

# Asymmetric Formal Synthesis of (+)- Catharanthine via Desymmetrization of Isoquinuclidine

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## *Table of Contents*

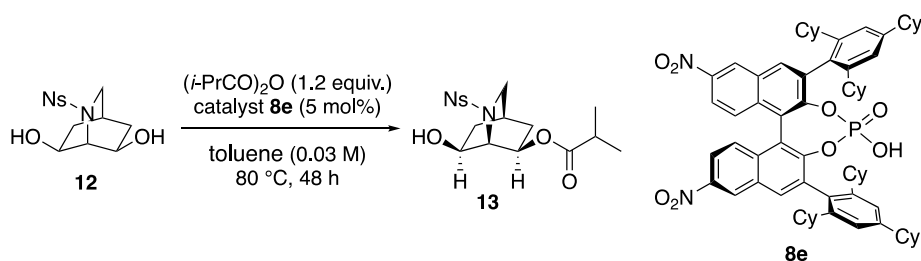
1. <a href="#">General Information</a> .....	S3
2. <a href="#">Asymmetric Desymmetrization</a> .....	S4
3. <a href="#">Asymmetric Formal Synthesis of (+)-Catharanthine (Scheme 4)</a> .....	S6
4. <a href="#">Synthesis and Characterization of 3</a> .....	S14
5. <a href="#">Protecting-group Manipulation</a> .....	S19

## Supporting Information

6. <a href="#">Supplementary Data for Asymmetric Desymmetrization</a> .....	S22
7. <a href="#">Charts of <math>^1\text{H}</math>- and <math>^{13}\text{C}</math>-NMR Spectra</a> .....	S23
8. <a href="#">Chiral and Racemic HPLC Traces</a> .....	S44
9. <a href="#">References</a> .....	S45

1. [General Information](#)

NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL ecs 400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, were reported downfield from TMS (= 0 ppm) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, and br = broad), integration and coupling constants in Hz. For <sup>13</sup>C NMR, chemical shifts were reported in the scale relative to the solvent signal [CHCl<sub>3</sub> (77.0 ppm)] as an internal reference. ESI mass spectra were measured on JEOL AccuTOF LC-plus JMS-T100LP. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO P-1020 polarimeter. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR 230 Fourier transform infrared spectrophotometer, equipped with ATR (Smiths Detection, DuraSample IR II). The enantiomeric ratio (er) was determined by HPLC analysis. HPLC was performed on JASCO HPLC systems consisting of the following: pump, PU-980; detector, UV-970; column DAICEL CHIRALPAK AS-H, mobile phase, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH. Melting points were measured with a SIBATA NEL-270 melting point apparatus. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on Kieselgel 60F254, 0.25 mm thickness plates. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel 60 N (spherical, neutral 63-210 mesh). Reactions were conducted in dry solvent. Other reagents were purified by the usual methods. Catalysts **8d** and **8e** were prepared according to the reported procedure.<sup>1</sup>

2. [Asymmetric Desymmetrization](#)

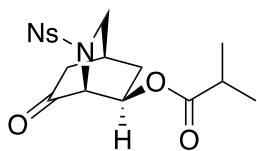
**(1*S*,4*R*,6*R*,7*S*)-7-Hydroxy-2-((2-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octan-6-yl isobutyrate (**13**)**

To a stirred solution of **12** (99 mg, 0.3 mmol) and (*S*)-3,3'-bis(2,4,6-tricyclohexylphenyl)-6,6'-dinitro-1,1'-binaphthyl phosphate **8e** (16.3 mg, 5 mol %, 0.015 mmol) in toluene (10 mL, 0.03 M) at room temperature was added isobutyric anhydride (6.3  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.2eq, 0.038 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 48 h. The reaction was quenched with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under vacuum. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 3/1  $\rightarrow$  1/2) to give **13** as colorless oil in 74% yield (89 mg):  $R_f$  = 0.2 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/2);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.08-1.11 (m, 6H), 1.39-1.43 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.57 (m, 1H), 1.94-2.03 (m, 2H), 2.13 (t,  $J$ =2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.33-2.38 (m, 1H), 2.60 (d, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dt,  $J$ = 2.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dt,  $J$ =2.4, 4.8Hz, 1H), 4.06-4.09 (m, 2H), 4.82 (ddd,  $J$ = 2.0, 2.4, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.68 (m,

## Supporting Information

2H), 8.07-8.10 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.6, 18.9, 25.3, 31.4, 33.8, 33.9, 49.1, 56.3, 66.2, 68.2, 123.7, 130.8, 131.6, 133.1, 133.2, 147.8, 176.7; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  3526, 2971, 1729, 1543, 1373, 1345, 1170, 1092, 1043, 991  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7\text{S}^+$   $m/z$  421.1047, found  $m/z$  421.1040;  $[\alpha]^{23.2}_{\text{D}} - 54.2$  ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).

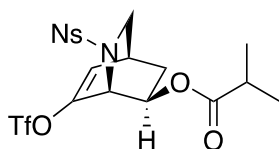
The enantiomeric ratio was determined to be 97:3 by analytical chiral HPLC. 48 min (minor), 67 min (major) (AS-H column, 75/25 *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm).

3. [Asymmetric Formal Synthesis of \(+\)-Catharanthine \(Scheme 4\)](#)**(1*R*,4*S*,6*R*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-7-oxo-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octan-6-yl isobutyrate (14)**

A solution of **13** (87.2 mg, 0.22 mmol) and Ac<sub>2</sub>O (0.31 mL, 15 eq, 3.3 mmol) in DMSO (4.4 mL, 0.05 M) was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, extracted with EtOAc, washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; *n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to give **14** as white solid in 84% yield (72.5 mg). The optical purity was increased to 99:1 er by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/EtOAc: mp 108–110 °C; *R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.2 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.12 (dd, *J* = 0.8, 2.8 Hz, 6H), 1.73 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.10–2.17 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.37 (m, 2H), 2.41–2.49 (m, 1H), 2.58 (s, 1H), 3.61–3.75 (m, 2H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.07–5.11 (m, 1H), 7.61–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.67–7.74 (m, 2H), 7.98–8.00 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 18.6, 18.8, 27.7, 32.4, 33.8, 41.6, 48.1, 59.7, 67.6, 124.1, 131.1, 131.9, 132.4, 133.9, 147.8, 176.0, 202.8; IR (ATR) ν 2974, 1732, 1540, 1470, 1352, 1146, 1128, 1078, 936, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) [*M* + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd

for  $C_{17}H_{20}N_2NaO_7S^+$   $m/z$  419.0879, found 419.0883;  $[\alpha]^{22.4}_D - 15.1$  ( $c$  1.0,  $CHCl_3$ ).

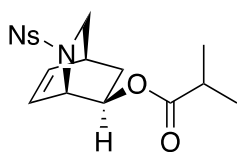
The enantiomeric ratio was determined to be 99:1 by analytical chiral HPLC. 28 min (minor), 36 min (major) (AS-H column, 70/30 *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm).



**(1*R*,4*S*,6*R*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-7-(((trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)oxy)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-7-en-6-yl isobutyrate (15)**

To a stirred solution of **14** (92 mg, 0.23 mmol) in THF (4.6 mL, 0.05 M) was added KHMDS (0.5 M solution in toluene) (0.51 mL, 1.1 eq, 0.25 mmol) at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at the same temperature. Then  $\text{PhNTf}_2$  (90.4 mg, 1.1 eq, 0.25 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , extracted with EtOAc, washed with water and brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 3/1  $\rightarrow$  1/1) to give **15** as white solid in 86% yield (106 mg): mp  $80\text{--}82\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $R_f = 0.5$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.14 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H), 1.50 (ddd,  $J = 12.0, 2.8, 2.0$

Hz, 1H), 2.12 (m, 1H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 3.07 (ddd,  $J = 7.2, 2.8, 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.14 (m, 1H), 3.64 (dd,  $J = 9.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.87 (dd,  $J = 2.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.95 (ddd,  $J = 9.6, 3.2, 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.22 (dd,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.6, 18.8, 29.6, 30.8, 33.8, 47.6, 54.8, 70.5, 118.4 (q,  $J = 320.4$  Hz), 122.1, 124.2, 130.7, 131.8, 132.2, 133.8, 147.0, 148.1, 176.6; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  2925, 1734, 1655, 1544, 1423, 1370, 1246, 1211, 1172, 1133  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_9\text{S}_2^+$   $m/z$  551.0382, found 551.0372;  $[\alpha]^{22.1}_{\text{D}} - 30.7$  ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).

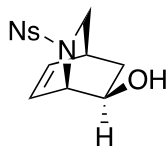


**(1*S*,4*S*,6*R*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-7-en-6-yl isobutyrate (16)**

To a stirred solution of **15** (106 mg, 0.2 mmol) and  $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$  (14.0 mg, 10 mol%, 0.02 mmol) in DMF (2 mL, 0.1 M) were added  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.084 mL, 3 eq, 0.6 mmol) and  $\text{HCOOH}$  (0.015 mL, 2 eq, 0.4 mmol) at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 60 °C. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$ , washed with water and brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column



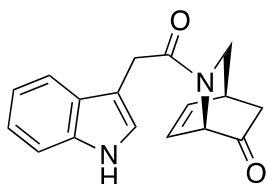
condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 3/1  $\rightarrow$  1/1) to give **16** as pale brown oil in 85% yield (65 mg):  $R_f$  = 0.4 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.16 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.17 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.44 (ddd,  $J$  = 14.0, 2.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (m, 1H), 2.51 (qq,  $J$  = 6.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (m, 1H), 2.96 (ddd,  $J$  = 9.2, 2.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (dd,  $J$  = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.68-4.74 (m, 2H), 6.37-6.42 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.96 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.77, 18.85, 28.9, 30.1, 34.0, 48.4, 52.1, 70.6, 124.1, 130.0, 130.8, 131.4, 132.8, 133.2, 135.9, 148.1, 176.9; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  2925, 1727, 1541, 1469, 1348, 1260, 1170, 1129, 1098, 1008  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_6\text{S}^+$   $m/z$  403.0940, found 403.0935;  $[\alpha]^{22.0}_{\text{D}}$  -14.6 ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).



**(1*S*,4*S*,6*R*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-7-en-6-ol (17)**

To a stirred solution of **16** (60.0 mg, 0.16 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.2 mL, 0.05 M) was added 2.5 N aqueous NaOH (0.19 mL, 3 eq, 0.48 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 h at 80 °C. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with EtOAc, washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition;

gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 1/1 → EtOAc) to give **17** as colorless oil in 90% yield (43.9 mg):  $R_f = 0.3$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/2);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.29 (ddd,  $J = 13.6, 2.8, 2.4$ , 1H), 1.96 (m, 1H), 2.38 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.78 (m, 1H), 3.10 (ddd,  $J = 9.2, 2.8, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dd,  $J = 9.2, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.82 (m, 1H), 4.42 (m, 1H), 6.31-6.39 (m, 2H), 7.60 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.73 (m, 2H), 8.02 (dd,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  30.3, 31.9, 48.9, 55.7, 68.9, 124.1, 130.0, 131.1, 131.5, 132.1, 133.6, 135.6, 148.1; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  3535, 2958, 1542, 1440, 1372, 1348, 1170, 1130, 1096, 1033  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_5\text{S}^+$   $m/z$  333.0521, found 333.0525;  $[\alpha]^{23.9}_{\text{D}} +8.5$  ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).



**(1*S*,4*S*)-2-(2-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)acetyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-7-en-6-one (18)**

A solution of **17** (43.9 mg, 0.14 mmol) and  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (0.2 mL, 15 eq, 2.1 mmol) in DMSO (2.8 mL, 0.05 M) was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with EtOAc, washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude ketone was used for the next step without further purification.

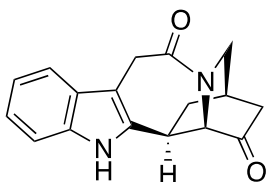
## Supporting Information

A solution of the crude ketone obtained above,  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$  (136.8 mg, 3 eq, 0.42 mmol) and MetSThiol<sup>®</sup> (1.24 mmol/g) (451.6 mg, 4 eq, 0.56 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (14 mL, 0.01 M) was stirred for 18 h at 80 °C. The reaction mixture was filtered through celite and concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude secondary amine which was used for the next step without further purification.

To a stirred solution of the crude amine, indole-3-acetic acid (49.1 mg, 2 eq, 0.28 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (14 mL, 0.01 M) were added  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.098 mL, 5 eq, 0.7 mmol) and EDCI (53.7 mg, 2 eq, 0.28 mmol) at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 1/1  $\rightarrow$  1/2) to give **18** as colorless oil in 47% yield (3 steps, 18.7 mg):  $R_f$  = 0.2 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/2);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) (mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  2.03-2.23 (m, 4H), 3.12 (m, 1H), 3.16 (m, 1H), 3.26 (d,  $J$  = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (ddd,  $J$  = 9.2, 2.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (dd,  $J$  = 9.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd,  $J$  = 11.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 3.82 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (m, 1H), 6.40 (m, 1H), 6.58-6.66 (m, 2H), 6.97-7.02 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (br s, 1H), 8.40 (br s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

(mixture of rotamers)  $\delta$  31.7 (2C), 32.2, 32.5, 36.5, 36.6, 46.3, 47.0, 55.6, 60.1, 108.1, 108.6, 111.2, 111.3, 118.3, 118.8, 119.55, 119.65, 122.1, 122.2, 122.60, 122.64, 127.0, 127.1, 127.2, 128.5, 136.1, 136.2, 139.0, 140.2, 170.5, 170.7, 202.58, 202.60; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  3281, 2925, 1729, 1631, 1457, 1406, 1339, 1317, 1271, 1227  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2^+$   $m/z$  303.1110, found 303.1111.

At this stage, optical rotation was compared with that of the known intermediate of (+)-catharanthine, and it turned out that our compound has the same absolute configuration of (+)-catharanthine:  $[\alpha]^{22.9}_{\text{D}} - 85.4$  ( $c$  1.0,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) (reported;  $[\alpha]^{20}_{\text{D}} - 61$  ( $c$  1.2,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ )<sup>2</sup>).



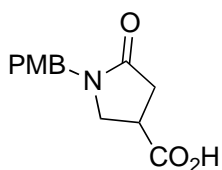
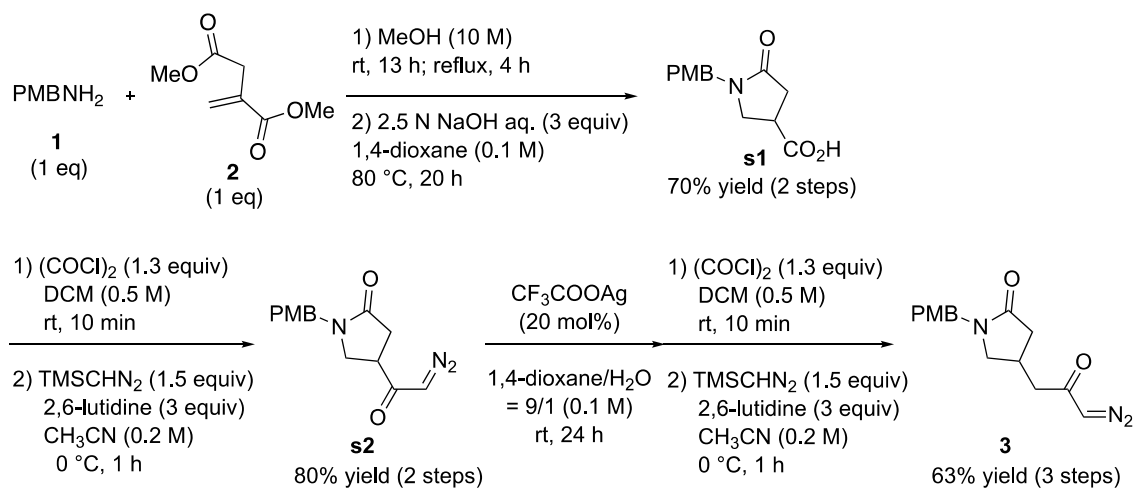
**(6*S*,6a*R*,9*R*,11*R*)-5,6,6a,9,10,13-Hexahydro-12*H*-6,9-methanopyrido[1',2':1,2]azepino[4,5-*b*]indole-7,12(8*H*)-dione (19)**

To a suspension of  $(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_2\text{PdCl}_2$  (10.1 mg, 1.3 eq, 0.04 mmol) and  $\text{AgBF}_4$  (8.2 mg, 1.4 eq, 0.042 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (0.5 mL) was added a solution of **18** (8.2 mg, 0.03 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (1 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and 18 h at 70 °C. The reaction was then cooled down to 0 °C, and MeOH (0.3 mL) was added followed by  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (3.6 mg, 3.2

eq, 0.1 mmol). The reaction mixture was filtered through celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 1/1 → EtOAc) to give **19** as white solid in quantitative yield (8.2 mg).

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and other data are identical to those reported<sup>3</sup> (NMR charts are given in the spectra section).

We found that the compound **19** is unstable under the reported measurement condition (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH mix solvent, ([α]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> = 102.2 (*c* 0.59, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 1:1))<sup>3</sup>). Therefore, we measured the optical rotation of **19** in another solvent: [α]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> = 55.8 (*c* 0.23, DMSO) .

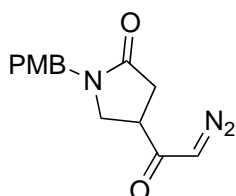
4. [Synthesis and Characterization of 3](#)1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-5-oxopyrrolidine-3-carboxylic acid (**s1**)

A solution of dimethyl itaconate (7.1 mL, 50 mmol) and PMBNH<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mL, 1 eq, 50 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL, 10 M) was stirred for 13 h at room temperature and then refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was used for the next step without further purification.

To a stirred solution of the crude product obtained above in 1,4-dioxane (250 mL, 0.2 M) was added 2.5 N aqueous NaOH (60 mL, 3 eq, 150 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 24 h at 80 °C. The reaction mixture was

cooled down to room temperature, concentrated under reduced pressure to remove 1,4-dioxane. The water layer was washed with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , acidified with 1 N aqueous  $\text{KHSO}_4$ , and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer of EtOAc was washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , concentrated under reduced pressure to give white precipitate. The precipitate was washed with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  to give pure **s1** as white powder in 70% yield (2 steps, 8.7 g).

Compound data was identical to those reported.<sup>4</sup>

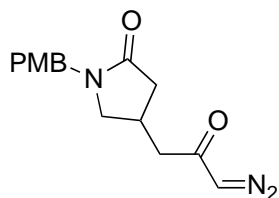


#### 4-(2-Diazoacetyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (**s2**)

To a stirred solution of **s1** (2.5 g, 10 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (20 mL, 0.5 M) was added  $(\text{COCl})_2$  (1.1 mL, 1.3 eq, 13 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude acid chloride which was used for the next step without further purification.

To a stirred solution of the crude acid chloride in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (50 mL, 0.2 M) were added 2,6-lutidine (3.5 mL, 3 eq, 30 mmol) and  $\text{TMSCHN}_2$  (2.0 M in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ) (7.5 mL, 1.5 eq, 15 mmol) at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated

under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/EtOAc 1/2 → EtOAc → EtOAc/MeOH 20/1) to give **s2** as brown oil in 80% yield (2 steps, 2.2 g):  $R_f$  = 0.1 (EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.58-2.77 (m, 2H), 3.12 (m, 1H), 3.36 (dd,  $J$  = 10.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (dd,  $J$  = 10.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.32 (d,  $J$  = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d,  $J$  = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  34.2, 40.8, 45.9, 48.1, 54.7, 55.2, 114.1, 127.9, 129.4, 159.1, 171.9, 192.9; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  2933, 2103, 1678, 1634, 1585, 1511, 1419, 1373, 1318, 1302  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{NaO}_3^+$   $m/z$  296.1011, found  $m/z$  296.1009.



#### 4-(2-Diazoacetyl)-1-(4-methoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (**3**)

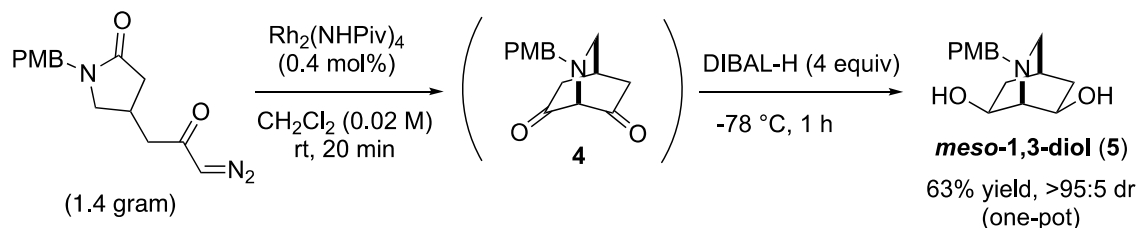
To a stirred solution of **s2** (2.2 g, 8.0 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (72 mL) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (8 mL) was added  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOAg}$  (353 mg, 20 mol%, 1.6 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 14 h at room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure to remove 1,4-dioxane. EtOAc and 1 N aqueous HCl were successively added to the reaction mixture, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layer was washed with brine,



dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude carboxylic acid which was used for the next step without further purification. To a stirred suspension of the crude carboxylic acid (1.8 g, 6.8 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (14 mL, 0.5 M) was added  $(\text{COCl})_2$  (0.76 mL, 1.3 eq, 8.8 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude acid chloride which was used for the next step without further purification.

To a stirred solution of the crude acid chloride in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (34 mL, 0.2 M) were added 2,6-lutidine (2.4 mL, 3 eq, 20 mmol) and  $\text{TMSCHN}_2$  (2.0 M in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ) (5.1 mL, 1.5 eq, 10 mmol) at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , washed with brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: *n*-hexane/ $\text{EtOAc}$  1/2  $\rightarrow$   $\text{EtOAc}$   $\rightarrow$   $\text{EtOAc}/\text{MeOH}$  20/1) to give **3** as brown oil in 63% yield (3 steps, 1.4 g).

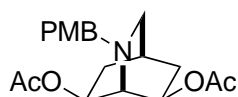
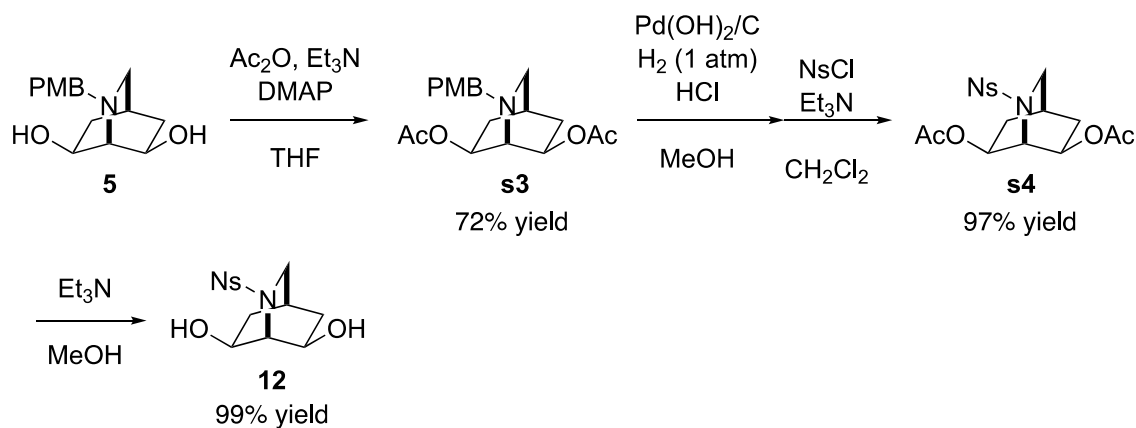
$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, IR, and MS were identical to those reported.<sup>5</sup>



**(1*S*,4*R*,6*R*,7*S*)-2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octane-6,7-diol (5)**

To a stirred solution of Rh<sub>2</sub>(NHPiv)<sub>4</sub> (12 mg, 0.4 mol%, 0.02 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (240 mL) was added **3** (1.4 g, 5.0 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min at room temperature. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to −78 °C, and DIBAL-H (1.02 M in hexane) (20 mL, 4 eq, 20 mmol) was added. After being stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, the reaction was quenched with 2 M aqueous Rochelle salt, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated under reduced pressure, and purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; gradient elution: CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 15/1 → 5/1) to give **5** as pale yellow powder in 63% yield (2 steps, 822 mg).

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR, and MS were identical to those reported.<sup>5</sup>

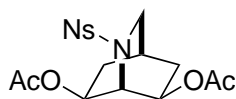
5. Protecting-group Manipulation

(1*S*,4*R*,6*R*,7*S*)-2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octane-6,7-diyl

diacetate (**s3**)

To a stirred solution of **5** (753 mg, 2.9 mmol), DMAP (35.4 mg, 10 mol%, 0.29 mmol) and triethylamine (0.9 mL, 2.2 eq, 6.4 mmol) in THF (29 mL, 0.1 M) at 0 °C was added acetic anhydride (0.6 mL, 2.2 eq, 6.4 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and then concentrated under vacuum. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; *n*-hexane/EtOAc, 3/1) to give **s3** as colorless oil in 72% yield (712 mg).

$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, IR, and MS were identical to those reported.<sup>5</sup>

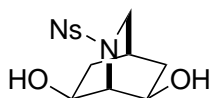


**(1*S*,4*R*,6*R*,7*S*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octane-6,7-diyl diacetate (**s4**)**

To a suspension of **s3** (534 mg, 1.54 mmol) and 20% Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C (100 mg) in MeOH (30 mL, 0.05 M) was added 2 N HCl in MeOH (1.54 mL, 2 eq, 3.1 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 13 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was used for the next step without further purification.

To a stirred solution of the crude product in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL, 0.05 M) was added NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.86 mL, 4 eq, 6.12 mmol) at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min at 0 °C. Then NsCl (409 mg, 1.2 eq, 1.83 mmol) was added and the resulting mixture was stirred for 5 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, extracted with EtOAc, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; *n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/1) to give **s4** as colorless oil in 97% yield (612 mg): *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.3 (*n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.57 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 12.4 Hz, 2H), 1.81 (s, 6H), 2.05-2.11 (m, 2H), 2.18-2.20 (m, 1H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 4.16 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (dt, *J* = 2.0, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.71 (m, 3H),

8.03-8.05 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  20.7, 25.1, 31.3, 49.1, 52.7, 68.0, 123.6, 130.8, 131.4, 133.1, 133.8, 147.8, 170.1; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  2942, 1736, 1541, 1438, 1353, 1223, 1170, 1025, 942, 749  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_8\text{S}^+$   $m/z$  435.0832, found  $m/z$  435.0833.

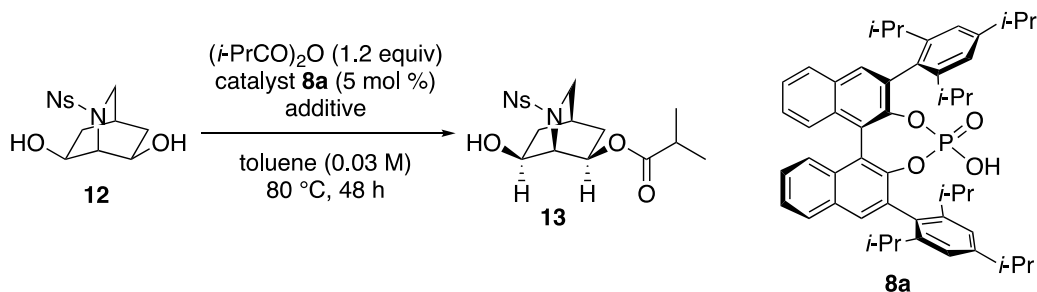


**(1*S*,4*R*,6*R*,7*S*)-2-((2-Nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octane-6,7-diol**  
**(12)**

A solution of **s4** (630 mg, 1.53 mmol) and  $\text{NEt}_3$  (1.1 mL, 5 eq, 7.6 mmol) in MeOH (30 mL, 0.05 M) was stirred at 60 °C. After 13 h, the reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (column condition; *n*-hexane/EtOAc, 1/2) to give **12** as white powder in 99% yield (502 mg):  $R_f$  = 0.2 (EtOAc);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.43 (dd,  $J$ =2.8, 12.4 Hz, 2H), 1.92-1.98 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.12 (m, 1H), 2.36 (br, 2H), 3.54 (dd,  $J$ =0.8, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (t, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.93-3.96 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.73 (m, 2H), 8.08-8.11 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  26.4, 34.5, 50.1, 61.1, 66.8, 124.3, 131.7, 132.4, 133.6, 134.3, 149.2; IR (ATR)  $\nu$  1539, 1367, 1337, 1167, 1130, 1044, 1009, 942, 740, 631  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_6\text{S}^+$   $m/z$  351.0620, found  $m/z$  351.0621.

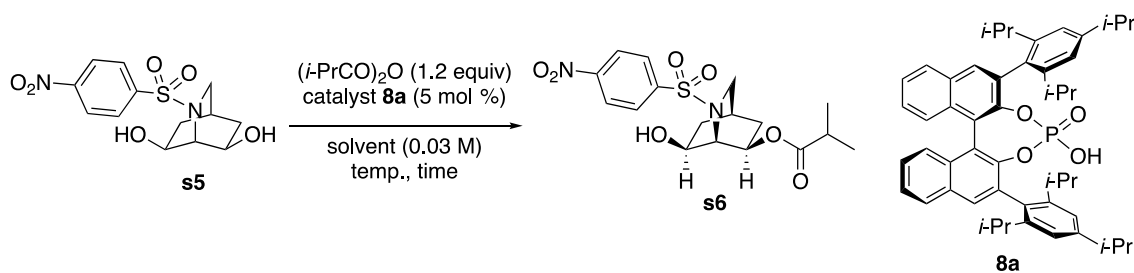
6. [Supplementary Data for Asymmetric Desymmetrization](#)

Table S1. An Additive Effect

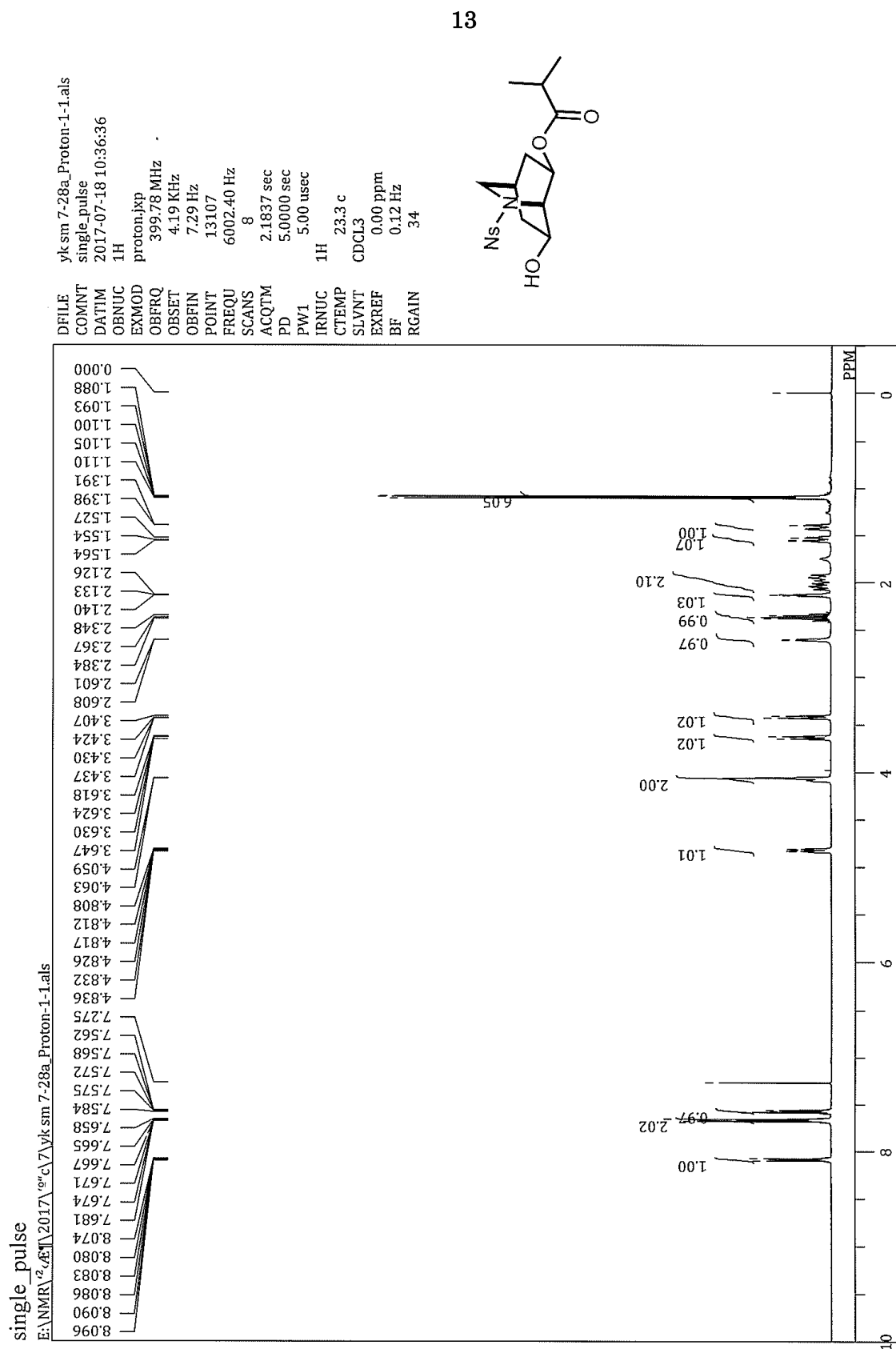


entry	additive	yield of <b>13</b> (%)	er
1	none	51	92:8
2	MS3A	35	52:48
3	MS4A	54	50:50
4	Benzoic acid (1.1 eq)	55	79:21
5	(+)-CSA (1.1 eq)	58	50:50
6	Isobutyric acid (1.1 eq)	41	82:18

CSA : 10-Camphorsulfonic acid

Table S2. Asymmetric Desymmetrization of **s5** possessing 4-Nitrobenzenesulfonyl Group

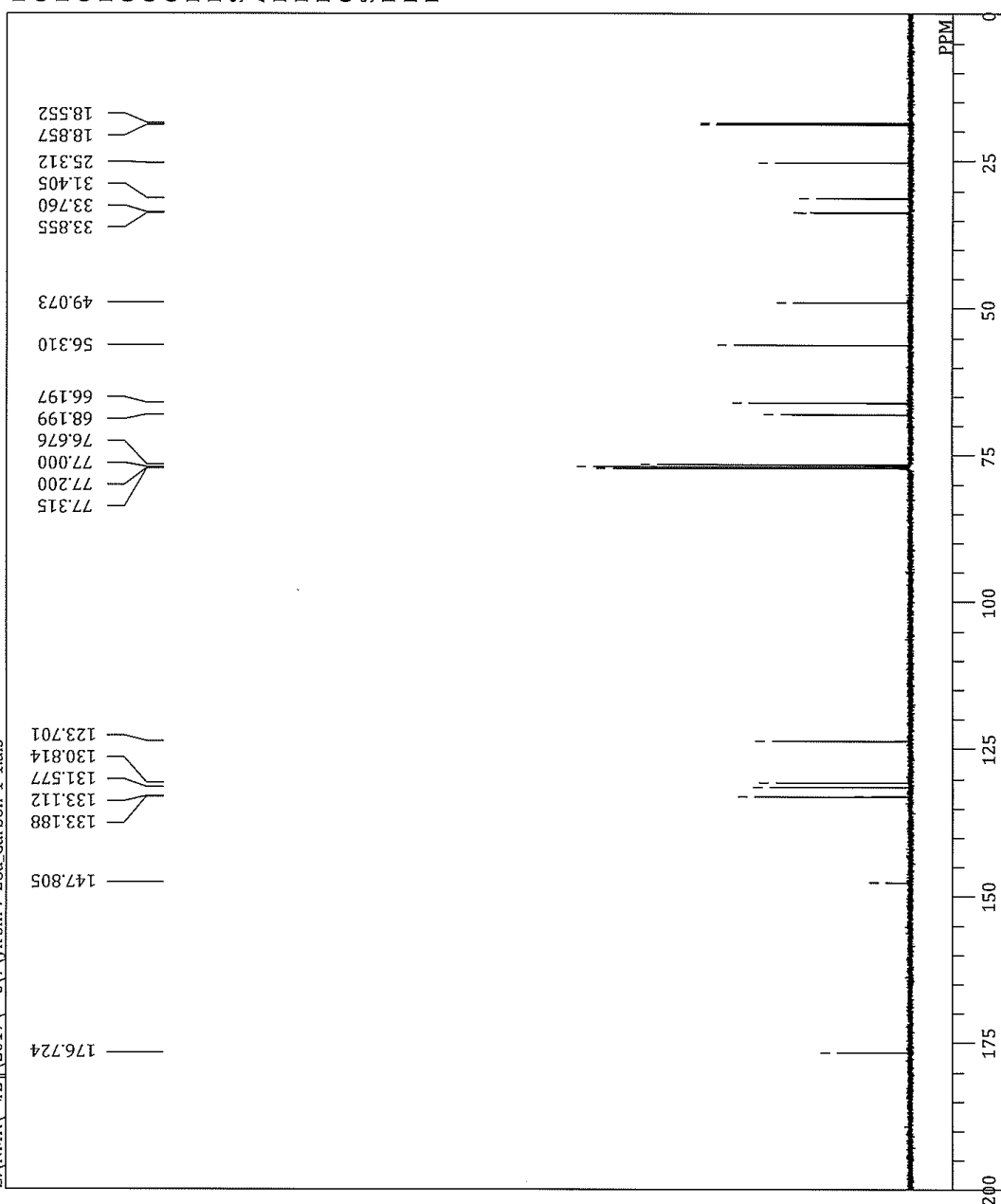
entry	solvent	temp.	time	yield of <b>s6</b> (%)	er
1	PhCl	80 °C	24 h	79	50:50
2	$\text{CHCl}_3$	50 °C	48 h	46	50:50
3	$\text{CHCl}_3$	rt	48 h	15	85:15

7. Charts of  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra

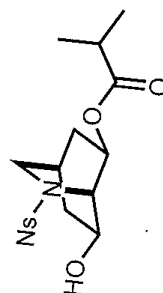
# Supporting Information

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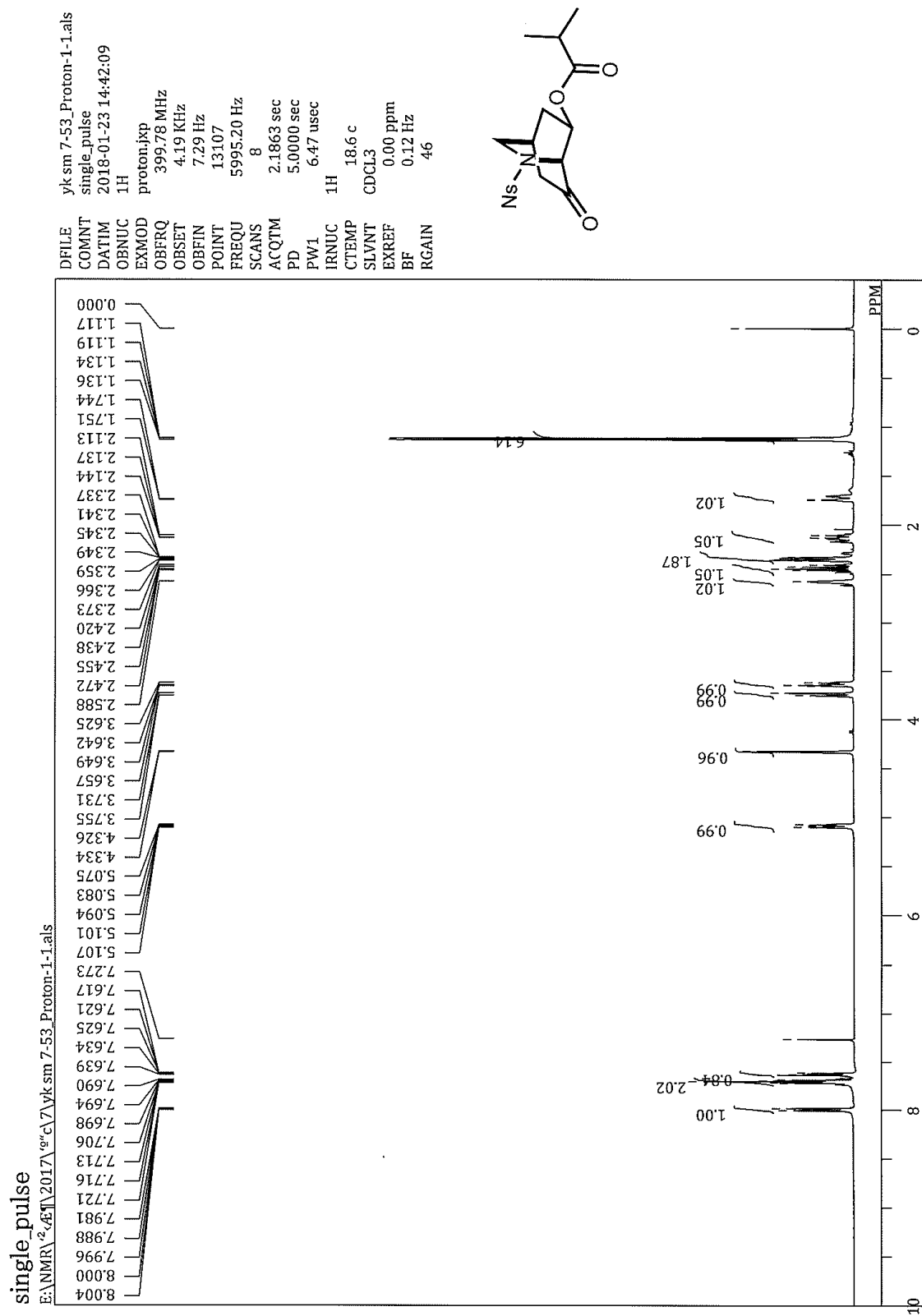


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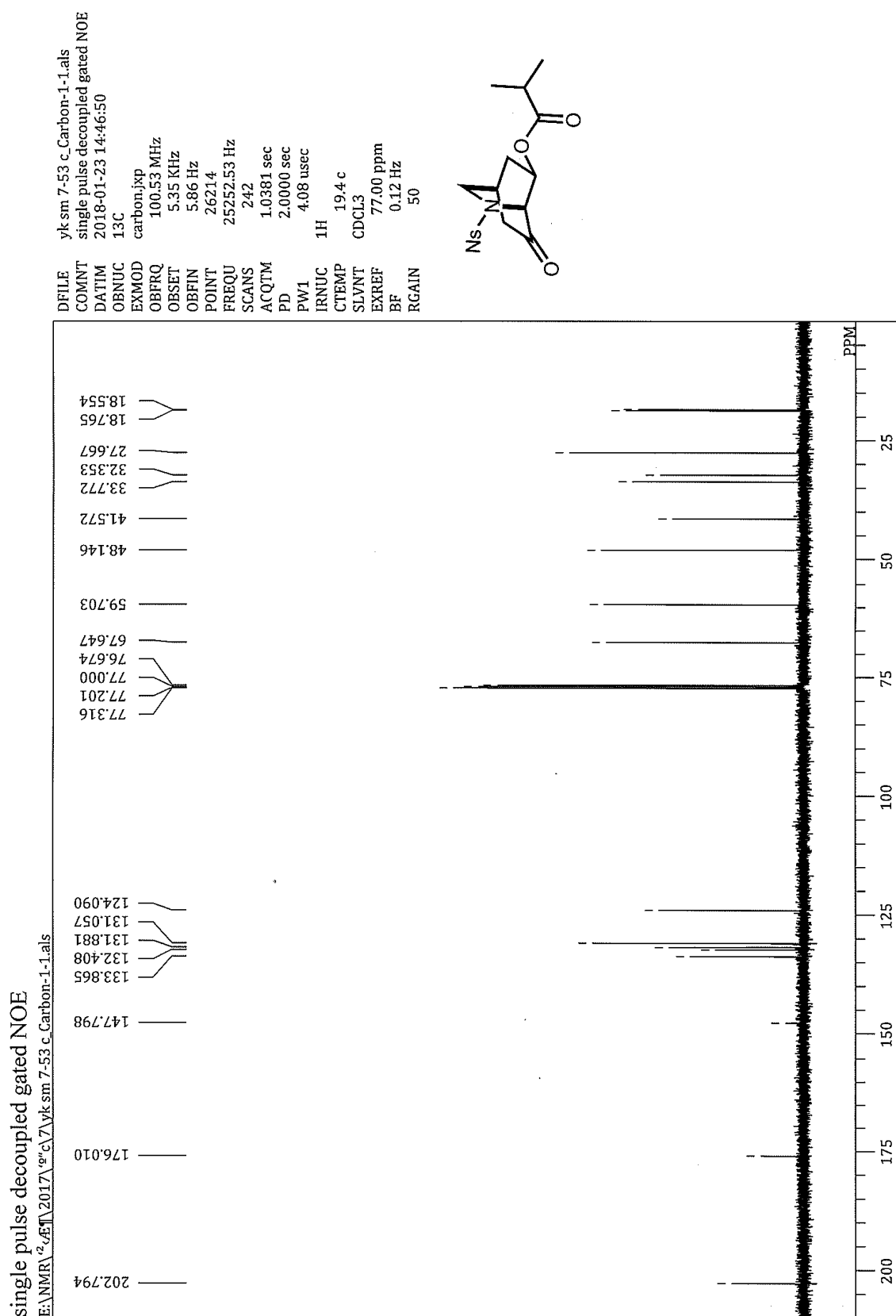




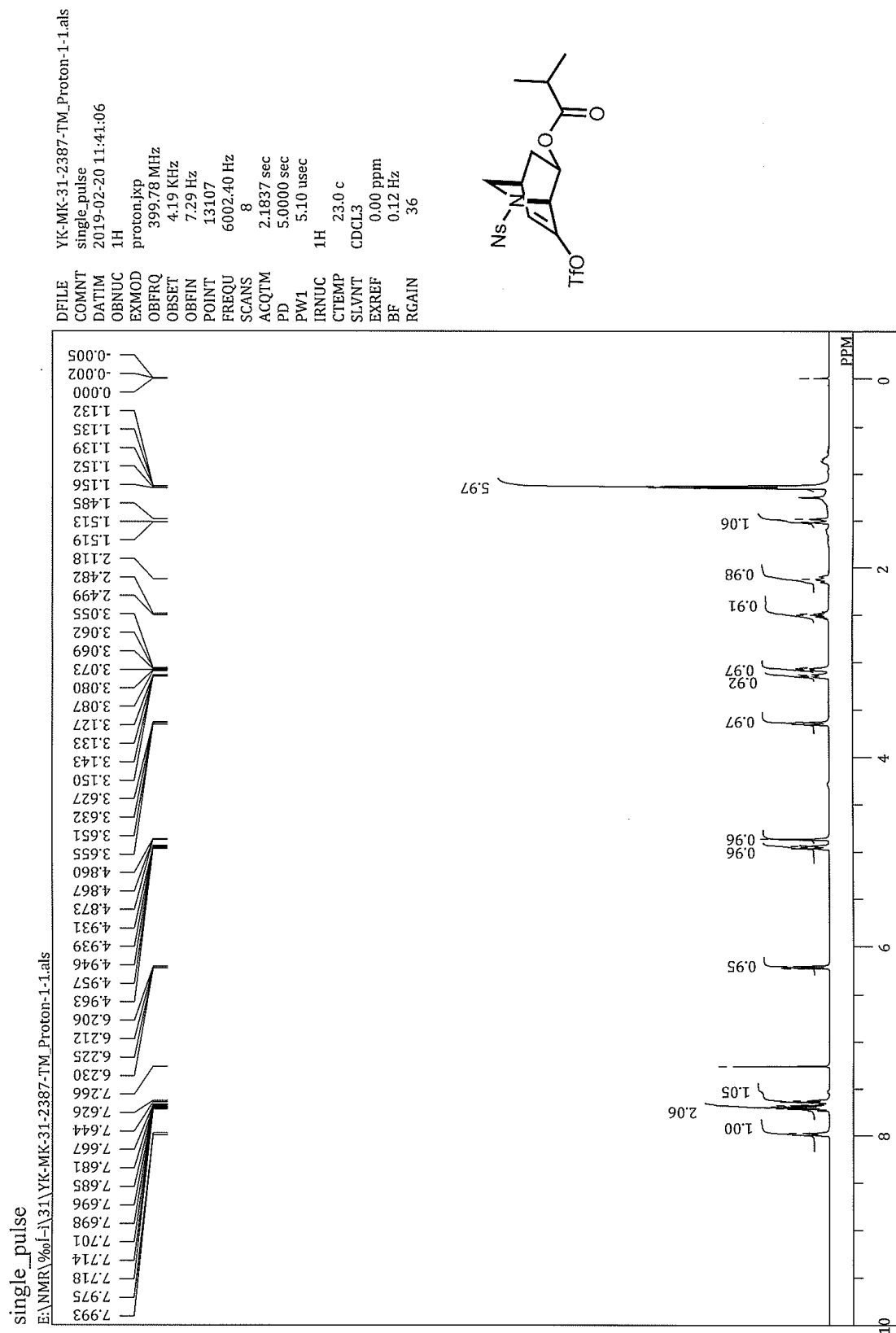
14



# Supporting Information



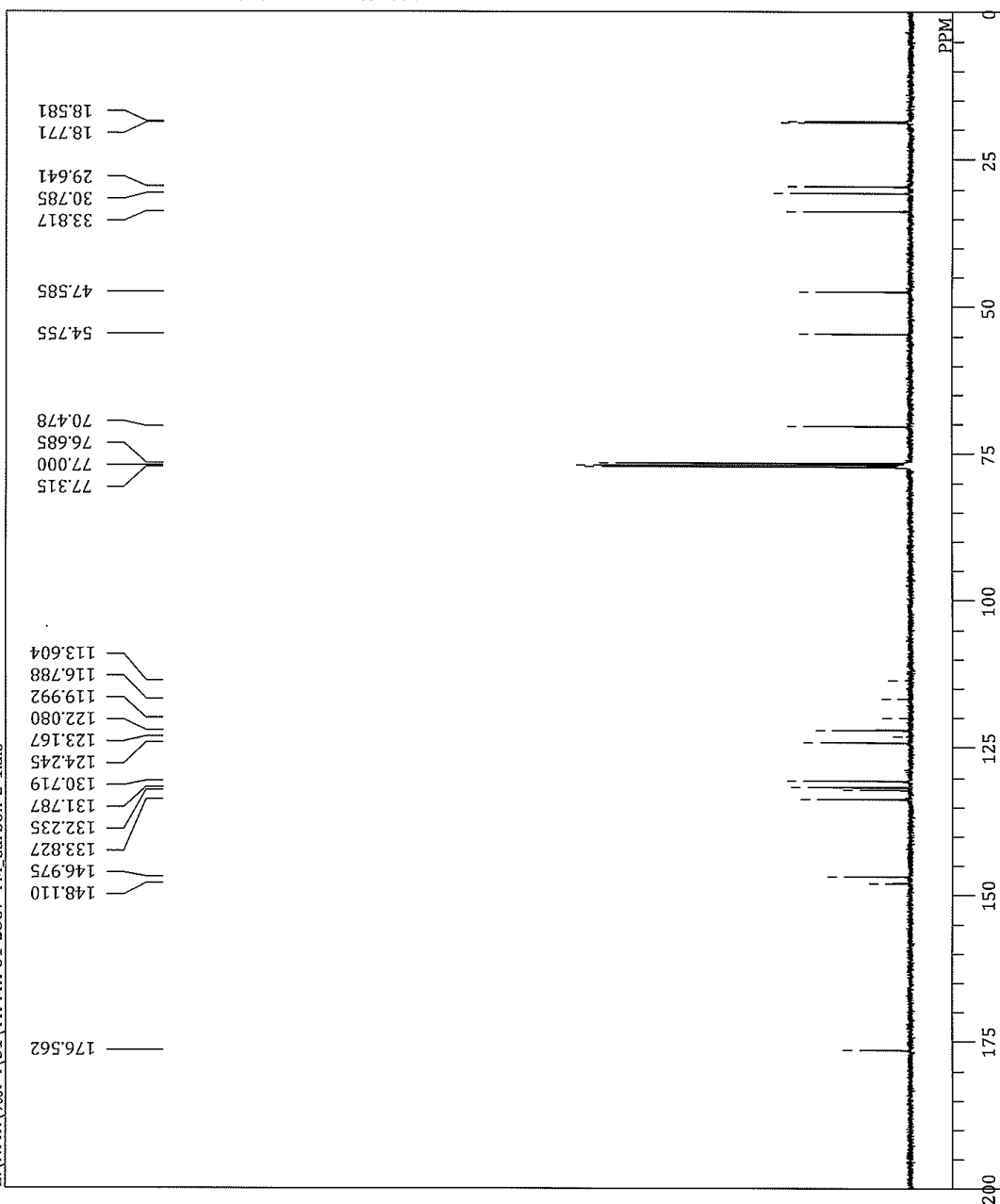
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# Supporting Information

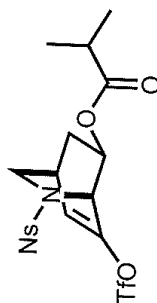
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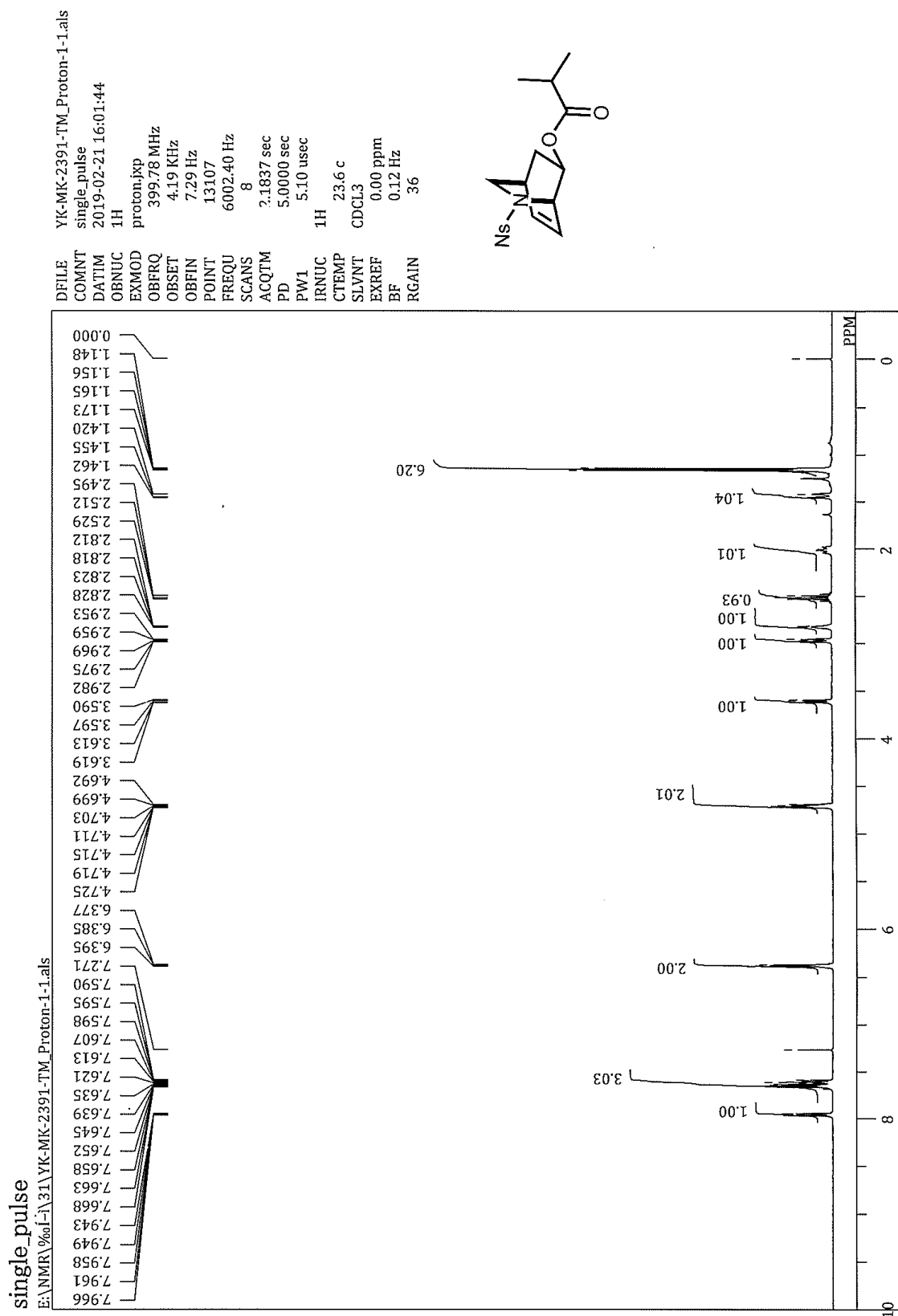


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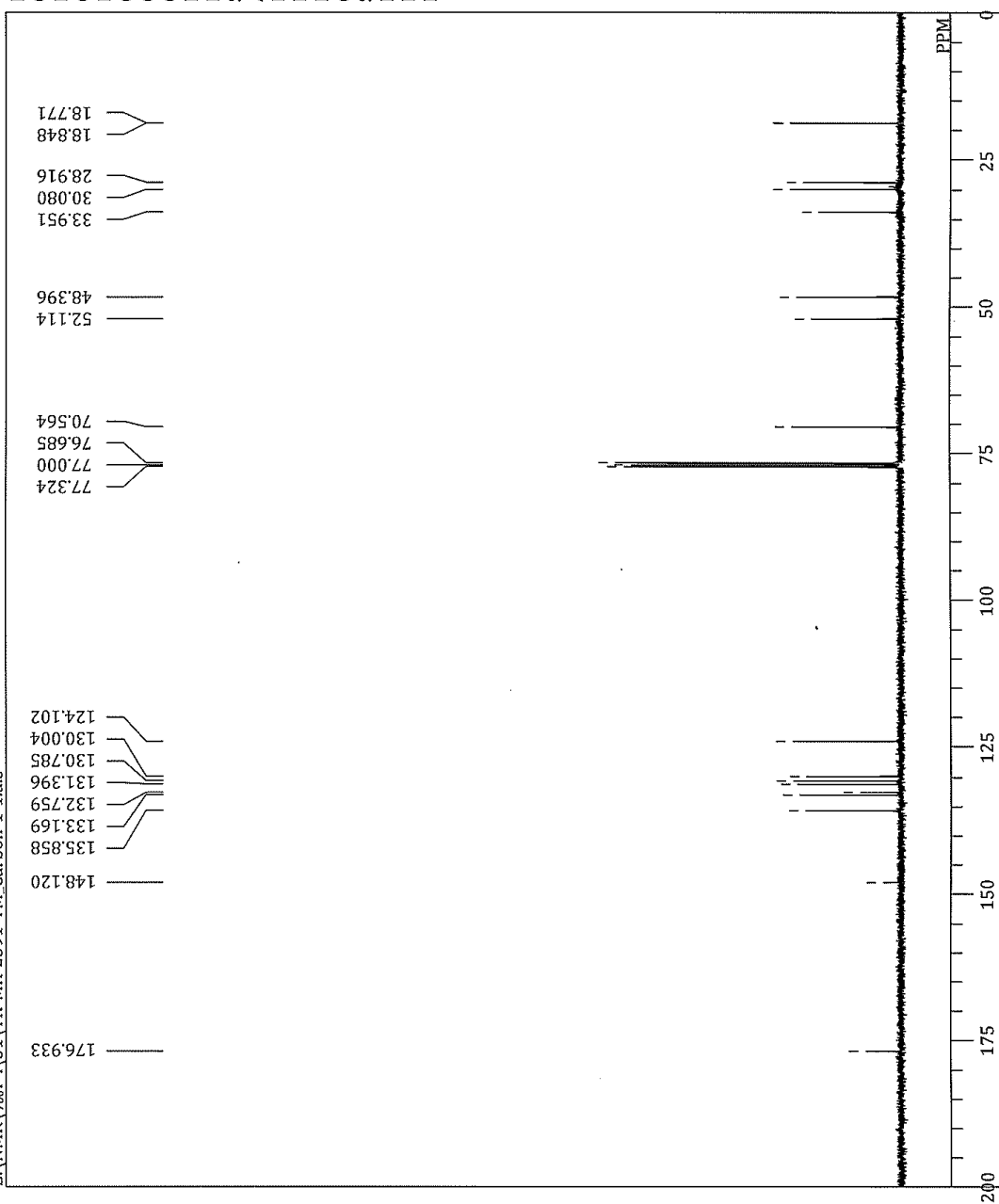
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# Supporting Information

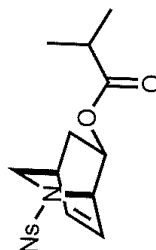
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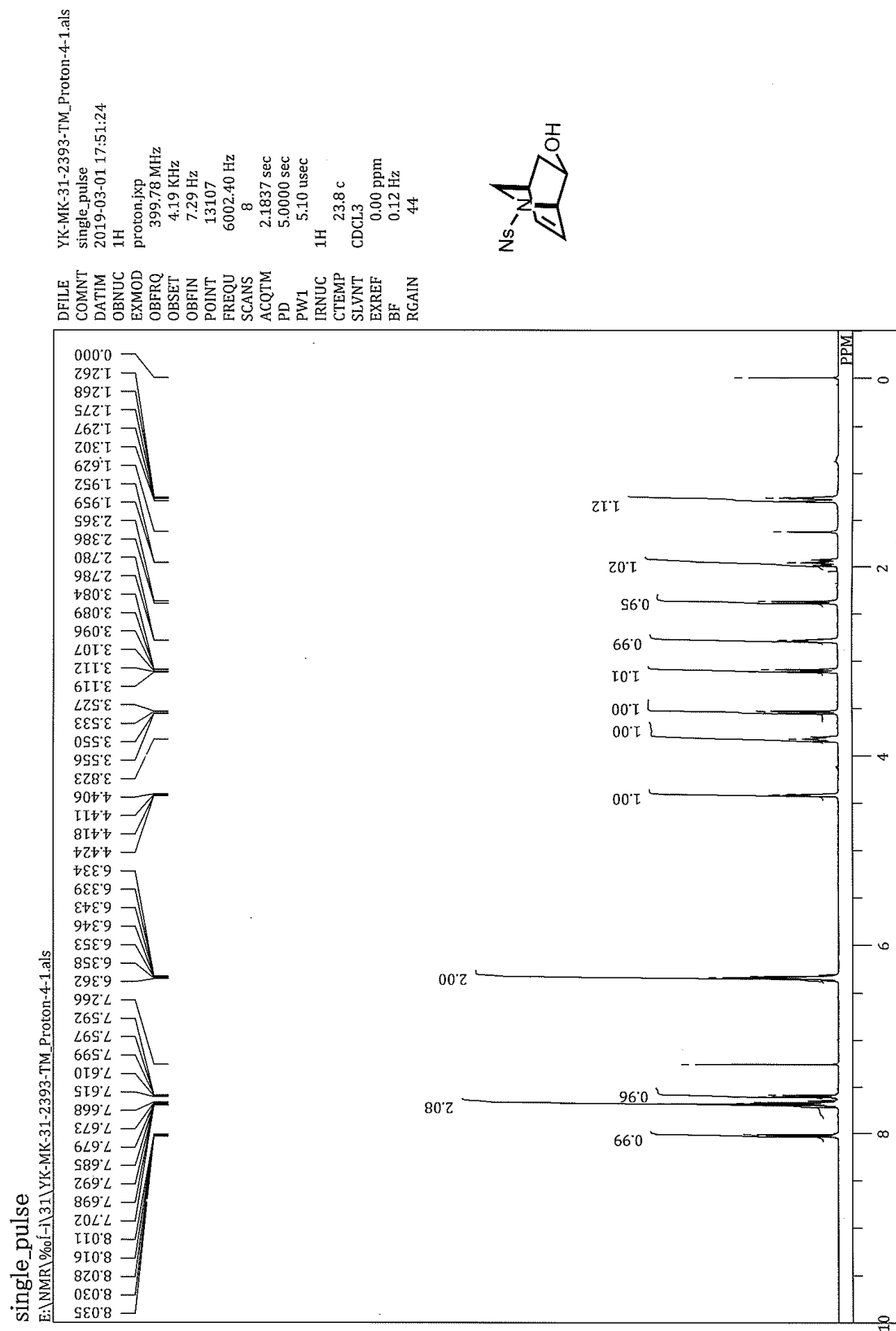


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17



# Supporting Information

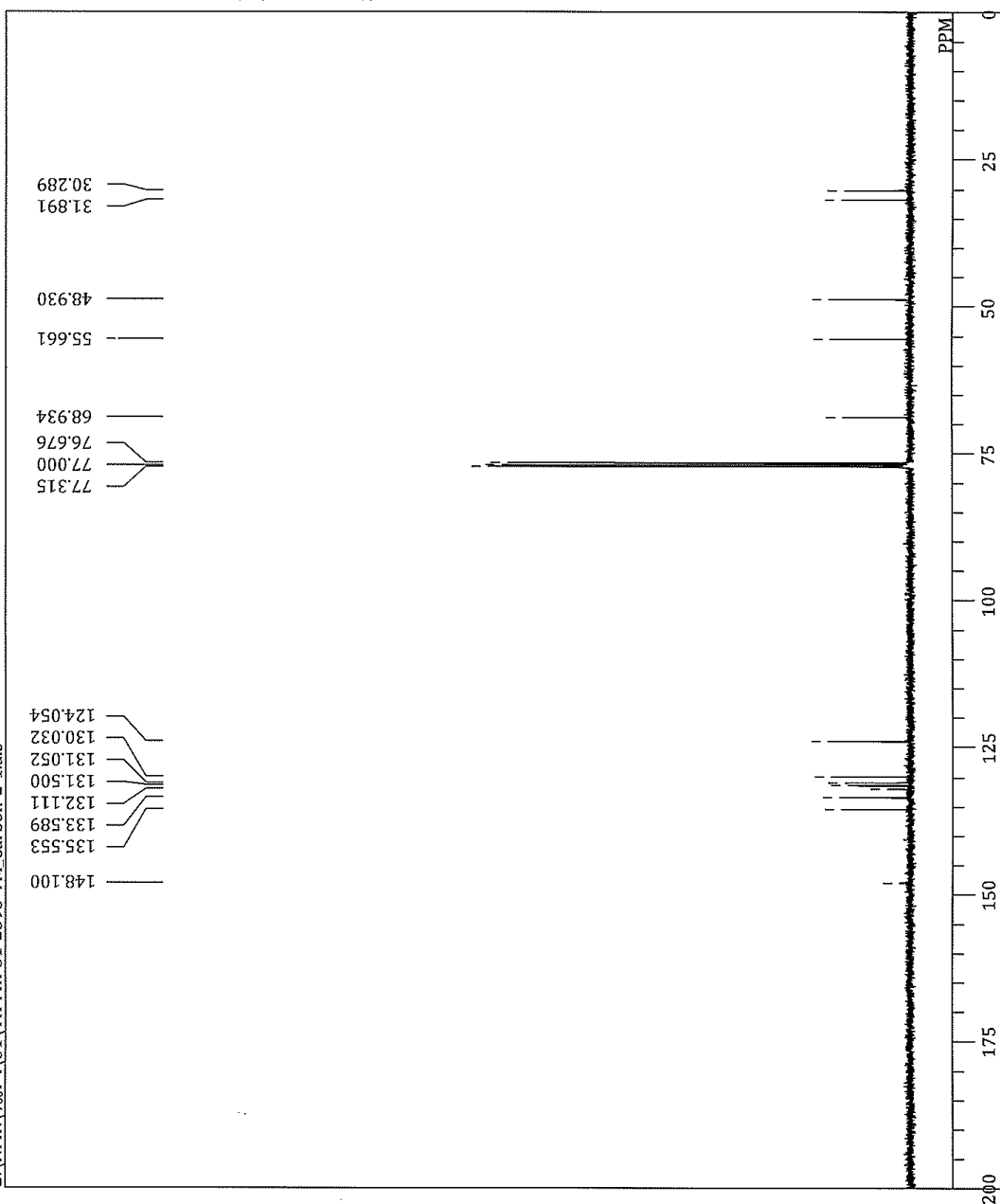
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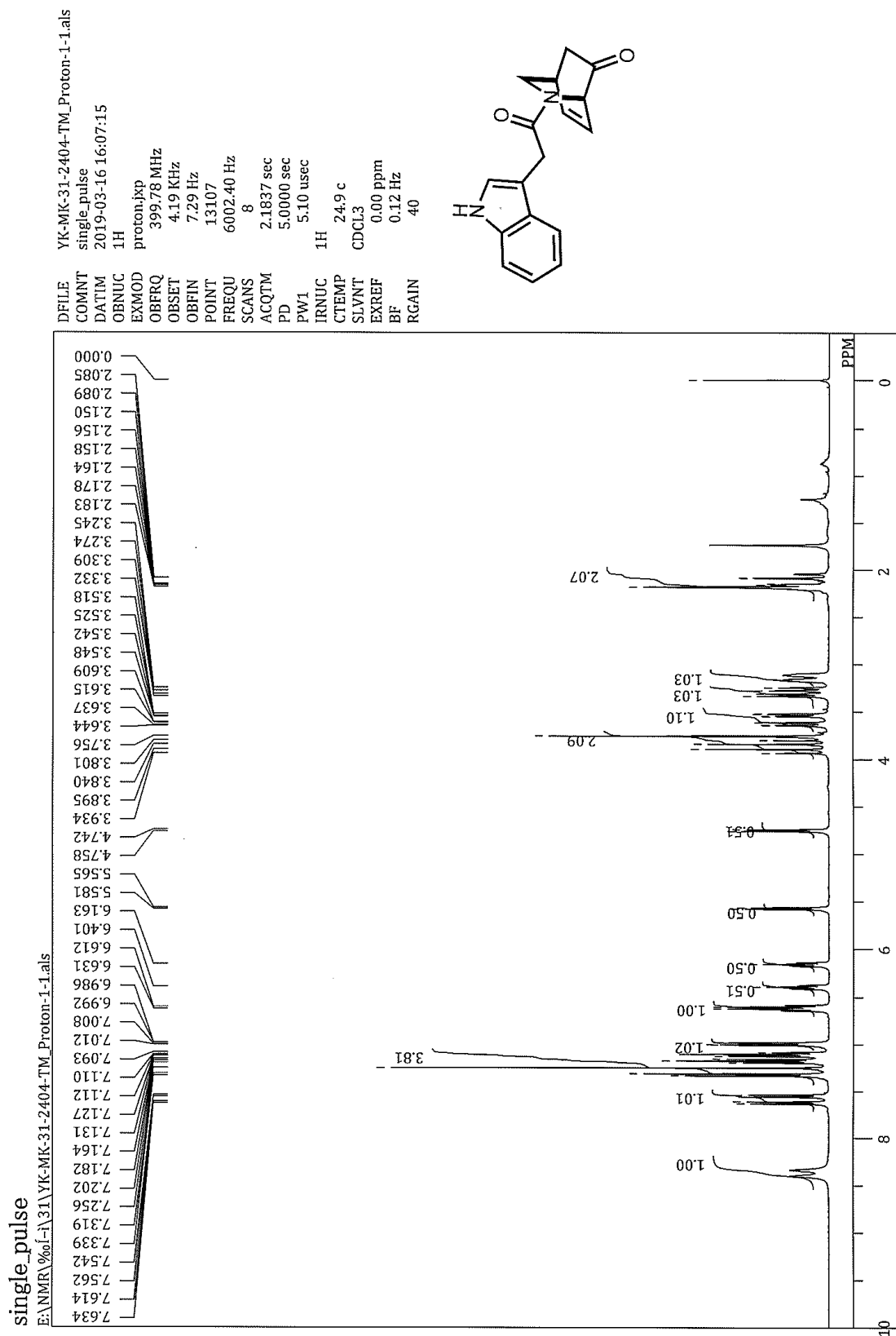
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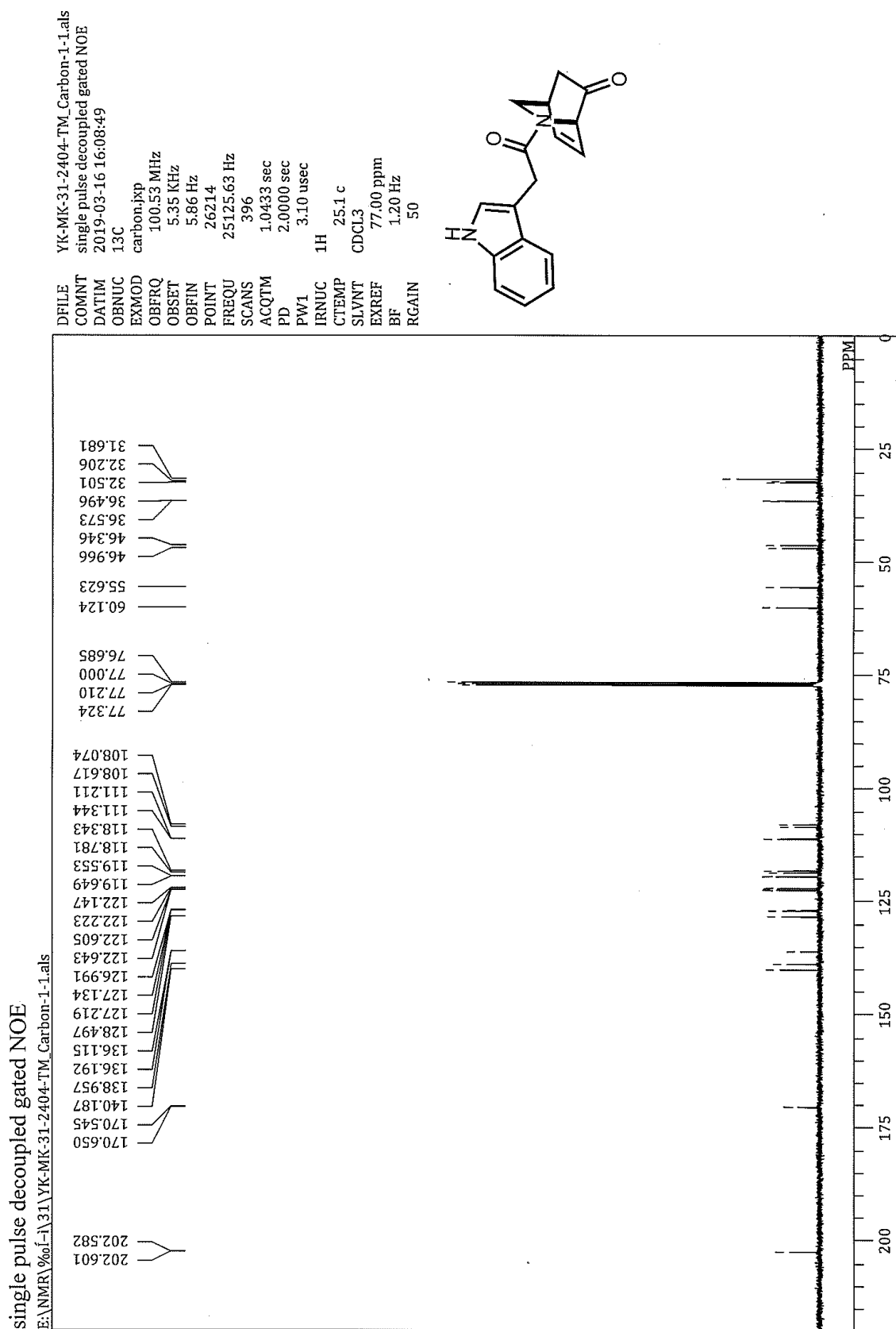


# Supporting Information

18 (~1 : 1 rotamers)

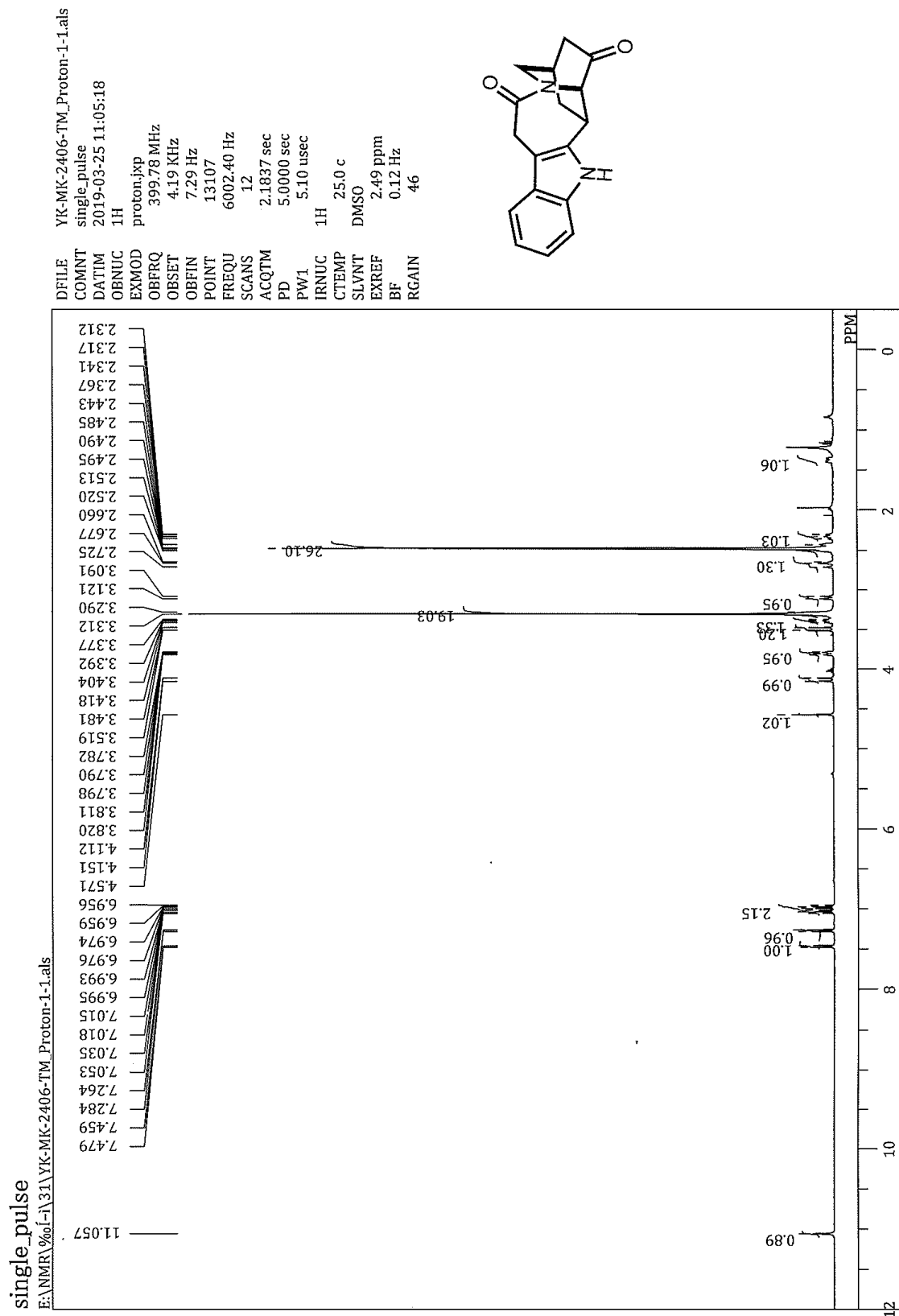
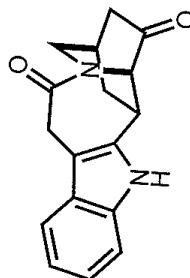


# Supporting Information



# Supporting Information

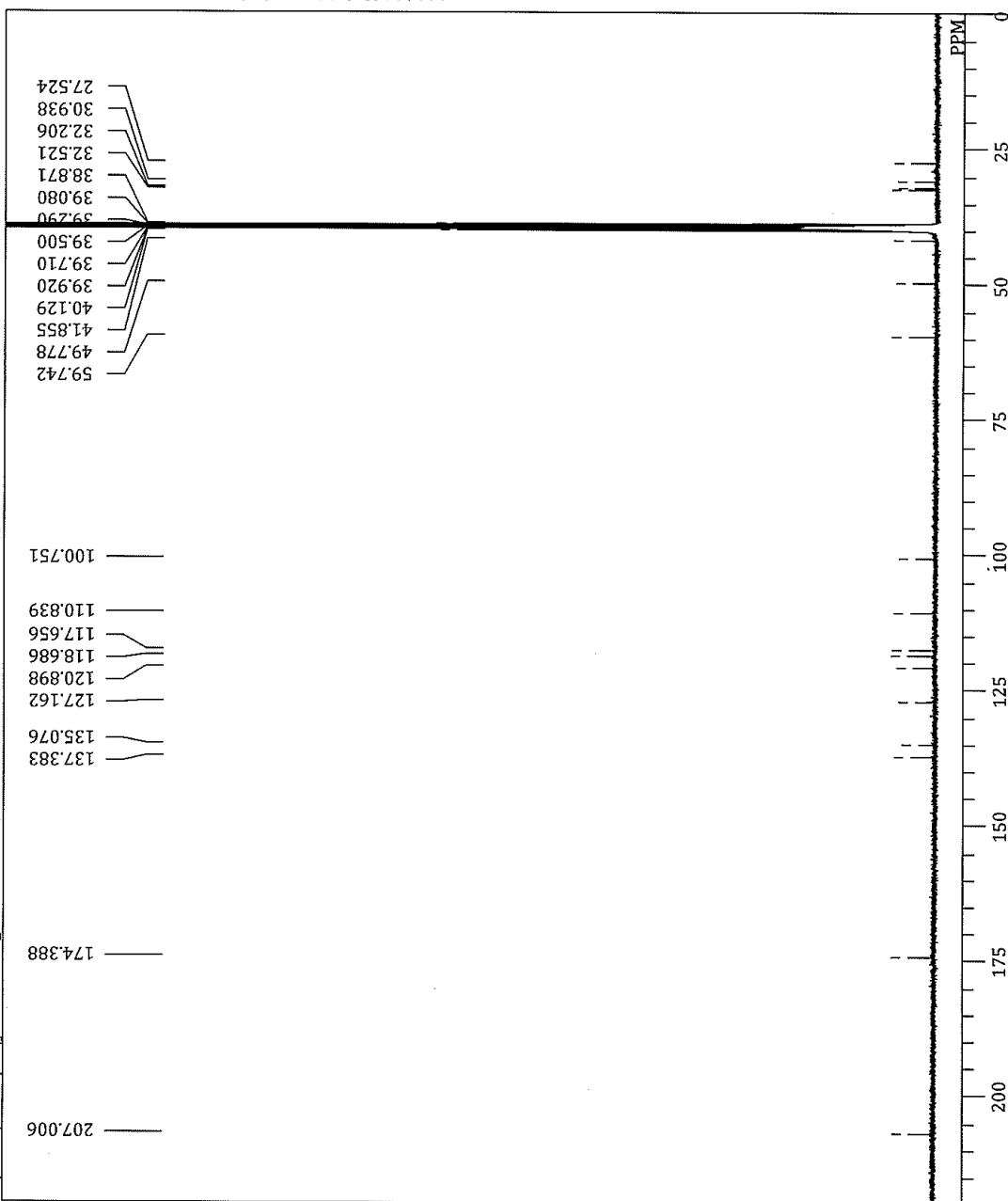
## 19 (DMSO-d6)



# Supporting Information

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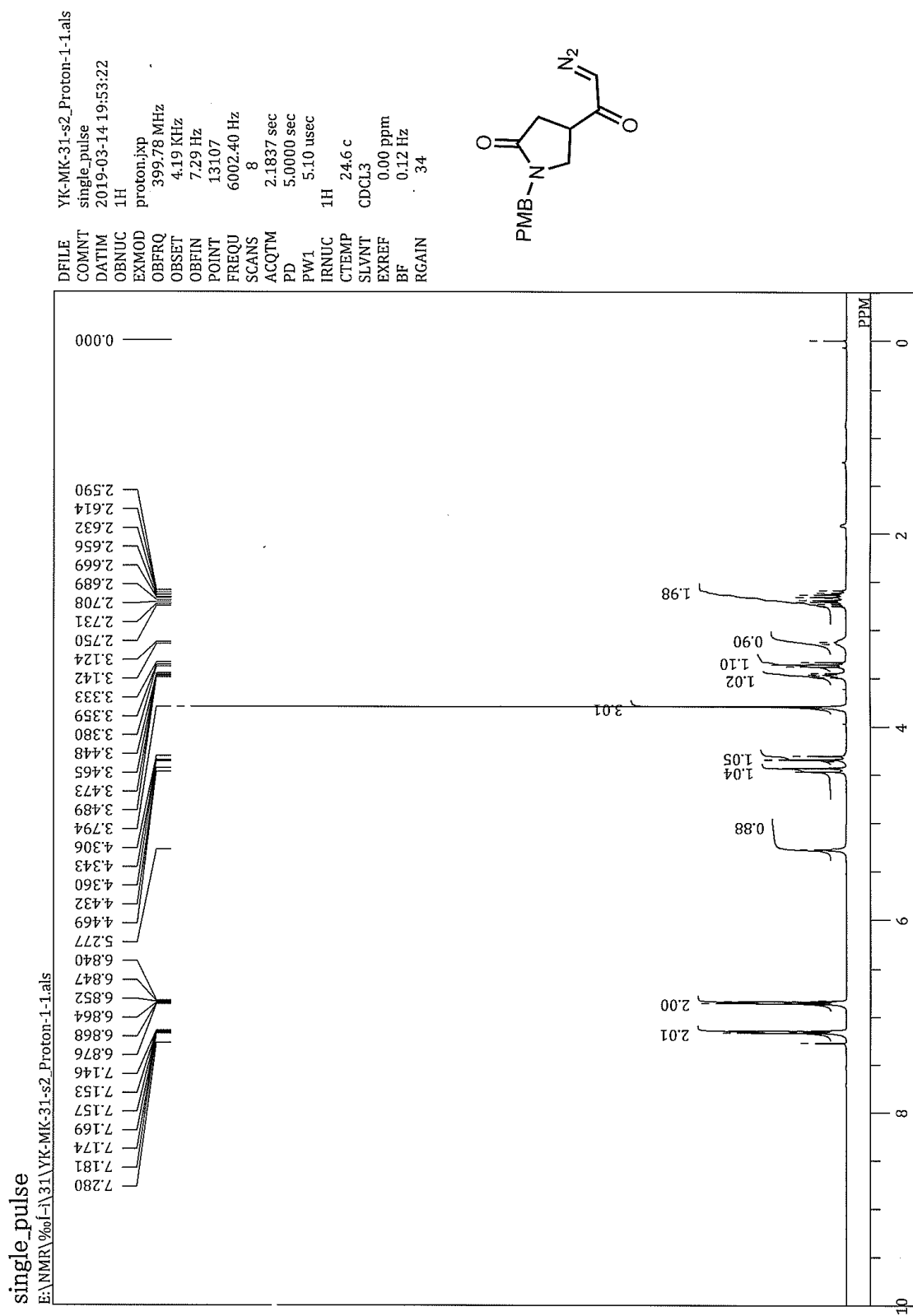
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# Supporting Information

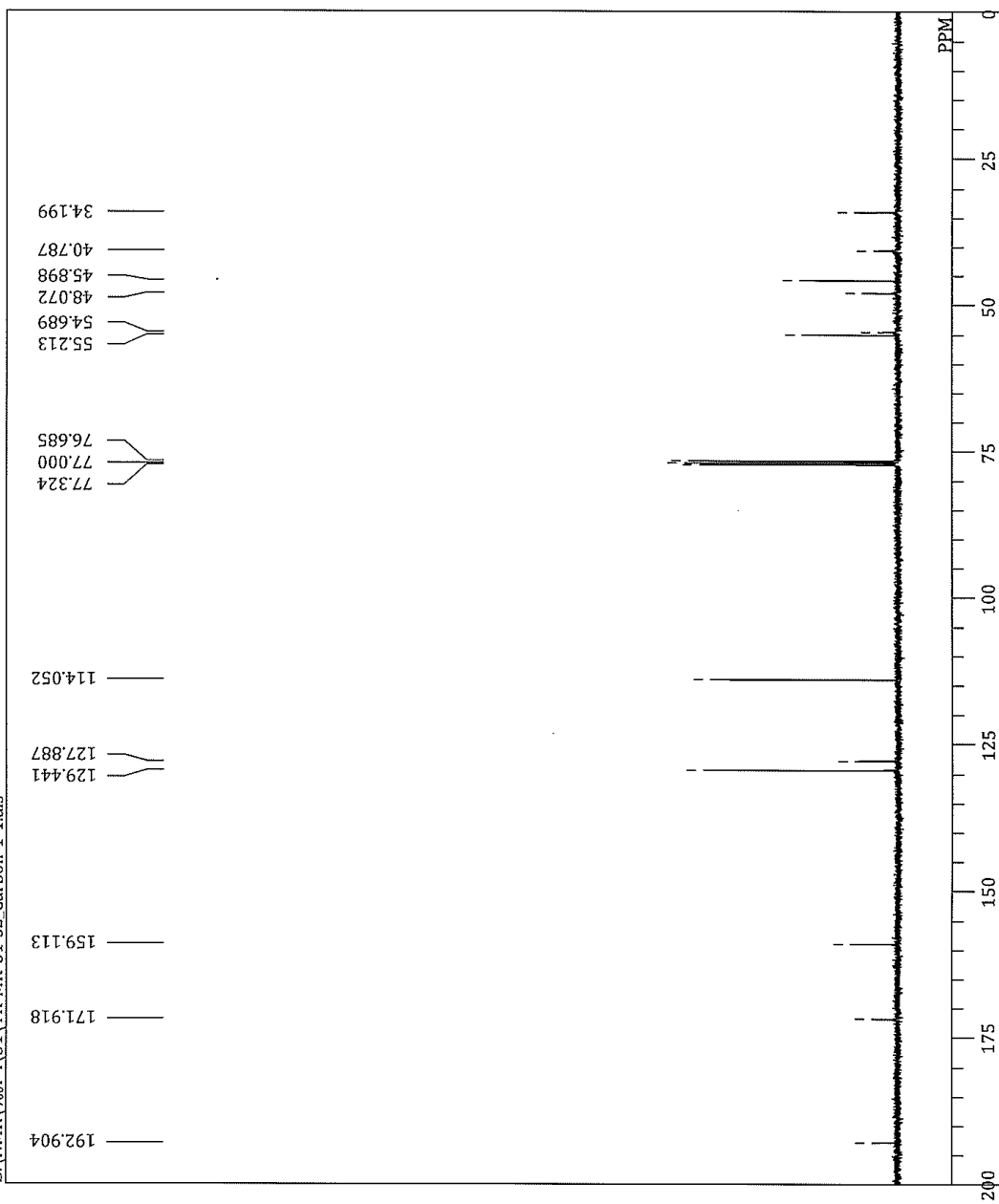
s2



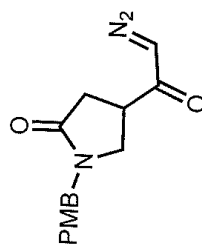
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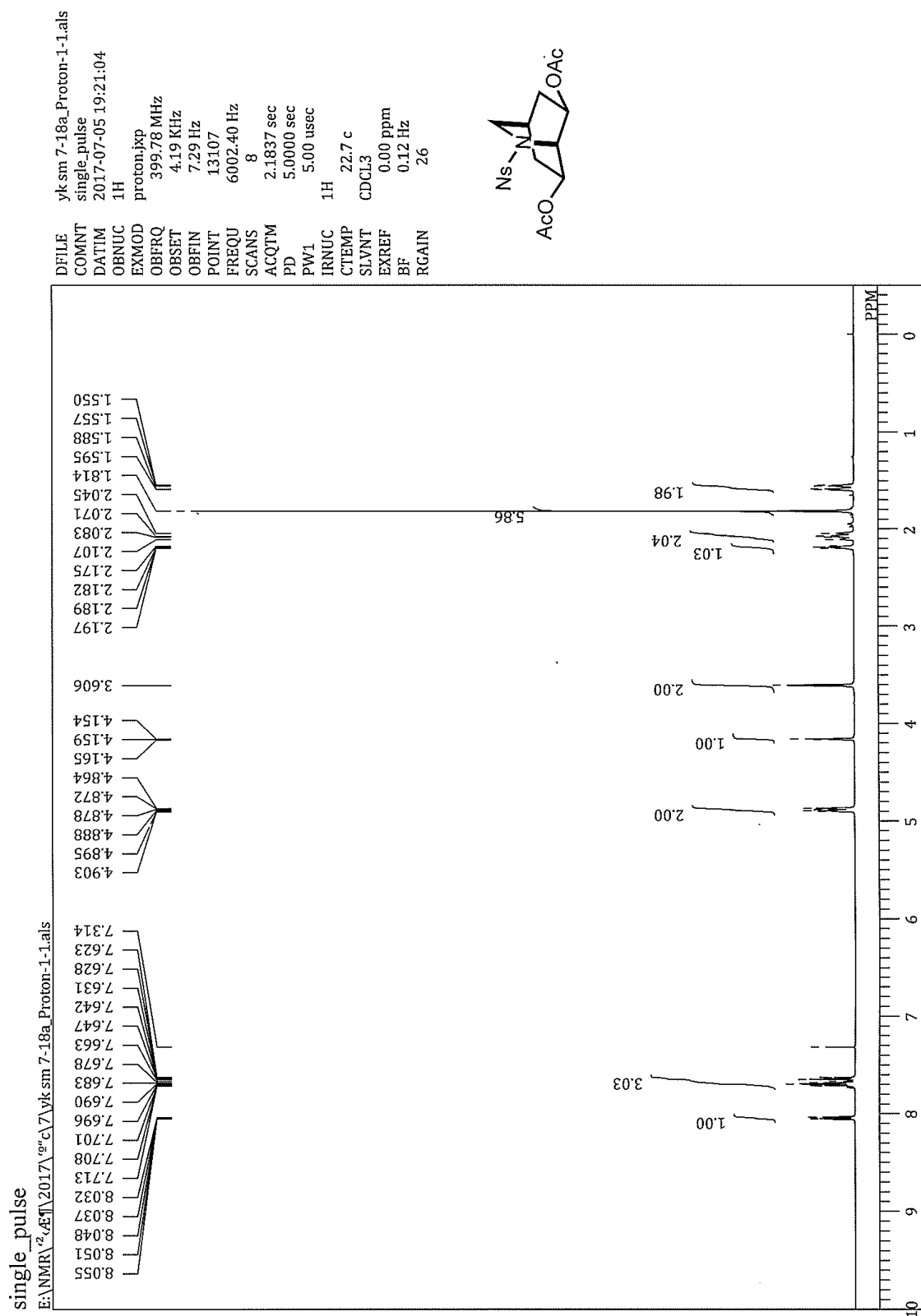


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 PD 2.0000 sec  
 PW1 3.10 usec  
 IRNUC 1H  
 CTEMP 24.8 c  
 SLYNT CDCL3  
 EXREF 77.00 ppm  
 BF 1.20 Hz  
 RGAIN 50



# Supporting Information

s4

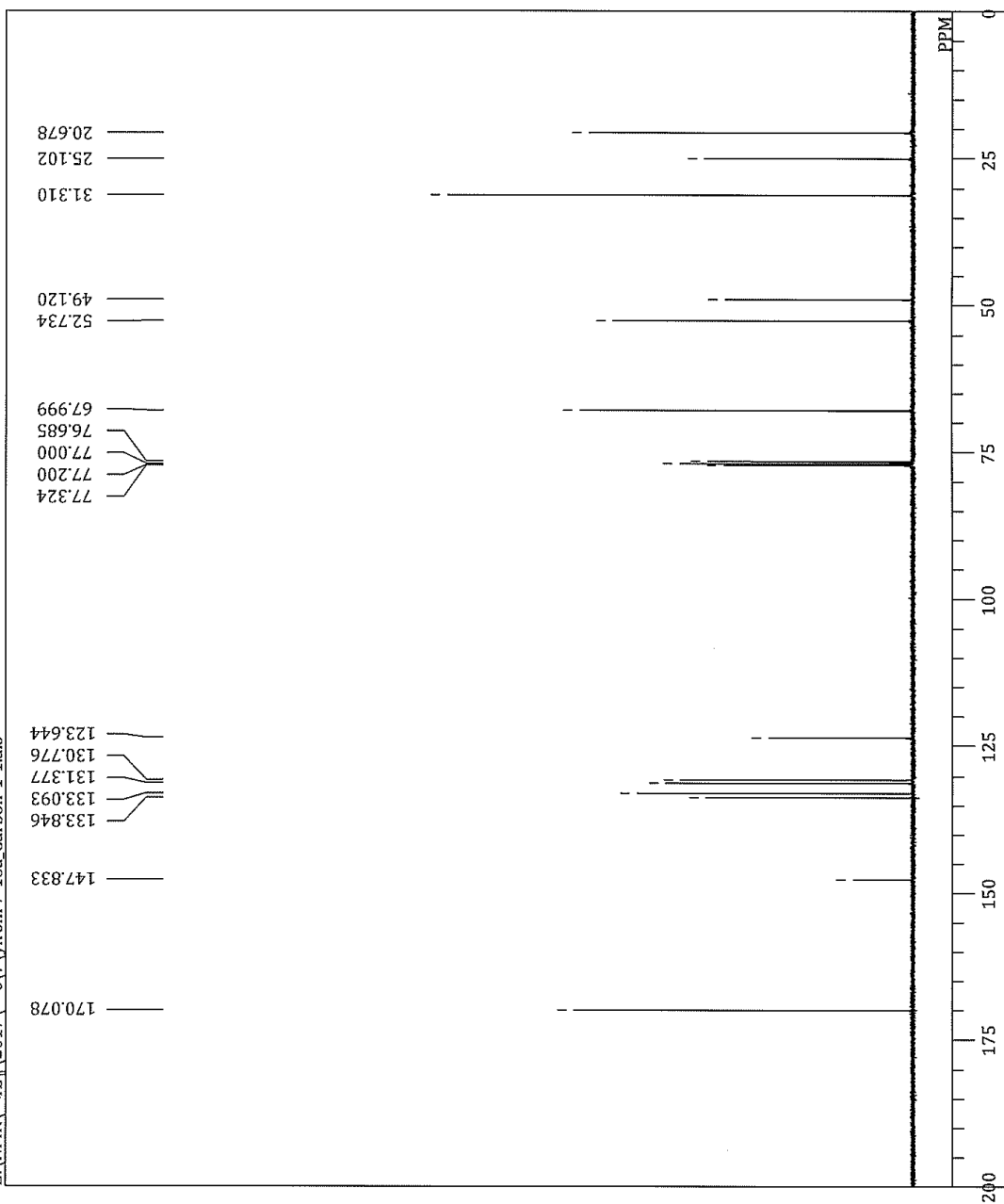


# Supporting Information

## single pulse decoupled gated NOE

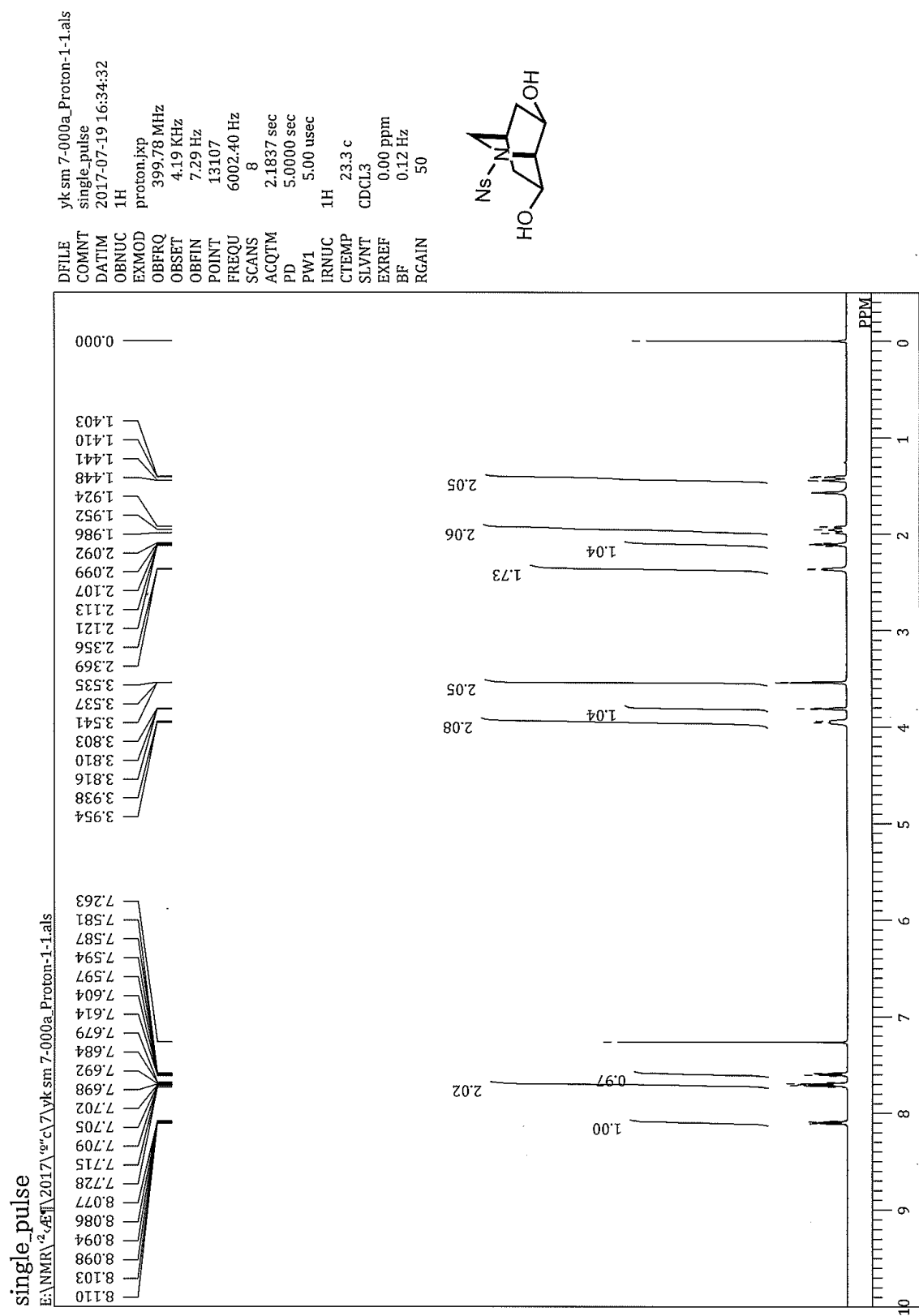
E:\NMR\2017\2017-07-05\7-Vk sm 7-18a\_Carbon-1-1.als

DFILE yk sm 7-18a\_Carbon-1-1.als  
 COMNT single pulse decoupled gated NOE  
 DATIM 2017-07-05 19:23:06  
 OBNUC 13C  
 EXMOD carbon,xjp  
 OBFRQ 100.53 MHz  
 OBSET 5.35 KHz  
 OBFIN 5.86 Hz  
 POINT 26214  
 FREQU 25125.63 Hz  
 SCANS 393  
 ACQTM 1.0433 sec  
 PD 2.0000 sec  
 PW1 2.79 usec  
 IRNUC 1H  
 CTEMP 23.0 c  
 SLVNT CDCL3  
 EXREF 77.00 ppm  
 BF 0.12 Hz  
 RGAIN 60

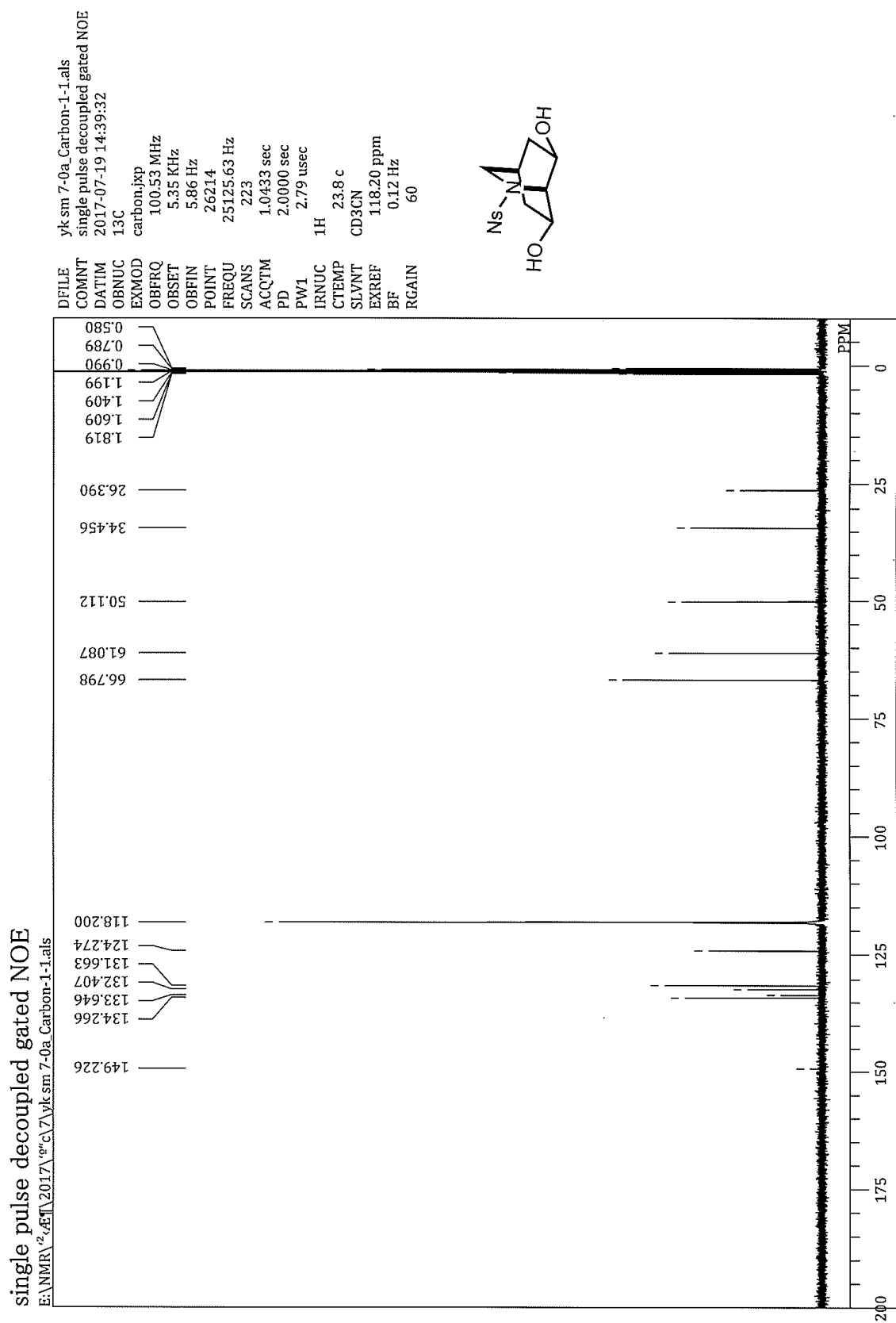




12



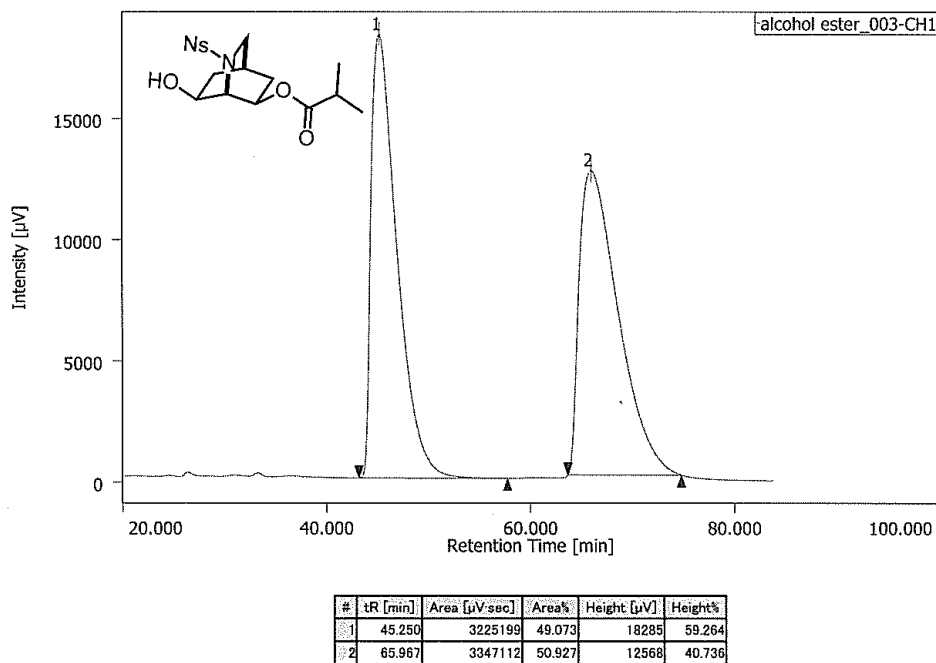
# Supporting Information



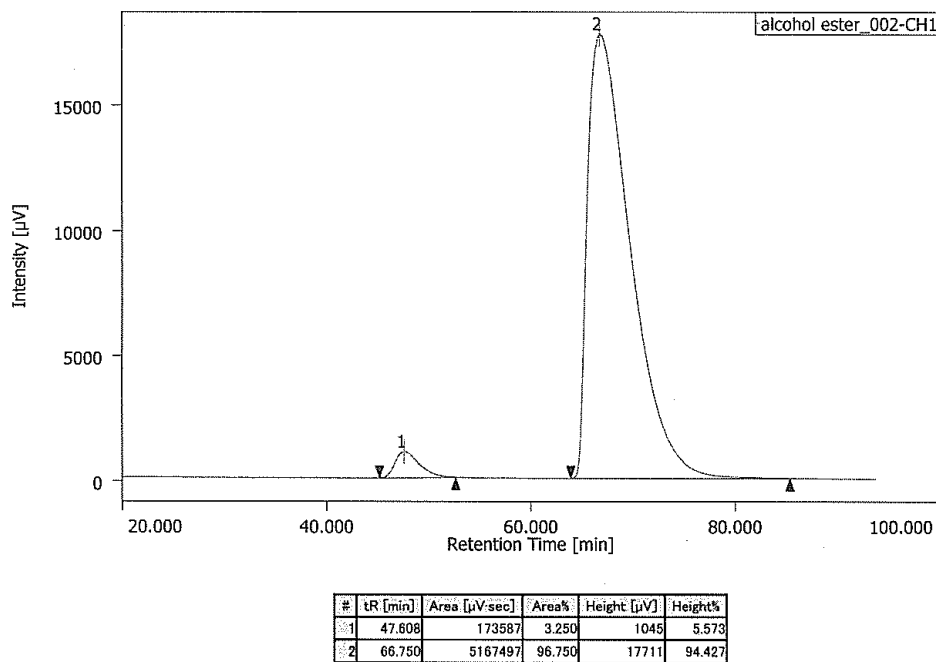
8. Chiral and Racemic HPLC Traces

13

alcohol ester\_0222 alcohol ester\_003 2019/03/28 18:15:40



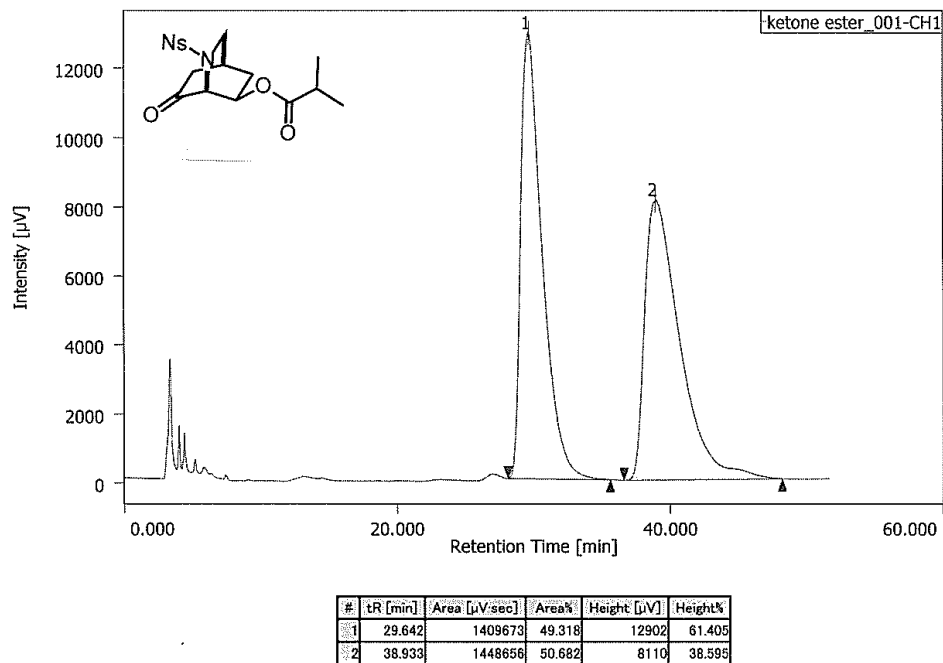
alcohol ester\_0222 alcohol ester\_002 2019/03/28 18:12:54



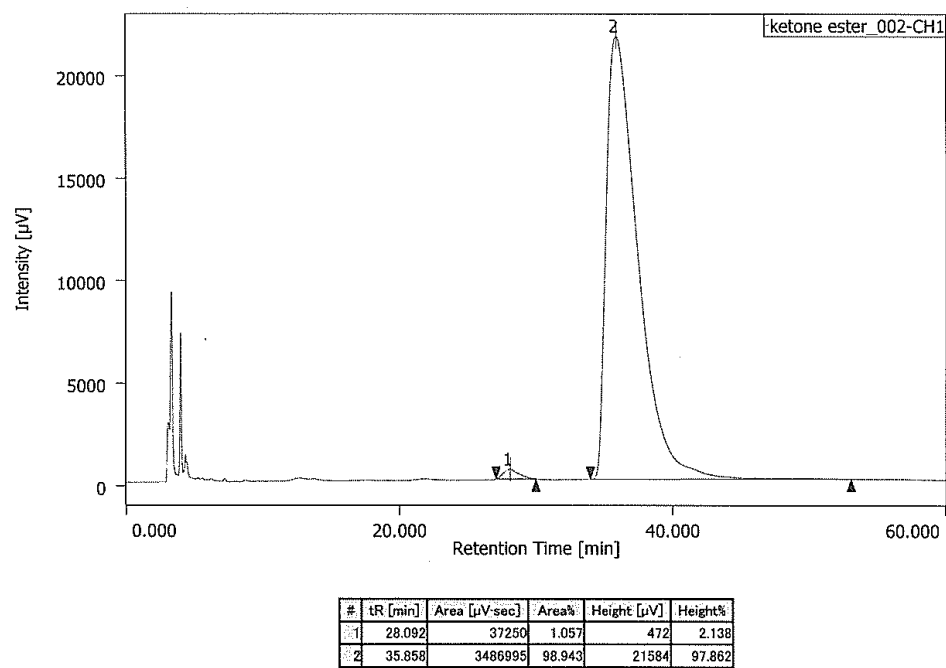
# Supporting Information

14

ketone ester\_0221 ketone ester\_001 2019/03/28 18:37:46



ketone ester\_0221 ketone ester\_002 2019/03/30 12:02:32



## 9. [References](#)

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