

## Supplementary Materials

# Regioselective Synthesis and Molecular Docking Studies of 1,5-Disubstituted 1,2,3-Triazole Derivatives of Pyrimidine Nucleobases

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## Experimental

### *Materials and Methods*

Commercial starting materials were purchased from Merck (Milano, Italy) or Alfa Aesar (Karlsruhe, Germany) and were used without further purification. Reactions were monitored by TLC using silica plates 60-F264, commercially available from Merck (Milano, Italy).  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra and two-dimensional NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 500 MHz and 125.7 MHz, respectively, in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard (Bruker ACP 300 Mhz and Bruker Avance 500 MHz with a 5 mm TBO probe, Rheinstetten, Germany). Chemical shifts are given in parts per million and coupling constants in Hertz. The purity and the regiochemistry were established by NMR spectra ( $^1\text{H}$ -NMR experiments). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded with a Bruker Compact QTOF instrument (Bruker, Billerica, MA, USA). HRMS spectra were acquired in positive ion mode, with a mass resolution of 30000. Mass calibration was performed with a solution of sodium formate clusters and processed in HPC mode. Spectra acquisition was performed in flow injection, with a full scan mode in the range of 50 to 500  $m/z$ .  $\text{N}_2$  was the source of dry gas ( $V = 4 \text{ L/min}$ ,  $T = 180 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ). The ion formula of each compound was calculated with the Smart Formula tool of the Bruker software platform, analyzing the isotopic pattern ratio with 4 mDa mass confidence.

### *General procedure for nucleobases propargylation.*

In a three-necked round-bottomed flask, equipped with a bubble condenser and magnetic stir bar, the opportune nucleobase **1–3** (39.6 mmol, 1 eq) in dry hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS, 139 mmol, 3.5 eq) was suspended under nitrogen atmosphere. Subsequently, trimethylsilyl chloride (8.71 mmol, 0.22 eq) and  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  (1.98 mmol, 0.05 eq) were added and the mixture was stirred at  $145 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 h. After completion, the solution was cooled to room temperature and the HMDS was evaporated under vacuum. Then, the obtained silylated nucleobase **4–6** was dissolved in dry acetonitrile (150 mL) without any further purification. Propargyl bromide (39.6 mmol, 1 eq) was added dropwise at  $80 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 min and the reaction was stirred under reflux for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, acetonitrile was removed under vacuum and the crude was purified by silica flash chromatography (eluent mixture  $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  8:2) to give a solid product **7–9**.

**1-propargylthymine (7).** White solid, yield 92%. ( $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{acetone}/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  8:1:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.76 (d,  $J = 1.23 \text{ Hz}$ , 3H;  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.39 (t,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H;  $\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ), 4.46 (d,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 2H;  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.56 (d,  $J = 1.23 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H; CH), 11.38 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 12.37, 36.77, 76.09, 79.12, 109.86, 140.57, 150.82, 164.59. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ : 165.0659  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , found 165.0653;  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ : 187.0483  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ , found 187.0473.

**1-propargyluracil (8).** White solid, yield 90%. ( $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{acetone}/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  8:1:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.43 (t,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H;  $\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ), 4.50 (d,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 2H;  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.62 (d,  $J = 7.89 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H; CH), 7.70 (d,  $J = 7.89 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H; CH), 11.40 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 37.08, 76.29, 78.92, 102.16, 144.24, 150.85, 164.01. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ : 173.0321  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ , found 173.0318.

**5-fluoro-1-propargyluracil (9).** White solid, yield 87%. ( $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{acetone}/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  8:1:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.45 (t,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H;  $\text{C}\equiv\text{CH}$ ), 4.45 (d,  $J = 2.50 \text{ Hz}$ , 2H;  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 8.13 (d,  $J = 6.67 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H; CH), 11.93 (bd,  $^4J = 4.39 \text{ Hz}$ , 1H; NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 37.46, 76.58, 78.58, 129.38 (d), 140.27 (d), 149.51, 157.80 (d). HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{FN}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ : 191.0227  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ , found 191.0223.

*General procedure for 1,5-disubstituted 1,2,3-triazoles 14a-25a.*

In a 50 ml two-necked round-bottomed flask, equipped with a bubble condenser and magnetic stir bar, propargyl nucleobase **7-9** (1.52 mmol, 1 eq) was dissolved in DMF (8 mL). Subsequently, FeCl<sub>3</sub> (0.304 mmol, 0.2 eq) and opportune azide **10-13** (3.05 mmol, 2 eq) were added and the mixture was stirred at 120°C for 8 h. DMF was removed under vacuum by generating an azeotrope with toluene, and the obtained crude solid was purified on a flash silica gel column (eluent mixture: CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1 v/v/v) to obtain the desired solid products **14a-25a**. The configuration of the regioisomers was attributed by spectroscopic data.

**1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (14a).** White solid, yield 88%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 1.77 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.00 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.43-7.53 (m, 1H; Ar), 7.58 (t, *J*=7.83 Hz, 2H; Ar), 7.67 (s, 1H; CH), 7.89 (d, *J*=7.83 Hz, 2H; Ar), 8.79 (s, 1H, CH), 11.37 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 12.16, 42.35, 109.21, 120.23, 121.87, 128.89, 130.04, 136.70, 141.28, 144.03, 150.96, 164.51. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 284.1142 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 284.1142; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na: 306.0967 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, found 306.0960; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>K: 322.0706 [M+K]<sup>+</sup>, found 322.0699.

**1-[(1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)-methyl]-thymine (14b).** White solid. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 1.66 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.00 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.32 (s, 1H, CH), 7.41-7.75 (m, 5H, Ar), 7.80 (s, 1H, CH), 11.32 (s, 1H, NH). <sup>13</sup>C-APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm) 11.92, 40.91, 109.10, 125.30, 129.72, 129.96, 133.16, 134.49, 135.59, 140.54, 150.55, 164.13.

**1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (15a).** White solid, yield 90%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 5.04 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.62 (d, *J*=7.80 Hz, 1H; CH), 7.43-7.54 (m, 1H; Ar), 7.54-7.67 (m, 2H; Ar), 7.80 (d, *J*=7.80 Hz, 1H; CH), 7.85-7.96 (m, 2H; Ar), 8.80, (s, 1H; CH), 11.36 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 42.54, 101.59, 120.24, 121.88, 128.90, 130.04, 136.68, 143.85, 145.63, 150.96, 163.90. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 270.0986 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 270.0986; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na: 292.0810 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, found 292.0805; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>K: 308.0550 [M+K]<sup>+</sup>, found 308.0544.

**5-fluoro-1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (16a).** White solid, yield 88%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 5.01 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.43-7.54 (m, 1H; Ar), 7.59 (t, *J*=7.97 Hz, 2H; Ar), 7.89 (d, *J*=7.97 Hz, 2H; Ar), 8.24 (d, *J*=6.70 Hz, 1H; CH), 8.80 (s, 1H; CH), 11.91 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 43.24, 120.51, 122.17, 129.22, 130.35, 130.36 (d, *J*=33.70 Hz), 136.99, 140.31 (d, *J*=229.50 Hz), 144.05, 149.94, 158.02 (d, 25.84 Hz). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 288.0891 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 288.0888; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na: 310.0716 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, found 310.0706; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>K: 326.0456 [M+K]<sup>+</sup>, found 326.0445.

**1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (17a).** White solid, yield 85%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 1.75 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.89 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.57 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.24-7.44 (m, 5H; Ar), 7.63 (s, 1H; CH), 8.14 (s, 1H; CH), 11.33 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 17.01, 47.39, 57.94, 113.96, 128.71, 133.10, 133.26, 133.85, 141.02, 146.27, 147.93, 155.81, 169.36. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 298.1299 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 298.1293.

**1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (18a).** White solid, yield 87%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 4.92 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.58 (d, 1H, *J*=7.5 Hz; CH), 7.27-7.40 (m, 5H; Ar), 7.75 (d, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H; CH), 8.14 (s, 1H; CH), 11.33 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C APT NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 42.90, 53.28, 101.70, 124.10, 128.46, 128.62, 129.21, 136.38, 143.14, 145.96, 151.19, 164.13. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 284.1142 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found 284.1138; *m/z* calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na: 306.0967 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, found 306.0957.

**5-fluoro-1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (19a).** White solid, yield 84%. (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/acetone/CH<sub>3</sub>OH 8:1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 4.90 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.58 (s, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.29-7.34 (m, 3H; Ar), 7.34-7.39 (m, 2H; Ar), 8.16 (s, 1H; CH), 8.18 (d, *J*=6.75 Hz, 1H; CH), 11.63 (s, 1H; NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm)= 43.30, 53.35, 124.16, 128.49, 128.64, 129.23, 136.37, 139.24, 141.06, 142.96, 149.87, 157.93. HRMS

(ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{13}FN_5O_2$ : 302.1048  $[M+H]^+$ , found 302.1038;  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{12}FN_5O_2Na$ : 324.0873  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 324.0856.

**1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (20a).** Pale-yellow solid, yield 83%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 1.77 (s, 3H;  $CH_3$ ), 5.03 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 7.68 (s, 1H; CH), 8.22 (d,  $J=9.01$  Hz, 2H; Ar), 8.44 (d, 2H,  $J=9.01$  Hz; Ar), 9.00 (s, 1H; CH), 11.39 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 12.55, 42.77, 109.74, 121.25, 122.75, 126.12, 141.68, 141.72, 145.11, 147.35, 151.37, 164.98. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{12}N_6O_4Na$ : 351.0812  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 351.0812.

**1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (21a).** Pale-yellow solid, yield 86%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 5.09 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 5.66 (d, 1H,  $J=7.84$  Hz, CH), 7.83 (d, 1H,  $J=7.84$  Hz, CH), 8.24 (d, 2H,  $J=8.78$  Hz, Ar), 8.45 (d, 2H,  $J=8.78$  Hz, Ar), 9.02 (s, 1H, CH), 11.39 (s, 1H, NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 42.94, 102.04, 121.17, 122.72, 126.06, 141.25, 144.92, 146.01, 147.29, 151.34, 164.34. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{10}N_6O_4Na$ : 337.0656  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 337.0653.

**5-fluoro-1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (22a).** Pale-yellow solid, yield 82%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 5.07 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 7.98 (m, 2H; Ar), 8.06 (d,  $J=6.75$  Hz, 1H; CH), 8.47 (m, 2H; Ar), 9.02 (s, 1H; CH), 11.90 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 43.36, 121.24, 126.92, 135.31, 141.07, 141.31, 144.85, 147.39, 148.38, 150.03, 158.20. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_{10}FN_6O_4$ : 333.0742  $[M+H]^+$ , found 333.0733;  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_9FN_6O_4Na$ : 355.0567  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 355.0554;  $m/z$   $[M+K]^+$  calcd for  $C_{13}H_9FN_6O_4K$ : 371.0306  $[M+K]^+$ , found 371.0293.

**1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (23a).** White solid, yield 89%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 1.77 (s, 3H;  $CH_3$ ), 3.82 (s, 3H;  $CH_3$ ), 4.98 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 7.12 (d, 2H,  $J=9.05$  Hz; Ar), 7.66 (s, 1H; CH), 7.79 (d, 2H,  $J=9.05$  Hz; Ar), 8.67 (s, 1H; CH), 11.35 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 12.45, 42.63, 56.04, 109.47, 115.32, 122.12, 122.21, 130.43, 141.58, 144.04, 151.24, 159.77, 164.80. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{15}H_{16}N_5O_3$ : 314.1248  $[M+H]^+$ , found 314.1245;  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{15}H_{15}N_5O_3Na$ : 336.1073  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 336.1062;  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{15}H_{15}N_5O_3K$ : 352.0812  $[M+K]^+$ , found 352.0805.

**1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (24a).** White solid, yield 90%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)=3.82 (s, 3H;  $CH_3$ ), 5.02 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 5.62 (d, 1H,  $J=7.89$  Hz; CH), 7.12 (m, 2H; Ar), 7.79 (m, 2H; Ar), 7.81 (d, 1H,  $J=7.89$  Hz, CH), 8.69 (s, 1H; CH), 11.37 (s, 1H; NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 42.83, 56.02, 101.86, 115.31, 122.07, 122.20, 130.41, 143.87, 145.93, 151.26, 159.77, 164.21. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{14}N_5O_3$ : 300.1091  $[M+H]^+$ , found 300.1086;  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{13}N_5O_3Na$ : 322.0916  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 322.0903; calcd for  $C_{14}H_{13}N_5O_3K$ : 338.0655  $m/z$   $[M+K]^+$ , found 338.0642.

**5-fluoro-1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (25a).** White solid, yield 88%. ( $CHCl_3$ /acetone/ $CH_3OH$  8:1:1);  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)=3.82 (s, 3H;  $CH_3$ ), 4.99 (s, 2H;  $CH_2$ ), 7.12 (m, 2H; Ar), 7.79 (m, 2H; Ar), 8.24 (d,  $J=6.70$  Hz, 1H; CH), 8.70 (s, 1H; CH), 11.91 (d,  $J=6.67$  Hz, 1H; NH).  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm)= 43.24, 56.04, 115.33, 122.17, 130.38, 130.43, 139.38, 141.21, 143.77, 149.94, 158.03, 159.79. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{14}H_{12}FN_5O_3Na$ : 340.0816  $[M+Na]^+$ , found 340.0809.

## Docking studies

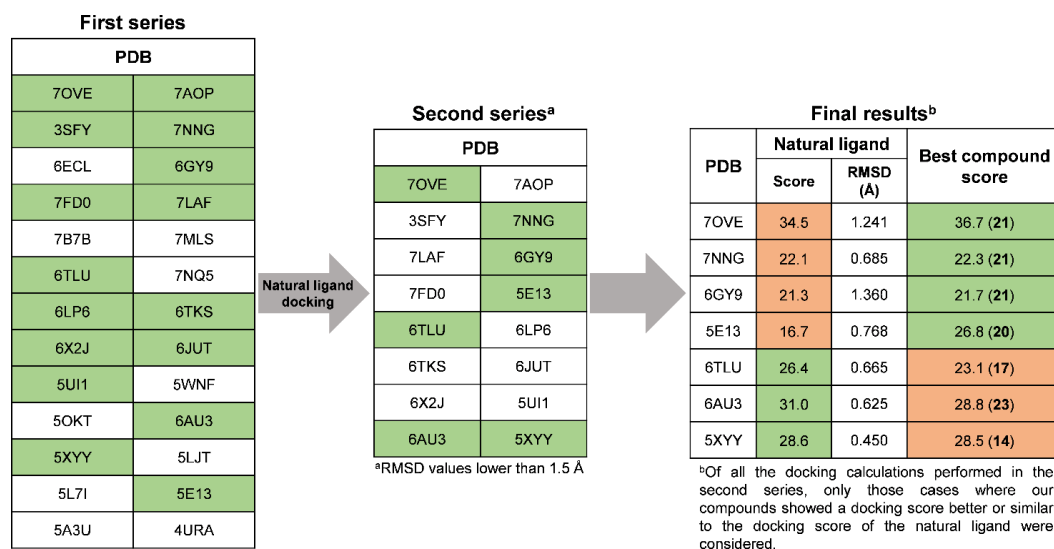
For each receptor, the docking cavity was centered on the binding site of the crystallographic ligand and allowed to extend in a spherical surrounding volume with a radius of 15 Å. In cases where a metal ion was present at the binding site, the docking cavity was centered on it and metal parameters were set to maintain the same coordination number as in the crystallographic structure. In absence of metals, the XYZ coordinates that defined the center of the cavity were obtained from the position of the cocrystallized ligand, choosing an atom which was reasonably at the center of the ligand. The number of genetic algorithm runs was set to 20 for each analyzed ligand. Protein structures were prepared using UCSF Chimera,<sup>1</sup> by reverting selenomethionine to methionine, eliminating alternate locations of side chains, adding hydrogen atoms, assigning appropriate protein atom types, and removing the co-crystallized ligand and solvent molecules. Crystallographic ligands were docked after adding hydrogen atoms with UCSF Chimera and without optimizing their geometries. Conversely, the geometries of the screened ligands **14a–25a** were optimized quantum mechanically. Geometry optimizations and frequency calculations for stationary point characterization were carried out with Gaussian16<sup>2</sup> using the M06-2X hybrid functional,<sup>3</sup> the 6-31G(d,p) basis set and ultrafine integration grids. Bulk solvent effects in water were considered implicitly through the IEF-PCM polarizable continuum model.<sup>4</sup> As for the potential receptors, 26 targets were initially selected from the Protein Data Bank (Figure S1). The main selection criterion was the presence of a triazole (i.e. 1,2,3- and 1,2,4-triazoles) scaffold or structurally similar heterocycles (i.e. imidazoles, thiazoles) in the crystallographic structure of the ligand-receptor complex. Docking simulations were performed and keeping the coordinates of the protein fixed while allowing flexibilization of the ligands around their rotatable bonds.

<sup>1</sup> Pettersen, E.F.; Goddard, T.D.; Huang, C.C.; Couch, G.S.; Greenblatt, D.M.; Meng, E.C.; Ferrin, T.E. UCSF Chimera—A Visualization System for Exploratory Research and Analysis. *J. Comput. Chem.* **2004**, *25*, 1605–1612.

<sup>2</sup> Frisch, M.J.; Trucks, G.W.; Schlegel, H.B.; Scuseria, G.E.; Robb, M.A.; Cheeseman, J.R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G.A.; et al. *Gaussian 16, Revision C.01*; Gaussian, Inc.: Wallingford, CT, USA, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Zhao, Y.; Truhlar, D.G. The M06 suite of density functionals for main group thermochemistry, thermochemical kinetics, noncovalent interactions, excited states, and transition elements: Two new functionals and systematic testing of four M06-class functionals and 12 other functionals. *Theor. Chem. Acc.* **2008**, *120*, 215–241.

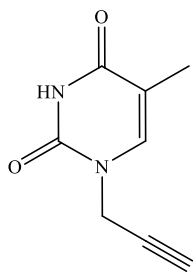
<sup>4</sup> Scalmani, G.; Frisch, M.J. Continuous surface charge polarizable continuum models of solvation. I. General formalism. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2010**, *132*, 114110.



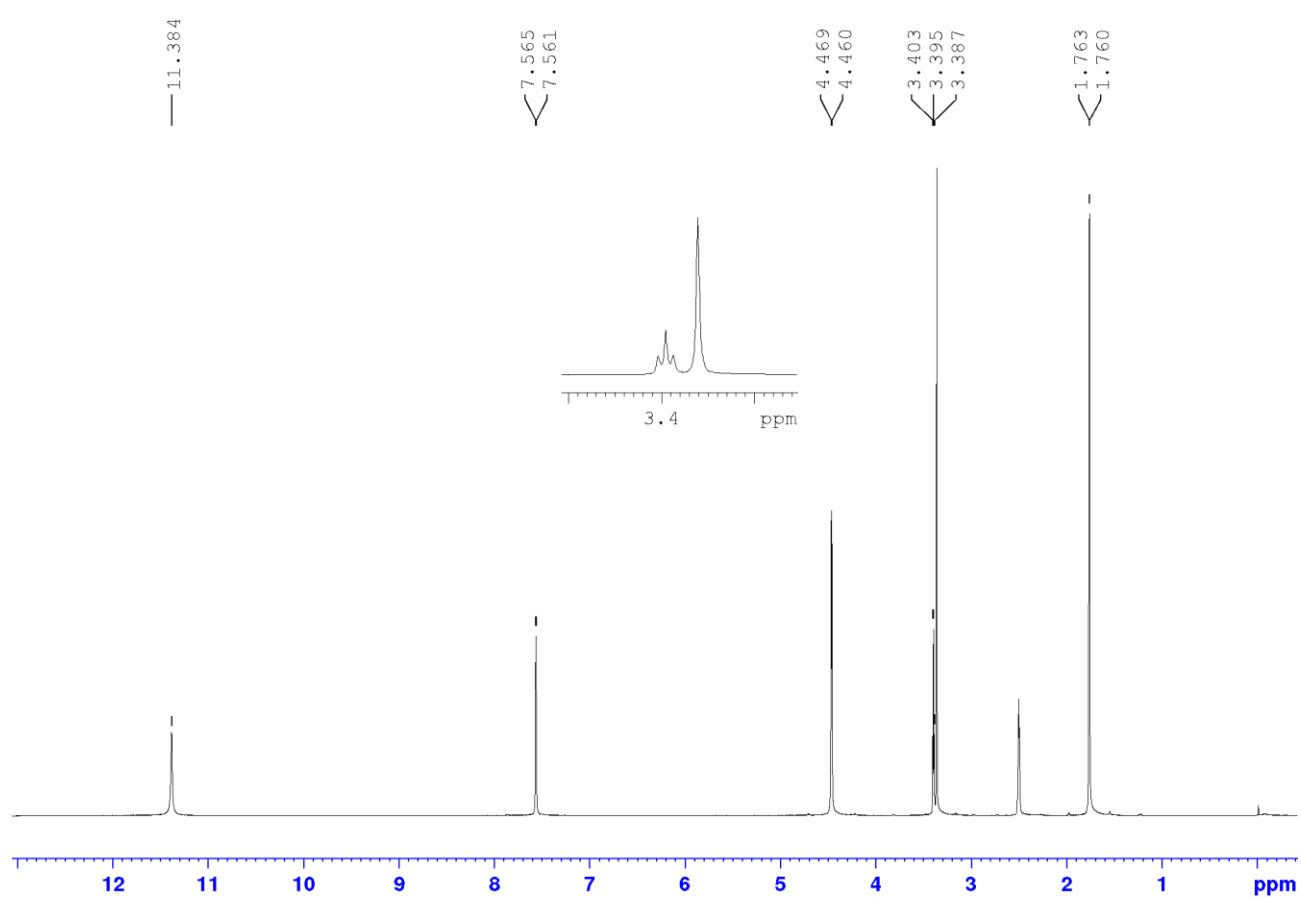
**Figure S1.** Workflow describing the approach used to validate the docking protocol and select the target receptors (first series) and to evaluate the binding capacity of compounds **14a-25a** to them.

## Characterization spectra of the *N*-propargyl nucleobases

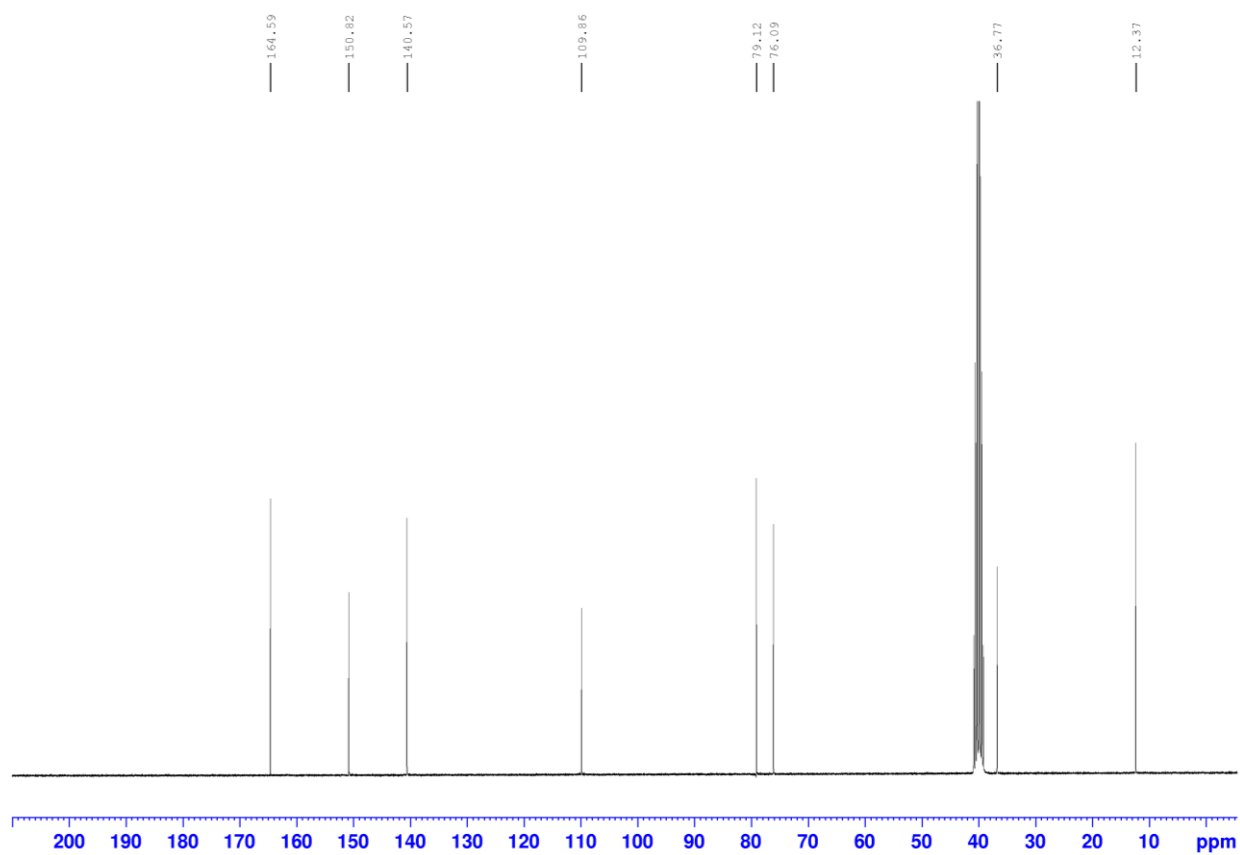
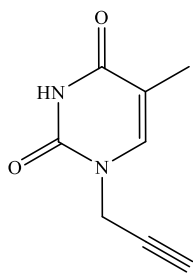
### 1-propargylthymine (7).



### $^1\text{H}$ NMR

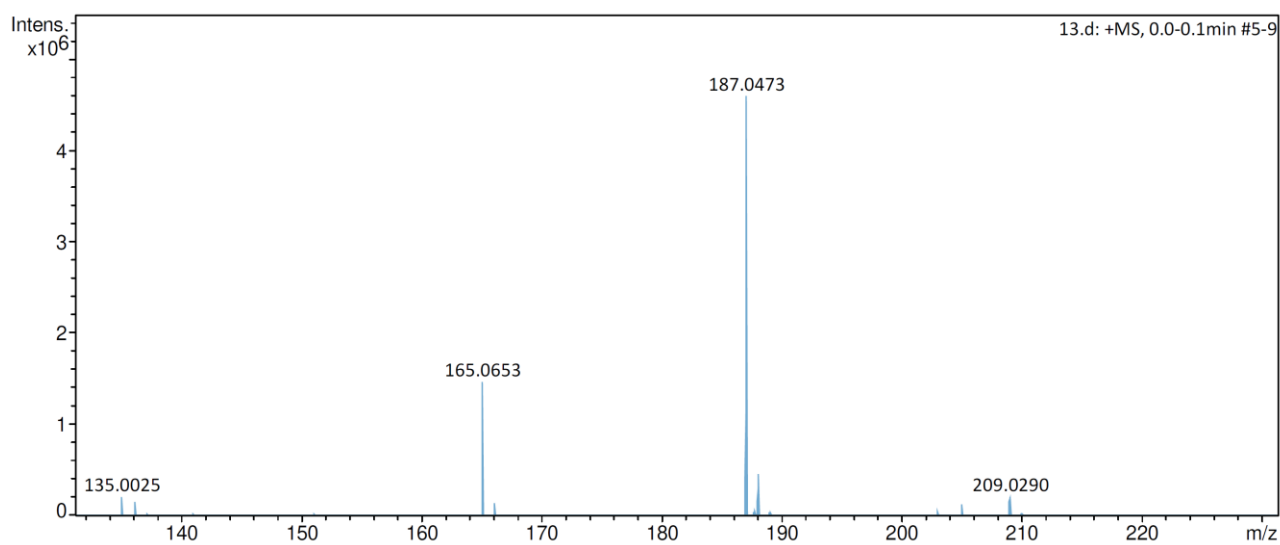
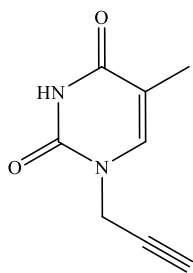


# <sup>13</sup>C NMR

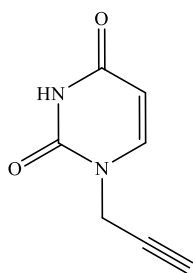




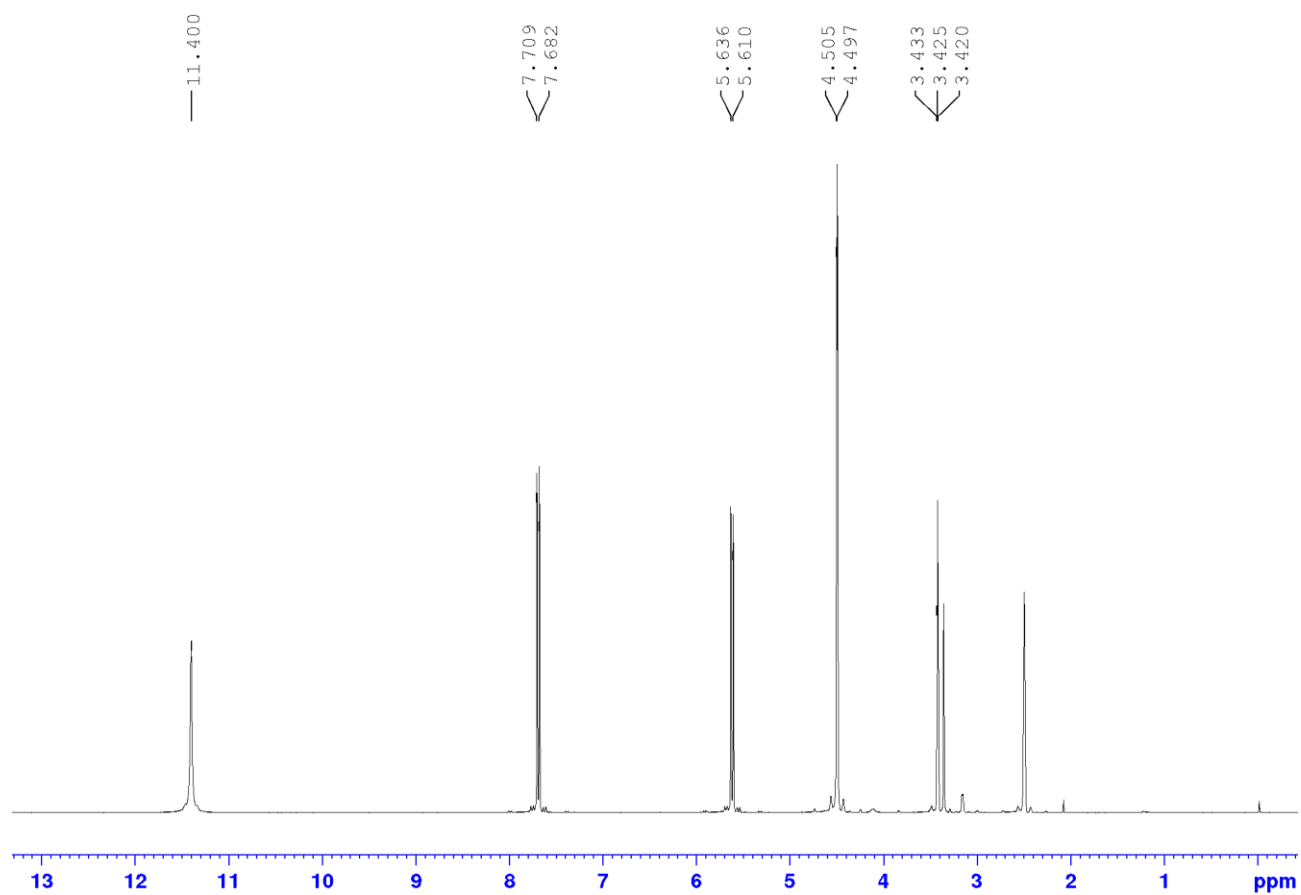
## HRMS



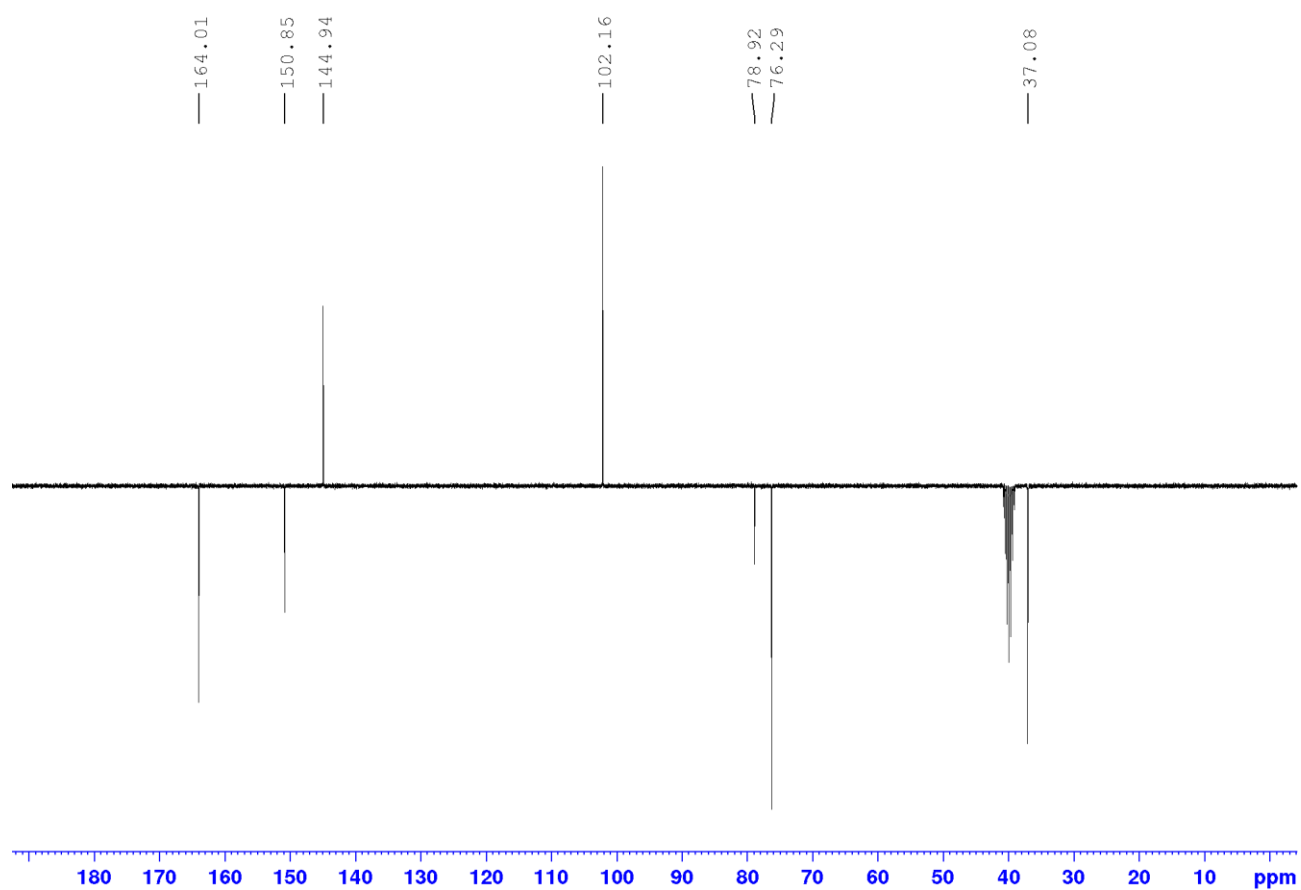
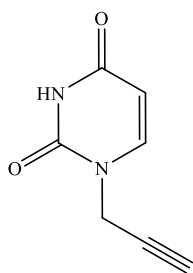
## 1-propargyluracil (8)



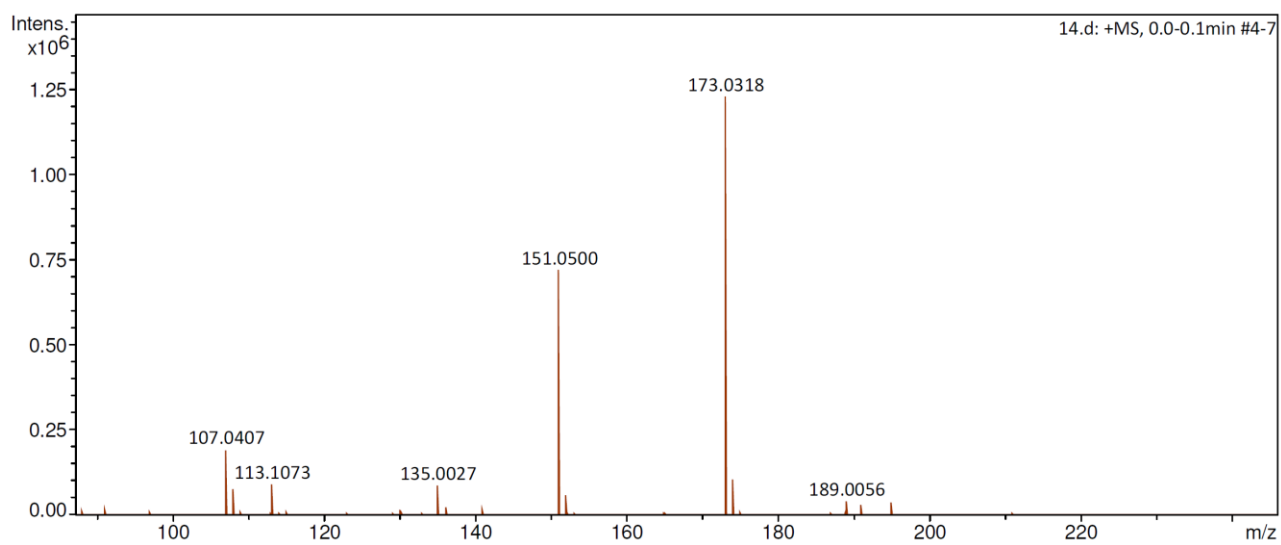
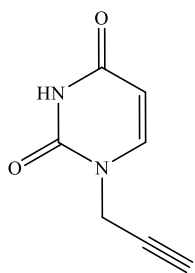
## $^1\text{H}$ NMR



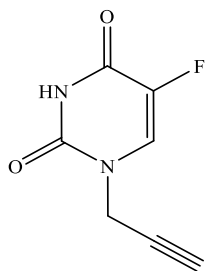
**$^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR**



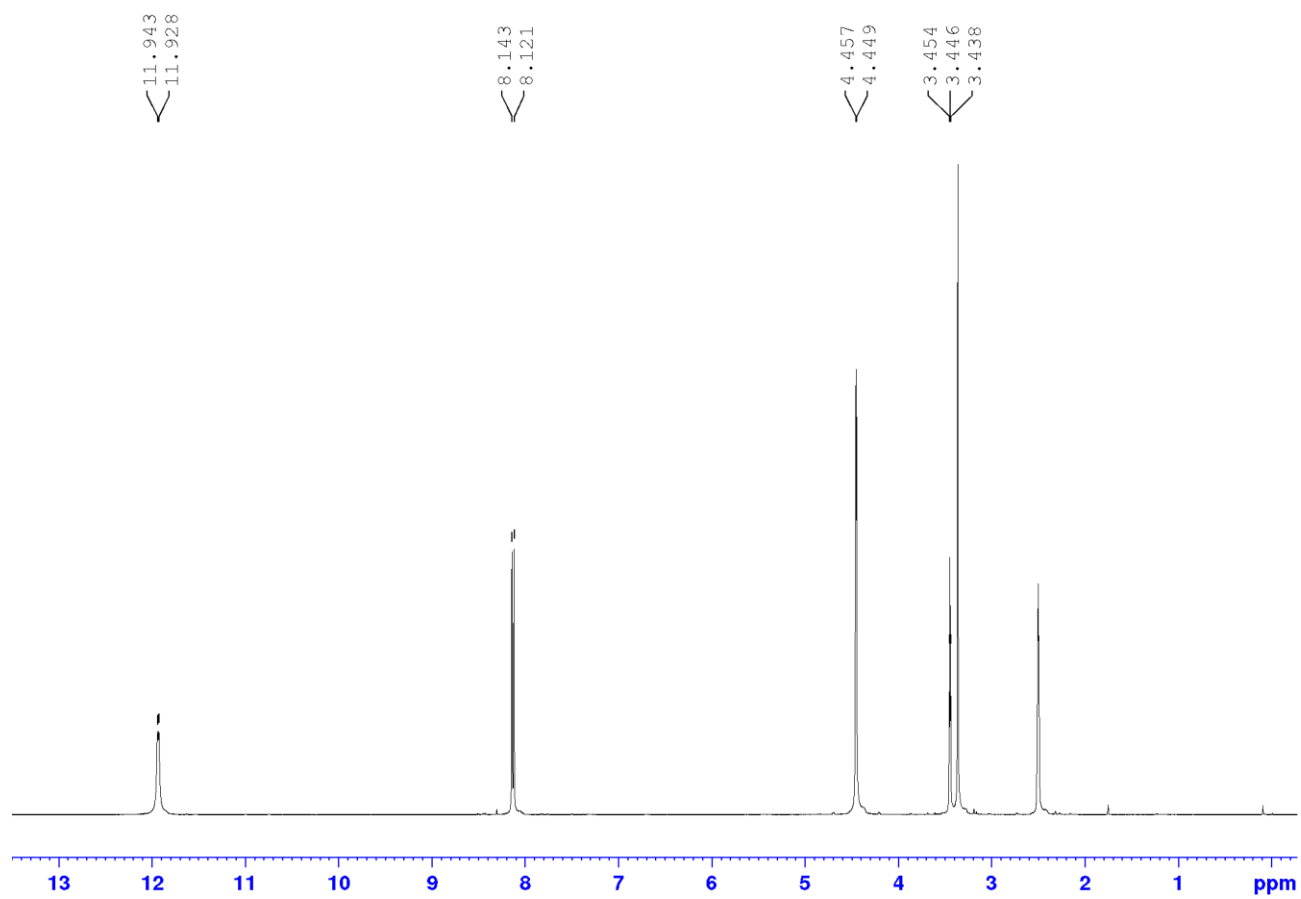
# HRMS



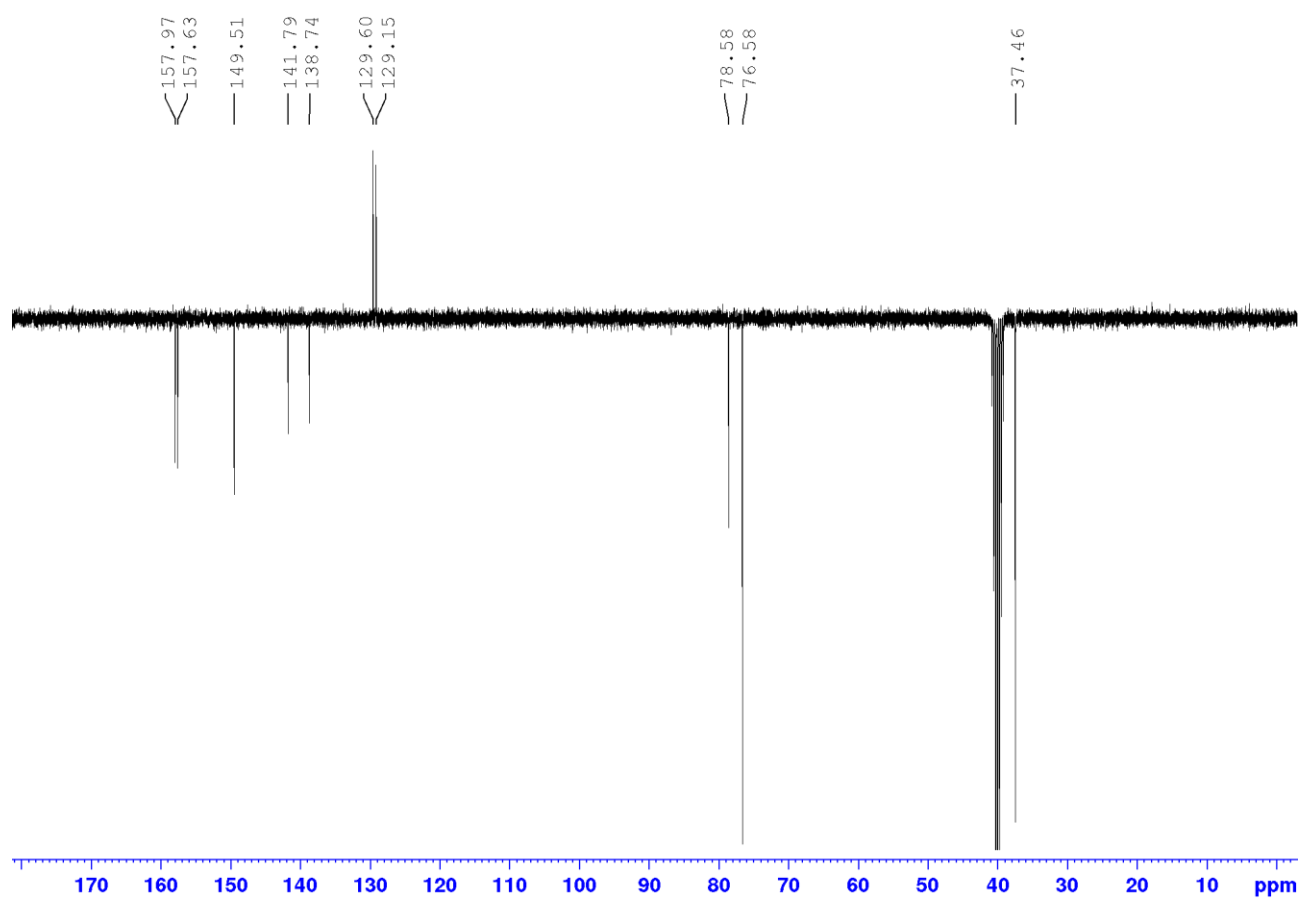
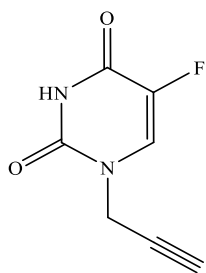
**5-fluoro-1-propargyluracil (9).**



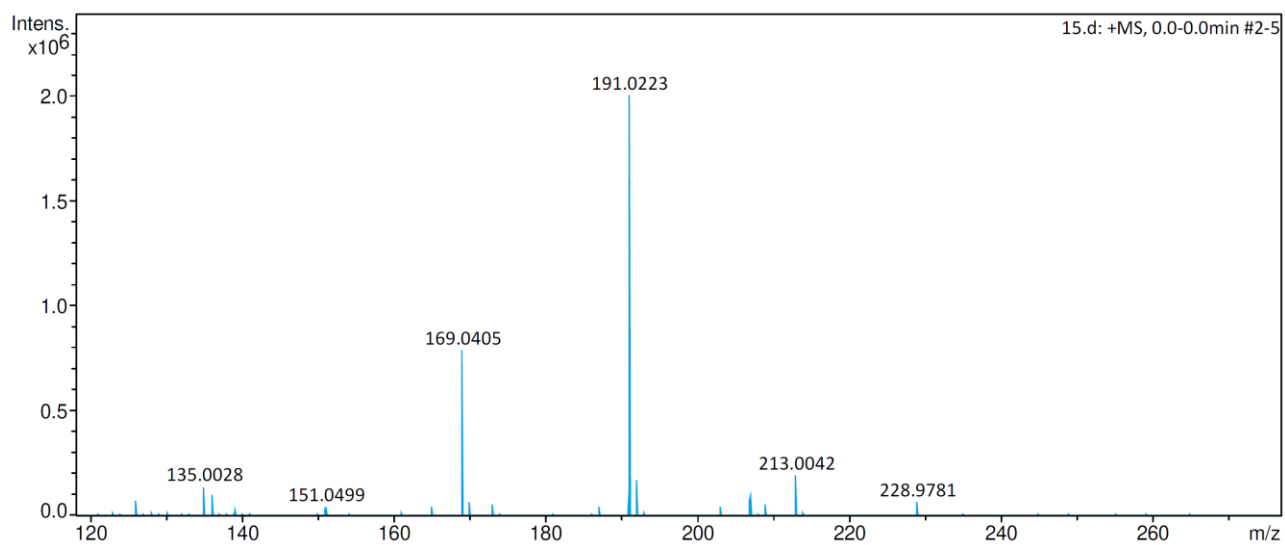
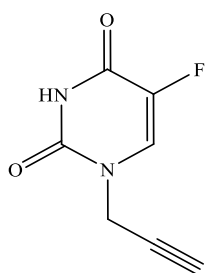
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR**



**$^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR**

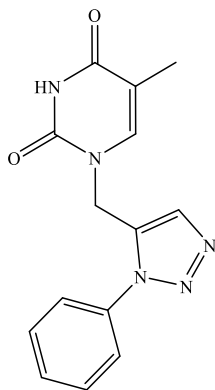


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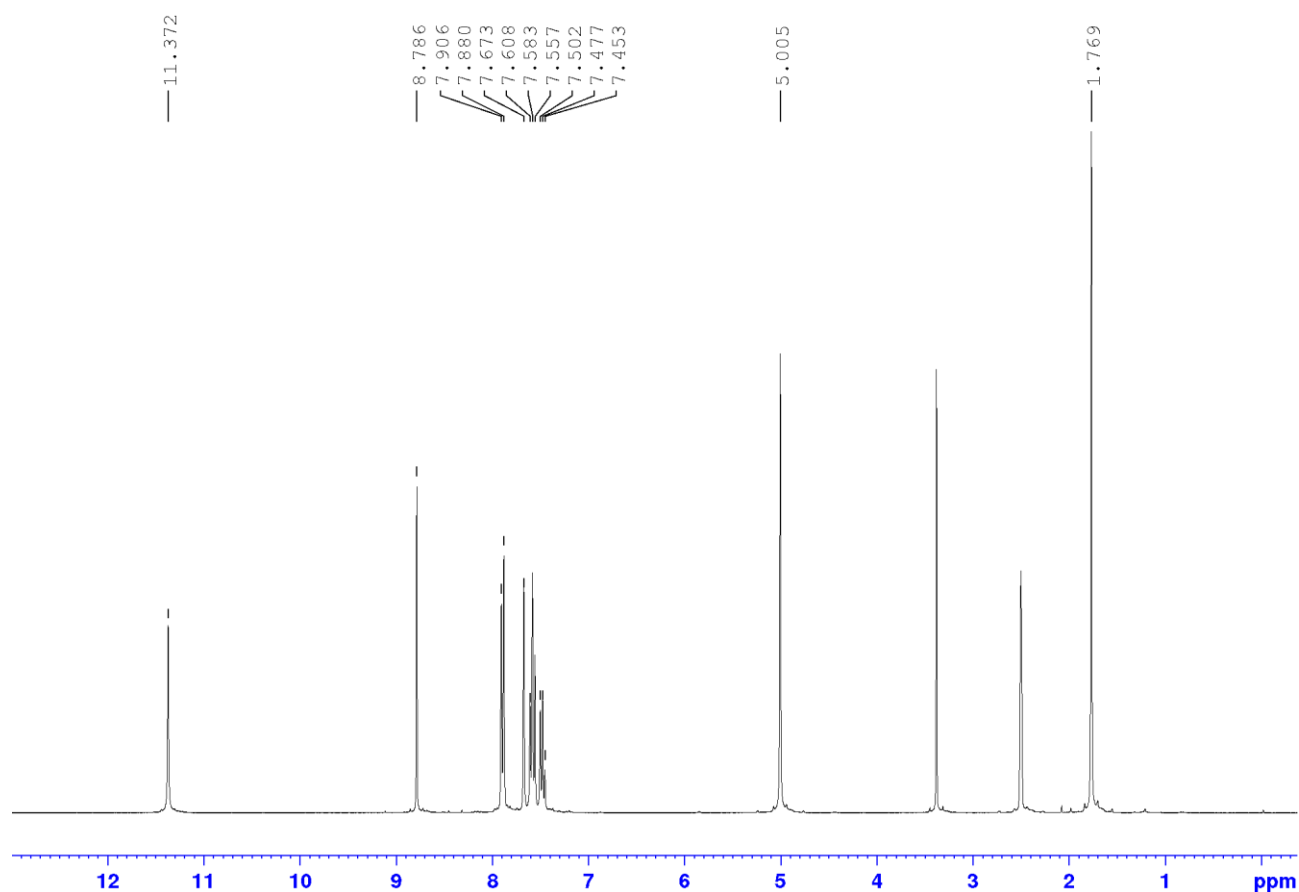


## 1,5-Disubstituted 1,2,3-Triazole Derivatives of Pyrimidine Nucleobases

1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (14a).

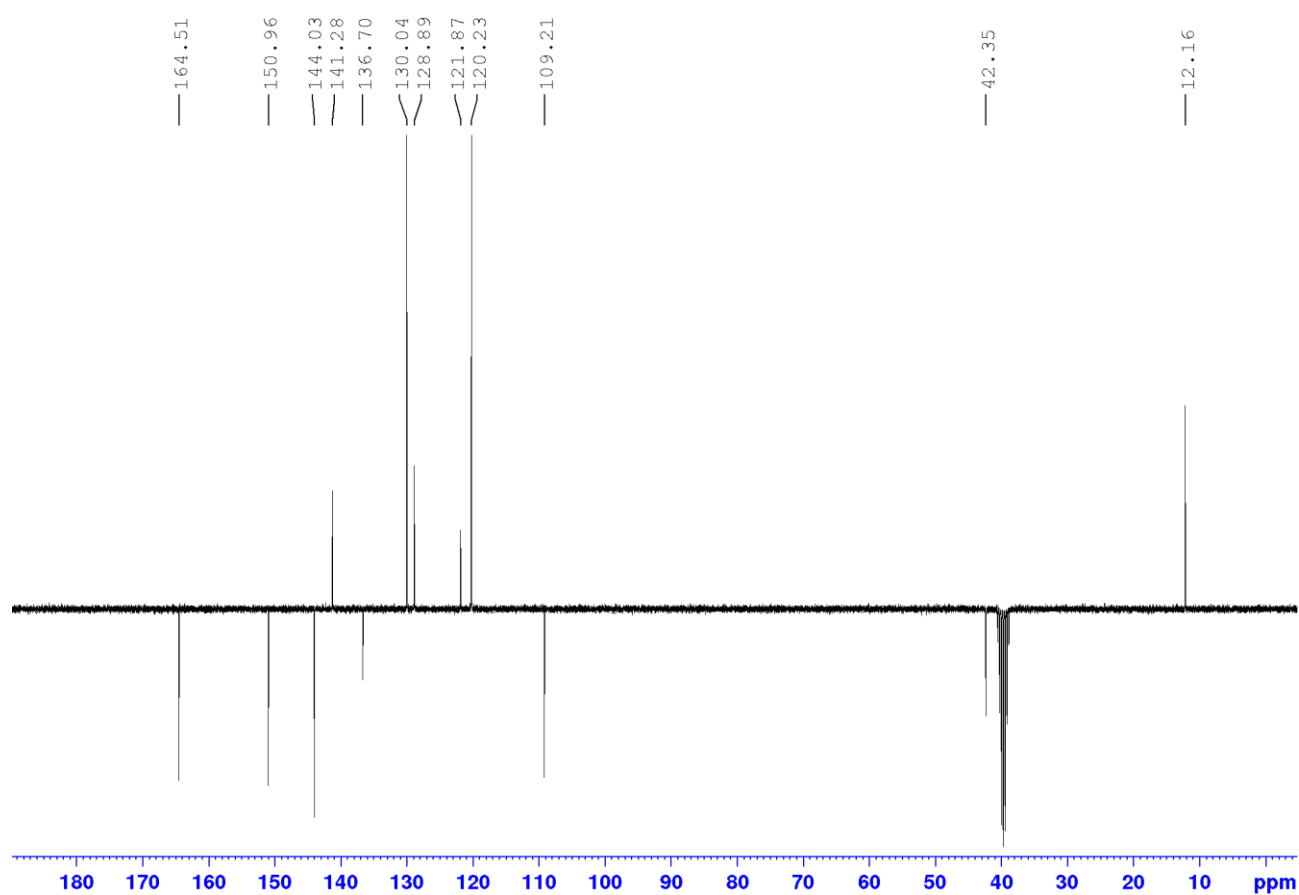
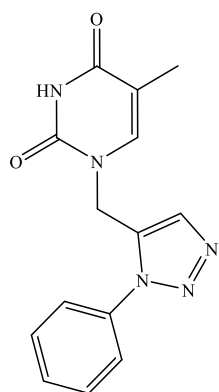


$^1\text{H}$  NMR

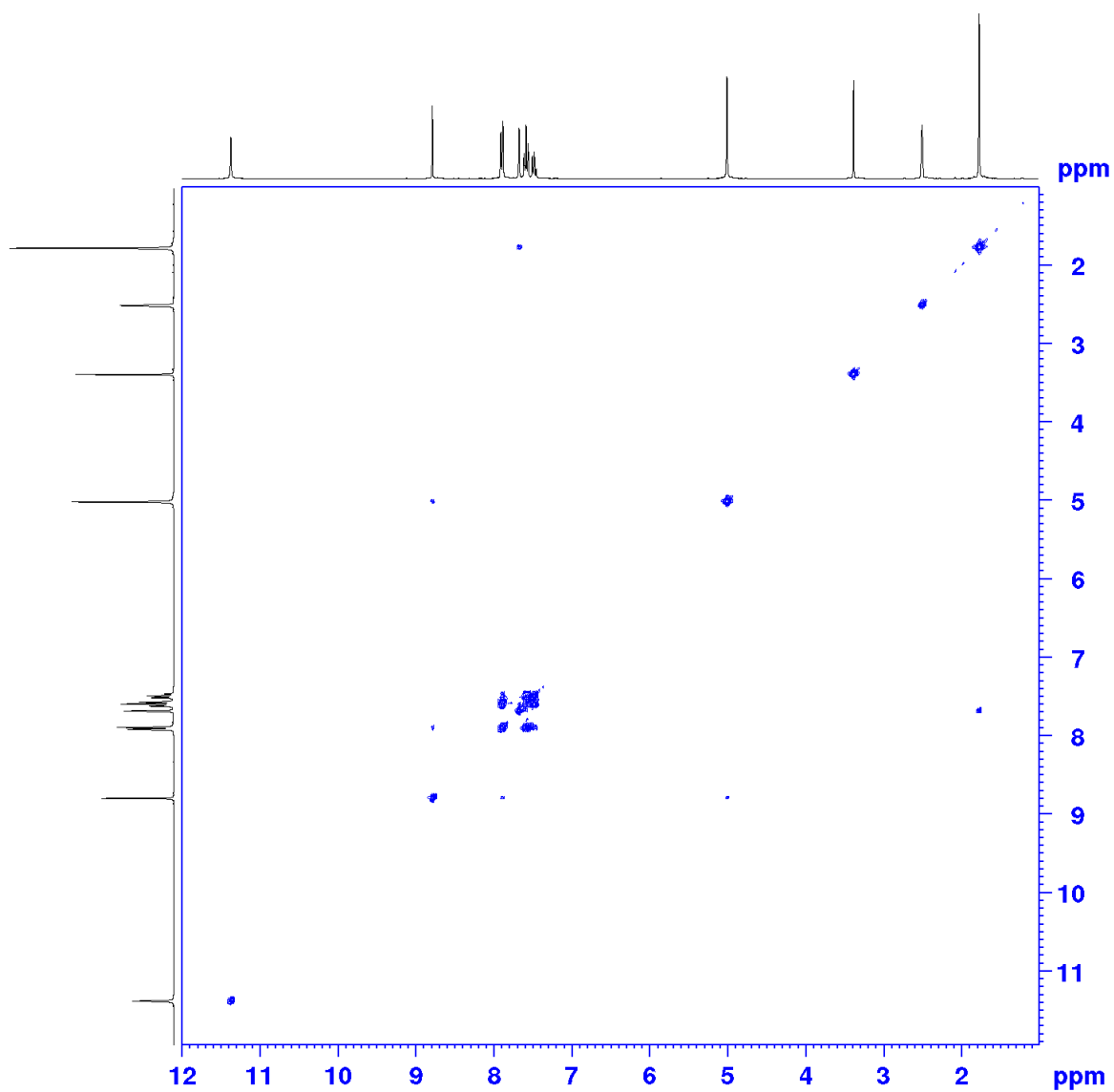
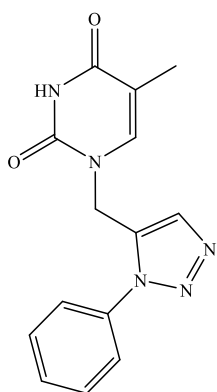




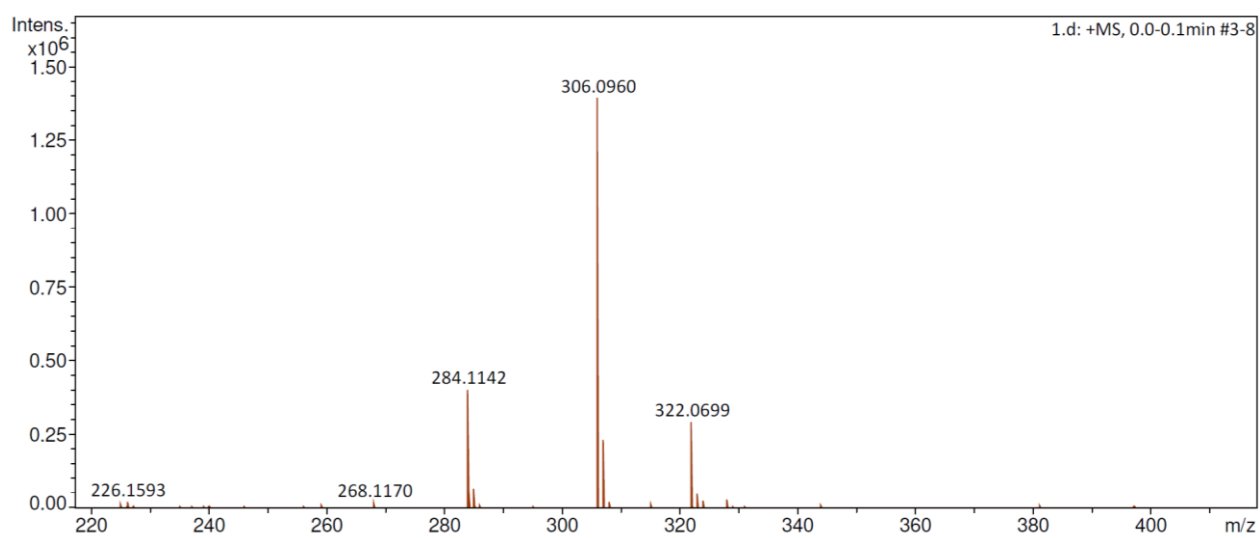
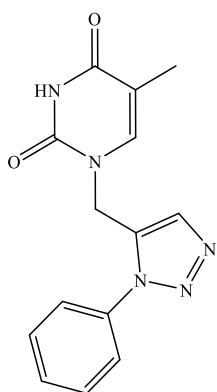
**$^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR**



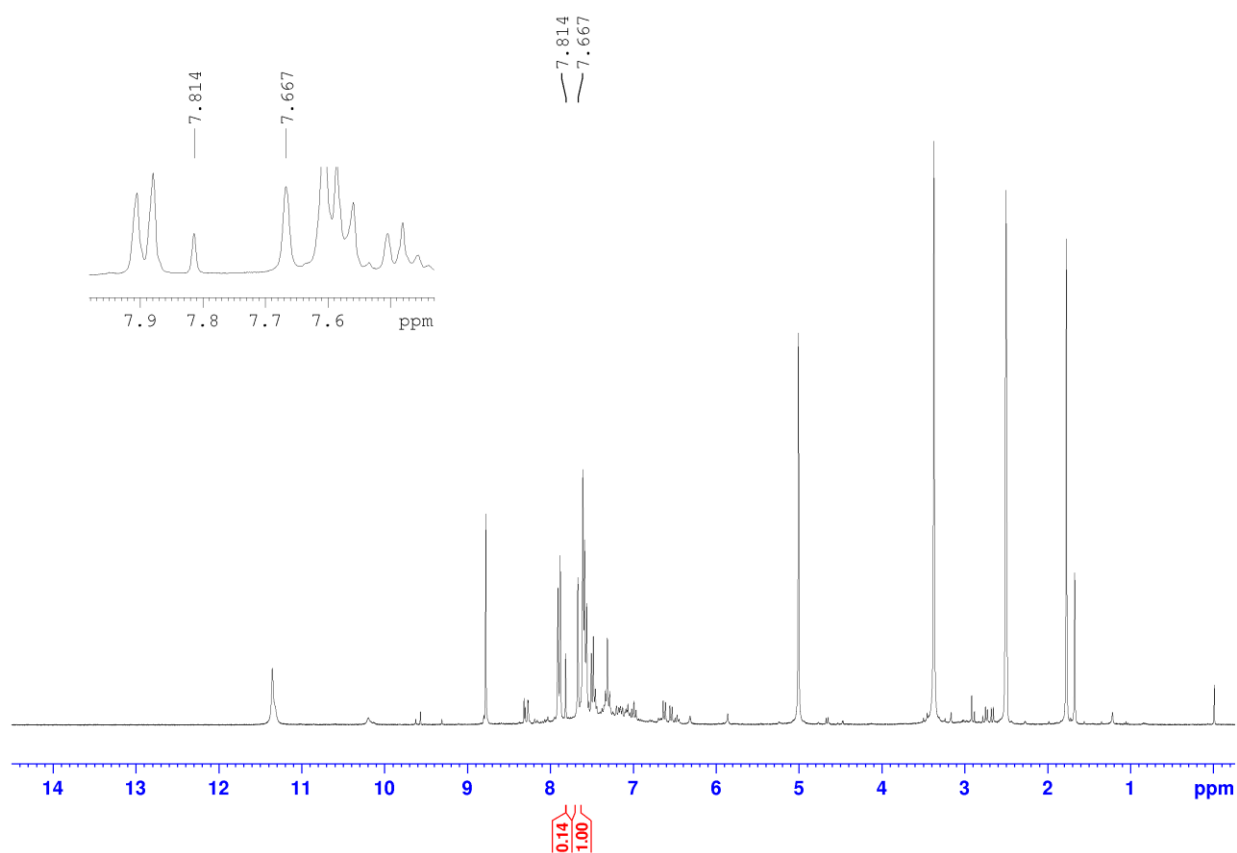
## COSY NMR



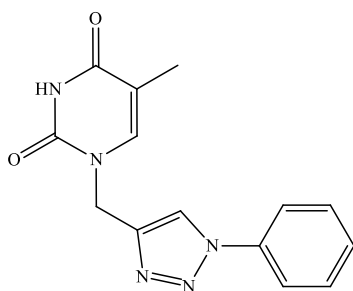
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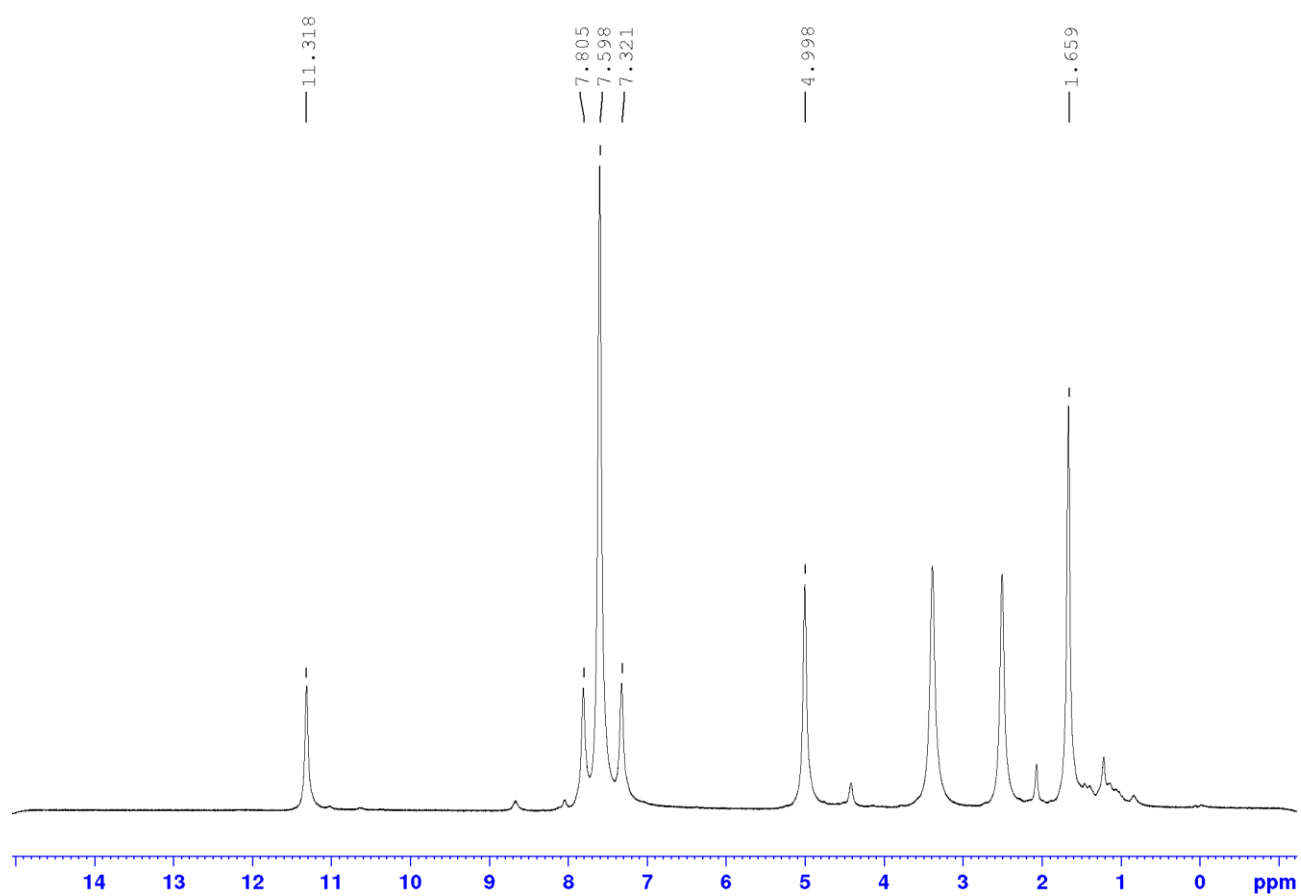
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of reaction crude for the synthesis of 1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (14a)**



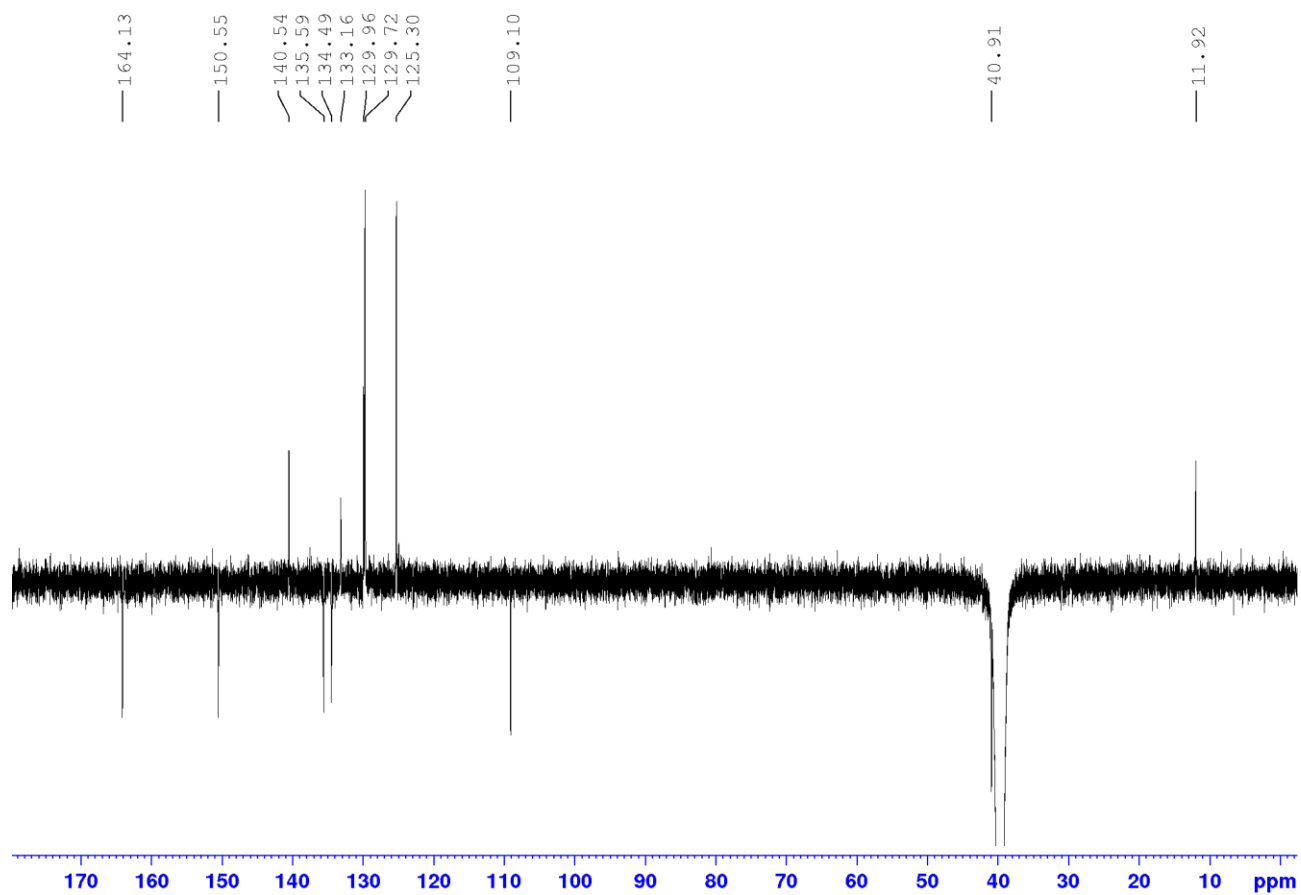
**1-[(1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)-methyl]-thymine (14b).**



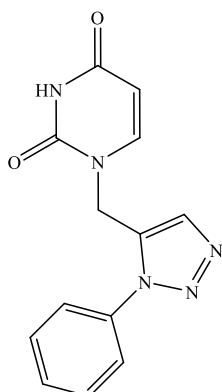
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR**



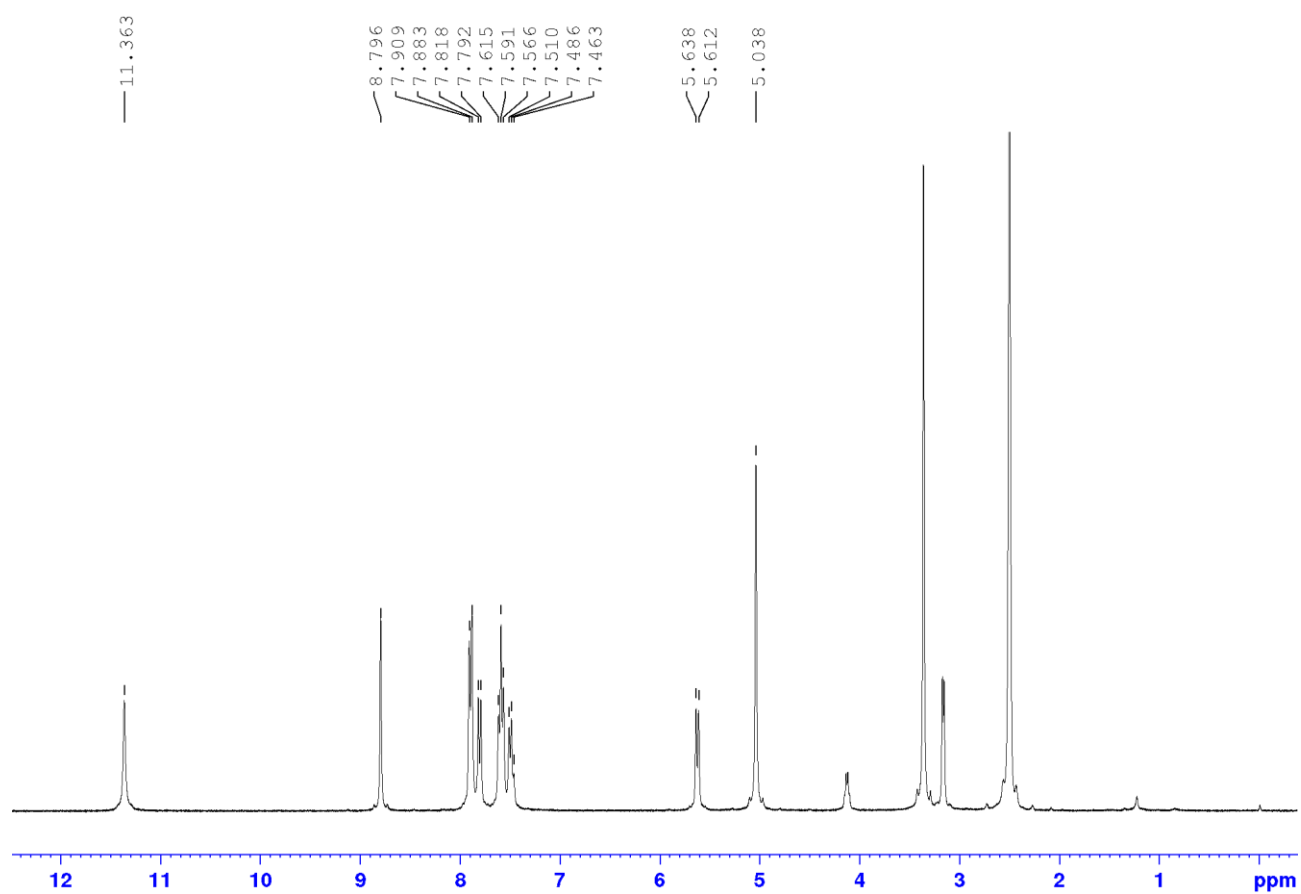
# $^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR



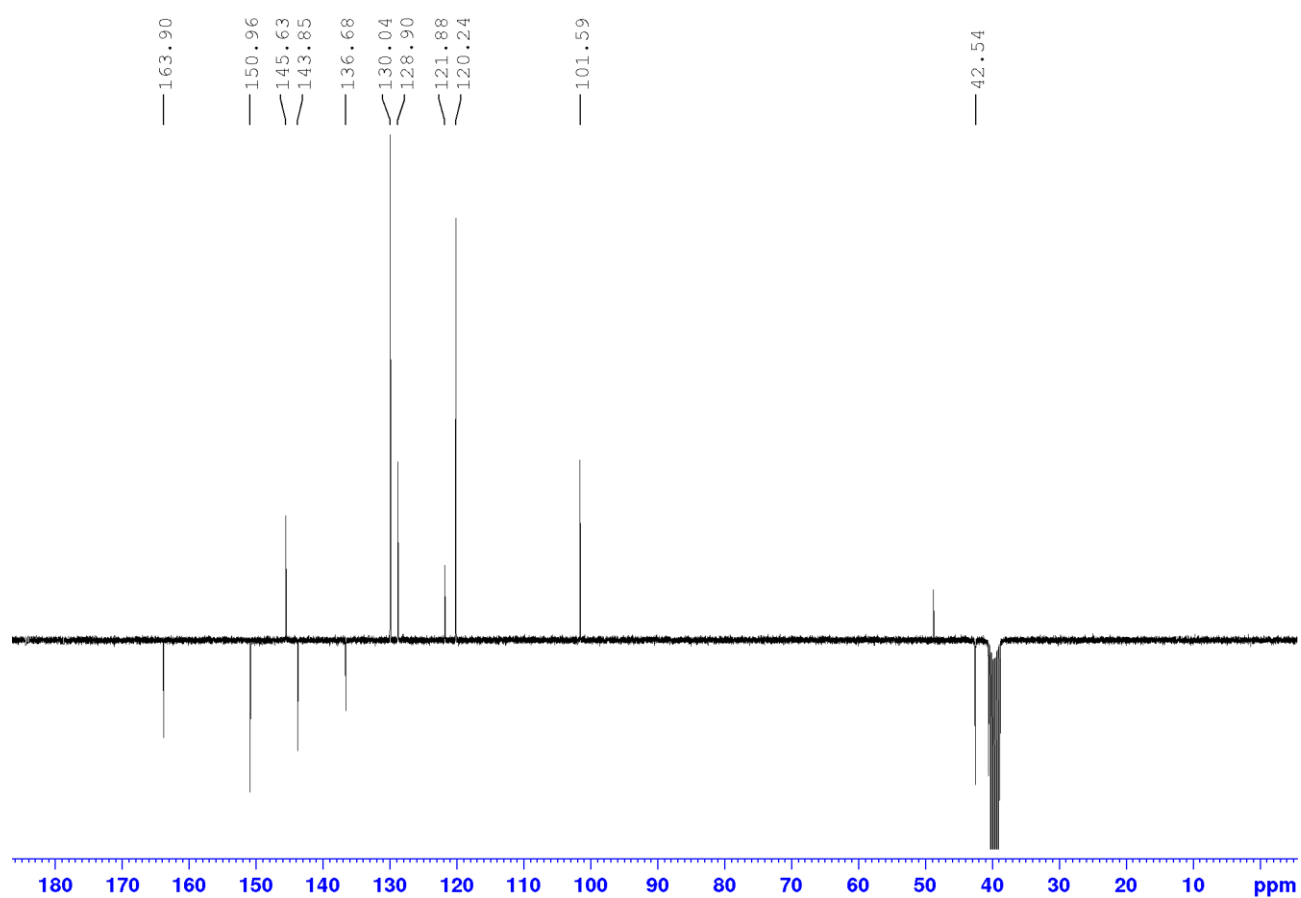
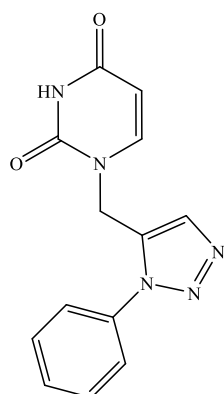
# 1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (15a)



## <sup>1</sup>H NMR

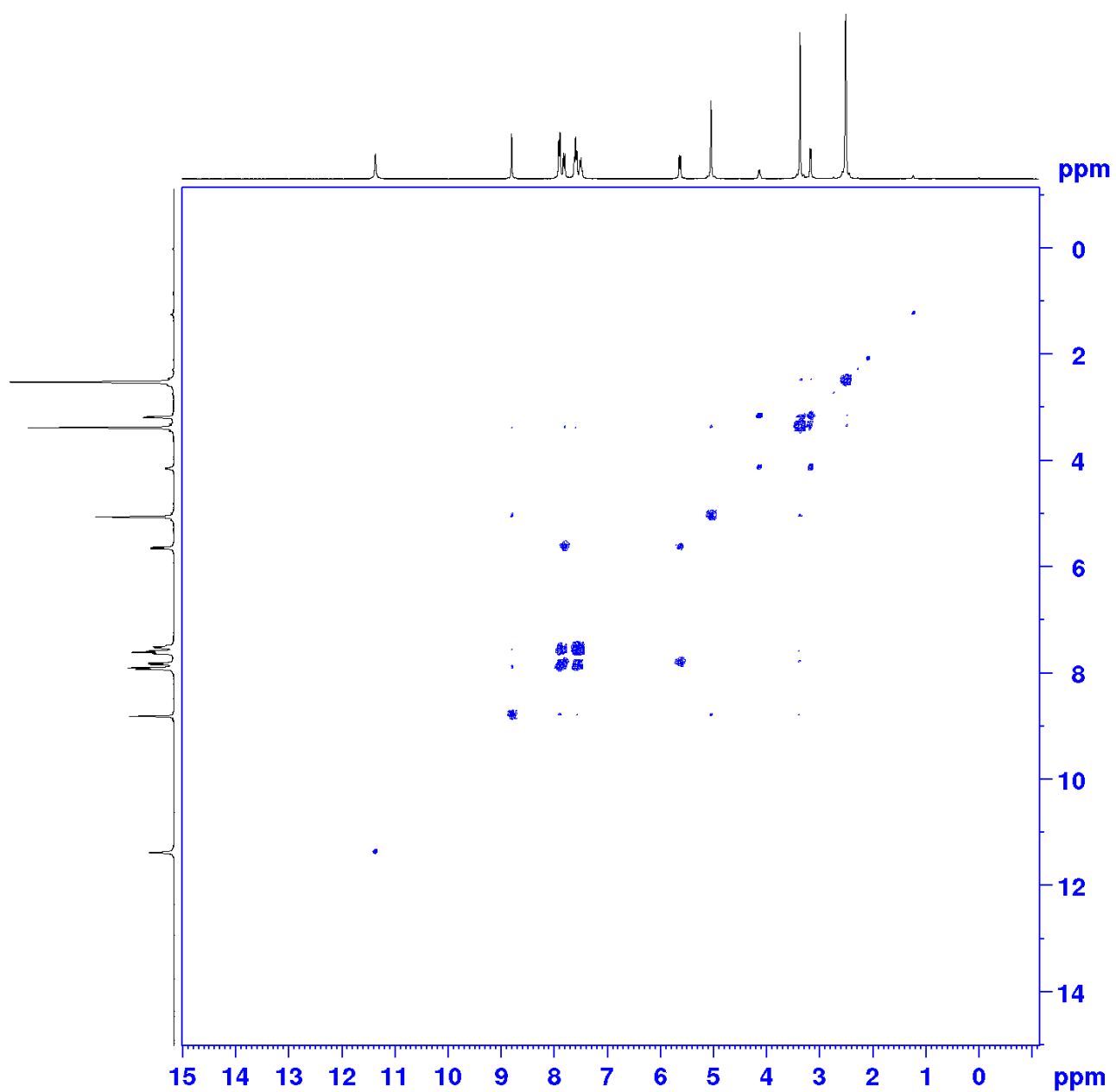
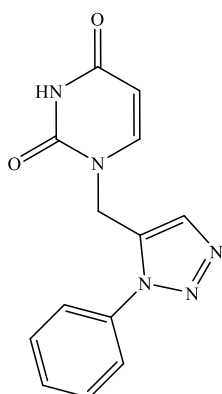


**$^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR**

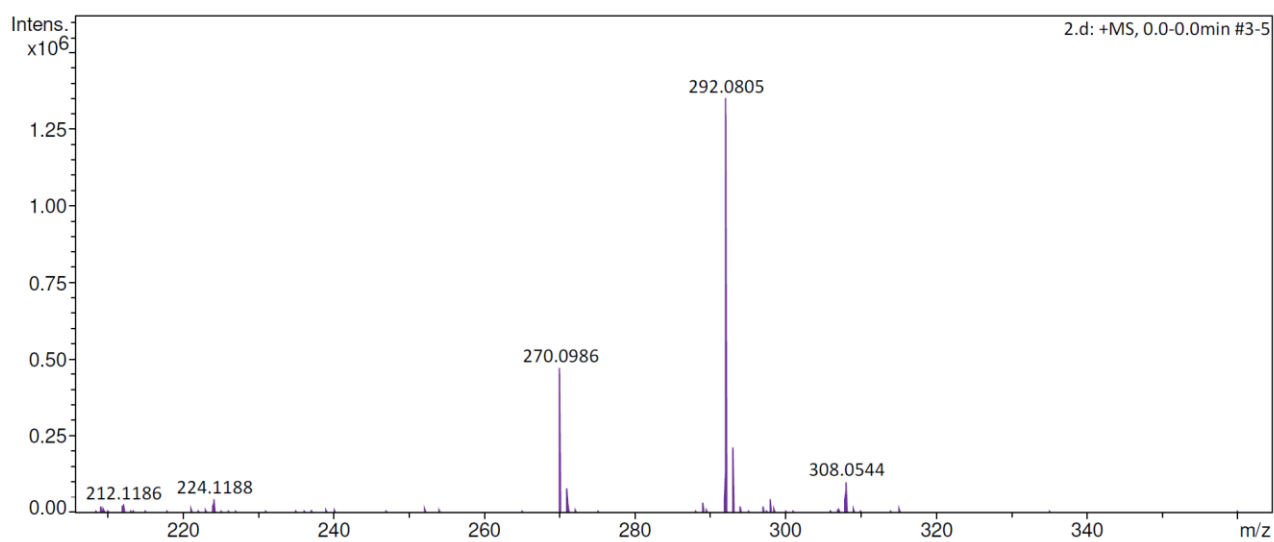
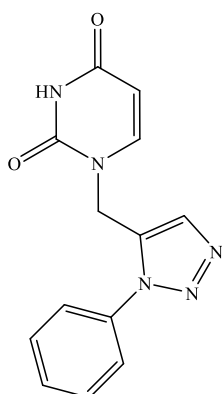




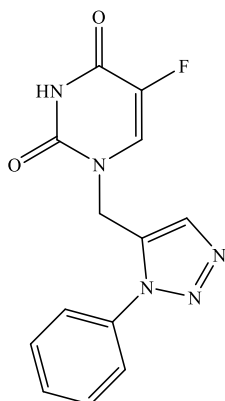
## COSY NMR



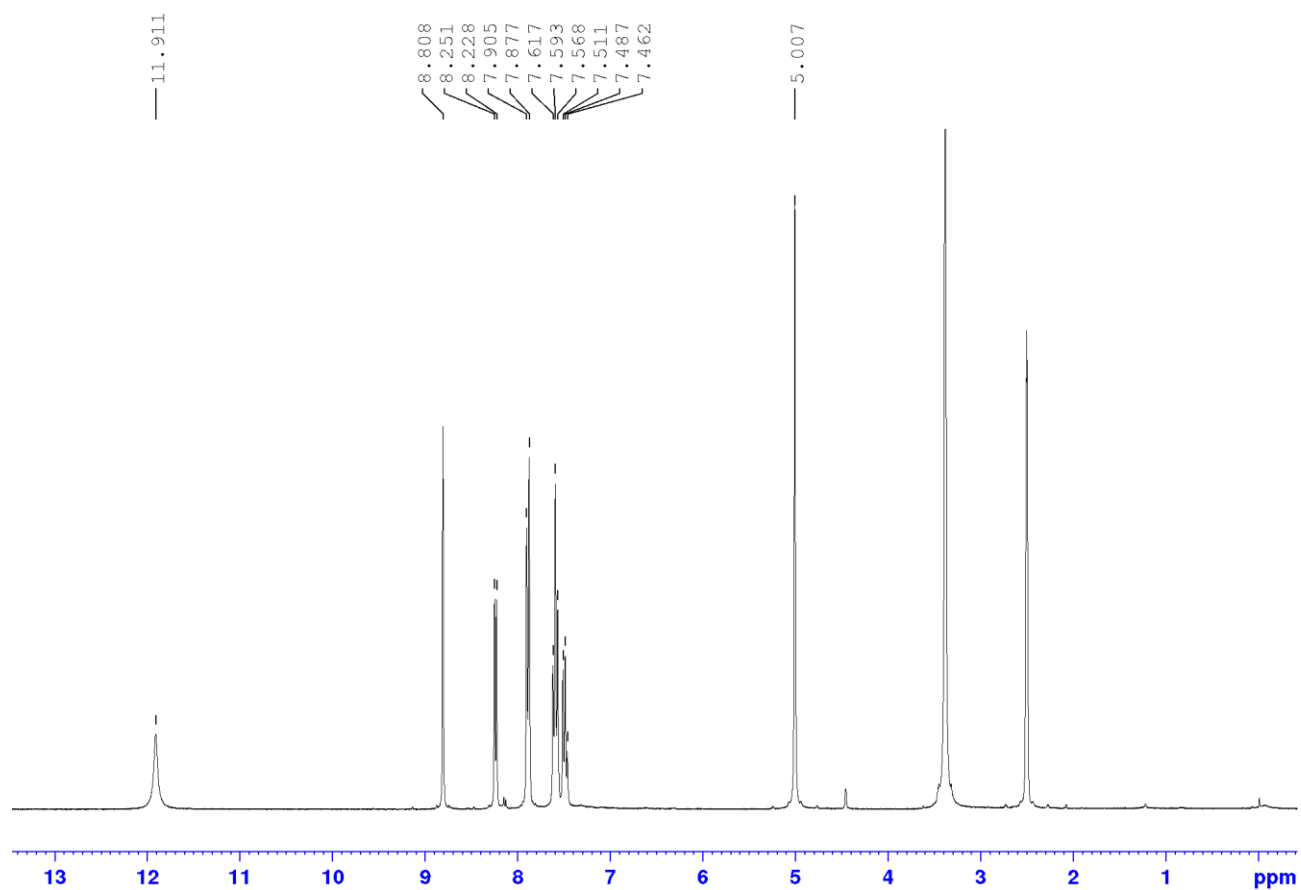
## HRMS



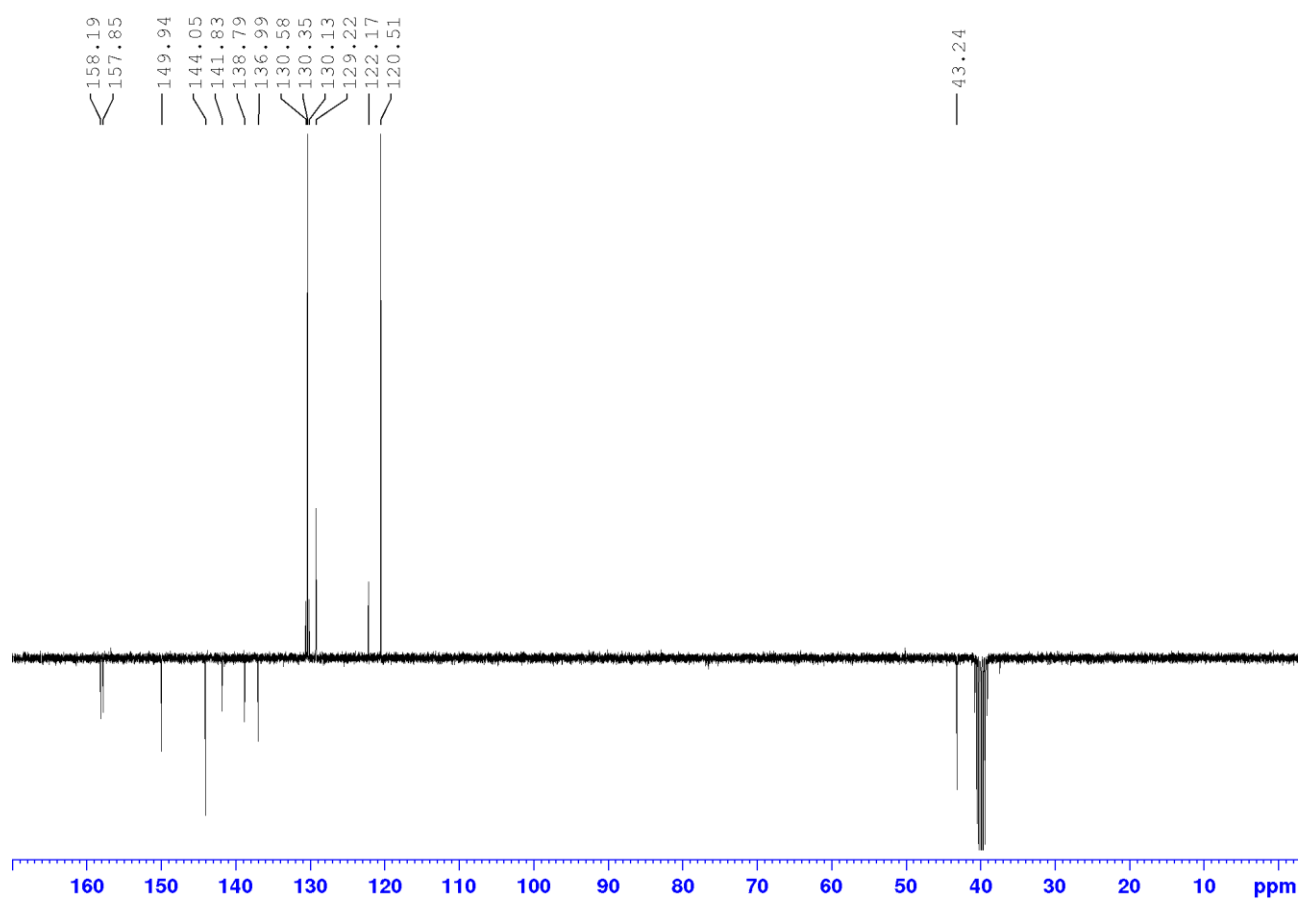
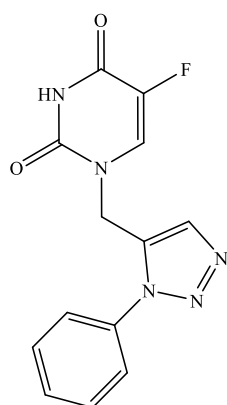
5-fluoro-1-[1-phenyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (16a).



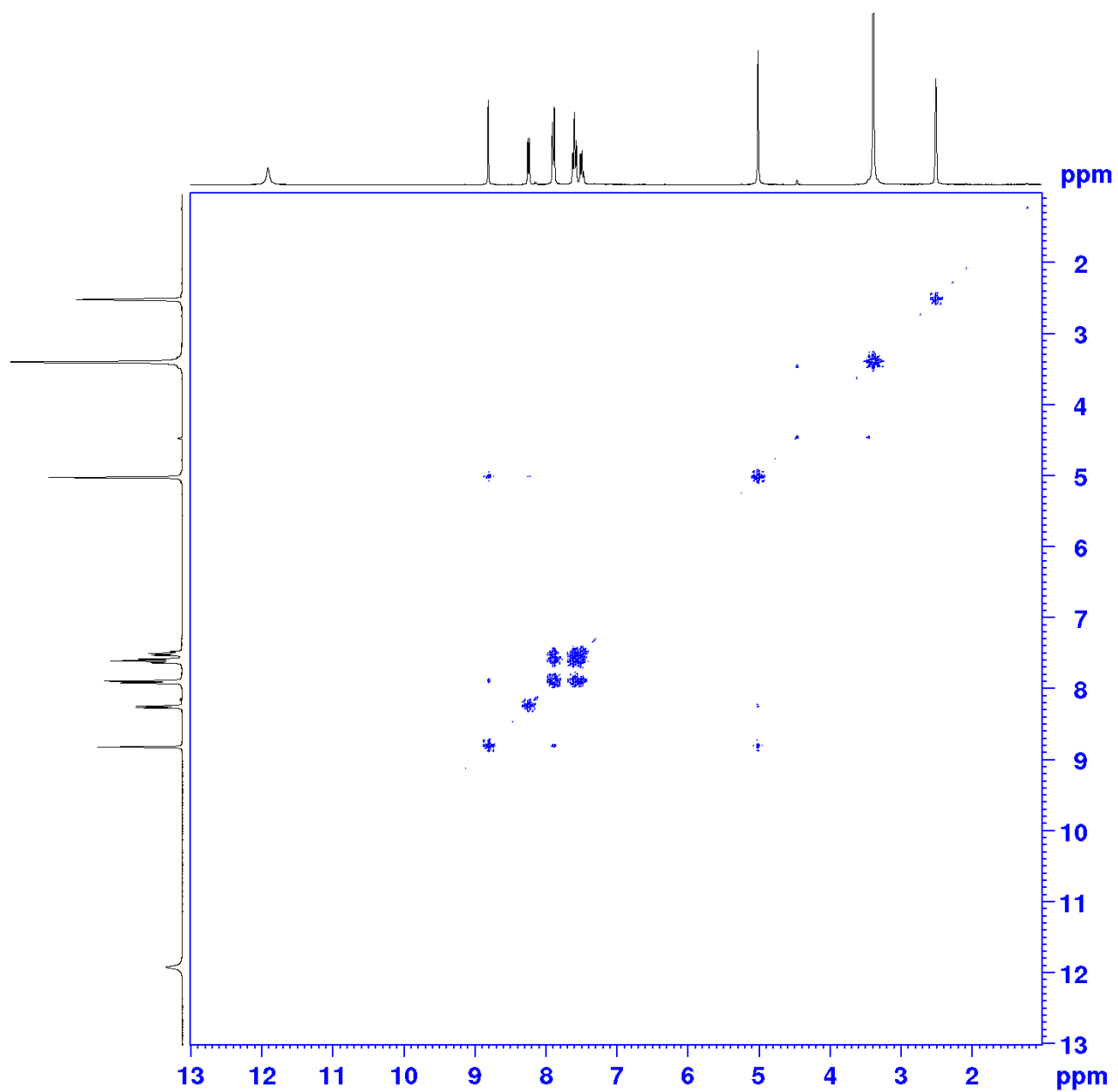
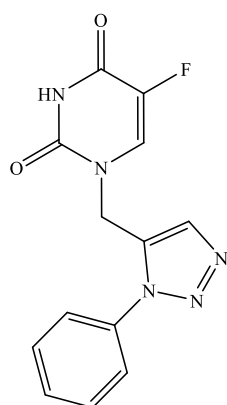
<sup>1</sup>H NMR



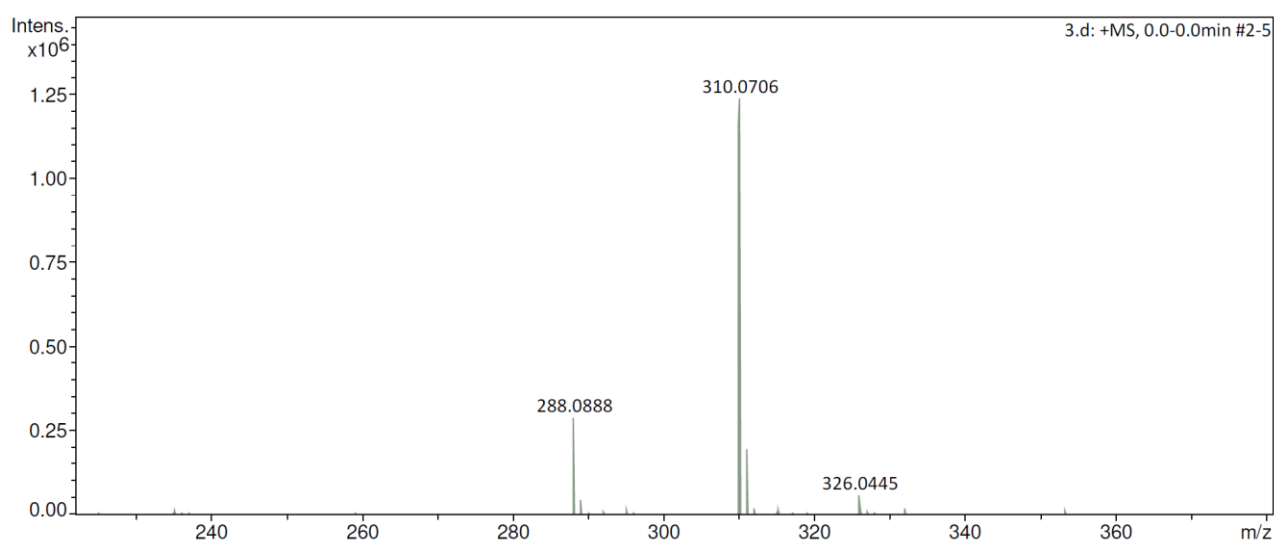
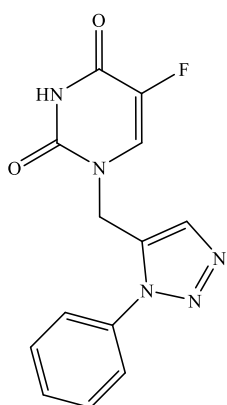
**$^{13}\text{C}$ -APT NMR**



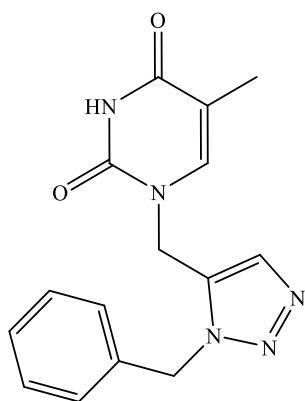
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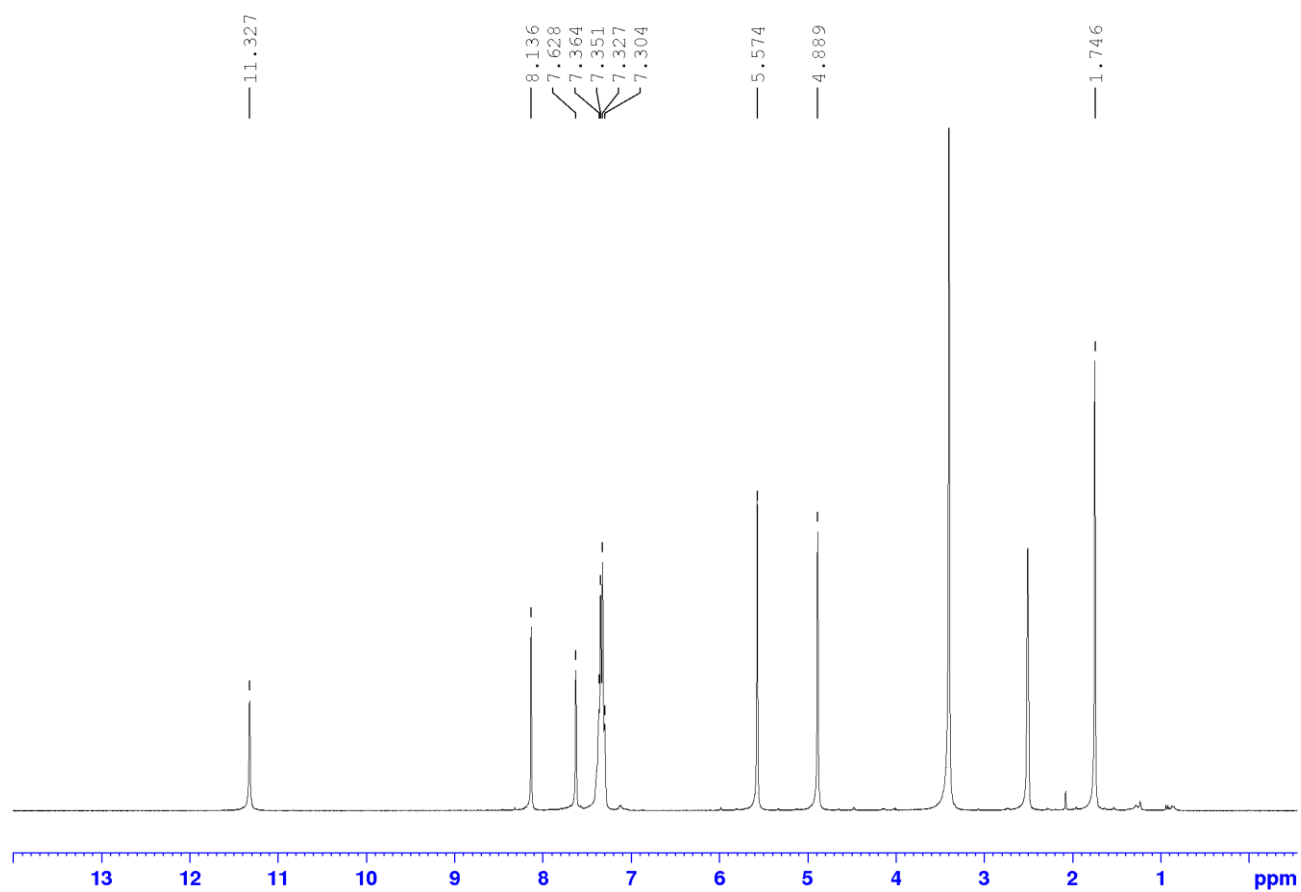
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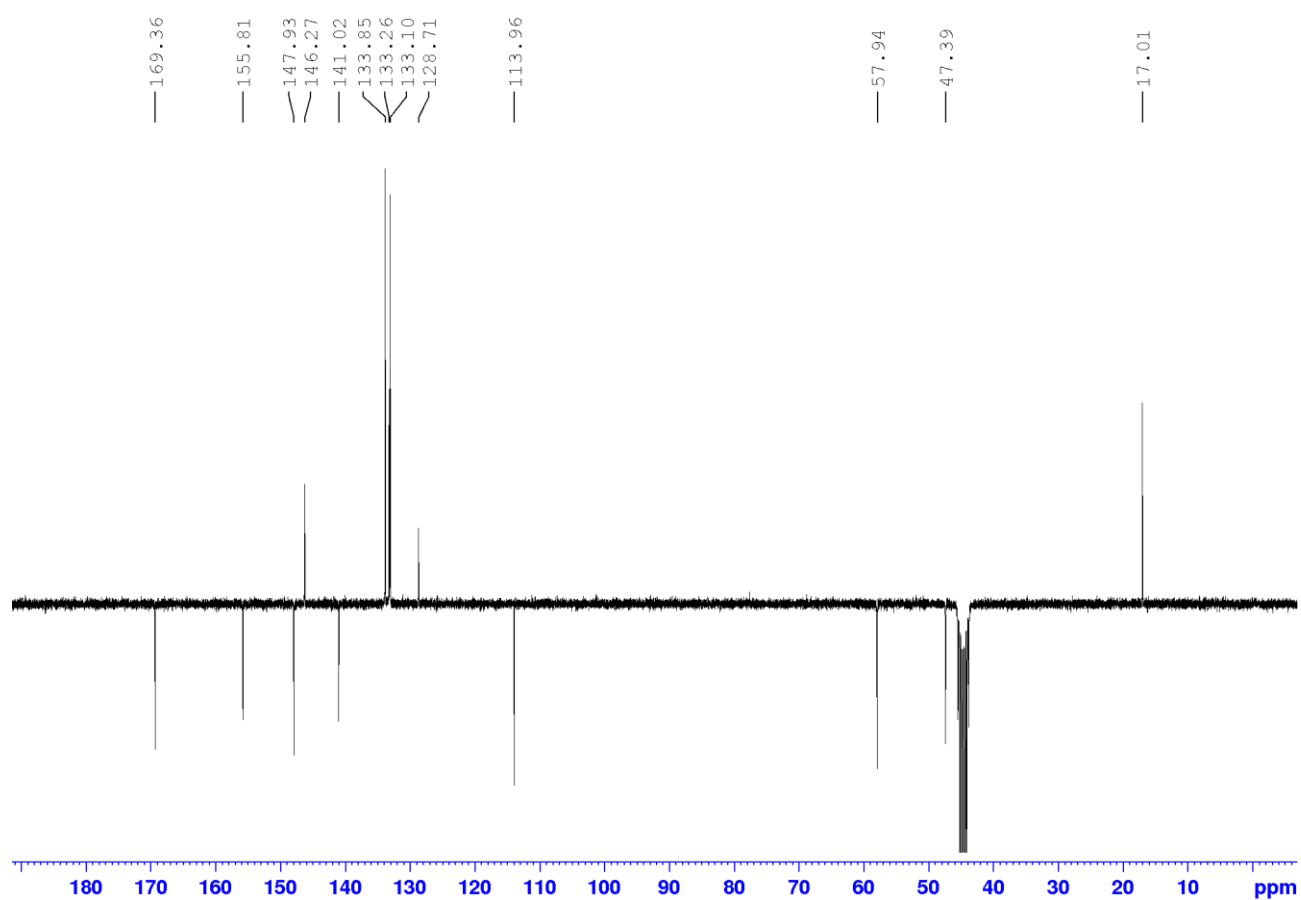
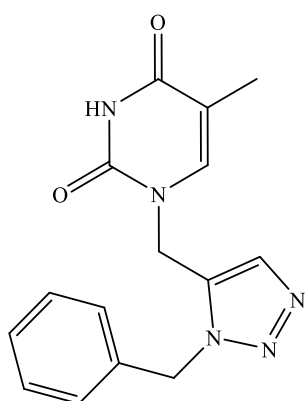
1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (17a)



$^1\text{H}$  NMR

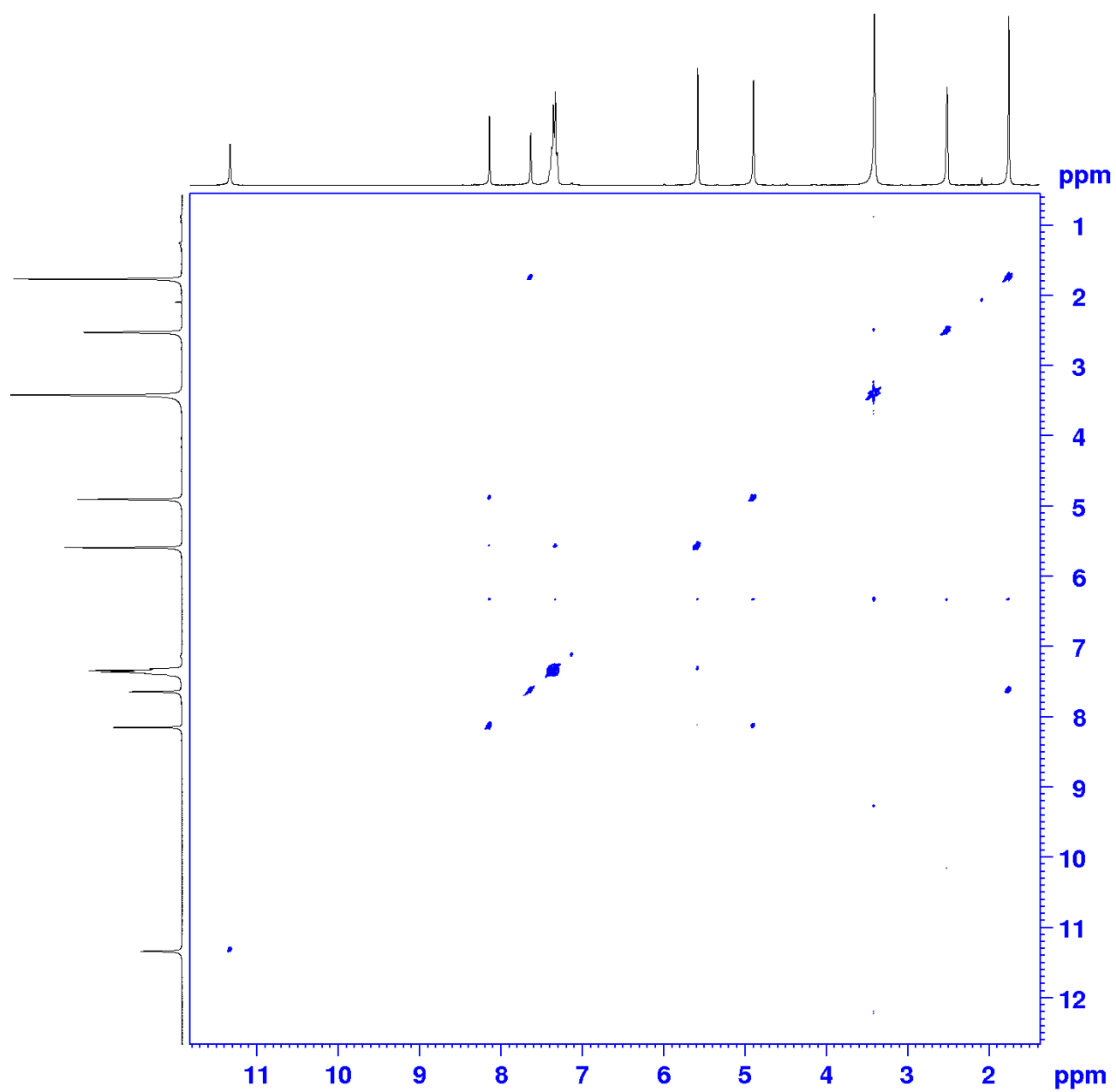
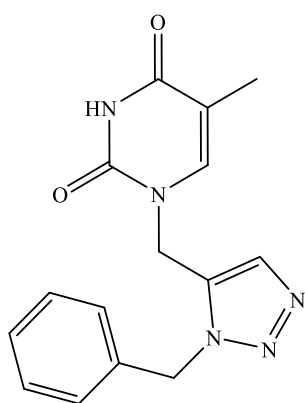


# <sup>13</sup>C-APT NMR

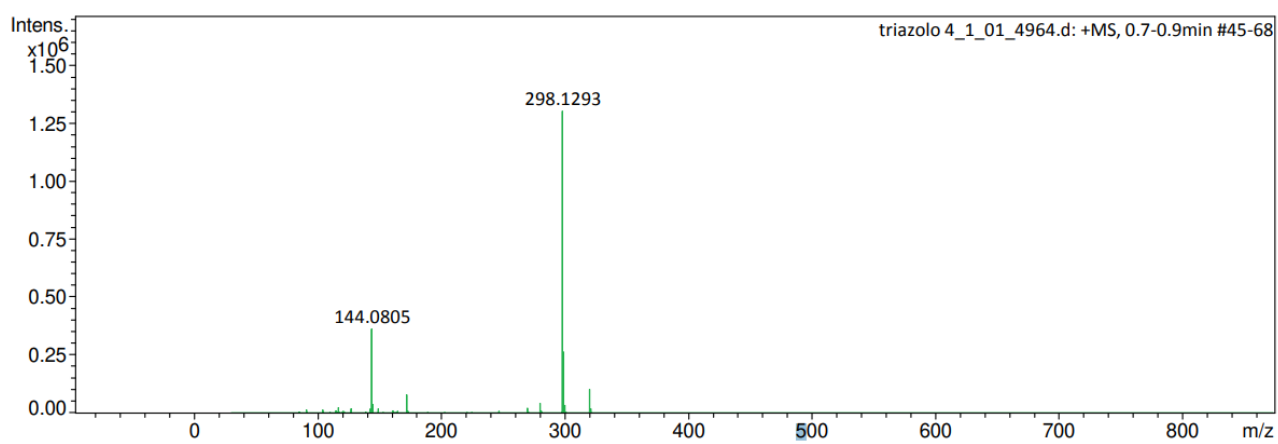
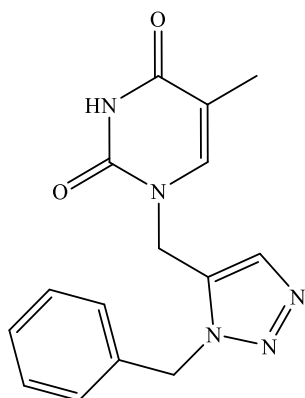




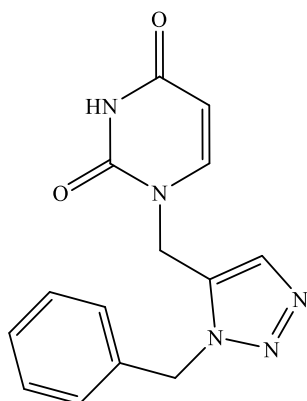
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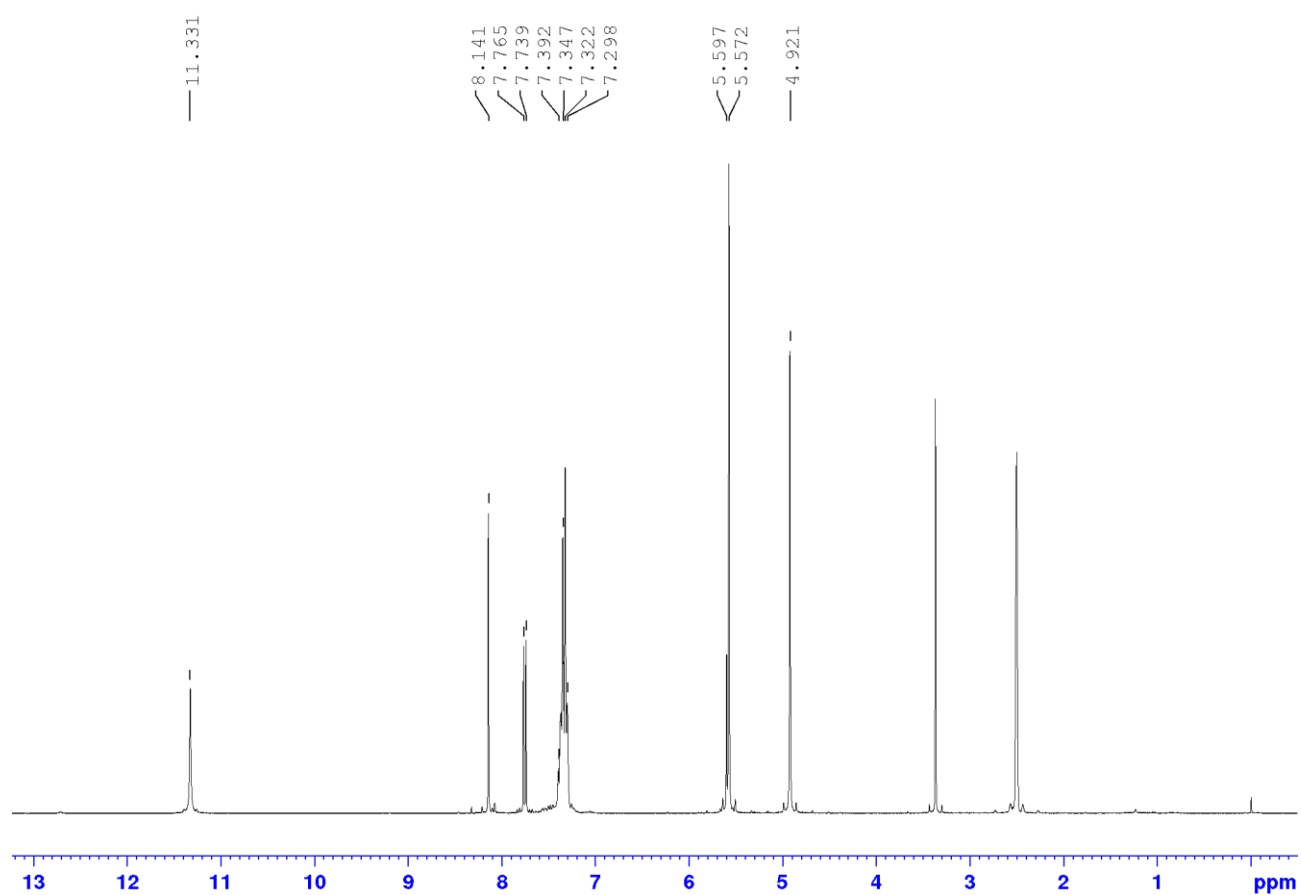
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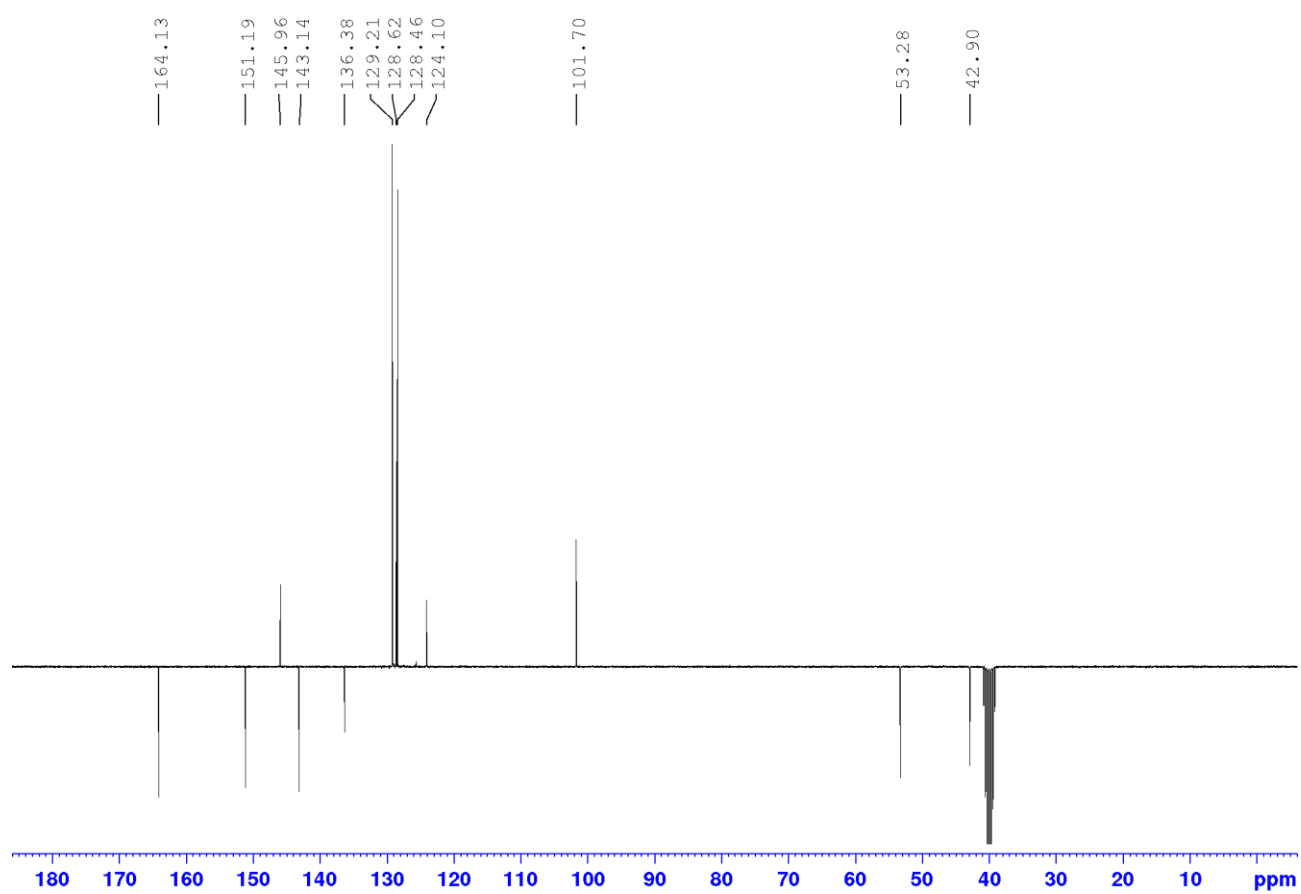
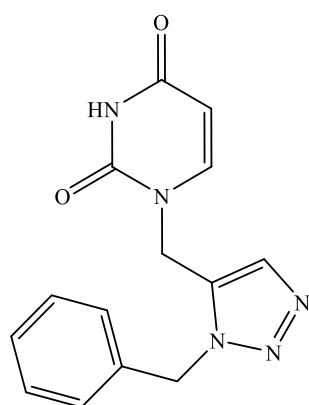
1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (18a).



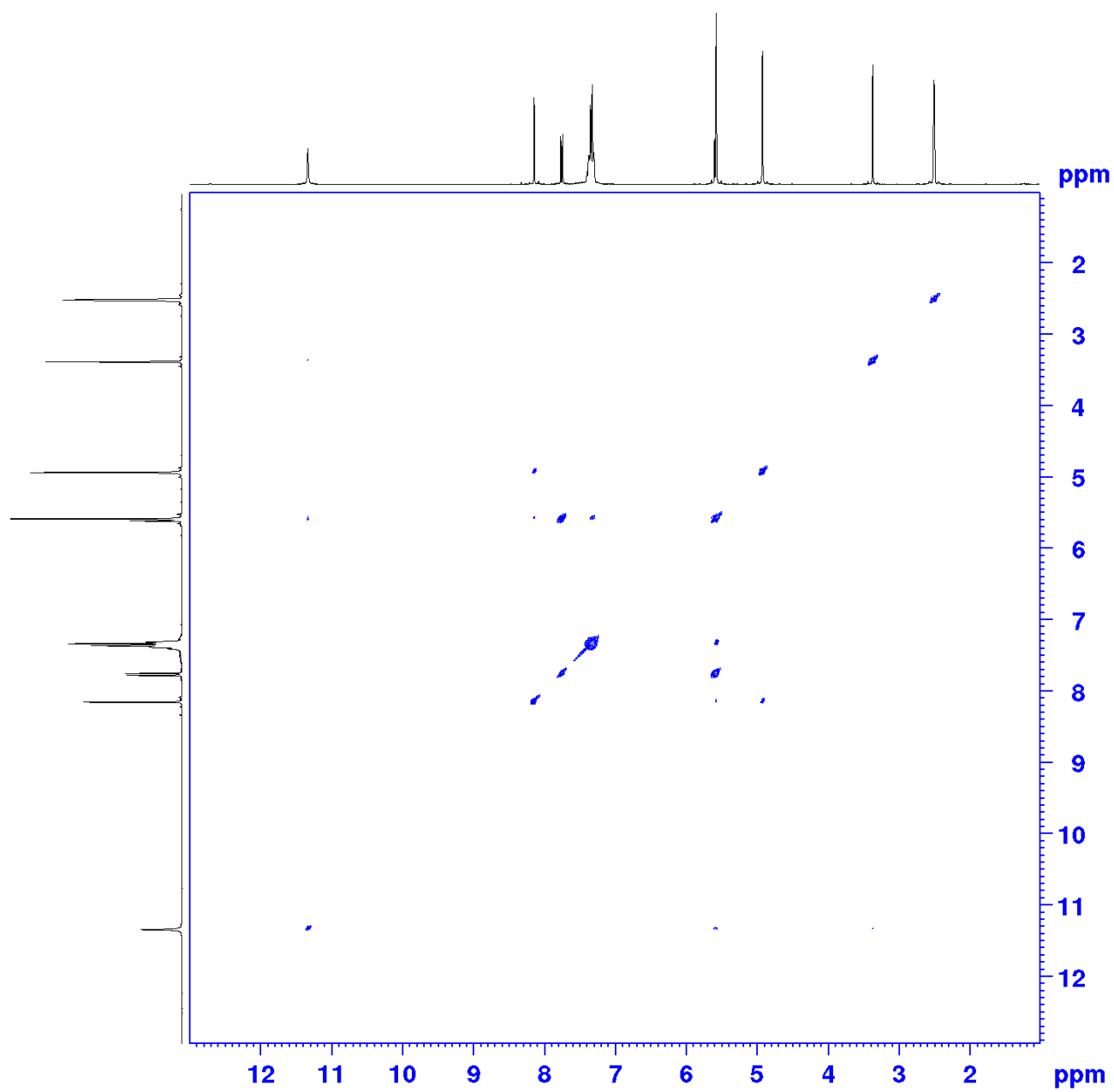
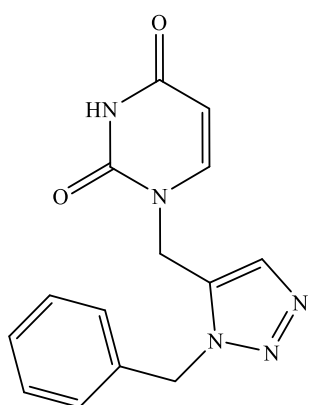
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



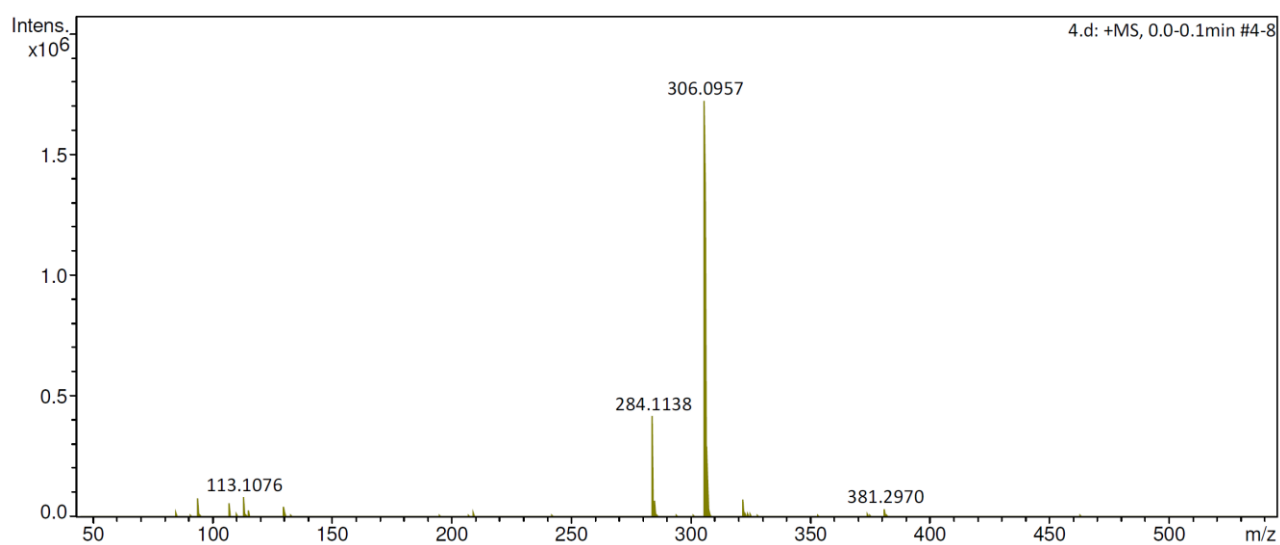
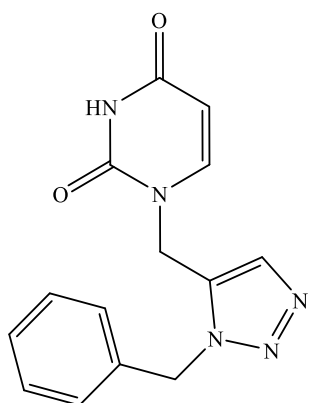
<sup>13</sup>C-APT NMR



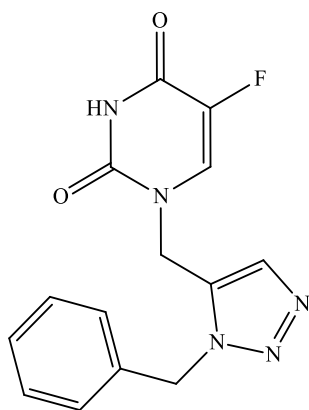
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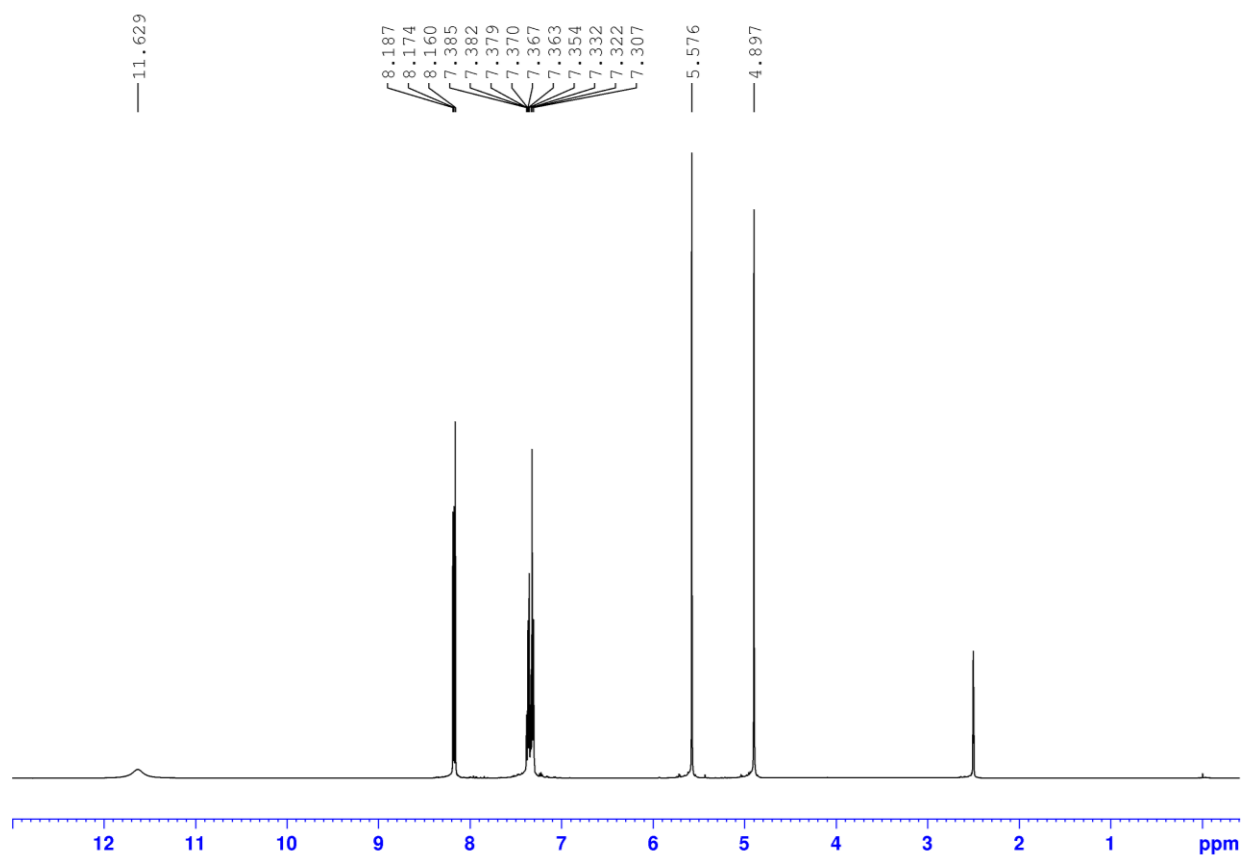
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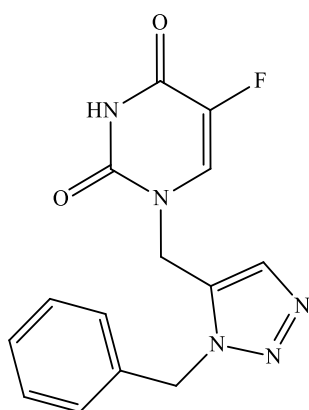
5-fluoro-1-[1-benzyl-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (19a).



$^1\text{H}$  NMR



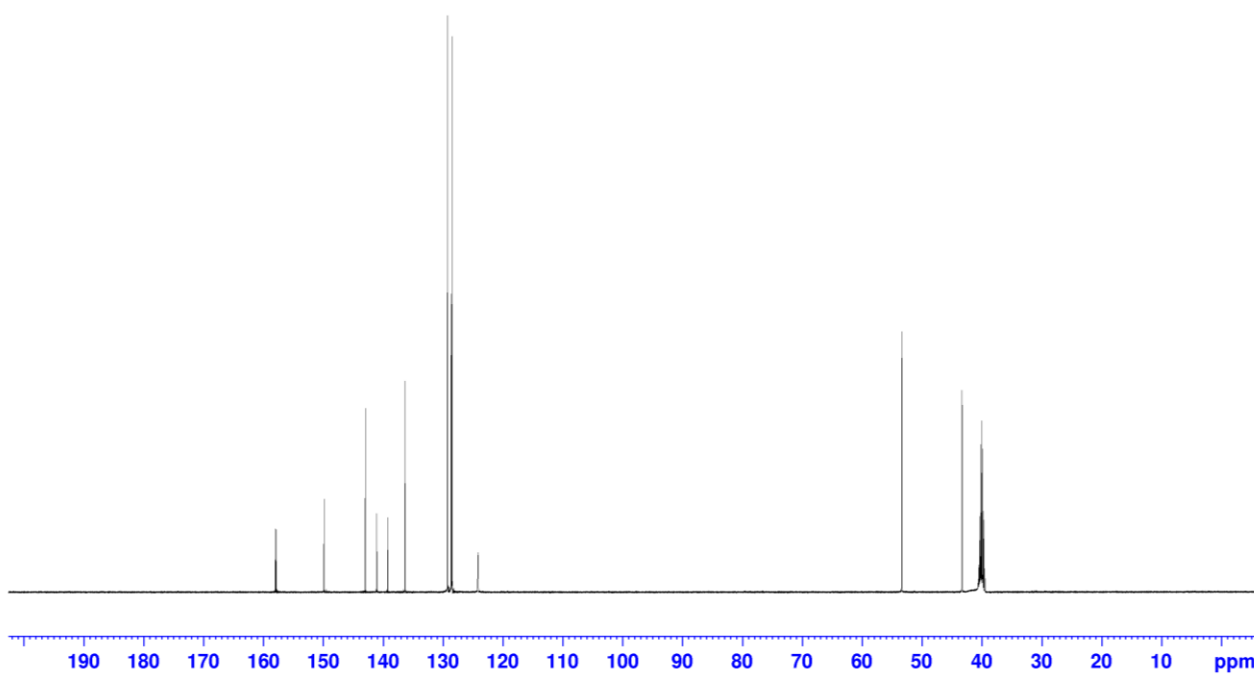
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR



158.03  
157.83  
149.87  
142.96  
141.06  
139.24  
136.37  
129.23  
128.64  
128.49  
124.16

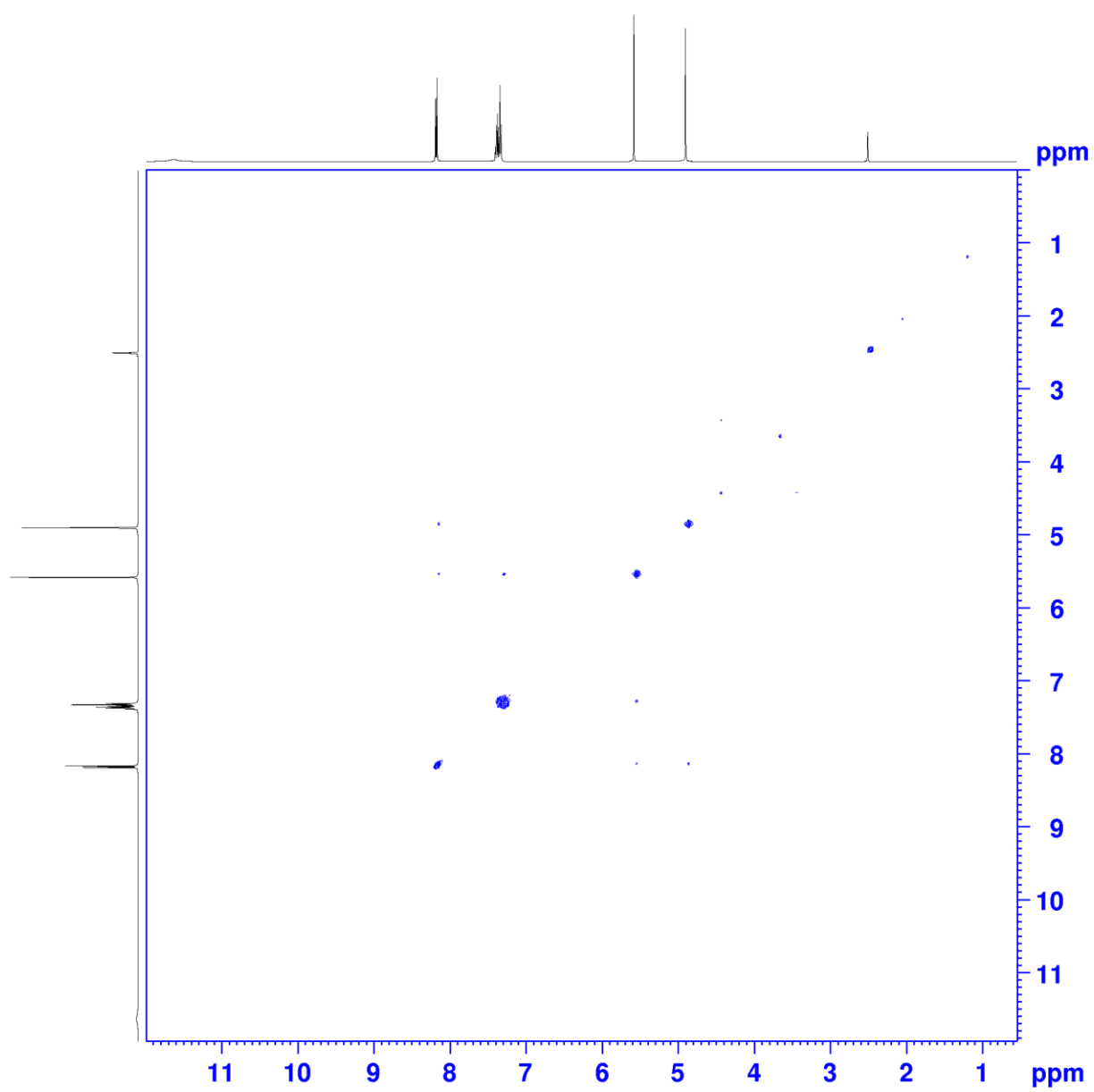
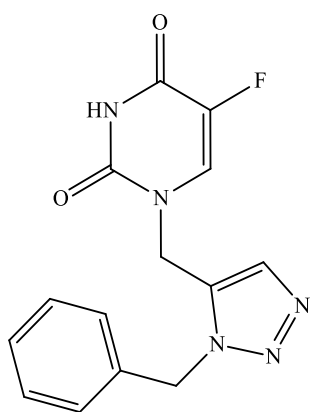
53.35

43.30

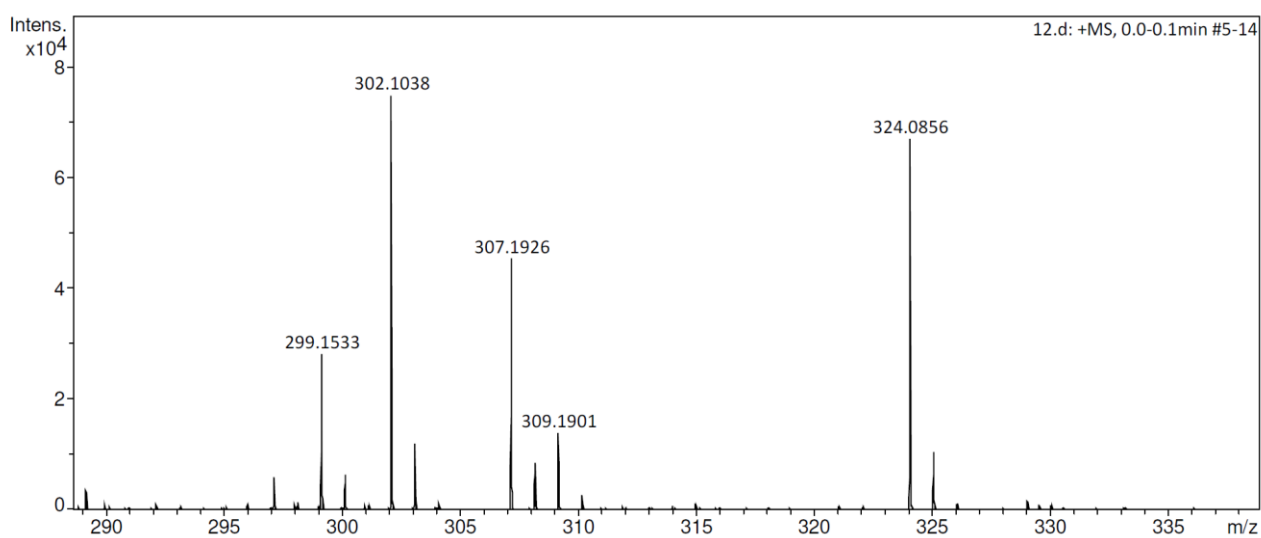
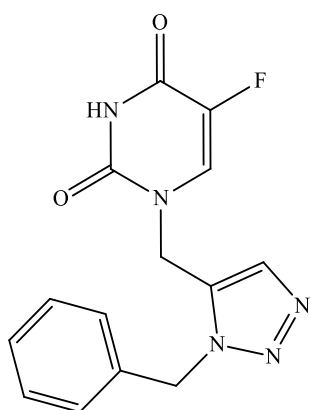




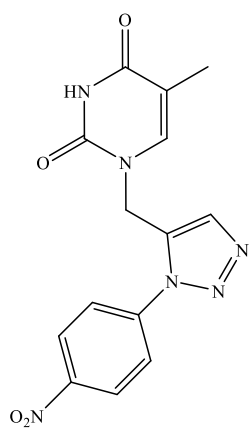
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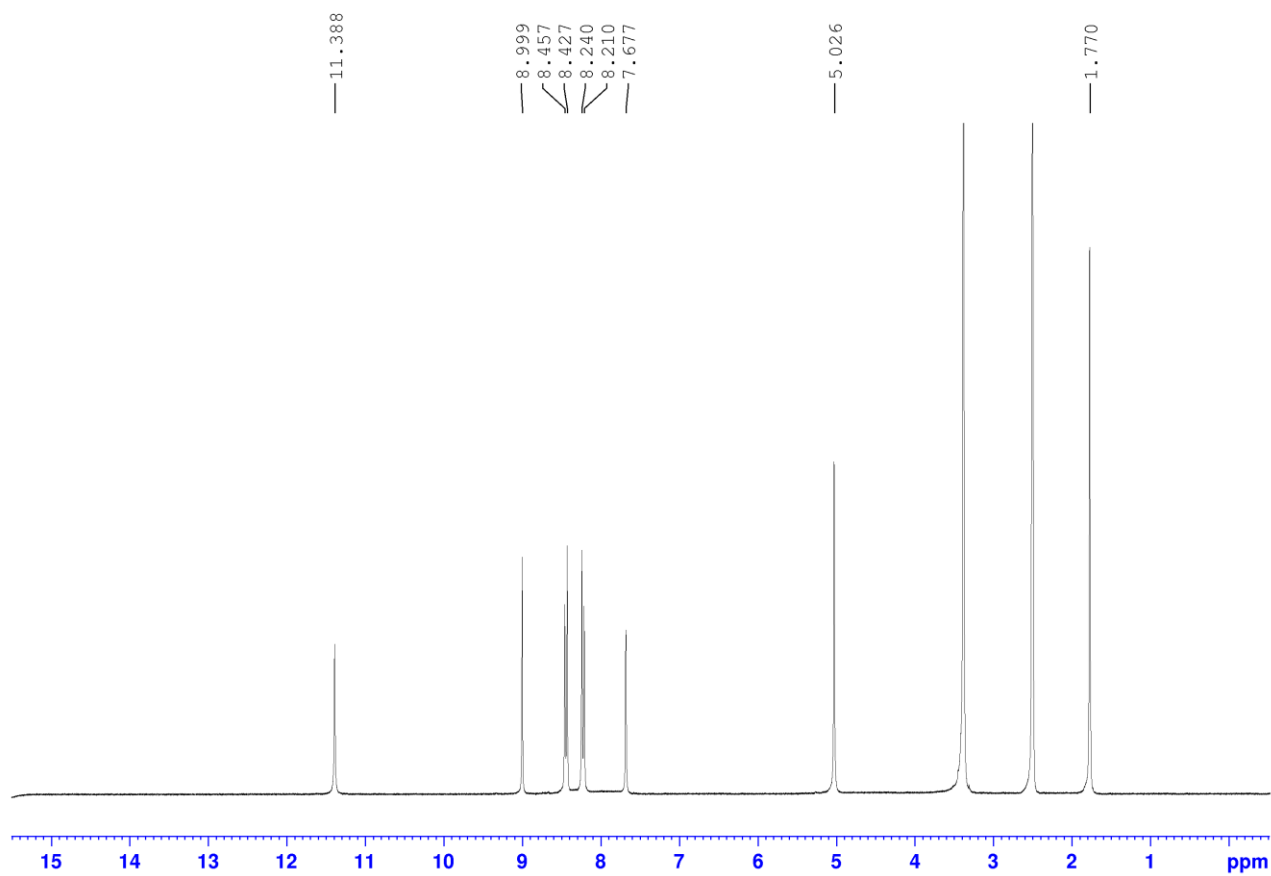
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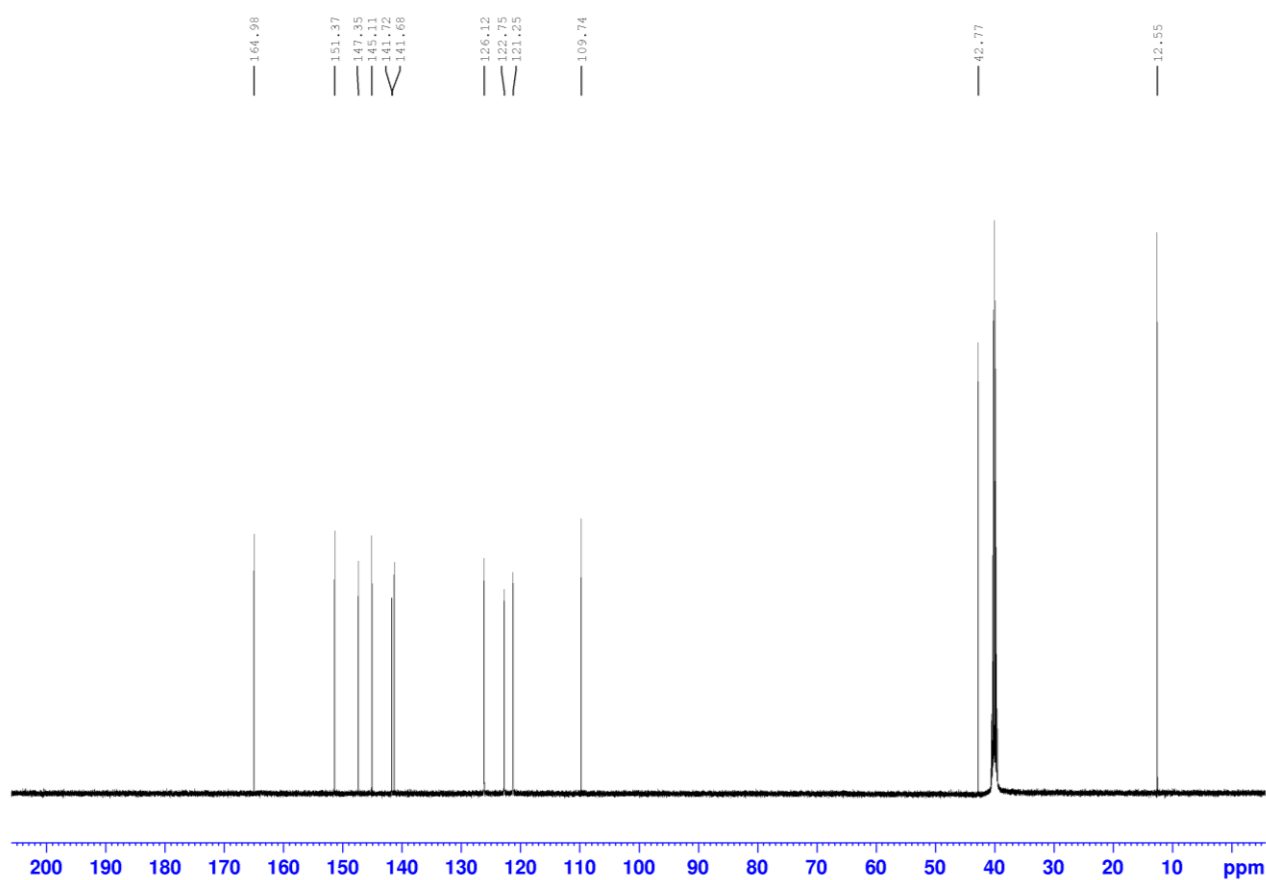
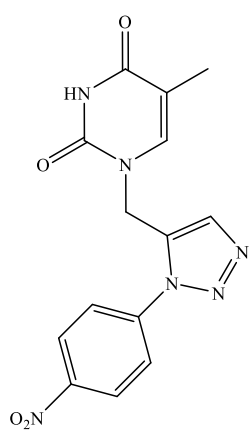
**1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (20a).**



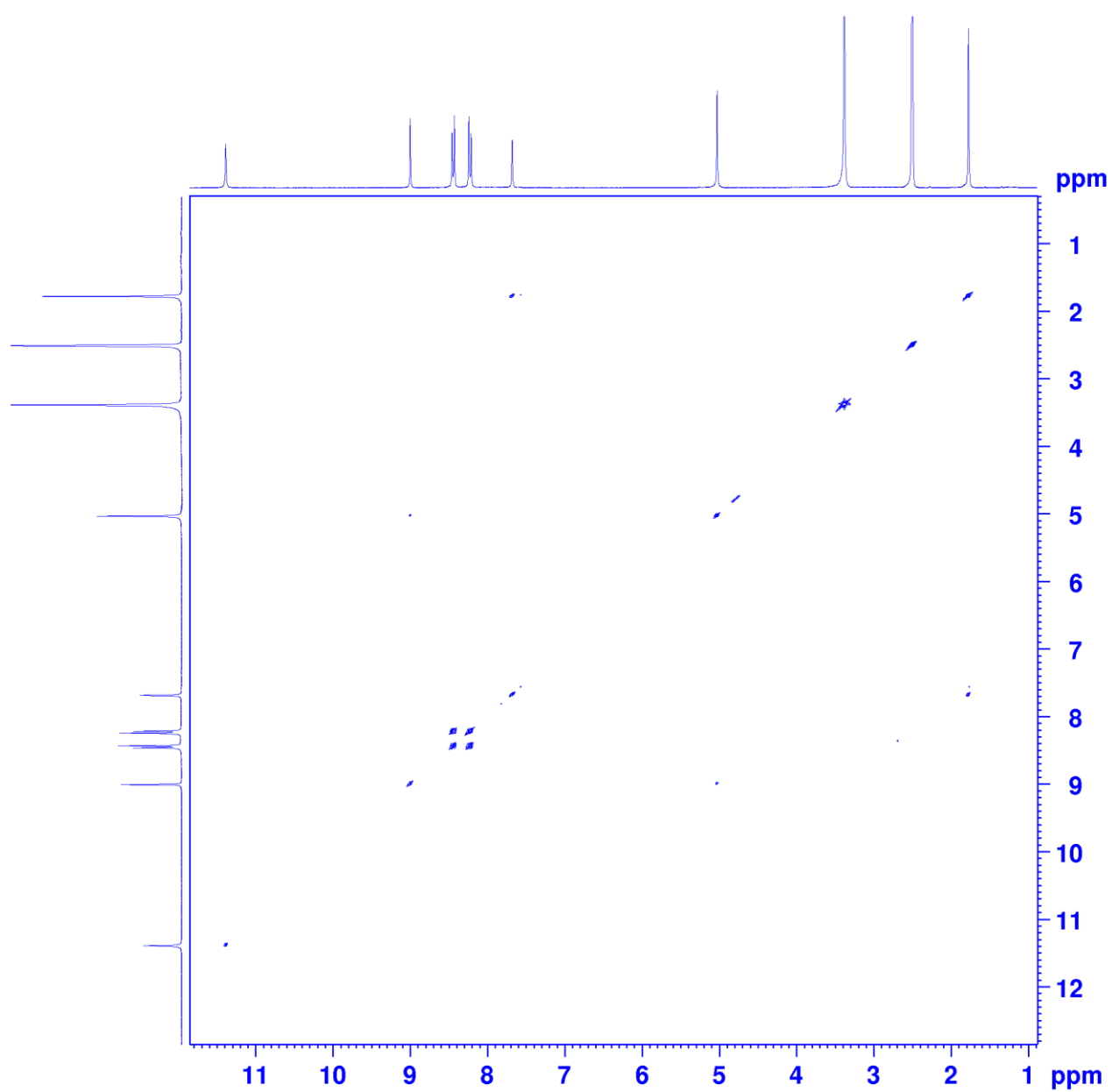
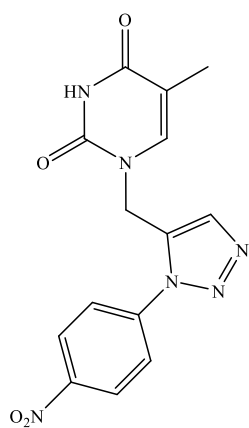
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR**



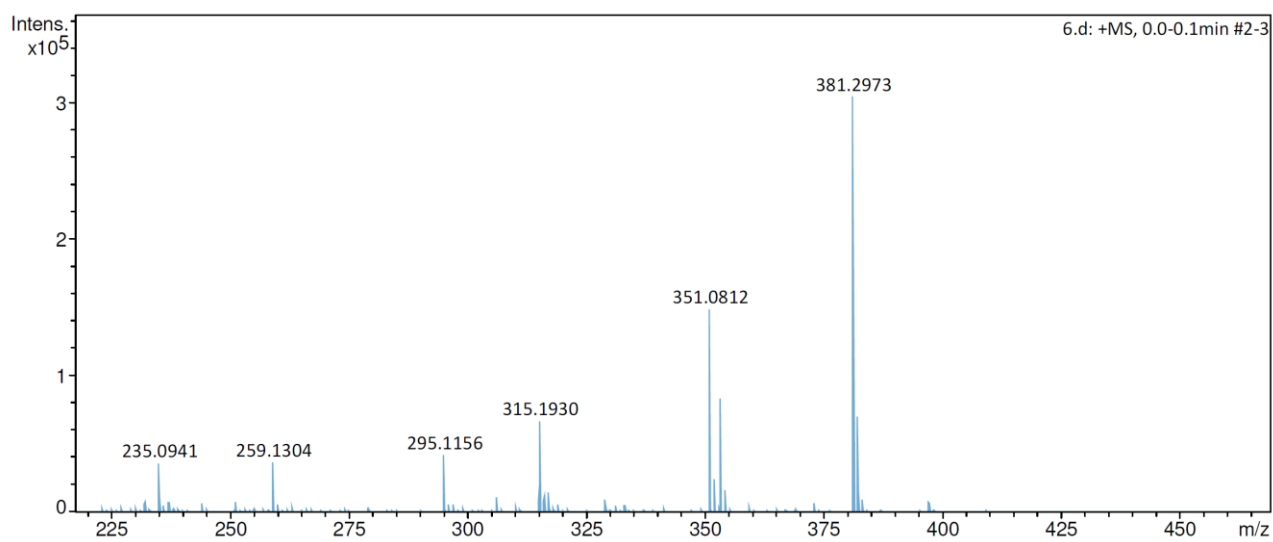
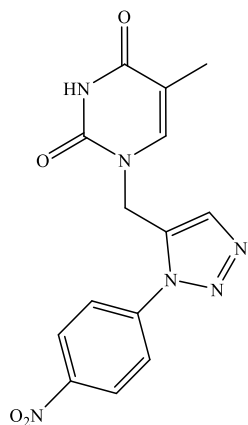
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR



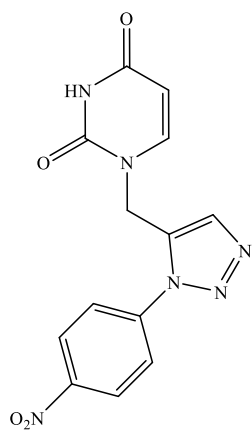
## COSY NMR



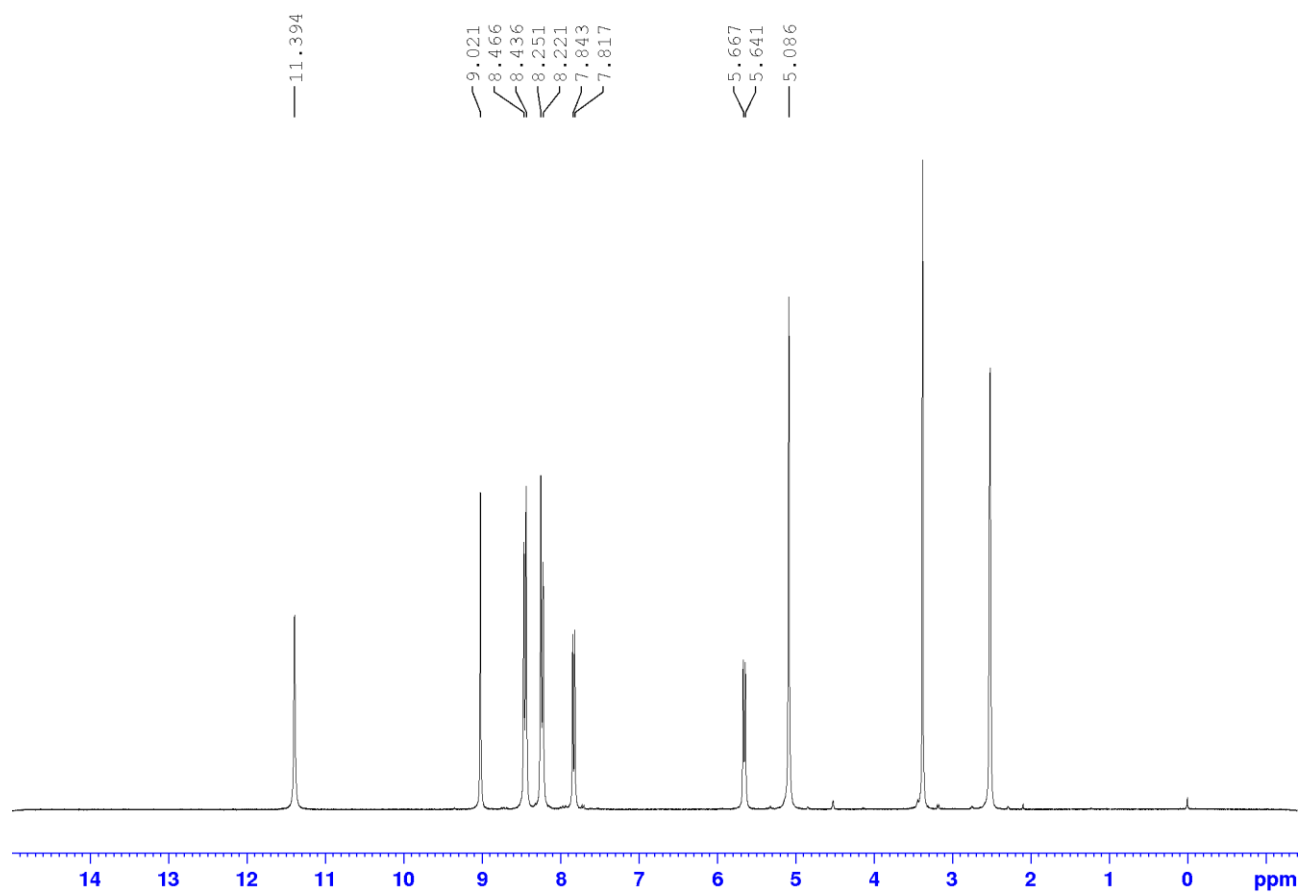
## HRMS



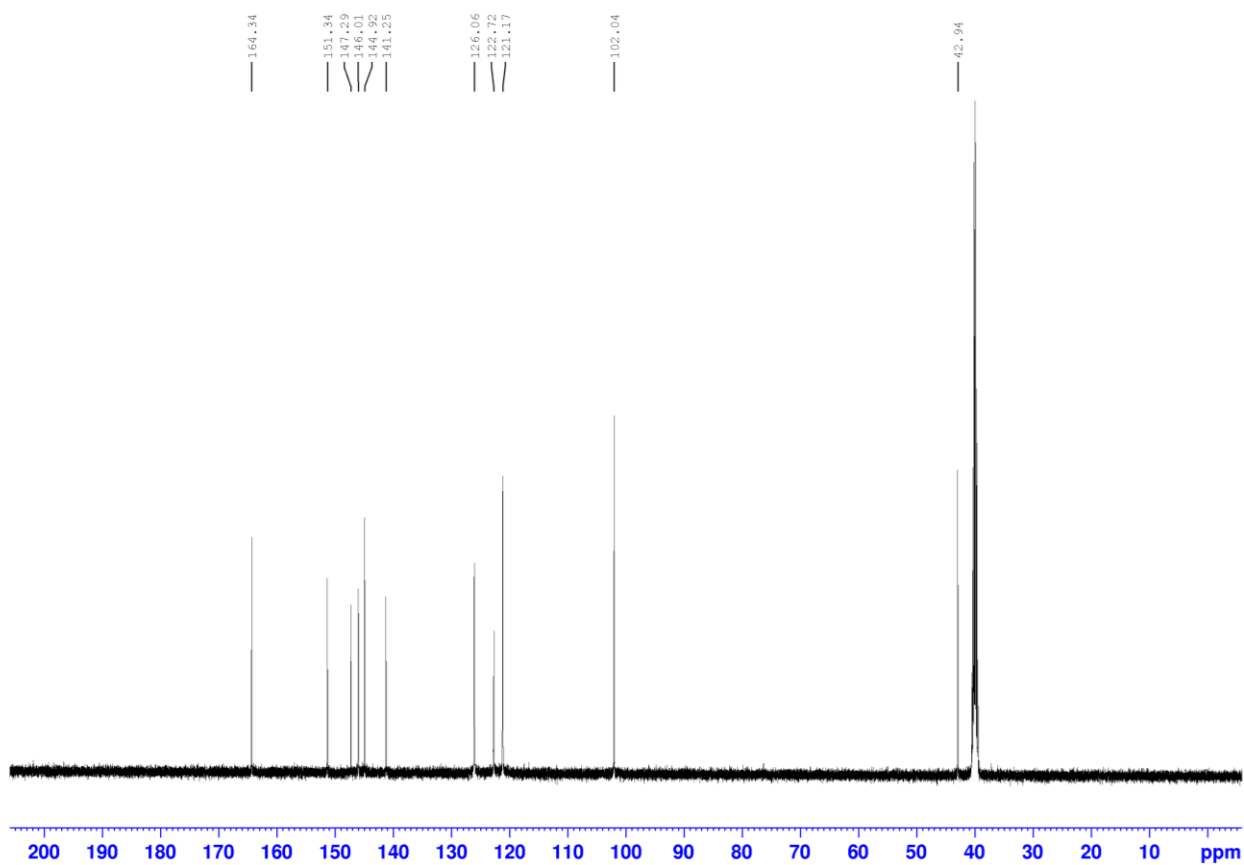
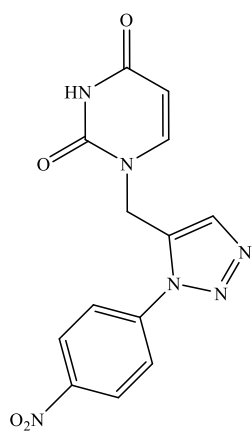
**1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (21a).**



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR**

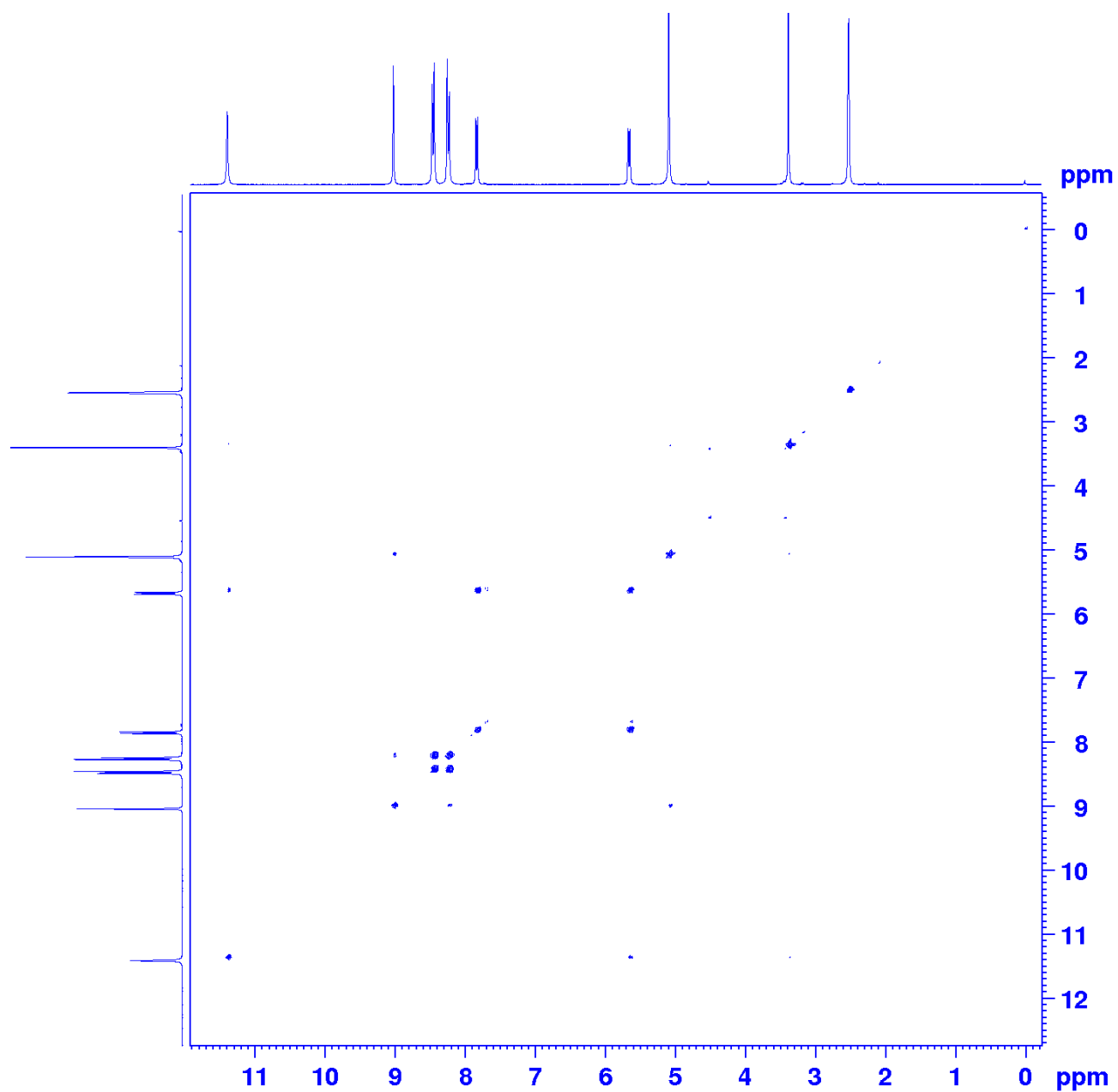
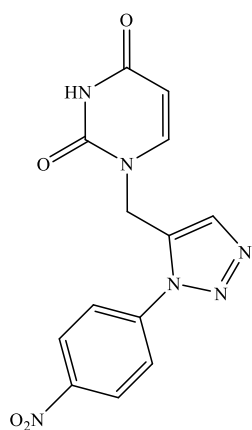


# <sup>13</sup>C NMR

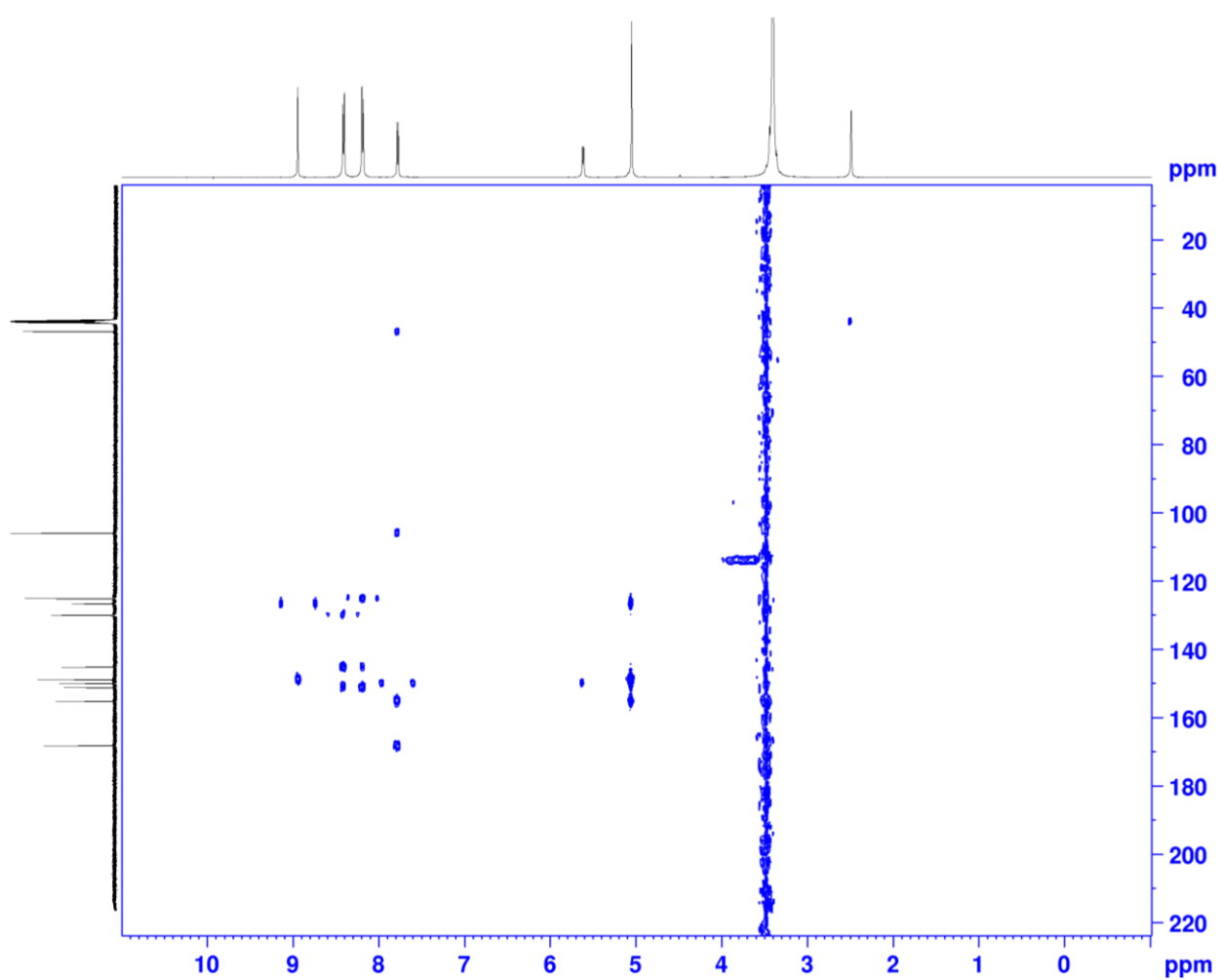
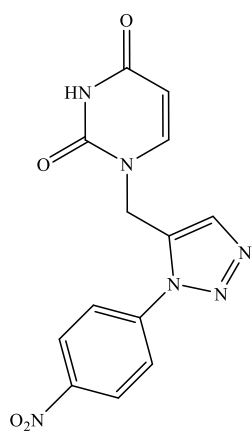




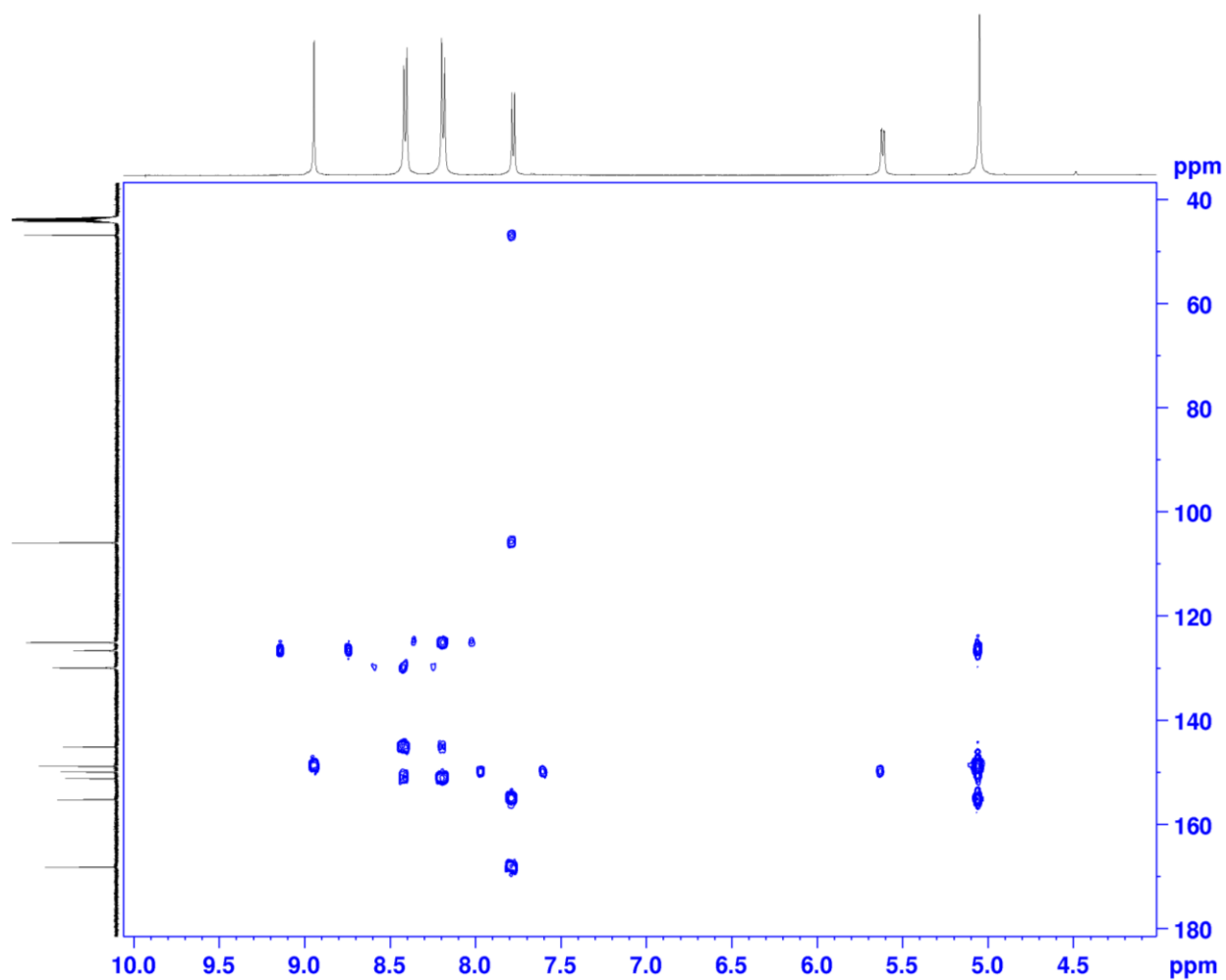
## COSY NMR



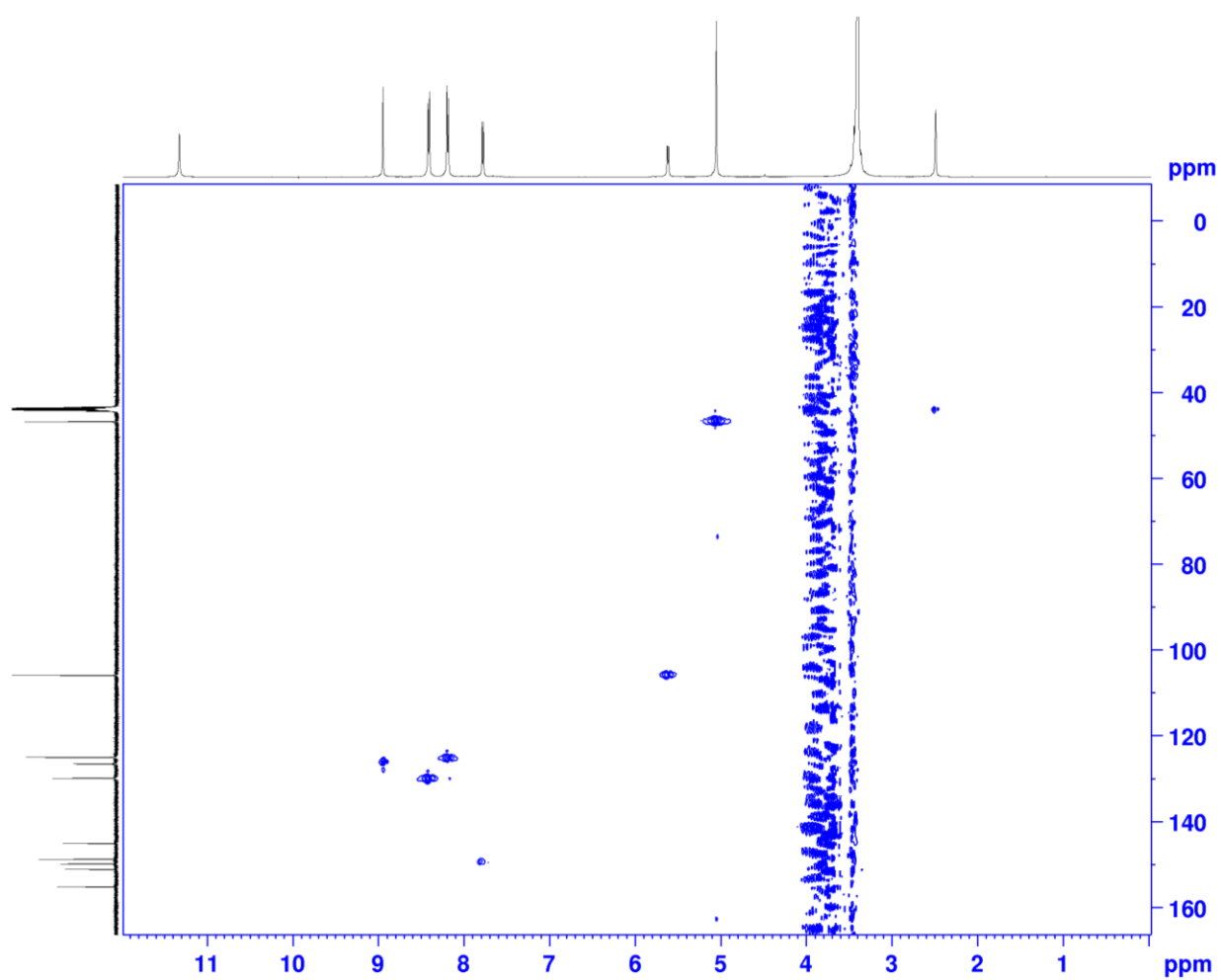
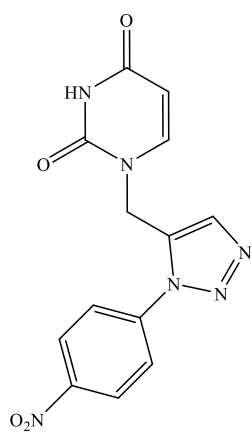
## HMBC NMR



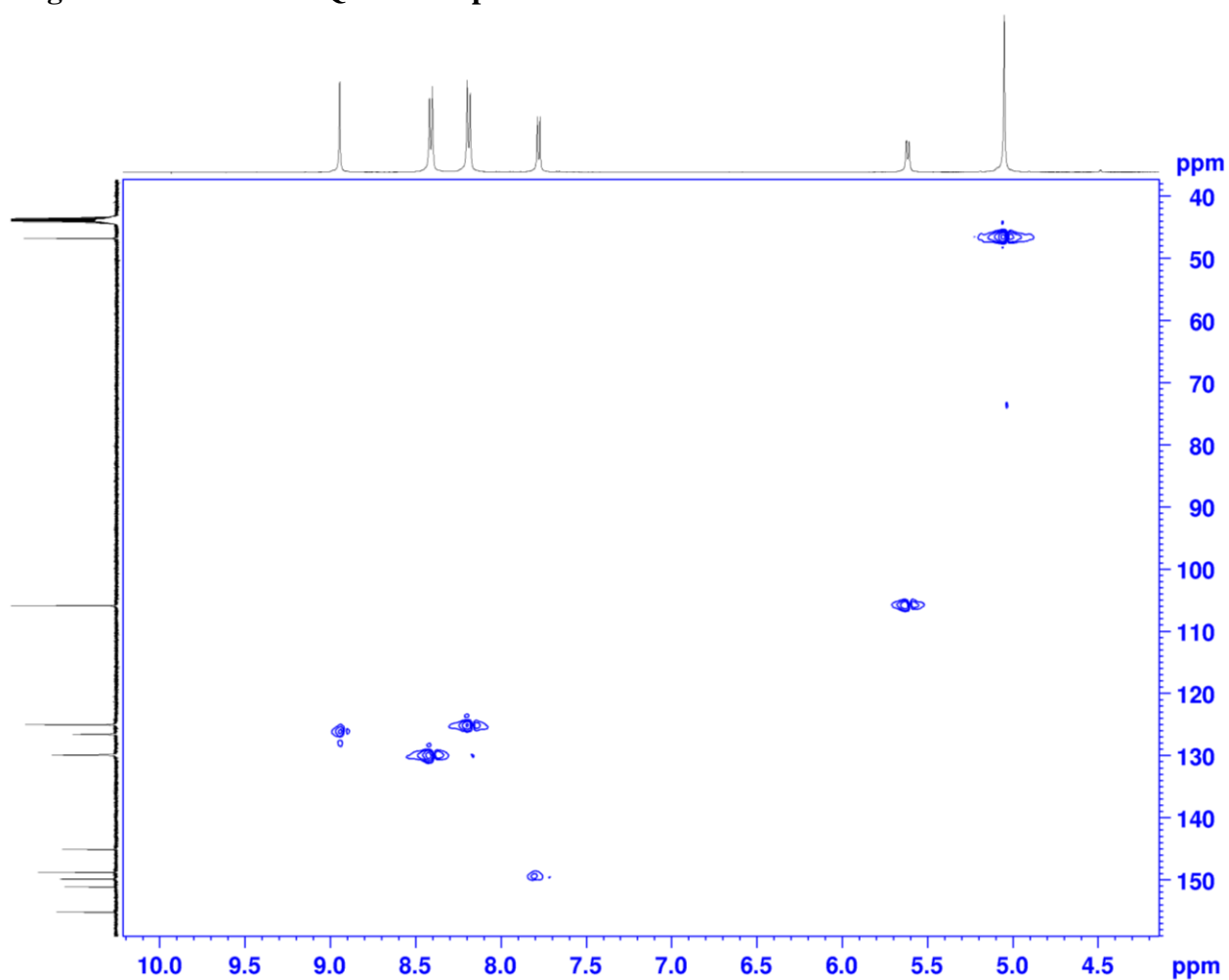
## Magnification of the HMBC NMR spectrum



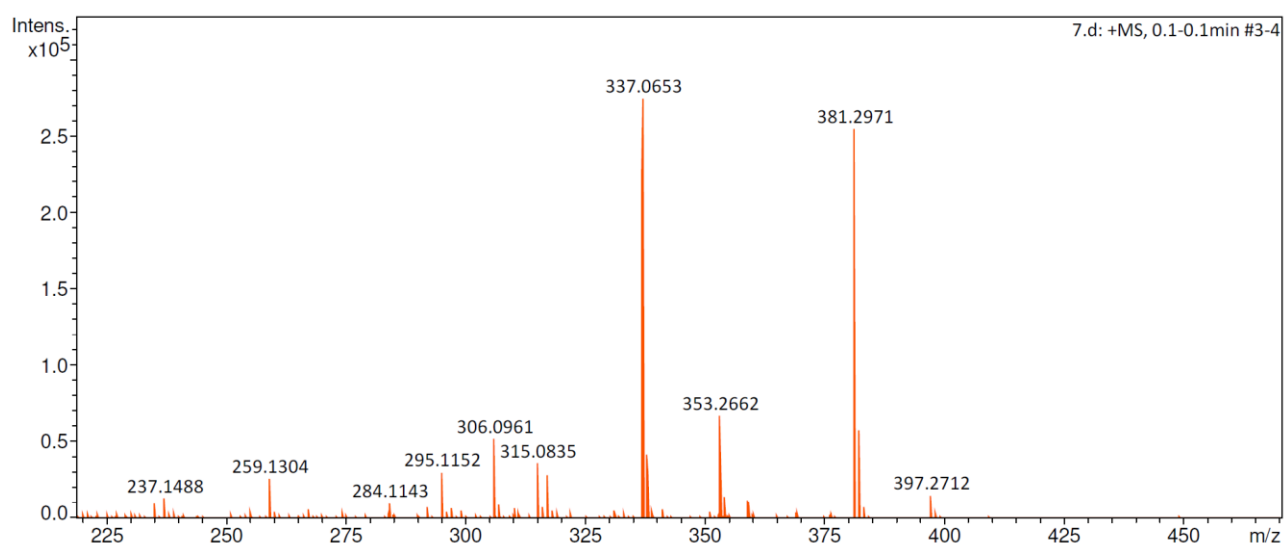
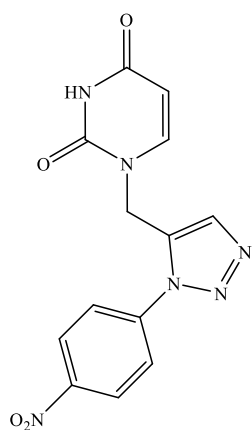
## HSQC NMR



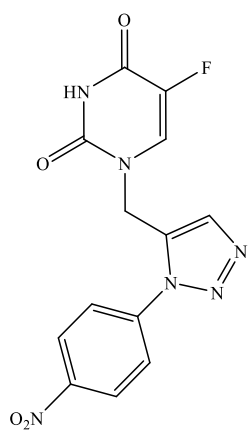
## Magnification of the HSQC NMR spectrum



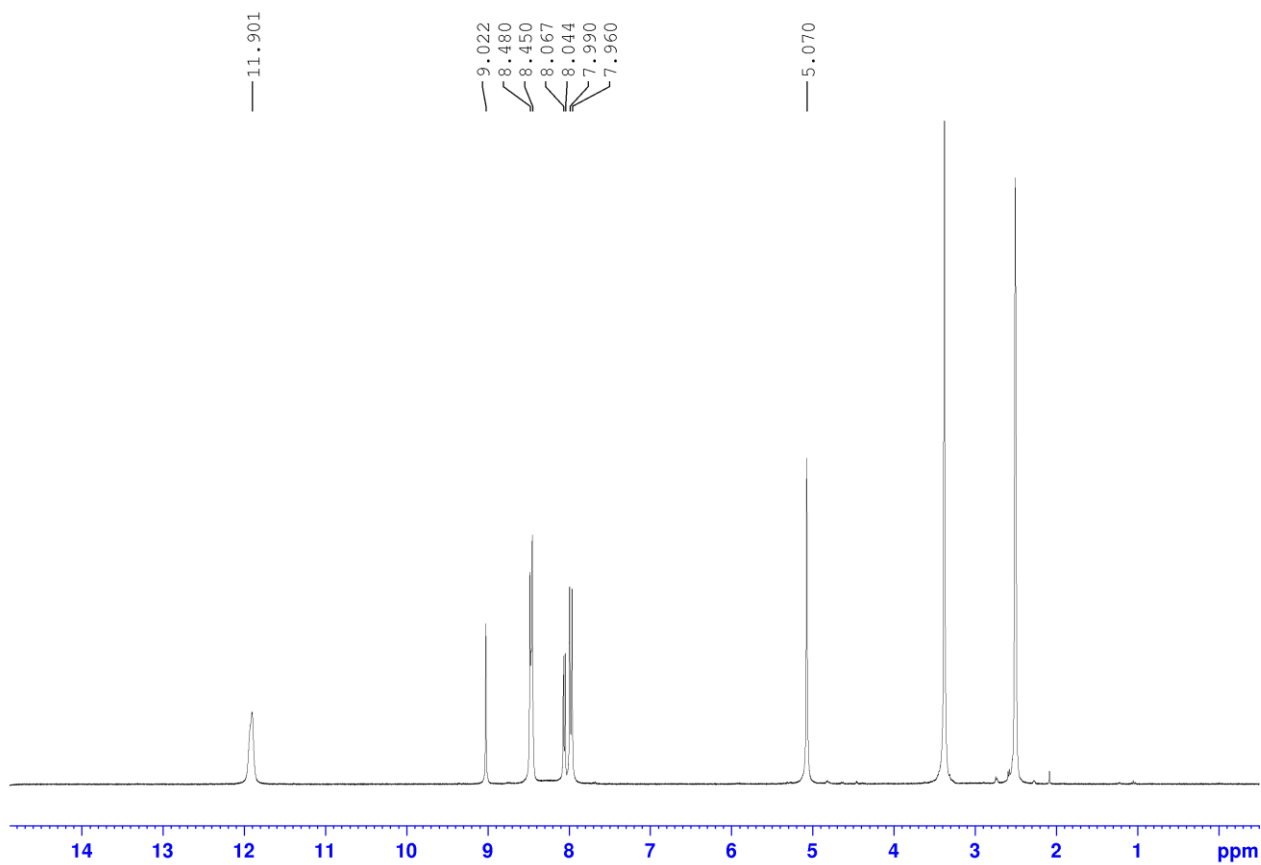
## HRMS



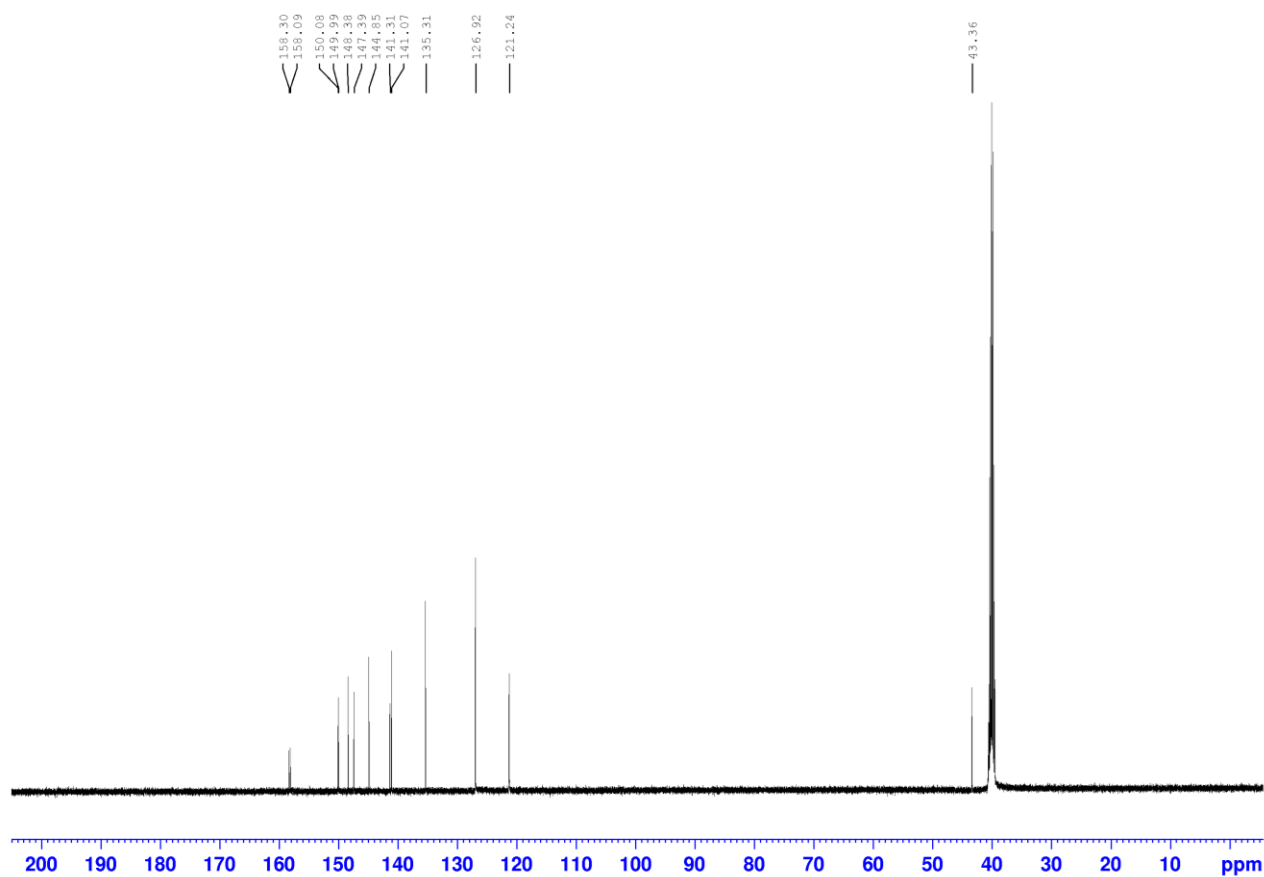
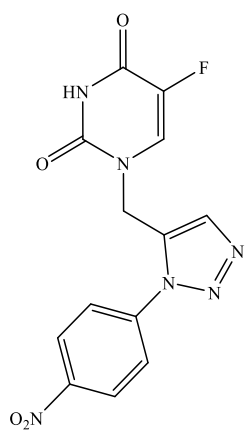
**5-fluoro-1-[1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (22a).**



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR**

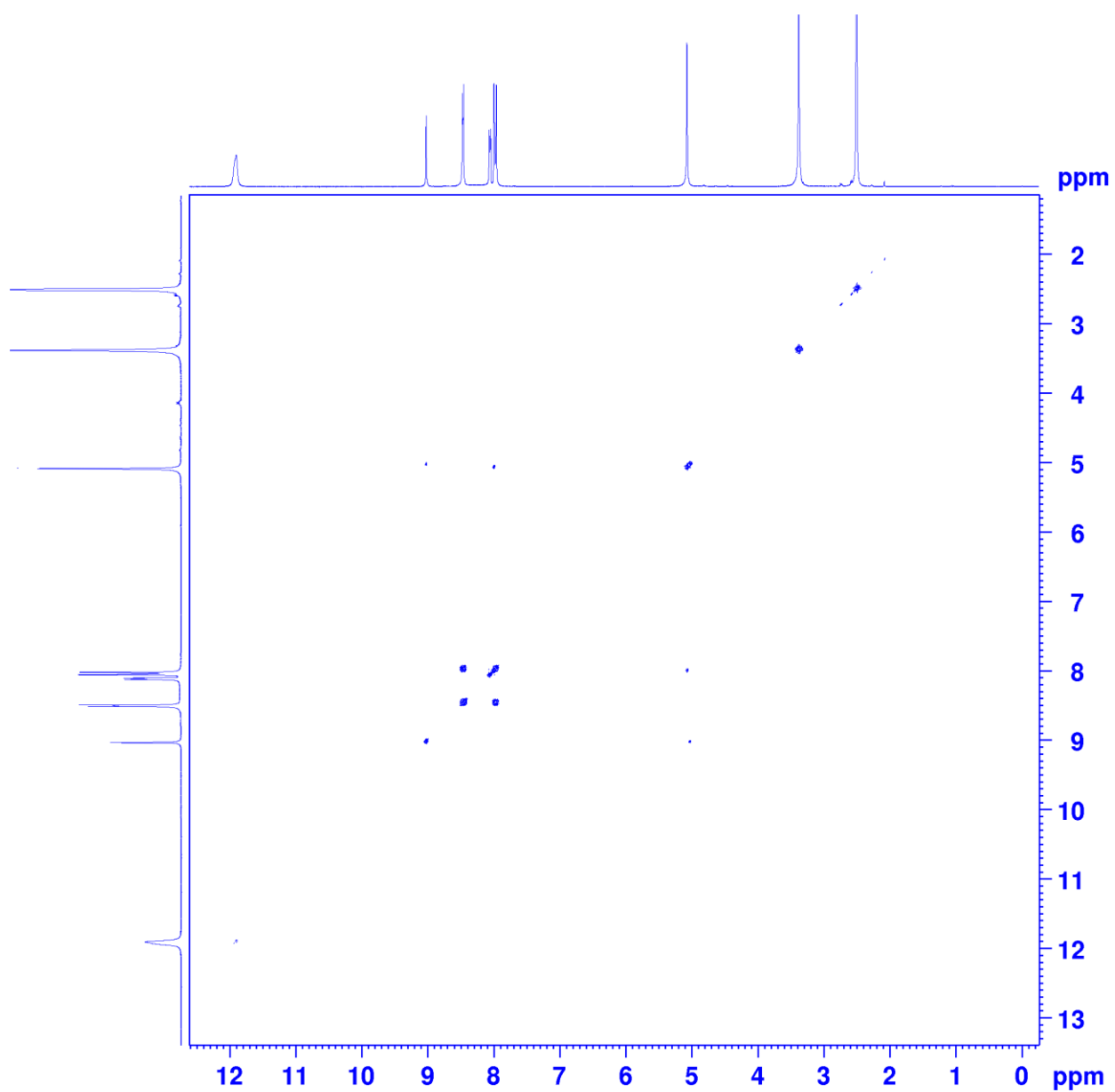
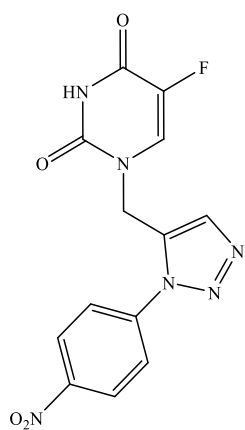


# <sup>13</sup>C NMR

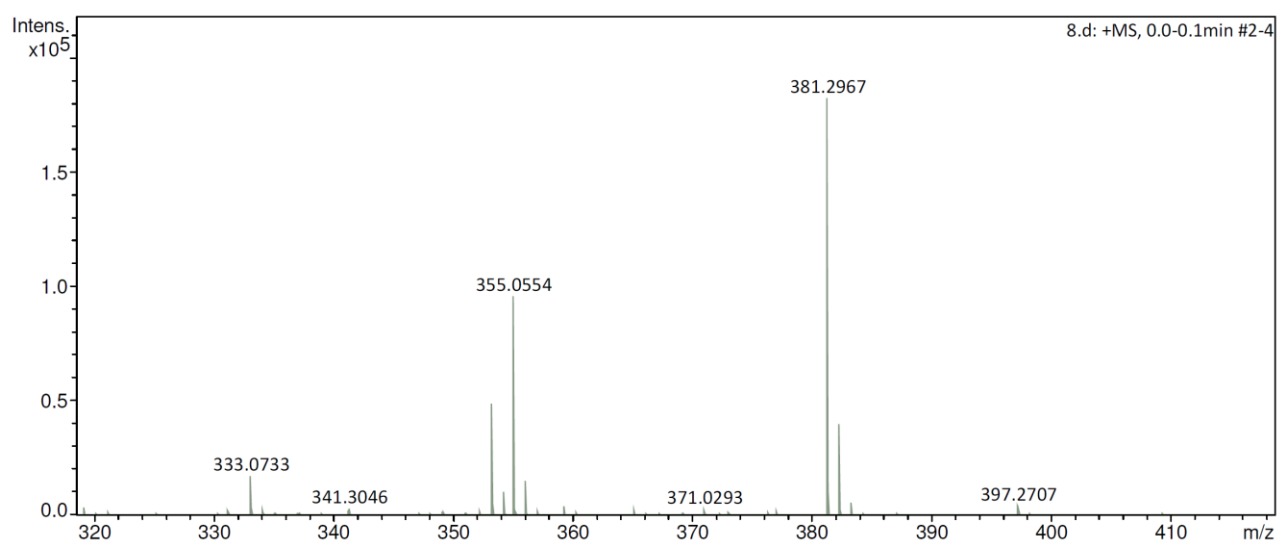
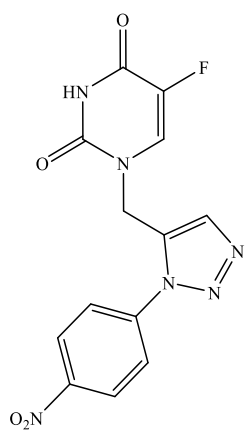




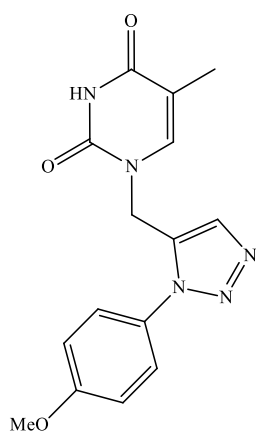
## COSY NMR



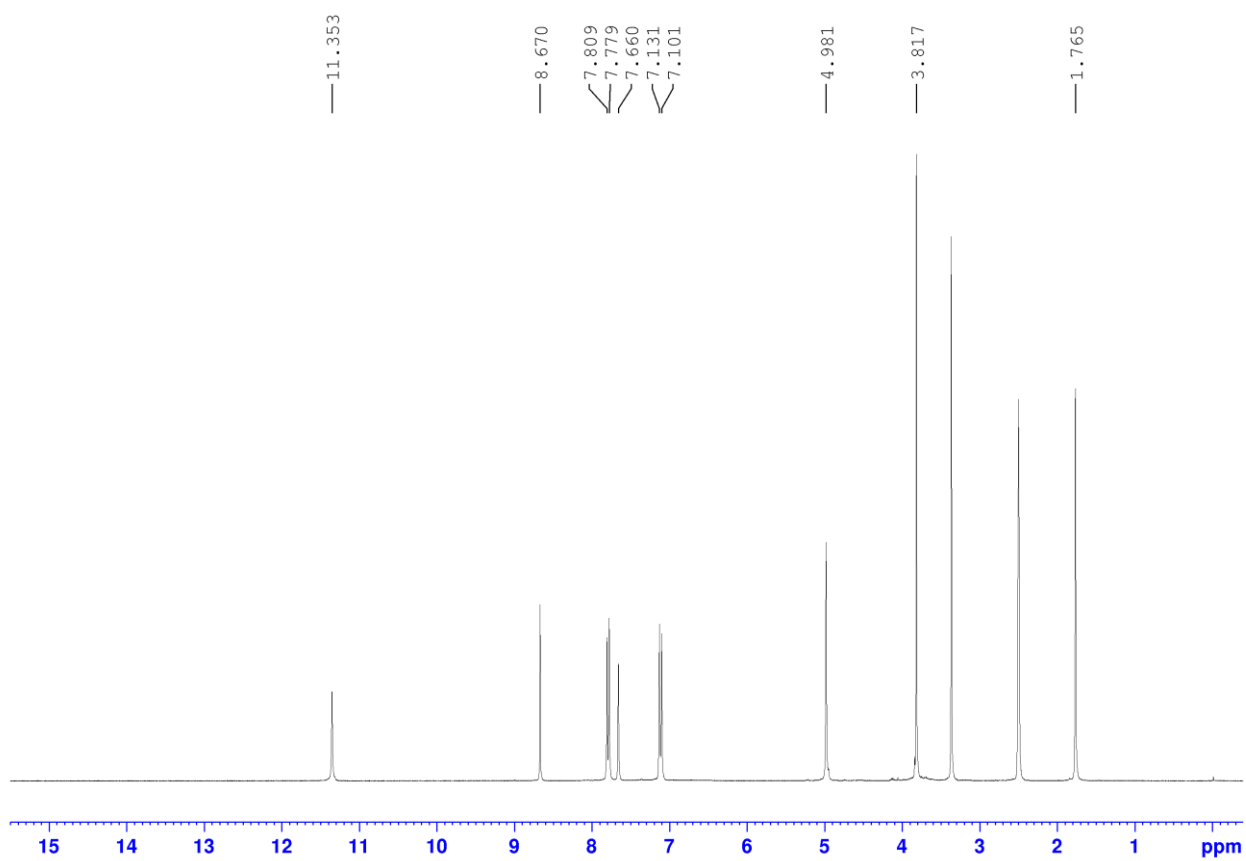
## HRMS



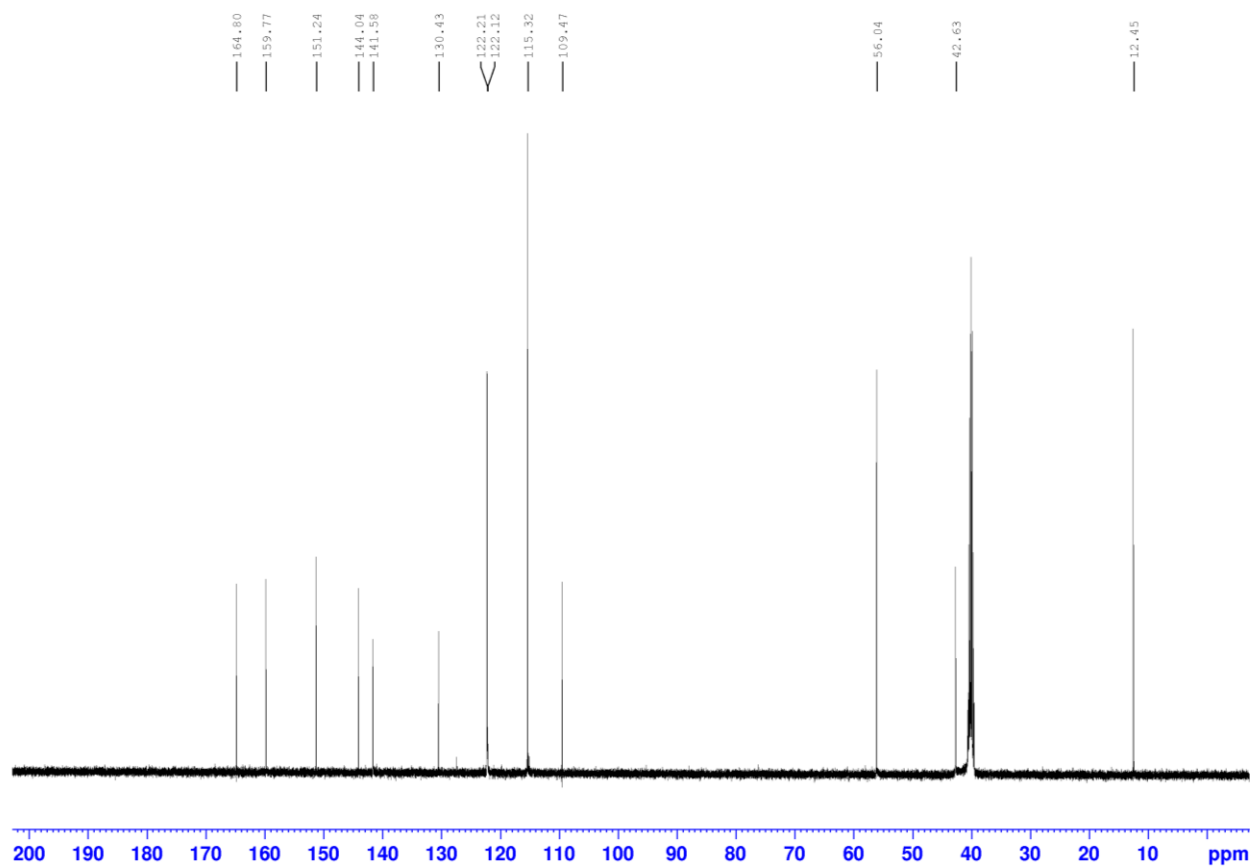
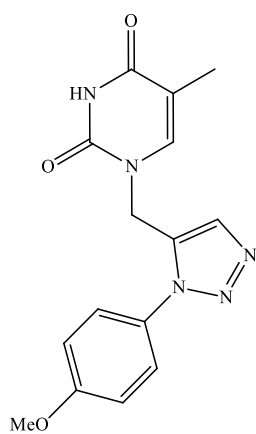
**1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-thymine (23a).**



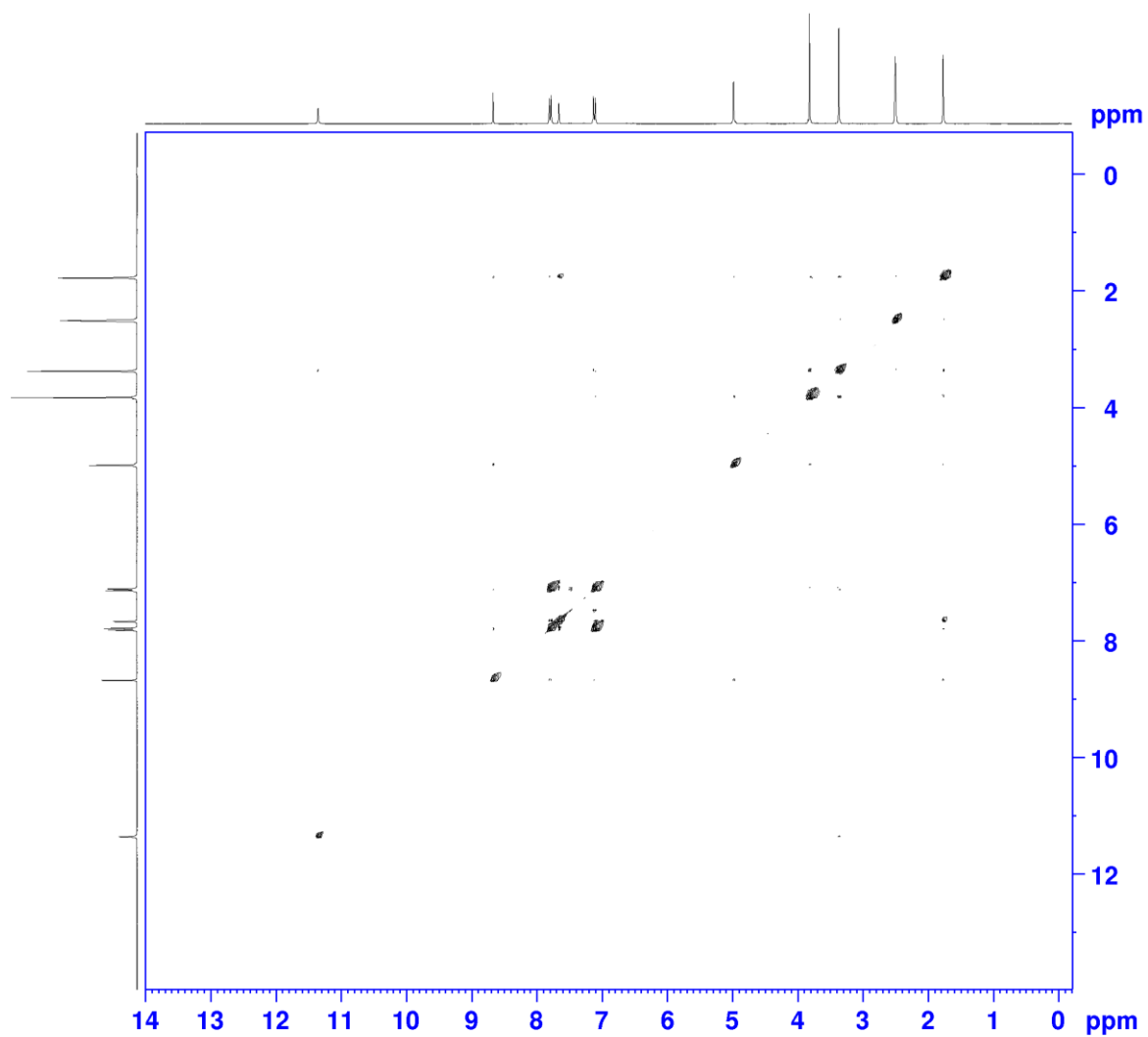
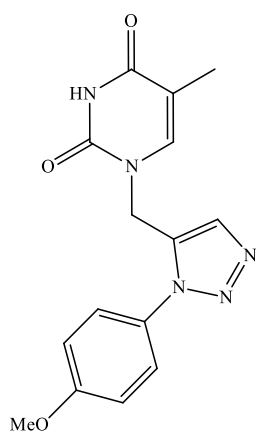
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR**



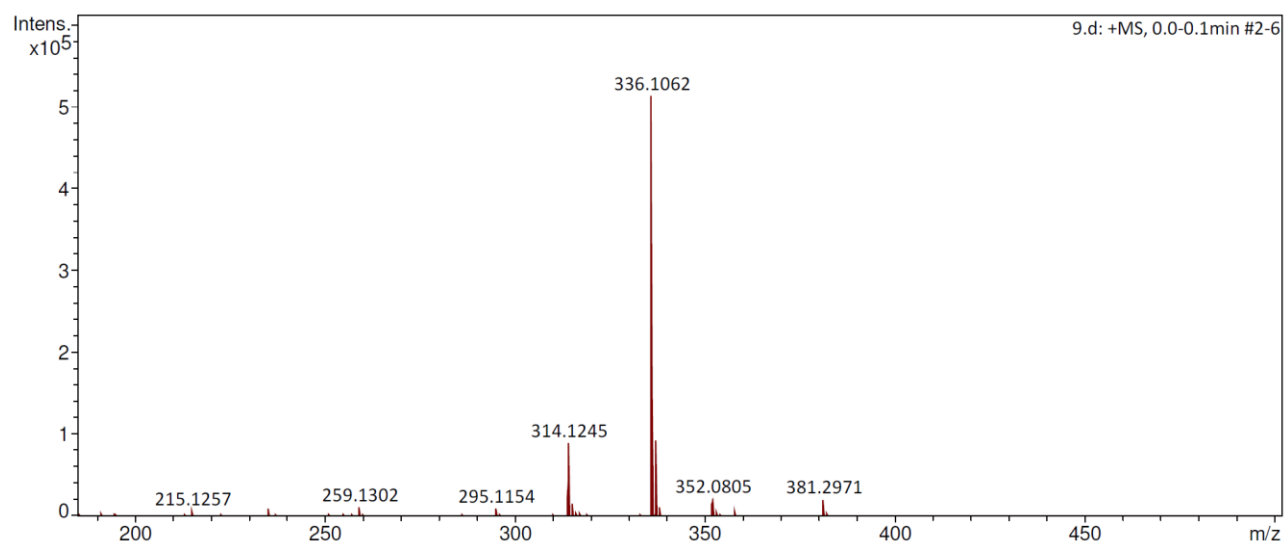
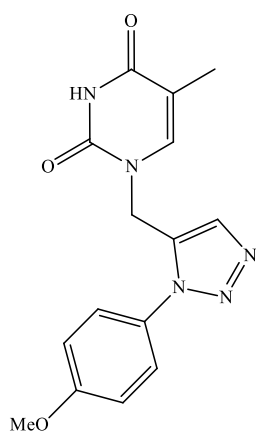
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR

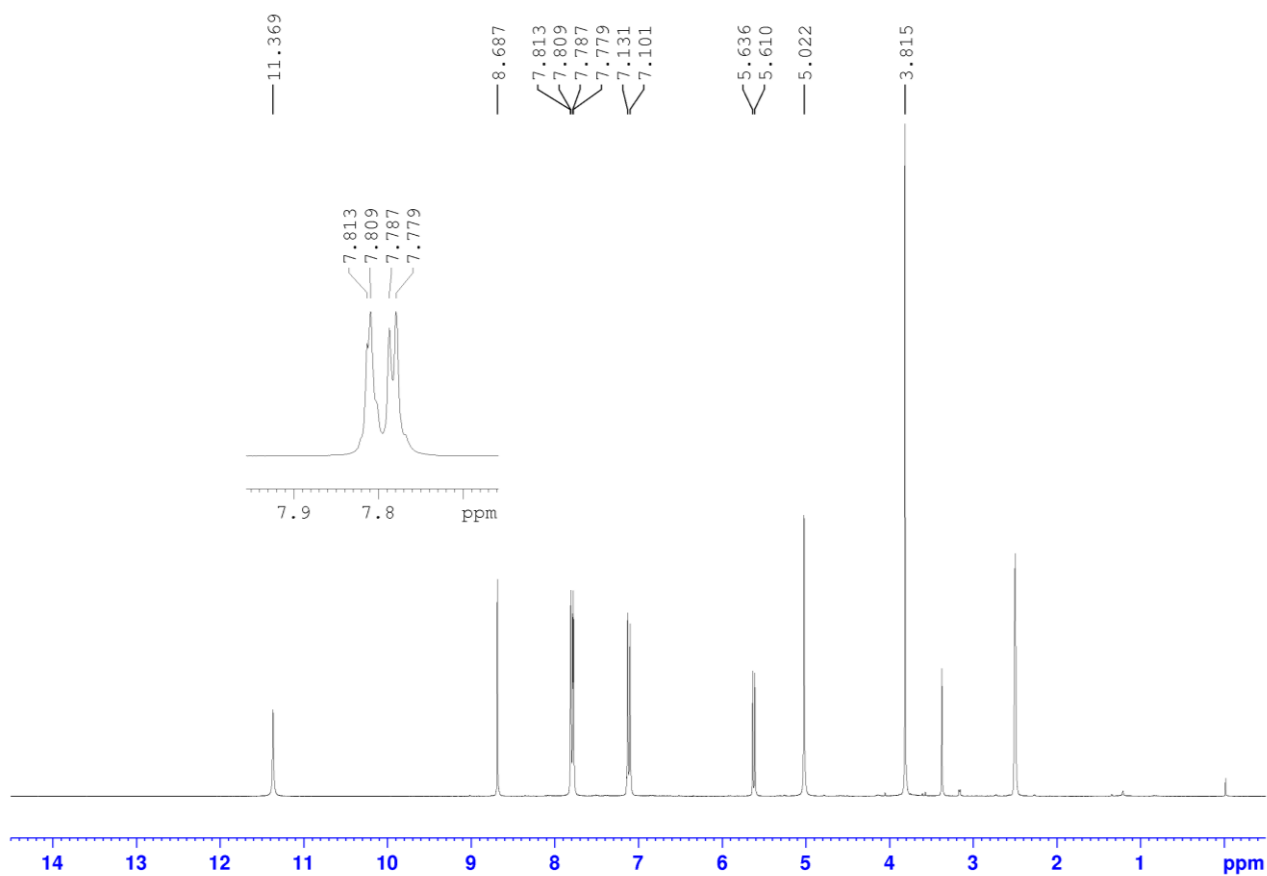


## COSY NMR

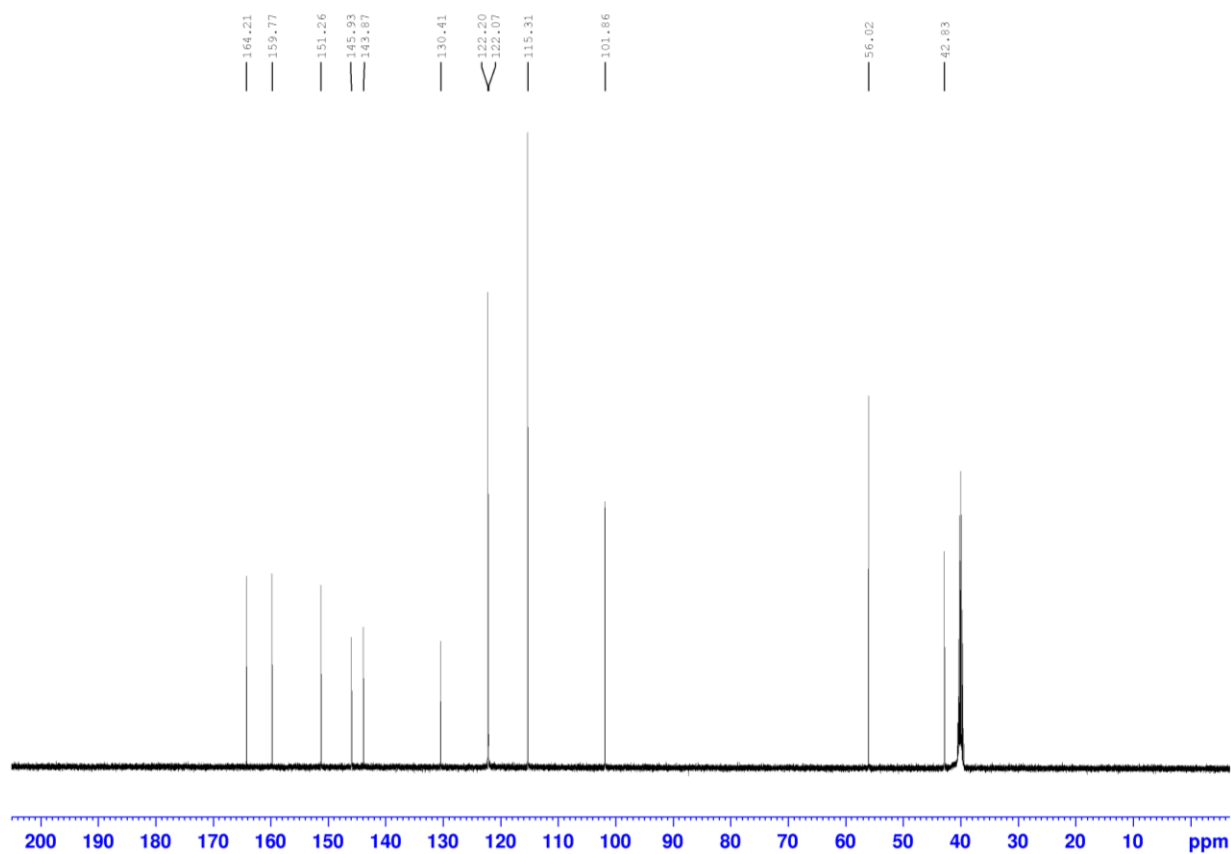
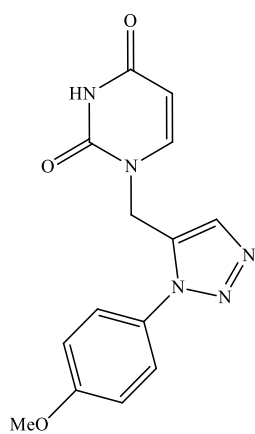


## HRMS



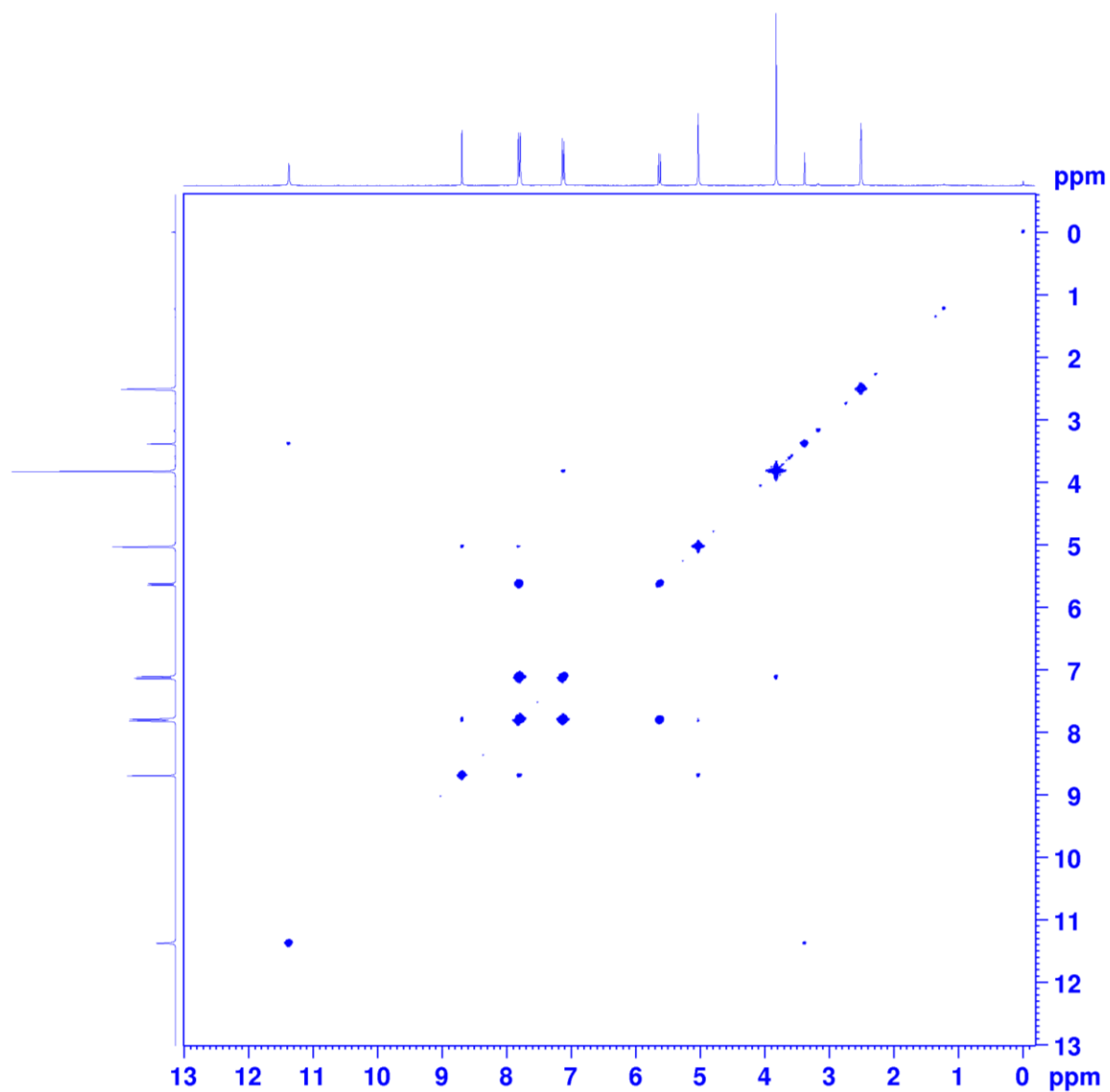
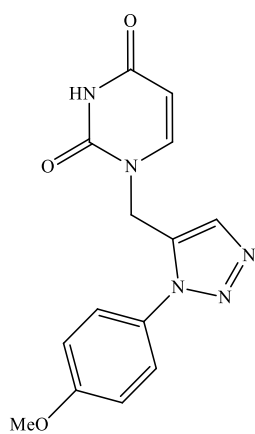
COc1ccc(cc1)n2ncnc2CN3C=CC(=O)NC3=O

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR

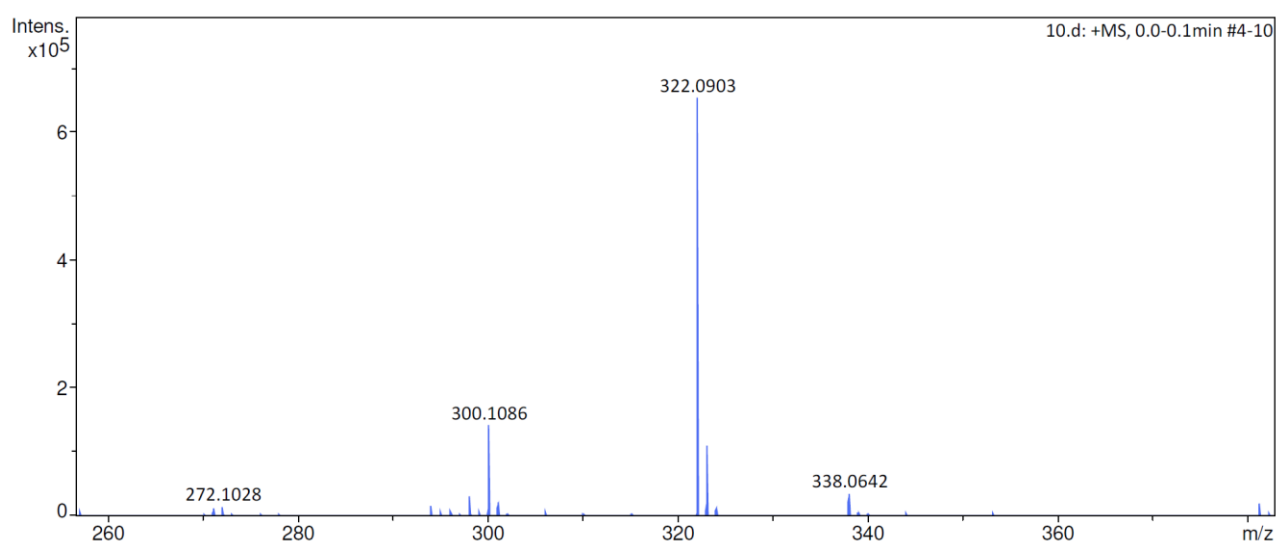
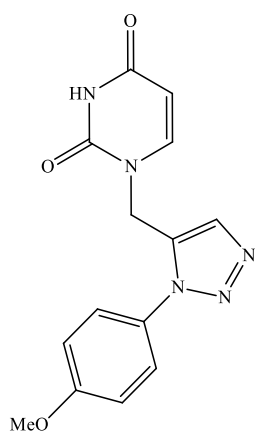




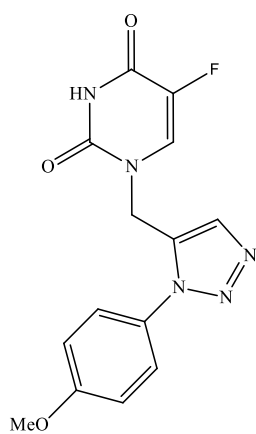
## COSY NMR



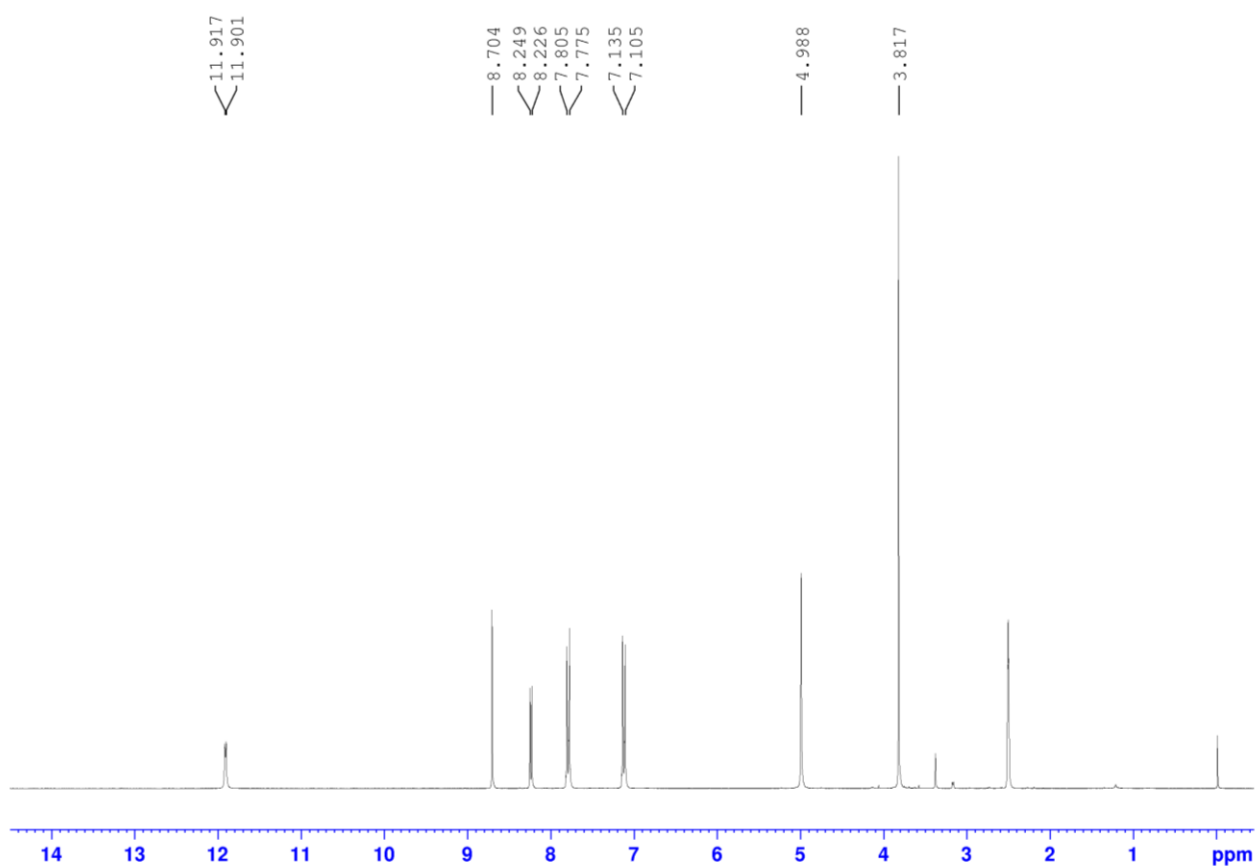
## HRMS



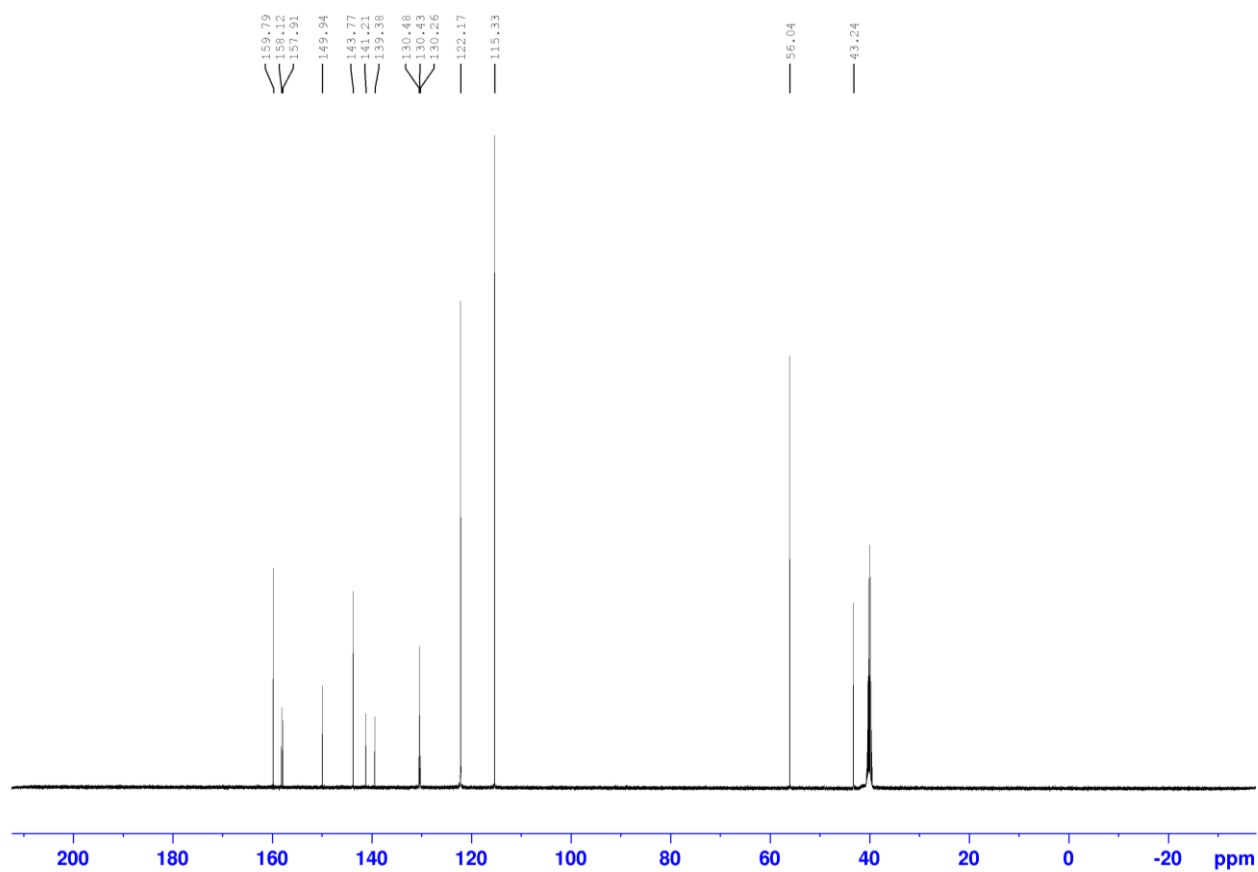
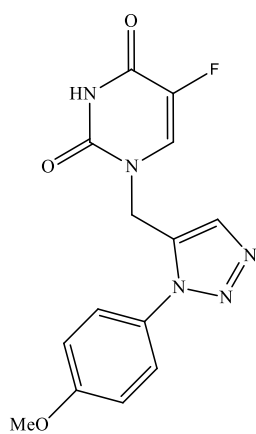
5-fluoro-1-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3-triazol-5-yl-methyl]-uracil (25a)



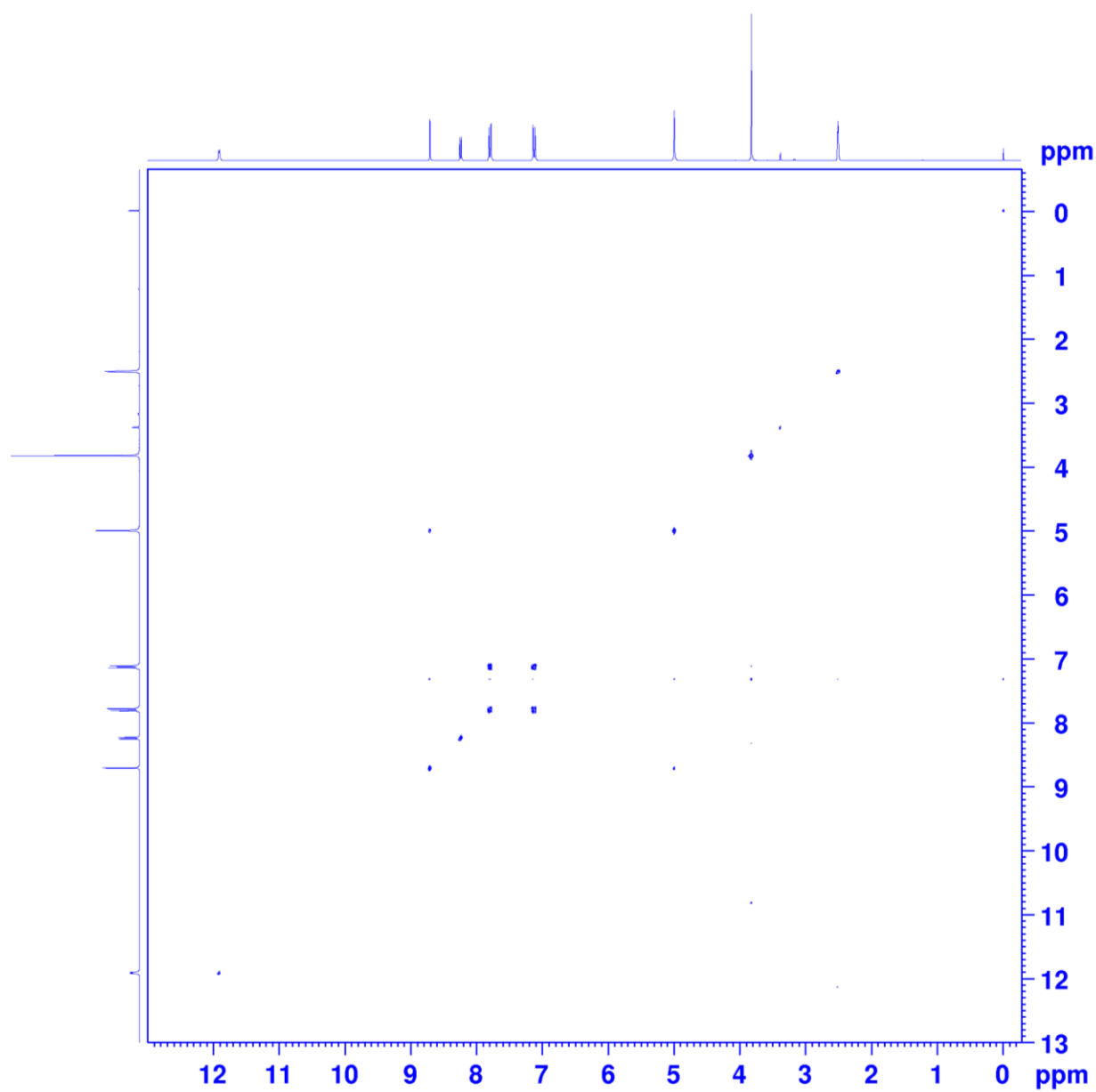
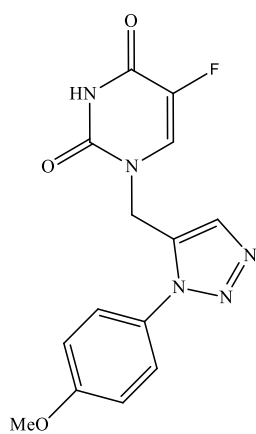
$^1\text{H}$  NMR



# <sup>13</sup>C NMR



## COSY NMR



## HRMS

