

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## **$\beta$ -Diketimate Calcium Hydride Complexes: The Importance of Solvent Effects**

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## 1. Crystal structures

All crystal structures have been measured on a SuperNova (Agilent) diffractometer with dual Cu and Mo microfocus sources and an Atlas S2 detector. Using Olex2,<sup>1</sup> the structures were solved by Direct Methods (ShelXT)<sup>2</sup> and refined with ShelXL<sup>3</sup> using Least Squares minimization. Geometric calculations and graphical presentations were done with the program PLATON.<sup>4</sup> Crystallographic data can be found below and have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC 1520540 [(DIPPnacnac)CaH·Et<sub>2</sub>O]<sub>2</sub>, 1520541 [(DIPPnacnac)CaH]<sub>2</sub>·DABCO), 1520542 (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·DME, 1520543 [(DIPPnacnac)CaH·Morph]<sub>2</sub>, 1520544 (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·Morph, 1520545 (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1520546 [(DIPPnacnac)CaOEt]<sub>2</sub>·C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and 1520547 [(DIPPnacnac)CaOEt]<sub>2</sub>. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44)1223-336-033; E-mail: [deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk)).

## 1.1 Crystal structure of (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·DME

Identification code	hasj160615a
Empirical formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>72</sub> CaN <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	747.28
Temperature/K	99.9(4)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
a/Å	11.68700(18)
b/Å	18.0806(2)
c/Å	21.8110(4)
α/°	90
β/°	105.3719(17)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	4443.95(12)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.117
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.997
F(000)	1636.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.4381 × 0.2622 × 0.1163
Radiation	CuKα (λ = 1.54184)
2θ range for data collection/°	7.846 to 136.232
Index ranges	-14 ≤ h ≤ 14, -21 ≤ k ≤ 21, -26 ≤ l ≤ 24
Reflections collected	44083
Independent reflections	8111 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0496, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0271]
Data/restraints/parameters	8111/0/469
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.041
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0356, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0963
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0369, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0980
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.37/-0.26

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model.

## 1.2 Crystal structure of (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·Morph

Identification code	hasj161128a
Empirical formula	C <sub>160</sub> H <sub>280</sub> Ca <sub>4</sub> N <sub>16</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>8</sub>
Formula weight	2877.02
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	11.30050(10)
b/Å	20.2024(2)
c/Å	39.1907(2)
α/°	102.3440(10)
β/°	90.1900(10)
γ/°	90.3460(10)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	8740.03(13)
Z	2
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>	1.093
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	2.003
F(000)	3152.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.3013 × 0.2119 × 0.171
Radiation	Cu Kα (λ = 1.54184)
2θ range for data collection/°	6.926 to 136.236
Index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 13, -24 ≤ k ≤ 24, -47 ≤ l ≤ 38
Reflections collected	86599
Independent reflections	31761 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0407, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0355]
Data/restraints/parameters	31761/0/1805
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.028
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0396, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1051
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0436, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1085
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.62/-0.49

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model. The asymmetric unit contains 4 independent molecules. No higher symmetry could be detected.

### 1.3 Crystal structure of [(DIPPnacnac)CaH·Et<sub>2</sub>O]<sub>2</sub>

Identification code	hasj150130c
Empirical formula	C <sub>66</sub> H <sub>104</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	1065.69

Temperature/K	291.81(10)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a/Å	11.98073(15)
b/Å	15.11446(17)
c/Å	18.0466(2)
α/°	90
β/°	97.5028(12)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	3239.93(7)
Z	2
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>	1.092
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.846
F(000)	1168.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.2716 × 0.1884 × 0.1097
Radiation	CuKα (λ = 1.54184)
2θ range for data collection/°	7.656 to 136.234
Index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 14, -18 ≤ k ≤ 8, -18 ≤ l ≤ 21
Reflections collected	11551
Independent reflections	5888 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0268, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0364]
Data/restraints/parameters	5888/0/354
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.040
Final R indexes [ I  ≥ 2σ(I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0441, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1174
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0484, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1222
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.59/-0.28

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model, except for the hydride H atoms which were found in the difference-Fourier map and refined isotropically.

#### 1.4 Crystal structure of [(DIPPnacnac)CaH·Morph]<sub>2</sub>

Identification code	hasj161012a
Empirical formula	C <sub>68</sub> H <sub>106</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	1119.74
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a/Å	14.4825(2)
b/Å	13.02210(10)

$c/\text{\AA}$	18.2443(2)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	100.2860(10)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	3385.44(7)
Z	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{g/cm}^3$	1.098
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	1.798
F(000)	1224.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	$0.3828 \times 0.3238 \times 0.1131$
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 1.54184$ )
2 $\theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	7.198 to 136.2
Index ranges	$-12 \leq h \leq 17, -14 \leq k \leq 15, -17 \leq l \leq 21$
Reflections collected	30269
Independent reflections	6166 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0578, R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0329$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	6166/0/371
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.056
Final R indexes [ $ I  \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0393, wR_2 = 0.1076$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0415, wR_2 = 0.1101$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{\AA}^{-3}$	0.68/-0.28

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model, except for the hydride H atoms which were found in the difference-Fourier map and refined isotropically.

### 1.5 Crystal structure of $[(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaH}]_2 \cdot \text{DABCO}$

Identification code	hasj160613a
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{48}\text{CaN}_3$
Formula weight	514.81
Temperature/K	100.0(3)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$
$a/\text{\AA}$	8.88056(13)
$b/\text{\AA}$	15.1230(2)
$c/\text{\AA}$	22.2473(3)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90

$\beta/^\circ$	96.5639(13)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	2968.24(8)
Z	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{cm}^3$	1.152
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	1.985
F(000)	1124.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	$0.4586 \times 0.0636 \times 0.0489$
Crystal color	colorless
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 1.54184$ )
2 $\theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	7.082 to 147.39
Index ranges	$-10 \leq h \leq 7, -18 \leq k \leq 17, -24 \leq l \leq 27$
Reflections collected	10589
Independent reflections	5747 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0357, R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0479$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	5747/6/379
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.033
Final R indexes [ $ I  \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0362, wR_2 = 0.0884$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0409, wR_2 = 0.0925$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{\AA}^{-3}$	0.40/-0.28

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model, except for the hydride H atoms which were found in the difference-Fourier map and refined isotropically. DABCO lies over an inversion center and is disordered 50/50 over two positions. Part of the DABCO unit was refined using a Rigid Bond (RIGU) Restraint.<sup>5</sup>

## 1.6 Crystal structure of $[(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaOEt}]_2 \cdot \text{C}_6\text{H}_6$

Identification code	hasj160715a
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{68}\text{H}_{98}\text{Ca}_2\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$
Formula weight	1083.66
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$
$a/\text{\AA}$	13.3510(5)
$b/\text{\AA}$	16.3688(6)

$c/\text{\AA}$	15.0996(5)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	100.888(3)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	3240.5(2)
Z	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{g/cm}^3$	1.111
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	1.856
F(000)	1180.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	$0.7101 \times 0.2148 \times 0.168$
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 1.54184$ )
$2\theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	8.642 to 136.23
Index ranges	$-16 \leq h \leq 15, -19 \leq k \leq 17, -15 \leq l \leq 18$
Reflections collected	11176
Independent reflections	5890 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0283, R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0364$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	5890/0/358
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.032
Final R indexes [ $ I  \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0399, wR_2 = 0.1050$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0429, wR_2 = 0.1082$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{\AA}^{-3}$	0.45/-0.38

The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model.

## 1.7 Crystal structure of [(DIPPnacnac)CaOEt]<sub>2</sub> (another solvent-free polymorph)

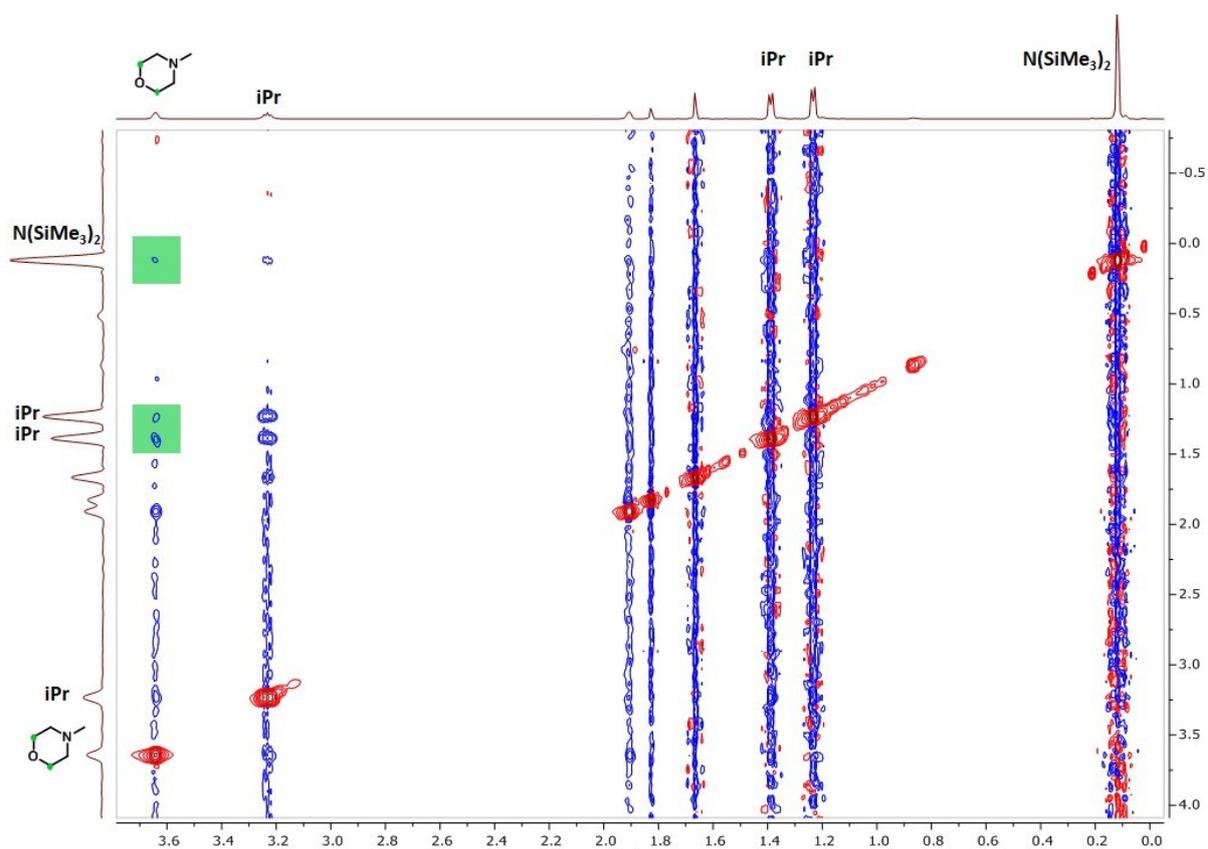
Identification code	hasj160518a
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{62}\text{H}_{92}\text{Ca}_2\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$
Formula weight	1005.55
Temperature/K	100
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$
$a/\text{\AA}$	12.2642(3)
$b/\text{\AA}$	15.2818(3)
$c/\text{\AA}$	16.5278(3)

$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	103.457(2)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	3012.58(11)
Z	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$	1.109
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	1.961
F(000)	1096.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	$0.523 \times 0.4098 \times 0.2824$
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 1.54184$ )
2 $\theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	8.138 to 136.234
Index ranges	$-12 \leq h \leq 14, -17 \leq k \leq 18, -19 \leq l \leq 13$
Reflections collected	9482
Independent reflections	5446 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0316, R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0423$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	5446/0/335
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.047
Final R indexes [ $ I  \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0440, wR_2 = 0.1149$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0473, wR_2 = 0.1181$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{\AA}^{-3}$	0.43/-0.43

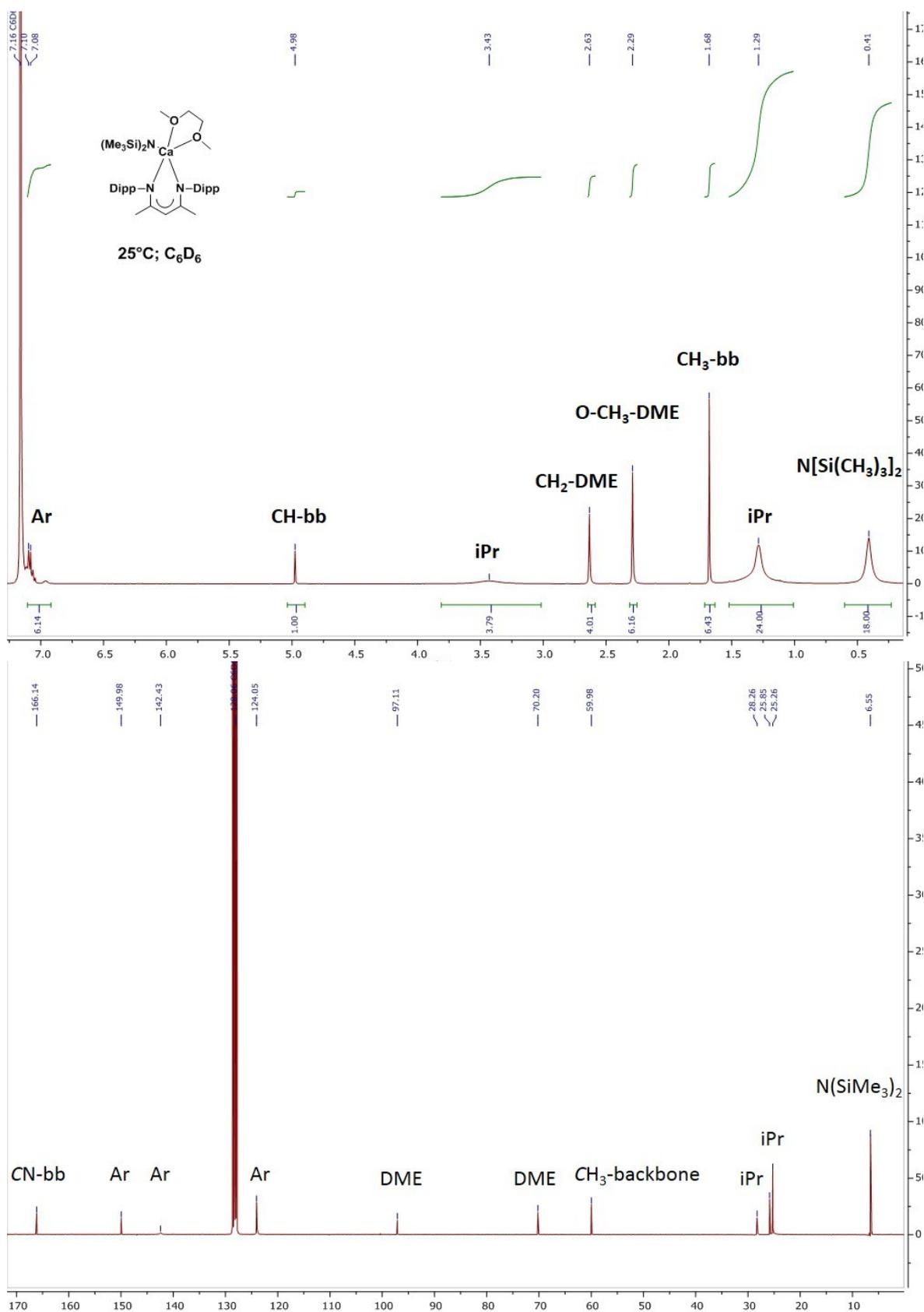
The hydrogen atoms have been placed on calculated positions and were refined isotropically in a riding model.

## 2. Selected $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra

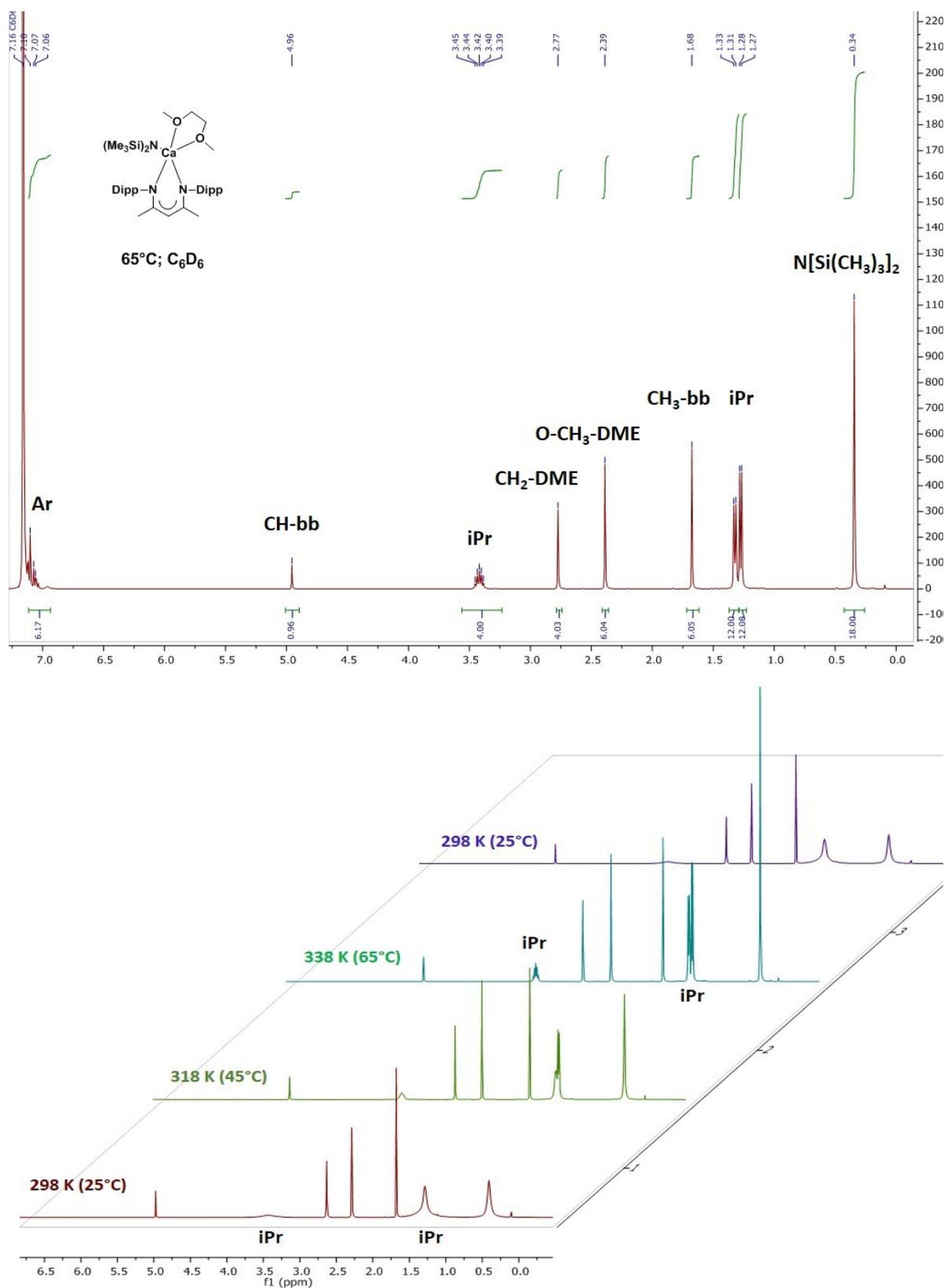




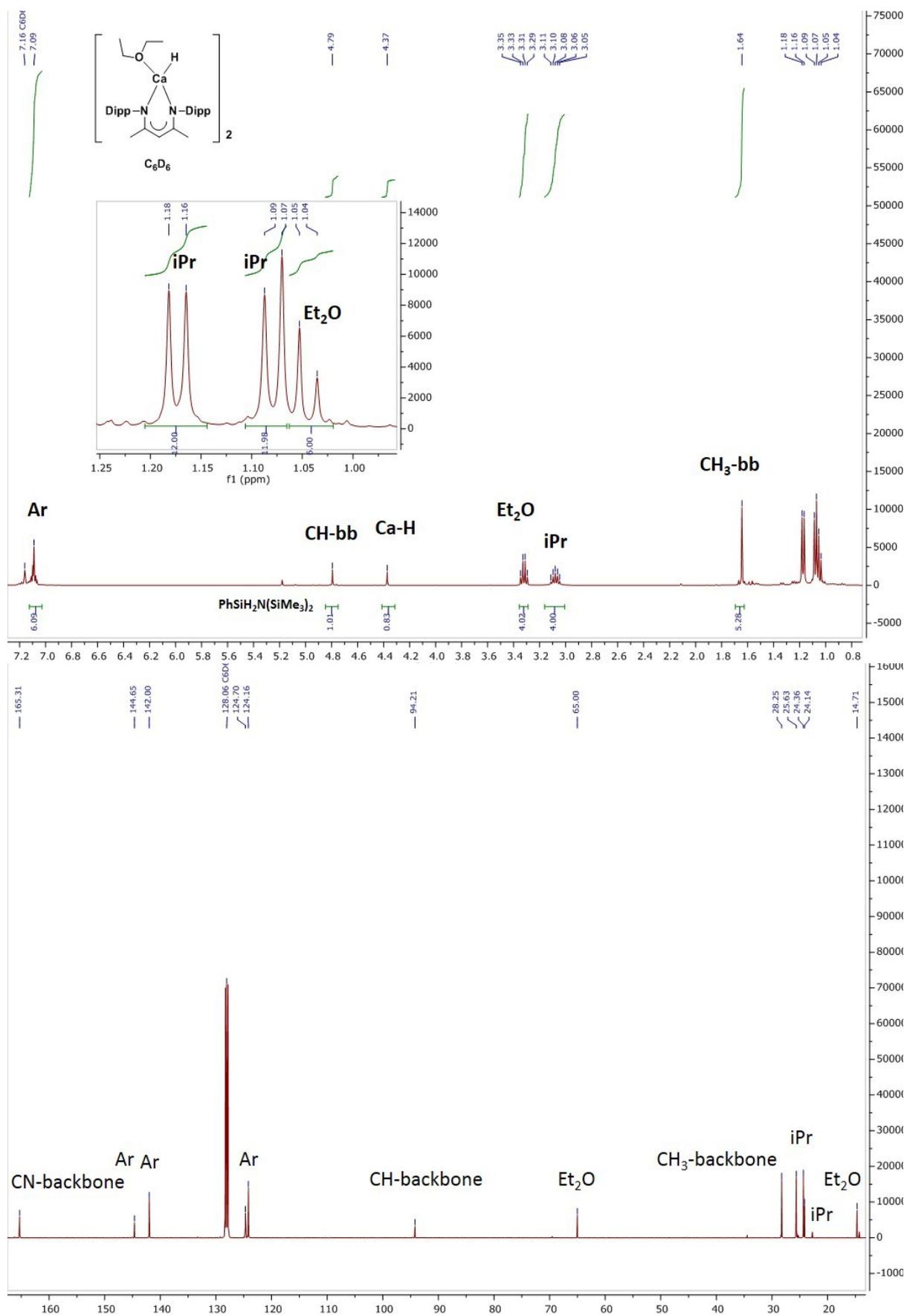
**Figure S2.** 2D  $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY Spectra of  $(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2 \cdot \text{Morph}$  in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ . The cross peaks marked in green in the NOESY spectrum indicate proximity between the O- $\text{CH}_2$  protons of morpholine and both, the protons on the iPr group and of the  $\text{N}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2$  group, proving that only the oxygen coordinates calcium.



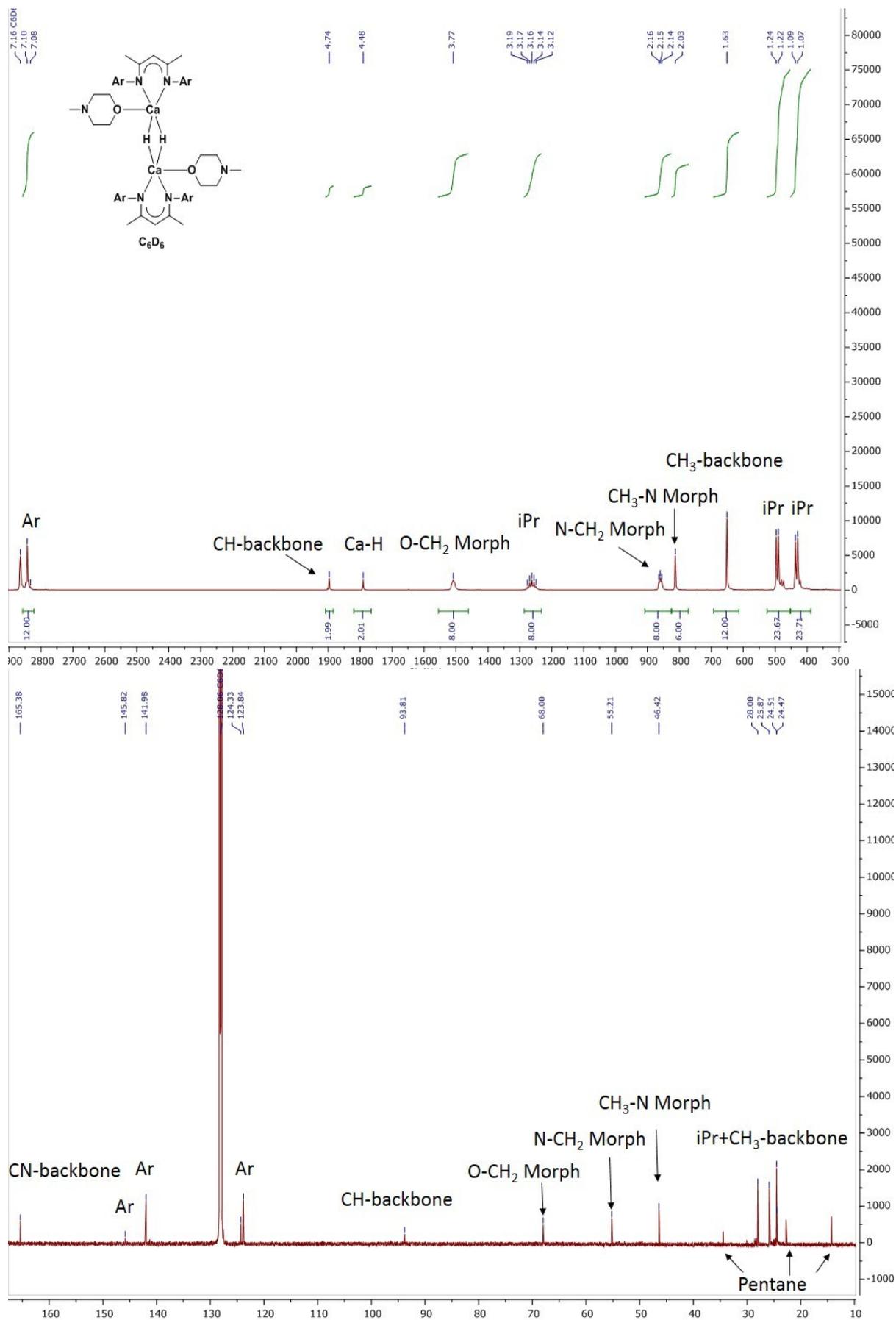
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra of  $(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2\cdot\text{DME}$  in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ .



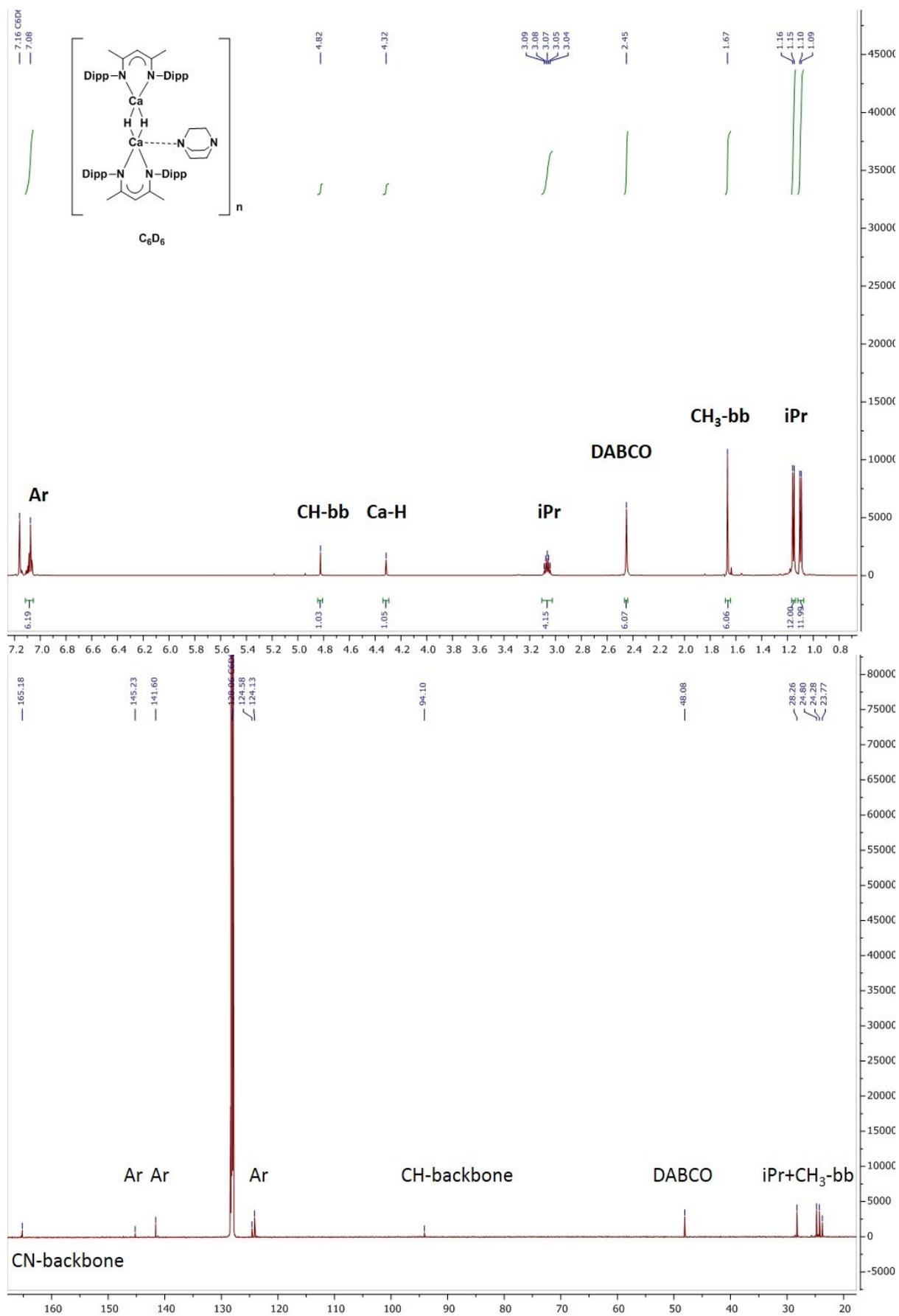
**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  spectrum at  $65^\circ\text{C}$  and stacked  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of  $(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2 \cdot \text{DME}$  at different temperatures (from RT to  $65^\circ\text{C}$ ) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ .



**Figure S5.**  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  spectra of  $[(DIPPnacnac)CaH \cdot Et_2O]_2$  in  $C_6D_6$ .

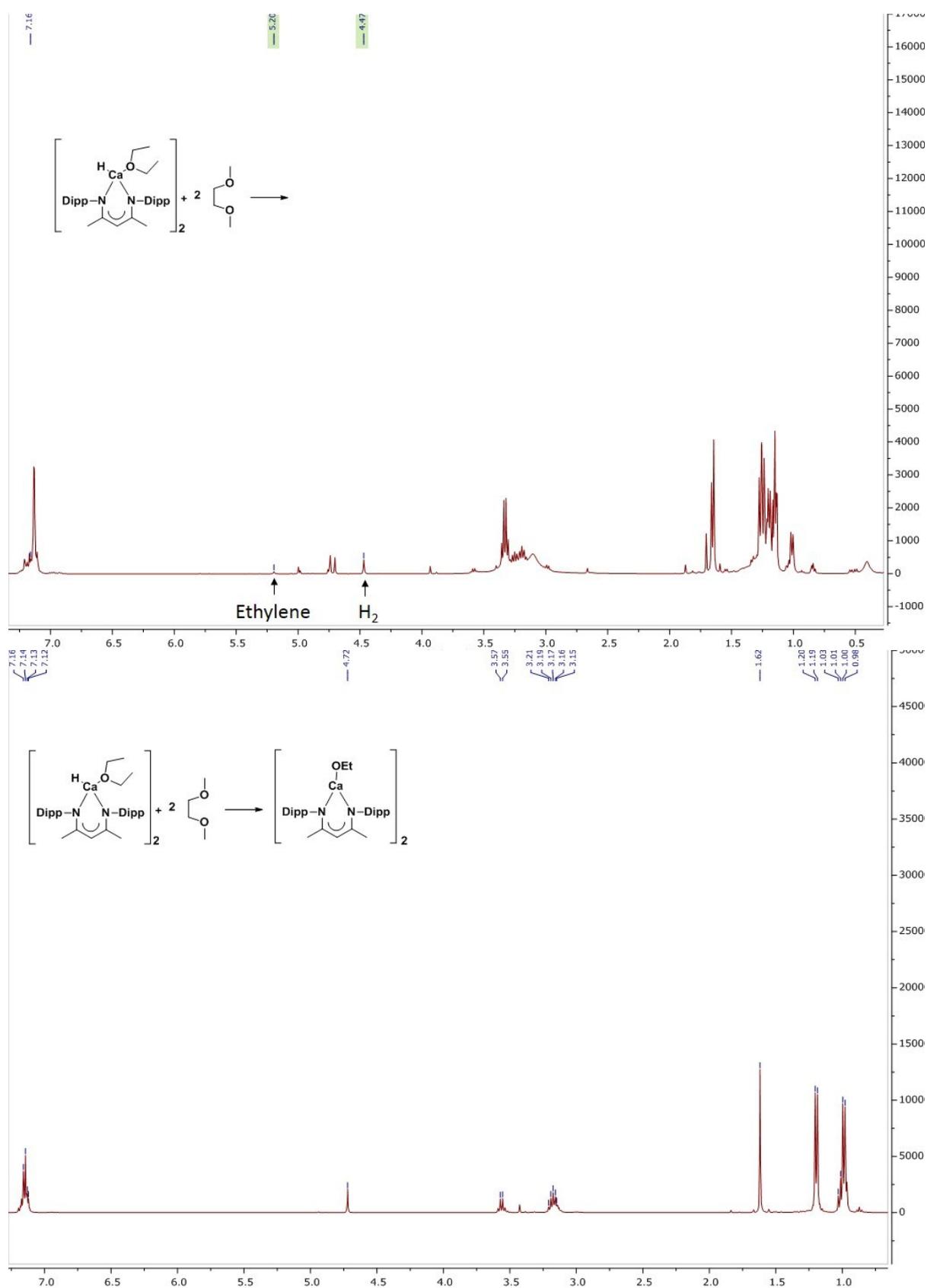


**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra of [(DIPNnac)CaH·Morph]<sub>2</sub> in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>.

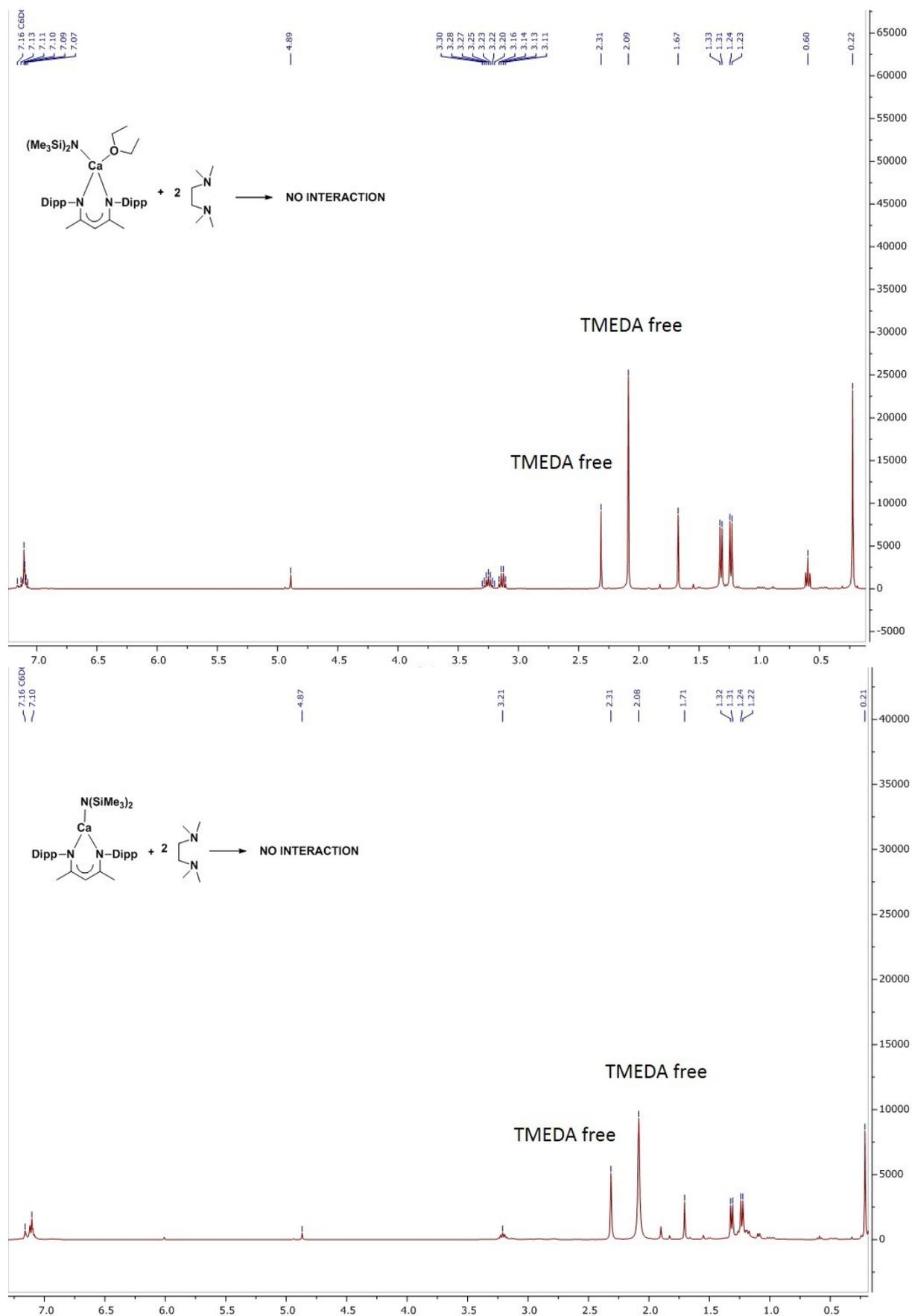


**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra of  $[(\text{DIPPhnacnac})\text{CaH}]_2 \cdot \text{DABCO}$  in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ .

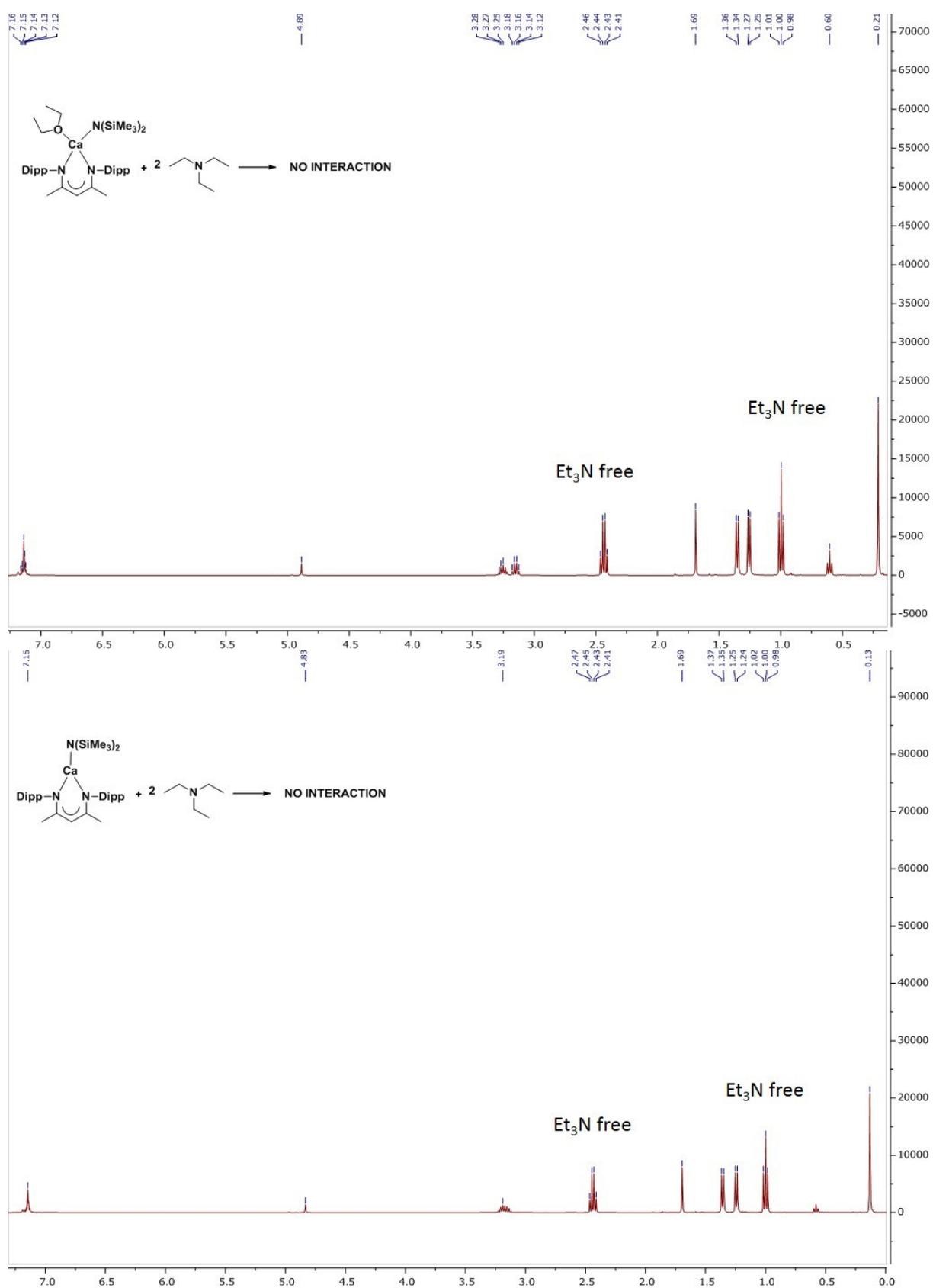




**Figure S9.** Reaction between  $(\text{DIPPnacnacCaH}\cdot\text{OEt}_2)_2$  and DME. Already after five minutes ethylene and  $\text{H}_2$  can be detected in solution. The final product in the lower spectrum is clearly  $(\text{DIPPnacnac-CaOEt})_2$ .



**Figure S10.** <sup>1</sup>H spectra of (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-Et<sub>2</sub>O and (DIPPnacnac)CaN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with 2 equivalents of TMEDA. There is no sign of interaction between TMEDA and Ca.



**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of  $(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and  $(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaN}(\text{SiMe}_3)_2$  with 2 equivalents of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ . There's no sign of interaction and no  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  displacement.

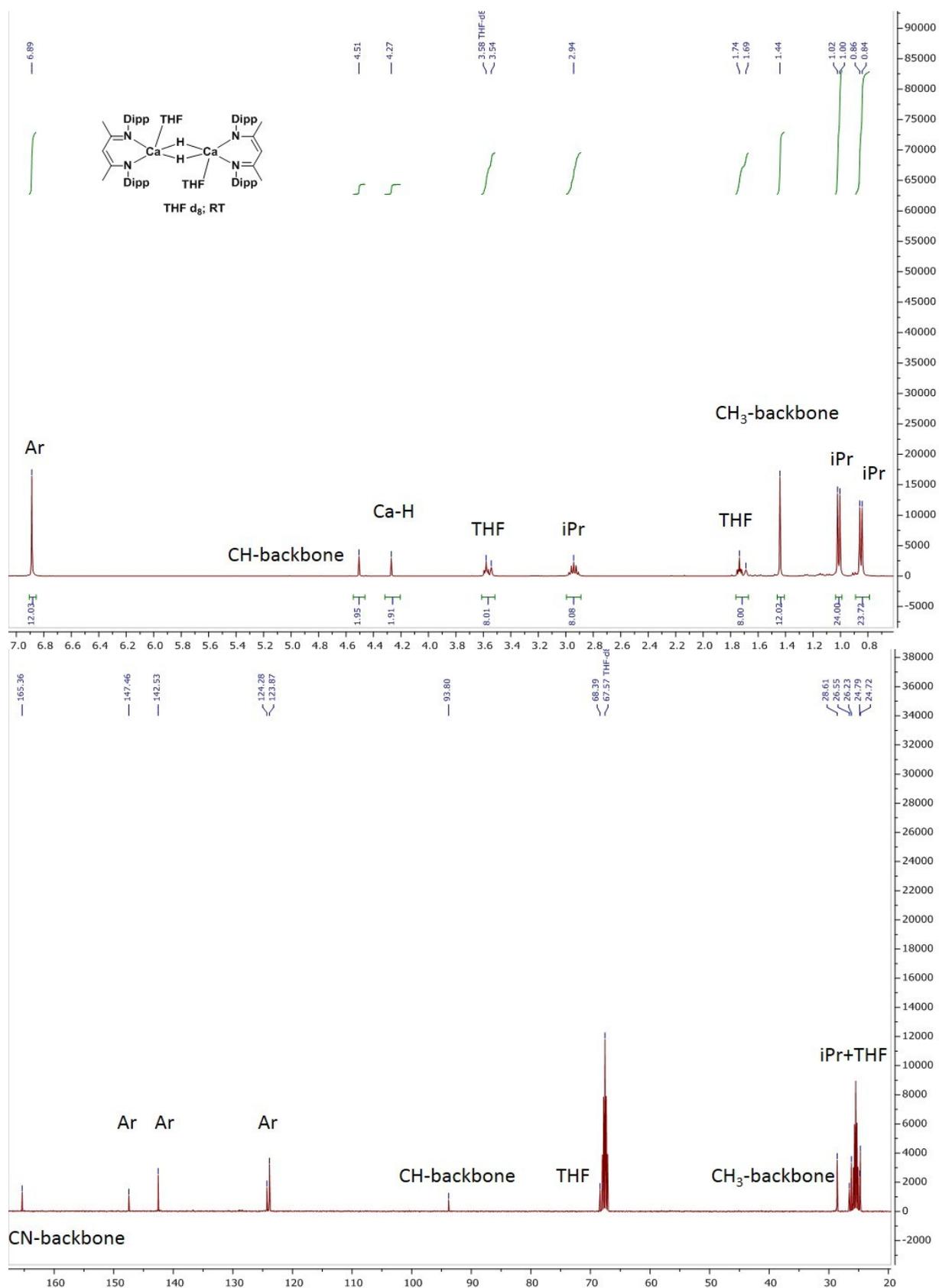
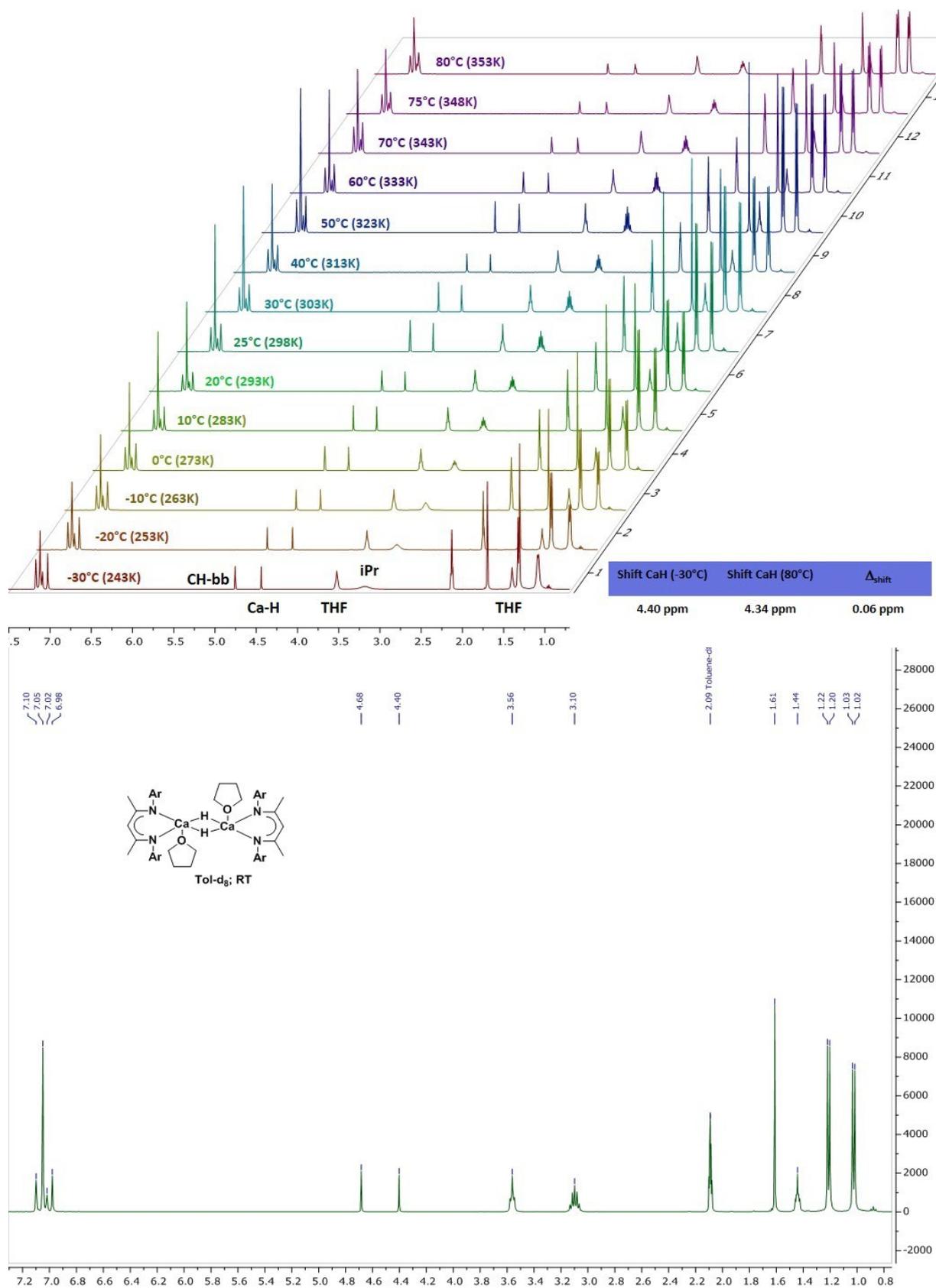
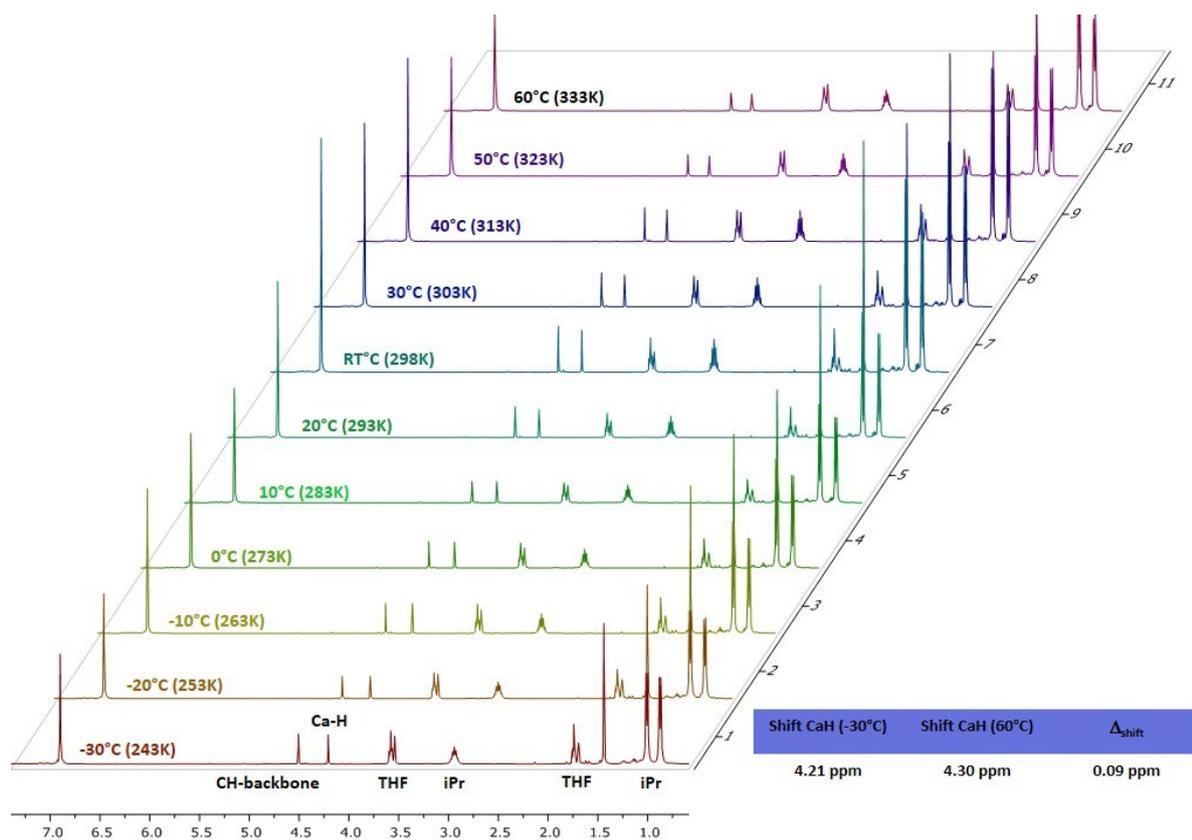


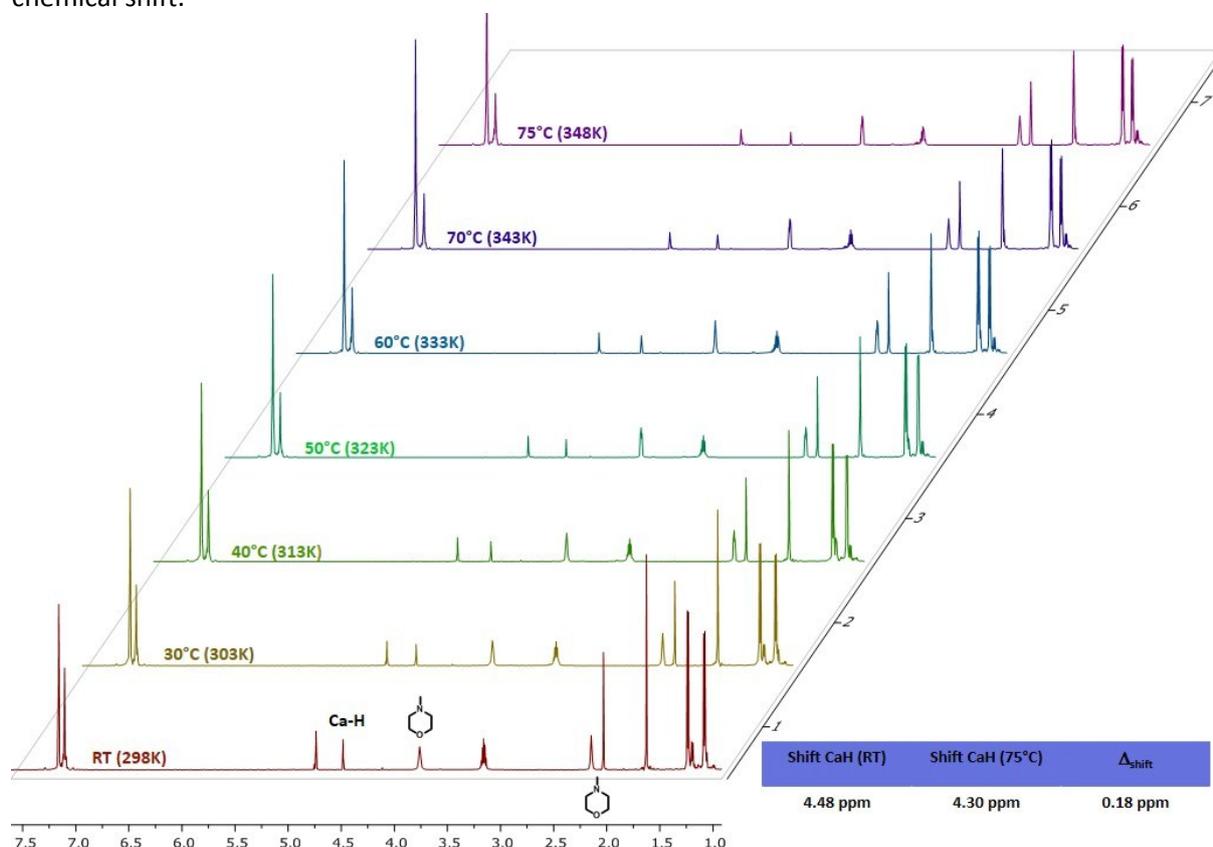
Figure S12.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $[(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaH}\cdot\text{THF}]_2$  in  $\text{THF-d}_8$ .



**Figure S13.** Stacked spectra of  $[(\text{DIPPNacnac})\text{CaH}\cdot\text{THF}]_2$  in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$  at different temperatures (top:  $-30^\circ\text{C}$  to  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ; bottom:  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ). The stacked spectra do not show any appreciable temperature dependency of the hydride chemical shift.



**Figure S14.** Stacked spectra of  $[(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaH}\cdot\text{THF}]_2$  in  $\text{THF}-d_8$  at different temperatures (-30°C to 60°C). The stacked spectra do not show any appreciable temperature dependency of the hydride chemical shift.



**Figure S15.** Stacked  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $[(\text{DIPPnacnac})\text{CaH}\cdot\text{Morph}]_2$  in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at different temperatures (from 25°C to 75°C). The stacked spectra do not show any appreciable temperature dependency of the hydride chemical shift.

#### 4. PGSE NMR measurements

Diffusion measurements were conducted on a Bruker AVANCE NMR spectrometer operating at 600.13 MHz for proton resonance equipped with a 5 mm PABDO BB/19F-1H/D probe with Z-GRD and actively shielded gradient coil with a maximum gradient strength of 5.3500094 G/mm (at 10 A).

Parameter optimization was carried out empirically employing the pulse programme ledbpgp2s1D using stimulated echo and LED (D21 = 5 ms, longitudinal eddy current delay as a Z-filter) with bipolar gradient pulses (P30) and two spoiling gradients (P19 = 600  $\mu$ s) leading to values for gradient pulse length (P30 = 1400  $\mu$ s, in case of bipolar gradients *little DELTA\*0.5*) and diffusion time (D20 = 60 ms, *big DELTA*). Delay for gradient recovery was set to 200  $\mu$ s.

The diffusion experiment was executed with variable gradients from 2% to 98% gradient strength with 32 increment values (difframp calculated with the AU-program *DOSY*). In this case the pulse program ledbpgp2s was applied for data acquiring of this pseudo-2D experiment. Data processing was performed with the T1/T2 software package (SimFit) of TopSpin (version 3.2, Bruker Biospin) by fitting area data (integration of all peaks of interest of the same molecule) of diffusion decays. From these Stejskal-Tanner fitting curves calculated diffusion constants were obtained and assimilated statistically.

## 4. References

1. O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard and H. Puschmann, *J. Appl. Cryst.* **2009**, *42*, 339-341.
2. G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.* **2015**, *A71*, 3-8.
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4. A. L. Spek, *PLATON, A Multipurpose Crystallographic Tool* **2000**, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands
5. A. Thorn, B. Dittrich and G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.* **2012**, *A68*, 448-451.