

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Productive Alkyne Metathesis with “Canopy Catalysts” Mandates Pseudorotation

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SUPPORTING CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

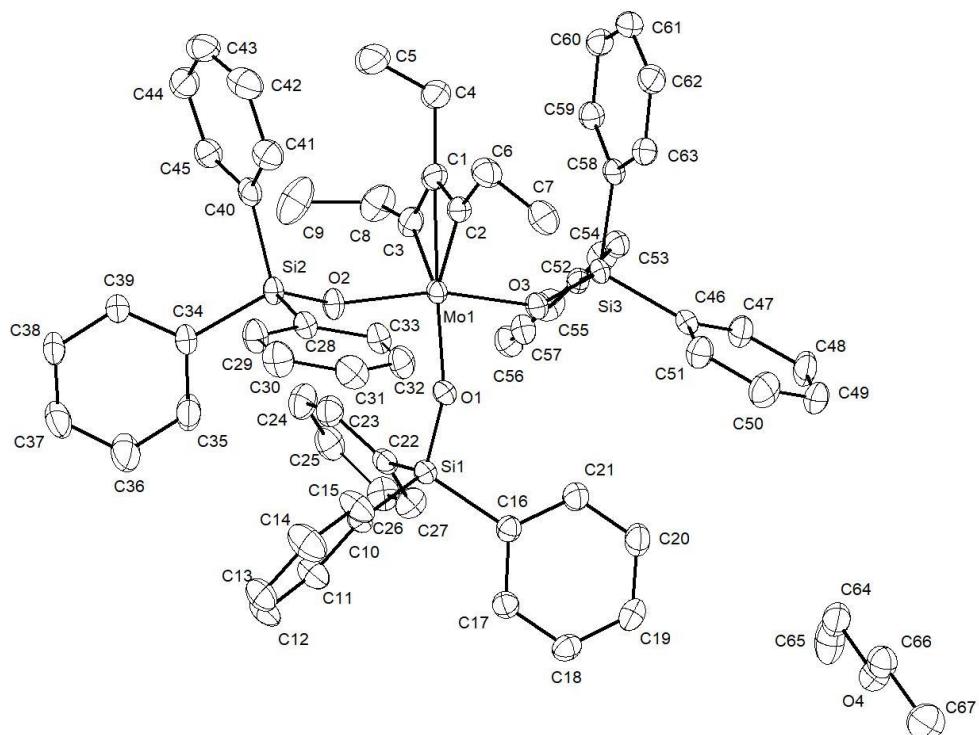


Figure S1. Structure of complex **7** in the solid state; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity

X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Complex 7 (internal number 12905): $C_{67} H_{70} Mo O_4 Si_3$, $M_r = 1119.44$ g · mol⁻¹, blue prism, crystal size $0.22 \times 0.16 \times 0.15$ mm³, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$ [14], $a = 11.515(3)$ Å, $b = 17.3173(16)$ Å, $c = 29.157(4)$ Å, $\beta = 94.723(11)^\circ$, $V = 5794.3(16)$ Å³, $T = 100(2)$ K, $Z = 4$, $D_{calc} = 1.283$ g · cm⁻³, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.336$ mm⁻¹, analytical absorption correction ($T_{min} = 0.93$, $T_{max} = 0.96$), Bruker AXS Enraf-Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer with a FR591 rotating Mo-anode X-ray source, $2.628 < \theta < 33.193^\circ$, 125041 measured reflections, 22074 independent reflections, 15242 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$, $R_{int} = 0.0658$, 689 parameters, $S = 1.064$, residual electron density +0.8 (0.71 Å from Mo1) / -1.0 (0.72 Å from Mo1) e · Å⁻³. The structure was solved by *SHELXT* and refined by full-matrix least-squares (*SHELXL*) against F^2 to $R_1 = 0.048$ [$I > 2\sigma(I)$], $wR_2 = 0.119$. **CCDC-1987916**



Figure S2. Photo of the steel-blue crystals of complex **7**.

There is no significant residual electron density in the crystal structure of **7** that would indicate disorder of the metallacyclobutadiene unit. The atomic displacement parameters of C1, C2 and C3 are not significantly larger than those of neighboring atoms.

A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (March 2021) for compounds containing the metallacyclobutadiene unit gave three crystal structures (DIRFOC, VIZWUZ, WEJCOG) with a comparable coordination geometry as found in complex **7** (**= 12905**); additional crystal structures show either heteroatom-substituted and/or paramagnetic molybdenacyclobutadienes (QOKPUB, GENTIF, GENTOL, MATRAE, NATREI) or deproto-molybdenacyclobutadienes (DEGWAN, LEKHEQ, VIZXAG) that are of no immediate relevance. All of these complexes are compiled in the Table shown below.

Of these crystal structures, VIZWUZ (–OCMe(CF₃)₂ as catalytically competent anionic ligands) and WEJCOG (–OC(CF₃)₃ as anionic ligands that overstabilize the metallacycle and hence entail poor catalytic activity) are most relevant as they contain the identical 4-ethylhept-4-en-3-yl entity and a Mo central atom. The distortion of the bond angles in VIZWUZ is similar (final R-value: 8.26% and significant disorder) but less pronounced in WEJCOG (final R-value: 7.44%; no disorder). The arrangement of the two axial O atoms with respect to the equatorial plane is also worth noting: In all three cases, the two axial O-atoms are slightly bent away from the shorter of the two Mo-C bonds when the metallacycle is viewed from above. In addition to the uneven bond lengths and –angles, this observation may be taken as a further indication that the structures of these metallacycles in the solid state basically capture one of the two possible tautomeric forms of the metallacyclodiene.

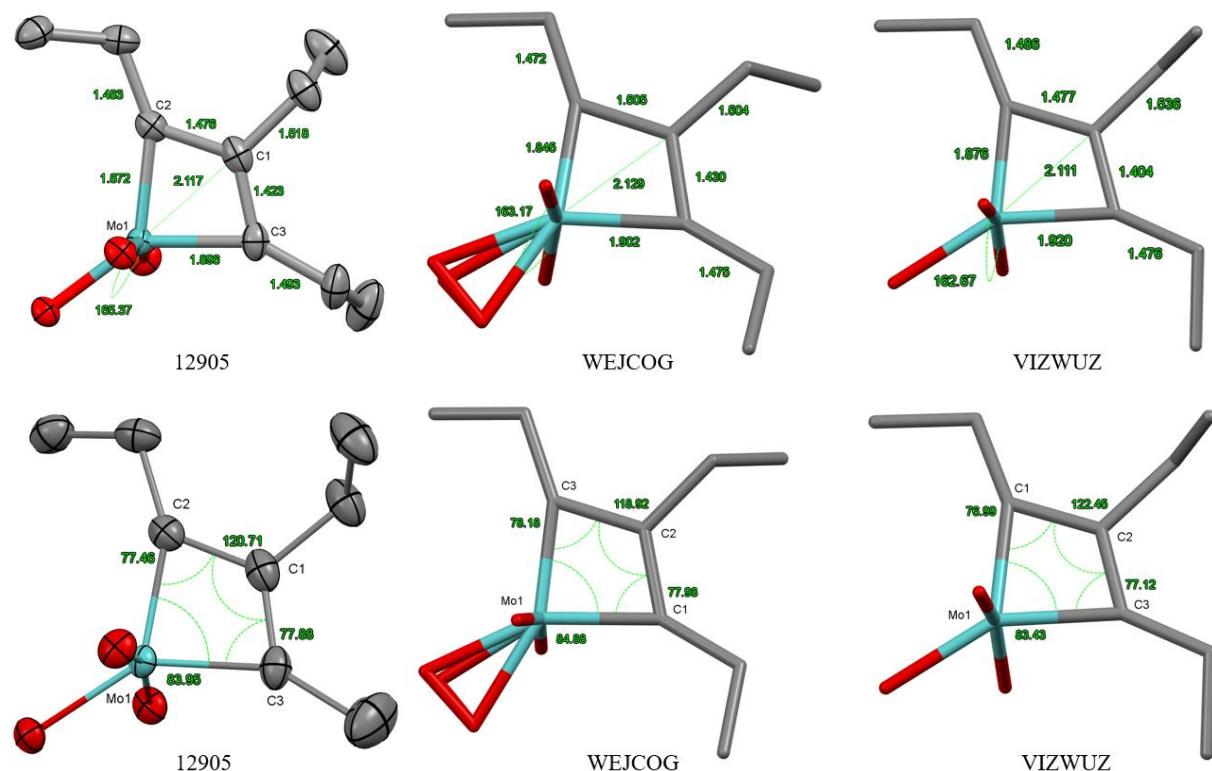
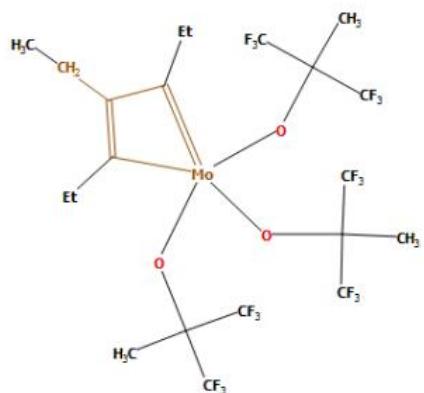


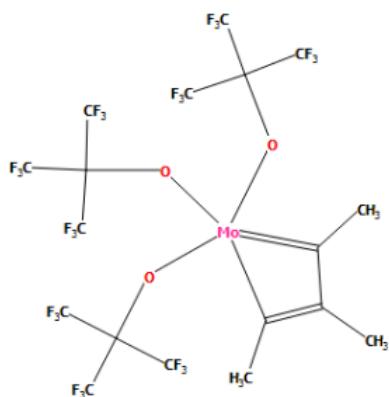
Table S1. Molybdenacyclobutadienes Deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data (March 2021)



VIZWUZ
1892548

Ehrhorn, H.; Bockfeld, D.; Freytag, M.; Bannenberg, T.; Kefalidis, C. E.; Maron, C.; Tamm, M. Studies on Molybdena- and Tungstenacyclobutadiene Complexes Supported by Fluoroalkoxy Ligands as Intermediates of Alkyne Metathesis. *Organometallics* **2019**, *38*, 1627-1639.

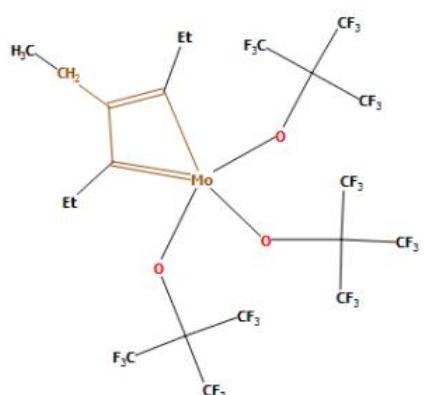
DOI: [10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00068](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00068)



DIRFOC
1573642

Estes, D. P.; Gordon, C. P.; Fedorov, A.; Liao, W.-C.; Ehrhorn, H.; Bittner, C.; Zier, M. L.; Bockfeld, D.; Chan, K. W.; Eisenstein, O.; Raynaud, C.; Tamm, M.; Copéret, C. Molecular and Silica-Supported Molybdenum Alkyne Metathesis Catalysts: Influence of Electrons and Dynamics on Activity Revealed by Kinetics, Solid-State NMR, and Chemical Shift Analysis. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 17597-17607.

DOI: [10.1021/jacs.7b09934](https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.7b09934)

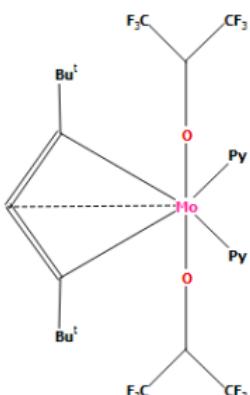


WEJCOG
1566270

Bittner, C.; Ehrhorn, H.; Bockfeld, D.; Brandhorst, K.; Tamm, M. Tuning the Catalytic Alkyne Metathesis Activity of Molybdenum and Tungsten 2,4,6-Trimethylbenzylidyne Complexes with Fluoroalkoxide Ligands OC(CF3)nMe3-n (n = 0-3). *Organometallics* **2017**, *36*, 3398-3406.

[10.1021/acs.organomet.7b00519](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.organomet.7b00519)

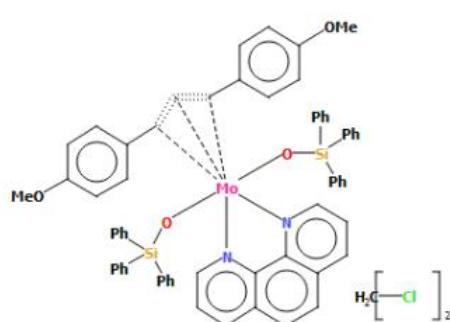
DEPROTIO-MOLKYBDENACYCLOBUTADIENES



DEGWAN
1138179

McCullough, L. G.; Schrock, R. R.; Dewan, J. C.; Murdzek, J. C., Preparation of Trialkoxymolybdenum(VI)Alkyxlidyne Complexes, Their Reactions with Acetylenes, and an X-ray Structure of $\text{Mo}[\text{C}_3(\text{CMe}_3)_2][\text{OCH}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N})_2$, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 5987-5998.

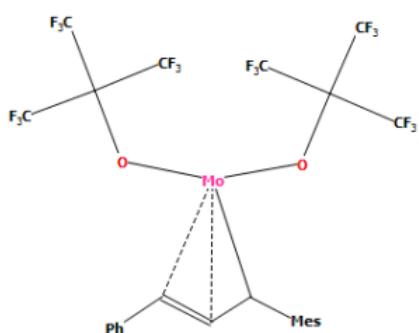
DOI: [10.1021/ja00307a025](https://doi.org/10.1021/ja00307a025)



LEKHEQ
867604

Heppekausen, J.; Stade, R.; Kondoh, A.; Seidel, G.; Goddard, R.; Fürstner, A. Optimized Synthesis, Structural Investigations, Ligand Tuning and Synthetic Evaluation of Silyloxy-based Alkyne Metathesis Catalysts. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 10281-10299.

DOI: [10.1002/chem.201200621](https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.201200621)

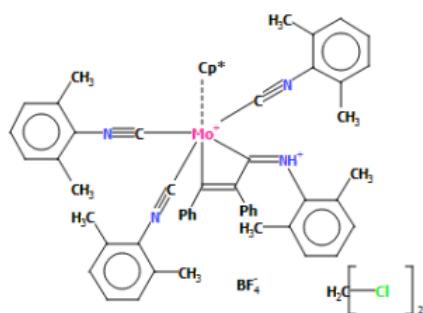


VIZXAG
1892549

Ehrhorn, H.; Bockfeld, D.; Freytag, M.; Bannenberg, T.; Kefalidis, C. E.; Maron, C.; Tamm, M. Studies on Molybdena- and Tungstenacyclobutadiene Complexes Supported by Fluoroalkoxy Ligands as Intermediates of Alkyne Metathesis. *Organometallics* **2019**, *38*, 1627-1639.

DOI: [10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00068](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00068)

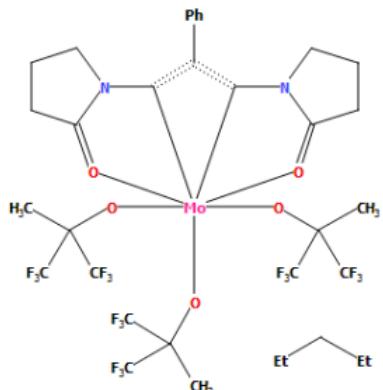
MISCELLANEOUS



QOKPUB
155029

Adams, C. J.; Anderson, K.M.; Bartlett, I.M.; Connelly, N.G.; Orpen, A.G.; Paget, T.J.; Phetmung, H.; Smith, D.W., Molybdenum-based Alkyne-Isocyanide Coupling Reactions: Synthesis of a Reactive Diaminometallacyclopentene Complex, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, **2001**, 1284-1292.

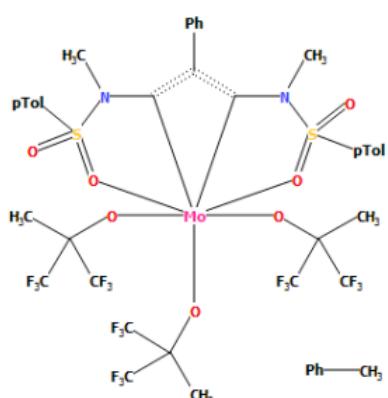
DOI: [10.1039/b010018h](https://doi.org/10.1039/b010018h)



GENTIF
1570921

Jeong, H.; von Kugelgen, S.; Bellone, D.; Fischer, F. R., Regioselective Termination Reagents for Ring-Opening Alkyne Metathesis Polymerization, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 15509-15514.

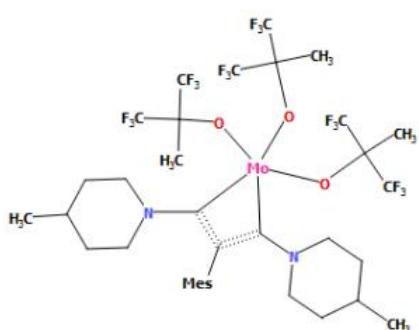
DOI: [10.1021/jacs.7b09390](https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.7b09390)



GENTOL
1570922

Jeong, H.; von Kugelgen, S.; Bellone, D.; Fischer, F. R., Regioselective Termination Reagents for Ring-Opening Alkyne Metathesis Polymerization, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 15509-15514.

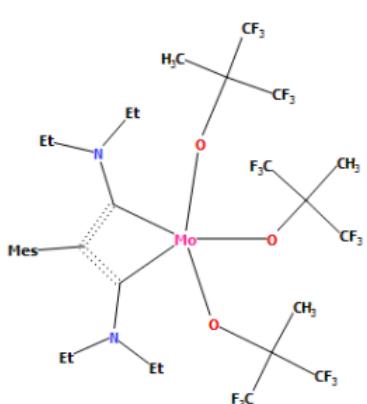
DOI: [10.1021/jacs.7b09390](https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.7b09390)



NATRAE
1499336

Arias, O.; Brandhorst, K.; Baabe, D.; Freytag, M.; Jones, P. G.; Tamm, M., Formation of Paramagnetic Metallacyclobutadienes by Reaction of Diaminoacetylenes with Molybdenum Alkylidyne Complexes, *Dalton Trans.* **2017**, *46*, 4737-4748.

DOI: [10.1039/C7DT00305F](https://doi.org/10.1039/C7DT00305F)



NATREI
1499337

Arias, O.; Brandhorst, K.; Baabe, D.; Freytag, M.; Jones, P. G.; Tamm, M., Formation of Paramagnetic Metallacyclobutadienes by Reaction of Diaminoacetylenes with Molybdenum Alkylidyne Complexes, *Dalton Trans.* **2017**, *46*, 4737-4748.

DOI: [10.1039/C7DT00305F](https://doi.org/10.1039/C7DT00305F)

GENERAL

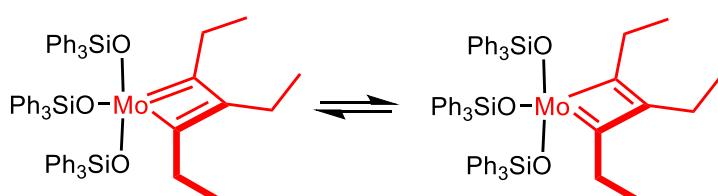
Unless stated otherwise, all reactions were carried out under Ar in flame-dried glassware. The solvents and commercially available compounds (Aldrich) were purified by distillation over the drying agents indicated and were transferred under Ar: Et₂O (CaH₂), [D₈]-toluene (3 Å MS), 2-butyne (3 Å MS), and 3-hexyne (3 Å MS). Complexes **1-3** were prepared as described in the literature.¹ The molecular sieves used in this investigation were dried for 24 h at 150 °C (sand bath) under vacuum prior to use and were stored and transferred under argon atmosphere.

NMR spectra were acquired on Bruker AvanceIII 300, 400, 500 MHz or an AvanceNeo 600 MHz NMR spectrometer in the solvents indicated; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, coupling constants (J) in Hz. The solvent signals were used as references and the chemical shifts converted to the TMS scale (CDCl₃: $\delta_{\text{C}} \equiv 77.0$ ppm; residual CHCl₃ in CDCl₃: $\delta_{\text{H}} \equiv 7.26$ ppm; CD₂Cl₂: $\delta_{\text{C}} \equiv 53.8$ ppm; residual ¹H: $\delta_{\text{H}} \equiv 5.32$ ppm; [D₈]-toluene: $\delta_{\text{C}} \equiv 20.7$ ppm; residual D₅C₆CD₂H: $\delta_{\text{H}} = 2.09$ ppm). ²⁹Si chemical shifts were referenced indirectly to the residual ¹H chemical shift of the deuterated solvent and are reported relative to the signal of 1% Me₄Si in CDCl₃ ($\delta_{\text{Si}} \equiv 0.0$ ppm).²

EXPERIMENTAL DATA

Complex 7

A 10 mL Schlenk flask was equipped with a magnetic stir bar and was flame-dried under vacuum. The



flask was flushed with argon and charged with **1a** (27.1 mg, 0.026 mmol), which was dissolved in Et₂O (1 mL) to give a yellow solution. Upon addition of 3-hexyne (10.7 mg, 14.8 μL) the color

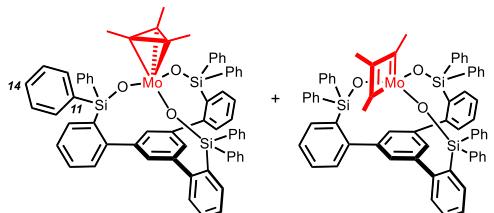
instantly changed to green/blue. This solution was filtered via cannula under Ar and the filtrate stored at -85 °C for one week to obtain very sensitive, steel-blue crystals suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction (Figure S2).

A 10 mL Schlenk flask was equipped with a magnetic stir bar and was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was flushed with argon and charged with complex **1a** (12.6 mg, 0.012 mmol), which was dissolved in C₆D₅CD₃ (0.6 mL) to give a yellow solution. This solution was transferred into a J. Young NMR Tube and a ¹H-NMR spectrum was measured. Upon addition of 3-hexyne (10.7 mg, 6.9 μL) the color instantly changed to green/blue. Complex **7** was fully characterized in this mixture by NMR spectroscopy at -40 °C (see below for a tabular survey of the assignments). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40°C): δ =

8.07 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 12H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 9H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 18H), 2.61 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 1.87 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), -0.13 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = 249.0, 145.0, 138.7, 137.5, 136.3, 135.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.49(2C), 31.5, 26.1, 14.6, 11.4. ^{29}Si NMR (119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = -15.6, -22.3.

Complexes 8 and 9

A 10 mL Schlenk flask was equipped with a magnetic stir bar and was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was back-filled with argon and then charged with complex **[2a]₂** (13.9 mg, 12.5 μmol) and $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$



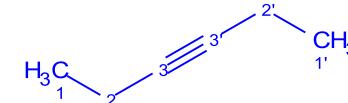
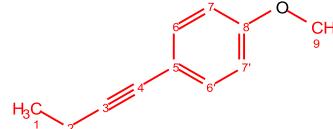
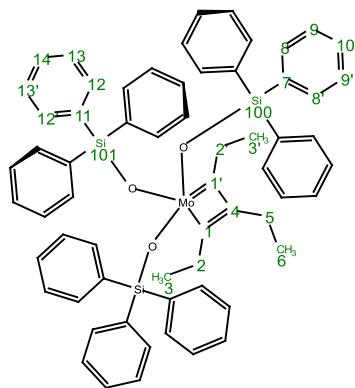
(0.6 mL). The resulting yellow suspension was transferred into a *J. Young* NMR Tube and heated at 60°C for 1 h to give an orange solution containing only monomeric complex **2a**. Upon addition of 2-butyne (4.9 μL , 62.3 μmol)

the color instantly changed to black. Complexes **8** and **9** contained in this mixture were fully characterized by NMR spectroscopy at -40 °C (for complex **8**, the NMR signals of H-14 , C11 and C14 could be extracted from the spectra of the mixture; the assignment of all other signals in tabular form is shown below): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = 7.86 – 7.82 (m, 12H), 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 3H), 7.32 (s, 3H), 7.16 – 7.14 (m, 6H), 7.08 – 7.04 (m, 12H), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 3H), 1.29 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = 150.7, 144.5, 137.5, 136.6, 135.7, 130.2, 130.0, 129.8, 128.4, 125.7, 78.3, 8.3. ^{29}Si NMR (119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = -8.7.

Complex **9**: ^1H NMR (600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = 8.35 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 4H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.87 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 7.08 (m, 6H), 7.07 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 8H,), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 4H), 6.89 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = 235.7, 234.2, 148.9, 146.8, 145.0, 144.6, 143.5, 140.5, 140.4, 140.2, 140.2, 137.0, 136.0, 135.9, 135.7, 135.4, 135.2, 131.4 (3x), 129.4, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.6, 127.6, 127.5, 126.4, 126.1, 125.2, 22.9, 21.8, 18.0. ^{29}Si NMR (119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C): δ = -19.6, -20.0.

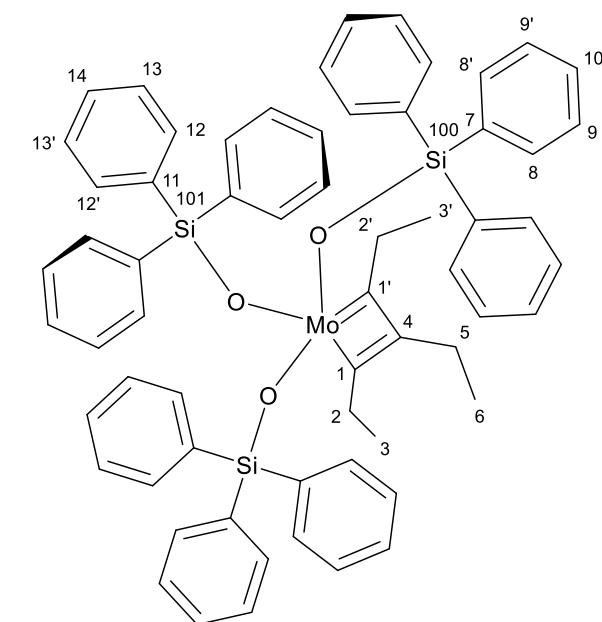
NMR Characterization of Complex 7

The sample was a complex mixture, but the following three different species could be identified and fully characterized. Please see the next pages for the characterization data of metallacyclobutadiene **7**. There is another species containing SiPh groups that is part of this equilibrium, which could not be identified. From ^{29}Si NMR it only shows one signal indicating it is C_3 symmetric. All of this species are interconverting into each other and pseudo-cross peaks between different molecules are observed in the ROESY data. This indicated that the exchange is very quick.



NMR Assignment: Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C

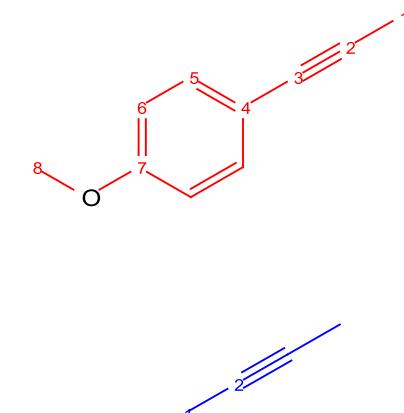
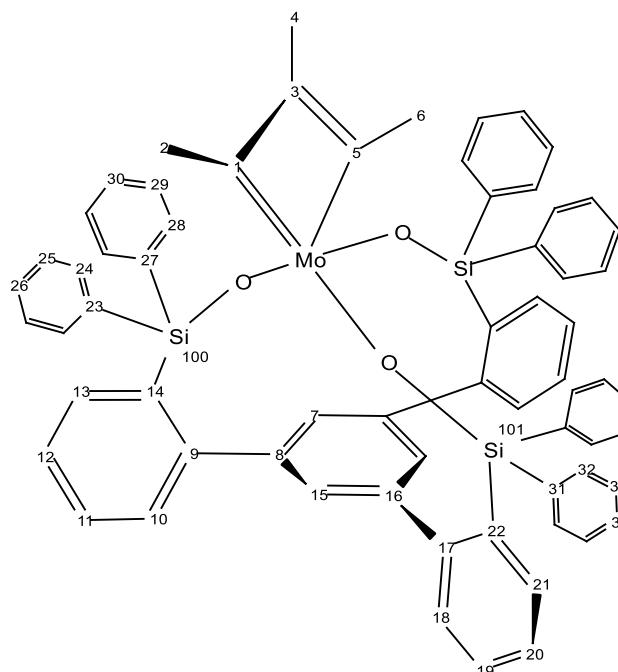
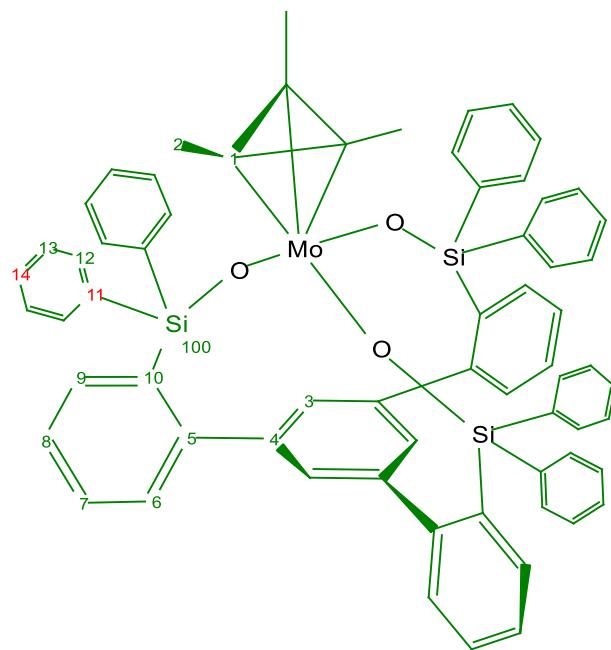
Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	13C-HMBC	29Si-HMBC	Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	13C-HMBC	29Si-HMBC
1 C	249.0			2, 3		9 C	127.5		9	9'	
1' C	249.0			3'		H	7.02	8	9	7, 9'	100
2 C	31.4		2	3		9' C	127.5		9'	9	
H2	2.61	3	2	1, 3, 4		H	7.02	9'	9'	7, 9	100
2' C	31.4		2'	3'		10 C	128.8		10	8, 8'	
H2	2.61	3'	2'			H	7.11		10	8, 8'	
3 C	14.6		3	2		11 C	137.5			12, 13, 13'	
H3	1.52	2	3	1, 2		12 C	136.3		12	14	
3' C	14.6		3'			H	8.07	13	12	11, 12', 14	101
H3	1.52	2'	3'	1', 2'		12' C	136.3		12'	12, 14	
4 C	145.0			2, 5, 6		H	8.07	13'	12'		101
5 C	26.1		5	6		13 C	127.5		13	13'	
H2	1.87	6	5	4, 6		H	7.02	12	13	11, 13'	
6 C	11.4		6	5		13' C	127.5		13'	13	
H3	-0.13	5	6	4, 5		H	7.02	12'	13'	11, 13	
7 C	138.7			8, 8', 9, 9'		14 C	129.5		14	12	
8 C	135.6		8	8', 10		H	7.11		14	12, 12'	
H	7.44	9	8	7, 8', 10	100	100 Si	-22.3				8, 8', 9, 9'
8' C	135.6		8'	8, 10		101 Si	-15.6				12, 12'
H	7.44		8'	7, 8, 10	100						



Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	^{13}C -HMBC	$^{29}\text{Si-HMBC}$	Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	$^{13}\text{C-HMBC}$	$^{29}\text{Si-HMBC}$
1 C	248.84			2, 3		9 C	127.3		9	9'	
1' C	248.84			3'		H	7.02	8	9	7, 9'	100
2 C	31.22		2	3		9' C	127.3		9'	9	
H2	2.61	3	2	1, 3, 4		H	7.02	9'	9'	7, 9	100
2' C	31.22		2'	3'		10 C	128.59		10	8, 8'	
H2	2.61	3'	2'			H	7.11		10	8, 8'	
3 C	14.36		3	2		11 C	137.33			12, 13, 13'	
H3	1.52	2	3	1, 2		12 C	136.14		12	14	
3' C	14.36		3'			H	8.07	13	12	11, 12', 14	101
H3	1.52	2'	3'	1', 2'		12' C	136.14		12'	12, 14	
4 C	144.79			2, 5, 6		H	8.07	13'	12'		101
5 C	25.96		5	6		13 C	127.3		13	13'	
H2	1.87	6	5	4, 6		H	7.02	12	13	11, 13'	
6 C	11.2		6	5		13' C	127.3		13'	13	
H3	-0.13	5	6	4, 5		H	7.02	12'	13'	11, 13	
7 C	138.51			8, 8', 9, 9'		14 C	129.36		14	12	
8 C	135.43		8	8', 10		H	7.11		14	12, 12'	
H	7.44	9	8	7, 8', 10	100	100 Si	-22.34				8, 8', 9, 9'
8' C	135.43		8'	8, 10		101 Si	-15.56				12, 12'
H	7.44		8'	7, 8, 10	100						

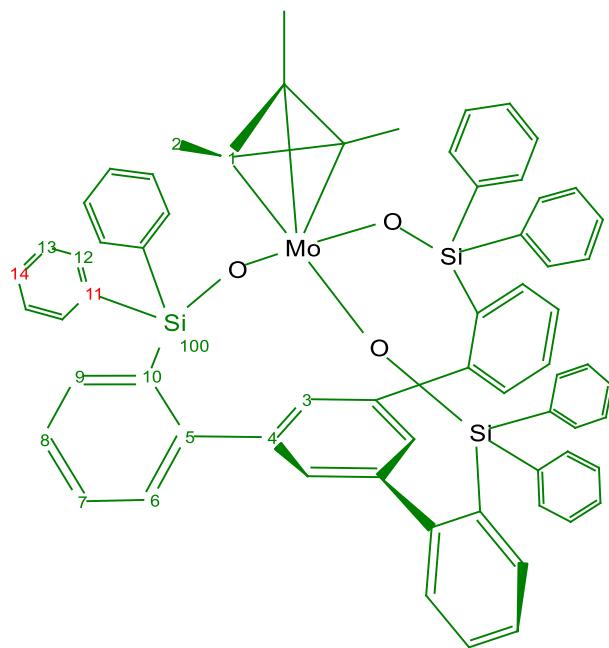
NMR Characterization of Complexes 8 and 9, C₆D₅CD₃, –40 °C

The sample was a complex mixture, but the following four different species could be identified and (at least partially) characterized. The next pages summarize the characterization data of the metallatetrahedrane **8** and the metallacyclobutadiene **9**.



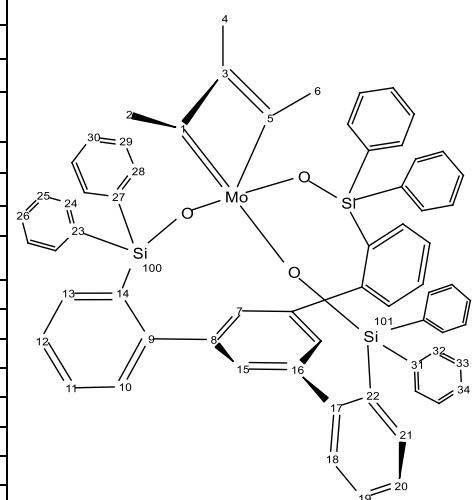
NMR Assignment: Complex 8, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C

Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	¹³ C-HMBC	²⁹ Si-HMBC	ROESY
1 C	78.3					
2 C	8.3		2			
H3	1.29		2			12, 13
3 C	128.4		3	3		
H	7.33		3	3, 5		
4 C	144.5					
5 C	150.7			3, 7		
6 C	130.2		6			
H	6.95	7	6			
7 C	129.8		7			
H	7.15	6	7	5		
8 C	125.7		8			
H	7.16	9	8			
9 C	137.5		9			
H	7.78	8	9		100	
10 C	136.6					
11 C						
12 C	135.7		12			
H	7.84	13	12			2
13 C						
H	7.06	12				2
14 C						
H						
100 Si	-8.7				9	



NMR Assignment: Complex 9, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C

Atom	δ (ppm)	J(Hz)	COSY	HSQC	¹³ C-HMBC	²⁹ Si-HMBC	ROESY	Atom	δ (ppm)	COSY	HSQC	¹³ C-HMBC	²⁹ Si-HMBC	ROESY
1 C	234.2				2, 4			20 C	126.4		20	18		
2 C	22.9			2				H	7.22	21	20			21
H3	2.41			2	1, 3			21 C	135.2		21			
3 C	144.6				2, 4, 6			H	7.85	20	21	17, 19, 22	101	20, 32
4 C	18.0			4				22 C	140.38			18, 21		
H3	1.71			4	1, 3, 5		2, 6, 28, 29	23 C	140.2			24, 25		
5 C	235.7				4, 6			24 C	135.4		24	24		
6 C	21.8			6				H	7.54	25	24	23, 24, 26	100	13, 25
H3	1.18			6	3, 5		4, 7, 15, 28, 29	25 C	127.5		25			
7 C	125.2			7				H	6.89	24, 26	25	23		24
H	8.26	1.20(15)	15	7	9, 15		6, 10	26 C	128.7		26	24		
8 C	143.5				10			H	7.04	25	26			
9 C	150.0				7, 11, 13, 15			27 C	140.5			29		
10 C	131.4			10	12			28 C	135.7		28	28		
H	7.35		11	10	8, 12, 14		7, 15	H	7.03	29	28	28, 30	100	4, 6, 13
11 C	129.5			11	13			29 C	127.6		29			
H	7.15		10, 12	11	9, 13			H	6.95	28, 30	29	27		4, 6
12 C	126.1				12	10		30 C	129.0		30	28		
H	7.06		11, 13	12	10, 14		13	H	7.05	29	30			
13 C	137.0				13	11		31 C	140.2			32, 33		
H	7.72		12	13	9, 11, 14	100	12, 24, 28, 32	32 C	135.9		32	34		
14 C	136.0				10, 12, 13			H	8.35	33	32	31, 34	101	13, 21
15 C	131.4			15	7, 15			33 C	127.8		33	33		
H	7.58	1.20(7)	7	15	9, 15, 17		6, 10, 18	H	7.08	32, 34	33	31, 33		
16 C	146.8				18			34 C	129.2		34	32		
17 C	148.9				15, 21			H	7.11	33	34	32		
18 C	127.6			18				100 Si	-20.0				13.24.28	
H	7.18		19	18	16, 20, 22		15	101 Si	-19.6				32.21	
19 C	129.4				19	21								
H	7.22		18	19										



COMPUTATIONAL DATA

We applied the TPSS functional³ with Grimme's D3(BJ) dispersion correction⁴ and the reasonably large def2-TZVP basis set.⁵ To speed up the calculations, we applied the RI-J approximation. Minima and transition states (TS) were confirmed by analytical computation of the Hessian and inspection of the eigenvalues and -modes. To find the TS's, we made extensive use of the Nudged-Elastic Band (NEB) method⁶ to also ensure the TS's connect the correct minima. The electronic energy of all stable structures was refined on the B3LYP⁷-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory, applying the RIJCOSX approximation. All computations were carried out using implicit solvation of toluene using the CPCM model with Gaussian surface charges.⁸ The calculations were conducted with the development version of the ORCA program package.⁹

Optimized geometries

All bond lengths are in Å, all energies in E_h. The final Gibbs free energy is computed by $E_{elec} + G_{corr}$. The thermochemical Gibbs free energy differences are then the differences of these numbers, i.e.:

$$\Delta G = \sum_{products} (E_{elec} + G_{corr}) - \sum_{reactants} (E_{elec} + G_{corr})$$

2-butyne

E_elec (B3LYP)	-155.945649952448	G_corr (TPSS)	0.05683295
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(the internal rotation of the methyl groups was manually treated as internal rotation in the calculation of the partition functions).

C	0.00000018	0.00000186	-0.60534079
C	0.00000065	-0.00000219	0.60534105
C	-0.00000004	0.00000563	-2.06589700
H	-0.00000221	1.02316002	-2.45880906
H	0.88607087	-0.51158065	-2.45880750
H	-0.88606911	-0.51158409	-2.45880725
C	0.00000008	-0.00000561	2.06589694
H	-0.88606906	0.51158419	2.45880675
H	-0.00000217	-1.02315984	2.45880921
H	0.88607081	0.51158070	2.45880765

Ethyldyne 10

E_elec (B3LYP)	-3553.81138682279	G_corr (TPSS)	0.81343431
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Mo	0.01279515	-0.05711145	0.00447363
Si	0.21636042	-3.36754460	-1.08345673
Si	-2.79519749	1.51612595	-1.32319247
Si	2.92892574	1.69469867	-0.76772605
O	-0.12575187	-1.85908751	-0.53288017
O	-1.42362501	1.03218374	-0.55897411
O	1.71966806	0.70255563	-0.26805216

C	-0.27644699	-1.30485661	-3.56943879
C	-1.02597176	-0.12313553	-3.63424628
H	-2.10170776	-0.18348973	-3.75352975
C	-0.40785146	1.12987318	-3.54391962
C	0.98542908	1.18981043	-3.41062577
H	1.47120711	2.15752461	-3.35813567
C	1.75626360	0.02308203	-3.34334926
C	1.11445583	-1.21840399	-3.43966501
H	1.70701021	-2.12561256	-3.40461210
C	-0.95570160	-2.62362303	-3.64955680
C	-0.75041793	-3.63464766	-2.67721982
C	-1.42689602	-4.85607917	-2.84117738
H	-1.30360626	-5.63379627	-2.09121089
C	-2.27953731	-5.08756991	-3.92053758
H	-2.78609520	-6.04370177	-4.01969923
C	-2.49337122	-4.07547385	-4.85493140
H	-3.16869470	-4.23346571	-5.69140260
C	-1.83861609	-2.85385905	-4.71361786
H	-1.99859448	-2.06512782	-5.44414599
C	-0.38325682	-4.59967634	0.19551500
C	-1.50058152	-4.29122960	0.99178938
H	-1.99133550	-3.32811042	0.87582167
C	-1.98230666	-5.19544031	1.93831171
H	-2.84492468	-4.93686025	2.54705778
C	-1.35402337	-6.43193897	2.10469087
H	-1.72787366	-7.13823560	2.84112973
C	-0.23982603	-6.75488920	1.32794969
H	0.25686646	-7.71250242	1.46068506
C	0.24118452	-5.84364241	0.38610756
H	1.11874585	-6.10195114	-0.20300200
C	2.07145342	-3.51173682	-1.29795553
C	2.93706768	-2.69080377	-0.55598358
H	2.52794428	-1.98075461	0.15864941
C	4.31816246	-2.74848588	-0.73802479
H	4.96782321	-2.08637254	-0.17244286
C	4.86173563	-3.64237654	-1.66188554
H	5.93676104	-3.68020157	-1.81453705
C	4.01997989	-4.47693137	-2.39992479
H	4.43968092	-5.17104704	-3.12338071
C	2.63763256	-4.40780176	-2.22100534
H	1.99063609	-5.04311318	-2.82312925
C	-1.20321367	2.38263242	-3.61625174
C	-2.31449750	2.62284822	-2.76966358
C	-3.01550394	3.83146965	-2.92846577
H	-3.85591227	4.04477280	-2.27241665
C	-2.64471399	4.78046211	-3.88106256
H	-3.20924918	5.70368201	-3.97895951

C	-1.53298590	4.54378246	-4.68785180
H	-1.21962711	5.28063988	-5.42238706
C	-0.81925898	3.35538087	-4.54982772
H	0.04337916	3.16447059	-5.18288590
C	-3.76269886	-0.00508860	-1.83079664
C	-3.58450907	-1.22057492	-1.14994038
H	-2.89488684	-1.27302833	-0.31104408
C	-4.25809656	-2.37527233	-1.54646648
H	-4.08560847	-3.31091880	-1.02187005
C	-5.13749756	-2.33065291	-2.62925224
H	-5.65371335	-3.23180889	-2.94831390
C	-5.34084273	-1.12881160	-3.31063680
H	-6.02203508	-1.09137656	-4.15673920
C	-4.65610055	0.02111808	-2.91574834
H	-4.80167707	0.94503391	-3.47245279
C	-3.79429396	2.53614815	-0.10838160
C	-5.19782391	2.49509255	-0.07507643
H	-5.73291055	1.83630403	-0.75571341
C	-5.92103674	3.28121019	0.82413765
H	-7.00693607	3.23542702	0.83459228
C	-5.24836602	4.12005617	1.71415807
H	-5.80892858	4.73020149	2.41733845
C	-3.85205832	4.16826779	1.70347100
H	-3.32446959	4.81469362	2.40009474
C	-3.13539775	3.38445022	0.79974604
H	-2.04868655	3.42507649	0.80418152
C	3.23256237	0.08919335	-3.19475626
C	3.85618482	0.85049290	-2.17404571
C	5.26151602	0.86305717	-2.12621366
H	5.75825765	1.42039733	-1.33572152
C	6.03834619	0.15401921	-3.04236019
H	7.12250263	0.18645385	-2.97779217
C	5.41197793	-0.61220707	-4.02388839
H	6.00189034	-1.18474169	-4.73443365
C	4.02104820	-0.64416683	-4.09260017
H	3.53017515	-1.23426419	-4.86211554
C	4.11267864	1.91478675	0.66955643
C	4.34198866	0.84435928	1.55268773
H	3.81250073	-0.09407356	1.40640196
C	5.22914229	0.96935807	2.62140302
H	5.38975034	0.13180807	3.29538701
C	5.90926437	2.17243321	2.82609128
H	6.60131135	2.27208597	3.65803329
C	5.69199356	3.24833740	1.96374771
H	6.21322188	4.18844075	2.12468601
C	4.79863630	3.11889755	0.89858480
H	4.62834325	3.96882169	0.24107283

C	2.18413983	3.34575560	-1.24577968
C	2.82430130	4.20190766	-2.15855829
H	3.77811413	3.91023681	-2.59433780
C	2.24220840	5.41190886	-2.53868666
H	2.74885297	6.05794164	-3.25091422
C	1.00179155	5.78397299	-2.01644535
H	0.53751136	6.71605760	-2.32641074
C	0.35227721	4.94840968	-1.10655178
H	-0.62004097	5.22624053	-0.70929122
C	0.94307333	3.74524959	-0.72250774
H	0.41894356	3.09961010	-0.02232911
C	-0.15256060	-0.11627920	1.73588838
C	-0.29217188	-0.17426617	3.20141114
H	-1.15033108	0.42371178	3.53700292
H	0.60818045	0.21522848	3.69569119
H	-0.44510245	-1.20857922	3.53849246

TS1

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.76998416374	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89370487
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Mo	-0.25642206	0.94475003	-0.15111845
Si	-1.19761739	-0.34711232	2.99648786
Si	-1.35801848	-0.25896727	-3.19182230
Si	3.16758429	0.57340200	-0.13463032
O	-0.85737100	0.21820253	1.49946915
O	-1.03610790	0.66788175	-1.87534370
O	1.53156778	0.42306357	-0.32311170
C	0.82516880	-2.44281197	1.19612233
C	-0.37478041	-2.53696463	0.48116233
H	-1.31559127	-2.62072601	1.01669538
C	-0.38808400	-2.54164250	-0.92342962
C	0.82425251	-2.40890133	-1.61360669
H	0.82644384	-2.38797140	-2.69734955
C	2.02909039	-2.26431547	-0.91883878
C	2.02306939	-2.33734011	0.47716737
H	2.95887253	-2.24258779	1.01762103
C	0.87671016	-2.46268887	2.68159886
C	0.06125791	-1.65633428	3.51469120
C	0.21651040	-1.78829653	4.90775662
H	-0.38481500	-1.16788843	5.56798597
C	1.13830609	-2.66168952	5.47953424
H	1.22864958	-2.72936751	6.56020002
C	1.95180814	-3.43179969	4.64961023
H	2.68513665	-4.11290577	5.07265001

C	1.81767971	-3.32672774	3.26898329
H	2.43938037	-3.93796795	2.62025538
C	-1.66077777	-2.76428878	-1.66004299
C	-2.10649330	-1.93267049	-2.71967469
C	-3.29803704	-2.29509273	-3.37584389
H	-3.66933650	-1.66423031	-4.17910279
C	-4.04388243	-3.41357294	-3.00477490
H	-4.95920442	-3.65838540	-3.53664156
C	-3.61784839	-4.19503082	-1.93251683
H	-4.19517473	-5.05923576	-1.61531089
C	-2.43548204	-3.86872565	-1.27211439
H	-2.08616540	-4.48919042	-0.45083840
C	3.27664969	-1.89528755	-1.63708369
C	3.92576259	-0.67347784	-1.32155601
C	5.09755828	-0.34337183	-2.02204339
H	5.59681230	0.59941513	-1.80889464
C	5.61942963	-1.18223093	-3.00774046
H	6.52782497	-0.90418510	-3.53515761
C	4.95532550	-2.36639159	-3.32726265
H	5.34249657	-3.01738644	-4.10641288
C	3.78836247	-2.71573778	-2.64840765
H	3.26957113	-3.63848514	-2.89522483
C	-1.15789663	1.12866473	4.15893230
C	-0.53994158	2.31898866	3.73715934
H	-0.10559938	2.36788277	2.74159563
C	-0.49952711	3.44508059	4.56055409
H	-0.01669994	4.35465418	4.21208028
C	-1.08296088	3.40356425	5.82826335
H	-1.05317506	4.27834253	6.47243410
C	-1.71633220	2.23628795	6.26156421
H	-2.18490672	2.20329618	7.24175512
C	-1.75575542	1.11518806	5.43184536
H	-2.27478409	0.22267224	5.77552382
C	-2.91151166	-1.10668845	3.08658377
C	-3.10359113	-2.49843903	3.05101913
H	-2.24006197	-3.15875644	3.00861283
C	-4.38363577	-3.05402295	3.08341659
H	-4.50912052	-4.13311980	3.04992884
C	-5.50087335	-2.22112135	3.16600931
H	-6.49929232	-2.64960322	3.19225833
C	-5.33177141	-0.83552056	3.22486837
H	-6.19886900	-0.18406496	3.29654506
C	-4.05027481	-0.28739930	3.18616063
H	-3.93247775	0.79185046	3.22542345
C	-2.64372491	0.68577983	-4.18283517
C	-3.52509982	1.56171364	-3.52440497
H	-3.43527209	1.70489202	-2.44988706

C	-4.50732733	2.25793182	-4.23024757
H	-5.17927060	2.93046652	-3.70288434
C	-4.62531965	2.09302907	-5.61210253
H	-5.38946874	2.63492355	-6.16317613
C	-3.75239230	1.23554722	-6.28533719
H	-3.83371664	1.11169587	-7.36221088
C	-2.77048873	0.54264821	-5.57524504
H	-2.09056854	-0.11382618	-6.11458230
C	0.19357764	-0.44552016	-4.22395697
C	0.34107083	-1.50494171	-5.13634322
H	-0.44522737	-2.25250865	-5.22606686
C	1.49295809	-1.62913994	-5.91412814
H	1.59206507	-2.45786494	-6.61041962
C	2.52321847	-0.69527082	-5.78695089
H	3.42828786	-0.79826308	-6.37910578
C	2.39347633	0.36416311	-4.88743456
H	3.19970068	1.08514866	-4.78152335
C	1.23661189	0.48824198	-4.11820590
H	1.14217025	1.31089188	-3.41401339
C	3.66127601	2.32562615	-0.57855185
C	3.44038102	2.82413086	-1.87508445
H	3.06806896	2.15830991	-2.64782568
C	3.68256705	4.16050595	-2.18756856
H	3.49758513	4.52559939	-3.19445214
C	4.15849684	5.03037420	-1.20273273
H	4.34479839	6.07393854	-1.44197310
C	4.39590168	4.55450641	0.08785253
H	4.76935801	5.22700602	0.85573080
C	4.14753104	3.21501217	0.39458757
H	4.32471342	2.85756383	1.40598667
C	3.56516382	0.26904987	1.66718810
C	4.73403737	-0.39104716	2.08126781
H	5.43922265	-0.75753692	1.33771802
C	4.99494931	-0.60211886	3.43579151
H	5.89947139	-1.12257662	3.73972841
C	4.08879138	-0.15473964	4.40046666
H	4.28485811	-0.33143307	5.45447225
C	2.92455350	0.50728075	4.00784448
H	2.20762417	0.84521515	4.75053132
C	2.67042310	0.71537524	2.65326812
H	1.75435519	1.21934079	2.35624864
C	-0.11838575	2.67266924	0.04119824
C	-3.64701428	0.93241826	0.11879295
C	-3.40965941	2.07604458	0.44317943
C	0.15780797	4.11561997	0.17304367
C	-3.97666261	-0.43995608	-0.23882340
H	-4.12102683	-0.54487522	-1.31830773

H	-4.89511128	-0.75614577	0.26699335
C	-3.20064751	3.44938597	0.88571644
H	-2.81607507	4.07295970	0.07230940
H	-4.14295036	3.88673067	1.23606882
H	-0.35739102	4.69249126	-0.60666103
H	-0.16160539	4.50199600	1.15034455
H	1.23583353	4.29921279	0.07116126
H	-2.47936452	3.48410812	1.70899672
H	-3.17814885	-1.12424728	0.06192588

TS1'

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.73315066665	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89665388
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Mo	-0.158976	-0.120946	1.274658
Si	-2.588687	1.907669	-0.110138
Si	2.942695	1.208686	-0.193174
Si	-0.310126	-3.186612	-0.130829
O	-1.212597	1.107784	0.325149
O	1.583706	0.699196	0.504988
O	0.191139	-1.652106	0.228302
C	-1.450183	0.029460	-2.597249
C	-0.608701	1.145884	-2.627371
H	-1.035652	2.143400	-2.590158
C	0.782102	0.997962	-2.667421
C	1.329432	-0.289058	-2.707194
H	2.407218	-0.412853	-2.723579
C	0.506965	-1.421652	-2.686532
C	-0.881417	-1.249488	-2.656130
H	-1.529318	-2.119156	-2.647441
C	-2.921284	0.187163	-2.477420
C	-3.513719	0.987804	-1.467064
C	-4.917151	1.088340	-1.441790
H	-5.391543	1.683005	-0.664603
C	-5.722652	0.423661	-2.366135
H	-6.803669	0.522579	-2.317546
C	-5.129020	-0.381220	-3.337183
H	-5.741882	-0.916459	-4.057411
C	-3.741878	-0.498570	-3.384602
H	-3.276496	-1.119379	-4.145555
C	1.654104	2.200828	-2.647384
C	2.658595	2.376043	-1.663943
C	3.444221	3.541322	-1.737180
H	4.214166	3.705416	-0.987374
C	3.250060	4.508762	-2.724236

H	3.878365	5.395393	-2.749147
C	2.233714	4.337039	-3.663217
H	2.056104	5.089047	-4.427391
C	1.442140	3.191140	-3.617506
H	0.653755	3.046326	-4.352135
C	1.103009	-2.781724	-2.629744
C	0.758289	-3.692182	-1.596679
C	1.361928	-4.961248	-1.601235
H	1.125423	-5.663696	-0.805066
C	2.281881	-5.333982	-2.582419
H	2.733057	-6.322323	-2.560345
C	2.632684	-4.420832	-3.576393
H	3.361168	-4.690340	-4.336309
C	2.047830	-3.155573	-3.594409
H	2.316802	-2.443642	-4.370501
C	-3.716473	2.081342	1.382114
C	-4.341835	0.954630	1.946377
H	-4.232703	-0.015022	1.468926
C	-5.101491	1.055606	3.111394
H	-5.574350	0.170721	3.529790
C	-5.255888	2.295015	3.739088
H	-5.848880	2.376532	4.646122
C	-4.650352	3.427924	3.192669
H	-4.771814	4.395307	3.673346
C	-3.888050	3.318382	2.026821
H	-3.415168	4.206452	1.613946
C	-1.984886	3.601432	-0.636494
C	-2.819838	4.516165	-1.300877
H	-3.850772	4.247314	-1.523825
C	-2.343116	5.768087	-1.692805
H	-3.000730	6.462354	-2.209601
C	-1.018580	6.125298	-1.427687
H	-0.643829	7.095523	-1.742800
C	-0.174506	5.227769	-0.771659
H	0.862192	5.492712	-0.582957
C	-0.654816	3.978609	-0.380414
H	0.015267	3.271561	0.100931
C	3.897637	2.222562	1.087625
C	3.210493	3.232686	1.786142
H	2.166127	3.427378	1.550952
C	3.835582	3.982962	2.780602
H	3.283634	4.757861	3.307190
C	5.174409	3.736660	3.102407
H	5.665064	4.318125	3.878590
C	5.875708	2.739050	2.423580
H	6.915930	2.541119	2.670793
C	5.239742	1.992313	1.427834

H	5.795222	1.211876	0.912285
C	4.027652	-0.240307	-0.712515
C	5.164247	-0.066913	-1.521814
H	5.431148	0.929686	-1.869481
C	5.952427	-1.153795	-1.904353
H	6.824919	-0.999167	-2.534386
C	5.612516	-2.442382	-1.485489
H	6.217576	-3.291952	-1.791284
C	4.485169	-2.637370	-0.685525
H	4.205012	-3.641215	-0.377568
C	3.704732	-1.545053	-0.304608
H	2.805337	-1.700431	0.285085
C	0.096896	-4.237406	1.368274
C	1.410836	-4.253517	1.872318
H	2.193613	-3.707897	1.351141
C	1.731187	-4.957076	3.032190
H	2.751993	-4.955206	3.405835
C	0.737465	-5.665143	3.713124
H	0.983754	-6.214714	4.617876
C	-0.571442	-5.664394	3.229149
H	-1.346677	-6.213515	3.757373
C	-0.885726	-4.956517	2.066664
H	-1.910312	-4.954936	1.701795
C	-2.140948	-3.320500	-0.507370
C	-2.601303	-4.372589	-1.319667
H	-1.890650	-5.084352	-1.735939
C	-3.957419	-4.510057	-1.619268
H	-4.292692	-5.328104	-2.251762
C	-4.880687	-3.591018	-1.115368
H	-5.935770	-3.690775	-1.355621
C	-4.440784	-2.537774	-0.312506
H	-5.151560	-1.807214	0.064015
C	-3.085974	-2.407441	-0.011591
H	-2.743440	-1.580008	0.605605
C	-1.322016	-0.824606	2.428370
C	0.268478	1.098683	3.436674
C	1.300337	0.467827	3.223520
C	-2.023312	-1.382837	3.597361
C	-0.814119	1.989745	3.854717
H	-0.465106	2.587836	4.705522
H	-1.700080	1.424298	4.153274
C	2.579169	-0.243273	3.229606
H	3.295320	0.248567	2.568403
H	2.971916	-0.236275	4.253305
H	-2.244117	-2.447255	3.436239
H	-1.400547	-1.308922	4.501342
H	-2.972334	-0.865665	3.792573

H	2.461351	-1.284577	2.913685
H	-1.100562	2.668340	3.046716

MCBD 9

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.78460892226	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89843476
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Mo	-0.57662097	0.81438451	-0.00923030
Si	-0.90054935	-0.25991458	3.31782037
Si	2.95595862	0.53012027	-0.07478960
Si	-0.99517651	-0.38330344	-3.22753332
O	-0.42708228	0.47584645	1.94405472
O	1.31145569	0.48307768	-0.02213235
O	-0.43250846	0.50098679	-1.97269243
C	0.75160837	-2.51598080	1.36070766
C	-0.45780940	-2.56546671	0.65398822
H	-1.39697085	-2.62061913	1.19678577
C	-0.47142579	-2.56948397	-0.75375051
C	0.74239055	-2.48052933	-1.44267681
H	0.74526776	-2.47662724	-2.52729069
C	1.94824087	-2.34707515	-0.75626450
C	1.94877093	-2.41250656	0.63953811
H	2.88722065	-2.33596696	1.17880169
C	0.83416424	-2.61802016	2.84353404
C	0.16194084	-1.76125457	3.74884005
C	0.35473635	-1.98748823	5.12540125
H	-0.13178820	-1.32964914	5.84089910
C	1.17772633	-3.00093082	5.61105564
H	1.30160073	-3.13698147	6.68197159
C	1.85306965	-3.82145280	4.70915330
H	2.51000018	-4.61083212	5.06417041
C	1.67923416	-3.62447465	3.34268815
H	2.19537535	-4.26811532	2.63513387
C	-0.75423721	1.03603739	4.67782742
C	0.05727584	2.16757345	4.48875100
H	0.58783458	2.28989212	3.54841858
C	0.18514674	3.14187184	5.48016759
H	0.82112564	4.00724301	5.31152354
C	-0.50566006	3.00590316	6.68568796
H	-0.40773325	3.76252053	7.45971806
C	-1.33148173	1.89804137	6.88909940
H	-1.88148637	1.79284314	7.82082390
C	-1.45502648	0.92925176	5.89253716
H	-2.11645882	0.08119960	6.05939101
C	-2.70829266	-0.77787777	3.27887839

C	-3.11344622	-2.12222780	3.28377229
H	-2.36164579	-2.90701412	3.33623677
C	-4.46449438	-2.47188684	3.23063832
H	-4.75625751	-3.51894464	3.23289151
C	-5.43993114	-1.47466348	3.17974101
H	-6.49216330	-1.74315798	3.13871291
C	-5.05999554	-0.13005833	3.19113045
H	-5.81766293	0.64899648	3.15945673
C	-3.70916543	0.21009520	3.24058819
H	-3.42454752	1.26034885	3.25330822
C	3.18170055	-1.98504093	-1.49852766
C	3.72016222	-0.69511508	-1.28938423
C	4.86420675	-0.32997521	-2.01768408
H	5.28216310	0.66636442	-1.89155647
C	5.46440343	-1.21139183	-2.91788559
H	6.35061163	-0.90700137	-3.46838110
C	4.90832383	-2.47324139	-3.12666018
H	5.35794247	-3.15769377	-3.84086250
C	3.76416215	-2.85378606	-2.42592688
H	3.32090305	-3.83227751	-2.59218423
C	3.39260190	2.26687755	-0.64493574
C	2.54219662	2.93314849	-1.54561449
H	1.63155810	2.44299441	-1.88421021
C	2.84024602	4.21685843	-2.00267250
H	2.16891407	4.71512287	-2.69768370
C	4.00055779	4.86143331	-1.56633129
H	4.23451804	5.86204198	-1.92023231
C	4.85551121	4.21854363	-0.66933929
H	5.75526463	4.71939488	-0.32113607
C	4.55022191	2.93450270	-0.21281757
H	5.21736920	2.45011550	0.49734082
C	3.65584468	0.20358842	1.63202021
C	4.97289198	-0.25066166	1.81938918
H	5.61370286	-0.42336059	0.95688187
C	5.46708482	-0.50874845	3.09890028
H	6.48665795	-0.86398163	3.22576923
C	4.64741679	-0.32337075	4.21515388
H	5.02768264	-0.53661935	5.21072959
C	3.33591585	0.12426008	4.04718073
H	2.68692261	0.25467189	4.90866581
C	2.84981108	0.38624659	2.76698862
H	1.82009994	0.70278135	2.63149422
C	-1.72964406	-2.69886199	-1.52743610
C	-2.00044009	-1.89707599	-2.66886300
C	-3.19015243	-2.15649814	-3.37457412
H	-3.42781710	-1.55192888	-4.24602787
C	-4.09732130	-3.13841398	-2.97440829

H	-5.00588552	-3.30590891	-3.54647040
C	-3.83539394	-3.88797354	-1.82846515
H	-4.53706676	-4.64731020	-1.49407302
C	-2.65759684	-3.66826312	-1.11863174
H	-2.43592708	-4.26859255	-0.23998535
C	0.43112051	-0.84321752	-4.35400790
C	0.32710561	-1.88999585	-5.28594490
H	-0.58934397	-2.47496703	-5.33999549
C	1.38685453	-2.20269506	-6.13846578
H	1.29025867	-3.01914274	-6.84967251
C	2.57335196	-1.46892334	-6.07282082
H	3.40283262	-1.71533619	-6.73041483
C	2.69591501	-0.42683995	-5.15234858
H	3.62279108	0.13518447	-5.08567153
C	1.63432106	-0.11984566	-4.30192907
H	1.74321408	0.68022705	-3.57547907
C	-2.17050611	0.72382643	-4.20213197
C	-1.90193615	1.12521169	-5.52031080
H	-1.01611579	0.74580070	-6.02436953
C	-2.75027142	2.00573589	-6.19707787
H	-2.52287778	2.30145983	-7.21811498
C	-3.88708881	2.50699615	-5.56225891
H	-4.54740700	3.19305313	-6.08614957
C	-4.17400986	2.12175247	-4.24946321
H	-5.05989187	2.50694811	-3.75022883
C	-3.32423223	1.24058487	-3.58350854
H	-3.562555604	0.94288467	-2.56554385
C	-3.68452947	-0.51317559	-0.02931228
H	-4.59459382	0.00658821	0.28678569
H	-3.53309957	-1.36576197	0.63691974
C	-2.49664334	0.37153429	-0.00657948
C	-2.47562043	1.78384671	0.00993433
C	-1.19534871	2.56700690	0.00596313
C	-3.73250108	2.61830891	0.03629586
H	-3.71435218	3.27990456	0.90810563
H	-4.62091794	1.98788116	0.07468689
C	-1.09611144	4.04809501	0.02855856
H	-1.60991749	4.49350397	-0.83347074
H	-1.54262720	4.46281953	0.94205257
H	-0.04477987	4.34360905	-0.00636306
H	-3.84322800	-0.91313372	-1.03738166
H	-3.76989824	3.24567774	-0.86021378

TS2

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.76001584385	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89620252
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Mo	-0.285318	-0.034172	1.127619
Si	-0.281547	-3.294405	-0.141316
Si	-2.325155	2.316652	-0.105913
Si	2.866611	1.043810	-0.349964
O	-0.223513	-1.685035	0.211982
O	-0.910696	1.564003	0.293419
O	1.464826	0.491662	0.260979
C	0.404264	-1.366007	-2.728156
C	-0.966939	-1.154399	-2.554570
H	-1.631147	-2.003020	-2.428019
C	-1.497579	0.140285	-2.485309
C	-0.635283	1.232373	-2.631272
H	-1.031056	2.242658	-2.586307
C	0.740332	1.043607	-2.775689
C	1.247660	-0.256794	-2.847331
H	2.316818	-0.408548	-2.955062
C	0.998395	-2.725464	-2.720818
C	0.754299	-3.643736	-1.672089
C	1.377043	-4.903539	-1.735762
H	1.220288	-5.616177	-0.929013
C	2.218538	-5.257458	-2.788642
H	2.686777	-6.237766	-2.806551
C	2.470135	-4.335302	-3.804691
H	3.135169	-4.590024	-4.625383
C	1.866723	-3.081389	-3.764219
H	2.056364	-2.362113	-4.556677
C	-2.941483	0.356242	-2.229828
C	-3.402700	1.320087	-1.294715
C	-4.793351	1.516518	-1.189782
H	-5.172860	2.255785	-0.488797
C	-5.707669	0.774762	-1.936878
H	-6.773575	0.955205	-1.828205
C	-5.241504	-0.210432	-2.806897
H	-5.939924	-0.810924	-3.383412
C	-3.871077	-0.410230	-2.950255
H	-3.504138	-1.153216	-3.653396
C	1.670280	2.196535	-2.770473
C	2.686583	2.273339	-1.787981
C	3.573140	3.363865	-1.857315
H	4.363170	3.453380	-1.116164
C	3.455664	4.350915	-2.837229
H	4.159619	5.178699	-2.861729
C	2.420712	4.279336	-3.769218

H	2.305980	5.052545	-4.524156
C	1.532868	3.206087	-3.730919
H	0.730123	3.135439	-4.460671
C	0.423246	-4.172850	1.360992
C	1.255004	-3.490878	2.265388
H	1.481720	-2.439261	2.104114
C	1.793819	-4.134291	3.379885
H	2.433292	-3.585125	4.066030
C	1.509969	-5.481596	3.612061
H	1.928411	-5.985660	4.479102
C	0.680668	-6.177577	2.729871
H	0.449634	-7.224095	2.910714
C	0.141937	-5.526357	1.619399
H	-0.516015	-6.076540	0.949923
C	-2.023912	-3.934444	-0.428910
C	-2.472529	-4.291594	-1.712492
H	-1.792324	-4.217647	-2.558182
C	-3.773456	-4.750479	-1.923668
H	-4.099117	-5.016706	-2.925758
C	-4.653476	-4.869600	-0.846755
H	-5.668197	-5.223436	-1.008206
C	-4.220831	-4.546082	0.441462
H	-4.896821	-4.652746	1.285951
C	-2.918610	-4.090567	0.644086
H	-2.588628	-3.862148	1.653183
C	-3.303226	2.634591	1.470350
C	-4.229858	1.716485	1.993842
H	-4.453318	0.806999	1.443551
C	-4.876374	1.951814	3.207654
H	-5.592499	1.228881	3.590117
C	-4.599484	3.112979	3.933000
H	-5.101574	3.298149	4.878871
C	-3.674428	4.034400	3.437782
H	-3.454264	4.939565	3.997700
C	-3.037526	3.795526	2.218986
H	-2.325785	4.525159	1.839068
C	-1.779222	3.965070	-0.814410
C	-2.682932	4.845107	-1.434232
H	-3.732053	4.569857	-1.525387
C	-2.254705	6.070516	-1.945748
H	-2.966237	6.737610	-2.425610
C	-0.910001	6.437905	-1.845207
H	-0.575157	7.390055	-2.248353
C	0.002164	5.576311	-1.233726
H	1.051614	5.848952	-1.166332
C	-0.431111	4.351906	-0.724497
H	0.283947	3.672600	-0.270217

C	3.776608	1.983064	1.011097
C	3.338677	3.254829	1.424369
H	2.507991	3.731079	0.907550
C	3.947600	3.922635	2.486422
H	3.591304	4.904577	2.787858
C	5.013548	3.326371	3.165605
H	5.490135	3.843712	3.994168
C	5.467306	2.066852	2.770907
H	6.299307	1.600271	3.292462
C	4.853519	1.406548	1.703605
H	5.216951	0.425949	1.404030
C	3.918235	-0.428853	-0.858726
C	5.043064	-0.303676	-1.691808
H	5.323407	0.675616	-2.075801
C	5.802880	-1.418832	-2.048359
H	6.666383	-1.303418	-2.698822
C	5.449570	-2.685293	-1.574472
H	6.035648	-3.555684	-1.857841
C	4.335669	-2.830337	-0.746071
H	4.044934	-3.813877	-0.387904
C	3.579474	-1.711469	-0.397454
H	2.698442	-1.829829	0.226329
C	0.460128	0.394618	2.945477
C	-1.690056	-0.555243	2.326601
C	-0.850926	0.206390	3.312486
C	1.577751	1.106251	3.609821
C	-2.877998	-1.306248	2.812741
H	-3.492617	-0.701830	3.491526
H	-2.562974	-2.199717	3.372749
C	-1.501463	0.791135	4.546033
H	-2.349767	1.416771	4.249700
H	-1.887069	-0.013985	5.180908
H	1.671312	2.134659	3.243096
H	1.446399	1.131782	4.698421
H	2.527638	0.613968	3.381014
H	-0.788278	1.388633	5.117314
H	-3.500355	-1.631813	1.976347

Intermediate 12

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.77191509919	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89523293
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Mo	0.00670486	-0.05310981	1.17808684
Si	-2.41009157	2.05670217	-0.02735542
Si	3.02315944	1.20996454	-0.36807372

Si	-0.25853568	-3.27736063	-0.08189696
O	-0.97835029	1.35623617	0.36815466
O	1.61679074	0.70540834	0.28315840
O	0.14942172	-1.74815936	0.41895630
C	-1.41820088	0.05995931	-2.50075579
C	-0.57113365	1.16687678	-2.60774602
H	-0.98861902	2.16895015	-2.57547628
C	0.81125827	1.00234837	-2.72557632
C	1.34458073	-0.29041454	-2.75424305
H	2.41816102	-0.42466299	-2.83502736
C	0.51666656	-1.41371950	-2.64985826
C	-0.86650389	-1.22637915	-2.55159873
H	-1.52207560	-2.08797493	-2.49152460
C	-2.87788197	0.24705572	-2.32295810
C	-3.40244698	1.10140798	-1.32108500
C	-4.80157974	1.24444971	-1.25117603
H	-5.23119829	1.88289938	-0.48292227
C	-5.66038183	0.57291399	-2.12061159
H	-6.73509442	0.71051986	-2.03819422
C	-5.12940077	-0.28920009	-3.07901601
H	-5.78508106	-0.83393100	-3.75282852
C	-3.74977152	-0.44985807	-3.17149600
H	-3.33031039	-1.11330796	-3.92324934
C	1.70779768	2.18110072	-2.79094268
C	2.77201549	2.33593313	-1.87026499
C	3.62099937	3.44524961	-2.03804065
H	4.44780902	3.58891496	-1.34736403
C	3.41963943	4.38467177	-3.04996832
H	4.09580535	5.22954878	-3.15034226
C	2.33612728	4.24258181	-3.91623023
H	2.15507074	4.97733536	-4.69611946
C	1.48841892	3.14482583	-3.78422544
H	0.65350453	3.01589250	-4.46838903
C	1.11175952	-2.77280869	-2.61184362
C	0.80610806	-3.68962465	-1.57451619
C	1.41348767	-4.95719563	-1.60677929
H	1.20743840	-5.66406005	-0.80643889
C	2.29929854	-5.32195739	-2.62047412
H	2.75294741	-6.30922214	-2.61862735
C	2.61328684	-4.40227459	-3.61998325
H	3.31503724	-4.66516284	-4.40681336
C	2.02583222	-3.13893893	-3.60908472
H	2.26528788	-2.42268605	-4.39063412
C	-3.48557015	2.17526576	1.50734277
C	-4.12640108	1.02985718	2.01540639
H	-4.04384099	0.08767435	1.48155281
C	-4.87278398	1.07989360	3.19169572

H	-5.35733124	0.18196354	3.56644040
C	-4.99364784	2.28448888	3.88919736
H	-5.57580319	2.32746111	4.80579367
C	-4.36104254	3.43173987	3.40705399
H	-4.45072198	4.37024341	3.94781206
C	-3.61297857	3.37359449	2.22872984
H	-3.12416727	4.27331772	1.86195800
C	-1.92949622	3.76633443	-0.62936345
C	-2.87057862	4.66949547	-1.15256721
H	-3.92076287	4.38846236	-1.20618661
C	-2.47938141	5.92595050	-1.61628560
H	-3.22041491	6.61120062	-2.01974784
C	-1.13383069	6.29984409	-1.56921988
H	-0.82750111	7.27516880	-1.93808055
C	-0.18420377	5.41525650	-1.05507312
H	0.86575483	5.69461034	-1.03005702
C	-0.58115760	4.16214988	-0.58796940
H	0.16164622	3.46748845	-0.20638315
C	3.97197964	2.22068737	0.90667534
C	3.58961540	3.53656931	1.22533232
H	2.77828530	4.00866516	0.67503216
C	4.22651997	4.25145294	2.23859488
H	3.91193173	5.26622610	2.46886229
C	5.26631281	3.66069027	2.96103027
H	5.76408546	4.21505249	3.75227677
C	5.66599522	2.35785097	2.65948532
H	6.47722644	1.89494161	3.21563333
C	5.02402937	1.64949697	1.64127930
H	5.34414393	0.63487007	1.41451873
C	4.03742946	-0.30955531	-0.80935059
C	5.11324125	-0.24986580	-1.71133209
H	5.37905135	0.69995049	-2.17174885
C	5.83987519	-1.39443391	-2.04226387
H	6.66518565	-1.32967260	-2.74686599
C	5.50037584	-2.62533698	-1.47521775
H	6.05719408	-3.51988813	-1.74130584
C	4.43613818	-2.70478586	-0.57604334
H	4.15681984	-3.66275519	-0.14585565
C	3.71462530	-1.55654631	-0.24960650
H	2.87066630	-1.62661372	0.43049138
C	0.17481117	-4.43354595	1.32787375
C	1.40921516	-4.29336620	1.98777446
H	2.11012151	-3.52804374	1.66361011
C	1.74935687	-5.11380084	3.06212668
H	2.70621745	-4.98608784	3.56142678
C	0.85790108	-6.09782978	3.49740855
H	1.12039320	-6.73815475	4.33524224

C	-0.37200899	-6.25249860	2.85648276
H	-1.07065444	-7.01297667	3.19532241
C	-0.70908162	-5.42440920	1.78399965
H	-1.67687167	-5.54408685	1.30289813
C	-2.09421759	-3.37627384	-0.43142544
C	-2.62037515	-4.48691423	-1.11515545
H	-1.95563182	-5.27864379	-1.45590213
C	-3.98693666	-4.58509819	-1.38001505
H	-4.37585995	-5.44991368	-1.91106173
C	-4.85121167	-3.56729739	-0.97103361
H	-5.91397530	-3.63592179	-1.18685376
C	-4.34446326	-2.45334476	-0.30053898
H	-5.00906342	-1.64648131	-0.00617289
C	-2.97965937	-2.36212944	-0.03393154
H	-2.59028905	-1.48112411	0.47269885
C	-1.10492333	-0.74047312	2.63219658
C	-0.59550256	0.36468628	3.45005957
C	0.65589322	0.69033190	2.99062089
C	-1.79588791	-1.91428044	3.23502621
C	-1.39947680	1.08965880	4.49771470
H	-1.81875965	0.37249600	5.21197050
H	-2.23926697	1.61070604	4.02727703
C	1.58701663	1.76646761	3.42032804
H	1.50805331	2.64104784	2.76395851
H	1.38250437	2.08506398	4.45028131
H	-1.14892048	-2.41606206	3.97019148
H	-2.69963864	-1.59075894	3.77236823
H	-2.09177211	-2.64856437	2.48262119
H	2.62657609	1.43111704	3.35479237
H	-0.78788273	1.81830711	5.03554214

TS_{BR}

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.76876782589	G_corr(TPSS)	0.90117066
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Mo	-0.042431	0.179417	1.157609
Si	-0.362859	-3.203602	-0.008100
Si	-2.614979	2.018067	-0.239975
Si	3.012054	1.051438	-0.292252
O	0.026988	-1.710148	0.513241
O	-1.423035	0.955205	0.224271
O	1.630697	0.378731	0.267036
C	0.379004	-1.405720	-2.638232
C	-1.005400	-1.199795	-2.621487
H	-1.672765	-2.053589	-2.571951

C	-1.541645	0.094439	-2.639819
C	-0.667466	1.186759	-2.701725
H	-1.068286	2.194616	-2.727437
C	0.720937	1.001765	-2.688858
C	1.230881	-0.299491	-2.680875
H	2.305401	-0.456182	-2.686684
C	0.948440	-2.774958	-2.599340
C	0.634647	-3.674345	-1.552522
C	1.177658	-4.971080	-1.625814
H	0.954182	-5.684114	-0.836827
C	2.018620	-5.365599	-2.667342
H	2.417924	-6.376190	-2.691627
C	2.361013	-4.448650	-3.660238
H	3.035961	-4.732222	-4.463494
C	1.825592	-3.162832	-3.621991
H	2.074874	-2.446981	-4.401267
C	-3.012143	0.289832	-2.545457
C	-3.593001	1.152100	-1.579483
C	-4.992890	1.272029	-1.539971
H	-5.449194	1.906568	-0.783191
C	-5.813498	0.569500	-2.421379
H	-6.893033	0.679833	-2.367576
C	-5.235339	-0.291466	-3.353544
H	-5.861269	-0.857560	-4.037662
C	-3.849723	-0.430945	-3.407814
H	-3.401267	-1.101636	-4.135854
C	1.646175	2.160217	-2.667683
C	2.693907	2.256096	-1.716240
C	3.551654	3.369244	-1.799392
H	4.355590	3.473041	-1.074680
C	3.388296	4.361248	-2.766503
H	4.071029	5.205940	-2.800432
C	2.332530	4.269287	-3.672265
H	2.180504	5.041969	-4.421009
C	1.470704	3.176934	-3.616639
H	0.653959	3.093254	-4.328820
C	0.077201	-4.505713	1.281135
C	1.409446	-4.640006	1.714020
H	2.186200	-4.030098	1.257284
C	1.756847	-5.530922	2.728029
H	2.791098	-5.608653	3.053557
C	0.771686	-6.316088	3.333450
H	1.037198	-7.005263	4.130708
C	-0.553128	-6.214120	2.907013
H	-1.322336	-6.826427	3.370502
C	-0.892359	-5.317834	1.889754
H	-1.930241	-5.239604	1.574117

C	-2.208533	-3.312592	-0.358357
C	-2.749935	-4.336448	-1.156622
H	-2.094263	-5.095924	-1.578801
C	-4.116735	-4.388163	-1.435523
H	-4.515267	-5.184584	-2.059237
C	-4.971525	-3.409327	-0.922765
H	-6.033723	-3.438519	-1.151126
C	-4.454455	-2.386757	-0.126114
H	-5.113060	-1.613457	0.259628
C	-3.088024	-2.344785	0.152091
H	-2.687702	-1.535204	0.757108
C	-3.681676	2.318559	1.272331
C	-4.177757	1.226709	2.008788
H	-3.964357	0.212587	1.681341
C	-4.934109	1.419100	3.163780
H	-5.304815	0.561731	3.719423
C	-5.213780	2.714692	3.606527
H	-5.804945	2.867204	4.505725
C	-4.728944	3.811375	2.892612
H	-4.939715	4.820528	3.236887
C	-3.967237	3.612524	1.738715
H	-3.582842	4.475486	1.200675
C	-1.812394	3.620736	-0.771800
C	-2.564824	4.599979	-1.444339
H	-3.612689	4.416270	-1.673698
C	-1.983539	5.805811	-1.838592
H	-2.578736	6.548769	-2.362568
C	-0.636018	6.052877	-1.566583
H	-0.179816	6.987748	-1.880593
C	0.128048	5.089055	-0.907024
H	1.182989	5.263239	-0.716649
C	-0.457549	3.885750	-0.517623
H	0.157480	3.130806	-0.035481
C	3.811338	2.027587	1.101764
C	3.252774	3.245878	1.530244
H	2.395936	3.659037	1.003513
C	3.780198	3.943006	2.616088
H	3.333698	4.884176	2.926881
C	4.885563	3.432047	3.301920
H	5.302586	3.975634	4.145674
C	5.454365	2.223719	2.896295
H	6.314599	1.822637	3.426127
C	4.918940	1.530048	1.808242
H	5.370250	0.589034	1.501956
C	4.131234	-0.369064	-0.790825
C	5.347490	-0.165733	-1.466016
H	5.668508	0.844163	-1.714912

C	6.153549	-1.243837	-1.834770
H	7.088727	-1.068704	-2.360855
C	5.754765	-2.548938	-1.534186
H	6.378093	-3.389509	-1.828172
C	4.549810	-2.770170	-0.864868
H	4.226807	-3.783817	-0.643685
C	3.747684	-1.689211	-0.498104
H	2.797396	-1.863809	-0.000850
C	-0.027040	1.446324	2.665636
C	-0.216850	-0.755485	3.034342
C	0.068930	0.422130	3.684402
C	-0.272250	2.890197	2.965556
C	-0.169997	-2.138224	3.573036
H	-0.298464	-2.136847	4.663811
H	0.792197	-2.615735	3.348338
C	0.453311	0.636961	5.122793
H	-0.005950	-0.117250	5.768456
H	1.541668	0.560888	5.238653
H	-0.519336	3.474139	2.077097
H	-1.091772	3.003370	3.690181
H	0.625034	3.338053	3.417117
H	0.152323	1.633212	5.461122
H	-0.936281	-2.777378	3.127589

TS3

E_elec(B3LYP)	-3709.75870389877	G_corr(TPSS)	0.89442961
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Mo	-0.086057	0.034640	1.149512
Si	-0.214598	-3.234571	-0.045366
Si	-2.528366	2.194039	-0.017423
Si	2.937528	1.163213	-0.420575
O	0.172451	-1.711584	0.434493
O	-1.191333	1.470793	0.632979
O	1.495829	0.656105	0.129185
C	0.477377	-1.375016	-2.648568
C	-0.897604	-1.195598	-2.469719
H	-1.540988	-2.061960	-2.361582
C	-1.459629	0.085483	-2.408121
C	-0.625467	1.199538	-2.558188
H	-1.046885	2.199129	-2.519352
C	0.751318	1.042544	-2.743483
C	1.289786	-0.246840	-2.809012
H	2.359228	-0.372949	-2.944548
C	1.071647	-2.733405	-2.631737

C	0.788486	-3.651688	-1.589163
C	1.385237	-4.923385	-1.651390
H	1.201265	-5.634166	-0.849083
C	2.236096	-5.289668	-2.694644
H	2.680727	-6.281016	-2.712617
C	2.528951	-4.366380	-3.697449
H	3.203972	-4.629909	-4.507197
C	1.952044	-3.098859	-3.659505
H	2.171597	-2.379598	-4.444330
C	-2.920141	0.248466	-2.221185
C	-3.471398	1.152334	-1.278835
C	-4.874837	1.272667	-1.234989
H	-5.325722	1.956237	-0.520881
C	-5.712487	0.524590	-2.061148
H	-6.790129	0.647957	-1.997385
C	-5.155707	-0.392055	-2.951250
H	-5.792806	-0.998188	-3.589439
C	-3.772346	-0.523461	-3.025490
H	-3.333035	-1.221982	-3.732429
C	1.643092	2.227559	-2.797093
C	2.699701	2.361248	-1.864176
C	3.525512	3.494309	-1.964453
H	4.332008	3.627474	-1.247007
C	3.320822	4.468927	-2.942295
H	3.977486	5.333296	-2.996200
C	2.256262	4.337319	-3.834000
H	2.074521	5.098927	-4.587583
C	1.421333	3.223760	-3.756152
H	0.592891	3.114268	-4.451597
C	0.330628	-4.400563	1.323967
C	1.499164	-4.115556	2.053147
H	2.074190	-3.223308	1.818330
C	1.926006	-4.948303	3.086762
H	2.830085	-4.707565	3.640368
C	1.189631	-6.090468	3.411999
H	1.519247	-6.740277	4.218313
C	0.026613	-6.391017	2.701164
H	-0.552518	-7.275452	2.953998
C	-0.397206	-5.550840	1.669196
H	-1.313839	-5.787791	1.133578
C	-2.058556	-3.419277	-0.331022
C	-2.565992	-4.464501	-1.123281
H	-1.882061	-5.174826	-1.584341
C	-3.937376	-4.595390	-1.348705
H	-4.310936	-5.407974	-1.966554
C	-4.827354	-3.674750	-0.790906
H	-5.894073	-3.767057	-0.977102

C	-4.340917	-2.627356	-0.006712
H	-5.027980	-1.896570	0.411915
C	-2.970992	-2.504079	0.222480
H	-2.595705	-1.674508	0.819138
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H	-0.487044	-2.162171	4.218659
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H	2.773876	0.846098	3.055344
H	-0.774188	2.423325	4.270199
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MTd 8

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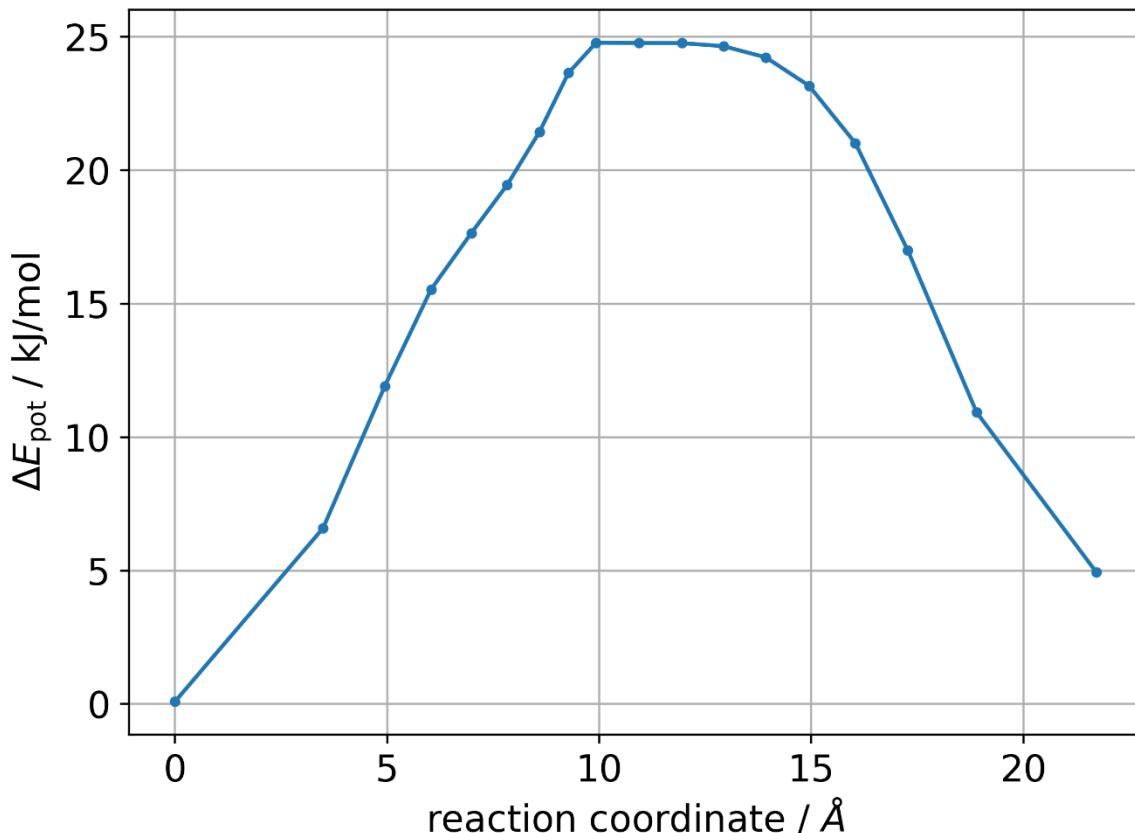
Minimum energy paths of isomerization

These data are obtained with the NEB method. The highest points were taken as starting points for the TS optimizations and are thus only close to but not exactly like the TS's. If no TS could be converged, these highest energy points were taken as approximations for the TS. For the x-axis, the distances of each point to its predecessor, i.e., $\|\mathbf{R}(i+1) - \mathbf{R}(i)\|$, where $\mathbf{R}(i)$ are the xyz-coordinates of the i -th point, are cumulatively summed up. This resembles the total movement on the $3N-6$ dimensional potential energy surface (since the translational and rotational degrees of freedom are projected out in the NEB implementation of ORCA).

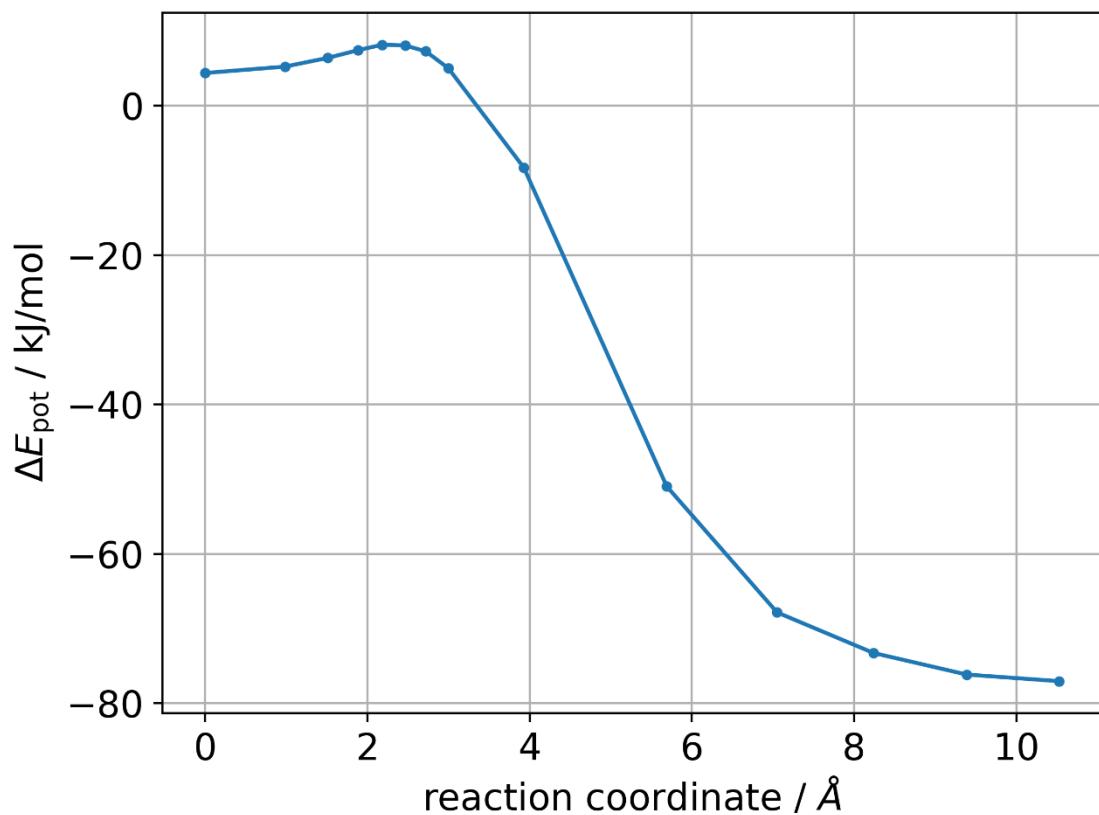
MCBD formation

We found that the MCBD formation occurs in two steps. First, the alkyne has to get close to the metal-carbon triple bond by squeezing between two of the free phenyl groups. A loosely bound van-der-Waals complex is obtained. This complex reacts further to give the MCBD via the commonly known mechanism, see Ref [16] or original manuscript. Since the latter barrier is more meaningful for comparison to the high barrier dissociation (especially for the dissociation), we used the second TS as TS1. For all energy profiles, the energy of the initial structure, from where the vdW complex is formed, is set to be the energy reference.

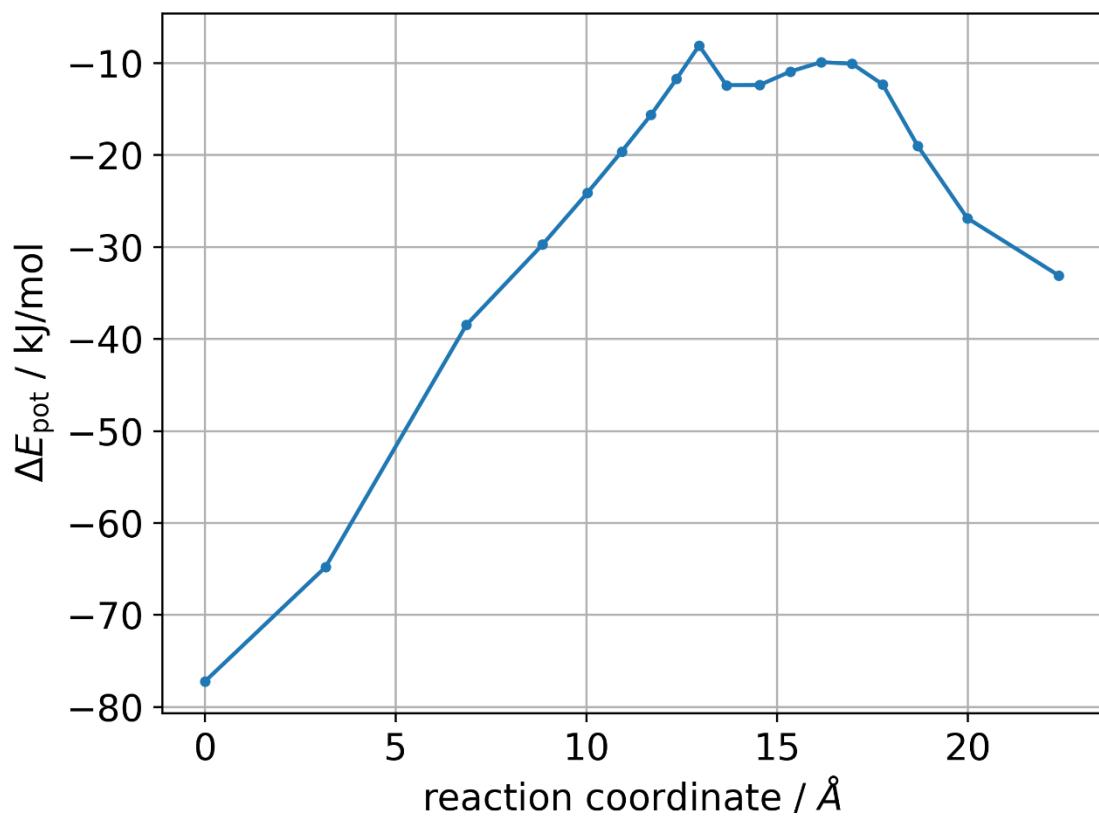
Formation of the vdW complex:



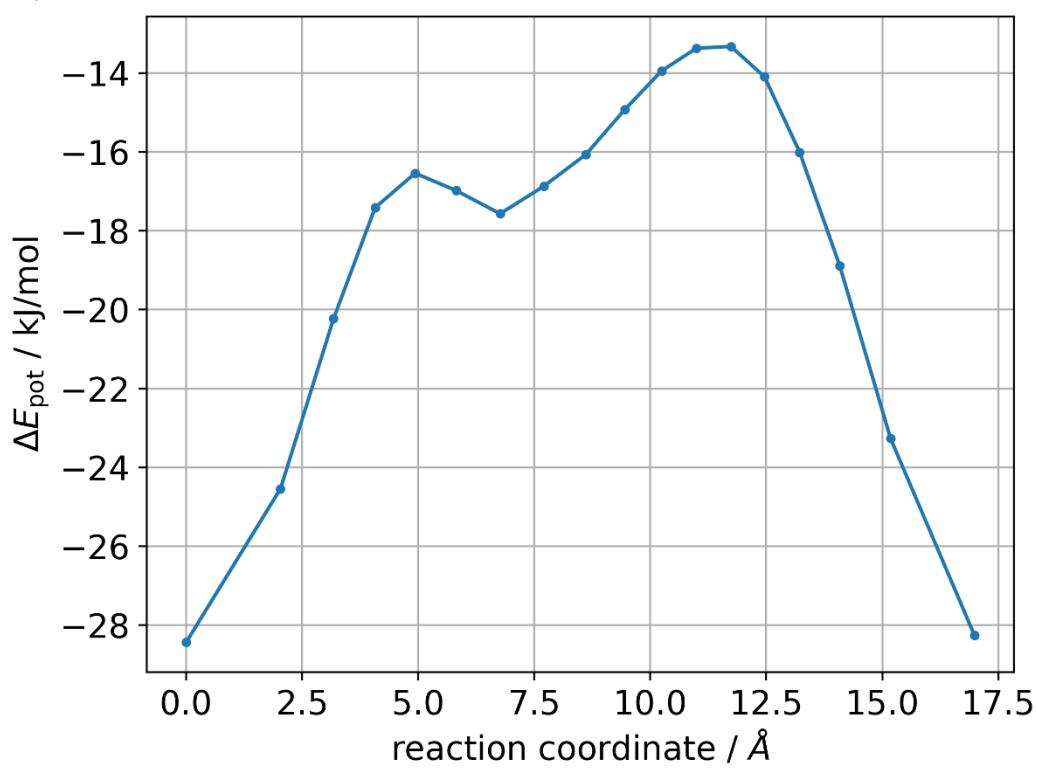
Actual MCBD 9 formation (TS1):



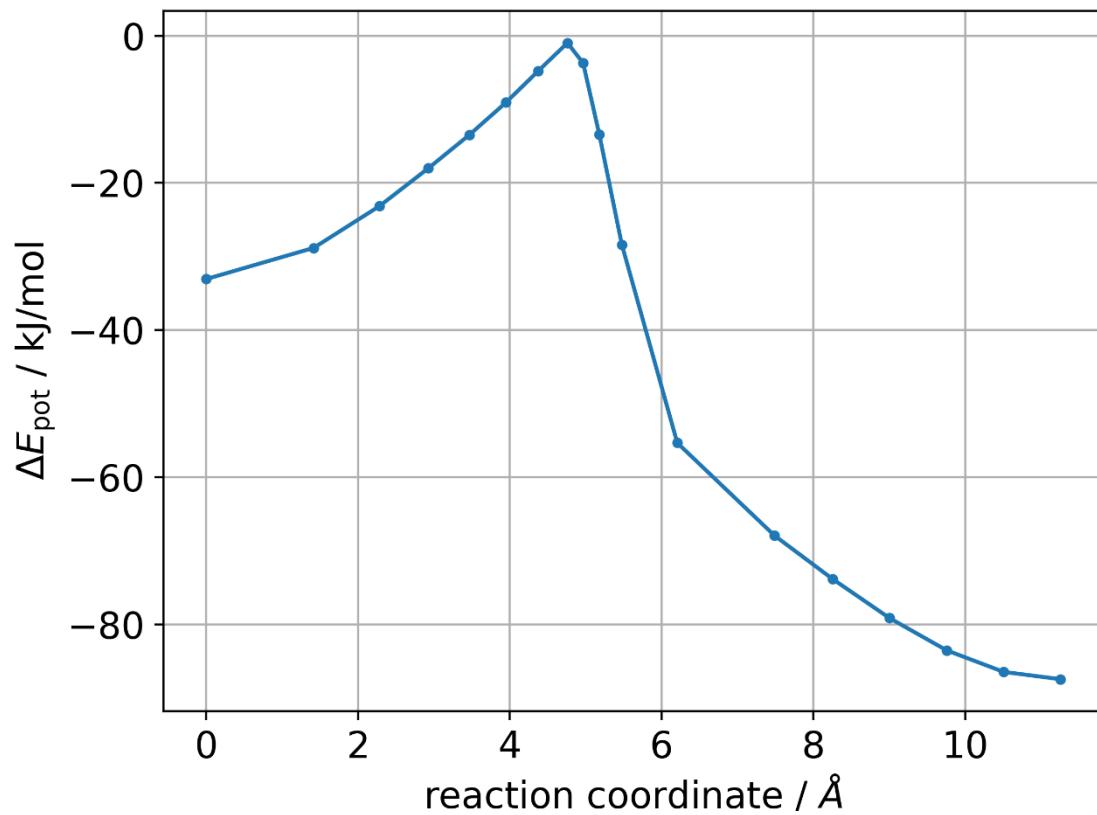
MCBD 9 to Intermediate 12



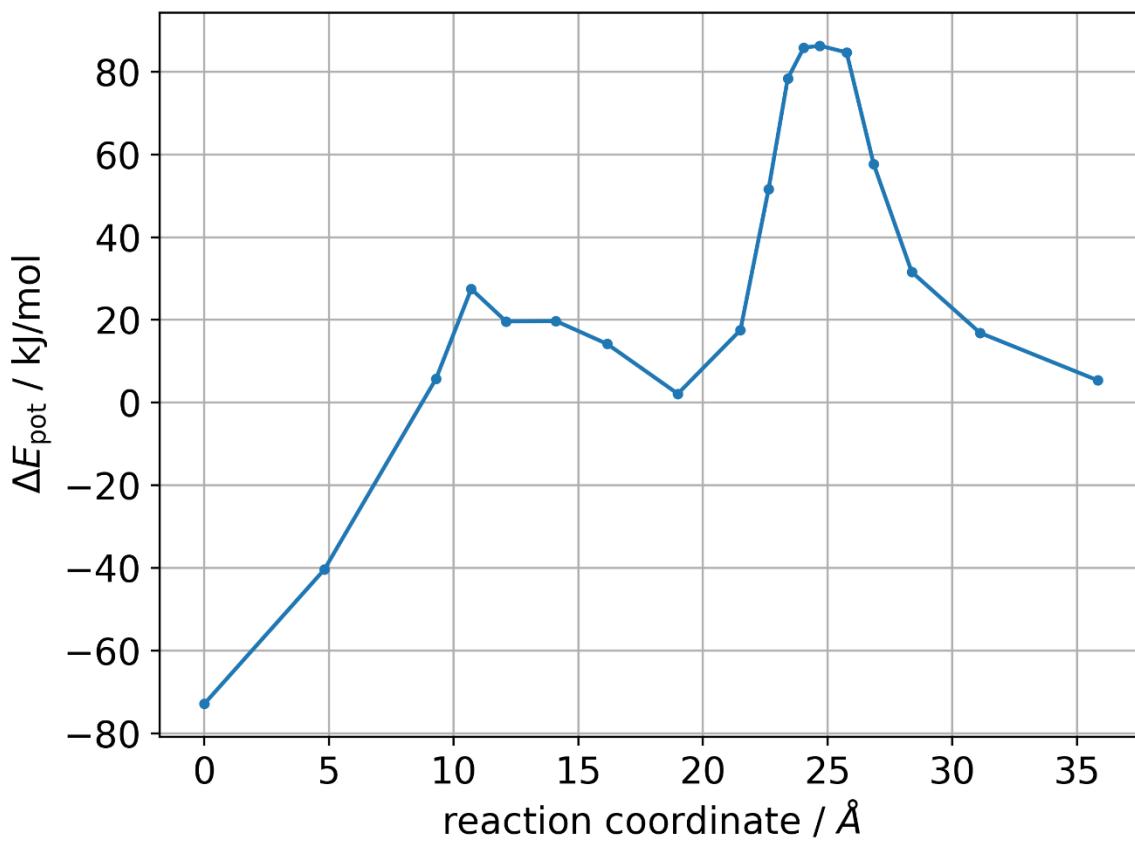
Berry Pseudorotation **12** to **12'**



Intermediate **12** to MTd **8**



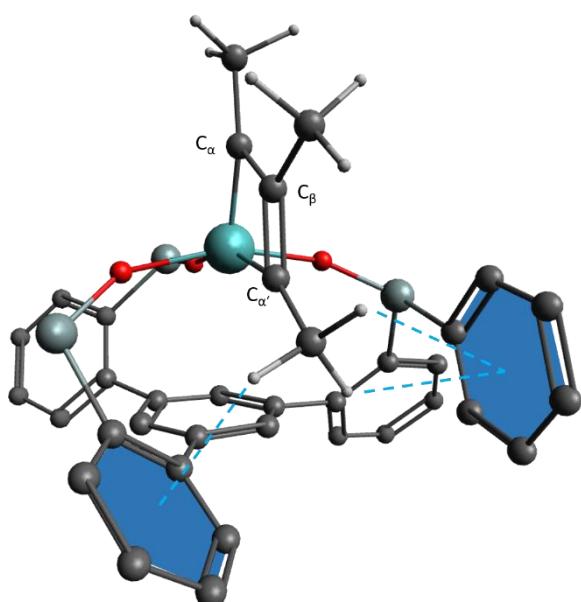
High barrier dissociation (TS1')



NMR calculation

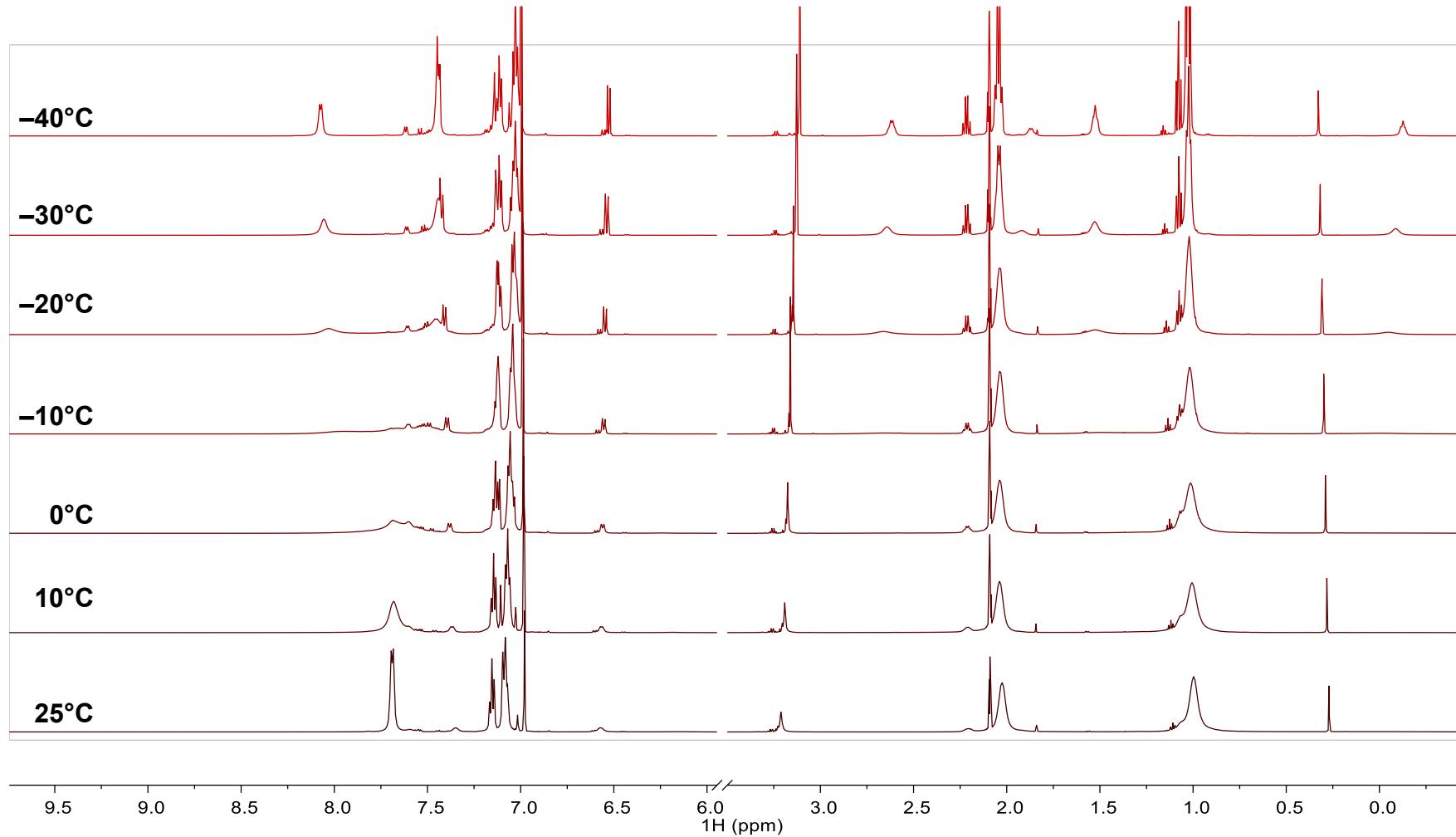
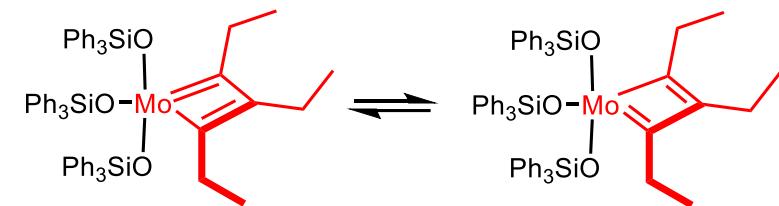
Calculated ^1H NMR isotropic shieldings σ_{iso} and shifts δ ($\sigma_{ref} = 32.064$ ppm) of the protons in the MCBD unit in **9**. Note that $C_{\alpha'}$ is more shielded than C_{α} due to the adjacent Ph-groups.

	$\delta_{exp} / \text{ppm}$	calc $\sigma_{iso} / \text{ppm}$	calc δ / ppm
C_{α}	2.42	29.466	
		29.386	
		27.635	
$C_{\alpha'}$	1.18	av	28.829 3.24
		30.333	
		30.690	
C_{β}	1.71	31.629	
		av	30.884 1.18
		28.898	
		28.051	
		28.823	
		av	28.591 3.47

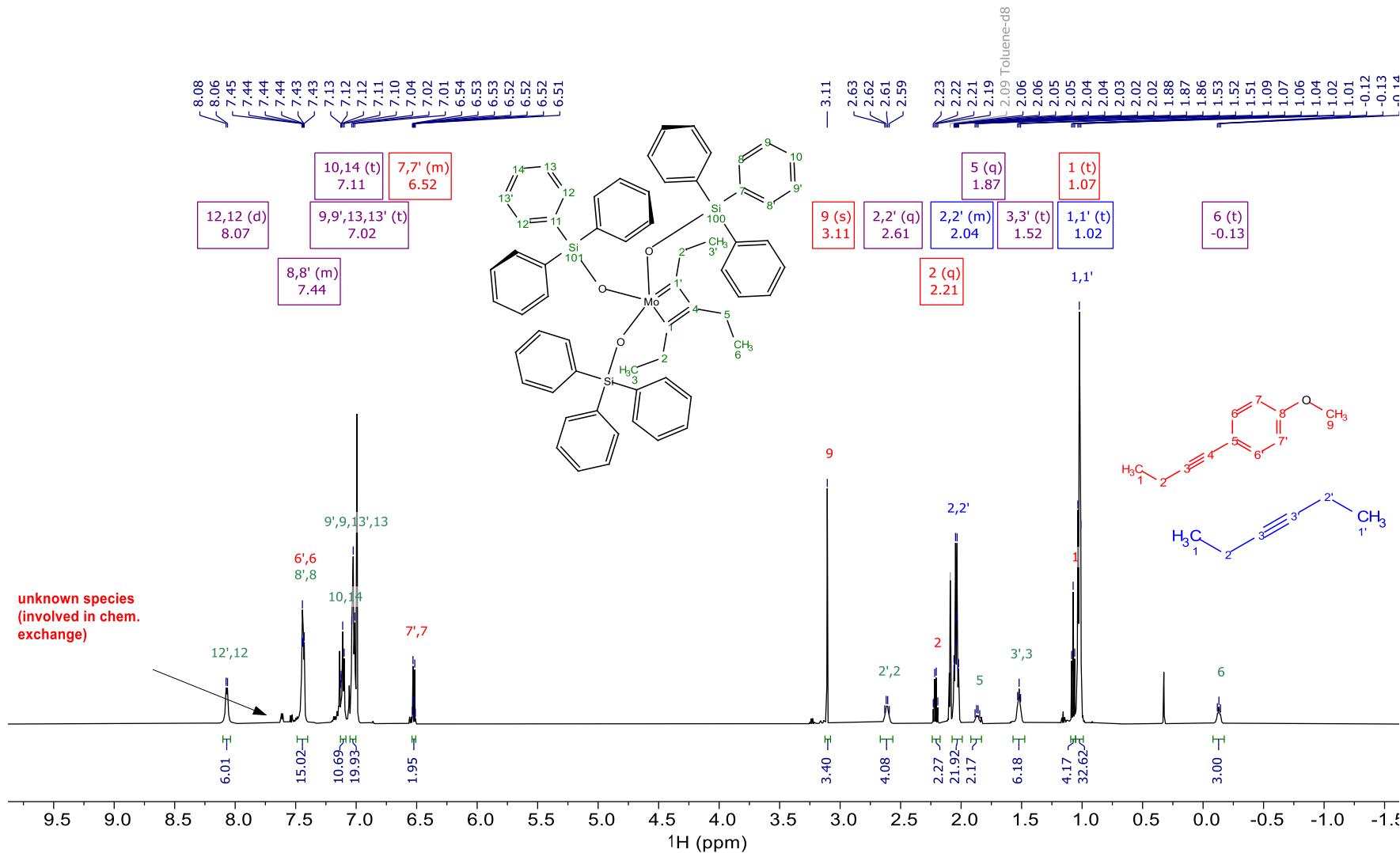


SPECTRA

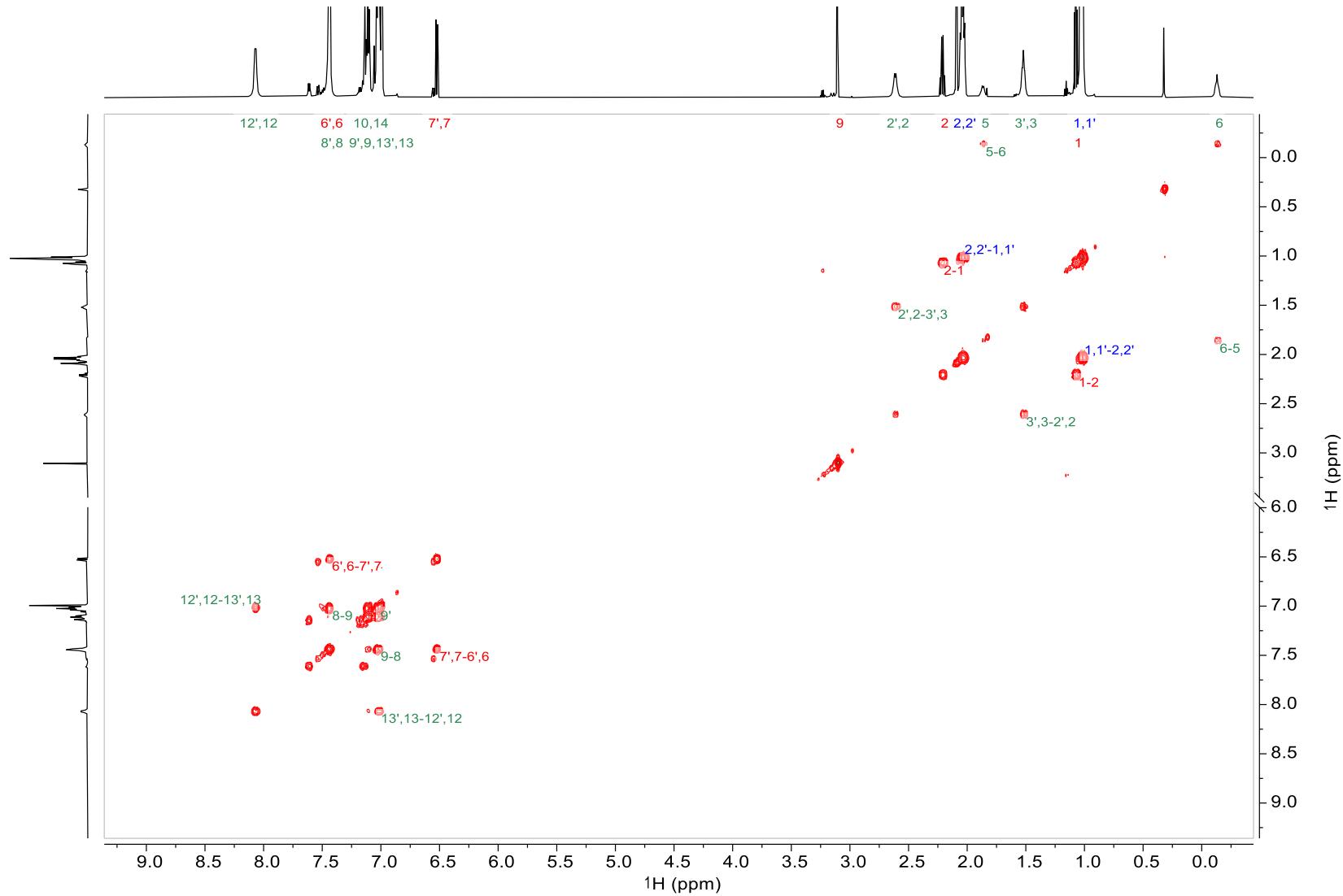
VT ^1H NMR Studies of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex **7**, 600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, 25 °C to -40 °C



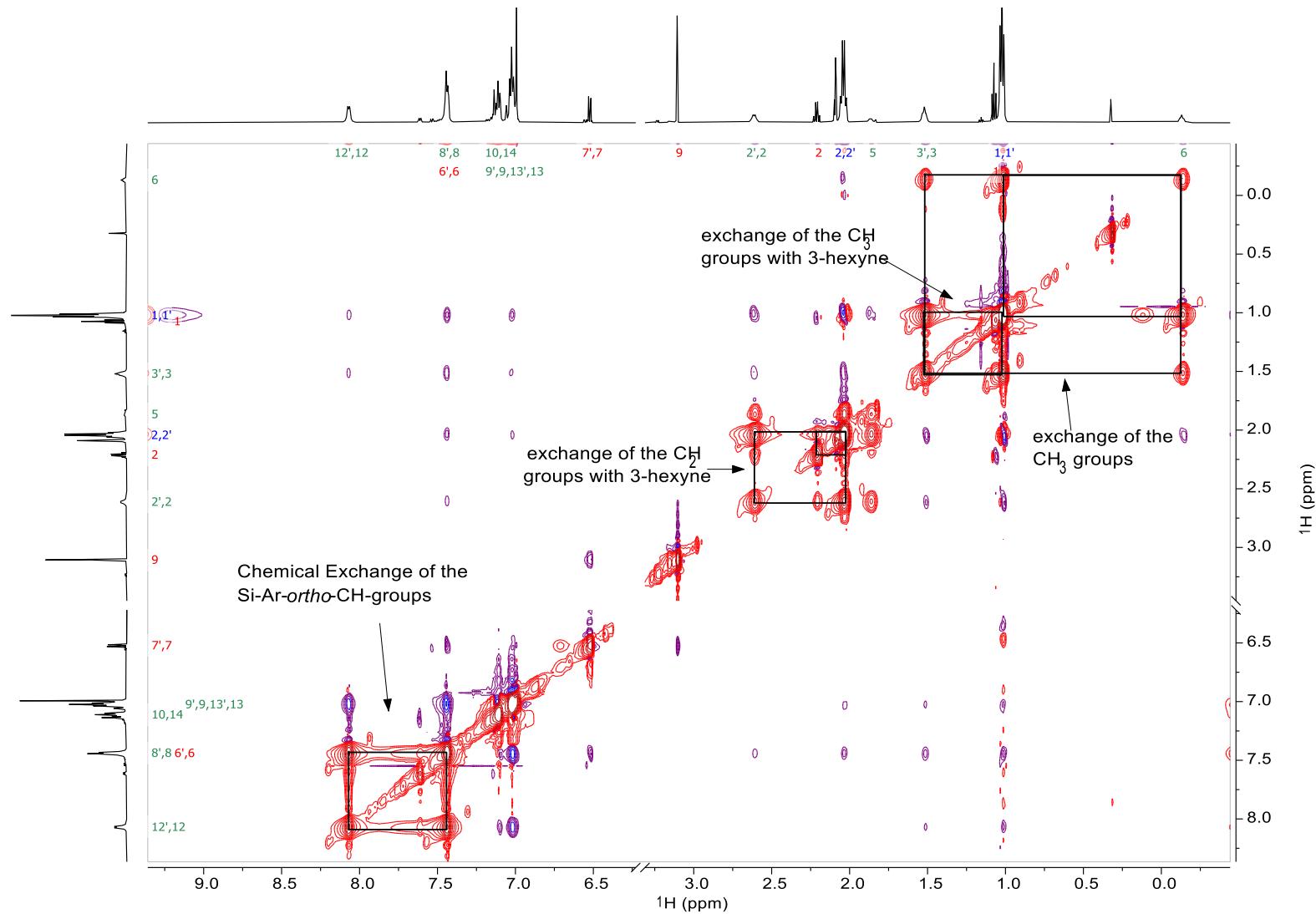
¹H NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex **7**, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



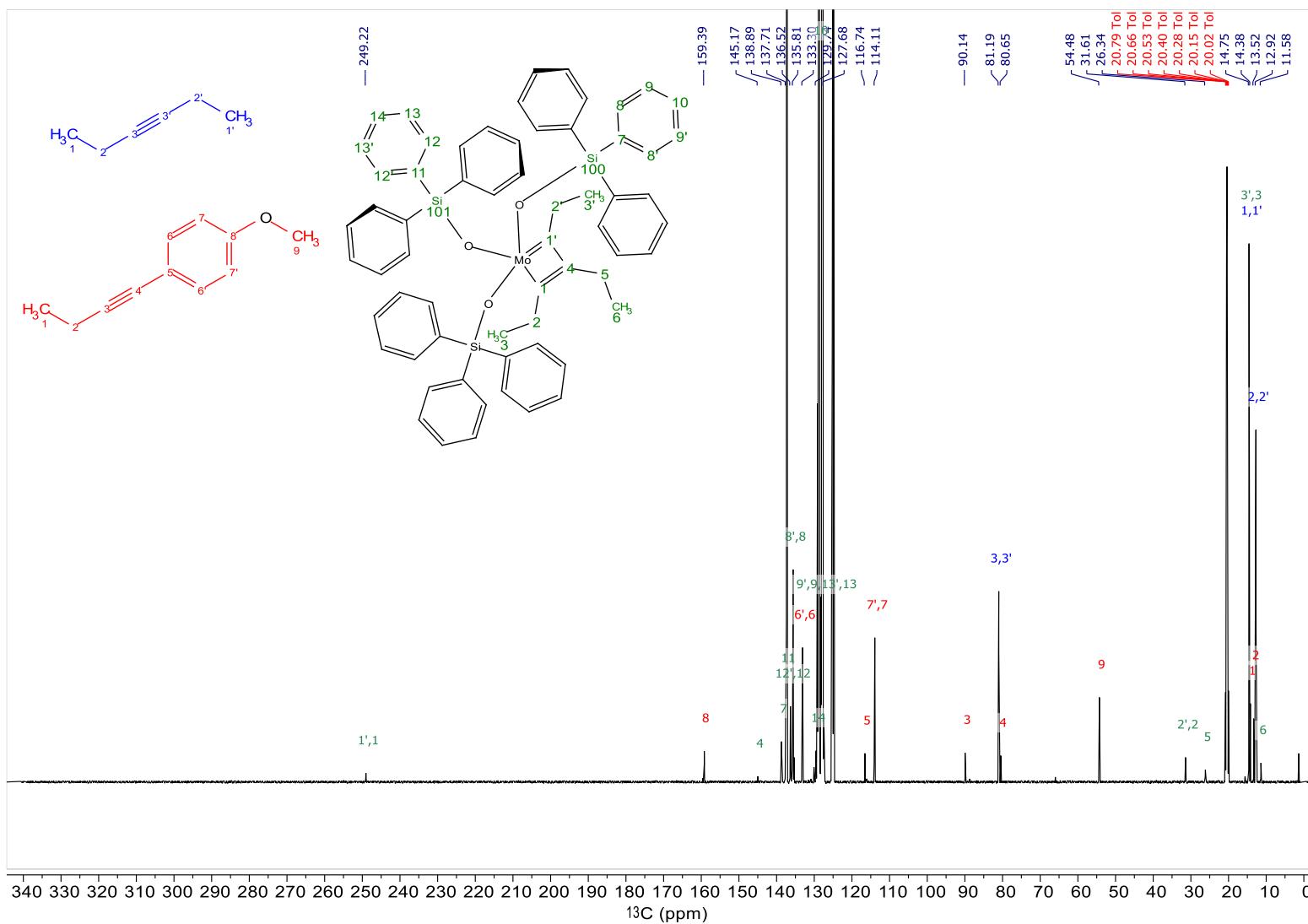
¹H CLIP-COSY NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex **7**, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



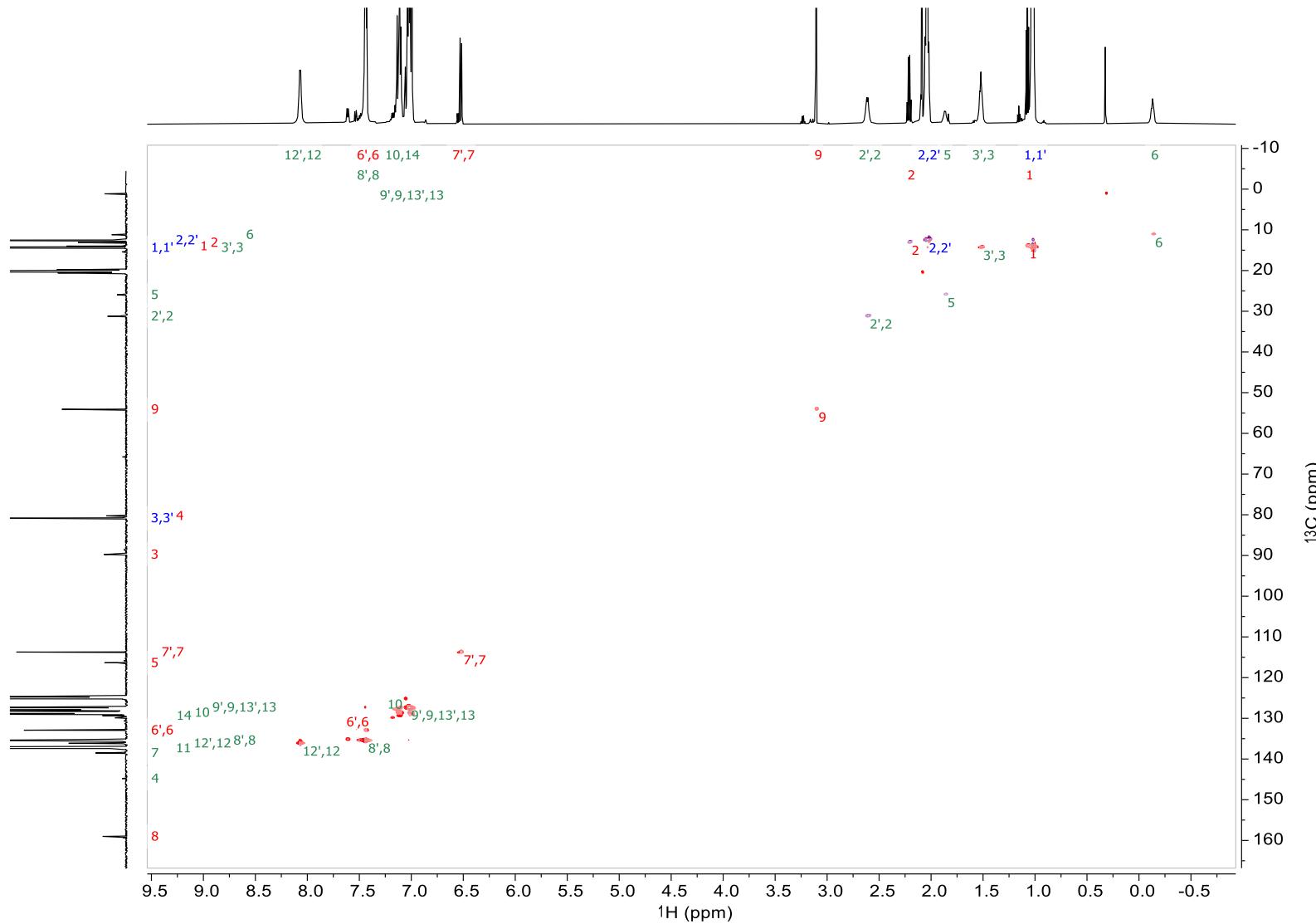
¹H EASY-ROESY NMR Spectrum ($\tau_{\text{spinlock}} = 200\text{ms}$) of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



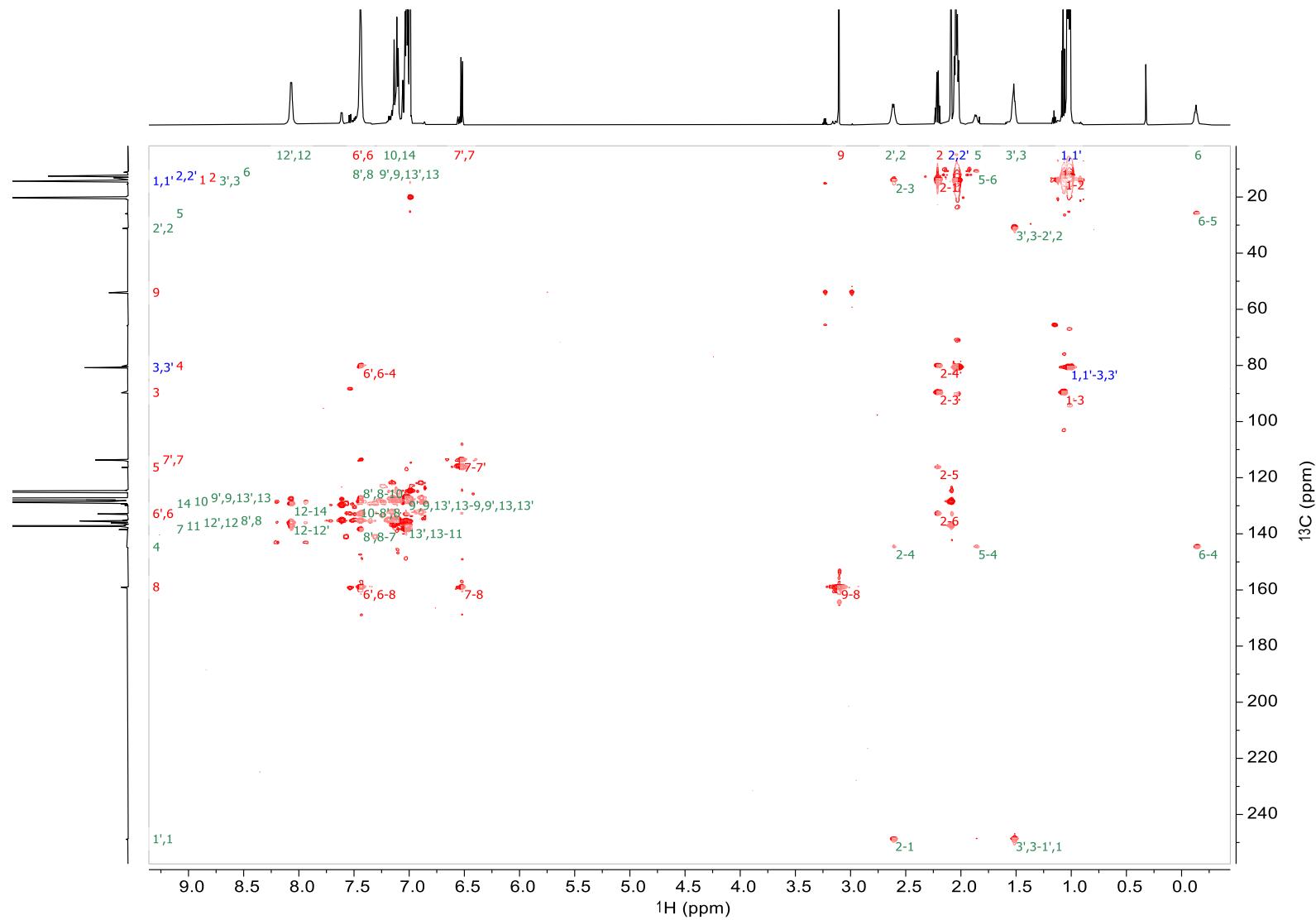
¹³C NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, 151 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



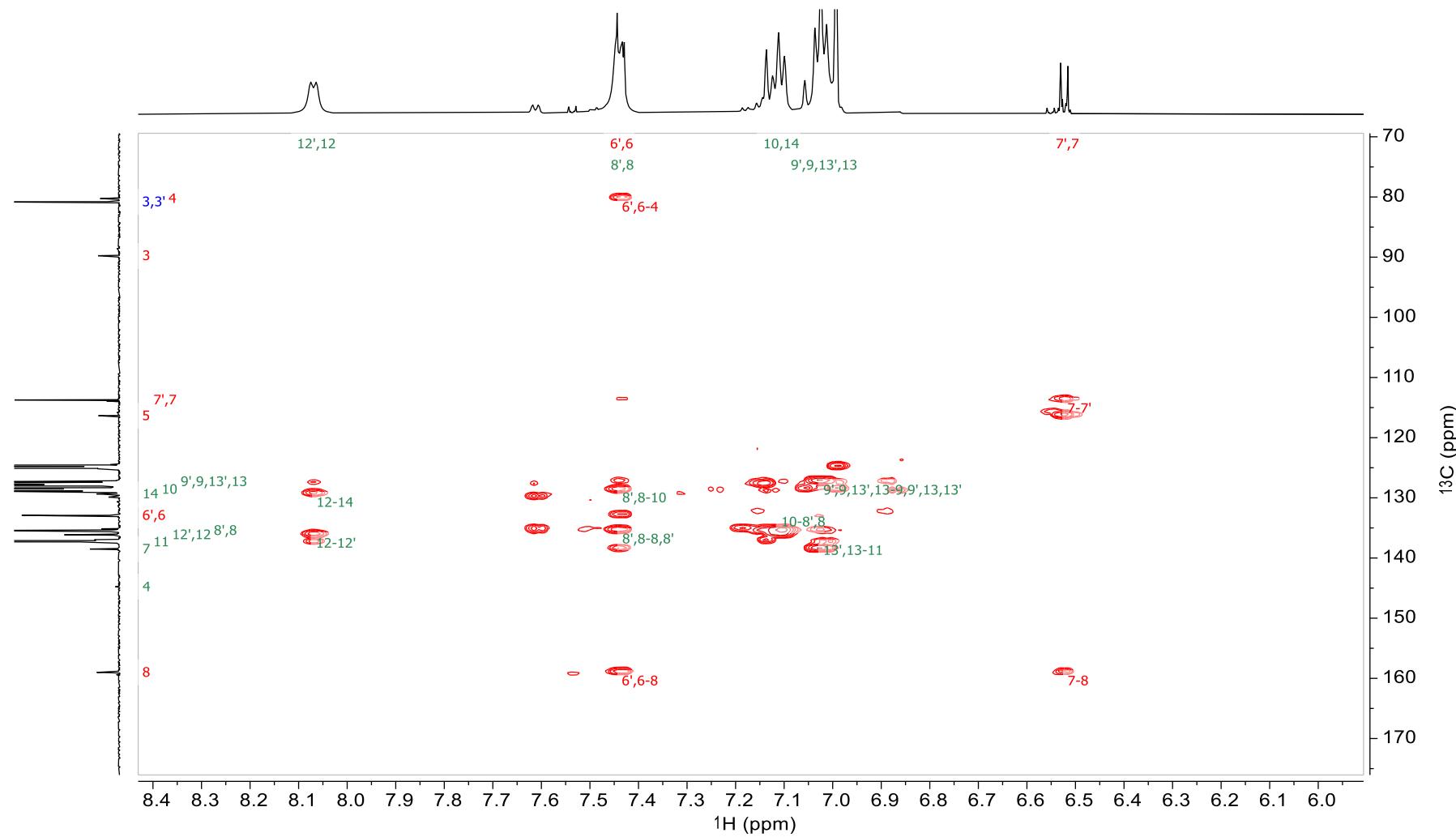
¹H-¹³C edited HSQC NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



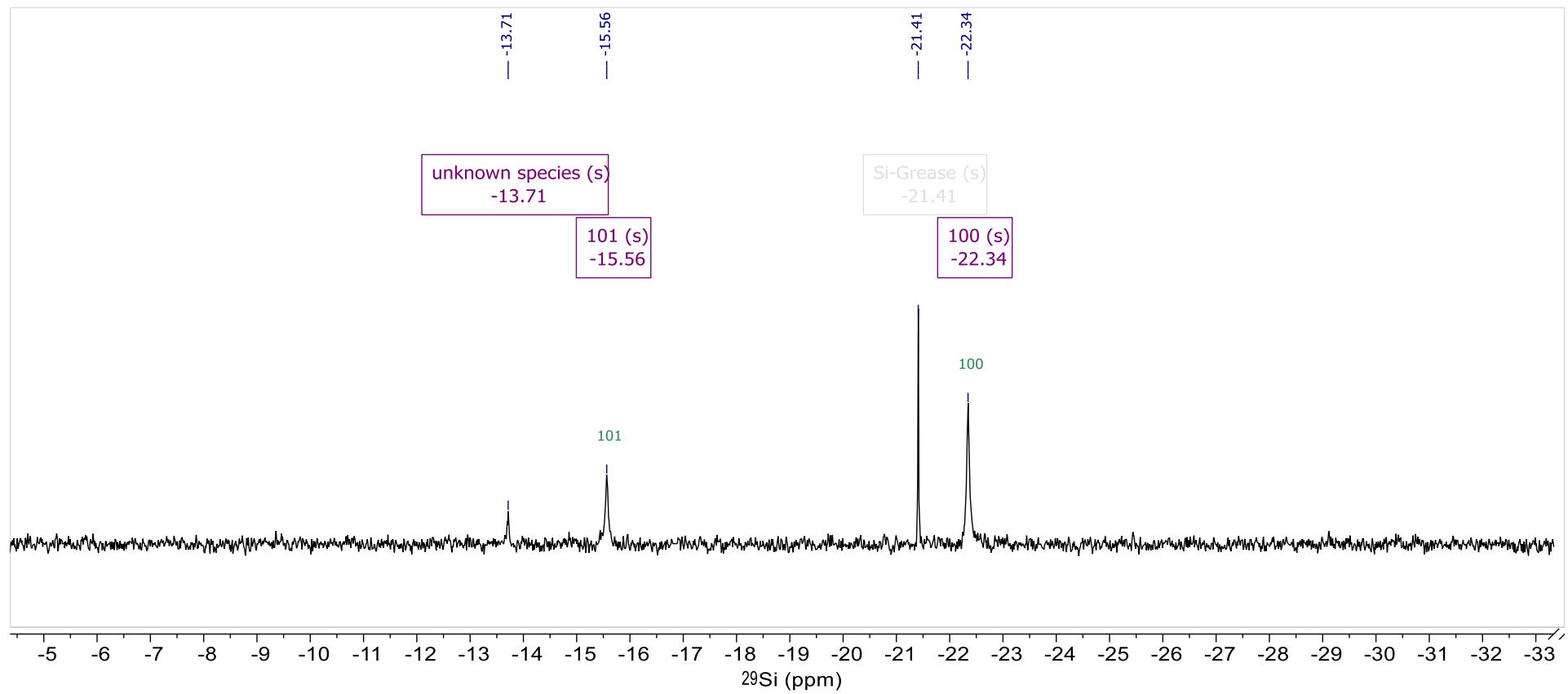
¹H-¹³C HMBC NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



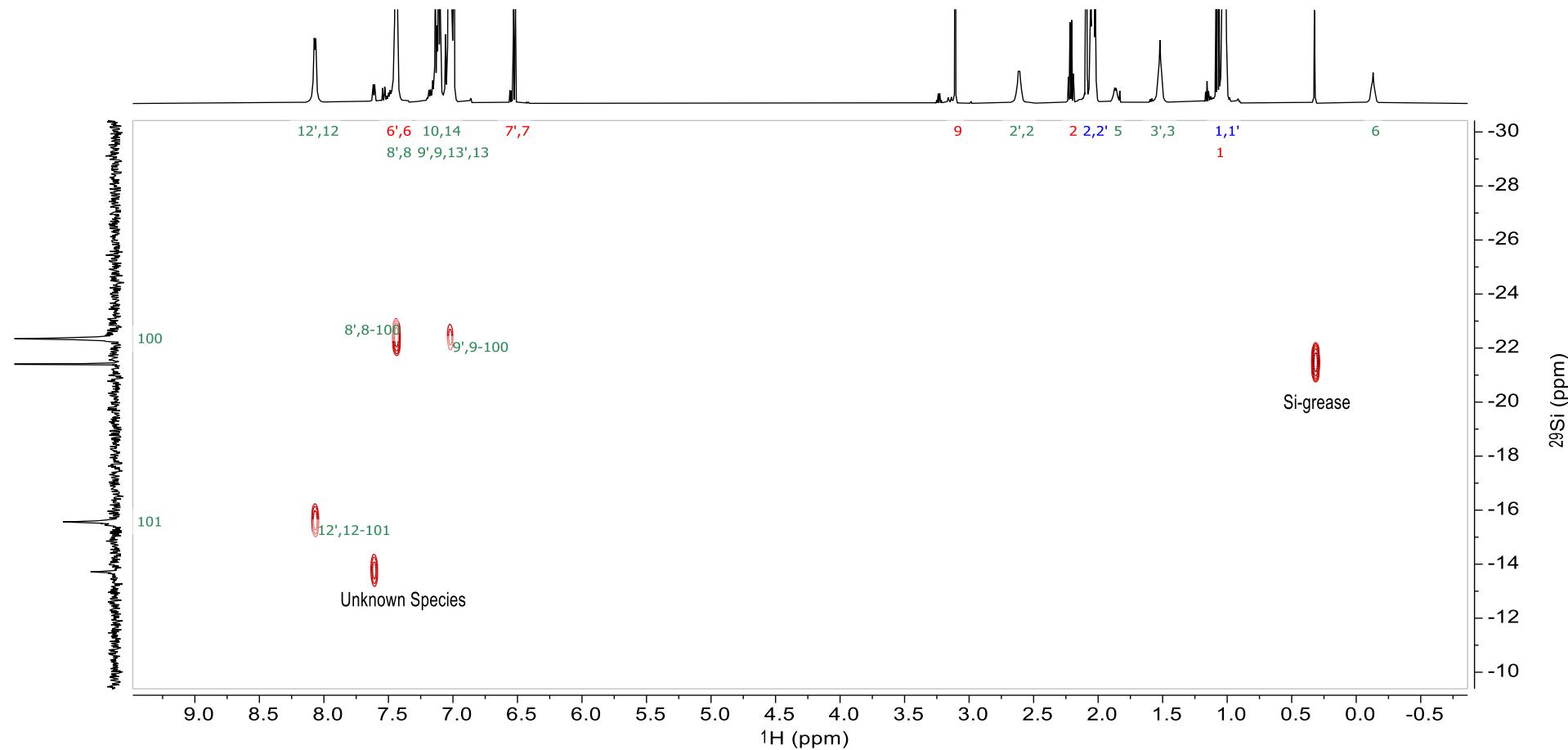
Aromatic ^1H region of the ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C



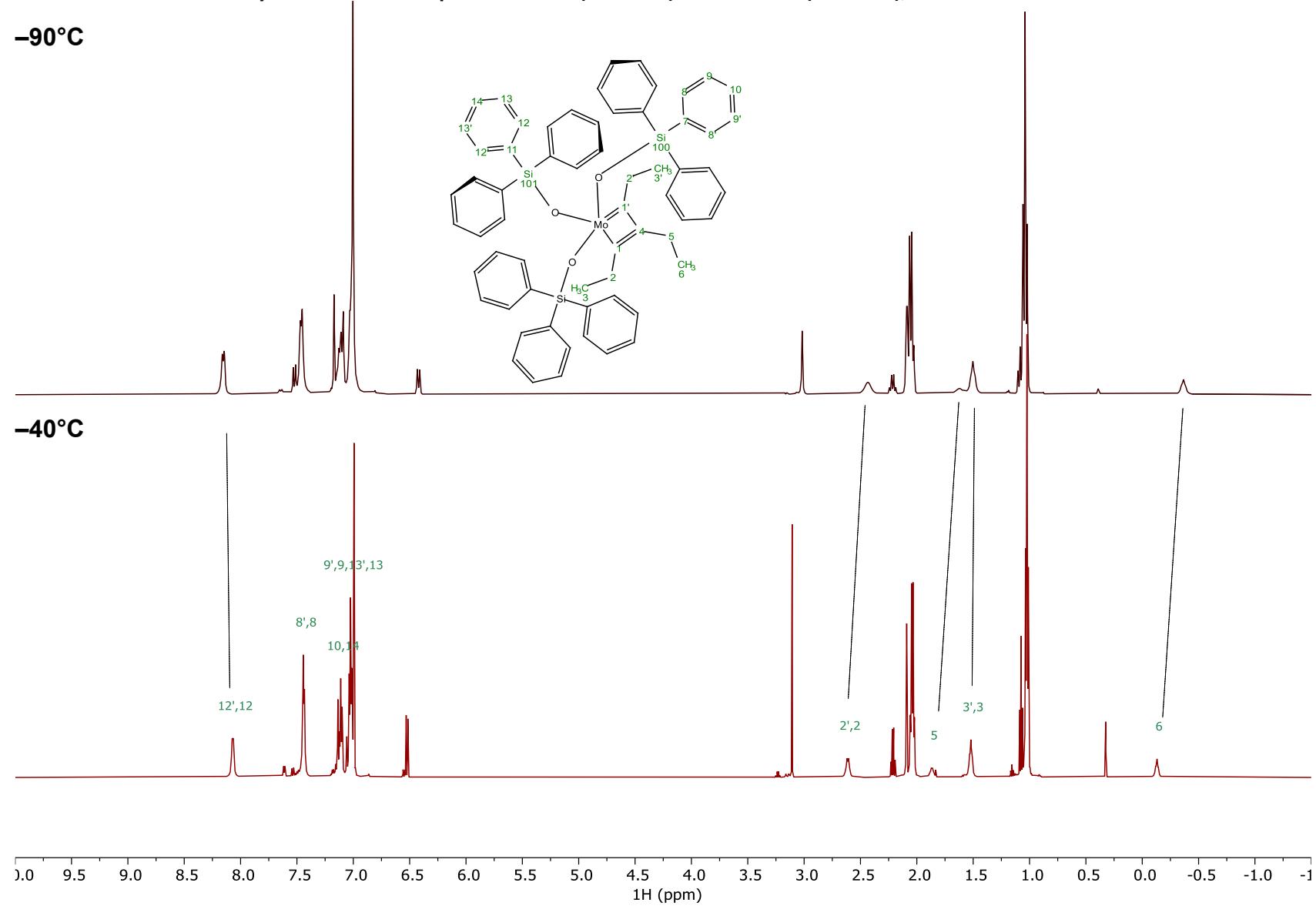
^{29}Si -INEPT NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, 119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C



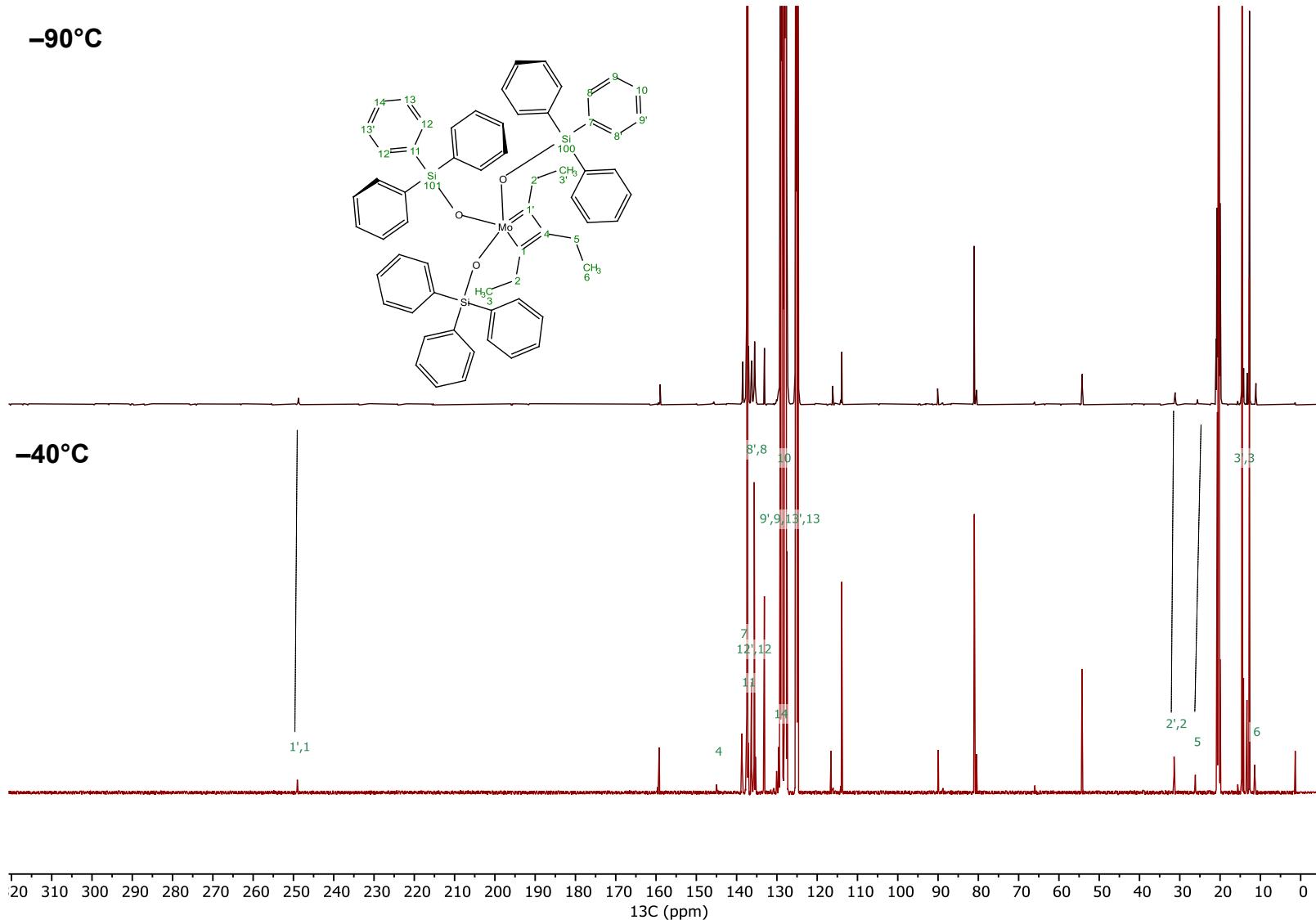
¹H-²⁹Si HMBC NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



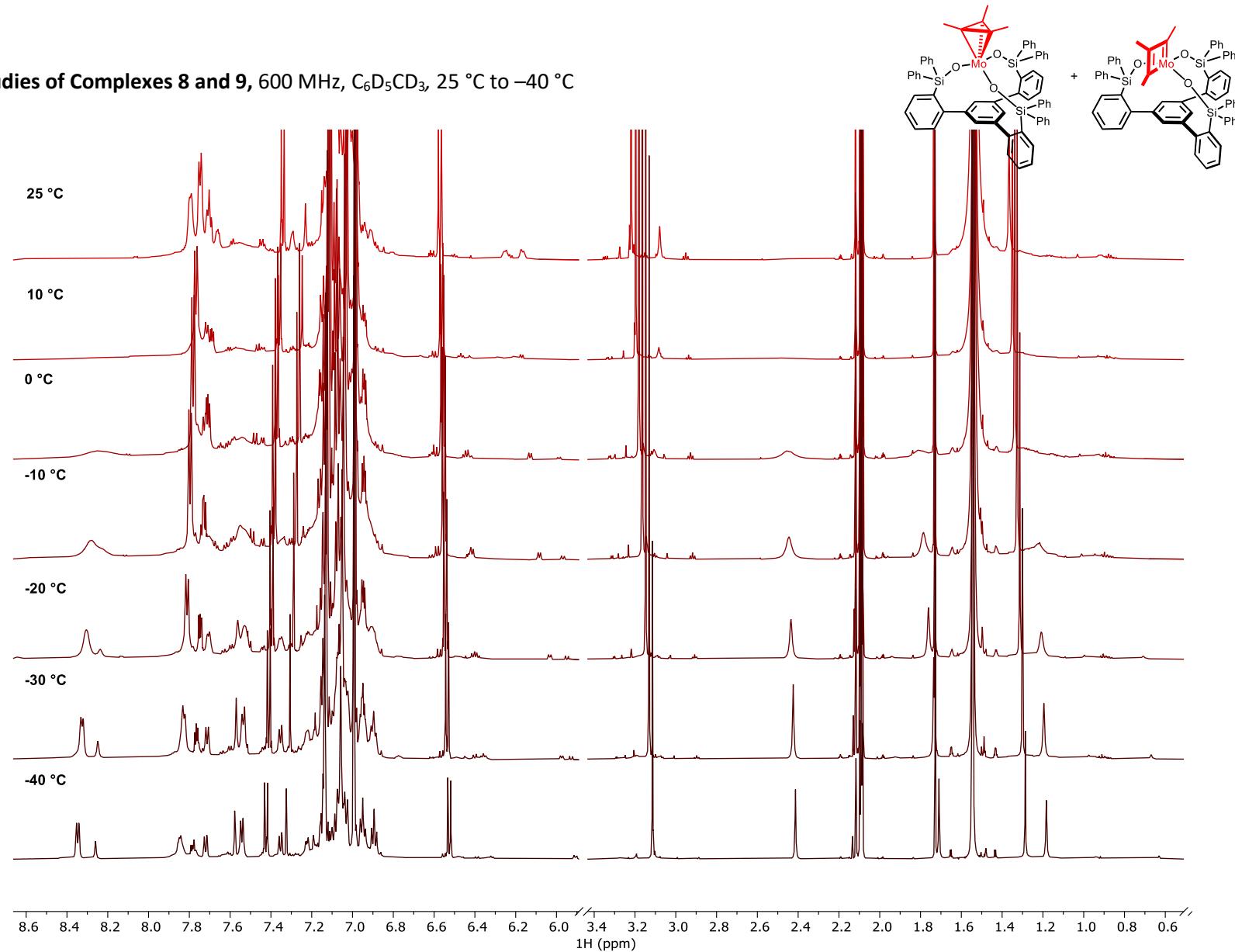
Comparison of ^1H NMR of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7 at -90°C (400 MHz) and at -40 °C (600 MHz), $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$



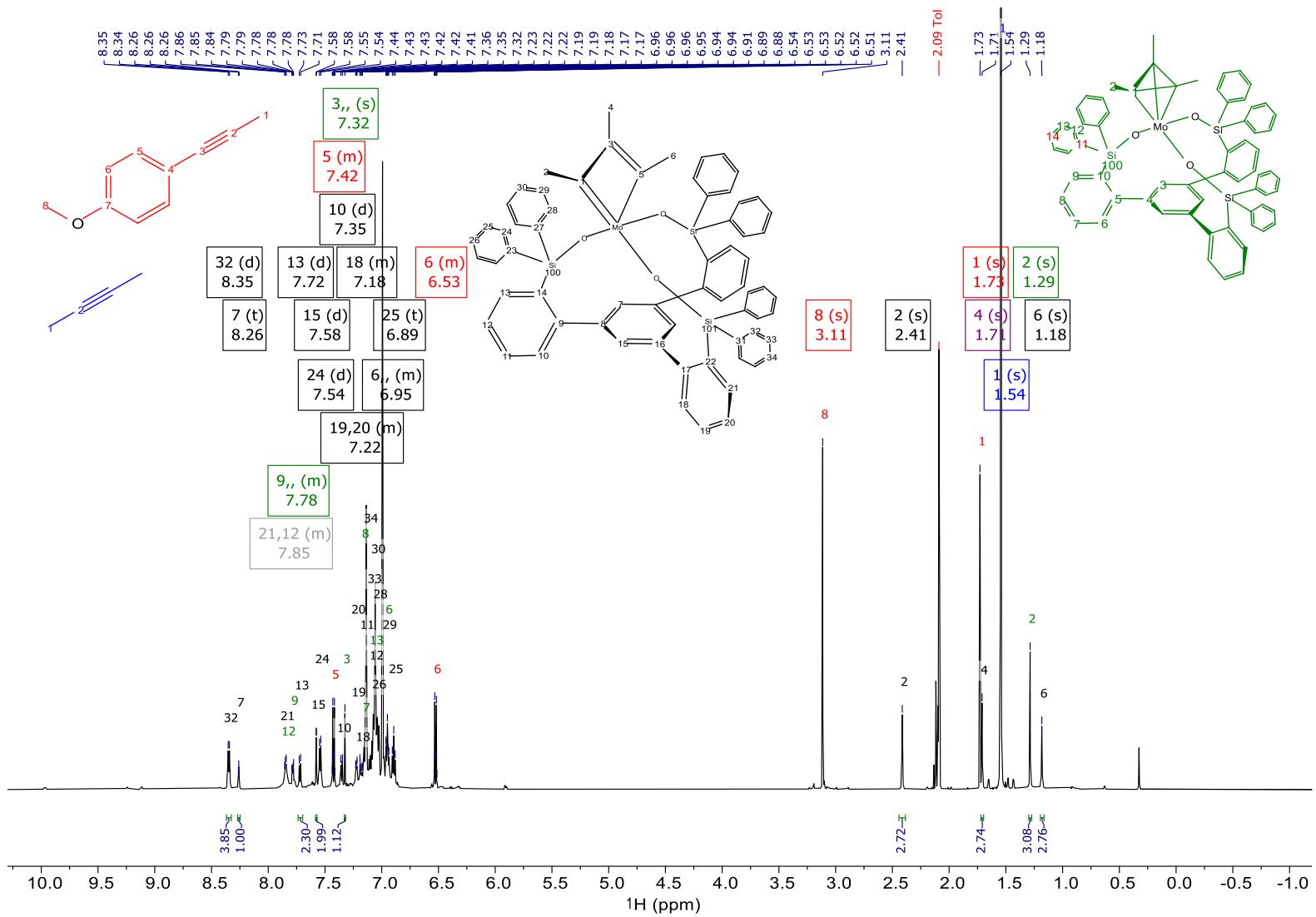
Comparison of ^{13}C NMR of Metallacyclobutadiene Complex 7 at -40 °C (151 MHz) and at -90°C (101 MHz), $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$



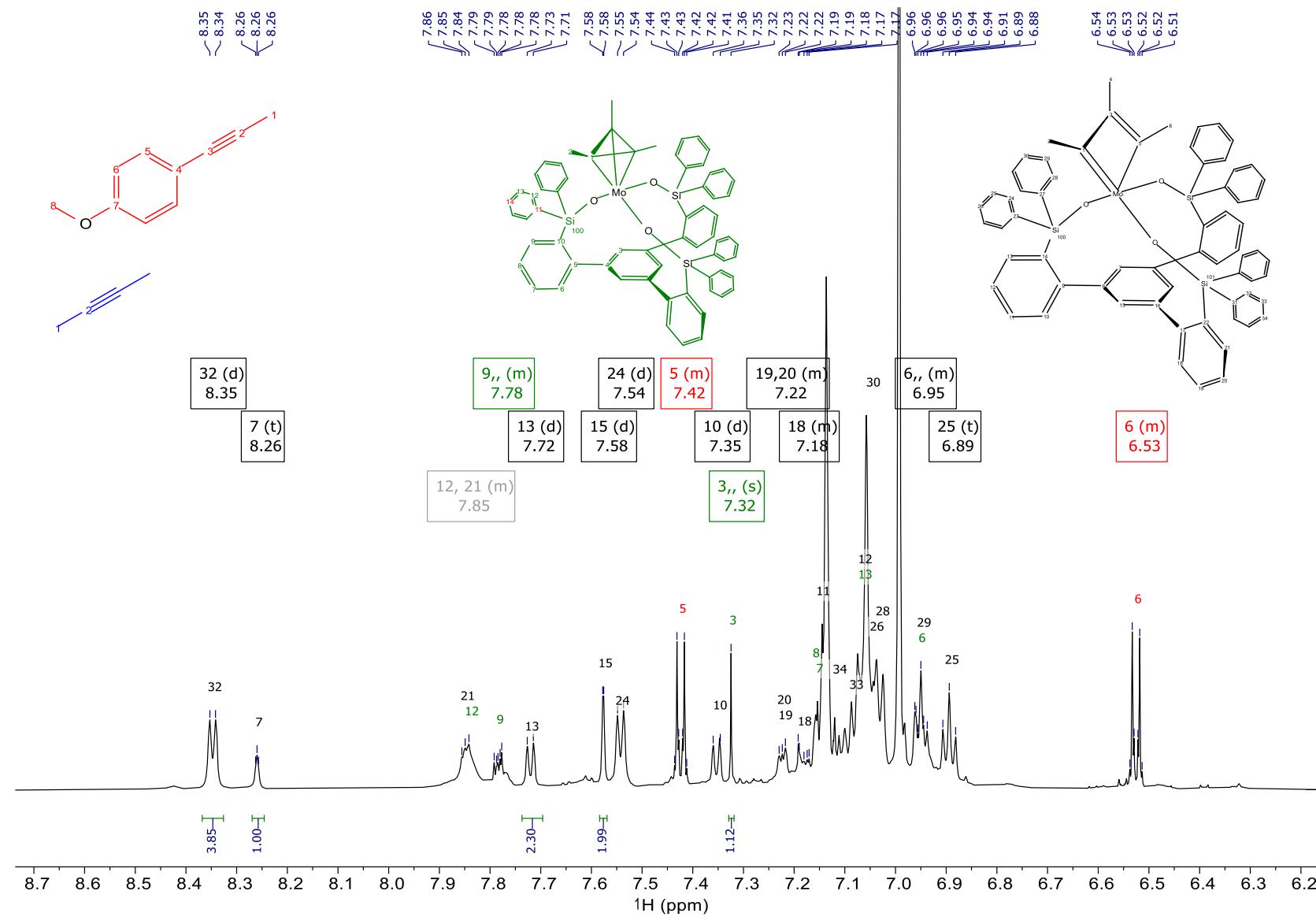
VT ^1H NMR Studies of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, 25 °C to -40 °C



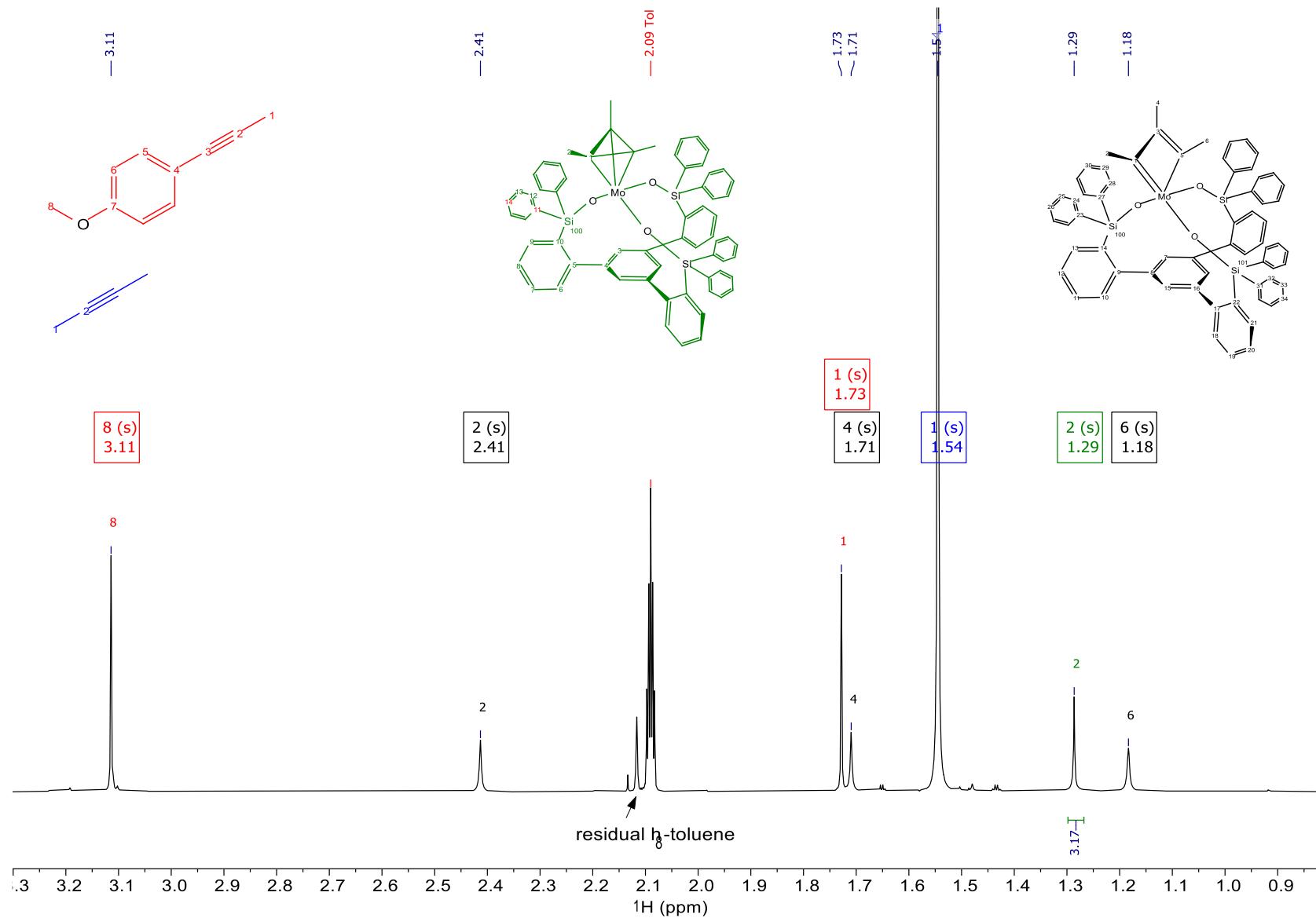
¹H NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



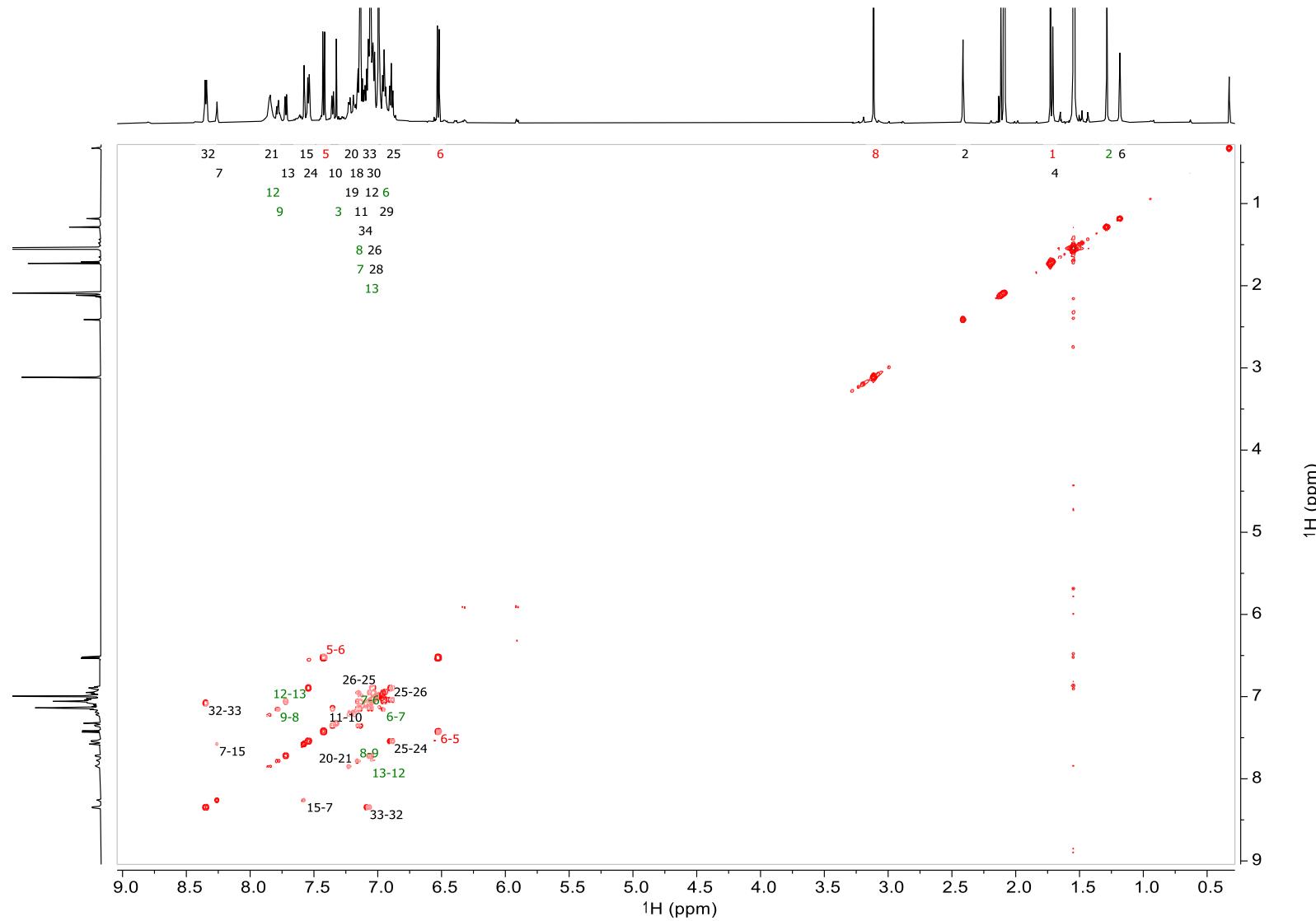
Aromatic Region of the ^1H NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C



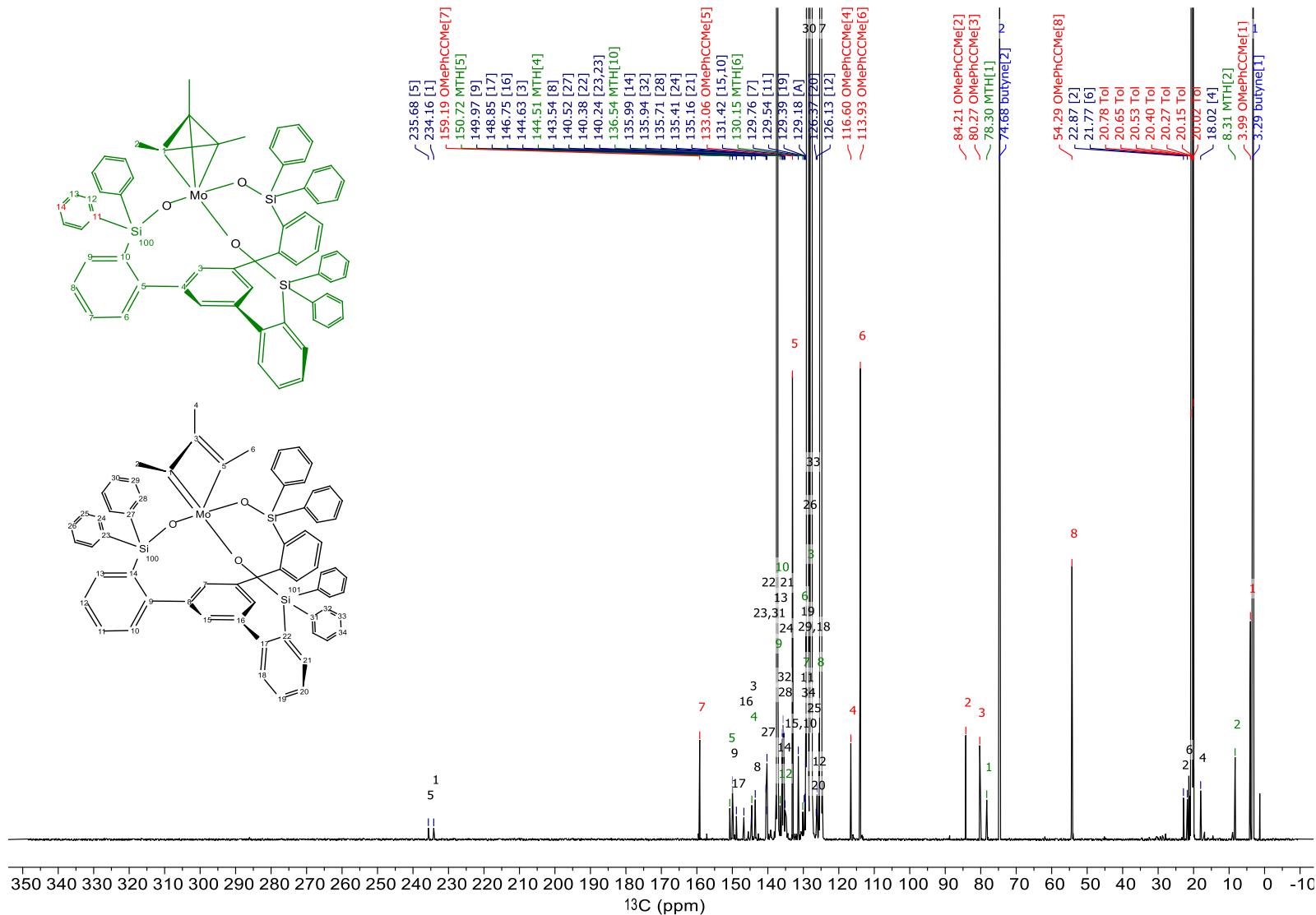
Aliphatic Region of the ^1H NMR Spectrum of Complexes **8 and **9**, 600 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C**



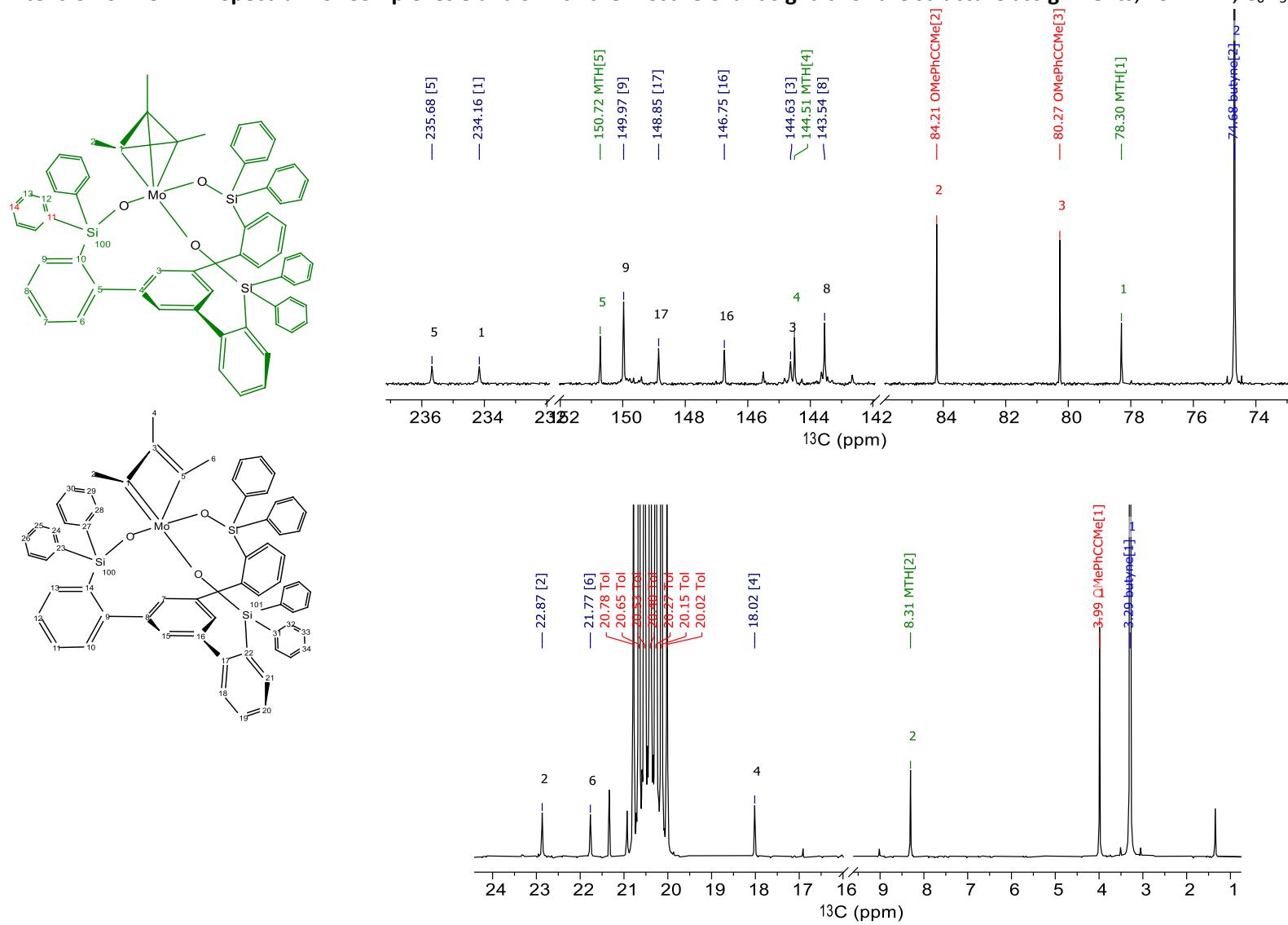
¹H COSY NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



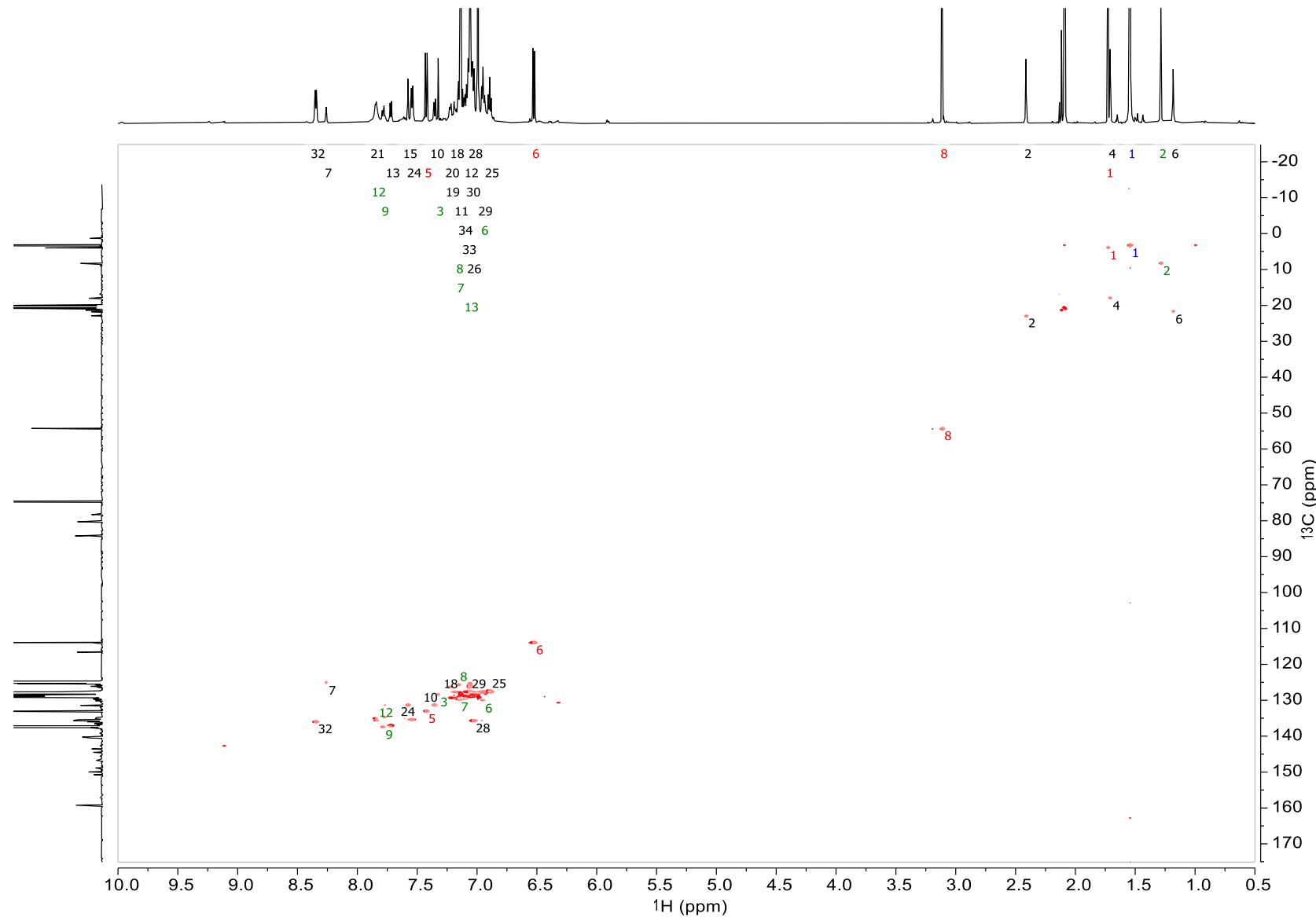
¹³C NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 151 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



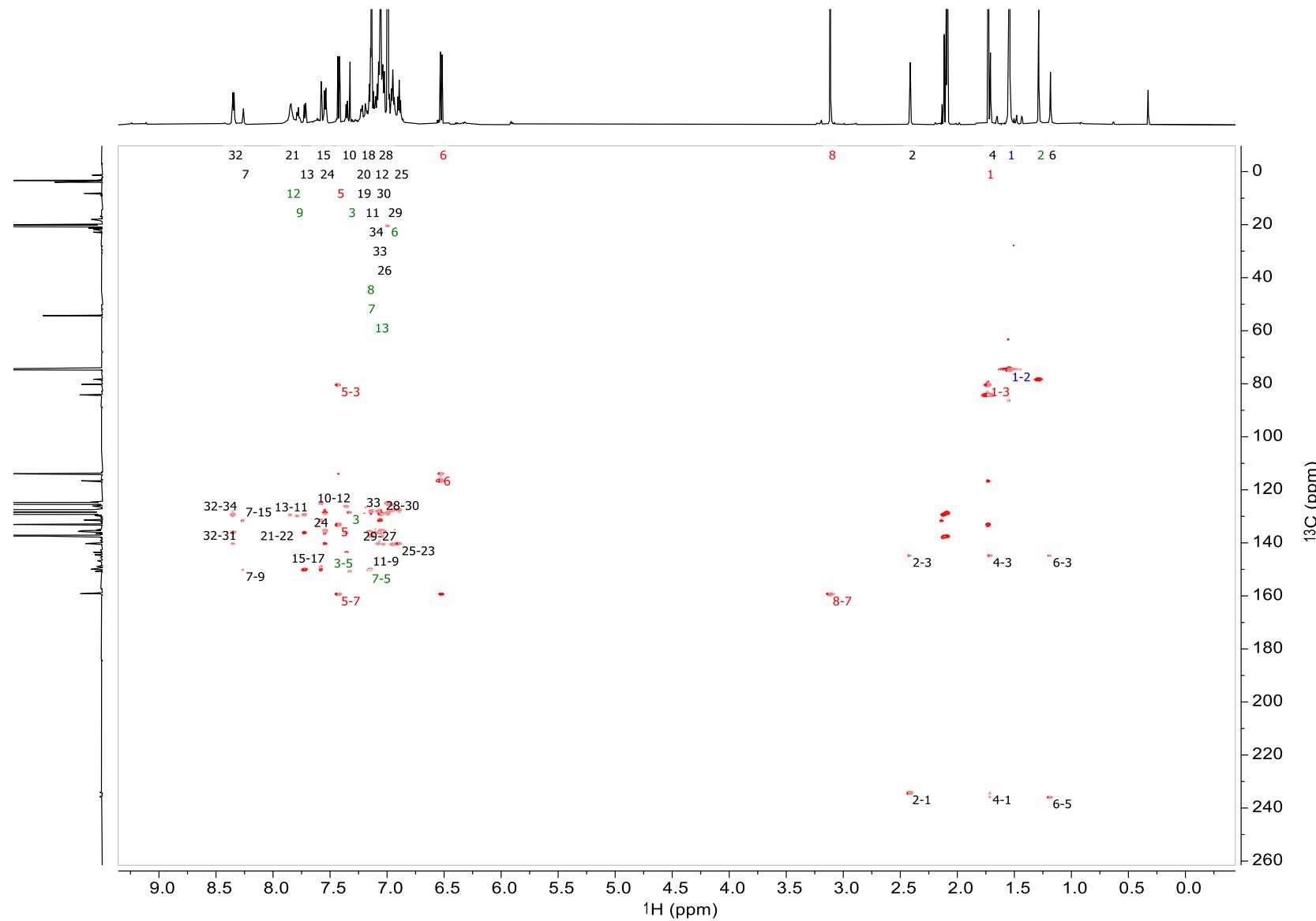
Extension of ^{13}C NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9 with the most relevant signals for the structure assignments, 151 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C



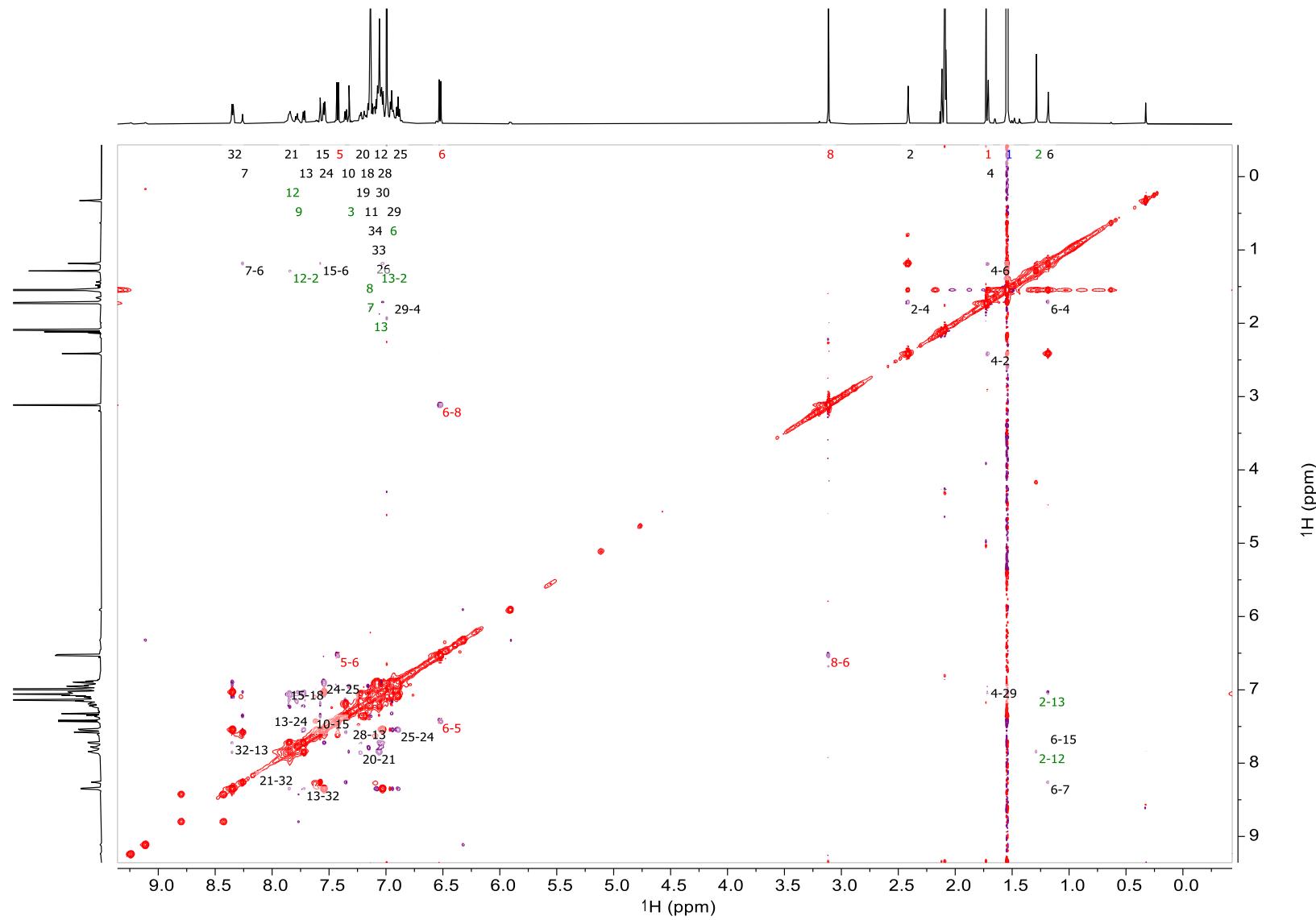
¹H-¹³C edited HSQC NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



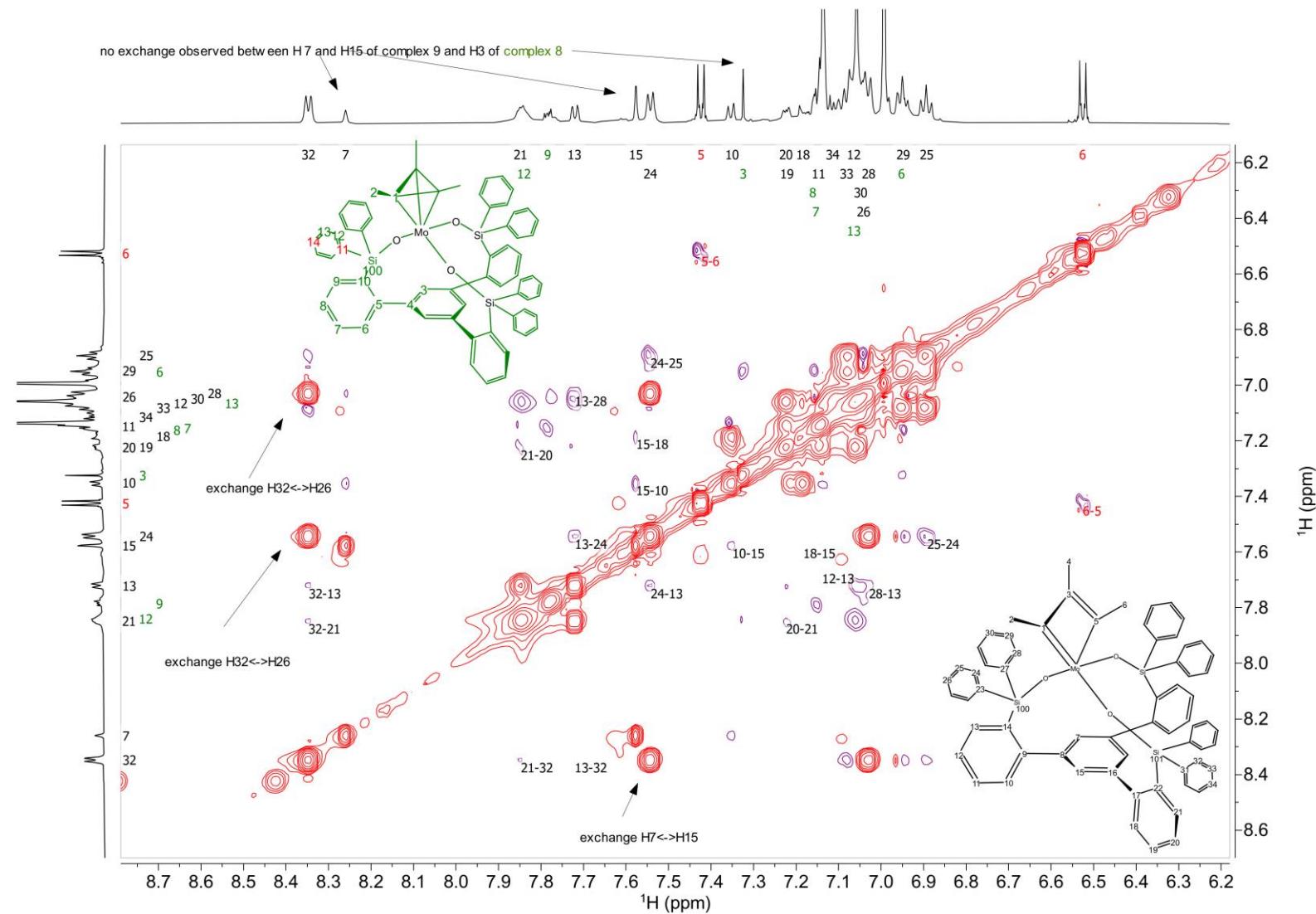
¹H-¹³C HMBC NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



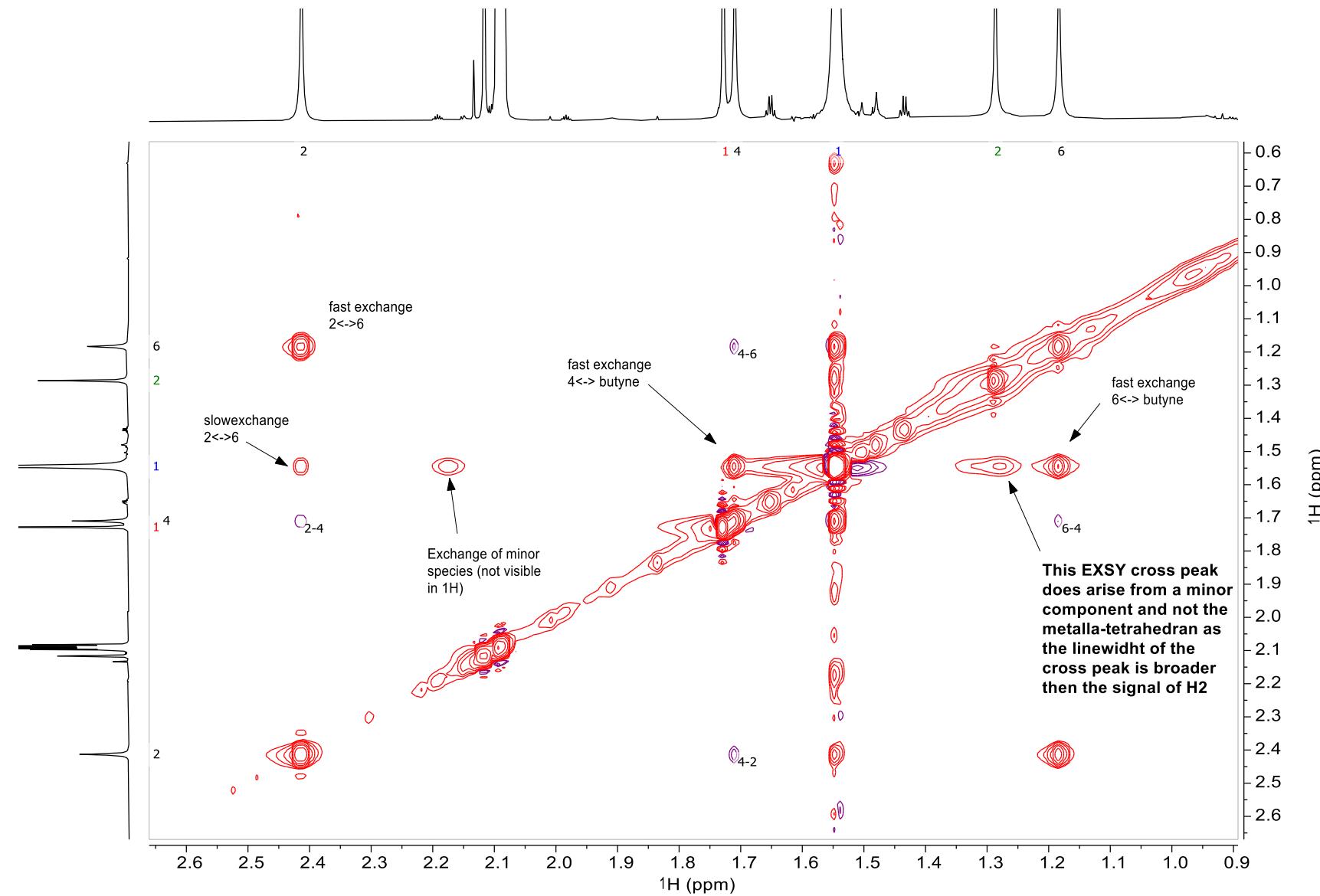
¹H EASY-ROESY NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, $\tau_{\text{spinlock}} = 200$ ms, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



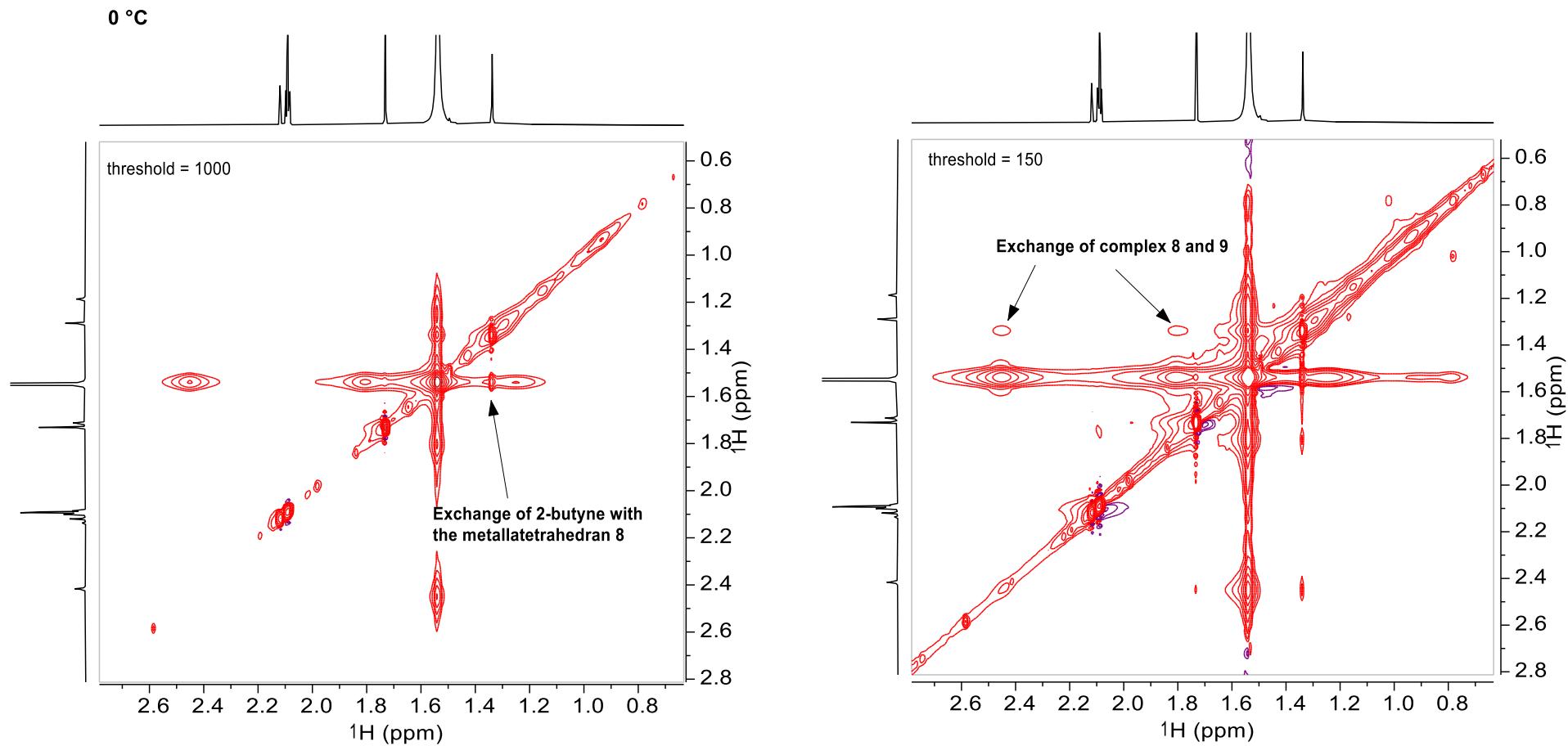
Aromatic region of the ^1H EASY ROESY NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, $\tau_{\text{spinlock}} = 200$ ms, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C



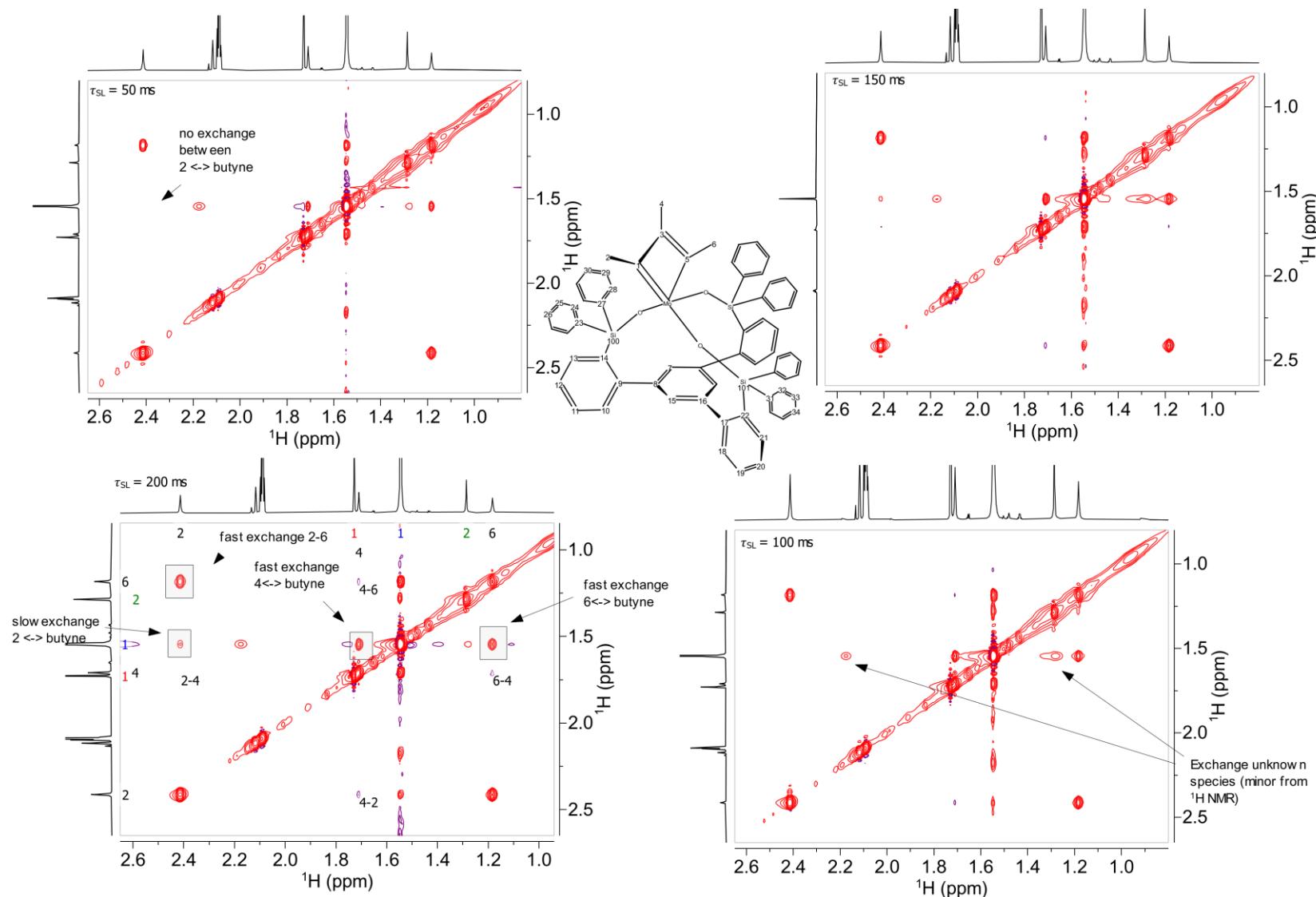
Aliphatic region of the ^1H EASY ROESY NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9, 600 MHz, $\tau_{\text{spinlock}} = 200$ ms, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40 °C



Aliphatic region of the ^1H EASY-ROESY NMR Spectrum of Complexes 8 and 9 with different thresholds, 600 MHz, $\tau_{\text{spinlock}} = 200$ ms, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, 0°C



Comparison of EASY-ROESY NMR Spectra of Complexes 8 and 9 with different spinlock times and same threshold, 600 MHz, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



Cross-peak build up curves extracted from 2D EASY-ROESY NMR Spectra

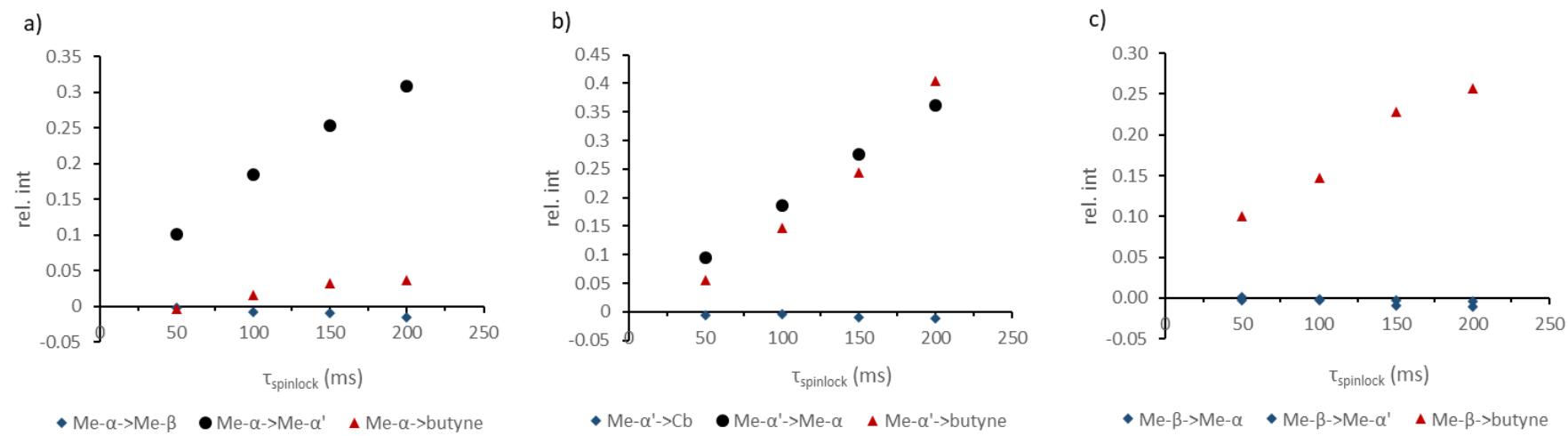
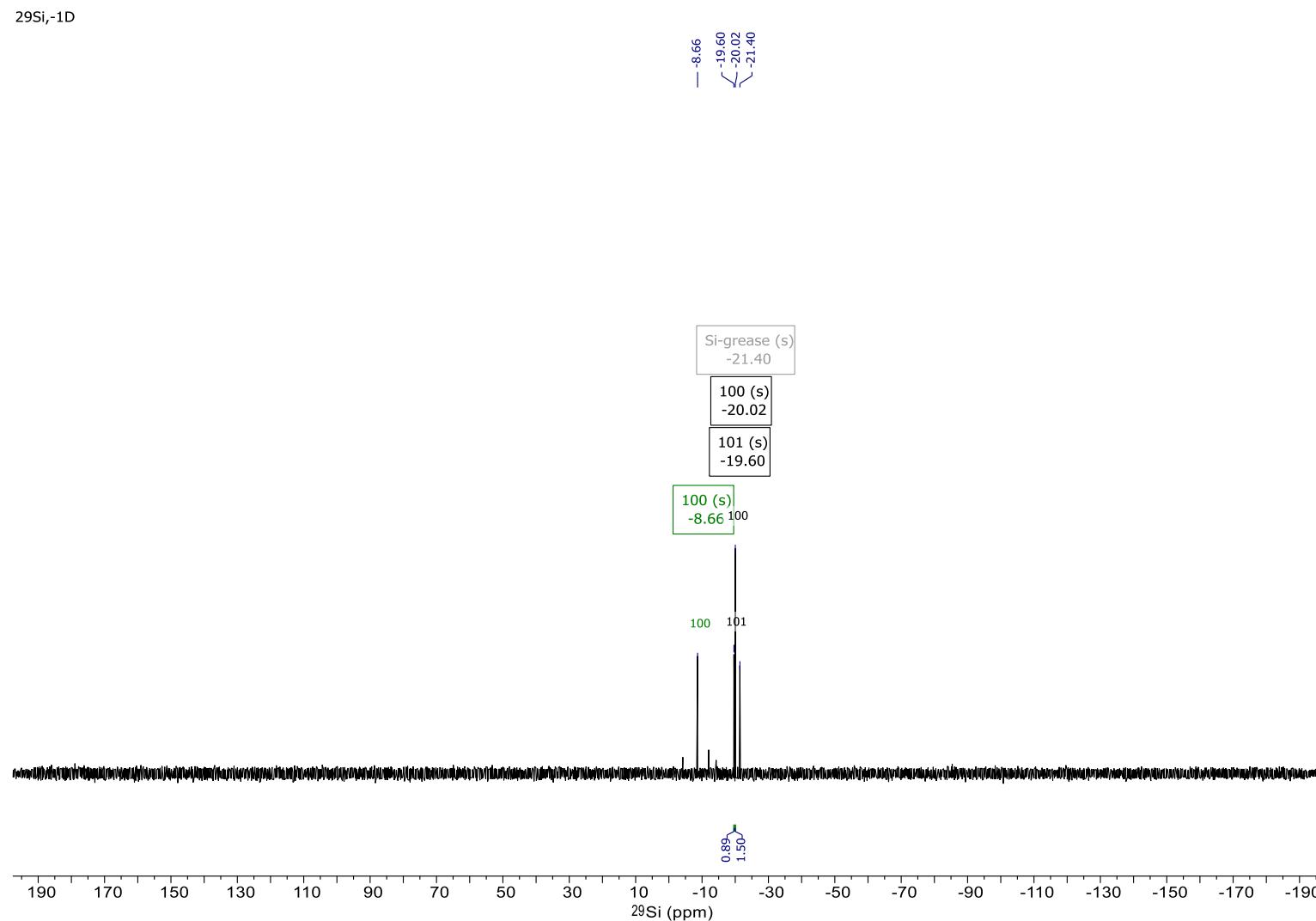
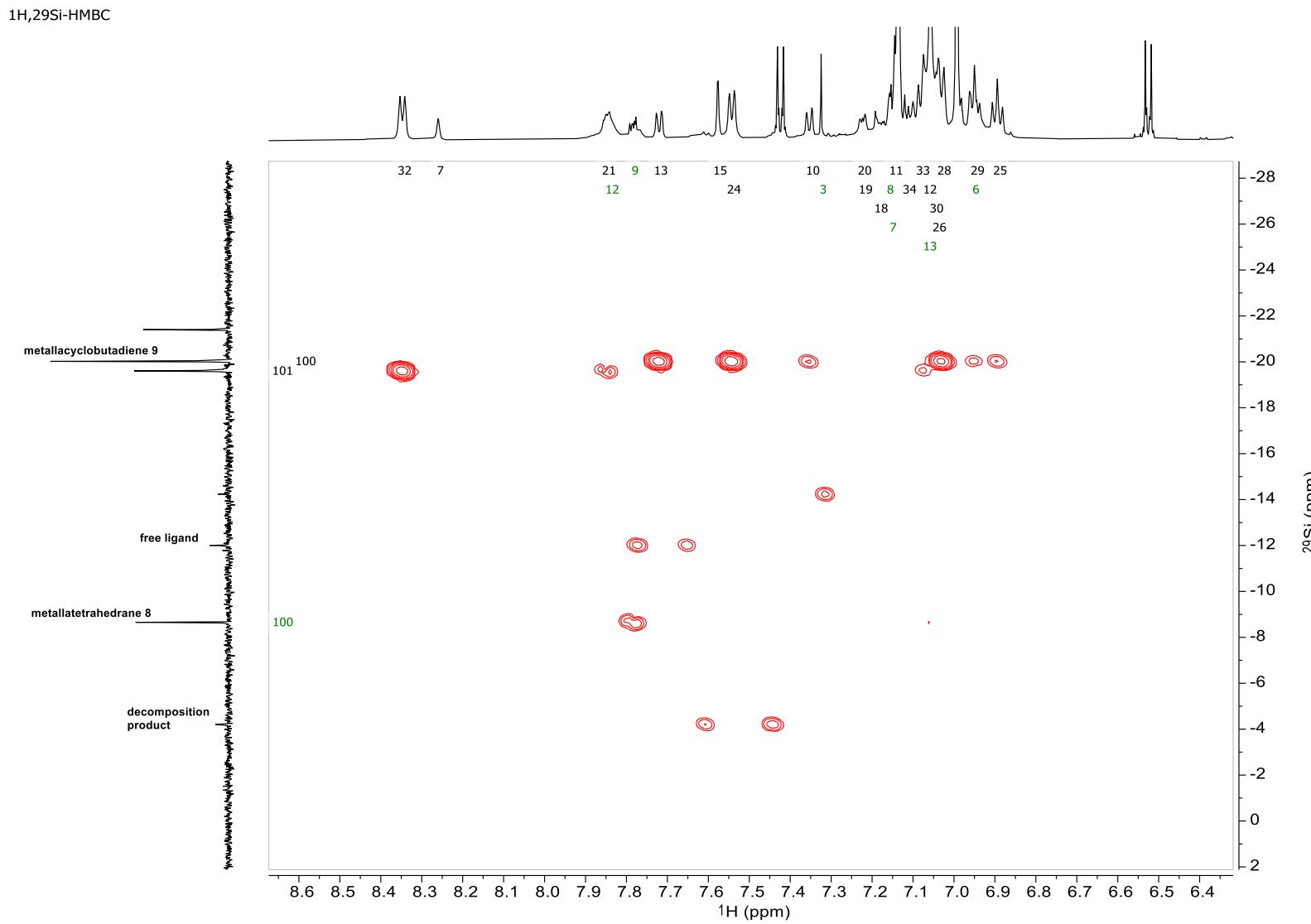


Figure 3: Normalized cross peak build-up curves extracted from the 2D EASY-ROESY spectra. Cross peaks were normalized to the diagonal cross peak integral of the corresponding diagonal peak. a) cross peak build up from the Me-group of compound 9 at $C\alpha$ to the other methyl groups and 2-butyne; b) cross peak build up from the Me-group at $C\alpha'$ to the other methyl groups and 2-butyne; c) cross peak build up from the Me-group at $C\beta$ to the other methyl groups and 2-butyne.

^{29}Si -INEPT NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complexes 8 and 9, 119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, -40°C

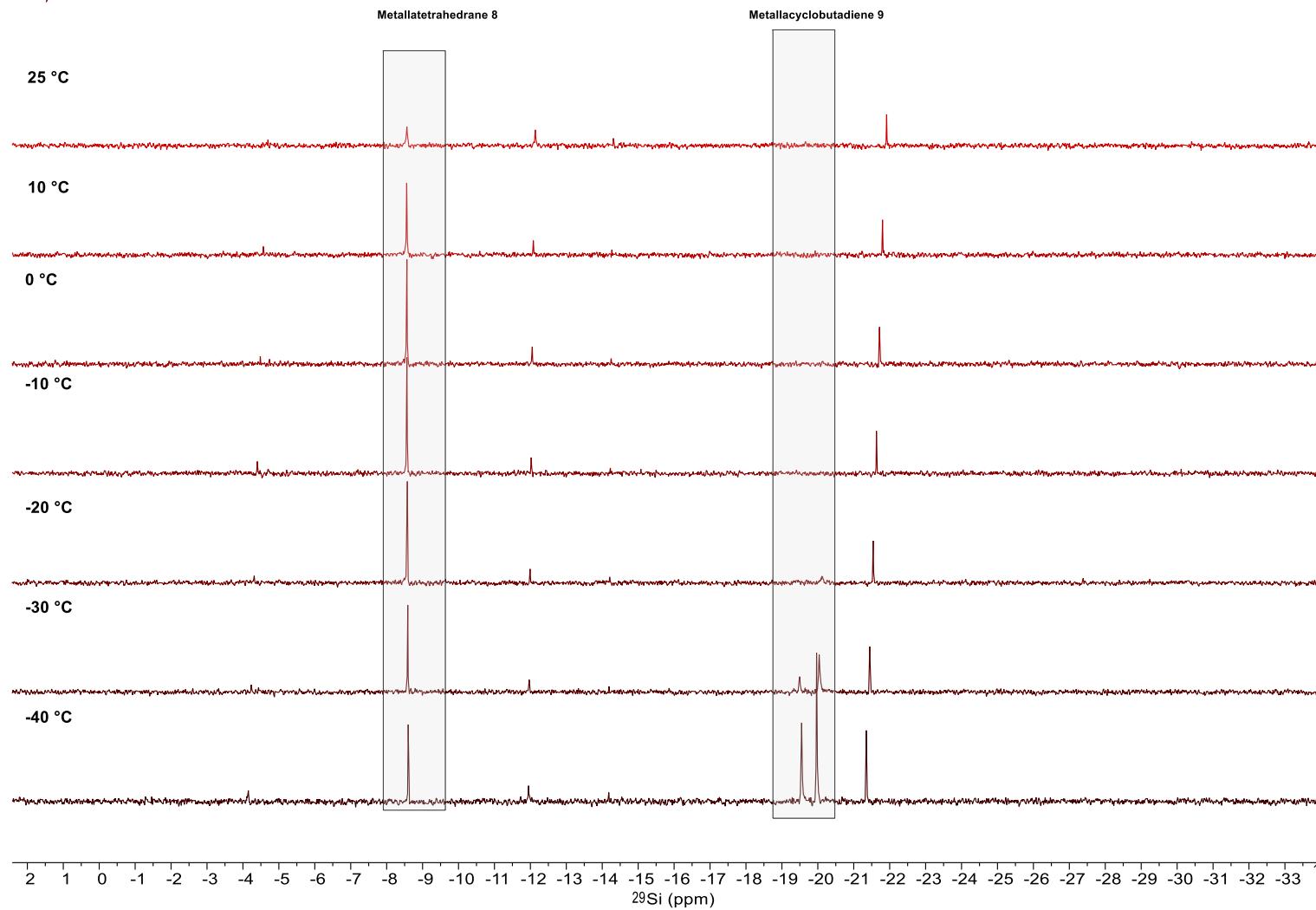


¹H-²⁹Si HMBC NMR Spectrum of Metallacyclobutadiene Complexes **8** and **9**, C₆D₅CD₃, -40 °C



VT ^{29}Si NMR Studies of Complexes **8** and **9**, 119 MHz, $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$, 25 °C to –40 °C

$^{29}\text{Si}, -1\text{D}$



The somewhat higher stability of the metallatetrahedrane **8** is in good agreement with the computed thermodynamic data (see Figure 4, main text)

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