

# Decarbonylation of Phenylacetic Acids by High Valent Transition Metal Halides

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### Spectroscopic data of carboxylic acids.

**A) CPh<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1} = 3056\text{w}, 2789\text{w}, 2611\text{w}, 1693\text{vs} (\text{C}=\text{O}), 1597\text{w}, 1488\text{m}, 1445\text{m}, 1405\text{w}, 1282\text{m-sh}, 1258\text{m}, 1190\text{w-m}, 1084\text{w}, 1035\text{w}, 1002\text{w}, 943\text{w-br}, 906\text{w}, 759\text{m}, 733\text{s}, 697\text{vs}, 667\text{m-s}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (dms<sub>o</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 7.28, 7.15 (\text{m}, 15 \text{ H}, \text{Ph}); 3.5 (\text{br}, 1 \text{ H}, \text{OH})$ . <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (dms<sub>o</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 174.8 (\text{C}=\text{O}); 143.7 (\text{ipso-Ph}), 130.4, 128.1, 127.1 (\text{Ph}); 67.4 (\text{CPh}_3)$ .

**B) CMe(Ph)<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1} = 3088\text{w}, 3063\text{w}, 3024\text{w}, 3003\text{w}, 2985\text{w}, 2945\text{w}, 2825\text{w}, 1697\text{s} (\text{C}=\text{O}), 1598\text{w}, 1581\text{w}, 1494\text{m}, 1462\text{w-m}, 1445\text{m}, 1409\text{w-m}, 1379\text{w}, 1293\text{m}, 1275\text{m-s}, 1213\text{w-m}, 1200\text{w-m}, 1125\text{w-m}, 1070\text{w-m-sh}, 1052\text{w}, 1030\text{w-m}, 937\text{m-br}, 922\text{m}, 882\text{w}, 838\text{w}, 773\text{w}, 757\text{m-s}, 734\text{m-s}, 697\text{vs}, 657\text{m-s}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 7.36\text{-}7.25 (10 \text{ H}, \text{Ph}); 1.95 (\text{s}, 3 \text{ H}, \text{Me})$ . <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 180.9 (\text{OCO}); 144.4 (\text{ipso-Ph}); 128.7, 128.6, 127.6 (\text{Ph}); 56.9 (\text{CPh}_2); 27.2 (\text{Me})$ .

**C) CMe<sub>2</sub>(Ph)CO<sub>2</sub>H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1} = 2974\text{w}, 2115\text{w}, 1694\text{vs} (\text{C}=\text{O}), 1497\text{w}, 1471\text{w}, 1446\text{w}, 1438\text{w}, 1404\text{w}, 1365\text{w}, 1293\text{m}, 1176\text{w}, 1160\text{w-m}, 1102\text{w}, 1078\text{w}, 1030\text{w}, 1013\text{w}, 938\text{m}, 840\text{w}, 776\text{w}, 756\text{w}, 731\text{m}, 697\text{s}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 7.43 (\text{d}, {}^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{ortho H}); 7.37 (\text{t}, {}^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{meta H}); 7.29 (\text{d}, {}^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}, \text{para H}); 1.63 (\text{s}, 3\text{H}); 1.63 (\text{s}, 6 \text{ H}, \text{Me})$ . <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 182.9 (\text{C}=\text{O}); 143.8 (\text{ipso-Ph}); 128.5, 127.0, 125.8 (\text{Ph}); 46.3 (\text{CMe}_2); 26.2 (\text{Me})$ .

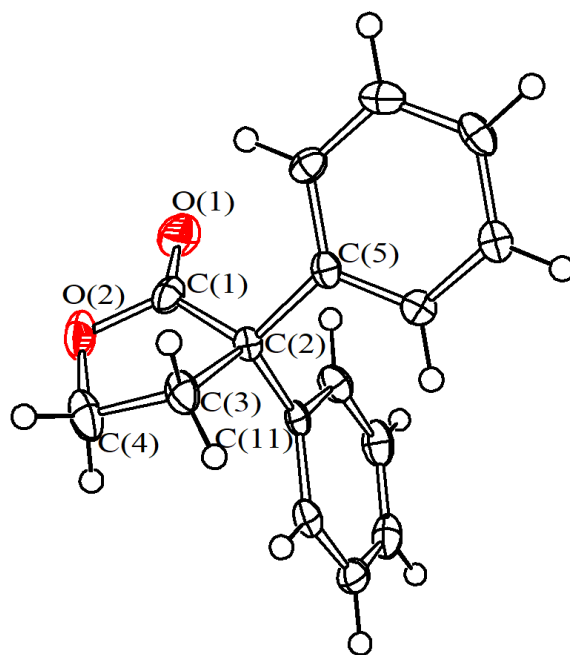
**D) CPh<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br)CO<sub>2</sub>H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1} = 3058\text{w}, 2983\text{w}, 2932\text{w}, 2815\text{w}, 2684\text{w}, 2639\text{w}, 2516\text{w}, 1958\text{w}, 1900\text{w}, 1815\text{w}, 1771\text{w}, 1702\text{vs}, 1599\text{w-m}, 1494\text{m-s}, 1440\text{m-sh}, 1402\text{m}, 1335\text{w}, 1306\text{w-m}, 1270\text{s}, 1229\text{w}, 1209\text{w}, 1178\text{w}, 1162\text{w}, 1147\text{w-m}, 1088\text{w}, 1066\text{w}, 1034\text{w}, 1015\text{w-m}, 915\text{m-br}, 841\text{w}, 785\text{w-m}, 756\text{s}, 740\text{m}, 726\text{m-s}, 687\text{vs}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 10.58 (\text{br}, 1 \text{ H}, \text{OH}); 7.40\text{-}7.31 (\text{m}, 10 \text{ H}, \text{Ph}); 3.15\text{-}3.11 (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{BrCH}_2); 3.01\text{-}2.97 (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{CH}_2)$ . <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta/\text{ppm} = 179.9 (\text{C}=\text{O}); 141.0 (\text{ipso-Ph}); 128.7, 128.4, 127.6 (\text{Ph}); 60.6 (\text{CPh}_2); 41.6 (\text{CH}_2); 28.8 (\text{BrCH}_2)$ .

**E) CHPh<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1} = 3025\text{w}, 2903\text{w}, 2703\text{w}, 2604\text{w}, 1956\text{w}, 1699\text{s} (\text{C}=\text{O}), 1600\text{w-m}, 1581\text{w}, 1497\text{m}, 1449\text{m-sh}, 1410\text{m}, 1314\text{m-sh}, 1282\text{w}, 1222\text{s}, 1183\text{w-br}, 1080\text{w}, 1033\text{w-}$

m, 1003w, 933m-s-br, 886w, 768w, 749m-s, 731s, 695vs, 666m-s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 11.2 (s, br, 1 H, OH); 7.74 – 6.98 (m, 10 H, Ph); 5.11 (s, 1 H, CH).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 179.0 (C=O); 137.9, 128.7, 127.6 (Ph); 57.1 (CH).

**F) MeC $\equiv$ CCO $_2$ H.** IR (solid state):  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$  = 2801w, 2624m, 2479w-m, 2321w, 2246vs (C $\equiv$ C), 2138w-m, 2041w, 1997w, 1699s (C=O), 1661s, 1635s, 1567m-s, 1506w, 1439w-m, 1399s, 1368m, 1242vs-br, 1074m-s, 1025w-m, 854m-s-br, 778s, 751vs, 731s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 11.33 (s, 1H, OH); 2.01 (s, 3 H, Me).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  = 158.6 (C=O); 88.8(CO–C $\equiv$ C); 71.9(C $\equiv$ C–Me); 3.8 (Me).

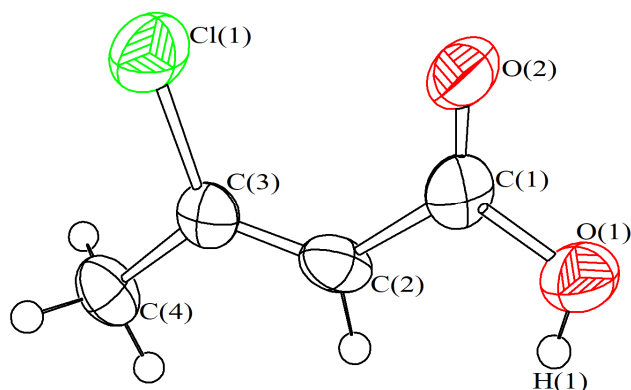
**Figure S1.** ORTEP drawing of the structure of **6**. Displacement ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level.



**Table S1.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) for **6**.

C(1)-O(1)	1.187(4)	C(1)-O(2)	1.341(4)
C(1)-C(2)	1.538(5)	C(2)-C(3)	1.541(4)
C(3)-C(4)	1.510(5)	C(4)-O(2)	1.454(5)
C(2)-C(5)	1.532(4)	C(2)-C(11)	1.540(5)
O(2)-C(1)-C(2)	128.5(3)	O(2)-C(1)-O(1)	121.9(3)
O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	109.6(3)	C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	100.9(3)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	102.3(3)	C(3)-C(4)-O(2)	104.3(3)
C(4)-O(2)-C(1)	110.9(3)	C(5)-C(2)-C(11)	110.5(3)

**Figure S2.** ORTEP drawing of the structure of MeC(Cl)=CHCO<sub>2</sub>H, **8**. Displacement ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level.



**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) for MeC(Cl)=CHCO<sub>2</sub>H, **8**.

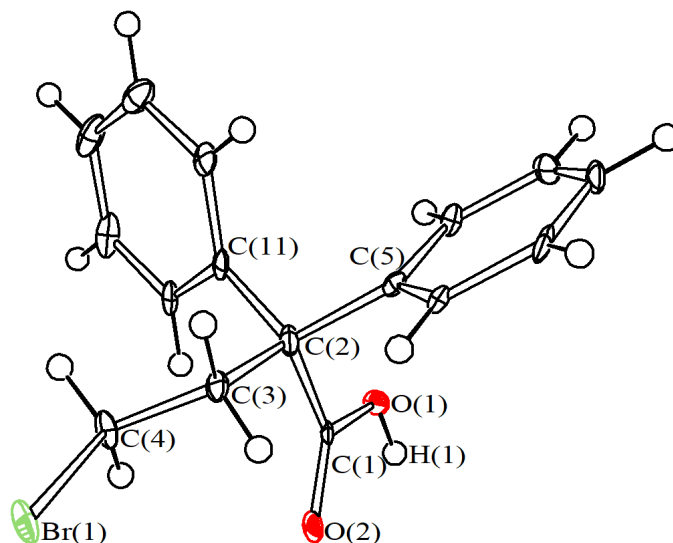
C(1)-O(1)	1.351(13)	C(1)-O(2)	1.179(13)
C(1)-C(2)	1.507(15)	C(2)-C(3)	1.331(14)
C(3)-C(4)	1.496(14)	C(3)-Cl(1)	1.709(12)
O(1)-C(1)-O(2)	122.5(10)	O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	109.2(11)
O(2)-C(1)-C(2)	128.3(10)	C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	126.8(11)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	122.9(11)	C(2)-C(3)-Cl(1)	122.6(9)
C(4)-C(3)-Cl(1)	114.5(8)		

**Table S3.** Hydrogen bonds for MeC(Cl)=CHCO<sub>2</sub>H, **8** [Å and deg].

D-H...A	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	<(DHA)
O(1)-H(1)...Cl(1)#1	0.82	2.62	3.370(12)	153.5

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $x-1/2, -y+1/2, z+1/2$ .

**Figure S3.** ORTEP drawing of the structure of  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br})\text{CO}_2\text{H}$  (**A1**). Displacement ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level.



**Table S4.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) for  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br})\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , **A1**.

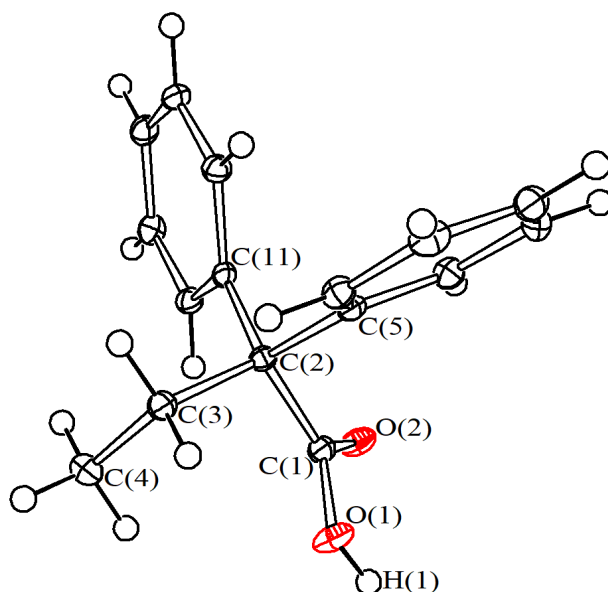
C(1)-O(1)	1.307(6)	C(1)-O(2)	1.222(6)
C(1)-C(2)	1.539(6)	C(2)-C(3)	1.548(7)
C(3)-C(4)	1.520(7)	C(4)-Br(1)	1.965(5)
C(2)-C(5)	1.541(7)	C(2)-C(11)	1.544(7)
O(1)-C(1)-O(2)	123.9(4)	O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	114.0(4)
O(2)-C(1)-C(2)	122.1(4)	C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	109.1(4)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	112.8(4)	C(3)-C(4)-Br(1)	108.6(3)
C(5)-C(2)-C(11)	111.6(4)		

**Table S5.** Hydrogen bonds for  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br})\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , **A1** [Å and deg].

D-H...A	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	<(DHA)
O(1)-H(1)...O(2)#1	0.84	1.80	2.637(5)	170.8

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x+1,-y+1, -z.

**Figure S4.** ORTEP drawing of the structure of  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , **A2**. Displacement ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level.



**Table S6.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) for  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , **A2**.

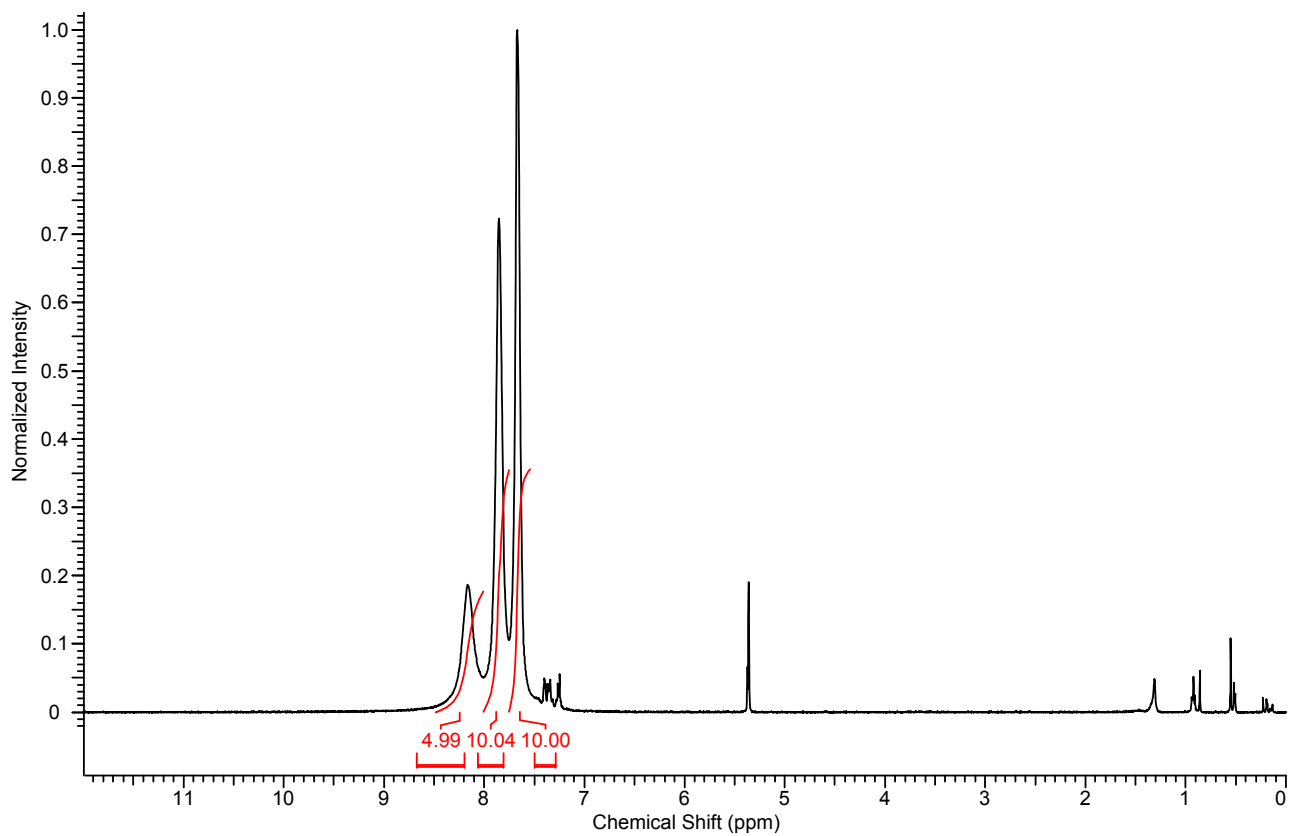
C(1)-O(1)	1.3300(18)	C(1)-O(2)	1.2330(18)
C(1)-C(2)	1.5436(18)	C(2)-C(3)	1.563(2)
C(3)-C(4)	1.536(2)		
C(2)-C(5)	1.557(2)	C(2)-C(11)	1.547(2)
O(1)-C(1)-O(2)	122.48(11)	O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	113.02(11)
O(2)-C(1)-C(2)	124.40(12)	C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	109.13(11)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	114.38(10)	C(5)-C(2)-C(11)	109.70(10)

**Table S7.** Hydrogen bonds for  $\text{CPh}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , **A2** [Å and deg].

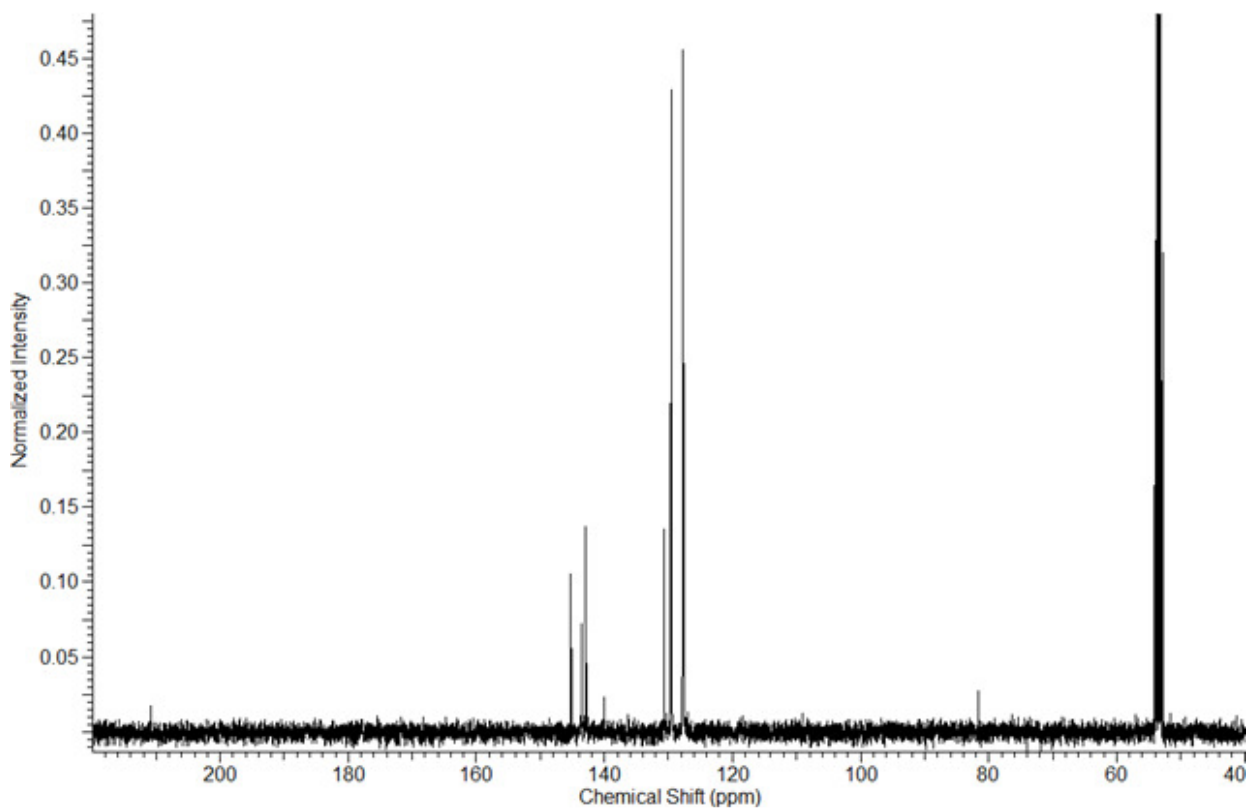
D-H...A	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	<(DHA)
O(1)-H(1)...O(2)#1	0.84	1.85	2.681(2)	173.3

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x+2, -y+1, -z+1.

**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{MoOCl}_4]$ , **1**.

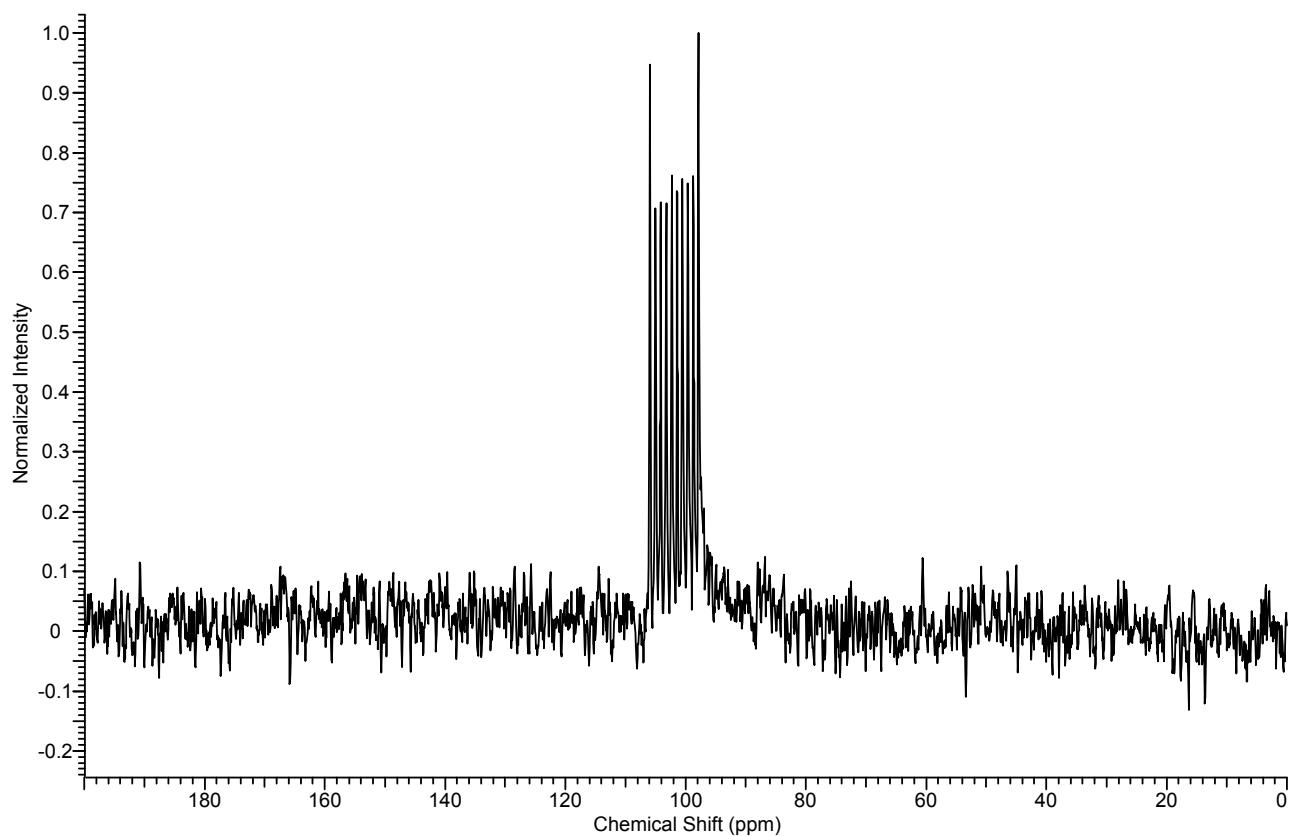


**Figure S18.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{MoOCl}_4]$ , **1**.

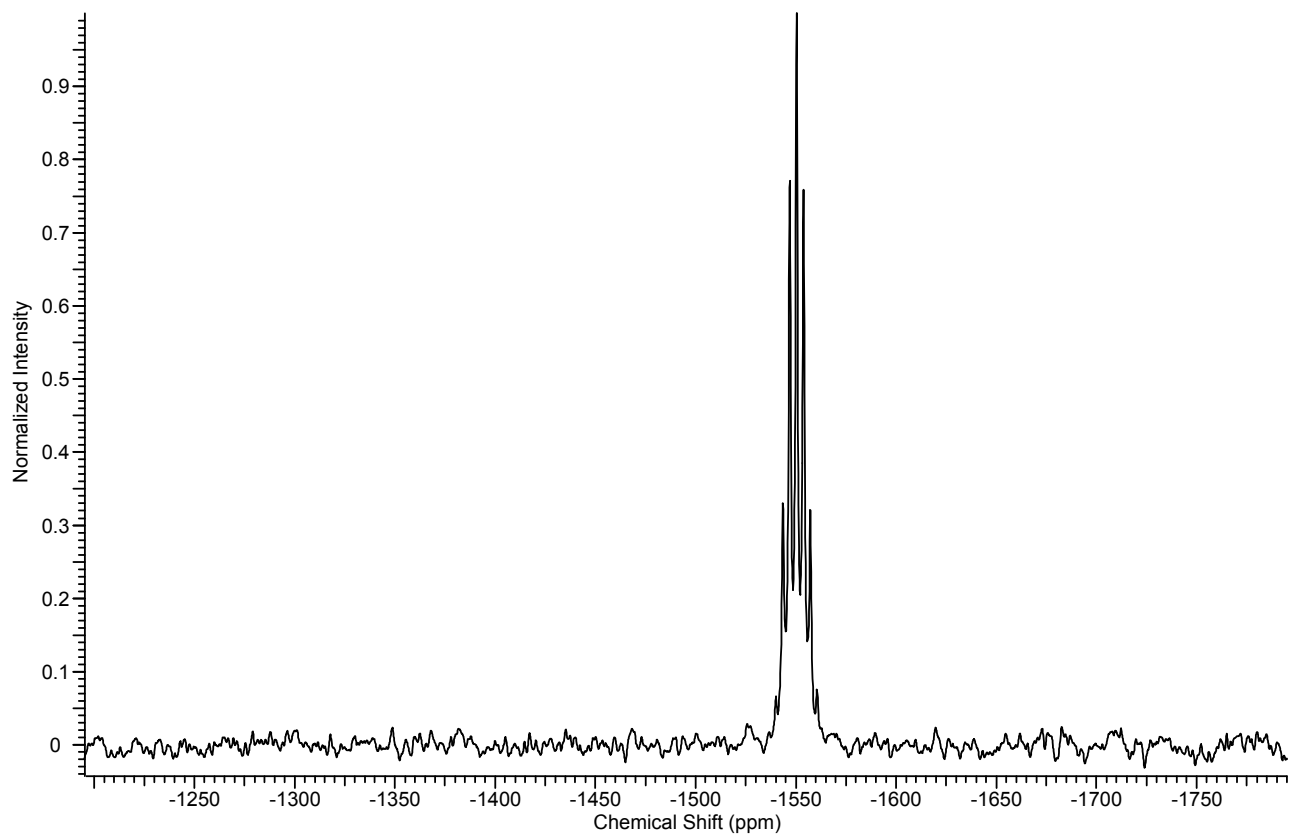




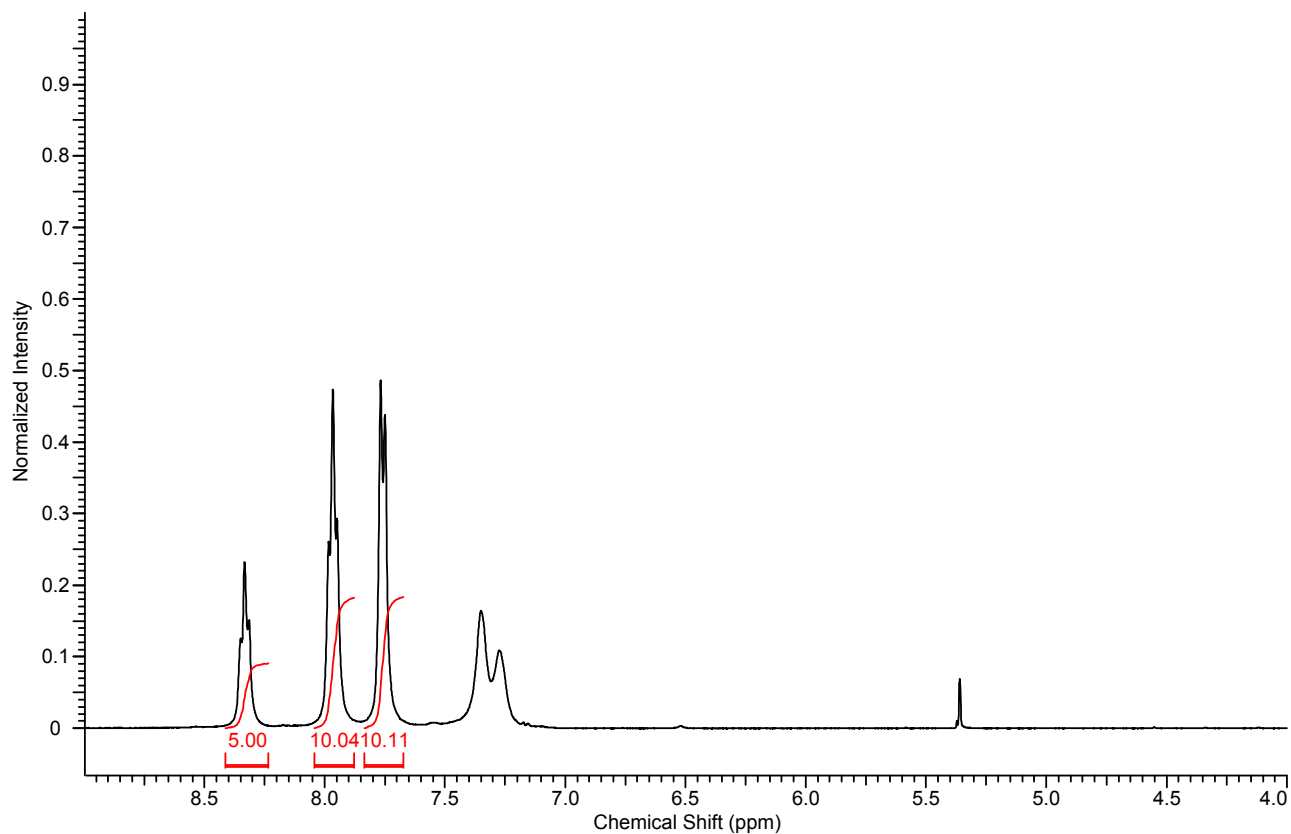
**Figure S19.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbF}_6]$ , **2**.



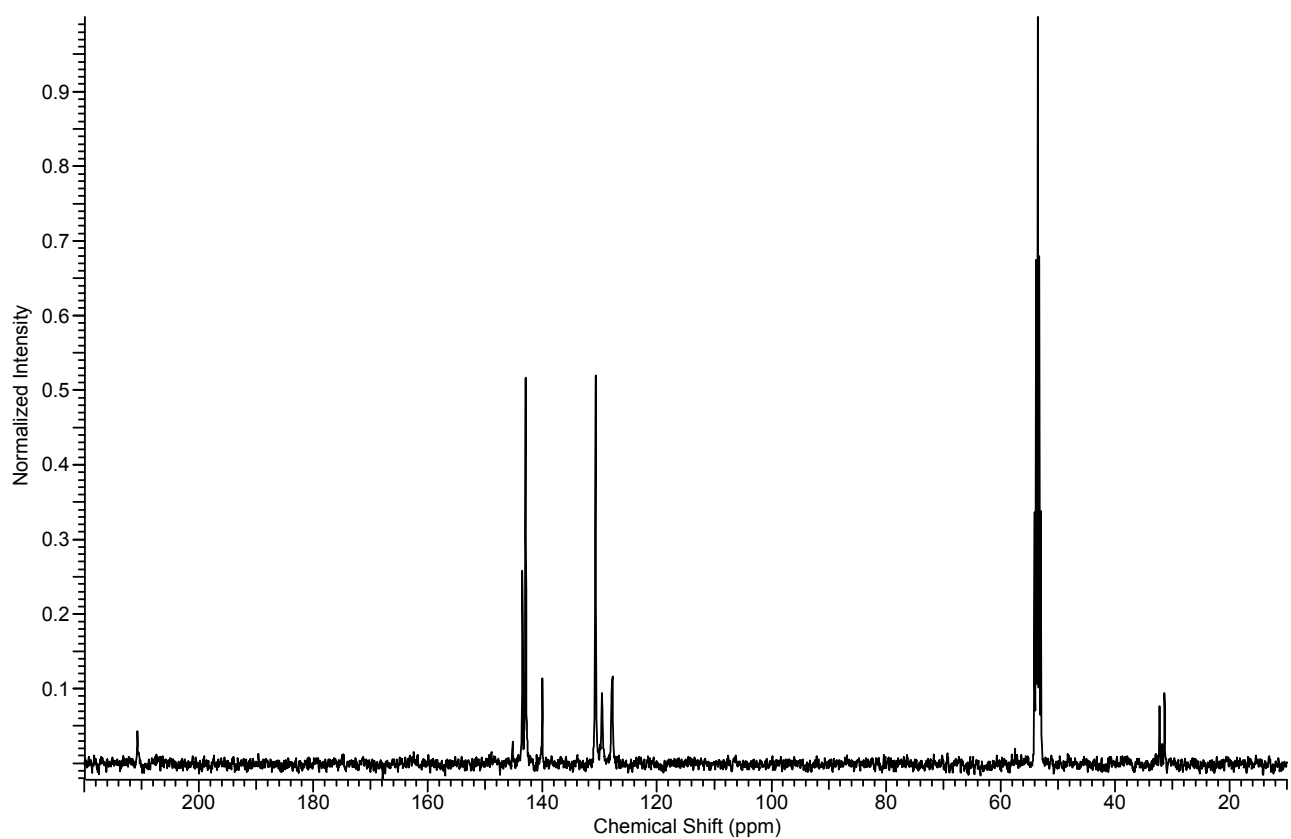
**Figure S20.**  $^{93}\text{Nb}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbF}_6]$ , **2**.



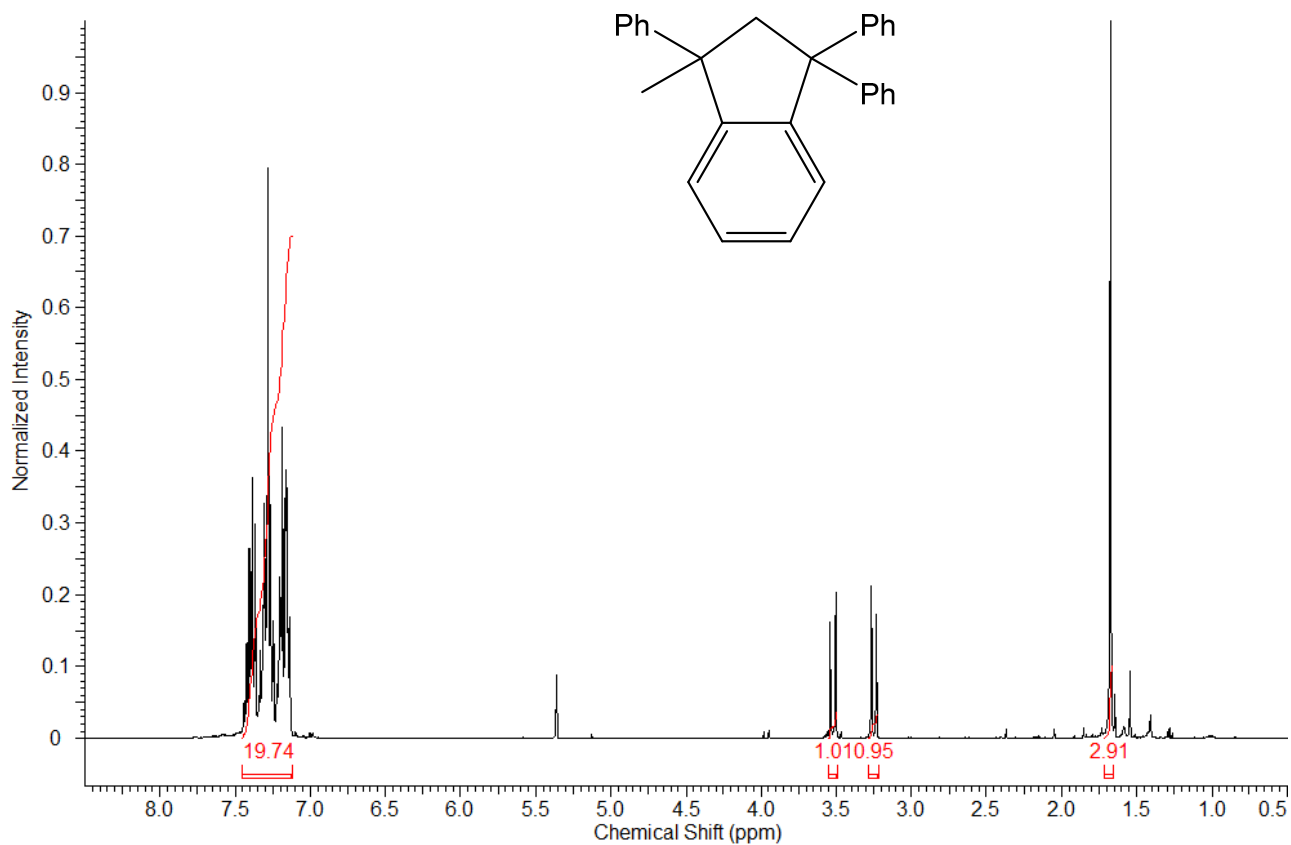
**Figure S21.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbCl}_6]$ , **3**.



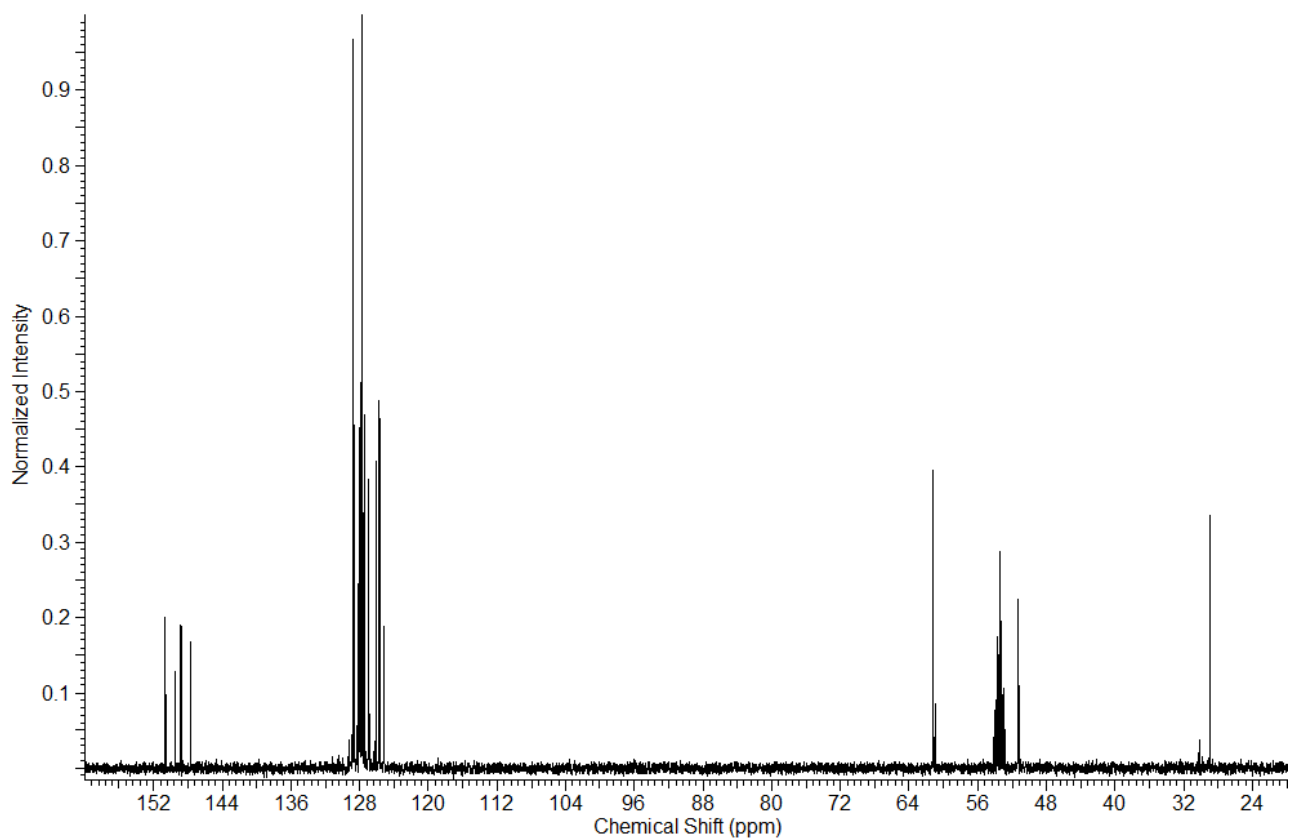
**Figure S22.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbCl}_6]$ , **3**.



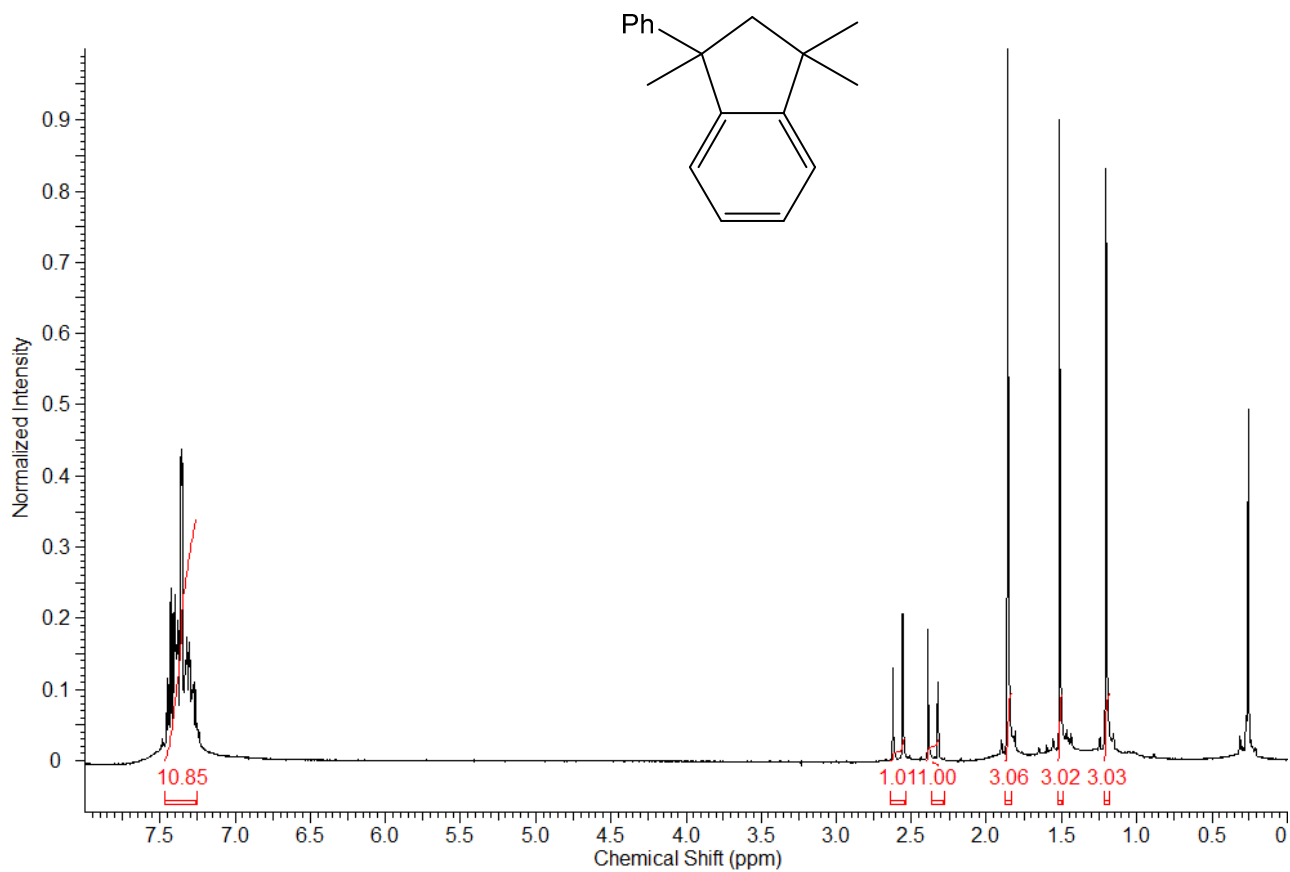
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of **5a**.



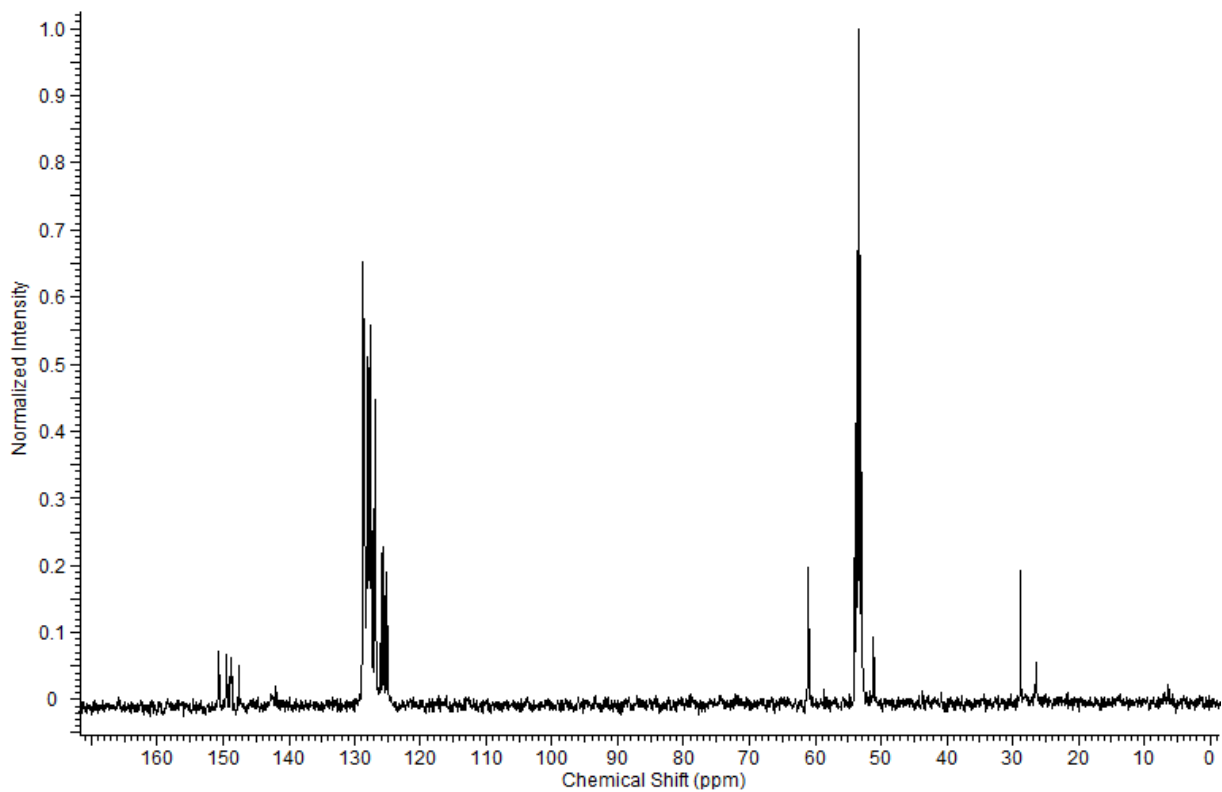
**Figure S24.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of **5a**.



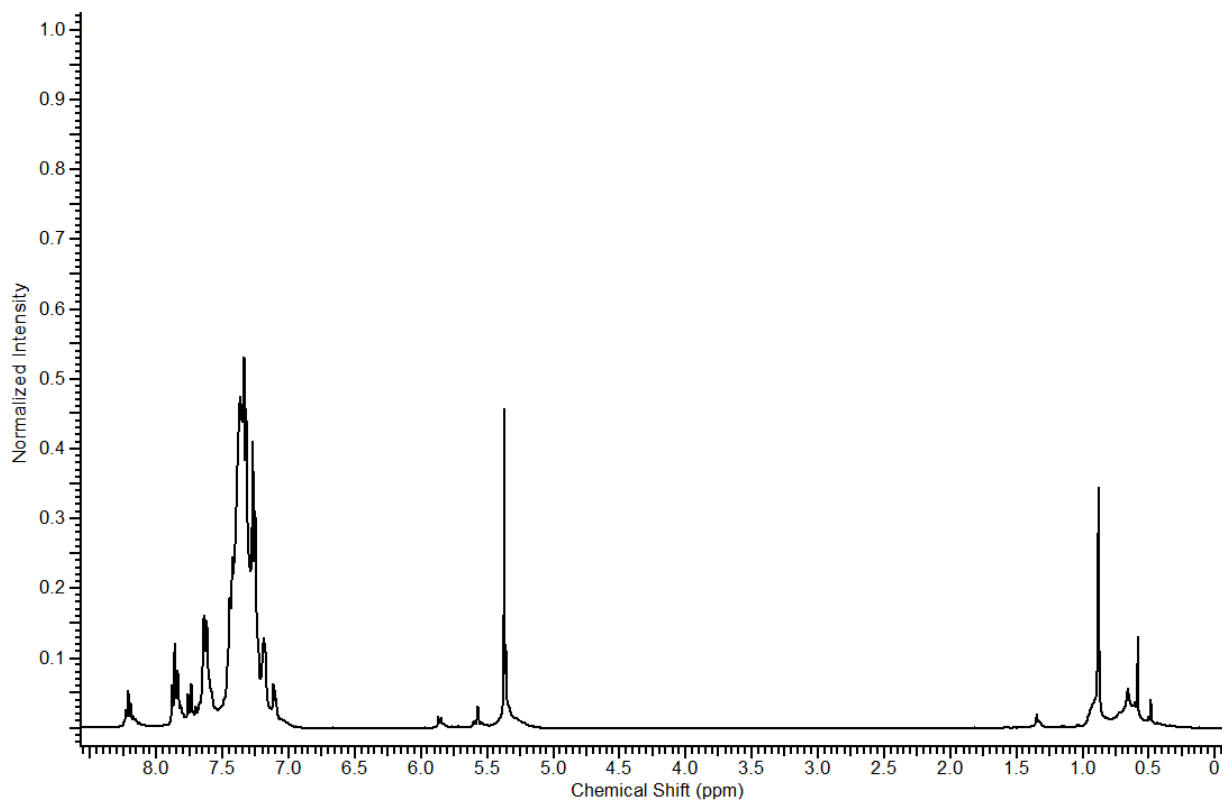
**Figure S25.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of **5b**.



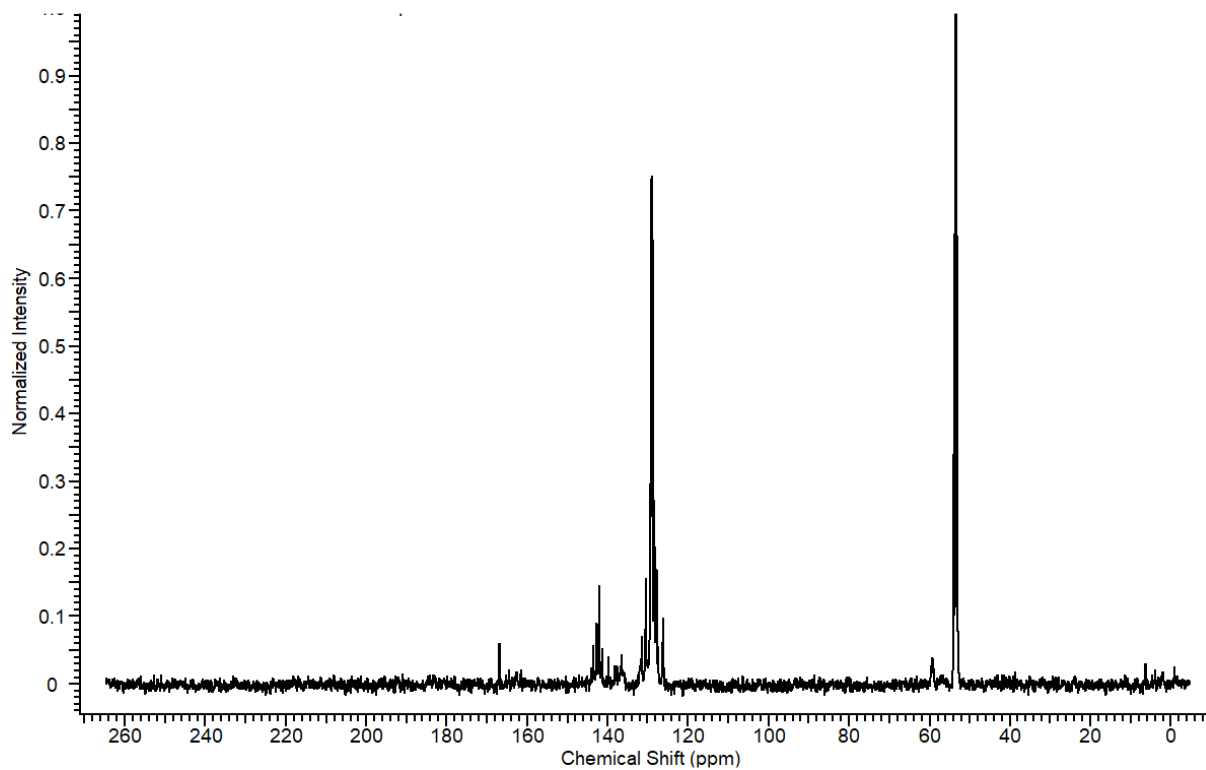
**Figure S26.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of **5b**.



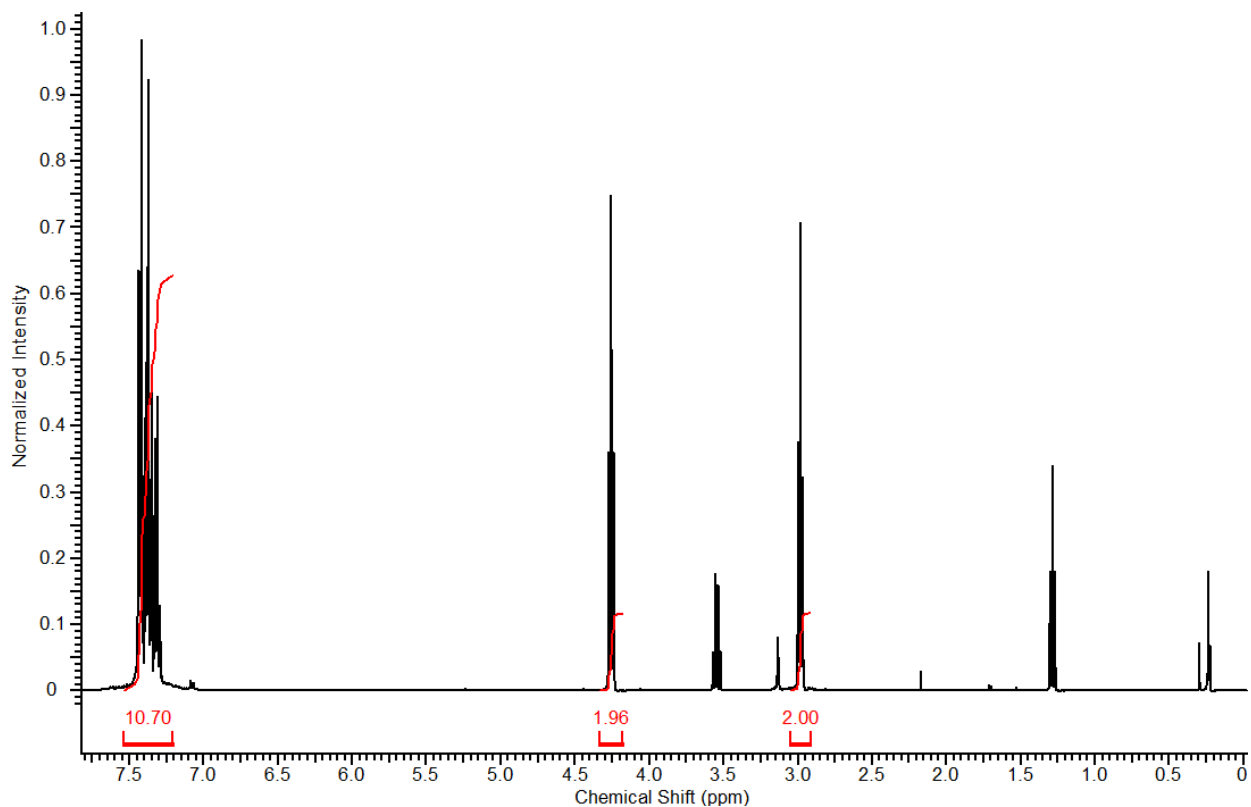
**Figure S27.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $\text{NbCl}_4(\text{O}_2\text{CCHPh}_2)$ , **6**.



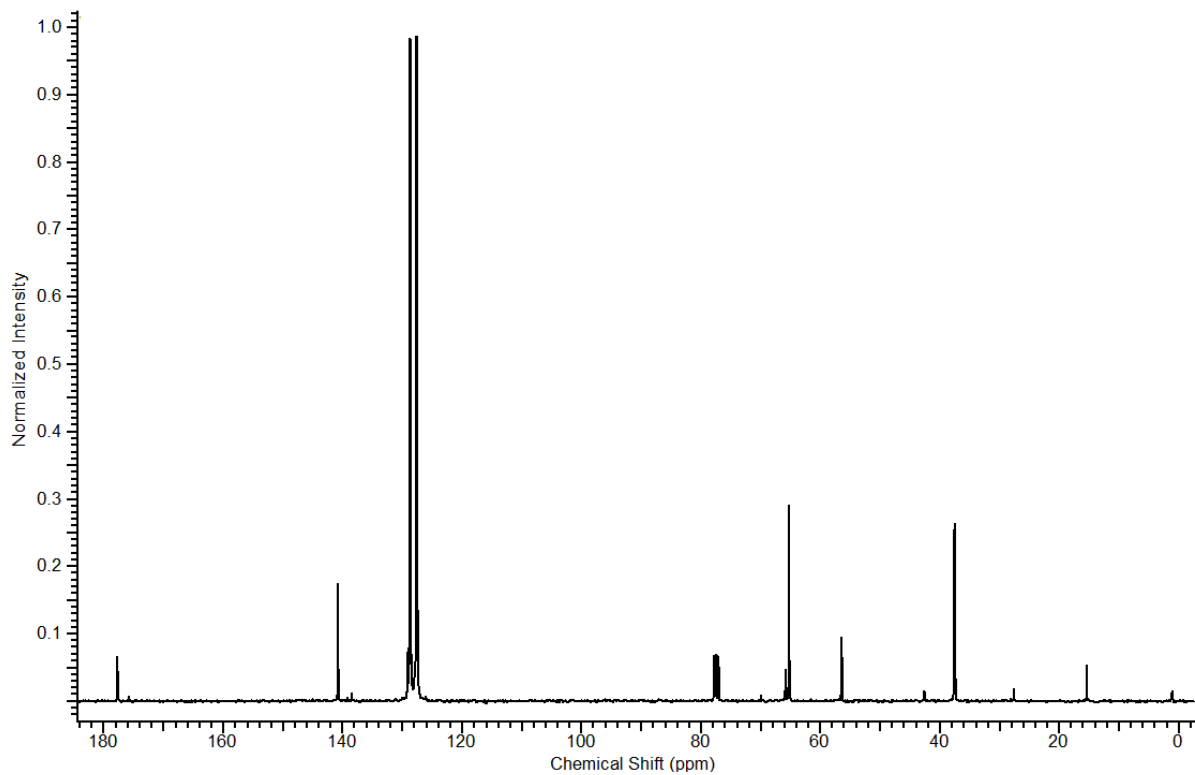
**Figure S28.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) of  $\text{NbCl}_4(\text{O}_2\text{CCHPh}_2)$ , **6**.



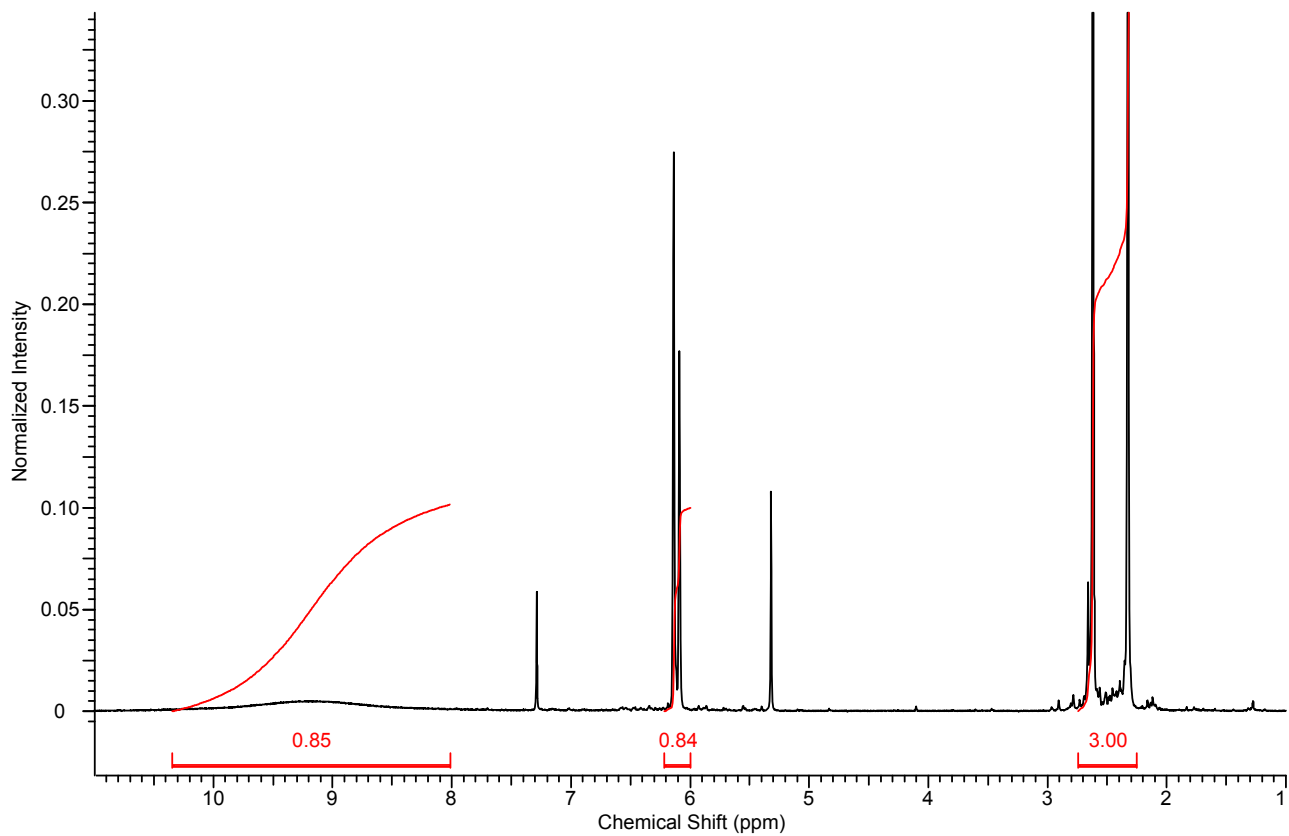
**Figure S29.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 3,3-diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one, **7**.



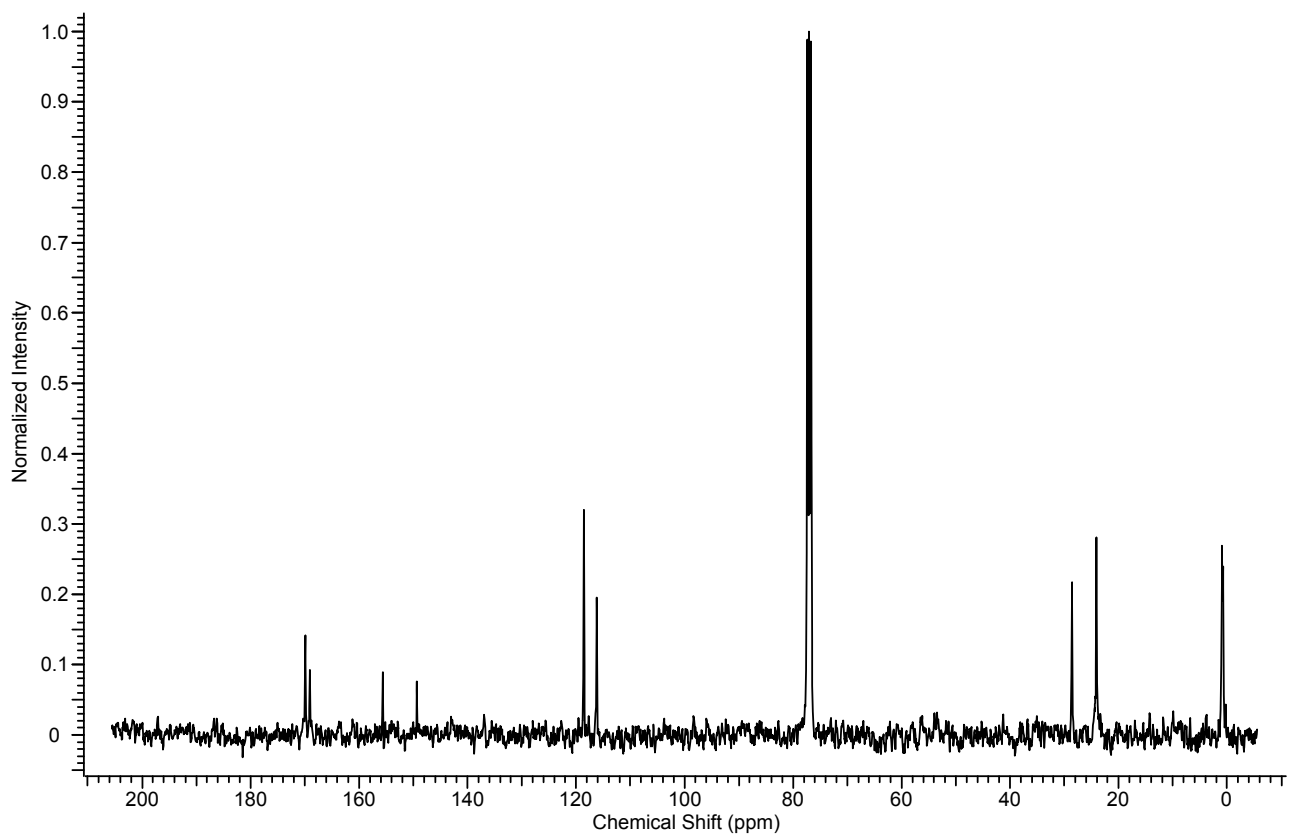
**Figure S30.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 3,3-diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one, **7**.



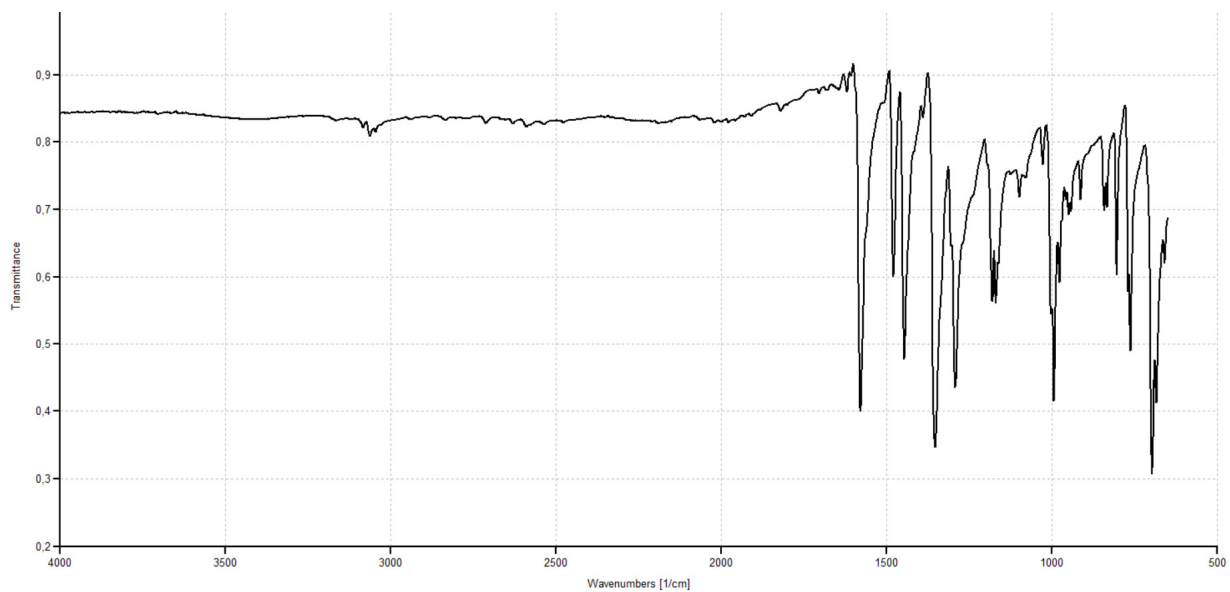
**Figure S31.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (401 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of  $\text{MeC}(\text{Cl})=\text{CHCOOH}$ , **8**.



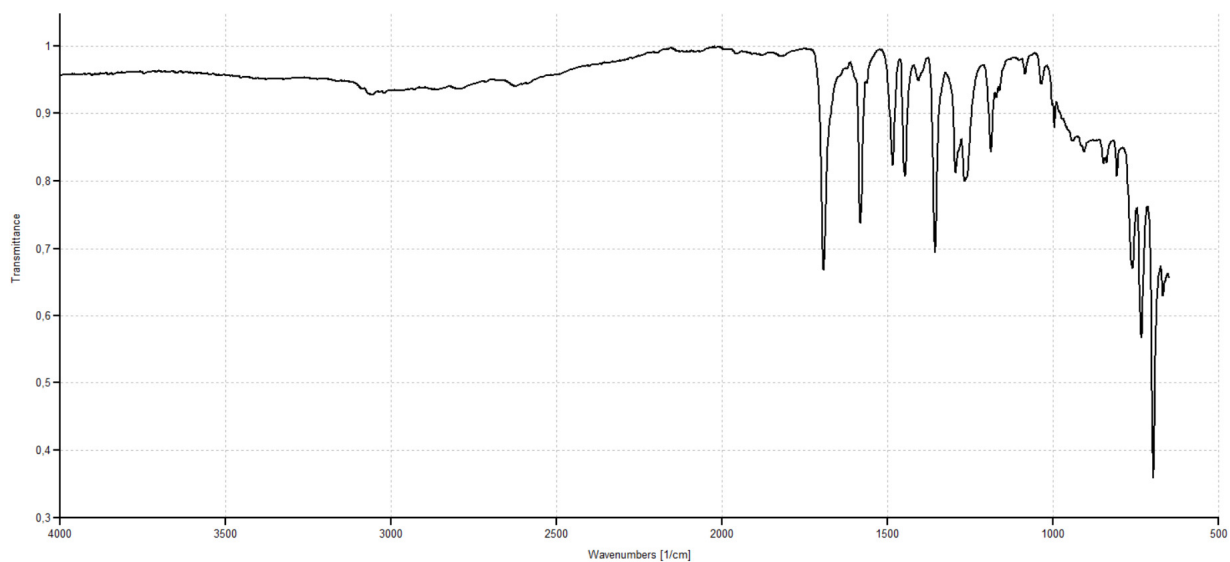
**Figure S32.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of  $\text{MeC}(\text{Cl})=\text{CHCOOH}$ , **8**.



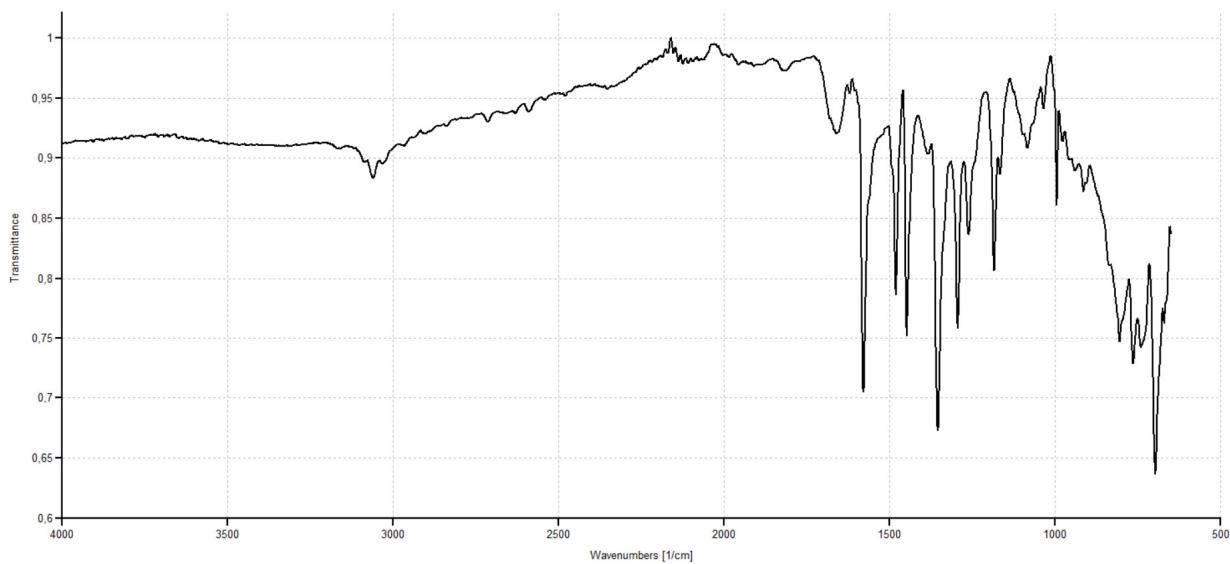
**Figure S33.** IR (ATR) spectrum of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{MoOCl}_4]$ , **1**.



**Figure S34.** IR (ATR) spectrum of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbF}_6]$ , **2**.

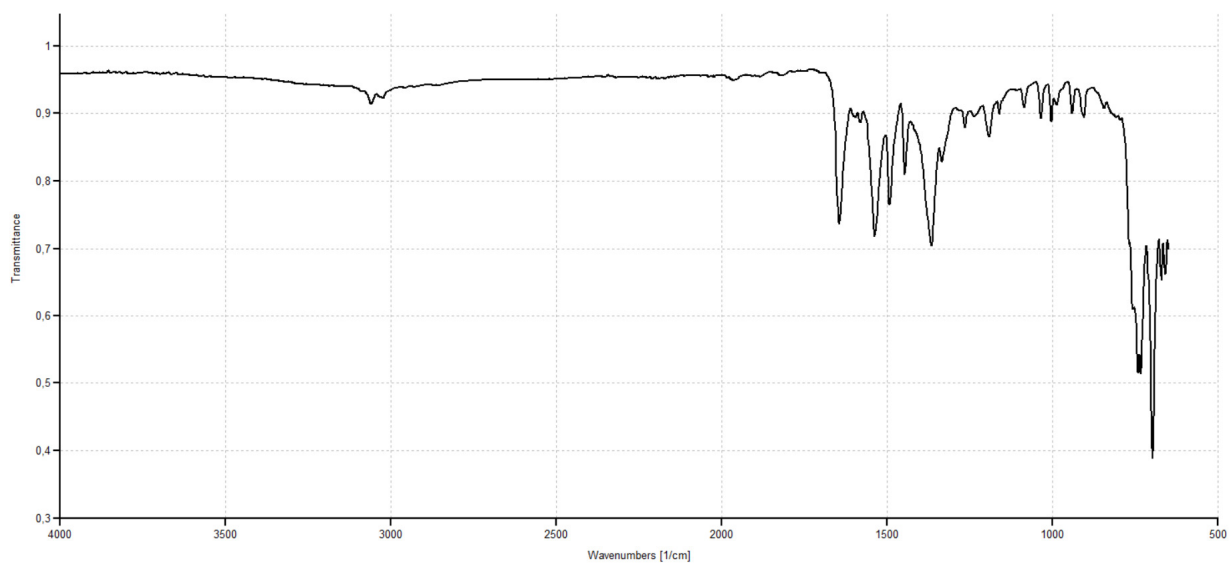


**Figure S35.** IR (ATR) spectrum of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{NbCl}_6]$ , **3**.

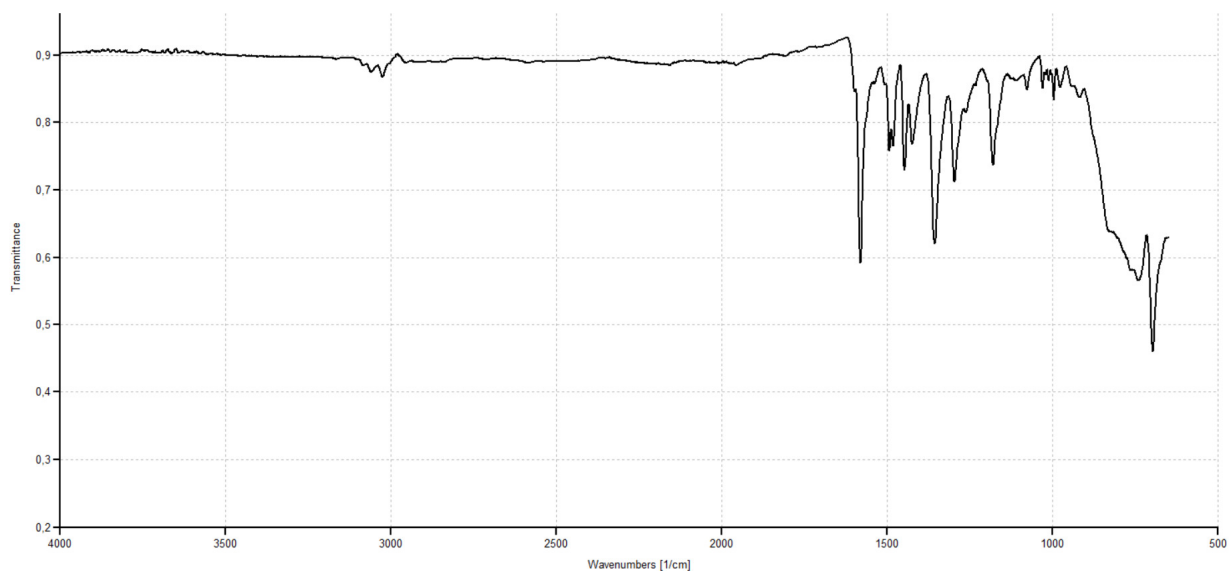




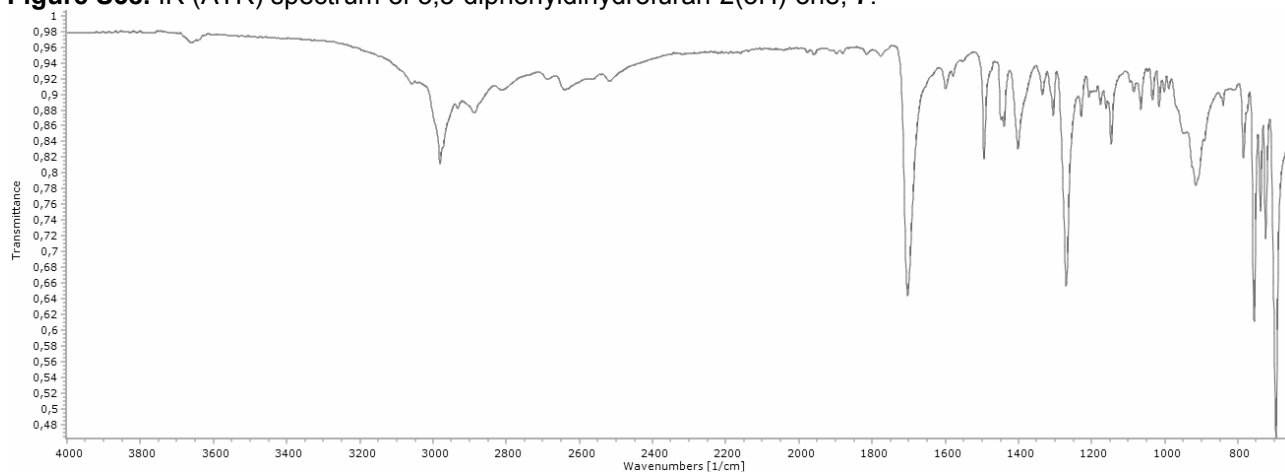
**Figure S36.** IR (ATR) spectrum of  $[\text{CPh}_3][\text{Ti}_2\text{Cl}_8(\mu-\kappa^2\text{-O}_2\text{CCPh}_3)]$ , **4**.



**Figure S37.** IR (ATR) spectrum of  $\text{NbCl}_4(\text{O}_2\text{CCHPh}_2)$ , **6**.



**Figure S38.** IR (ATR) spectrum of 3,3-diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one, **7**.



**Figure S39.** IR (ATR) spectrum of MeC(Cl)=CHCOOH, **8**.

