

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### Selective Deuteration of Phosphorus Ligands using Ruthenium Nanoparticles. A Procedure for Obtaining Information about Ligand Coordination to the Nanoparticle Surface

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## S1. Reagents and General Procedures

Ru@PVP nanoparticles were synthesized following a reported method [1] and stored in a glove box under argon atmosphere. The synthesis of the nanoparticles and the catalysis was carried out in a Fischer-Porter glassware under argon. The chemicals were purchased from Aldrich Chemical and used without further purification. The precursor [Ru(COD)(COT)] was purchased from Nanomeps. THF was dried over sodium and benzophenone, distilled and then thoroughly degassed before use.

$^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  spectra were recorded on a Varian<sup>®</sup> Mercury VX 400 (400 MHz, 100.6 MHz, 162 MHz respectively). Chemical shift values for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  were referred to internal  $\text{SiMe}_4$  (0.0 ppm) and for  $^{31}\text{P}$  was referred to  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (85% solution in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 0 ppm). Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants are reported in Hertz (Hz).

Mass spectra was recorded on a Finnigan MAT 900S (EB-Trap-Geometry) Syringes pump Model 22.

The isotopic labelling was quantified by  $^{31}\text{P}$  spectroscopy.

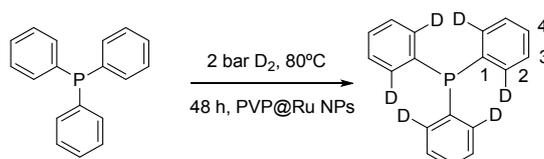
## S3. General Procedure for H/D exchanges [2]:

A 100 ml Fischer-porter glassware was charged in a dry-box with RuNPs@PVP (8mg, 3.3%) and a magnetic stirrer. The Fischer-Porter was left under vacuum for 5 minutes and then it was pressurized under 3 bar of  $\text{D}_2$  gas during 2 hours. Next a solution of the substrate (0.15 mmol) in degassed THF (1 ml) was added under argon. The reaction was stirred under 2 bar of  $\text{D}_2$  under the required temperatures and time. Then the solution was cooled down to room temperature, filtered on a small neutral alumina pad and evaporated to dryness.

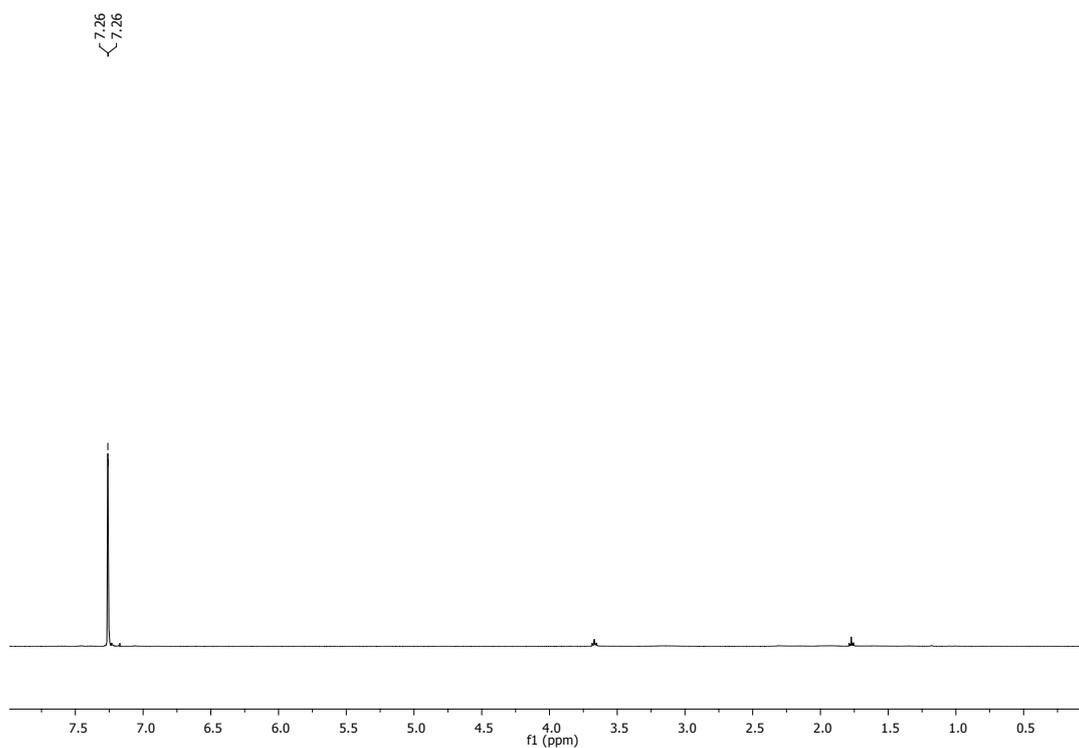
## S4. Synthesis and Characterization

### Synthesis of hexadeuterated tri-phenylphosphine $\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{D}_2)_3$ (2f).

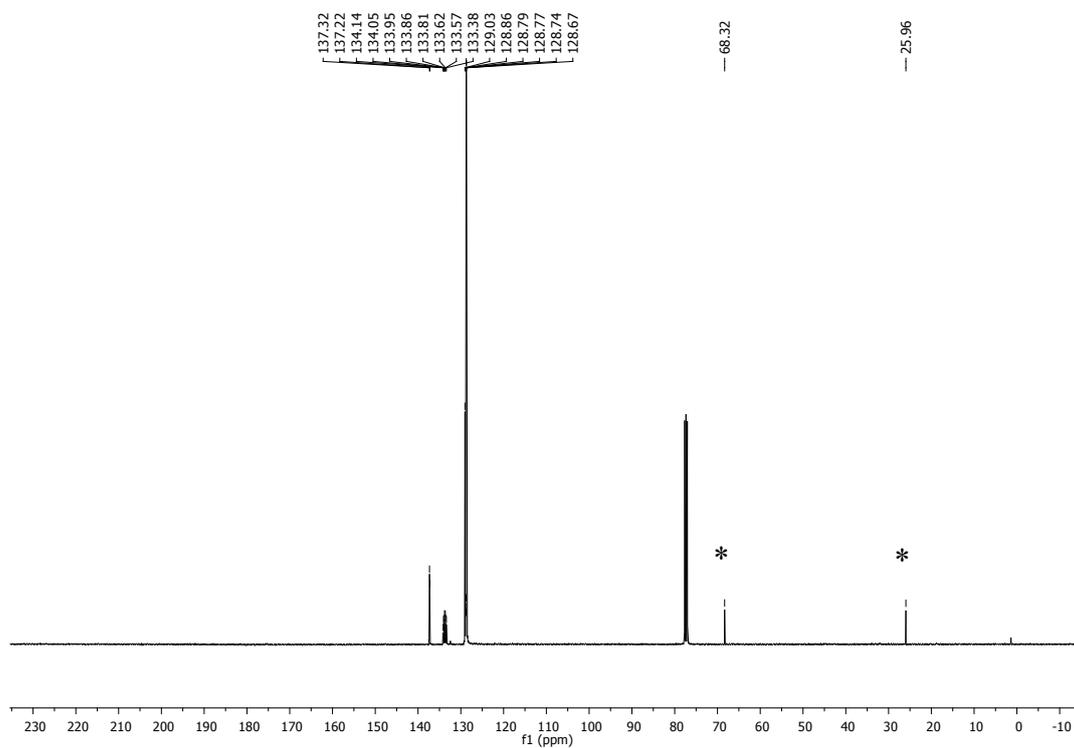
Following the general procedure triphenylphosphine was heated for 48h at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  for providing the hexadeuterated phosphine (2f).



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.26 (bs).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100.6 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 137.3 (d, C1,  $J= 12.0$  Hz), 133.8 (dt, C2,  $J= 19.0, 24.0$  Hz), 129.0 (s, C4), 128.7 (d, C3,  $J= 7.0$  Hz).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -6.2.  $^2\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.58 (bs).

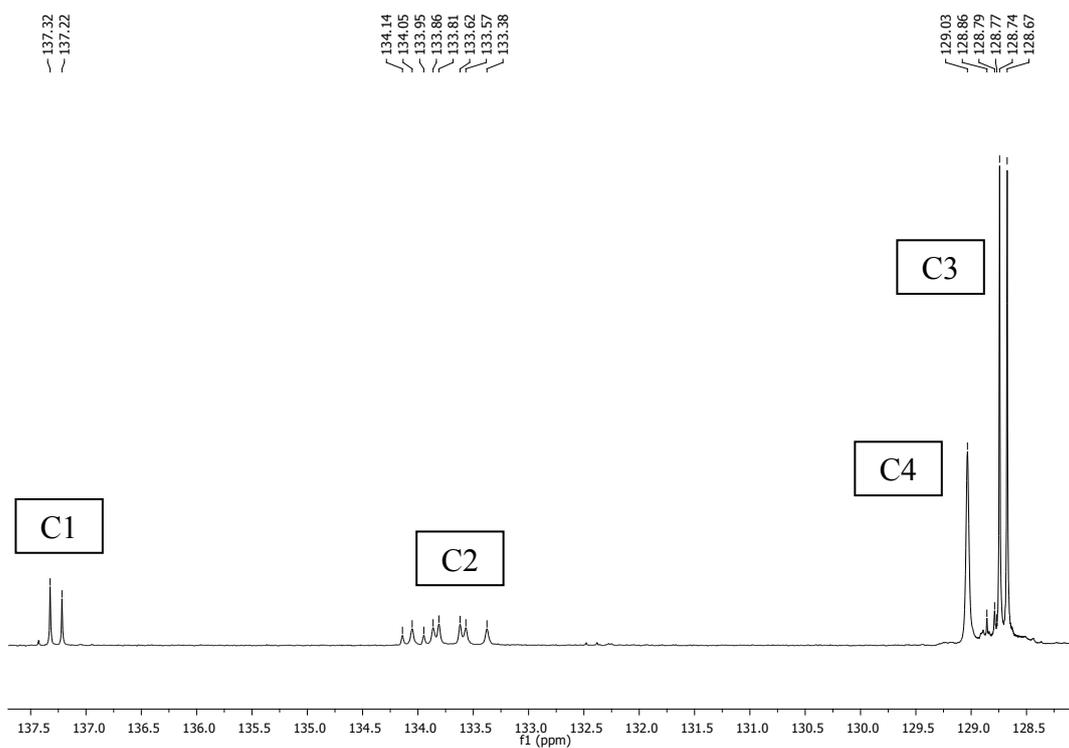


**Figure 1.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**).

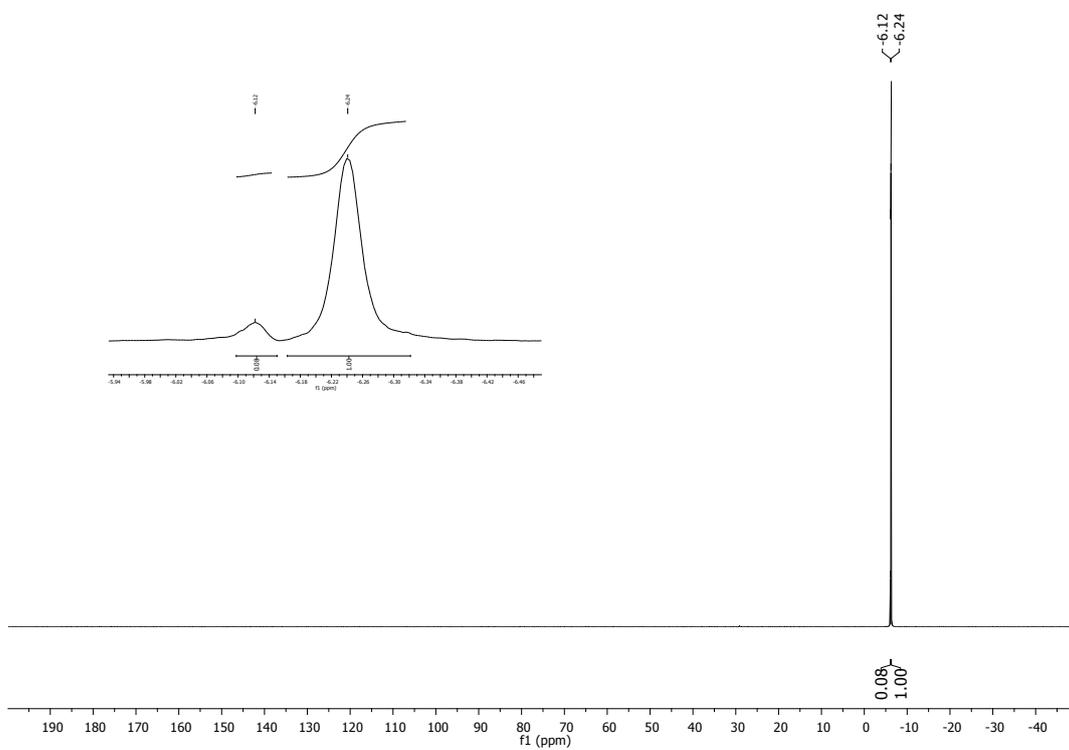


**Figure 2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**).

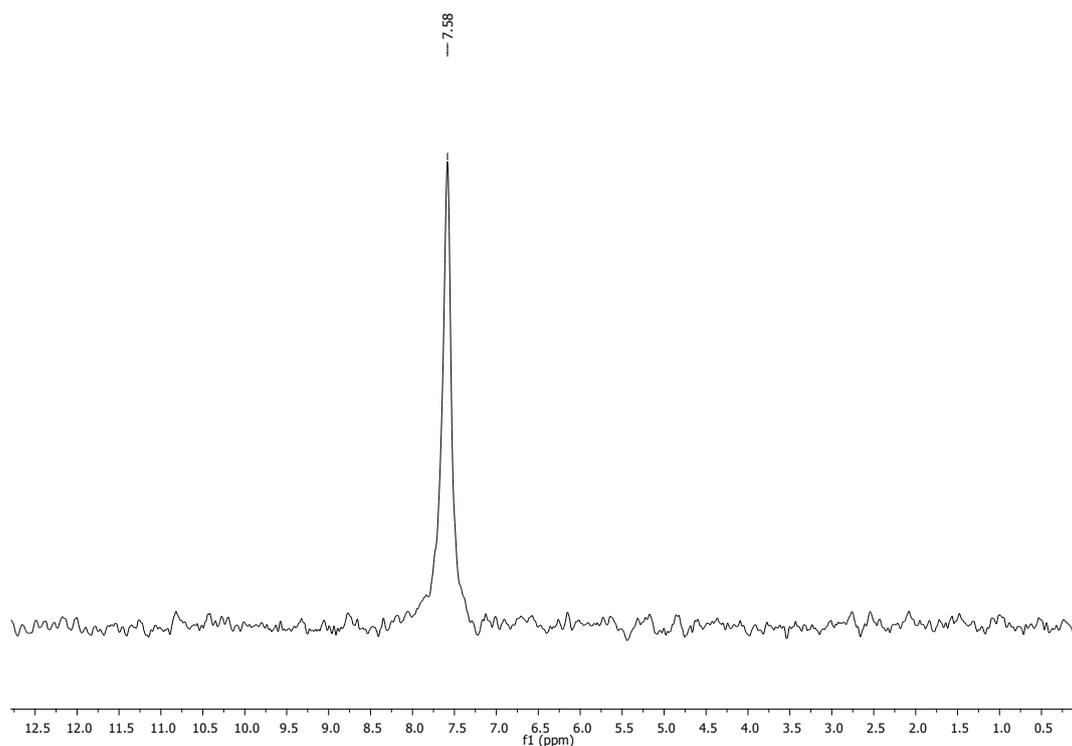
\*The signals at 68 and 26 ppm correspond to residual THF.



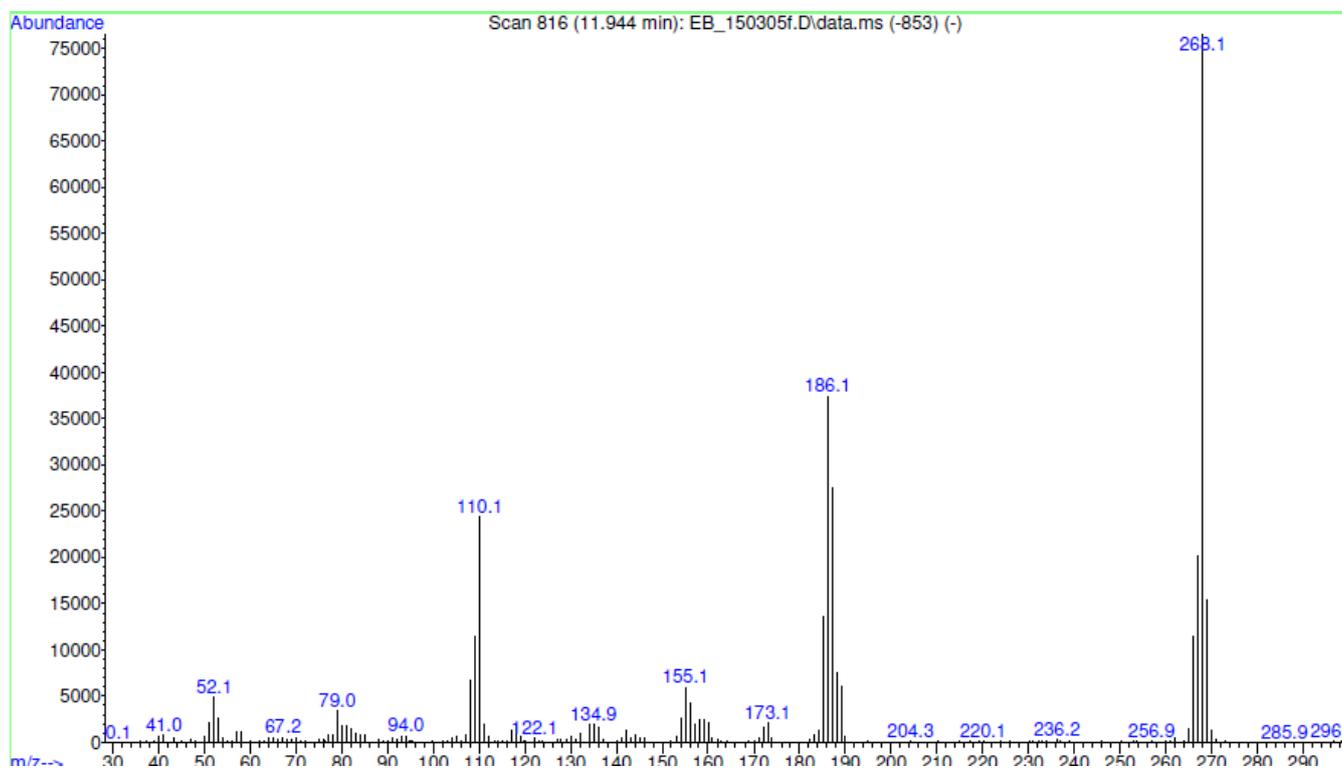
**Figure 3.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**).



**Figure 4.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**).



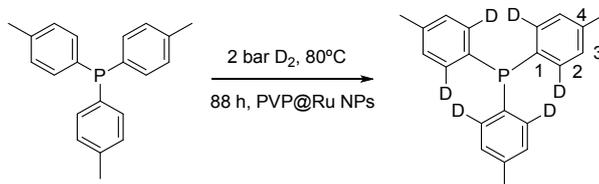
**Figure 5.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**) at 2 bar of  $\text{D}_2$  and  $80^\circ\text{C}$  for 48 hours.



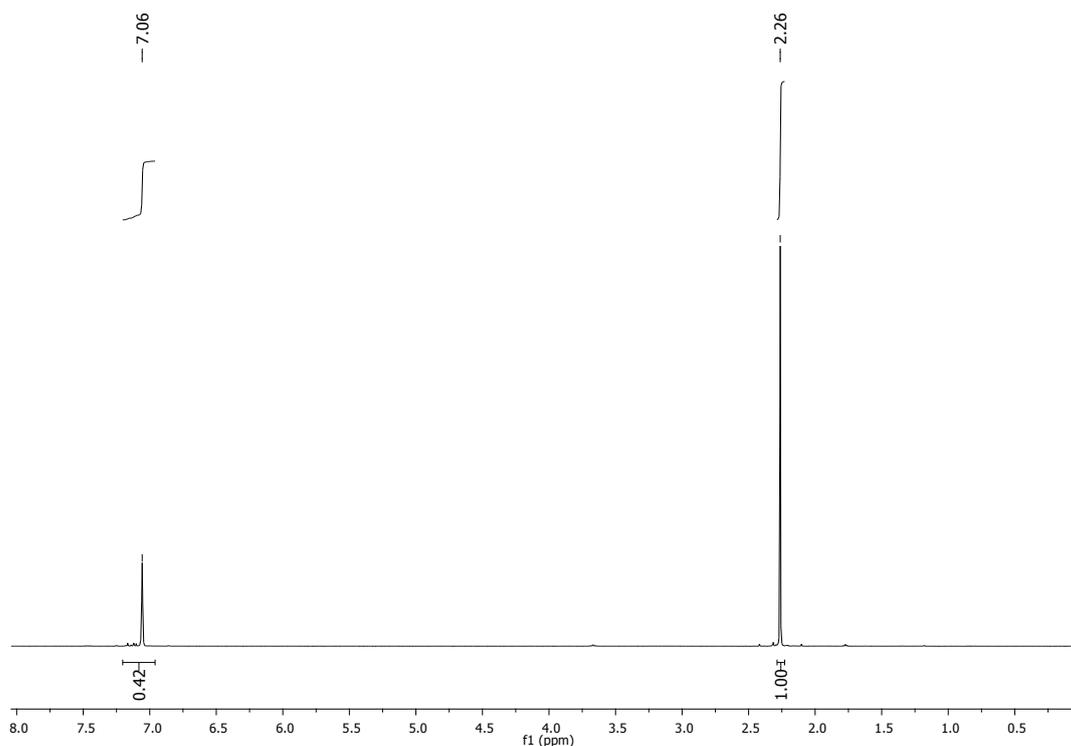
**Figure 6.** Mas spectrum (electronic impact) of hexadeuterated  $\text{PPh}_3$  (**2f**).

### Synthesis of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine $P(C_7H_6D_2)_3$ (7).

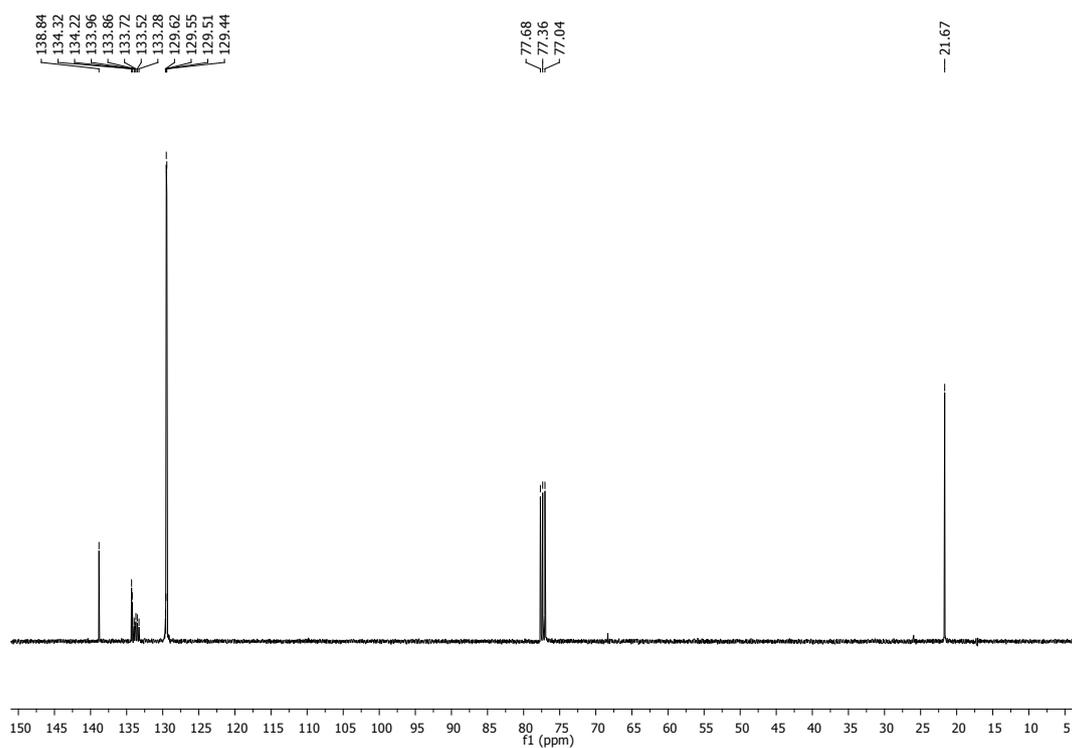
Following the general procedure tri(*para*-tolyl)phosphine was heated for 88h at 80°C for providing hexadeuterated tri(*p*-tolyl)phosphine (7).



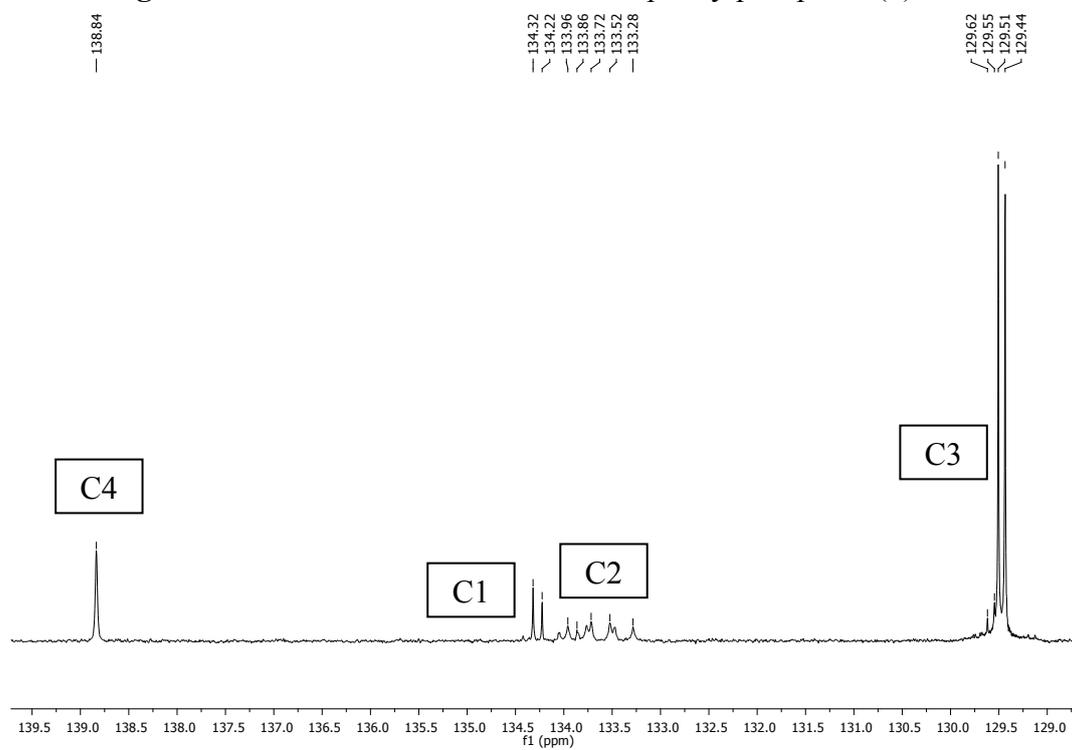
$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.06 (s), 2.26 (s,  $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100.6 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 138.8 (s, C4), 134.2 (d, C1,  $J=9.0$  Hz), 133.4 (dt, C2,  $J=19.0, 26.0$  Hz), 129.1 (d, C3,  $J=8.0$  Hz), 21.7 (s,  $CH_3$ ).  $^{31}P$  NMR (162 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -8.8.  $^2H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.45 (bs).



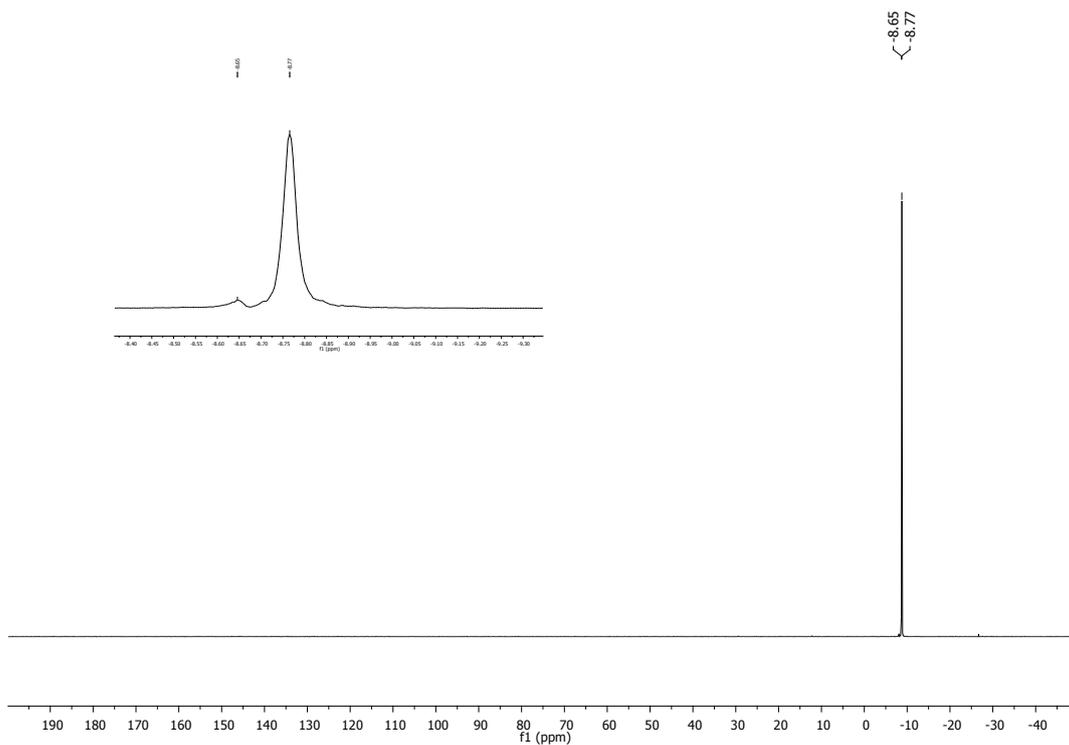
**Figure 7.**  $^1H$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine (7).



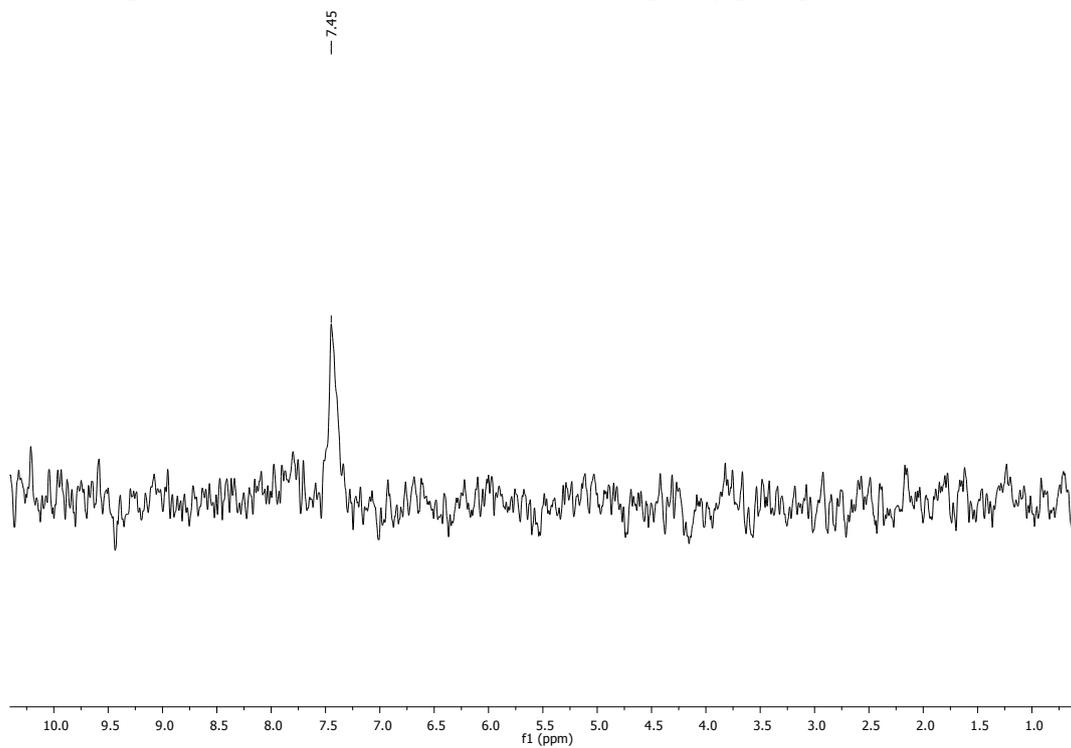
**Figure 8.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine (7).



**Figure 9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine (7), aromatic zone.



**Figure 10.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine (7).



**Figure 11.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tri-*p*-tolylphosphine (7).

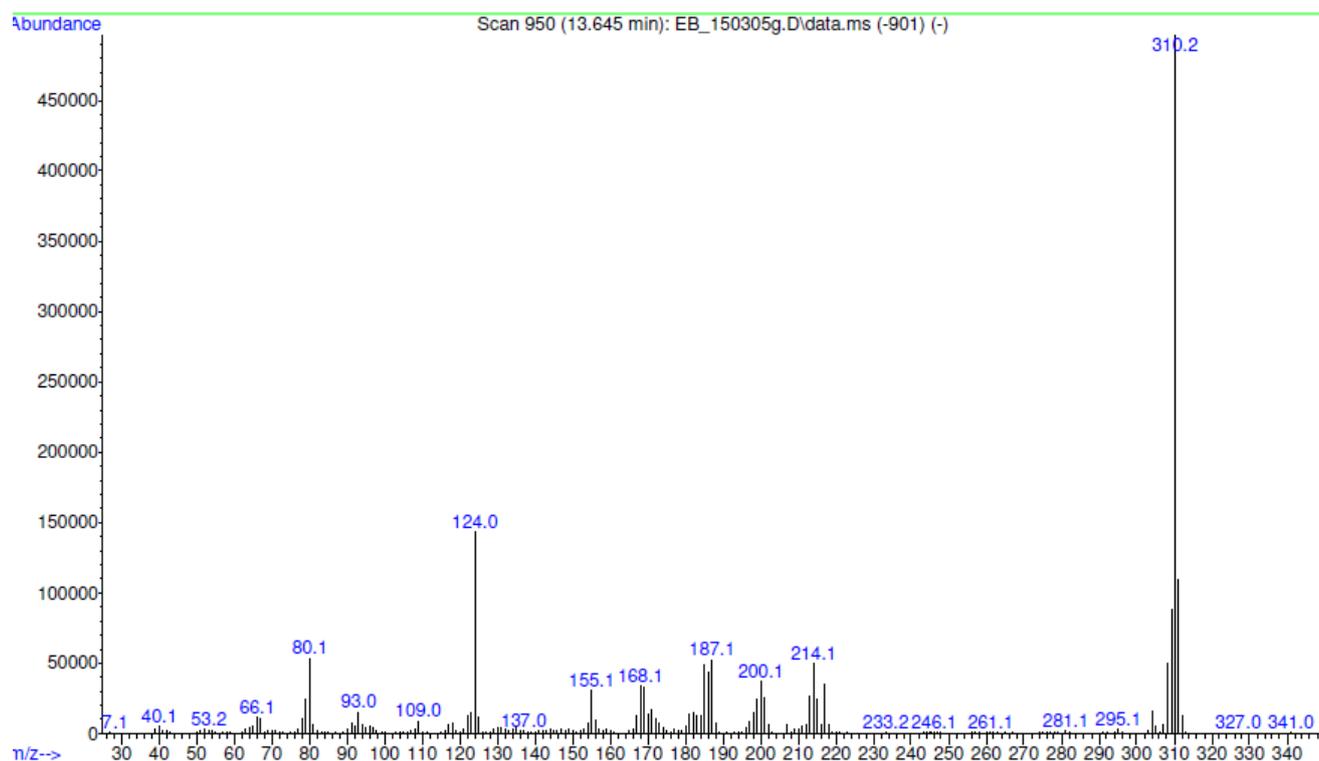
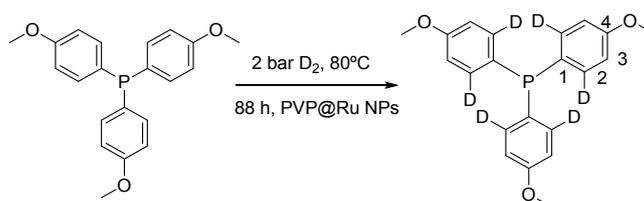


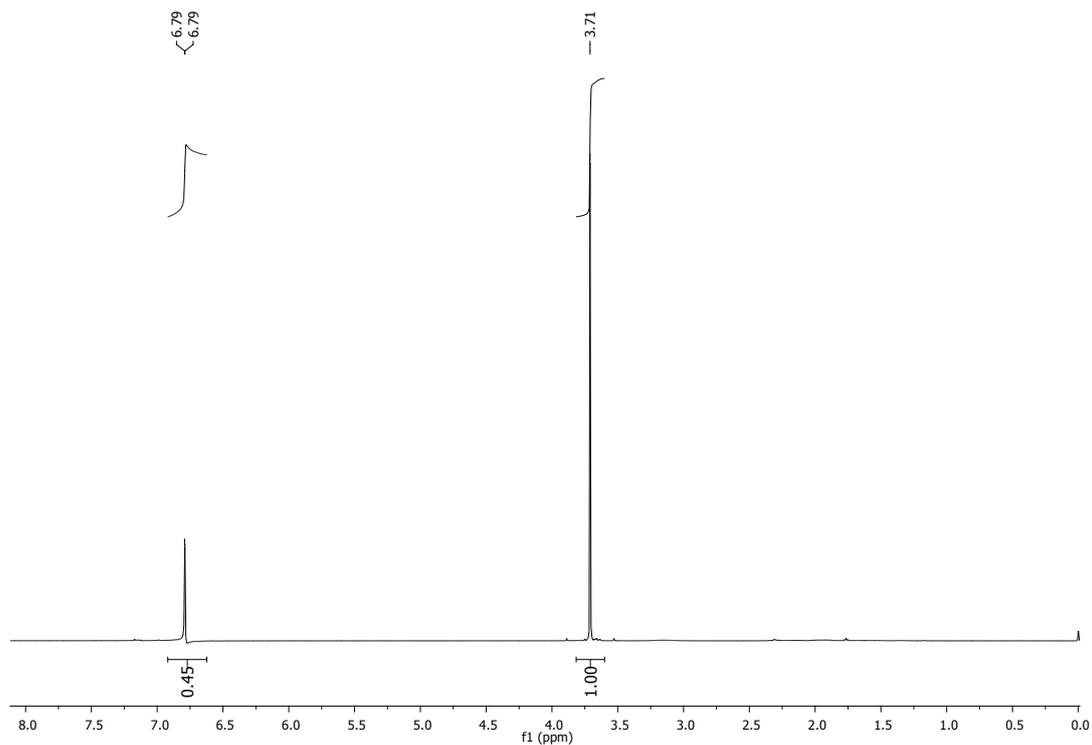
Figure 12. Mas spectrum (electronic impact) of  $P(C_7H_6D_2)_3$  (**7**).

### Synthesis of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine $P(C_7H_5OD_2)_3$ (**8**).

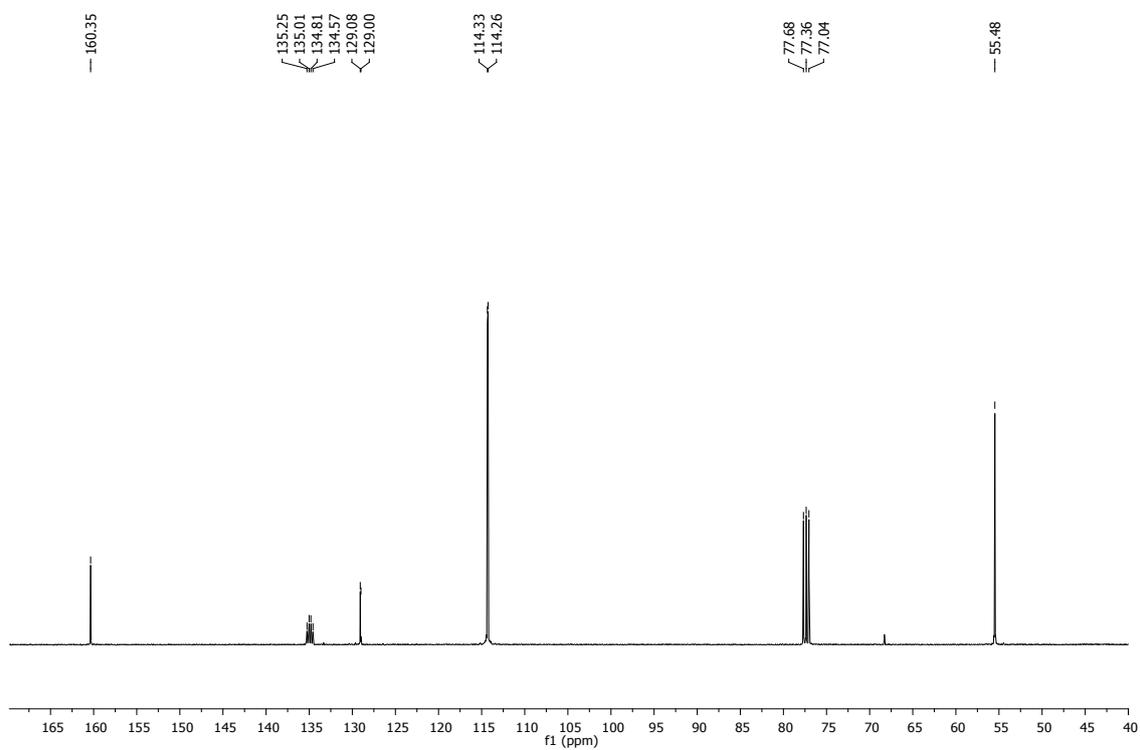
Following the general procedure tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine was heated for 88h at 80°C for providing the hexadeuterated phosphine (**8**).



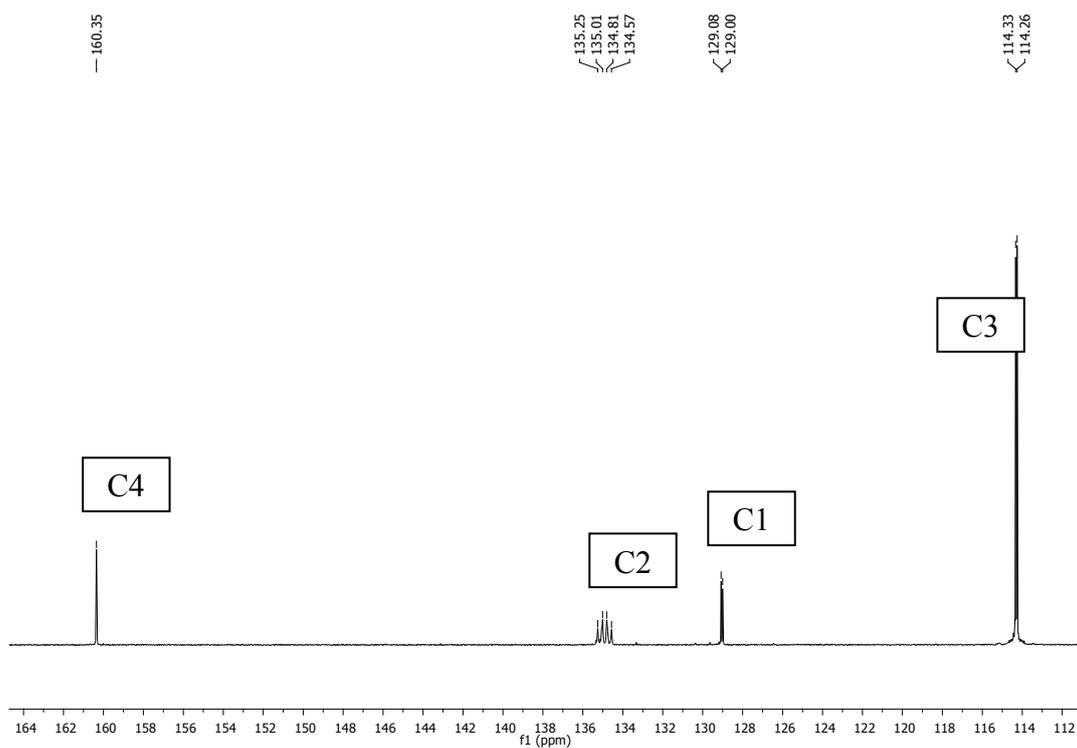
$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 6.79 (bs), 3.71 (s,  $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100.6MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 160.4 (s, C4), 134.9 (dt, C2,  $J=21.0, 26.0$  Hz), 129.0 (d, C1,  $J=9.0$  Hz), 114.3 (d, C3,  $J=8.0$  Hz), 55.5 (s,  $CH_3$ ).  $^{31}P$  NMR (162MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -11.1.  $^2H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.42 (bs).



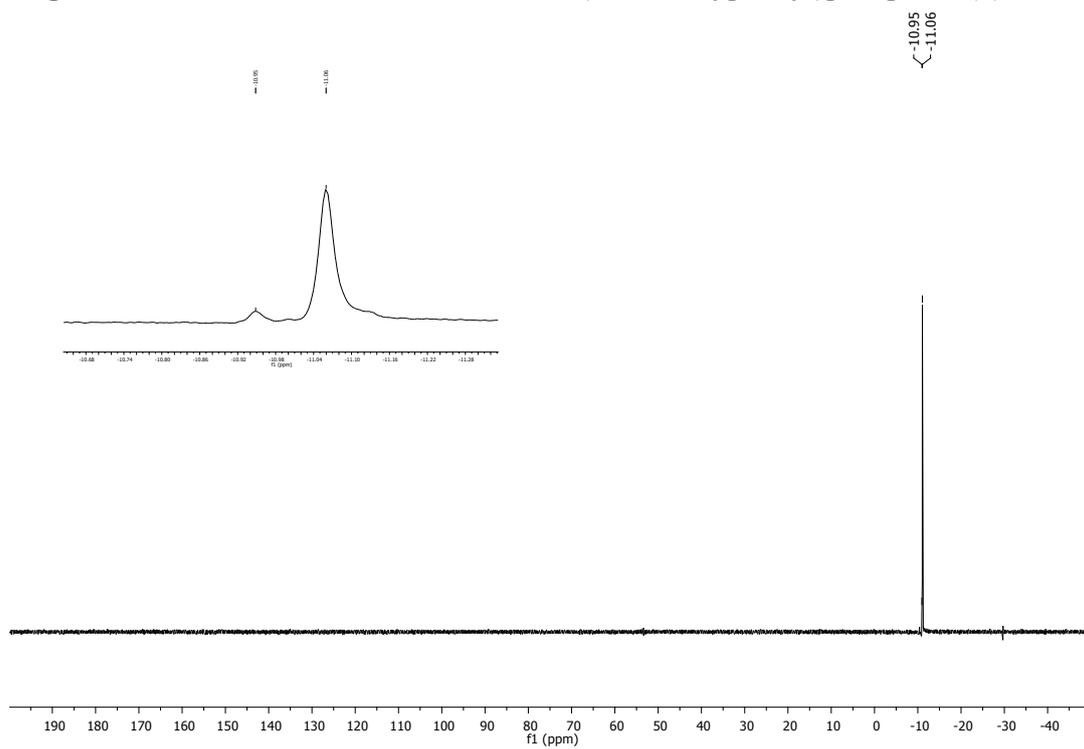
**Figure 13.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**8**).



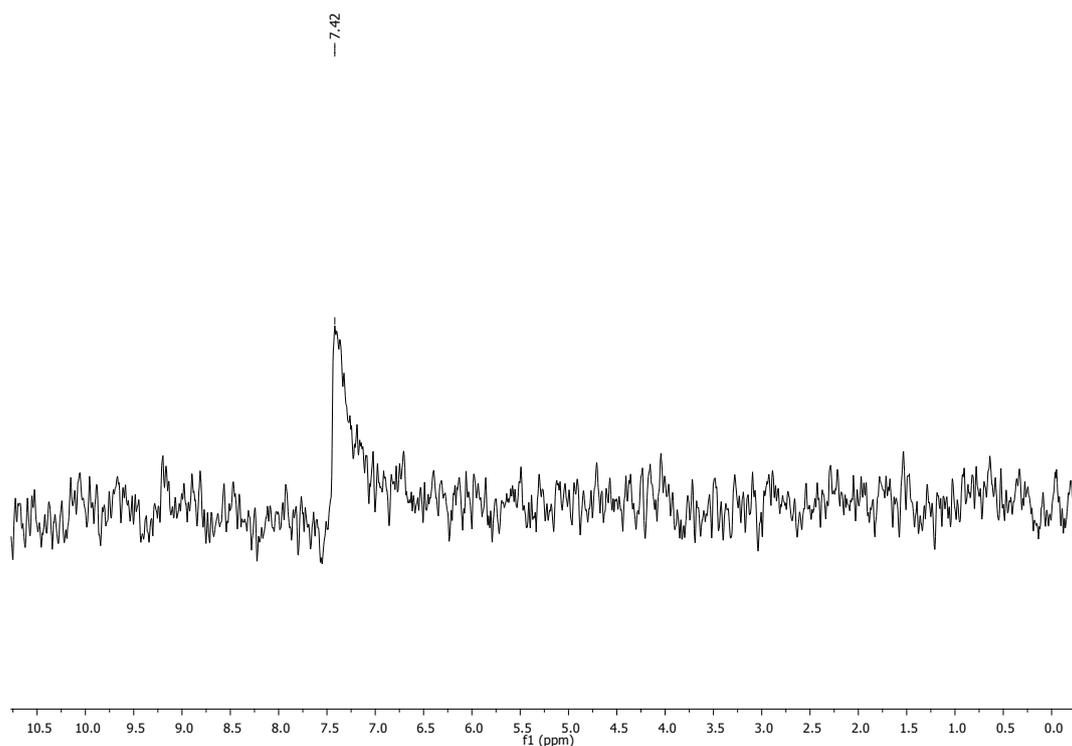
**Figure 14.**  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**8**).



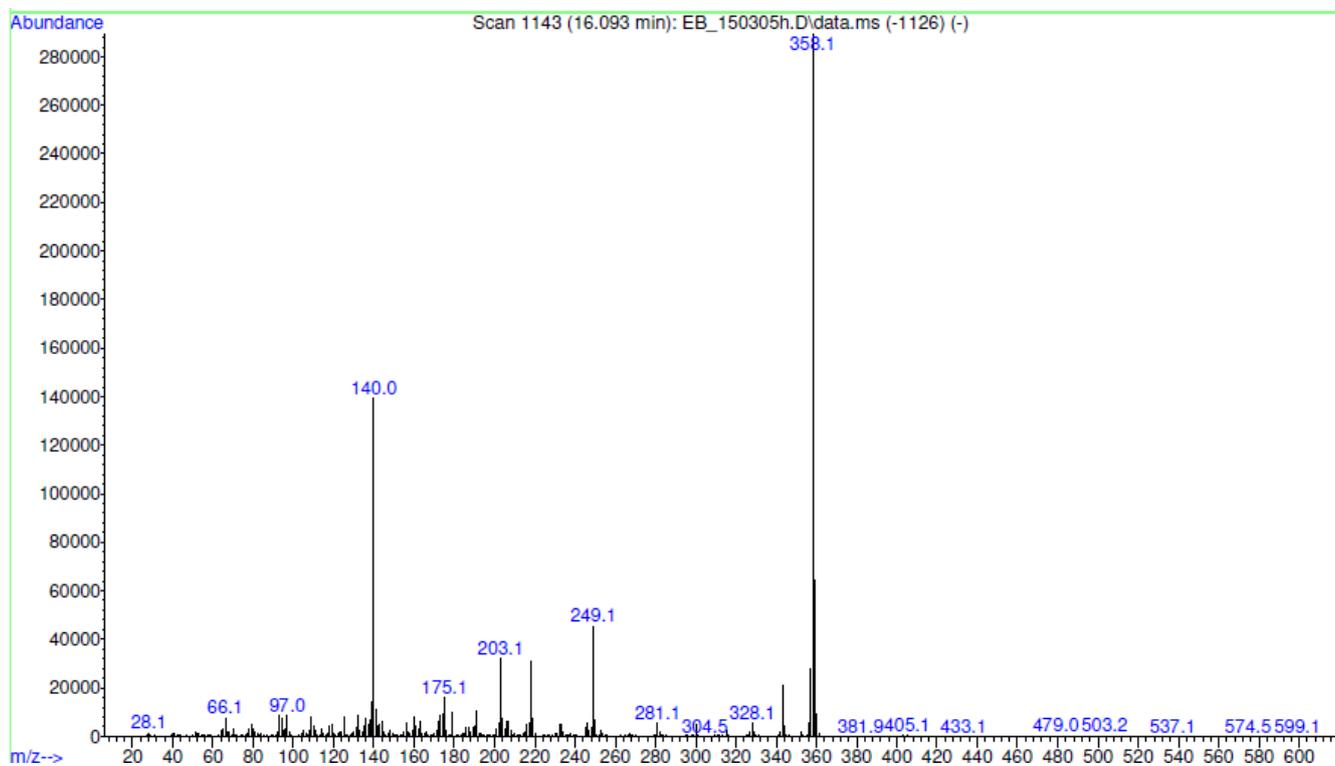
**Figure 15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**8**).



**Figure 16.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**8**).



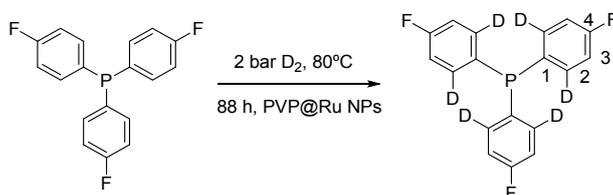
**Figure 17.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (**8**).



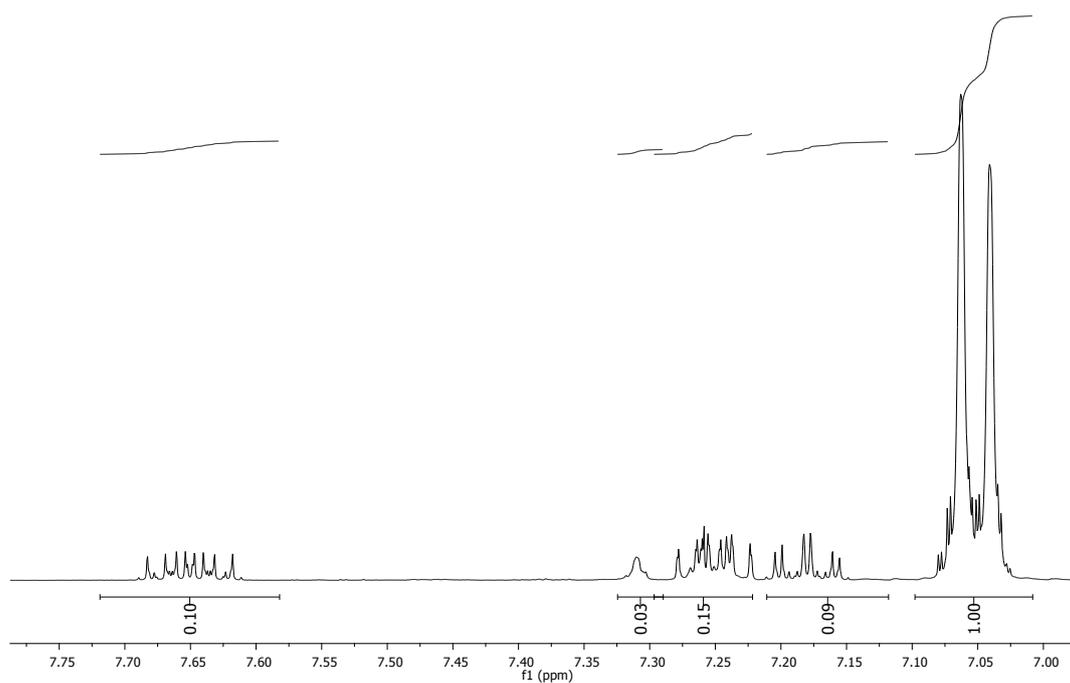
**Figure 18.** Mas spectrum (electronic impact) of  $\text{P}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{OD}_2)_3$  (**8**).

### Synthesis of deuterated tris(4-(fluorophenyl)phosphine **9**).

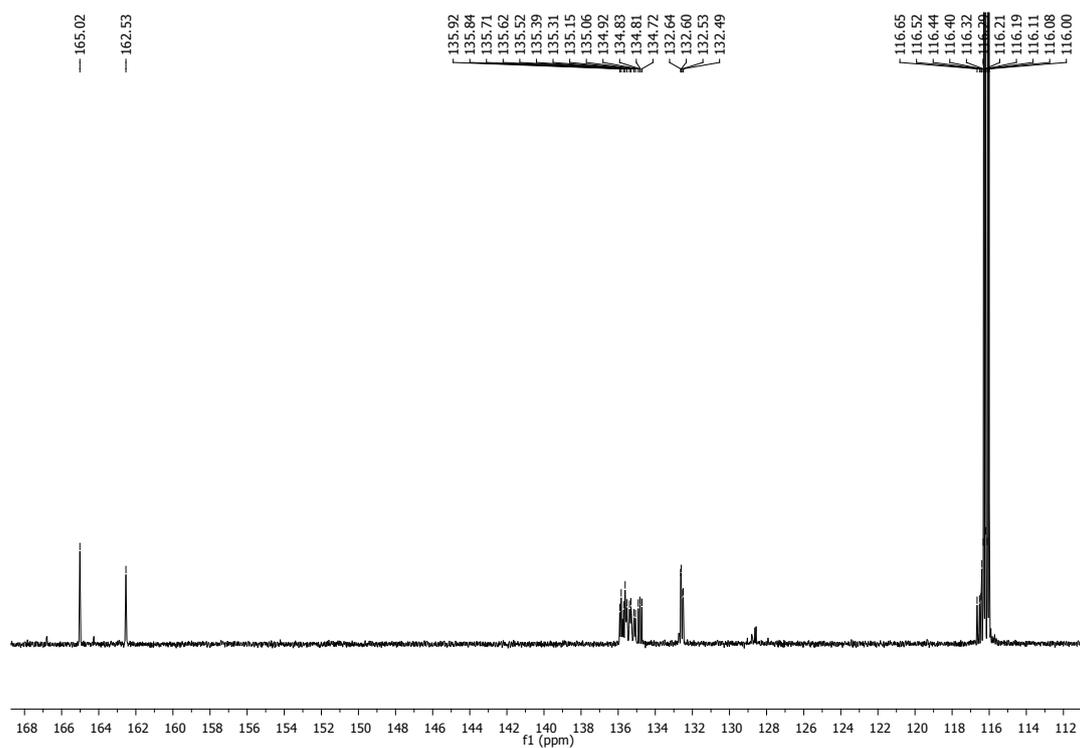
Following the general procedure tris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine was heated for 88h at 80°C for providing the deuterated phosphine **9** as major isomer. Labelling 72% .



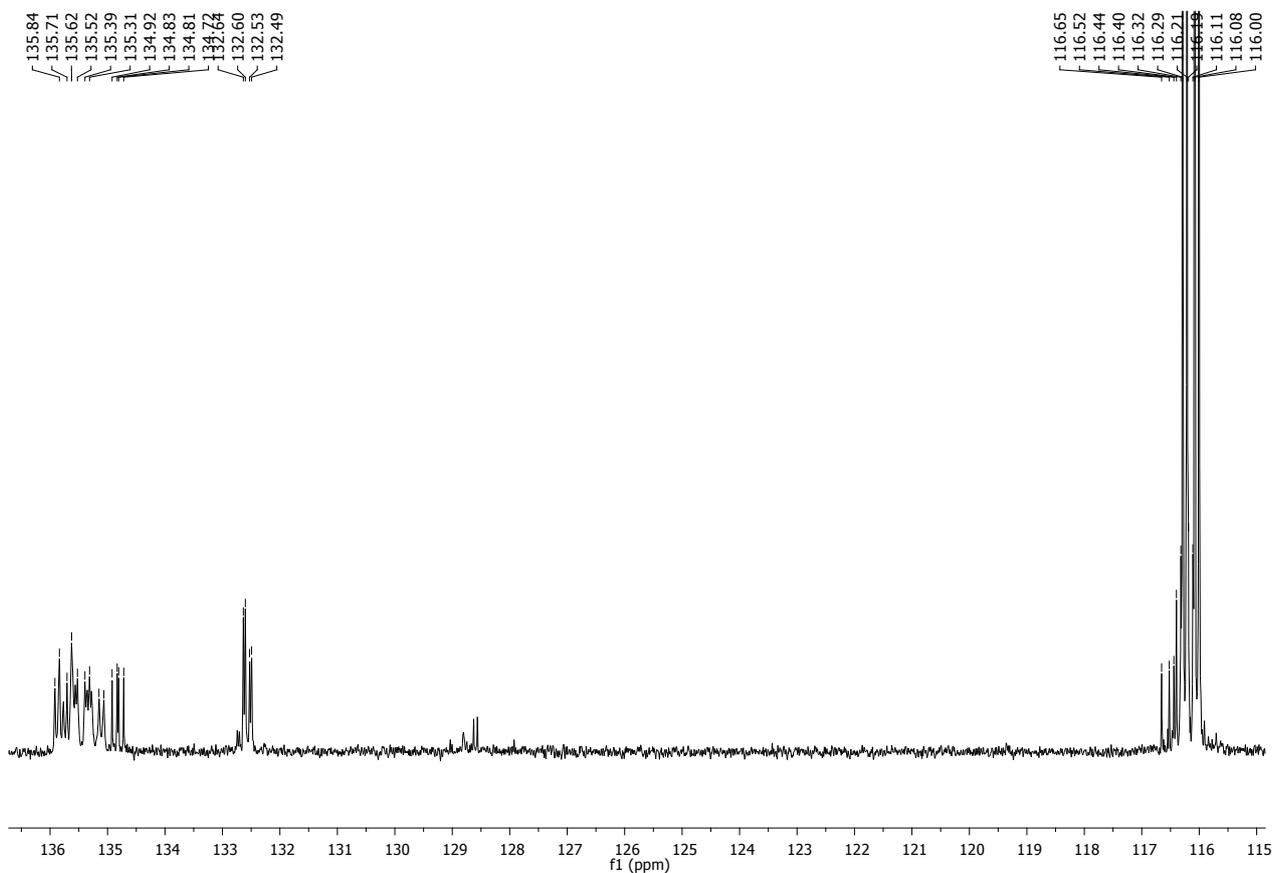
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): 7.72-7.57 (m), 7.27-7.22 (m), 7.21-7.15 (m), 7.08-7.03 (m). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100.6MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): 165.0, 162.5, 134.7-135.8 (m), 132.5-132.6 (dd, J= 11.0, 4.0 Hz), 116.6-116.0 (m). **<sup>31</sup>P NMR** (162MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): - 9.92. **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): **<sup>2</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): 7.46 (td, 7.2, 3.8 Hz).



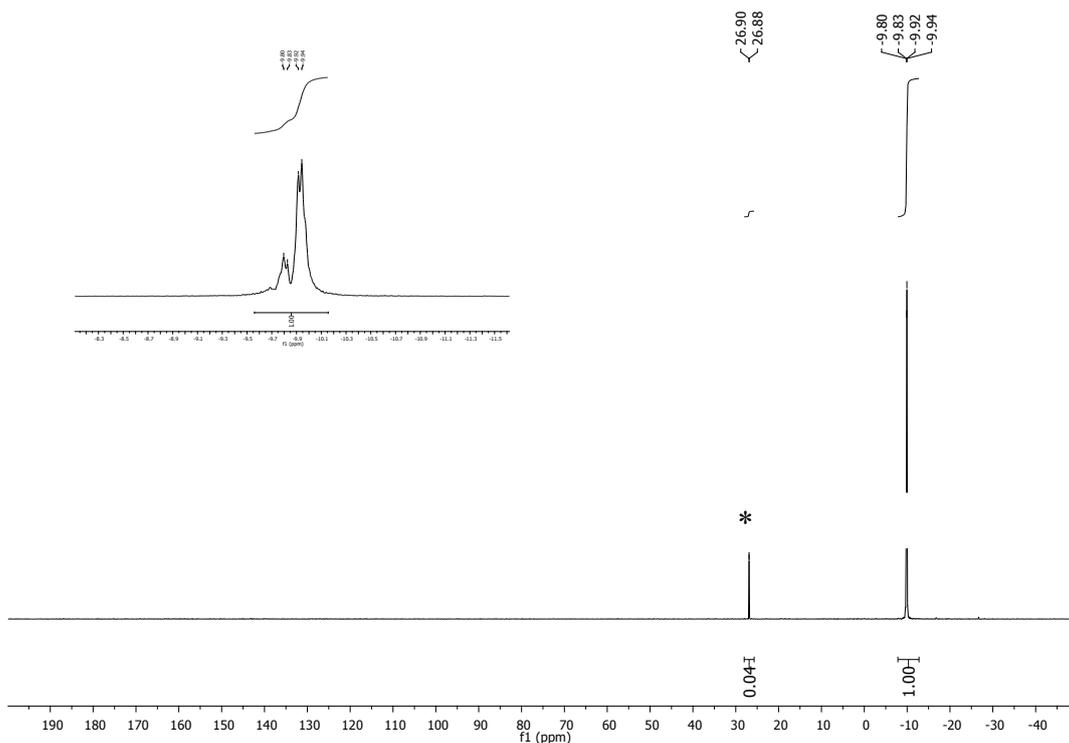
**Figure 19.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of partially deuterated tris(4-(fluoromethylphenyl)phosphine.

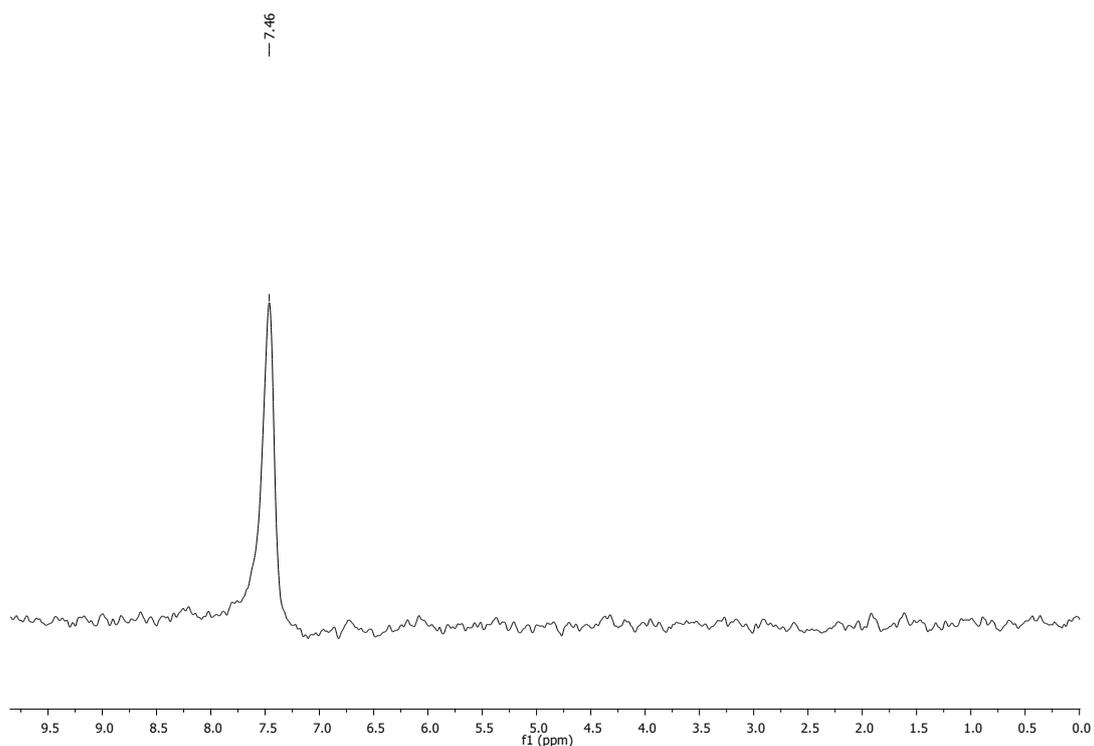


**Figure 20.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of partially deuterated tris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine.

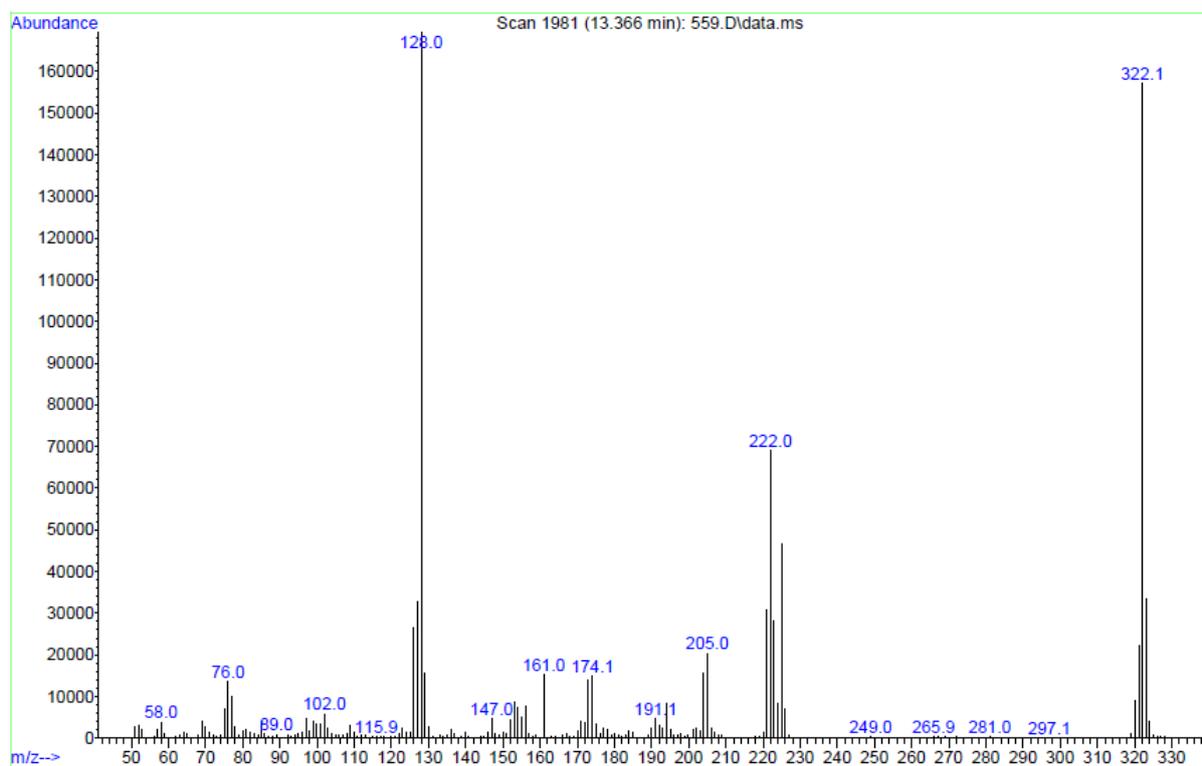


**Figure 21.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of partially deuterated tris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine, enlargement.





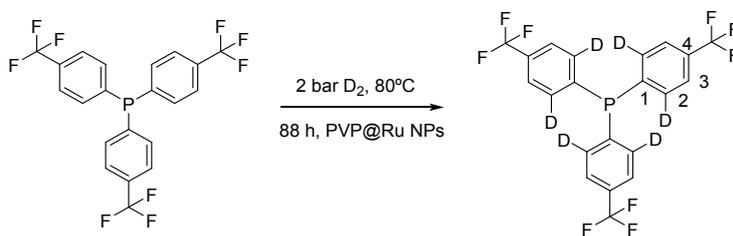
**Figure 24.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of partially deuterated tris(4-fluorophenyl)phosphine.



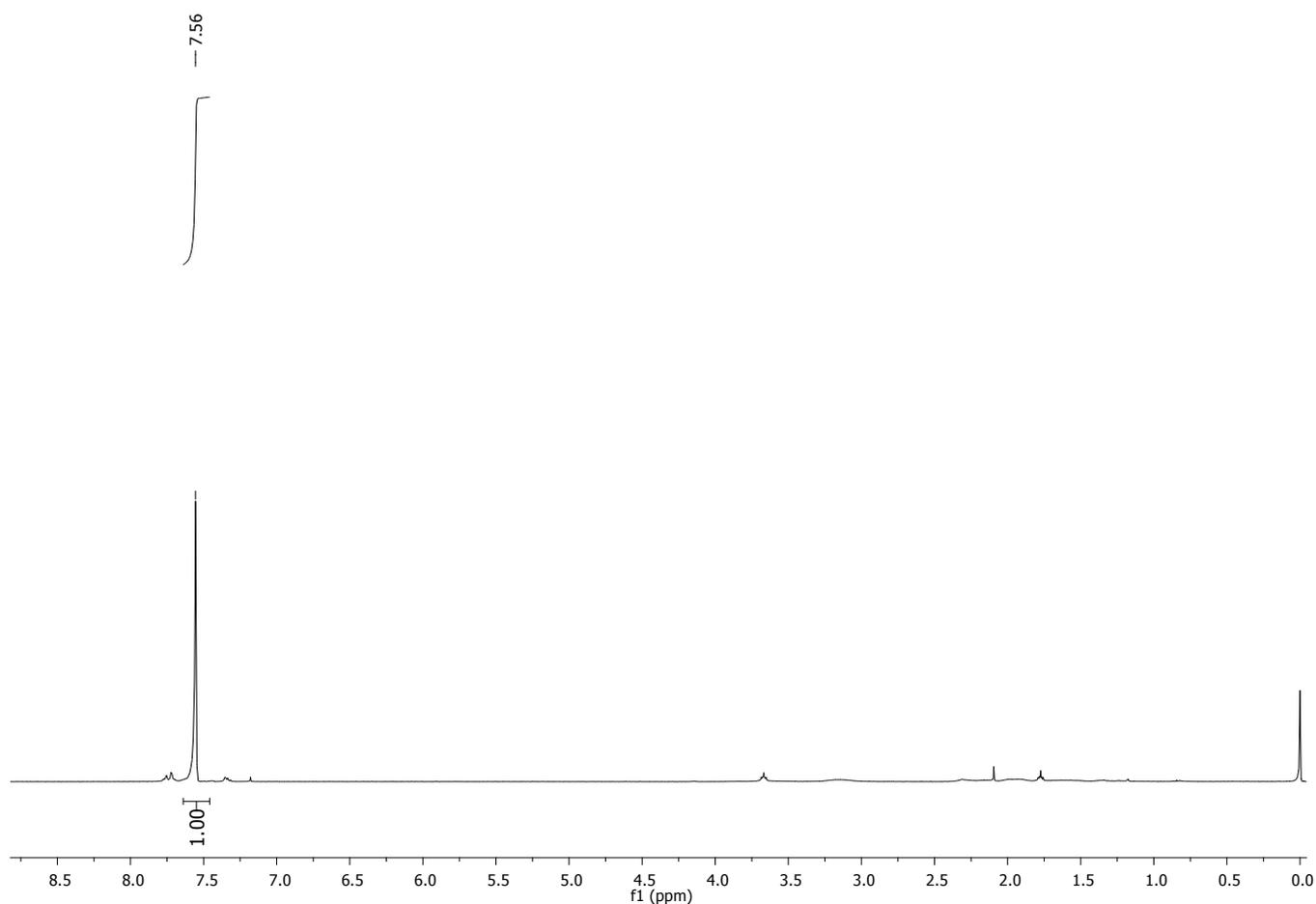
**Figure 25.** Mas spectrum of  $\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{FD}_2)_3$  (9).

### Synthesis of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine $\text{P}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_2\text{F}_3\text{D}_2)_3$ (**10**).

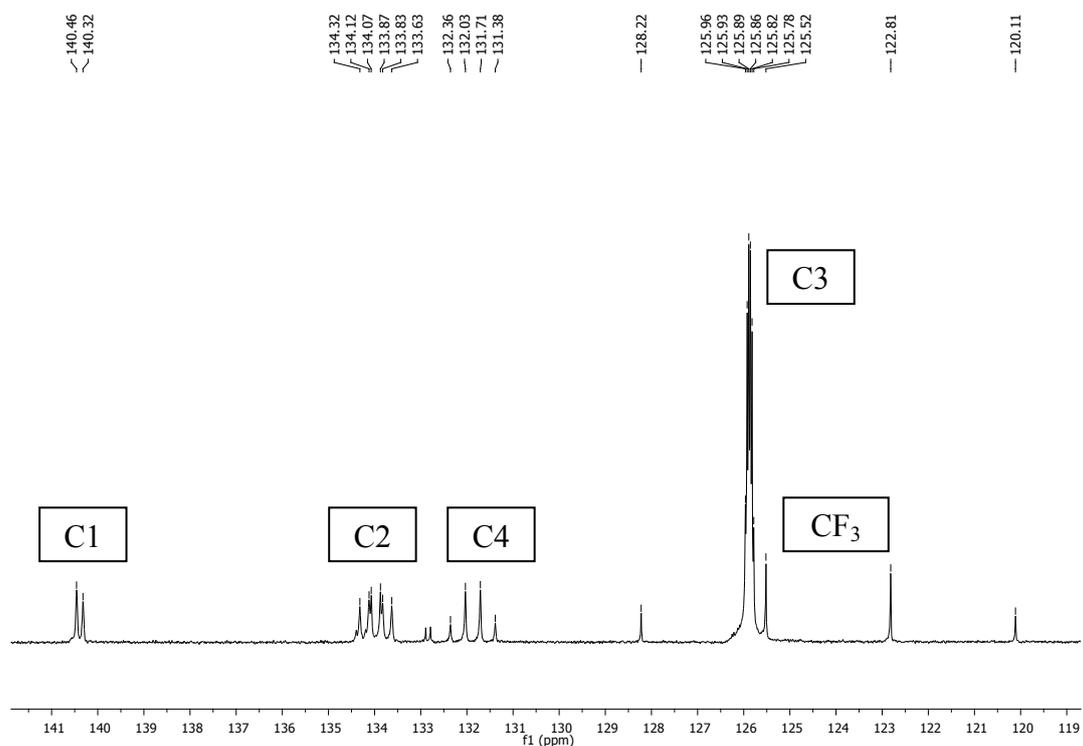
Following the general procedure tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine was heated for 88h at 80°C for providing the hexadeuterated phosphine (**10**).



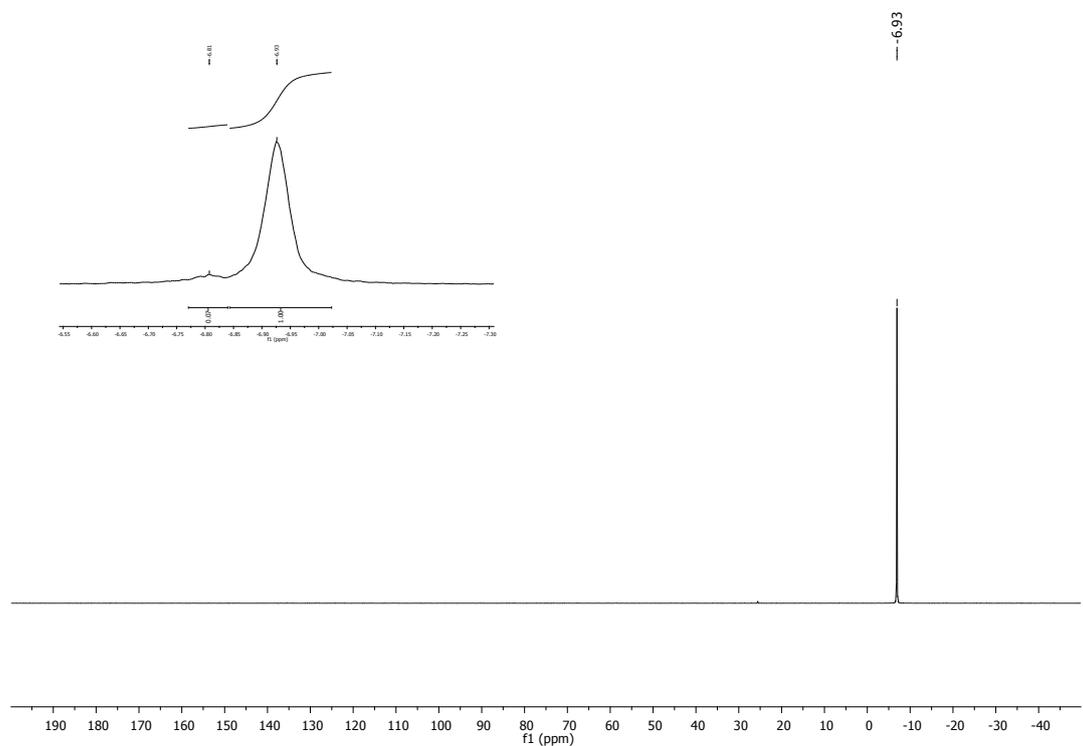
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.56 (bs).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100.6MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 140.3 (d, C1,  $J= 14$  Hz), 133.9 (td, C2,  $J= 19, 25$  Hz), 131.7 (q, C4,  $J= 31, 63$  Hz), 125.9 (m, C3), 124.2 (q,  $\text{CF}_3$ ,  $J= 269,0$  Hz).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): - 6.93.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -62.98.  $^2\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.61.



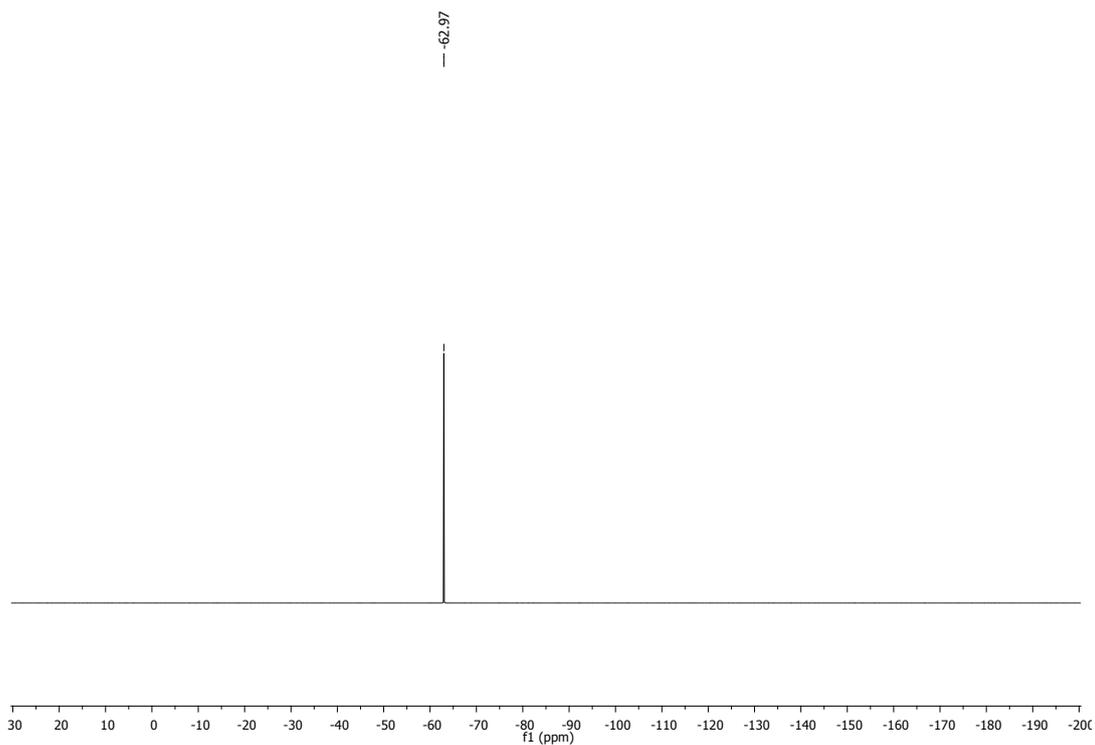
**Figure 26.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine (**10**).



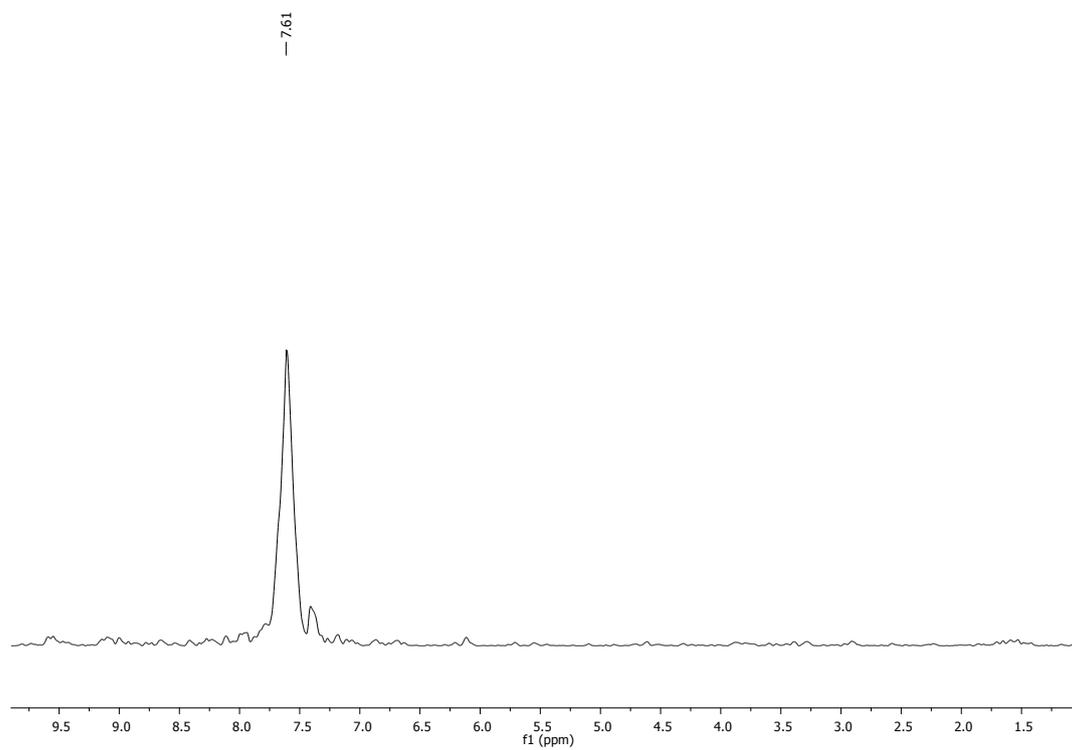
**Figure 27.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine (**10**).



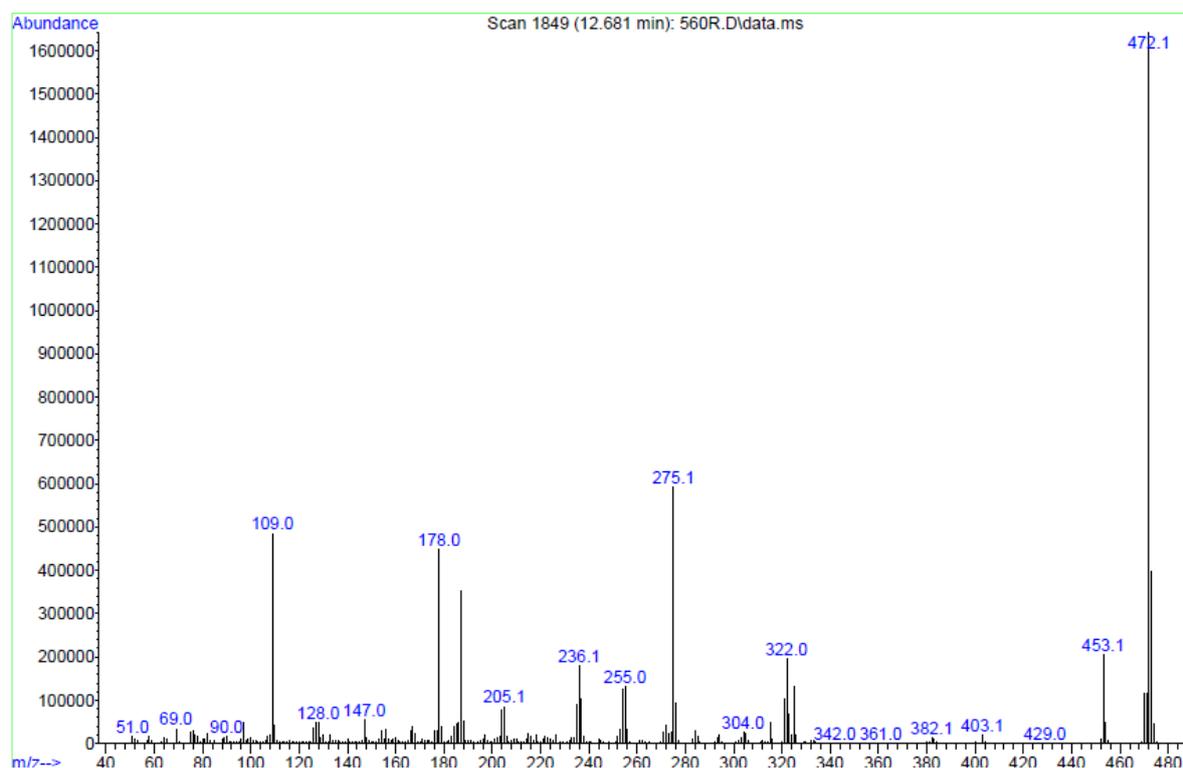
**Figure 28.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine (**10**).



**Figure 29.**  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine (**10**).



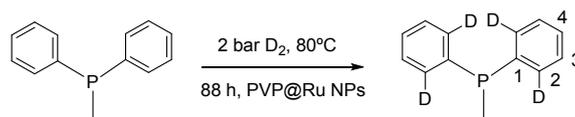
**Figure 30.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of hexadeuterated tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)phosphine (**11**)



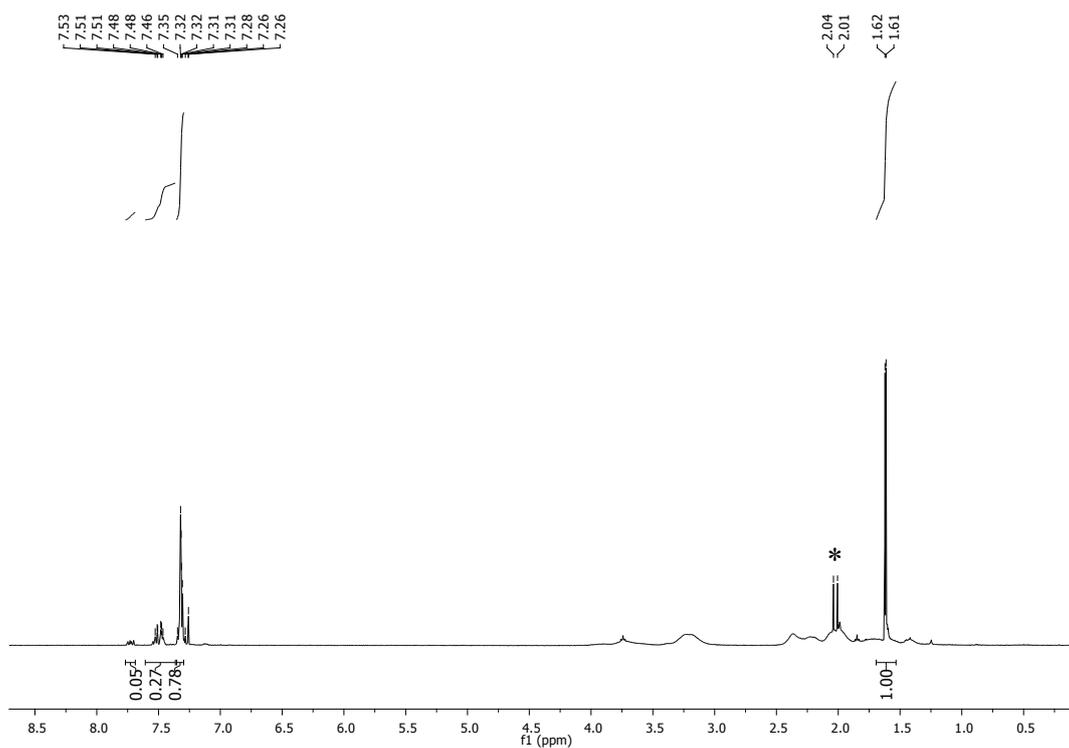
**Figure 31.** Mas spectrum of  $P(C_7H_2F_3D_2)_3$  (**10**)

### Synthesis of tetradeuterated methyldiphenylphosphine $PC_{13}H_9D_4$ (**12**).

Following the general procedure methyldiphenylphosphine was heated for 88h at 80°C for providing the hexadeuterated phosphine (**12**).

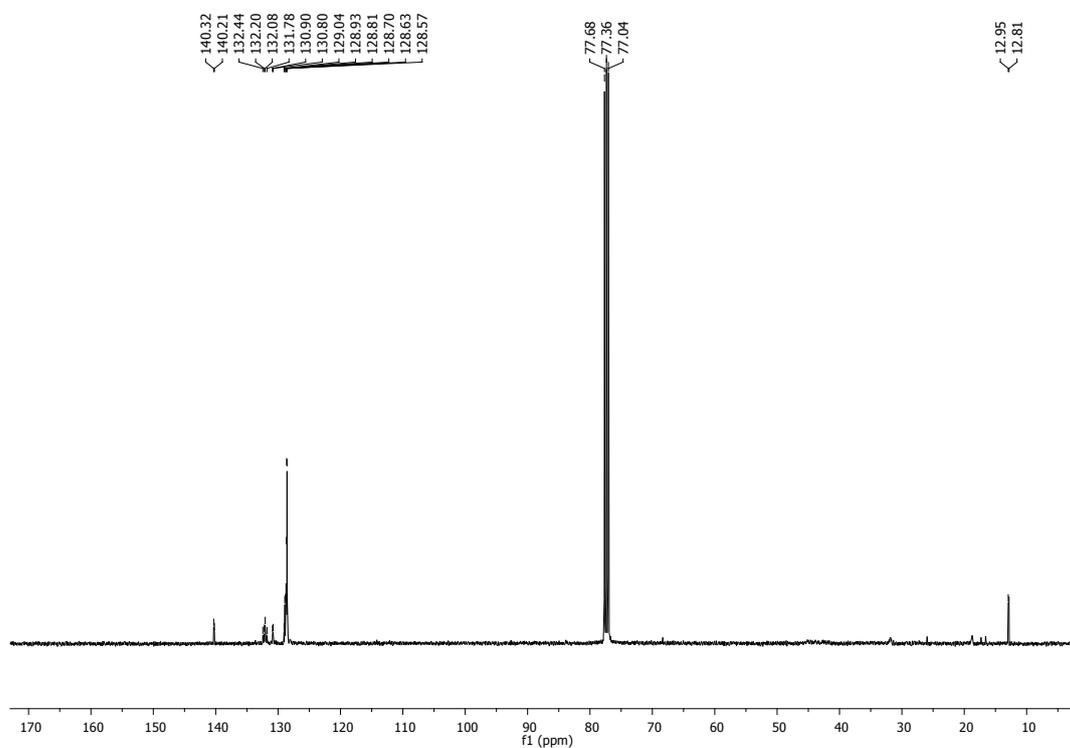


$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.28-7.76 (bs), 1.62 (d,  $CH_3$ ,  $J=3.0$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100.6MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 140.2 (d, C1,  $J=13.0$  Hz), 133.9 (td, C2,  $J=20.0, 25.0$  Hz), 128.7 (s, C4), 128.6 (d, C3,  $J=8.0$  Hz), 12.8 (d,  $CH_3$ ,  $J=14.0$  Hz).  $^{31}P$  NMR (162MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -27.41.  $^2H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.52.

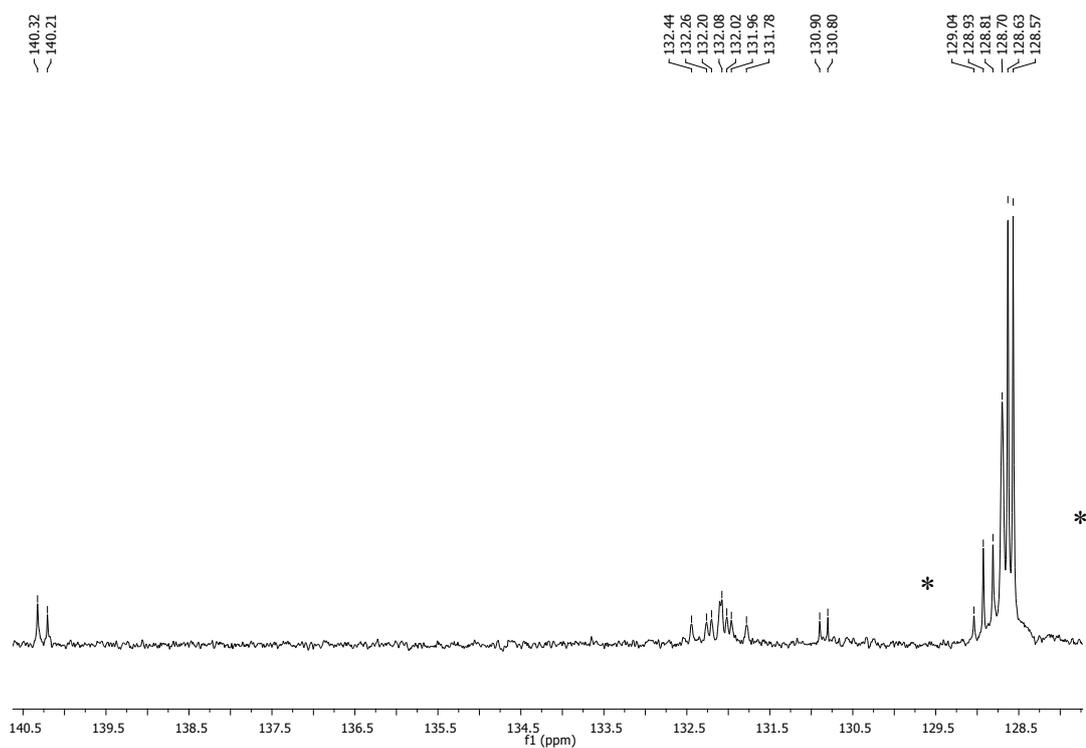


**Figure 32.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of tetra-deuterated methyl-diphenylphosphine (**12**)

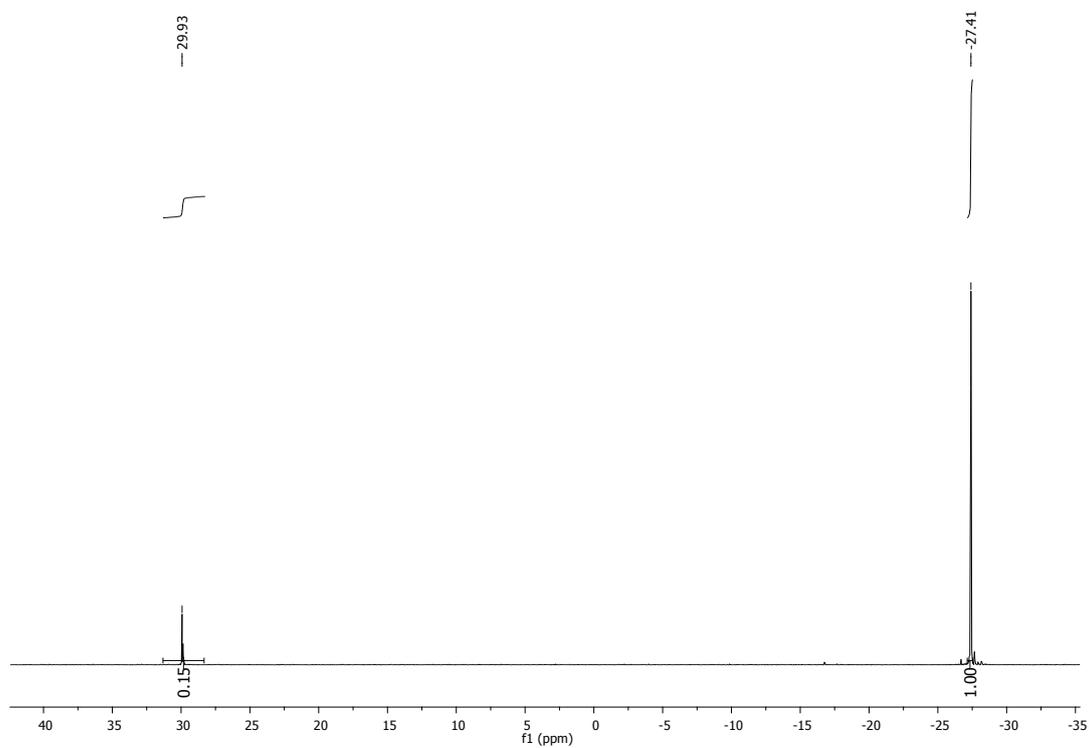
\*Signal corresponding to methyl-diphenylphosphine oxide.



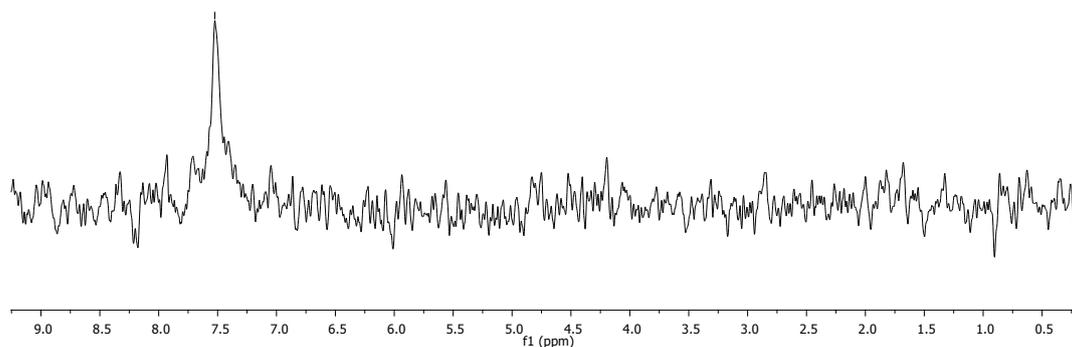
**Figure 33.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of tetra-deuterated methyl-diphenylphosphine (**12**).



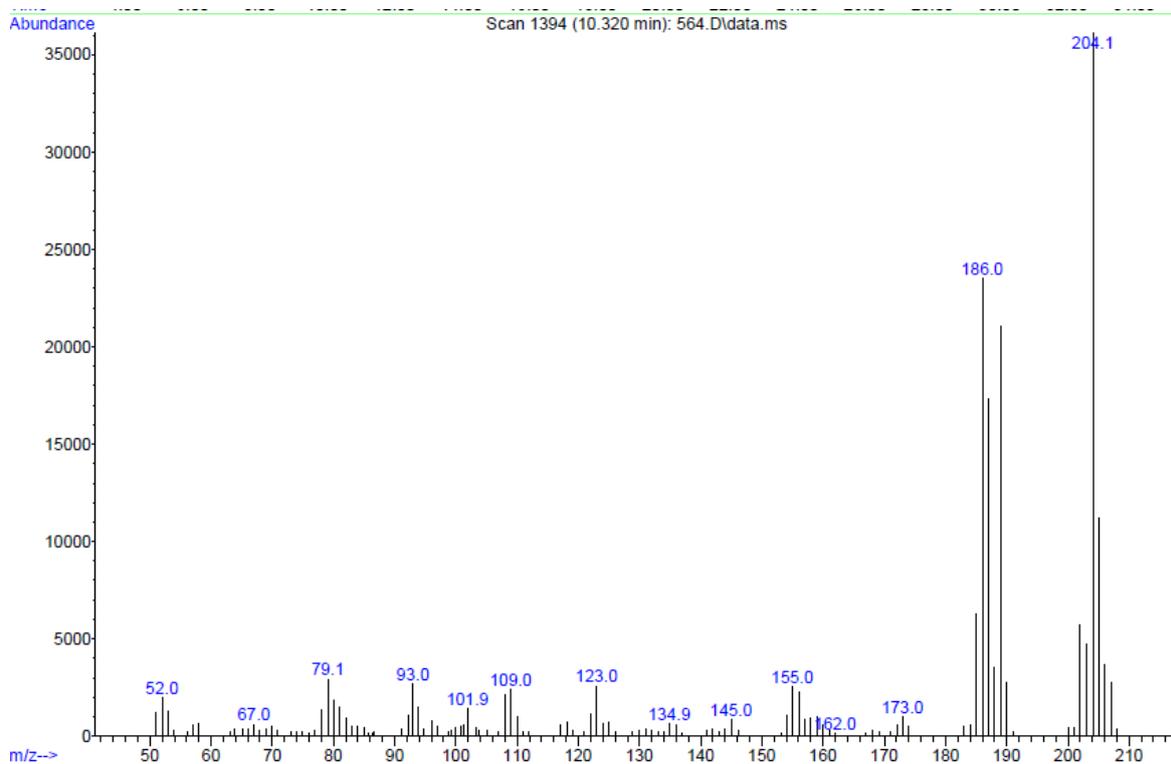
**Figure 34.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of tetradeuterated methyldiphenylphosphine (**12**).



**Figure 35.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of h tetradeuterated methyldiphenylphosphine (**12**).



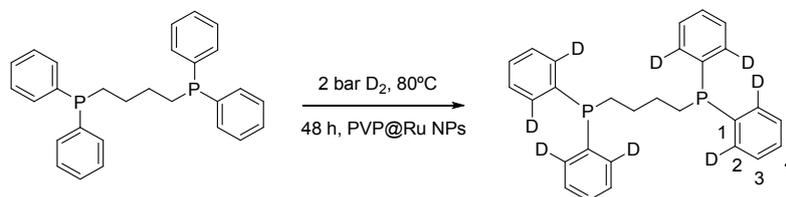
**Figure 36.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of tetra-deuterated methyl-diphenylphosphine (**12**).



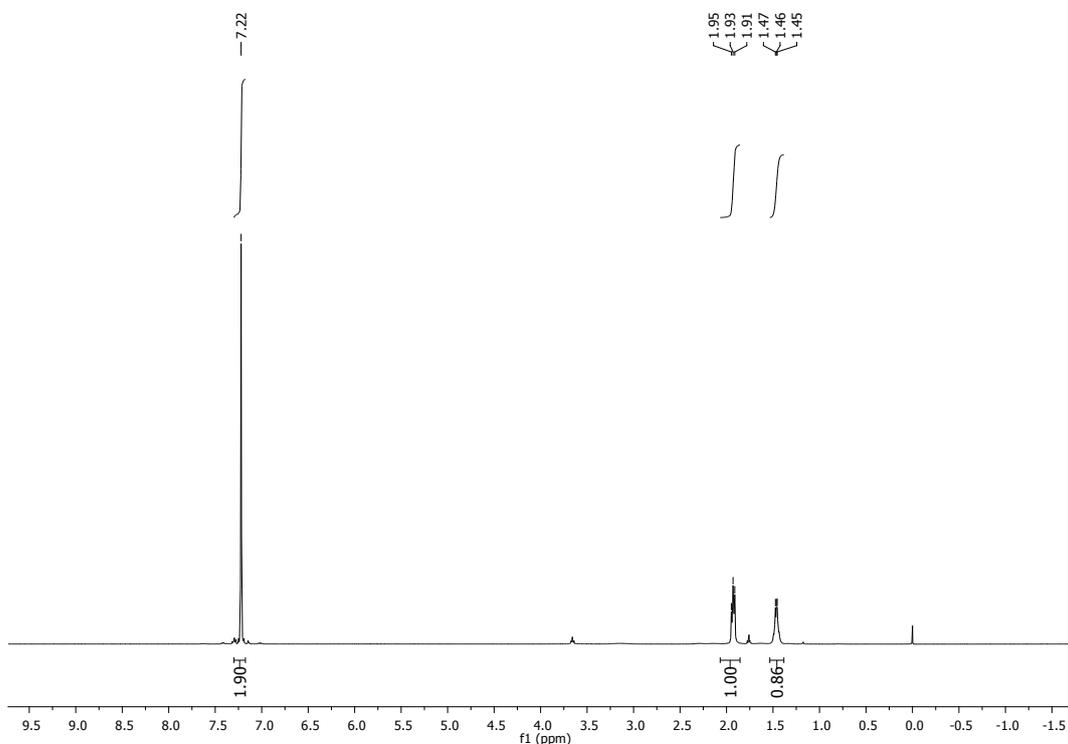
**Figure 37.** Mass spectrum of tetra-deuterated methyl-diphenylphosphine (**12**)  $\text{PC}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{D}_4$ .

### Synthesis of octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane $P_2C_{28}H_{20}D_8$ (**14**).

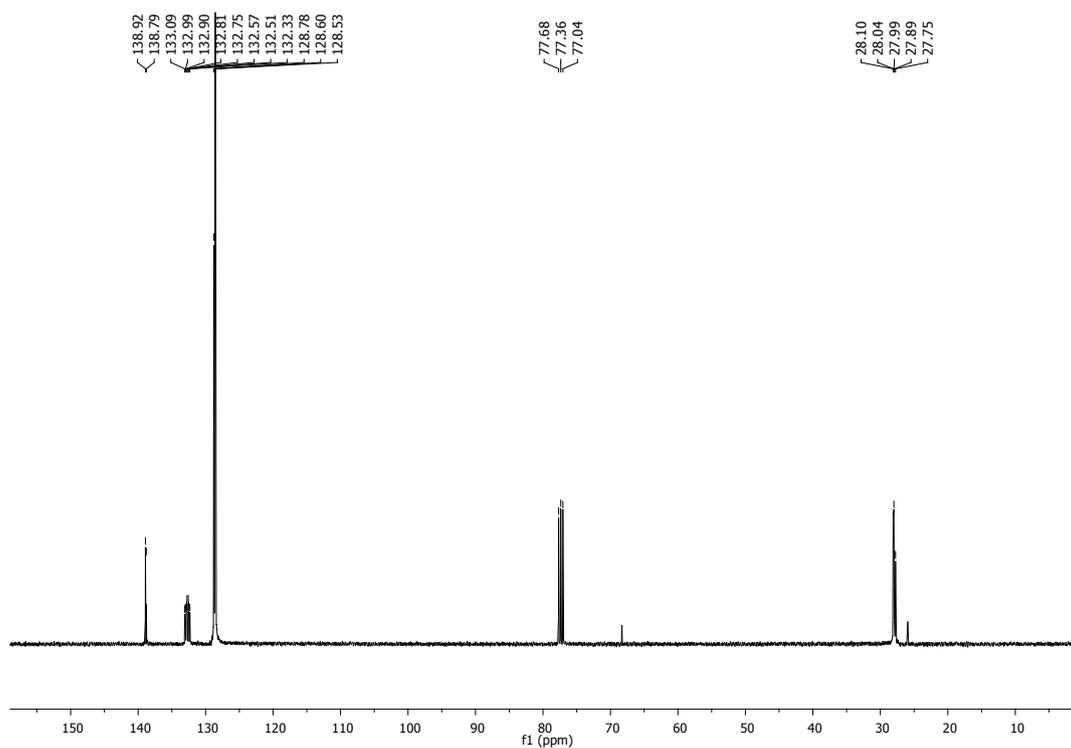
Following the general procedure 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane was heated for 48h at 80°C for providing the octadeuterated phosphine (**14**).



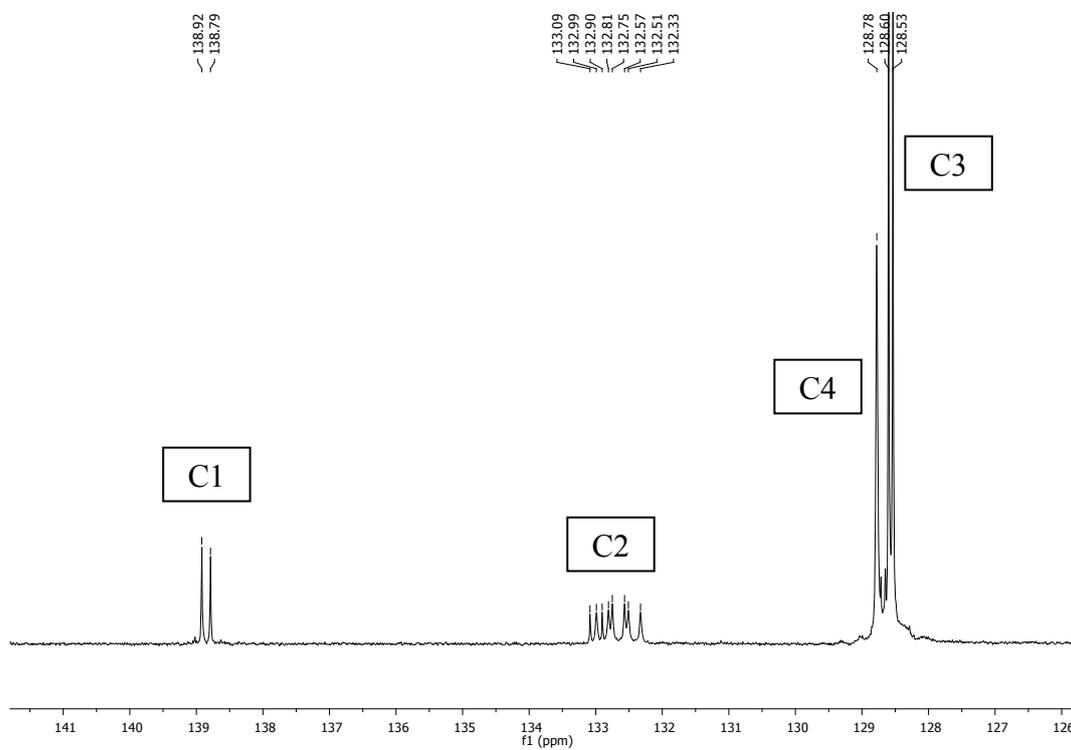
**$^1H$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.22 (s), 1.93 (m,  $CH_2$ ), 1.46 (m,  $CH_2$ ).  **$^{13}C$  NMR** (100.6MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 138.8 (d, C1,  $J= 15.0$  Hz), 132.7 (td, C2,  $J= 18.0, 25.0$  Hz), 128.8 (s, C4), 128.6 (d, C3,  $J= 6.0$  Hz), 28.0 (m,  $CH_2$ ).  **$^{31}P$  NMR** (162MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): -16.74.  **$^2H$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 7.60.



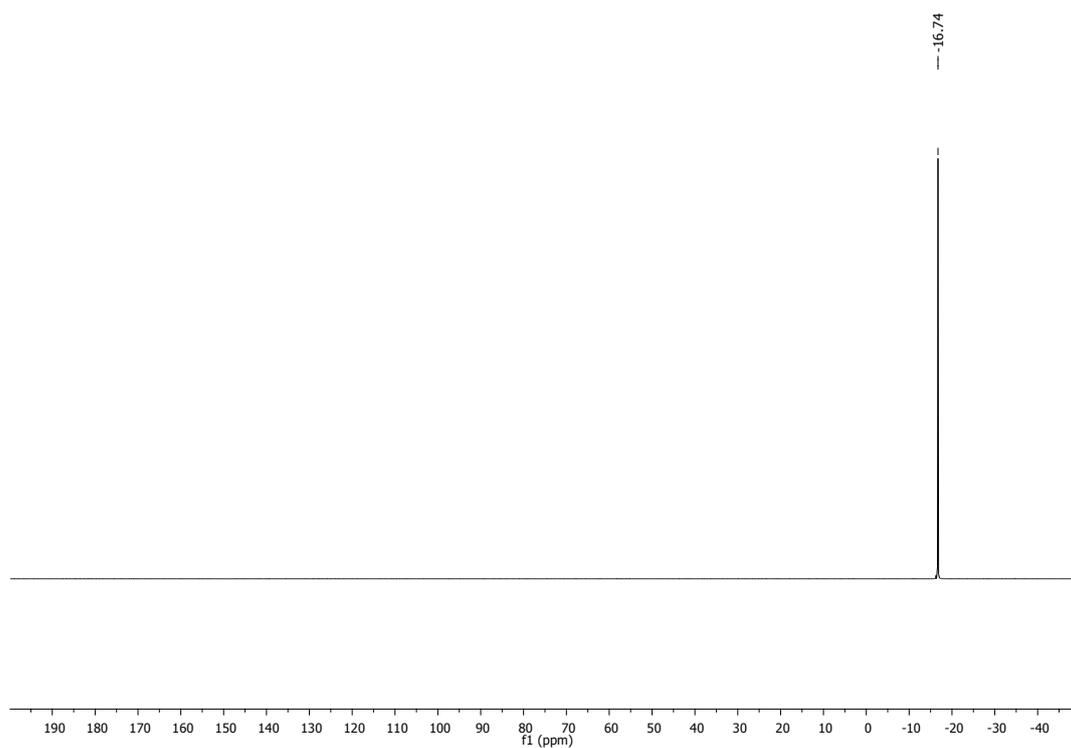
**Figure 38.**  $^1H$ -NMR octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane (**14**).



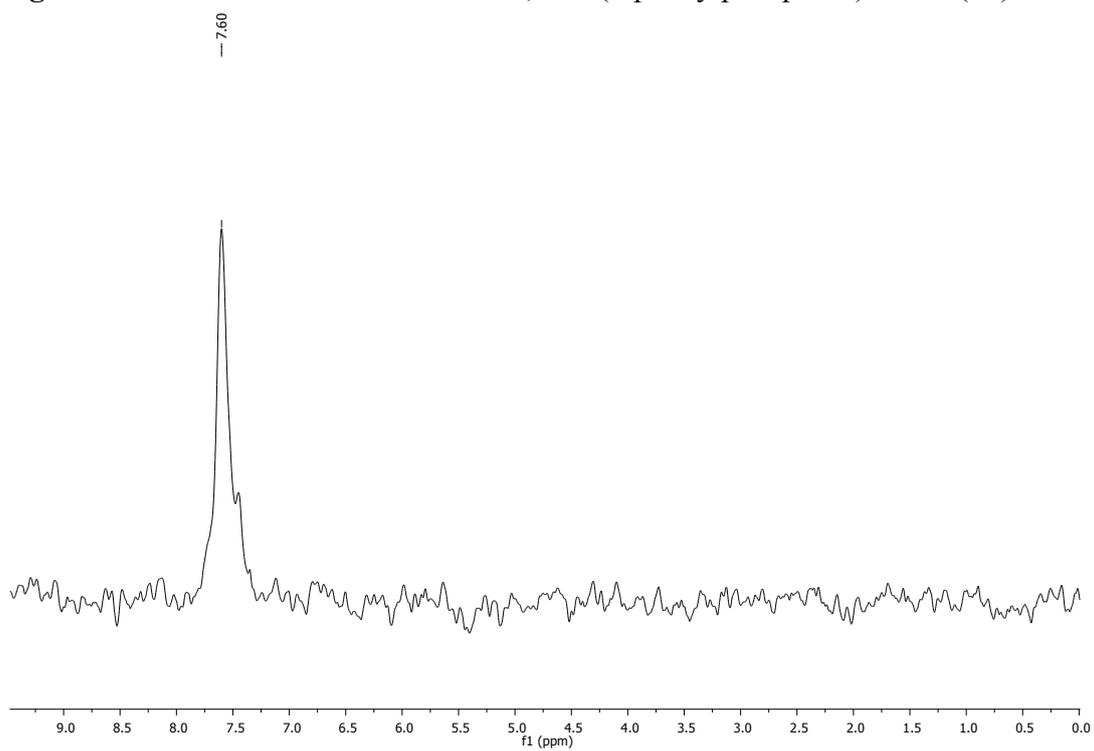
**Figure 39.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane (**14**).



**Figure 40.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane (**14**) (aromatic zone).



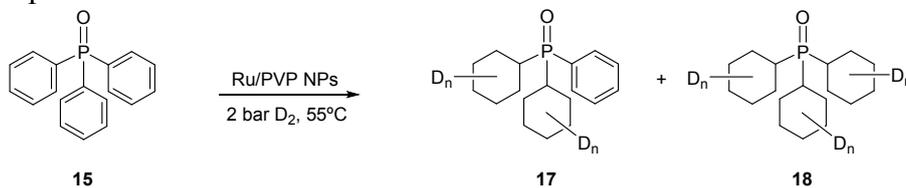
**Figure 41.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane (**14**).



**Figure 42.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of octadeuterated 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane (**14**).

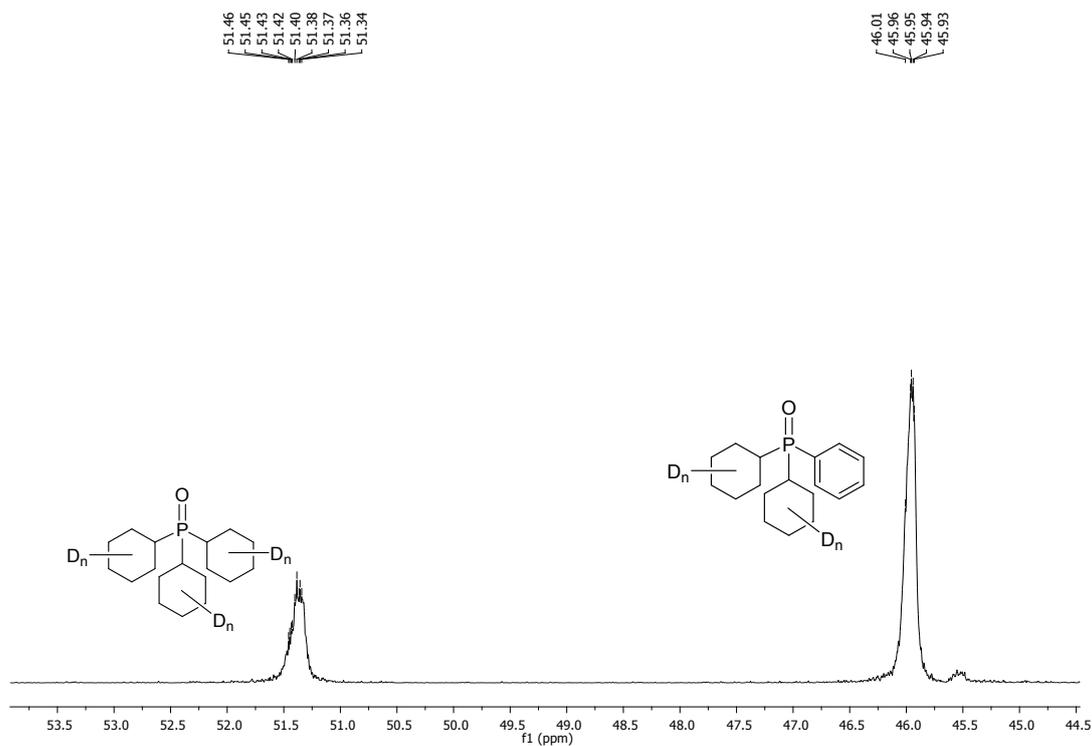
## Deuteration of triphenylphosphine oxide at 55°C for 36 h. Synthesis of 17-18.

Following the general procedure triphenylphosphine oxide was heated at 55°C for 36h providing a mixture of reduced products **17-18**.

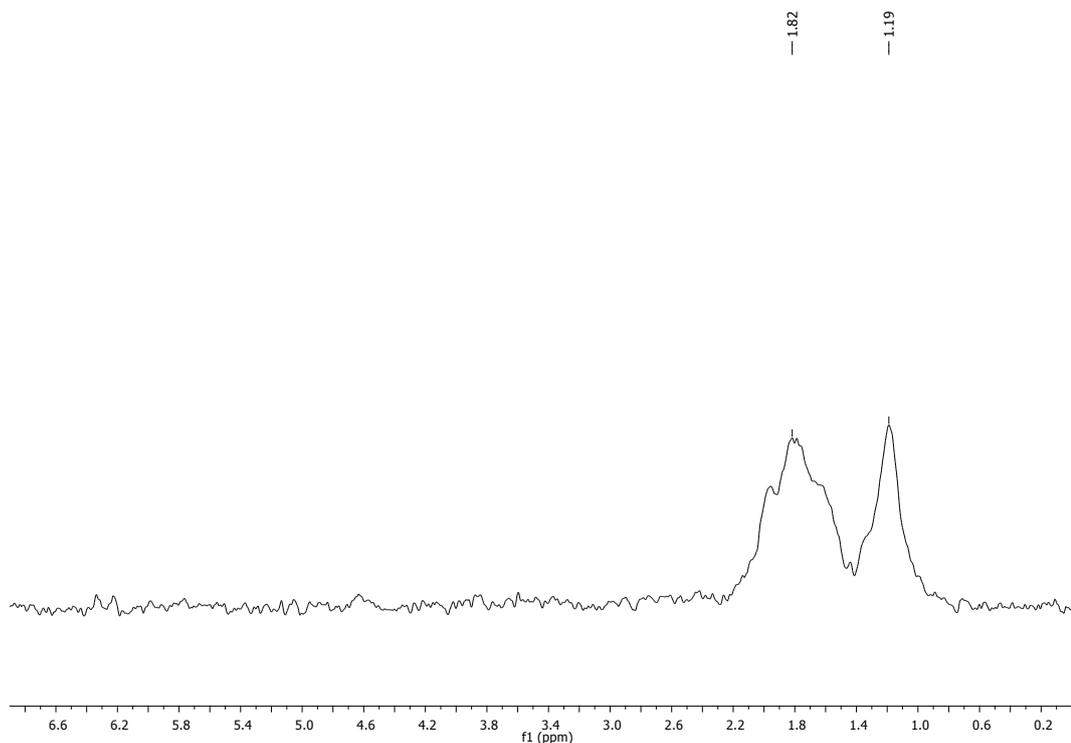


Dicyclohexyl(phenyl)phosphine oxide (**17**) [4], <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): 45.95.

Tricyclohexylphosphine oxide (**18**) [5], <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ in ppm): 51.40.



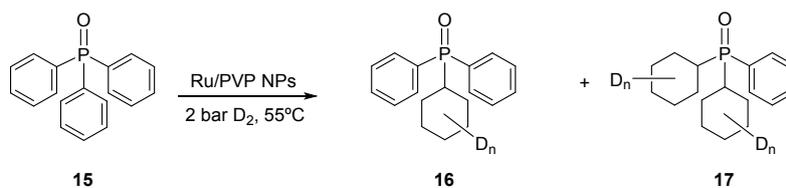
**Figure 43.** <sup>31</sup>P-NMR of the mixture of compounds **17** and **18** obtained by deuteration at 55°C for 36 hours.



**Figure 44.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of the mixture of compounds **17** and **18**.

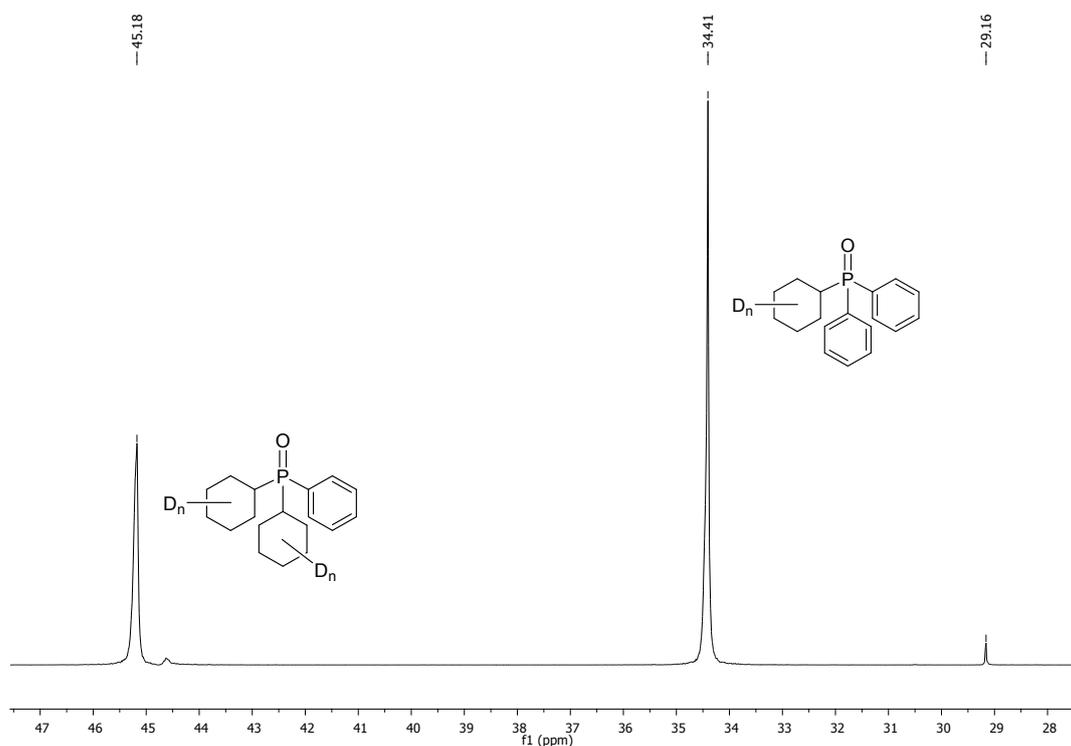
#### Deuteration of triphenylphosphine oxide at 55°C for 16 h. Synthesis of 16-17.

Following the general procedure triphenylphosphine oxide was heated for 16h at 55°C providing a mixture of products (**15**, **16**).

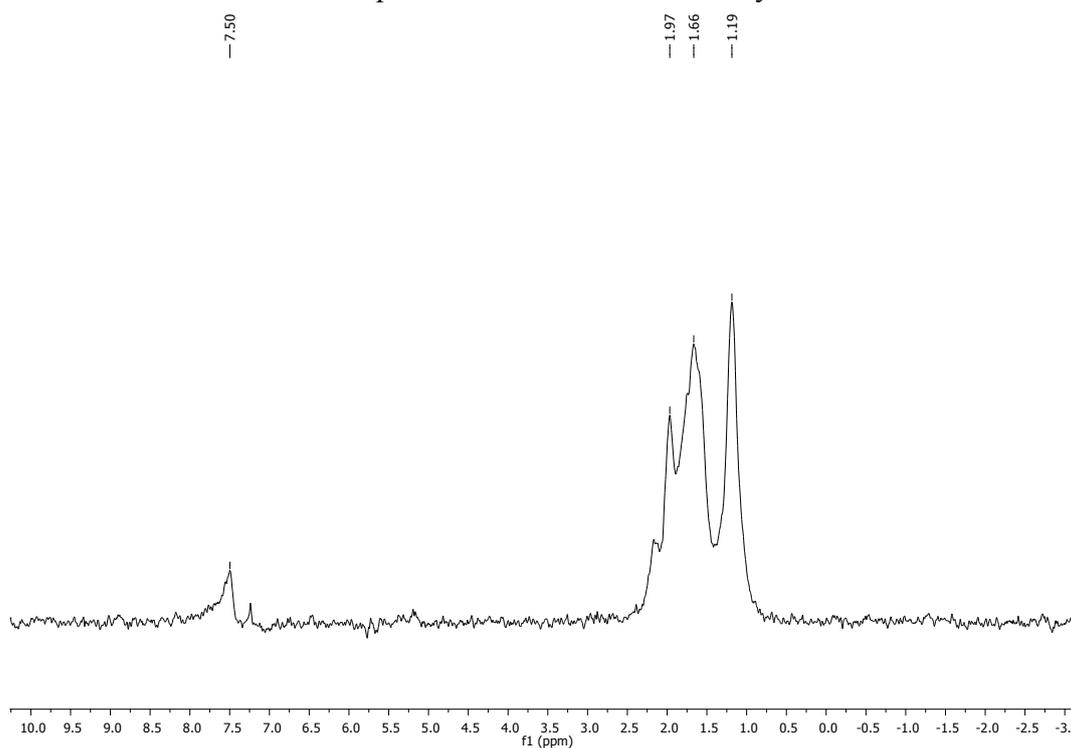


Cyclohexyldiphenylphosphine oxide (**16**) [3],  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 34.41.

Dicyclohexyl(phenyl)phosphine oxide [4],  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  in ppm): 45.18.



**Figure 45.**  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR of the mixture of compounds **16** and **17** obtained by deuteration at  $55^\circ\text{C}$  for 36 hours.



**Figure 46.**  $^2\text{H}$ -NMR of the mixture of compounds **16** and **17** obtained by deuteration at  $55^\circ\text{C}$  for 36 hours.

## S5. References

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