

Supporting Information  
for  
**One-pot Synthesis of Heavier Group 14 *N*-Heterocyclic  
Carbene using Organosilicon Reductant**

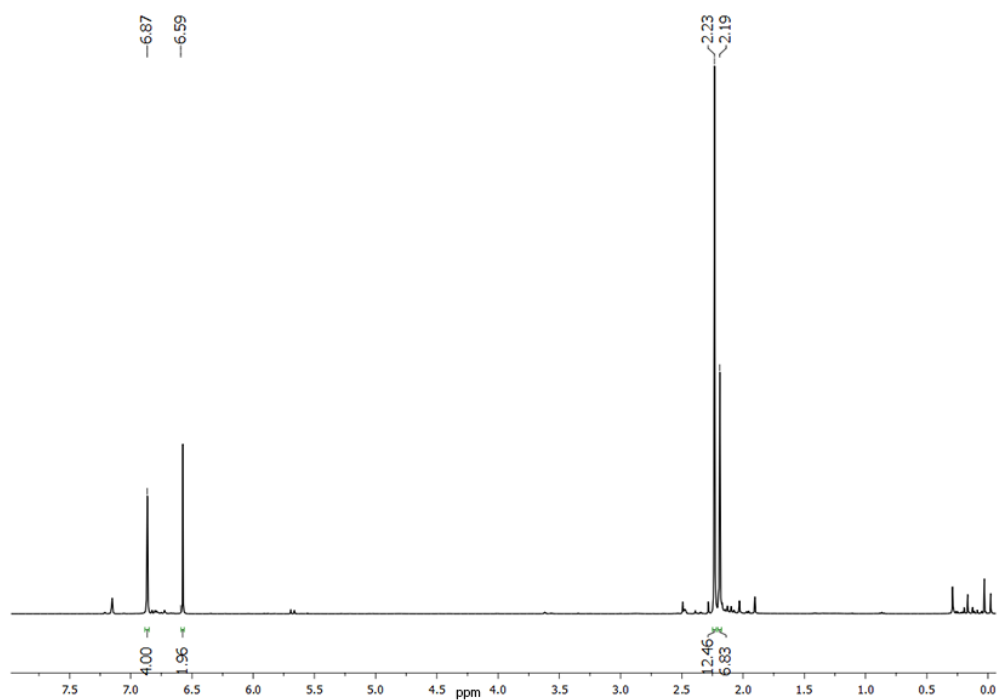
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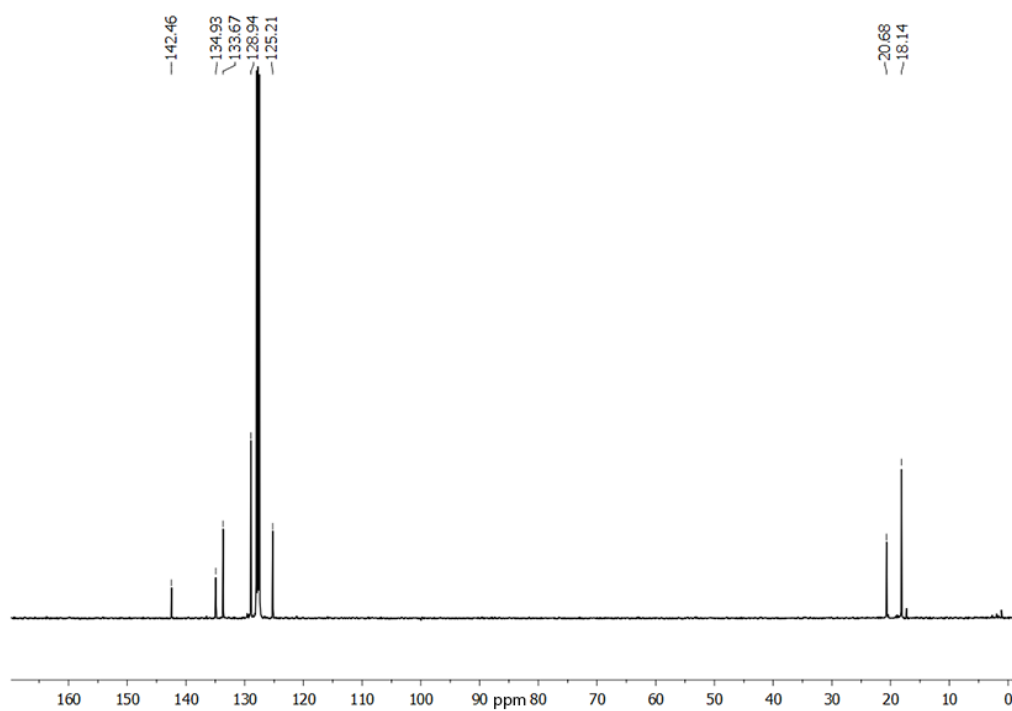
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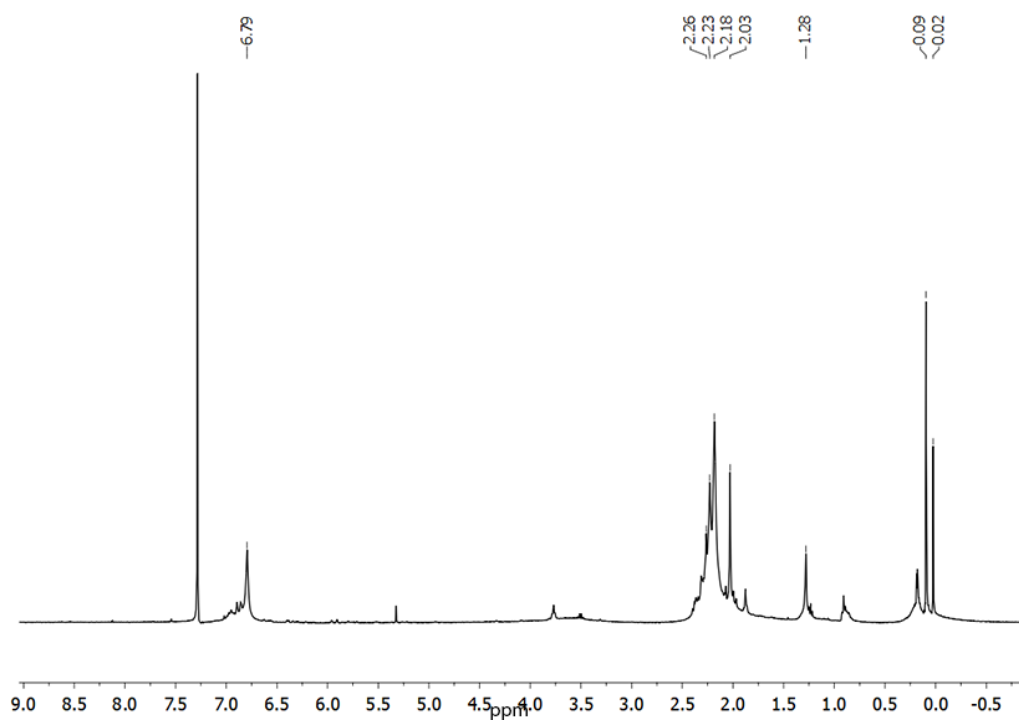
## 1. Plots of NMR Spectra



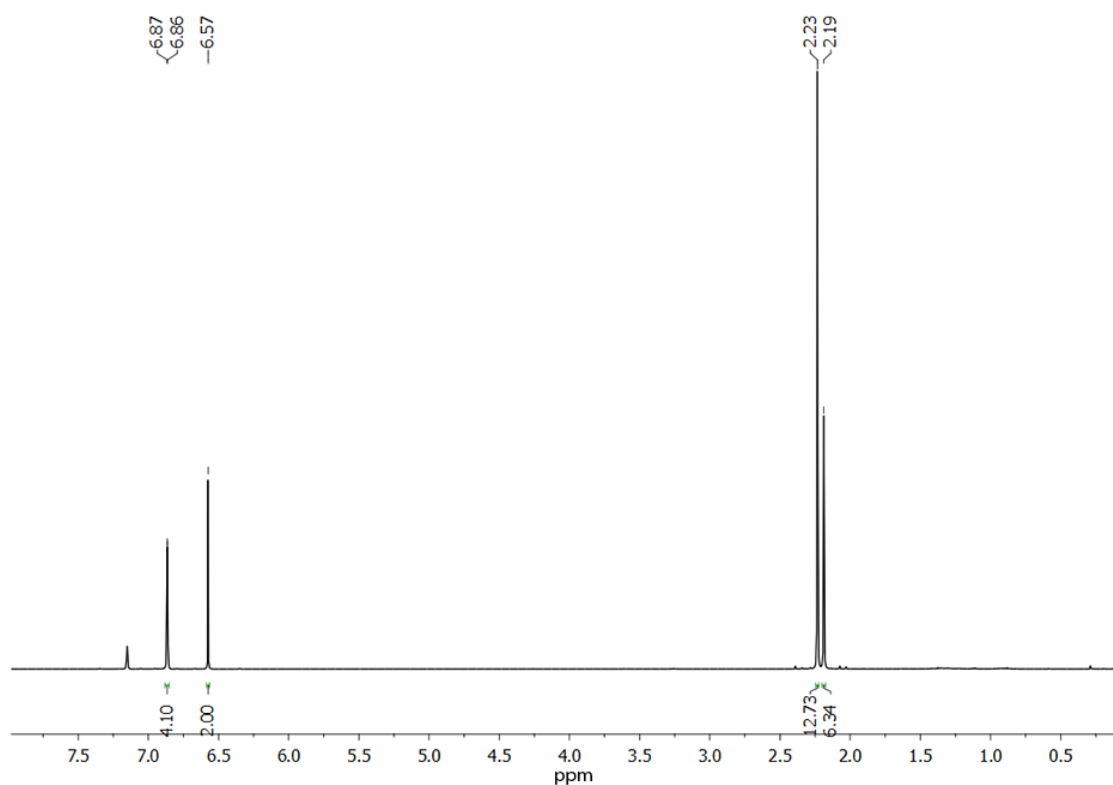
**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Compound 1 (crude reaction mixture, before crystallization)



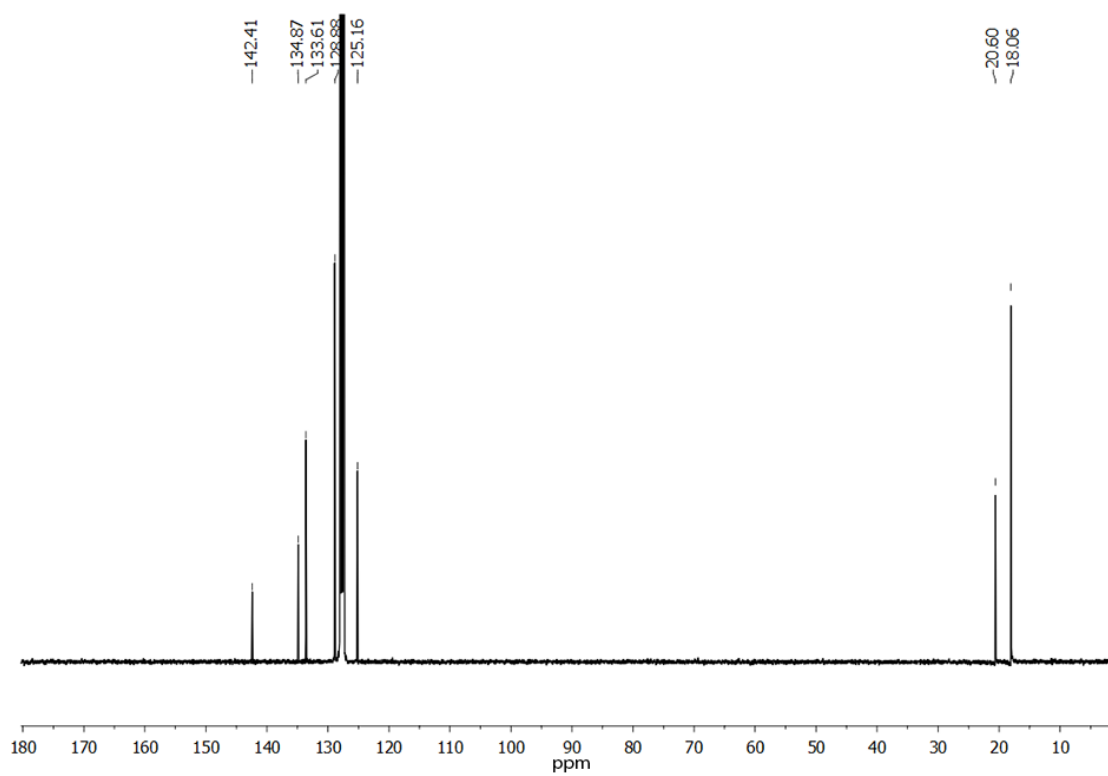
**Figure S2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Compound 1 (crude reaction mixture, before crystallization)



**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  of the hexane insoluble solid residue from the crude reaction mixture of compound 1



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of Compound 1



**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Compound 1

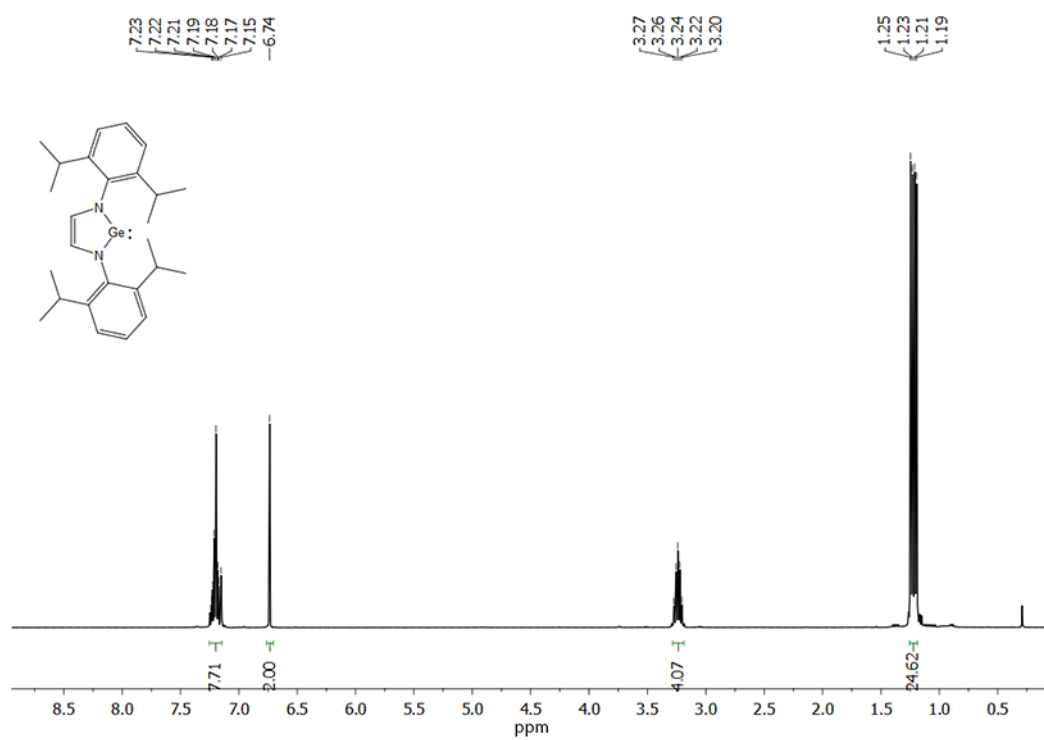


Figure S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR

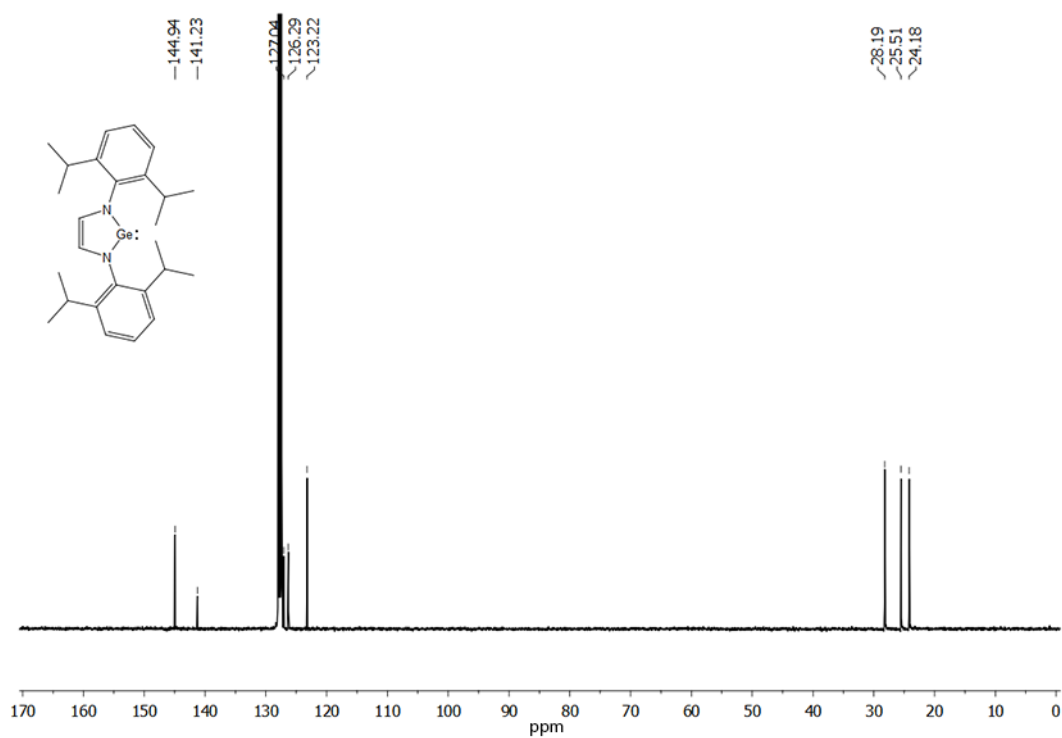
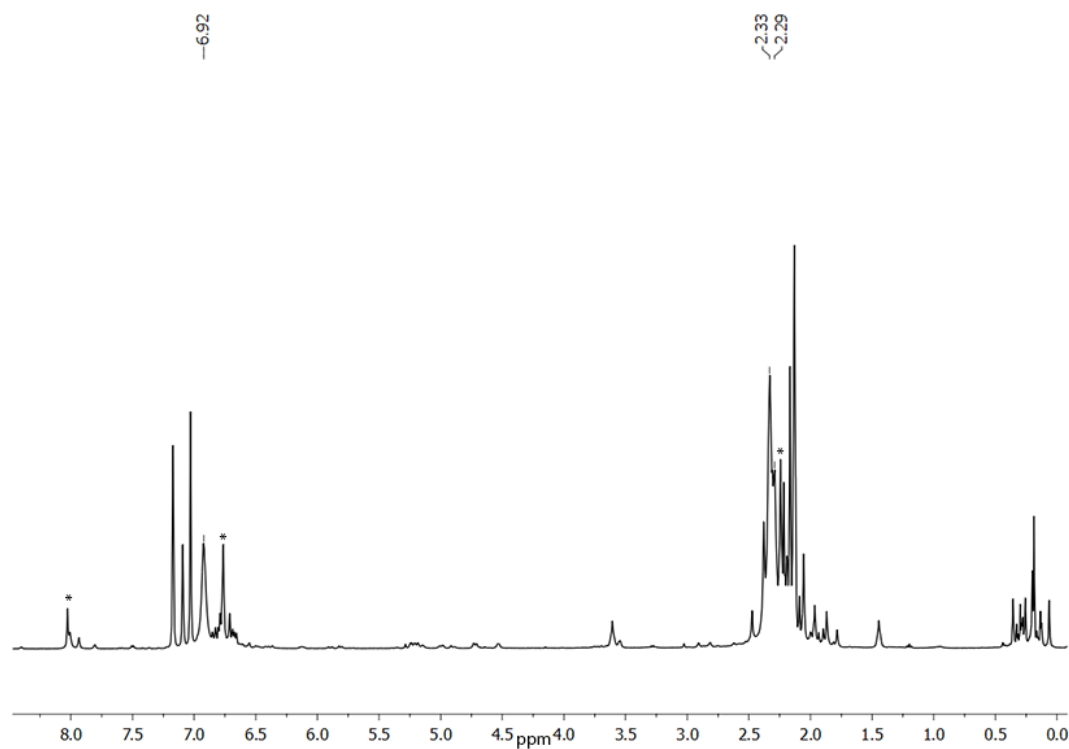
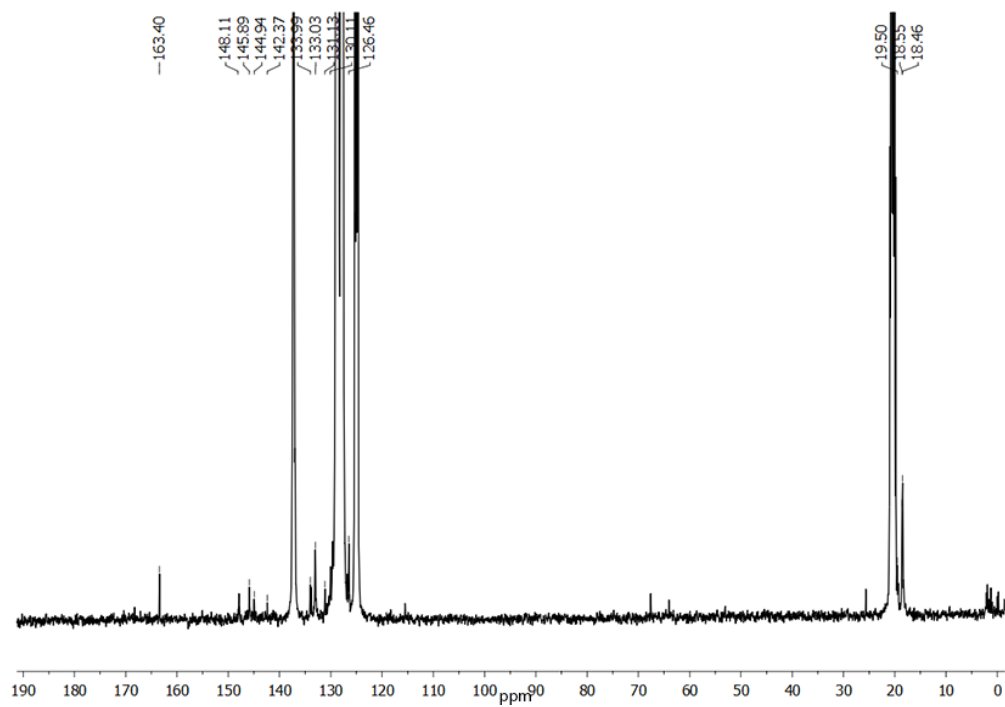


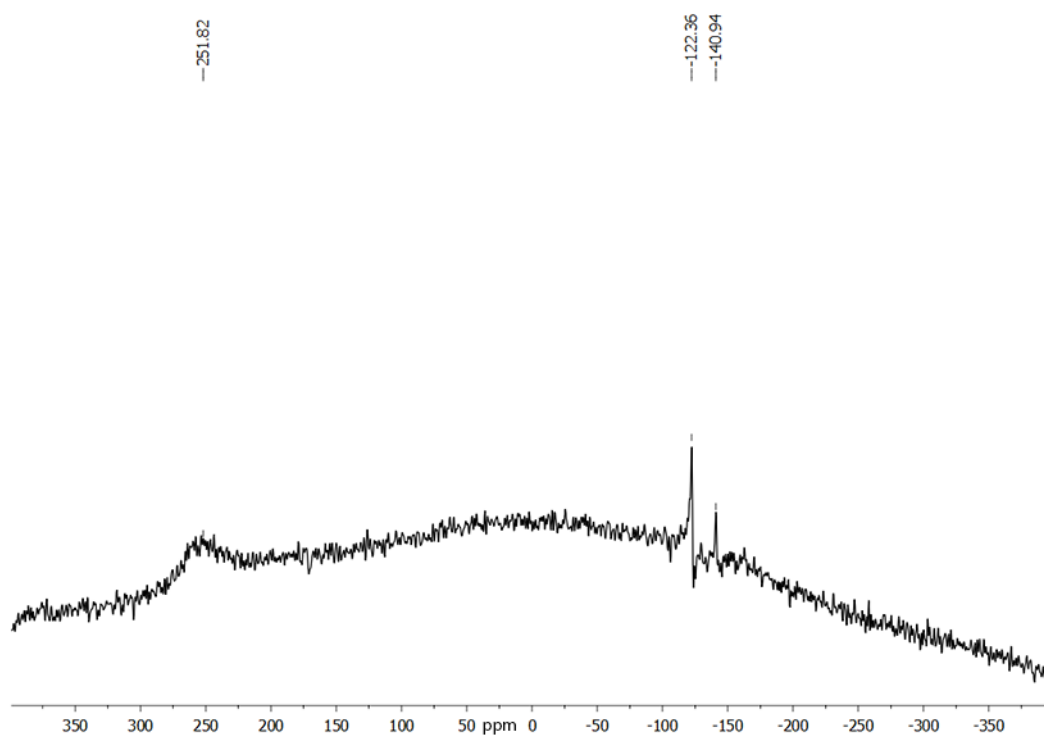
Figure S7. <sup>13</sup>C NMR



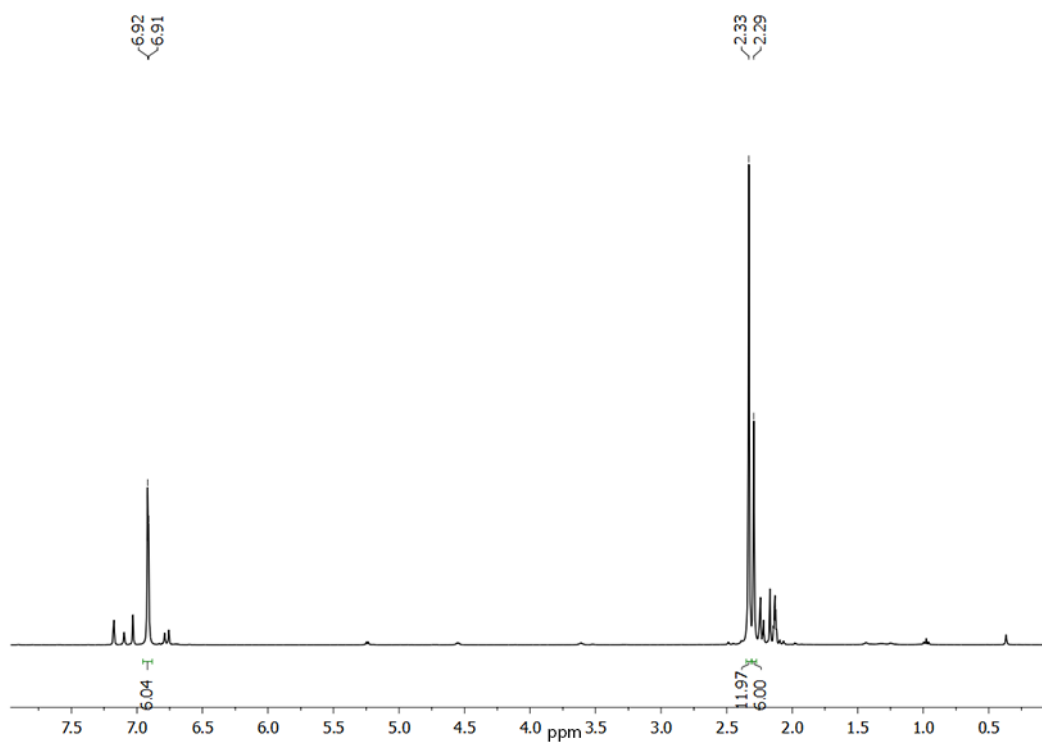
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of Compound 2 (crude reaction mixture, before crystallization); \* = free ligand



**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Compound 2 (crude reaction mixture, before crystallization)



**Figure S10.**  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  NMR of Compound 2 (crude reaction mixture, before crystallization)



**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of Compound 2

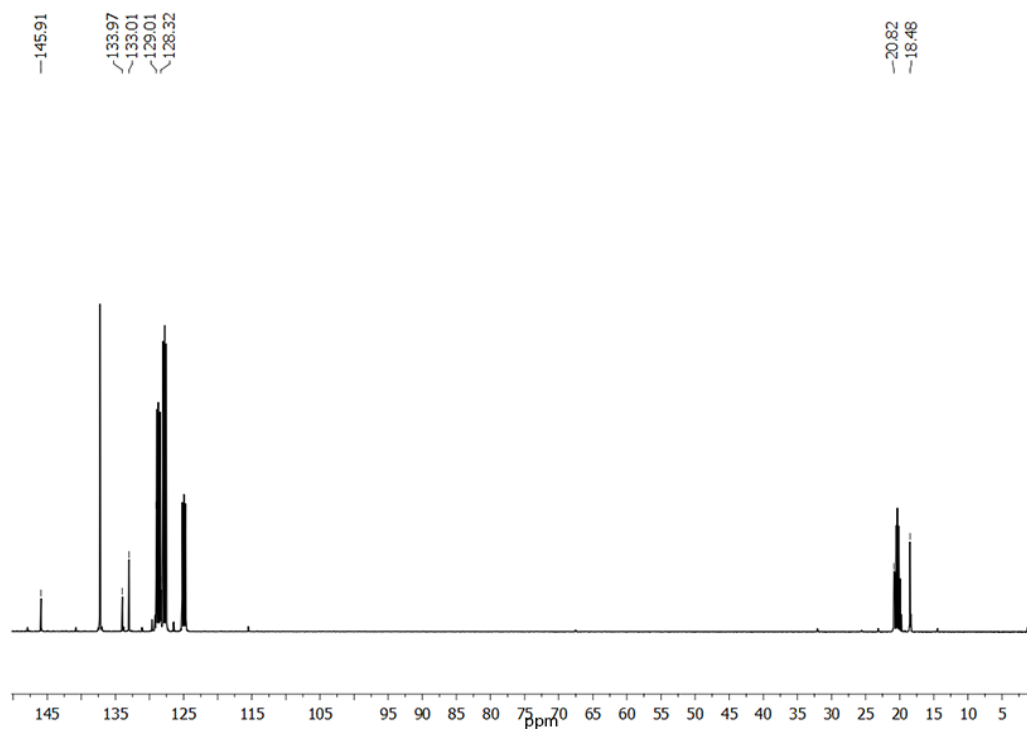


Figure S12.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Compound 2

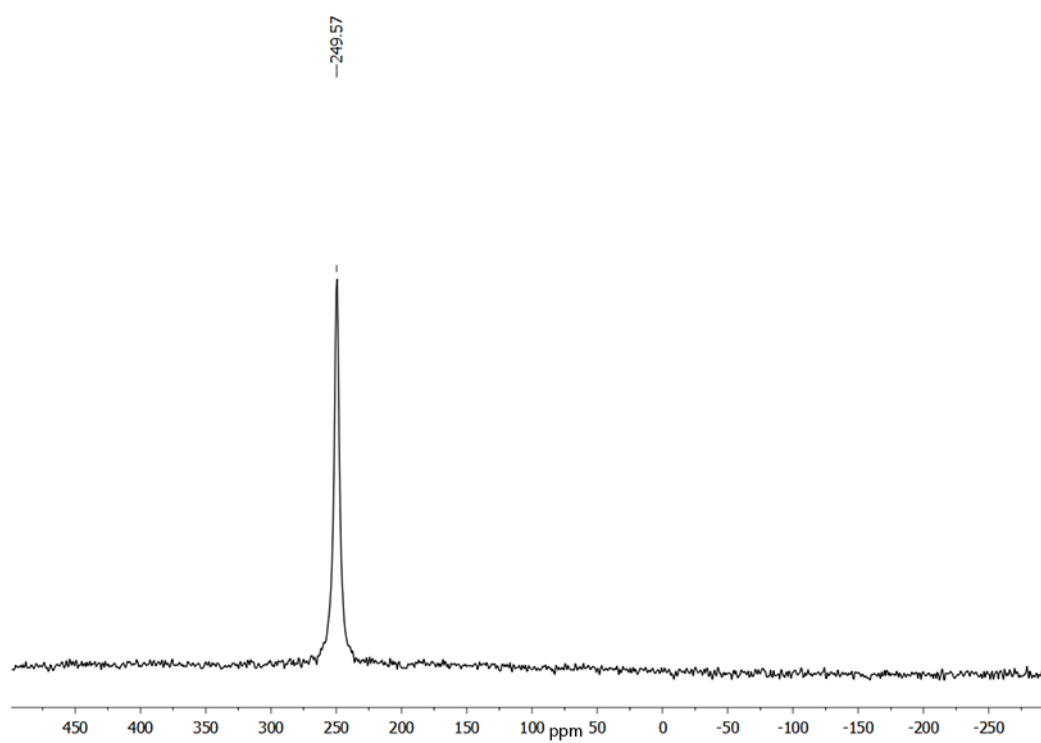
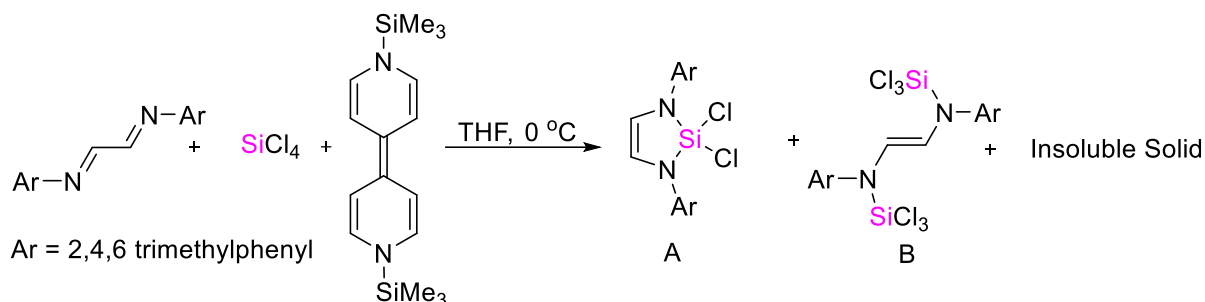


Figure S13.  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  NMR of Compound 2

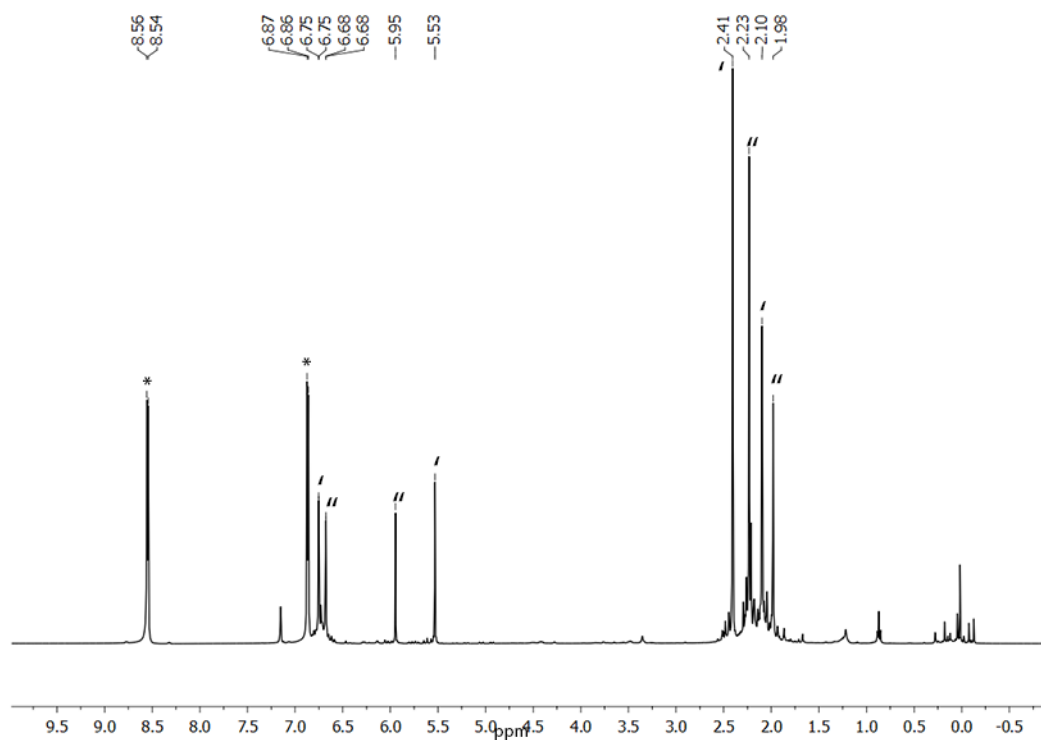


## Attempts to synthesize *N*-Heterocyclic Silylene:

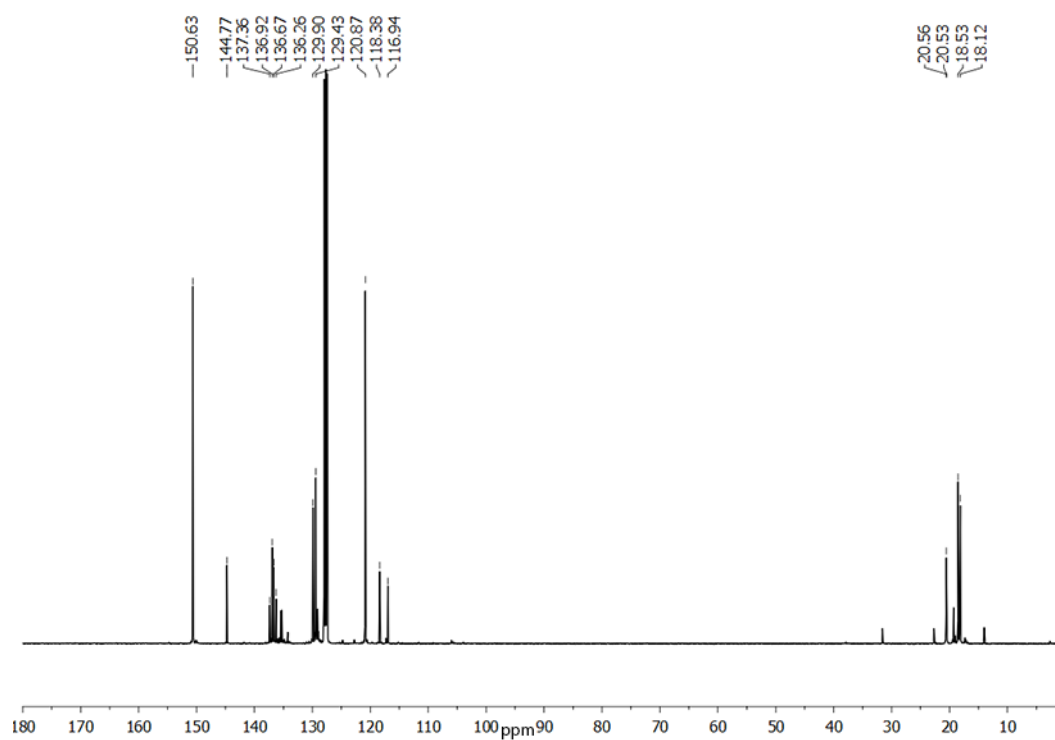
### Trial 1:



To a mixture of *N*<sup>1</sup>,*N*<sup>2</sup>-dimesitylethane-1,2-diimine (0.254 g, 0.865 mmol) and 1,1'-bis(trimethylsilyl)-1,1'-dihydro-4,4'-bipyridine (0.528 g, 1.74 mmol) taken in 20 mL of tetrahydrofuran maintained at 0 °C, was added drop-wise 5 mL tetrahydrofuran solution of SiCl<sub>4</sub> (0.1 mL, 0.865 mmol). The red reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 12 hours. The volatiles were removed under vacuum giving a brown solid. Hexane was added to it and filtered. Subsequently, the filtrate was evaporated under vacuum giving orange sticky solid.

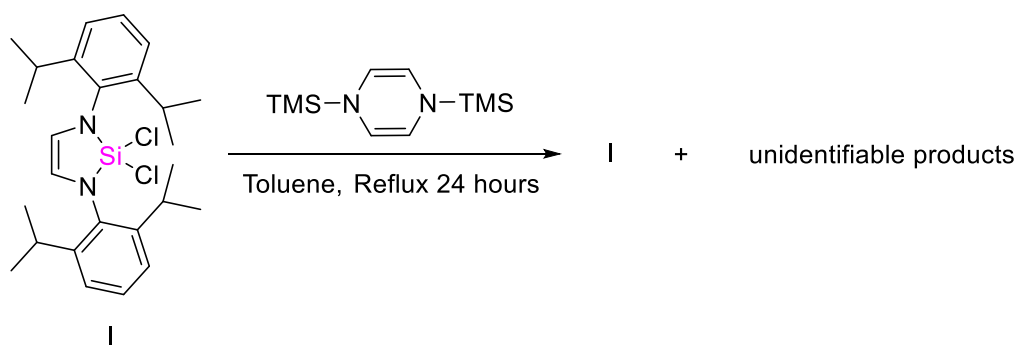


**Figure S14.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR plot of Trial 1 (\* = 4,4'-Bipyridine, ' = A, '' = B)



**Figure S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Plot of Trial 1

### Trial 2:



20 mL of toluene was added to mixture of 2,2-dichloro-1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-1,3,2-diazasilole [S1] (0.3 g, 0.631 mmol) and 1,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine (0.142 g, 0.631 mmol) at room temperature. The yellow reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 hours. Volatiles were removed under vacuum giving yellow viscous liquid.

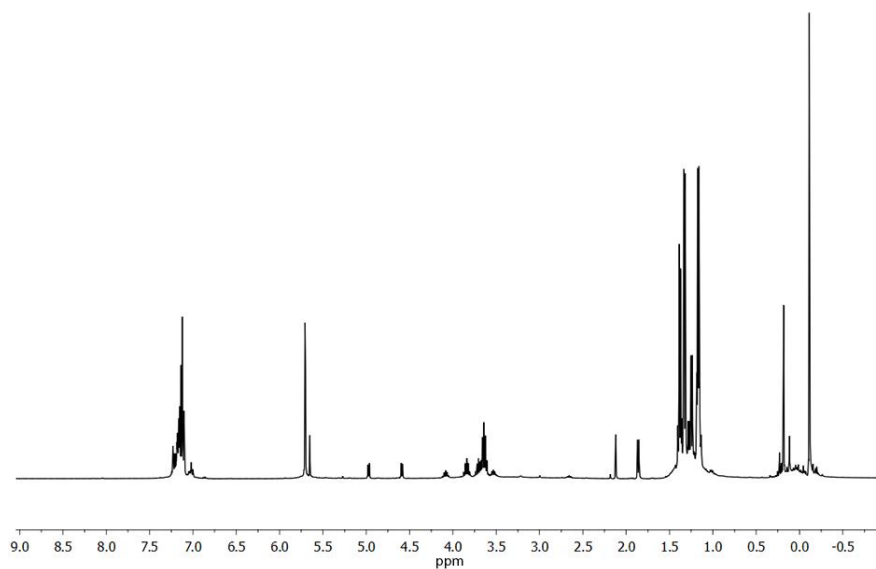


Figure S16.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of Trial 2

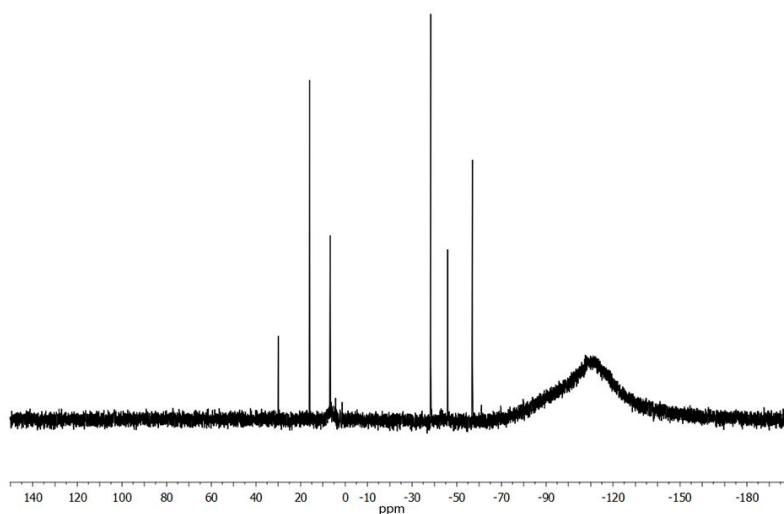
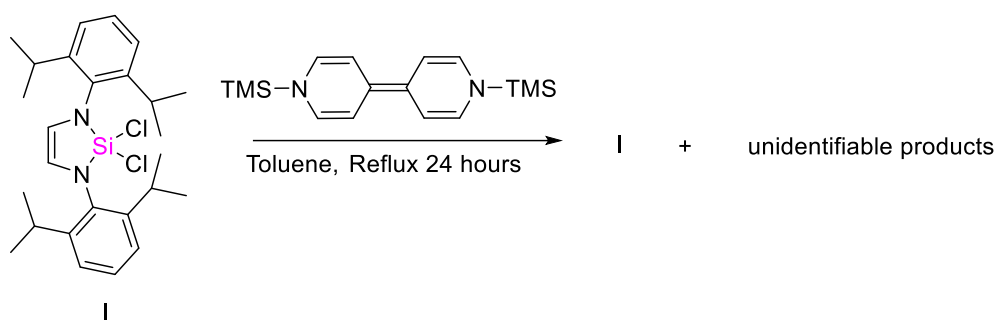


Figure S17.  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR of Trial 2

### Trial 3:



20 mL of toluene was added to mixture of 2,2-dichloro-1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-1,3,2-diazasilole (0.3 g, 0.631 mmol) and 1,1'-bis(trimethylsilyl)-1H,1'H-4,4'-bipyridinyldiene (0.191 g, 0.631 mmol) at room temperature. The orange reaction mixture was refluxed for 24 hours. Volatiles were removed under vacuum giving orange yellow viscous liquid.

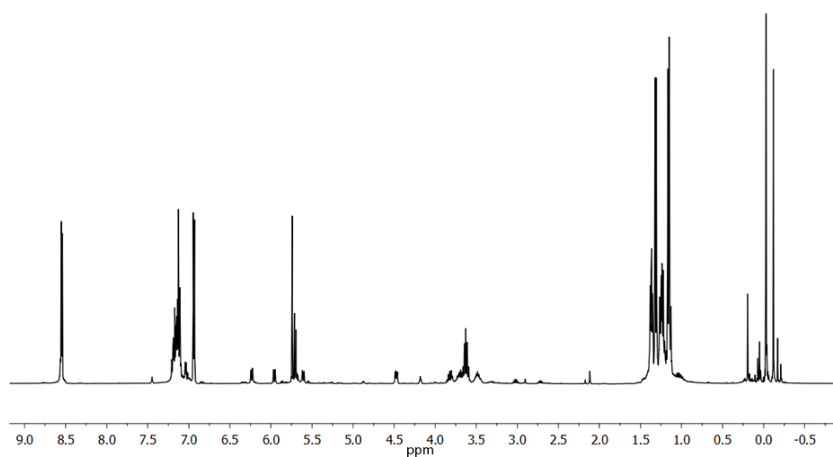


Figure S18. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Trial 3

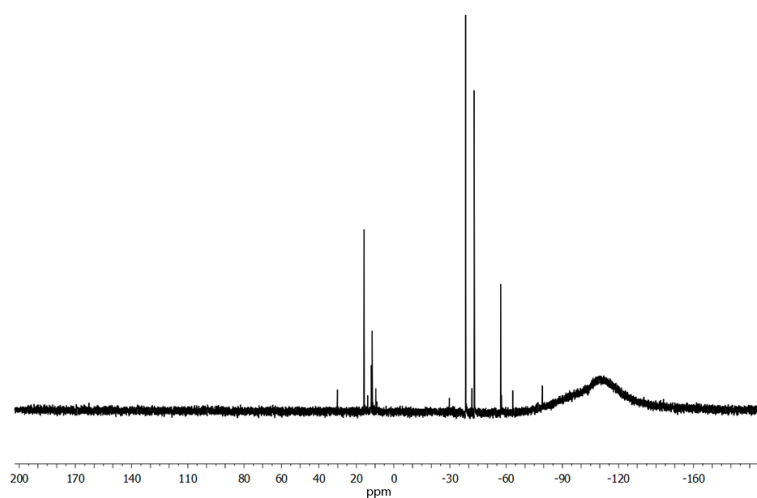
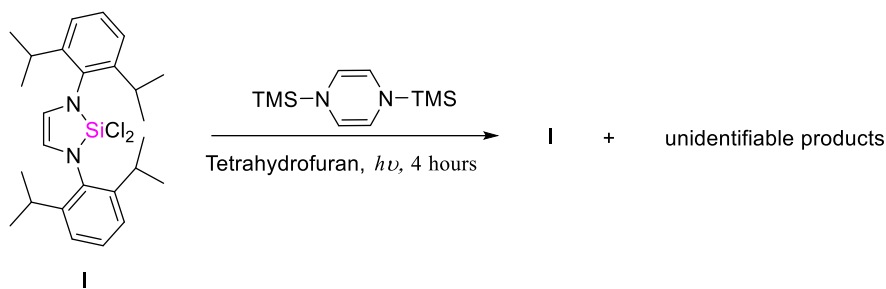


Figure S19. <sup>29</sup>Si NMR of Trial 3

#### Trial 4:



Photochemical reactor was charged with 70 mL tetrahydrofuran solution of 2,2-dichloro-1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-1,3,2-diazasilole (0.238 g, 0.5 mmol) and 1,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine (0.113 g, 0.5 mmol). The yellow reaction mixture was irradiated with ultraviolet light for 4 hours. The volatiles were removed under vacuum giving yellow viscous liquid.

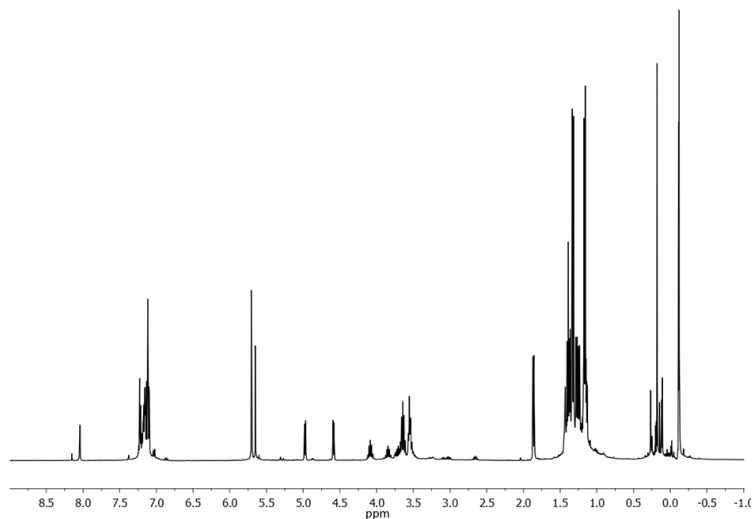


Figure S20. <sup>1</sup>H NMR

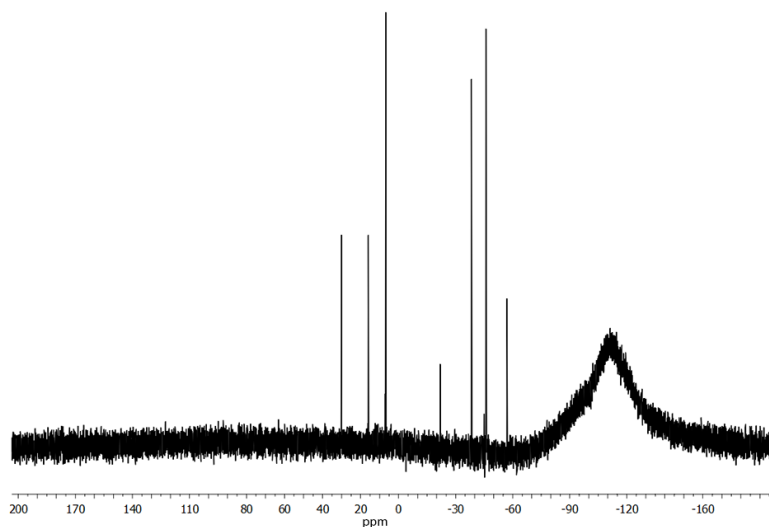
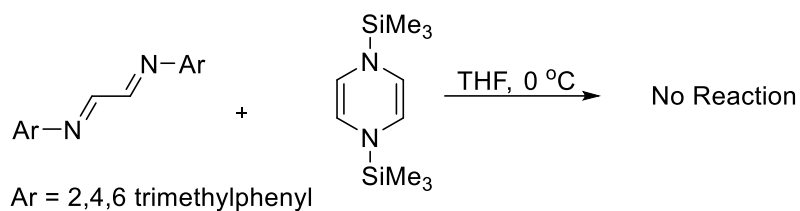
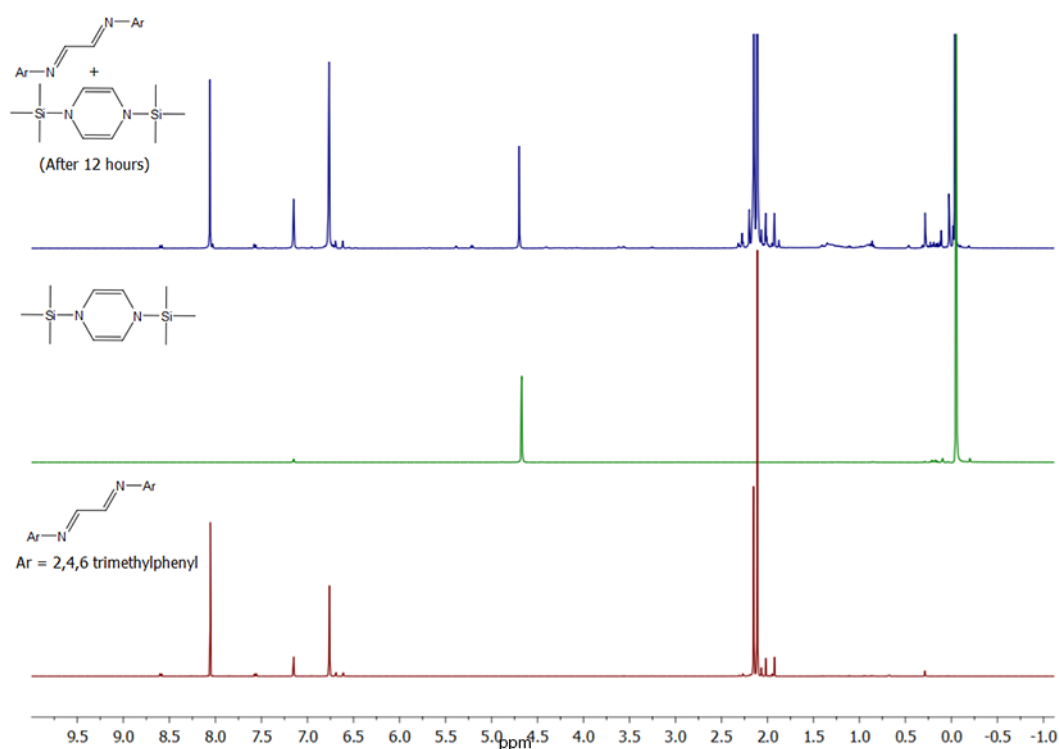


Figure S21. <sup>29</sup>Si NMR

### Reaction of Diazabutadiene with Organosilicon Reductant



10 mL of tetrahydrofuran was added to a mixture of N<sup>1</sup>,N<sup>2</sup>-dimesitylethane-1,2-diimine (0.1 g, 0.342 mmol) and 1,4-bis(trimethylsilyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine (0.077g, 0.342 mmol) at room temperature. The yellow reaction mixture was stirred for 12 hours at room temperature. Solvent was removed under vacuum giving yellow solid.



**Figure S22.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR study for the reaction between diazabutadiene and organosilicon reductant.

## 2. X-ray Data

**Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for Compound 1.**

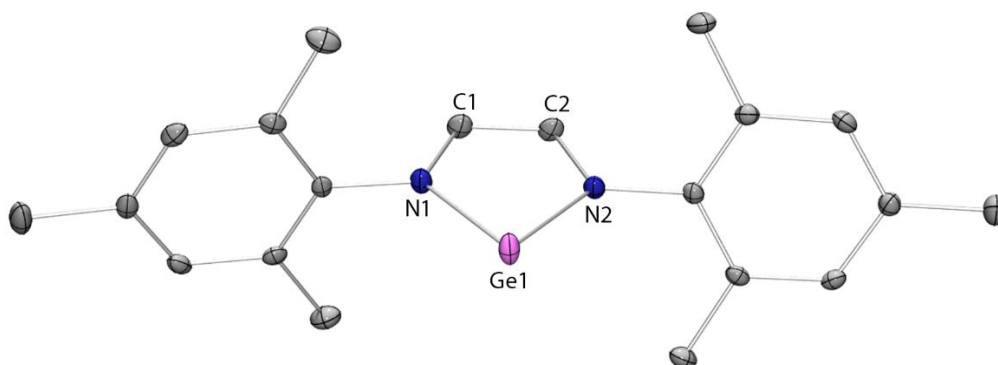
Empirical formula	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>2</sub> Ge
Formula weight	365.00
Temperature	100 K
Wavelength	1.54178 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P -1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.1542 (4) Å   α = 76.988 (2) b = 10.2525 (4) Å   β = 75.233 (2) c = 12.5214 (6) Å   γ = 67.180 (2)
Volume	923.58 (7) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.312 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	2.241 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	380
Crystal size	0.09 x 0.08 x 0.07 cm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	4.727 to 66.731°.
Index ranges	-9<=h<=9, -12<=k<=12, -14<=l<=14
Reflections collected	5992
Independent reflections	3188 [R(int) = 0.0371]
Completeness to theta = 66.731°	97.3 %
Absorption correction	Multi-scan
Max. and min. transmission	0.817 and 0.855
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	3188 / 0 / 214
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.088
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0359, wR2 = 0.0969
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0371, wR2 = 0.0979
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.629 and -0.404 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S2. Crystal data and structure refinement for Compound 2**

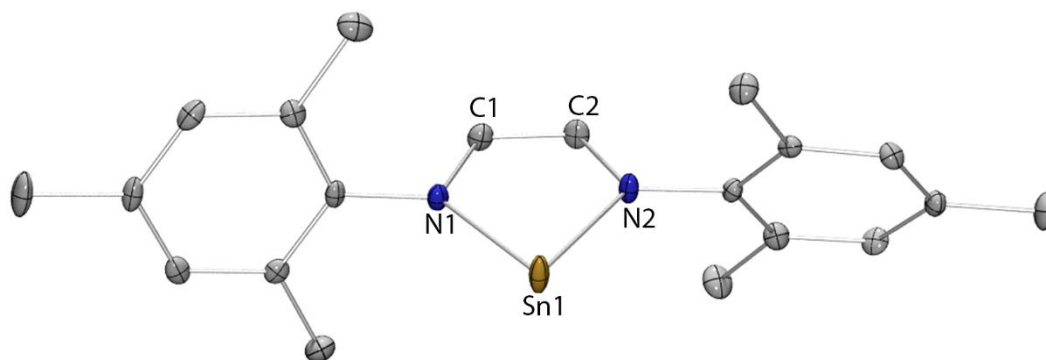
Empirical formula	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>2</sub> Sn
Formula weight	411.10
Temperature	100 K
Wavelength	1.54178 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P -1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.1203 (5) Å   α = 92.139 (2)
	b = 10.3254 (6) Å   β = 104.427 (2)
	c = 12.4256 (7) Å   γ = 111.697 (2)
Volume	927.74 (10) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.472 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	10.943 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	416
Crystal size	0.1 x 0.08 x 0.06 cm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	3.712 to 66.644°.
Index ranges	-9<=h<=9, -12<=k<=12, -14<=l<=14
Reflections collected	9456
Independent reflections	3260 [R(int) = 0.0512]
Completeness to theta = 66.644°	99.2 %
Absorption correction	Multi-scan
Max. and min. transmission	0.402 and 0.519
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	3260 / 0 / 214
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.132
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0493, wR2 = 0.1215
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0512, wR2 = 0.1234
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.874 and -2.247 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>



### 3. Molecular Structure



**Figure S23.** Molecular structure of **1** in the solid state (thermal ellipsoids at 30%, H atoms omitted for clarity). Selected bond lengths [Å] and bond angle [°]: Ge1-N1 = 1.8679 (18) Å, Ge1-N2 = 1.8786 (18); N1-Ge-N2 = 83.62 (8).



**Figure S24.** Molecular structure of **2** in the solid state (thermal ellipsoids at 30%, H atoms omitted for clarity). Selected bond lengths [Å] and bond angle [°]: Sn1-N1 = 2.089 (4) Å, Sn1-N2 = 2.096 (4); N1-Sn-N2 = 77.95 (16).

### References

[S1] Park, P.; Schäfer, A.; Mitra, A.; Haase, D.; Saak, W.; West, R.; Müller, T. Synthesis and reactivity of *N*-aryl substituted *N*-heterocyclic silylenes. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2010**, 695, 398-408, DOI: 10.1016/j.jorganchem.2009.10.034.