

**Supporting Information**  
**for**  
**New aryloxybenzylidene ruthenium chelates –**  
**synthesis, reactivity and catalytic performance**  
**in ROMP**

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**General methods and chemicals, syntheses and characterization of complexes**  
**8–10, 13, 14, 16 and 17, procedures of catalytic tests and X-ray analysis**

## 1. General methods and chemicals

Unless mentioned otherwise, all operations were performed by using standard Schlenk techniques.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian 400 operating at 402.6 and 101.2 MHz, respectively.  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Mercury 300 operating at 121.5 MHz. GC analyses were carried out on a Varian CP-3800 (column: Rtx-5 30m I.D. 0.53 mm) equipped with TCD. Mass spectrometry analyses were performed using a Synapt G2-S mass spectrometer (Waters) equipped with an electrospray ion source and quadrupole-time-of-flight mass analyser. Isopropanol was used as a solvent. The measurement was performed in positive ion mode with a desolvation gas flow 600 L/h and a capillary voltage set to 4500 V with a flow rate of 100  $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$ . Chemicals were obtained from the following sources: dichloromethane, benzene, toluene, methanol, tetrahydrofuran, ethyl acetate, pyridine, benzene- $d_6$ , dichloromethane- $d_2$ , second generation Grubbs' catalyst, decane, dodecane, triphenylphosphine, tri(*p*-tolyl)phosphine, tris(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)phosphine, tricyclohexylphosphine, 2-(prop-1-enyl)phenol, *n*-butyllithium (1.6 M), 2-hydroxy-5-*tert*-butylbenzaldehyde, 2-hydroxy-5-nitrobenzaldehyde, methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide, diethyl diallylmalonate, cyclooctadiene, allylbenzene, *Z*-1,4-bis(acetoxy)but-2-ene, HCl (2.0 M in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ), calcium hydride and copper(I) chloride were purchased from Aldrich. Vinyl ethyl and *n*-hexane were provided from Chempur. 4-*tert*-butyl-2-vinylphenol, 4-nitro-2-vinylphenol were prepared according to the literature procedure [1]. The compound *exo-N*-2-ethylhexylbornene dicarboximide was synthesized according to the published procedure [2,3]. All solvents were dried over  $\text{CaH}_2$  prior to use and stored under argon over 4 Å type molecular sieves.  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was additionally passed through

a column with alumina and after that it was degassed by repeated freeze-pump-thaw cycles.

## 2. Synthesis of aryloxybenzylidene–ruthenium complexes

**2.1. Synthesis of 8.** In a similar manner to a procedure in [1] a 50 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.35 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **4**, 0.1104 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of triphenylphosphine and 15 mL of dry dichloromethane. Then 60  $\mu$ L ( $4.63 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of 2-(prop-1-enyl)phenol was added to the reacting mixture. The mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 24 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and *n*-hexane (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from the precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.3074 g, isolated yield = 90%). *Spectroscopic data:* **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>,  $\delta$ , ppm): 16.10 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.38-7.29 (m, 6H, Ph), 7.00-6.98 (m, 10H, Ph, Ar), 6.83 (brs, 1H, Ar), 6.78 (brs, 1H, Ar), 6.75 (brs, 1H, Ar), 6.59 (d,  $J_{HH} = 8.5$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.54 (dd,  $J_{HH} = 7.6, 1.2$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.26-6.18 (m, 2H, Ar), 2.97-3.45 (overlapping multiplets, 4H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.82 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.79 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.73 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.12 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.58 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>,  $\delta$ , ppm): 17.07, 19.01, 19.16, 20.11, 21.08, 21.41, 51.09, 51.15, 111.17, 117.51, 122.43, 129.09, 129.22, 129.46, 129.87, 130.14, 130.43, 130.78, 130.91, 131.29, 134.37 (d,  $J = 10.7$  Hz), 135.88, 136.64, 137.32, 137.46, 138.52, 138.84, 139.19, 148.21, 180.64, 221.49 (d,  $J = 75.0$  Hz, Ru-CNN), 283.40 (Ru=C); **<sup>31</sup>P NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>,  $\delta$ , ppm): 43.27; **MS** (FD): *m/z* (%): 807.21 (25), 808.21 (36), 809.21 (55), 810.21 (100), 811.21 (51), 812.21 (70), 813.21 (30), 814.21 (18); **HRMS** (FD): calcd. for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>46</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>OPRu: 810.2080; found: 810.2081;

**2.2. Synthesis of complex 8 starting from dimer 16.** A 25 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.1 g ( $8.88 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) of complex **16**, 0.0466 g ( $1.78 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of triphenylphosphine and 10 mL of dry benzene. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and *n*-hexane (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.1350 g, isolated yield = 94%).

**2.3. Synthesis of 9.** A 50 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.35 g ( $3.38 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **5**, 0.1509 g ( $3.38 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of tris(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)phosphine and 15 mL of dry benzene. Then 48  $\mu$ L ( $3.72 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of 2-(prop-1-enyl)phenol was added to the reacting mixture. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 3 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and methanol (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.2952 g, isolated yield = 86%). *Spectroscopic data:*  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 15.79 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.24 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.17 (d,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 2.9$  Hz, 6H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CF}_3$ ), 7.12 (d,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 2.9$  Hz, 6H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CF}_3$ ), 6.86 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.75 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.74 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.43 (d,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 7.7$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.28 (d,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 8.6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.22 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.16 (t,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 7.1$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 3.42-2.92 (m, 4H,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.73 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.70 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.68 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.13 (s, 3H, mesityl

$CH_3$ ), 2.10 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 1.43 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ),  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 16.84, 18.81, 19.08, 19.96, 21.05, 51.12 (br s), 111.84, 117.41, 122.31, 122.63, 122.76, 124.60 – 124.97 (m,  $CF_3$ ), 128.89, 129.31, 129.57, 129.77, 130.33, 131.80, 132.64, 132.78, 134.45 (d,  $J = 11.5$  Hz), 135.93, 136.35, 136.71, 137.24, 137.85, 139.00, 139.03, 139.39, 148.25, 180.75, 219.46 (d,  $J = 78.1$  Hz, Ru-CNN), 282.41 (Ru=C);  $^{31}P$  NMR: ( $C_6D_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 44.97; MS (FD):  $m/z$  (%): 1011.17 (31), 1012.17 (38), 1013.17 (60), 1014.17 (100), 1015.17 (60), 1016.17 (74), 1017.17 (33), 1018.17 (20); HRMS (FD): calc. for  $C_{49}H_{43}ClF_9N_2OPRu$ : 1014.1701; found: 1014.1686.

**2.4. Synthesis of 10.** A 50 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.35 g ( $4.01 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **6**, 0.1221 g ( $4.01 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of tri(*p*-tolyl)phosphine and 15 mL of dry benzene. Then 57  $\mu$ L ( $4.42 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of 2-(prop-1-enyl)phenol was added to the reacting mixture. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 3 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and methanol (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.3014 g, isolated yield = 88%). Spectroscopic data:  $^1H$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 16.17 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.31 (dd,  $J_{HH} = 10.1, 8.1$  Hz, 6H,  $C_6H_4-CH_3$ ), 6.97 (br s, 1H, Ar), 6.95 – 6.90 9m, 2H, Ar), 6.88 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.79 (pseudo d, 6H,  $C_6H_4-CH_3$ ), 6.69 (d,  $J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.58 (dd,  $J_{HH} = 7.7, 1.2$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.20 – 6.25 (m, 2H, Ar), 3.49-3.00 (m, 4H,  $NCH_2CH_2N$ ), 2.88 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.81 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.72 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.12 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.10 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 1.98 (s, 9H,  $C_6H_4-CH_3$ ), 1.62 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ );  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 17.10, 19.07, 19.20, 20.17, 21.30, 21.23 ( $C_6H_4-CH_3$ ), 21.37, 51.02 – 51.25, 111.05, 117.56, 122.40, 128.55, 128.65, 129.21, 129.45, 129.89, 130.38, 130.44, 134.26, 134.38 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz),

136.68, 136.72, 137.36, 137.41, 138.54, 138.80, 138.82, 138.88, 139.29, 180.57, 222.04 (d,  $J = 74.8$  Hz, Ru-CNN), 283.70 (Ru=C);  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR: ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 40.88; **MS** (FD):  $m/z$  (%): 849.25 (22), 850.25 (32), 851.25 (52), 852.25 (100), 853.25 (52), 854.25 (68), 855.26 (31), 856.25 (14); **HRMS** (FD): calc. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{52}\text{ClN}_2\text{OPRu}$ : 852.2548; found: 852.2549;

**2.5. Synthesis of 13.** A 50 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.35 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **4**, 0.1104 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of triphenylphosphine and 15 mL of dry benzene. Then 0.088 g ( $4.63 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of 4-*tert*-butyl-2-vinylphenol was added to the reacting mixture. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 3 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and methanol (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.3285 g, isolated yield = 90%). *Spectroscopic data:*  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 15.93 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.31 – 7.38 (m, 6H, Ph), 6.98 (dd,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 8.1, 2.1$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.86 – 6.95 (m, 9H, Ph), 6.85 (br s, 1H, Ar), 6.81 (br s, 1H, Ar), 6.79 (br s, 1H, Ar), 6.49 (d,  $J_{\text{HH}} = 6.9$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.47 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.38 (s, 1H, Ar), 3.45-3.01 (m, 4H,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.81 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.79 (s, 6H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.20 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.07 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.45 (s, 3H, mesityl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.28 (s, 9H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 16.88, 18.98, 19.45, 20.09, 21.38, 31.86 ( $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 33.45 ( $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ), 50.94, 51.24, 117.10, 117.99, 128.99, 129.11, 129.17, 129.30, 129.44, 129.85, 130.36, 130.87, 131.24, 133.32, 133.95, 134.40 (d,  $J = 10.8$  Hz), 136.89, 136.97, 137.16, 137.71, 138.48, 139.18, 147.89, 179.56, 221.57 (d,  $J = 76.1$  Hz, Ru-CNN), 282.04 (Ru=C);  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 43.41; **MS** (FD):  $m/z$  (%): 863.27 (25), 864.27 (37),

865.27 (56), 866.27 (100), 867.27 (54), 868.27 (74), 869.27 (31), 870.27 (18); **HRMS** (FD): calcd. for C<sub>50</sub>H<sub>54</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>OPRu: 866.2693; found: 866.2706;

**2.6. Synthesis of 14.** A 50 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.35 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **4**, 0.1104 g ( $4.21 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of triphenylphosphine and 15 mL of dry benzene. Then 0.076 g ( $4.63 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of 4-nitro-2-vinylphenol was added to the reacting mixture. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 3 h. After this time the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and *n*-hexane (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form an orange precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was dried under vacuum (0.3315 g, isolated yield = 92 %). *Spectroscopic data:* **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 16.56 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.96 (dd,  $J_{HH} = 9.4, 2.5$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.69 (d,  $J_{HH} = 2.5$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.31 - 7.21 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.1 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.93 – 6.81 (m, 9H, Ph), 6.66 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.63 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.20 (d,  $J_{HH} = 9.2$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 5.93 (s, 1H, Ar), 3.39-2.88 (m, 4H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.70 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.67 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.58 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.15 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.02 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.46 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 17.01, 18.71, 18.72, 20.04, 20.89, 21.40, 50.86-50.85, 51.37-51.53, 115.91, 117.86, 125.70, 129.31, 129.42, 129.56, 129.58, 129.61, 129.96, 130.01, 130.59, 133.78, 134.07 (d,  $J = 11.0$  Hz), 134.46, 135.77, 136.13, 137.00, 137.97, 138.89, 139.17, 139.33, 145.54, 183.78, 219.78 (d,  $J = 72.8$  Hz, Ru-CNN), 286.62 (Ru=C); **<sup>31</sup>P NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 42.17; **MS** (FD): *m/z* (%): 852.20 (26), 853.19 (40), 854.20 (60), 855.19 (100), 856.20 (68), 857.19 (73), 858.20 (44), 859.20 (21); **HRMS** (FD): calc. for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>45</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>PRu: 855.1917; found: 855.1931

**2.7. Synthesis of 16.** A 25 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.15 g ( $1.85 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of complex **8**, 0.0896 g ( $1.85 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) of copper(I) chloride and 10 mL of dry benzene. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. After this time the solvent was decanted from precipitate and placed in a second flask. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and *n*-hexane (5 mL) was added to the remaining contents to form a green precipitate. Then the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and the obtained solid was washed three times with *n*-hexane ( $3 \times 5$  mL) and dried under vacuum (0.3006 g, isolated yield = 88%).

**2.8. Synthesis of 17.** A 25 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and connected to an argon/vacuum line was charged under argon with 0.06 g ( $7.4 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) of **8** and 5 mL of dry dichloromethane. Then the 37  $\mu$ L ( $7.4 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) of 2.0 M solution of hydrogen chloride in diethyl ether was added to the reacting mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, during which time the solution changed colour from dark-green to a light-green. After this time the solvent and residual acid were evaporated under vacuum and 5 mL of dry *n*-hexane was added to the remaining content to form a green precipitate. Next the resulted solution was decanted from precipitate and obtained green microcrystalline solid was washed in hexane and dried under vacuum (isolated yield 0.059 g, 95%). *Spectroscopic data:* **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>,  $\delta$ , ppm): 16.51 (s, 1H, Ru=CH), 7.37-7.29 (m, 6H, Ph), 6.96-6.85 (m, 10H, Ph, Ar), 6.82 (brs, 1H, Ar), 6.70 (brs, 2H, Ar), 6.52 (d,  $J_{HH} = 7.6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.23 (t,  $J_{HH} = 7.1$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.08 (brs, 1H, Ar), 3.48-2.99 (overlapping multiplets, 4H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.93 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.69 (s, 3H, mesityl CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.63 (s, 3H,

mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.09 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 2.04 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ ), 1.73 (s, 3H, mesityl  $CH_3$ );  $^{31}P$  NMR ( $C_6D_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 43.73.

### 3. Procedures of catalytic tests

**3.1. ROMP of COD.** In a similar manner to a procedure in [1] the oven-dried 5 mL glass reactor equipped with a condenser and magnetic stirring bar was charged under argon with 2 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 100  $\mu$ L of cyclooctadiene ( $8.04 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) and 80  $\mu$ L of dodecane (internal standard). The reaction mixture was placed in an oil bath and preheated at 40 °C. Then the catalyst complex ( $7.24 \times 10^{-7}$  mol) was added under argon. The mixture was heated at 40 °C under argon. After the given reaction time 30  $\mu$ L of the reaction mixture was taken, placed in a 1 mL vial and quenched by the addition of 15  $\mu$ L vinyl ethyl ether and analysed by gas chromatography. The conversion of the substrates was calculated using the internal standard method.

**3.2. ROMP of COD with HCl as an activating agent.** The oven dried 5 mL glass reactor equipped with a condenser and magnetic stirring bar was charged under argon with 2 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 100  $\mu$ L of cyclooctadiene ( $8.04 \times 10^{-4}$  mol) and 80  $\mu$ L of dodecane (internal standard). The reaction mixture was placed in an oil bath and preheated at 40 °C. Then ( $7.24 \times 10^{-7}$  mol) of catalyst and HCl (2 M in  $Et_2O$ ) ( $1.49 \times 10^{-6}$  mol) were added consecutively under argon. The mixture was heated at 40 °C under argon. After the given reaction time 30  $\mu$ L of the reaction mixture was taken, placed in a 1 mL vial and quenched by the addition of 15  $\mu$ L vinyl ethyl ether and analyzed by gas chromatography. The conversion of the substrates was calculated using the internal standard method.

**3.3. ROMP of monomer 15.** The reactions were carried out under inert conditions, using a Wilmad LPV NMR tube. In a typical protocol the ruthenium initiator ( $1.915 \times 10^{-7}$  mol) and monomer **15** (10 mg,  $3.83 \times 10^{-5}$  mol) were weighed into sample vials and dissolved in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (0.5 mL, dry). The solution of monomer **15** was transferred into the NMR tube. Then, the solution of ruthenium initiator was added, mixed (molar ratio:  $[\mathbf{15}]:[\text{cat.}] = 200:1$ ) and activated with HCl (2.0 M in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ) ( $3.83 \times 10^{-7}$  mol). The reactions were carried out at room temperature and at 40 °C. The course of the reactions was monitored by gas chromatography and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy.

**4. X-ray analysis.** X-ray diffraction data were collected at 130(1) K by the  $\omega$ -scan technique, on an Agilent Technologies four-circle SuperNova diffractometer equipped with an Atlas detector [4] and equipped with a Nova microfocus  $\text{CuK}_\alpha$  radiation source ( $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$ ). The temperature was controlled with an Oxford Instruments Cryosystem device. The data were corrected for Lorentz-polarization effects as well as for absorption (multiscan) [4]. Accurate unit-cell parameters were determined by a least-squares fit of and 11114 reflections of highest intensity, chosen from the whole experiment. The calculations were mainly performed within the WinGX program system [5]. The structures were solved with SIR92 [6] and refined with the full-matrix least-squares procedure on  $F^2$  by SHELXL97 [7]. Scattering factors incorporated in SHELXL97 were used. The function  $\sum w(|F_o|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2$  was minimized, with  $w^{-1} = [\sigma^2(F_o)^2 + (0.058 \cdot P)^2 + 1.8055 \cdot P]$ , where  $P = [\text{Max}(F_o^2, 0) + 2F_c^2]/3$ . All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, hydrogen atoms from methyl groups were placed geometrically, in idealized positions, and refined as riding group with their  $U_{\text{iso}}$ 's set at 1.5 times  $U_{\text{eq}}$  of appropriate carrier atom; all other hydrogen atoms

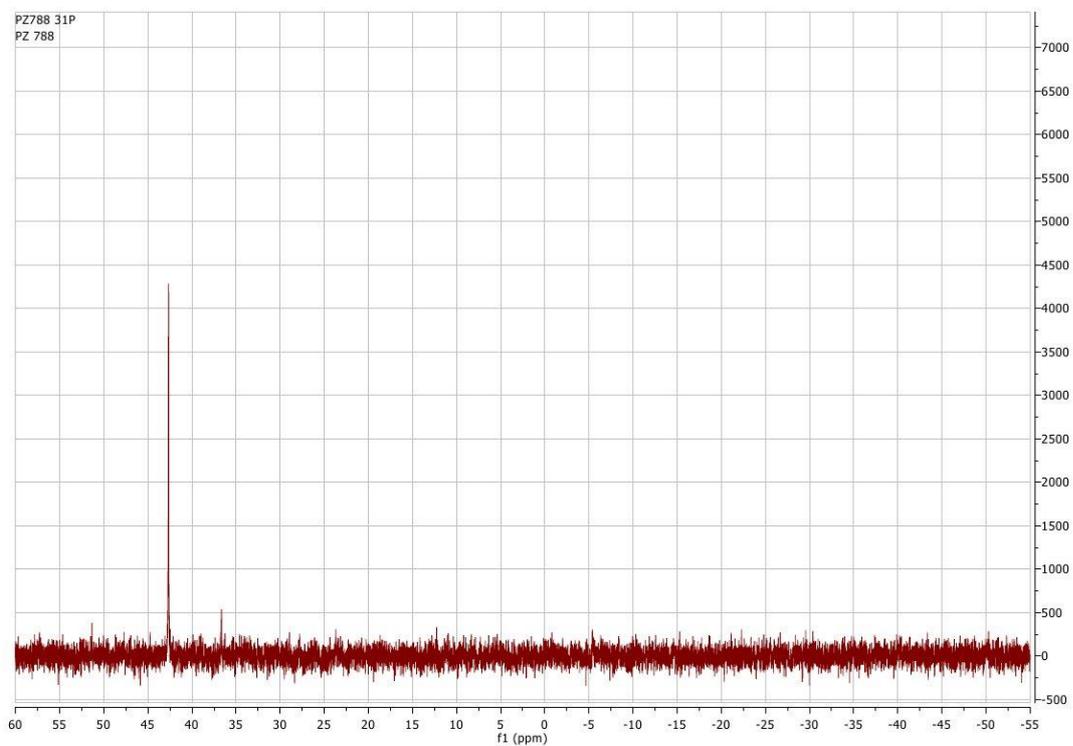
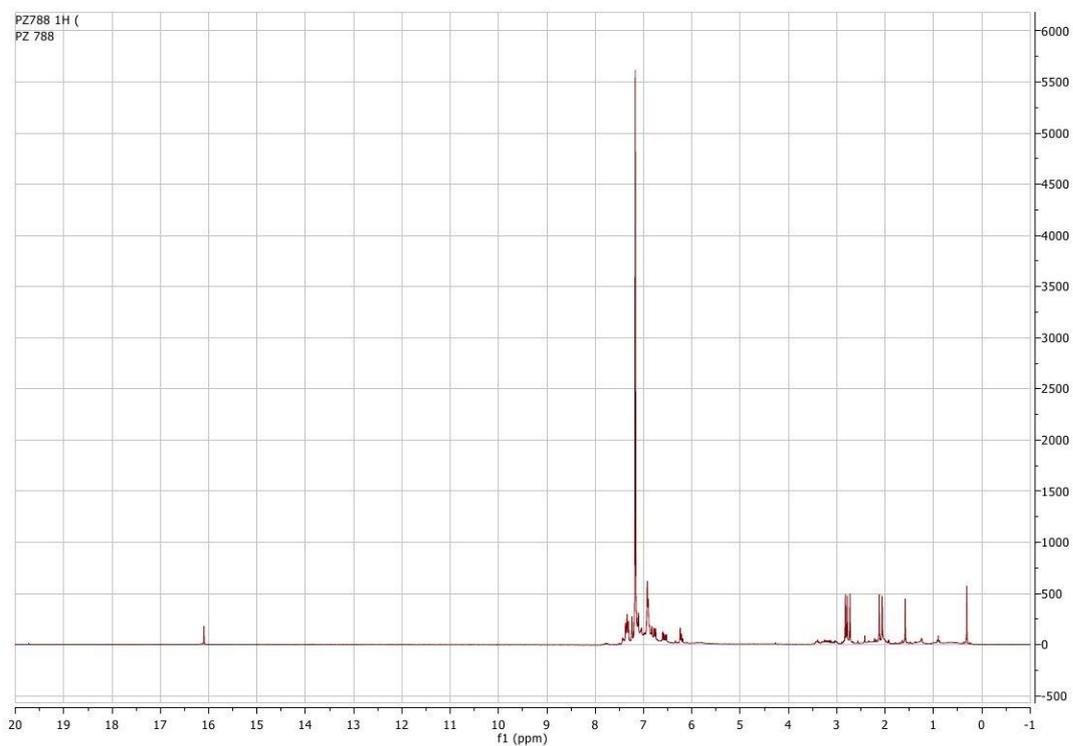
were found in difference Fourier maps and isotropically refined. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structural analysis has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, No. CCDC 891681. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from: The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK. Fax: +44(1223)336-033, e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or www: www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk. Crystal data:  $C_{56}H_{62}Cl_2N_4O_2Ru_2$ ,  $M_r = 1096.14$ , monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$ ,  $a = 11.5309(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 16.1759(3) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 13.5476(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 100.962(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 2480.83(7) \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $Z = 2$ ,  $F(000) = 1128$ ,  $d_x = 1.47 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\mu = 6.28 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ . 14928 reflections collected up to  $2\Theta = 147.8^\circ$ , of which 4916 independent ( $R_{int}=0.031$ ), 4802 with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ . Final  $R(I > 2\sigma(I)) = 0.032$ ,  $wR2(I > 2\sigma(I)) = 0.087$ ,  $R(\text{all data}) = 0.033$ ,  $wR2(\text{all data}) = 0.087$ ,  $S = 1.02$ , max/min  $\Delta\rho = 0.61/-1.38 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ .

## References

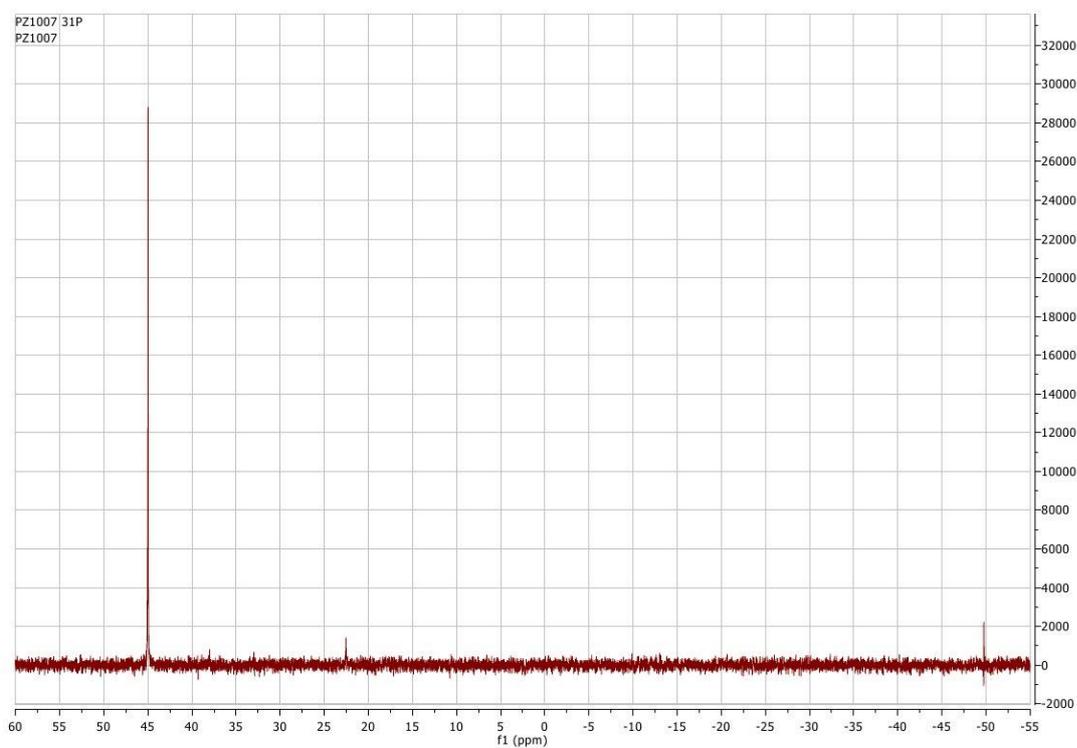
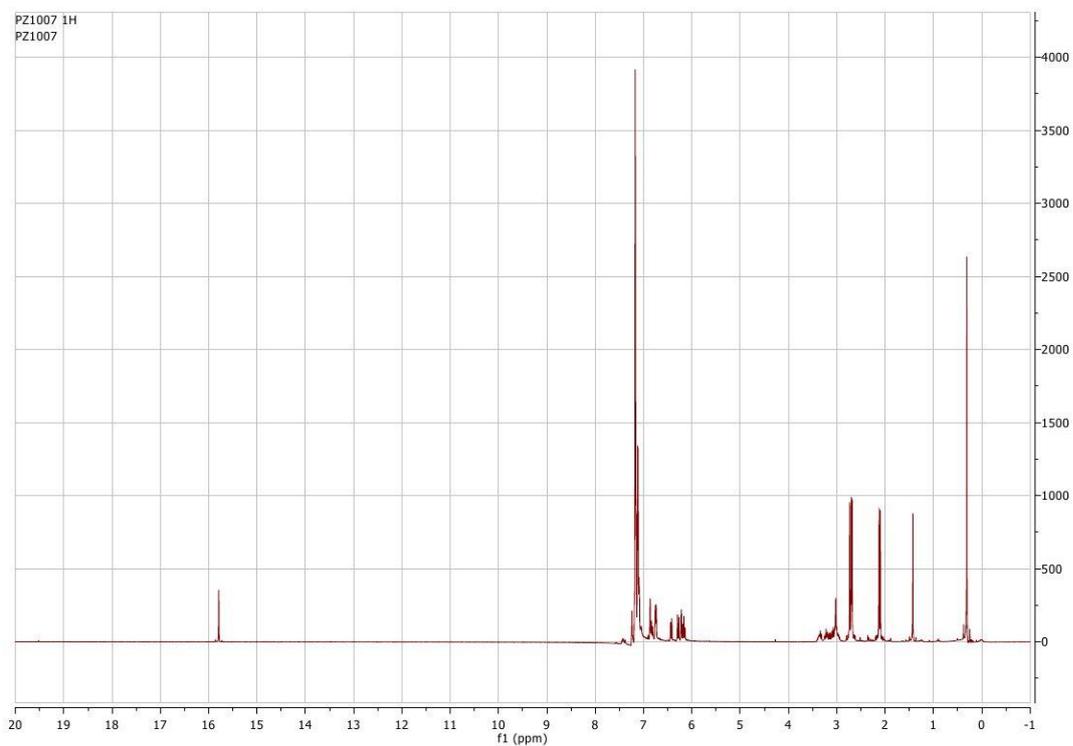
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## 4. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{31}\text{P}$ NMR spectra of complexes

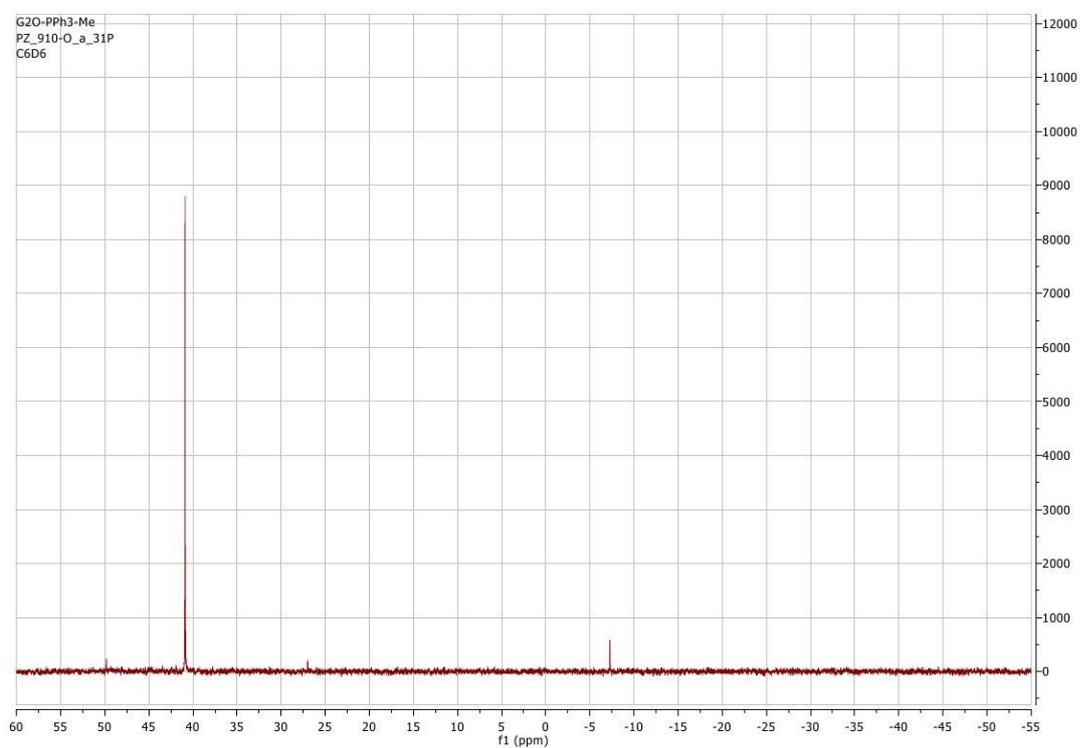
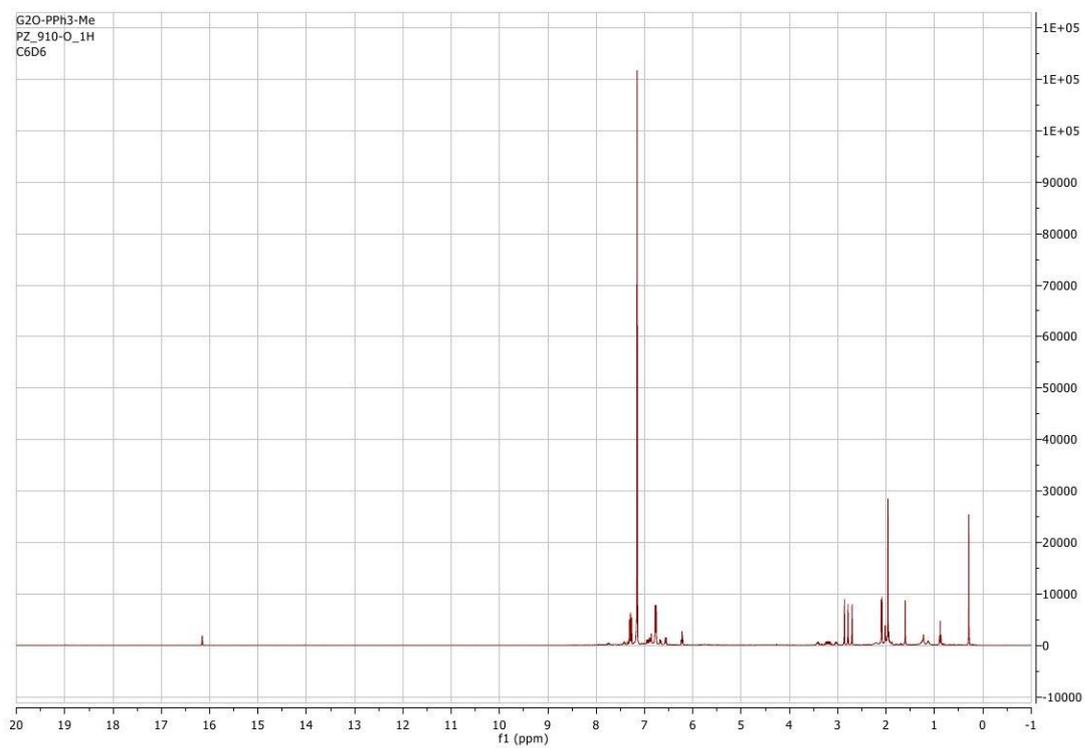
### 4.1. Complex 8



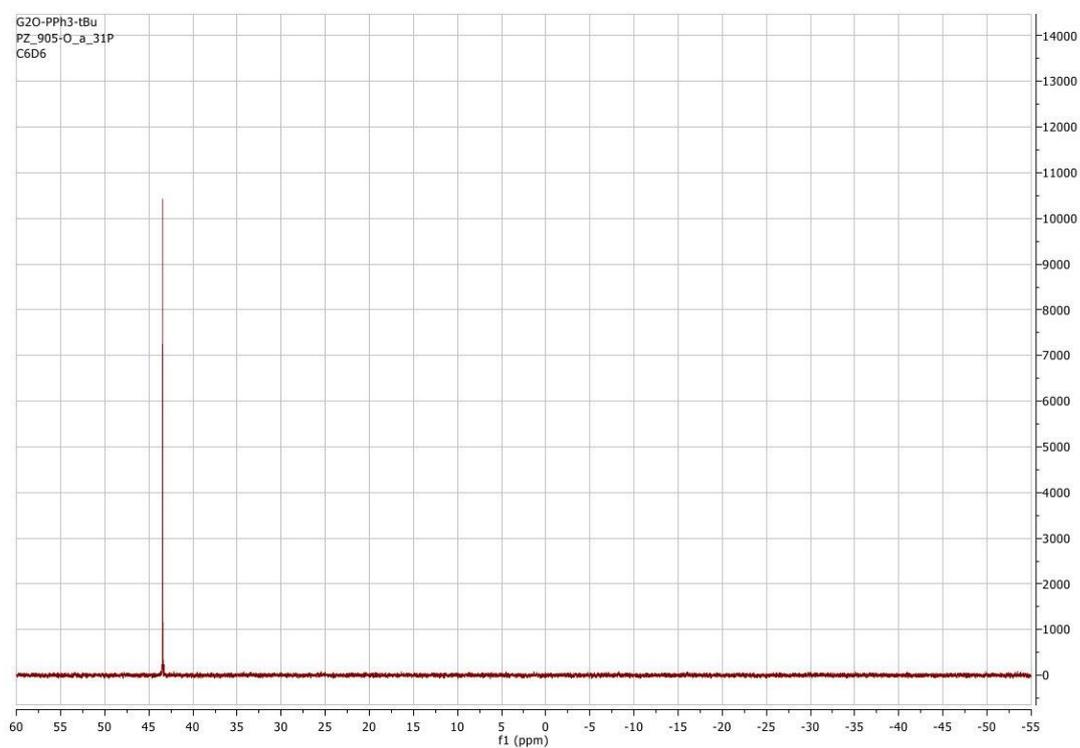
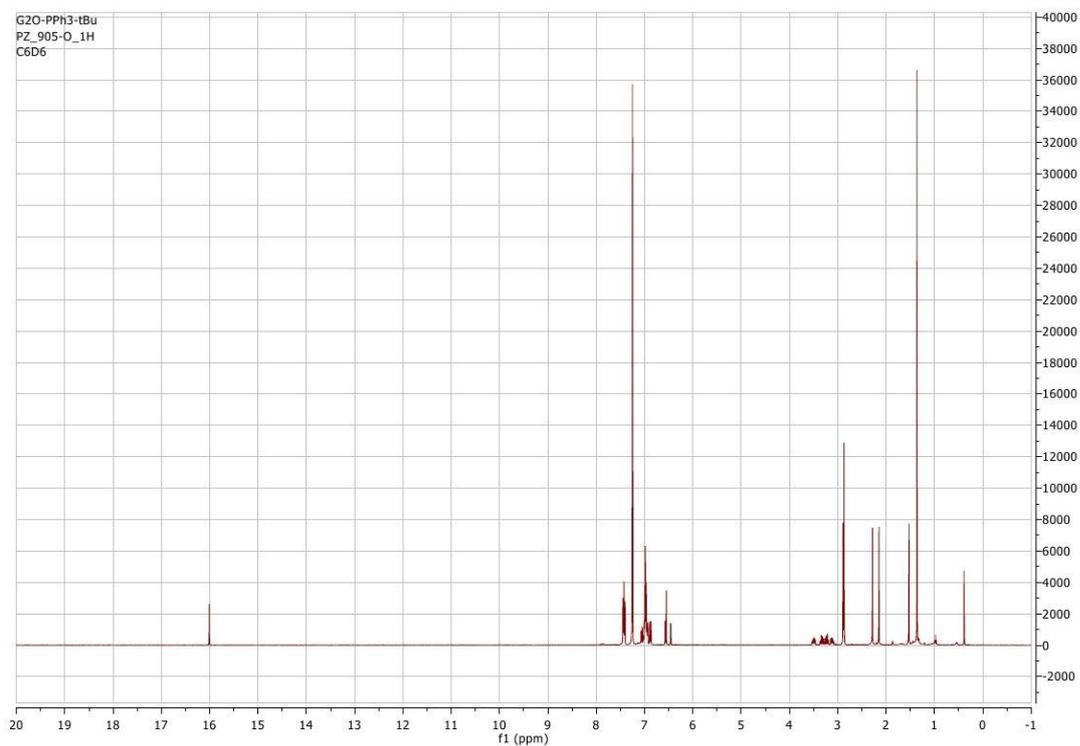
## 4.2. Complex 9



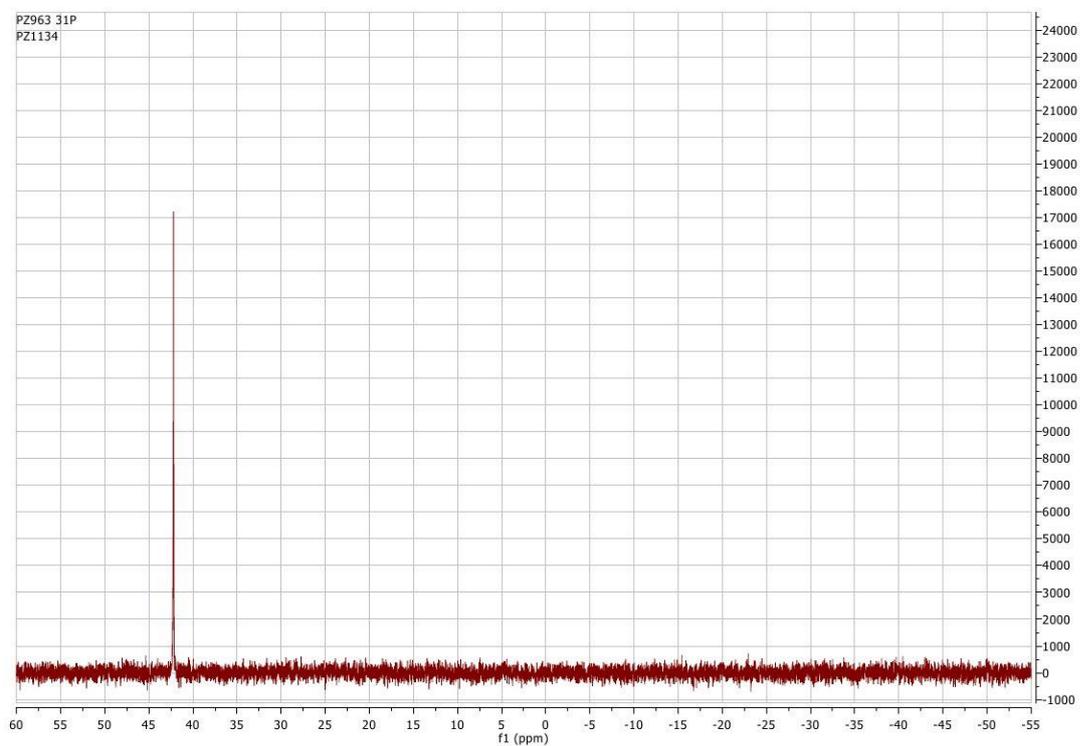
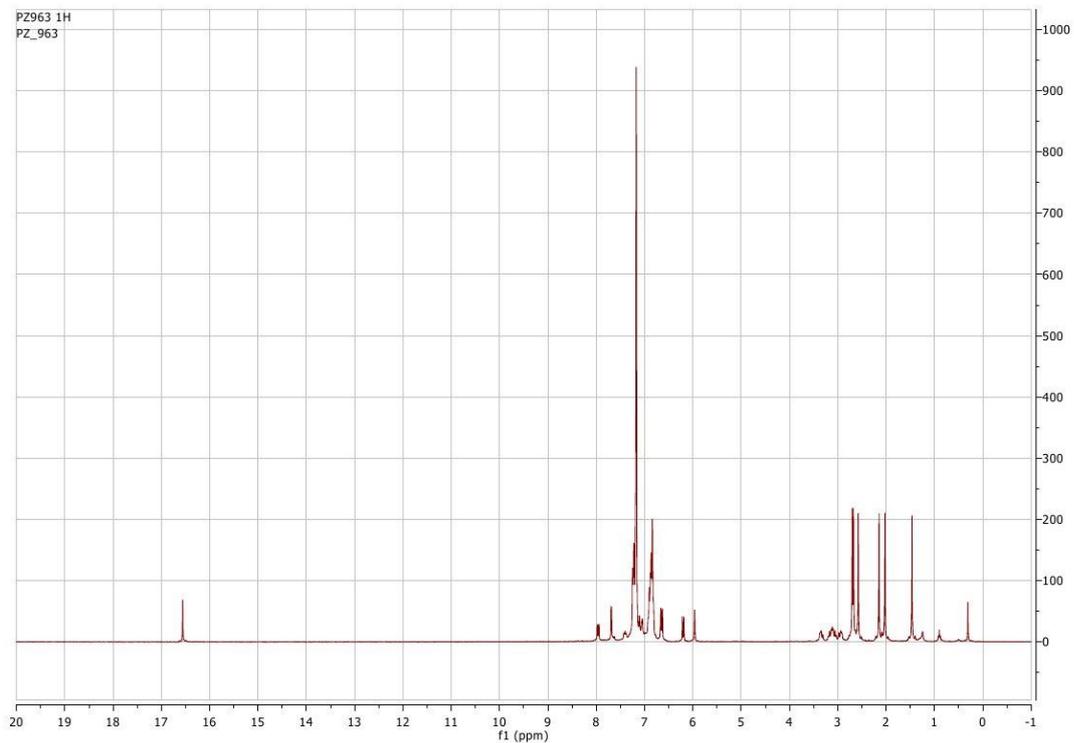
### 4.3. Complex 10



## 4.4. Complex 13



## 4.5. Complex 14



## 4.6. Complex 17

