

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Stable and Inert macrocyclic cobalt(II) and nickel(II) complexes with paraCEST response

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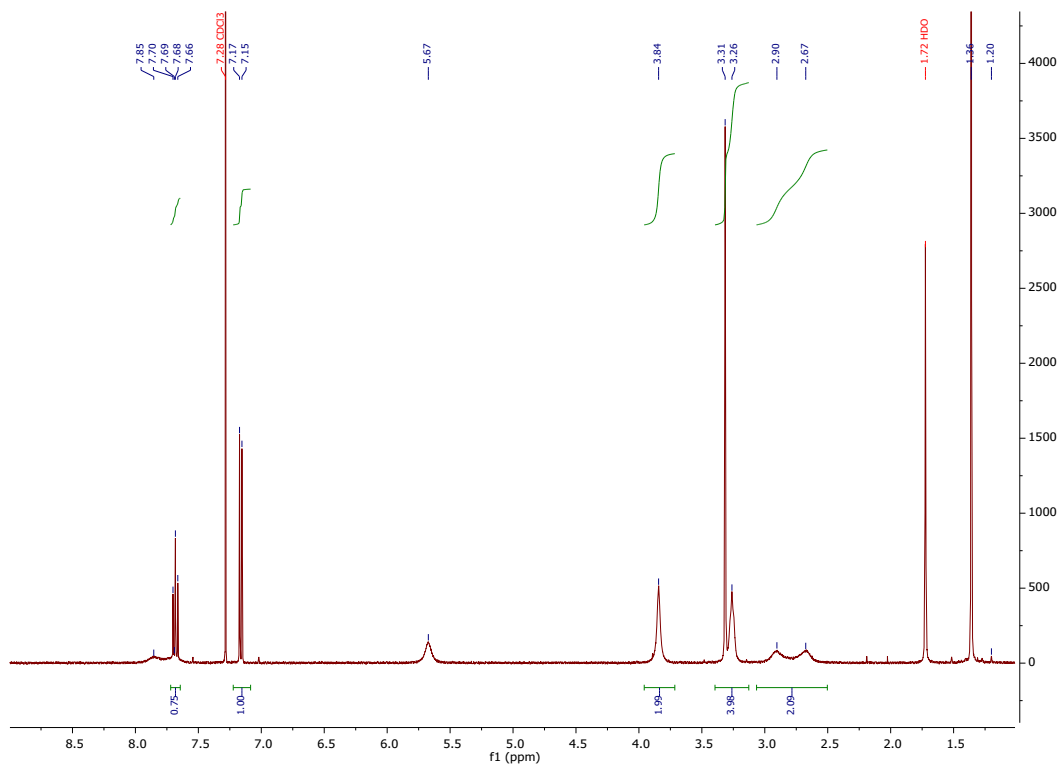


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **2** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).

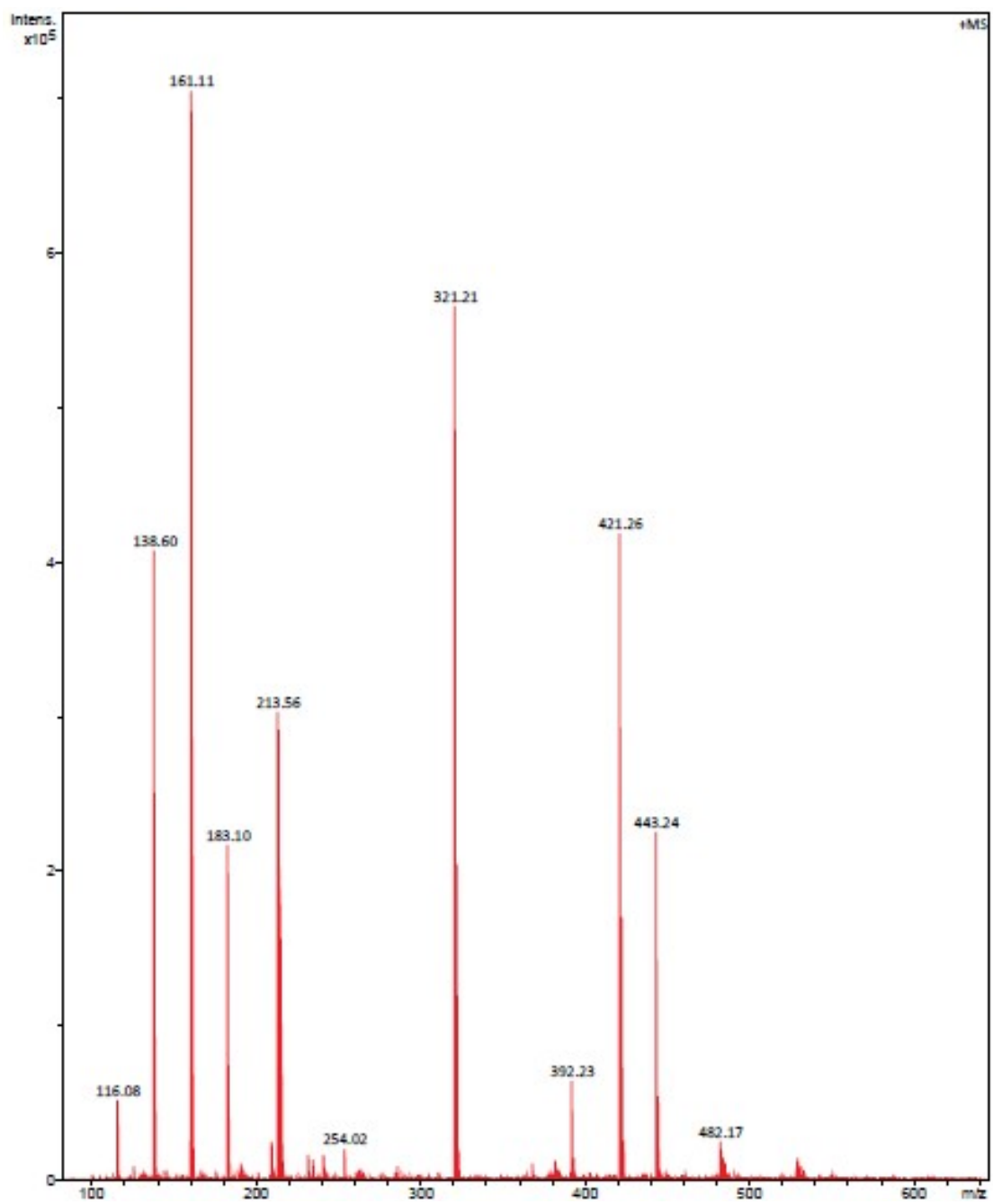


Figure S2. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of compound **2**.

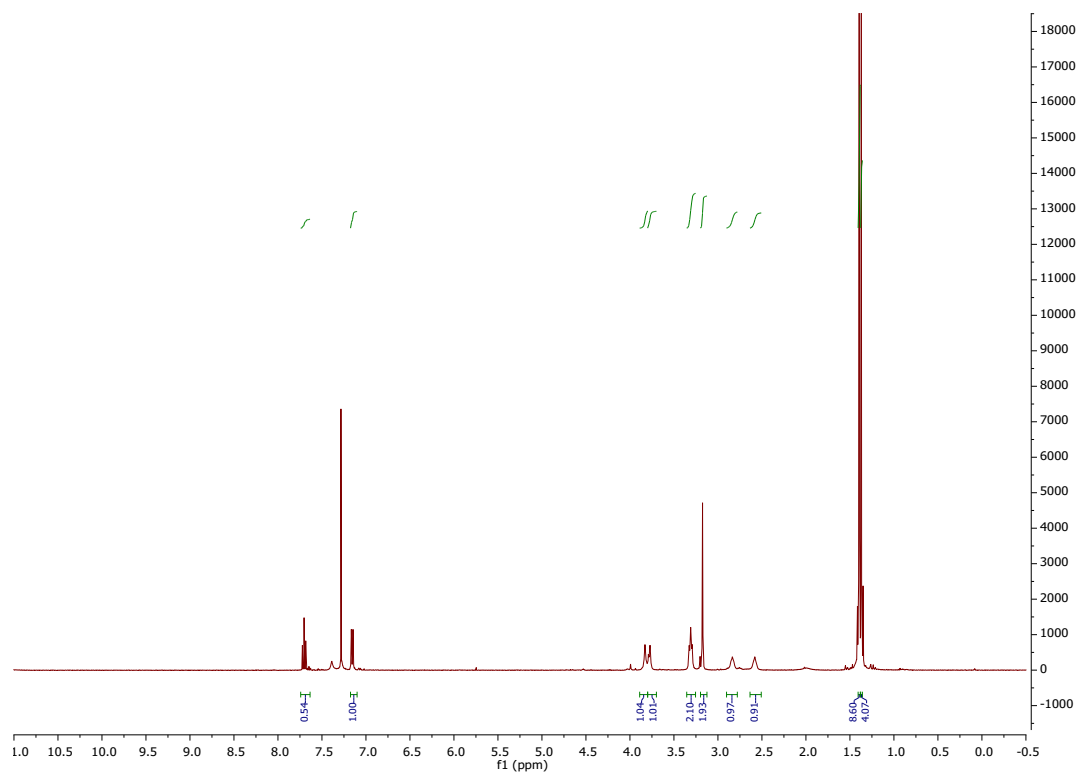


Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **3** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).

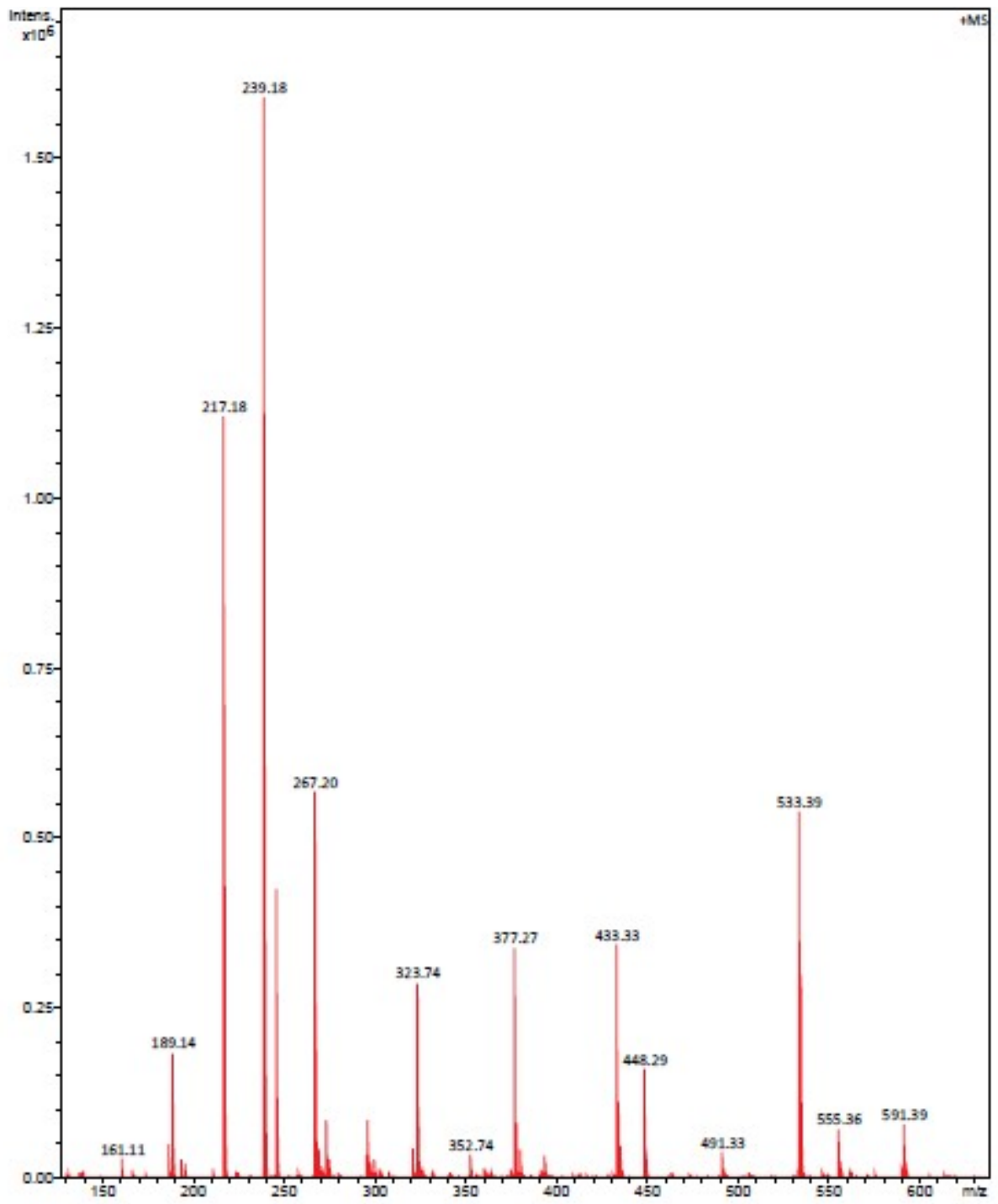


Figure S4. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of compound **3**.

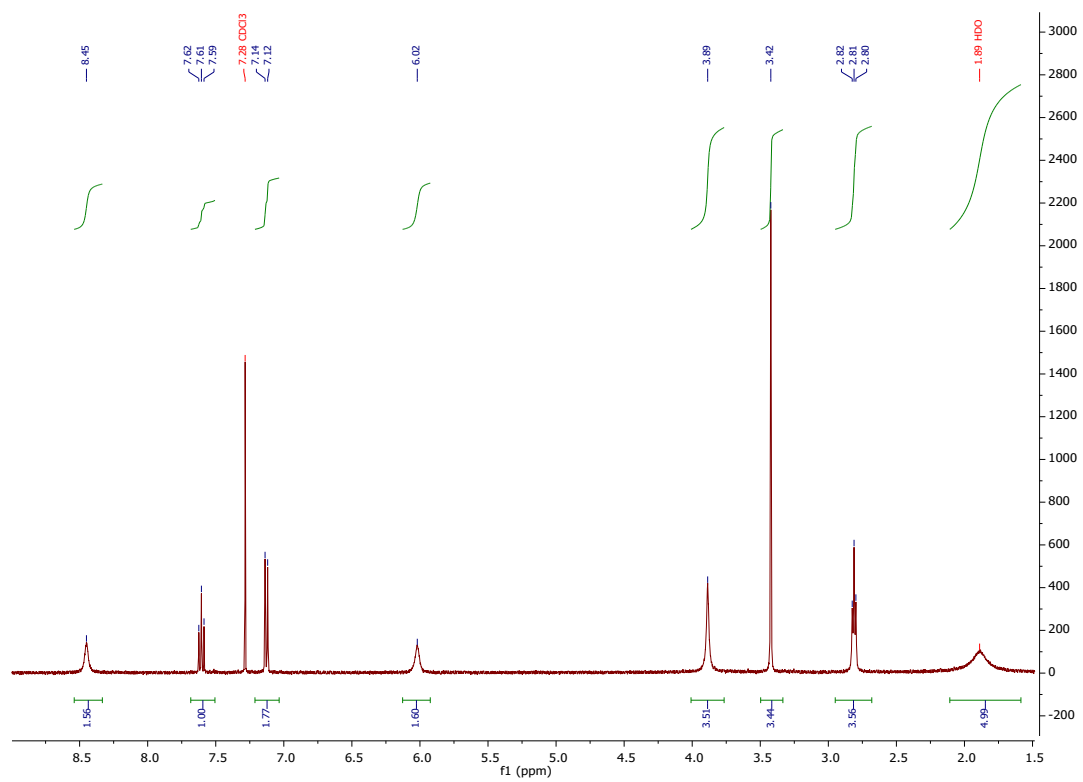


Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum of 3,9-PC2AM^H (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).

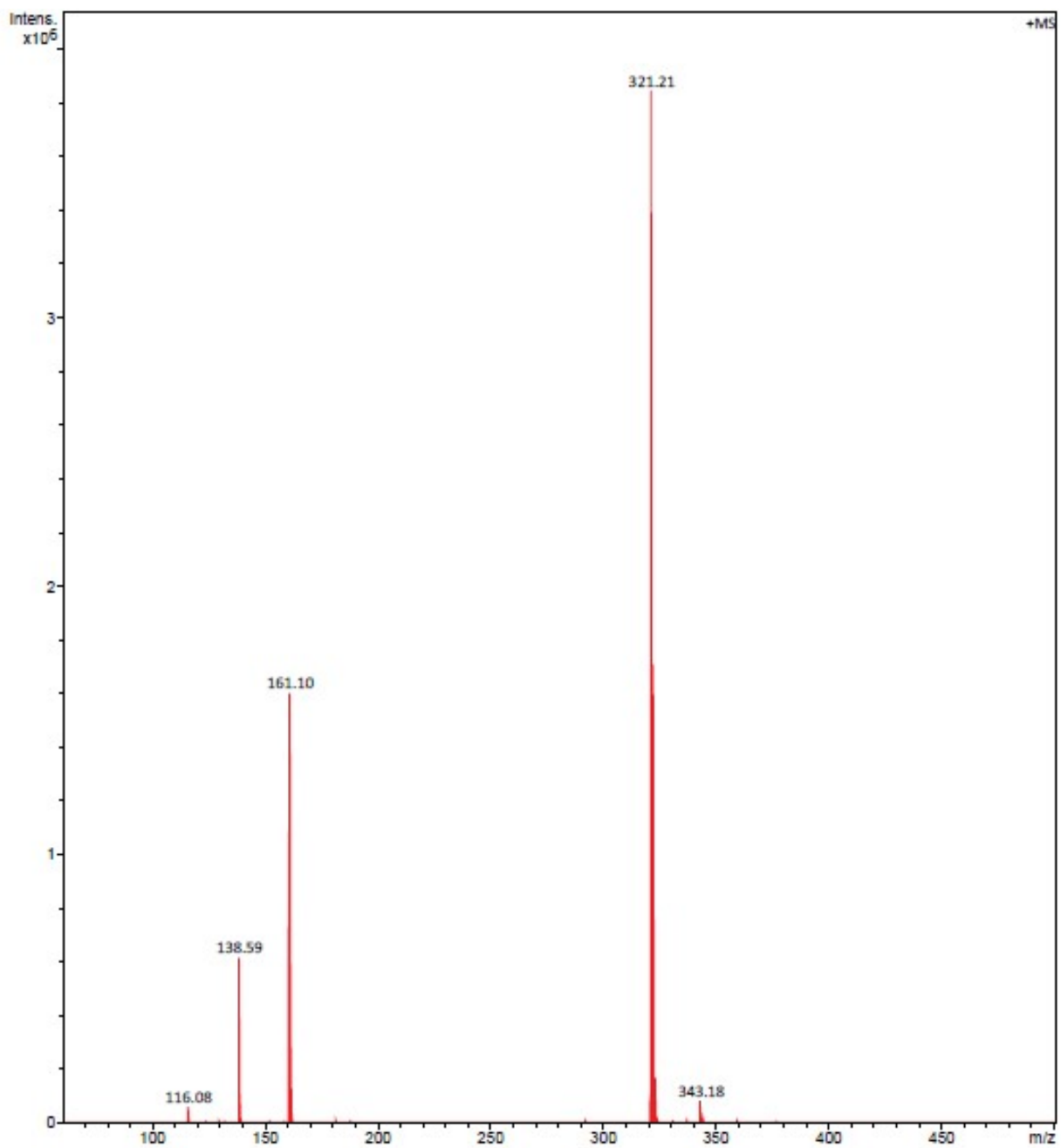


Figure S6. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of 3,9-PC2AM^H.

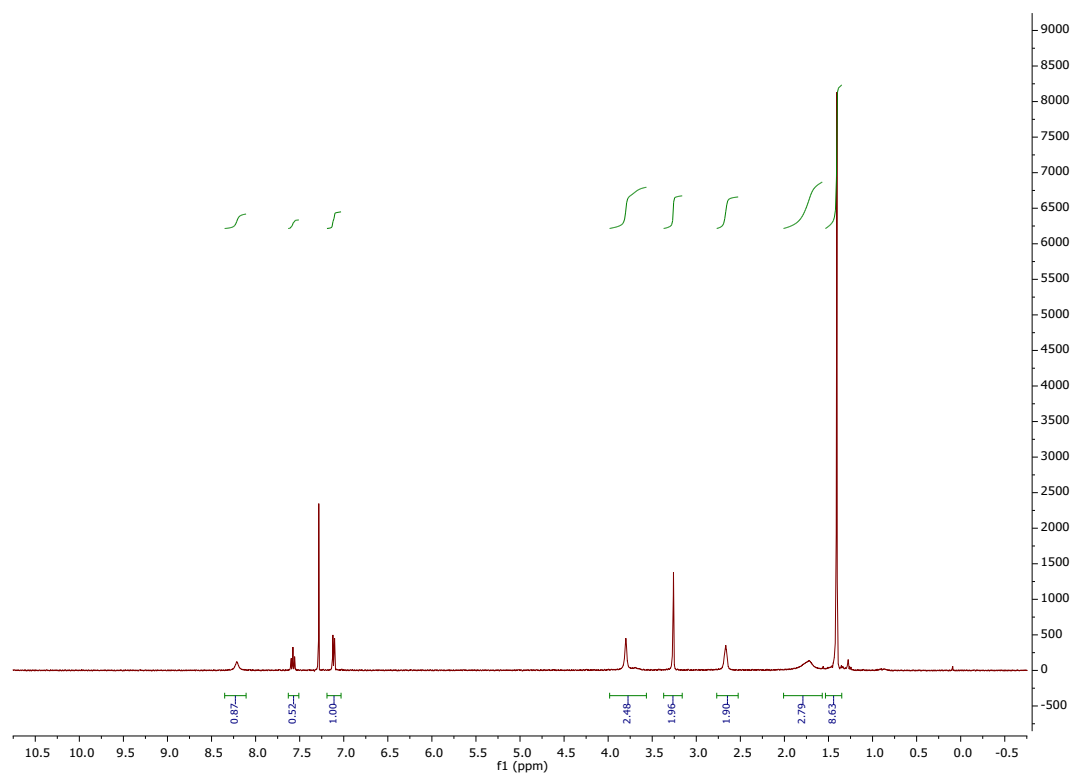


Figure S7. ^1H NMR spectrum of 3,9-PC2AM^tBu (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K).

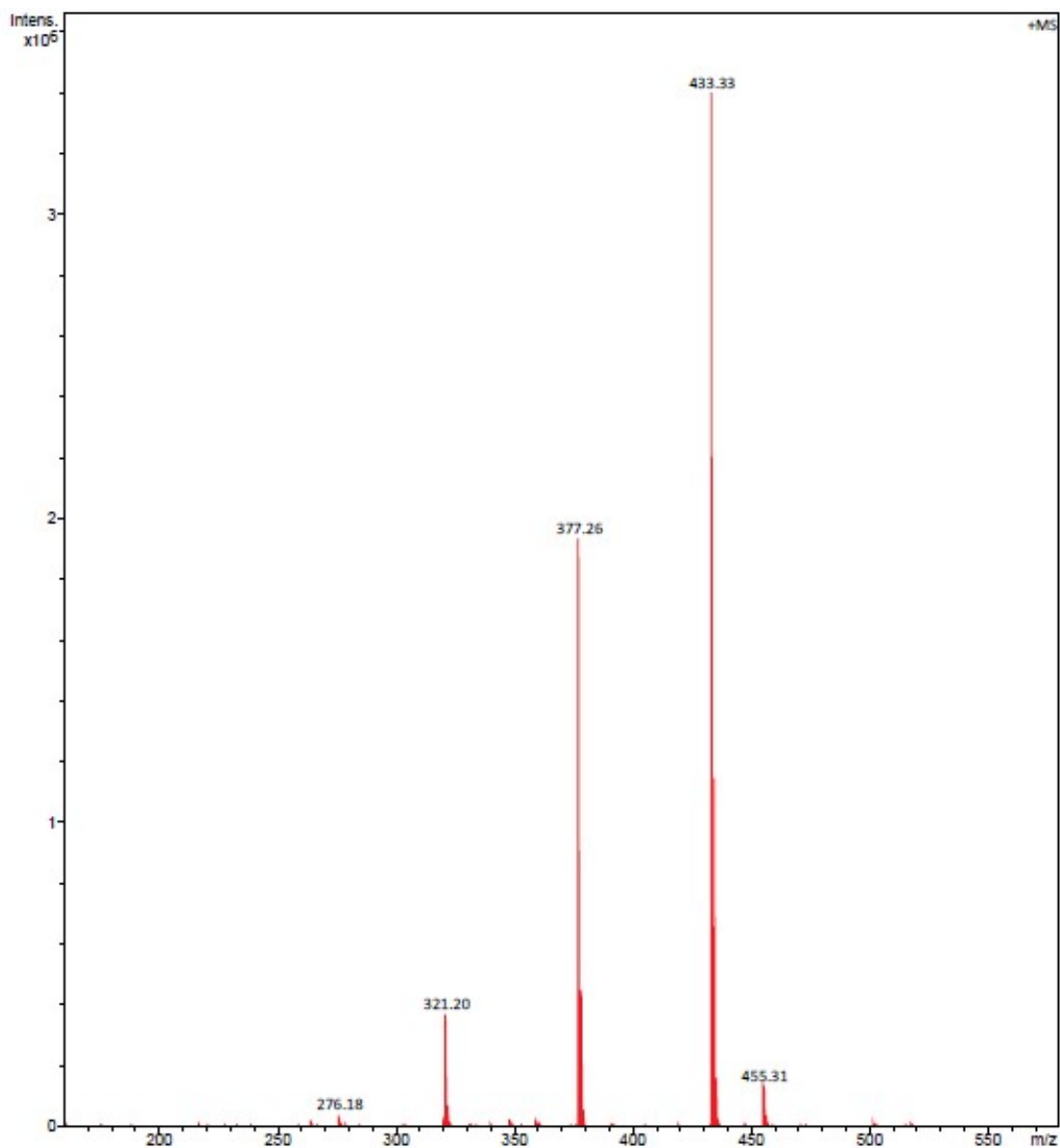


Figure S8. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of 3,9-PC2AM^{tBU}.

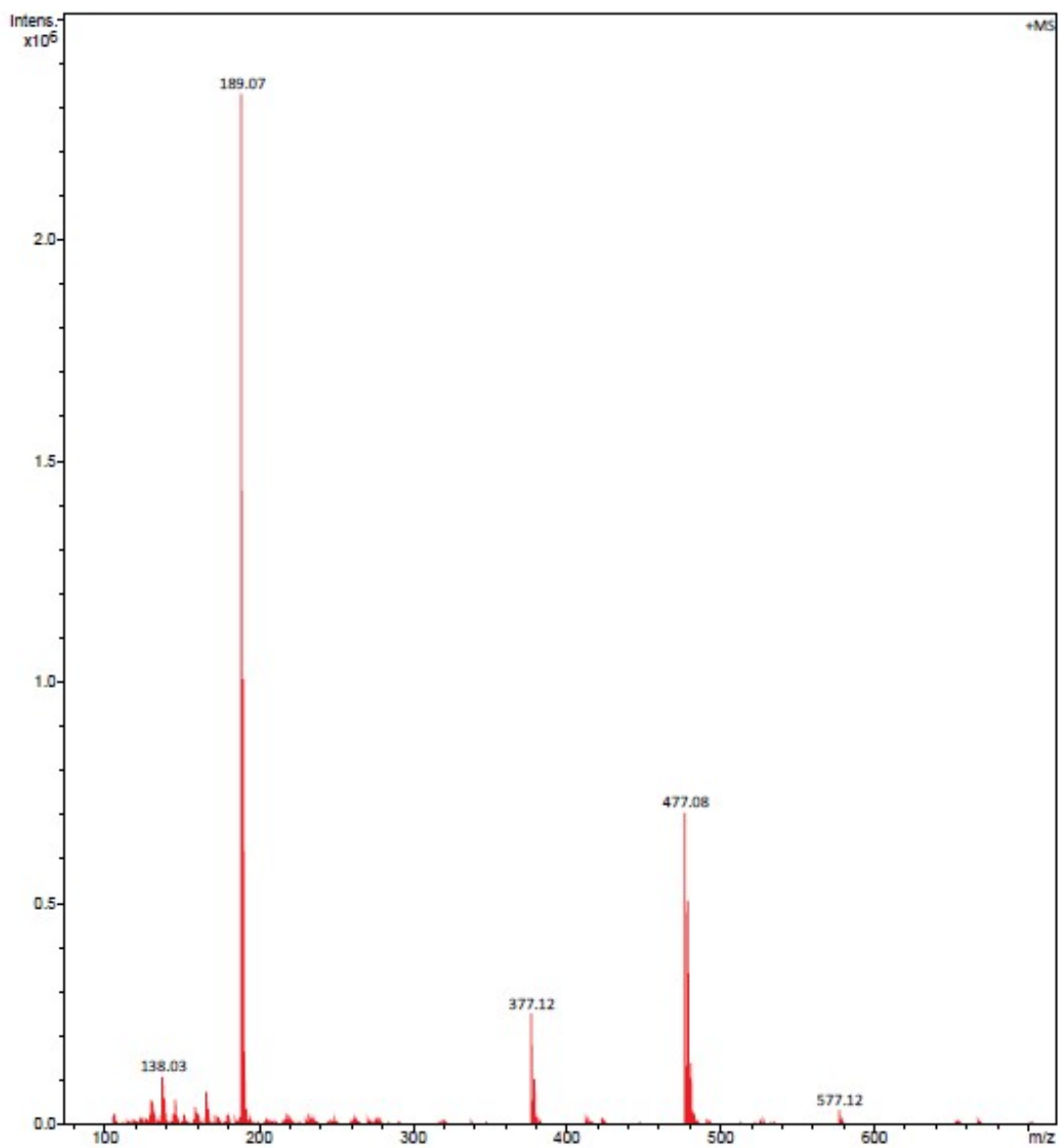


Figure S9. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of [Ni(3,9-PC2AM^H)](ClO₄)₂.

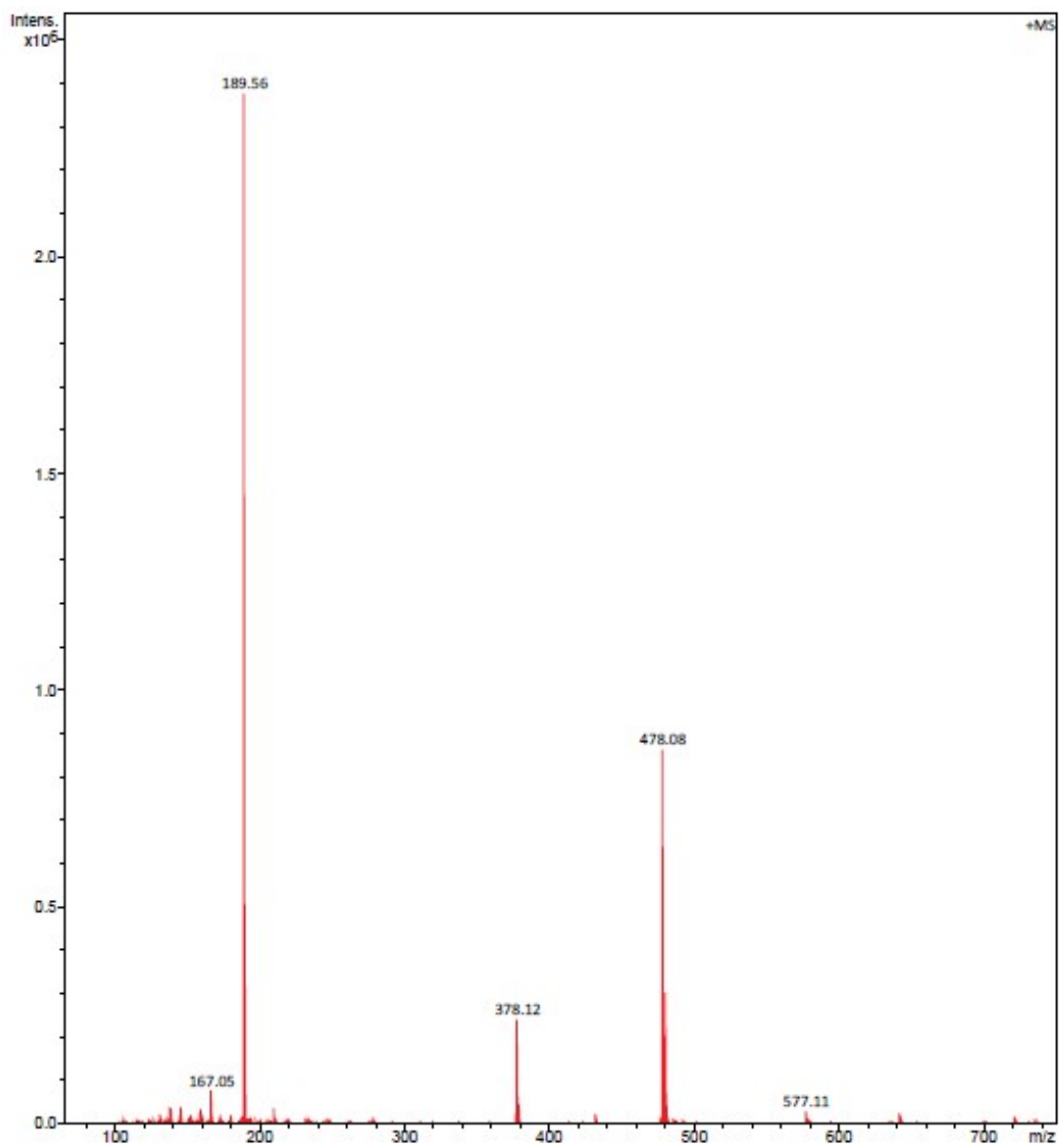


Figure S10. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of [Co(3,9-PC2AM^H)(H₂O)](ClO₄)₂·4.5H₂O.

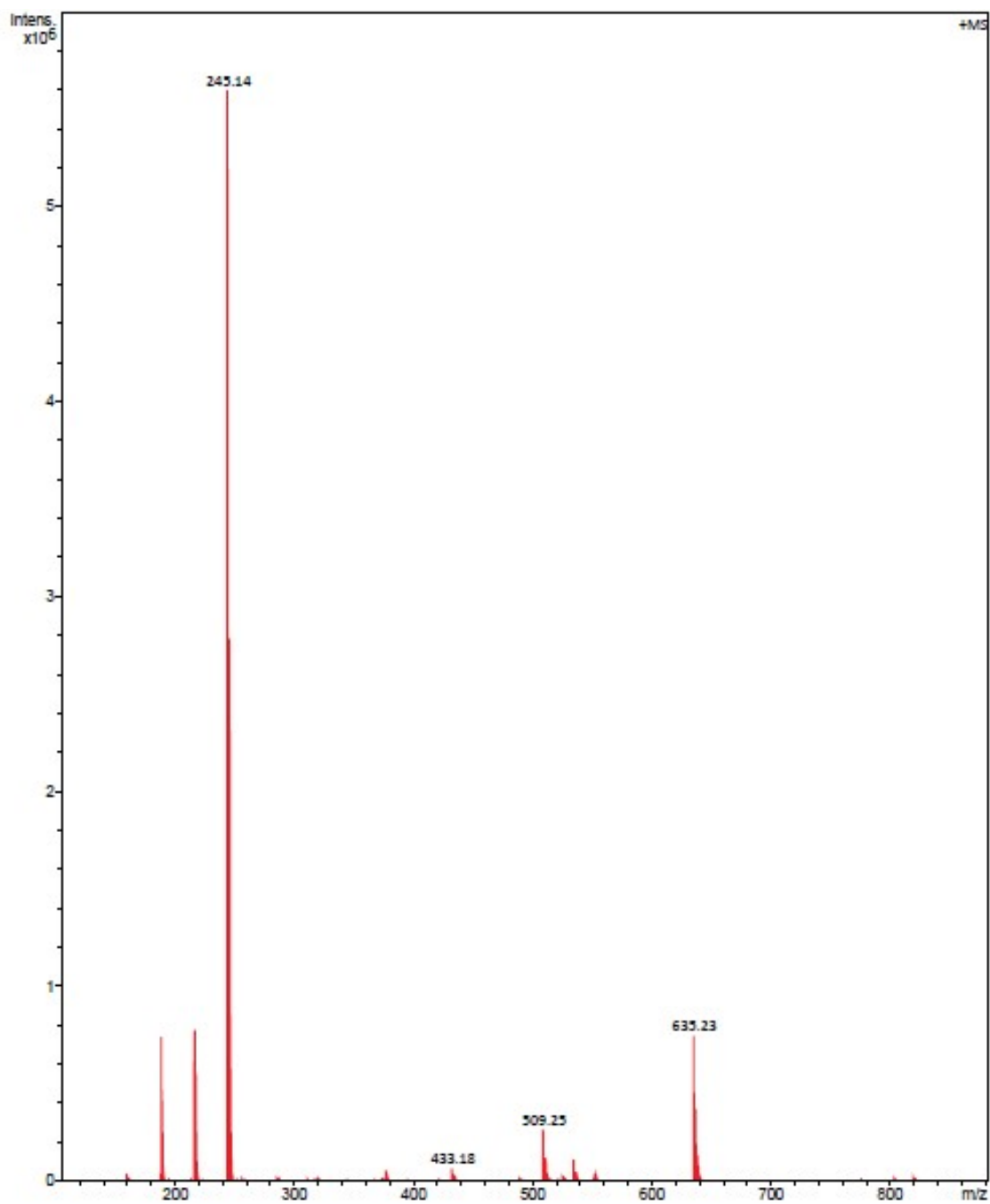


Figure S11. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of [Ni(3,9-PC2AM^{tBU})](PF₆)₂.

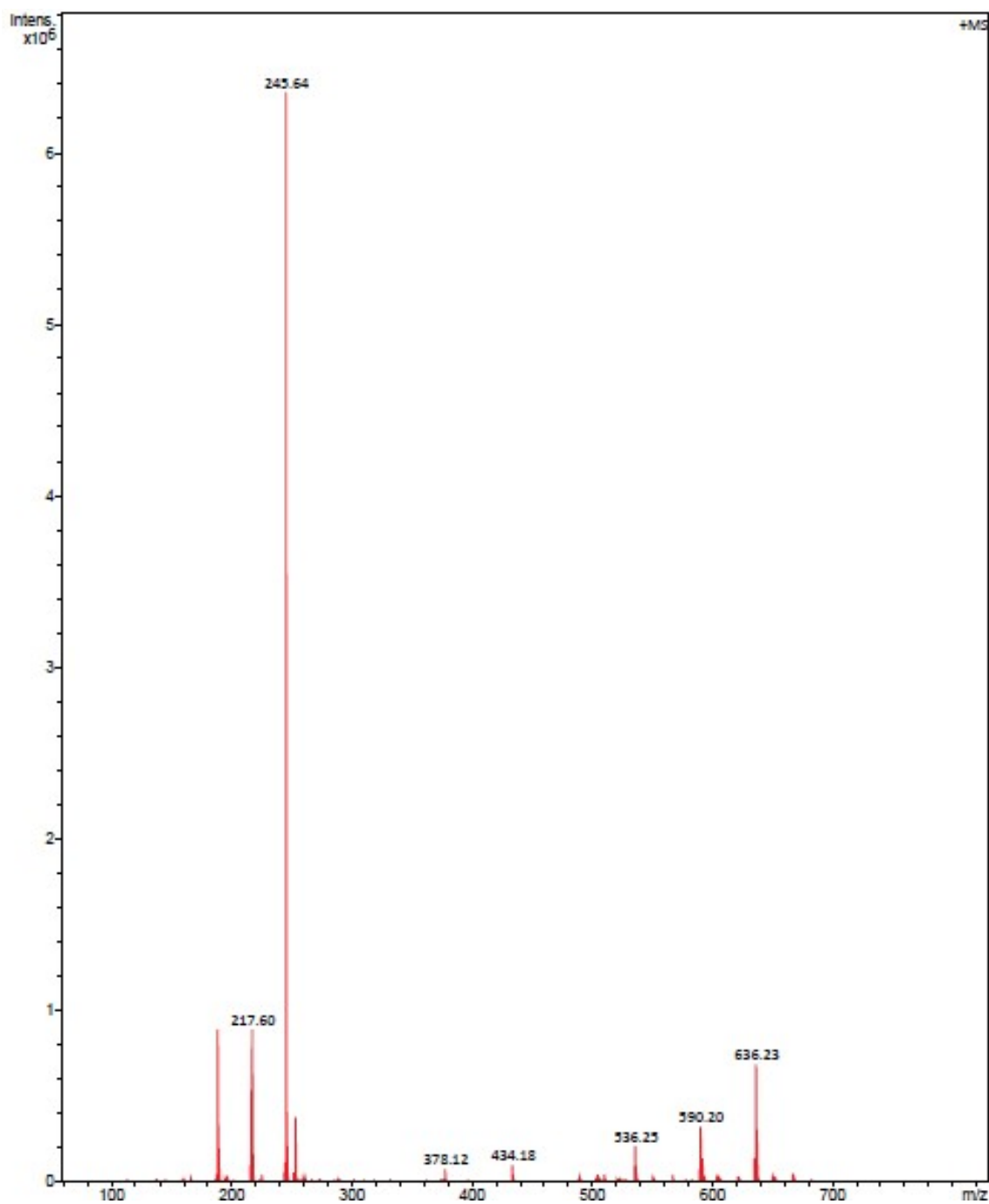


Figure S12. Mass spectrum (ESI⁺) of [Co(3,9-PC2AM^tBU)](PF₆)₂·1.875H₂O.

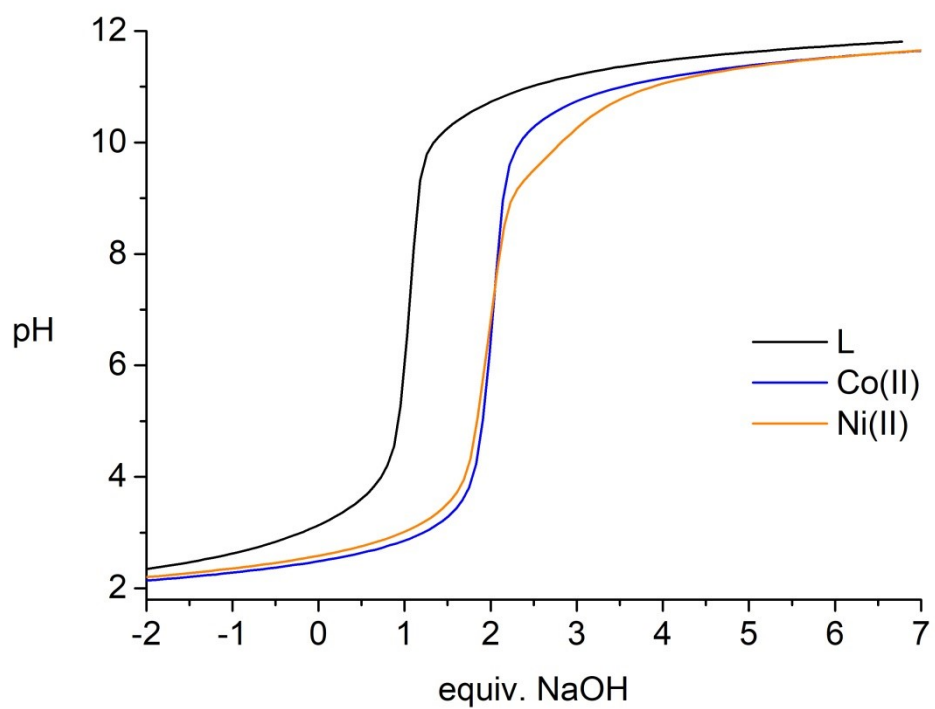


Figure S13. Potentiometric titrations of the 3,9-PC2AM^H ligand (2.5 mM) in the absence and in the presence of one equivalent of Co(II) or Ni(II) (0.15 M NaCl, 25°C).

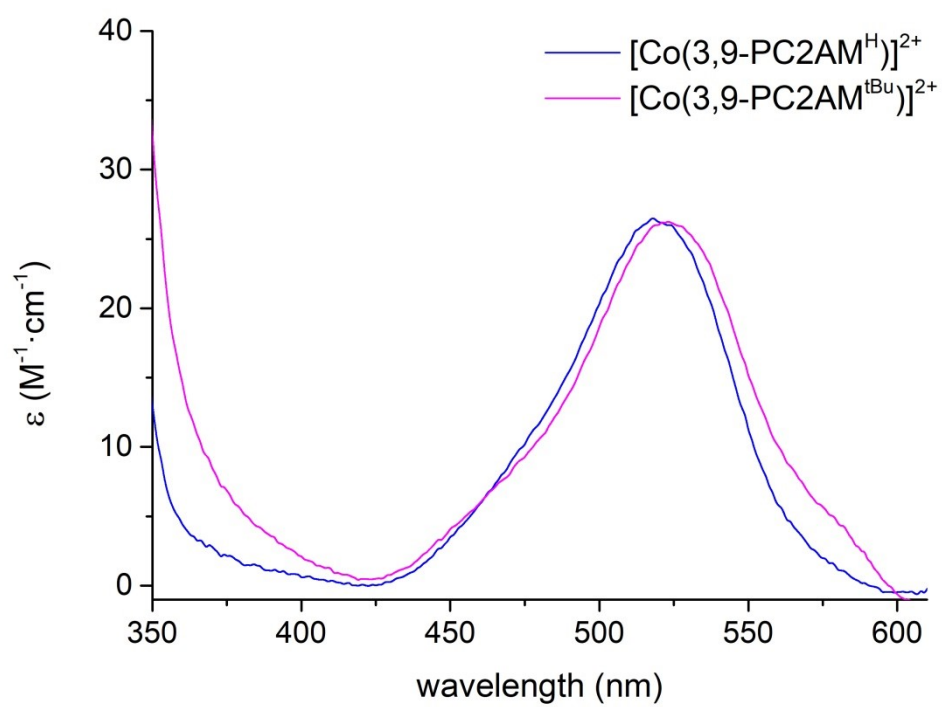


Figure S14. Absorption spectra of the Co(II) complexes recorded in aqueous solution (2 mM, 0.15 M NaCl, 25 °C, pH 7.0).

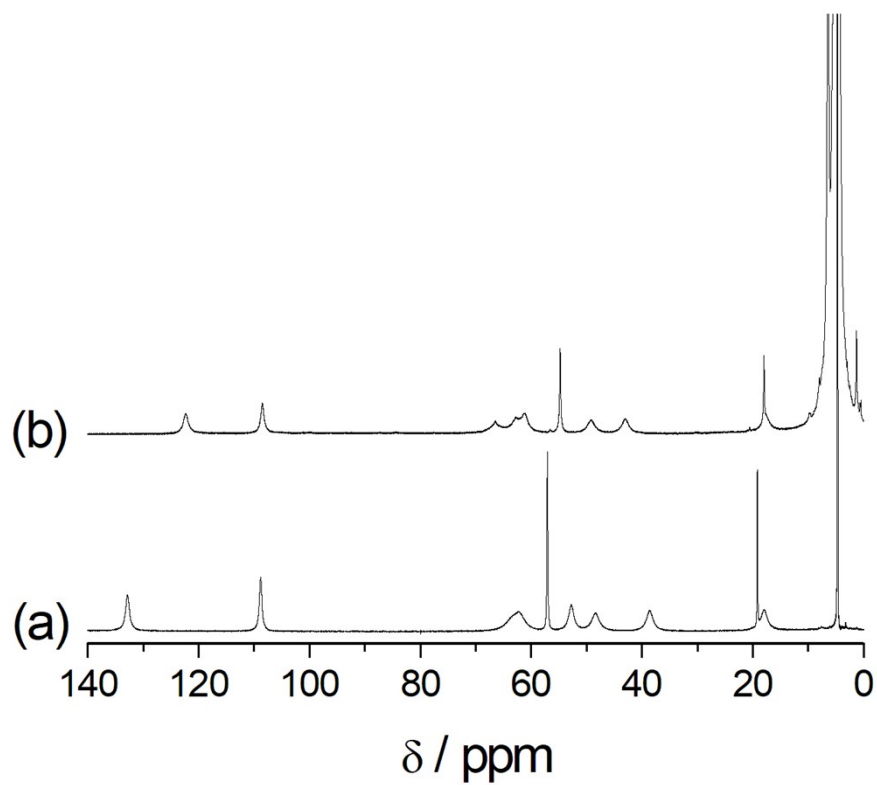


Figure S15. ^1H NMR spectra of (a) $[\text{Co}(\text{PC2AM}^{\text{H}})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$ and (b) $[\text{Co}(\text{PC2AM}^{\text{tBu}})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$ (D_2O , pH 7.0, 300 MHz).

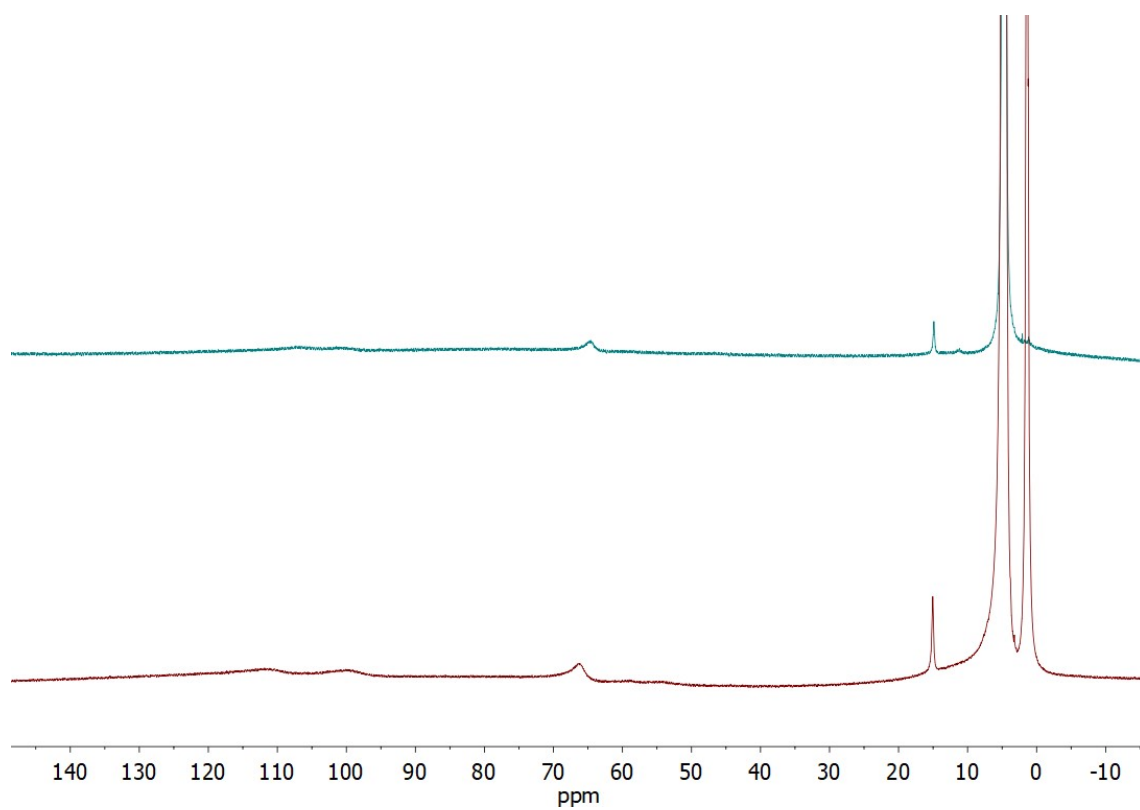


Figure S16. ¹H NMR spectra of [Ni(PC2AM^H)]²⁺ (top) and [Ni(PC2AM^{tBu})]²⁺ (bottom) recorded at 25 °C in D₂O solution (400 MHz).

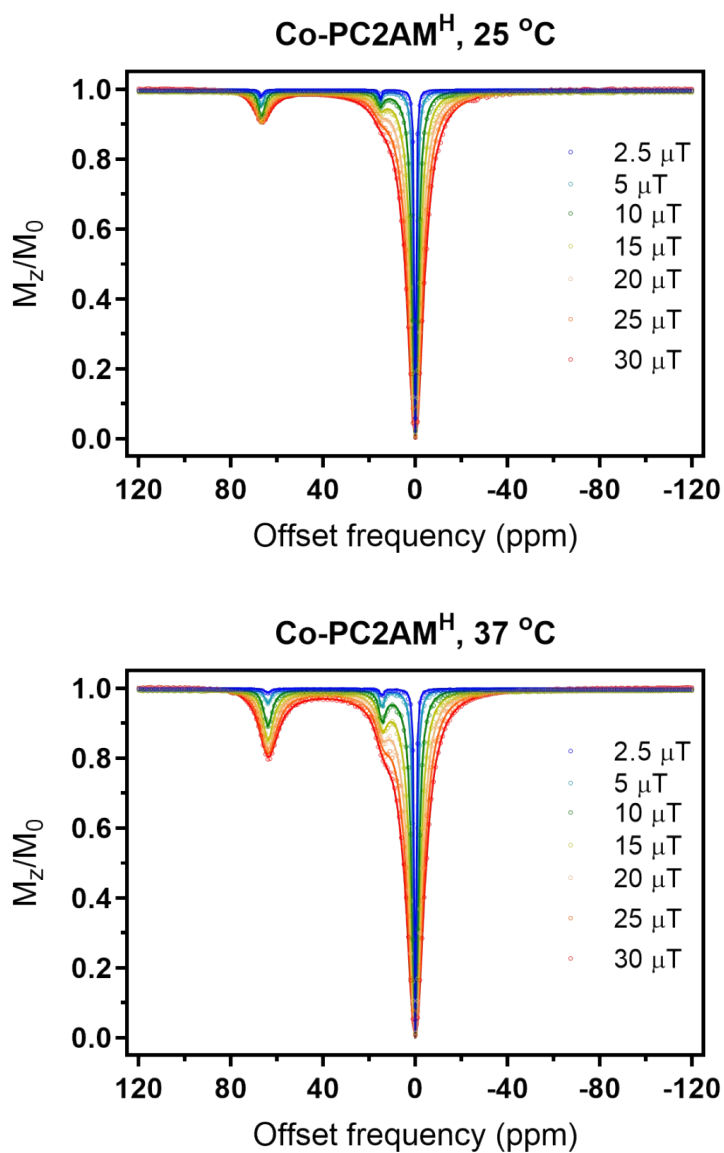


Figure S17. CEST spectra of 20 mM [Co(PC2AM^H)(H₂O)]²⁺ (50 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 300 MHz) recorded at 25 °C (top) 37 °C (bottom) with a saturation time of 2 s and varying saturation powers.

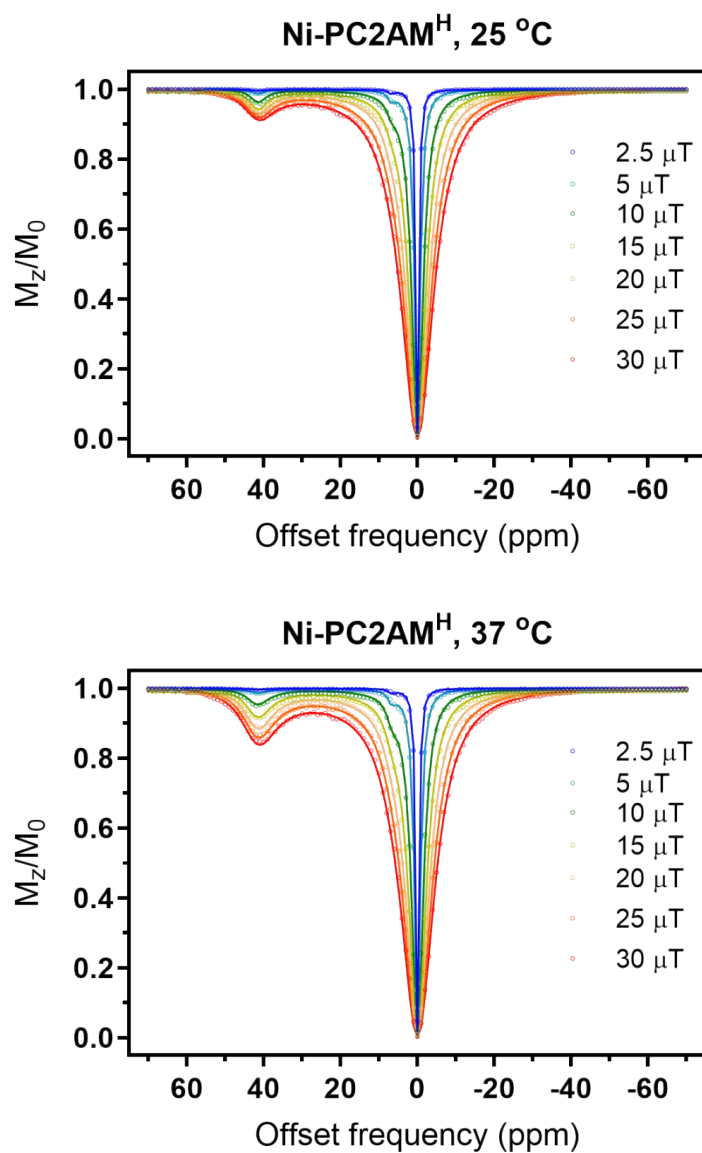


Figure S18. CEST spectra of 15 mM [Ni(PC2AM^H)(H₂O)]²⁺ (50 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 300 MHz) recorded at 25 (top) and 37 °C (bottom) with a saturation time of 2 s and varying saturation powers.

Table S1. Paramagnetic shifts (σ^{para} , ppm) of $[\text{Co}(\text{PC2AM}^{\text{H}})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$ computed using the A-tensors obtained with different functionals (contributions of ZFS and g-tensors neglected).

	B3LYP	BH&HLYP	PBE0	PBE30
%HF exchange	20	50	25	30
H1	-11.39	-15.48	-13.54	-12.73
H2	-29.12	-14.38	-34.92	-28.20
H3ax	17.52	21.60	15.35	18.99
H3eq	-114.9	-74.63	-129.18	-107.22
H4A	-21.29	-7.79	-24.24	-17.93
H4B	-25.70	-10.93	-29.96	-22.76
H5A	-75.61	-54.18	-80.15	-90.02
H5B	-94.34	-70.54	-95.64	-70.87
H6ax	3.19	1.46	3.82	3.30
H6eq	-154.19	-110.8	-172.63	-147.52
NH _{cis} ^a	-1.88	-2.52	-2.80	-2.17
NH _{trans} ^a	-55.00	-42.33	-62.30	-53.91

^a Amide protons in cis and trans with respect to the amide O atom.

Table S2. Cartesian coordinates (Å) used for the calculation of ^1H NMR chemical shifts of $[\text{Co}(\text{PC2AM}^{\text{H}})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$.

Co	0.48058900	0.15801800	-0.29784500
C	-1.95684700	-1.67530900	-0.64033900
C	-3.27261000	-2.11765000	-0.61868100
C	-4.28154200	-1.19578000	-0.37300200
C	-3.94827100	0.13033800	-0.15585400
C	-2.60960500	0.50117500	-0.20821900
C	-2.19879500	1.93047900	-0.05029200
C	-0.56609800	2.13358500	1.77799900
C	-0.45422300	0.75597000	2.41531600
C	0.89724600	-1.32394500	2.26202100
C	0.06780200	-2.28988100	1.42177900
C	-0.78558300	-2.59813600	-0.84200100
C	-0.20178000	3.25896400	-0.32540300
C	1.28769600	3.06672300	-0.51142400
C	1.60335700	-2.75977000	-0.43259200
C	2.76267800	-1.80293000	-0.25789700
N	-1.62989900	-0.38248200	-0.45264500
N	-0.77181200	2.06198000	0.30995200
N	0.69329900	0.06528700	1.80202400
N	0.34585800	-2.11220500	-0.03134700
N	2.01114800	4.16142400	-0.66244300
N	3.95605600	-2.31965700	-0.03113700
O	1.76074900	1.92728400	-0.58750000
O	2.55250500	-0.58222500	-0.35734100
O	0.59630700	-0.06334000	-2.38712100
H	-0.13330600	0.27183300	-2.92431100
H	1.39302600	0.36174600	-2.73232400
H	-3.49190800	-3.16700400	-0.76553400
H	-5.31563100	-1.51452000	-0.33395500
H	-4.70568300	0.87277700	0.05954400
H	-2.35777100	2.42789300	-1.00950400
H	-2.84188500	2.43519200	0.67732600
H	-1.36679800	2.71095500	2.25102000
H	0.36978000	2.66889000	1.95483000
H	-0.32790200	0.86537500	3.49699900
H	-1.35348600	0.16410700	2.24358600
H	0.62651400	-1.43801800	3.31591600
H	1.95958900	-1.55092200	2.17779700
H	0.26233100	-3.32200500	1.73117100
H	-0.99316500	-2.09357600	1.57728000
H	-1.06194800	-3.62840000	-0.59495000
H	-0.47845800	-2.57298200	-1.88983300
H	-0.42800100	4.17644900	0.22766600
H	-0.62115600	3.36457600	-1.32784000
H	1.55417600	-2.98670200	-1.49987700
H	1.76637500	-3.70351700	0.09736600
H	1.53198400	0.59401300	2.02834300
H	2.99744700	4.09607400	-0.86588200
H	1.60663600	5.07958700	-0.57129800
H	4.76690600	-1.72094500	0.02121700
H	4.09684700	-3.31453800	0.04346700