

## Electronic Supporting Information

### Synthesis and structure of iron (II) complexes of functionalized 1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctanes.

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**General methods:** ESI<sub>pos</sub> MS were recorded with an AmazonX (Bruker Daltonic GmbH, Bremen, Germany) spectrometer at a capillary voltage of 4500 V. DataAnalysis 4.0 (Bruker Daltonic GmbH, Bremen, Germany) program was used to process the mass spectrometry data. MALDI MS were recorded with an Ultraflex III TOF/TOF (Bruker Daltonics, Germany) spectrometer on p-nitroaniline matrix. FlexAnalysis 3.0 (Bruker Daltonics) program was used to process the mass spectrometry data. The mass spectra are reported as m/z values. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz and 600 MHz) and <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 and 242 MHz) spectra were obtained with Bruker Avance-DRX 400 and Bruker Avance-600 spectrometers. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to SiMe<sub>4</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H, internal standard), and 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (aq) (<sup>31</sup>P; external standard). The coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hz. Simultaneous thermogravimetry and differential scanning calorimetry (TG/DSC) analysis of samples of **11b** (solvate) (10.7 mg) were performed using the STA 449F1 Jupiter (Netzsch, Germany) thermoanalyzer (in the range of temperatures from 40 to 200 °C in aluminum crucible under dynamic atmosphere of argon (75 ml/min). The heating rate was 10 °C/min.

## The spectra of the synthesized compounds.

### 3,7-dibenzyl-1,5-di(1'-(*R*)-phenylethyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane (**3**).

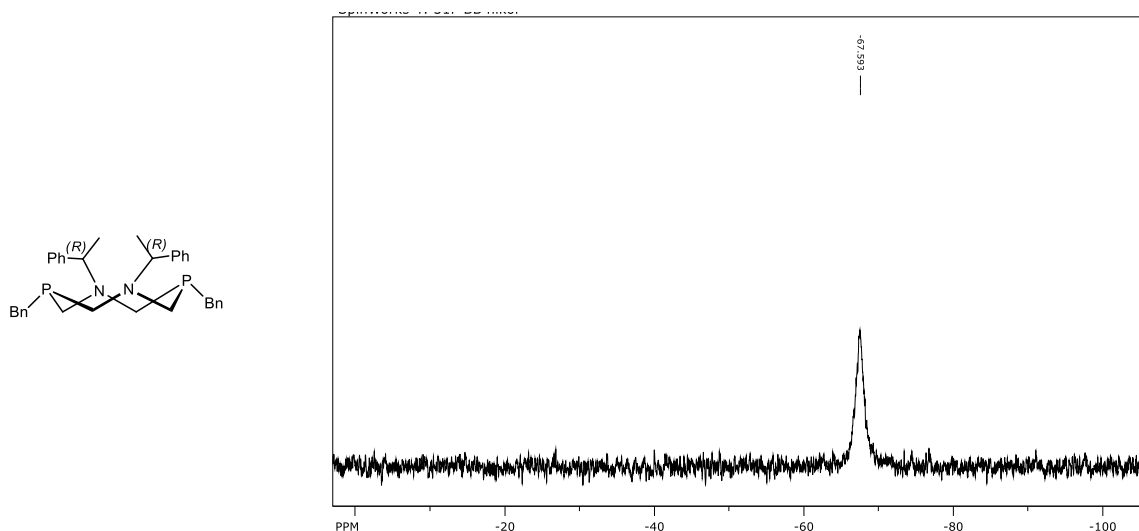


Figure S1. <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of **3** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (162 MHz).

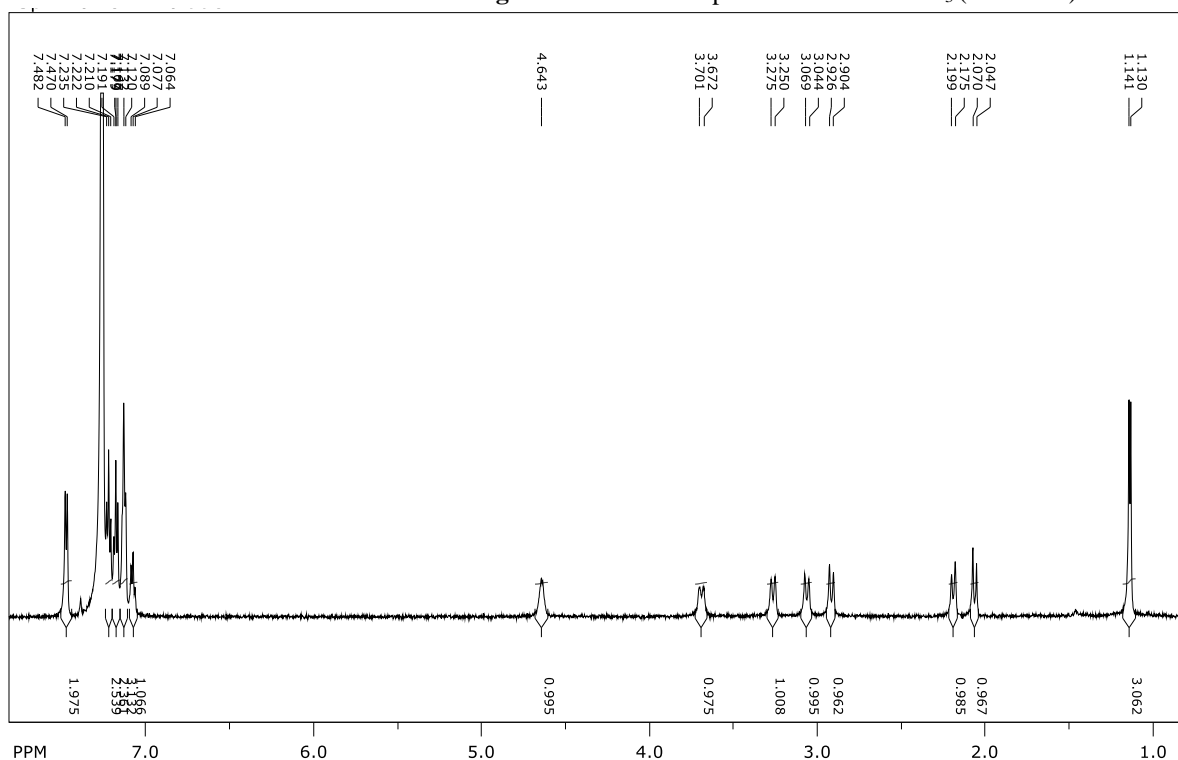
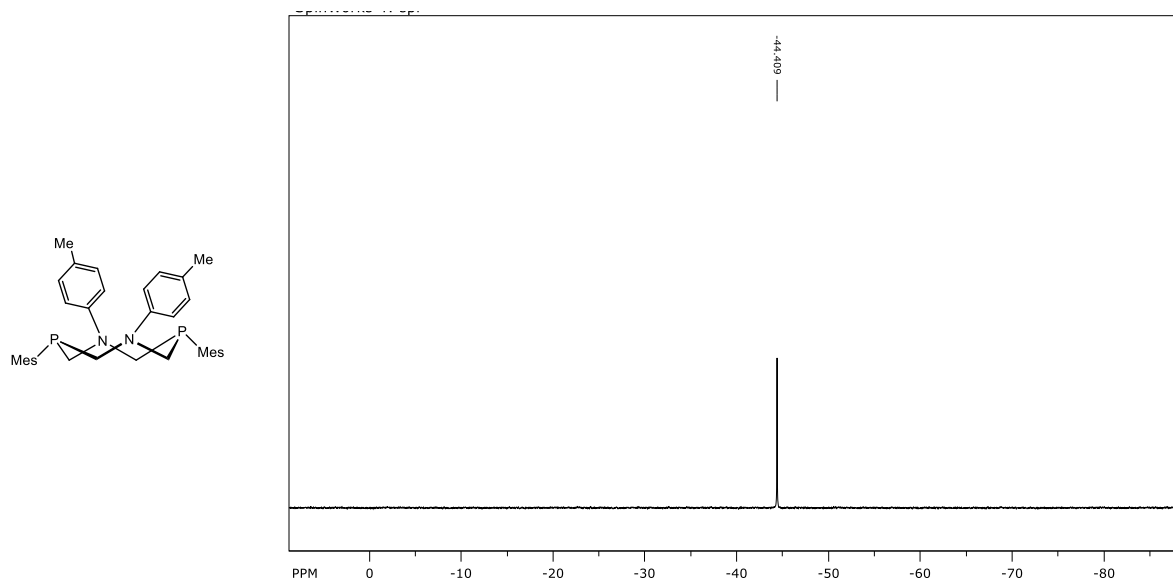
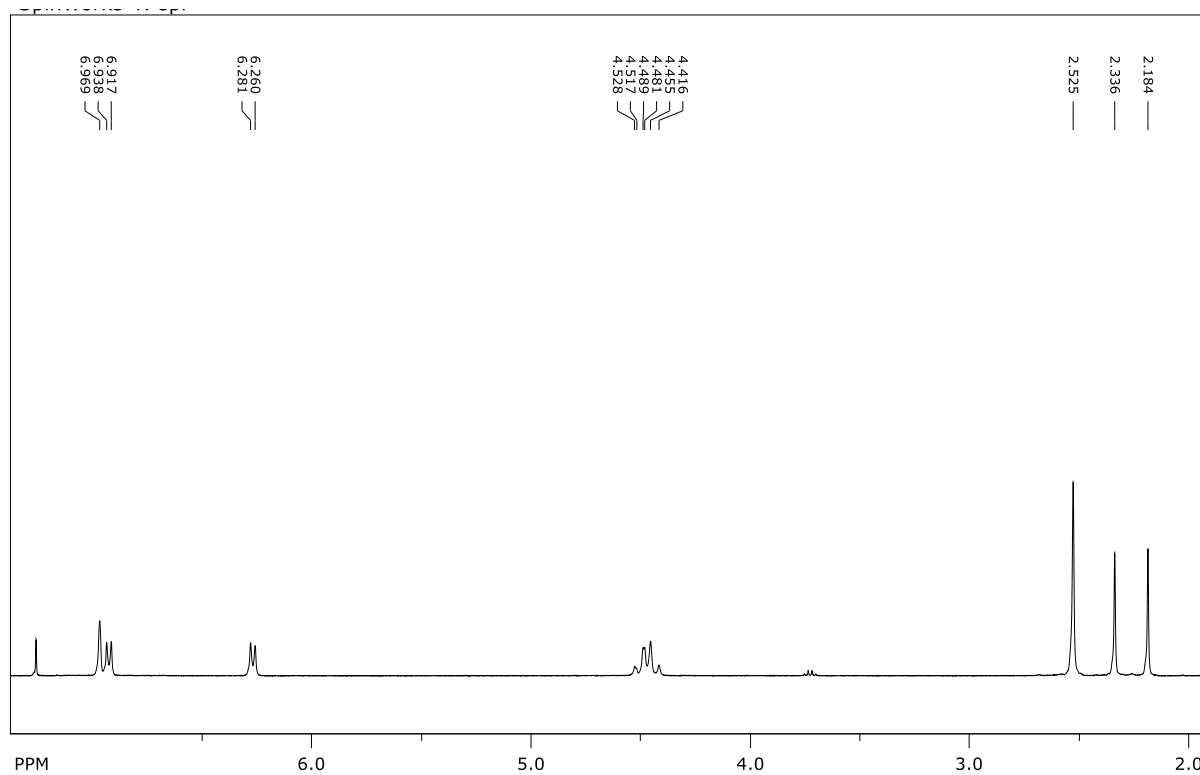


Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz).

**3,7-dimesityl-1,5-di(p-tolyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane (5)**

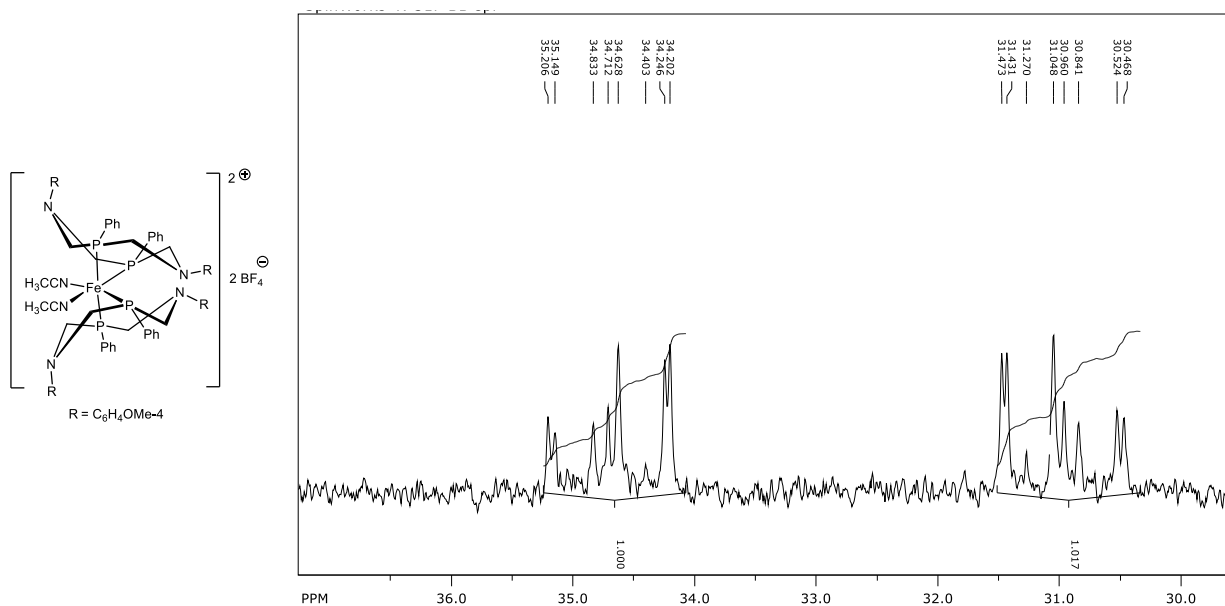


**Figure S3.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of **5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 162 MHz).

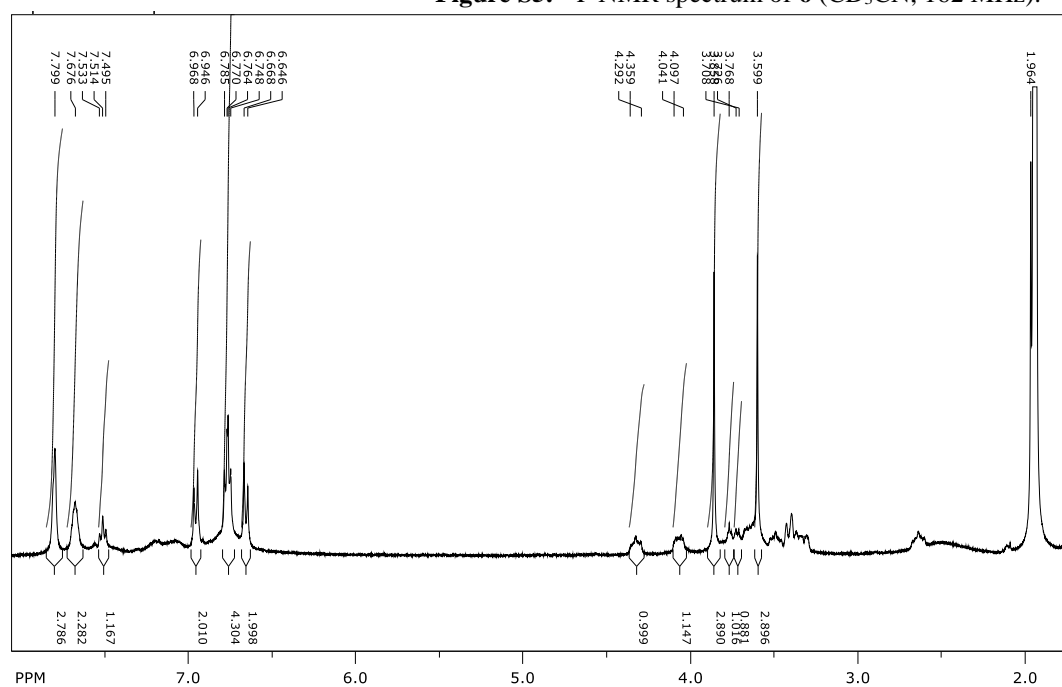


**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz).

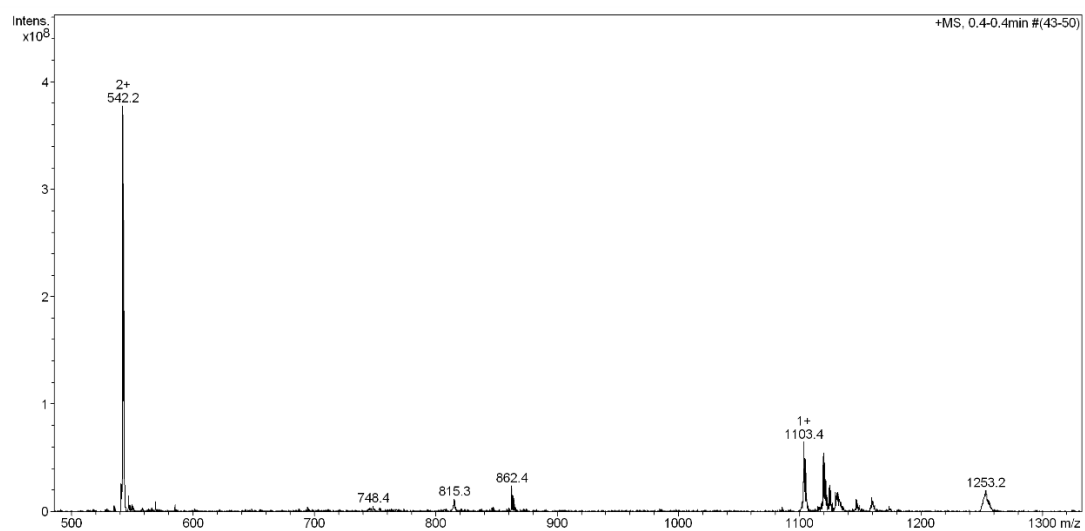
**Bis(3,7-diphenyl-1,5-di(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)-bis(acetonitrile)iron(II) tetrafluoroborate (6)**



**Figure S5.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **6** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 162 MHz).

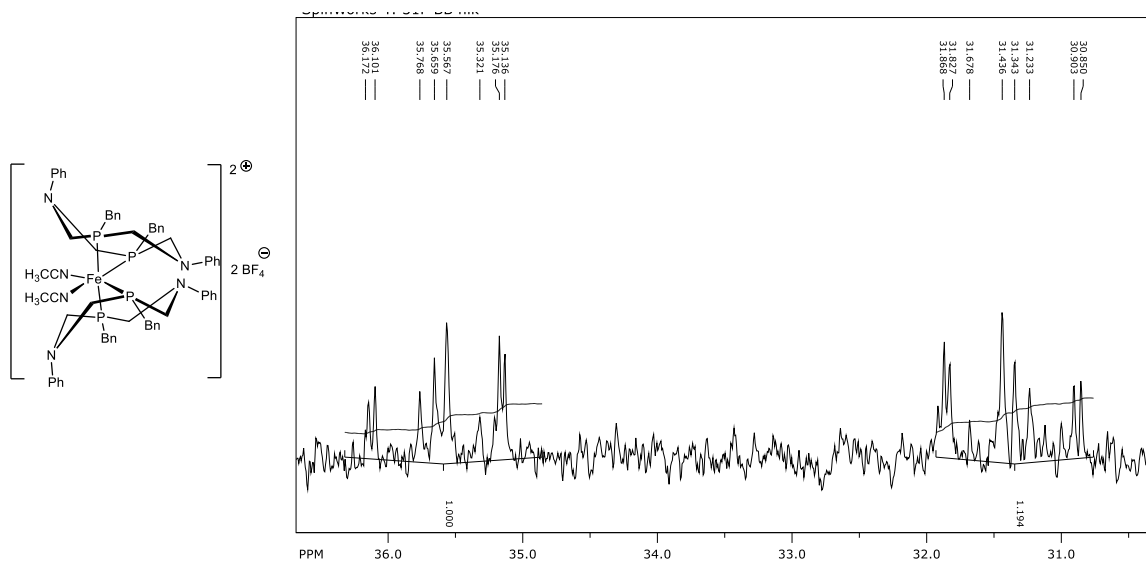


**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 400 MHz).

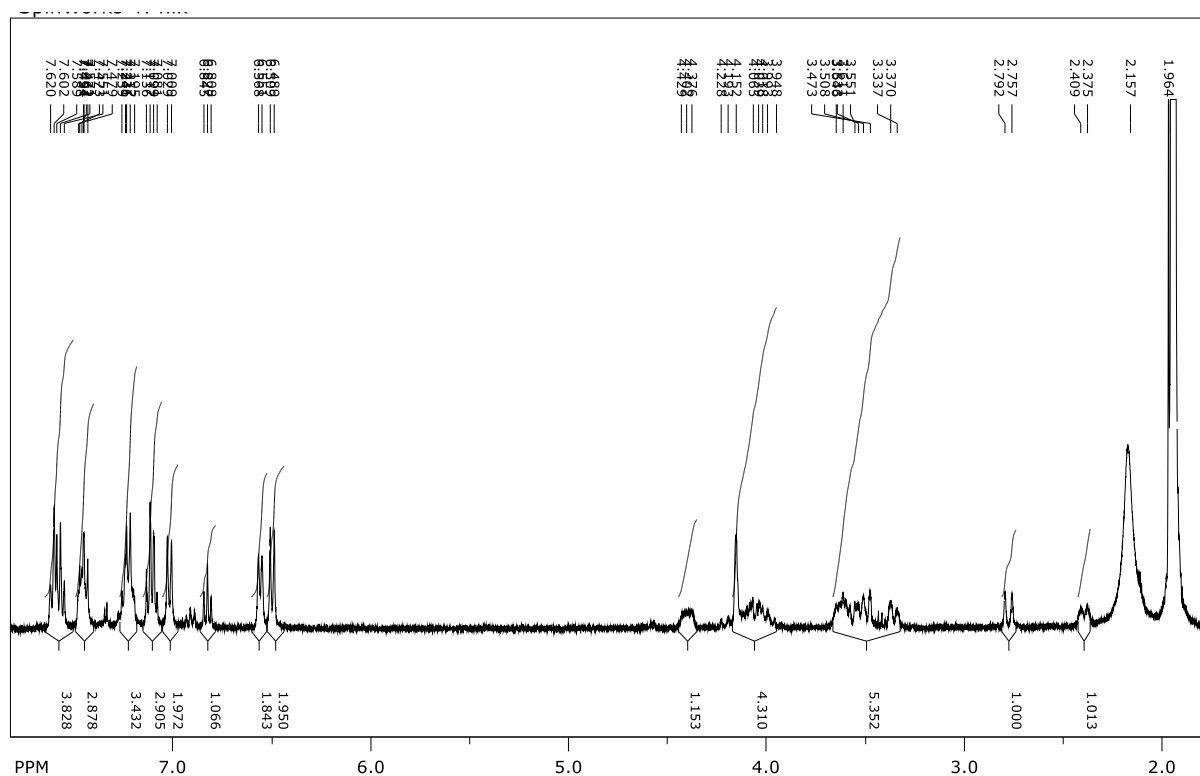


**Figure S7.** ESI-MS spectrum of **6** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

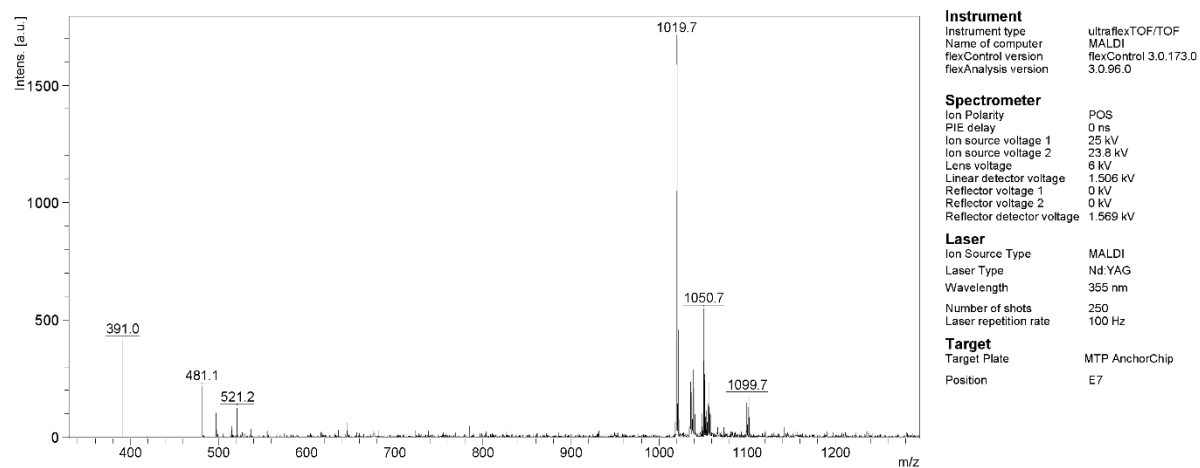
**[Bis(3,7-dibenzyl-1,5-diphenyl-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)-bis(acetonitrile)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (7).**



**Figure S8.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **7** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 162 MHz).

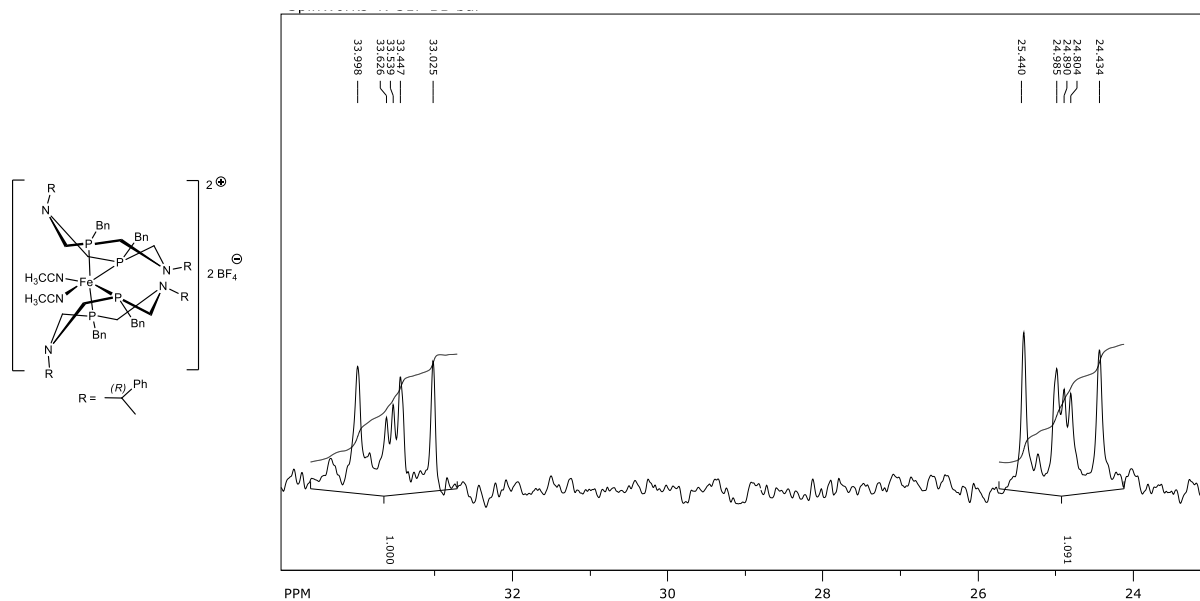


**Figure S9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **7** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 400 MHz) (2.16 s – H<sub>2</sub>O in the solvent).

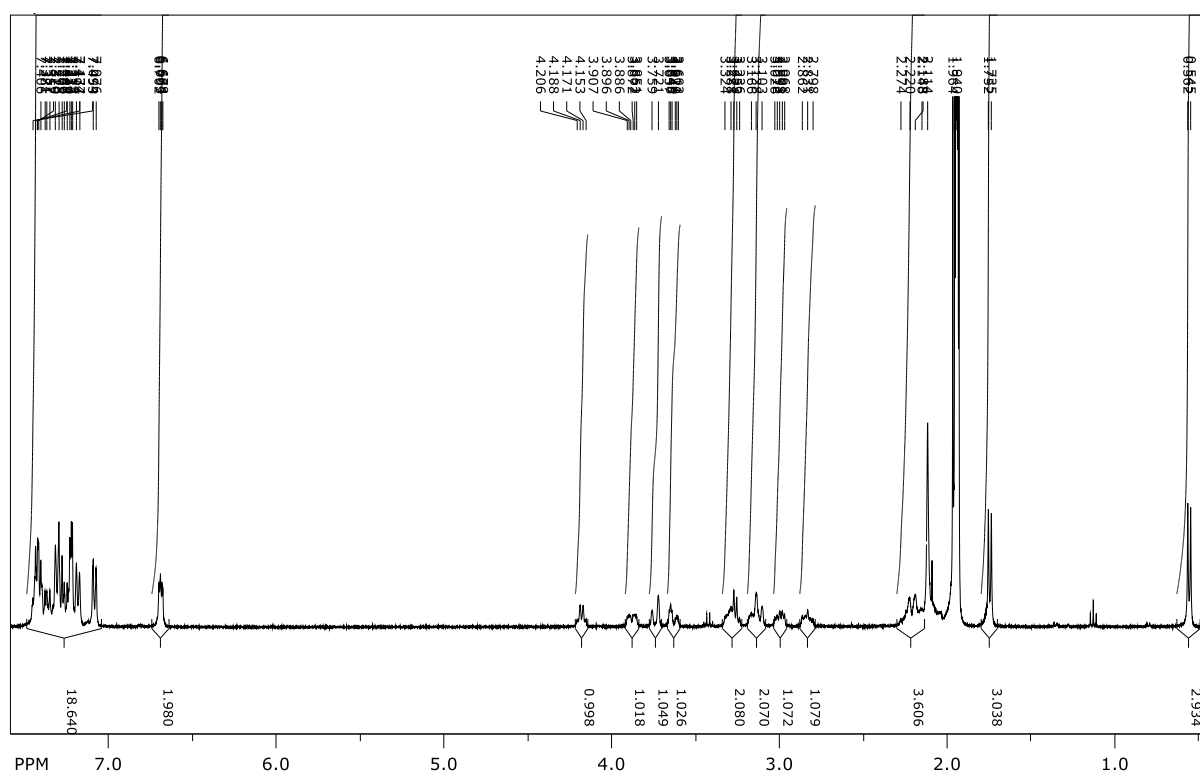


**Figure S10.** MALDI-MS spectrum of **7** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

**[Bis(3,7-dibenzyl-1,5-di(1'-(*R*)-phenylethyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)-bis(acetonitrile)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (**8**).**

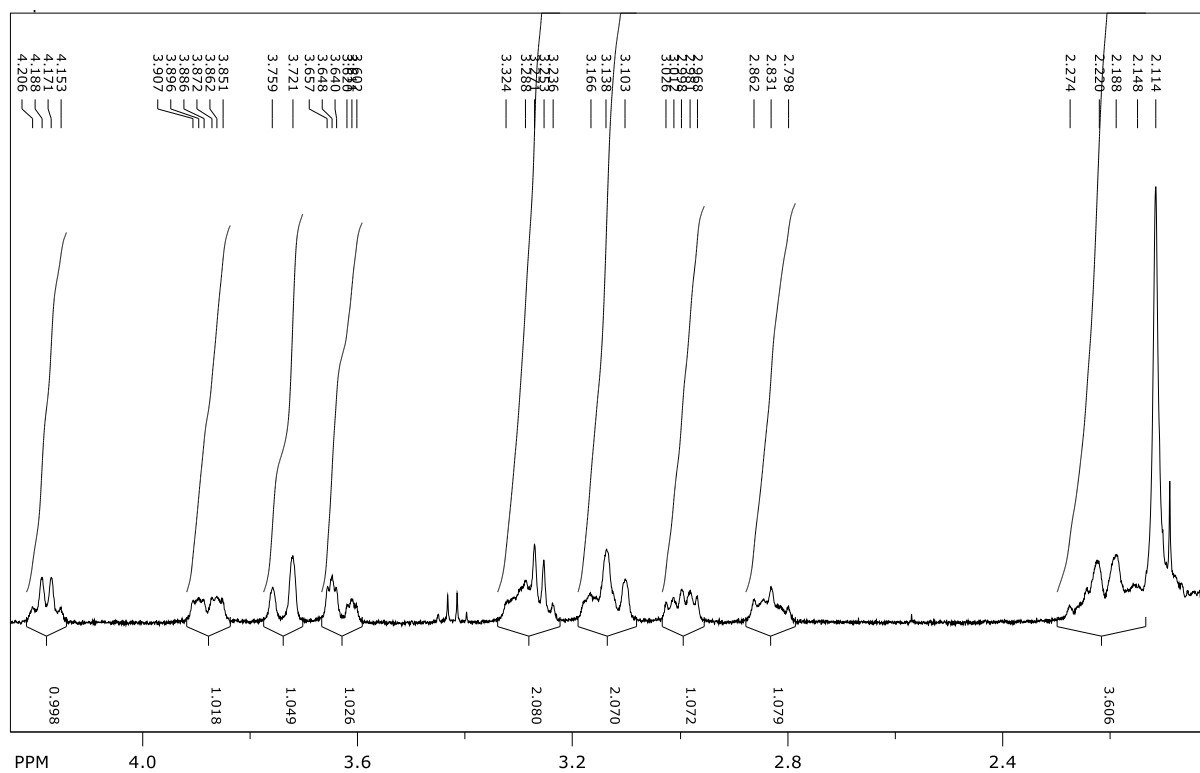


**Figure S11.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of **8** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 162 MHz).

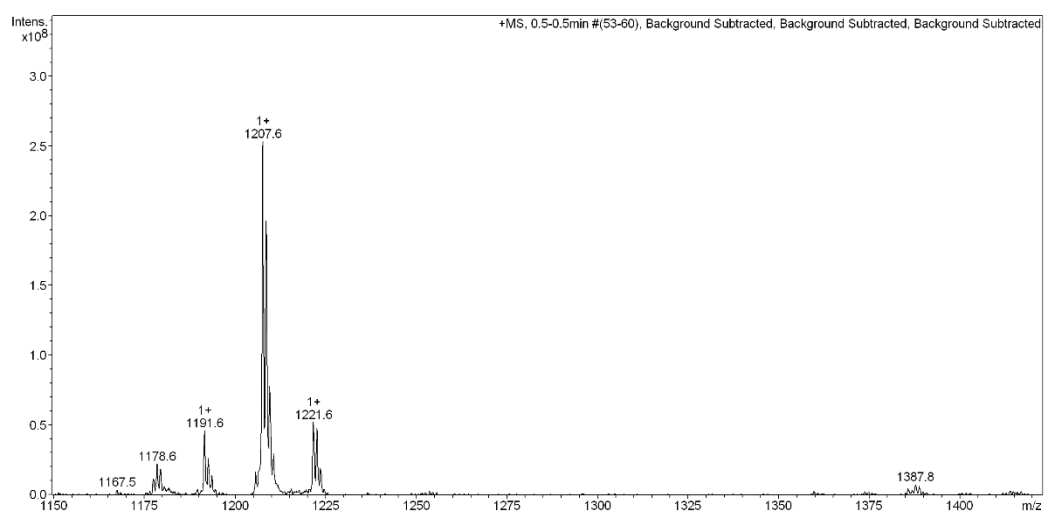


**Figure S12.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **8** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 400 MHz) (2.11 s – H<sub>2</sub>O in the solvent).



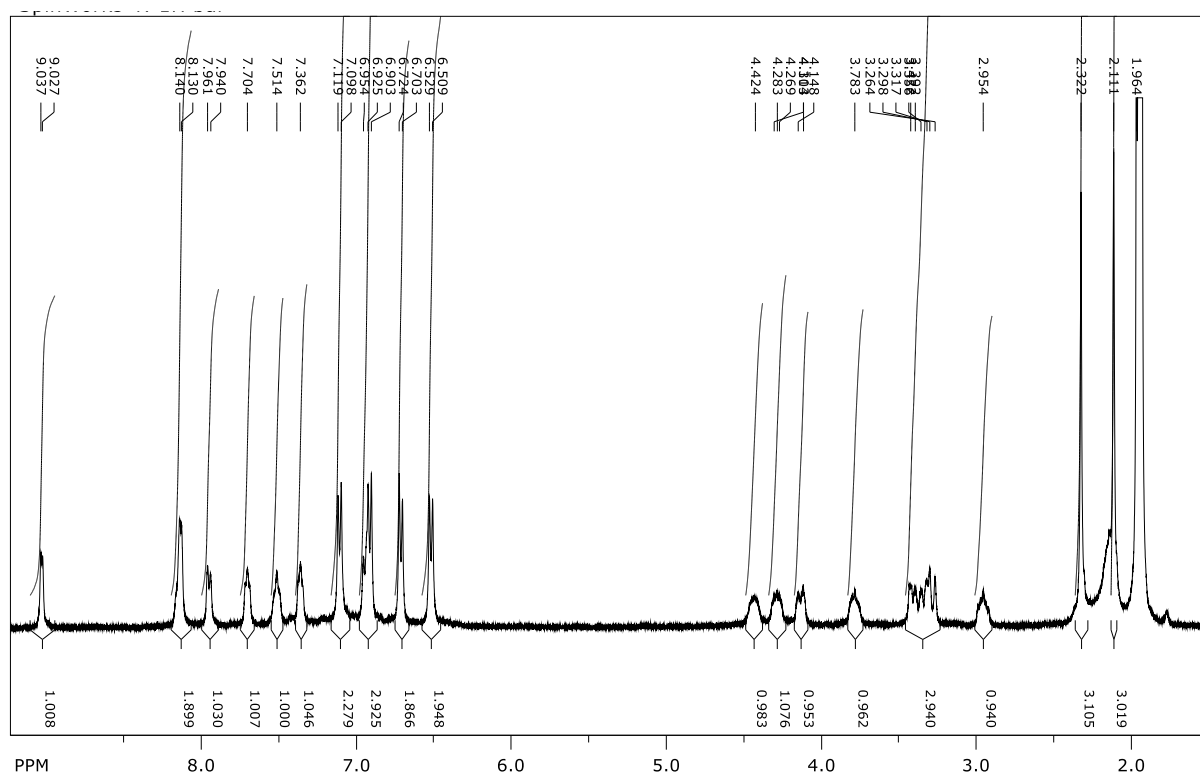
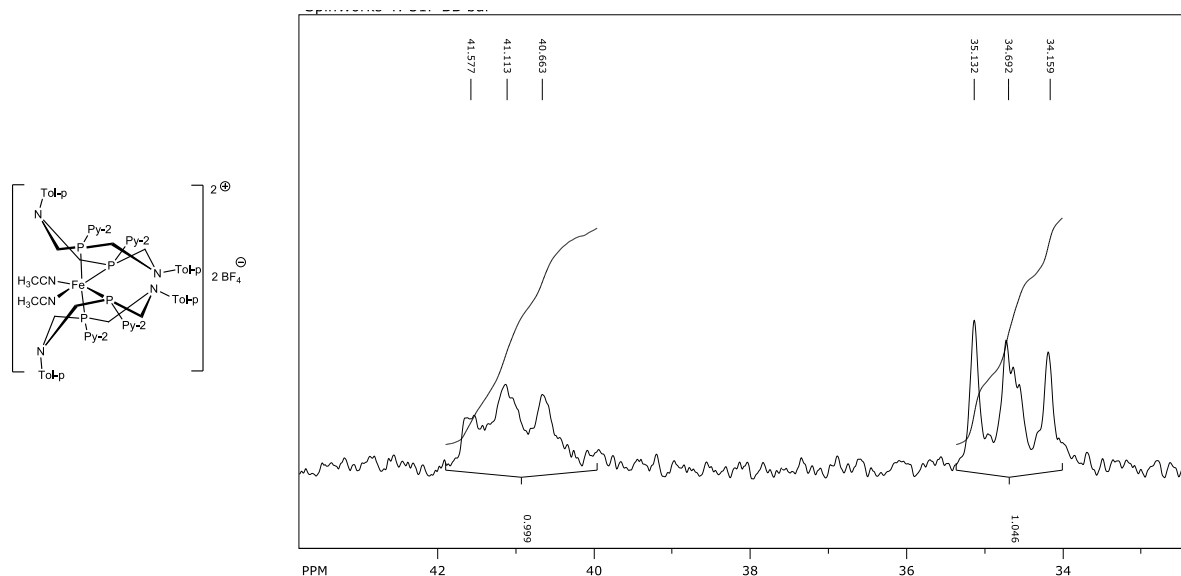


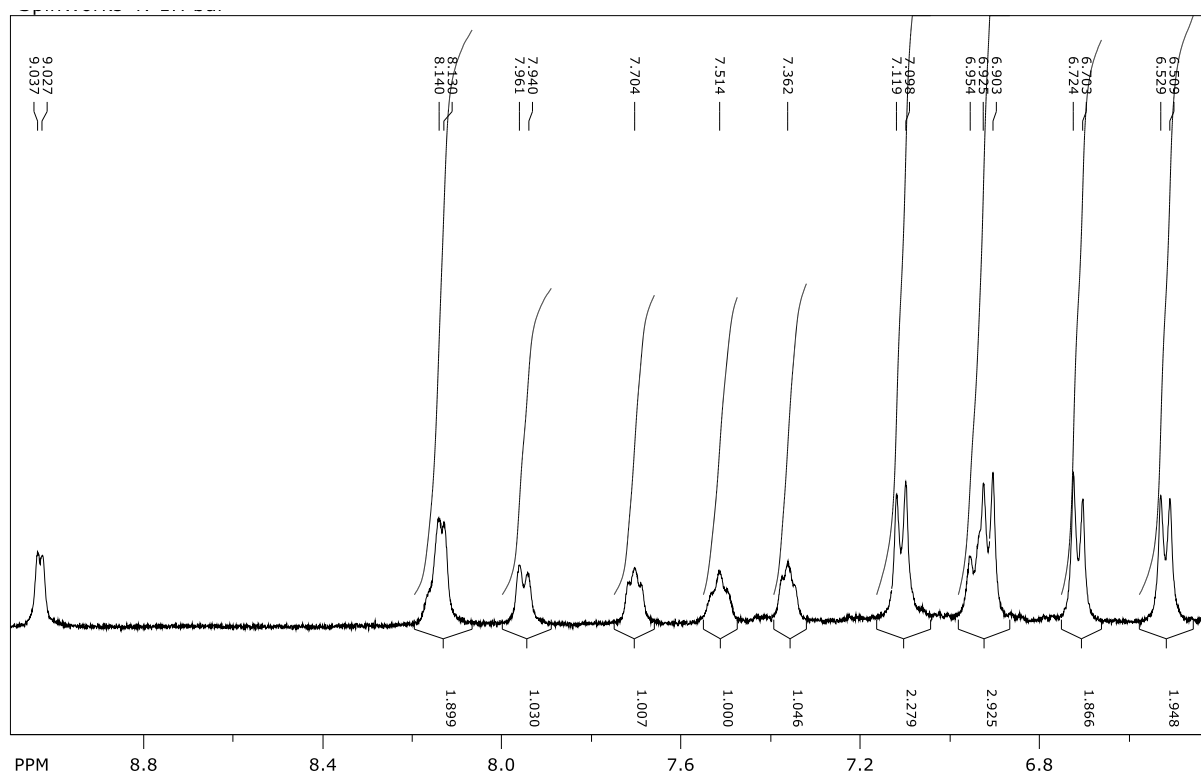
**Figure S13.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **8** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 400 MHz), the region of protons of  $\text{P-CH}_2\text{-N}$ ,  $\text{P-CH}_2\text{-Ph}$ ,  $\text{CH(Ph)Me}$  fragments (2.11 s –  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the solvent).



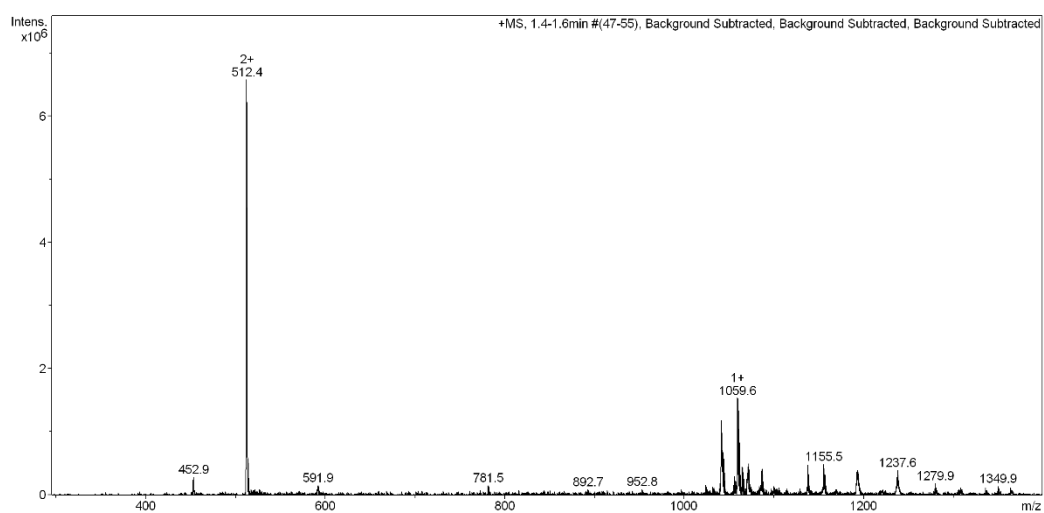
**Figure S14.** ESI-MS spectrum of **8** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

**[Bis(3,7-di(pyridine-2'-yl)-1,5-di(p-tolyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)-bis(acetonitrile)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (9).**



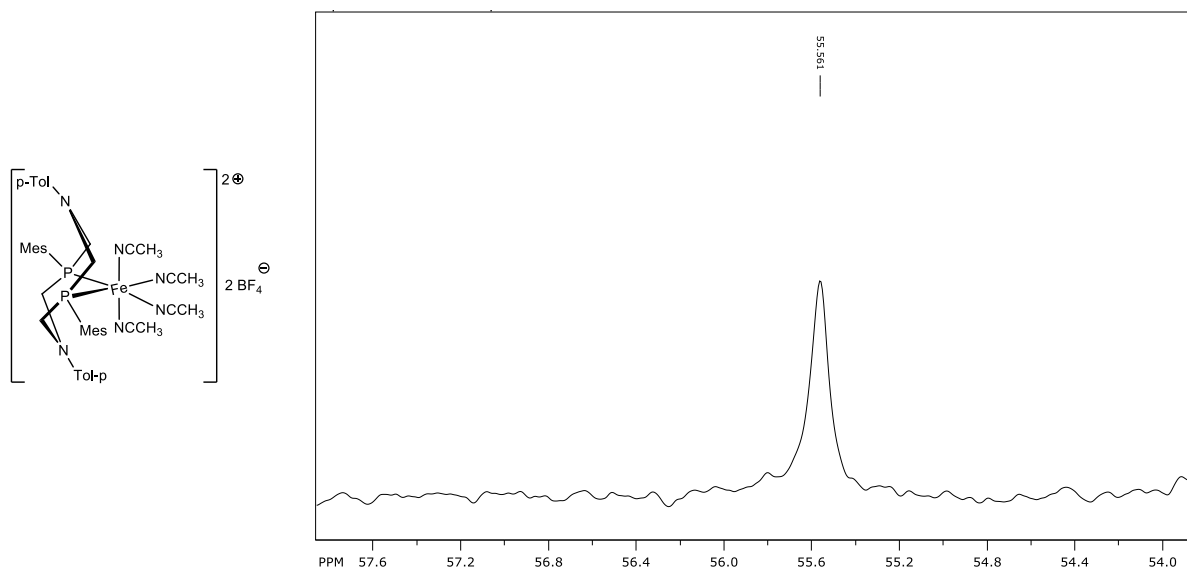


**Figure S17.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **9**, the region of aromatic protons (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 400 MHz).

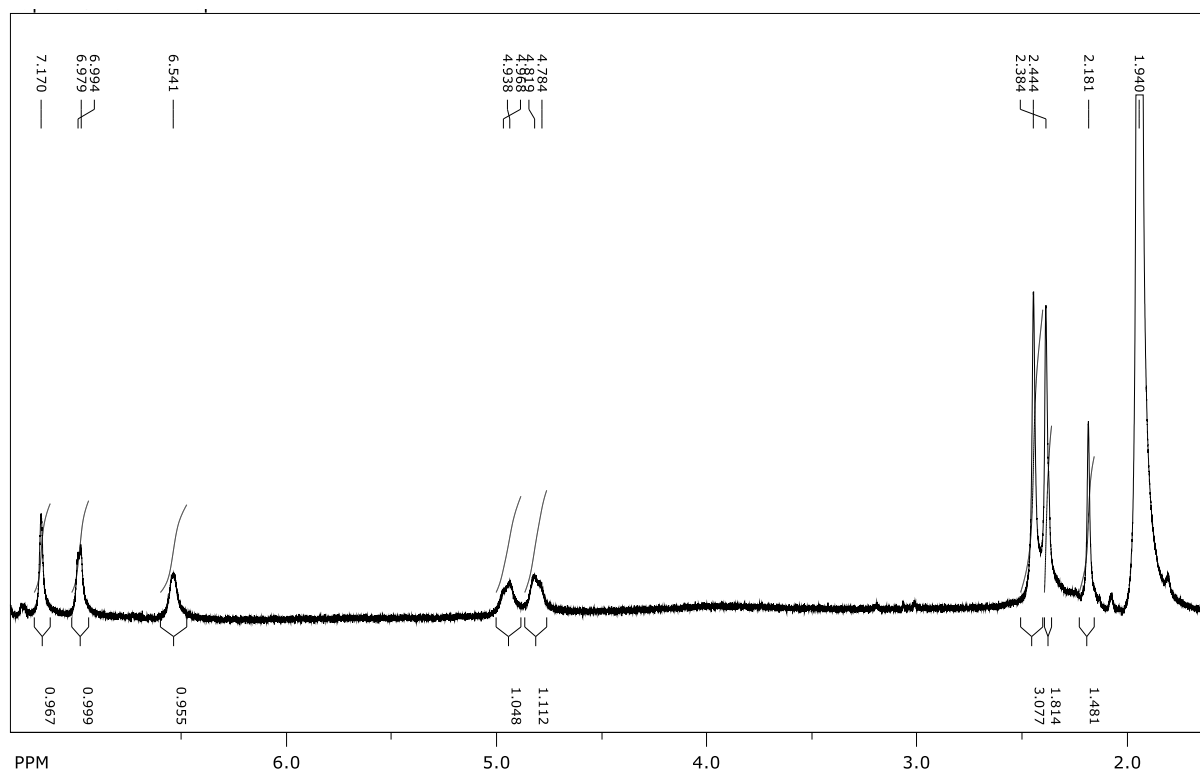


**Figure S18.** ESI-MS spectrum of **9** (CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

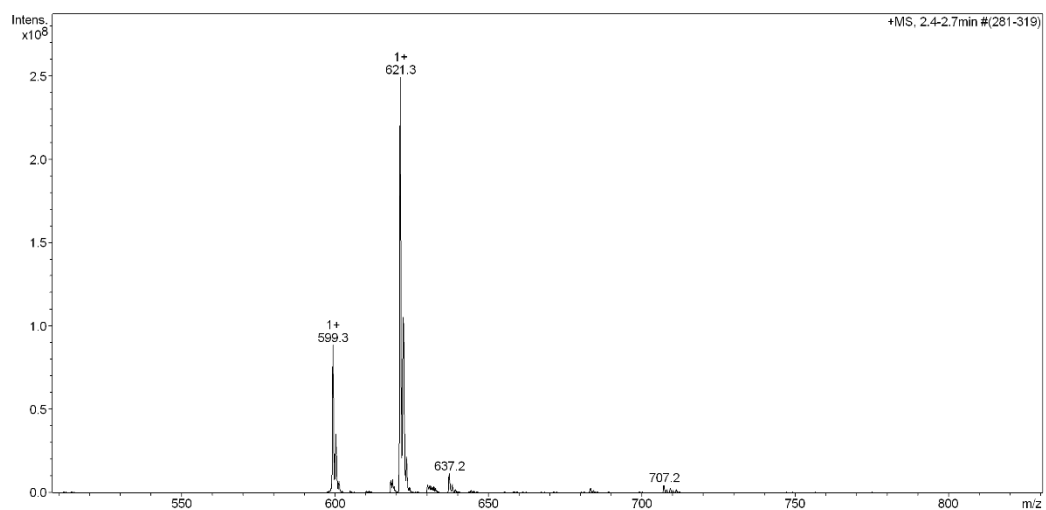
**[(3,7-dimesityl-1,5-di(p-tolyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)tetrakis-(acetonitrile)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (**10**).**



**Figure S19.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **10** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 162 MHz).

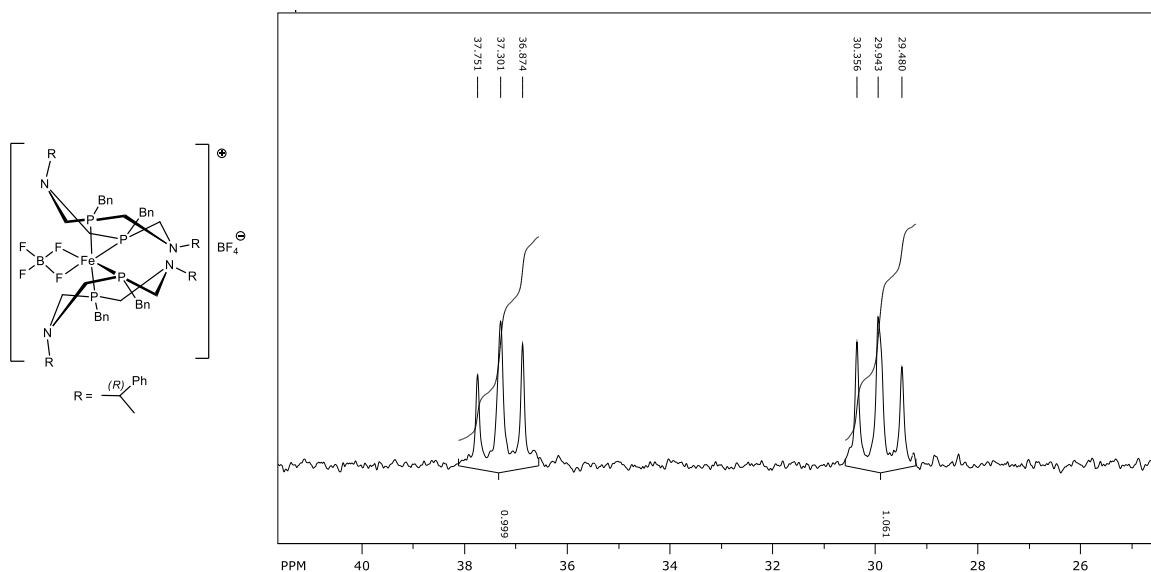


**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **10** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 400 MHz).

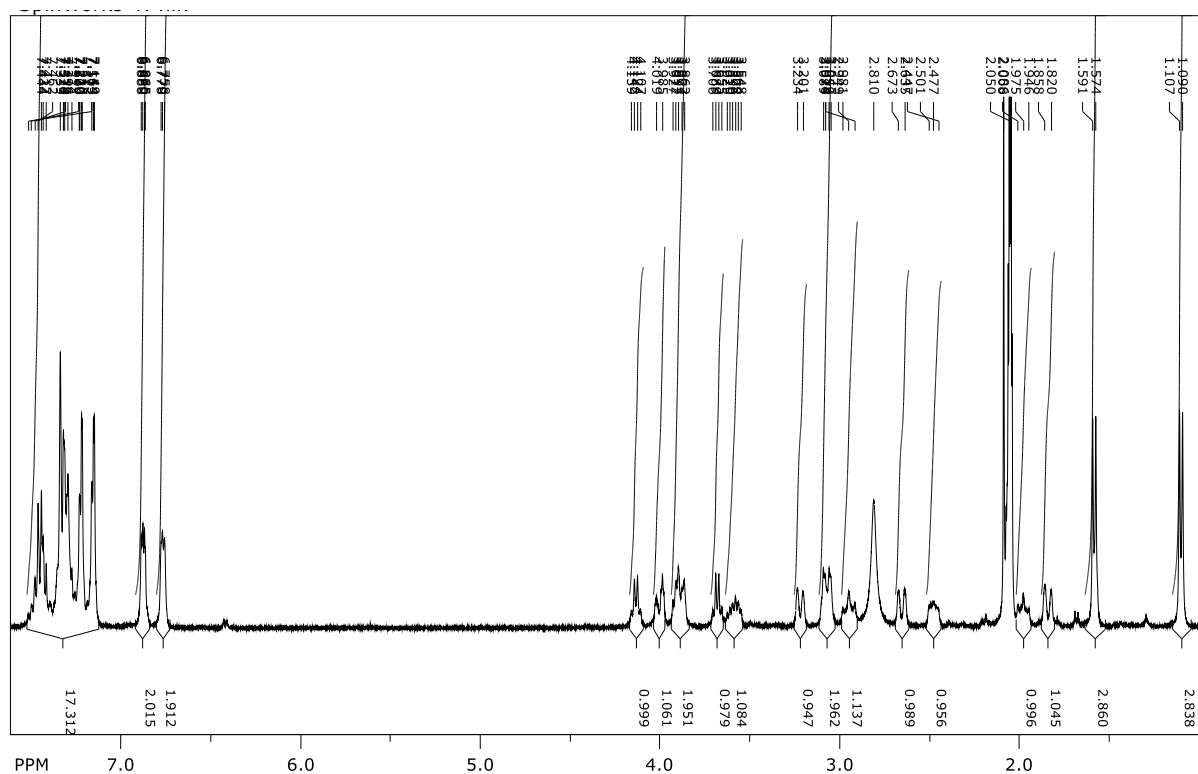


**Figure S21.** ESI-MS spectrum of **10** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

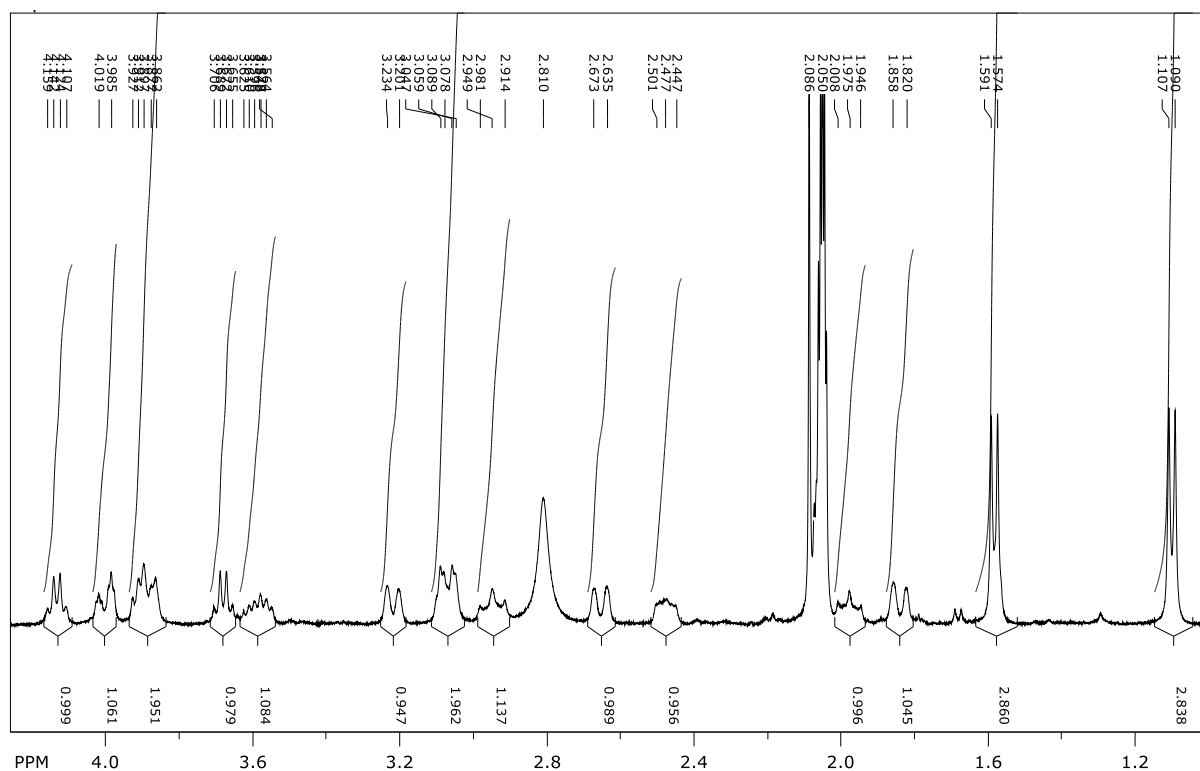
**[Bis(3,7-dibenzyl-1,5-di(1'-(*R*)-phenylethyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)-tetrafluoroboratoiron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (**11b**).**



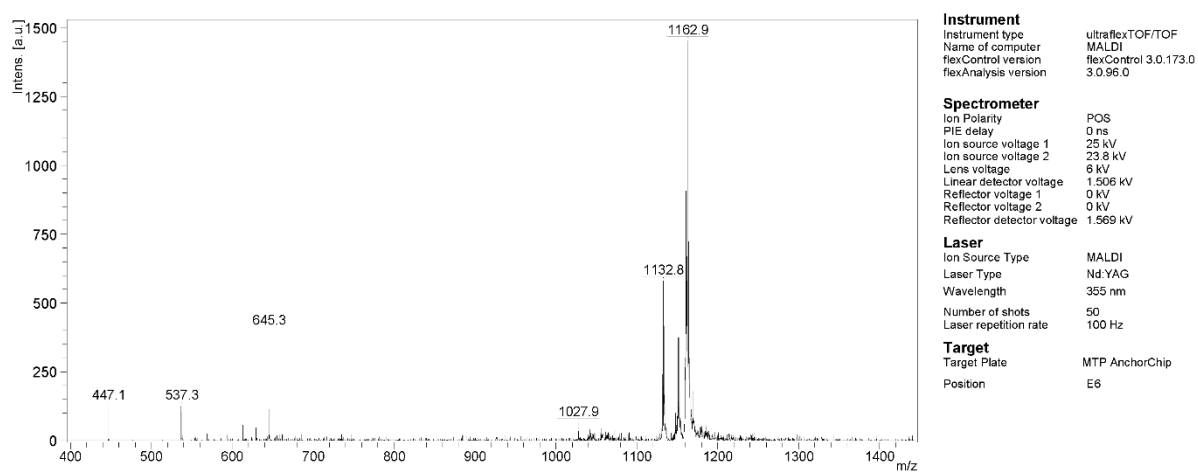
**Figure S22.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **11b** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 162 MHz).



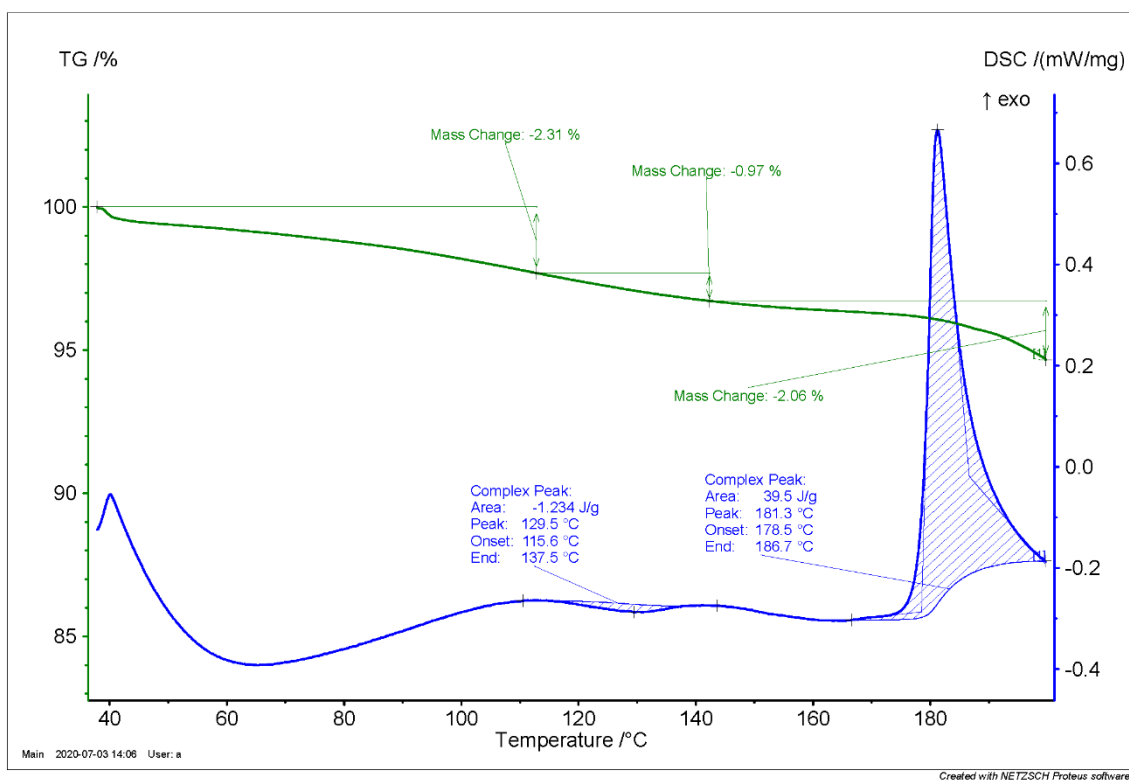
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **11b** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 400 MHz) (2.81 s –  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the solvent).



**Figure S24.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **11b** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 400 MHz), the region of aliphatic protons (2.81 s –  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the solvent).



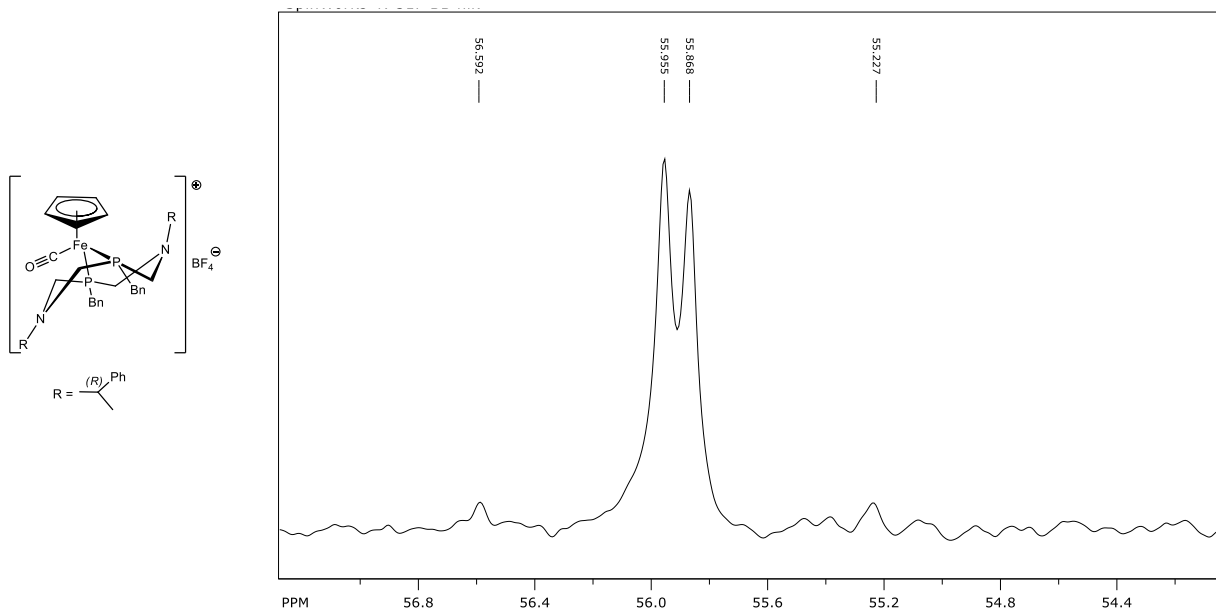
**Figure S25.** MALDI-MS spectrum of **11b** ( $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ).



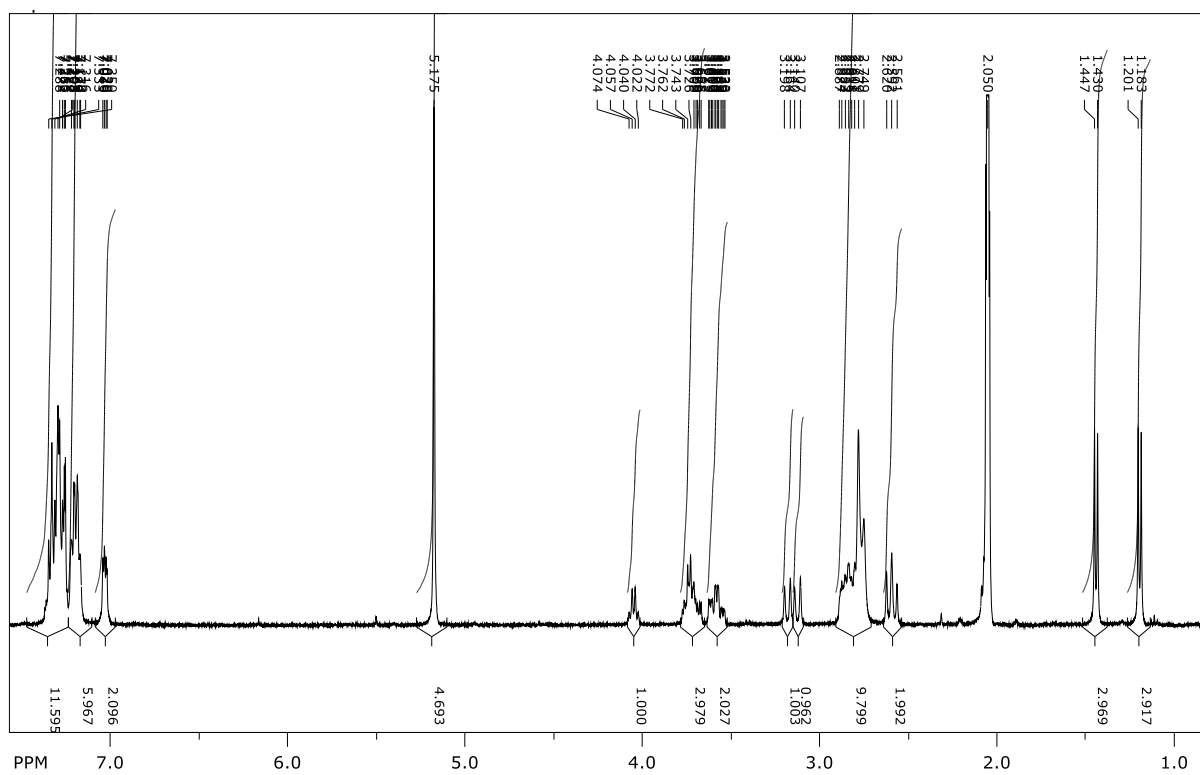
**Figure S26.** TG/DSK diagram of **11b** (single crystals containing solvate molecules).



**[(Cyclopentadienyl)carbonyl(3,7-dibenzyl-1,5-di(1'-(*R*)-phenylethyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (12).**



**Figure S27.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **12** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 162 MHz).



**Figure S28.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **12** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 400 MHz) (2.79 s –  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the solvent).



[(Cyclopentadienyl)carbonyl(3,7-di(pyridine-2'-yl)-1,5-di(p-tolyl)-1,5-diaza-3,7-diphosphacyclooctane)iron(II)] tetrafluoroborate (**13**).

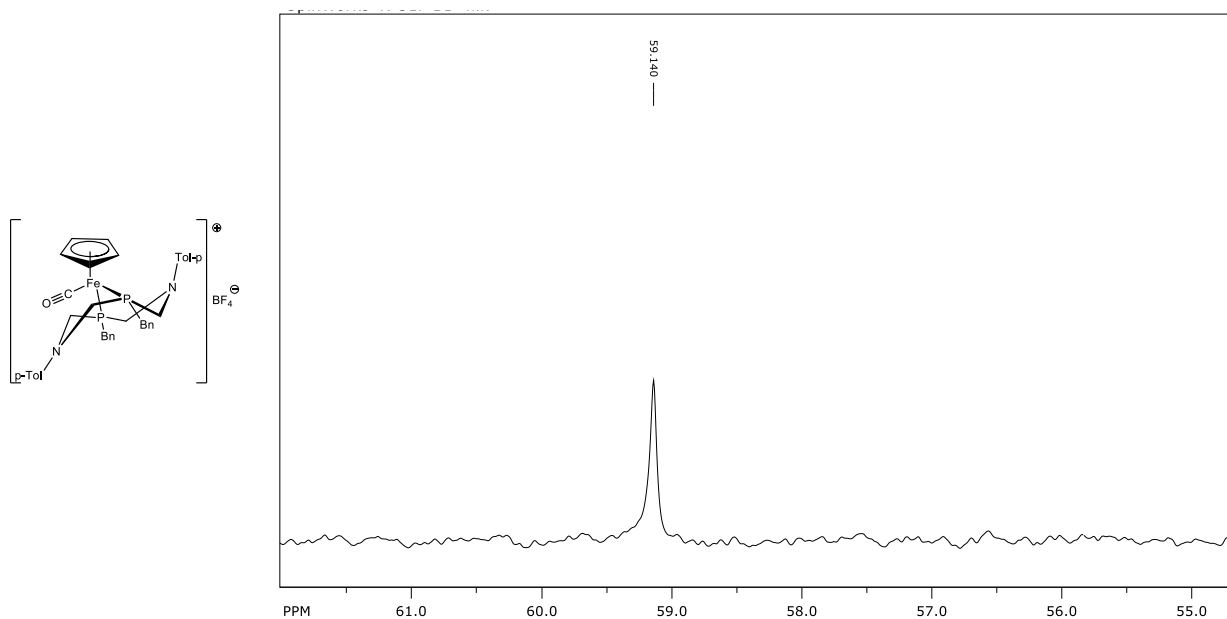


Figure S31.  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of **13** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 162 MHz).

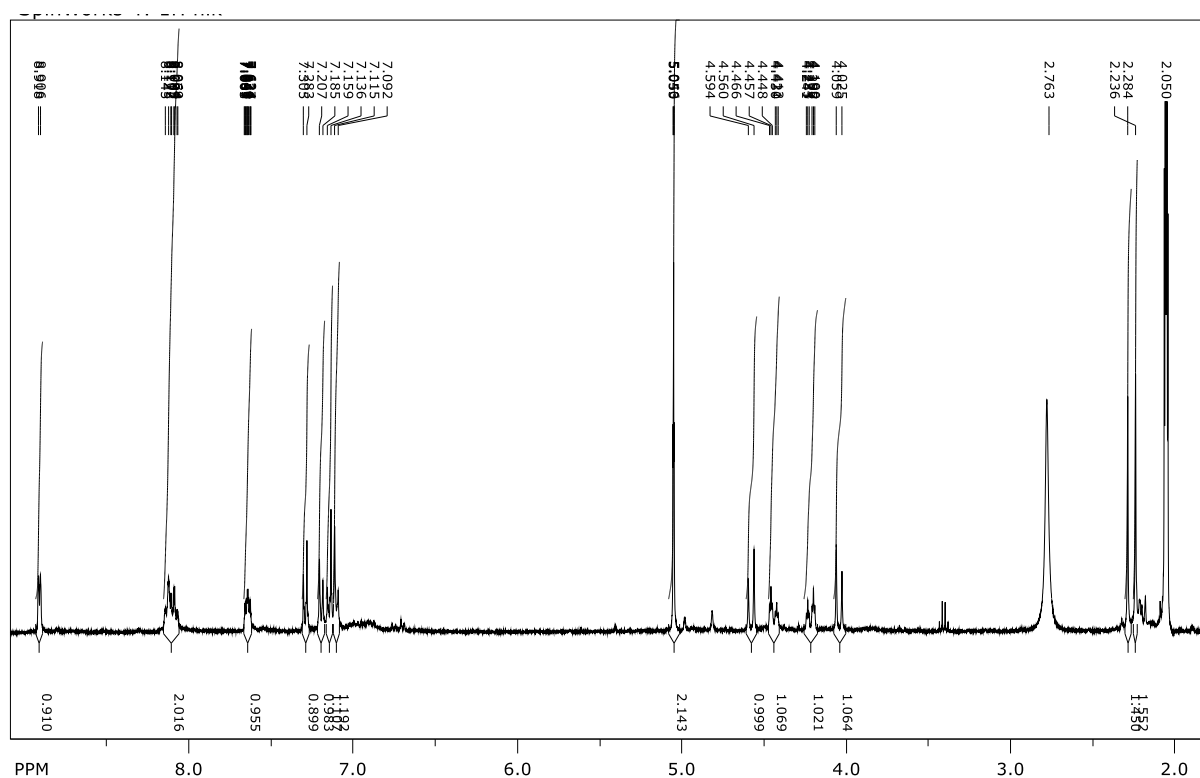


Figure S32.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **13** ( $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ , 400 MHz) (2.76 s –  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the solvent).

