

# Luminescence phenomena of biodegradable photoluminescent poly(diols citrates)

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## Supplementary information

### Methods

#### Synthesis and characterization of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-*a*]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid (TPA)

Citric acid 1.21 g (6.3 mmol) (Sigma-Aldrich, Germany) was mixed with L-cysteine 0.79 g (6.3 mmol) (Sigma-Aldrich, Germany) and water (1 ml) until complete dissolution then the solvent was evaporated under vacuum (10 mbar) at r.t. Afterwards mixture was heated at 100°C for 40 minutes and purified by preparative high pressure liquid chromatography (Knauer HPLC set: degasser, pump K-500, detectors RI 2300 and UV/VIS A2500) at r.t. on Eurospher 100 C-18 column and eluted by  $1.35 \times 10^{-3}$  M trifluoroacetic acid in water at a flow rate 10 ml/min. The luminescent fraction of desired product was collected and freeze-dried. The chemical structure was confirmed by  $C^{13}$ ,  $H^1$ , HSQC and COSY NMR experiments carried out in DMSO- $d_6$  solution using a Varian Mercury-VX 300 MHz spectrometer. LC-ESI-MS measurements were performed on a Waters ACQUITY triple-quadrupole tandem mass spectrometric detector with an electrospray ionization (ESI) interface. The separation was accomplished at 40°C, on Acquity UPLC BEH C18 1.7  $\mu$ m, 2.1 x 100 mm column using 0.1 % water solution of formic acid as the eluent at flow 0.3 ml/min. UV/VIS absorption spectra and emission spectra (excitation at 365 nm) of water solutions of TPA were acquired on a PG Instruments Ltd P80+ spectrophotometer and an Ocean Optics MINI-D2 spectrofluorometer, respectively.

#### Synthesis and hydrolysis of cys-BPLP, POC, POCTPA0.0001-1 films

Citric acid, 1,8-octanediol and L-cysteine were combined at molar ratio 1:1:0.5. After melting the mixture at 160°C for 20 minutes, the temperature was brought down to 140 °C stirring continuously for another 45 minutes to obtain the cys-BPLP prepolymer (pre-cys-BPLP). For comparison reaction without amino acid was also conducted as well as with different amounts of TPA (1, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001 and 0.0001 % w/w) added instead of L-cysteine to form pre-POC and pre-POCTPA0.0001-1, respectively. Afterwards 30% w/w 1,4-dioxane solutions of prepolymers (pre-cys-BPLP, POC and POCTPA-0.0001-1) were cast on Teflon molds, heated to 80°C and kept at this temperature for 5 days to produce cross-linked films of cys-BPLP, POC, POCTPA0.0001-1. For hydrolysis 1g of each sample was placed in 6ml of 2 M  $Na_2CO_3$  and kept at 90°C for 24 hours. Next the hydrolyzate was neutralized with 1M HCl and luminescent fraction was collected using preparative HPLC and freeze-dried as described above.

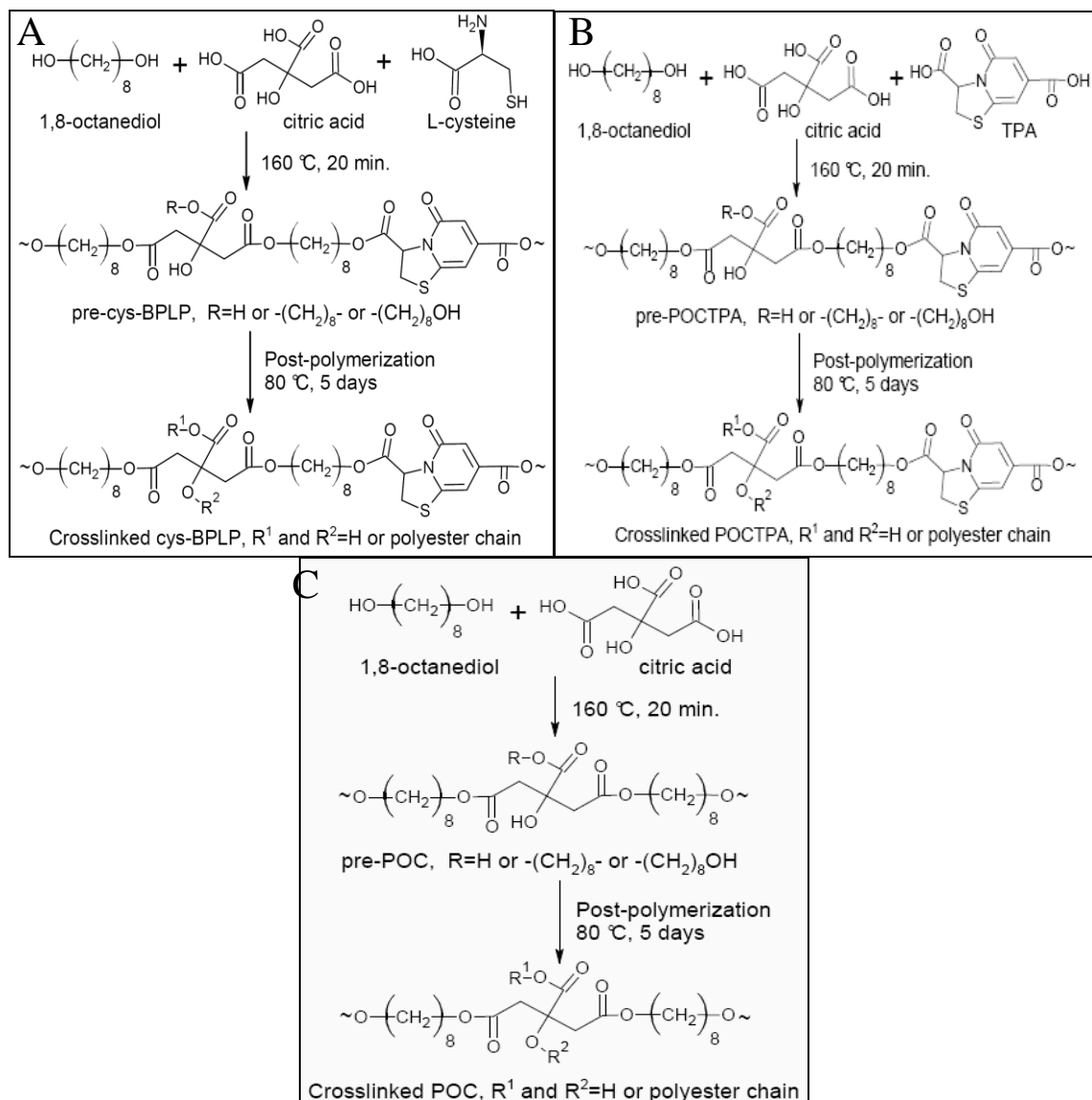


Figure S1 Synthesis of cys-BPLP (A), POCTPA0.0001-1 (B) and POC (C).

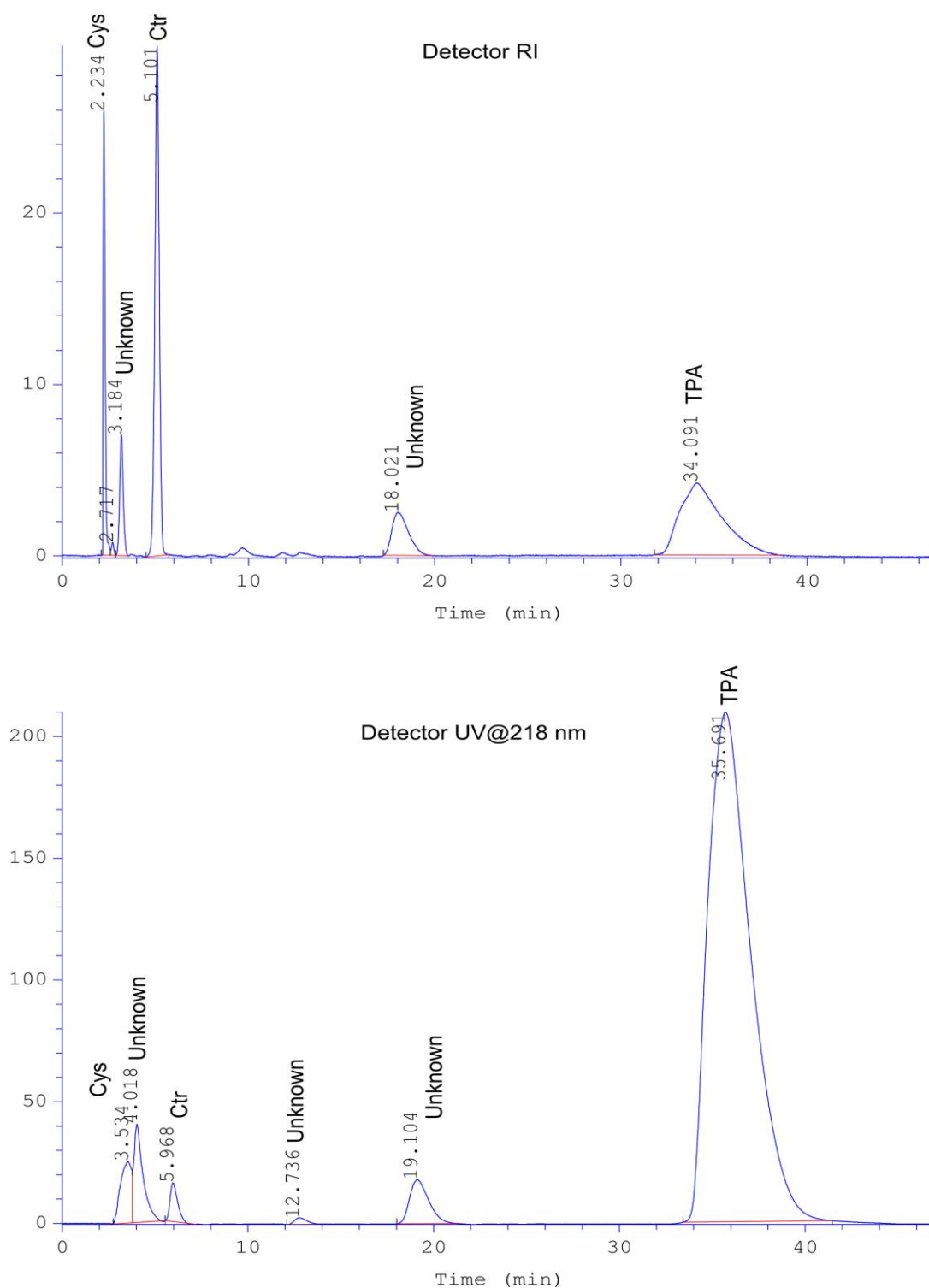


Figure S2. Chromatograms of reaction mixture containing TPA (6,3 mmol of citric acid and 6,3 mmol of L-cysteine heated for 40 minutes at 100°C).

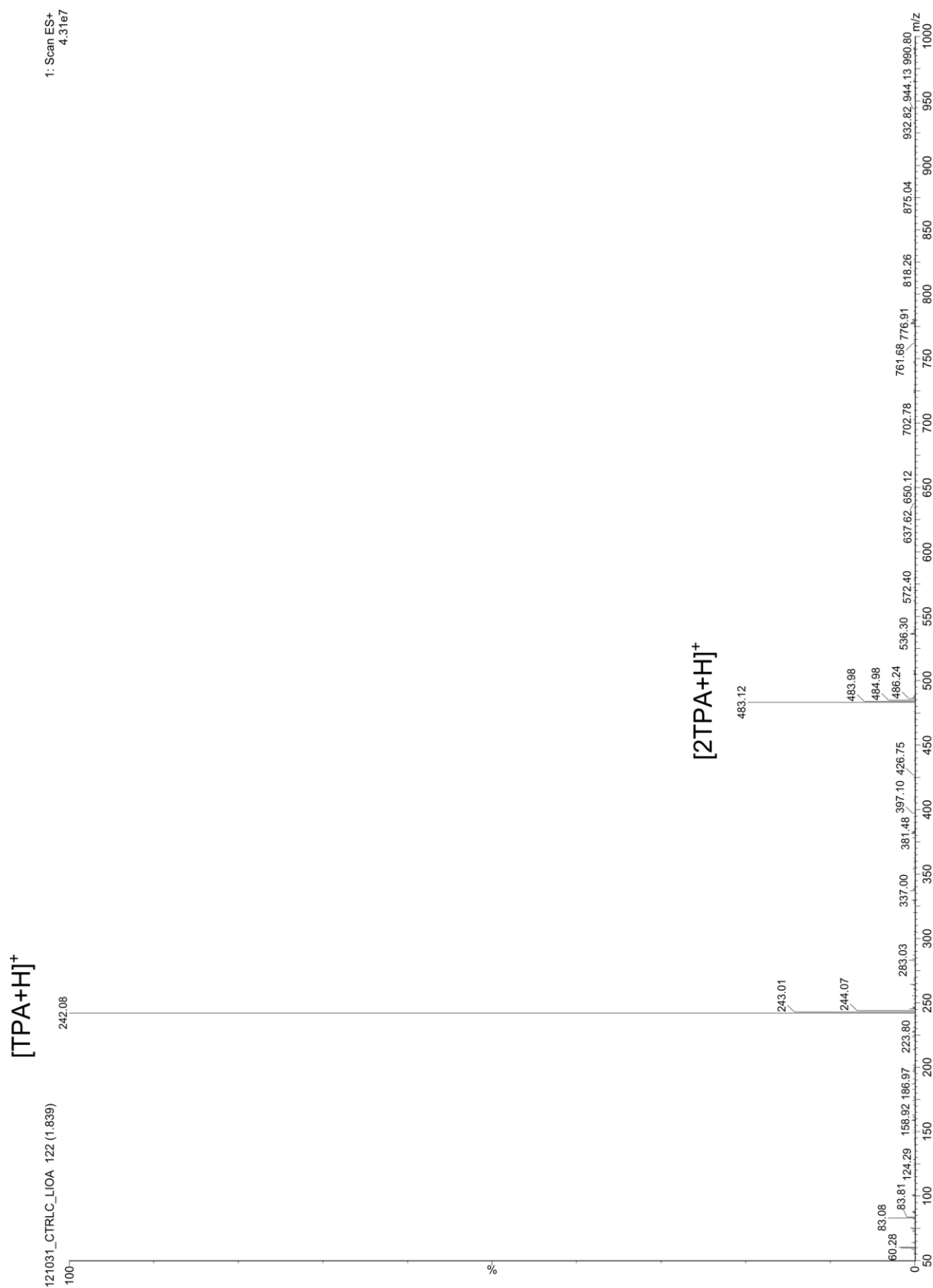


Figure S3. ESI-MS mass spectrum of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5H-[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-*a*]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid (TPA).

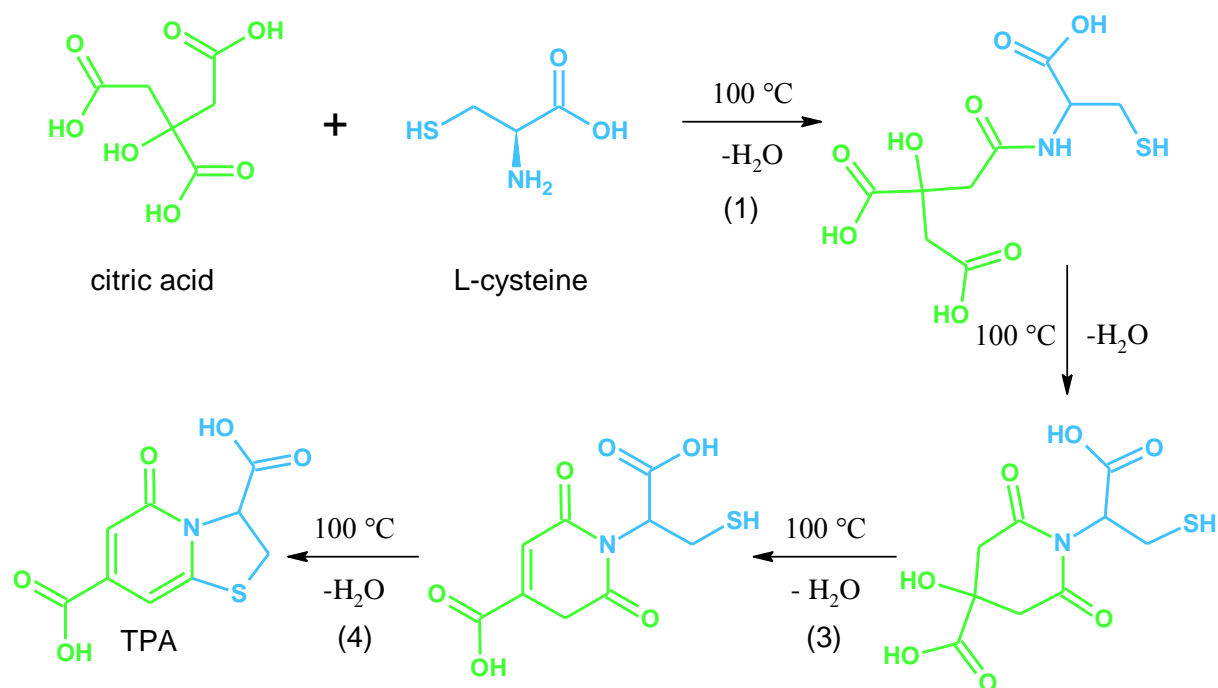


Figure S4. The proposed mechanism of TPA formation basing on Olthoff et al.<sup>23</sup>; amide formation (1), imide formation (2), dehydration (3), intramolecular condensation (4)<sup>23, 24</sup>.

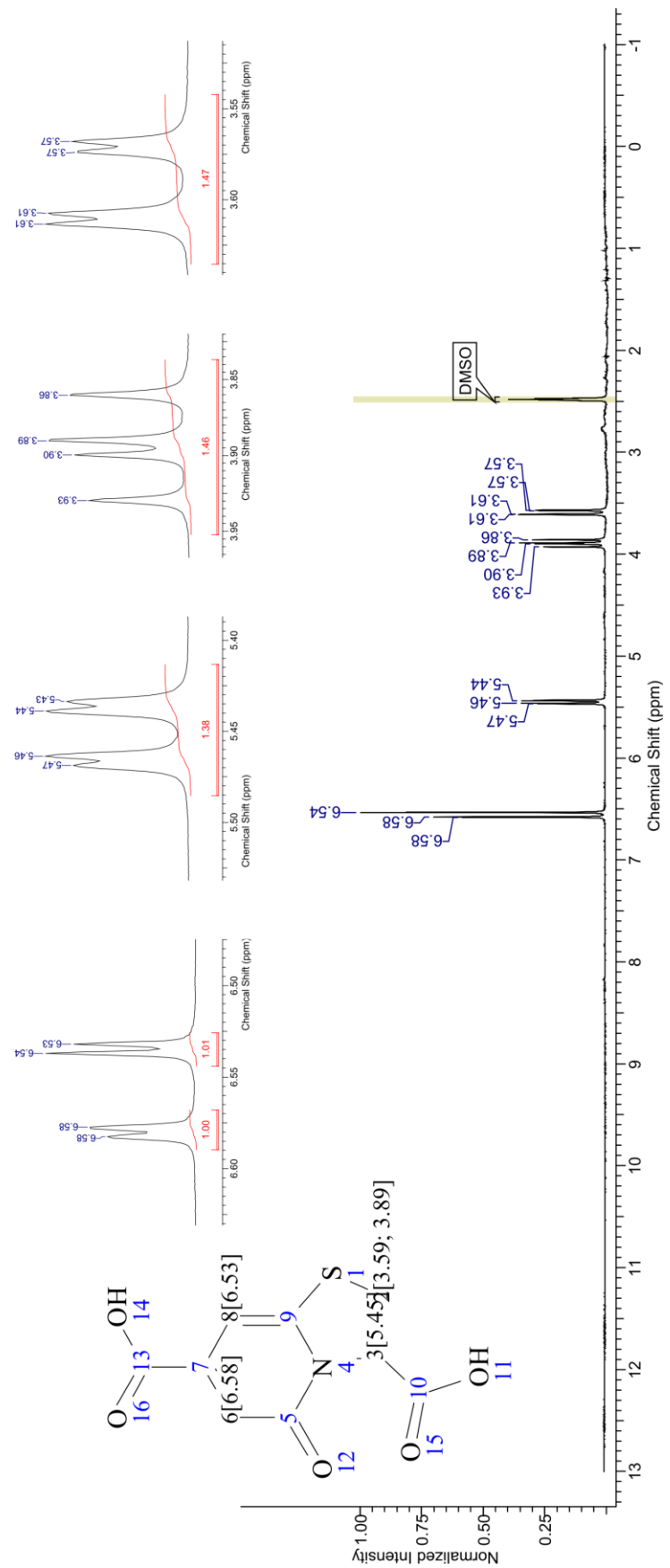


Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5H-[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-a]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid (TPA).

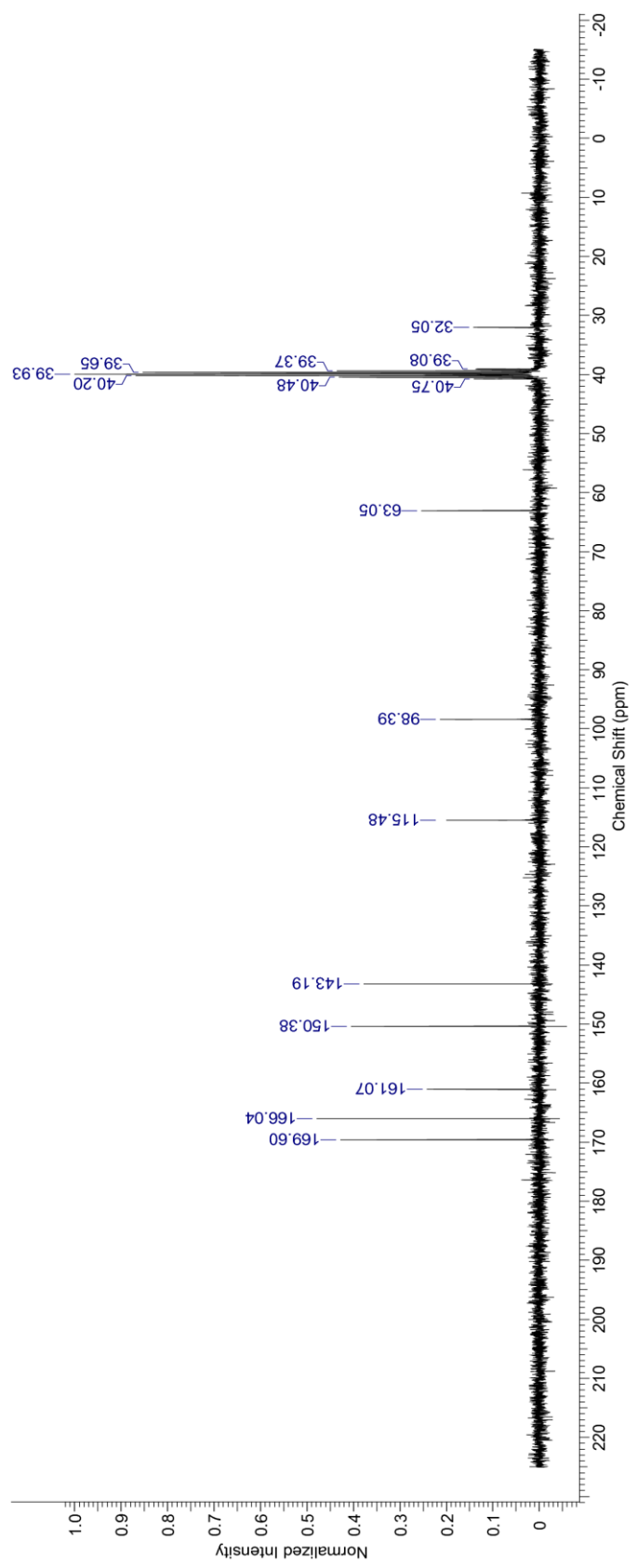


Figure S6.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5H-[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-a]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid (TPA).

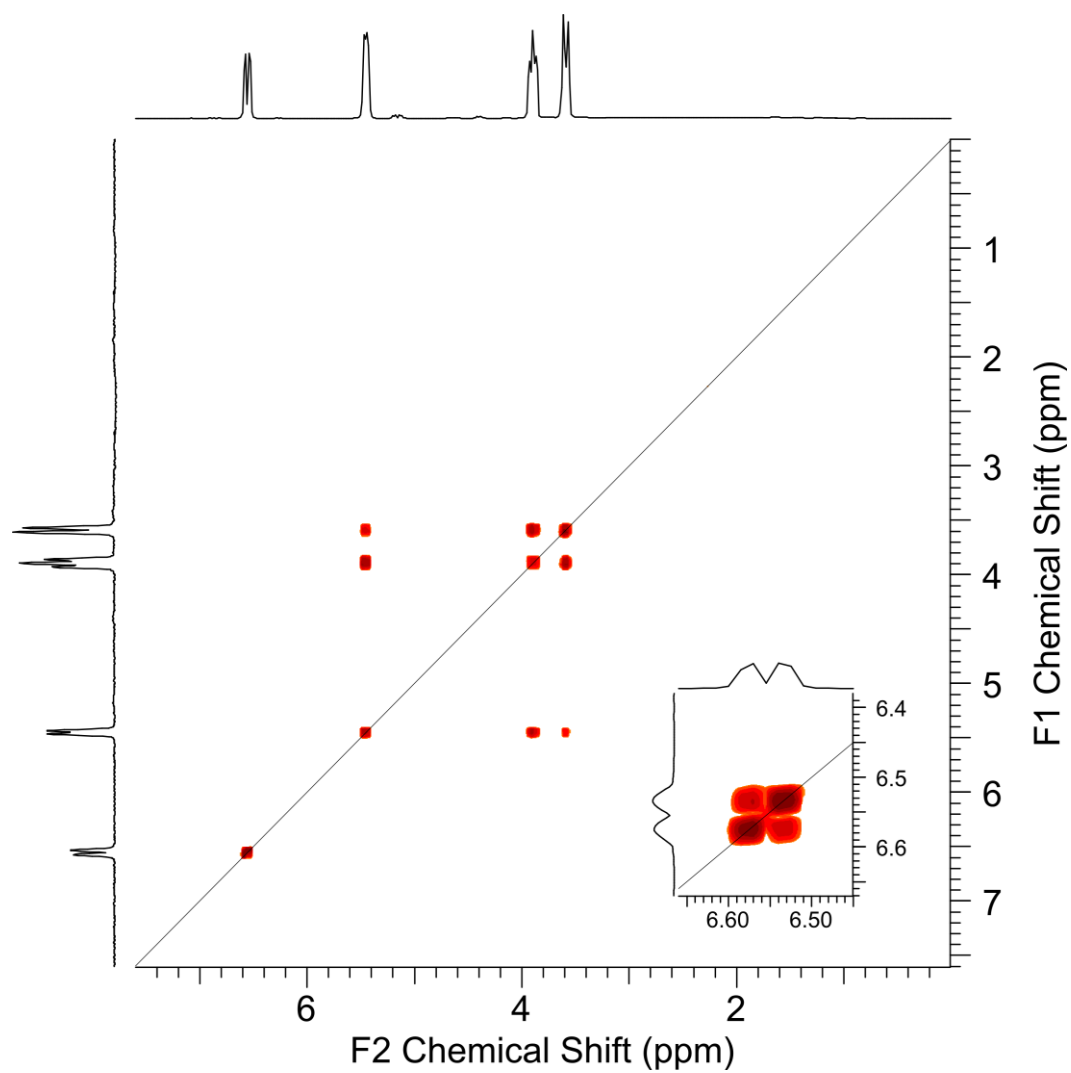


Figure S7. COSY NMR spectrum of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-*a*]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid (TPA).



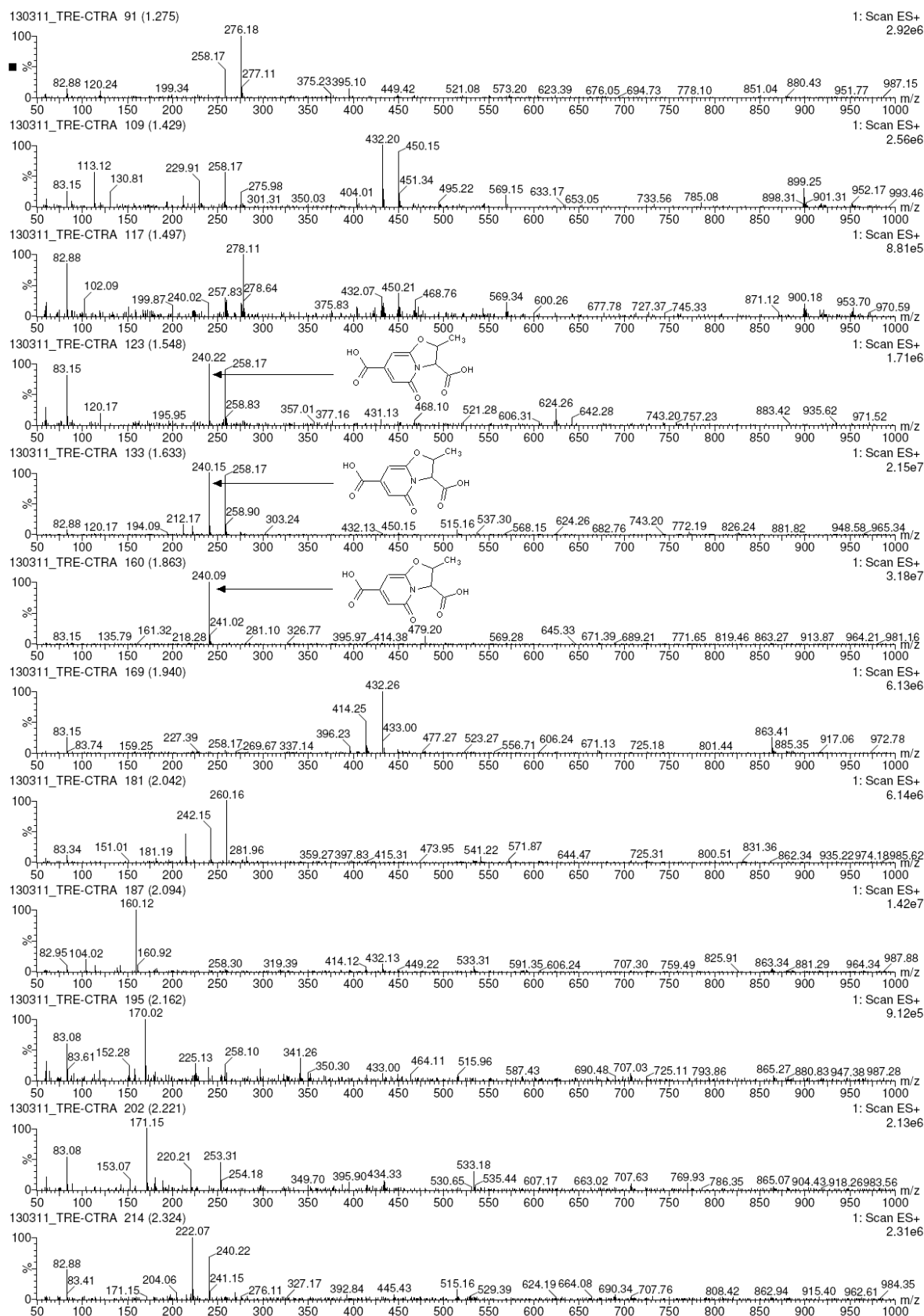


Figure S8. ESI-MS spectrum of nonpurified reaction mixture of L-treonine and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. Peaks at m/z ~240 indicate formation of 2-methyl-5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5H-[1,3]oxazolo[3,2-a]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid.

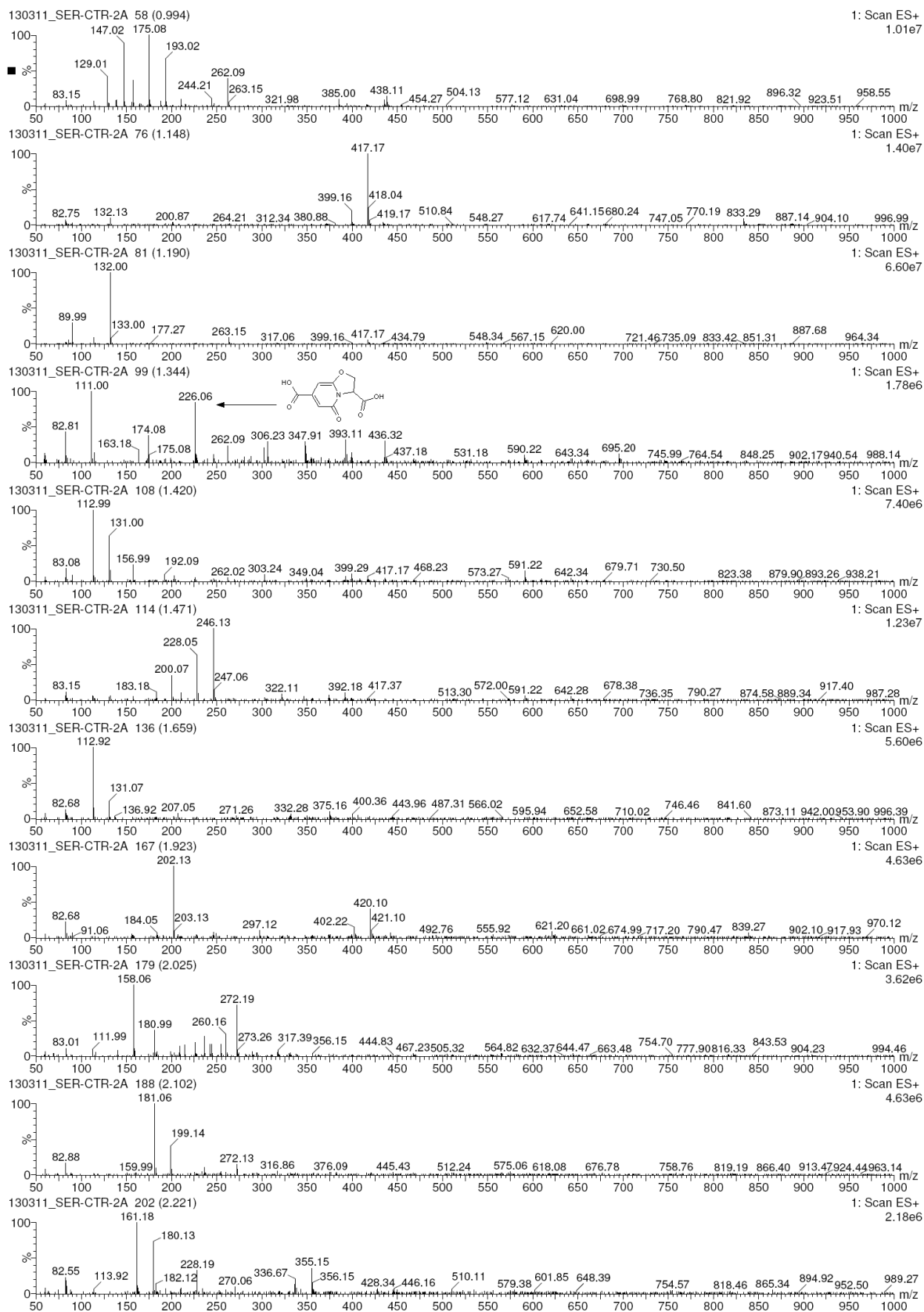


Figure S9. ESI-MS spectrum of nonpurified reaction mixture of L-serine and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. Peak at  $m/z \sim 226$  indicates formation of 5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-5H-[1,3]oxazolo[3,2-a]pyridine-3,7-dicarboxylic acid.

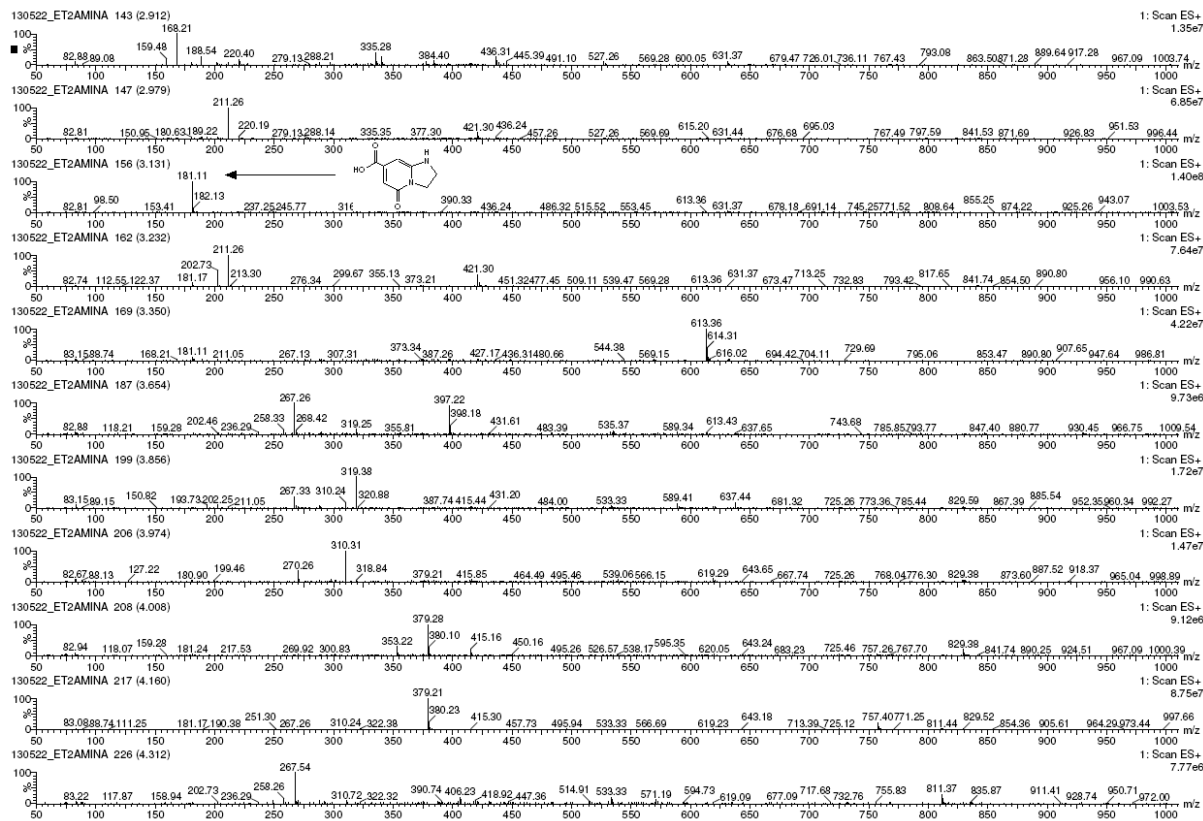


Figure S10. ESI-MS spectrum of nonpurified reaction mixture of ethylenediamine and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. Peak at m/z=~181 indicates formation of 5-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-7-carboxylic acid.

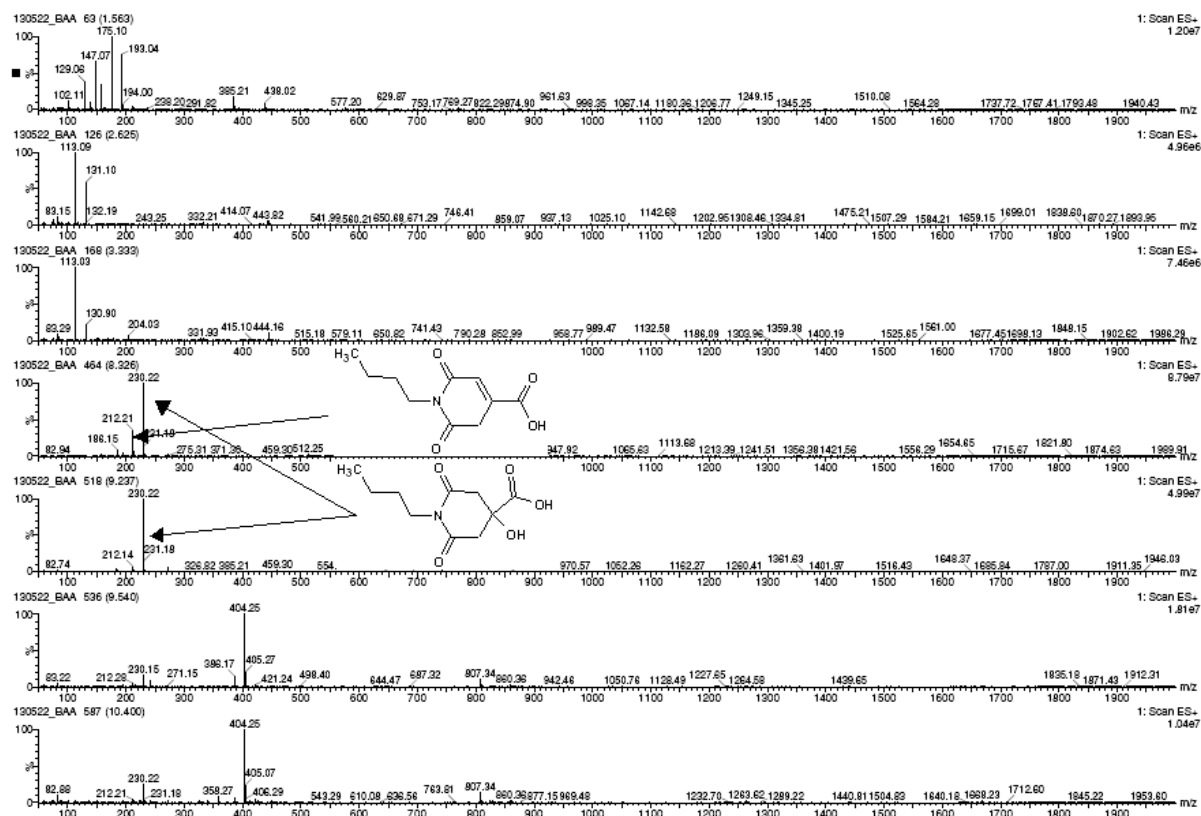


Figure S11. ESI-MS spectrum of nonpurified reaction mixture of ethylenediamine and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. Peak at  $m/z \sim 212$  indicates formation of 1-butyl-2,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine-4-carboxylic acid.

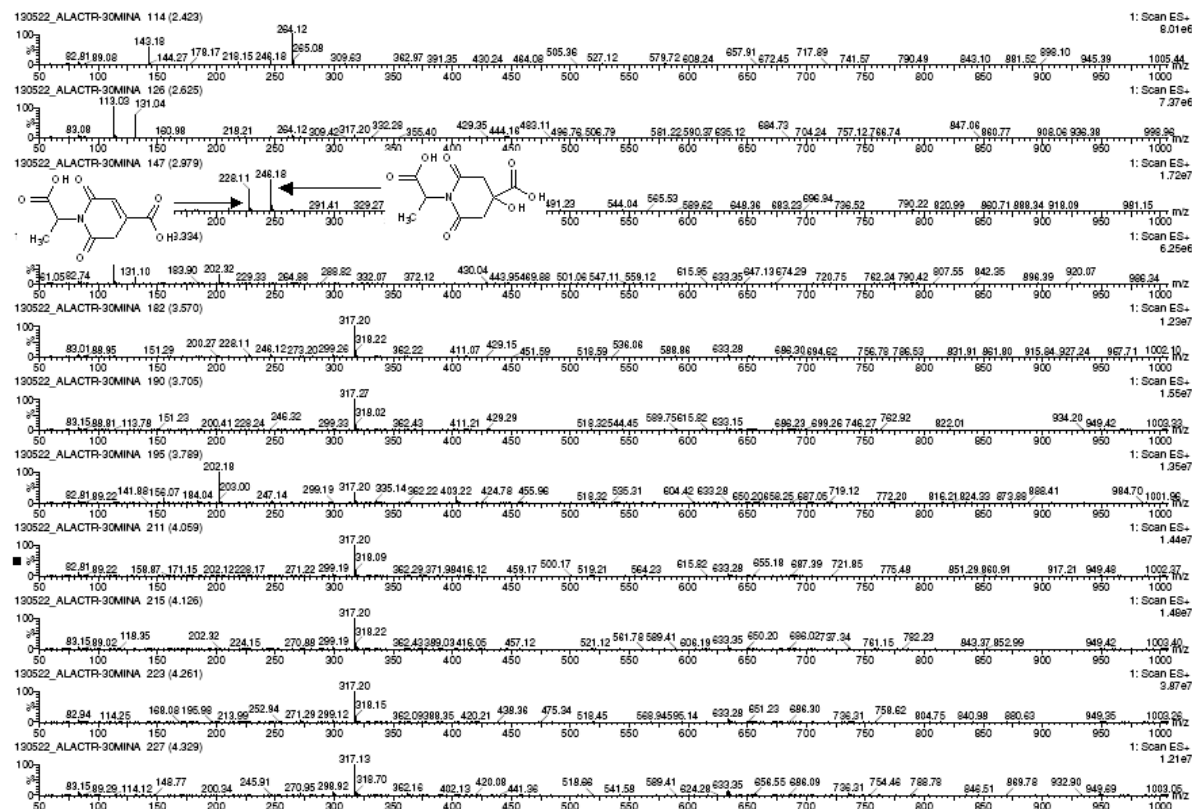


Figure S12. ESI-MS spectrum of nonpurified reaction mixture of ethylenediamine and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. Peak at  $m/z \sim 228$  indicates formation of 1-(1-carboxyethyl)-2,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine-4-carboxylic acid.

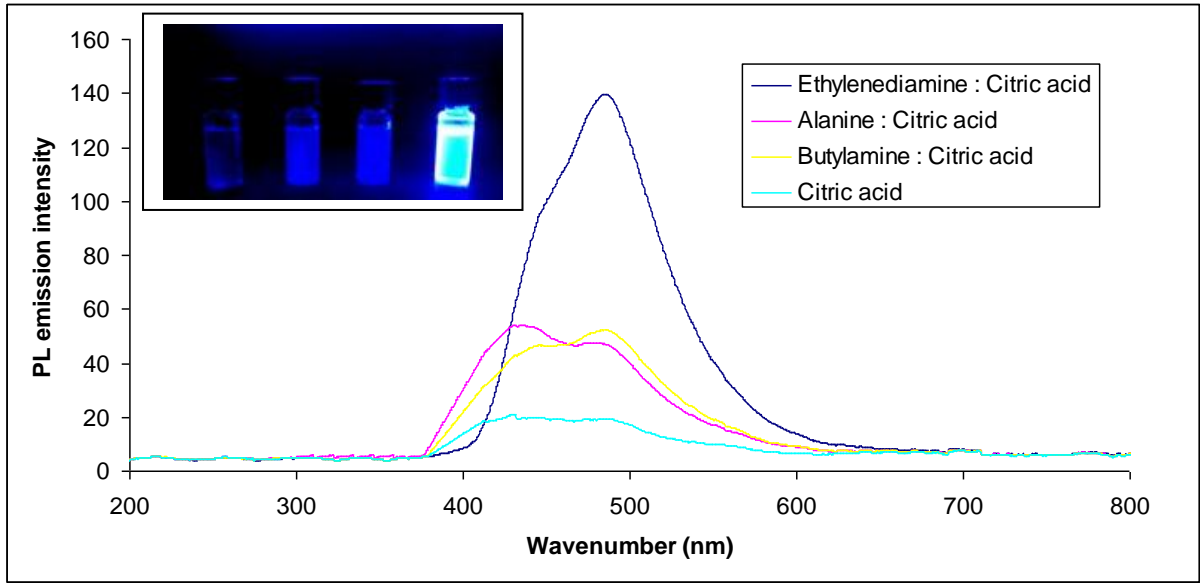


Figure S13. Photoluminescence emission spectrum of 2,5 mg/ml aqueous solutions of nonpurified reaction mixtures of various amines and citric acid (1:1 mol/mol) after heating at 100°C for 40 minutes. For comparison a spectra of a solution of citric acid heated at that same conditions is provided. All samples were excited with 365 nm light.

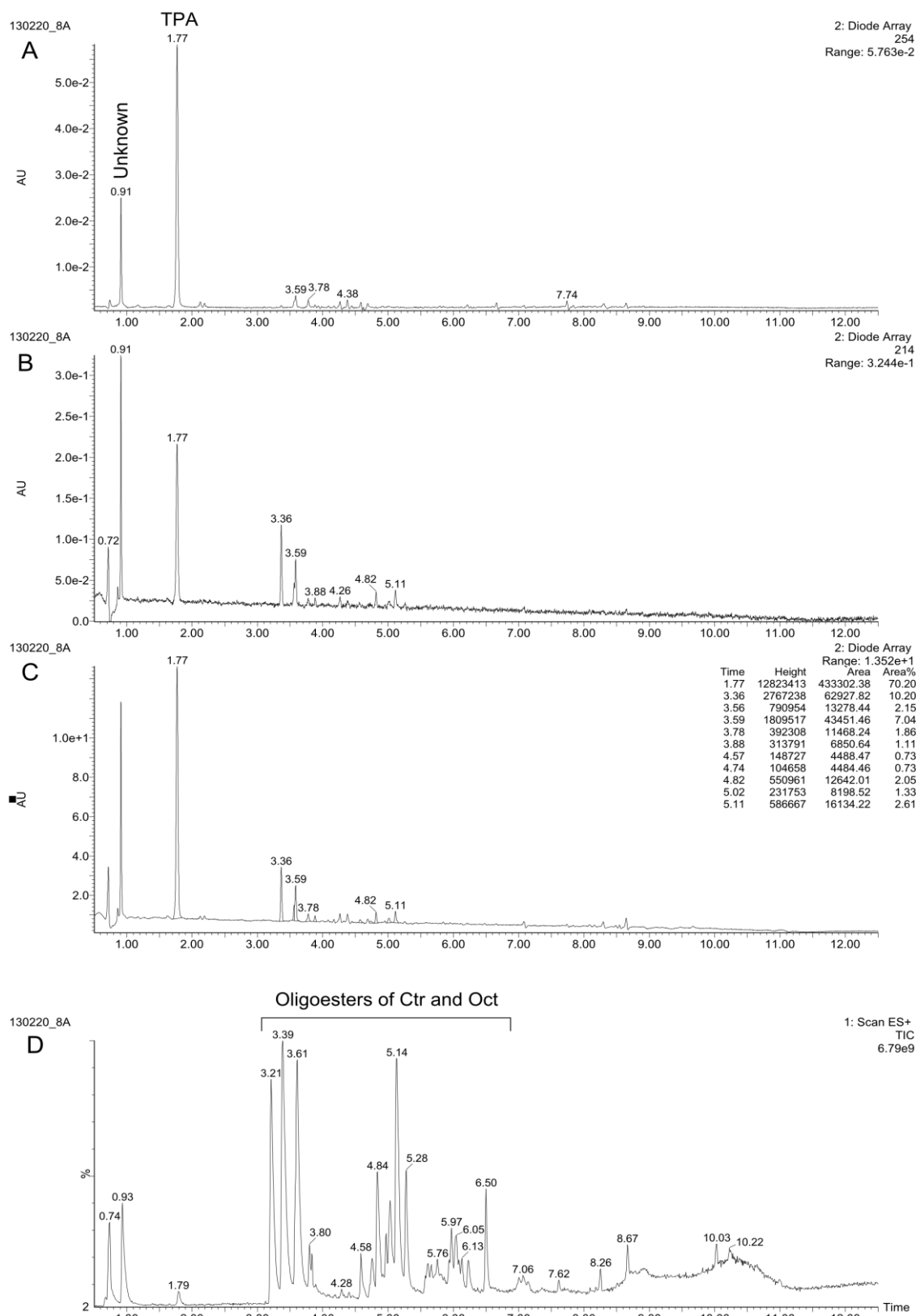


Figure S14a. HPLC elution profile of POCTPA1 hydrolyzate: diode array detector chromatograms at different wavelength (A,B,C) and total ion current chromatogram of the ESI-MS detector (D).



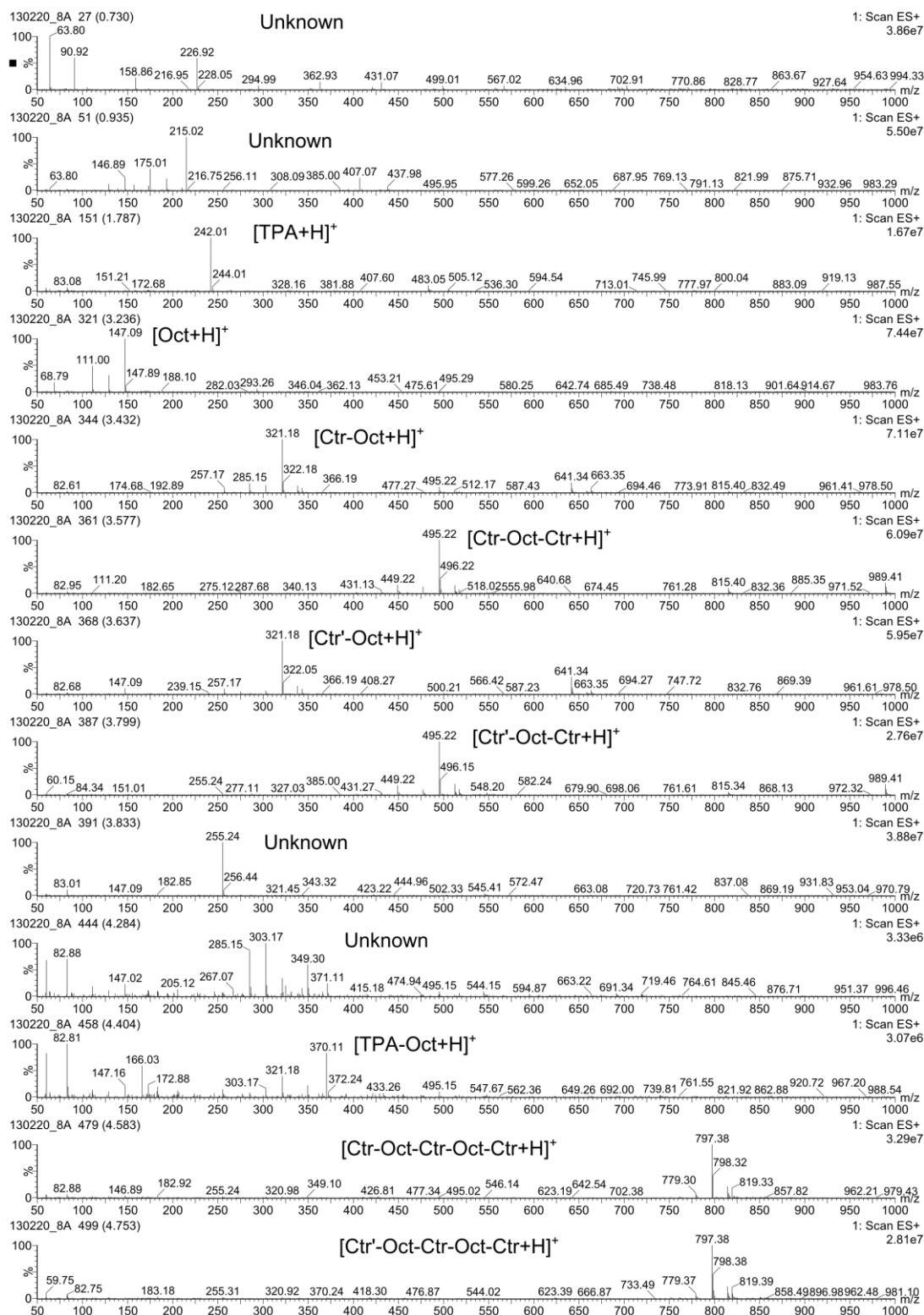


Figure S14b. ESI-MS spectrum of compounds separated from hydrolyzate of POCTPA1 (retention time  $\leq 4.75$  min.).

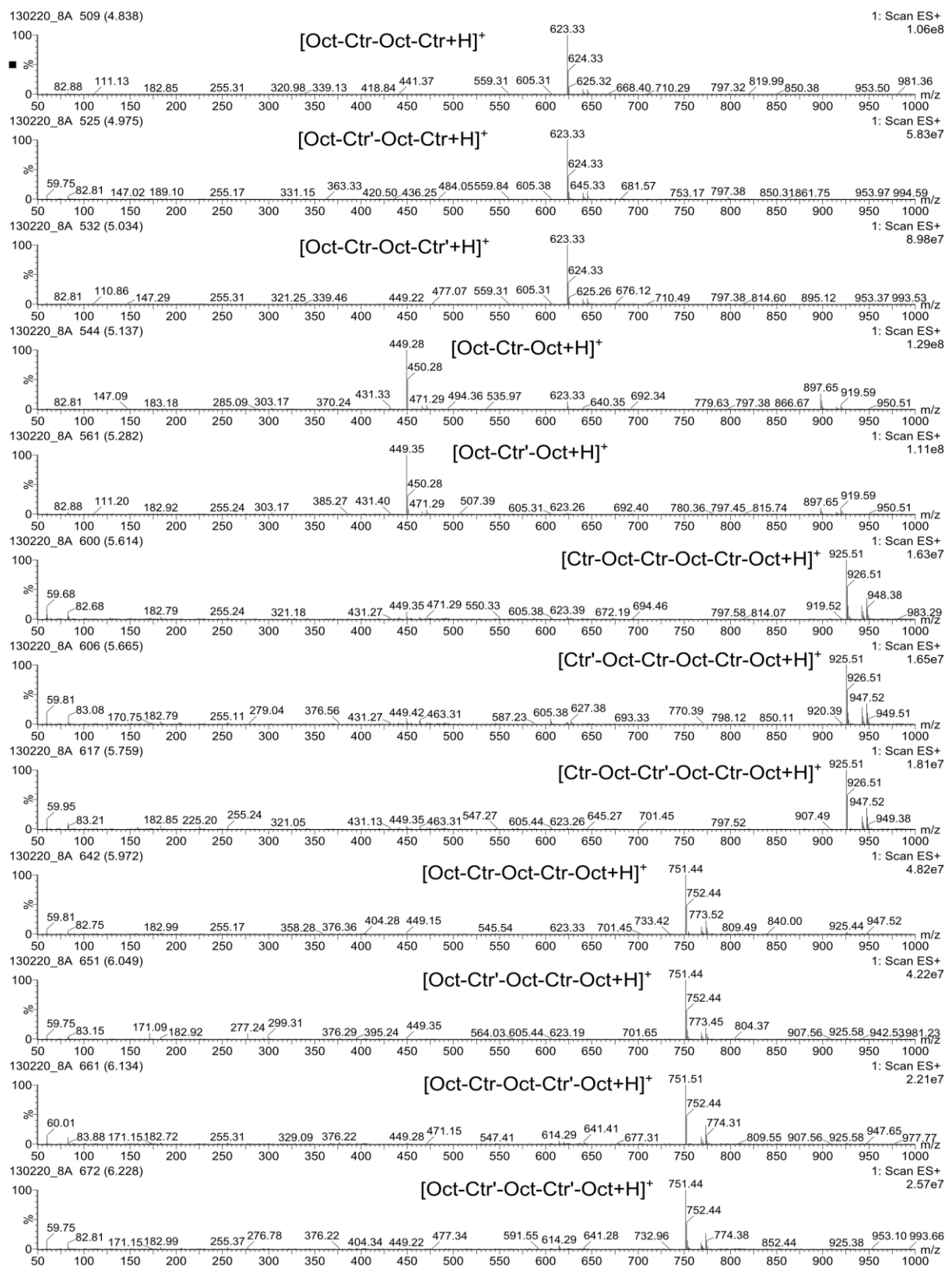


Figure S14c. ESI-MS spectrum of compounds separated from hydrolyzate of POCTPA1 (retention time > 4.75 min.).



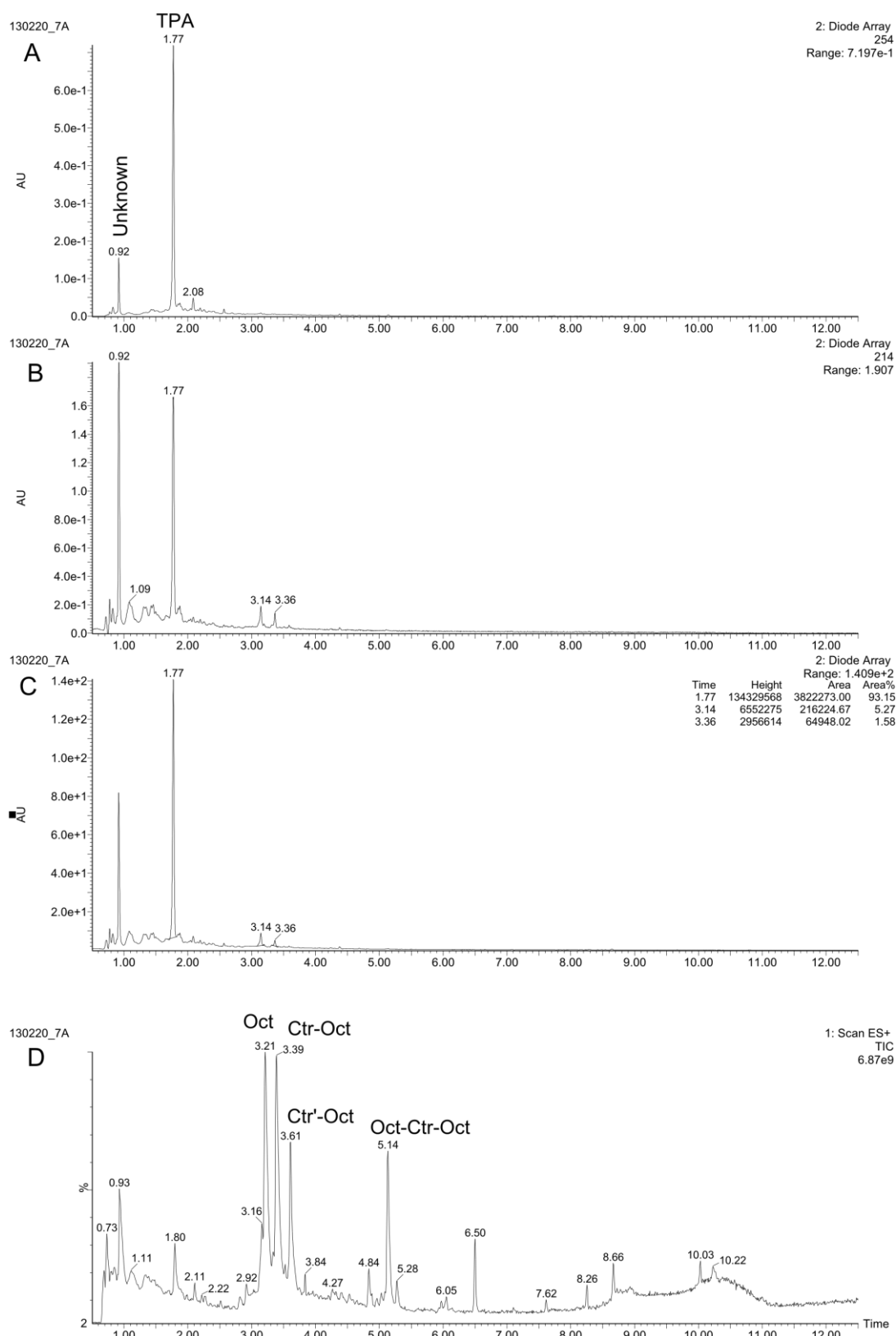


Figure S14d. HPLC elution profile of cys-BPLP hydrolyzate: diode array detector chromatograms at different wavelength (A,B,C) and total ion current chromatogram of the ESI-MS detector (D).

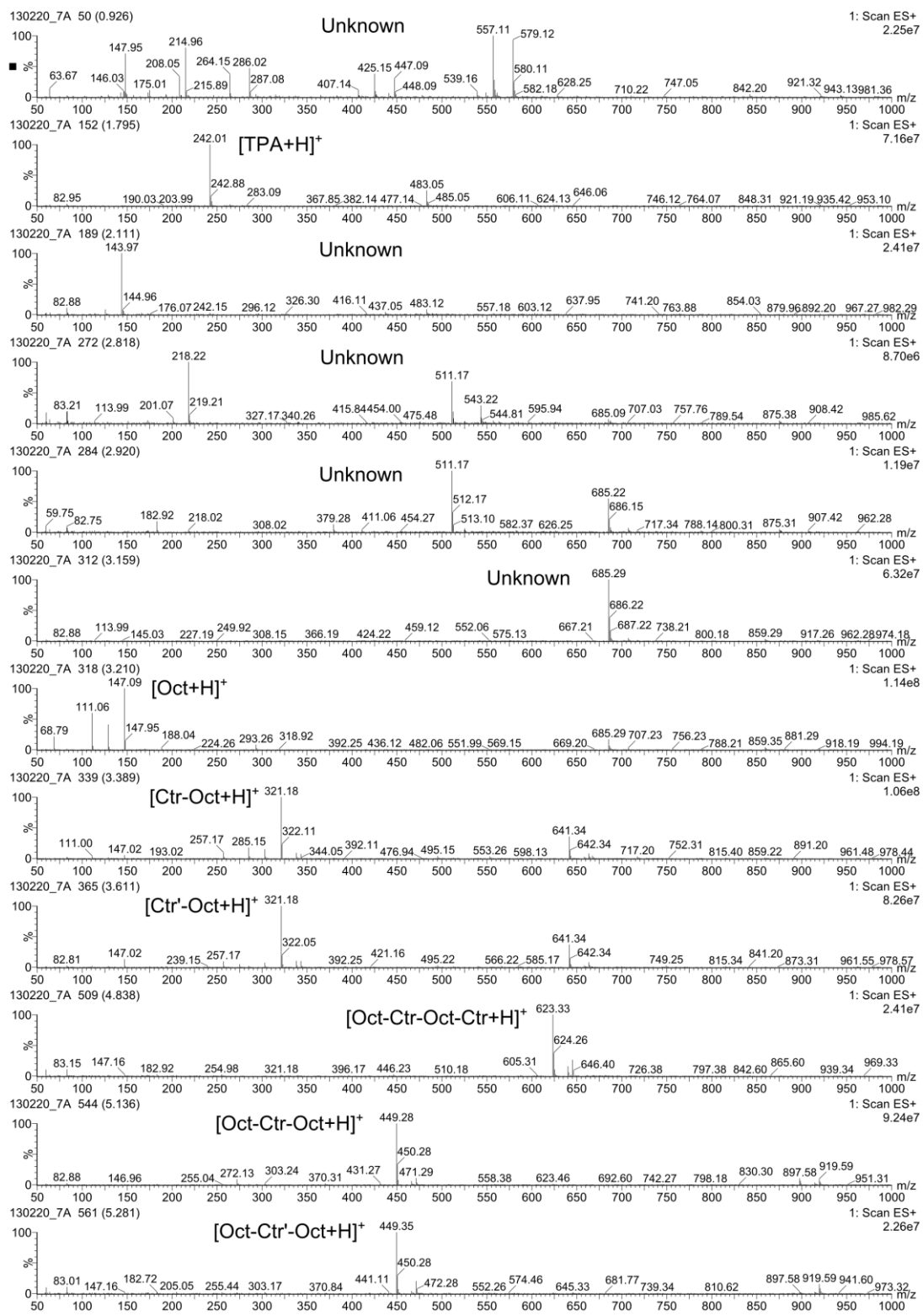


Figure S14e. ESI-MS spectrum of compounds separated from hydrolyzate of cys-BPLP.

TPA 50 mg (0,2 mmol) and 1,8-octanediol 90 mg (0,6 mmol) were combined and heated at 140°C for 1 hour. Products of this reaction were characterized by LC-ESI-MS (Figure S10a and S10b).

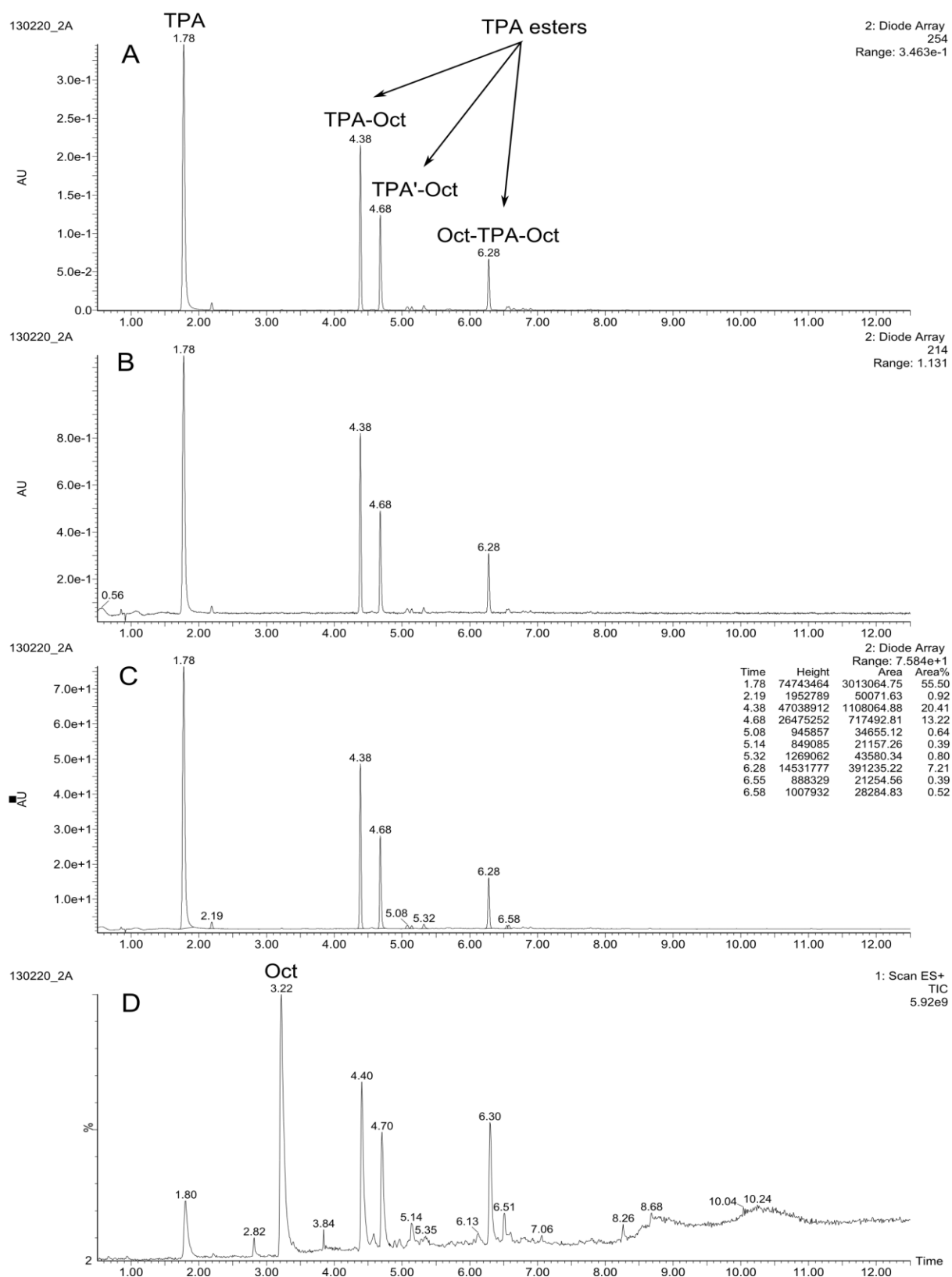


Figure S16a. HPLC elution profile of esters of TPA and 1,8-octanediol: diode array detector chromatograms at different wavelength (A,B,C) and total ion current chromatogram of the ESI-MS detector (D).

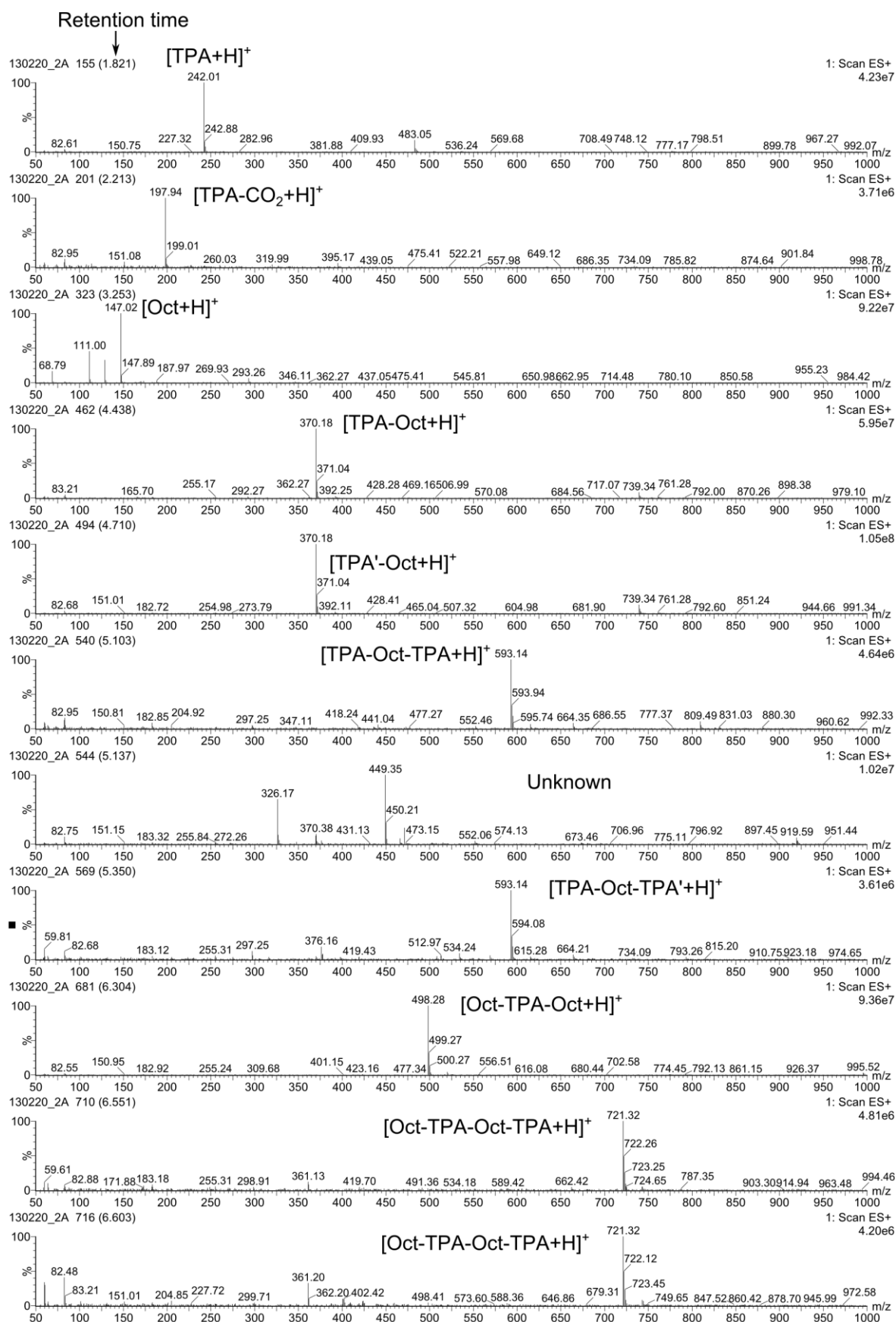


Figure S16b. ESI-MS spectrum of esters of TPA and 1,8-octanediol.