

# Supporting Information

## Lewis Superacids for Catalytic Reductions of Stronger Element-Oxygen Double Bonds with Hydrosilanes

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# 1. General Considerations

## 1.1 General Information

Handling of air-sensitive compounds and reactions were conducted under inert argon 4.6 ( $\geq 99.996\%$  *Westfalen AG*) atmospheres in heat dried borosilicate Schlenk reaction vessels (applying standard Schlenk techniques) or in *LABstar Pro* gloveboxes from *MBraun Inertgas-Systeme GmbH* (unless stated otherwise). Glass junctions were coated with *Triboflon III* PTFE/PEPE grease. Any plastic or other heat sensitive apparatus, like syringes, were stored in original packaging and cycled three times with argon before use.

## 1.2 Reagents and Solvents

Any commercially available chemicals used for syntheses and reaction tests were purchased from commercial distributors: *Sigma-Aldrich*, *Merck (Darmstadt)*, *Thermo Fischer*, and *TCI Deutschland, abcr, BLDpharm*. These were used as received.

Solvents were distilled over calcium hydride ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , *o*-DFB, acetonitrile), distilled over sodium/benzophenone (1,4-dioxane) or drawn from an *MBraun Solvent Purification System* (pentane, toluene) and stored over molecular sieves (3 Å) in Schlenk flasks or in a glovebox before using. Deuterated solvents ( $\text{C}_7\text{D}_8$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) were dried and stored over molecular sieves (3 Å) in a glovebox.

## 1.3 Analysis

### 1.3.1 NMR Analysis

All NMR experiments were done in either *J. Young* PTFE tap NMR tubes or standard NMR tubes with a rubber cap that was supported by applying PTFE tape. All NMR spectra were recorded on an *Ascend 400* or *Ultrashield 400* spectrometers produced by *Bruker* at ambient temperature (298 K) unless stated otherwise.

$\delta$ -values are all stated in parts per million [ppm] and  $J$ -coupling constants are all stated in Hertz (Hz). In the assignment, abbreviations for multiplicity were used: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), quintet (qt), sextet (s), septet (sp), broad (br), and multiplet (m). The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra obtained were calibrated using the residual solvent peaks of the deuterated solvent as an internal standard as found in the literature.<sup>S1</sup> The data was analysed and processed using *MestReNova* (version 14.3.0).

Any NMR experiments done in a non-deuterated solvent (e.g. *o*-DFB, toluene) contained a 'lock'- capillary filled with  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  to enable the shim/lock routine for well-resolved spectra.

### 1.3.2 Single Crystal X-ray Diffraction Analysis

The X-ray intensity data were collected on an X-ray single crystal diffractometer equipped with a CMOS detector (Bruker Photon-100), a rotating anode (Bruker TXS) with MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073\text{ \AA}$ ) and a Helios mirror optic by using the APEX4 software package<sup>S2</sup> or an X-ray single crystal diffractometer equipped with a CMOS detector (Bruker Photon-

100), an IMS microsource with MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) and a Helios mirror optic by using the APEX4 software package.<sup>S2</sup> The measurement was performed on single crystals coated with perfluorinated ether. The crystal was fixed on the top of a microsampler, transferred to the diffractometer and measured under a stream of cold nitrogen. A matrix scan was used to determine the initial lattice parameters. Reflections were merged and corrected for Lorenz and polarization effects, scan speed, and background using SAINT.<sup>S3</sup> Absorption corrections, including odd and even ordered spherical harmonics were performed using SADABS.<sup>S4</sup> Space group assignments were based upon systematic absences, E statistics, and successful refinement of the structures. Structures were solved by direct methods with the aid of successive difference Fourier maps, and were refined against all data using the APEX4<sup>S2</sup> in conjunction with SHELXL-2018/3.<sup>S5,S6</sup> and SHELXLE.<sup>S7</sup> Methyl hydrogen atoms were refined as part of rigid rotating groups, with a C-H distance of 0.98  $\text{\AA}$  and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.5 \cdot U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ . Other H atoms were placed in calculated positions and refined using a riding model, with methylene and aromatic C-H distances of 0.99 and 0.95  $\text{\AA}$ , respectively, and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2 \cdot U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ . If not mentioned otherwise, non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. Full-matrix least-squares refinements were carried out by minimizing  $\Delta w(F_{\text{o}}^2 - F_{\text{c}}^2)^2$  with SHELXL-2014<sup>S8</sup> weighting scheme. Neutral atom scattering factors for all atoms and anomalous dispersion corrections for the non-hydrogen atoms were taken from International Tables for Crystallography.<sup>S9</sup> Images of the crystal structures were generated by PLATON and MERCURY.<sup>S10,S11</sup> The CCDC numbers CCDC-2492264 and CCDC-2492265 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for the structures **1**·Me<sub>2</sub>NHCO and **2**·Me<sub>2</sub>SO. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via <https://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/structures/>. The crystallographic information files (CIF) were generated using FinalCif.<sup>S12</sup>

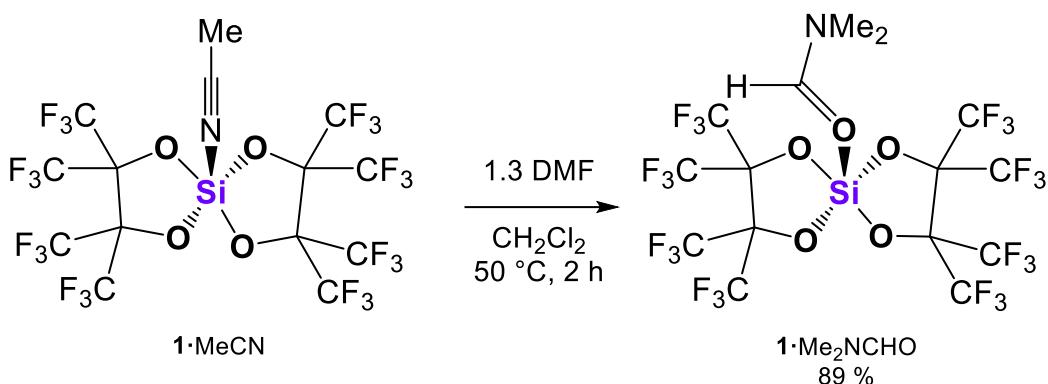
### 1.3.3 Mass Spectrometry Analysis

The mass spectrum was recorded using Liquid Injection Field Desorption Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (LIFDI-MS) and was measured directly from an inert atmosphere glovebox with a *Thermo-Fisher Scientific Exactive Plus Orbitrap* equipped with an ion source from *Linden CMS*.<sup>S13</sup> The samples were provided as filtered solutions in toluene.

## 2. Synthesis and Catalysis

Previous literature known compounds which are not commercially available were synthesised as described in the literature:  $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Ge}\cdot\text{MeCN}$ ,<sup>S14</sup> and  $[(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})\text{Ge}]_2\cdot 1,4\text{-dioxane}$ .<sup>S14</sup> The synthesis of  $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Si}\cdot\text{MeCN}$  was altered to use  $\text{SiBr}_4$  as the silicon source instead of  $\text{SiCl}_4$  because better yields were obtained with the bromide.<sup>S15</sup>

### 2.1 $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Si}\cdot\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$ (1· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$ )



**1·MeCN** (0.241 g, 0.328 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5.0 mL). DMF (0.031 g, 0.033 mL, 0.42 mmol, 1.3 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 2 h to ensure full solvation and subsequent reaction of **1·MeCN**. The crude product was washed thoroughly with pentane (5 mL, 1 h). This afforded **1·Me<sub>2</sub>NCHO** (0.224 g, 0.293 mmol, 89%, crude) as a colourless powder. Traces of uncoordinated DMF were still present as verified by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. This additional DMF can be removed by sublimation in vacuum at elevated temperatures (verified by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy) which might result in decreased yield. Elemental analysis was performed on the crude material.

X-ray quality crystals were obtained from a saturated  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeCN}$  (10:3) solution at -25 °C. For crystal structure please see Fig. S24, Section 3.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.2 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 8.3 (s, 1 H, CHO), 3.4 (s, 3 H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 3.2 (s, 3 H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>))

**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.6 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 162.6 (CHO), 82.7 (br, OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 41.1 (N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 35.9 (N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>))

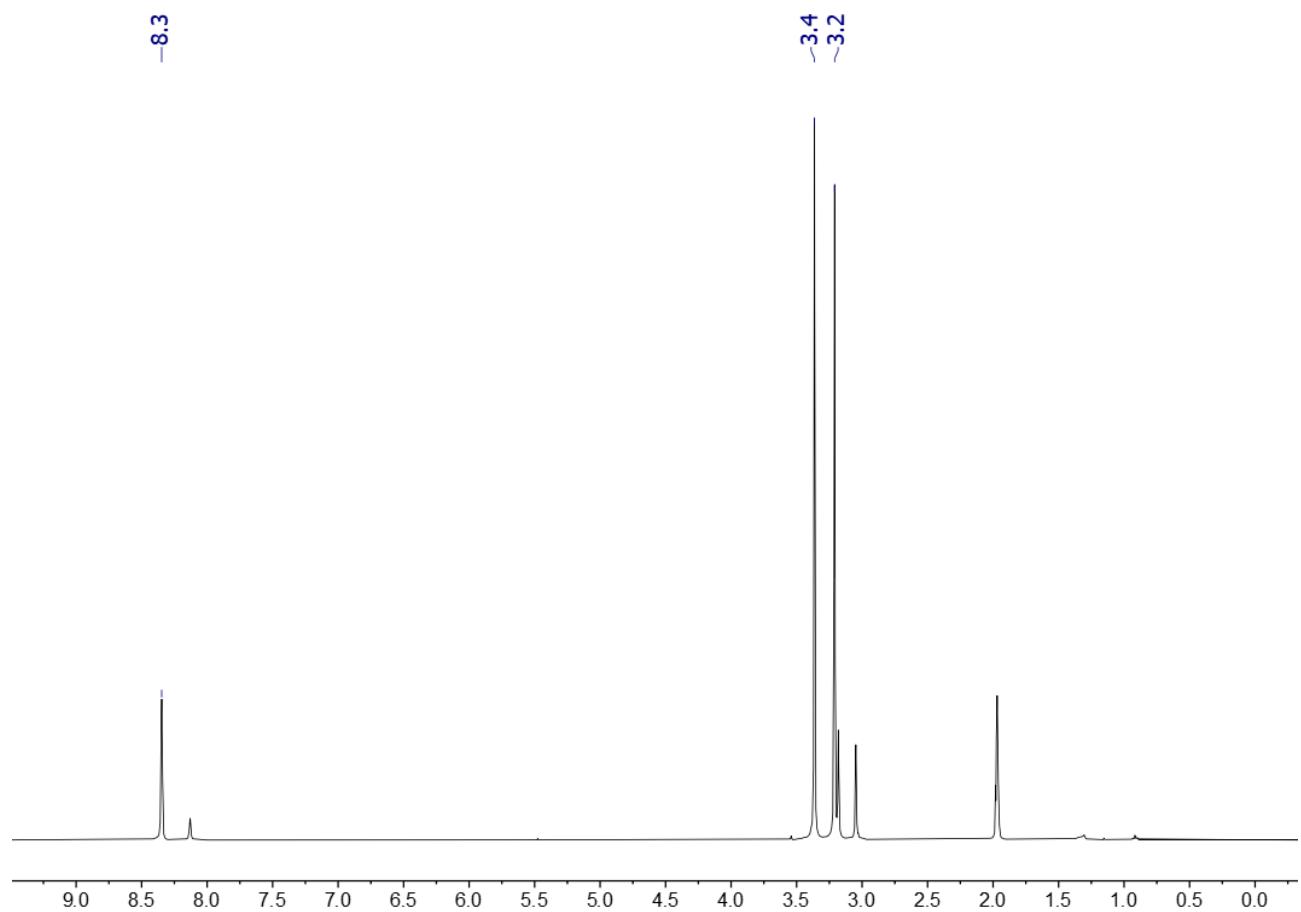
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>19</sup>F} NMR (100.6 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 162.6 (CHO), 121.5 (CF<sub>3</sub>), 82.6 (OC(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 41.1 (N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 35.9 (N(CH<sub>3</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>))

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376.6 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K):**  $\delta$  = -69.9 (m, 12 F, CF<sub>3</sub>), -70.5 (m, 12 F, CF<sub>3</sub>)

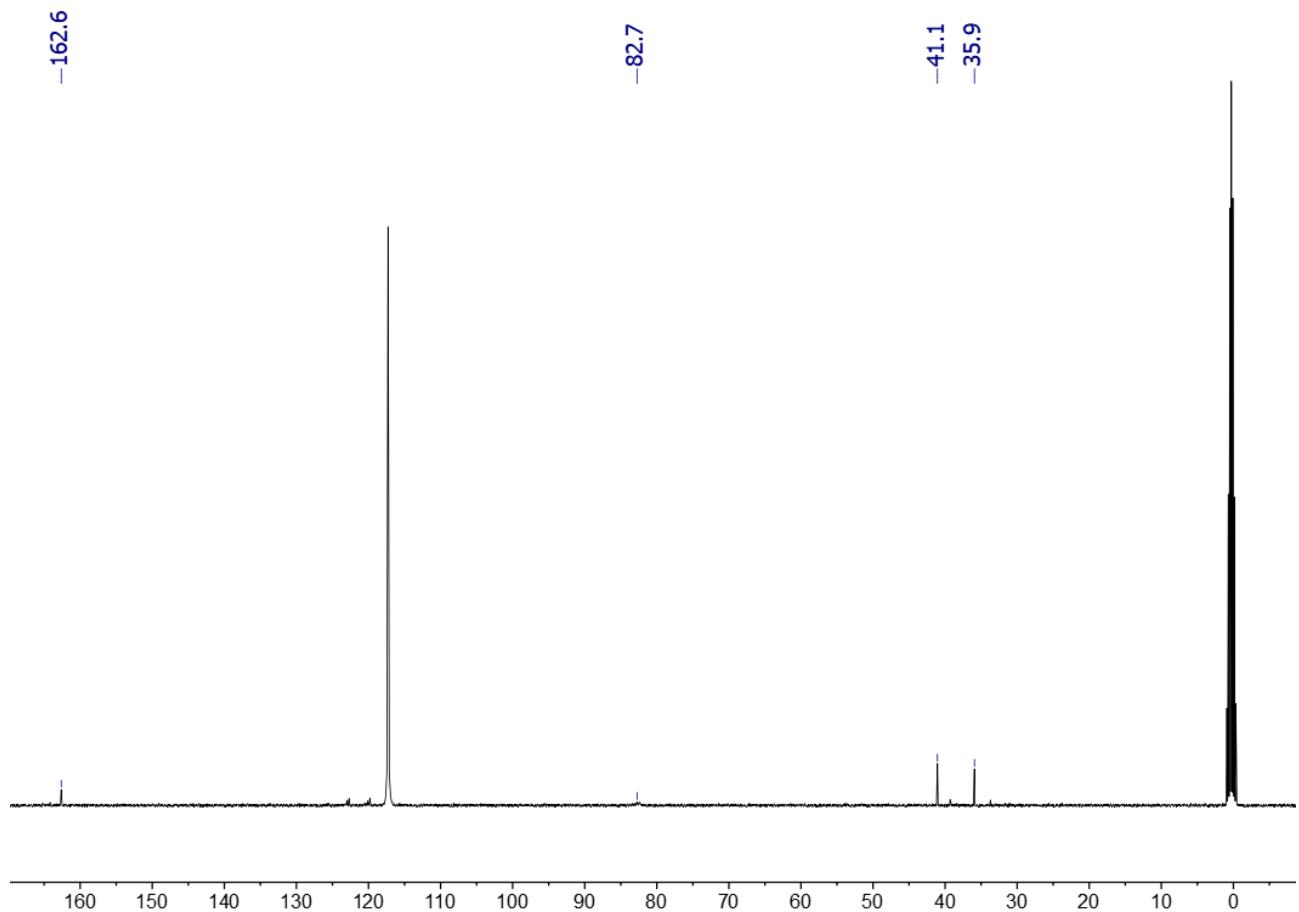
**<sup>29</sup>Si{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (79.5 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 298 K):**  $\delta$  = -107.9 (Si)

**Mass Spectrometry:** Found = 765.97444 (LIFDI), calculated for [C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>24</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>N]<sup>+</sup> = 765.97885

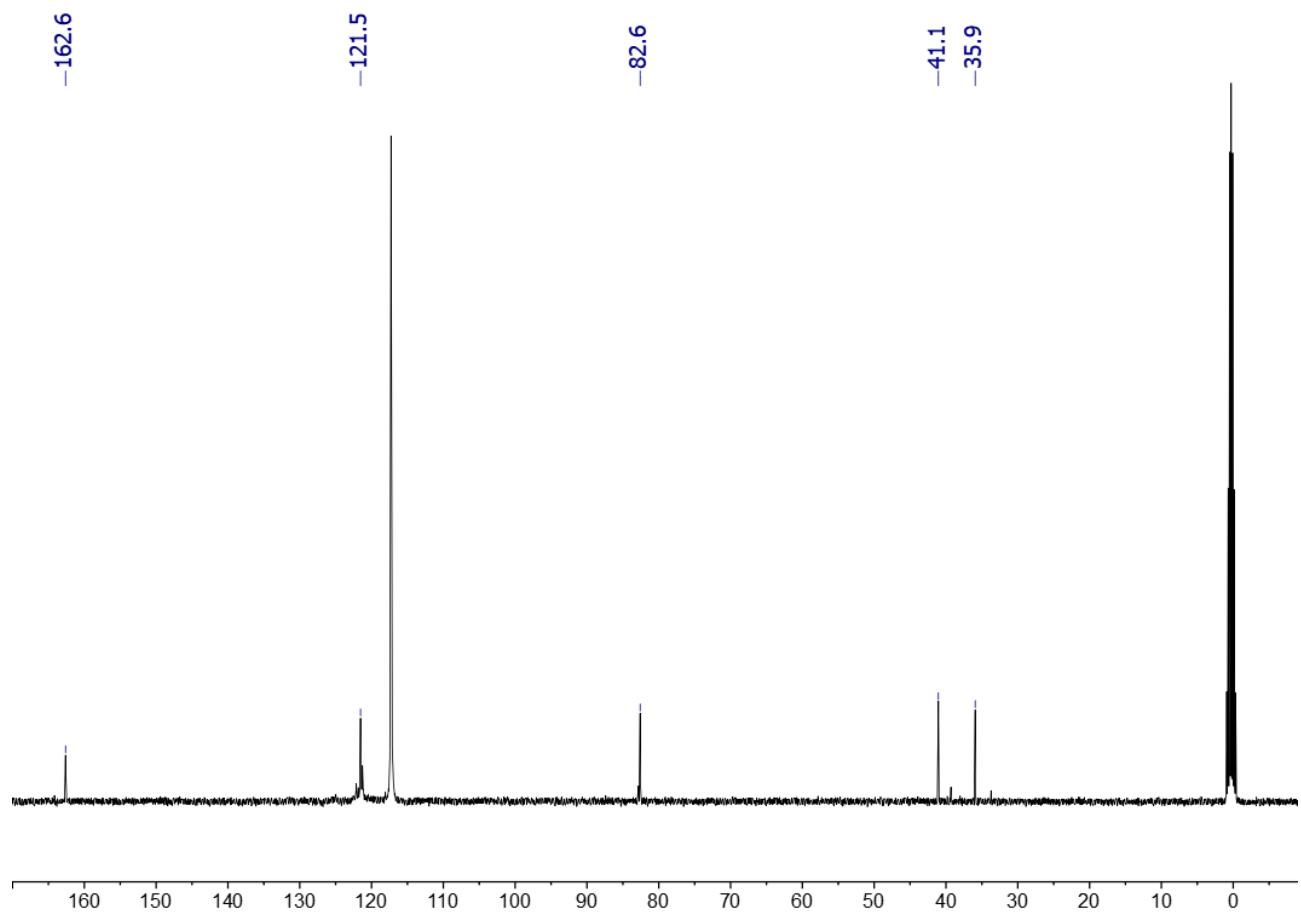
**CHNS elemental analysis** calcd [%] for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>24</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>N [765.27]: C 23.73, H 0.80, N 1.96; found [%] C 23.54, H 0.92, N 1.83



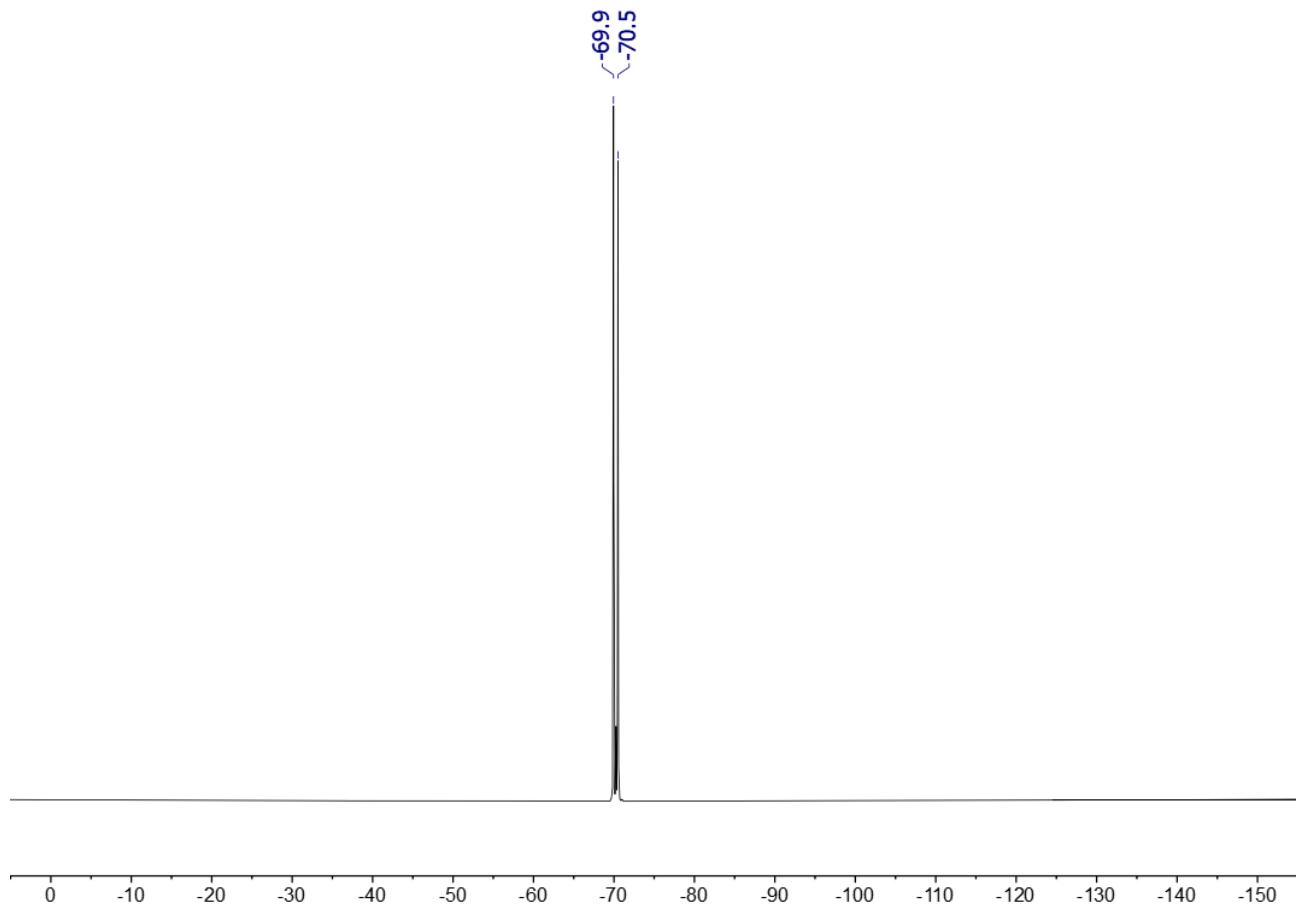
**Fig. S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of crude **1**· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Note: the spectrum shows traces of uncoordinated DMF.



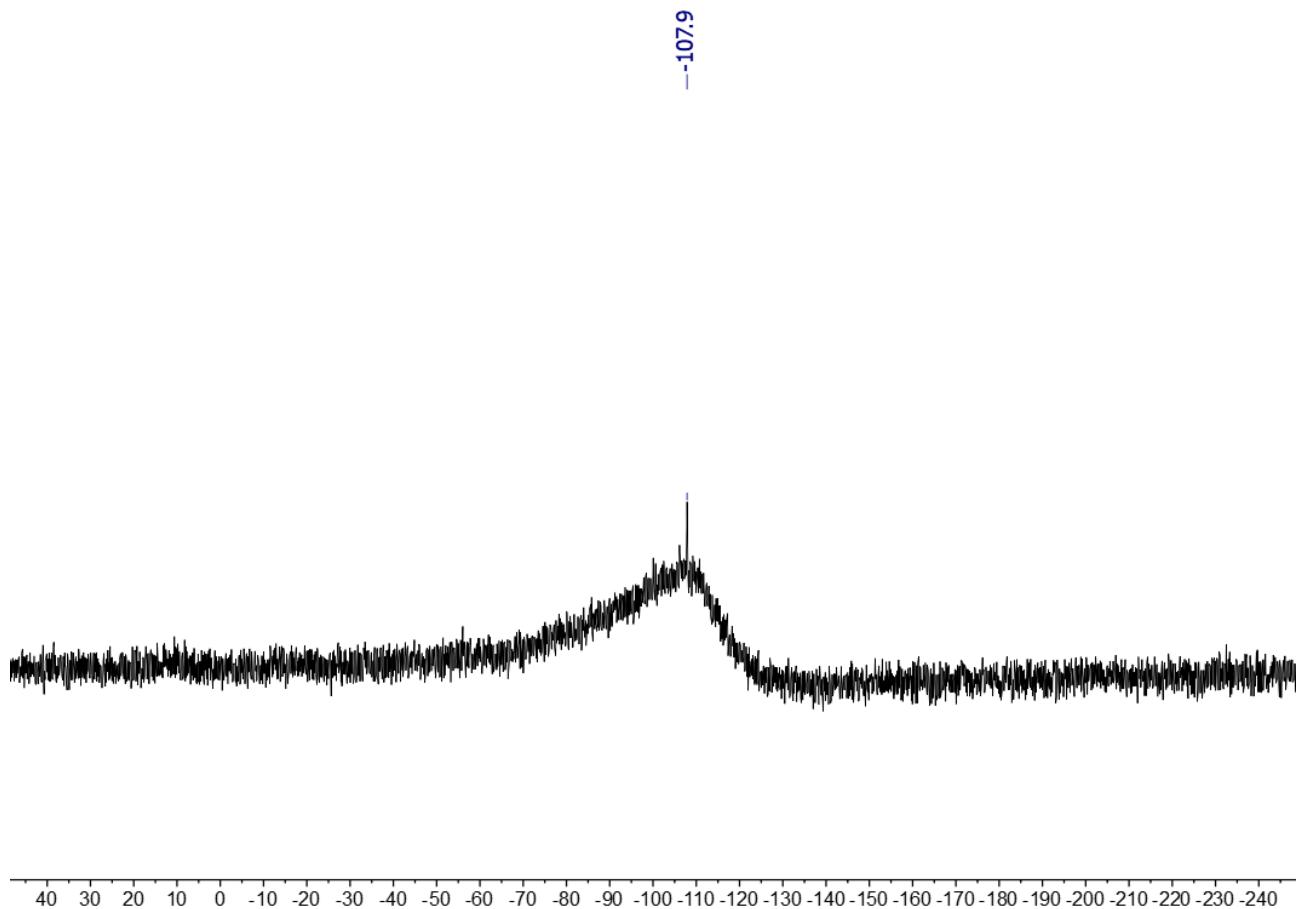
**Fig. S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz) of crude **1**· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Note the humps at ca. 120 ppm and at 82.7 ppm which turn into sharper signals in the  $^{19}\text{F}$  decoupled spectrum below.



**Fig. S3.**  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\{^{1}\text{H}, ^{19}\text{F}\}$  NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz) of crude **1**·Me<sub>2</sub>NCHO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

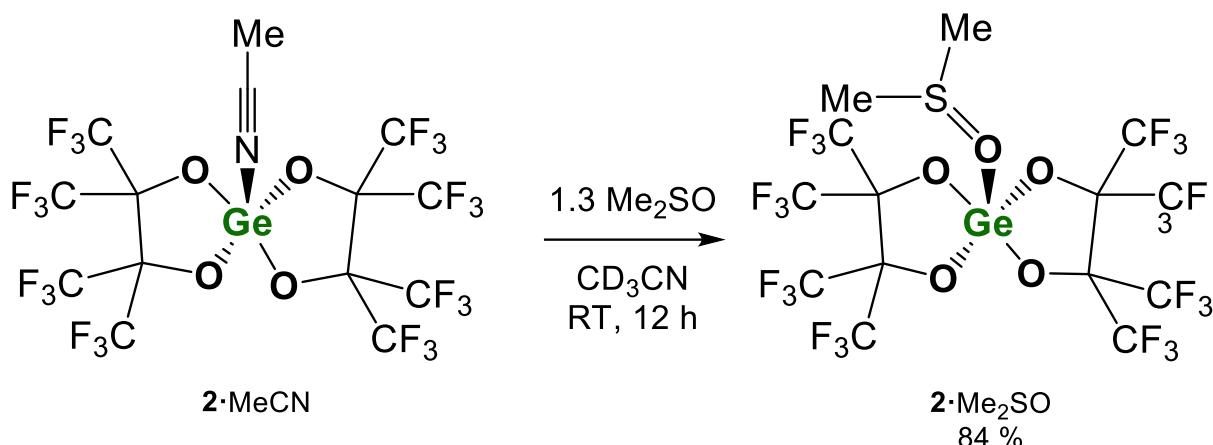


**Fig. S4.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz) of crude **1**· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .



**Fig. S5.**  $^{29}\text{Si}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (79.5 MHz) of crude **1**· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

## 2.2 (pin<sup>F</sup>)<sub>2</sub>Ge·Me<sub>2</sub>SO (2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO)



In the glovebox, a screwcap vial was charged with **2·MeCN** (0.193 g, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  (0.660 g, 0.78 mL). DMSO (24.5 mg, 0.314 mmol, 1.3 eq) was added, the vial was closed and manually agitated (no stirrer bar included) until full dissolution of the solid (ca. 5 min). The reaction mixture was left for 12 h at room temperature followed by storage of the clear solution at  $-25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 days. A crystalline chunk had formed and the cold mother liquor was withdrawn via syringe. After drying of the solid in vacuum 170 mg product (0.21 mmol, 84%) were transferred from the reaction vessel.

A similar procedure furnished single crystals suitable for X-ray structural study. The molecular structure is shown in Fig. S25.

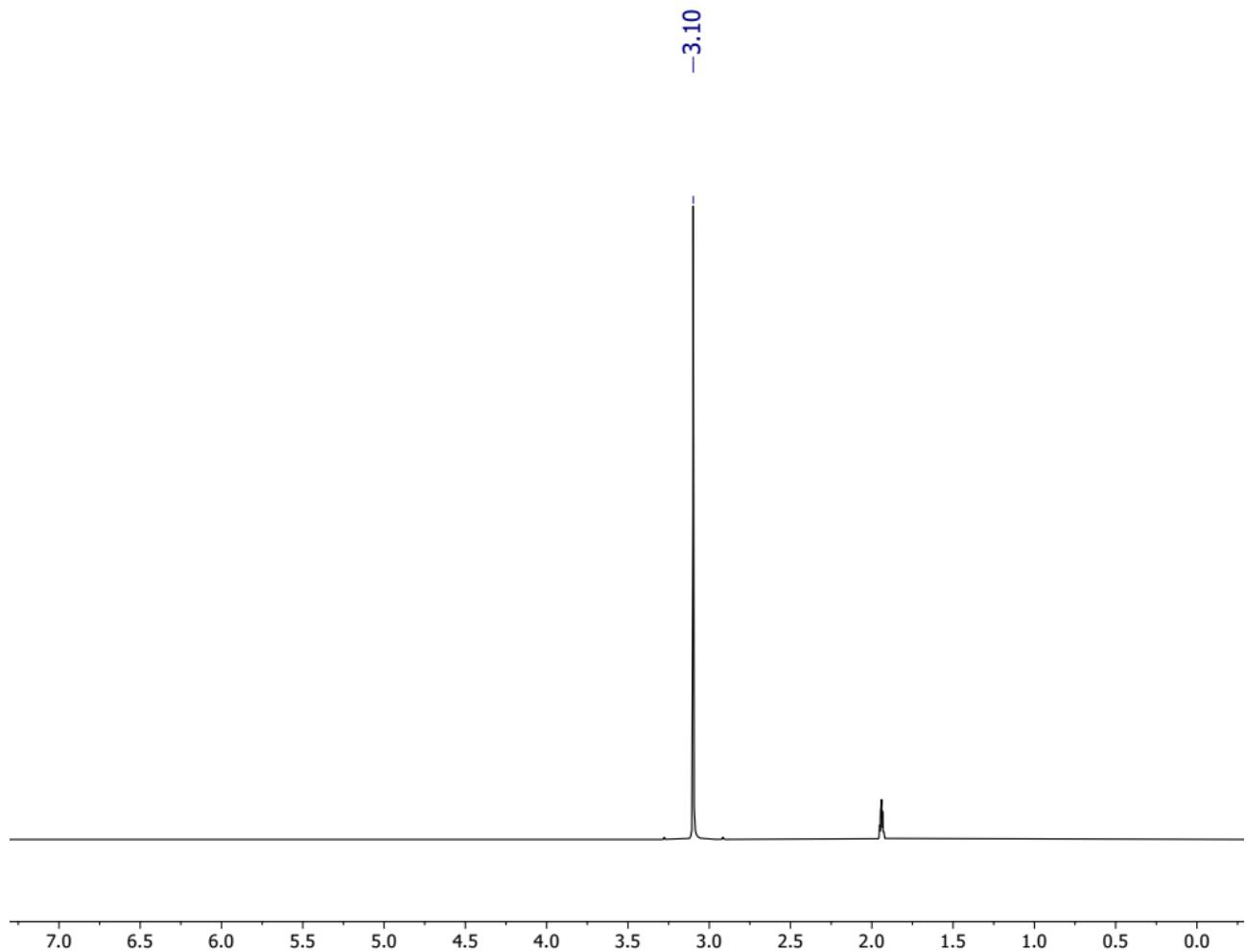
**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400.2 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 3.10 (s, 6 H,  $\text{OSCH}_3$ ).

**$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100.6 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 36.8 ( $\text{OSCH}_3$ ).

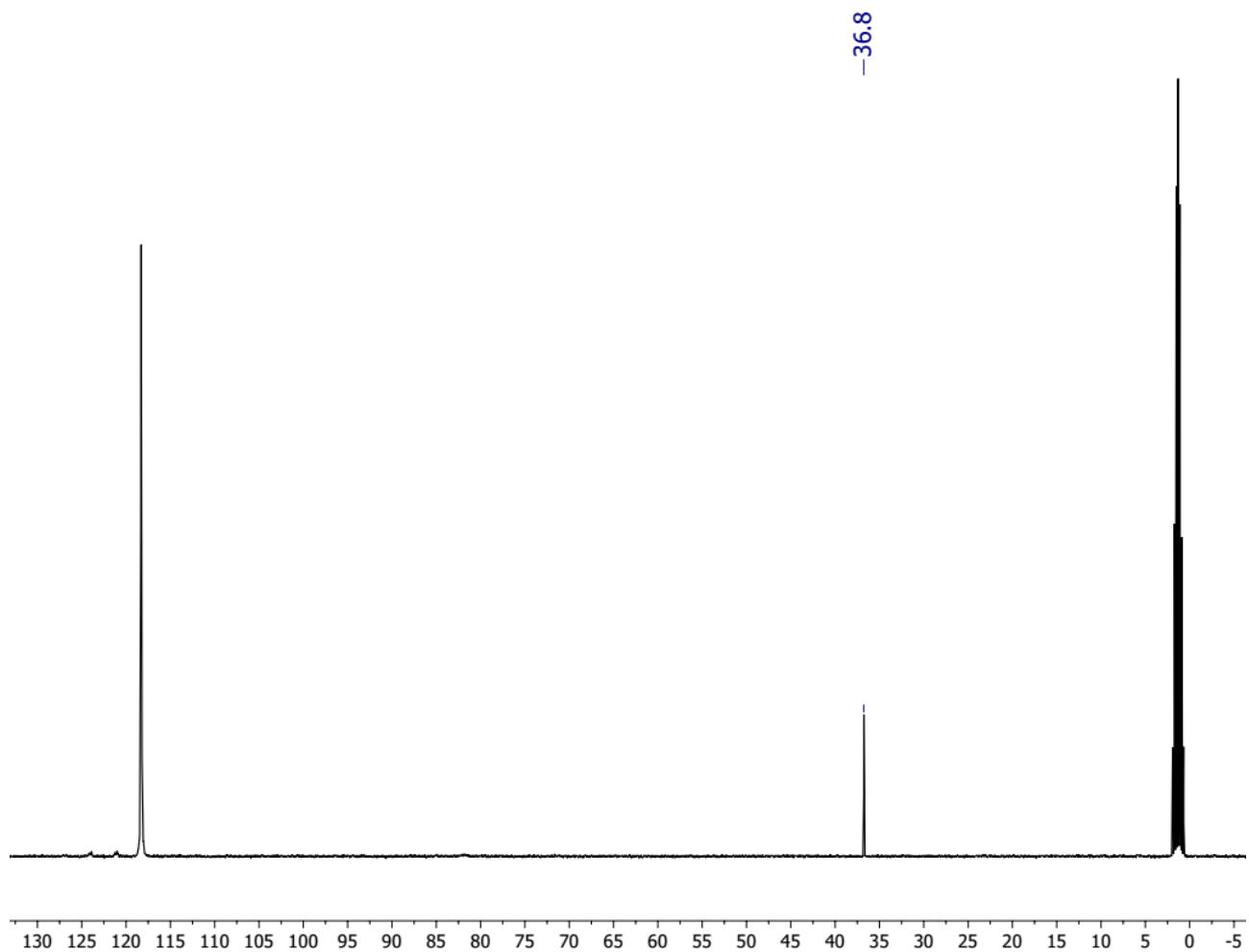
**$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}, ^{19}\text{F}\}$  NMR (100.6 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K):**  $\delta$  = 122.6 (br,  $\text{CF}_3$ ), 81.8 ( $\text{OC}(\text{CF}_3)_2$ ), 36.8 ( $\text{OSCH}_3$ ).

**$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376.6 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K):**  $\delta$  = -69.76 (s, 12 F,  $\text{CF}_3$ ), -70.31 (s, 12 F,  $\text{CF}_3$ ).

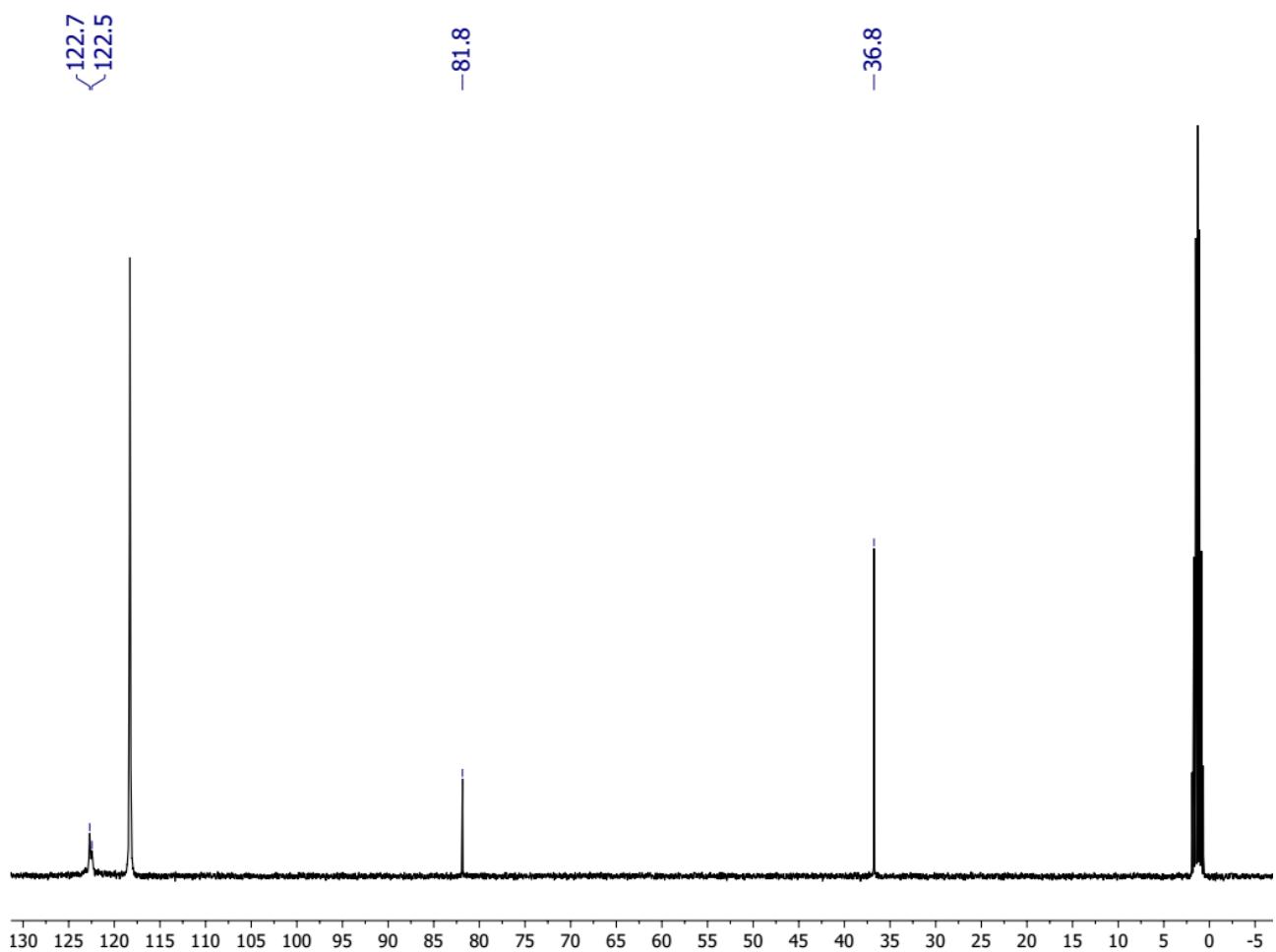
**CHNS elemental analysis** calcd [%] for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_6\text{F}_{24}\text{GeO}_5\text{S}$  [814.85]: C 20.64, H 0.74, S 3.93; found [%]: C 21.25, H 0.39, S 3.84.



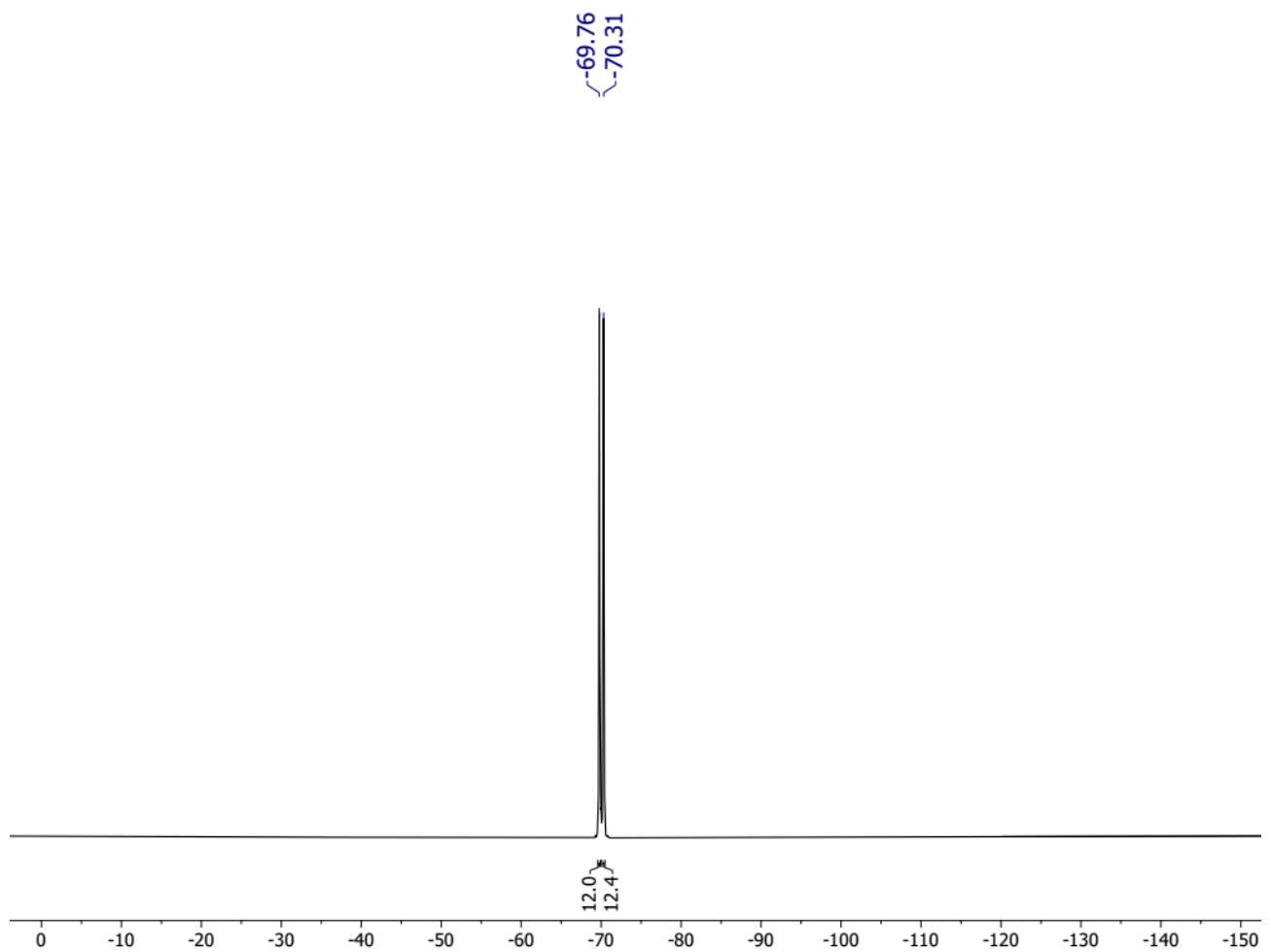
**Fig. S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of **2**·Me<sub>2</sub>SO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN. Note the  $^1J_{\text{CH}}$  coupling of 144 Hz indicated by the  $^{13}\text{C}$  satellite signal.



**Fig. S7.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz) of **2**·Me<sub>2</sub>SO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



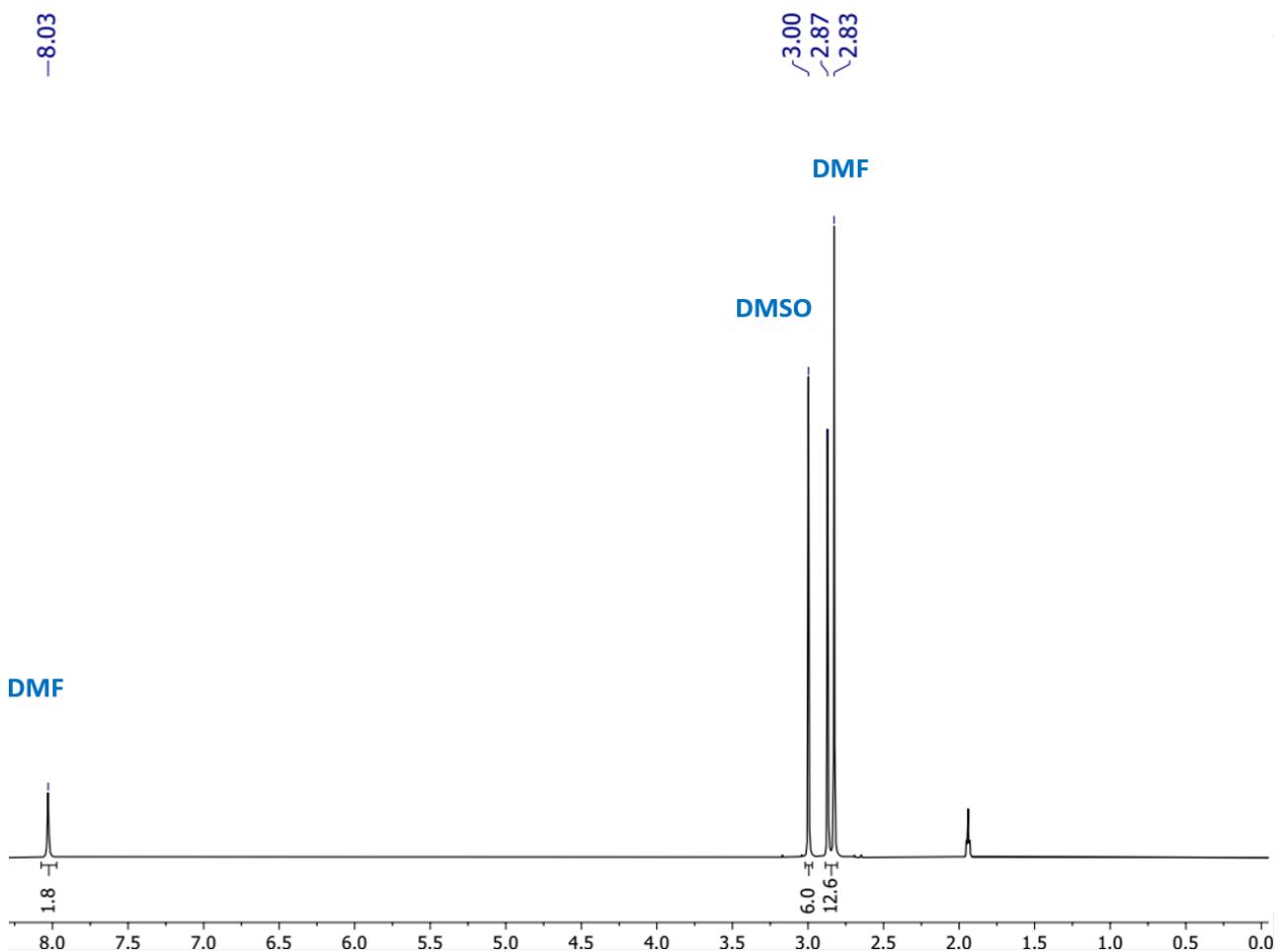
**Fig. S8.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H},^{19}\text{F}\}$  NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz) of **2**· $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .



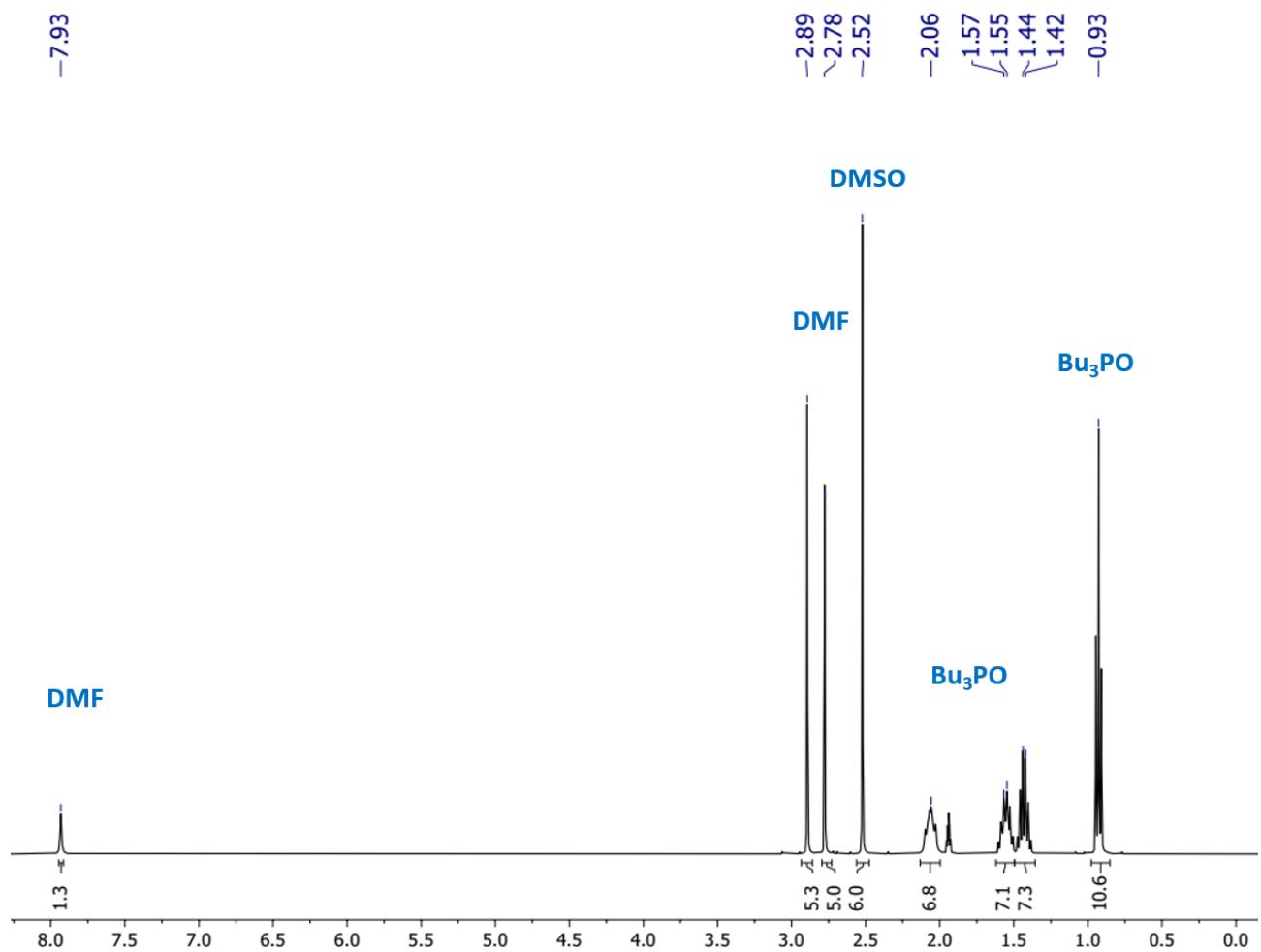
**Fig. S9.**  ${}^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum (376.6 MHz) of **2**·Me<sub>2</sub>SO in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

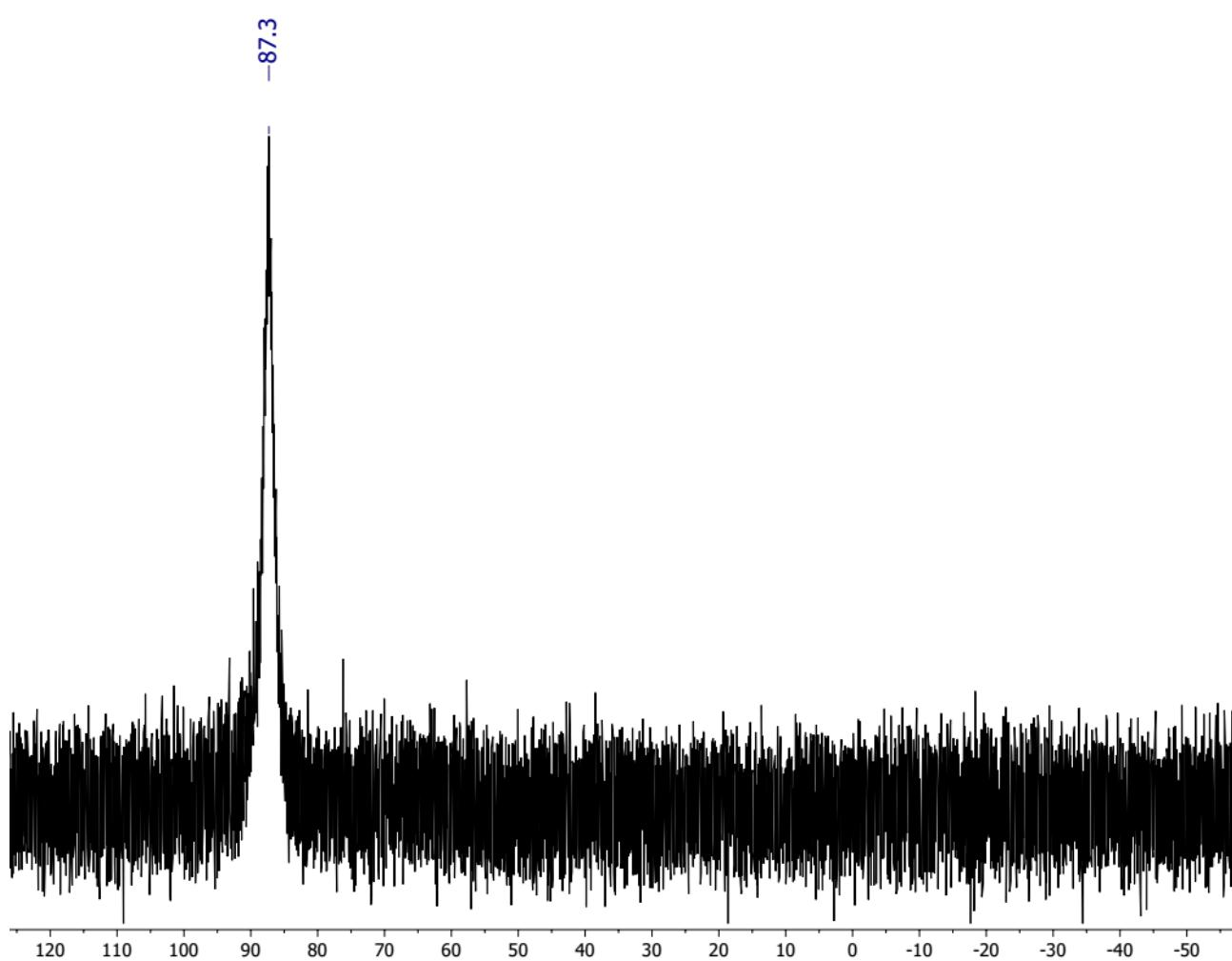
## Conversions of $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Ge}\cdot\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ (2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO) with DMF and Bu<sub>3</sub>PO

To a solution of 2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO (38.7 mg, 47.5  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 1.0 eq) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5 mL) in a standard NMR sample tube was added DMF (6.8 mg, 93.0  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 2.0 eq). The tube was closed with a rubber cap and mixed by manual agitation. After an induction period of ca. 1 h, proton NMR data was recorded that revealed a dynamic exchange between the donor molecules present in solution which was quick on the NMR timescale with only one signal set for each donor molecule and slight but notable shift of the ppm values with regard to the “free” donors (see Fig. S10). Re-recording the spectrum after several hours did not result in a notable change of the data. To the mixture was added Bu<sub>3</sub>PO (11.1 mg, 50.8  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 1.1 eq) and it was homogenized by manual agitation. After ca. 1 h the recorded NMR data (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}, see Fig. S11, S12) indicated major extrusion of the competing donors (e.g. CD<sub>3</sub>CN, DMF, DMSO) from the Ge center by the phosphine oxide ( $\delta^{(31)\text{P}}$ ) = 87.3 ppm for 2·Bu<sub>3</sub>PO, cf.  $\delta^{(31)\text{P}}$  = 89.1 ppm for 2·Et<sub>3</sub>PO).<sup>S15</sup>



**Fig. S10.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of the mixture of 2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO and DMF (1.0 : 2.0 molar ratio) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

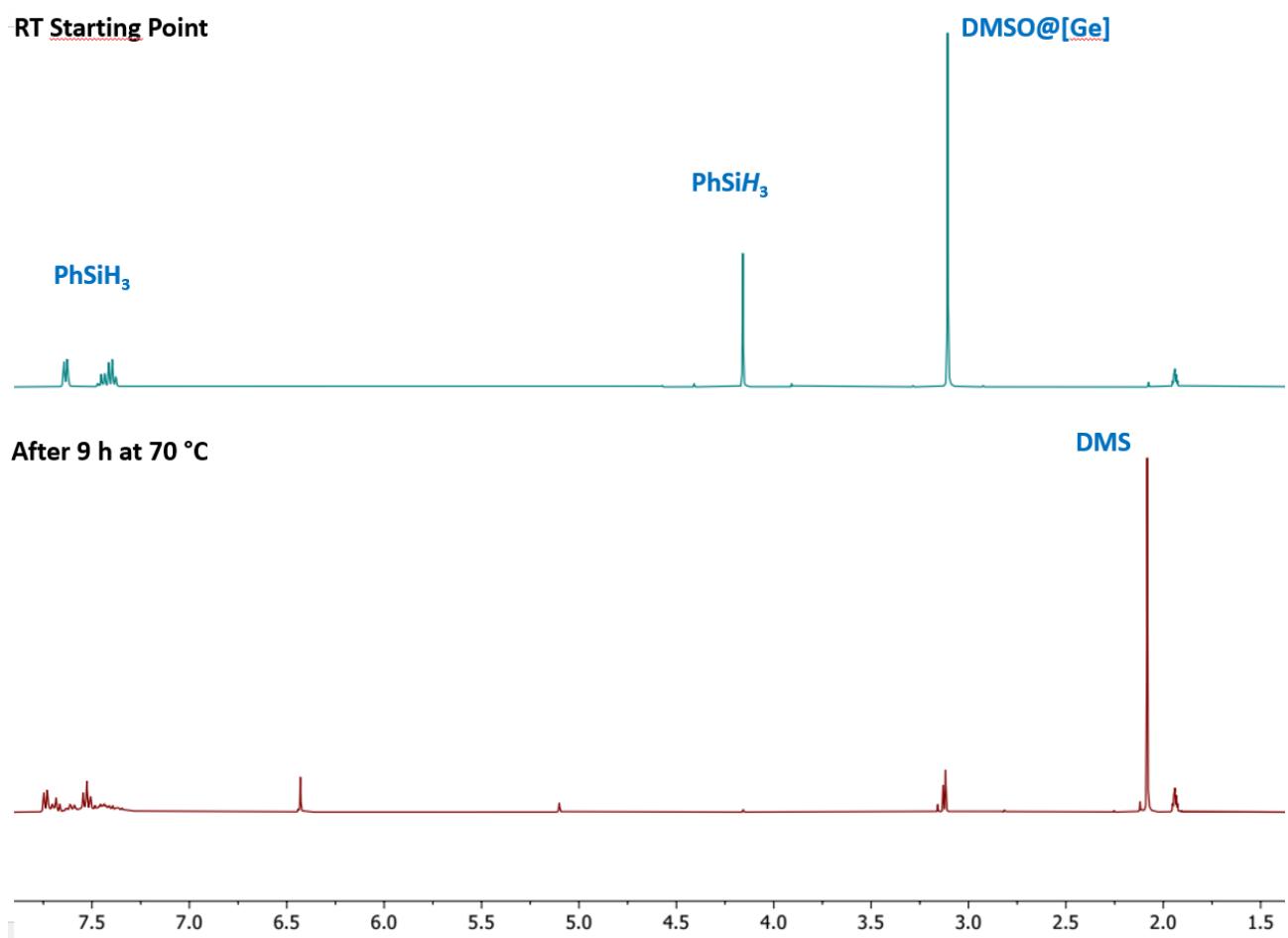




**Fig. S12.**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (162.0 MHz) of the mixture of **2**·Me<sub>2</sub>SO, DMF and Bu<sub>3</sub>PO (1.0:2.0:1.1 molar ratio) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

### Conversions of $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Ge}\cdot\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ (2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO) with PhSiH<sub>3</sub>

An NMR sample tube was charged with 2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO (51.1 mg, 62.7  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) and CD<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5 mL) and PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (10.2 mg, 94.3  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was added to the mixture. The tube was closed with a rubber cap (supported with PTFE tape) and shaken for a minute to effect a homogenous solution. After recording of the initial NMR data the tube was placed in an oil-bath heated to 70 °C and the progress of the conversion was monitored in frequent intervals by NMR spectroscopy. Near-quantitative conversion of the DMSO group was found after 9 h at 70 °C.



**Fig. S13.** Stacked <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400.2 MHz) of the mixture of 2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO with PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (1.5 eq) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN. Top: initial measurement after mixing at RT. Bottom: After heating the sample tube at 70 °C oil-bath temperature for 9 h.

**RT Starting Point**



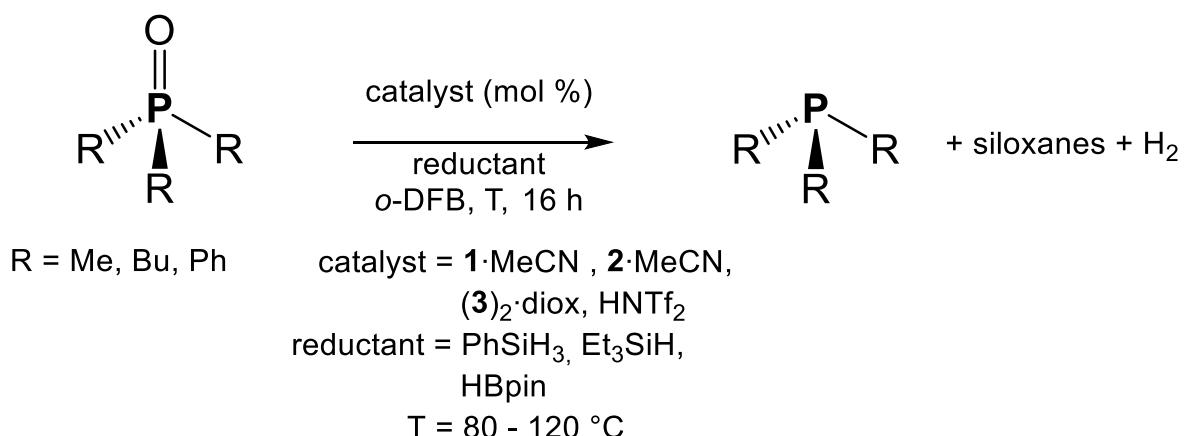
**After 9 h at 70 °C**



-56 -57 -58 -59 -60 -61 -62 -63 -64 -65 -66 -67 -68 -69 -70 -71 -72 -73 -74 -75 -76 -77 -78 -79 -80 -81 -82 -83 -84 -85 -86 -87 -88 -89

**Fig. S14.** Stacked  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra (376.6 MHz) of the mixture of **2**· $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$  with  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (1.5 eq) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Top: initial measurement after mixing at RT. Bottom: After heating the sample tube at 70 °C oil-bath temperature for 9 h. While the top spectrum shows the **2**· $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$  resonances the bottom spectrum indicates near-complete disintegration of the  $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Ge}$  fragment.

## 2.3 Catalytic Reduction of Phosphine Oxides



### General procedure for reduction catalysis reaction:

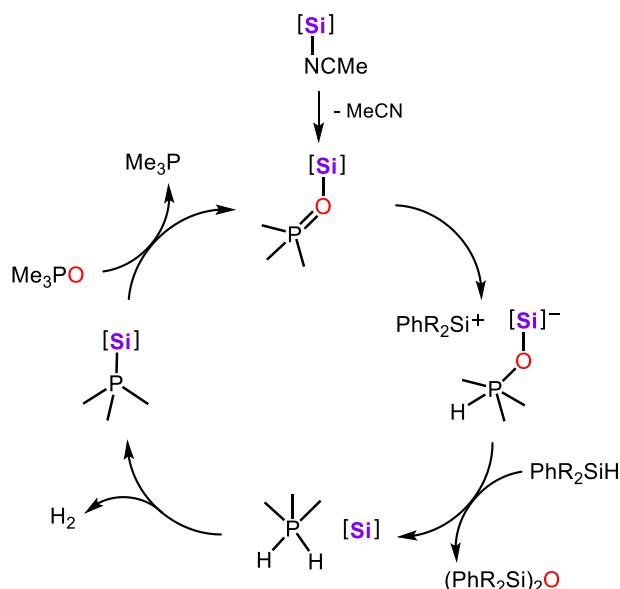
The catalyst and the phosphine oxide were dissolved in *o*-DFB. The reducing agent was added, and the reaction mixture was heated to the respective temperature for 16 hours. Tris(2,4-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphite was added as an internal standard to determine yield via integration in the  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra. At this point, a sealed capillary filled with  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  was also included (to enable the automated NMR processing shim & lock routine of the sample). For the  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra used for quantification, a prolonged delay time between scans (5 s) and 100 scans were applied. Catalytic screening conditions are shown in Table S1. Example spectra of a monitored reaction is shown in Fig. S15.

### Representative procedure for the catalytic reduction of $\text{R}_3\text{PO}$ with $\text{PhSiH}_3$ :

An NMR sample tube was charged with  $\text{Bu}_3\text{PO}$  (58.8 mg, 269.3  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 1.0 eq) **1**·MeCN (9.9 mg, 14.0  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 0.05 eq), *o*-DFB (0.5 mL) and the tube was shaken until all solid had dissolved.  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (47.8 mg, 441.7  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 1.6 eq) was added under glovebox atmosphere. The sample was heated to 80 °C oil-bath temperature for a total of 16 h interrupted by few NMR data recordings for monitoring purpose. After the sample had cooled it was briefly reopened under glovebox atmosphere and tris(2,4-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphite (17.5 mg, 27.1  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was added as an internal standard. A 'lock capillary' filled with  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  was also added. The formation of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  was concluded from  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR analysis. The consumption of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{PO}$  and formation of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  was quantified by comparing the (normalized) phosphorus nuclei ratios to the signals of the internal standard in the  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum.

**Table S1:** Catalytic reduction of phosphine oxides to corresponding phosphines.

	<b>R</b>	<b>Cat. (mol%)</b>	<b>Red (eq.)</b>	<b>T [°C]</b>	<b>Yield [%]</b>
1	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	97
2	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	96
3	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (1)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	75
4	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	Et <sub>3</sub> SiH (5.5)	110	< 1
5	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	HBpin (4.5)	80	89
6	<i>n</i> Bu	( <b>3</b> ) <sub>2</sub> ·diox (2.5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	52
7	<i>n</i> Bu	( <b>3</b> ) <sub>2</sub> ·diox (2.5)	Et <sub>3</sub> SiH (5)	120	< 1
8	<i>n</i> Bu	HNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	99
9	<i>n</i> Bu	<b>None</b>	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	20
10	Me	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	91
11	Ph	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1.5)	80	69



**Scheme S1.** Proposed mechanism for the Lewis acid catalyzed phosphine oxide reduction (R = H or OSiPhR<sub>2</sub>). Similarly to account for the reduction of Me<sub>2</sub>SO to Me<sub>2</sub>S (Me<sub>2</sub>NCHO may substantially differ).

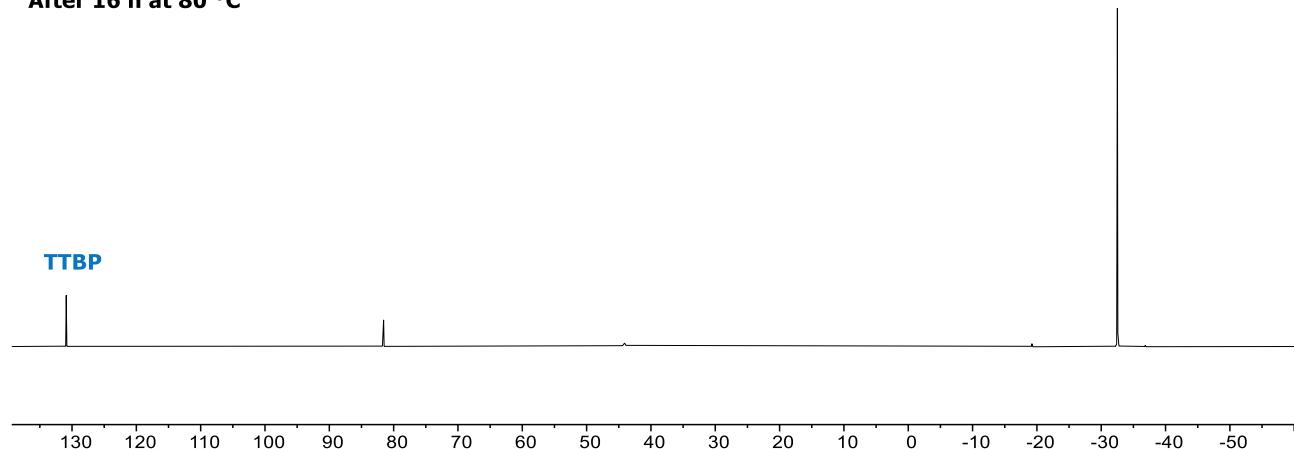
## Selected NMR spectra of Catalytic Phosphine Oxide Reduction

### Conversion with 1·MeCN Catalyst

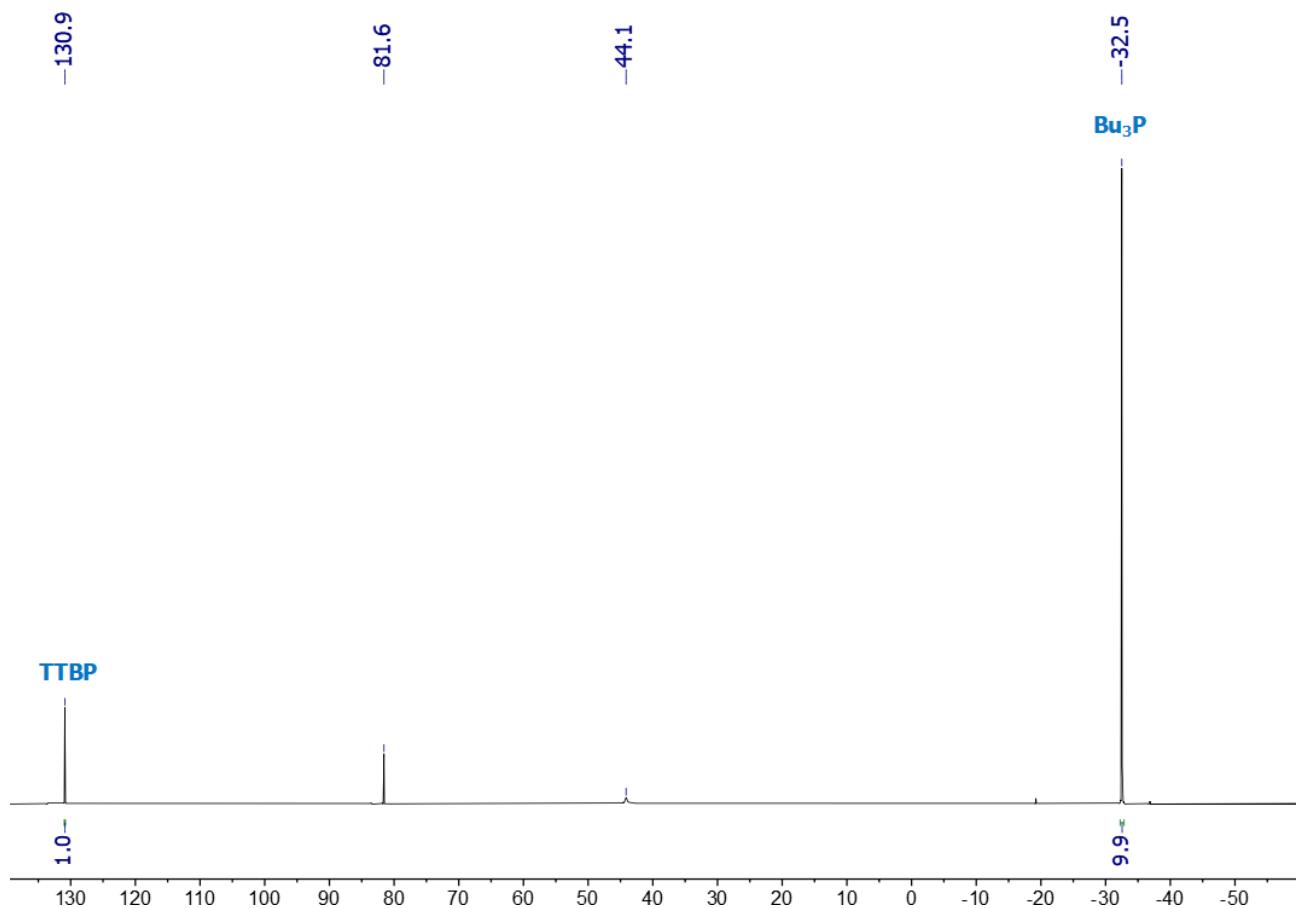
After 3 h at 80 °C



After 16 h at 80 °C

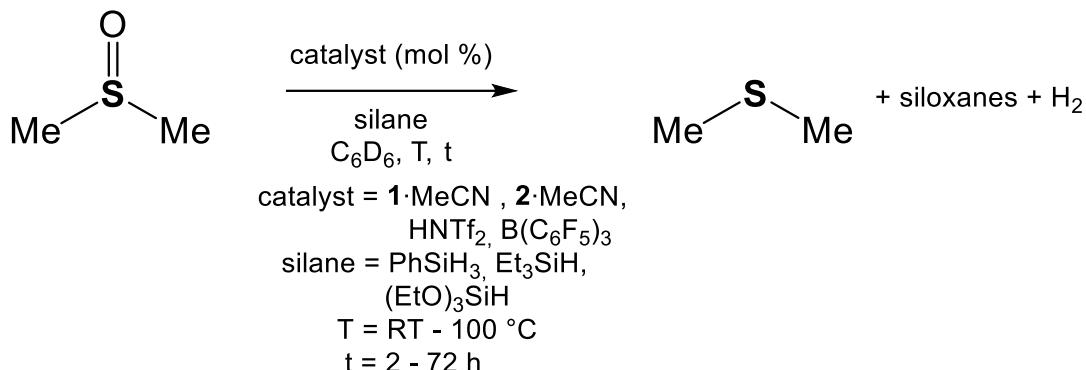


**Fig. S15.** Stacked  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra (162.0 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of  $\text{Bu}_3\text{PO}$  to  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  described above in the representative procedure using **1**·MeCN (5 mol%),  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (1.5 eq) in *o*-DFB. TTBP = Tris(2,4-di-*tert*-butyl) phosphite. Top: Initial spectrum recorded after 3 h of heating to 80 °C. Bottom: End point spectrum recorded after 16 h at 80 °C reaction progress.



**Fig. S16.**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (162.0 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of Bu<sub>3</sub>PO to Bu<sub>3</sub>P described above in the representative procedure using **1**·MeCN (5 mol%), PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (1.5 eq) in *o*-DFB. This is the bottom spectrum from the previous Figure S15 with Bu<sub>3</sub>P and TTBP peaks picked and integrated for quantification purpose. TTBP = Tris(2,4-di-*tert*-butyl) phosphite.

## 2.4 Catalytic Reduction of DMSO



### General procedure for the catalytic reduction of DMSO with silane:

An NMR sample tube was charged with the catalyst, the solvent<sup>a</sup>, DMSO, and the silane<sup>b</sup> in this order. The tube was closed and shaken for few minutes until the catalyst had mostly dissolved. This was noted as the starting point of the reaction. The tube was charged with the internal standard 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl (TBBP) and the mixture homogenized by manual agitation of the closed tube. Typical amounts can be concluded from the representative procedure below. For driving the reaction at elevated temperature the tube was dipped with a ca. 45° inclination into an oil bath at respective temperature with the upper filling level of the tube located ca. 1 cm below the surface of the oil. In cases of NMR monitoring over days with several data recordings the tube was shaken a couple of times between the measurements; otherwise the reactions were mostly diffusion controlled. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR experiments used for quantification a prolonged delay time between scans (5 s) and 32 scans were applied. Catalytic screening outcomes are shown below in Table S2.

Notes: **a**: in cases of PhSiH<sub>3</sub> as reducing agent ca. 1/3 of the solvent was retained and used for washing the inner walls of the tubes after DMSO addition in order to avoid direct contact of neat PhSiH<sub>3</sub> and neat DMSO covering the surface. **b**: Use of (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH required a larger volume of silane to match the hydride equivalents of PhSiH<sub>3</sub> resulting in an overall higher dilution of the reaction mixture.

### Representative procedure for the catalytic reduction of DMSO with silane:

An NMR sample tube was charged with 1·MeCN (12.5 mg, 17.0 µmol, 0.03 eq), C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.5 mL), Me<sub>2</sub>SO (48.5 mg, 620.8 µmol, 1.0 eq), and (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH (336.1 mg, 2046.0 µmol, 3.3 eq). The tube was closed and shaken in frequent intervals over ca. 5 minutes until the catalyst had majorly dissolved. It was reopened briefly to introduce 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl (22.3 mg, 83.7 µmol) and the internal standard was dissolved by shaking the tube for a minute. An initial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was recorded (which meant ca. 1 h room temperature exposition of the reaction) followed by heating the sample tube at 70 °C oil-bath temperature for a total of 18 h interrupted by few NMR data recordings for monitoring purpose. The formation of Me<sub>2</sub>S (DMS) was concluded from <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR analysis. The consumption of DMSO and formation of DMS was quantified by comparing the (normalized) proton intensity ratios to the signals of the internal standard in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum. Near-quantitative consumption of DMSO was found of which 57% were converted to DMS (Table S2, Entry 14).

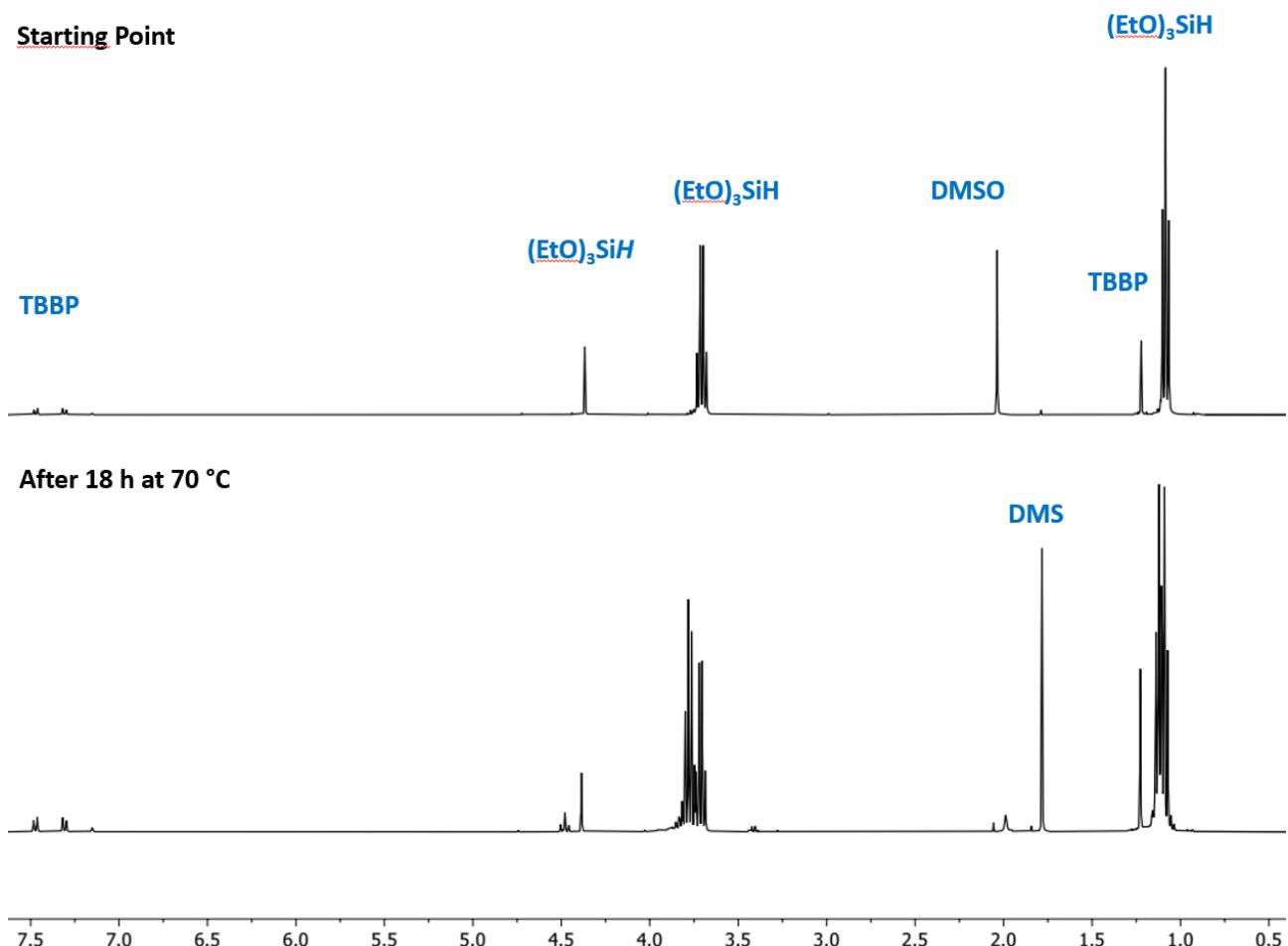
**Table S2:** Catalytic reduction of DMSO (dimethylsulfoxide) to DMS (dimethylsulfide) using hydrosilanes. This is a more detailed version of Table 2 from the main article. The latter had been polished with regard to the decimal digits in the reducing agent equivalents for comprehensive reasons. Table S2 includes the DMSO conversion ratio which in some instances markedly deviates from the DMS yield. The complemented information is in bold script. Cat. = catalyst, eq = equivalents, Rct. = Reaction, T = temperature, t = time.

	Cat. (mol%)	Silane (eq)	Rct. T	Rct. t	Conversion <sup>a</sup> of DMSO [%]	Yield of <sup>a</sup> DMS [%]
1	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.4</b> )	RT	2 h	<b>&gt;99</b>	73
2	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (3)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.1</b> )	RT	4 h	<b>&gt;99</b>	78
3	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (1)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1)	RT	4 h	NA	53 <sup>b</sup>
4	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (3)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>0.7</b> )	RT	24 h	<b>85</b>	66 <sup>c</sup>
5	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.5</b> )	RT	3 h	<b>19</b>	9
6	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (3)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.2</b> )	RT	4 h	<b>14</b>	6
7	<b>2</b> ·DMSO (3)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> (1)	RT	4 h	NA	12 <sup>d</sup>
8	B(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.0</b> )	RT	18 h	<b>31</b>	13
9	HNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>1.4</b> )	RT	2 h	<b>36</b>	12 <sup>e</sup>
10	None	PhSiH <sub>3</sub> ( <b>3.2</b> )	100 °C	24 h	<b>14</b>	8
11	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	Et <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.7</b> )	100 °C	24 h	<b>28</b>	6
12	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>4.1</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>84</b>	52 <sup>f</sup>
13	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.2</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>59</b>	40 <sup>g</sup>
14	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (3)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.3</b> )	70 °C	18 h	<b>&gt;99</b>	57
15	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (3)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>2.2</b> )	70 °C	36 h	<b>70</b>	39 <sup>h</sup>
16	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (1)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>4.4</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>39</b>	31
17	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.9</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>26</b>	26
18	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (3)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.3</b> )	70 °C	18 h	<b>24</b>	12
19	HNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.8</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>67</b>	10 <sup>e</sup>
20	HNTf <sub>2</sub> (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>3.2</b> )	RT	72 h	<b>31</b>	11 <sup>i</sup>
21	B(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (5)	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH (4)	RT	72 h	<b>9</b>	< 1
22	None	(EtO) <sub>3</sub> SiH ( <b>5.2</b> )	100 °C	24 h	<1	< 1

<sup>a</sup>: Yield/conversion was determined by addition of 1,4-di-tert-butyl-biphenyl as internal standard. <sup>b</sup>: DMSO fully consumed and increased yield after 12 h. <sup>c</sup>: Monitoring for additional 6 h resulted only in negligible change. <sup>d</sup>: DMSO fully consumed and 78% yield after 13 h at 70 °C. <sup>e</sup>: An oil separated from the mixture. <sup>f</sup>: After a total of 96 h DMSO was fully consumed and 58% yield was found. <sup>g</sup>: CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as solvent instead of C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. <sup>h</sup>: No further conversion by additional heating for 12 h. <sup>i</sup>: CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used as solvent and a solid separated after few hours.

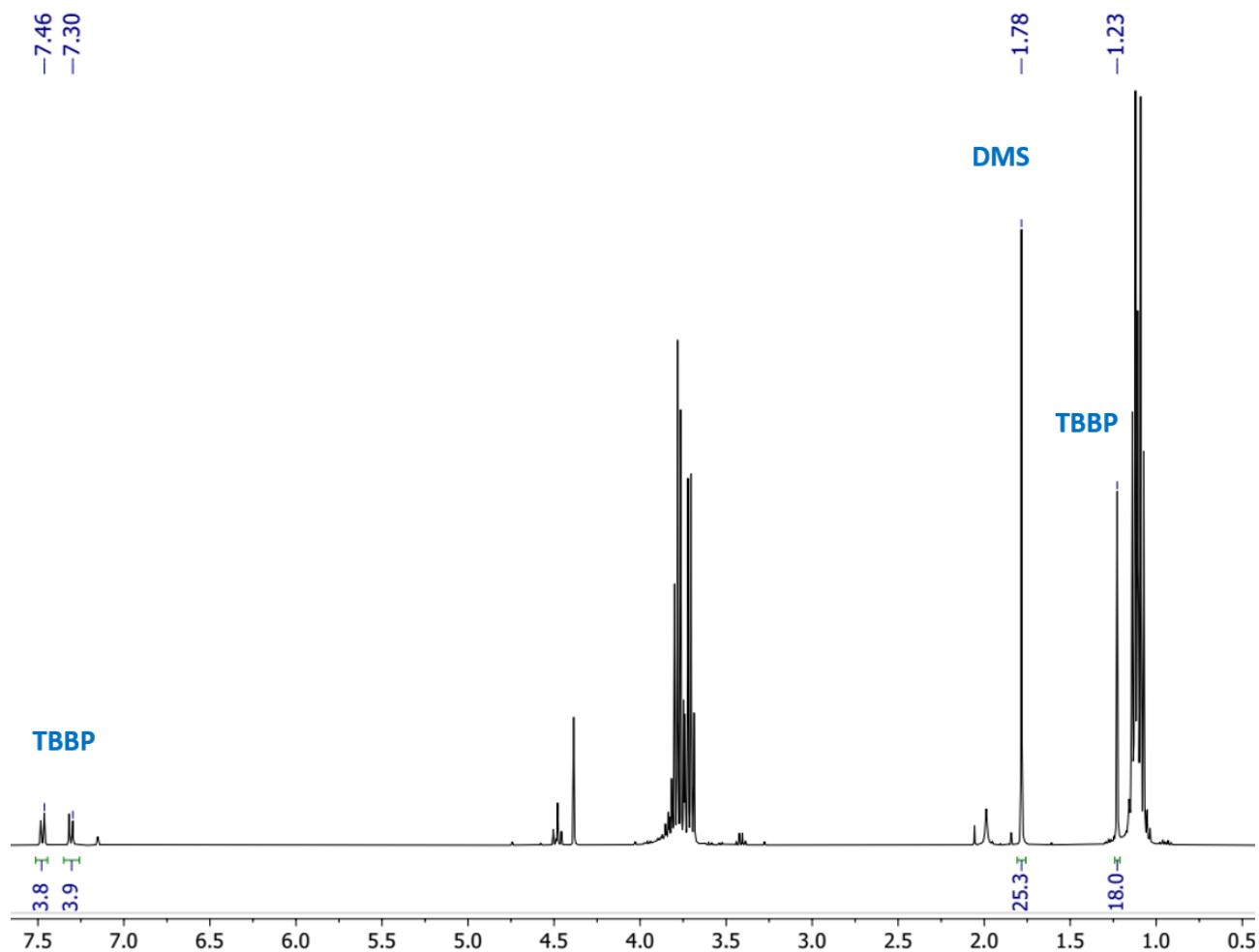
## Selected NMR spectra of Catalytic DMSO Reductions.

### Conversion with 1·MeCN Catalyst and (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH Reducing Agent.



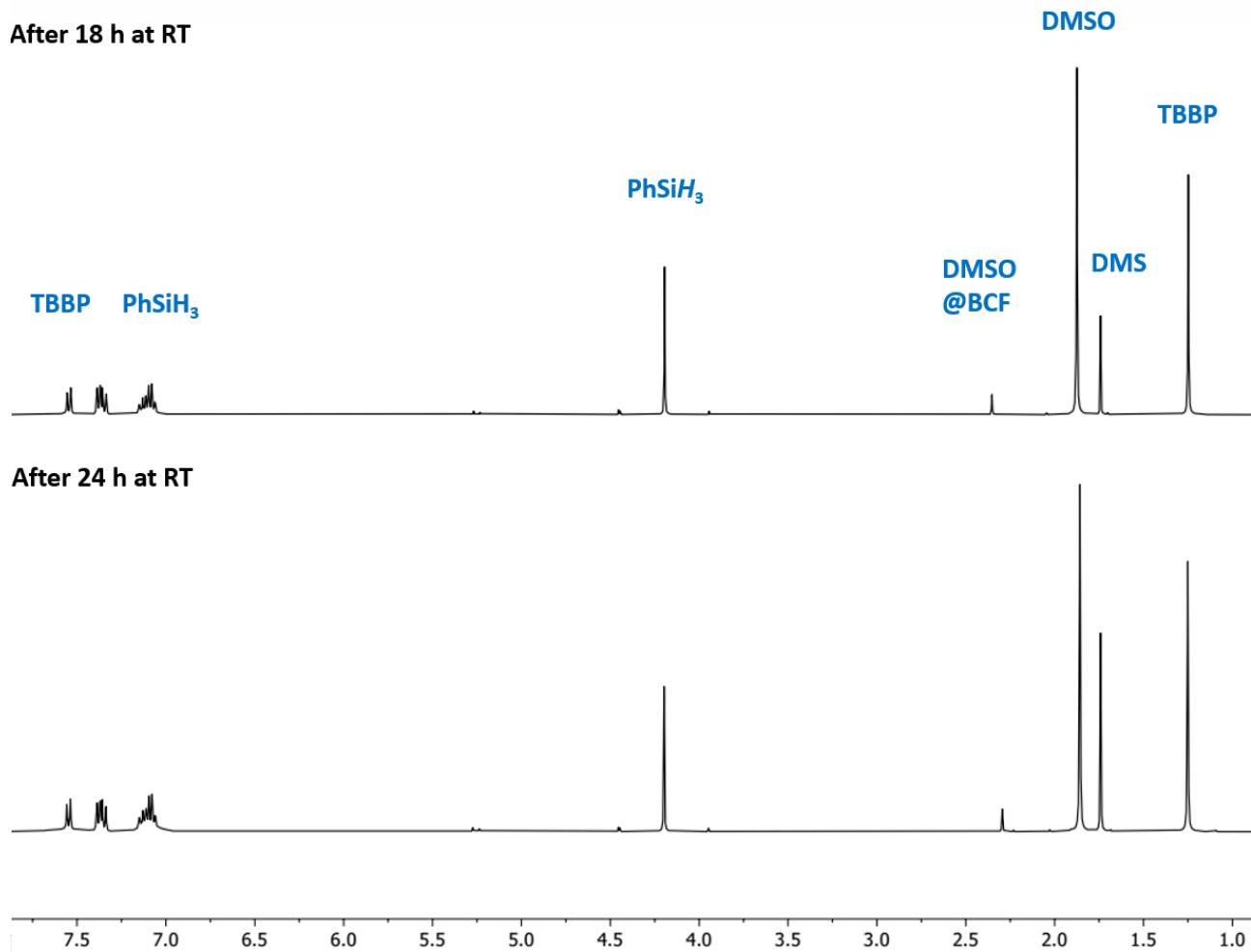
**Fig. S17.** Stacked <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMSO to DMS described above in the representative procedure using 1·MeCN (3 mol%), (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH (3 eq) in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.5 mL). TBBP = 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl. Top: Initial spectrum recorded ca. 1 h after mixing. Bottom: End point spectrum recorded after 18 h at 70 °C reaction progress.

Note: the chemical shift of the signals is not referenced and, in addition, is not expected to strictly match the literature values of, for example, DMSO in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> because the larger volume of the silane attributes C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>/silane mixed-medium characteristics to the sample.

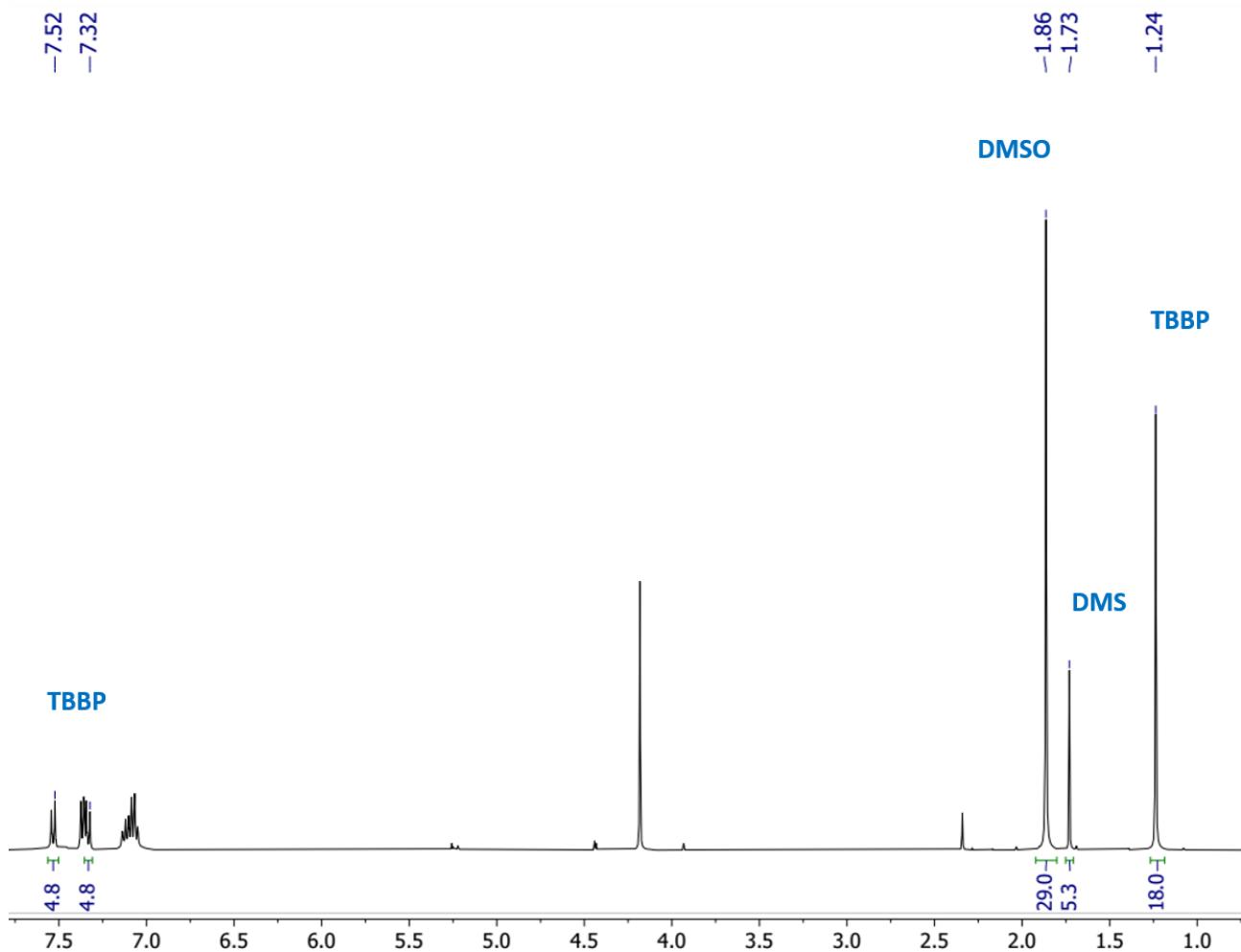


**Fig. S18.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMSO to DMS described above in the representative procedure using **1**·MeCN (3 mol%) and (EtO)<sub>3</sub>SiH (3 eq) in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. This is the bottom spectrum from the previous Figure S17 with DMS and TBBP peaks picked and integrated for quantification purpose.

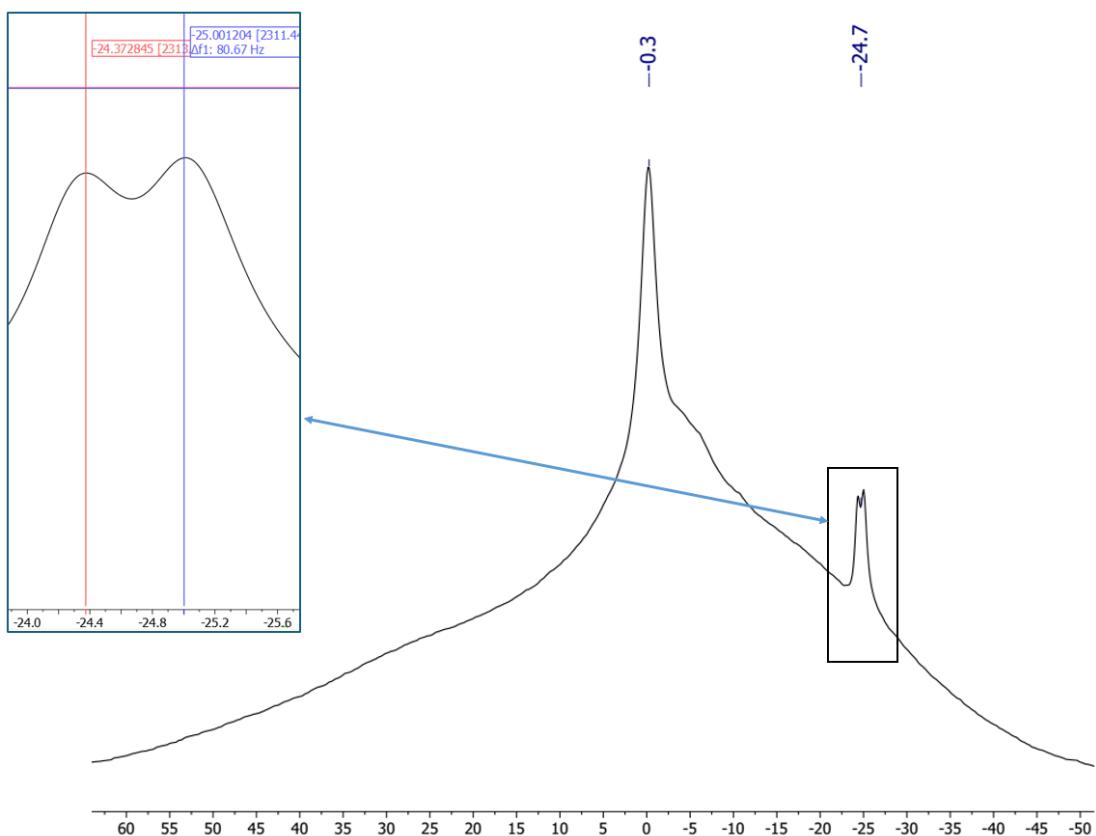
Conversion with  $B(C_6F_5)_3$  Catalyst and  $PhSiH_3$  Reducing Agent



**Fig. S19.** Stacked  $^1H$  NMR spectra (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMSO to DMS using  $B(C_6F_5)_3$  (BCF, 5 mol%),  $PhSiH_3$  (1 eq) in  $C_6D_6$ . TBBP = 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl. Top: After 18 h reaction progress at RT. Bottom: After 24 h reaction progress at RT.

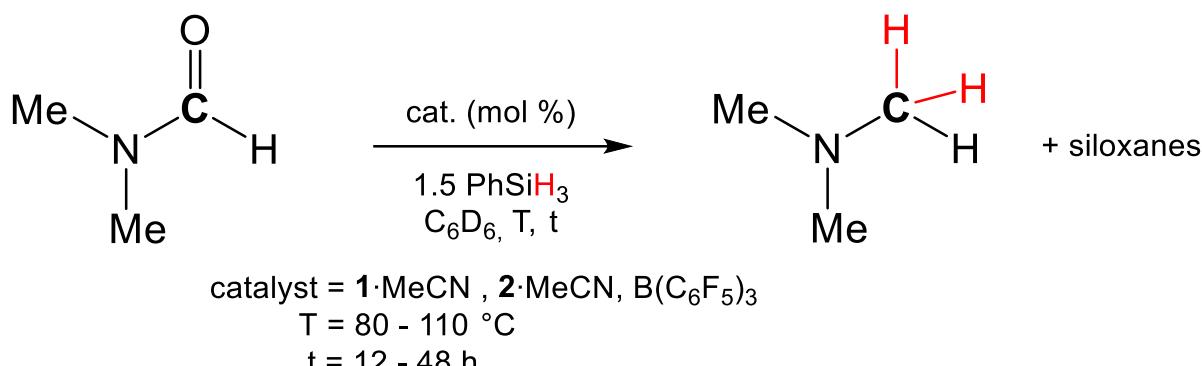


**Fig. S20.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMSO to DMS using BCF (5 mol%) and PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (1 eq) in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>. This is the top spectrum from the previous Figure S19 with DMSO, DMS and TBBP peaks picked and integrated for quantification purpose. The spectrum is referenced to the chemical shift of DMS.



**Fig. S21.**  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum (128.4 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMSO to DMS using BCF (5 mol%) and  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (1 eq) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ . The data was recorded after 18 h at RT reaction progress. The doublet at  $-24.7$  ppm is assigned to  $[\text{HB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3]^-$  with a  $^1\text{J}_{\text{BH}}$  coupling of 81 Hz. The signal at  $-0.3$  ppm is assumed to originate from uncharged Donor- $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  species (Donor = MeCN, DMSO, DMS, etc.)

## 2.5 Catalytic Reduction of DMF



### General procedure for reduction catalysis reaction:

Catalyst, DMF (0.03 mmol, 1.0 eq.), and a known amount of 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl were dissolved in C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.5 mL). PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (1.5 eq.) was added, the reaction mixture was heated to the desired temperature and monitored via <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. All catalytic screening conditions are shown in Table S3. An example spectrum of a monitored reaction is shown below (Fig. S22, S23).

### Representative procedure for the catalytic reduction of DMF with PhSiH<sub>3</sub>:

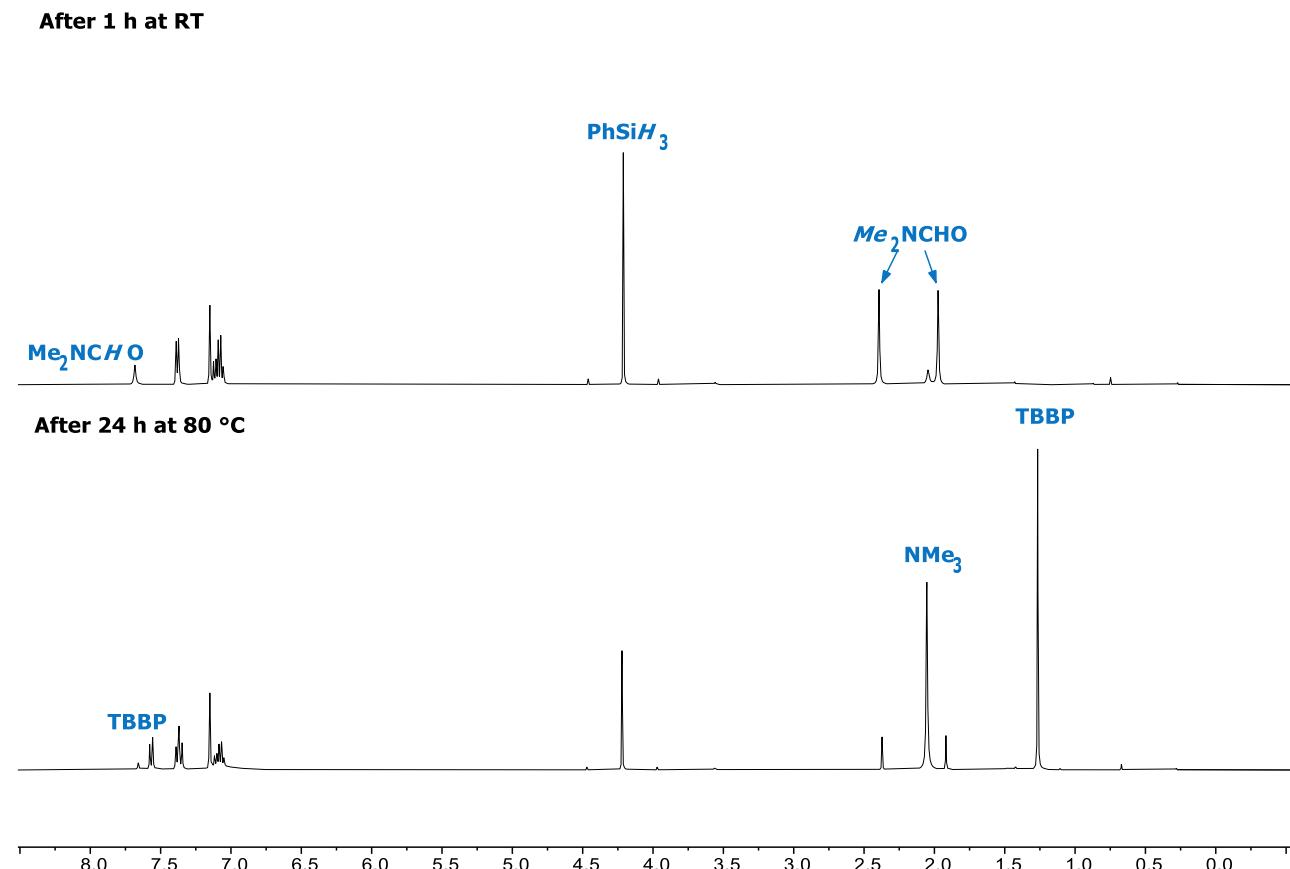
An NMR sample tube was charged with **1**·MeCN (9.1 mg, 12.4 µmol, 0.05 eq), C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> (0.5 mL), Me<sub>2</sub>NCHO (18 mg, 246 µmol, 1.0 eq), and PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (40.7 mg, 376.1 µmol, 1.5 eq). The tube was closed and shaken until the catalyst had fully dissolved. It was reopened briefly to introduce 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl (16.4 mg, 61.6 µmol) and the internal standard dissolved by shaking the tube for a minute. An initial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was recorded (which meant ca. 1 h room temperature exposition of the reaction) followed by heating the sample tube at 80 °C oil-bath temperature for a total of 24 h interrupted by few NMR data recordings for monitoring purpose. The formation of Me<sub>3</sub>N was concluded from <sup>1</sup>H analysis. The consumption of DMF and formation of Me<sub>3</sub>N was quantified by comparing the (normalized) proton intensity ratios to the signals of the internal standard in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.

**Table S3:** Catalytic reduction of DMF to Me<sub>3</sub>N using PhSiH<sub>3</sub>.

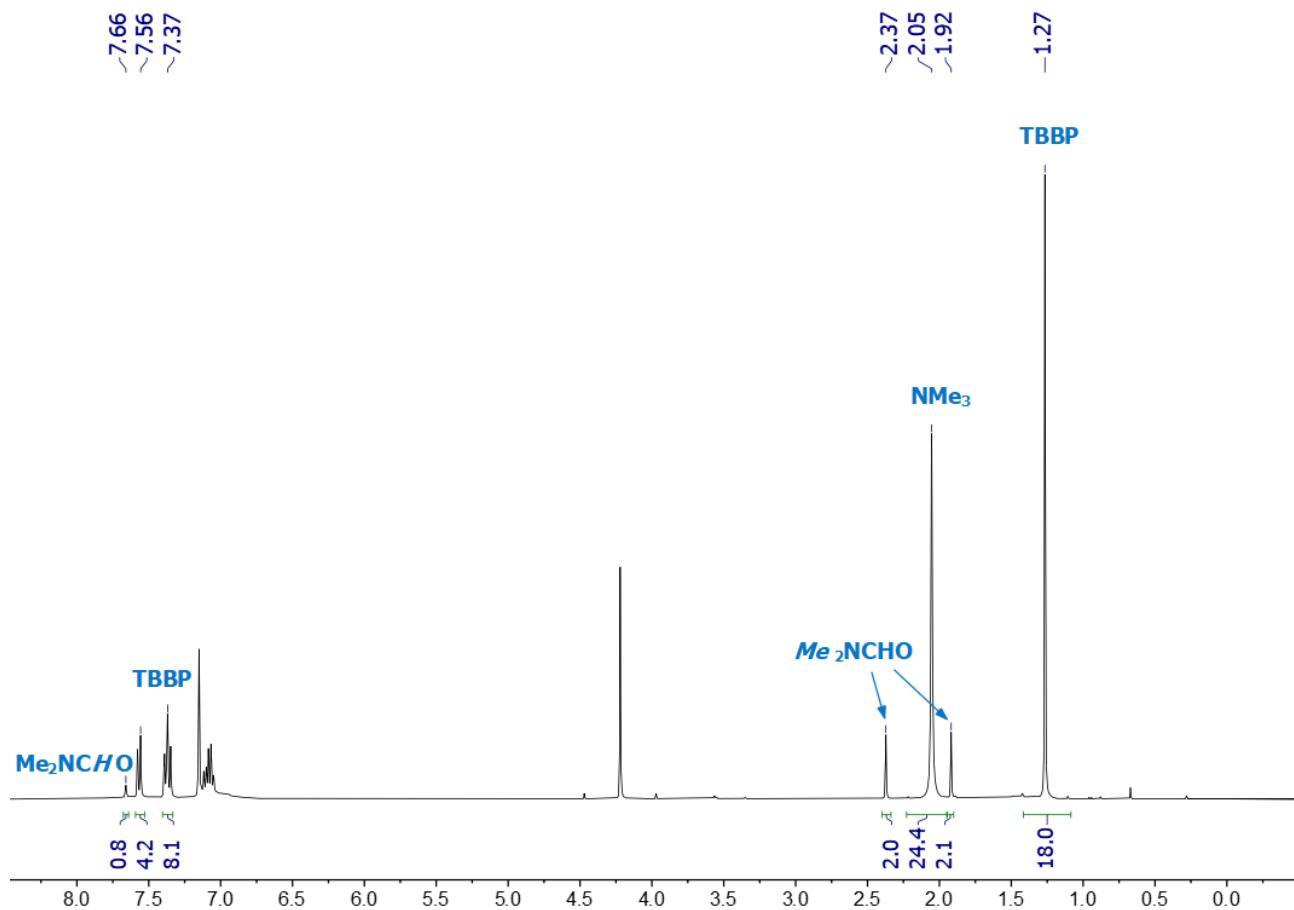
	Cat. (mol%)	Solvent	T [°C]	t	Yield [%]
1	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	C <sub>7</sub> D <sub>8</sub>	110	12 h	99
2	<b>1</b> ·MeCN (5)	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>	80	24 h	71
3	<b>2</b> ·MeCN (5)	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>	80	24 h	61
4	B(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (5)	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>	80	22 h	70
5	<b>None</b>	o-DFB	110	48 h	0

## Selected NMR spectra of Catalytic DMF Reduction

### Conversion with 1·MeCN Catalyst



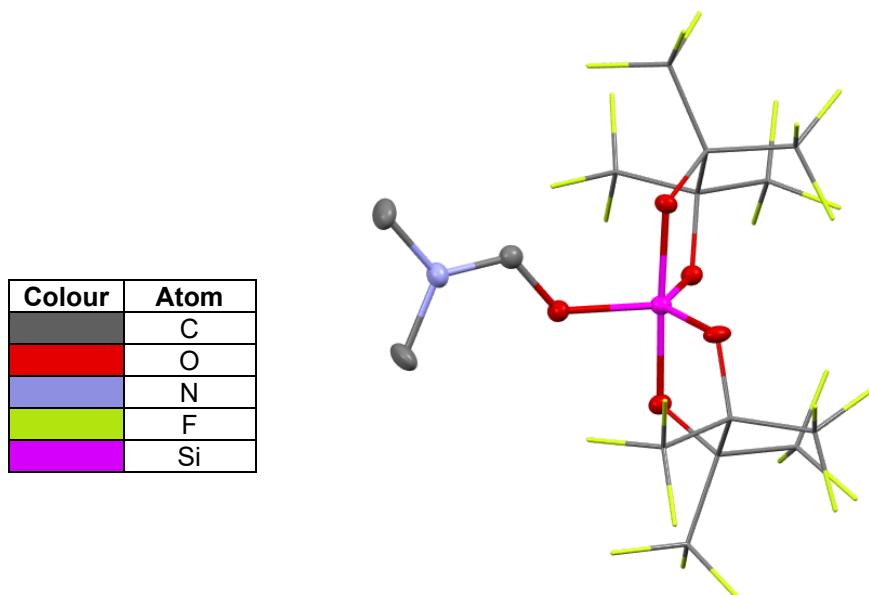
**Fig. S22.** Stacked  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMF to  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  described above in the representative procedure using 1·MeCN (5 mol%),  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (1.5 eq) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ . TBBP = 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-biphenyl. Top: Initial spectrum recorded ca. 1 h after mixing. Bottom: End point spectrum recorded after 24 h at 80 °C reaction progress.



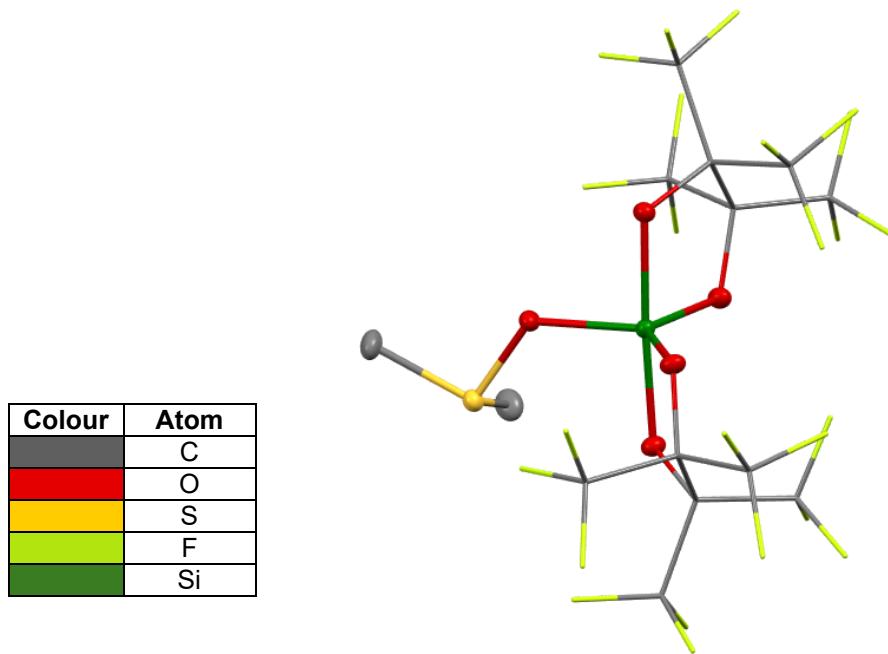
**Fig. S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400.2 MHz) of the catalytic reduction of DMF to  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  described above in the representative procedure using **1**·MeCN (5 mol%) and  $\text{PhSiH}_3$  (1.5 eq) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ . This is the bottom spectrum from the previous Figure with DMF,  $\text{Me}_3\text{N}$  and TBBP<sup>a</sup> peaks picked and integrated for quantification purpose.

**Notes:** Superimposition of some aromatic TBBP peaks with other aromatic peaks may cause integral discrepancy.

### 3. Crystallographic Data



**Fig. S24.** Molecular structure of  $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Si} \cdot \text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$  (**1**· $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$ ) in the single crystal. Ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms were omitted and  $(\text{C}(\text{CF}_3)_2)_2$  scaffold shown as capped sticks for clarity. Crystallographic data Table S4 below.



**Fig S25.** Molecular structure of  $(\text{pin}^{\text{F}})_2\text{Ge} \cdot \text{Me}_2\text{SO}$  (**2**· $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ ) in the single crystal. Ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and one lattice MeCN omitted, and  $(\text{C}(\text{CF}_3)_2)_2$  scaffold shown as capped sticks for clarity. Crystallographic data Table S4 below.

**Table S4:** Crystallographic Data Table for **1·Me<sub>2</sub>NHCO** and **2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO**.

	<b>1·Me<sub>2</sub>NCHO</b>	<b>2·Me<sub>2</sub>SO</b>
<b>CCDC number</b>	2492264	2492265
<b>Empirical formula</b>	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>7</sub> F <sub>24</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>6</sub> F <sub>24</sub> GeO <sub>5</sub> S·CNCH <sub>3</sub>
<b>Formula weight</b>	765.31	855.89
<b>Temperature [K]</b>	100(2)	100(2)
<b>Crystal system</b>	monoclinic	monoclinic
<b>Space group (number)</b>	<i>Pn</i> (7)	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/n</i> (14)
<b>a [Å]</b>	7.7034(3)	10.9159(4)
<b>b [Å]</b>	7.8823(4)	21.5040(7)
<b>c [Å]</b>	19.5828(10)	11.1059(4)
<b>α [°]</b>	90	90
<b>β [°]</b>	92.096(2)	90.0560(10)
<b>γ [°]</b>	90	90
<b>Volume [Å<sup>3</sup>]</b>	1188.28(10)	2606.95(16)
<b>Z</b>	2	4
<b>ρ<sub>calc</sub> [gcm<sup>-3</sup>]</b>	2.139	2.181
<b>μ [mm<sup>-1</sup>]</b>	0.321	1.461
<b>F(000)</b>	748	1664
<b>Crystal size [mm<sup>3</sup>]</b>	0.062×0.156×0.231	0.176×0.202×0.246
<b>Crystal color</b>	colourless	colourless
<b>Crystal shape</b>	fragment	fragment
<b>Radiation</b>	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ=0.71073 Å)	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ=0.71073 Å)
<b>2θ range [°]</b>	4.16 to 51.52 (0.82 Å)	5.23 to 50.05 (0.84 Å)
<b>Index ranges</b>	-9 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 9 -9 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 9 -23 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 23	-12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12 -25 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 25 -13 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 13
<b>Reflections collected</b>	41117	40316
<b>Independent reflections</b>	4552 <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0356 <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0175	4598 <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0314 <i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0196
<b>Completeness to θ = 25.242°</b>	100.0 %	99.8 %
<b>Data / Restraints / Parameters</b>	4552 / 2 / 417	4598 / 0 / 436
<b>Absorption correction T<sub>min</sub>/T<sub>max</sub> (method)</b>	0.7171 / 0.7453 (multi-scan)	0.6962 / 0.7453 (multi-scan)
<b>Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i><sup>2</sup></b>	1.156	1.049
<b>Final <i>R</i> indexes [I≥2σ(I)]</b>	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0242 w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0585	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0177 w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0455
<b>Final <i>R</i> indexes [all data]</b>	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0259 w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0604	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0181 w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0457
<b>Largest peak/hole [eÅ<sup>-3</sup>]</b>	0.25/-0.27	0.37/-0.39

The data have been assigned the following deposition numbers which can either be quoted as CCDC Numbers or CSD Numbers. A CCDC Number is usually quoted for an organic or metal-organic structure, whereas a CSD Number is usually quoted for an inorganic structure.

CCDC XXXXXX-YYYYYYYY (generally used for organic and metal-organic structures)

CSD XXXXXX-YYYYYYYY (generally used for inorganic structures)

Deposition Number 2492264-2492265

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Summary of Data - Deposition Number 2492264

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Compound Name:

Data Block Name: data\_mo\_FroTo2\_0m

Unit Cell Parameters: a 7.7034(3) b 7.8823(4) c 19.5828(10) Pn

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Summary of Data - Deposition Number 2492265

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Compound Name:

Data Block Name: data\_FraDa315\_0ma

Unit Cell Parameters: a 10.9159(4) b 21.5040(7) c 11.1059(4) P21/n

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