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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Ketoxime peptide ligations: oxidative couplings of alkoxyamines to *N*-aryl peptides

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1. General methods

General: Polystyrene Rink Amide resin (0.78 mmol/g) was purchased from Protein Technology, IncTM, and the manufacturer's reported loading of the resin was used in the calculation of the yields. Solid phase peptide synthesis (SPPS) was performed using an automated Biotage Syro WaveTM peptide synthesizer in 10 mL parallel reactors with PTFE frits. Incorporation of Boc-aminoxy acetic acid and *N*-aryl amino acids were performed manually in disposable filter columns with 20 μ M PE frit filters and caps purchased from Applied Separations (cat # 2413 and 2416 for 3 mL and 6 mL filter columns, respectively) with gentle agitation on a Thermo Fisher vortex mixer equipped with a microplate tray. Solution draining and washing of the resin was done by connecting the filter columns to a water aspirator vacuum *via* a waste trap. For heated reactions, a Fisher Scientific Ultrasonic bath 9.5L (Model # 15337425) was used to heat and agitate the resin. Analytical LCMS analyses were performed using an Agilent Technologies 1260 Infinity II series LCMS Single Quad instrument with ESI ion-source and positive mode ionization, equipped with a 5 μ M, 150 x 4.6 mm C18 Vydac column purchased from Mac-Mod Analytical, Inc (cat # 218TP5415). A flow rate of 0.5 mL/min and 5-95% gradient of CH₃CN [0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)] in water (0.1% TFA) over 12 minutes (total run time = 22 minutes) were used for all LCMS analyses. Peptides were purified on a preparative HPLC (Agilent 218 purification system) using a preparative column (10-20 μ M, 250 mm x 22 mm, C18 Vydac column, cat # 218TP101522) at a flow rate of 10 mL/min with gradients of CH₃CN [0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)] in water (0.1% TFA) over 30 minutes (total run time = 60 minutes).

All solution phase reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware sealed with microwave caps or rubber septa and were stirred with Teflon-coated magnetic stir bars. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was dried by passage over a column of activated alumina (JC Meyers Solvent System). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Silicycle silica gel 60 F-254 precoated plates (0.25 mm) and were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) and/or submersion in aqueous ninhydrin solution. Samples were purified using a Biotage[®] Isolera One, employing polypropylene cartridges preloaded with silica gel (25 micron) and were eluted with UV detection (254, 280 nm). Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra (¹H, ¹³C) were recorded on a 600 MHz Bruker spectrometer at 24 °C for compounds **6-8** and a 700 MHz Bruker spectrometer for ketoximes **4b-c** and **17-19**. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm, δ scale) and are referenced to residual protium in the NMR solvent (CHCl₃, δ 7.26). Data are represented as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constant in Hertz, and integration. Chemical shifts for ¹³C NMR spectra are recorded in parts per million (ppm, δ scale) and are referenced to the central peak of deuteriochloroform (δ 77.16). Ketoximes **4b-d** and **17-19** were prepared as 1-3 mM solutions in D₂O or CD₃OD. ¹H NMR for the ketoximes **4b-d** and **17-19** were run with water suppression using Bruker's noesygppr1d experiment method. All spectra were obtained with complete proton decoupling. Infrared (IR) spectra were collected on a Thermo Scientific Nicolet iS5 FTIR instrument using attenuated total reflectance (ATR) mode and signals are reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm⁻¹). Only selected IR frequencies are reported. Melting points were obtained on a Mettler Toledo MP50 One Click Melting Point System.

Reagents: Amino acids, *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIEA), triisopropylsilane (TIPS), bromoacetic acid, and diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC) were purchased from Chem Impex Int'l, Inc. Reagents such as piperidine, *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride, 1,2-ethanedithiol, *N*-hydroxysuccinimide, *p*-anisidine, *N,N*-dimethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine, 2-bromopropionic acid, 2-bromohexanoic acid, 2-bromovaleric acid, 2-bromododecanoic acid and 2-bromooctanoic acid were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Sodium hydroxide, ammonium acetate, glacial acetic acid,

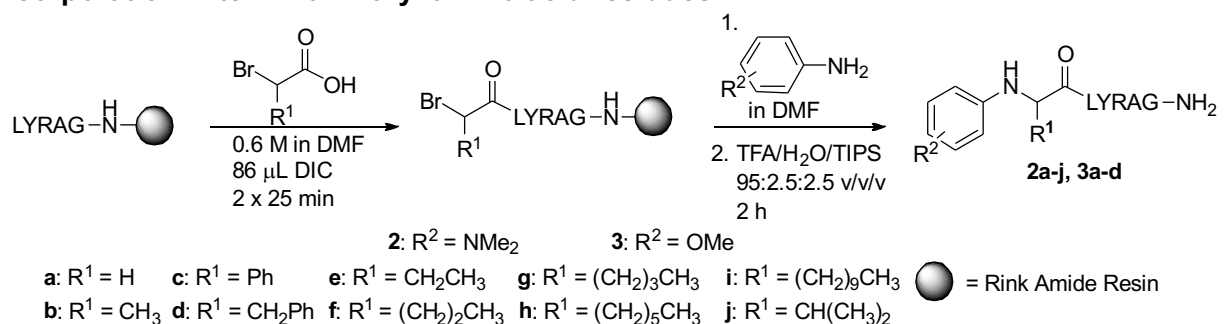
potassium phosphate monobasic and dibasic, trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), disodium ethylenediaminetetraacetate (EDTA) and solvents were purchased from Fisher Chemical. *N,N,N',N'*-Tetramethyl-*O*-(1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)uronium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU) was purchased from Oakwood Chemicals. 2-bromo-3-phenylpropionic acid was purchased from Matrix Scientific. *Tert*-butyl bromoacetate, 2-bromobutyric acid, 2-bromo-3-methylbutyric acid, DL- α -bromophenylacetic acid, and phosphoric acid (85% in water) were purchased from Acros Organics. *Tert*-butyl 2-bromopropanoate was purchased from TCI America. All chemicals were used as received without further purification. Tris (1.0 M, catalog # AAJ60636K2), TEA (0.2 M, catalog # AAJ61319AK), HEPES (1.0 M, catalog # AAJ60712AK), TES (0.2 M, catalog # AAJ61350AE), PIPES (1.0 M, catalog # AAJ62494AK), Phosphate (0.5 M, catalog # AAJ63349AK), MOPS (1.0 M, catalog # AAJ61843AK), Tricine (0.5 M, catalog # AAJ62672AE), Bicine (0.5 M, catalog # AAJ60494AE), and imidazole (0.5 M, catalog # AAJ63496AE) buffers and *o*-boric acid were all purchased from Alfa Aesar.

2. Experimental Procedures and Characterization Data

Fmoc-based SPPS: Fmoc deprotection and HBTU couplings

Peptide syntheses were performed on Polystyrene Rink Amide resin (0.78 mmol/g) using standard manual solid phase peptide synthesis protocols (SPPS) on an automated shaker or using a Biotage Syro WaveTM peptide synthesizer. Couplings of amino acids (3 equiv) were performed in DMF using HBTU (3 equiv) as coupling reagent and DIEA (6 equiv) as base. Fmoc deprotections were performed by treating the resin with 20% piperidine in DMF (v/v) for 5 minutes, followed by treatment with a fresh solution of 20% piperidine in DMF (v/v) for 15 minutes. Resin was washed after each coupling and deprotection reaction with DMF (3 x 1 mL). Prior to cleavage from the resin or storage, resin was washed with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 1 mL).

Incorporation *N*-terminal *N*-aryl amino acid residues



Peptides **2a** and **3a** (R¹ = H) were synthesized based on previous methods.¹ Peptides **2b-j** and **3b-d** were synthesized using slightly modified procedures. Specifically, resin-bound Fmoc-LYRAG (**1**, 100 mg, 0.078 mmol) was transferred to a 3 mL disposable filter column, treated with 1 mL of a 20% piperidine in DMF solution (v/v) and gently agitated for 5 minutes, followed by another 15 minutes incubation with fresh reagent (1 mL). The resin was washed with DMF (5 x 1 mL) and treated sequentially with a 0.6 M solution of the corresponding racemic α -substituted bromoacetic acid derivatives in DMF (1 mL, 0.6 mmol) and 86 μ L of *N,N*-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC, 0.56 mmol) for 25 minutes. The bromoacetylation procedure was repeated a second time with fresh reagent and the resin was washed with DMF (5 x 1 mL). The resin was then treated with a 2 M solution of 4-(dimethylamino)aniline or 4-methoxyaniline in DMF for 3 hours at room temperature. For peptides **2d** and **3d** (R¹ = CH₂Ph), an additional 3 hours with fresh reagents at

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room temperature was required. For peptide **2j** ($R = \text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$), the displacement required heating with sonication to 60°C for 24 h.

Synthesis of aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG

Peptide aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG (**16**) was synthesized based on the previous methods.¹⁻² (Boc-aminooxy)acetic acid (60 mg, 0.31 mmol, 4 equiv), DIC (48 μL , 0.31 mmol, 4 equiv) and *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (36 mg, 0.31 mmol, 4 equiv) were dissolved in DMF (1 mL) and pre-mixed for 5 minutes in a 4 mL vial. The solution was then transferred to the pre-swelled GRGDSGG resin (100 mg, 0.078 mmol) and allowed to agitate for 1 h at room temperature.

Note: As previously reported, care must be taken to avoid addition of base during activation and coupling of (Boc-aminooxy)acetic acid to prevent overacylation.³ Cleavage from the resin should be done using TFA/EDT/H₂O/TIPS (94:2.5:2.5:1, v/v/v/v). Once cleaved from solid support, aminooxyacetyl-terminated peptides should be manipulated in an acetone-free laboratory to avoid side reactions, and pooling and freezing of HPLC fractions must be done immediately.⁴⁻⁶

Test cleavage of resin-bound peptides

A small aliquot of resin (1-5 mg) was washed with CH₂Cl₂ to remove traces of DMF, drained, and treated with a freshly made solution of TFA/H₂O/TIPS (95:2.5:2.5, v/v/v, 0.2 mL) for 2 h at room temperature in a 1 mL disposable PP fritted cartridge. For the aminooxyacetyl-terminated peptide, a freshly made solution of TFA/EDT/H₂O/TIPS (94:2.5:2.5:1, v/v/v/v, 0.2 mL) was used for the cleavage instead. The cleavage solution was collected by filtering the resin through the PP fritted cartridge. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness and the crude peptide was precipitated twice with cold ether (1 mL) followed by decanting. The pellet (crude peptide sample) was dissolved in 1:1 MeCN/H₂O v/v (1 mg/mL) and subjected to LCMS analysis.

Full cleavage of resin-bound peptides

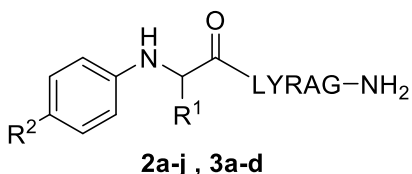
The resin-bound peptide was washed with CH₂Cl₂ to remove traces of DMF, drained, transferred into a 20 mL scintillation glass vial, and treated a freshly made solution of TFA/H₂O/TIPS (95:2.5:2.5, v/v/v, 4 mL). Aminooxy-terminated peptides were treated with a freshly made solution of TFA/EDT/H₂O/TIPS (94:2.5:2.5:1, v/v/v/v, 4 mL). The vial was capped and agitated for 2 hours at room temperature on an orbital shaker. The cleavage mixture was filtered through a disposable, PP fritted cartridge into a 50 mL falcon tube containing cold ether (~30 mL). Following centrifugation using a pulse method for 20 seconds (x 3), the ether was decanted and the peptide pellet was suspended in 1:1 MeCN/H₂O v/v. The sample was frozen and lyophilized.

Analysis and purification of peptides **2a-j**, **3a-d**, and aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG

Crude peptides **2a-j**, **3a-d**, and aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **9** were analyzed and characterized by LCMS as described in the General Methods. Following gradient optimization, the peptides were purified by preparative HPLC as described in the General Methods. Peptide **2a-b** were purified using a gradient of 10-70% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). Peptides **2e-g**, **j** and **3a-b** were purified using a gradient of 20-80% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). Peptides **2c-d** were purified using a gradient of 25-80% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). Peptides **2h** and **3c** were purified using a gradient of 30-80% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). Peptides **2i** was purified using a gradient of 40-80% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). Aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG was purified using a gradient of 1-10% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). HPLC fractions containing the desired peptide product were pooled, frozen

immediately and lyophilized. Characterization data for all peptides can be found in Table S1 below. LCMS chromatograms can be found starting on p.S13.

Table S1. Characterization data for *N*-aryl amino acid-terminated peptides and aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG.



Peptide	crude purity (%) ^a	purity (%) ^b	yield (%) ^c	<i>m/z</i> [M + H] ⁺ (calcd)	<i>m/z</i> [M + H] ⁺ (obsd)	Retention time (min)
2a: R ¹ = H, R ² = NMe ₂	74	>99	20	754.4359	754.4350	7.74
2b: R ¹ = Me, R ² = NMe ₂	89	>99	52	768.4515	768.4497	7.76
2c: R ¹ = Ph, R ² = NMe ₂	95	96	42	415.7372 ^f	415.7356 ^f	8.65/8.84
2d: R ¹ = CH ₂ Ph, R ² = NMe ₂	96	>99	29	422.7451 ^f	422.7434 ^f	8.99
2e: R ¹ = CH ₂ CH ₃ , R ² = NMe ₂	56	>99	37	782.4599	782.7	8.09
2f: R ¹ = (CH ₂) ₂ CH ₃ , R ² = NMe ₂	74	>99	30	796.4828	796.4804	8.582
2g: R ¹ = (CH ₂) ₃ CH ₃ , R ² = NMe ₂	74	>99	31	405.7529 ^f	405.7514 ^f	9.038
2h: R ¹ = (CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃ , R ² = NMe ₂	79	>99	20	419.7685 ^f	419.7668 ^f	9.962
2i: R ¹ = (CH ₂) ₉ CH ₃ , R ² = NMe ₂	72	>99	22	447.7998 ^f	447.7987 ^f	11.744
2j: R ¹ = CH(CH ₃) ₂ , R ² = NMe ₂	65	>99	35	796.4828	796.4804	8.54
3a: R ¹ = H, R ² = OMe	65	99	41	763.3862 ^e	763.3798 ^e	8.78
3b: R ¹ = Me, R ² = OMe	54	>99	32	755.4199	755.4188	8.49/8.78
3c: R ¹ = Ph, R ² = OMe	92	>99	48	409.2214 ^f	409.2211 ^f	9.92/10.12
3d: R ¹ = CH ₂ Ph, R ² = OMe	92	99	28	416.2292 ^f	416.2289 ^f	10.06/10.21
Aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG	84	>99	26	677.2961	677.2955	4.11 ^d

^aUnless otherwise noted, analytical LCMS analyses were performed on a 5 μM, 150 x 4.6 mm C18 Vydac column from Mac-Mod Analytical, Inc (cat# 218TP5415) with a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min using a 12 min 5-95% linear gradient of MeCN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). The purity at 214 nm wavelength is reported in all cases. ^bRP-HPLC purity at 214 nm after purification. ^cYields after purification by RP-HPLC are based on resin loading. ^dLCMS analysis was performed using a 12 min 1-10% linear gradient of MeCN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). ^e [M + Na]⁺ detected. ^f [M + 2H]⁺ detected.

Oxime ligation reactions procedures

General: All of the ligation studies were performed based on optimized reaction conditions previously reported.¹ Fresh stock solutions were prepared in all cases and used immediately in the ligation reactions. The reagents were combined in a 4 mL glass vial with a small stir bar. Vials were either left uncapped exposed to air, or the solution was sparged with O₂ and left under a balloon filled with O₂. Small aliquots (100 μL) were periodically analyzed by LCMS to monitor the progress of the reaction. % Oxime conversions were calculated using areas obtained from peaks on LCMS traces at 214 nm, where % oxime conversion = [(area of oxime **4a-i**)/(area of **2a-i** + **4a-i**)] x 100.

Purification of ketoximes

Following the ligation reactions, ketoxime peptides **4b-d** and **17-19** (2 mL, 1 mM ketoximes in 100 mM phosphate buffer) were diluted 2-fold with 1: 1 CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) and water (0.1% TFA) prior to purification by preparative HPLC using a gradient of 30-90% CH₃CN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). The run was stopped once the product eluted. HPLC fractions containing the desired product were pooled, frozen immediately, and lyophilized.

Representative protocols for the oxime ligation reactions

A. Oxime ligation conditions for *N*-aryl peptides at pH 7.

The following procedure was used to generate the data presented in Table 1, entries 1-8 and Figure 1 of the manuscript.

The ligation conditions used for these analogs were based on previously optimized procedures for *N*-(*p*-Me₂N-Ph)glycine-LYRAG **2a**.¹ Briefly, a 2 mM stock solution of peptide **2b-i** or **3b-d** and a 10 mM stock solution of *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 6.5, 7, 7.5, 8) or 0.1 M ammonium acetate buffer (pH 4.5 and 5.5) were prepared separately. In a 4 mL vial, 1 mL of the peptide stock solution (2 mM) was mixed with 1 mL of the *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride stock solution (10 mM) to give a final concentration of peptide and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride of 1 mM and 5 mM, respectively. The solution was then sparged with oxygen for 20 seconds before sealing the reaction mixture under an oxygen balloon. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots and analyzing them immediately by LCMS without prior quenching. Appearance of *E* and *Z* ketoxime products was observed as two distinct peaks:

Ketoxime **4b**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.25, 10.85 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₆H₅₃N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 753.4, found m/z 753.6.

Ketoxime **4c**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.89 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₁H₅₅N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 815.4, found m/z 815.7.

Ketoxime **4d**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 11.25, 11.78 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₂H₅₇N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 829.4, found m/z 829.7.

Ketoxime **4e**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.45, 11.10 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₇H₅₅N₉O₉ [M + H]⁺ 767.4, found m/z 767.7.

Ketoxime **4f**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.86, 11.49 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₈H₅₇N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 781.4, found m/z 781.7.

Ketoxime **4g**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 11.26, 11.89 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₉H₅₉N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 795.4, found m/z 795.7.

Ketoxime **4h**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 12.13, 12.70 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₁H₆₃N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 823.5, found m/z 823.7.

Ketoxime **4i**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 13.87, 14.40 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₅H₇₁N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 879.5, found m/z 879.8.

Ketoxime **4j**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.81, 11.46 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₈H₅₇N₁₀O₈ [M + H]⁺ 781.4, found m/z 781.7.

*Note: It is essential that these reactions are not only performed under an oxygen balloon, but that the solution is also sparged with oxygen for ~30 seconds prior to sealing the reaction under an O₂ atmosphere. This appears to be especially critical when the concentration of the alkoxyamine ≥ 5 mM.*¹

B. Oxime ligation conditions for *N*-(*p*-MeO-Ph)-amino acid-terminated peptide analogs

The following procedures were used to generate the data presented in Table 1, entries 5-8 of the manuscript.

At pH 4.5:

The ligation conditions used for these analogs were based on previously optimized procedures for *N*-(*p*-MeOPh)glycine-LYRAG **3a**.¹ Briefly, 2 mM stock solutions of peptide (**3b-d**) and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride were prepared separately using 0.1 M ammonium acetate buffer pH 4.5. In a 4 mL vial, 1 mL of the peptide stock solution (2 mM) was mixed with 1 mL of the *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride stock solution (2 mM) to give a final concentration of 1 mM for both reagents. The samples were left stirring open to air for up to 24h. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots. Ketoximes **4b-d** were *not detected*.

Using 1 mM potassium ferricyanide:

The ligation conditions used for these analogs were based on previously optimized procedures for *N*-(*p*-MeOPh)glycine-LYRAG **3a**.¹ A 4 mM stock solution of peptide **3b-d**, 20 mM stock solution of *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride, and 4 mM stock solution of potassium ferricyanide were prepared separately in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7). In a 4 mL vial, 0.5 mL of the peptide stock solution (4 mM) was mixed with 0.5 mL of the *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride stock solution (20 mM). The resulting solution was diluted further with 0.5 mL of 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7), followed by addition of 0.5 mL of the K₃[Fe(CN)₆] stock solution (4 mM), to give final concentrations of peptide, *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride, and K₃[Fe(CN)₆] of 1 mM, 5 mM, and 1 mM, respectively. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots and analyzing them by LCMS, following dilution and quenching. The reactions were quenched with tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (TCEP) prior to LCMS analysis. Specifically, a 50 µL aliquot of the reaction mixture was treated with 50 µL of a 2 mM TCEP stock solution and the sample was vortexed for 20-30 seconds.

C. Control oxime ligation study using peptide **2b and EDTA.**

A 4 mM stock solution of peptide **2b**, a 40 mM stock solution of EDTA, and a 20 mM stock solution of *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7) were prepared separately in new vials. In a new 4 mL vial with a new stir bar, 0.5 mL of the peptide stock solution (4 mM) was mixed with 0.5 mL of the EDTA stock solution (40 mM) and 0.5 mL of the *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride stock solution (20 mM). The resulting solution was diluted further with 0.5 mL of the corresponding 0.1 M buffer to give a final concentration of peptide, EDTA, and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride of 1 mM, 10 mM, and 5 mM, respectively. The solution was then sparged with oxygen for 10 seconds before removing the exit needle and sealing the reaction mixture under an oxygen balloon. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots and analyzing them immediately by LCMS without prior quenching. Appearance of ketoxime **4b** was observed. See p. S33 for LCMS chromatogram.

D. Two step oxidation/ligation procedure

The following procedure was used to generate the data presented in Scheme 4 of the manuscript.

In a 4 mL vial, 1 mL of a 2 mM stock solution of peptide **2b-d** in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7) was prepared. The solution was then sparged with oxygen for 20 seconds

before sealing the reaction mixture under an oxygen balloon. After oxidation to the α -ketoamides (**5b-d**) was achieved (~24 h), 1 mL of the *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride stock solution (10 mM) was mixed with the peptide to give a final concentration of peptide and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride of 1 mM and 5 mM, respectively. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots and analyzing them immediately by LCMS without prior quenching.

E. Buffer salt effect with peptide analogs 2a-b.

The studies on the effect of buffer salt described in Figure 2b of the manuscript were conducted after noticing a significant decrease in reactivity upon changing from a phosphate buffer to a glycine-NaOH buffer at pH 8.5 (Table S2).

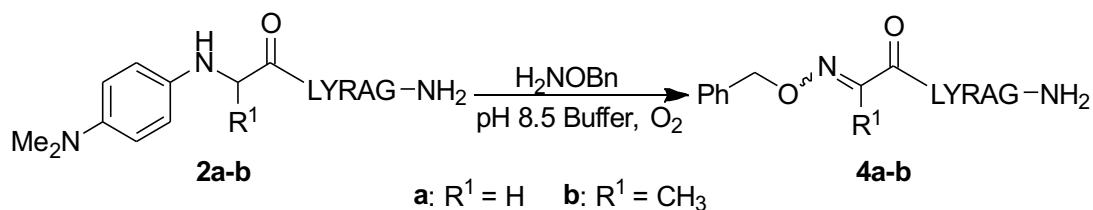


Table S2. Comparison of oxidative coupling conversions in different buffers at pH 8.5.

Peptide	buffer	% oxime at t = 24h
2a	Glycine NaOH	8
2a	Tris	75
2a	Britton-Robinson	92
2b	Glycine NaOH	0
2b	Tris	88
2b	Britton-Robinson	80

Studies described in Figure 2b of the manuscript:

Returning to a of pH 7.5, further studies on buffer salt composition were performed using the same procedure as described in A, using ten different buffers (Tris, TEA, HEPES, TES, PIPES, phosphate, MOPS, Tricine, Bicine, imidazole) with a final buffer concentration of 0.1 M. Premade buffers were purchased from Alfa Aesar through Fisher scientific at concentrations between 0.2-1.0 M and diluted to 0.1 M using ultrapure water from a Synergy UV water purification system (EMD Millipore). The Britton-Robinson “universal buffer” was made using phosphoric acid (85% in water), glacial acetic acid, and o-boric acid and varying amounts of sodium hydroxide following literature procedure to make buffers at pH 4.6, 7 and 8.5.⁷

Control studies were also done at pH 4.5 and pH 7 using the Britton-Robinson “universal buffer” to confirm reactivity despite changing the buffer composition (Table S3).

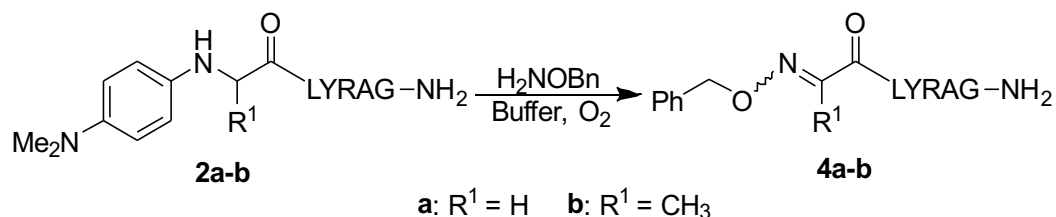
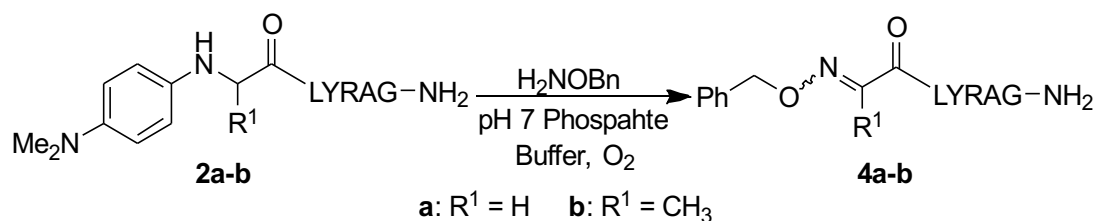


Table S3. Control studies to compare buffer composition while keeping pH constant.

Peptide	buffer	% oxime at t = 24h
2a	ammonium acetate, pH 4.5	20
2a	Britton-Robinson, pH 4.6	23
2a	potassium phosphate, pH 7	96
2a	Britton-Robinson, pH 7	96
2b	ammonium acetate, pH 4.5	9
2b	Britton-Robinson, pH 4.6	1
2b	potassium phosphate, pH 7	98
2b	Britton-Robinson, pH 7	91

F. Effect of phosphate buffer salt concentration with peptide analogs 2a-b.

To study the effect of buffer salt concentration using potassium phosphate buffer, a stock solution of 100 mM phosphate buffer pH 7 was diluted with ultrapure water to afford final concentration of 50 mM, 25 mM, 10 mM, 5 mM and 1 mM potassium phosphate in water. These solutions were used to monitor oxidative coupling reactions (Table S4).

**Table S4.** Comparative reactivity of **2a-b** with varying potassium phosphate buffer concentration at pH 7.

Peptide	buffer concentration	% oxime at t = 24h
2a	1 mM	8
2a	5 mM	19
2a	10 mM	89
2a	25 mM	99
2a	50 mM	99
2b	1 mM	0
2b	5 mM	0
2b	10 mM	3
2b	25 mM	83
2b	50 mM	99

G. Oxime ligation studies with 2a-b, h-i in buffer/EtOH solvent mixtures.

The following procedure was used to generate data presented in Table 2 and Figure 4 of the manuscript.

The studies were performed using the same procedure as described in A, but preparing the 2 mM stock solution of peptide **2a-b, h-j** using a mixture of ethanol and 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7) instead. For 5% EtOH solvent composition, 100 μL EtOH and 900 μL phosphate buffer were combined to make the peptide stock. For 10% EtOH solvent composition, 200 μL EtOH and 800 μL phosphate buffer were combined to prepare the peptide stock solution. For 15% EtOH solvent composition, 300 μL EtOH and 700 μL

phosphate buffer were combined to prepare the peptide stock solution. For 25% EtOH solvent composition, 500 μ L EtOH and 500 μ L phosphate buffer were combined to prepare the peptide stock solution. For 30% EtOH solvent composition, 600 μ L EtOH and 400 μ L phosphate buffer were combined to prepare the peptide stock solution. For 40% EtOH solvent composition, 800 μ L EtOH and 200 μ L phosphate buffer were combined to prepare the peptide stock solution. For 50% EtOH solvent composition, 1 mL EtOH was used to prepare the peptide stock solution. Studies were also done with peptide **2b** using MeCN instead of EtOH (Table S5).

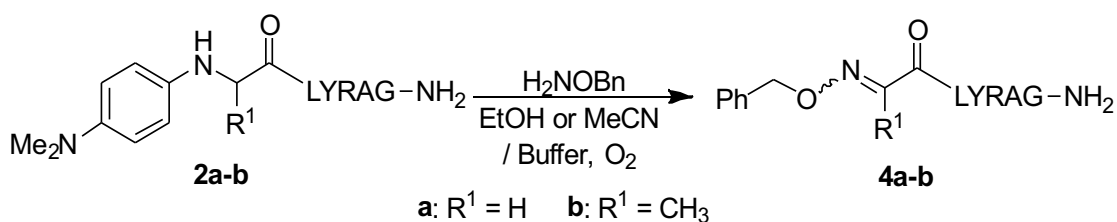
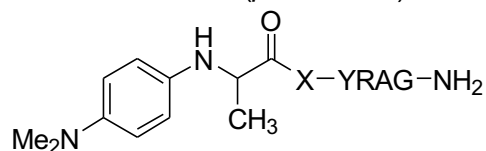


Table S5. Comparative reactivity for peptide **2b** in varying % MeCN vs EtOH in phosphate buffer pH 7.

% EtOH	% Oxime t = 24h	% MeCN	% Oxime t = 24h
5	99	5	97
10	96	10	93
15	96	15	87
25	52	25	55
30	34	30	42
40	20	40	39
50	0	50	27

H. Sequence Effects

Table S6. Characterization data for *N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)Ala-X-YRAG peptides



Peptide	crude purity (%) ^a	purity (%) ^b	yield (%) ^c	<i>m/z</i> [M + H] ⁺ (cald)	<i>m/z</i> [M + H] ⁺ (obsd)	Retention time (min)
X = Trp	88	98	57	841.4468	841.4441	8.08
X = Cys	79	85	43	758.3766	758.3743	7.17
X = Ser	80	>99	55	742.3995	742.3971	6.84
X = Lys	91	>99	65	783.4624	783.4602	6.80
X = Glu	83	>99	59	784.4100	784.4066	6.96
X = Gln	94	96	54	783.4260	783.4236	6.84

^aUnless otherwise noted, analytical LCMS analyses were performed on a 5 μ M, 150 x 4.6 mm C18 Vydac column from Mac-Mod Analytical, Inc (cat# 218TP5415) with a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min using a 12 min 5-95% linear gradient of MeCN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA). The purity at 214 nm wavelength is reported in all cases. ^bRP-HPLC purity at 214 nm after purification. ^cYields after purification by RP-HPLC are based on resin loading. ^dLCMS analysis was performed using a 12 min 1-10% linear gradient of MeCN (0.1% TFA) in water (0.1% TFA).

The studies were performed using the same procedure as described in A.

Ketoxime **10**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.26, 10.70 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{41}H_{52}N_{11}O_8$ $[M + H]^+$ 826.4, found m/z 826.6.

Ketoxime **11**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 10.42, 10.70 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{33}H_{47}N_{10}O_8S$ $[M + H]^+$ 742.3, found m/z 742.6.

Ketoxime **12**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.77, 9.36 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{33}H_{47}N_{10}O_9$ $[M + H]^+$ 727.3, found m/z 727.6.

Ketoxime **13** HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.30, 8.90 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{36}H_{54}N_{11}O_8$ $[M + H]^+$ 768.4, found m/z 768.6.

Ketoxime **14**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.85, 9.46 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{35}H_{49}N_{10}O_{10}$ $[M + H]^+$ 769.4, found m/z 769.6.

Ketoxime **15**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.59, 9.20 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{35}H_{50}N_{11}O_9$ $[M + H]^+$ 768.4, found m/z 768.6.

I. Peptide-peptide ligation.

A 2 mM stock solution of peptide **2b-d** and a 20 mM stock solution of aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG (**16**) were prepared separately in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7). In a 4 mL vial, 1 mL of peptide **2b-d** stock solution (2 mM) was mixed with 1 mL of the aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **16** stock solution (20 mM) give final concentrations of 1 mM and 10 mM for peptides **2b-d** and **16**, respectively. The solution was then sparged vigorously with oxygen for 20 seconds, followed by reducing bubbling of O_2 to a minimum flow for 12-24 h. Samples were tested at different time points by taking aliquots and analyzing them by LCMS, following dilution. Samples were analyzed immediately without quenching. Appearance of oxime was observed:

Ketoxime **17**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 7.70 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{53}H_{84}N_{19}O_{20}$ $[M + H]^+$ 1307.4, found m/z 1307.7.

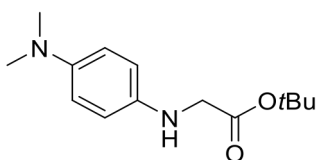
Ketoxime **18**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.31 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{58}H_{85}N_{19}O_{20}$ $[M + H]^+$ 1369.4, found m/z 1369.9.

Ketoxime **19**: HPLC (5-95% MeCN, 12 min gradient) retention time = 8.63 min; LCMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{59}H_{87}N_{19}O_{20}$ $[M + H]^+$ 1382.5 found m/z 1382.9.

*These reactions were left under a flow of oxygen due to the excess of aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **16**. Previous work showed that when using > 5 mM alkoxyamine concentrations, sparging of the solution with O_2 is critical.¹*

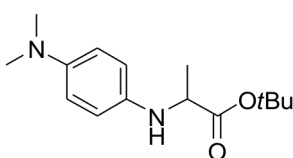
Solution phase synthesis procedures

4-(*p*-dimethylamino-phenyl)glycine *tert*-butyl ester (6)



4-Dimethylamino-aniline (1.32 g, 9.69 mmol, 3.78 equiv) and sodium acetate (210.7 mg, 2.57 mmol, 1.00 equiv) were added to an oven-dried 5-mL microwave vial with a stir bar. The vial was capped and flushed with argon. Dry tetrahydrofuran (3.41 mL) and *tert*-butyl bromoacetate (380.0 μ L, 2.57 mmol, 1.00 equiv) were added to the vial and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under an argon atmosphere overnight. The crude was transferred to a round-bottom flask, evaporated to dryness, and purified by automated flash-column chromatography eluted with a 15% ethyl acetate-hexanes to 46 % ethyl acetate-hexanes gradient to afford the product as a red oil (462.7 mg, 72% yield). **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.75 (d, *J* = 6.74 Hz, 2H), δ 6.60 (d, *J* = 6.60 Hz, 2H) δ 3.91 (br s, 1H), δ 3.76 (s, 2H), δ 2.83 (s, 6H), δ 1.49 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.71, 144.45, 139.72, 115.70, 114.56, 81.59, 47.67, 42.13, 28.09. **IR** (neat) 3355, 2975, 2930, 1732, 1514, 1226, 1148. **HRMS** calculated for [C₁₄H₂₂N₂O₂]: *m/z* [M+1]⁺ = 250.1676, observed *m/z* [M]⁺ = 250.1671. **R_f** = 0.29 (30% ethyl acetate-hexanes).

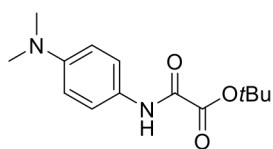
4-(*p*-dimethylamino-phenyl)alanine *tert*-butyl ester (8)



4-Dimethylamino-aniline (600.0 mg, 4.41 mmol, 2.00 equiv) and sodium acetate (180.7 mg, 2.20 mmol, 1.00 equiv) were added to a 10-mL round-bottom flask prior to the addition of ethanol (1.47 mL) and *tert*-butyl 2-bromopropanoate (294.9 μ L, 2.20 mmol, 1.00 equiv). The round-bottom flask was capped with a septum and flushed with argon. The solution was allowed to stir under an atmosphere of argon at room temperature overnight. The crude solution was condensed to dryness before the product was isolated by flash-column chromatography eluted with a 10% ethyl acetate-hexanes to 40% ethyl acetate-hexanes gradient. This afforded a brown solid (386.9 mg, 84% yield). **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.71 (d, *J* = 6.71 Hz, 2H), δ 6.60 (d, *J* = 6.60 Hz, 2H) δ 3.94 (q, *J* = 3.93 Hz, 1H), δ 2.82 (s, 6H), δ 1.42 (s, 9H), δ 1.41 (d, *J* = 1.40 Hz, 3 H). **¹³C NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.31, 144.58, 139.17, 115.62, 115.39, 81.15, 53.86, 42.15, 28.04, 19.12. **IR** (neat) 3385, 2973, 2907, 2787, 1704, 1518, 1159, 1050, 1035. **HRMS** calculated for [C₁₅H₂₄N₂O₂] *m/z* [M+1]⁺ = 264.1832, observed *m/z* [M]⁺ = 264.1835. **R_f** = 0.28 (20% ethyl acetate-hexanes). **MP** = 51.6 °C – 53.8 °C.

General procedures used to generate the data in Table S7:

tert-butyl 2-((4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetate (7)



4-(*p*-dimethylamino-phenyl)glycine *tert*-butyl ester **7** (25.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was added to a 4-mL vial with a stir bar. Solvent (1.00 mL) was added to the vial and the solution was sparged with oxygen for 30 seconds. The solution was allowed to stir under an oxygen atmosphere for 24 hours, unless otherwise noted. The crude solution was condensed to dryness before the product was isolated by flash-column chromatography (eluted with 5% ethyl acetate-hexanes to 40% ethyl acetates-hexanes gradient) affording a yellow oil (11.1 mg, 45 % yield). **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), δ 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.37 Hz, 2H), δ 6.68 (d, *J* = 6.68 Hz, 2H), δ 3.01 (s, 6H), δ 1.58 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.32, 151.27, 145.74, 137.11, 124.15, 112.10, 82.16, 40.44, 28.18. **IR** (neat) 3384, 2973, 2932, 2787, 1704, 1518, 1159, 1050, 1035. **HRMS** calculated for [C₁₄H₂₀N₂O₃] calculated *m/z* [M + H]⁺ = 265.1547, observed *m/z* [M + H]⁺ = 265.1544. **R_f** = 0.34 (20% ethyl-acetate hexanes).

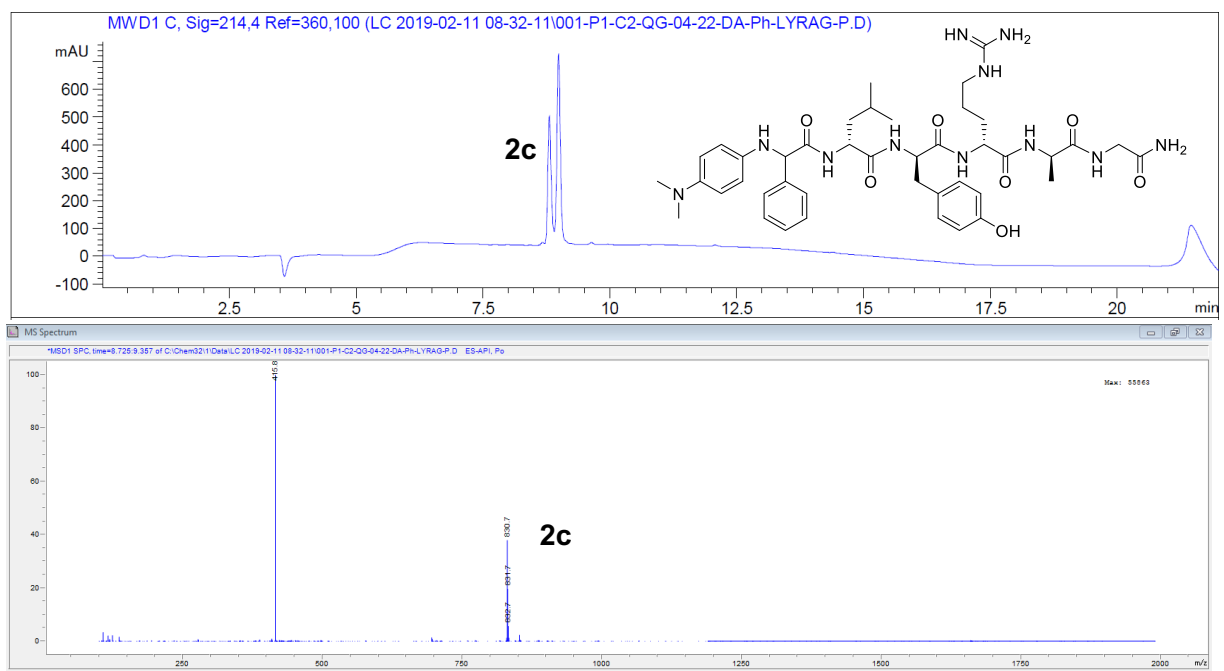
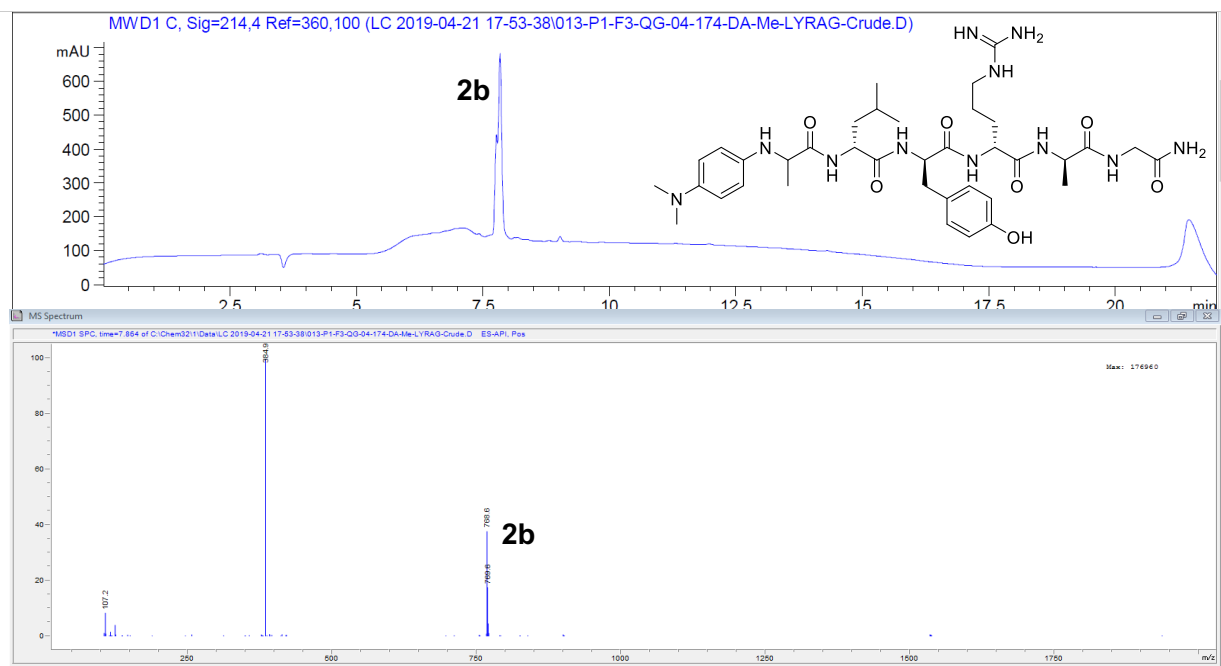
The following is numerical data that pertains to Scheme 5 in the manuscript. The minor peaks that indicate further oxidation are unidentified at this time.

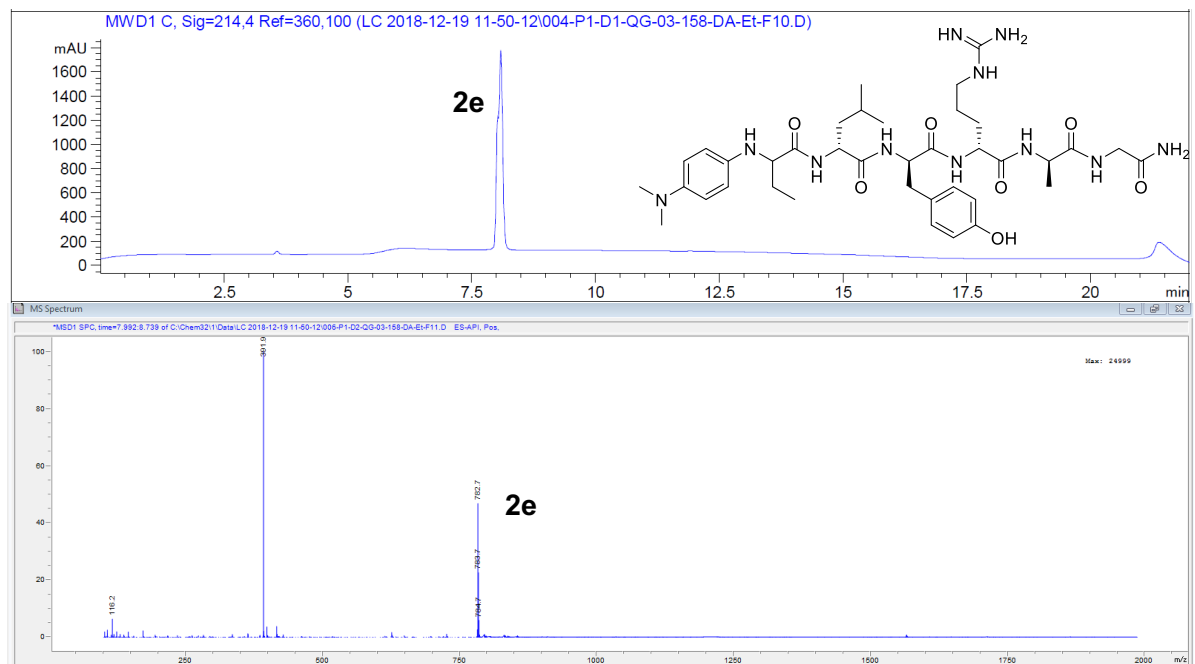
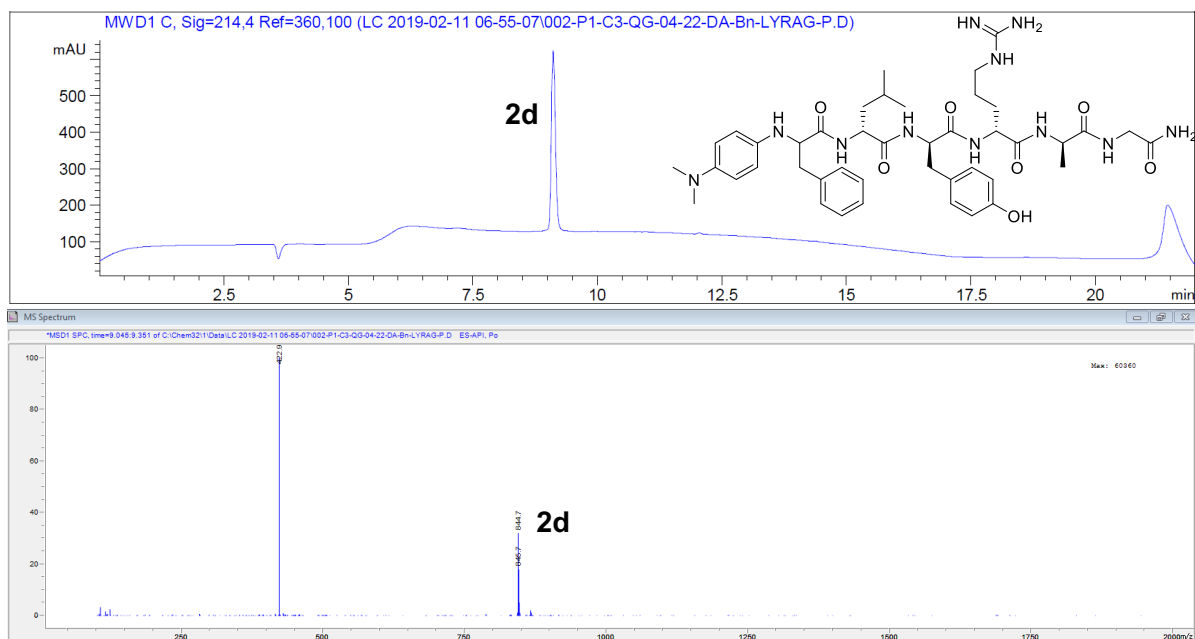
Table S7. *N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)glycine *tert*-butyl ester oxidation in organic solvents

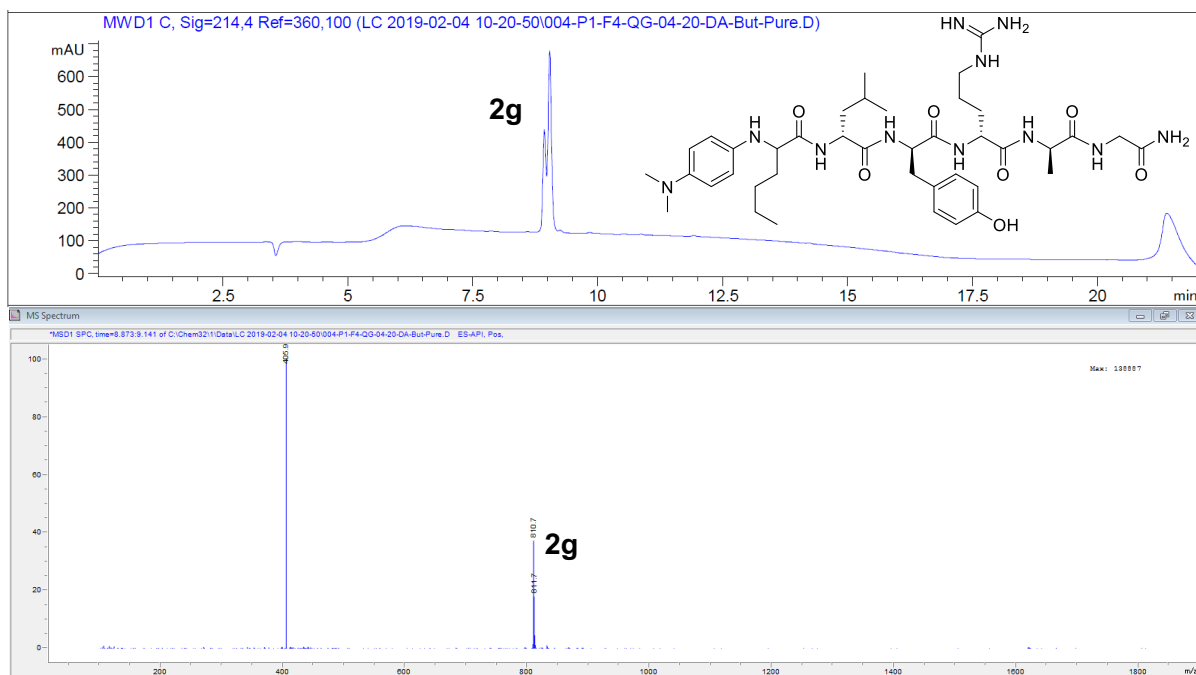
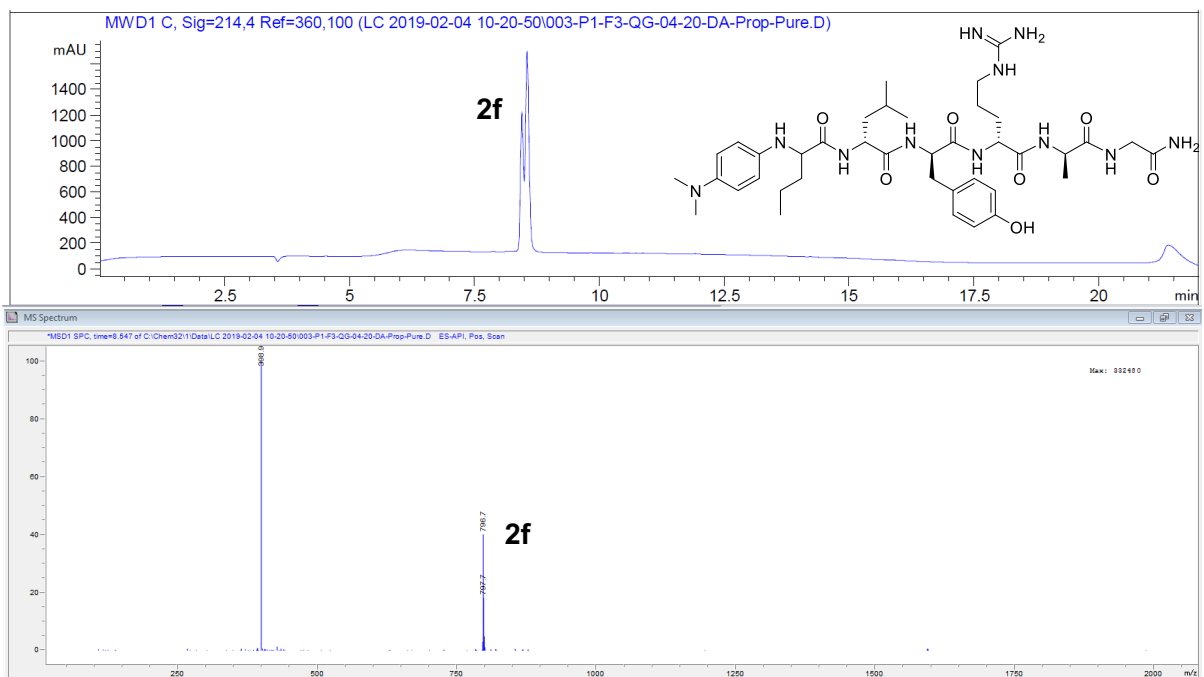
Entry	Solvent	% conversion to 7 ^a
1	MeCN: DCE (5:1)	50 (58 ^b)
2	EtOH	43 (51 ^b)
3	Dry THF	80 (85 ^b)
4	DCM	90 (91 ^b)

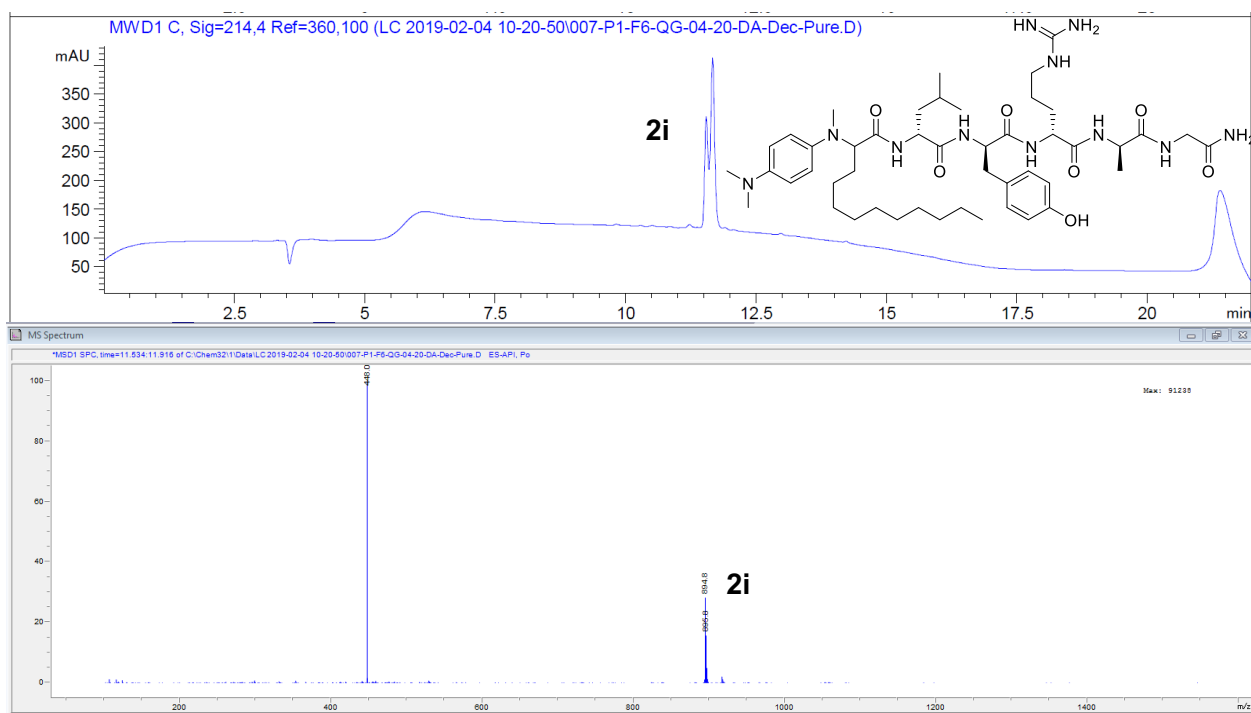
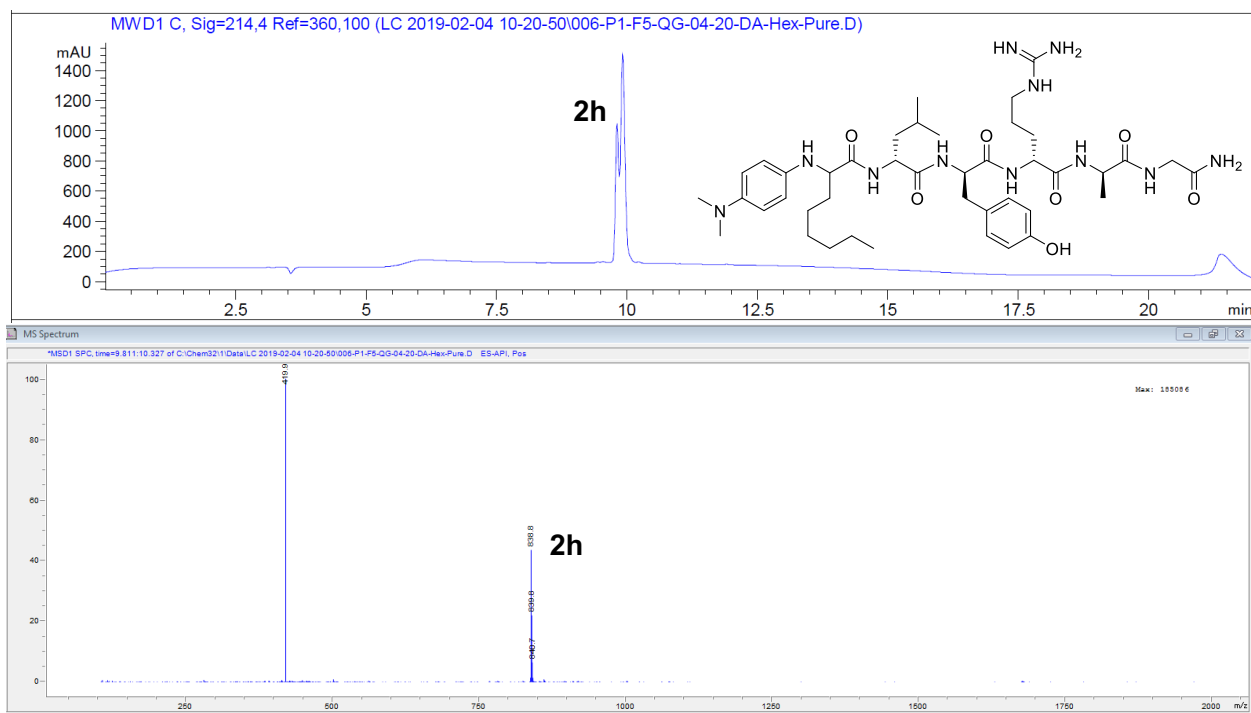
^a The percentages were determined using NMR and are an average of three trials. ^b % oxidation including unidentified by-products

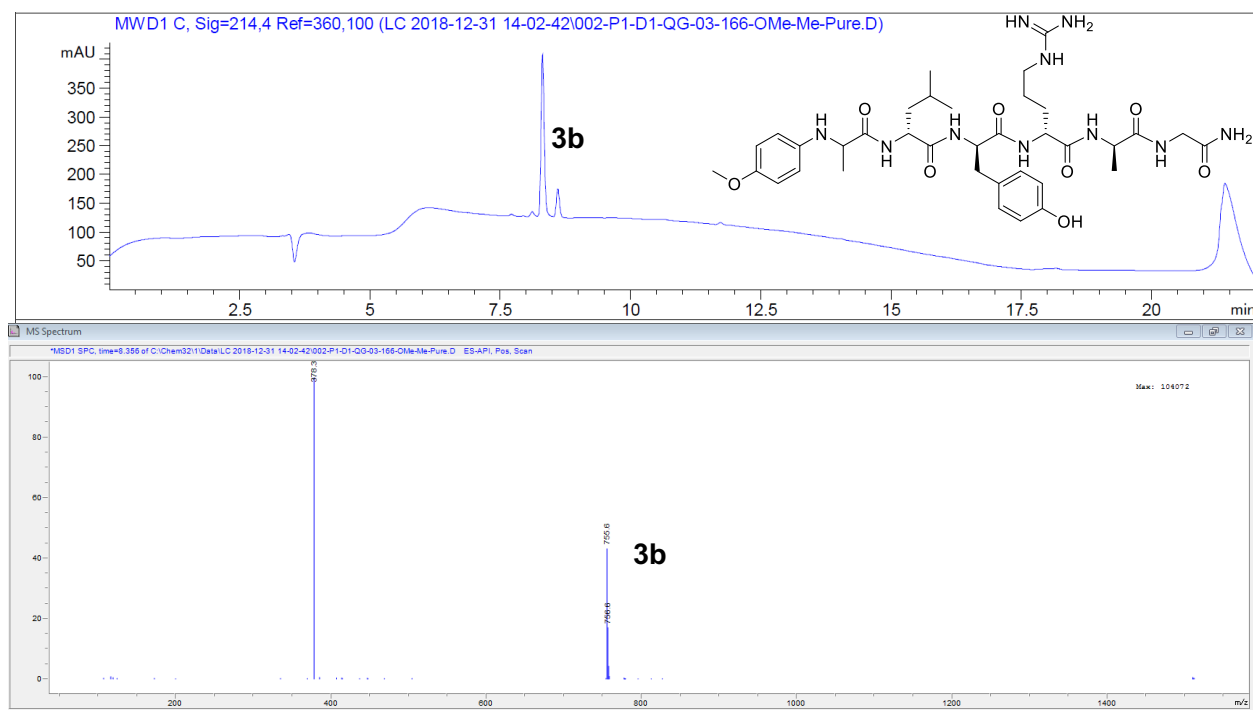
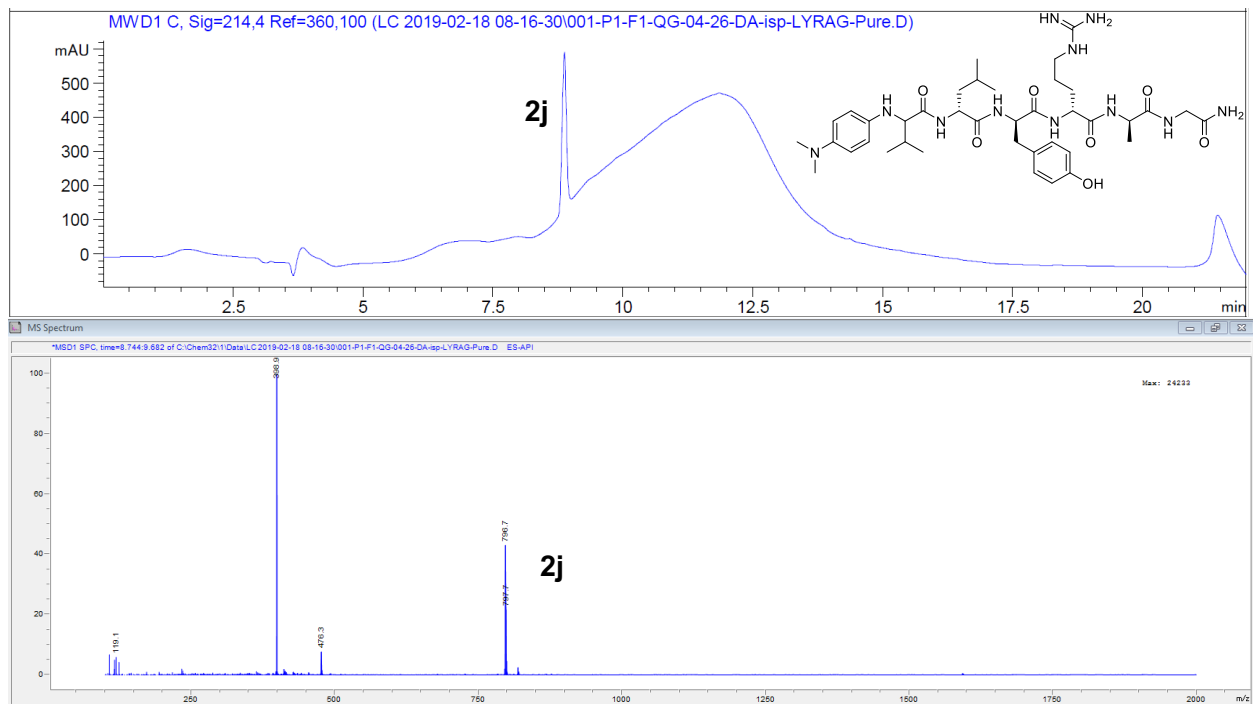
3. LCMS Chromatograms

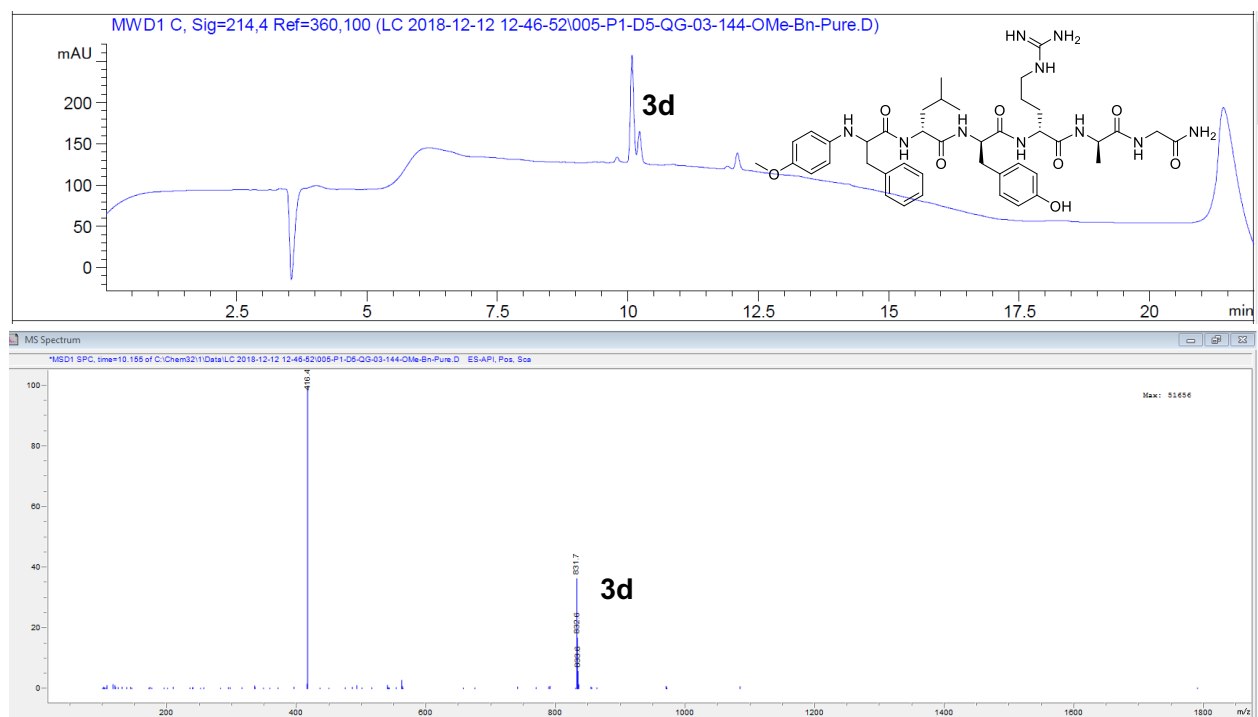
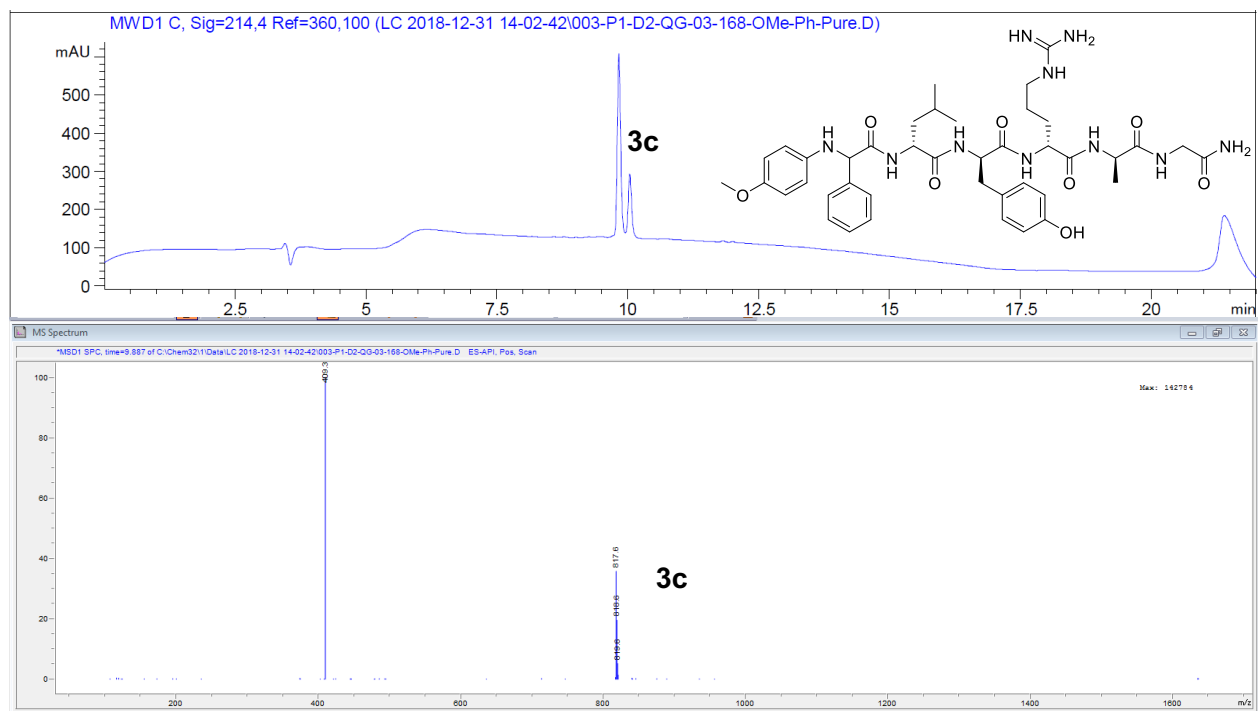


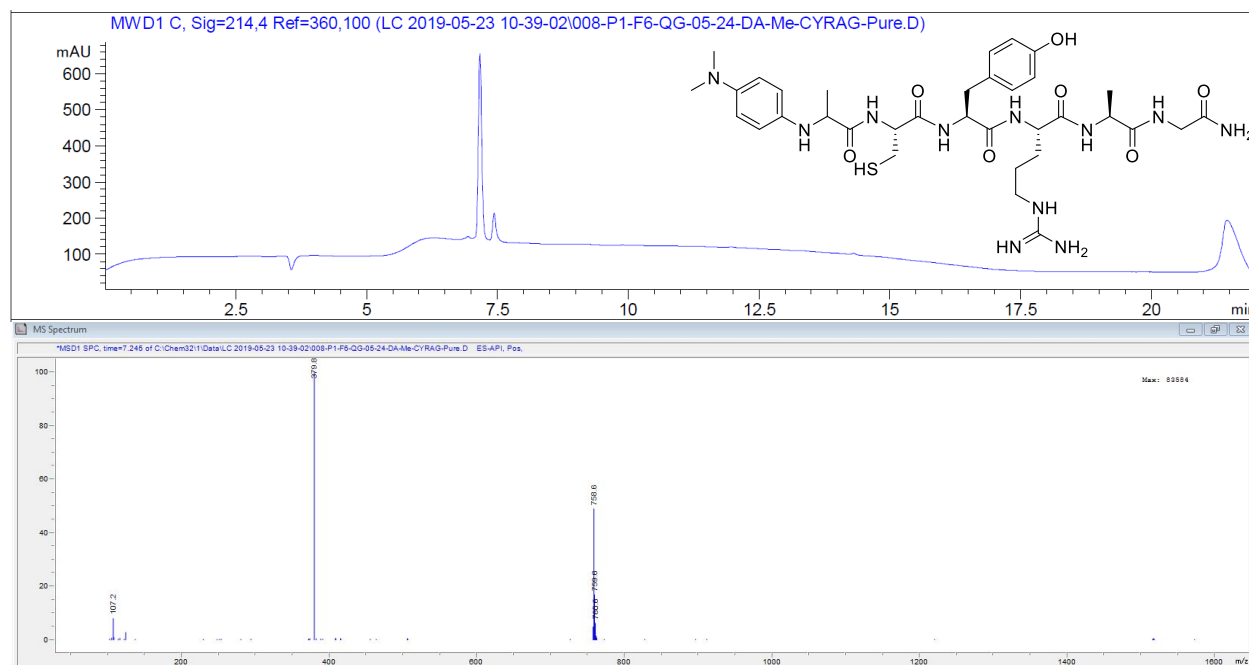
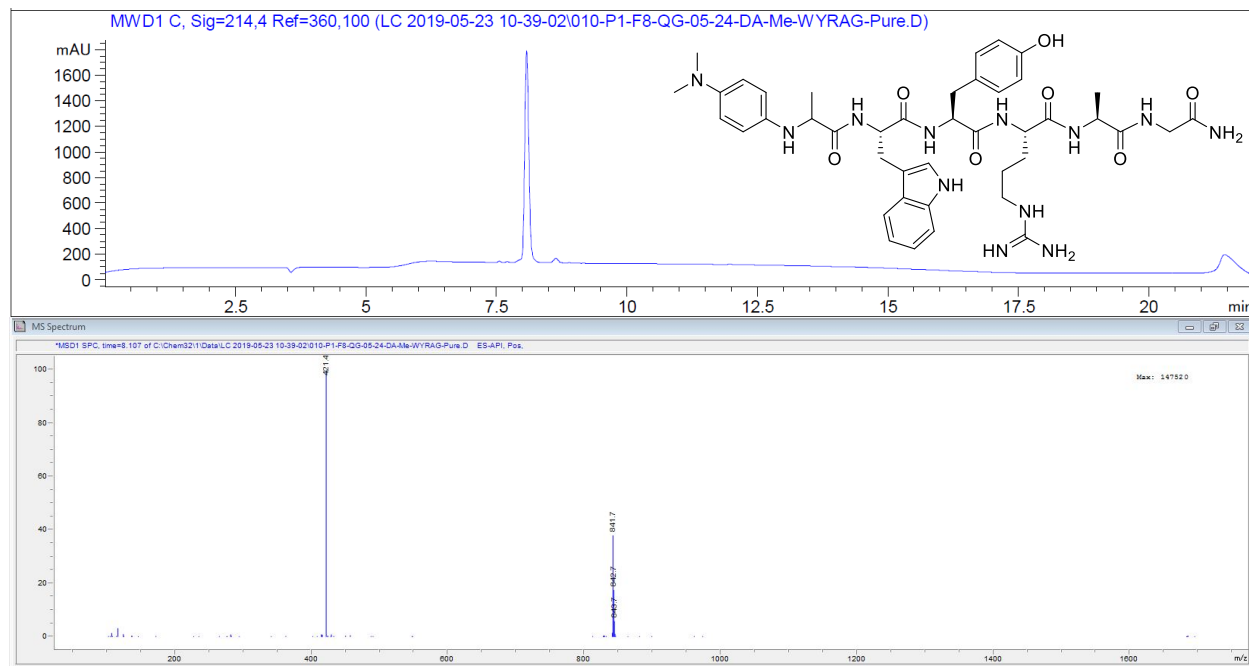


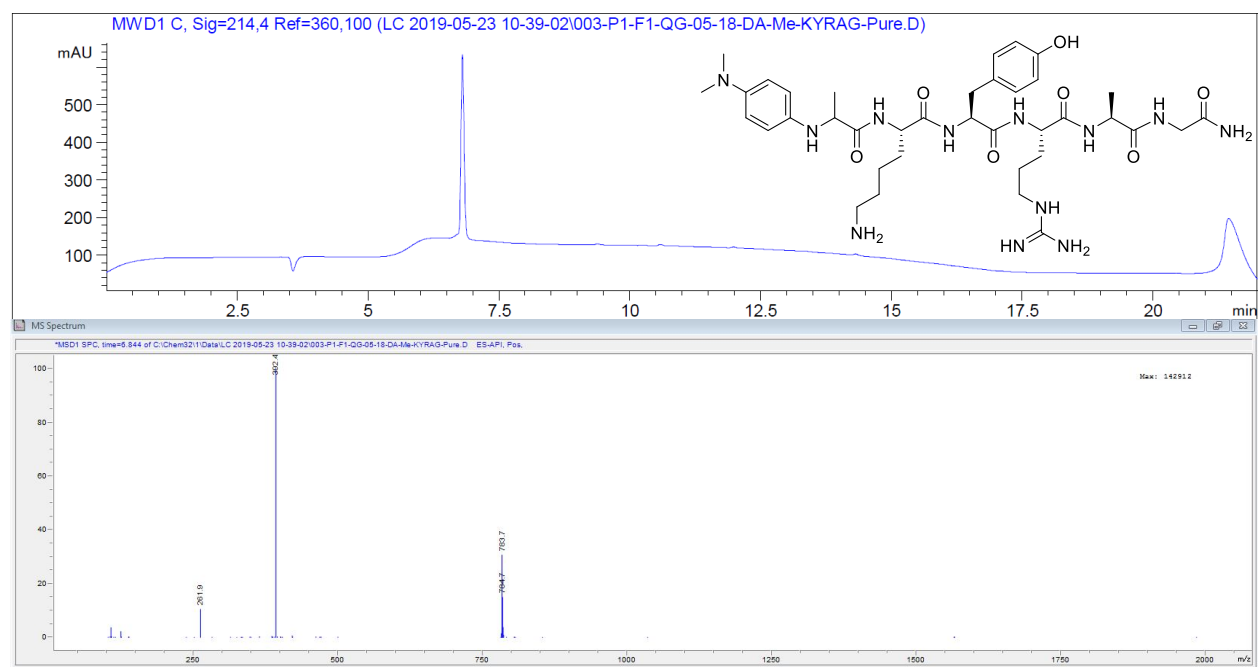
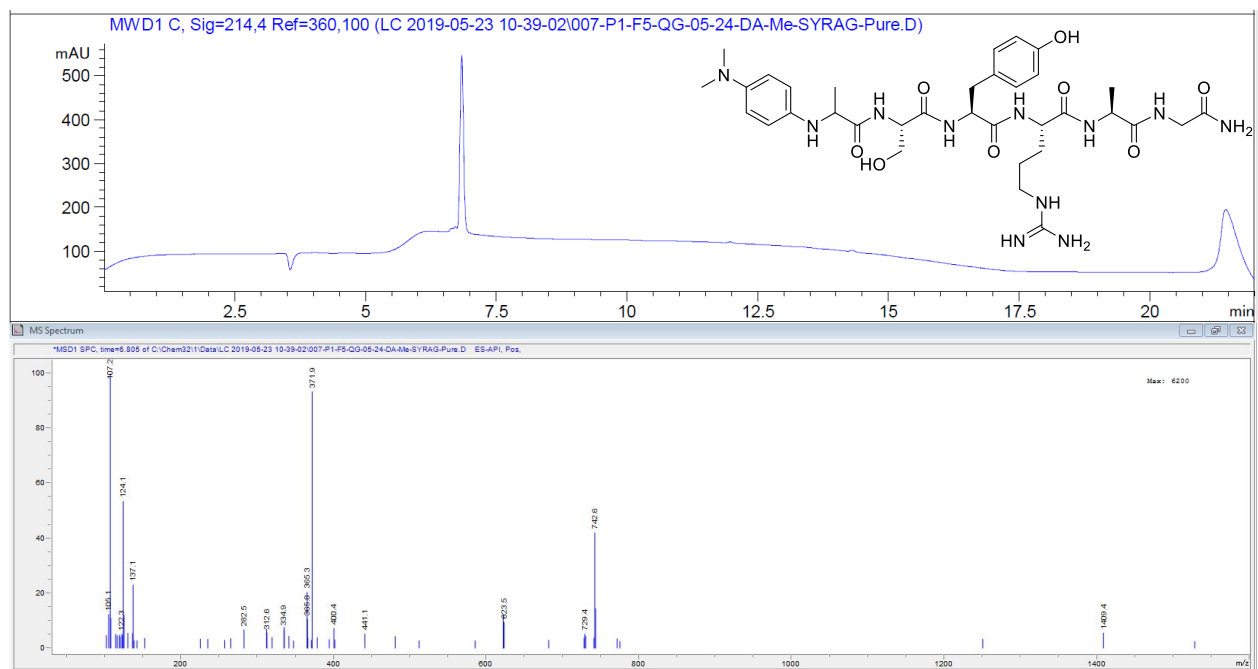


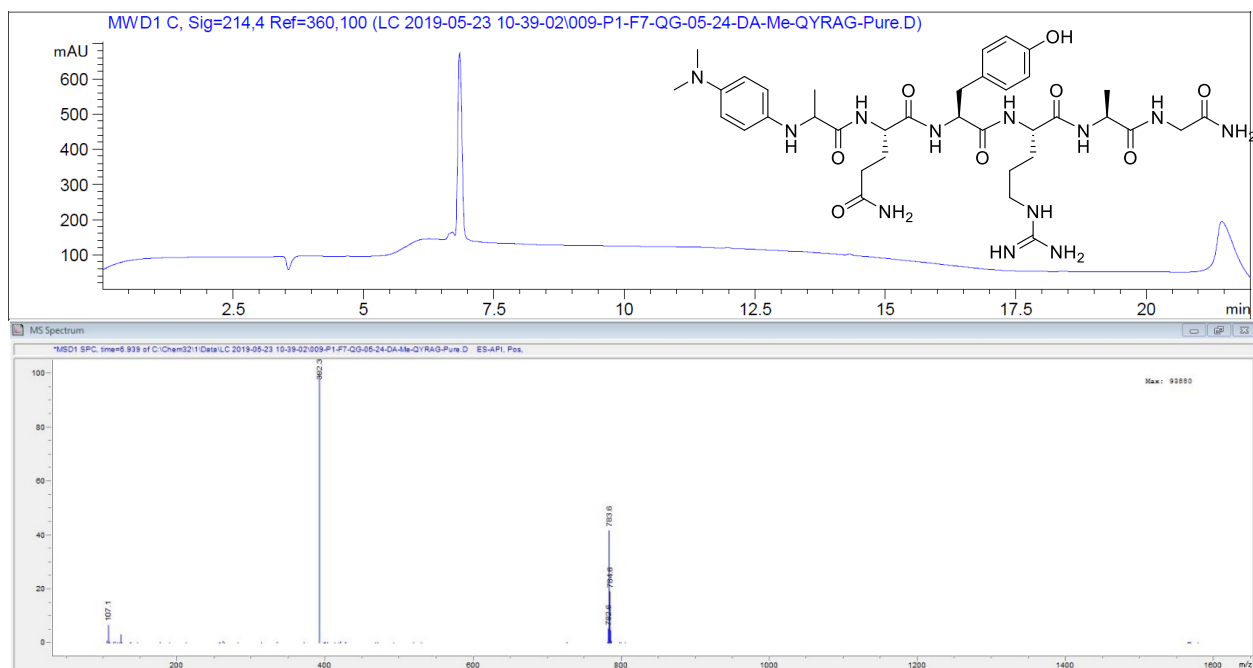
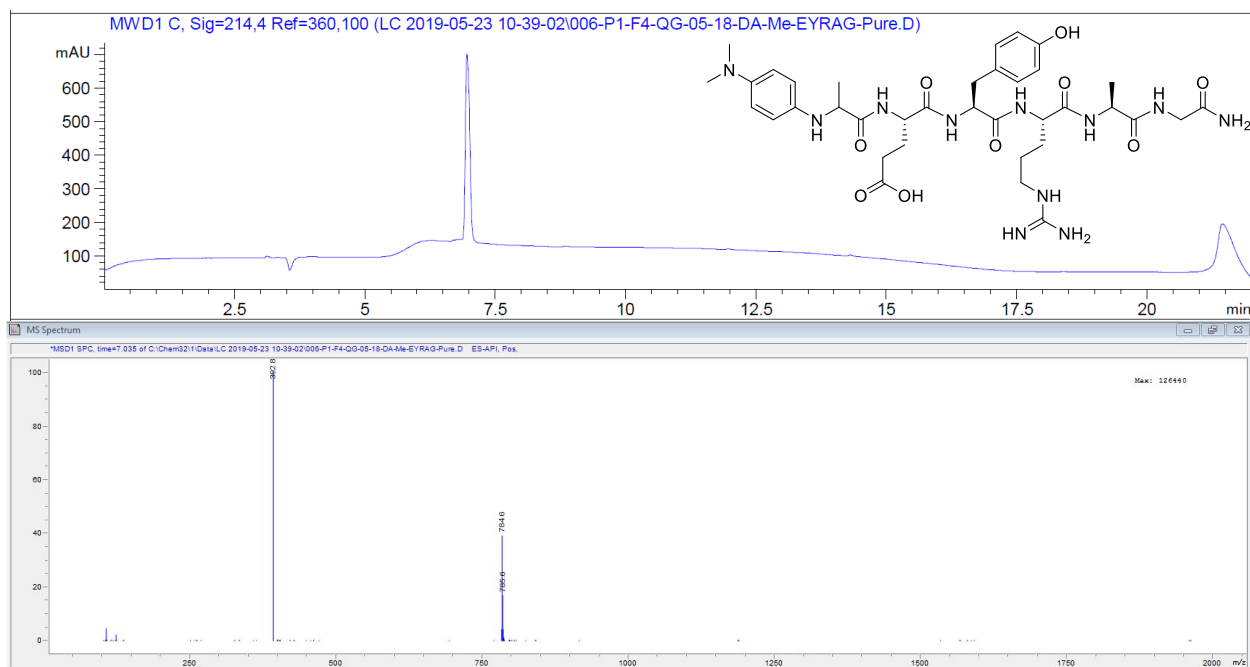


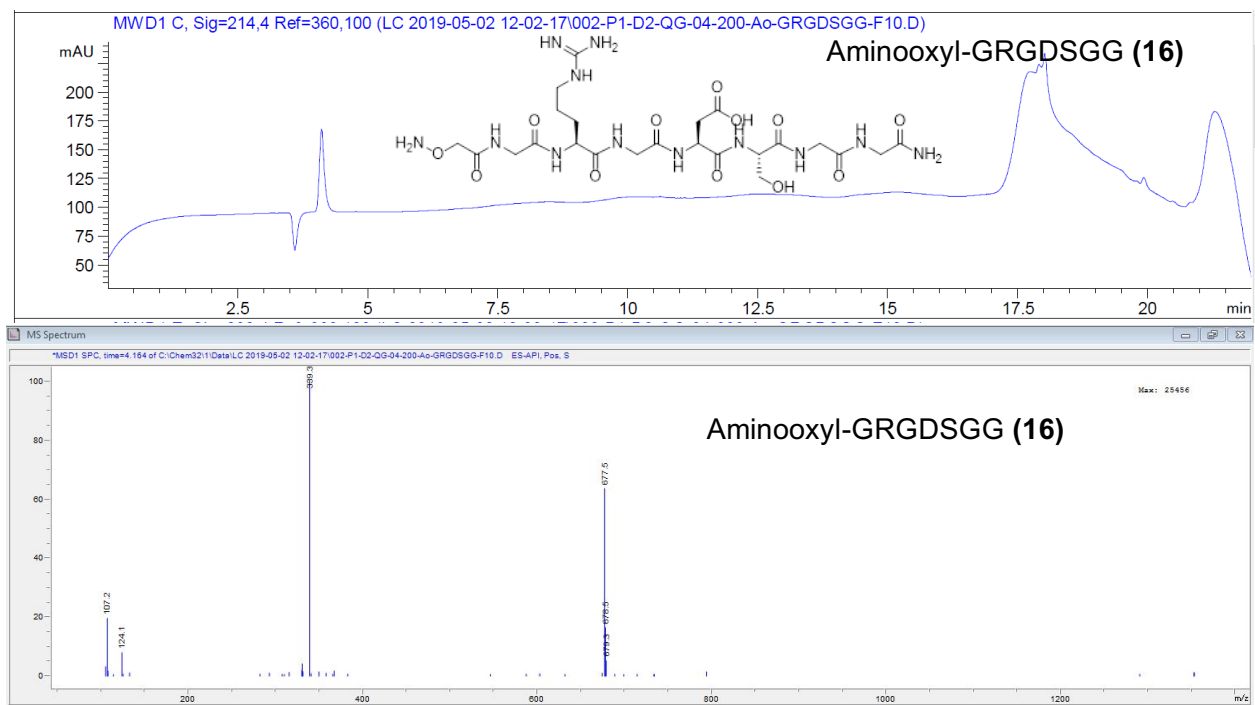






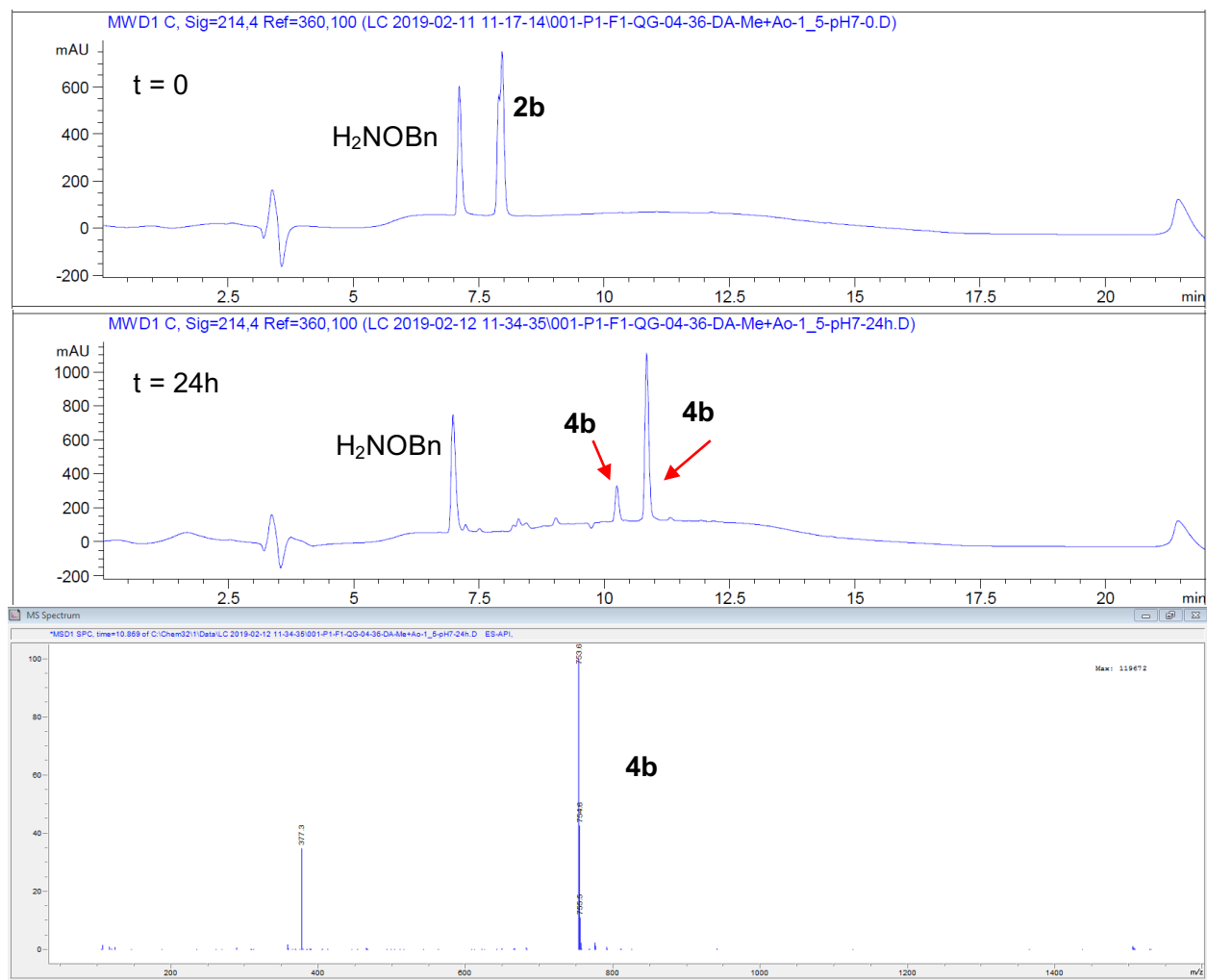




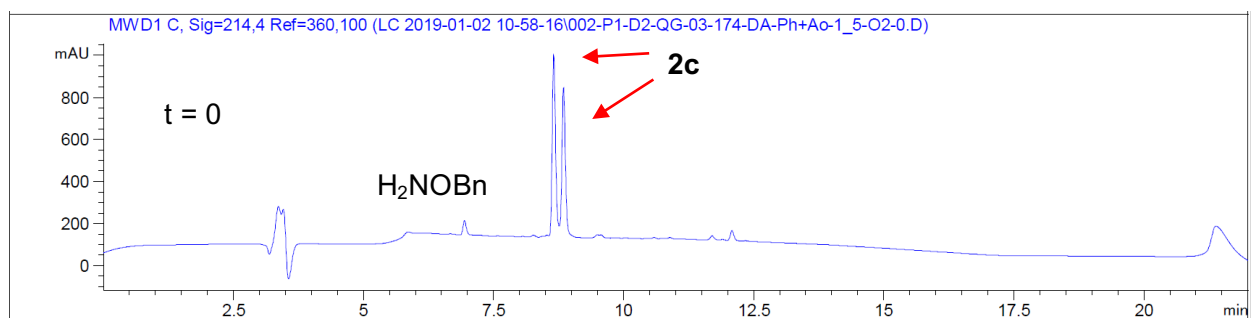


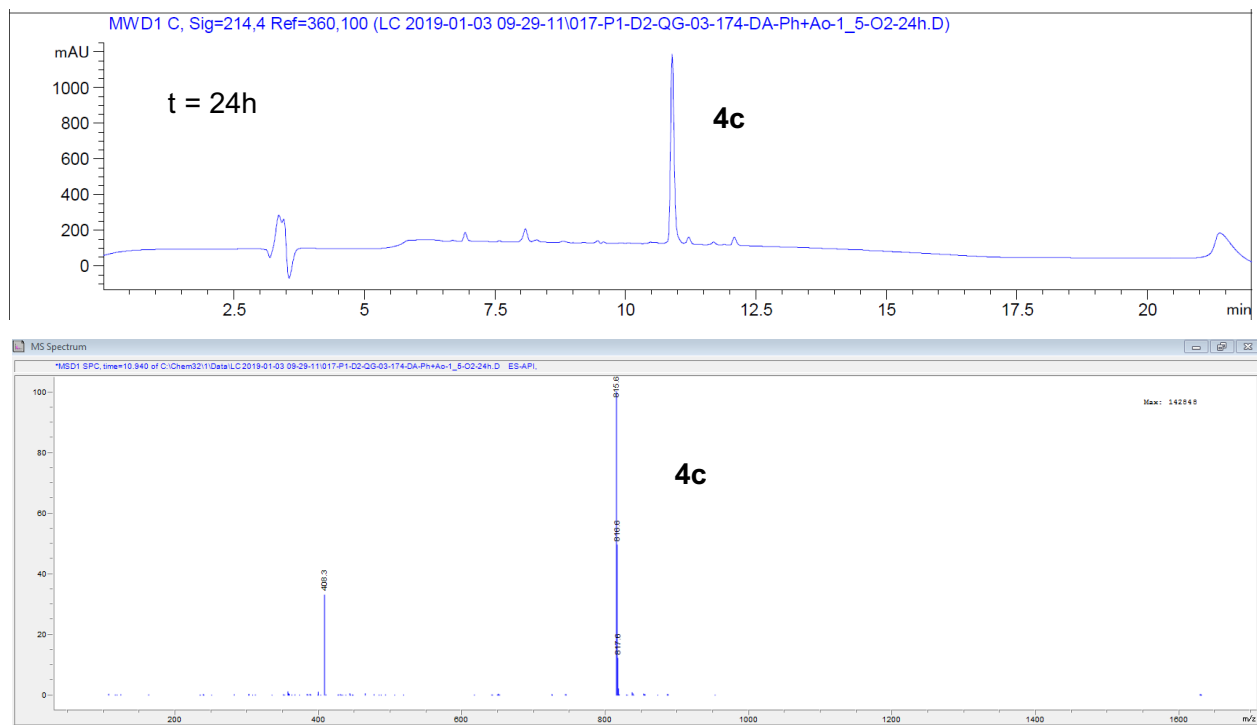
Oxime ligation reactions:

Ligation study of **2b** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

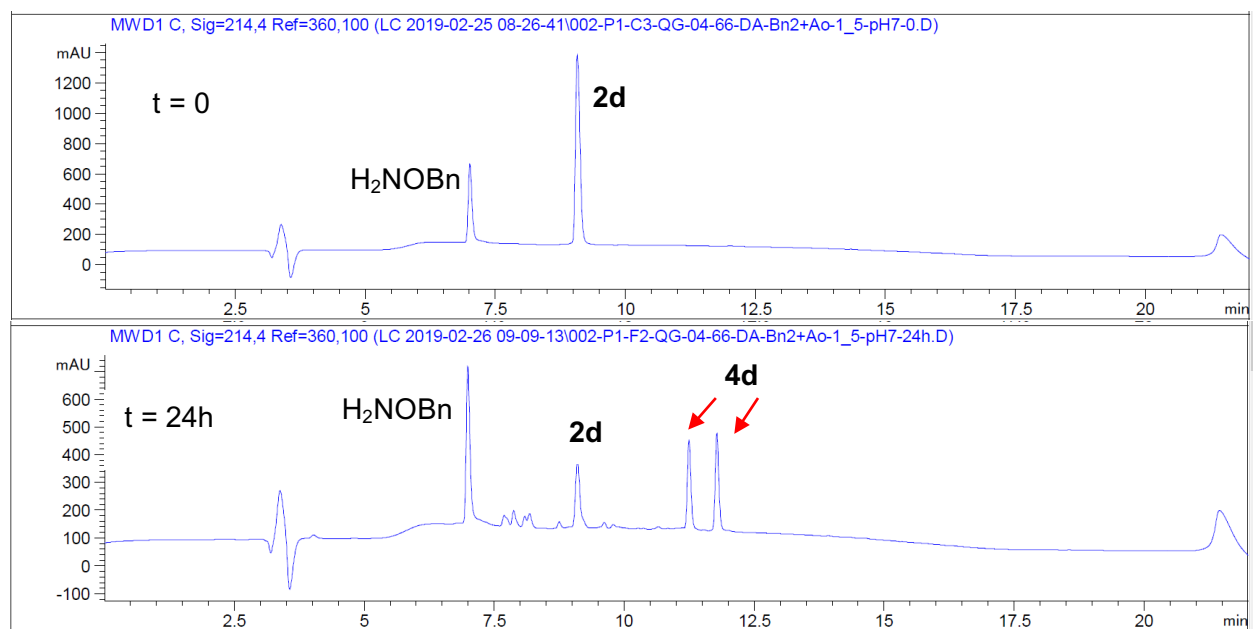


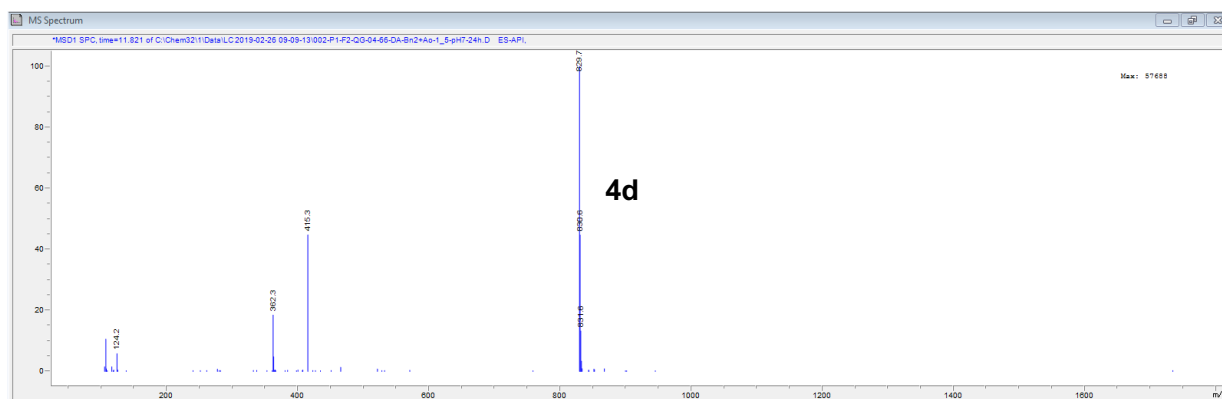
Ligation study of **2c** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:



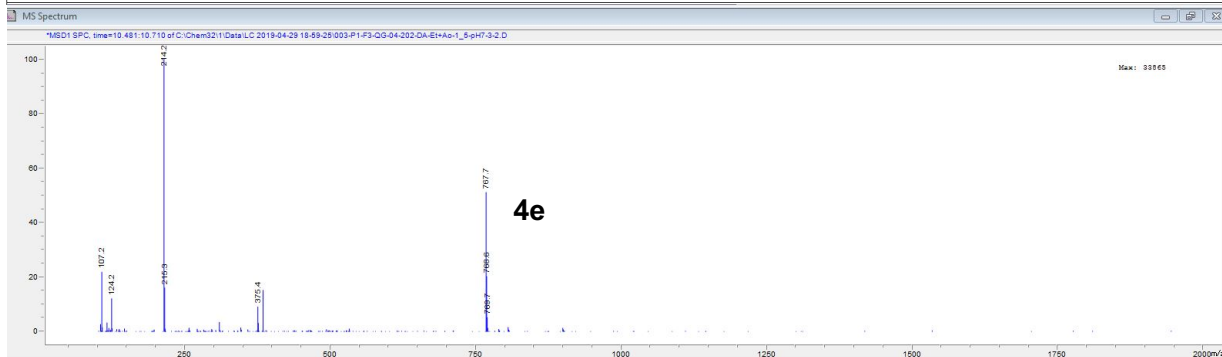
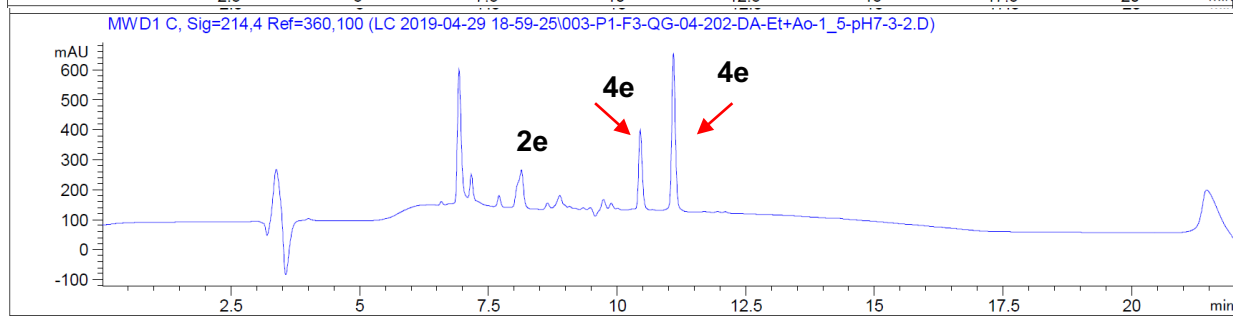
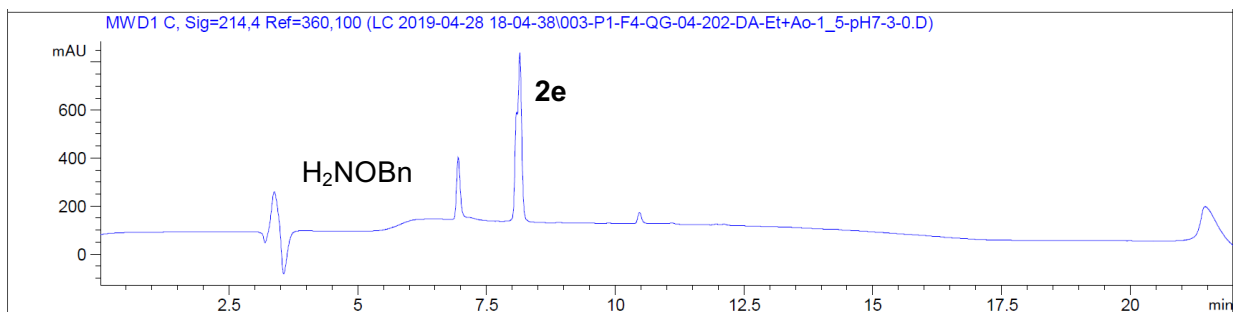


Ligation study of **2d** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

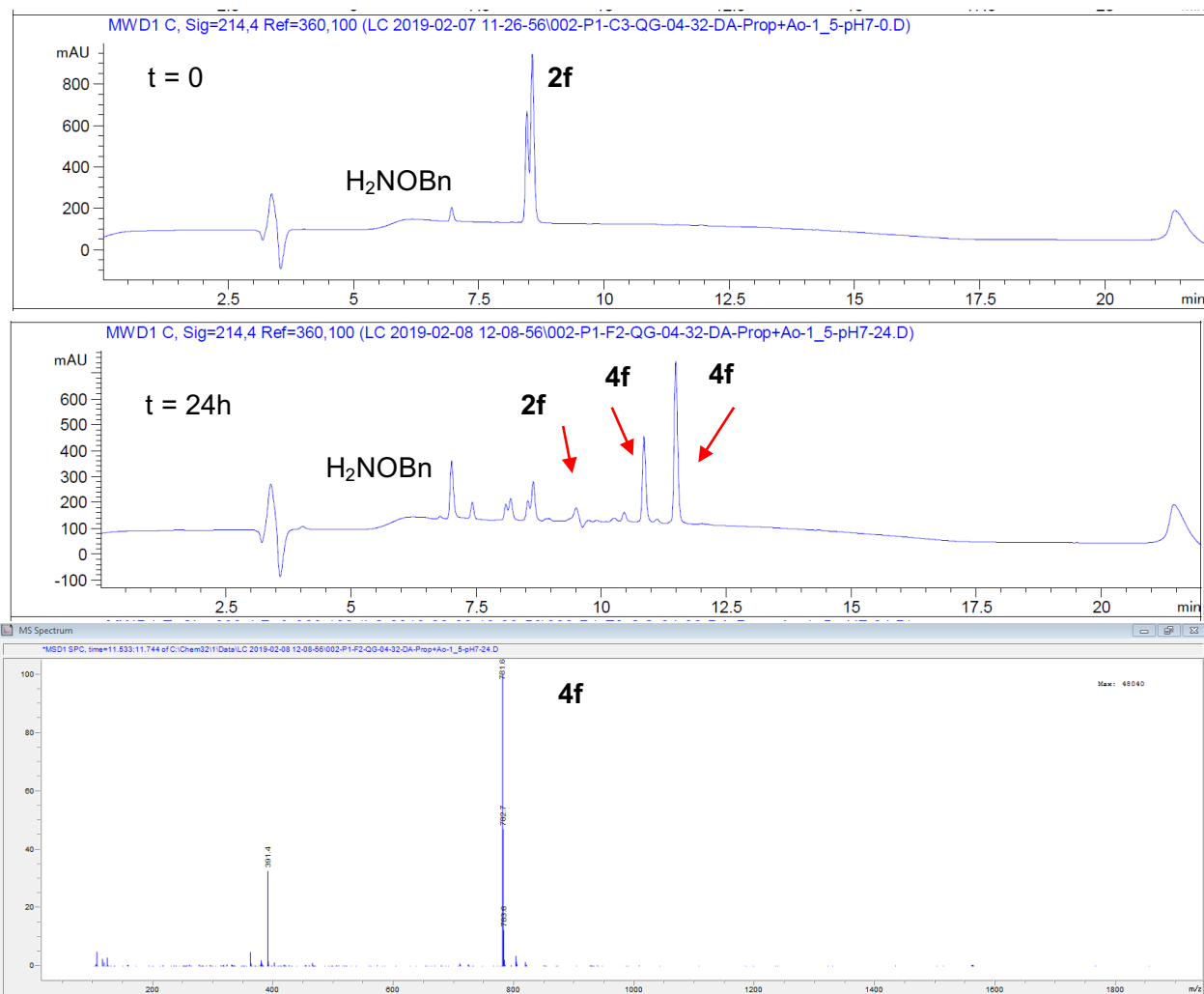




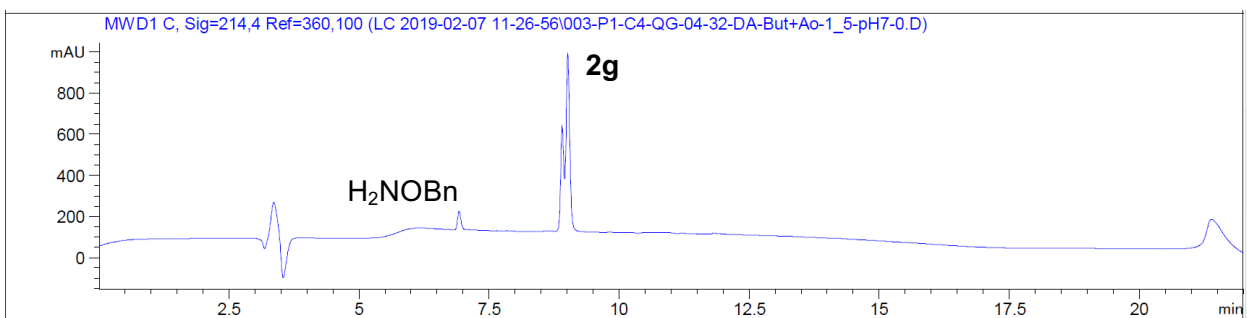
Ligation study of **2e** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

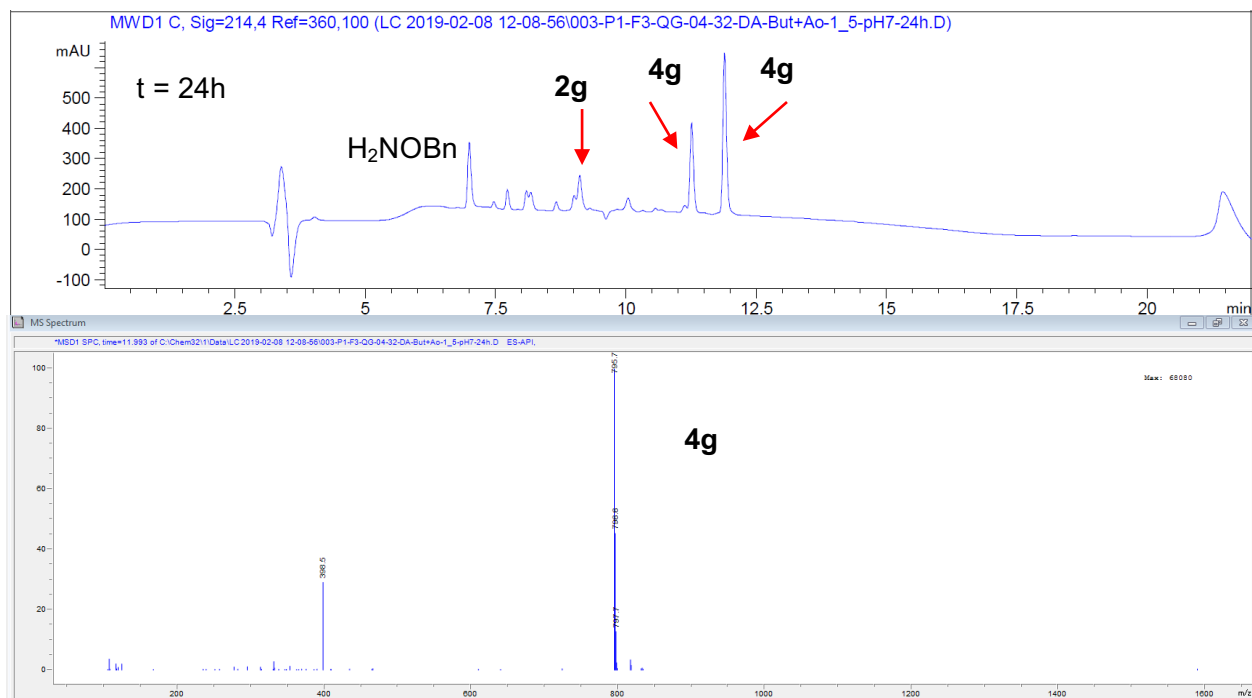


Ligation study of **2f** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

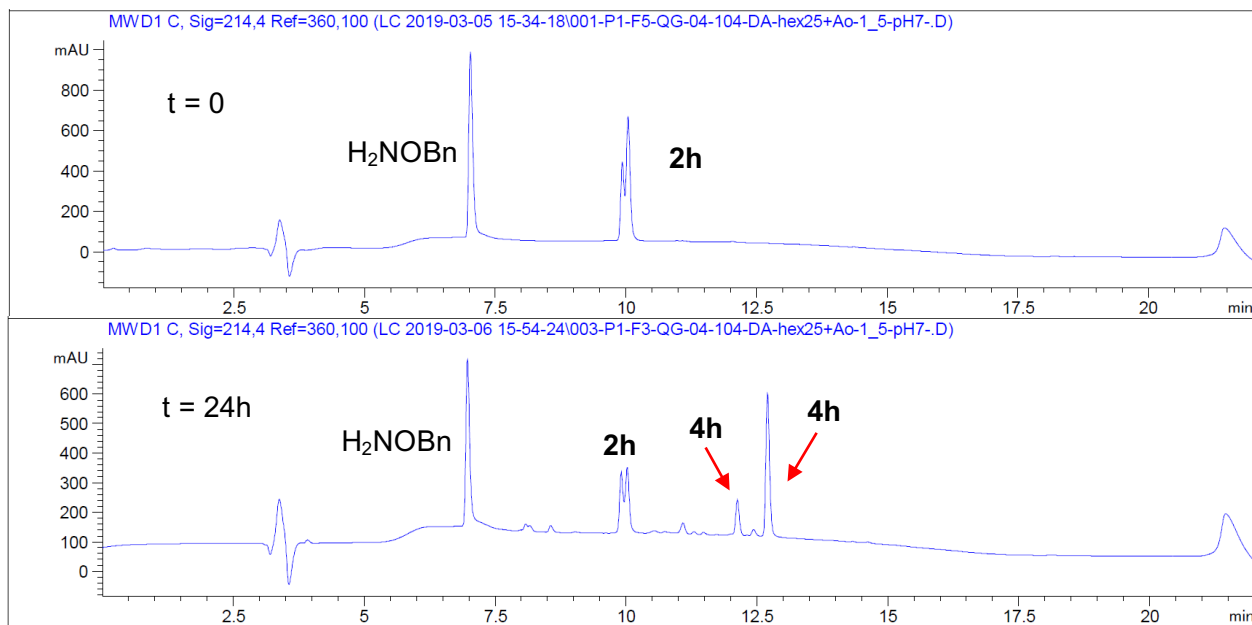


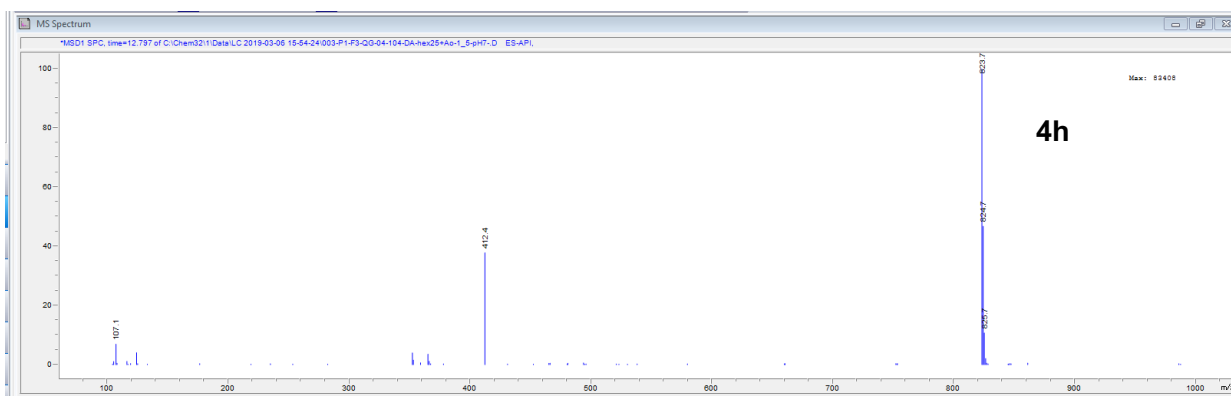
Ligation study of **2g** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:



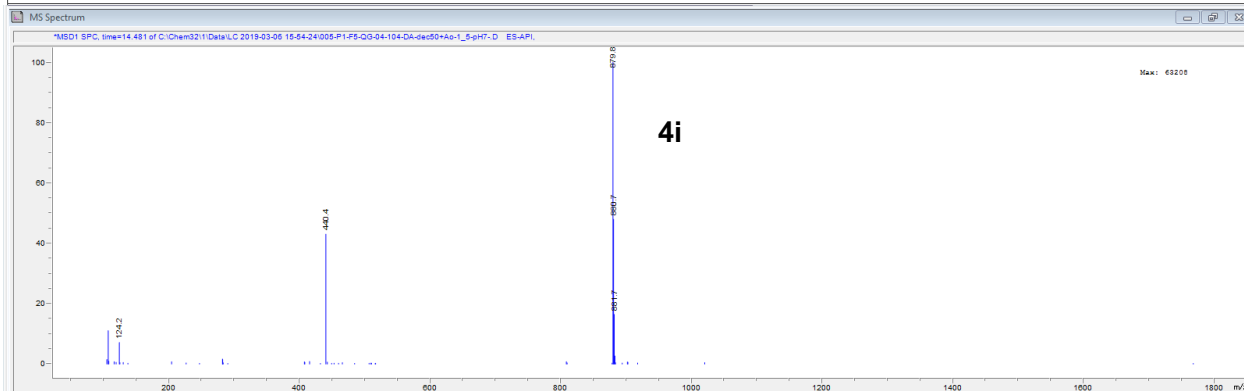
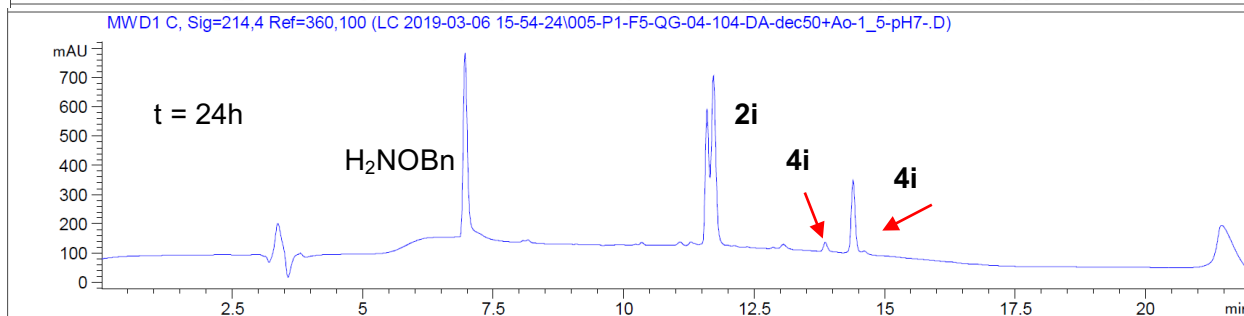
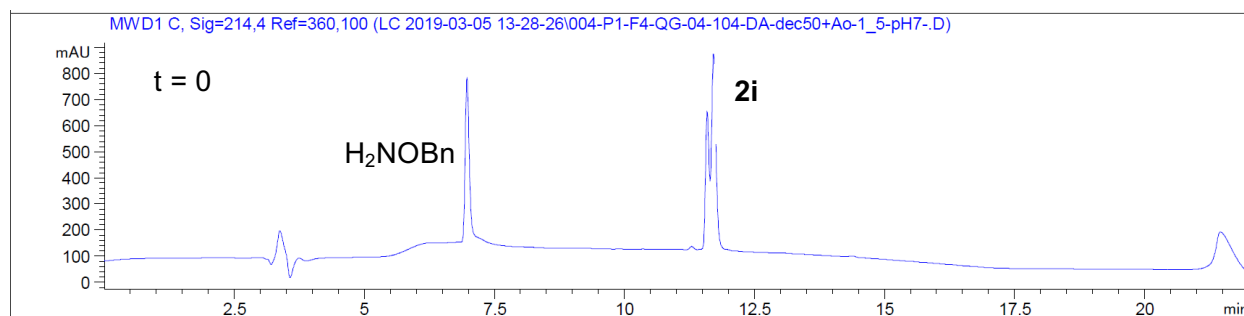


Ligation study of **2h** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at **pH 7** with 25% EtOH under O_2 atmosphere:



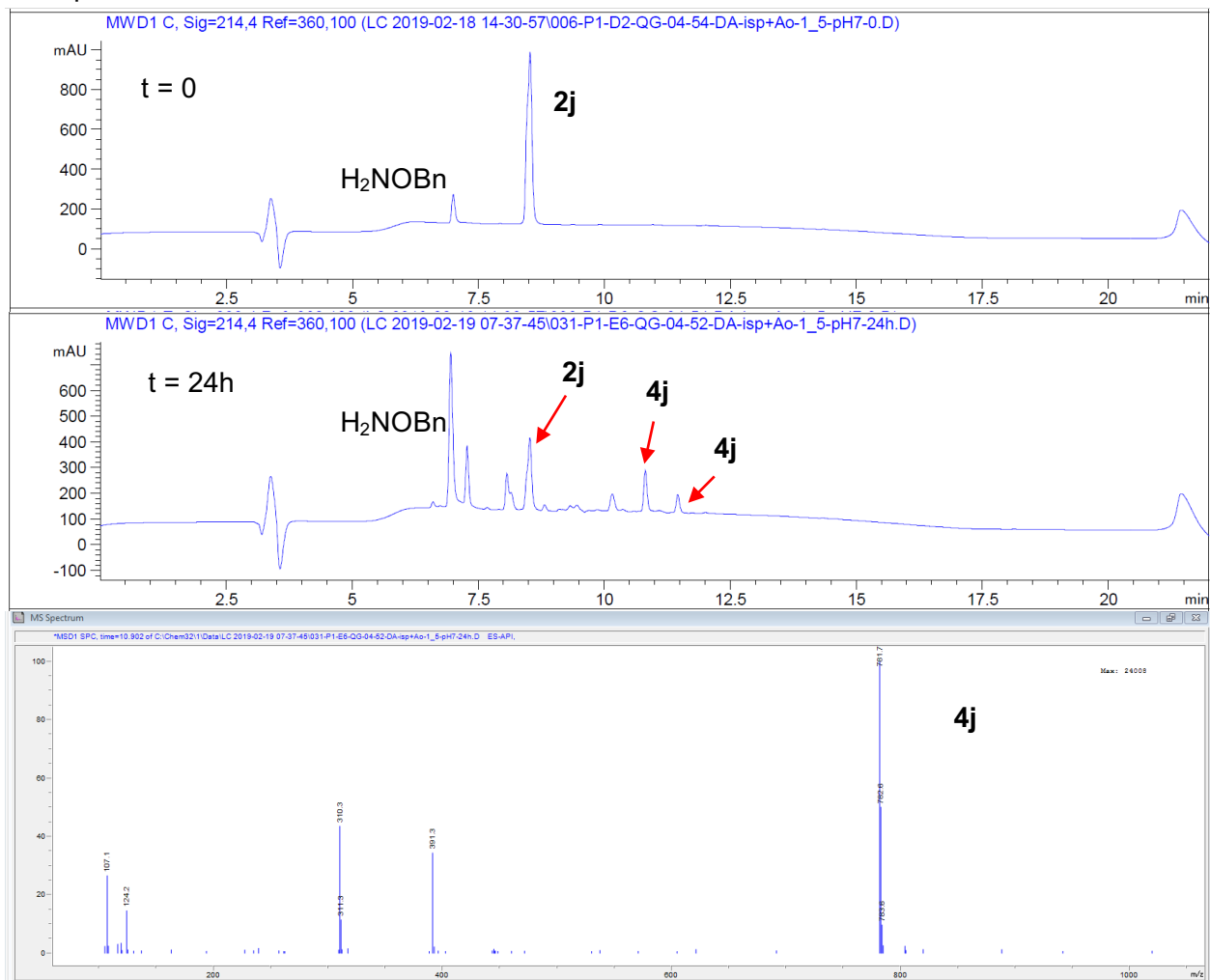


Ligation study of **2i** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 with 50% EtOH under O₂ atmosphere:

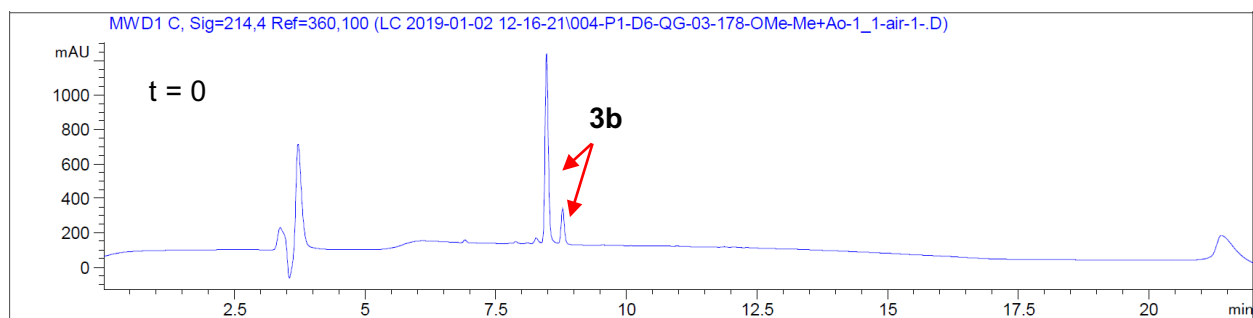


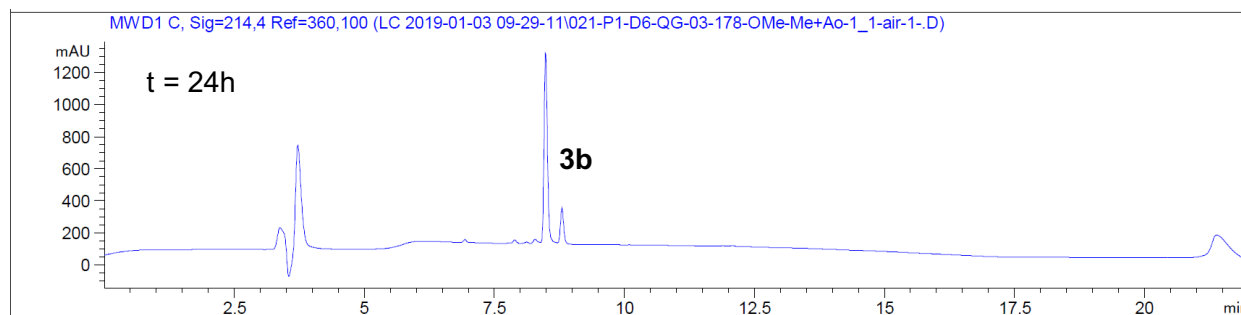
Guthrie, Q. A. E.; Young, H. A.; Proulx, C.

Ligation study of **2j** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

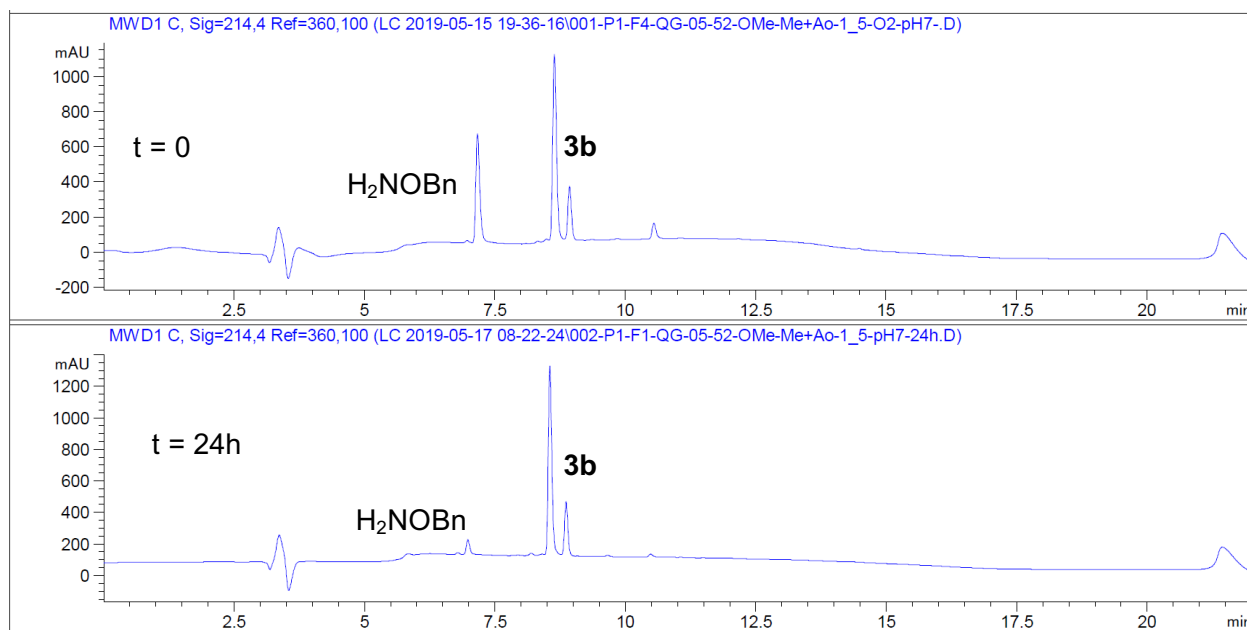


Ligation study of **3b** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:1 ratio) at pH 4.5 under air, showing no reactivity:



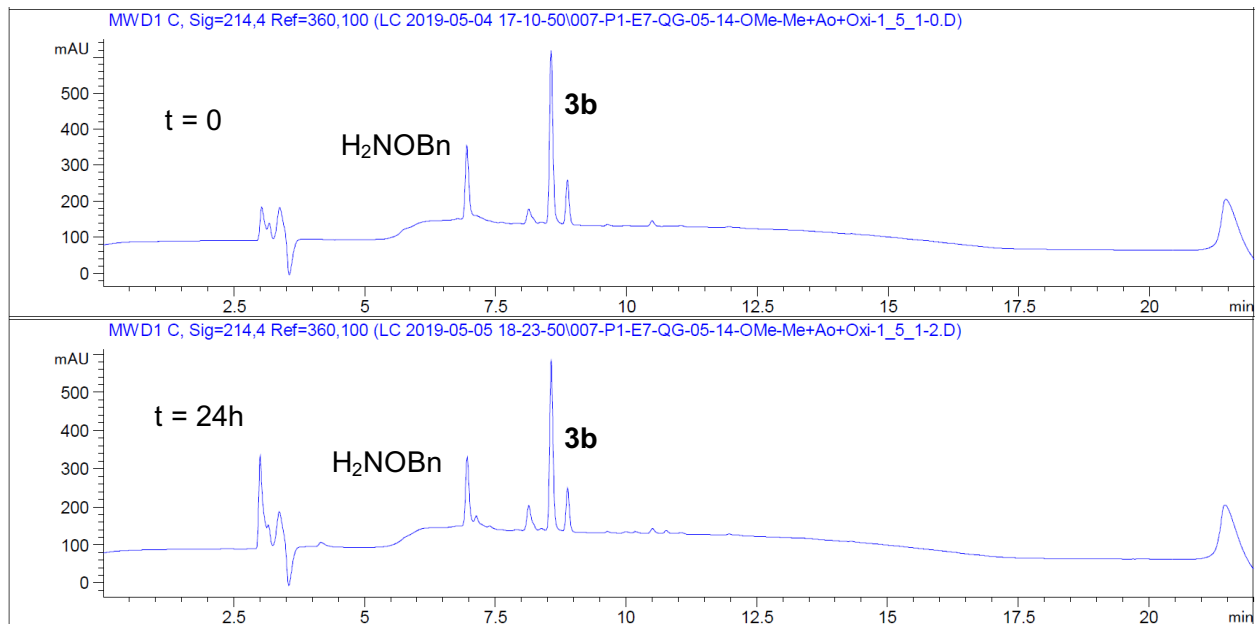


Ligation study of **3b** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at **pH 7** under O_2 atmosphere, showing no reactivity:

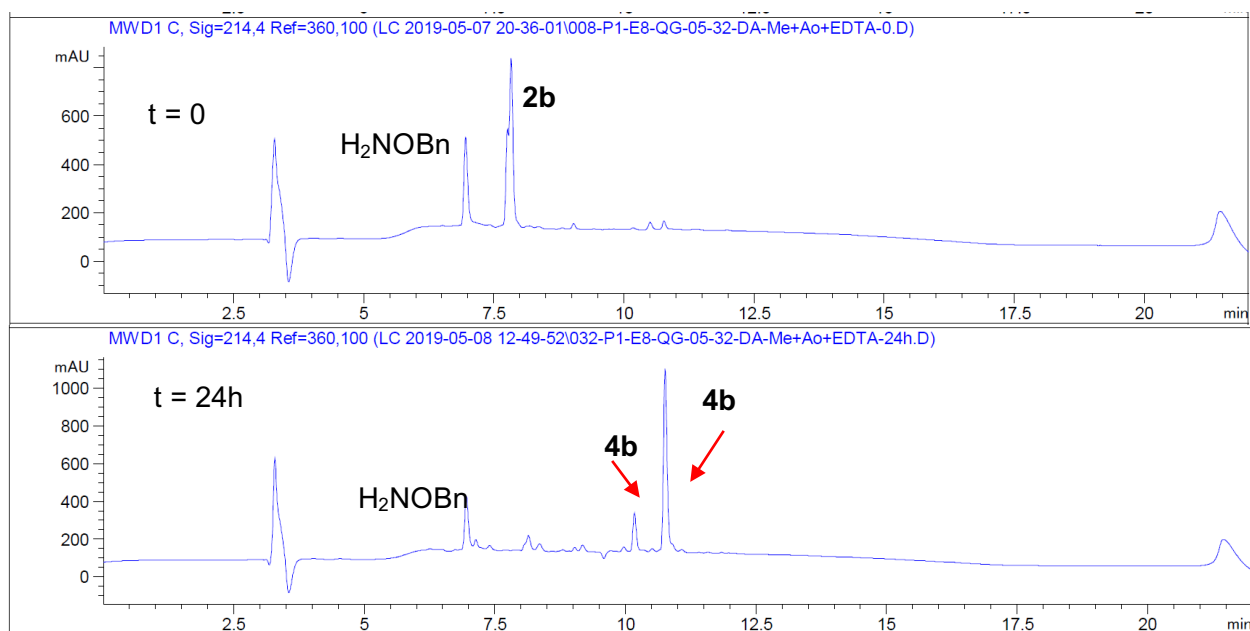


Note: Ligation studies with peptides **3c-d** were conducted and also showed no ketoxime formation. The traces, showing starting material only, have been excluded.

Ligation study of **3b** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1: 5 ratio) at pH 7 with 1 mM potassium ferricyanide, showing no reactivity:

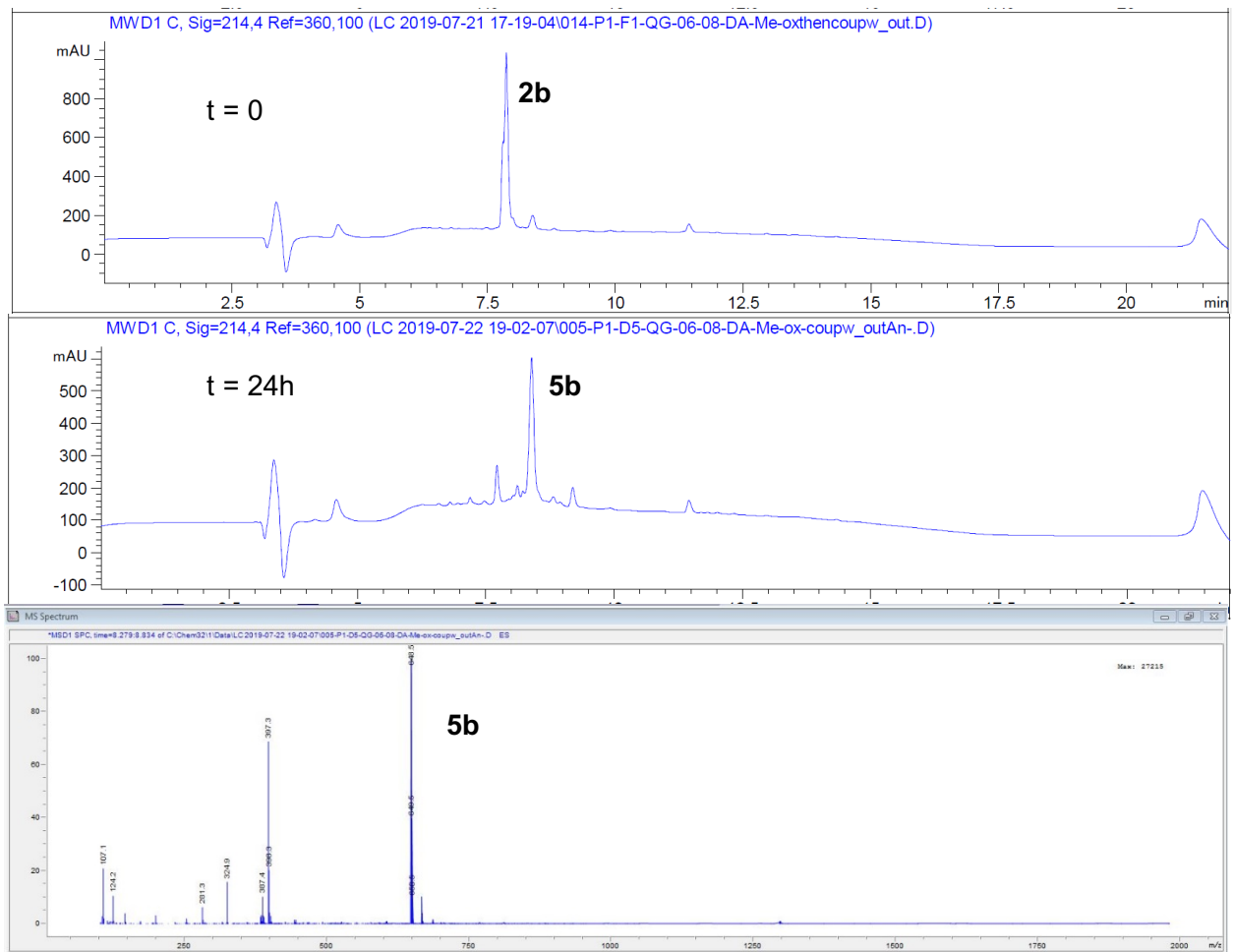


Control Ligation study of **2b**, EDTA and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:10: 5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ balloon:

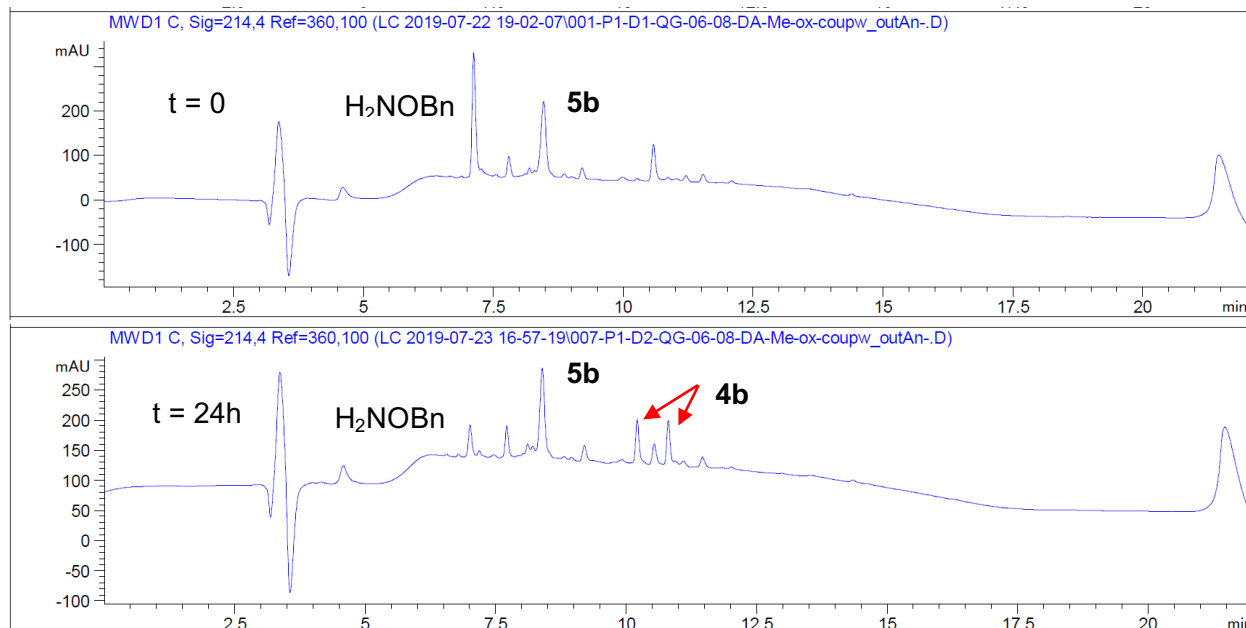


Oxidation followed by ligation study of **2b** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

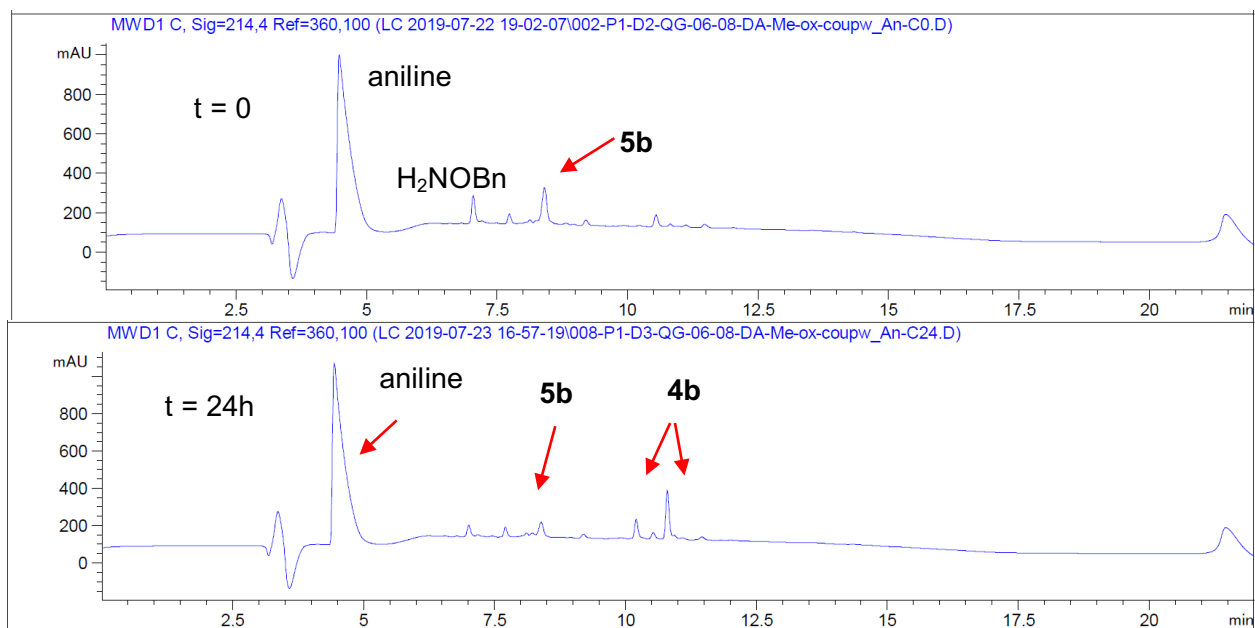
Oxidation:



Ligation without aniline:

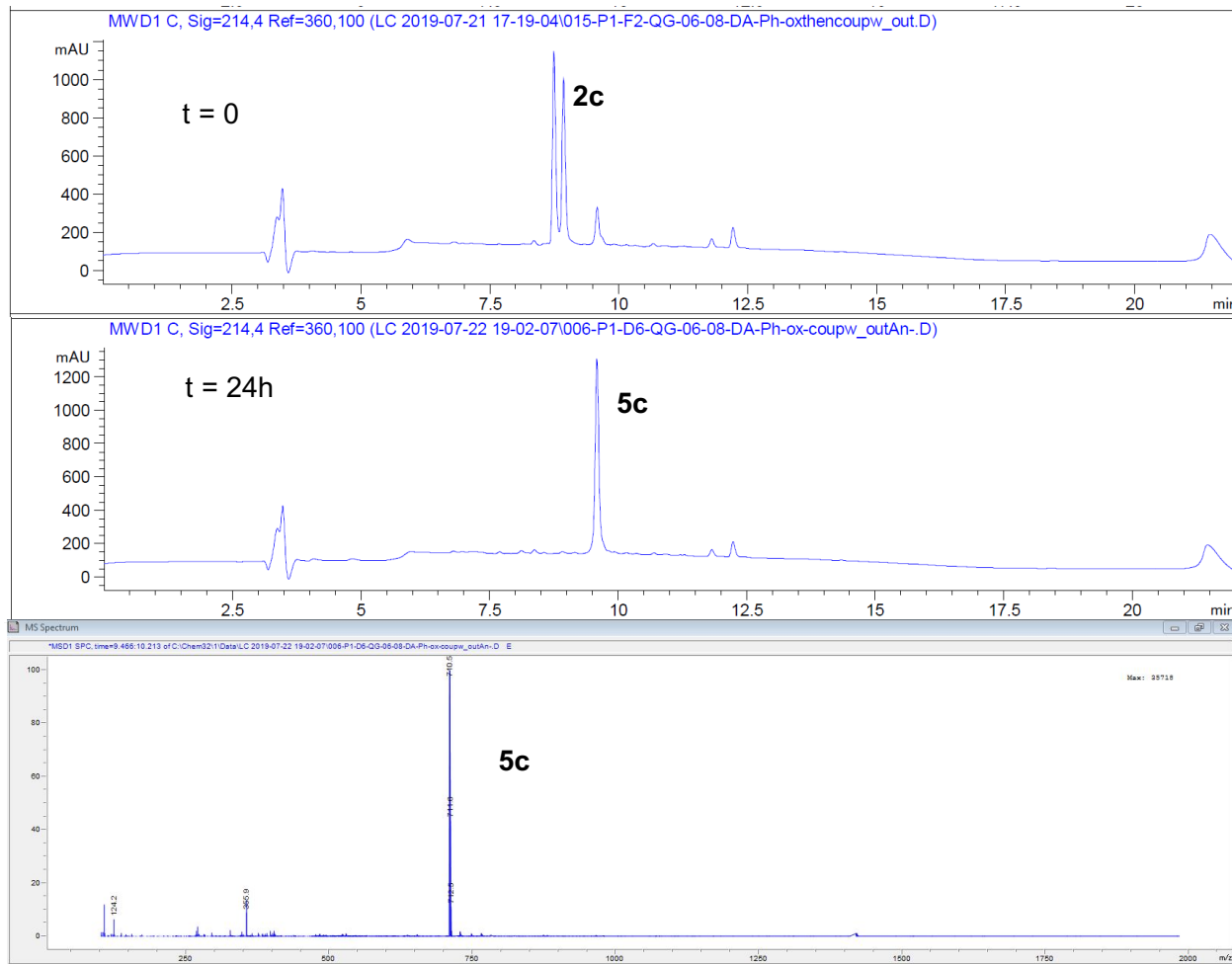


Ligation with aniline:

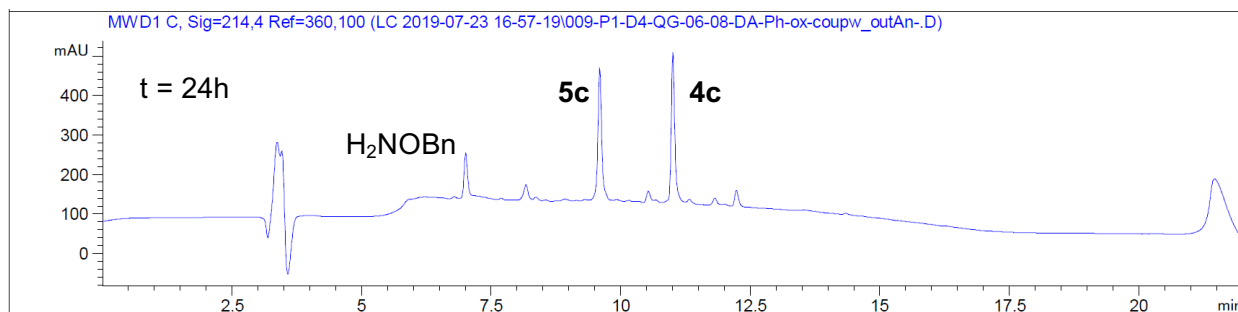


Oxidation followed by ligation study of **2c** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

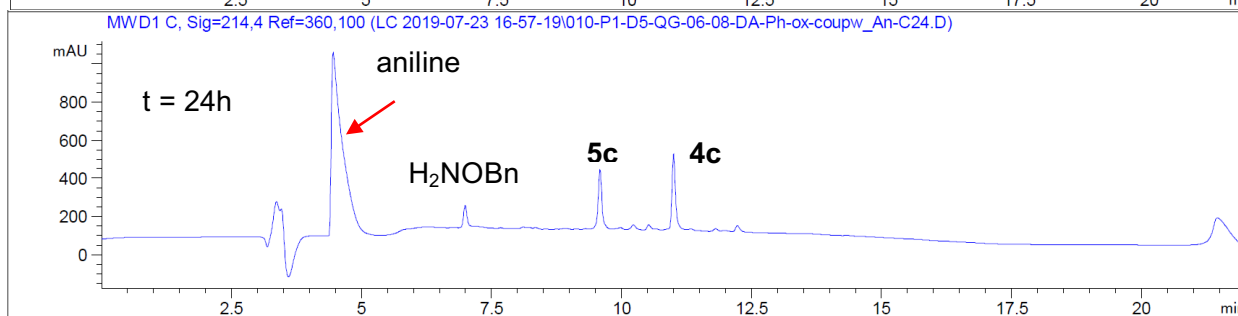
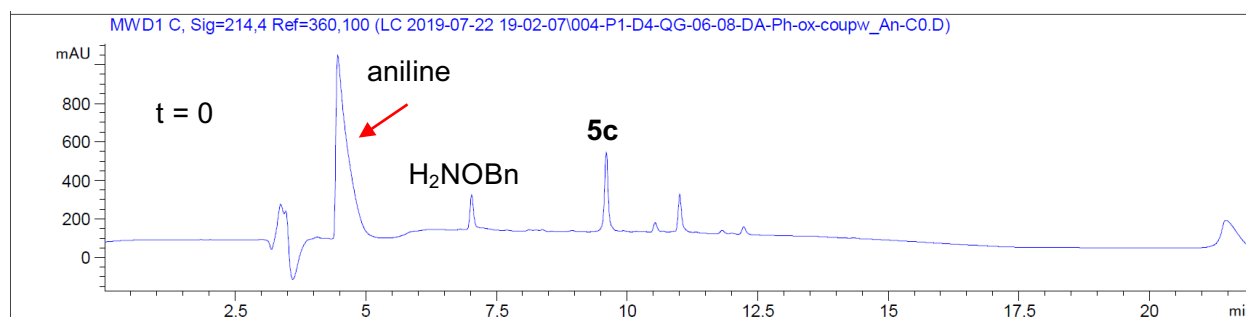
Oxidation:



Ligation without aniline:

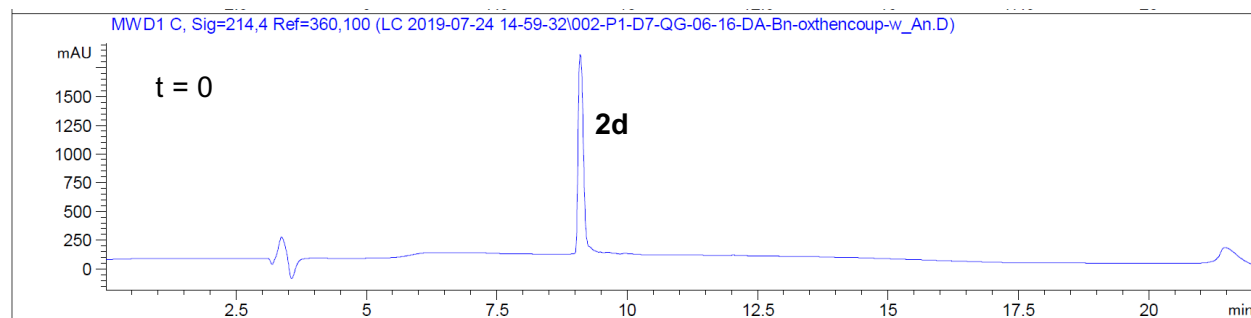


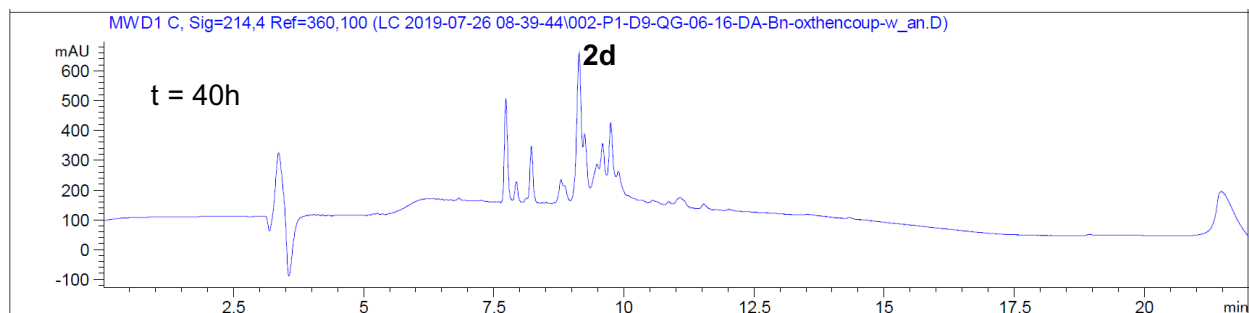
Ligation with aniline:



Oxidation followed by ligation study of **2d** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

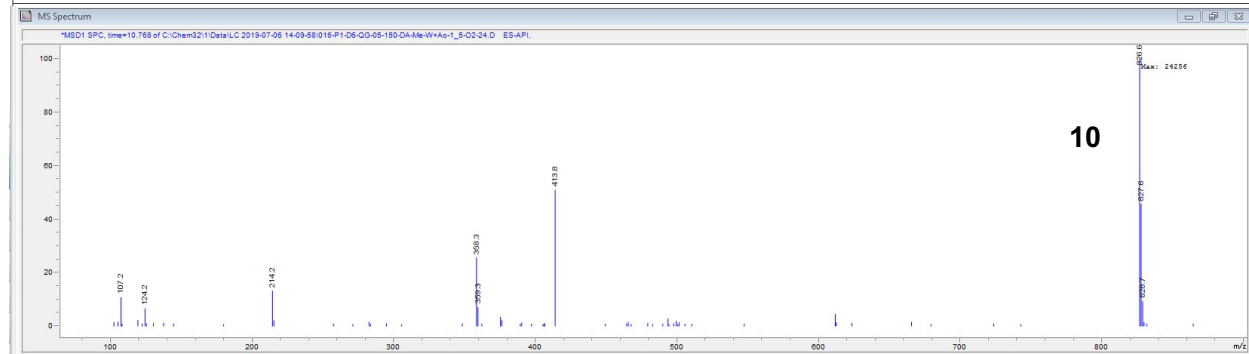
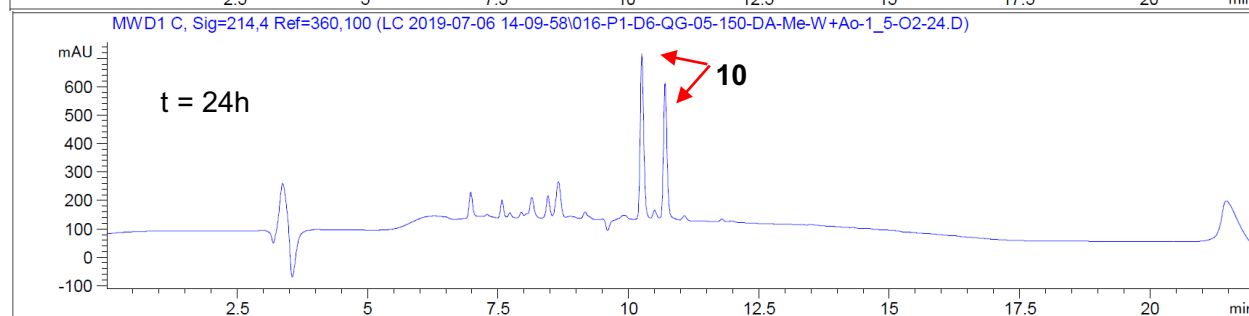
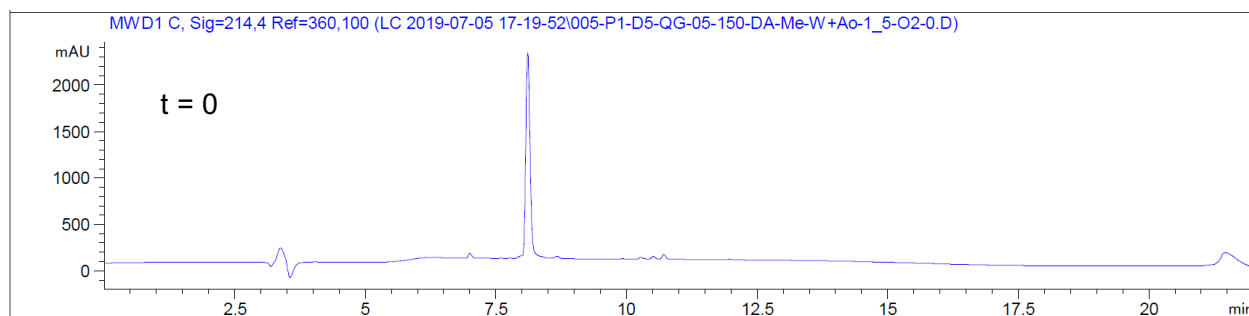
Oxidation:



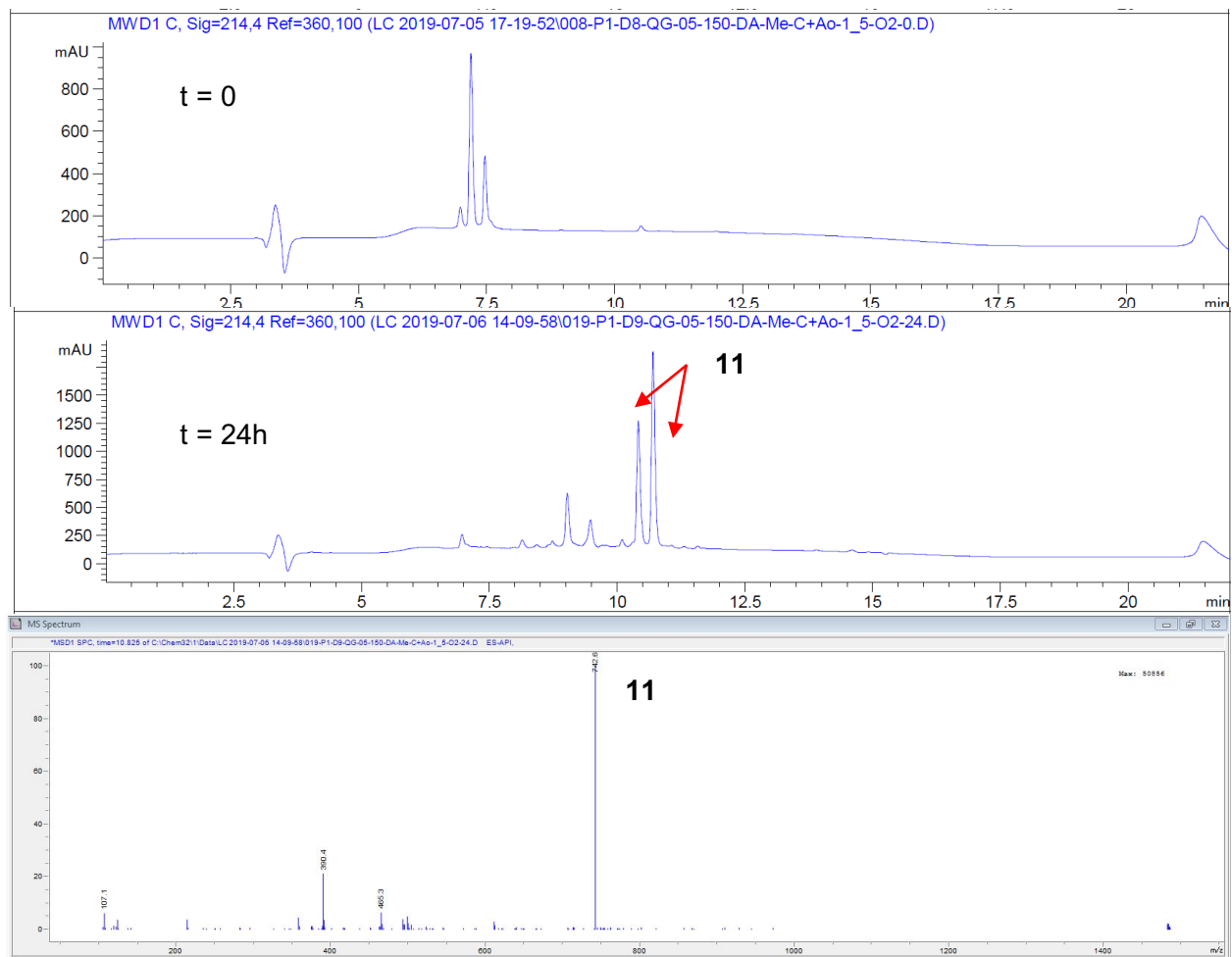


Note: The ligation is excluded due to our inability to identify the ketone after oxidation.

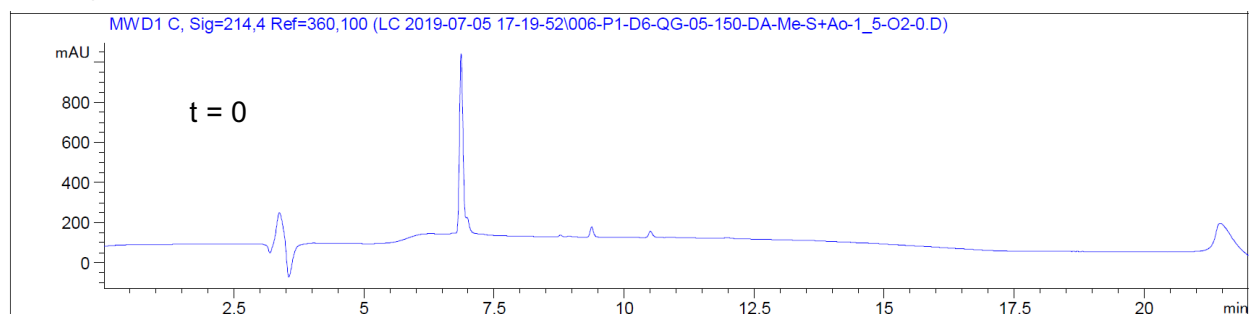
Ligation study of **N-(p-NMe₂-Ph)A-WYRAG** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

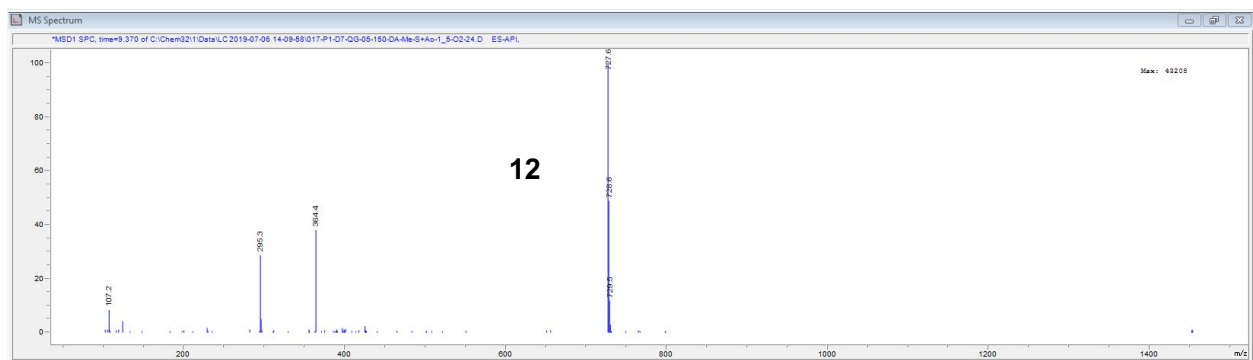
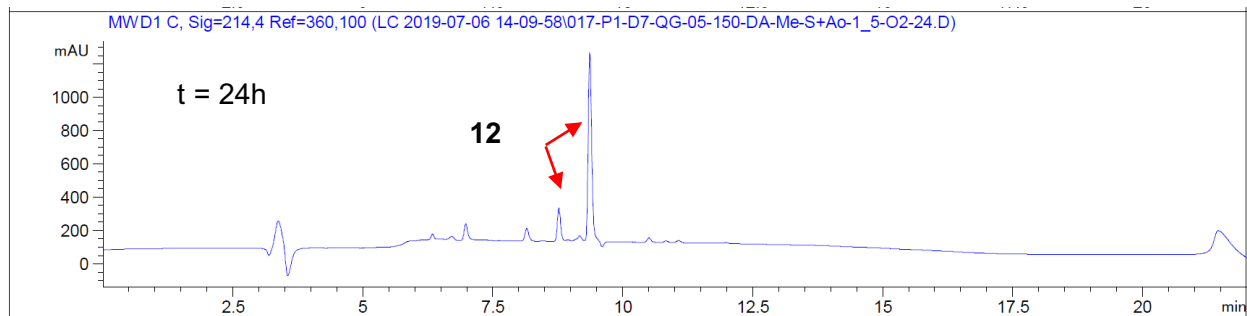


Ligation study of ***N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)A-CYRAG** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

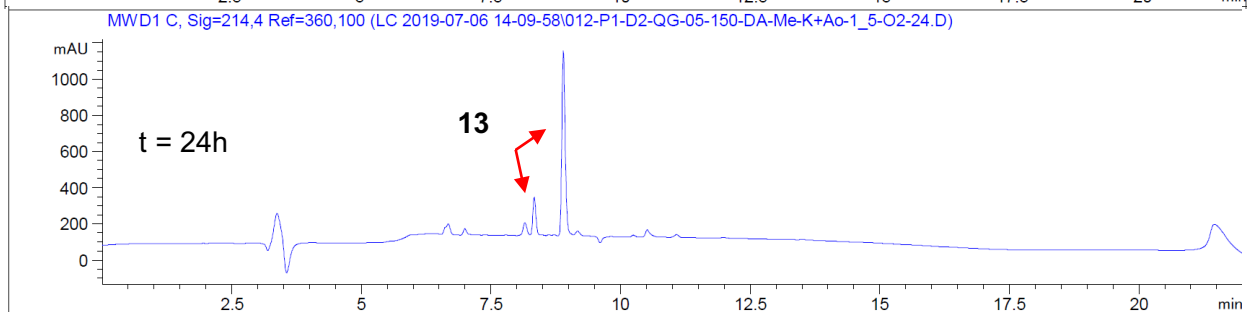
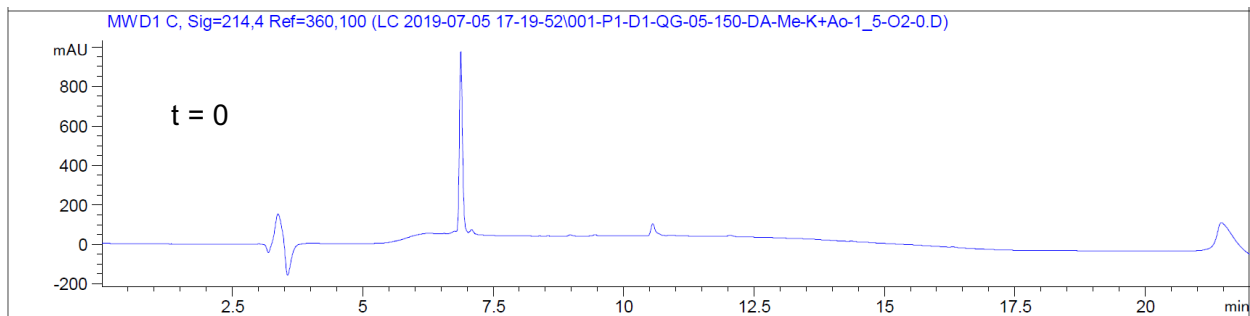


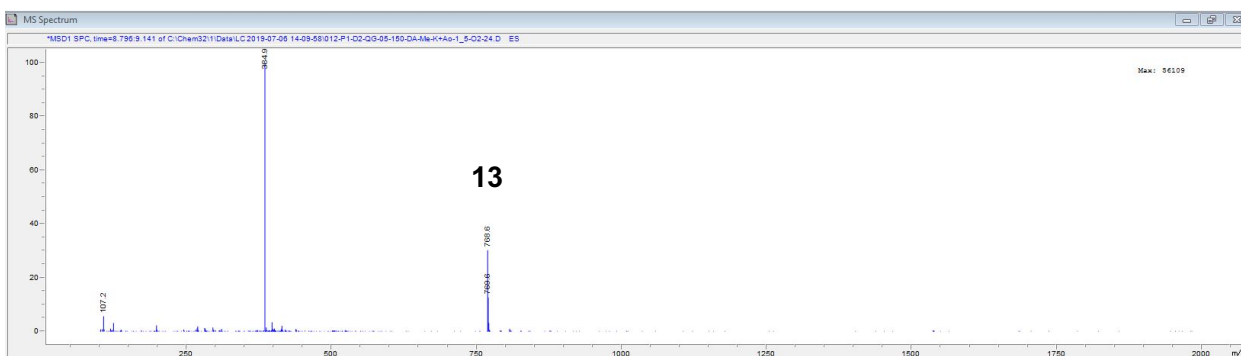
Ligation study of ***N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)A-SYRAG** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:



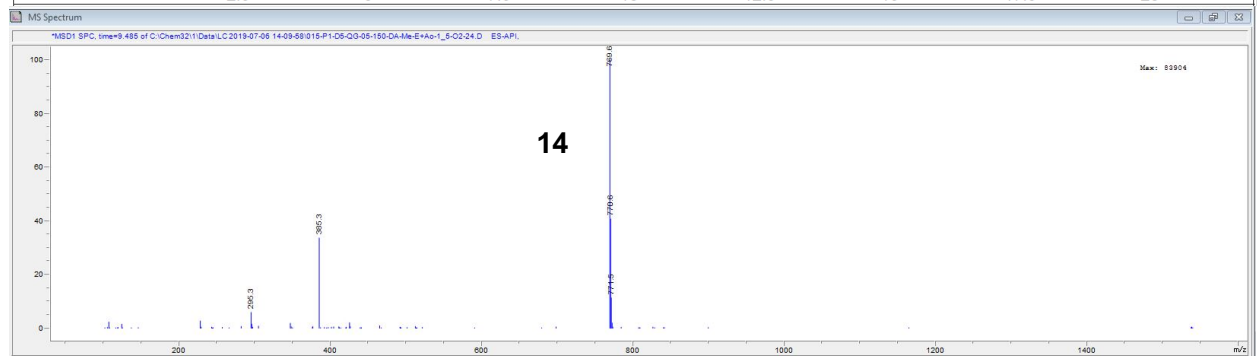
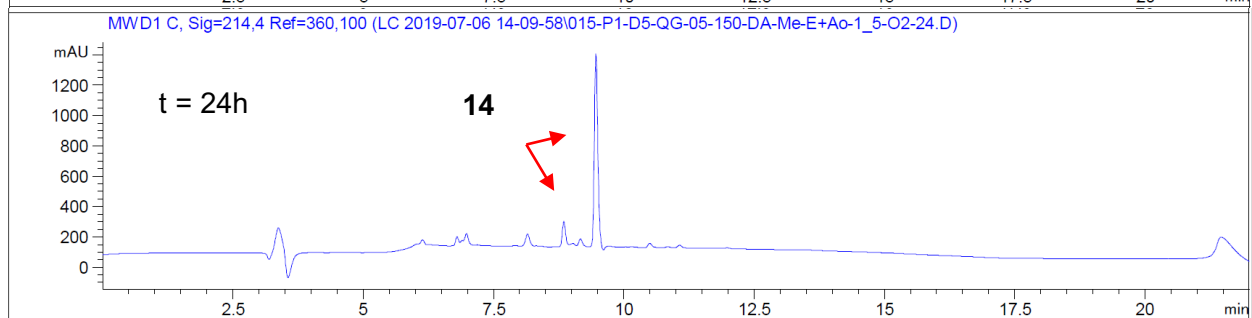
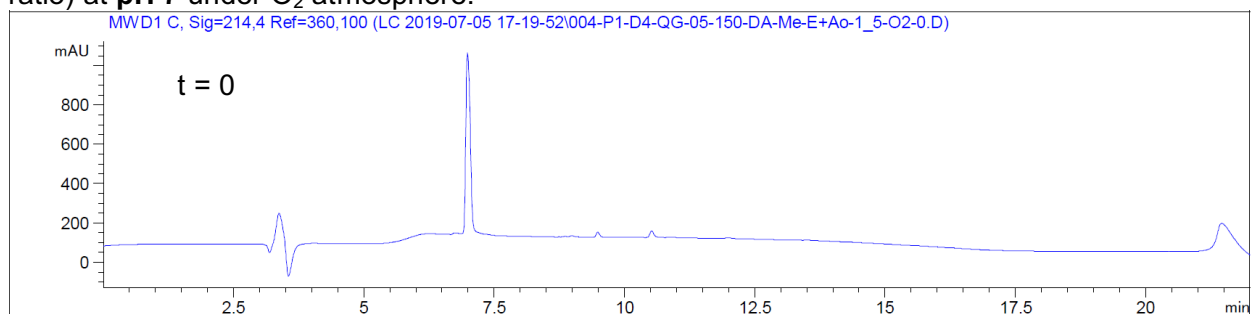


Ligation study of ***N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)A-KYRAG** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

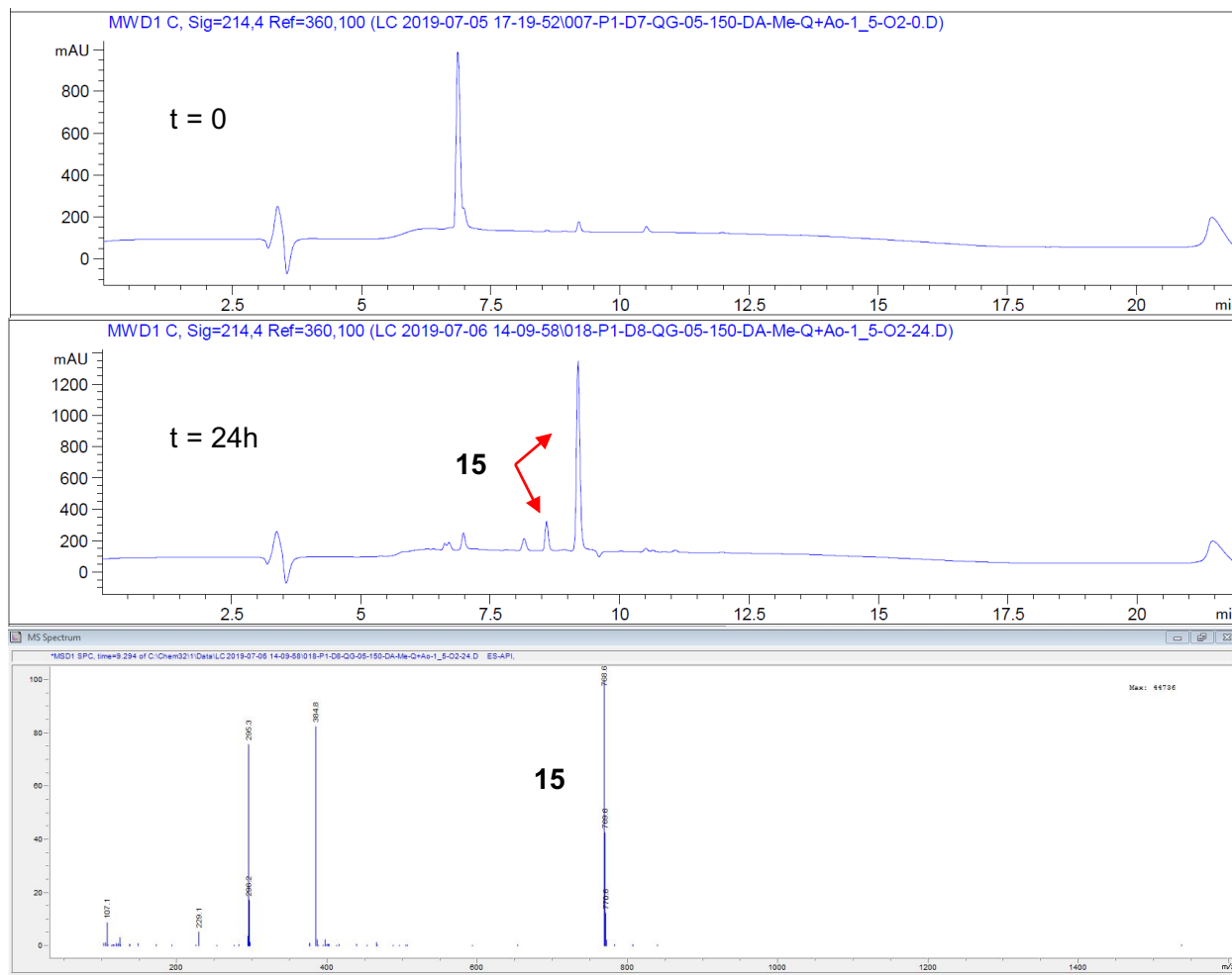




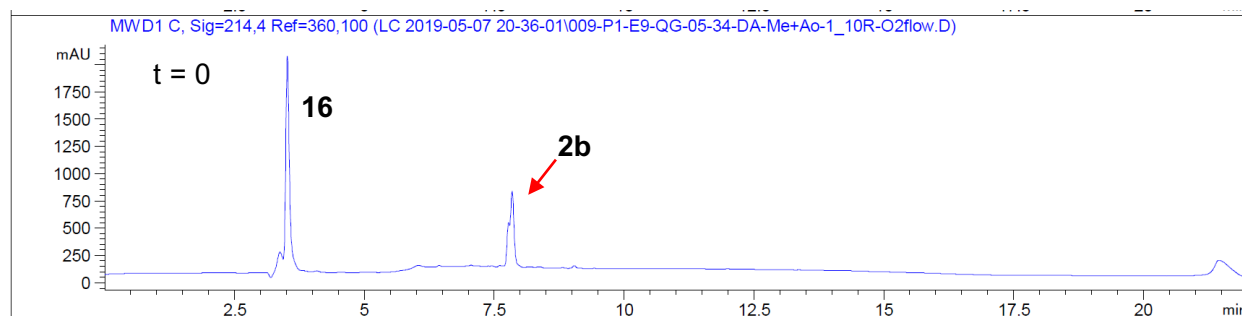
Ligation study of ***N*-(*p*-NMe₂-Ph)A-EYRAG** and *O*-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at **pH 7** under O₂ atmosphere:

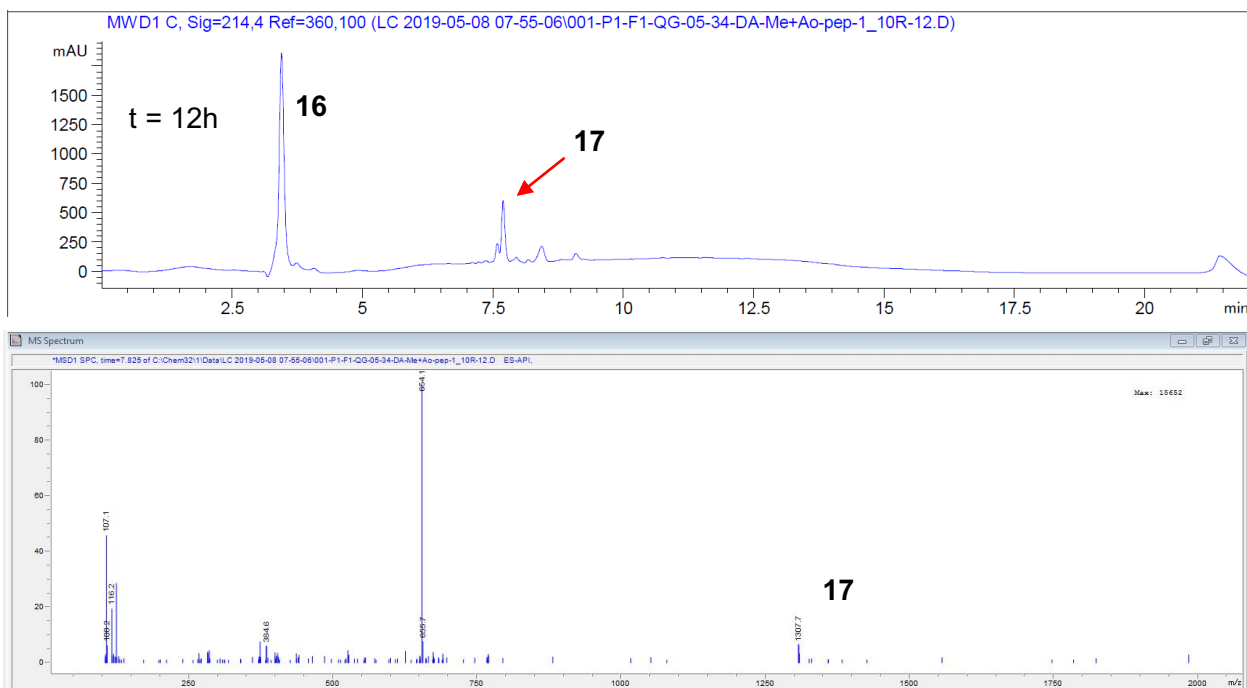


Ligation study of **N-(p-NMe₂-Ph)A-QYRAG** and O-benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1:5 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ atmosphere:

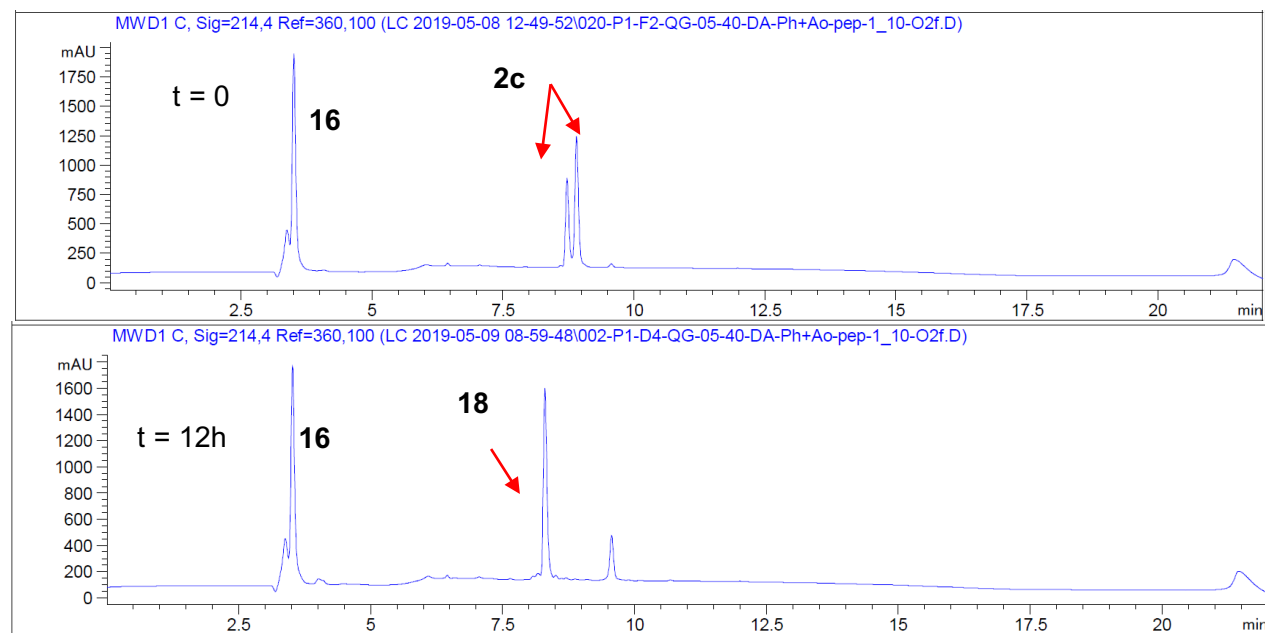


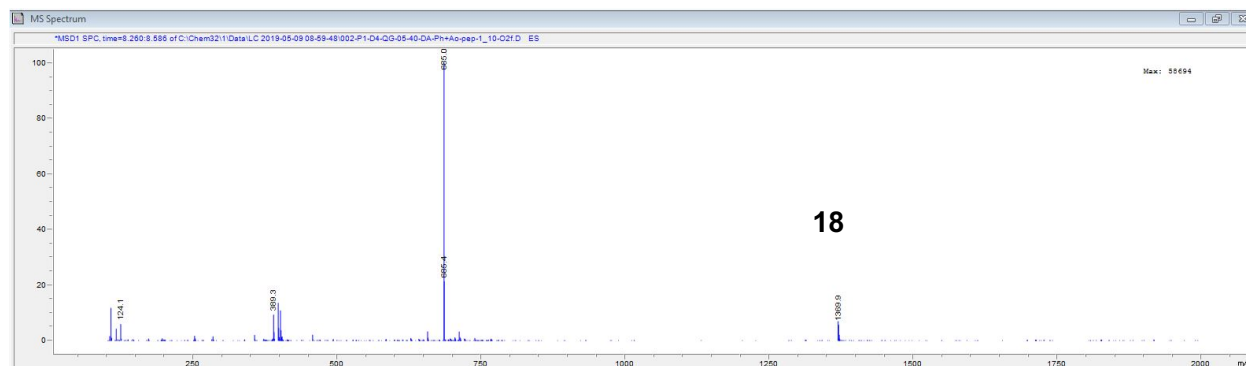
Ligation study of **2b** and aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **16** (1:10 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ balloon:



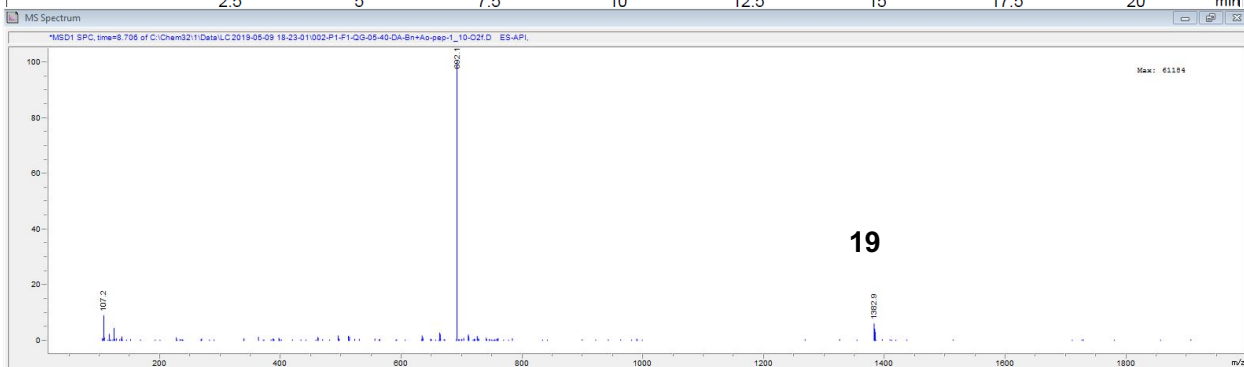
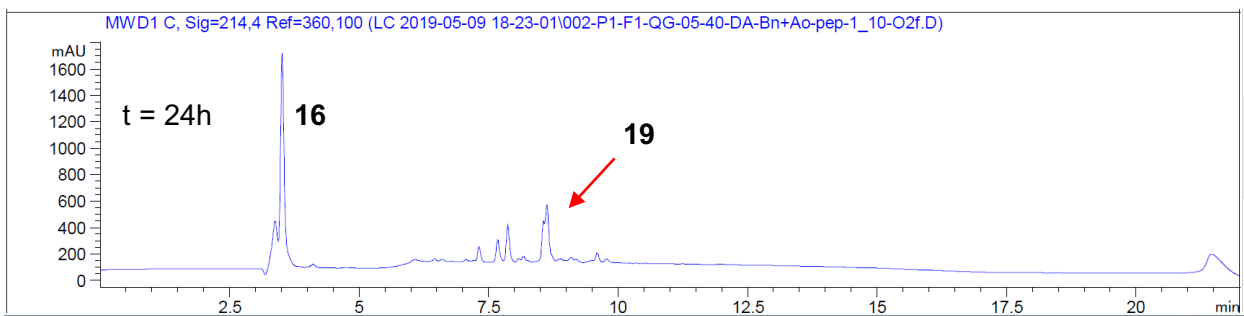
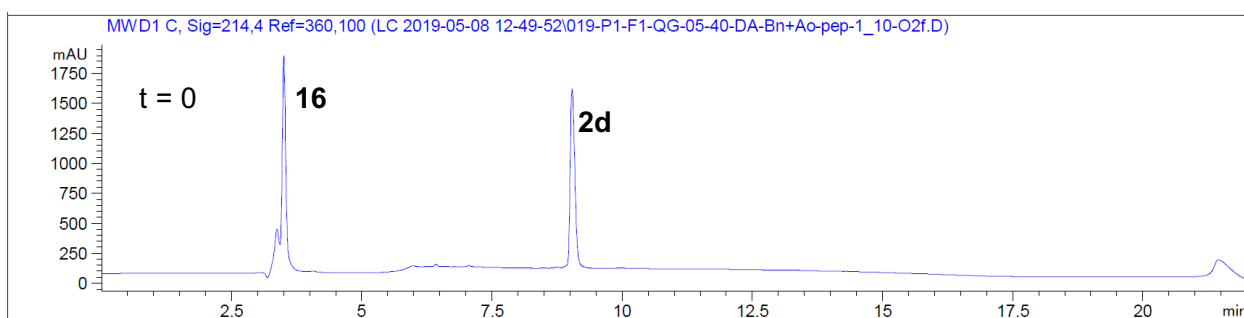


Ligation study of **2c** and aminoxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **16** (1:10 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ balloon:



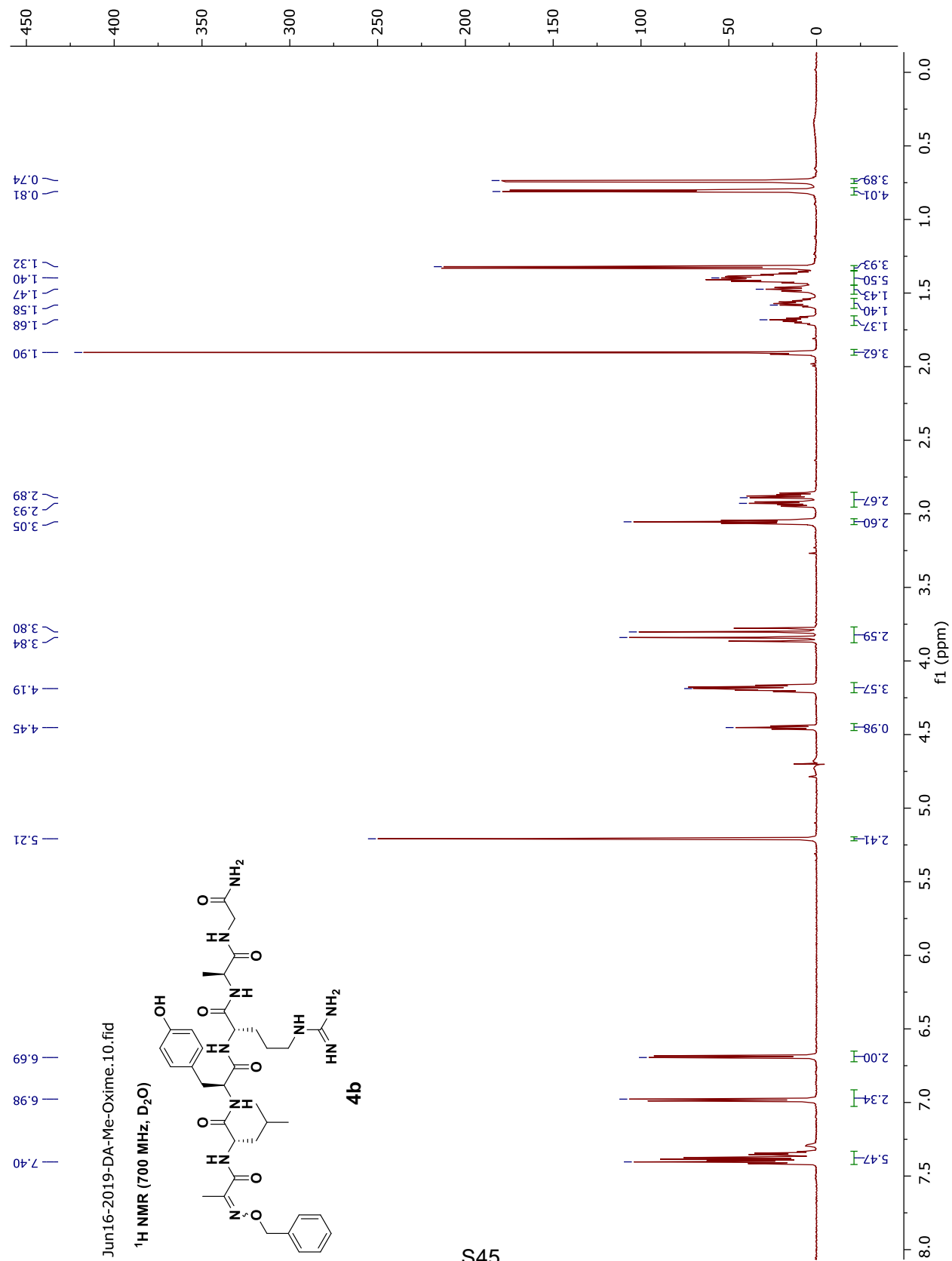


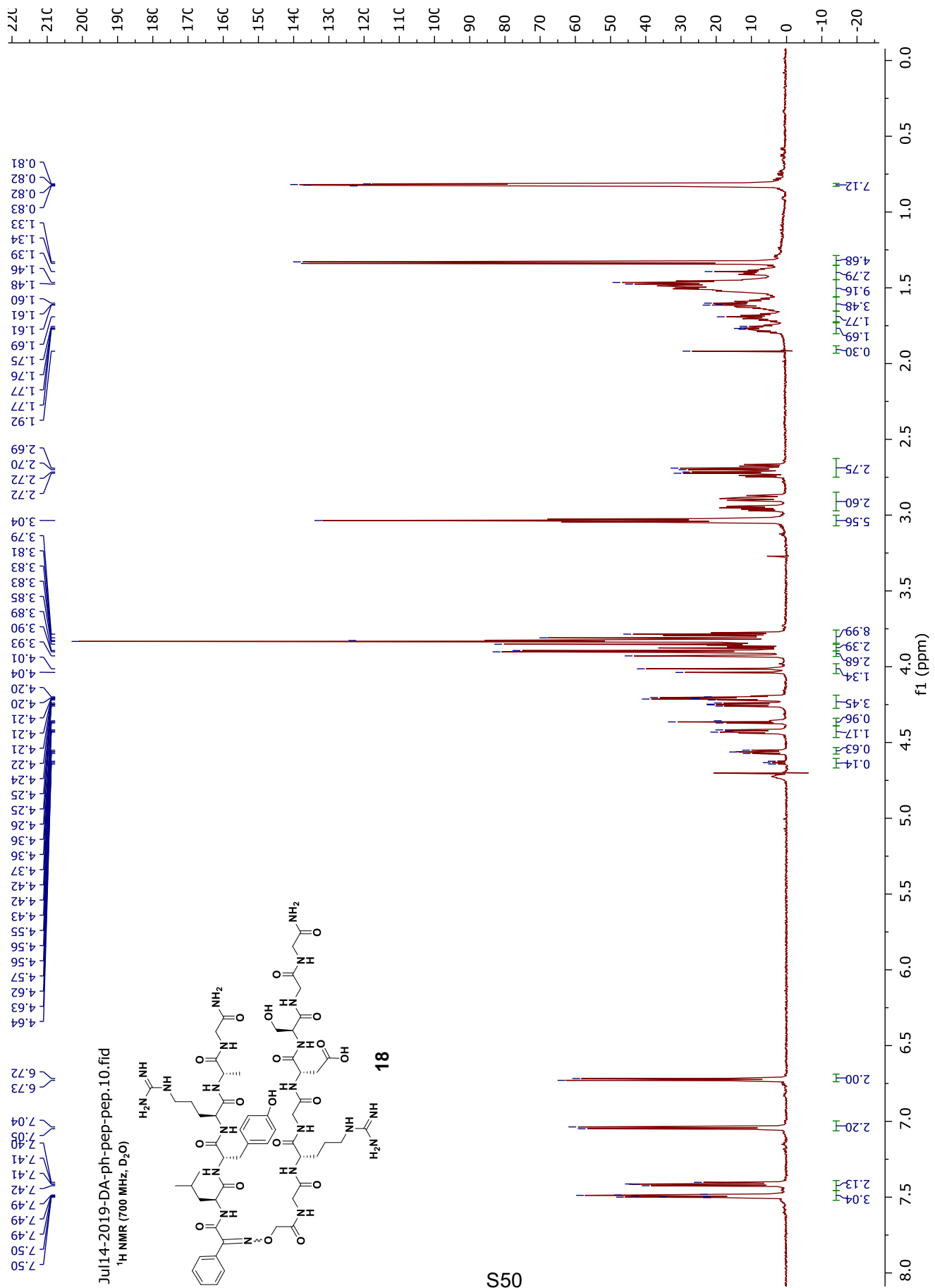
Ligation study of **2d** and aminooxyacetyl-GRGDSGG **16** (1:10 ratio) at pH 7 under O₂ balloon:



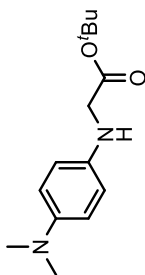
4. NMR Spectra

¹H NMR spectra of representative ketoximes **4b-d** and **17-19** can be found below:

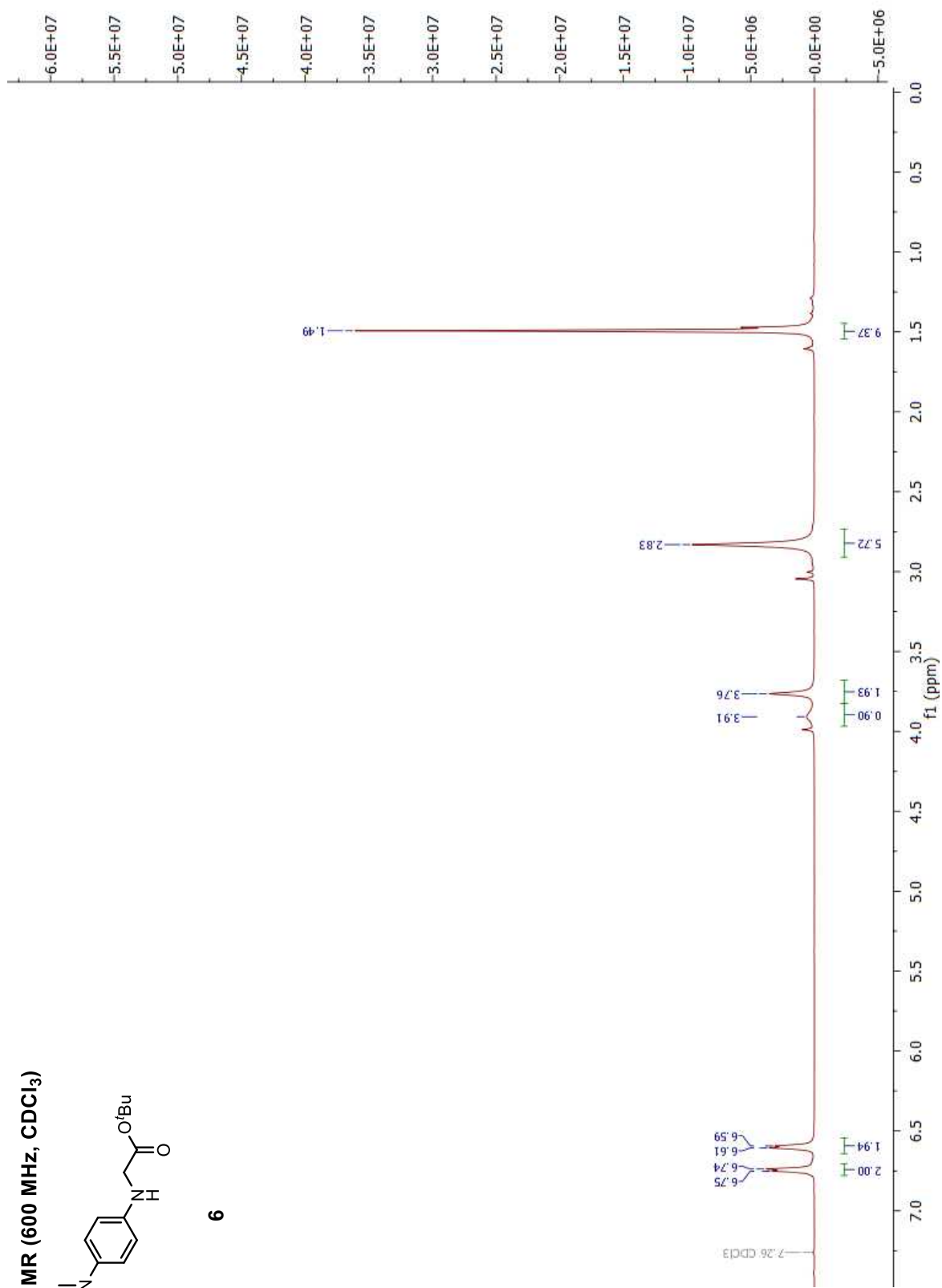


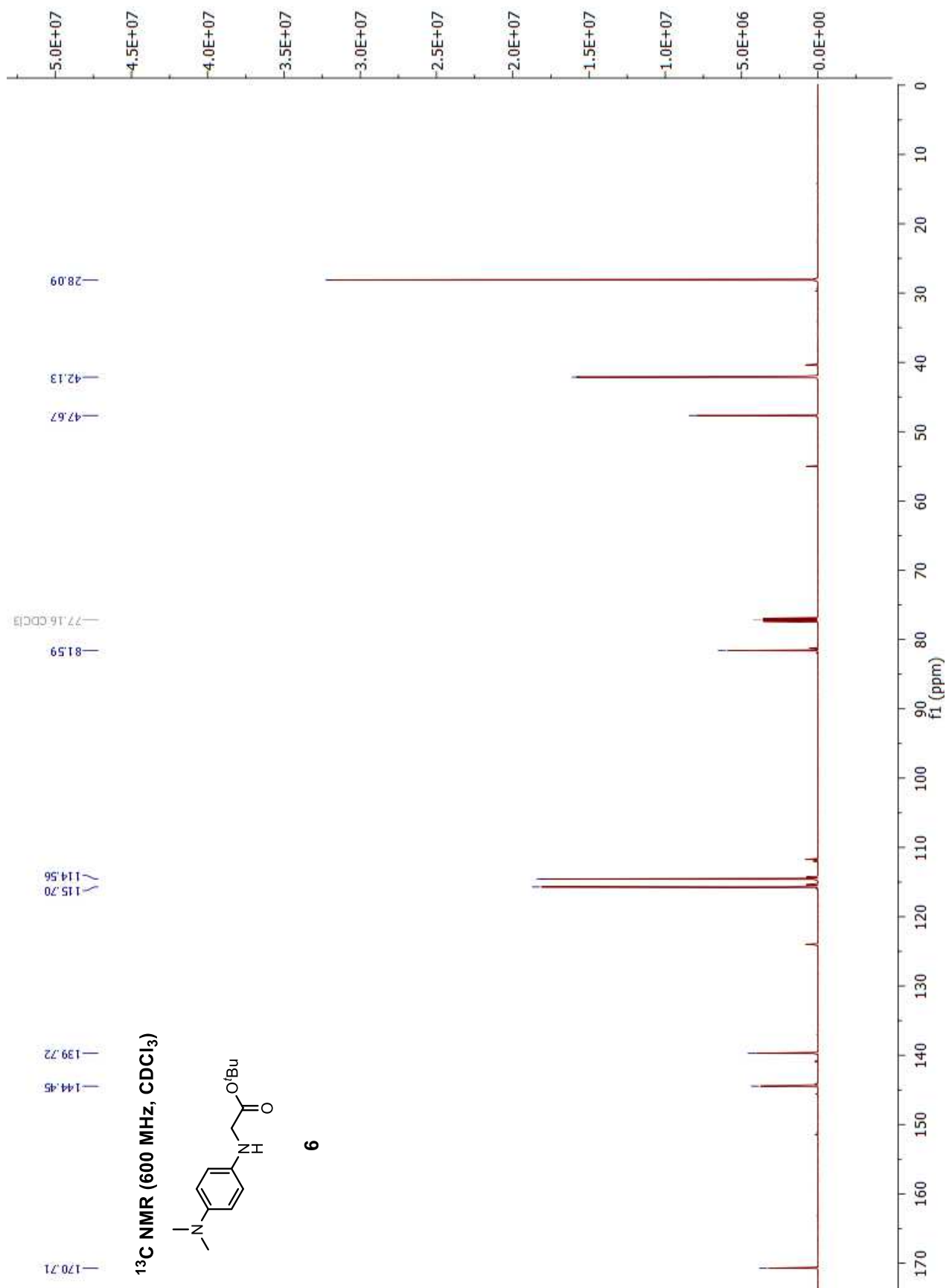


¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)

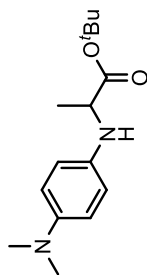


6

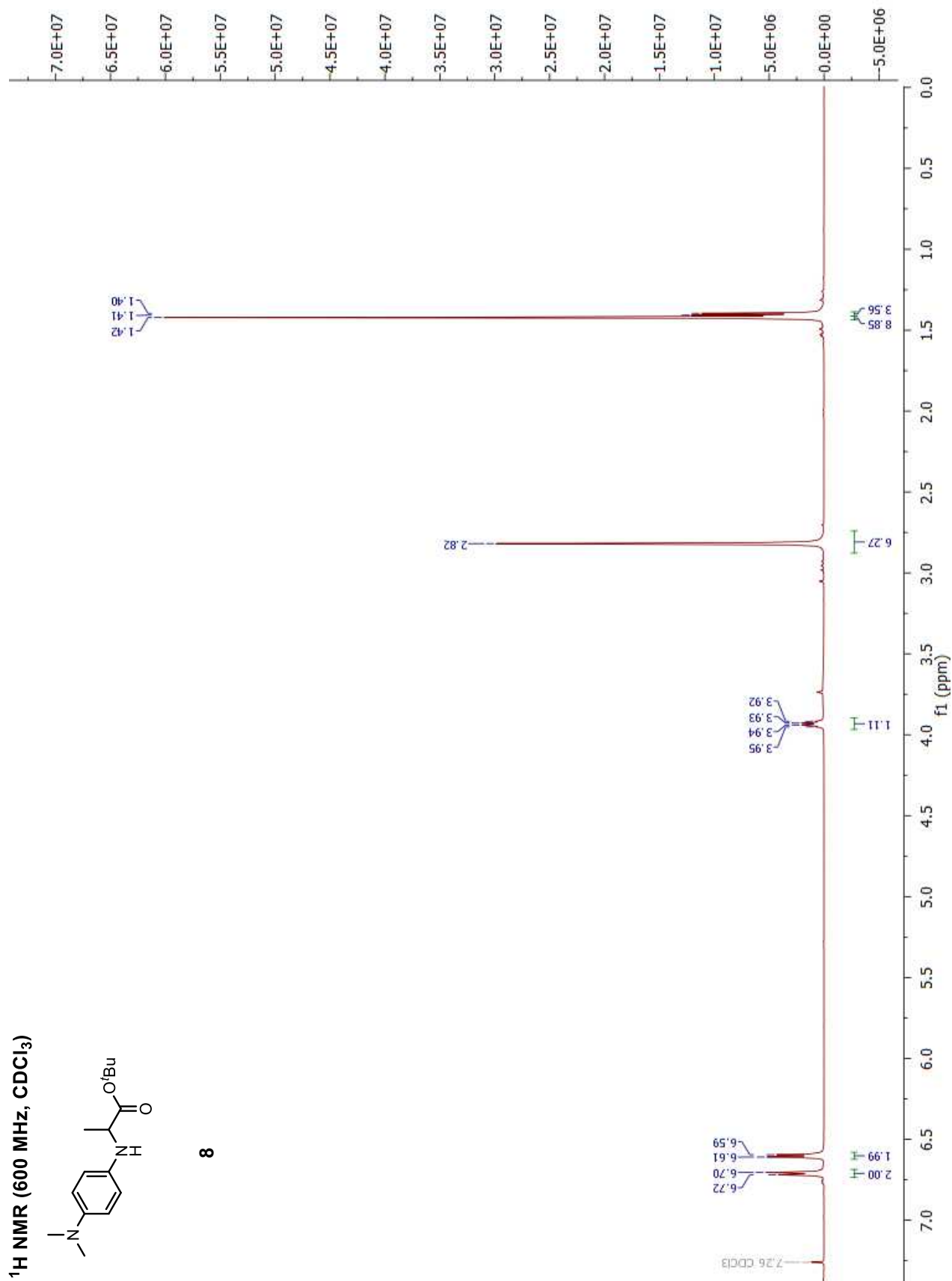


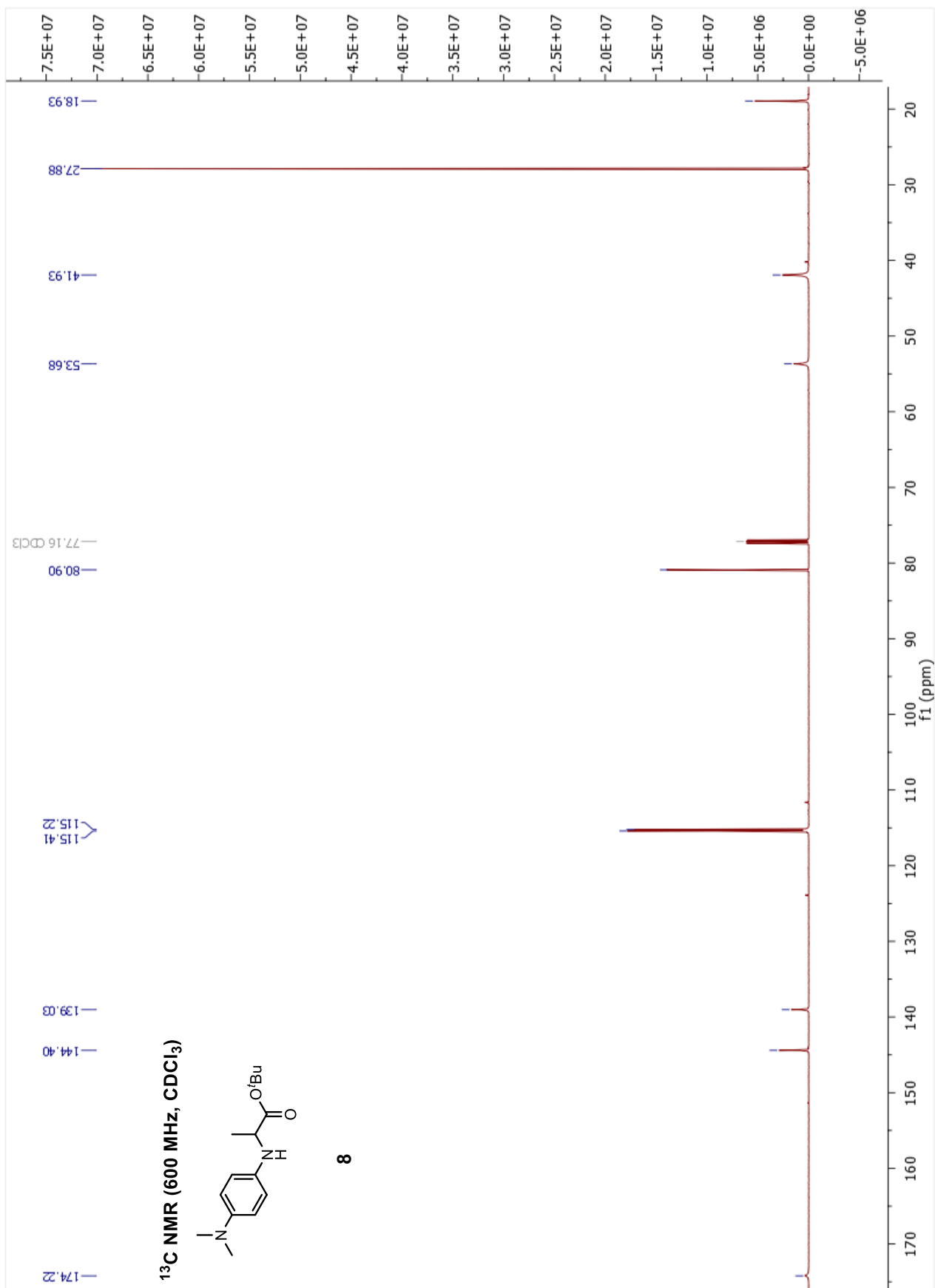


¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)

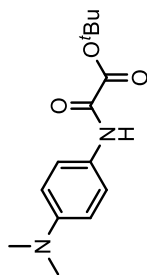


8

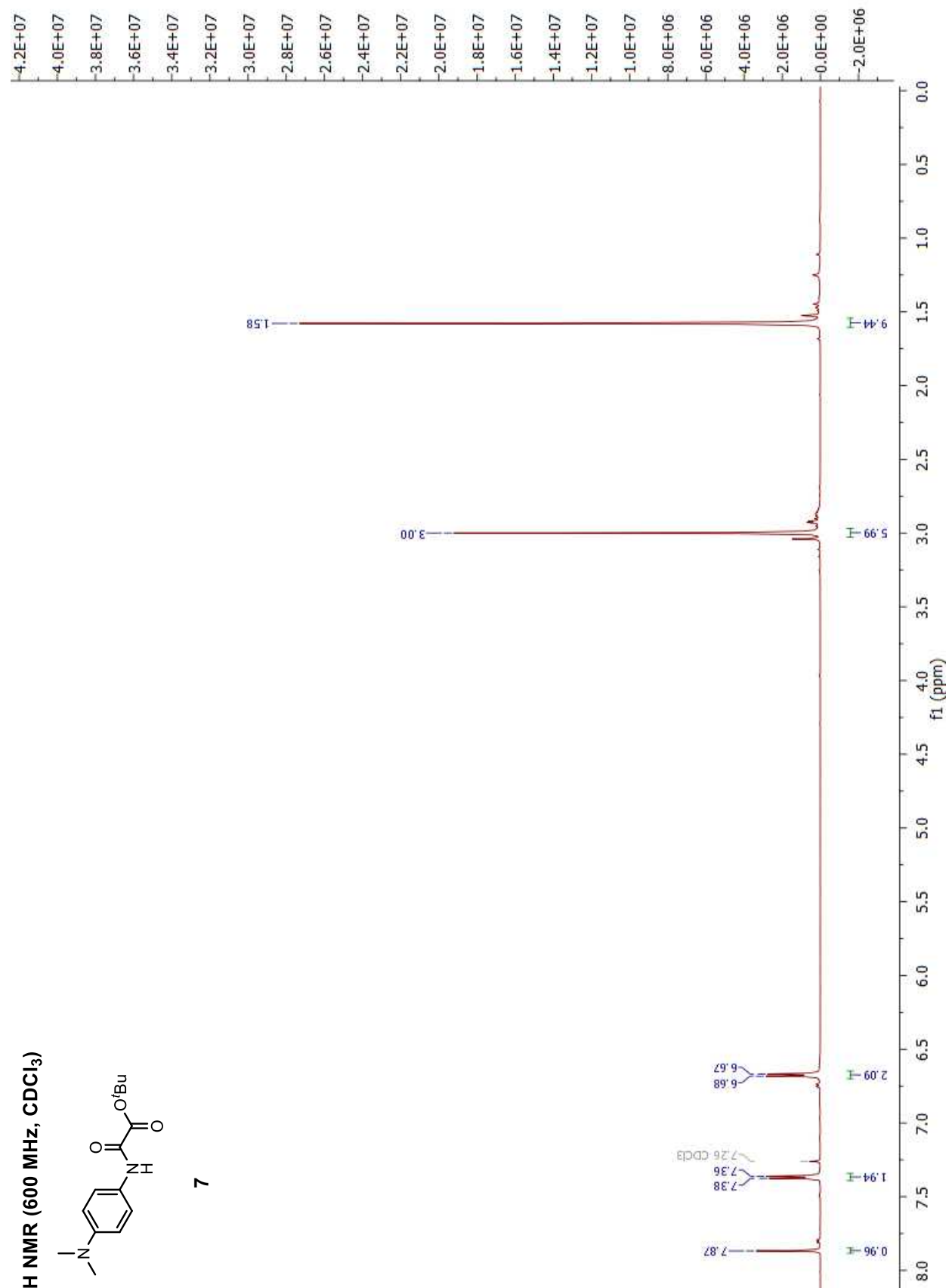


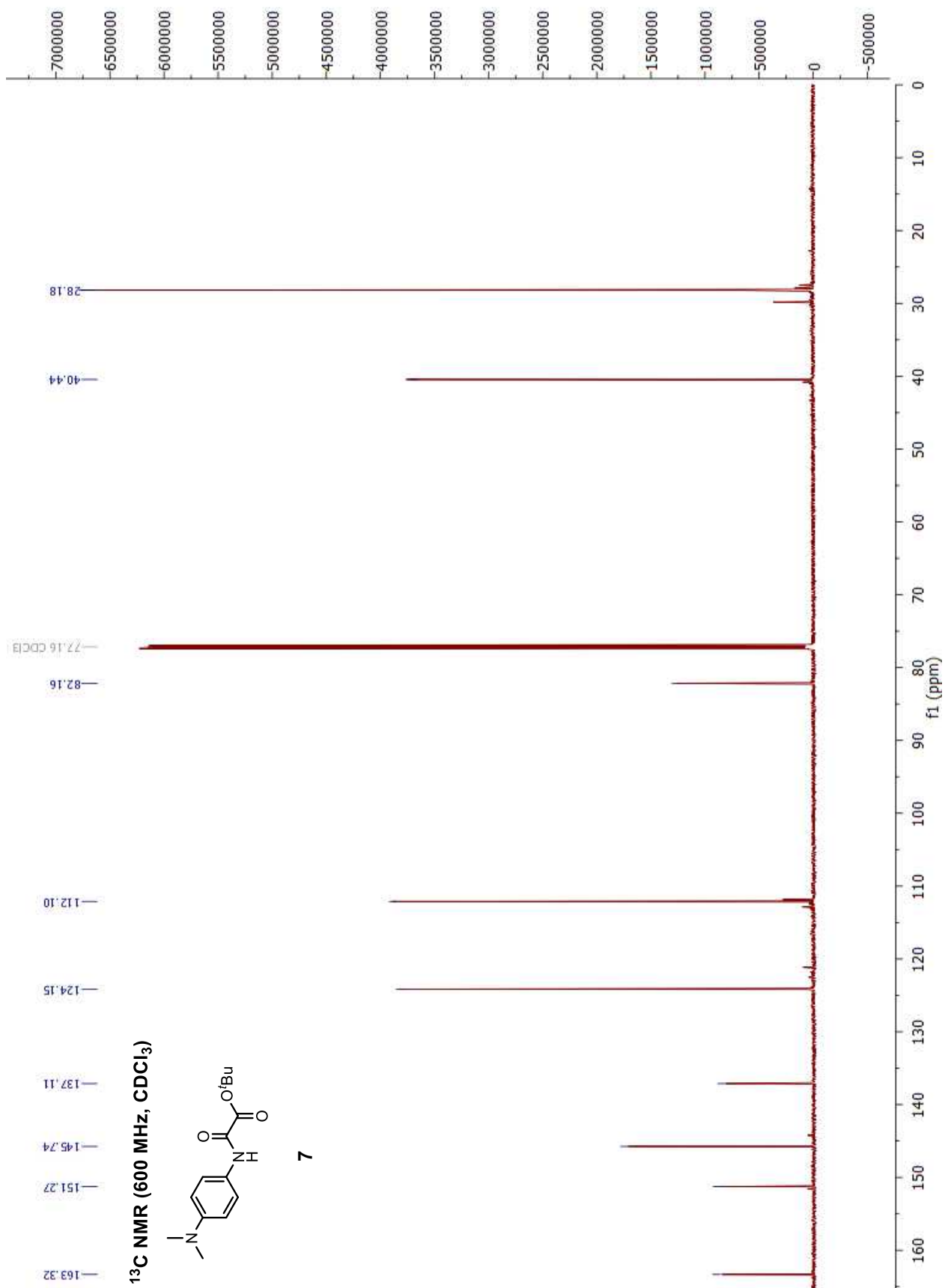


¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)



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5. References

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