

Design, Synthesis of new Potent and Selective Inhibitors of Matriptase.

Éloïc Colombo,¹ Antoine Désilets,¹ Dominic Duchêne,² Félix Chagnon,¹ Rafael Najmanovich,² Richard Leduc,¹ and Eric Marsault^{1*}

¹Department of Pharmacology, ²Departement of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Université de Sherbrooke, 3001 12e av Nord, Sherbrooke PQ, Canada J1H5N4.

Supplementary Information

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1. Chemistry – general methods

Amino acids and coupling reagents were obtained from ChemImpex International (USA) and used as received. All other reagents and solvents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Canada) or Fisher Scientific (USA). Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was dried on sodium benzophenone ketyl; DCM on P₂O₅; Methanol on magnesium. Analytical HPLC experiments were performed on a Agilent 1100 series instrument equipped with UV detector set at 223 nm and an Agilent Eclipse Plus C18 column (3.0 x 50 mm, 1.8 mm spherical particle size column) with a linear gradient of 2-50% CH₃CN and H₂O containing 0.1% TFA (10 min), 50-100% (4 min), 100% (4 min), 100-2% (1 min) and 2% (3 min). Final products were purified to > 95% purity (HPLC-UV) by preparative HPLC (Beckman 126 instrument) using a Vydac C18, 250 x 22 mm ID, 5 µm particle size column and a linear gradient of acetonitrile containing 0.1% TFA at a flow rate of 7 mL/min. All inhibitors were obtained as TFA salts after lyophilisation. Molecular weights of compounds were confirmed by mass spectrometry (Electrospray micromass ZQ-2000 from Waters). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on an ECX-300 (Bruker Inc., USA) at 300 MHz, and are referenced to internal solvent signals.

2. Synthetic procedures

Tert-butyl-N-{1-[methoxy(methyl)carbamoyl]-4-{3-[(3-methoxy-2,5,6-trimethylbenzene)sulfonyl]carbamiidamido}butyl}carbamate (7): To a solution of Boc-Arg(Mtr)-OH (1.36 g, 2.79 mmol) in anhydrous THF (93 mL) were added 1.27 g HATU (3.35 mmol, 1.2 eq), 327 mg HN(Me)OMe • HCl (3.35 mmol, 1.2 eq) and 2.4 mL DIPEA (14 mmol, 5 eq) under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred over 3h at ambient temperature. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and directly purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/Hexane 80:20 to 100:0) to give Weinreb amide 7 as a white solid (1.4 g, 93%). HPLC: 10.98 min, 90%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.41 (s, 9H), 1.55-1.71 (m, 4H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.29-3.33 (m, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.63 (t, 1H), 5.47 (d, 2H), 6.20-6.31 (m, 2H), 6.53 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.94, 18.20, 24.12, 24.59, 28.34, 32.13, 41.00, 49.31, 55.46, 61.65, 80.38, 111.77, 120.20, 124.91, 136.25, 138.77, 155.74, 156.62, 158.54. MS (ES) m/z 530.2 (M+H)⁺.

1-[4-amino-5-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-oxopentyl]-3-[(3-methoxy-2,5,5,6-trimethylbenzene)sulfonyl]guanidine (8): A solution of benzothiazole (1.7 mL, 15.5 mmol, and 18 eq) in 52 mL of anhydrous THF was cooled to -78 °C with stirring under nitrogen. N-Butyllithium (1.02 M in hexane, 14.8 mL, 15.1 mmol, 17.5 eq) was added dropwise over 30 min at -78 °C and the mixture was stirred for an additional 30 min at the same temperature. To this solution was added dropwise over 50 min a solution of Weinreb amide 7 (456 mg, 0.86 mmol, 1 eq) in 27 mL anhydrous THF at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 2 h, then quenched with 20 mL of saturated aqueous NH₄Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (3 x 50 mL) then brine (2 x 50 mL), dried on anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered through fritted glass, and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in anhydrous MeOH (17.2 mL), cooled to -20 °C while stirring, and treated with NaBH₄ (198 mg, 5.2 mmol, 6 eq). After 1 h, acetone (20 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature over 30 min. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and partitioned between water and EtOAc. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (2 x 20 mL), dried (MgSO₄), filtered through fritted glass and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/Hexane

80:20 to 100:0) to give intermediate **8** as a yellow solid (322 mg, 63%). HPLC: 12.09 min, 100% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (s, 4H), 1.37 (s, 5H), 1.40-1.72 (m, 4H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 3.08-3.35 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.13 (t, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 5.52 (d, 2H), 6.21-6.38 (m, 3H), 6.50 (s, 3H), 7.90 (d, 1H), 7.95 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.9, 19.1, 23.2, 24.1, 26.9, 28.8, 40.9, 55.5, 60.4, 80.2, 112.1, 121.6, 122.5, 124.8, 124.9, 125.0, 126.9, 134.7, 136.7, 138.6, 152.7, 156.6, 157.1, 158.5, 173.0. MS (ES) m/z 606.1(M+H)⁺.

Benzyl-2-(2-[[9H-Fluoren-9-ylmethoxy]carbonyl]amino)-4-

[(triphenylmethyl)carbamoyle]butanamido]propanoate (9) : To a solution of Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH (1.83 g, 3.0 mmol, 1 eq) in 30 mL anhydrous THF were added 1.37 g HATU (3.6 mmol, 1.2 eq), 1.05 g H₂N-Ala-OBn (1.42 mmol, 1.0 eq), and 2.6 mL DIPEA (15.0 mmol, 5.0 eq) under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred over 3h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by flash chromatography, (EtOAc/Hexane 50:50 to 70:30) to give compound **9** as a white solid (2.07 g, 90%). HPLC: 15.19 min, 100% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.29 (d, 1H), 1.95-2.00 (m, 4H), 4.10-4.20 (m, 2H), 4.22-4.37 (m, 1H), 4.47-4.52 (m, 1H), 5.05-5.17 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.41 (m, 26H), 7.76 (d, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.56, 30.00, 33.29, 47.16, 48.28, 53.35, 66.99, 77.49, 119.97, 125.19, 127.08, 128.22, 128.68, 141.30, 144.47, 144.52, 170.97. MS (ES) m/z 794 (M+Na)⁺.

2-[2-(2-[[tert-butoxy]carbonyl]amino)-5-{3-[(4-methoxy-2,3,6-trimethylbenzene)sulfonyl]carbamimidamido}pentanamido)-4-

[(triphenylmethyl)carbamoyle]butanamido]propanoic acid (10): A solution of Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-Ala-OBn (1.06 mg, 1.37 mmol, 1 eq) in 13.2 ml of CH₂Cl₂/Et₂NH (90:10) was stirred for 3 h at room temperature, then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 20 mL) and concentrated under *in vacuo* to give the intermediate free amine as a colorless oil. To a solution of 798 mg Boc-Arg(Mtr)-OH (1.64 mmol, 1.2 eq) in 14 mL of CH₂Cl₂ was added 314 mg EDC (1.64 mmol, 1.2 eq), 1.37 mmol H₂N-Gln(Trt)-Ala-OBn (1.00 eq) and 222 mg HOBT (1.64 mmol, 1.2 eq). The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. After completion, the reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/Hexane 80:20 to 100:0) to yield intermediate **10** as a white solid (813 mg, 77%). HPLC-UV: 14.48 min, 80% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.28 (d, 2H), 1.36 (s, 10H), 1.58-1.66 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 3.02-3.18 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 4.08-4.15 (m, 1H), 4.34-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.95 (dd, 2H), 5.35 (d, 2H), 6.08-6.30 (s, 3H), 6.47 (s, 3H), 7.14-7.36 (m, 20H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.0, 17.1, 18.4, 24.2, 25.2, 28.3, 29.8, 48.5, 52.7, 53.6, 55.4, 66.9, 77.5, 79.9, 111.7, 121.1, 126.9, 127.9, 128.9, 131.3, 135.3, 138.7, 144.3, 155.0, 155.6, 158.2, 172.5. MS (ES) m/z 1018.0 (M+H)⁺.

The intermediate (320.7 mg, 0.31 mmol, 1 eq), 10% Pd on activated carbon (140 mg), and absolute EtOH (3.1 mL) were stirred under an atmospheric pressure of hydrogen for 1 h at ambient temperature. The resulting mixture was filtered on diatomaceous earth through fritted glass and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound crude compound **10**, which was used as such in the following step.

Tert-butyl N-[1-((1-((1-((1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-1-hydroxy-5-((3-((4-methoxy-2,3,6-trimethylbenzene)sulfonyl)carbamiimidamido)pentan-2-yl)carbamiimidamido)ethyl)carbamiimidamido)propyl)carbamiimidamido)butyl]carbamate (11): To a solution of Boc-Arg(Mtr)-Gln(Trt)-Ala-OH (0.31 mmol, 1 eq) in anhydrous DMF were added 354 mg HATU (0.93 mmol, 3 eq), 0.31 mmol hydroxybenzothiazole, compound 8 (1.0 eq), and 0.3 mL of DIPEA (1.55 mmol, 5 eq). The mixture was stirred overnight, concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by flash chromatography (MeOH/EtOAc 95:5) to give compound 11 (366.2 g, 84%). HPLC: 14.59 min, 83% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (s, 9H), 1.39 (d, 3H), 1.47-1.60 (m, 6H), 2.04-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.58 (m, 10H), 2.84 (s, 6H), 2.97 (s, 6H), 3.03-3.11 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 9H), 4.04-4.10 (m, 1H), 4.18-4.28 (m, 2H), 4.30-4.49 (m, 1H), 5.15 (d, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 7.07-7.53 (m, 15H), 7.79-7.92 (m, 2H), 8.32 (d, 1H), 8.65 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.97, 17.23, 18.59, 24.17, 28.06, 43.24, 55.51, 76.59, 77.43, 127.02, 127.94, 128.94, 128.60, 128.73, 144.10. MS (ES) m/z 1415.0 (M+H)⁺.

tert-butyl-N-[1-((1-((1-((1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-((1-((4-methoxy-2,3,6-trimethylbenzene)sulfonyl)carbamiimidamido)-1-oxopentan-2-yl)carbamiimidamido)ethyl)carbamiimidamido)propyl)carbamiimidamido)butyl]carbamate (12): IBX (84 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.2 eq) was added to a solution of compound 11 (355 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1 eq) in 2.5 mL DMSO. The resulting mixture was stirred overnight at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was washed with water (2 x 10 mL) and brine (2 x 10 mL), dried (MgSO₄), filtered through fritted glass, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/Hexane 80:20 to 100:0) to give compound 12 as a yellow solid (170 mg, 48%). HPLC: 14.94 min, 95% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.29 (s, 9H), 1.41 (d, 3H), 1.44-1.87 (m, 4H), 2.00-2.15 (m, 4H), 2.30-2.61 (m, 10H), 2.87 (s, 6H), 2.95 (s, 6H), 3.03-3.36 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 9H), 4.03-4.15 (m, 2H), 4.30-4.99 (m, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 7.03-7.20 (m, 15H), 7.41-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.86 (d, 1H), 8.16 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.97, 17.23, 18.59, 24.17, 28.06, 43.24, 55.51, 76.59, 77.43, 127.02, 127.94, 128.60, 128.73, 144.10. MS (ES) m/z 1414.0 (M+H)⁺.

2-(2-amino-5-carbamimidamidopentanamido)-N-(1-((1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-carbamimidamido-1-oxopentan-2-yl)carbamiimidamido)ethyl)pentanediamide (1): A mixture of Boc-Arg(Mtr)-Gln(Trt)-Ala-Arg(Mtr)-benzothiazole (206 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1 eq) and anhydrous anisole (200 μL) was placed in a teflon reaction tube of an HF apparatus and cooled to -78 °C. Anhydrous HF (15-20 mL) was condensed into the tube, and the temperature was increased to 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h, concentrated *in vacuo*, and triturated with Et₂O (3 x 20 mL) to give a yellow solid. This solid was purified by reverse-phase HPLC, (water/MeCN/TFA 70:30:0.1), which allowed the separation of two diastereoisomers (88:12). The major diastereomer 1 was obtained as a white solid after lyophilization (56 mg, 35%). HPLC: 7.31 min, 94% purity. The second diastereomer was also isolated as a pure product (8 mg, 6.87 min, 95% purity). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 1.38 (d, 3H) 1.49-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.92 (m, 2H), 2.19-2.25 (m, 4H), 3.09-3.23 (m, 1H), 3.98 (t, 1H), 4.23-4.32 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.68 (m, 2H), 8.11 (d, 1H), 8.19 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, D₂O) δ 17.44, 24.12, 24.73, 25.02, 27.94, 33.22, 39.74, 54.66, 55.49, 74.38, 76.60, 121.76, 124.80, 125.94, 144.09, 173.49, 177.48, 177.96. HRMS calcd for C₂₇H₄₂N₁₂O₅S: 647.3200; found: 647.3228 (M+H)⁺.

2-(2-amino-5-carbamimidamidopentanamido)-N-(1-((1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-carbamimidamido-1-hydroxypentan-2-yl)carbamiimidamido)ethyl)pentanediamide (2): the same

method as compound **1** was used to synthesize compound **2**, which was obtained as a white solid (7.2 mg, 30%). HPLC: 6.08 min, 94%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 1.07 (d, 3H), 1.43-1.61 (m, 4H), 1.70-1.99 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.29 (m, 4H), 3.00-3.18 (m, 1H), 3.93 (t, 1H), 4.04-4.13 (m, 1H), 4.14-4.24 (m, 1H), 5.02 (d, 1H), 7.39-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.89 (d, 1H), 7.97-8.00 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, D₂O) δ 17.62, 23.37, 24.37, 26.86, 27.94, 30.82, 40.33, 52.50, 53.07, 73.44, 172.36. HRMS calcd for C₂₇H₄₄N₁₂O₅S: 649.3351; found: 649.3366 (M + H)⁺.

N-(1-([6-amino-1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-1-oxohexan-2-yl]carbamoyl)ethyl)-2-(2-amino-5-carbamimidamidopentanamido)pentanediamide (3): The same method as compound **1** was used to synthesize compound **3**, which was obtained as a white solid (6 mg, 42%). HPLC: 5.11 min, 91%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 1.36 (d, 6H), 1.42-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.61-1.80 (m, 4H), 1.98-2.12 (m, 4H), 2.21-2.31 (m, 4H), 2.94 (t, 1H), 3.84-3.94 (m, 1H), 4.23-4.32 (m, 1H), 4.34-4.45 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.70 (m, 2H), 8.11 (m, 1H), 8.19 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, D₂O) δ 17.64, 22.42, 26.31, 26.80, 30.35, 30.94, 39.06, 40.20, 52.44, 54.98, 122.96, 124.89. HRMS calcd for C₂₇H₄₂N₁₀O₅S: 310.1603; found: 310.1603 (M₂H⁺/2).

2-amino-N-(1-([1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-carbamimidamido-1-oxopentan-2-yl]carbamoyl)ethyl)pentanediamide (4): The same method as compound **1** was used to synthesize compound **4**, which was obtained as a white solid (10.0 mg, 30%). The second diastereomer was also isolated as a pure product (2.1 mg, 6.38 min, 93% purity). HPLC: 7.31 min, 94% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 1.36 (d, 3H), 1.58-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.91-1.96 (m, 2H), 2.11 (d, 2H), 2.20-2.25 (m, 2H), 3.17 (d, 2H), 3.97 (d, 1H), 4.14-4.25 (m, 1H), 4.35 (q, 1H), 7.43-7.57 (m, 2H), 8.09 (d, 1H), 8.14 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, D₂O) δ 16.47, 24.62, 26.44, 29.89, 30.22, 40.61, 52.13, 122.52, 122.89, 124.85, 127.81, 136.71, 152.61, 156.66, 163.98, 174.58, 176.80, 193.38. HRMS calcd for C₂₇H₄₂N₁₀O₅S: 491.2189; found: 491.2161 (M+H)⁺.

N-[1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-carbamimidamido-1-oxopentan-2-yl]-2-acetamidopropanamide (5): The same method as compound **1** was used to synthesize compound **5**, which was obtained as a white solid (10.8 mg, 30%). The second diastereomer was also isolated as a pure product (5.1 mg, 8.04 min, 99% purity). HPLC: 8.29 min, 97% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O) δ 1.29 (d, 3H), 1.52-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 3.15 (t, 2H), 4.07 (d, 1H), 4.21 (q, 1H), 7.43-7.59 (m, 2H), 8.06 (d, 1H), 8.12 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, D₂O) δ 16.51, 21.49, 24.34, 27.56, 40.36, 49.93, 55.22, 122.85, 124.77, 125.12, 136.66, 152.53, 156.66, 163.92, 173.99, 175.41, 193.26. HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₄N₆O₃S: 405.1709; found: 405.1683 (M+H)⁺.

N-[1-(1,3-benzothiazol-2-yl)-5-carbamimidamido-1-oxopentan-2-yl]acetamide (6): The same method as compound **1** was used to isolate compound **6**, which was obtained as a white solid (6.2 mg, 48%). HPLC: 8.22 min, 99% purity. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.52-1.68 (m, 2H), 1.97-2.08 (m, 2H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 3.16 (t, 2H), 5.35-5.50 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.59 (m, 2H), 8.08 (d, 1H), 8.17 (d, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.47, 24.26, 27.76, 40.33, 55.36, 122.89, 124.84, 127.83, 136.78, 148.14, 152.66, 163.80, 174.27, 193.91. HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₉N₅O₂S: 334.1332; found: 334.1340 (M+H)⁺.

3. Biological methods

Matriptase cDNA was a generous gift from Dr. Chen-Yong Lin (Georgetown University, Washington, USA). Human matriptase-2 cDNA was a generous gift from C. López-Ótin (Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain). Human hepsin cDNA was cloned from a human liver cDNA library from Ambion (Foster City, CA, USA). Human TMPRSS11D (HAT) cDNA was from GeneCopoeia (Rockville, MD, USA). Purified human trypsin and thrombin were from Sigma-Aldrich (Oakville, ON, Canada). AMC-coupled fluorogenic peptides and the H-Glu-Gly-Arg-chloromethylketone irreversible inhibitor were from Bachem (Torrance, CA, USA).

Purification of active human serine proteases

Matriptase, Matriptase-2 and Hepsin were expressed and purified as previously described.¹ cDNA corresponding to amino acid 45-418 of TMPRSS11D was amplified by PCR and subcloned in the pMT-BiP/V5-His vector (Life technologies, Burlington, ON, Canada) for expression and purification. Active TMPRSS11D was purified using the same method as for matriptase-2 and Hepsin.¹ Matriptase, matriptase-2, Hepsin, TMPRSS11D, trypsin and thrombin were active-site titrated with the burst titrant 4-methylumbelliferyl-p-guanidino benzoate (MUGB). All enzymatic assays for these enzymes were performed at room temperature in a reaction buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl, 15 mM NaCl and 500µg/ml BSA at pH 7, 4. Human soluble furin was expressed, purified, titrated and assayed as described previously.¹ Enzyme activities were monitored by measuring the release of fluorescence from AMC-coupled peptides (excitation, 360 nm; emission, 441 nm) in a FLX-800 TBE microplate reader (Bio-Tek Instruments, Winooski, VT, USA) at room temperature.

Inhibition assays and K_i determination

To evaluate inhibition potency of the benzothiazoles compounds towards proteases, 1 nM of enzymes was added to the reaction buffer containing 0 nM, 10 nM or 10µM of the different ketobenzothiazoles (0,4 µM, 4 µM and 400 µM for the reduced form of RQAR-ketobenzothiazole) and 100µM of Boc-Arg-Arg-Val-Arg-AMC for furin and 100µM of Boc-Gln-Ala-Arg-AMC for the other proteases. If substantial inhibition occurred using a ratio of I/E < 10, compounds were treated as tight-binding inhibitors². For K_i determination of tight-binding inhibitors, enzymes diluted to concentration ranging from 0, 25 to 1 nM were pre-equilibrated with appropriate dilutions of the compounds for 15 minutes at room temperature. Residual enzyme activity was then measured by following the hydrolysis of the fluorogenic substrate Boc-Gln-Ala-Arg-AMC for 30 minutes at room temperature. Data from at least three independent experiments were averaged and residual velocities were plotted as a function of inhibitor concentration. Data were fitted by non-linear regression analysis to the Morrison K_i equation (1):

$$v_i/v_o = v_o * (1 - (((E_o + I_o + K_{iapp}) - ((E_o + I_o + K_{iapp})^2 - 4 * E_o * I_o)^{1/2})) / (2 * E_o)), \quad (1)$$

where v_o and v_i are the steady-state rates of substrate hydrolysis in the absence and presence of inhibitor, respectively, E_o, the initial concentration of enzyme, I_o, the initial concentration of inhibitor and K_{iapp} the substrate-dependent equilibrium dissociation constant. The substrate-independent constant K_i was calculated using the equation (2):

$$K_{iapp} = (K_i \cdot (1 + (S/K_m))), \quad (2)$$

where S is the initial concentration of substrate and K_m the Michaelis–Menten constant for the enzyme–substrate interaction.

If substantial inhibition occurred only when using a ratio of $I/E > 10$, compounds were treated as classical reversible inhibitors. In this case, inhibition assays used for K_i determination were initiated by the addition of 1 nM of protease to a reaction mixture containing the inhibitor and the fluorogenic substrate. Data generated from plots of enzyme velocity versus substrate concentration at several fixed inhibitor concentration were fitted by non-linear regression analysis to equations describing competitive, uncompetitive, noncompetitive and mixed model inhibition³. For inhibition of matriptase by R-Benzo and thrombin by RQAR-Benzo, the mixed model inhibition was the preferred model as determined by the goodness of fit (R^2) and the Akaike's information criteria (AICc) and therefore used for K_i determination. All non-linear regression and statistical analysis were performed using GraphPad Prism version 5.04 for Windows (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA).

Dilution recovery experiments

Dissociation of the enzyme-inhibitor (EI) complex was investigated using dilution recovery experiments. High concentration of matriptase (0,5 μM) with variable concentration of A) RQAR-Benzo or B) EGR-CMK was incubated for 20 minutes at room temperature in reaction buffer to allow for the formation of the EI complex. Complexes were rapidly (1:2000) diluted in a reaction buffer containing 400 μM of Boc-Gln-Ala-Arg-AMC (~ 7 times K_m). Activity was continuously recorded for 75 minutes and fluorescence plotted as a function of time.

4. Modelling procedures

Preparation of ligand structures

The 3D coordinates of the ligand with correct chirality were generated with Open Babel 2.30⁴ using SMARTS input format.⁵ The coordinates were export in PDB format and partial charges were calculated in Open Babel with the Partial Equalization of Orbital Electronegativities (PEOE) algorithm by Gaisteiger & Marsilli.⁶ The general AMBER force field (gaff)⁷ parameters generated in Antechamber⁸ and convert to GROMACS⁹⁻¹² formats by ACPYPE¹³ were used for the ligand.

Preparation of the protein target

The structure of Matriptase (PDB code 3NCL) was obtained from the RCSB Protein Data Bank (www.pdb.org)¹⁴. Hydrogens and water molecules were removed from the structure. Flexible residues were located based on the detection of residues seen in different conformation in the binding sites of other Matriptase structures (PDB: 1EAW, 1EAX, 2GV6, 2GV7 and 3BN9). As a result, during the docking, Asp⁷⁰⁵, Phe⁷⁰⁸, Tyr⁷⁵⁵, Gln⁷⁸², Gln⁷⁸³, Gln⁸⁰², and Asp⁸²⁸ were set as flexible residues during docking simulations.

Docking parameter

The ligand was docked in the protein with our in house developed docking program FlexAID.¹⁵ FlexAID uses a genetic algorithm to optimize the relative position of the ligand with respect to the protein as well as dihedral angles of the ligand and flexible residues (optimized using an exhaustive search within library of side chain conformations at each step of the simulation). The population size and number of generation were both set at 300 used in the genetic algorithm. These values were seen empirically to offer a good balance between the precision and length of simulations

(Gaudreault *et al.*, personal communication). The ligand was set as semi-flexible. Arg in P1 and the warhead in P1' were set as rigid in a conformation like that found in the thrombin inhibitor (OZE) in PDB structure 1B5G. All peptide bonds were also set as rigid to diminish the search space. The carbon making the covalent bond with the protein was fixed at a distance of $3.0 \pm 0.1 \text{ \AA}$ of the catalytic Ser⁸⁰⁵. 100 different docking simulations were performed and rescored with a fast MM/GBSA (Molecular Mechanics/Generalised Born Surface Area) method (see below).

MM/GBSA

The MM/GBSA method is used to approximate the binding free energy (ΔG_{bind}) using equation 1:

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta E_{\text{MM}} + \Delta G_{\text{solv}} \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{MM}} = \Delta E_{\text{internal}} + E_{\text{electrostatic}} + E_{\text{vdW}} \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{solv}} = \Delta G_{\text{GB}} + \Delta G_{\text{SA}} \quad (3)$$

where ΔE_{MM} is the difference in energy between the protein-ligand complex and the protein and ligand alone calculate with basic molecular mechanic equations (2). ΔG_{solv} is the difference in solvation free energy calculated with GB implicit solvation model (ΔG_{GB}) and the nonpolar solvation free energy calculated with solvent accessible surface area (ΔG_{SA}).

All protein-ligand complexes were first energy minimised with GROMACS 4.5.1⁹⁻¹² using the conjugate gradient algorithm with AMBER03¹⁶ force field in a TIP3P¹⁷ water box. All 100 different poses were then rescored with MM/GBSA using HCT model¹⁸ of the effective Born radii. The top 5 poses were then visually inspected with PyMOL.¹⁹

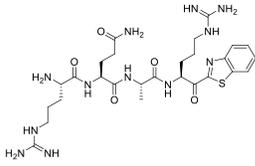
5. References

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6. Chemical characterization data

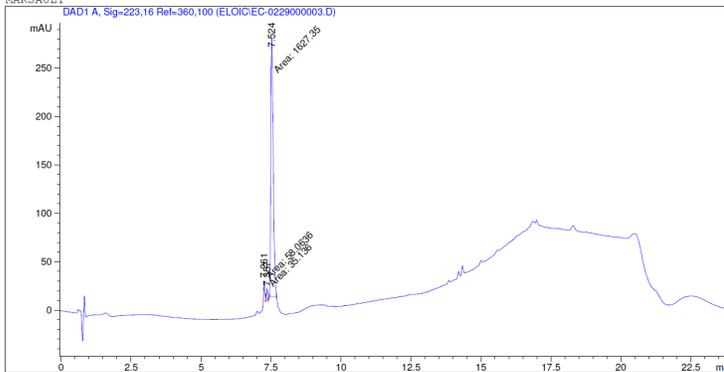
Compound 1 :



- HPLC

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Acq. Instrument: Instrument 1                Inj Volume: 30 µl
Different Inj Volume from Sequence !      Actual Inj Volume : 20 µl
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Last changed   : 5/25/2011 9:38:07 AM by ELO
Analysis Method: C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\WASHOUT.M
Last changed   : 12/9/2011 5:06:30 PM by ARNAUD
MARSAULT
    
```



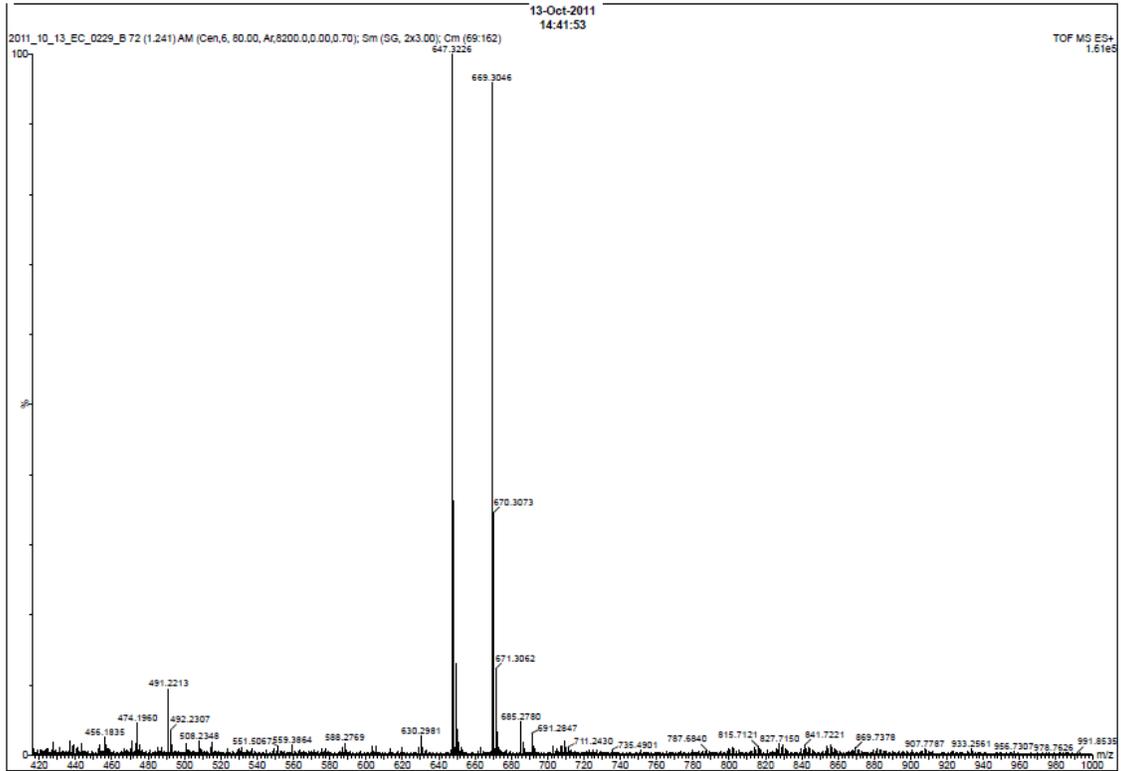
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                          Area Percent Report
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Multiplier     :      1.0000
Dilution       :      1.0000
Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs

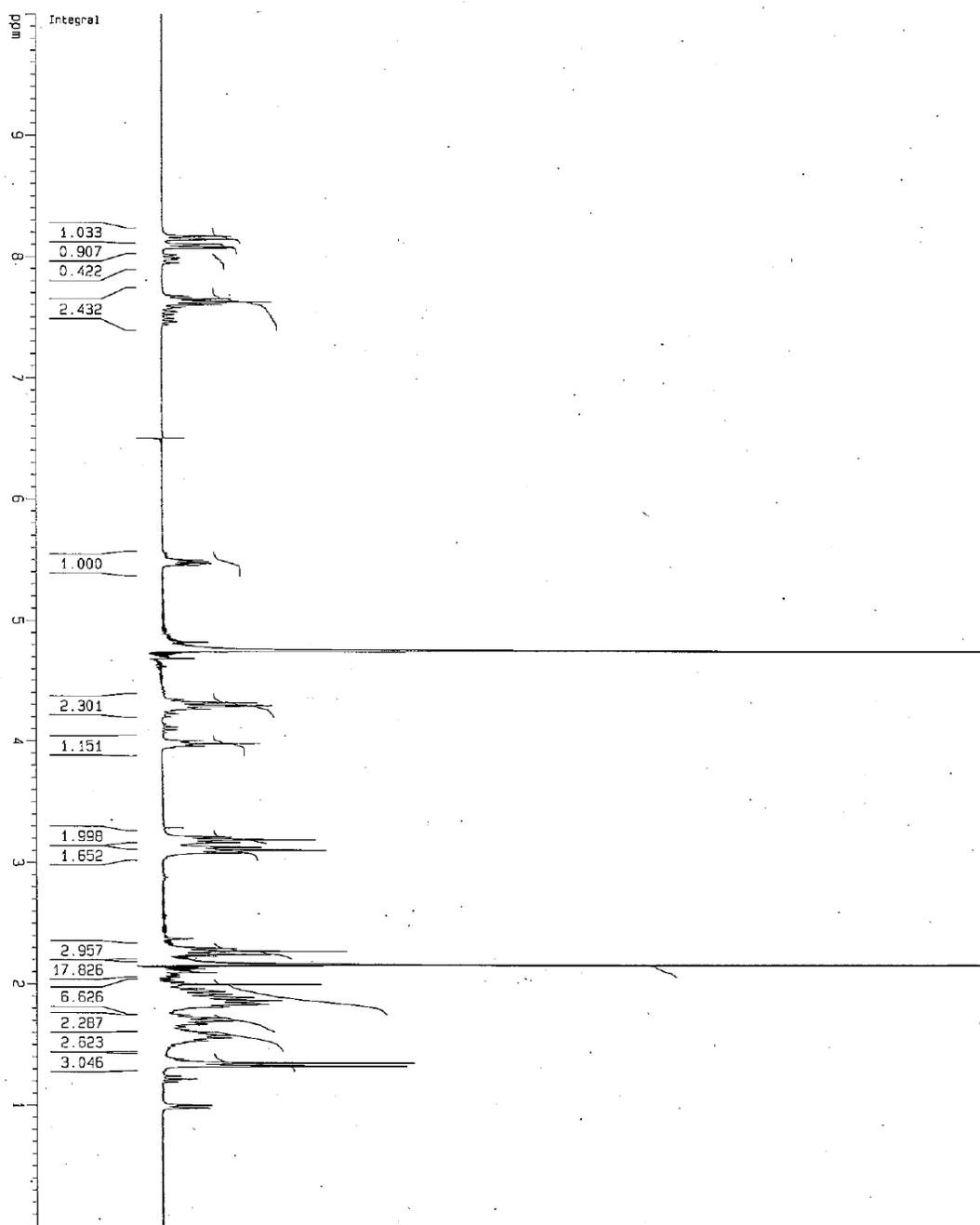
Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=223,16 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime Type Width Area Height Area
# [min] [min] [mAU*s] [mAU] %
-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
1 7.261 MM 0.0470 58.06359 20.61059 3.3747
2 7.357 MM 0.0528 35.13601 11.09398 2.0421
3 7.524 MM 0.1012 1627.35071 268.02475 94.5832
Totals :                1720.55031 299.72932
    
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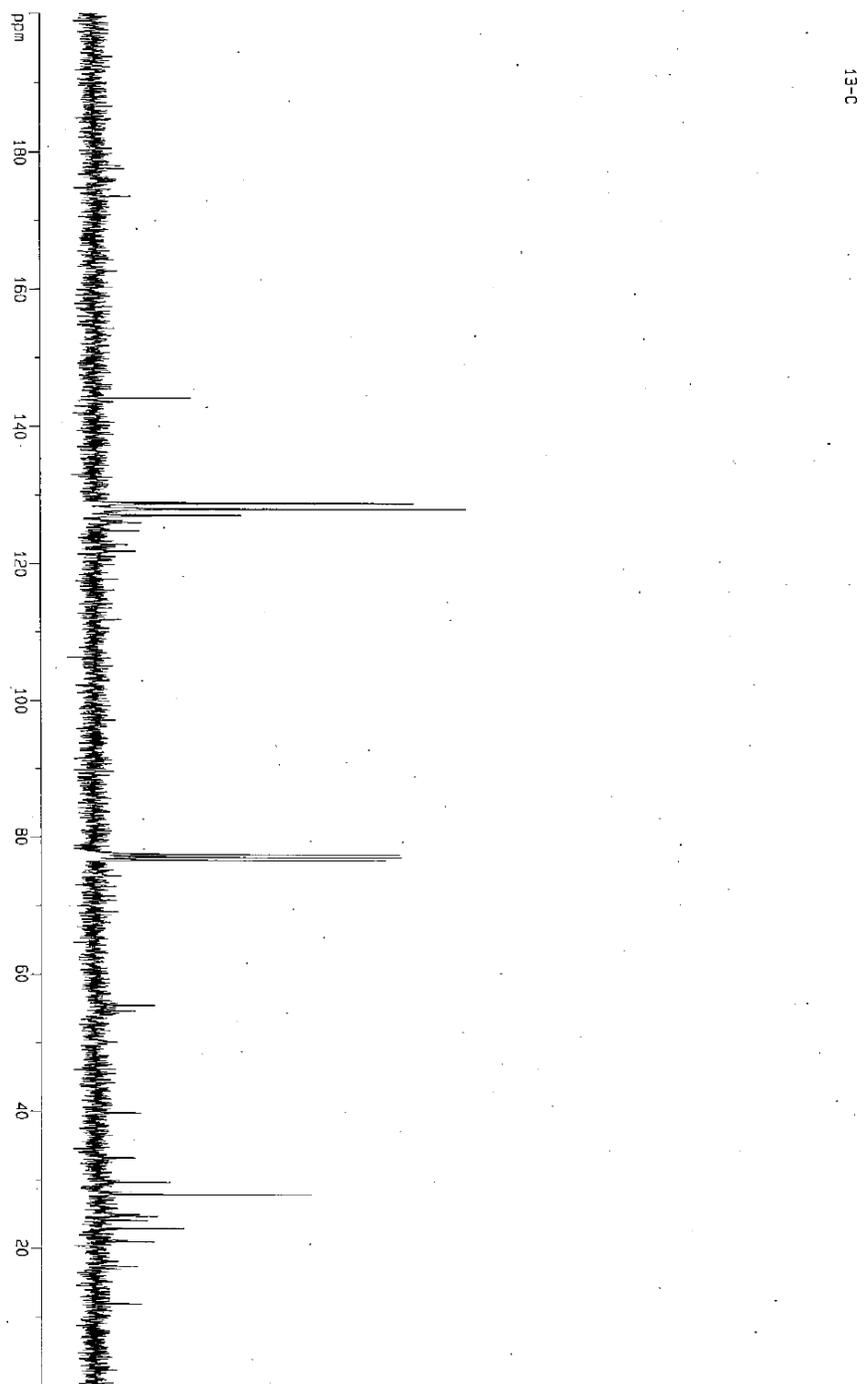
- MS



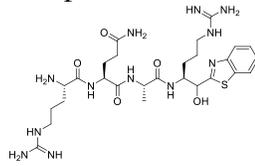
• $^1\text{H NMR}$



- ^{13}C NMR



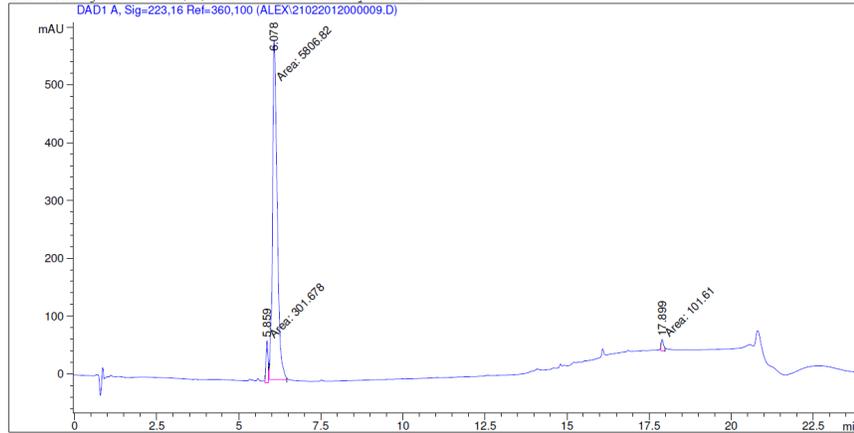
Compound 2:



• HPLC

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Sample Name    : EC-0241-01                    Location  : Vial 27
Acq. Operator  : ALEX                          Inj      : 1
Acq. Instrument: Instrument 1                  Inj Volume: 30 µl
Different Inj Volume from Sequence !          Actual Inj Volume: 10 µl
Acq. Method    : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\MARSAULT.M
Last changed   : 4/26/2012 11:17:12 AM by ALEX
Analysis Method: C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\WASHOUT.M
Last changed   : 12/9/2011 5:06:30 PM by ARNAUD
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Area Percent Report

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Sorted By      : Signal
Multiplier     : 1.0000
Dilution      : 1.0000
Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
    
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Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=223,16 Ref=360,100

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2	6.078	MM	0.1645	5806.82227	588.50153	93.5059
3	17.899	MM	0.0832	101.60999	20.35223	1.6362

Totals : 6210.11060 682.08797

• MS

Generic Display Report

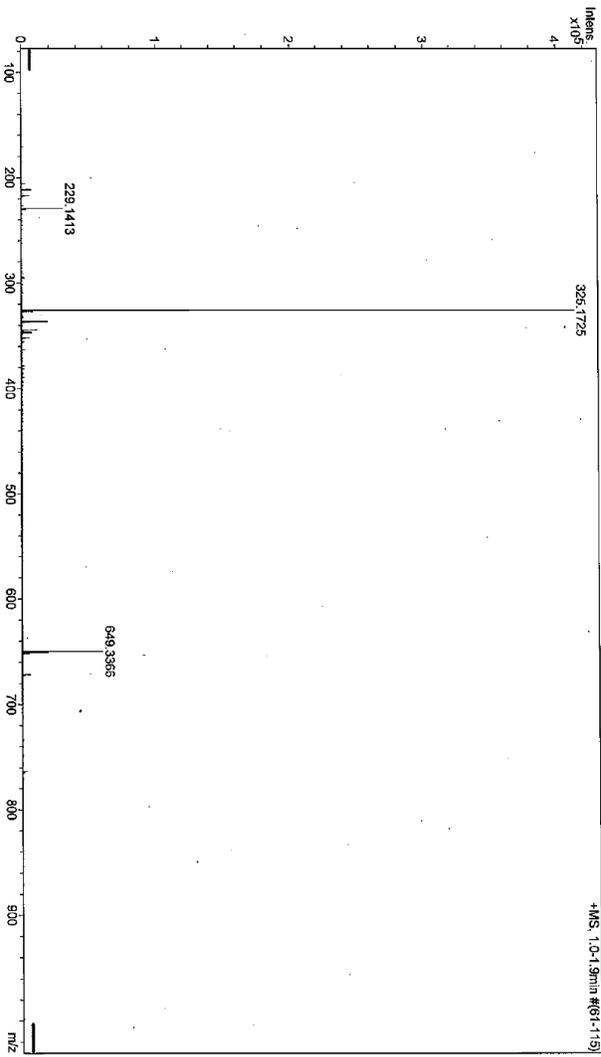
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Analysis Name D:\Data\Echam\ions\Acq000146.d
Method Infusion_Echam\ions.m
Sample Name ED-0241-01
Comment INFUSION ESI

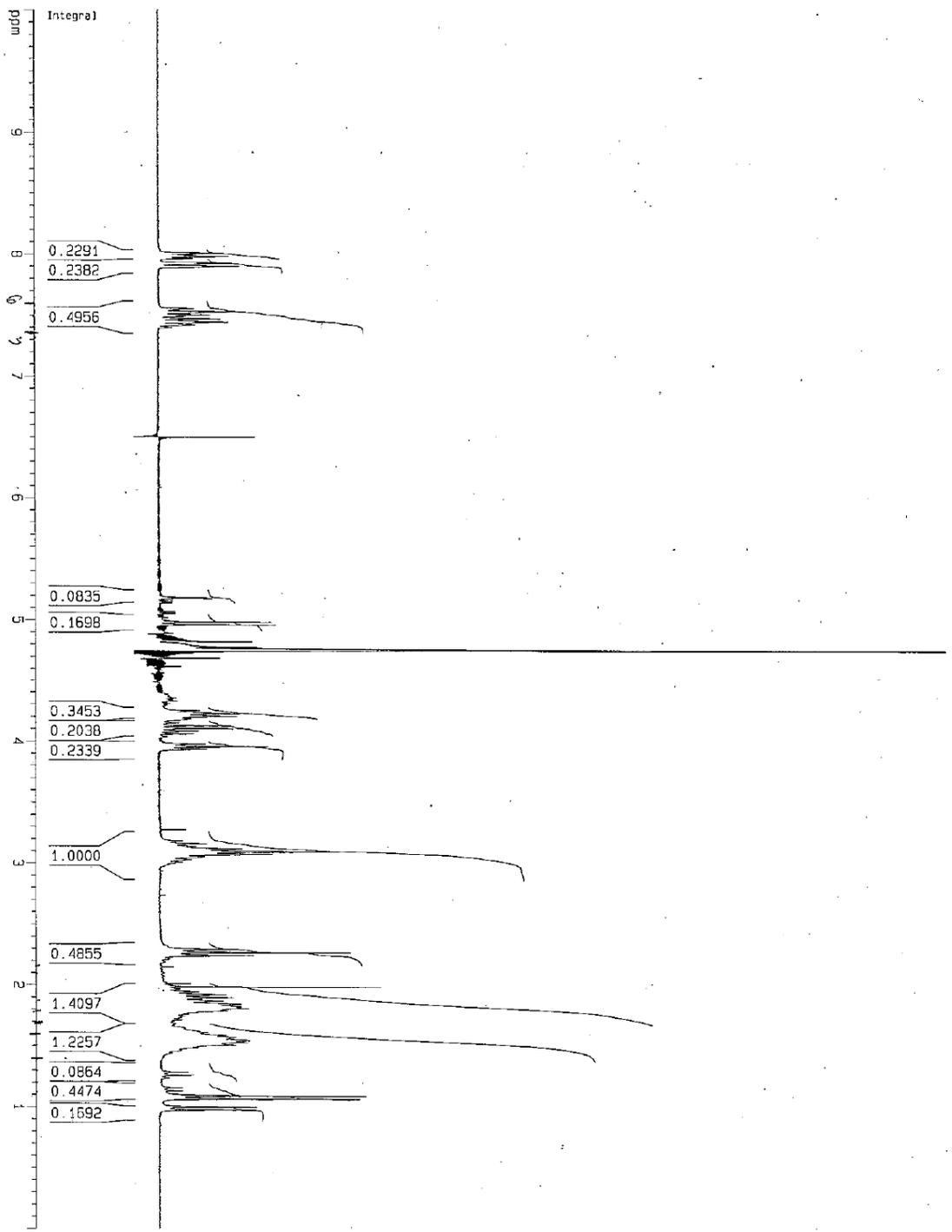
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Operator Rene
Instrument maxis

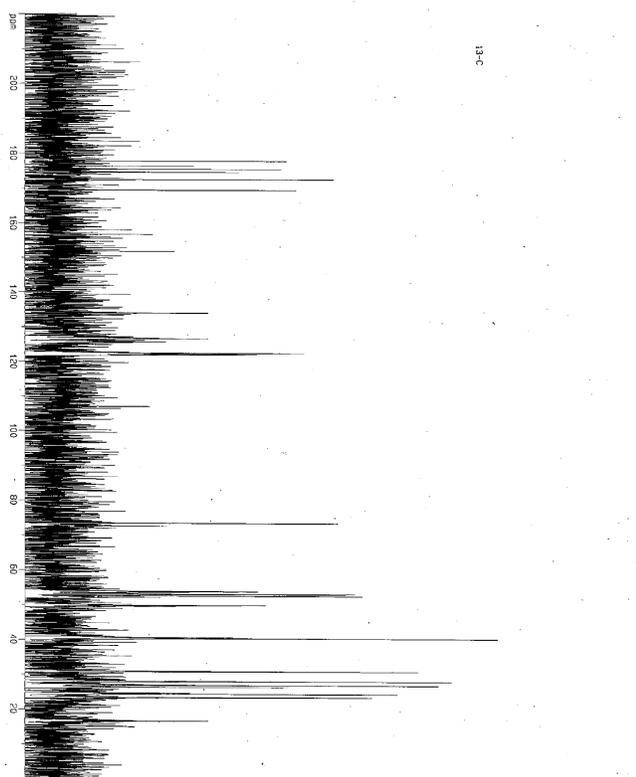
+MS_10-1.9m #91-15)



• ¹H NMR



- ^{13}C NMR

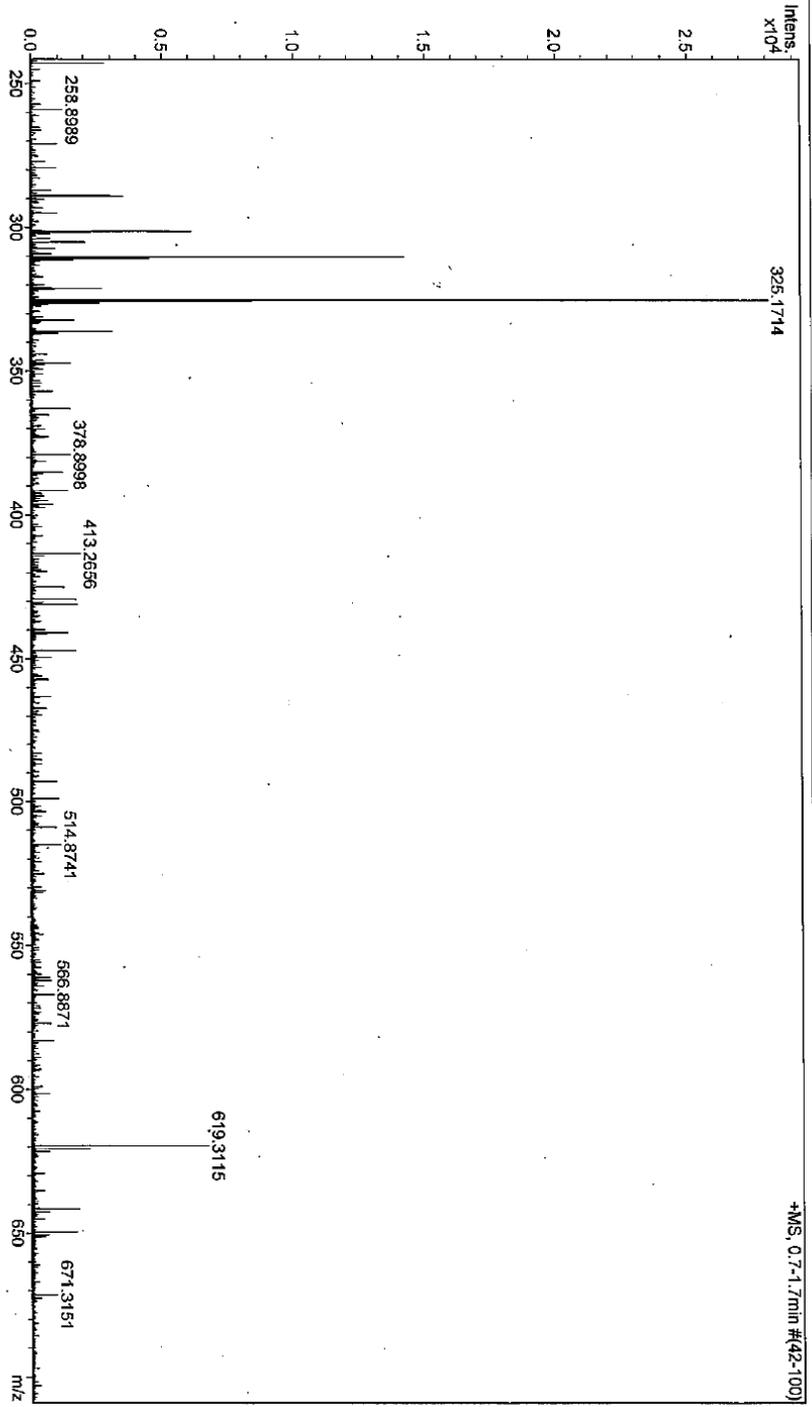


Compound 3:

Generic Display Report

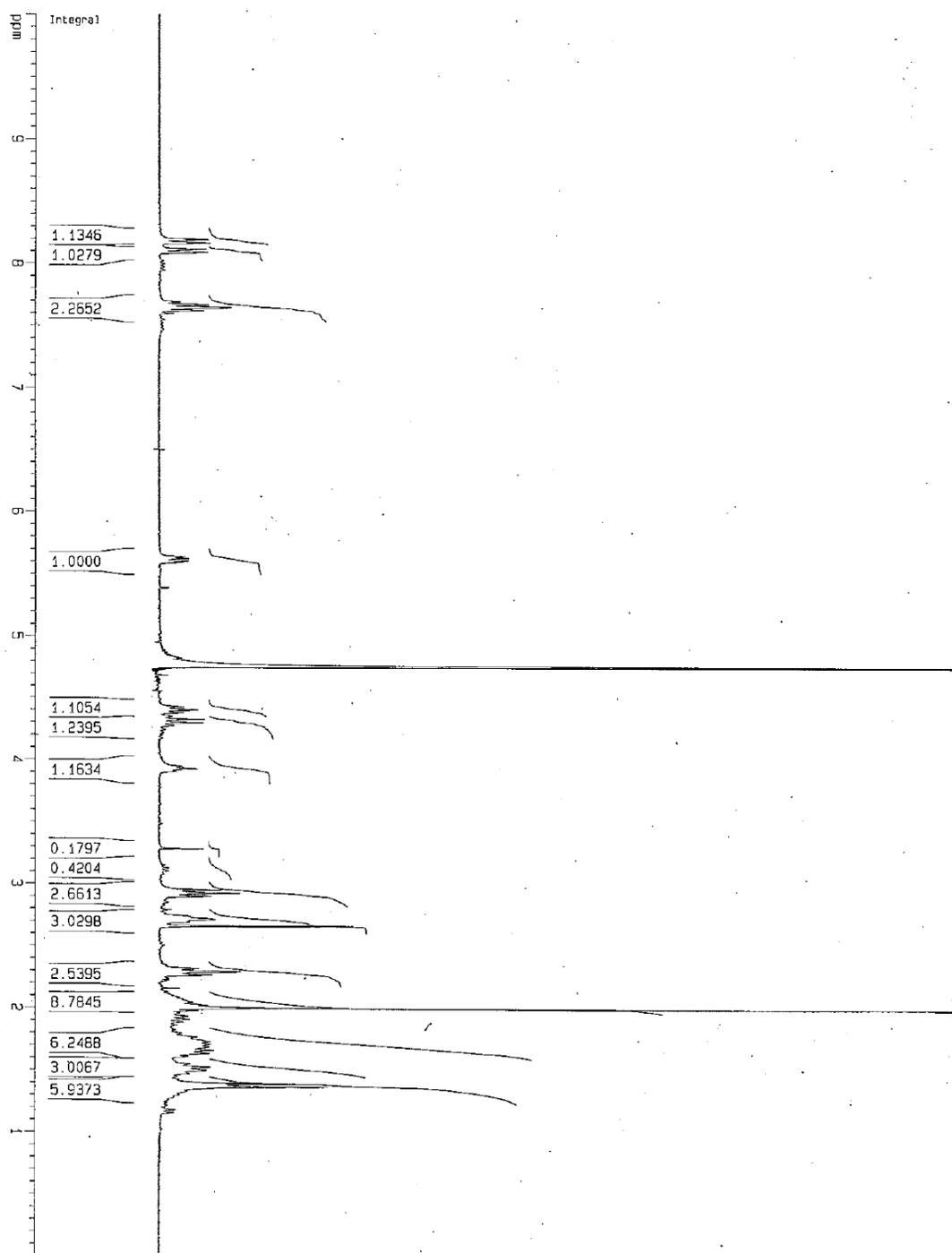
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Method: Infusion_Echantillons.m
Sample Name: EC-0165-02
Comment: INFUSION ESI

Acquisition Date: 2/21/2012 4:35:44 PM
Operator: Rene
Instrument: maxis

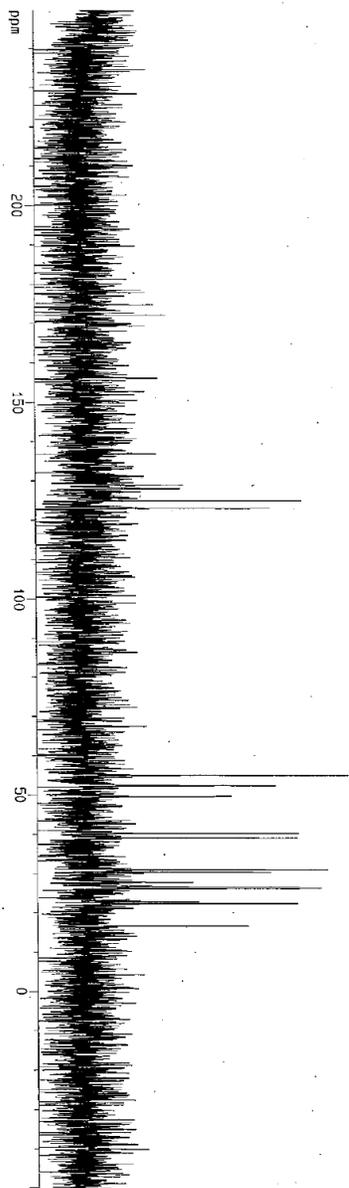


• MS

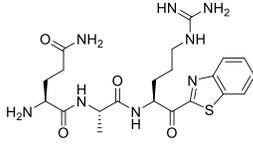
• ^1H NMR



• ^{13}C NMR



Compound 4:



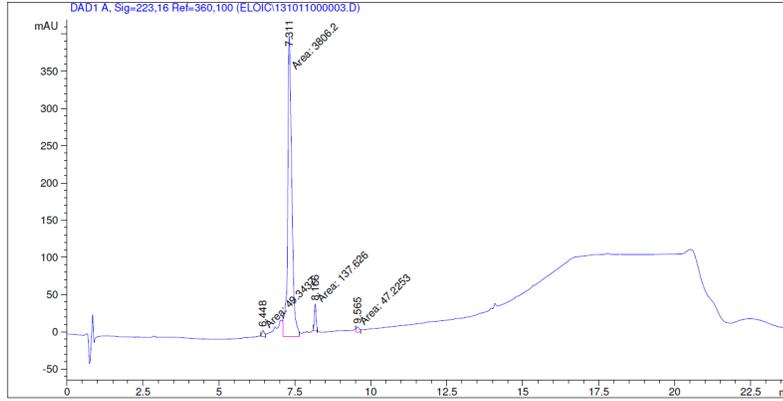
• HPLC

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Acq. Instrument: Instrument 1              Inj Volume: 30 µl
Different Inj Volume from Sequence !      Actual Inj Volume : 20 µl
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MARSAULT



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Area Percent Report
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Sorted By      : Signal
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Dilution       : 1.0000
Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs

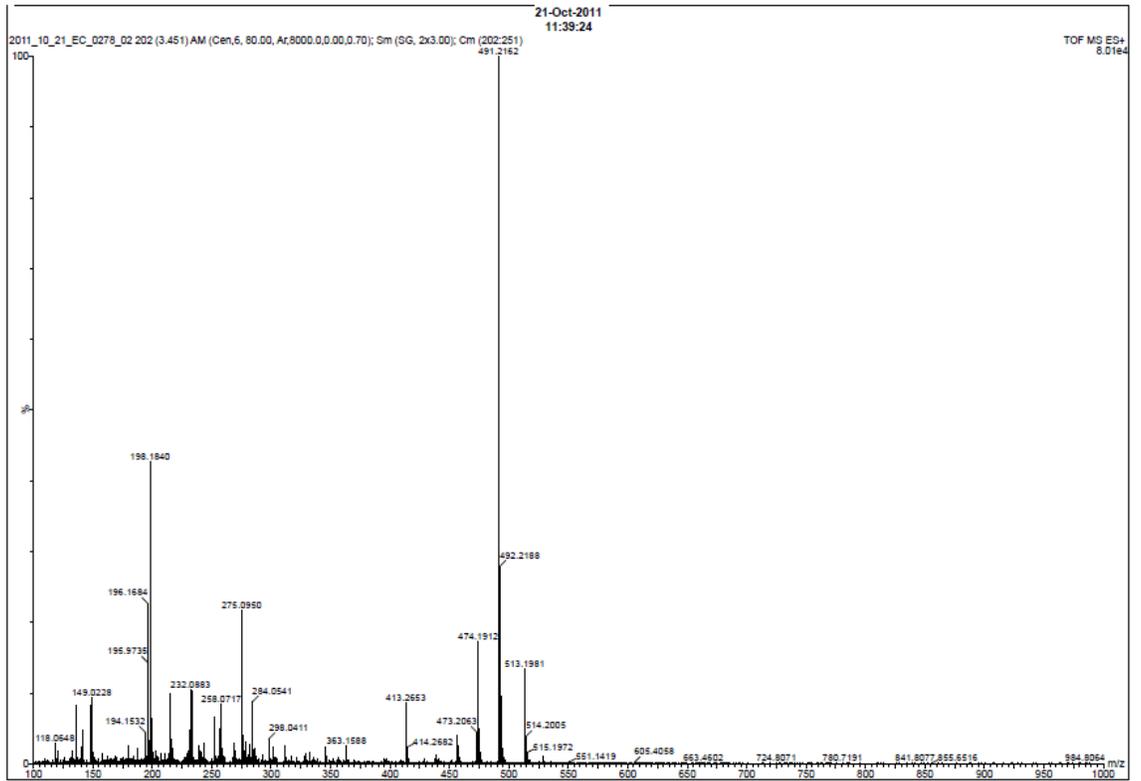
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Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=223,16 Ref=360,100

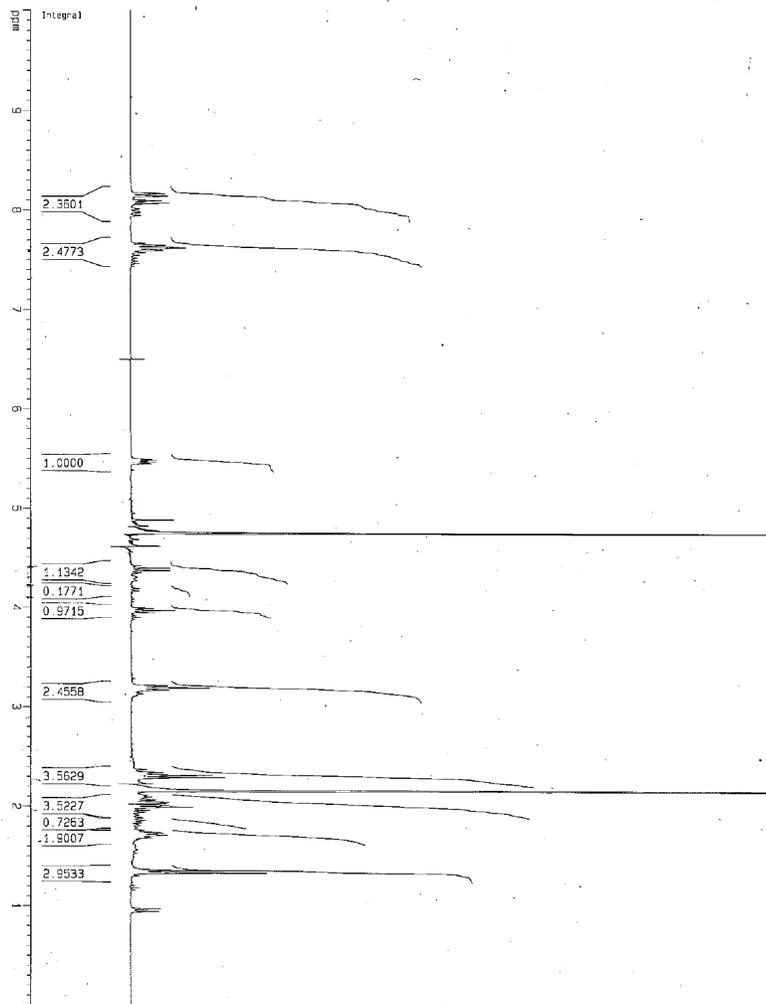
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2	7.311	MM	0.1570	3806.20068	404.00662	94.2037
3	8.166	MM	0.0645	137.62650	35.54226	3.4063
4	9.565	MM	0.1150	47.22528	6.84677	1.1688

Totals : 4040.39611 454.95369

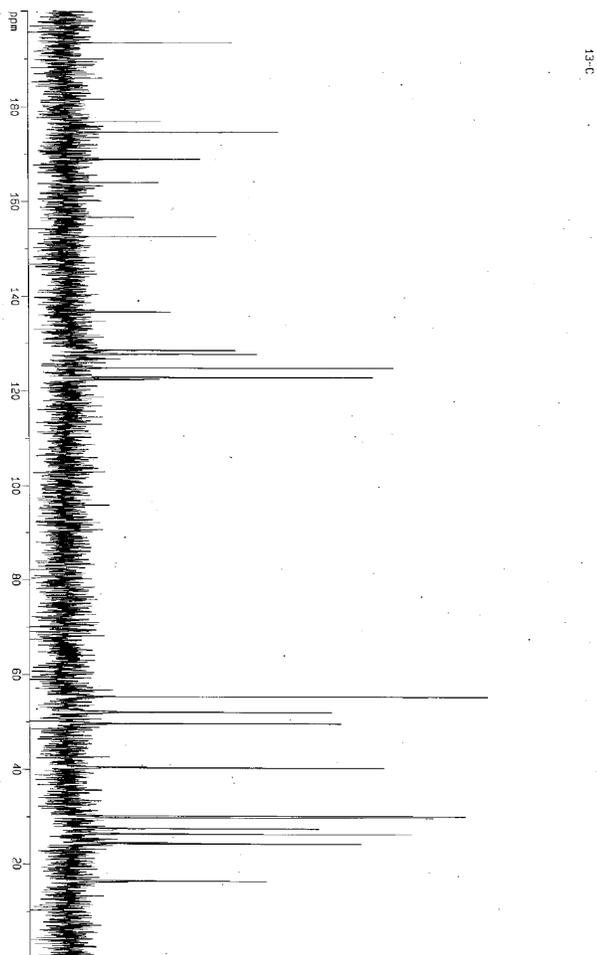
• MS



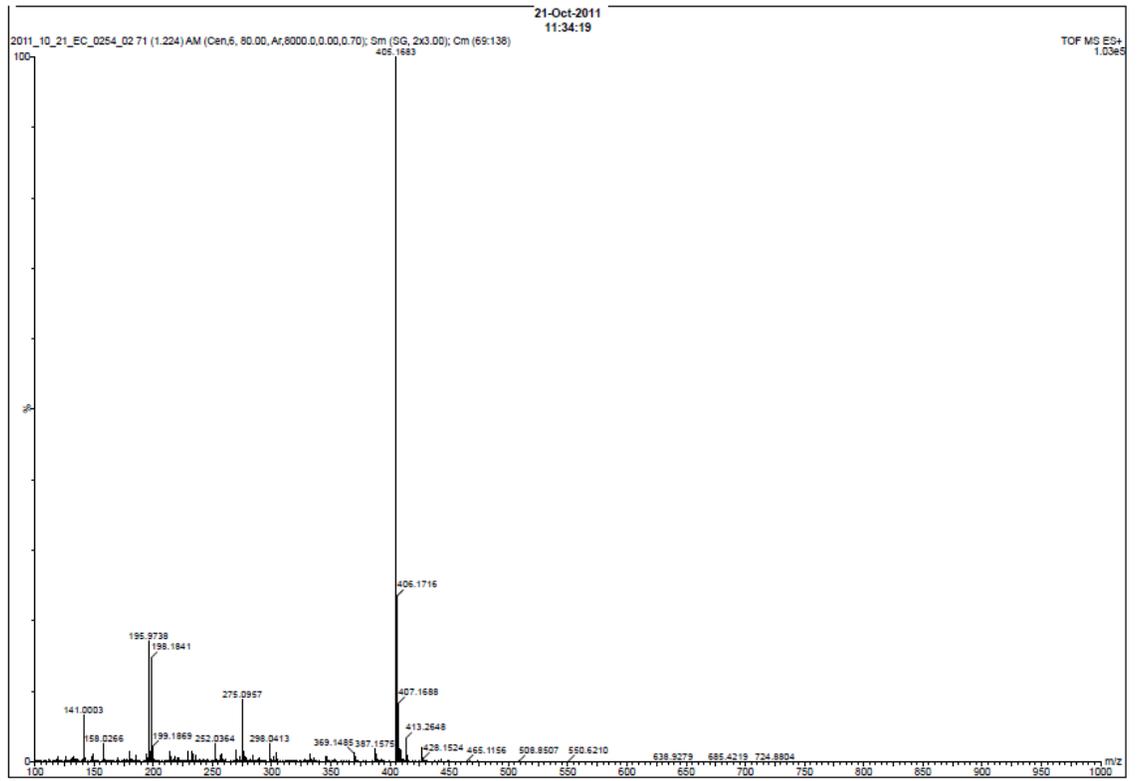
• $^1\text{H NMR}$



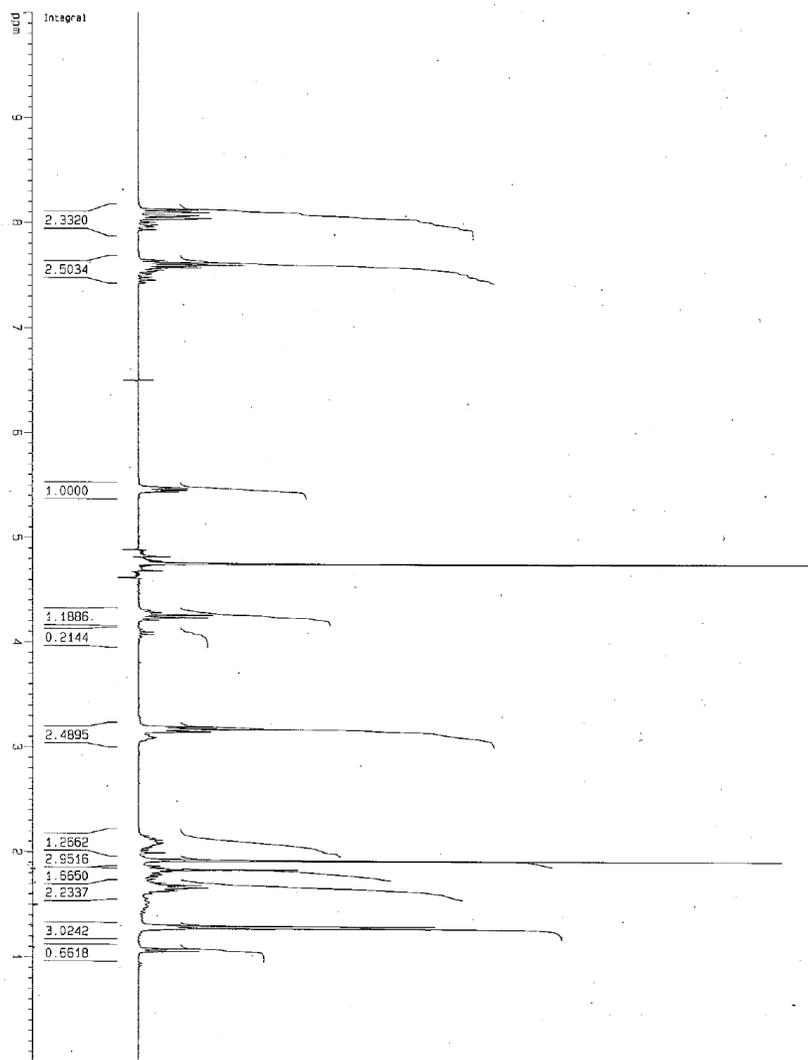
- ^{13}C NMR



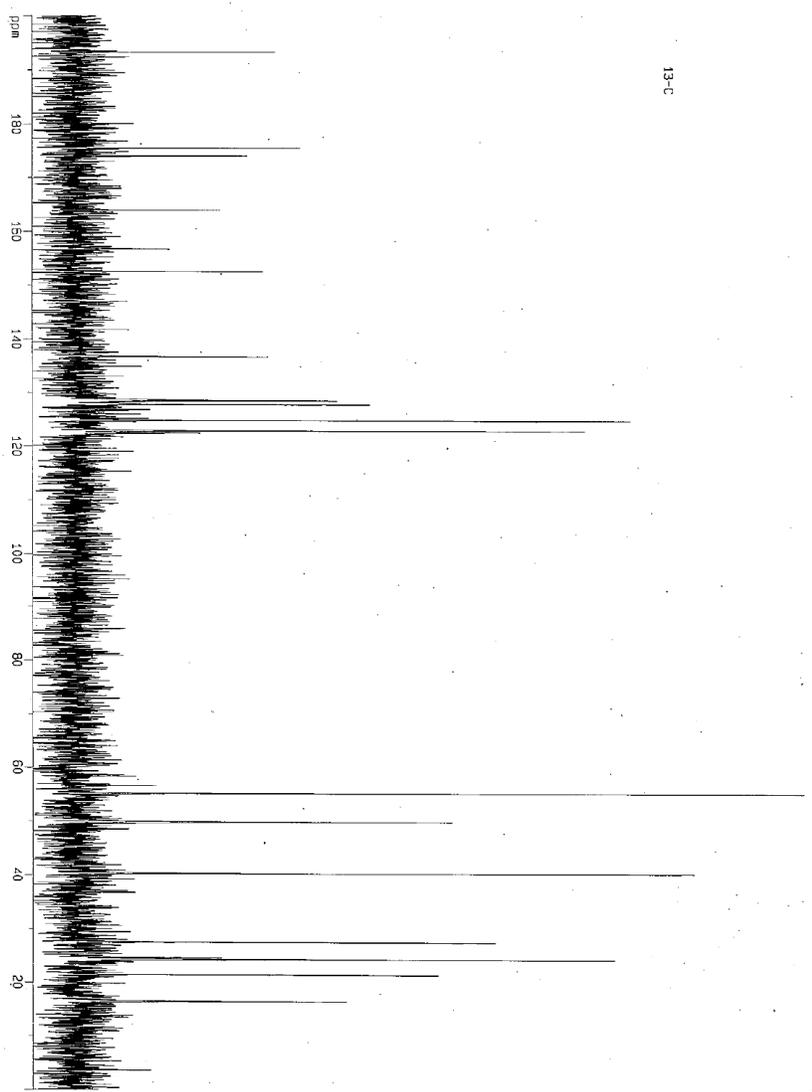
- MS



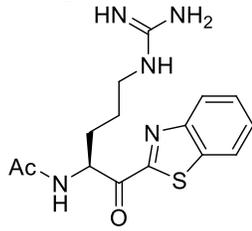
• $^1\text{H NMR}$



- ¹³C NMR



Compound 6

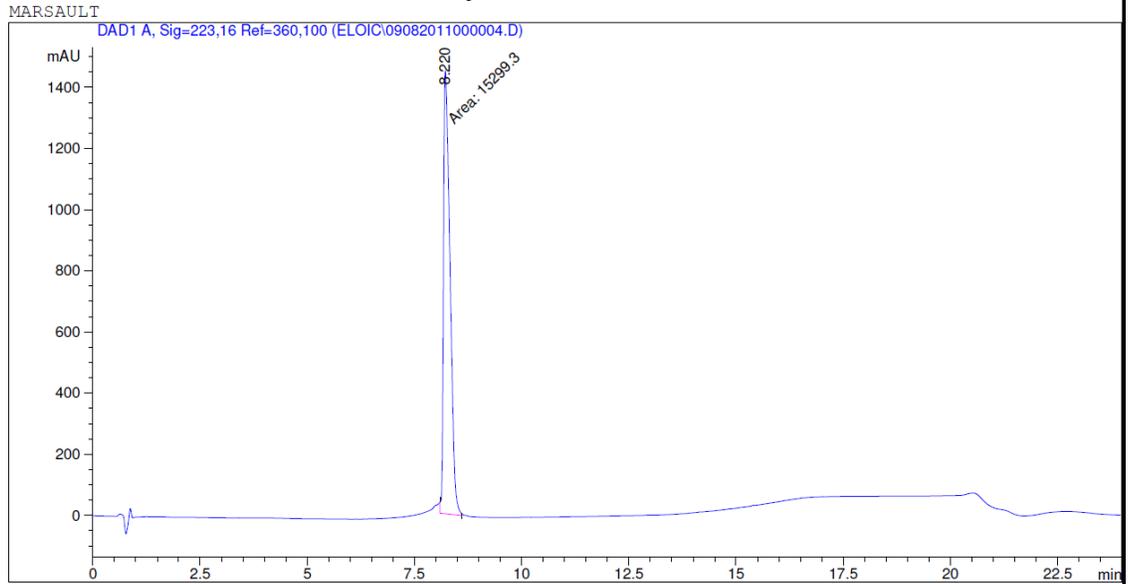


• HPLC

```

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Acq. Instrument : Instrument 1                     Inj Volume: 30 µl
Different Inj Volume from Sequence ! Actual Inj Volume : 20 µl
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Last changed    : 2/21/2012 8:02:57 AM by ELO
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Area Percent Report
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Sorted By      : Signal
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Dilution      : 1.0000
Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs

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Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=223,16 Ref=360,100

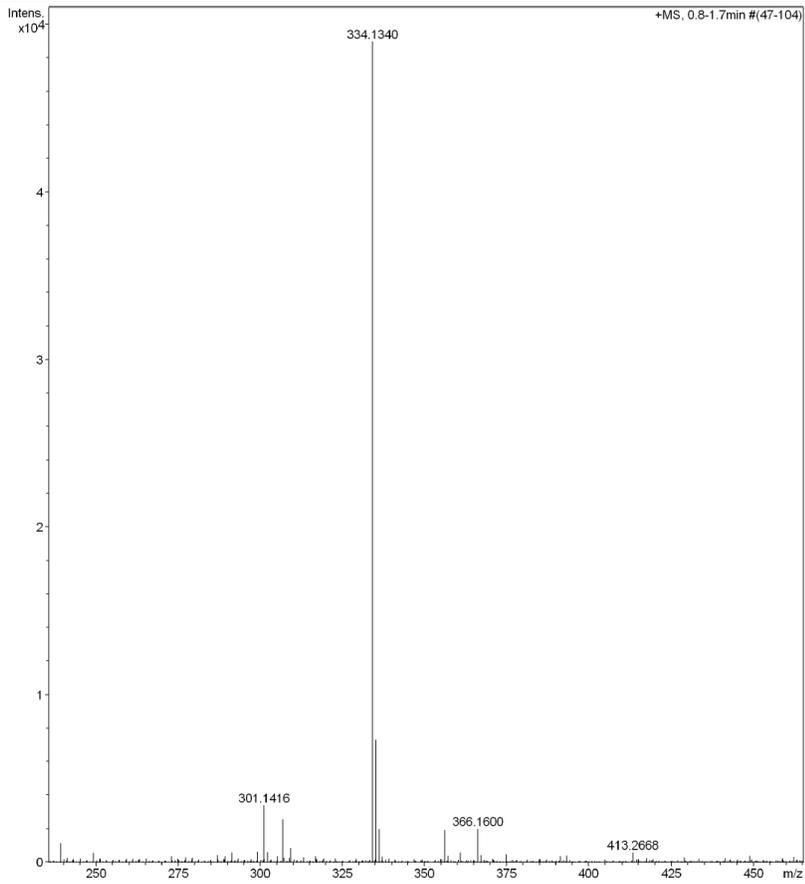
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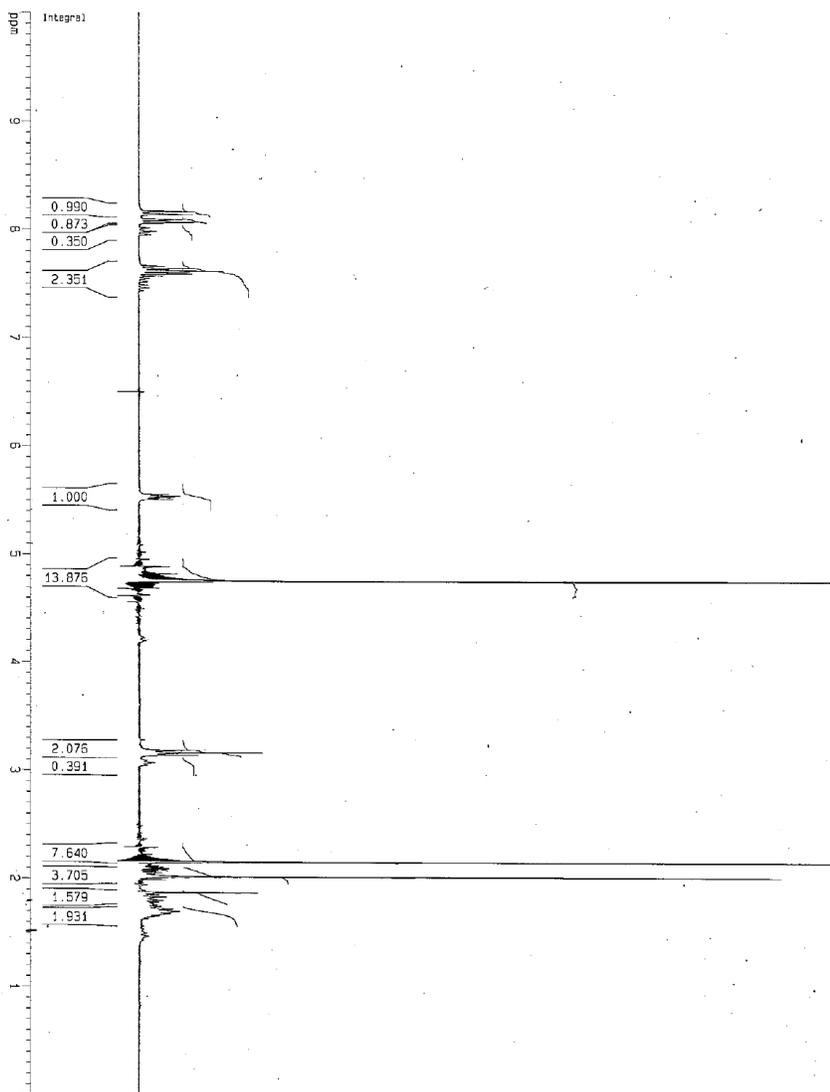
- MS

Generic Display Report

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Comment	INFUSION ESI		



• ¹H NMR



- ^{13}C NMR

