

# Supporting Information

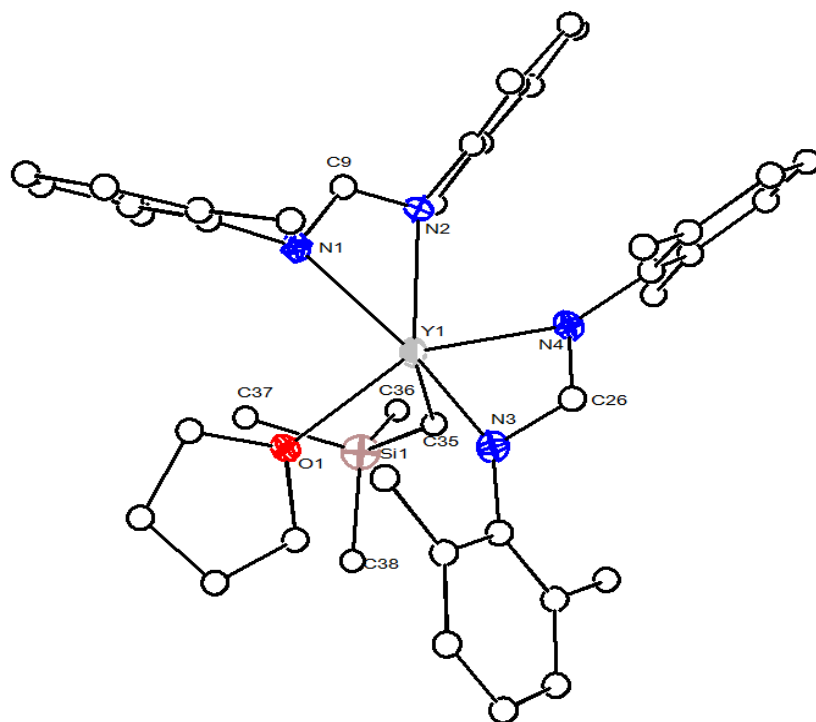
**Rare-Earth Alkyl Complexes Supported by Formamidinate  
Ligands: Synthesis, Structure, and Catalytic Activity for  
Isoprene Polymerization**

**Table ESI 1. Crystallographic data for complexes 1, 2, 3**

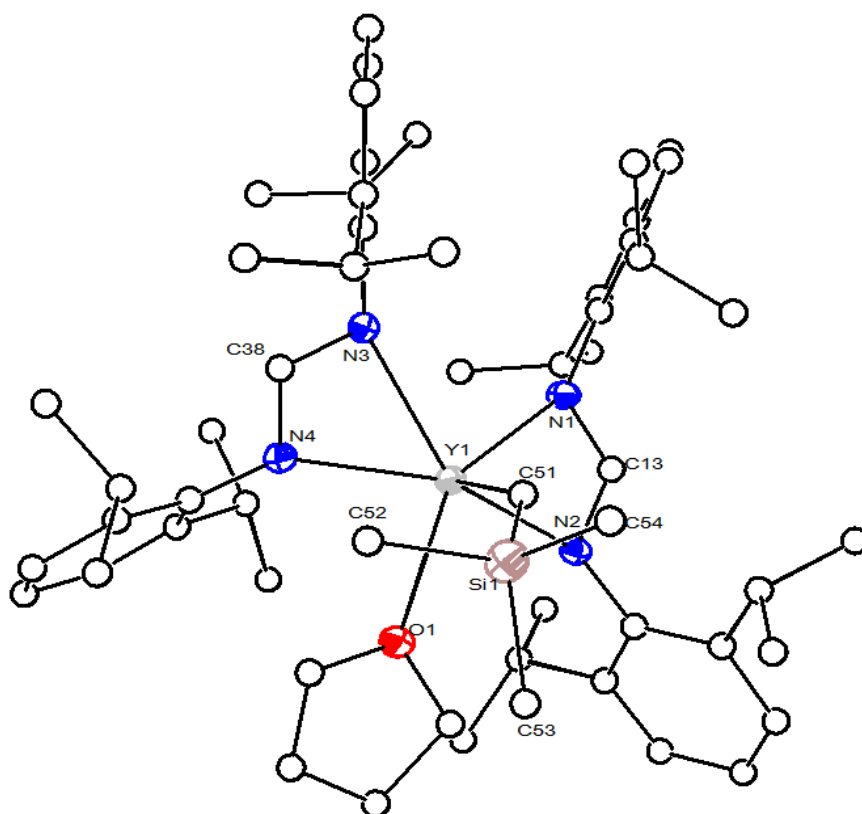
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>57</sub> N <sub>4</sub> OSiY	C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>89</sub> N <sub>4</sub> OSiY	C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>89</sub> ErN <sub>4</sub> OSi
FW	750.92	975.33	1053.68
Space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>P2(1)/n</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
T ( K )	173 ( 2 )	173 ( 2 )	173 ( 2 )
Crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
a (Å)	11.983(4)	13.795(2)	13.826(2)
b (Å)	12.232(4)	16.625(3)	21.926(3)
c (Å)	17.139(5)	28.098(5)	23.051(3)
$\alpha$ (deg)	97.761(4)	90	100.028(2)
$\beta$ (deg)	91.453(4)	92.476(3)	100.543(2)
$\gamma$ (deg)	114.960(4)	90	106.367(2)
Z	2	4	4
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2247.2(12)	6437.7(19)	6399.9(16)
D <sub>c</sub> (Mgm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.110	1.006	1.094
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.356	0.960	1.365
F (000)	796	2104	2220
Reflns collected	17986	54427	52344
Unique reflns	9810	14817	28877
Parameters	453	605	1209
Goodness of fit	1.011	1.069	0.983
$\theta$ range (deg)	1.86 - 27.42	1.42 - 27.55	1.51 - 27.69
R <sub>1</sub> ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ) )	0.1140	0.1146	0.0770
wR <sub>2</sub> ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ) )	0.1094	0.1189	0.2197
Largest diff.peak and hole (e. Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.925 -1.117	1.182 -0.592	4.815 -3.865

**Table ESI 2. Crystallographic data for complexes 4, 5, 6**

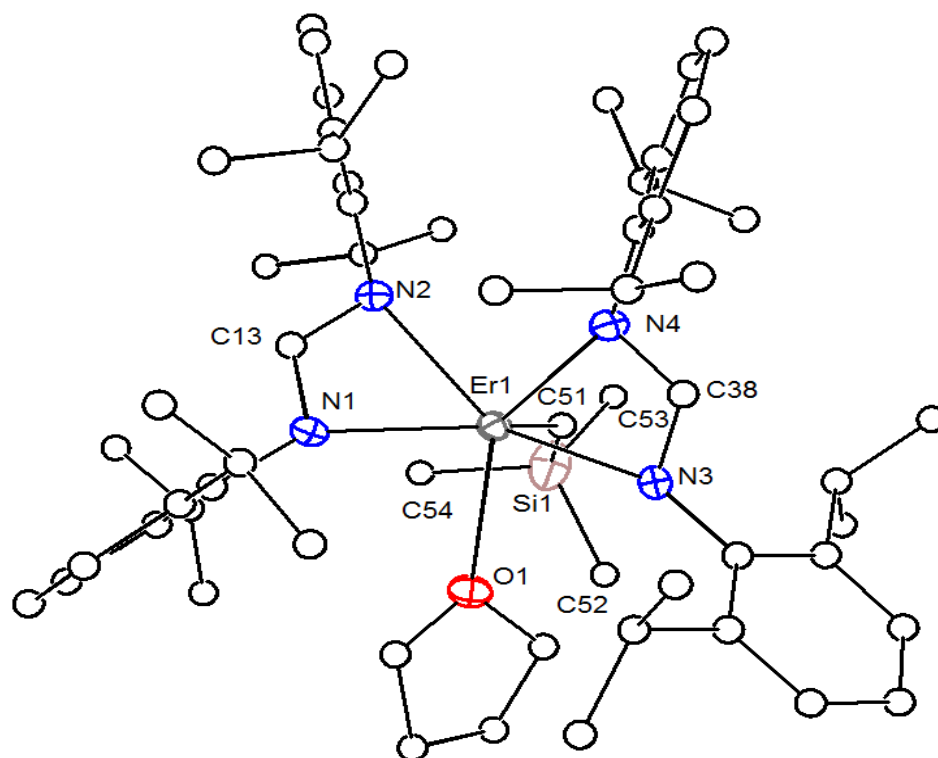
	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Formula	C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>89</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O Si Dy	C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>89</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O Si Sm	C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>89</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O Si Nd
FW	1048.92	1036.77	1030.66
Space group	<i>P2(1)/n</i>	<i>P2(1)/n</i>	<i>P2(1)/n</i>
T ( K )	173 ( 2 )	173 ( 2 )	293 ( 2 )
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
a (Å)	13.7985(13)	13.841(3)	13.9414(9)
b (Å)	16.6154(16)	16.677(3)	16.8128(12)
c (Å)	28.071(3)	28.081(6)	28.3865(19)
α (deg)	90	90	90
β (deg)	92.5970(10)	92.483(3)	92.1740(10)
γ(deg)	90	90	90
Z	4	4	4
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	6429.2(11)	6476(2)	6648.8(8)
D <sub>c</sub> (Mgm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.084	1.063	1.030
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.216	0.960	0.833
F (000)	2212	2196	2188
Reflns collected	14894	54434	57150
Unique reflns	14894	14885	15309
Parameters	605	606	605
Goodness of fit	1.050	0.998	0.970
θ range (deg)	1.42-27.70	1.42-27.57	1.41-27.58
R <sub>1</sub> ( I > 2σ( I ) )	0.0294	0.0542	0.0489
wR <sub>2</sub> ( I > 2σ( I ) )	0.0751	0.1833	0.0845
Largest diff.peak and hole (e. Å <sup>-3</sup> )	1.306 -0.810	2.260 -0.535	0.640 -0.615



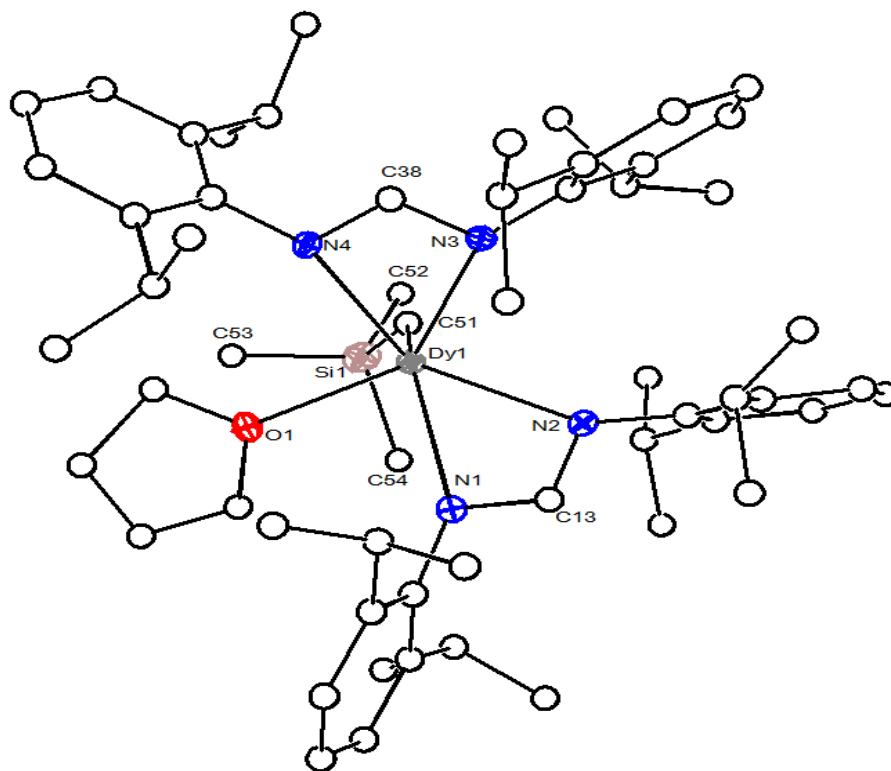
**Figure 1.** Molecular structure of the compound **1**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Y(1)-N(1) 2.388(3), Y(1)-N(2) 2.411(3), Y(1)-N(3) 2.400(3), Y(1)-N(4) 2.378(3), Y(1)-C(35) 2.371(4), Y(1)-O(1) 2.396(2), C(9)-N(1) 1.330(4), C(9)-N(2) 1.309(4), C(26)-N(3) 1.321(4), C(26)-N(4) 1.302(4), N(1)-Y(1)-N(2) 56.44(10), N(3)-Y(1)-N(4) 56.40(10).



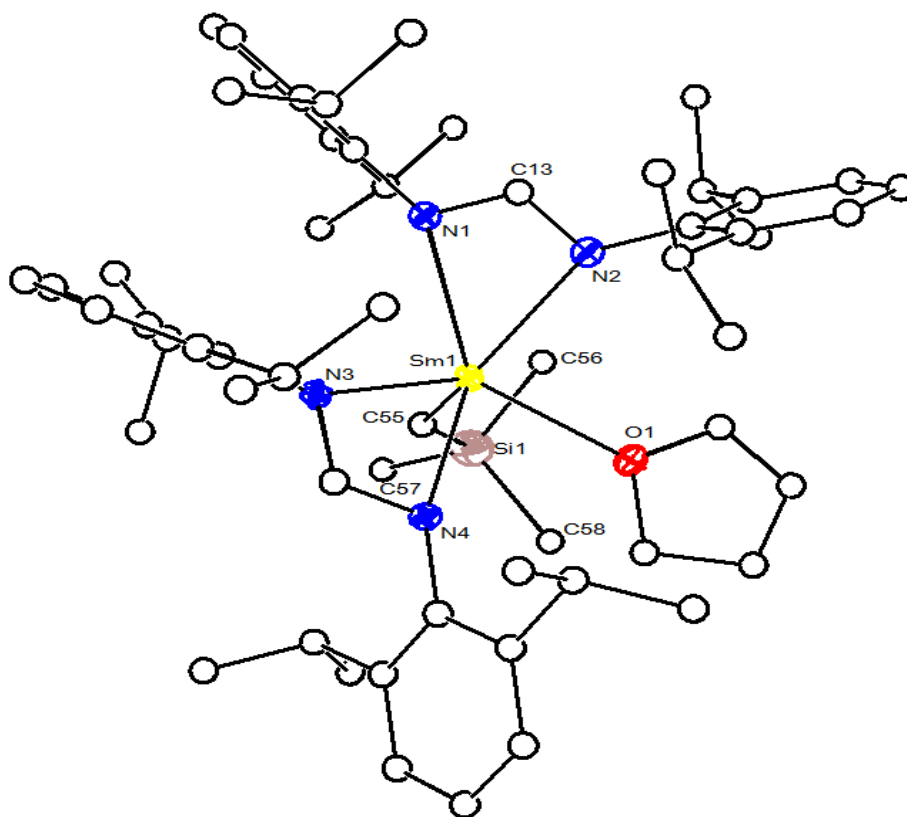
**Figure 2.** Molecular structure of the compound **2**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Y(1)-N(1) 2.390(2), Y(1)-N(2) 2.443(2), Y(1)-N(3) 2.475(3), Y(1)-N(4) 2.391(3), Y(1)-C(51) 2.376(3), Y(1)-O(1) 2.406(2), C(13)-N(1) 1.313(4), C(13)-N(2) 1.323(4), C(38)-N(3) 1.303(4), C(38)-N(4) 1.319(4), N(1)-Y(1)-N(2) 56.18(8), N(3)-Y(1)-N(4) 55.51(9).



**Figure 3.** Molecular structure of the compound **3**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Er(1)-N(1) 2.365(6), Er(1)-N(2) 2.439(6), Er(1)-N(3) 2.423(6), Er(1)-N(4) 2.367(5), Er(1)-C(51) 2.365(8), Er(1)-O(1) 2.402(5), C(13)-N(1) 1.323(9), C(13)-N(2) 1.332(9), C(38)-N(3) 1.322(8), C(38)-N(4) 1.335(9), N(1)-Er(1)-N(2) 56.5(2), N(3)-Er(1)-N(4) 56.65(19).

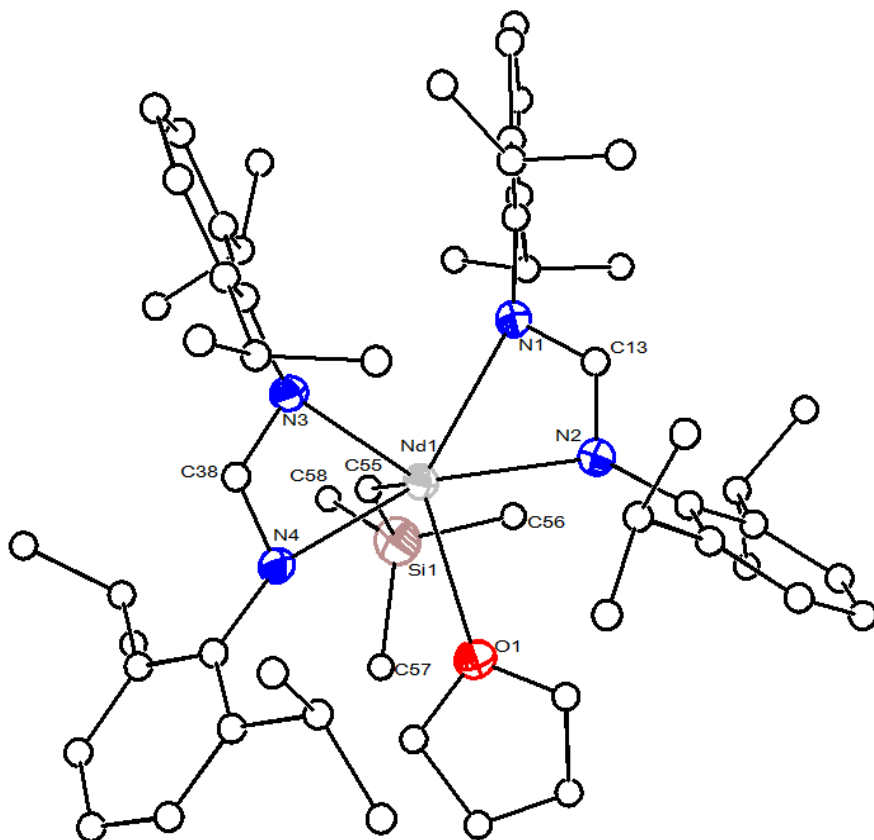


**Figure 4.** Molecular structure of the compound **4**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Dy(1)-N(1) 2.4051(19), Dy(1)-N(2) 2.4776(17), Dy(1)-N(3) 2.3936(19), Dy(1)-N(4) 2.4539(17), Dy(1)-C(51) 2.375(2), Dy(1)-O(1) 2.4224(17), C(13)-N(1) 1.326(3), C(13)-N(2) 1.306(3), C(38)-N(3) 1.324(3) , C(38)-N(4) 1.318(3) , N(1)-Dy(1)-N(2) 55.39(6), N(3)-Dy(1)-N(4) 56.02(6).



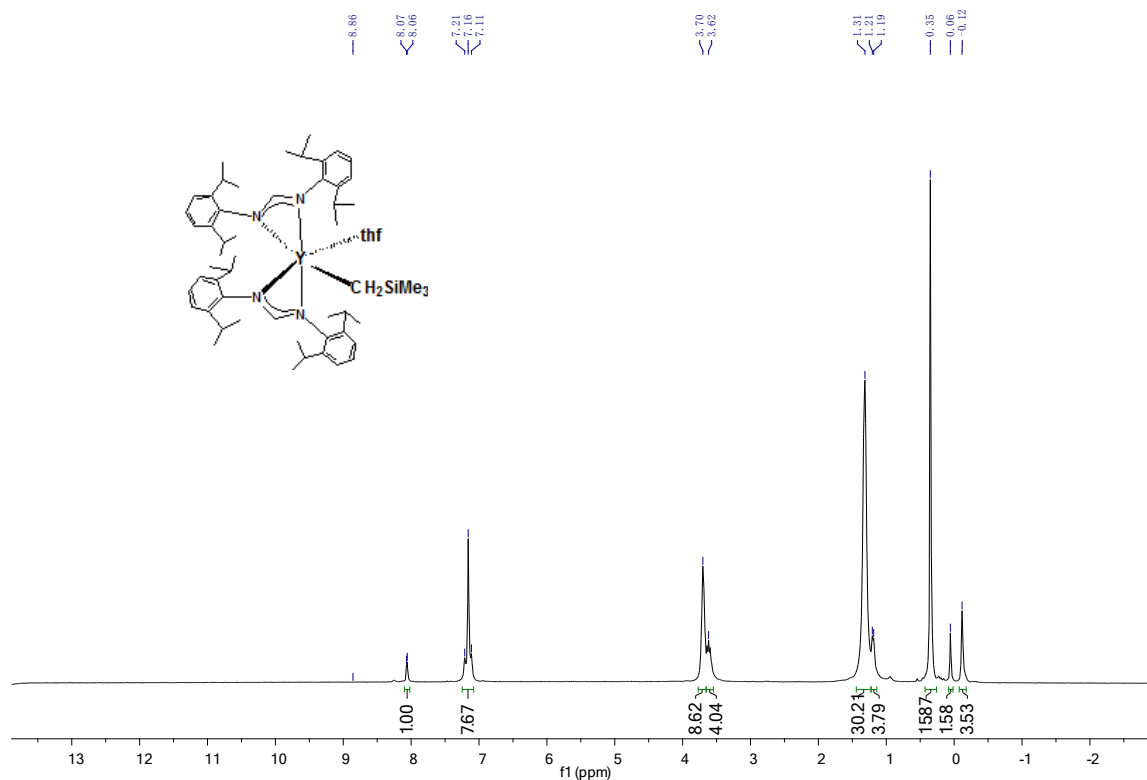
**Figure 5.** Molecular structure of the compound **5**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Sm(1)-N(1) 2.519(4), Sm(1)-N(2) 2.456(4), Sm(1)-N(3) 2.437(4), Sm(1)-N(4) 2.494(4), Sm(1)-C(51) 2.388(6), Sm(1)-O(1) 2.482(4), C(13)-N(1) 1.305(6), C(13)-N(2) 1.321(7), C(38)-N(3) 1.321(6) , C(38)-N(4) 1.316(6) , N(1)-Sm(1)-N(2) 54.39(14), N(3)-Sm(1)-N(4) 54.94(13).



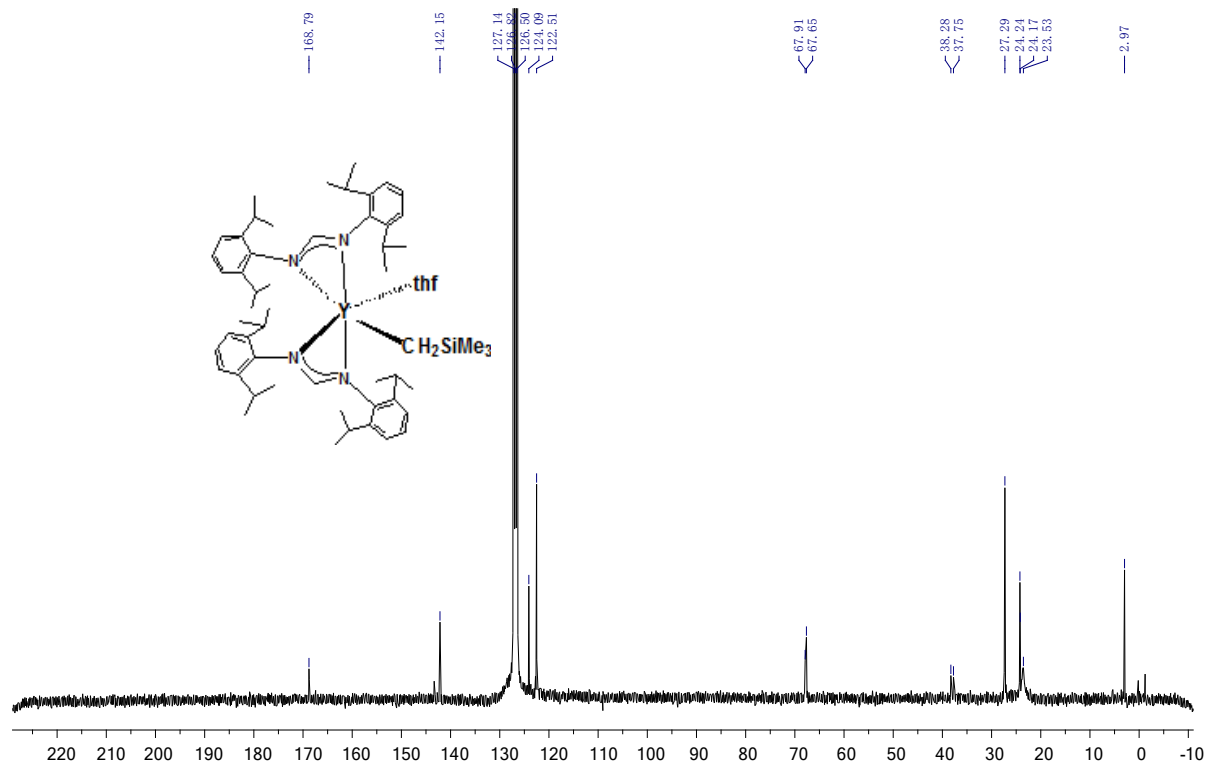


**Figure 6.** Molecular structure of the compound **6**, hydrogen atoms and disorder are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Nd(1)-N(1) 2.550(3), Nd(1)-N(2) 2.482(3), Nd(1)-N(3) 2.467(3), Nd(1)-N(4) 2.519(3), Nd(1)-C(51) 2.440(4), Nd(1)-O(1) 2.519(3), C(13)-N(1) 1.307(4), C(13)-N(2) 1.319(4), C(38)-N(3) 1.315(4), C(38)-N(4) 1.314(4), N(1)-Nd(1)-N(2) 53.74(9), N(3)-Nd(1)-N(4) 54.33(9).

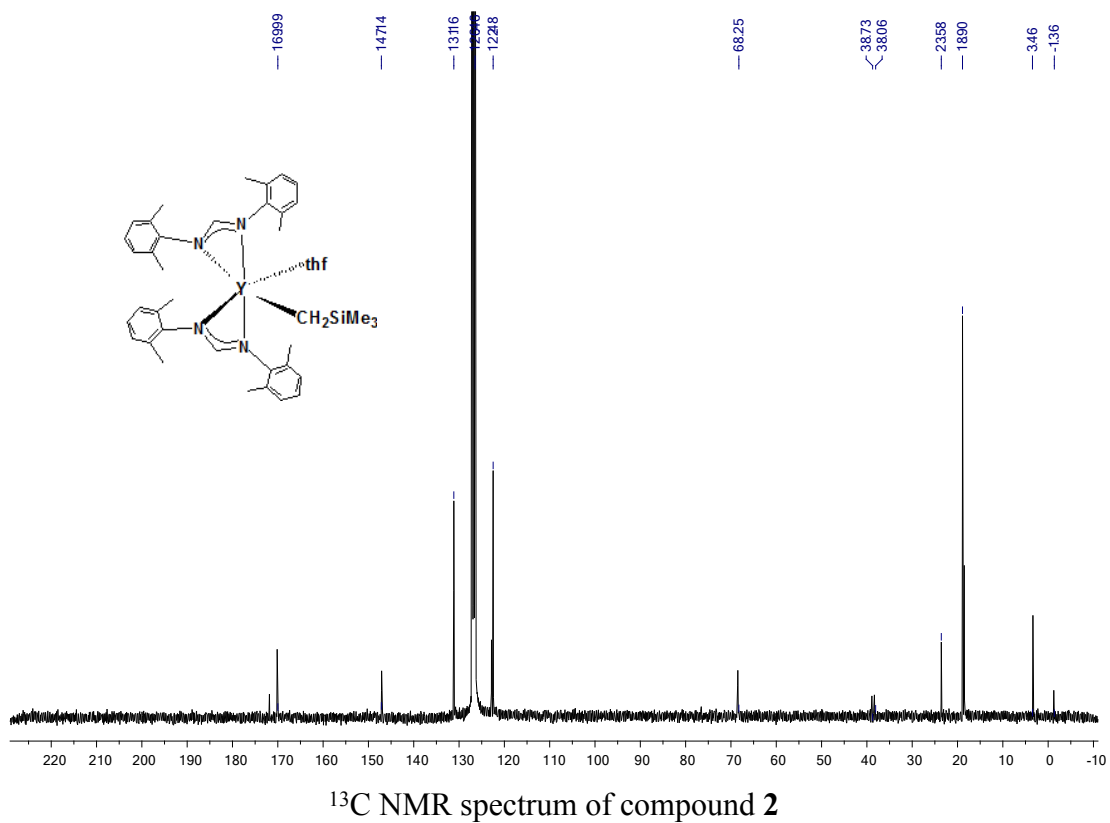
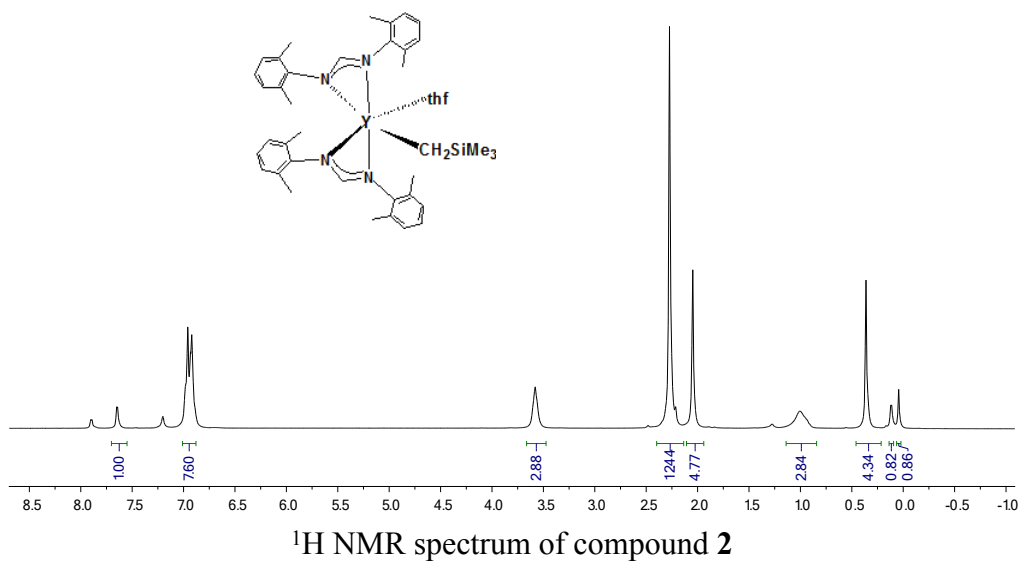
**Copy of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra**

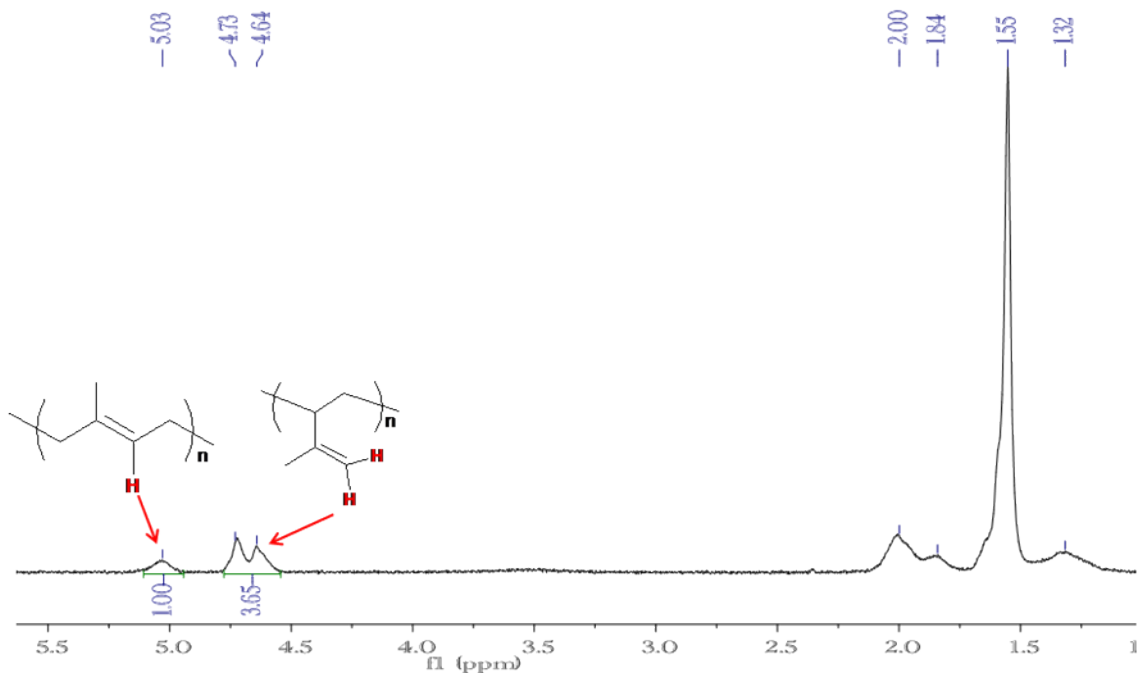


<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 1

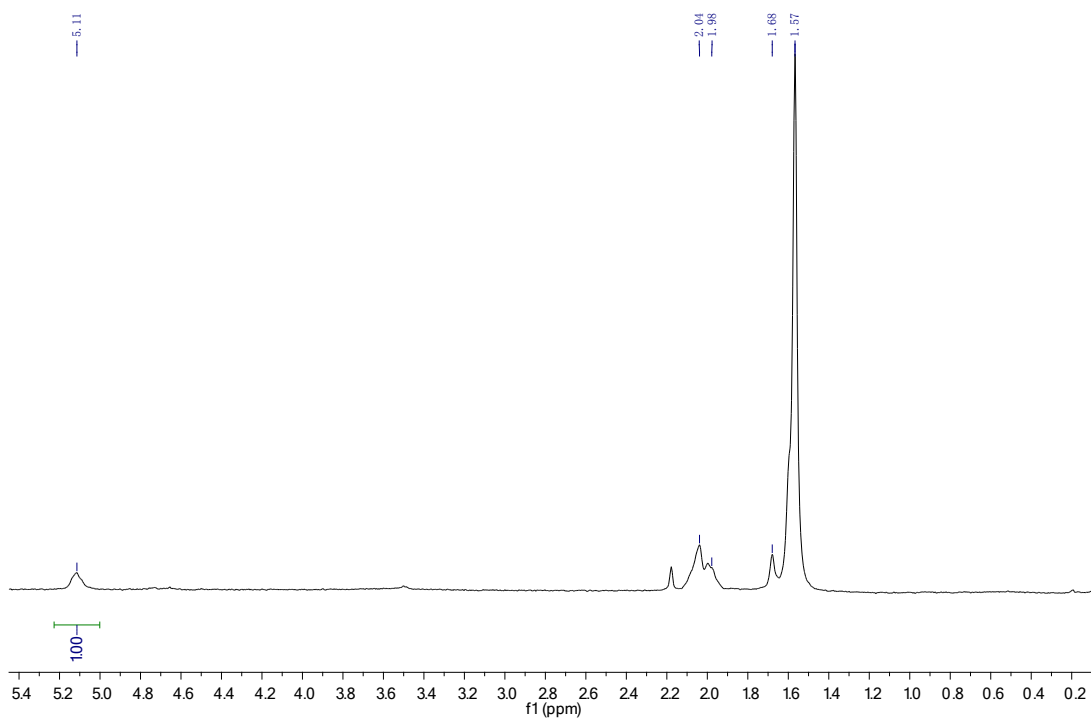


<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 1

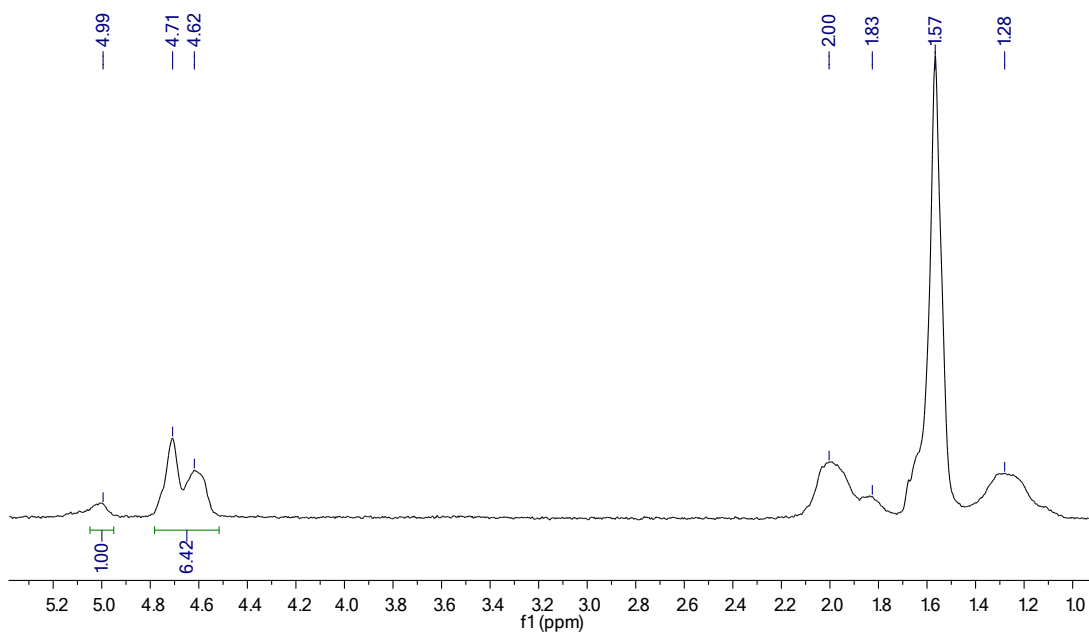




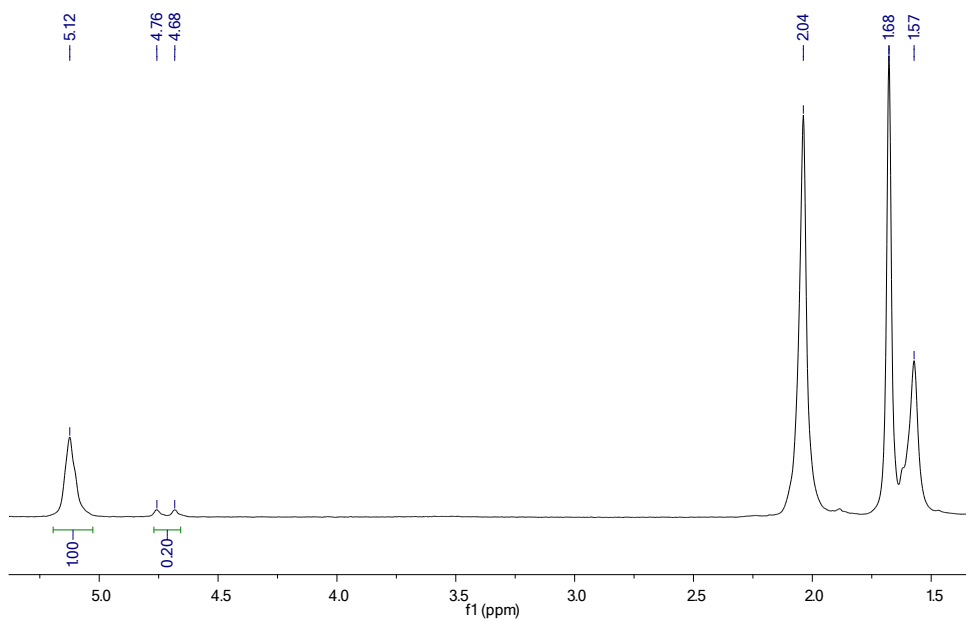
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of polyisoprene from Entry 2 (Table 2)



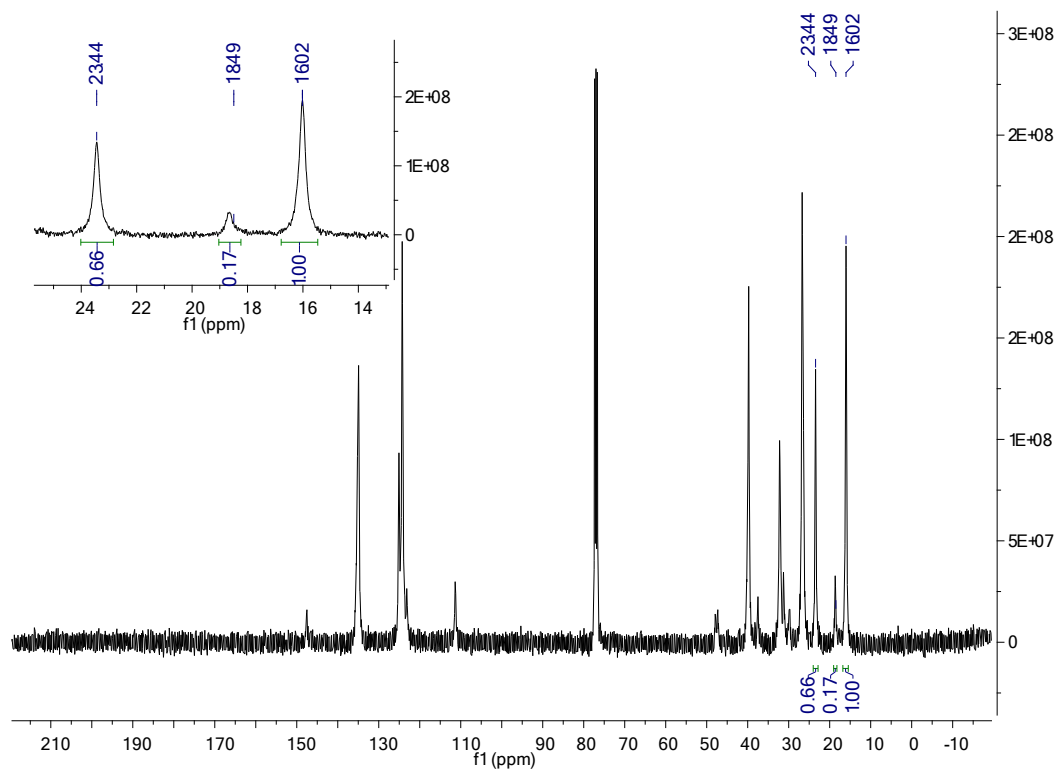
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of polyisoprene from Entry 1 (Table 3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polyisoprene from Entry 2(Table 3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of polyisoprene from Entry 12(Table 3)



$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of polyisoprene from Entry 12 (Table 3)