

## Supplementary Information

for

# **Bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)tetrelenes**

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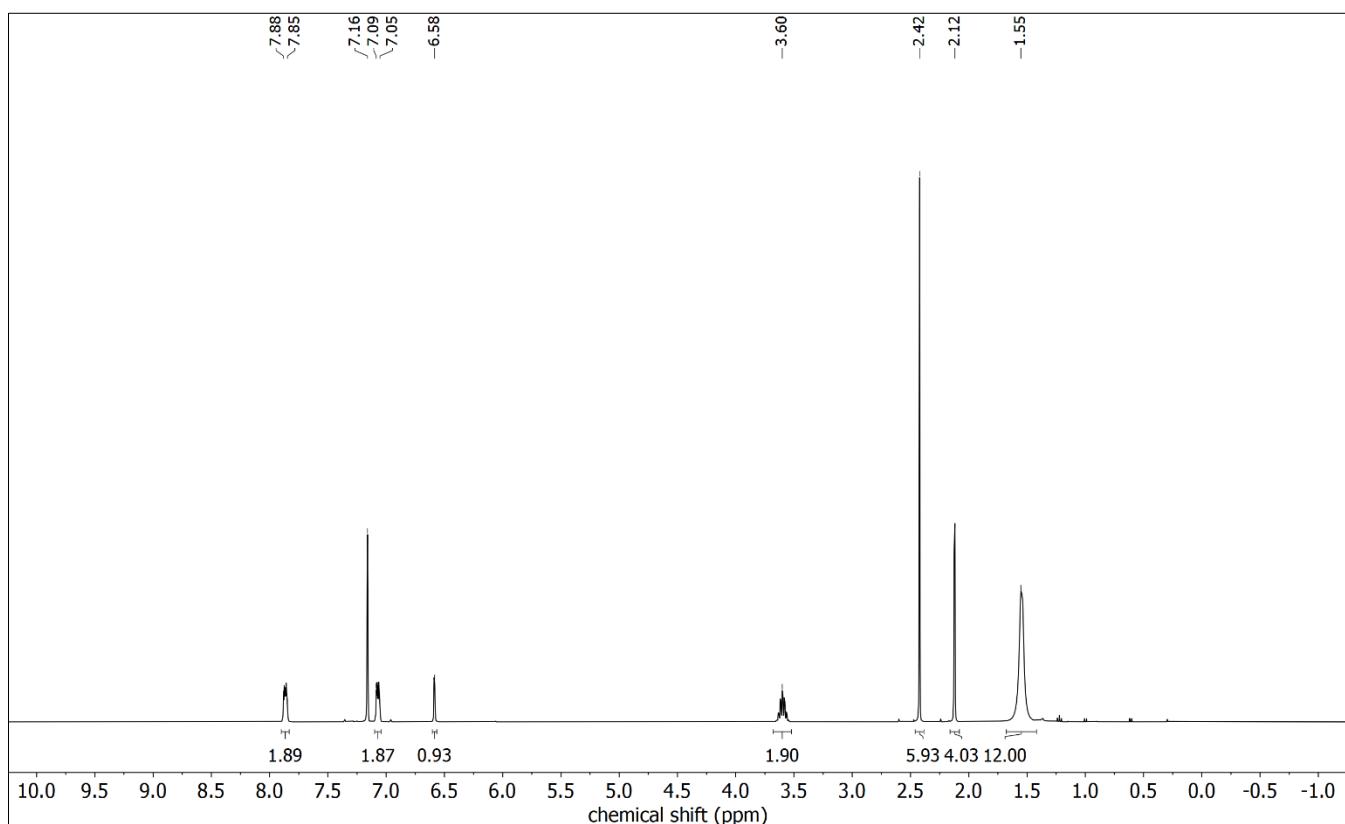
NMR Spectra S2 — S9

XRD Data S10 — S14

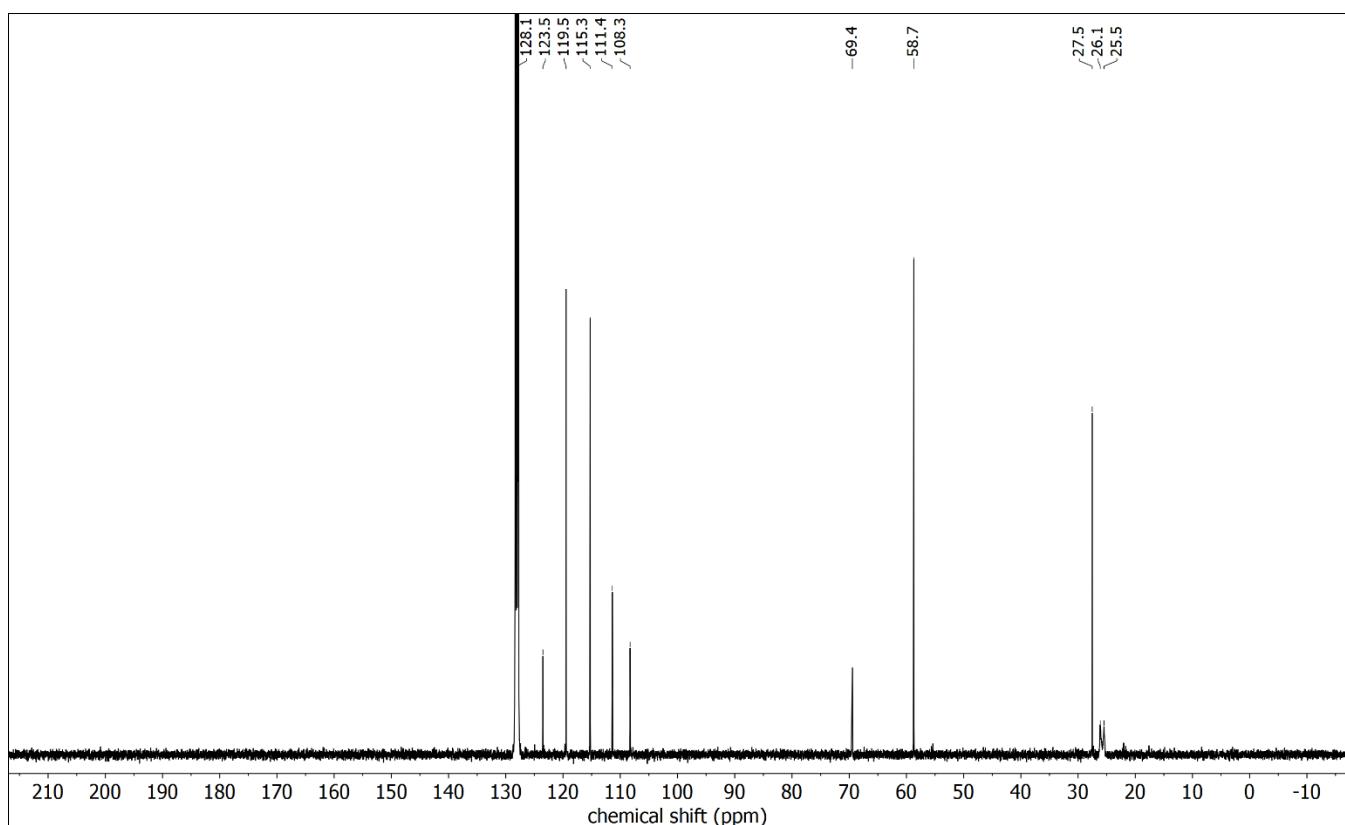
Computational Details S15

## References S16

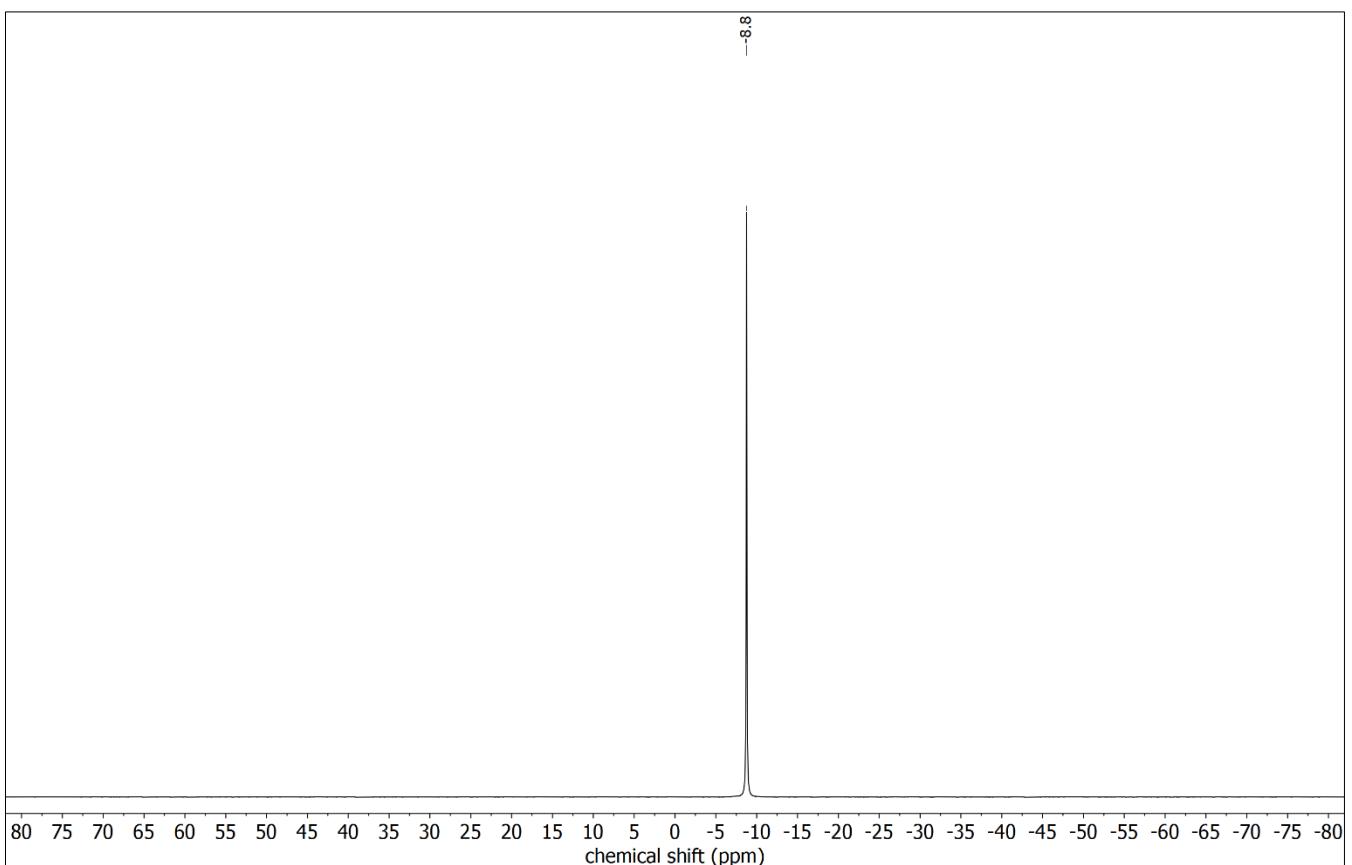
## NMR Spectra



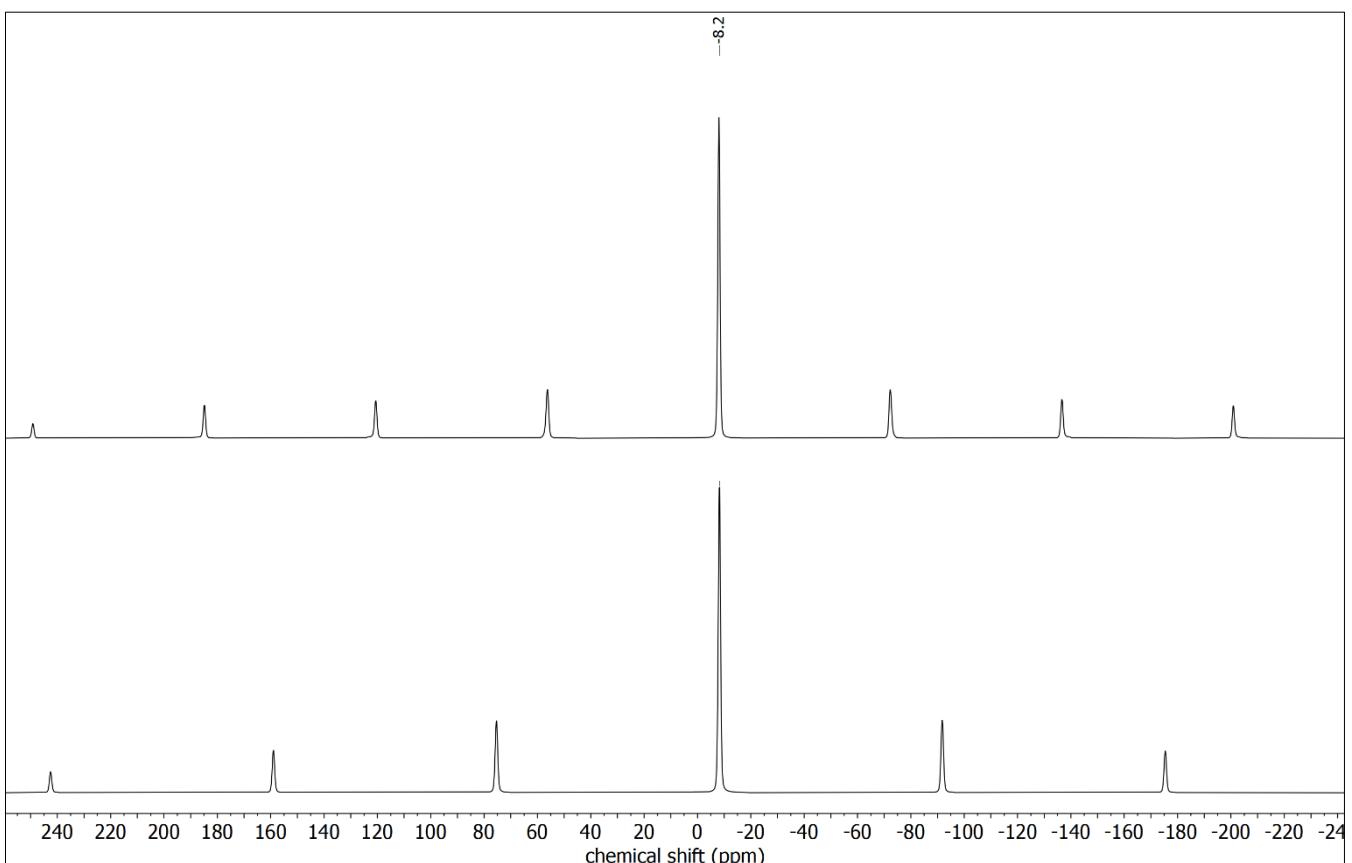
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 295 K) of lithium dimethoxyethane diisopropylindenide,  $\mathbf{1a}\cdot(\text{dme})$ .



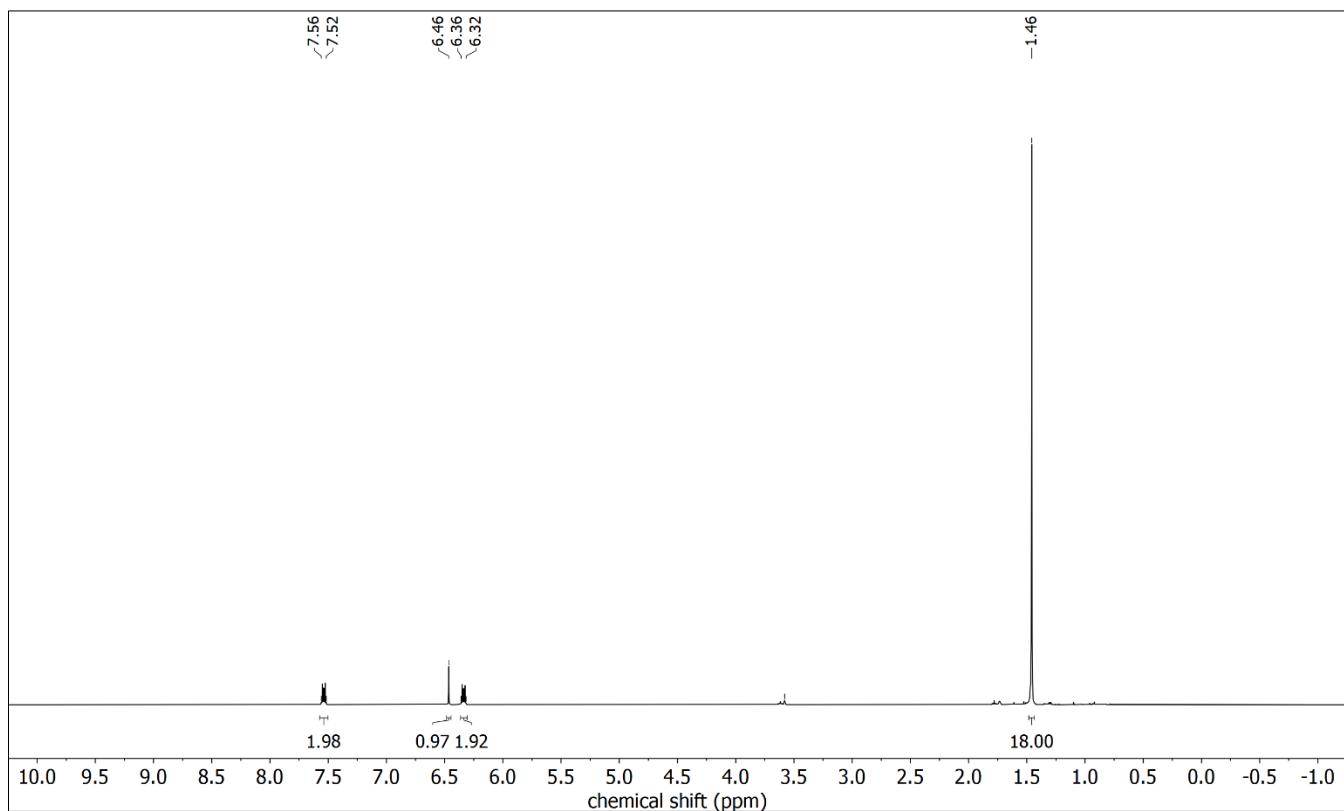
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 295 K) of lithium dimethoxyethane diisopropylindenide,  $\mathbf{1a}\cdot(\text{dme})$ .



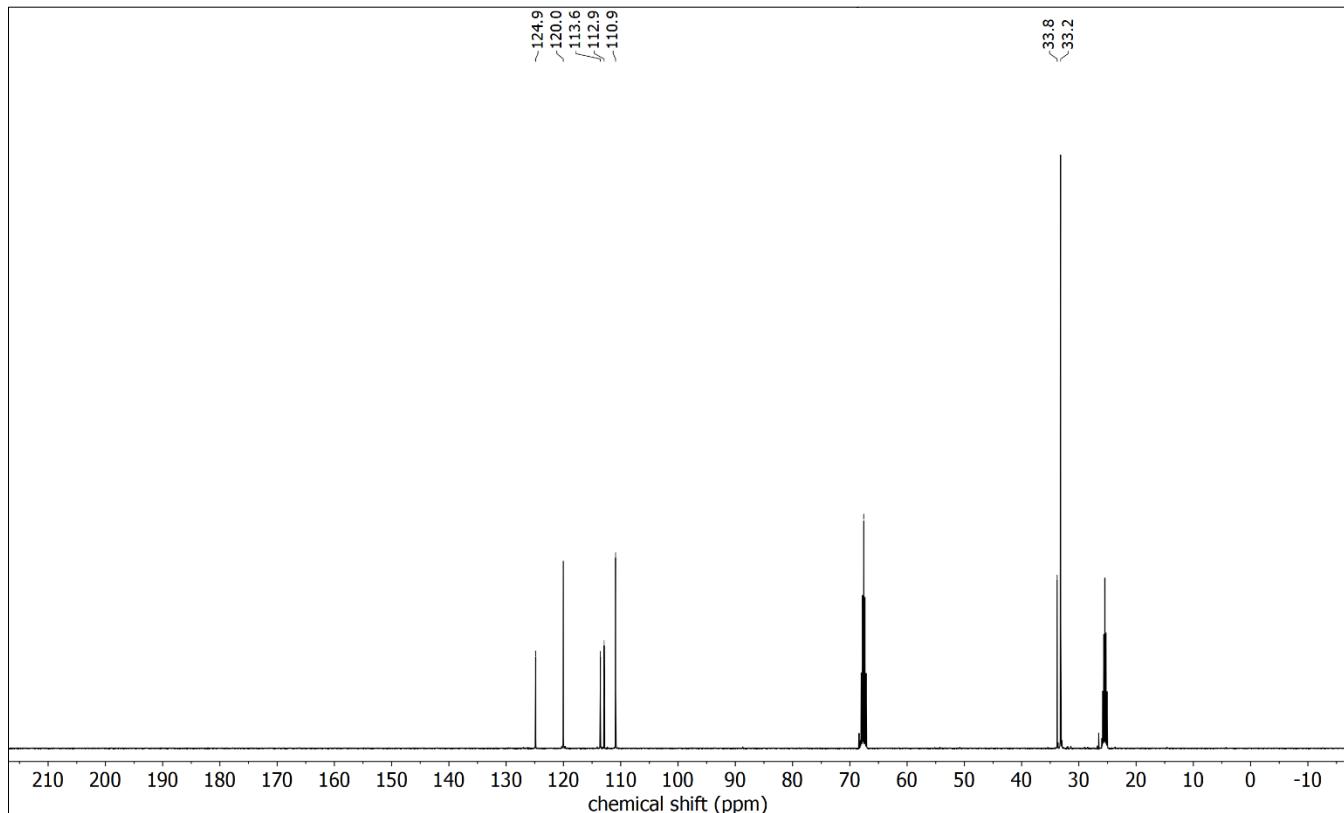
**Figure S3.**  ${}^7\text{Li}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (156 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 295 K) of lithium dimethoxyethane diisopropylindenide, **1a**·(dme).



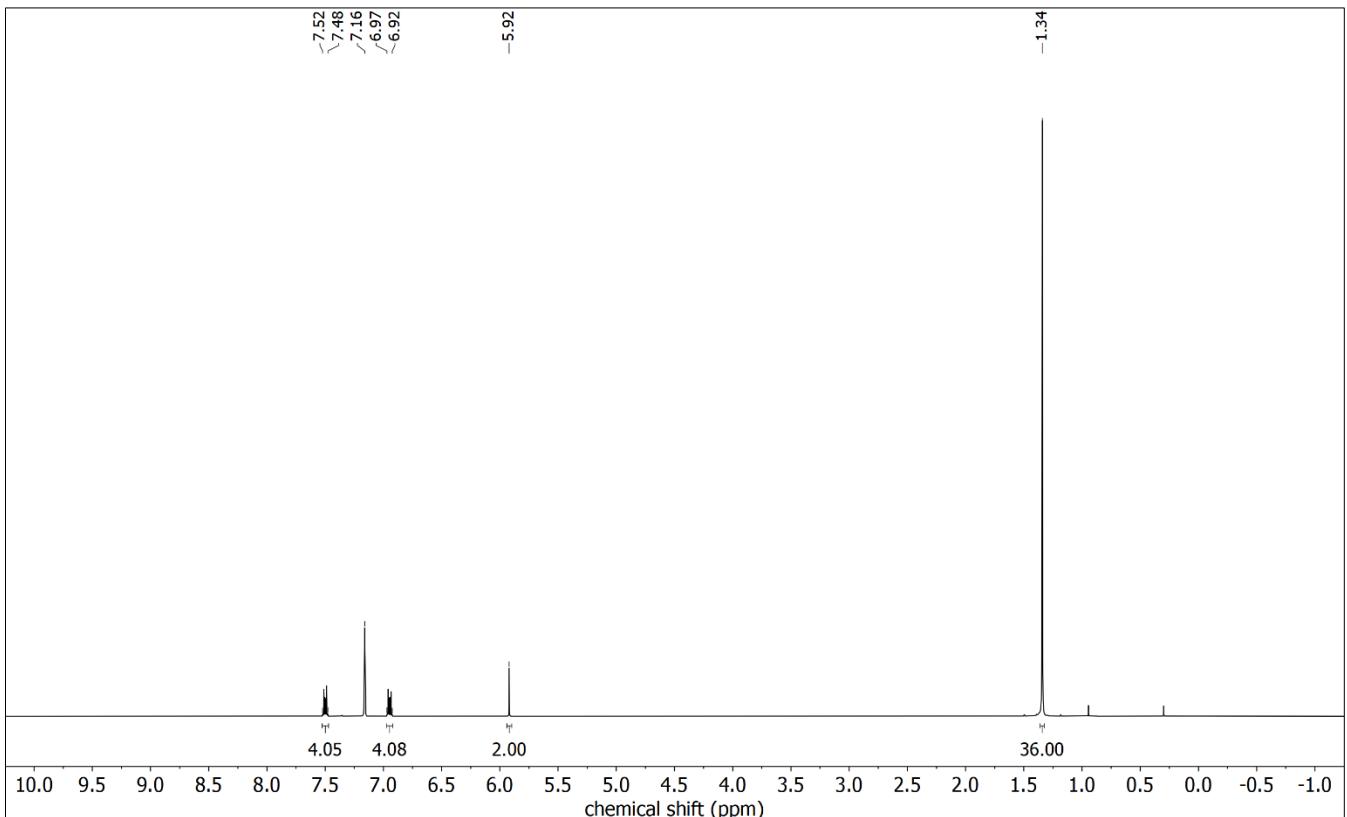
**Figure S4.**  ${}^7\text{Li}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$  CP-MAS (upper trace: 10 kHz; lower trace: 13 kHz) NMR spectra (156 MHz, 297 K) of lithium dimethoxyethane diisopropylindenide, **1a**·(dme).



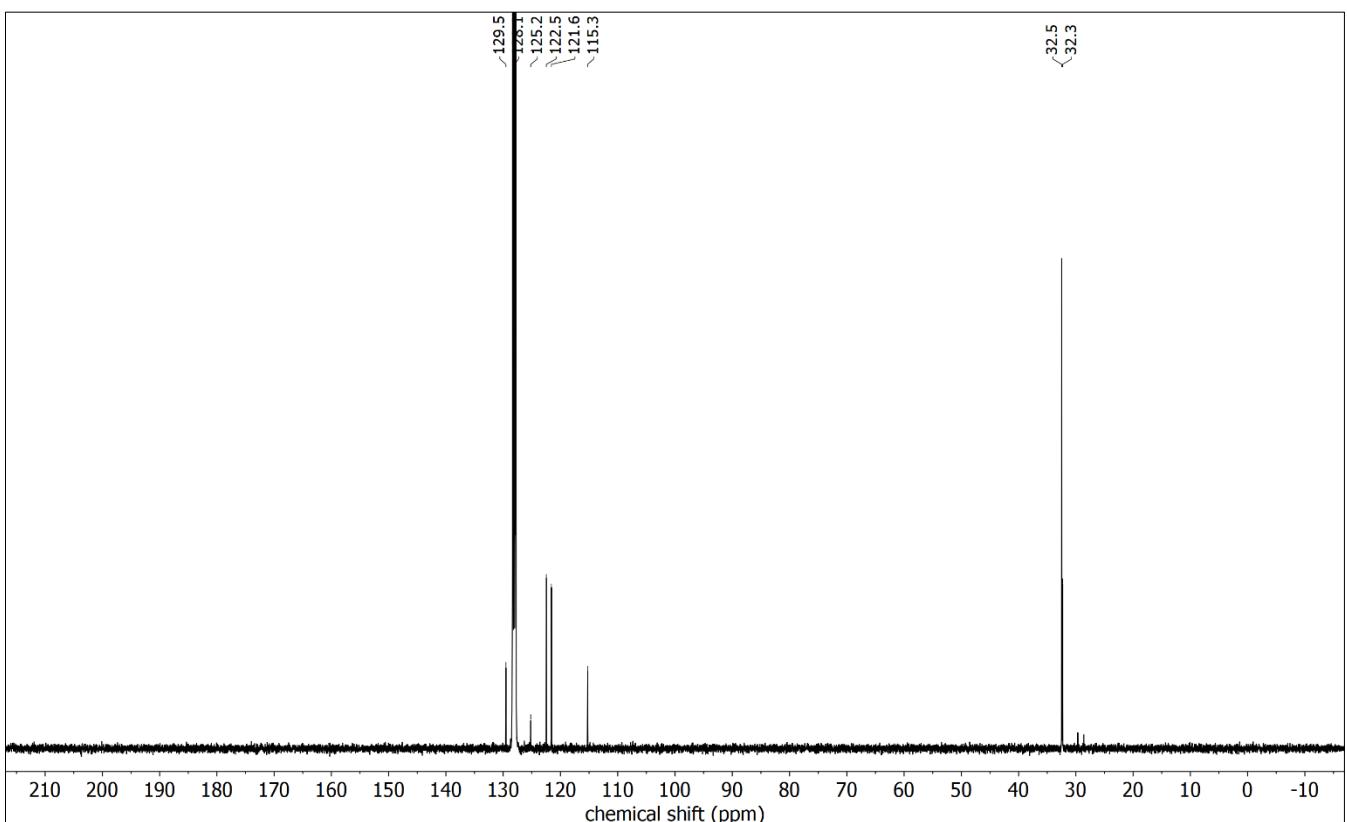
**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz, THF-D8, 295 K) of sodium di-*tert*-butylindenide, **1b**.



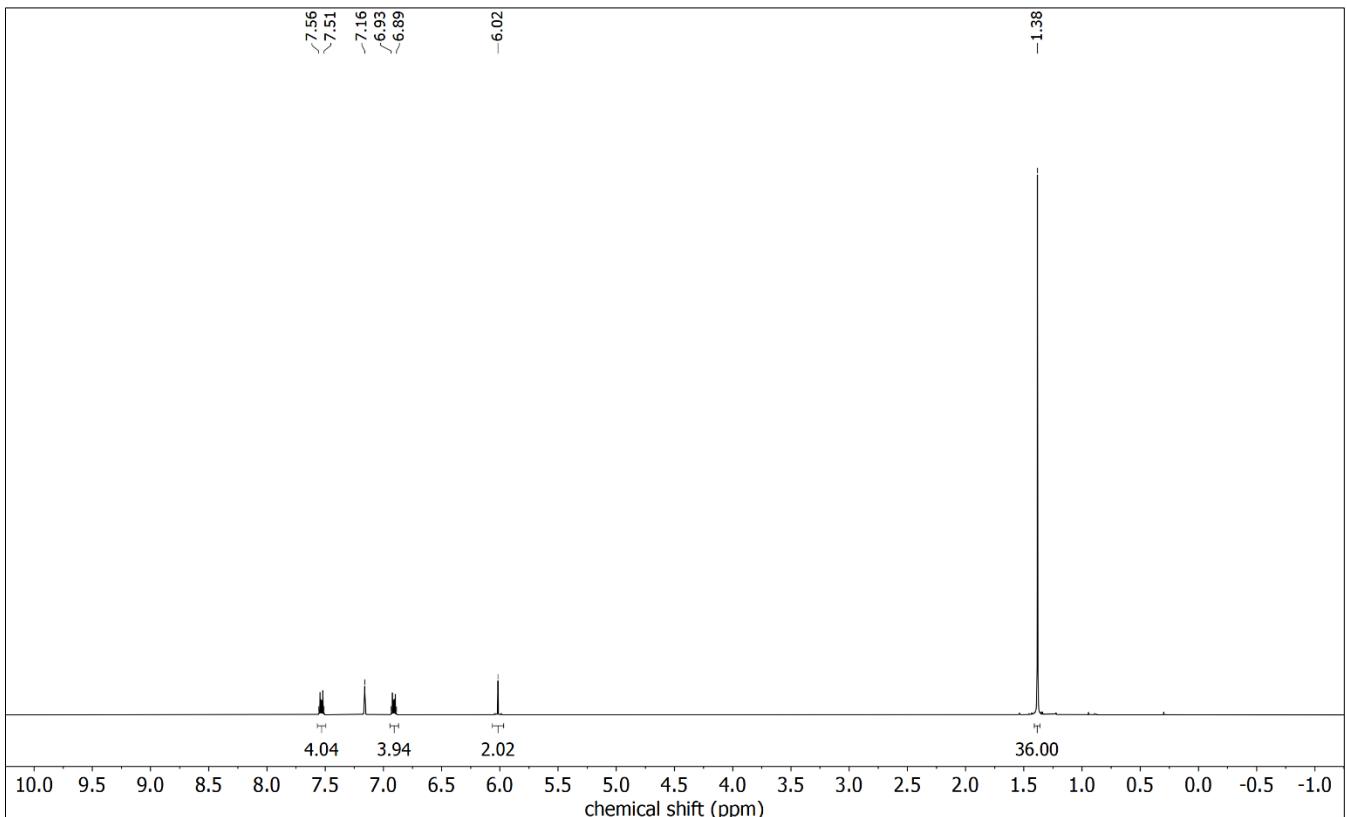
**Figure S6.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (101 MHz, THF-D8, 295 K) of sodium di-*tert*-butylindenide, **1b**.



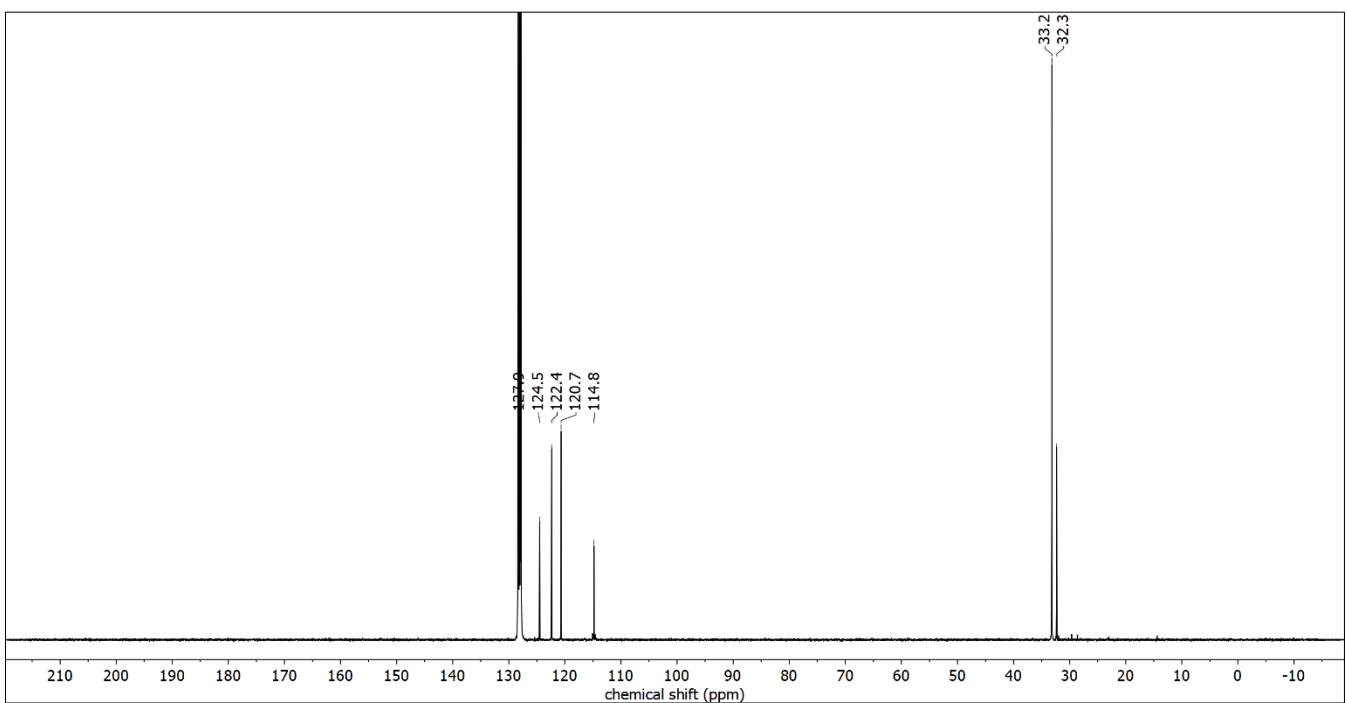
**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 295 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)germanocene, **2a**.



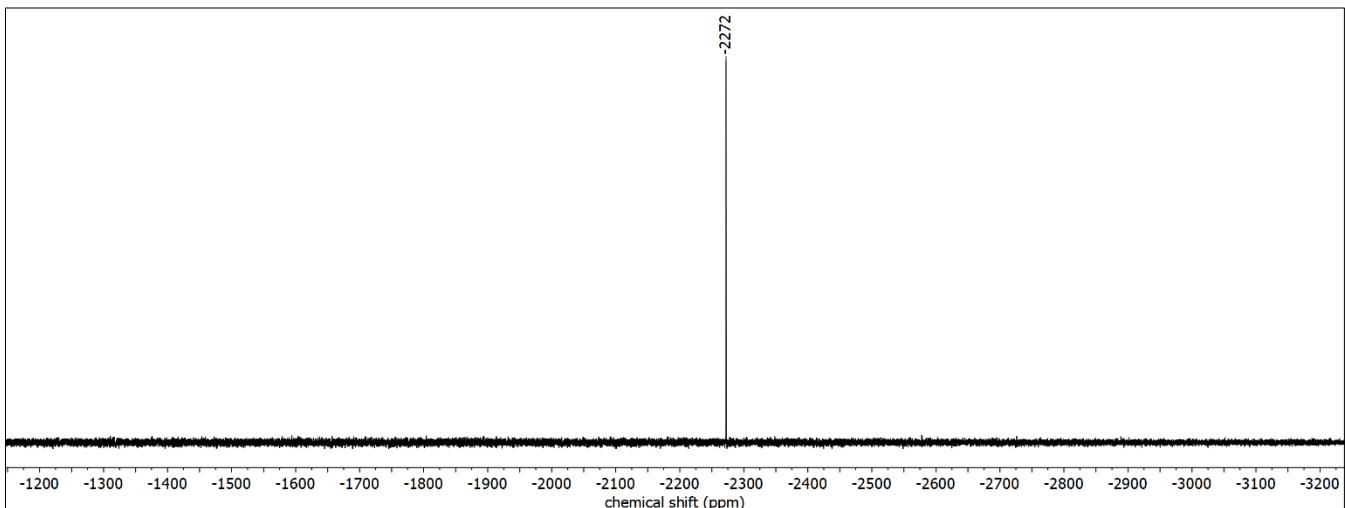
**Figure S8.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 295 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)germanocene, **2a**.



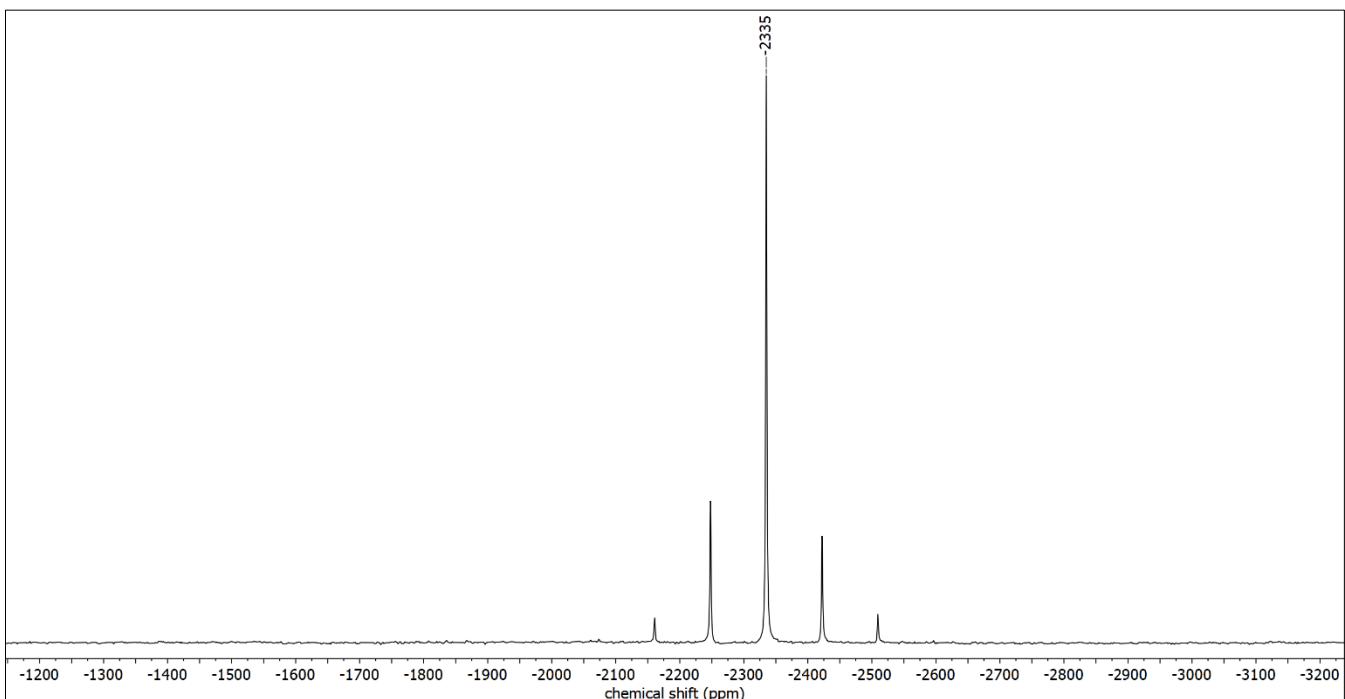
**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 295 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)stannocene, **2b**.



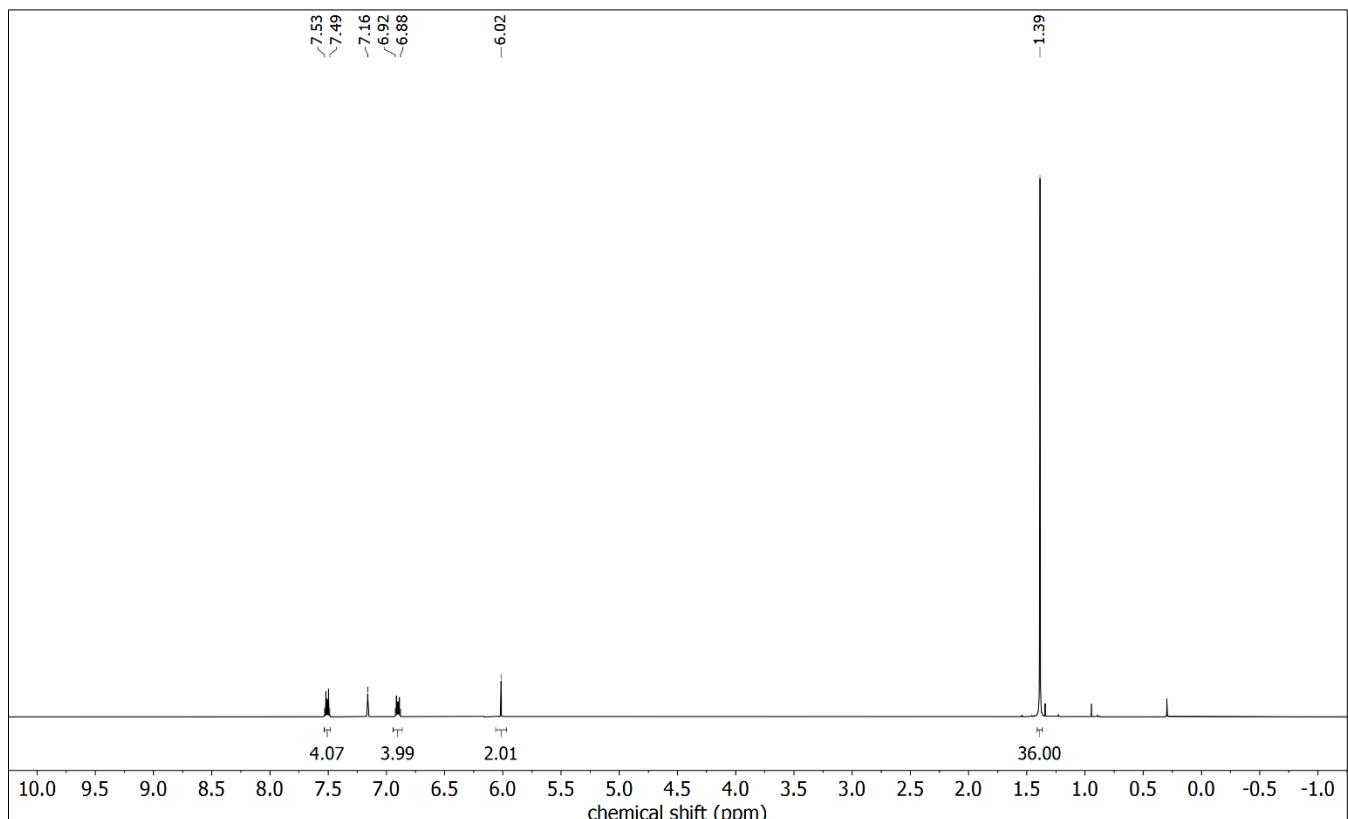
**Figure S10.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 296 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)stannocene, **2b**.



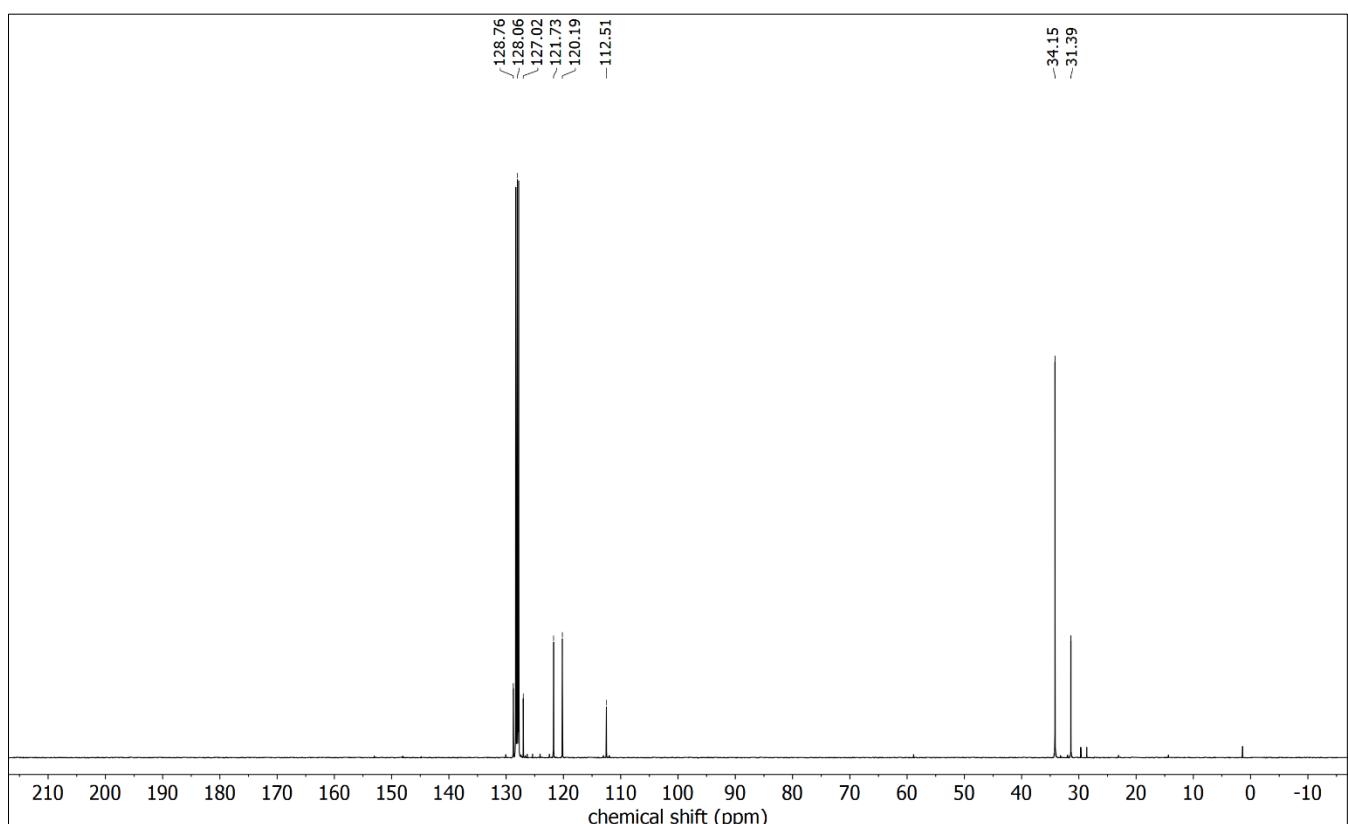
**Figure S11.**  $^{119}\text{Sn}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (149 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 295 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)stannocene, **2b**.



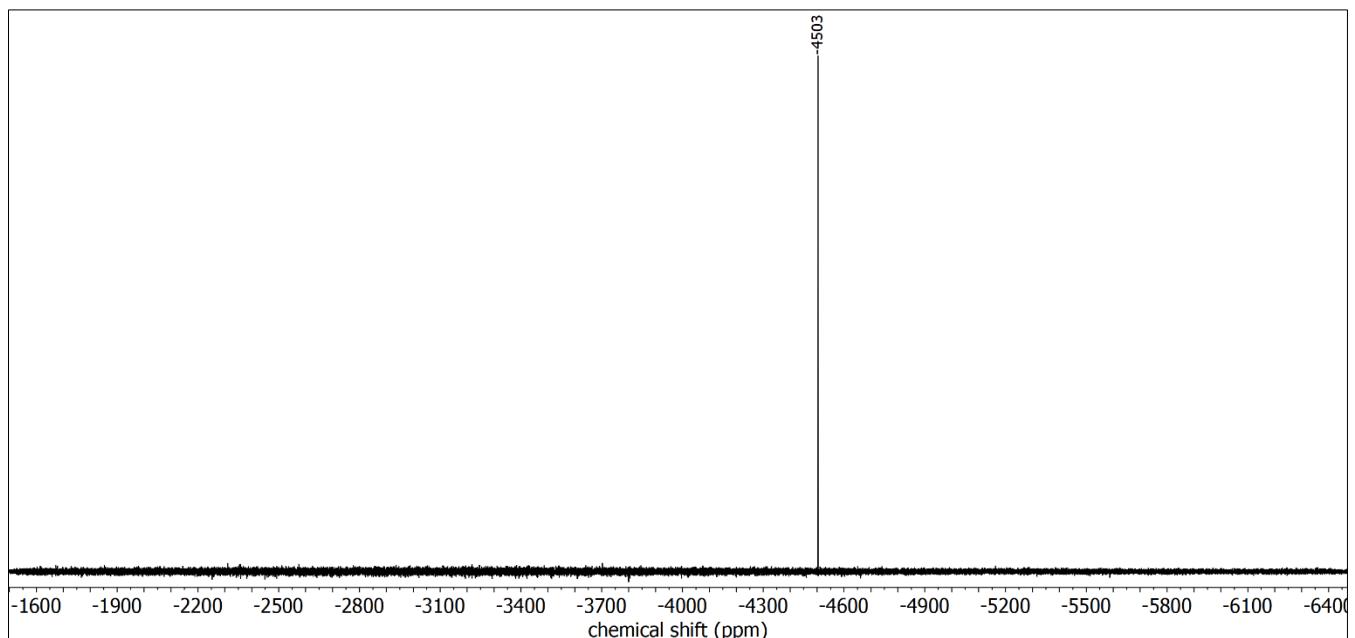
**Figure S12.**  $^{119}\text{Sn}\{^1\text{H}\}$  CP-MAS(13 kHz) NMR spectra (149 MHz) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)stannocene, **2b**.



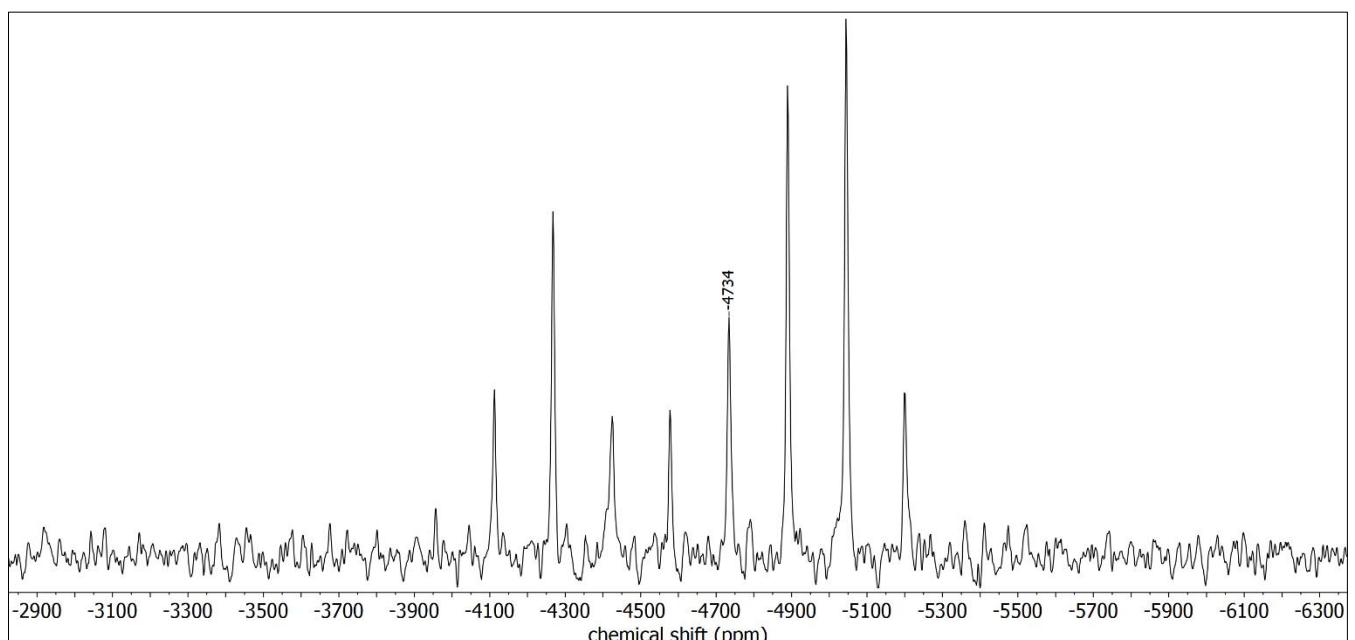
**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 294 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)plumbocene, **2c**.



**Figure S14.** <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 294 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)plumbocene, **2c**.



**Figure S15.**  ${}^{207}\text{Pb}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (83 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 294 K) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)plumbocene, **2c**.



**Figure S16.**  ${}^{207}\text{Pb}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$  CP-MAS(13 kHz) NMR spectra (83 MHz) of bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)plumbocene, **2c**.

## XRD Data

### Lithium dimethoxyethane diisopropylindenide, 1a·(dme):

CCDC code	2154213
Empirical formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>29</sub> LiO <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	296.36
Temperature	133(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> -1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.1149(10) Å      α = 73.834(4)° b = 9.9608(11) Å      β = 74.958(4)° c = 12.9882(16) Å      γ = 66.433(4)°
Volume	911.04(19) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.080 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.067 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	324
Crystal size	0.239 x 0.085 x 0.058 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.537 to 25.675°
Index ranges	-9<=h<=9, -11<=k<=12, -15<=l<=15
Reflections collected	24467
Independent reflections	3309 [R(int) = 0.0728]
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	96.0%
Absorption correction	semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7455 and 0.6730
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	3309 / 0 / 208
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.068
Final R indices [ $\text{I} > 2\sigma(\text{I})$ ]	R1 = 0.0587, wR2 = 0.1505
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0796, wR2 = 0.1645
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.241 and -0.204 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Sodium tris(dimethoxyethane) di-*tert*-butylindenide, 1b·(dme)<sub>3</sub>:**

CCDC code	2154214
Empirical formula	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>53</sub> NaO <sub>6</sub>
Formula weight	520.70
Temperature	133(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.6172(2) Å b = 15.9650(3) Å c = 17.7264(4) Å
Volume	3195.64(11) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.082 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.085 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1144
Crystal size	0.309 x 0.249 x 0.138 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.209 to 27.115°
Index ranges	-14<=h<=14, -20<=k<=20, -22<=l<=22
Reflections collected	49094
Independent reflections	7058 [R(int) = 0.0545]
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	100.0%
Absorption correction	semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7455 and 0.6877
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	7058 / 0 / 337
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.033
Final R indices [I>2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0409, wR2 = 0.0950
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0581, wR2 = 0.1059
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.207 and -0.217 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)germanocene, 2a:**

CCDC code	2154217	
Empirical formula	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>46</sub> Ge	
Formula weight	527.30	
Temperature	148(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 10.979(3) Å b = 14.731(4) Å c = 18.973(4) Å	α = 90° β = 107.306(8)° γ = 90°
Volume	2929.7(12) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.195 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	1.065 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	1128	
Crystal size	0.254 x 0.202 x 0.088 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	1.934 to 27.137°.	
Index ranges	-14<=h<=14, -18<=k<=18, -24<=l<=24	
Reflections collected	48002	
Independent reflections	6464 [R(int) = 0.0442]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	99.9 %	
Absorption correction	semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7455 and 0.6975	
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	6464 / 0 / 328	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.027	
Final R indices [I>2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0262, wR2 = 0.0624	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0334, wR2 = 0.0662	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.312 and -0.294 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

**Bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)stannocene, 2b:**

CCDC code	2154215
Empirical formula	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>46</sub> Sn
Formula weight	573.40
Temperature	133(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.0857(3) Å b = 14.8512(4) Å c = 18.8414(5) Å
	α = 90° β = 105.5710(10)° γ = 90°
Volume	2988.12(14) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.275 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.874 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1200
Crystal size	0.234 x 0.201 x 0.137 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.244 to 30.524°
Index ranges	-15<=h<=15, -21<=k<=21, -26<=l<=25
Reflections collected	64683
Independent reflections	9129 [R(int) = 0.0331]
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	99.9%
Absorption correction	semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7461 and 0.6927
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	9129 / 0 / 328
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.036
Final R indices [I>2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0236, wR2 = 0.0488
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0332, wR2 = 0.0527
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.362 and -0.395 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Bis(di-*tert*-butylindenyl)plumbocene, 2c:**

CCDC code	2154216
Empirical formula	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>46</sub> Pb
Formula weight	661.90
Temperature	133(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.1603(4) Å b = 14.9272(5) Å c = 18.8917(7) Å
	α = 90° β = 106.1980(10)° γ = 90°
Volume	3022.27(19) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.455 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	5.601 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1328
Crystal size	0.148 x 0.142 x 0.092 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.245 to 28.725°.
Index ranges	-15<=h<=14, -18<=k<=20, -25<=l<=25
Reflections collected	50956
Independent reflections	7815 [R(int) = 0.0351]
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	100.0%
Absorption correction	semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7458 and 0.6242
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	7815 / 0 / 328
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.065
Final R indices [I>2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0190, wR2 = 0.0377
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0290, wR2 = 0.0408
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.358 and -0.797 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

## Computational Details

All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 16, Revision C.01 package of programs<sup>1</sup>. Geometry optimizations have been carried out at the PBE0-D3/def2-TZVP<sup>2</sup> level of theory. The optimized structure was confirmed to be a minimum on the potential energy surface by a subsequent frequency analysis (all positive eigenvalues).

### xyz coordinates of optimized geometry of bis(di-tert-butylindenyl)germanocene, 2a:

Ge	-0.00000100	-0.00001000	0.03965300
C	2.20394700	0.41307700	1.10172700
C	-2.20397100	-0.41306300	1.10169800
C	2.12343500	-0.99340700	0.91732600
C	2.43422300	0.96495400	-0.20864400
C	2.34975000	1.12808200	2.42936900
C	-2.12343800	0.99341600	0.91728200
C	-2.43422600	-0.96495300	-0.20867100
C	-2.34980900	-1.12805300	2.42934400
H	1.97954200	-1.70163500	1.71961900
C	2.16591400	-1.33720800	-0.44542100
C	2.67715100	2.27936200	-0.65930500
C	2.39963500	-0.11275900	-1.15993800
C	3.78580200	1.65470200	2.55554000
C	2.09273600	1.16817700	3.58857000
C	1.36616800	2.29553500	2.54738800
H	-1.97955700	1.70165100	1.71957100
C	-2.16589000	1.33720500	-0.44546900
C	-2.39961200	0.11274900	-1.15997600
C	-2.67715000	-2.27936500	-0.65932100
C	-1.36621200	-2.29548800	2.54741200
C	-2.09285900	-0.16813000	3.58854500
C	-3.78585700	-1.65468900	2.55547200
C	2.10134500	-2.73657600	-1.01684100
H	2.72282500	3.10484400	0.03971200
C	2.87218900	2.51239700	-1.99614500
C	2.58937200	1.16968500	-2.52887700
H	3.92564200	2.15112200	3.52029700
H	4.50272800	0.83330600	2.48582500
H	4.02443400	2.37069800	1.76778100
H	2.16125900	0.70393700	4.53859200
H	1.09675800	-0.27708200	3.52791700
H	2.82667100	-0.64083900	3.60866000
H	1.52570000	2.83735900	3.48397400
H	1.47177800	3.00618500	1.72711400
H	0.33536200	1.93230100	2.53801200
C	-2.10130300	2.73656600	-1.01690000
C	-2.58932900	-0.16970900	-2.52891600
C	-2.87216600	-2.51241500	-1.99616100
H	-2.72283800	-3.10483900	0.03970500
H	-1.52578500	-2.83732100	3.48398600
H	-1.47176300	-3.00613300	1.72712600
H	-0.33541400	-1.93223400	2.53809600
H	-2.16141400	-0.70388200	4.53857000
H	-1.09688700	0.27714800	3.52793800
H	-2.82680900	0.64086400	3.60859600
H	-3.92572500	-2.15109500	3.52023500
H	-4.50279500	0.83331300	2.48571000
H	-4.02449000	-2.37071300	1.76772100
C	3.46321000	-3.08953800	-1.62930400
C	1.78776000	-3.75012000	0.08144100
C	1.00969700	-2.84974400	-2.08683800
H	3.06812500	3.52119600	-2.34151800
C	2.82433600	1.45893800	-2.93085700
H	2.56779800	-0.62475000	-3.26370900
C	-1.00963200	2.84972000	-2.08687500
C	-1.78773800	3.75012000	0.08138000
C	-3.46315400	3.08953100	-1.62939300
H	-2.56773300	0.62471500	-3.26375700
C	-2.82429300	-1.45896700	-2.93088400
H	-3.06809900	-3.52121800	-2.34152600
H	3.44390000	-4.10315300	-2.04015600
H	3.73346800	-2.40341700	-2.43359900
H	4.25023900	-3.04097300	-0.87286800
H	1.72445500	-4.75347200	-0.34692500
H	2.56397200	-3.76520800	0.85073900
H	0.83061300	-3.52937300	0.56180900
H	1.01576100	-3.85180400	-2.52604000
H	0.02036800	-2.67589800	-1.65656400
H	1.14504000	-2.13006100	2.89425400
H	2.98185100	1.67350100	3.98169100
H	-1.01568900	3.85177200	-2.52609500
H	-0.02031400	2.67588500	-1.65657400
H	-1.14495500	2.13002200	-2.89428100
H	-1.72441800	4.75346700	-0.34699500
H	-2.56396800	3.76521900	0.85065900
H	-0.83060400	3.52937400	0.56177400
H	-3.44382900	4.10314200	-2.04025400
H	-3.73340000	2.40340500	-2.43368800
H	-4.25019900	3.04097800	-0.87297400
H	-2.98179200	-1.67354100	-3.98171900

## References

- [1] Gaussian 16, Revision C.01, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, X. Li, M. Caricato, A. V. Marenich, J. Bloino, B. G. Janesko, R. Gomperts, B. Mennucci, H. P. Hratchian, J. V. Ortiz, A. F. Izmaylov, J. L. Sonnenberg, D. Williams-Young, F. Ding, F. Lipparini, F. Egidi, J. Goings, B. Peng, A. Petrone, T. Henderson, D. Ranasinghe, V. G. Zakrzewski, J. Gao, N. Rega, G. Zheng, W. Liang, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, K. Throssell, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. J. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. N. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. A. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. P. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, C. Adamo, R. Cammi, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, **2019**.
- [2] a) J. P. Perdew, M. Ernzerhof, K. Burke, *J. Chem. Phys.* **1996**, *105*, 9982-9985; b) C. Adamo, V. Barone, *J. Chem. Phys.* **1999**, *110*, 6158-6170; c) S. Grimme, J. Antony, S. Ehrlich, H. Krieg, *J. Chem. Phys.* **2010**, *132*, 154104; d) F. Weigend, R. Ahlrichs, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2005**, *7*, 3297-3305; e) F. Weigend, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2006**, *8*, 1057-1065.