

Supporting Information for

**Influence of Dithiolate Bridges on the Structures and Electrocatalytic
Performance of Small Bite-Angle PNP-Chelated Diiron Complexes
 $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-xdt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NR}\}$ Related to [FeFe]-Hydrogenases**

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Part I: Selected crystallographic data for complexes 1a, 1b, 2a and 2d

Table S1. Selected bond lengths and bond angles of complexes **1a**, **1b**, **2a** and **2d**

Complex	1a	1b	2a	2d
PNP configuration	Apical-basal	Dibasal	Apical-basal	Apical-basal
<i>Bond distances (Å)</i>				
Fe(1)-Fe(2)	2.5329(12)	2.5946(6)	2.5121(5)	2.5050(16)
Fe(2)-P(1)	2.1857(18)	2.2053(9)	2.1815(7)	2.183(2)
Fe(2)-P(2)	2.2060(16)	2.2058(9)	2.1908(7)	2.2229(19)
P(1)...P(2)	2.579(2)	2.5776(11)	2.5776(9)	2.596(2)
Fe(2)-C(4)	1.741(7)	1.760(3)	1.746(3)	1.753(8)
Fe(1)...C(4)	3.105	4.183	3.256	3.262
<i>Bond angles (°)</i>				
P(1)-Fe(2)-Fe(1)	156.99(6)	111.04(3)	165.29(3)	155.08(7)
P(2)-Fe(2)-Fe(1)	124.80(6)	115.49(3)	115.73(2)	119.32(7)
P(1)-Fe(2)-P(2)	71.92(6)	71.51(3)	72.25(3)	72.20(7)
P(1)-N-P(2)	96.4(3)	97.47(13)	96.90(10)	99.2(3)
Fe(1)-Fe(2)-C(4)	91.3(3)	147.10(10)	98.13(8)	98.5(3)
C(5)-N-C(6)	113.6(5)	113.9(3)	-	-
C(6)-N-C(7)	122.9(5)	119.8(3)	-	-
C(5)-N-C(7)	123.2(5)	121.9(3)	-	-

Table S2. Details of crystallographic data and structure refinement for **1a**, **1b**, **2a** and **2d**

Complex	1a	1b	2a	2d
CCDC number	1865617	1865618	1865619	1865625
Empirical formula	C ₄₀ H ₃₈ Fe ₂ N ₂ O ₄ P ₂ S ₂	C ₄₀ H ₃₈ Fe ₂ N ₂ O ₄ P ₂ S ₂ ·CH ₂ Cl ₂	C ₃₄ H ₃₃ Fe ₂ NO ₄ P ₂ S ₂	C ₃₉ H ₄₅ Fe ₂ NO ₇ P ₂ S ₂ Si
Formula weight	848.48	933.41	757.37	905.61
Temperature (K)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073
Crystal system	triclinic	triclinic	monoclinic	orthorhombic
Space group	P-1	P-1	P2 ₁ /n	Pbca
<i>a</i> (Å)	10.5181(7)	10.4095(10)	10.8939(9)	17.476(5)
<i>b</i> (Å)	10.9702(8)	11.6260(10)	14.7675(10)	19.435(5)
<i>c</i> (Å)	19.7269(14)	18.6195(17)	21.5753(16)	25.393(7)
α (°)	74.368(2)	80.837(2)	90	90
β (°)	81.839(2)	88.750(3)	102.095(2)	90
γ (°)	64.218(2)	73.220(3)	90	90
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	1973.0(2)	2129.2(3)	3393.9(4)	8624(4)
<i>Z</i>	2	2	4	8
<i>D</i> _{calc} (g cm ⁻³)	1.428	1.456	1.482	1.395
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.965	1.023	1.111	0.918
<i>F</i> (000)	876.0	960.0	1560.0	3760.0
Crystal size (mm)	0.30×0.20×0.16	0.38×0.22×0.18	0.26×0.22×0.16	0.32×0.28×0.22
$\theta_{\min}$, $\theta_{\max}$ (°)	4.282, 50.888	4.434, 50.864	4.630, 50.142	4.192, 50.270
Reflections collected/unique	36440/7239	53767/7816	71129/6011	160466/7695
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.0559	0.0506	0.0553	0.0993
<i>hkl</i> Range	-12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12 -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 13 -23 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 23	-12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12 -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 14 -22 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 22	-12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12 -17 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 17 -25 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 25	-20 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 20 -22 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 23 -30 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 30
Completeness to $\theta_{\max}$ (%)	99.4	99.5	99.9	99.7
Data/restraints/parameters	7239/26/472	7816/0/508	6011/0/409	7695/79/490
Goodness-of-fit (GOF) on <i>F</i> ²	1.065	1.169	1.117	1.152
<i>R</i> _I / <i>wR</i> ₂ [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	0.0662/0.1849	0.0405/0.1274	0.0319/0.0812	0.0946/0.2446
<i>R</i> _I / <i>wR</i> ₂ (all data)	0.1052/0.2148	0.0511/0.1446	0.0492/0.0948	0.1304/0.2742
Largest difference peak/ hole (e Å ⁻³)	1.25/-0.80	0.78/-0.84	0.42/-0.48	0.96/-0.89

Part II: Additional electrochemical studies of complexes 1b and 2b

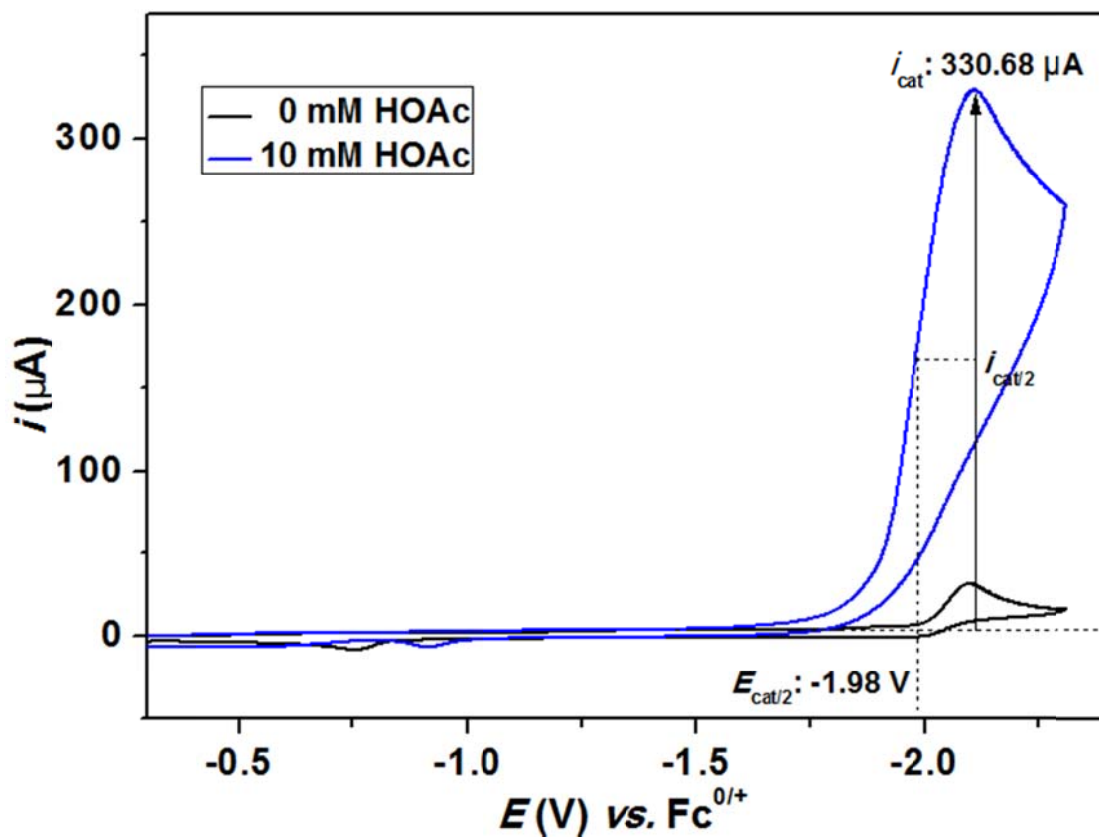


Figure S1. Cyclic voltammograms of **1b** (1.0 mM) with HOAc (0, 10 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹.

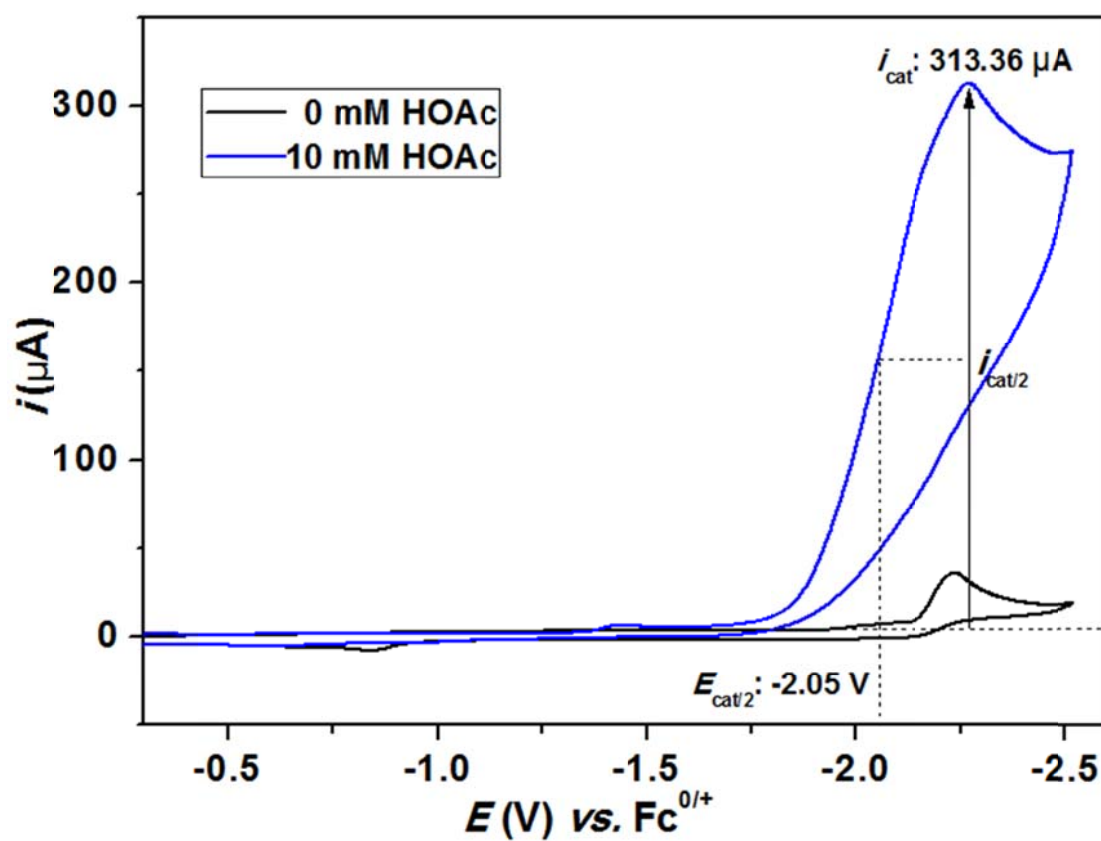


Figure S2. Cyclic voltammograms of **2b** (1.0 mM) with HOAc (0, 10 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹.

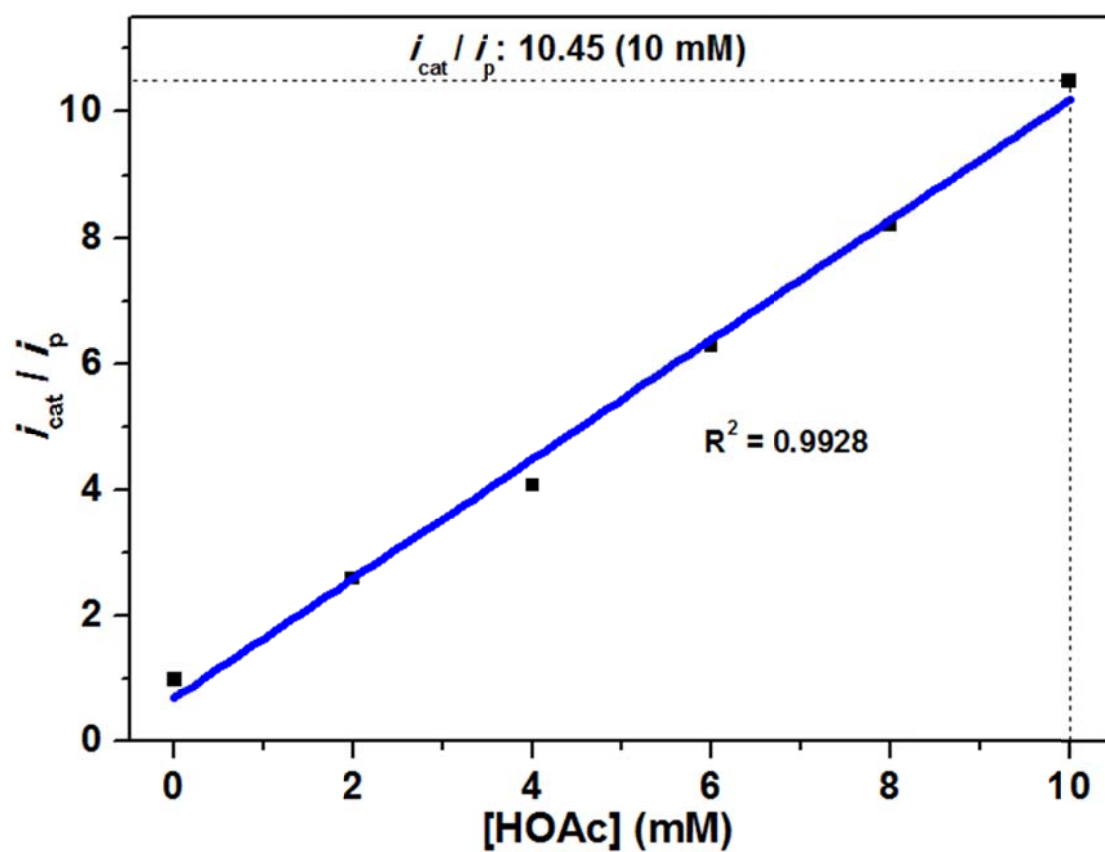


Figure S3. Plots of $i_{\text{cat}}/i_{\text{p}}$ versus $[\text{HOAc}]$ (mM) for **1b** (1.0 mM) in 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6/\text{MeCN}$ solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s^{-1} .

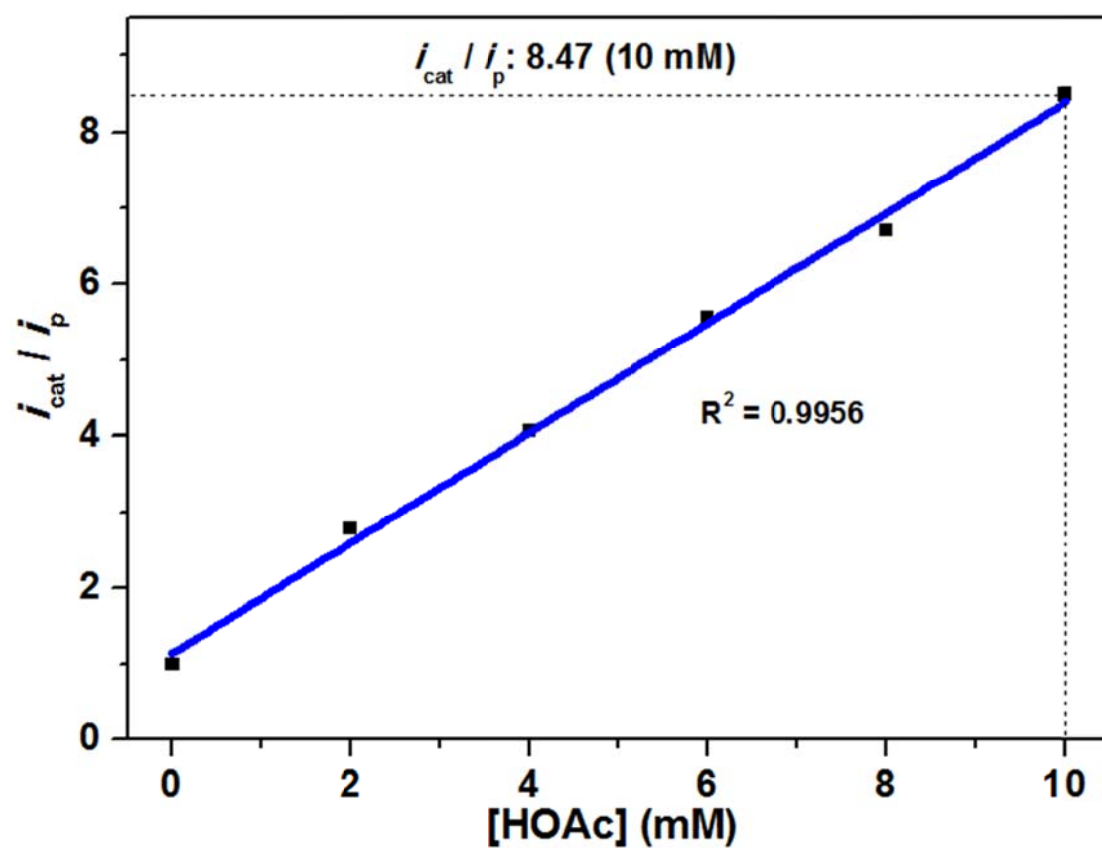


Figure S4. Plots of $i_{\text{cat}}/i_{\text{p}}$ versus $[\text{HOAc}]$ (mM) for **2b** (1.0 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹.

Table S3. The relevant electrochemical data for complexes **1a**, **1c–1e** and **2a**, **2c–2e**

Complex	E_{pc} (V)	$E_{cat/2}$ (V)	Overpotential (V)	i_{cat}/i_p	k (TOF) (s^{-1})
1a	-2.12	-2.03	0.65	15.87	48.86
2a	-2.16	-2.10	0.72	11.67	26.42
1c	-2.11	-1.99	0.61	10.18	20.10
2c	-2.24	-2.06	0.68	7.80	11.80
1d	-2.21	-2.01	0.63	4.08	3.23
2d	-2.22	-2.13	0.75	2.26	0.99
1e	-2.11	-2.05	0.67	11.34	24.95
2e	-2.15	-2.15	0.77	7.93	12.20

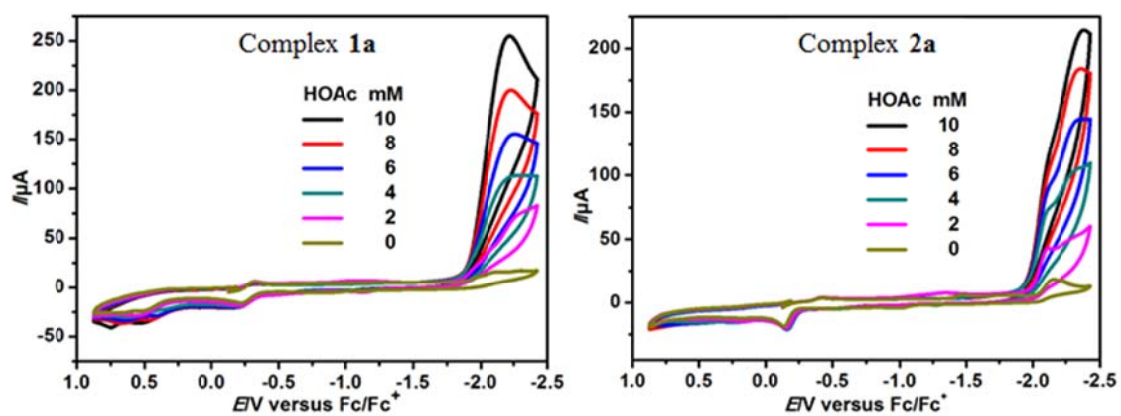


Figure S5. Cyclic voltammograms of **1a** (1.0 mM, left) and **2a** (1.0 mM, right) with HOAc (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹. All potentials are versus ferrocene/ferrocenium ($\text{Fc}^{0/+}$) couple.

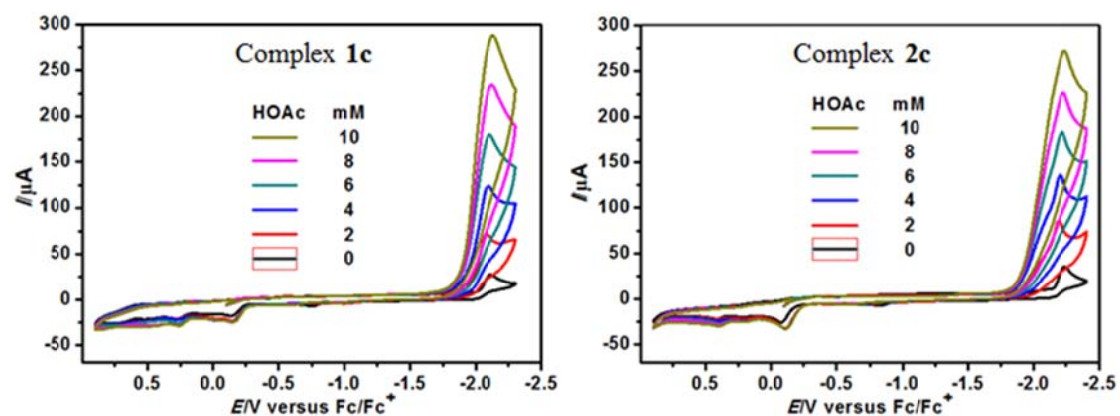


Figure S6. Cyclic voltammograms of **1c** (1.0 mM, left) and **2c** (1.0 mM, right) with HOAc (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 mM) in 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6/\text{MeCN}$ solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s^{-1} . All potentials are versus ferrocene/ferrocenium ($\text{Fc}^{0/+}$) couple.

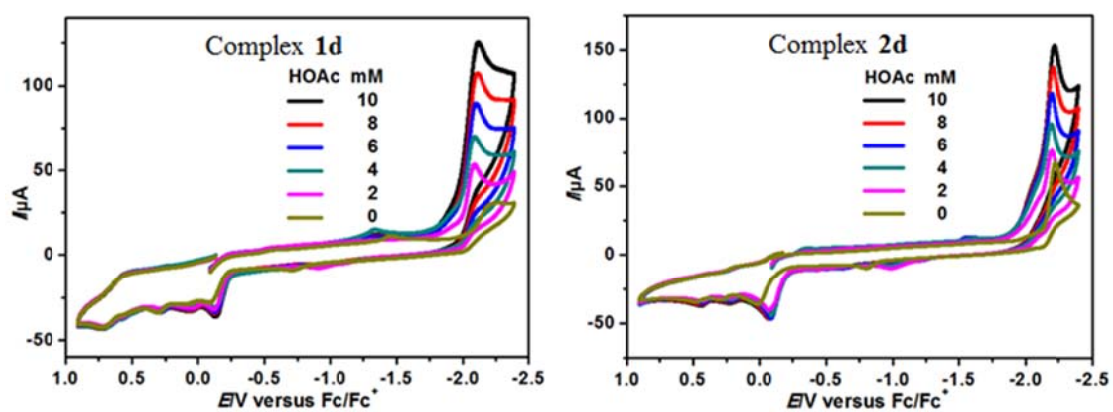


Figure S7. Cyclic voltammograms of **1d** (1.0 mM, left) and **2d** (1.0 mM, right) with HOAc (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹. All potentials are versus ferrocene/ferrocenium (Fc^{0/+}) couple.

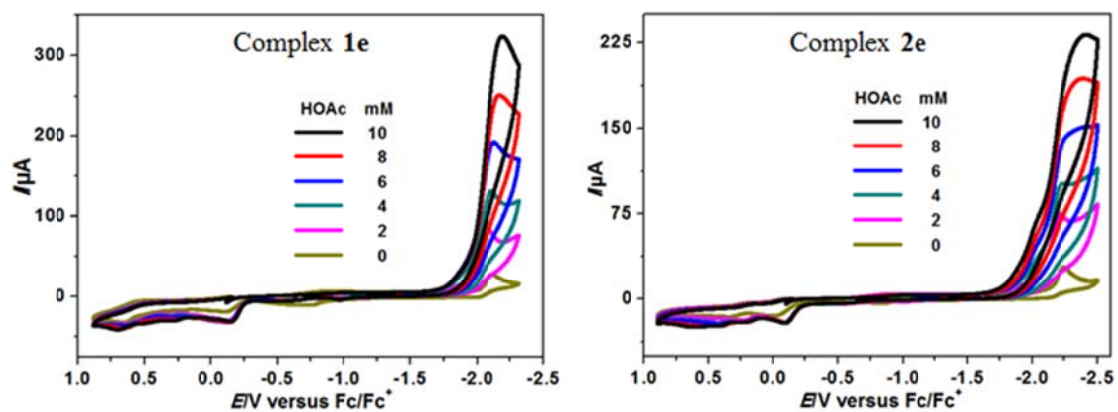


Figure S8. Cyclic voltammograms of **1e** (1.0 mM, left) and **2e** (1.0 mM, right) with HOAc (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NPF₆/MeCN solution at a scan rate of 0.1 V s⁻¹. All potentials are versus ferrocene/ferrocenium (Fc^{0/+}) couple.

Part III: The IR and NMR (^1H , ^{31}P) spectra for complexes 1a–1e and 2a–2e

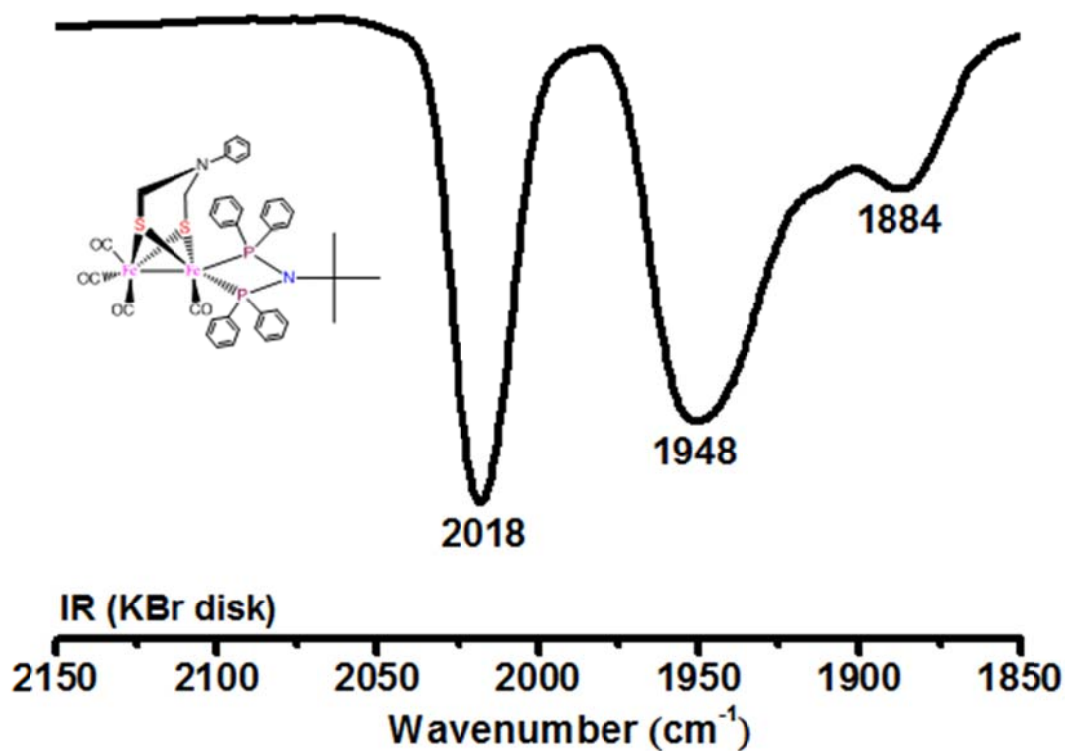


Figure S9(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**1a**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

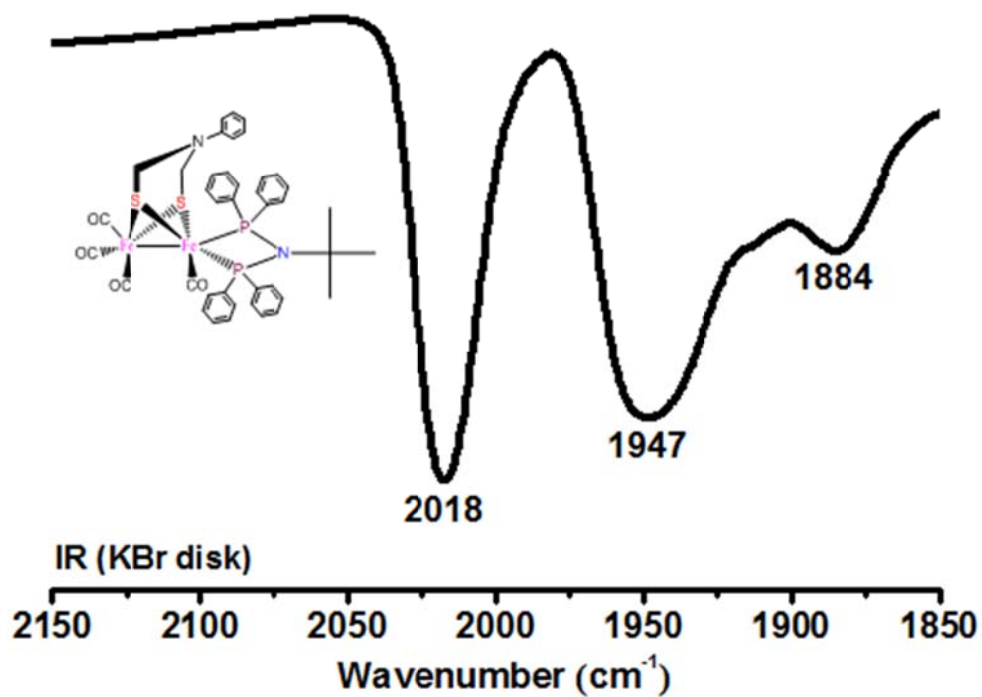


Figure S9(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**1a**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

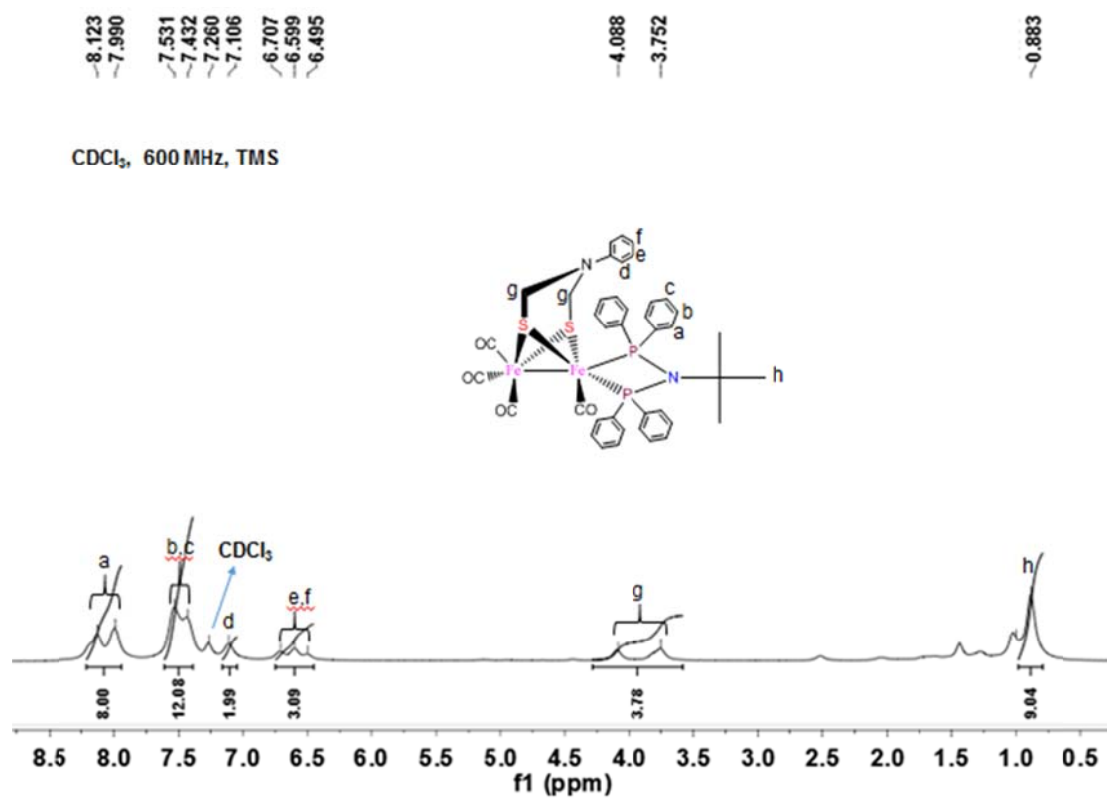


Figure S10. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**1a**) in CDCl_3 .

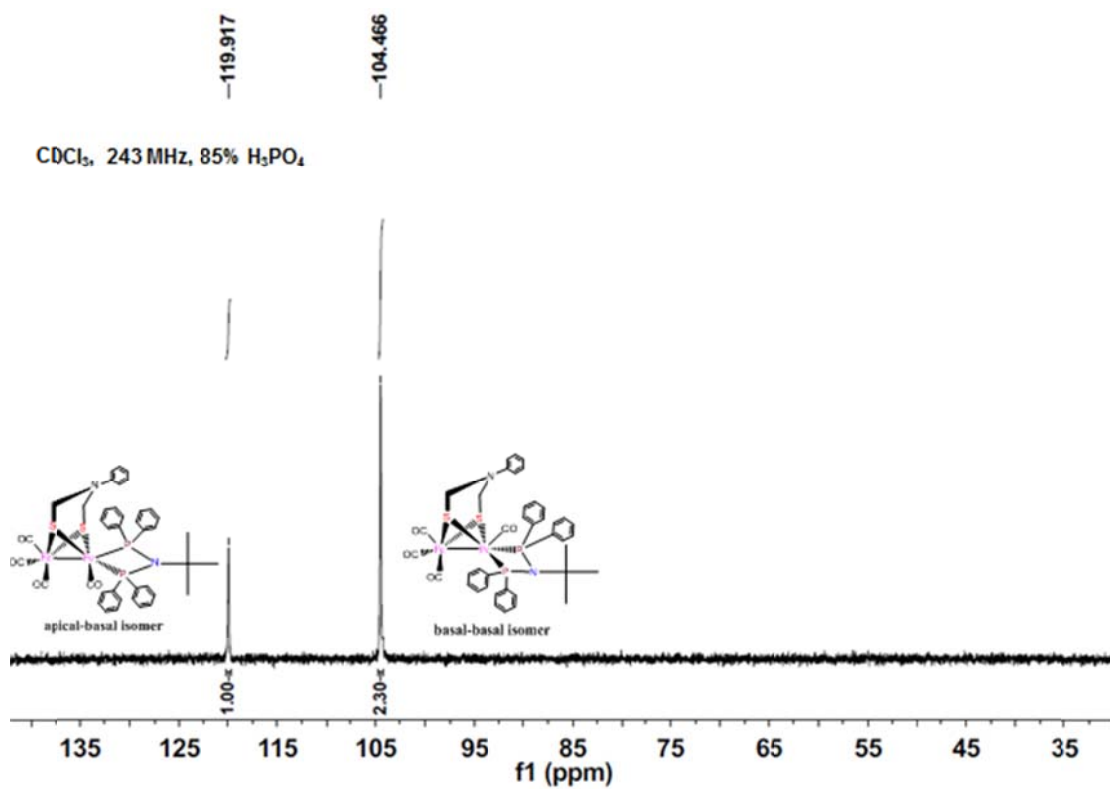


Figure S11. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**1a**) in CDCl_3 .

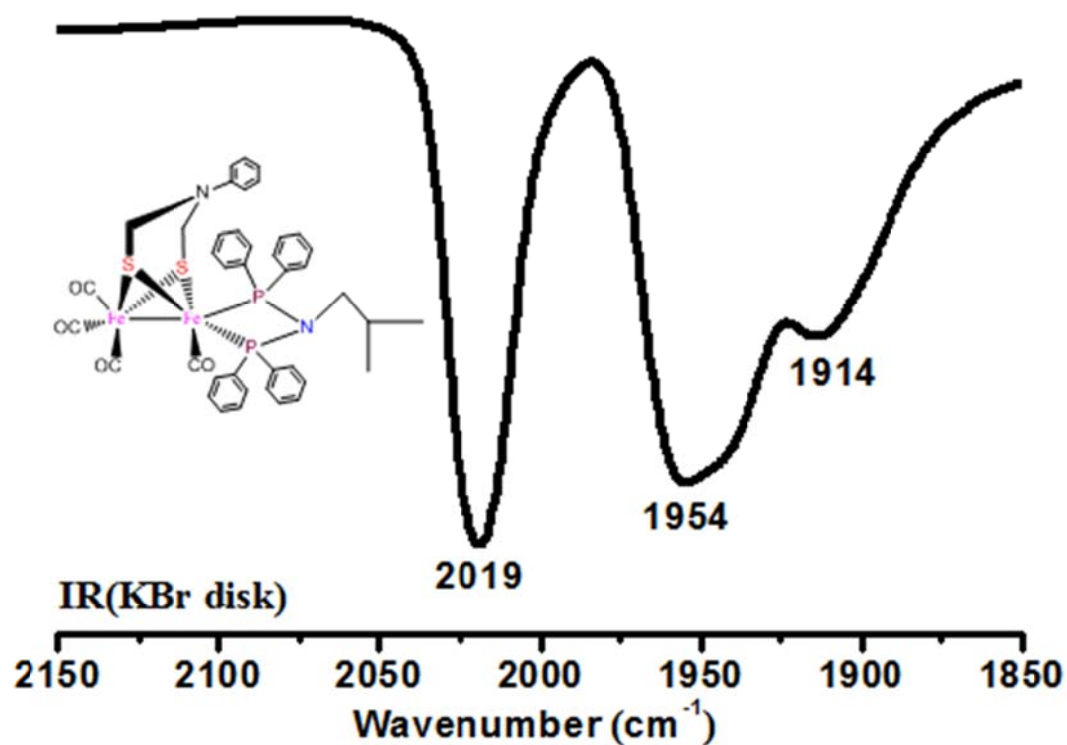


Figure S12(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (**1b**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

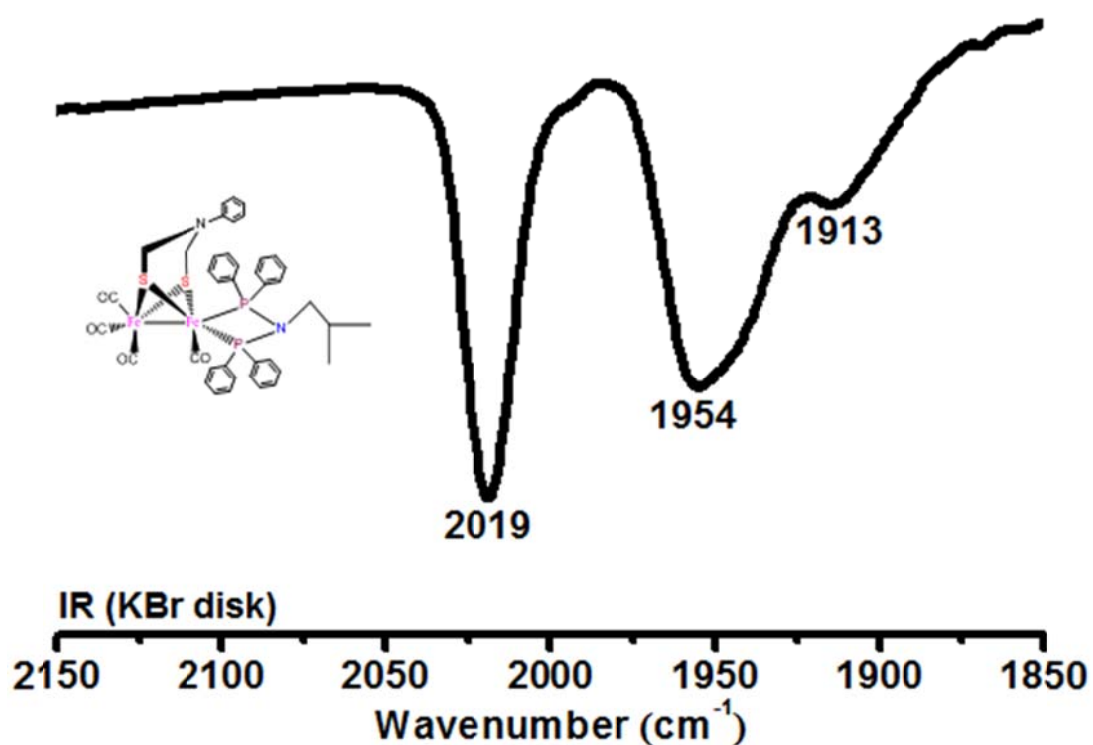


Figure S12(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (**1b**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

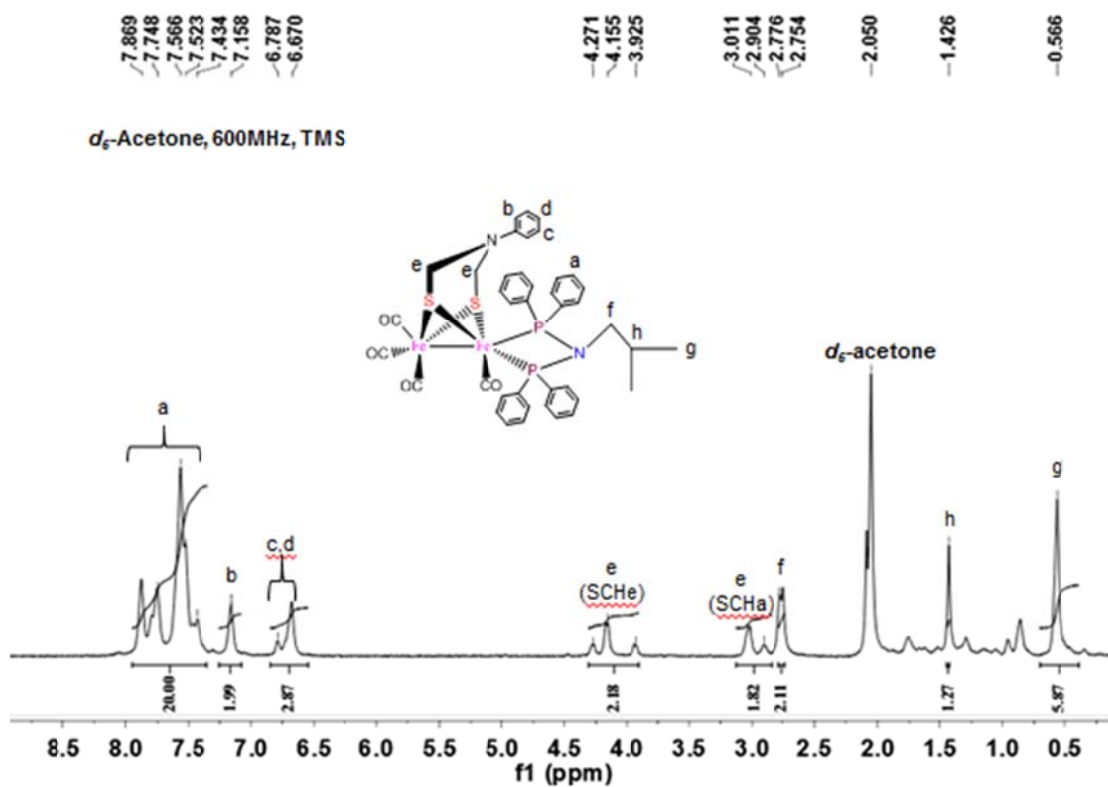


Figure S13. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (1b) in d_6 -acetone.

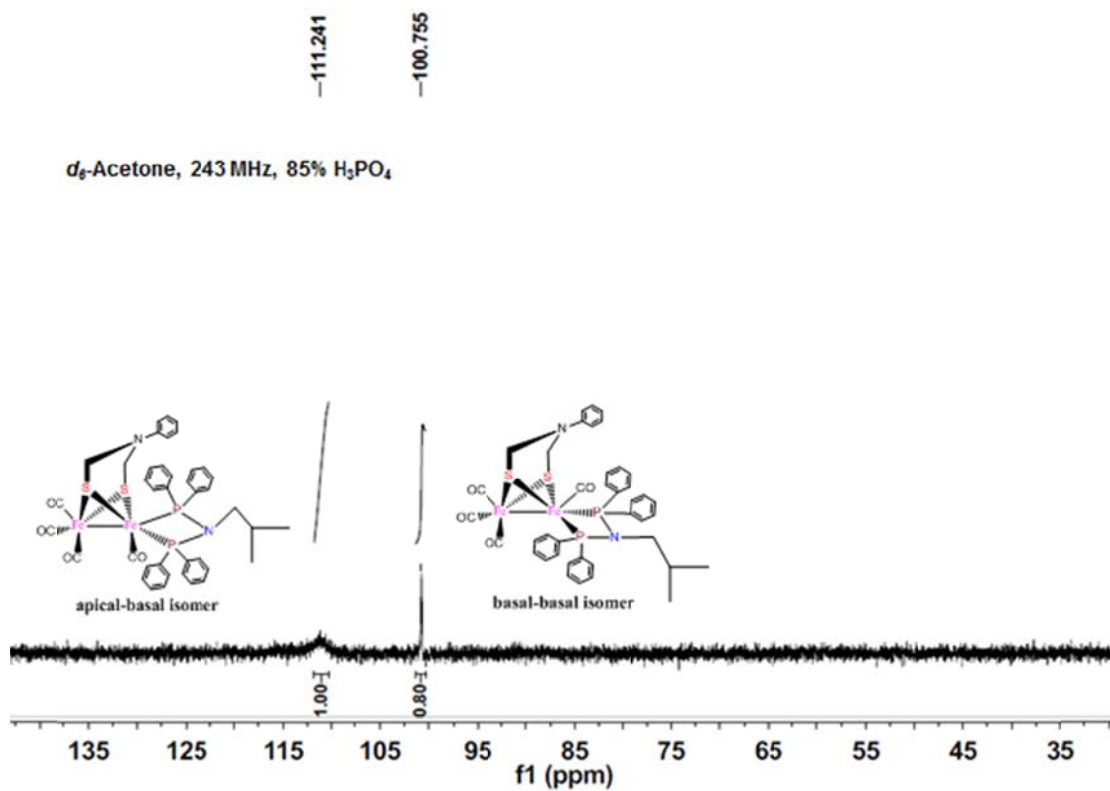


Figure S14. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (**1b**) in d_6 -acetone.

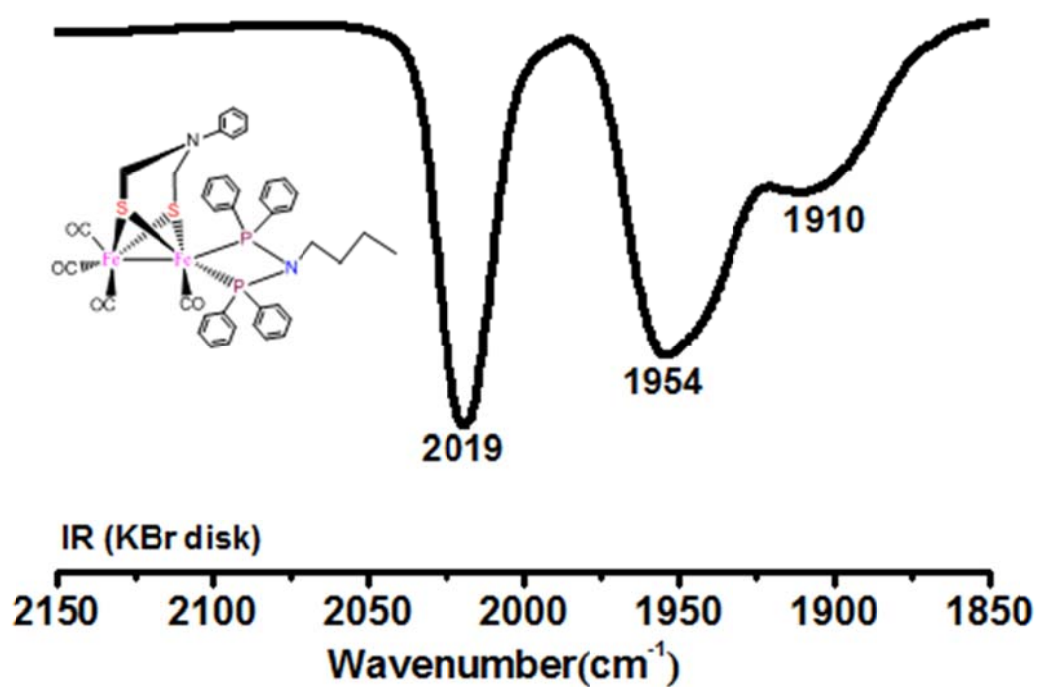


Figure S15(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_3\text{Me}\}$ (**1c**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

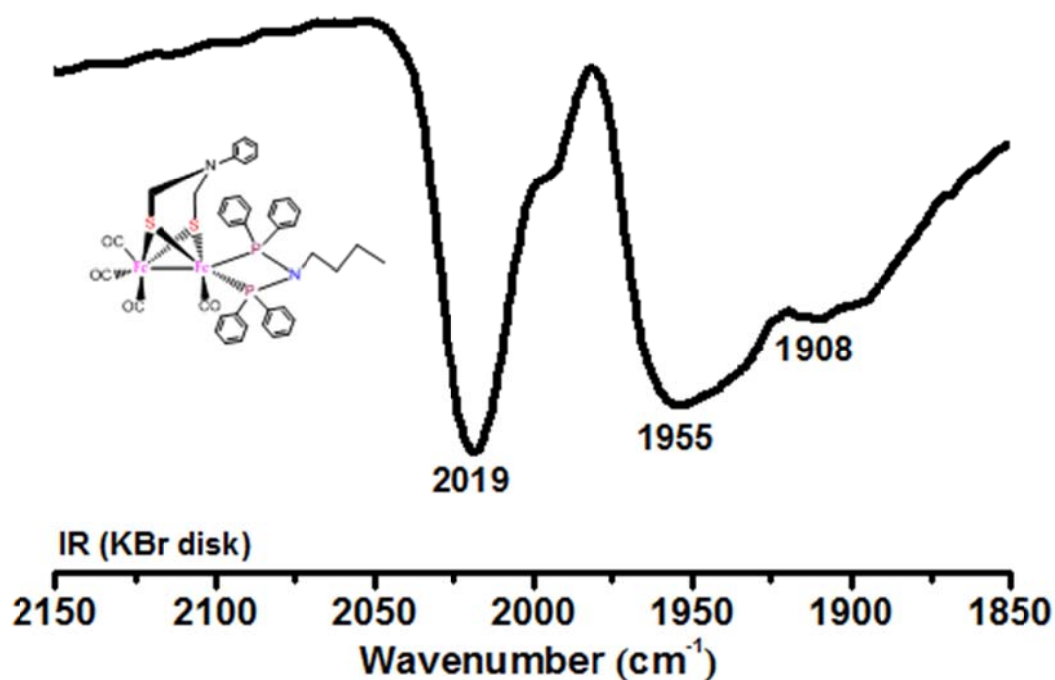


Figure S15(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_3\text{Me}\}$ (**1c**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

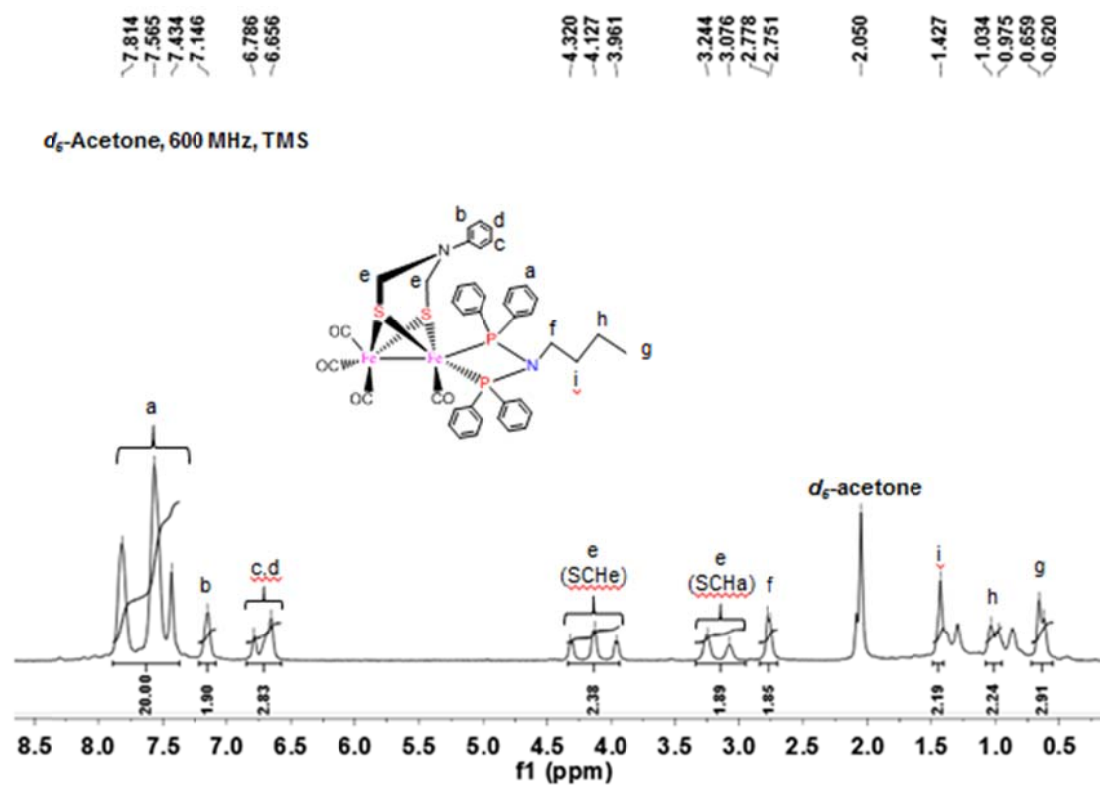


Figure S16. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Me}\}$ (**1c**) in d_6 -acetone.

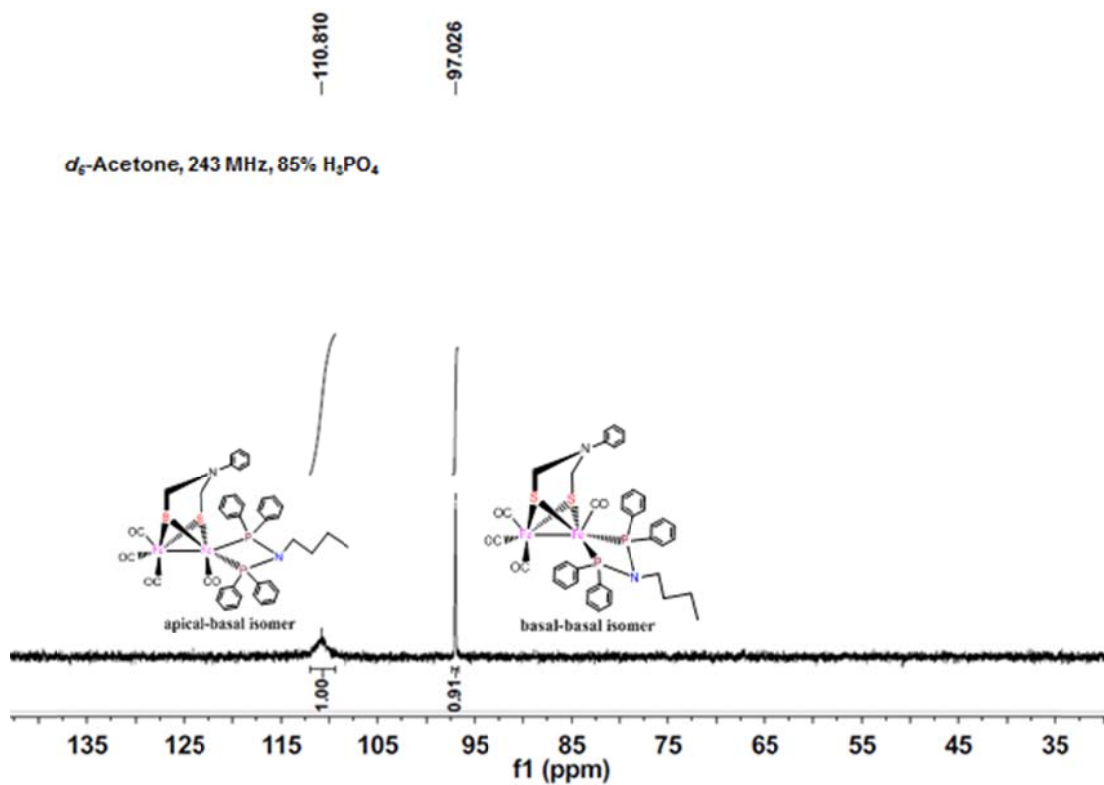


Figure S17. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_3\text{Me}\}$ (**1c**) in *d*₆-acetone.

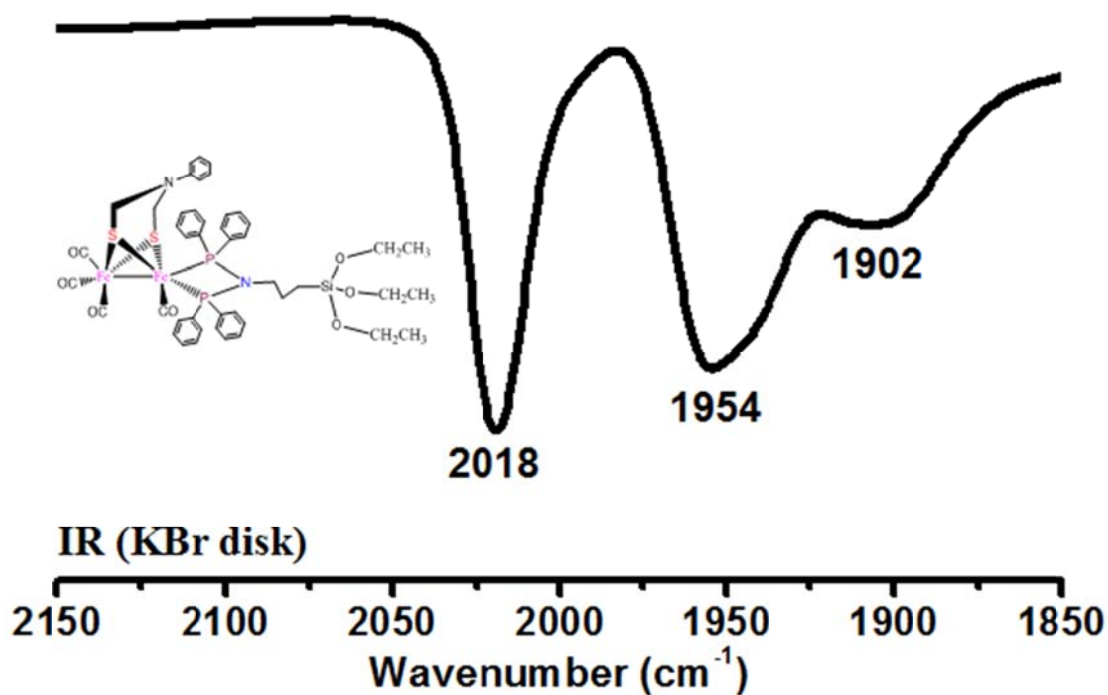


Figure S18(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**1d**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

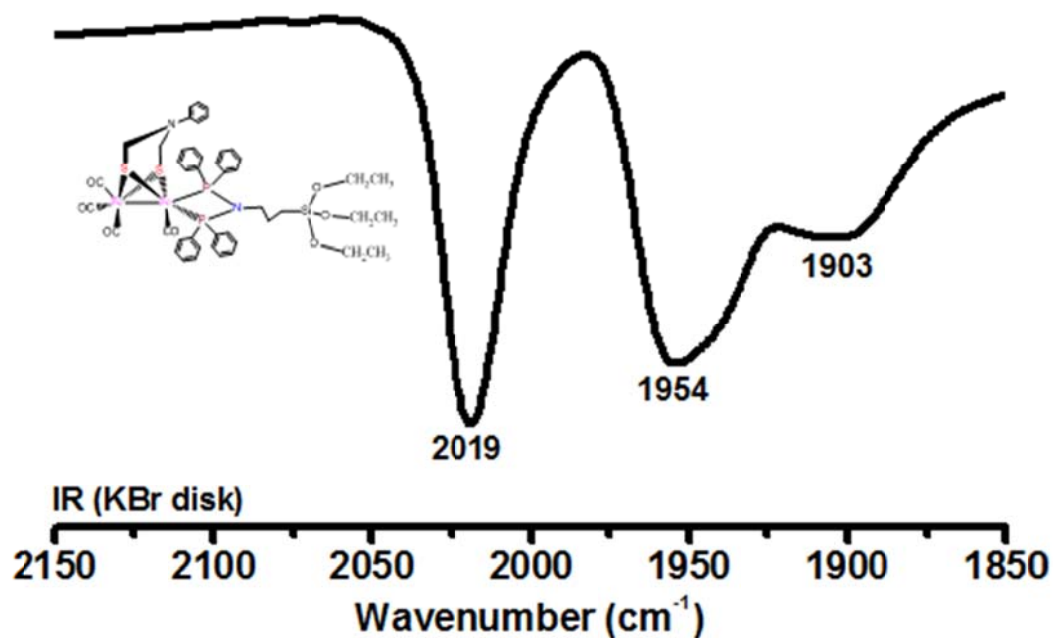


Figure S18(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**1d**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

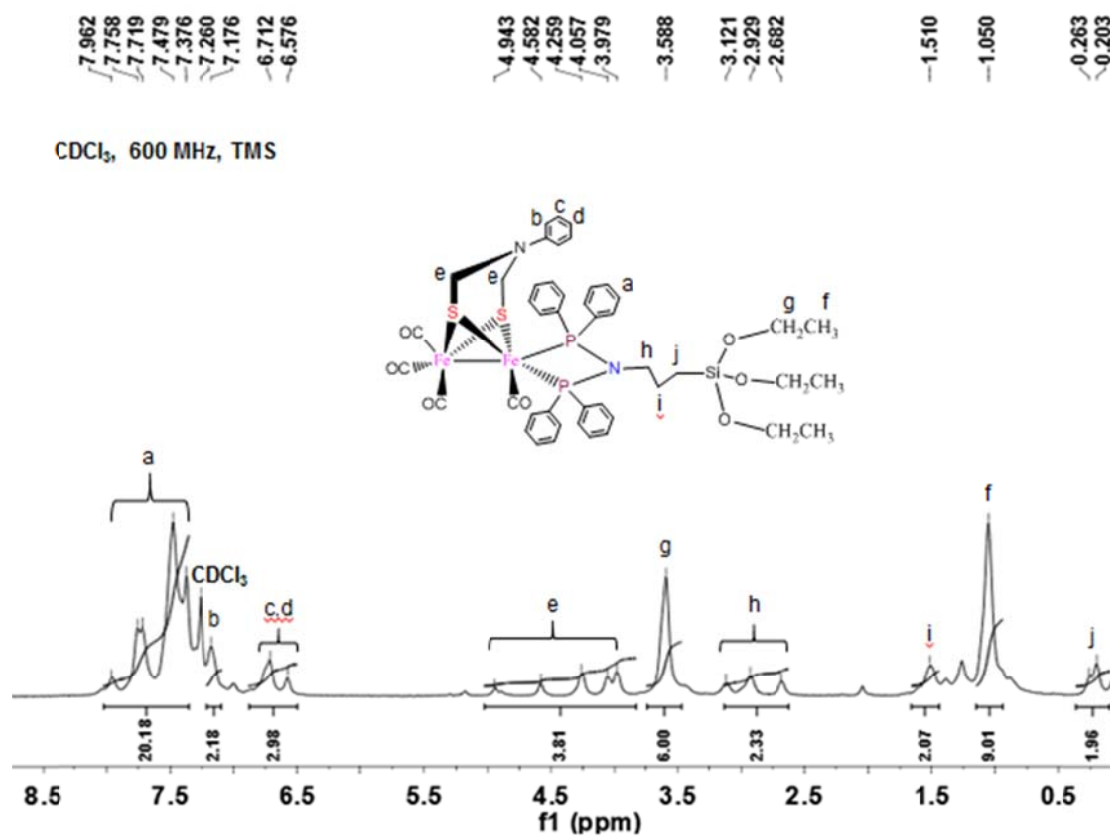


Figure S19. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**1d**) in CDCl₃.

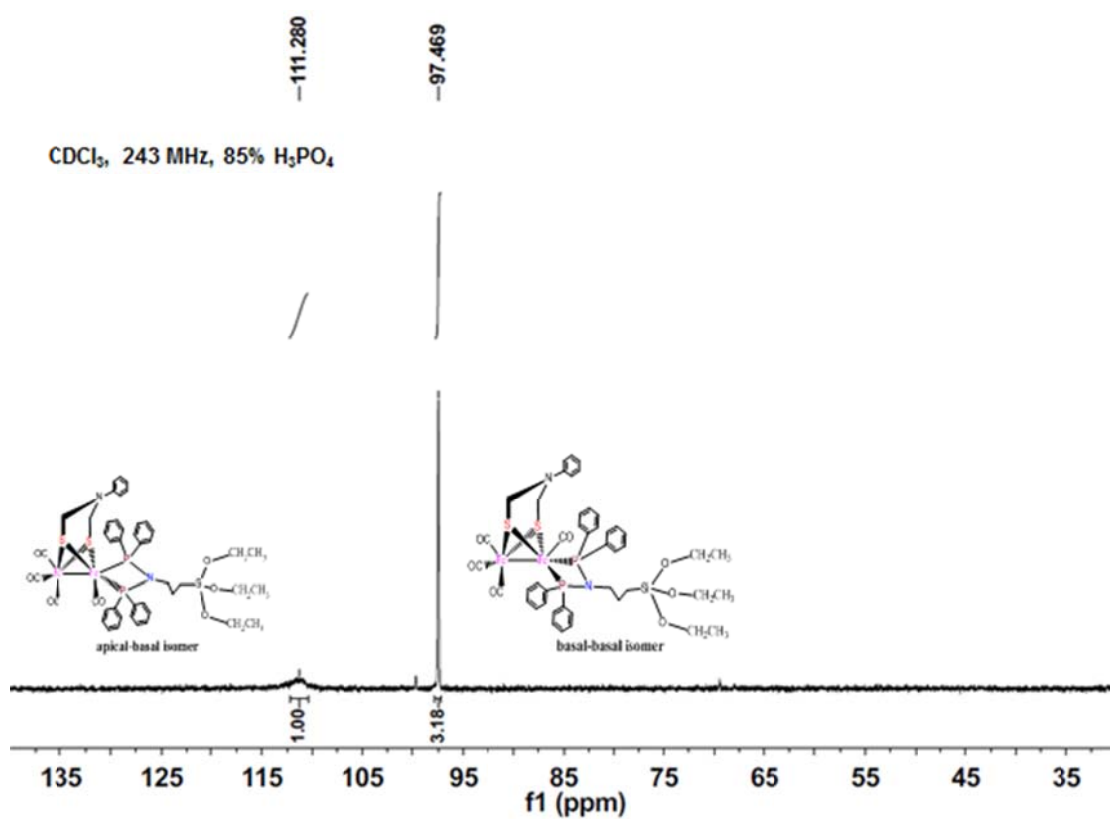


Figure S20. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**1d**) in CDCl_3 .

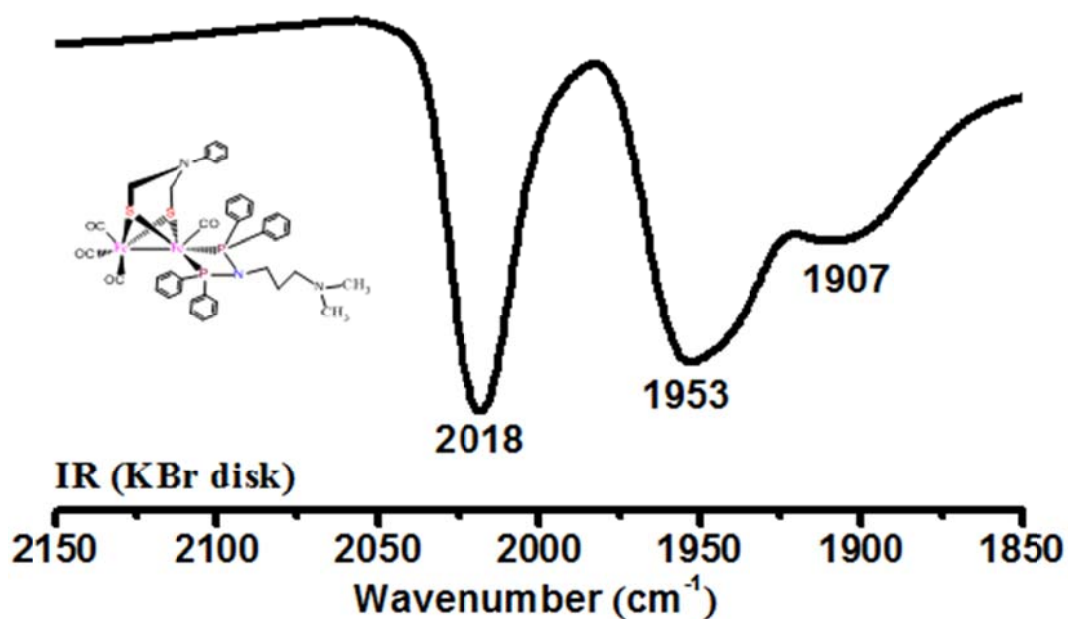


Figure S21(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**1e**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

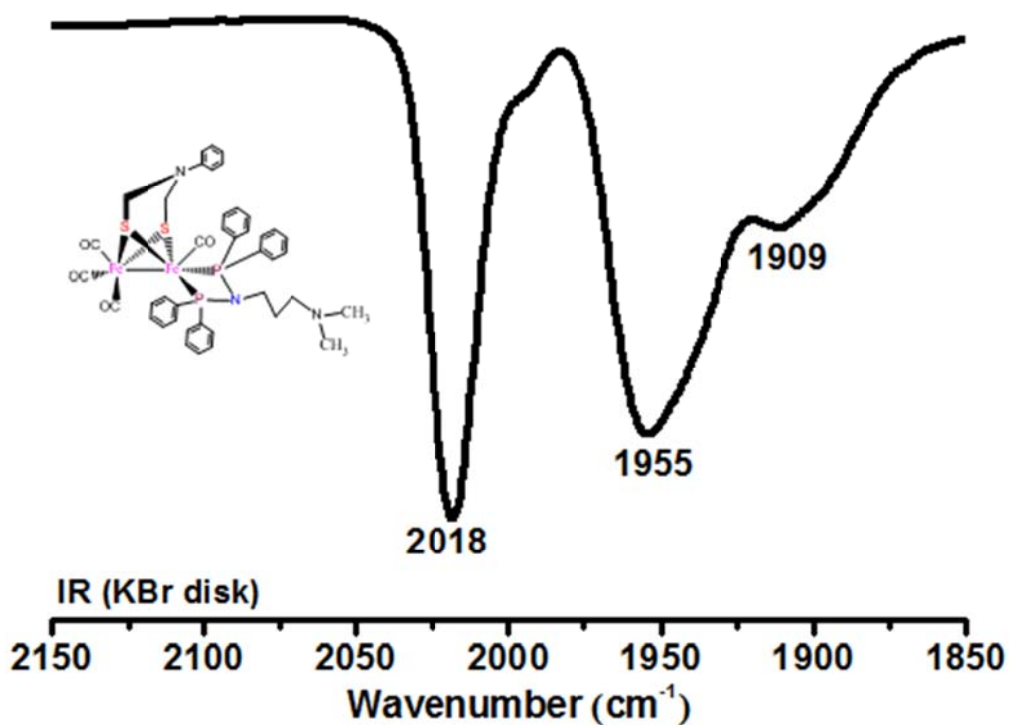


Figure S21(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**1e**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

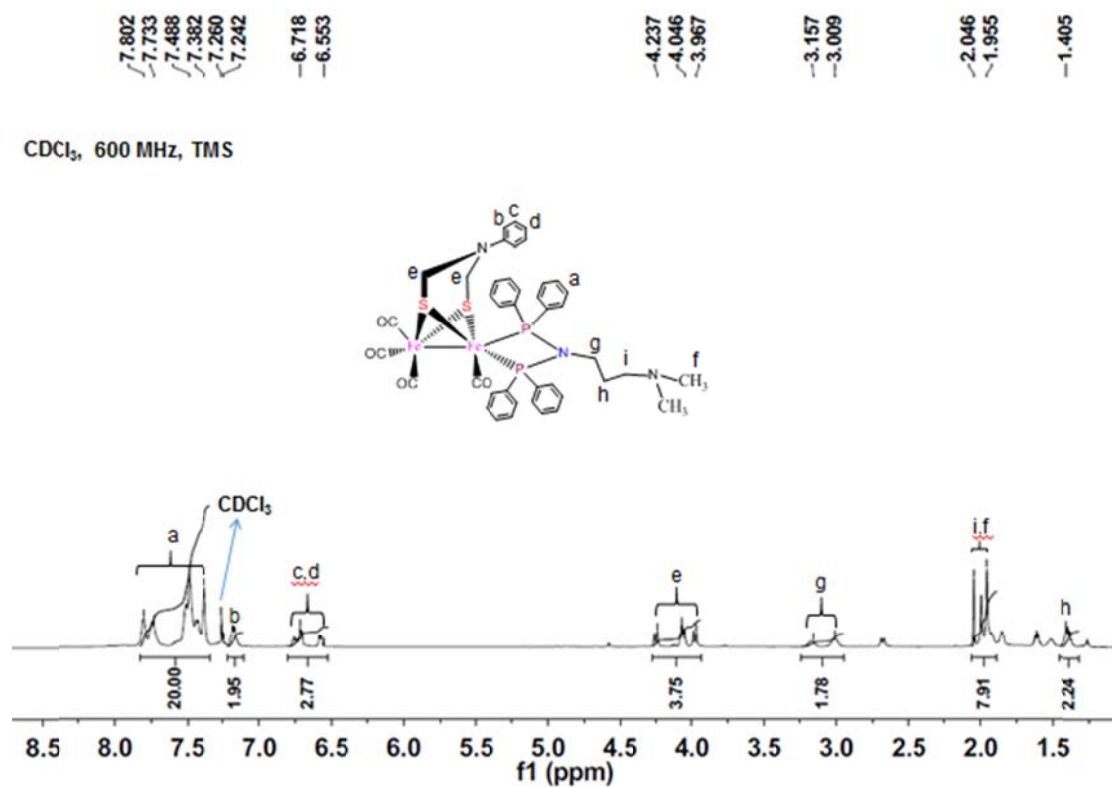


Figure S22. ¹H NMR spectrum of Fe₂(μ-adt^{NPh})(CO)₄{κ²-(Ph₂P)₂N(CH₂)₃NMe₂} (**1e**) in CDCl₃.

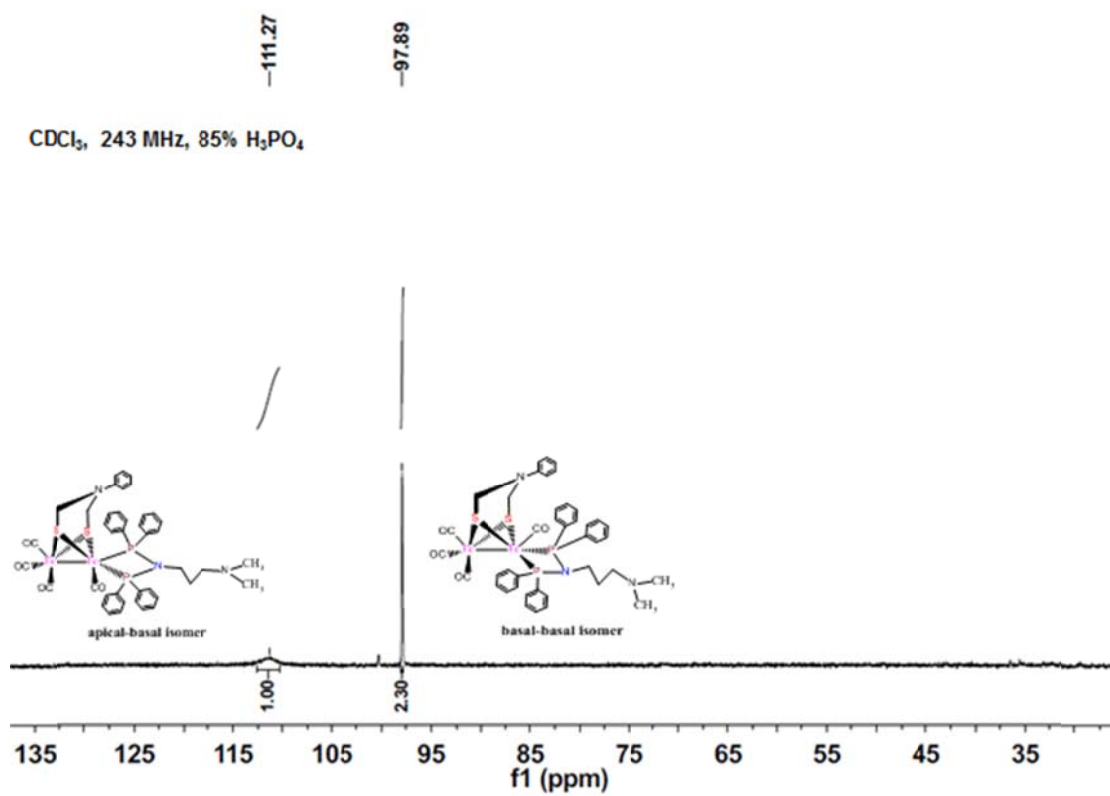


Figure S23. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-adt}^{\text{NPh}})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**1e**) in CDCl_3 .

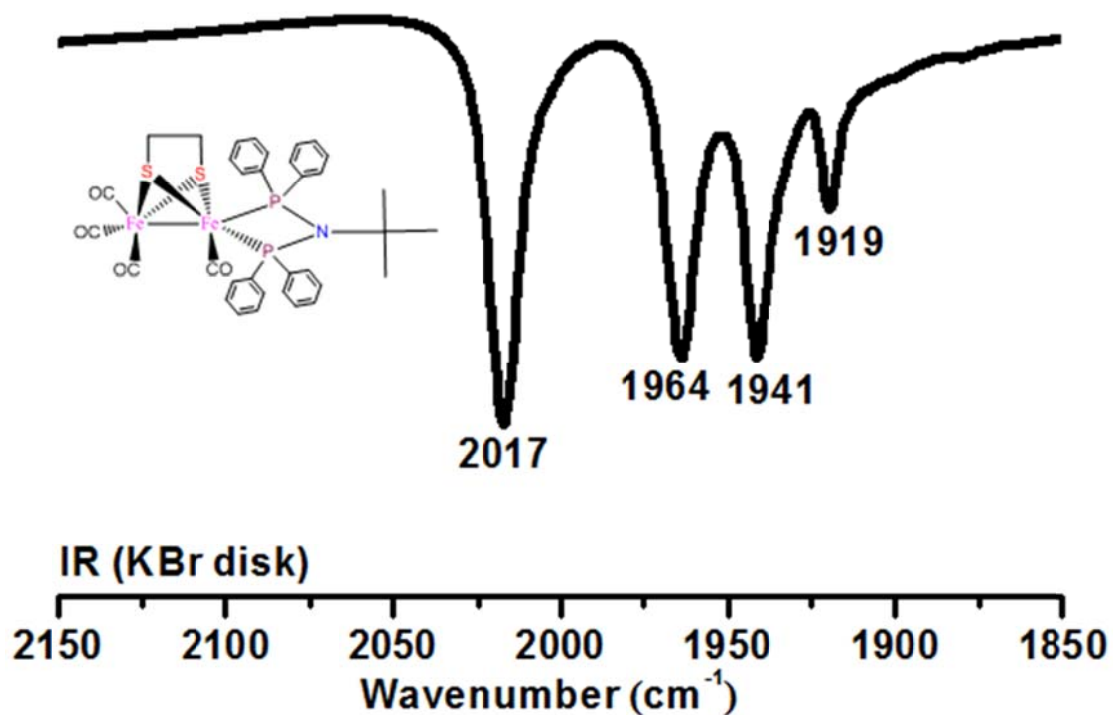


Figure S24(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**2a**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

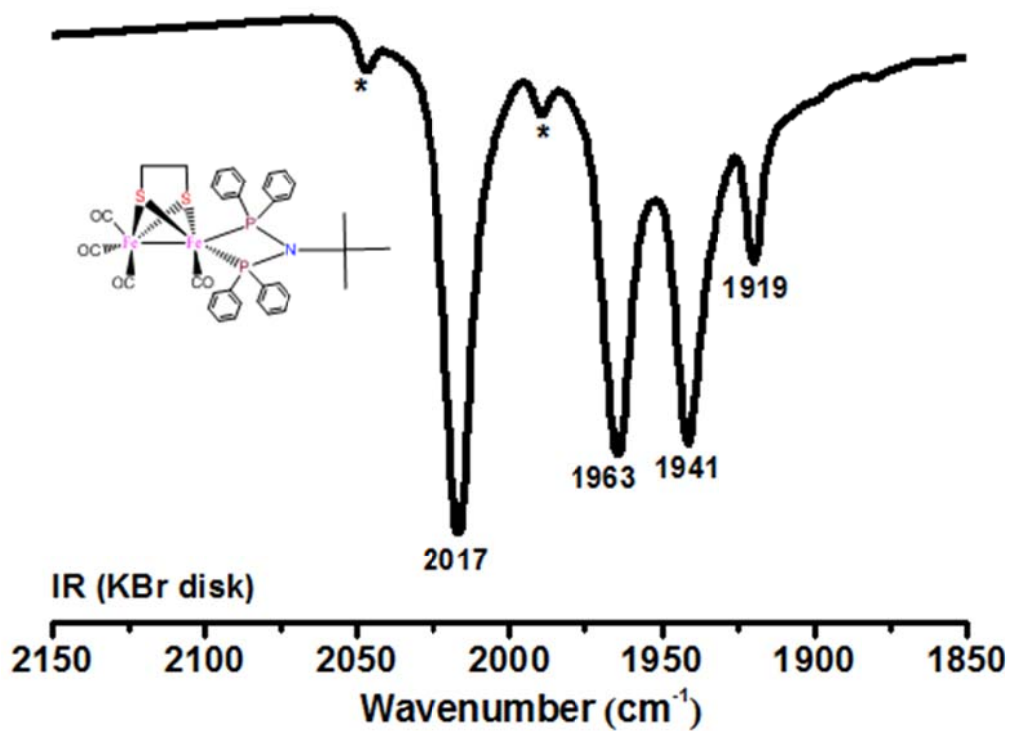


Figure S24(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**2a**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk. (*The two peaks might be assigned to a very small amount of byproduct [$\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_5\{\kappa^1\text{-Ph}_2\text{P(NHBu}^t\text{)}\}$]).

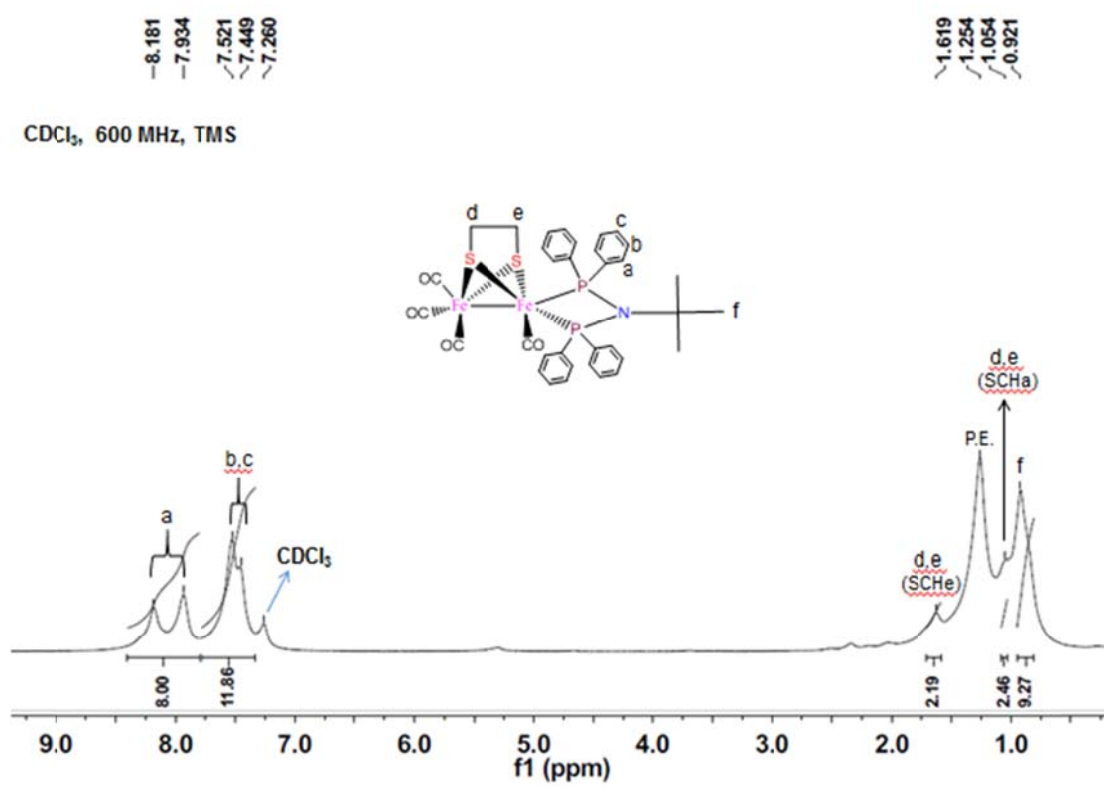


Figure S25. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**2a**) in CDCl_3 .

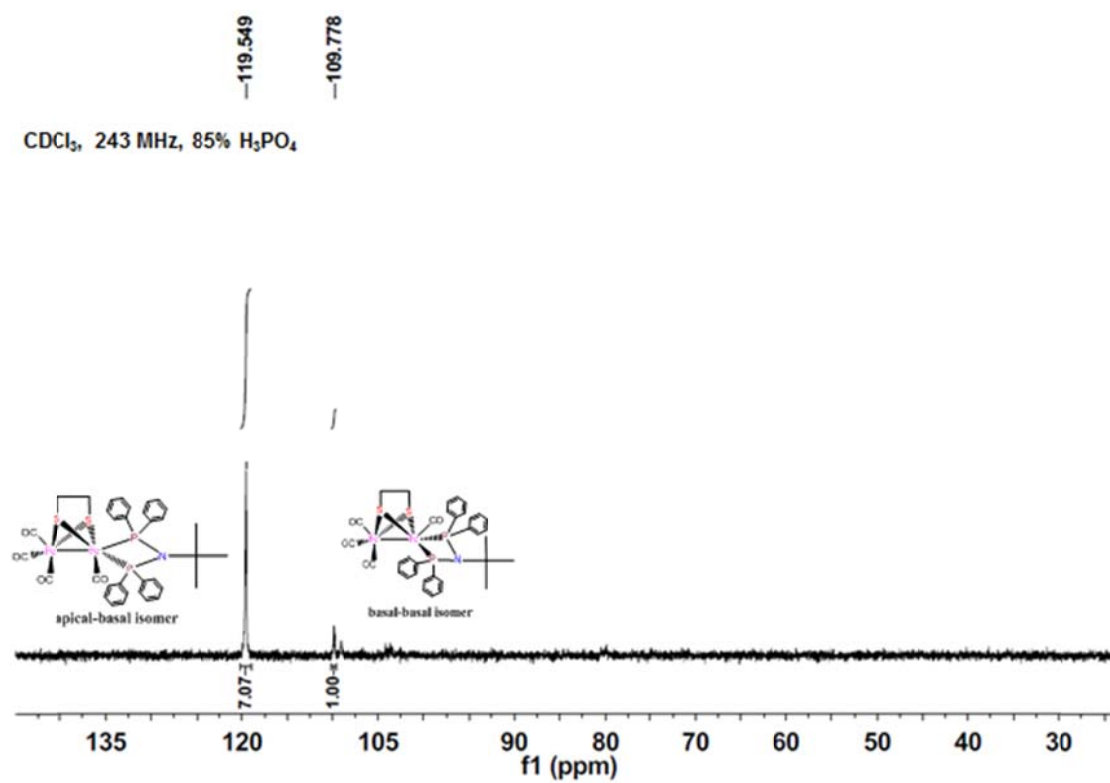


Figure S26. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCMe}_3\}$ (**2a**) in CDCl_3 .

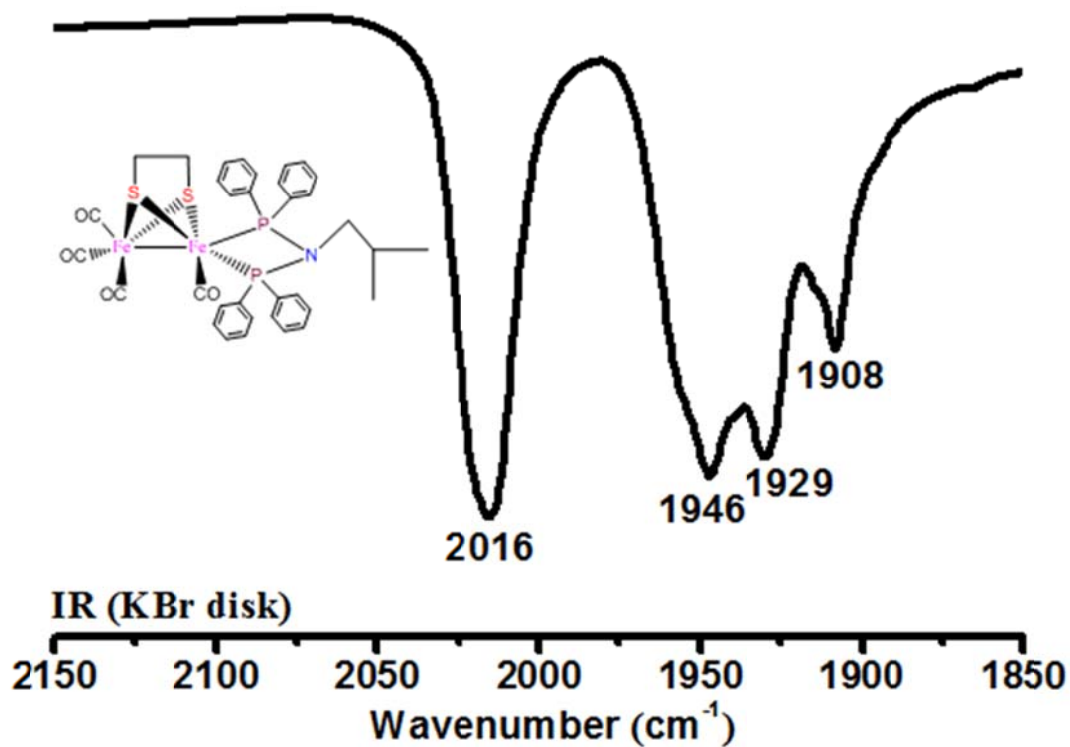


Figure S27(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (2b) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

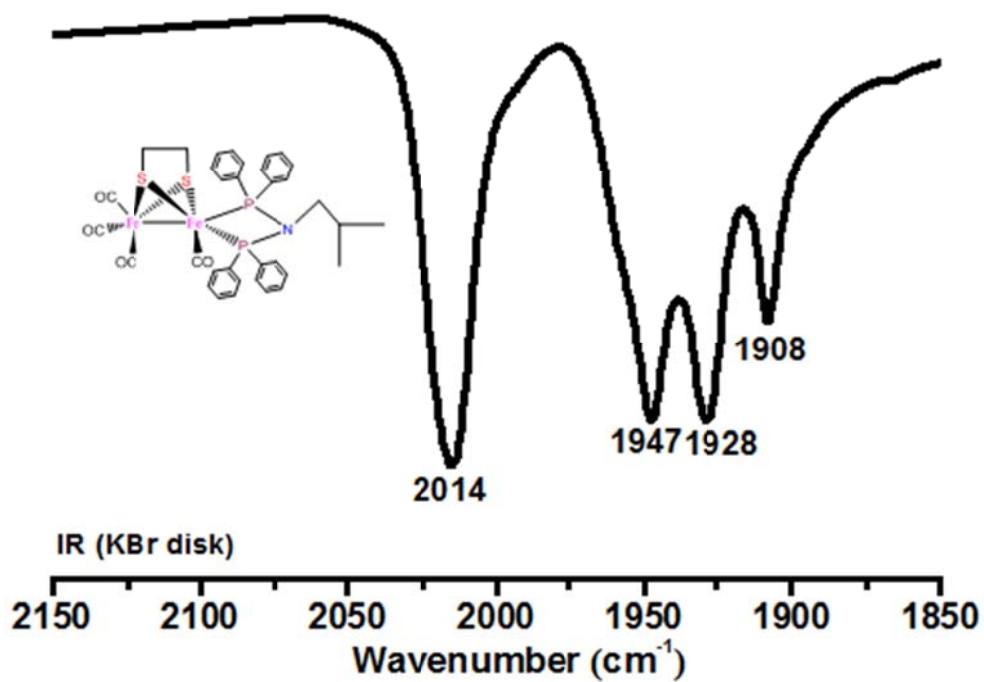


Figure S27(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (2b) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

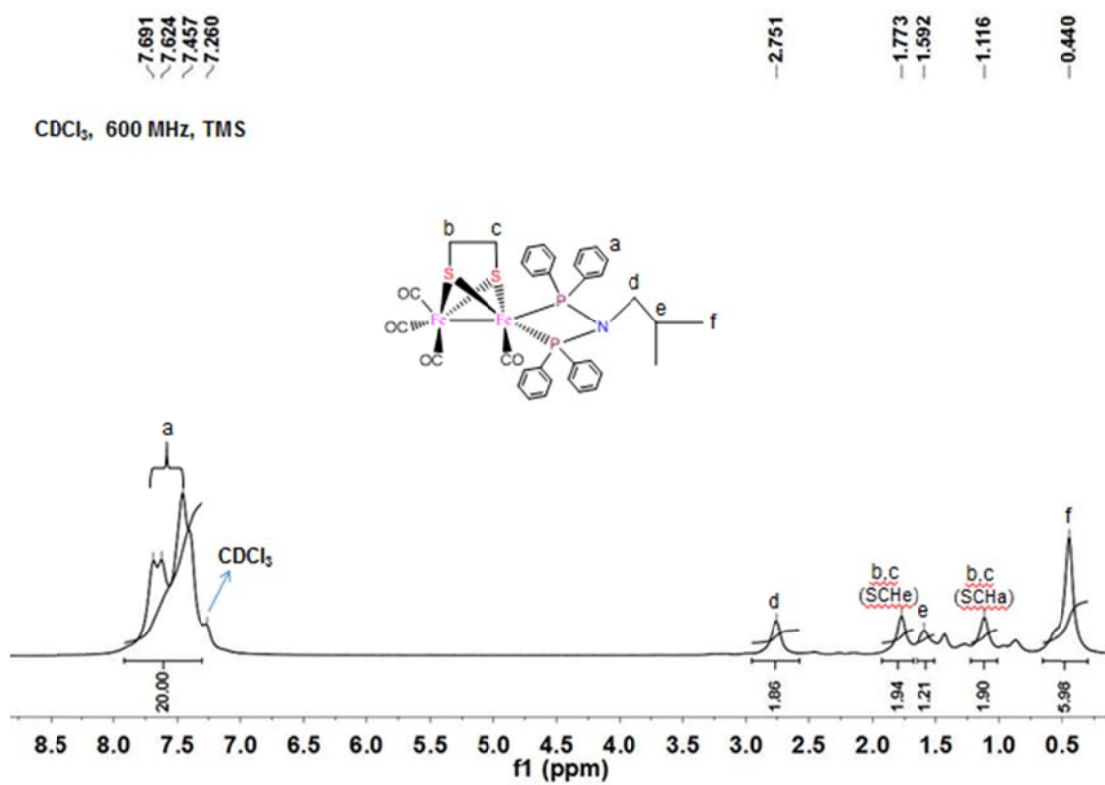


Figure S28. ¹H NMR spectrum of Fe₂(μ-edt)(CO)₄{κ²-(Ph₂P)₂NCH₂CHMe₂} (**2b**) in CDCl₃.

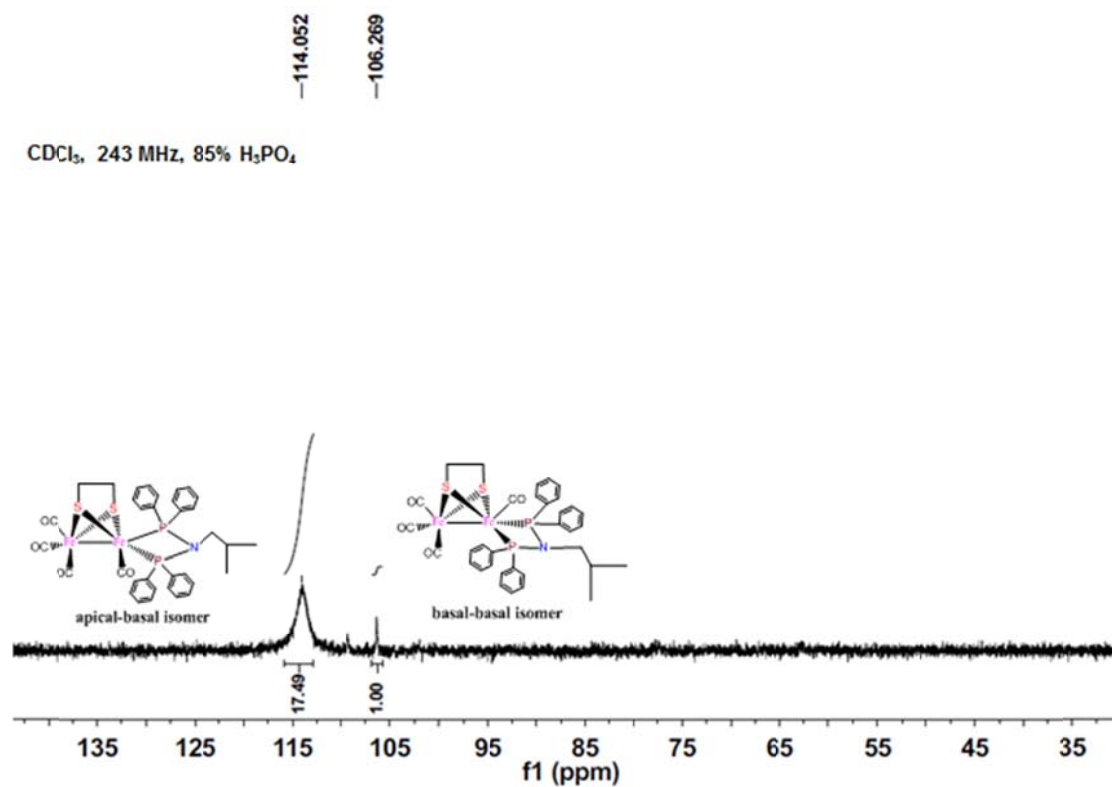


Figure S29. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CHMe}_2\}$ (**2b**) in CDCl_3 .

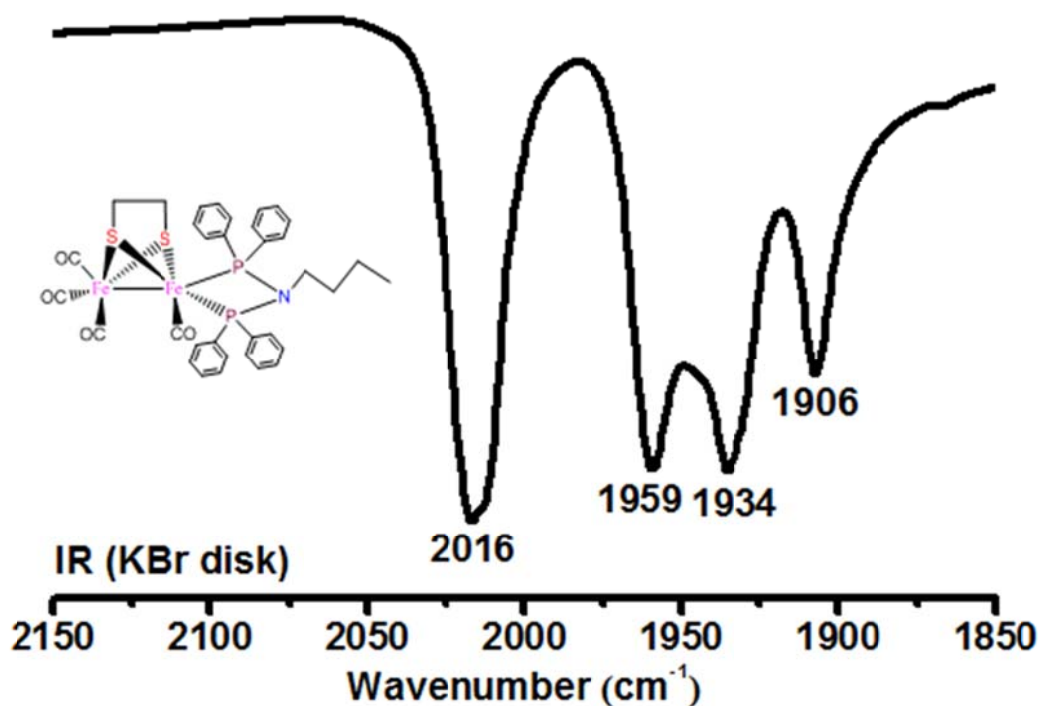


Figure S30(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Me}\}$ (**2c**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

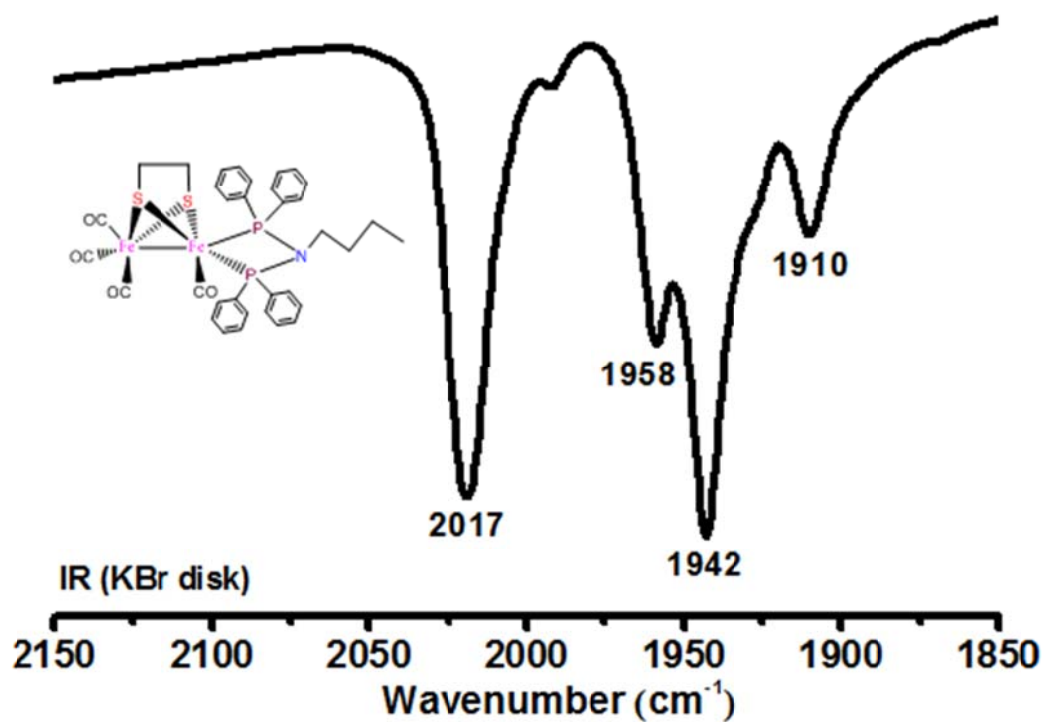


Figure S30(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{Me}\}$ (**2c**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

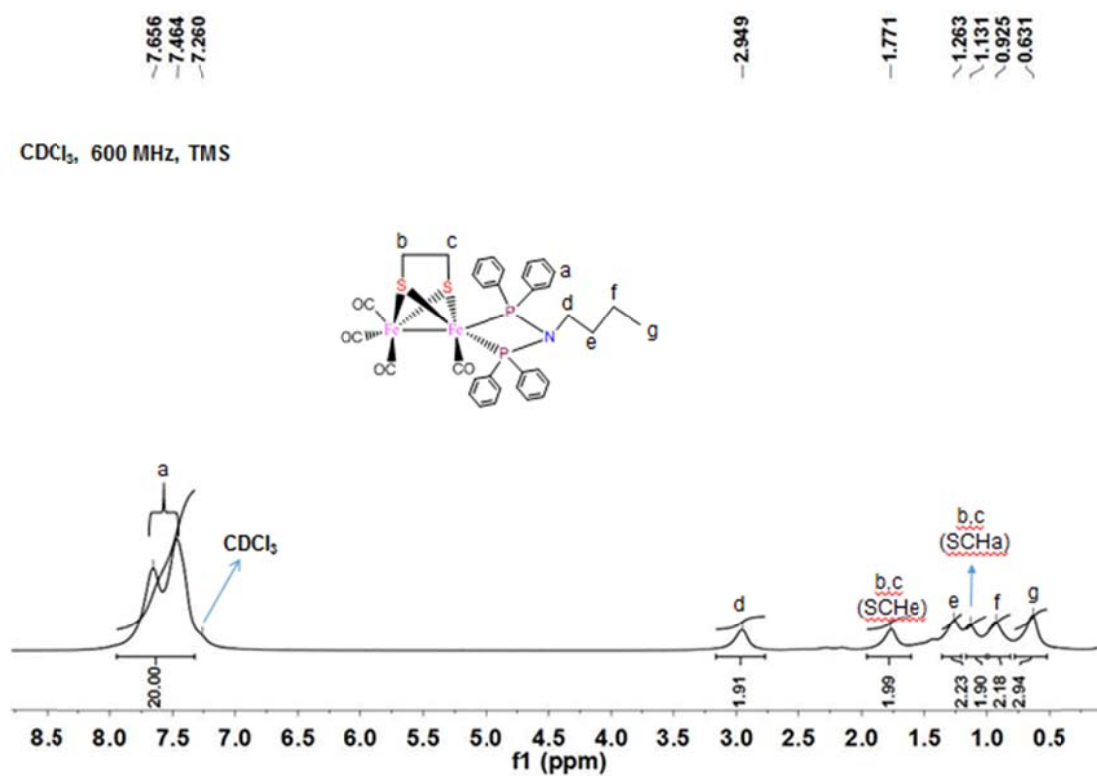


Figure S31. ¹H NMR spectrum of Fe₂(μ-edt)(CO)₄{κ²-(Ph₂P)₂N(CH₂)₃Me} (**2c**) in CDCl₃.

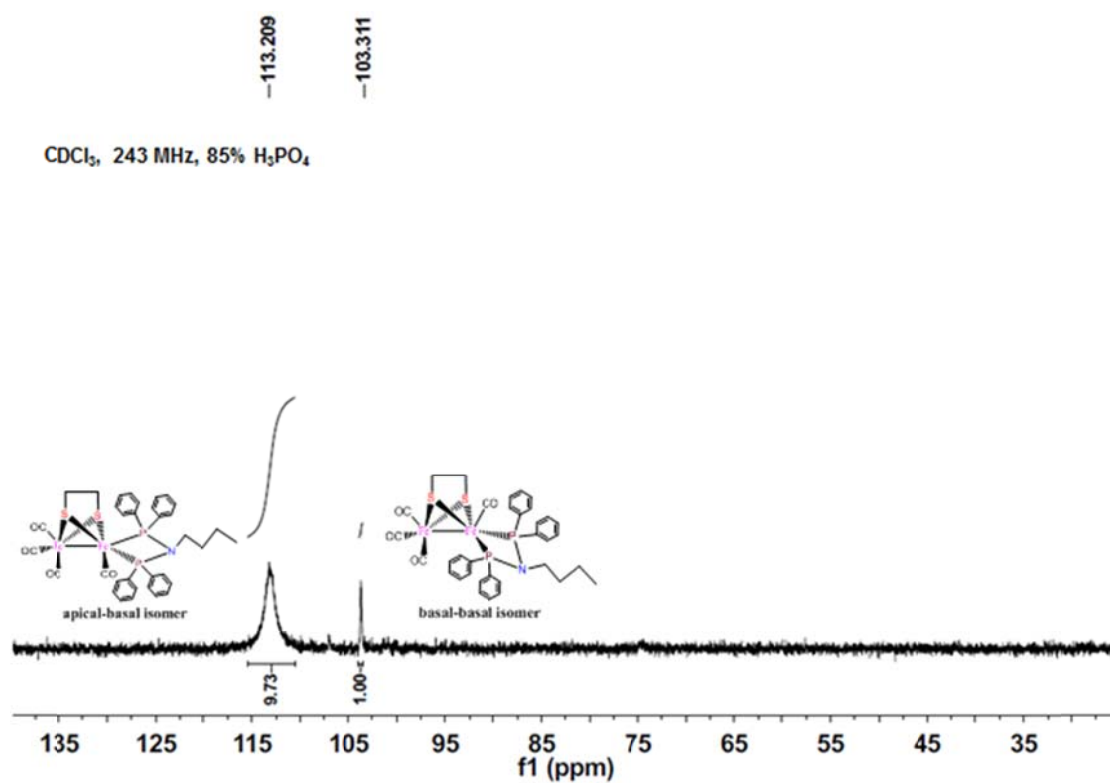


Figure S32. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_3\text{Me}\}$ (**2c**) in CDCl_3 .

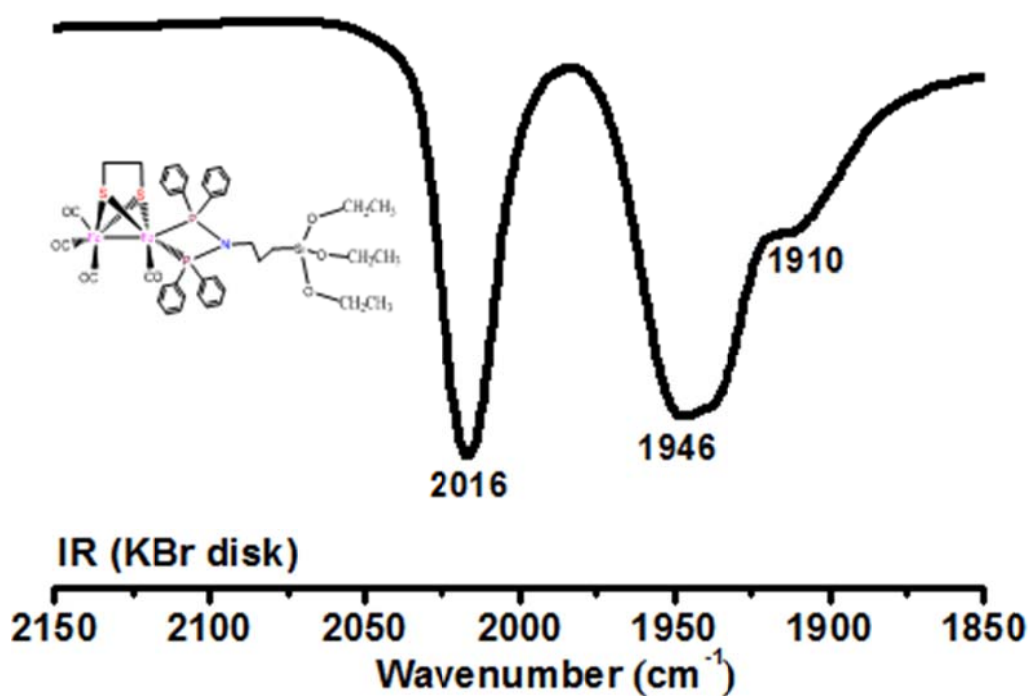


Figure S33(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_2\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**2d**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

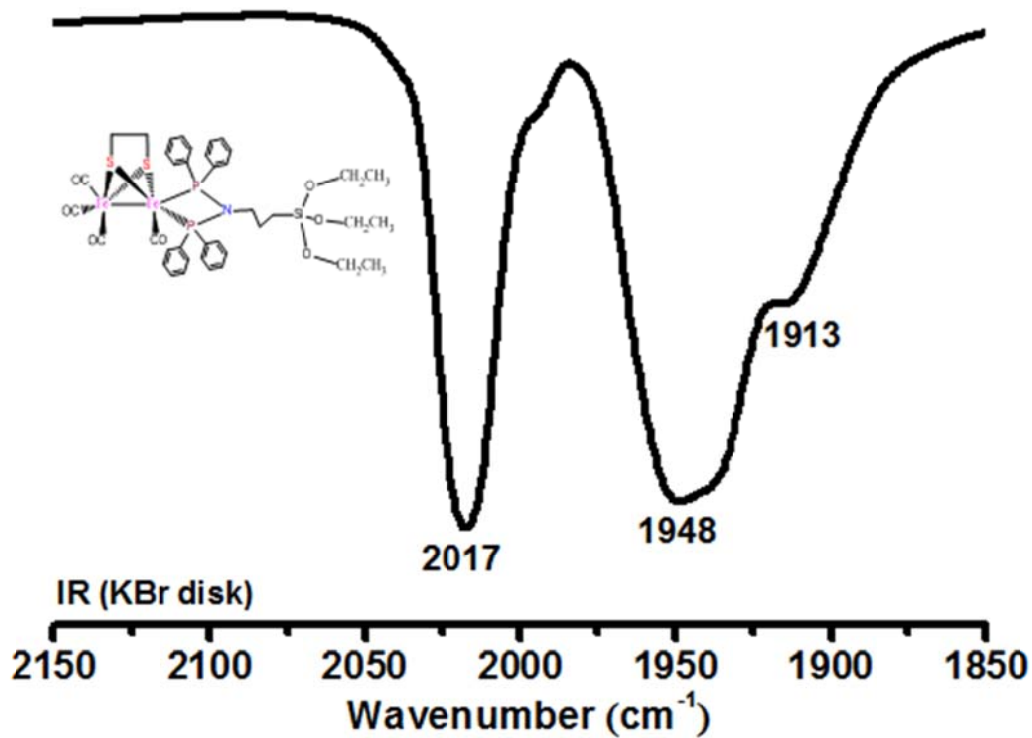


Figure S33(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_2\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**2d**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

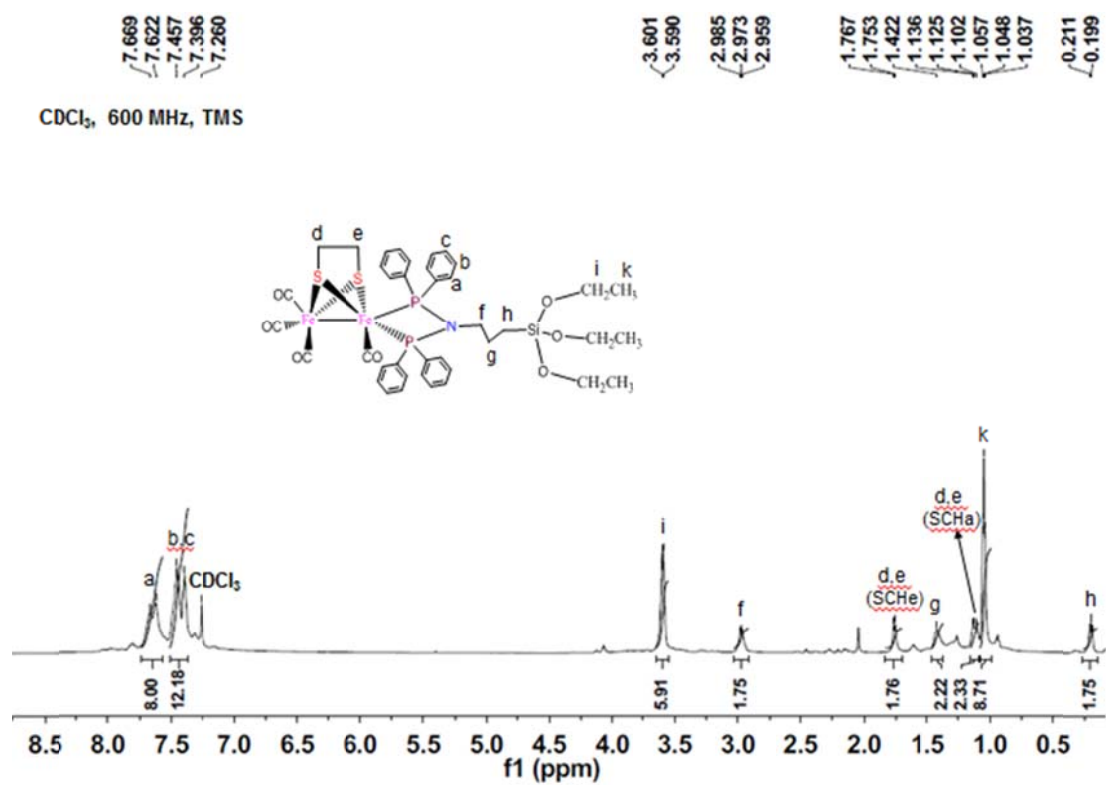


Figure S34. ¹H NMR spectrum of Fe₂(μ-edt)(CO)₄{κ²-(Ph₂P)₂N(CH₂)₂Si(OEt)₃} (**2d**) in CDCl₃.

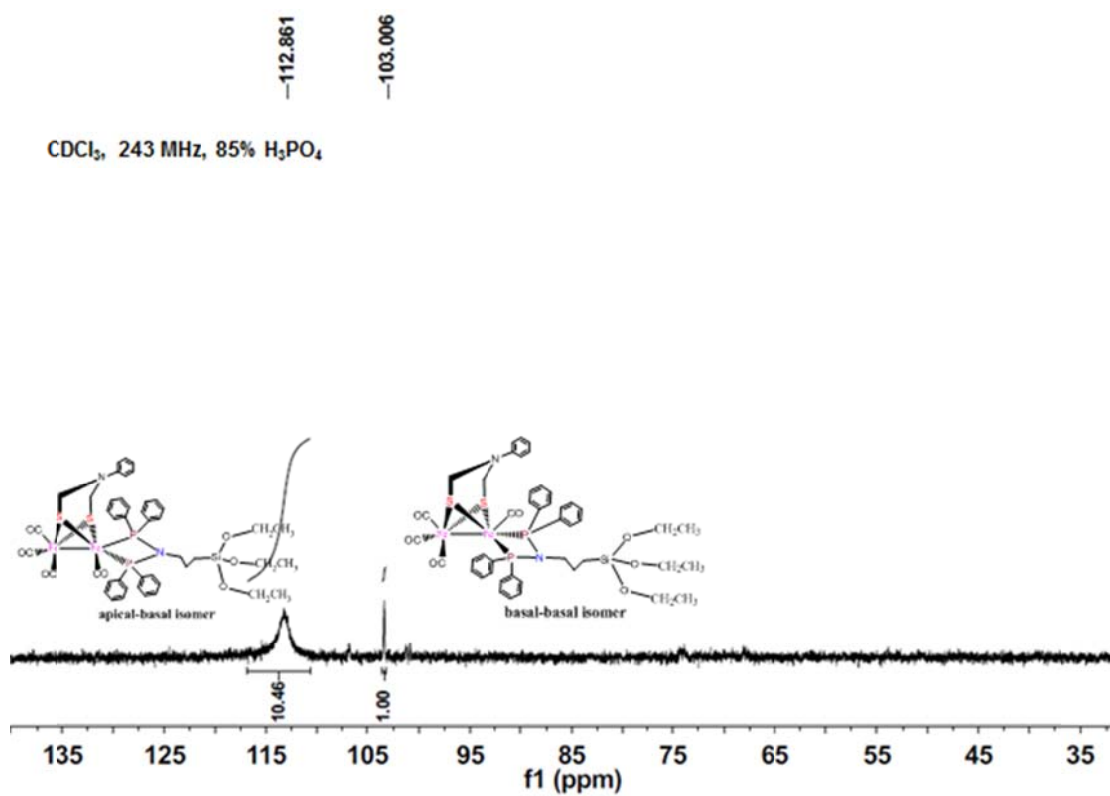


Figure S35. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2)_2\text{Si(OEt)}_3\}$ (**2d**) in CDCl_3 .

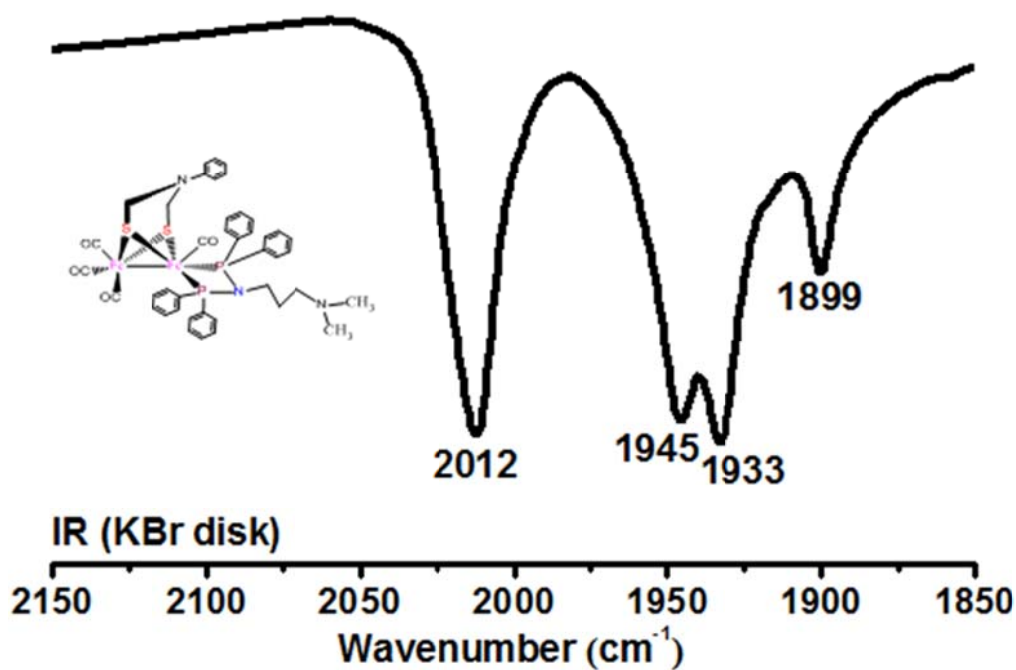


Figure S36(A). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**2e**) obtained from oxidative decarbonylation (method i) in KBr disk.

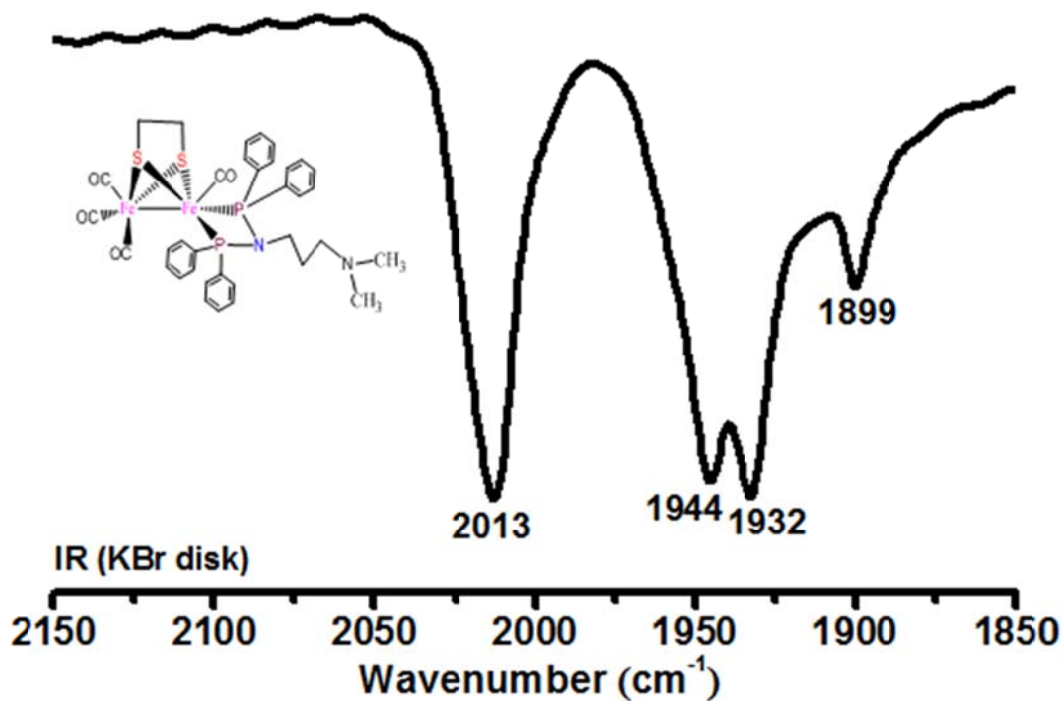


Figure S36(B). FT-IR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**2e**) obtained from UV irradiation (method ii) in KBr disk.

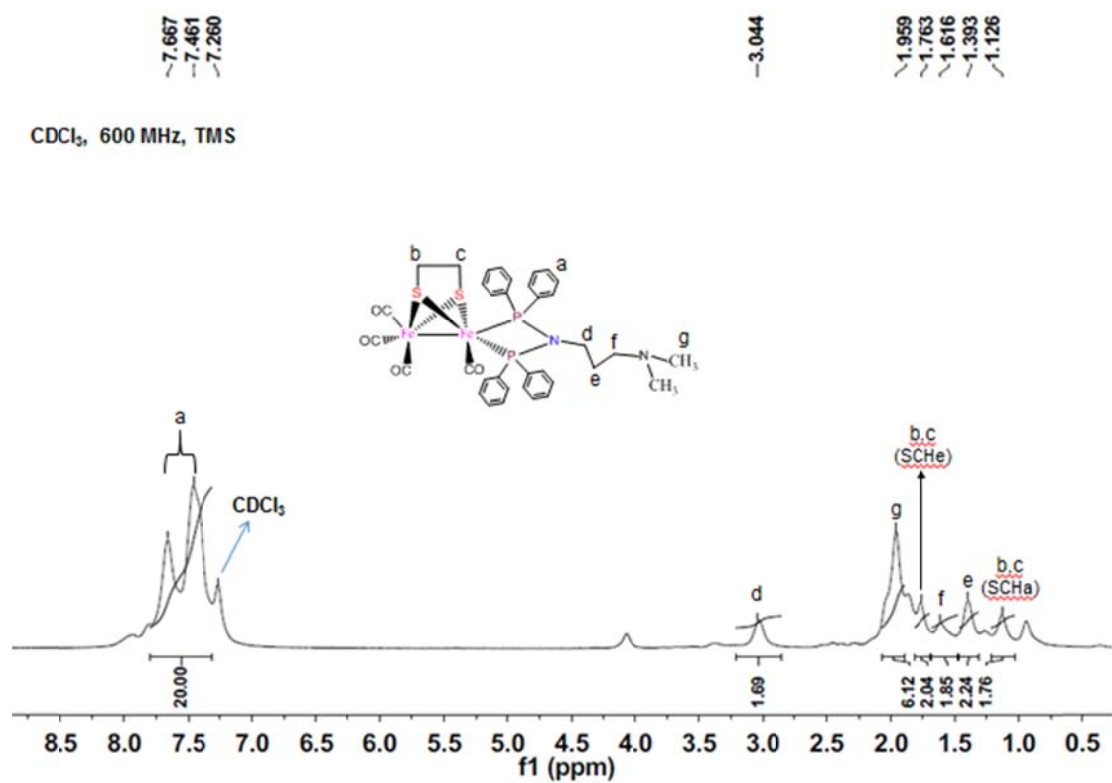


Figure S37. ^1H NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**2e**) in CDCl_3 .

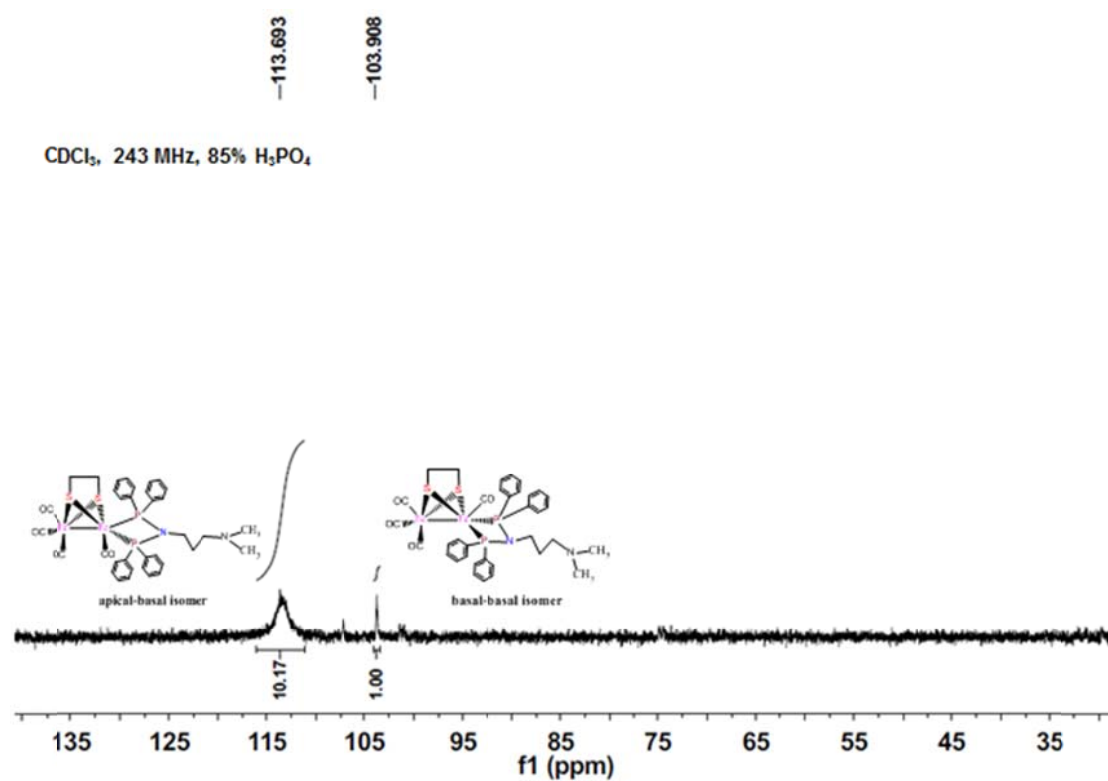


Figure S38. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of $\text{Fe}_2(\mu\text{-edt})(\text{CO})_4\{\kappa^2\text{-(Ph}_2\text{P)}_2\text{N(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{NMe}_2\}$ (**2e**) in CDCl_3 .