

## Supplementary Information

### Androgen receptor targeted conjugates for bimodal photodynamic therapy of prostate cancer in vitro

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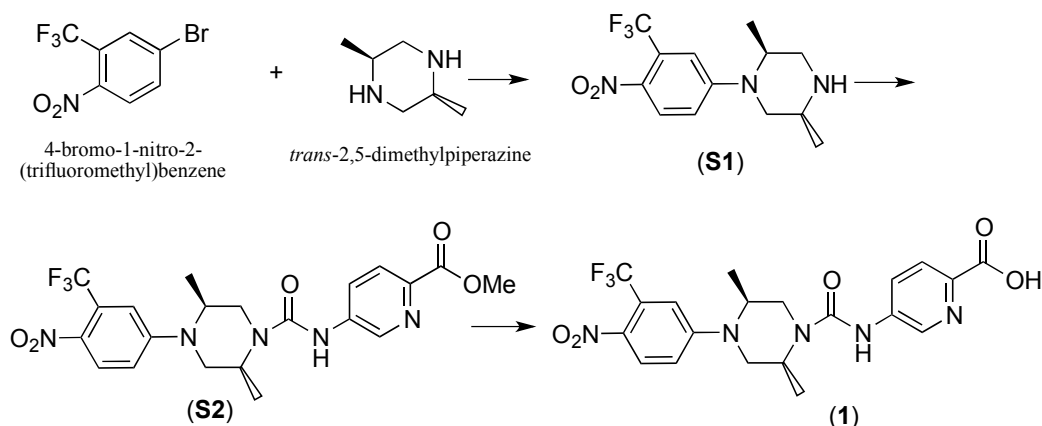
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### Synthesis of acid **1**.

A slightly modified literature procedure was followed for the synthesis of acid (**1**).<sup>1</sup> The synthetic pathway is reported in **Scheme S1**.



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of acid (**1**)

Synthesis of (**S1**): 4-Bromo-1-nitro-2-(trifluoromethyl) benzene (1 eq.) was reacted with racemic *trans*-2,5-dimethylpiperazine (4 eq.) in DMF (0.7 mL/mmol) and stirred at 80°C for 20 h. The reaction mixture was then purged into distilled water and extracted with EtAOc. The reaction crude was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl/MeOH = 20/1) to afford **S1** as pale yellow solid in 53% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.13 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 3.81 (dt, *J* = 6.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.44 – 3.30 (m, 3H, 1H CH<sub>2</sub>, 2 H CH), 3.17 (dd, *J* = 12.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.73 (dd, *J* = 12.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.62 (bs, 1H, NH), 1.22 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.77, 148.79, 128.45, 123.67, 116.02, 113.47, 113.40, 50.55, 50.05, 48.13, 46.54, 18.65, 14.78. HRMS (*m/z*) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>, 482.1573; found, 482.1829.

Synthesis of (**S2**): **S1** (1 eq.) was then reacted with methyl 4-isocyanatobenzoate (1.5 eq.) in anhydrous toluene (2 mL/7mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min and then concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl/MeOH = 20/1) to afford **S2** as pale yellow solid in 84% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 9.14 (s, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 8.15 – 8.04 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.26 – 7.23 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.55 – 4.49 (m, 1H), 4.43 – 4.36 (m, 1H), 3.91 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.81 – 3.74 (m, 1H), 3.48 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.12 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H,

(1) Kinoyama, I.; Taniguchi, N.; Toyoshima, A.; Nozawa, E.; Kamikubo, T.; Imamura, M.; Matsuhisa, A.; Samizu, K.; Kawanimani, E.; Niimi, T.; Hamada, N.; Koutoku, H.; Furutani, T.; Kudoh, M.; Okada, M.; Ohta, M.; Tsukamoto, S. *J. Med. Chem.* **2006**, *49*, 716.

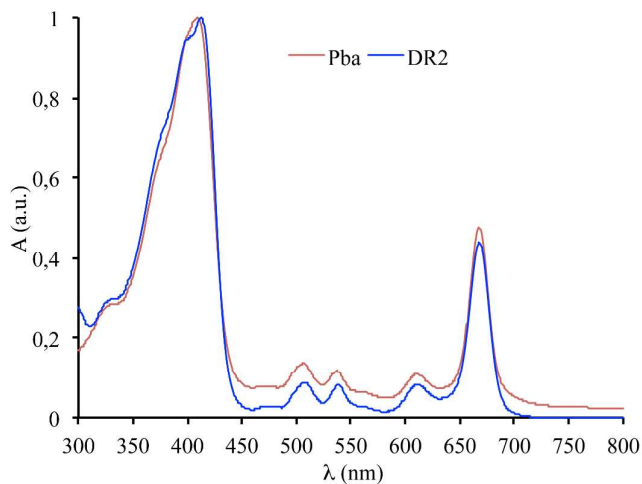
CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.63, 155.27, 153.66, 141.30, 141.16, 140.72, 135.74, 129.64, 126.26, 126.02, 115.78, 111.99, 79.86, 52.68, 49.52, 47.13, 45.63, 43.45, 16.20, 13.92. . HRMS (m/z) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>, 304.1195; found, 304.1245.

#### Synthesis of activated Pba (4)

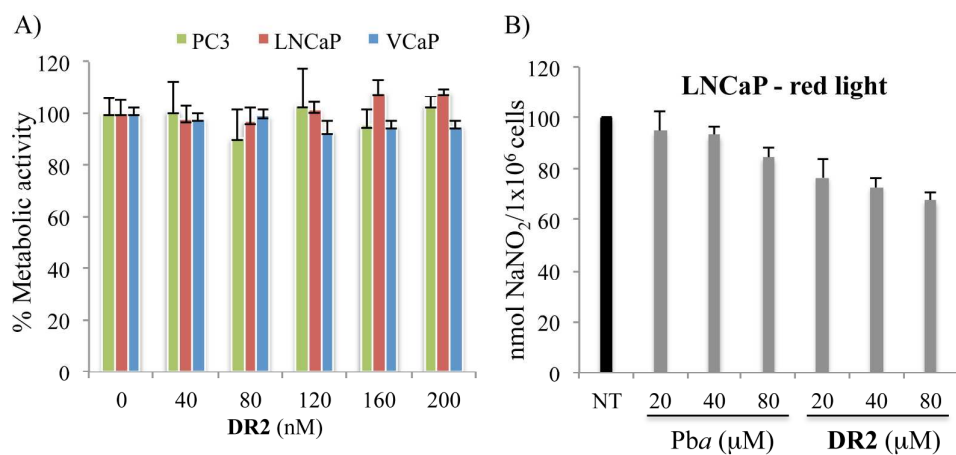
N-hydroxysuccinimide (1 equiv) and DCC (1 equiv) were subsequently added to a solution of *Pba* (1 eq.) in anhydrous 1,4-dioxane (30 mL/mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction was kept in the dark and stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After that, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and absorbed on silica. The silica gel flash column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/acetone = 10/1) afforded (**4**) as a dark-purple solid in 40% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 9.38 (s, 1H), 8.63 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 6.30 – 6.16 (m, 3H), 4.57 – 4.47 (m, 1H), 4.36 – 4.29 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 3.68 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 4H) 2.55 – 2.32 (m, 2H), 1.84 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.36, 171.97, 169.43, 168.91, 168.06, 145.12, 142.19, 138.00, 136.63, 136.37, 136.03, 132.11, 128.99, 122.97, 104.51, 97.59, 93.55, 64.62, 52.88, 50.81, 49.94, 29.31, 27.96, 25.53, 25.04, 19.43, 17.32, 12.15, 12.08, 11.18.

#### Supplementary figures

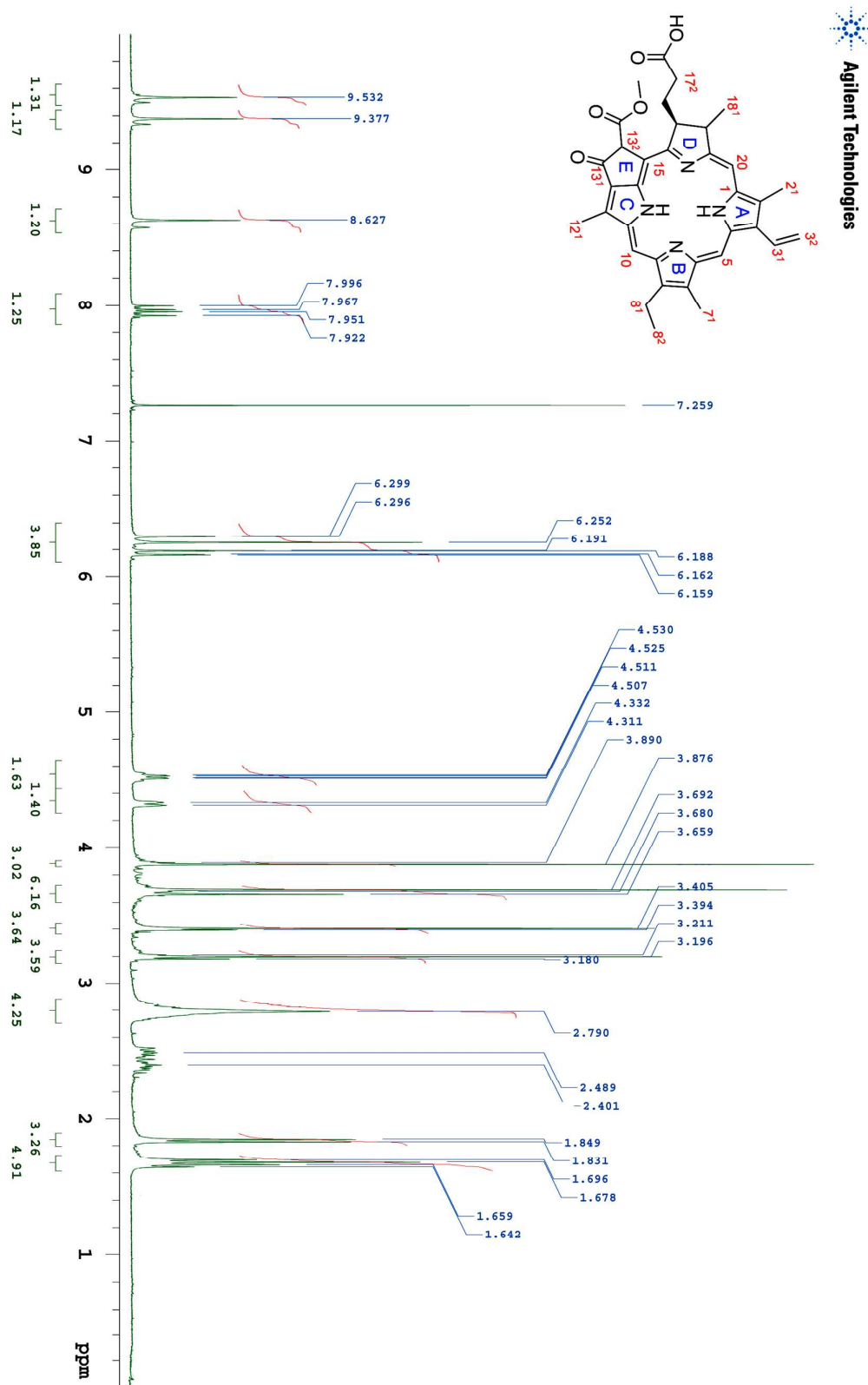


**Figure S1.** Absorption spectra of **DR2** and *Pba* acquired in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

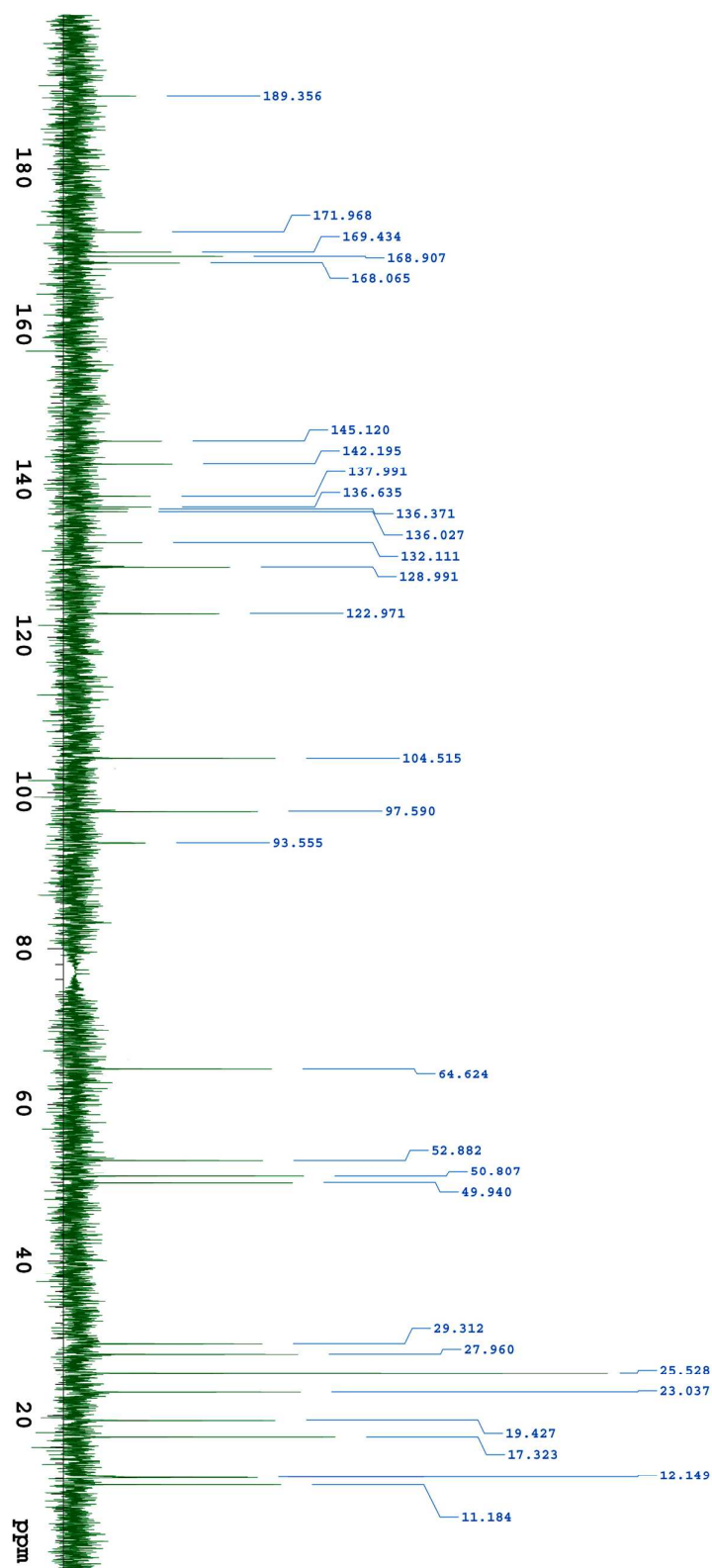


**Figure S2.** A) Toxicity in the dark of conjugate **DR2**. B) Photo-toxicity on LNCaP cells upon irradiation with white light equipped with a red filter after 6 h incubation time at increasing concentrations of the compounds. Data represent mean values  $\pm$  SD of three independent experiments.

# NMR Spectra



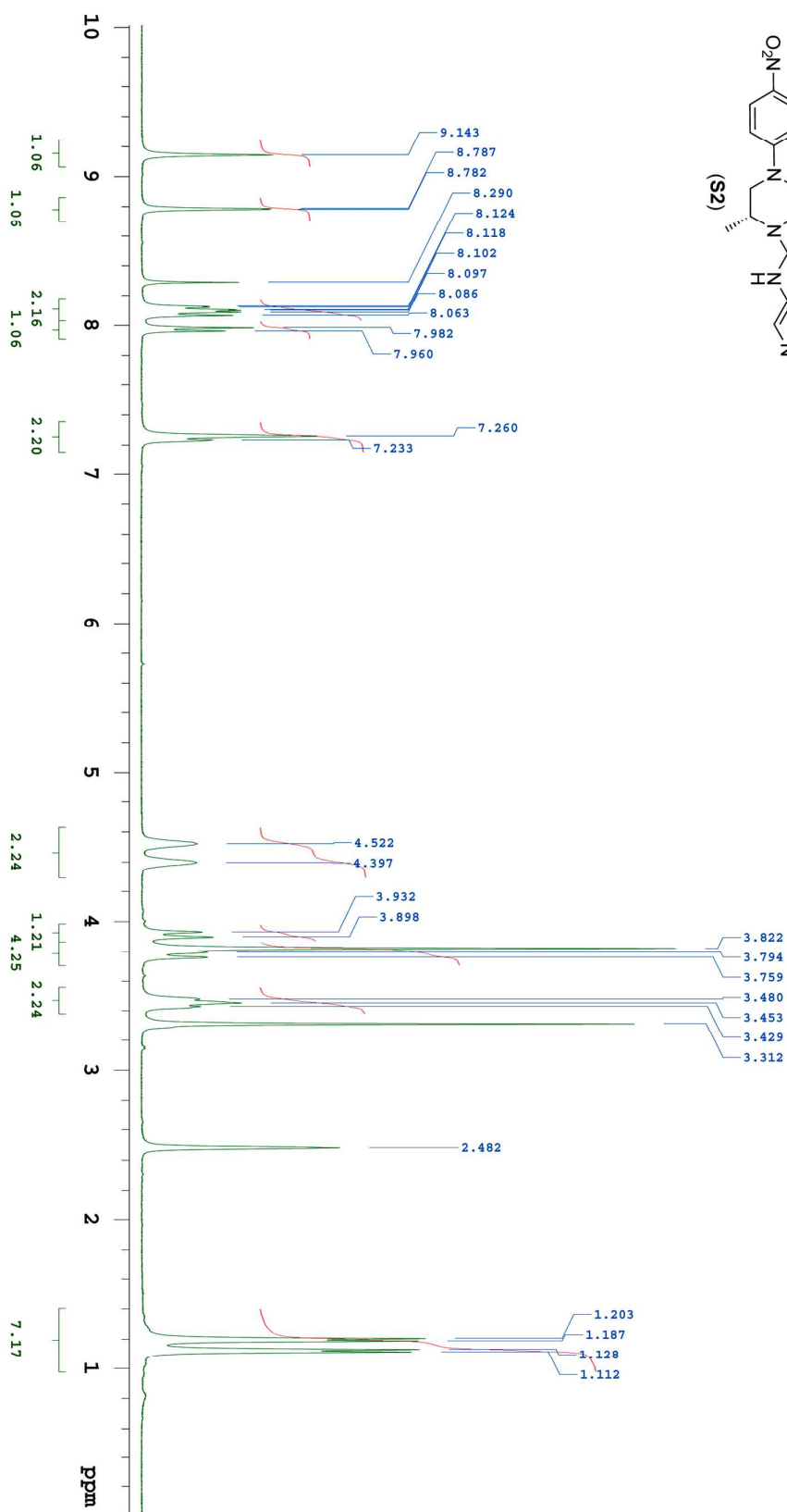
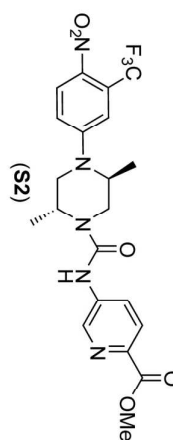
Compound (4): <sup>1</sup>HNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)



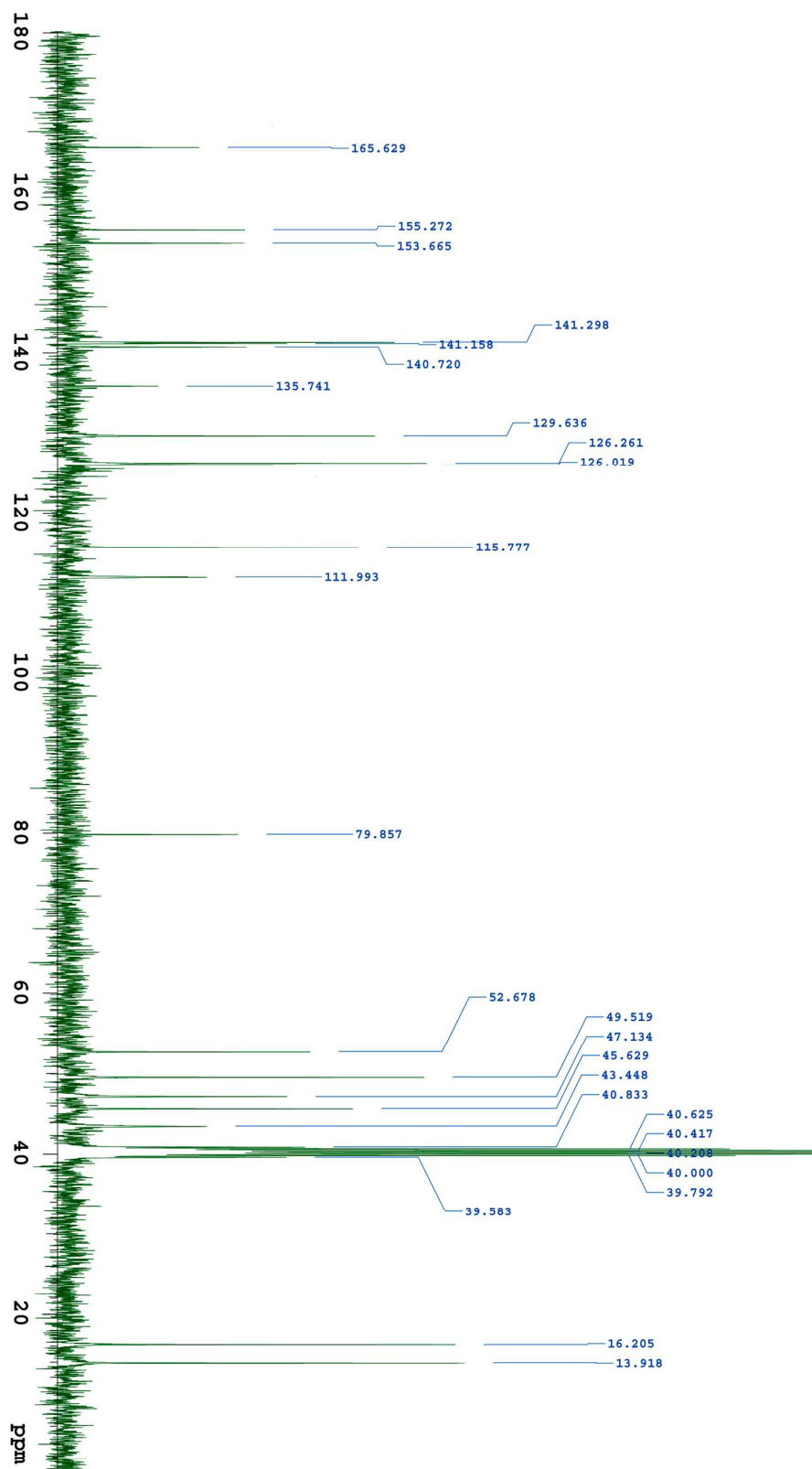
Compound (4): <sup>13</sup>CNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) acquired with solvent (residual CHCl<sub>3</sub>) pre-saturation sequence.



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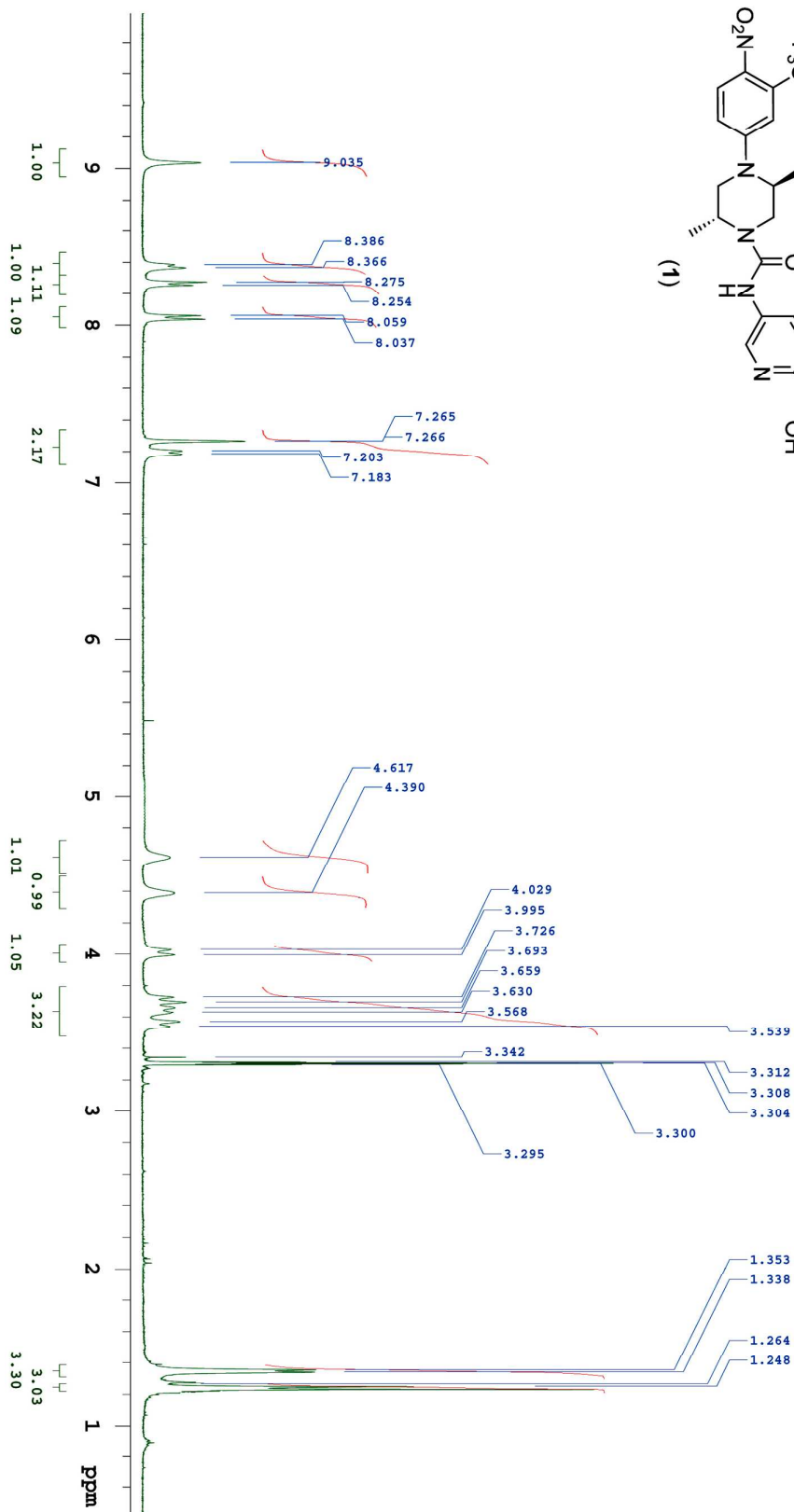
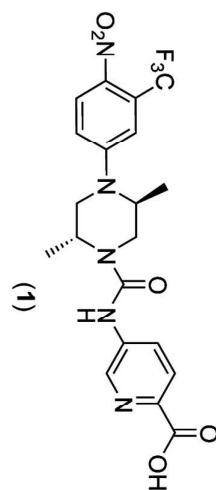


Compound (S2): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz)

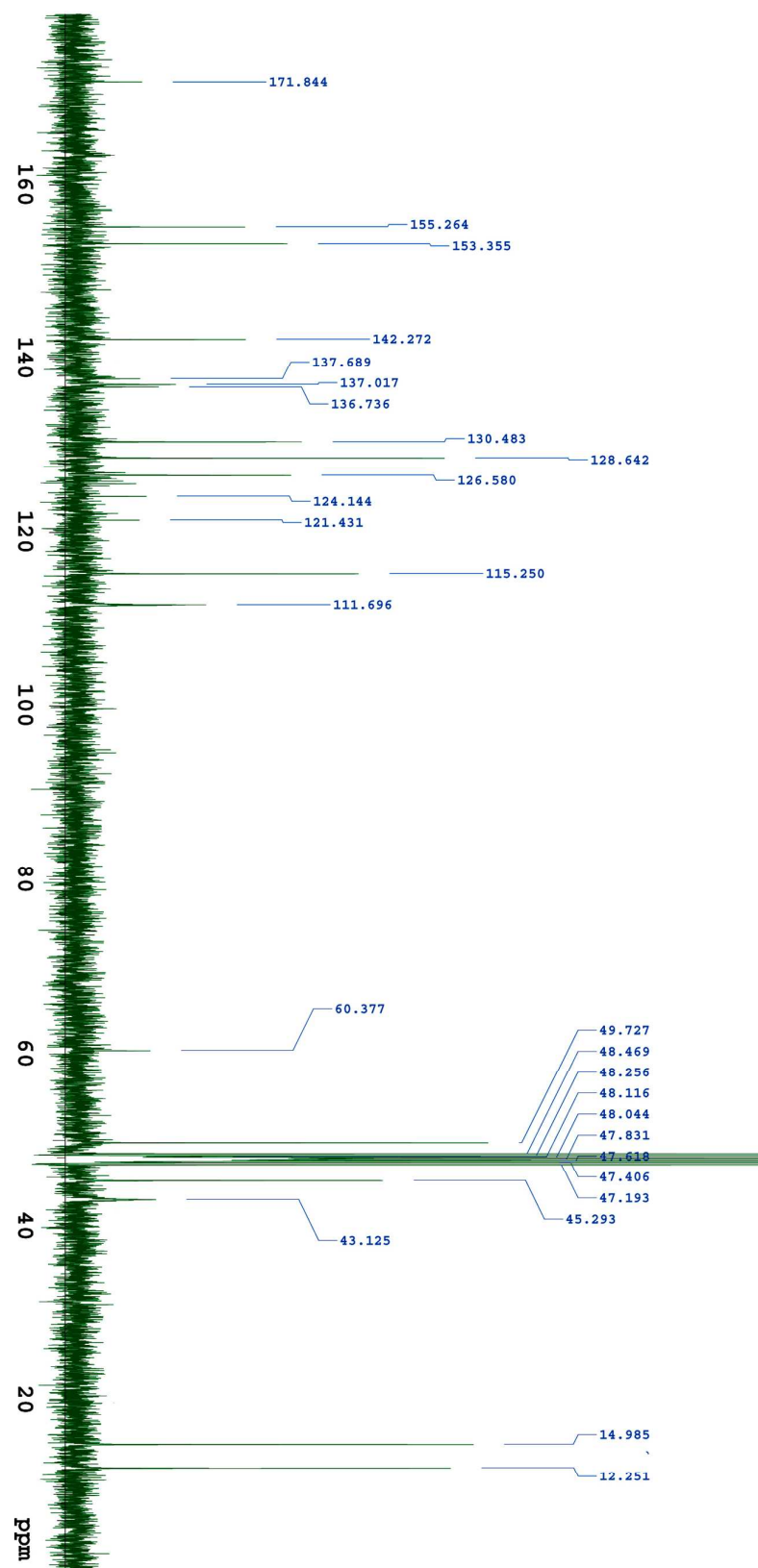


Compound (S2): <sup>13</sup>CNMR (DMSO, 101 MHz).

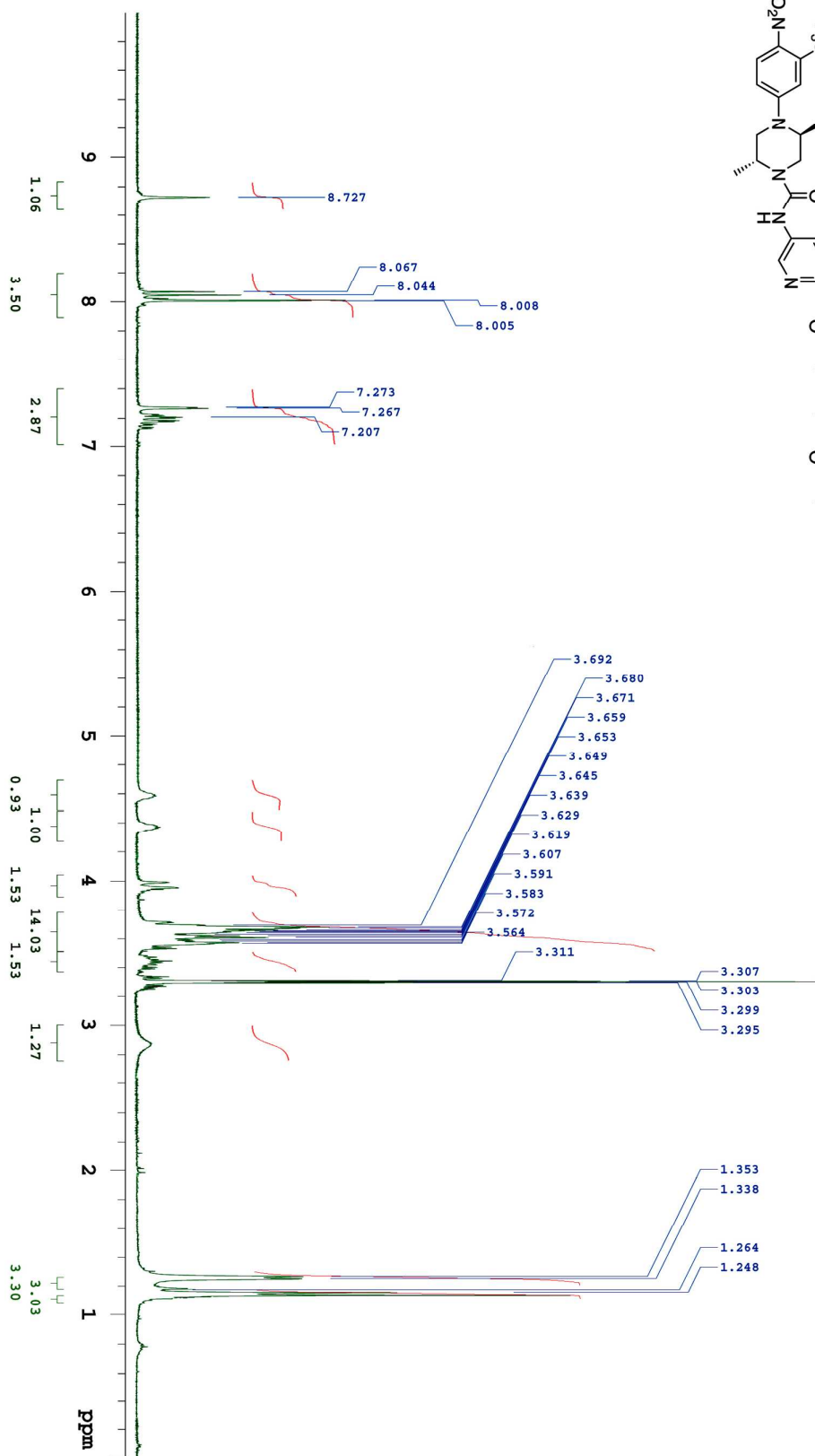
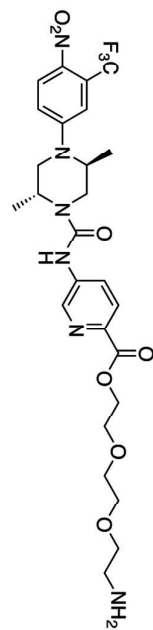




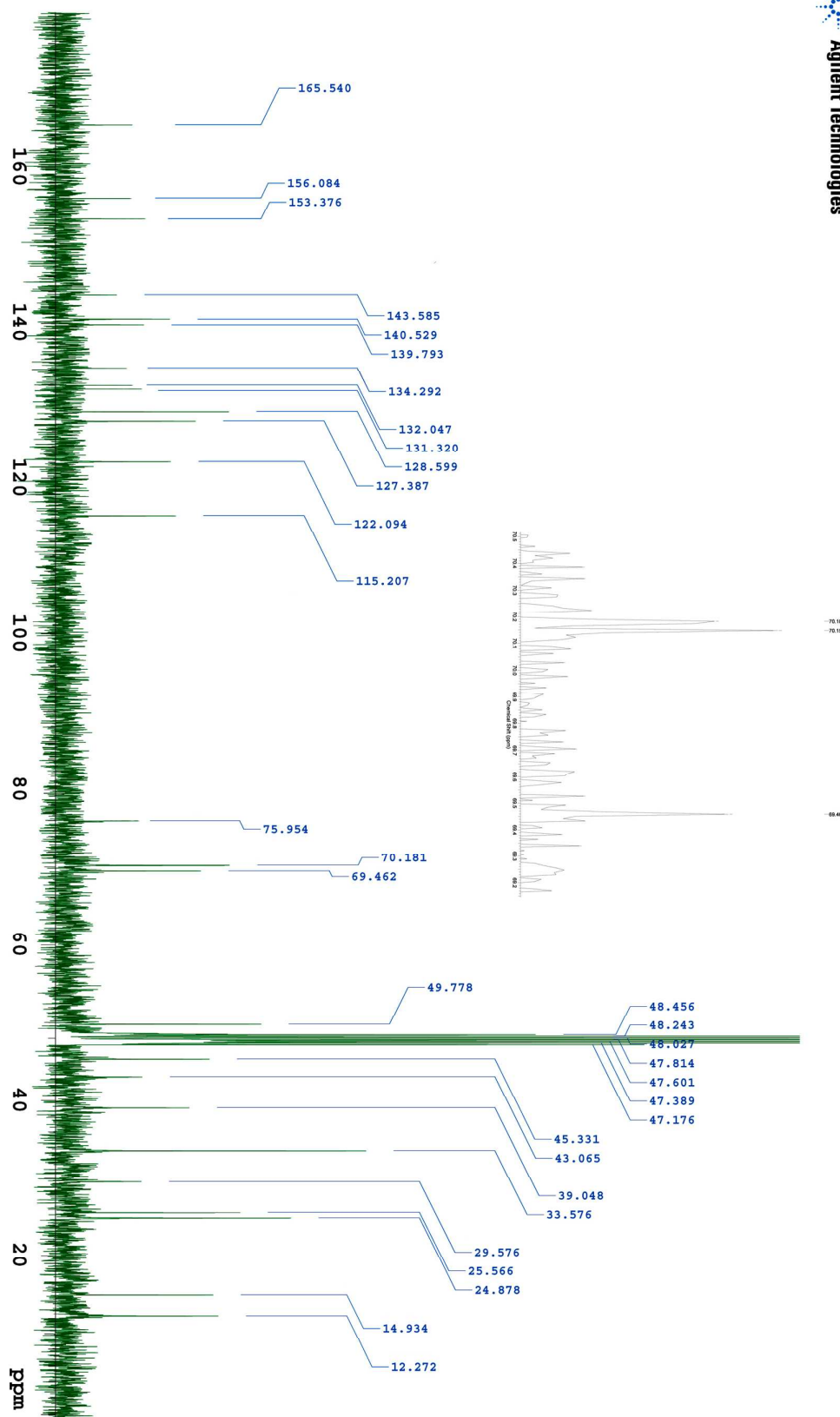
Acid (1): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz)



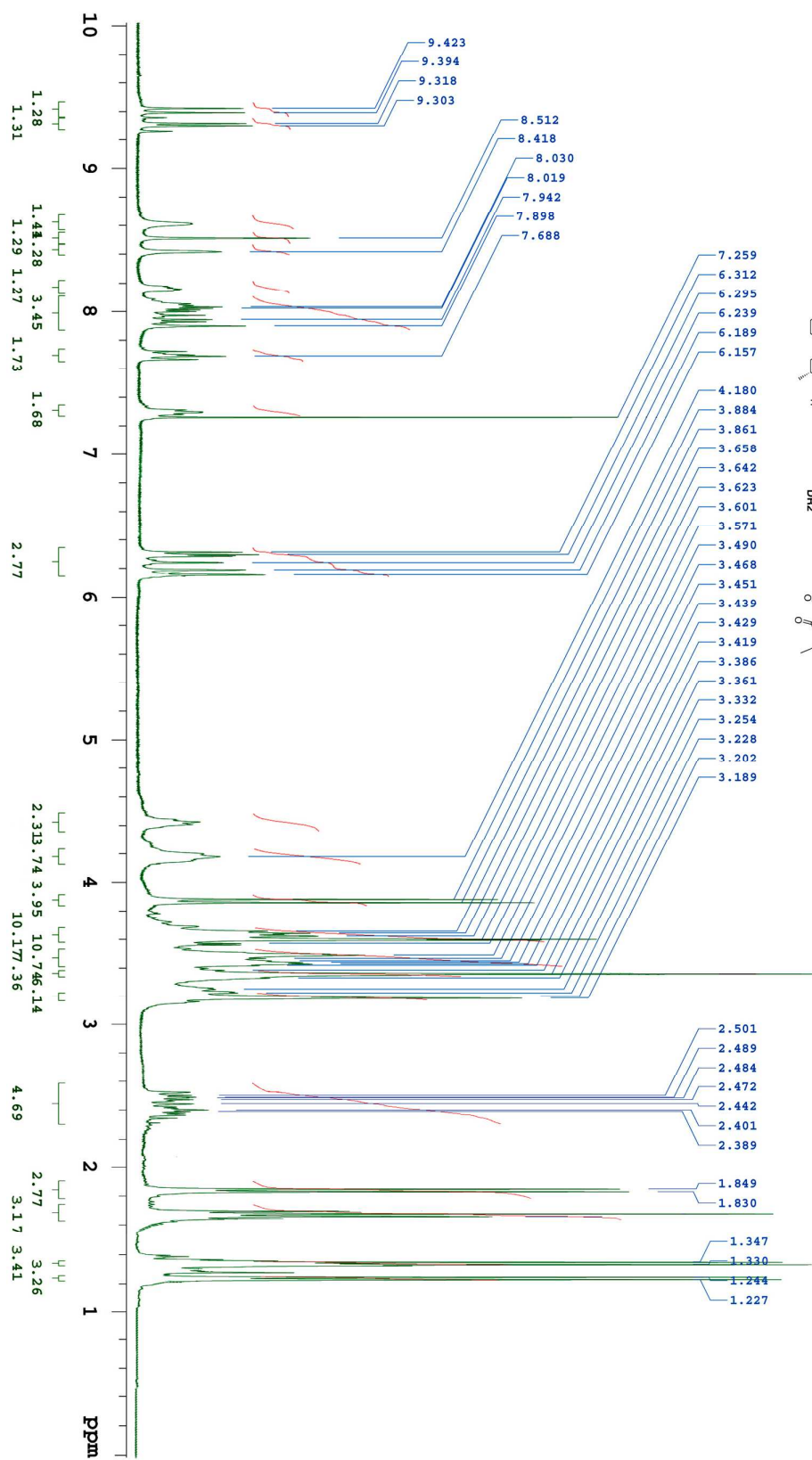
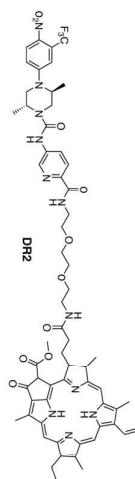
Acid (1): <sup>13</sup>CNMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 101 MHz).



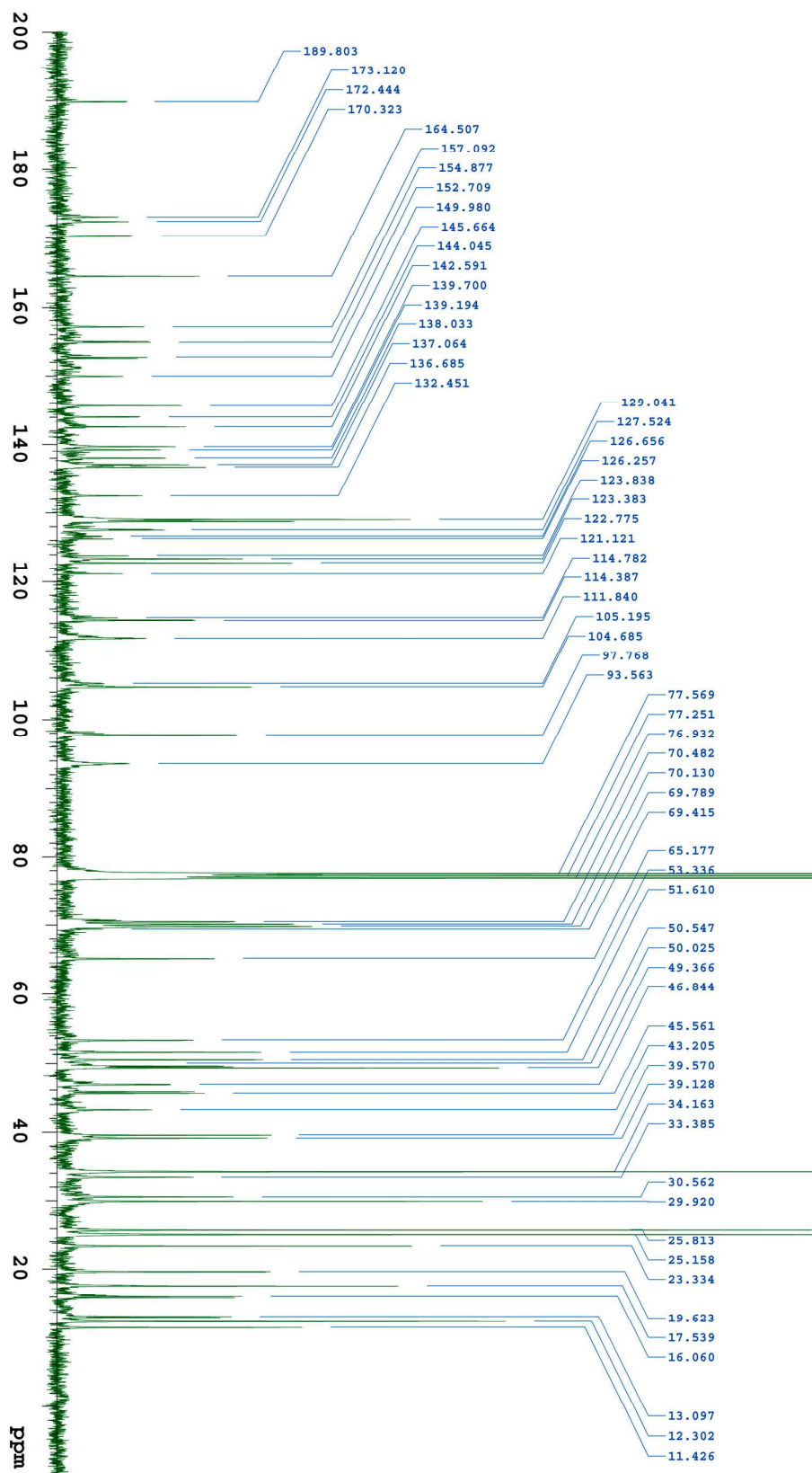
Compound (3): <sup>1</sup>HNMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz).



Compound (3):  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 101 MHz).



Compound (**DR2**): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz).



Compound (DR2): <sup>13</sup>CNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz).