

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Hyaluronan Derivatives Bearing Variable Densities of Ferulic Acid Residues

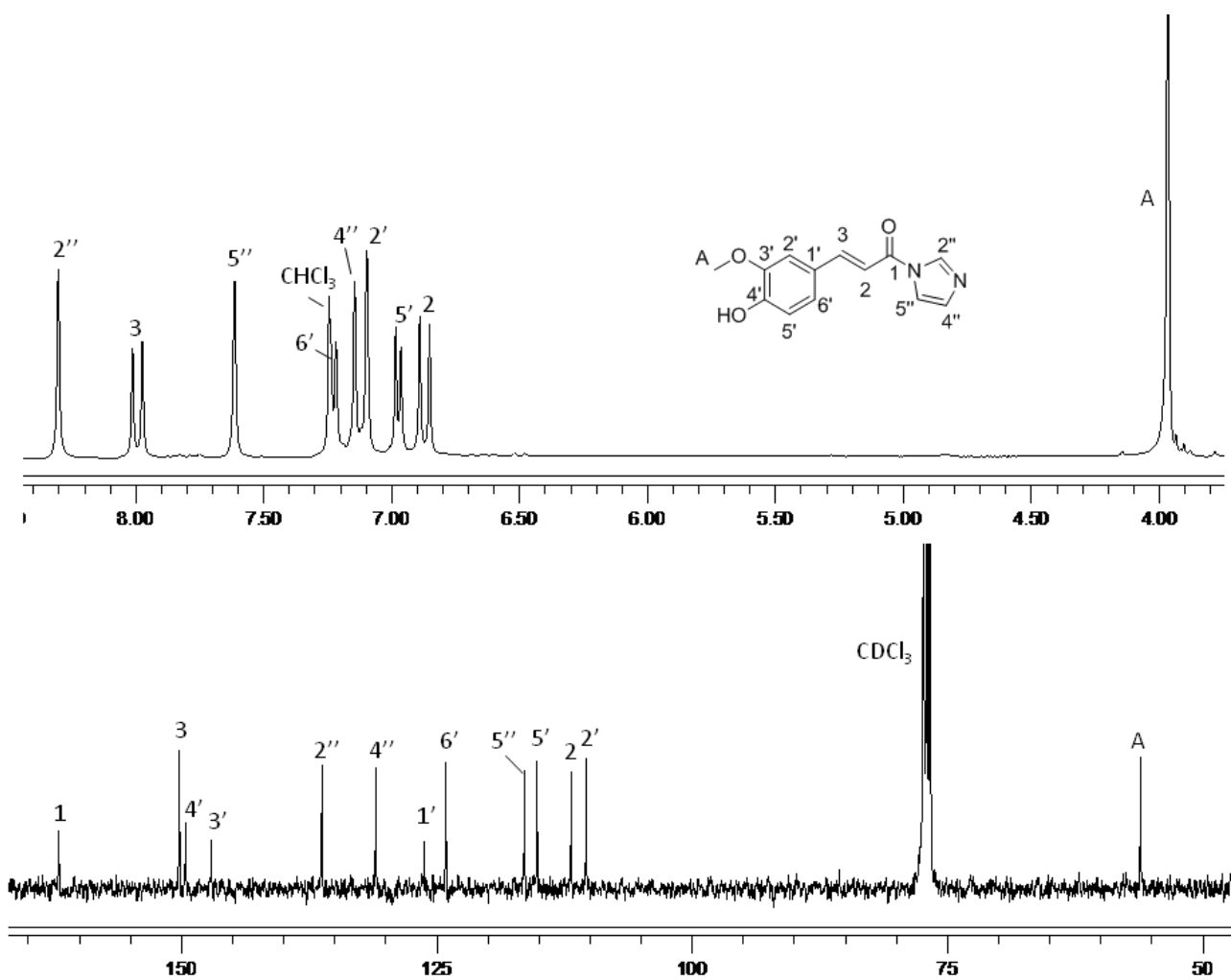
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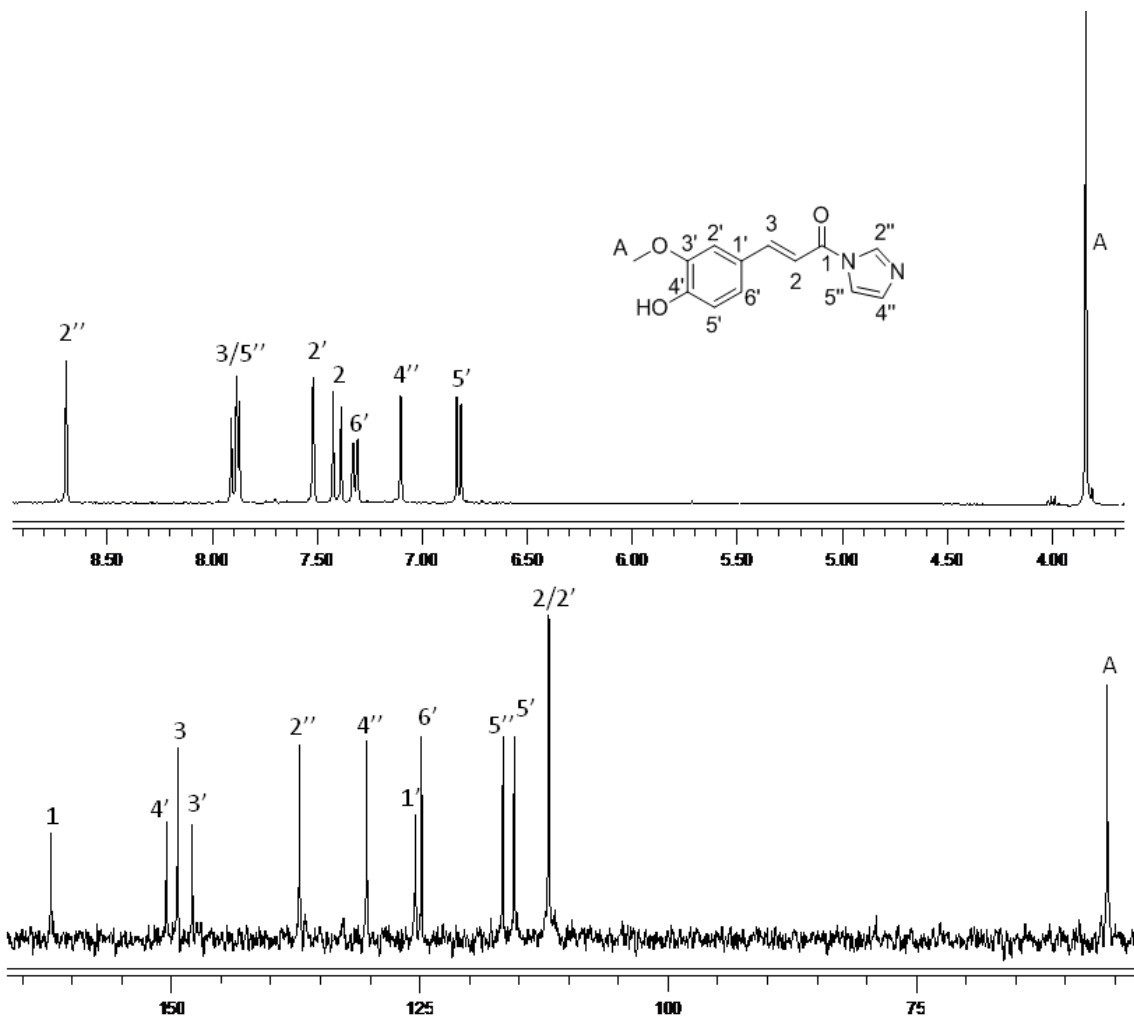
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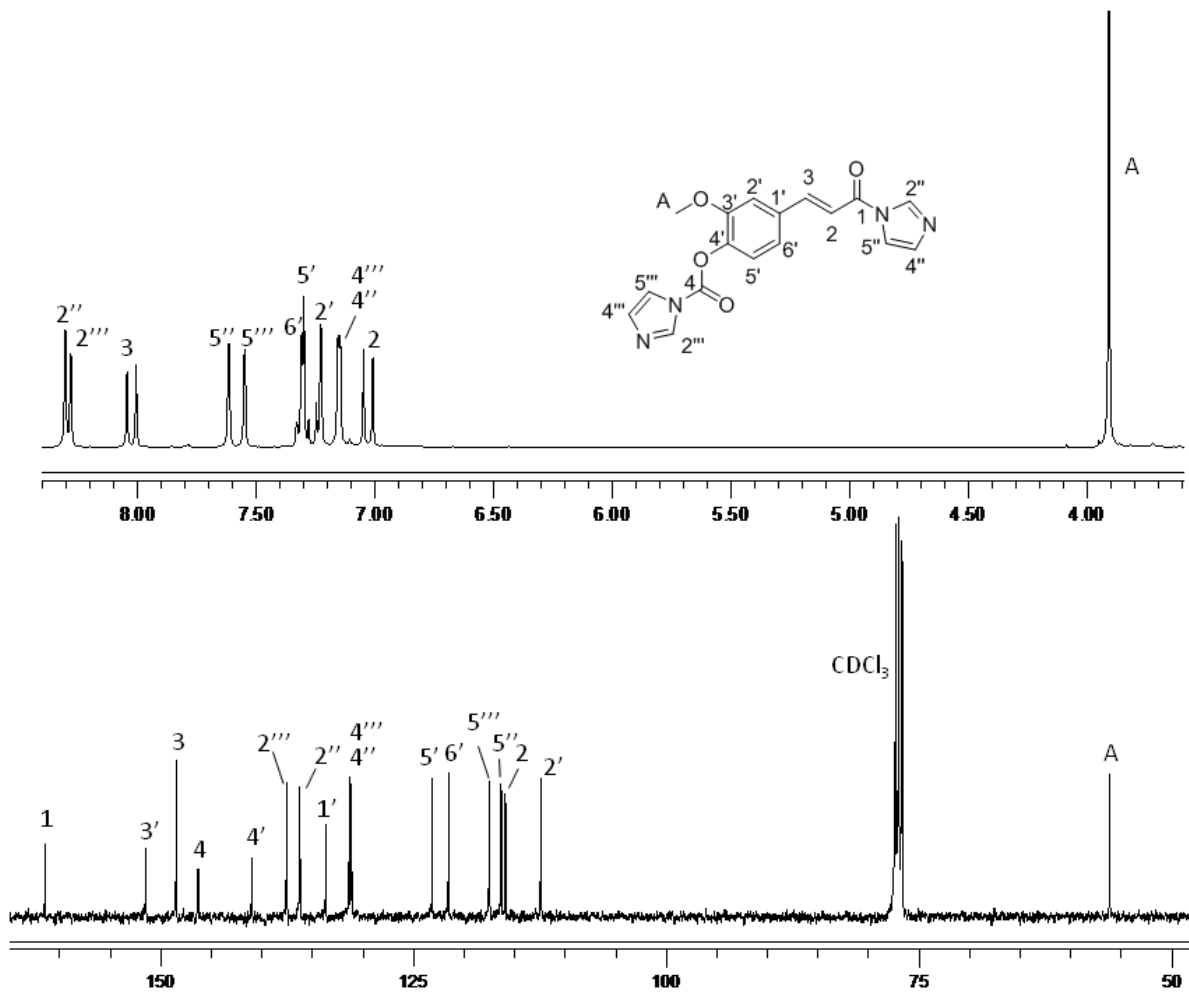
Content:	NMR spectra of activated intermediate <b>2</b>	(pages 2 and 3)
	NMR spectra of activated intermediate <b>3</b>	(pages 4 and 5)
	NMR spectra of benzyl ferulate <b>5</b>	(page 6)
	MWD and conformational features of the native <b>HA</b> and <b>HAFa</b> derivatives	(pages 7-9)
	Crystal data for compound <b>2</b>	(pages 10-13).



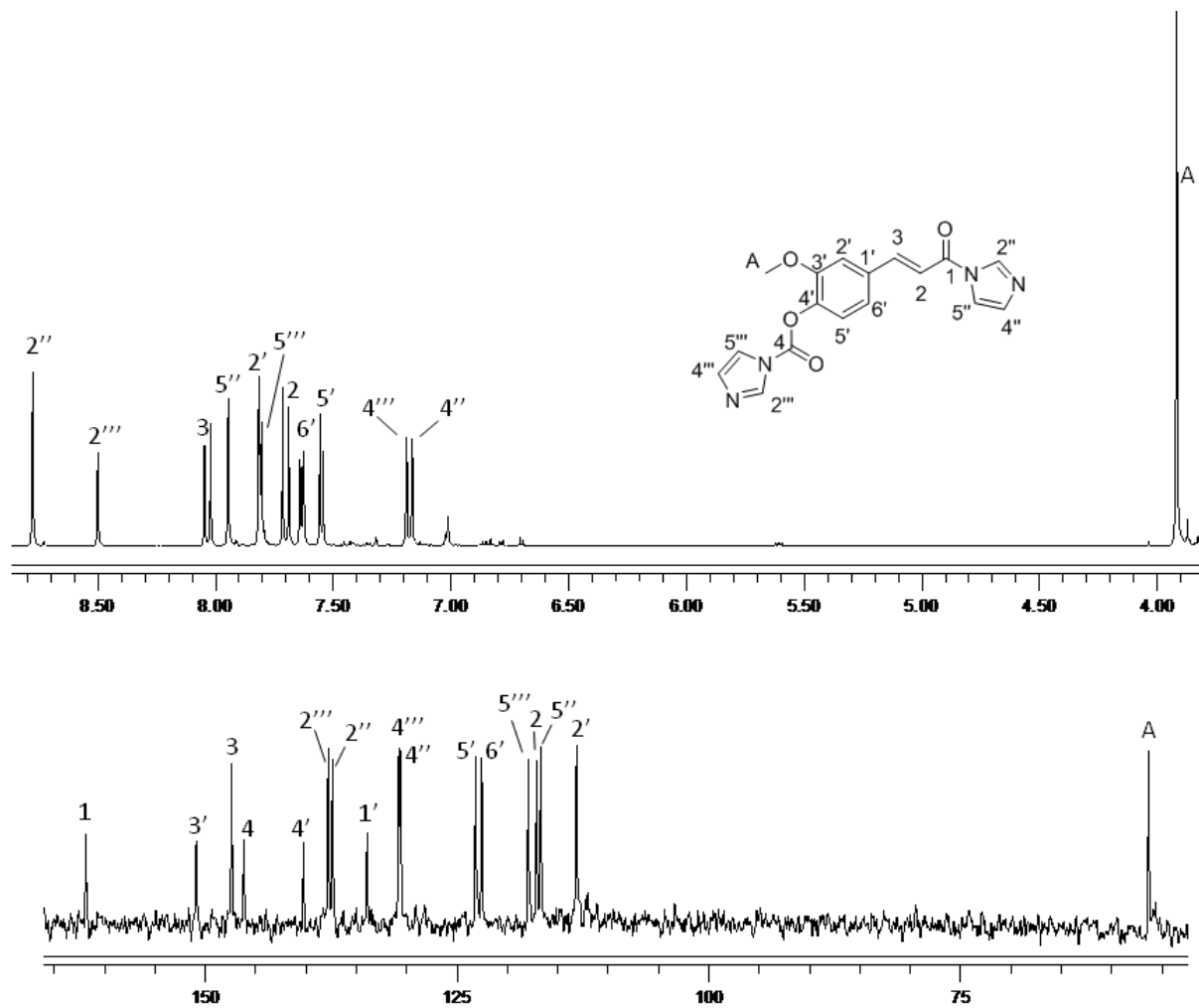
**Figure ESI-1.** NMR spectra of compound 2 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. CHCl<sub>3</sub> and CDCl<sub>3</sub> indicate the solvent peaks.



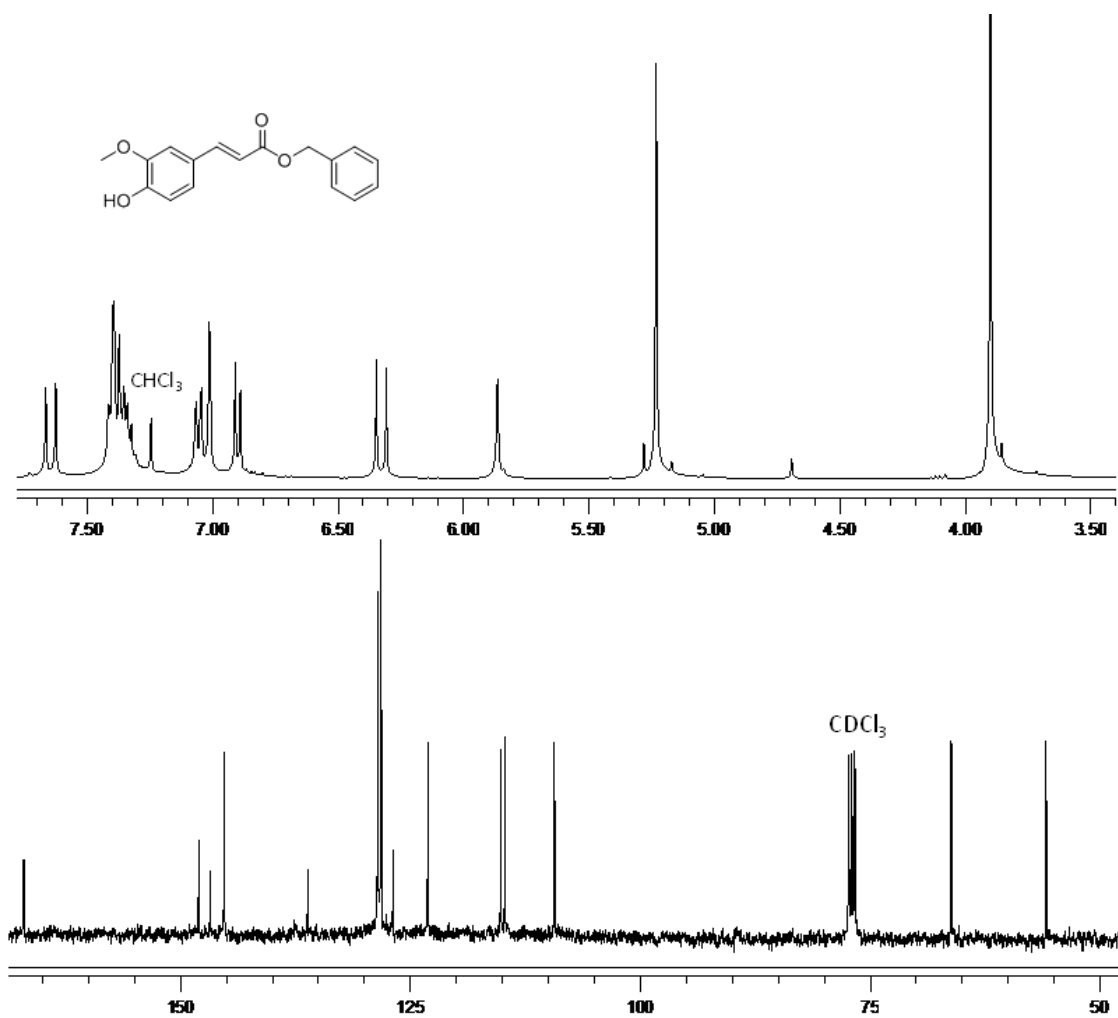
**Figure ESI-2.** NMR spectra of compound 2 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



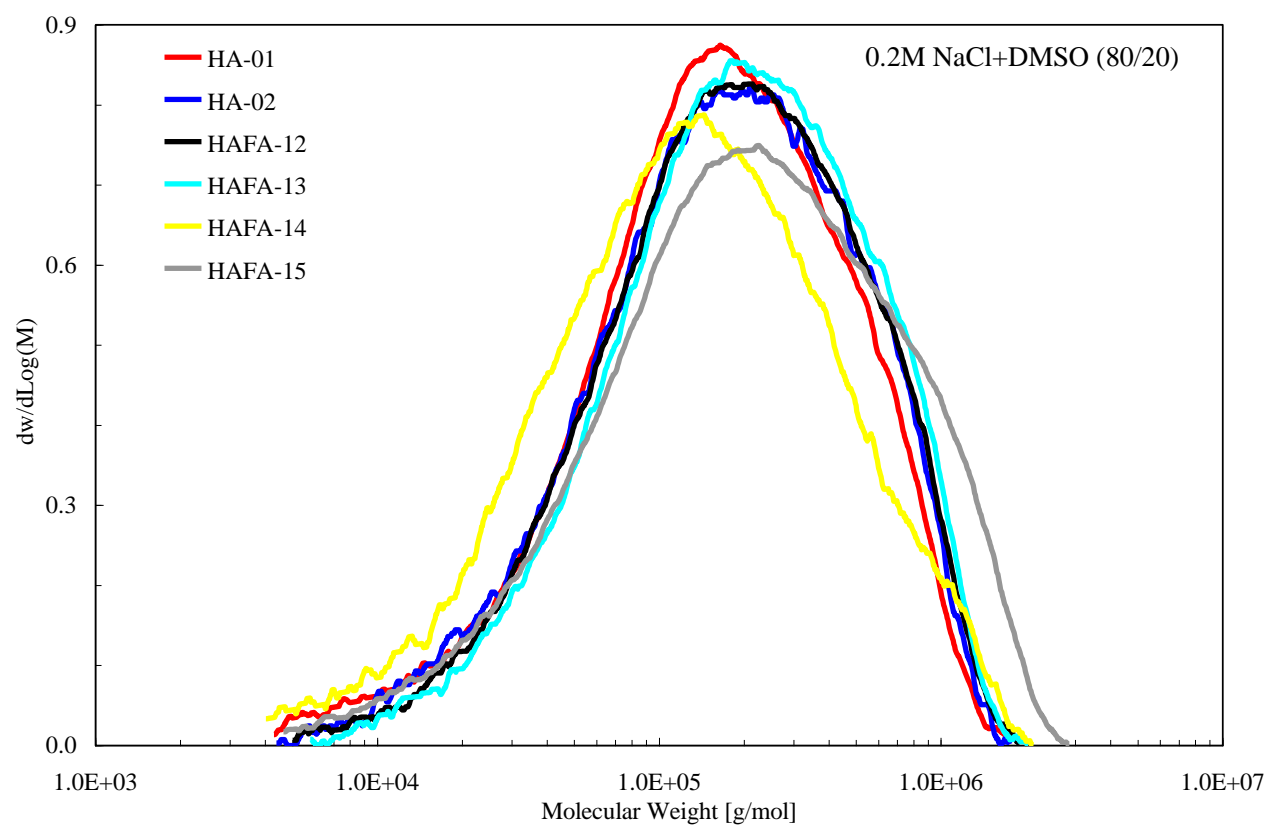
**Figure ESI-3.** NMR spectra of compound **3** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. CDCl<sub>3</sub> indicates the solvent peak.



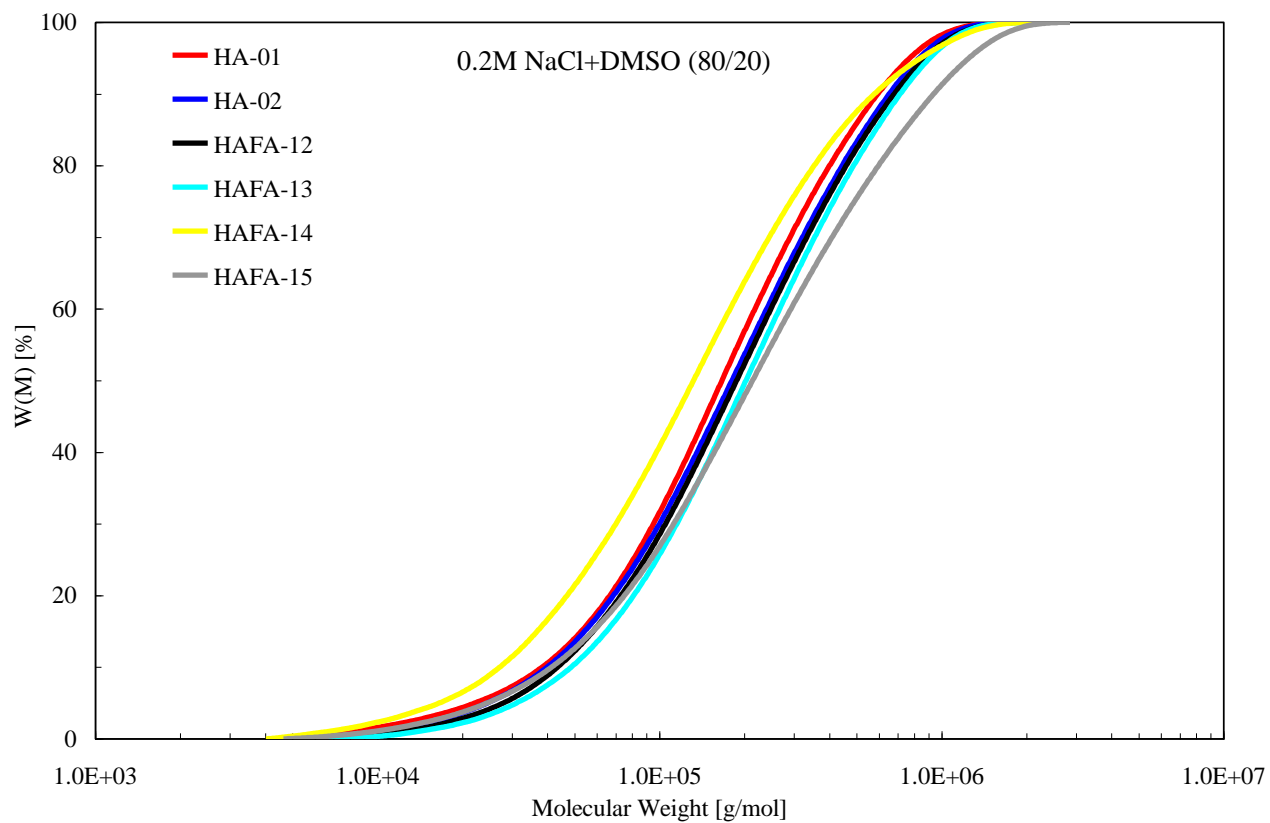
**Figure ESI-4.** NMR spectra of compound 3 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure ESI-5.** NMR spectra of benzyl ferulate **5** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. CHCl<sub>3</sub> and CDCl<sub>3</sub> indicate the solvent peaks.

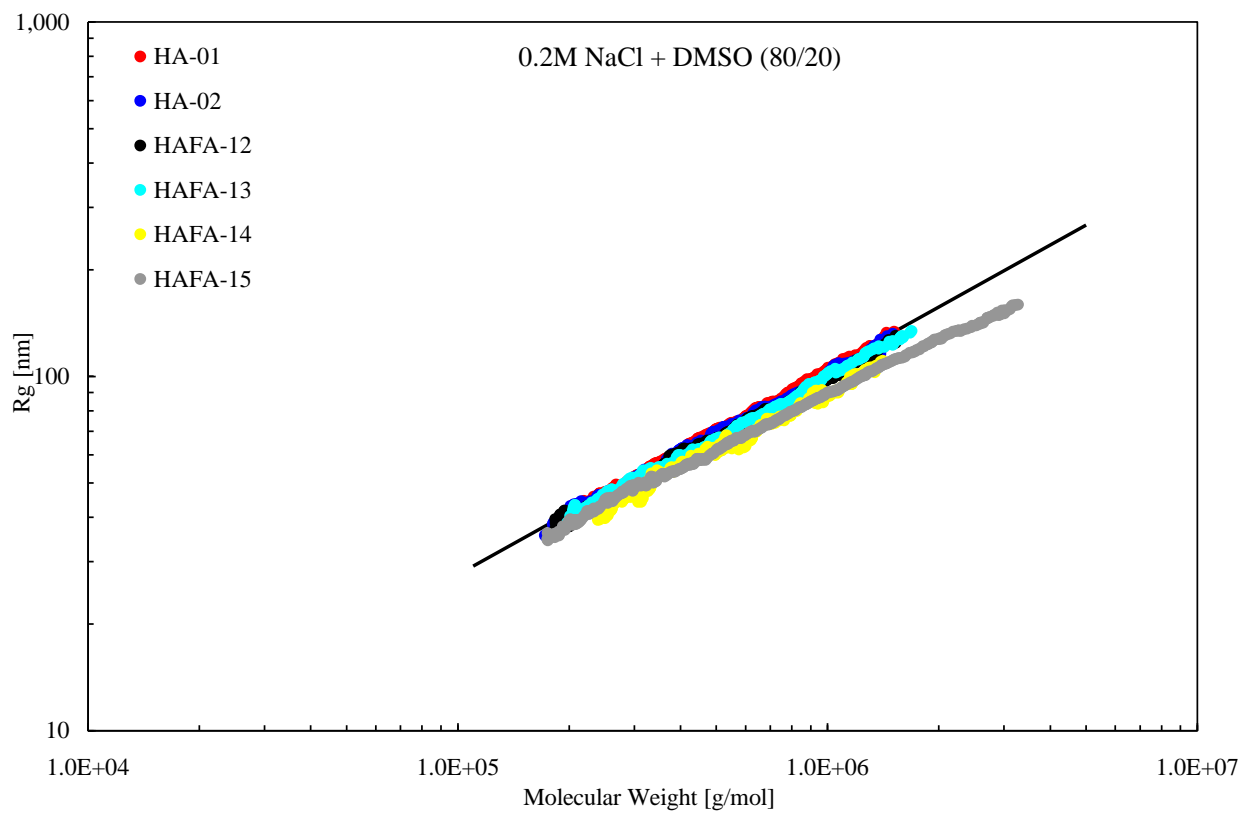


**Figure ESI-6.** Comparison of differential MWD of the two native **HA** and of four **HAFA** derivatives.



**Figure ESI-7.** Comparison of the cumulative MWD of the two native **HA** and of four **HAFA** derivatives.





**Figure ESI-8.** Comparison of the conformation plots of native **HA** and selected **HAFA** derivatives.

**Table ESI-1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for compound **2**.

Empirical formula	C13 H12 N2 O3	
Formula weight	244.25	
Temperature	293(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 21/n	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.1833(10) Å	$\alpha = 90^\circ$ .
	b = 10.8772(10) Å	$\beta = 106.907(11)^\circ$ .
	c = 12.2834(16) Å	$\gamma = 90^\circ$ .
Volume	1173.9(2) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.382 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	0.100 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	512	
Crystal size	0.5 × 0.5 × 0.3 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	2.46 to 29.11°.	
Index ranges	-8 ≤ h ≤ 12, -14 ≤ k ≤ 13, -16 ≤ l ≤ 16	
Reflections collected	8625	
Independent reflections	2752 [R(int) = 0.0970]	
Completeness to theta = 29.11°	87.2 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	1.00000 and 0.66873	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	2752 / 0 / 165	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.002	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0769, wR2 = 0.1065	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.2189, wR2 = 0.1454	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.169 and -0.168 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

**Table ESI-2.** Atomic coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for compound **2**.  $U(\text{eq})$  is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

	x	y	z	U(eq)
N(1)	799(3)	2082(2)	1401(2)	46(1)
C(2)	-569(4)	1657(3)	731(3)	51(1)
N(3)	-1573(3)	2518(3)	406(2)	59(1)
C(4)	-816(4)	3572(3)	886(3)	76(1)
C(5)	611(4)	3335(3)	1494(3)	71(1)
C(6)	2122(4)	1340(3)	1796(3)	45(1)
O(1)	2022(2)	248(2)	1552(2)	59(1)
C(7)	3513(4)	1950(3)	2459(3)	49(1)
C(8)	4873(4)	1469(3)	2561(3)	49(1)
C(1')	6351(4)	1981(3)	3162(3)	43(1)
C(2')	7676(4)	1328(3)	3197(2)	48(1)
C(3')	9098(4)	1768(3)	3766(3)	45(1)
C(4')	9233(4)	2929(3)	4280(3)	50(1)
C(5')	7949(4)	3583(3)	4256(3)	53(1)
C(6')	6521(4)	3106(3)	3723(3)	50(1)
O(2)	10455(3)	1171(2)	3902(2)	63(1)
C(9)	10403(4)	-97(3)	3643(3)	69(1)
O(3)	10608(3)	3417(2)	4838(2)	75(1)

**Table ESI-3.** Bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for non-H atoms of compound **2**.

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N(1)-C(2)	1.367(3)	C(2)-N(1)-C(5)	105.6(3)
N(1)-C(5)	1.383(4)	C(2)-N(1)-C(6)	123.9(3)
N(1)-C(6)	1.421(4)	C(5)-N(1)-C(6)	130.3(3)
C(2)-N(3)	1.293(4)	N(3)-C(2)-N(1)	112.8(3)
N(3)-C(4)	1.381(4)	C(2)-N(3)-C(4)	104.2(3)
C(4)-C(5)	1.331(4)	C(5)-C(4)-N(3)	111.7(3)
C(6)-O(1)	1.222(3)	C(4)-C(5)-N(1)	105.7(3)
C(6)-C(7)	1.460(4)	O(1)-C(6)-N(1)	118.2(3)
C(7)-C(8)	1.327(4)	O(1)-C(6)-C(7)	124.7(3)
C(8)-C(1')	1.454(4)	N(1)-C(6)-C(7)	117.0(3)
C(1')-C(6')	1.391(4)	C(8)-C(7)-C(6)	121.3(3)
C(1')-C(2')	1.399(4)	C(7)-C(8)-C(1')	127.6(3)
C(2')-C(3')	1.376(4)	C(6')-C(1')-C(2')	117.4(3)
C(3')-O(2)	1.371(4)	C(6')-C(1')-C(8)	122.8(3)
C(3')-C(4')	1.401(4)	C(2')-C(1')-C(8)	119.7(3)
C(4')-O(3)	1.357(4)	C(3')-C(2')-C(1')	121.8(3)
C(4')-C(5')	1.370(4)	O(2)-C(3')-C(2')	126.2(3)
C(5')-C(6')	1.385(4)	O(2)-C(3')-C(4')	114.5(3)
O(2)-C(9)	1.414(3)	C(2')-C(3')-C(4')	119.3(3)
		O(3)-C(4')-C(5')	118.5(3)
		O(3)-C(4')-C(3')	121.8(3)
		C(5')-C(4')-C(3')	119.7(3)
		C(4')-C(5')-C(6')	120.4(3)
		C(5')-C(6')-C(1')	121.2(3)
		C(3')-O(2)-C(9)	117.7(3)

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**Table ESI-4.** Anisotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for compound **2**. The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form:  $-2\pi^2[ h^2 a^{*2} U^{11} + \dots + 2 h k a^* b^* U^{12} ]$

	U <sup>11</sup>	U <sup>22</sup>	U <sup>33</sup>	U <sup>23</sup>	U <sup>13</sup>	U <sup>12</sup>
N(1)	27(2)	41(2)	61(2)	-2(1)	-4(1)	-2(1)
C(2)	31(2)	41(2)	73(2)	-2(2)	1(2)	-6(2)
N(3)	33(2)	52(2)	80(2)	-1(2)	-4(2)	0(2)
C(4)	43(3)	48(2)	117(3)	-12(2)	-8(2)	7(2)
C(5)	45(3)	43(2)	108(3)	-19(2)	-3(2)	-2(2)
C(6)	31(2)	48(2)	53(2)	2(2)	7(2)	-2(2)
O(1)	40(2)	41(1)	87(2)	0(1)	2(1)	-1(1)
C(7)	35(2)	43(2)	60(2)	-4(2)	-1(2)	-4(2)
C(8)	36(2)	43(2)	60(2)	5(2)	4(2)	1(2)
C(1')	26(2)	39(2)	56(2)	4(2)	0(2)	1(2)
C(2')	39(2)	40(2)	57(2)	-6(2)	3(2)	-5(2)
C(3')	29(2)	44(2)	58(2)	3(2)	7(2)	7(2)
C(4')	35(2)	41(2)	63(2)	-2(2)	-2(2)	-2(2)
C(5')	39(3)	40(2)	68(2)	-8(2)	-3(2)	6(2)
C(6')	33(2)	48(2)	61(2)	-1(2)	1(2)	7(2)
O(2)	34(2)	51(2)	100(2)	-15(1)	11(1)	1(1)
C(9)	66(3)	52(2)	83(3)	-15(2)	14(2)	7(2)
O(3)	37(2)	54(2)	117(2)	-25(2)	-7(2)	-2(1)