

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

A BODIPY-tagged Phosphono Peptide as Activity-Based Probe for Human Leukocyte Elastase

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General Methods and Materials

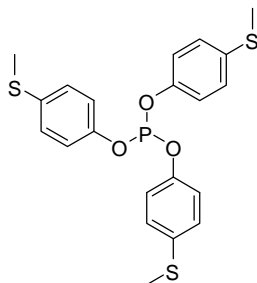
Melting points were determined on a Büchi 50 oil bath apparatus. Thin layer chromatography was performed using Merck aluminum sheets coated with silica gel 60 F₂₅₄. NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker Avance III-600 MHz and Bruker Avance DRX-500 MHz instruments. LC-DAD chromatograms and ESI-MS spectra were recorded on an Agilent 1100 HPLC system with an Applied Biosystems API-2000 mass spectrometer. HRMS was performed on a microTOF-Q mass spectrometer (Bruker, Köln, Germany) with ESI-source coupled with a HPLC Dionex Ultimate 3000 (Thermo Scientific, Braunschweig, Germany) using a EC50/2 Nucleodur C18 Gracify 3 µm column (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany). A volume of 1 µL of a sample solution (1.0 mg/mL) was injected. Mobile phase was a mixture of 2 mM aqueous ammonium acetate solution (A) and acetonitrile (B). Elution was performed from 90:10 (A:B) up to 0:100 (A:B) in 9 min, 0:100 (A:B) for 5 min.

Bromoacetic acid and boron trifluoride diethyl etherate were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (Steinheim, Germany), 4-(methylthio)phenol, isobutyraldehyde and benzyl carbamate from Alfa Aesar (Karlsruhe, Germany), Boc-Pro-OH from Carl Roth (Karlsruhe, Germany), Boc-Val-OH from Nova Biochem (Merck, Germany), 4-ethynylbenzaldehyde from Fluorochem (Hadfield, United Kingdom) and 2,4-dimethylpyrrole from TCI (Eschborn, Germany).

Absorption spectra were recorded on a Varian Cary 50 Bio, emission spectra on a Hitachi F-7000 fluorescence spectrophotometer (Tokyo, Japan) adjusted to a PMT value of 400 V. The 10 mM stock solution of **6** was prepared in DMSO. UV and fluorescence spectra were recorded in CH₂Cl₂, MeOH or H₂O, all containing 1% DMSO. The final concentration of compound **6** was 5 µM and 1 µM for recording of UV and fluorescence spectra, respectively.

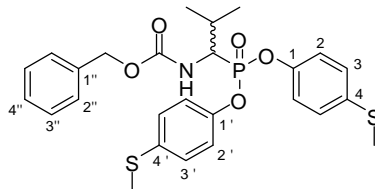
Synthetic procedures and characterization of all compounds

Tris(4-(methylthio)phenyl)phosphite (**7**)¹



Phosphorus trichloride (0.69 g, 5.0 mmol) was added to a solution of 4-(methylthio)phenol (2.1 g, 15.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (25 mL) at room temperature, and the mixture was refluxed for 3 h. The volatile components were removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting crude phosphite, an unstable compound, was immediately used for the next step without further purification.

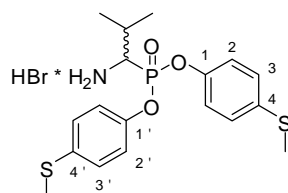
Benzyl 1-(bis(4-(methylthio)phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamate (**8**)



Tris(4-(methylthio)phenyl) phosphite (**7**, 2.24 g, 5.0 mmol) was dissolved in glacial acetic acid (25 mL), and isobutyraldehyde (0.43 g, 6.0 mmol) and benzyl carbamate (0.76 g, 5.0 mmol) were subsequently added. The mixture was heated to 90 °C for 3 h, before the solvent was evaporated. The resulting oil was dissolved in MeOH (25 mL) and stored at -20 °C for crystallization. The colorless product was filtered off, washed with cold MeOH and dried (1.2 g, 46%); mp 112–115 °C; lit.¹ mp 108 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.02 (d, ³*J* = 3.1 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.03 (d, ³*J* = 3.0 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.18–2.28 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.43 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.45 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 4.14–4.21 (m, 1H, CHPO), 5.03–5.12 (m, 2H, CH_{arom}), 7.06–7.10 (m, 4H, CH_{arom}), 7.21–7.28 (m, 4H, CH_{arom}), 7.33 (s, 3H, CH_{arom}), 7.34 (s, 2H, PhCH₂), 8.00 (d, ³*J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H, OCONH); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 15.42, 15.48 (SCH₃), 18.69 (d, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 20.18 (d, ³*J* = 10.4 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 28.81 (d, ²*J* = 5.5 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 54.52 (d, ²*J* = 153.8 Hz, CHPO), 66.04 (CH₂), 121.02 (d, ³*J* = 4.2 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 121.28 (d, ³*J* = 3.9 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 127.72, 127.79, 127.86,

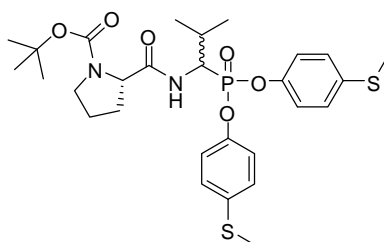
127.99, 128.46, 134.55, 134.85, 137.01 (C-1'', C-2'', C-3'', C-4'', C-3', C-4', C-3, C-4), 147.47 (d, $J = 9.5$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 147.85 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 156.70 (d, $^3J = 5.9$ Hz, OCONH); LC/MS (ESI) (H₂O/MeOH, 90:10 to 0:100) m/z : 531.9 [M + H]⁺; 93% purity. HRMS (ESI⁺) m/z : calcd for C₂₆H₃₀NO₅PS₂ [M + NH₄⁺] 549.1641, found 549.1641.

Bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl) 1-amino-2-methylpropylphosphonate (9)²



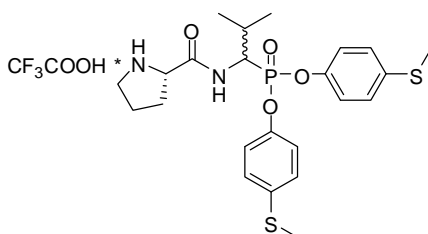
Benzyl 1-(bis(4-(methylthio) phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamate (**8**, 1.1 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in 33% HBr/AcOH solution (25 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 30 min. The volatile components were removed under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate and left for crystallization at 4 °C. The hydrobromide salt was filtered off, washed extensively with cold diethyl ether and used without further purification (940 mg, 98% yield); mp 150–154 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.14 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, CHCH₃), 1.17 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, CHCH₃), 2.36–2.42 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.451 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.454 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 4.10 (dd, $J = 4.8, 15.4$ Hz, 1H, POCH), 7.15 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.17 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.27–7.32 (m, 4H, 3-H and 3'-H), 8.70 (s, 3H, NH₃), ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO) δ 15.30, 15.31 (SCH₃), 18.46 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz, CHCH₃), 19.34 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, CH₃), 28.05 (CH(CH₃)₂), 51.78 (d, $J = 152.6$ Hz, POCH), 121.28, (d, $J = 4.1$ Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 121.34 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 127.73, 135.62 (C-3, C-3', C-4, C-4'), 146.75 (d, $J = 10.1$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 146.91 (d, $J = 9.4$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'); LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): 398.1 [M + H]⁺; 74% purity.

(*S*)-*tert*-Butyl 2-(1-(bis(4-(methylthio)phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (10)²



The bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl) 1-amino-2-methylpropylphosphonate hydrobromide (**9**, 0.97 g, 2.0 mmol) was suspended in acetonitrile (40 mL), and DIPEA (0.65 g, 5.0 mmol) was added. After complete dissolving, Boc-Pro-OH (0.43 g, 2.0 mmol) was added followed by the addition of HBTU (0.91 g, 2.4 mmol). The reaction was performed at room temperature over night. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL), washed with NaHCO₃ (50 mL), KHSO₄ (50 mL), and brine (50 mL). After drying (Na₂SO₄), the solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and the crude oil was used without further purification. LC/MS (ESI) (m/z): 595.4 [M + H]⁺; 89% purity.

(S)-Bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl) 2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidine-2-carboxamido) propylphosphonate (11**)²**



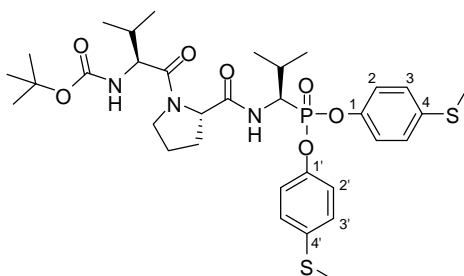
(S)-*tert*-Butyl 2-(1-(bis(4-(methylthio)phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamoyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (**10**, 1.19 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in DCM/TFA (1:1) and stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The volatile components were removed under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was dissolved in toluene (4 × 10 mL) and evaporated. The obtained phosphonic dipeptide was used without further purification.

(S,S)-*tert*-Butyl 1-(2-(1-(bis(4-(methylthio)phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl-carbamate (1**)³**

The trifluoroacetate **11** (1.22 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (20 mL) followed by the addition of DIPEA (0.65 g, 5.0 mmol). Next, the Boc-Val-OH (0.43 g, 2.0 mmol) and HBTU (0.91 g, 2.4 mmol) were added. The reaction was performed over night at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was evaporated and the resulting oil was dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL). The solution was washed with 5% NaHCO₃ (50 mL), 5% KHSO₄ (50 mL), and brine (50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under

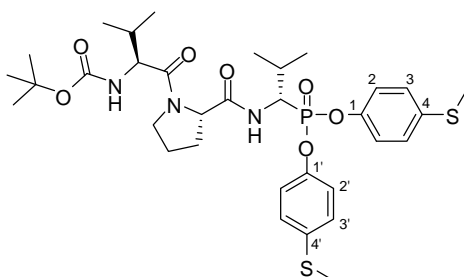
reduced pressure resulting in a crude phosphonic tripeptide. Purification and diastereomeric separation was performed by column chromatography on silica gel using CH₂Cl₂/ethyl acetate (4:1). Epimer **1B** was eluted first. Compounds **1A** (375 mg, 27% yield) and **1B** (278 mg, 20% yield) were obtained as oils, forming colorless foams under reduced pressure.

Diastereomer **1A**³ with (*S,S,R*)-configuration



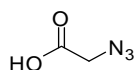
¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.97 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.00 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.07 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.41 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.80–1.87 (m, 1H, CH), 1.92–2.00 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.16–2.20 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.31–2.37 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.42 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.43 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 3.59 (m, 1H, CH), 3.70–3.75 (m, 1H, CH), 4.25–4.28 (m, 1H, CH), 4.46–4.48 (m, 1H, CH), 4.65–4.71 (m, 1H, CH), 5.25 (d, ³*J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H, CONH), 7.05 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.12 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.18 (dd, ³*J* = 8.5, ⁴*J* = 4.8 Hz, 4H, 3-H and 3'-H), 7.26 (d, ³*J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H, CONH), one CH signal is missing; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.51 (SCH₃), 16.54 (SCH₃), 17.42 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.94 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 19.59 (CH(CH₃)₂), 20.20 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 25.23, 27.35 (C_{Pro}), 28.31 (C(CH₃)₃), 29.22 (d, ²*J* = 3.8 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 31.35 (CH(CH₃)₂), 47.77 (C_{Pro}), 51.13 (d, *J* = 152.1 Hz, POCH), 56.78 (NHCHCO), 60.04 (C_{Pro}), 79.70 (C(CH₃)₃), 120.89 (d, ³*J* = 4.1 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 121.17 (d, ³*J* = 4.1 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 128.31 (C-3 or C-3'), 128.38 (C-3 or C-3'), 135.04 (C-4 or C-4'), 135.22 (C-4 or C-4'), 147.75 (d, ²*J* = 9.1 Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 148.06 (d, ²*J* = 9.9 Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 155.79 (OCONH), 171.14 (d, ³*J* = 6.7 Hz, CH_{Pro}CO), 172.81 (CON_{Pro}); ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.87; LC/MS (ESI) (H₂O/MeOH, 90:10 to 0:100) *m/z*: 694.2 [M + H]⁺; 98% purity; HRMS (ESI⁺) *m/z*: calcd for C₃₃H₄₈N₃O₇PS₂ [M + H]⁺ 694.2744, found 694.2759.

Diastereomer 1B³ with (S,S,S)-configuration



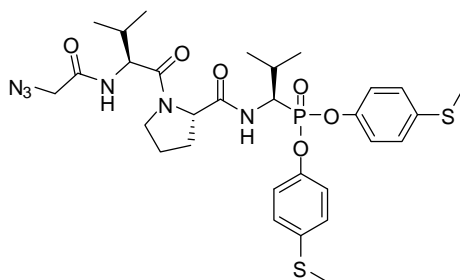
¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.82 (d, ³J = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.86 (d, ³J = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.03 (d, ³J = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.10 (d, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.40 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), 1.76–1.83 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.91–1.98 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.35–2.41 (m, 2H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.42 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.43 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 3.45–3.48 (m, 1H, CH), 3.67–3.72 (m, 1H, CH), 4.21–4.24 (m, 1H, CH), 4.66–4.71 (m, 2H, CH), 5.13 (d, ³J = 9.3 Hz, 1H, CONH), 7.05 (d, ³J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.09 (d, ³J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.17 (d, ³J = 8.5 Hz, 4H, 3-H and 3'-H), 7.31 (d, ³J = 10.3 Hz, 1H, CONH); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.54 (SCH₃), 17.35 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.89 (d, ³J = 4.3 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 19.58 (CH(CH₃)₂), 20.49 (d, ³J = 14.0 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 25.02, 27.25 (C_{Pro}), 28.31 (C(CH₃)₃), 29.23 (d, ²J = 3.6 Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 31.28 (CH(CH₃)₂), 47.73 (C_{Pro}), 51.01 (d, ²J = 153.0 Hz, POCH), 56.76 (NHCHCO), 60.27 (C_{Pro}), 79.72 (C(CH₃)₃), 120.97 (d, ³J = 4.2 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 121.26 (d, ³J = 4.0 Hz, C-2 or C-2'), 128.18 (C-3 or C-3'), 128.39 (C-3 or C-3'), 134.99 (C-4 or C-4'), 135.17 (C-4 or C-4'), 147.73 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 148.01 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 155.77 (OCONH), 171.16 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, CH_{Pro}CO), 173.48 (CON_{Pro}); ³¹P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.25; LC/MS (ESI) (H₂O/MeOH, 90:10 to 0:100) *m/z*: 694.2 [M + H]⁺; 95% purity; HRMS (ESI⁺) *m/z*: calcd for C₃₃H₄₈N₃O₇PS₂ [M + H]⁺ 694.2744, found 694.2751.

2-Azidoacetic acid (3)⁴



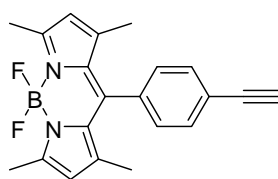
Bromoacetic acid (0.69 g, 5.0 mmol) was dissolved in H₂O (10 mL). Sodium azide (0.65 g, 10 mmol) was added and the mixture stirred overnight at room temperature. It was acidified with concd HCl, extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (30 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated at room temperature. The azido compound was used without further purification.

Bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl) (R)-1-((S)-1-((S)-2-(2-azidoacetamido)-3-methylbutanoyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxamido)-2-methylpropylphosphonate (4)



Compound **1A** (0.17 g, 0.25 mmol) was dissolved in $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{TFA}$ (1:1) and stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The volatile components were removed under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was dissolved in toluene (4×10 mL) and evaporated. The obtained TFA salt **2** was dissolved in acetonitrile (14 mL) followed by the consecutive addition of DIPEA (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol), 2-azidoacetic acid (**3**, 0.025 g, 0.25 mmol) and HBTU (0.091 g, 0.24 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred over night at room temperature. The solution was evaporated and the resulting crude oil was partially purified by column chromatography using CH_2Cl_2 /ethyl acetate (4:1) to obtain a yellowish oil (0.13 g, 76%). This material was used without a further purification in the next step. LC/MS (ESI) ($\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{MeOH}$, 60:40 to 0:100) m/z : 677.2 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$; 74% purity.

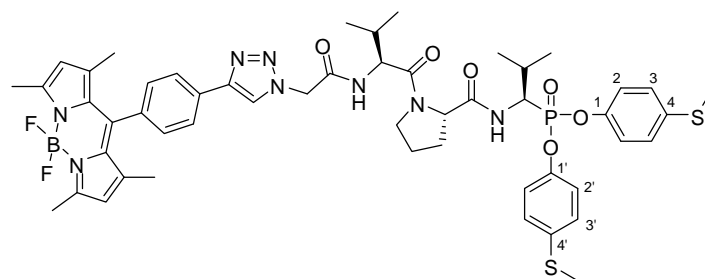
4,4-Difluoro-8-(4-ethynylphenyl)-1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-4-bora-3a,4a-diaza-s-indacene (ethynyl-BODIPY, **5)⁵**



To a solution of 4-ethynylbenzaldehyde (0.13 g, 1.0 mmol) and 2,4-dimethylpyrrole (0.22 g, 2.3 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (75 mL), TFA (0.023 g, 0.20 mmol) was added under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. After adding *p*-chloranil (0.25 g, 1.0 mmol), the mixture was stirred at room temperature for additional 30 min. Et_3N (1.82 g, 18 mmol) and $\text{BF}_3 \times \text{OEt}_2$ (2.98 g, 21 mmol) were slowly added and stirring was continued at room temperature for 6 h. The reaction mixture was washed with water (3×50 mL), brine (1×50 mL) and dried over Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 /cyclohexane 3:1) to give a magenta solid (89 mg, 26%); mp 238–242°C; lit.⁵ mp 252–253 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ

1.36 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.44 (s, 6H, CH₃), 4.32 (s, 1H, C≡CH), 6.18 (s, 2H, CH_{pyr}), 7.43–7.38 (m, 2H, CH_{arom}), 7.68–7.63 (m, 2H, CH_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 14.22 (CH₃), 14.35 (CH₃), 82.25 (C≡CH), 83.00 (C≡CH), 121.67, 122.80, 128.56, 130.57, 132.70, 134.69, 141.03, 142.76, 155.31 (C_{arom}); LC/MS (ESI) (H₂O/MeOH, 90:10 to 0:100) *m/z*: 349.1 [M + H]⁺; 97% purity. HRMS (ESI⁺) *m/z*: calcd for C₂₁H₁₉BF₂N₂ [M + H]⁺ 349.1682, found 349.1686.

10-(4-(1-(2-((*S*)-1-((*S*)-2-((*R*)-1-(Bis(4-(methylthio)phenoxy)phosphoryl)-2-methylpropylcarbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-ylamino)-2-oxoethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl)-5,5-difluoro-1,3,7,9-tetramethyl-5*H*-dipyrrolo[1,2-*c*:1',2'-f][1,3,2]diazaborinin-4-ium-5-uide (6)



The azido component (**4**, 128 mg, 0.19 mmol) and ethynyl-BODIPY (**5**, 55 mg, 0.16 mmol) were dissolved in DMSO (10 mL). A brown cloudy solution of CuSO₄ × 5 H₂O (1.97 mg, 0.0079 mmol) and sodium ascorbate (3.17 mg, 0.016 mmol) in H₂O (1 mL) was added. During the following 72 h, CuSO₄ × 5 H₂O (1.97 mg) and sodium ascorbate (3.17 mg) were added seven times and the mixture was stirred at room temperature. The solution was quenched with H₂O (20 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (30 mL), brine (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography using cyclohexane/ethyl acetate (1:2 to 0:1) to give an orange solid (80 mg, 49%); >134°C, decomposition; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.92 (d, ³*J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 0.96 (d, ³*J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.01 (d, ³*J* = 6.7, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.03 (d, ³*J* = 6.8, 3H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.40 (s, 6H, C_{pyr}CH₃), 1.89–1.99 (m, 4H, CH_{Pro}), 2.21–2.26 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.27–2.32 (m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.39 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.43 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 2.53 (s, 6H, C_{pyr}CH₃), 3.74–3.78 (m, 1H, CH_{Pro}), 3.84–3.88 (m, 1H, CH_{Pro}), 4.66 (t, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, CHPO), 4.74–4.79 (m, 1H, CH_{Pro}), 4.83 (s, 2H, CH_{pyr}, inapplicable integration), 4.95–5.01 (m, 1H, NHCHCO), 5.62 (s, 1H, CONH), 5.95 (s, 2H, CH₂), 7.01 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.04 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 2-H or 2'-H), 7.09 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, 3-H or 3'-H), 7.14 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz,

2H, 3-H or 3'-H), 7.32 (d, $^3J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H, CH_{arom}), 7.96 (d, $^3J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, CH_{arom}), 8.09 (s, 1H, triazole-H), 8.25 (s, 1H, CONH), ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.63 (CH₃C_{pyr}, CH₃C_{pyr}), 16.33 (SCH₃), 16.43 (SCH₃), 18.25 (d, $^3J = 7.6$ Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 19.01 (C_{aliph}), 20.24 (d, $^3J = 12.7$ Hz, CH(CH₃)₂), 25.08, 28.98, (C_{aliph}), 29.33 (br s, CH(CH₃)₂), 29.71, 31.87, 48.07 (C_{aliph}), 51.16 (d, $J = 155.1$ Hz, CHPO), 52.55 (CH₂), 56.14 (NHCHCO), 59.79 (C_{Pro}CO), 120.96 (t, $^3J = 4.2$ Hz, C-2 and C-2'), 121.30, 121.89, 126.43 (C_{arom}), 128.10 (C-3 or C-3'), 128.29 (C-3 or C-3'), 128.65, 131.07, 131.37, 134.97 (C_{arom}), 135.38 (C-4 or C-4'), 135.41 (C-4 or C-4'), 141.12, 143.08 (C_{arom}), 147.80 (d, $^2J = 9.8$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 147.90 (d, $^2J = 9.9$ Hz, C-1 or C-1'), 155.63 (C_{arom}), 165.25 (CH₂CONH), 170.99 (CHCON_{Pro}), 172.59 (d, $^3J = 5.8$ Hz, CH_{Pro}CONH); a signal for one aromatic carbon is missing. ^{31}P NMR (243 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.85; LC/MS (ESI) (H₂O/MeOH, 60:40 to 0:100) m/z : 1005.7 [M – F]⁺; 94% purity; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for C₅₁H₆₀BF₂N₈O₆PS₂ [M – F]⁺ 1005.3886, found 1005.3895.

General enzymatic methods

Enzymatic reactions with bovine chymotrypsin, bovine trypsin, human cathepsin B, human cathepsin L, human leukocyte elastase and porcine pancreatic elastase were recorded on a Cary 50 or 100 Bio, Varian spectrophotometer (Agilent Technologies, USA) with an emission wavelength of 405 nm. Human thrombin and bovine factor Xa were assayed on a FLUOstar Optima fluorimeter (BMG labtech, Germany) in 96 well plates with flat bottom (Sarstedt, USA). The wavelength for excitation was 340 nm and for emission 460 nm. The substrates Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Phe-pNA (bovine chymotrypsin), Boc-Ile-Glu-Gly-Arg-AMC (bovine factor Xa), Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Arg-pNA (bovine trypsin), Z-Arg-Arg-pNA (human cathepsin B), Z-Phe-Arg-pNA (human cathepsin L), and Z-Gly-Gly-Arg-AMC (human thrombin) were obtained from Bachem (Switzerland), while MeO-Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-pNA (human leukocyte elastase, porcine pancreatic elastase) was purchased from Calbiochem (Germany). The stock solutions of inhibitors (10 mM) were prepared in DMSO. All measurements were performed over 60 min in duplicate with five different inhibitor concentrations.

Enzyme inhibition assays

Bovine chymotrypsin inhibition assay.⁶ Assay buffer was 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer containing 150 mM NaCl, pH 8.4. An enzyme stock solution of 1 mg/mL was prepared in 1 mM aqueous HCl, diluted with assay buffer and kept at 0°C. A 40 mM stock solution of chromogenic substrate Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Phe-pNA was prepared in DMSO and diluted with assay buffer containing 10% DMSO. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 200 μ M ($= 2.68 \times K_m$);⁷ DMSO, 6%; bovine chymotrypsin, 50 ng/mL. Into a cuvette containing 845 μ L assay buffer, 55 μ L inhibitor solution in DMSO and 50 μ L substrate solution (4 mM) were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 25 °C, initiated by adding 50 μ L of the enzyme solution.

Bovine factor Xa inhibition assay.⁸ Assay buffer was 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer containing 100 mM NaCl and 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 8.0. The enzyme stock solution (1 U/ μ L) was prepared in water, diluted with assay buffer and kept at 0°C. A 20 mM stock solution of fluorogenic substrate Boc-Ile-Glu-Gly-Arg-AMC in DMSO was diluted with assay buffer. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 100 μ M ($= 1.69 \times K_m$); DMSO, 6%; bovine factor

Xa, 0.5 U/mL. Into each well containing 174 μ L assay buffer, 11 μ L inhibitor solution in DMSO and 10 μ L substrate solution (2 mM) were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 37 °C, initiated by adding 5 μ L of the enzyme solution.

Bovine trypsin inhibition assay.⁹ Assay buffer was 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer containing 150 mM NaCl, pH 8.4. The trypsin stock solution (10 μ g/mL) was prepared in 1 mM HCl, diluted with assay buffer and kept at 0°C. A 40 mM stock solution of the chromogenic substrate Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Arg-pNA in DMSO was diluted with assay buffer. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 200 μ M ($= 2.70 \times K_m$); DMSO, 6%; bovine trypsin, 40 ng/mL. Into a cuvette containing 845 μ L assay buffer, 50 μ L substrate solution (4 mM) and 55 μ L inhibitor solution in DMSO were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 25 °C, initiated by adding 50 μ L of the enzyme solution.

Human leukocyte elastase.⁶ Assay buffer was 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 500 mM NaCl, pH 7.8. An enzyme stock solution of 100 μ g/mL was prepared in 100 mM sodium acetate buffer, pH 5.5. An aliquot was kept at 0°C and diluted with assay buffer immediately before the measurement. A 50 mM stock solution of the chromogenic substrate MeO-Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-pNA was prepared in DMSO and diluted with assay buffer containing 10% DMSO. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 100 μ M ($= 1.85 \times K_m$); DMSO, 1.5%; human leukocyte elastase, 35 ng/mL. Into a cuvette containing 890 μ L assay buffer, 10 μ L inhibitor solution in DMSO and 50 μ L substrate solution (2 mM) were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 25 °C, initiated by adding 50 μ L of enzyme solution.

Human thrombin inhibition assay.¹⁰ Assay buffer was 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer containing 150 mM NaCl, pH 8.0. The enzyme stock solution (10000 U/mL) was prepared in water, diluted with assay buffer and kept at 0°C. A 10 mM stock solution of fluorogenic substrate Z-Gly-Gly-Arg-AMC in DMSO was diluted with assay buffer. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 40 μ M ($= 1.0 \times K_m$); DMSO, 6%; human thrombin, 1.5 U/mL. Into each well containing 173.8 μ L buffer, 11.2 μ L of an inhibitor solution in DMSO and 10 μ L of a substrate solution (2 mM) were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 25°C, initiated by adding 5 μ L of enzyme solution.

Porcine pancreatic elastase inhibition assay. Assay buffer was 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 500 mM NaCl, pH 7.8. An enzyme stock solution of 100 U/mL was prepared in 100 mM sodium acetate buffer, pH 5.5. An aliquot was kept at 0°C and diluted with assay buffer immediately before the measurement. A 50 mM stock solution of the chromogenic substrate MeO-Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-pNA was prepared in DMSO and diluted with assay buffer containing 10% DMSO. In accordance to literature,¹¹ a K_m value greater than 1000 μ M was determined using 18 different substrate concentration in triplicate measurements. For the inhibition assay, the final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 100 μ M ($\ll K_m$); DMSO, 1.5%; porcine pancreatic elastase, 0.01 U/mL. Into a cuvette containing 890 μ L assay buffer, 10 μ L of the inhibitor solution in DMSO and 50 μ L substrate solution (2 mM) were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 25 °C, initiated by adding 50 μ L of the enzyme solution.

Human cathepsin B inhibition assay.¹² Assay buffer was 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA and 0.01% Brij 35, pH 6.0. An enzyme stock solution of 0.47 mg/mL in 20 mM sodium acetate buffer containing 1 mM EDTA, pH 5.0, was diluted 1:500 with assay buffer containing 5 mM DTT, incubated for 30 min at 37 °C and kept at 0°C. A 100 mM stock solution of the chromogenic substrate Z-Arg-Arg-pNA was prepared with DMSO. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 500 μ M ($= 0.45 \times K_m$); DMSO, 2%; human cathepsin B, 18.8 ng/mL. Into a cuvette containing 960 μ L assay buffer, 15 μ L of the inhibitor solution in DMSO, and 5 μ L of the substrate solution were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 37 °C and initiated by adding 20 μ L of enzyme solution.

Human cathepsin L inhibition assay.¹² Assay buffer was 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA and 0.01% Brij 35, pH 6.0. An enzyme stock solution of 135 μ g/mL in 20 mM malonate buffer containing 400 mM NaCl and 1 mM EDTA, pH 5.5, was diluted 1:100 with assay buffer containing 5 mM DTT, incubated for 30 min at 37 °C and kept at 0°C. A 10 mM stock solution of the chromogenic substrate Z-Phe-Arg-pNA was prepared with DMSO. The final concentrations were as follows: substrate, 100 μ M ($= 5.88 \times K_m$); DMSO, 2%; human cathepsin L, 54 ng/mL. Into a cuvette containing 940 μ L assay buffer, 10 μ L of the inhibitor solution in DMSO and 10 μ L of the substrate solution were added and thoroughly mixed. The reaction was performed at 37 °C, initiated by adding 20 μ L of the enzyme solution.

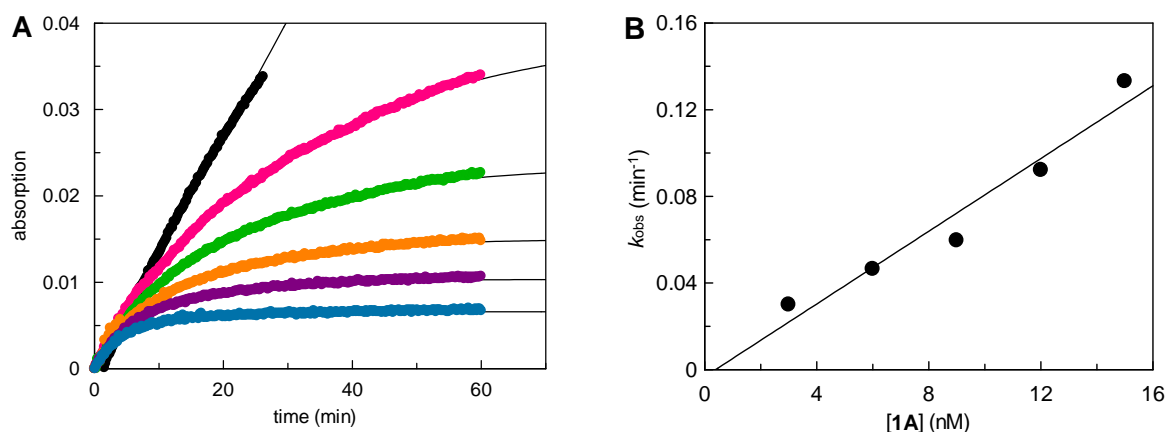


Figure S1. Inhibition of HLE with compound 1A. (A) Product formation in the presence of varying inhibitor concentrations. From top to bottom: 0 nM, 3 nM, 6 nM, 9 nM, 12 nM, 15 nM. Progress curves were analyzed using the equation $[P] = v_i (1 - \exp(-k_{\text{obs}} t))/k_{\text{obs}} + d$. (B) The first-order rate constants k_{obs} (mean values from duplicate measurements) were plotted against the inhibitor concentrations.

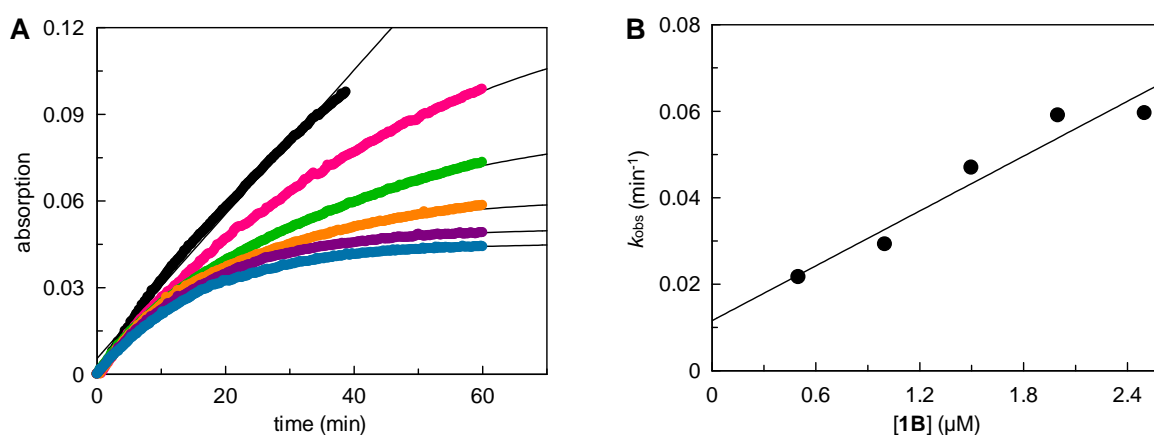


Figure S2. Inhibition of HLE with compound 1B. (A) Product formation in the presence of varying inhibitor concentrations. From top to bottom: 0 μM , 0.5 μM , 1 μM , 1.5 μM , 2 μM , 2.5 μM . Progress curves were analyzed using the equation $[P] = v_i (1 - \exp(-k_{\text{obs}} t))/k_{\text{obs}} + d$. (B) The first-order rate constants k_{obs} (mean values from duplicate measurements) were plotted against the inhibitor concentrations.

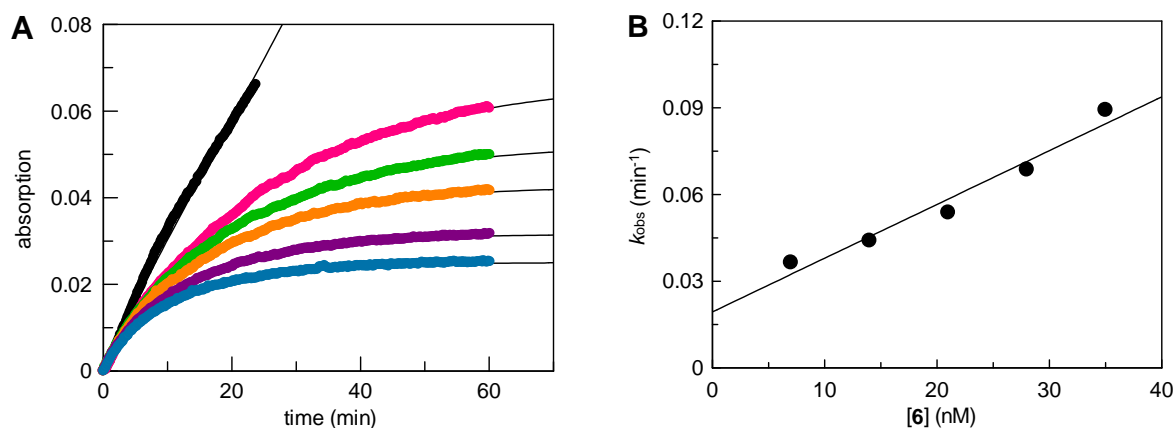


Figure S3. Inhibition of HLE with probe 6. (A) Product formation in the presence of varying inhibitor concentrations. From top to bottom: 0 nM, 7 nM, 14 nM, 21 nM, 29 nM, 35 nM. Progress curves were analyzed using the equation $[P] = v_i (1 - \exp(-k_{obs} t))/k_{obs} + d$. (B) The first-order rate constants k_{obs} (mean values from duplicate measurements) were plotted against the inhibitor concentrations.

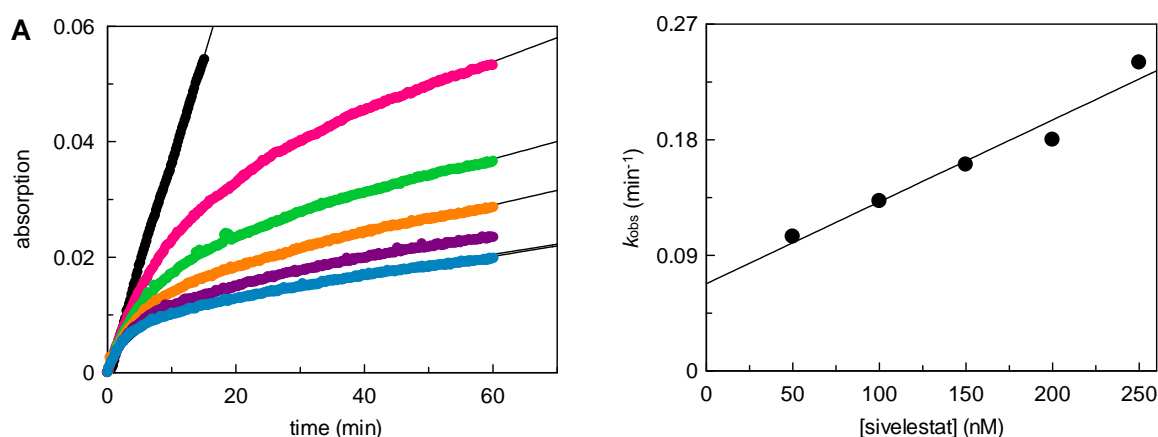


Figure S4. Inhibition of HLE with sivelestat. (A) Product formation in the presence of varying inhibitor concentrations. From top to bottom: 0 nM, 50 nM, 100 nM, 150 nM, 200 nM, 250 nM. Progress curves were analyzed by non-linear regression using the equation $[P] = v_s t + (v_i - v_s)(1 - \exp(-k_{obs} t))/k_{obs} + d$, where $[P]$ is the product concentration, v_s is the steady state rate, v_i is the initial rate, k_{obs} is the observed first-order rate constant and d is the offset. (B) Values k_{obs} were plotted against inhibitor concentrations $[I]$ and k_{on} and k_{off} values were obtained by linear regression using the equation $k_{obs} = [I] k_{on} / (1 + [S]/K_m) + k_{off}$, from the slope and the intercept, respectively. The standard errors refer to this linear regression. The K_i value was calculated from the equation $K_i = k_{off} / k_{on}$.

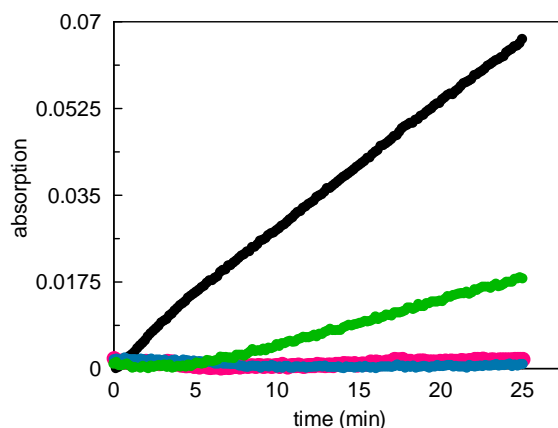


Figure S5. Reactivation experiments. Green: The enzyme (HLE) was incubated in assay buffer with sivelestat for 30 min at 25 °C in a volume of 985.5 μL . A volume of 14.5 μL of a substrate (MeO-Suc-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-pNA) solution was added and the reaction was immediately monitored. The final concentrations were as follows, sivelestat 200 nM, substrate 1 mM, DMSO 1.5%. Blue: The same experiment was performed with compound **1A** in a final concentration of 20 nM. Magenta: The same experiment was performed with activity-based probe **6** in a final concentration of 50 nM. Black: The same experiment was performed in the absence of inhibitors.

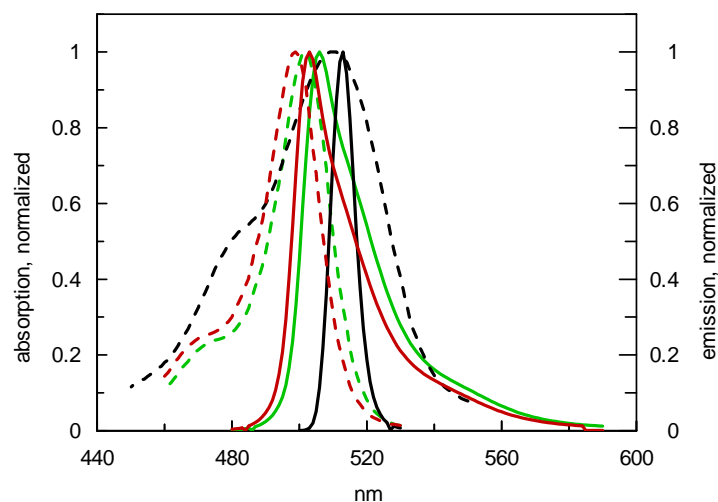


Figure S6. Normalized absorption and emission spectra of probe 6. Absorption (dashed lines) and emission (solid lines) spectra were recorded at concentrations of 5 μM and 1 μM , respectively, in the corresponding solvent containing 1% DMSO. Red: MeOH, λ_{ex} = 499 nm, λ_{em} = 503 nm; green: CH_2Cl_2 , λ_{ex} = 502 nm, λ_{em} = 506 nm; black: H_2O , λ_{ex} = 509 nm, λ_{em} = 513 nm.

Detection of human leukocyte elastase with probe 6

Estimation of the detection limit. A 200 μM solution of probe **6** was prepared in DMSO. A HLE solution of 267 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ was prepared in 100 mM sodium acetate buffer, pH 5.5. Elastase assay buffer, *i.e.* 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer containing 500 mM NaCl, pH 7.8, was used to prepare mixtures of a total volume of 40 μL containing 2.5 μM of the probe, 2.5% DMSO and varying concentrations of HLE (10.7 ng/ μL , 18.0 ng/ μL , 25.3 ng/ μL , 32.7 ng/ μL , 40.0 ng/ μL). These mixtures were incubated at 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 20 min. To 18 μL of each mixture, 6 μL of reducing 4 \times Roti-Load 1 buffer (Roth, Germany) was added followed by incubation for 5 min at 95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. After centrifugation (14,000 g, 5 min), aliquotes of 20 μL were applied to SDS-PAGE analysis. Gels (13%) were run in Tris/glycine/SDS buffer (25 mM Tris, 192 mM glycine, 0.1% SDS). The enzyme was visualized by in-gel fluorescence detection using a Typhoon Trio scanner (GE Healthcare, UK) with a 488-nm blue laser and an emission 520-nm band-pass filter (520 BP 40). A PMT value of 350 V and a pixel size scanning resolution of 100 μm were adjusted. PageRuler Plus Prestained Protein Ladder (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA) served as standards.

Competition experiment. A 400 μM solution of sivelestat (Sigma Aldrich, Germany) was prepared in DMSO. Two mixtures of a total volume of 39 μL containing HLE (41.08 ng/ μL) were prepared in elastase assay buffer. A volume of 0.5 μL sivelestat solution or 0.5 μL DMSO were added and both mixtures were incubated at 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 5 min. A volume of 0.5 μL of a 200 μM solution of probe **6** in DMSO was added to both samples to reach the following concentrations: probe **6**, 2.5 μM ; DMSO, 2.5%; HLE, 40 ng/ μL ; sivelestat, 5.0 μM . These mixtures were incubated at 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 20 min. SDS-PAGE and in gel fluorescence detection were performed as described above.

Preparation of cell lysate.¹³ HEK 293 cells were cultured in DMEM (Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium) supplemented with penicillin (100 U/mL; Invitrogen, Germany), streptomycin (100 µg/mL; Invitrogen, Germany) and fetal bovine serum (FBS) (10%; PPA Laboratories, Germany) under a humidified atmosphere of 5% CO₂ at 37 °C. For the preparation of the cell lysate, confluent HEK cells seeded on a 5 cm² growth area were washed two times with phosphate buffer saline (PBS) and scraped off with 1 mL of PBS buffer followed by homogenization *via* ten aspirations through a 23-gauge needle. Intact cells and nuclei were removed by centrifugation (2000 g, 5 min, 4 °C). The resulting supernatants were subjected to protein quantification with Roti-Nanoquant (Roth, Germany).

Survey of the probe's selectivity. HEK lysate was received as described above. Three mixtures were prepared in elastase assay buffer, all containing probe **6**. A volume of 6.0 µL of HLE was added to the first and second mixture. A volume of or 4.9 µL HEK cell lysate spiked with 6.0 µL of HLE was added to the third mixture. The mixtures were incubated at 25 °C for 20 min. After incubation, 4.9 µL of HEK cell lysate was added to the second mixture. In the final volume of 40 µL, the mixtures contained the following concentrations: probe **6**, 2.5 µM; DMSO, 2.5%; HLE, 40 ng/µL; HEK cell lysate, 0.60 µg/µL. SDS-PAGE and in-gel fluorescence detection were performed as described above.

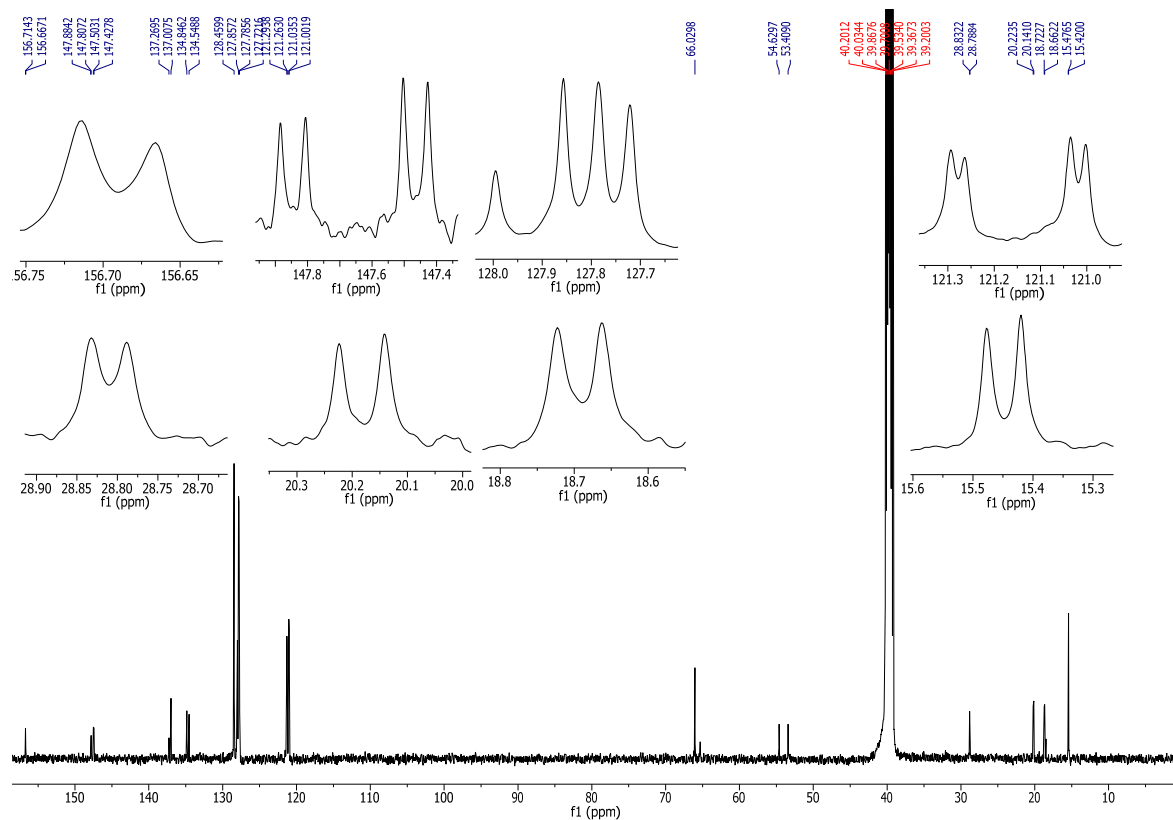
Colloidal Coomassie G-250 staining. Proteins were stained over night with PageBlue Protein Staining Solution (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). Gels were captured with a G:BOX F3 Gel Documentation System (Syngene, Cambridge, UK) using a visible light converter screen with the UV transilluminator.

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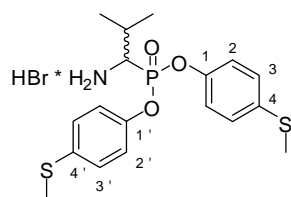
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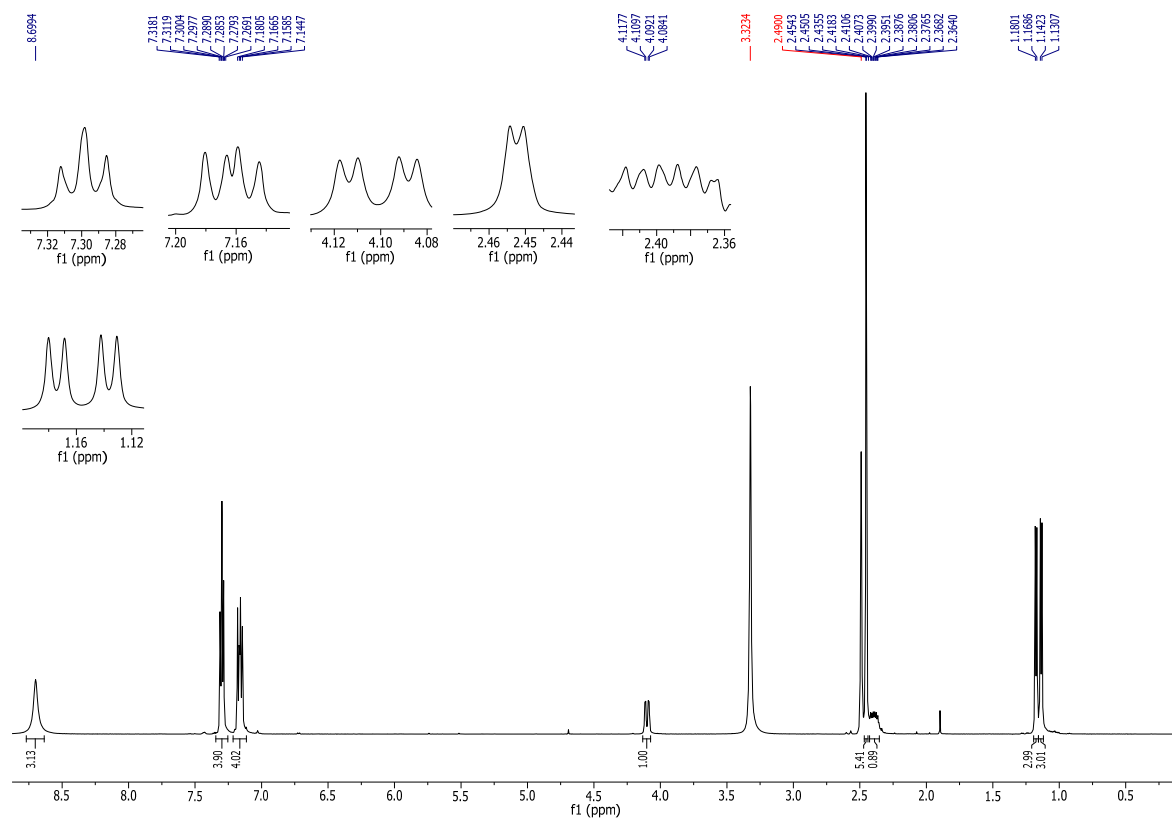
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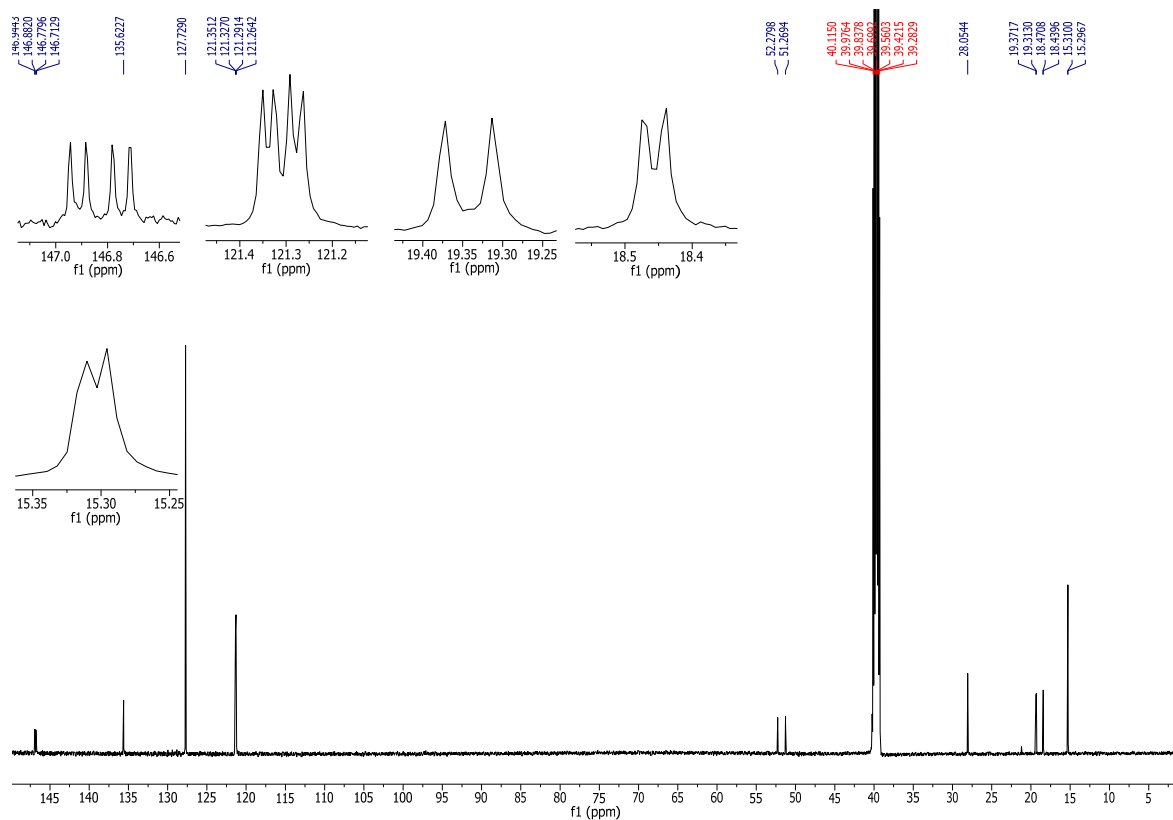
NMR spectra of compound **9**



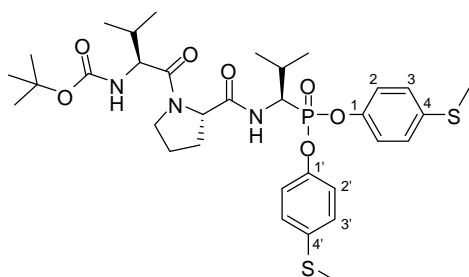
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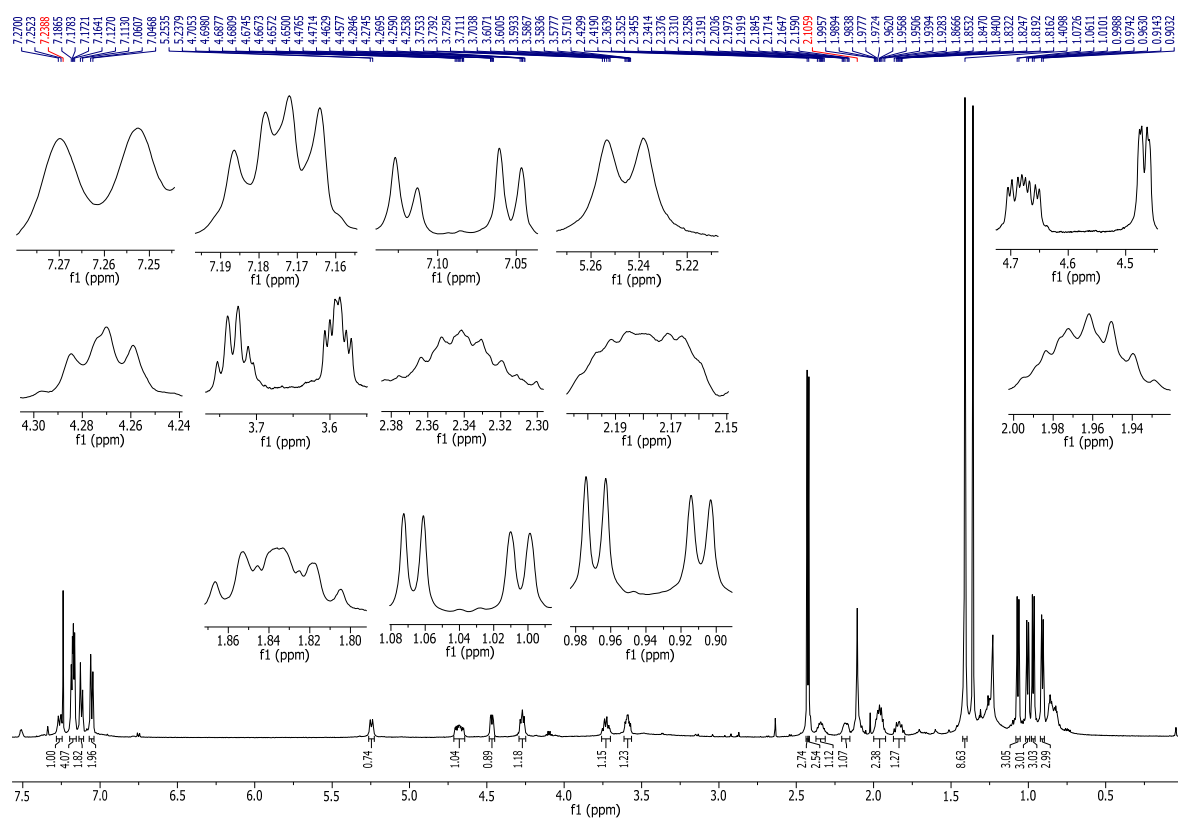
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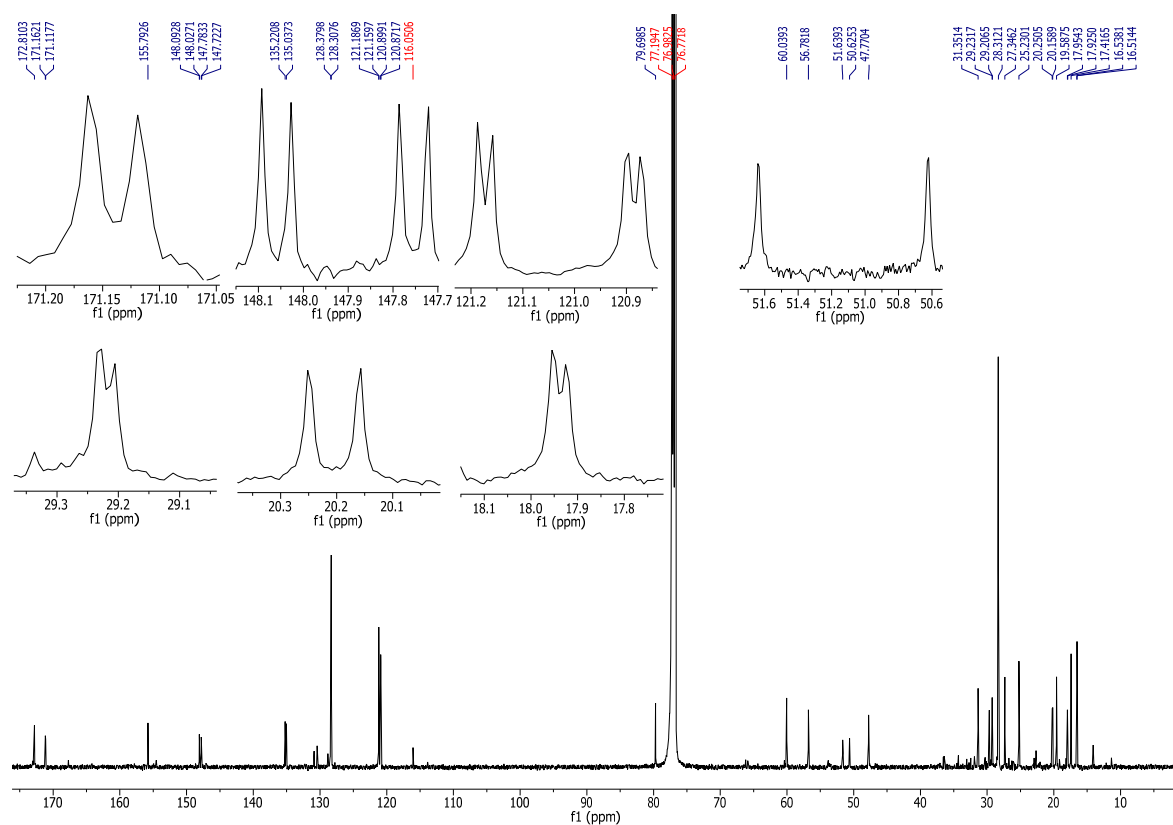
NMR spectra of compound **1A**



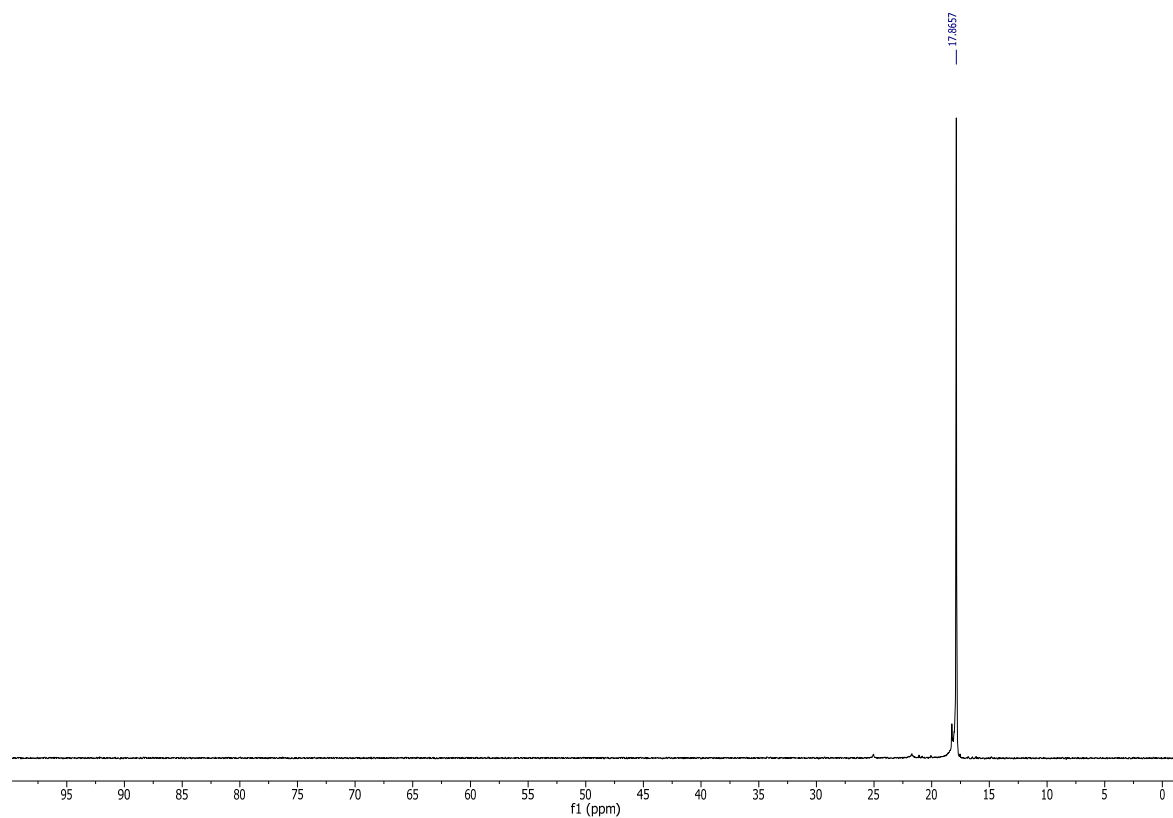
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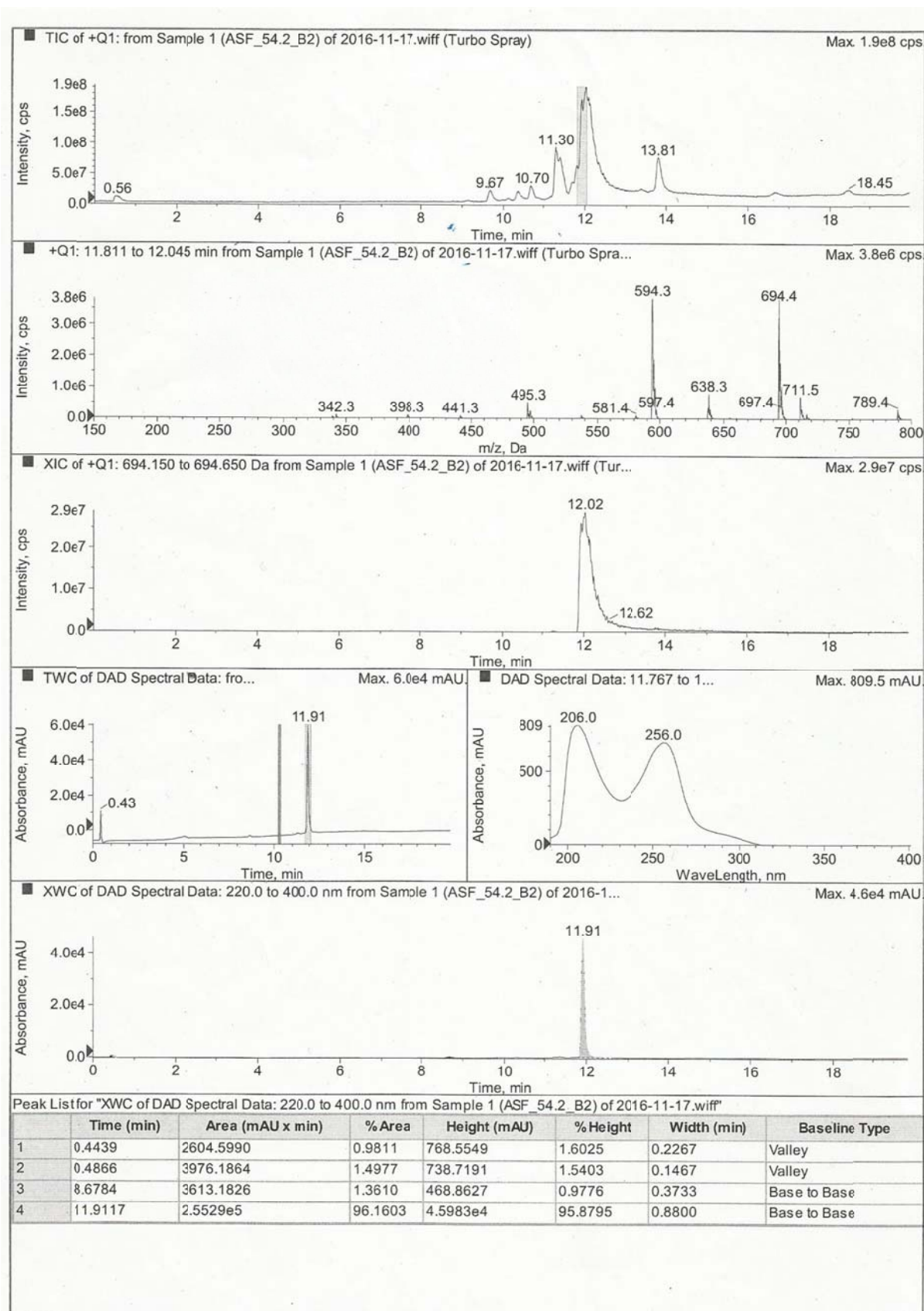
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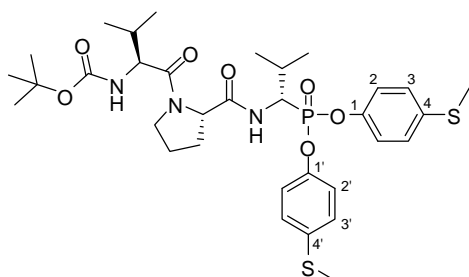
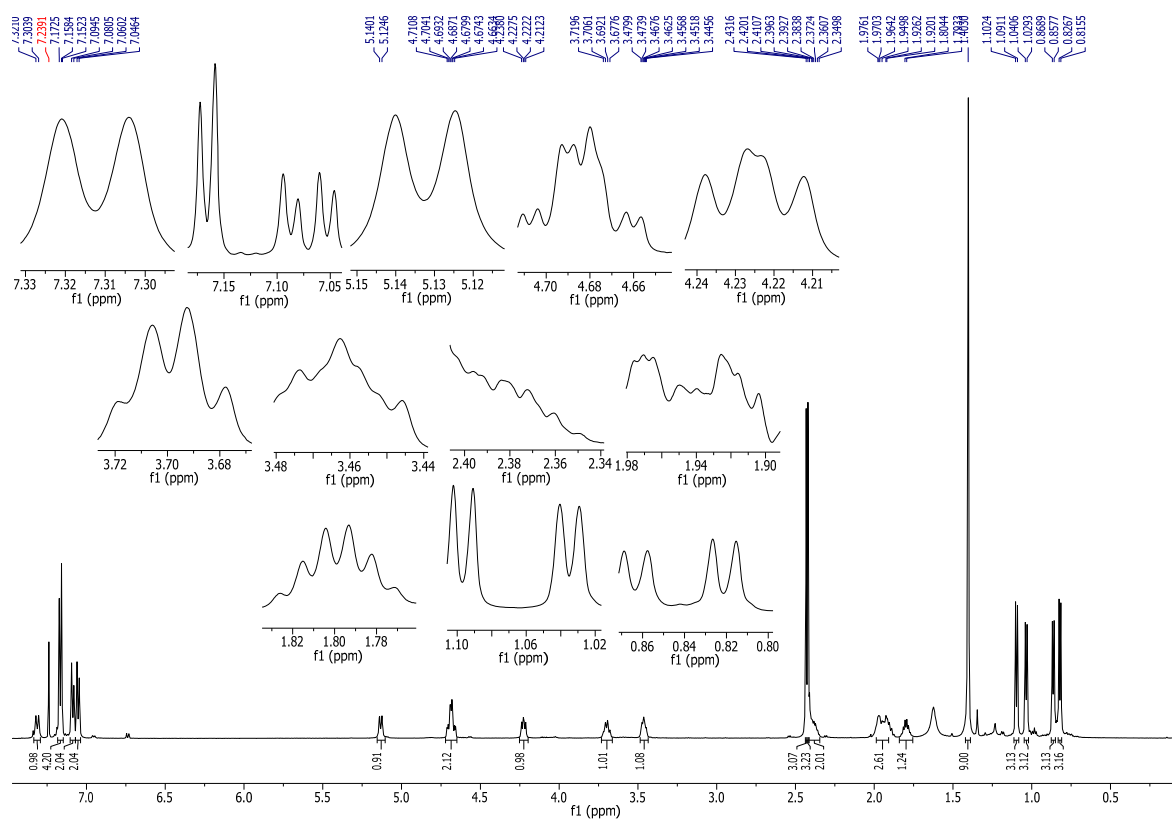
^{31}P NMR



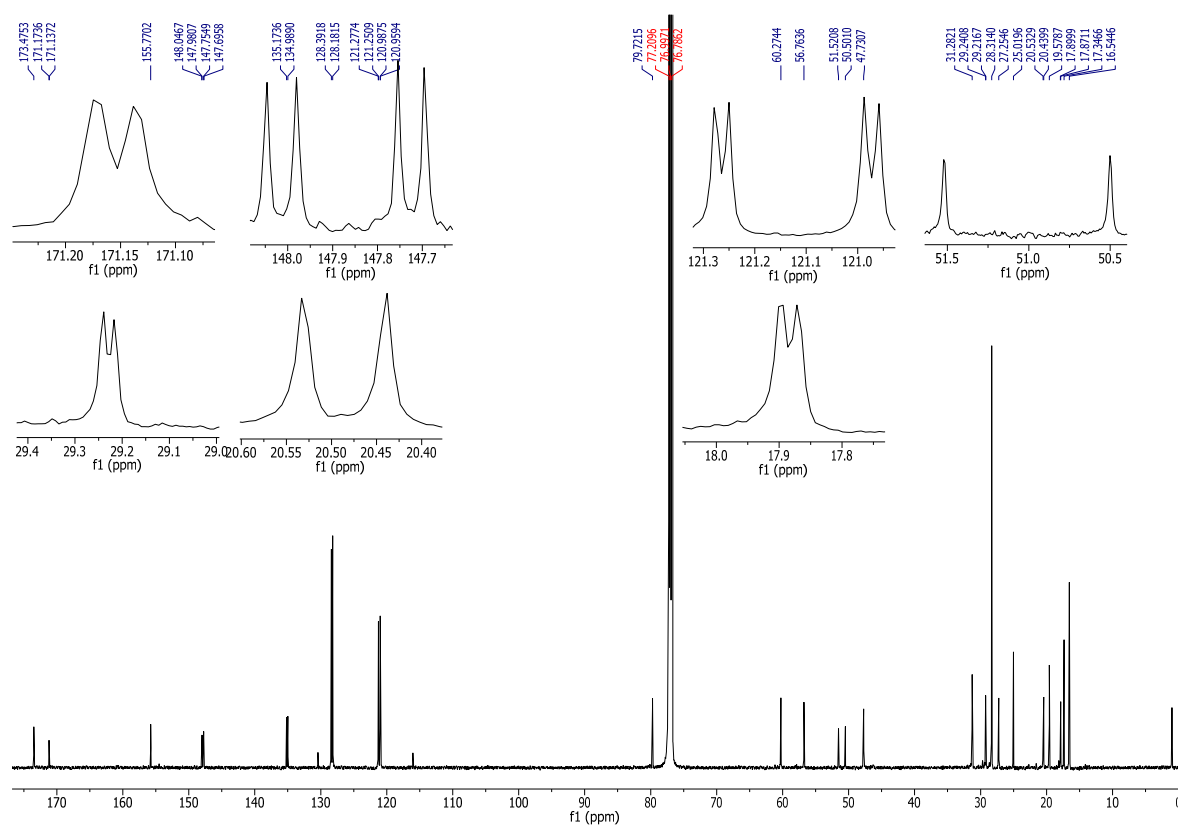
LC/MS analysis of compound **1A**



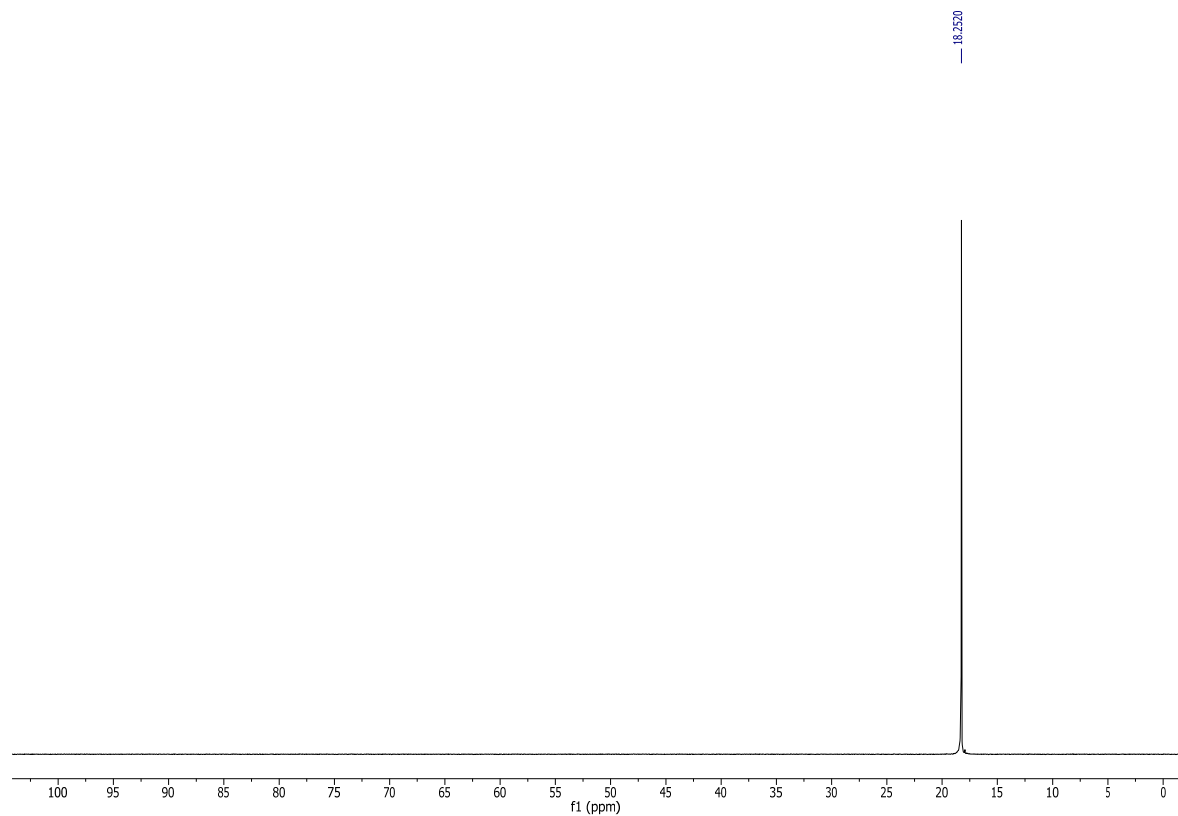
NMR spectra of compound **1B**

¹H NMR (CDCl₃)

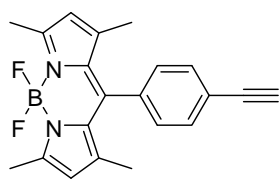
^{13}C NMR



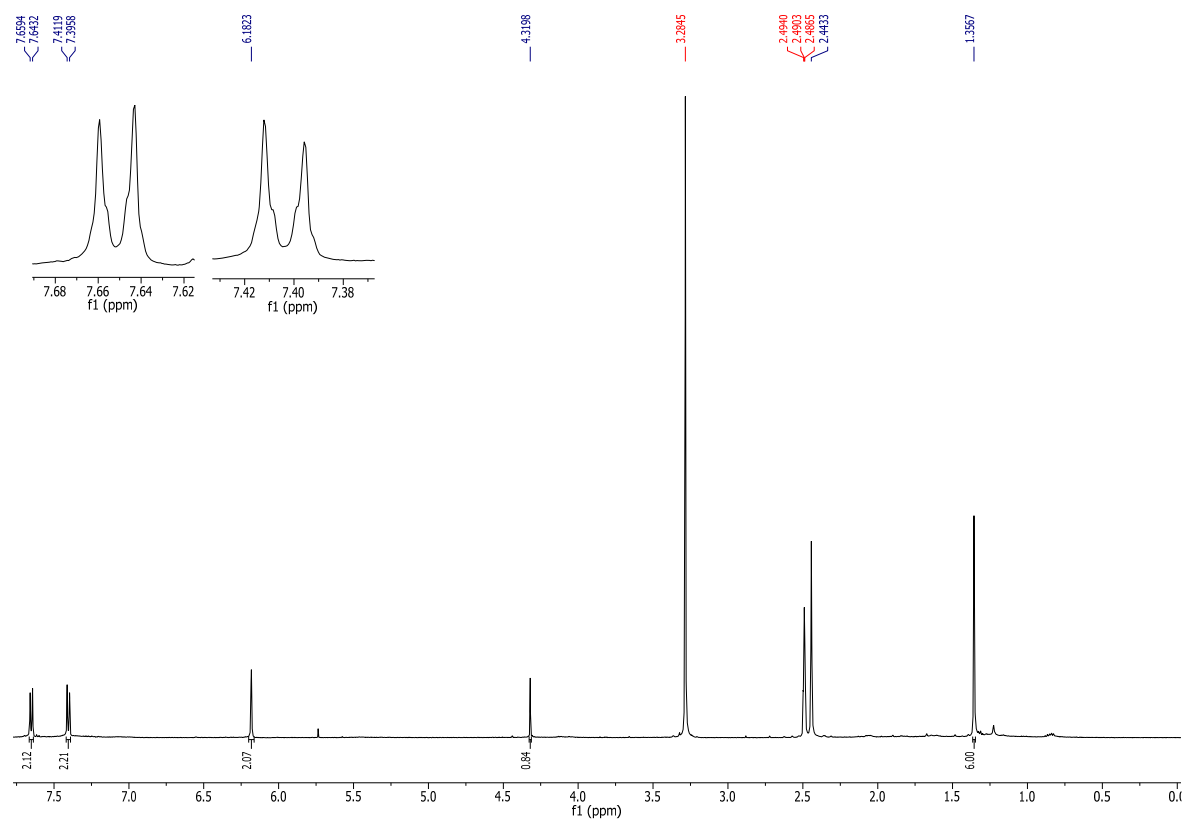
^{31}P NMR



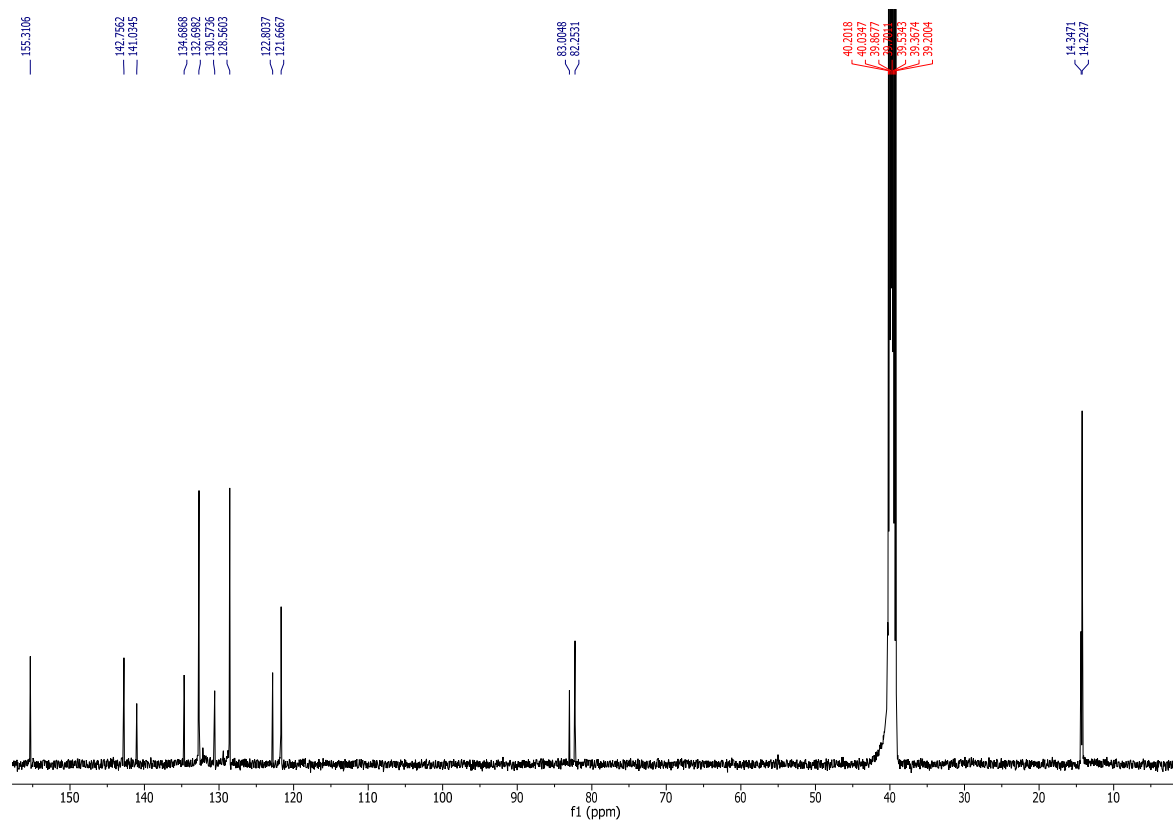
NMR spectra of compound **5**



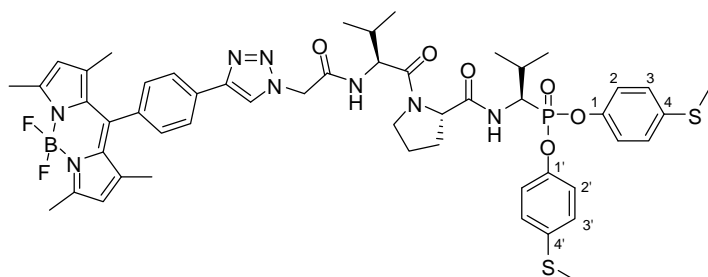
¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆)



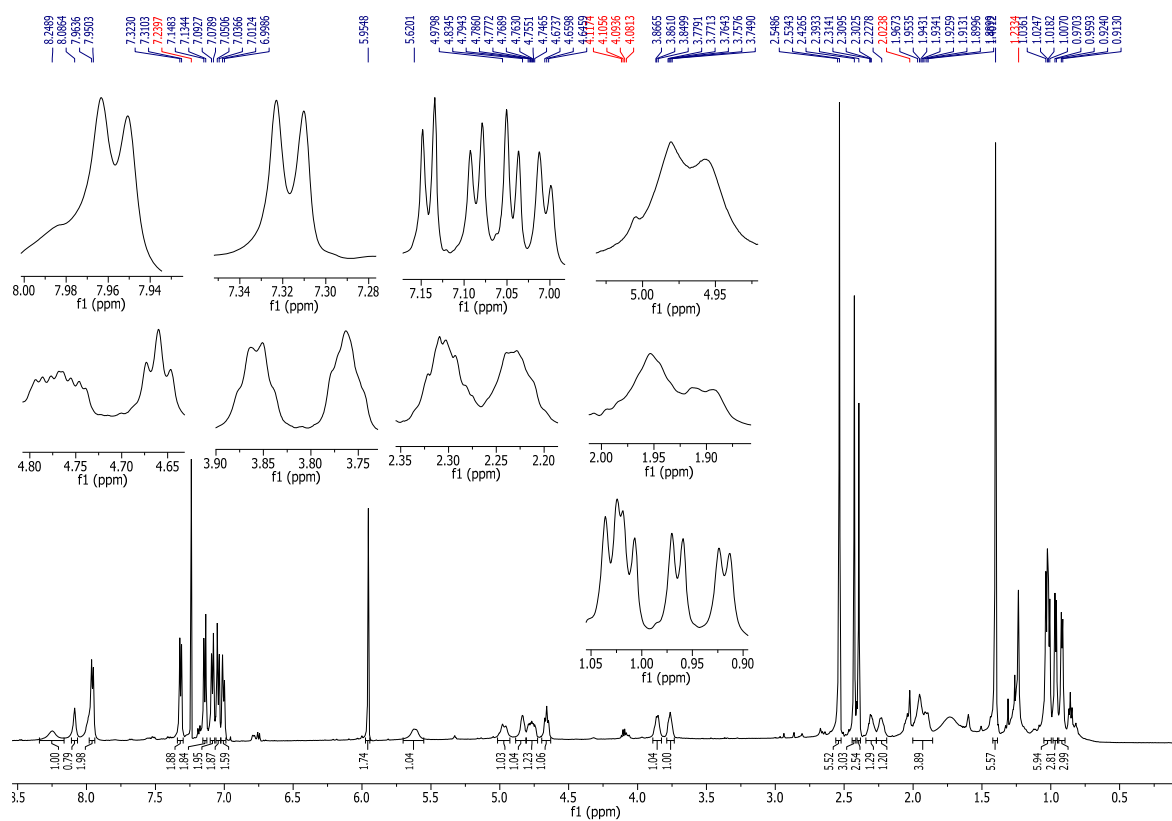
¹³C NMR



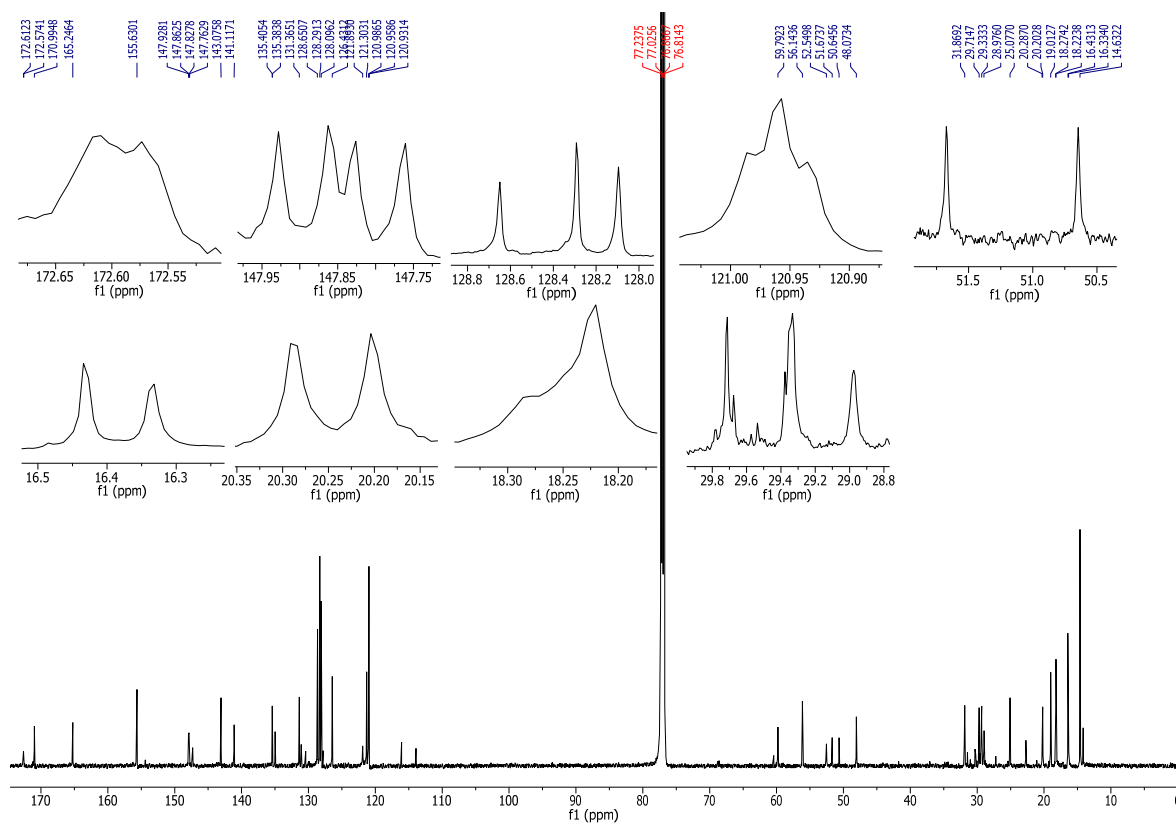
NMR spectra of compound **6**



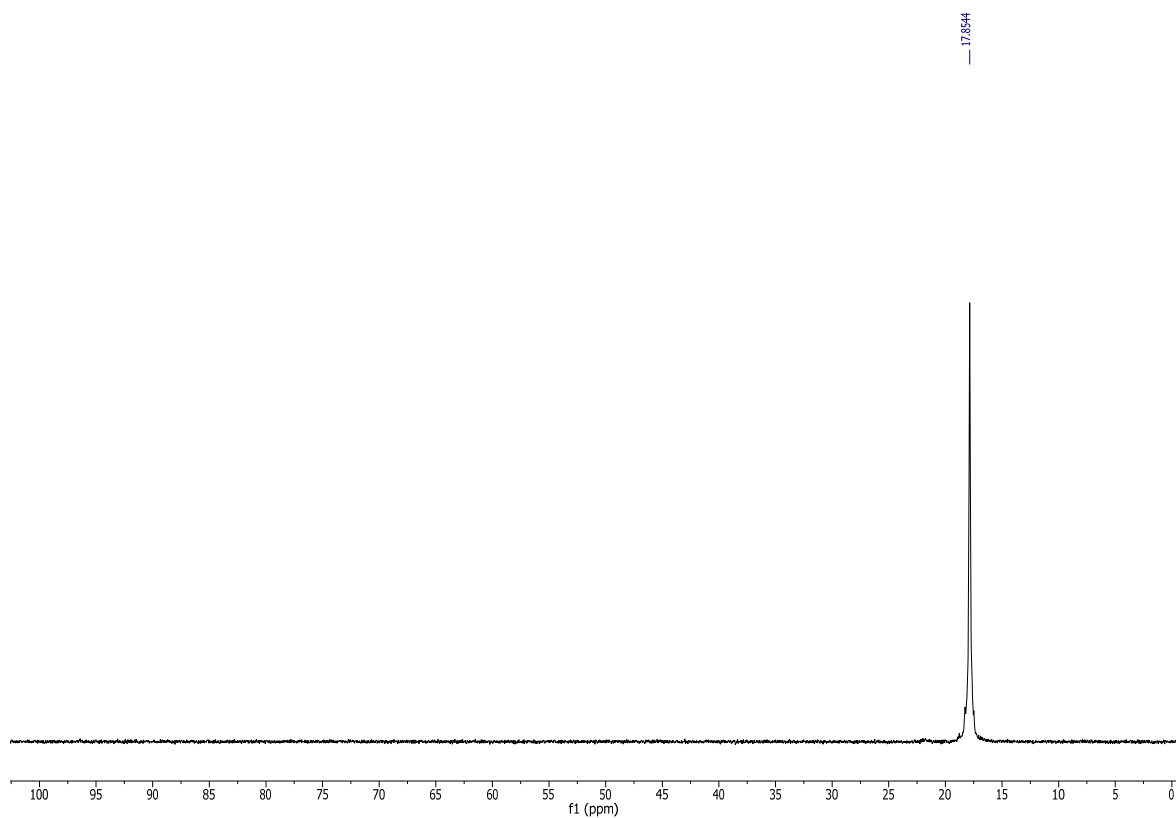
^1H NMR (CDCl_3)



¹³C NMR



³¹P NMR



LC/MS analysis of compound 6

