

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (ESI)

**Polymerization of Ethylene and Propylene
Promoted by Group 4 Metal Complexes Bearing
Thioetherphenolate Ligands**

Ermanno Luciano,^a Francesco Della Monica,^a Antonio Buonerba,^a Alfonso Grassi,^a
Carmine Capacchione^{a*} and Stefano Milione^a

^a *Dipartimento di Chimica e Biologia and NANOMATES Research Centre for NANOMaterials and nanoTEchnology, Università degli Studi di Salerno, via Giovanni Paolo II 132 - 84084 Fisciano (SA).*

* *E-mail:* ccapacchione@unisa.it.

Table of Contents

Figure S1. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (1).....	3
Figure S2. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 100 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (1).....	3
Figure S3. VT- ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (1).....	4
Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (2).....	5
Figure S5. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (2).	5
Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3).....	6
Figure S7. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 100 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3).	6
Figure S8. ^1H - ^1H NOESY spectrum of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3) at room temperature.	7
Figure S9a. VT- ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3).	8
Figure S9b. VT- ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3) in the region from 0.7 to 3.1 ppm.....	8
Figure S10. COSY spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 600MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3) showing the scalar coupling of the Zr- CH_2 -Ph resonances at -80 °C.....	9
Figure S11. ^1H - ^1H NOESY spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3) at -80 °C. 10	
Figure S12. ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (3) at -80 °C.. 11	
Figure S13. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (4).	12
Figure S14. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (4).	12
Table S1. Internal and Free Energy differences (kcal/mol) of the minimum energy structures for the five diastereoisomers of the $(\text{OS})_2\text{MX}_2$ complexes (M = Ti, X = Cl; M = Zr, X = Me).	13
Figure S15. The opening ($\kappa^2 \rightarrow \kappa^1$) of one of the OS ligands in the titanium and zirconium $(\text{OS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ and $(\text{OS})_2\text{ZrMe}_2$ complexes. The stereoisomers C and A were considered as starting species for the titanium and zirconium complexes, respectively.....	14
Figure S16. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (TCDE, 110°C, 75 MHz) of polyethylene of run 1, Table 1.....	15
Figure S17. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (TCDE, 110°C, 75 MHz) of polypropylene sample of run 1 in Table 2.	16
Table S2. ^{13}C NMR chemical shift of polypropylene sample and the corresponding literature values for regioirregular polypropylene. ¹	17
Figure S18. Possible modes of 2,1 insertion during the propylene polymerization.	18
Figure S19 ^{13}C NMR spectra (TCDE, 110 °C, 75 MHz) of polypropylene samples of run 4 (a) and 1 (b) Table 2.....	19
Figure S20. DSC thermograms for polypropylene samples of run 1 (a) and 4 (b) Table 2.....	20
Figure S21. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 300 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 2 Table 2.....	21
Figure S22. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 300 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 3 Table 2.....	21
Figure S23. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 2 Table 2.....	22
Figure S24. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75.5 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 3 Table 2.....	22
Figure S25. ^{13}C NMR spectra (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of oligomers samples of run 5 (a) and 2 (b) Table 2.....	23
Figure S26. GC trace of the oligomers sample from run 2 Table 2.	24
Figure S27. Schulz-Flory distribution of oligomers sample of run 2 Table 2. (R = 0.969).....	25
Figure S28. Schulz-Flory distribution of oligomers sample of run 3 Table 2. (R = 0.979).....	25
References	26

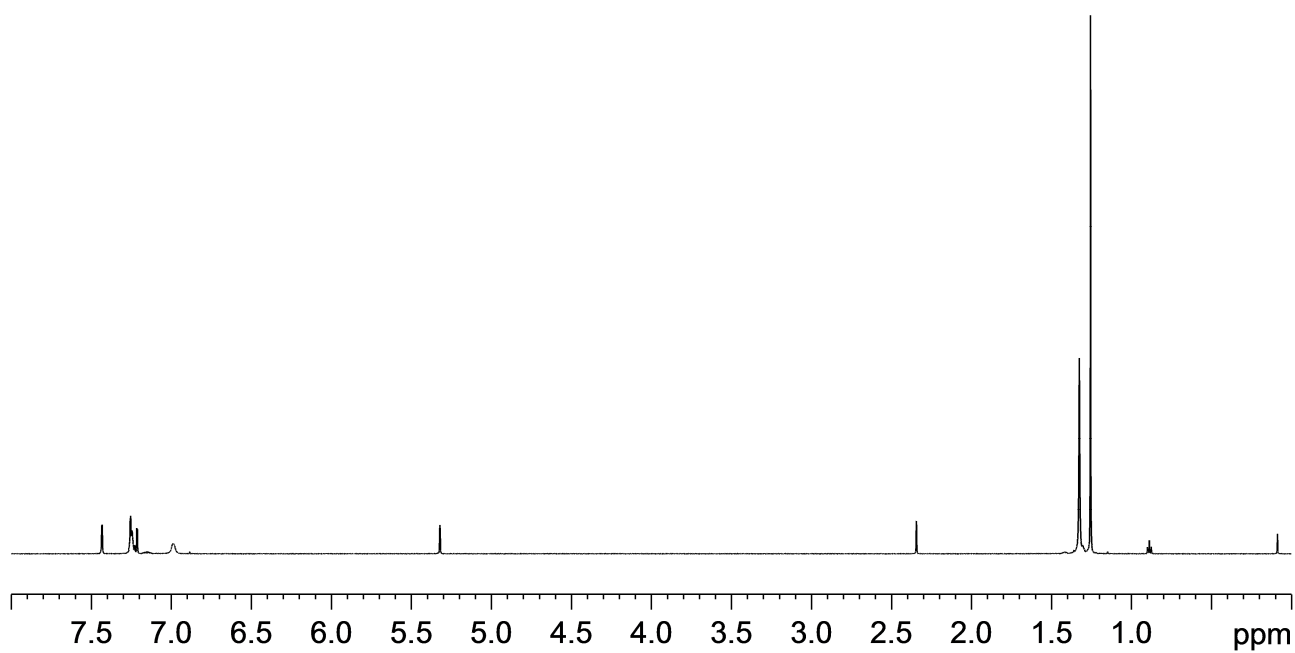


Figure S1. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (**1**).

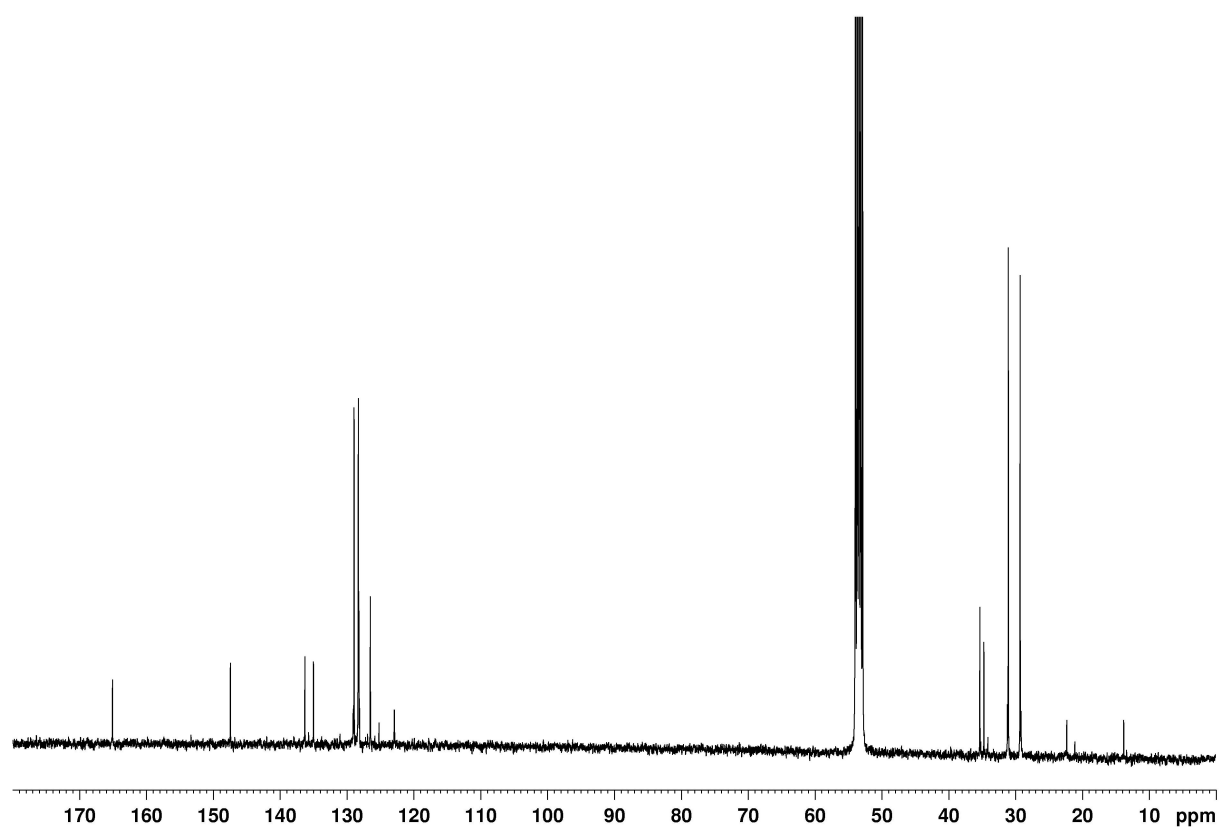


Figure S2. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 100 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (**1**).

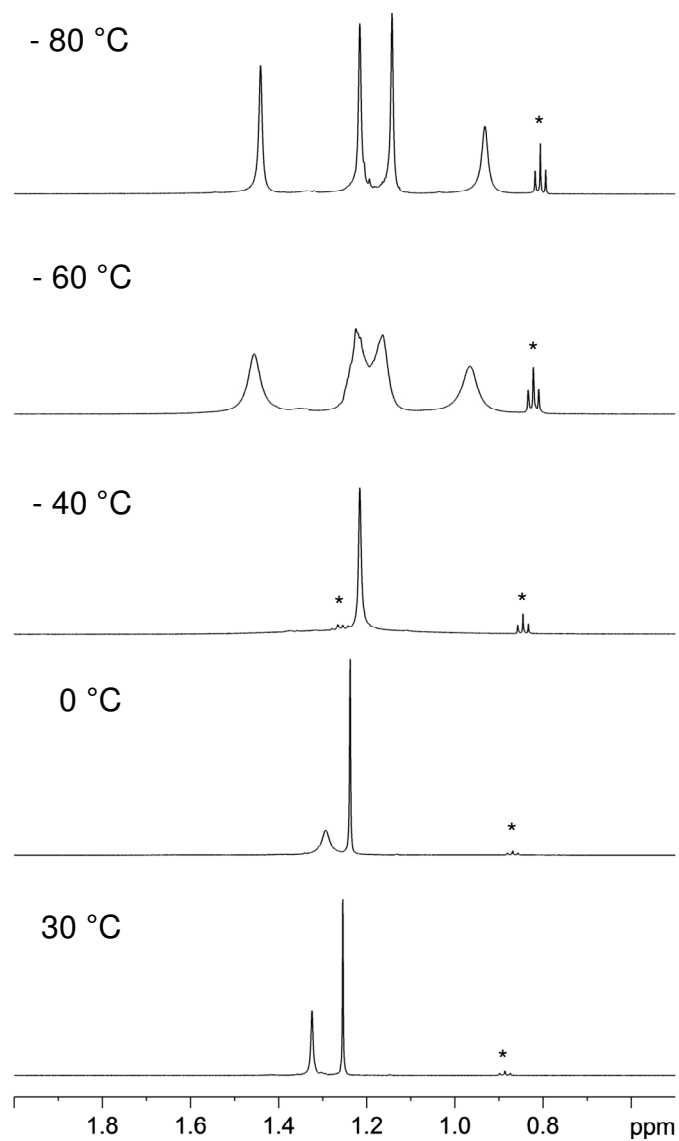


Figure S3. Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{BuOS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (1). The signals marked with an asterisk are due to pentane impurity.

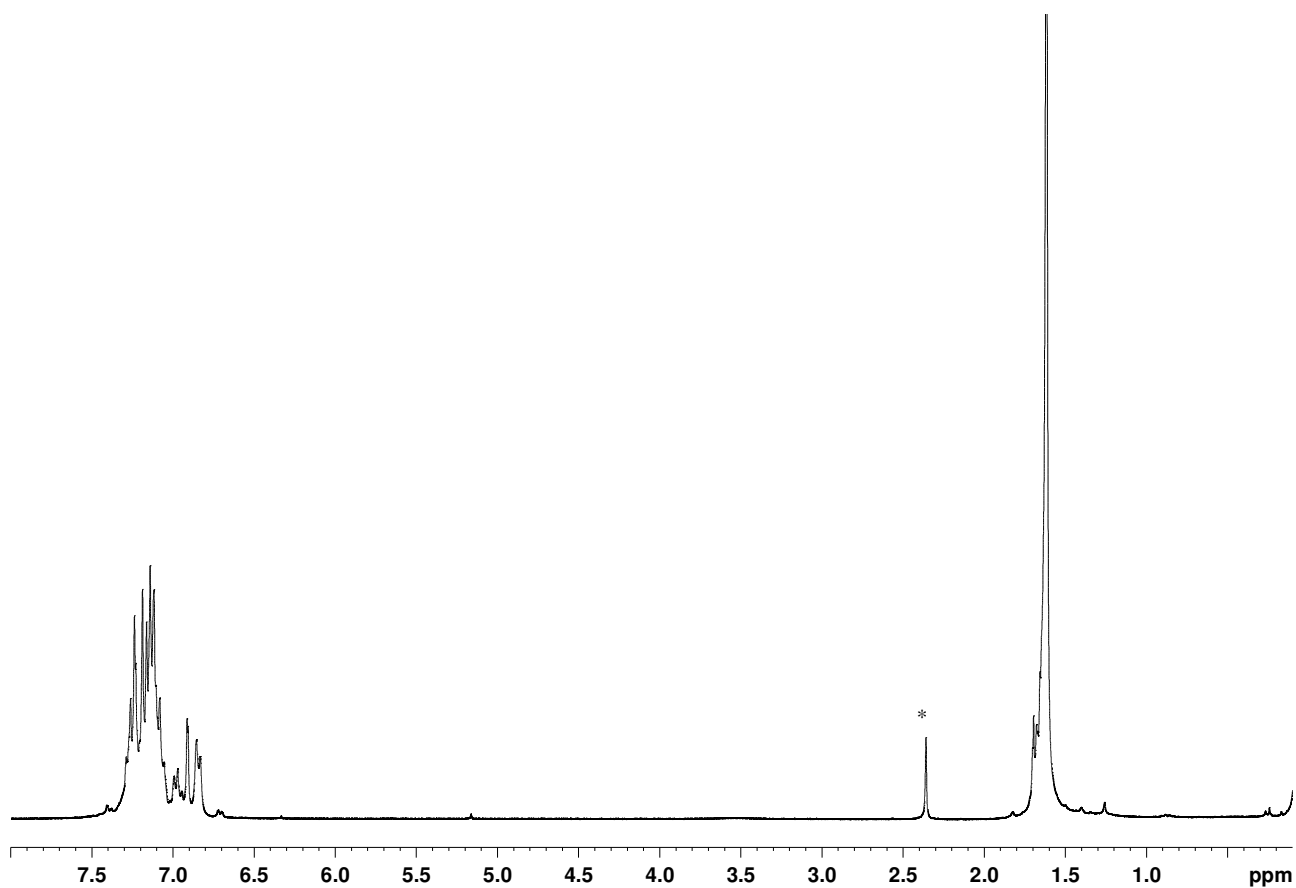


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (**2**) (* = toluene).

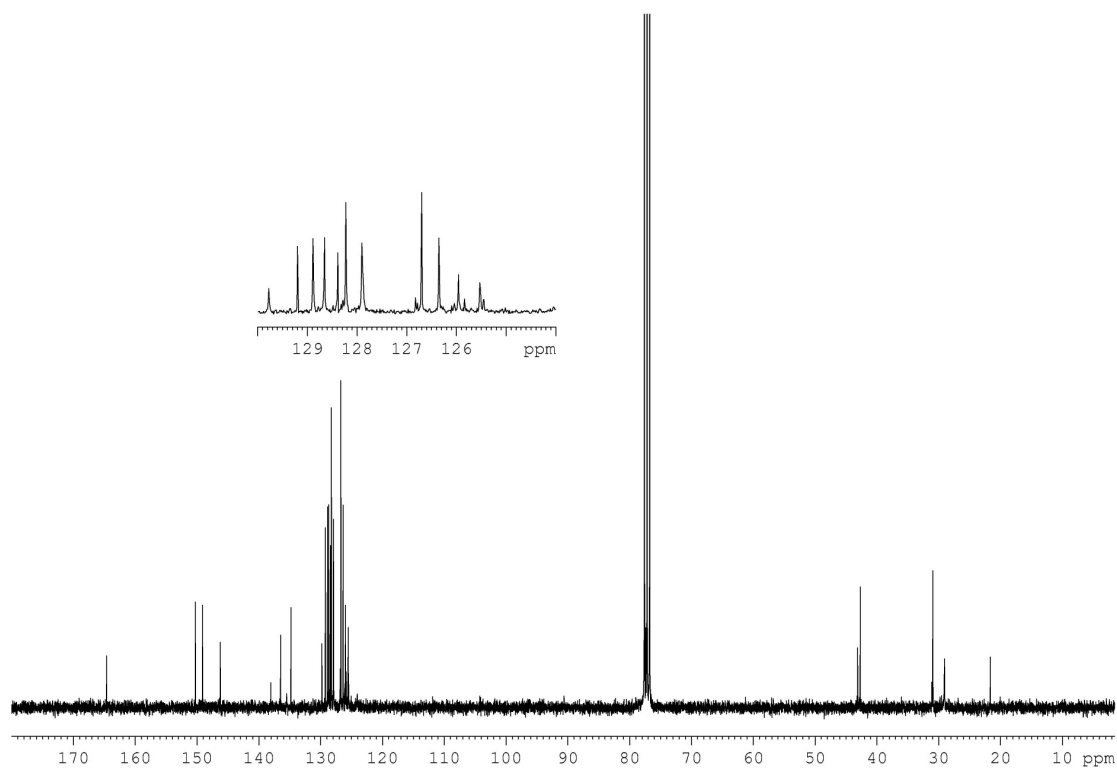


Figure S5. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{TiCl}_2$ (**2**).

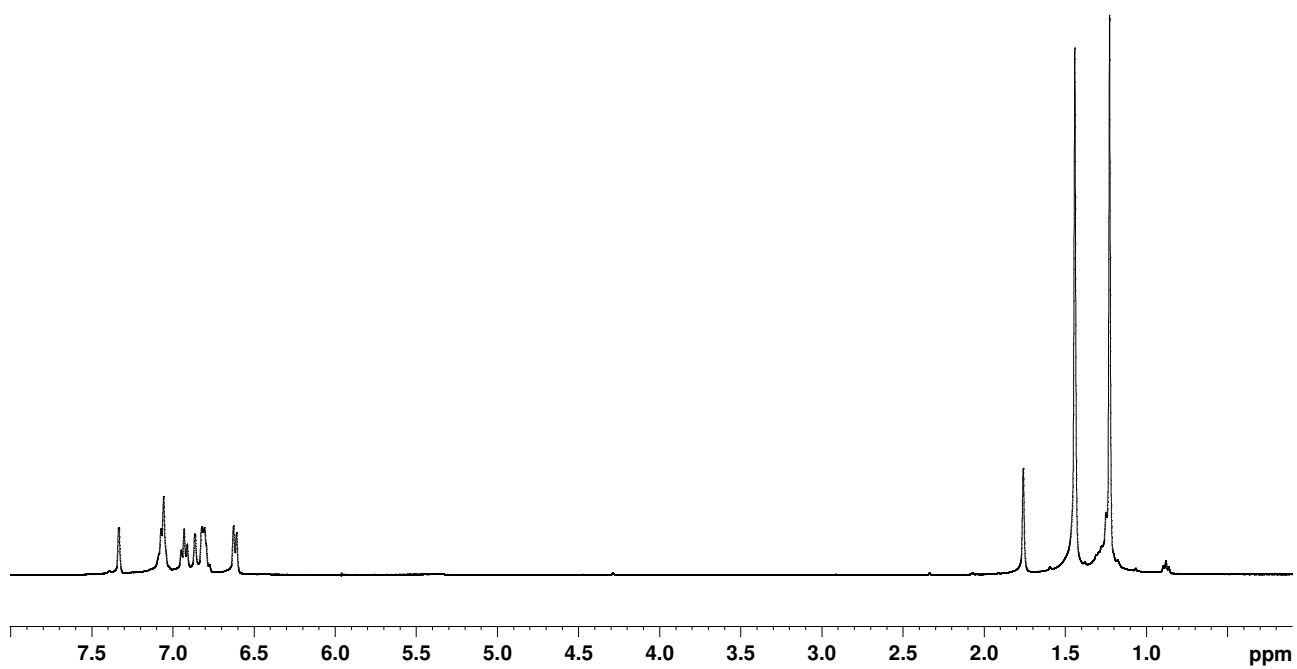


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**).

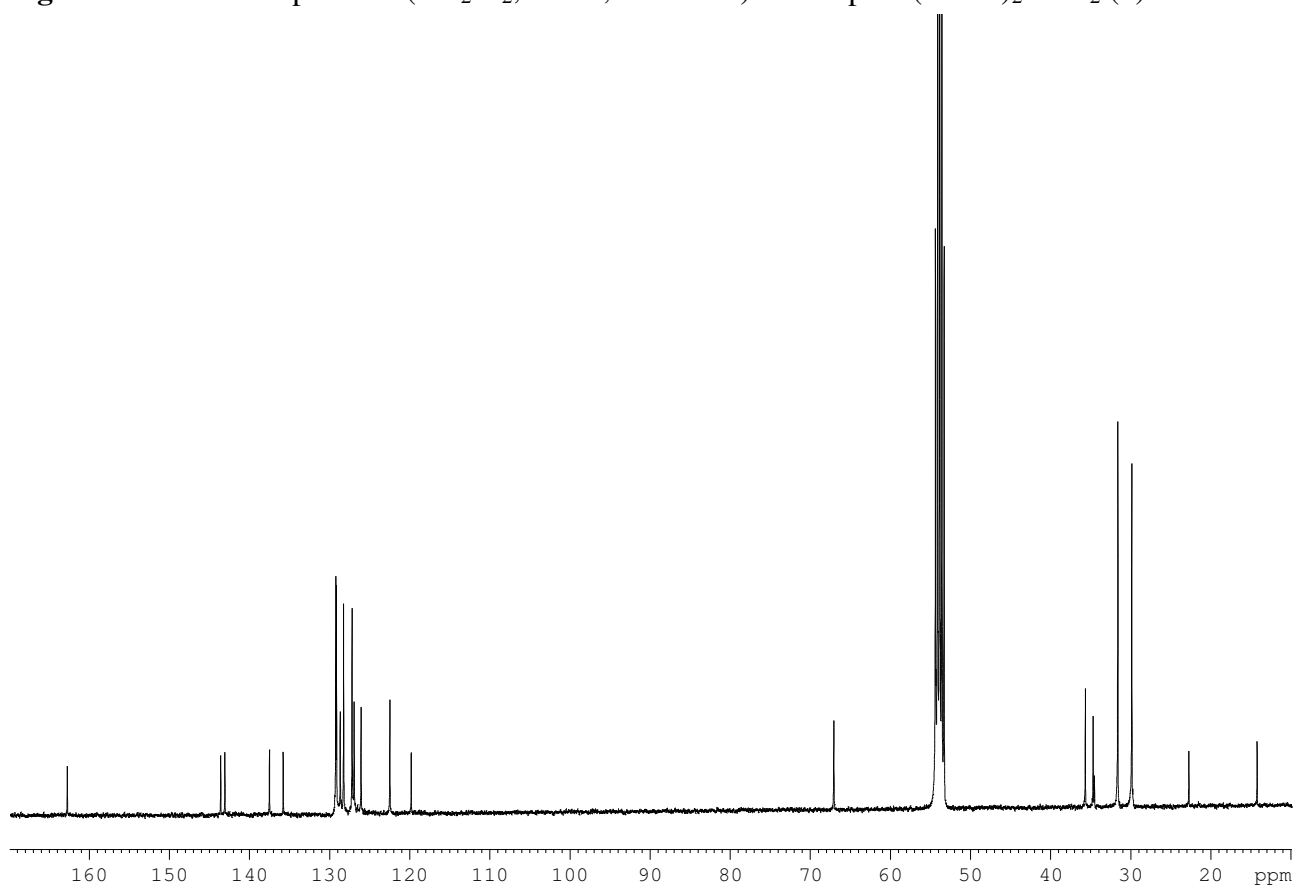


Figure S7. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 100 MHz) of complex $(^t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**).

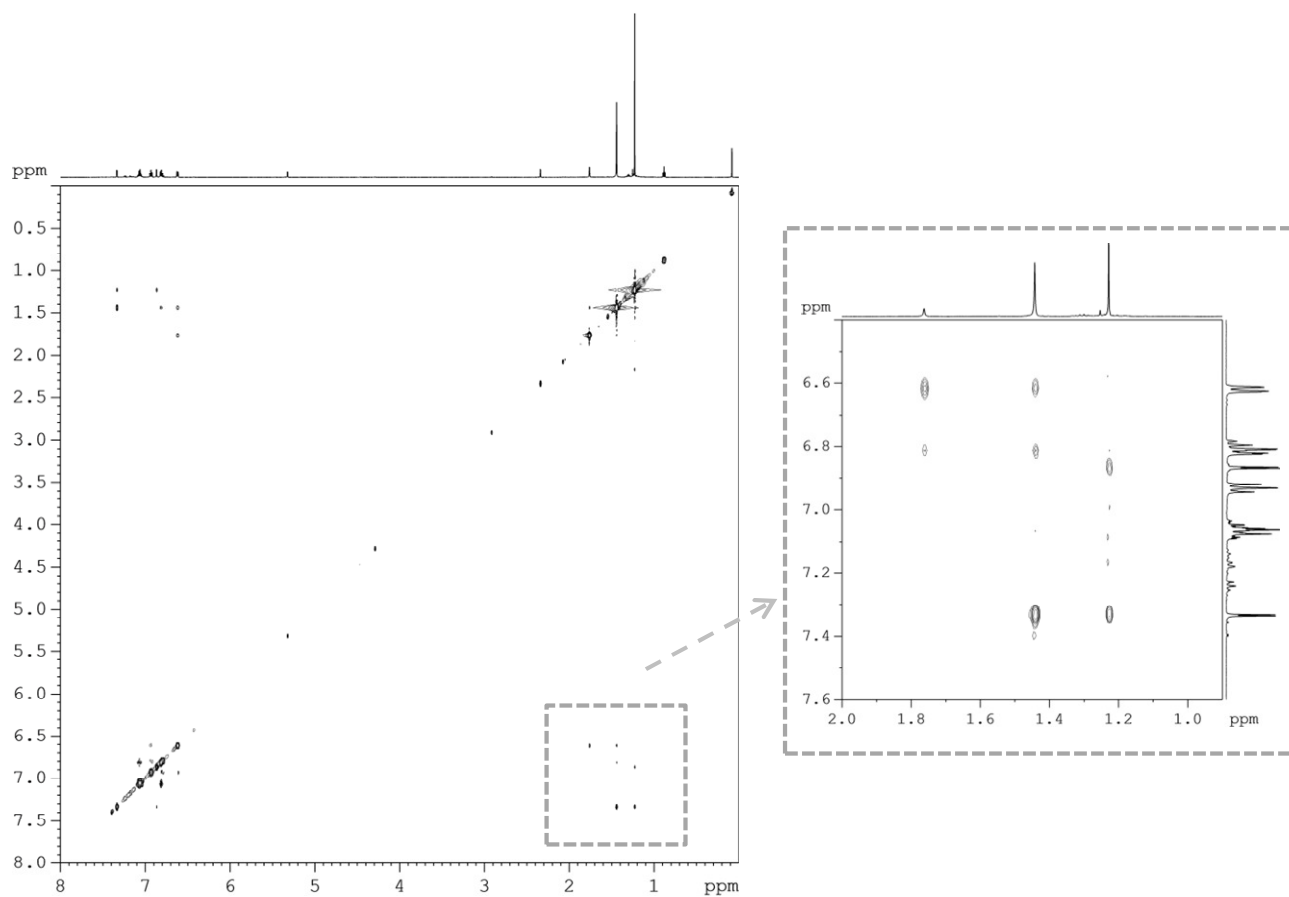


Figure S8. ^1H - ^1H NOESY spectrum ($\tau_m = 0.400$ s, CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**) at room temperature.

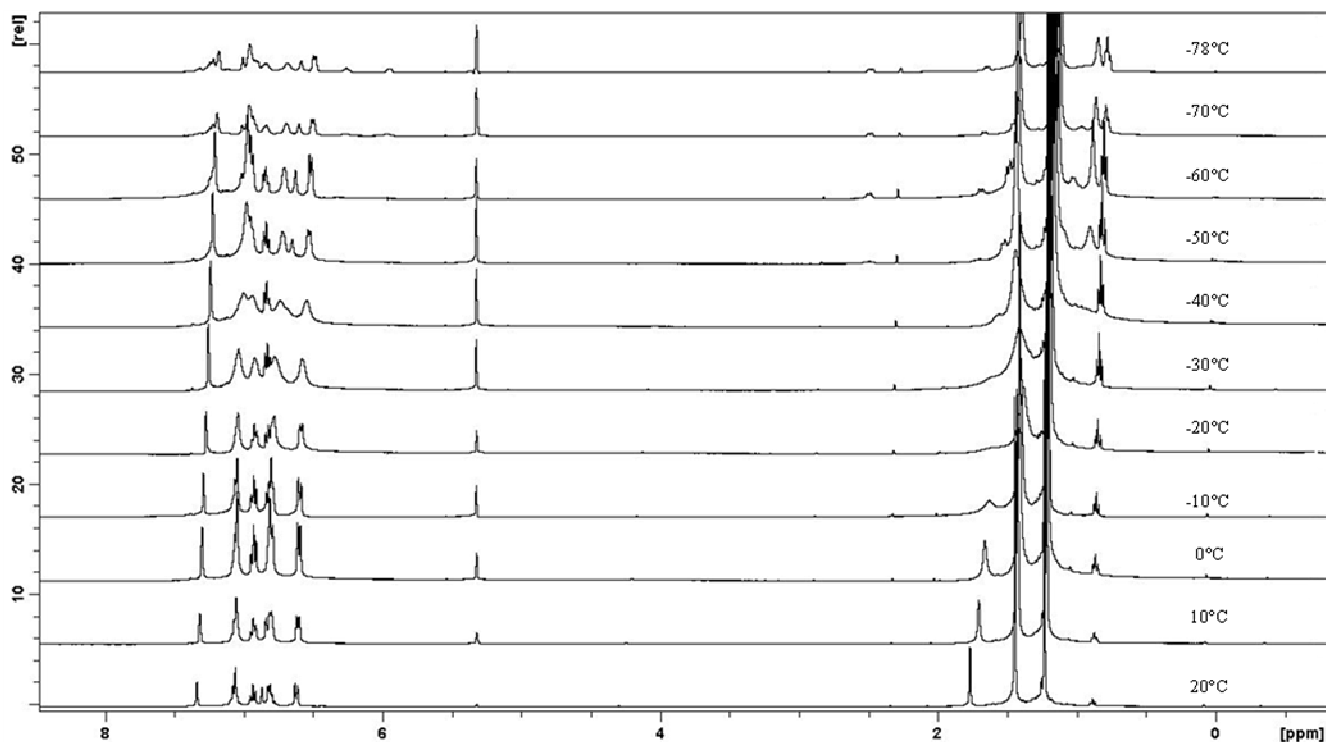


Figure S9a. Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**).

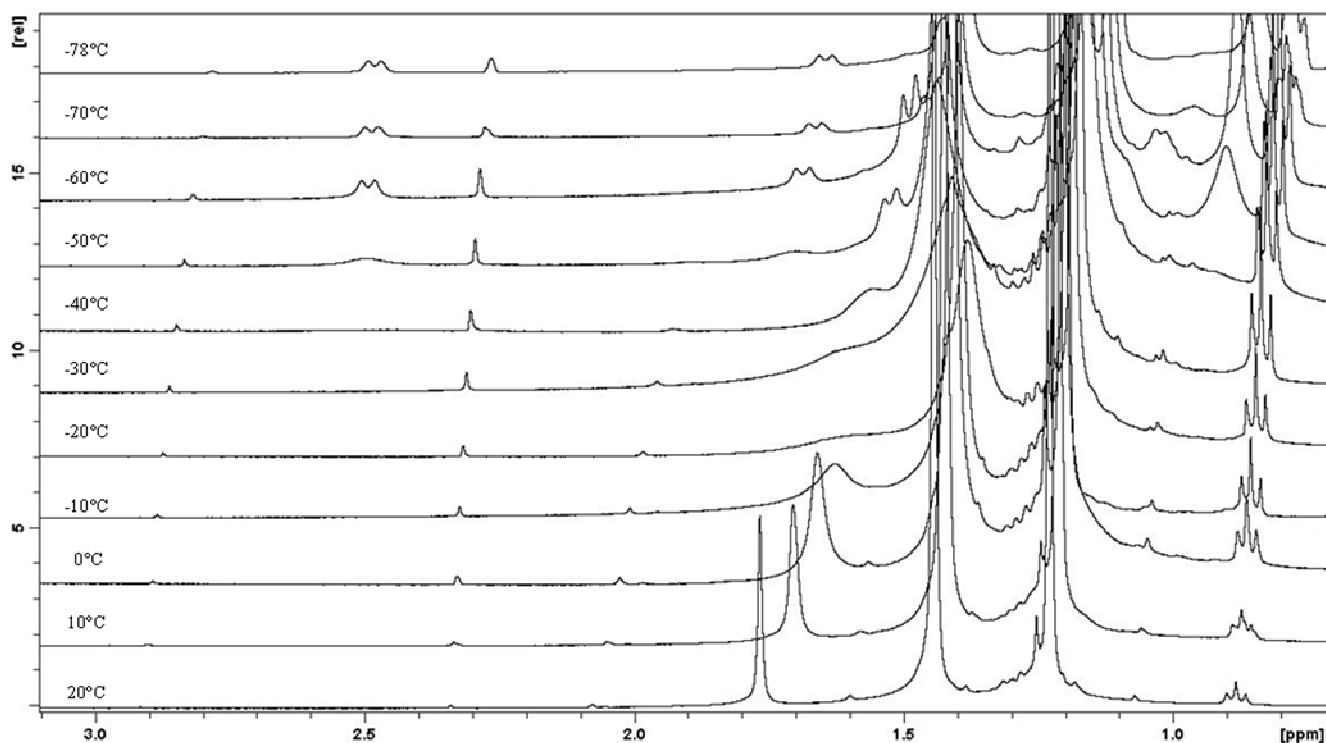


Figure S9b. Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**), in the region from 0.7 to 3.1 ppm.

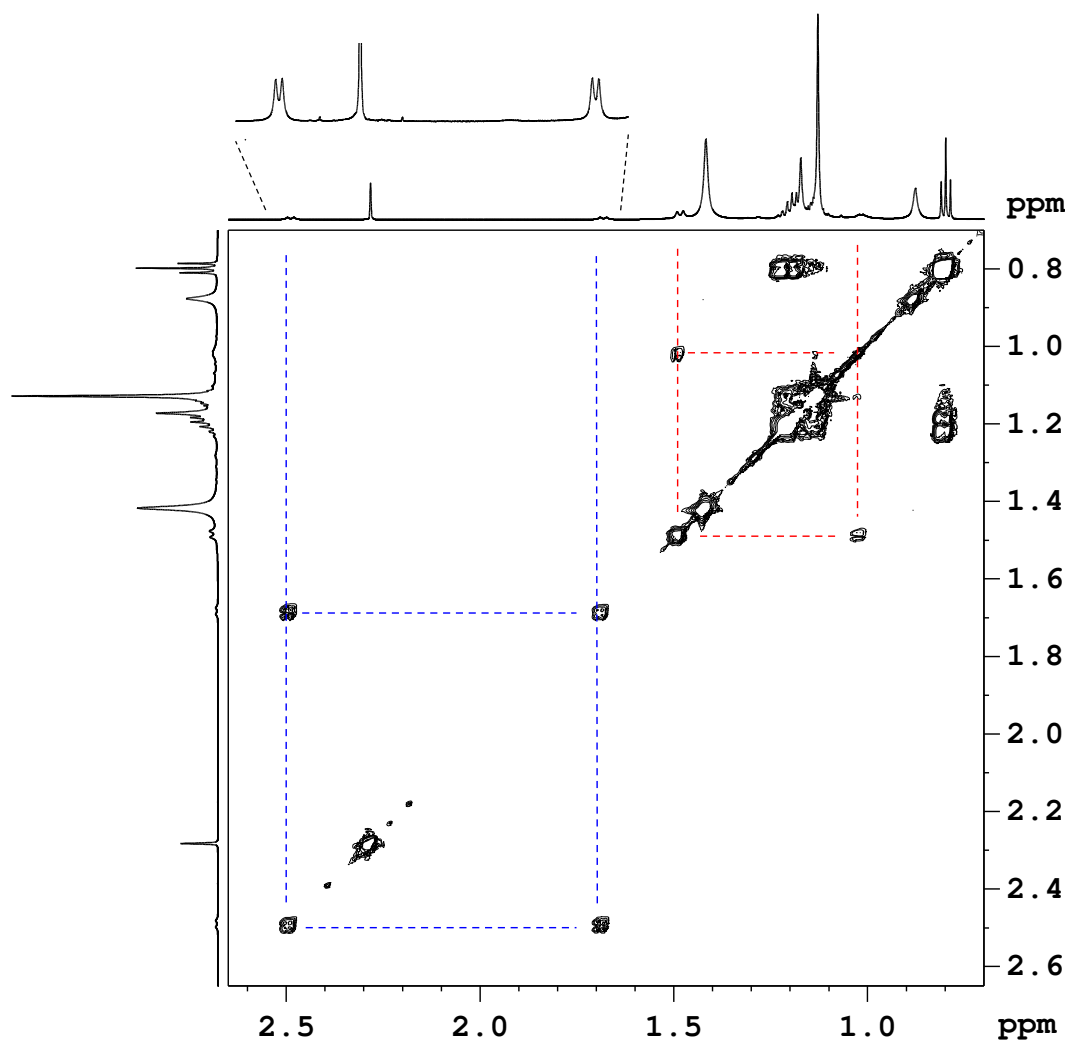


Figure S10. COSY spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 600MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**) showing the scalar coupling of the Zr- CH_2 -Ph resonances at $-80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

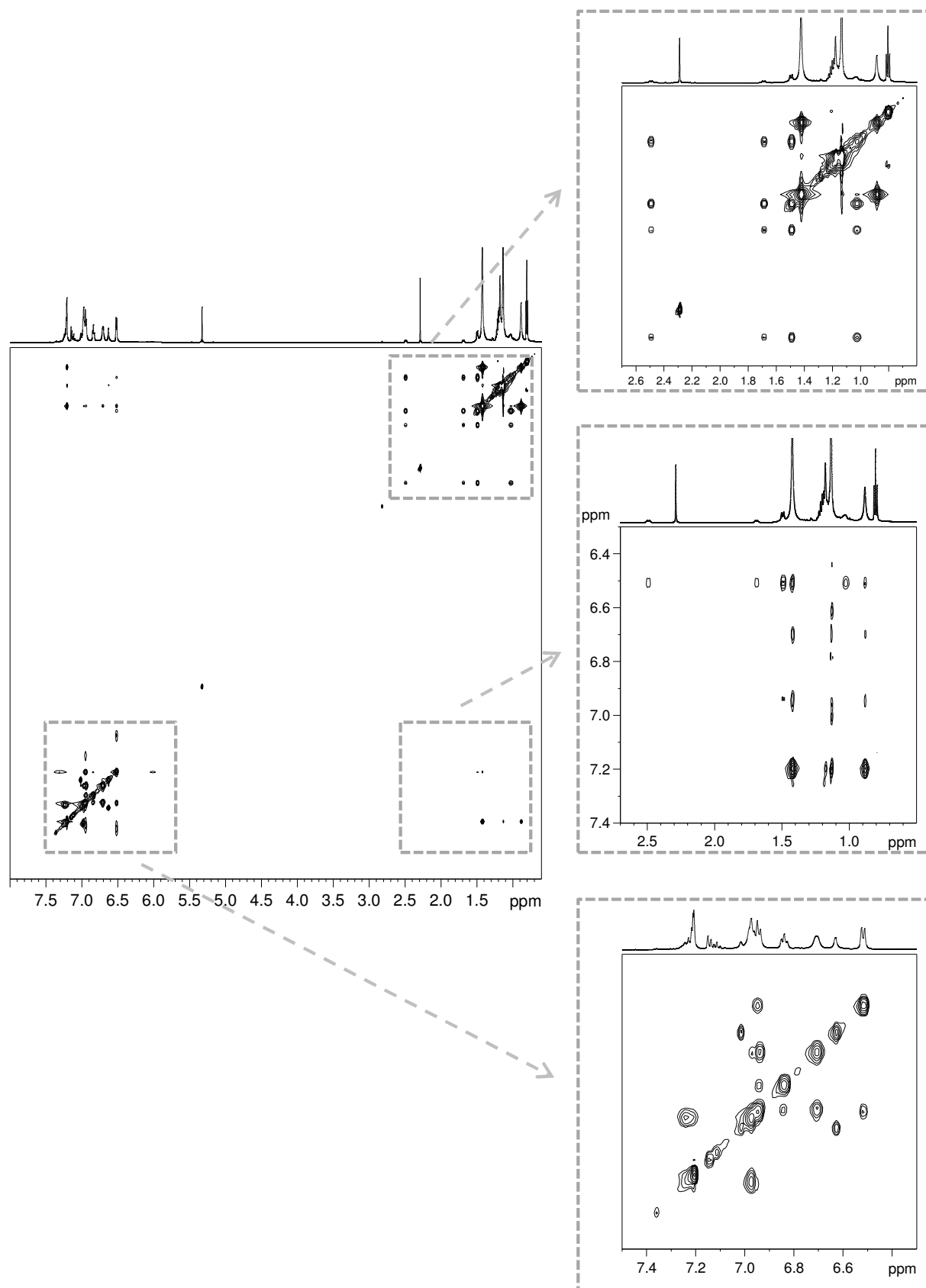


Figure S11. ^1H - ^1H NOESY spectrum ($\tau_m = 0.400$ s, CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**) at -80 °C.

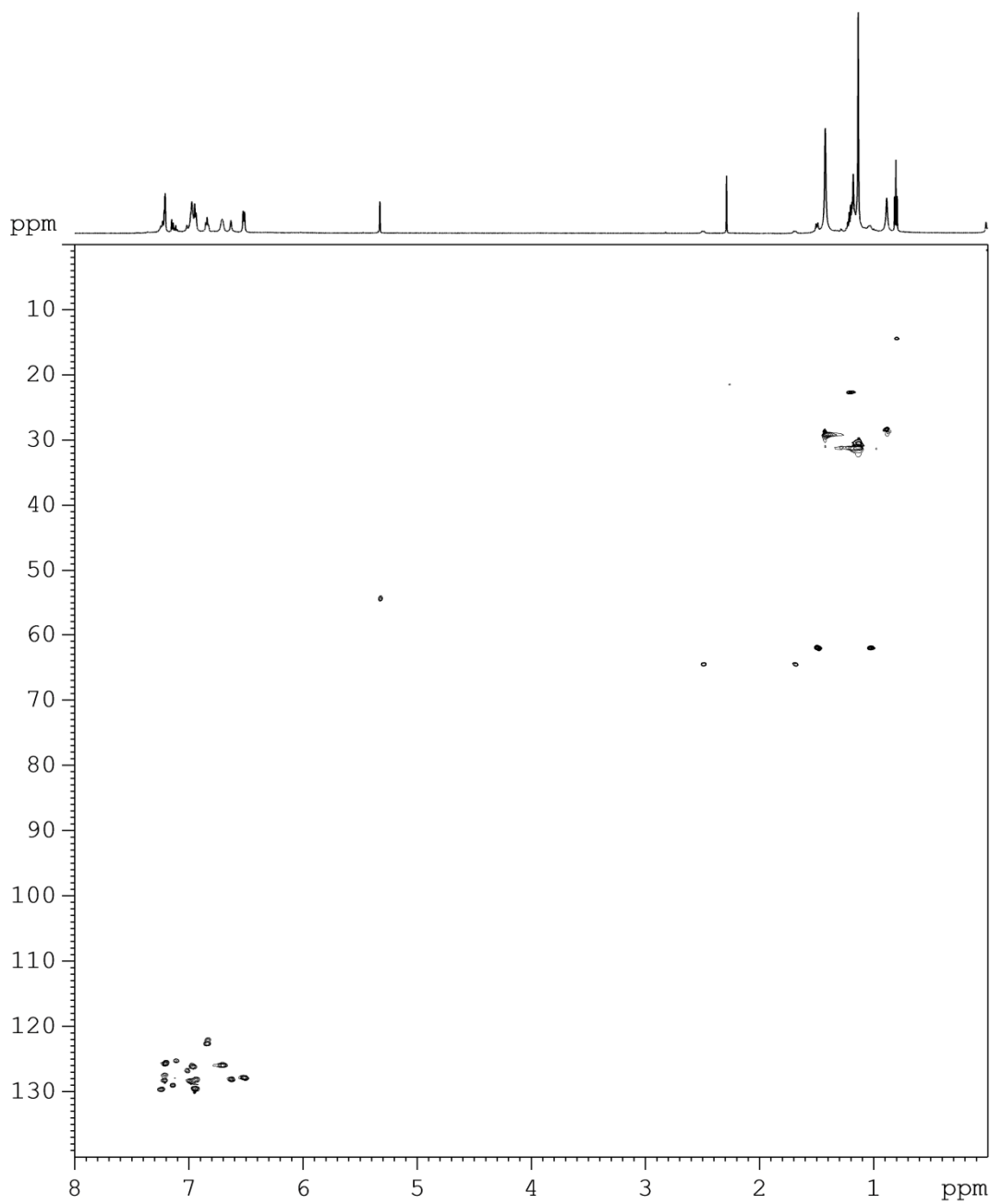


Figure S12. ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 600 MHz) of complex $(t\text{-BuOS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**3**) at $-80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

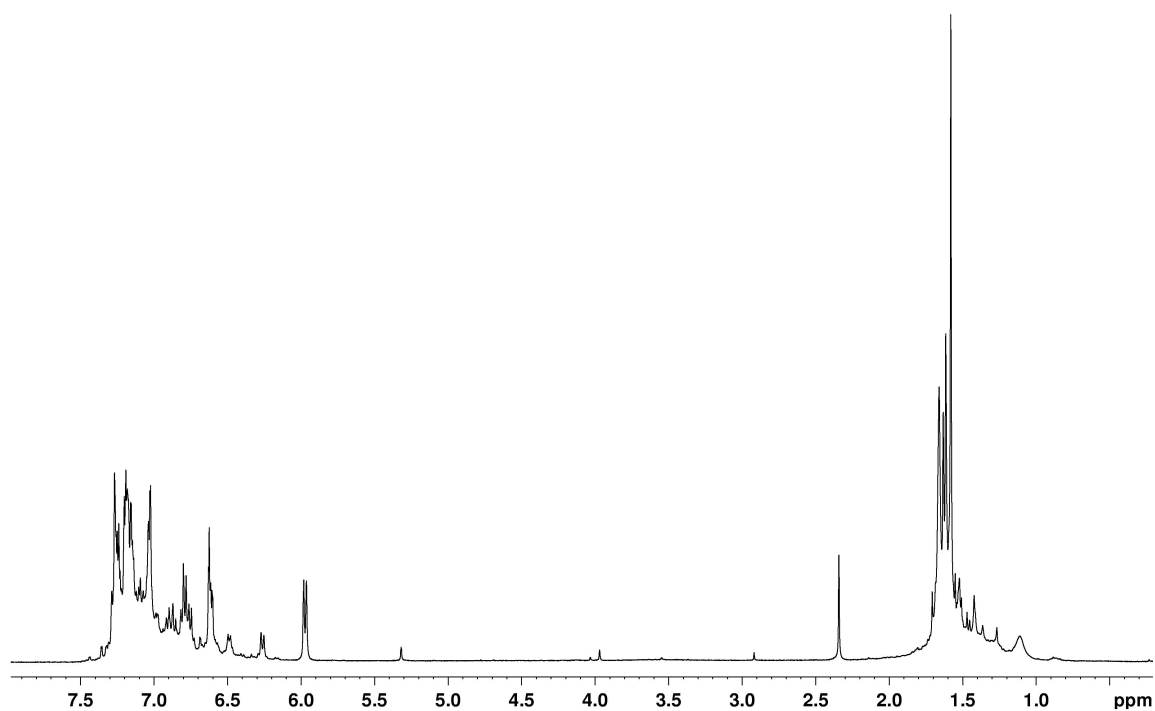


Figure S13. ^1H NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 400 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**4**).

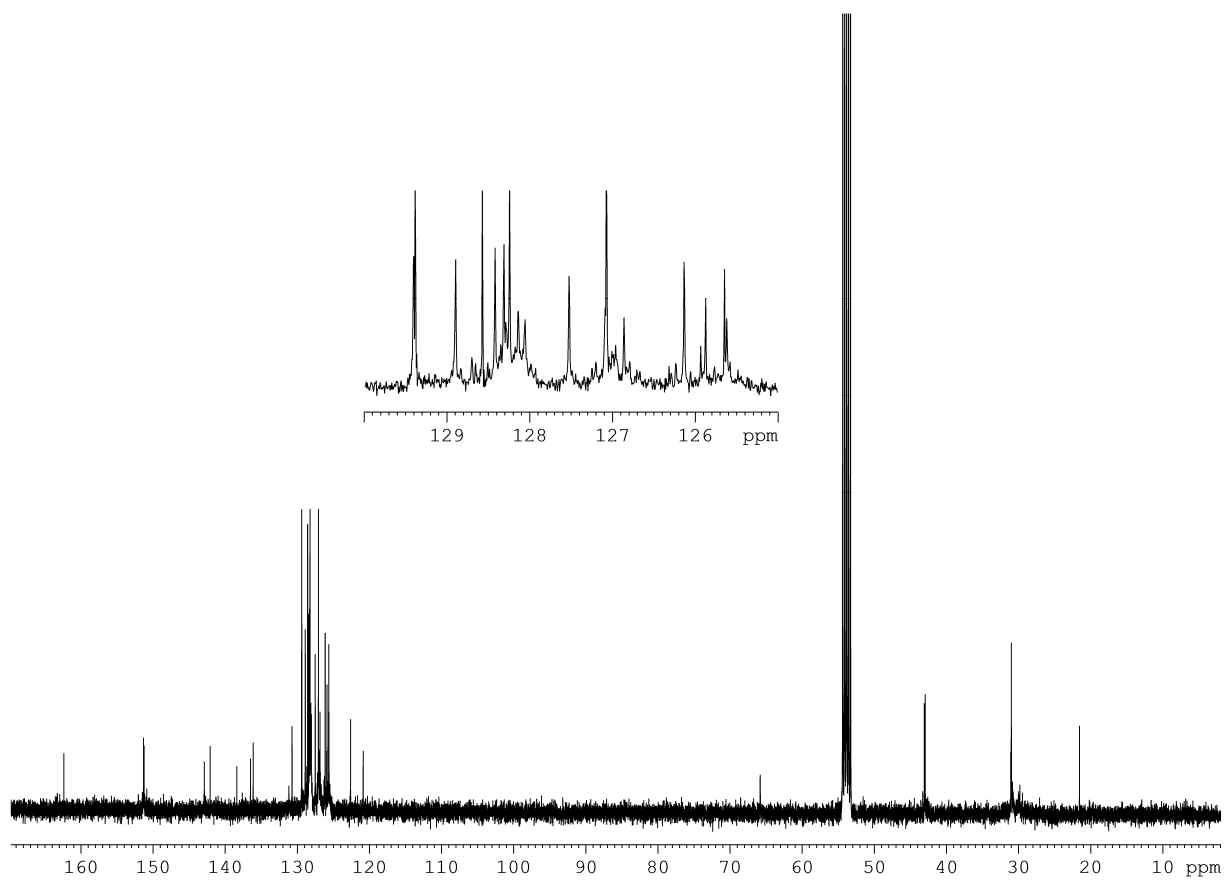
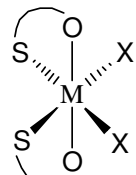
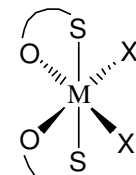
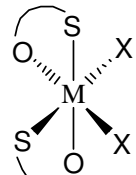
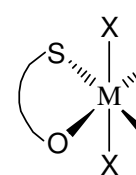
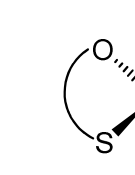
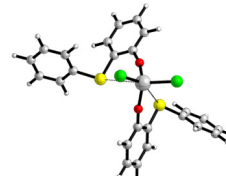
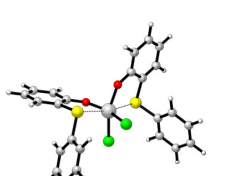
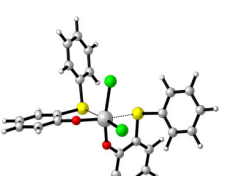
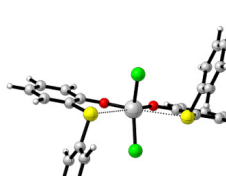
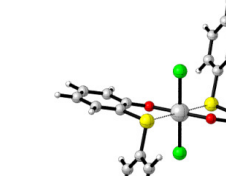
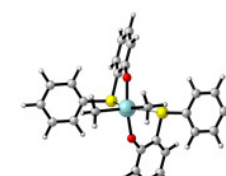
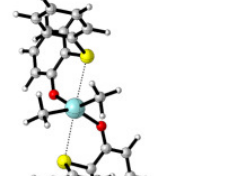
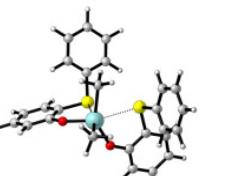
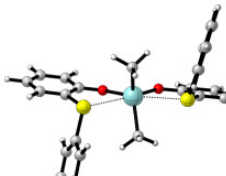
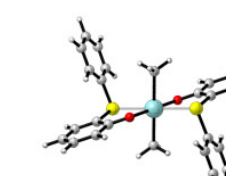


Figure S14. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CD_2Cl_2 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of complex $(^{\text{Cum}}\text{OS})_2\text{ZrBn}_2$ (**4**).

Table S1. Internal and Free Energy differences (kcal/mol) of the minimum energy structures for the five diastereoisomers of the (OS)₂MX₂ complexes (M = Ti, X = Cl; M = Zr, X = Me).

					
Diastereoisomer	A	B	C	D	E
Symmetry	C ₂	C ₂	C ₁	C ₂	C _i
Titanium					
Minimum Energy structure					
Imag. freq. ^a	0	0	0	0	2
ΔE	0.0	3.9	-1.7	0.4	15.5
ΔE _{ZPE} ^b	0.0	3.5	-1.8	0.3	-
ΔG ^c	0.0	8.3	3.9	4.8	-
Zirconium					
Minimum Energy structure					
Imag. freq. ^a	0	0	0	0	3
ΔE	0.0	3.8	2.0	2.7	37.6
ΔE _{ZPE} ^b	0.0	4.5	2.3	3.0	-
ΔG ^c	0.0	6.2	3.0	4.5	-

^a Number of imaginary frequencies ^b Zero Point Energy (ZPE) Corrected Energies (at 0 K); ^c Free Energies in gas phase thermodynamically corrected to 298 K.

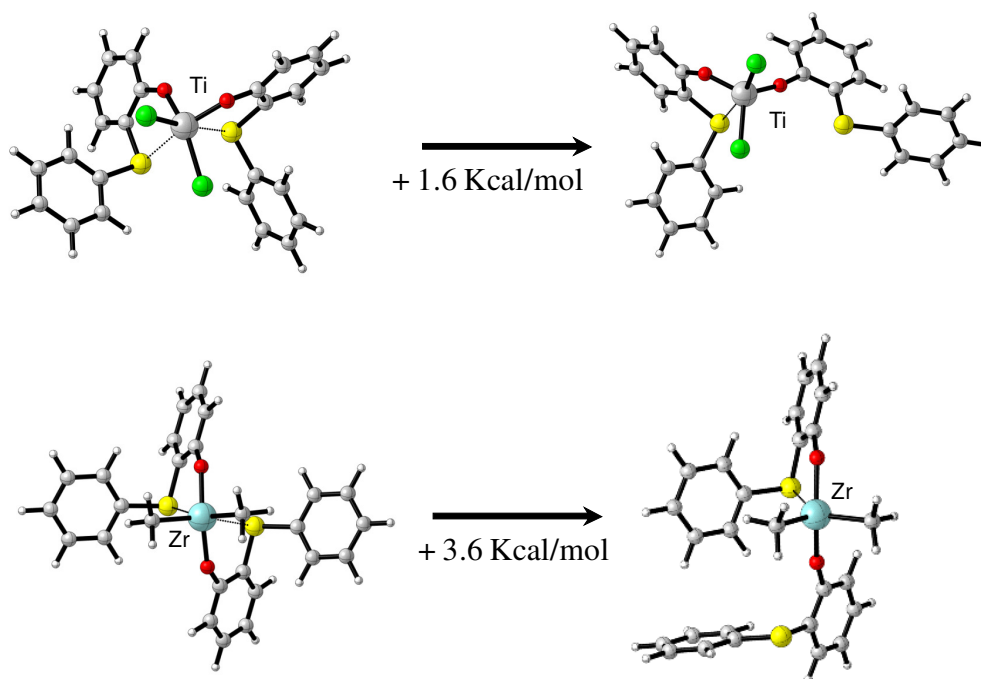


Figure S15. The opening ($\kappa^2 \rightarrow \kappa^1$) of one of the OS ligands in the titanium and zirconium $(OS)_2TiCl_2$ and $(OS)_2ZrMe_2$ complexes. The stereoisomers C and A were considered as starting species for the titanium and zirconium complexes, respectively.

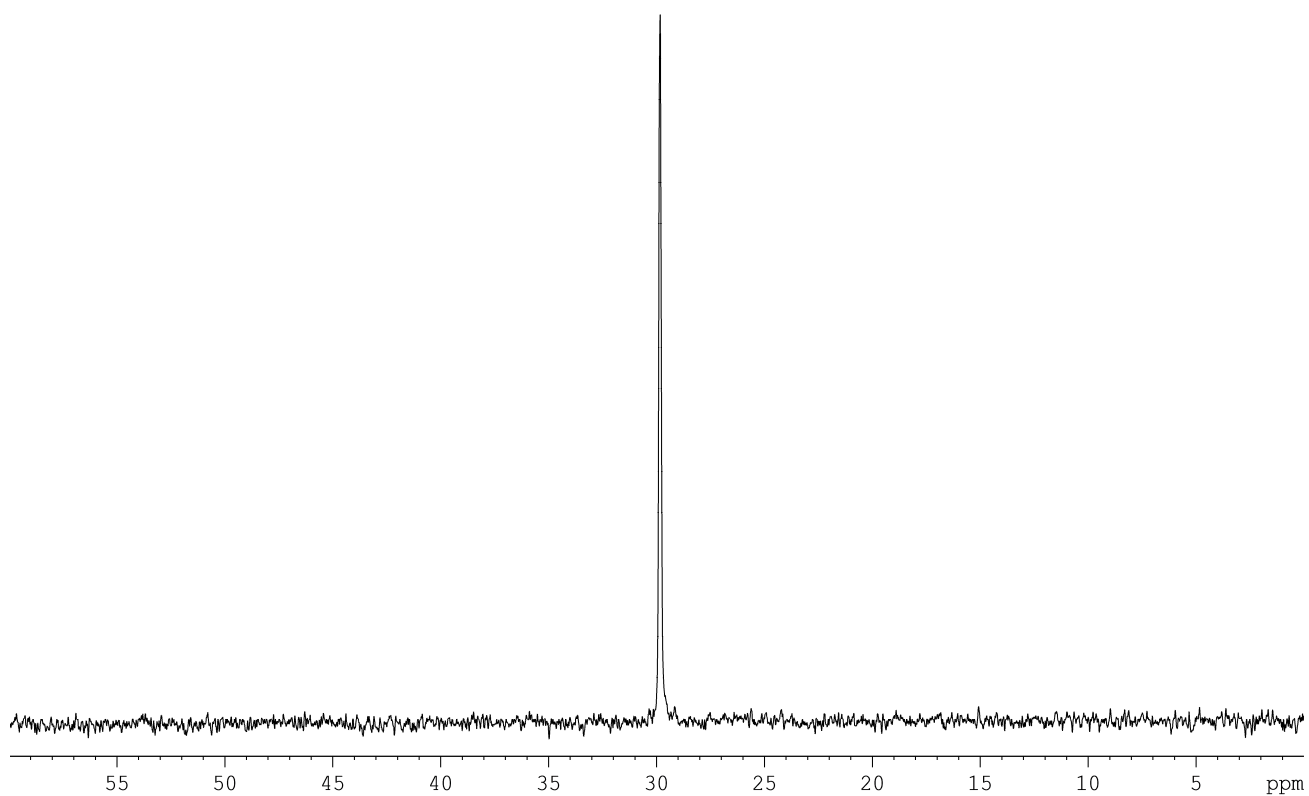


Figure S16. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (TCDE, 110°C, 75 MHz) of polyethylene of run 1, Table 1.

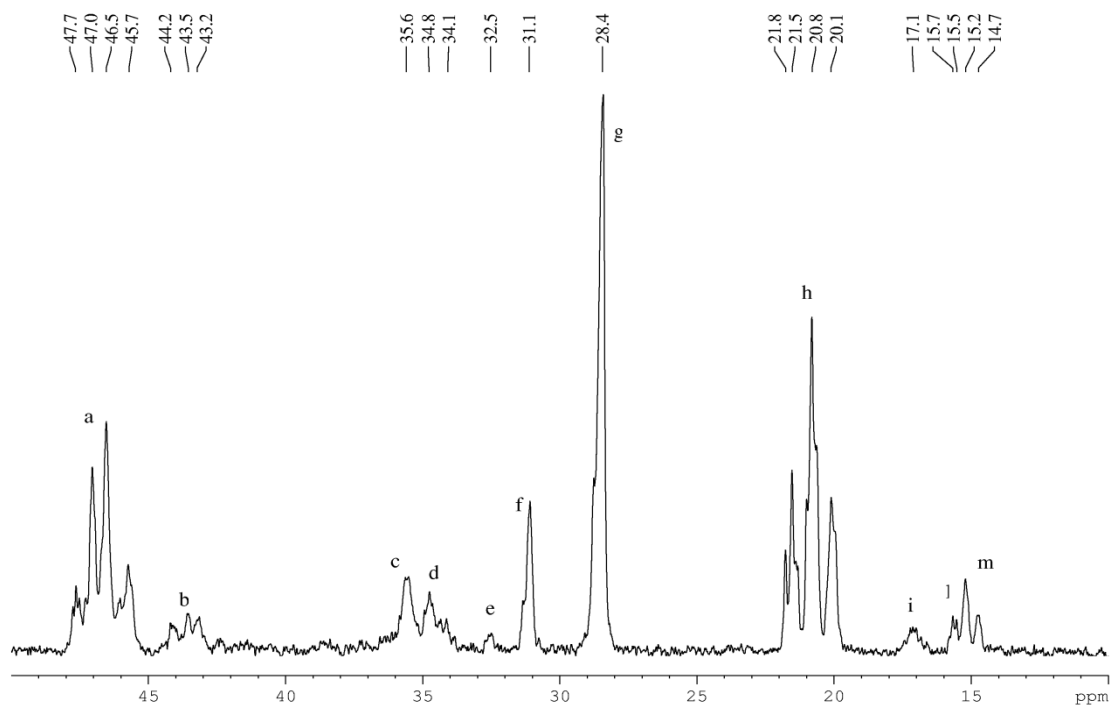


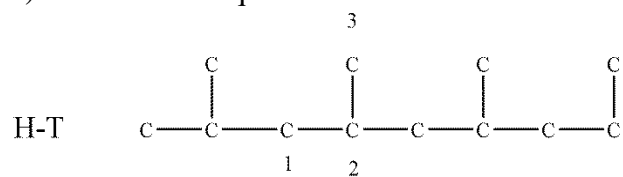
Figure S17. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (TCDE, 110°C, 75 MHz) of polypropylene sample of run 1 in Table 2.

Table S2. ^{13}C NMR chemical shift of polypropylene sample and the corresponding literature values for regioirregular polypropylene.¹

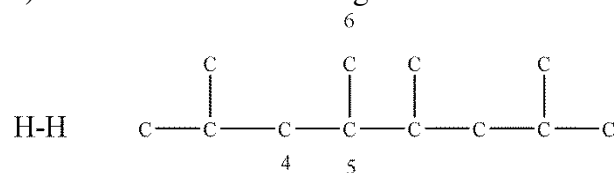
Line	Chemical shift (ppm from TMS)		H-T	H-H	T-T	1-r
	exp	Literature ¹				
a	45.7-47.6	45.7-47.7	$S_{\gamma\alpha\alpha\gamma}$ (1)			
		45.7-46.5			$S_{\gamma\alpha\alpha\delta}$ (7)	
b	42.9-44.2	43.3-44.1		$r_0\text{-}S_{\beta\alpha\alpha\gamma}$ (4)		$r_0\text{-}S_{\beta\alpha\alpha\gamma}$ (19)
		40.9-42.3		$m_0\text{-}S_{\beta\alpha\alpha\gamma}$ (4)		
		36.8-39.1				$r_0\text{-}T_{\delta\gamma\alpha\gamma}$ (15)
		36.5				$r_1\text{-}S_{\gamma\alpha\beta\gamma}$ (13)
c	35.6	35.4-35.6		$m_0\text{-}T_{\alpha\beta}$ (5)	$r_1\text{-}S_{\gamma\alpha\beta\delta}$ (10)	$m_1\text{-}S_{\gamma\alpha\beta\gamma}$ (13)
d	34.1-34.8	34.2-34.8		$r_0\text{-}T_{\alpha\beta}$ (5)	$m_1\text{-}S_{\gamma\alpha\beta\delta}$ (10)	$r_0\text{-}T_{\delta\alpha\beta\delta}$ (17)
e	32.6	32.6				$r_0\text{-}S_{\delta\beta\alpha\beta}$ (14)
f	31.1	31.1-31.3			$T_{\delta\beta\gamma\delta+}$ (8)	$T_{\delta\beta\gamma\delta}$ (11)
g	28.4	28.3-28.4	$T_{\beta\beta}$ (2)			
h	20.1-21.8	20.1-21.7	$P_{\beta\beta}$ (3)			
		20.1-20.9			$m_1\text{-}P_{\beta\gamma}$ (9) $r_1\text{-}P_{\beta\gamma}$ (9)	$m_1\text{-}P_{\delta\beta\gamma\delta}$ (12) $r_1\text{-}P_{\delta\beta\gamma\delta}$ (12)
i	16.8-17.2	16.6-17.2		$m_0\text{-}P_{\alpha\beta}$ (6)		
l	15.5-17.5					
m	14.7-15.2	14.7-15.1		$r_0\text{-}P_{\alpha\beta}$ (6)		$r_0\text{-}P_{\delta\gamma\alpha\gamma}$ (16) $r_0\text{-}P_{\delta\alpha\beta\delta}$ (18)

The table contains the chemical shifts of peaks observed in the ^{13}C spectrum of PP obtained from run 1 Table2. The observed chemical shifts are listed in the column **exp**, and compared to those reported in literature and listed in the column **Literature**. The letters in column **Line** refer to Figure S17 and the numbers reported in brackets refer to the Figure S18.

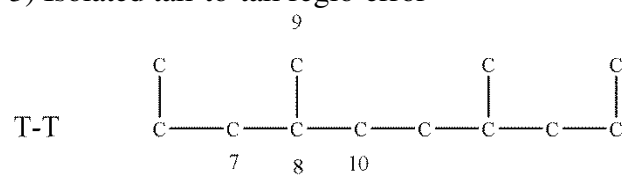
1) Head-to tail sequence



2) Isolated head-to-head regio-error



3) Isolated tail-to-tail regio-error



4) Single inverted unit in the head-to tail sequence

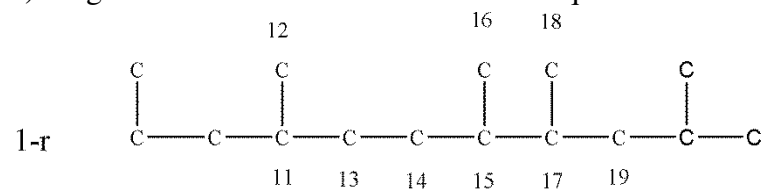


Figure S18. Possible modes of 2,1 insertion during the propylene polymerization.

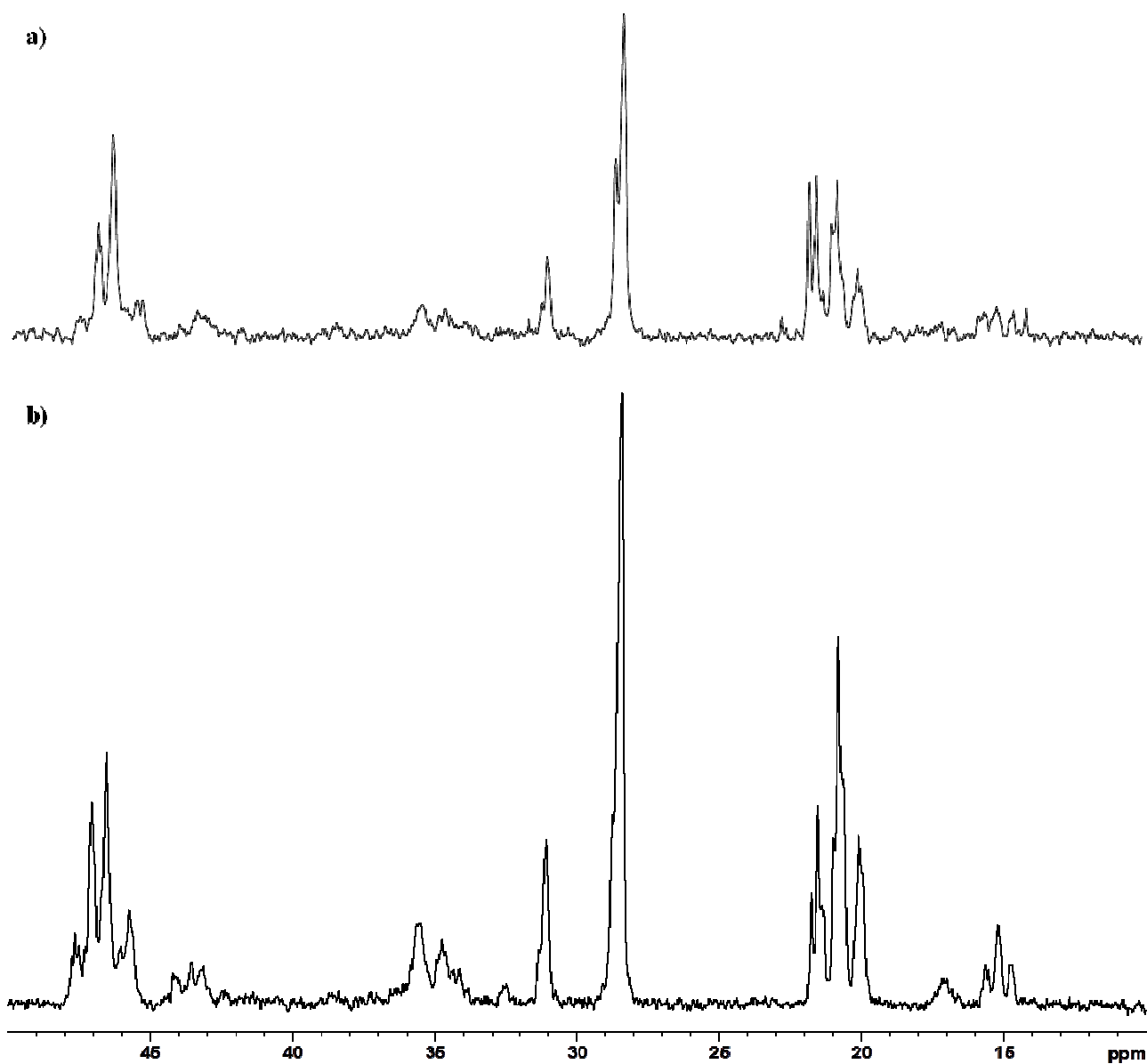


Figure S19 ^{13}C NMR spectra (TCDE, 110 °C, 75 MHz) of polypropylene samples of **run 4** (a) and **1** (b) Table 2.

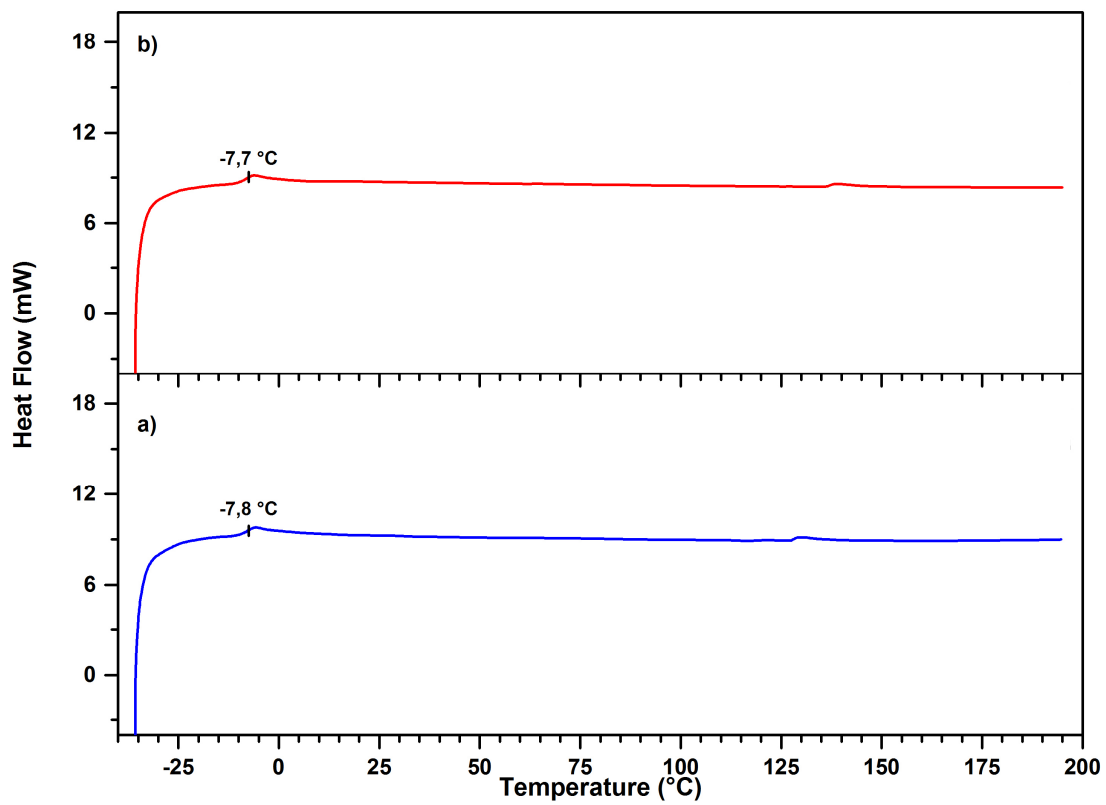


Figure S20. DSC thermograms for polypropylene samples of run 1 (a) and 3 (b) Table 2. Heating rate =10°C min⁻¹

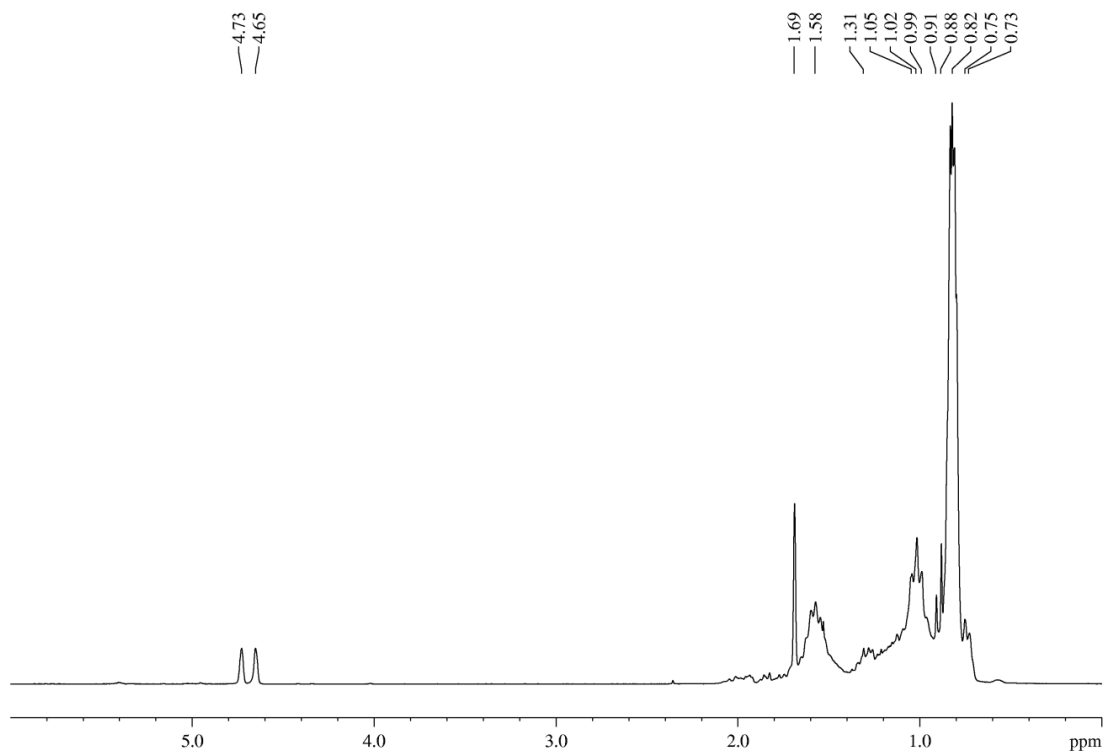


Figure S21. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, 300 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 2 Table 2.

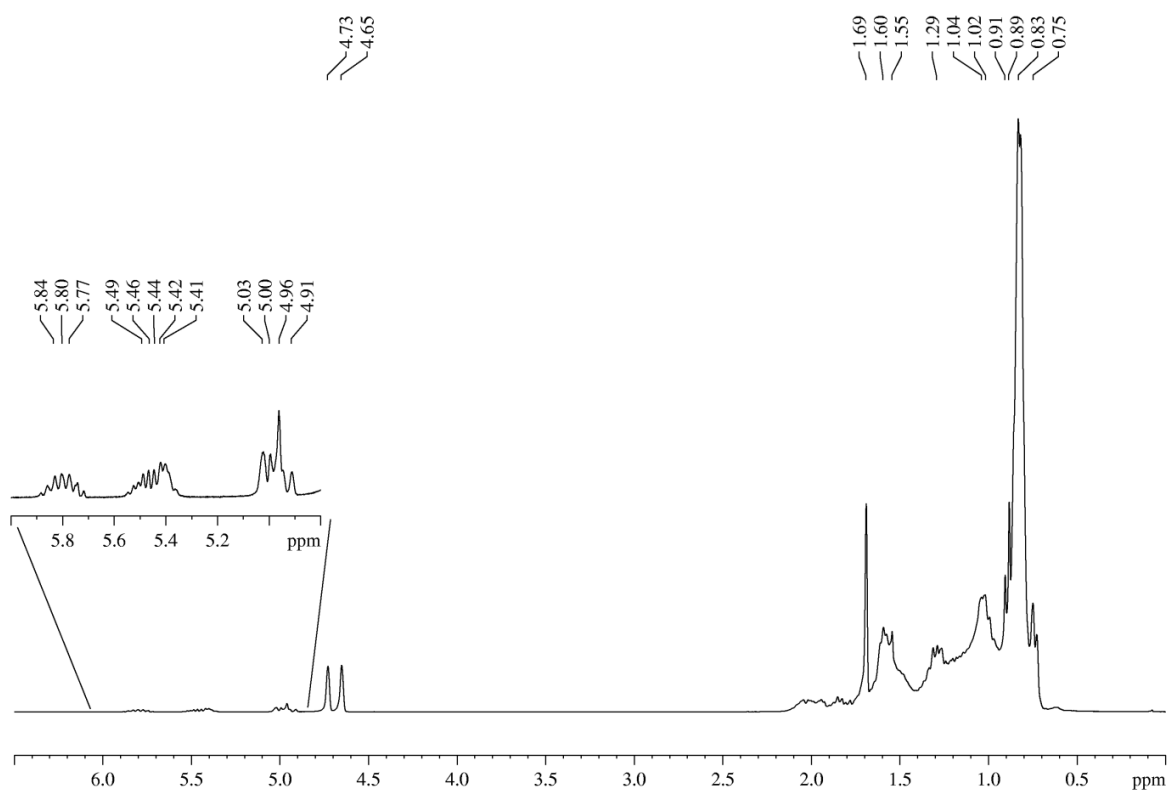


Figure S22. ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, 300 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 3 Table 2.

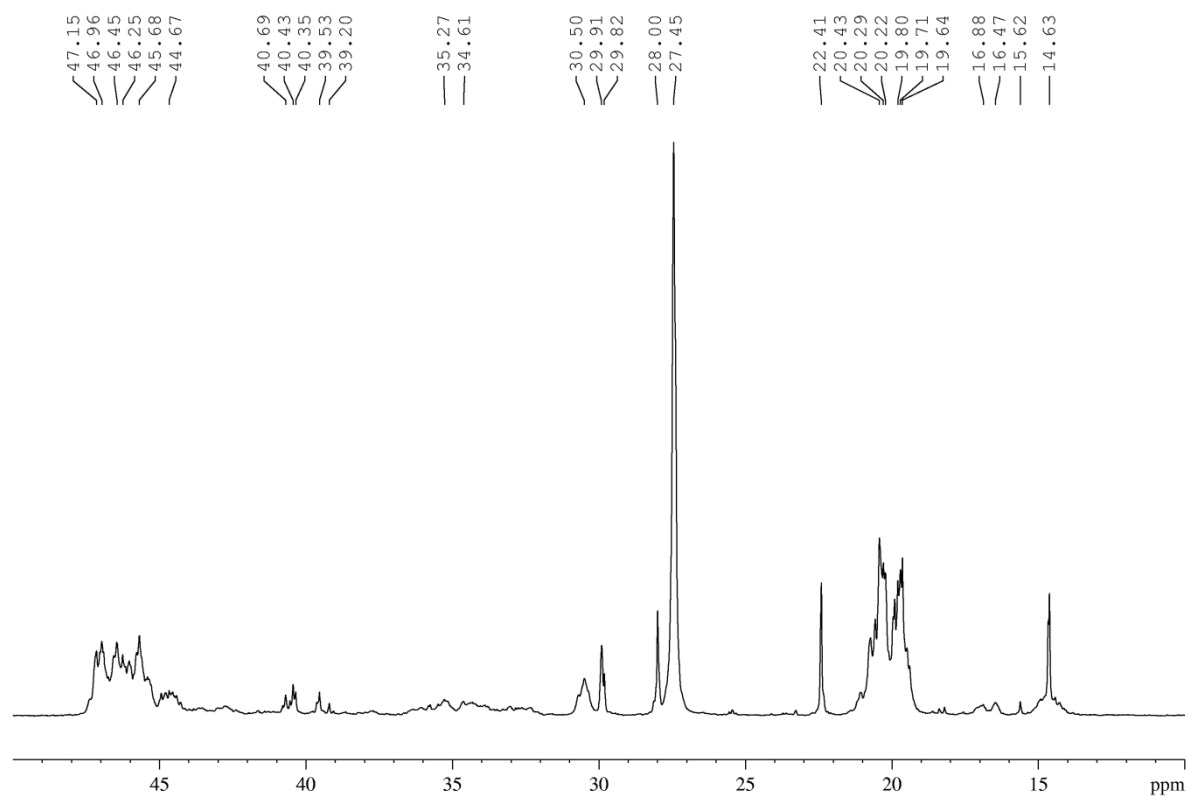


Figure S23. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 2 Table 2.

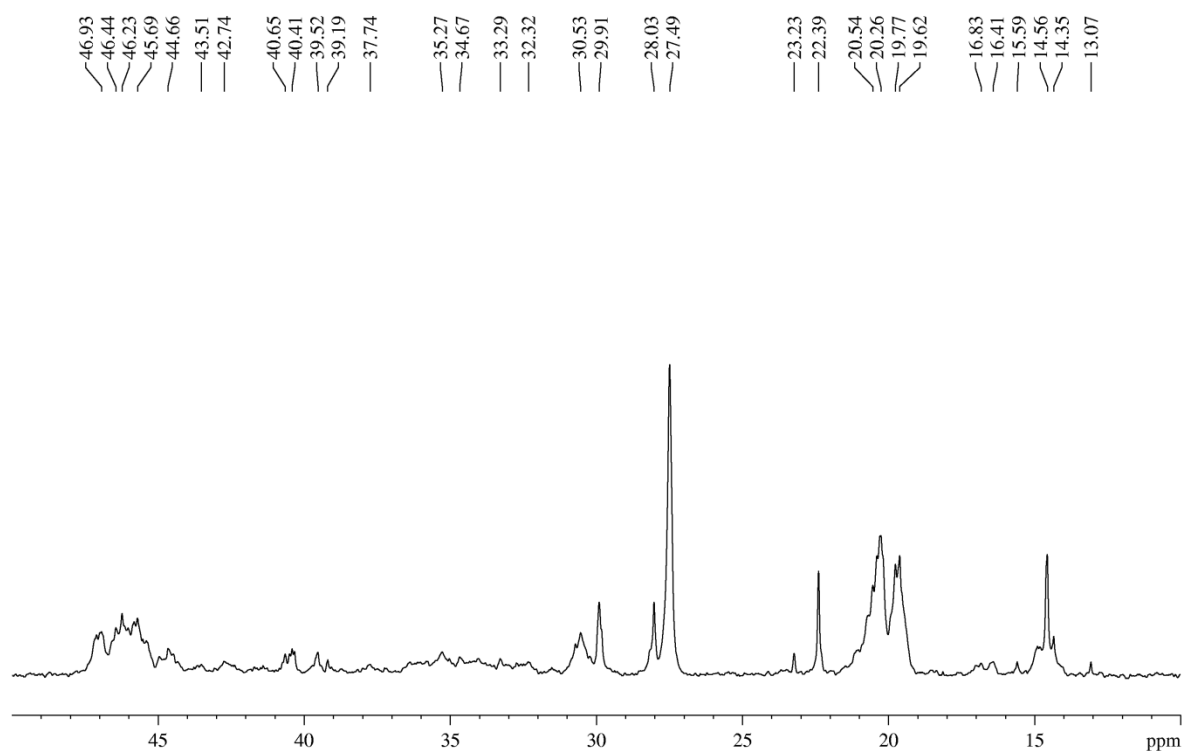


Figure S24. Aliphatic region of ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75.5 MHz) of oligomers obtained from the run 3 Table 2.

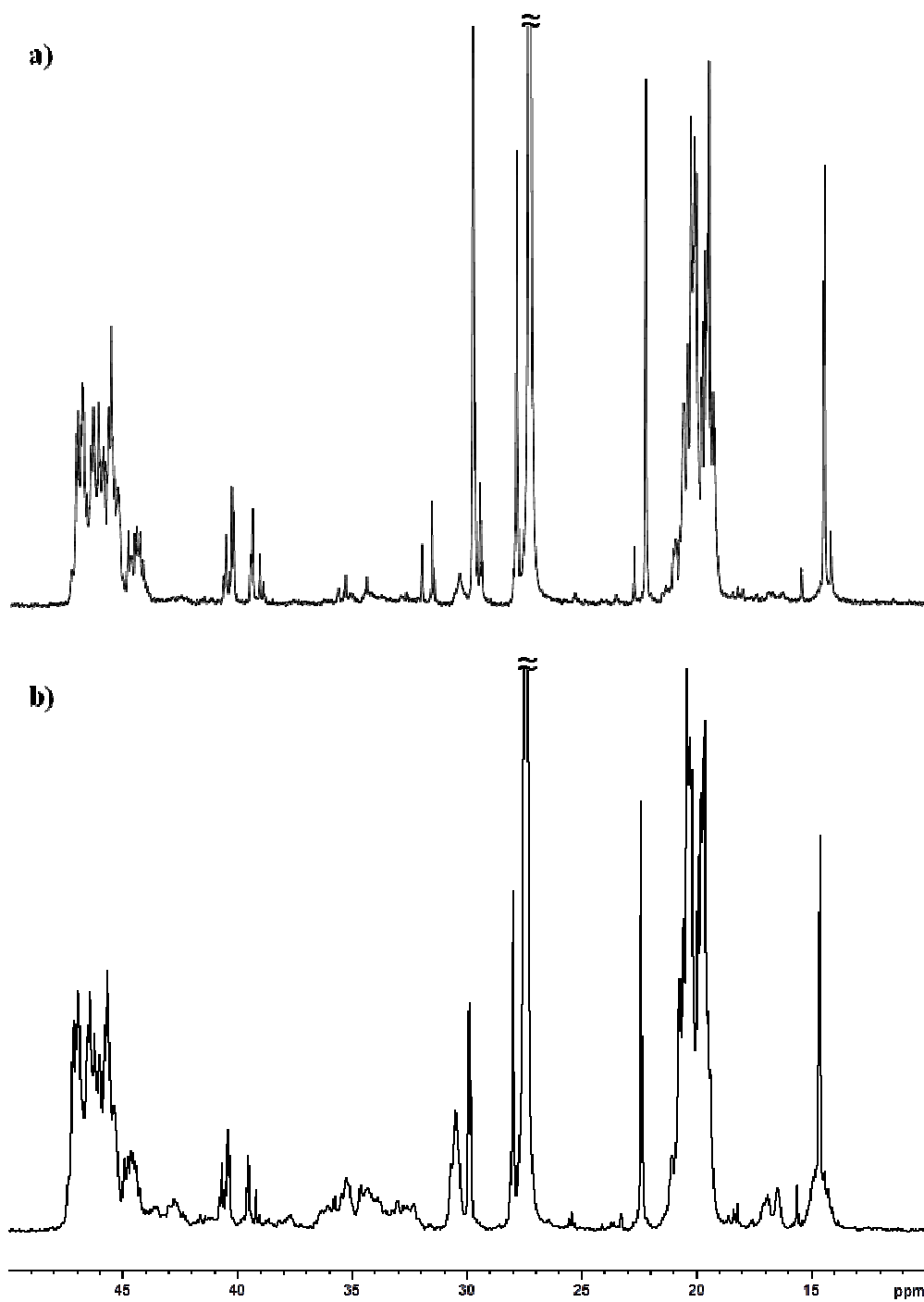


Figure S25. ^{13}C NMR spectra (CDCl_3 , 25 °C, 75 MHz) of oligomers samples of run 5 (a) and 2 (b) Table 2.

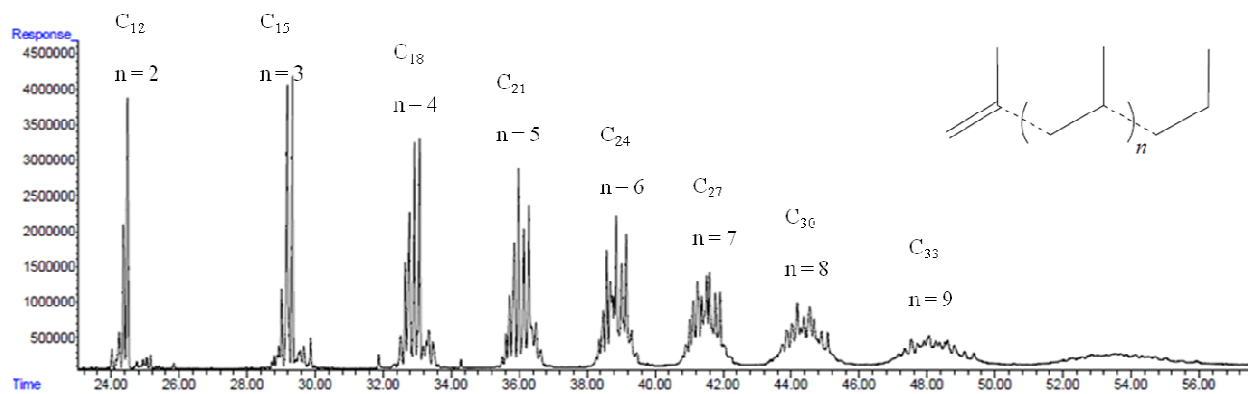


Figure S26. GC trace of the oligomers sample from run 2 Table 2.

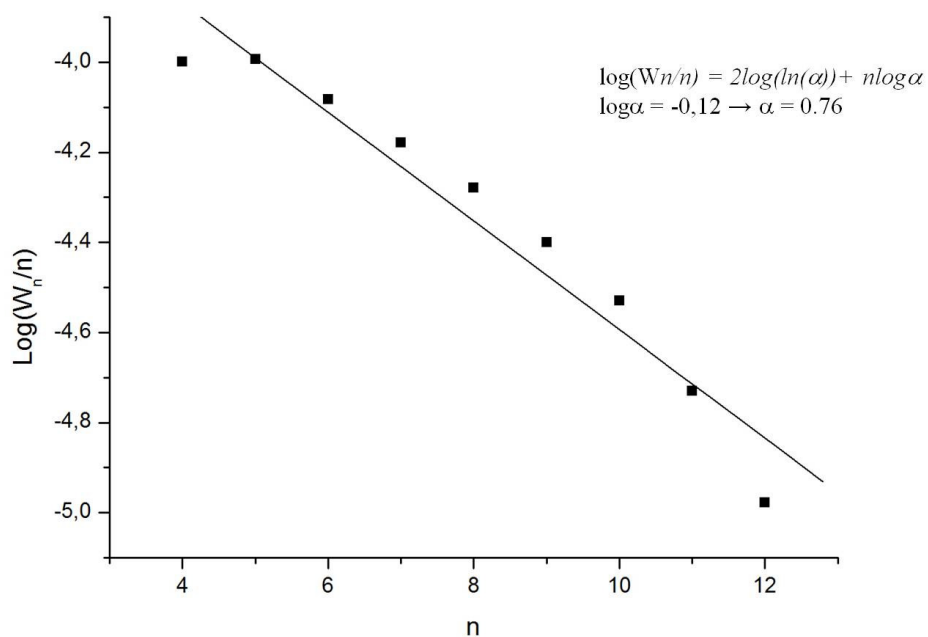


Figure S27. Schulz-Flory distribution of oligomers sample of run 2 Table 2. (R = 0.969).

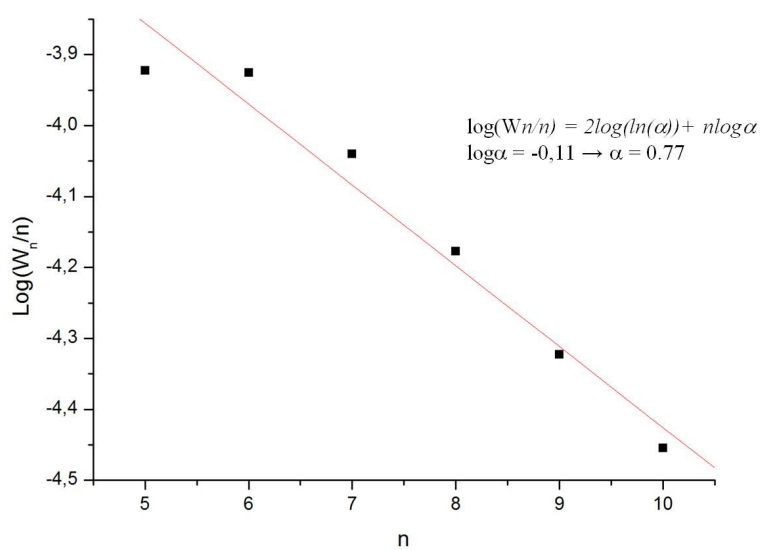


Figure S28. Schulz-Flory distribution of oligomers sample of run 3 Table 2. (R = 0.979).

References

- 1) T. Asakura, N. Nakayama, M. Demura, A. Asano, *Macromolecules* 1992, **25**, 4876-4881.
- 2) L. Resconi, L. Cavallo, A. Fait, F. Piemontesi, *Chem. Rev.* 2000, **100**, 1253-1345.