

Enantioselective Hydrogenation of Cyclic Imines Catalysed by Noyori-Ikariya Half-Sandwich Complexes and Their Analogues

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1. Experimental

1.1 General

Reactions with oxygen- and moisture-sensitive materials were carried out under argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried using activated molecular sieves (4Å).

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVANCE III 400 MHz, 600 MHz and 700 MHz spectrometers with reference to the solvent residual signal as an internal standard (CD₃CN: δ_{H} 1.950 ppm, δ_{C} 118.69 and 1.39 ppm, DMSO-*d*₆: δ_{H} 2.500 ppm, δ_{C} 39.600 ppm, CDCl₃: δ_{H} 7.265 ppm, δ_{C} 77.00 ppm, CD₂Cl₂: δ_{H} 5.320 ppm, δ_{C} 54.00 ppm). ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, COSY, gHSQCAD, gHMBCAD and 2D J-resolved spectra were measured using the manufacturers' software (Topspin 2.1 and 3.2, Bruker Biospin GmbH, Rheinstetten, Germany). The chemical shifts are given in δ scale [ppm] and coupling constants in Hz. The digital resolution enabled reporting the δ of ¹H to 3, coupling constants to 1, and ¹³C to 2 decimal places. Signals assigned from 2D experiments are reported to 2 (¹H) and 1 (¹³C) decimal places, respectively.

High resolution mass spectrometry measurements were carried out on LTQ Orbitrap Velos (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA), UltrafleXtreme™ MALDI-TOF/TOF (Bruker Daltonics, Germany) and GC-MS (Agilent 7890A GC + OA-TOF Waters GCT Premier MS) spectrometers. Electrospray ionization (ESI), matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization (MALDI), or atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) were used as an ion sources.

For imines **1–6**, GC analyses were carried out on a Varian CP-3800 GC equipped with a Varian 1177 autosampler, FID and a non-polar column (Varian VF-1, 60 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μ m). Nitrogen (99.99%) was used as the carrier gas at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min. The injector was heated to 300 °C, the injected volume was 1 μ L and split ratio 1:25. The detector was heated to 270 °C for the measurement of conversion and 250 °C for the analysis of *ee* using a pre-column derivatization method previously described by us^{9e}. In the case of **7–12**, the conversion and *ee* were acquired on a Agilent 7693/7890 GC equipped with the chiral J&W CycloSil™-B (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μ m) column, Agilent 5975C Triple-Axis MSD detector and helium as the carrier gas.

IR spectra were measured on Nicolet 6700 FTIR instrument.

Crystallographic measurements were done with four circle CCD diffractometer Gemini by Oxford Diffraction, Ltd., with graphite monochromated Cu K α radiation (λ = 1.54187 Å). The crystal structure was solved by charge flipping method using program Superflip¹ and refined with the Jana2006 program package² by full-matrix least squares technique on F. The molecular structure plot was prepared using ORTEP III.³ Supramolecular interactions were viewed in Mercury.⁴

1.2 Chemicals

The following compounds were purchased from commercial sources and used as received:

(*S,S*)-*N*-*p*-toluenesulfonyl-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine (98 %, ABCR),
 Dichloro(η^5 -Cp*)rhodium(I) dimer (99 %, Strem Chemicals),
 Dichloro(η^6 -*p*-cymene)ruthenium(II) dimer (Sigma-Aldrich),
 [RuCl(η^6 -*p*-cymene)(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**A**, Sigma-Aldrich),
 [RuCl(η^6 -mesitylene)(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**C**, Sigma-Aldrich),
 [RuCl(*S,S*)-Teth-TsDPEN] (**D**, Strem Chemicals),
 [RuCl(*S,S*)-Ts-DENEB] (**E**, Strem Chemicals),
 6,7-diethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**7**, Acros Organics),
 7-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydro- β -carboline (harmaline, **11**, TCI).

The following known compounds were synthesized according to previously reported procedures:

6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**1**),^{9b}
 1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**2**),^{9b}
 6-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**3**),^{9b}
 7-methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**4**),^{9b}
 1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**5**),^{9f}
 1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**6**),^{9f}
 6,7-dimethoxy-1-isopropyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**8**),^{9g}
 1-isopropyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (**9**),^{9g}
 1-methyl-3,4-dihydro- β -carboline (harmalane, **10**),^{9h}
 3-methyl-1,2-benzisothiazole-1,1-dioxide (**12**).⁹ⁱ

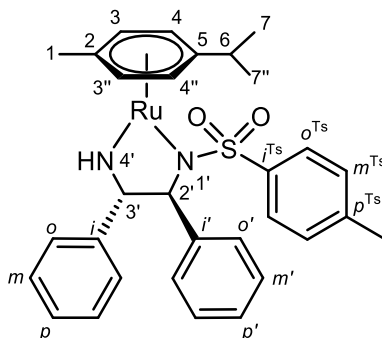
The syntheses of the following compounds are based on published procedures:

[Ru(η^6 -*p*-cymene)(HN-CHPhCHPhNSO₂C₆H₄-*p*-CH₃)] (**B**),⁵
 [RhCl(η^5 -Cp*)(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**F**),^{6a}
 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butan-1-ol (**13a**),⁷
 [(η^6 -(4-(*p*-methylphenyl)butanol)RuCl₂)₂] (**14a**),⁸
 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butane (**15a**),⁷
 [RuCl(η^6 -(*p*-methylphenyl)butanol)(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**G**),^{6b}
 [RuCl(η^6 -(*p*-methylphenyl)butane)(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**H**).^{6b}

1.3 Synthetic procedures

1.3.1 Synthesis of $[\text{Ru}(\eta^6\text{-}p\text{-cymene})(\text{HN-CHPhCHPhNSO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-}p\text{-CH}_3)]$ (**B**)

$[\text{RuCl}_2(\eta^6\text{-}p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (125.4 mg, 0.197 mmol), (*S,S*)-TsDPEN (150.0 mg, 0.409 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (2.9 mL), KOH (163.8 mg, 2.920 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min. The reaction mixture was washed with water (2.9 mL), dried over CaH_2 and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford a dark purple solid. Yield: 148 mg, (61 %).



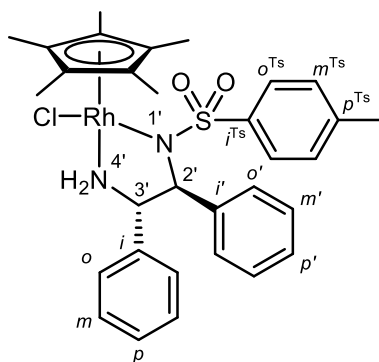
^1H NMR (600.23 MHz, CD_3CN , 300.0 K): δ 1.201 (3H, d, $J = 6.9$, H-7"), 1.292 (3H, d, $J = 6.9$, H-7), 2.146 (3H, s, H-1), 2.296 (3H, s, $\text{CH}_3\text{-}para^{\text{Ts}}$), 2.642 (1H, dd, $J = 6.9, 6.9$, H-6), 3.938 (1H, d, $J = 4.9$, H-3'), 4.286 (1H, s, H-2'), 5.328 (1H, d, $J = 6.0$, H-4), 5.414 (1H, d, $J = 6.0$, H-3"), 5.627 (1H, d, $J = 6.0$, H-4"), 5.768 (1H, d, $J = 6.0$, H-3), 6.945 (2H, m, H-*meta*^{Ts}), 7.125 (2H, m, H-*ortho*), 7.15 (2H, m, H-*meta*), 7.17 (2H, m, H-*para*, H-*para*'), 7.211 (2H, m, H-*ortho*^{Ts}), 7.248 (2H, m, H-*meta*'), 7.443 (1H, br. s, H-4'), 7.482 (2H, m, H-*ortho*').

^{13}C NMR (150.93 MHz, CD_3CN , 300.0 K): δ 20.07 (C-1), 21.31 ($\text{CH}_3\text{-}para^{\text{Ts}}$), 23.41 (C-7"), 23.57 (C-7), 32.71 (C-6), 72.33 (C-2'), 77.00 (C-4), 80.59 (C-4"), 81.54 (C-3"), 81.96 (C-3'), 84.74 (C-3), 89.06 (C-2), 100.04 (C-5), 127.09 (C-*para*'), 127.32 (C-*ortho*^{Ts}), 127.40 (C-*ortho*), 127.65 (C-*para*), 128.06 (C-*ortho*'), 128.38 (C-*meta*'), 128.83 (C-*meta*), 129.46 (C-*meta*^{Ts}), 141.35 (C-*para*^{Ts}), 143.81 (C-*ipso*^{Ts}), 145.61 (C-*ipso*), 148.45 (C-*ipso*').

HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{RuS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 601.1457; found: 601.1459.

1.3.2 Synthesis of $[\text{RhCl}(\eta^5\text{-Cp}^*)(S,S)\text{-TsDPEN}]$ (F)

$[\text{RhCl}_2\text{Cp}^*]_2$ (154.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) and (S,S) -TsDPEN (183 mg, 0.5 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (5 mL), triethylamine (139.1 μL , 101 mg, 1 mmol) was added and the solution was stirred for 20 min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was washed with water (2.5 mL), dried over MgSO_4 and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give an orange solid. Yield: 300 mg, 94 %. m.p. 219–220 $^\circ\text{C}$ (dec.).



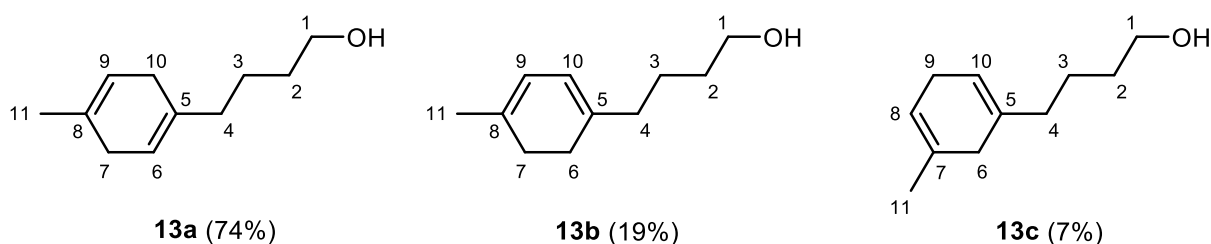
^1H NMR (400.00 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 303.2 K): δ 1.817 (15H, s, CH_3^{Cp}), 2.291 (3H, s, $\text{CH}_3\text{-para}^{\text{Ts}}$), 3.447 (1H, m, H-4'), 3.713 (1H, ddd, $J = 10.8, 13.6, 2.3$, H-3'), 3.903 (1H, m, H-4'), 3.972 (1H, d, $J = 10.8$, H-2'), 6.29 (2H, m, H-ortho), 6.653 (2H, m, H-ortho'), 6.780 (2H, m, H-meta'), 6.85 (2H, m, H-meta^{Ts}), 6.86 (1H, m, H-para'), 7.13 (2H, m, H-meta), 7.14 (1H, m, H-para), 7.311 (2H, m, H-ortho^{Ts}).

^{13}C NMR (100.59 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 303.2 K): δ 9.98 (CH_3^{Cp}), 21.42 ($\text{CH}_3\text{-para}^{\text{Ts}}$), 69.91 (C-2'), 72.14 (C-3'), 94.52 (C^{Cp}), 94.61 (C^{Cp}), 126.88 (C-para'), 127.58 (C-meta'), 127.62 (C-ortho), 128.32 (C-meta^{Ts}), 128.55 (C-ortho^{Ts}), 128.83 (C-para), 129.01 (C-meta), 129.35 (C-ortho'), 139.89 (C-para^{Ts}), 140.06 (C-ipso), 140.32 (C-ipso'), 142.38 (C-ipso^{Ts}).

HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{RhS}$ $[\text{M}-\text{Cl}]^+$: 603.1553; found 603.1556.

1.3.3 Synthesis of 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butan-1-ol (**13a**)

1,2-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (DPPE) (102.0 mg, 0.256 mmol), CoBr₂ (54.3 mg, 0.248 mmol), ZnI₂ (157.6 mg, 0.494 mmol) and Zn powder (31.8 mg, 0.486 mmol) were mixed with tetrahydrofuran (33 mL) at 70 °C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. Isoprene (1.00 g, 14.7 mmol, 1.47 mL) and 5-hexyn-1-ol (1.18 g, 12.1 mmol, 1.33 mL) were added and then further stirred for 2 hours at 70 °C. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude oily product was purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 3:1) to afford colourless oil consisting of **13a** and side-products **13b** and **13c**. Yield: 1.86 g (93 %).



13a: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 1.479 (2H, m, H-3), 1.56 (2H, m, H-2), 1.663 (3H, s, H-11), 1.995 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.5, 7.5, H-4), 2.574 (4H, s, H-7, H-10), 3.635 (2H, dd, *J* = 6.4, 6.4, H-1), 5.407 (1H, s, H-9), 5.421 (1H, s, H-6).

¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 22.98 (C-11), 23.50 (C-3), 29.81 (C-10), 31.57 (C-7), 32.35 (C-2), 36.73 (C-4), 62.83 (C-1), 118.45 (C-6), 118.57 (C-9), 131.22 (C-8), 134.60 (C-5).

13b: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 1.493 (2H, m, H-3), 1.545 (2H, m, H-2), 1.758 (3H, s, H-11), 2.076 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.4, 7.4, H-4), 2.093 (2H, m, H-7), 2.10 (2H, m, H-6), 3.635 (2H, dd, *J* = 6.4, 6.4, H-1), 5.582 (1H, d, *J* = 6.6, H-10), 5.590 (1H, d, *J* = 6.6, H-9).

¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 22.92 (C-11), 23.73 (C-3), 26.92 (C-6), 28.66 (C-7), 32.34 (C-2), 36.61 (C-4), 62.81 (C-1), 119.02 (C-10), 119.25 (C-9), 133.01 (C-8), 135.97 (C-5).

13c: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 1.543 (2H, m, H-3), 1.565 (2H, m, H-2), 1.676 (3H, s, H-11), 2.008 (2H, m, H-4), 2.472 (2H, t, *J* = 8.0, H-6), 2.667 (2H, br. s., H-9), 3.635 (2H, m, H-1), 5.421 (2H, m, H-8, H-10).

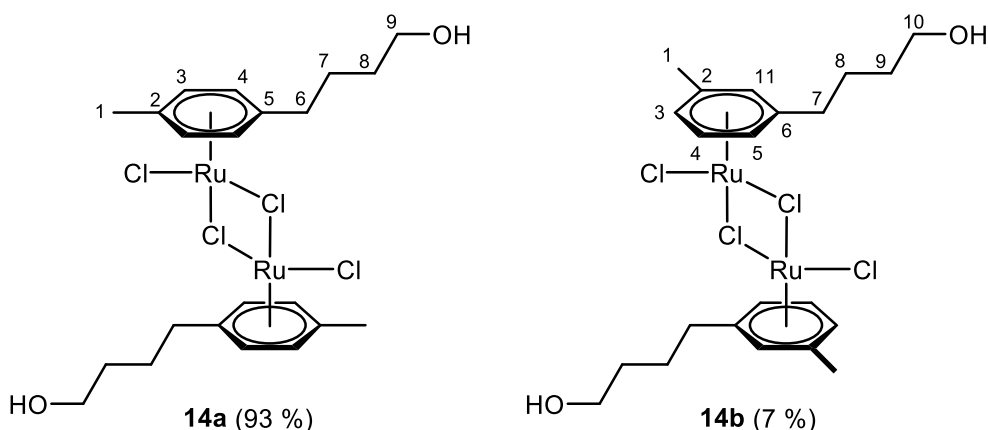
¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 293.2 K): δ 23.19 (C-11), 23.39 (C-3), 27.64 (C-9), 32.36 (C-2), 33.79 (C-6), 36.86 (C-4), 62.83 (C-1), 118.29, 118.48 (C-8, C-10), 131.20, 131.22 (C-5, C-7).

HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for C₁₁H₁₇O [M-H]⁻: 165.1279; found: 165.1277.

IR: ν_{max} = 3622, 3442, 3082, 3011, 2935, 2879, 2861, 2820, 1662, 1610, 1475, 1448, 1439, 1384, 1053, 1022 cm⁻¹.

1.3.4 Synthesis of $[(\eta^6\text{-}(4\text{-}(p\text{-tolyl)butan-1-ol})\text{RuCl}_2)_2]$ (**14a**)

Diene **13a** (1.50 g, 9.02 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol (70 mL) and $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (387 mg, 1.48 mmol, trihydrate assumed) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h under reflux. After the reaction, the mixture was hot-filtered to remove Ru black. The volatiles were removed on a rotary evaporator giving red-brown oil. The oil was washed with cold and degassed EtOH (3×3 mL) and hexane (3×3 mL). The resulting red-brown solid was dried in vacuum (1 Torr). Yield: 372 mg (75 %). M.p. 168–171 °C (dec.).



14a: ^1H NMR (400.00 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 1.461 (2H, m, H-8), 1.584 (2H, m, H-7), 2.082 (3H, s, H-1), 2.383 (2H, t, $J = 7.7$, H-6), 3.403 (2H, t, $J = 6.3$, H-9), 5.751 (2H, m, H-3), 5.786 (2H, m, H-4).

^{13}C NMR (100.58 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 17.86 (C-1), 25.89 (C-7), 31.69 (C-6), 32.00 (C-8), 60.38 (C-9), 86.93 (C-3), 87.01 (C-4), 99.62 (C-2), 101.71 (C-5).

14b: ^1H NMR (400.00 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 1.565 (2H, m, H-9), 1.576 (2H, m, H-8), 2.129 (3H, s, H-1), 2.423 (2H, br. t, $J = 7.6$, H-7), 3.412 (2H, t, $J = 6.4$, H-10), 5.449 (1H, d, $J = 5.7$, H-3), 5.484 (1H, d, $J = 5.7$, H-5), 5.640 (1H, br. s., H-11), 5.964 (1H, t, $J = 5.7$, H-4).

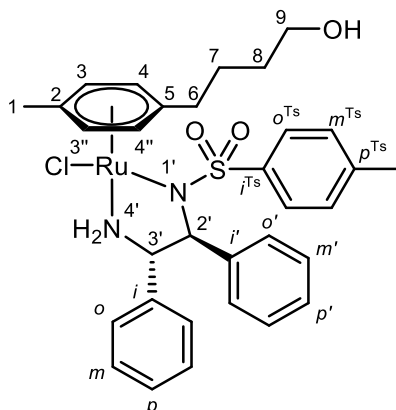
^{13}C NMR (100.58 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 18.52 (C-1), 25.64 (C-8), 32.10 (C-9), 32.47 (C-7), 60.39 (C-10), 80.19 (C-5), 81.09 (C-3), 84.18 (C-11), 88.33 (C-4), 106.58 (C-2), 109.62 (C-6).

HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_2\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}_3$ [M-Cl]⁺: 636.9555; found 636.9556.

IR: ν_{max} = 3482, 3067, 3047, 3008, 2944, 2869, 1530, 1495, 1450, 1377, 1065, 1033, 809 cm^{-1} .

1.3.5 Synthesis of [RuCl(η^6 -(4-(*p*-tolyl)butan-1-ol)](*S,S*)-TsDPEN] (**G**)

Dimer **14a** (250.0 mg, 0.372 mmol) and ligand (*S,S*)-TsDPEN (272.5 mg, 0.744 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (8.3 mL). Triethylamine (207.4 μ L, 150.5 mg, 1.487 mmol) was added thereto and the solution was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. The orange precipitate was filtered off, washed with water (3 \times 2 mL) and dried in vacuum (1 Torr). Yield: 415 mg, (84 %). m.p. 205–207 $^{\circ}$ C (dec.).



^1H NMR (700.13 MHz, DMSO- d_6 , 303.2 K): δ 1.542 (2H, m, H-8), 1.693 (2H, m, H-7), 2.214 (3H, s, CH₃-*para*^{Ts}), 2.247 (3H, s, H-1), 2.568 (1H, m, H-6u), 2.599 (1H, m, H-6d), 3.179 (1H, dd, J = 10.3, 12.5, H-4'), 3.474 (2H, m, H-9), 3.557 (1H, m, H-3'), 3.708 (1H, d, J = 11.2, H-2'), 4.455 (1H, t, J = 5.1, 9-OH), 5.496 (1H, d, J = 5.6, H-3), 5.595 (2H, s, H-3', H-4"), 5.641 (1H, d, J = 5.6, H-4), 6.530 (2H, d, J = 7.4, H-*ortho*'), 6.673 (2H, dd, J = 7.4, 7.4, H-*meta*'), 6.778 (1H, t, J = 7.4, H-*para*'), 6.805 (2H, m, H-*ortho*), 6.819 (2H, d, J = 7.9, H-*meta*^{Ts}), 7.043 (2H, d, J = 7.9, H-*ortho*^{Ts}), 7.10 (3H, m, H-*meta*, H-*para*), 7.354 (1H, d, J = 7.8, H-4').

^{13}C NMR (176.06 MHz, DMSO- d_6 , 303.2 K): δ 18.35 (C-1), 20.82 (CH₃-*para*^{Ts}), 26.49 (C-7), 32.11 (C-6), 32.17 (C-8), 60.48 (C-9), 68.58 (C-2'), 71.10 (C-3'), 81.95 (C-3"), 81.97 (C-4), 83.17 (C-3), 83.95 (C-4"), 95.09 (C-2), 96.65 (C-5), 125.96 (C-*para*'), 126.62 (C-*meta*', C-*ortho*^{Ts}), 127.15 (C-*ortho*), 127.56 (C-*meta*^{Ts}), 127.64 (C-*para*), 128.19 (C-*meta*), 128.93 (C-*ortho*'), 138.11 (C-*para*^{Ts}), 139.24 (C-*ipso*'), 139.90 (C-*ipso*), 143.78 (C-*ipso*^{Ts}).

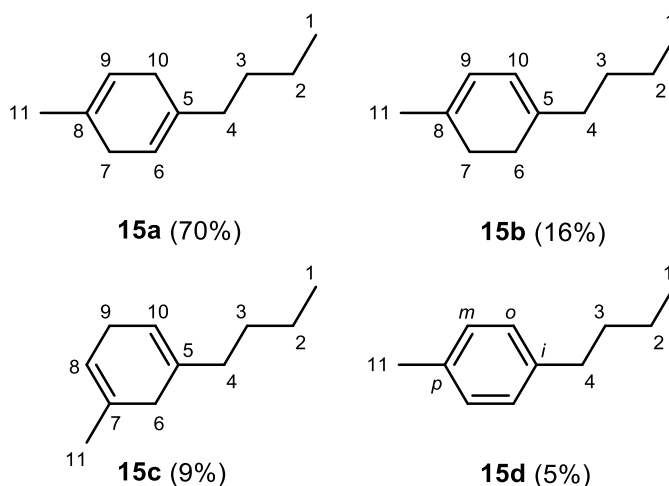
HRMS (ESI⁺) calculated for C₃₂H₃₇N₂O₃RuS [M-Cl]⁺: 631.1568; found 631.1569.

IR: ν_{max} = 3455, 3279, 3226, 3084, 3064, 3030, 2933, 2861, 1599, 1494, 1453, 1378, 1270, 1128, 1105, 1084, 1039, 821, 813, 689 cm⁻¹.

$[\alpha]^{20}_{589}$ = +66.7 $^{\circ}$ (c 0.397, DMSO).

1.3.6 Synthesis of 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butane (**15a**)

DPPE (102.0 mg, 0.256 mmol), CoBr₂ (54.3 mg, 0.248 mmol), ZnI₂ (157.6 mg, 0.494 mmol) and Zn powder (31.8 mg, 0.486 mmol) were mixed with tetrahydrofuran (33 mL) at 70 °C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. Isoprene (1.00 g, 14.7 mmol, 1.47 mL) and 1-hexyne (1.00 g, 12.1 mmol, 1.39 mL) were added and then further stirred for 2 hours at 70 °C. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude oily product was purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 3:1) to afford colourless oil consisting of **15a-c**.¹ Yield: 1.54 g (84 %).



15a: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2 K): δ 0.899 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2, H-1), 1.306 (2H, m, H-2), 1.389 (2H, m, H-3), 1.674 (3H, s, H-11), 1.968 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5, H-4), 2.584 (4H, m, H-7, H-10), 5.416 (1H, m, H-6), 5.421 (1H, m, H-9).

¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2K): δ 14.01 (C-1), 22.44 (C-2), 23.05 (C-11), 29.70 (C-3), 29.92 (C-10), 31.61 (C-7), 36.81 (C-4), 117.97 (C-6), 118.72 (C-9), 131.28 (C-8), 135.15 (C-5).

15b: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2 K): δ 0.899 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2, H-1), 1.306 (2H, m, H-2), 1.398 (2H, m, H-3), 1.767 (3H, s, H-11), 2.049 (2H, t, *J* = 7.6, H-4), 2.102 (4H, m, H-6, H-7), 5.578 (1H, m, H-10), 5.602 (1H, m, H-9).

¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2K): δ 14.00 (C-1), 22.41 (C-2), 22.98 (C-11), 27.05 (C-6), 28.72 (C-7), 29.88 (C-3), 36.69 (C-4), 118.60 (C-10), 119.34 (C-9), 132.83 (C-8), 136.73 (C-5).

15c: ¹H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2 K): δ 0.899 (3H, m, H-1), 1.315 (2H, m, H-2), 1.375 (2H, m, H-3) 1.687 (3H, s, H-11), 1.979 (2H, m, H-4), 2.482 (2H, t, *J* = 8.0, H-6), 2.678 (2H, br. s., H-9), 5.412 (2H, m, H-8, H-10).

¹³C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl₃, 303.2K): δ 14.01 (C-1), 22.46 (C-2), 23.26 (C-11), 27.69 (C-9), 29.58 (C-3), 33.89 (C-6) 36.95 (C-4), 117.80 (C-10), 118.48 (C-8), 131.37 (C-7, C-5).

¹ Small amount (**9d**) of aromatic impurity was formed as a decomposition product, which has been assigned for the sake of completeness.

15d: ^1H NMR (600.23 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303.2 K): δ 0.899 (3H, m, H-1), 1.291 (2H, m, H-2), 1.577 (2H, m, H-3), 2.318 (3H, s, H-*para*- CH_3), 2.570 (2H, t, $J = 7.9$, H-4), 7.074 (2H, m, H-*ortho*), 7.090 (2H, m, H-*meta*).

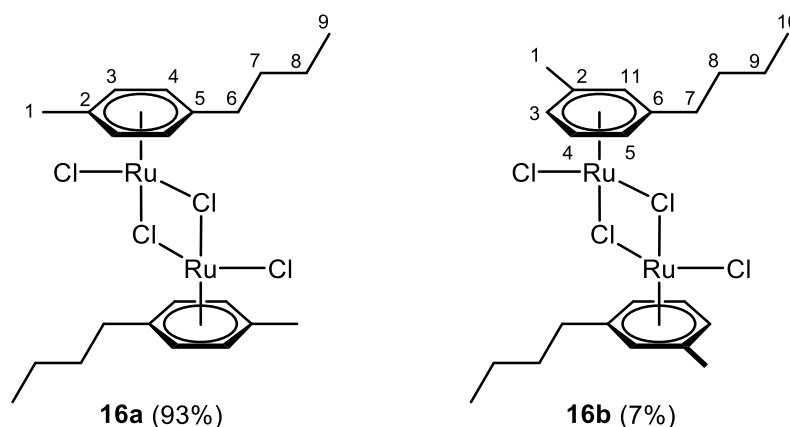
^{13}C NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303.2K): δ 13.96 (C-1), 20.98 (C-*para*- CH_3), 22.36 (C-2), 33.80 (C-3), 35.19 (C-4), 128.26 (C-*ortho*), 128.88 (C-*meta*), 134.91 (C-*para*), 139.81 (C-*ipso*).

HRMS (EI) calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{18}$ [M^{++}]: 150.1409; found 150.1410.

IR: ν_{max} = 3080, 3036, 2960, 2930, 2873, 2859, 2820, 1662, 1610, 1467, 1457, 1379 cm^{-1} .

1.3.7 Synthesis of $[(\eta^6\text{-}(1\text{-butyl-4-methylbenzene})\text{RuCl}_2)_2]$ (**16a**)

Diene **15a** (1.547 g, 10.3 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol (80 mL) and $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (538 mg, 2.1 mmol, trihydrate assumed) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h under reflux. After the reaction, the mixture was hot-filtered to remove Ru black. The volatiles were removed on a rotary evaporator giving red-brown oil. The oil was washed with cold and degassed EtOH (3×3 mL) and hexane (3×3 mL). The resulting red-brown solid was dried in vacuum (1 Torr). Yield: 988 mg (75 %). M.p. 192 °C (dec.).



16a: ^1H NMR (700.13 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 0.894 (3H, t, $J = 7.3$, H-9), 1.333 (2H, m, H-8), 1.539 (2H, m, H-7), 2.080 (3H, s, H-1), 2.379 (2H, t, $J = 7.4$, H-6), 5.745 (2H, d, $J = 5.5$, H-3), 5.789 (2H, d, $J = 5.5$, H-4).

^{13}C NMR (176.06 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2K): δ 13.76 (C-9), 17.85 (C-1), 21.85 (C-8), 31.27 (C-7), 31.55 (C-6), 86.92 (C-3), 86.98 (C-4), 99.59 (C-2), 101.70 (C-5).

16b: ^1H NMR (700.13 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2 K): δ 0.893 (3H, m, H-10), 1.347 (2H, m, H-9), 1.538 (2H, m, H-8), 2.126 (3H, s, H-1), 2.418 (2H, t, $J = 7.6$, H-7), 5.445 (1H, d, $J = 5.2$, H-3), 5.483 (1H, d, $J = 5.2$, H-5), 5.643 (1H, s, H-11), 5.958 (1H, t, $J = 5.2$, H-4).

^{13}C NMR (176.06 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 303.2K): δ 13.78 (C-10), 18.52 (C-1), 21.96 (C-9), 31.03 (C-8), 32.35 (C-7), 80.15 (C-5), 81.06 (C-3), 84.16 (C-11), 88.32 (C-4), 106.53 (C-2), 109.55 (C-6).

HRMS (MALDI) calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}_3$ $[\text{M}-\text{Cl}]^+$: 604.9651; found 604.9659.

IR: $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3067, 3045, 3009, 2951, 2927, 2868, 2859, 1530, 1497, 1466, 1377, 1034, 811 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

1.3.9 AH in batch pressure reactors – optimized setup

The substrate (44 μmol) was weighed into a GC vial and dissolved in methanol (0.5 mL). Trifluoroacetic acid (3.4 μL , 44 μmol) was added thereto, and the mixture was stirred for 5 min. The catalyst solution (0.44 μmol of catalyst; concentration 5.4 mg/1 mL in methanol) was added to the mixture and the vial was closed by a pierced square of Parafilm. The vial was placed in an autoclave, which was closed, purged (3×5 bar) and filled with hydrogen (15 bar).

After 6 h, the autoclave was opened and a sample of the reaction mixture (200 μL) was mixed with a saturated solution of Na_2CO_3 (1 mL). The solution was extracted with diethyl ether (3×1.5 mL) and the organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 for 1 h. The ether solution was stripped to dryness in a stream of air. The stripped residue was dissolved in acetonitrile (GC analysis) or acetonitrile- d_3 (NMR analysis).

1.3.10 ATH in an NMR spectrometer

The reactions were monitored *in situ* in an NMR spectrometer at 30 °C by following the same protocol as described in our previous publications.^{9a}

Acetonitrile- d_3 (volume calculated so as to reach 730 μL of total volume of the reaction mixture), formic acid (13.1 μL , 0.347 mmol) and triethylamine (19.3 μL , 0.139 mmol) were mixed in an NMR tube. The catalyst (0.275 μmol) dissolved in acetonitrile- d_3 (conc. 5.4 mg/mL) was added to the mixture. Finally, after 5 minutes, the substrate (55 μmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction was followed by ^1H NMR.

In the end of the kinetic experiment, a sample of the reaction mixture (200 μL) was mixed with a saturated solution of Na_2CO_3 (1 mL). The solution was extracted with diethyl ether (3×1.5 mL) and the organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 for 1 h. The ether solution was stripped to dryness in a stream of air. The stripped residue was dissolved in acetonitrile (0.8 mL) and enantioselectivity was measured by GC.^{9e}

1.3.11 AH of 1 on a synthetic scale

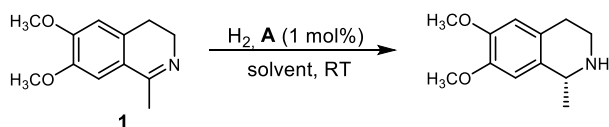
Substrate **1** (90 mg, 0.44 mmol) was weighed into a vial and dissolved in methanol (5 mL). Trifluoroacetic acid (34 μL , 0.44 mmol) was added thereto, and the mixture was stirred for 5 min. The catalyst solution (0.0044 mmol of catalyst; concentration 5.4 mg/1 mL in methanol) was added to the mixture, and the vial was closed by a pierced square of Parafilm. The vial was placed in an autoclave, which was closed, purged (3×5 bar) and filled with hydrogen (15 bar).

After 6 h, the autoclave was opened and the reaction mixture was alkalized with a solution of NaOH. The solution was extracted with diethyl ether (3×5 mL) and filtered through a plug of silica gel to remove the catalyst. The organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and evaporated. Pale yellow oil was obtained. Yield: 84 mg (92%). 97% *ee* and >95% purity.

2. Supplementary results

2.1 Asymmetric hydrogenation experiments

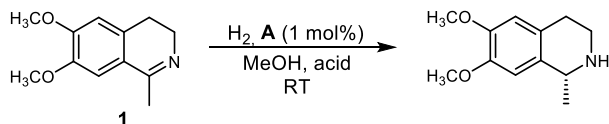
Table S1. Screening of reaction conditions in the AH of **1** with catalyst **A**.^a



Entry	Concentration (mM)	Volume (mL)	Solvent	Conv (%)
1	44	1	acetonitrile	0
2	88	0.5	acetonitrile	0
3	176	0.25	acetonitrile	0
4	44	1	DMSO	2
5	88	0.5	DMSO	4
6	176	0.25	DMSO	3
7	44	1	MeOH	6
8	88	0.5	MeOH	10
9	176	0.25	MeOH	6

^a Amount of substrate $n = 44 \mu\text{mol}$, catalyst loading 1 mol%, $p(\text{H}_2) = 15 \text{ bar}$, RT, 6 h.

Table S2. Screening of acid additives in the AH of **1** with catalyst **A**.^a



Entry	Acid	Acid/Substrate ^b	Conv (%)
1	HBF ₄ (48%)	1	19
2	TfOH	1	9
3	CF ₃ COOH	1	57
4	CF ₃ COOH	0.5	18
5	CF ₃ COOH	0.75	42
6	CF ₃ COOH	1.25	52
7	CF ₃ COOH	1.5	54

^a Amount of substrate $n = 44 \mu\text{mol}$, concentration of substrate $c = 88 \text{ mM}$, catalyst loading 1 mol%, $p(\text{H}_2) = 15 \text{ bar}$, RT, 6 h. ^b Molar ratio.

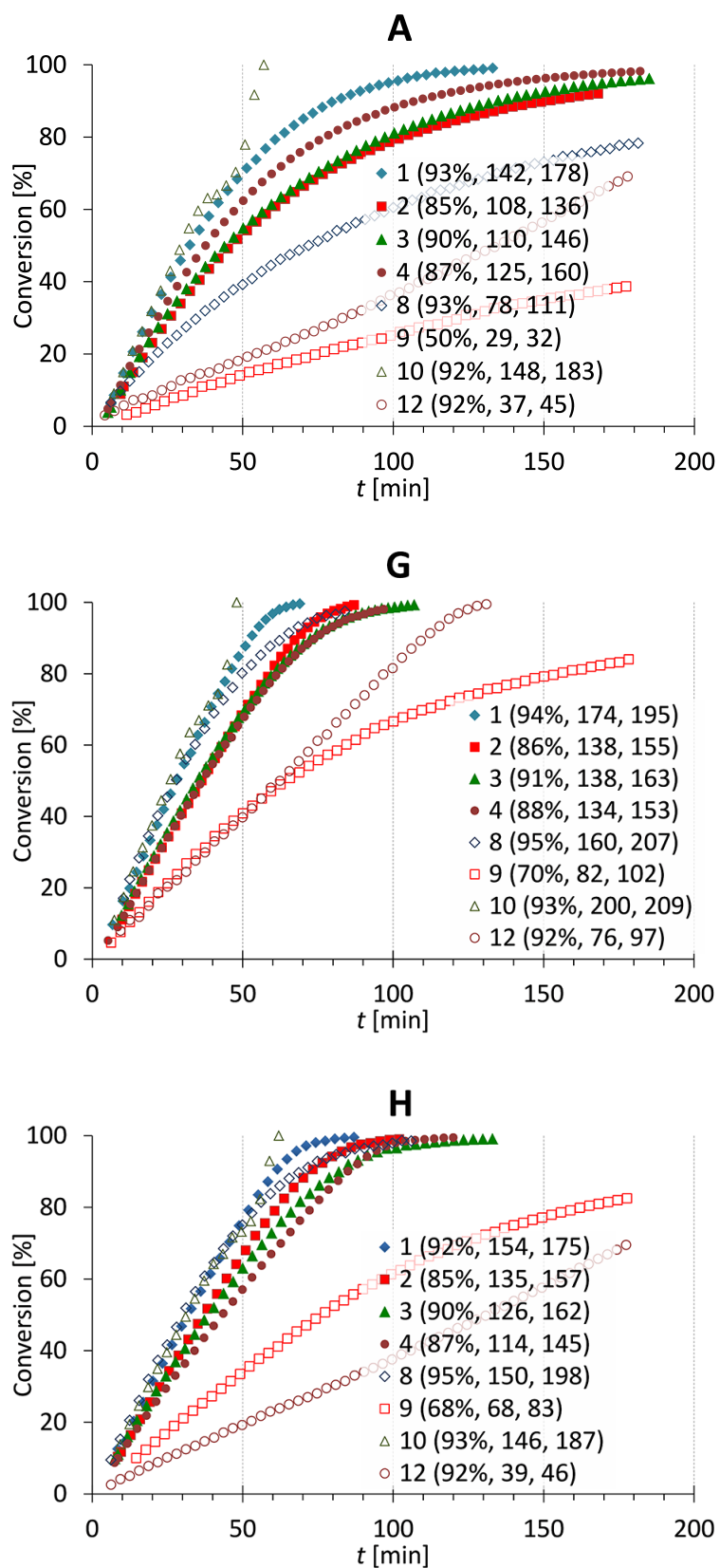
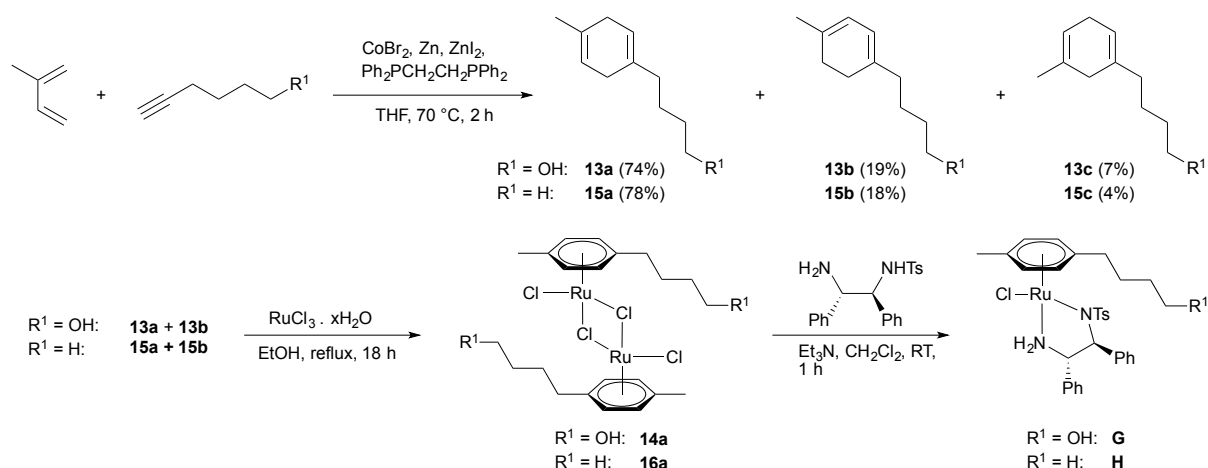


Fig. S1 ATH of imines **1–4**, **8–10** and **12** catalysed by complexes **A**, **G** and **H** using HCOOH/Et₃N (5:2) in CD₃CN at 0.5 mol% catalyst loading and a temperature of 30 °C. In parentheses: *ee*, TON after 50 min, TOF at 20% conversion in h⁻¹.

2.2 Synthesis of G and H, structural elucidation of 13a-c



Scheme S1 Synthesis of complexes G and H.

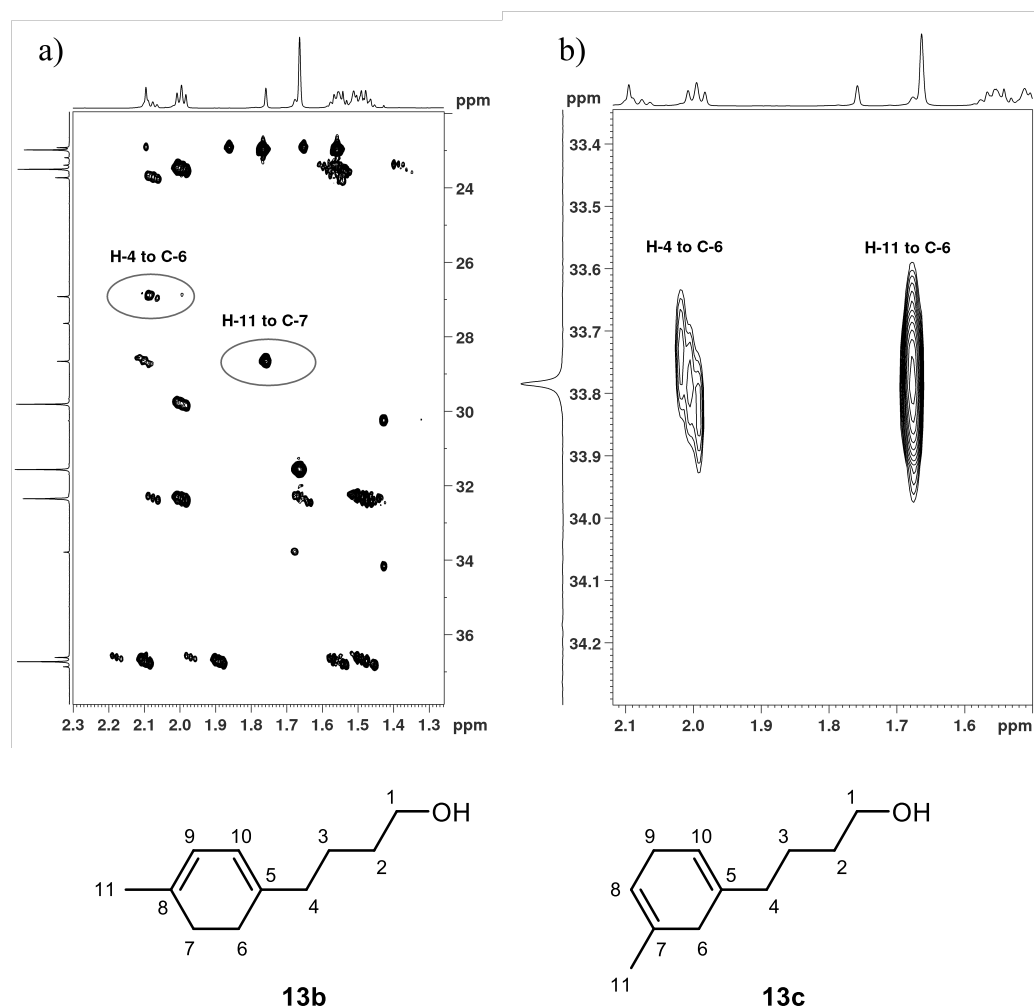


Fig. S2 Parts of a ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC NMR spectrum of isolated mixture of **13a-c**.
 a) **13b**: Correlation of methyl 11 with methylene 7, correlation between methylenes 4 and 6;
 b) **13c**: Correlation of methyl 11 and methylene 4 to common methylene 6

2.3 X-ray diffraction analysis of complex **G**

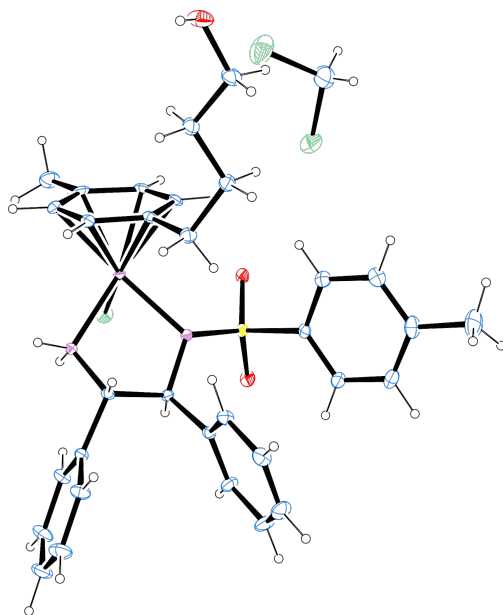


Fig. S3 Solid-state molecular structure of complex **G**

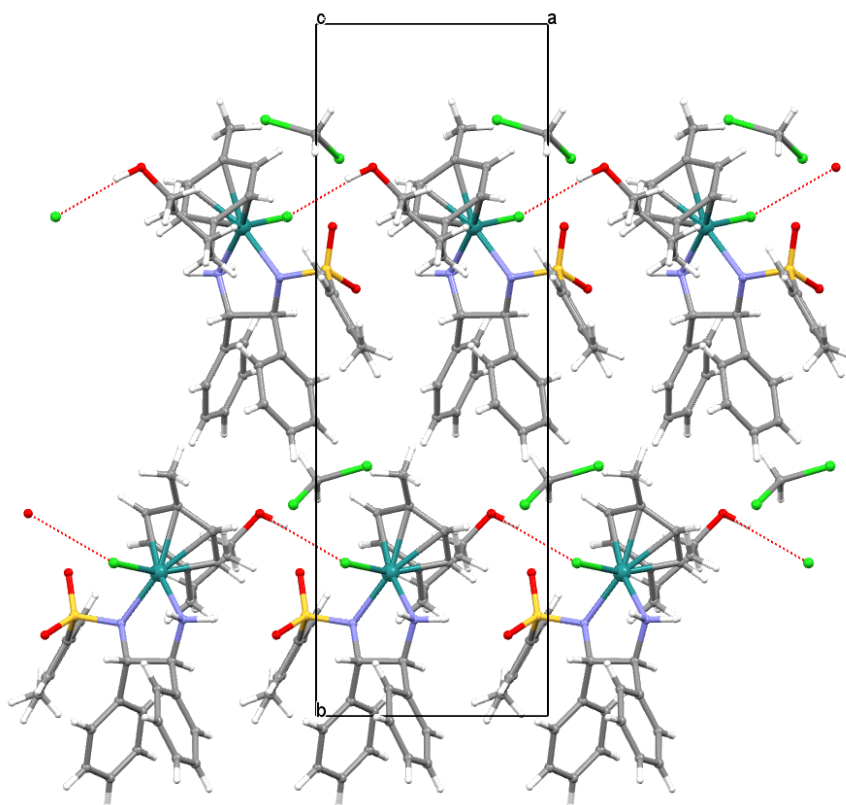


Fig. S4 The molecule of dichloromethane crystallized with **G** in an equimolar ratio. The crystal structure was held together by O-H...Cl hydrogen bonds of 2.39(5) Å between the hydroxyl group (donor) and chloride (acceptor) as evident from the packing view down the *c* axis. Such a hydrogen bond has been observed for similar compounds, although in an intramolecular manner.¹⁰

Table S3 Crystallographic and structure refinement for complex **G**

Empirical formula	C ₃₃ H ₃₉ Cl ₃ N ₂ O ₃ RuS
Formula weight	751.21
Crystal system, space group	monoclinic, <i>P2</i> ₁
<i>T</i> (K)	180
<i>a</i> (Å)	7.77870(10)
<i>b</i> (Å)	22.4690(4)
<i>c</i> (Å)	9.7911(2)
β (deg)	104.5931(14)
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	1656.08(5)
<i>Z</i>	2
μ (mm ⁻¹)	6.937
Crystal size (mm)	0.38 × 0.24 × 0.18
<i>T</i> _{min}	0.487
<i>T</i> _{max}	1
Measured reflections	35936
Independent reflections	6809
Reflections with $I > 3\sigma(I)$	6754
Parameters	400
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.034
<i>S</i>	2.64
$R[F^2 > 3\sigma(F^2)]$	0.0291
$wR(F)$	0.0405
$\Delta\rho_{\max}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.44
$\Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	-0.91

The title compound crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *P2*₁. The molecular structure is given in Figure 1. The single-crystal structure of C₃₃H₃₉Cl₃N₂O₃RuS is built up of discrete moieties of C₃₂H₃₇Cl₂N₂O₃RuS and dichloromethane with the two formula units in the asymmetric unit.

The absolute structure was tested by introducing twinning and refining volume fractions. The inversion was used as a merohedral twinning operation. In this case, the volume fraction of the inversion twin is the Flack parameter.¹¹ This parameter refined to a final value of -0.008(7), which confirms that the above configuration is the correct absolute structure.

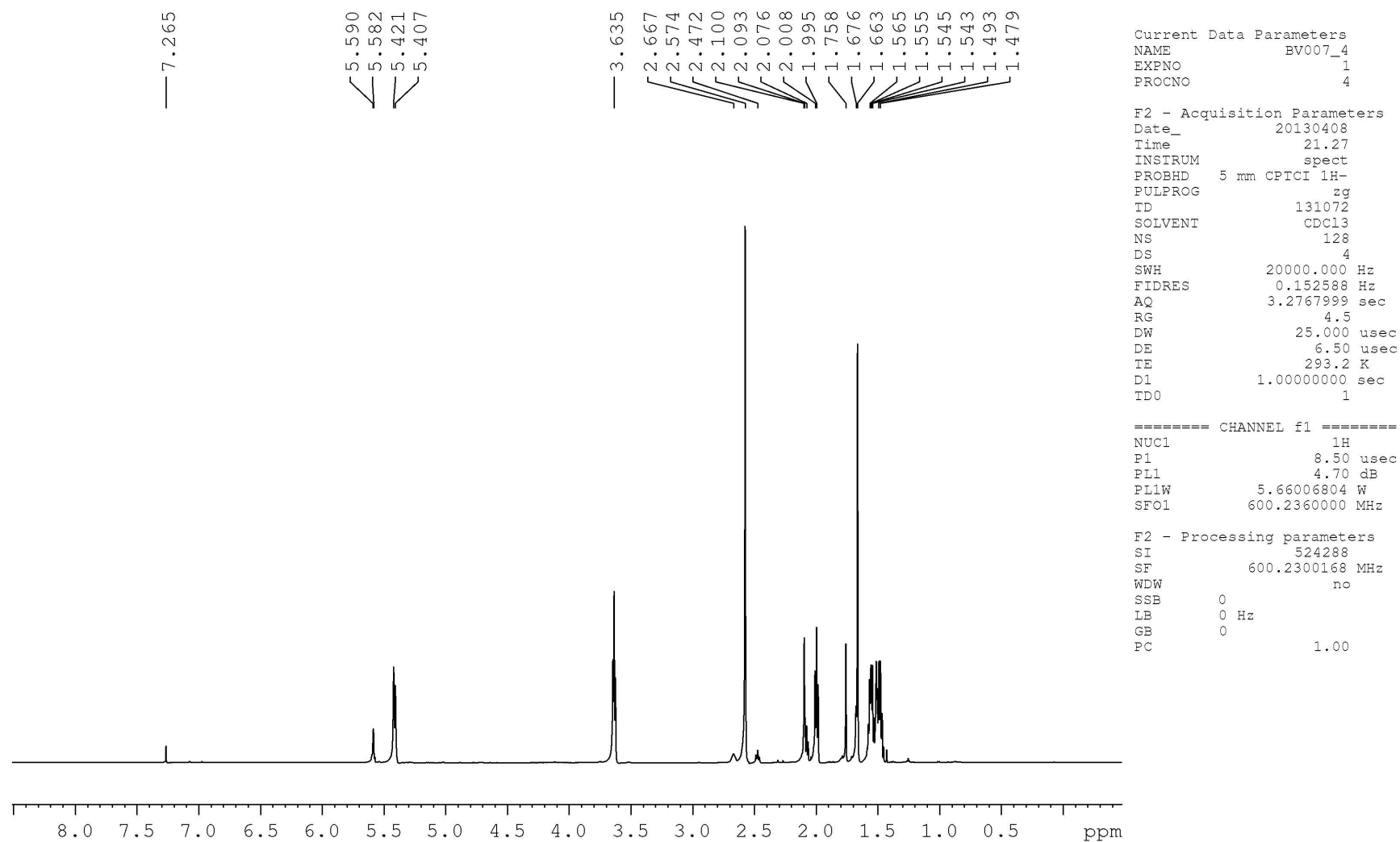
Crystallographic data (including structure factors) for the structure reported in this article has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Center, CCDC No. 1021406. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK, fax: +44 1223 336 033, e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>.

3. References

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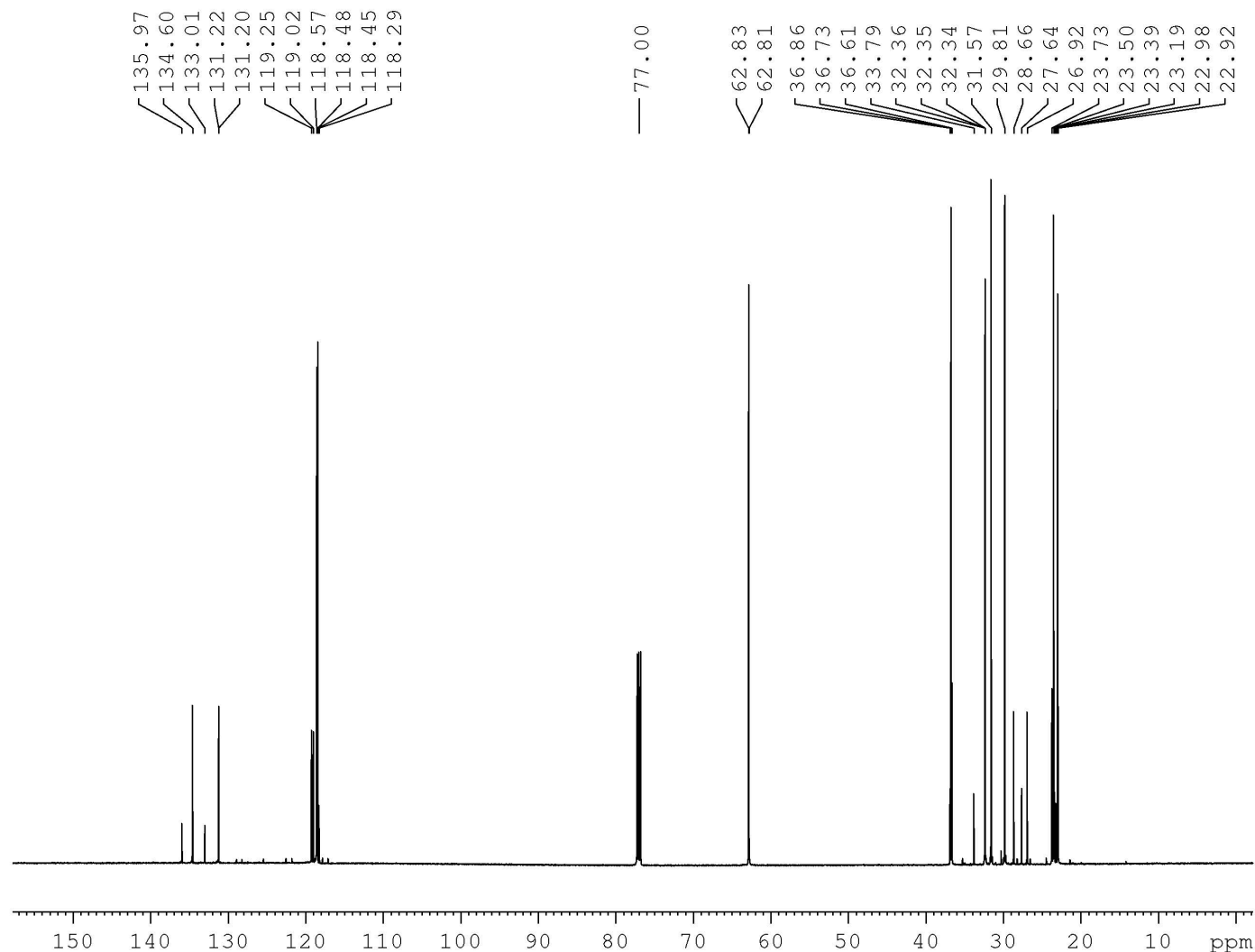
4. Copies of NMR spectra

4.1 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butan-1-ol (13a-c)



Electronic Supplementary Information

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 date: 8 Apr 2013



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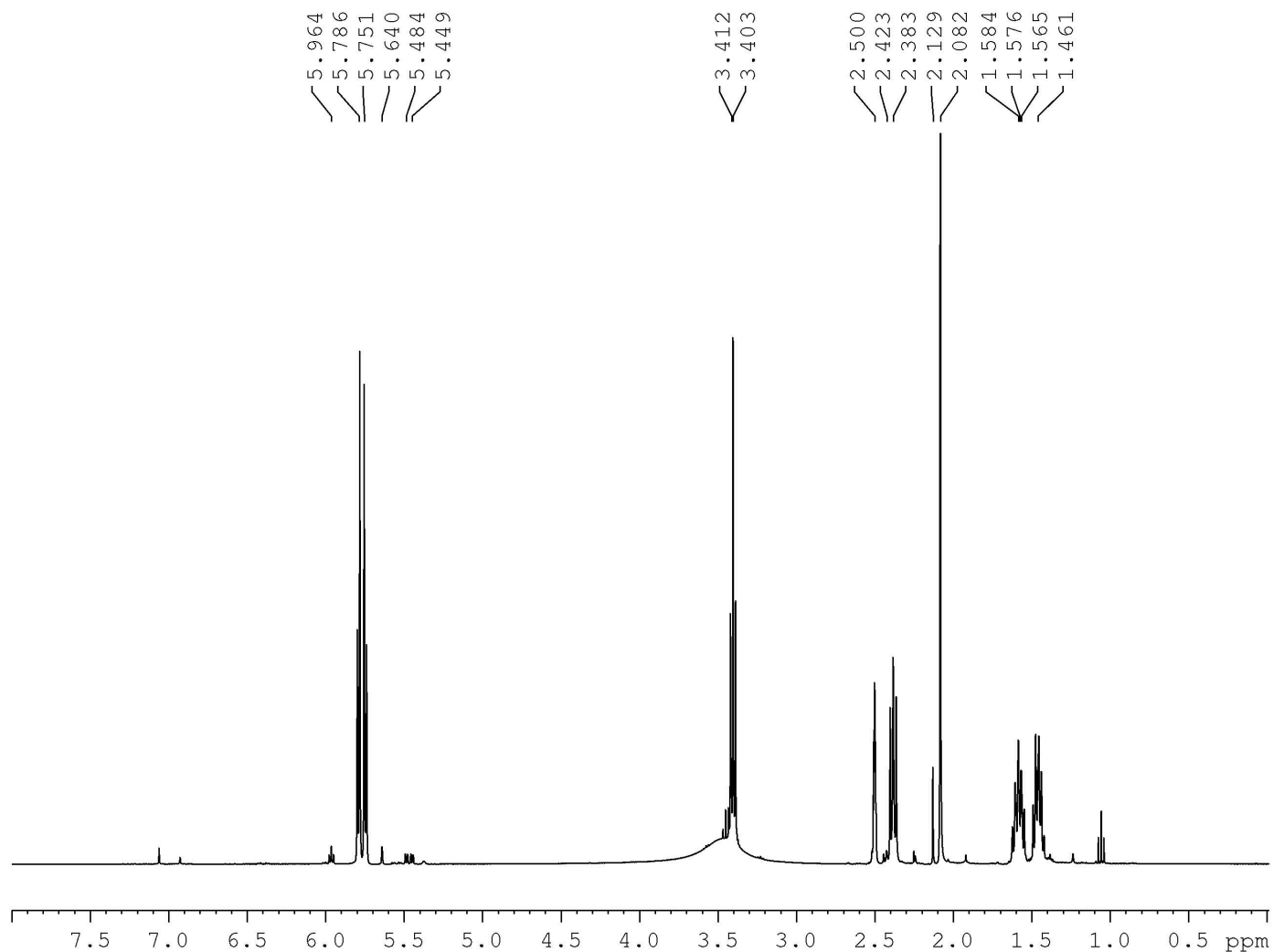
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4.2 $[(\eta^6\text{-}(4\text{-}(p\text{-methylphenyl)butanol)RuCl}_2)_2$ (14a,b)

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 temp: 303,2 K
 date: 29 MAR 2013



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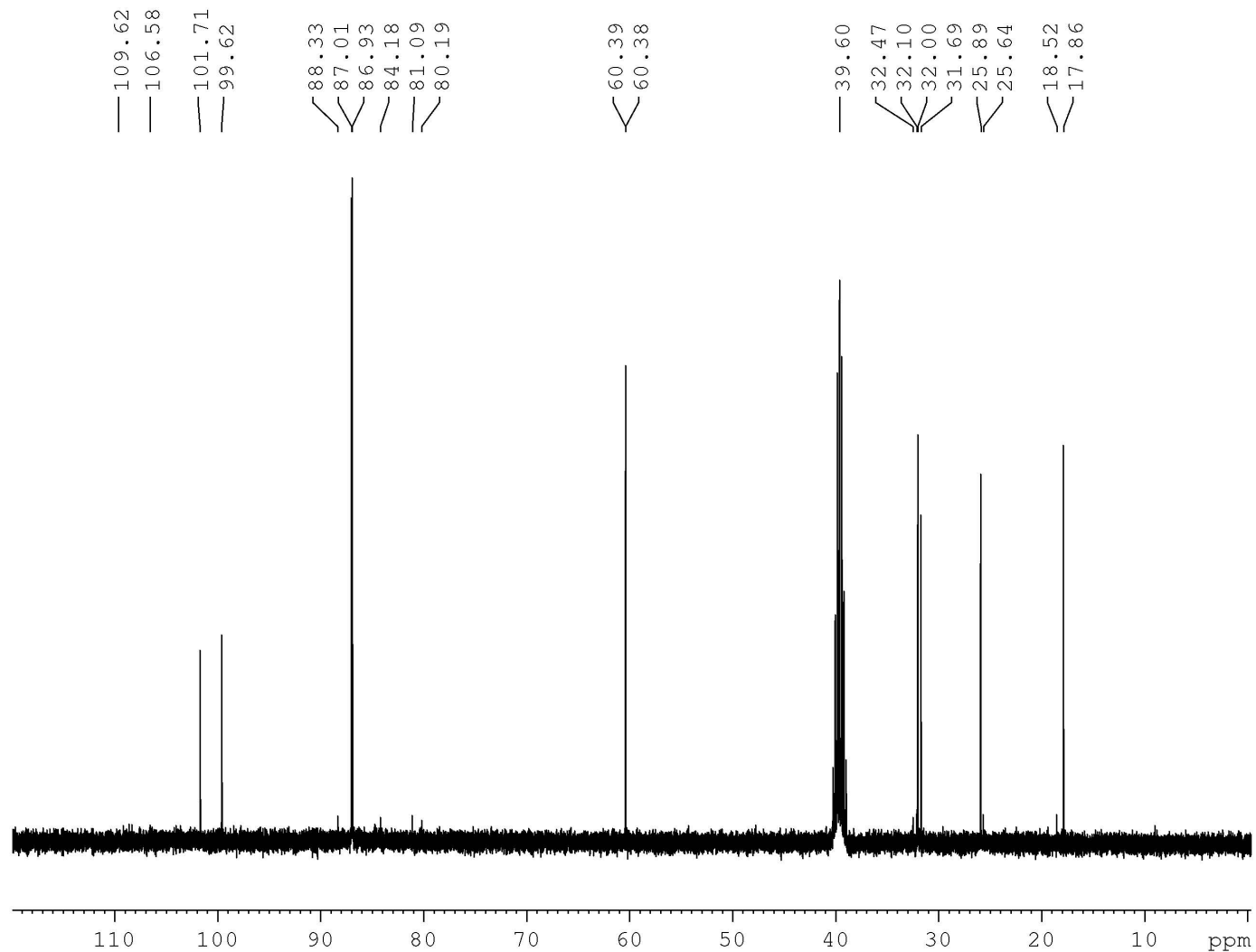
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Electronic Supplementary Information

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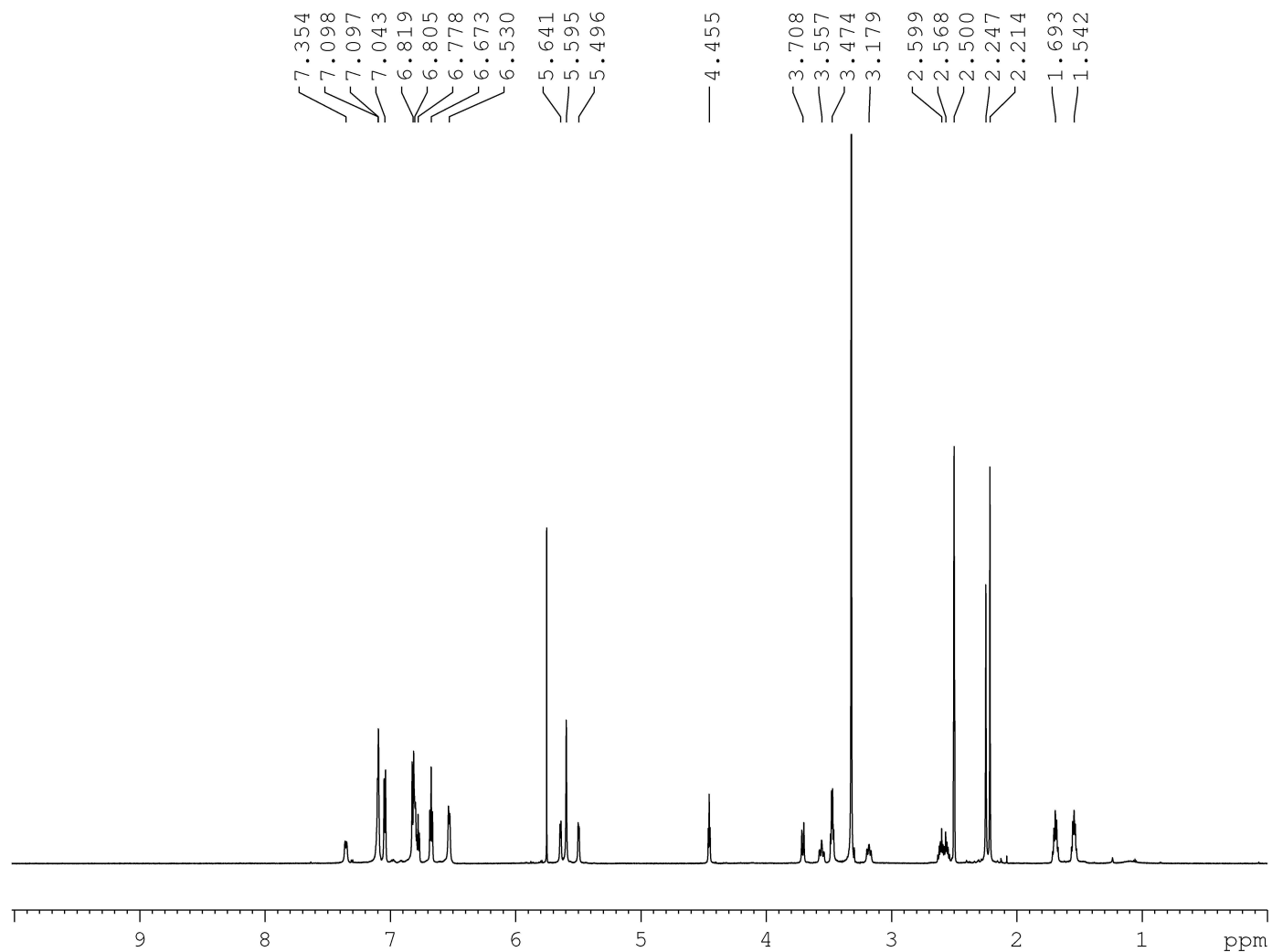
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4.3 [RuCl(η^6 -(*p*-methylphenyl)butanol)(*S,S*-TsDPEN)] (G)

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 temp: 303,2 K
 date: 9 Apr 2013



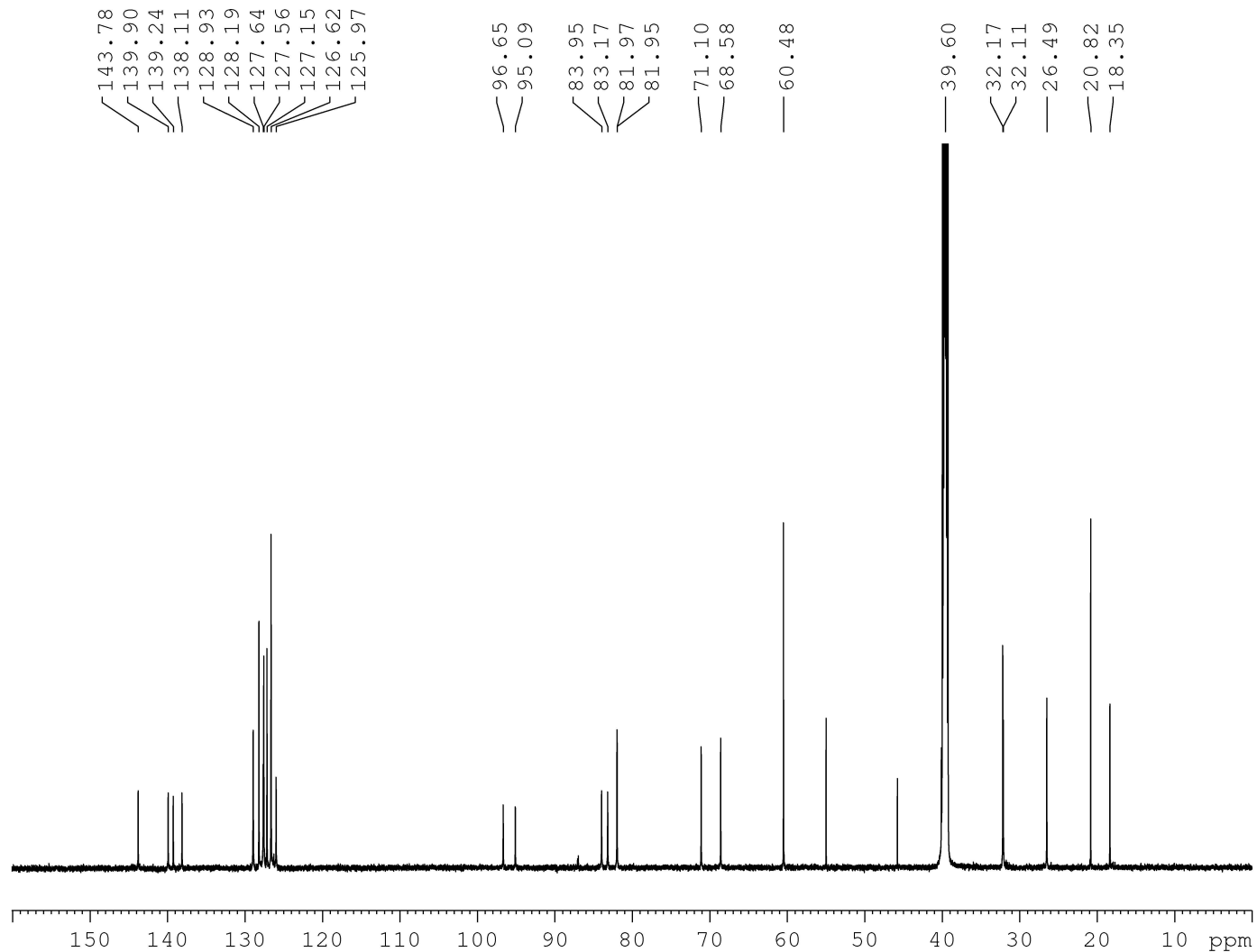
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 date: 9 Apr 2013



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PROBHD        5 mm CPTCI 1H/
PULPROG       zgpg30
TD            130892
SOLVENT       DMSO
NS            4096
DS            32
SWH           41666.668 Hz
FIDRES        0.318329 Hz
AQ            1.5707040 sec
RG            2050
DW            12.000 usec
DE            18.00 usec
TE            303.3 K
D1            1.00000000 sec
D11           0.03000000 sec
TD0           1

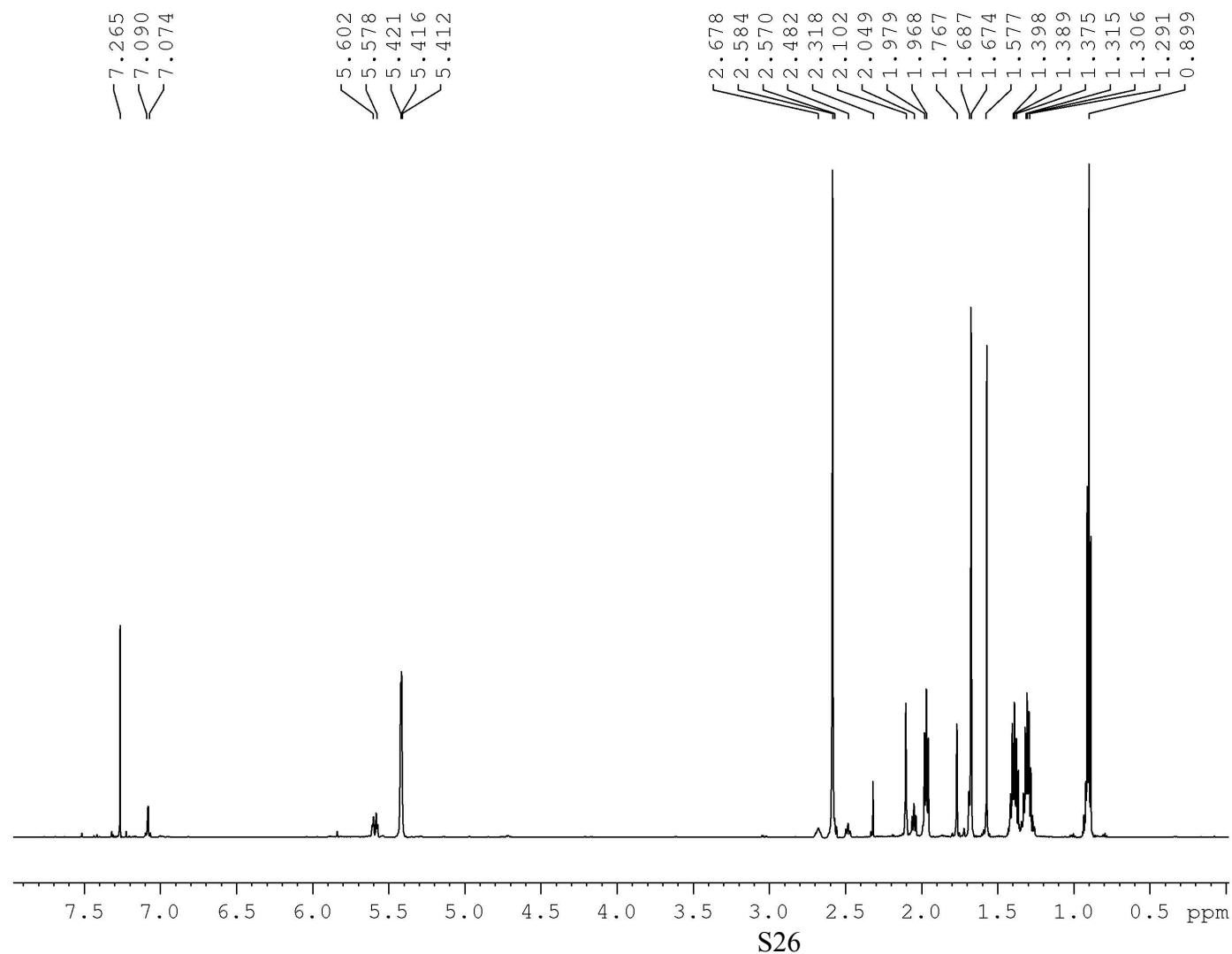
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
SFO1          176.0654325 MHz
NUC1           13C
P1             12.50 usec
PLW1          -1.00000000 W

===== CHANNEL f2 =====
SFO2          700.1328005 MHz
NUC2            1H
CPDPRG[2]     mlev
PCPD2         65.00 usec
PLW2          -1.00000000 W
PLW12         -1.00000000 W
PLW13         -1.00000000 W

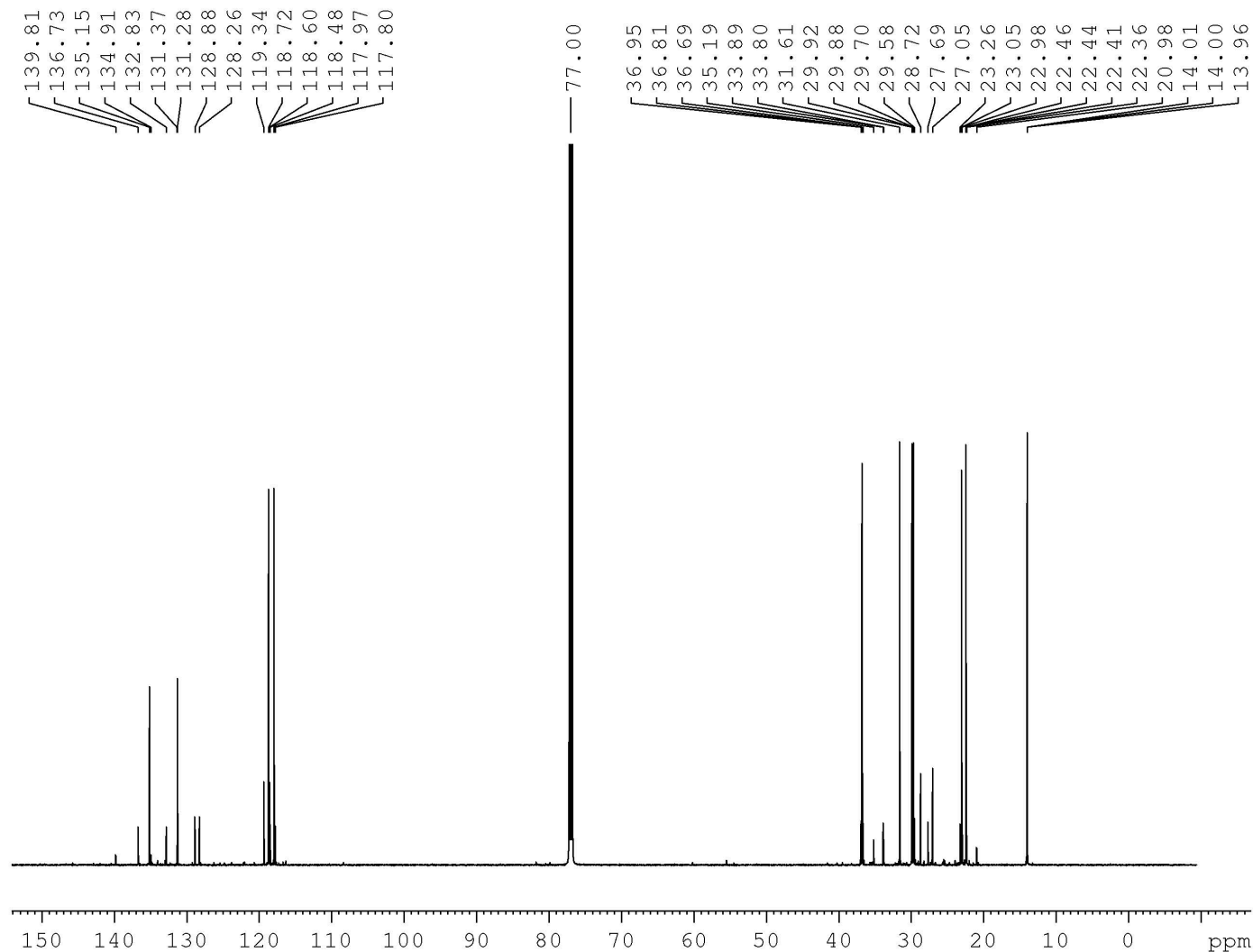
F2 - Processing parameters
SI            262144
SF            176.0479018 MHz
WDW           EM
SSB           0
LB            1.00 Hz
GB            0
PC            1.40
    
```

4.4 4-(4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-dienyl)butane (15a-c)

BV-D4
 solvent: CDCl₃
 temp: 293.2 K
 date : 22 Aug 2014



BV-D4
 solvent: DMSO
 temp: 303.2 K
 date : 22 Aug 2014



```

Current Data Parameters
NAME          BV-D4
EXPNO         2
PROCNO        2

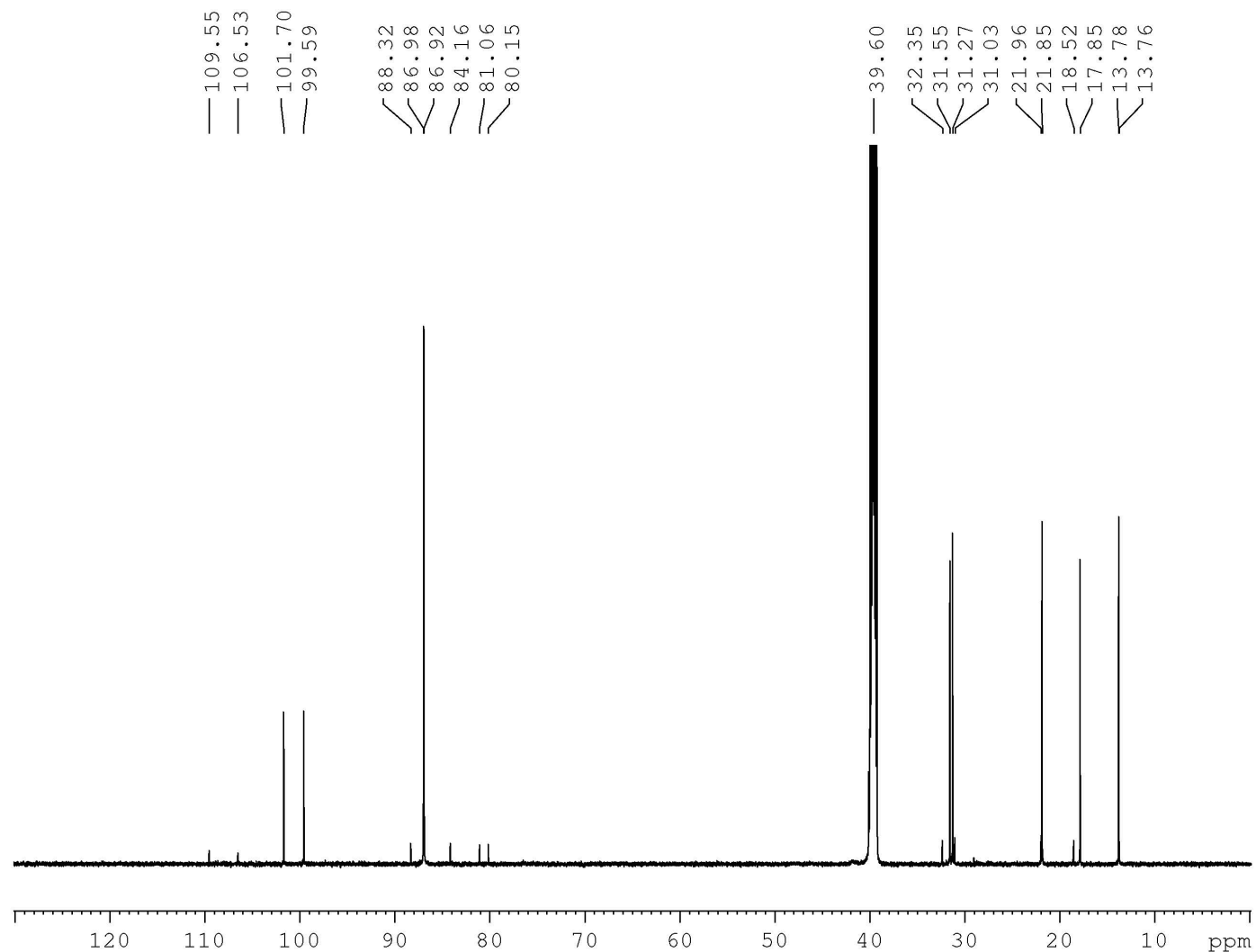
F2 - Acquisition Parameters
Date_         20140822
Time          7.42
INSTRUM       spect
PROBHD        5 mm CPTCI 1H-
PULPROG       zgpg30
ID            130892
SOLVENT       CDCl3
NS            8192
DS            64
SWH           39062.500 Hz
FIDRES        0.298433 Hz
AQ            1.6754175 sec
RG            203
DW            12.800 usec
DE            30.00 usec
TE            293.1 K
D1            1.00000000 sec
D11           0.03000000 sec
TD0           1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
SFO1          150.9460654 MHz
NUC1           13C
P1            12.00 usec
PLW1          107.12999725 W

===== CHANNEL f2 =====
SFO2          600.2324009 MHz
NUC2           1H
CPDPRG[2]    bi_waltz65_256
PCPD2         70.00 usec
PLW2          5.66009998 W
PLW12         0.08345700 W
PLW13         0.04089400 W

F2 - Processing parameters
SI            262144
SF            150.9279594 MHz
WDW           EM
SSB           0
LB            1.00 Hz
GB            0
PC            1.40
    
```


BV-037-1
 solvent: DMSO
 temp: 303.2 K
 date : 24 Jul 2014



Current Data Parameters
 NAME BV037-1
 EXPNO 2
 PROCNO 4

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20140724
 Time 22.33
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm CPTCI 1H/
 PULPROG zgpg30
 TD 130892
 SOLVENT DMSO
 NS 2048
 DS 64
 SWH 45454.547 Hz
 FIDRES 0.347268 Hz
 AQ 1.4398119 sec
 RG 2050
 DW 11.000 usec
 DE 30.00 usec
 TE 303.2 K
 D1 1.00000000 sec
 D11 0.03000000 sec
 TD0 1

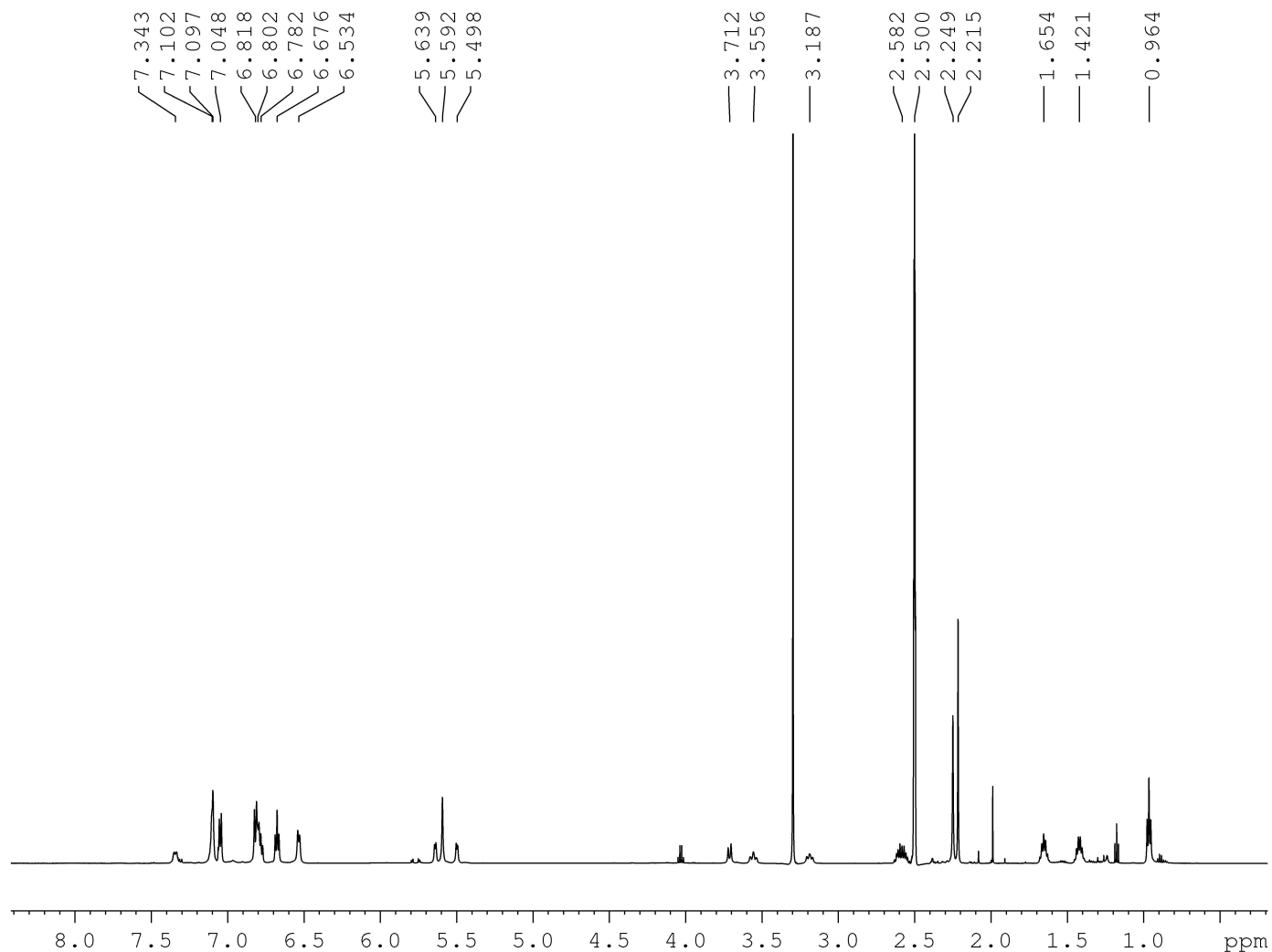
==== CHANNEL f1 =====
 SFO1 176.0689543 MHz
 NUC1 13C
 P1 12.50 usec
 PLW1 130.00000000 W

==== CHANNEL f2 =====
 SFO2 700.1328005 MHz
 NUC2 1H
 CPDPRG[2 bi_waltz65_256
 PCPD2 65.00 usec
 PLW2 12.00000000 W
 PLW12 0.14318000 W
 PLW13 0.06049200 W

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 262144
 SF 176.0479064 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 1.00 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.40

4.6 [RuCl(η^6 -(*p*-methylphenyl)butane)(*S,S*-TsDPEN)] (H)

BV038-1a
 solvent: DMSO
 temp: 303.2 K
 date : 20 Aug 2014



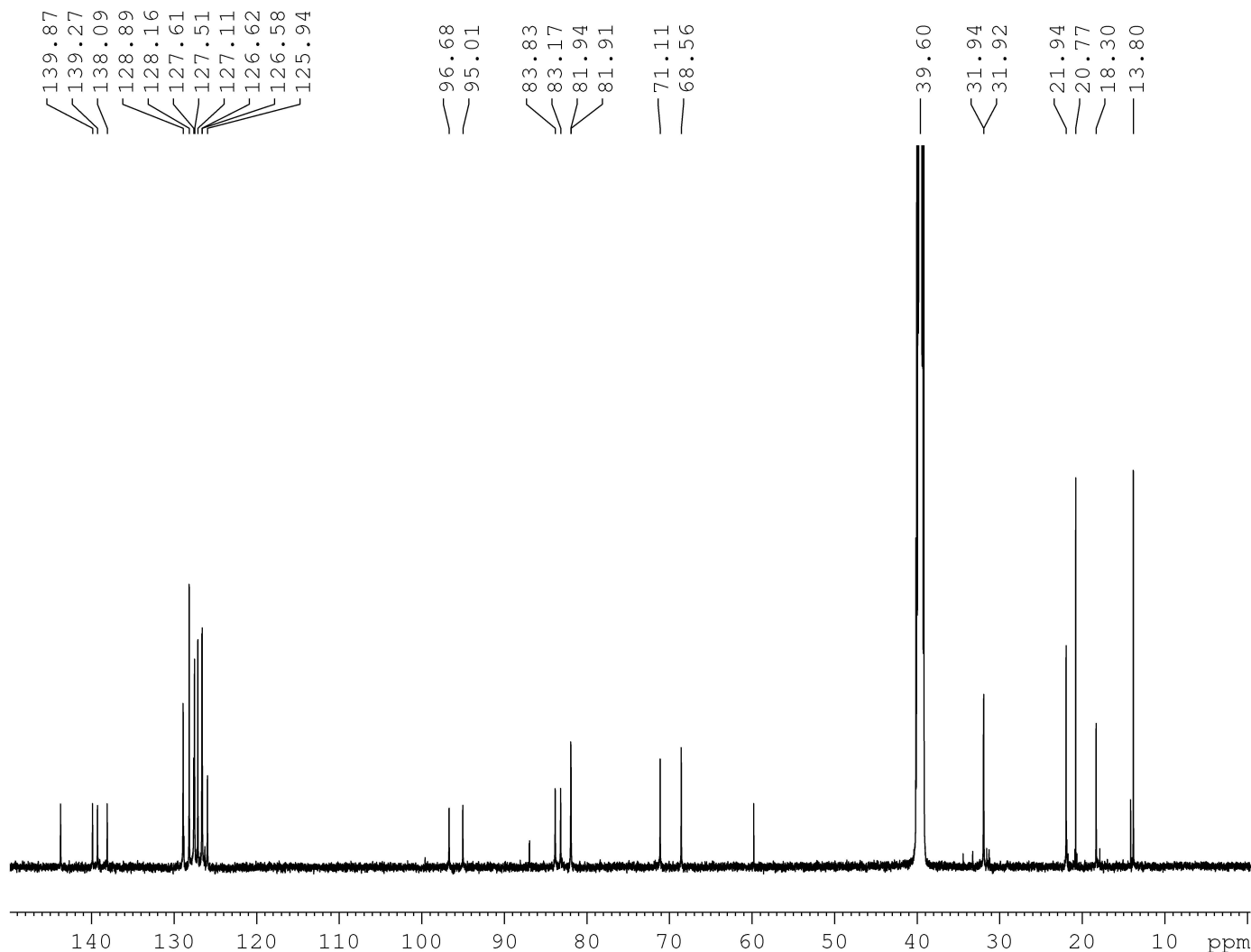
Current Data Parameters
 NAME BV038-1a
 EXPNO 1
 PROCNO 2

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20140820
 Time 14.27
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm CPTCI 1H-
 PULPROG zg
 TD 131072
 SOLVENT DMSO
 NS 32
 DS 4
 SWH 18028.846 Hz
 FIDRES 0.137549 Hz
 AQ 3.6350634 sec
 RG 9
 DW 27.733 usec
 DE 11.49 usec
 TE 303.2 K
 D1 60.0000000 sec
 TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
 SFO1 600.2360023 MHz
 NUC1 1H
 P1 8.50 usec
 PLW1 5.66009998 W

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 262144
 SF 600.2300041 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 0.20 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.00

BV038-1a
 solvent: DMSO
 temp: 303.2 K
 date : 20 Aug 2014



Current Data Parameters
 NAME BV038-1a
 EXPNO 2
 PROCNO 2

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20140820
 Time 15.25
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm CPTCI 1H-
 PULPROG zgpg30
 TD 130892
 SOLVENT DMSO
 NS 8192
 DS 64
 SWH 39062.500 Hz
 FIDRES 0.298433 Hz
 AQ 1.6754175 sec
 RG 1620
 DW 12.800 usec
 DE 18.00 usec
 TE 303.2 K
 D1 1.00000000 sec
 D11 0.03000000 sec
 TD0 1

==== CHANNEL f1 =====
 SFO1 150.9460654 MHz
 NUC1 13C
 P1 12.00 usec
 PLW1 107.12999725 W

==== CHANNEL f2 =====
 SFO2 600.2324009 MHz
 NUC2 1H
 CPDPRG[2] bi_waltz65_256
 PCPD2 70.00 usec
 PLW2 5.66009998 W
 PLW12 0.08345700 W
 PLW13 0.04089400 W

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 262144
 SF 150.9280202 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 1.00 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.40