

## Supporting Information

### Iron-mediated one-pot formal nitrocyclization onto unactivated alkenes

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**General.** All reactions were carried out in a flame-dried glassware under nitrogen atmosphere. Amines were distilled over calcium hydride. All reagents were purchased commercially and used without further purification. Melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a commercial FT/IR spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 600 and 400 MHz spectrometers; chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are quoted relative to tetramethylsilane. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 150 and 100 MHz spectrometers with complete proton decoupling; chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) are quoted relative to the residual signals of chloroform. Silica gel column chromatography was carried out on silica gel 60N. Mass spectra were recorded on a high-resolution mass spectrometer in fast atom bombardment mode (FAB).

**Starting materials.** **1l** was commercially available. **1a**,<sup>1</sup> **1b**,<sup>2</sup> **1c**,<sup>2</sup> **1d**,<sup>2</sup> **1e**,<sup>2</sup> **1f**,<sup>3</sup> **1g**,<sup>2</sup> **1h**,<sup>3</sup> **1i**,<sup>4</sup> **1j**,<sup>5</sup> **1k**,<sup>1</sup> **1m**,<sup>2</sup> **1n**,<sup>2</sup> **1o**,<sup>6</sup> **1p**,<sup>7</sup> **1q**<sup>8</sup> and **1r**<sup>6</sup> were prepared according to literatures.

**1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethylpyrrolidine (2a).** 70% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 91.5–92 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1560, 1352, 1161 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.63–1.68 (1H, m), 1.80–1.87 (3H, m), 2.46 (3H, s), 3.09–3.15 (1H, m), 3.47–3.52 (1H, m), 4.16–4.21 (1H, m), 4.41 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 9.8 Hz), 4.93 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 3.9 Hz), 7.37 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 7.76 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  21.5, 23.5, 29.8, 49.3, 56.8, 78.5, 127.6, 130.0, 133.1, 144.2. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C, 50.69; H, 5.67; N, 9.85. Found: C, 50.49; H, 5.62; N, 9.82.

**4,4-Dimethyl-1-(4-methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethylpyrrolidine (2b)** : 75% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 117.5–118 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1553, 1352, 1219, 1159 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.52 (3H, s), 1.07 (3H, s), 1.67 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 8.0 Hz), 1.86 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 7.3 Hz), 2.46 (3H, s), 3.06 (1H, d,  $J$  = 10.5 Hz), 3.22 (1H, d,  $J$  = 10.5 Hz), 4.12–4.20 (1H, m), 4.49 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 9.0 Hz), 5.20 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 8.5 Hz), 7.37 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 7.76 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  21.6, 25.5, 26.2, 37.6, 44.6, 56.7, 61.4, 79.7, 127.7, 129.9, 133.4, 144.3 . Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C, 53.83; H, 6.45; N, 8.97. Found: C, 53.80; H, 6.41; N, 8.88.

**4,4-Diphenyl-1-(4-methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethylpyrrolidine (2c).** 48% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 202.5–203 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1553, 1352, 1228, 1163 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.42 (3H, s), 2.57 (1H, d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz), 2.74

(1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 8.3$  Hz), 3.39 (1H, d,  $J = 10.2$  Hz), 3.77 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 10.2$  Hz), 4.25–4.31 (1H, m), 4.54 (1H, d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz), 4.86 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 3.9$  Hz), 7.05 (2H, d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 7.14–7.32 (10H, m), 7.67 (2H, d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.6, 41.5, 52.2, 56.1, 57.8, 78.1, 126.2, 126.6, 126.8, 127.2, 127.7, 128.8, 129.0, 130.0, 132.3, 143.7, 144.0, 144.3; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S} (\text{M}^++\text{H})$  437.1535, found: 437.1527.

**1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethyl-4-phenylpyrrolidine (2d).** 75% yield (as a mixture of two isomers, 57:43). Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1552, 1352, 1224, 1161  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.89 (1H, td,  $J = 12.9, 8.8$  Hz, major), 2.00 (1H, td,  $J = 11.5, 8.8$  Hz, minor), 2.21 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 6.1$  Hz, major), 2.46 (3H, s, major), 2.47 (3H, s, minor), 2.48–2.53 (1H, m, minor), 2.67–2.73 (1H, m, minor), 2.96 (1H, dd,  $J = 10.7, 9.0$  Hz, major), 3.42 (1H, t,  $J = 10.7$  Hz, major), 3.43–3.51 (1H, m, minor), 3.82 (1H, dd,  $J = 11.7, 7.3$  Hz, minor), 3.89 (1H, t-like,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, major), 4.23–4.30 (1H, m, minor), 4.36 (1H, td,  $J = 8.8, 3.9$  Hz, major), 4.53 (1H, d,  $J = 12.7$  Hz, major), 4.55 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.9, 2.0$  Hz, minor), 4.99 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.9, 3.9$  Hz, major), 5.08, (1H, dd,  $J = 12.9, 4.1$  Hz, minor), 7.03 (2H, d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, major), 7.08 (2H, d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, minor), 7.22–7.29 (5H, m), 7.35–7.41 (5H, m), 7.76 (2H, d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, major), 7.80 (2H, d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, minor);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.5, 21.6, 35.8, 38.0, 41.0, 42.6, 54.9, 55.0, 56.6, 57.2, 78.3, 79.1, 126.8, 126.8, 127.4, 127.6, 127.7, 128.3, 128.7, 128.7, 130.0, 132.4, 133.5, 138.0, 138.1, 144.4, 144.5; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S} (\text{M}^++\text{H})$  361.1222, found: 361.1226.

**2-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-3-nitromethylspiro[4,5]decane (2e).** 69% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 118.5–119 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1553, 1352, 1221, 1159  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.59–0.63 (1H, m), 0.78 (1H, ddd,  $J = 13.3, 9.2, 3.9$  Hz), 1.10–1.50 (8H, m), 1.61 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.3, 8.3$  Hz), 1.91 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.9, 7.6$ ), 2.45 (3H, s), 3.19 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$  Hz), 3.24 (1H, d,  $J = 11.0$  Hz), 4.09 (1H, ddd,  $J = 16.8, 7.8, 4.1$  Hz), 4.45 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.7, 9.0$  Hz), 5.19 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.7, 4.1$  Hz), 7.36 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.76 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.6, 22.8, 23.5, 25.6, 33.9, 36.0, 41.5, 42.8, 56.0, 58.6, 79.9, 127.7, 129.9, 133.3, 144.2. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : C, 57.93; H, 6.86; N, 7.95. Found: C, 58.01; H, 6.75; N, 8.02.

**(2R\*,5S\*)-1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethyl-5-phenylpyrrolidine (2f).** 80% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 117–117.5 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1553, 1356, 1225, 1163  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.71–1.76 (1H, m), 1.86–1.93 (3H, m),

2.43 (3H, s), 4.36–4.43 (1H, m), 4.49 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.4, 9.3$  Hz), 4.71 (1H, t-like,  $J = 6.3$  Hz), 5.04 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.4, 4.4$  Hz), 7.25–7.34 (7H, m), 7.71 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.4, 28.6, 33.5, 58.4, 64.8, 78.9, 125.9, 127.4, 127.6, 128.4, 129.9, 133.4, 140.9, 144.3. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ : C, 59.98; H, 5.59; N, 7.77. Found: C, 59.70; H, 5.55; N, 7.65.

**1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethyl-2,4,4-trimethylpyrrolidine (2g).** 45% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1553, 1343, 1221, 1156  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.99 (3H, s), 1.07 (3H, s), 1.62 (3H, s), 1.65 (1H, d,  $J = 13.7$  Hz), 2.36 (1H, d,  $J = 13.7$  Hz), 2.44 (3H, s), 3.07 (1H, d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz), 3.12 (1H, d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz), 4.80 (1H, d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz), 5.03 (1H, d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz), 7.31 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.75 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.5, 25.2, 27.1, 27.3, 36.2, 51.4, 61.2, 65.9, 83.3, 127.4, 129.6, 137.0, 143.7; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 327.1379, found: 327.1372.

**1-(Benzylloxycarbonyl)-2-nitromethylpyrrolidine (2h).** 31% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1703, 1559, 1414, 1358, 1129  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.88–1.97 (3H, m), 2.11–2.19 (1H, m), 3.45 (2H, br-t,  $J = 6.1$  Hz), 4.27 (1H, br-t,  $J = 10.5$  Hz), 4.41–5.56 (2H, m), 4.61 (1H, br-d,  $J = 11.5$  Hz), 4.81 (1H, d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz), 5.15 (2H, br-s), 7.30–7.27 (5H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.6, 23.4, 28.6, 29.6, 46.7, 46.9, 55.1, 55.6, 67.1, 67.3, 76.1, 77.1, 127.9, 128.1, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 136.1, 136.4, 154.3, 154.8; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 265.1188, found: 265.1182.

**5-Nitromethyl-1-phenylpyrrolidin-2-one (2i).** 47% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 71.5–72 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1703, 1557, 1498, 1383, 1231  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.06–2.15 (1H, m), 2.48–2.56 (1H, m), 2.61 (1H, ddd,  $J = 17.2, 9.6, 5.0$  Hz), 2.69 (1H, ddd,  $J = 17.2, 9.6, 8.2$  Hz), 4.37 (1H, dd,  $J = 8.7, 7.6$  Hz), 4.53 (1H, dd,  $J = 8.7, 4.1$  Hz), 4.83–4.86 (1H, m), 7.25–7.30 (1H, m), 7.38–7.45 (4H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.0, 30.1, 57.2, 76.1, 124.0, 126.9, 129.5, 136.0, 173.5; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 221.0926, found: 221.0923. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ : C, 59.99; H, 5.49; N, 12.72. Found: C, 59.55; H, 5.74; N, 12.78.

**1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-5-nitromethylpyrrolidin-2-one (2j).** 60% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 138.5–139 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1748, 1557, 1366, 1171, 1125  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.05–2.13 (1H, m), 2.35–2.45 (2H, m),

2.46 (3H, s), 2.56–2.63 (1H, m), 4.71 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 8.0$  Hz), 4.87–4.93 (1H, m), 4.99 (1H, dd,  $J = 13.2, 3.4$  Hz), 7.37 (2H, d,  $J = 8.1$ ), 7.95 (2H, d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.7, 22.5, 29.7, 55.9, 76.6, 128.4, 129.8, 134.7, 145.9, 172.6. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ : C, 48.31; H, 4.73; N, 9.39. Found: C, 48.22; H, 4.72; N, 9.24.

**1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethylpiperidine (2k).** 55% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1560, 1354, 1229, 1159  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.33–1.52 (2H, m), 1.59–1.68 (4H, m), 2.43 (3H, s), 2.95 (1H, dd,  $J = 14.6, 12.7, 2.9$  Hz), 3.82 (1H, br-d,  $J = 12.7$  Hz), 4.53 (1H, dd,  $J = 11.7, 8.0$  Hz), 4.60 (1H, dd,  $J = 11.7, 7.1$  Hz), 4.79–4.85 (1H, m), 7.31 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.70 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.4, 21.5, 24.0, 25.7, 41.2, 50.5, 74.3, 127.0, 129.8, 137.2, 143.7; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 299.1066, found: 299.1062.

**2-Nitromethyltetrahydrofuran (2l).** 53% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1557, 1389, 1082  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.63–1.72 (1H, m), 1.97 (2H, dt,  $J = 14.6, 6.8$  Hz), 2.11–2.20 (1H, m), 3.84 (1H, dt,  $J = 8.3, 6.8$  Hz), 3.91 (1H, dt,  $J = 8.5, 6.8$  Hz), 4.41 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.2, 5.1$  Hz), 4.45 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.2, 7.1$  Hz), 4.53–4.61 (1H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  25.3, 28.9, 68.6, 75.1, 78.9; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 132.0661, found: 132.0666.

**cis-1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethyloctahydro-1*H*-indole (2m).** 78% yield. (as a mixture of two isomers, 95:5). Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1553, 1348, 1229, 1163  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , for major isomer including the partial peaks of minor isomer)  $\delta$  1.09–1.31 (3H, m), 1.40–1.50 (2H, m), 1.55–1.61 (2H, m), 1.65–1.72 (1H, m), 1.90–2.00 (3H, m), 2.45 (3H, s), 3.62 (1H, dt,  $J = 11.0, 6.3$  Hz), 3.88 (1H, dt,  $J = 11.2, 5.6$  Hz, for minor isomer), 4.04–4.12 (1H, m), 4.30–4.41 (2H, m, for minor isomer), 4.48 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.7, 9.3$  Hz), 5.15 (1H, dd,  $J = 12.7, 4.4$  Hz), 7.37 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.77 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.8 (minor), 20.0, 21.45 (minor), 21.48, 23.4 (minor), 24.0, 25.3 (minor), 25.4, 27.5 (minor), 31.1, 31.2 (minor), 32.6, 34.4 (minor), 36.1, 55.3 (minor), 57.1, 60.9, 61.0 (minor), 78.3 (minor), 80.6, 127.37 (minor), 127.42, 129.7 (minor), 129.9, 134.0, 143.6 (minor), 144.0; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 339.1379, found: 339.1383.

**trans-1-(4-Methylphenylsulfonyl)-2-nitromethyloctahydro-1*H*-indole (2n).** 72% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1553, 1348, 1225, 1162  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,

$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.91–1.02 (1H, m), 1.16–1.28 (3H, m), 1.35–1.44 (1H, m), 1.57–1.63 (1H, m), 1.70–1.78 (2H, m), 1.80–1.87 (2H, m), 2.30 (1H, td,  $J$  = 10.7, 3.4 Hz), 2.47 (3H, s), 2.50–2.56 (1H, m), 4.19 (1H, td,  $J$  = 10.2, 3.9 Hz), 4.41 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 10.8 Hz), 4.91 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 3.7 Hz), 7.38 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz), 7.72 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.6, 24.4, 25.0, 29.3, 32.3, 33.0, 42.7, 57.3, 66.7, 78.8, 127.9, 129.9, 132.3, 144.2; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 339.13786, found: 339.13825.

**1-Acetyl-2-nitromethylindoline (2p).** 69% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 70–70.5 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1659, 1557, 1485, 1393, 1323  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; Rotamers were observed in NMR spectra of **2p**.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.35 and 2.44 (total 3H, br and s), 2.95 (1H, d,  $J$  = 17.0 Hz), 3.45 (1H, br-dd,  $J$  = 16.0, 9.6 Hz), 4.40 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 11.9, 9.2 Hz), 4.55 and 4.79 (total 1H, br and br-d,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz), 5.05 and 5.38 (total 1H, both br), 7.06–7.27 and 8.07 (total 4H, m and br);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.2, 31.2, 56.7, 75.4, 114.7, 124.2, 126.2, 127.9, 130.7, 140.4, 168.6; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 221.0926, found: 221.0931.

**2-Nitromethyl-1-trifluoroacetyl-indoline (2q).** 56% yield. Colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1701, 1560, 1483, 1431, 1379, 1263, 1149  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; Rotamers were observed in NMR spectra of **2q**.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.06 (1H, d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz), 3.57 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 16.3, 7.6 Hz), 4.42 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 12.7, 10.5 Hz), 4.62 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12.7 Hz), 5.34 (1H, br), 7.22–7.35 and 8.04 (total 4H, m and br-d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  33.7, 57.1, 76.3, 115.9 (q,  $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 286$  Hz), 119.0, 125.7, 127.0, 128.5, 128.9, 154.0 (q,  $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 77.6$  Hz) HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 275.0644, found: 275.0645.

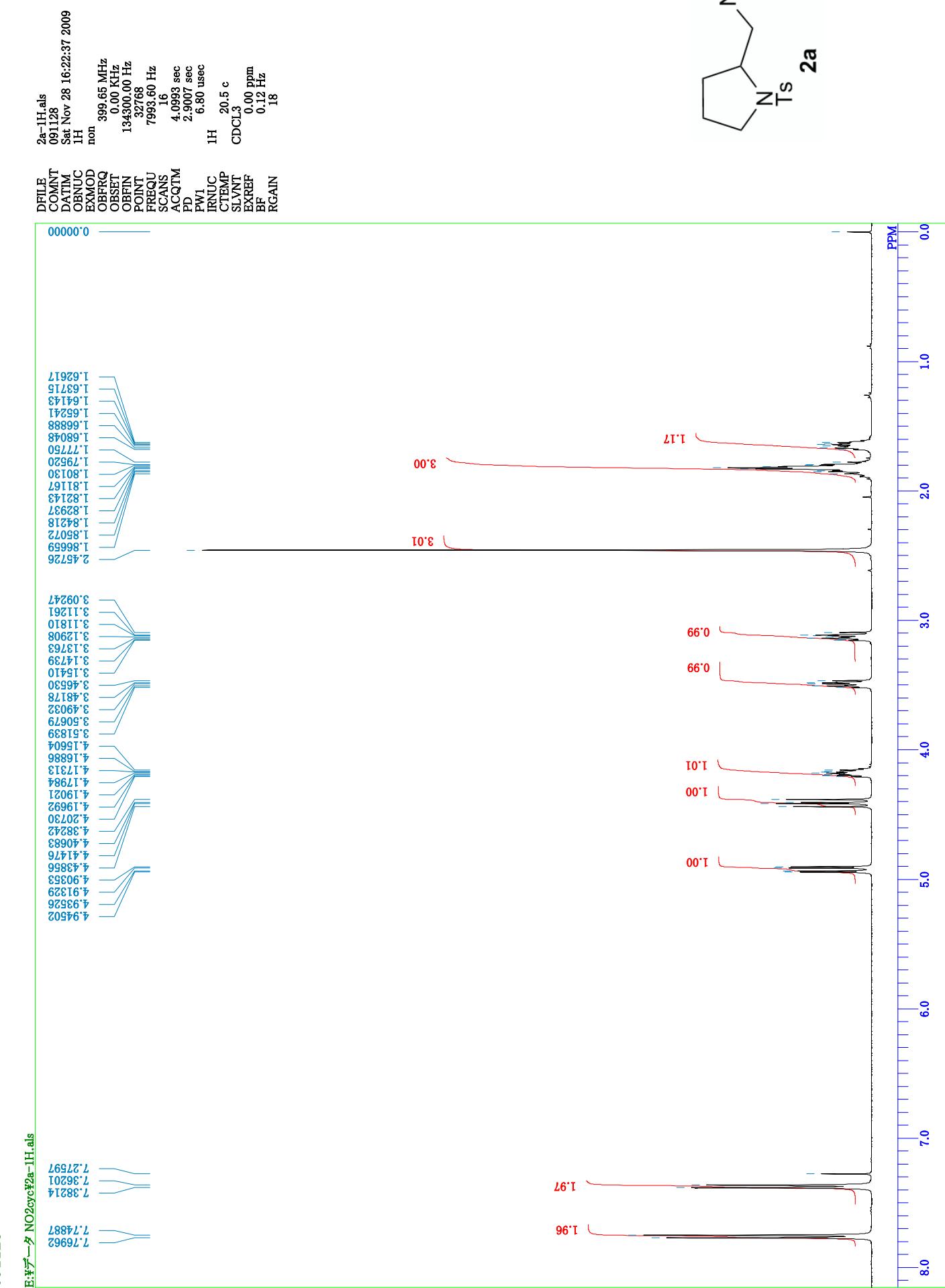
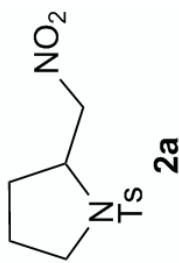
**1-(Benzylloxycarbonyl)-2-nitromethylindoline (2r).** 42% yield. Colourless crystals, mp 106.5–107 °C (hexane-EtOAc). IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1712, 1556, 1485, 1406, 1327, 1281, 1140  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.99 (1H, d,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz), 3.49 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 9.6 Hz), 4.40 (1H, br), 4.70–4.81 (1H, br), 5.14 (1H, br), 5.31 (2H, br), 7.02 (1H, br), 7.18 (1H, d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 7.21 (2/3 H, br), 7.35–7.44 (6H, m), 7.84 (1/3H, br);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  31.9 (br), 32.6 (br), 56.7, 67.8 (br), 75.9 (br), 115.6, 123.8, 125.2, 128.1, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 135.5, 141.0 (br), 151.9 (br); HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 313.1188, found: 313.1191.

**2-Nitromethyl-1-phenylpyrrolidine (3).** To a solution of **2i** (5.0 mg, 23  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in THF

(1 mL) was added a 1M solution of  $\text{BH}_3\bullet\text{THF}$  (0.7 mL, 0.70 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was heated at reflux for 2 h. To the reaction mixture was added MeOH, and the mixture was further stirred at room temperature for 30 min. 1N HCl was added and heated reflux for 1 h. The reaction mixture was basified by addition of a saturate solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic phase was washed with brine and dried with  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . The mixture was concentrated and the resultant residue was purified with silica gel chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1) to give **3** (4.1 mg, 88%) as a colourless oil. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1600, 1549, 1485, 1342  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.05 (4H, m), 3.19–3.24 (1H, m), 3.49 (1H, t,  $J$  = 8.3), 4.19 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 11.0, 9.6 Hz), 4.40–4.44 (1H, m), 4.63 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 11.0, 2.7 Hz), 6.70 (2H, d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 6.78 (1H, t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 7.29 (2H, t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  22.8, 29.3, 48.1, 57.4, 75.8, 111.9, 117.3, 129.7, 145.7; HRFABMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ) 206.1055, found: 206.1056.

## References

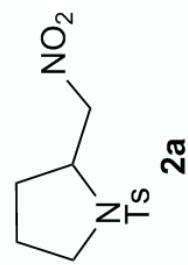
- (1) R. C. Larock, H. Yang, S. M. Weinreb and R. Herr, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1994, **59**, 4172.
- (2) T. Wu, G. Yin and G. Liu, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2009, **131**, 16354.
- (3) C. F. Rosewall, P. A. Sibbald, D. V. Liskin and F. E. Michael, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2009, **131**, 9488.
- (4) I. Tellitu, A. Urrejola, S. Serna, I. Moreno, M. Teresa Herrero, E. Domínguez, R. SanMartin and A. Correa, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, 2007, 437.
- (5) M. R. Manzoni, T. P. Zabawa, D. Kasi and S. R. Chemler, *Organometallics*, 2004, **23**, 5619.
- (6) P. H. Fuller, J.-W. Kim and S. R. Chemler, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2008, **130**, 17638.
- (7) C. F. Bender and R. A. Widenhoefer, *Chem. Commun.*, 2006, 4143.
- (8) O. Benali, M. A. Miranda and R. Tormos, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2002, 2317.

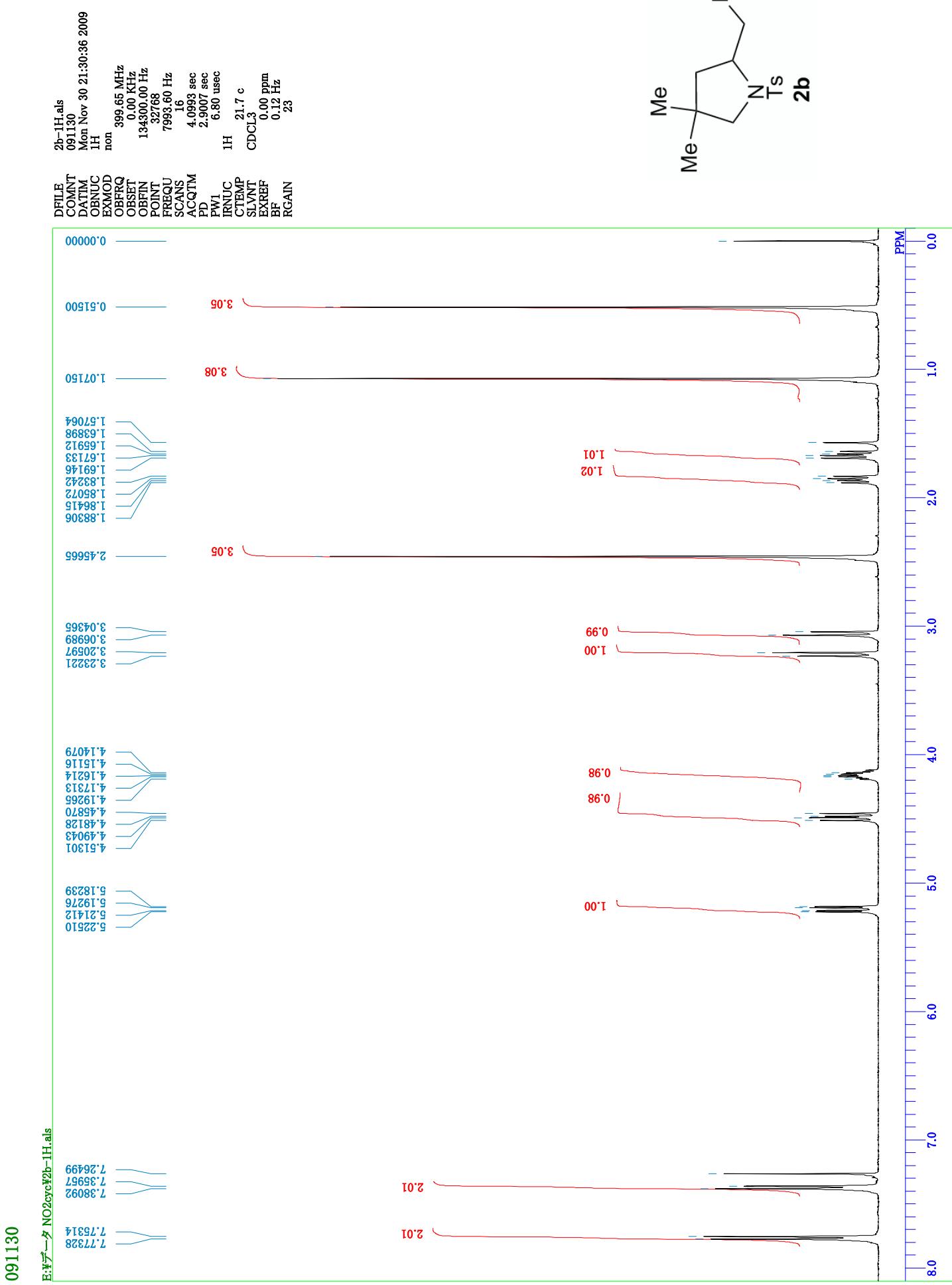
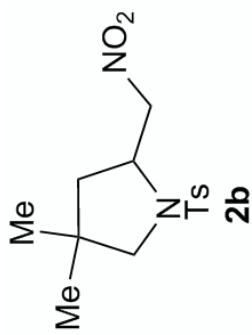


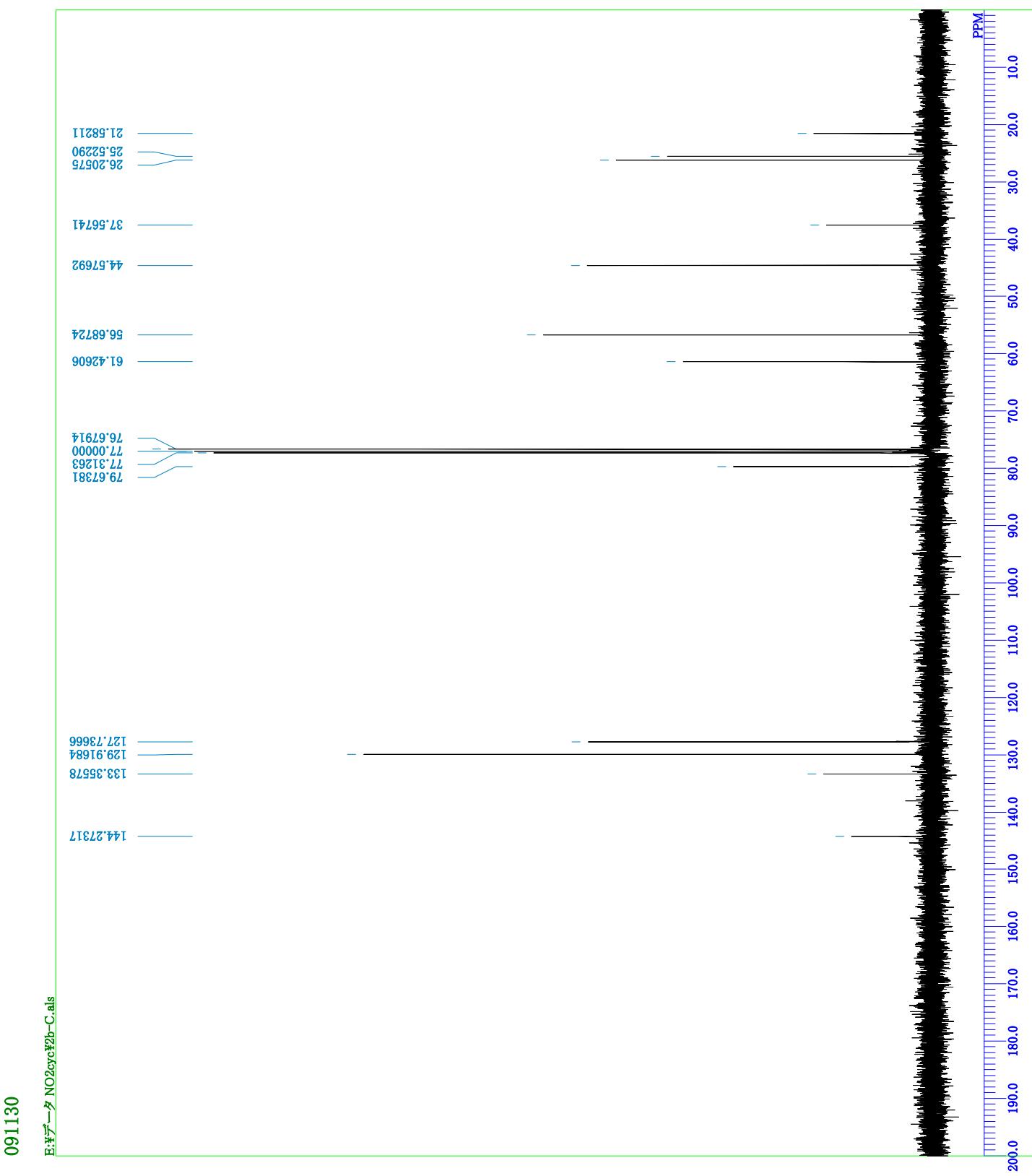
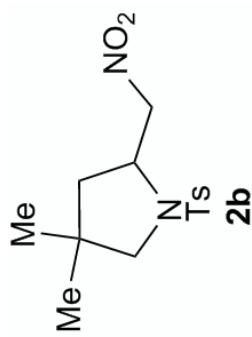
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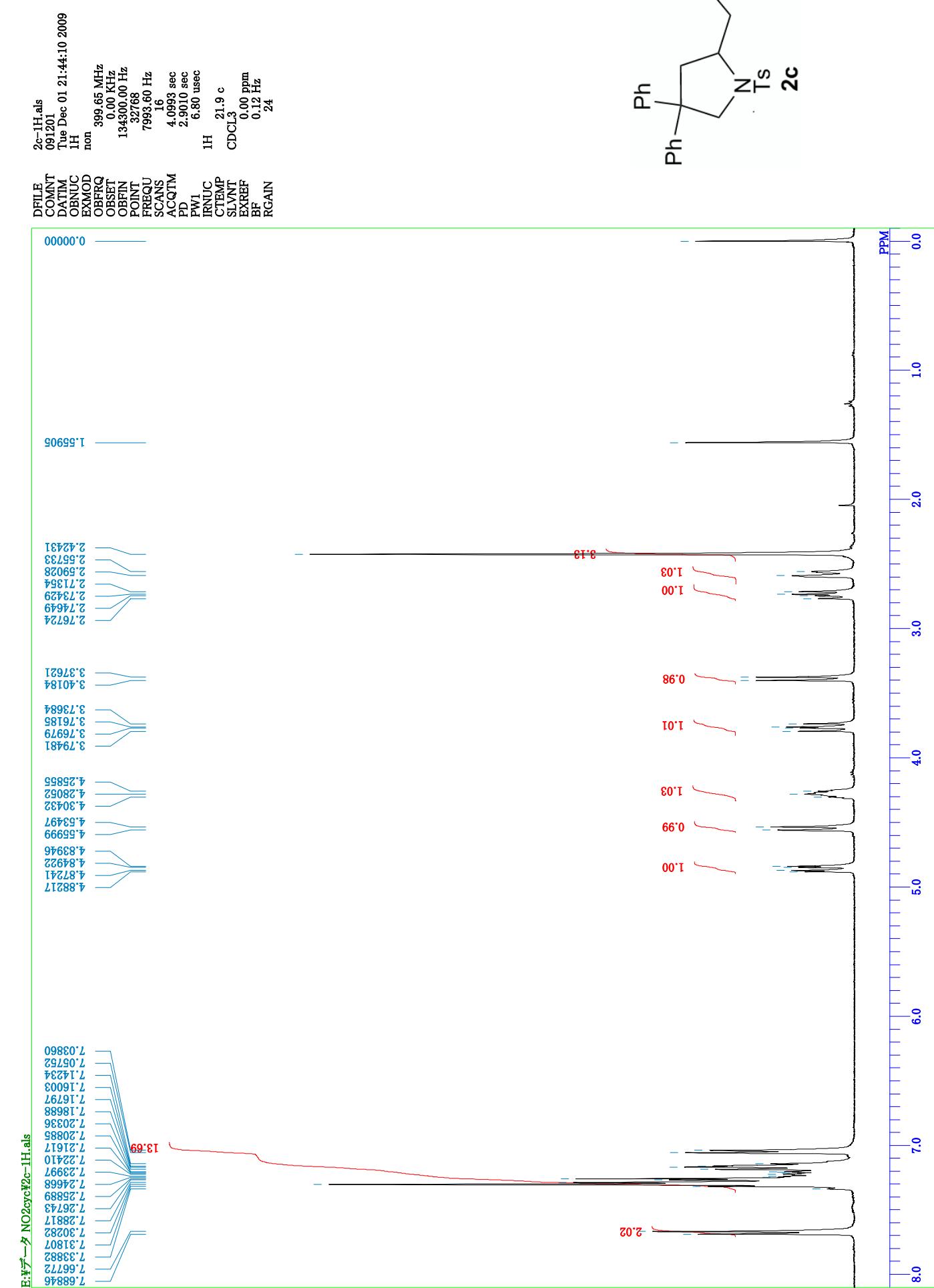
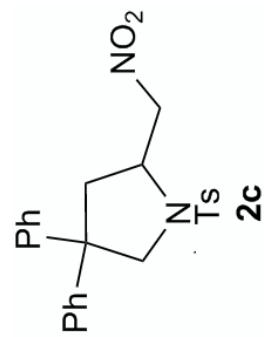
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RGAIN





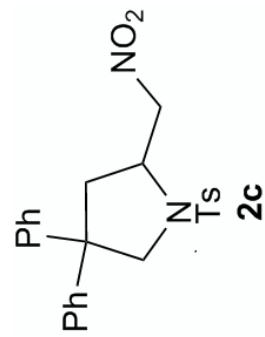


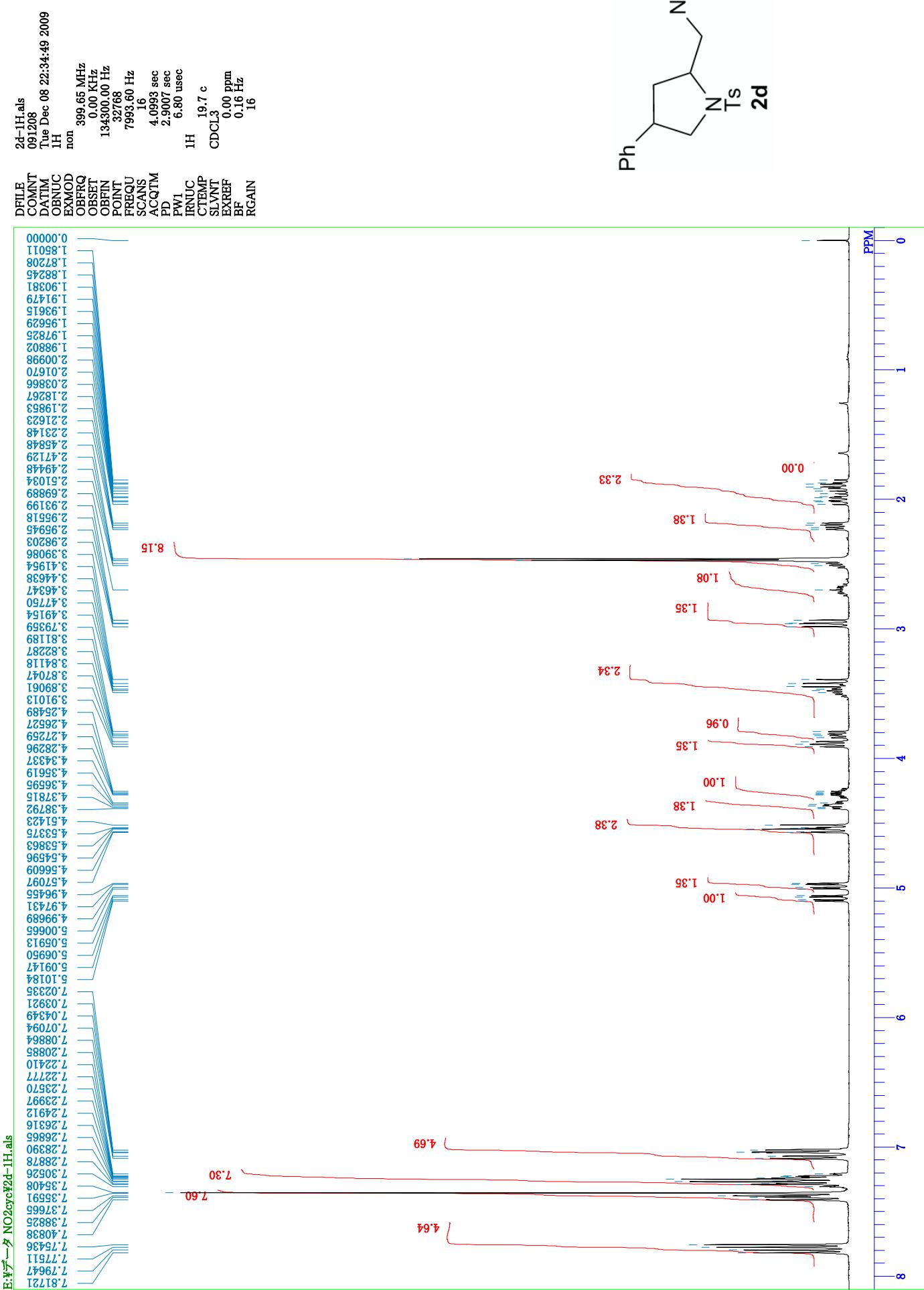
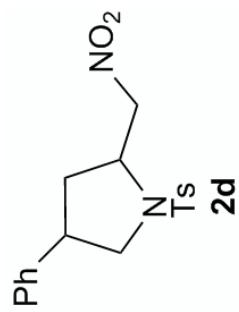


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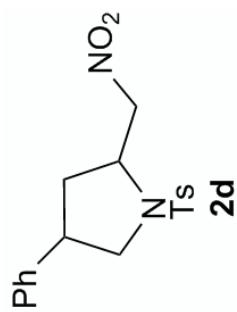
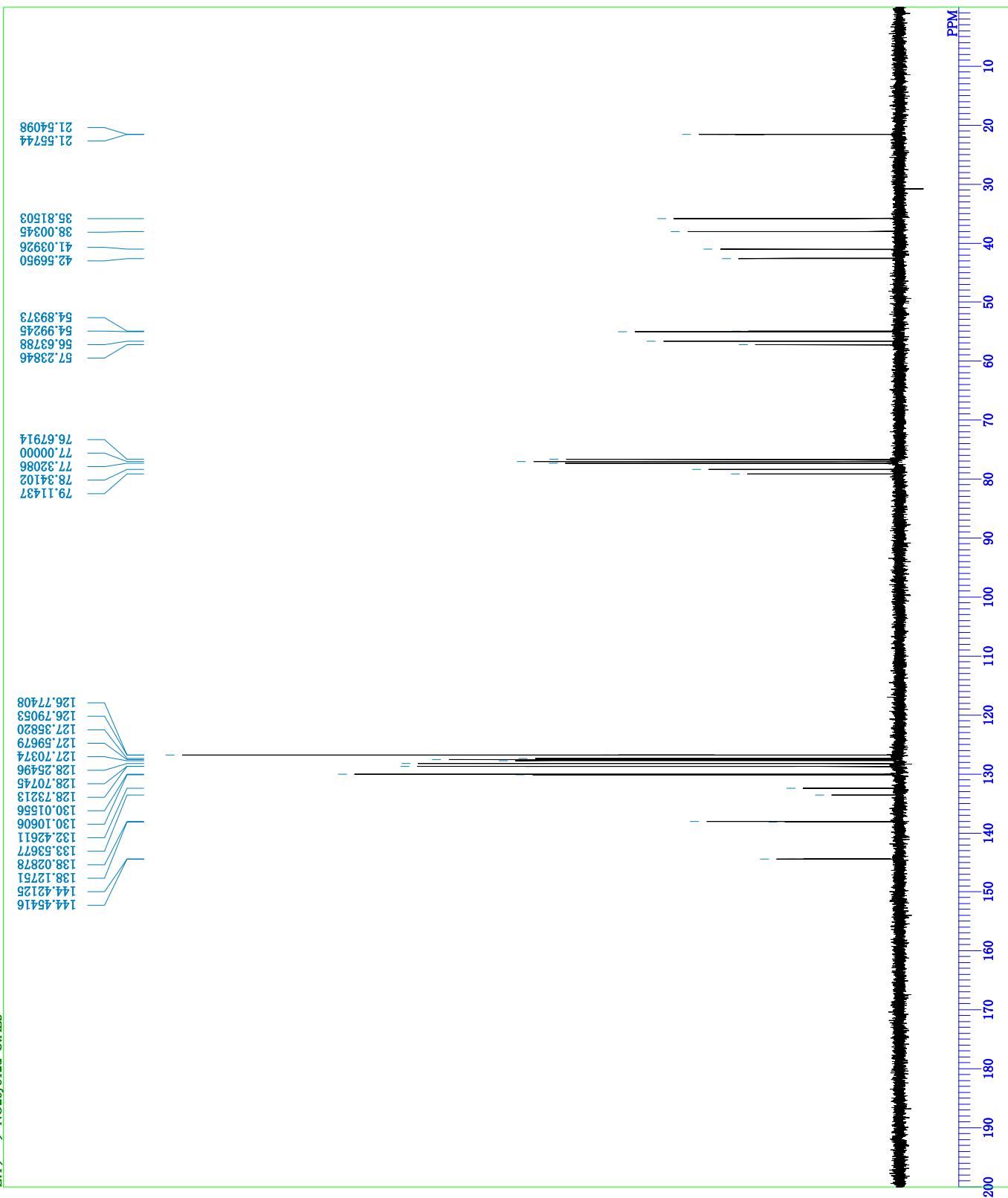


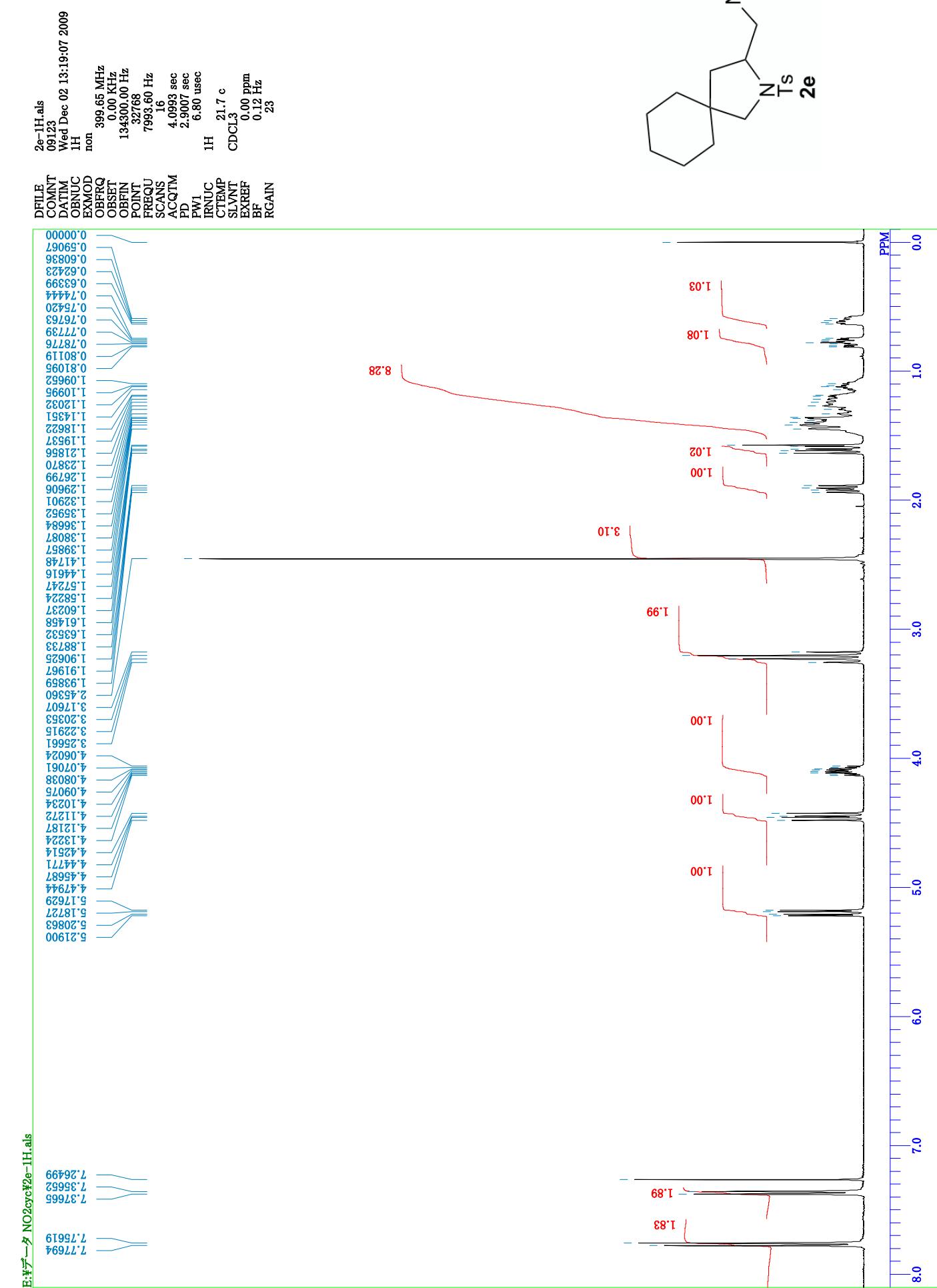
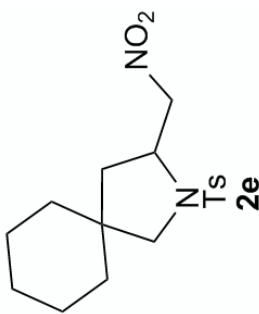


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RGAIN

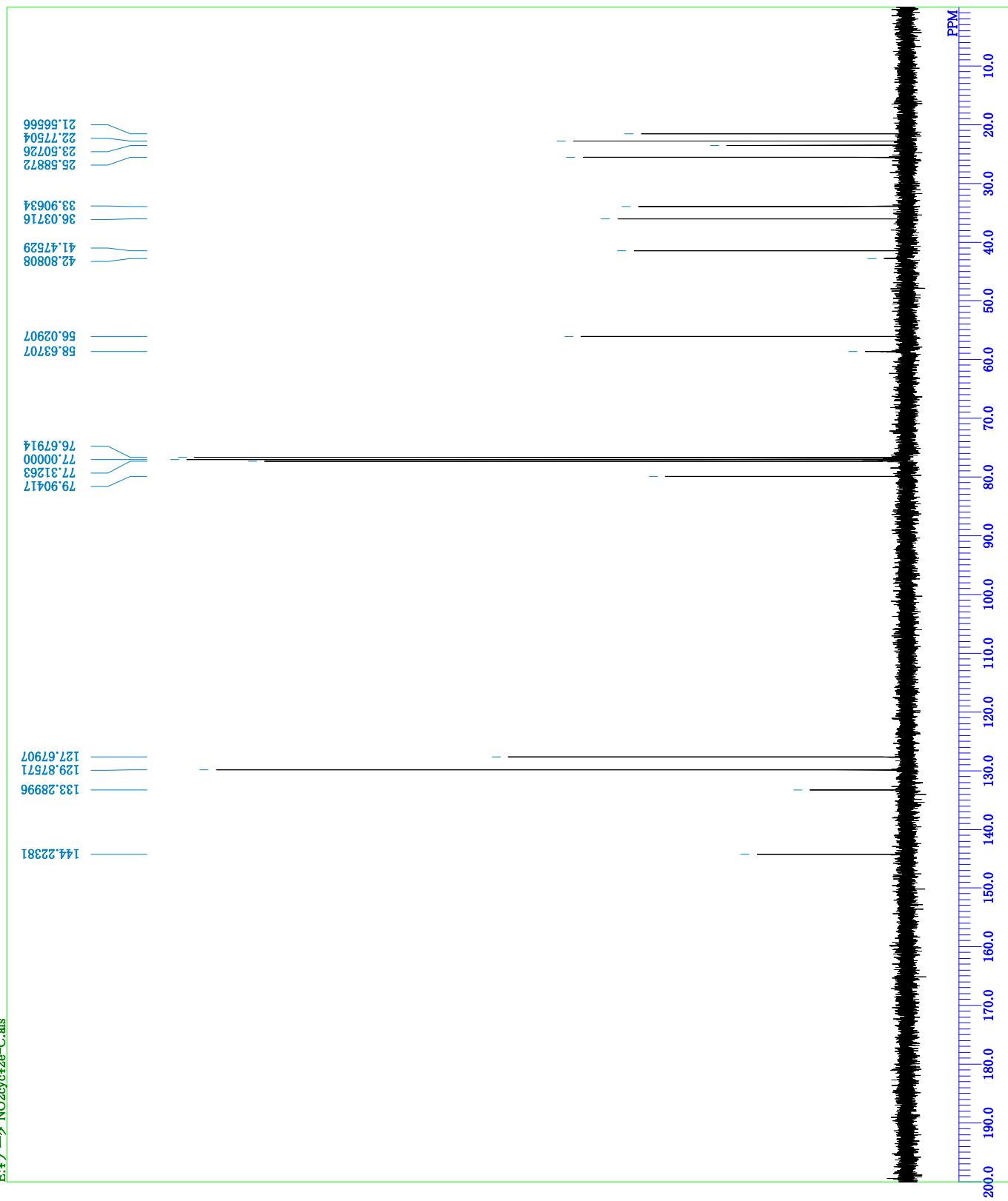
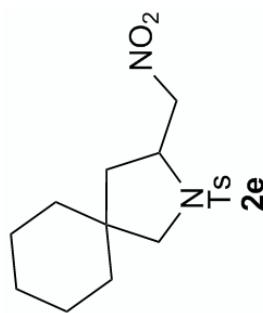


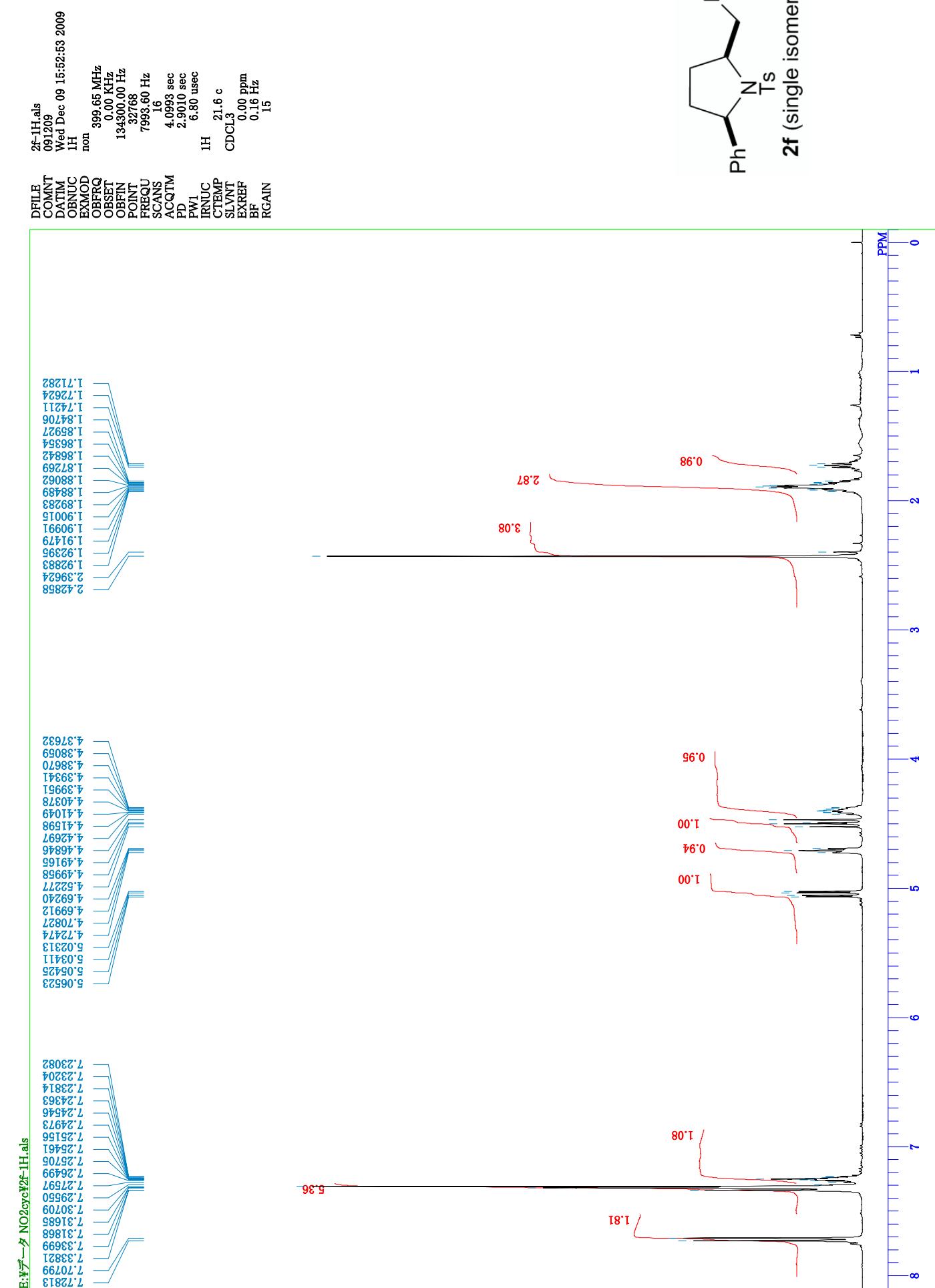
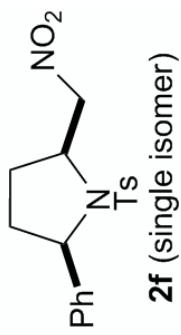


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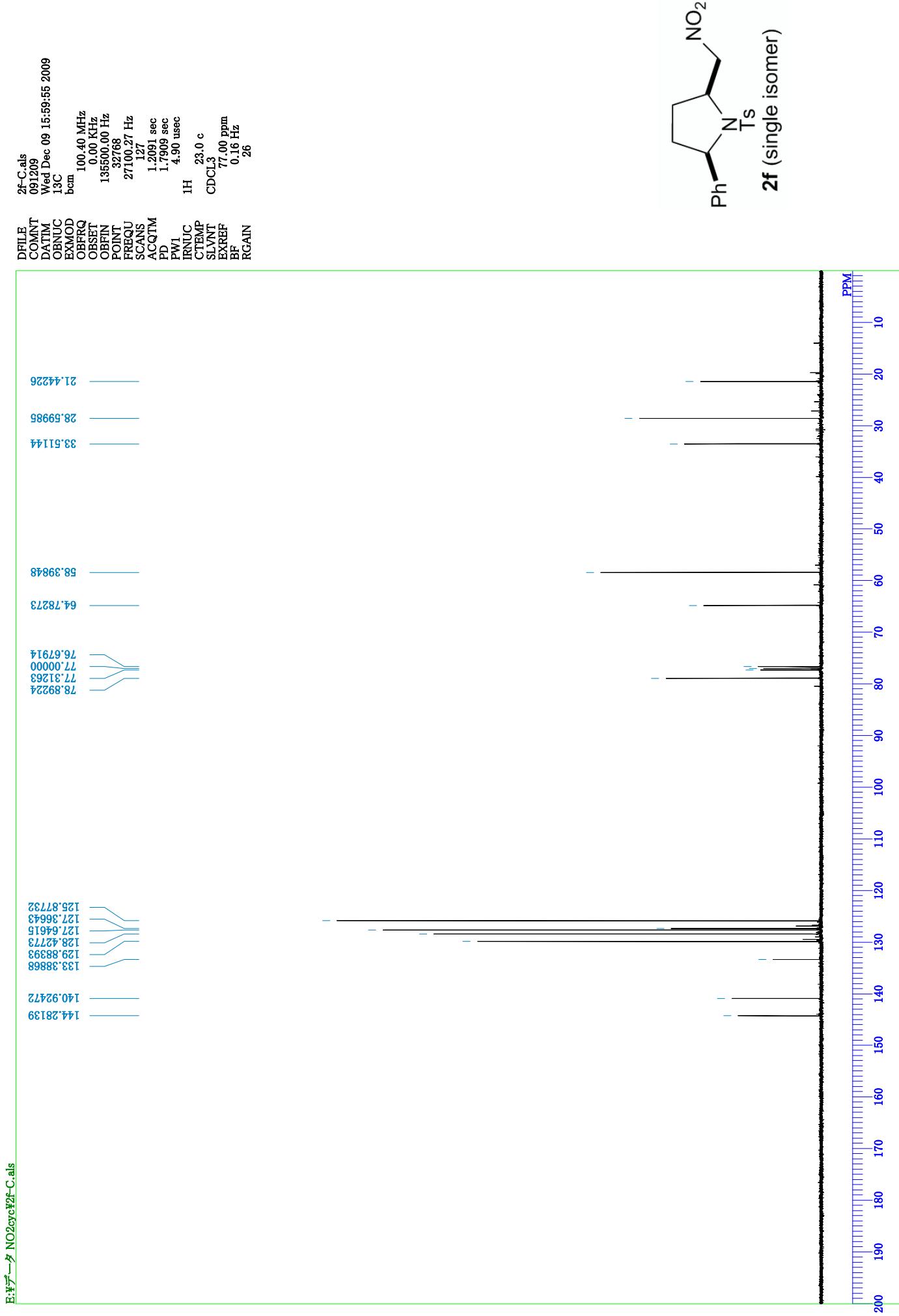
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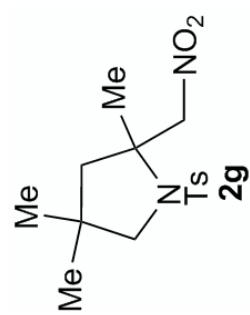
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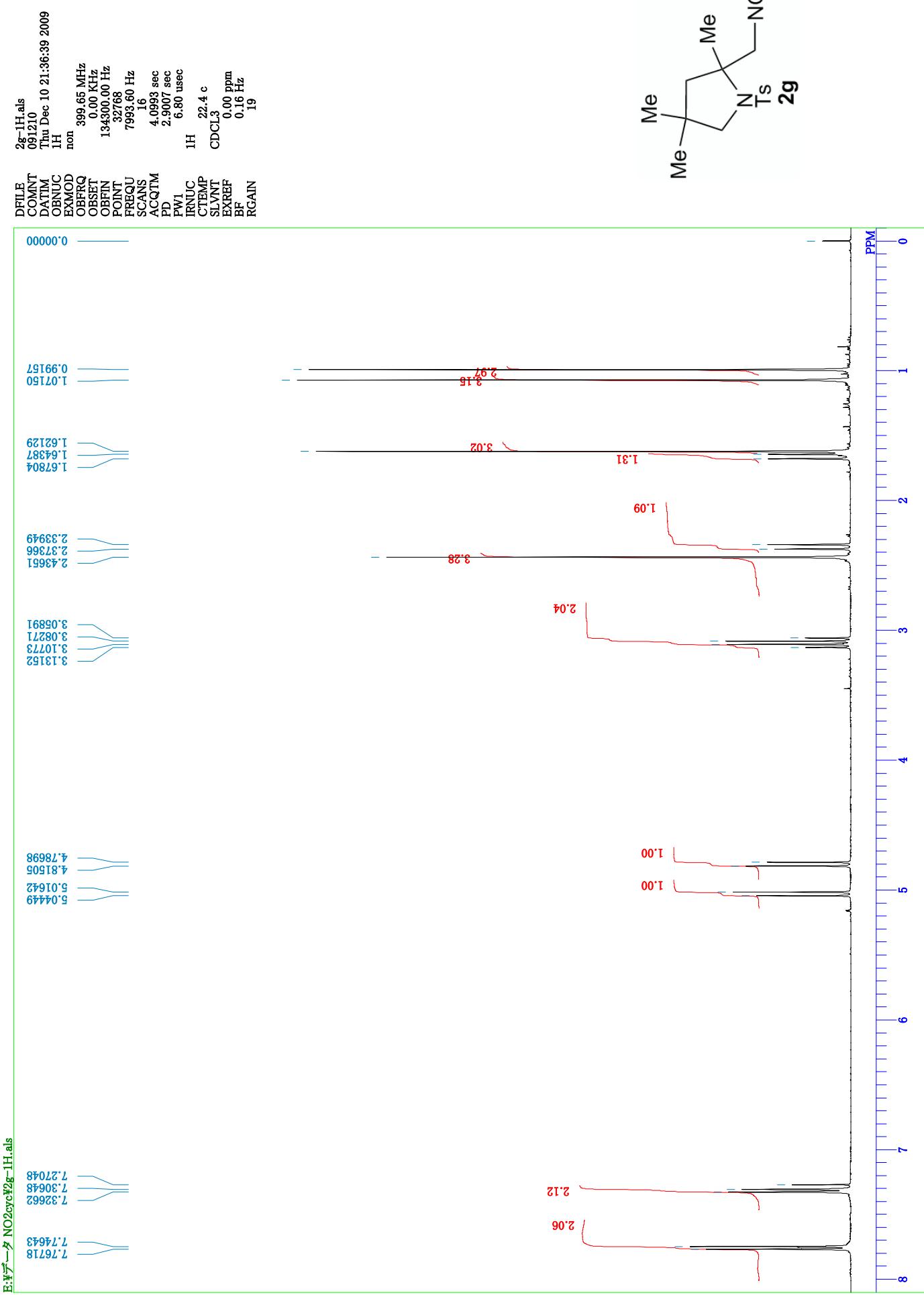


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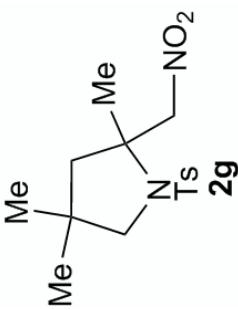
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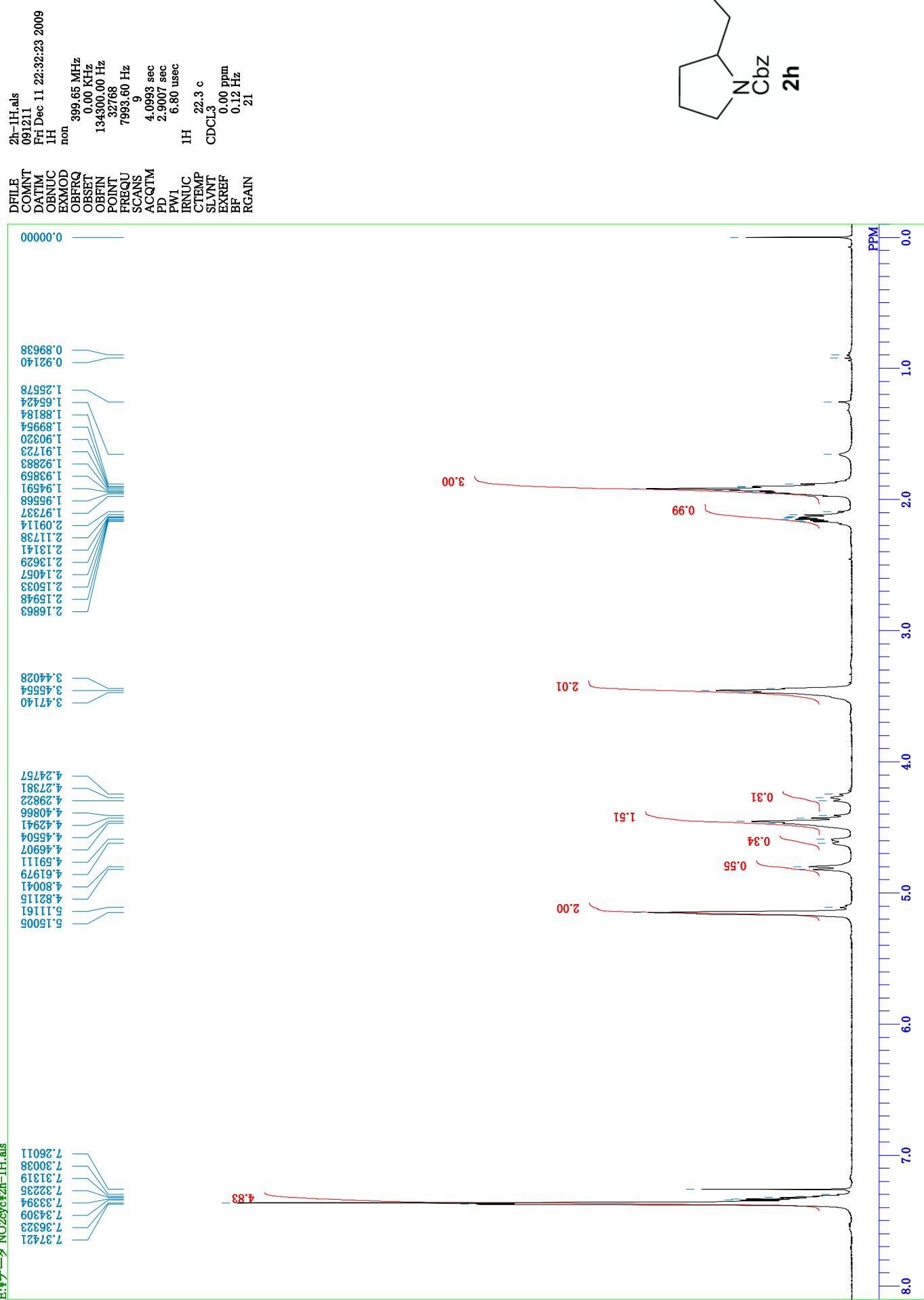
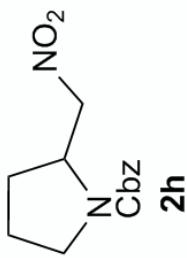


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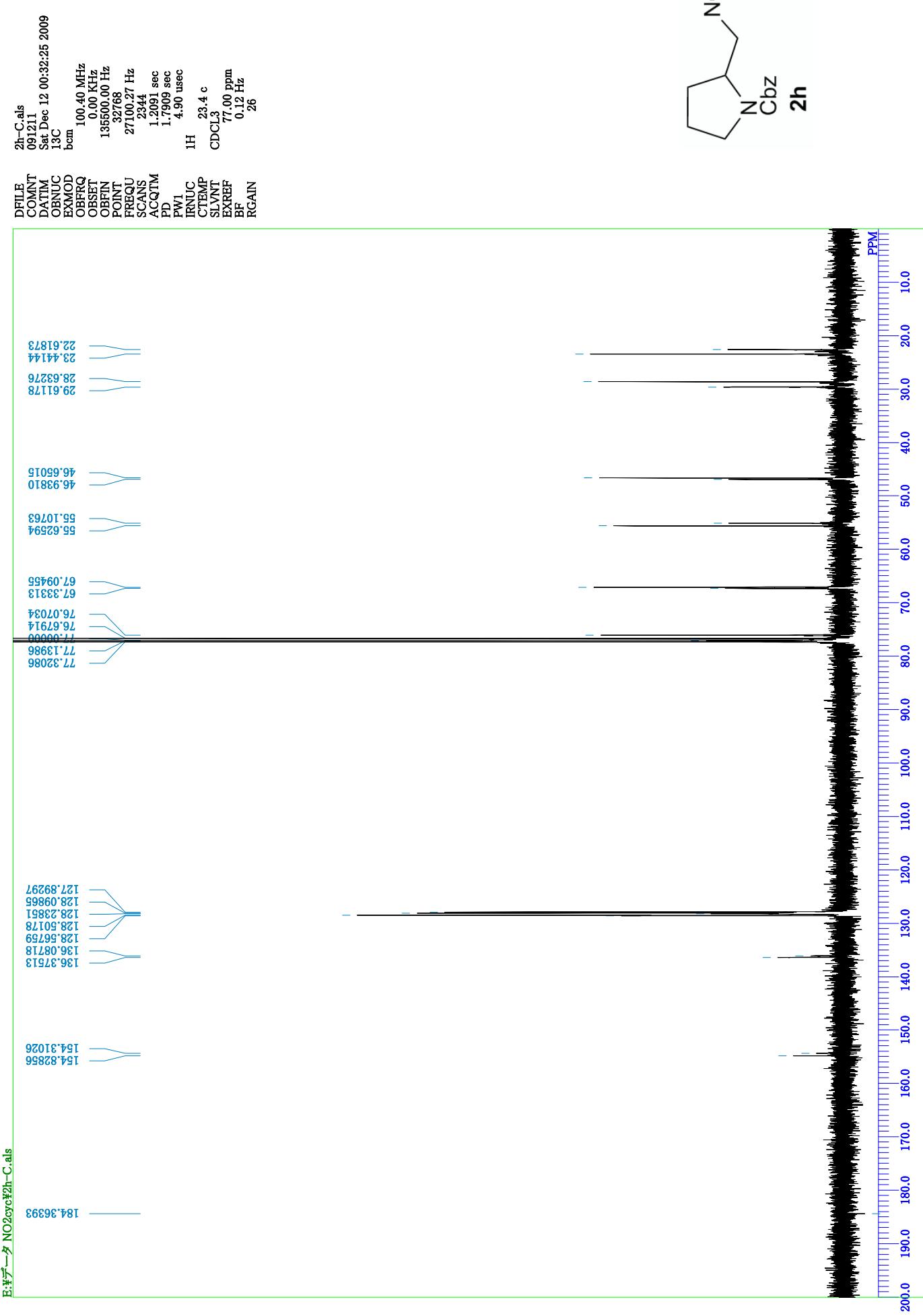
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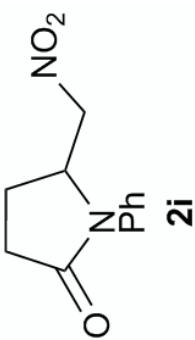
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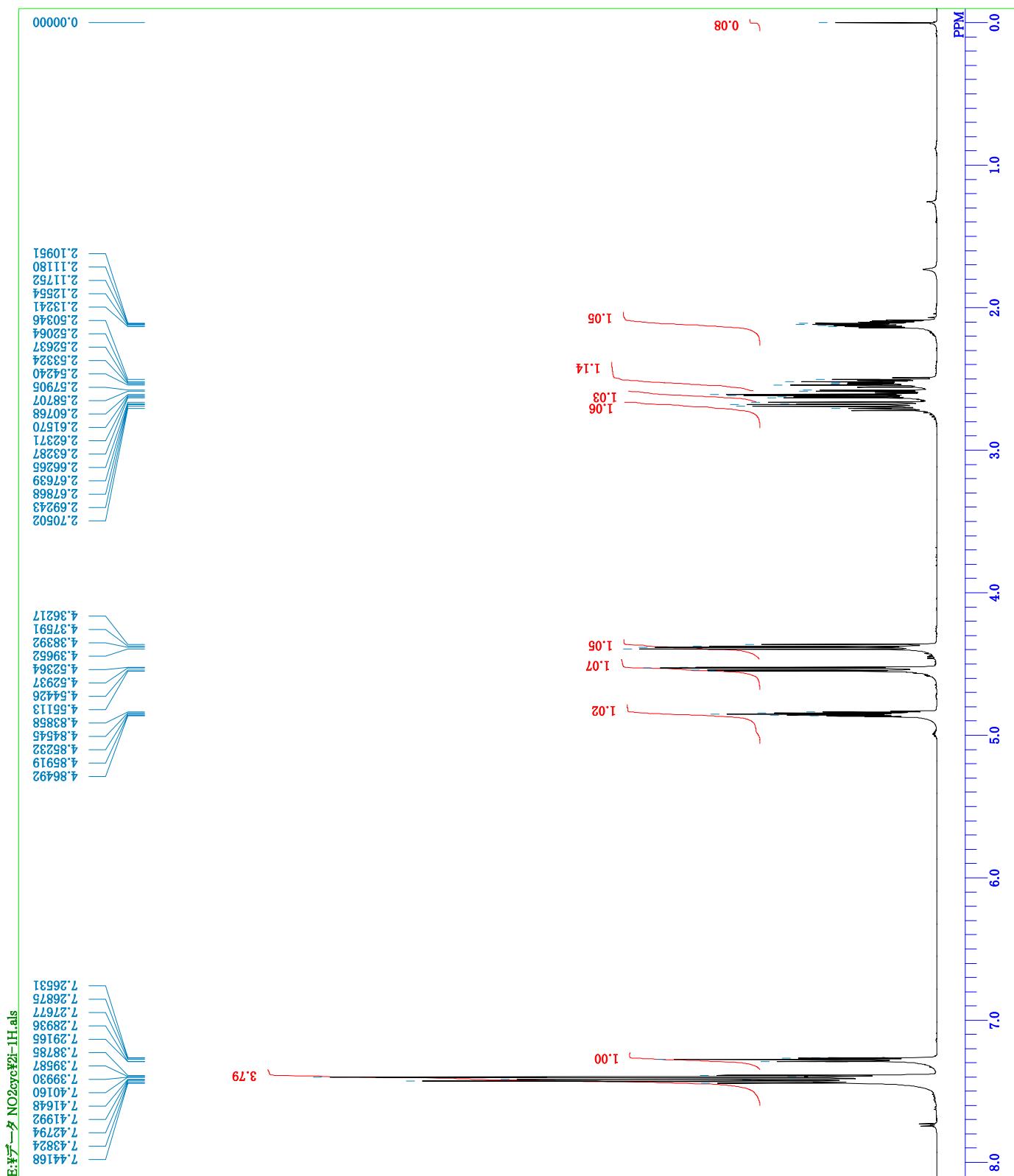




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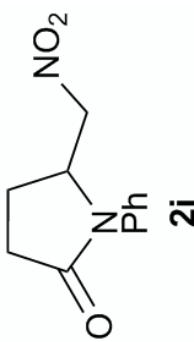
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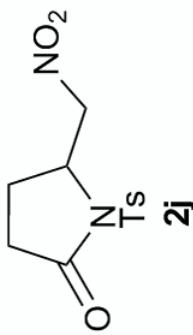
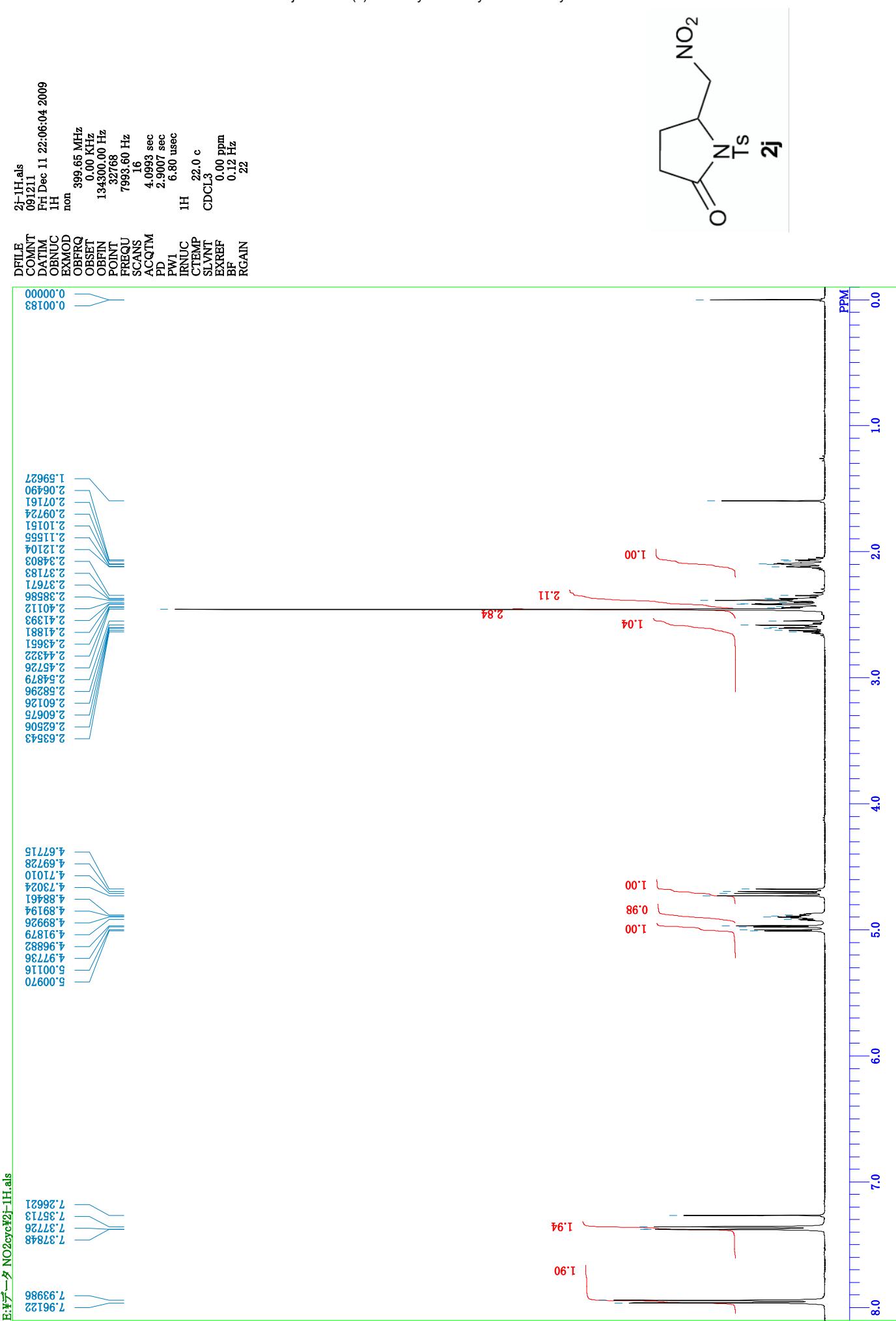


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091211



091211

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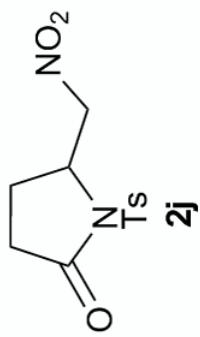
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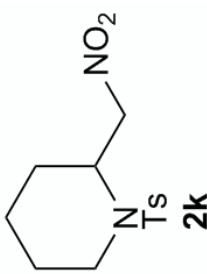
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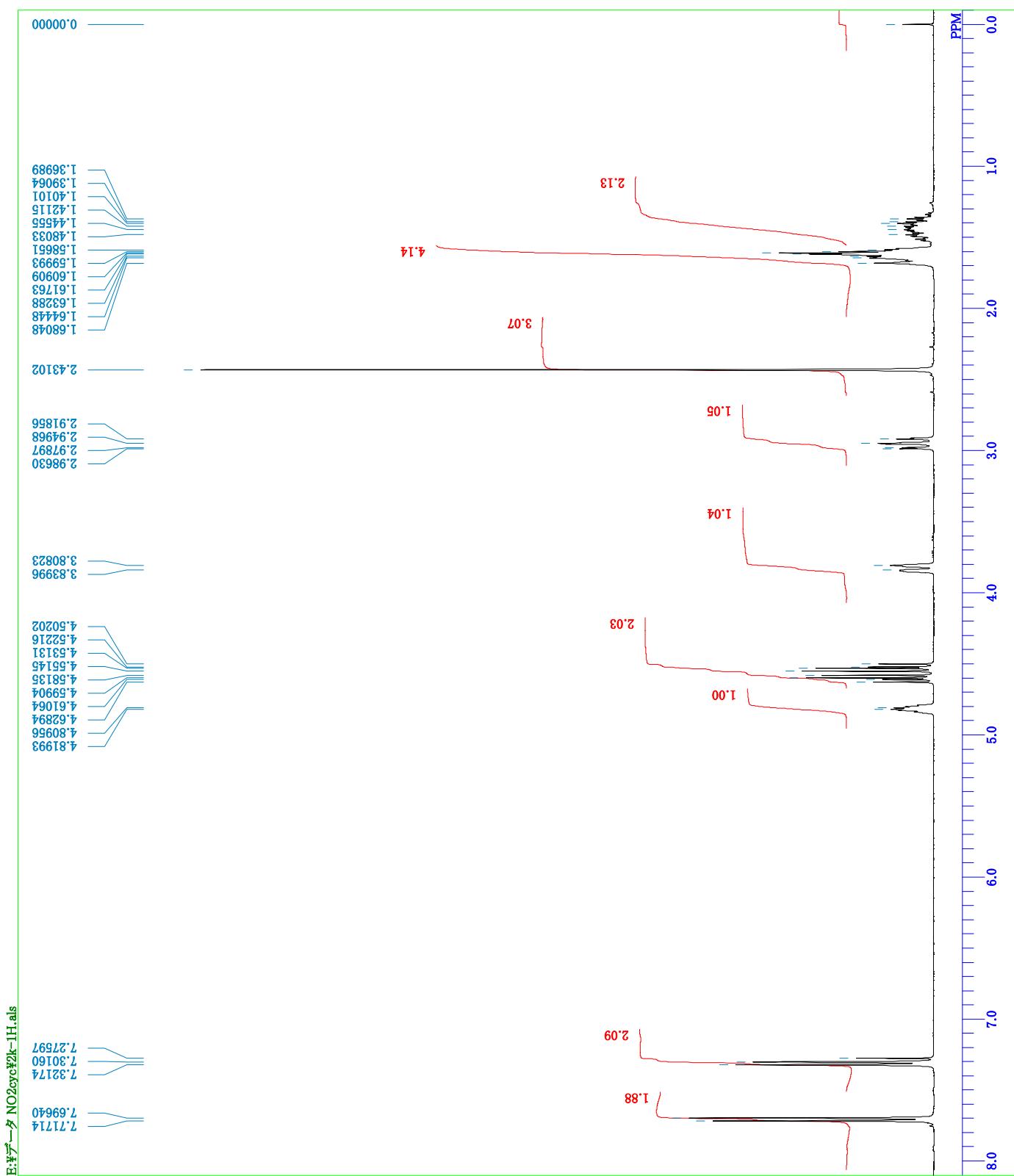
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RGAIN





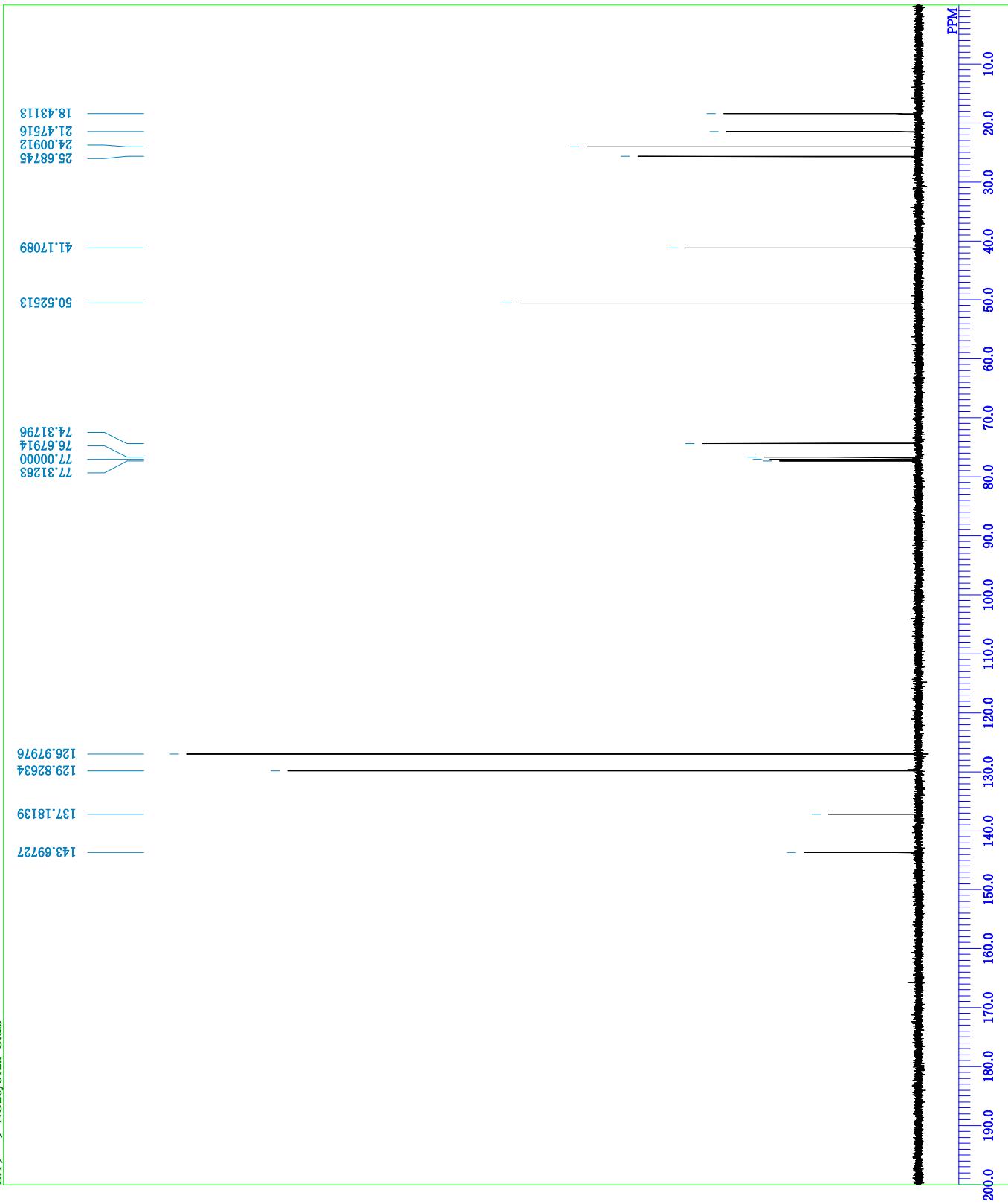
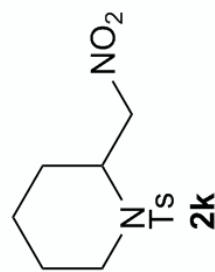
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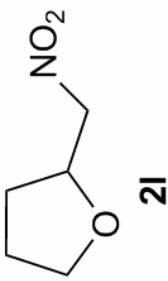


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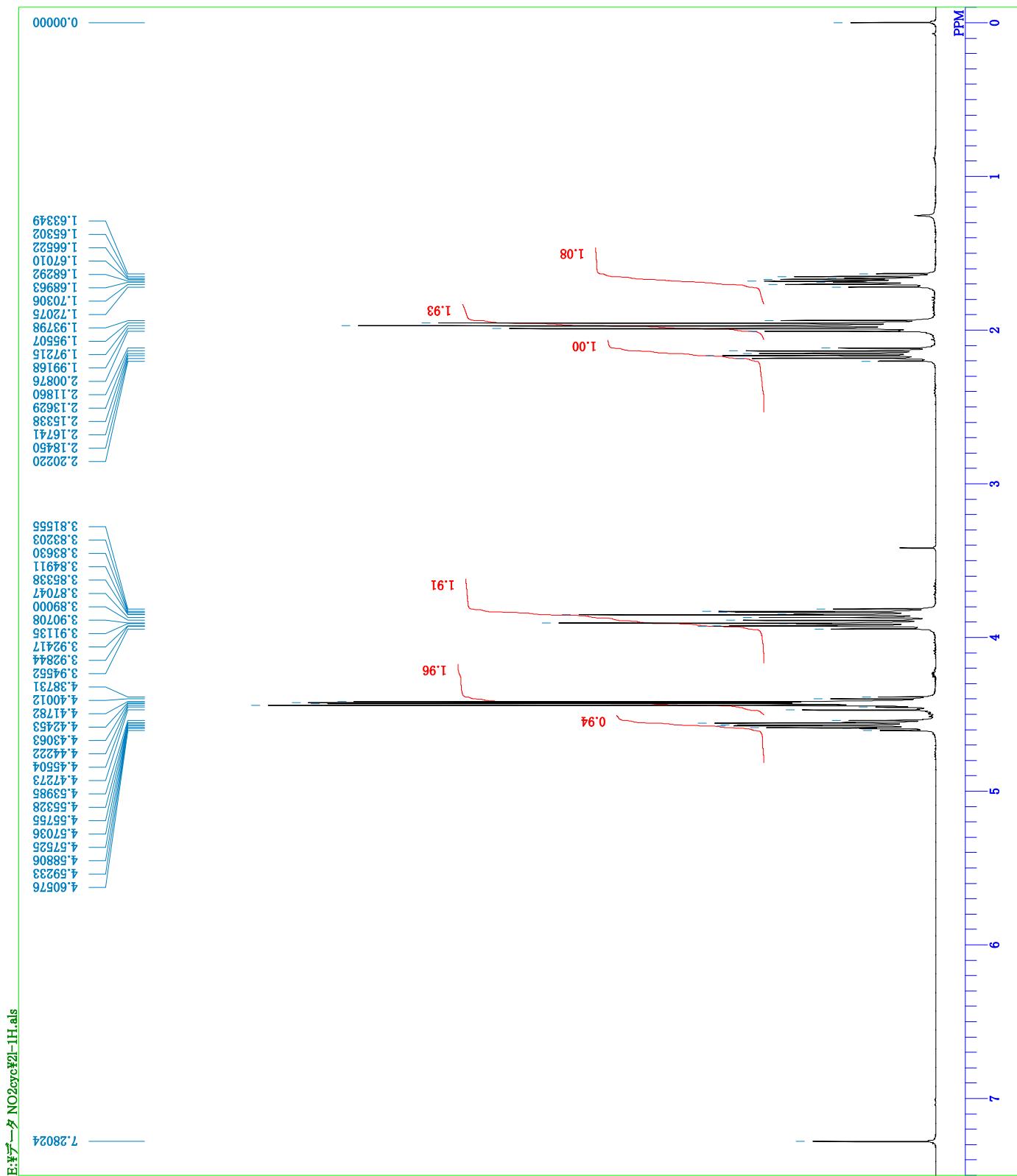
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091209

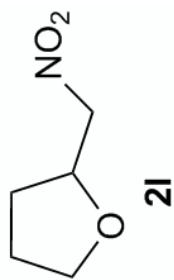
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CDCl<sub>3</sub>  
0.00 ppm  
0.16 Hz  
19  
DFILE  
COMNT  
OBNUC  
EXMOD  
OBFRQ  
OBSET  
OBFTN  
POINT  
FREQU  
ACQTM  
SCANS  
FD  
IRNUC  
CTEMP  
SLVNT  
EXREF  
BF  
RGAIN

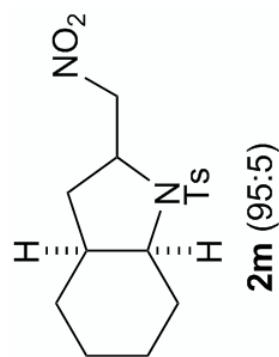


091209

E:\Y\#→→ NO2cyc21-C.als

21-C.als  
091209  
Wed Dec 09 16:18:57 2009  
13C  
bem 100.40 MHz  
0.00 kHz  
135500.00 Hz  
32768  
27100.27 Hz  
257  
1.2091 sec  
1.7909 sec  
4.90 usec  
ACQTM  
SCANS  
PD  
1H  
CTEMP  
CDCL<sub>3</sub>  
SLVNT  
EXREF  
RF  
RGAIN  
23.0 c  
77.00 ppm  
0.16 Hz  
26

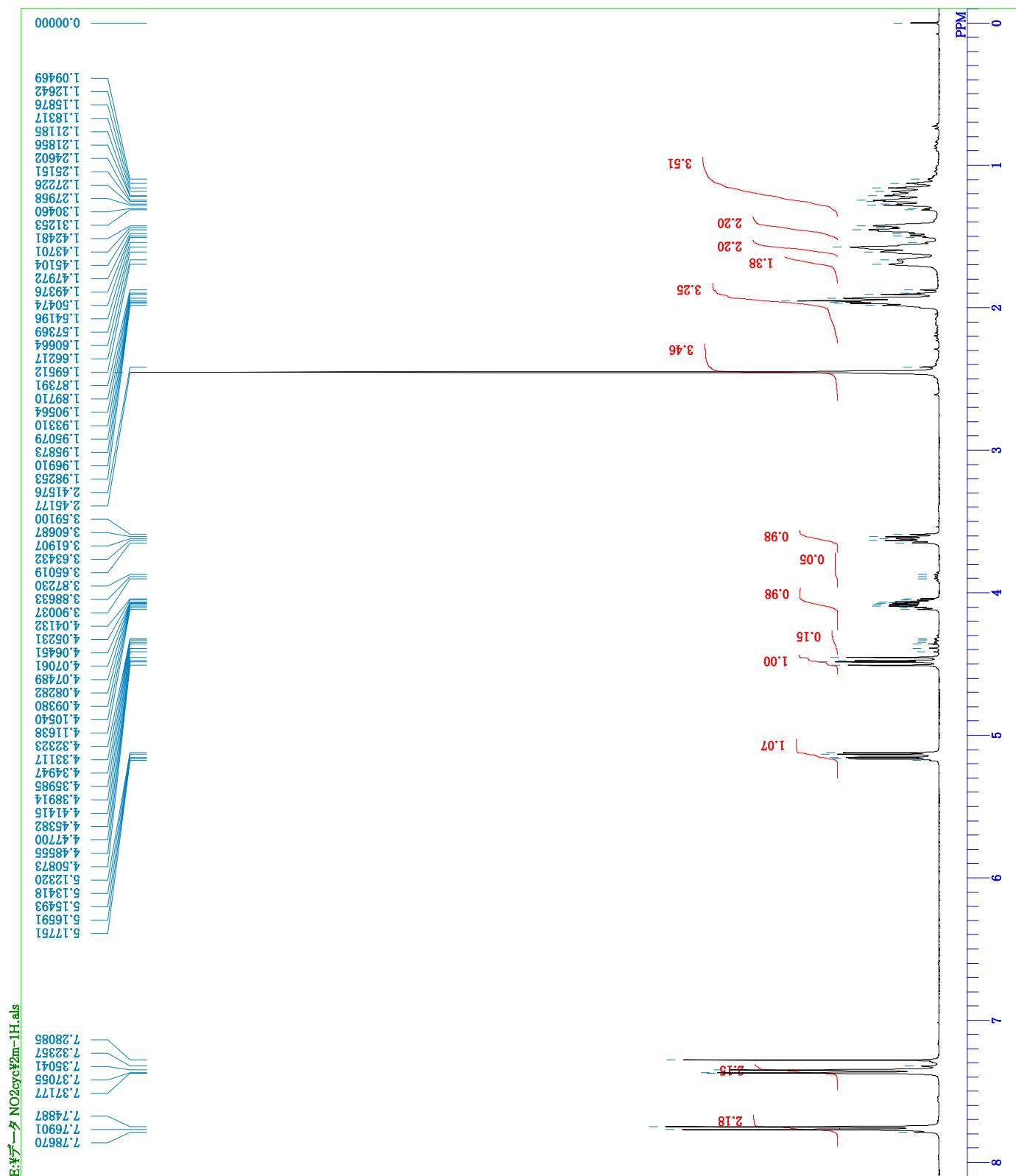




```

2m-1H_als
091205
Sat Dec 05 14:33:53 2009
1H
non
399.65 MHz
0.00 kHz
134300.00 Hz
32768
7993.60 Hz
16
4.0963 sec
2.9007 sec
6.80 usec
1H
21.7 c
CDCl3
0.00 ppm
0.12 Hz
14
DEFILE
COMNT
DATIM
OBNUC
EXMOD
OBFRQ
OBSET
OBFTN
POINT
PREQU
ACQTM
SCANS
FD
IRNUC
CTEMP
SLVNT
EXREF
BF
RGAIN

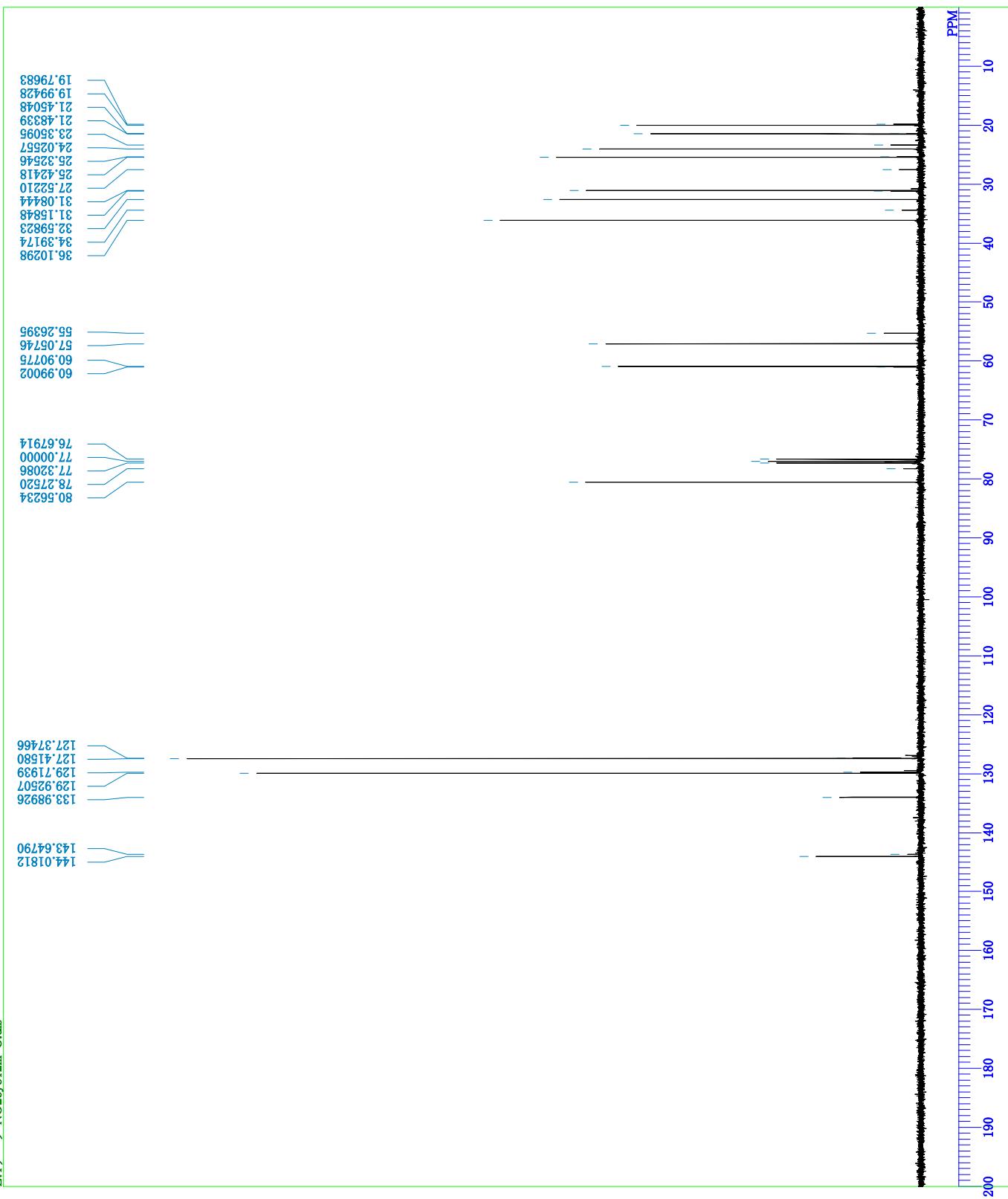
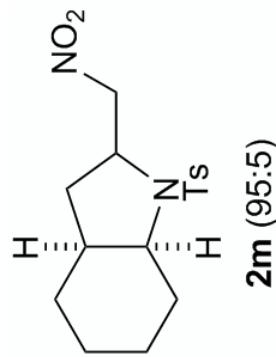
```

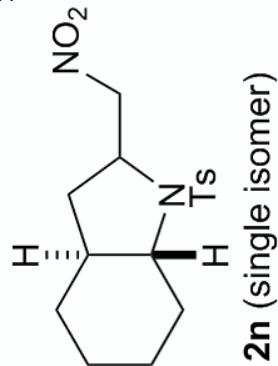


091205

E:\N\#→→ NO2cyc2m-C.als

2m-C\_als  
091205  
Sat Dec 05 14:47:29 2009  
13C  
bem  
100.40 MHz  
0.00 kHz  
135500.00 Hz  
32768  
27100.27 Hz  
258  
1.2091 sec  
1.7909 sec  
4.90 usec  
EXMOD  
OBFRQ  
OBSET  
OBPTN  
PREQU  
ACQTM  
SCANS  
FD  
IRNUC  
CTEMP  
SLVNT  
EXREF  
BF  
RGAIN

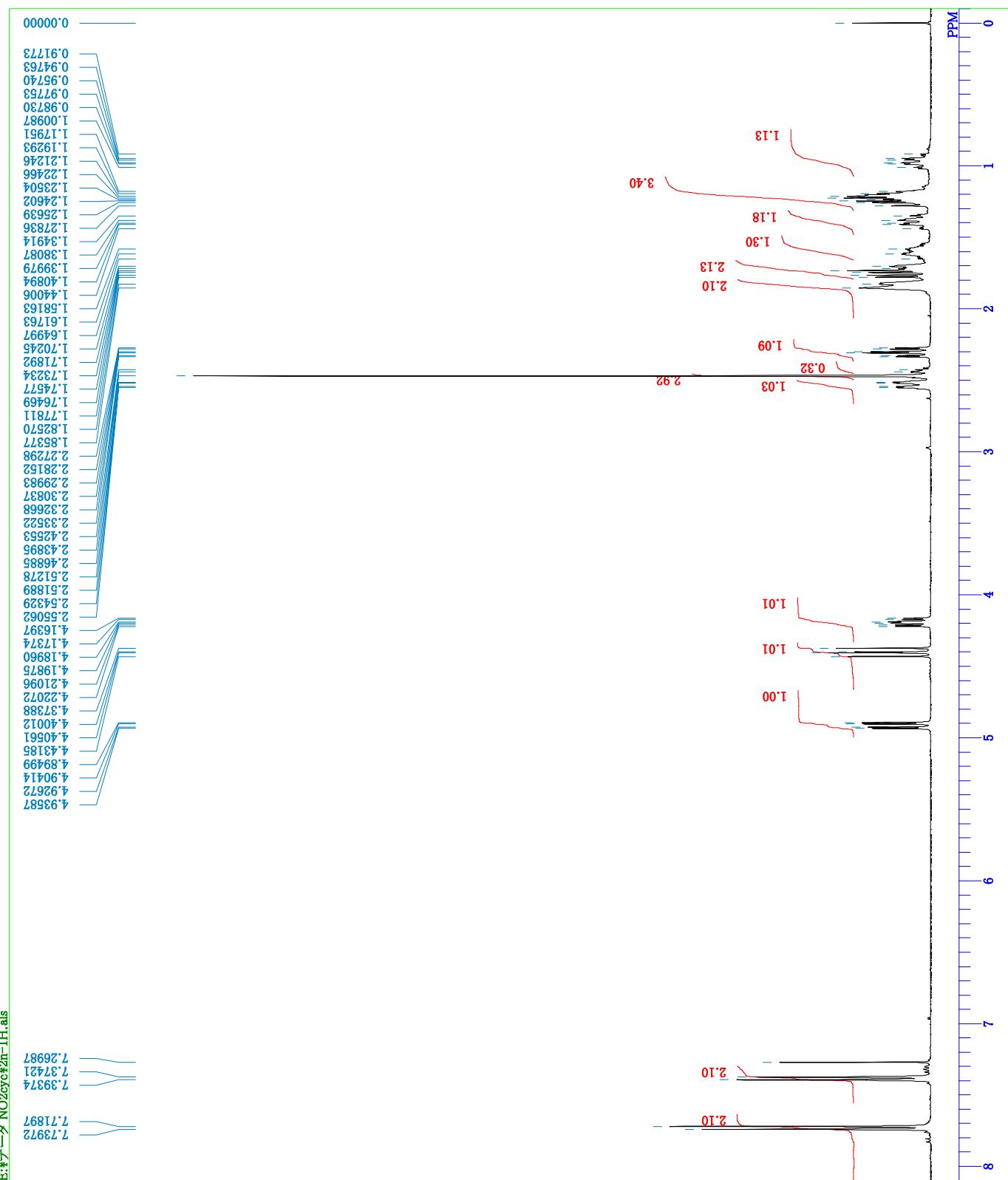


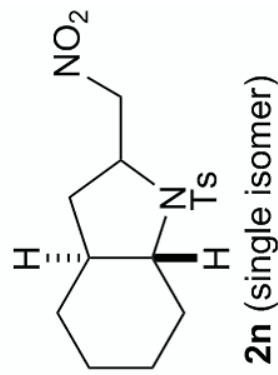


```

2n-1H.als
091207
Mon Dec 07 17:10:07 2009
1H
non 399.65 MHz
0.00 kHz
134300.00 Hz
32768
7993.60 Hz
16
4.0963 sec
2.9007 sec
6.80 usec
1H
20.6 c
CDCl3
0.00 ppm
0.16 Hz
18
DFILE
COMNT
EXMOD
OBFRQ
OFFSET
OBPTN
POINT
PREQU
ACQTM
SCANS
FD
IRNUC
CTEMP
SLVNT
EXREF
BF
RGAIN

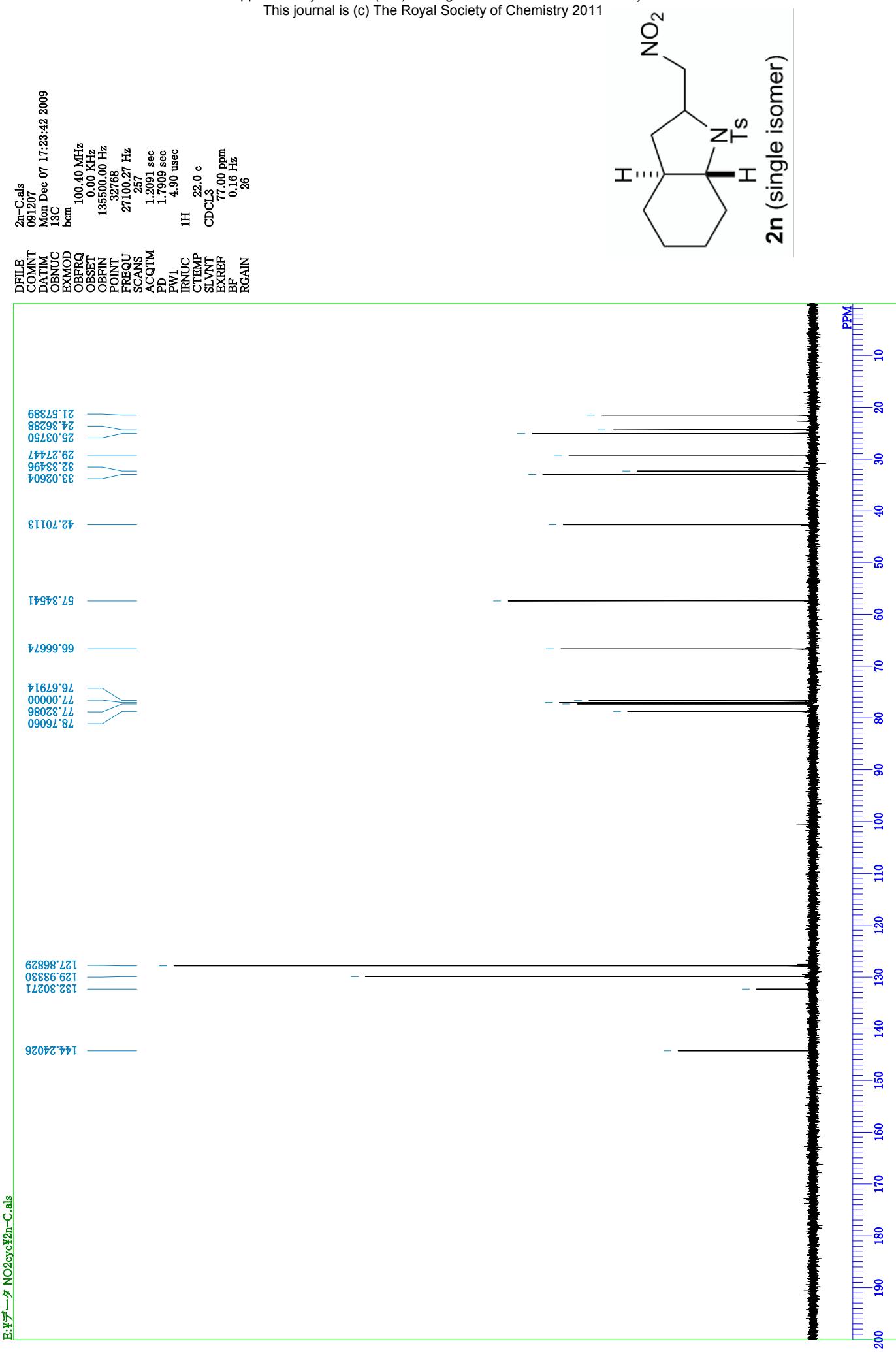
```

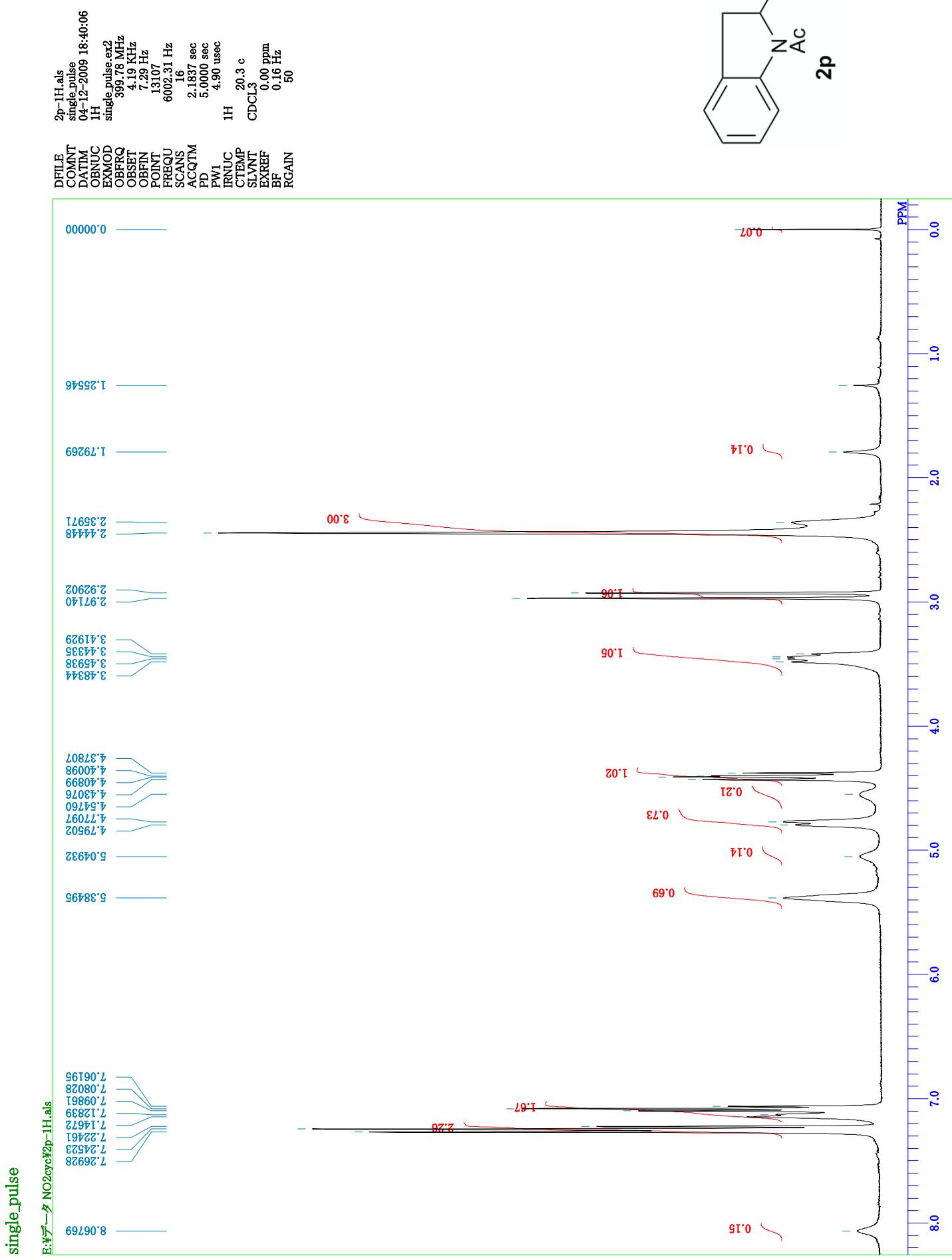
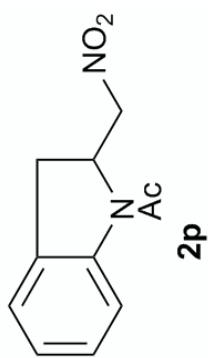




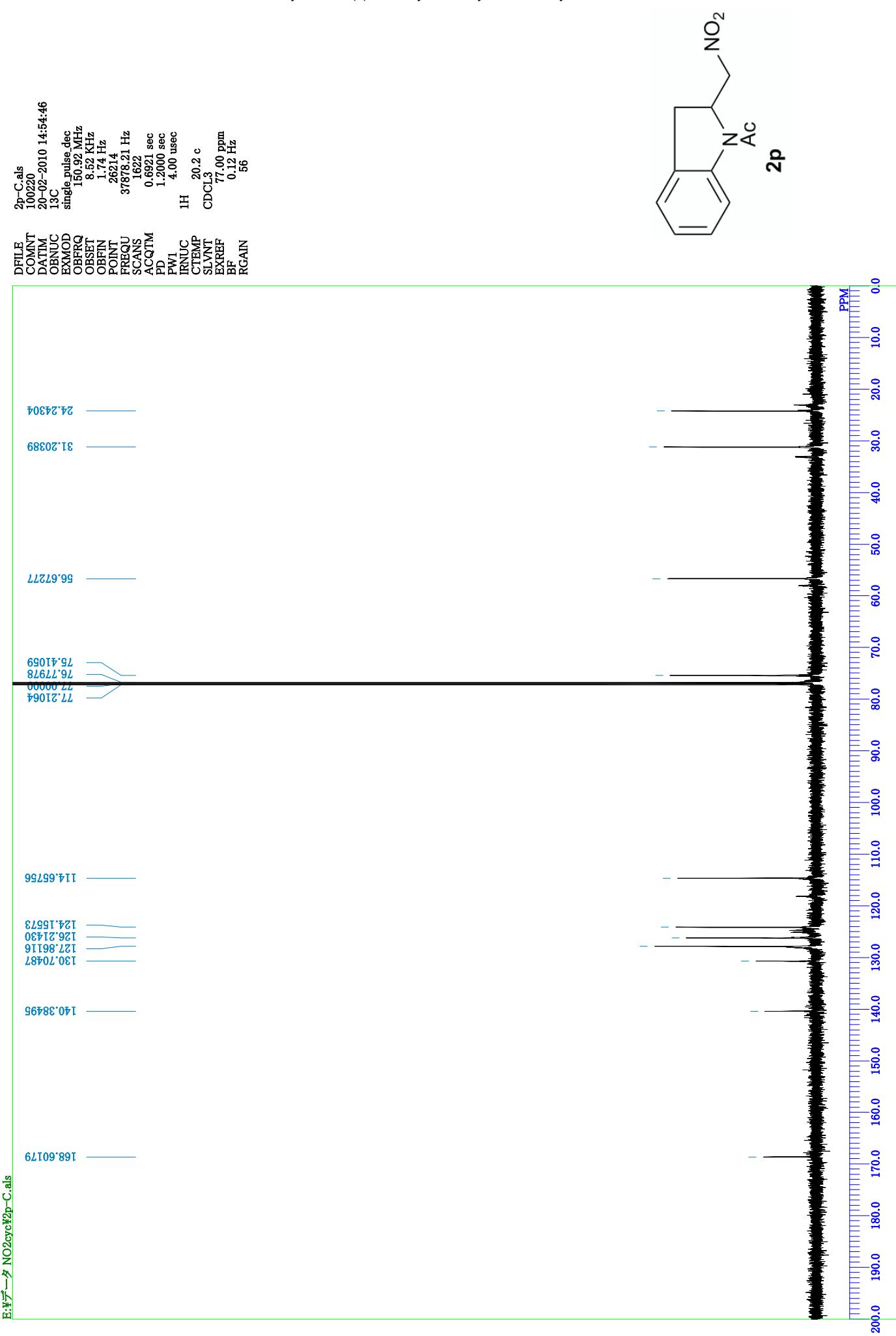
2n (single isomer)

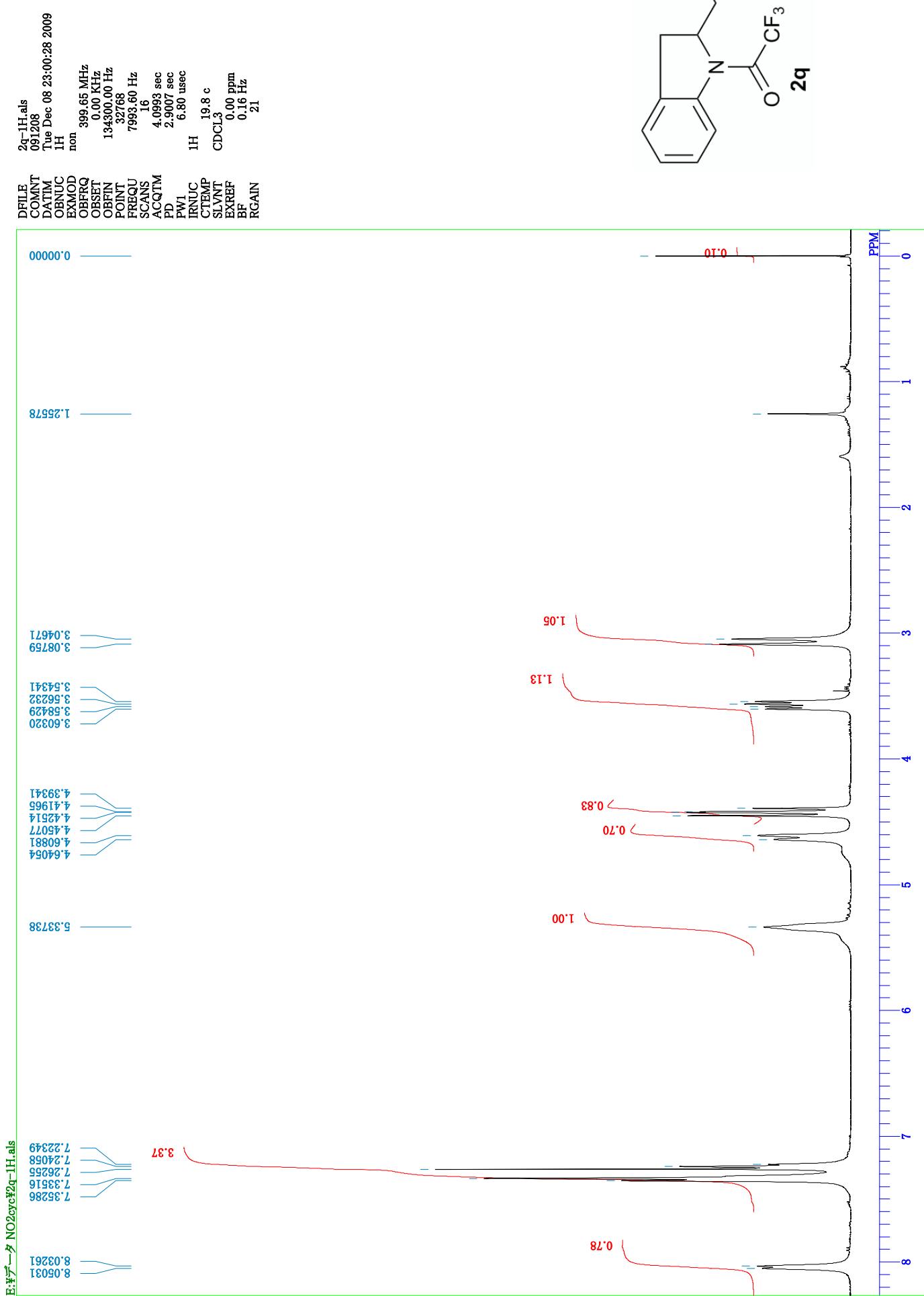
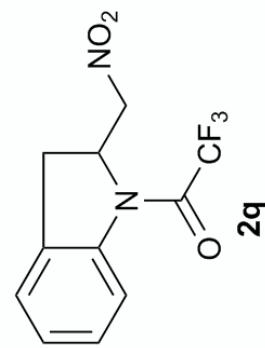
091207



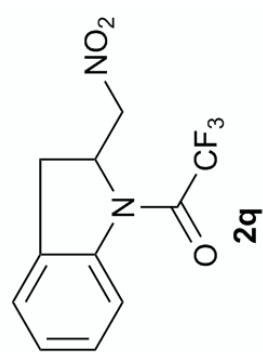
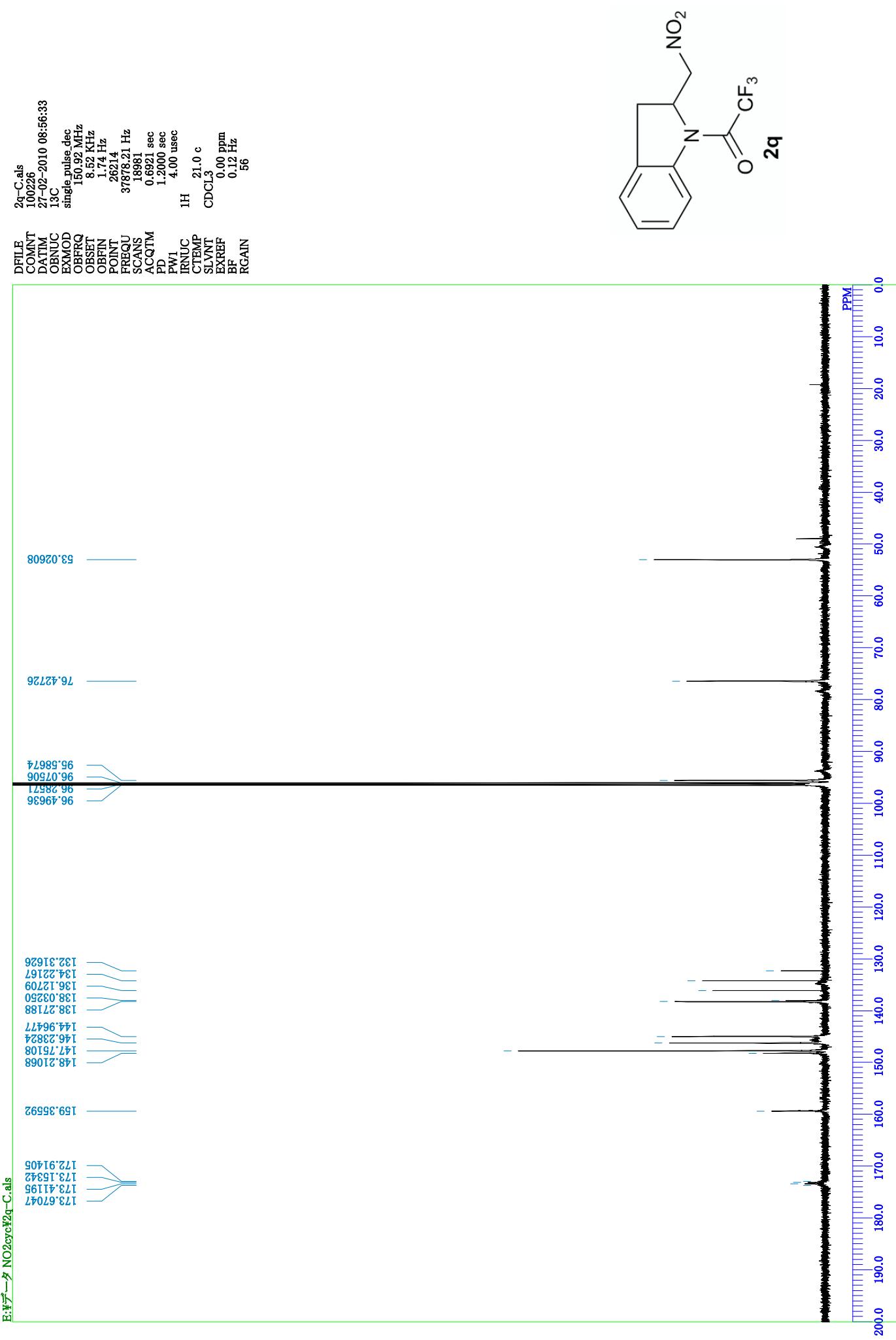


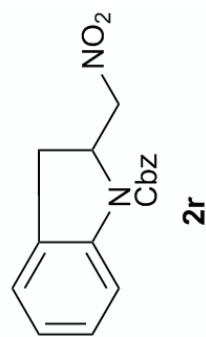
100220



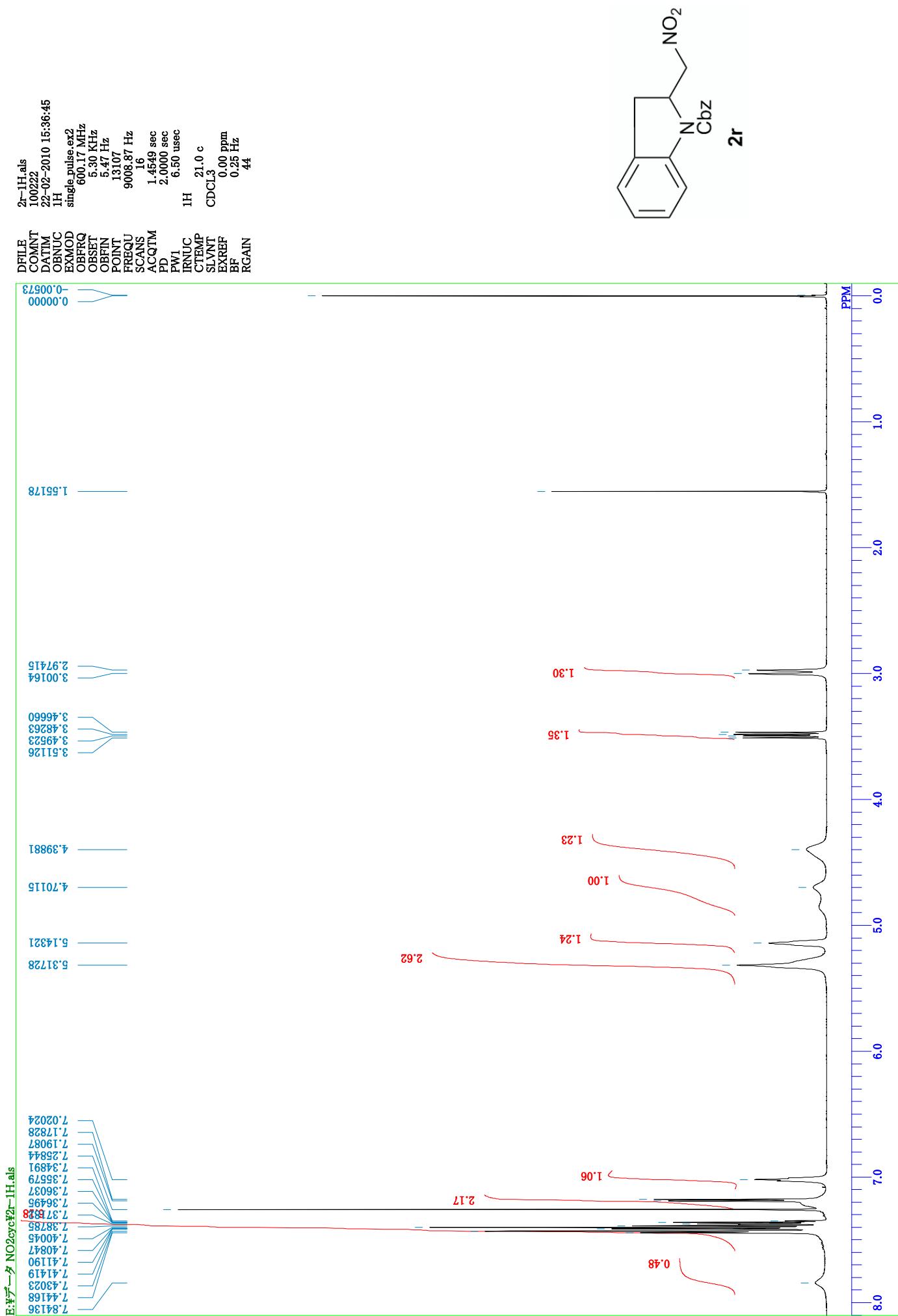


100226

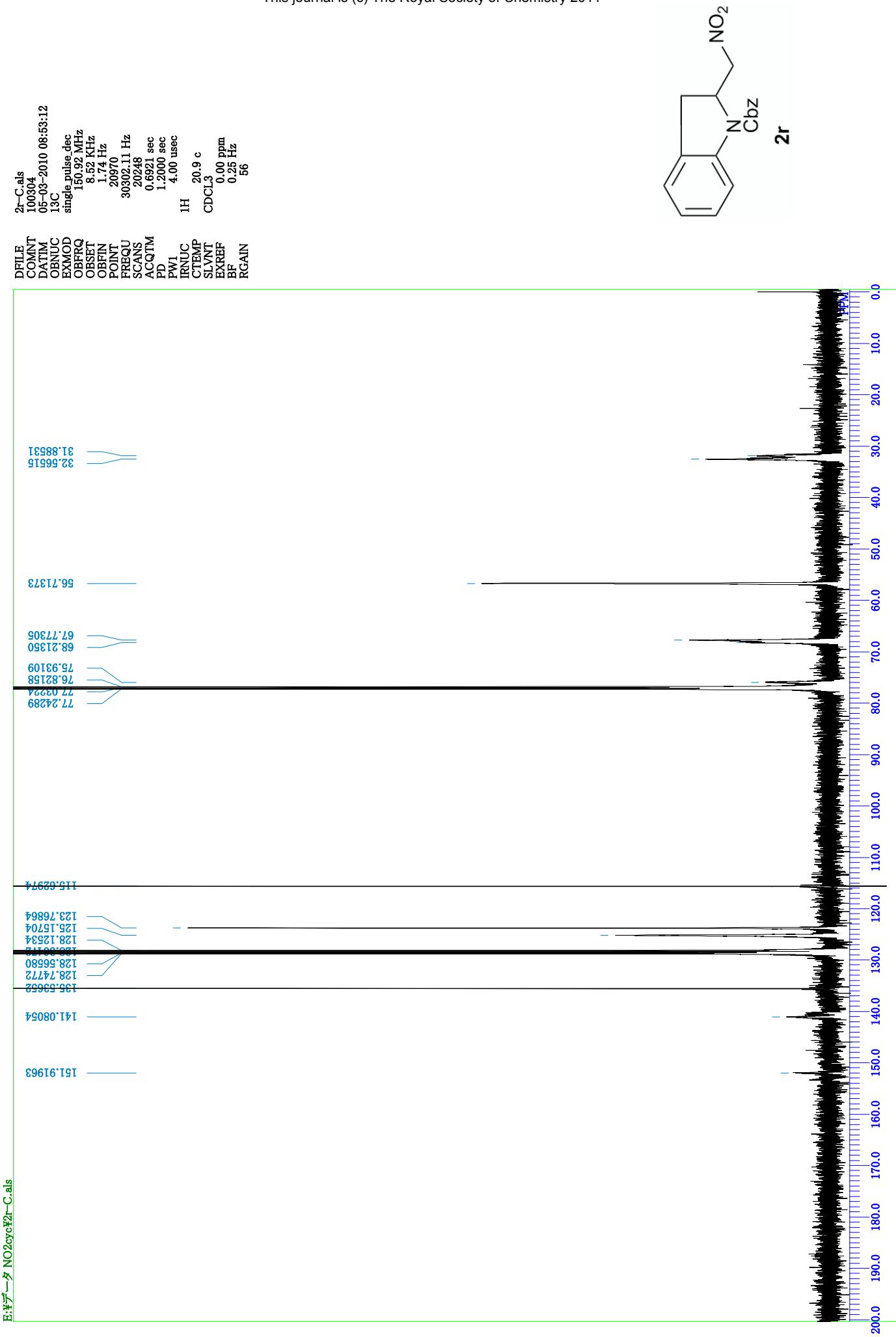


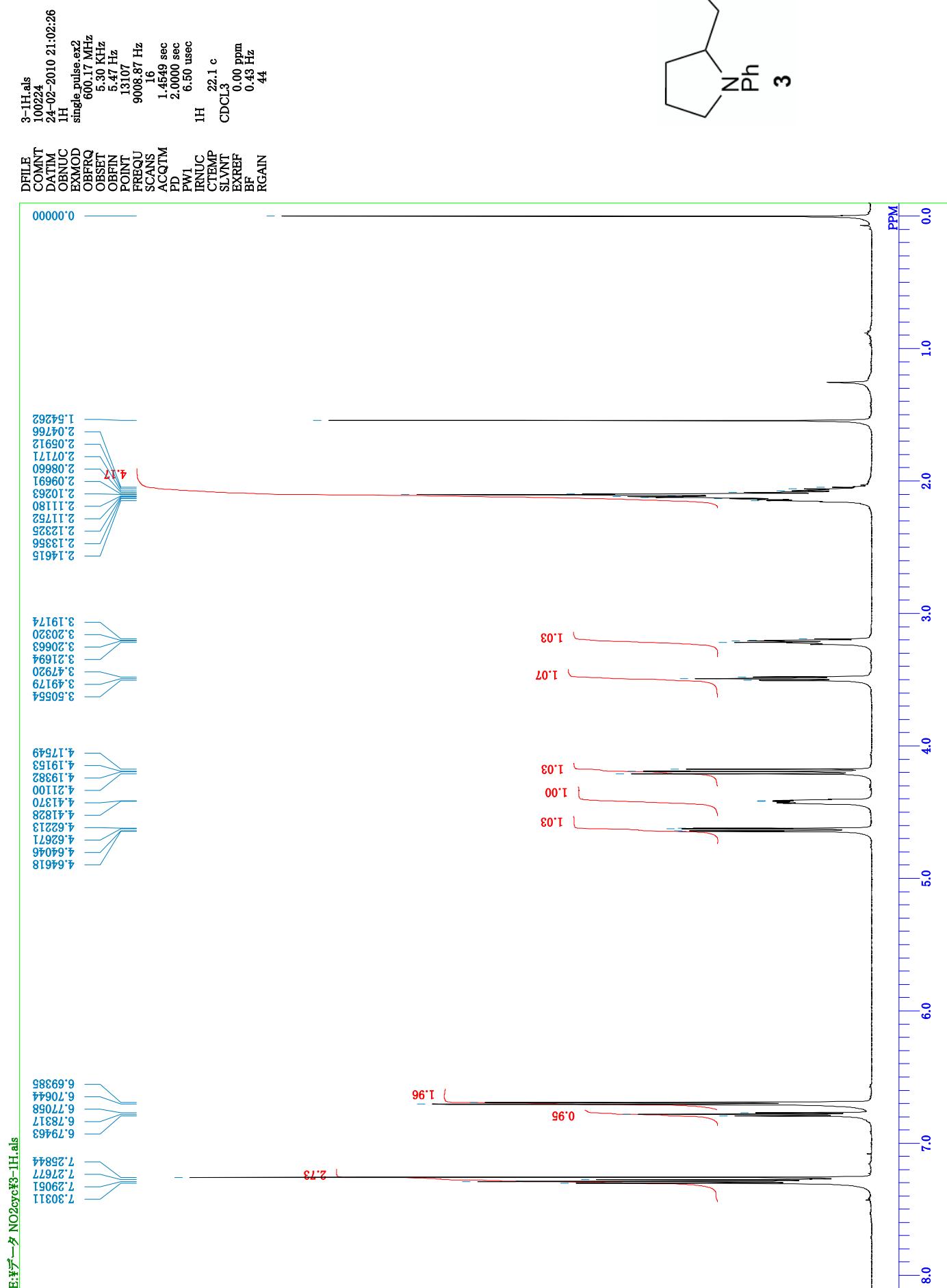
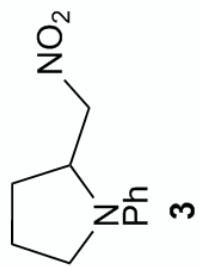


100222



100304





100222

E:\Y\#→→ NO2cycF3-C.als

3-C.als  
100222  
22-02-2010 15:31:13  
13C  
single pulse dec  
150.92 MHz  
8.52 kHz  
0.74 Hz  
26214  
37878.21 Hz  
258  
0.6921 sec  
1.2000 sec  
4.00 usec  
1H  
CDCl<sub>3</sub>  
77.00 ppm  
0.25 Hz  
66  
ACQTM  
OBPNM  
OBPTN  
POINT  
PREQU  
SCANS  
PD  
FW1  
IRNUC  
CTEMP  
SLVNT  
EXREF  
BF  
RGAIN

