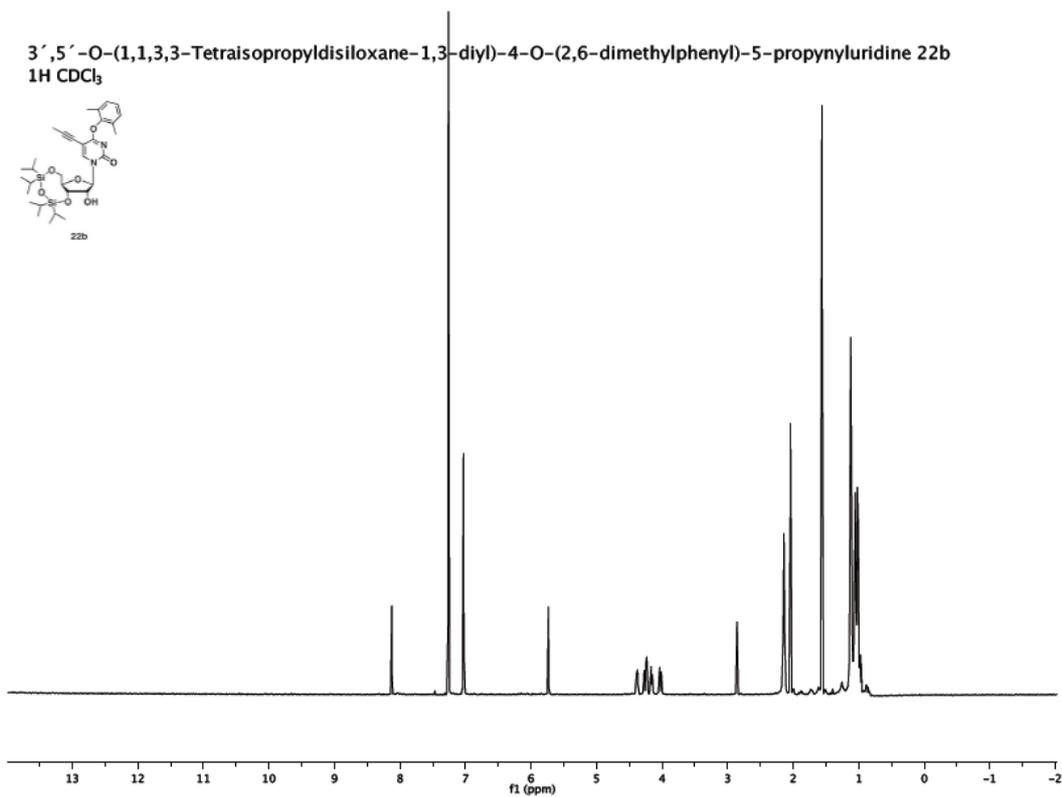
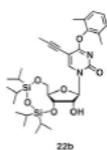
3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-5-propynyluridine 22a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



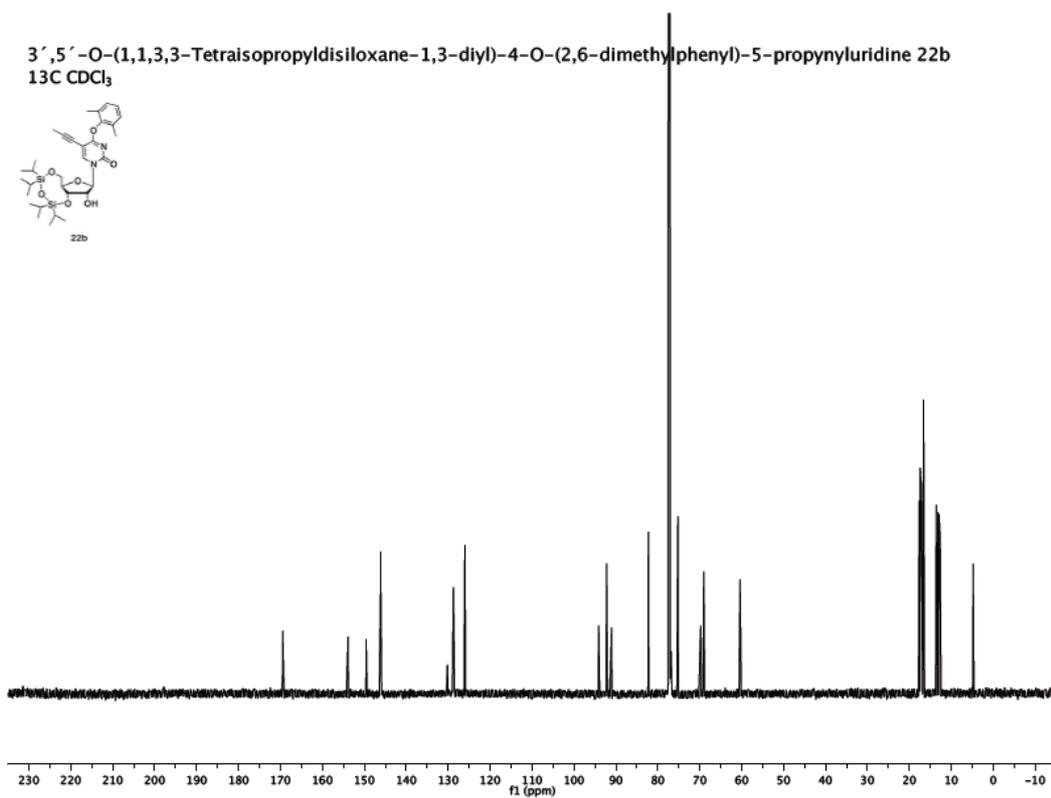
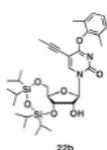
3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-5-propynyluridine 22a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



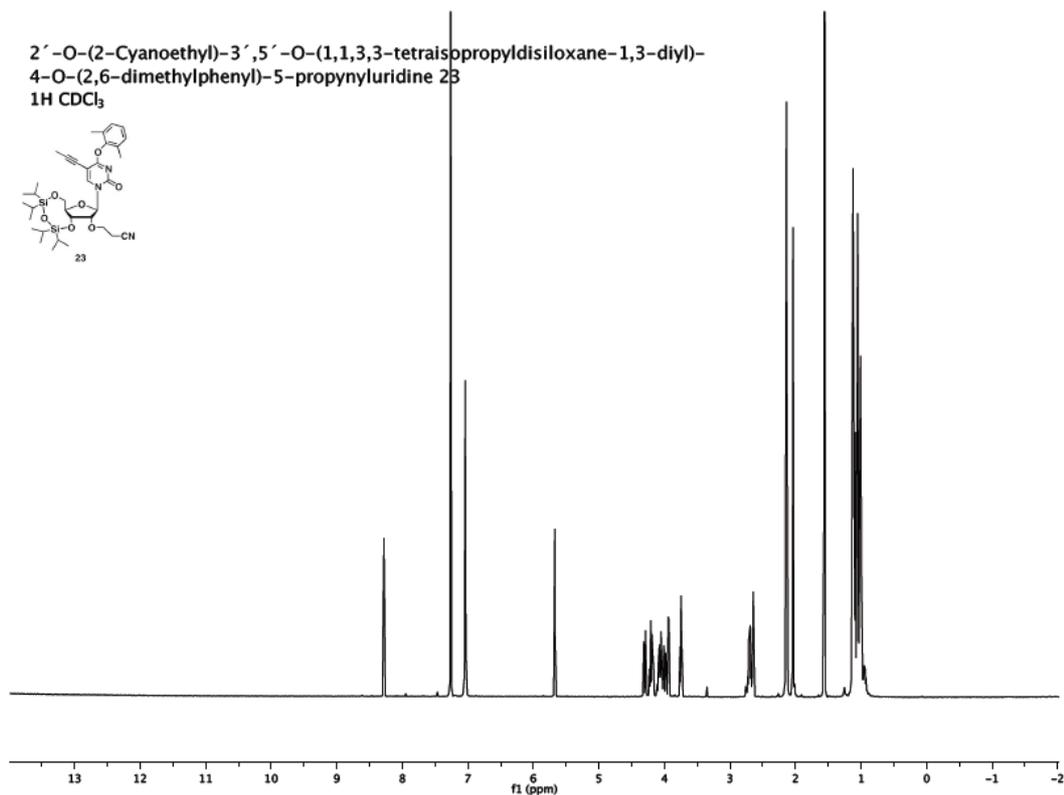
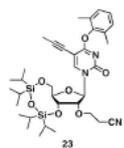
3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine 22b  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



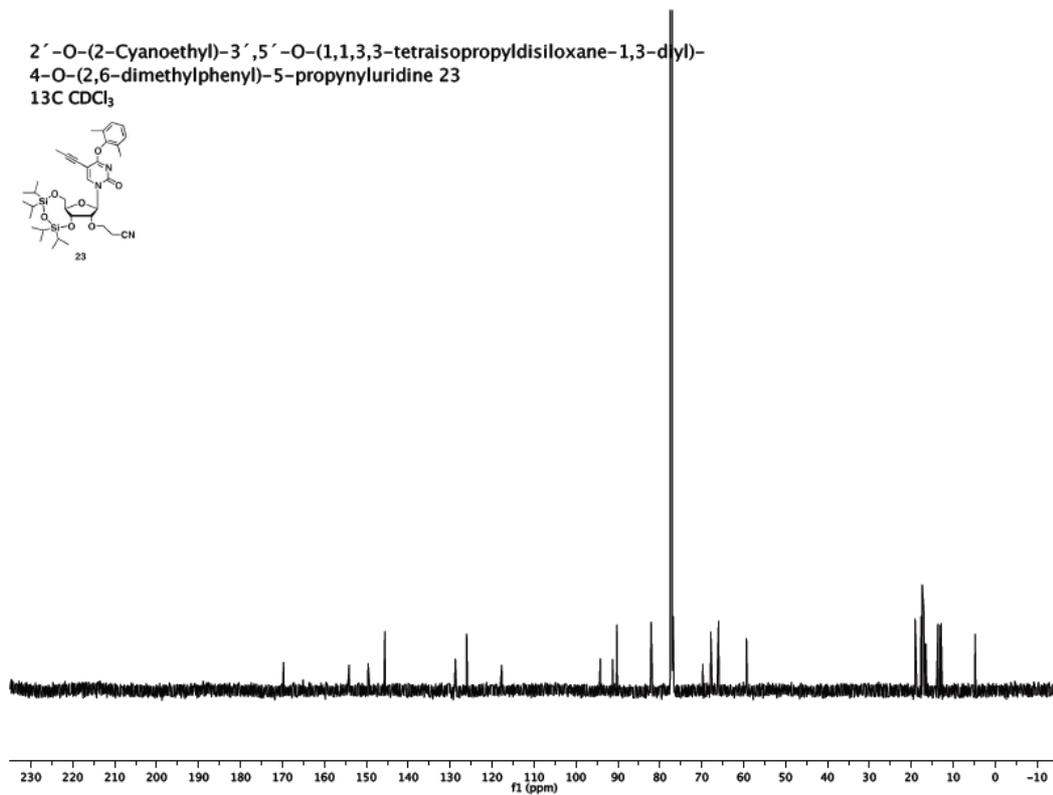
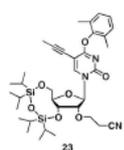
3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-Tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine 22b  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



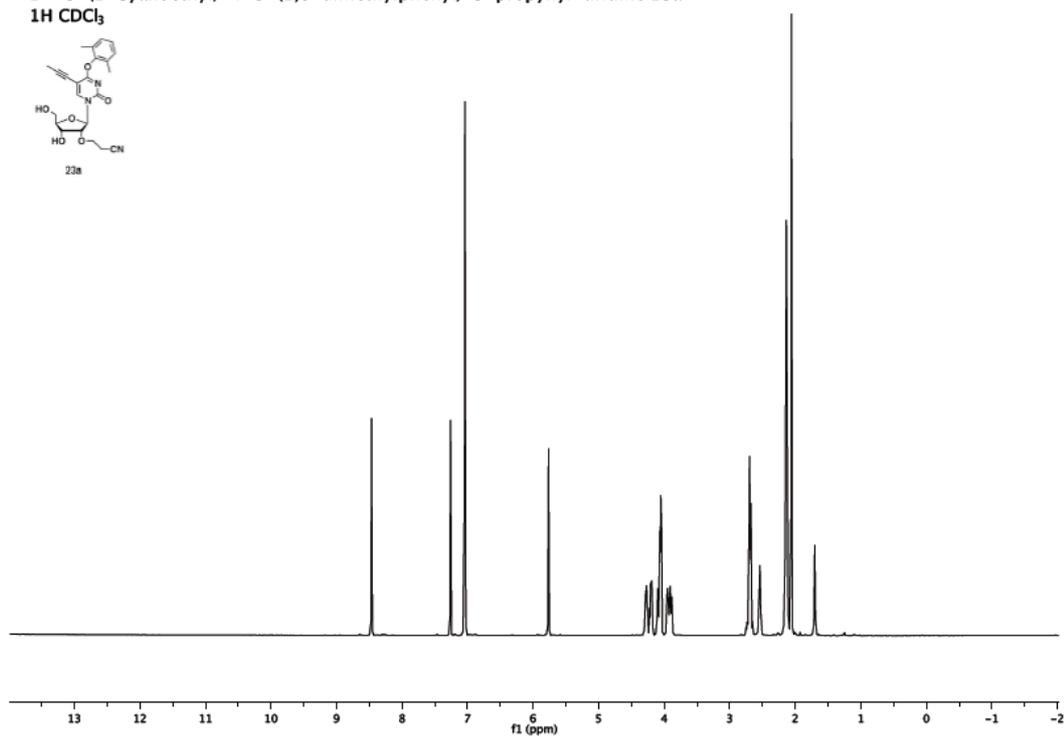
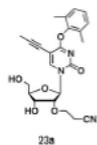
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diy)-  
4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine 23  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



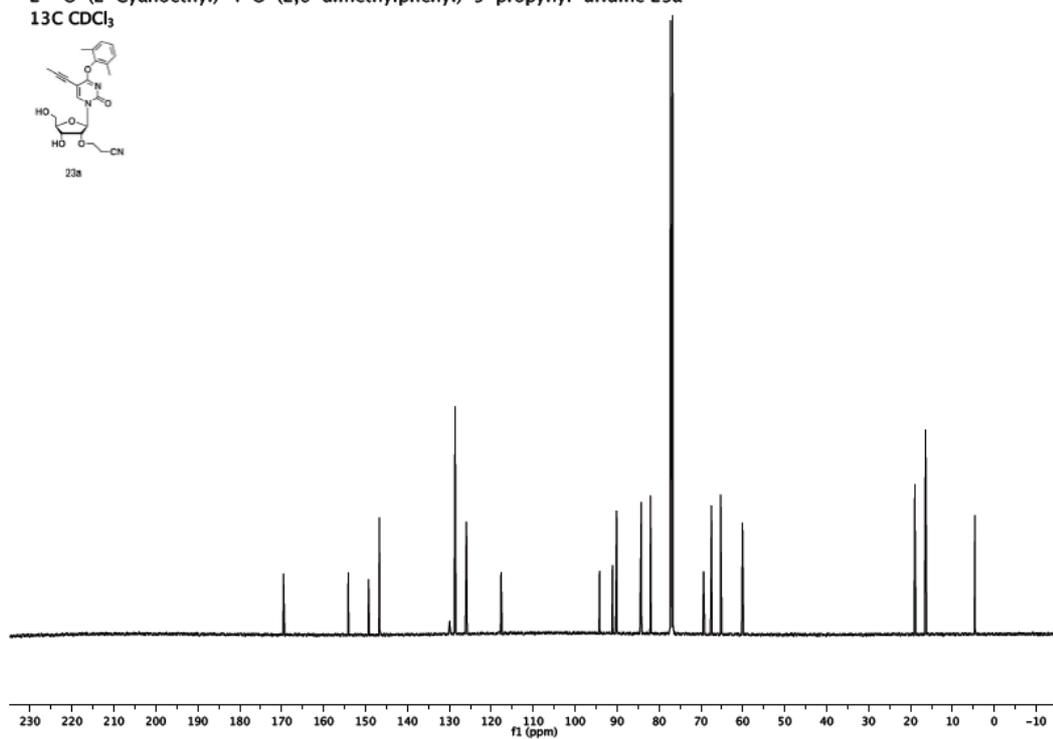
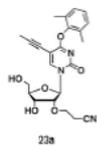
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3',5'-O-(1,1,3,3-tetraisopropylidisiloxane-1,3-diy)-  
4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyluridine 23  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



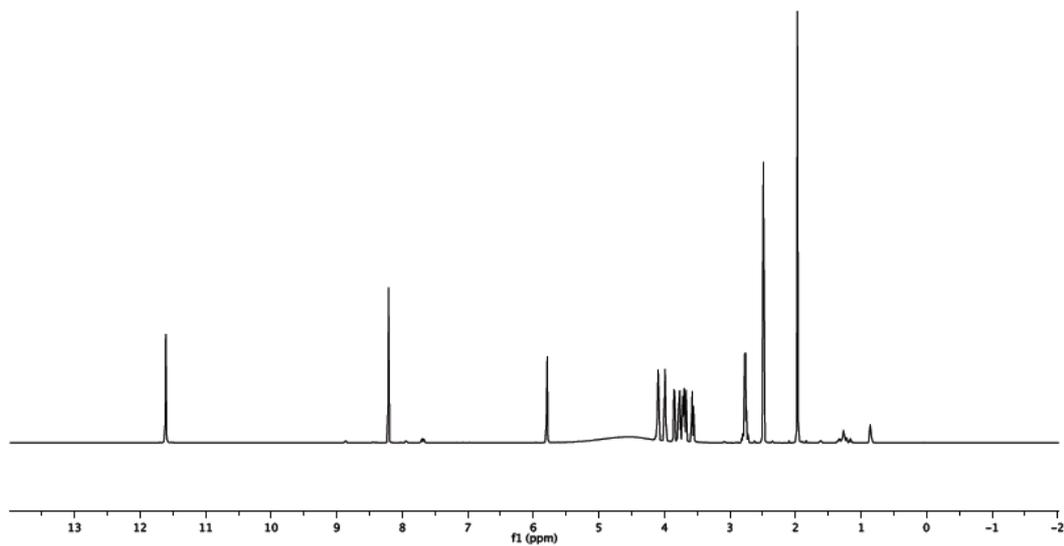
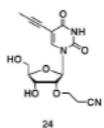
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyl-uridine 23a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



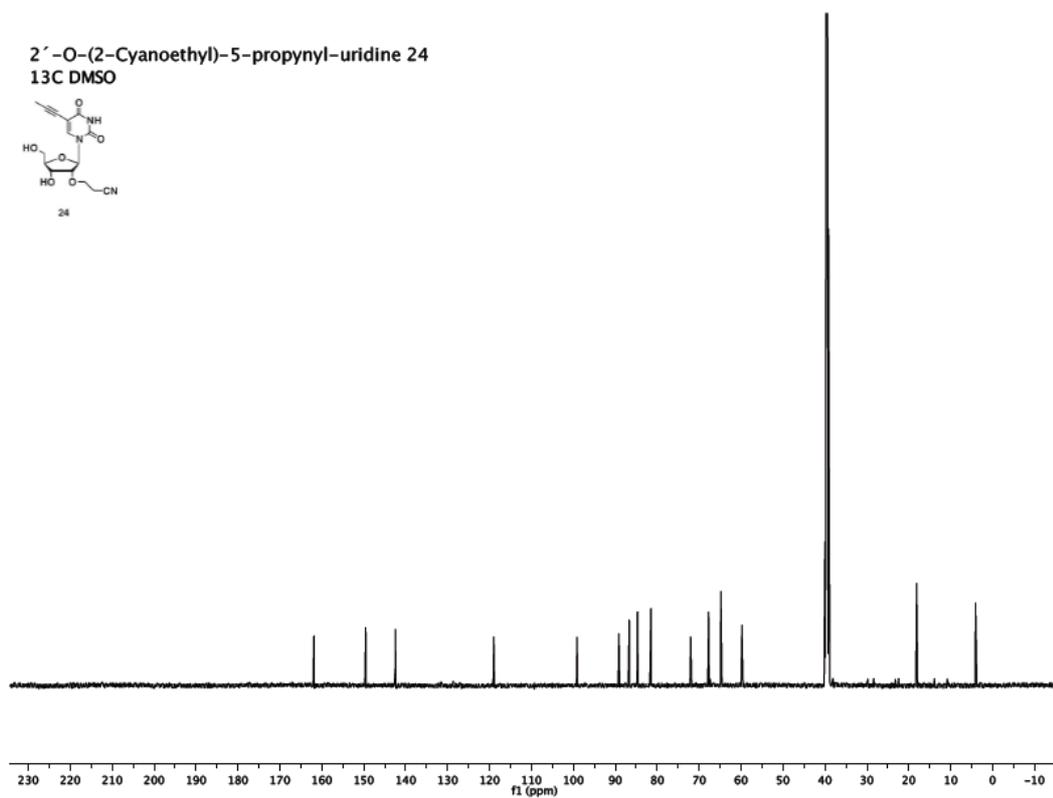
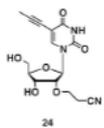
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-4-O-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-5-propynyl-uridine 23a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



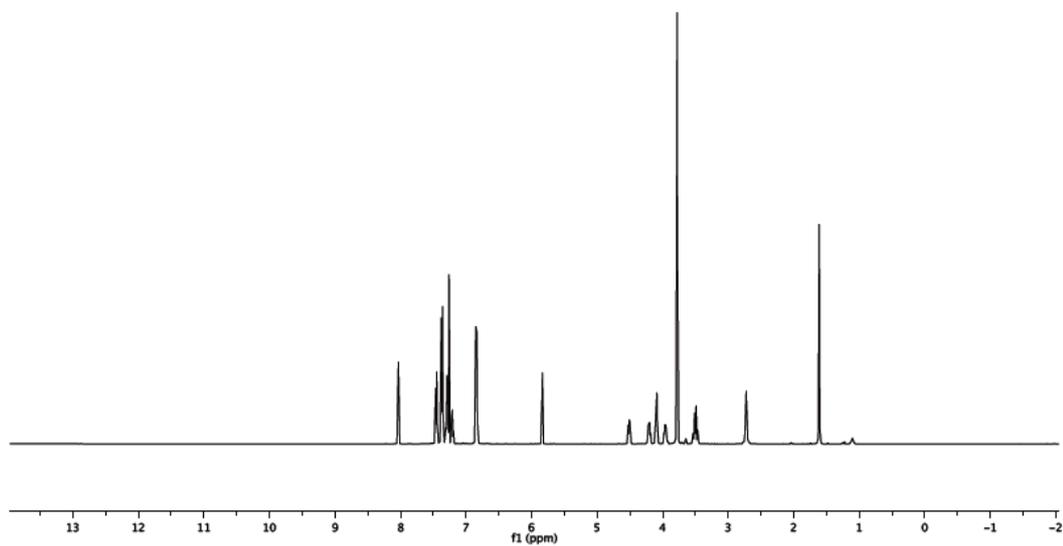
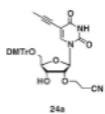
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-propynyl-uridine 24  
1H DMSO



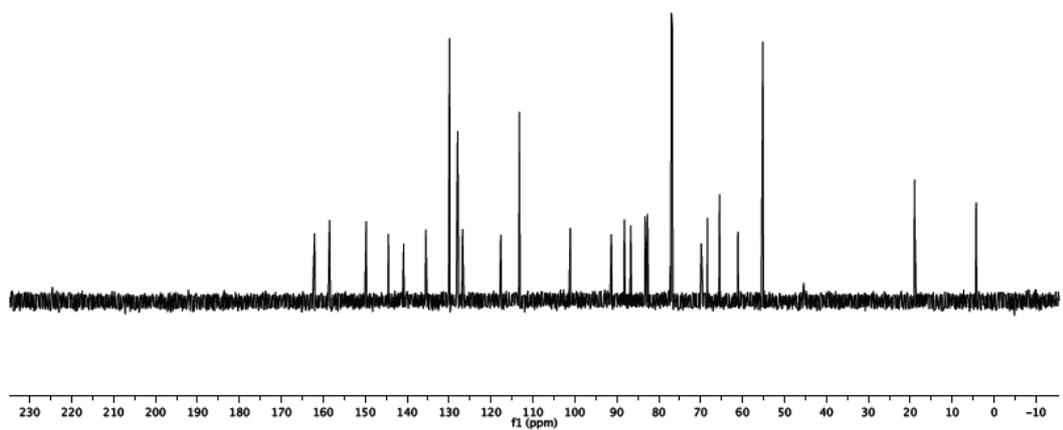
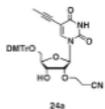
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5-propynyl-uridine 24  
13C DMSO



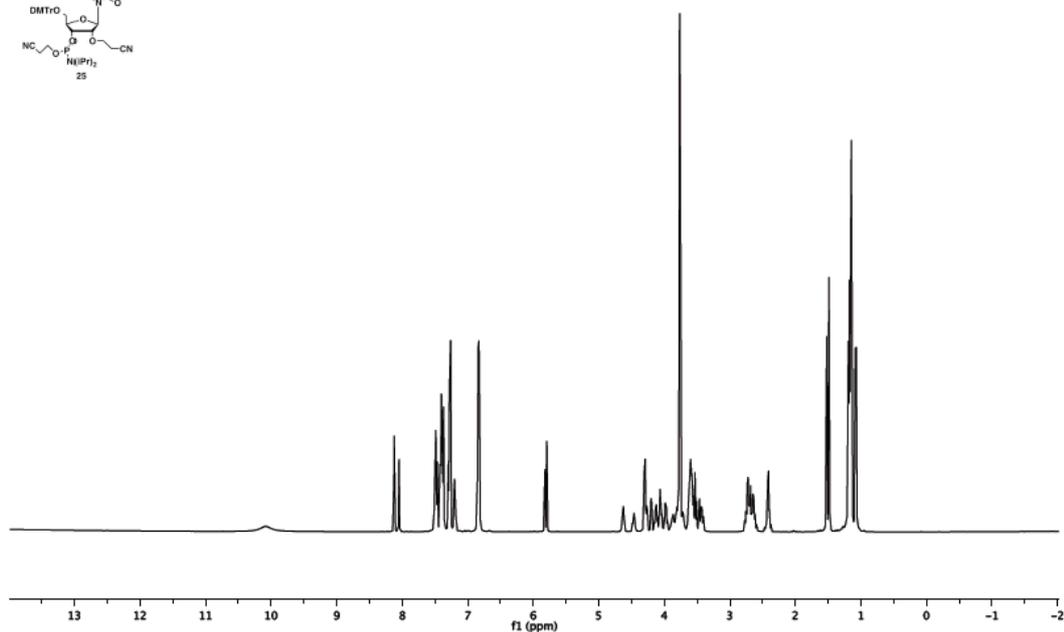
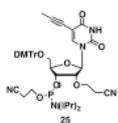
2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-propynyl-uridine 24a  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-5-propynyl-uridine 24a  
13C CDCl<sub>3</sub>



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-propynyl-uridine 25  
1H CDCl<sub>3</sub>



2'-O-(2-Cyanoethyl)-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-  
3'-O-(2-cyanoethyl-N,N-diisopropylphosphoramidite)- 5-propynyl-uridine 25  
31P CDCl<sub>3</sub>

