

Supporting Information

Fluorescence Imaging of Cellular Glutathione using a Latent Rhodamine

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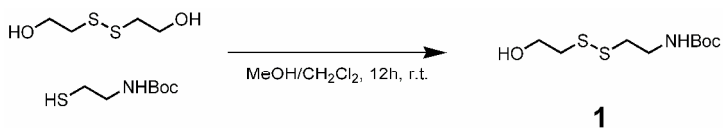
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Materials and Methods:

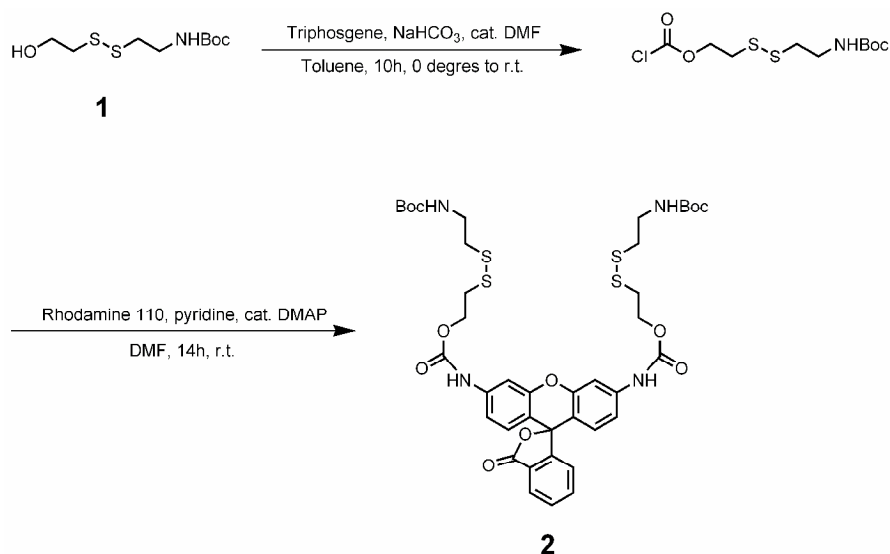
General Methods and Reagents. All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without purification. MALDI-TOF mass spectrometric measurements were performed on Applied Biosystems Voyager – DE MALDI-TOF. Analytical RP-HPLC was performed on a Vydac C18 column using the same solvent system.

Synthesis of Compound 1.



2,2'-Dithiodiethanol (2 g, 11.28 mmol) was dissolved in 1:1 DCM:MeOH (50 mL) and the 2-(Boc-amino)ethanethiol (0.667 g, 3.76 mmol) was added neat in 5 portions over 3 hours with stirring. The solution was stirred at room temperature in the dark for 12 h followed by addition of a solution of iodine (0.5 g) dissolved in MeOH (10 mL) until the solution remained slightly yellow. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The solution was washed 3X with a saturated sodium bicarbonate solution, and the organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. Purification by flash chromatographic (silica column) afforded the desired product **1** (0.82 g, 75% yield) as a light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.93 (N, br s, 1H), 3.96 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 1.41 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.01, 79.82, 60.28, 41.81, 39.39, 38.16, 28.27. HRMS (ESI): [M+Na]⁺: 276.0704 (calculated) 276.0702 (found).

Synthesis of Compound 2.

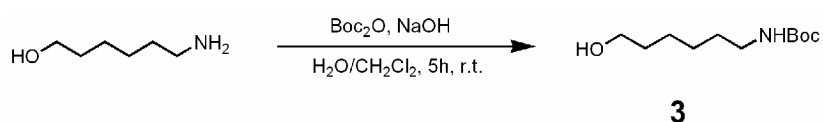


Sodium carbonate (845 mg, 7.98 mmol), triphosgene (585 mg, 1.973 mmol), and 60 mL of dry toluene were added to a flame dried flask under nitrogen. The heterogenous solution was stirred at 0 °C (ice bath) for 30 min, and a solution of compound **1** (500 mg, 1.973 mmol) and DMF (20 µL, 0.25 mmol) dissolved in 1:1 diethyl ether/toluene (20 mL) was added slowly over 10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred vigorously for 10 hours, and the flask was flushed with nitrogen for 1 h to remove unreacted phosgene. The solution was filtered, the solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the remaining (crude chloroformate) was used without further purification.

The crude chloroformate (300 mg, 0.950 mmol), pyridine (383 µL, 4.75 mmol), Rhodamine 110 (100 mg, 0.280 mmol), and a catalytic amount (15 mg, 0.122 mmol) of DMAP were dissolved in dry DMF (3 mL). The solution was stirred for 14 h at room temperature, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The pink residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL) and washed with 2X with a solution of 1% HCl. The organic layer was

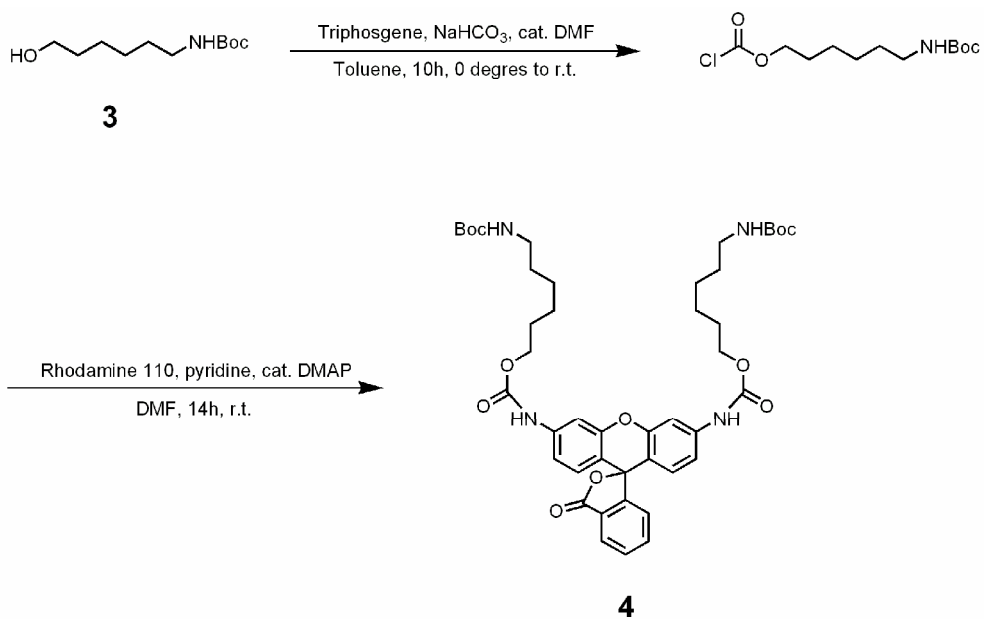
$J = 2$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 6$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 6$ Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, $J = 6$ Hz, 2H), 4.50 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 4H), 3.39 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 4H), 3.14 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 4H), 3.07 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.85, 153.91, 153.00, 151.88, 135.60, 130.21, 128.40, 126.72, 124.87, 124.11, 114.64, 113.35, 106.08, 83.82, 63.40, 38.89, 37.70, 35.25. HRMS (ESI): $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 689.1232 (calculated) 689.1248 (found).

Synthesis of Compound 3.



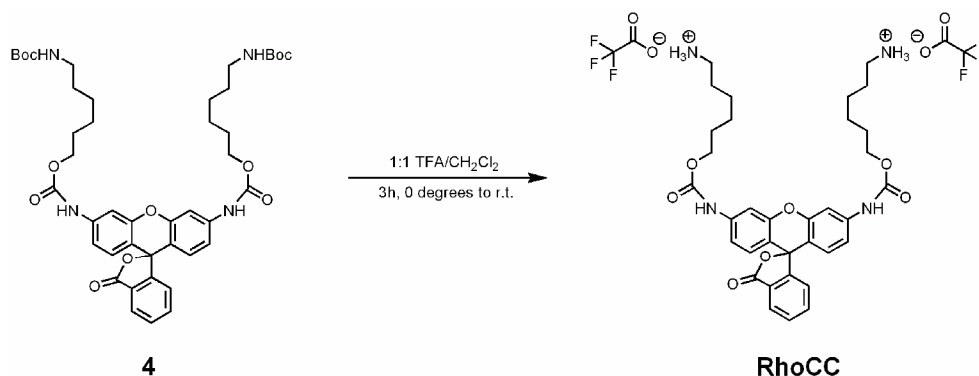
6-Amino-1-hexanol (2 g, 17.07 mmol) was added to a stirring solution of 1:1 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (80 mL). The pH of the solution was adjusted to pH 9 and kept at this pH throughout the reaction with 6 M NaOH. Di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (3.35 g, 15.36 mmol) dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) was added slowly over 1 h. After 5 h, additional CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL) was added and the pH was adjusted to 2. The organic layer was washed 3X with a solution of 5% HCl, and dried over MgSO_4 . After removal of the solvents *in vacuo*, compound **3** (3.04 g, 91% yield) was isolated as a clear oil. This compound was pure enough to be used in the next step without further purification. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.57 (N, br s, 1H), 3.58 (t, $J = 6$ Hz, 2H), 3.07 (q, $J = 3$ Hz, 2H), 3.07 (q, $J = 3$ Hz, 2H), 1.56-1.49 (m, $J = 6$ Hz, 2H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.32-1.25 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 156.18, 79.14, 62.64, 40.40, 32.63, 30.10, 28.47, 26.45, 25.32. HRMS (ESI): $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 240.1576 (calculated) 240.1578 (found).

Synthesis of Compound 4.



Compound **3** (434 mg, 2.0 mmol) was activated as the chloroformate as described above. The crude chloroformate (280 mg, 1.0 mmol) was reacted with Rhodamine 110 using the same procedure as described above to yield compound **2**. Flash Purification by silica column afforded product **4** (120 mg, 52 % yield). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (m, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 6.7 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 4H), 3.11 (q, *J* = 6 Hz, 4H), 1.53 (b, 8H), 1.38 (b, 8H), 1.23 (s, 18H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.49, 156.13, 153.53, 153.00, 151.95, 135.31, 130.02, 128.91, 126.76, 125.37, 124.28, 114.64, 113.73, 106.73, 83.49, 66.37, 41.52, 30.92, 29.57, 27.42, 26.73. HRMS (ESI): [M+H]⁺: 817.4024 (calculated) 817.4033 (found).

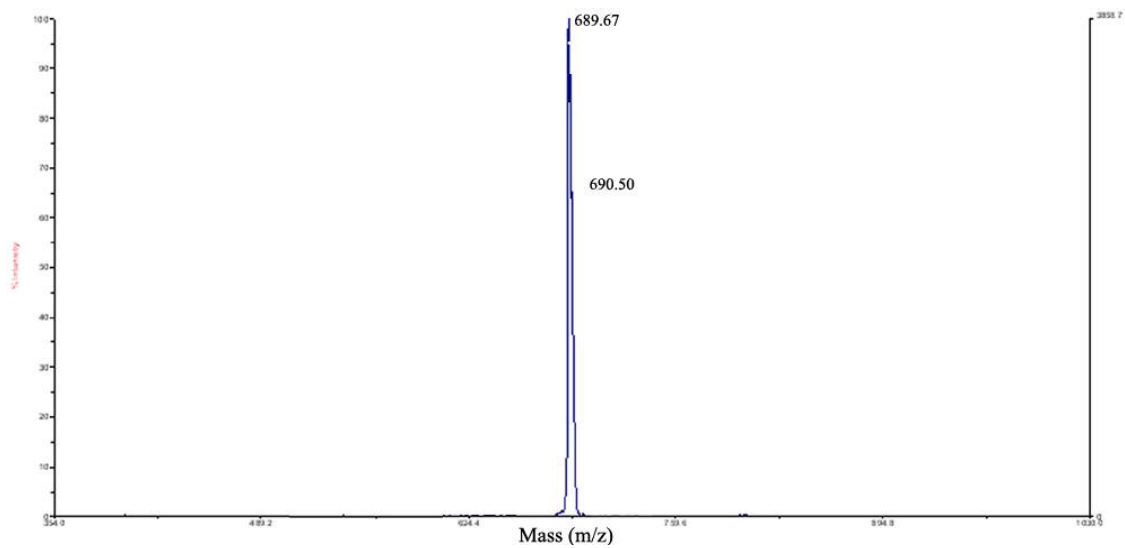
Synthesis of RhoCC.



Compound **4** (71 mg, 0.0870 mmol) was dissolved in a cold (0 °C) solution of 1:1 TFA and CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL). The solution was kept in the dark and stirred for 1 h at 0 °C before allowing it to come to room temperature and stirred for an additional 2 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was dissolved in DMSO and filtered. **RhoCC** was purified to homogeneity by reverse phase HPLC using a Vydac C8 column with an eluent consisting of solvent A (H₂O /0.1% TFA) and solvent B (CH₃CN /0.1% TFA) with a 60 minute gradient consisting of 10 to 70% A, a flow rate of 8 mL/min, and monitoring at 214 and 280 nm. After lyophilization, **RhoCC** was isolated as a pink powder (55 mg, 75 % yield). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ 8.11 (d, 1H), 7.83 (m, *J* = 1, 6 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, 6 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.25 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 4H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 4H), 2.40 (s, 2H), 1.75 (b, 8H), 1.55 (b, 8H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.88, 154.42, 153.00, 151.90, 135.58, 130.19, 128.84, 128.34, 128.13, 126.75, 125.25, 124.85, 124.12, 114.57, 113.16, 105.98, 84.03, 65.42, 40.35, 29.63, 28.33, 26.89, 26.30. HRMS (ESI): [M+H]⁺: 617.2975 (calculated) 617.2974 (found).

Figure S1.

MALDI-TOF of RhoSS



MALDI-TOF of RhoCC

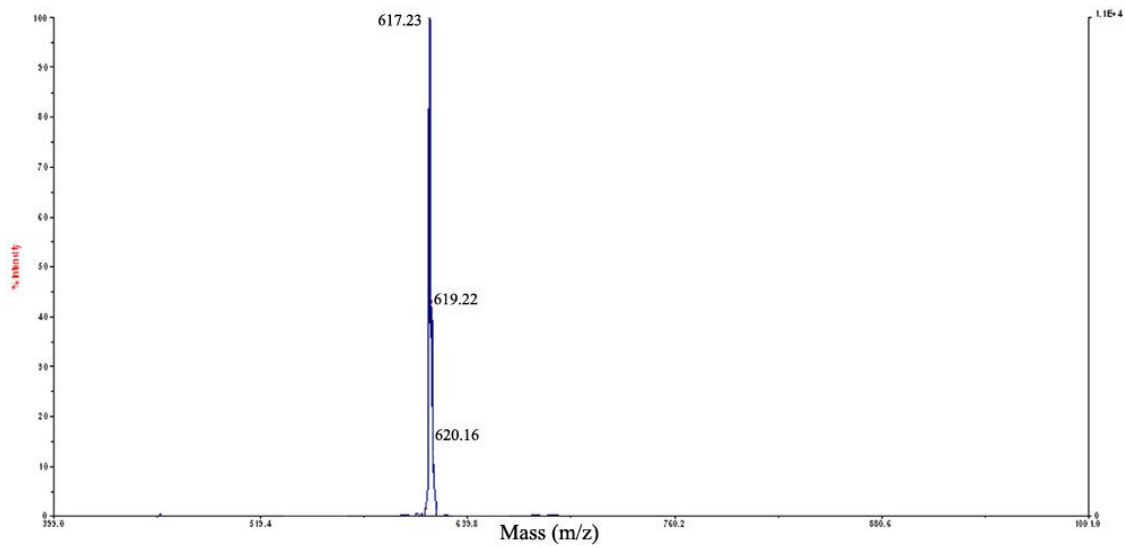
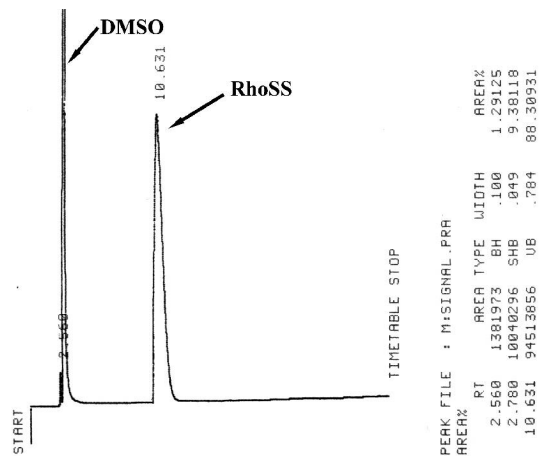


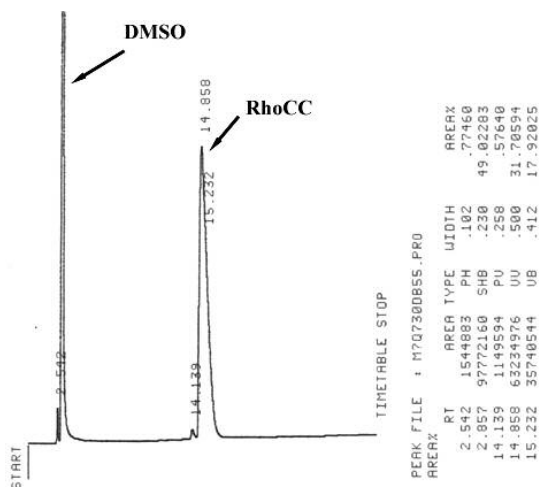
Figure 2S.

Analytical RP-HPLC Analysis

RhoSS – 15% acetonitrile/85% water to 50% acetonitrile/water (containing 0.1 % TFA)
over 30 min, flow rate of 1 mL/min, monitored at 214 nm



RhoCC – 15% acetonitrile/85% water to 50% acetonitrile/water (containing 0.1 % TFA)
over 30 min, flow rate of 1 mL/min, monitored at 214 nm



Cell Culture. All cells were cultured at 37°C with 5% CO₂. MCF-7 cells (breast adenocarcinoma) were grown in RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 10% fetal

bovine serum (Cambrex Bio Science Walkersville, Inc.), 2 mM L-glutamine (Cellgro, Mediatech), 50 units/mL penicillin and 50 µg/mL streptomycin (Cellgro, Mediatech). HeLa cells (cervical cancer) were cultured in DMEM medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 2mM L-glutamine, 50 units/mL penicillin and 50 µg/mL streptomycin.

Fluorescence Reader. Fluorescence assays were performed on a Tecan SpectrafluorPlus 96-well plate reader. Total volume for each run was 200 µL. Samples were excited at 495 nm and fluorescence emission was read at 525 nm.

Flow Cytometry Assay. For assays performed from a 24 well plate, the plates were evenly seeded with cells and allowed to grow to 70-80% confluence. Cells were then incubated with the desired amount of **RhoCC** or **RhoSS** for 60 min or 6 h at 37 °C. After the removal of the media, the cells were washed with cold PBS, trypsinized, and resuspended in cold culture media (cells were kept on ice until analysis). For experiments in which cellular thiols were blocked, cells were treated with the desired concentration of NEM in PBS at 37 °C for 30 min, prior to the addition of **RhoCC** or **RhoSS**. The harvested cells were analyzed using a FACSCalibur flow cytometer (BD Biosciences, San Jose, CA) equipped with a 488-nm argon laser and a 530 band pass filter (FL1). A minimum of 10,000 events were counted for each data point. The fluorescence data were expressed as mean arbitrary fluorescence units.

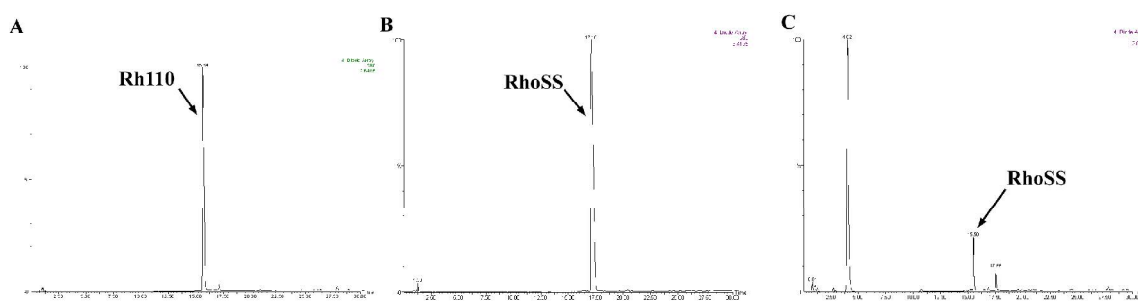
Confocal Microscopy. HeLa cells were plated onto 4-chambered Lab-Tek slides at a density of 50,000 cells per well, and were allowed to grow to 60-70% confluence. The cells were incubated with **RhoSS**, **RhoCC**, or NEM followed by **RhoSS** in DMEM media for 1h. Following this incubation, the cells were either washed with cold PBS and

fresh media was added to each well, or the cells were not washed (Figure 4e). For the co-staining experiments cells were incubated with 40 μM of **RhoSS** and 500 nM of Hoechst 33342 (Invitrogen) or 40 μM of **RhoSS** and 100 nM of MitoFluoro 589 Red (Invitrogen) in DMEM media for 4 h. Following this incubation, cells that were co-stained were washed with cold PBS and fresh media was added to each well. Images were acquired using a Radiance 2100 MP Rainbow (Bio-Rad, Hemel Hempstead, England) on a TE2000 (Nikon, Tokoyo, Japan) inverted microscope using a 60x oil 1.4 NA lens. Mitofluor Red 589, Rhodamine 110 and Hoechst 33342 fluorescence images were collected sequentially to avoid any possible bleed through. The Mitofluor Red 589 was excited at 543 nm using the green HeNe laser and the fluorescence emission greater than 560 nm in wavelength was collected. Then Rhodamine 110 was excited with the 488 nm line of the 4-line argon and the emission was collected with a 500LP, 550SP filter combination. Multi-photon excitation for the Hoechst 33342 was provided by the Mai Tai laser (Spectra-Physics, Mountain View, CA) at 750 nm and the emission between 420 and 480 nm was collected. A transmission image was also collected to show cell morphology.

***In vitro* Fluorescence Unmaking.** The desired rhodamine derivative was dissolved in buffered solution (Tris-HCl 80 mM) at the specified pH. The thiol-containing solution (DTT or glutathione) was prepared fresh in the same buffer as the rhodamine solution. 100 μL of the rhodamine solution was added to a Costar 96-well plate, followed by adding 100 μL of the thiol solution. Temperature was maintained at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. Fluorescence data was obtained by exciting at 485 nm and the emission data was collected at 535 nm every 2 min.

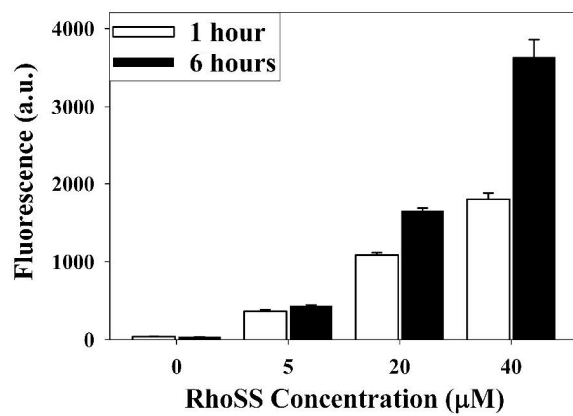
Cellular Viability (MTT Assay). HeLa cells were seeded into wells of a 96-well plate in 200 μ L of cell culture media at a density of 12,000 cells per well. The cells were incubated for 18 h at 37 $^{\circ}$ C. After removing the cell culture media, cells were incubated for 4 h at 37 $^{\circ}$ C with fresh culture media alone or fresh culture media with varying concentrations of **RhoSS** (20 μ M, 40 μ M, 80 μ M). Following this incubation period, the media was replaced with fresh culture media containing 0.5 mg/mL of 3-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide and cell were incubated for 4 h at 37 $^{\circ}$ C. The media was gently removed and 200 μ L of DMSO was added to each well. Absorbance was measured at 580 nm and % cell viability was calculated based on the viability of cells incubated with no **RhoSS**.

Figure 3S.



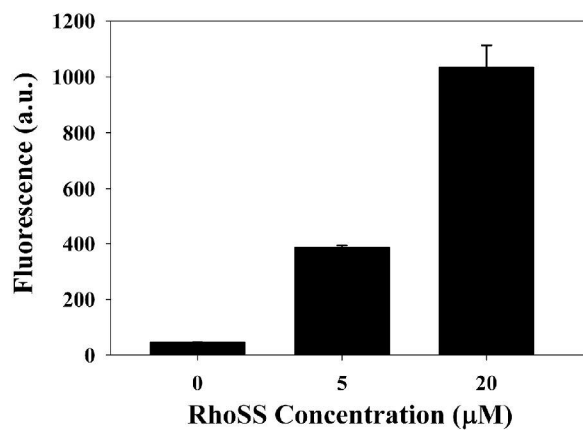
HPLC trace of Rhodamine 110 and **RhoSS**. Conditions: 0.6 mL/min flow rate, C18 analytical column, 5% A to 75% A over 30 min, detected at 280 nm. (a) rhodamine 110 (b) **RhoSS** (c) **RhoSS** after incubation for 2 h with 10 mM DTT at 37 $^{\circ}$ C pH 7.4. Assigned peaks were confirmed with ESI $^{+}$. Solvent A is acetonitrile with 0.1% formic acid and solvent B is water with 0.1% formic acid.

Figure 4S.



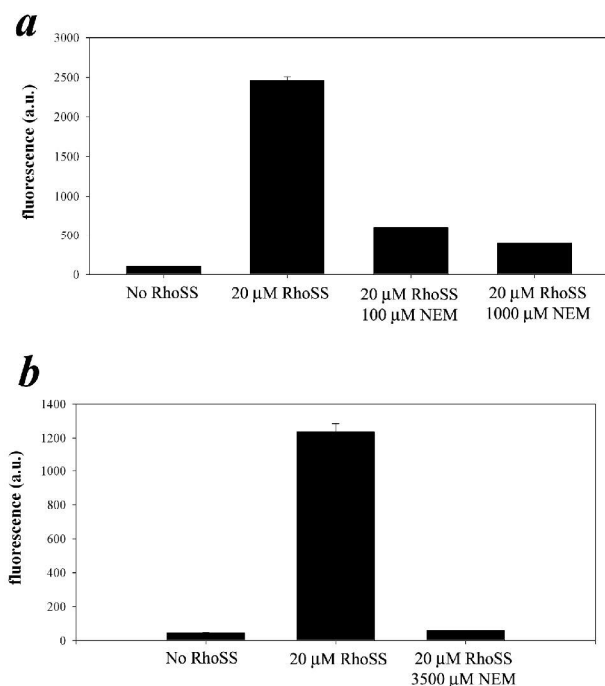
Time dependence of cellular fluorescence by flow cytometry. HeLa cells were incubated with varying concentrations of **RhoSS** for 1 and 6 h at 37 °C.

Figure 5S.



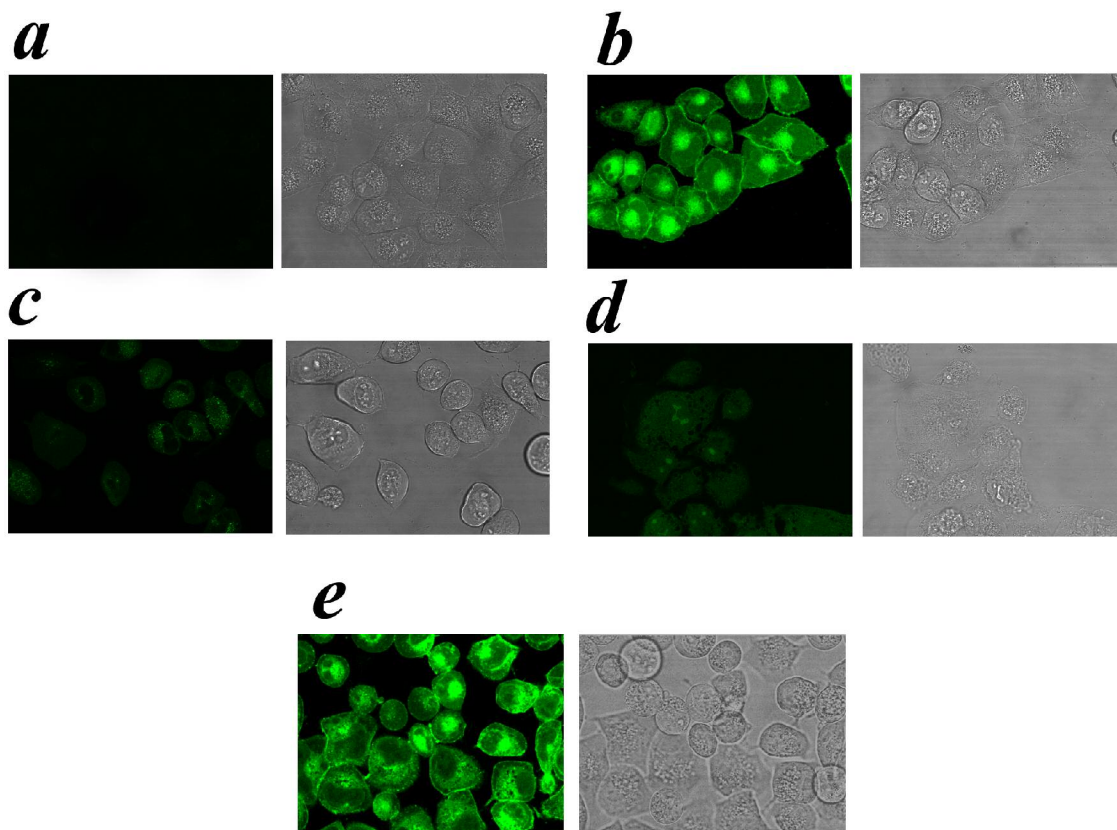
Cellular fluorescence of MCF-7 cells. MCF-7 cells were incubated with varying concentrations of **RhoSS** for 1 h at 37 °C. Uptake was quantified using FACS.

Figure 6S.



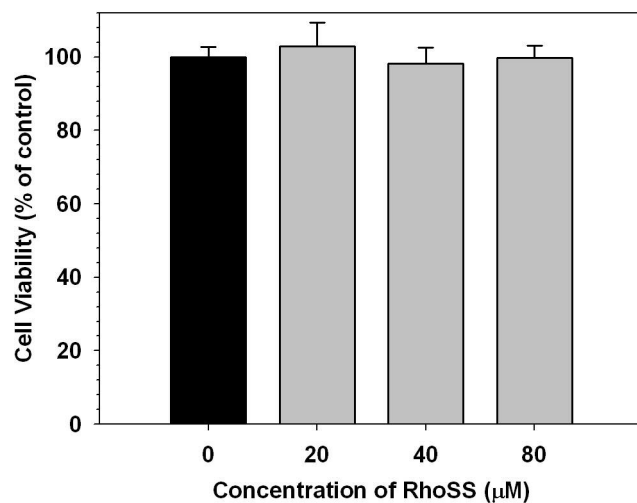
Cellular fluorescence after blocking of thiols. Thiol blocking agent (NEM) was pre-incubated with cells at the specified concentration for 30 min at 37 °C. (a) HeLa cells with and without pre-incubation with NEM followed by addition of **RhoSS**. The pre-incubation of cells with 100 μ M and 1000 μ M of NEM caused a major decrease in cellular fluorescence. (b) MCF-7 cells without pre-incubation of NEM showed similar fluorescence as previously shown with and without 20 μ M of **RhoSS**. The pre-incubation of cells with 3500 μ M with NEM followed by addition of **RhoSS** also caused a major decrease in cellular fluorescence.

Figure 7S.



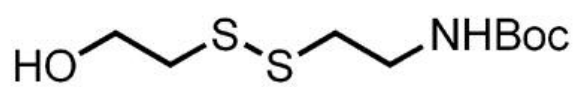
Confocal images of live HeLa cells. HeLa cells were incubated with or without specified molecule(s) for 1 h. (a) No probe (b) Treated with 20 μ M of **RhoSS** (c) Treated with 20 μ M of **RhoCC** (d) Pre-incubated with 100 mM of NEM (30 min) and treated with 20 μ M of **RhoSS** (e) Treated with 40 μ M of **RhoSS** with no washing prior to microscopy.

Figure 8S.

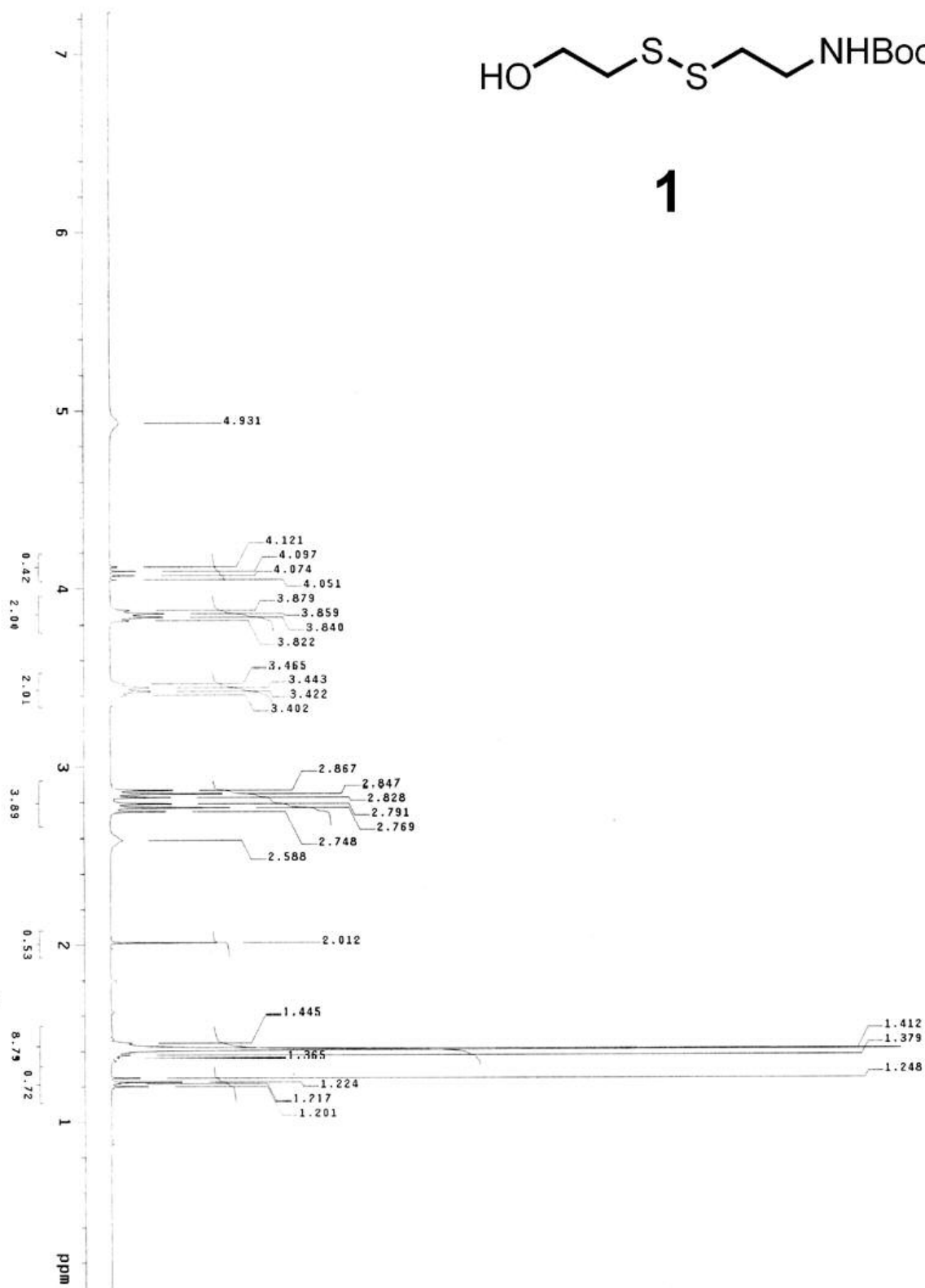


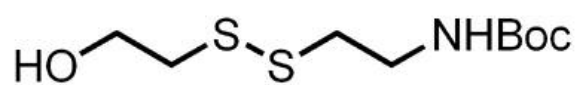
Cellular viability of HeLa cells incubated with **RhoSS**. HeLa cells were incubated with varying concentrations of **RhoSS** for 4 h. Viability of the cells was assessed using the MTT assay. Percent viability was determined relative to control survival.

Spectra

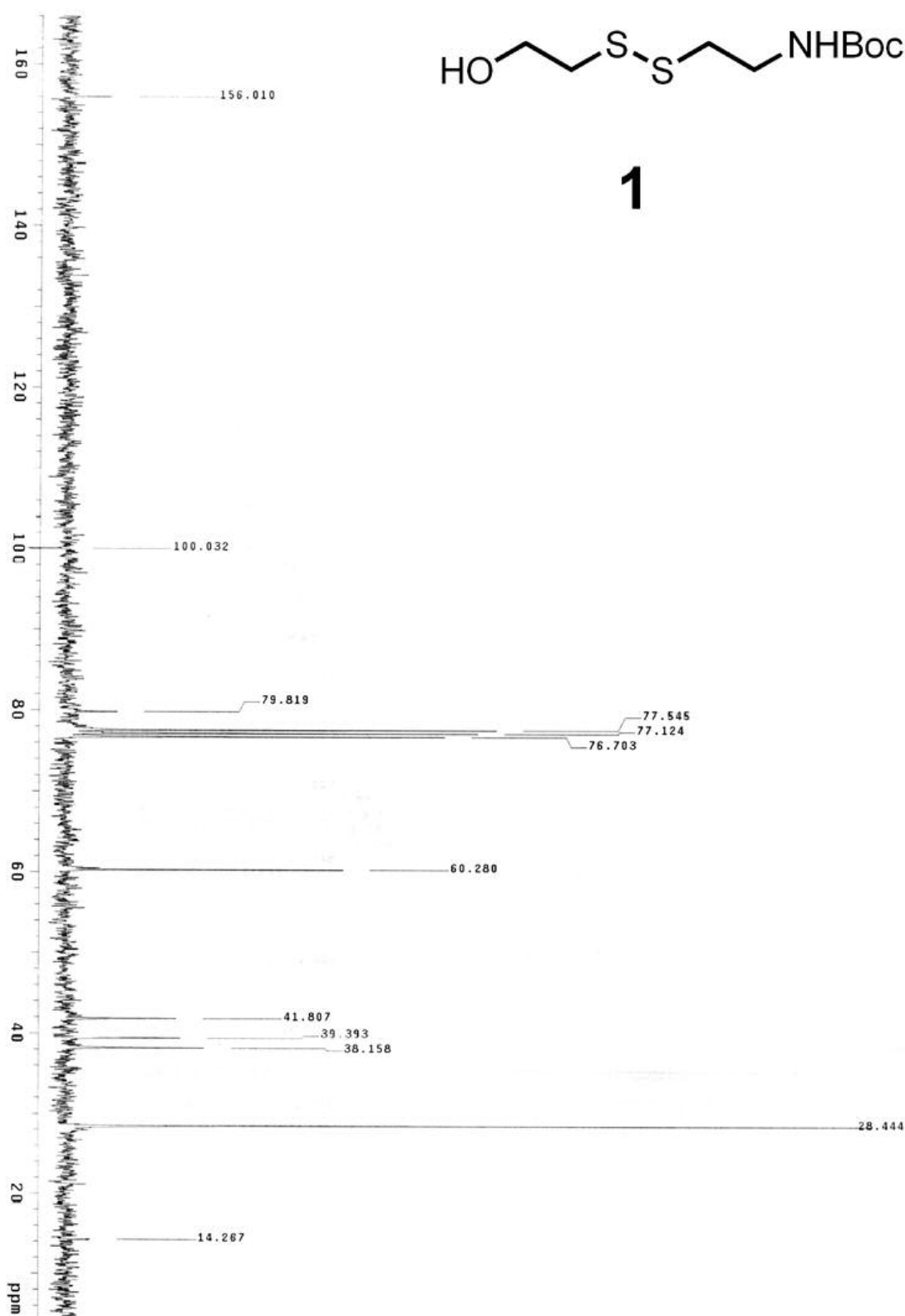


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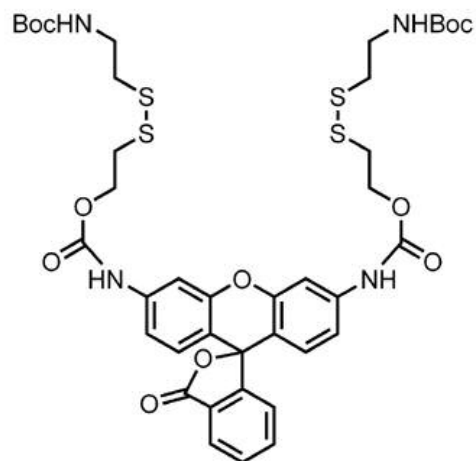
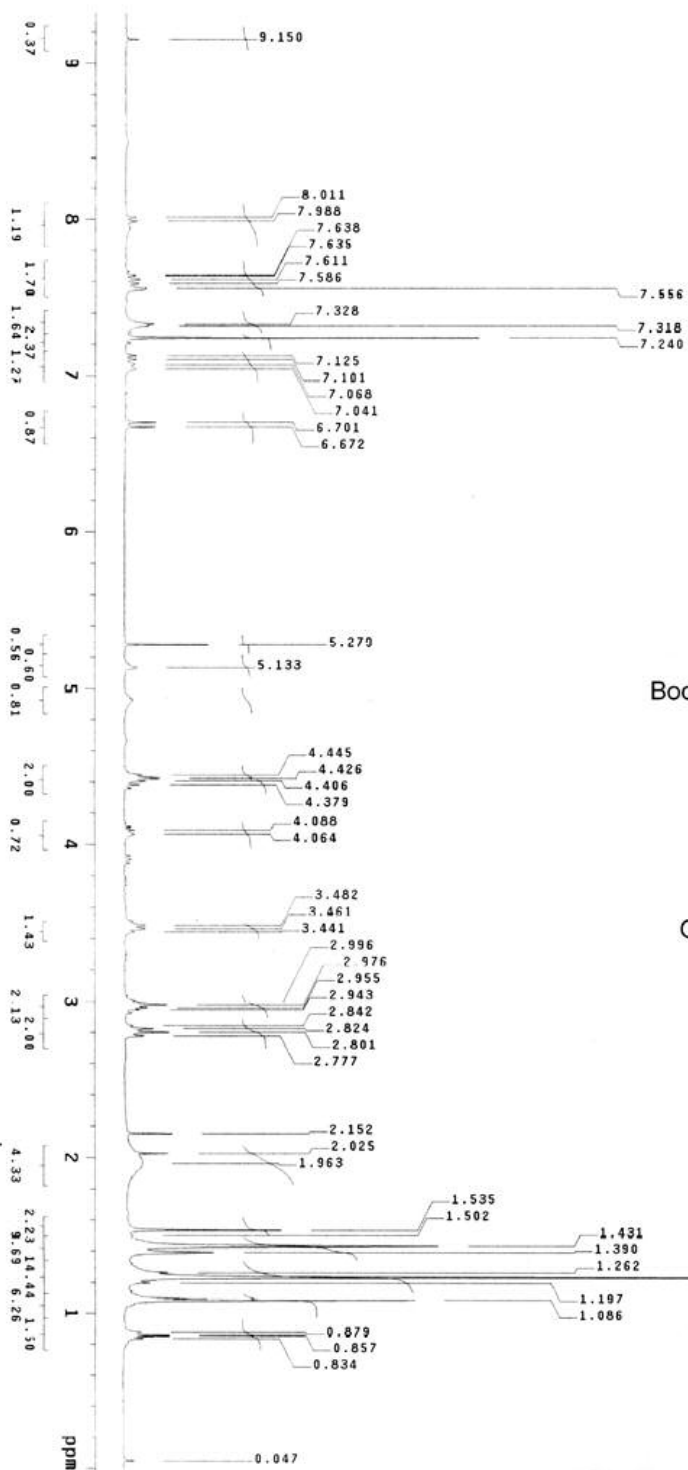




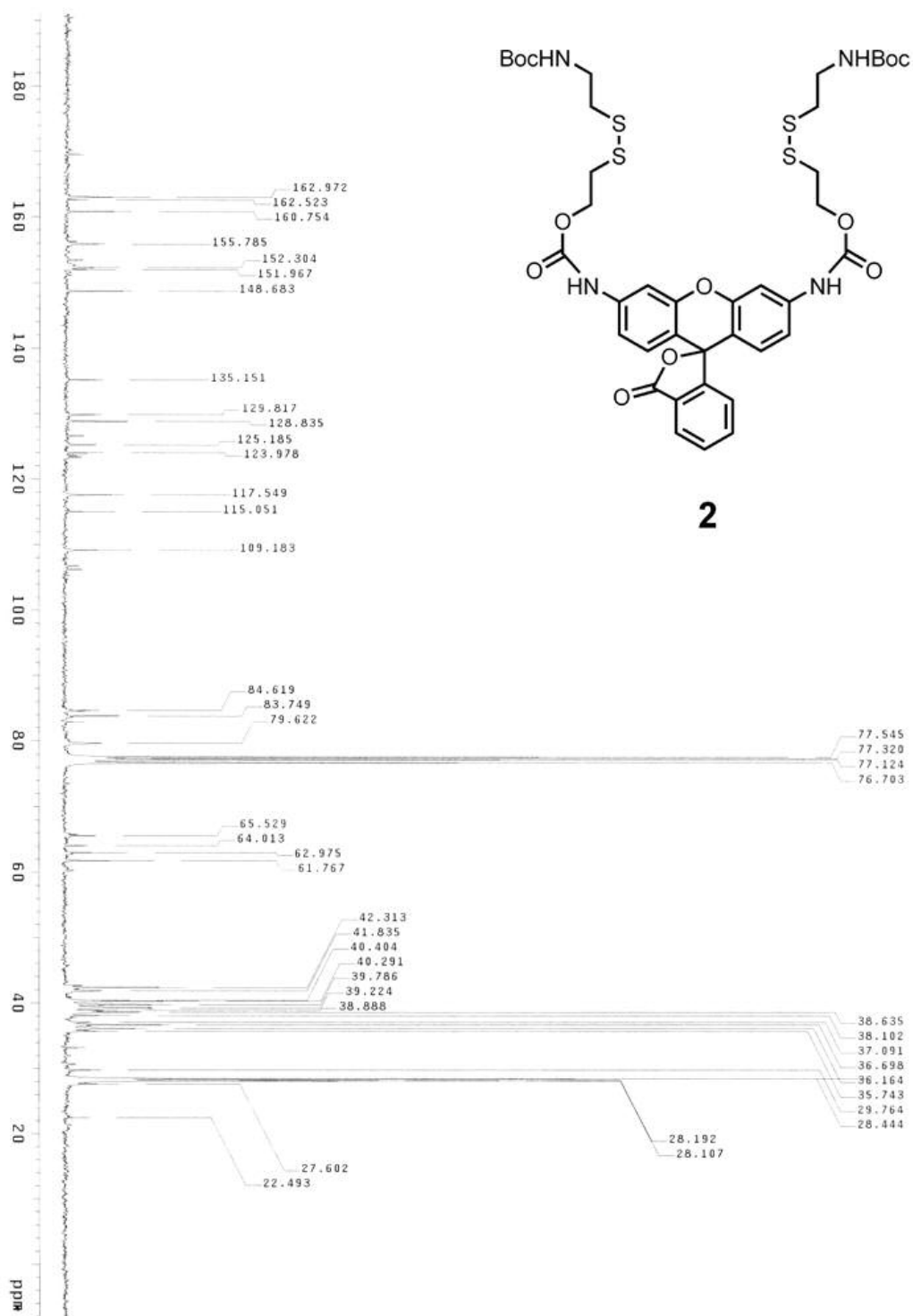
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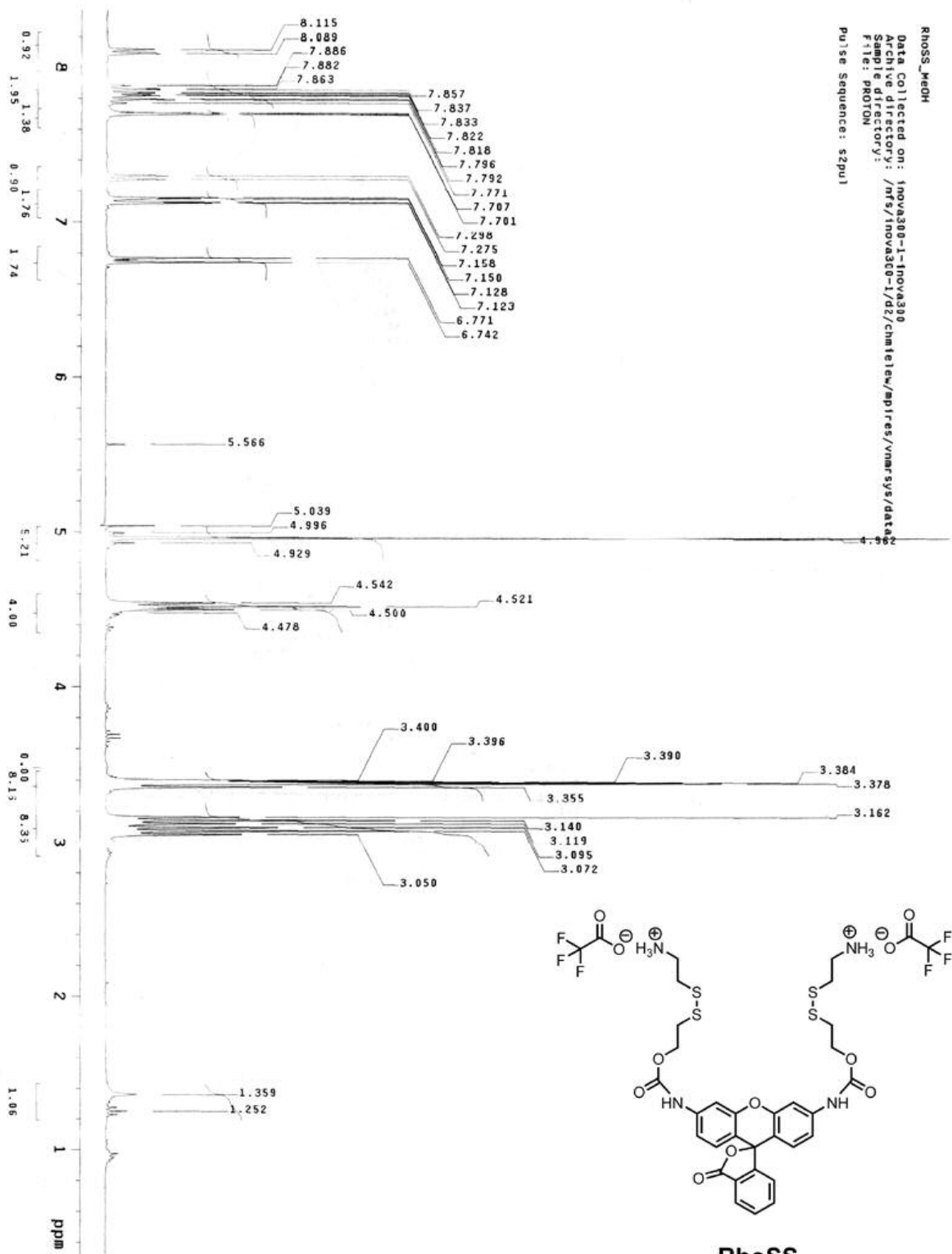


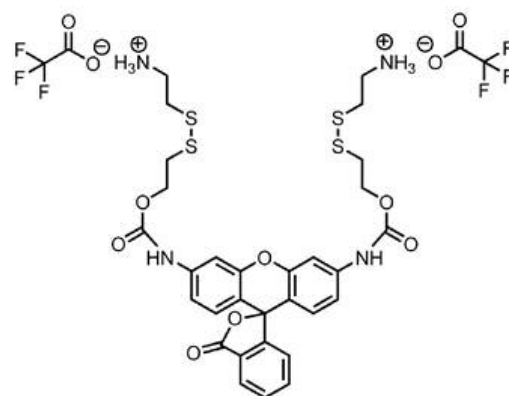
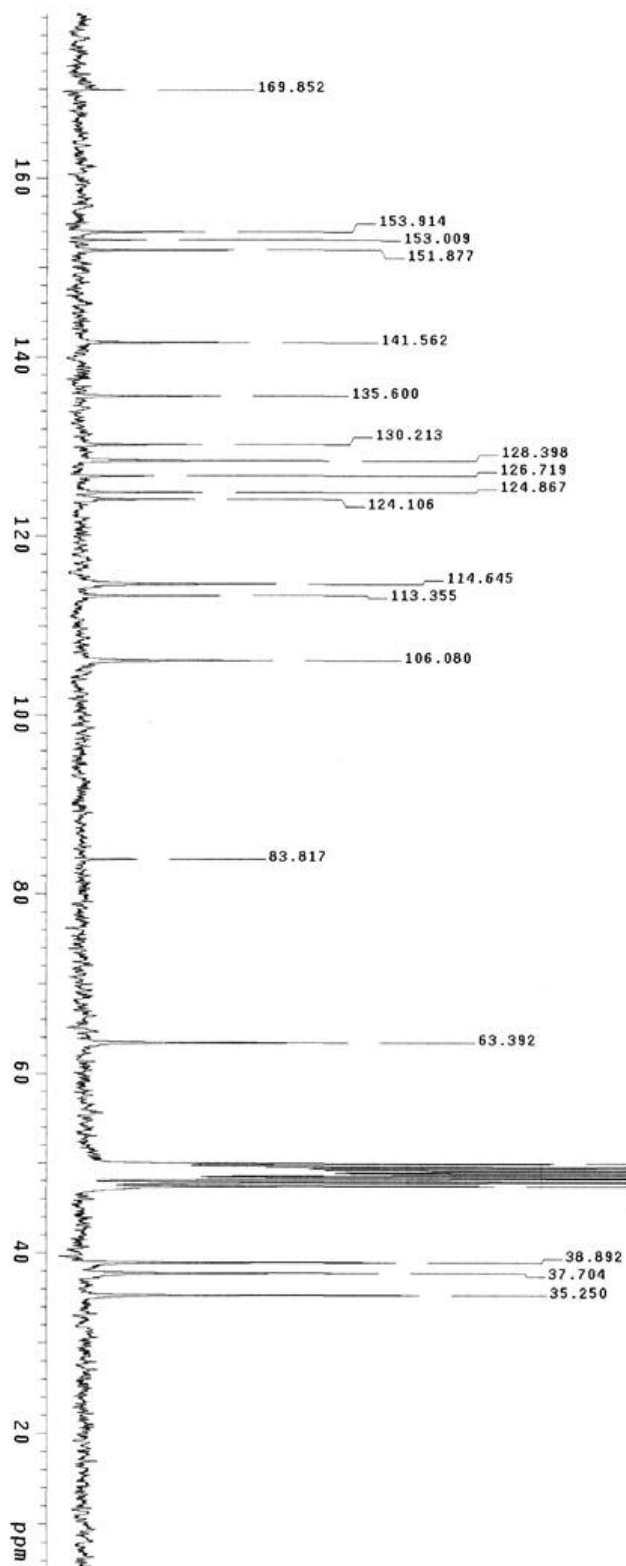
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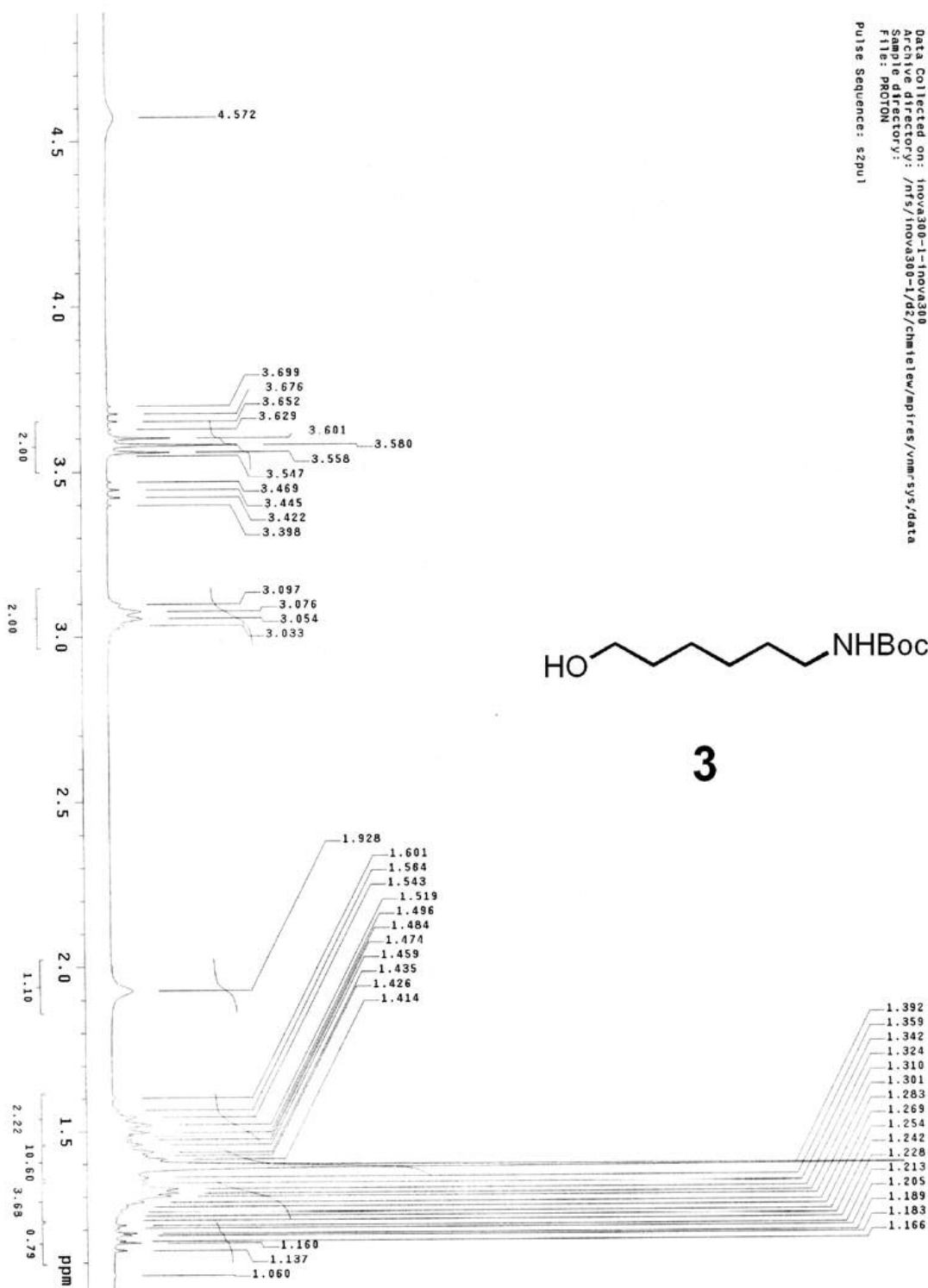


RhoSS

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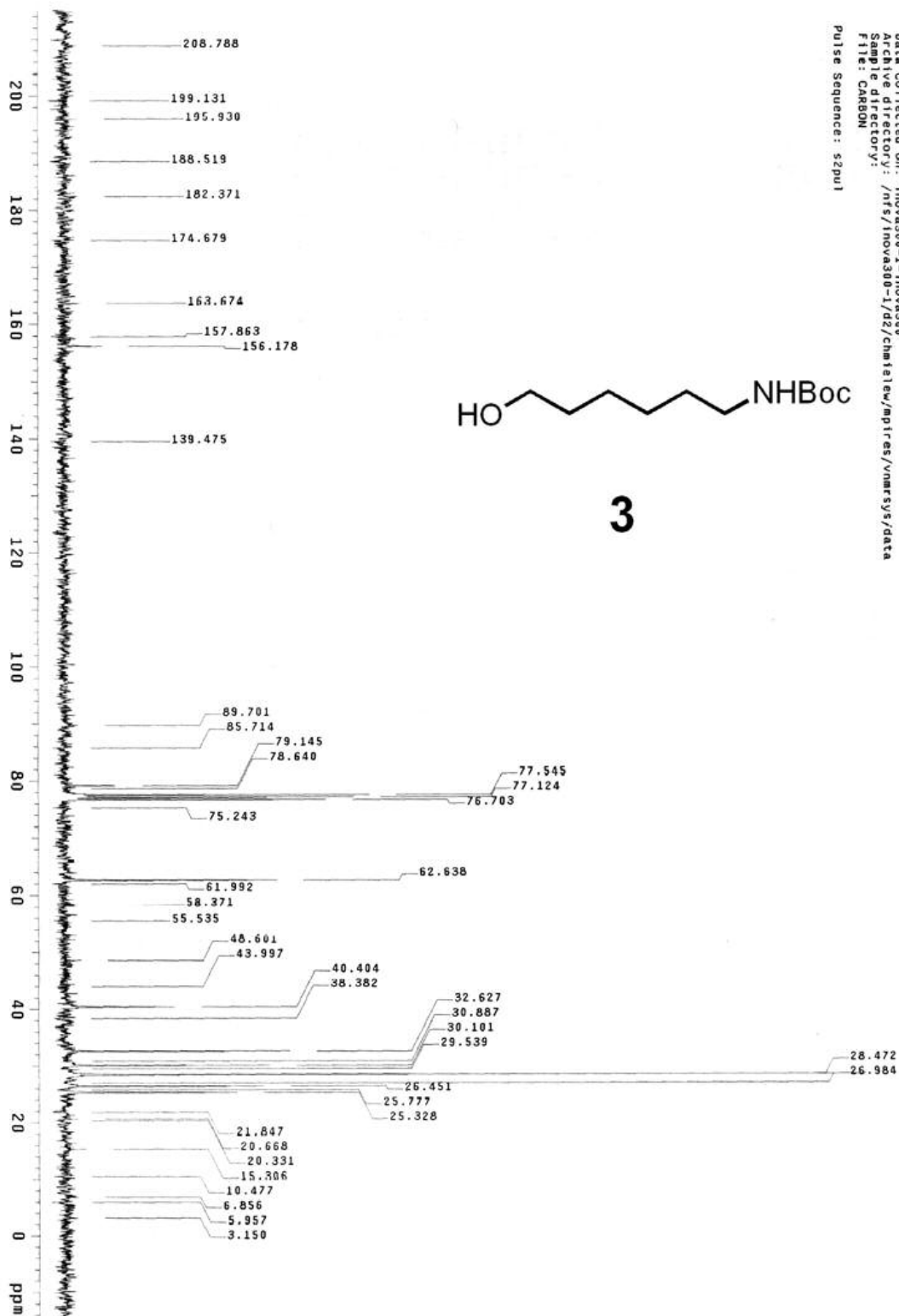
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3



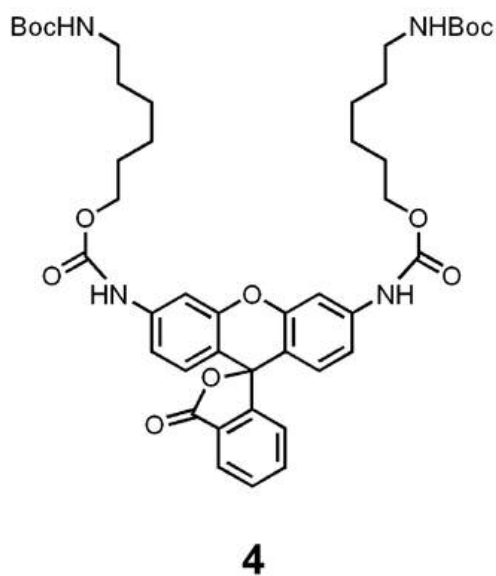
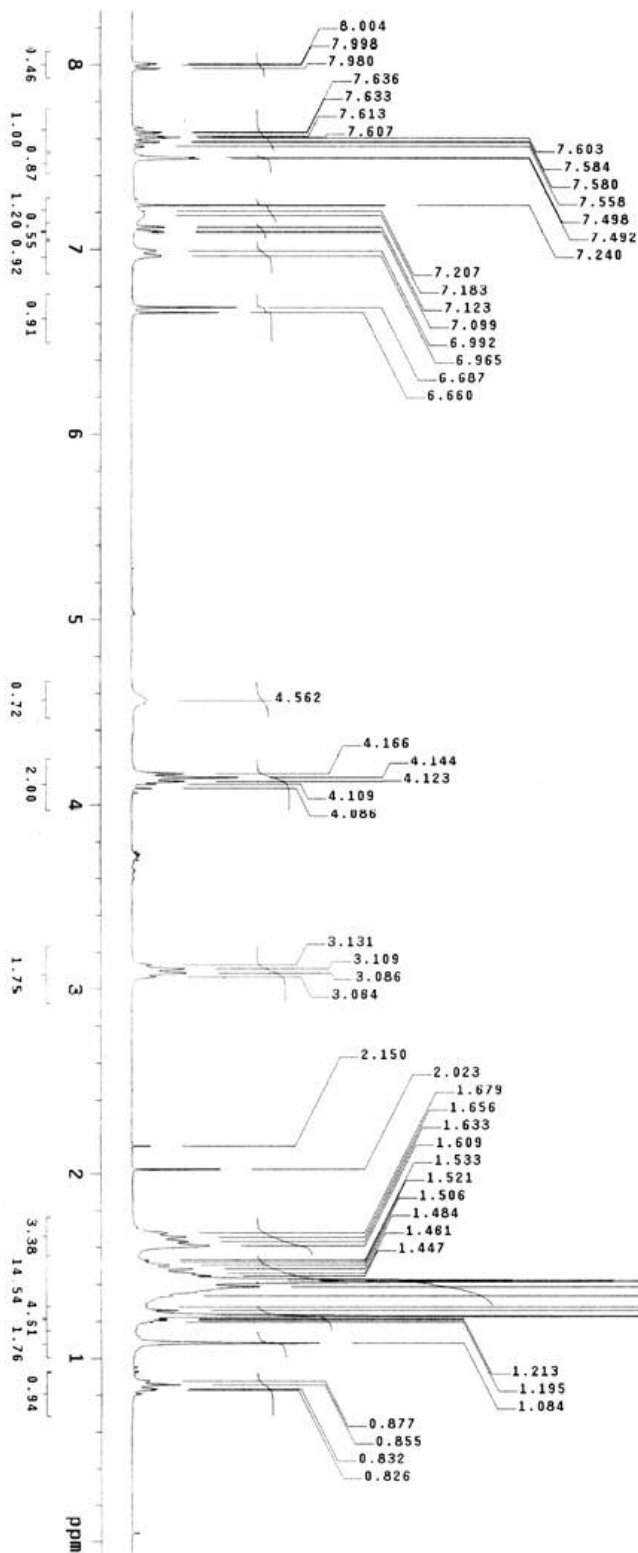
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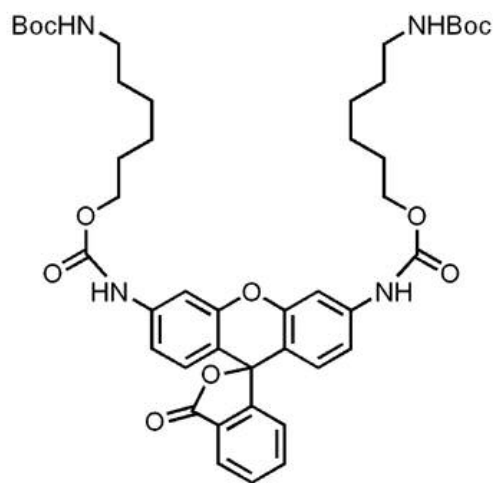


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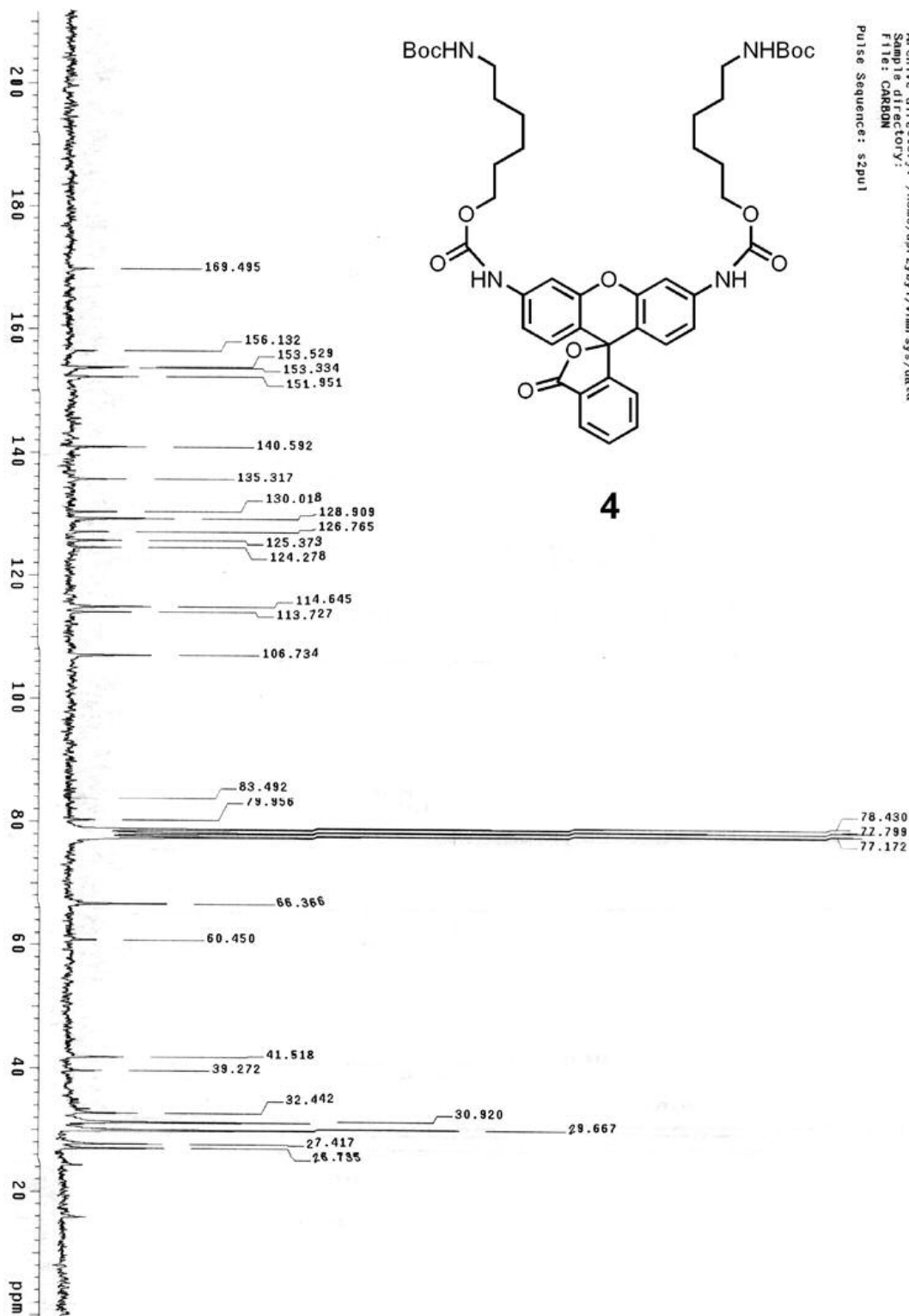
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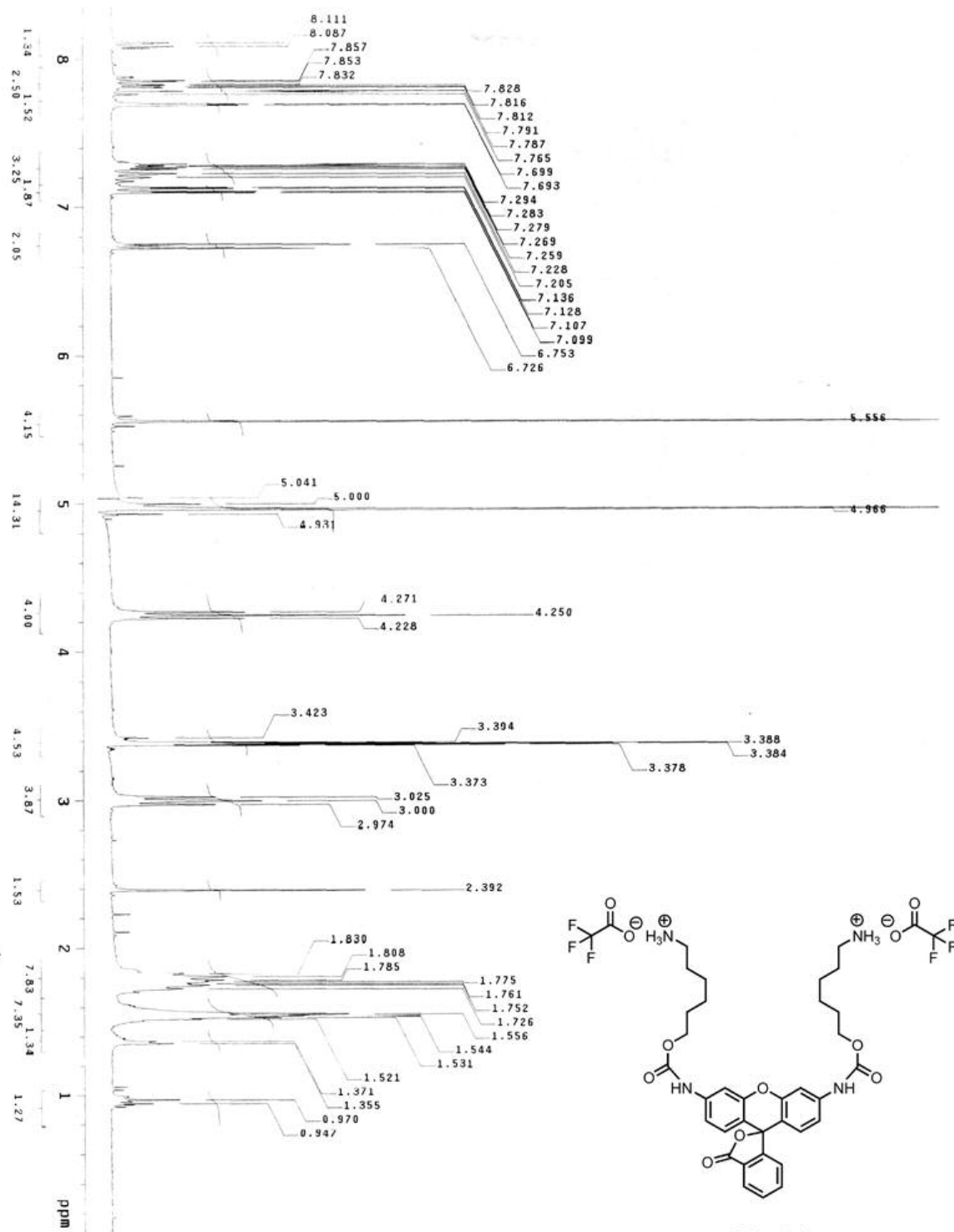


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4





RhoCC

