

## Supplementary Materials

### **The Steric Effect in Preparations of Vanadium(II)/(III) Dinitrogen Complexes of Triamidoamine Ligands Bearing Bulky Substituents**

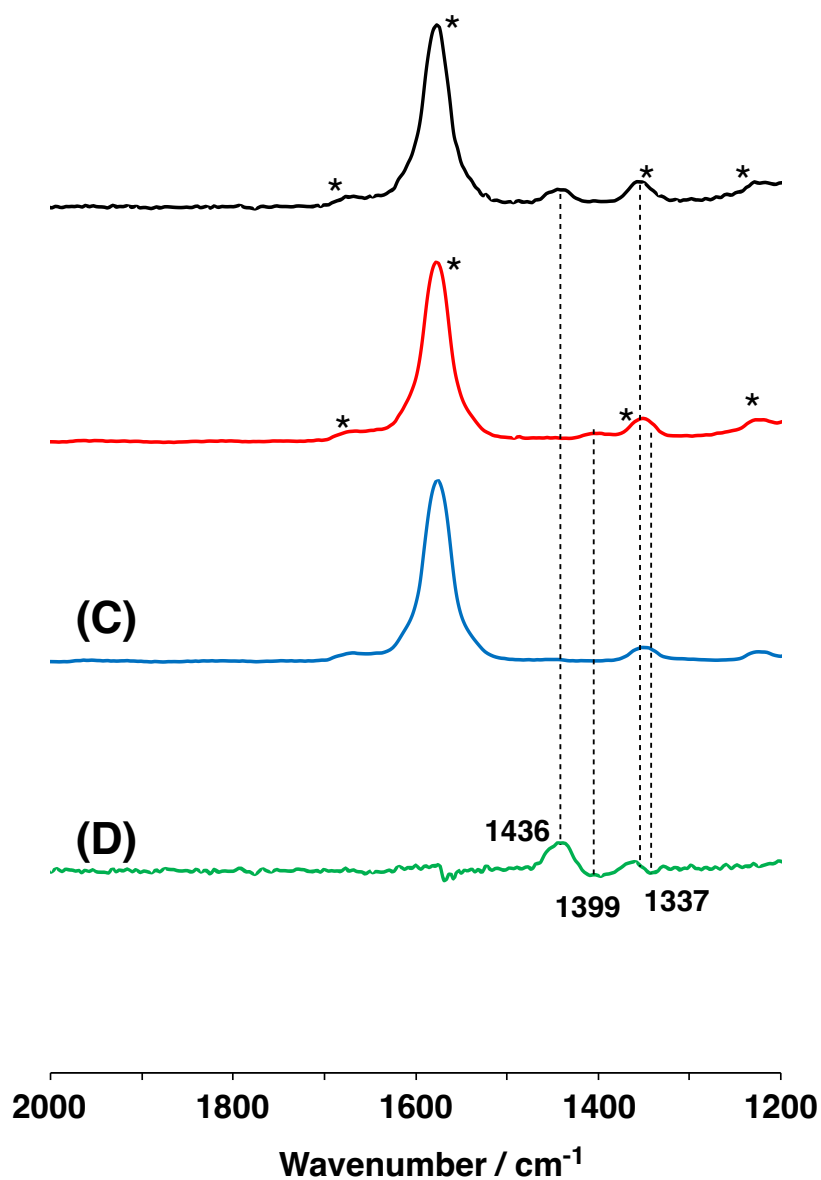
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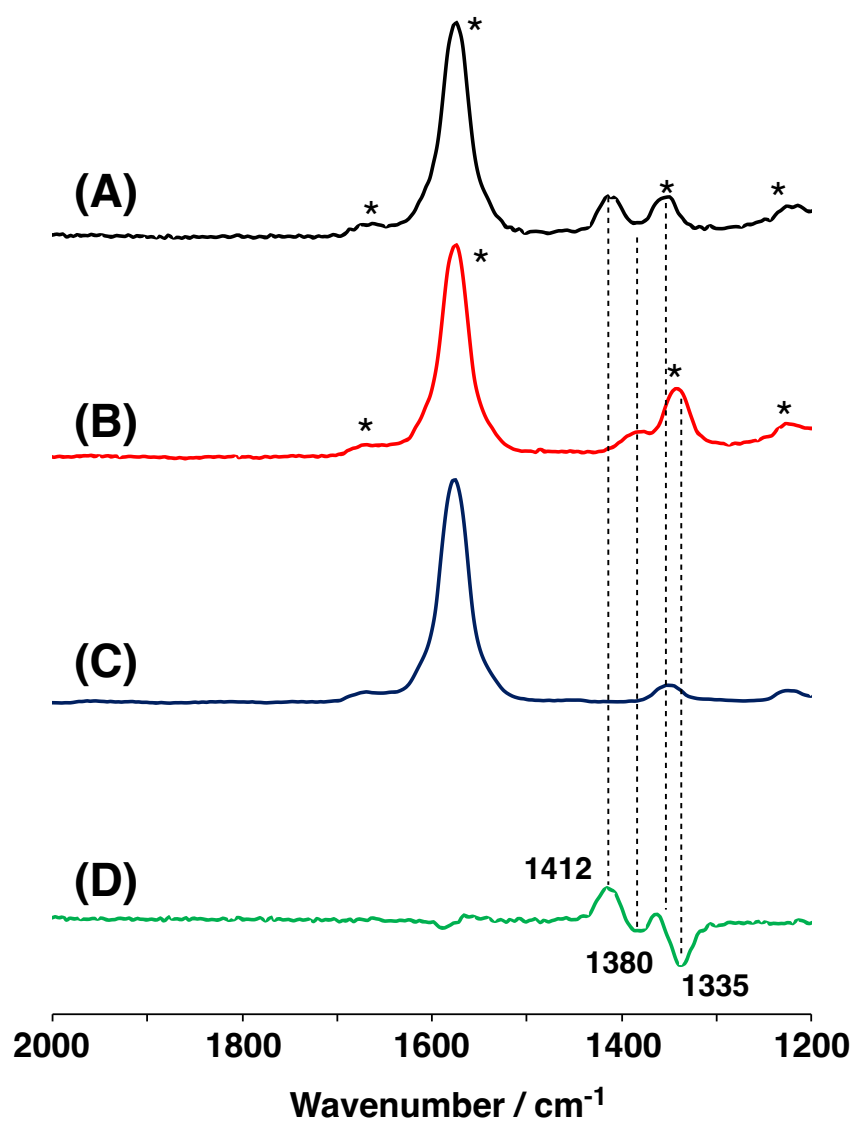
**Table S1.** Experimental Data for X-ray Diffraction Studies on Crystalline Complexes **1**, **2**, **3**, and **4**

| compound  | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| formula   | C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>66</sub> N <sub>10</sub> V <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>90</sub> N <sub>10</sub> V <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>45</sub> H <sub>81</sub> N <sub>4</sub> V | C <sub>68</sub> H <sub>128</sub> KN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub> V |
| formula weight  | 668.80   | 845.86   | 729.07   | 1219.87   |
| crystal system  | Orthorhombic   | Monoclinic   | Monoclinic                                       | Monoclinic  |
| space group   | <i>Cmca</i>  | <i>C2/c</i>  | <i>P2<sub>1</sub>/c</i>                          | <i>P2<sub>1</sub>/c</i>   |
| <i>a</i> [Å]  | 15.9064(4)   | 16.8740(6)   | 10.8057(2)                                       | 13.9446(3)  |
| <i>b</i> [Å]  | 12.2273(4)   | 19.0029(7)   | 20.5056(4)                                       | 22.9058(4)  |
| <i>c</i> [Å]  | 19.1253(5)   | 14.4824(5)   | 19.1296(4)                                       | 22.4762(4)  |
| $\alpha$ [°]  | 90   | 90   | 90   | 90  |
| $\beta$ [°]   | 90   | 91.324(6)  | 97.359(7)  | 99.918(7)   |
| $\gamma$ [°]  | 90   | 90   | 90   | 90  |
| <i>V</i> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]                                  | 3719.72(18)  | 4642.6(3)  | 4203.77(16)                                      | 7071.9(3)   |
| <i>Z</i>  | 4  | 4  | 4  | 4   |
| temp [K]  | 173  | 173  | 173  | 173   |
| $\lambda$ [Å]   | 0.71073  | 0.71073  | 0.71073  | 1.54178   |
| $\rho_{\text{calc}}$ [g cm <sup>-3</sup> ]                  | 1.194  | 1.210  | 1.152  | 1.172   |
| $\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]                                   | 0.536  | 0.444  | 0.271  | 2.215   |
| No. of reflections  | 17179  | 22176  | 39808  | 12841   |
| No. of independent reflections [R(int)]                     | 2191<br>(0.051)  | 5308<br>(0.071)  | 9593<br>(0.042)                                  | 12841<br>(0.047)  |
| No. of parameters   | 121  | 250  | 451  | 846   |
| <i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> ( <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )) | 0.0408   | 0.0442   | 0.0435   | 0.0616  |
| <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> (all data)                           | 0.0878   | 0.0972   | 0.043  | 0.1651  |
| goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>                    | 1.083  | 1.030  | 1.035  | 1.031   |
| largest diff. peak/hole [eÅ <sup>-3</sup> ]                 | 0.38 / -0.22   | 0.54 / -0.22   | 0.32 / -0.38                                     | 0.565 / -0.561  |

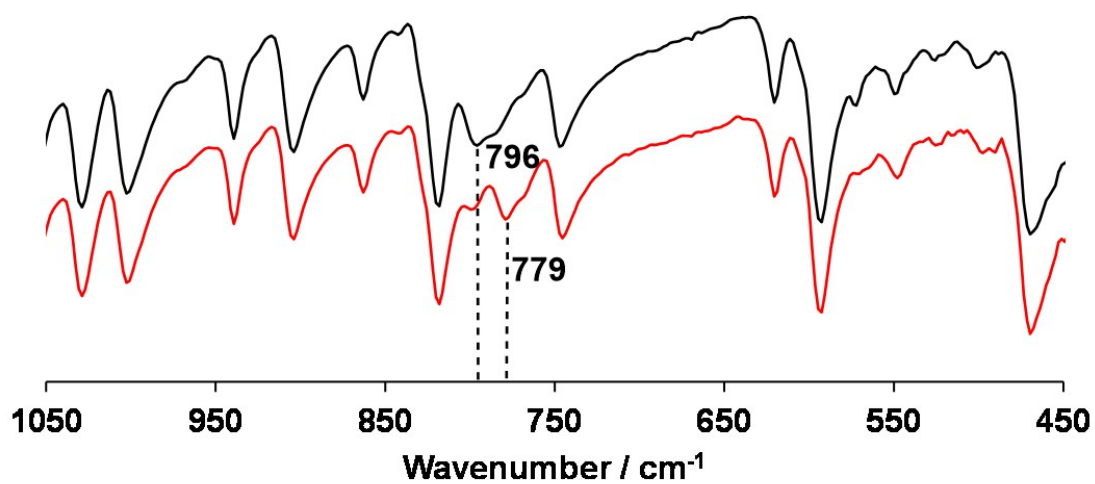
[a]  $R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$  for  $F_o > 2\sigma(F_o)$ . [b]  $wR_2 = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ .



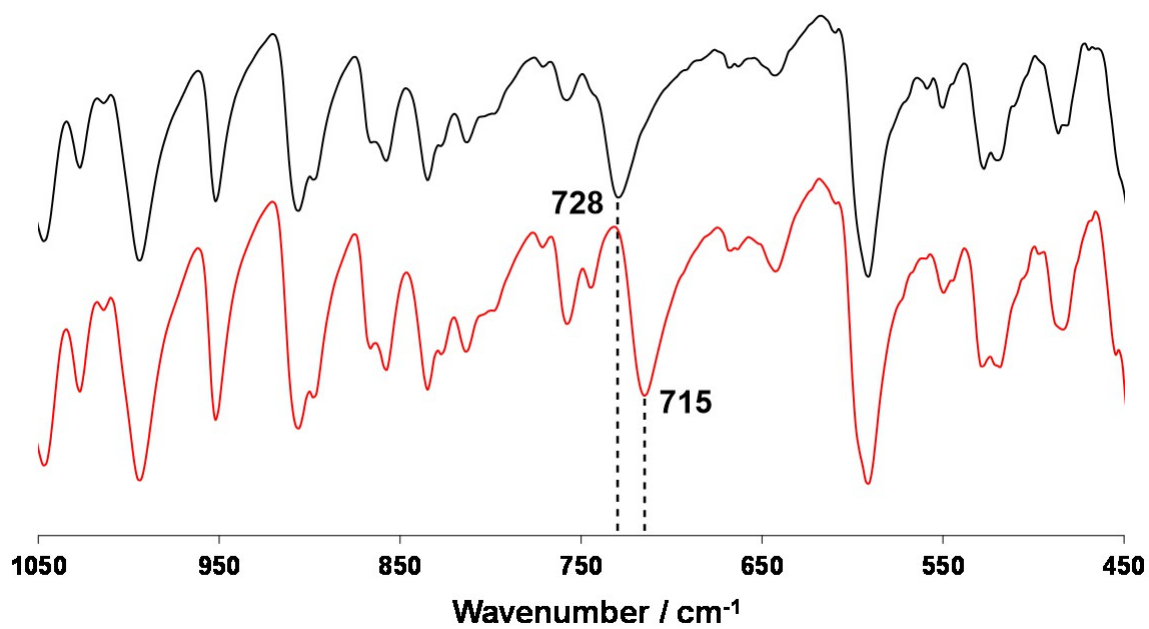
**Figure S1.** Raman spectra of **1** prepared under <sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (spectrum A) and <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (spectrum B) in toluene as solvent (spectrum C) ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 532$  nm) at room temperature and their difference spectrum (spectrum D). Peaks with asterisks indicate those of toluene as a solvent.



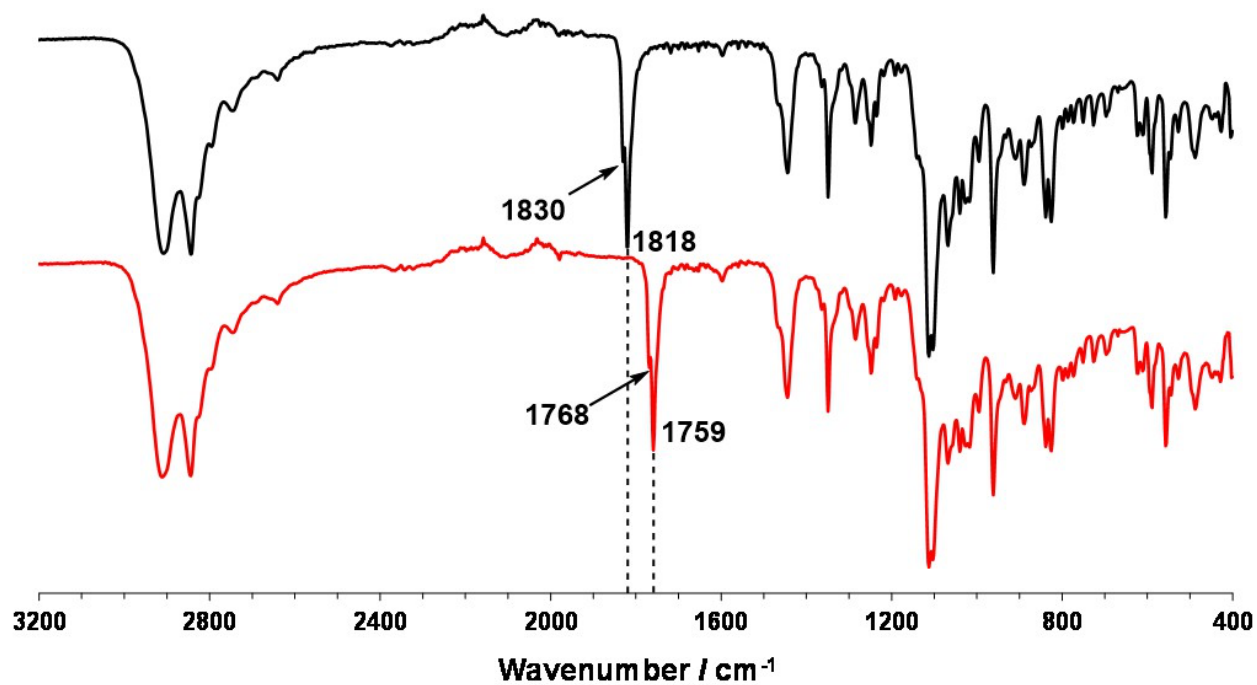
**Figure S2.** Raman spectra of **2** prepared under <sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (spectrum A) and <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (spectrum B) in toluene as solvent (spectrum C) ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 532$  nm) at room temperature and their difference spectrum (spectrum D). Peaks with asterisks indicate those of toluene as a solvent.



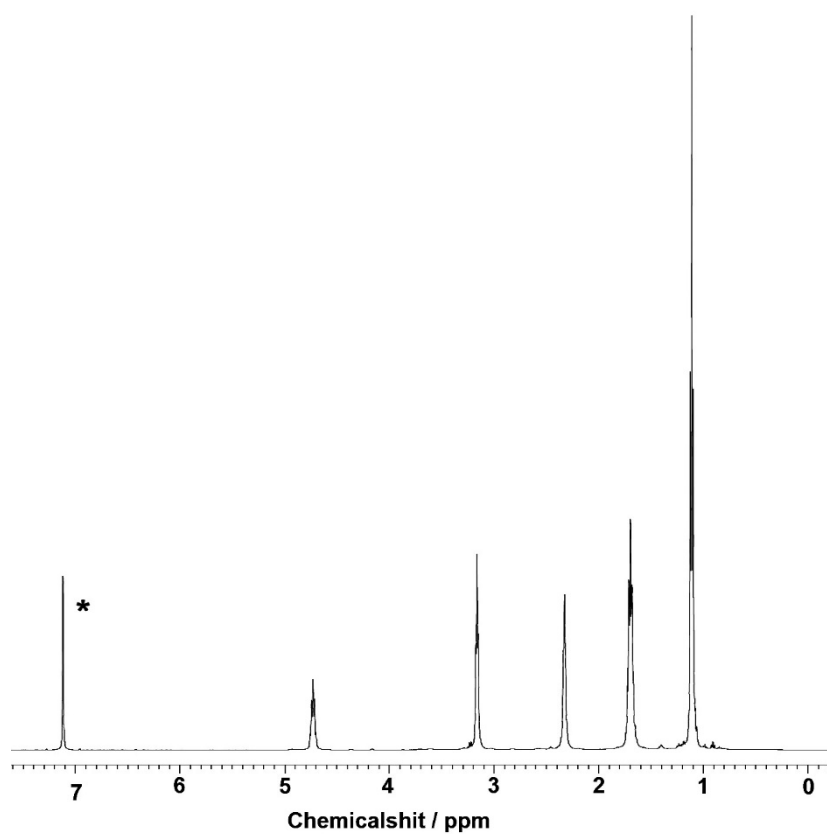
**Figure S3.** IR spectra (ATR) of 1 prepared under <sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (black line) and <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (red line).



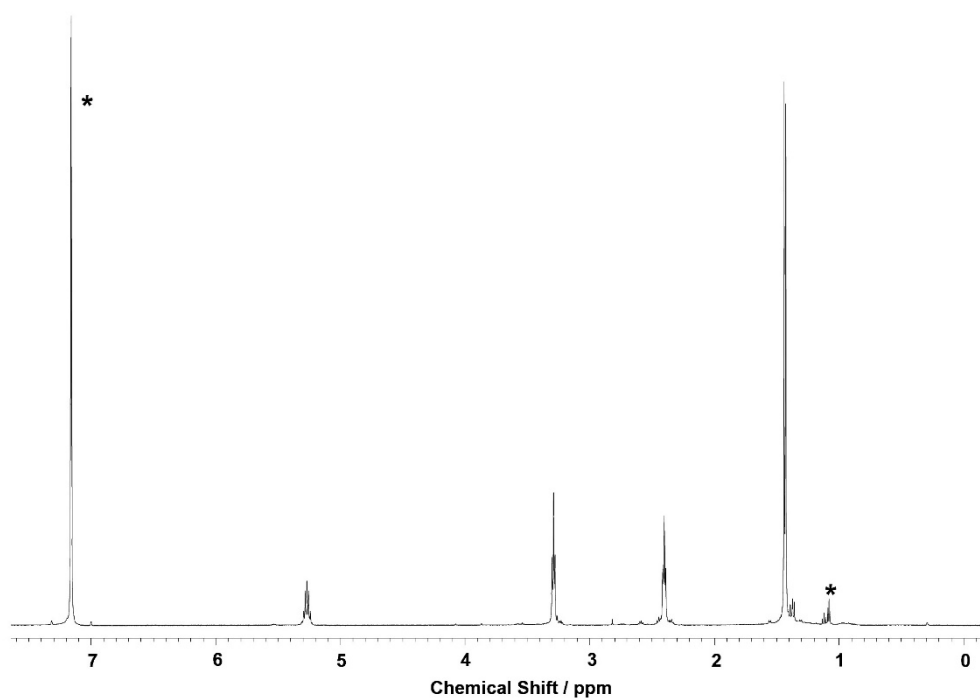
**Figure S4.** IR spectra (ATR) of 2 prepared under <sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (black line) and <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (red line).



**Figure S5.** IR spectra (ATR) of **4** prepared under <sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (black line) and <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> (red line).

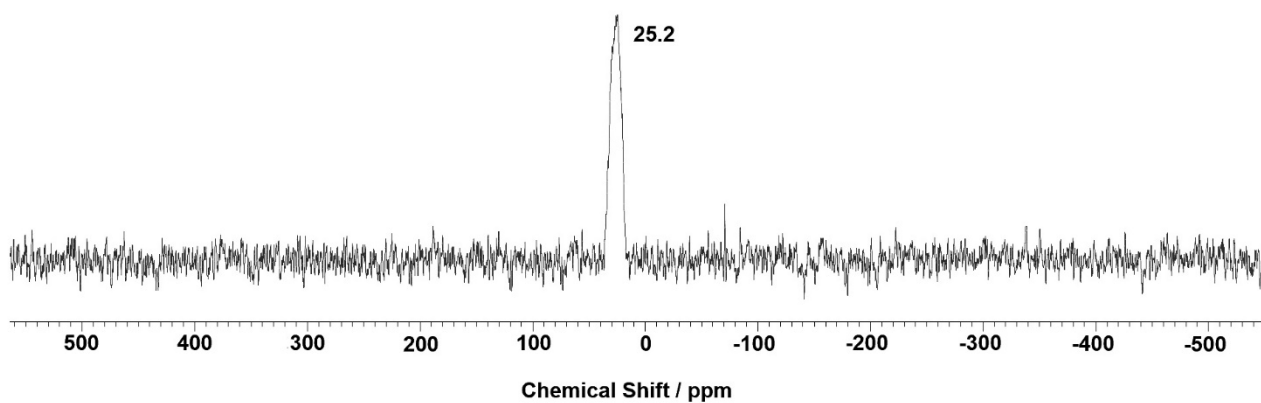


**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{V}(\text{L}^{\text{IPr}})\}_2(\mu\text{-N}_2)]$  (**1**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (500 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (7.16 ppm)). The peak with an asterisk shows solvent.

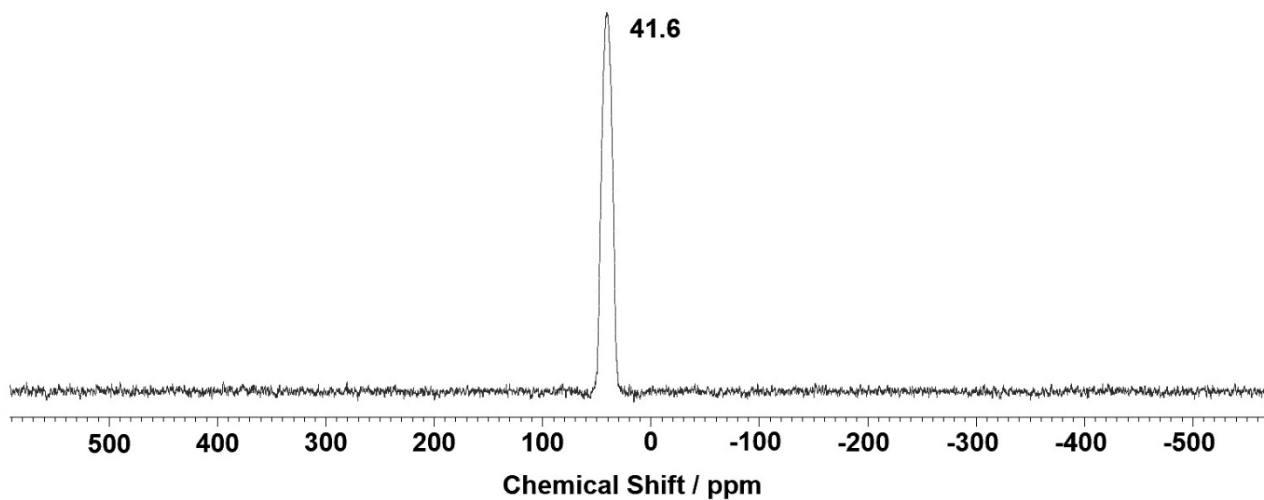


**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{V}(\text{L}^{\text{Pen}})\}_2(\mu\text{-N}_2)]$  (**2**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (500 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (7.16 ppm)). The peaks with an asterisk show those of solvent and small amounts of impurities.

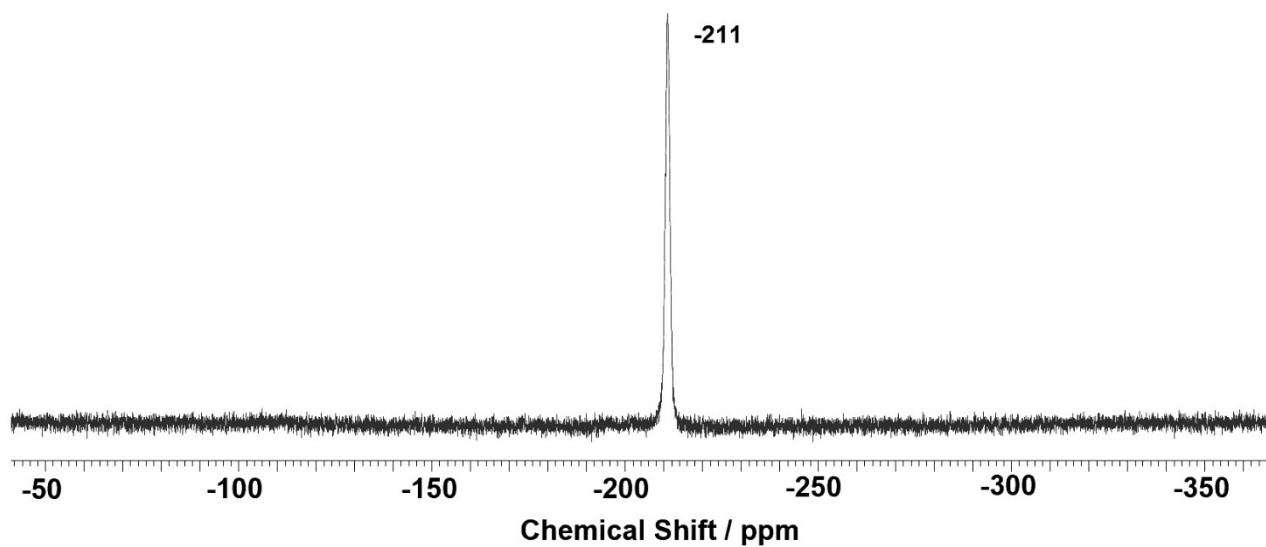




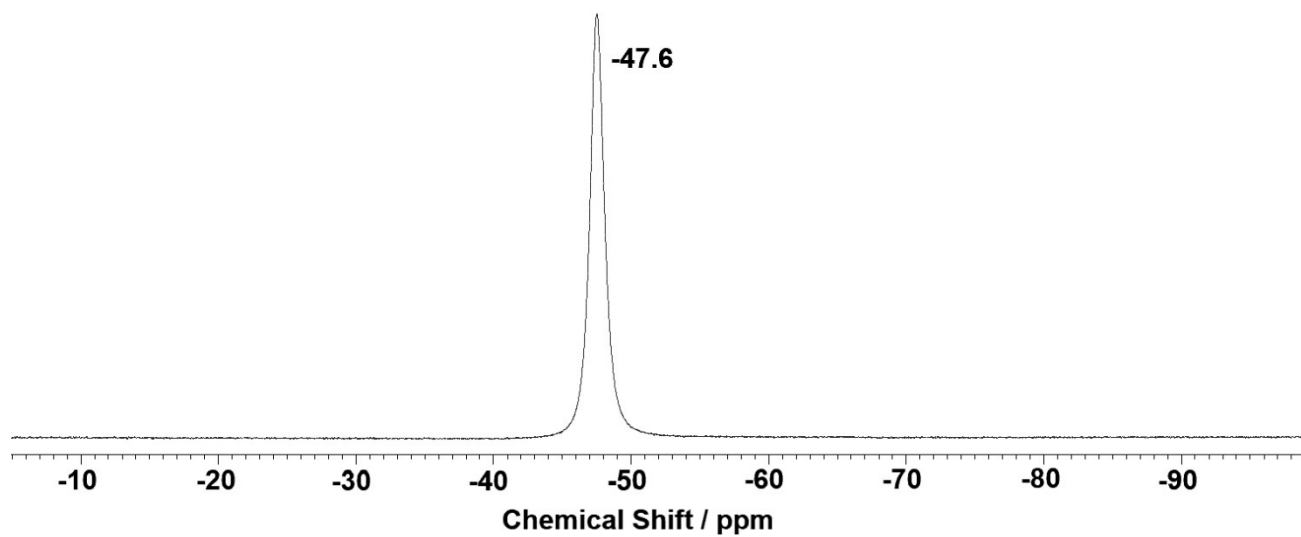
**Figure S8.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{VL}^{\text{iPr}}\}_2(\mu\text{-}^{15}\text{N}_2)]$  (**1'**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (60.815 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  (0.00 ppm)).



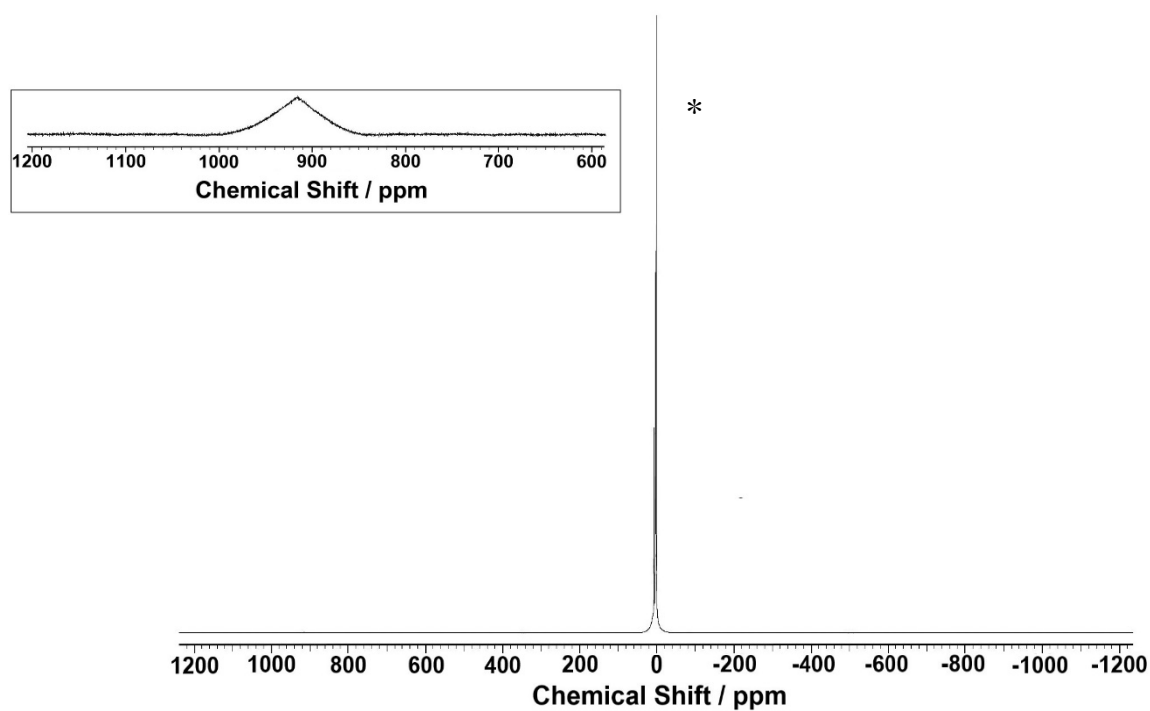
**Figure S9.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{VL}^{\text{pen}}\}_2(\mu\text{-}^{15}\text{N}_2)]$  (**2'**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (60.815 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  (0.00 ppm)).



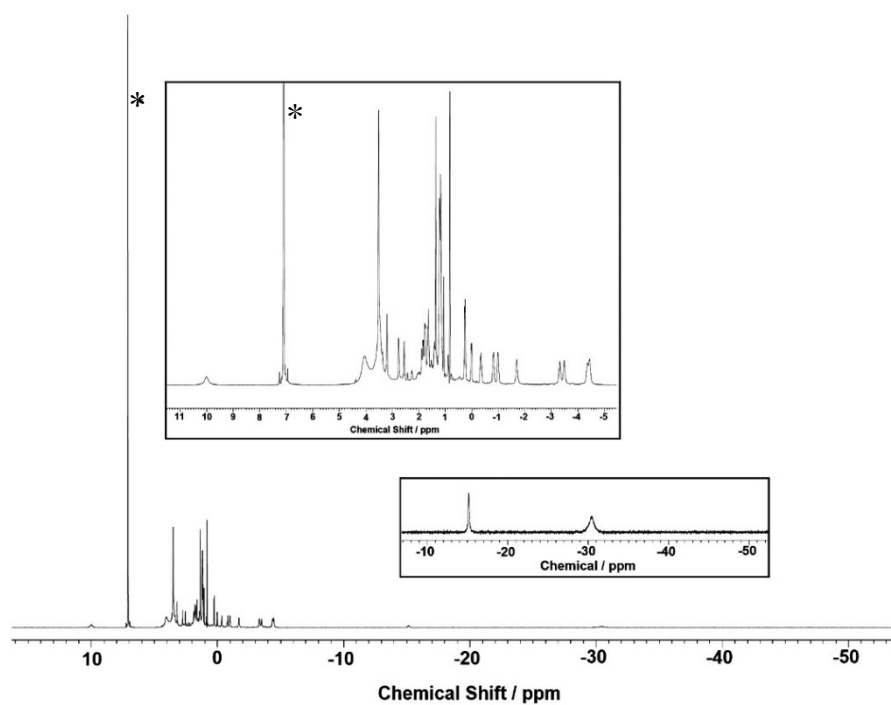
**Figure S10.**  $^{51}\text{V}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{V}(\text{L}^{\text{IPr}})\}_2(\mu\text{-N}_2)]$  (**1**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (131.56 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{VOCl}_3$  (0.00 ppm)).



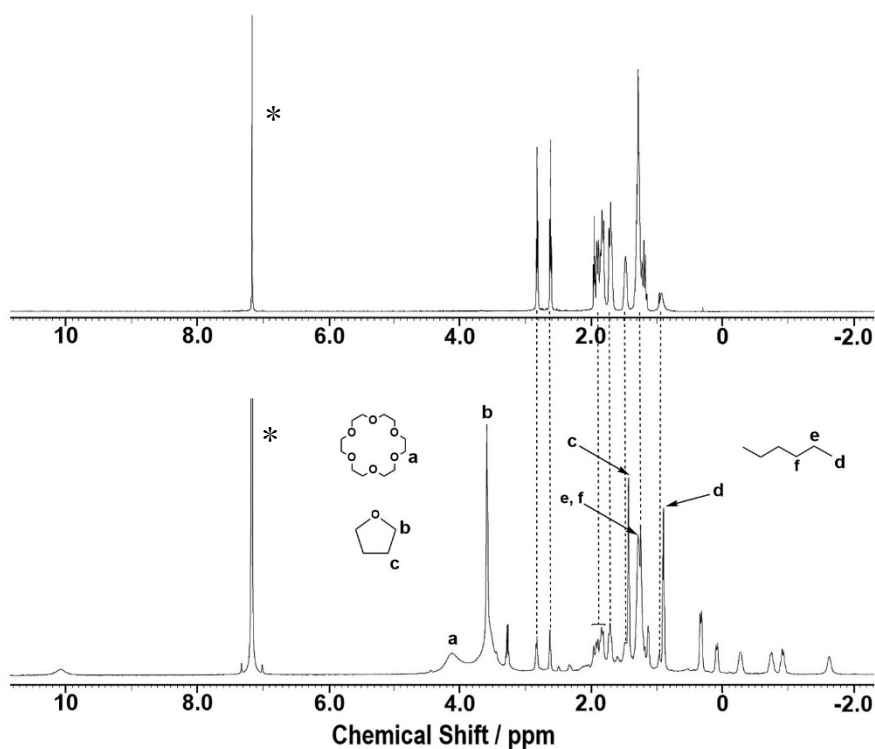
**Figure S11.**  $^{51}\text{V}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\{\text{V}(\text{L}^{\text{Pen}})\}_2(\mu\text{-N}_2)]$  (**2**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (131.56 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{VOCl}_3$  (0.00 ppm)).



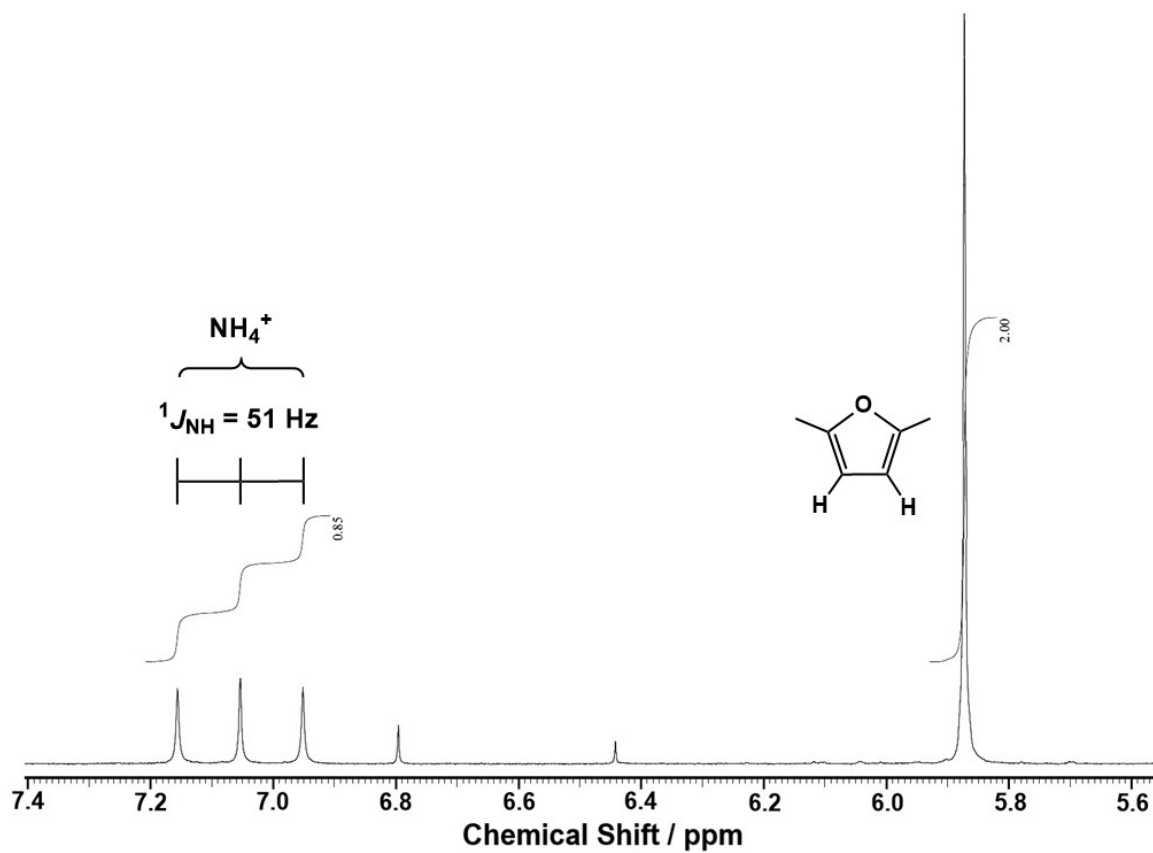
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{V}(\text{L}^{\text{Cy}2})]$  (**3**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (500 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (7.16 ppm)). The peak with an asterisk shows solvent. Inset: Expanded views of a range of 1200 – 600 ppm (top).



**Figure S13.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{VK}(\text{L}^{\text{Cy}2})(\mu\text{-N}_2)(18\text{-crown-6})]$  (**4**) in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (500 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (7.16 ppm)). The peak with an asterisk shows solvent. Inset: Expanded views of a range of  $-5 - 11$  ppm (top) and  $-50 - -10$  ppm (bottom).



**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $\text{H}_3\text{L}^{\text{Cy}2}$  (top) and  $[\text{VK}(\text{L}^{\text{Cy}2})(\mu\text{-N}_2)(18\text{-crown-6})]$  (**4**) (bottom) in the range of  $-2 - 10$  ppm in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  at 298 K (500 MHz,  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  vs  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$  (7.16 ppm)). The peaks with an asterisk show solvent.



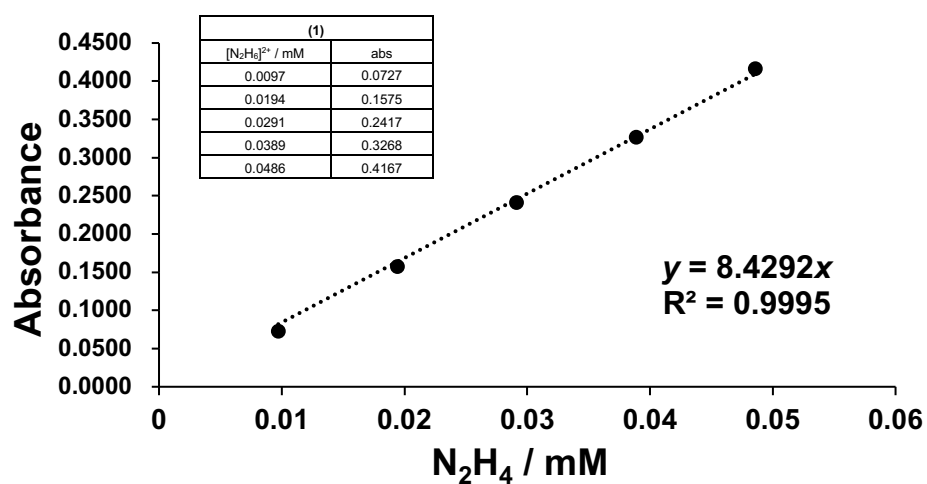
**Figure S15.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $^{14}\text{NH}_4^+$  that was obtained from the reaction of **1** with 80 equiv.  $\text{K}[\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_8]$  and 80 equiv. HOTf under  $^{14}\text{N}_2$  ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , 500 MHz). Chemical shifts are shown versus  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  (2.50 ppm).

**Table S2.** Yields of NH<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> Produced by the Protonation of Dinitrogen Ligands for **1**, **2**, **3**, and **4**.

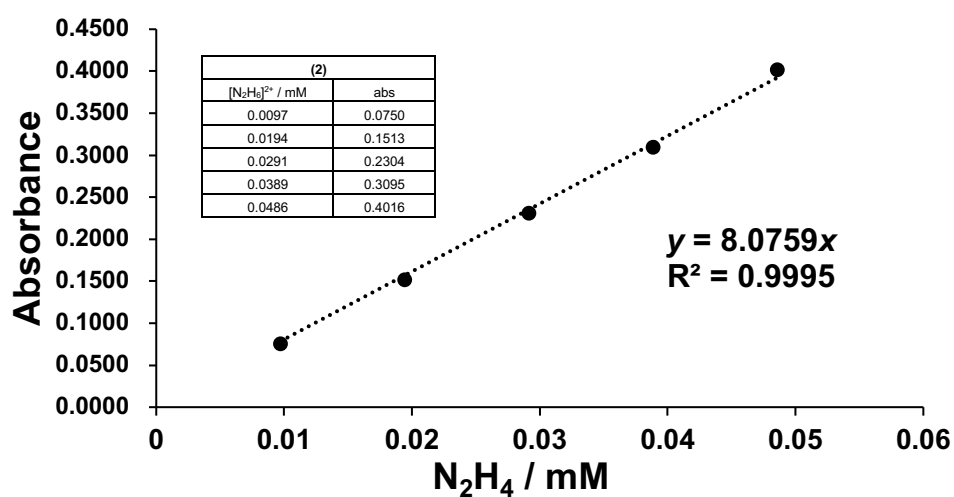
| complex <sup>[b]</sup> | reductant  | proton source | product                                     |                          |         |  |   |         |
|------------------------|--|---------------|---|--------------------------|---------|--|---|---------|
|                        |  |               | NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>[c]</sup> |                          |         | N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> <sup>[f]</sup> |   |         |
|                        |  |               | Integration <sup>[d]</sup>                  | yield / % <sup>[e]</sup> | average | Absorbance <sup>[g]</sup>                    | yield / % <sup>[h]</sup><br>(calibration curve) | average |
| <b>1</b>               | Na <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> | HOTf          | 0.085                                       | 7.4                      |         | 0.084  | 0.35 (1)  |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.082                                       | 7.1                      | 7.7     | 0.084  | 0.35 (1)  | 0.36    |
|                        |  |               | 0.10  | 8.7                      |         | 0.096  | 0.40 (1)  |         |
|                        | K <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>  | HOTf          | 0.53  | 46.1                     |         | 3.2  | 10.5 (2)  |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.50  | 43.5                     | 47.3    | 3.3  | 11.1 (2)  | 10.9    |
|                        |  |               | 0.82  | 52.2                     |         | 3.4  | 11.2 (2)  |         |
| <b>2</b>               | Na <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> | HOTf          | 0.069                                       | 7.6                      |         | 0.23   | 9.8 (1)   |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.040                                       | 4.4                      | 5.4     | 0.25   | 10.7 (1)  | 10.6    |
|                        |  |               | 0.038                                       | 4.2                      |         | 0.26   | 11.2 (1)  |         |
|                        | K <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>  | HOTf          | 0.36  | 39.6                     |         | 3.7  | 15.4 (2)  |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.51  | 44.0                     | 37.8    | 3.7  | 15.6 (2)  | 15.9    |
|                        |  |               | 0.27  | 29.7                     |         | 3.9  | 16.7 (2)  |         |
| <b>3</b>               | Na <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup> | HOTf          | 0.026                                       | 4.9                      |         | -0.0034                                      | - 0.0003 (1)                                    |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.026                                       | 5.0                      | 6.5     | -0.00099                                     | - 0.0001 (1)                                    | n.d.    |
|                        |  |               | 0.051                                       | 9.6                      |         | -0.00054                                     | 0.0000 (1)                                      |         |
|                        | K <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>  | HOTf          | 0.79  | 74.9                     |         | 0.85   | 6.22 (2)  |         |
|                        |  |               | 0.81  | 76.8                     | 77.4    | 0.94   | 6.83 (2)  | 6.7     |
|                        |  |               | 0.85  | 80.6                     |         | 0.95   | 6.92 (2)  |         |
| <b>4</b>               | K <sup>+</sup> [C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>-</sup>  | HOTf          | 0.95  | 75.4                     |         | 0.65   | 5.0 (3)   |         |
|                        |  |               | 1.1   | 84.7                     | 80.1    | 0.68   | 5.2 (3)   | 5.0     |
|                        |  |               | 1.0   | 80.1                     |         | 0.61   | 4.7 (3)   |         |

[a] All reactions were carried out in THF under N<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C. [b] [complex] = 6.7 × 10<sup>-3</sup> M. [c] Quantification of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> was calculated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR method. [d] [2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran (std)] = 5.2 × 10<sup>-2</sup> M. The integration values of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> are shown against the vinyl protons of 2,5-dimethylfuran (2H). [e] Yields are based on a chromium ion. [f] Quantifications of N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> were calculated by *p*-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde method. [g] This value was obtained from absorbance of the peak at 458 nm of a yellow azine dye. [h] Yields are based on a vanadium ion.

(1)



(2)



(3)

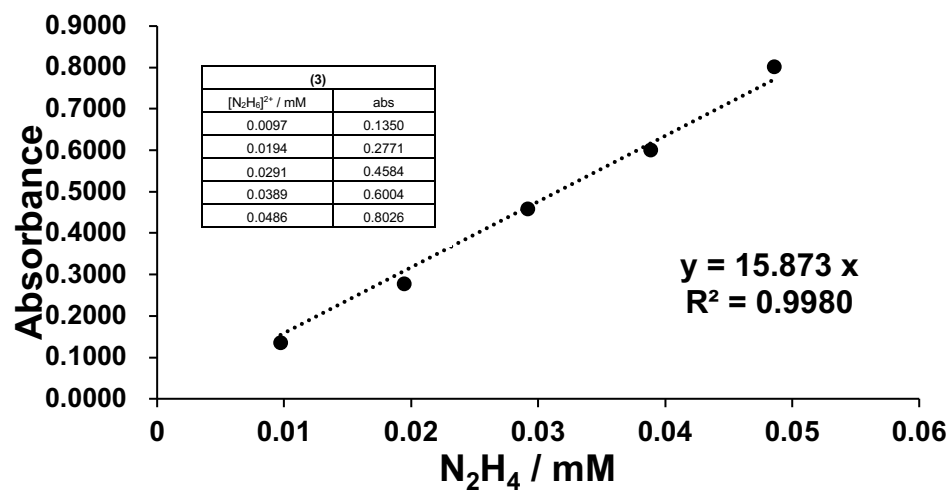


Figure S16. Calibration curves for hydrazine quantification.