



## Supporting Information

for

### Comparison of glycosyl donors: a supramer approach

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**Copies of NMR spectra for all new compounds, single crystal  
X-ray analysis data for compound 7 (CCDC 1843708)**

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## Single crystal X-ray analysis of methyl (phenyl 3,5-dideoxy-2-thio-4,9-bis-*O*-chloroacetyl-5-trifluoroacetamido- $\beta$ -D-glycero- $\beta$ -D-galacto-nonulopyranosid)onate (7)

Single crystals of methyl (phenyl 3,5-dideoxy-2-thio-4,9-bis-*O*-chloroacetyl-5-trifluoroacetamido- $\beta$ -D-glycero- $\beta$ -D-galacto-nonulopyranosid)onate water solvate (7·H<sub>2</sub>O) were grown from acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub> in an NMR tube. A suitable crystal was selected and the XRD analysis was performed on a Bruker SMART APEX2 DUO CCD diffractometer (Cu K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$ ). The crystal was kept at 120 K during data collection. The data set was corrected for absorption with SADABS [1], the structure was solved with the ShelXT [2,3] structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the ShelXL [2,3] refinement package using Least Squares minimization (Olex2 [4] was used as an interface to ShelXT and ShelXL packages). Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The hydrogen atoms of water molecules, amino and hydroxy groups were localized in the difference-Fourier maps and refined isotropically with X-H distances fixed at values 0.84  $\text{\AA}$  for O-H and 0.95  $\text{\AA}$  for N-H bonds. The other hydrogen atoms were placed in calculated positions and refined within riding model with fixed isotropic displacement parameters [Uiso(H) = 1.2 Ueq(C)].

**Crystal Data** for 6C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>10</sub>S·3H<sub>2</sub>O [C<sub>132</sub>H<sub>150</sub>Cl<sub>12</sub>F<sub>18</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>63</sub>S<sub>6</sub>] ( $M = 3788.23 \text{ g}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ): hexagonal, space group  $P6_1$  (no. 169),  $a = 22.9311(10) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 27.2831(12) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $V = 12424.4(12) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 3$ ,  $T = 120 \text{ K}$ ,  $\mu(\text{CuK}\alpha) = 3.520 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ ,  $D_{\text{calc}} = 1.519 \text{ g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$ , 78997 reflections measured ( $4.45^\circ \leq 2\theta \leq 146.052^\circ$ ), 15162 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0838$ ,  $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0608$ ) which were used in all calculations. The final  $R_1$  was 0.0531 ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ) and  $wR_2$  was 0.1498 (all data). Crystal structure has been deposited with Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center (CCDC reference number 1843708).

**Crystal unit** of methyl (phenyl 3,5-dideoxy-2-thio-4,9-bis-*O*-chloroacetyl-5-trifluoroacetamido- $\beta$ -D-glycero- $\beta$ -D-galacto-nonulopyranosid)onate (further, carbohydrate) water solvate constitutes of three independent carbohydrate molecules and 1.5 water molecules. The main conformation of one of the carbohydrate molecules is shown in Figure S5. A superposition of the main conformations of all three independent carbohydrate molecules is shown in Figure S6.

Two of the carbohydrate molecules are well ordered (with slightly disordered CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CF<sub>3</sub> and Ph groups) and have very similar conformations (Figure S5). They are connected by hydrogen bonds (both direct and through a complete water molecule) to form an infinite helix (Helix 1 on Figure S8). The period of this helix is 27.2831(12)  $\text{\AA}$  and consists of 6 carbohydrate molecules.

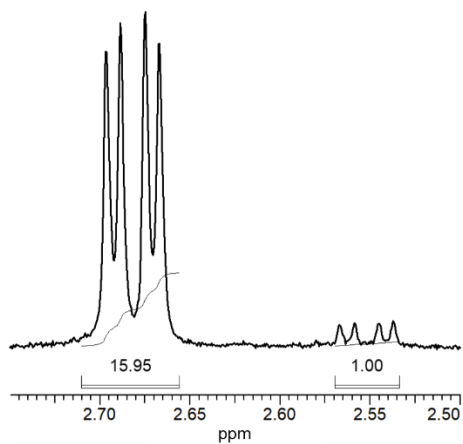
The third carbohydrate molecule is strongly disordered (Figure S7, shift between parts is about 0.55–0.75  $\text{\AA}$ ) with identical occupancies of both parts. This molecule has a conformation different from the first two (Figures S6, S7). It is bonded by hydrogen bonds to its symmetrical images in neighboring cells to form another infinite helix (Helix 2 on Figure S8). The period of this helix is identical to that of the first helix (27.2831(12)  $\text{\AA}$ ) and also consists of 6 carbohydrate molecules. Given the identical occupancies of the disordered parts, it is likely that they alternate in the helix.

Overall, the crystal structure consists of two independent infinite helices, and a disordered halfly occupied water molecules residing between them.

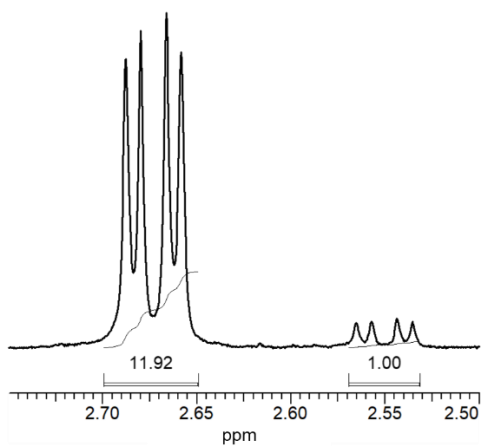
**Table S1.** Conditions and results of sialylation of glycosyl acceptor **3** with sialyl donors **1** and **2** at 0.05 and 0.15 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> concentrations (c).

| entry            | sialyl donor | R    | c (mol·L <sup>-1</sup> ) | α/β  | yield (%) | time (h) |
|------------------|--------------|------|--------------------------|------|-----------|----------|
| 1 <sup>[a]</sup> | <b>1</b>     | TFA  | 0.05                     | 16:1 | 55        | 2.5      |
| 2                | <b>1</b>     | TFA  | 0.15                     | 12:1 | 66        | 3        |
| 3                | <b>2</b>     | ClAc | 0.05                     | 13:1 | 57        | 2        |
| 4                | <b>2</b>     | ClAc | 0.15                     | 18:1 | 62        | 1        |

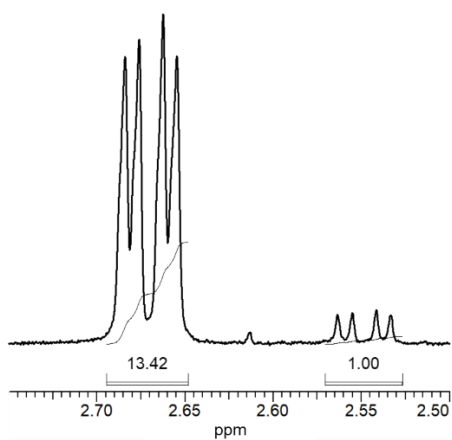
[a] Data taken from [5].



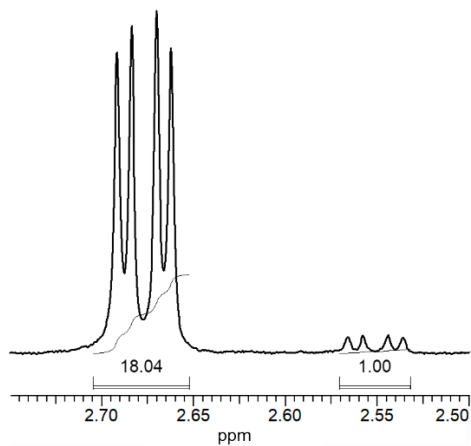
**Figure S1.** A part of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of disaccharide fraction (Entry 1 in Table S1) showing the signals of α-H-3eq and β-H-3eq of Neu5Ac residue of **4**.



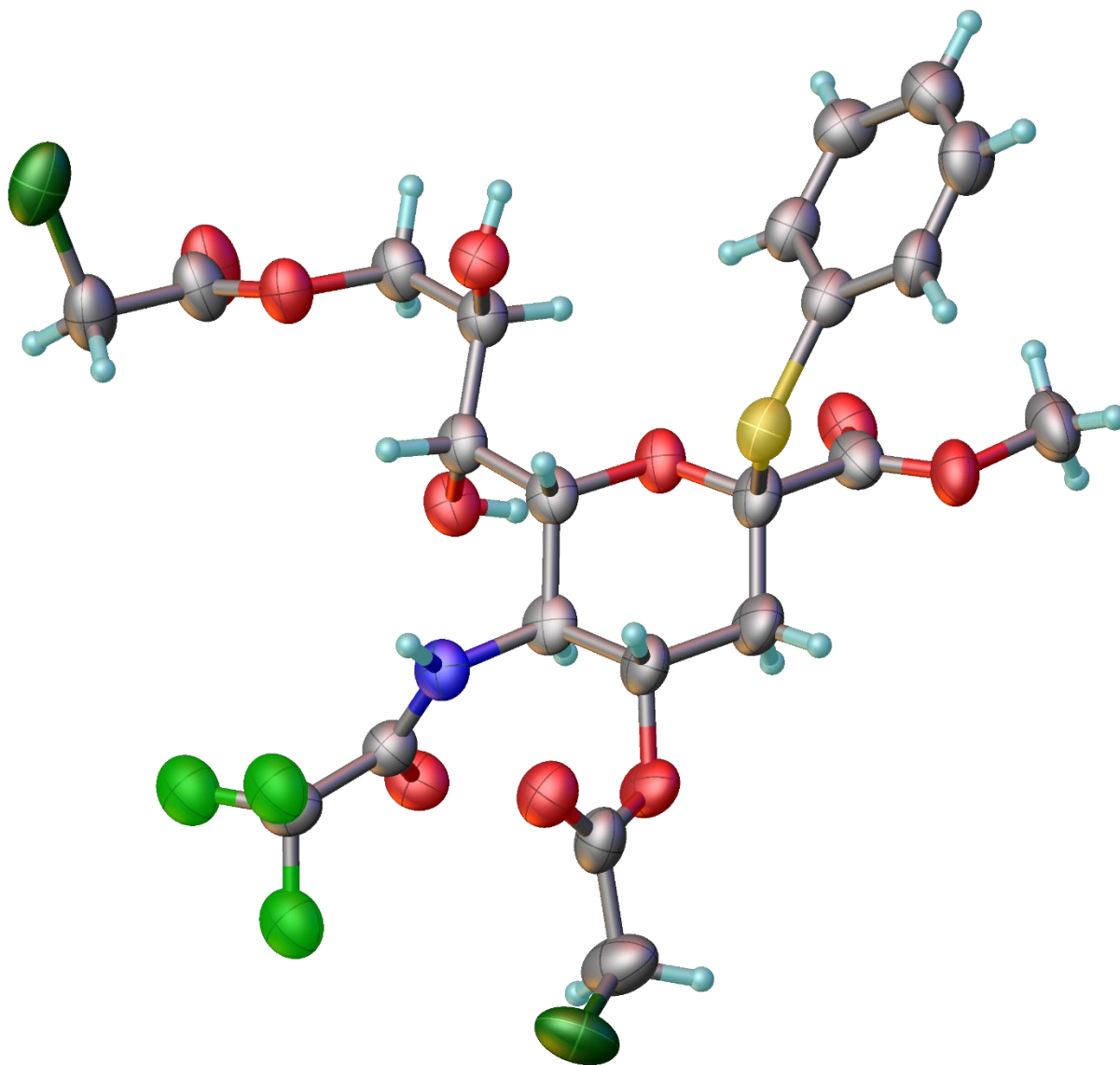
**Figure S2.** A part of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of disaccharide fraction (Entry 2 in Table S1) showing the signals of  $\alpha$ -H-3eq and  $\beta$ -H-3eq of Neu5Ac residue of **4**.



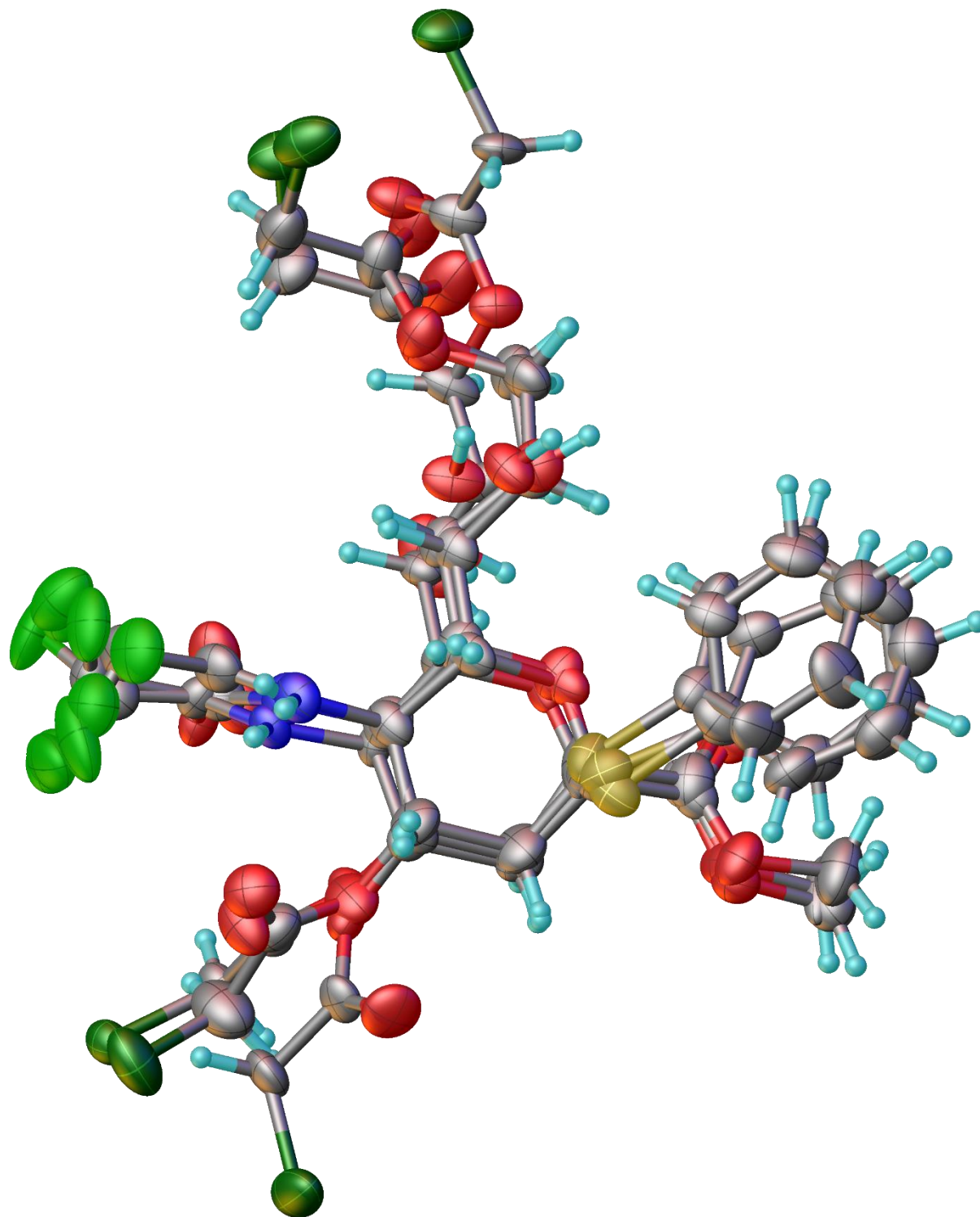
**Figure S3.** A part of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of disaccharide fraction (Entry 3 in Table S1) showing the signals of  $\alpha$ -H-3eq and  $\beta$ -H-3eq of Neu5Ac residue of **4**.



**Figure S4.** A part of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of disaccharide fraction (Entry 4 in Table S1) showing the signals of  $\alpha$ -H-3eq and  $\beta$ -H-3eq of Neu5Ac residue of **4**.

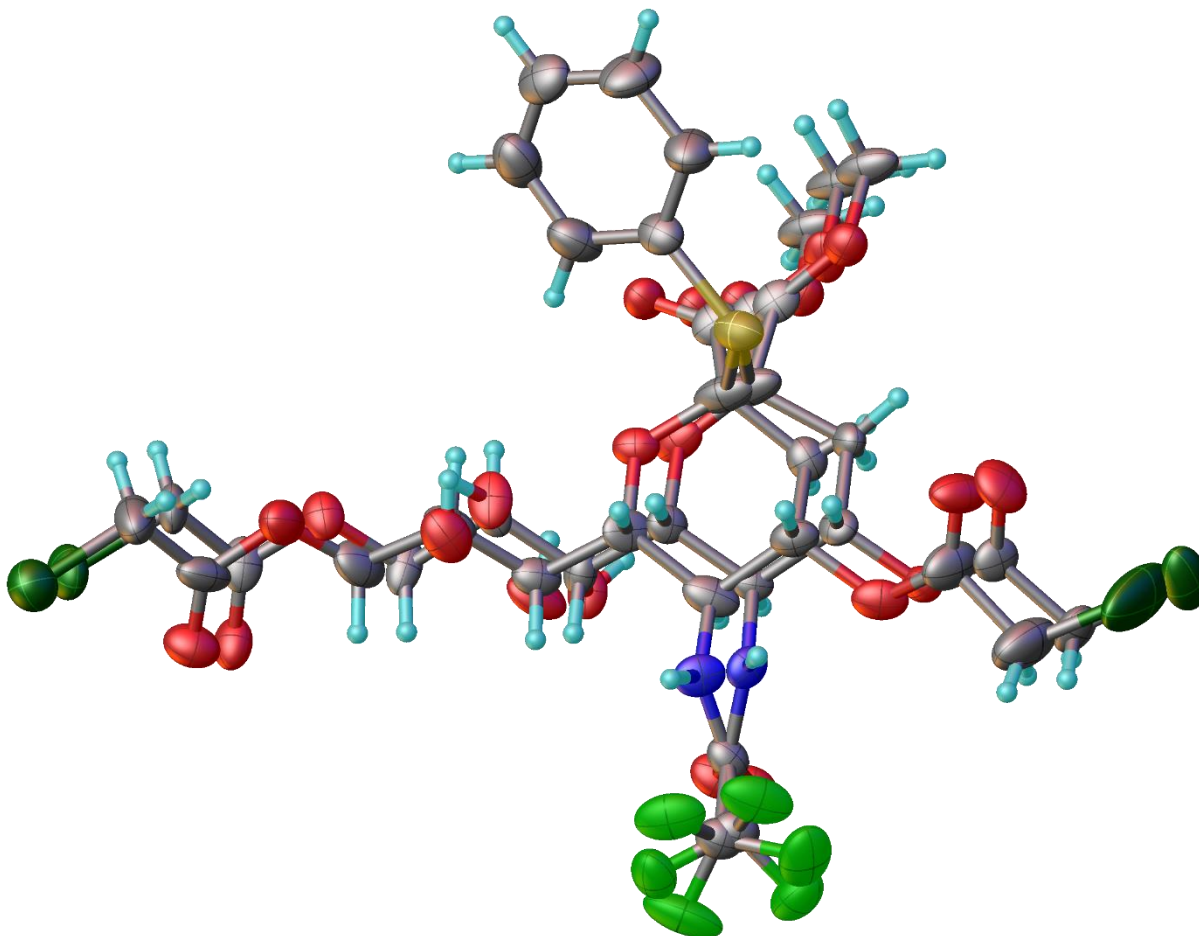


**Figure S5.** The general view of a molecule of **7** in the crystal in representation of atoms by thermal ellipsoids ( $p = 40\%$ ). Coloring: carbon – grey, oxygen – red, nitrogen – blue, fluorine – light green, sulphur – yellow, chlorine – dark green, hydrogen – sky blue.



**Figure S6.** Superposition of the main conformations of the three independent molecules of **7** in the crystal in representation of atoms by thermal ellipsoids ( $p = 40\%$ ). Coloring: carbon – grey, oxygen – red, nitrogen – blue, fluorine – light green, sulphur – yellow, chlorine – dark green, hydrogen – sky blue.

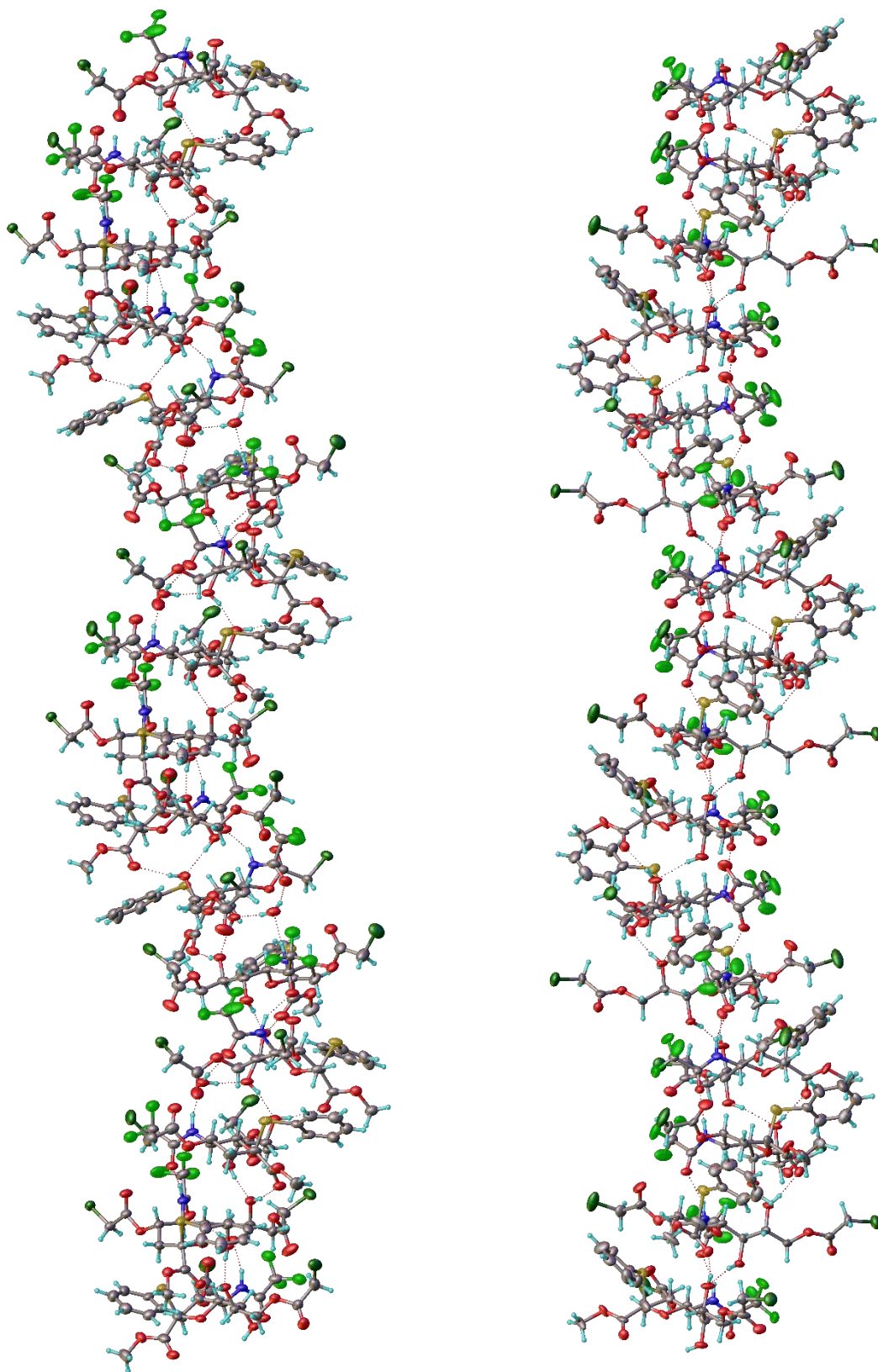




**Figure S7.** The general view of the disordered molecule of **7** in the crystal in representation of atoms by thermal ellipsoids ( $p = 40\%$ ). Coloring: carbon – grey, oxygen – red, nitrogen – blue, fluorine – light green, sulphur – yellow, chlorine – dark green, hydrogen – sky blue.

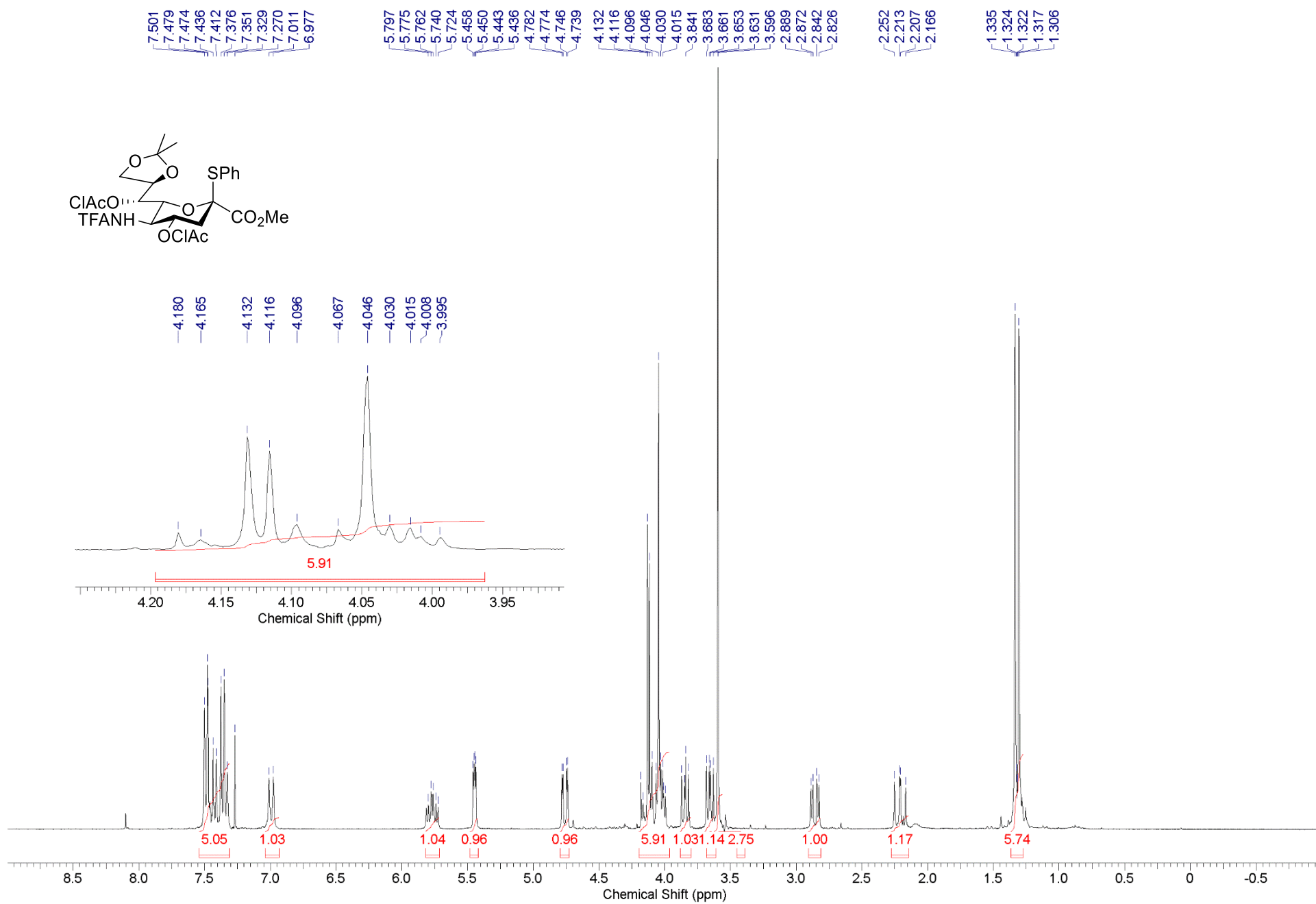
Helix 1 (with incorporated water molecule)

Helix 2 (disordered)

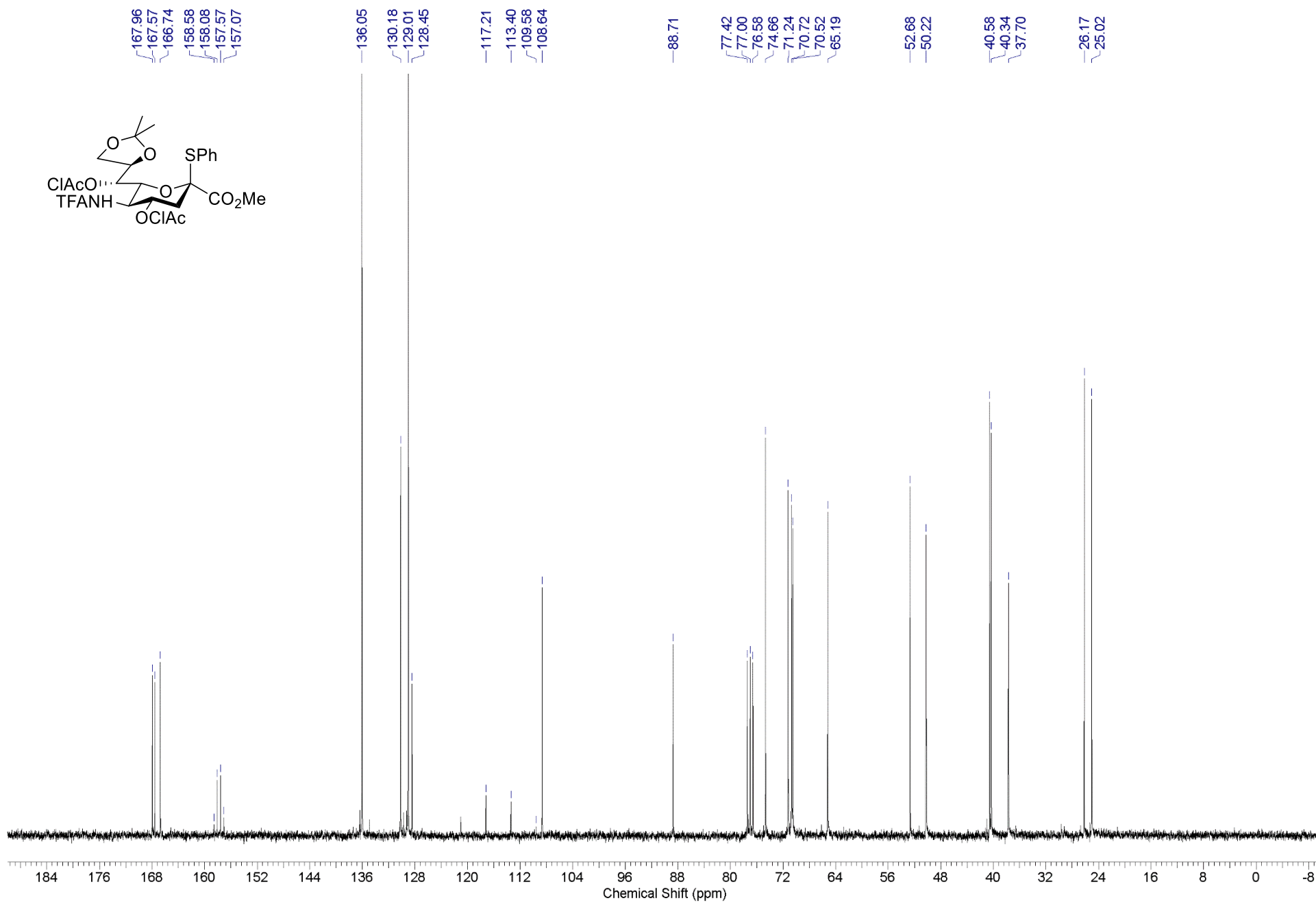


**Figure S8.** Infinite helices formed in the crystal structure of **7**. Atoms are represented by thermal ellipsoids ( $p = 40\%$ ). Coloring: carbon – grey, oxygen – red, nitrogen – blue, fluorine – light green, sulphur – yellow, chlorine – dark green, hydrogen – sky blue.

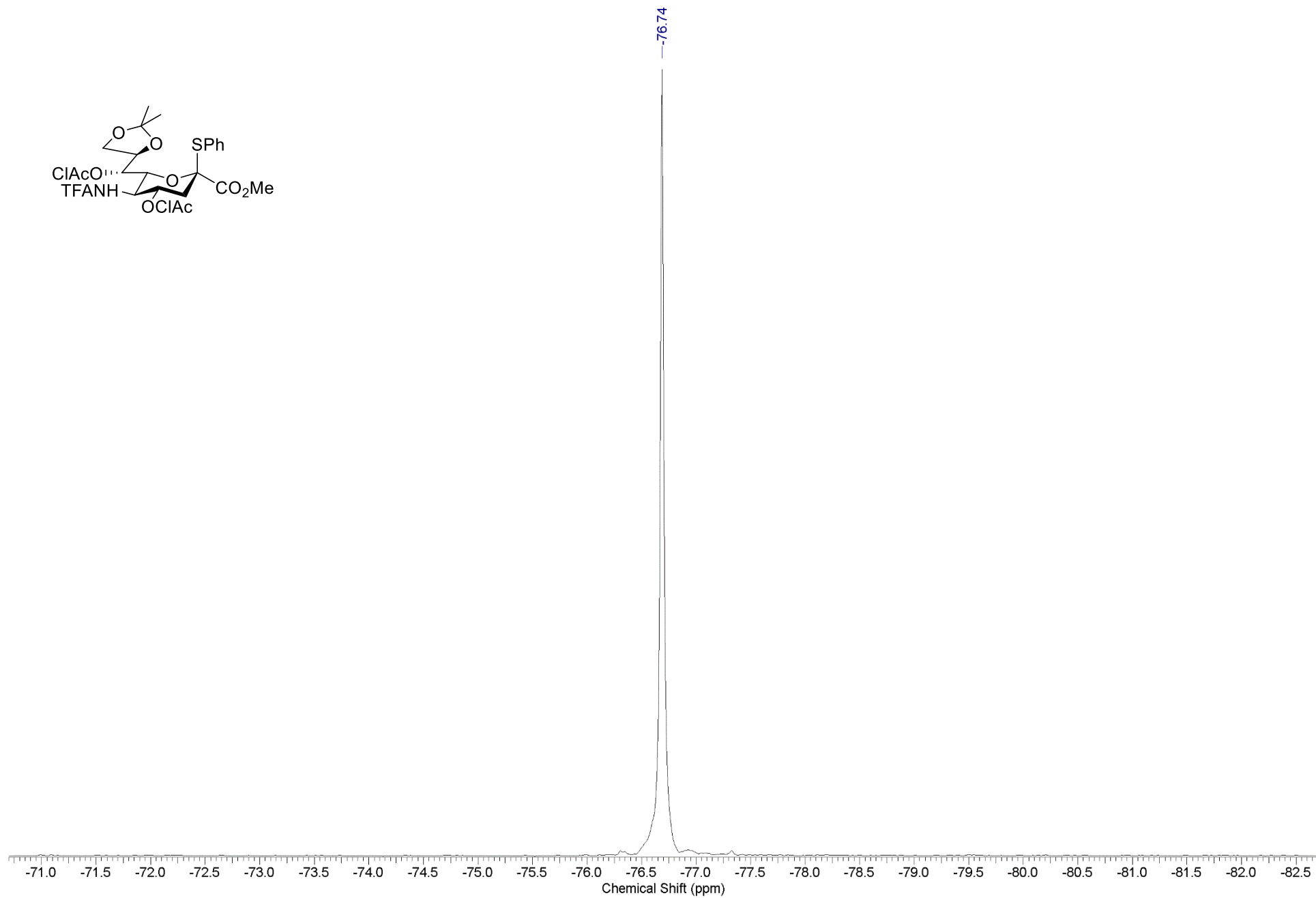
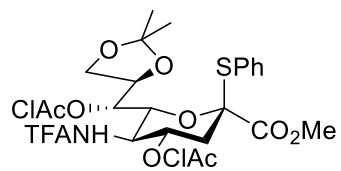
# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz) spectrum of compound 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



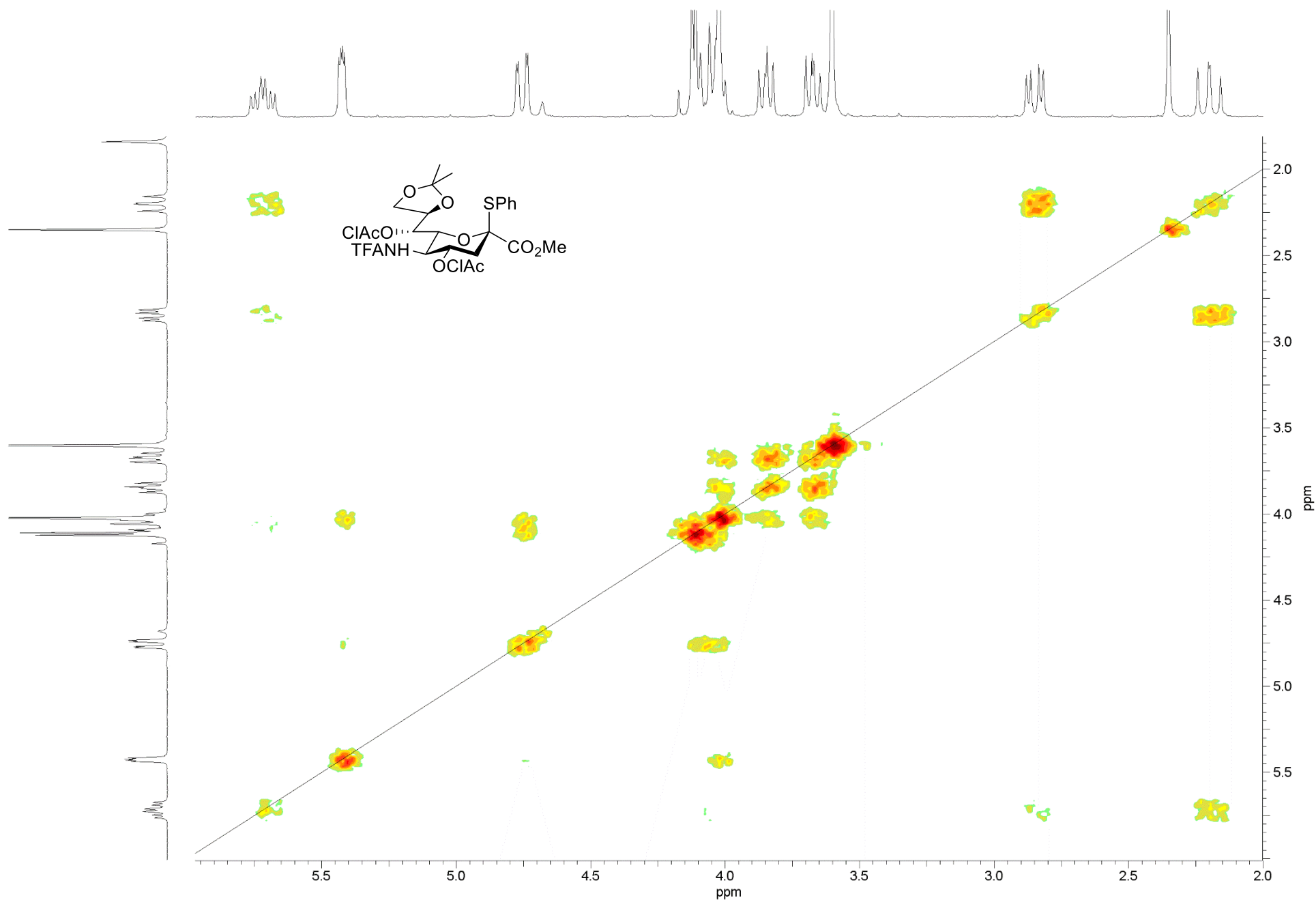
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz) spectrum of compound 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



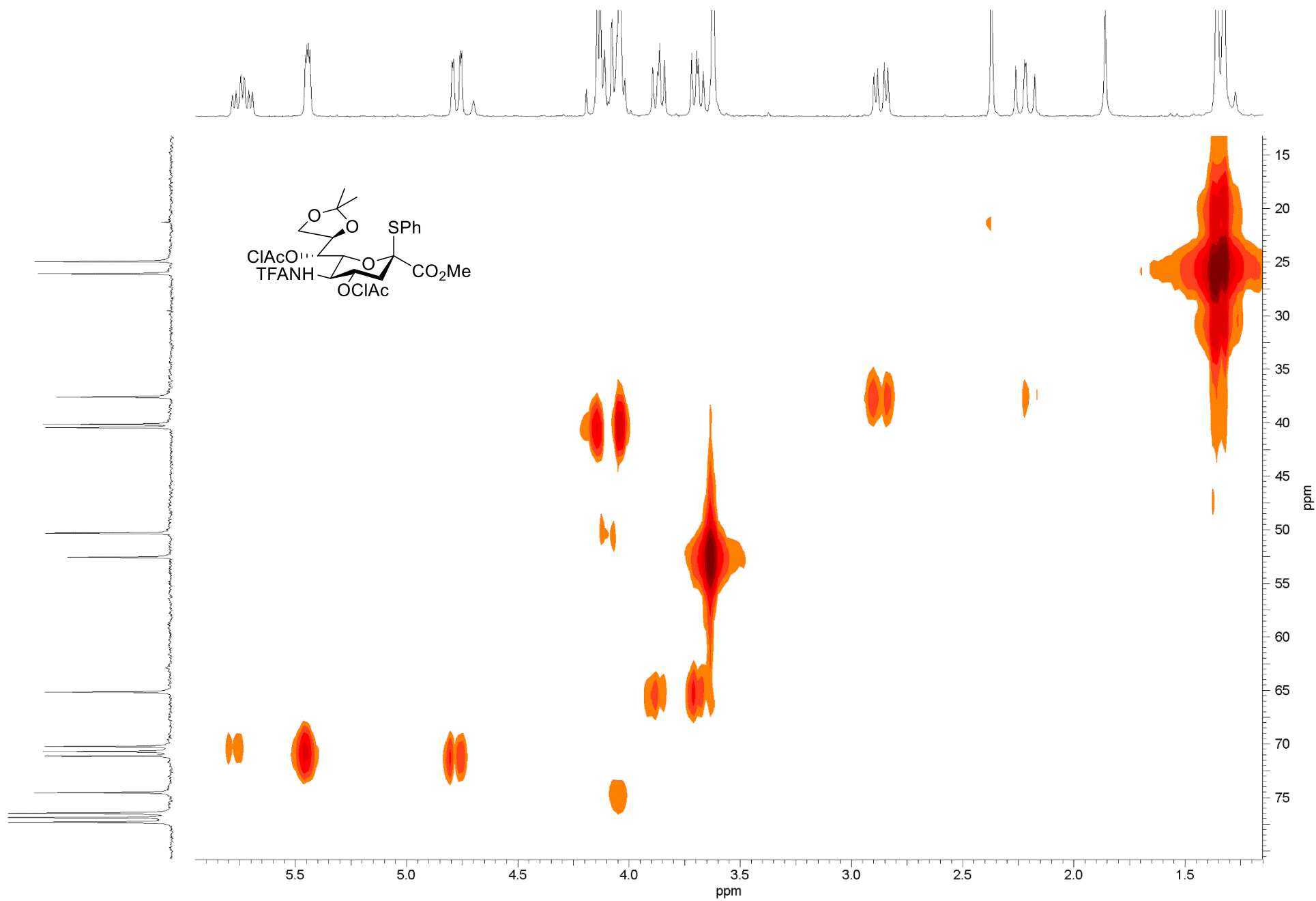
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz) spectrum of compound 6 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



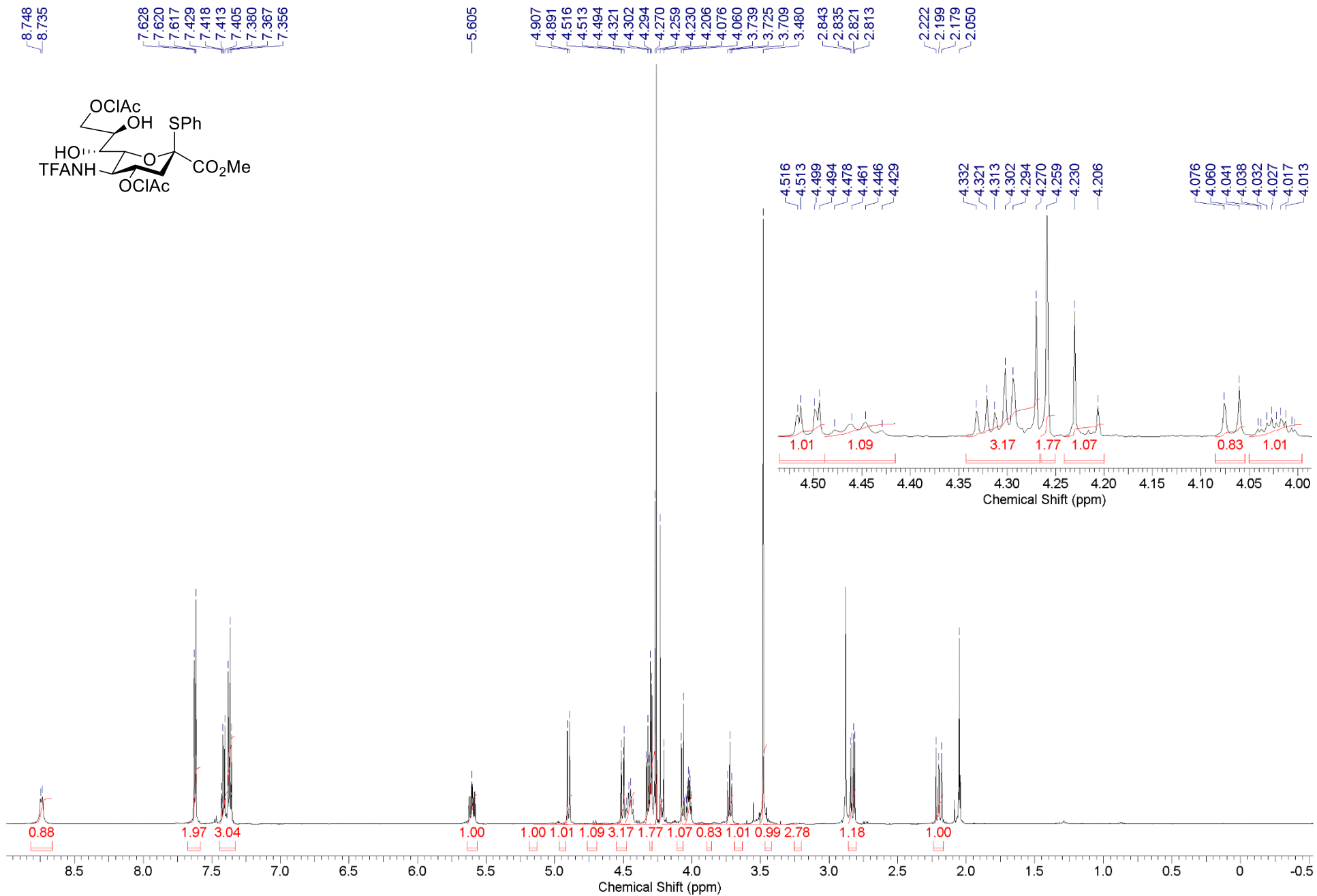
# COSY (300 MHz) spectrum of compound 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



# HSQC (300 MHz) spectrum of compound 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

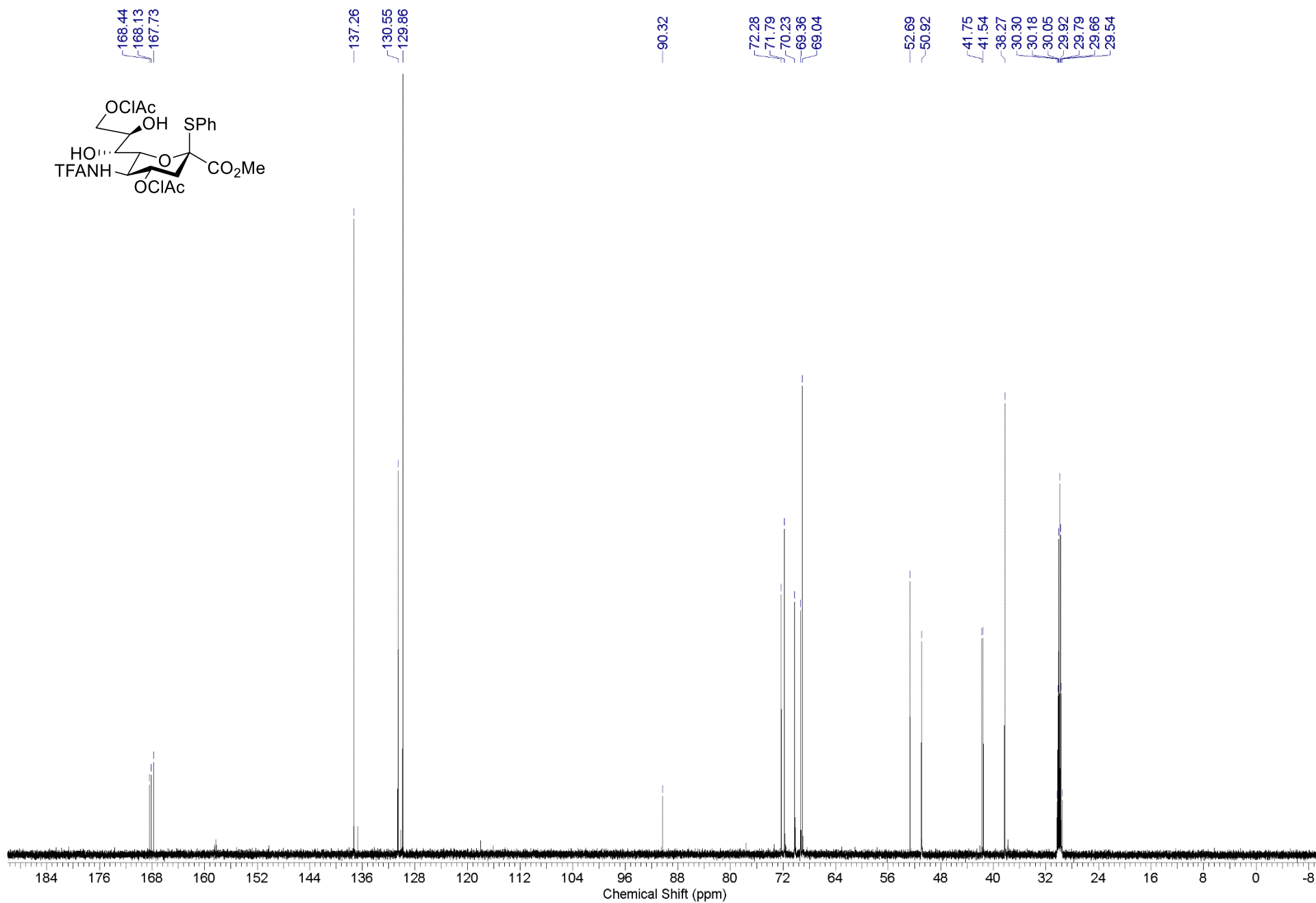


# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone-d<sub>6</sub>

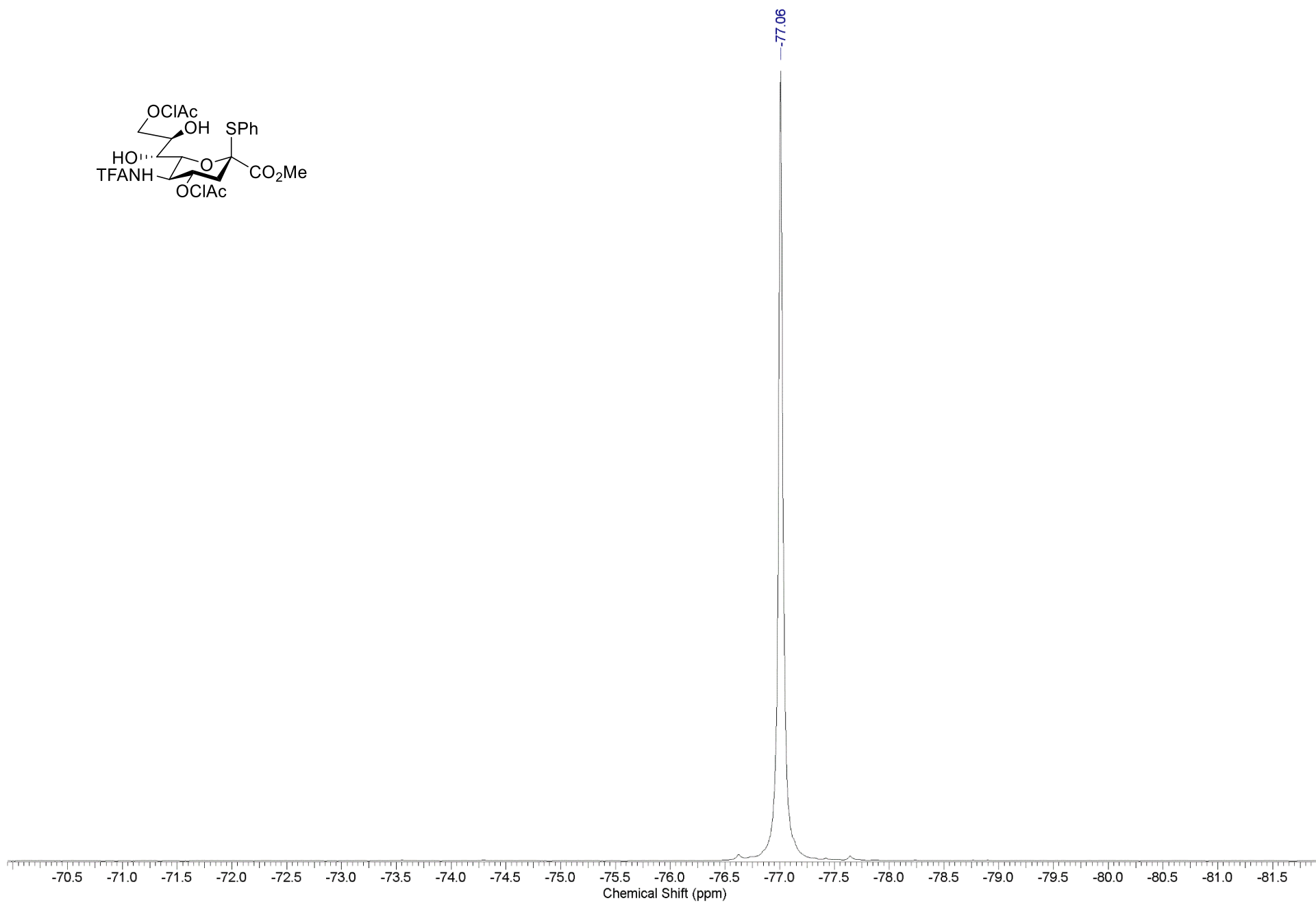
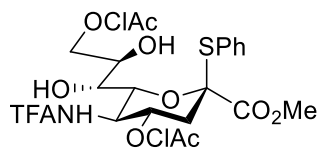




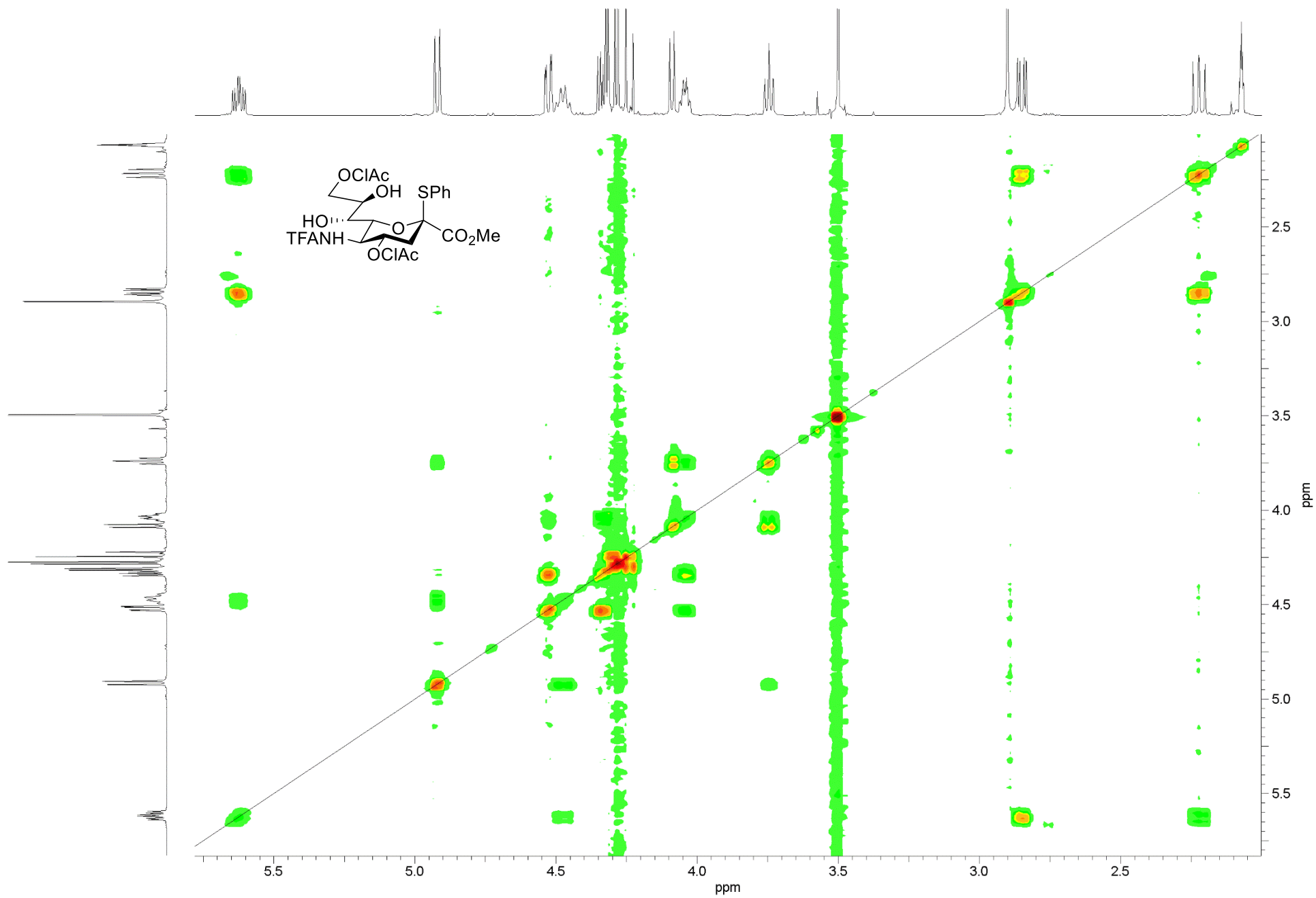
**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone- $d_6$**



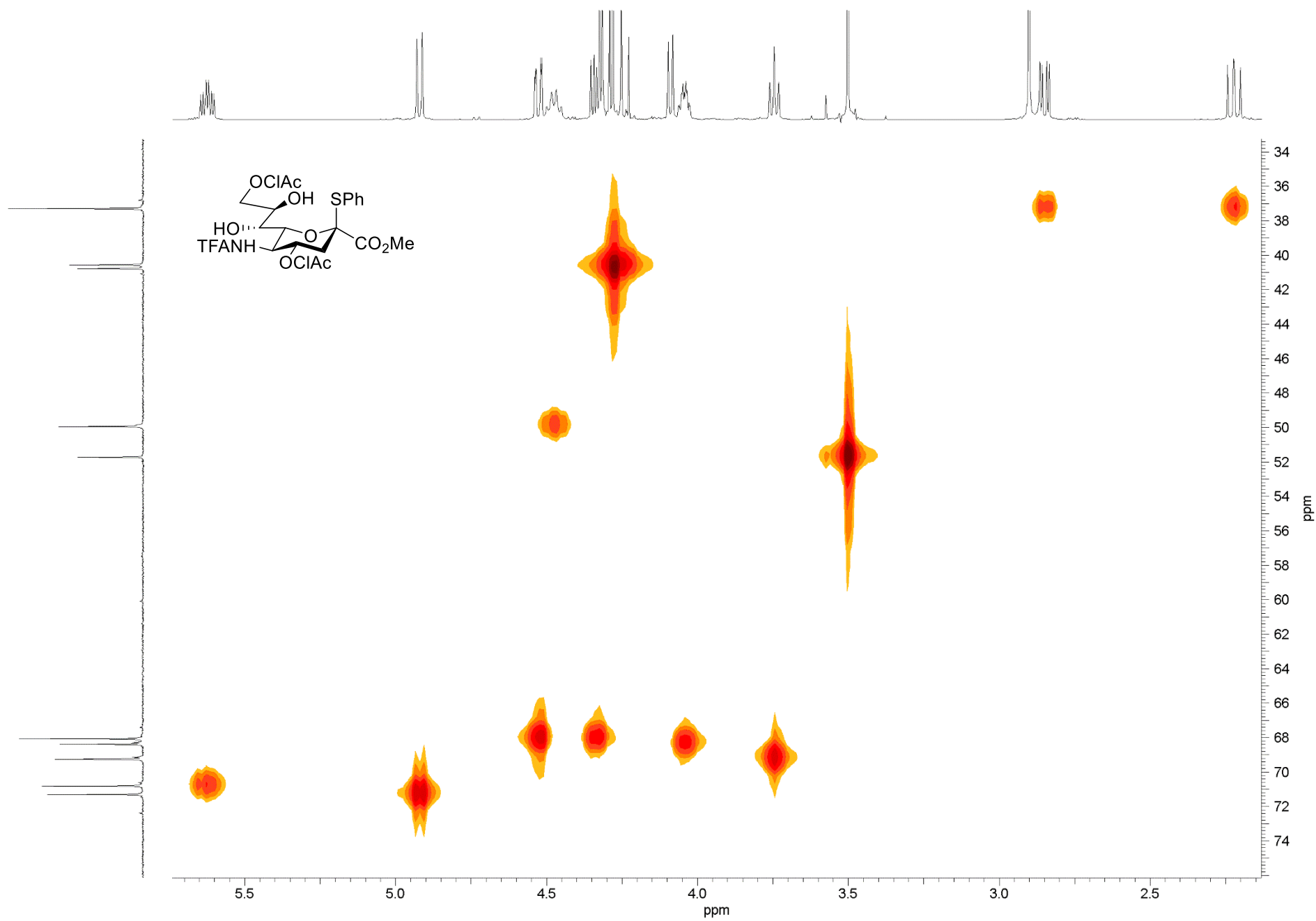
**$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone- $d_6$**



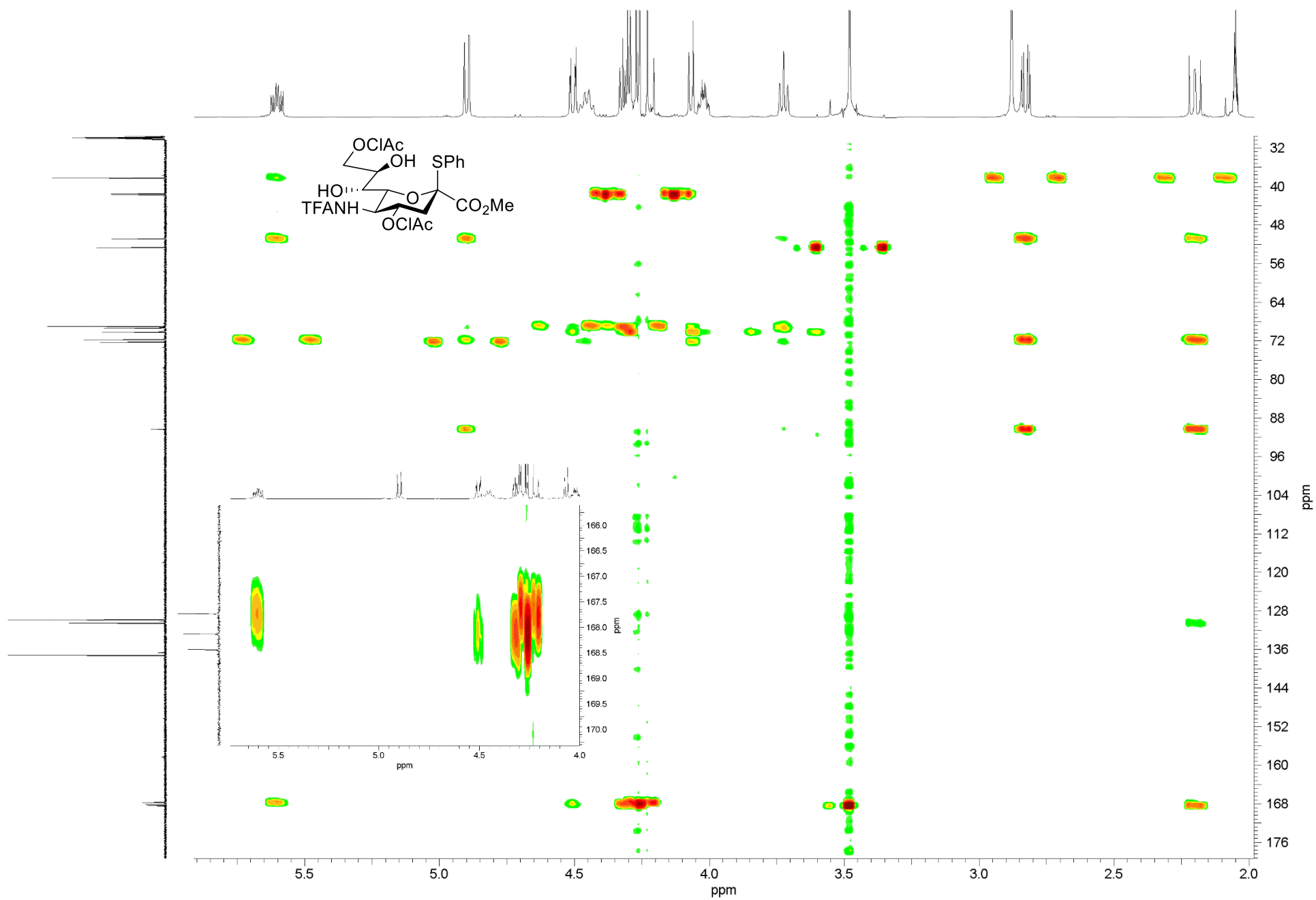
COSY (600 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone- $d_6$



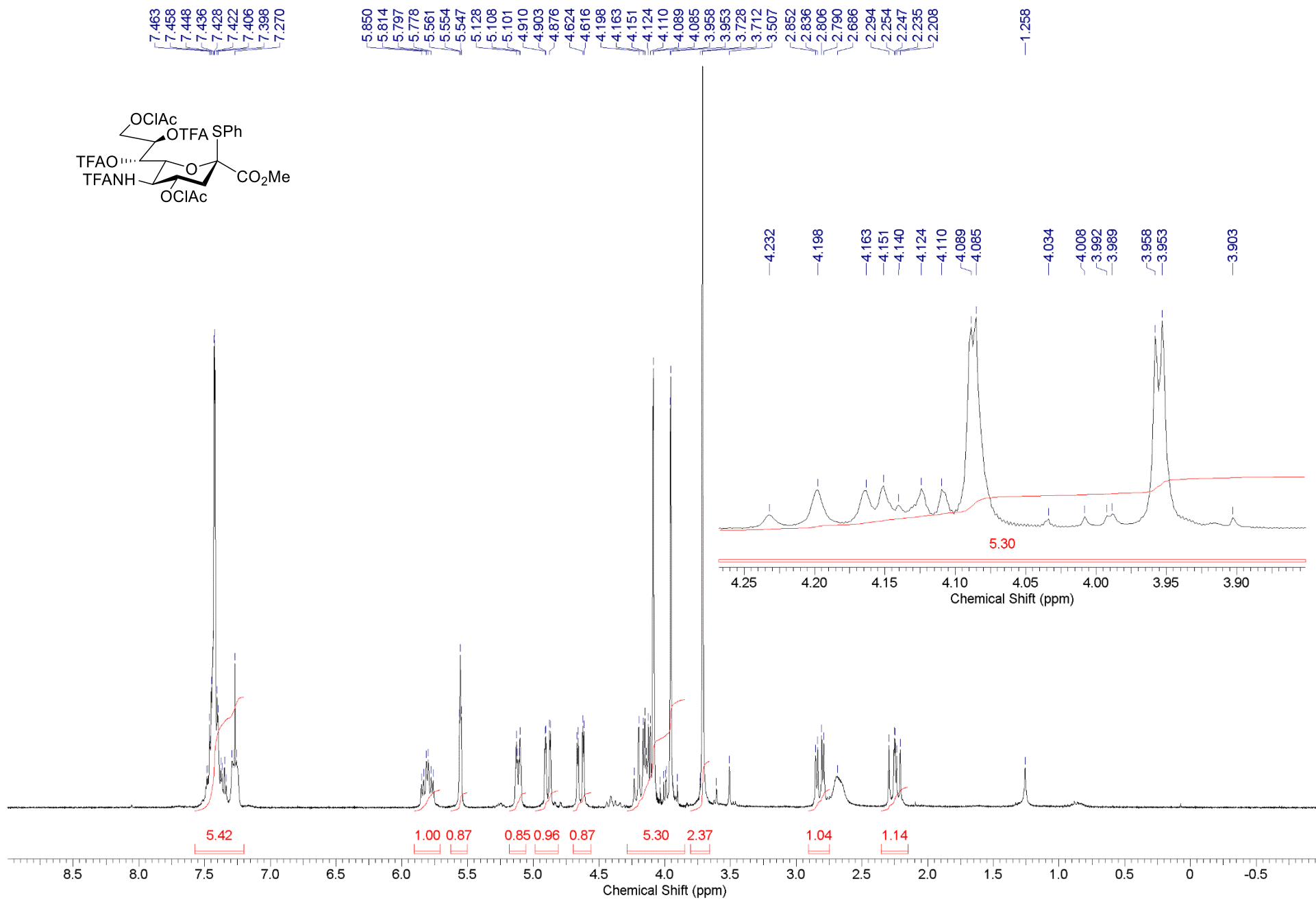
# HSQC (600 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone- $d_6$



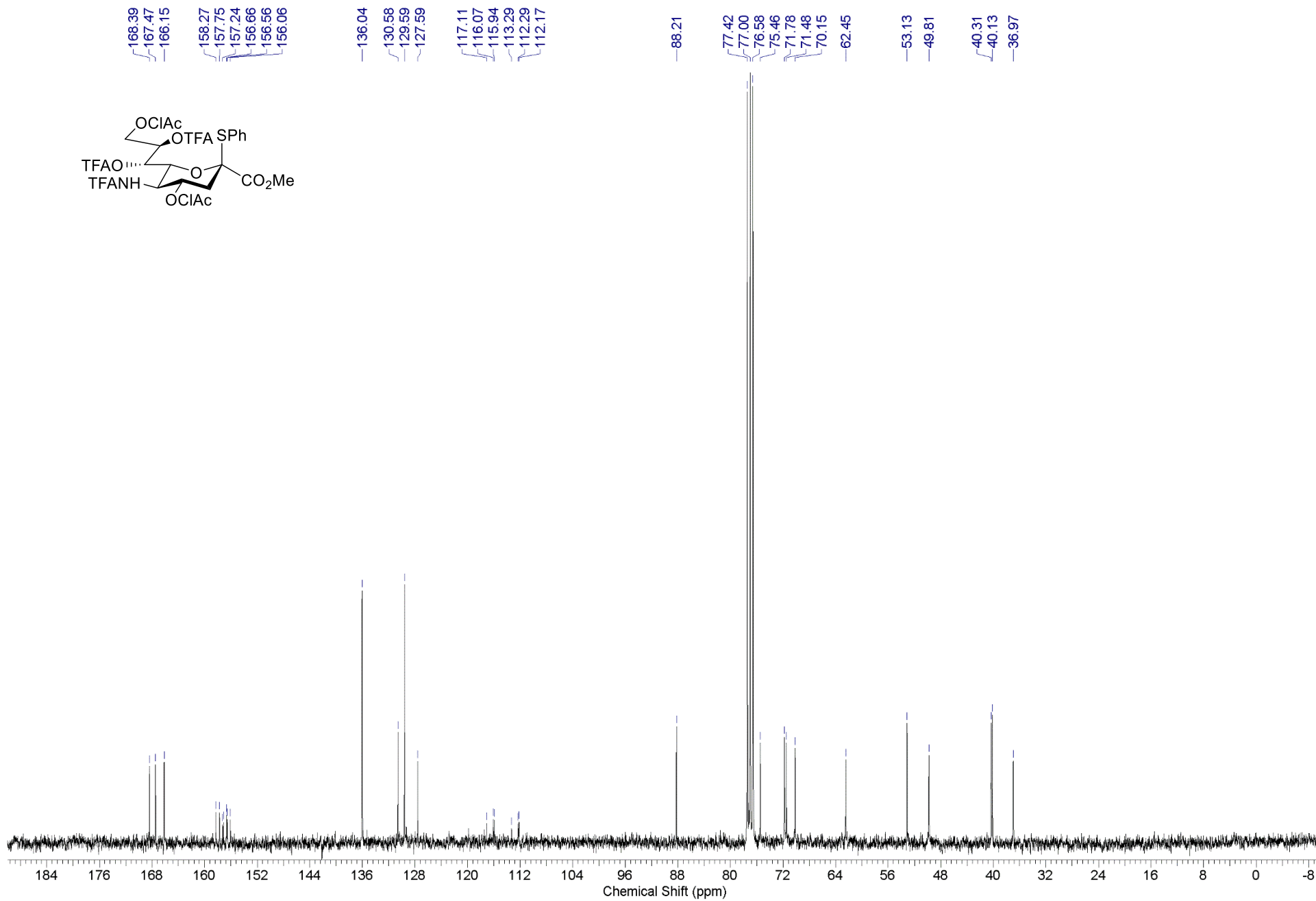
# HMBC (600 MHz) spectrum of compound 7 in acetone- $d_6$



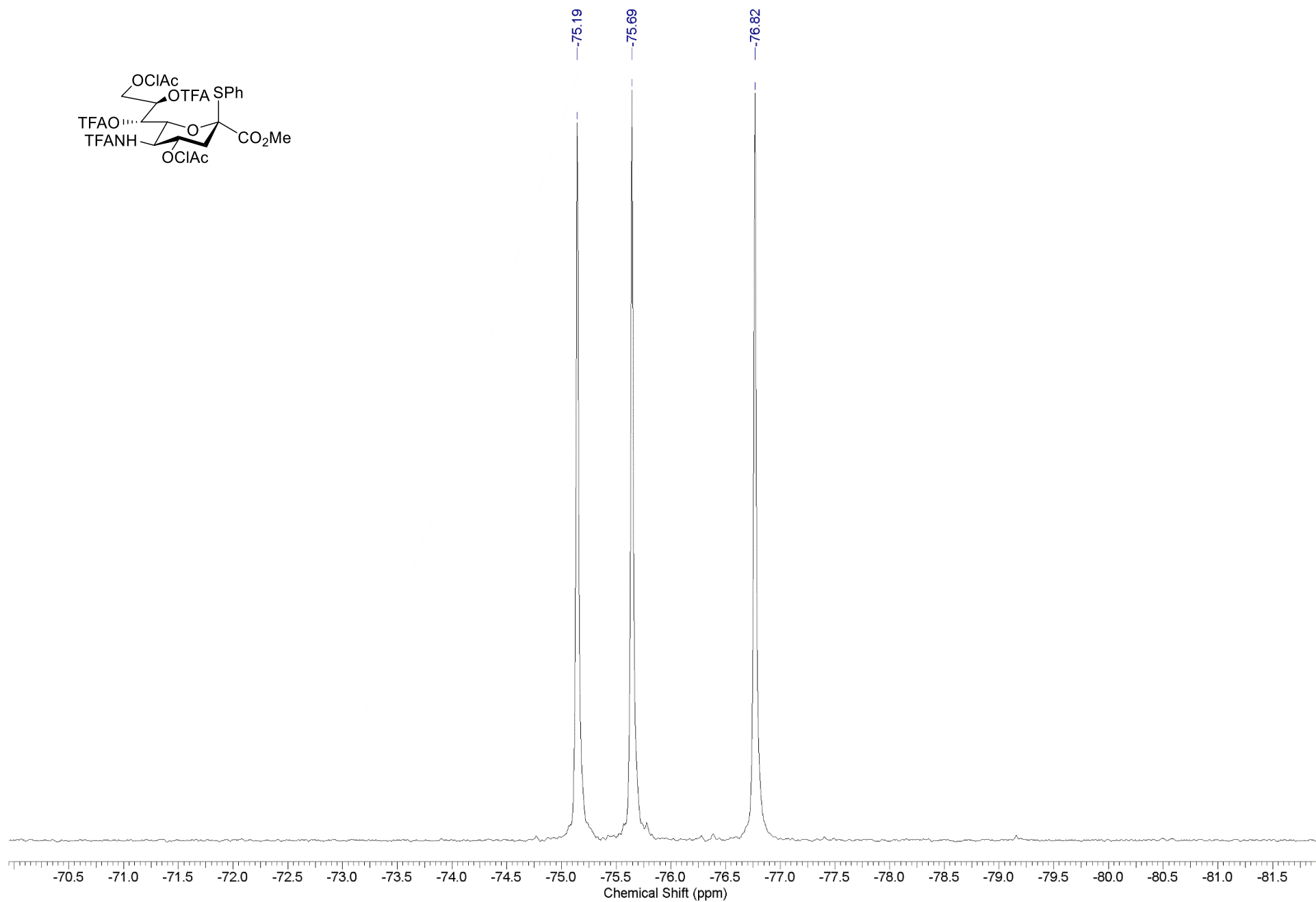
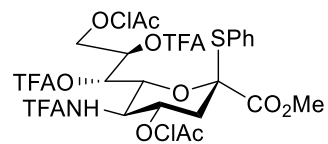
# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz) spectrum of compound 2 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz) spectrum of compound 2 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$**

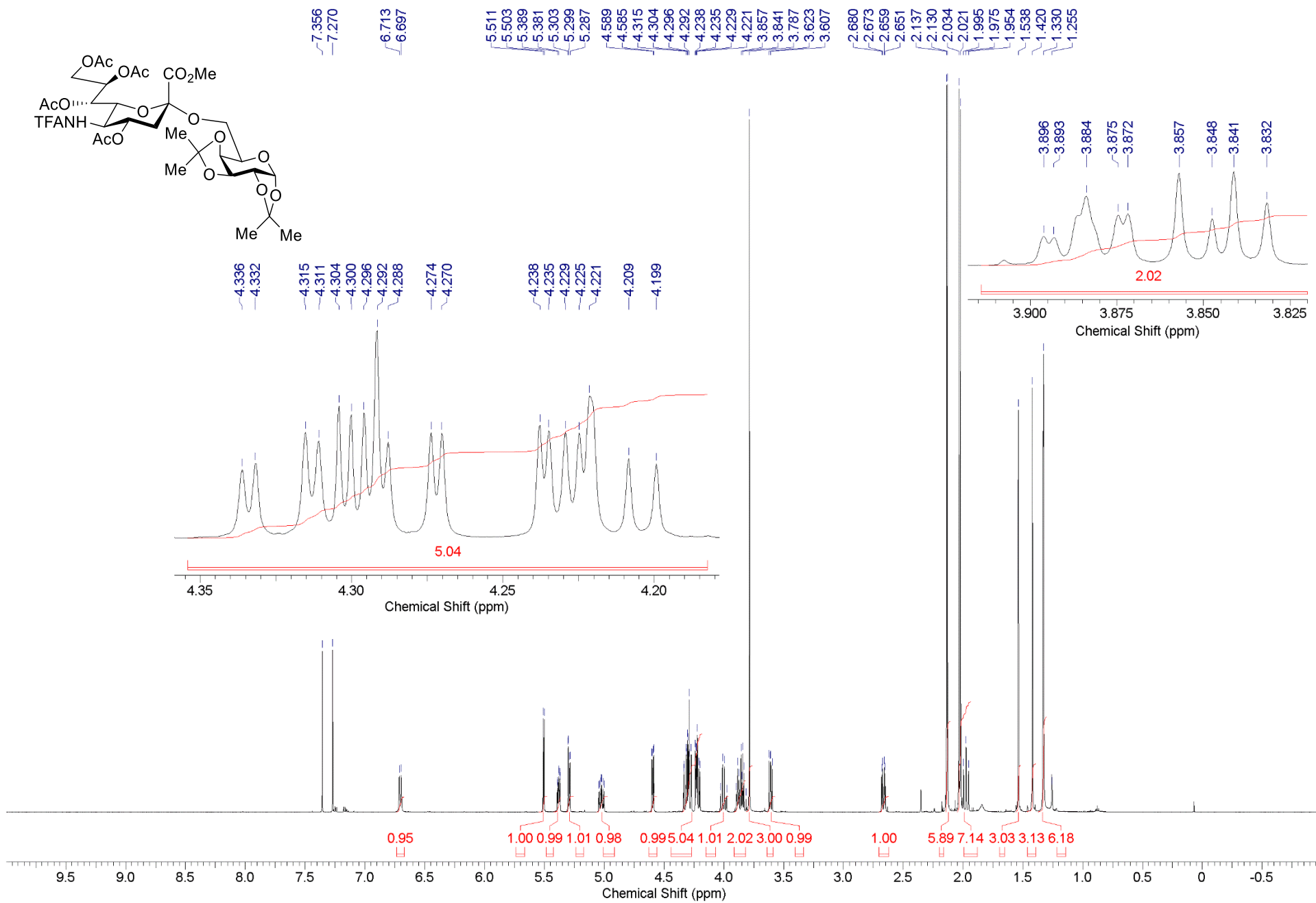


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz) spectrum of compound 2 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

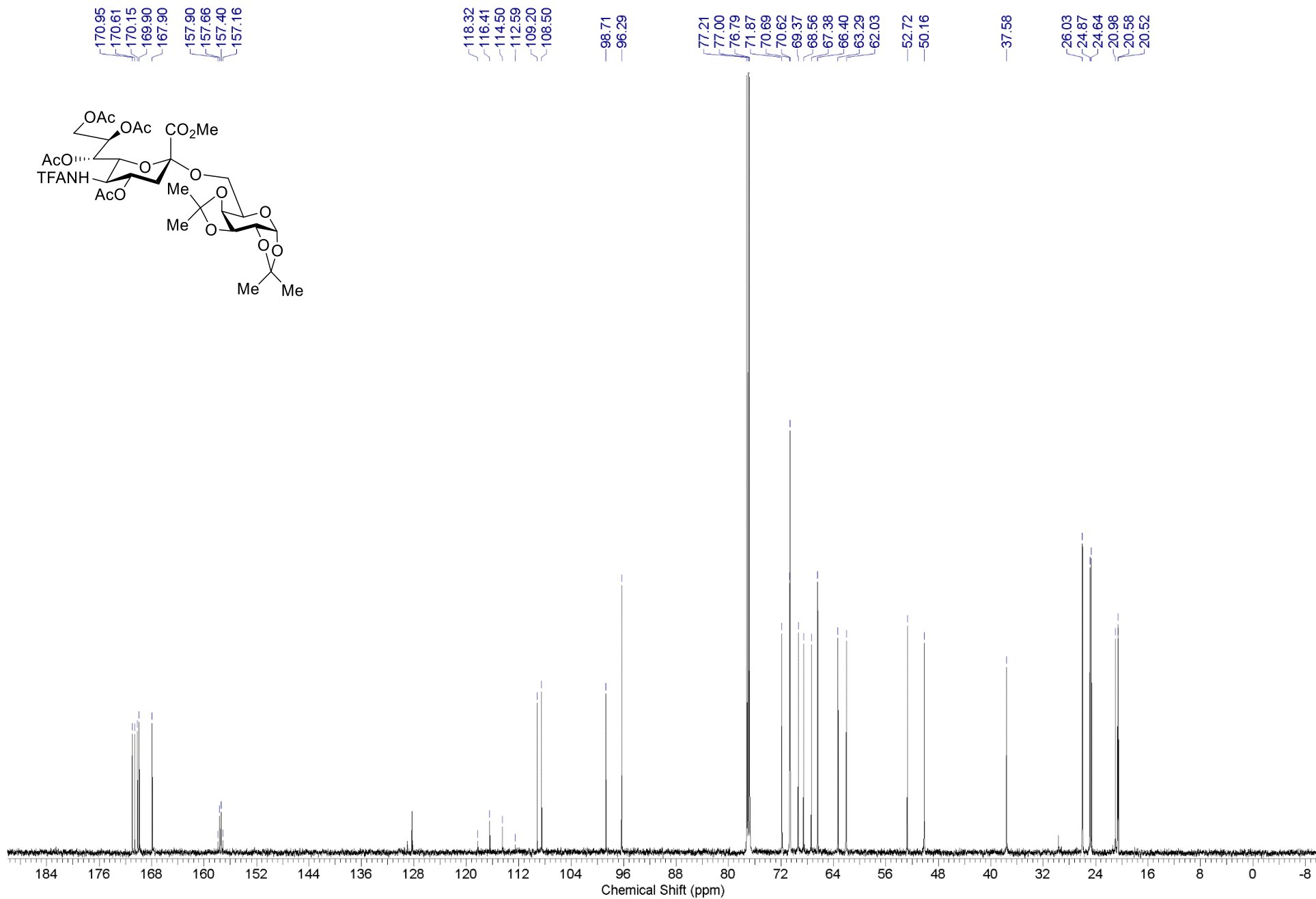




# <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of compound $\alpha$ -4 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz) spectrum of compound  $\alpha$ -4 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$**



## References

1. Sheldrick G. M., SADABS, v. 2.03, Bruker/Siemens Area Detector Absorption Correction Program; Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI, 2003
2. Sheldrick, G.M. *Acta Cryst.*, **2015**, *A71*, 3–8.
3. Sheldrick G. M. *Acta Cryst.*, **2008**, *A64*, 112–122.
4. Dolomanov, O. V., Bourhis, L. J.; Gildea, R. J., Howard, J. A. K.; Puschmann, H. *J. Appl. Cryst.*, **2009**, *42*, 339–341.
5. Podvalnyy, N. M.; Malysheva, N. N.; Panova, M. V.; Zinin, A. I.; Chizhov, A. O.; Orlova, A. V.; Kononov, L. O. *Carbohydr. Res.* **2017**, *451*, 12–28 (identical to the reference in the main article – doi: 10.1016/j.carres.2017.09.002).