

Supplementary Information for

**Triamidoamine-Supported Zirconium: Hydrogen Activation, Lewis Acidity,
and *rac*-Lactide Polymerization**

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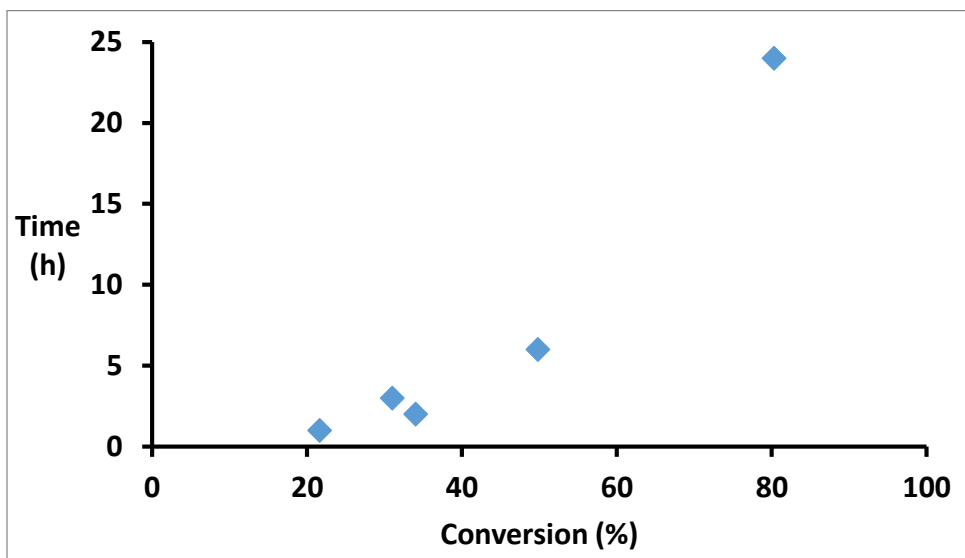


Figure S1. Plot of time vs. conversion for polymerization of 100 equiv *rac*-LA using **1** as initiator.

[LA]₀ = 0.5 M, toluene, T = 70 °C.

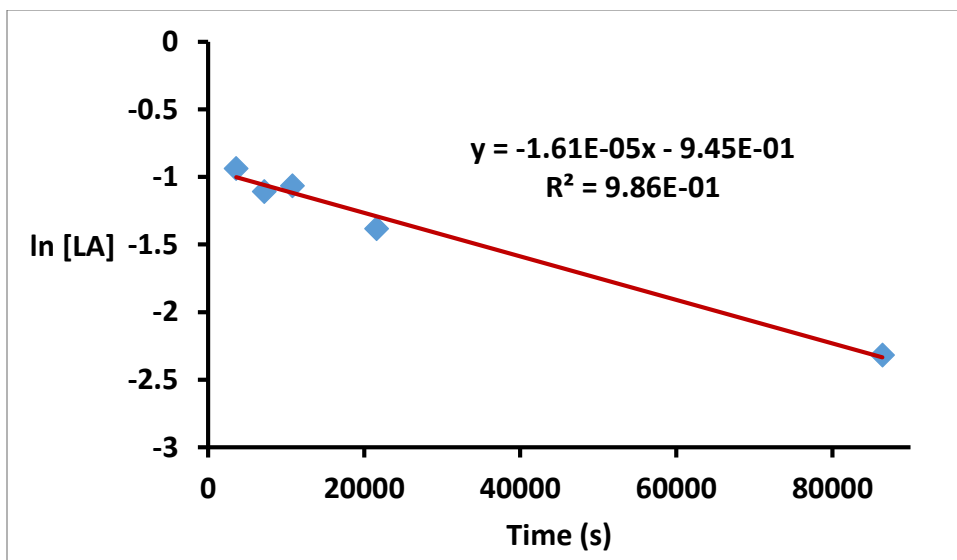


Figure S2. Plot of ln[LA] versus time for polymerization of 100 equiv *rac*-LA using **1** as initiator.

[LA]₀ = 0.5 M, toluene, T = 70 °C.

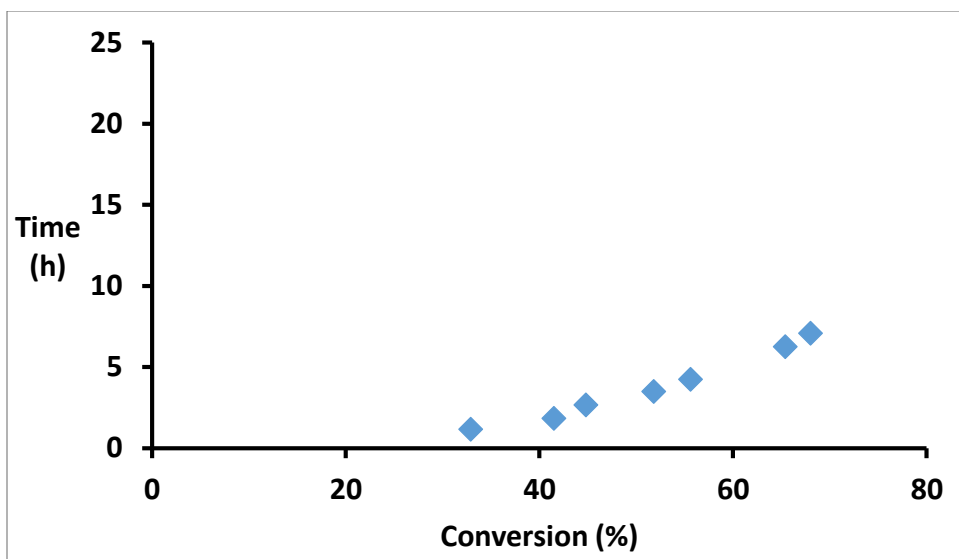


Figure S3. Plot of time vs. conversion for polymerization of 25 equiv *rac*-LA using **1** as initiator. $[LA]_0 = 0.5$ M, toluene, $T = 70$ °C.

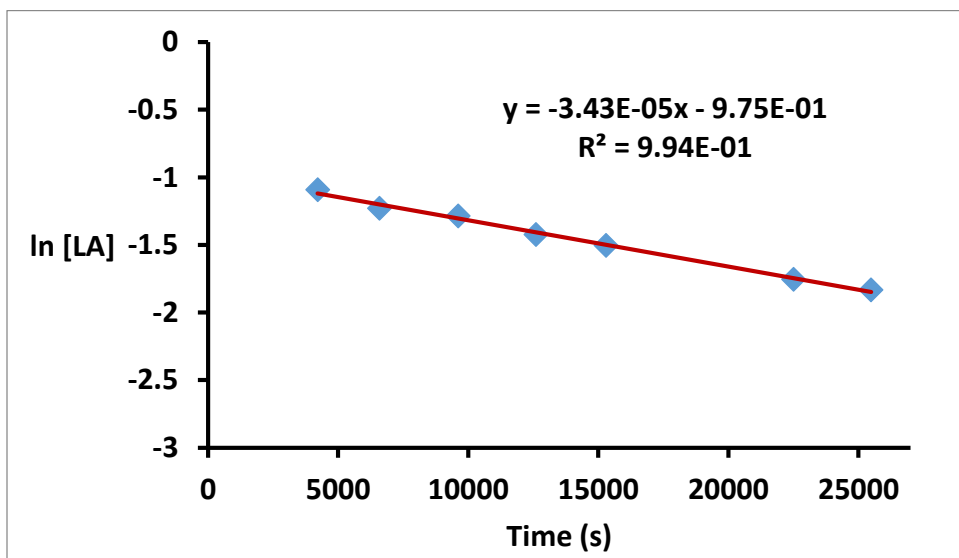


Figure S4. Plot of $\ln[LA]$ versus time for polymerization of 25 equiv *rac*-LA using **1** as initiator. $[LA]_0 = 0.5$ M, toluene, $T = 70$ °C.

Table S1. Conversion data for PLA samples prepared using different concentrations of **1** as initiator.^a

[LA] ₀ /[Cat]	[Cat]	Time (h)	Conv. (%)
25	0.020	1.17	32.9
25	0.020	1.83	41.5
25	0.020	2.67	44.8
25	0.020	3.5	51.8
25	0.020	4.25	55.6
25	0.020	6.25	65.4
25	0.020	7.08	68
100	0.005	1	21.6
100	0.005	2	34
100	0.005	3	31
100	0.005	6	49.8
100	0.005	24	80.3

^a [LA]₀ = 0.5 M, toluene, 70 °C

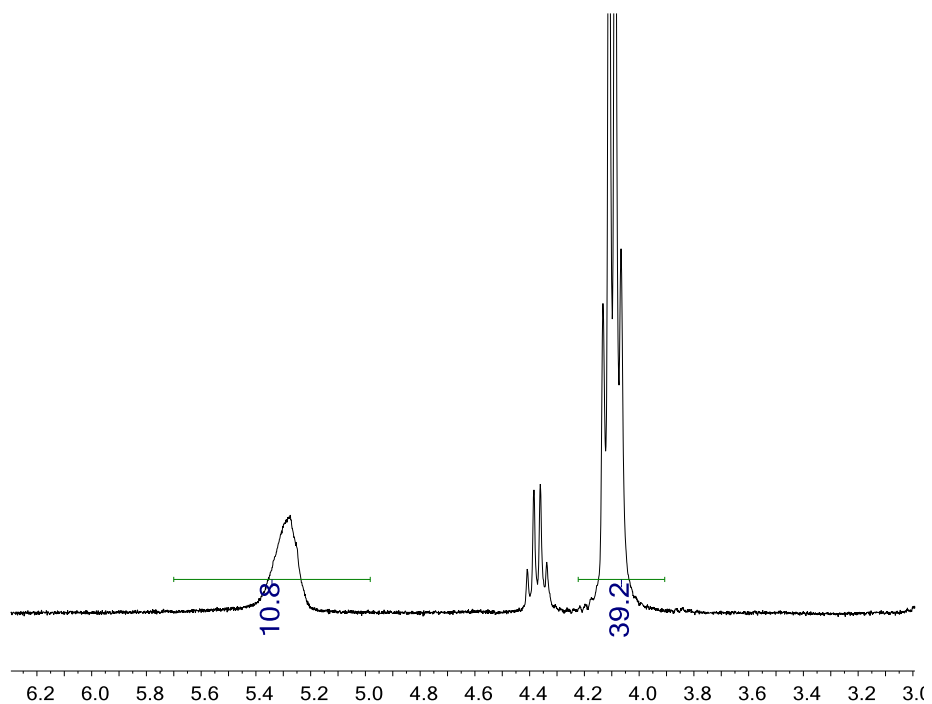


Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum of the lactide/PLA methine region during lactide polymerization using **1** as initiator ([LA]₀/[**1**] = 100, T = 70 °C, t = 1h, conversion = 21.6%).

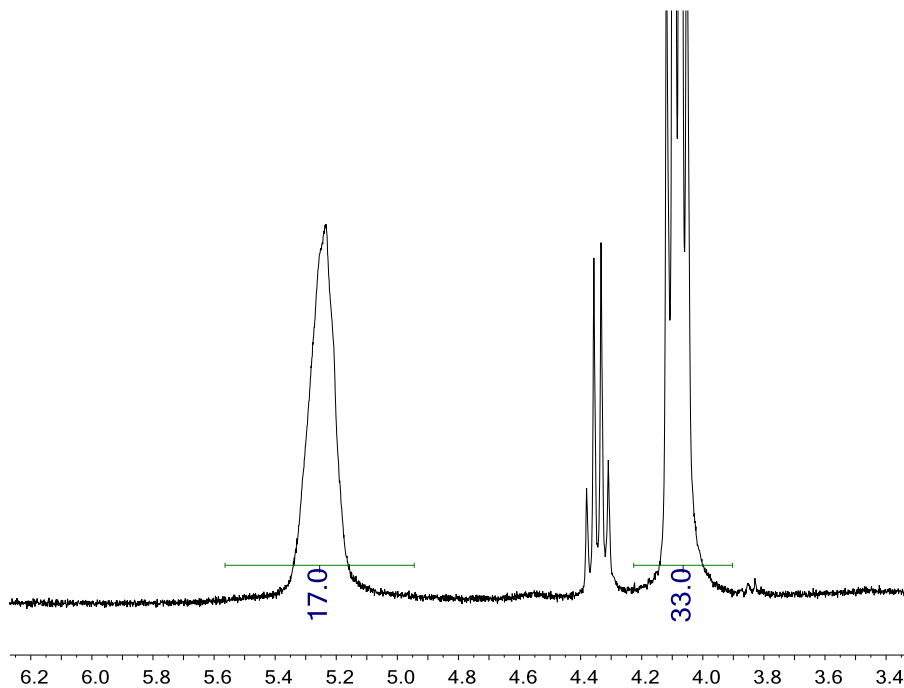


Figure S6. ¹H NMR spectrum of the lactide/PLA methine region during lactide polymerization using **1** as initiator ($[LA]_0/[1] = 100$, $T = 70\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $t = 2\text{h}$, conversion = 34%).

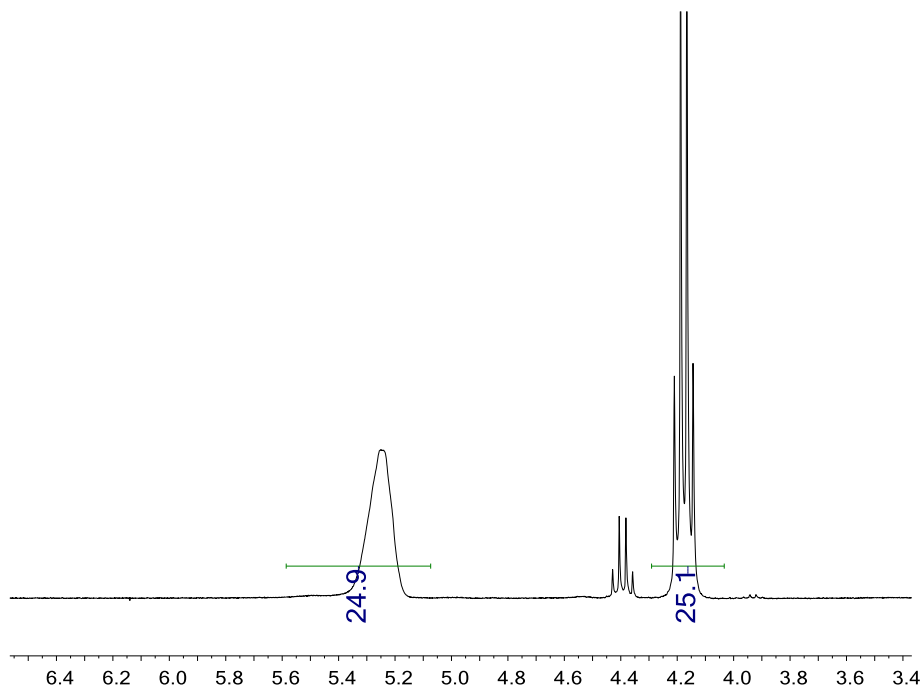


Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectrum of the lactide/PLA methine region during lactide polymerization using **1** as initiator ($[LA]_0/[1] = 100$, $T = 70\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $t = 6\text{h}$, conversion = 49.8%).

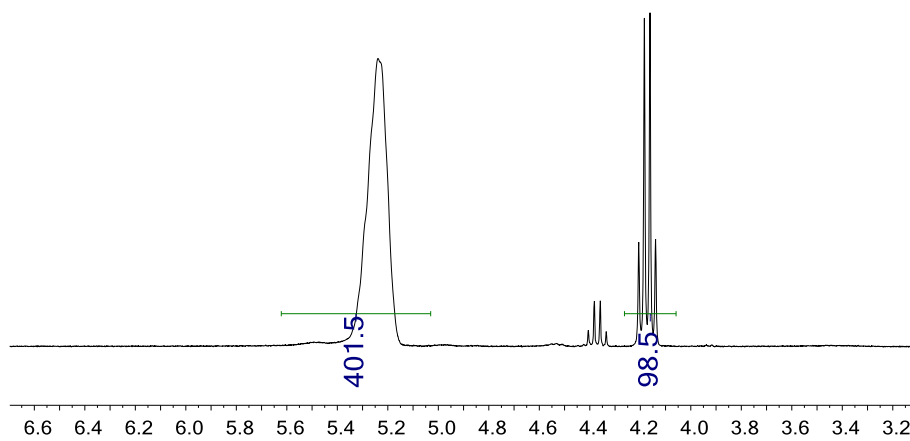


Figure S8. ^1H NMR spectrum of the lactide/PLA methine region during lactide polymerization using **1** as initiator ($[\text{LA}]_0/[\mathbf{1}] = 100$, $T = 70\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $t = 24\text{h}$, conversion = 80.3%).

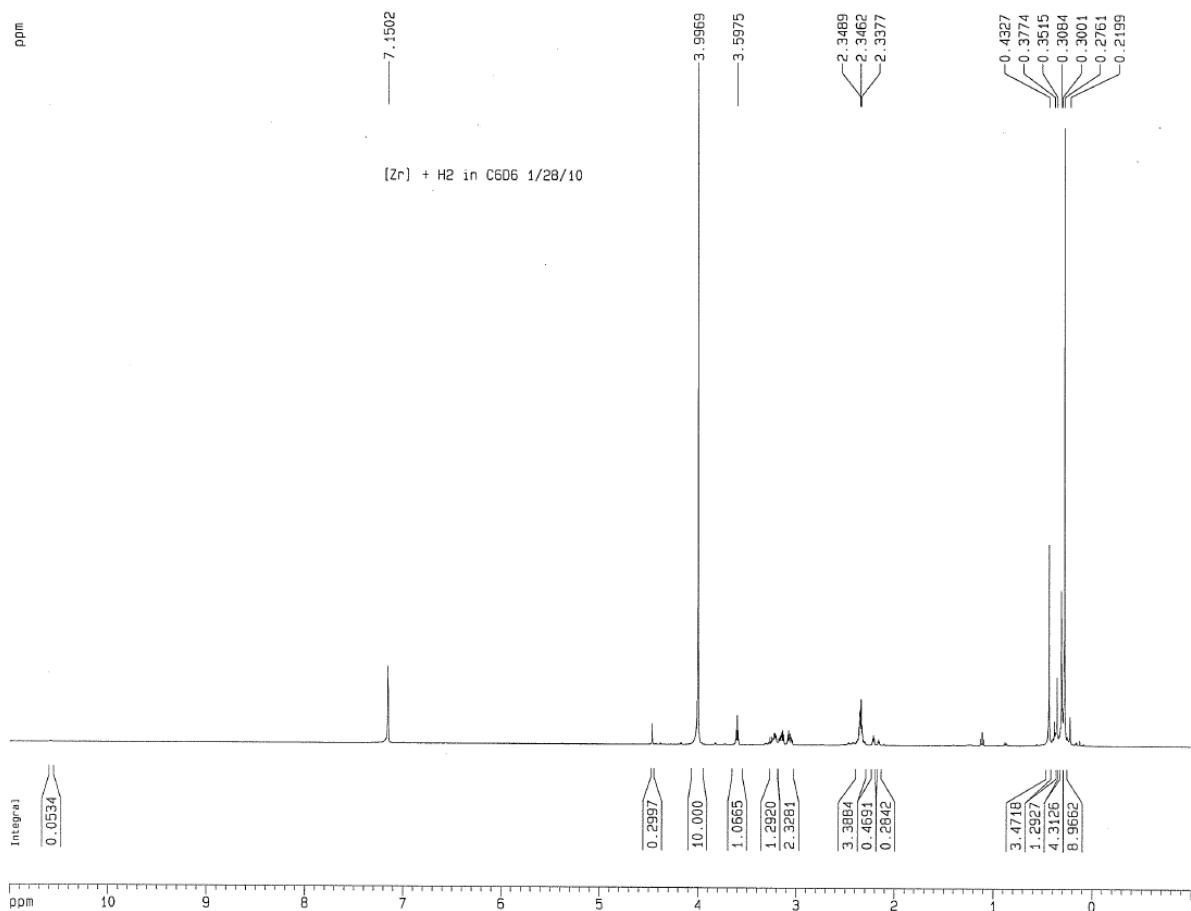


Figure S9. Example ¹H NMR spectrum of a benzene-*d*₆ solution of **1** under H₂ in the presence of ferrocene.

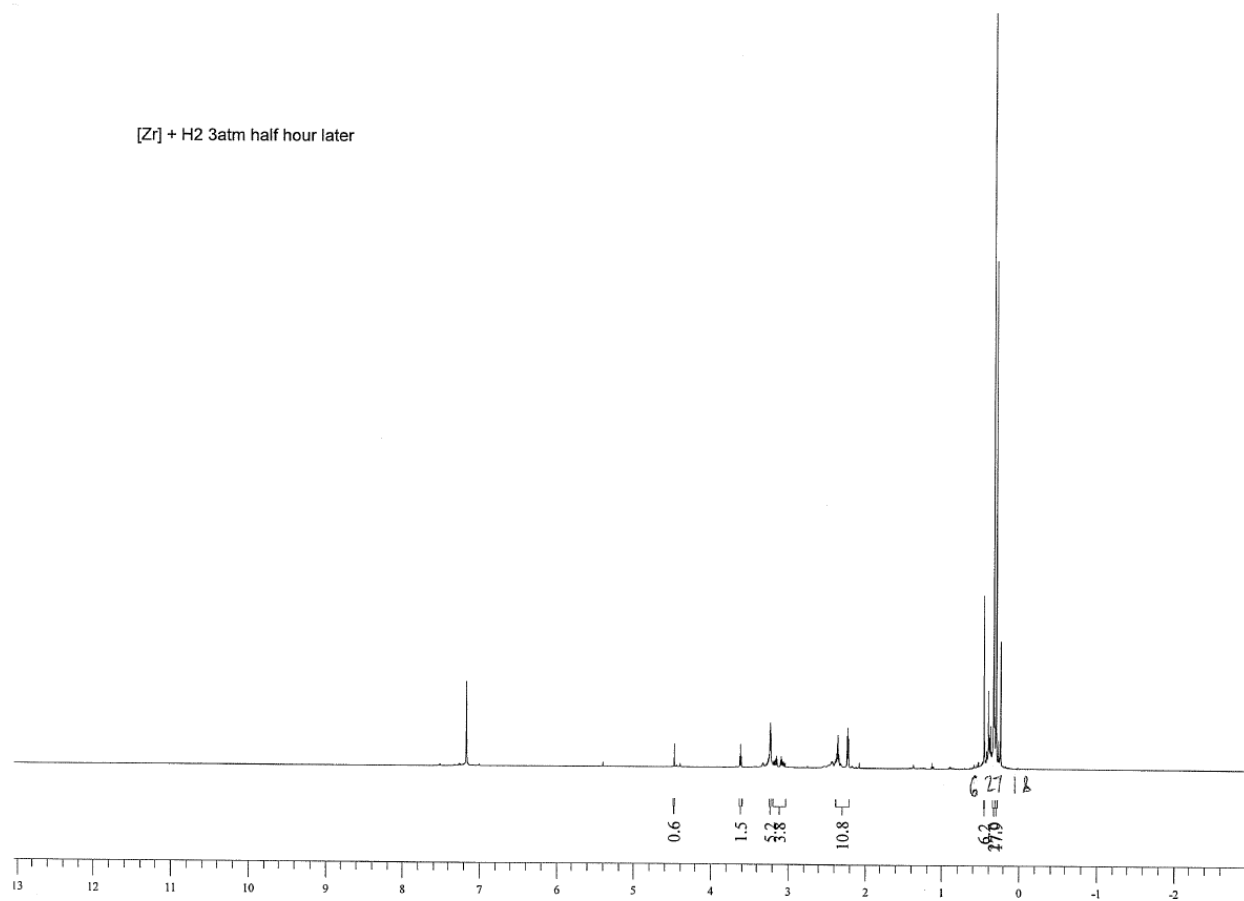


Figure S10. Example ¹H NMR spectrum of a benzene-*d*₆ solution of **1** under H₂ without ferrocene.

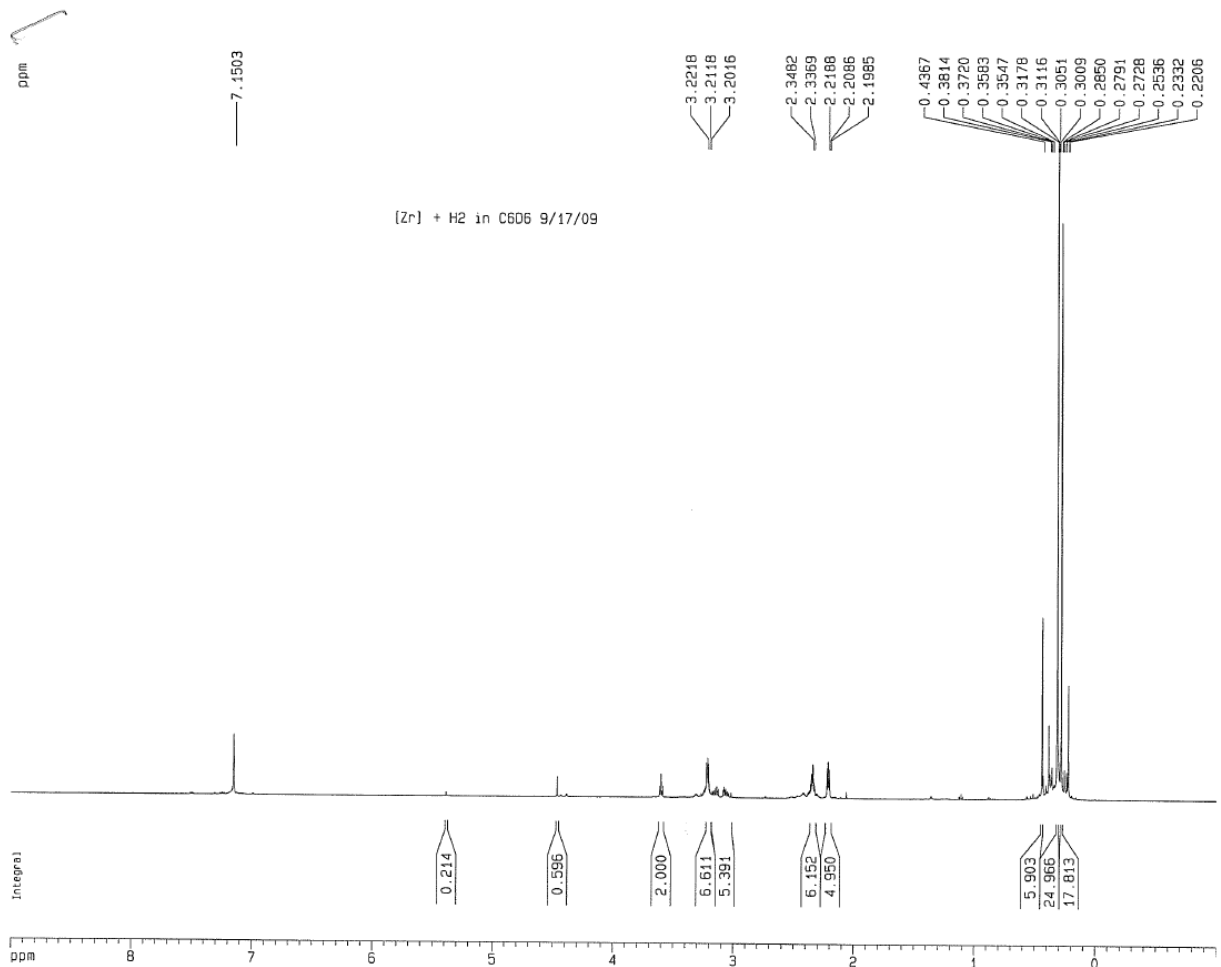


Figure S11. Expanded aromatic and aliphatic region of a ¹H NMR spectrum (different from Figure S10) of a benzene-*d*₆ solution of **1** under H₂ without ferrocene.

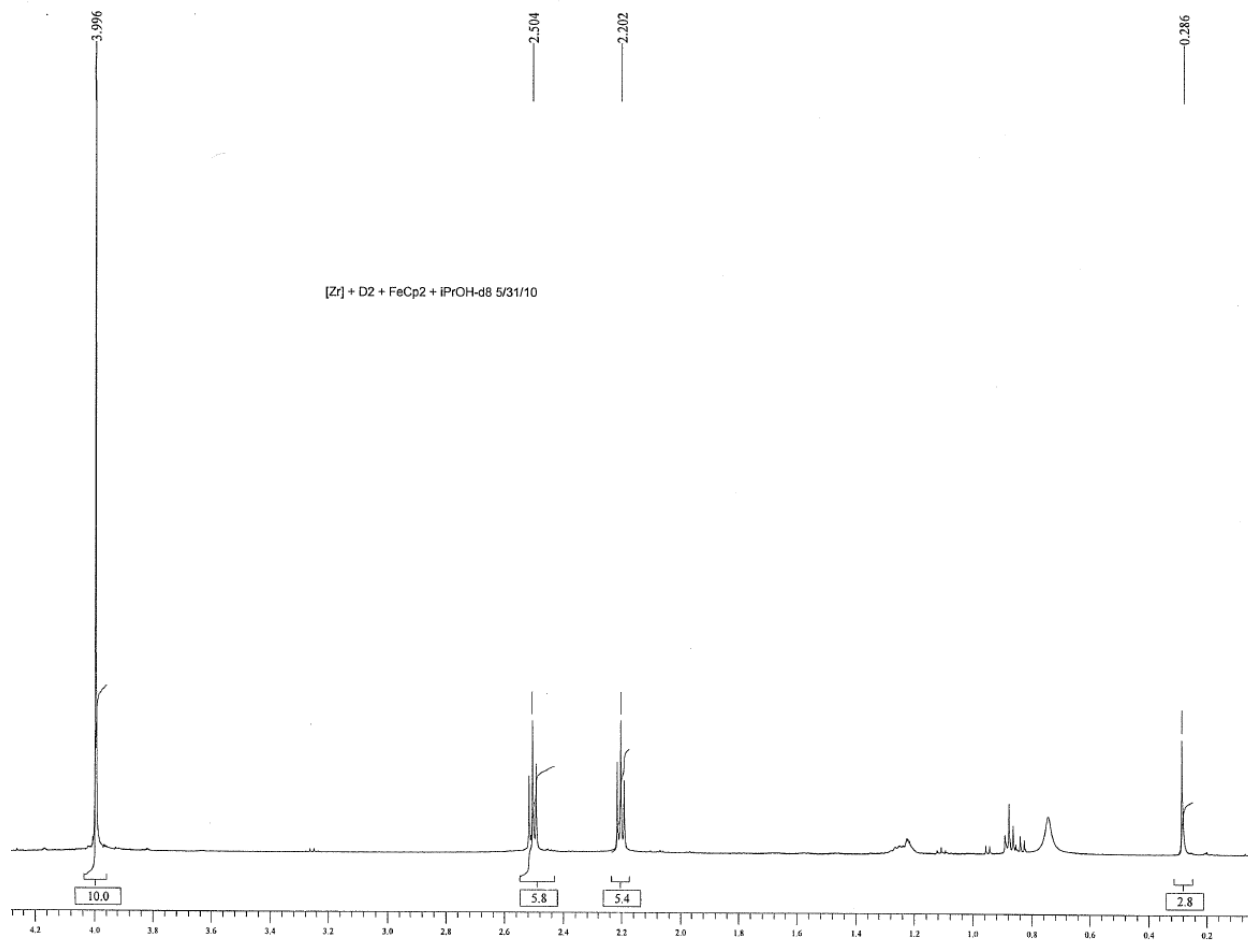


Figure S12. Compound **2** can be a source of $N(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NHSiMe}_3)\text{-}d_n$ by reaction of **2** with isopropanol. The ^1H NMR spectrum of a benzene- d_6 solution of $N(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NHSiMe}_3)\text{-}d_n$ includes an internal ferrocene integration standard. This reaction is not reported in the main article text because the purification of product is sufficiently tedious to make isolated yields highly variable.