

# Unusual Borane Addition to Conjugated Dienylphosphanes under Frustrated Lewis Pair Conditions

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<sup>§</sup> X-Ray crystal structure analysis

## Supporting Information

**Materials and Methods:** All syntheses involving air- and moisture sensitive compounds were carried out using standard Schlenk-type glassware (or in a glove box) under an atmosphere of argon. Solvents were dried and stored under an argon atmosphere. NMR spectra were recorded on: *Bruker AV 300* (<sup>1</sup>H: 300 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 76 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 122 MHz, <sup>11</sup>B: 96 MHz, <sup>19</sup>F: 282 MHz), *Bruker AV 400* (<sup>1</sup>H: 400 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 101 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 162 MHz), *Varian VNMR 500 MHz* (<sup>1</sup>H: 500 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 126 MHz, <sup>19</sup>F: 470 MHz, <sup>11</sup>B: 160 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 202 MHz) and *Agilent DD2-600 MHz* (<sup>1</sup>H: 600 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 151 MHz, <sup>19</sup>F: 564 MHz, <sup>11</sup>B: 192 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P: 243 MHz). <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR: chemical shifts  $\delta$  are given relative to TMS and referenced to the solvent signal. <sup>19</sup>F NMR: chemical shifts  $\delta$  are given relative to CFCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = 0$ , external reference), <sup>11</sup>B NMR: chemical shifts  $\delta$  are given relative to BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O ( $\delta = 0$ , external reference), <sup>31</sup>P NMR: chemical shifts  $\delta$  are given relative to H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (85% in D<sub>2</sub>O) ( $\delta = 0$ , external reference). NMR assignments were supported by additional 2D NMR experiments. The splitting patterns in the NMR spectra are reported as follows: s = singlet, d

= doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad signal. Coupling constants are given in Hertz (Hz). High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS) was recorded on Orbitrap (*ThermoScientific LTQ XL*) and MicroTof (*Bruker Daltonics*). Elemental analyses were performed on an *Elementar Vario El III*.

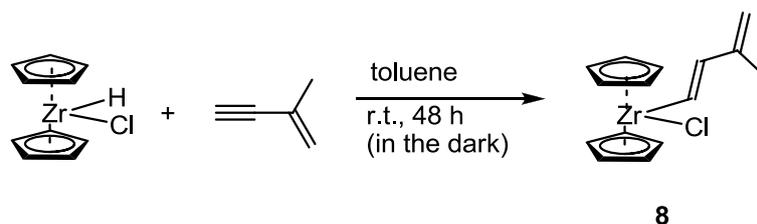
**X-Ray diffraction:** Data sets for compounds **13a** and **13c** were collected with a Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer. Programs used: data collection, COLLECT (R. W. W. Hoof, Bruker AXS, 2008, Delft, The Netherlands); data reduction Denzo-SMN (Z. Otwinowski, W. Minor, *Methods Enzymol.* 1997, **276**, 307); absorption correction, Denzo (Z. Otwinowski, D. Borek, W. Majewski, W. Minor, *Acta Crystallogr.* 2003, **A59**, 228); structure solution SHELXS-97 (G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Crystallogr.* 1990, **A46**, 467); structure refinement SHELXL-97 (G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Crystallogr.* 2008, **A64**, 112) and graphics, XP (BrukerAXS, 2000). For compounds **9c**, **10** and **13b** data sets were collected with a D8 Venture Dual Source 100 CMOS diffractometer. Programs used: data collection: APEX2 V2014.5-0 (Bruker AXS Inc., 2014); cell refinement: SAINT V8.34A (Bruker AXS Inc., 2013); data reduction: SAINT V8.34A (Bruker AXS Inc., 2013); absorption correction, SADABS V2014/2 (Bruker AXS Inc., 2014); structure solution SHELXT-2014 (Sheldrick, 2014); structure refinement SHELXL-2014 (Sheldrick, 2014) and graphics, XP (BrukerAXS, 2000). *R*-values are given for observed reflections, and  $wR^2$  values are given for all reflections. *Exceptions and special features:* For compounds **13a** and **13c** one disordered dichloromethane molecule was found in the asymmetrical unit and could not be satisfactorily refined. The program SQUEEZE (A. L. Spek *J. Appl. Cryst.*, 2003, **36**, 7) was therefore used to remove mathematically the effect of the solvent. The quoted formula and derived parameters are not included the squeezed solvent molecules. Compound **13a** present one mesityl group and one phenyl group disordered over two positions. Compound **13c** contains one disordered over two positions <sup>t</sup>Bu group. Several restraints (SADI, SAME, ISOR and

SIMU) were used in order to improve refinement stability. CCDC deposition numbers are 1423877 to 1423881.

**Starting materials:** Bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane  $\text{HB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$  [(a) R. E von H. Spence, W. E. Piers, Y. E. Sun, M. Parvez, L. R. MacGillivray, M. J. Zaworotko, *Organometallics* 1998, **17**, 2459; (b) D. J. Parks, W. E. Piers, G. P. A. Yap, *Organometallics* 1998, **17**, 5492; (c) D. J. Parks, R. E. von H. Spence, W. E. Piers, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 1995, **34**, 809; (d) R. E. von H. Spence, D. J. Parks, W. E. Piers, M.-A. McDonald, M. J. Zaworotko, S. J. Rettig, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 1995, **34**, 1230] Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ ,  $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCl}$  and 2-Methylbut-1-en-3-yne were purchased.  $\text{Mes}_2\text{PCl}$ ,  $\text{Mes}_2\text{PBr}$  and (*p*-tolylethynyl)lithium were available. Compound **8** and **11** were synthesized similar as reported in the following literature [M. D. Fryzuk, G. S. Bates, C. Stone, *J. Org. Chem.* 1991, **56**, 7201]. Diphenyldienylphosphane **9b** was prepared similar to the procedure reported in the literature [M. D. Fryzuk, G. S. Bates, C. Stone, *J. Org. Chem.* 1988, **53**, 4425]. Borane **12c** was synthesized in a similar procedure reported earlier [R. E. H. Spence, W. E. Piers, Y. Sun, M. Parvez, L. R. MacGillivray and M. J. Zavorotko, *Organometallics* 1998, **17**, 2459]. 2-(*tert*-Butyl)ethenyl-bis(pentafluorophenyl)-borane **12b** and (*E*)-styryl-bis(pentafluorophenyl)-borane **12a** were prepared according a literature procedure [O. Ekkert, O. Tuschewitzki, C. G. Daniliuc, G. Kehr. G. Erker, *Chem. Commun.* 2013, **49**, 6992].

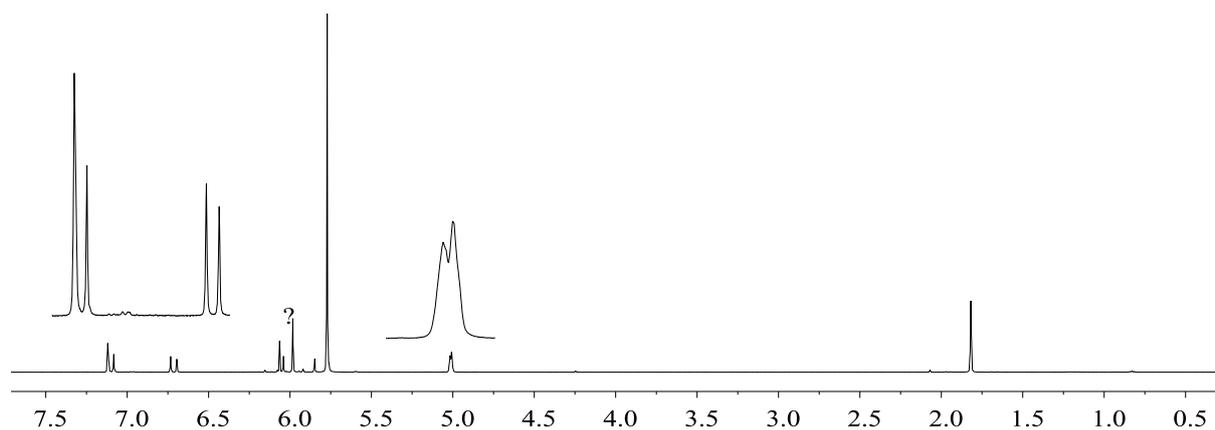
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### Synthesis of zirconium dienyl complex **8**.



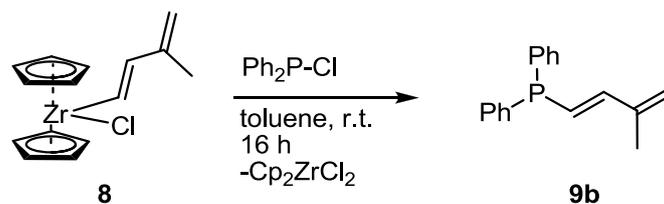
Schwartz reagent  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{H}$  (3g, 11.63 mmol) was added slowly in three portions (every 2h one portion) to a solution of 2-methylbut-1-en-3-yne (0.77 g, 11.65 mmol) in dry toluene (40 mL) inside of a glove box [Comment: the used Schlenk flask should be covered with aluminum foil]. The stirring was continued at ambient temperature until a homogenous red solution was obtained. Then, the volume of the solution was reduced to 20 mL and *n*-pentane (40 mL) was added. After standing at  $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 days, yellow crystals were obtained, which were filtered (at  $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) via canula, washed with *n*-pentane (10 mL) and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 3.7 g (98%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (500 MHz, 299K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 7.13, 6.75$  (each d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 18.6$  Hz, each 1H, =CH), 5.80 (s, 10H, Cp), 5.05, 5.04 (each m, each 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

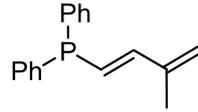


$^1\text{H NMR}$  (500 MHz, 299K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of complex **8**. [? unidentified compounds].

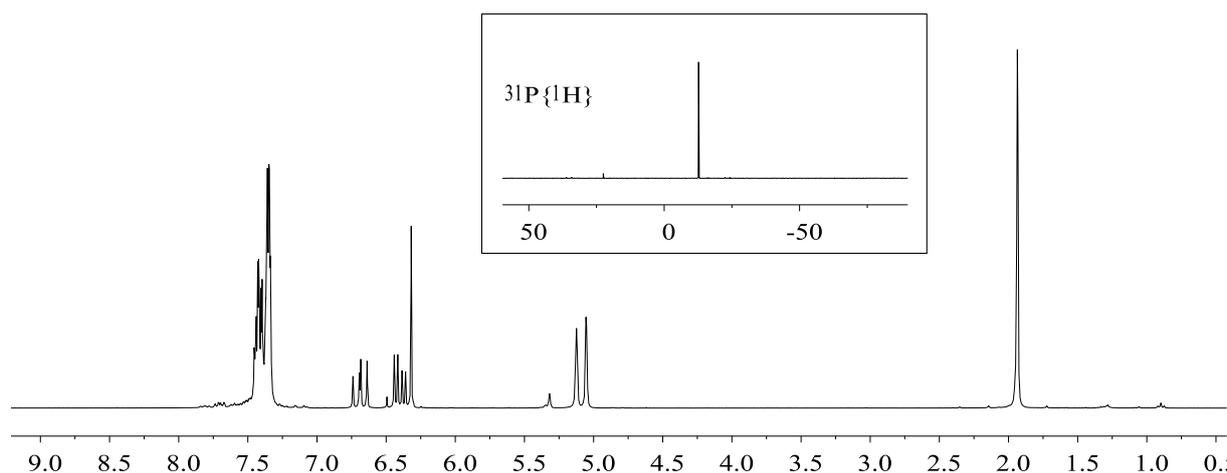
## Synthesis of diphenyldienylphosphane **9b**.



Zirconocene complex **8** (0.5 g, 1.543 mmol) and diphenylchlorophosphane (0.324 g, 1.466 mmol) were mixed and dissolved in toluene (5 mL) to give a red solution. After 20 min the formation of a colorless precipitate was observed and the suspension became yellow. After 16 h the reaction mixture was filtered over a short column (Silica-Gel 1 cm x Ø 0.5 cm) and rinsed with *n*-pentane (10 mL). After drying the filtrate *in vacuo* compound **9b** was obtained as a slight yellow oil (0.25 g, 68%).

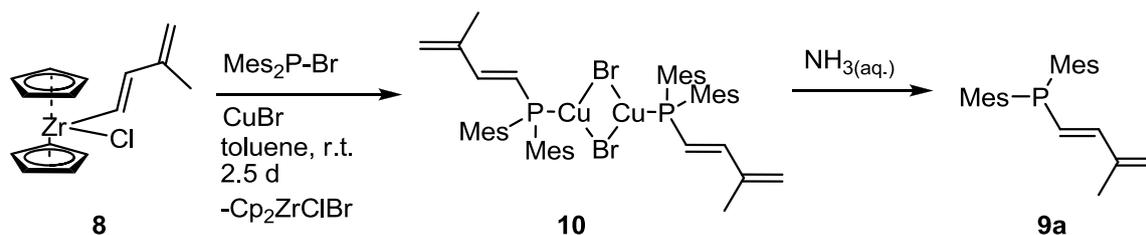
 **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (300 MHz, 299K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.42 (4H), 7.35 (6H)(each m, Ph), 6.69 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH,trans</sub> = 16.9, J<sub>PH</sub> = 13.7 Hz, 1H, =CH), 6.40 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH,trans</sub> = 16.9, J<sub>PH</sub> = 8.4 Hz, 1H, =CH), 5.12, 5.05 (each m, each 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.94 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (121 MHz, 299 K, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -12.7 (ν<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 1 Hz)



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (300 MHz, 299K, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and **<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (121 MHz, 299 K, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **9b** (admixed with Cp<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub>).

## Synthesis of dimesityldienylphosphane copper complex **10**

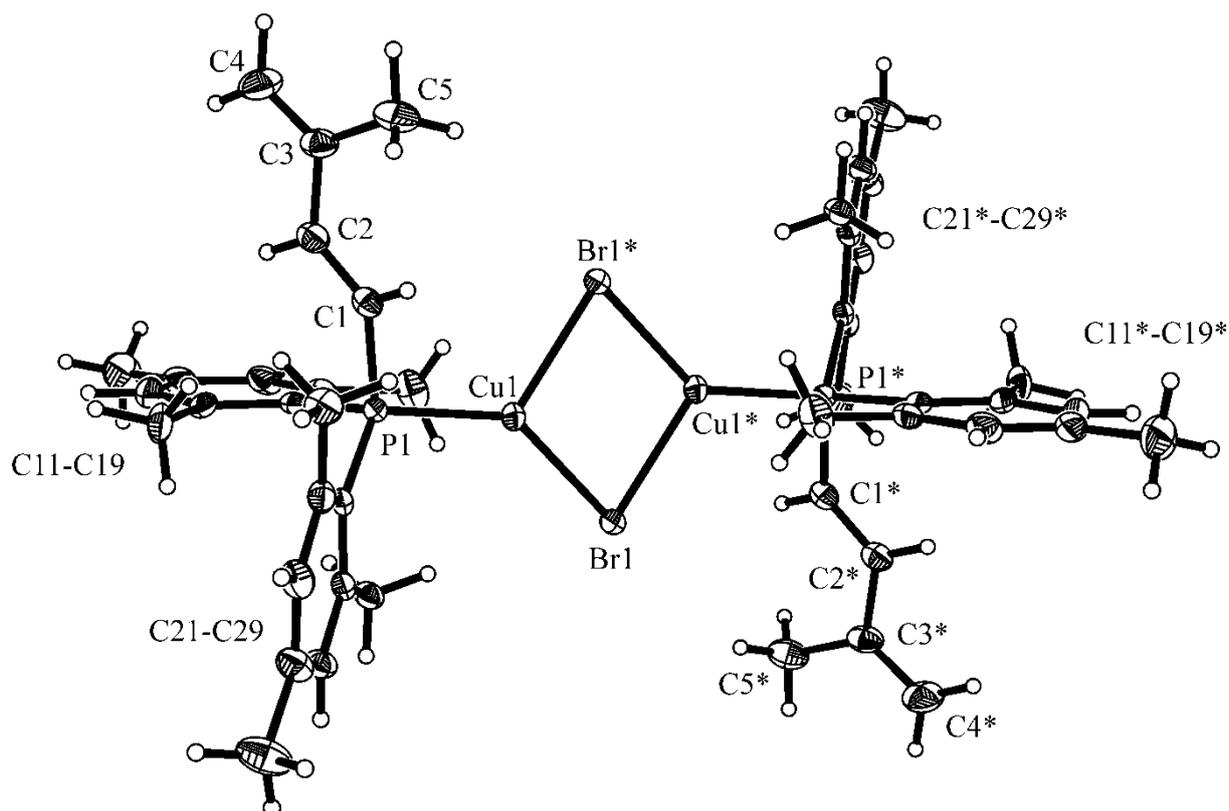


$\text{Mes}_2\text{PBr}$  (5.05 g, 14.45 mmol) and  $\text{CuBr}$  (2.08 g, 14.49 mmol) were added to a solution of compound **8** (4.78 g, 14.75 mmol) in toluene (50 mL). This reaction mixture was stirred for 2.5 days at room temperature, then the volume was reduced *in vacuo* to 1/3 and *n*-pentane (50 mL) was added. The obtained brown-grey suspension was filtered via canula, passed through a frit filled with  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (2 cm x  $\varnothing$  2 cm) and washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (20 mL). Drying of the filtrate *in vacuo* gave complex **10** as a yellow solid (5.9 g, 85%). Single crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane to a saturated solution of compound **10** in toluene at ambient temperature.

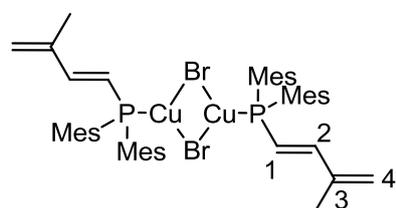
**HRMS** (Orbitrap): [**9a**+H]<sup>+</sup> ( $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{PH}^+$ ): Calcd.: 337.2085, Found: 314.2073; [ $2\times$ **9a**+Cu]<sup>+</sup> ( $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{58}\text{P}_2\text{Cu}^+$ ): Calcd.: 735.3310, Found: 735.3291.

**Elemental analysis**: Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{58}\text{Br}_2\text{P}_2\text{Cu}_2$ : C, 57.56; H, 6.09. Found: C, 56.74; H, 6.22.

**X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 10**: formula  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{58}\text{Br}_2\text{Cu}_2\text{P}_2$ ,  $M = 959.76$ , colourless crystal, 0.240 x 0.166 x 0.125 mm,  $a = 11.3422(5)$ ,  $b = 13.9434(7)$ ,  $c = 15.1495(7)$  Å,  $\alpha = 81.832(2)$ ,  $\beta = 71.968(2)$ ,  $\gamma = 76.313(2)^\circ$ ,  $V = 2207.3(2)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.444$  gcm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 2.876$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, empirical absorption correction ( $0.545 \leq T \leq 0.715$ ),  $Z = 2$ , triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$  (No. 2),  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $T = 100(2)$  K,  $\omega$  and  $\varphi$  scans, 37445 reflections collected ( $\pm h$ ,  $\pm k$ ,  $\pm l$ ), 8069 independent ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.037$ ) and 6828 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 483 refined parameters,  $R = 0.025$ ,  $wR^2 = 0.063$ , max. (min.) residual electron density 0.73 (-0.30) e.Å<sup>-3</sup>, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



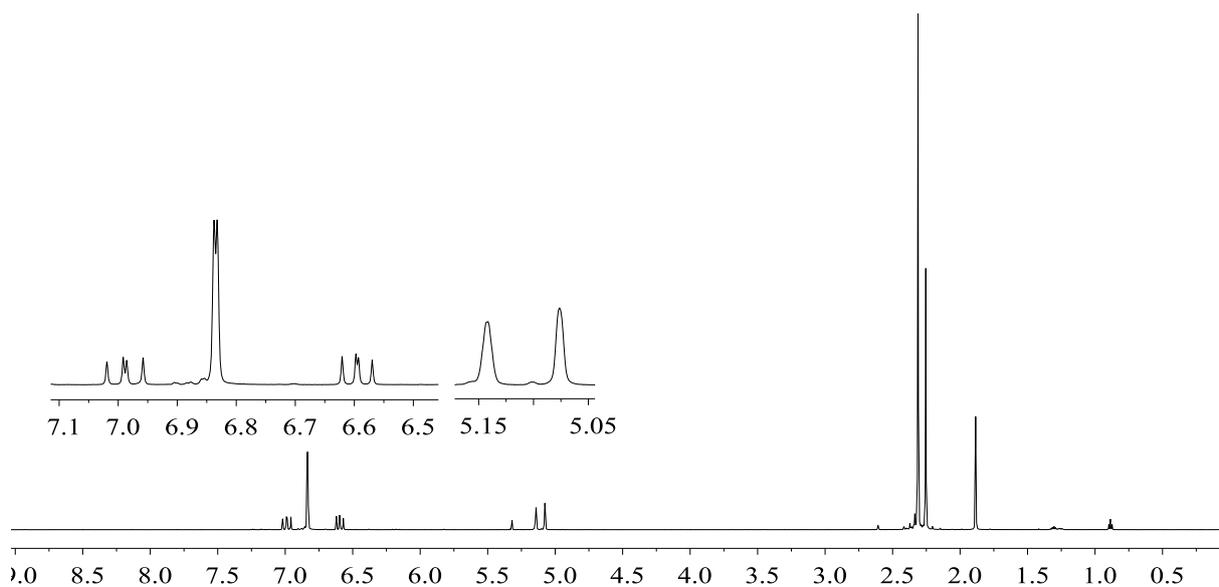
NMR characterization of a solution of the yellow solid in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :



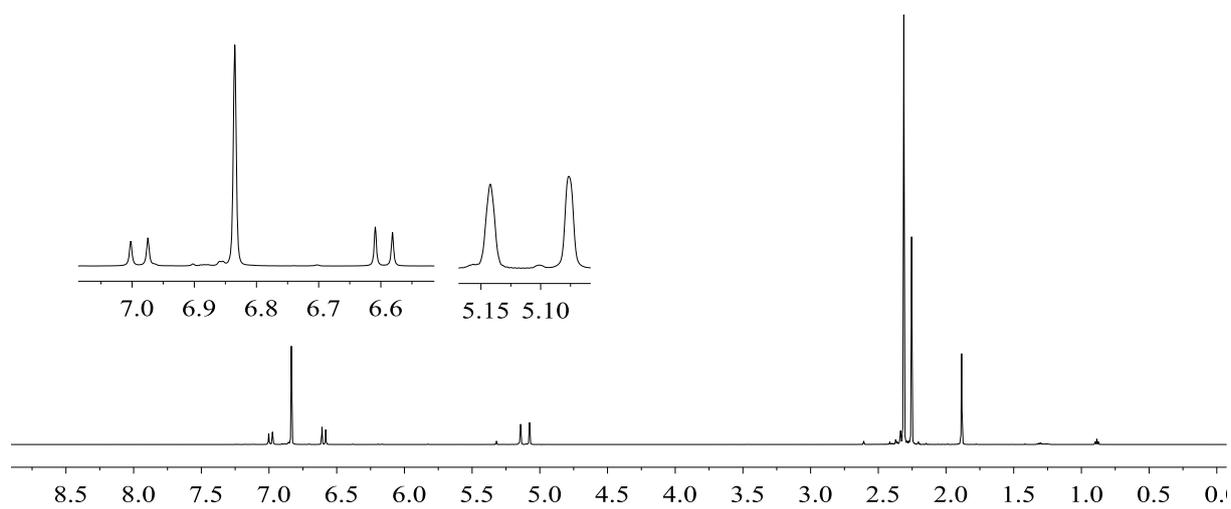
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 6.99 (dd,  $^3J_{\text{PH}}$  = 20.1 Hz,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H, =CH), 6.83 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PH}}$  = 3.4 Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 6.60 (dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  = 16.6 Hz,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  = 14.0 Hz, 1H, PCH), 5.14, 5.08 (each m, each 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.31 (s, 12H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 2.25 (s, 6H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 1.88 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 145.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 17.9 Hz, =CH), 142.4 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 18.0 Hz, =C), 141.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 10.5 Hz, *o*-Mes), 139.9 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}}$  = 1.7 Hz, *p*-Mes), 131.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 6.9 Hz, *m*-Mes), 127.2 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}}$  = 36.8 Hz, *i*-Mes), 122.2 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}}$  = 37.5 Hz, PCH), 120.3 (=CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.2 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 10.9 Hz, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 21.0 (*p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 18.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

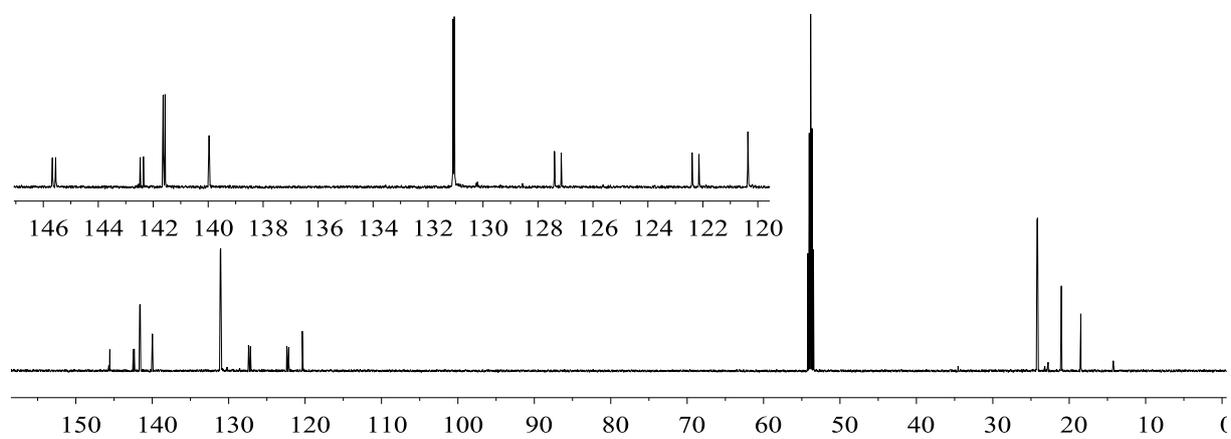
$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = -22.3 ( $\nu_{1/2}$  ~ 70 Hz).



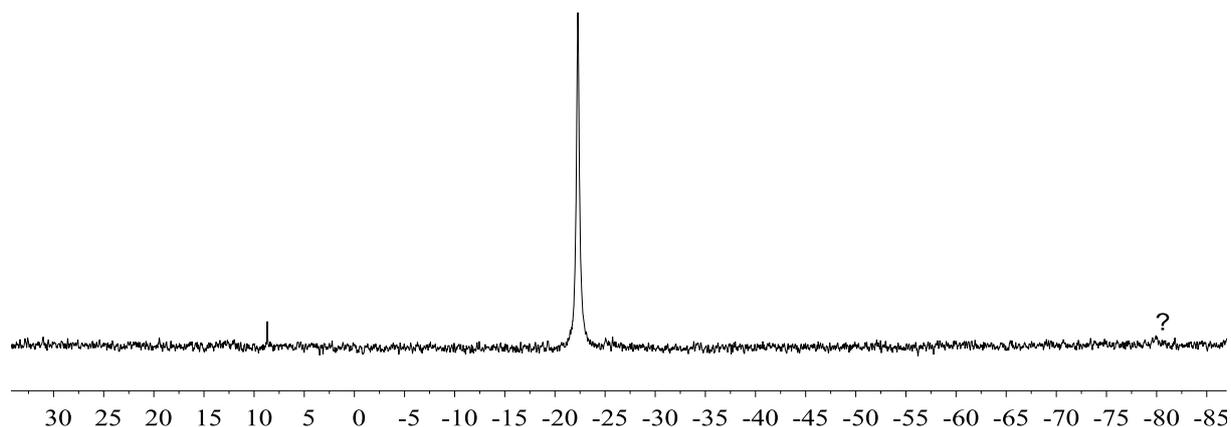
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of copper complex **10**.



$^1\text{H}\{^{31}\text{P}\}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of copper complex **10**.



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of copper complex **10**.



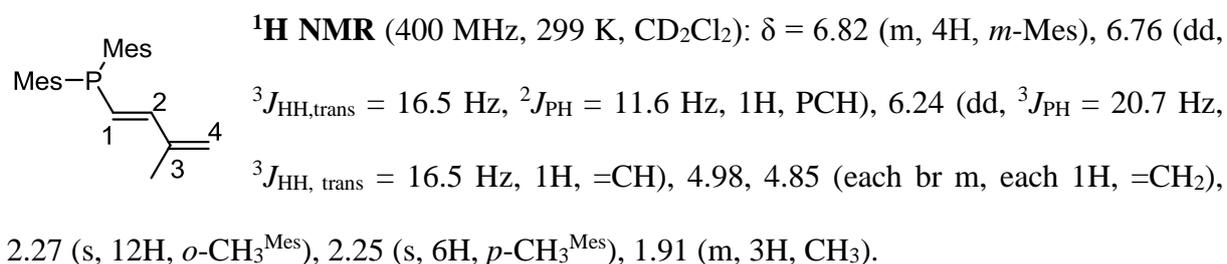
$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of copper complex **10**. [? not identified].

### Dimesityldienylphosphane **9a**

Concentrated aqueous  $\text{NH}_4\text{OH}$  solution (10 mL) was added to a solution of compound **10** (2.87 g, 2.99 mmol) in toluene (50 mL) under argon. The organic phase was separated by using a canula and dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give compound **9a** as a yellow oil (2.01 g, 99%), which crystallized after a few days.

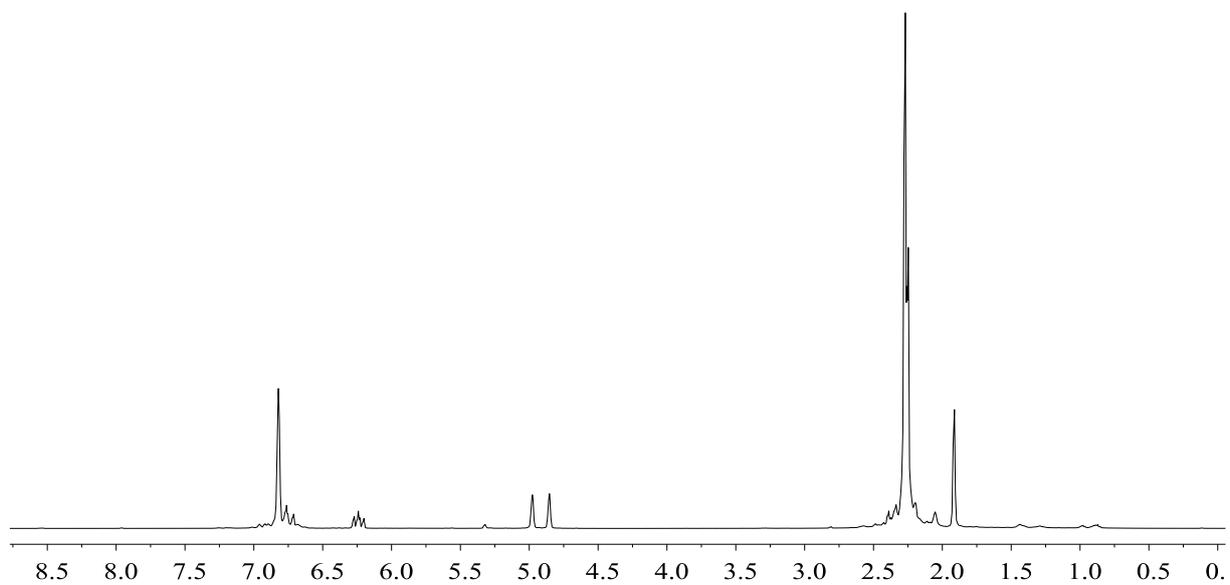
**Elemental analysis:** Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{P}$ : C, 82.11; H, 8.69. Found: C, 79.09; H, 8.61.

NMR characterization of a solution of the yellow solid in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :

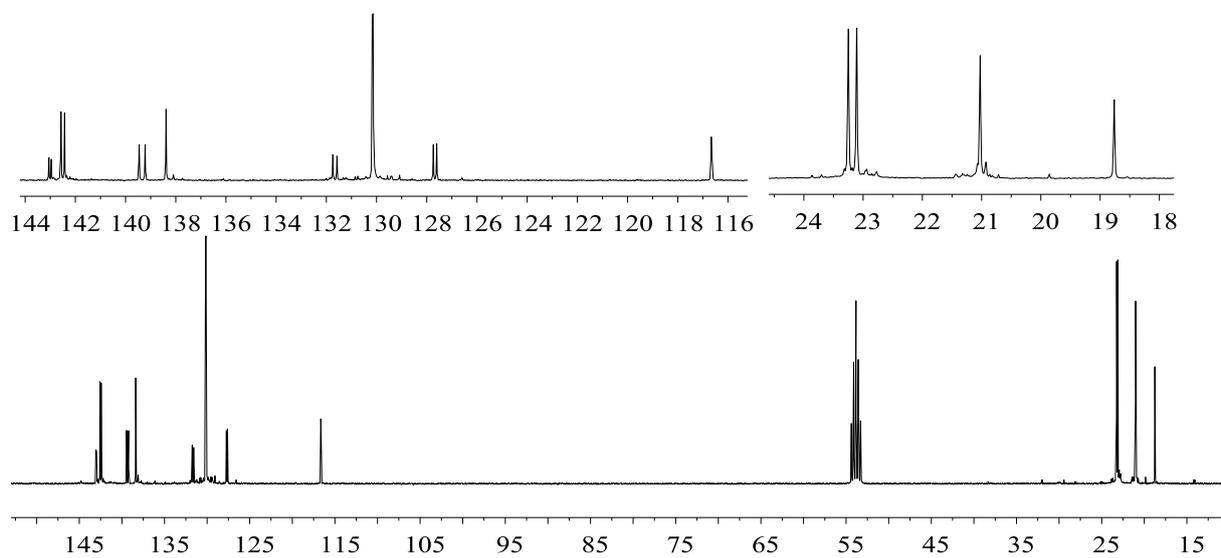


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 143.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 9.6$  Hz, =C), 142.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 14.4$  Hz, *o*-Mes), 139.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 24.1$  Hz, =CH), 138.4 (*p*-Mes), 131.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 16.6$  Hz, *i*-Mes), 130.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 3.4$  Hz, *m*-Mes), 127.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 13.5$  Hz, PCH), 116.6 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}} = 2.3$  Hz, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.2 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 14.2$  Hz, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 21.0 (*p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 18.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

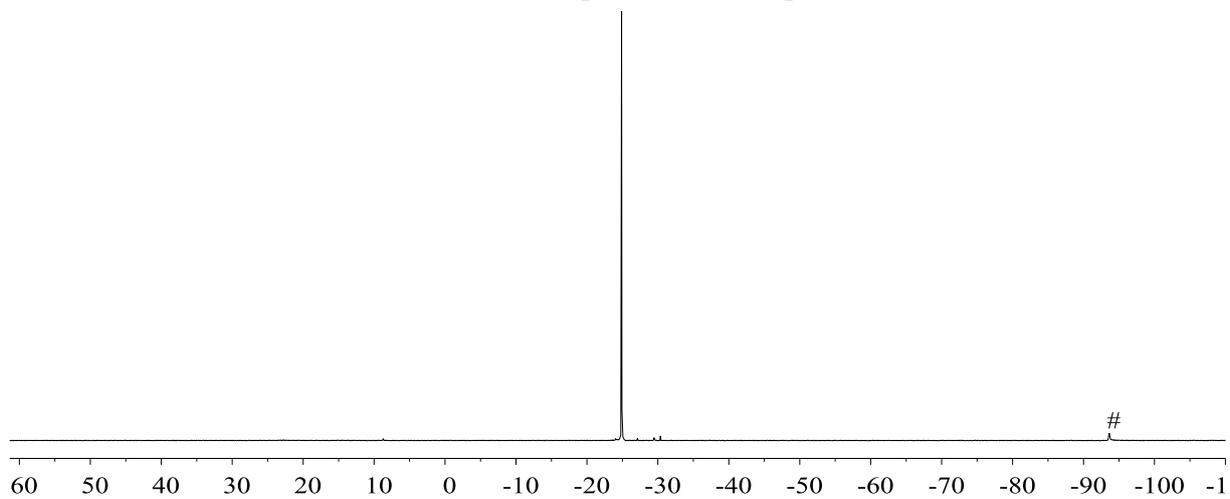
$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (162 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = -24.9 ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 2$  Hz).



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **9a**.

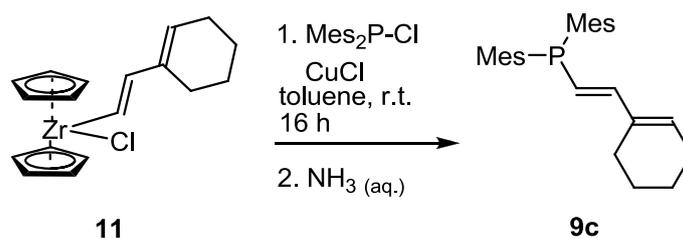


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **9a**.



$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (162 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **9a**. [#  $\text{Mes}_2\text{PH}$ ].

### Synthesis of dimesityldienylphosphane **9c**.

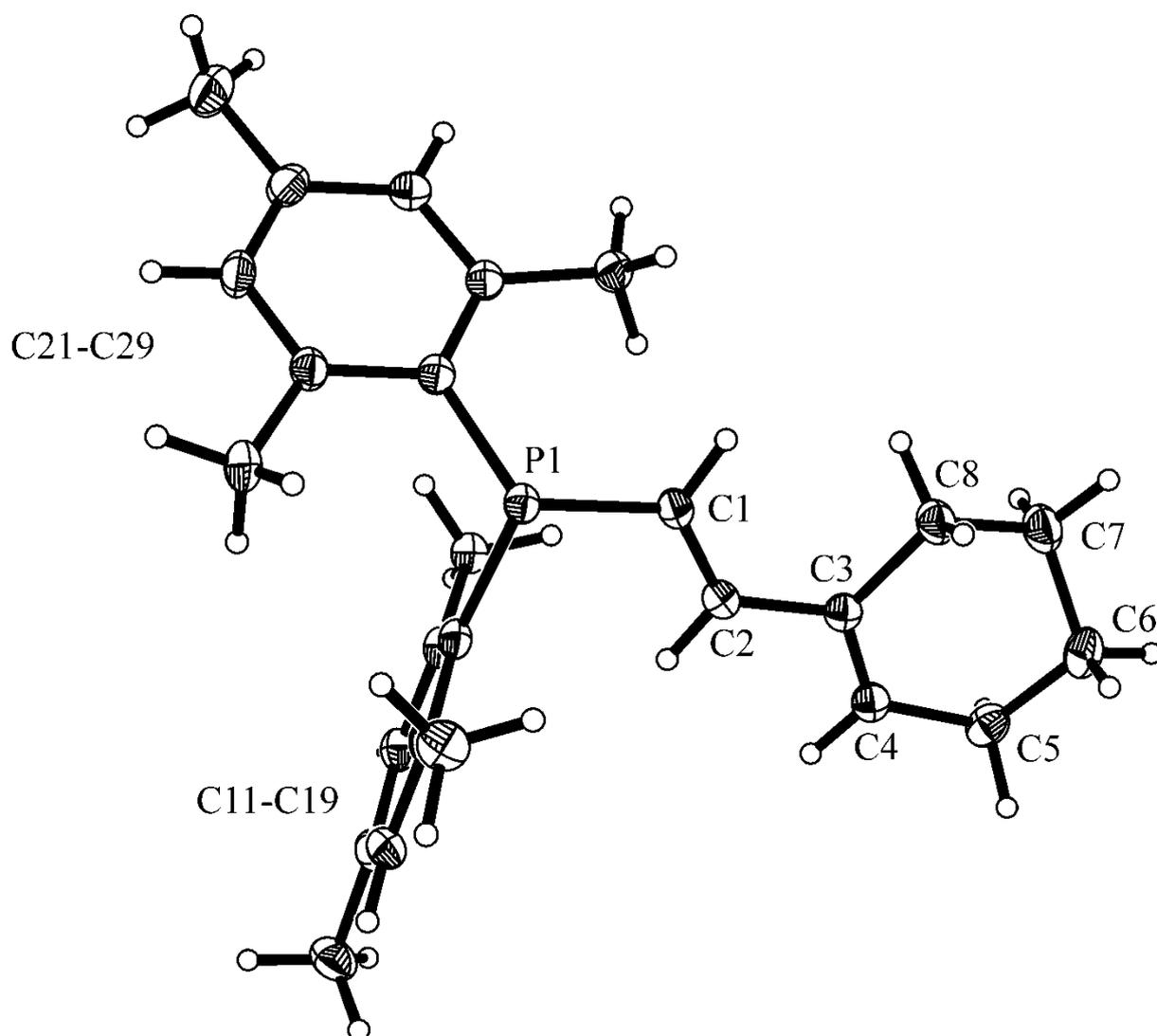


Compound **9c** was synthesized in a similar way as described for compound **9a**, but using Mes<sub>2</sub>P-Cl and CuCl: Mes<sub>2</sub>P-Cl (1.00 g, 3.28 mmol) and CuCl (0.324 g, 3.27 mmol) were added to a solution of compound **11** (1.21 g, 3.32 mmol) in toluene (6 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature, then the volume was reduced *in vacuo* to 1/2 and *n*-pentane (30 mL) was added. The obtained suspension was filtered through a frit filled with Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (2 cm x Ø 2 cm) and washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL). Subsequently concentrated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>OH solution (10 mL) was added to the filtrate (argon atmosphere). The organic phase was separated and dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Finally all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give compound **9c** as a slight yellow oil, which crystallized after several days (0.89 g, 72%). The quality of the obtained crystals was suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis.

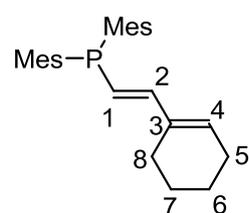
**Elemental analysis** (crystalline material): Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>33</sub>P: C, 82.94; H, 8.83. Found: C, 80.49; H, 8.92.

**X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 9c:** formula C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>33</sub>P, *M* = 376.49, colourless crystal, 0.194 x 0.142 x 0.091 mm, *a* = 12.6725(3), *b* = 10.3622(3), *c* = 16.8729(5) Å, β = 99.970(1)°, *V* = 2182.2(1) Å<sup>3</sup>, ρ<sub>calc</sub> = 1.146 gcm<sup>-3</sup>, μ = 1.144 mm<sup>-1</sup>, empirical absorption correction (0.809 ≤ *T* ≤ 0.903, *Z* = 4, monoclinic, space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c* (No. 14), λ = 1.54178 Å, *T* = 100(2) K, ω and φ scans, 35075 reflections collected (±*h*, ±*k*, ±*l*), 3996 independent (*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.056) and 3471 observed reflections [*I* > 2σ(*I*)], 250 refined parameters, *R* = 0.037, *wR*<sup>2</sup> =

0.099, max. (min.) residual electron density 0.40 (-0.26) e.Å<sup>-3</sup>, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



NMR characterization of a solution of the yellow solid in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:



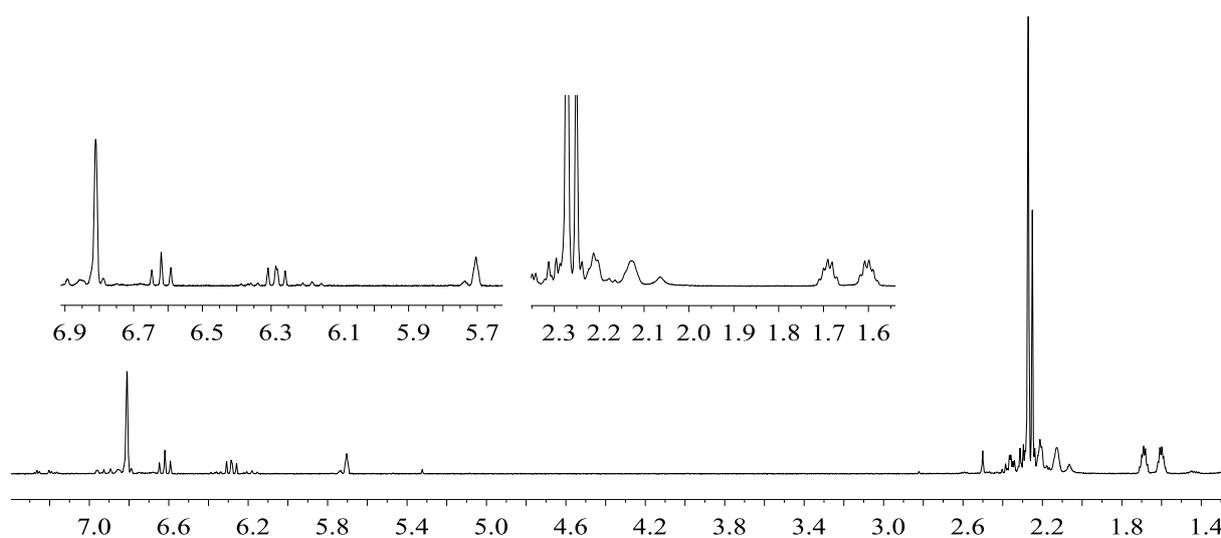
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 6.81 (m, 4H, *m*-Mes), 6.62 (t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH,trans</sub> = <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 16.6 Hz, 1H, PCH), 6.28 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH,trans</sub> = 16.7, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 13.4 Hz, 1H, 2-H), 5.70 (m, 1H, 4-H), 2.27 (s, 12H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 2.25 (s, 6H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 2.21 (m, 2H, 8-H), 2.12 (m, 2H, 5-H), 1.69 (m, 2H, 7-H), 1.60 (m, 2H, 6-H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (151 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 142.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 14.3 Hz, *o*-Mes), 141.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 29.1 Hz, C2), 138.1 (*p*-Mes), 136.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 11.7 Hz, C3), 132.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 16.9 Hz, *i*-

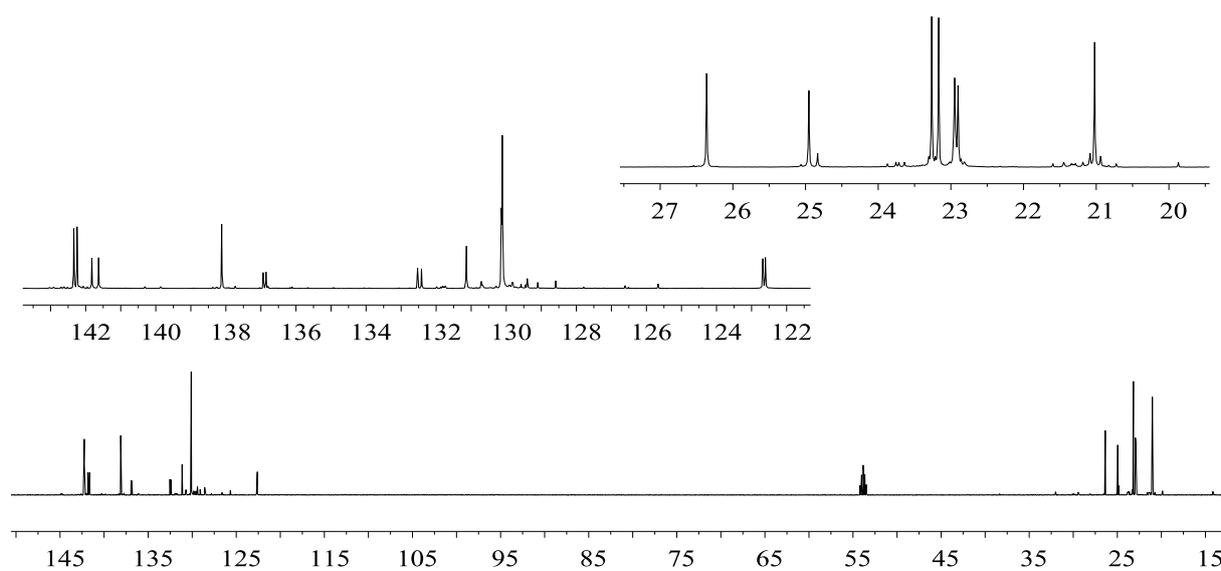
Mes), 131.1 (d,  $^4J_{PC} = 1.6$  Hz, C4), 130.1 (d,  $^3J_{PC} = 3.2$  Hz, *m*-Mes), 122.6 (d,  $^1J_{PC} = 11.1$  Hz, C1), 26.3 (C5), 24.9 (C8), 23.2 (d,  $^3J_{PC} = 14.3$  Hz, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 22.91, 22.86 (C6,7), 21.0 (*p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = -24.3$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 2$  Hz).

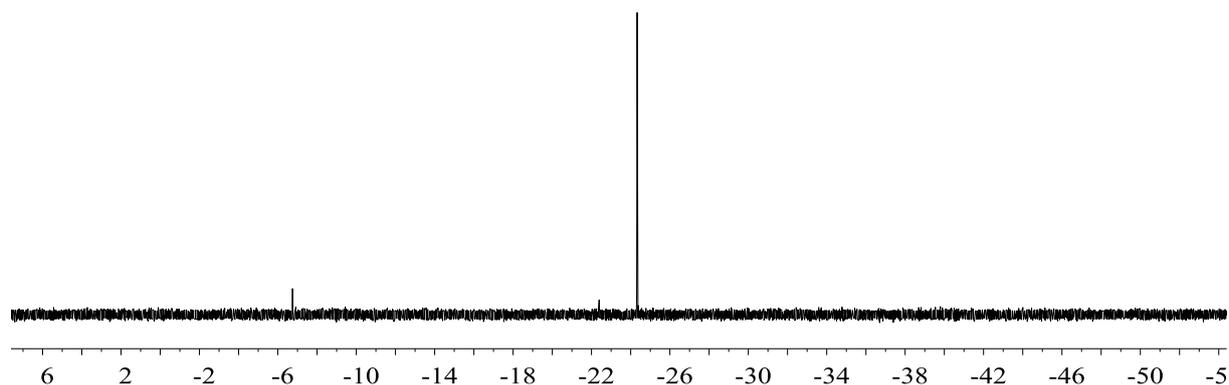
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = -24.3$  (br t,  $J \sim 16$  Hz).



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of compound **9c**.

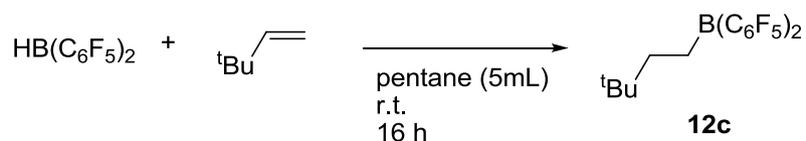


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of compound **9c**.



$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **9c**.

### Synthesis of compound **12c**.

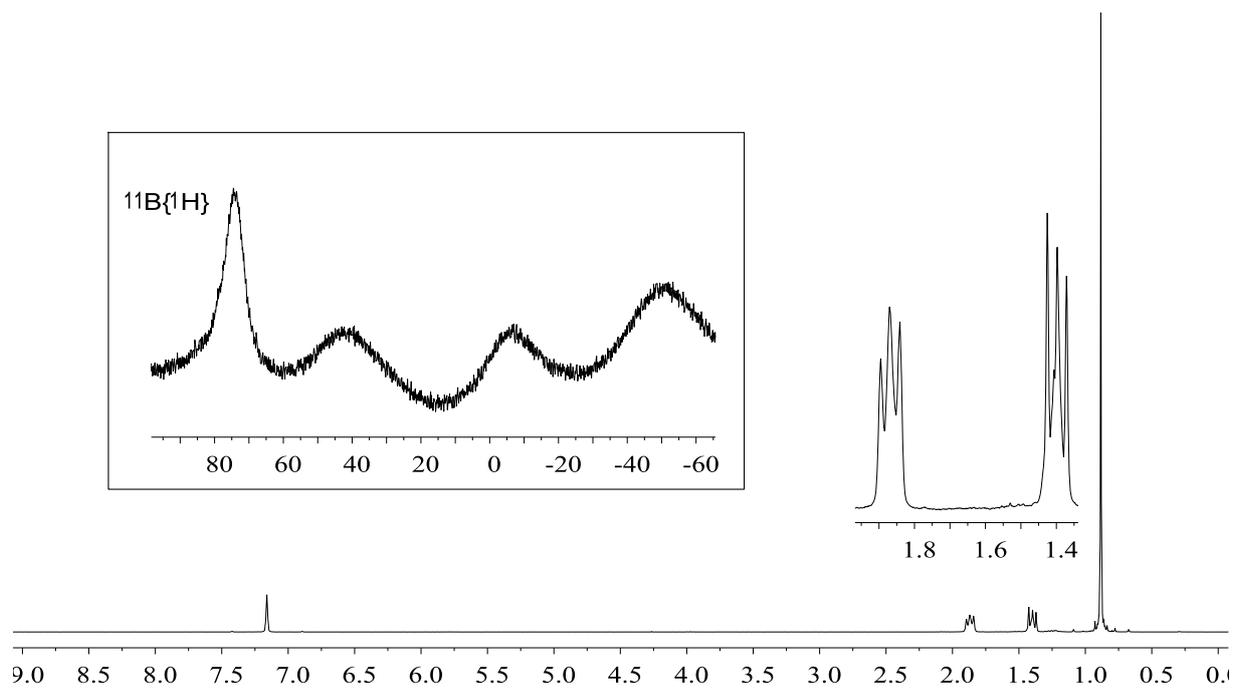


Inside of a glove box a solution of 3,3-dimethylbut-1-ene (127.1 mg, 1.51 mmol) in *n*-pentane (2 mL) was added to a suspension of  $\text{HB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$  (402 mg, 1.16 mmol) in *n*-pentane (3 mL). After 16 h stirring the reaction mixture was filtered and all volatiles of the filtrate were removed *in vacuo* to give a colorless oil (480 mg, 96%).

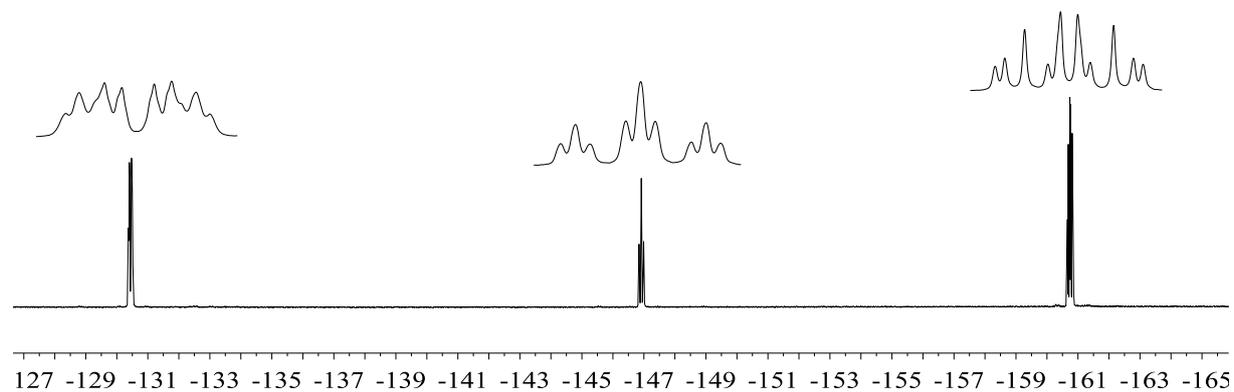
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 1.86, 1.39$  (each m, each 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.87 (s, 9H, tBu).

$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (96 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 73.8$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 700$  Hz).

$^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (282 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = -130.4$  (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), -146.9 (tt,  $J = 20.9, 4.8$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), -160.8 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ).

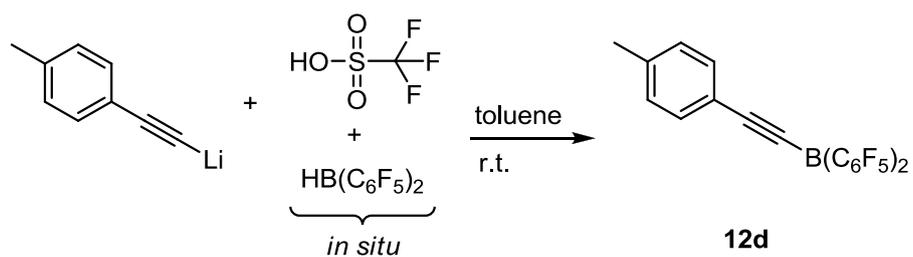


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) and  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (96 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectra of compound **12c**.



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of compound **12c**.

### Synthesis of compound **12d**.



Trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (163.0 mg, 1.09 mmol) and  $\text{HB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$  (375.7 mg, 1.09 mmol) were solved in dry toluene (4 mL). Immediately a gas evolution was observed. After 5 min reaction time a clear yellow solution was obtained. This solution was added to (*p*-tolylethynyl)lithium (132.6 mg, 1.09 mmol) at ambient temperature. The formation of a red brown solution and a white solid were observed. After 2h stirring the reaction mixture was filtered through celite, all volatiles of the filtrate were removed *in vacuo* to give a brown viscous residue which was washed trice with *n*-pentane ( $2 \times 2$  mL). After drying *in vacuo* a grey white powder was obtained (180 mg, 36%).

[*Comment*: Compound **12d** slowly decomposes at room temperature and should be stored in the fridge at  $-30^\circ\text{C}$ ].

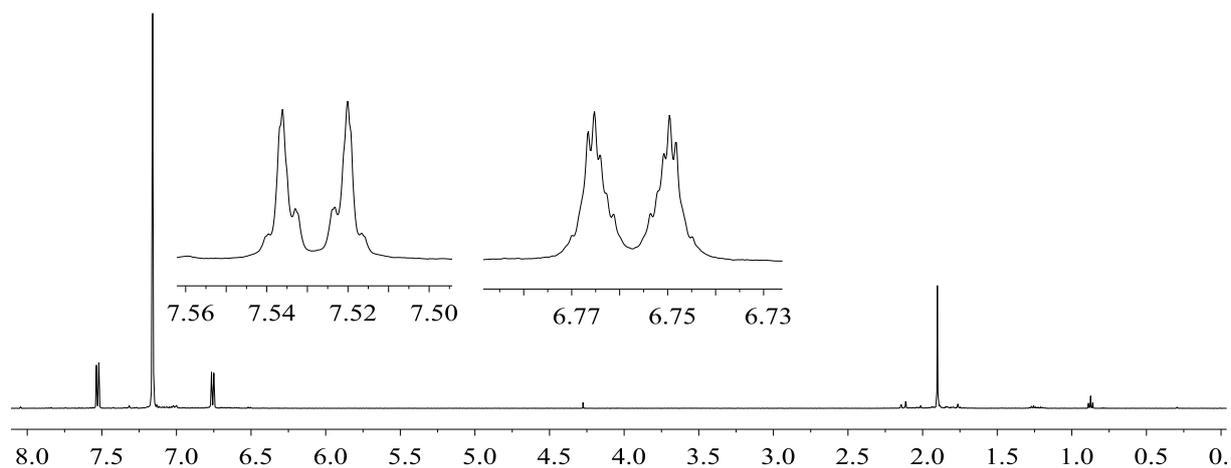
**Elemental analysis**: Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_7\text{BF}_{10}$ : C, 54.82; H, 1.53. Found: C, 54.40; H, 1.54.

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 7.52$  (m, 2H, *o*-Tol), 6.75 (m, 2H, *m*-Tol), 1.89 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

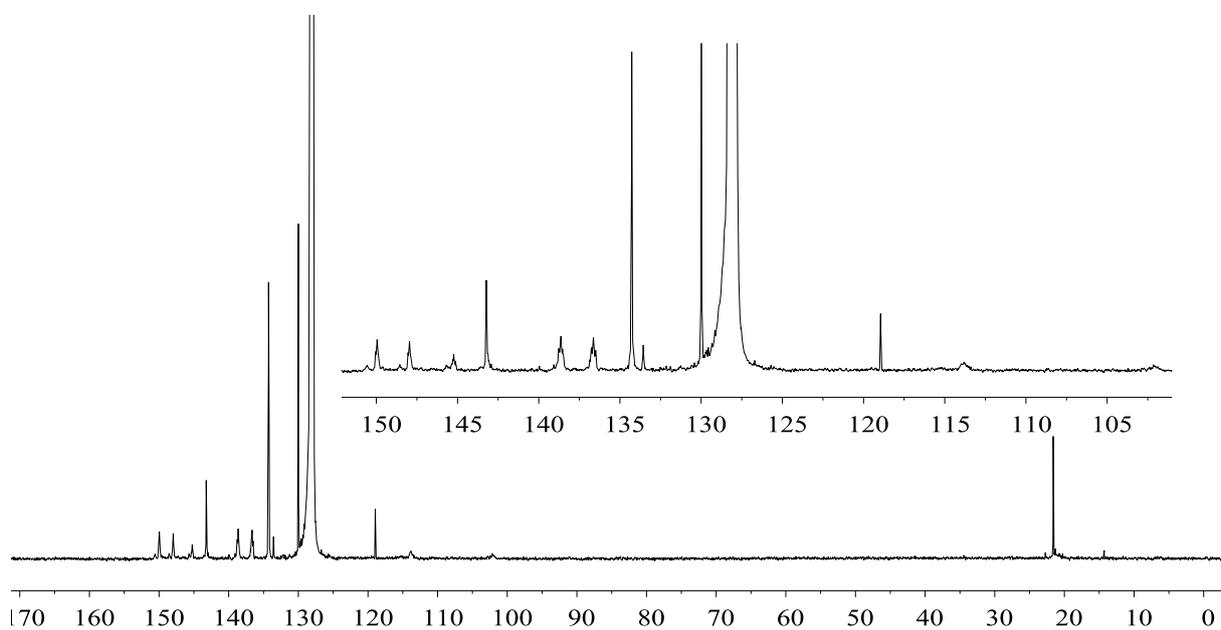
**$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 148.9$  (dm,  $J_{\text{FC}} = 250$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 144.0 (dm,  $J_{\text{FC}} = 259$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 143.2 (*p*-Tol), 137.5 (dm,  $J_{\text{FC}} = 252$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 134.2 (*o*-Tol), 133.5 ( $\equiv\text{C}$ ), 129.9 (*m*-Tol), 118.9 (*i*-Tol), 113.7 (m, *i*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 102.1 (br,  $\equiv\text{CB}$ ), 21.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).

**$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 47.2$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 800$  Hz).

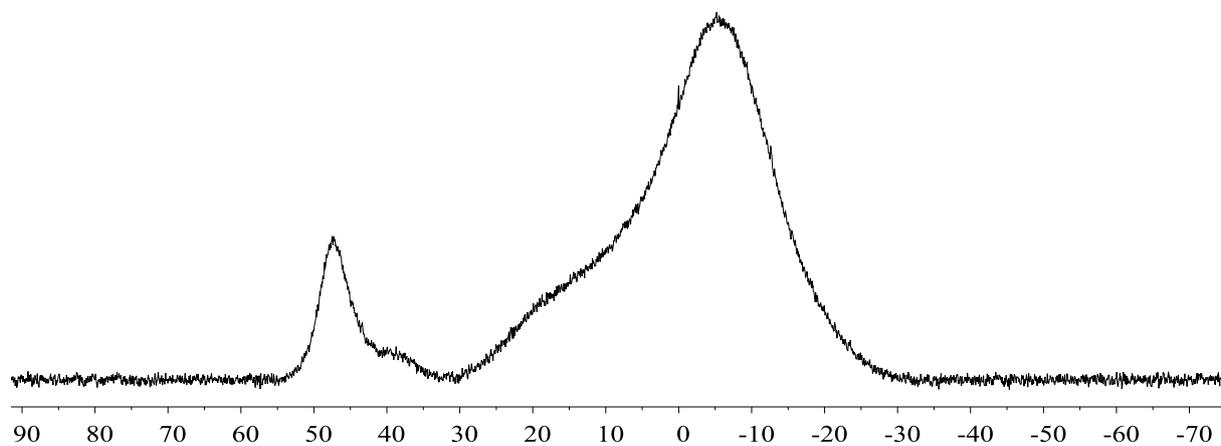
**$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR** (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = -128.8$  (m, 2F, *o*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), -146.3 (tt,  $J = 20.9, 5.8$  Hz, 1F, *p*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), -161.6 (m, 2F, *m*- $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ).



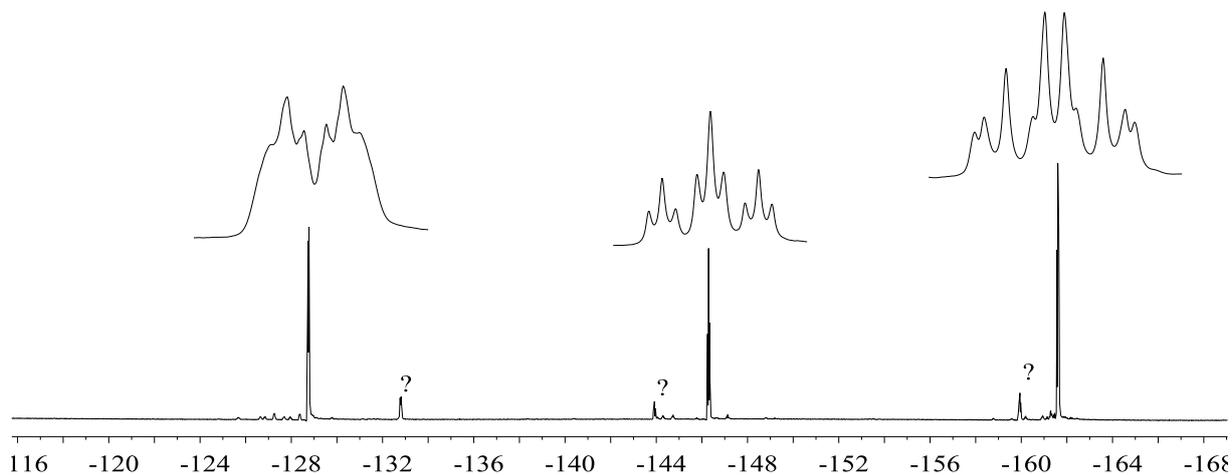
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of compound **12d**.



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of compound **12d**.

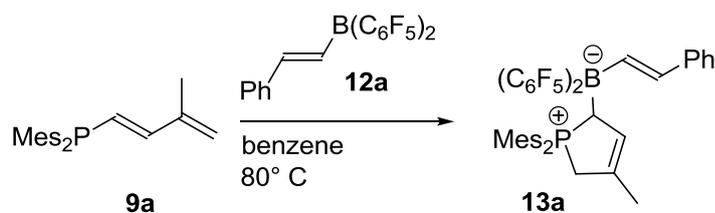


$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of compound **12d**.



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of compound **12d**. [? not identified].

### Synthesis of compound **13a**.

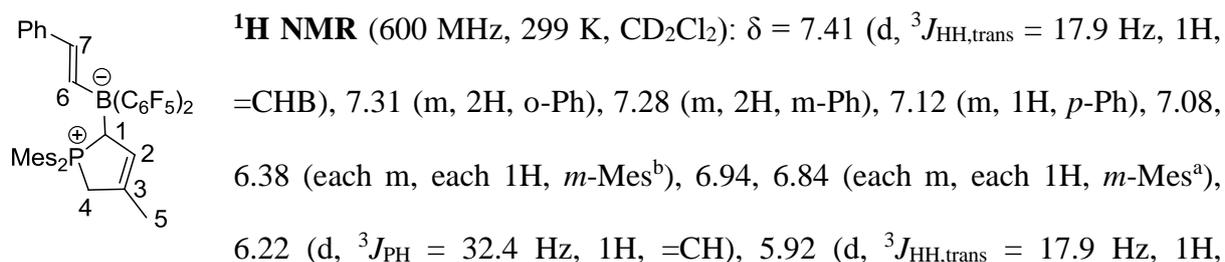


(*E*)-Styryl-bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **12a** (133.2 mg, 0.297 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (100 mg, 0.297 mmol) were dissolved in benzene (0.7 mL) and then heated for 3 days at 80 °C. The formed precipitate was collected, washed with *n*-pentane ( $3 \times 1$  mL) and dried *in vacuo* to give a colorless solid (167 mg, 72%).

**HRMS** (MicroTof):  $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{36}\text{BF}_{10}\text{PNa}^+$ ): Calcd.: 807.2386, Found: 807.2388.

**Elemental analysis**: Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{36}\text{BF}_{10}\text{P}$ : C, 65.83; H, 4.63. Found: C, 66.38; H, 4.77.

NMR characterization of a solution of the colorless solid in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :



=CHPh), 4.95 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 15.5$  Hz, 1H, BCH), 3.51 (br d,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 15.8$  Hz), 2.64 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 15.8$ ,  $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 11.5$  Hz)(each 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.91, 1.97 (each s, each 3H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 2.81, 1.78 (each s, each 3H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 2.27 (s, 3H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 2.24 (s, 3H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 1.63 (s, 3H, Me).

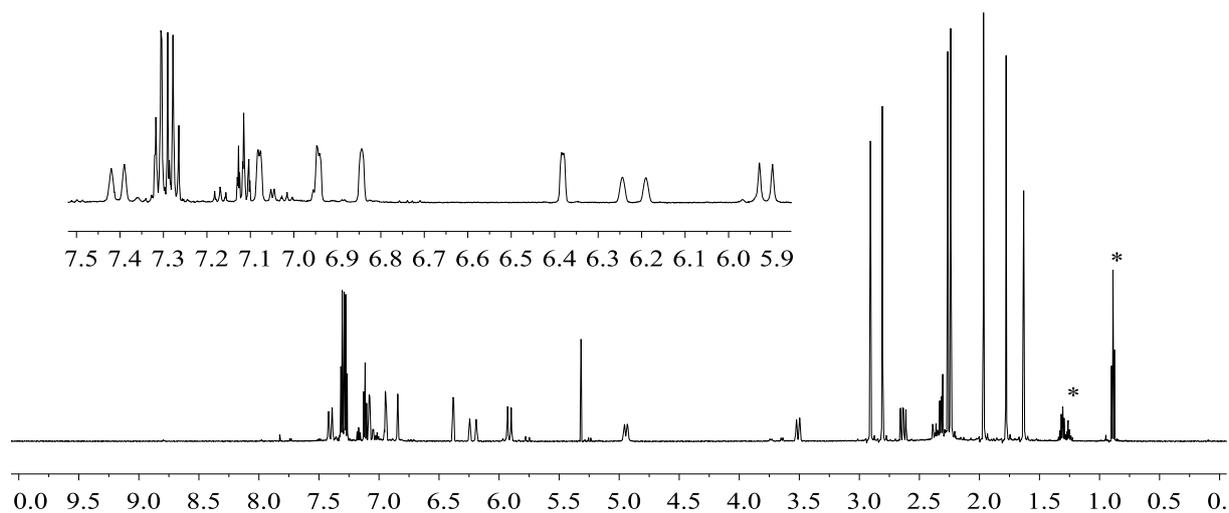
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (151 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = 143.9$  (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}} = 2.9$  Hz, *p*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 143.2 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 9.0$  Hz), 141.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 9.5$  Hz)(*o*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 143.1 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}} = 2.7$  Hz, *p*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 142.4 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.8$  Hz), 142.0 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.5$  Hz)(*o*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 141.8 (*i*-Ph), 141.5 (br, =CHB), 138.6 (dm,  $J_{\text{FC}} = 248$  Hz, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 133.9 (=CHPh), 133.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.7$  Hz, *m*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 132.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.2$  Hz), 130.9 (dm,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.7$  Hz)(*m*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 131.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 12.7$  Hz, =C), 131.4 (br, =CH), 128.8 (*m*-Ph), 125.9 (*p*-Ph), 125.7 (*o*-Ph), 122.4 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 69.8$  Hz, *i*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 119.1 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 68.0$  Hz, *i*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 41.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 52.8$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.6 (br, BCH), 25.3 (br d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 2.7$  Hz), 22.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 8.1$  Hz)(*o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 23.9, 22.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 6.7$  Hz)(*o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 20.9 (m, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 20.8 (*p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 19.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.3$  Hz, Me), [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> not listed].

**<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (192 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = -11.5$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 60$  Hz).

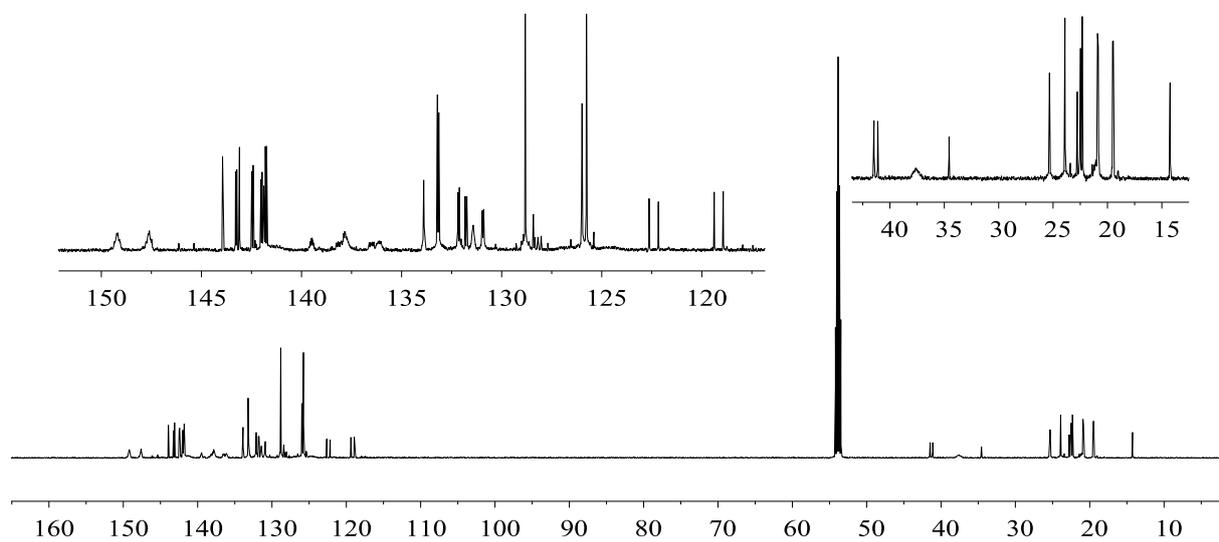
**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (564 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = -130.1$ ,  $-132.6$  (each br, each 2F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>),  $-162.9$ ,  $-163.5$  (each t,  $J_{\text{FC}} = 20.3$  Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>),  $-166.4$ ,  $-166.5$  (each br, each 2F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (470 MHz, 193 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = -125.0$ ,  $-130.7$ ,  $-132.9$ ,  $-136.4$  (each m, each 1F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>),  $-162.1$ ,  $-162.8$  (each br t,  $J_{\text{FF}} \sim 21$  Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>),  $-165.2$ ,  $-165.3$ ,  $-166.1$ ,  $-166.5$  (each m, each 1F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

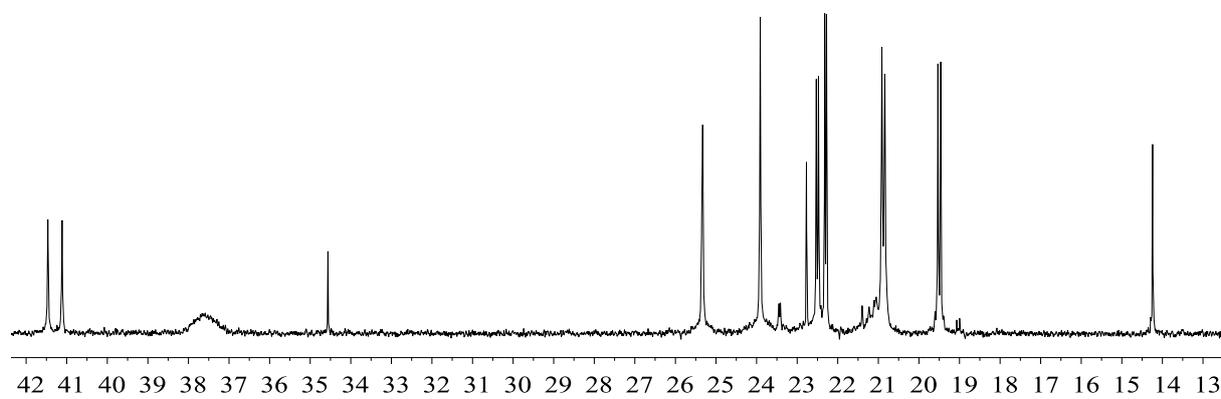
**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = 48.3$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 8$  Hz).



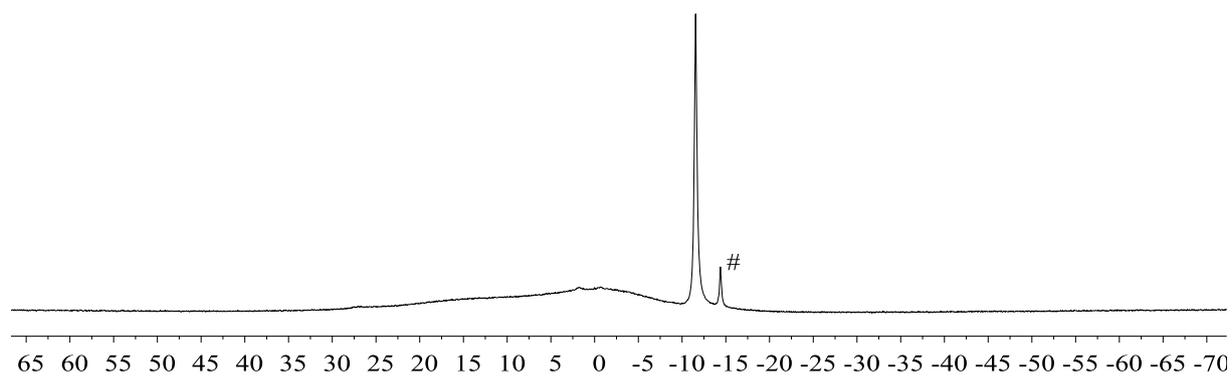
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**. [\* *n*-pentane].



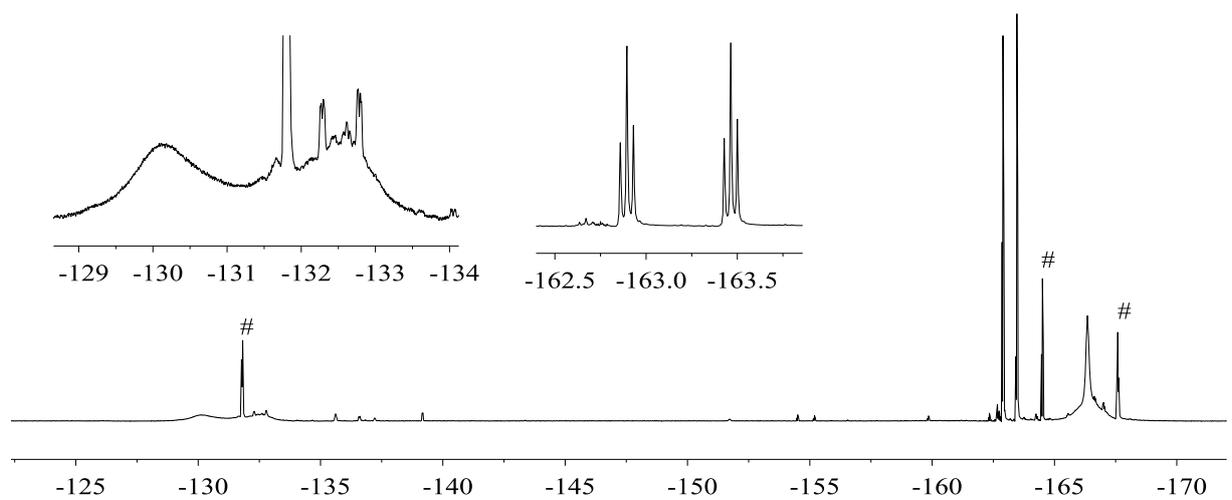
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**.



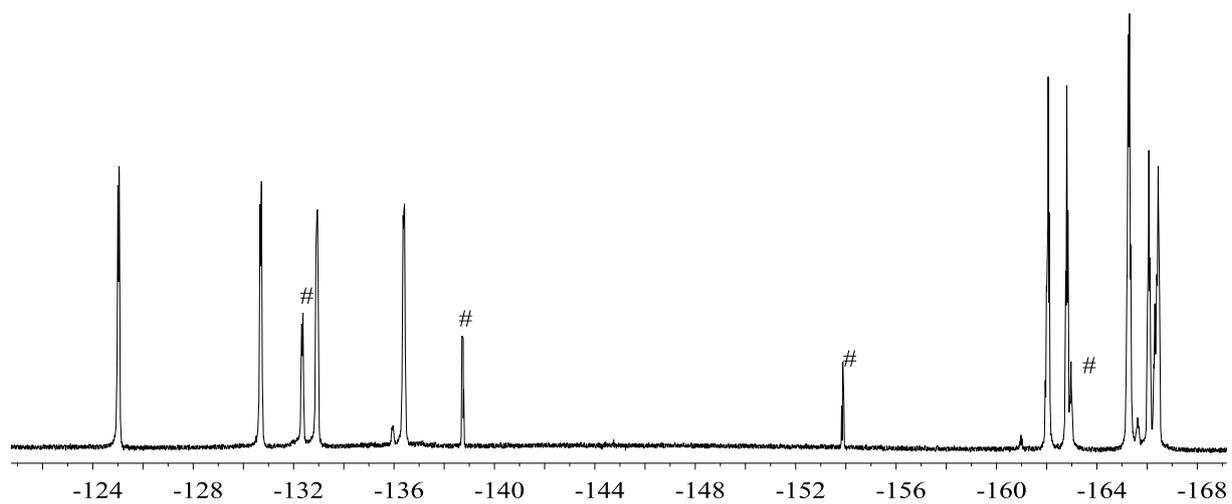
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**.



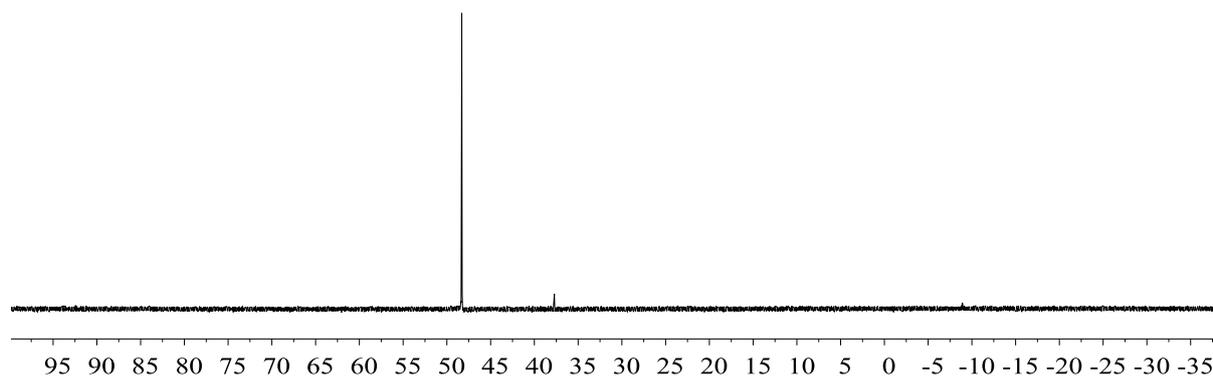
$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (192 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**. [# not identified].



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**. [# not identified].



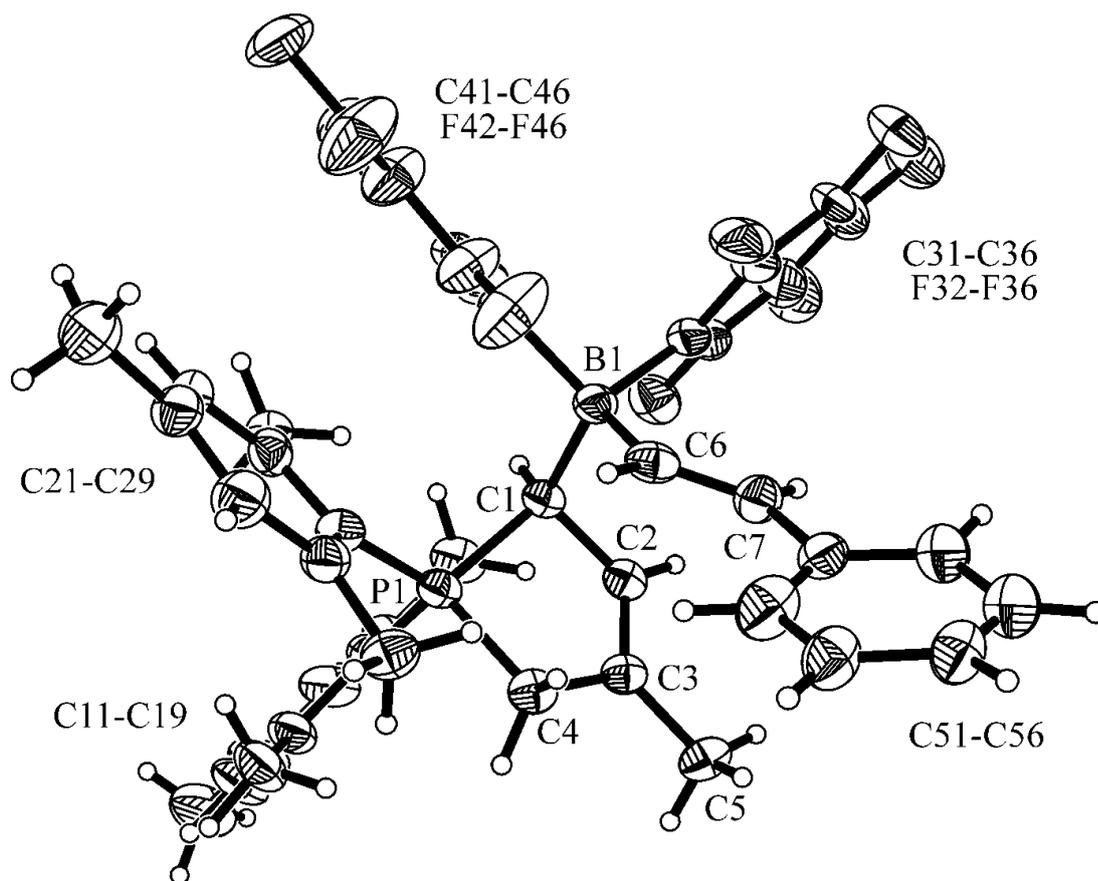
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz, 193 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**. [# not identified].



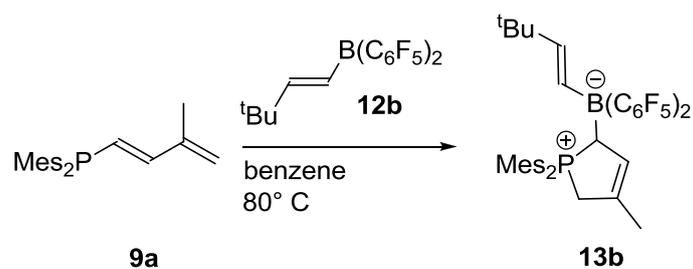
$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13a**.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane to a saturated solution of compound **13a** in toluene and 1 drop  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

**X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 13a:** formula  $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{36}\text{BF}_{10}\text{P}$ ,  $M = 784.50$ , colourless crystal,  $0.15 \times 0.12 \times 0.05$  mm,  $a = 11.2806(4)$ ,  $b = 12.2184(4)$ ,  $c = 17.1300(8)$  Å,  $\alpha = 75.251(1)$ ,  $\beta = 78.781(1)$ ,  $\gamma = 88.548(3)^\circ$ ,  $V = 2238.9(2)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.164$  gcm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 0.129$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, empirical absorption correction ( $0.980 \leq T \leq 0.993$ ),  $Z = 2$ , triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$  (No. 2),  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $T = 223(2)$  K,  $\omega$  and  $\varphi$  scans, 17590 reflections collected ( $\pm h, \pm k, \pm l$ ), 7575 independent ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.080$ ) and 4121 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 634 refined parameters,  $R = 0.101$ ,  $wR^2 = 0.312$ , max. (min.) residual electron density 0.38 (-0.34) e.Å<sup>-3</sup>, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.

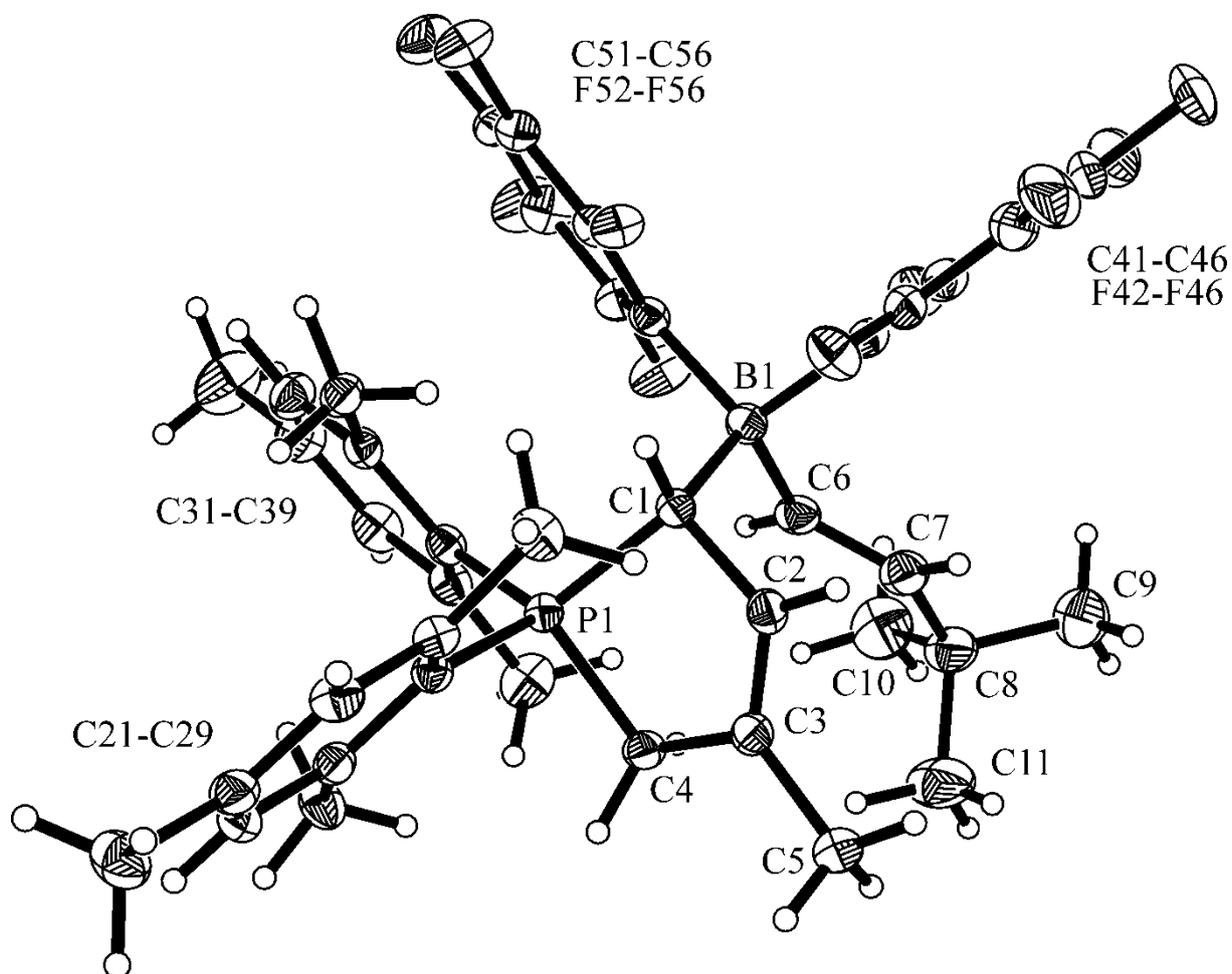


### Synthesis of compound 13b.



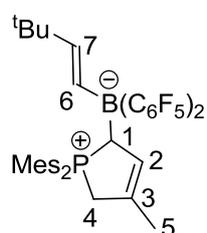
*1<sup>st</sup> Experiment (X-ray crystal structure analysis):* (*E*)-(3,3-dimethylbut-1-enyl)bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **12b** (80 mg, 0.187 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (62.9 mg, 0.187 mmol) were dissolved in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.7 mL) and heated in a sealed NMR tube for 1 day at 80 °C. Subsequently the reaction mixture was characterized by NMR experiments. After 2 weeks colorless crystals were obtained inside the NMR tube, which were suitable for the X-ray crystal structure analysis.

**X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 13b:** formula  $C_{41}H_{40}BF_{10}P \cdot C_6H_6$ ,  $M = 842.62$ , colourless crystal,  $0.253 \times 0.128 \times 0.072$  mm,  $a = 11.2089(2)$ ,  $b = 30.0074(6)$ ,  $c = 12.2976(2)$  Å,  $\beta = 95.073(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 4120.1(1)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.358$  gcm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 1.277$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, empirical absorption correction ( $0.738 \leq T \leq 0.914$ ,  $Z = 4$ , monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/n$  (No. 14),  $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å,  $T = 100(2)$  K,  $\omega$  and  $\phi$  scans, 71754 reflections collected ( $\pm h, \pm k, \pm l$ ), 7294 independent ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.052$ ) and 6053 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 542 refined parameters,  $R = 0.038$ ,  $wR^2 = 0.101$ , max. (min.) residual electron density 0.49 (-0.25) e.Å<sup>-3</sup>, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



*2<sup>nd</sup> Experiment (NMR scale):* (*E*)-(3,3-dimethylbut-1-enyl)bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **12b** (63.6 mg, 0.149 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (50 mg, 0.149 mmol) were dissolved in  $CD_2Cl_2$  (0.7 mL) and heated in a sealed NMR tube for 1d at 60 °C. Then the NMR tube was opened,

the reaction solution was refilled in a vial and *n*-pentane (3 mL) was added. The formed precipitate was collected by filtration and dried *in vacuo* to give a colorless powder (57 mg, 50%).



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.01, 6.37 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 6.94, 6.86 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 6.31 (dm,  $^3J_{\text{HH,trans}}$  = 17.6 Hz, 1H, =CHB), 6.18 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PH}}$  = 32.3 Hz, 1H, =CH), 4.90 (d,  $^3J_{\text{HH,trans}}$  = 17.6 Hz, 1H, =CH<sup>t</sup>Bu), 4.81 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H, BCH), 3.88 (dm,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.88, 1.74 (each s, each 3H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 2.87, 1.98 (each s, each 3H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 2.75 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  = 15.6 Hz,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  = 11.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.25 (d,  $J$  = 0.8 Hz, 3H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 2.23 (s, 3H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 1.76 (m, 3H, Me), 0.94 (s, 9H, <sup>t</sup>Bu).

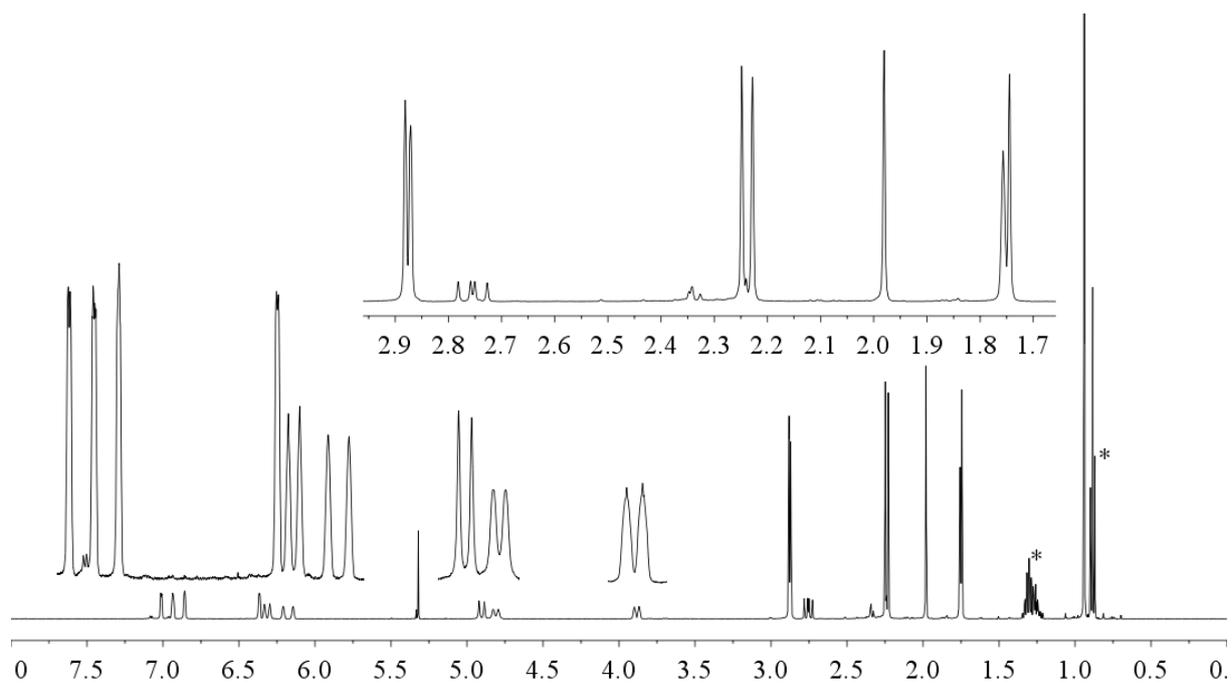
**$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 145.5 (=CH<sup>t</sup>Bu), 143.7 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}}$  = 2.9 Hz, *p*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 143.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 9.0 Hz), 141.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 9.2 Hz)(*o*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 142.9 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}}$  = 2.8 Hz, *p*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 142.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 10.8 Hz), 141.9 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 8.5 Hz)(*o*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 133.14 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 9.9 Hz), 133.05 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 11.3 Hz)(*m*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 132.4 (m, =CH), 131.8 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 11.1 Hz), 130.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 10.5 Hz)(*m*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 130.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}}$  = 12.8 Hz, =C), 122.9 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}}$  = 69.8 Hz, *i*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 119.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}}$  = 67.1 Hz, *i*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 41.4 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}}$  = 52.1 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.8 (br, BCH), 33.9 (<sup>t</sup>Bu), 30.1 (<sup>t</sup>Bu), 25.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 2.9 Hz), 22.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 8.0 Hz)(*o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 23.7 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 1.4 Hz), 22.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 6.5 Hz)(*o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 20.9 (d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}}$  = 1.4 Hz, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,a</sup>), 20.8 (br, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes,b</sup>), 19.6 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}}$  = 10.1 Hz, Me), n.o. (=CB), [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> not listed].

**$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = -11.3 ( $\nu_{1/2}$  ~ 70 Hz).

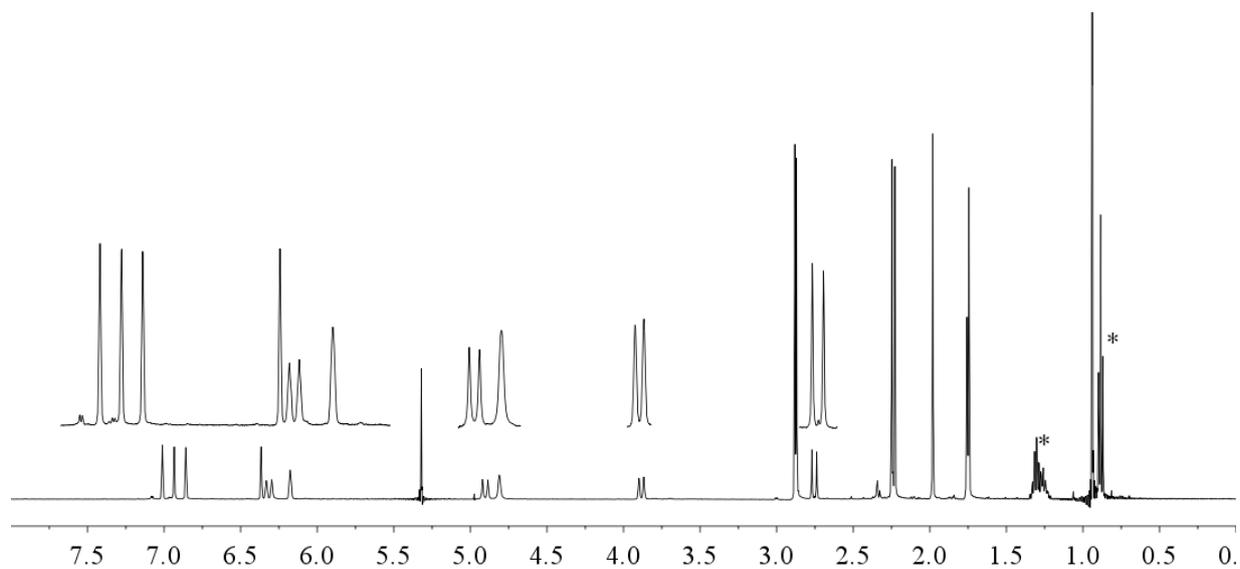
**$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR** (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = -124.0, -129.4, -132.6, -137.3 (each br, each 1F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -163.7, -164.0 (each t,  $^3J_{\text{FF}}$  = 20.2 Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -166.1 (1F), -167.1 (3F)(each br, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

**$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 49.3 ( $\nu_{1/2}$  ~ 5 Hz).

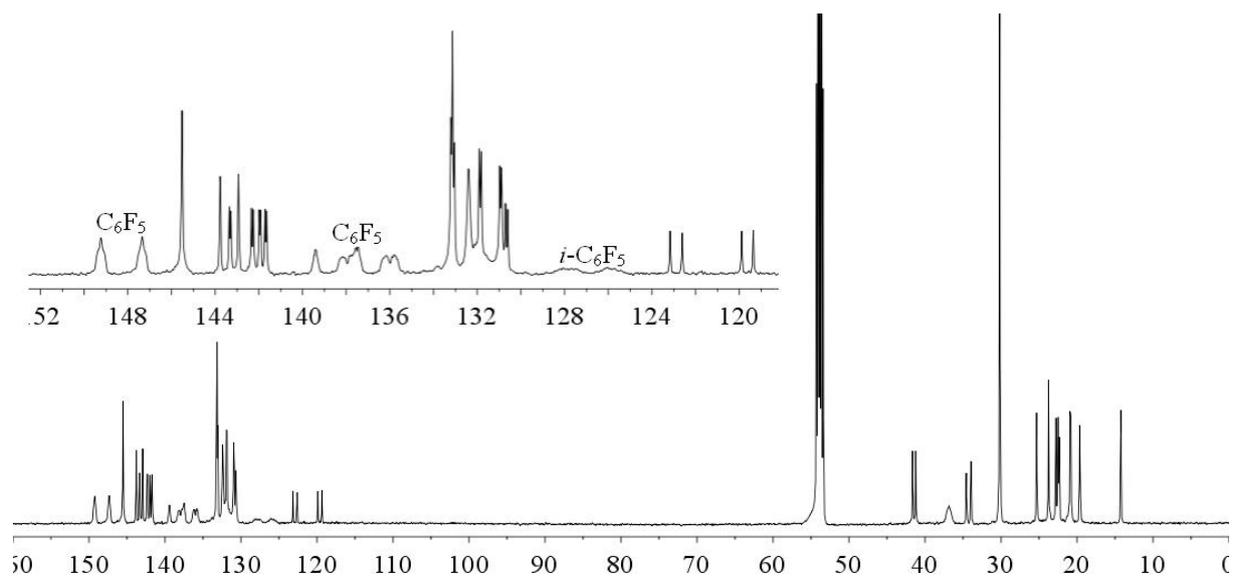
**HRMS** (MicroTof): M+Na<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>40</sub>BF<sub>10</sub>PNa<sup>+</sup>): Calcd.: 787.27002, Found: 787.27027.



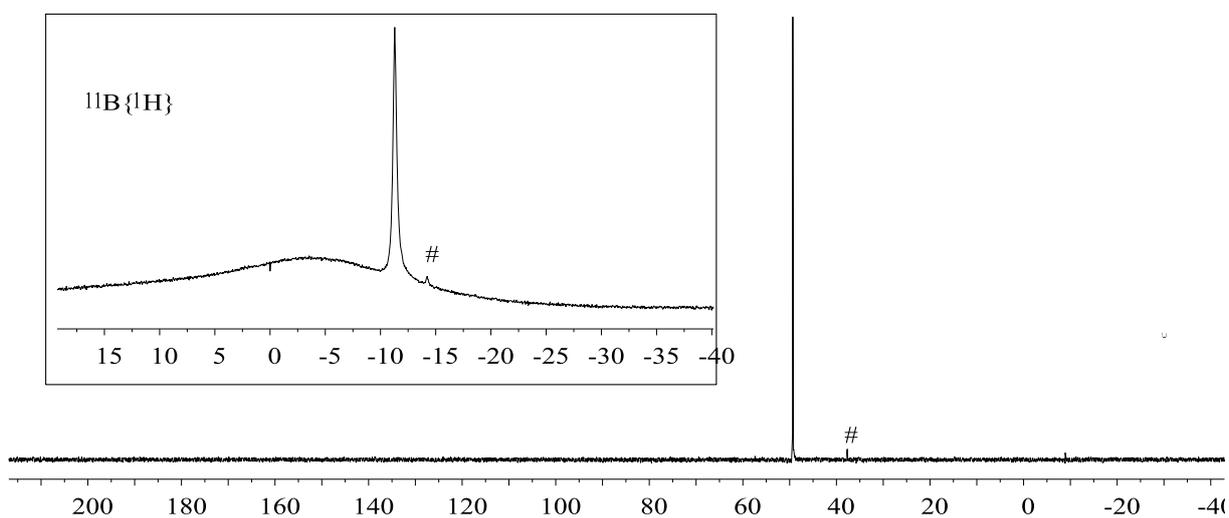
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13b**. [\* *n*-pentane].



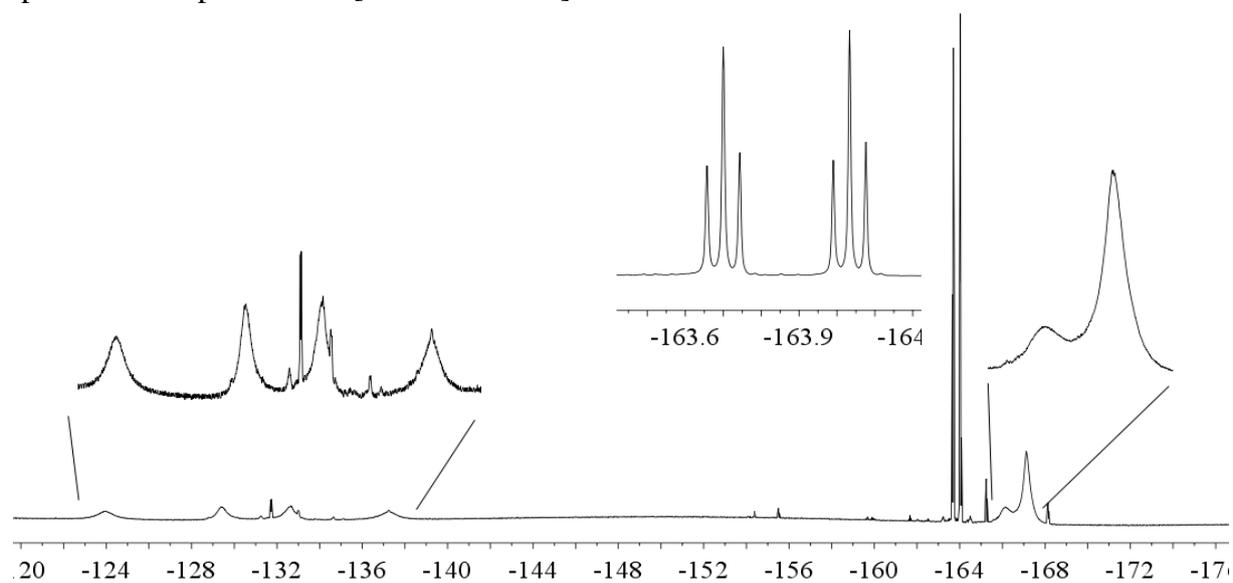
$^1\text{H}\{^{31}\text{P}\}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13b**. [\* *n*-pentane].



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of compound **13b**.



$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectra of compound **13b**. [# not identified].



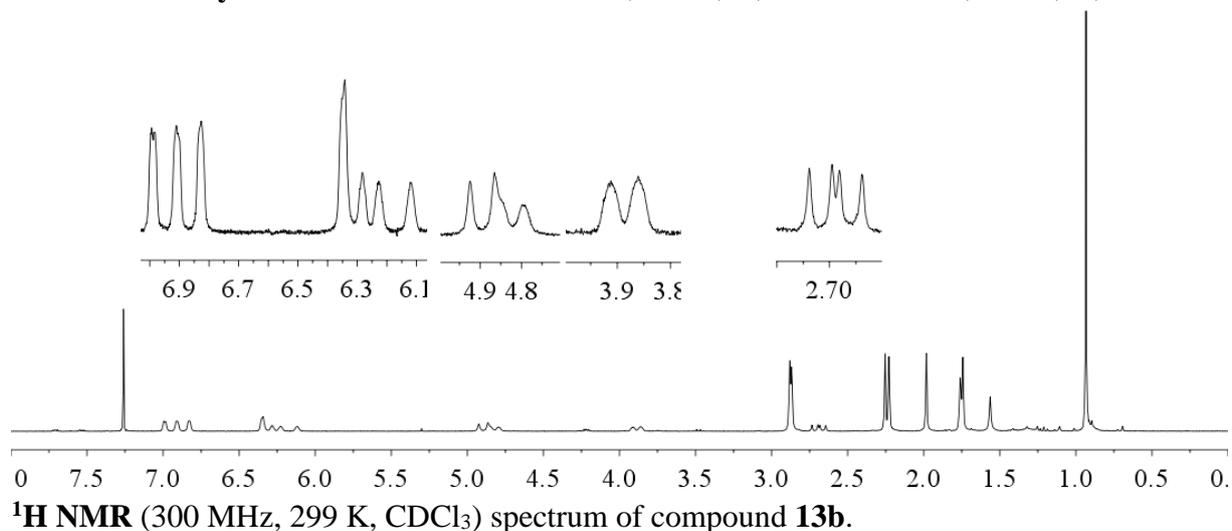
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13b**.

3<sup>rd</sup> Experiment (preparative scale): (*E*)-(3,3-dimethylbut-1-enyl)bis(pentafluorophenyl)-borane **12b** (392 mg, 0.916 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (308.1 mg, 0.916 mmol) were suspended in benzene (2 mL) and heated for 3.5 days at 80 °C. Then, at ambient temperature, *n*-pentane (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. Subsequently the colorless precipitate was collected on a frit (on air), washed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo* (439 mg, 62%). The obtained NMR data were consistent to those listed above (2<sup>nd</sup> Experiment).

4<sup>th</sup> Experiment: (*E*)-(3,3-dimethylbut-1-enyl)bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **12b** (63.6 mg, 0.149 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (50 mg, 0.149 mmol) were dissolved in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.7 mL) and irradiated with UV-light in a sealed NMR tube for 8 h. Then the NMR tube was opened and the obtained colorless crystals were washed with *n*-pentane (2 mL) and dried *in vacuo* (41.6 mg, 37%).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (300 MHz, 299 K, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 6.99, 6.91, 6.83, 6.35 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes), 6.31 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH,trans</sub> = 17.8 Hz, 1H, =CHB), 6.17 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 32.2 Hz, 1H, =CH), 4.90 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 17.8 Hz, 1H, =CH<sup>t</sup>Bu), 4.82 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 16.1 Hz, BCH), 3.89 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 15.4 Hz), 2.69 (dd, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 15.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 11.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.88, 2.87, 2.25, 2.23, 1.98, 1.74 (each s, each 3H, CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 1.76 (s, 3H, Me),.

**Elemental analysis:** Calcd. for C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>40</sub>BF<sub>10</sub>P: C, 64.41; H, 5.27. Found: C, 65.84; H, 5.35.





(each s, each 3H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 1.73 (s, 3H, Me), 1.35, 0.95, 0.33, 0.29 (each m, each 1H, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 0.69 (s, 9H, <sup>t</sup>Bu), [<sup>t</sup> tentatively assigned].

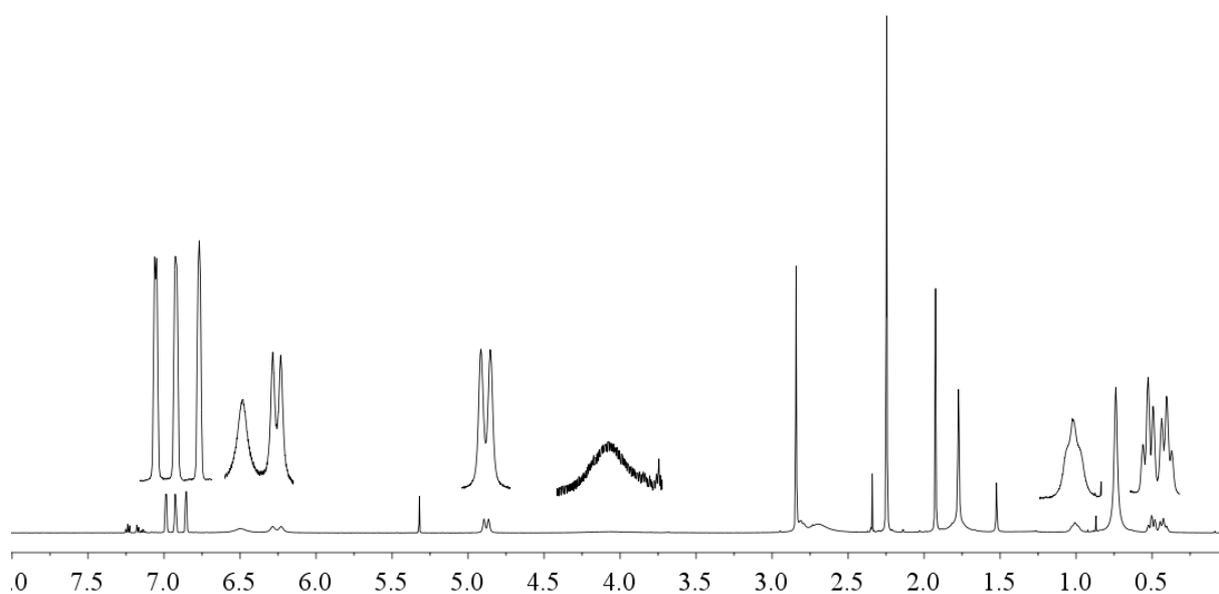
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (151 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 143.9 (br d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 142.8 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 2.8 Hz)(*p*-Mes), 143.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 9.0 Hz), 142.5 (br), 142.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 8.5 Hz), 141.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 9.3 Hz)(*o*-Mes), 134.2 (br, =CH), 133.4 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 10.1 Hz), 133.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 11.5 Hz), 131.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 11.1 Hz), 131.2 (br)(*m*-Mes), 129.1 (br, =C), 123.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 71.1 Hz), 119.7 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 66.8 Hz)(*i*-Mes), 43.4, 17.6 (br, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 41.5 (br, CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.8 (br, BCH), 31.0 (<sup>t</sup>Bu), 29.6 (<sup>t</sup>Bu), 25.2 (br), 23.7 (br), 22.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 8.1 Hz), 22.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 20.97 (m), 20.85 (m)(CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 19.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 10.2 Hz, Me). [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub> not listed].

**<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (192 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -9.6 (ν<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 100 Hz).

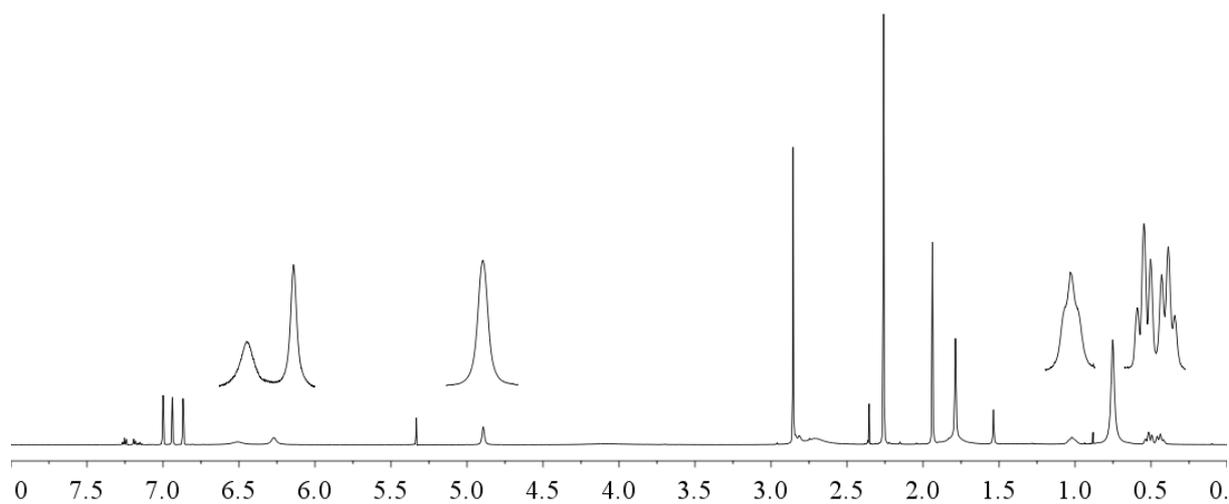
**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (564 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -128.2, -131.4, -131.9, -137.1 (each br, each 1F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -163.6 (br), -164.0 (t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>FF</sub> = 20.3 Hz)(each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -167.2 (br, 4F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (470 MHz, 193 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -128.2, -132.2, -132.6, -137.1 (each m, each 1F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -162.9, -163.3 (each t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>FF</sub> = 21.0 Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -165.67, -165.72, -166.0, -166.7 (each br m, each 1F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

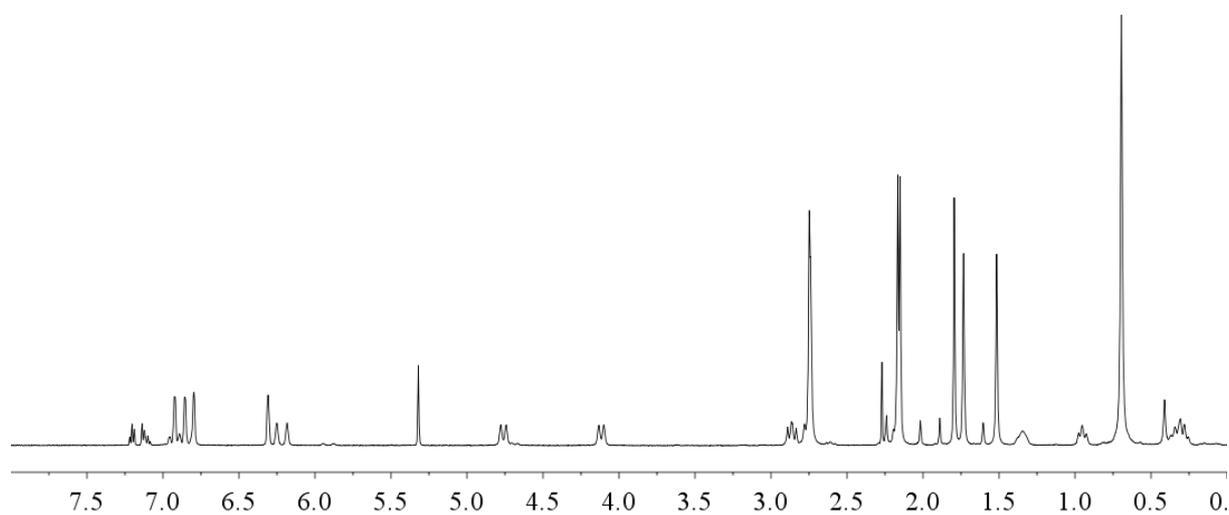
**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 49.1 (ν<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 90 Hz).



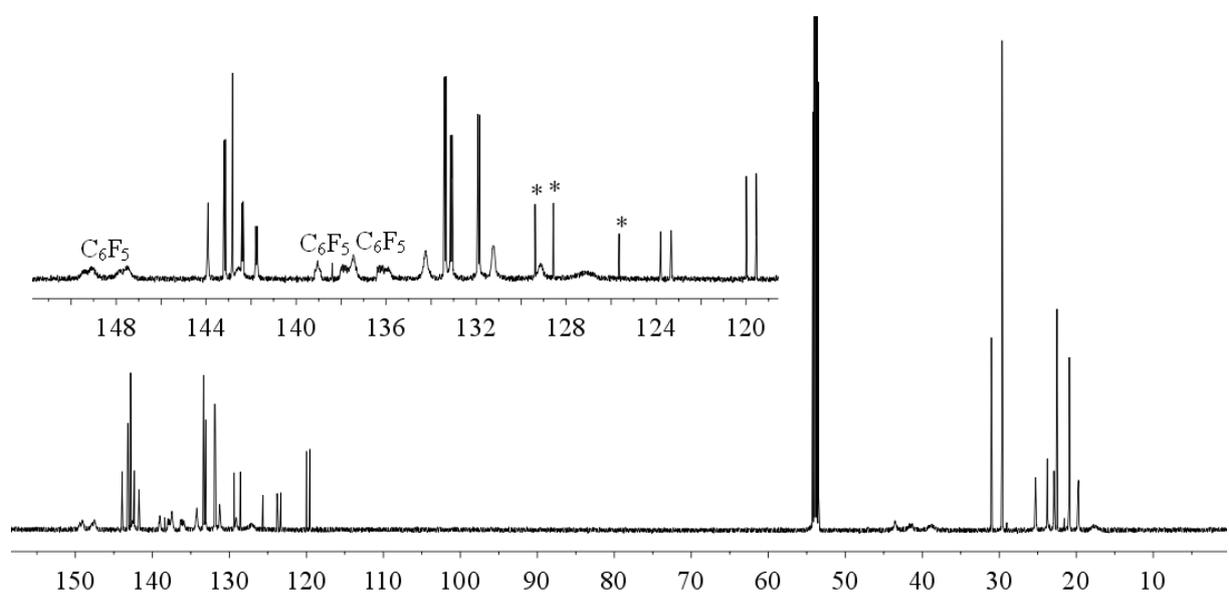
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (600 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of compound **13c**.



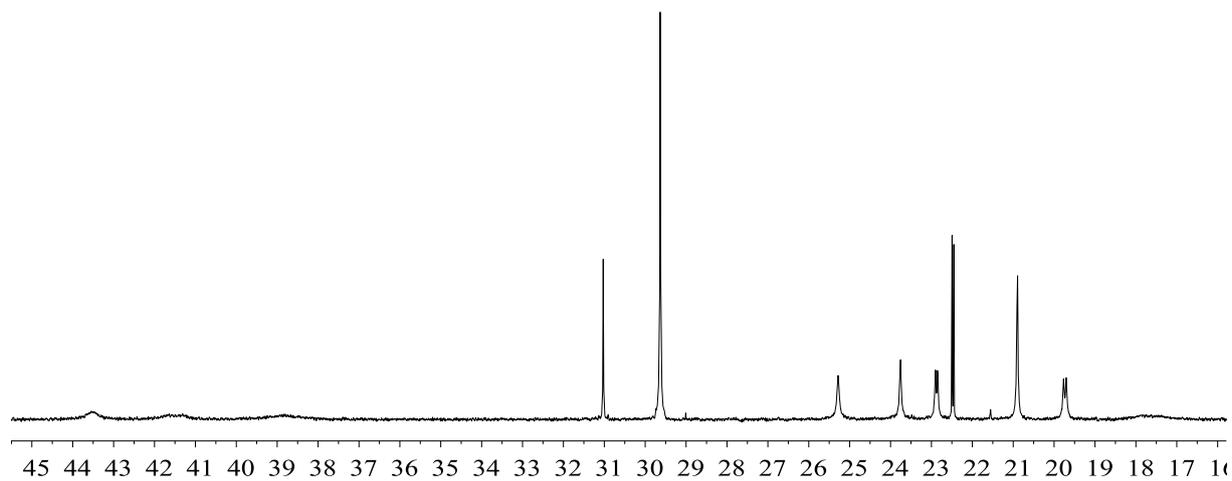
$^1\text{H}\{^{31}\text{P}\}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.



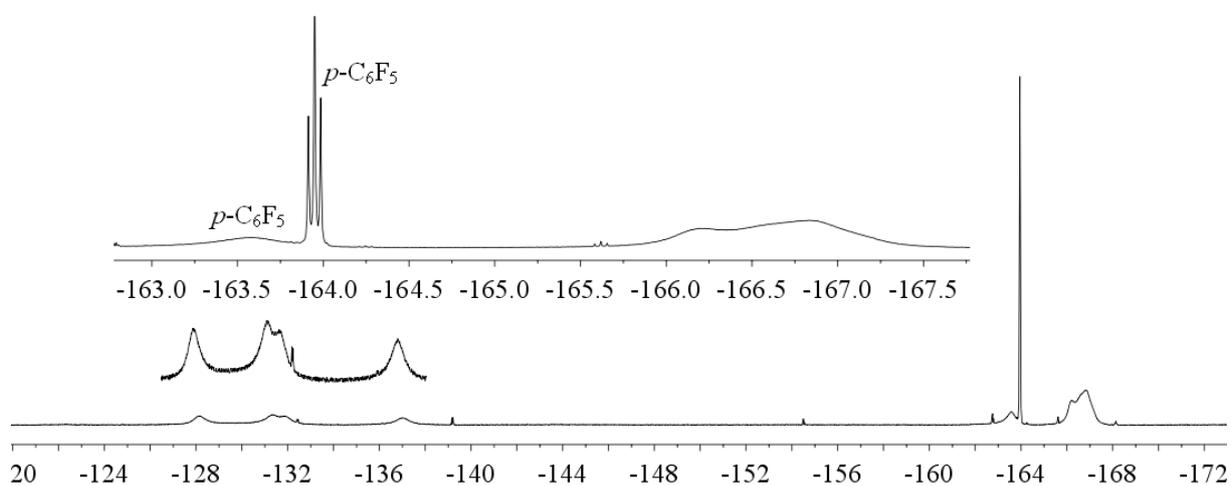
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 193 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.



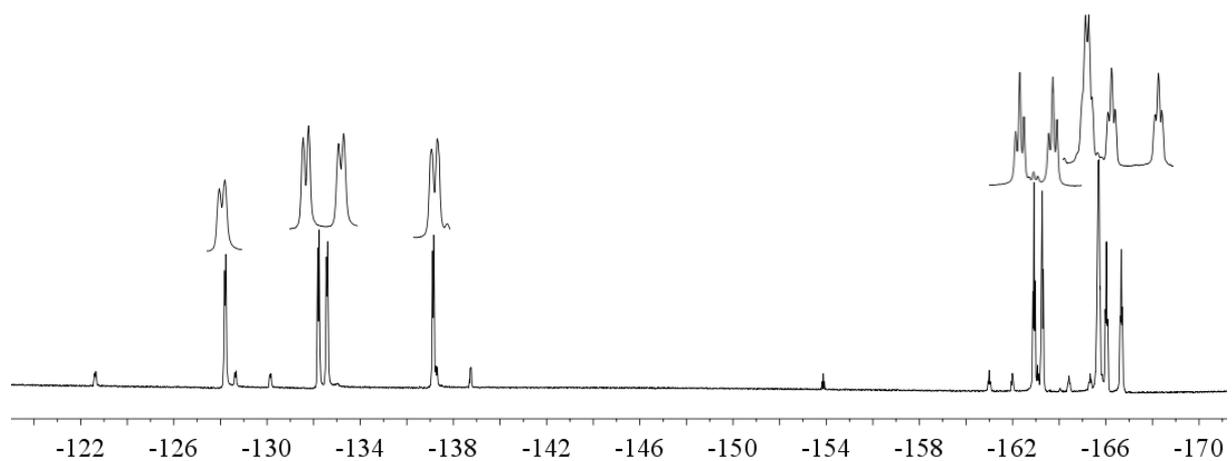
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.



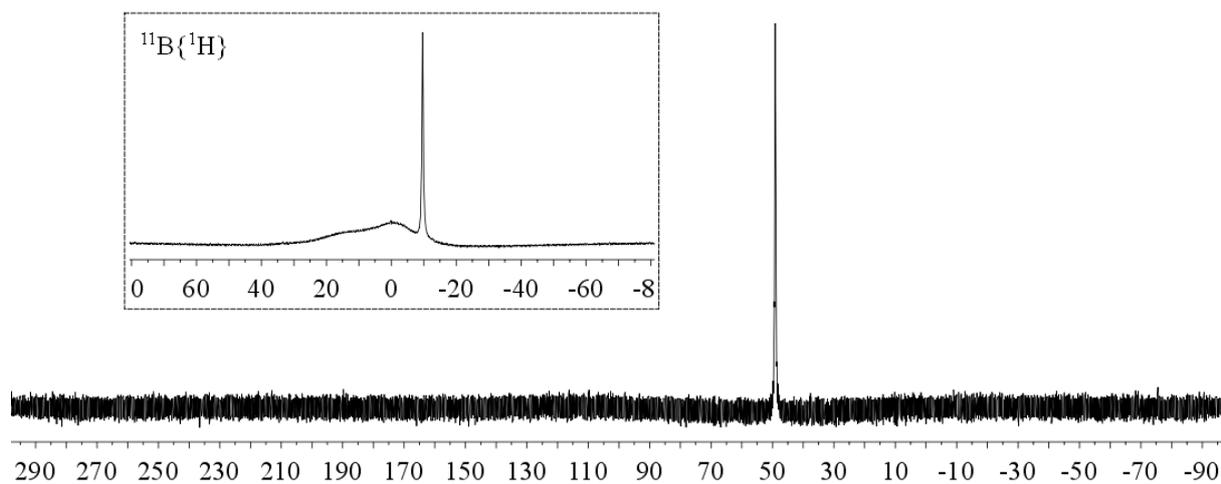
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.

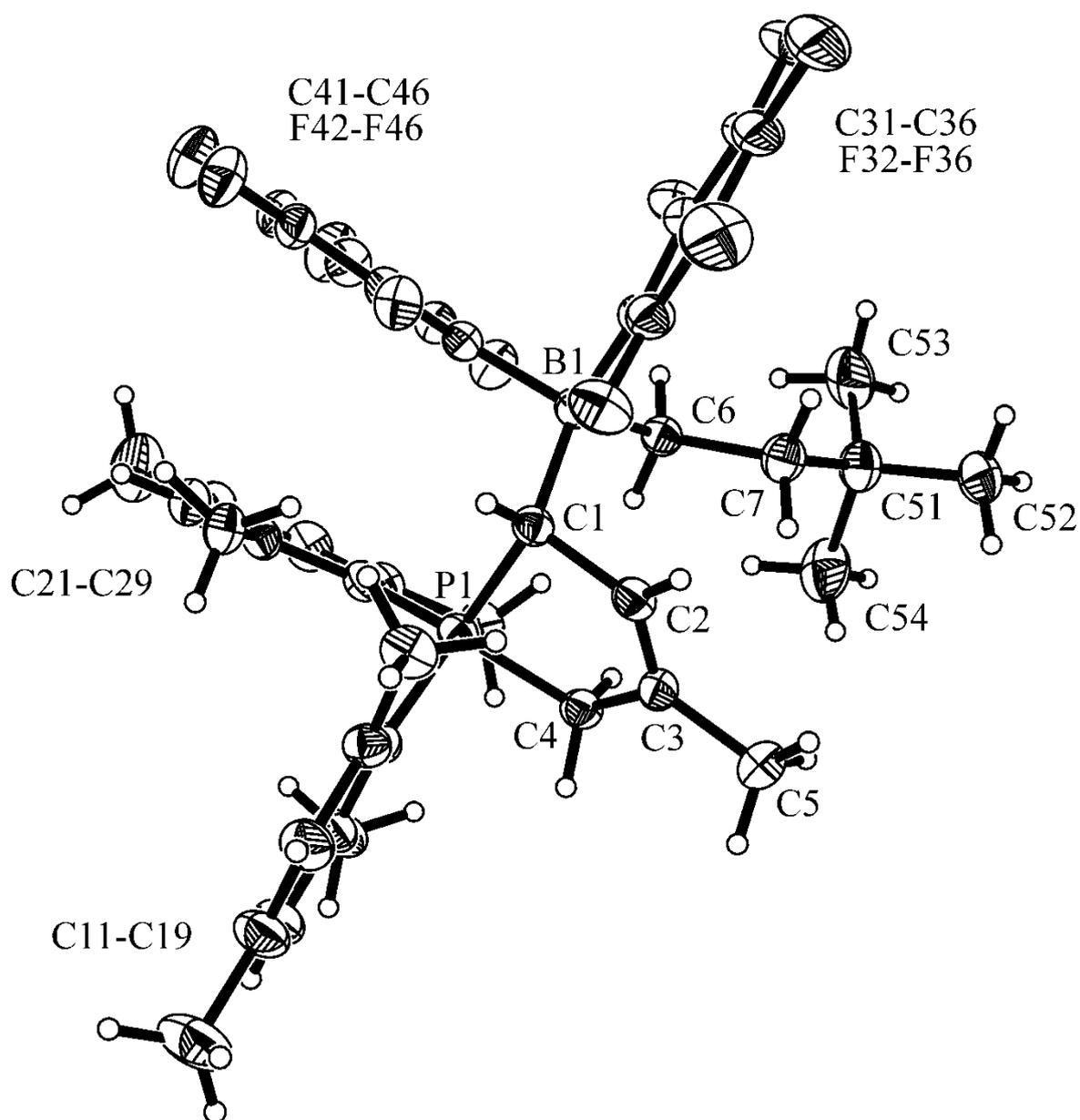


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 193 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13c**.

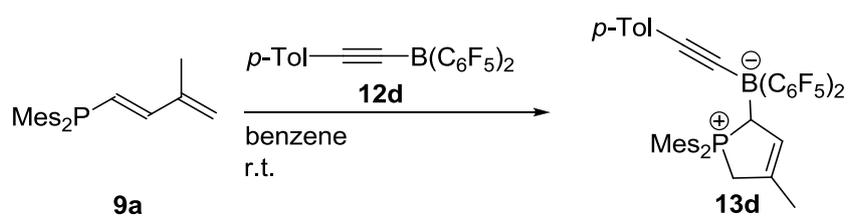


$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (192 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectra of compound **13**.

**X-ray crystal structure analysis of compound 13c:** formula  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_2\text{BF}_{10}\text{P}$ ,  $M = 766.53$ , colourless crystal,  $0.20 \times 0.06 \times 0.03$  mm,  $a = 11.3620(2)$ ,  $b = 12.3977(2)$ ,  $c = 18.5833(5)$  Å,  $\alpha = 73.774(1)$ ,  $\beta = 76.677(1)$ ,  $\gamma = 88.827(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 2443.1(1)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.042$  gcm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 0.117$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, empirical absorption correction ( $0.977 \leq T \leq 0.996$ ),  $Z = 2$ , triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$  (No. 2),  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $T = 223(2)$  K,  $\omega$  and  $\phi$  scans, 22100 reflections collected ( $\pm h, \pm k, \pm l$ ), 8358 independent ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.063$ ) and 6068 observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ], 513 refined parameters,  $R = 0.081$ ,  $wR^2 = 0.230$ , max. (min.) residual electron density 0.35 (-0.32) e.Å<sup>-3</sup>, hydrogen atoms were calculated and refined as riding atoms.



### Synthesis of compound **13d**.

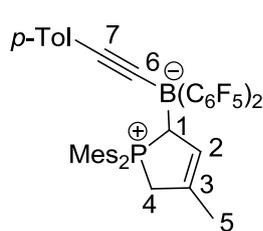


*p*-Tolylethynyl-bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane **12d** (136.7 mg, 0.297 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (100 mg, 0.297 mmol) were dissolved in benzene (1 mL) and stirred at ambient temperature.

After 3 days *n*-pentane (4 mL) was added to give a sticky solid and a clear orange solution. The orange solution was separated and stored at  $-30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . After two weeks an orange crystalline material was obtained, which was collected and dried *in vacuo* (35 mg, 15%).

**HRMS** (Orbitrap):  $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$  ( $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{36}\text{BF}_{10}\text{P}^{\oplus}$ ): Calcd.: 797.25682, Found: 797.25467.

**Elemental analysis**: Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{36}\text{BF}_{10}\text{P}$ : C, 66.35; H, 4.56. Found: C, 66.50; H, 4.91.



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.24 (m, 2H, *o*-Tol), 7.11 (m, 2H, *m*-Tol), 6.98, 6.37 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 6.95, 6.87 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 6.28 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 31.8\text{ Hz}$ , 1H, =CH), 4.84 (br m, 1H, BCH), 4.76 (br d,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 16.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.93, 1.75 (s, 3H, *o*-

$\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,b}}$ ), 2.89, 1.95 (s, 3H, *o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,a}}$ ), 2.82 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 16.0\text{ Hz}$ ,  $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 11.5\text{ Hz}$ , 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.33 (s, 3H,  $\text{Me}^{\text{Tol}}$ ), 2.26 (s, 3H, *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,a}}$ ), 2.22 (s, 3H, *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,b}}$ ), 1.91 (s, 3H, Me),.

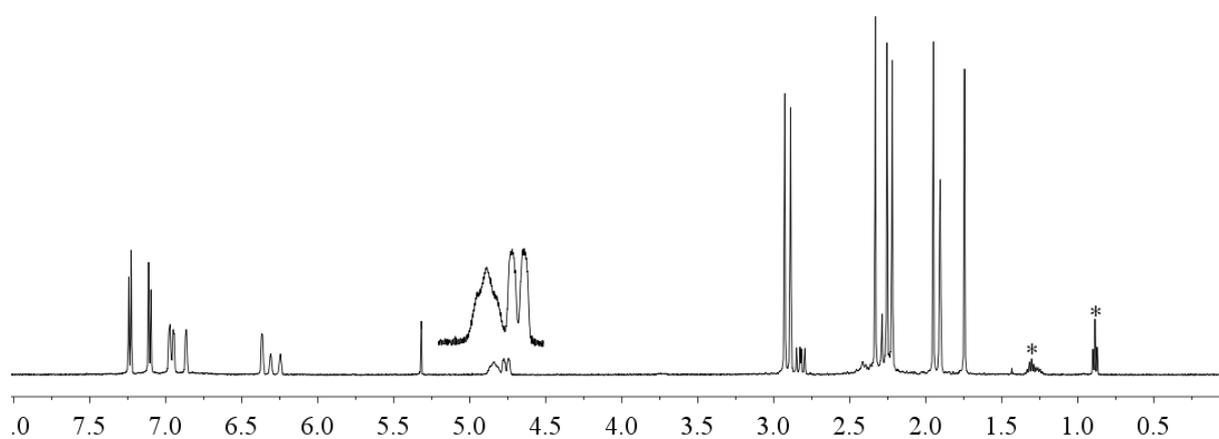
**$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 143.9 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}} = 2.9\text{ Hz}$ , *p*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 143.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.8\text{ Hz}$ ), 142.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.9\text{ Hz}$ )(*o*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 143.1 (d,  $^4J_{\text{PC}} = 2.8\text{ Hz}$ , *p*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 142.9 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.9\text{ Hz}$ ), 141.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 9.3\text{ Hz}$ )(*o*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 136.9 (*p*-Tol), 133.2 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.0\text{ Hz}$ ), 133.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.4\text{ Hz}$ )(*m*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 132.4 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 12.4\text{ Hz}$ , =C), 131.8 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.4\text{ Hz}$ ), 130.7 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.7\text{ Hz}$ )(*m*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 131.2 (*o*-Tol), 131.0 (br, =CH), 129.3 (*m*-Tol), 124.0 (*i*-Tol), 123.1 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 70.5\text{ Hz}$ , *i*-Mes<sup>a</sup>), 119.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 69.2\text{ Hz}$ , *i*-Mes<sup>b</sup>), 107.4 (1:1:1:1 q,  $^1J_{\text{CB}} = 76.6\text{ Hz}$ ,  $\equiv\text{CB}$ ), 96.4 (br,  $\equiv\text{C}$ ), 41.8 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 52.0\text{ Hz}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 36.8 (br m, BCH), 25.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 2.9\text{ Hz}$ ), 22.4 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 7.9\text{ Hz}$ )(*o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,b}}$ ), 23.6, 22.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 6.6\text{ Hz}$ )(*o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,a}}$ ), 21.4 ( $\text{Me}^{\text{Tol}}$ ), 20.9 (d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 1.4\text{ Hz}$ , *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,a}}$ ), 20.8 (d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 1.4\text{ Hz}$ , *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes,b}}$ ), 19.8 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.7\text{ Hz}$ , Me). [ $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  not listed].

**$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = -18.1 ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 20\text{ Hz}$ ).

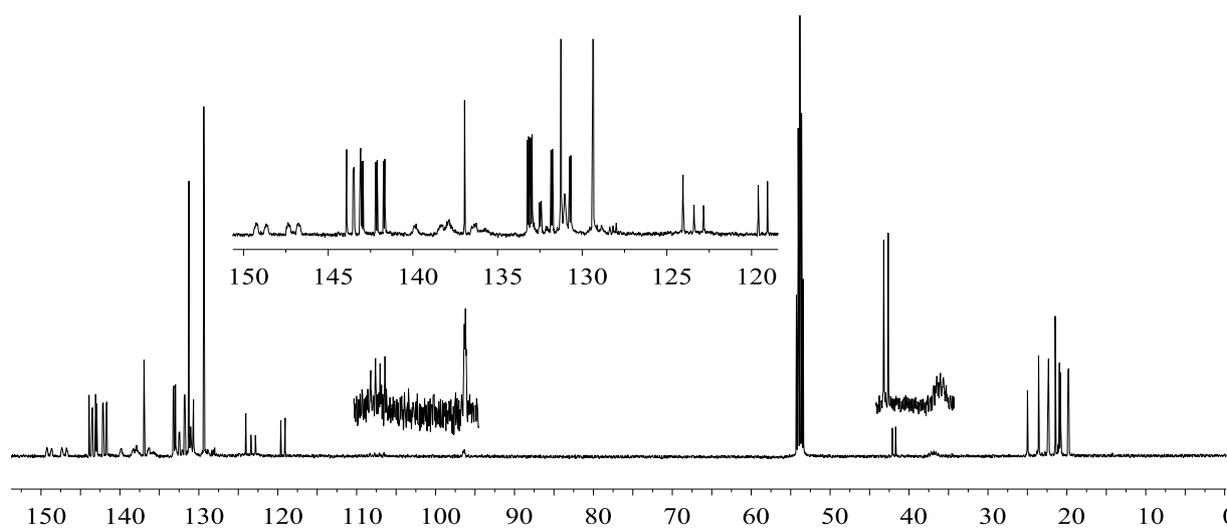
**$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR** (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 49.1 ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 10\text{ Hz}$ ).

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (470 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -127.0 (1F), -132.6 (2F), -134.2 (1F)(each br, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -162.5, -163.3 (each t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>FF</sub> = 20.3 Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -165.4 (br, 1F), -166.1 (m, 2F), -167.7 (br, 1F)(*m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).

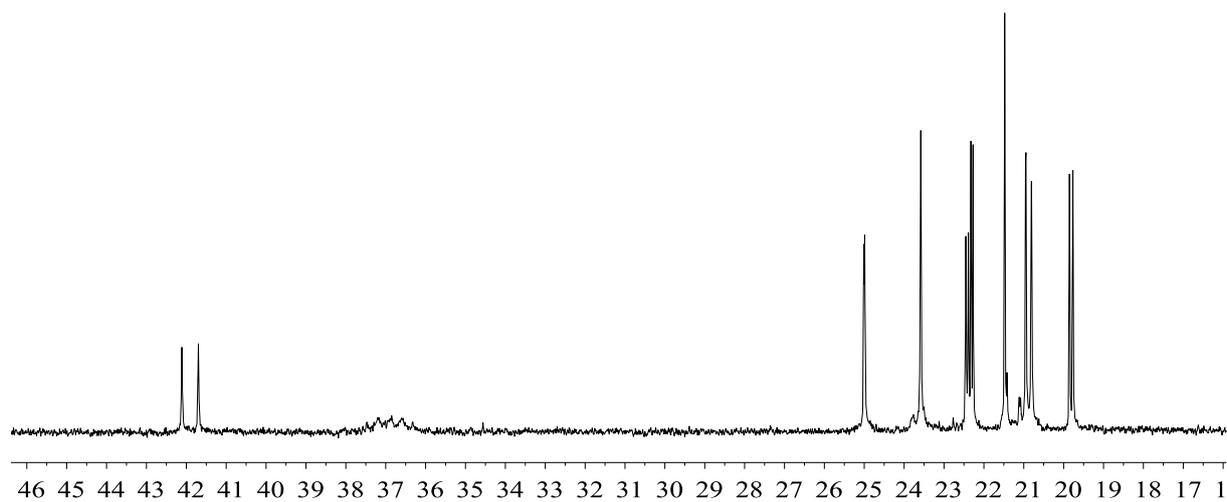
**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (470 MHz, 193 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -127.8, -128.4, -134.4, -137.2 (each m, each 1F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -161.2, -162.5 (each br t, J = 21.4 Hz, each 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -164.7, -165.0, -165.3, -167.1 (each m, each 1F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>).



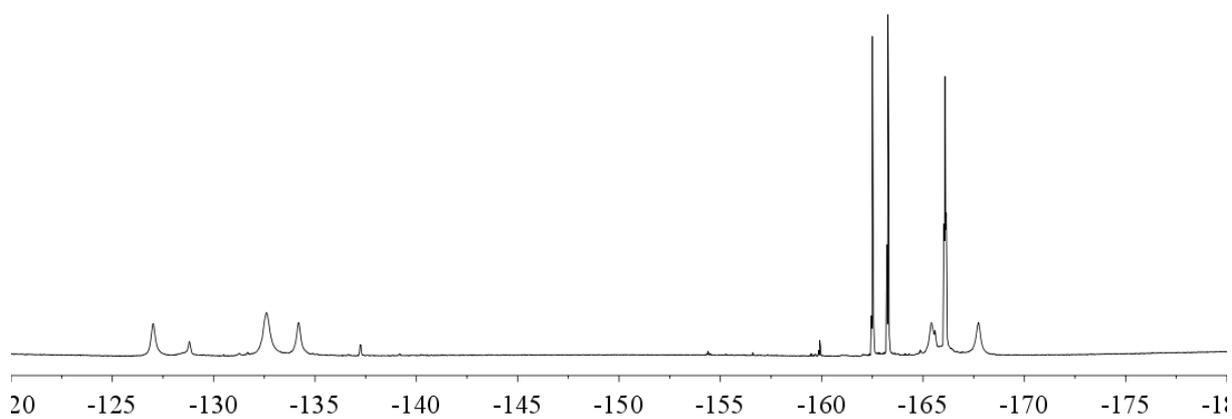
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (500 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of compound **13d**. [\* *n*-pentane].



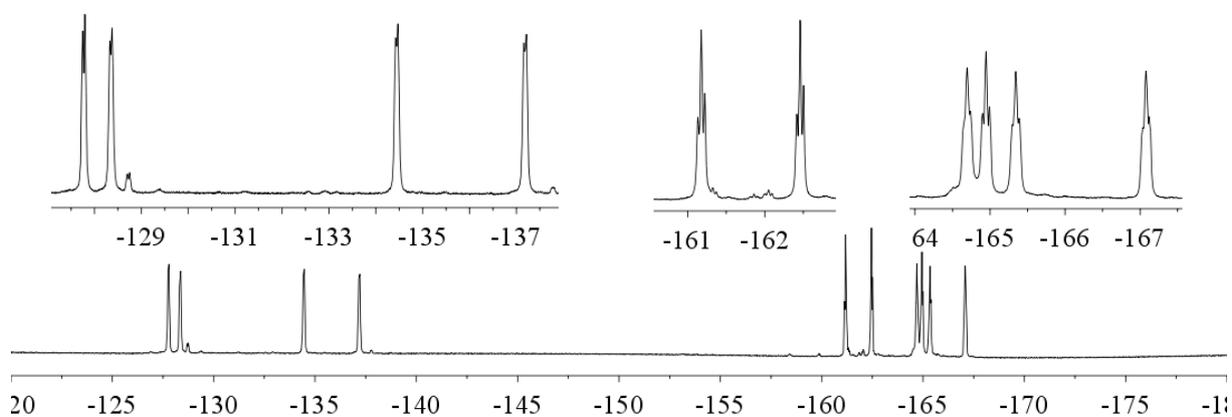
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (126 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of compound **13d**.



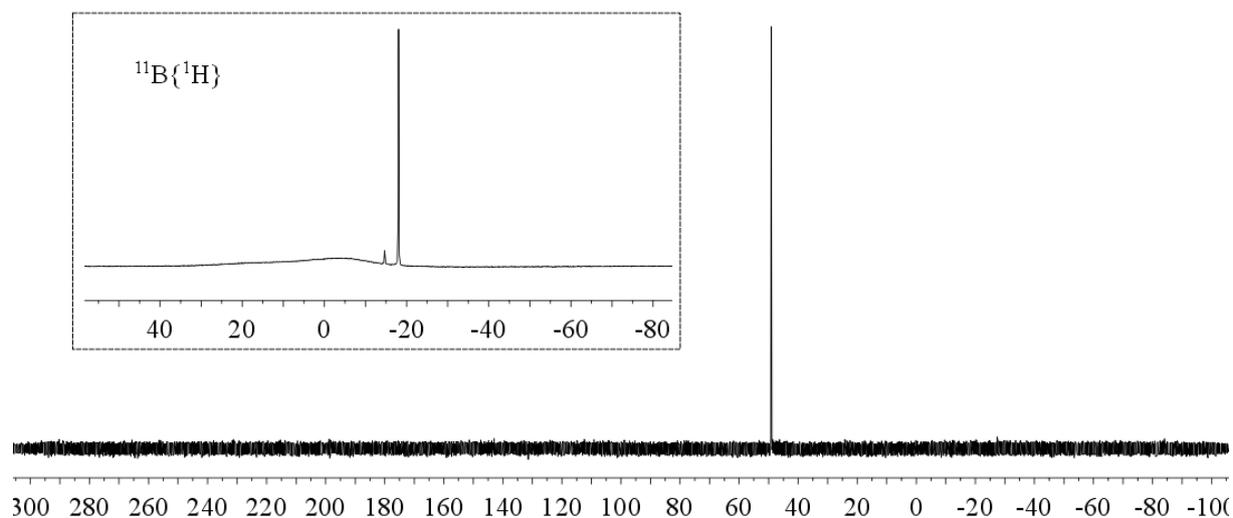
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13d**.



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13d**.

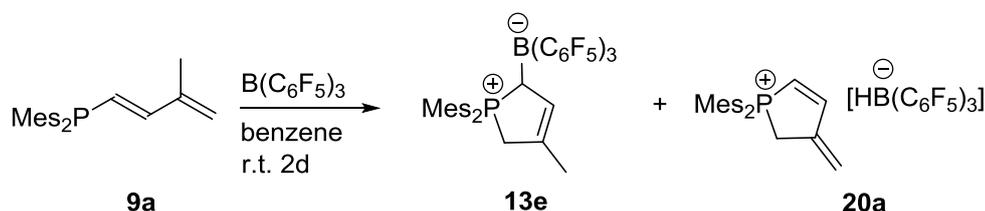


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 193 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13d**.



$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **13d**.

### Reaction of compound **9a** with $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ .



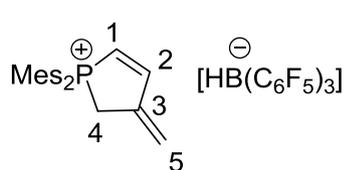
*1<sup>st</sup> Experiment:* Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (76.1 mg, 0.149 mmol) and phosphane **9a** (50 mg, 0.149 mmol) were dissolved in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (0.7 mL) at room temperature. After 2 days standing at ambient temperature the reaction mixture was characterized by NMR experiments, which showed the formation of compounds **13e** and **20a** (ratio: 45 : 55 ( $^{31}\text{P}$ )). [Comment: the isolation of the compounds failed].

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 6.51, 6.45, 6.40, 6.25 (each m, each 1H, *m*-Mes), 6.12 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 34.1$  Hz, 1H, =CH), 5.83 (m, 1H, BCH), 2.90, 2.14 (each m, each 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.85 (o), 1.98 (o), 1.97 (o), 1.85 (p), 1.82 (p), 1.64 (o), (each s, each 3H,  $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), 1.20 (s, 3H, Me).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 143.9, 142.7$  (each d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 2.9$  Hz, *p*-Mes), 143.09 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.6$  Hz), 143.05 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 11.1$  Hz), 142.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.7$  Hz), 141.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.0$  Hz)(*o*-Mes), 133.6 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.4$  Hz), 133.2 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.5$  Hz), 131.6 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.4$  Hz), 130.7 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.9$  Hz)(*m*-Mes), 132.2 (m, =CH), 130.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.9$  Hz, =C), 123.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 72.3$  Hz), 117.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 67.0$  Hz)(*i*-Mes), 39.7 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 51.3$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 37.2 (br, BCH), 24.4, 23.8, 23.1, 22.4 (each br, *o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), 20.4, 20.3 (each d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 1.3$  Hz, *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), 18.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 9.8$  Hz, Me), [ $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  not listed].

$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (192 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = -12.8$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 20$  Hz).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 47.9$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 10$  Hz).



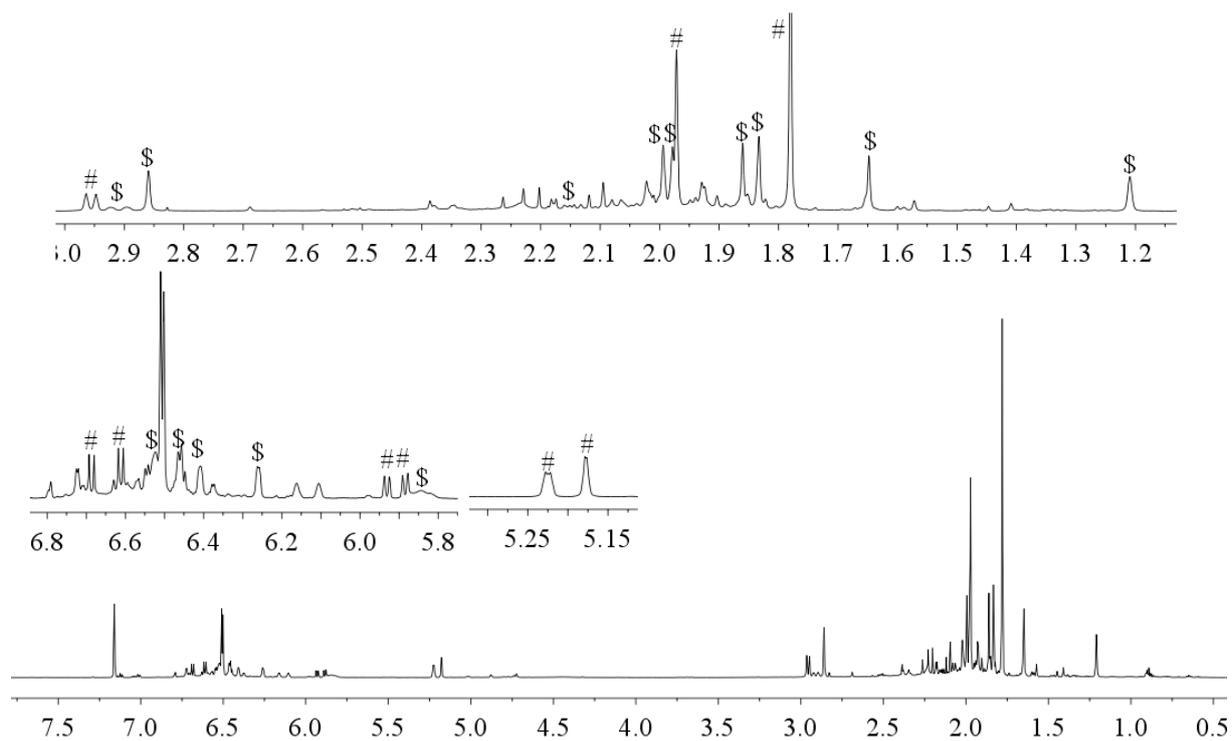
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 6.64$  (dd,  $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 44.8$  Hz,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.7$  Hz, 1H, =CH), 6.50 (d,  $^4J_{\text{HH}} = 4.7$  Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 5.90 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 28.1$  Hz,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.7$  Hz, 1H, PCH), 5.21, 5.17 (each m, each 1H, = $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.95 (dm,  $J = 9.9$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.96 (s, 6H, *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), 1.77 (s, 12H, *o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 153.5$  (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.7$  Hz, =CH), 145.6 (d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 2.6$  Hz, *p*-Mes), 141.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 10.6$  Hz, *o*-Mes), 140.9 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 12.0$  Hz, =C), 132.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.9$  Hz, *m*-Mes), 121.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 11.6$  Hz, = $\text{CH}_2$ ), 119.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 68.4$  Hz, PCH), 117.8 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 82.8$  Hz, *i*-Mes), 32.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 57.1$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 22.3 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 5.9$  Hz, *o*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), 20.6 (d,  $^5J_{\text{PC}} = 1.5$  Hz, *p*- $\text{CH}_3^{\text{Mes}}$ ), [ $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$  not listed].

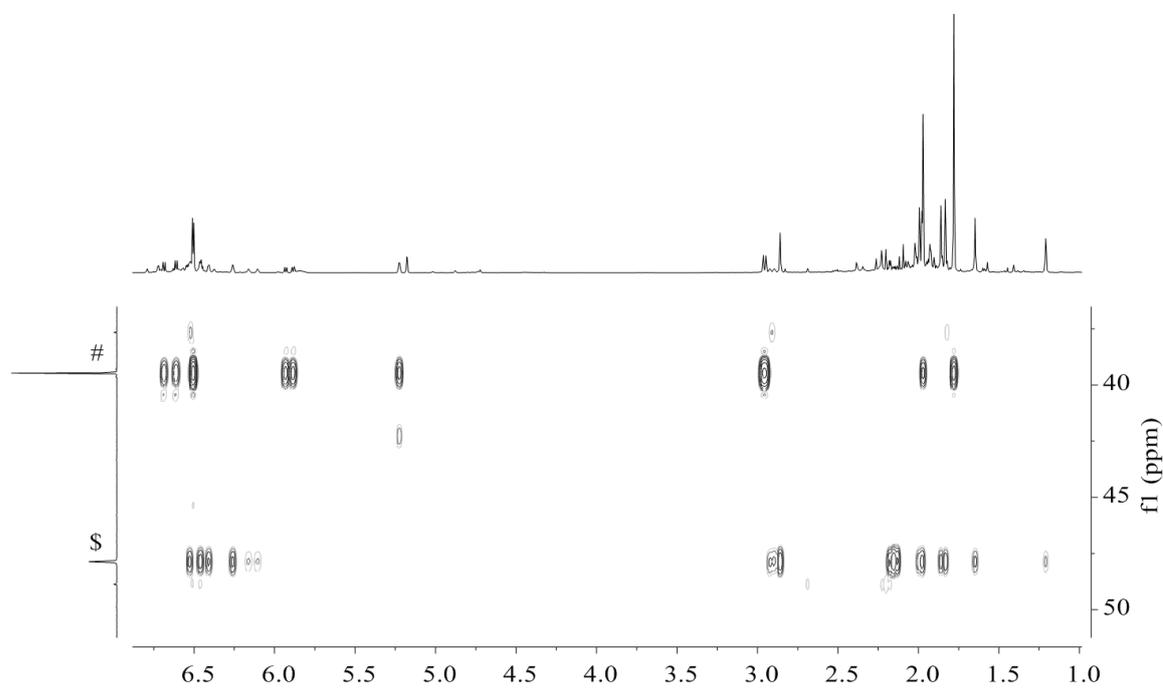
$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (192 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = -24.2$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 300$  Hz).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 39.5$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 3$  Hz).

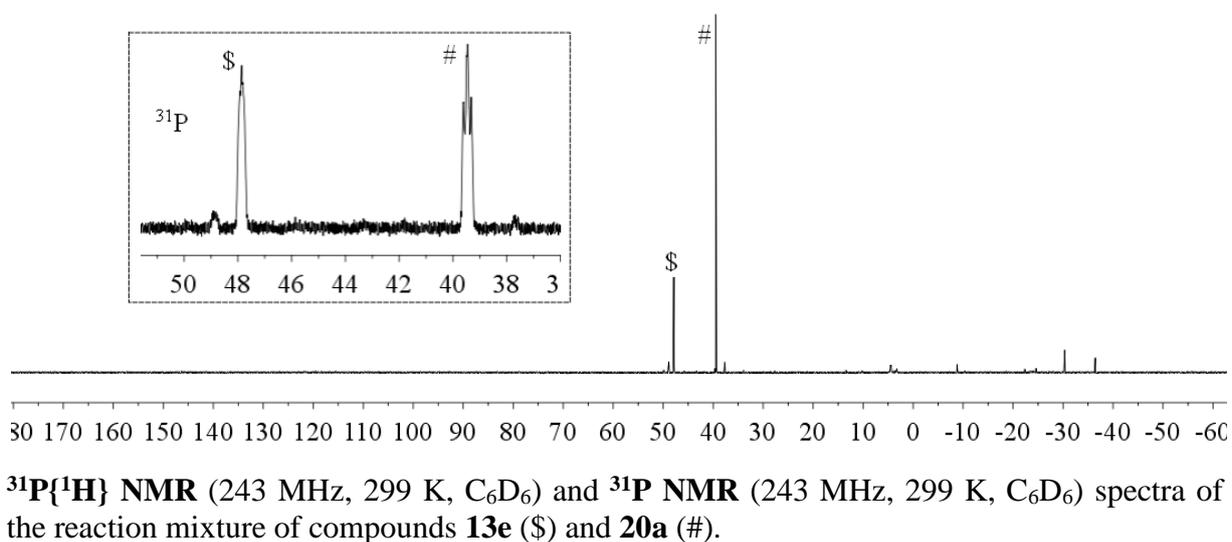
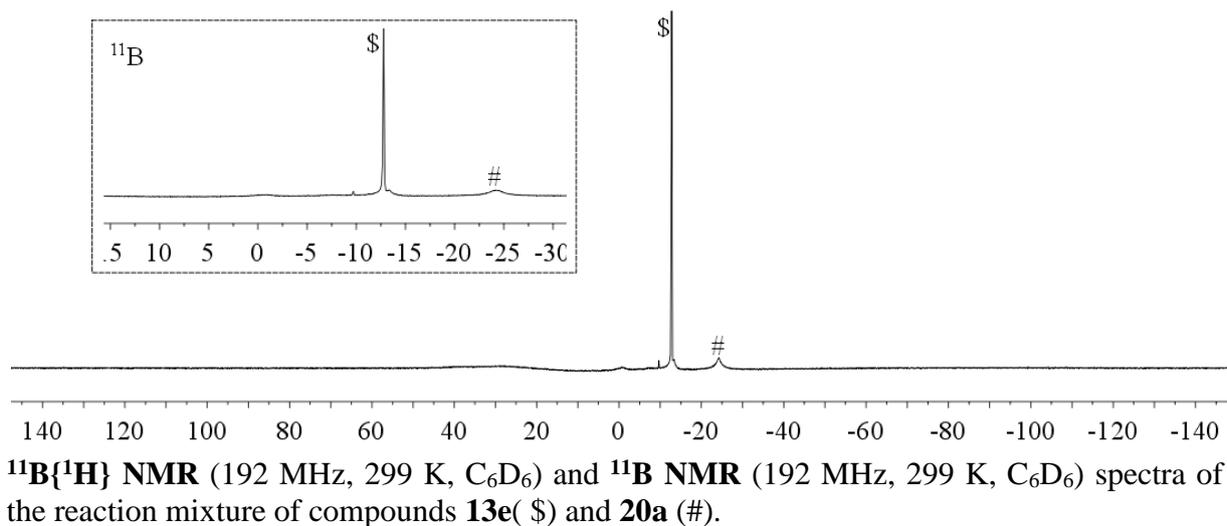
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta = 39.5$  (m).



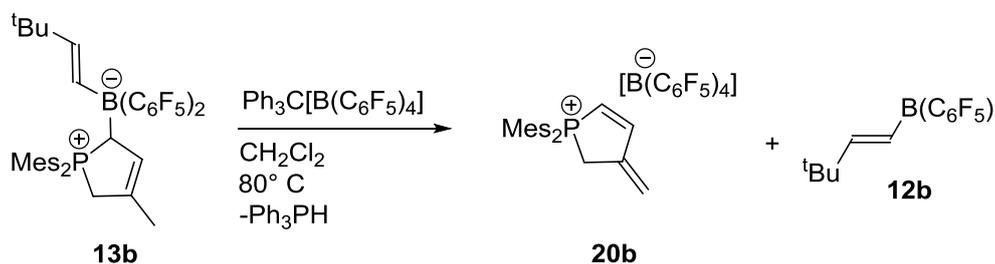
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of the reaction mixture of compounds **13e** (\$) and **20a** (#).



$^{31}\text{P}, ^1\text{H}$  GHMQC (243 MHz, 600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum (selected area) of the reaction mixture of compounds of **13e** (\$) and **20a** (#).

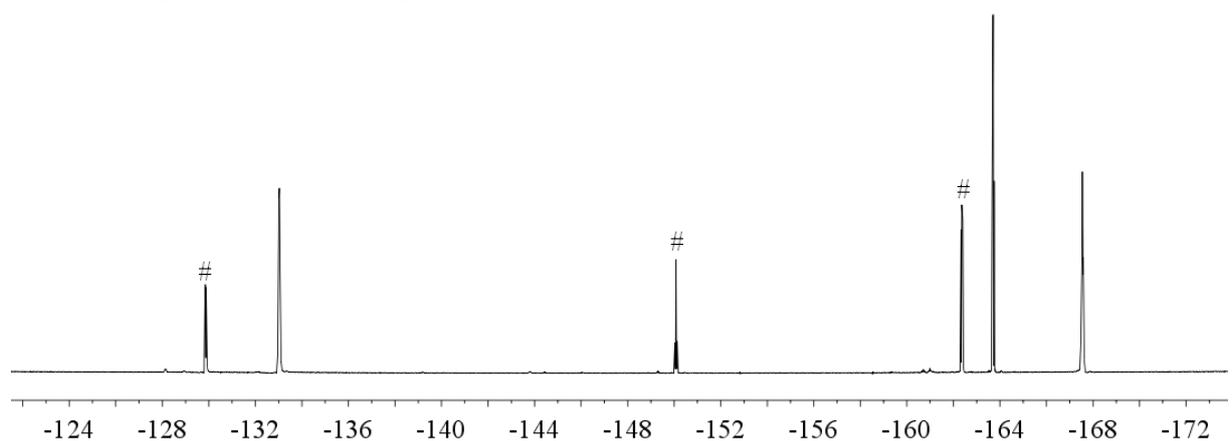
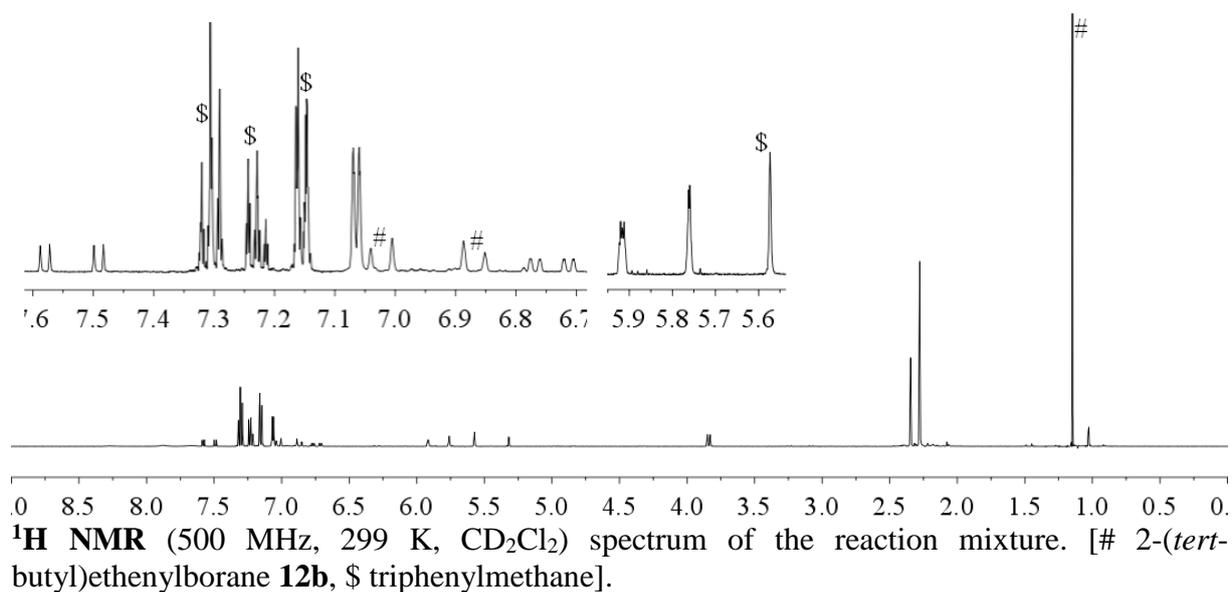


### Synthesis of compound **20b**.

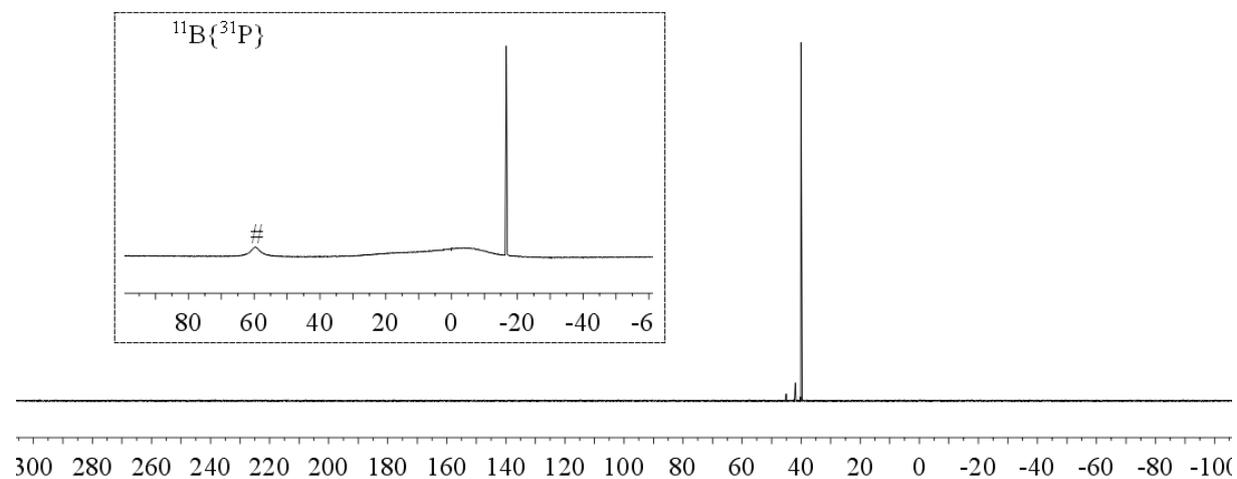


*1<sup>st</sup> Experiment:* Compound **13b** (50 mg, 0.0654 mmol) and  $[\text{Ph}_3\text{C}][\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4]$  (60.3 mg, 0.0654 mmol) were dissolved in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.7 mL). The orange solution was heated in a sealed NMR tube for 3 days at 80 °C. Then the reaction mixture was characterized by NMR experiments. [triphenylmethane:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.31 (m), 7.23 (p),

7.15 (o)(each m, 15H, Ph), 5.57 (s, 1H, CH).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta =$   
 144.4 (i), 126.7 (p), 128.7 (m), 129.8 (o)(Ph), 57.3 (CH)]



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of the reaction mixture. [# 2-(*tert*-butyl)ethenylborane **12b**].



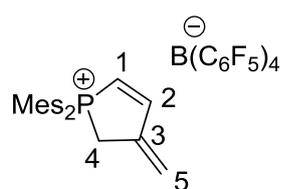
$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectra of the reaction mixture. [# 2-(*tert*-butyl)ethenylborane **12b**].

2<sup>nd</sup> Experiment: Compound **13b** (214 mg, 0.280 mmol) and [Ph<sub>3</sub>C][B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>] (258.2 mg, 0.280 mmol) were dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) and heated at 80 °C for 24 h. Then all volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the orange red residue was washed with *n*-pentane (7 × 1 mL). Then the solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a voluminous orange powder (257 mg, 91%).

[Comment: the powder contains some [Ph<sub>3</sub>C][B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>], which could be not separated (ca. 16 mol% (<sup>1</sup>H))].

**HRMS** (Orbitrap): M<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>P<sup>+</sup>): Calcd.: 335.19231, Found: 335.19235.

**Elemental analysis:** Calcd. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>36</sub>BF<sub>10</sub>P + 1/6([Ph<sub>3</sub>C][B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]): C, 55.68; H, 2.65. Found: C, 55.75; H, 2.64.



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (600 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.54 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 44.4, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.6 Hz, 1H, =CH), 7.05 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 4.8 Hz, 4H, *m*-Mes), 6.74 (ddm, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 27.8, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.6 Hz, 1H, PCH), 5.91, 5.76 (each m, each 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.83 (dm, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 10.1 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.33 (s, 6H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 2.26 (s, 12H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>).

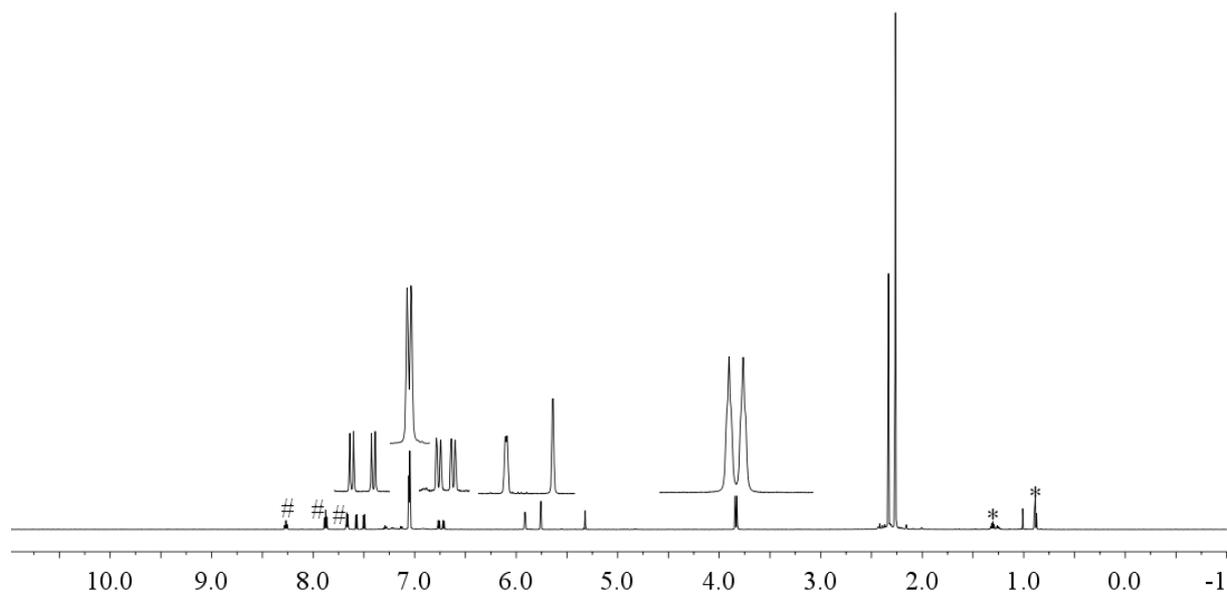
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (151 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 154.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 10.9 Hz, =CH), 148.5 (dm, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>FC</sub> ~ 240 Hz, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 146.4 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 3.0 Hz, *p*-Mes), 142.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 10.7 Hz, *o*-Mes), 141.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 11.8 Hz, =C), 138.6 (dm, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>FC</sub> ~ 245 Hz, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 136.7 (dm, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>FC</sub> ~ 250 Hz, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 132.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 12.0 Hz, *m*-Mes), 124.4 (br m, *i*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 122.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 11.7 Hz, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 120.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 69.3 Hz, PCH), 118.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 82.9 Hz, *i*-Mes), 33.9 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 58.1 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>PC</sub> = 6.0 Hz, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>), 21.2 (*p*-CH<sub>3</sub><sup>Mes</sup>).

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (564 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -133.1 (m, 2F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -163.7 (t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>FF</sub> = 20.3 Hz, 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -167.6 (br m, 2F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>) [Δδ<sup>19</sup>F<sub>m,p</sub> = 3.9].

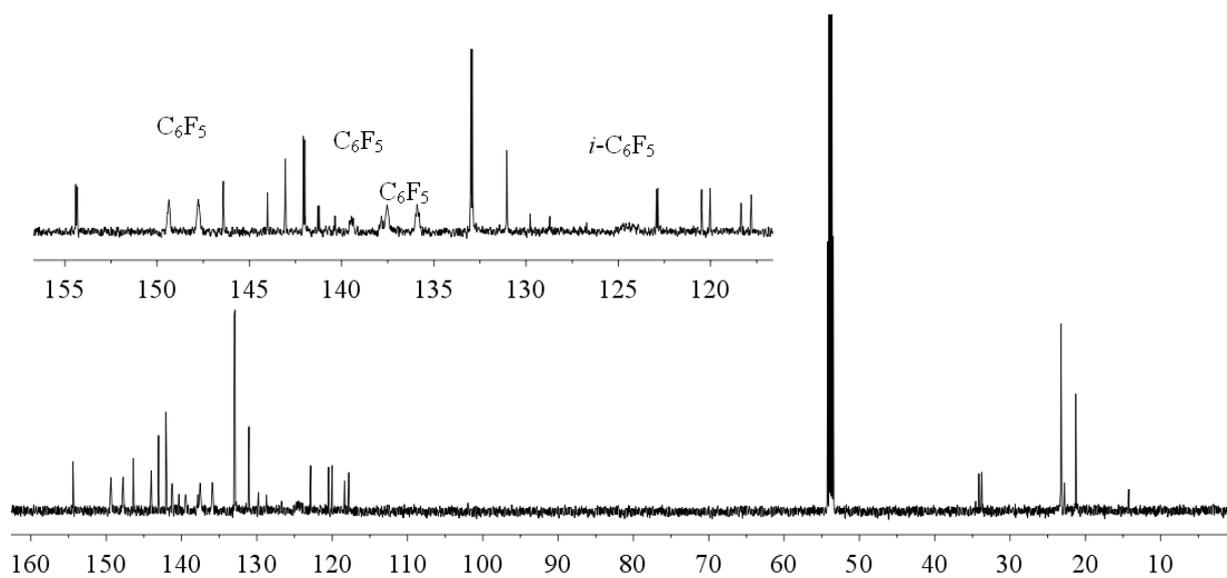
**<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (192 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = -16.7 (ν<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 20 Hz).

**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 40.0 (ν<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 2 Hz).

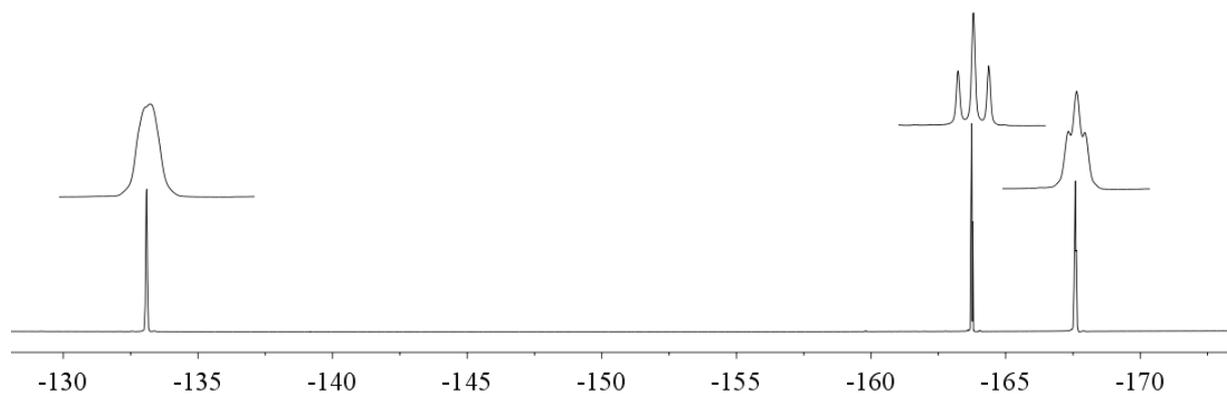
**<sup>31</sup>P NMR** (243 MHz, 299 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 40.0 (m).



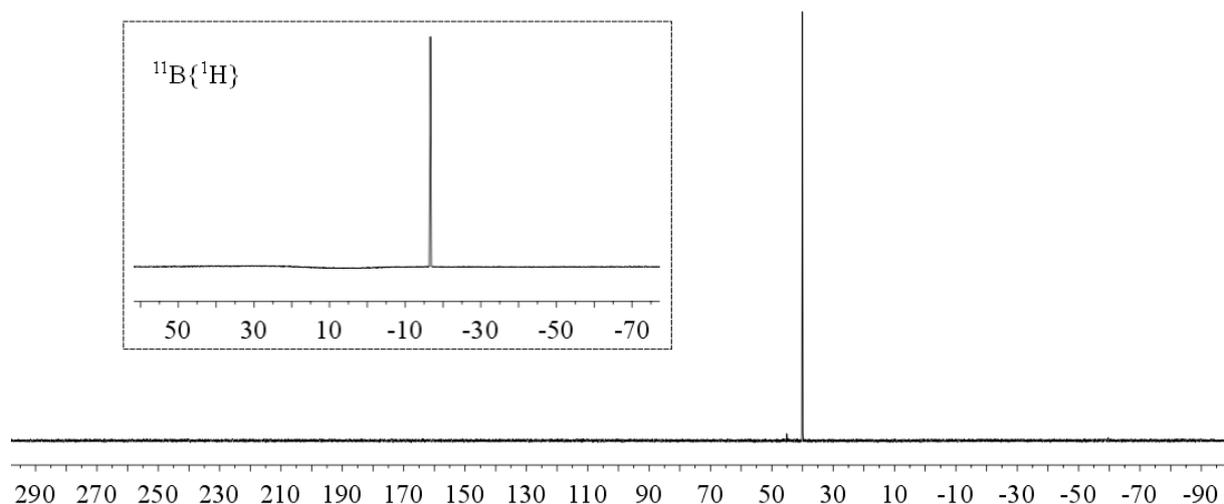
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **20b**. [\* *n*-pentane, #  $\text{Ph}_3\text{C}^+$ ].



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (151 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **20b**.

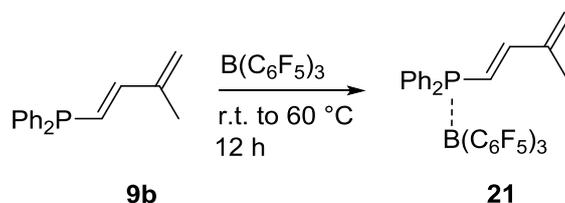


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **20b**.



$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (192 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (243 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectra of compound **20b**.

### Synthesis of compound **21**.



Compound **9b** (30 mg, 0.119 mmol) and tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (60.9 mg, 0.119 mmol) were mixed together and dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1 mL). Then the reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 24 h and to complete the reaction at  $60^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 h. Subsequently the obtained white suspension was diluted with *n*-pentane (1 mL) and the formed powder was collected by filtration. After drying the solid *in vacuo* compound **21** was obtained as a white powder (49 mg, 54%).

**Elemental analysis:** Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{17}\text{BF}_{15}\text{P}$ : C, 55.00; H, 2.24. Found: C, 54.89; H, 2.38.

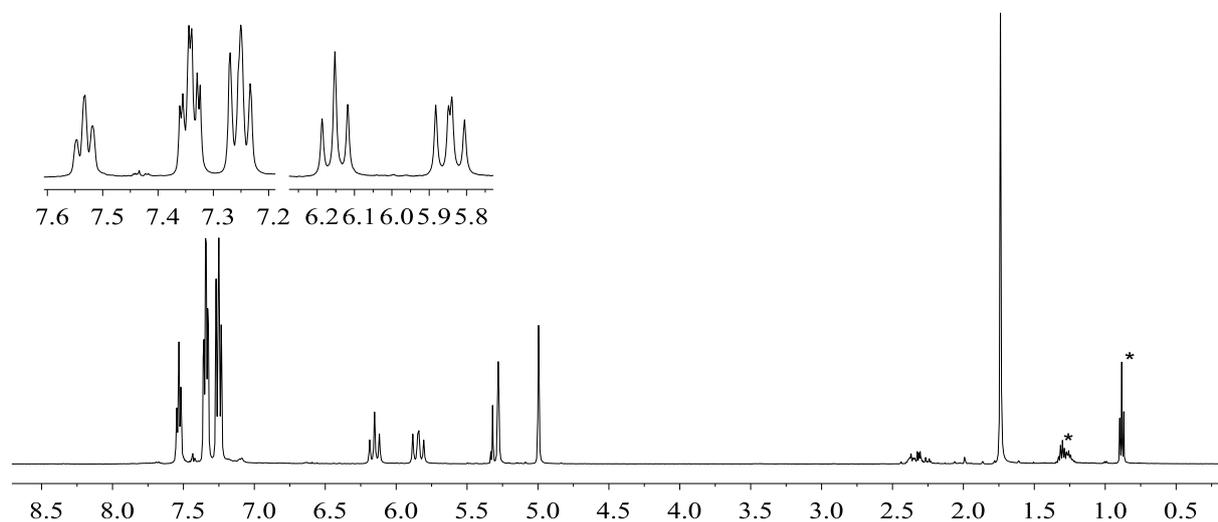
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.53 (m, 2H, *p*-Ph), 7.34 (m, 4H, *m*-Ph), 7.25 (m, 4H, *o*-Ph), 6.15 (t,  $^3J_{\text{PH}} = ^3J_{\text{HH,trans}} = 17.0$  Hz, 1H, =CH), 5.84 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 21.6$  Hz,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 17.0$  Hz, 1H, PCH), 5.28, 5.00 (each br, each 1H, =CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.74 (s, 3H, Me).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )[all resonances are broad]:  $\delta = 152.1$  (=CH), 148.7 (dm,  $^1J_{\text{FC}} \sim 240$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 141.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 15.5$  Hz, =C), 140.5 (dm,  $^1J_{\text{FC}} \sim 250$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 137.4 (dm,  $^1J_{\text{FC}} \sim 250$  Hz,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ), 134.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{PC}} = 8.2$  Hz, *o*-Ph), 132.4 (*p*-Ph), 129.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{PC}} = 10.3$  Hz, *m*-Ph), 125.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 56.4$  Hz, *i*-Ph), 124.1 (=CH<sub>2</sub>), 116.2 (*i*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), 114.0 (d,  $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 57.2$  Hz, PCH), 18.0 (Me).

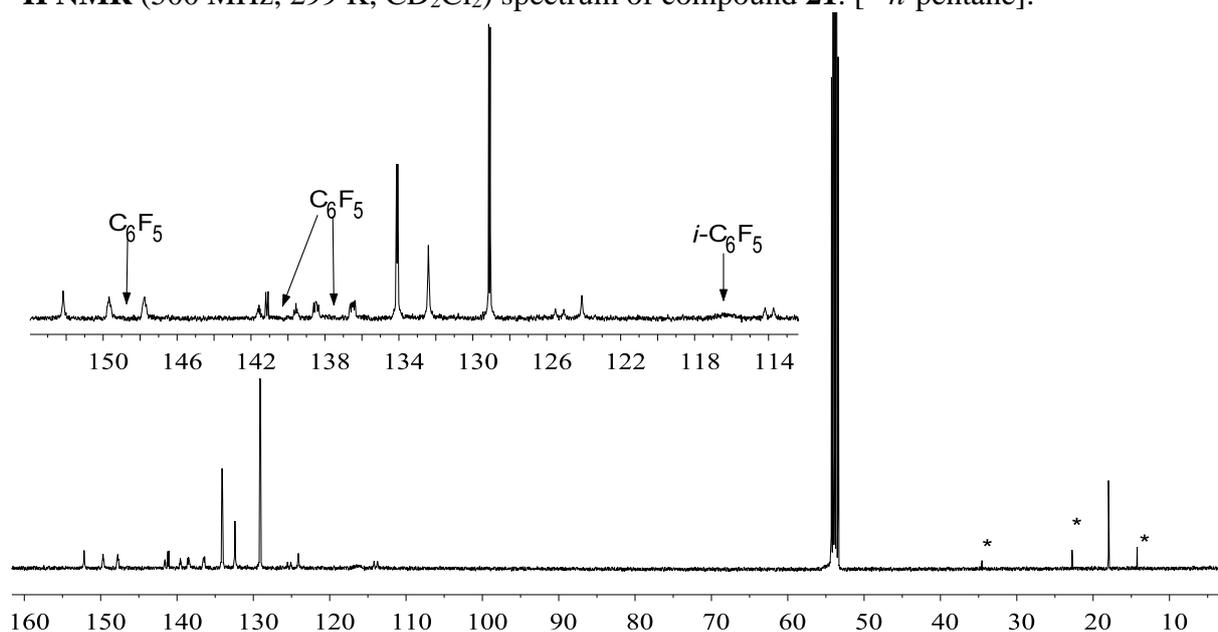
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = -127.3$  (br, 2F, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -157.0 (t,  $J = 20.3$  Hz, 1F, *p*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), -164.9 (m, 2F, *m*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>), [ $\Delta\delta^{19}\text{F}_{\text{mp}} = 4.9$ ].

$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = -9.8$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 200$  Hz).

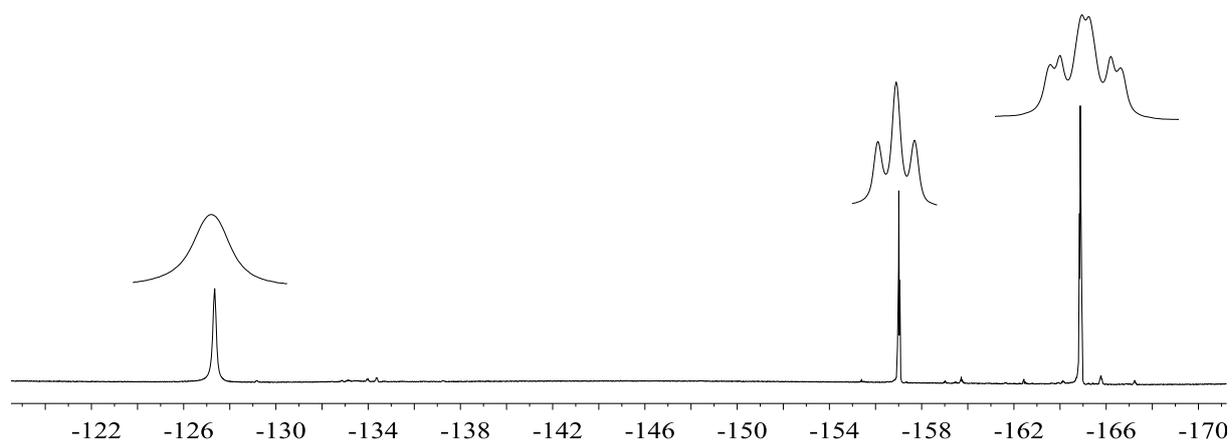
$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 13.1$  ( $\nu_{1/2} \sim 150$  Hz).



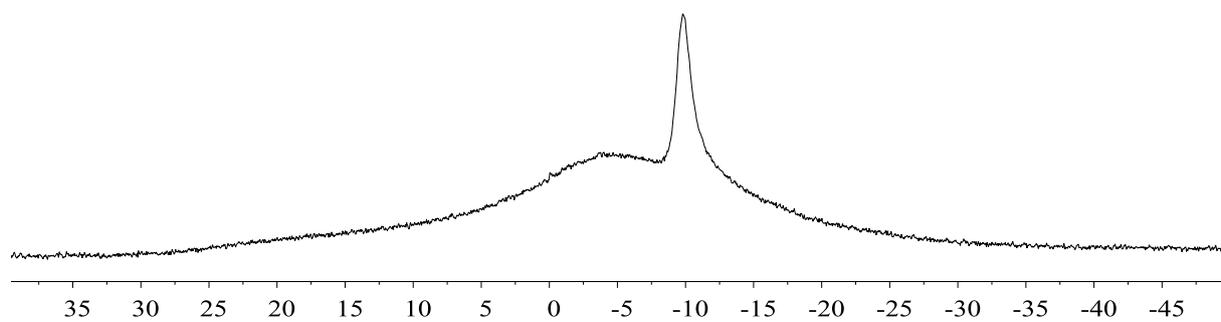
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **21**. [\* *n*-pentane].



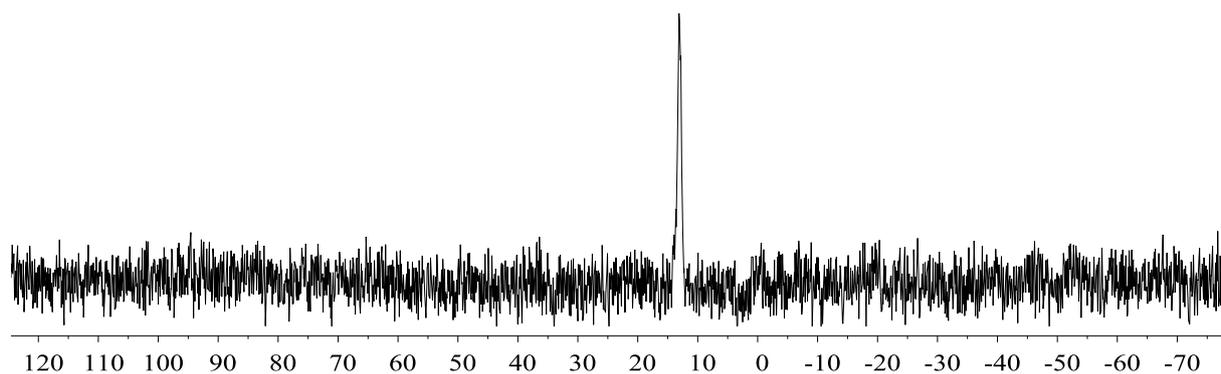
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (126 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **21**. [\* *n*-pentane].



$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (470 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **21**.



$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (160 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **21**.



$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (202 MHz, 299 K,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) spectrum of compound **21**.