

## Supporting information

### UV-Vis method for investigation of gallium(III) complexation kinetics with NOTA and TRAP chelators: advantages, limitations and comparison with radiolabelling

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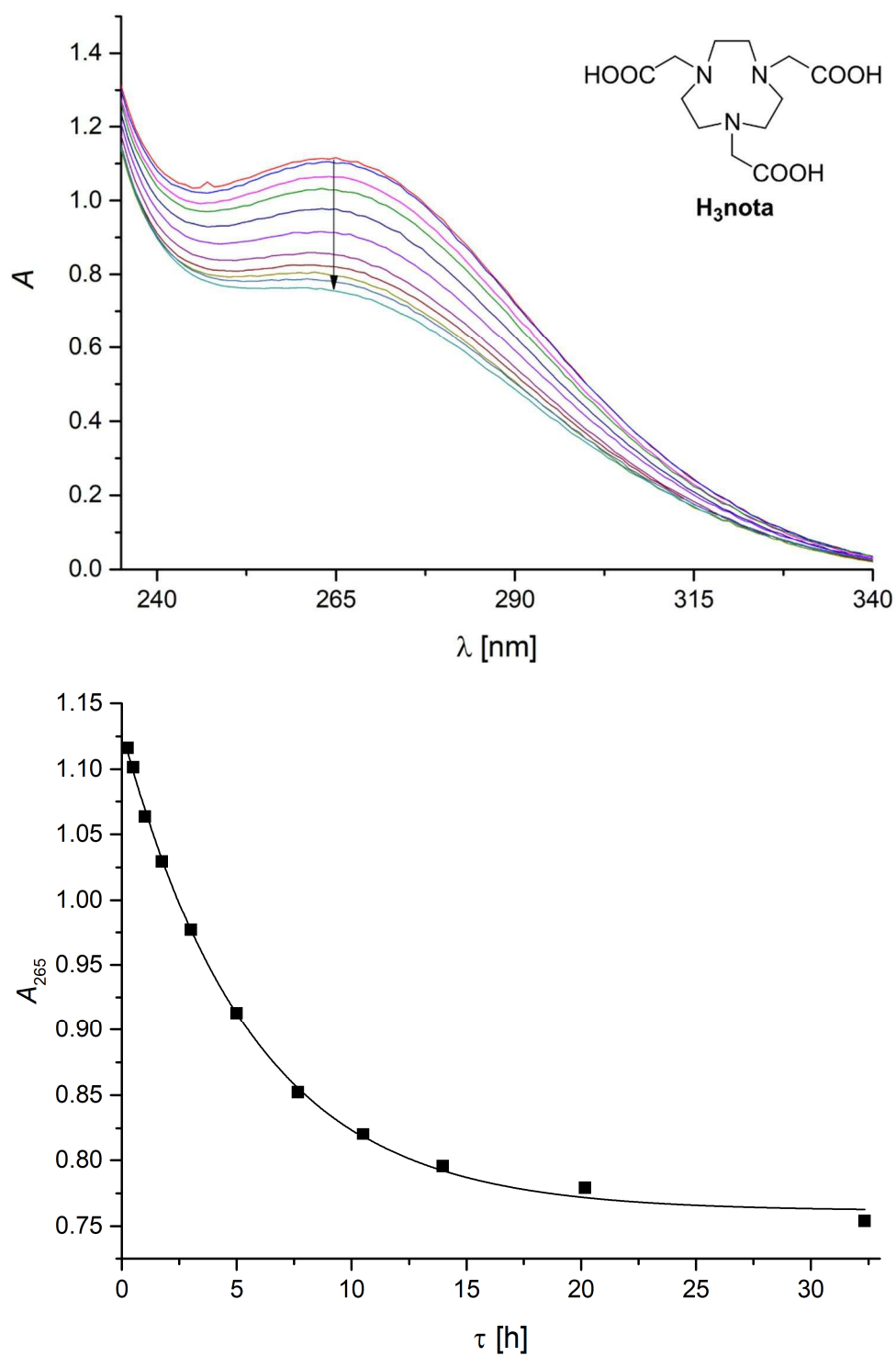
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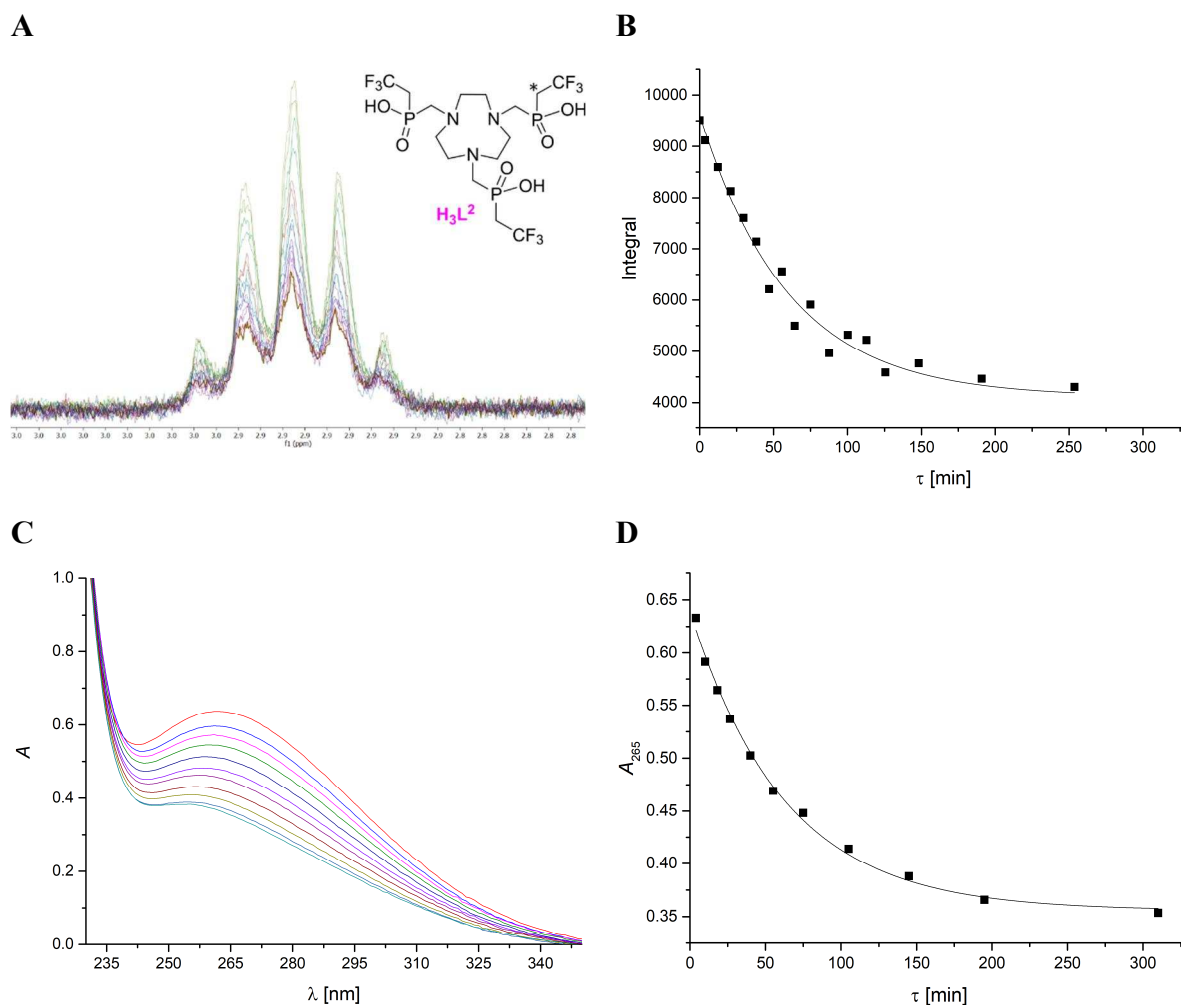
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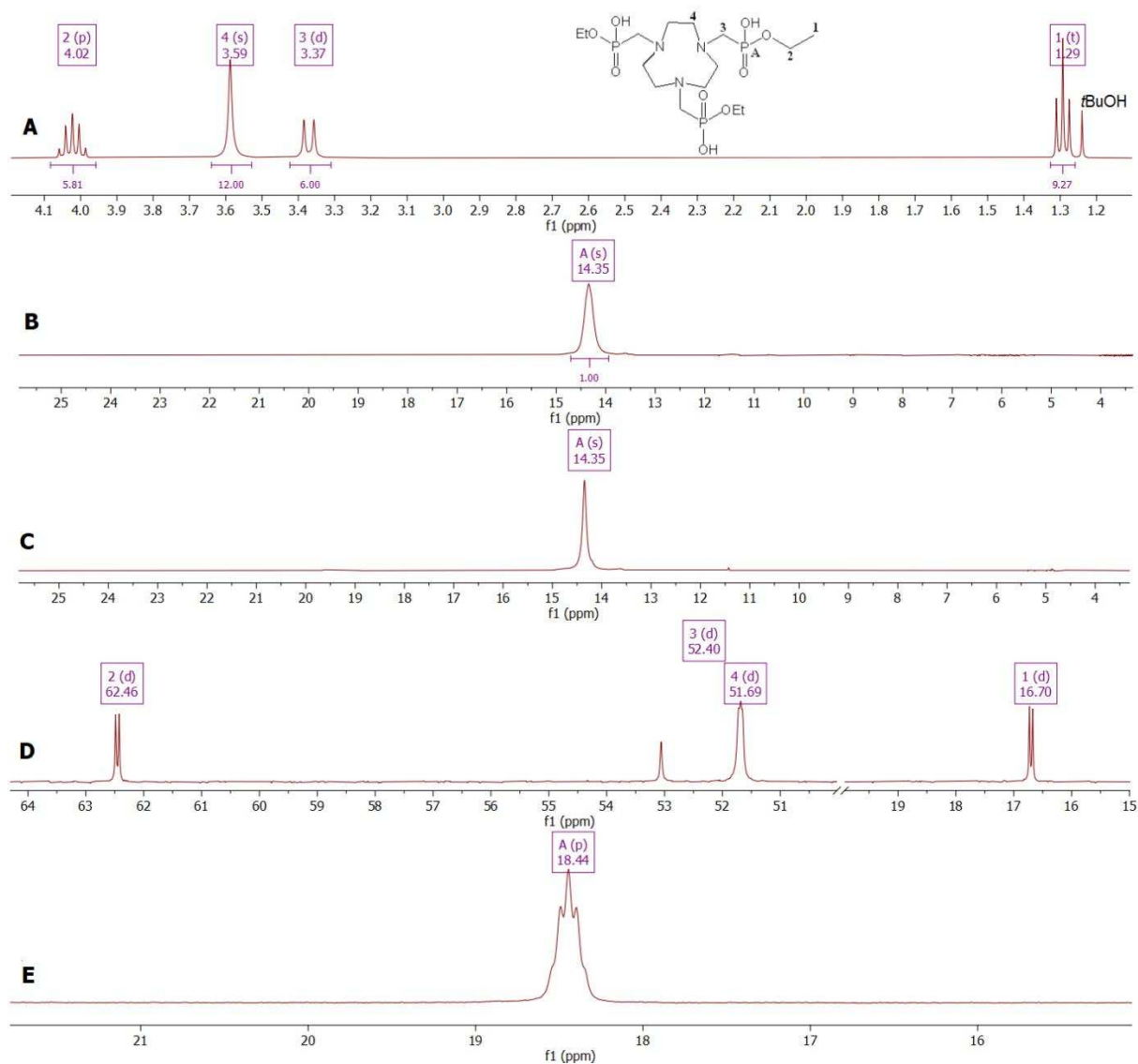
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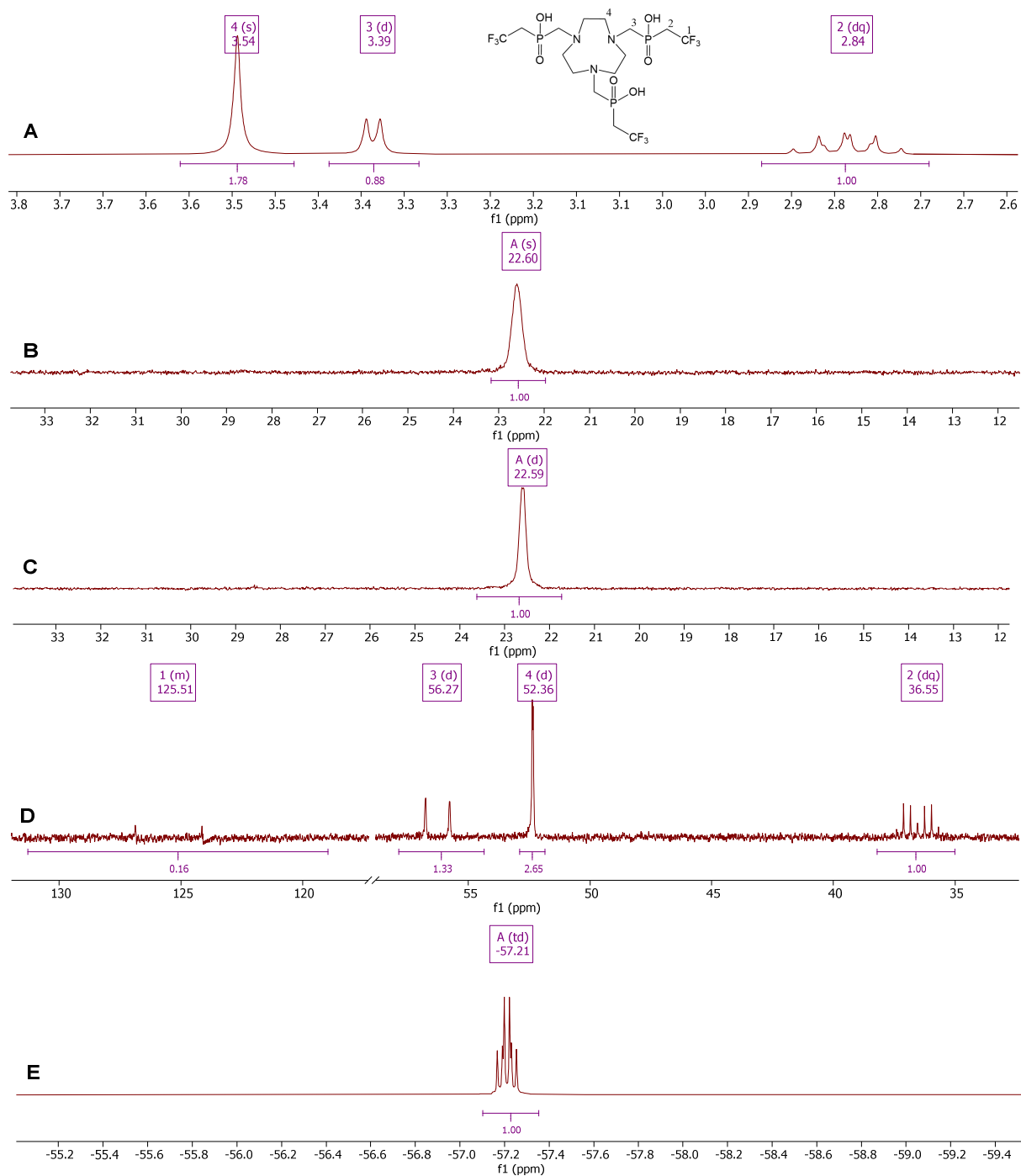
**Figure S1.** Example of change of the Cu<sup>II</sup> complex spectra in the course of Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation experiments with H<sub>3</sub>nota (top) and the corresponding Cu<sup>II</sup> complex absorbance at 265 nm as function of time (bottom). The line corresponds to the best fit according to Equation 1 (30 °C,  $c_{\text{chel}} = 0.4$  mM,  $c_{\text{Ga}} = 0.2$  mM, pH 1.25).



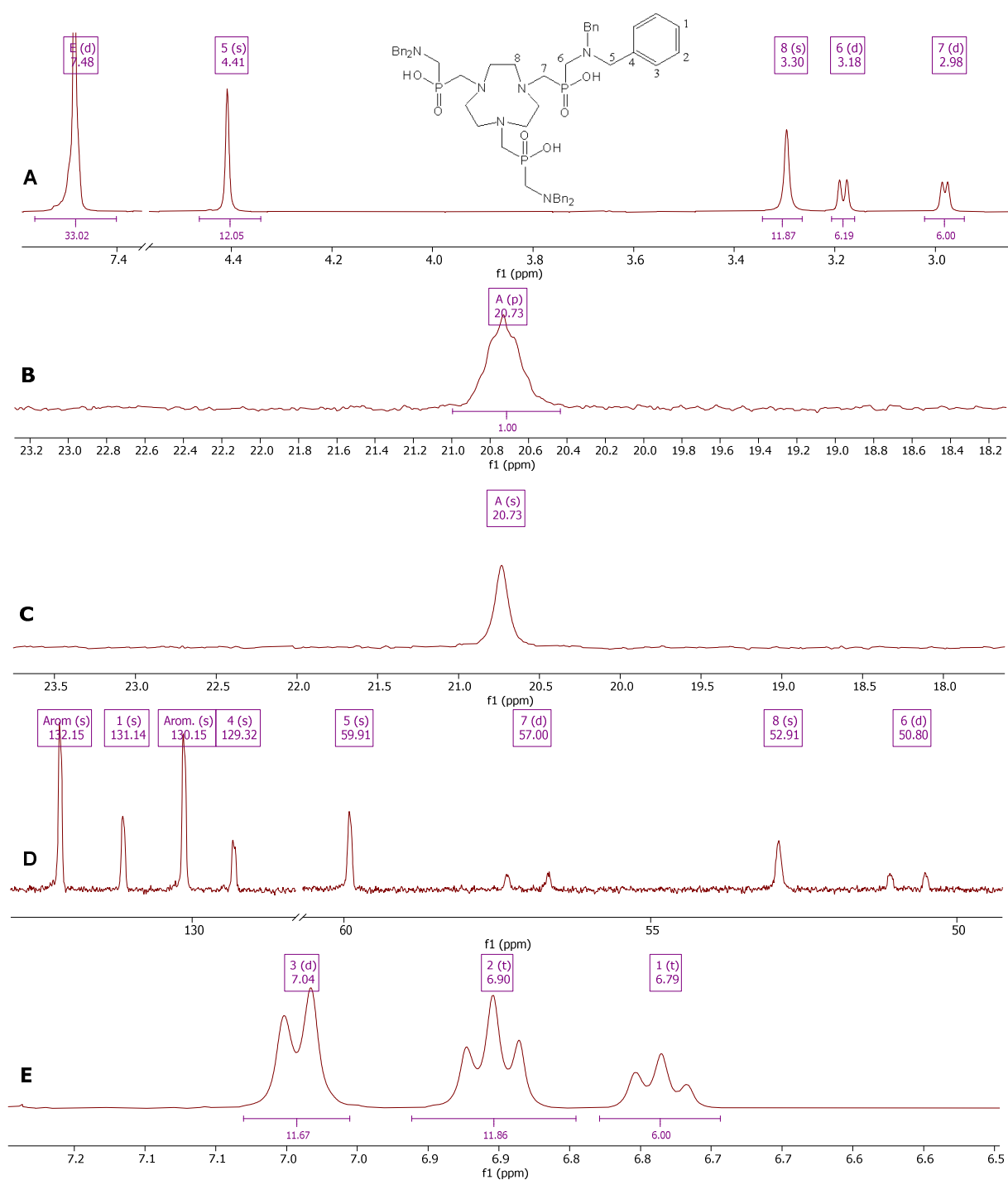
**Figure S2.** Comparison of UV-Vis and <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation kinetics with H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>2</sup>. Change of P-CH<sub>2</sub>-CF<sub>3</sub> integral in <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra during Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation experiment (A) and the integral intensity as a function of time (B). The line corresponds to the best fit according to Equation 2. Change of the Cu<sup>II</sup> complex spectra in the course of Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation experiments with H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>2</sup> (C) and the corresponding complex absorbance at 265 nm as function of time (D). The line corresponds to the best fit according to Equation 1 (30 °C, c<sub>chel</sub> = 0.4 mM, c<sub>Ga</sub> = 0.2 mM, pH 1.00).



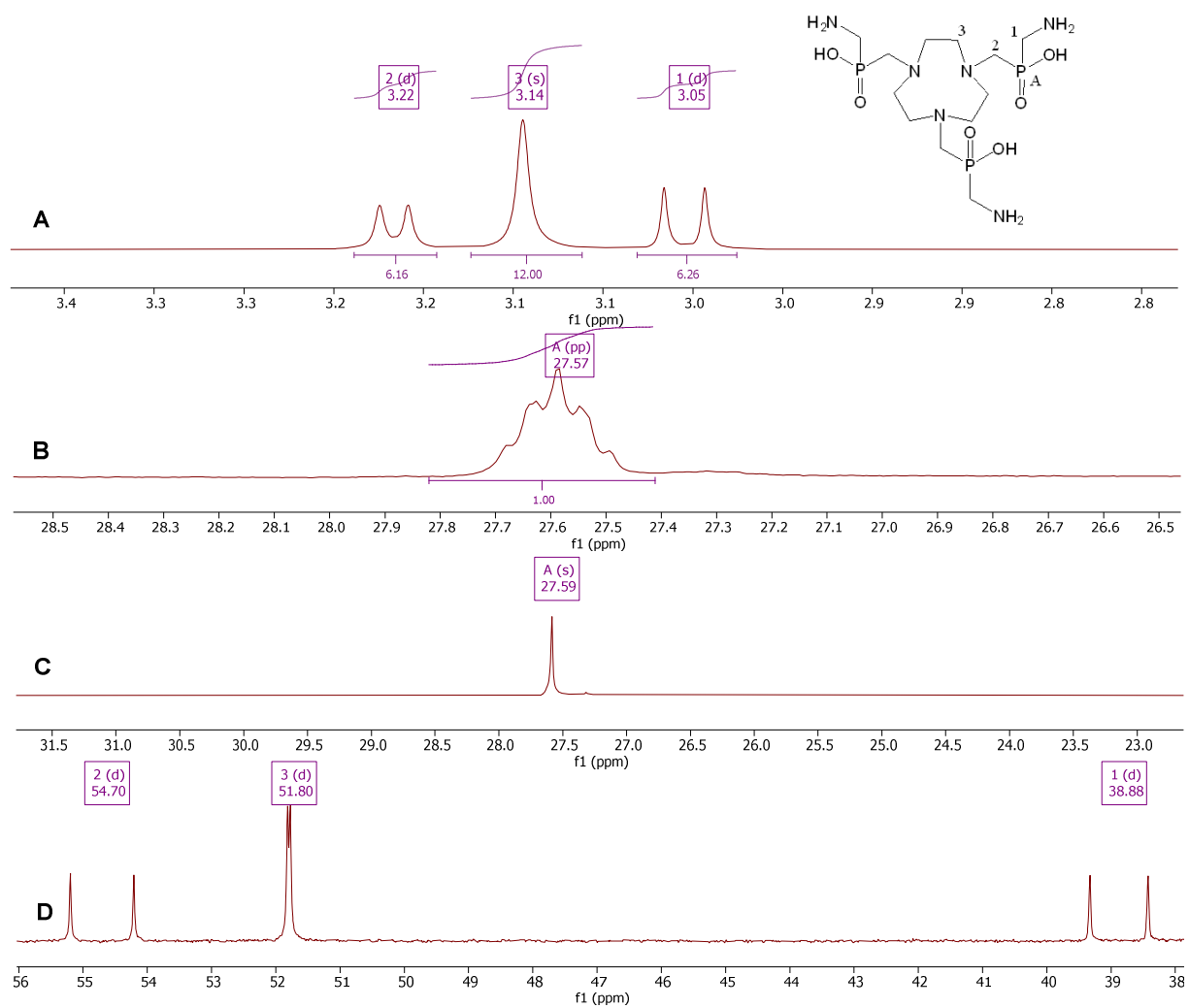
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  (A),  $^{31}\text{P}$  (B),  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (C) and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (D) NMR spectra of  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^1$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , pD 1.4) and detail of  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra (E) (162 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  + NaOD, pD 10.4)



**Figure S4.**  $^1H$  (A),  $^{31}P$  (B),  $^{31}P\{^1H\}$  (C)  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  (D),  $^{19}F$  (E) NMR spectra of  $H_3L^2$  ( $D_2O$ , pH 1.6)



**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  (A),  $^{31}\text{P}$  (B),  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (C) and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (D) NMR spectra of  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^3$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , pH 1.9) and detail of aromatic region of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (E) ( $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{NaOD}$ , pH 10.7)

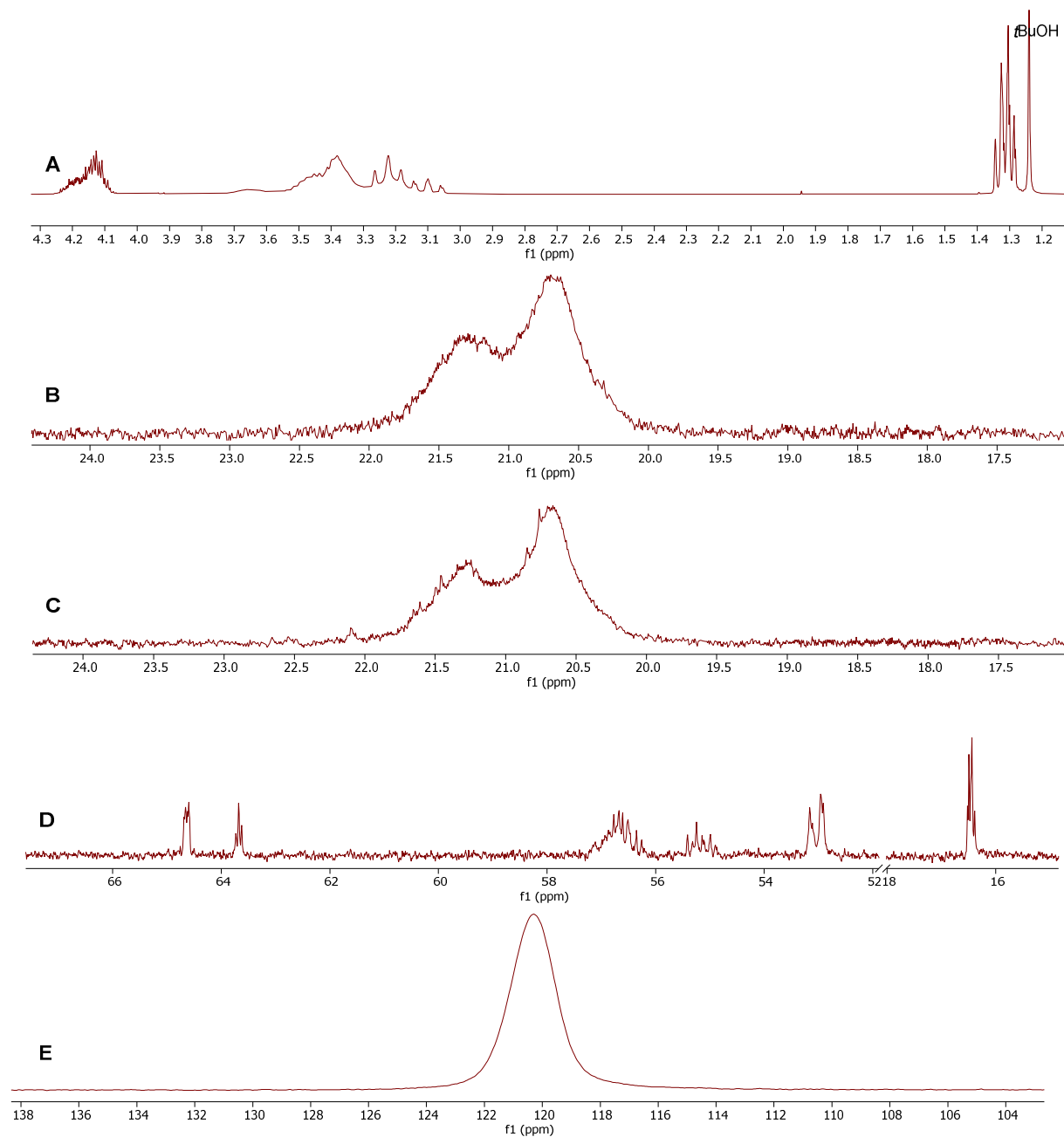


**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  (A),  $^{31}\text{P}$  (B),  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (C) and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (D) NMR spectra of  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^4$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , pD 8.0)

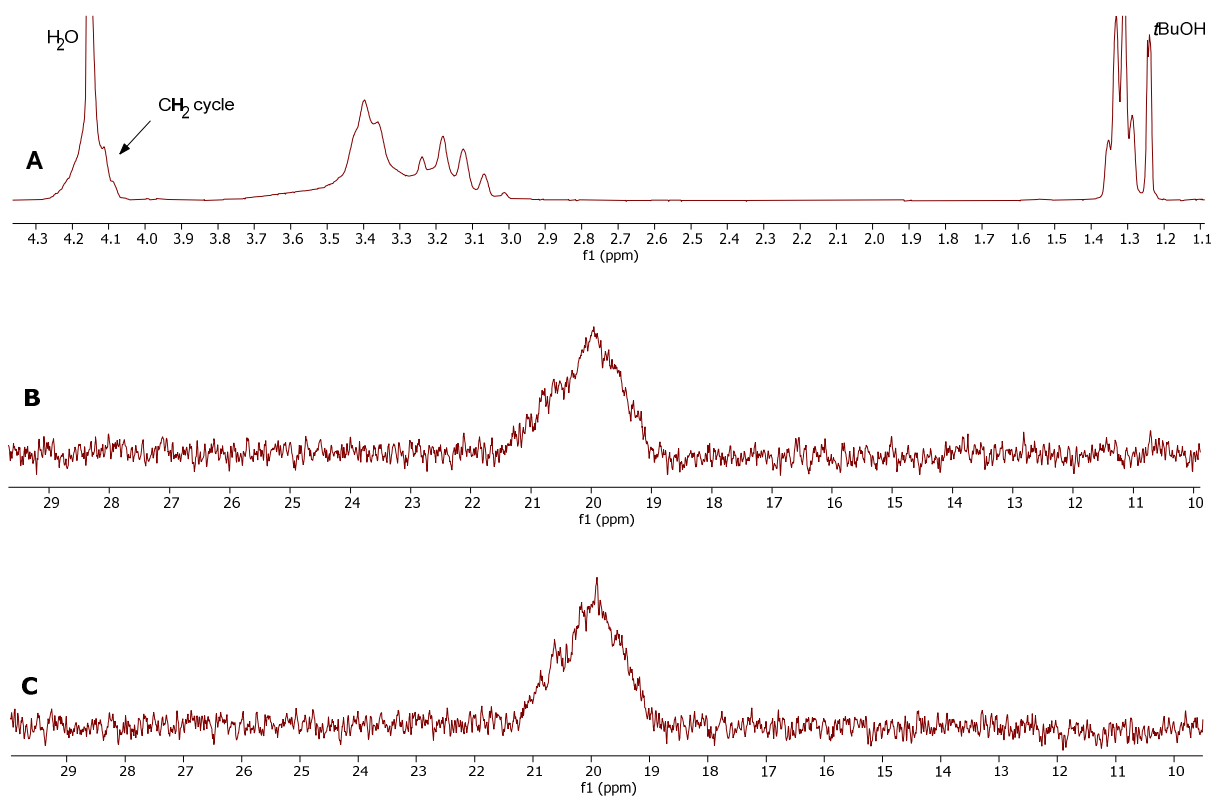


## Characterisation of gallium(III) complexes

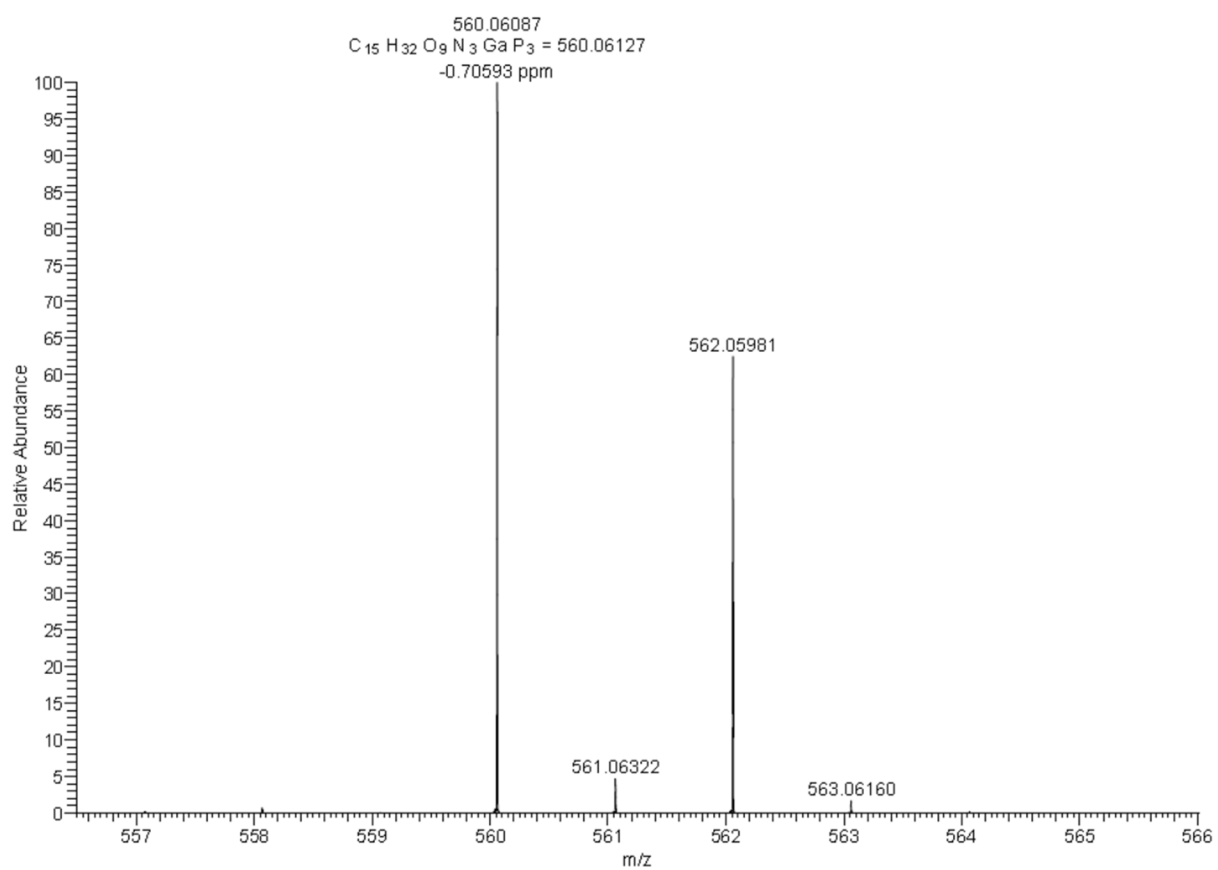
### Ga-L<sup>1</sup>



**Figure S7a.** <sup>1</sup>H (A), <sup>31</sup>P (B), <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} (C), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (D) and <sup>71</sup>Ga (E) NMR spectra of [GaL<sup>1</sup>] at 25 °C (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.6)

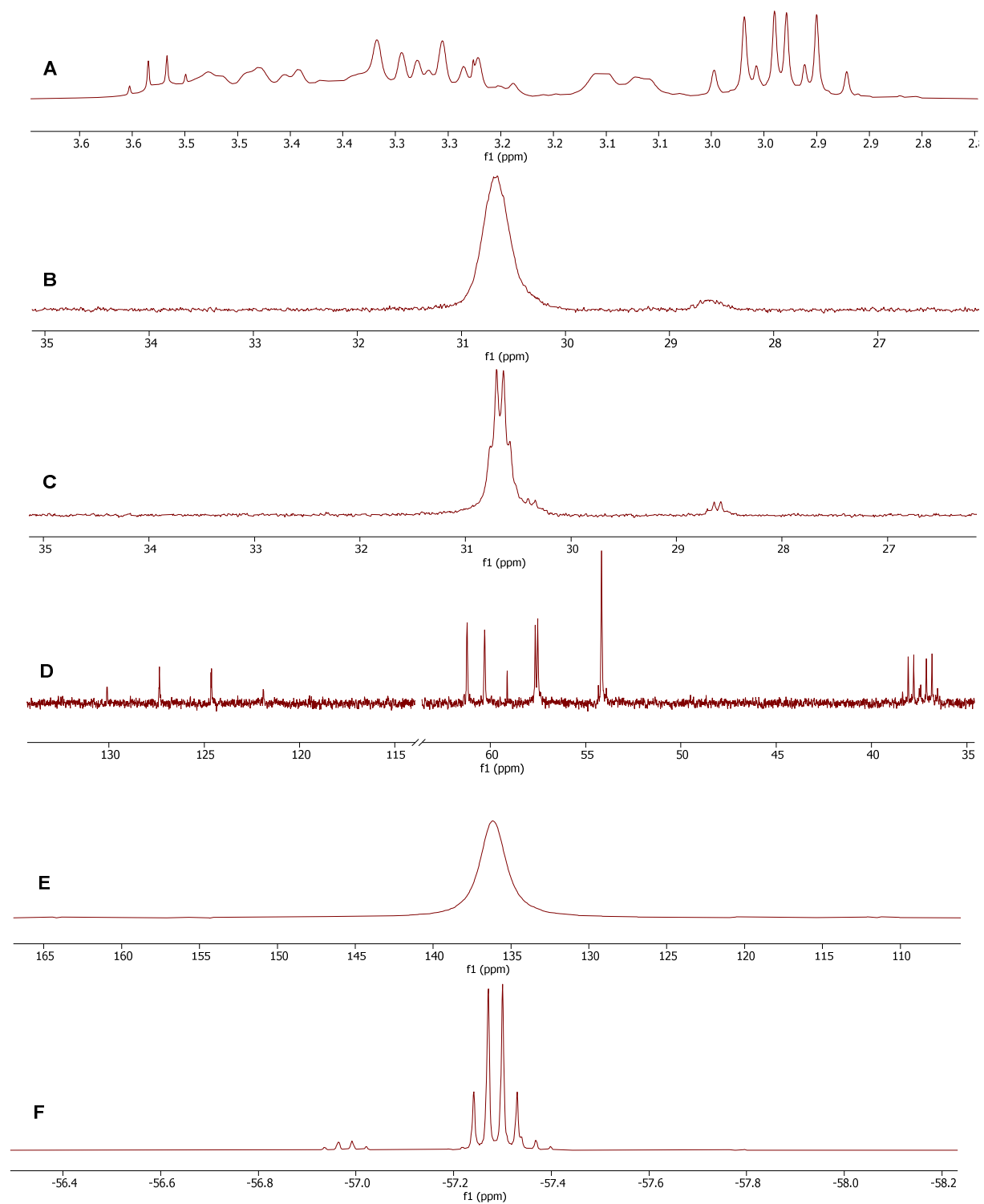


**Figure S7b.** <sup>1</sup>H (A), <sup>31</sup>P (B) and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} (C) NMR spectra of [GaL<sup>1</sup>] at 90 °C (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 6.2)

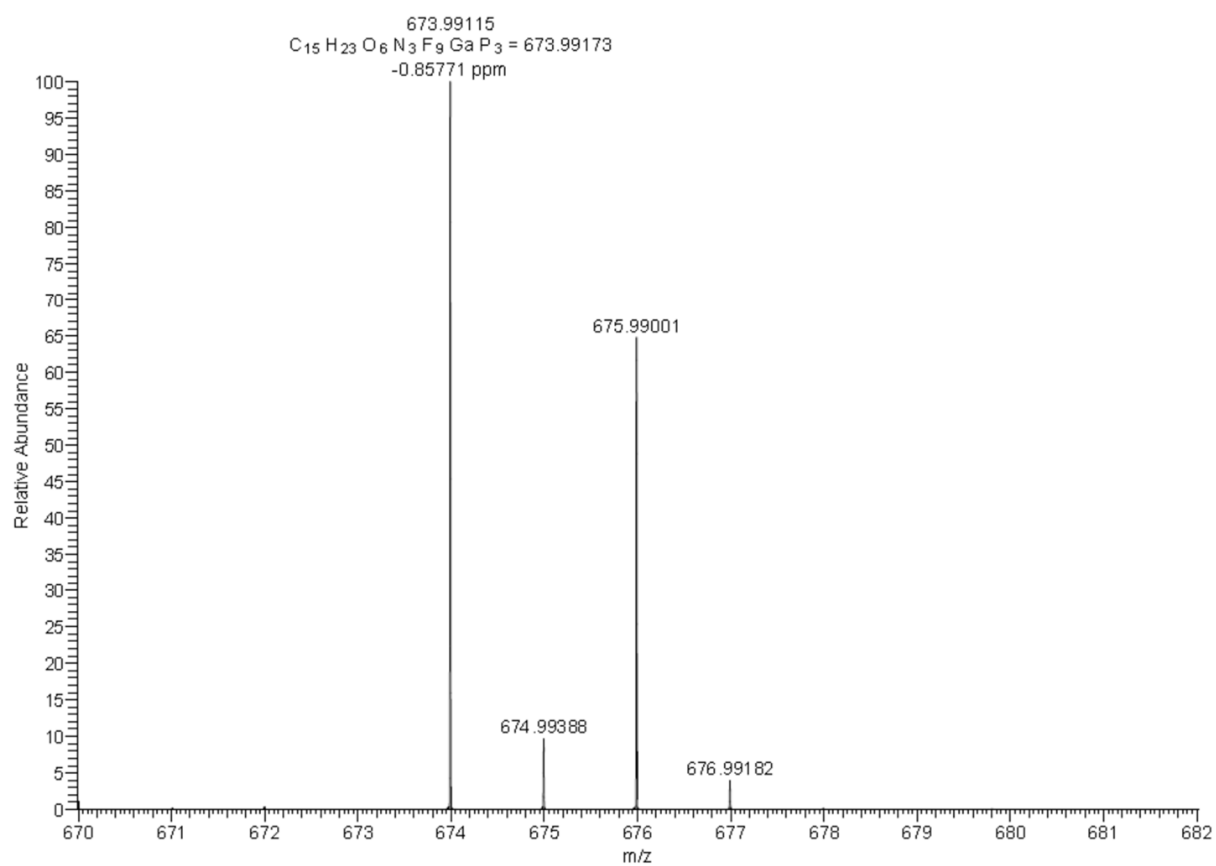


**Figure S8.** High-resolution mass spectra of [GaL<sup>1</sup>] in the negative mode

## Ga-L<sup>2</sup>

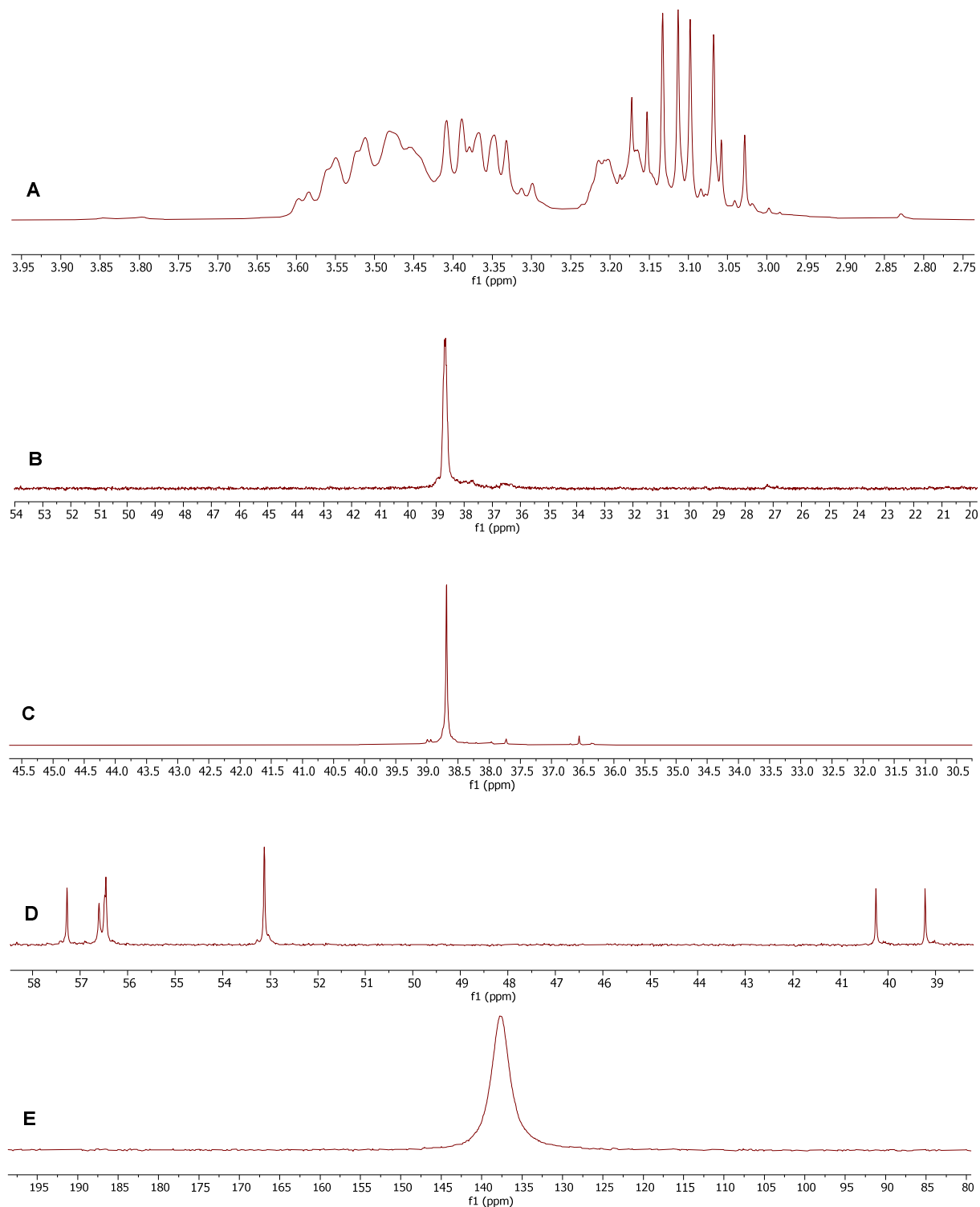


**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H (A), <sup>31</sup>P (B), <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} (C), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (D), <sup>71</sup>Ga (E) and <sup>19</sup>F (F) NMR spectra of [GaL<sup>2</sup>] (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 5.4)

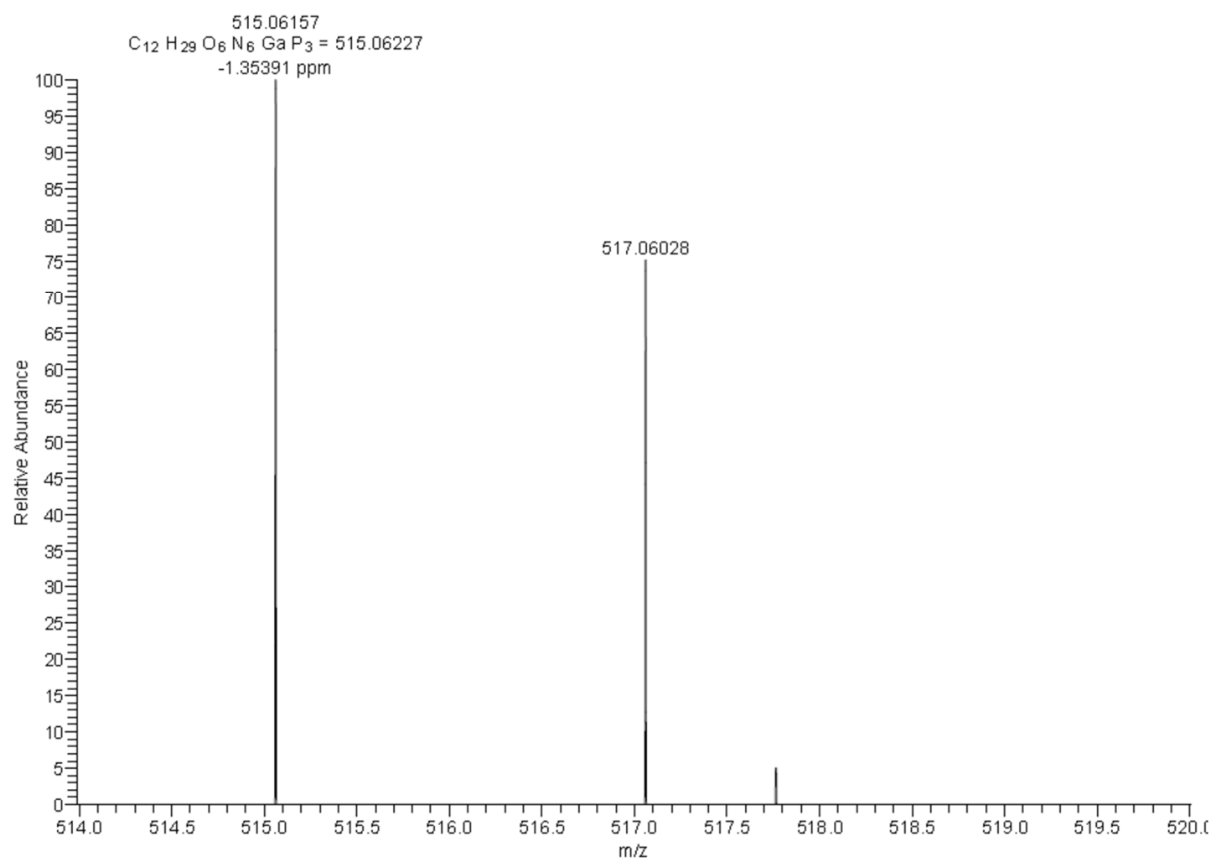


**Figure S10.** High-resolution mass spectra of  $[GaL^2]$  in the negative mode

# Ga-L<sup>4</sup>



**Figure S11.** <sup>1</sup>H (A), <sup>31</sup>P (B), <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} (C), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (D) and <sup>71</sup>Ga (E) NMR spectra of [GaL<sup>4</sup>] (D<sub>2</sub>O, pD 7.6)



**Figure S12.** High-resolution mass spectra of [GaL<sup>4</sup>] in the negative mode

**Table S1.** Overall protonation constants ( $\log\beta$ ) of ligands  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^1$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^3$  ( $I = 0.1\text{M}$  ( $\text{NMe}_4$ )Cl, 25 °C)

Species	$\text{H}_3\text{L}^1$	$\text{H}_3\text{L}^4$
HL	11.54(2)	11.21(1)
$\text{H}_2\text{L}$	14.97(5)	20.04(2)
$\text{H}_3\text{L}$	16.37(6)	28.20(1)
$\text{H}_4\text{L}$	-	35.50(1)
$\text{H}_5\text{L}$	-	37.59(2)

**Table S2.** Overall stability constants ( $\log\beta$ ) of  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^1$  complexes ( $I = 0.1\text{M}$  ( $\text{NMe}_4$ )Cl, 25 °C)

Species	$\text{Ga}^{\text{III}}$	$\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$
[M(L)]	20.5(3)	14.7(5)
[M(HL)]	22.3(3)	-
[M(L)(OH)]	14.1(2)	3.69(6)



**Table S3.** Rate constants and times necessary for 99% complexation of Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation with the studied chelators as function of pH obtained by UV-Vis experiments ( $c_{\text{chel}} = 0.4 \text{ mM}$ ,  $c_{\text{Ga}} = 0.2 \text{ mM}$ ,  $30 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , pH 0.25–3.0)

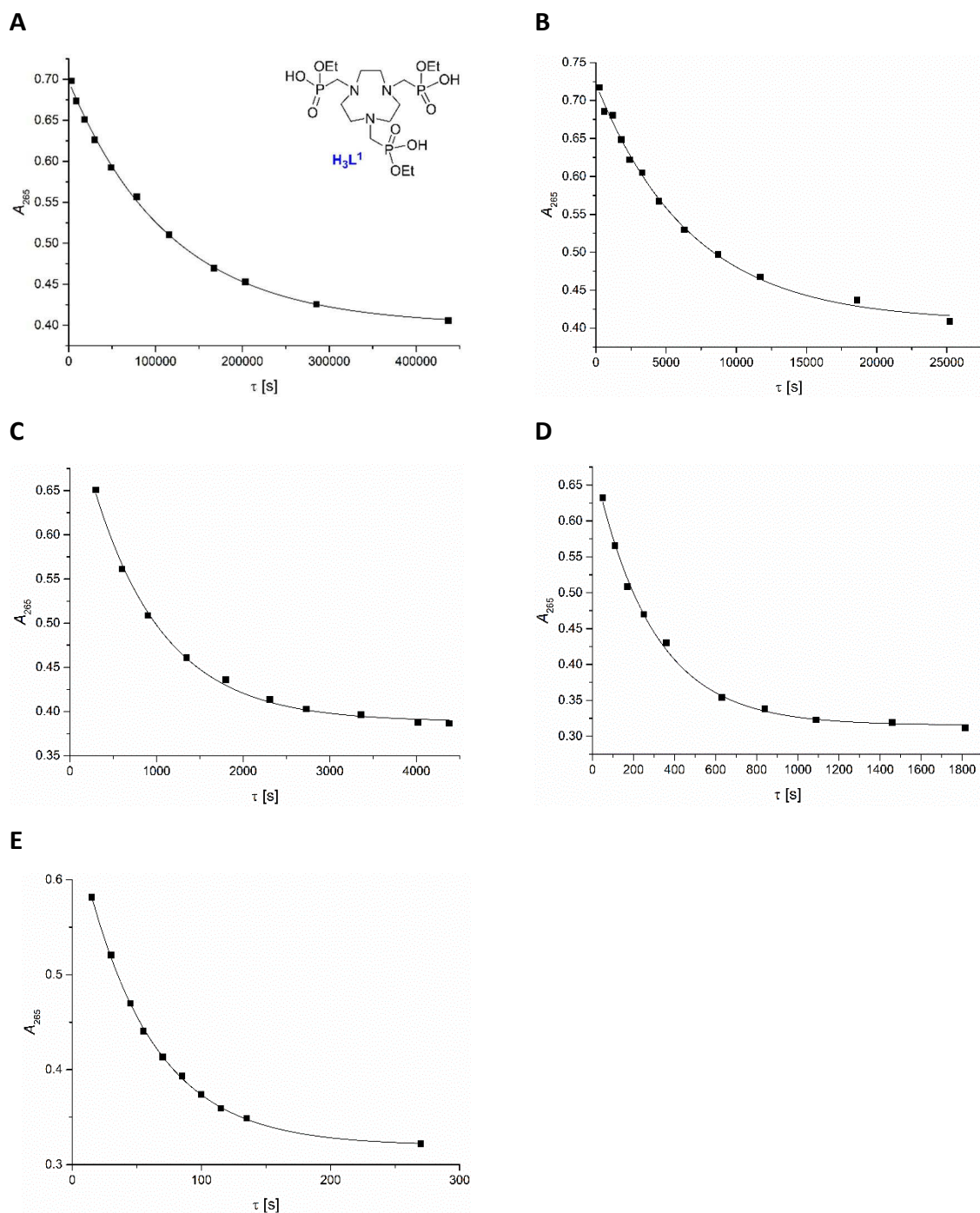
H <sub>3</sub> notP <sup>Pr</sup>				H <sub>3</sub> L <sup>2</sup>			
pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$	pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$
0.25	$1.2(2) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^5$	107 h	0.50	$1.51(8) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.05 \cdot 10^5$	85 h
0.50	$7.1(4) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$6.5 \cdot 10^4$	18 h	1.00	$2.7(2) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^4$	5 h
1.00	$1.61(7) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.86 \cdot 10^3$	48 min	1.60	$2.9(3) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^3$	27 min
1.50	$1.6(2) \cdot 10^{-2}$	290	5 min	2.00	$7.5(5) \cdot 10^{-3}$	620	10 min
2.05	$9.3(4) \cdot 10^{-2}$	49	49 s	2.45	$3.2(1) \cdot 10^{-2}$	140	2 min

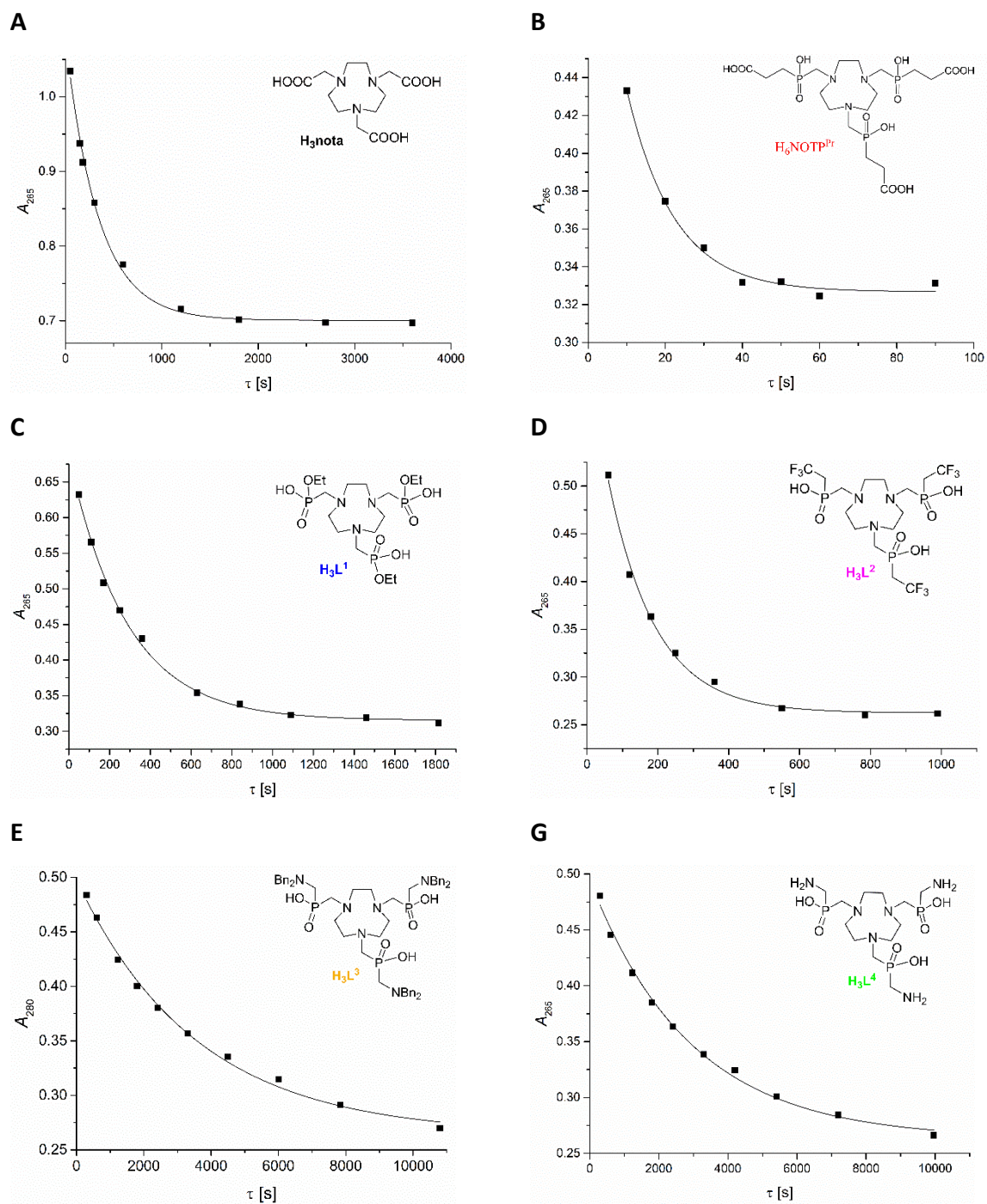
H <sub>3</sub> nota				H <sub>3</sub> L <sup>3</sup>			
pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$	pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$
1.00	$9.5(9) \cdot 10^{-6}$	$4.8 \cdot 10^5$	135 h	1.65	$7.1(4) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$6.4 \cdot 10^4$	18 h
1.25	$5.0(2) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$9.3 \cdot 10^4$	26 h	2.00	$2.8(2) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^4$	4 h
1.55	$3.0(2) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^4$	4 h	2.60	$2.3(2) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$	33 min
2.00	$2.9(2) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^3$	26 min	3.00	$1.2(1) \cdot 10^{-2}$	380	6 min
2.60	$5.2(3) \cdot 10^{-2}$	88	88 s				

H <sub>3</sub> L <sup>1</sup>				H <sub>3</sub> L <sup>4</sup>			
pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$	pH	$k_{\text{obs}} [\text{s}^{-1}]$	$t_{99\%} [\text{s}]$	$t_{99\%}$
0.50	$8.6(3) \cdot 10^{-6}$	$5.3 \cdot 10^5$	149 h	1.00	$1.9(2) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.4 \cdot 10^5$	68 h
1.00	$1.47(9) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.12 \cdot 10^4$	9 h	1.65	$1.3(1) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^4$	10 h
1.60	$1.22(6) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$3.77 \cdot 10^3$	62 min	2.00	$3.4(3) \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^4$	4 h
2.00	$3.5(2) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^3$	21 min	2.60	$2.3(2) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$	34 min
2.55	$1.89(4) \cdot 10^{-2}$	243	4 min	3.00	$8.2(6) \cdot 10^{-3}$	560	9 min



**Figure S13.** Change of the [CuL<sup>1</sup>] complex absorbance at 265 nm in the course of Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation experiments at pH 0.50 (A), 1.00 (B), 1.60 (C), 2.00 (D), 2.55 (E) as a function of time. The lines correspond to the best fit according to Equation 1 (30 °C,  $c_{\text{chel}} = 0.4$  mM,  $c_{\text{Ga}} = 0.2$  mM).



**Figure S14.** Change of the Cu<sup>II</sup> complex absorbances at 265 nm (280 for H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>3</sup>) in the course of Ga<sup>III</sup> complexation experiments as a function of time for H<sub>3</sub>nota (A), H<sub>6</sub>notP<sup>Pr</sup> (B), H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>1</sup> (C), H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>2</sup> (D), H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>3</sup> (E), H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>4</sup> (F). The lines correspond to the best fit according to Equation 1 (30 °C,  $c_{\text{chel}} = 0.4$  mM,  $c_{\text{Ga}} = 0.2$  mM).