

Supporting Information

Synthesis of a glycosidic spacer containing prodrug of a duocarmycin analogue and determination of its biological activity

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Contents:

1. Synthesis of compound **14**.
2. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of all compounds.
3. *in vitro* cytotoxicity data and graph obtained from HTCFA on A549 cells for prodrug **11**.

Synthesis of compound **14**.

3-Nitro-4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-benzaldehyde (14**).** The acetylated galactosylbromide (1.03 g, 2.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 4-hydroxy-3-nitro-benzaldehyde **13** (752 mg, 4.50 mmol, 1.8 equiv.) and BnEt_3NCl (474 mg, 2.08 mmol, 0.83 equiv.) were suspended in CHCl_3 (11.0 mL), aqueous NaOH solution (1.25 M, 3.64 mL, 4.55 mmol, 1.8 eq.) was added and the reaction mixture heated to 70 °C. After 3.5 h at refluxing temperature the mixture was diluted with $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CHCl}_3$ (2:1, 15 mL), phases were separated and the organic layer was successively washed with cold NaOH solution (1.25 M, 2 $\times$ 5 mL) and cold brine. Filtration over cotton wool and removal of the solvents gave a yellow solid which was dissolved in absolute EtOH (~40 mL) and allowed to crystallise overnight at 4 °C. Two fractions yielded the benzaldehyde **14** as slightly yellow crystals (987 mg, 1.98 mmol, 80%). $R_f = 0.46$ (toluene/MeOH = 6:1); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300.1 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 2.03, 2.09, 2.13, 2.20$ (4 $\times$ s, 12 H, 4 $\times$ COCH_3), 4.20 (m_c, 2 H, H-5, H-6_a), 4.28 (dd, $J = 12.5, 8.5$ Hz, 1 H, H-6_b), 5.15 (dd, $J = 10.4, 3.3$ Hz, 1 H, H-3), 5.24 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1 H, H-1), 5.51 (dd, $J = 3.3, 0.7$ Hz, 1 H, H-4), 5.60 (dd, $J = 10.5, 7.9$ Hz, 1 H, H-2), 7.51 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1 H, H-12), 8.09 (dd, $J = 8.7, 2.1$ Hz, 1 H, H-11), 8.32 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1 H, H-9), 9.99 (s, 1 H, ArCHO); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75.8 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 20.5, 20.6$ (4 $\times$ COCH_3), 61.3 (C-6), 66.5 (C-4), 67.5 (C-2), 70.3 (C-3), 71.7 (C-5), 99.9 (C-1), 118.6 (C-12), 126.8 (C-9), 131.3 (C-11), 133.2 (C-10), 141.1 (C-7), 153.4 (C-8), 169.1, 170.0, 170.2 (4 $\times$ COCH_3), 188.6 (ArCHO); $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_{13}$ (497.41).

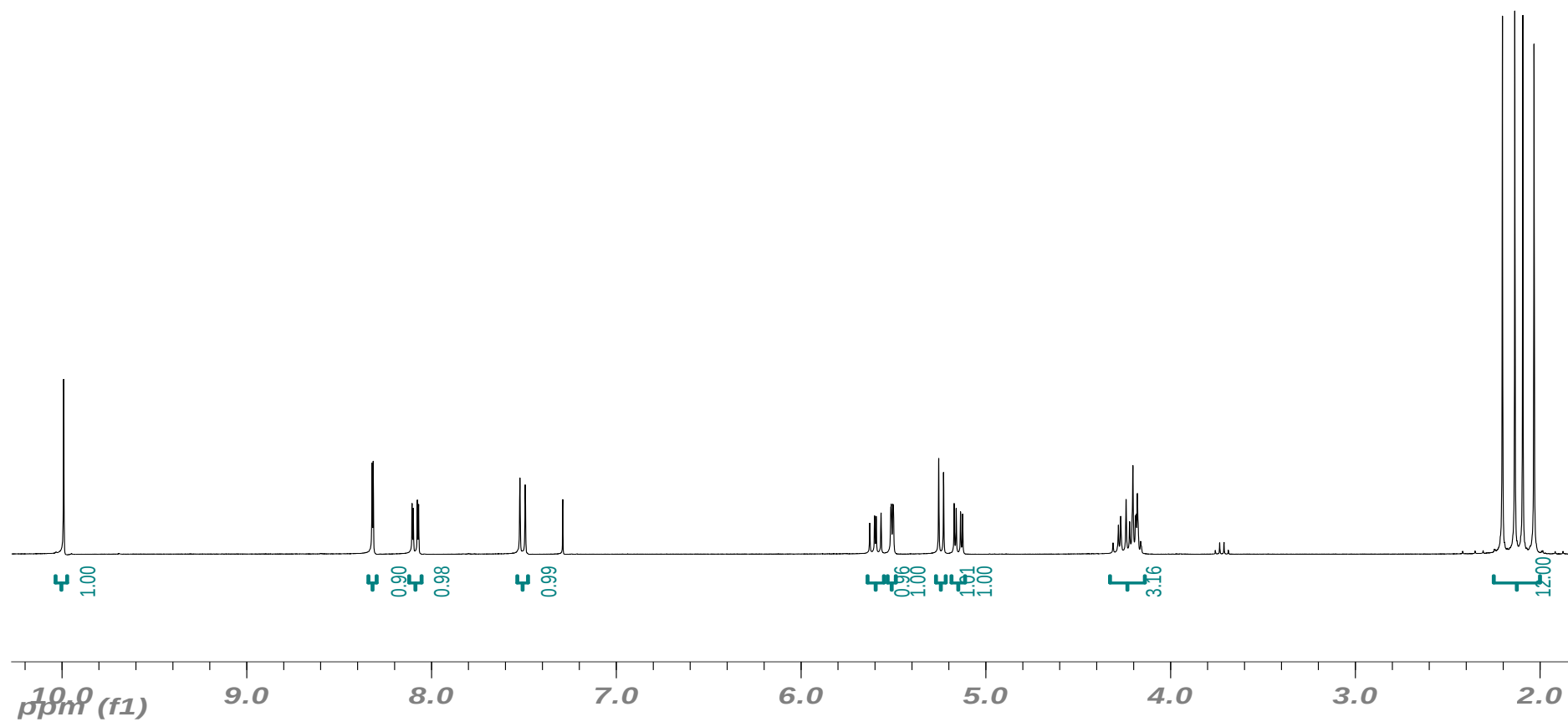


Fig. S2: ¹H NMR of 3-Nitro-4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-benzaldehyde (14).

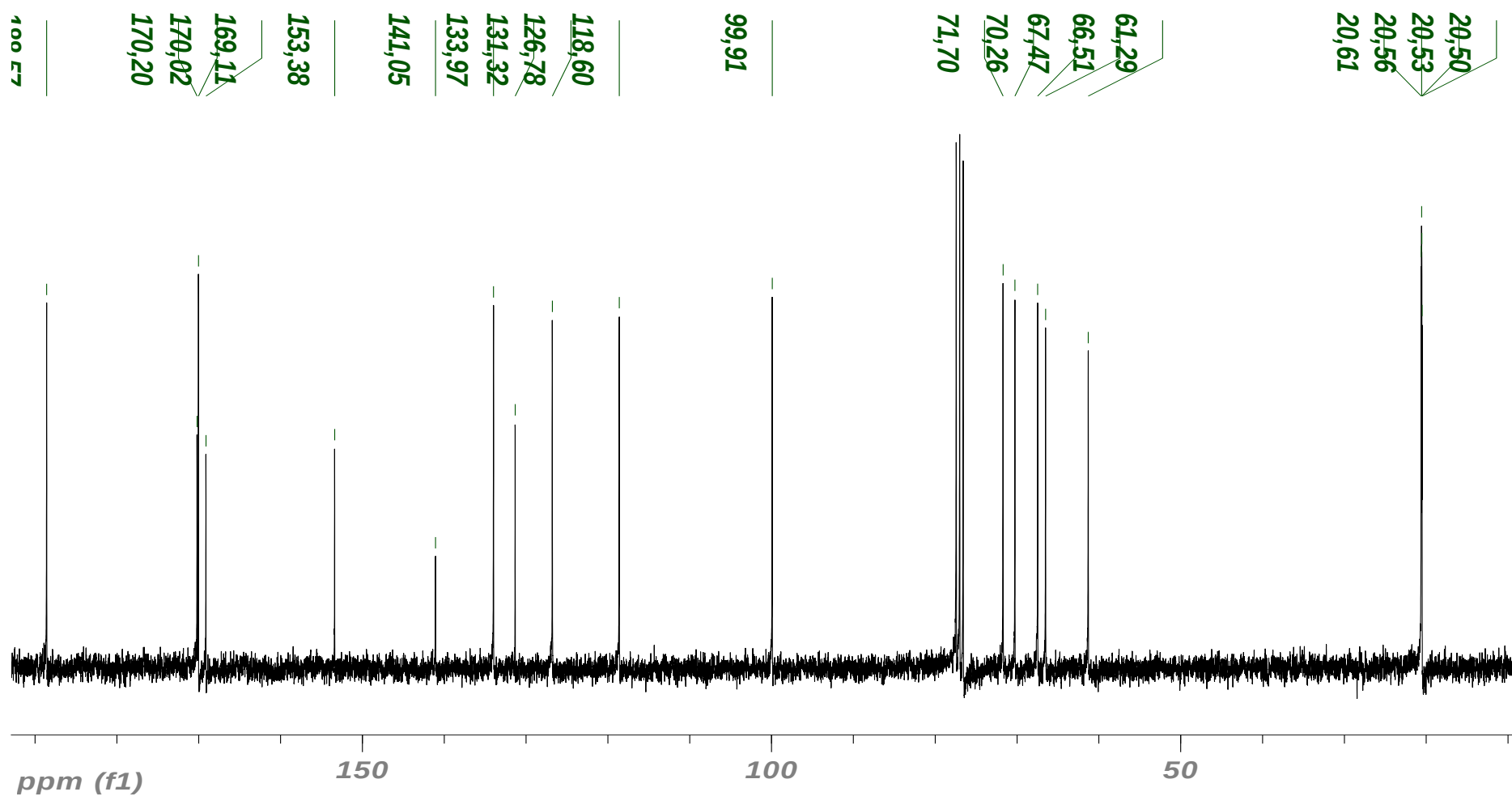


Fig. S3: ^{13}C NMR of 3-Nitro-4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-benzaldehyde (14).

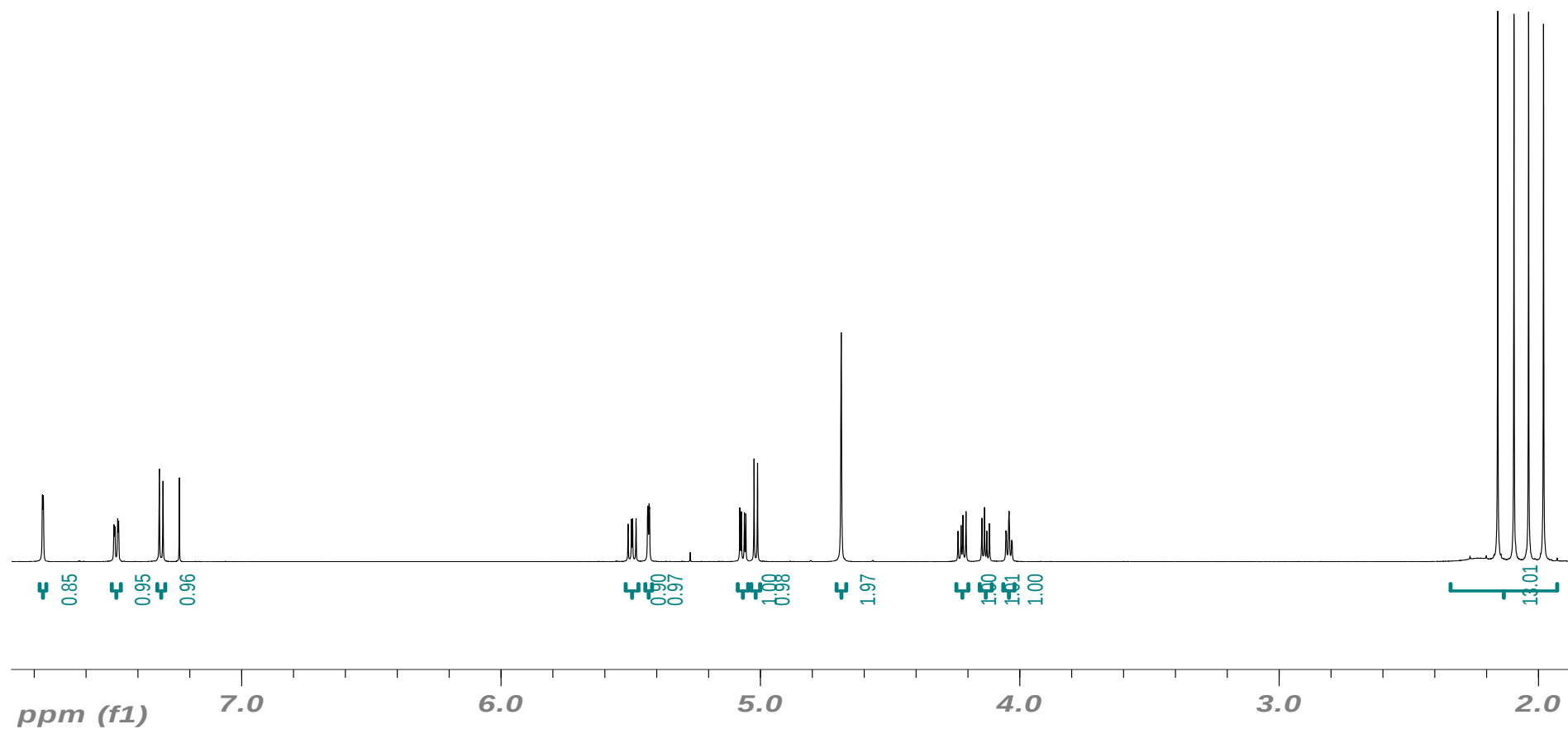


Fig. S4: ¹H NMR of 2,3,4,6-Tetra-*O*-acetyl-[2-nitro-4-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]-β-D-galactopyranoside (15).

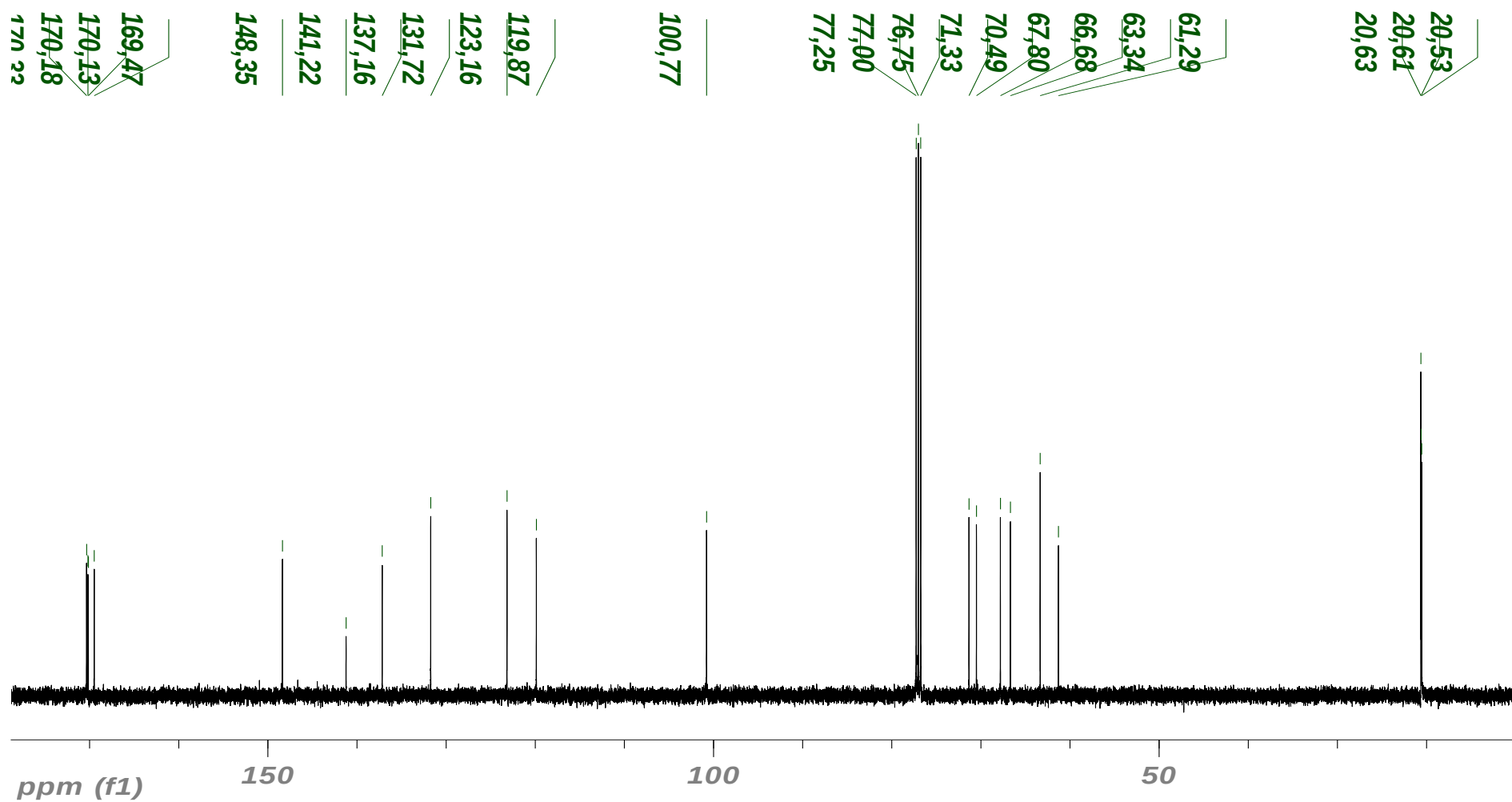


Fig. S5: ¹³C NMR of 2,3,4,6-Tetra-O-acetyl-[2-nitro-4-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]-β-D-galactopyranoside (15).

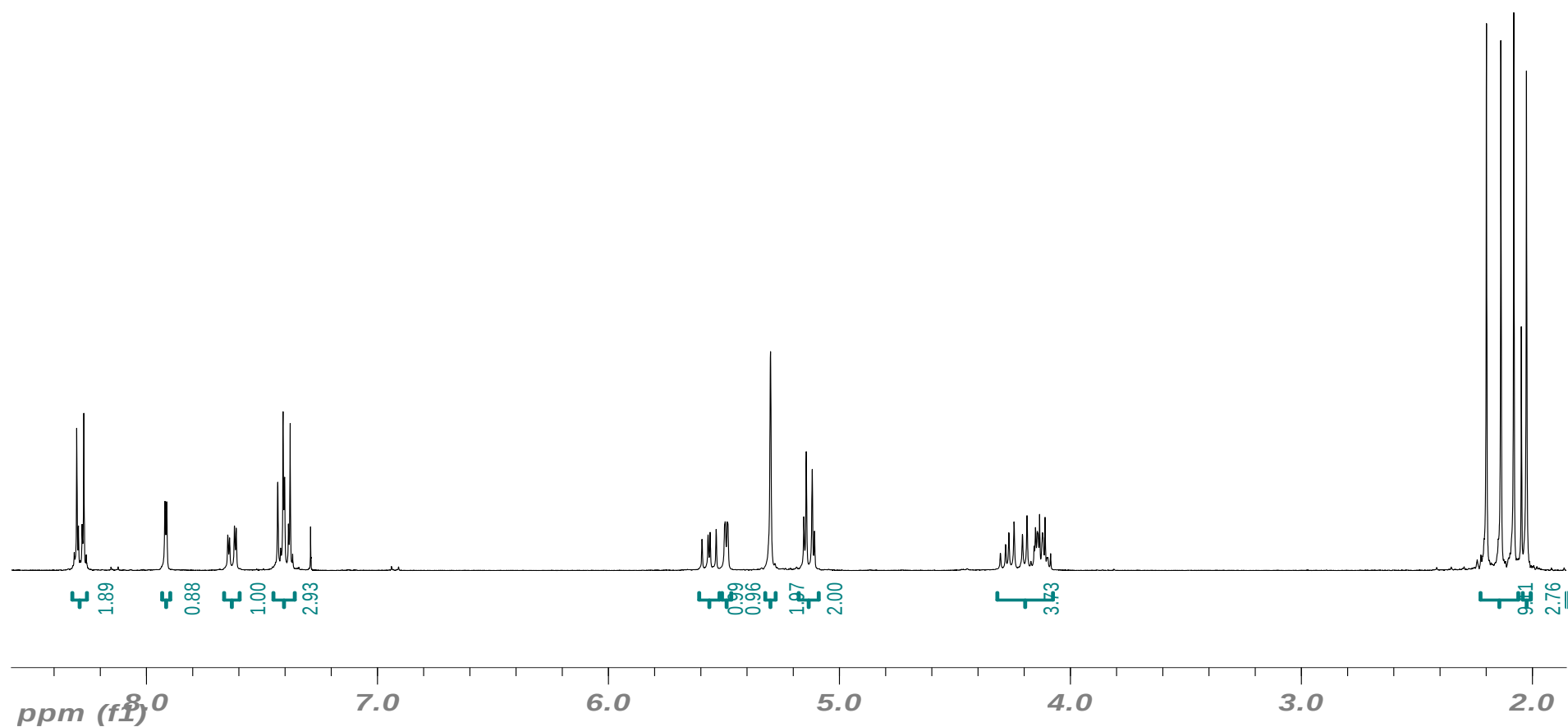


Fig. S6: ^1H NMR of 2,3,4,6-Tetra-*O*-acetyl-[2-nitro-4-(4-nitrophenoxy carbonyloxymethyl)phenyl]- β -D-galactopyranoside (16).

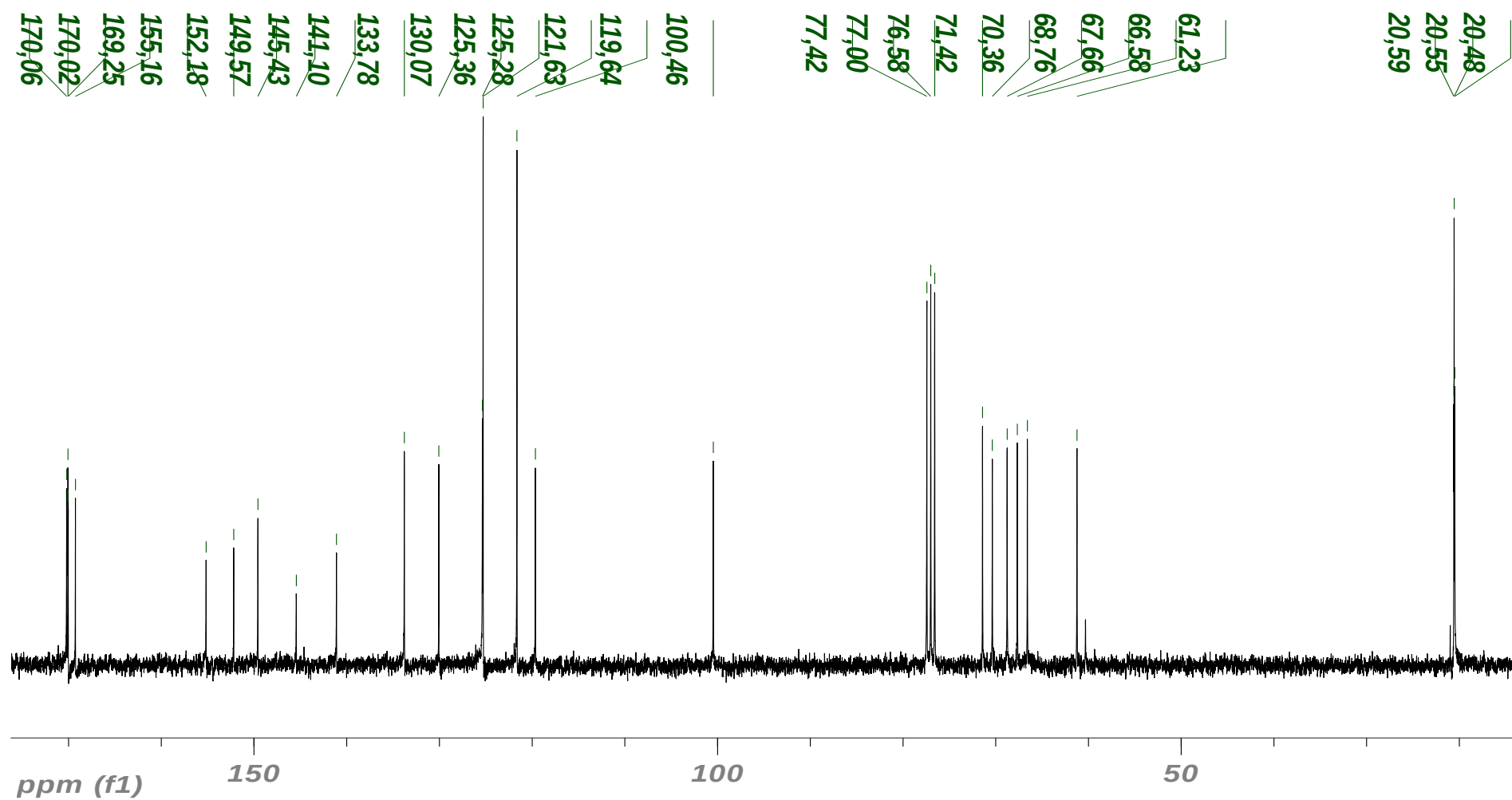


Fig. S7: ¹³C NMR of 2,3,4,6-Tetra-O-acetyl-[2-nitro-4-(4-nitrophenoxy carbonyloxymethyl)phenyl]-β-D-galactopyranoside (16).

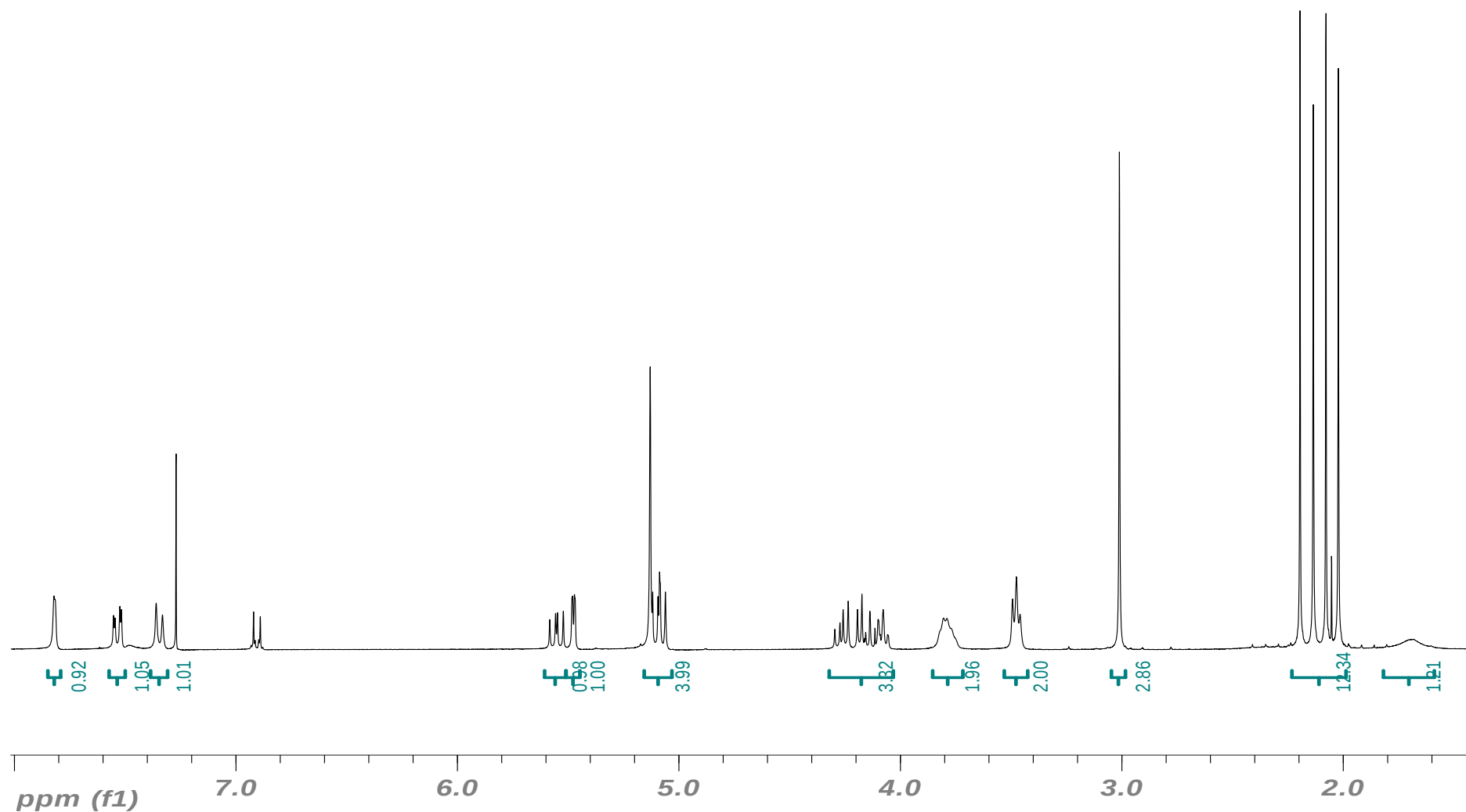


Fig. S8: ^1H NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol (19).

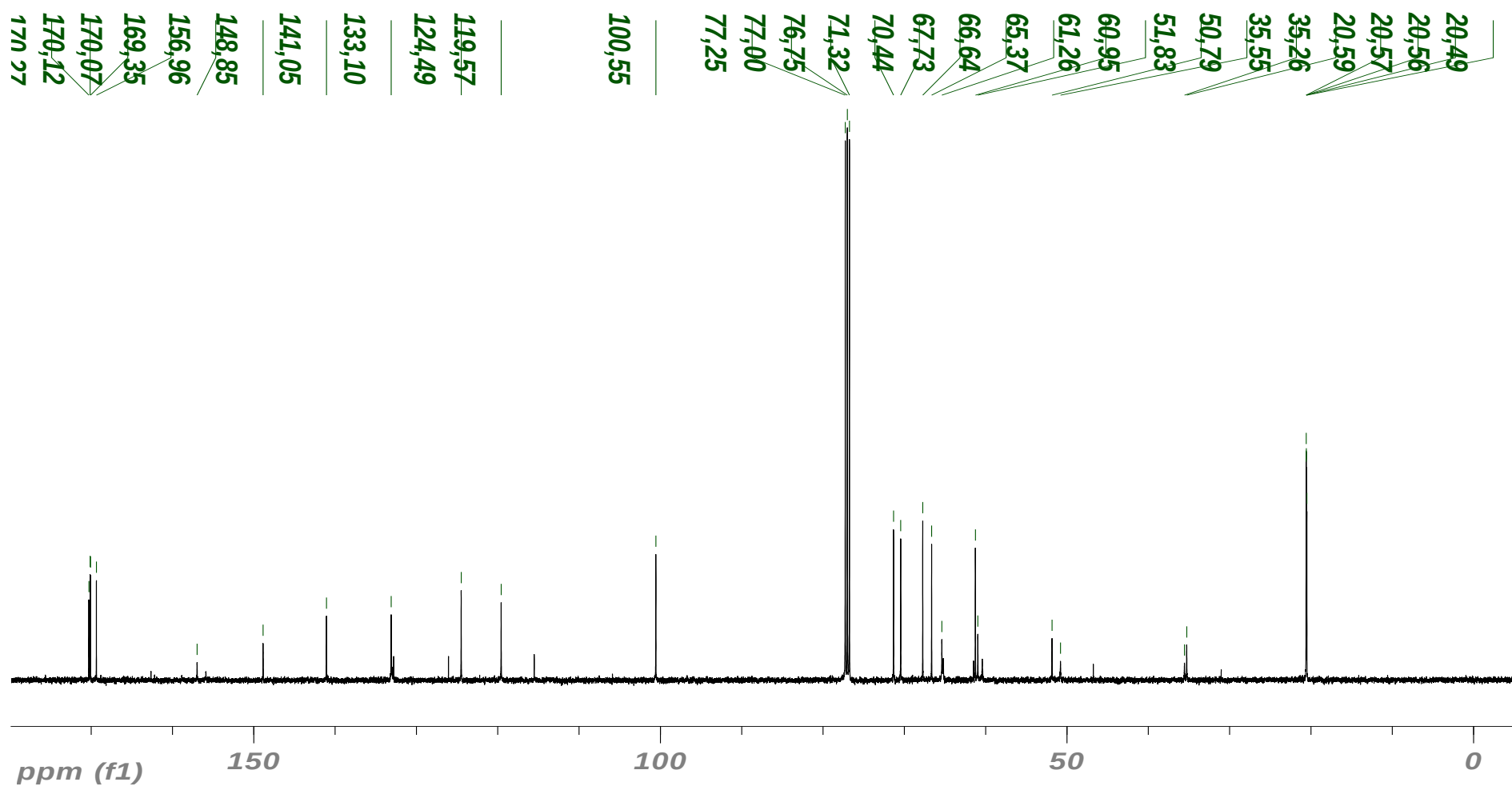


Fig. S9: ¹³C NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol (19).

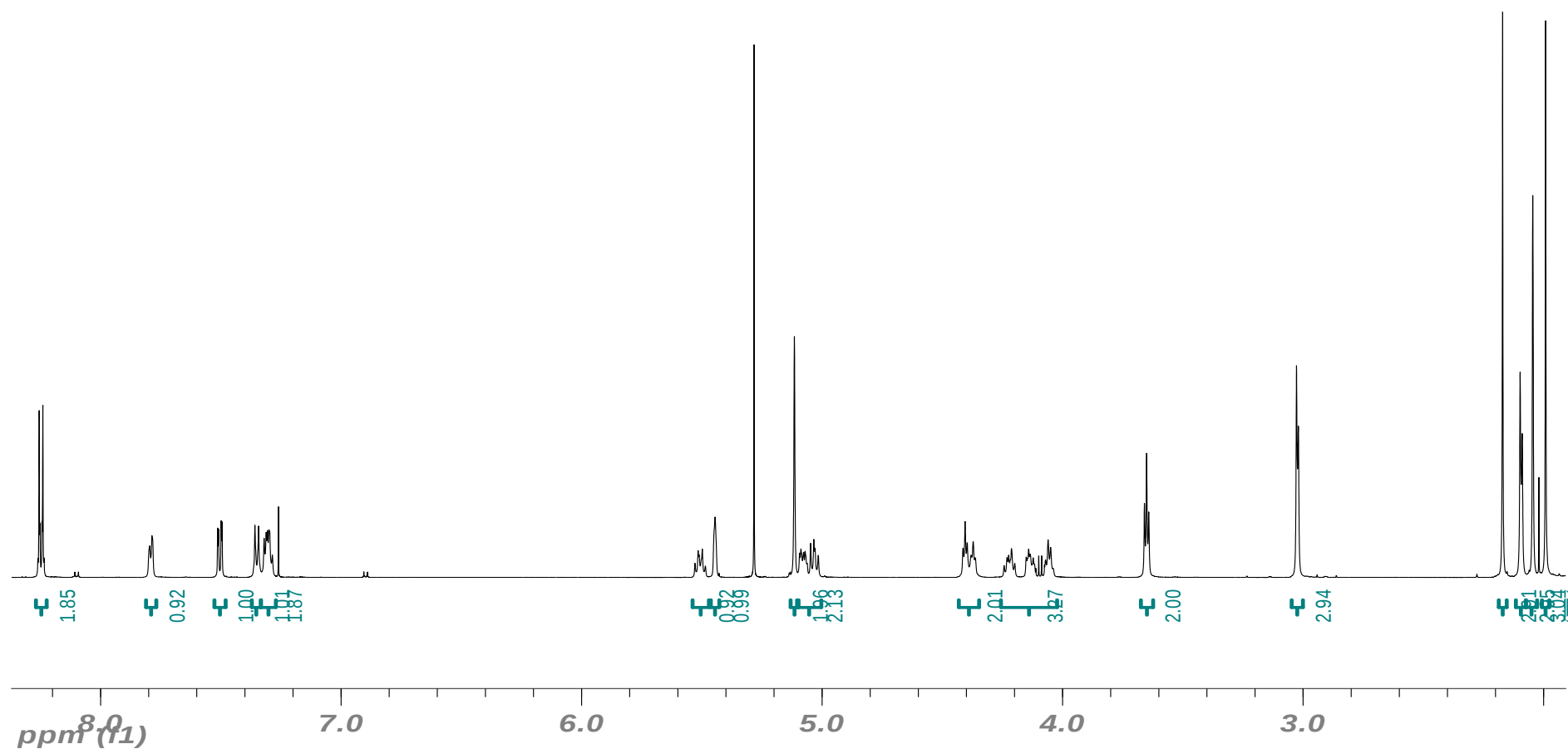


Fig. S10: ^1H NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol-carbonyl-4-nitrophenol (24).

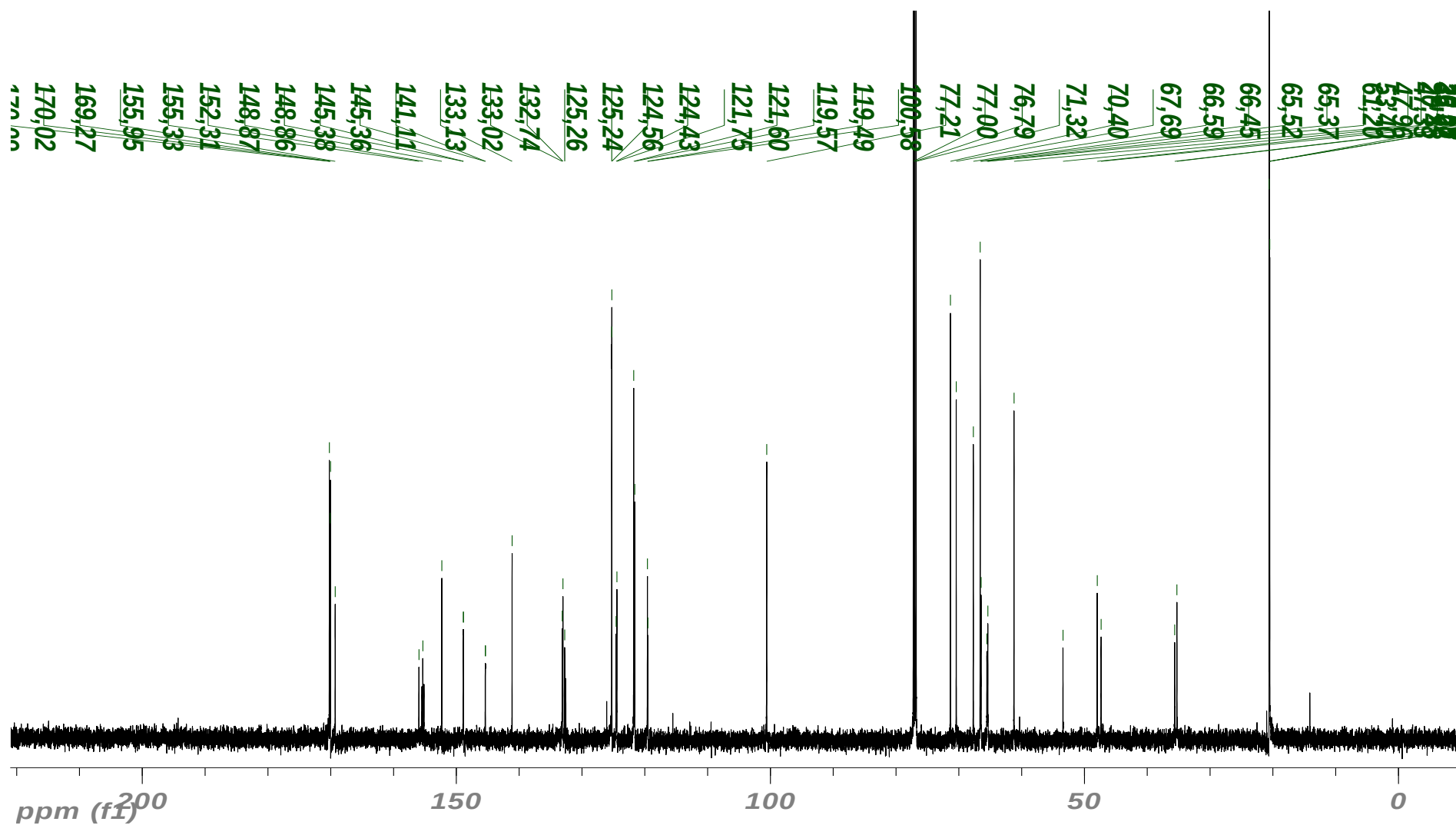


Fig. S11: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol-carbonyl-4-nitrophenol (24).

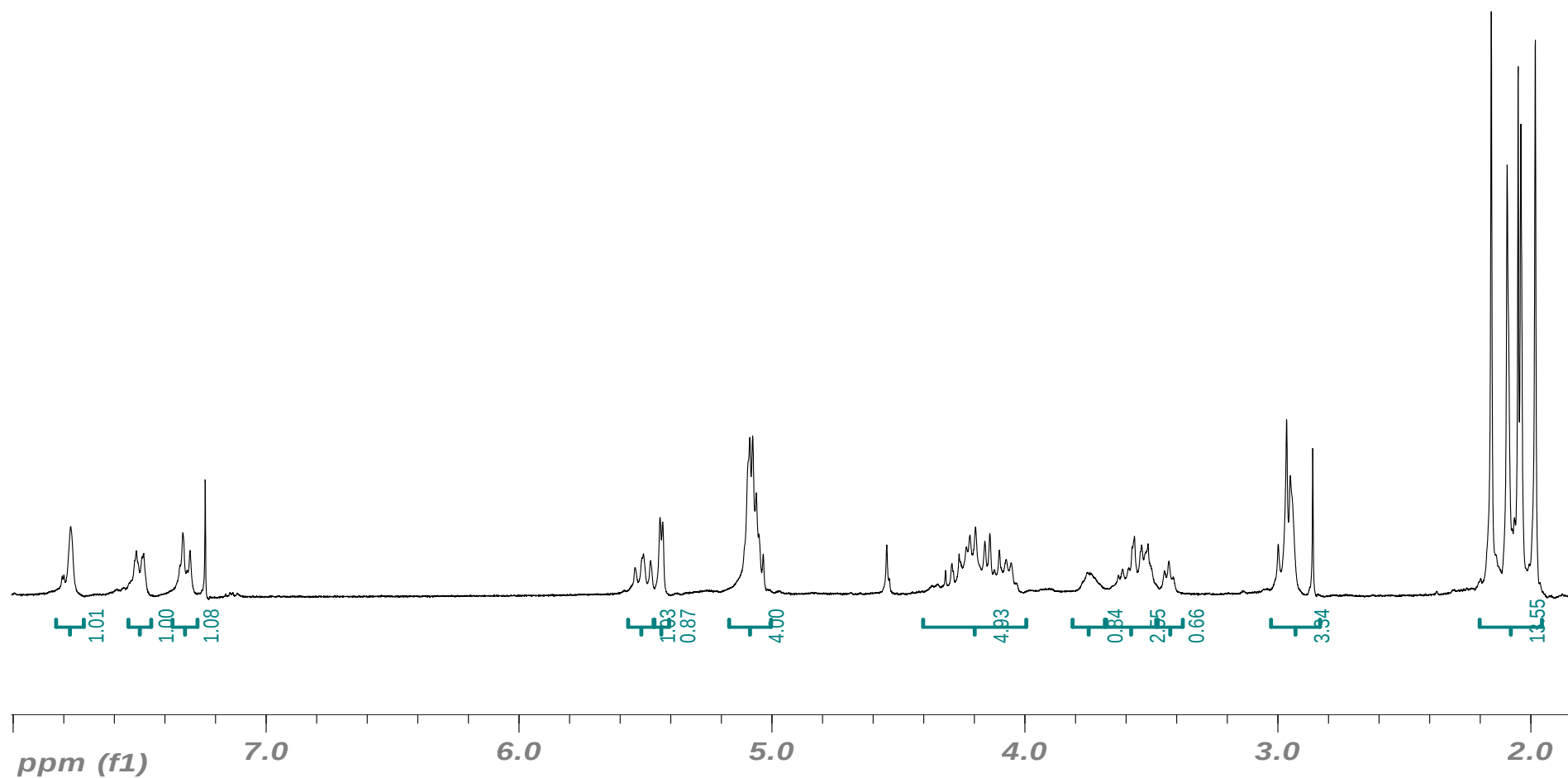


Fig. S12: ^1H NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol-carbonyl-chloride (22).

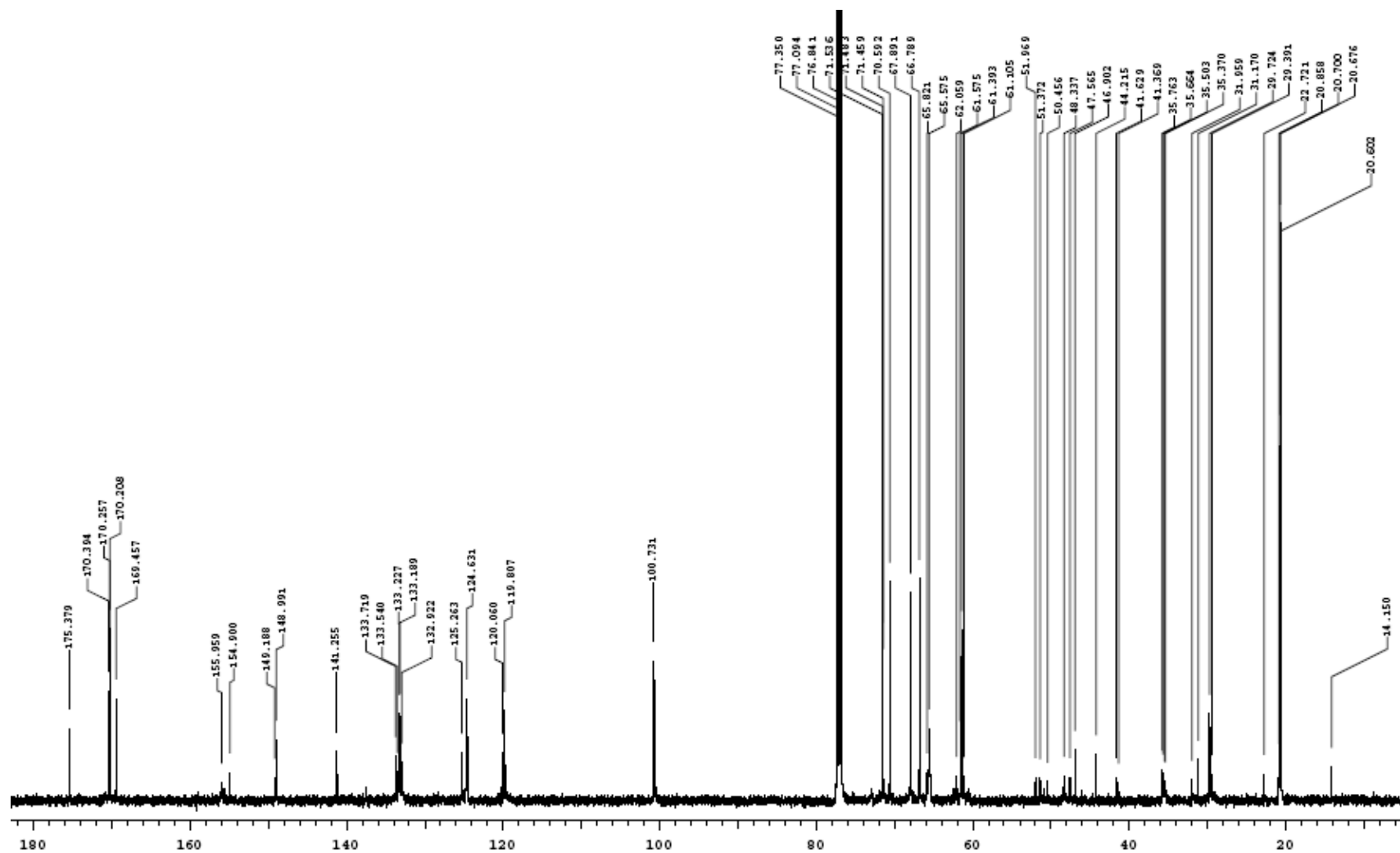


Fig. S13: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-2-aminoethanol-carbonyl-chloride (22).

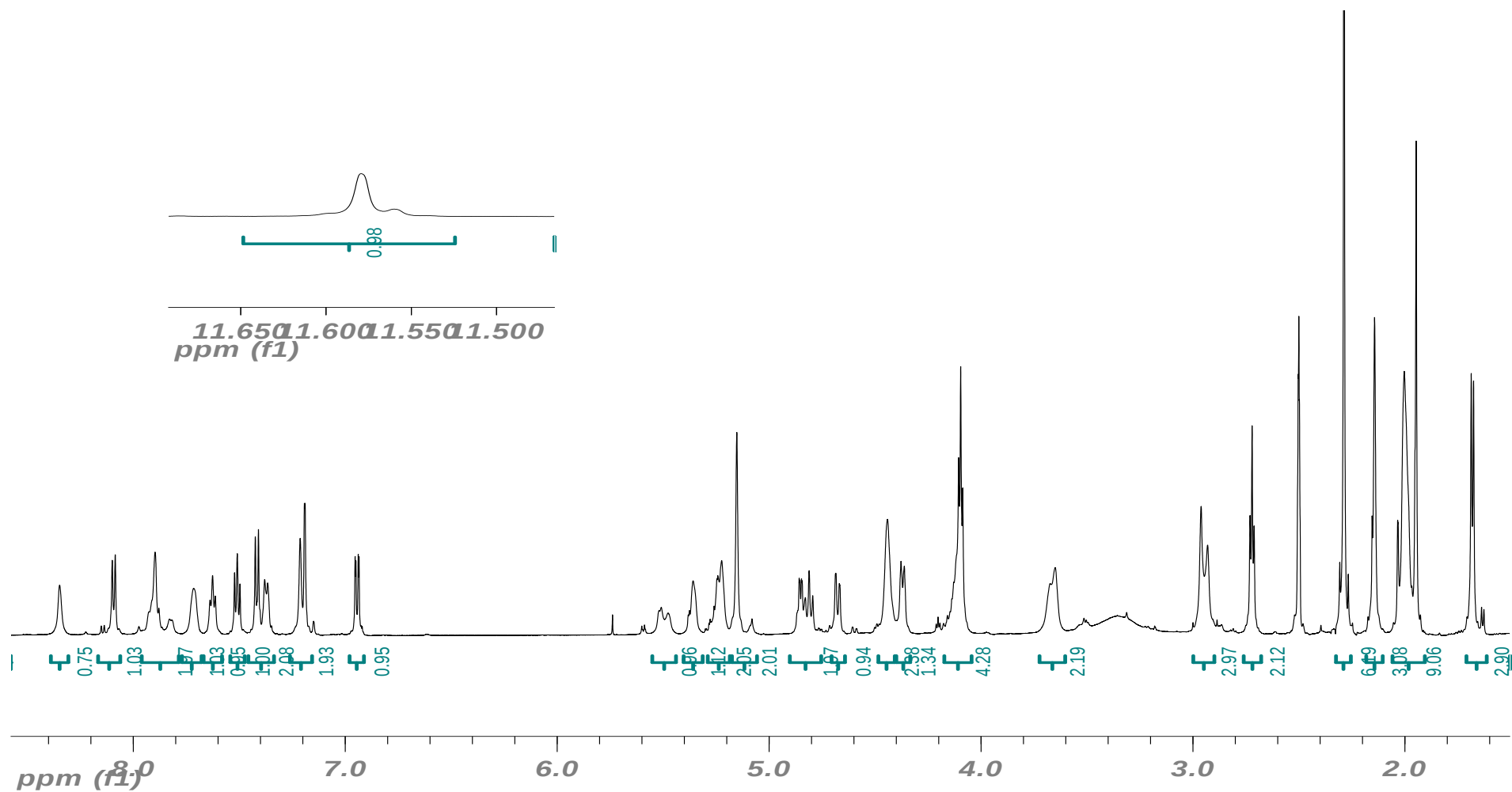


Fig. S14: ^1H NMR of (+)-*N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-O-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3H-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-2-aminoethanol-carbonate ((1*S*,10*R*)-26).

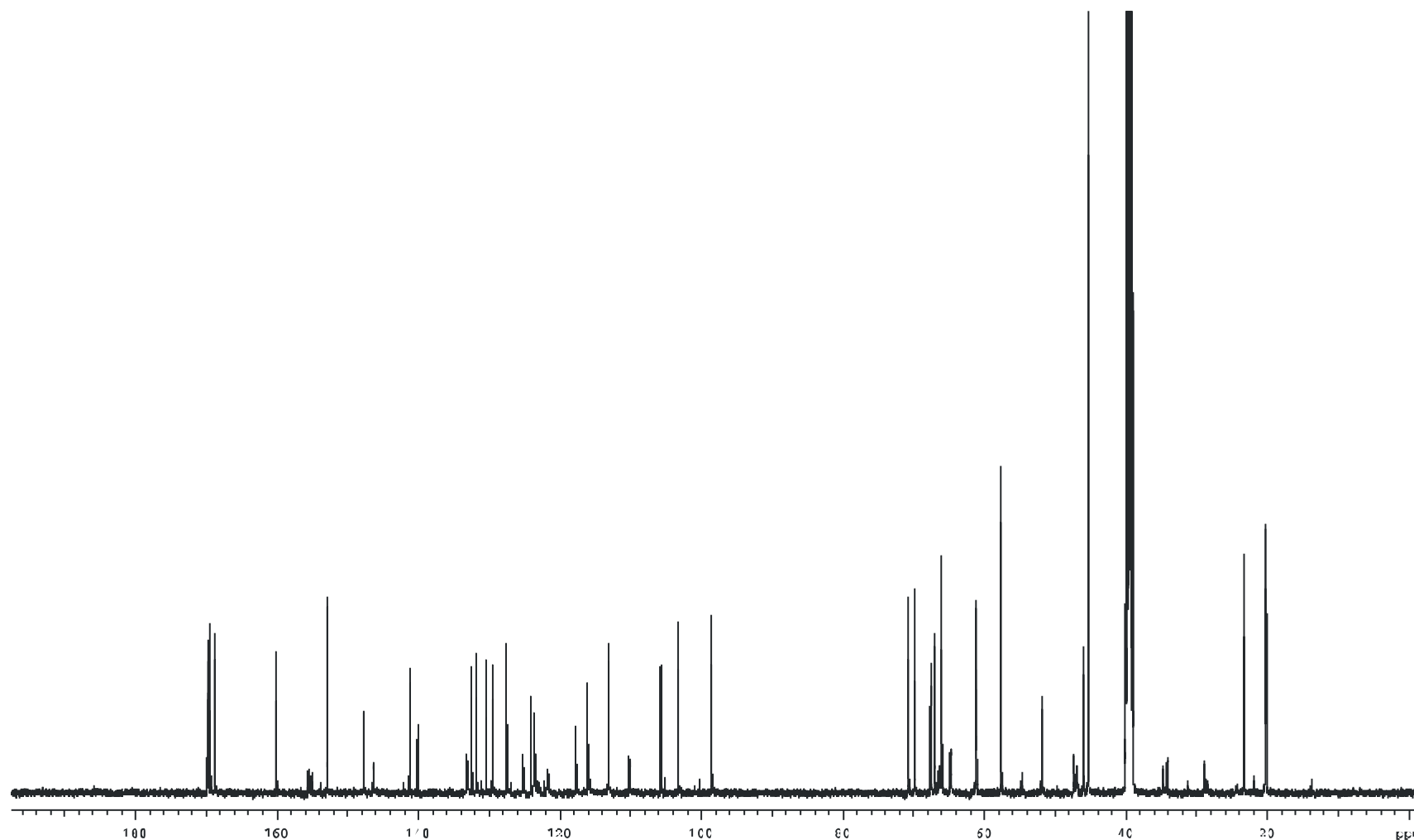


Fig. S15: ^{13}C NMR of (+)-*N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-O-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3H-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-2-aminoethanol-carbonate ((1*S*,10*R*)-26).

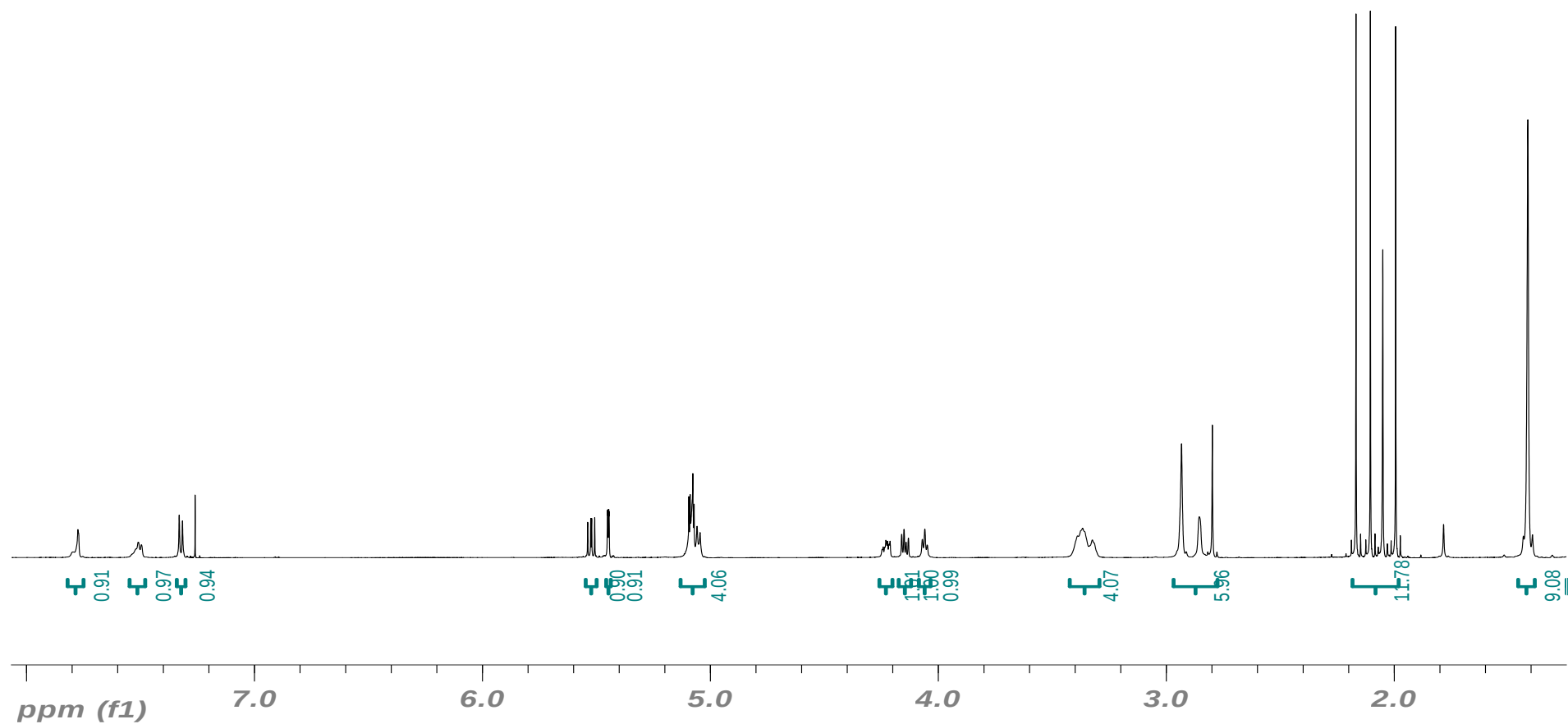


Fig. S16: ^1H NMR of *N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-*N'*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)-ethylendiamine (20a).

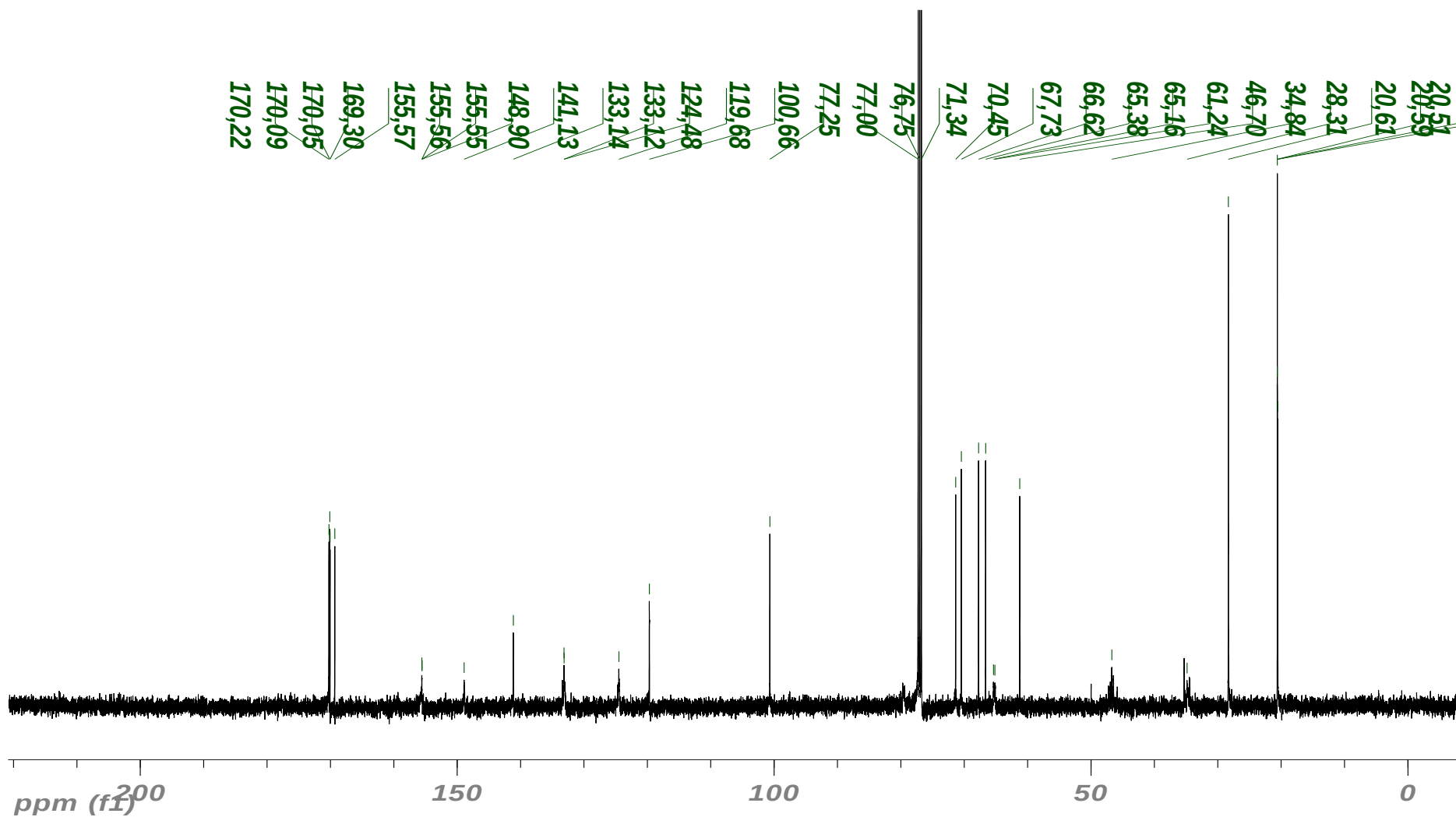


Fig. S17: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-*N'*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)-ethylendiamine (20a).

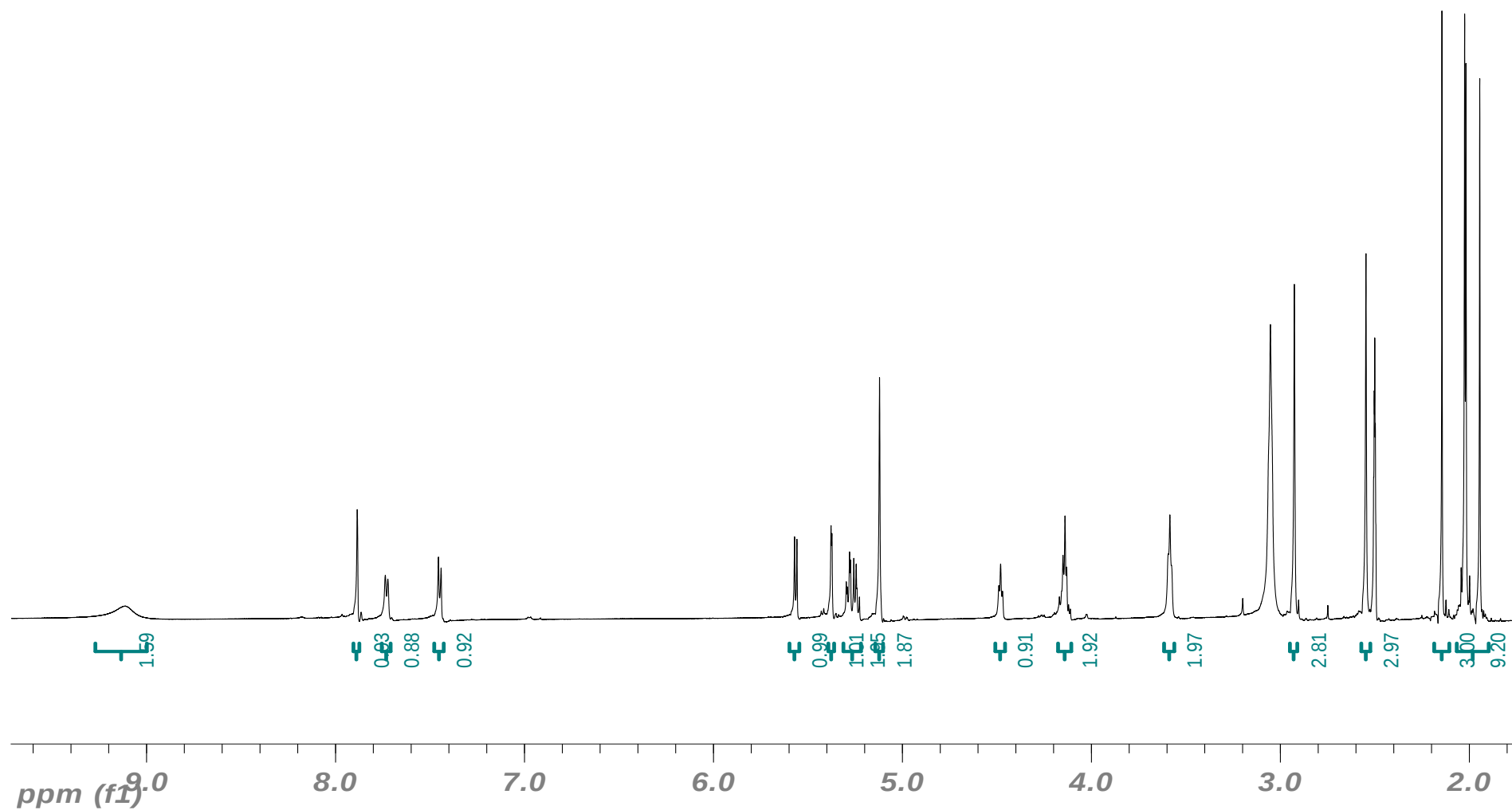


Fig. S18: ^1H NMR of N,N' -Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylendiamine-hydrochloride (20b).

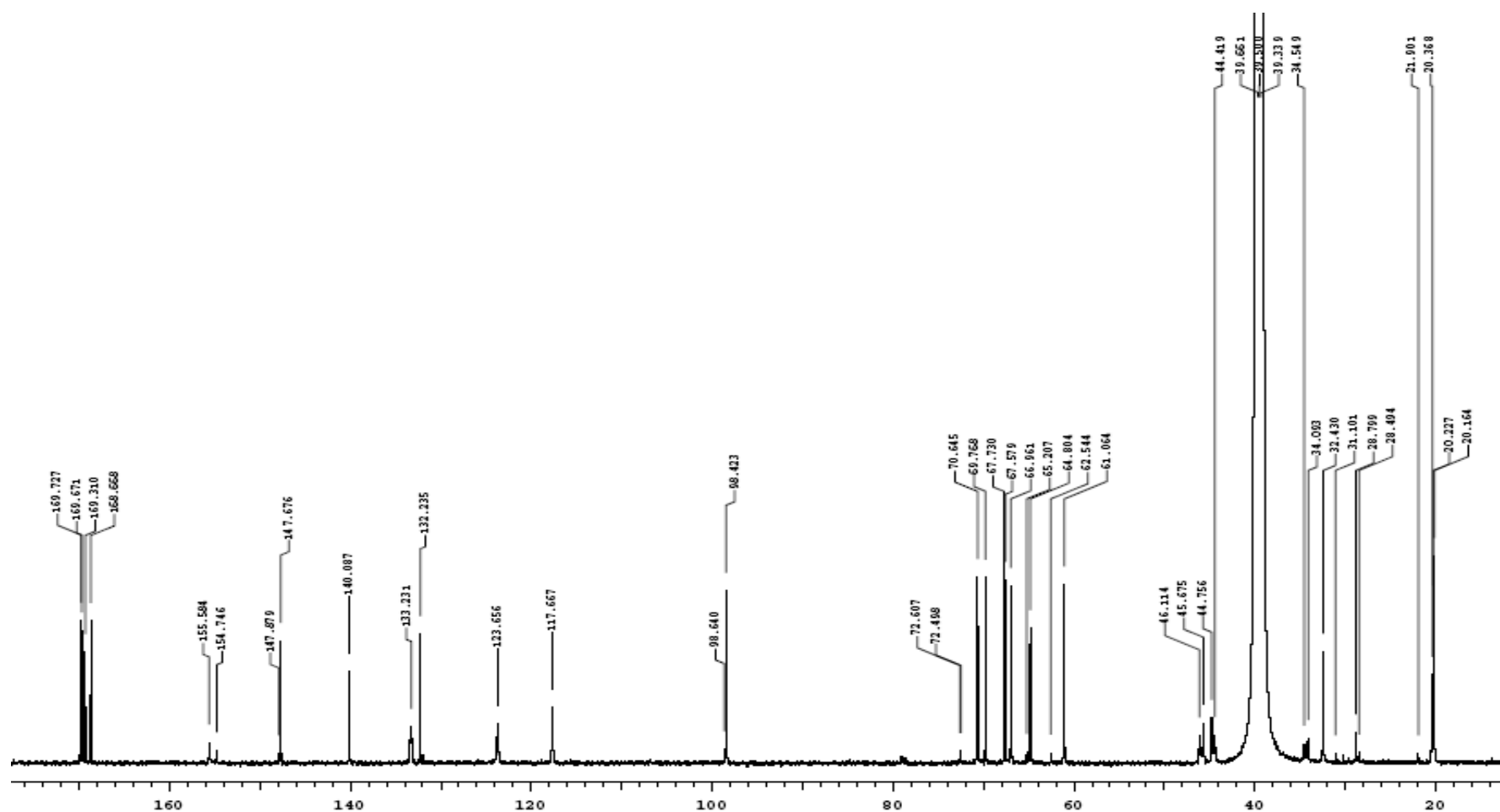


Fig. S19: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylendiamine-hydrochloride (20b).

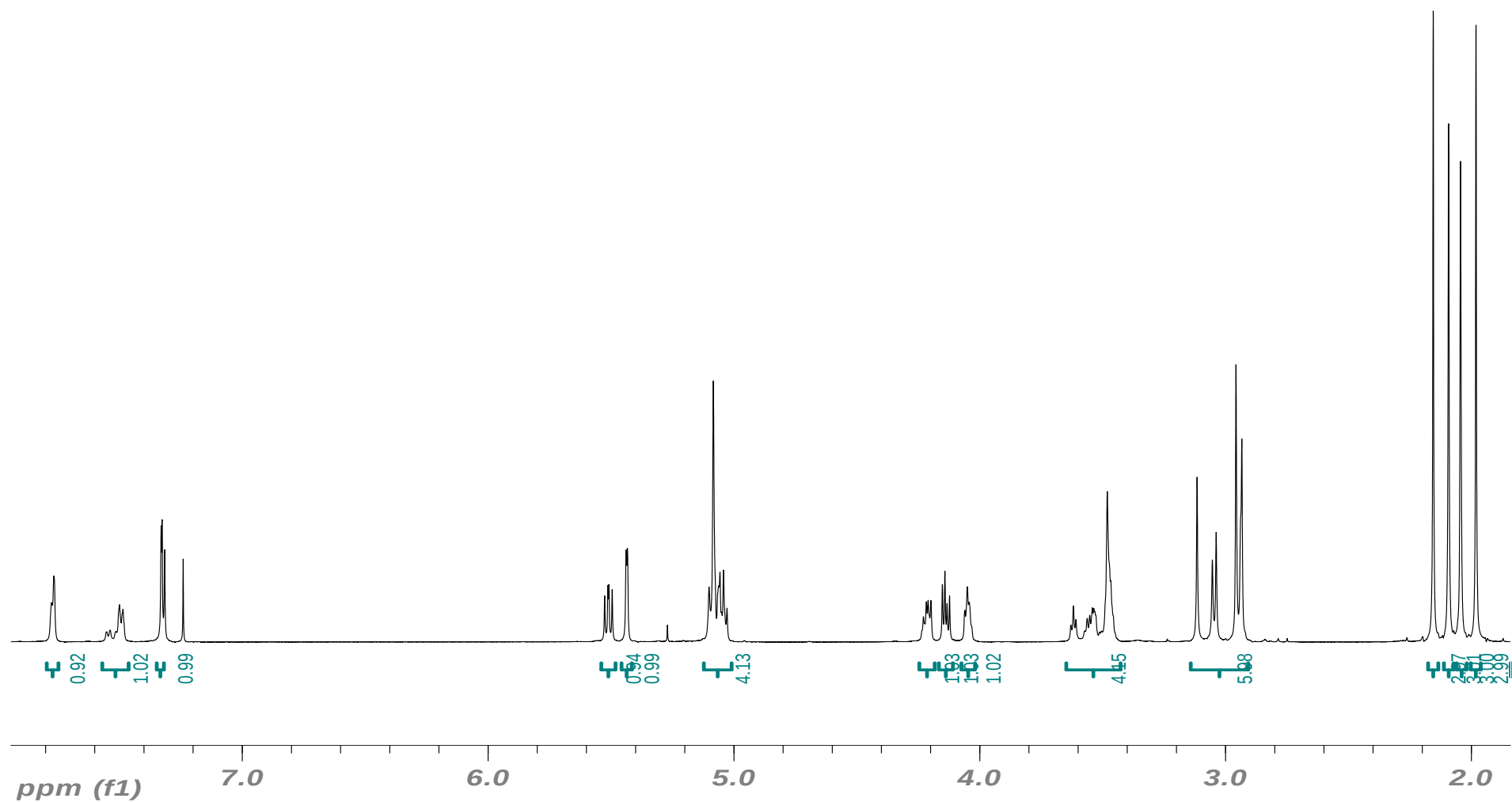


Fig. S20: ^1H NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylenediamine-carbonyl-chloride (21)

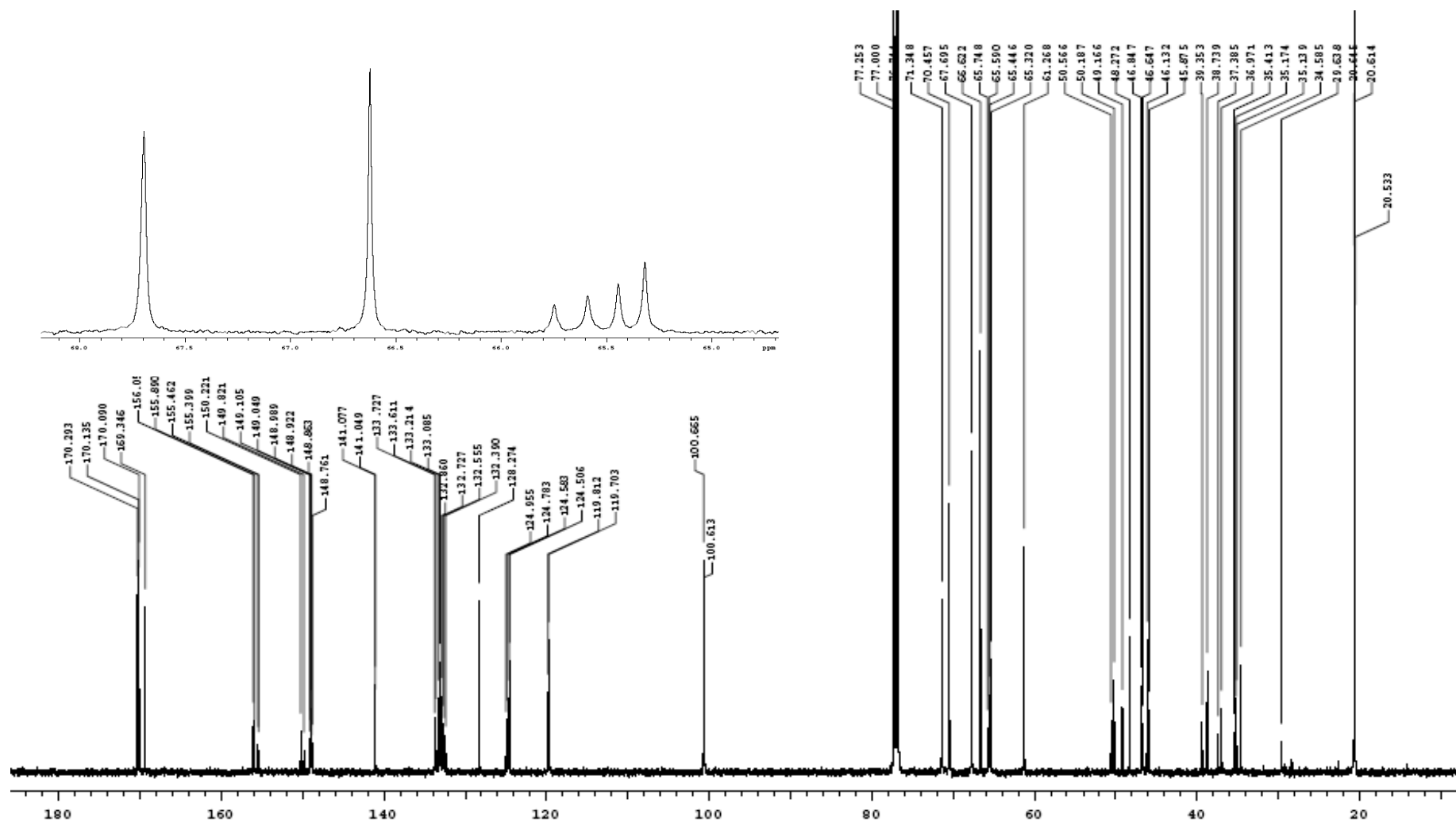


Fig. S21: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylendiamine-carbonyl-chloride (21)

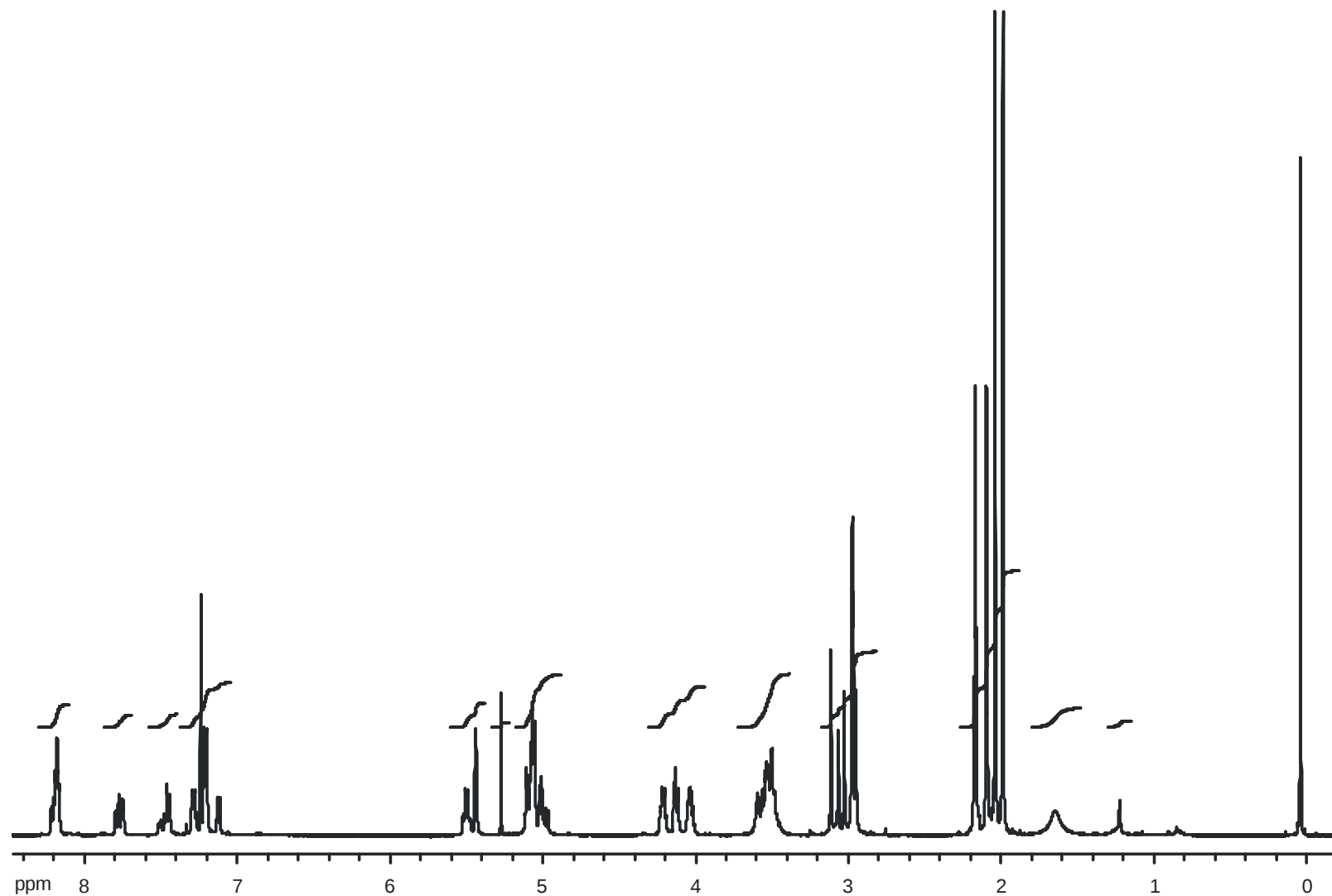


Fig. S22: ^1H NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylenediamine-carbonyl-4-nitrophenol (23).

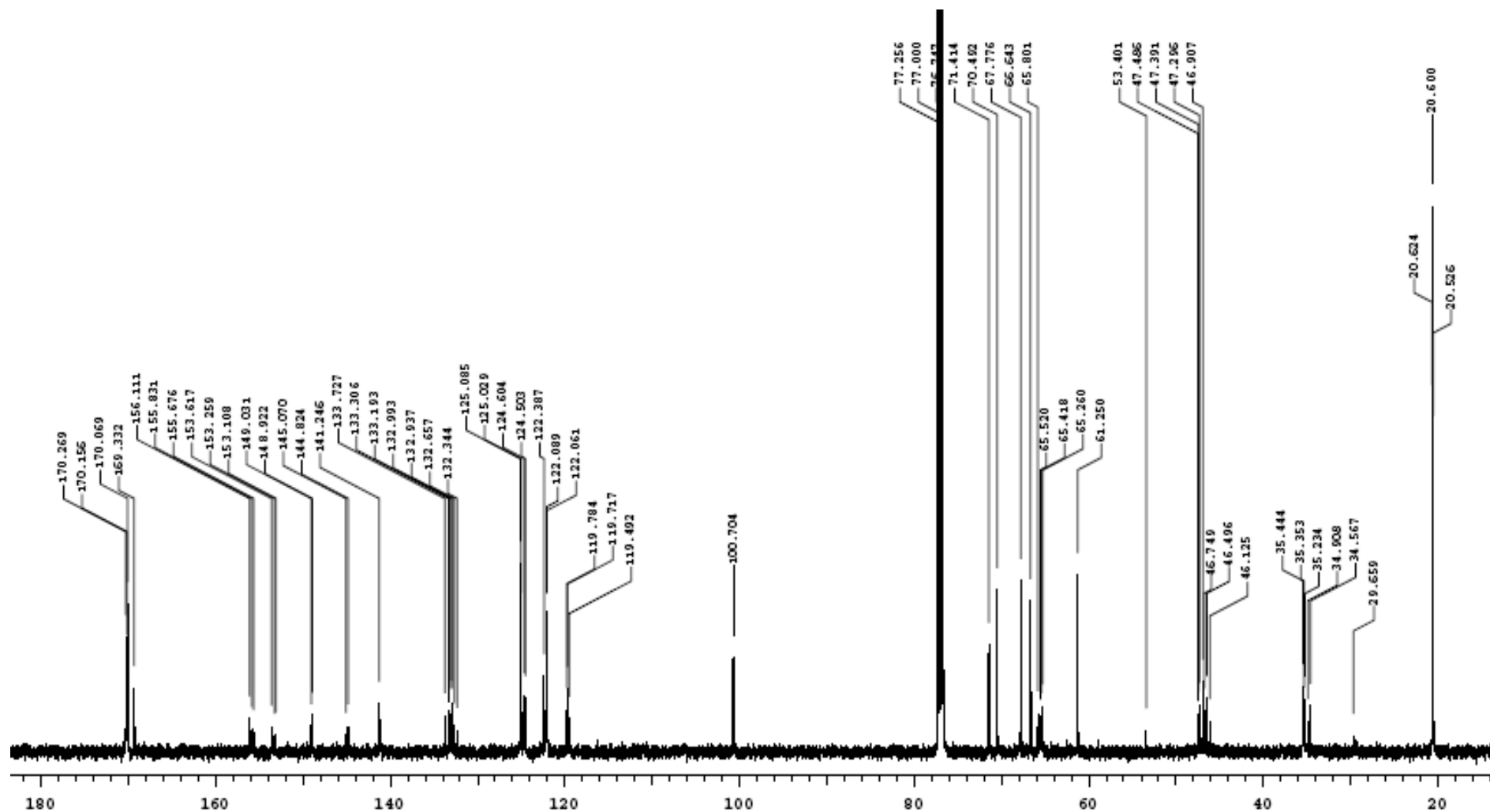


Fig. S23: ^{13}C NMR of *N,N*-Methyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-ethylendiamine-carbonyl-4-nitrophenol (23).

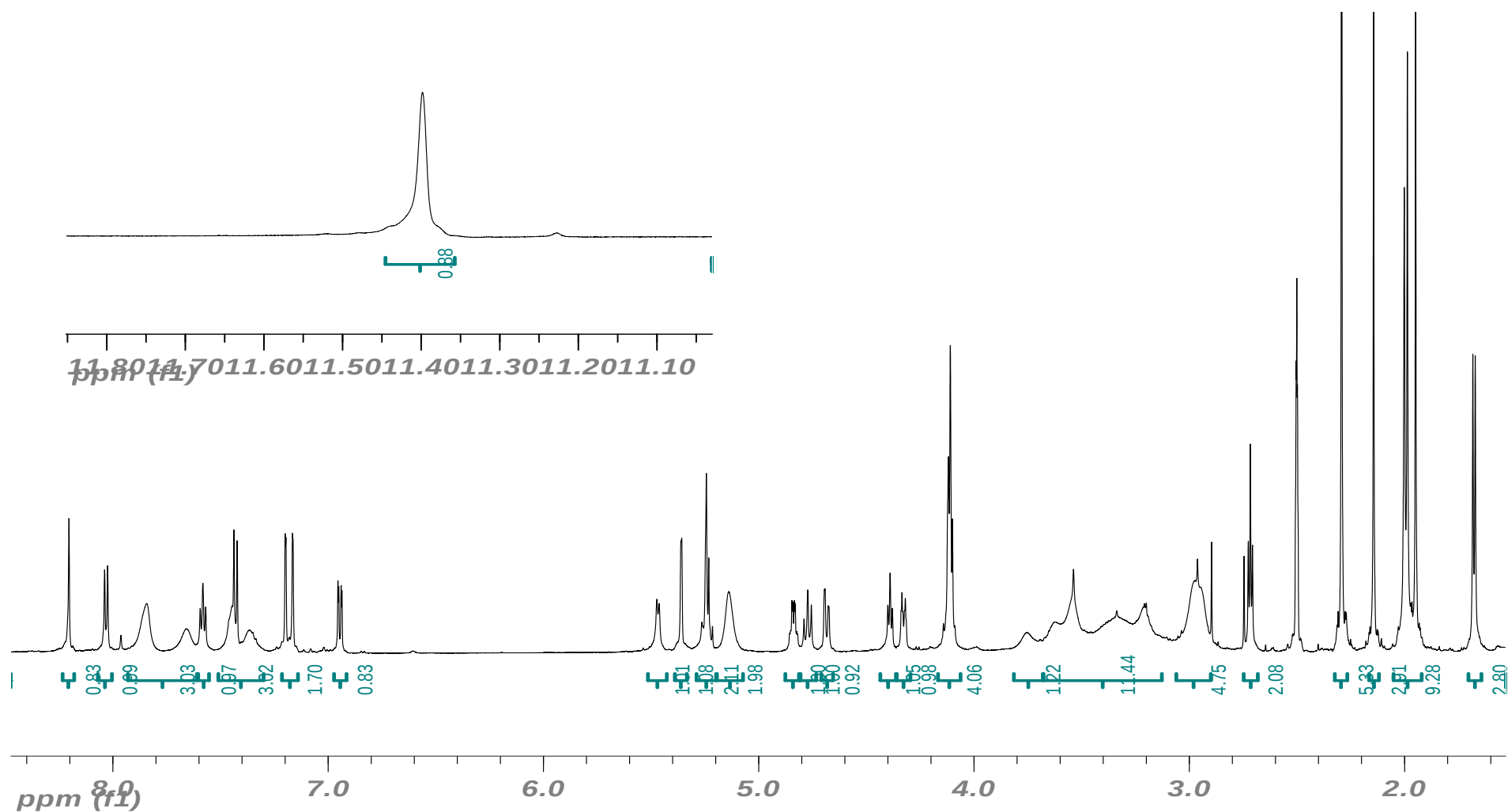


Fig. S24: ^1H NMR of (+)-*N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-*O*-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3H-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-ethylendiamine carbamate ((1*S*,10*R*)-25).

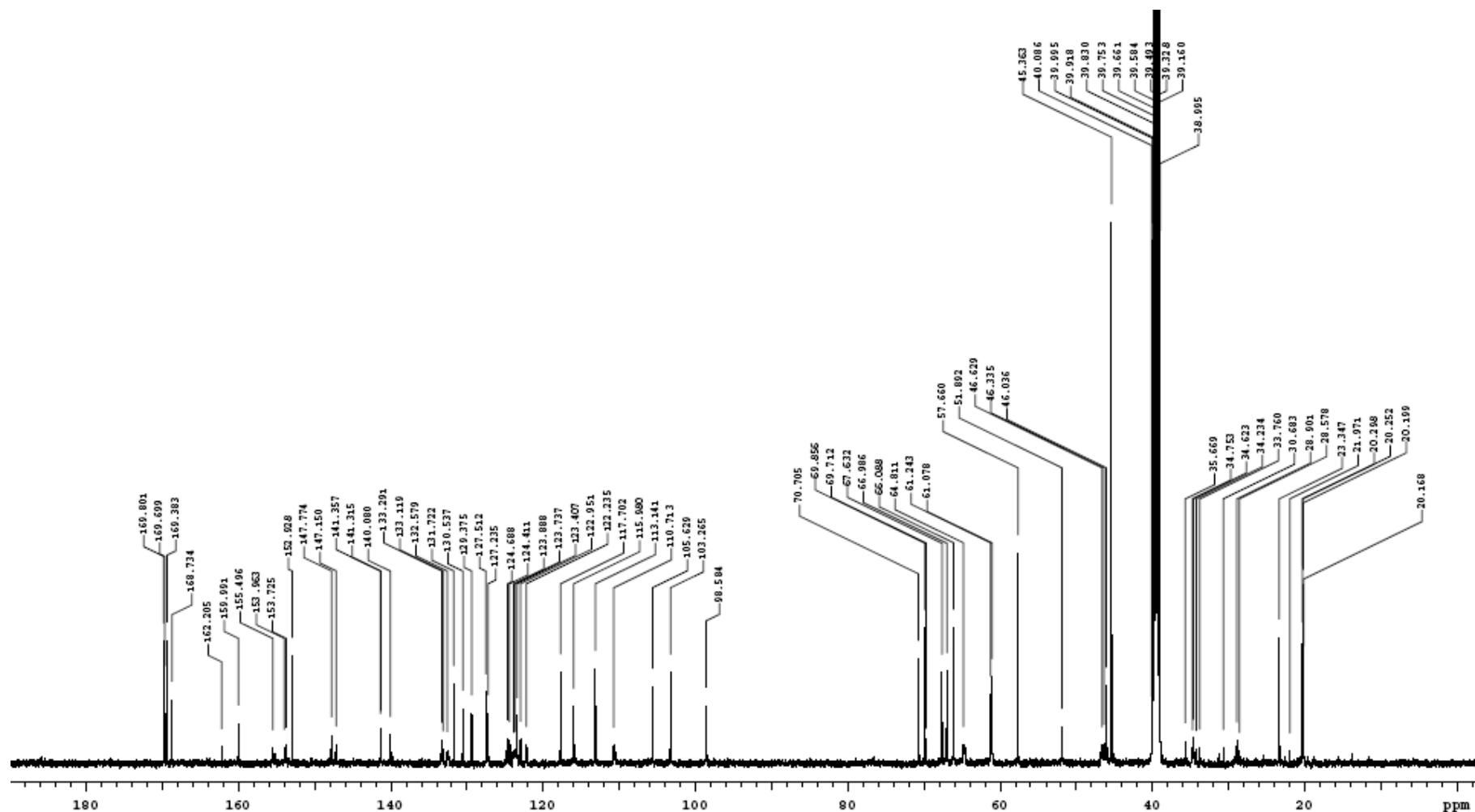


Fig. S25: ^{13}C NMR of (+)-*N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-acetyl- β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-*O*-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3*H*-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-ethylendiamine carbamate ((1*S*,10*R*)-25).

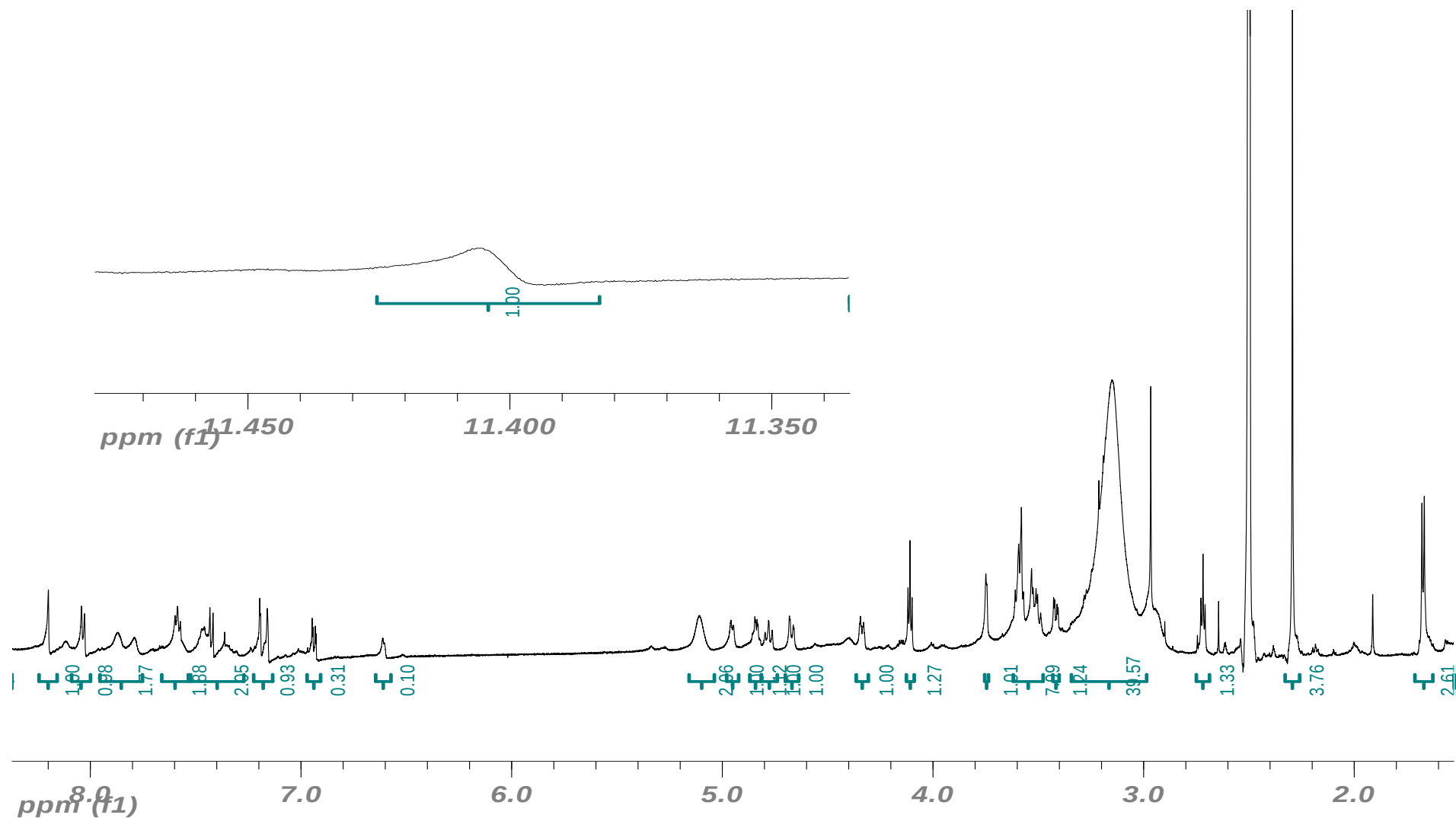


Fig. S26: ^1H NMR of (+)-*N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(β -D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-O-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3H-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-ethylendiamine carbamate ((1*S*,10*R*)-11).

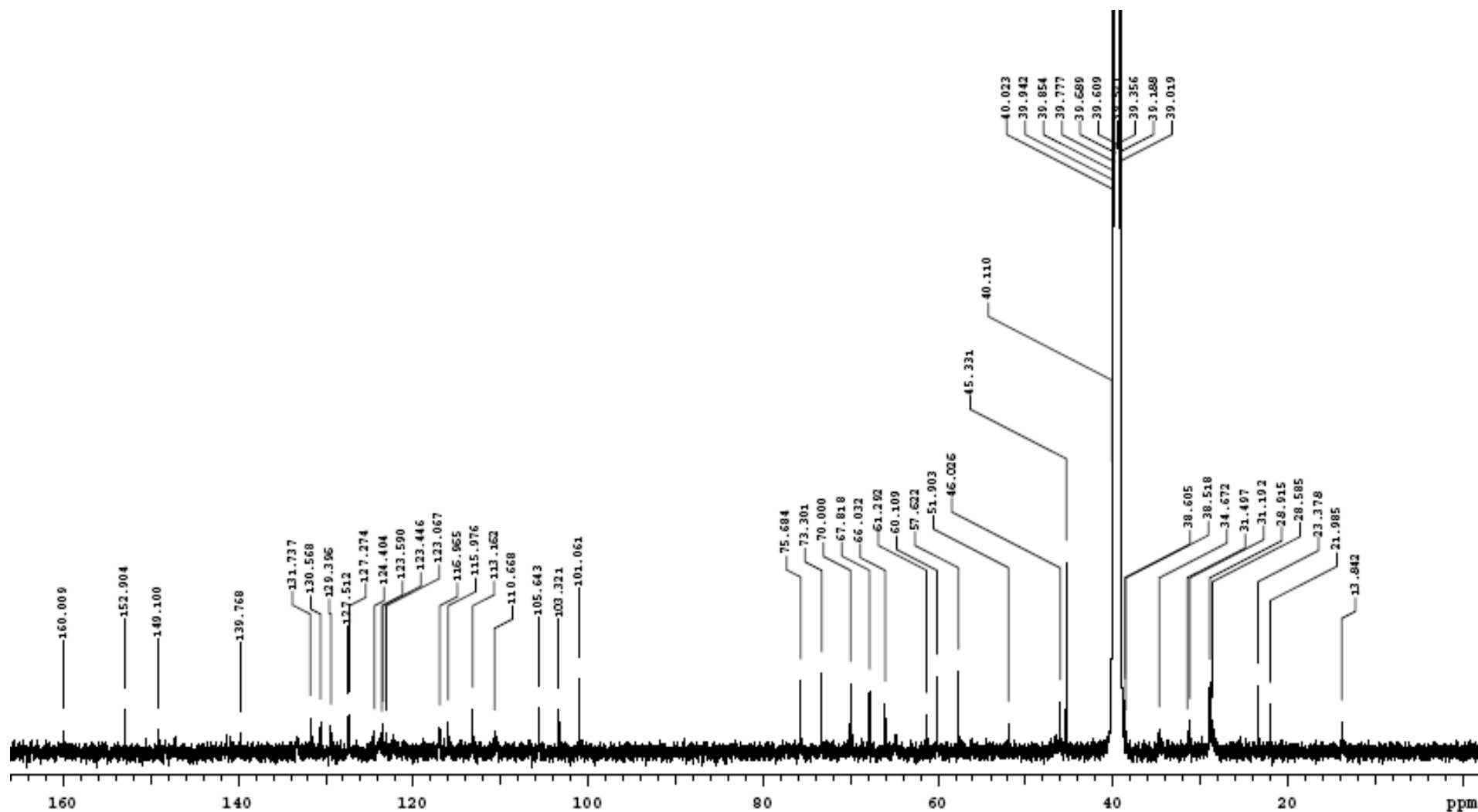
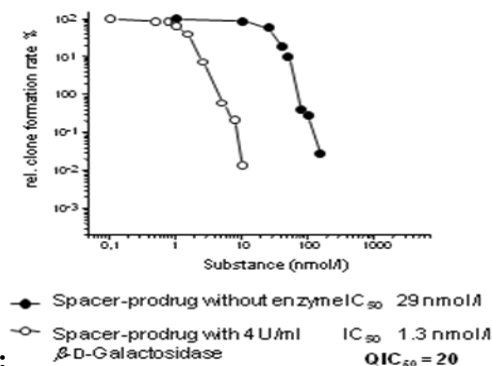


Fig. S27: ¹³C NMR of (+)-*N,N'*-Dimethyl-[4-(β-D-galactopyranosyl)-3-nitrobenzyl-oxycarbonyl]-O-{{methyl-((1*S*,10*R*)-1-(10-chloro-ethyl)-3-[(5-(2-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)-ethoxy)-indol-2-yl)carbonyl]-1,2-dihydro-3*H*-benz[*e*]indol-5-yl)}}-ethylendiamine carbamate ((1*S*,10*R*)-11).

HTCFA *in vitro* data results for the β -D-Galactose-diaminespacer (1S,10R)-11 on A549 cells:

without β -D-Galactosidase		with β -D-Galactosidase (4 U/mL)	
Concentration	Clone formation rate [%]	Concentration	Clone formation rate [%]
[nM]	pH = 7.4	[nM]	pH = 7.4
0	100	0	100
1.05	98.46	0.11	98.56
10.53	86.15	0.53	85.7
26.25	58.32	0.79	86.76
42.13	18.06	1.05	66.56
52.66	9.91	1.58	39.46
79.00	0.4	2.63	7.3
105.33	0.29	5.27	0.607
158.00	0.028	7.9	0.215
		10.53	0.014

The effective dosis (IC_{50}) of the prodrug (1S,10R)-11 is 29 nM without β -D-Galactosidase and 1.3 nM in the presence of β -D-Galactosidase.



Graph of HTCFA *in vitro* results of the β -D-Galactose-diaminespacer (1S,10R)-11: