

# ***Enabling Al Sacrificial Anode in Tetrahydrofuran Electrolytes for Reductive Electrosynthesis***

Wendy Zhang,<sup>†</sup> Weiyang Guan,<sup>‡</sup> Yi Wang,<sup>‡</sup> Song Lin,<sup>‡</sup> and  
Kimberly A. See<sup>\*,†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>*Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena,  
California 91125, United States*

<sup>‡</sup>*Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853,  
United States*

E-mail: [ksee@caltech.edu](mailto:ksee@caltech.edu)

# Supporting Information

## Linear sweep voltammograms of Al stripping

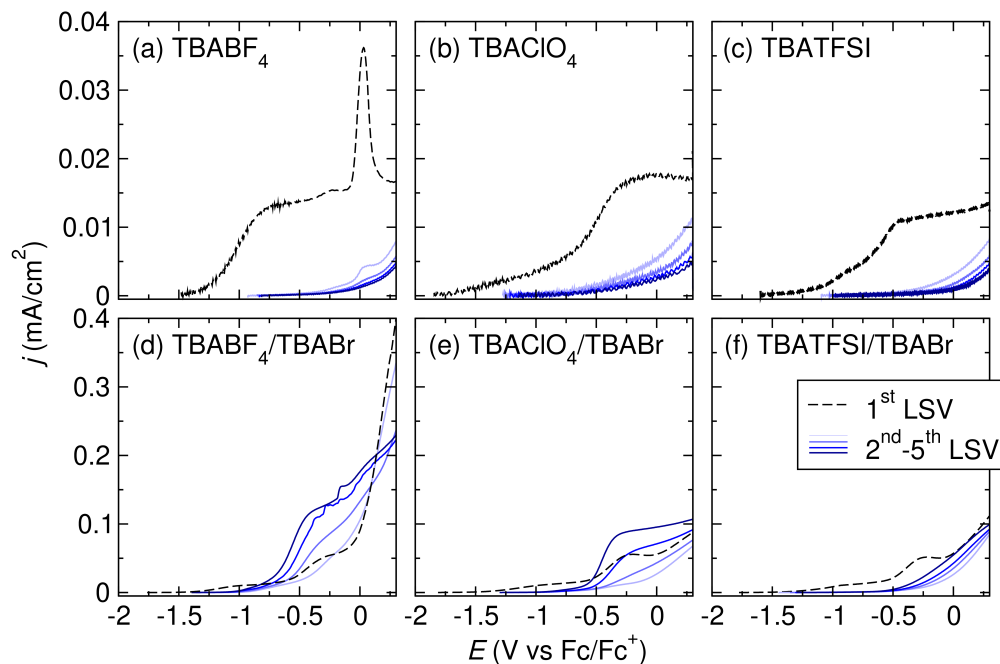


Figure S1: Linear sweep voltammograms of Al stripping in THF with 0.1 M TBA<sup>+</sup> supporting electrolyte or 0.05 M TBA<sup>+</sup> supporting electrolyte of interest + 0.05 M TBABr . All voltammograms were collected at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup> with 85% iR compensation. For each electrolyte, five LSVs were collected with a 10 min OCV between scans.

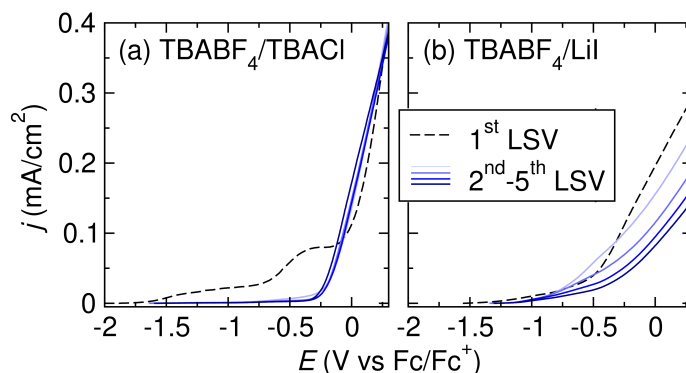


Figure S2: Linear sweep voltammograms of Al stripping in THF with 0.05 M TBABF<sub>4</sub> + 0.05 M TBACl or TBAI . All voltammograms were collected at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup> with 85% iR compensation. For each electrolyte, five LSVs were collected with a 10 min OCV between scans.

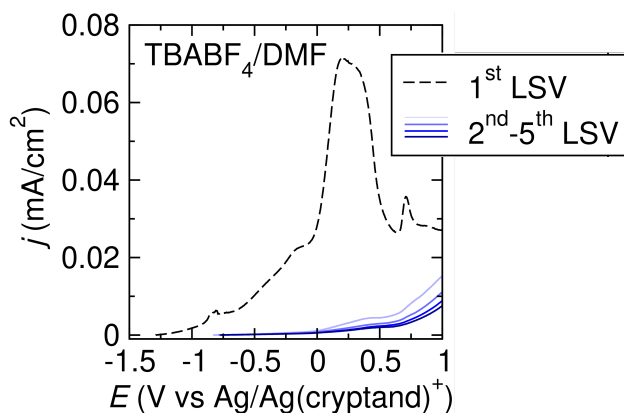


Figure S3: Linear sweep voltammograms of Al stripping in DMF with 0.1 M TBABF<sub>4</sub>. All voltammograms were collected at a scan rate of 5 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. Five LSVs were collected with a 10 min OCV between scans.

### Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup> vs Ag/Ag(cryptand)<sup>+</sup> RE

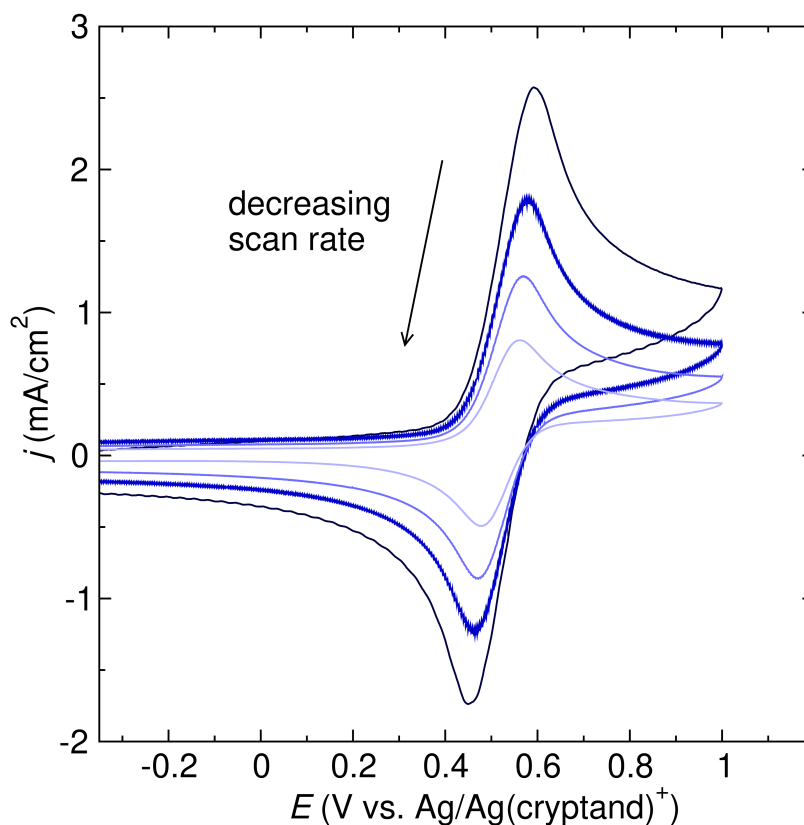


Figure S4: Cyclic voltammograms of Fc in 0.1 M TBAPF<sub>6</sub>/THF. WE: Pt disk, CE: Pt wire, RE: Ag/Ag(cryptand)<sup>+</sup>. The voltammograms are collected at 200, 100, 50, and 20 mV s<sup>-1</sup> scan rate without iR compensation.

### EIS data

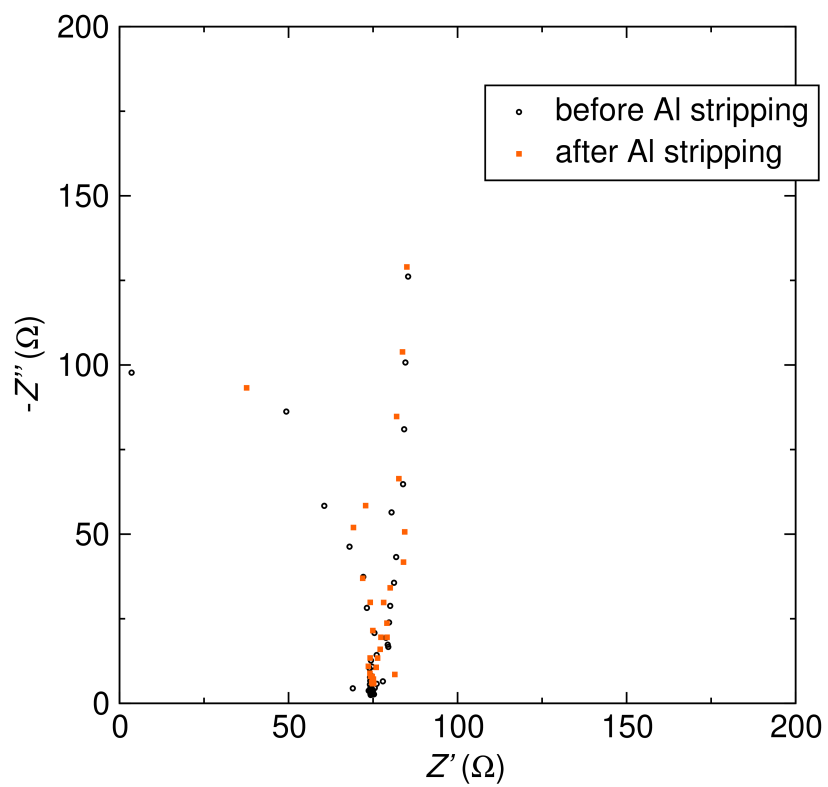


Figure S5: EIS of the Al working electrodes before and after galvanostatic Al stripping in the presence of 0.5 M *t*BuBr in 0.5 M TBABF<sub>4</sub> electrolyte.

## XPS data

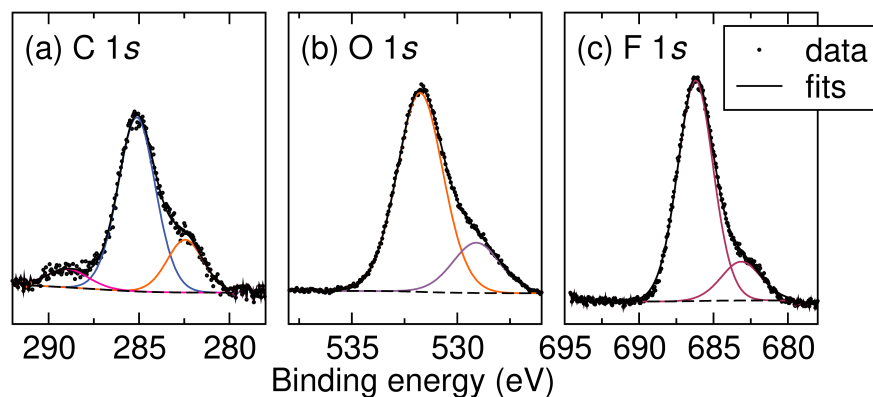


Figure S6: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBABF<sub>4</sub> as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S1: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBAClO<sub>4</sub> as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure 3a. Al 2p	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	75.1	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	76.7	AlF <sub>x</sub>
Figure S6a. C 1s	282.5	C–O
	285.1	adventitious C
	288.9	C=O
Figure S6b. O 1s	529.1	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	531.8	C–O
Figure S6c. F 1s	683.1, 686.2	AlF <sub>x</sub>

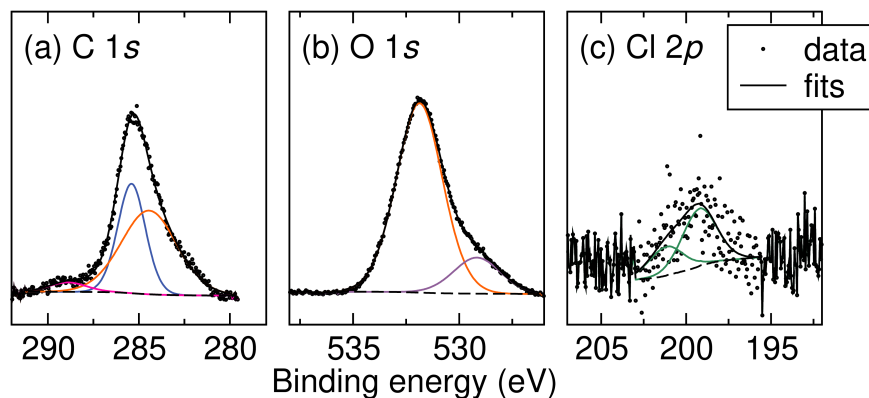


Figure S7: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBAClO<sub>4</sub> as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S2: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBABF<sub>4</sub> as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure 3b. Al 2p	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	75.0	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Figure S7a. C 1s	284.1	C–O
	285.4	adventitious C
	288.9	C=O
Figure S7b. O 1s	529.2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	531.9	C–O
Figure S7c. Cl 2p	199.2	AlCl <sub>x</sub>

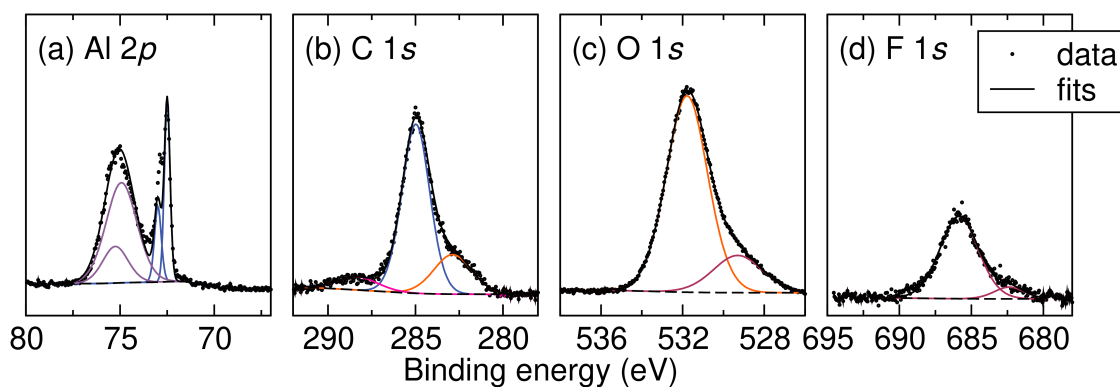


Figure S8: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBATFSI as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S3: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBATFSI as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure S8a. Al 2 <i>p</i>	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	75.0	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Figure S8b. C 1 <i>s</i>	282.9	C–O
	285.0	adventitious C
	288.3	C=O
Figure S8c. O 1 <i>s</i>	529.3	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	531.8	C–O
Figure S8d. F 1 <i>s</i>	682.4, 685.9	AlF <sub><i>x</i></sub>

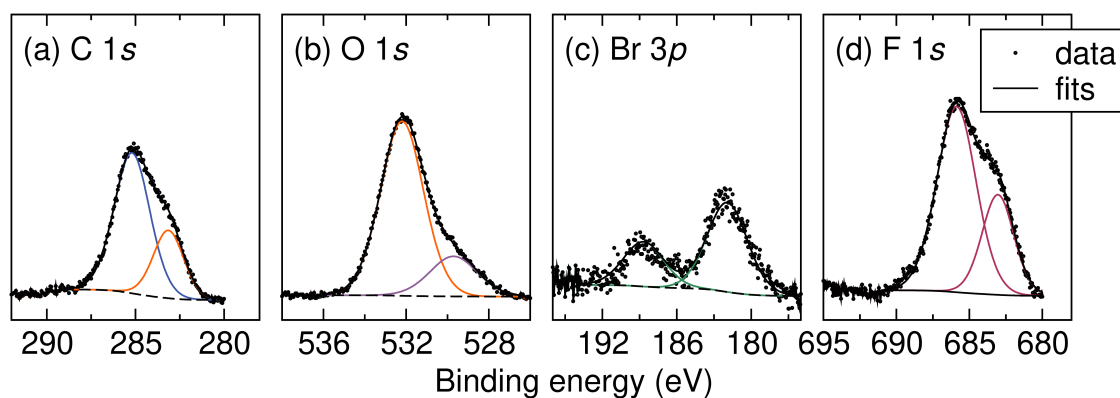


Figure S9: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBABF<sub>4</sub>/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S4: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBABF<sub>4</sub>/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure 3c. Al 2 <i>p</i>	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	73.9	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
	75.0	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Figure 3c. Br 3 <i>d</i>	68.4	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
Figure S9a. C 1 <i>s</i>	283.1	C–O
	285.2	adventitious C
Figure S9b. O 1 <i>s</i>	529.7	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	532.2	C–O
Figure S9c. Br 3 <i>p</i>	181.9	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
Figure S9d. F 1 <i>s</i>	683.0, 685.9	AlF <sub><i>x</i></sub>



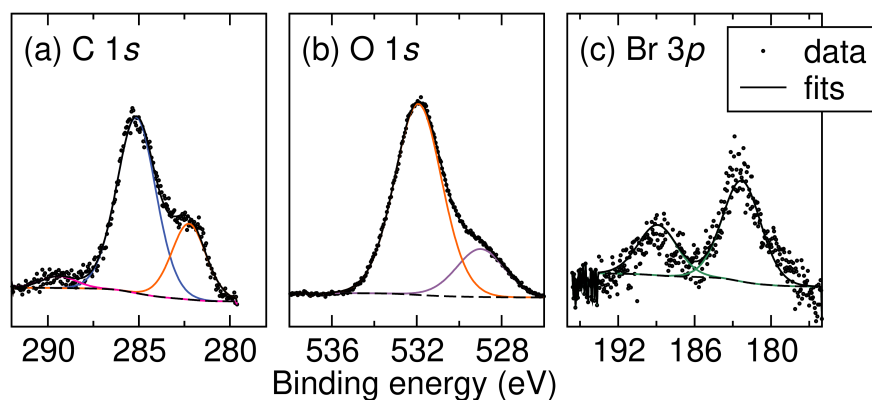


Figure S10: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBAClO<sub>4</sub>/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S5: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBAClO<sub>4</sub>/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure 3d. Al 2 <i>p</i>	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	73.8	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
	75.1	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Figure 3d. Br 3 <i>d</i>	68.8	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
Figure S10a. C 1 <i>s</i>	282.2	C–O
	285.1	adventitious C
	289.4	C=O
Figure S10b. O 1 <i>s</i>	529.7	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	532.2	C–O
Figure S10c. Br 3 <i>p</i>	182.3	AlBr <sub>3</sub>

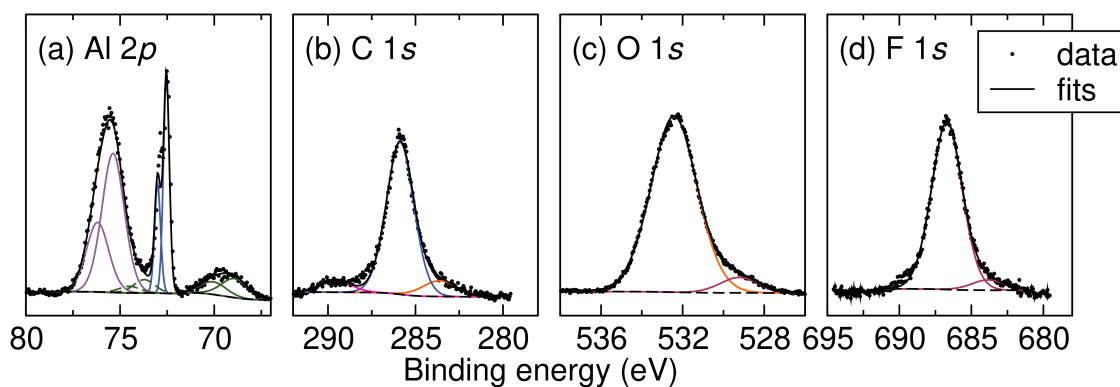


Figure S11: X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBATFSI/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Table S6: Peak assignments of the X-ray photoelectron spectra of Al electrodes after the LSV experiments in THF with TBATFSI/TBABr as the supporting electrolyte.

Figure	Peak binding energy (eV)	Assignment
Figure S13a. Al $2p$	72.5	Al <sup>0</sup>
	73.7	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
	75.4	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Figure S13a. Br $3d$	68.9	AlBr <sub>3</sub>
Figure S13b. C $1s$	283.6	C–O
	285.8	adventitious C
	289.6	C=O
Figure S13c. O $1s$	529.2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
	532.4	C–O
Figure S13d. F $1s$	683.8, 686.7	AlF <sub>x</sub>

## NMR data

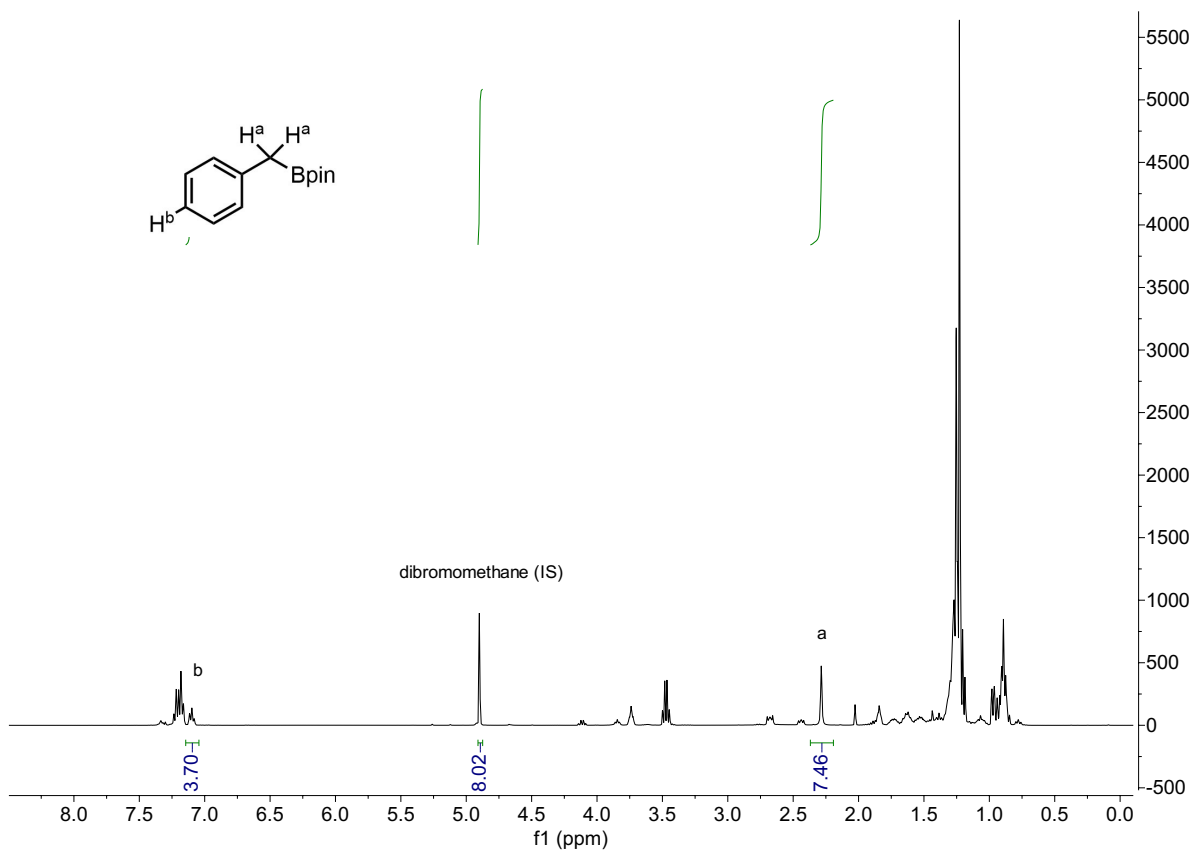


Figure S12: An example of the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of the borylation reaction crude mixture.

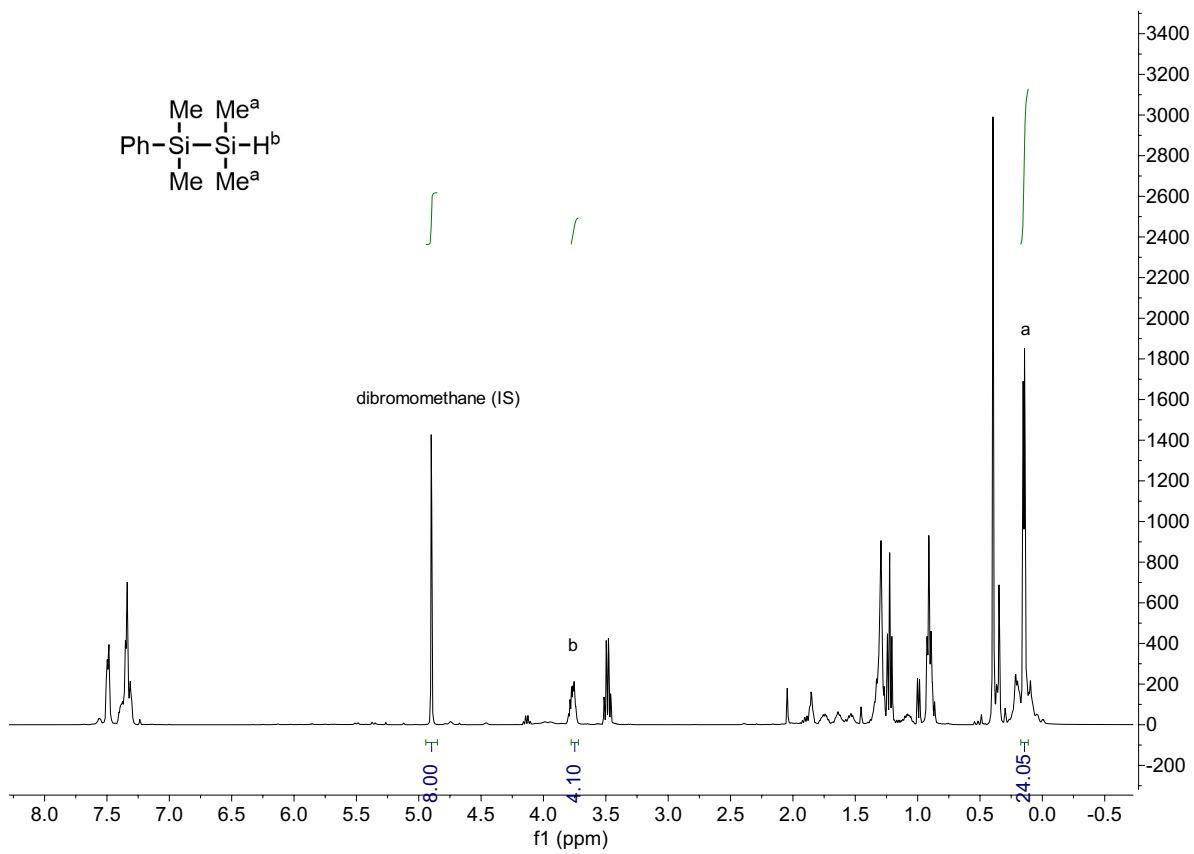


Figure S13: An example of the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of the silylation reaction crude mixture.