

## Electronic Supplementary Information

For

### Synthesis, Characterization, and Alkoxide Transfer Reactivity of Dimeric $Tl_2(OR)_2$ Complexes

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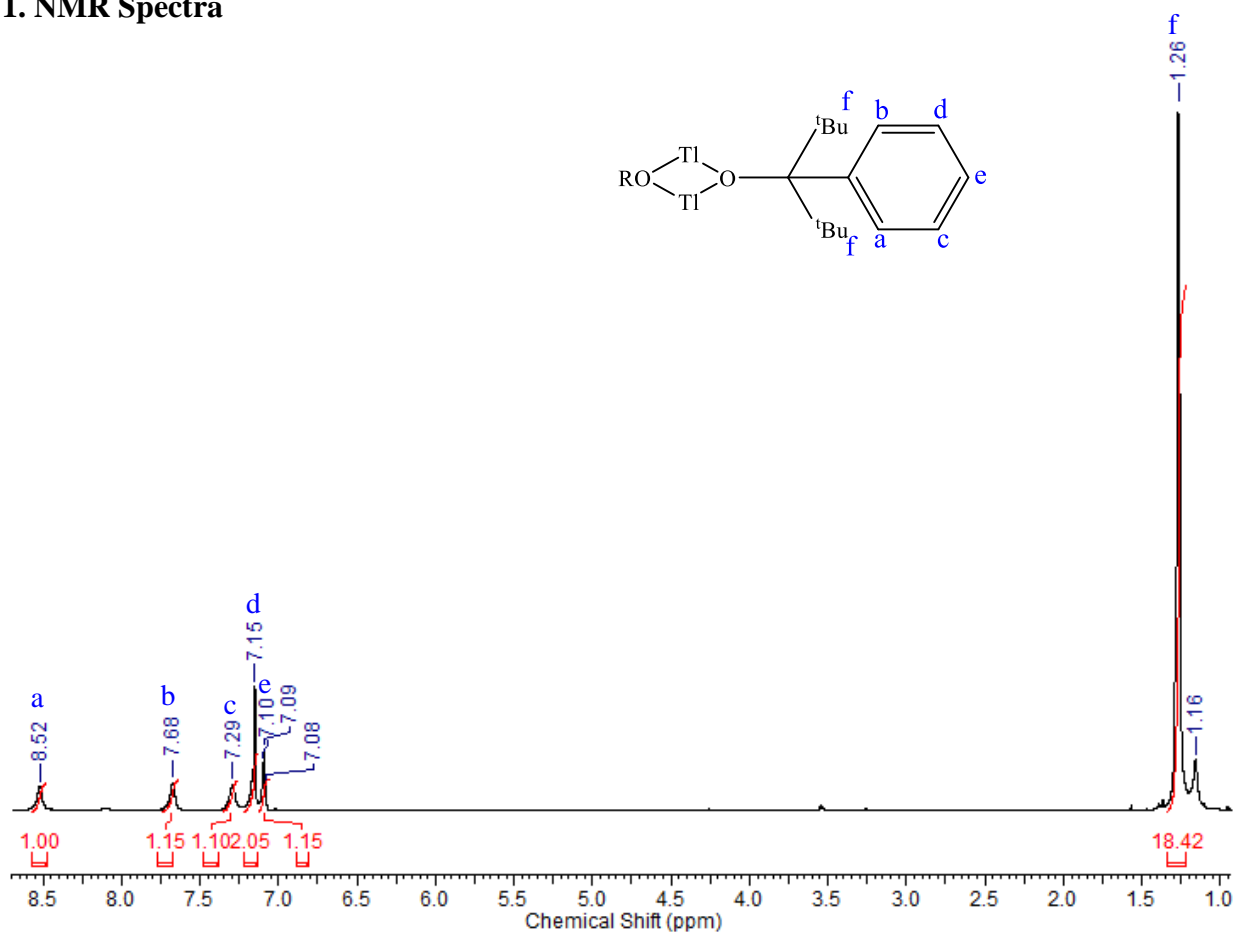
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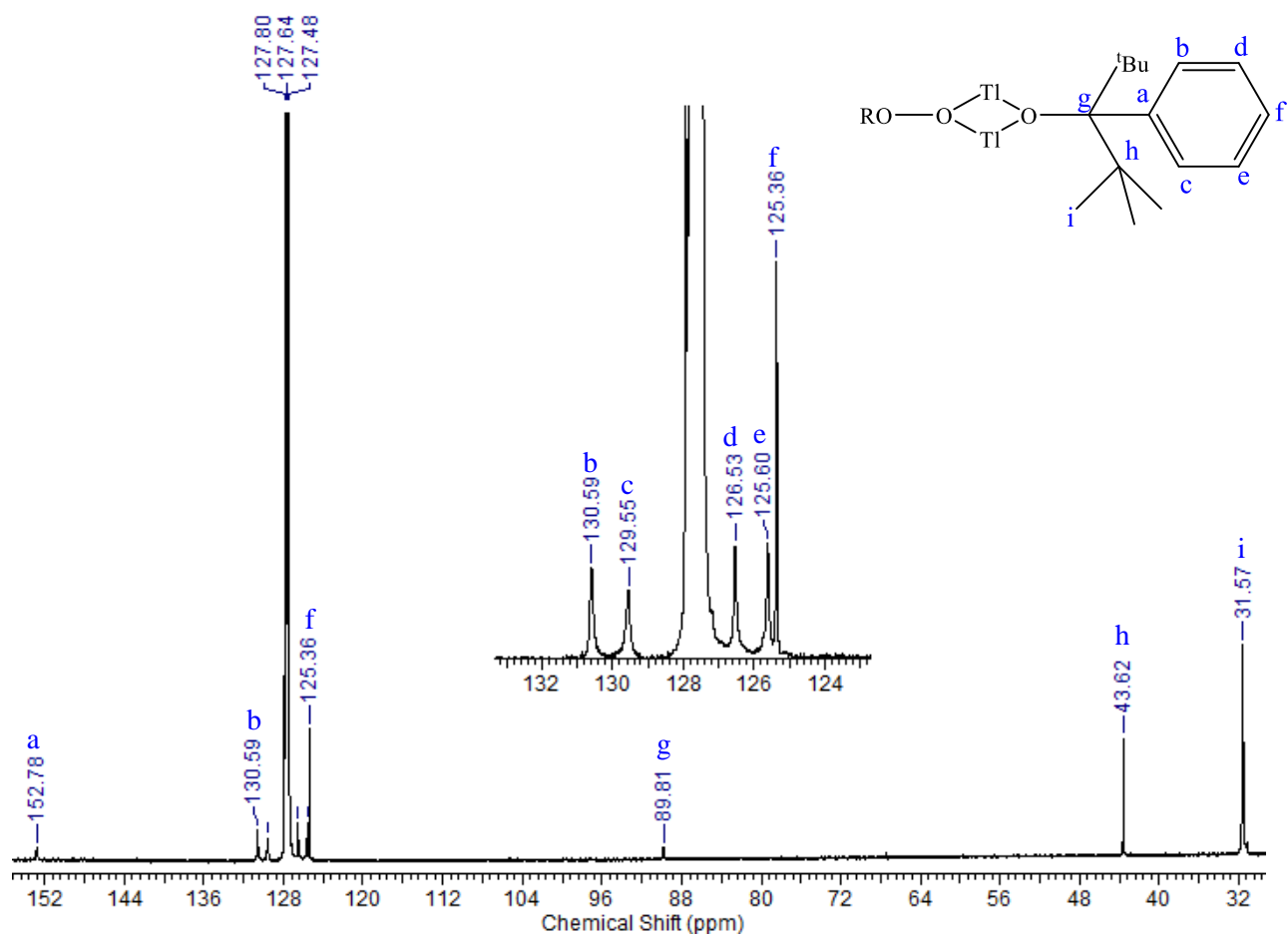
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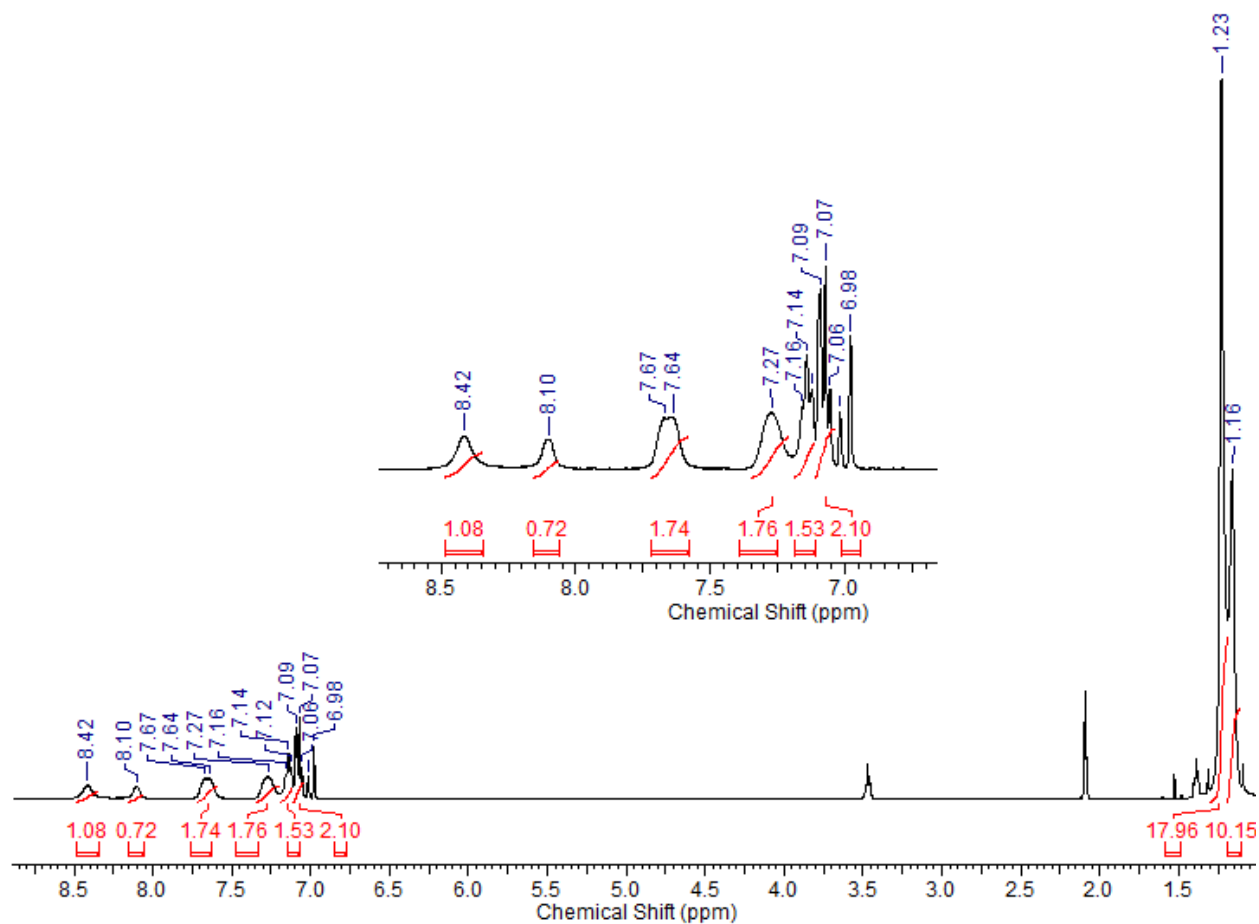
## 1. NMR Spectra



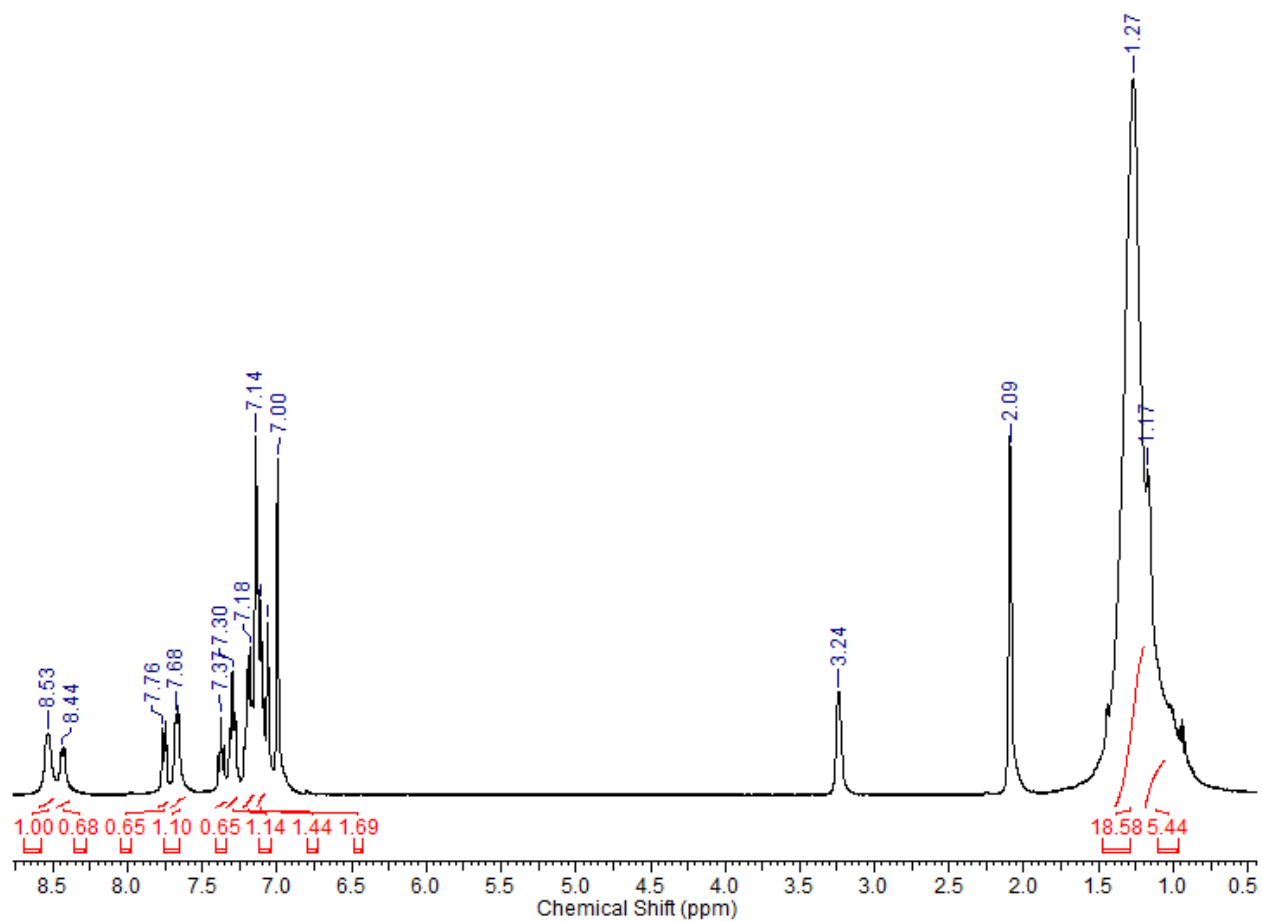
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Tl}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz, room temperature).



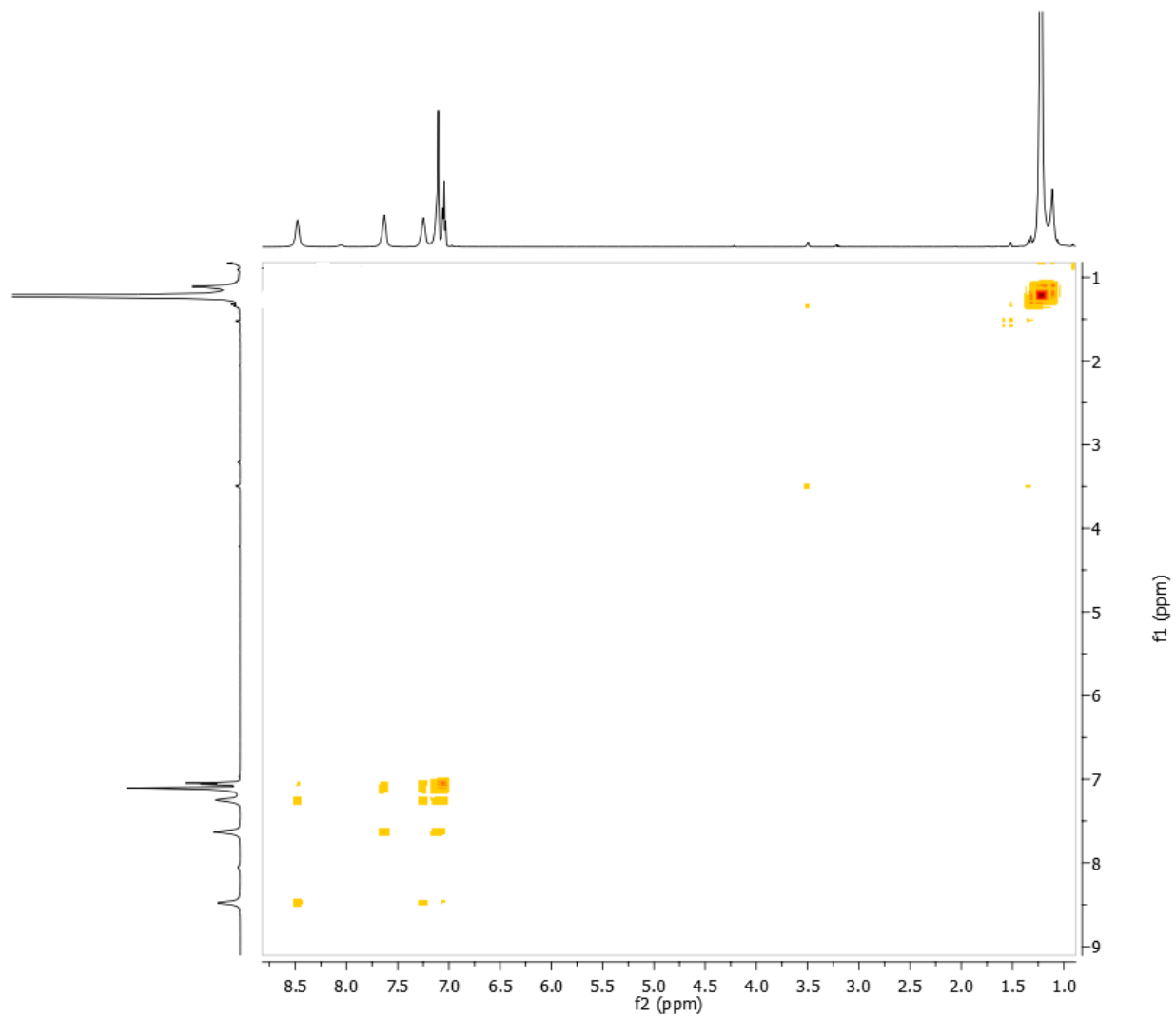
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 150 MHz).



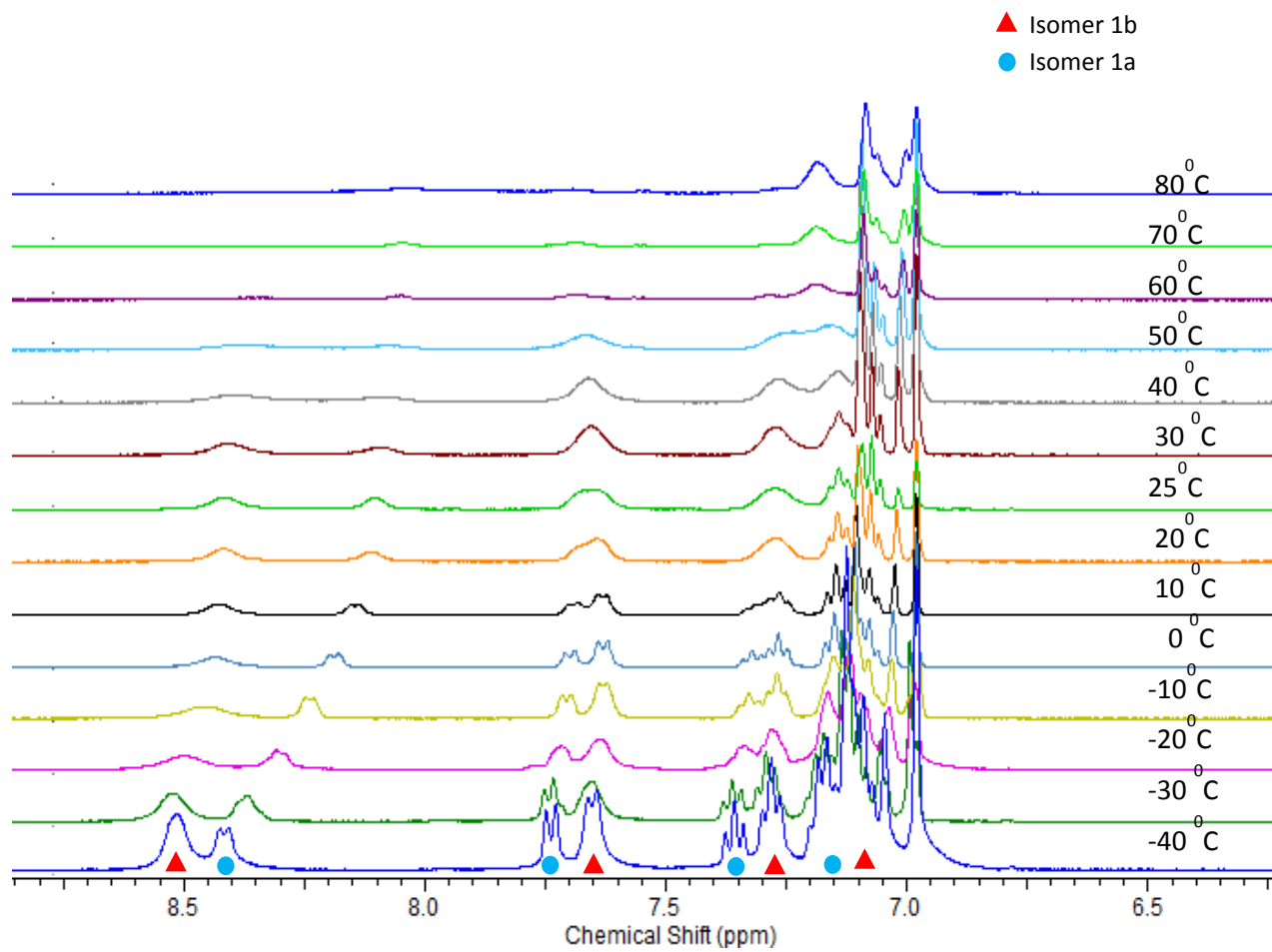
**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_7\text{D}_8$ , 400 MHz, room temperature).



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Tl}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_7\text{D}_8$ , 400 MHz,  $-40^\circ\text{C}$ ).

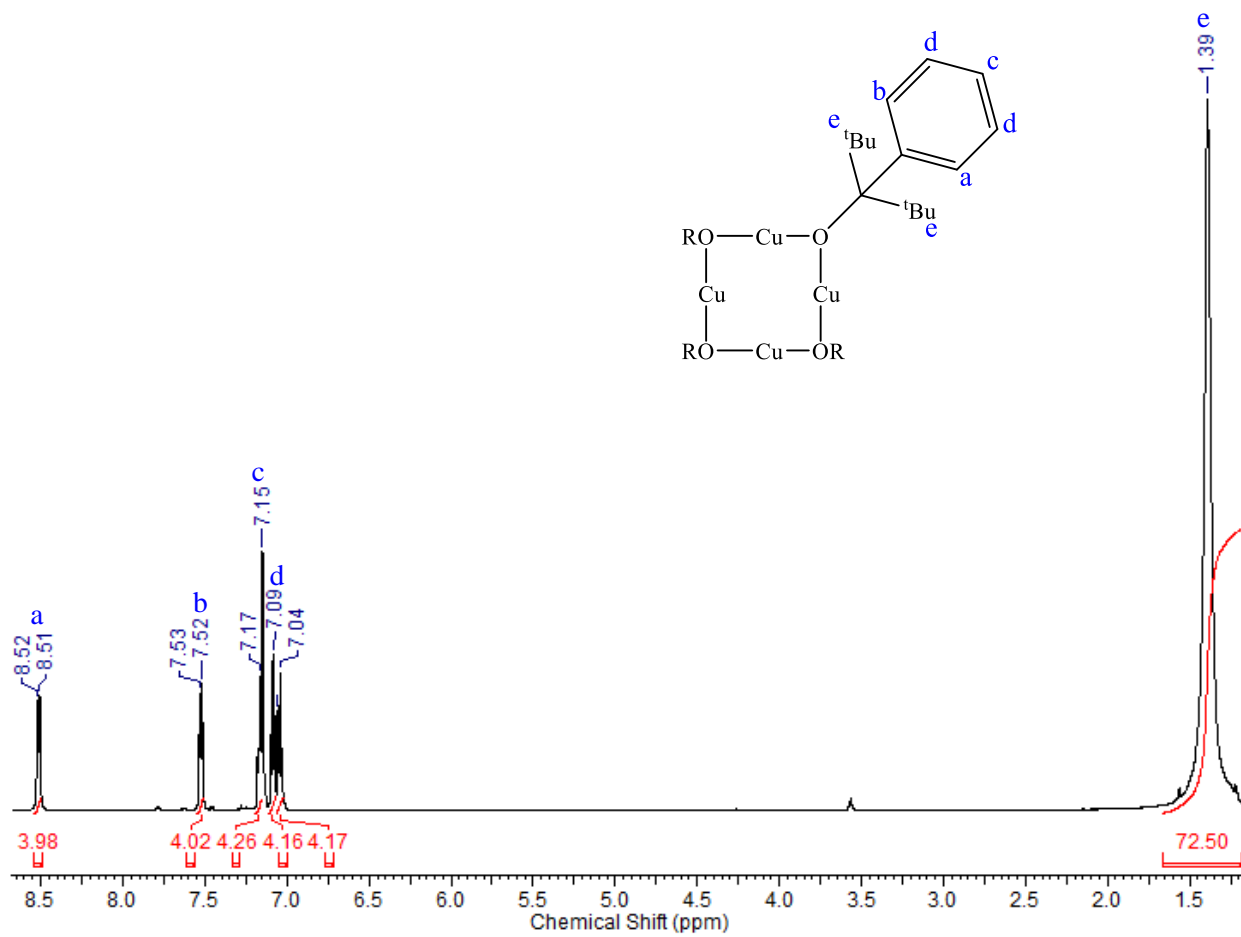


**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY NMR of  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

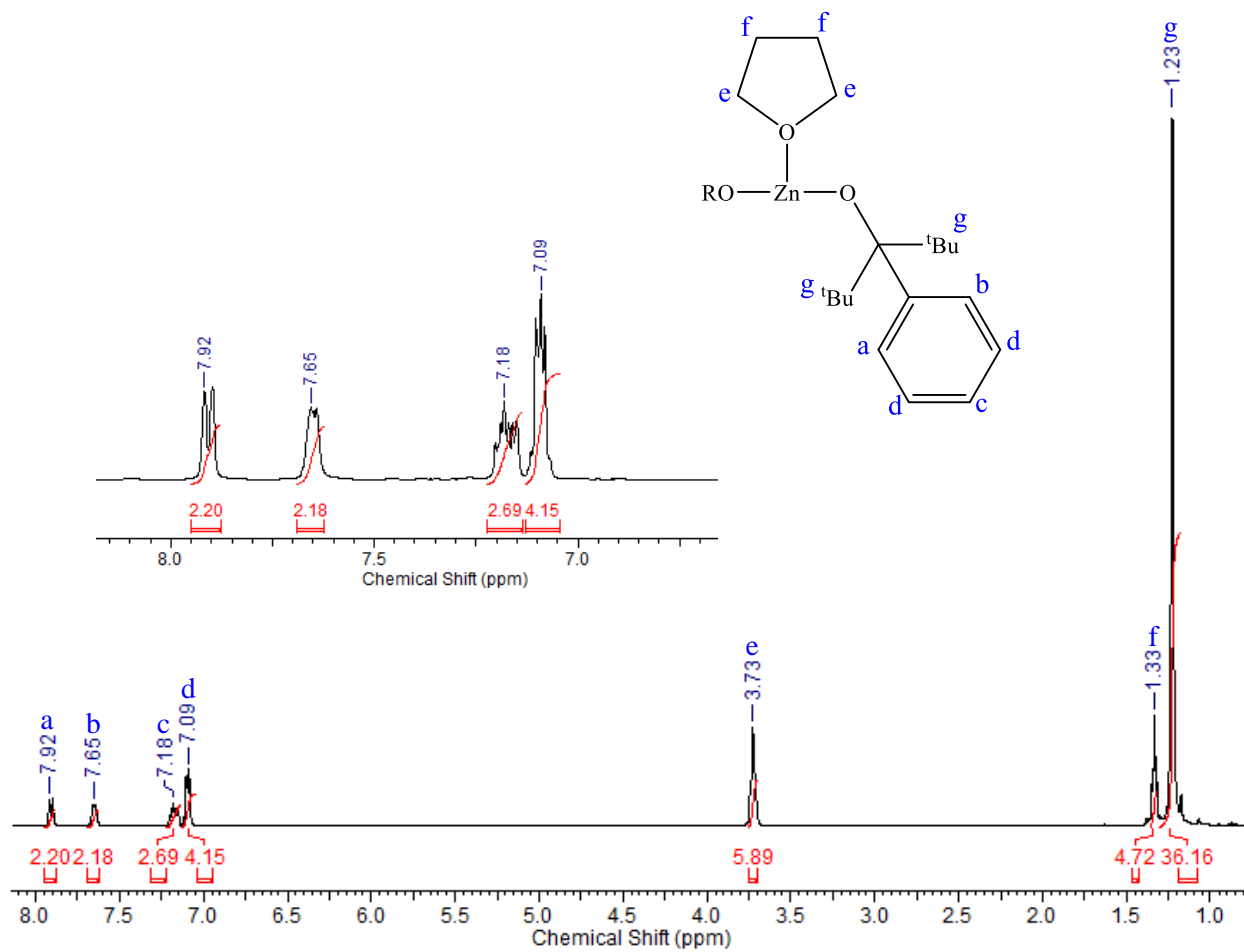


**Figure S6.** VT <sup>1</sup>H NMR of  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  ( $\text{C}_7\text{D}_8$ , 400 MHz).

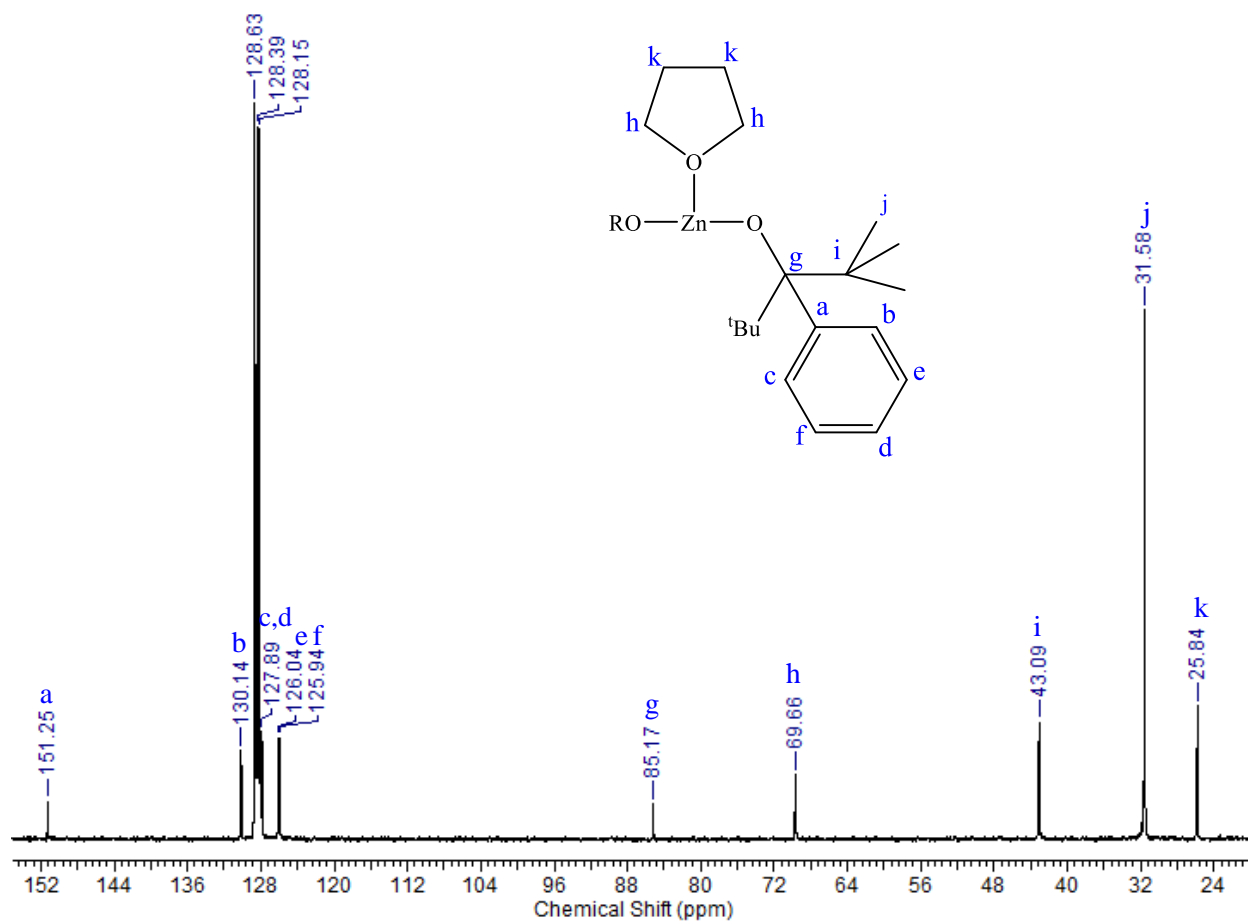




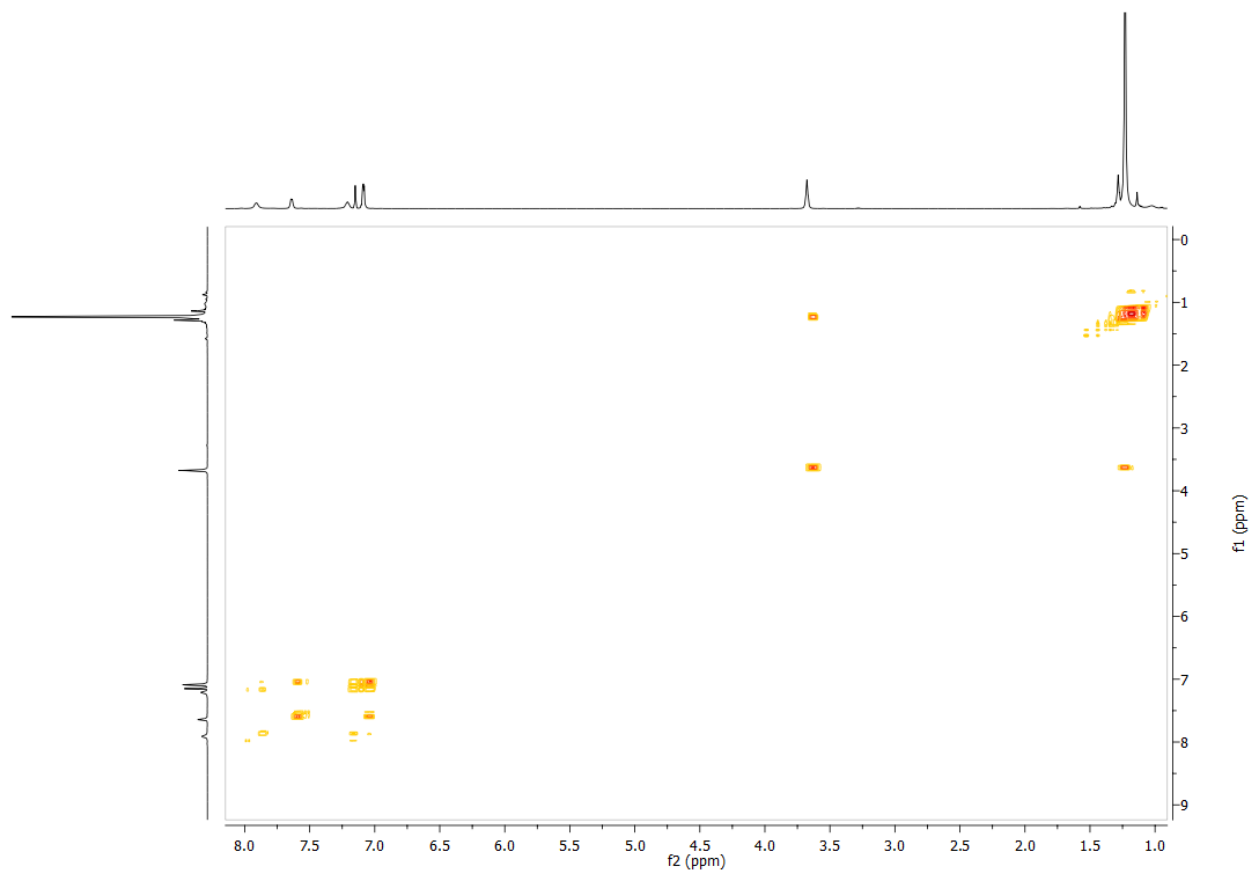
**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Cu}_4(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_4$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



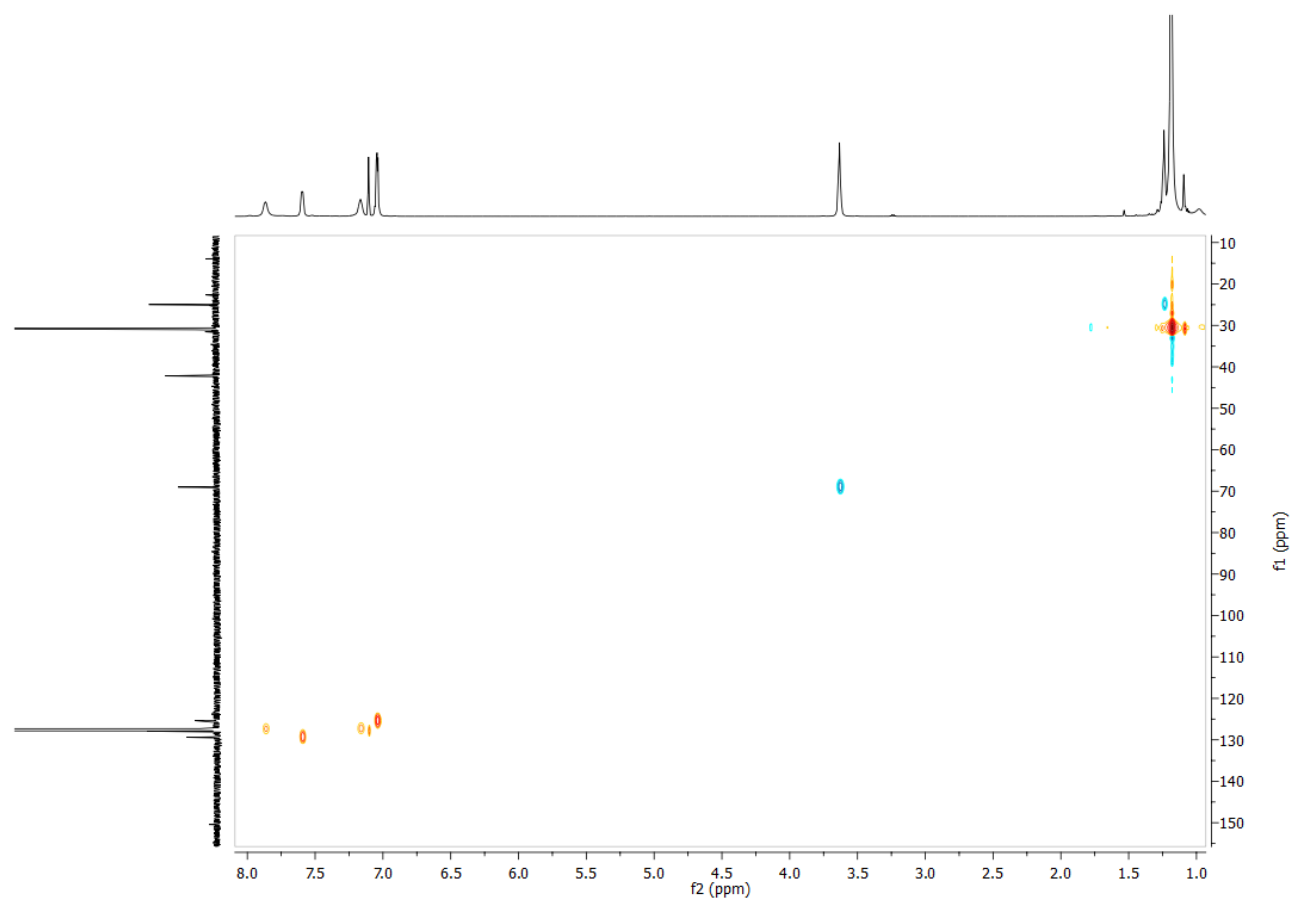
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Zn}(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2(\text{THF})$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 400 MHz).



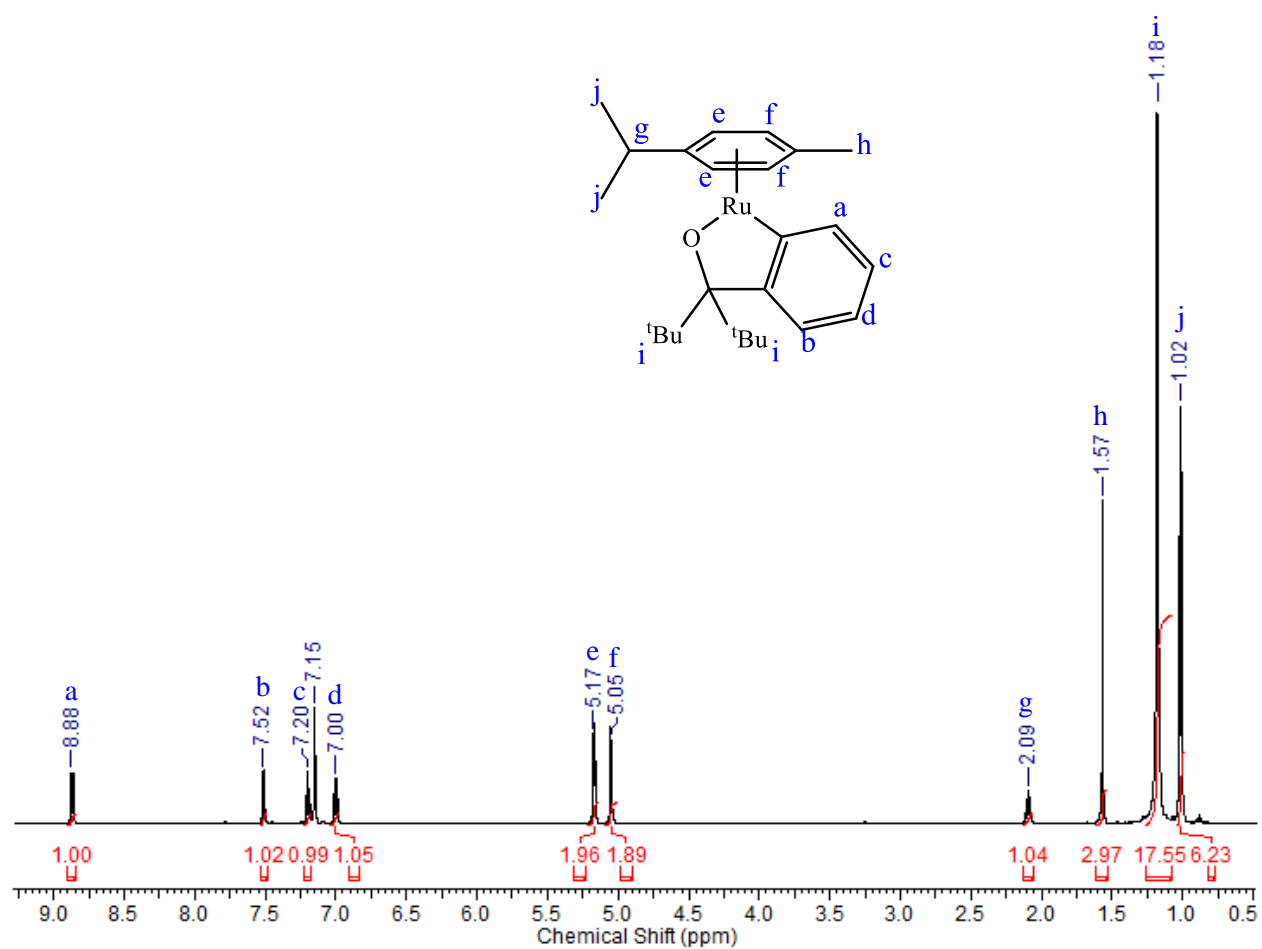
**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{Zn}(\text{OR})_2(\text{THF})$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 100 MHz).



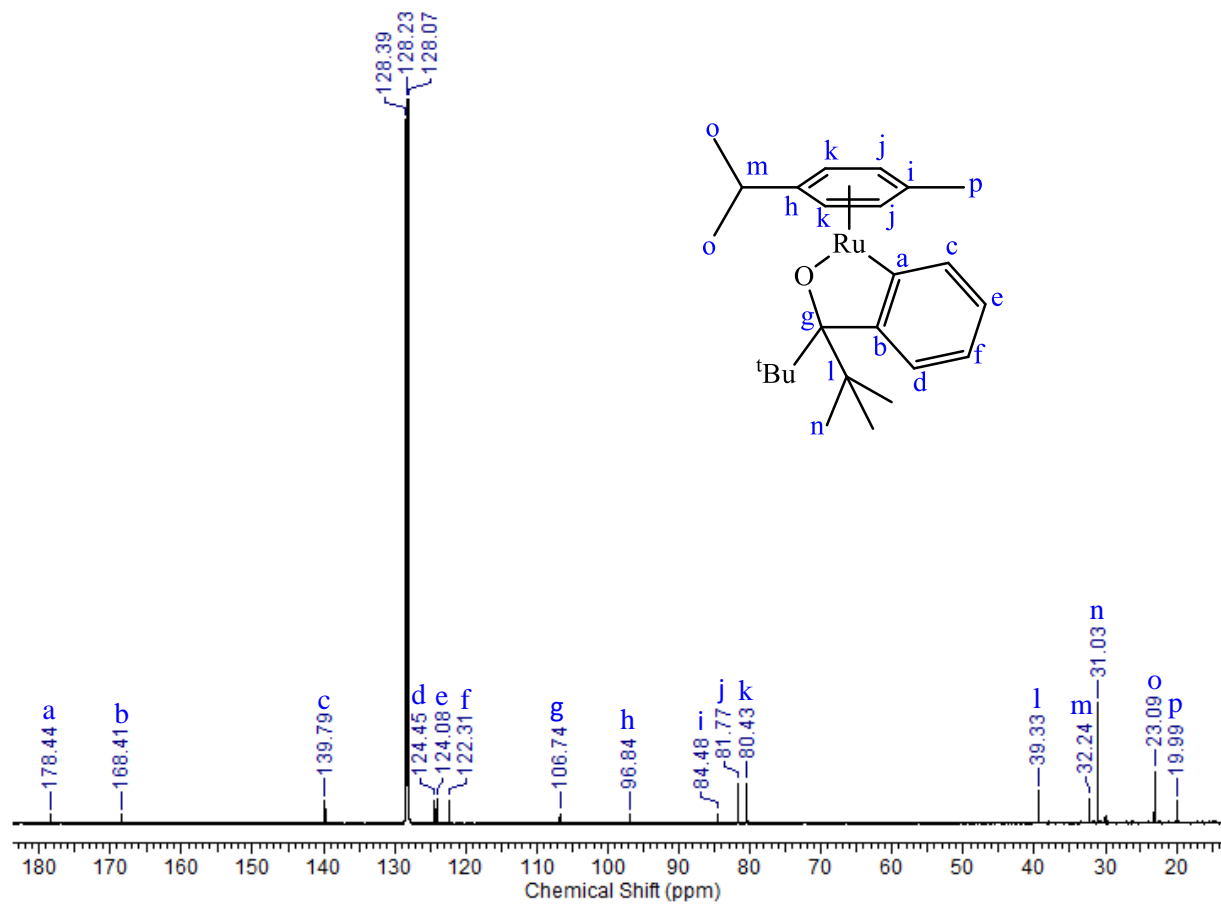
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR of  $\text{Zn}(\text{OR})_2(\text{THF})$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



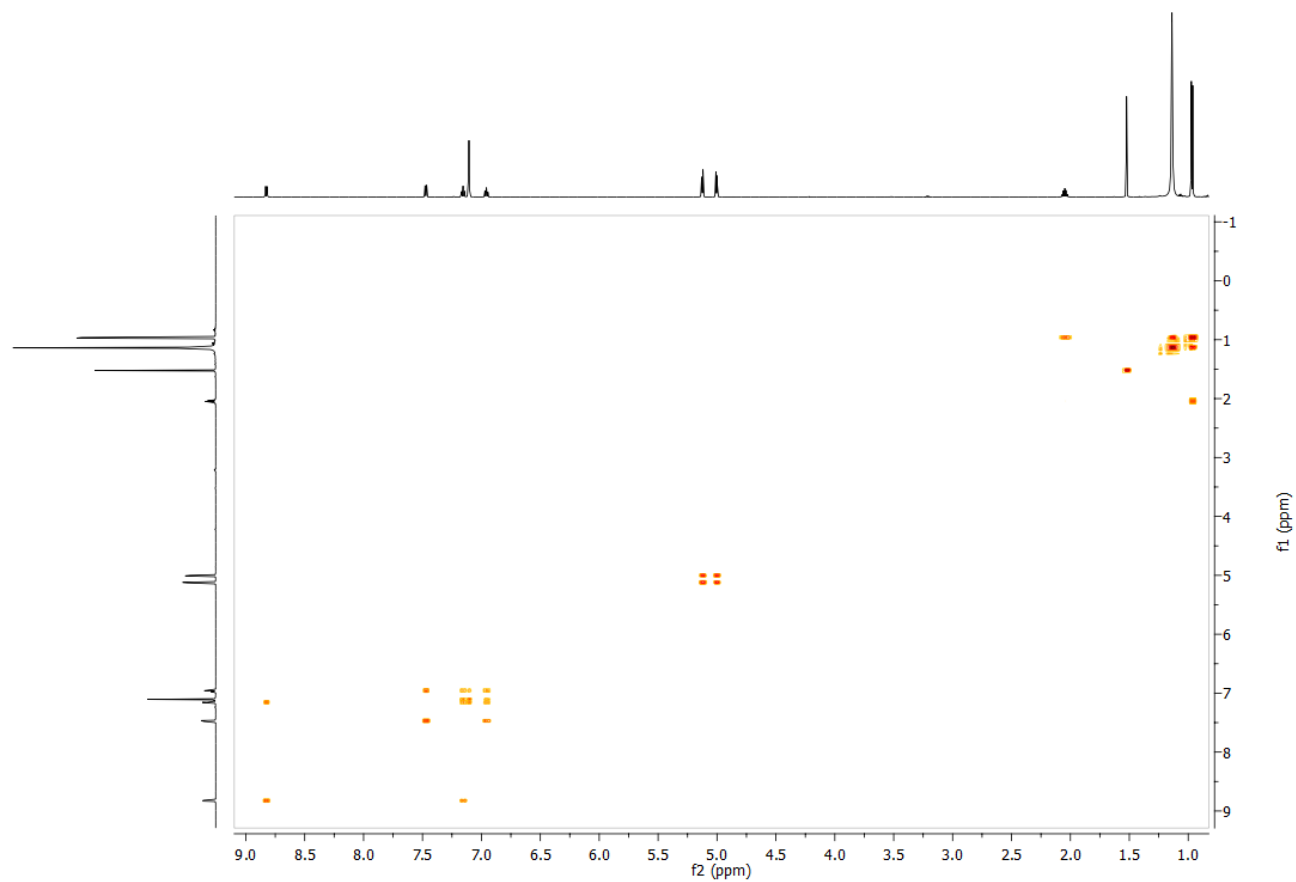
**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQCAD NMR of  $\text{Zn}(\text{OR})_2(\text{THF})$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

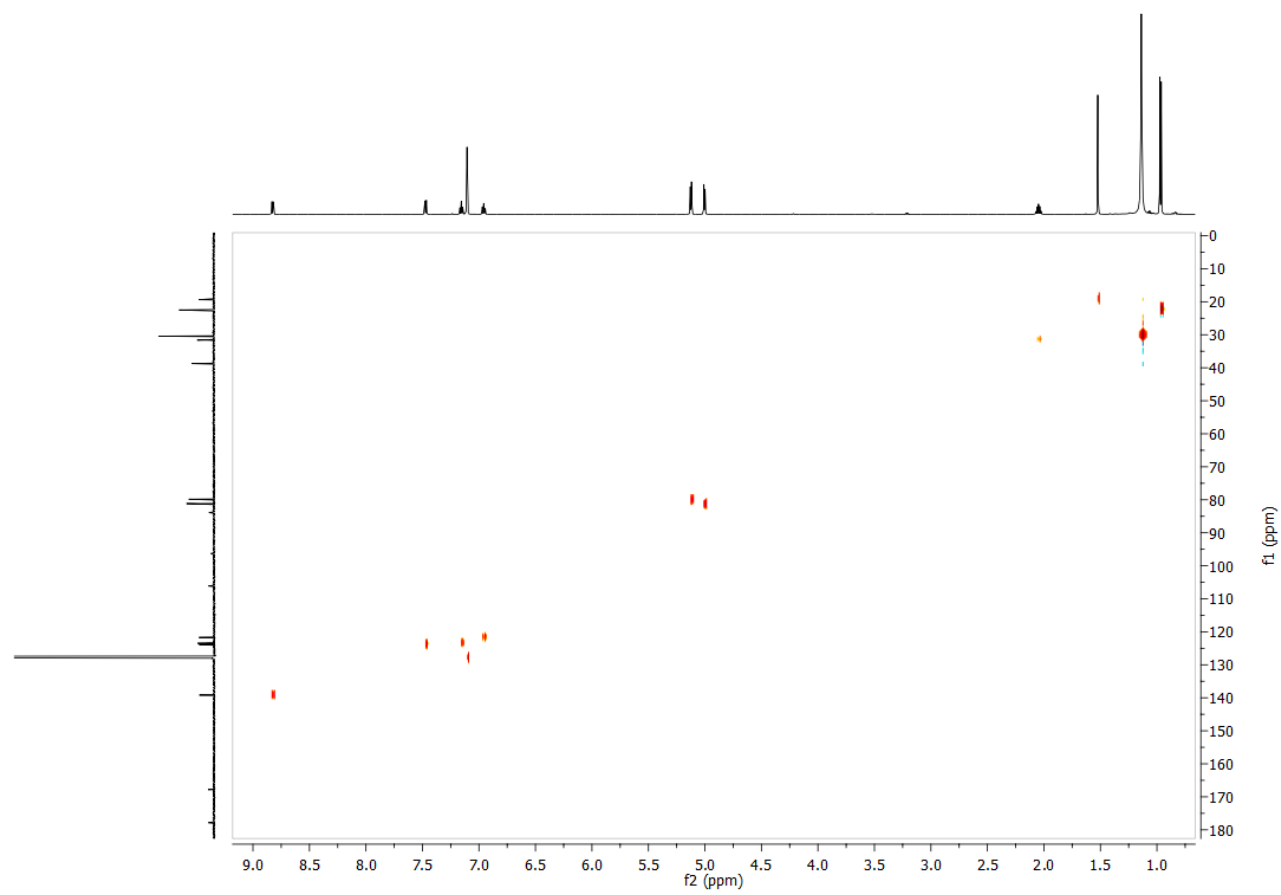


**Figure S13.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 150 MHz).

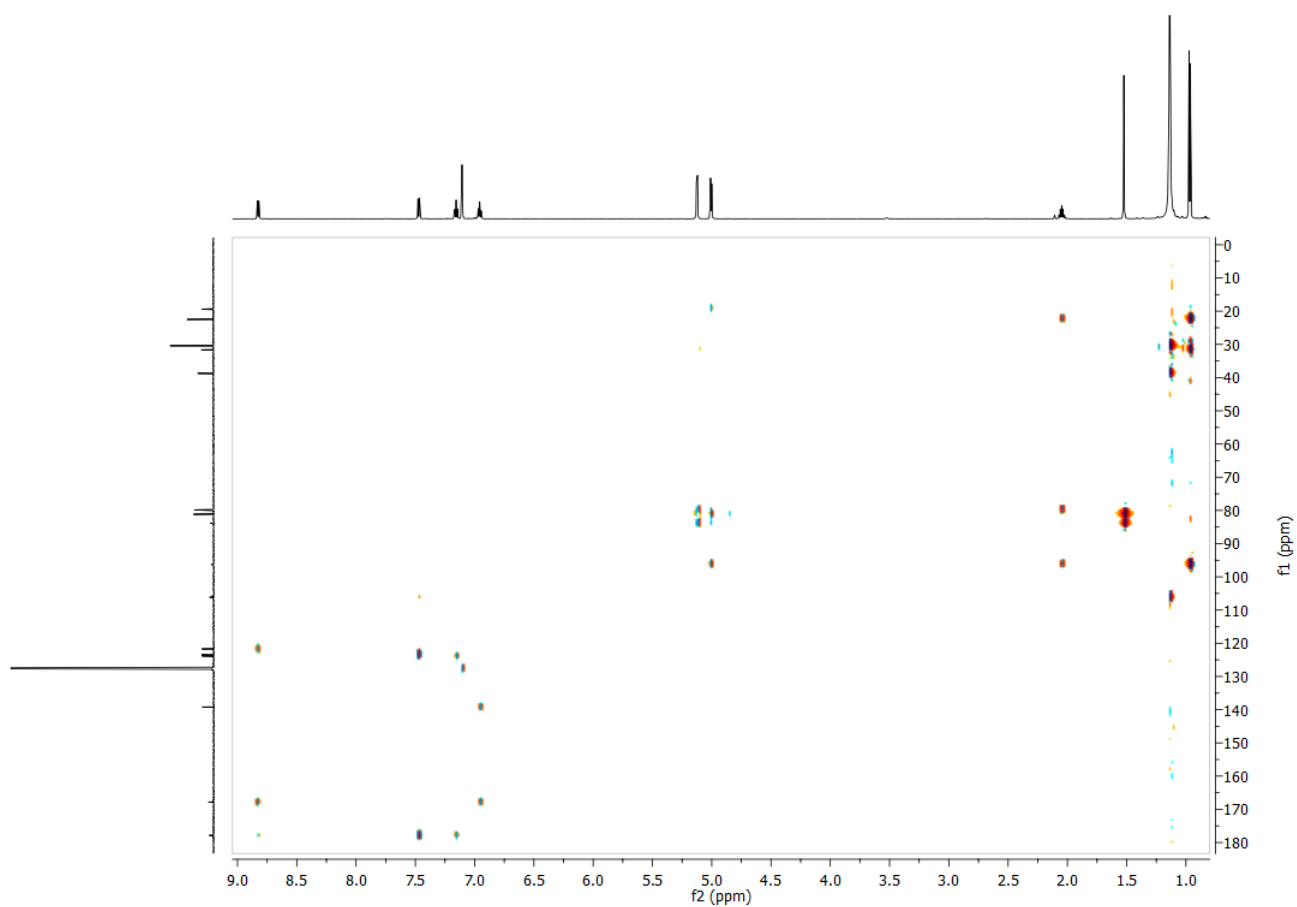


**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

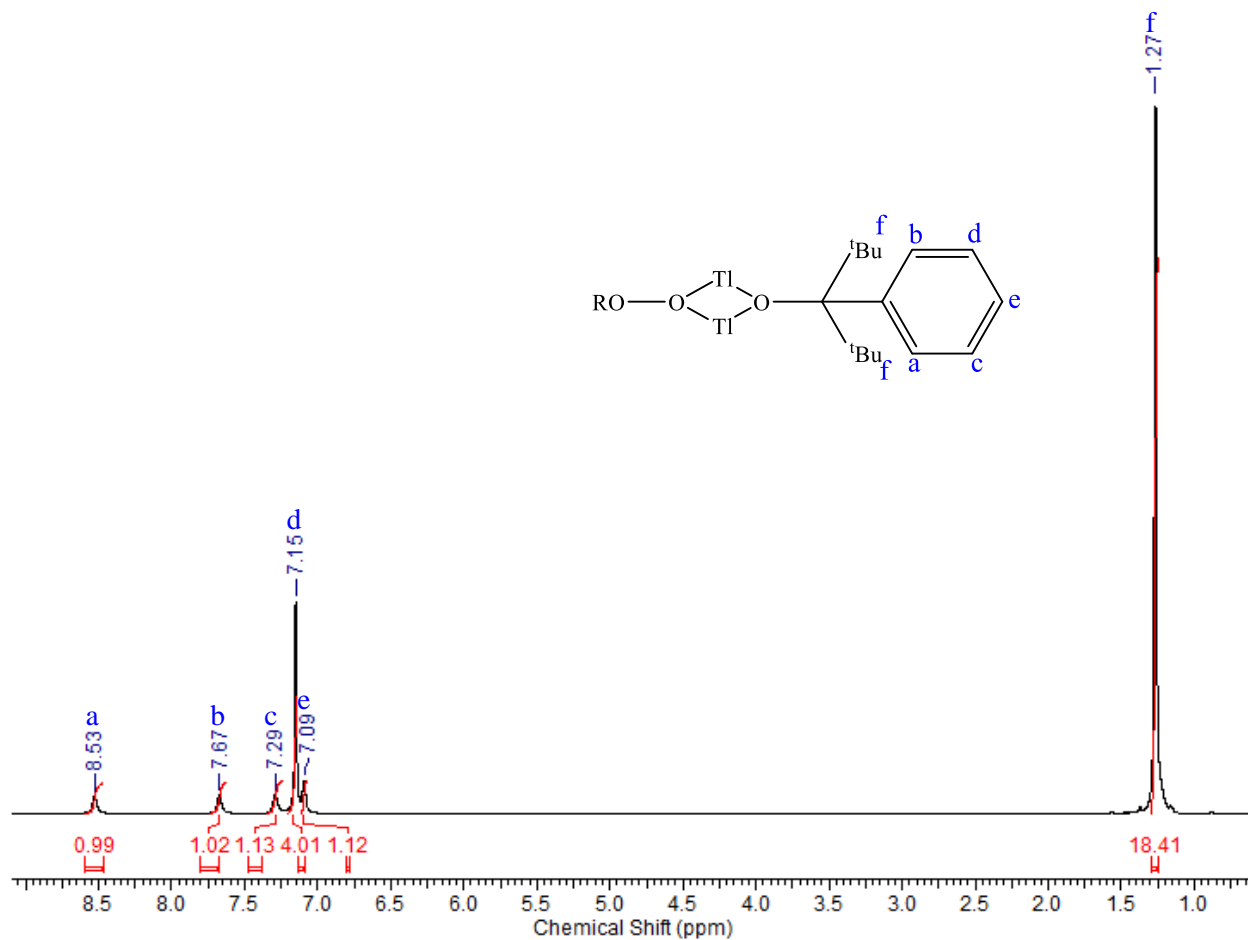




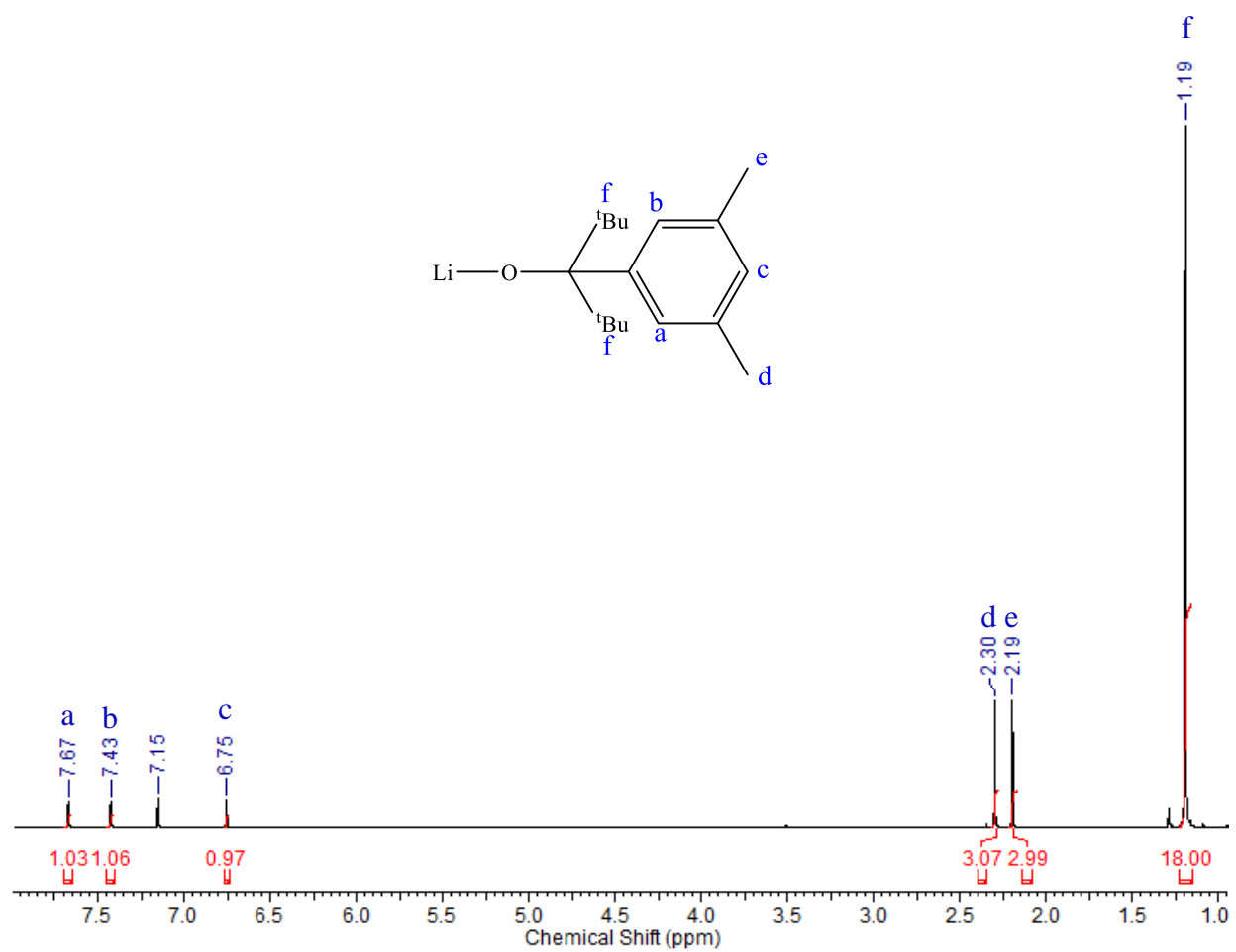
**Figure S15.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQCAD NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



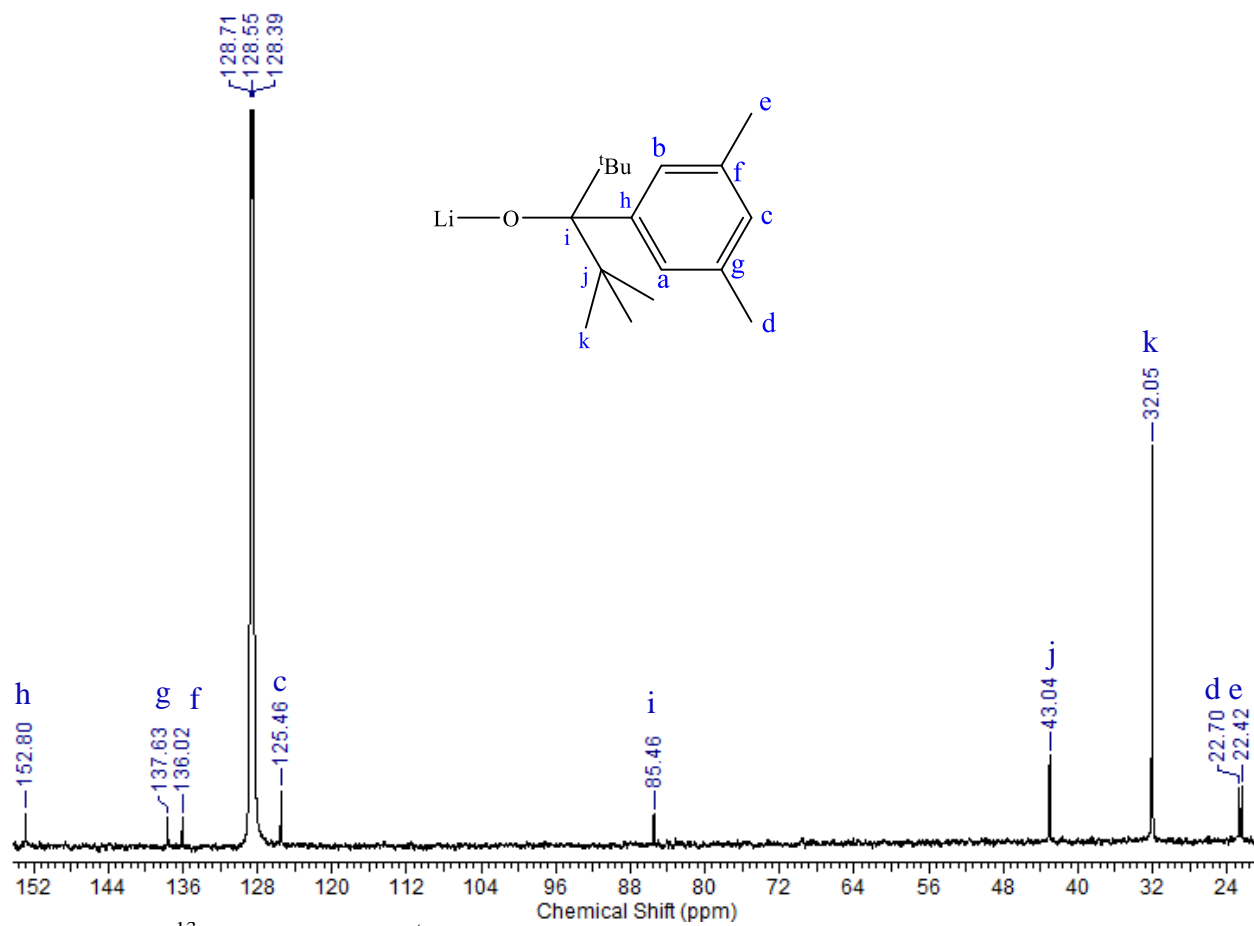
**Figure S16.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_2)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



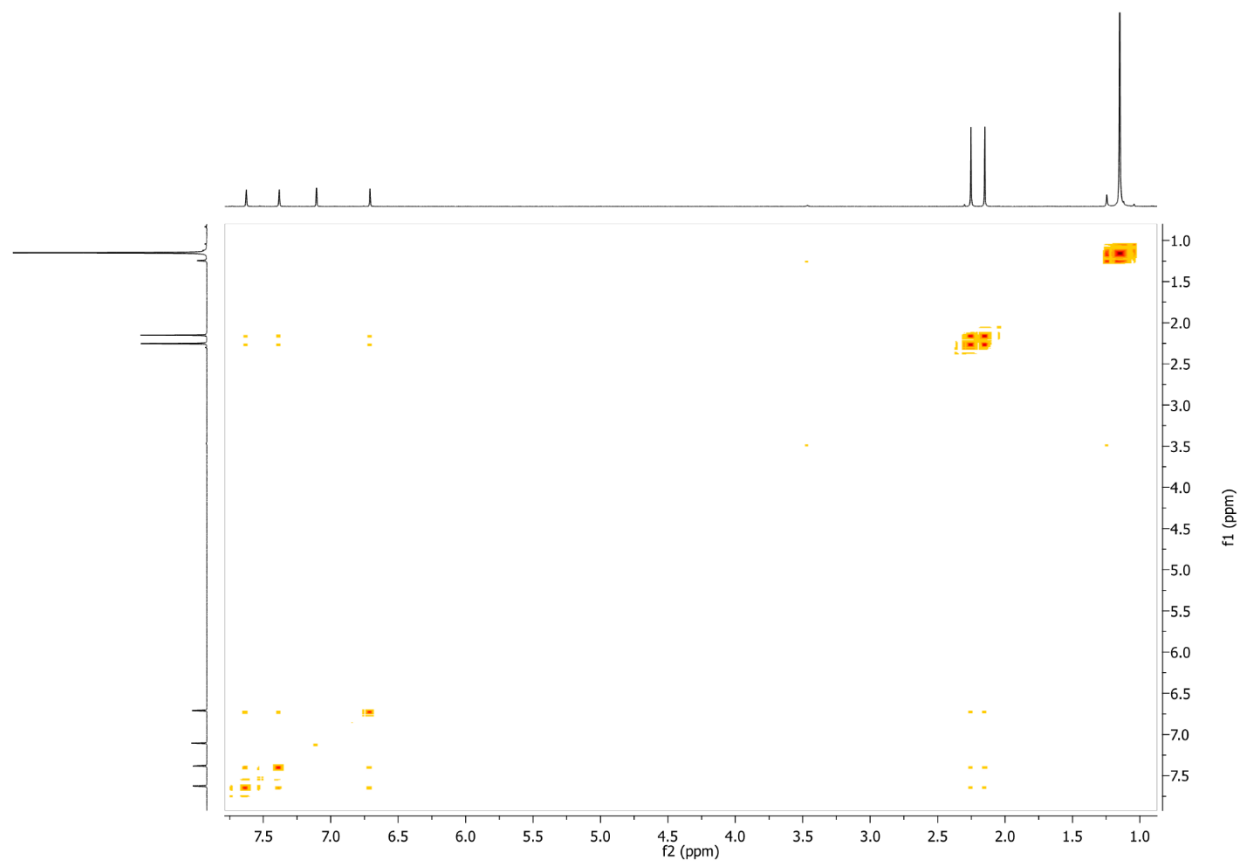
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $\text{Tl}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  as obtained from the attempted preparation of “Ni(OR) $_2$ ” ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



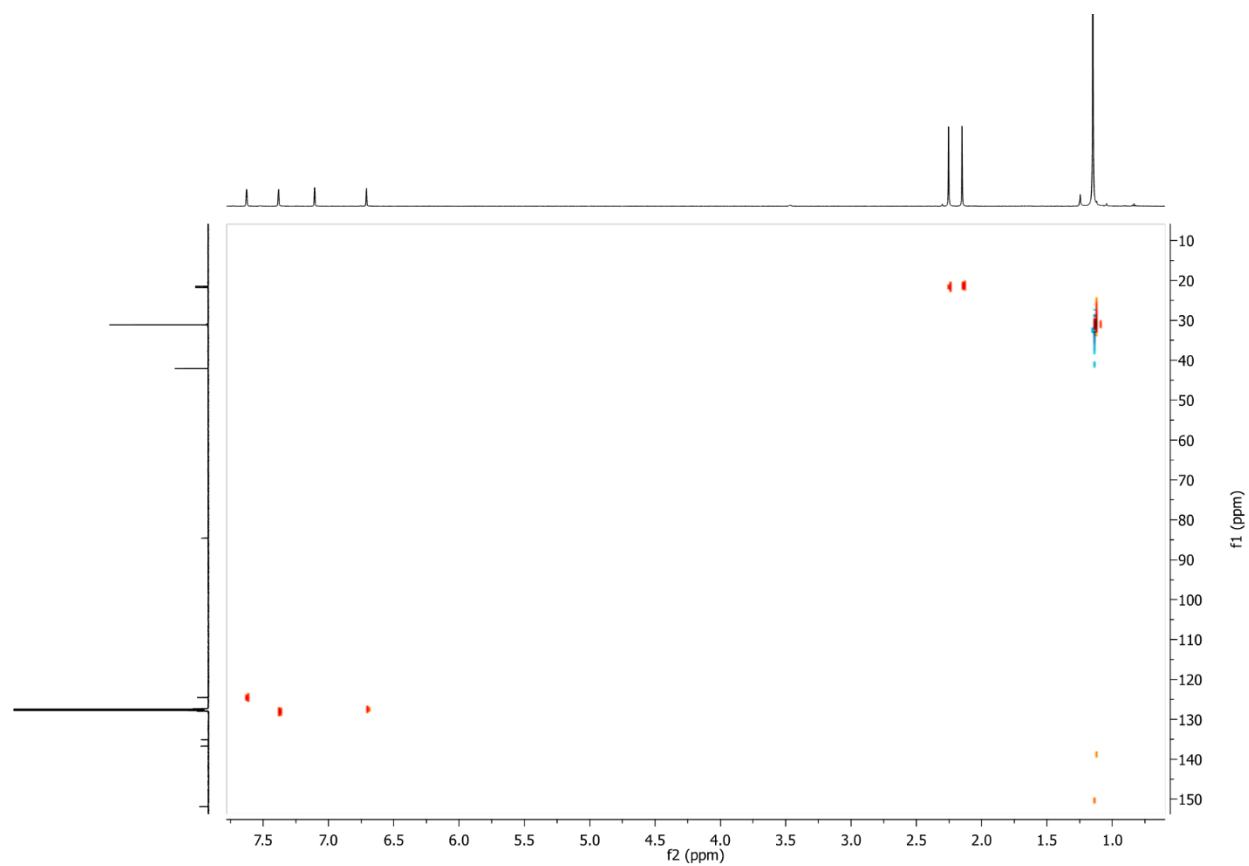
**Figure S18.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of LiOC<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>) (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz).



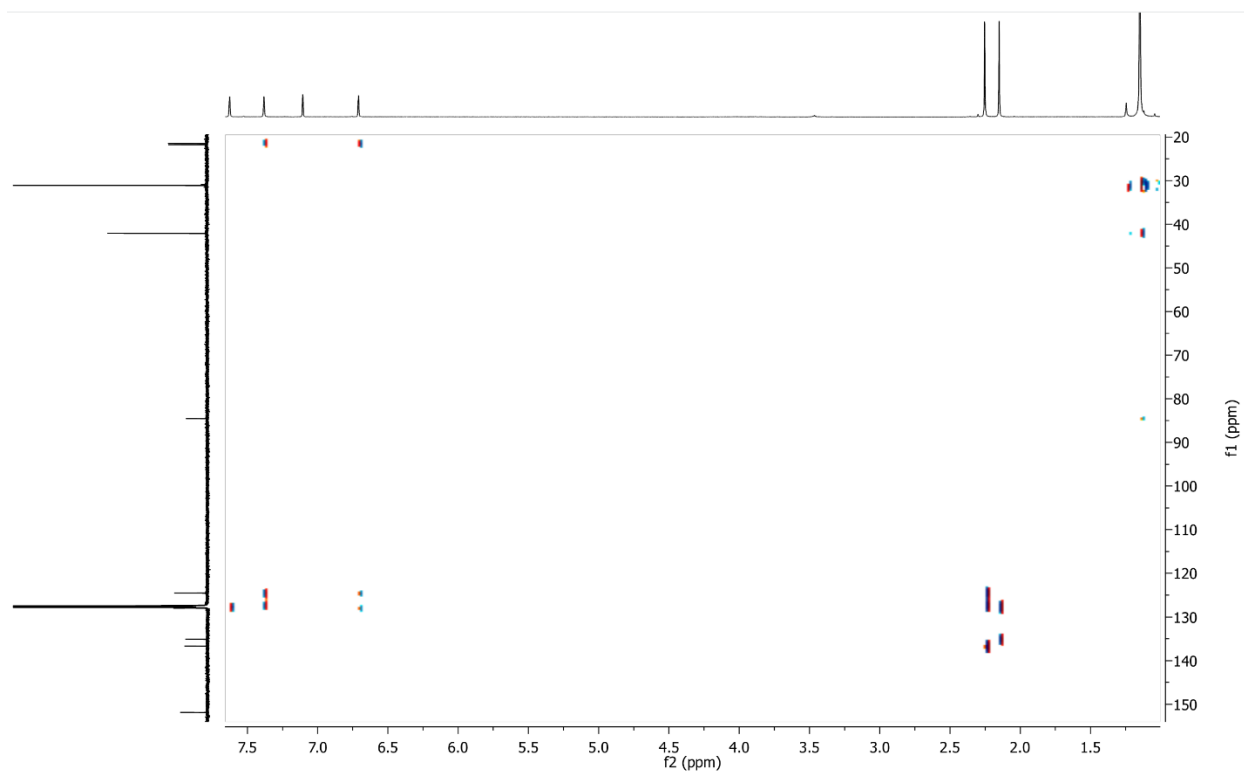
**Figure S19.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{LiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 150 MHz). \*Carbons **a** and **b** appear under  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  peaks, and were detected by HSQCAD, HMBC and HMQC.



**Figure S20.** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY NMR of LiOC<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>) (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz).

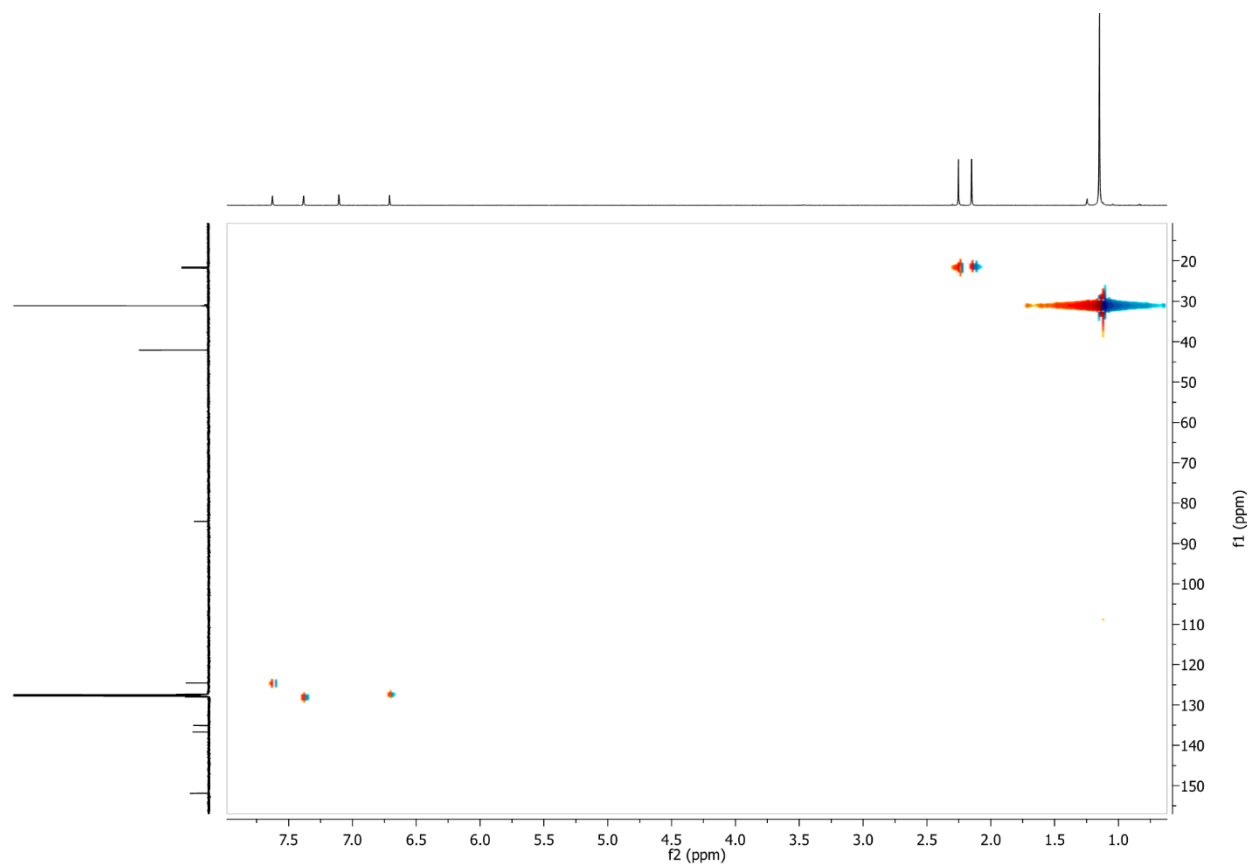


**Figure S21.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR of  $\text{LiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

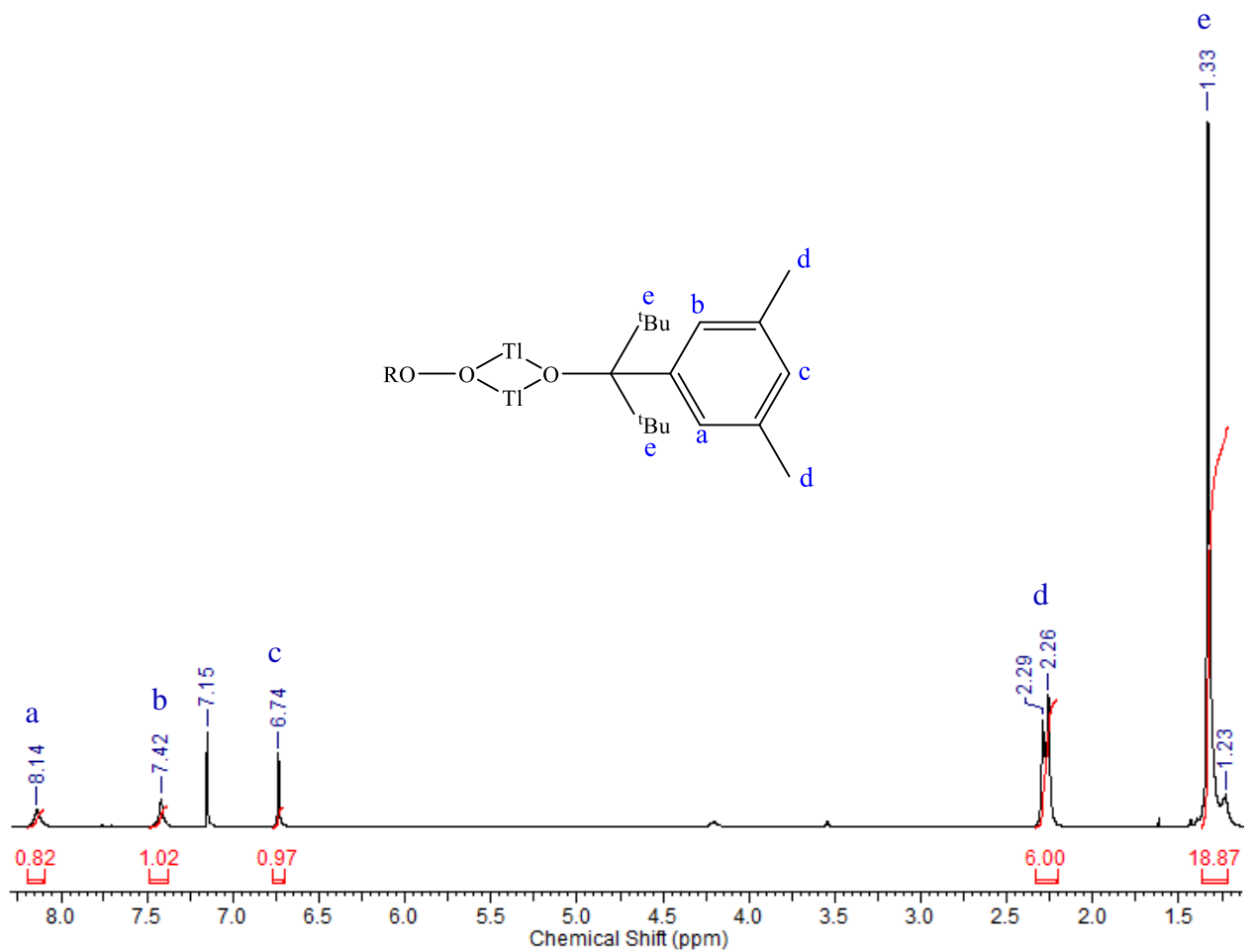


**Figure S22.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBCAD NMR of  $\text{LiOC}'\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

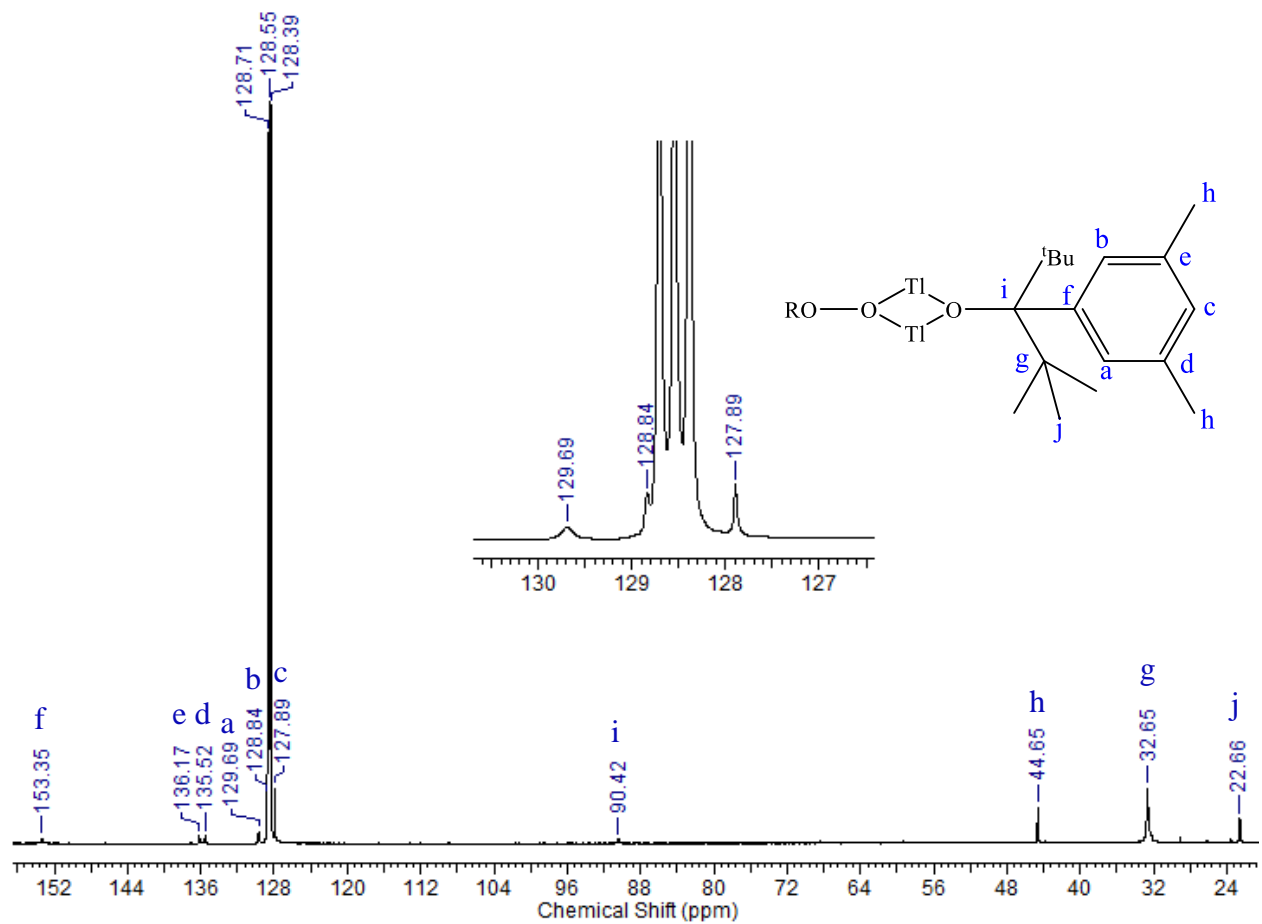




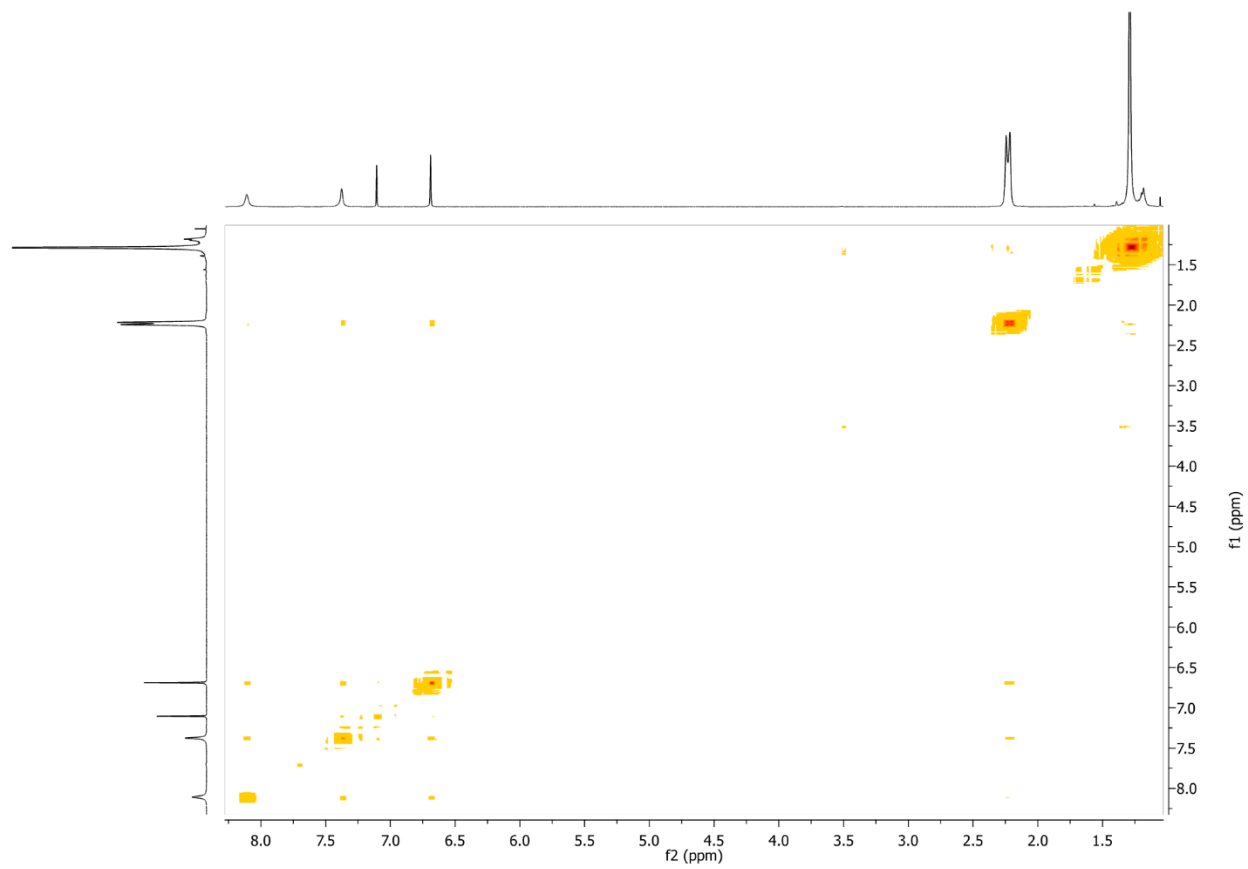
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMQC NMR of  $\text{LiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



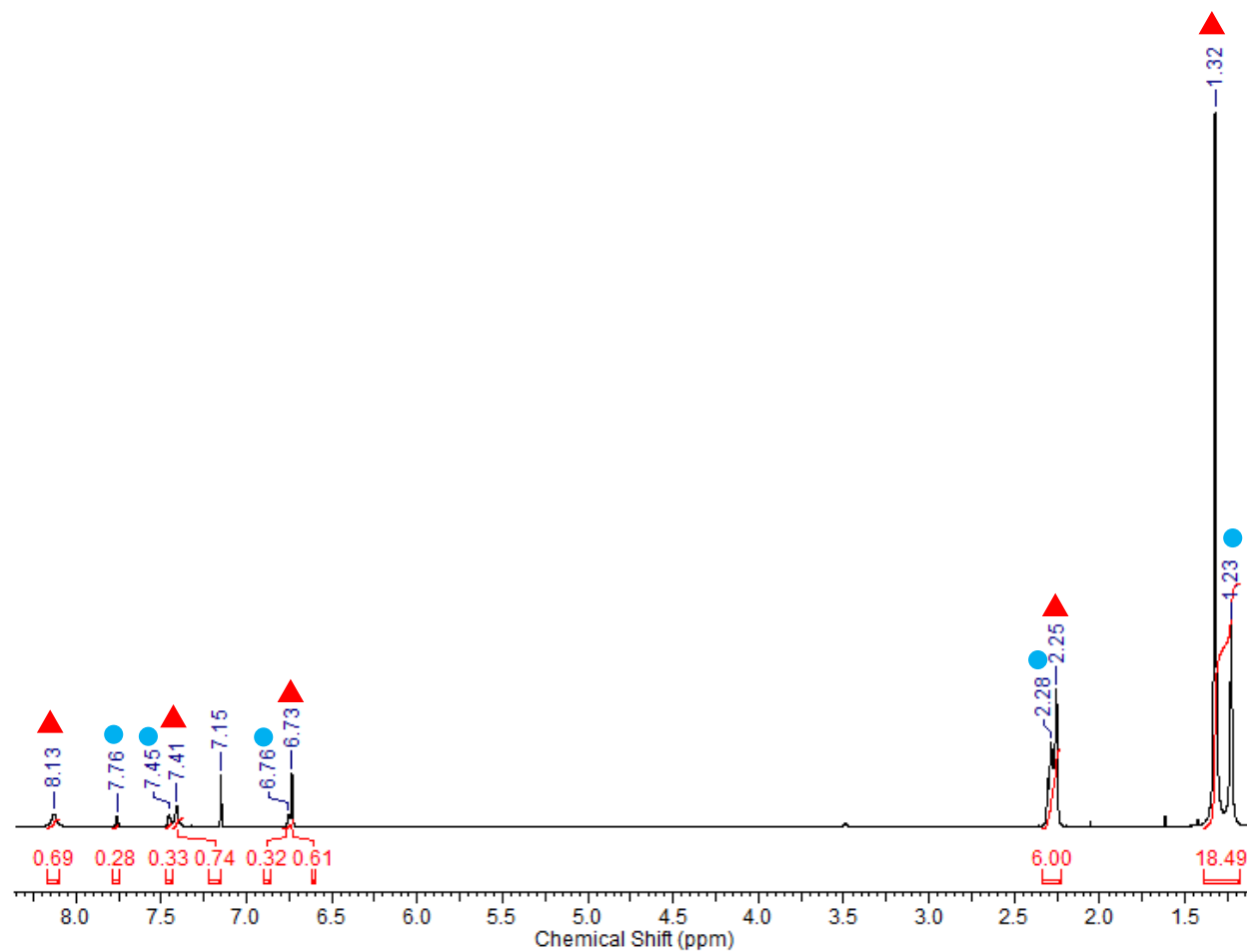
**Figure S24.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of TiOC<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>) (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz) (single isomer, obtained after prolonged storage at -35 °C).



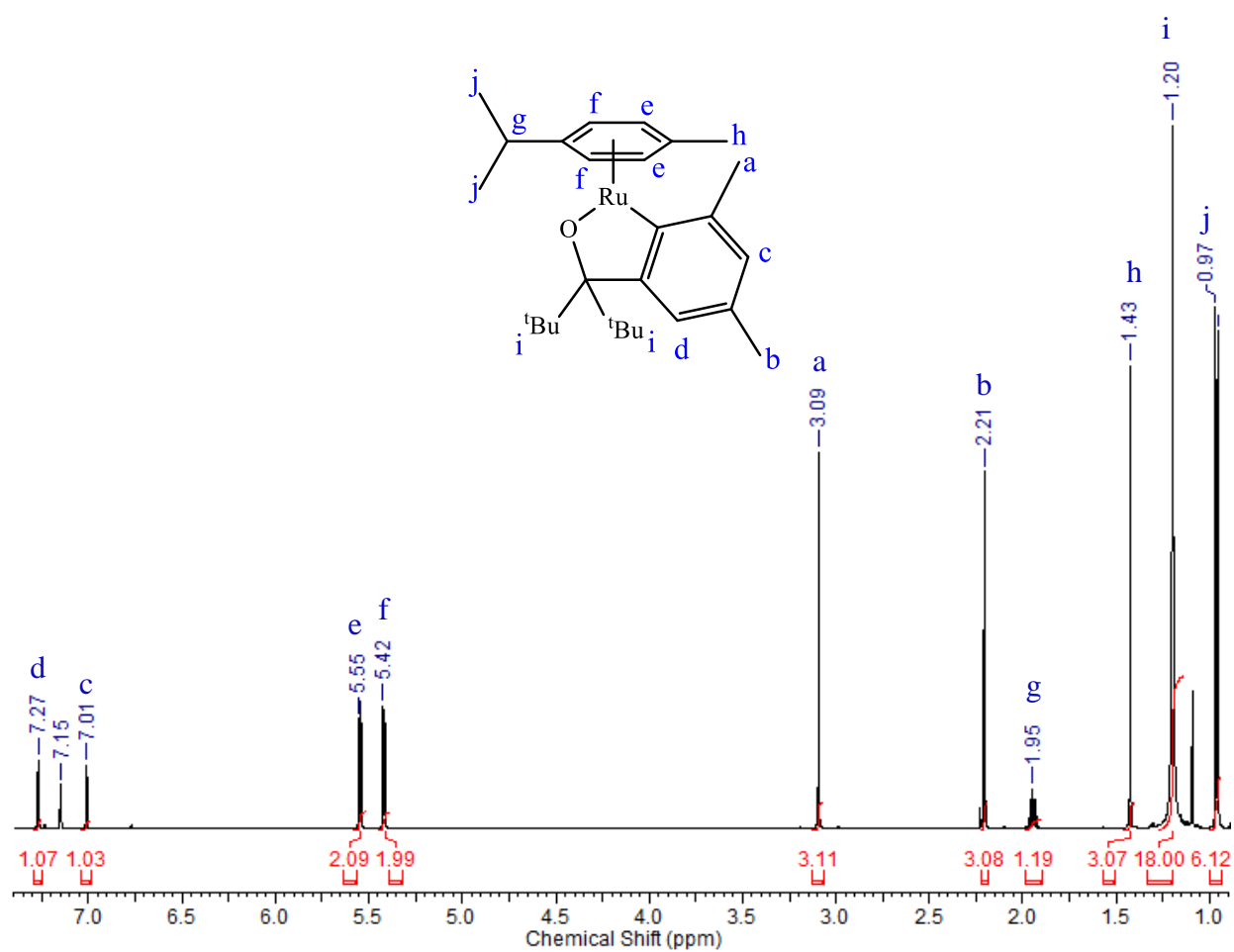
**Figure S25.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{TiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 150 MHz).



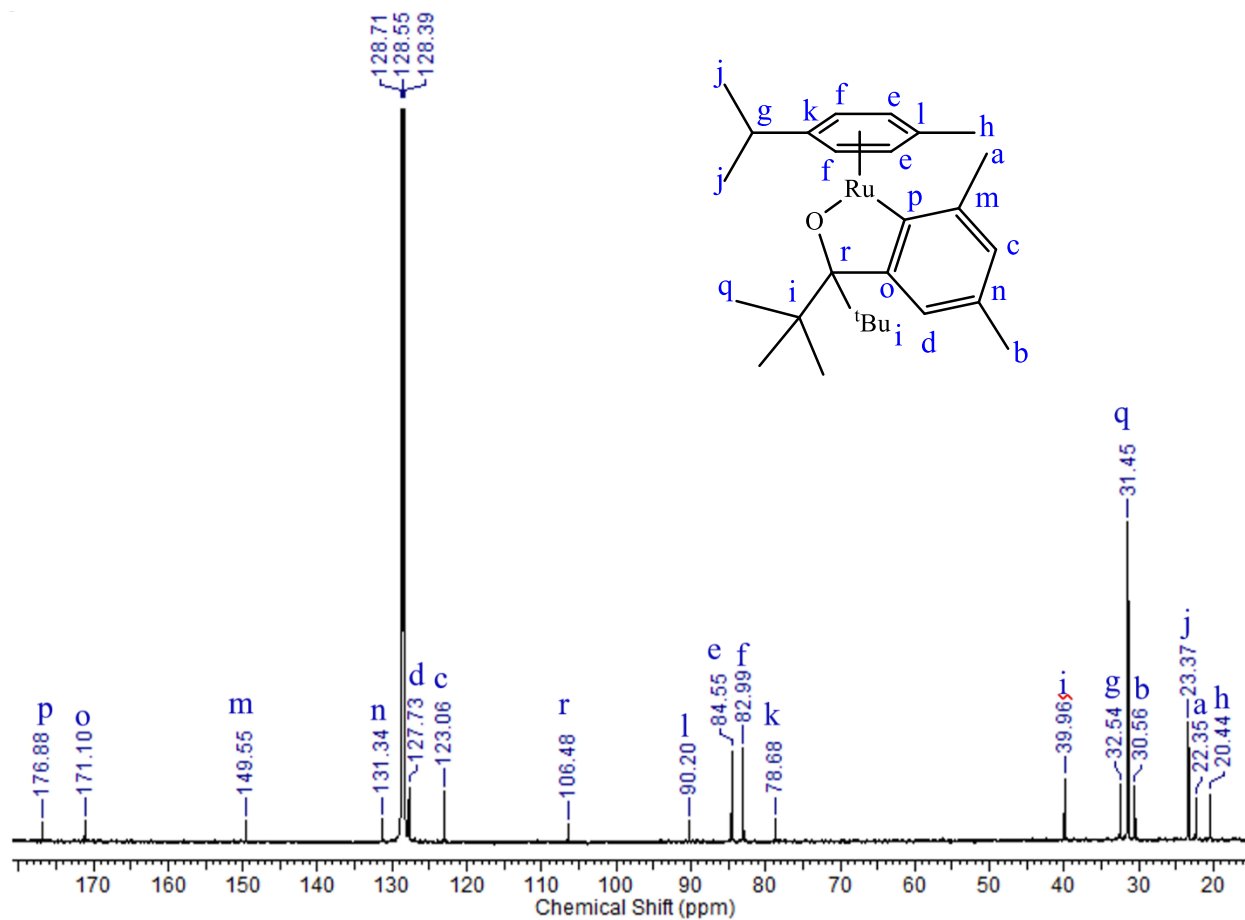
**Figure S26.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR of  $\text{TiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).



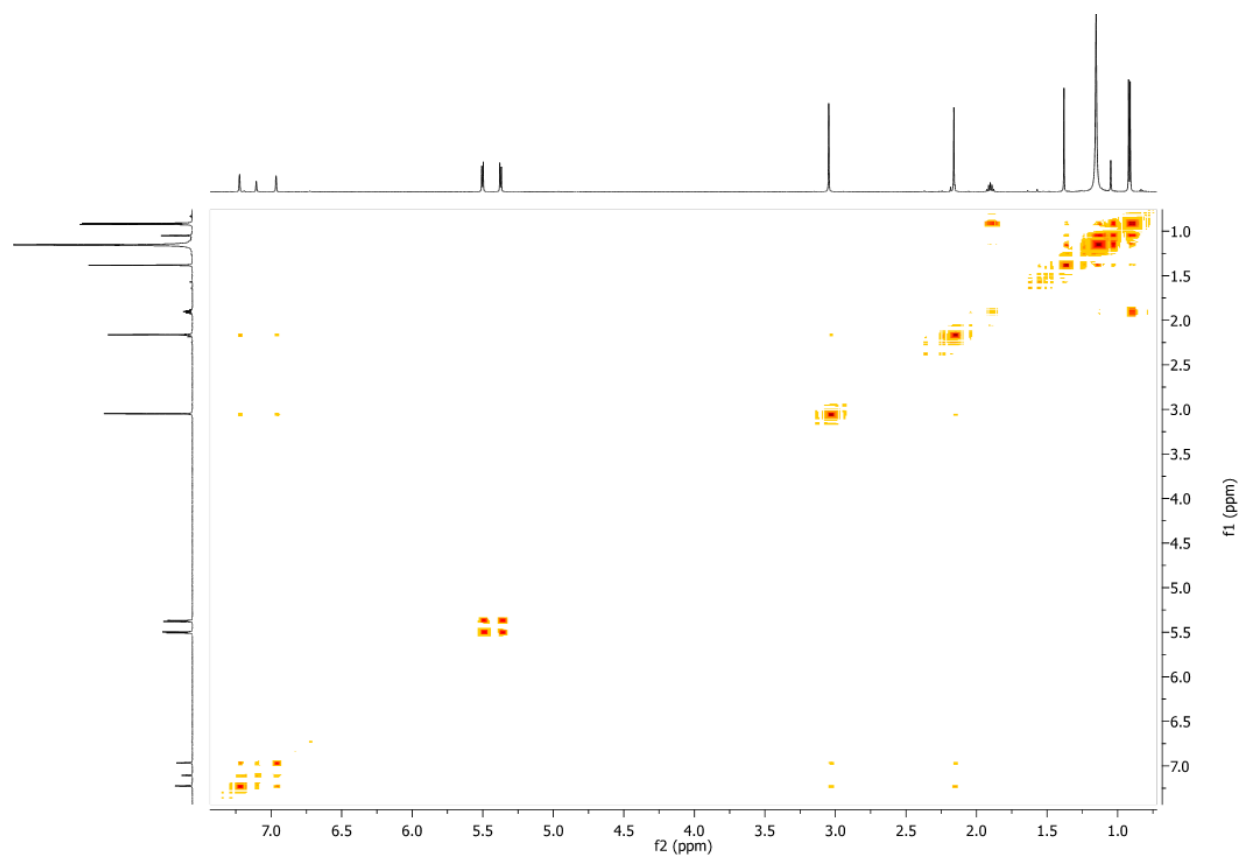
**Figure S27.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of freshly prepared  $\text{Tl}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))_2$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz, room temperature) demonstrating two isomers.



**Figure S28.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Ru(cymene)(κ<sup>2</sup>-OC<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>)) (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz).

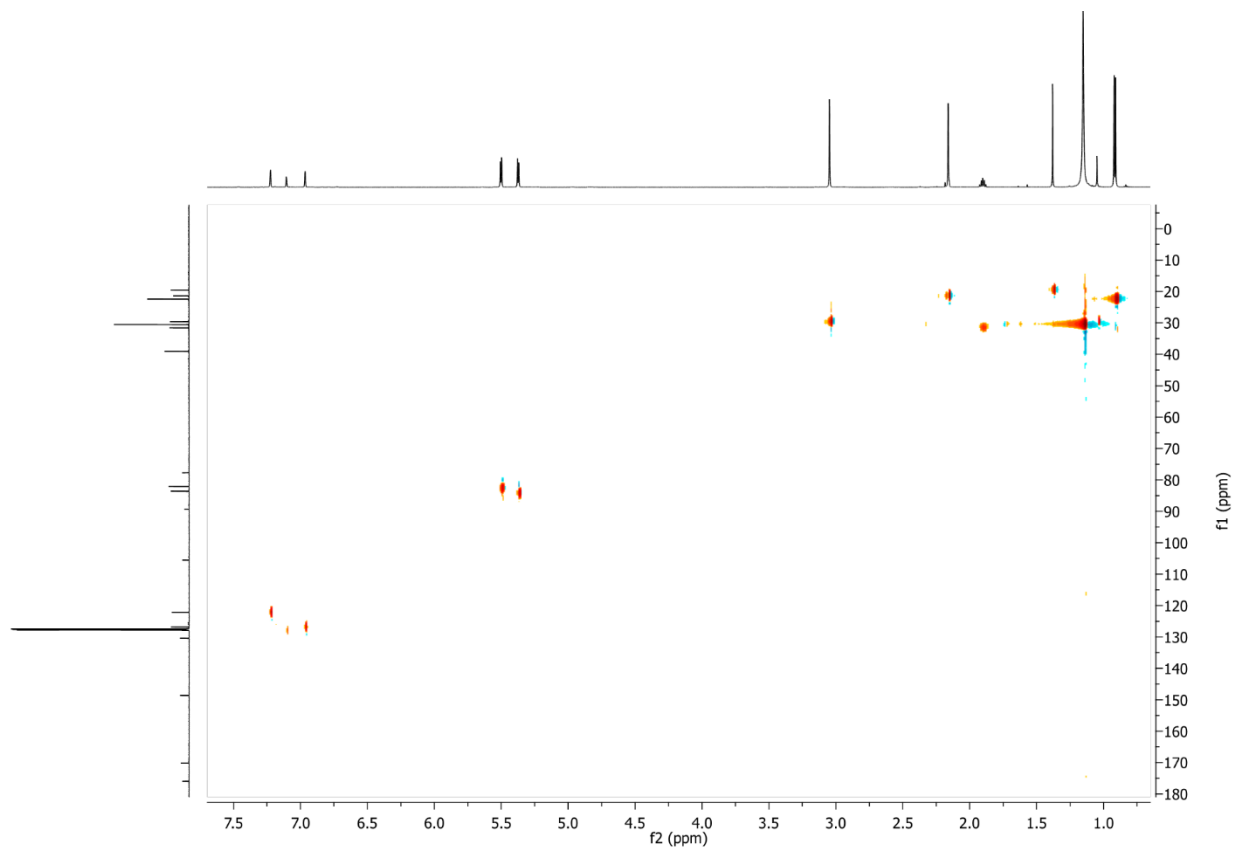


**Figure S29.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 150 MHz).

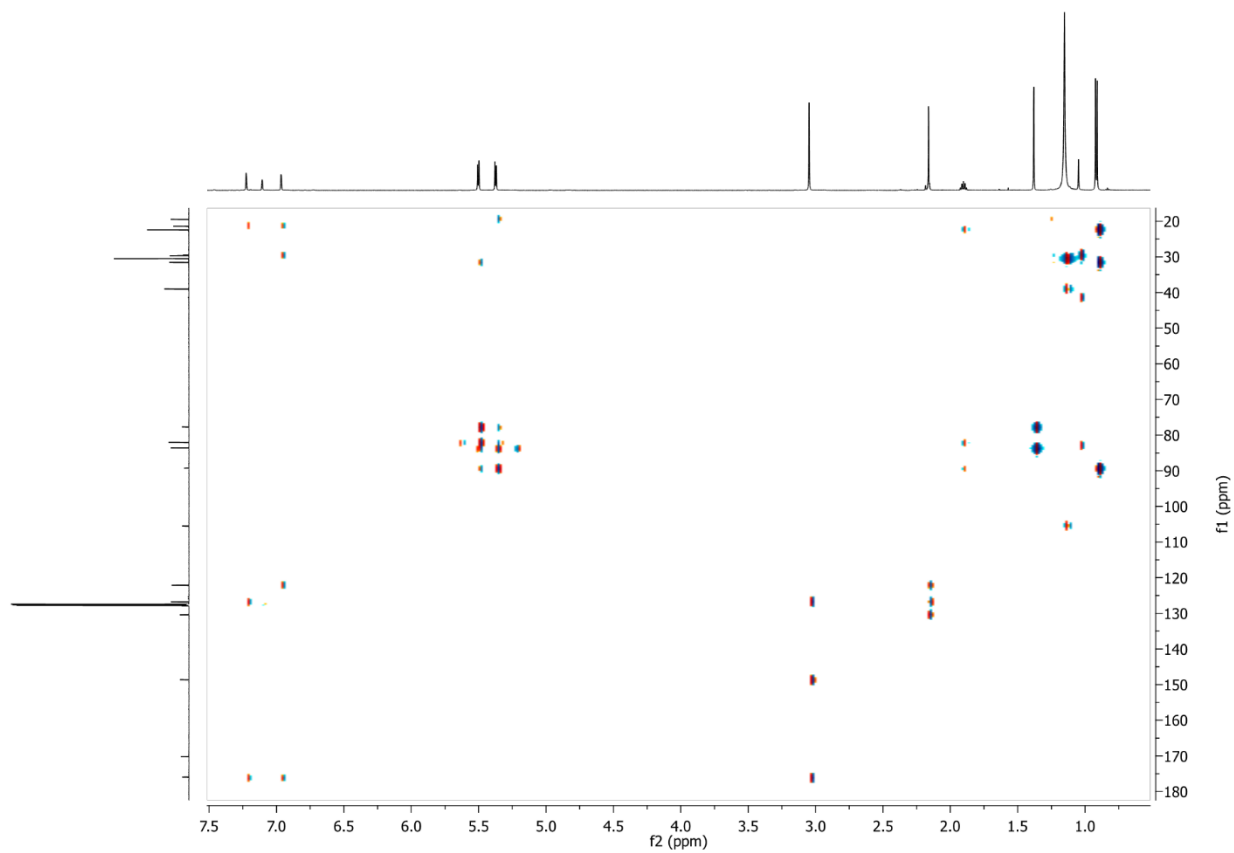


**Figure S30.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

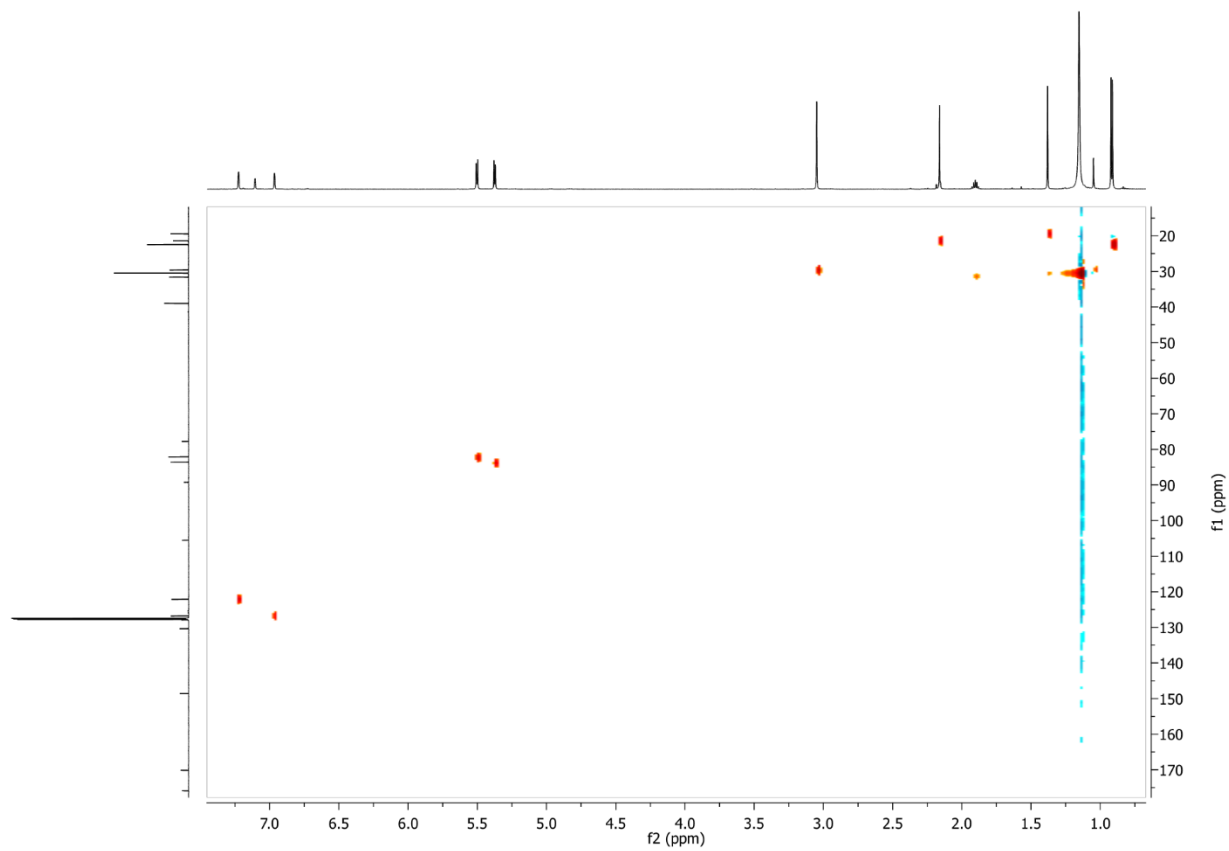




**Figure S31.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQCAD NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

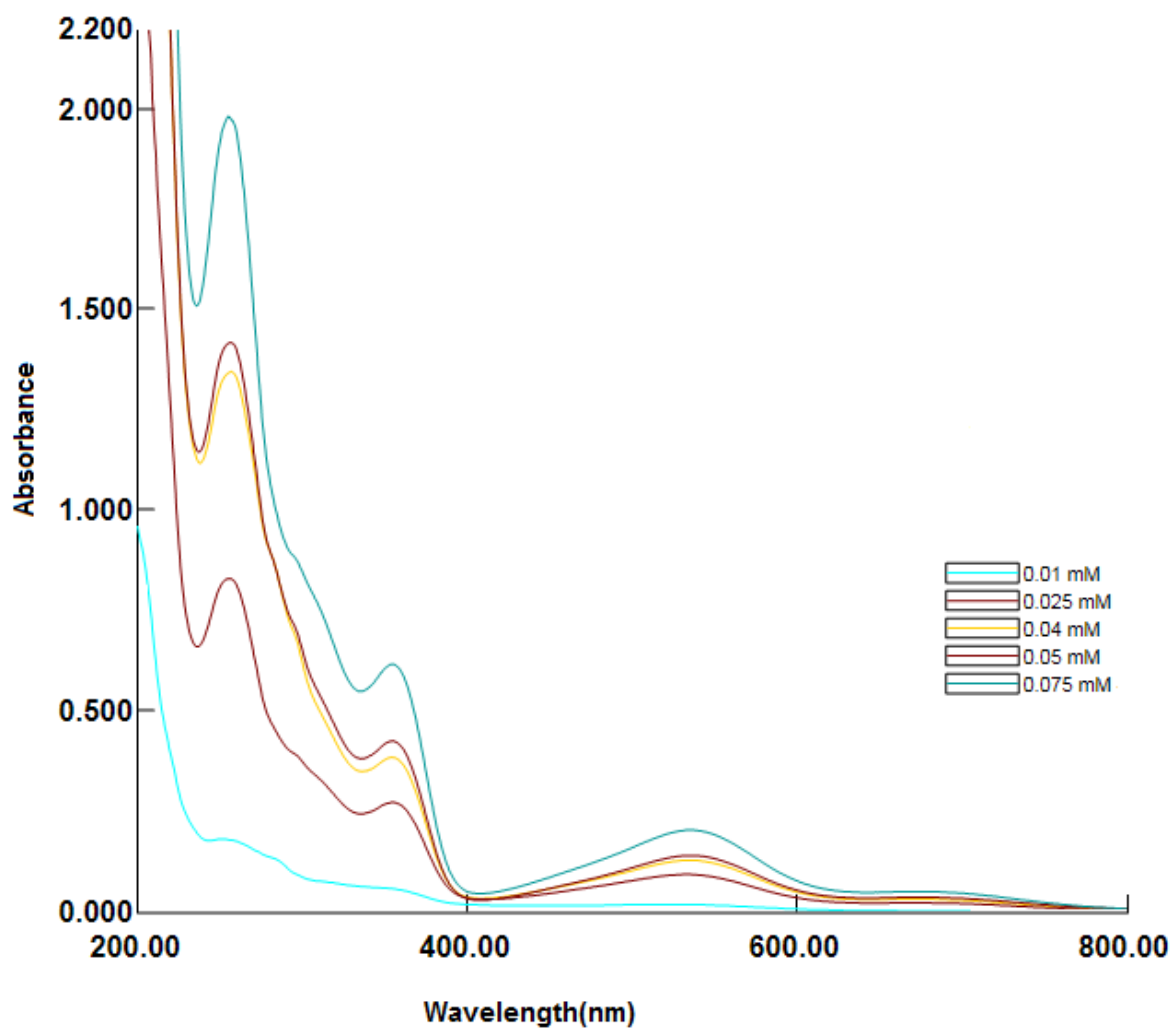


**Figure S32.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBCAD NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

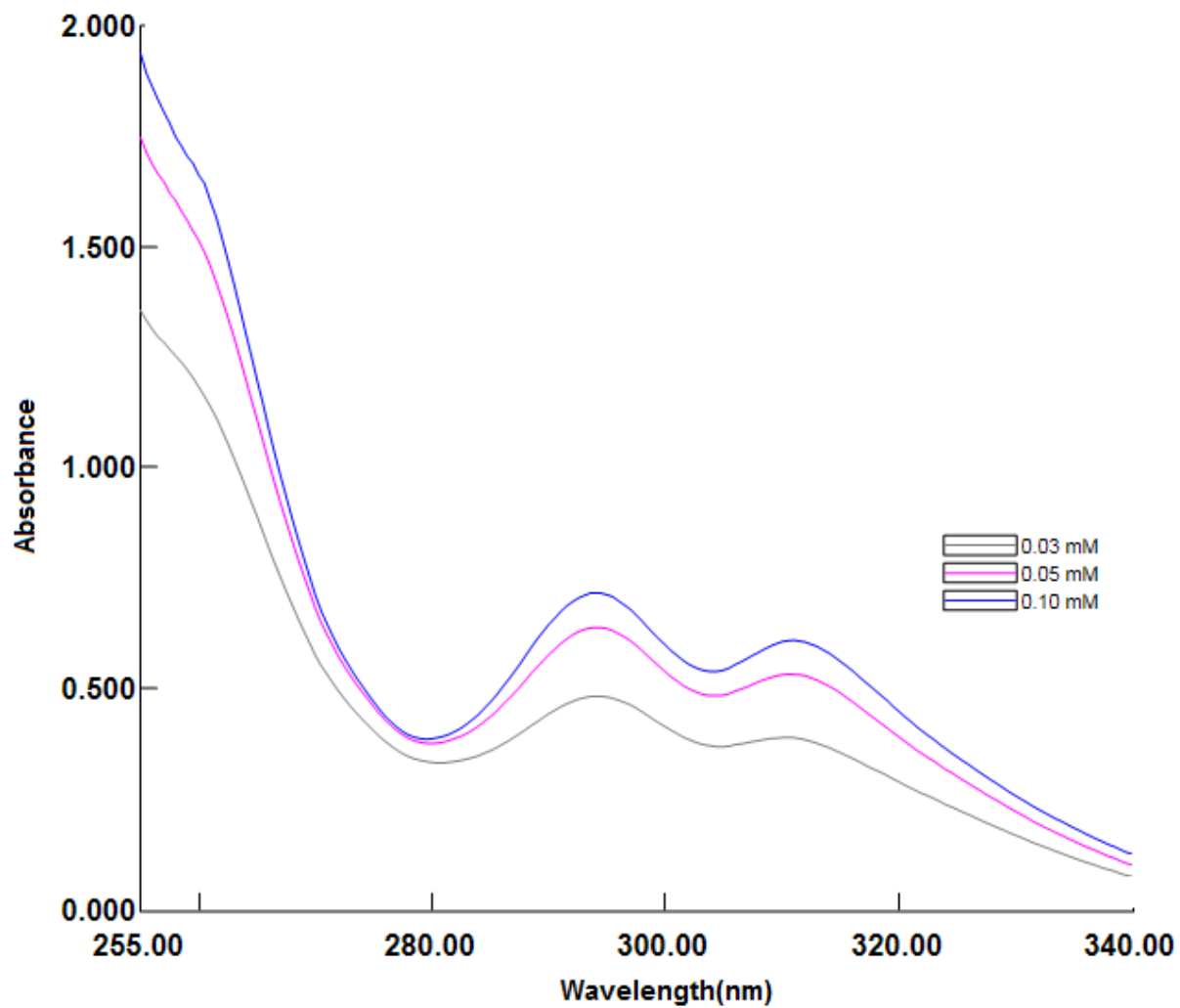


**Figure S33.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMQC NMR of  $\text{Ru}(\text{cymene})(\kappa^2\text{-OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 600 MHz).

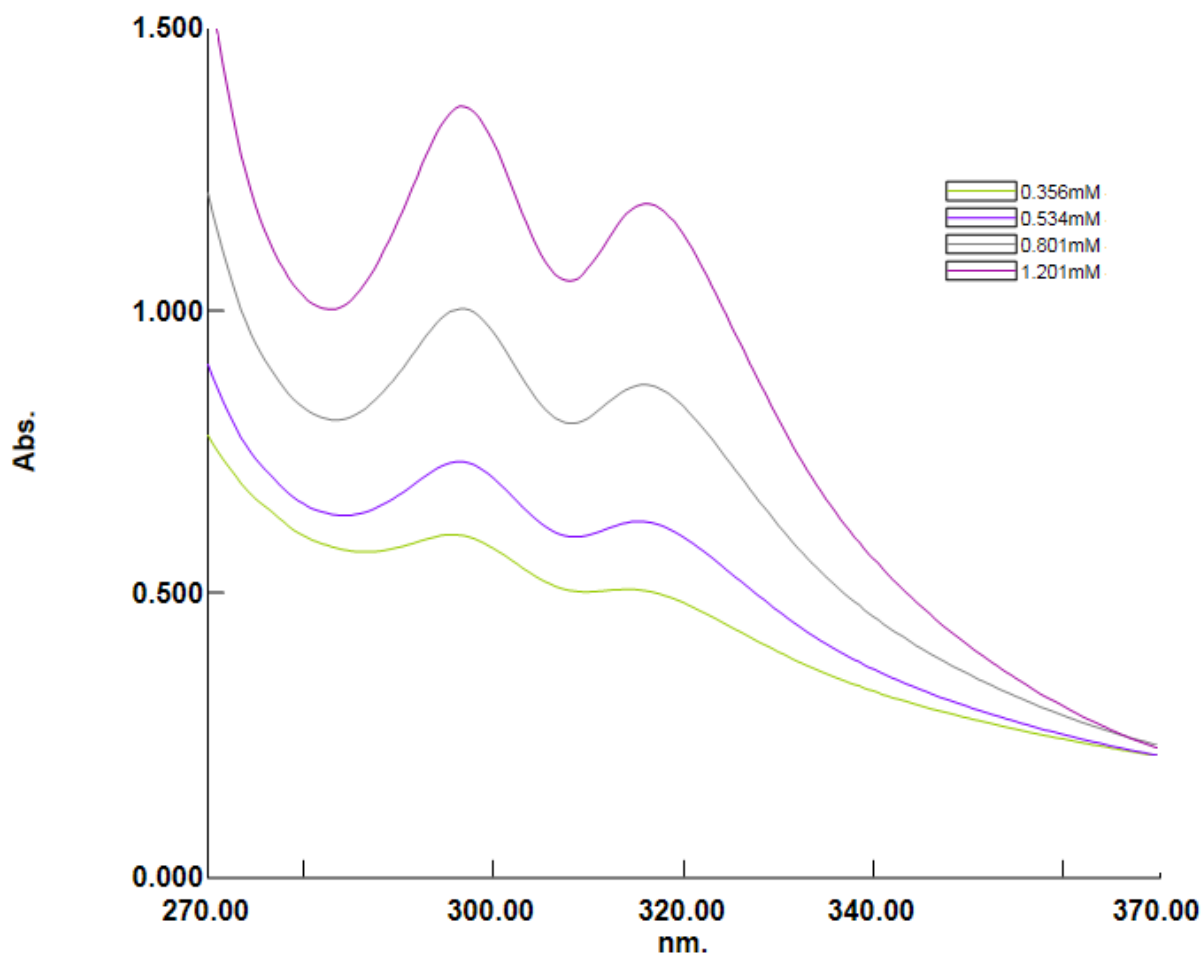
## 2. UV-Vis Spectra



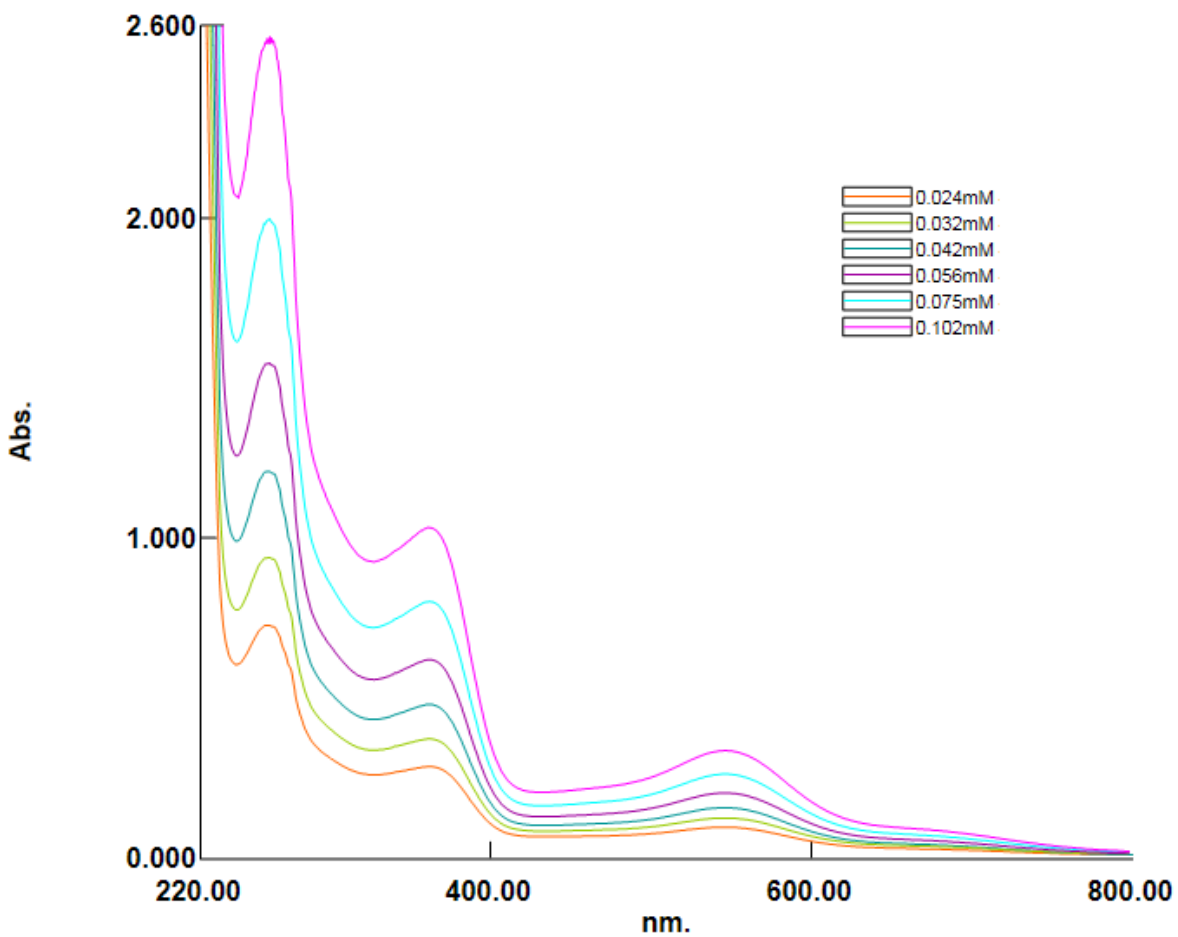
**Figure S34.** UV-Vis spectra for Ru(cymene)(κ²-OCᵗBu₂C₆H₂) at five different concentrations.  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm ( $\epsilon_{\text{M}}$ , L mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>): 539 (2800), 355 (8600), 296 (sh, 13400), 256 (28300).



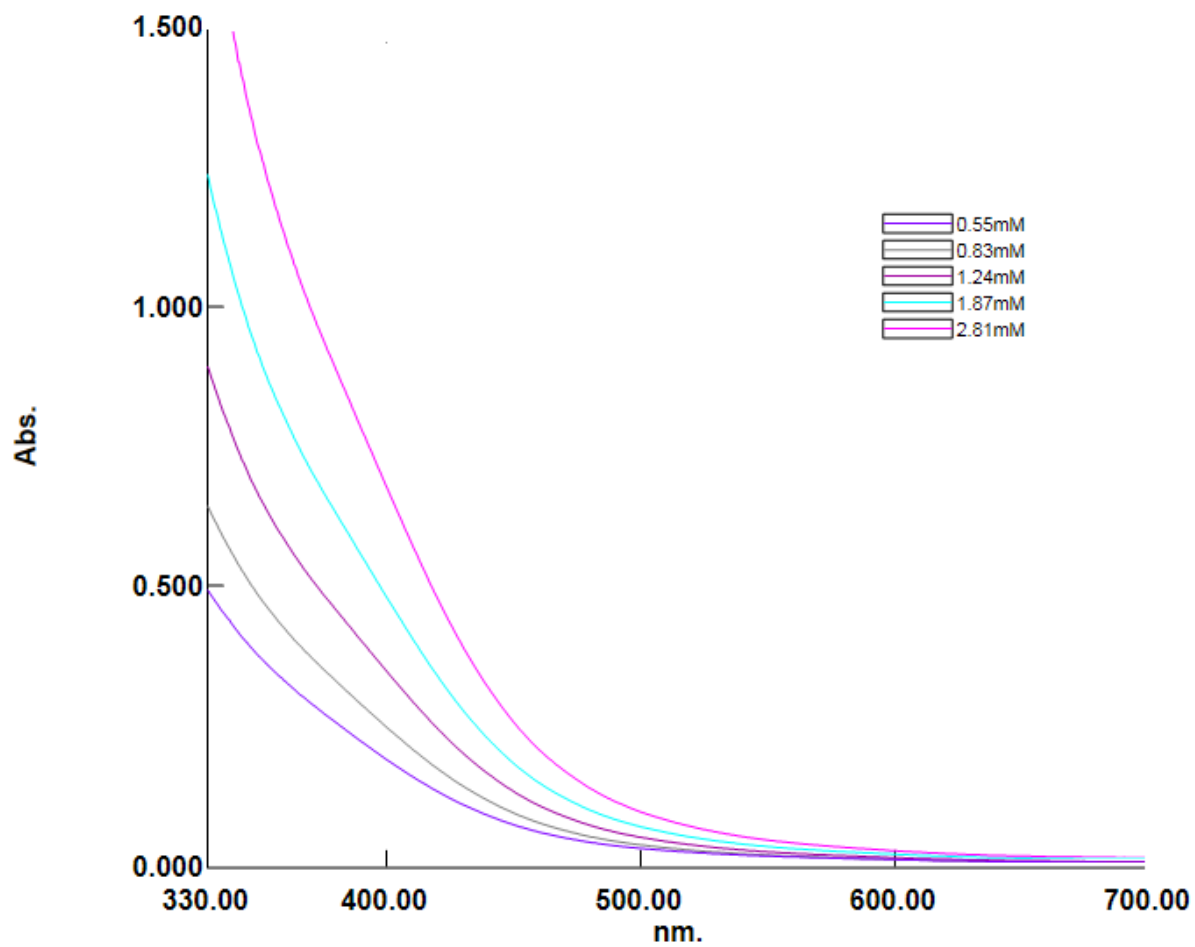
**Figure S35.** UV-Vis spectrum for  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2$  at three different concentrations.  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm ( $\epsilon_M$ ,  $\text{L mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 311 (3100), 294 (3300), 261(sh, 6500).



**Figure S36.** UV-Vis spectrum for  $\text{Ti}_2(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))_2$  at four different concentrations.  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm ( $\epsilon_{\text{M}}$ ,  $\text{L mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 316 (900), 297 (1200).



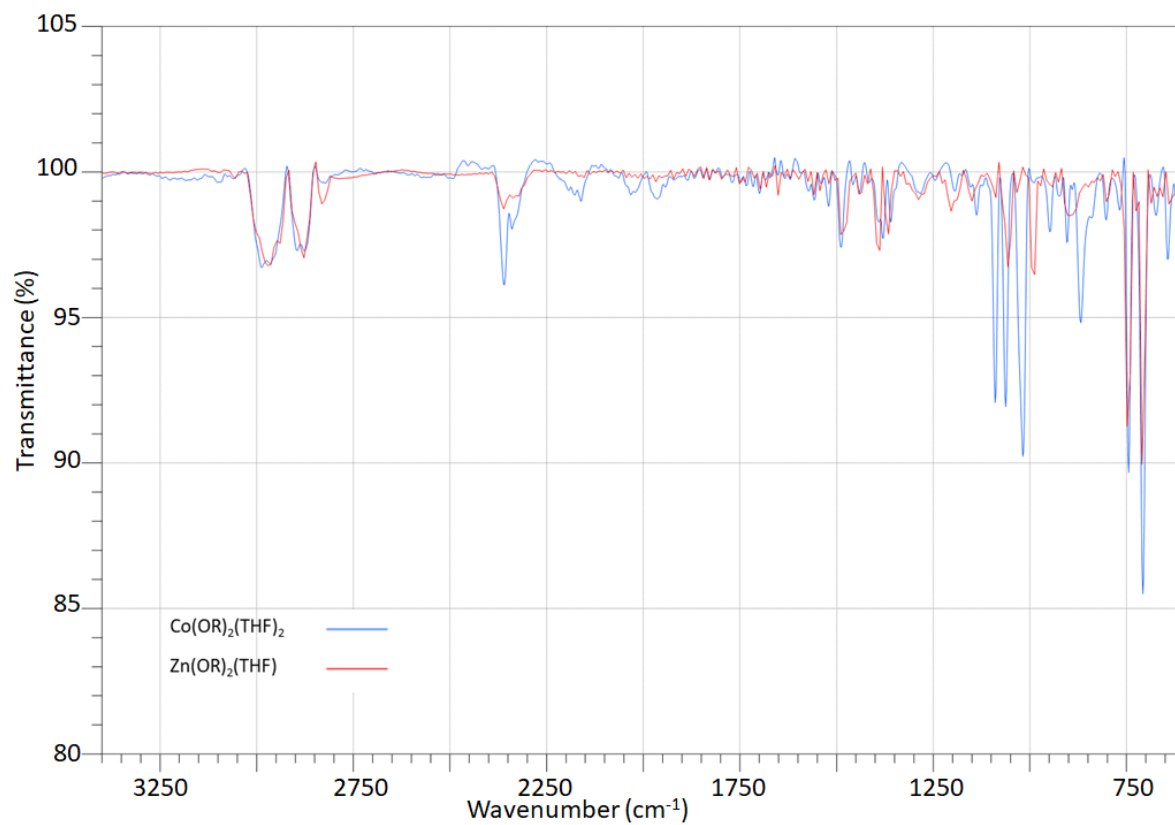
**Figure S37.** UV-Vis spectra for Ru(cymene)(κ<sup>2</sup>-OC<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>)) at six different concentrations. λ<sub>max</sub>, nm (ε<sub>M</sub>, L mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>): 545 (5200), 361 (15400), 263 (30000).



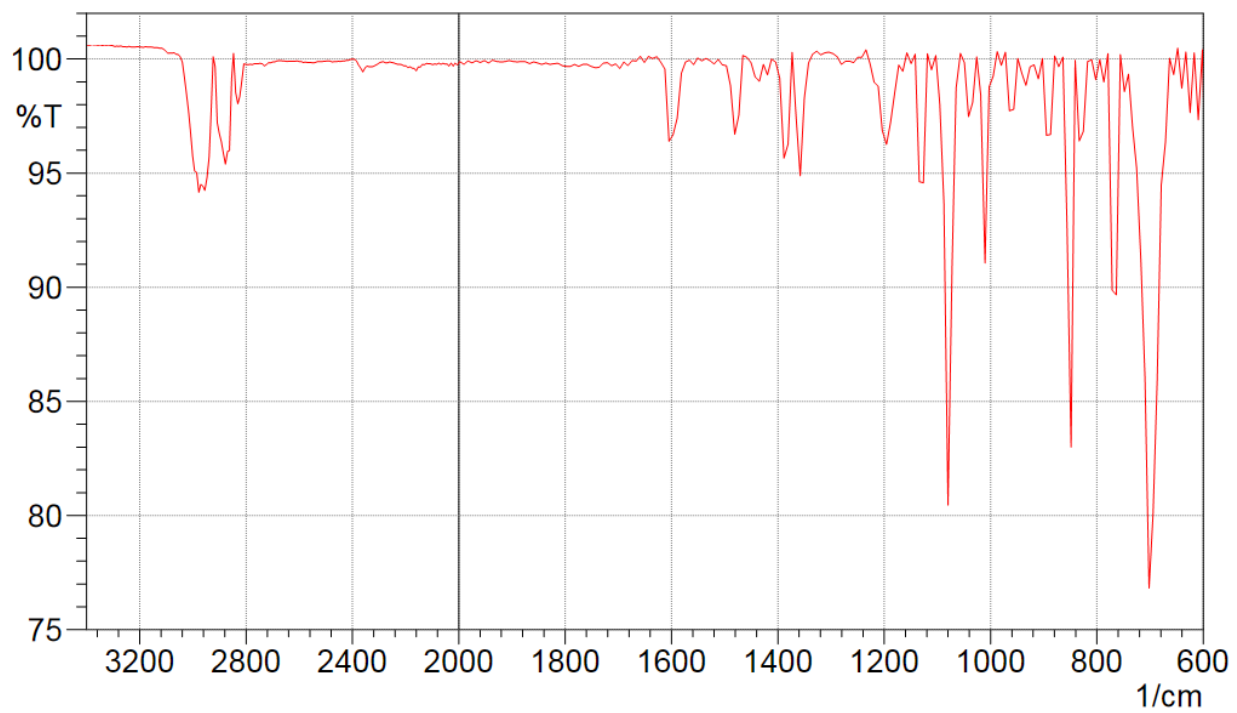
**Figure S38.** UV-Vis spectrum of Fe(OCtBu<sub>2</sub>(3,5-Me<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))<sub>2</sub>(THF)<sub>2</sub> at five different concentrations.  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm ( $\epsilon_M$ , L mol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>): 407 (sh, 250).



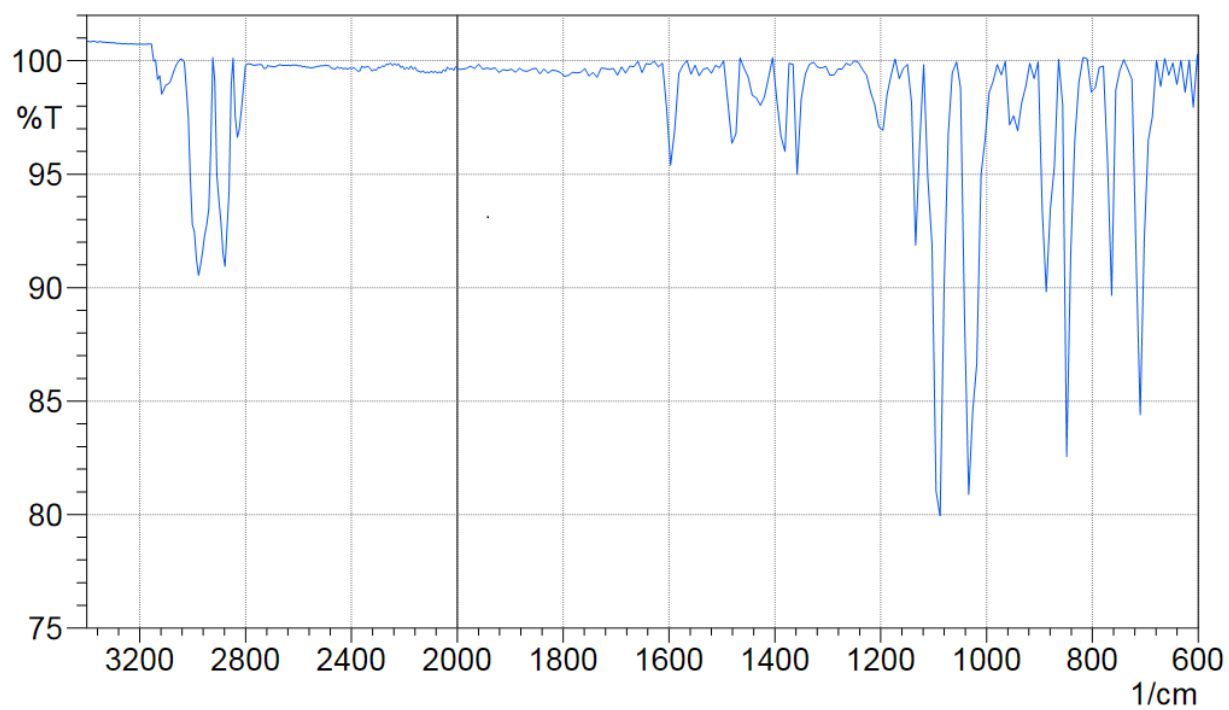
### 3. IR Spectra



**Figure S39.** Overlaid IR spectra of  $\text{Co}(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2(\text{THF})_2$  and  $\text{Zn}(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2\text{Ph})_2(\text{THF})$  in the 3400-600 cm<sup>-1</sup> range.

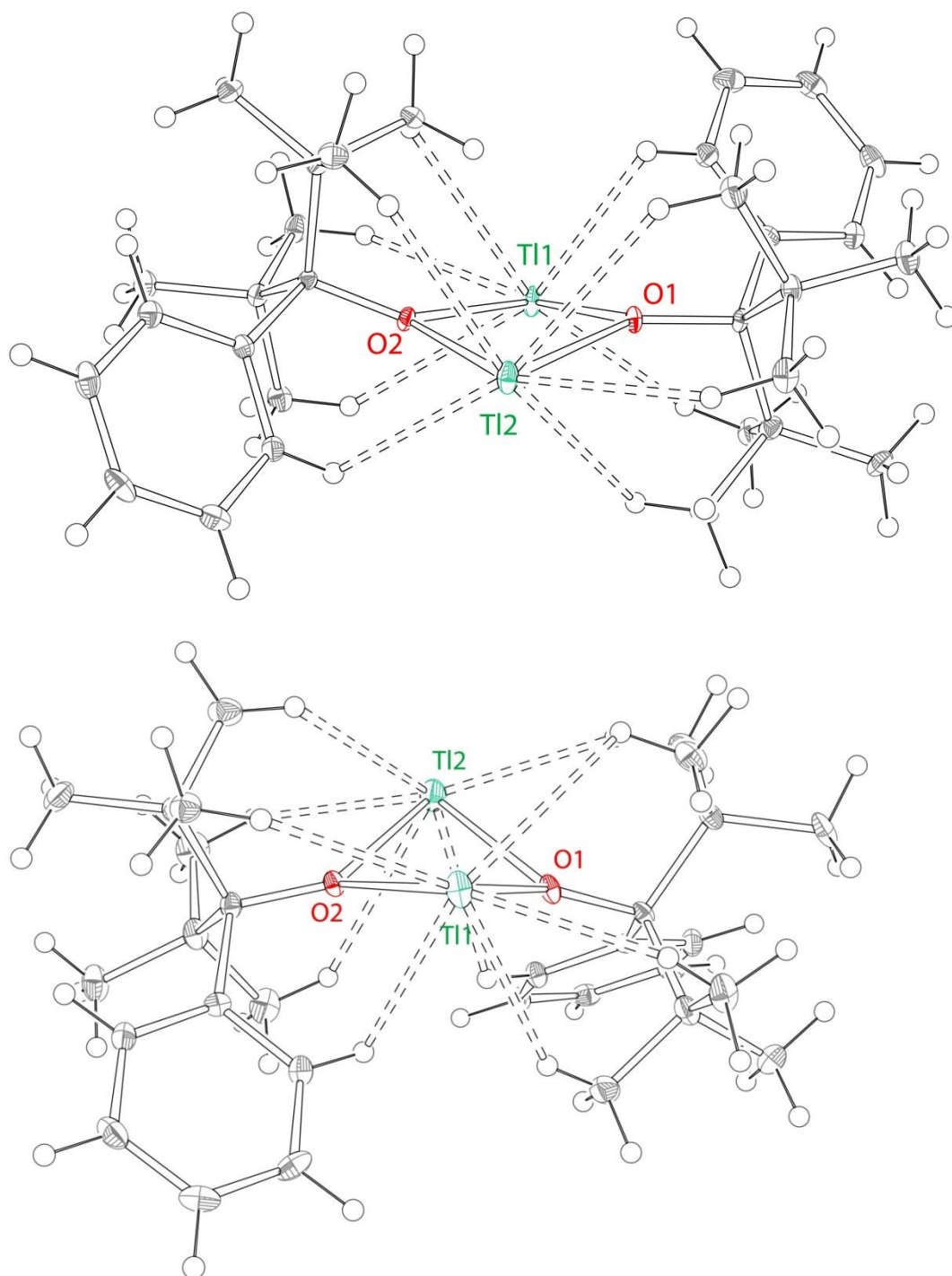


**Figure S40.** IR spectra of  $\text{LiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  in the  $3400\text{-}600\text{ cm}^{-1}$  range.



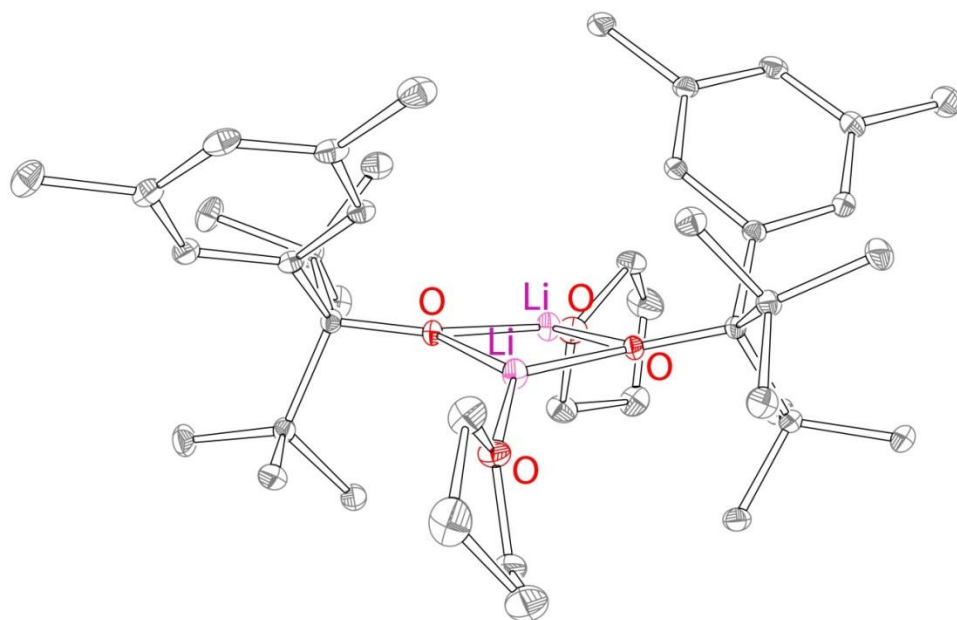
**Figure S41.** IR spectra of  $\text{Fe}(\text{OC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3))_2(\text{THF})_2$  in the  $3400\text{-}600\text{ cm}^{-1}$  range.

#### 4. ORTEP plots of 1a and 1b demonstrating agostic interactions



**Figure S42.** ORTEP diagram (50% probability ellipsoids) demonstrating agostic interactions for **1a** (top) and **1b** (bottom). Ti...H-C bond lengths are in 2.7-3.0 Å range.

**5. X-ray structure of  $\text{LiOC}^t\text{Bu}_2(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)$  (**7**)**



**Figure S43.** ORTEP diagram (50% probability ellipsoids) of the X-ray structure of **7**. H atoms were omitted for clarity.

**6. Table S1.** Crystal and structure refinement data.

	<b>1a</b>	<b>1b</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Formula	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>46</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Tl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>46</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Tl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>54</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Zn	C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>36</sub> ORu
Fw, g/mol	847.41	847.41	576.14	453.61
temperature	100(2) K	100(2) K	100(2) K	100(2) K
cryst syst	Triclinic	triclinic	monoclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>	<i>P</i> -1
Colour	colorless	bright yellow	colorless	purple
Z	2	2	2	2
a, Å	7.9029(9)	8.0763(5)	10.0341(11)	9.3633(8)
b, Å	12.1061(14)	12.3094(7)	23.577(3)	11.1104(9)
c, Å	15.5684(18)	15.4883(9)	13.7200(17)	11.4477(9)
α, deg	88.456(4)	101.592(2)	90.00	91.329(4)
β, deg	80.664(4)	94.016(3)	106.953(4)	102.082(4)
γ, deg	74.856(4)	105.845(2)	90.00	112.349(4)
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	1418.5(3)	1438.24(15)	3104.8(6)	1070.07(15)
d <sub>calcd</sub> , g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.984	1.957	1.233	1.408
μ, mm <sup>-1</sup>	11.369	11.214	0.822	0.744
2θ, deg	55.98	50.00	60.06	56.74
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> (all data)	0.0224	0.0315	0.1088	0.0354
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> (all data)	0.0392	0.0675	0.1009	0.0697
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> [(I>2σ)]	0.0176	0.0262	0.0477	0.0319
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> [(I>2σ)]	0.0376	0.0651	0.0835	0.0682
GOF (F <sup>2</sup> )	1.024	1.151	1.000	1.108

<sup>a</sup>  $R_1 = \sum ||F_o - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup>  $wR_2 = (\sum (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2) / \sum (w(F_o^2)^2))^{1/2}$ . <sup>c</sup>  $GOF = (\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / (n - p))^{1/2}$  where  $n$  is the number of data and  $p$  is the number of parameters refined.

**Table S1.** Crystal and structure refinement data (continued).

	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
Formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>70</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Li <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>54</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Tl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>70</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Fe	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>40</sub> ORu
Fw, g/mol	652.86	903.51	694.83	481.66
temperature	100(2) K	100(2) K	100(2) K	100(2) K
cryst syst	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic	triclinic
space group	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/c</i>	<i>P2<sub>1</sub></i>	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/n</i>	<i>P-1</i>
Colour	colorless	colorless	colorless	violet
Z	4	2	4	2
a, Å	11.9523(13)	8.0476(3)	10.4095(5)	8.1664(4)
b, Å	21.215(3)	15.1435(6)	14.9890(7)	10.4284(5)
c, Å	15.9314(18)	13.6841(5)	25.9262(11)	14.7777(7)
α, deg	90.00	90.00	90.00	106.093(2)
β, deg	93.335(5)	98.9240(10)	96.890(2)	98.321(2)
γ, deg	90.00	90.00	90.00	93.777(2)
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	4032.9(9)	1647.48(11)	4016.0(3)	1189.00(10)
d <sub>calcd</sub> , g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.075	1.821	1.149	1.452
μ, mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.066	9.796	0.413	0.674
2θ, deg	55.84	55.14	49.70	61.18
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> (all data)	0.0589	0.0312	0.1070	0.0367
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> (all data)	0.1126	0.0519	0.1063	0.0762
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> [(I>2σ)]	0.0422	0.0264	0.0516	0.0303
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> [(I>2σ)]	0.1027	0.0503	0.0910	0.0734
GOF (F <sup>2</sup> )	1.034	1.033	1.005	1.090

<sup>a</sup>  $R_1 = \sum ||F_o - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup>  $wR_2 = (\sum (w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2) / \sum (w(F_o^2)^2))^{1/2}$ . <sup>c</sup>  $GOF = (\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / (n - p))^{1/2}$  where  $n$  is the number of data and  $p$  is the number of parameters refined.