

# Differentiating positional isomers of nucleoside modifications by higher-energy collisional dissociation mass spectrometry (HCD MS)

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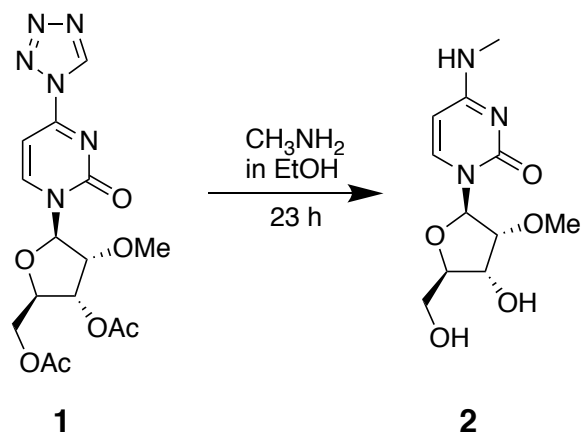
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## Supplemental Information

### Experimental

#### *N*<sup>4</sup>,2'-*O*-dimethylcytidine (*m*<sup>4</sup>*Cm*) synthesis



1 - (4-(tetrazol-1-yl)-1-(3',5'-di-O-acetyl-2'-O-methyl-β-D-ribofuranosyl)pyrimidine-2-(1H)-one)

2 - *N*<sup>4</sup>,2'-*O*-dimethylcytidine (*m*<sup>4</sup>*Cm*)

Compound **1** was prepared by previously described methods,[1] except that 0.45M tetrazole in anhydrous acetonitrile solution was used instead of solid tetrazole. All crude products were co-

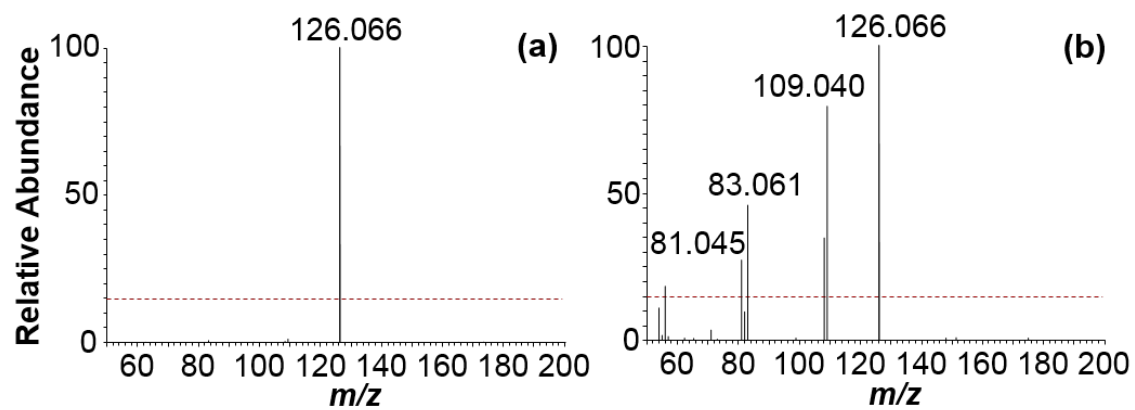
evaporated with dichloromethane prior to column chromatography. Products were formed in similar yields.

Compound **1** (370 mg, 0.93 mmol) was dried under high vacuum for 15 min and backfilled with Argon. Methylamine in ethanol (33%, 10 mL) was added via syringe and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 23 h. Removal of all volatiles lead to formation of a brown syrup. The syrup was co-evaporated first with methanol (1 x 10 mL) followed by dichloromethane (2 x 10 mL). The crude product was further purified by silica gel column chromatography with 10% methanol in dichloromethane yielding 203 mg of m<sup>4</sup>Cm (compound **2**, 80%) as a white solid. Spectroscopic data agreed with reported literature values.[1]

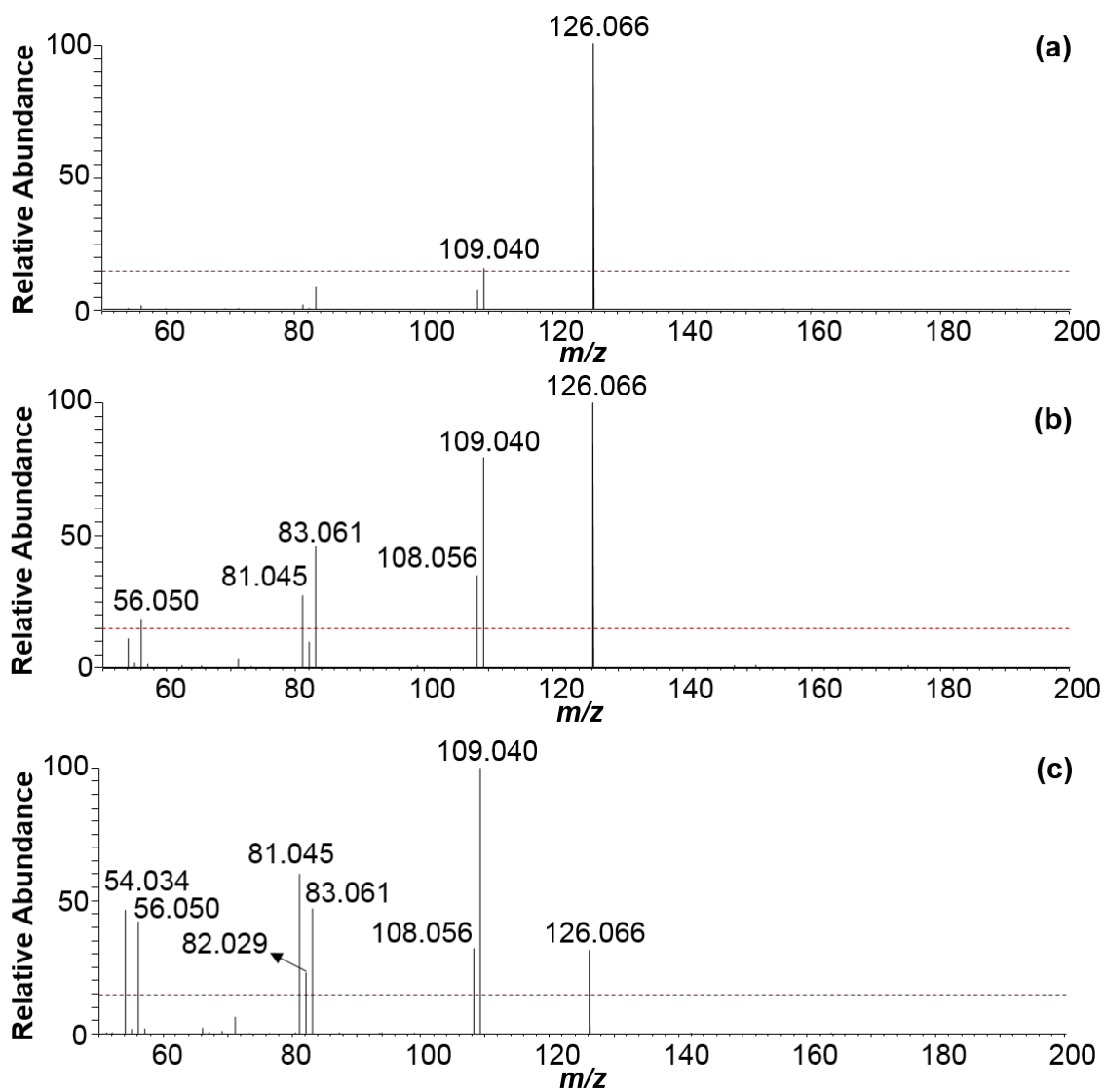
## References

1. Mahto, S.K., Chow, C.S.: Synthesis and solution conformation studies of the modified nucleoside N(4), 2'-O-dimethylcytidine (m(4)Cm) and its analogues. *Bioorganic Med. Chem.* **16**, 8795-8800 (2008)

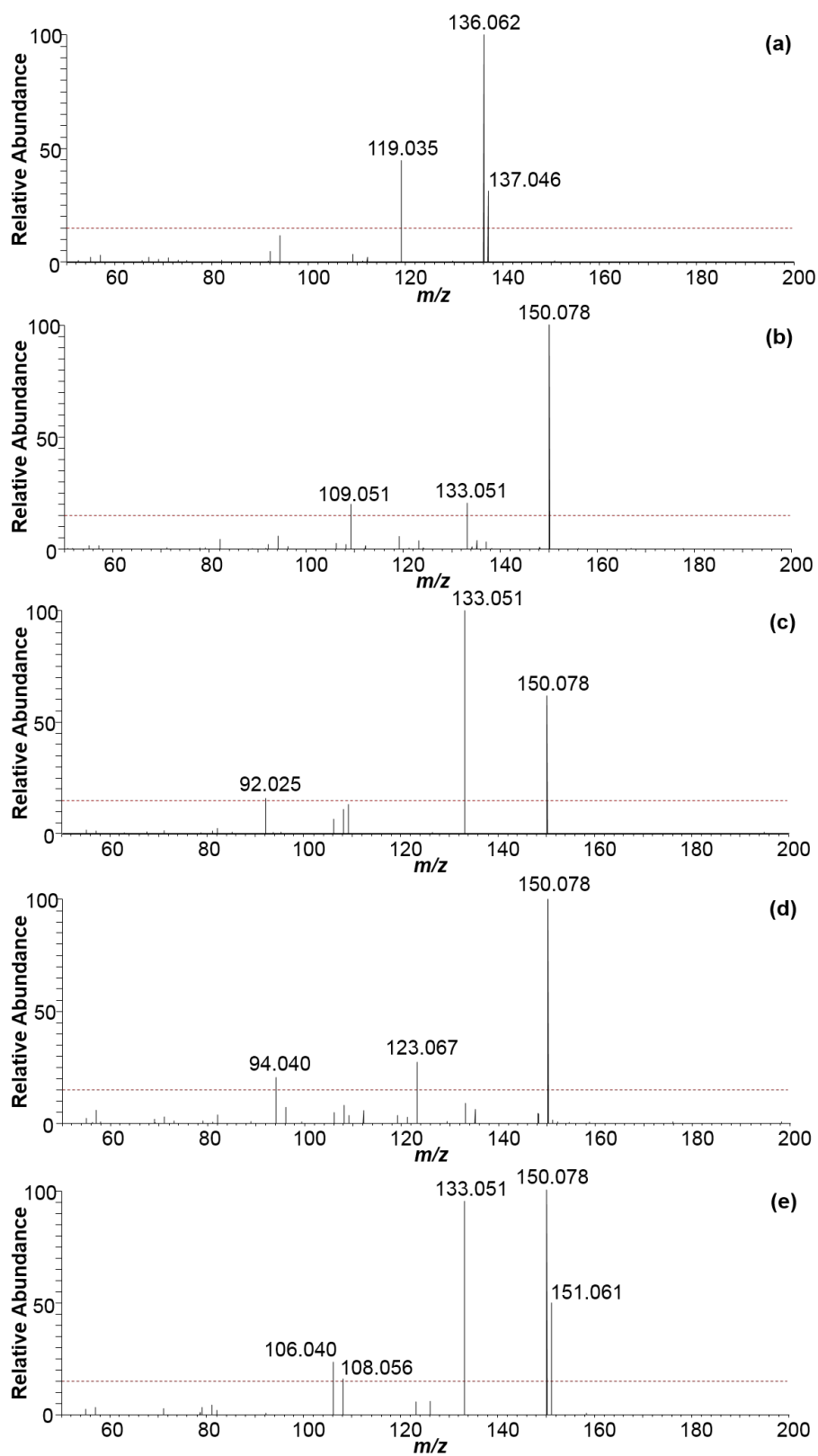
## Supplemental Figures



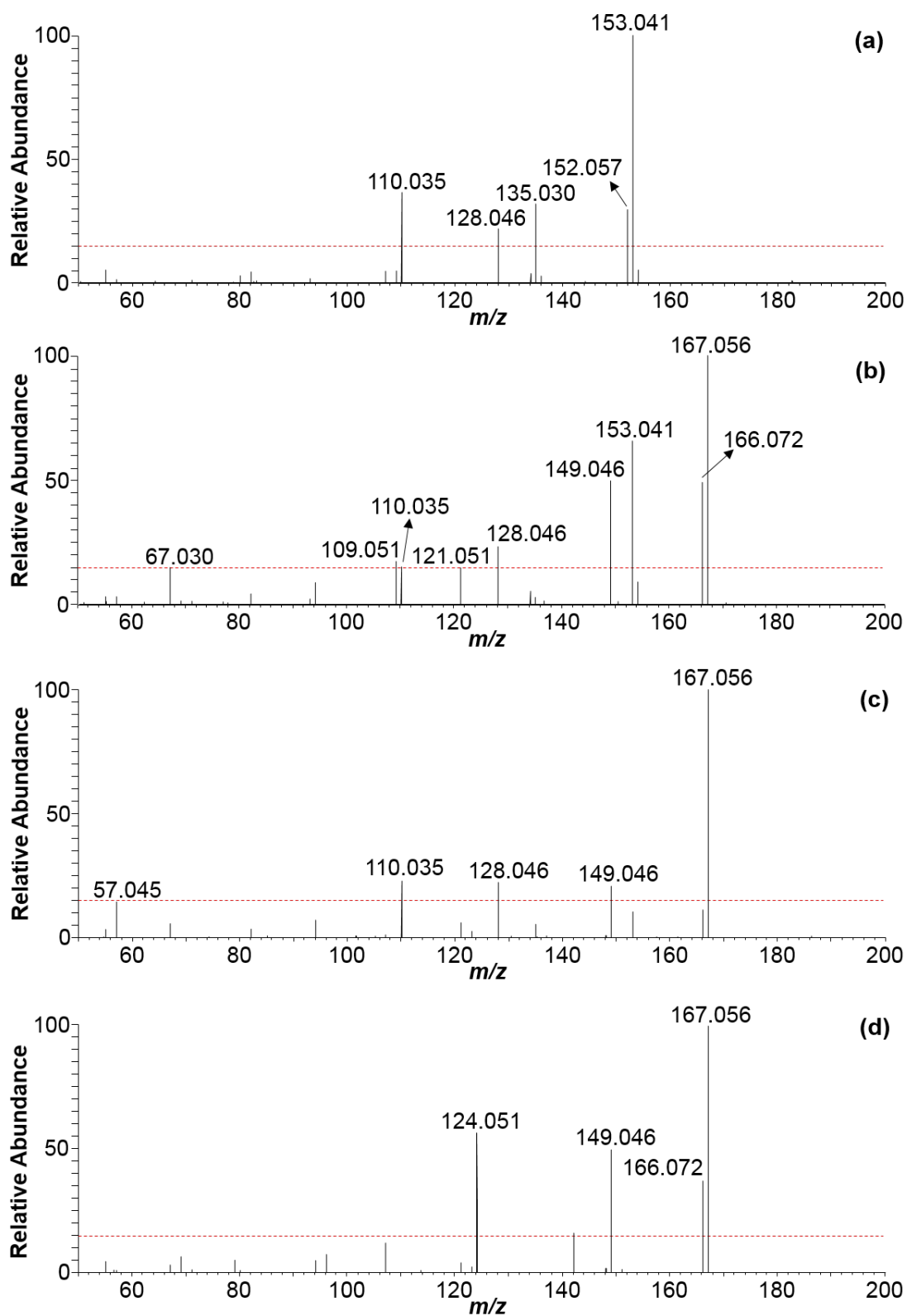
**Supplemental Figure S1.** MS/MS spectra for  $m^5C$  acquired by HCD at different CE. (a) CE 40 and (b) CE 80.



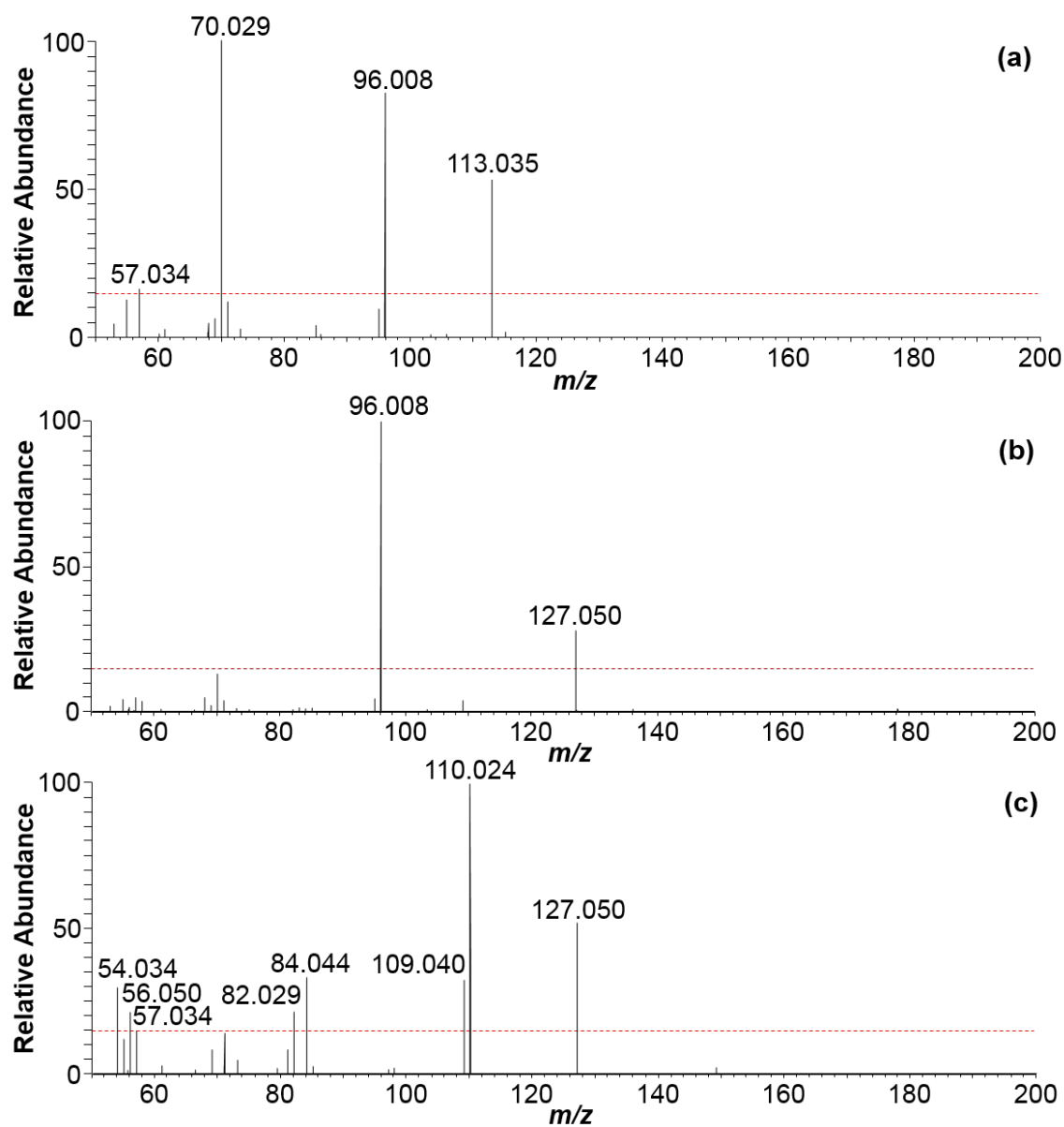
**Supplemental Figure S2.** Fingerprint MS/MS of  $m^5C$  acquired at different HCD CE. (a) 60, (b) 80, and (c) 100.



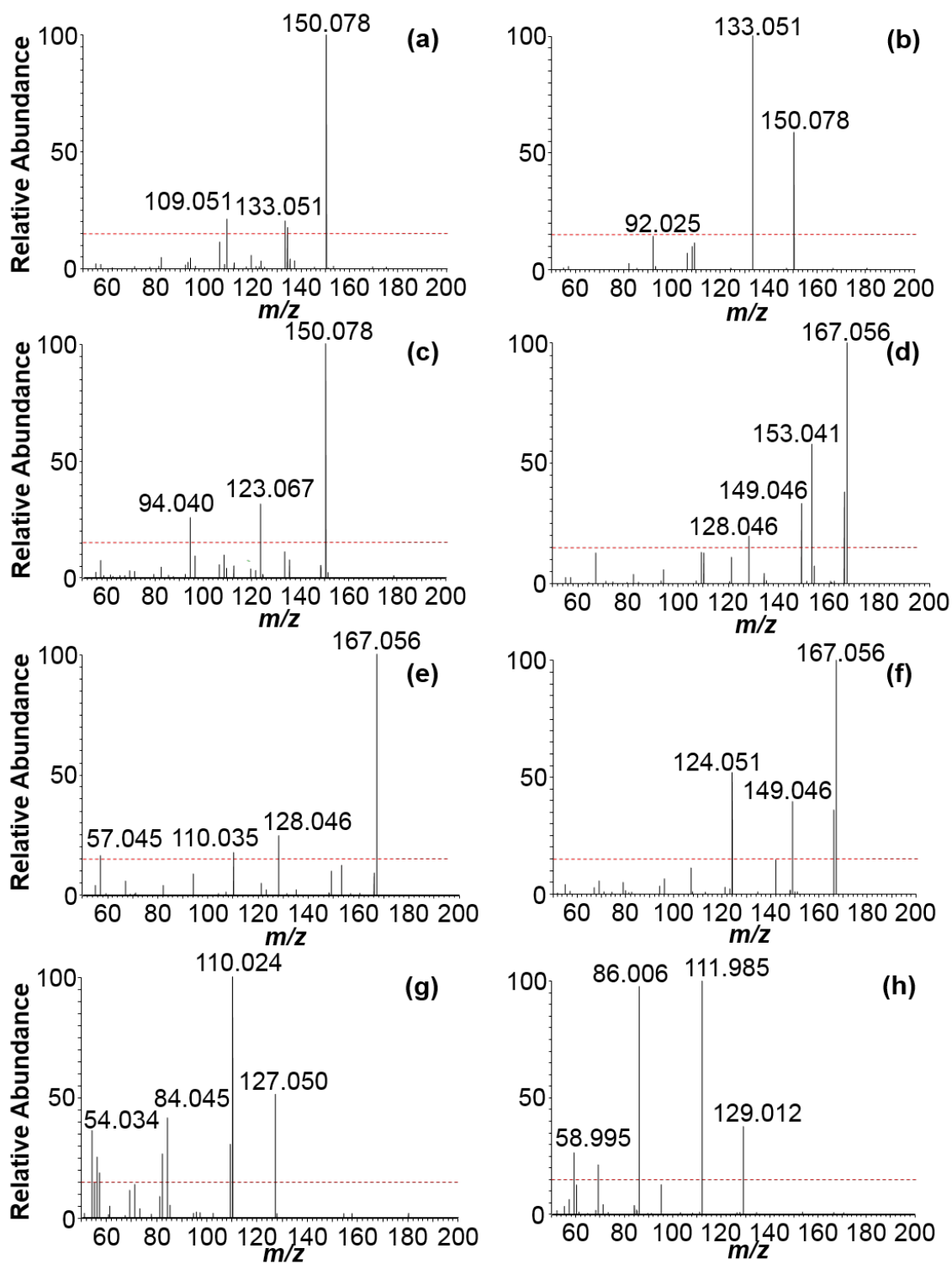
**Supplemental Figure S3.** Fingerprint MS/MS at HCD CE 80 of adenosine (a) and positional isomers of methyl adenosine standards: (b) m<sup>1</sup>A, (c) m<sup>2</sup>A, (d) m<sup>6</sup>A, and (e) m<sup>8</sup>A. See Supplemental Table S1 for more information on the peaks labeled.



**Supplemental Figure S4.** Fingerprint MS/MS at HCD CE 80 of guanosine (a) and positional isomers of methyl guanosine standards: (b)  $m^1G$ , (c)  $m^2G$ , and (d)  $m^7G$ . See Supplemental Table S1 for more information on the peaks labeled.



**Supplemental Figure S5.** Fingerprint MS/MS at HCD CE 80 of uridine (a) and positional isomers of methyl uridine standards: (b)  $m^3U$ , and (c)  $m^5U$ . See Supplemental Table S1 for more information on the peaks labeled.



**Supplemental Figure S6.** Fingerprint MS/MS at HCD CE 80 of  $m^1A$  (a),  $m^2A$  (b),  $m^6A$  (c),  $m^1G$  (d),  $m^2G$  (e),  $m^7G$  (f),  $m^5U$  (g), and  $s^4U$  (h), detected in *E. coli* tRNA.



**Supplemental Table S1.** Theoretical  $m/z$ , experimental  $m/z$ ,  $m/z$  measurement error (parts per million, PPM), as well as molecular formula of ions with RIA  $\geq 15\%$  present in the HCD fingerprint of the different positional isomers discussed in the main text. Theoretical  $m/z$  values were computed by ChemCalc (<http://www.chemcalc.org>).

| Nucleoside(s) | Experimental $m/z$ | Theoretical $m/z$ | Error (PPM) | Molecular formula |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| $m^3C$        | 95.0241            | 95.0245           | 4.2         | $C_4H_3N_2O^+$    |
| $m^3C$        | 109.0397           | 109.0402          | 4.6         | $C_5H_5N_2O^+$    |
| $m^3C$        | 126.0662           | 126.0667          | 4.0         | $C_5H_8N_3O^+$    |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 56.0497            | 56.0500           | 5.4         | $C_3H_6N^+$       |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 66.0340            | 66.0344           | 6.1         | $C_4H_4N^+$       |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 83.0606            | 83.0609           | 3.6         | $C_4H_7N_2^+$     |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 95.0243            | 95.0245           | 2.1         | $C_4H_3N_2O^+$    |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 108.0558           | 108.0562          | 3.7         | $C_5H_6N_3^+$     |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 109.0398           | 109.0402          | 3.7         | $C_5H_5N_2O^+$    |
| $m^4C/m^4Cm$  | 126.0663           | 126.0667          | 3.2         | $C_5H_8N_3O^+$    |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 56.0497            | 56.0500           | 5.4         | $C_3H_6N^+$       |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 81.0450            | 81.0453           | 3.7         | $C_4H_5N_2^+$     |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 83.0606            | 83.0609           | 3.6         | $C_4H_7N_2^+$     |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 108.0558           | 108.0562          | 3.7         | $C_5H_6N_3^+$     |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 109.0398           | 109.0402          | 3.7         | $C_5H_5N_2O^+$    |
| $m^5C/m^5Cm$  | 126.0663           | 126.0667          | 3.2         | $C_5H_8N_3O^+$    |
| $m^1A$        | 109.0510           | 109.0514          | 3.7         | $C_4H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^1A$        | 133.0510           | 133.0514          | 3.0         | $C_6H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^1A$        | 150.0775           | 150.0780          | 3.3         | $C_6H_8N_5^+$     |
| $m^2A$        | 92.0246            | 92.0249           | 3.3         | $C_4H_2N_3^+$     |
| $m^2A$        | 133.0509           | 133.0514          | 3.8         | $C_6H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^2A$        | 150.0774           | 150.0780          | 4.0         | $C_6H_8N_5^+$     |
| $m^6A$        | 94.0402            | 94.0405           | 3.2         | $C_4H_4N_3^+$     |
| $m^6A$        | 123.0666           | 123.0671          | 4.1         | $C_5H_7N_4^+$     |
| $m^6A$        | 150.0775           | 150.0780          | 3.3         | $C_6H_8N_5^+$     |
| $m^8A$        | 106.0401           | 106.0405          | 3.8         | $C_5H_4N_3^+$     |
| $m^8A$        | 108.0558           | 108.0562          | 3.7         | $C_5H_6N_3^+$     |
| $m^8A$        | 133.0509           | 133.0514          | 3.8         | $C_6H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^8A$        | 150.0774           | 150.0780          | 4.0         | $C_6H_8N_5^+$     |
| $m^8A$        | 151.0614           | 151.0620          | 4.0         | $C_6H_7N_4O^+$    |
| $m^1G$        | 67.0293            | 67.0296           | 4.5         | $C_3H_3N_2^+$     |
| $m^1G$        | 109.0510           | 109.0514          | 3.7         | $C_4H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^1G$        | 110.0350           | 110.0354          | 3.6         | $C_4H_4N_3O^+$    |
| $m^1G$        | 121.0510           | 121.0514          | 3.3         | $C_5H_5N_4^+$     |
| $m^1G$        | 128.0455           | 128.0460          | 3.9         | $C_4H_6N_3O_2^+$  |
| $m^1G$        | 149.0459           | 149.0463          | 2.7         | $C_6H_5N_4O^+$    |
| $m^1G$        | 153.0409           | 153.0412          | 2.0         | $C_5H_5N_4O_2^+$  |
| $m^1G$        | 166.0725           | 166.0729          | 2.4         | $C_6H_8N_5O^+$    |
| $m^1G$        | 167.0564           | 167.0569          | 3.0         | $C_6H_7N_4O_2^+$  |
| $m^2G$        | 57.0449            | 57.0453           | 7.0         | $C_2H_5N_2^+$     |

Cont. Supplemental Table S1.

| <b>Nucleoside(s)</b> | <b>Experimental <i>m/z</i></b> | <b>Theoretical <i>m/z</i></b> | <b>Error (PPM)</b> | <b>Molecular formula</b>   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| m <sup>2</sup> G     | 110.0351                       | 110.0354                      | 2.7                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>2</sup> G     | 128.0455                       | 128.0460                      | 3.9                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| m <sup>2</sup> G     | 149.0459                       | 149.0463                      | 2.7                | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>2</sup> G     | 167.0564                       | 167.0569                      | 3.0                | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| m <sup>7</sup> G     | 124.0507                       | 124.0511                      | 3.2                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>7</sup> G     | 142.0611                       | 142.0616                      | 3.5                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| m <sup>7</sup> G     | 149.0458                       | 149.0463                      | 3.4                | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>7</sup> G     | 166.0724                       | 166.0729                      | 3.0                | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>7</sup> G     | 167.0564                       | 167.0569                      | 3.0                | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| m <sup>3</sup> U     | 96.0081                        | 96.0086                       | 5.2                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>               |
| m <sup>3</sup> U     | 127.0502                       | 127.0508                      | 4.7                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 54.0340                        | 54.0344                       | 7.4                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sup>+</sup>                             |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 56.0497                        | 56.0500                       | 5.4                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sup>+</sup>                             |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 57.0337                        | 57.0340                       | 5.3                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sup>+</sup>                             |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 82.0289                        | 82.0293                       | 4.9                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> NO <sup>+</sup>                            |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 84.0445                        | 84.0449                       | 4.8                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> NO <sup>+</sup>                            |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 109.0398                       | 109.0402                      | 3.7                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sup>+</sup>              |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 110.0237                       | 110.0242                      | 4.5                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>               |
| m <sup>5</sup> U     | 127.0503                       | 127.0508                      | 3.9                | C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> |
| s <sup>2</sup> U     | 59.9905                        | 59.9908                       | 5.0                | CH <sub>2</sub> NS <sup>+</sup>  |
| s <sup>2</sup> U     | 70.0290                        | 70.0293                       | 4.3                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> NO <sup>+</sup>                            |
| s <sup>2</sup> U     | 83.9905                        | 83.9908                       | 3.6                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> NS <sup>+</sup>                            |
| s <sup>2</sup> U     | 111.9853                       | 111.9857                      | 3.6                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> NOS <sup>+</sup>                           |
| s <sup>4</sup> U     | 58.9952                        | 58.9955                       | 5.1                | C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> S <sup>+</sup>                             |
| s <sup>4</sup> U     | 68.9796                        | 68.9799                       | 4.3                | C <sub>3</sub> HS <sup>+</sup>   |
| s <sup>4</sup> U     | 86.0061                        | 86.0064                       | 3.5                | C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> NS <sup>+</sup>                            |
| s <sup>4</sup> U     | 111.9853                       | 111.9857                      | 3.6                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> NOS <sup>+</sup>                           |
| s <sup>4</sup> U     | 129.0119                       | 129.0122                      | 2.3                | C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>2</sub> OS <sup>+</sup>             |