

# Supporting Information

## Magnesium(II) complexes supported by indole- and pyrrole-containing Schiff-base ligands: syntheses, structures, and applications as precatalysts in the hydroboration of nitriles and alkynes

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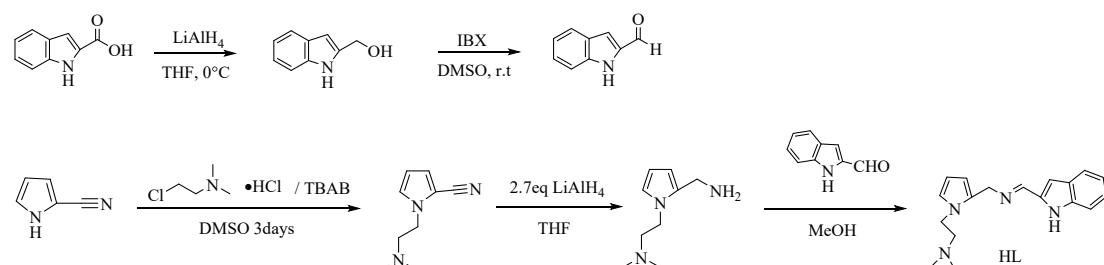
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## 1. General methods

All the reactions were carried out in a Vigor glove box filled with N<sub>2</sub>. Grignard reagents were purchased from J&K and Macklin Chemical Company. CDCl<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> were dried with CaH<sub>2</sub> for 24 h, followed by vacuum distillation under reduced pressure. Tetrahydrofuran, toluene, and hexane were obtained by drying over sodium filaments first and then using benzophenone as an indicator for distillation under nitrogen protection. They are stored with 4 Å molecular sieves. NMR spectra were recorded by a Vnmrs-300 MHz instrument and an Agilent 600 MHz DD2 NMR spectrometer. Elemental analyses for C, H and N were performed on a PerkinElmer 2400 analyser. Crystal determinations were performed with a Bruker SMART APEX II CCDC diffractometer equipped with graphite monochromatic Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) and Ga K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.34139$ ).

## 2. Syntheses of the HL ligand



Scheme S1. Synthesis of HL

### 2.1 Synthesis of 1*H*-indole-2-acetaldehyde

LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (1.58 g, 41.4 mmol) was slowly added to a THF solution of 1*H*-indole-2-carboxylic acid (3.22 g, 20 mmol) at 0 °C and stirred for 15 minutes. After the mixture was warmed to room temperature, it was stirred for 3 hours, and the reaction process was monitored by TLC. Then the reaction was quenched with 2M NaOH at 0 °C, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, and the solvent was removed under vacuum to obtain (1*H*-indol-2-yl)methanol as a brown solid. (1*H*-indol-2-yl)methanol (2.03 g, 13.8 mmol) was dissolved in 30 mL of dimethyl sulfoxide. 2-Iodoxybenzoic acid (4.637 g, 16.6 mmol) was added to the mixture, and the reaction was stirred at 25 °C for 10 hours. The

reaction process was monitored by TLC. Then, a large amount of water was added. The resultant mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. After vacuum removal of the volatile substances, the crude product was purified via column chromatography using EA/PE as the eluent (PE/EA = 20:1). The product was obtained as a white solid.

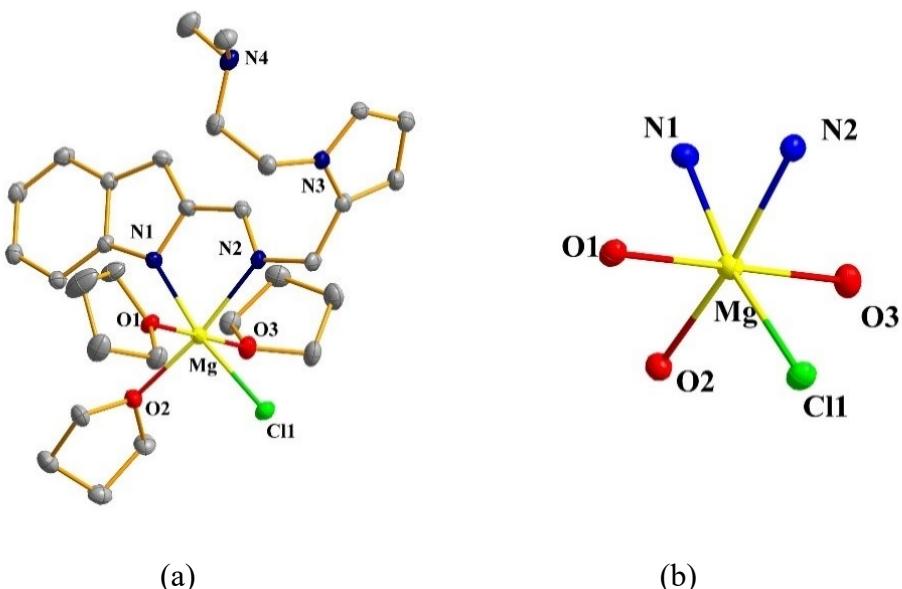
## 2.2 Synthesis of IN

Compound **IN** (**IN** = 2-(2-(aminomethyl)-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-*N,N*-dimethylethan-1-amine) was prepared following the reported procedure.<sup>S1</sup>

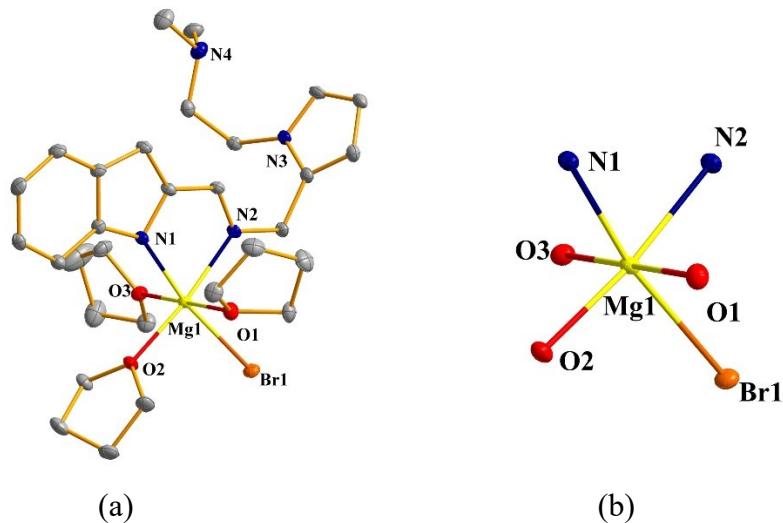
## 2.3 Synthesis of the HL ligand

A MeOH solution of **IN** (0.8357 g, 5 mmol) was added to a MeOH (20 mL) solution of 1*H*-indole-2-carbaldehyde (0.7258 g, 5 mmol) at room temperature. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h (Scheme 1), the volatiles were removed by vacuum distillation to obtain a brown oily crude product. The crude product was washed with hexane and ethyl acetate to give a brown powder. The yield was 1.36 g (93%). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 73.44; H, 7.53; N, 19.03. Found: C, 72.81; H, 7.71; N, 18.93.

## 3. Structures and crystallographic data of the compounds



**Figure S1.** (a) Molecular structure of **1** from X-ray diffraction. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. (b) Core structure of complex **1**.



**Figure S2.** (a) Molecular structure of **2** from X-ray diffraction. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. (b) Core structure of complex **2**.

**Table S1. Selected Bond Lengths [Å] and Angles [°] for Complex 1**

| Selected Bond Length(Å) |            |            |           |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| C11–Mg1                 | 2.4052(18) | Mg1–N2     | 2.205(4)  |
| Mg1–O3                  | 2.152(3)   | N1–C1      | 1.373(5)  |
| Mg1–O2                  | 2.192(3)   | N1–C8      | 1.375(5)  |
| Mg1–O1                  | 2.110(3)   | N2–C9      | 1.285(5)  |
| Mg1–N1                  | 2.137(4)   | N2–C10     | 1.478(5)  |
| Selected Angles(°)      |            |            |           |
| O3–Mg1–C11              | 92.13(10)  | N1–Mg1–O1  | 94.20(14) |
| O3–Mg1–O1               | 89.15(13)  | N1–Mg1–N2  | 78.21(14) |
| O3–Mg1–N2               | 89.28(14)  | N2–Mg1–Cl1 | 93.48(11) |
| O2–Mg1–C11              | 89.06(10)  | C8–N1–Mg1  | 111. 1(3) |
| O2–Mg1–O3               | 178.72(13) | C9–N2–Mg1  | 111.7(3)  |
| O2–Mg1–O1               | 90.28(13)  | C9–N2–C10  | 120.6(4)  |
| O2–Mg1–N1               | 87.72(14)  | C10–N2–Mg1 | 127.6(3)  |
| O2–Mg1–N2               | 91.14(14)  | N1–C8–C9   | 118.6(4)  |
| O1–Mg1–C11              | 94.20(11)  | C7–C8–N1   | 113.5(4)  |
| O1–Mg1–N2               | 172.21(14) | C7–C8–C9   | 127.8(4)  |
| N1–Mg1–C11              | 171.02(12) | N2–C9–C8   | 119.7(4)  |
| N1–Mg1–O3               | 91.18(4)   |            |           |

**Table S2. Selected Bond Lengths [Å] and Angles [°] for Complex 2**

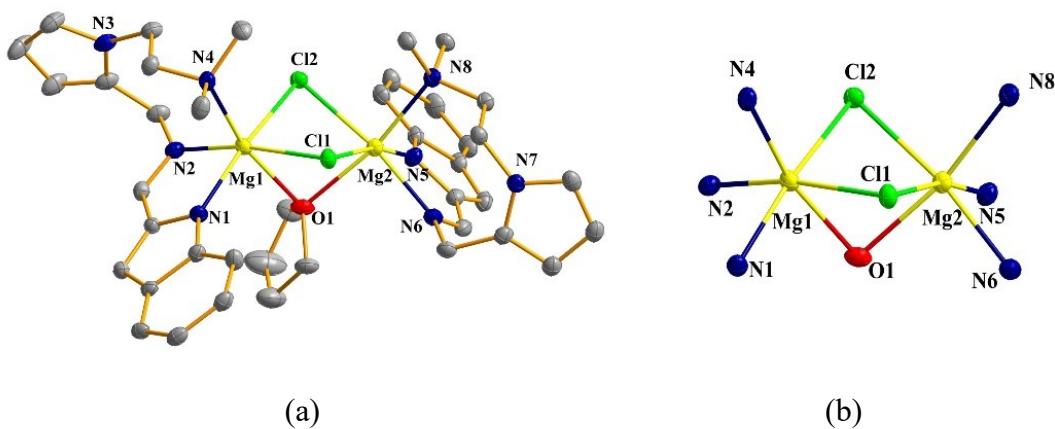
| Selected Bond Length(Å) |
|-------------------------|
|-------------------------|

|                    |            |            |           |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Br1–Mg1            | 2.5867(15) | Mg1–N2     | 2.202(4)  |
| Mg1–O3             | 2.192(3)   | N1–C1      | 1.368(5)  |
| Mg1–O2             | 2.107(4)   | N1–C8      | 1.377(6)  |
| Mg1–O1             | 2.164(3)   | N2–C9      | 1.281(6)  |
| Mg1–N1             | 2.116(4)   | N2–C10     | 1.473(6)  |
| Selected Angles(°) |            |            |           |
| O3–Mg1–Br1         | 88.10(10)  | N1–Mg1–O1  | 91.82(14) |
| O3–Mg1–O1          | 179.34(15) | N1–Mg1–N2  | 78.53(14) |
| O3–Mg1–N2          | 90.96(15)  | N2–Mg1–Br1 | 93.51(11) |
| O2–Mg1–Br1         | 93.02(10)  | C8–N1–Mg1  | 111.4(3)  |
| O2–Mg1–O3          | 90.44(14)  | C9–N2–Mg1  | 111.6(3)  |
| O2–Mg1–O1          | 89.63(14)  | C9–N2–C10  | 120.4(4)  |
| O2–Mg1–N1          | 95.05(14)  | C10–N2–Mg1 | 127.9(3)  |
| O2–Mg1–N2          | 173.36(15) | N1–C8–C9   | 118.5(4)  |
| O1–Mg1–Br1         | 92.55(10)  | N1–C8–C7   | 113.3(4)  |
| O1–Mg1–N2          | 88.90(14)  | C7–C8–C9   | 128.3(4)  |
| N1–Mg1–Br1         | 170.84(12) | N2–C9–C8   | 119.5(4)  |
| N1–Mg1–O3          | 87.51(14)  |            |           |

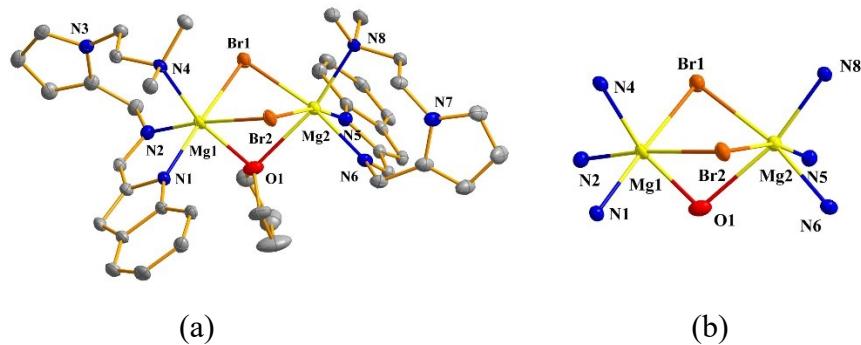
**Table S3. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement for Compounds 1 and 2**

|                           | 1  | 2  |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Empirical formula         | $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{45}\text{ClMgN}_4\text{O}_3$ | $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{45}\text{BrMgN}_4\text{O}_3$ |
| Formula weight            | 569.46   | 613.92   |
| Temperature [K]           | 223.0  | 223.0  |
| Crystal system            | monoclinic   | monoclinic   |
| Space group (number)      | $P2_1/c$ (14)  | $P2_1/c$ (14)  |
| $a$ [ $\text{\AA}$ ]      | 17.8805(6)   | 18.0348(7)   |
| $b$ [ $\text{\AA}$ ]      | 10.8261(4)   | 10.8915(4)   |
| $c$ [ $\text{\AA}$ ]      | 17.4012(6)   | 17.4378(6)   |
| $\alpha$ [ $^\circ$ ]     | 90   | 90   |
| $\beta$ [ $^\circ$ ]      | 113.5430(10)   | 113.6190(10)   |
| $\gamma$ [ $^\circ$ ]     | 90   | 90   |
| Volume [ $\text{\AA}^3$ ] | 3088.07(19)  | 3138.3(2)  |
| Z                         | 4  | 4  |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| $\rho_{\text{calc}}$ [gcm <sup>-3</sup> ]    | 1.225  | 1.299  |
| $\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]                    | 0.180  | 1.366  |
| $F(000)$                                     | 1224   | 1296   |
| Crystal size [mm <sup>3</sup> ]              | 0.40×0.20×0.16   | 0.20×0.16×0.10   |
| Radiation                                    | Mo $K_{\alpha}$ ( $\lambda=0.71073$ Å)                               | Mo $K_{\alpha}$ ( $\lambda=0.71073$ Å)                               |
| 2 $\theta$ range [°]                         | 4.55 to 55.00 (0.77 Å)   | 4.53 to 50.70 (0.83 Å)   |
| Index ranges                                 | $-23 \leq h \leq 23$<br>$-14 \leq k \leq 13$<br>$-22 \leq l \leq 22$ | $-21 \leq h \leq 21$<br>$-13 \leq k \leq 13$<br>$-21 \leq l \leq 21$ |
| Reflections collected                        | 39925  | 32043  |
|  | 7071   | 5733   |
| Independent reflections                      | $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0816$<br>$R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0584$             | $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0933$<br>$R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0626$             |
| Data / Restraints / Parameters               | 7071/31/391  | 5653/0/355   |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$                     | 1.004  | 0.964  |
| Final $R$ indexes<br>[ $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ] | $R_1 = 0.0817$<br>w $R_2 = 0.1939$                                   | $R_1 = 0.0487$<br>w $R_2 = 0.1215$                                   |
| Final $R$ indexes<br>[all data]              | $R_1 = 0.1713$<br>w $R_2 = 0.2839$                                   | $R_1 = 0.1091$<br>w $R_2 = 0.1835$                                   |
| Largest peak/hole [eÅ <sup>-3</sup> ]        | 0.48/-0.47   | 0.86/-0.55   |



**Figure S3.** (a) Molecular structure of **3**·0.2Tol from X-ray diffraction. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. (b) Core structure of complex **3**·0.2Tol.



**Figure S4.** (a) Molecular structure of **4** from X-ray diffraction. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. (b) Core structure of complex **4**.

**Table S4. Selected Bond Lengths [Å] and Angles [°] for Complex 3·0.2Tol**

| Selected Bond Length(Å) |            |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Cl2–Mg1                 | 2.5013(17) | Mg2–N6     | 2.195(4)   |
| Cl2–Mg2                 | 2.4916(16) | Mg2–N8     | 2.267(4)   |
| Cl1–Mg1                 | 2.4797(16) | N1–C8      | 1.389(5)   |
| Cl1–Mg2                 | 2.4730(17) | N1–C1      | 1.373(5)   |
| Mg1–O1                  | 2.317(3)   | N2–C9      | 1.284(5)   |
| Mg1–N4                  | 2.304(4)   | N2–C10     | 1.487(5)   |
| Mg1–N1                  | 2.096(4)   | N5–C26     | 1.383(5)   |
| Mg1–N2                  | 2.213(4)   | N5–C19     | 1.374(5)   |
| Mg2–O1                  | 2.452(3)   | N6–C27     | 1.288(5)   |
| Mg2–N5                  | 2.082(3)   | N6–C28     | 1.490(5)   |
| Selected Angles(°)      |            |            |            |
| Mg2–Cl2–Mg1             | 81.11(5)   | N5–Mg2–N6  | 78.97(13)  |
| Mg2–Cl1–Mg1             | 81.91(5)   | N5–Mg2–N8  | 97.15(13)  |
| Cl1–Mg1–Cl2             | 86.99(5)   | N6–Mg2–Cl2 | 93.40(10)  |
| O1–Mg1–Cl2              | 78.50(8)   | N5–Mg2–Cl2 | 165.46(12) |
| O1–Mg1–Cl1              | 79.08(8)   | N5–Mg2–Cl1 | 97.66(11)  |
| N4–Mg1–Cl2              | 92.56(10)  | N5–Mg2–O1  | 91.57(12)  |
| N4–Mg1–Cl1              | 92.35(9)   | N6–Mg2–Cl1 | 168.38(11) |
| N4–Mg1–O1               | 167.84(13) | N6–Mg2–O1  | 92.18(12)  |
| N1–Mg1–Cl2              | 100.79(11) | N6–Mg2–N8  | 98.31(13)  |
| N1–Mg1–Cl1              | 167.43(12) | N8–Mg2–Cl2 | 96.19(10)  |
| N1–Mg1–O1               | 92.70(13)  | N8–Mg2–Cl1 | 93.13(10)  |
| N1–Mg1–N4               | 97.10(13)  | N8–Mg2–O1  | 167.45(12) |
| N1–Mg1–N2               | 78.47(14)  | Mg1–O1–Mg2 | 85.75(10)  |
| N2–Mg1–Cl2              | 171.26(11) | C27–N6–Mg2 | 111.2(3)   |
| N2–Mg1–Cl1              | 92.34(11)  | C27–N6–C28 | 116.1(3)   |
| N2–Mg1–O1               | 92.81(12)  | C28–N6–Mg2 | 132.6(3)   |
| N2–Mg1–N4               | 96.17(13)  | C9–N2–Mg1  | 110.9(3)   |

|             |          |            |          |
|-------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Cl1–Mg2–Cl2 | 87.35(5) | C9–N2–C10  | 115.8(4) |
| O1–Mg2–Cl2  | 76.23(8) | C10–N2–Mg1 | 133.0(3) |
| O1–Mg2–Cl1  | 76.71(8) |            |          |

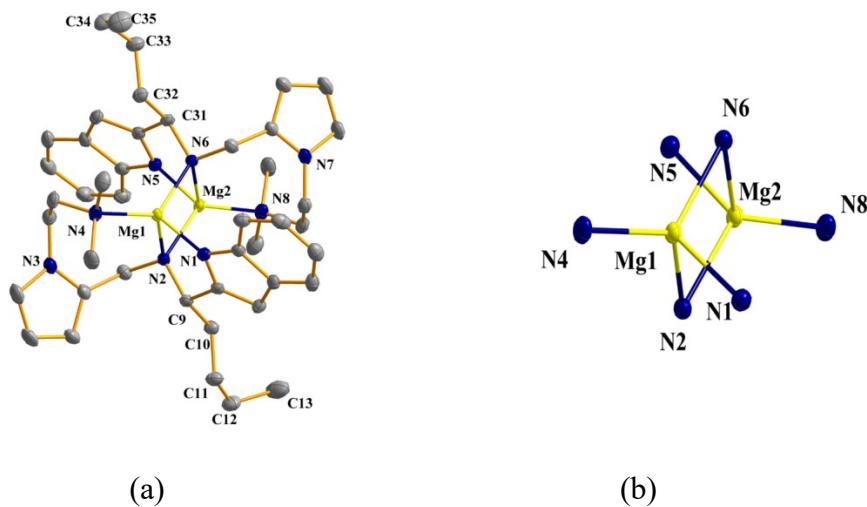
**Table S5. Selected Bond Lengths [Å] and Angles [°] for Complex 4**

| Selected Bond Length(Å) |            |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Br2–Mg1                 | 2.6791(8)  | Mg2–N5     | 2.100(2)   |
| Br2–Mg2                 | 2.6823(8)  | Mg2–N6     | 2.207(2)   |
| Br1–Mg1                 | 2.6359(8)  | N1–C1      | 1.374(3)   |
| Br1–Mg2                 | 2.6582(8)  | N1–C8      | 1.379(3)   |
| Mg1–O1                  | 2.552(2)   | N2–C9      | 1.284(3)   |
| Mg1–N4                  | 2.261(2)   | N2–C10     | 1.490(3)   |
| Mg1–N2                  | 2.193(2)   | N5–C26     | 1.383(3)   |
| Mg1–N1                  | 2.085(2)   | N5–C19     | 1.372(3)   |
| Mg2–O1                  | 2.3227(19) | N6–C27     | 1.289(3)   |
| Mg2–N8                  | 2.322(2)   | N6–C28     | 1.491(3)   |
| Selected Angles(°)      |            |            |            |
| Mg2–Br2–Mg1             | 79.20(2)   | N8–Mg2–Br2 | 91.74(6)   |
| Mg2–Br1–Mg1             | 80.41(2)   | N8–Mg2–Br1 | 91.77(5)   |
| Br1–Mg1–Br2             | 87.53(2)   | N8–Mg2–O1  | 167.68(8)  |
| O1–Mg1–Br2              | 75.57(4)   | N5–Mg2–Br2 | 100.26(6)  |
| O1–Mg1–Br1              | 76.01(5)   | N5–Mg2–Br1 | 168.13(7)  |
| O1–Mg1–N4               | 166.52(7)  | N5–Mg2–O1  | 93.08(8)   |
| N4–Mg1–Br2              | 95.98(6)   | N5–Mg2–N8  | 96.88(8)   |
| N4–Mg1–Br1              | 93.45(6)   | N5–Mg2–N6  | 78.76(8)   |
| N2–Mg1–Br2              | 92.36(6)   | N6–Mg2–Br2 | 172.66(6)  |
| N2–Mg1–Br1              | 167.97(6)  | N6–Mg2–Br1 | 92.36(6)   |
| N2–Mg1–O1               | 92.44(7)   | N6–Mg2–O1  | 93.44(7)   |
| N2–Mg1–N4               | 98.47(8)   | N6–Mg2–N8  | 95.60(8)   |
| N1–Mg1–Br2              | 164.76(7)  | Mg1–O1–Mg2 | 88.91(6)   |
| N1–Mg1–Br1              | 97.65(6)   | C9–N2–Mg1  | 111.28(16) |
| N1–Mg1–O1               | 92.03(7)   | C9–N2–C10  | 115.3(2)   |
| N1–Mg1–N4               | 97.76(8)   | C10–N2–Mg1 | 133.36(16) |
| N1–Mg1–N2               | 79.13(8)   | C27–N6–Mg2 | 110.75(16) |
| Br1–Mg2–Br2             | 87.53(2)   | C27–N6–C28 | 115.3(2)   |
| O1–Mg2–Br2              | 79.33(5)   | C28–N6–Mg2 | 133.71(16) |
| O1–Mg2–Br1              | 79.48(5)   |            |            |

**Table S6. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement for Complexes 3·0.2Tol and 4**

|                                       | <b>3·0.2Tol</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Empirical formula                     | C <sub>41.40</sub> H <sub>51.60</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> Mg <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O | C <sub>40</sub> H <sub>50</sub> Br <sub>1.86</sub> Mg <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O |
| Formula weight [g mol <sup>-1</sup> ] | 796.82   | 855.73  |
| Temperature [K]                       | 100.0  | 150.0   |
| Crystal system                        | monoclinic   | monoclinic  |
| Space group                           | <i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /c (14)  | <i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /c (14)   |
| <i>a</i> /Å                           | 9.4870(4)  | 9.4766(4)   |
| <i>b</i> /Å                           | 13.7899(7)   | 13.9573(5)  |
| <i>c</i> /Å                           | 31.3556(14)  | 31.4956(11)   |
| <i>α</i> /°                           | 90   | 90  |
| <i>β</i> /°                           | 95.8020(10)  | 95.9610(10)   |
| <i>γ</i> /°                           | 90   | 90  |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                 | 4081.1(3)  | 4143.1(3)   |
| Z                                     | 4  | 4   |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> g/cm <sup>3</sup>   | 1.267  | 1.372   |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                    | 0.232  | 1.888   |
| <i>F</i> (000)                        | 1648   | 1772  |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>          | 0.04×0.03×0.02   | 0.04×0.03×0.02  |
| Radiation                             | Mo <i>K</i> <sub>α</sub> ( $\lambda=0.71073\text{ \AA}$ )                              | Mo <i>K</i> <sub>α</sub> ( $\lambda=0.71073\text{ \AA}$ )                           |
| 2θ range for data collection/°        | 4.81 to 52.74 (0.80 Å)   | 5.22 to 53.07 (0.77 Å)  |
| Index ranges                          | -10 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11<br>-17 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 17<br>-34 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 39                      | -11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11<br>-17 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 17<br>-39 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 39                   |
| Reflections collected                 | 56481<br>8320  | 117735<br>8523  |
| Independent reflections               | <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.1186<br><i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0757                 | <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.0919<br><i>R</i> <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0367              |
| Data/restraints/parameters            | 8320/6/485   | 8523/14/502   |

|  |                                   |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$                       | 1.049                             | 1.051                             |
| Final $R$ indexes<br>[ $I >= 2\sigma(I)$ ]     | $R_1 = 0.0749$<br>$wR_2 = 0.1662$ | $R_1 = 0.0332$<br>$wR_2 = 0.0734$ |
| Final $R$ indexes<br>[all data]                | $R_1 = 0.1209$<br>$wR_2 = 0.1943$ | $R_1 = 0.0503$<br>$wR_2 = 0.0816$ |
| Largest diff.<br>peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 1.08/-0.70                        | 0.39/-0.31                        |



**Figure S5.** (a) Molecular structure of **5** from X-ray diffraction. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. (b) Core structure of complex **5**.

**Table S7. Selected Bond Lengths [Å] and Angles [°] for Complex 5**

| Selected Bond Length(Å) |            |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Mg1–N6                  | 2.086(2)   | Mg2–N8     | 2.126(3)   |
| Mg1–N2                  | 2.107(2)   | N6–C31     | 1.497(3)   |
| Mg1–N1                  | 2.020(2)   | N6–C32     | 1.481(3)   |
| Mg1–N4                  | 2.133(3)   | N2–C9      | 1.491(3)   |
| Mg2–N6                  | 2.094(2)   | N2–C14     | 1.485(4)   |
| Mg2–N2                  | 2.079(2)   | C9–C10     | 1.533(4)   |
| Mg2–N5                  | 2.017(2)   | C31–C32    | 1.536(4)   |
| Selected Angles(°)      |            |            |            |
| N6–Mg1–N2               | 95.64(9)   | Mg1–N6–Mg2 | 84.13(9)   |
| N6–Mg1–N4               | 125.24(10) | C31–N6–Mg1 | 123.13(17) |
| N2–Mg1–N4               | 122.21(10) | C31–N6–Mg2 | 105.79(17) |
| N1–Mg1–N6               | 109.04(10) | C36–N6–Mg1 | 111.27(17) |
| N1–Mg1–N2               | 86.37(10)  | C32–N6–Mg2 | 120.85(14) |
| N1–Mg1–N4               | 111.19(10) | C36–N6–Mg2 | 121.29(18) |

|           |            |            |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| N6–Mg2–N8 | 119.76(10) | Mg2–N2–Mg1 | 83.97(9)   |
| N2–Mg2–N6 | 96.24(9)   | C9–N2–Mg1  | 106.03(17) |
| N2–Mg2–N8 | 127.51(10) | C9–N2–Mg2  | 122.63(17) |
| N5–Mg2–N6 | 86.27(10)  | C14–N2–Mg1 | 120.59(18) |
| N5–Mg2–N2 | 107.56(10) | C14–N2–Mg2 | 112.55(17) |
| N5–Mg2–N8 | 111.36(10) | C14–N2–C9  | 109.6(2)   |

**Table S8. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement for Complex 5**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Empirical formula                      | C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>60</sub> Mg <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> |
| Formula weight [g mol <sup>-1</sup> ]  | 749.62   |
| Temperature [K]                        | 223.00(10)   |
| Crystal system                         | monoclinic   |
| Space group                            | P2 <sub>1</sub> /n (14)  |
| a/Å                                    | 13.0809(6)   |
| b/Å                                    | 15.1297(7)   |
| c/Å                                    | 20.6694(10)  |
| $\alpha/^\circ$                        | 90   |
| $\beta/^\circ$                         | 92.944(2)  |
| $\gamma/^\circ$                        | 90   |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                  | 4085.3(3)  |
| Z                                      | 4  |
| $\rho_{\text{calc}}$ g/cm <sup>3</sup> | 1.219  |
| $\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$                   | 0.101  |
| F(000)                                 | 1616   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>           | 0.15×0.13×0.12   |
| Radiation                              | MoK <sub>α</sub> ( $\lambda=0.71073$ Å)                        |
| 2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/° | 4.50 to 55.08 (0.83 Å)   |
|  | -17 ≤ h ≤ 17   |
| Index ranges                           | -19 ≤ k ≤ 19   |
|  | -26 ≤ l ≤ 26   |
| Reflections collected                  | 89160  |
|  | 9397   |
| Independent reflections                | $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0955$                                      |
|  | $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0557$                                    |
| Data/restraints/parameters             | 9397/83/522  |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$               | 1.113  |

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Final <i>R</i> indexes        | <i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0832   |
| [ <i>I</i> >=2σ ( <i>I</i> )] | w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1505 |
| Final <i>R</i> indexes        | <i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.1402   |
| [all data]                    | w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1759 |
| Largest diff.                 | 0.34/-0.24                       |
| peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> |                                  |

## 4. SHAPE program details for 1, 2, 3·0.2Tol, 4, and 5

**Table S9 . Shape analysis of the six-coordinate Mg<sup>II</sup> ions of complexes 1, 2, 3·0.2Tol, and 4.**

| Agreement factor for Mg <sup>II</sup> ions in complexes | HP-6   | PPY-6  | OC-6  | TPR-6  | JPPY-6 |
|---|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| Mg <sup>II</sup> in 1                                   | 32.181 | 27.071 | 0.546 | 14.694 | 30.672 |
| Mg <sup>II</sup> in 2                                   | 32.378 | 26.878 | 0.864 | 14.857 | 30.279 |
| Mg1 <sup>II</sup> in 3·0.2Tol                           | 31.338 | 25.294 | 1.098 | 14.777 | 29.271 |
| Mg2 <sup>II</sup> in 3·0.2Tol                           | 31.339 | 25.296 | 1.096 | 14.777 | 29.273 |
| Mg1 <sup>II</sup> in 4                                  | 31.698 | 25.264 | 1.308 | 14.845 | 29.697 |
| Mg2 <sup>II</sup> in 4                                  | 31.818 | 25.391 | 1.412 | 14.437 | 29.898 |

HP-6(*D*<sub>6h</sub>)= hexagon, PPY-6(*C*<sub>5v</sub>)= pentagonal pyramid, OC-6(*O*<sub>h</sub>)= octahedron, TPR-6(*D*<sub>3h</sub>)= trigonal prism, JPPY-6(*C*<sub>5v</sub>)= Johnson pentagonal pyramid.

**Table S10 .Shape analysis of the four-coordinate Mg<sup>II</sup> ions in complex 5**

| Agreement factor for Mg <sup>II</sup> ions in complexes | SP-4   | T-4   | SS-4  |
|---|--------|-------|-------|
| Mg1 <sup>II</sup> in 5                                  | 27.476 | 2.433 | 7.347 |
| Mg2 <sup>II</sup> in 5                                  | 28.914 | 2.371 | 7.377 |

SP-4(*D*<sub>4h</sub>)= square, T-4(*T*<sub>d</sub>)= tetrahedron, SS-4(*C*<sub>2v</sub>)= seesaw or sawhorse.

## 5. Characterization data

### 5.1. Characterization data of the ligand and compounds.

**[HL].** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.46 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 4.08 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.93, 137.09, 135.23, 129.35,

128.08, 124.42, 121.79, 121.65, 120.10, 77.27, 77.06, 76.85, 60.51, 55.48, 45.76, 45.43. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 73.44; H, 7.53; N, 19.03.

**[ $(\text{L})\text{MgCl}(\text{THF})_3$ ] (1).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.31 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.90 (t, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 12H), 2.47 - 2.38 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 6H), 1.71 (s, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.10, 148.03, 141.64, 131.51, 131.07, 123.16, 121.53, 121.08, 117.80, 117.52, 109.37, 108.07, 107.65, 68.22, 61.68, 49.99, 46.97, 44.85, 25.29. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>45</sub>ClMgN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 63.27; H, 7.97; N, 9.84. Found: C, 76.15; H, 9.10; N, 8.43.

**[ $(\text{L})\text{MgBr}(\text{THF})_3$ ] (2).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.13 - 5.98 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 12H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 1.79 (s, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.73, 147.45, 141.97, 131.57, 130.51, 123.10, 121.70, 121.13, 117.83, 116.77, 109.38, 108.34, 107.81, 68.46, 61.40, 50.83, 46.74, 45.06, 25.36. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>45</sub>BrMgN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 58.69; H, 7.39; N, 9.13. Found: C, 58.43; H, 7.43; N, 9.76.

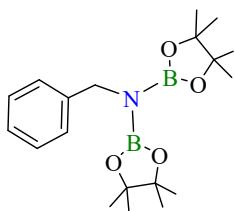
**[ $(\text{L})_2\text{Mg}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{THF}$ ] (3).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 6.07 (t, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.43 (s, 2H), 3.58 (s, 2H), 2.46 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 1.43 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.59, 137.02, 132.48, 130.56, 126.15, 122.95, 122.09, 121.20, 117.00, 114.29, 109.43, 108.28, 105.23, 67.98, 58.77, 58.11, 45.72, 44.84, 25.63. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>50</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Mg<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O: C, 61.72; H, 6.47; N, 14.4. Found: C, 61.54; H, 6.78; N, 14.42.

**[ $(\text{L})_2\text{Mg}_2\text{Br}_2\text{THF}$ ] (4).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 6.10 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 4.83 (s, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 2H), 2.23 (s, 6H), 1.57 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.61, 137.07, 132.50, 130.60, 126.21, 122.97, 122.14, 121.22, 117.03, 114.36, 109.46, 108.31, 105.28, 68.00, 58.80, 58.13, 45.73, 44.86,

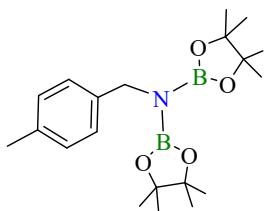
25.65. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{40}H_{50}Br_2Mg_2N_8O$ : C, 55.39; H, 5.81; N, 12.92. Found: C, 55.75; H, 5.86; N, 12.69.

**[ $(L1)_2Mg_2$ ] (5).**  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.51 (d,  $J = 42.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.62 (s, 2H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 5.90 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 3.68-3.47 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 1H), 2.13 (s, 2H), 1.96 (d,  $J = 31.1$  Hz, 6H), 1.56 (s, 2H), 1.05 (s, 4H), 0.80 - 0.60 (m, 3H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.49, 128.40, 121.34, 120.92, 119.91, 119.11, 110.93, 108.15, 106.81, 101.07, 61.16, 57.31, 45.83, 45.64, 43.43, 37.06, 28.44, 22.61, 13.96. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{44}H_{60}Mg_2N_8$ : C, 70.50; H, 8.07; N, 14.95. Found: C, 70.56; H, 8.54; N, 14.70.

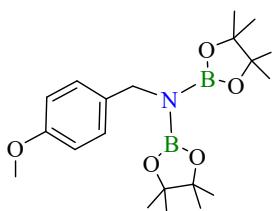
## 5.2. NMR spectroscopic data of diborylamines **7a-7s**.



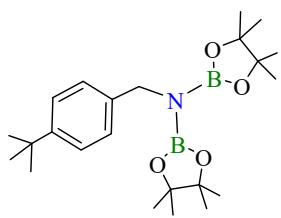
Yield: 99% (**7a**)<sup>S2</sup>.  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.21 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 1.09 (s, 24H).



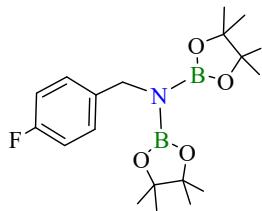
Yield: 72% (**7b**)<sup>S2</sup>.  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.17-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 24H).



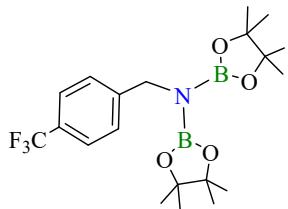
Yield: 99% (**7c**).  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.24 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 24H).



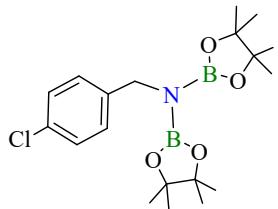
Yield: 99% (**7d**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (s, 4H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 12H), 1.10 (s, 24H).



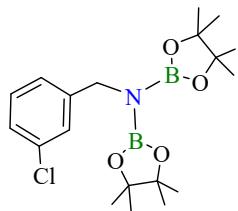
Yield: 99% (**7e**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.26 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 1.18 (s, 24H).



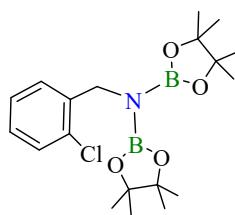
Yield: 99% (**7f**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 1.20 (s, 24H).



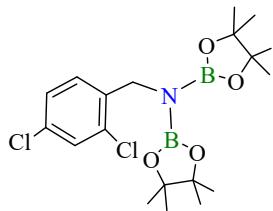
Yield: 99% (**7g**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.14 (s, 4H), 4.09 (s, 2H), 1.09 (s, 24H).



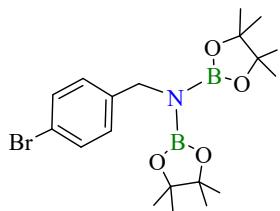
Yield: 99% (**7h**)<sup>S3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 3H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 24H).



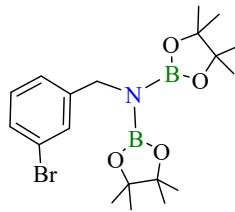
Yield: 99% (**7i**)<sup>S3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (s, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 1.07 (s, 24H).



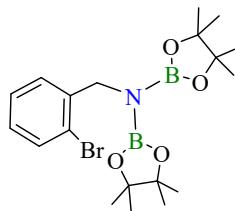
Yield: 99% (**7j**)<sup>S3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 4.20 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 24H).



Yield: 99% (**7k**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 24H).

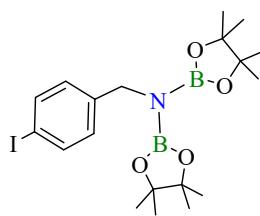


Yield: 99% (**7l**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 24H).

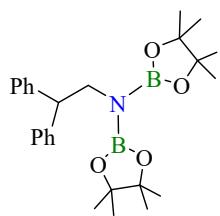


Yield: 99% (**7m**)<sup>S3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.25-7.07 (m, 2H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 24H). δ 7.42 (dd,

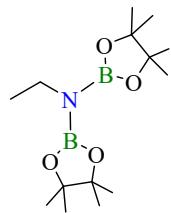
*J* = 19.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 22.3 Hz, 2H), 7.08 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 4.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 1.15 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 24H).



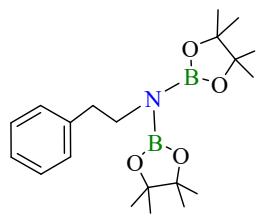
Yield: 99% (**7n**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 6.98 (s, 2H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 24H).



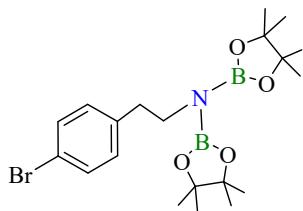
Yield: 65% (**7o**)<sup>S2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42 – 7.31 (m, 10H), 4.37 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (s, 24H).



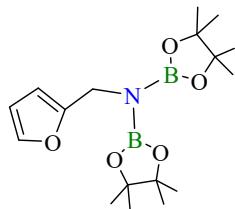
Yield: 67% (**7p**)<sup>S4</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.99 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.16 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 24H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H).



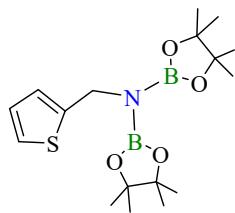
Yield: 99% (**7q**)<sup>S3</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (s, 24H).



Yield: 54% (**7r**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.34 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.27 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.25 (s, 24H).

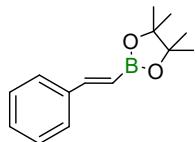


Yield: 99% (**7s**<sup>S3</sup>).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.26 (s, 1H), 6.20 (s, 1H), 6.10 – 5.96 (m, 1H), 4.19 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 1.20 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 24H).

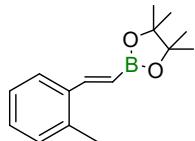


Yield: 99% (**7t**<sup>S2</sup>).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.99 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.65 (m, 2H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 1.13 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 24H).

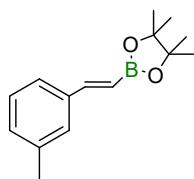
### 5.3. NMR spectroscopic data of vinylboranes **9a-9s**.



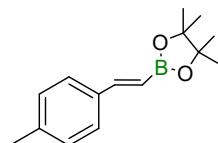
Yield: 99% (**9a**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.73 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 6.43 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.12 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  149.53, 137.47, 128.91, 128.58, 127.06, 83.32, 24.82.



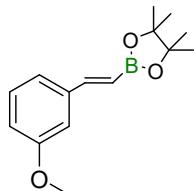
Yield: 81% (**9b**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.03 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 4.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  147.36, 136.69, 136.07, 130.33, 128.48, 126.13, 125.67, 82.82, 24.58, 19.18.



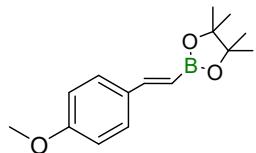
Yield: 83% (**9c**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 7.00 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  150.10, 137.78, 137.67, 129.51, 128.39, 127.81, 124.28, 82.78, 24.59, 20.83.



Yield: 80% (**9d**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  149.90, 138.45, 135.08, 129.22, 127.65, 127.49, 127.05.

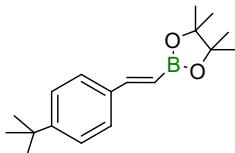


Yield: 79% (**9e**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 3H), 6.71 (d,  $J = 9.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  160.07, 149.91, 139.71, 129.47, 119.66, 115.09, 111.76, 82.84, 54.26, 24.57.

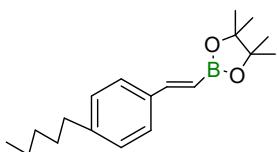


Yield: 85% (**9f**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.76 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.34 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s,

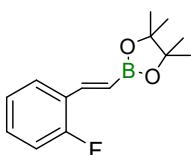
12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  189.53, 160.40, 150.00, 131.50, 130.53, 128.46, 113.97, 82.74, 54.35, 24.59.



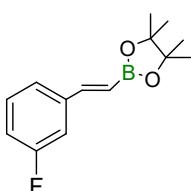
Yield: 75% (**9g**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.87 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.54 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.18 (d,  $J = 2.9$  Hz, 21H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  151.60, 149.87, 135.07, 127.65, 127.49, 126.91, 125.46, 82.77, 34.21, 30.89, 24.62.



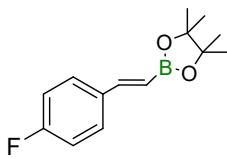
Yield: 70% (**9h**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.76 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 5.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 2H), 1.41 (s, 2H), 1.13 (s, 15H), 0.82 (s, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  149.89, 143.56, 135.32, 132.02, 128.59, 128.32, 127.07, 82.73, 35.62, 31.36, 30.90, 24.59, 22.48, 13.84.



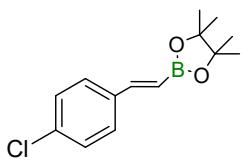
Yield: 70% (**9i**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.61 (m, 3H), 6.51 (d,  $J = 18.5$  Hz, 1H), 1.09 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  161.60, 141.30, 129.89, 127.25, 123.96, 115.66, 115.51, 82.96, 24.51.



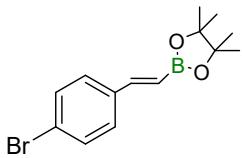
Yield: 72% (**9j**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.57 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 9.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.76 (q,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.71 – 6.59 (m, 1H), 6.32 (d,  $J = 18.5$  Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  164.00, 148.28, 140.05, 129.91, 122.82, 115.41, 113.34, 82.94, 24.54.



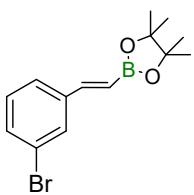
Yield: 73% (**9k**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.58 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.66 (t,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.24 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.13 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  163.91, 162.26, 148.43, 133.79, 128.71, 115.40, 115.25, 82.87, 24.56.



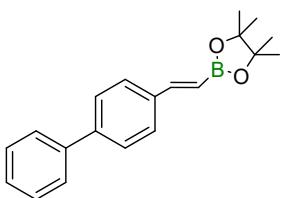
Yield: 73% (**9l**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.54 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 4H), 6.28 (d,  $J = 19.5$  Hz, 1H), 1.12 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  150.60, 138.33, 136.69, 130.97, 130.52, 126.62, 120.04, 85.28, 26.89.



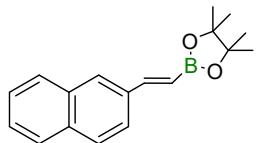
Yield: 76% (**9m**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.80 (d,  $J = 24.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.56 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.40 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  148.37, 136.38, 131.61, 128.45, 127.66, 127.50, 122.72, 82.95, 24.23.



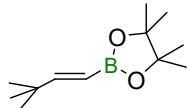
Yield: 80% (**9n**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.52 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.24 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  147.92, 139.76, 131.39, 129.96, 129.88, 125.30, 122.81, 82.93, 24.55.



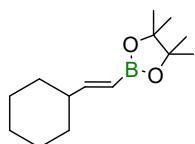
Yield: 75% (**9o**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.79 (d,  $J = 18.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 3H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.13 (s, 3H), 6.49 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.12 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  149.47, 141.55, 140.66, 136.66, 128.63, 127.82, 127.66, 127.56, 127.50, 127.25, 127.20, 126.93, 82.87, 24.61.



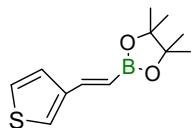
Yield: 65% (**9p**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.95 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.33 (d,  $J = 18.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  149.55, 135.01, 133.75, 133.46, 128.43, 128.28, 128.05, 127.71, 126.43, 126.31, 123.41, 83.39, 24.86.



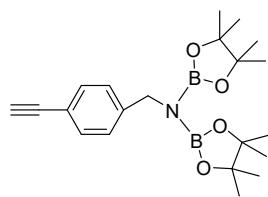
Yield: 99% (**9q**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.64 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.35 (d,  $J = 18.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 12H), 1.02 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.25, 82.85, 34.85, 28.66, 24.66, 24.45.



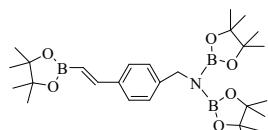
Yield: 80% (**9r**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.57 (d,  $J = 18.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d,  $J = 18.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.01 (s, 1H), 1.71 (s, 6H), 1.27 (s, 12H), 1.16 – 1.00 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  159.61, 82.49, 43.20, 31.92, 26.00, 25.76, 24.57, 24.24.



Yield: 80% (**9s**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.65 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.76 – 6.69 (m, 1H), 6.19 (d,  $J = 18.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.12 (s, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  143.49, 141.32, 125.83, 124.91, 124.67, 82.76, 24.57.



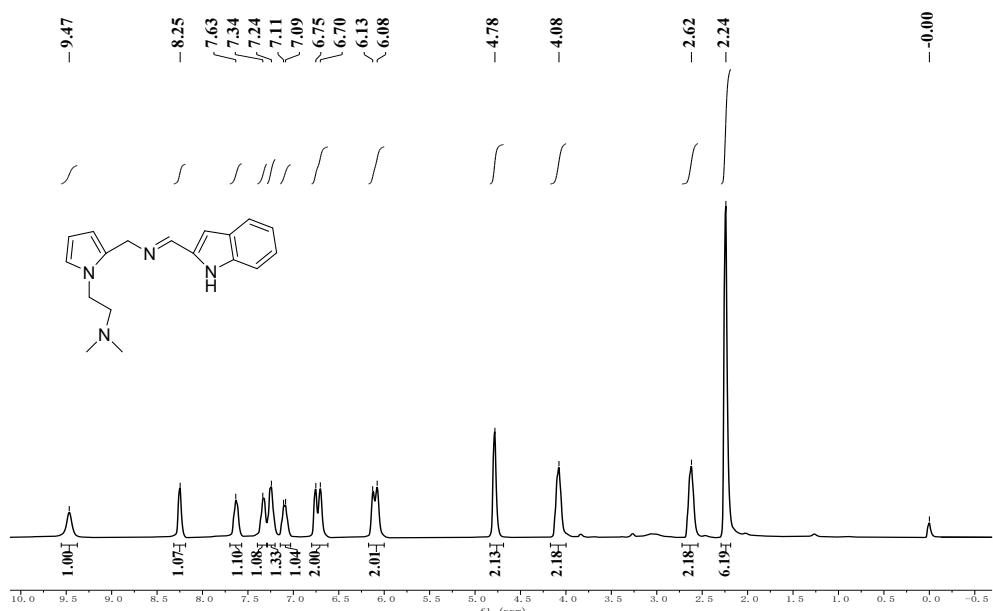
Yield: 99% (**10**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.22 (s, 2H), 3.11 (s, 1H), 1.19 (s, 24H).



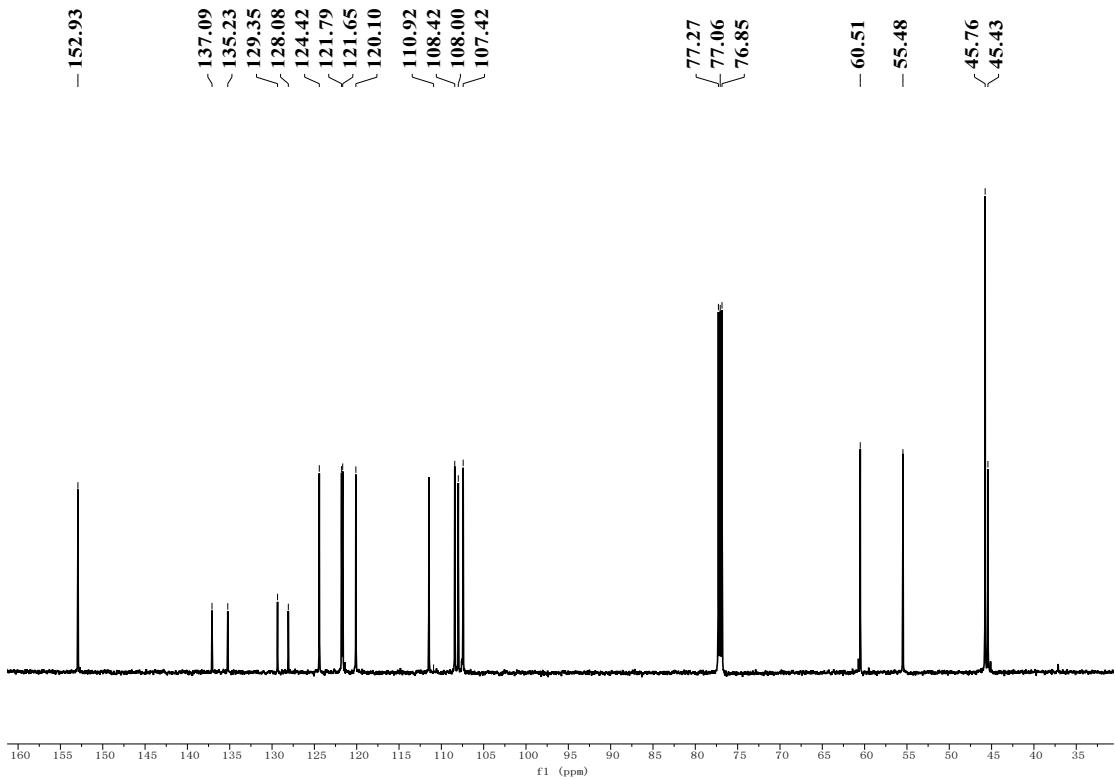
Yield: 99% (**11**).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.42 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.11 (d,  $J = 18.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 1.31 (s, 12H), 1.18 (s, 24H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  149.76, 144.19, 135.41, 131.71, 127.68, 126.96, 126.70, 82.36, 47.09, 24.81, 24.50. HRMS (EI) Calcd for:  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{44}\text{B}_3\text{NO}_6$ : 511.3448, Found: 511.3456.

## 6. NMR spectra

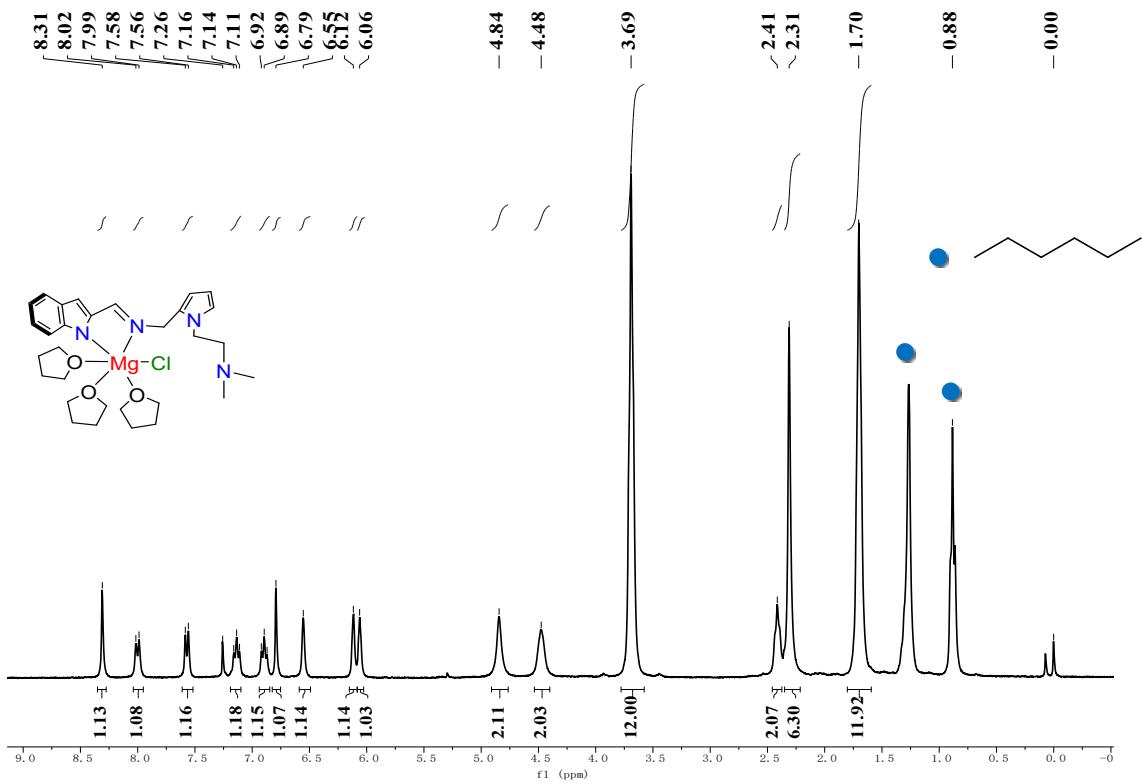
### 6.1 NMR spectra of the ligand and compounds



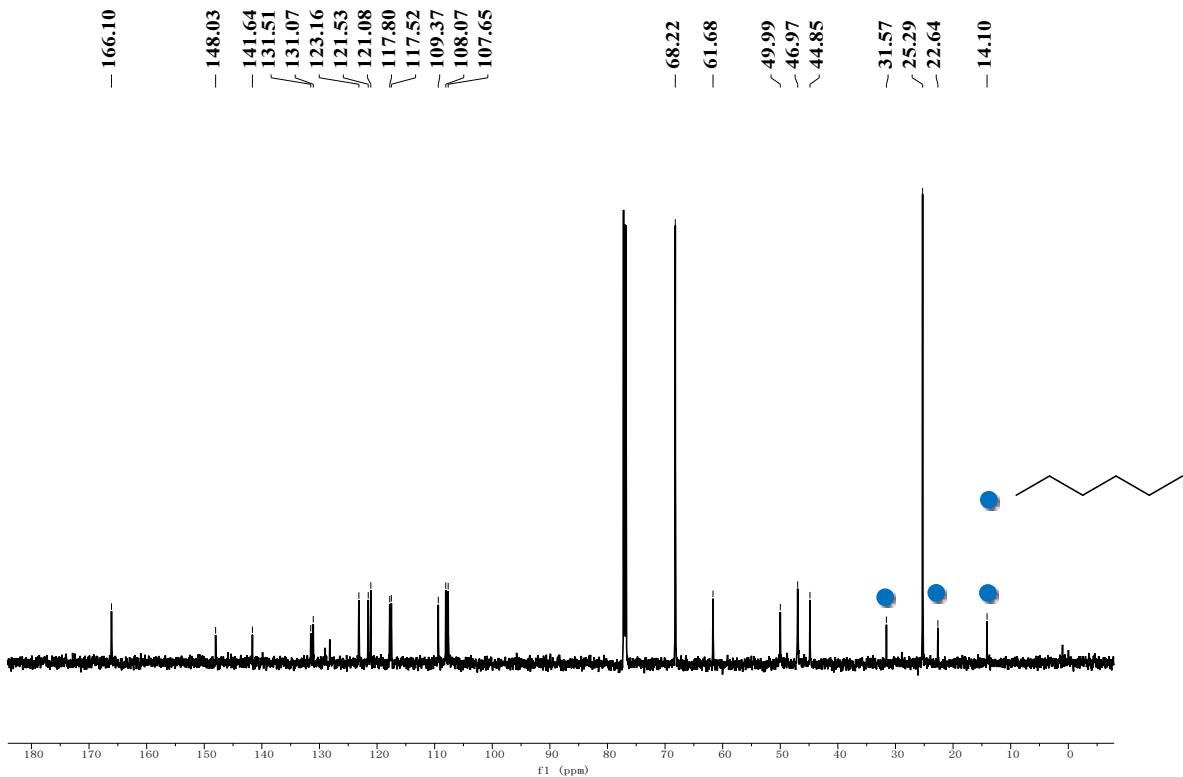
**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **HL**.



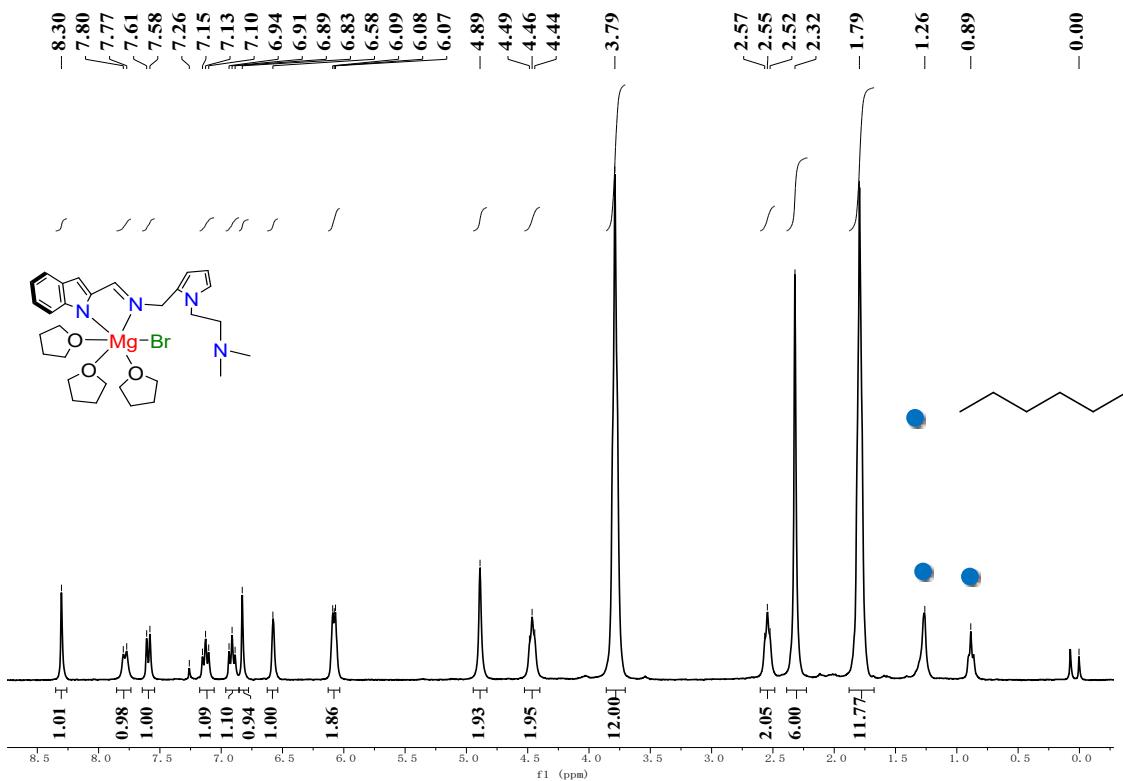
**Figure S7.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **HL**.



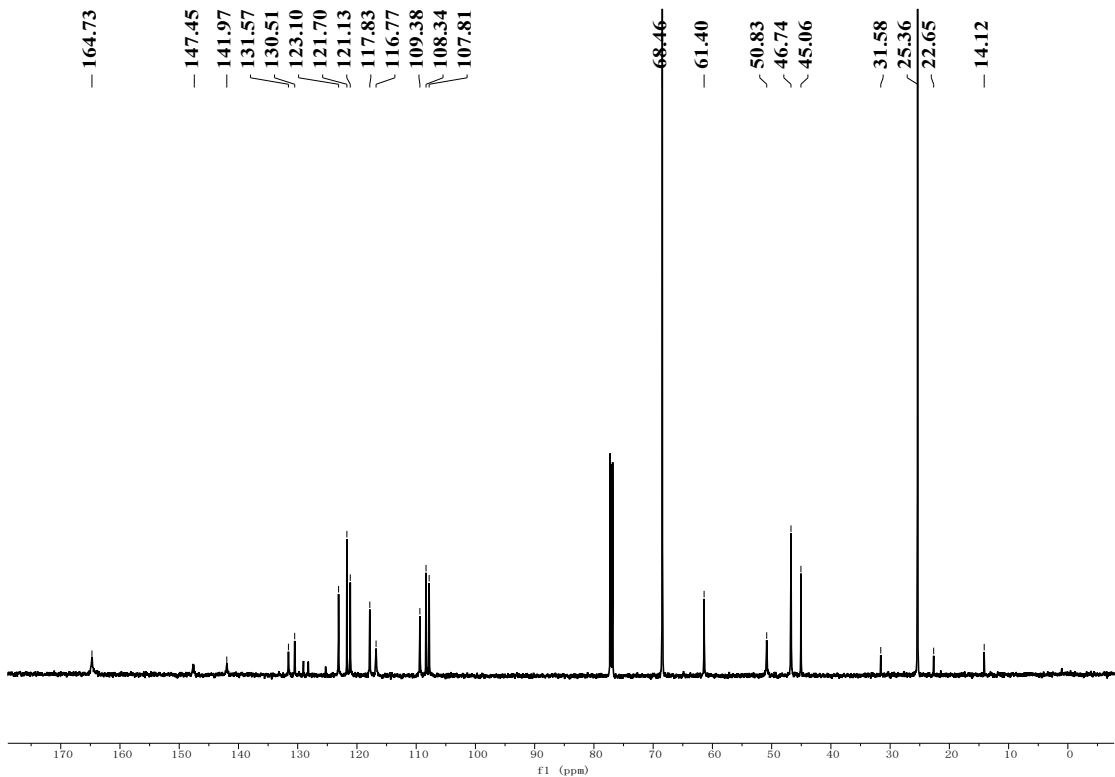
**Figure S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **1**.



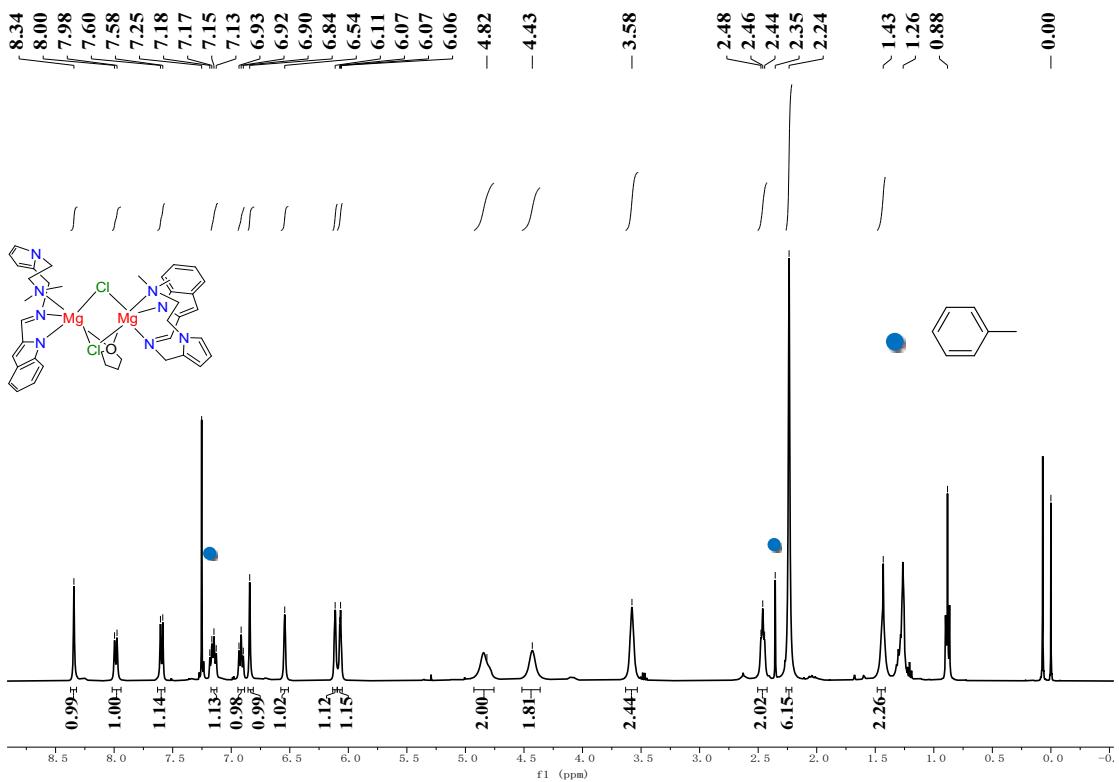
**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **1**.



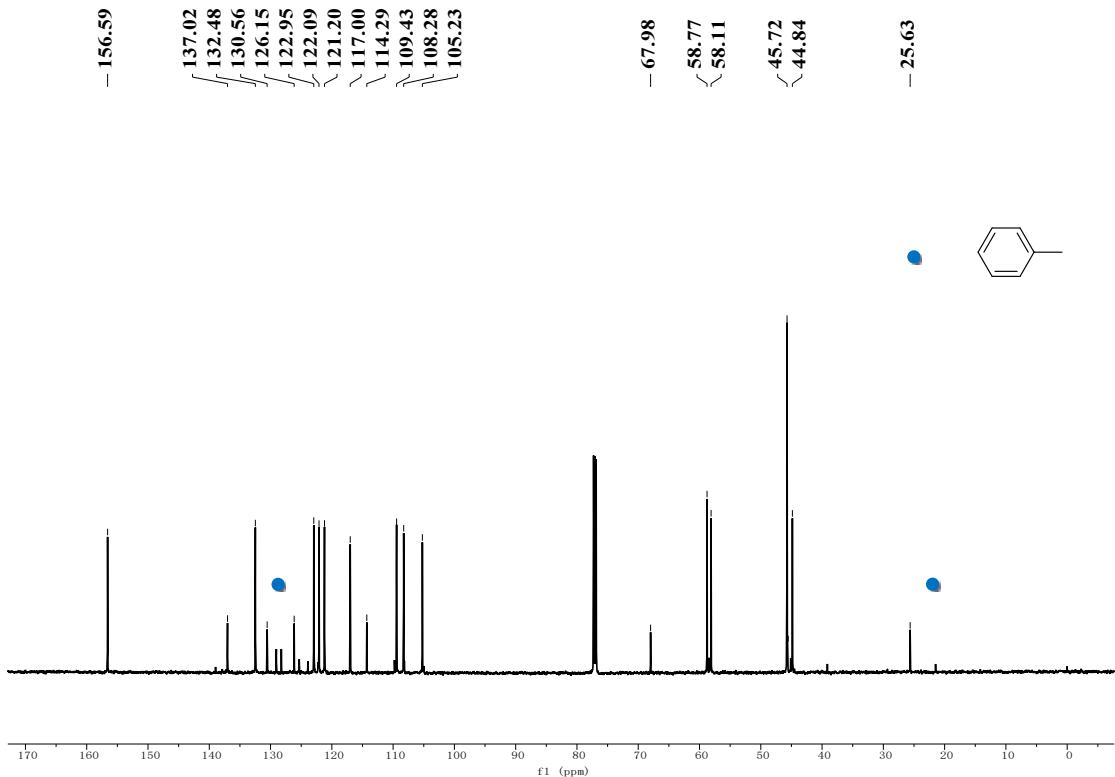
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **2**.



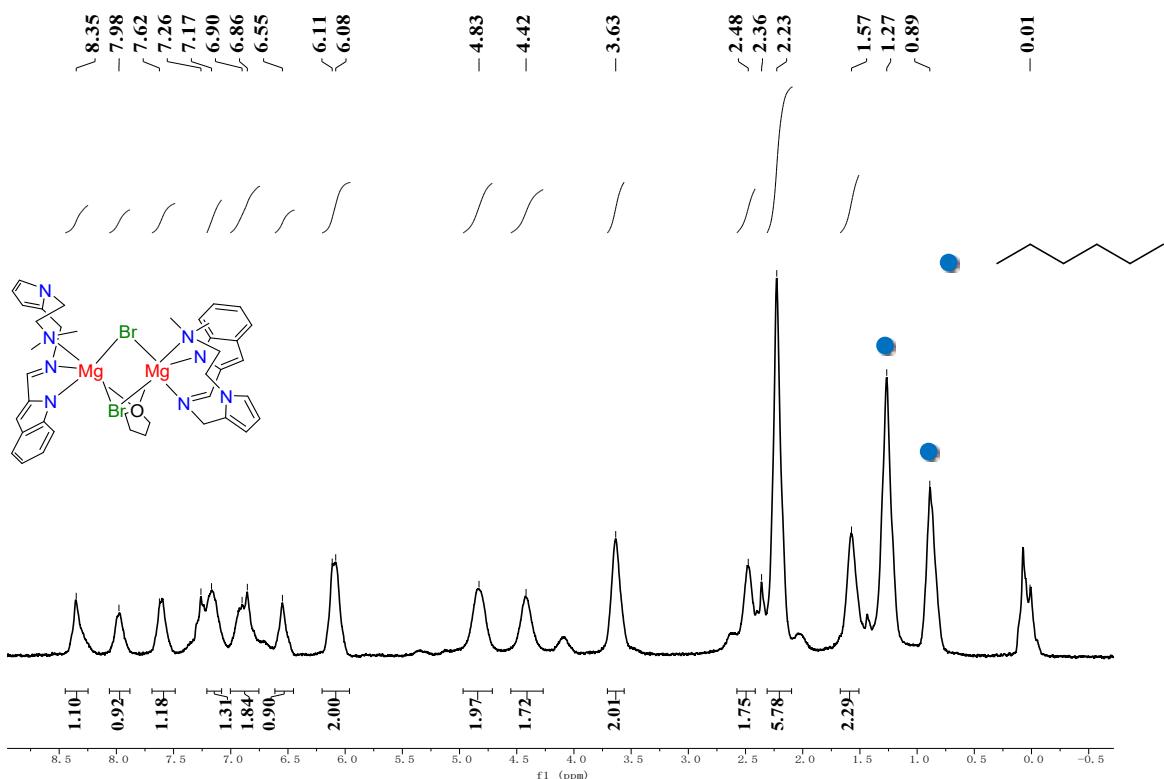
**Figure S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **2**.



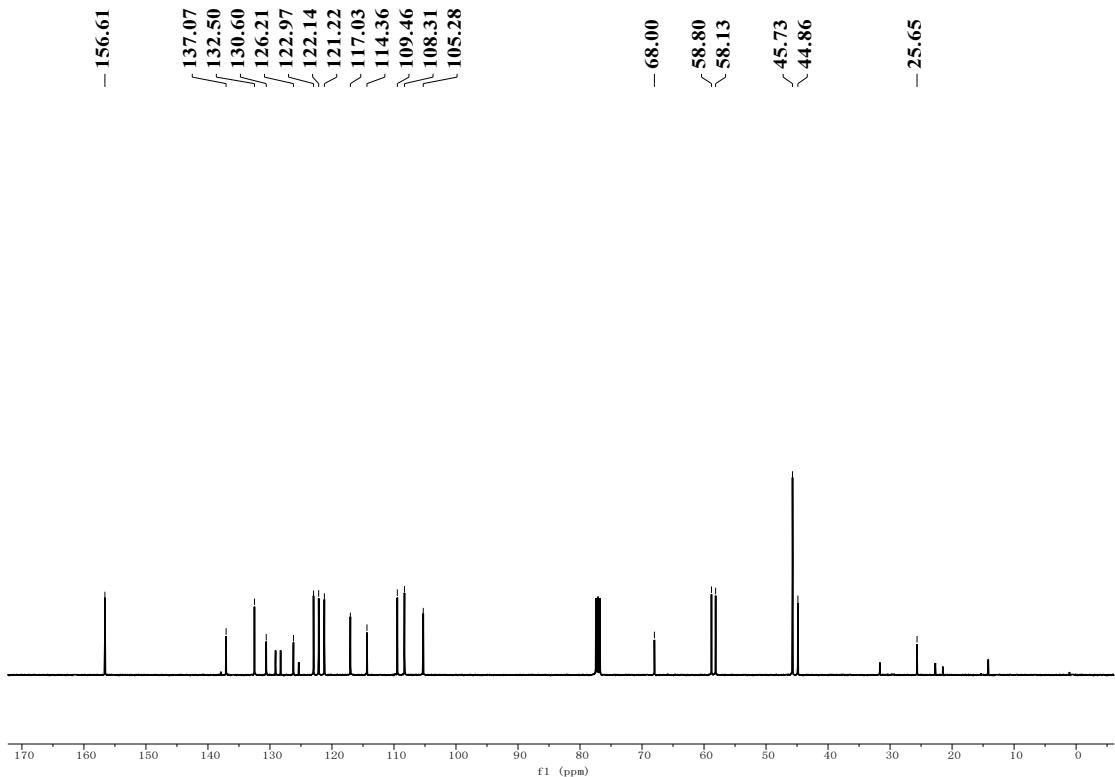
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **3**.



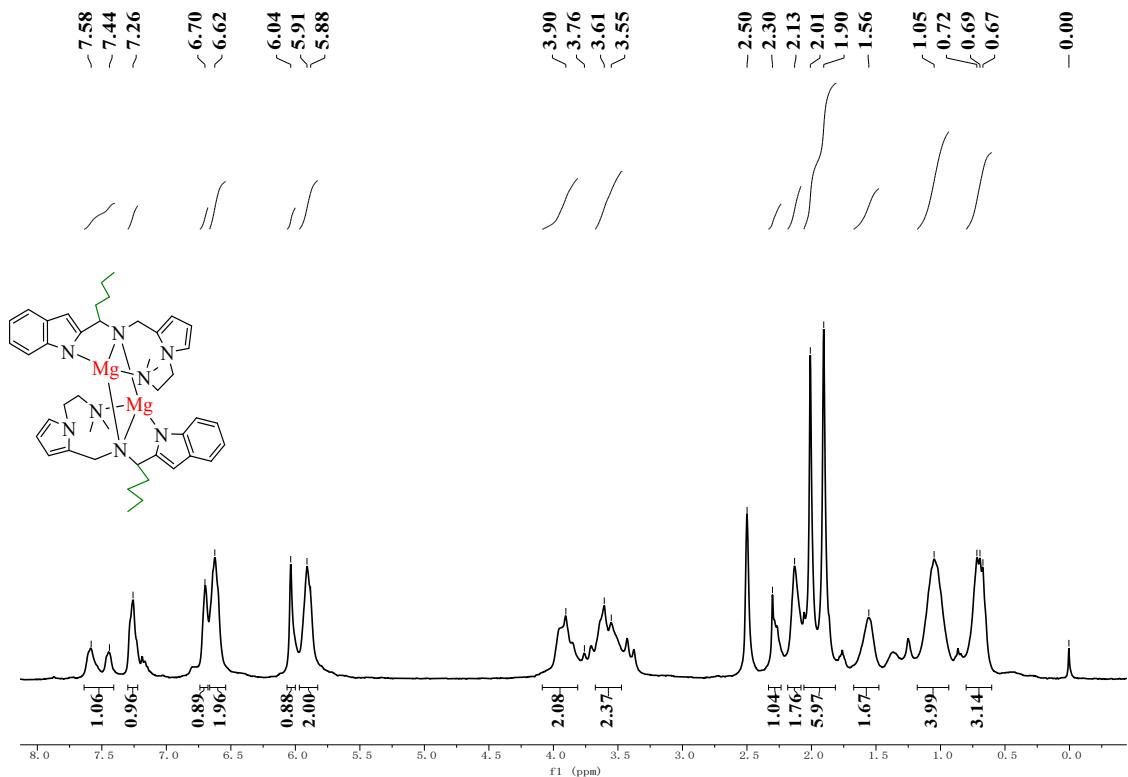
**Figure S13.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **3**.



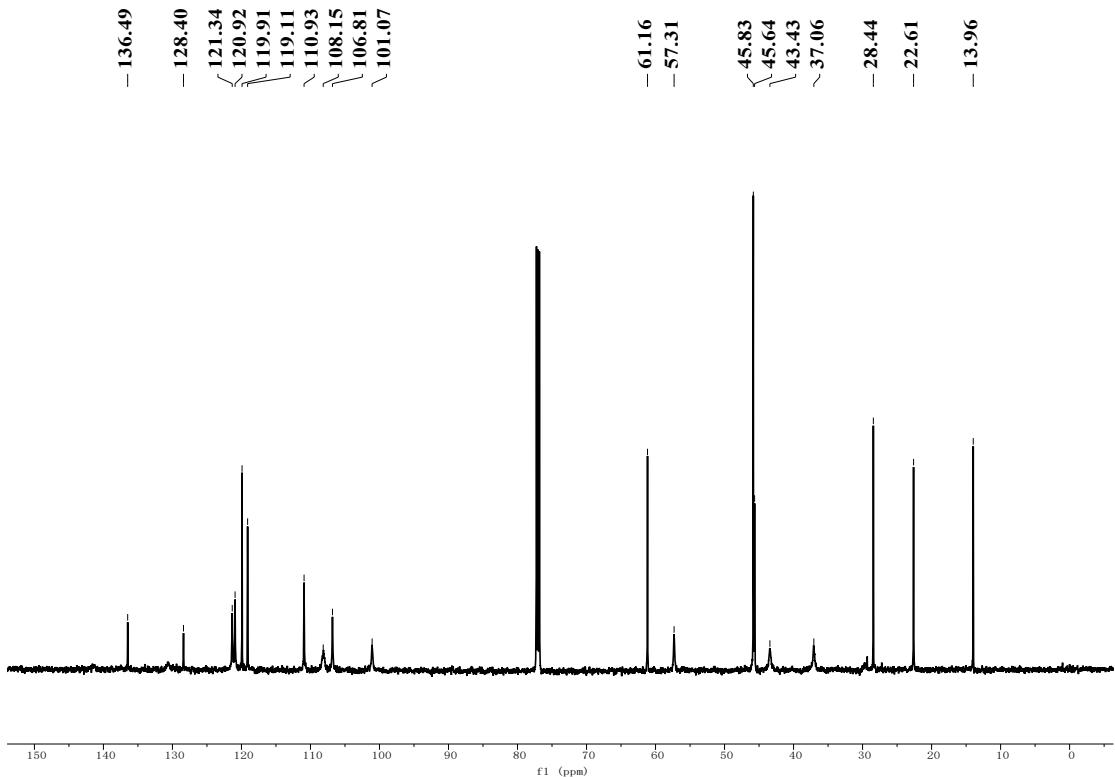
**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **4**.



**Figure S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **4**.

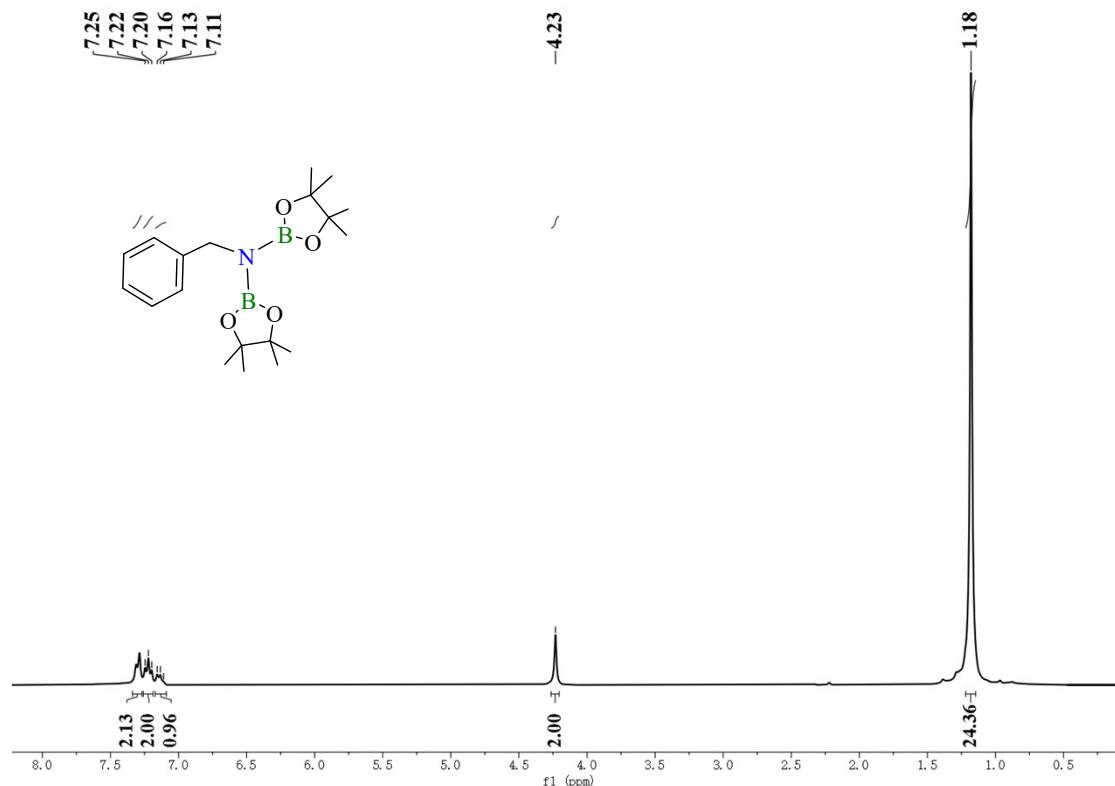


**Figure S16.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of **5**.

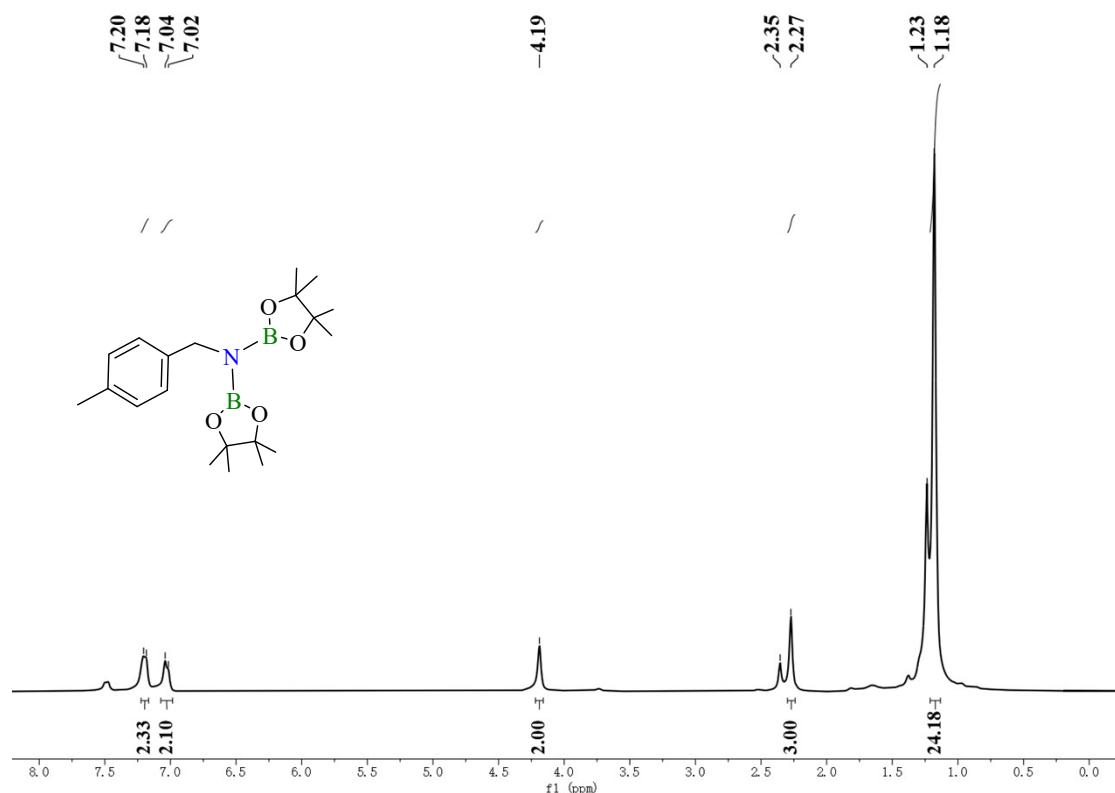


**Figure S17.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **5**.

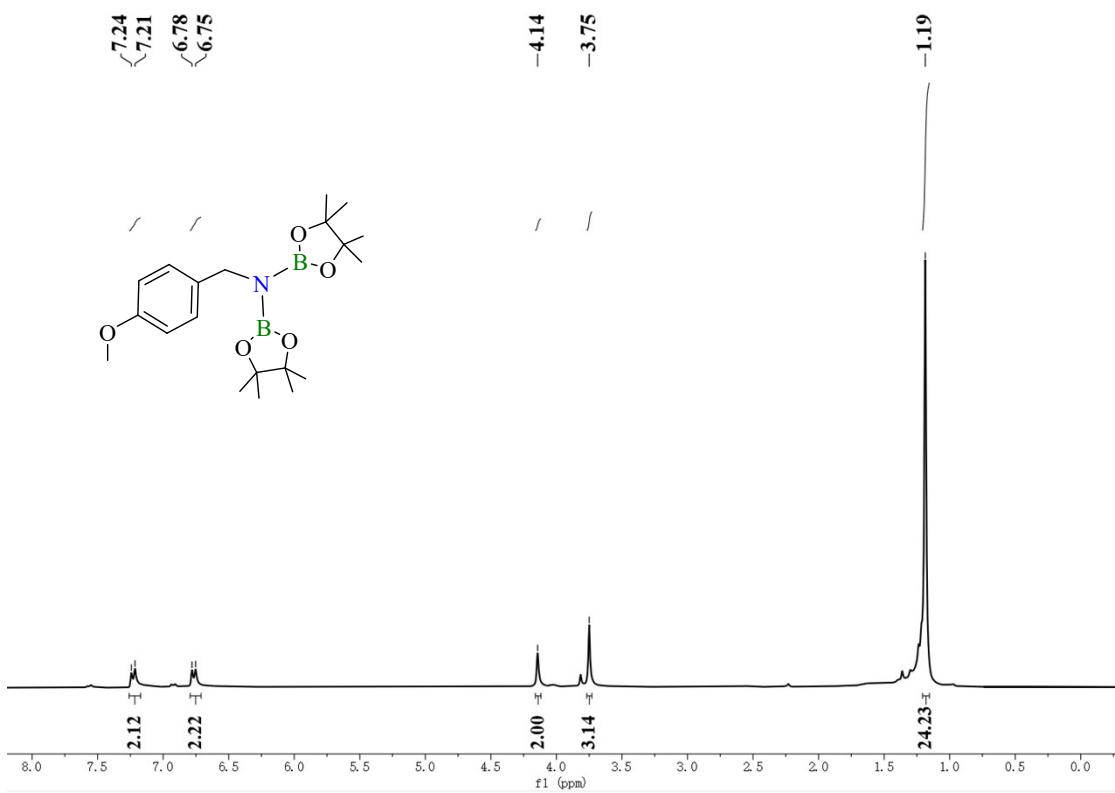
## 6.2 NMR spectra of diborylamines



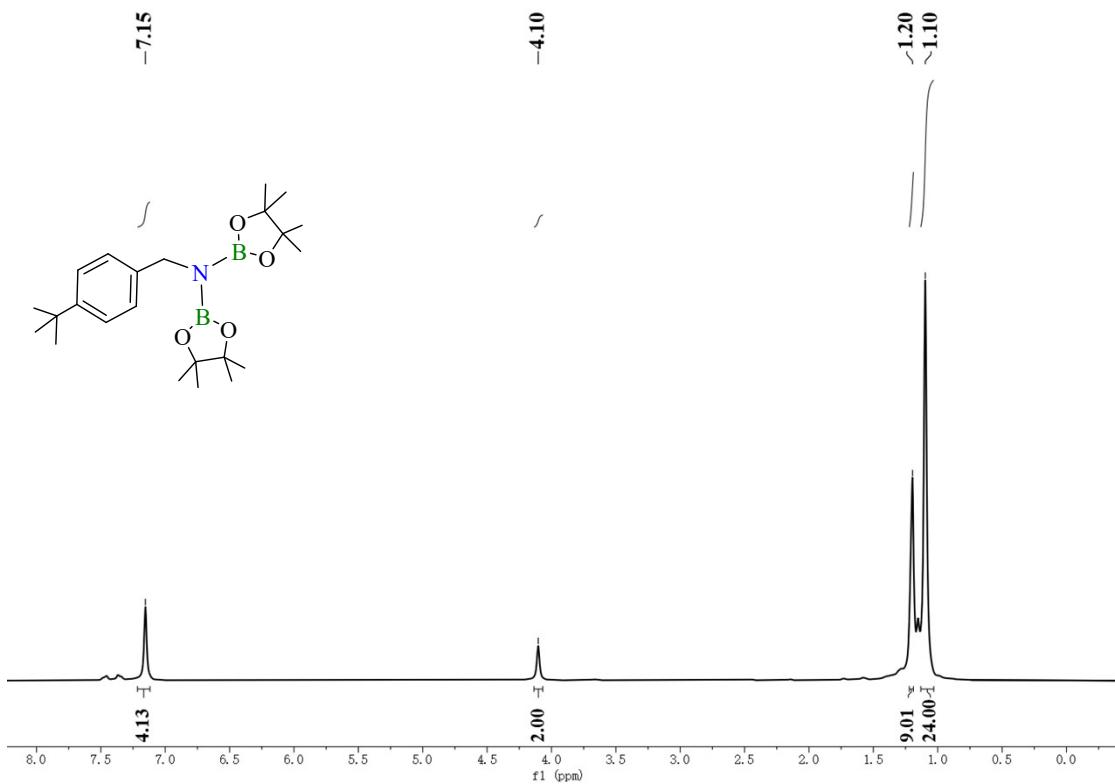
**Figure S18.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7a.



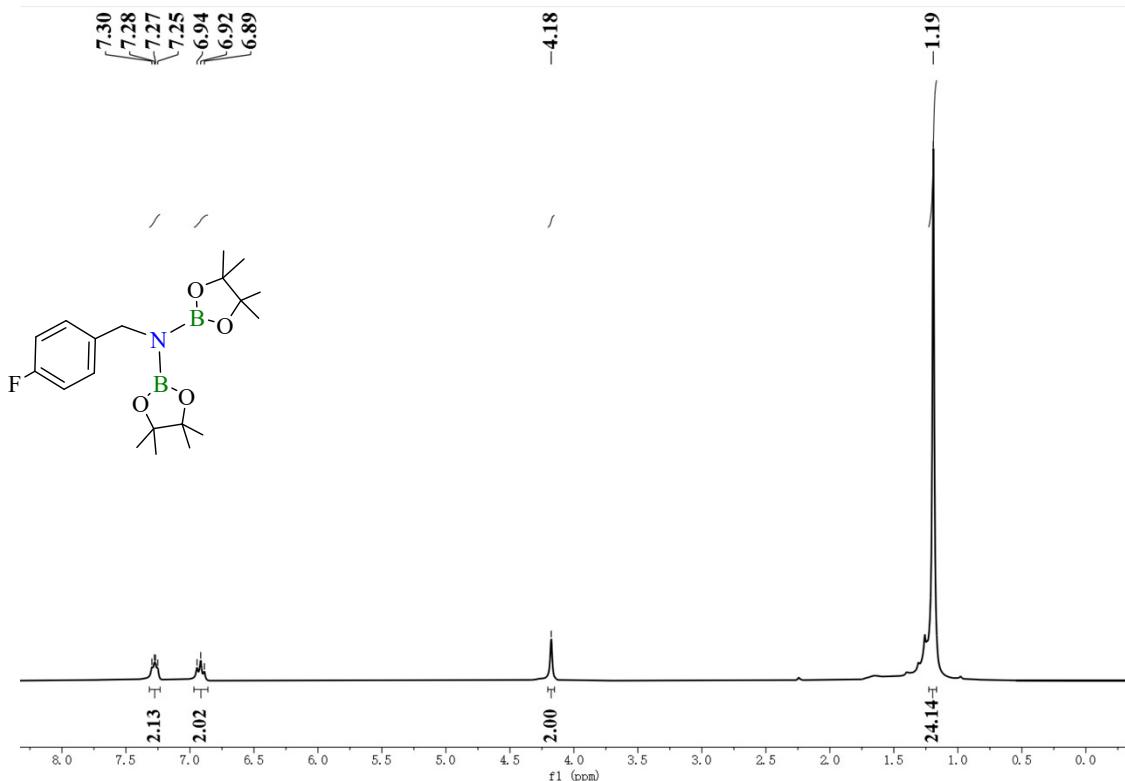
**Figure S19.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7b.



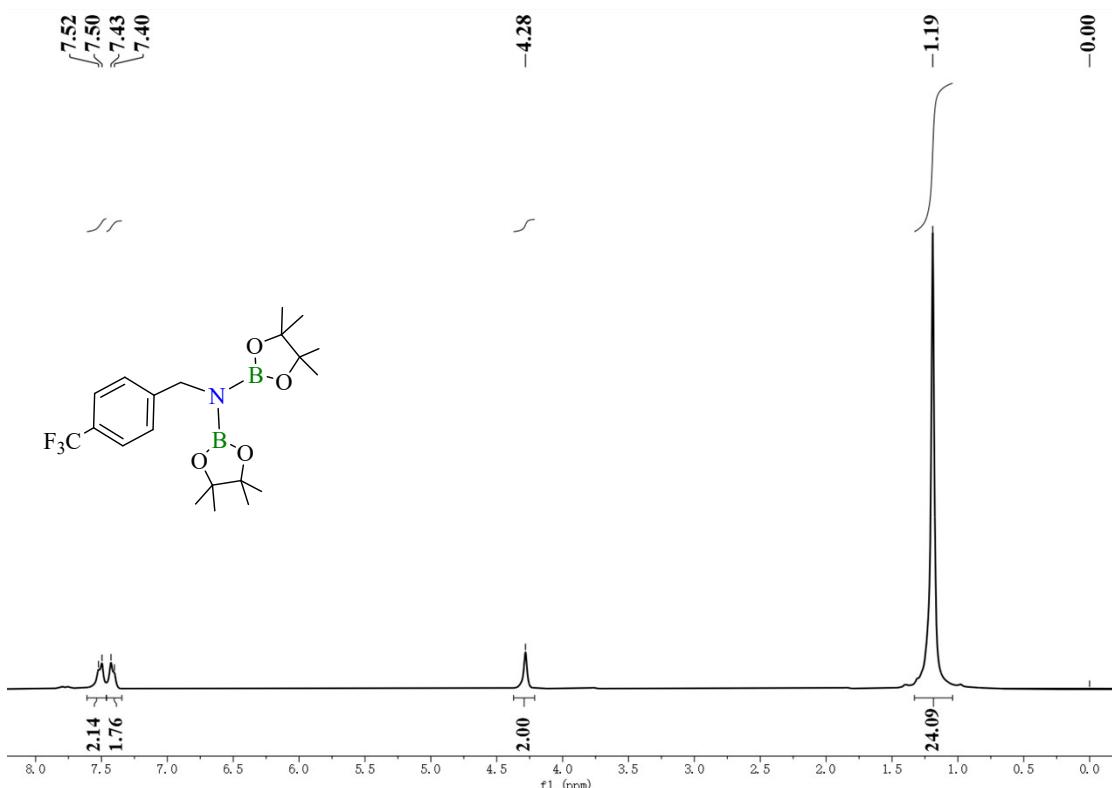
**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of 7c.



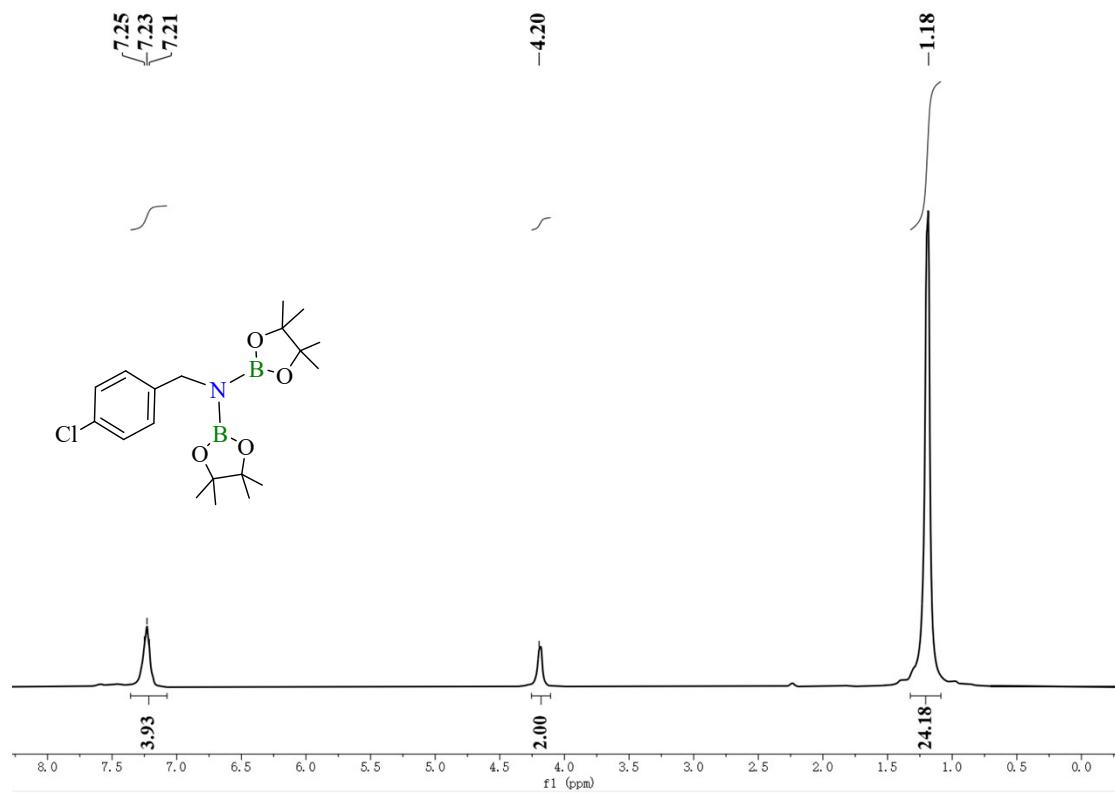
**Figure S21.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of 7d.



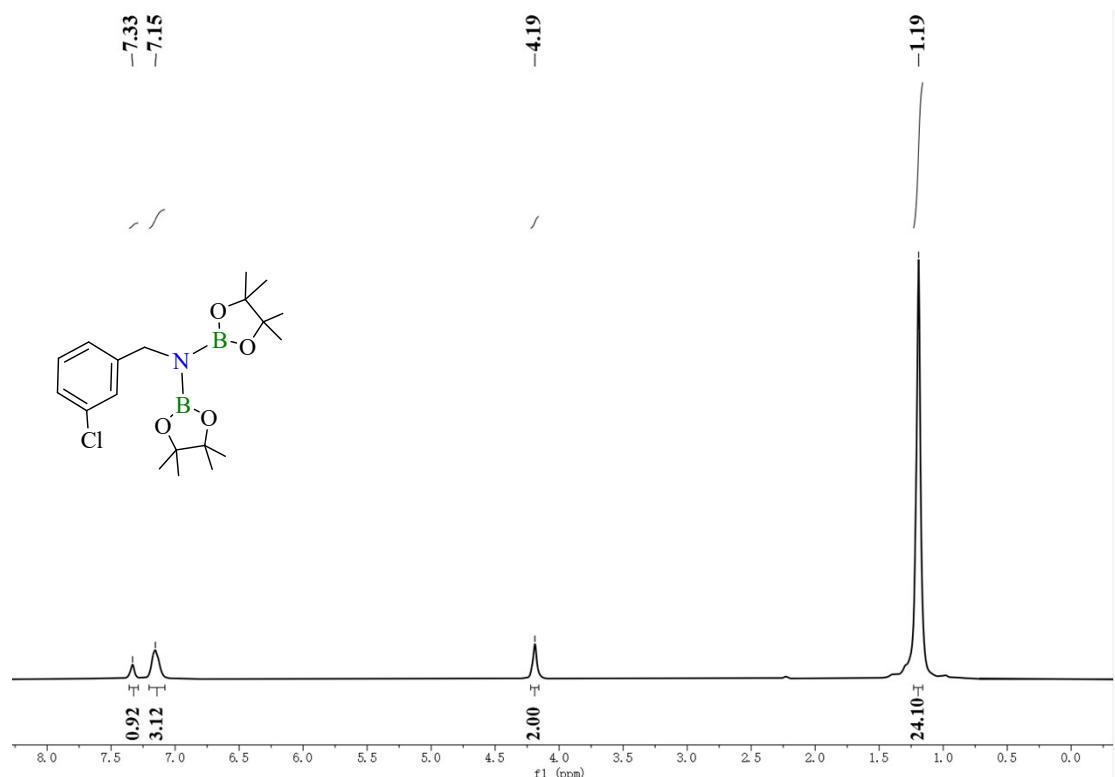
**Figure S22.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **7e**.



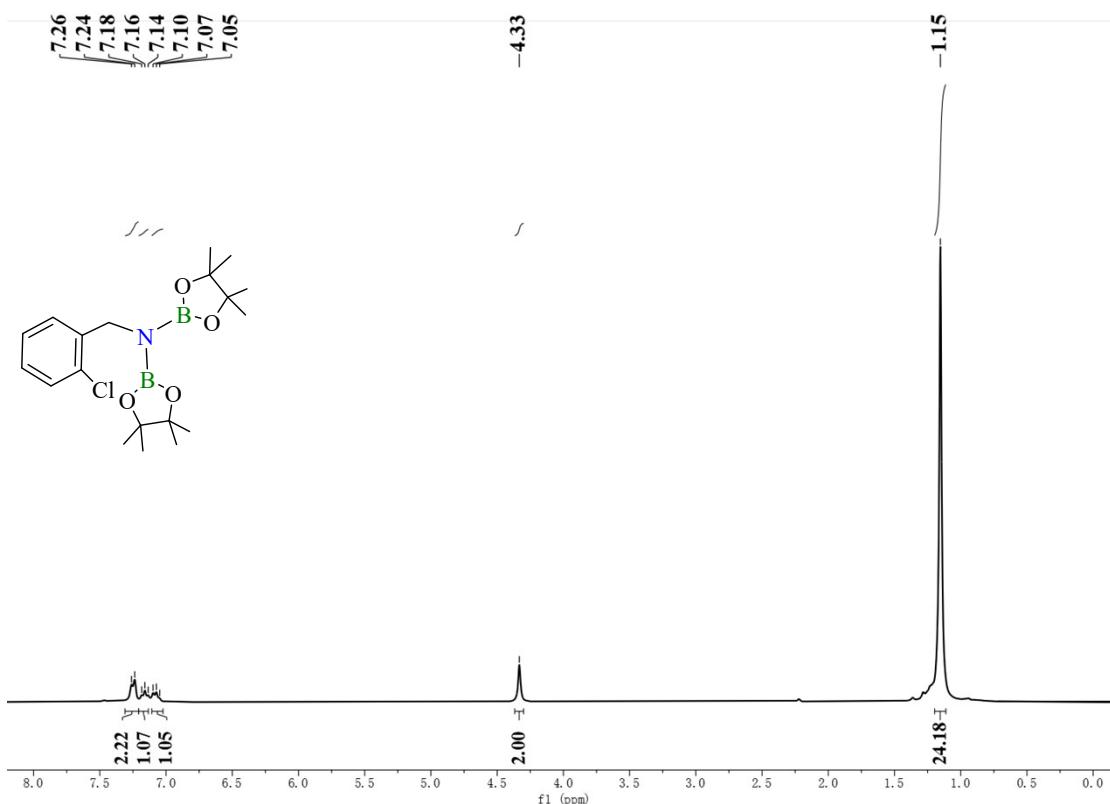
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **7f**



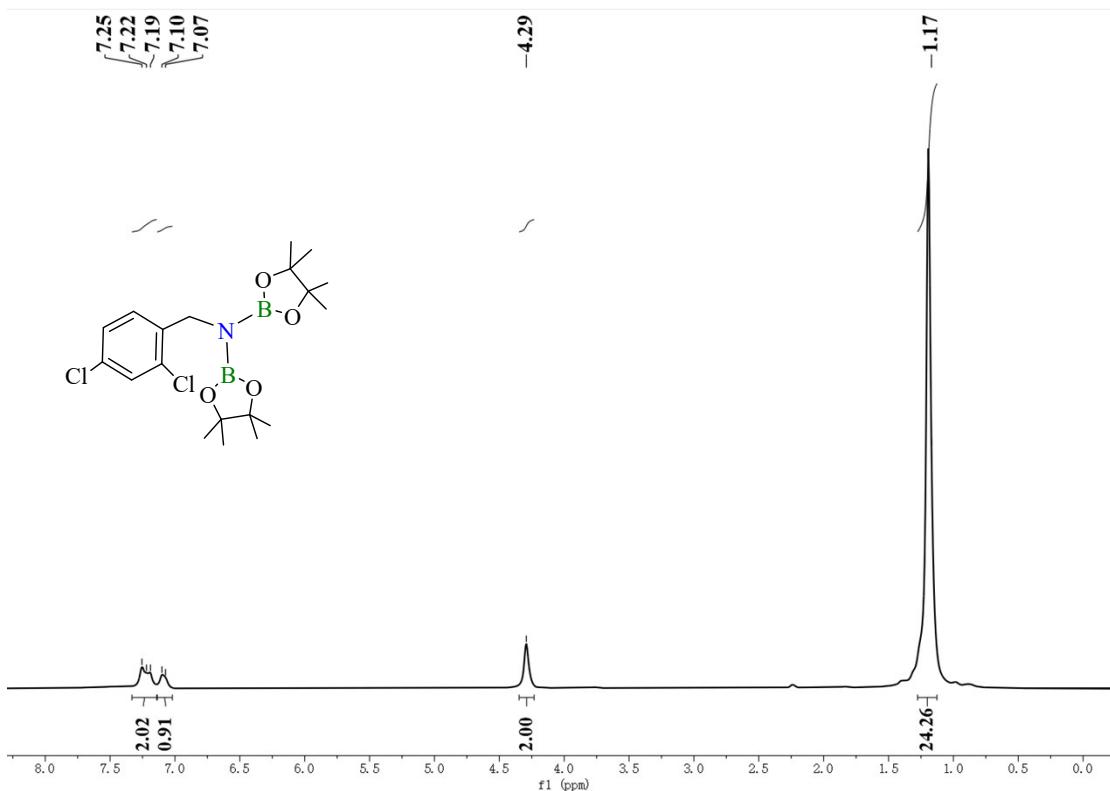
**Figure S24.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **7g**.



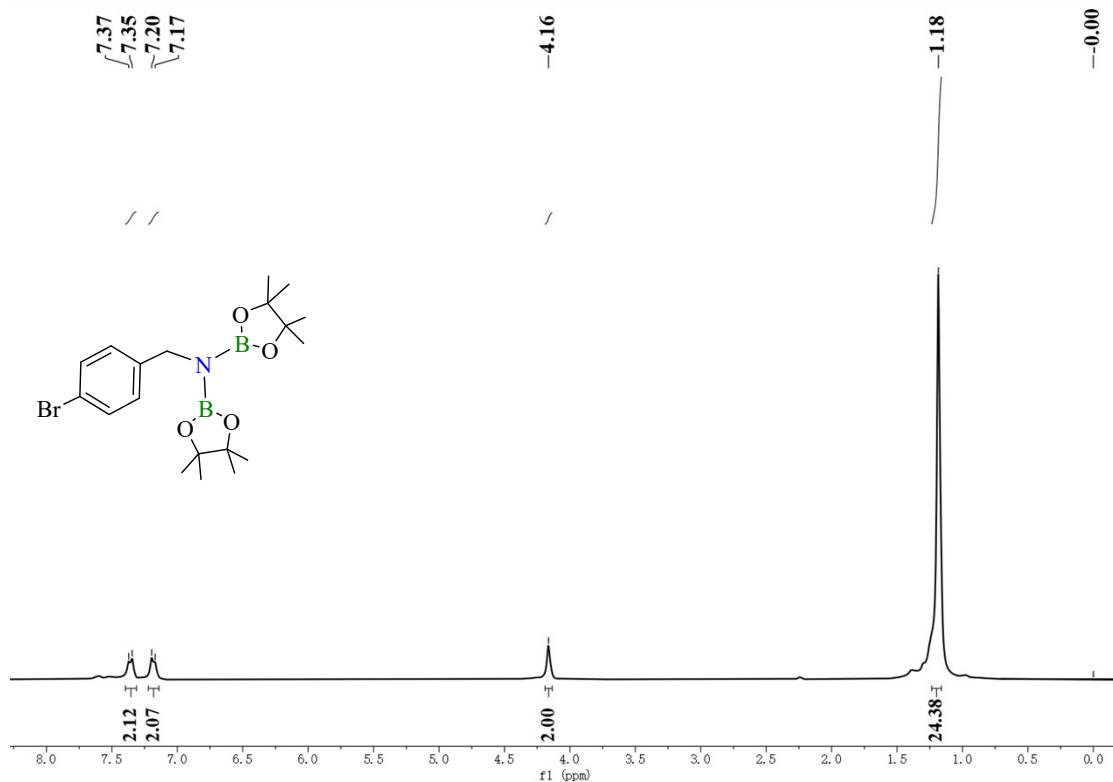
**Figure S25.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **7h**.



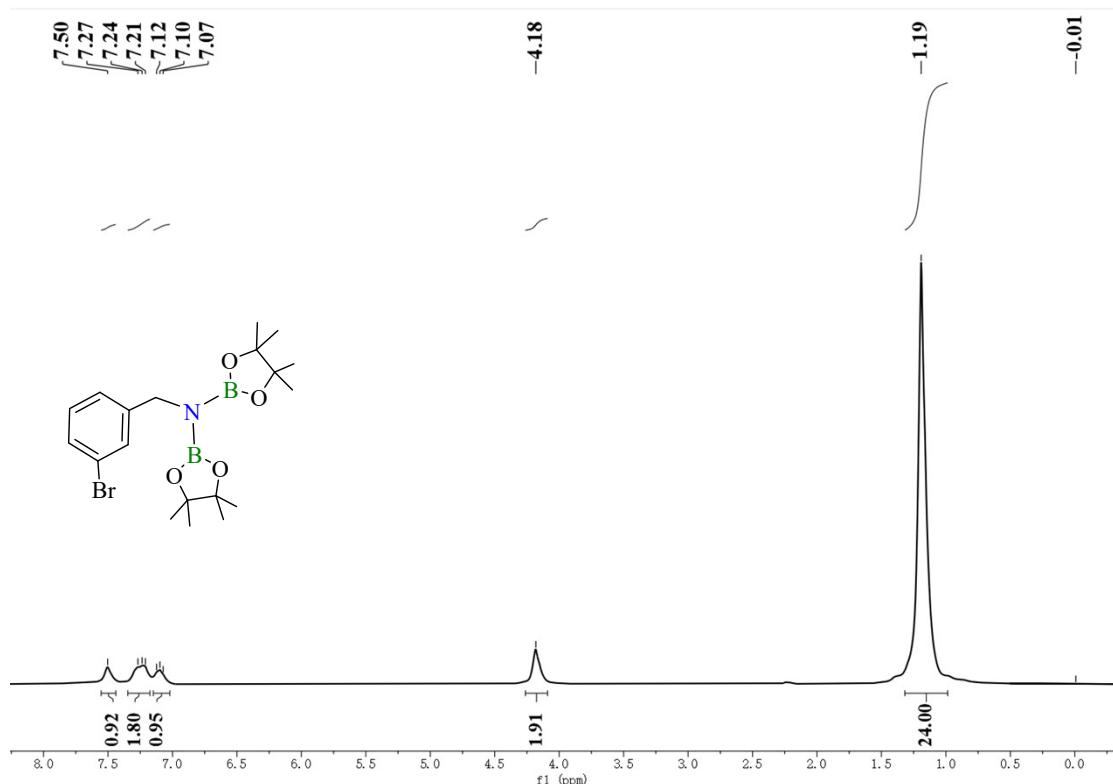
**Figure S26.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7i.



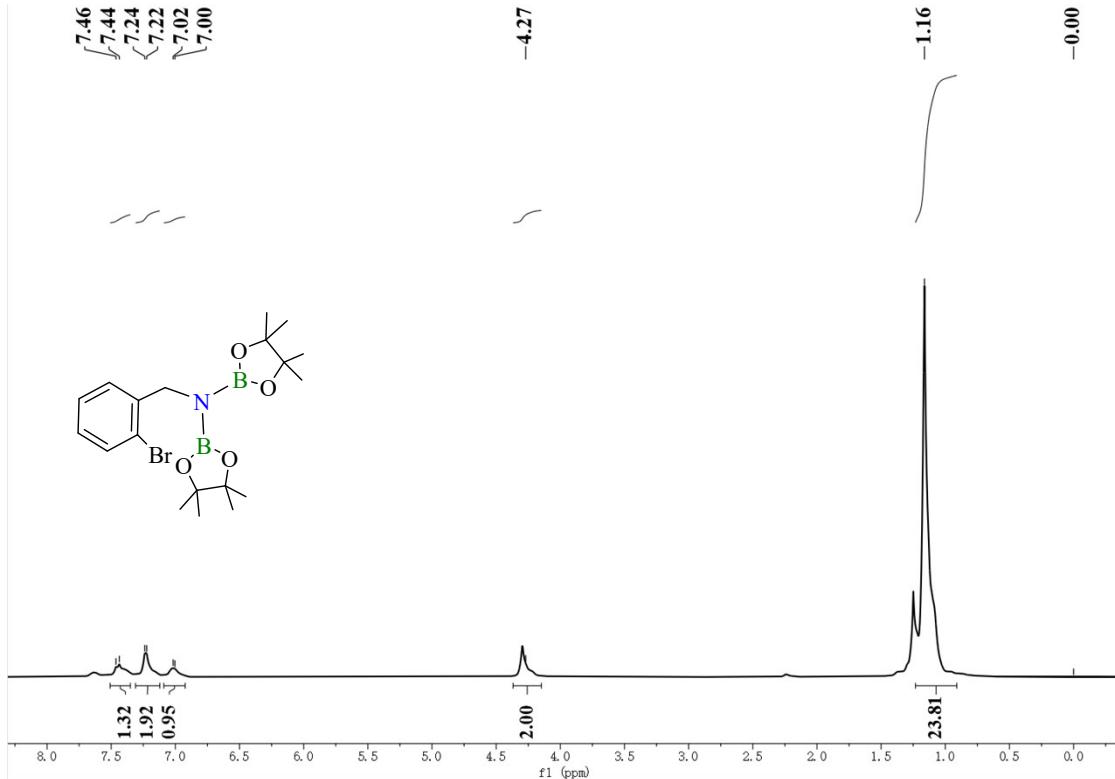
**Figure S27.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7j.



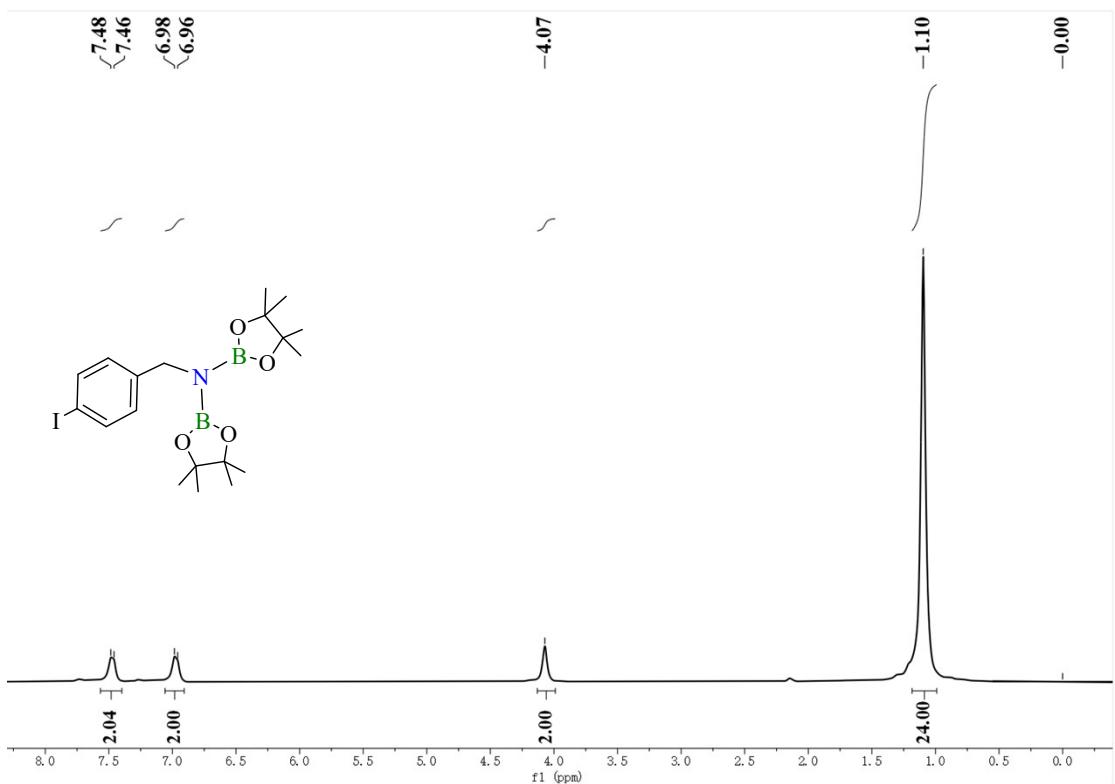
**Figure S28.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **7k**.



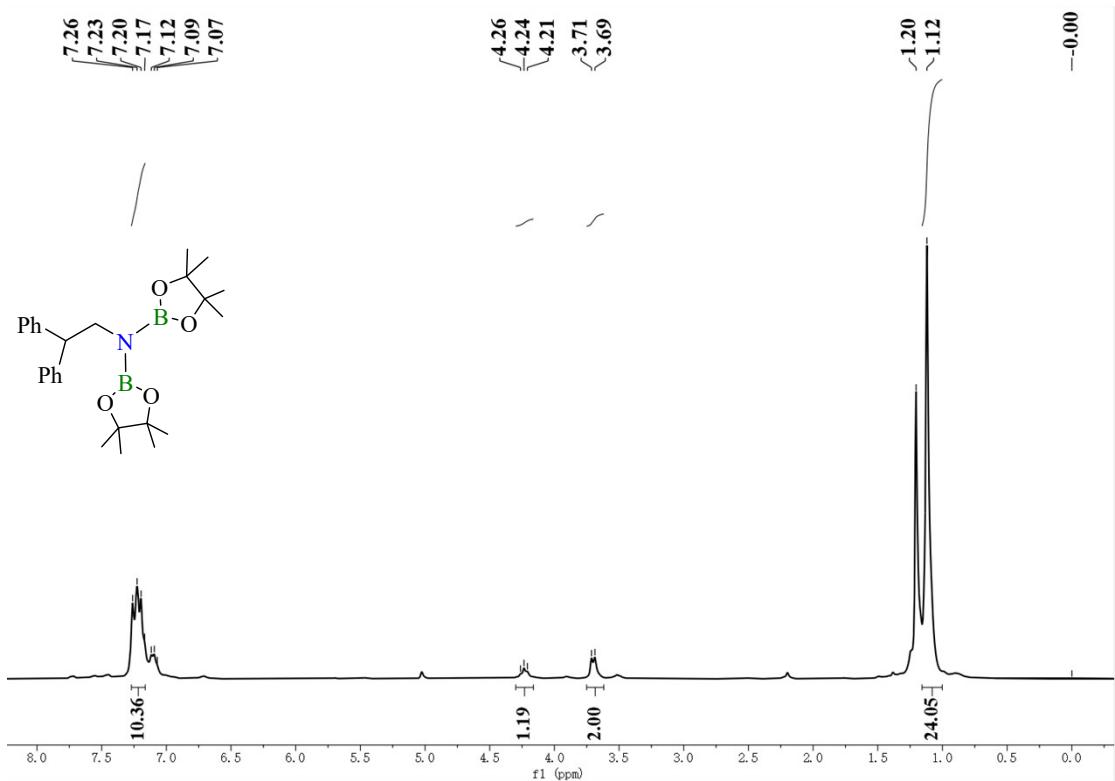
**Figure S29.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **7l**.



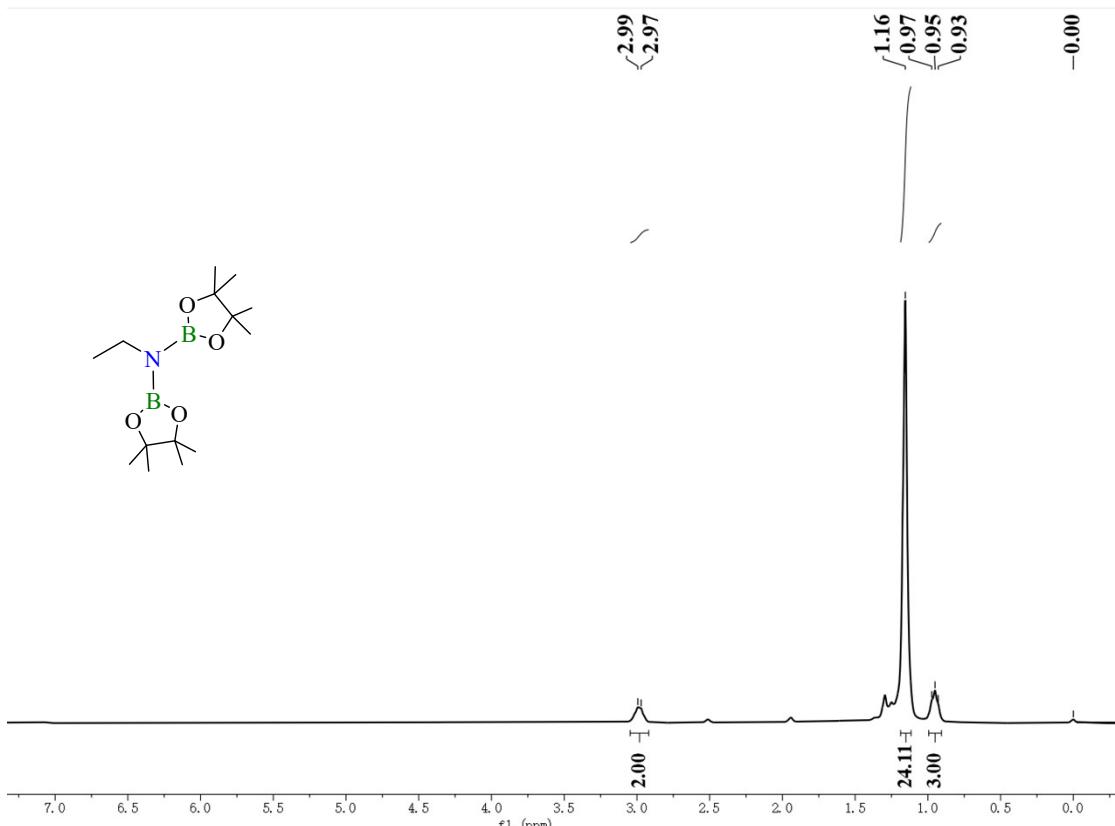
**Figure S30.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7m.



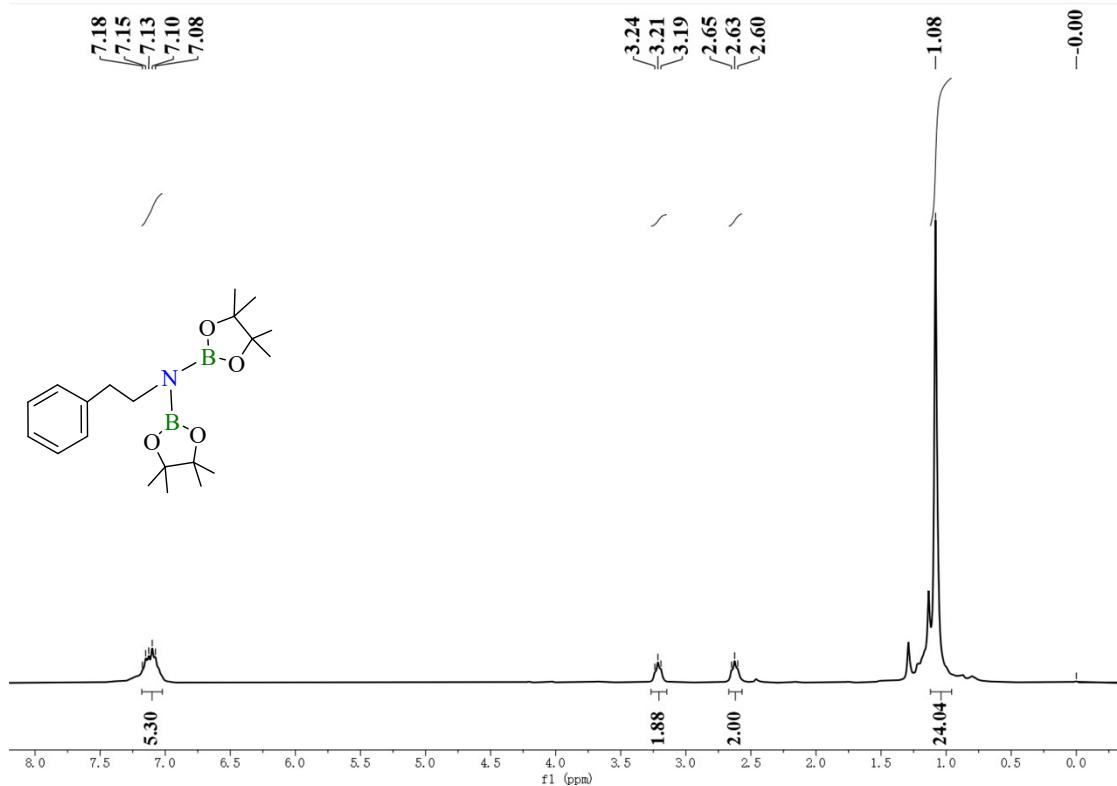
**Figure S31.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7n.



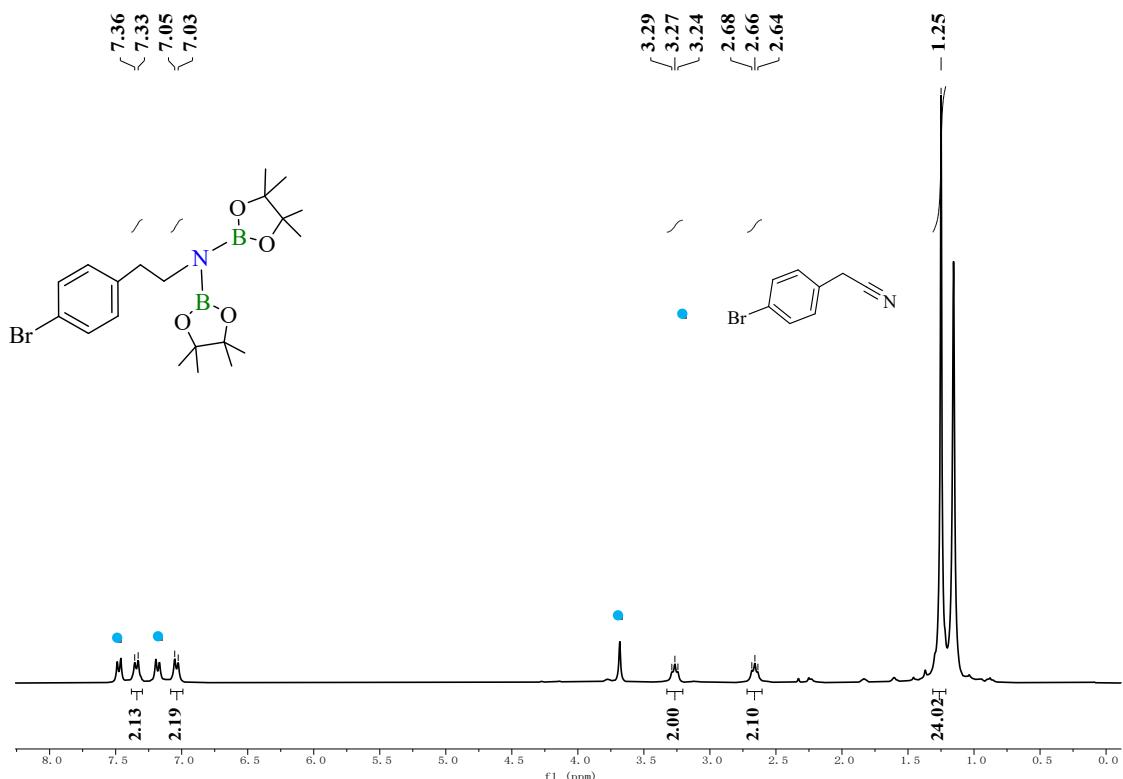
**Figure S32.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7o.



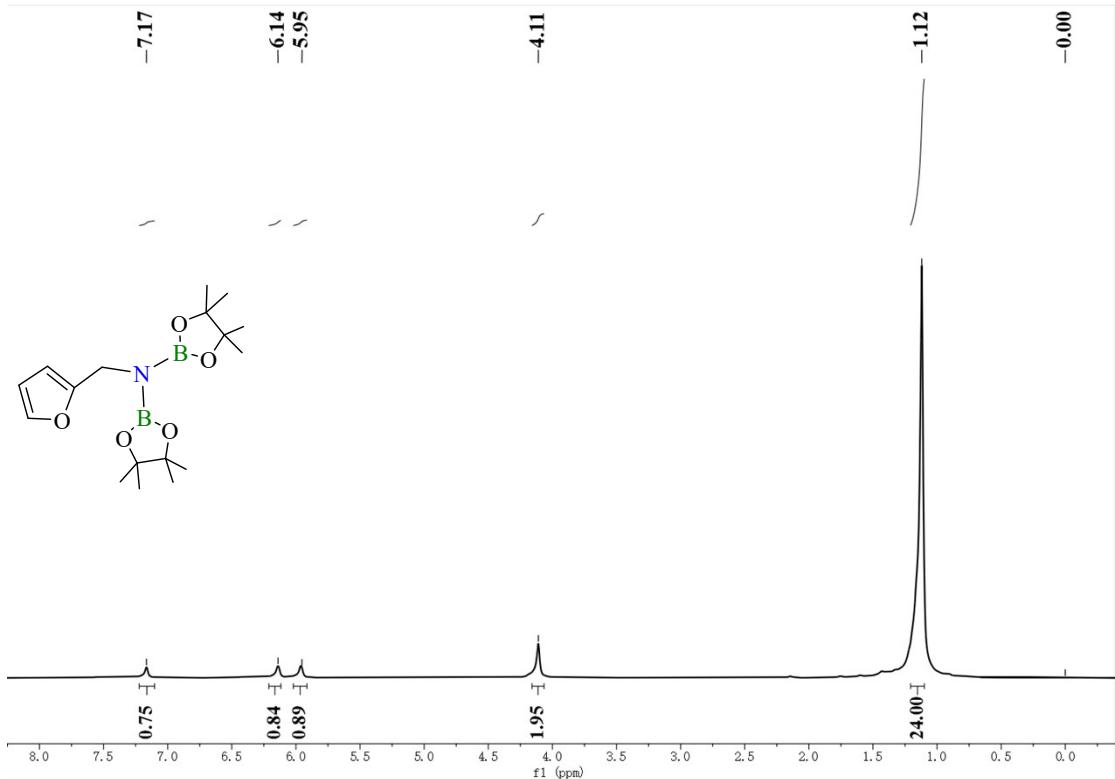
**Figure S33.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 7p.



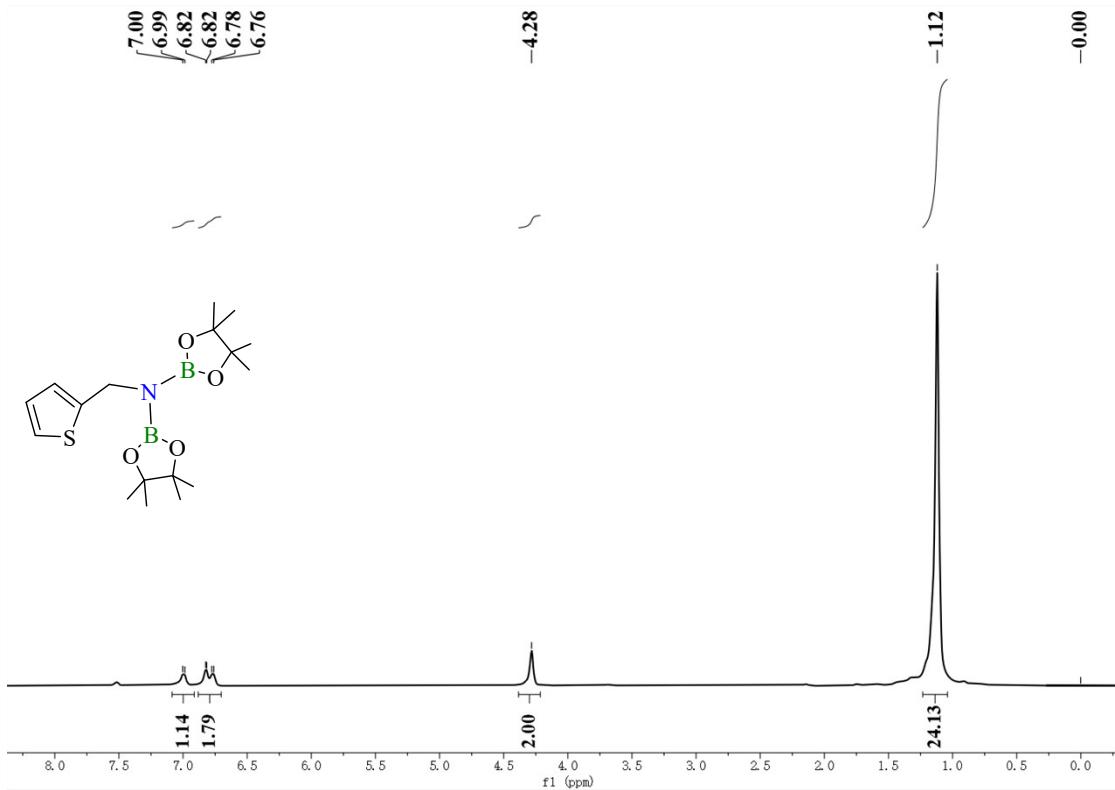
**Figure S34.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **7q**.



**Figure S35.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **7r**.

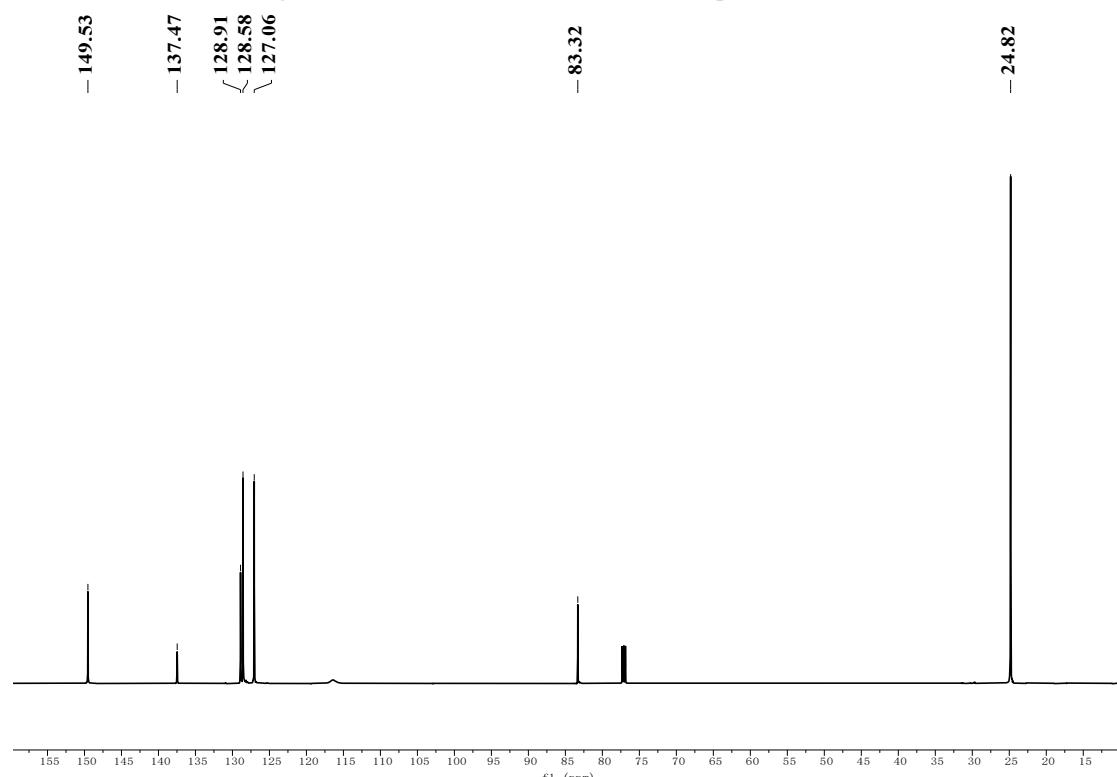
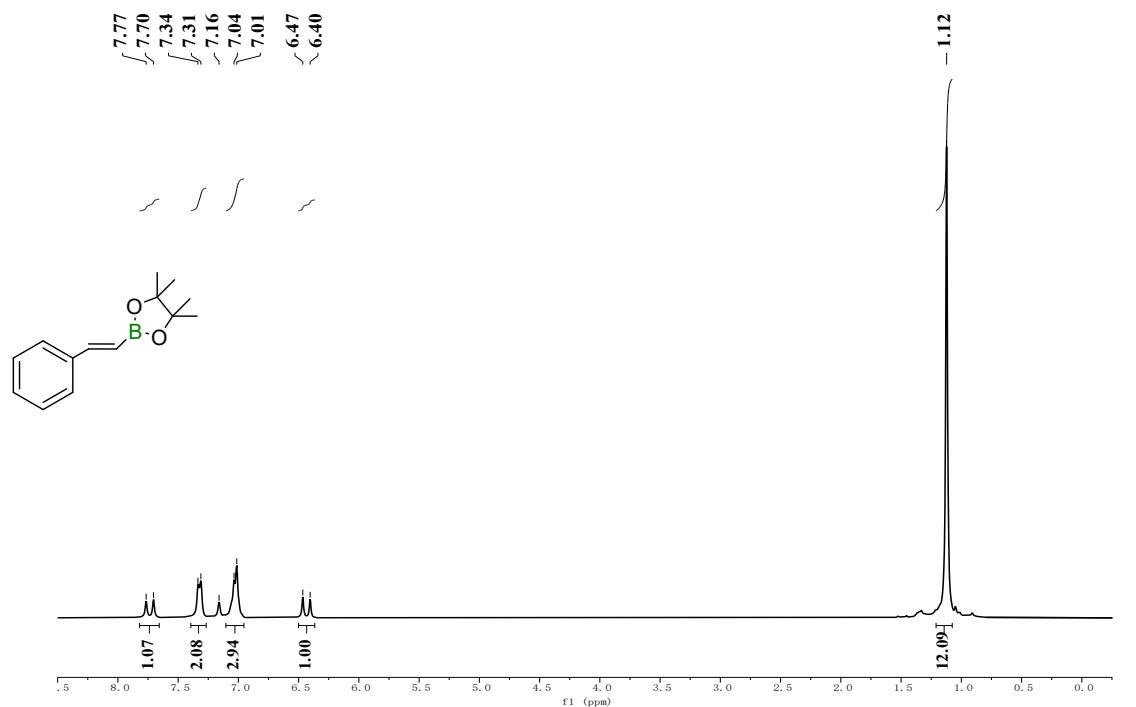


**Figure S36.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of 7s.

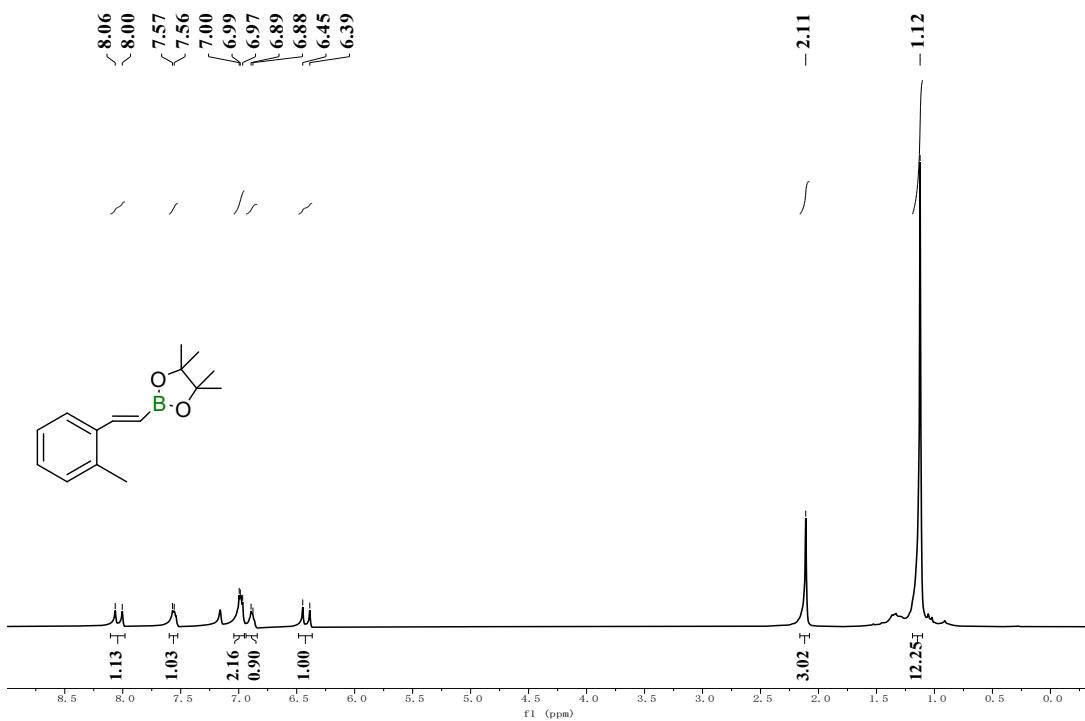


**Figure S37.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of 7t.

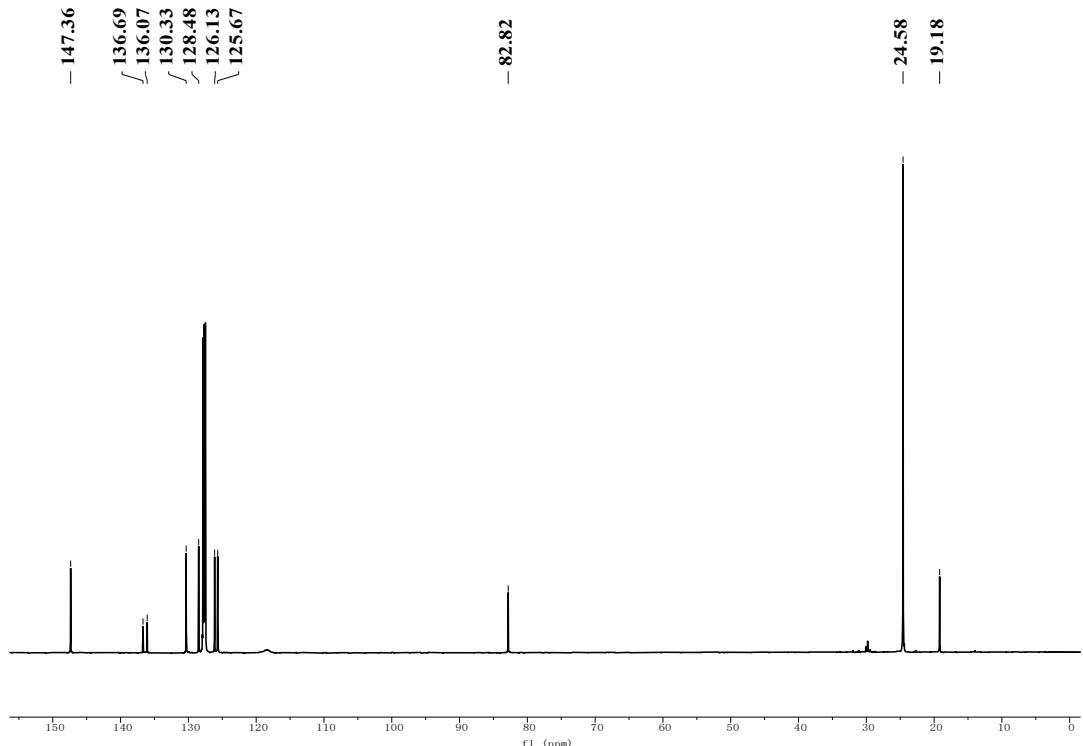
### 6.3 NMR spectra of vinylboranes



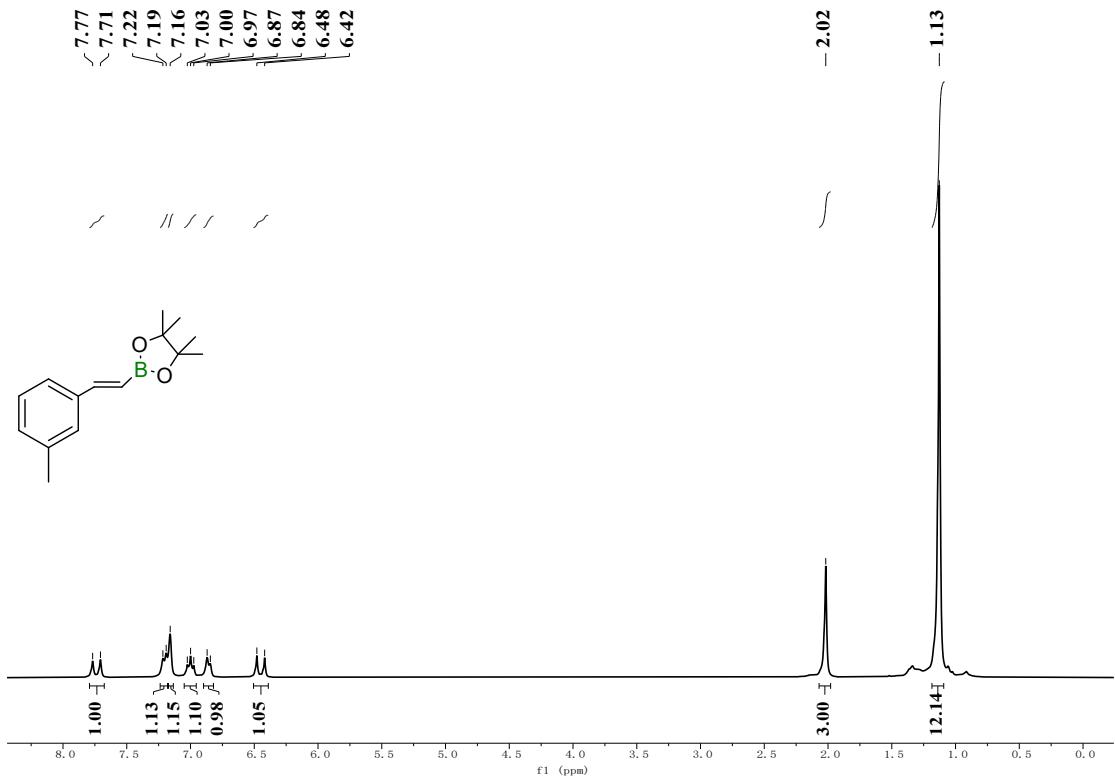
**Figure S39.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **9a**.



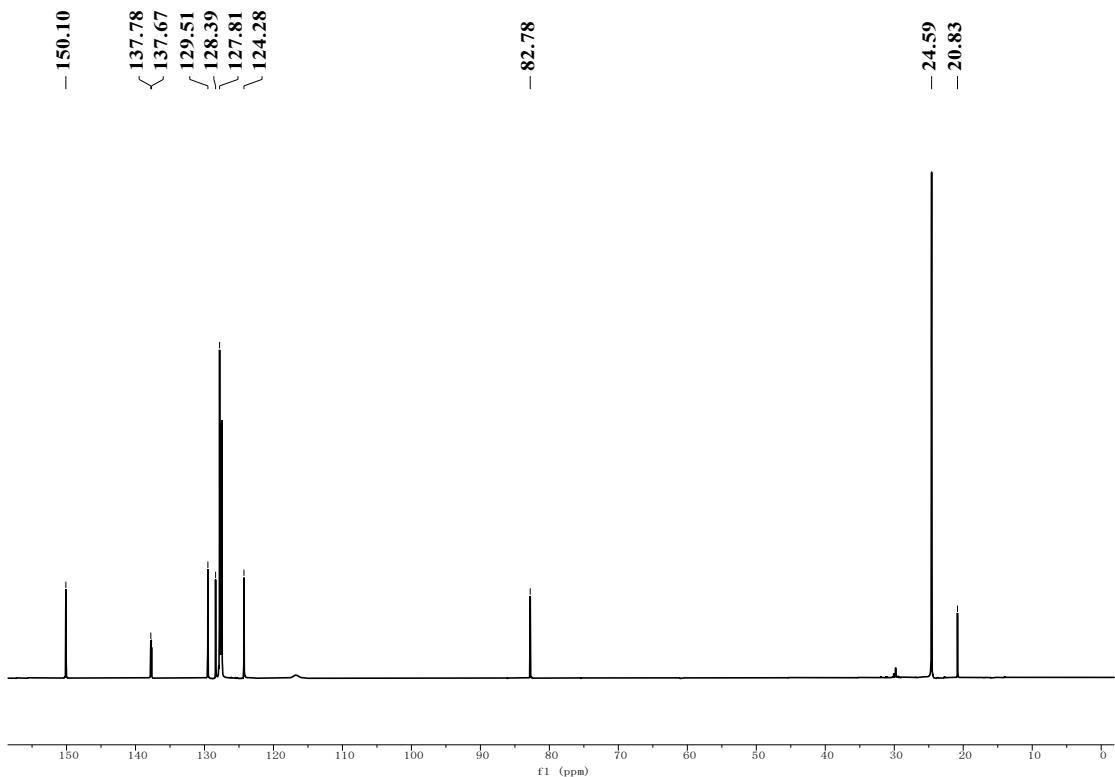
**Figure S40.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum **9b**.



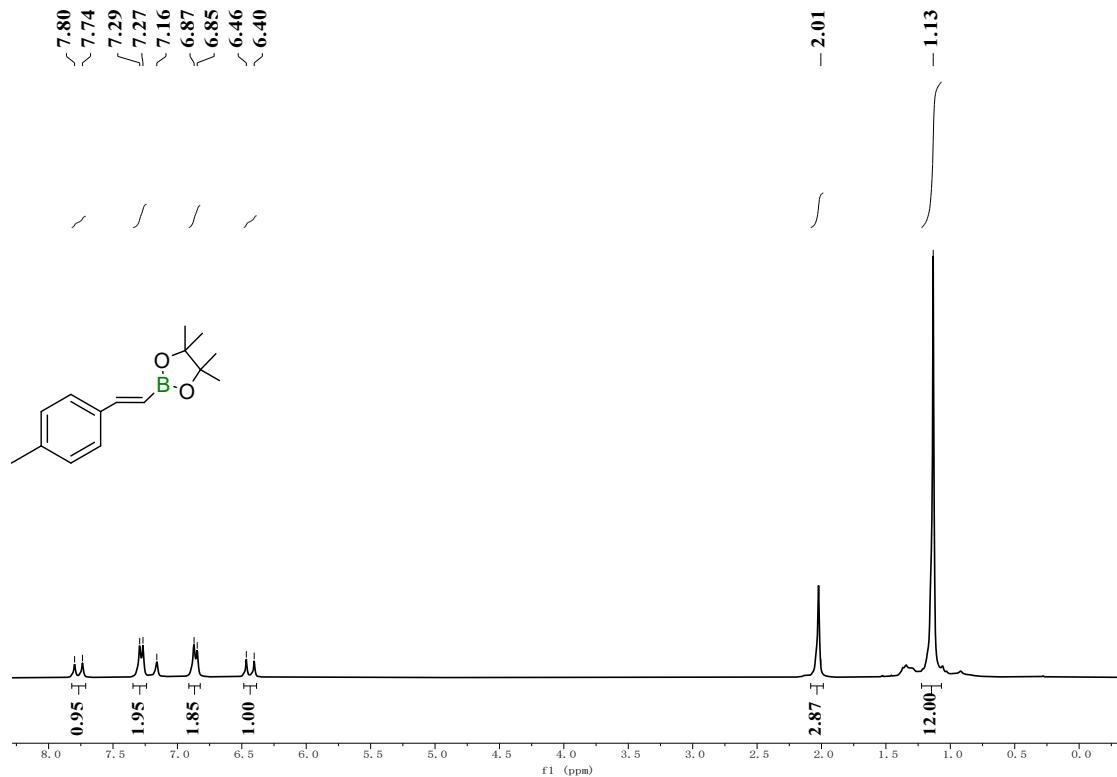
**Figure S41.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9b**.



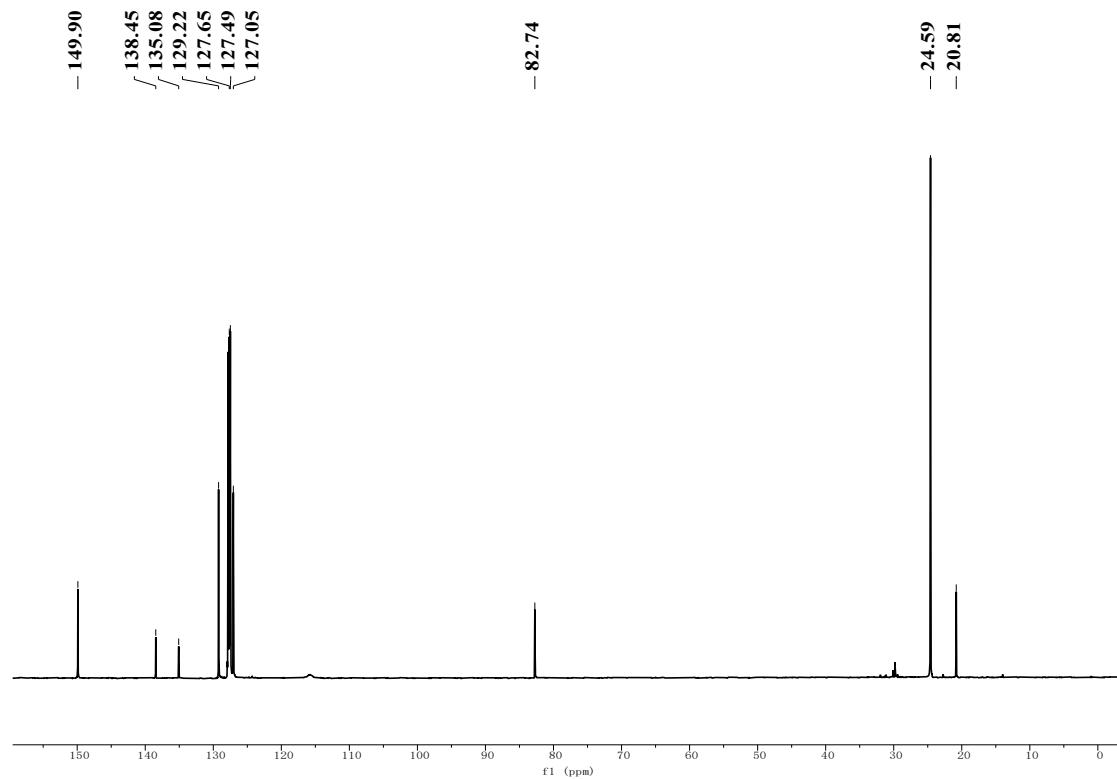
**Figure S42.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9c**.



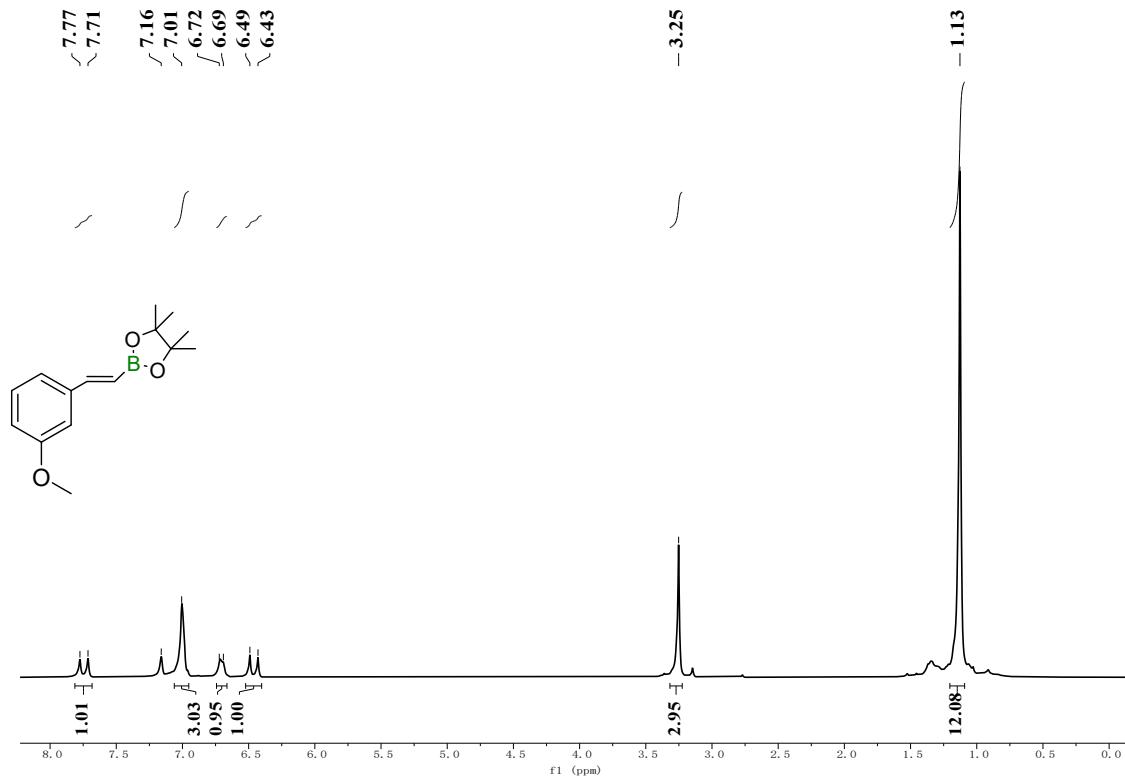
**Figure S43.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9c**.



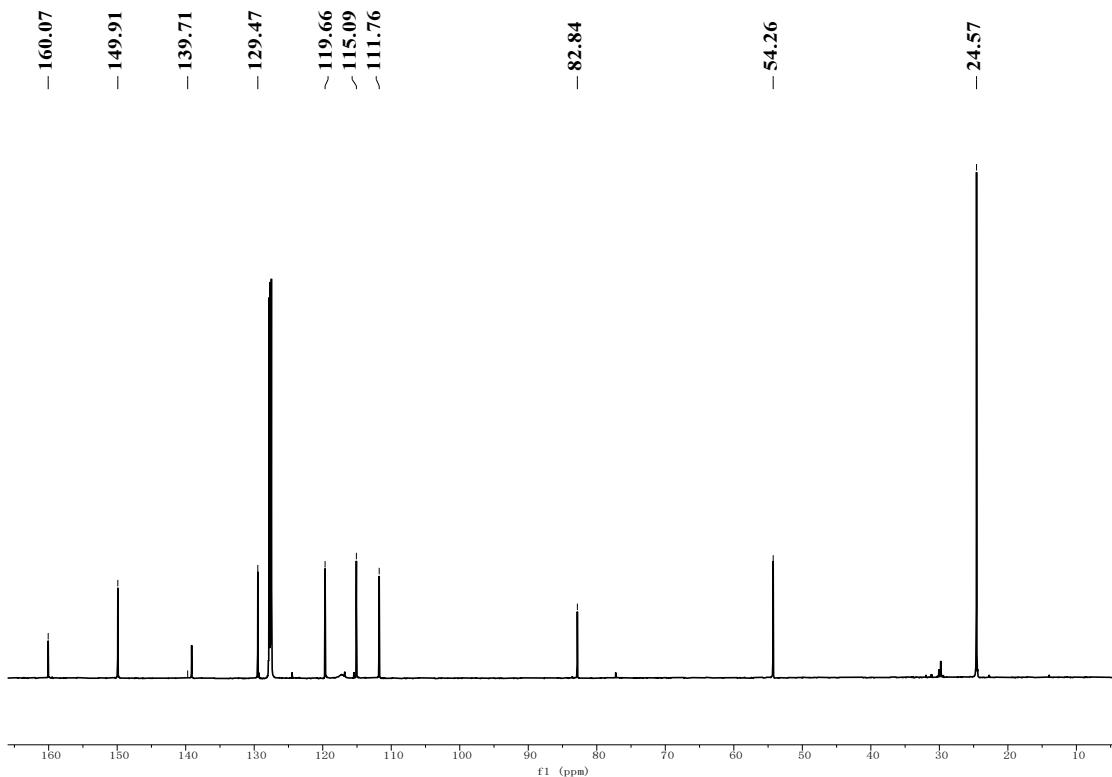
**Figure S44.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9d**.



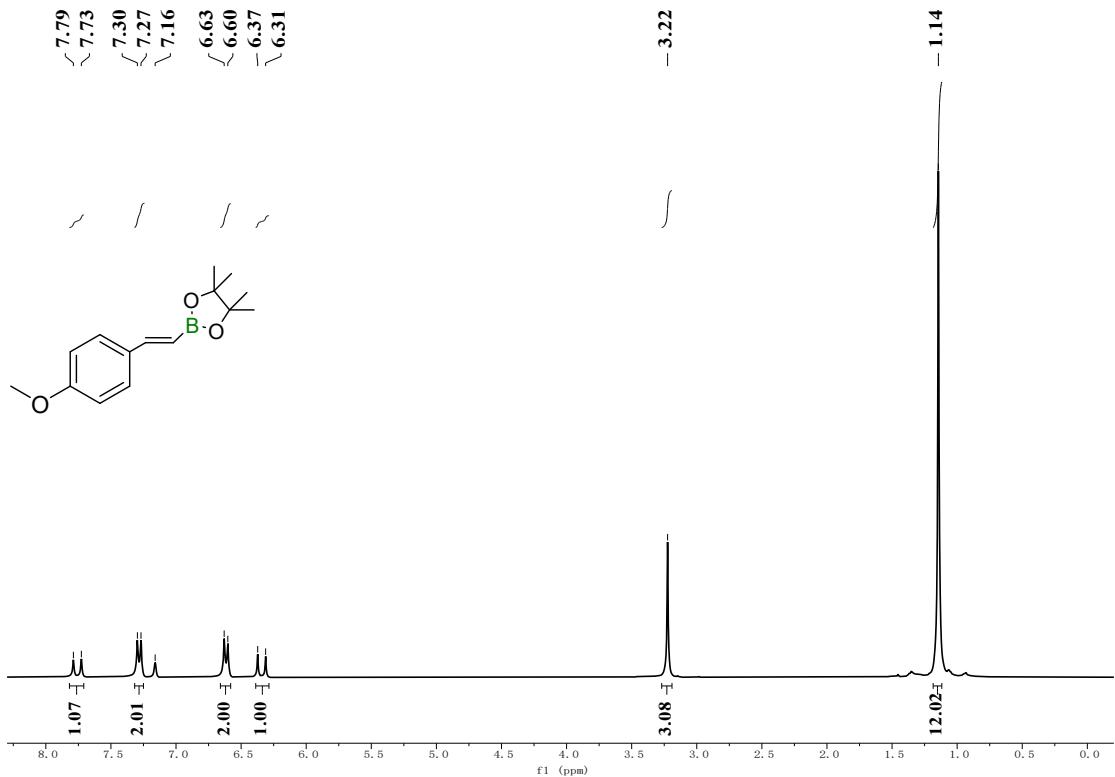
**Figure S45.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9d**.



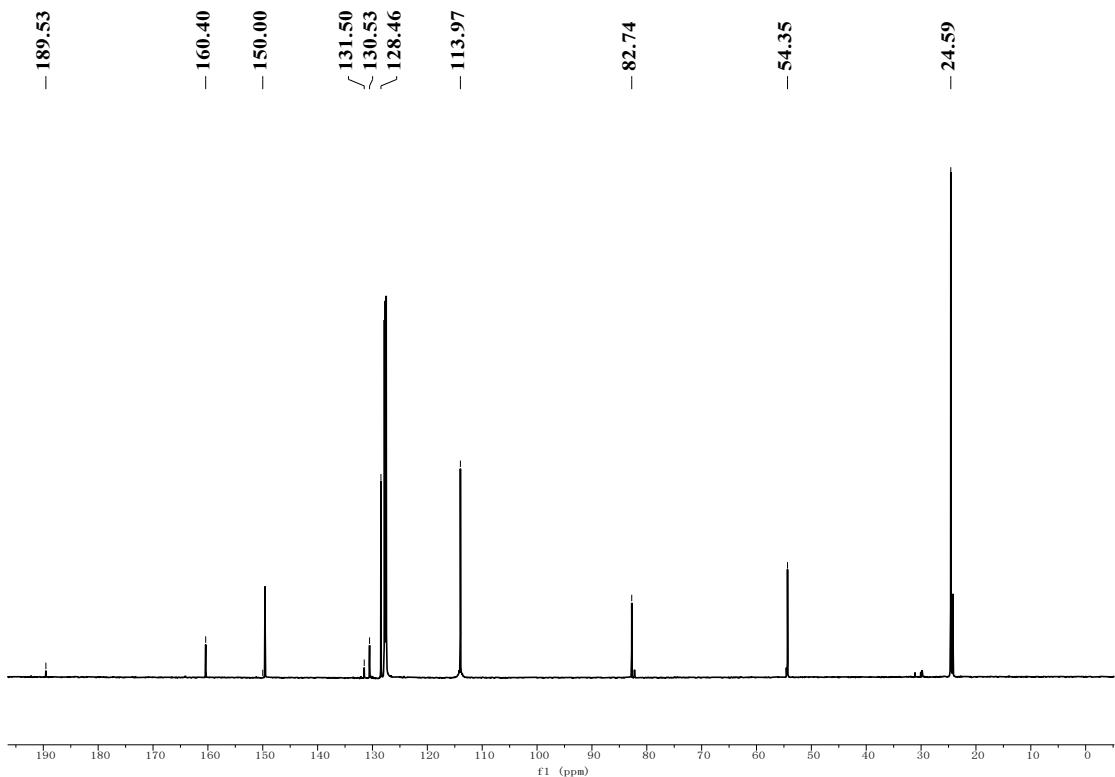
**Figure S46.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9e**.



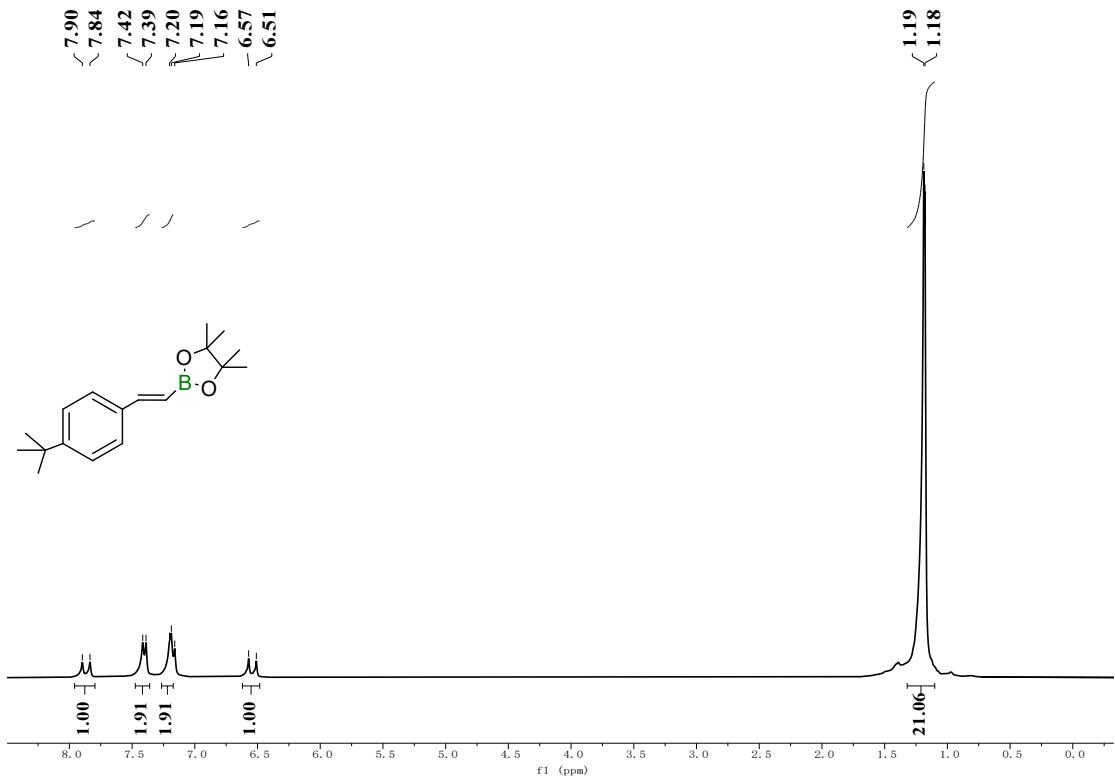
**Figure S47.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9e**.



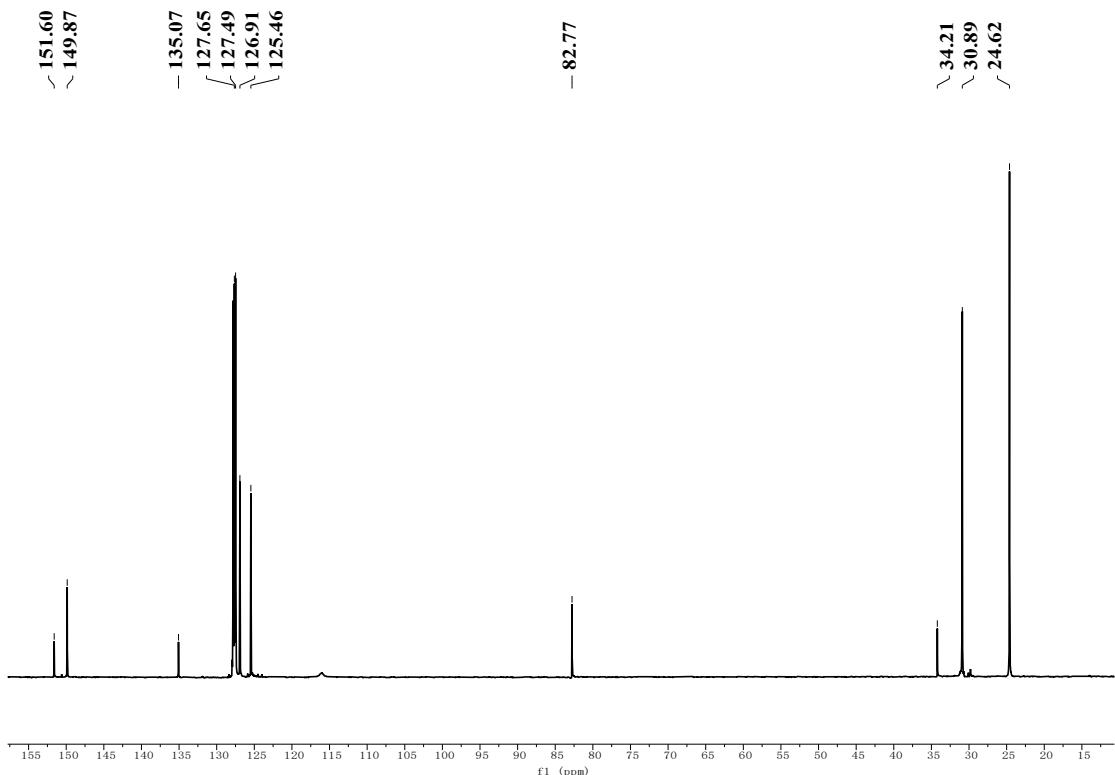
**Figure S48.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9f**.



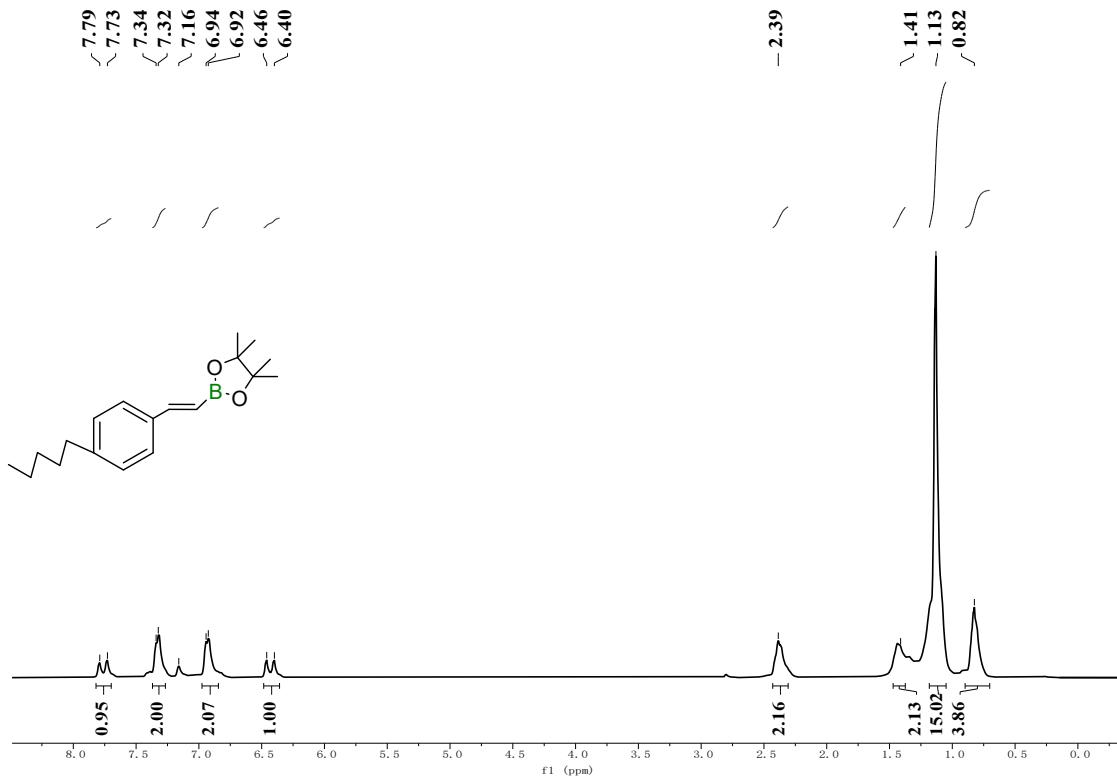
**Figure S49.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9f**.



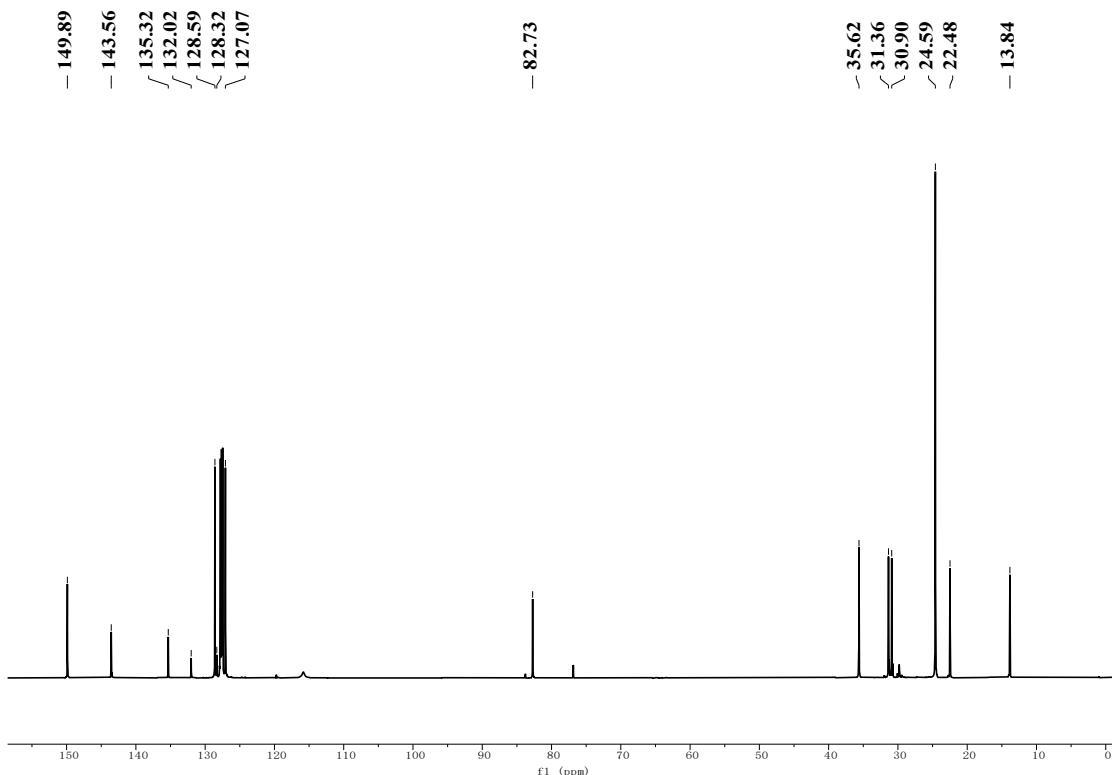
**Figure S50.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9g**.



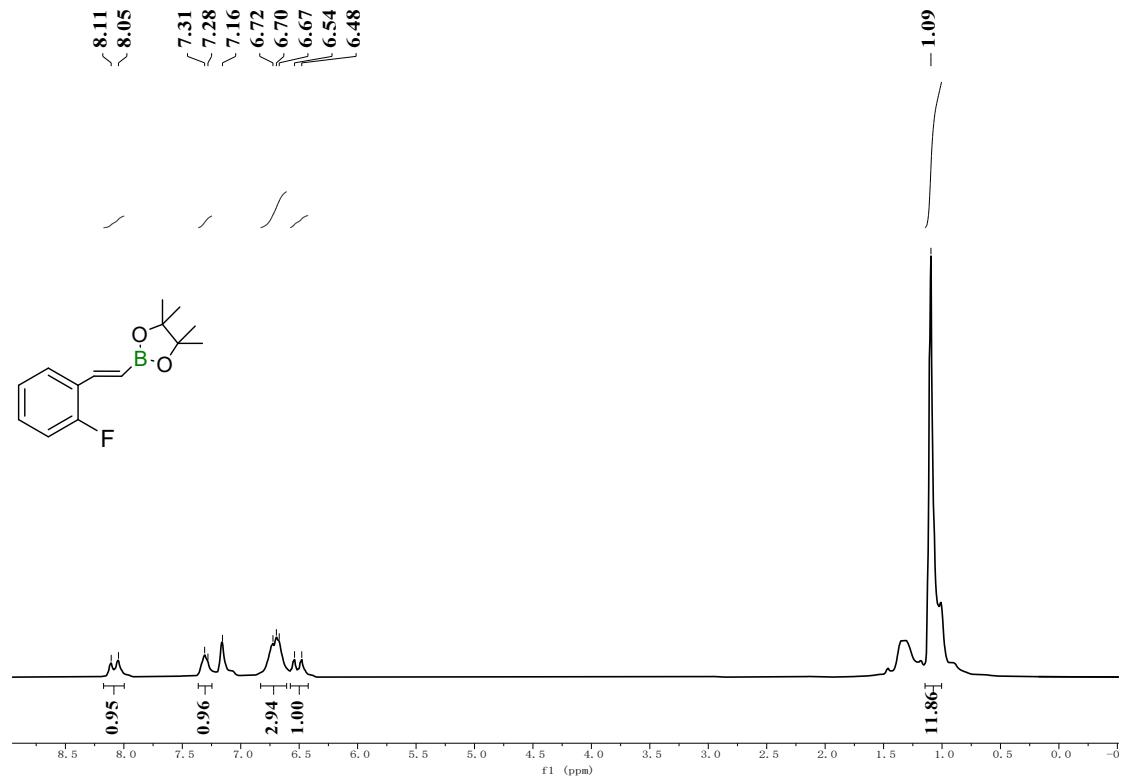
**Figure S51.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9g**.



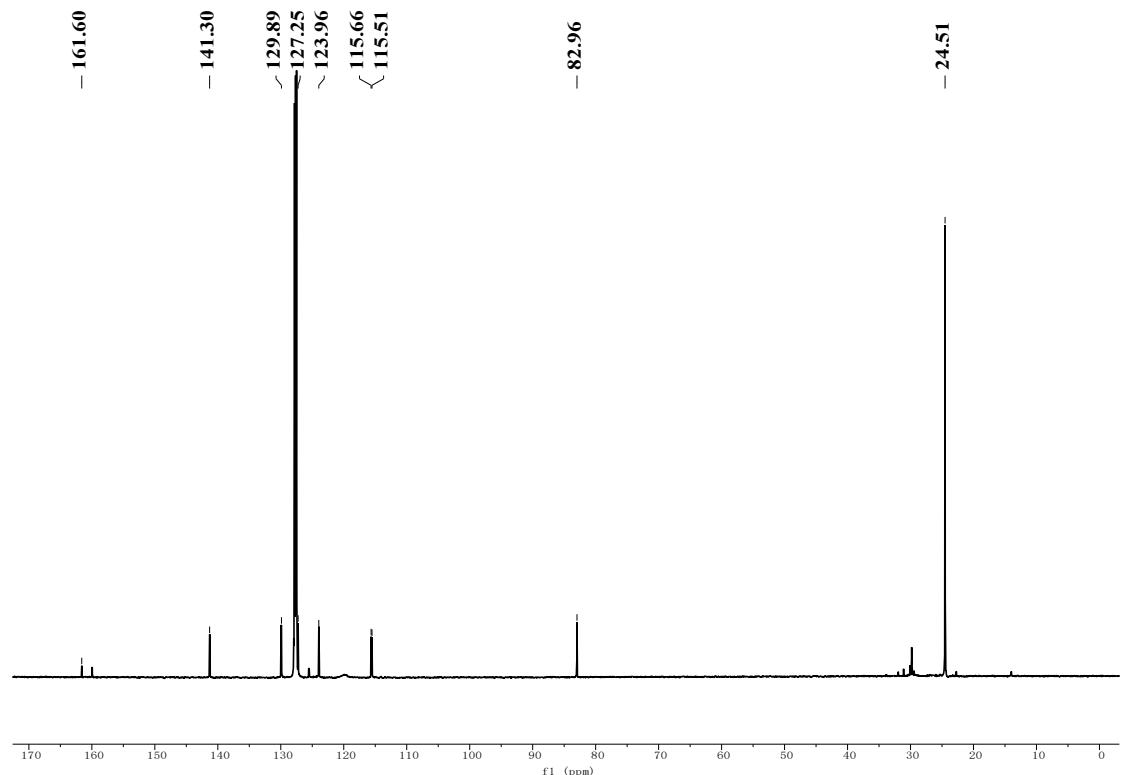
**Figure S52.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9h**.



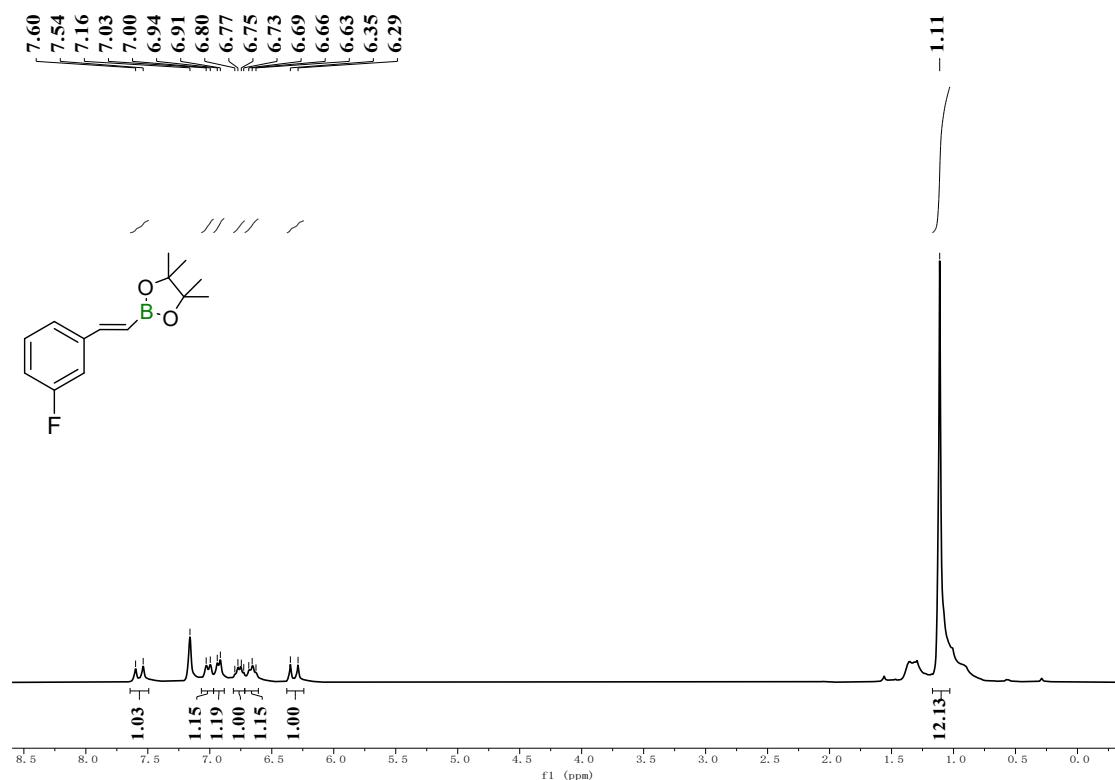
**Figure S53.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9h**.



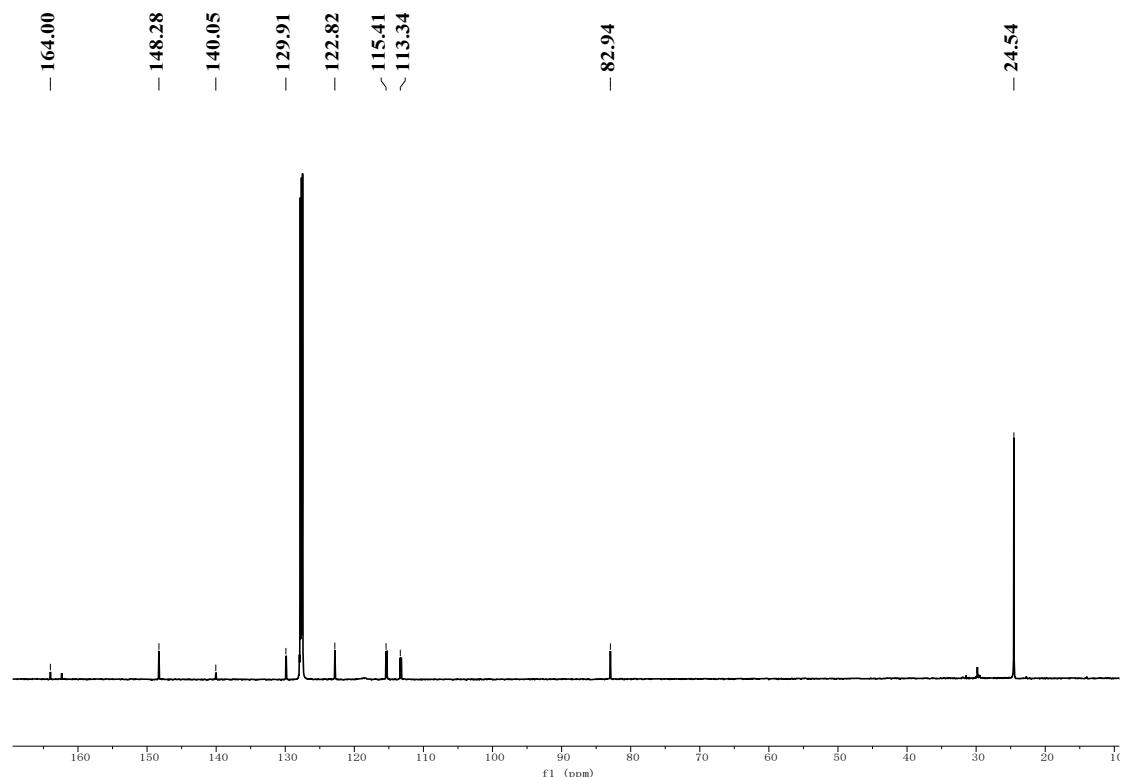
**Figure S54.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9i**.



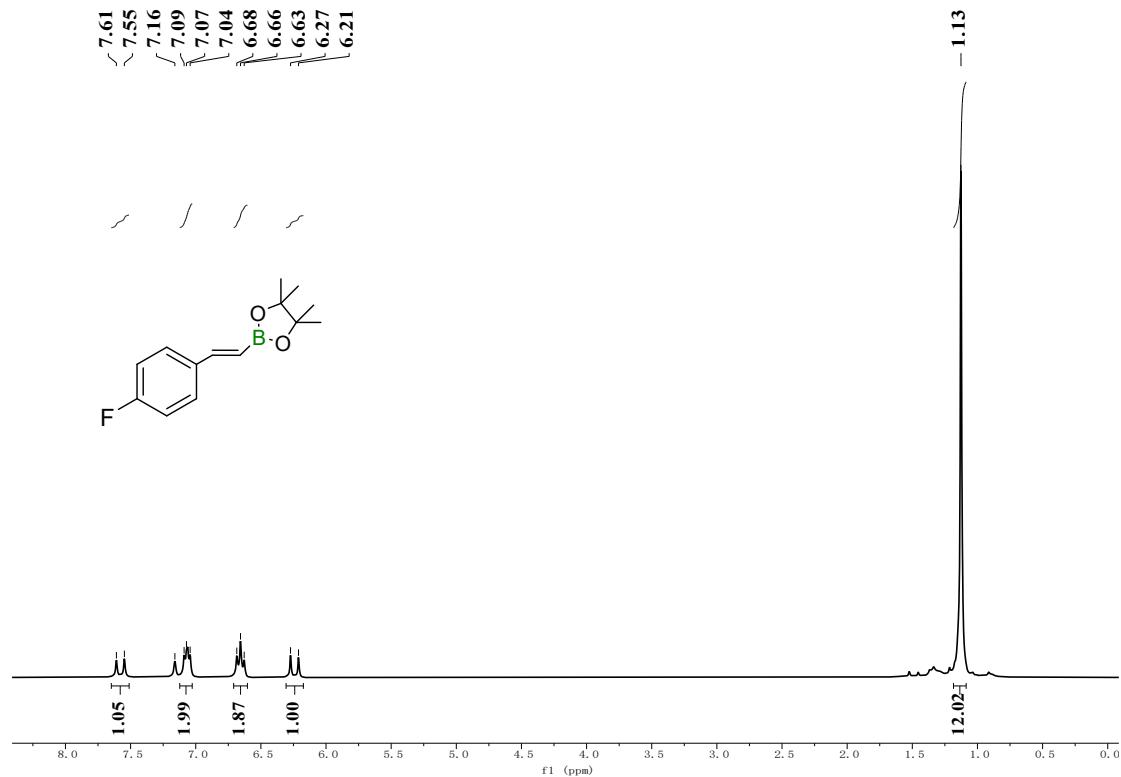
**Figure S55.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9i**.



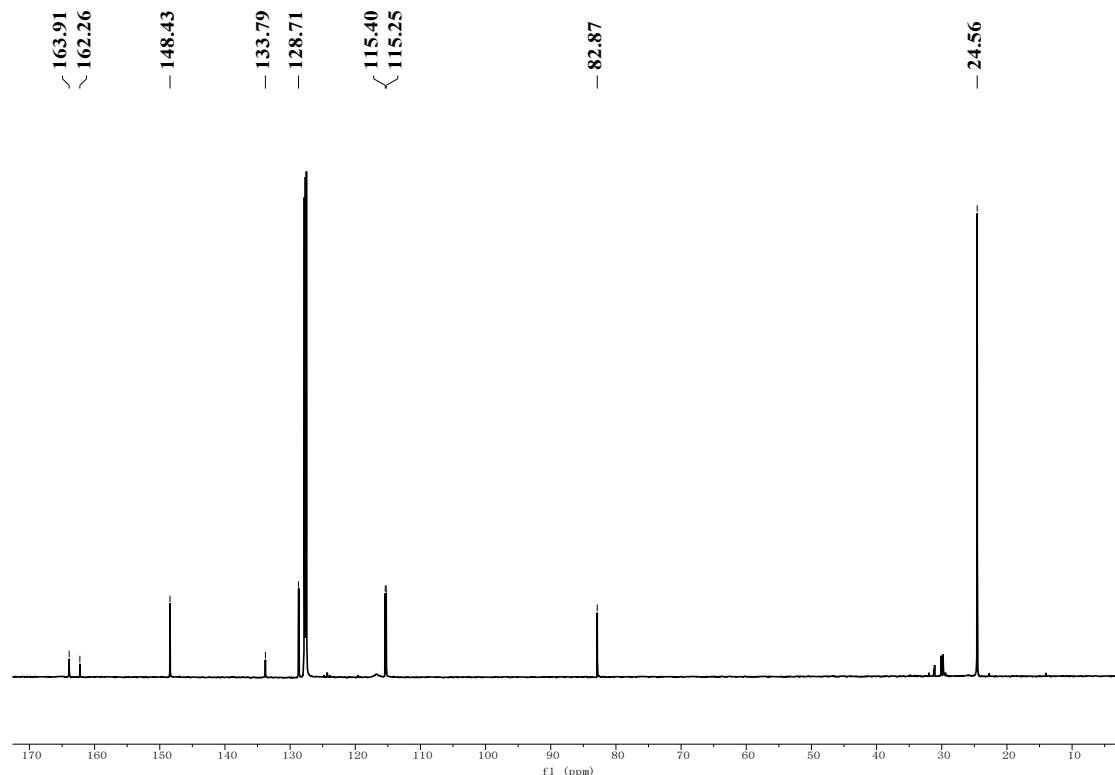
**Figure S56.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9j**.



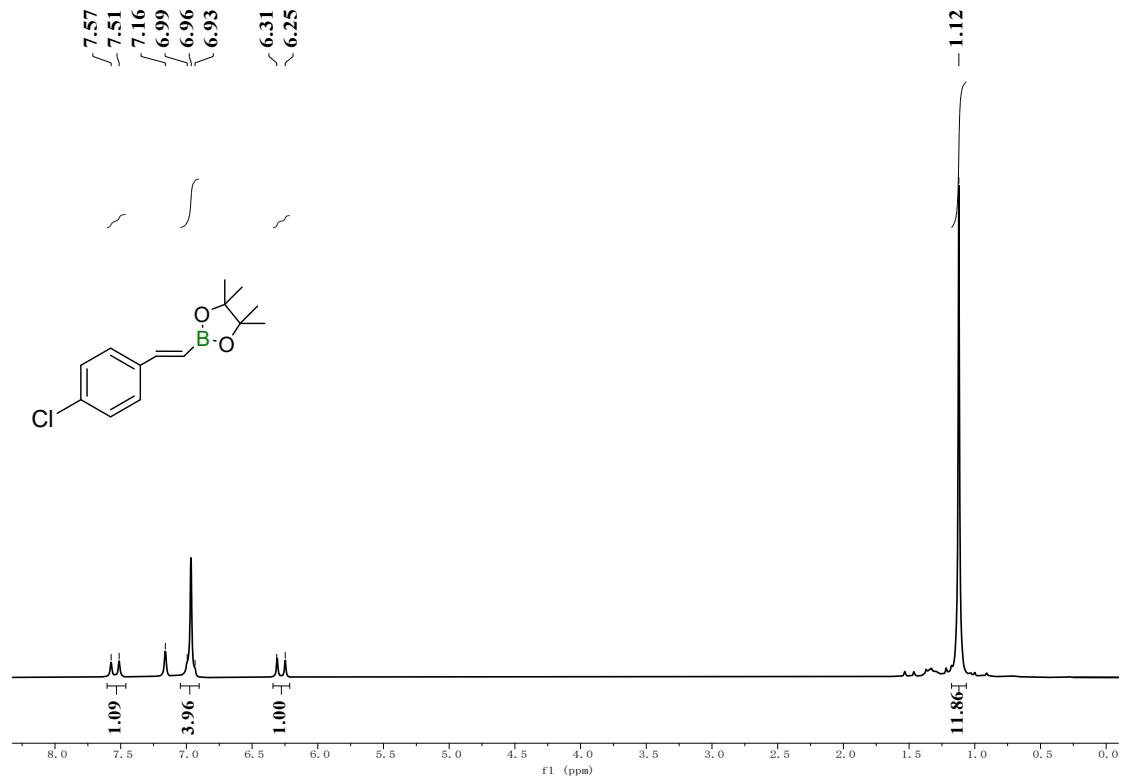
**Figure S57.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9j**.



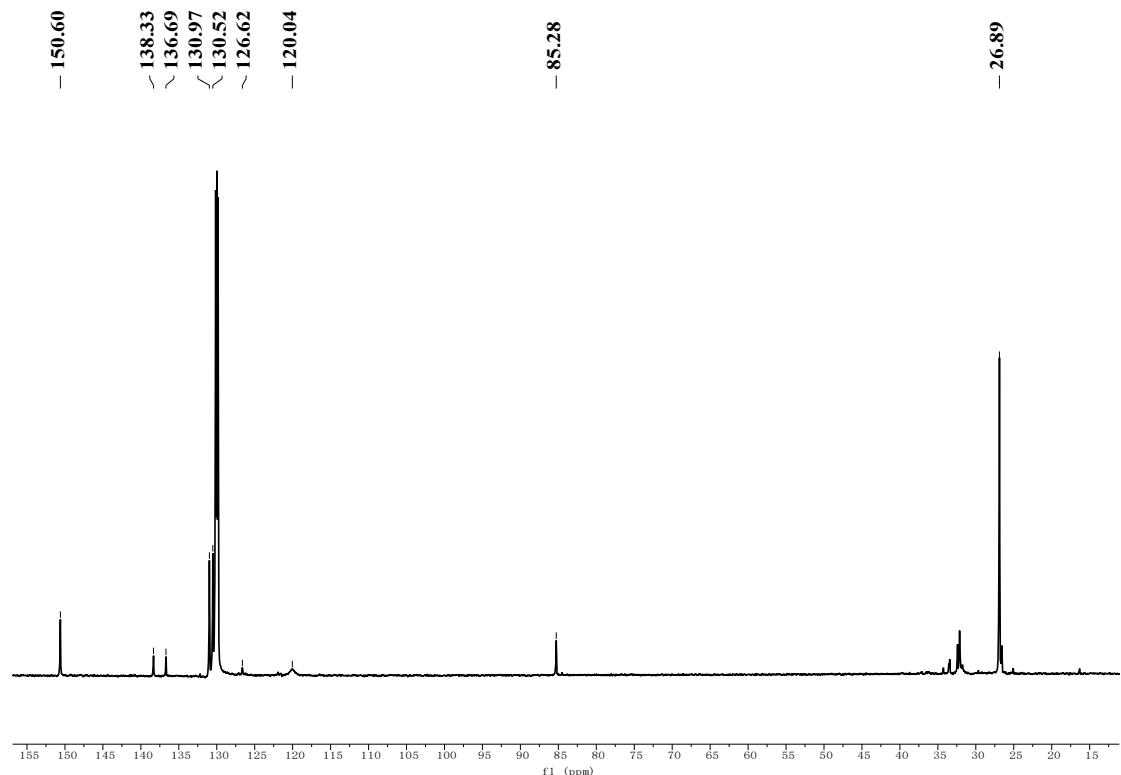
**Figure S58.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9k**.



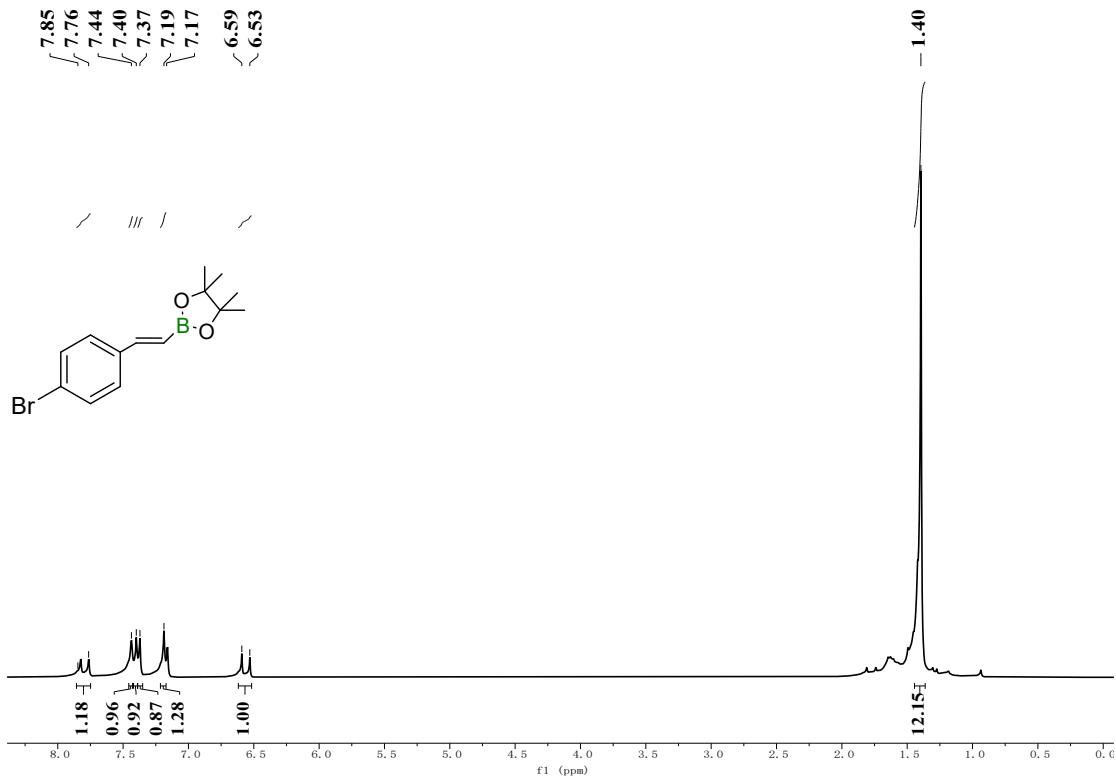
**Figure S59.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9k**.



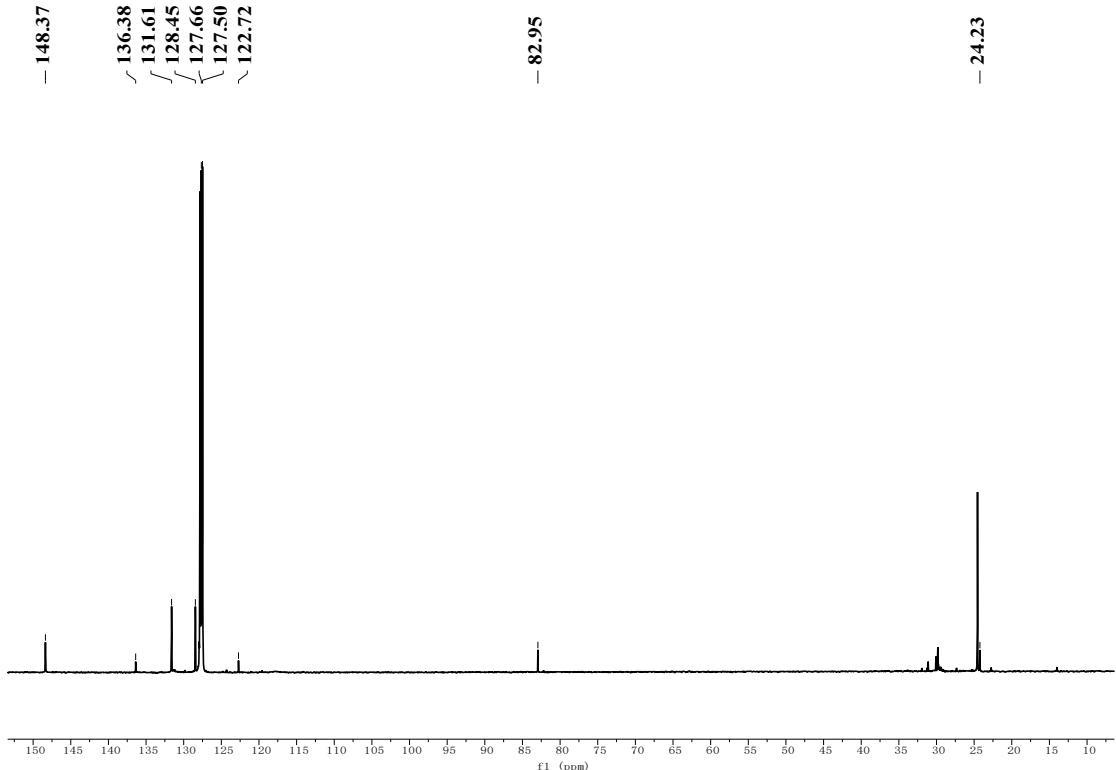
**Figure S60.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9l**.



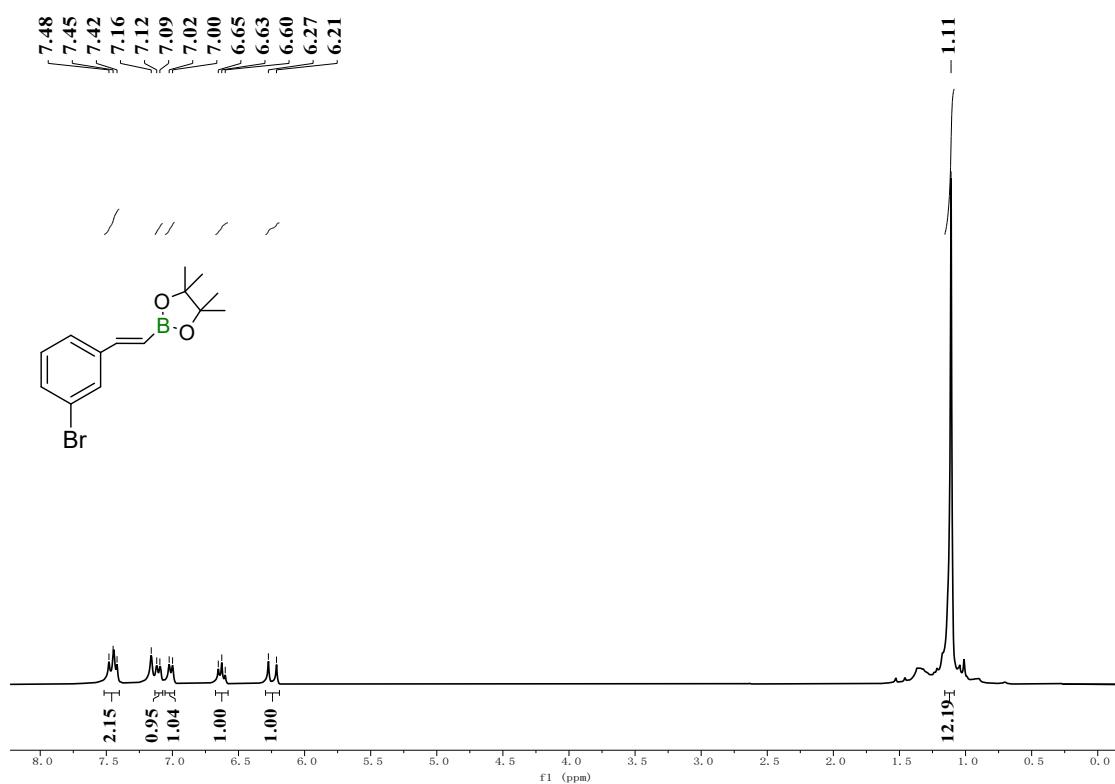
**Figure S61.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9l**.



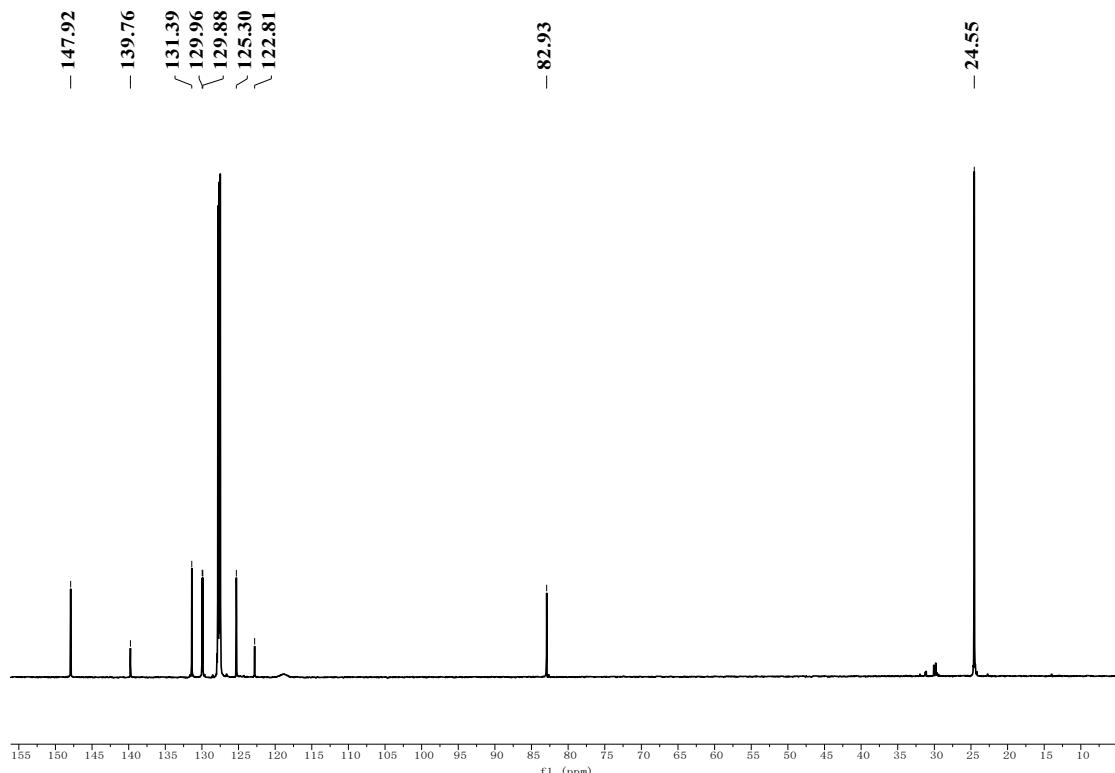
**Figure S62.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9m**.



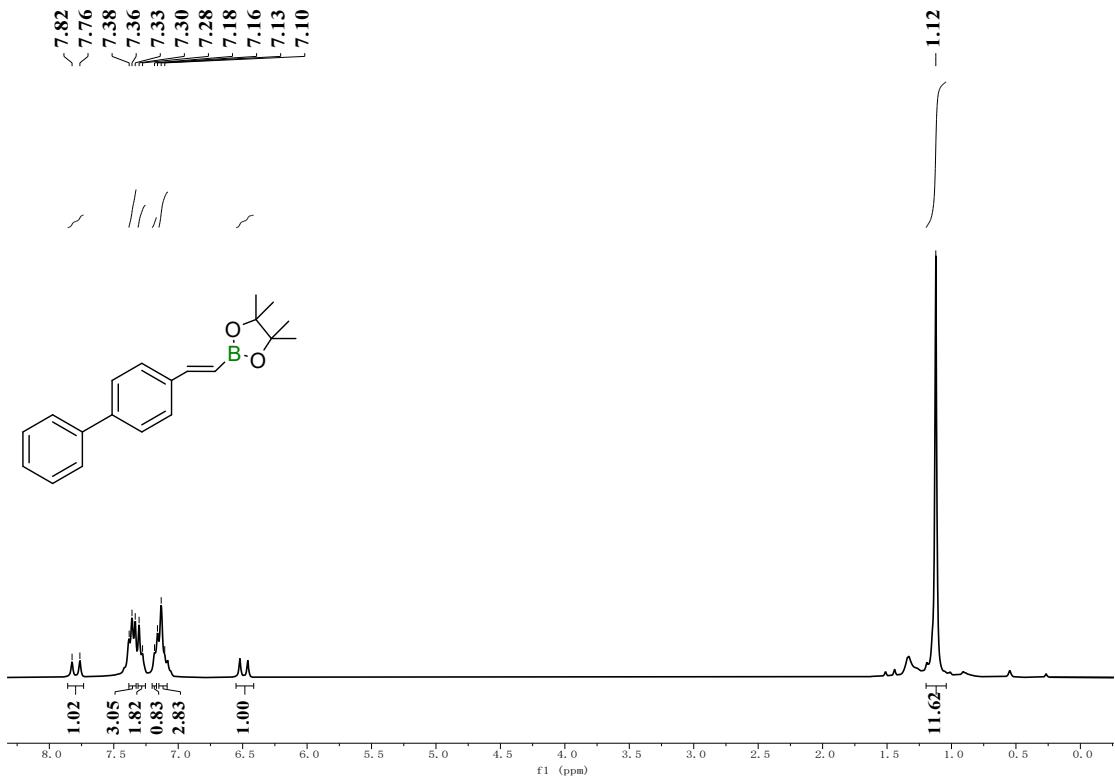
**Figure S63.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9m**.



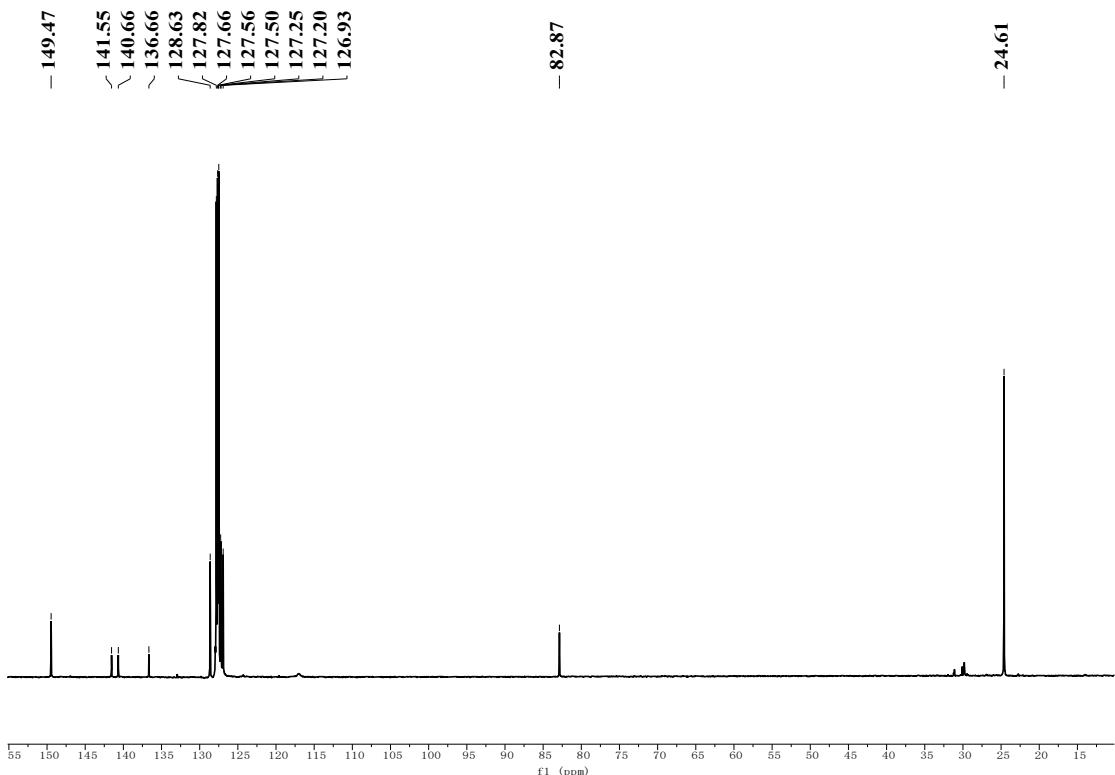
**Figure S64.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9n**.



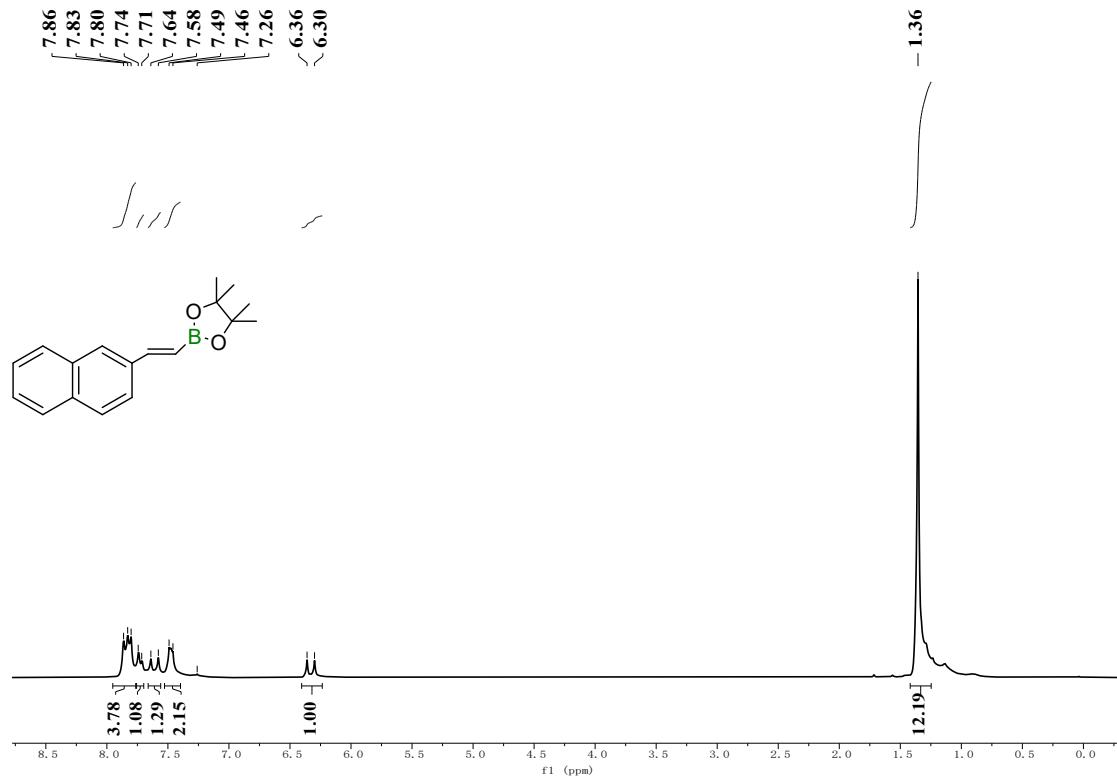
**Figure S65.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9n**.



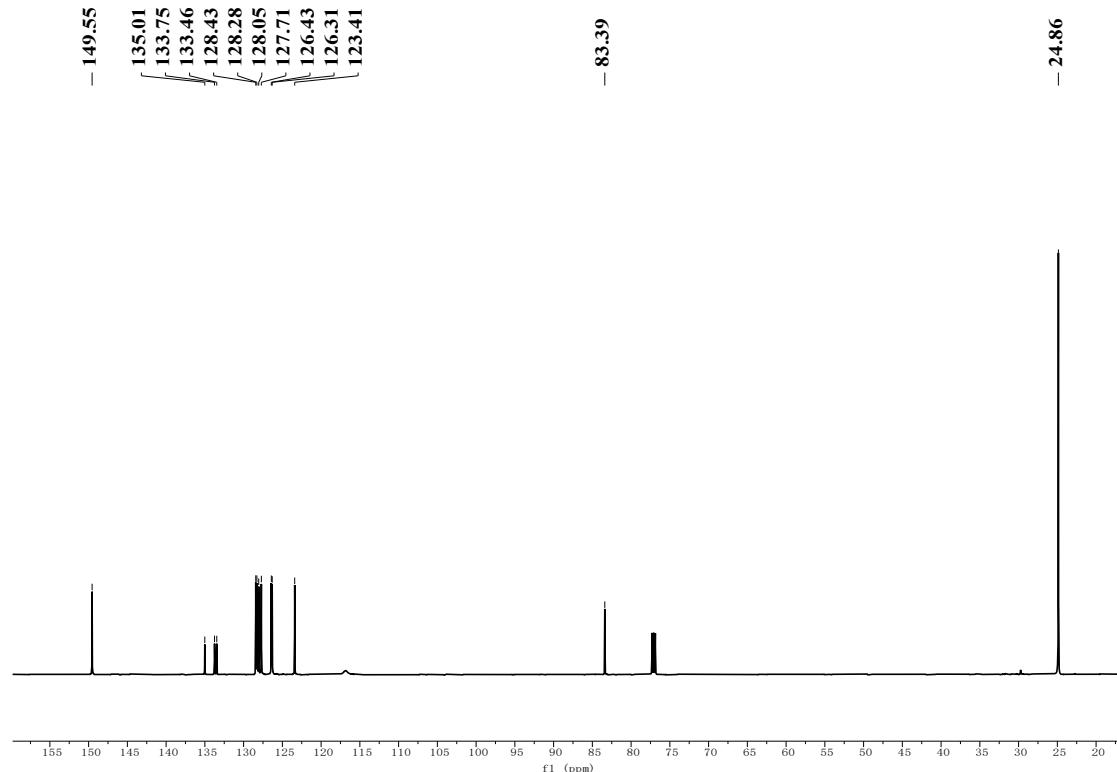
**Figure S66.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9o**.



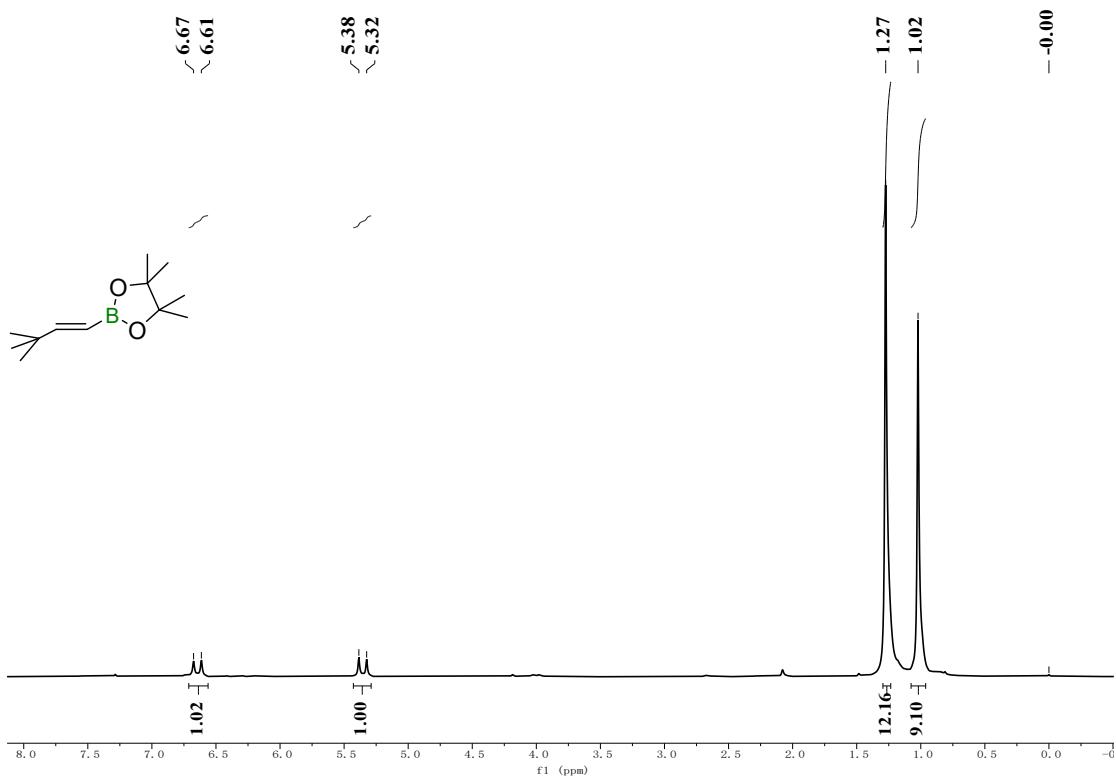
**Figure S67.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) spectrum of **9o**.



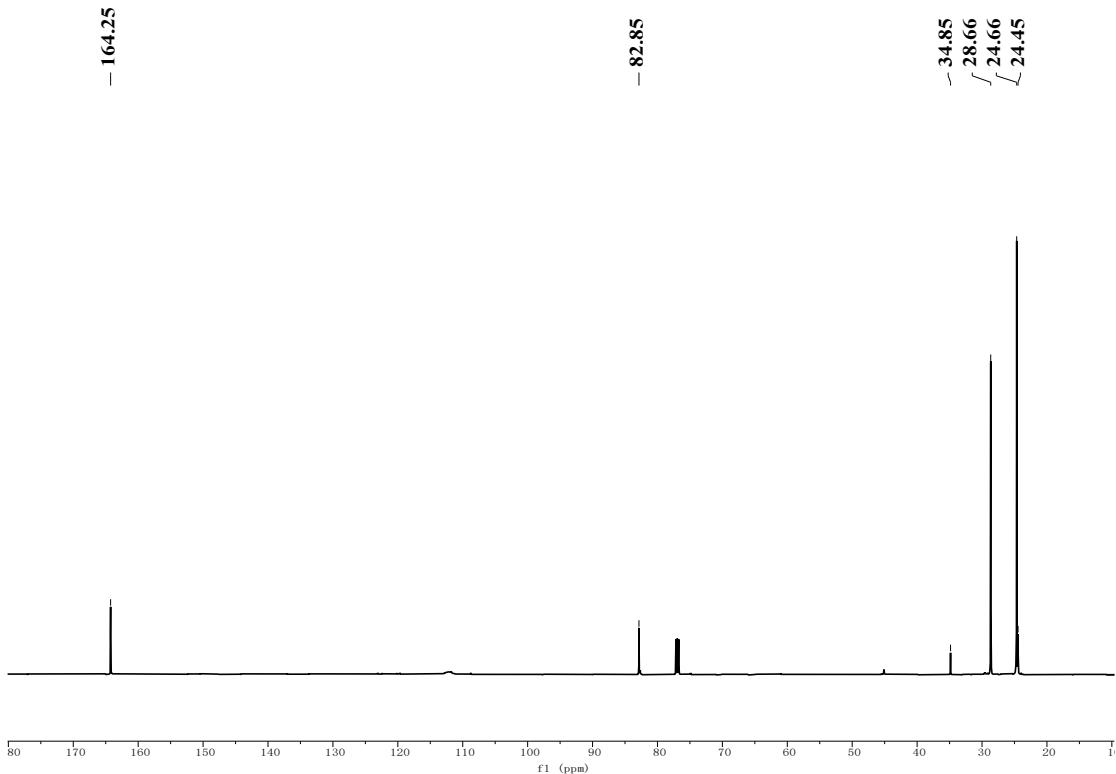
**Figure S68.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **9p**.



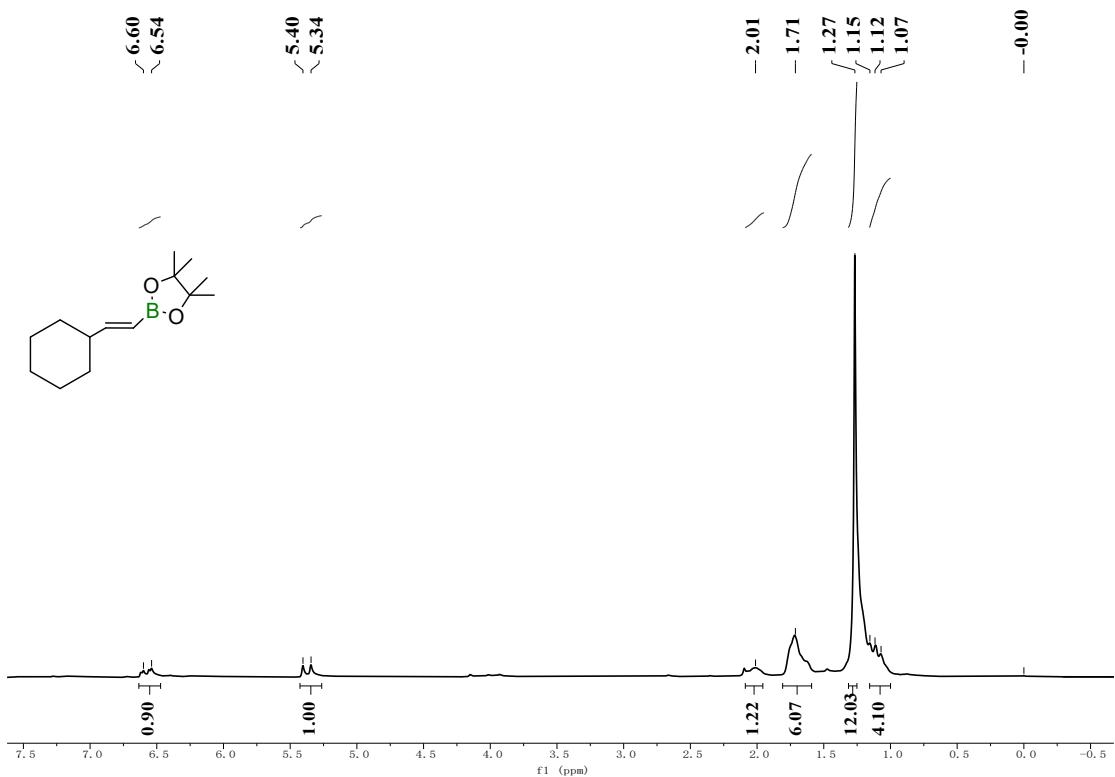
**Figure S69.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **9p**.



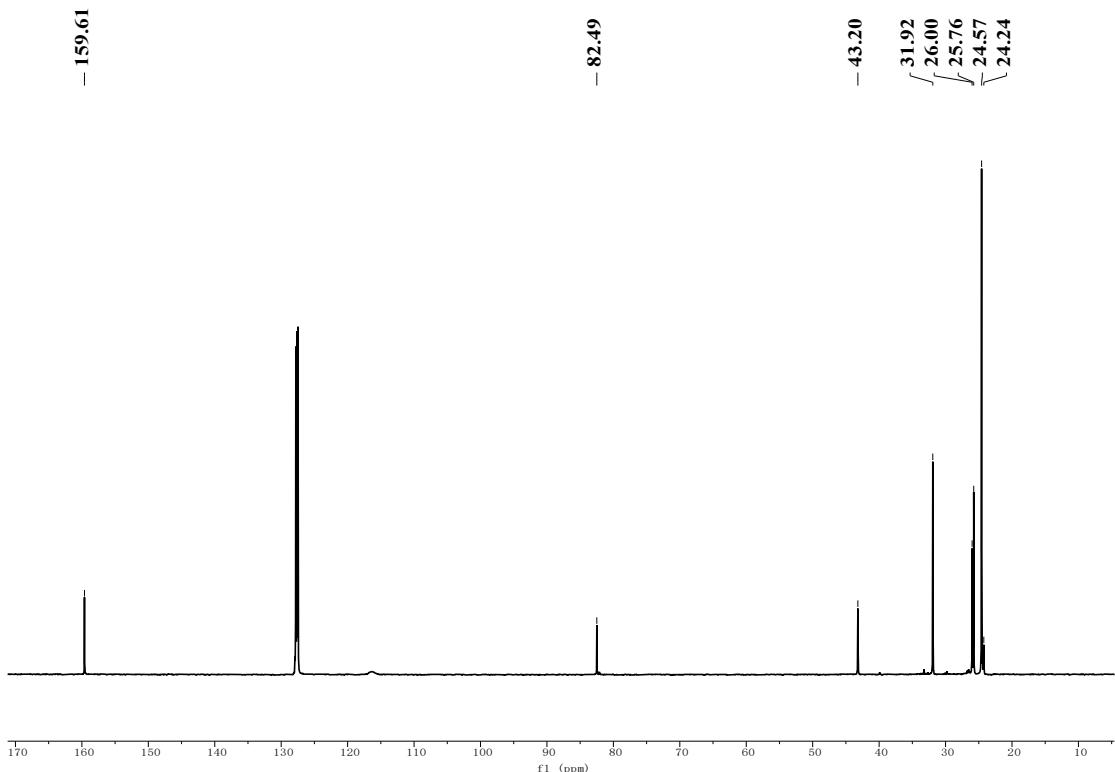
**Figure S70.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **9q**.



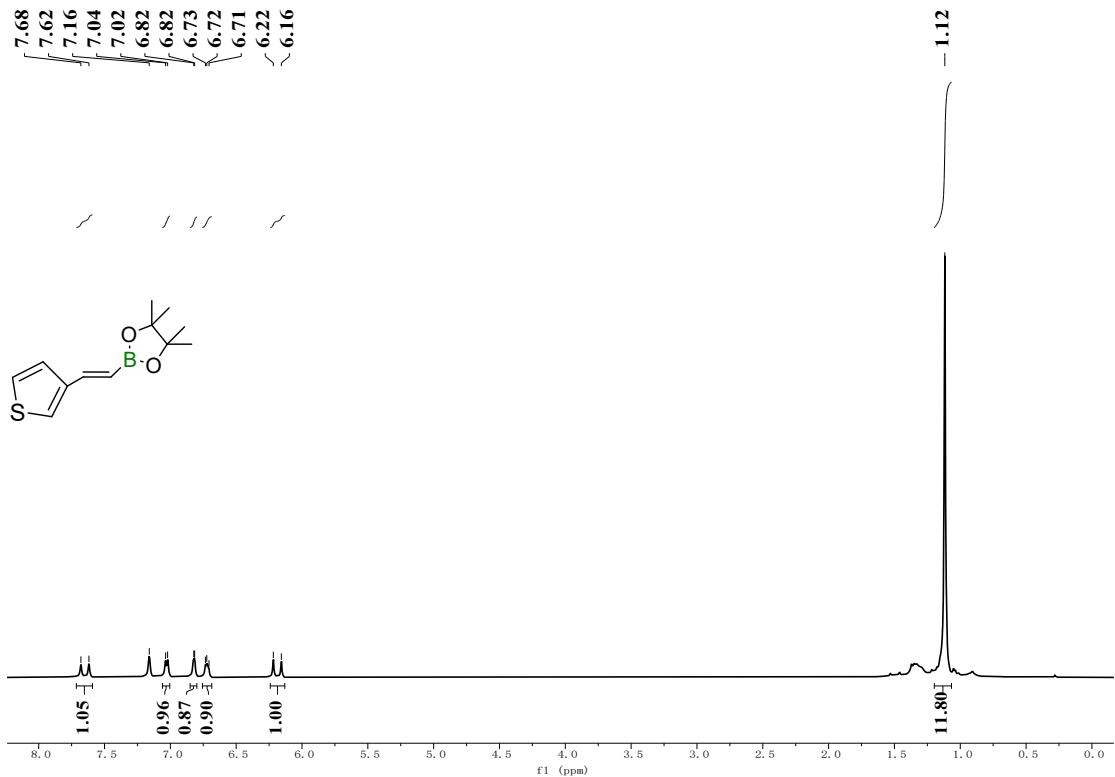
**Figure S71.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **9q**.



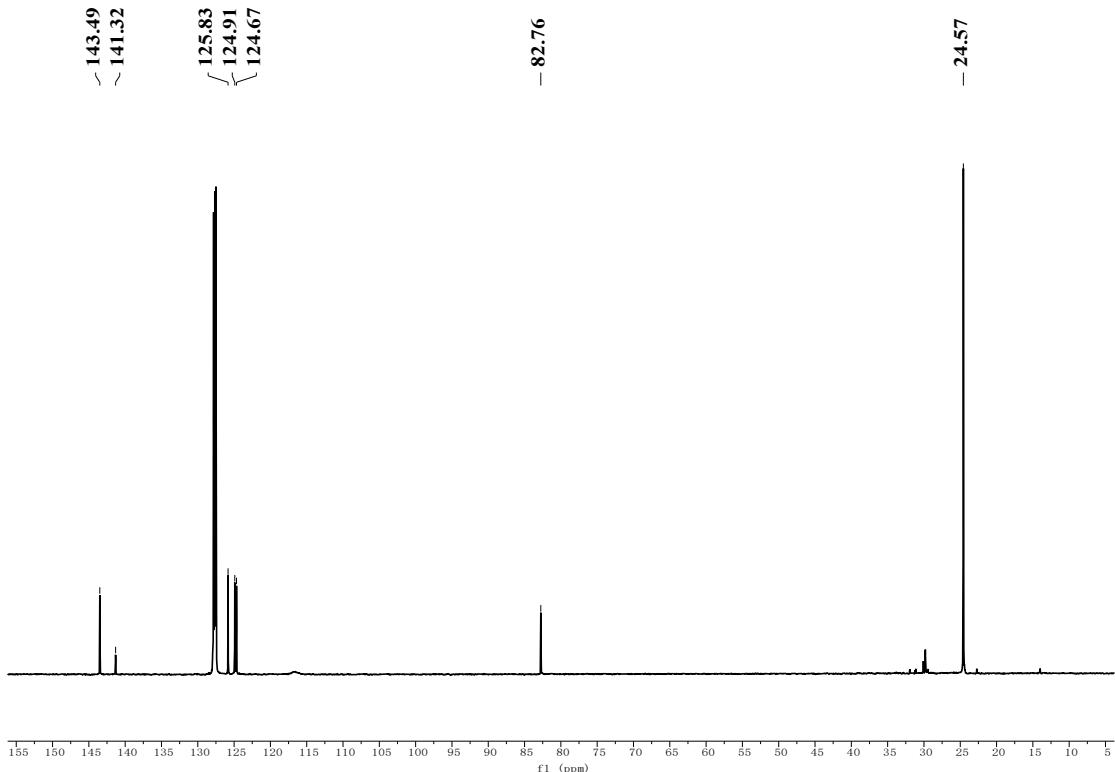
**Figure S72.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9r**.



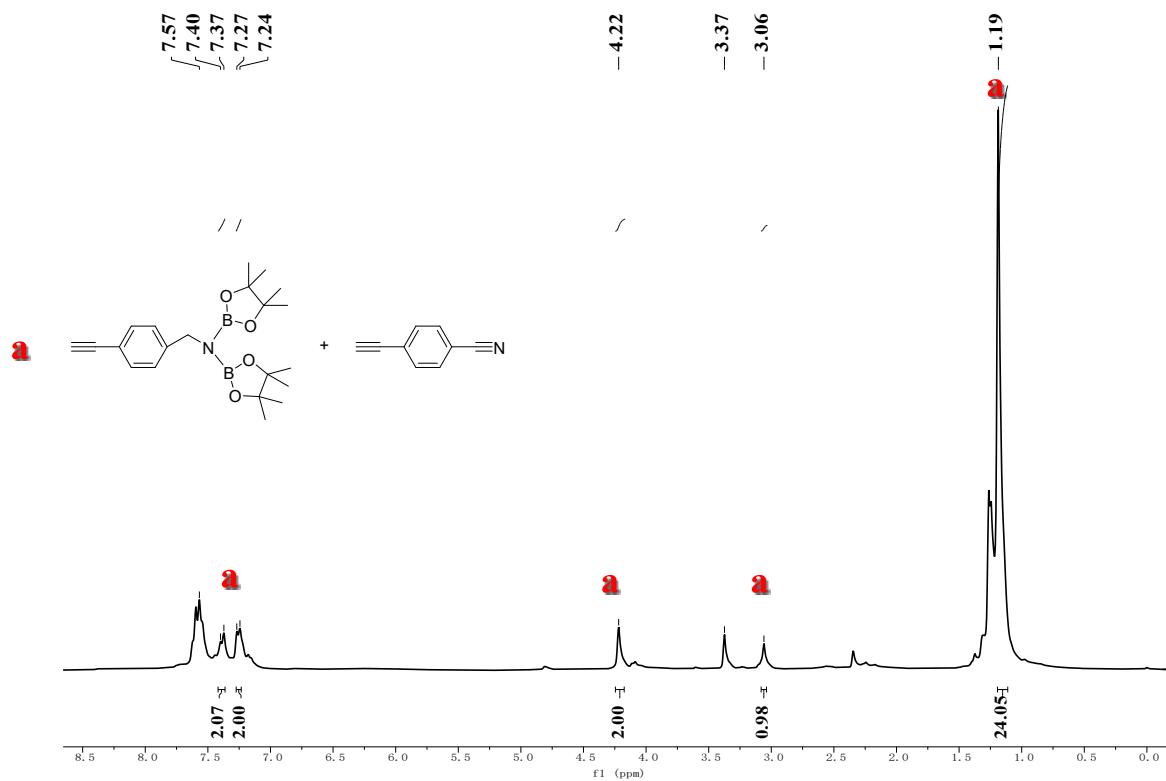
**Figure S73.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9r**.



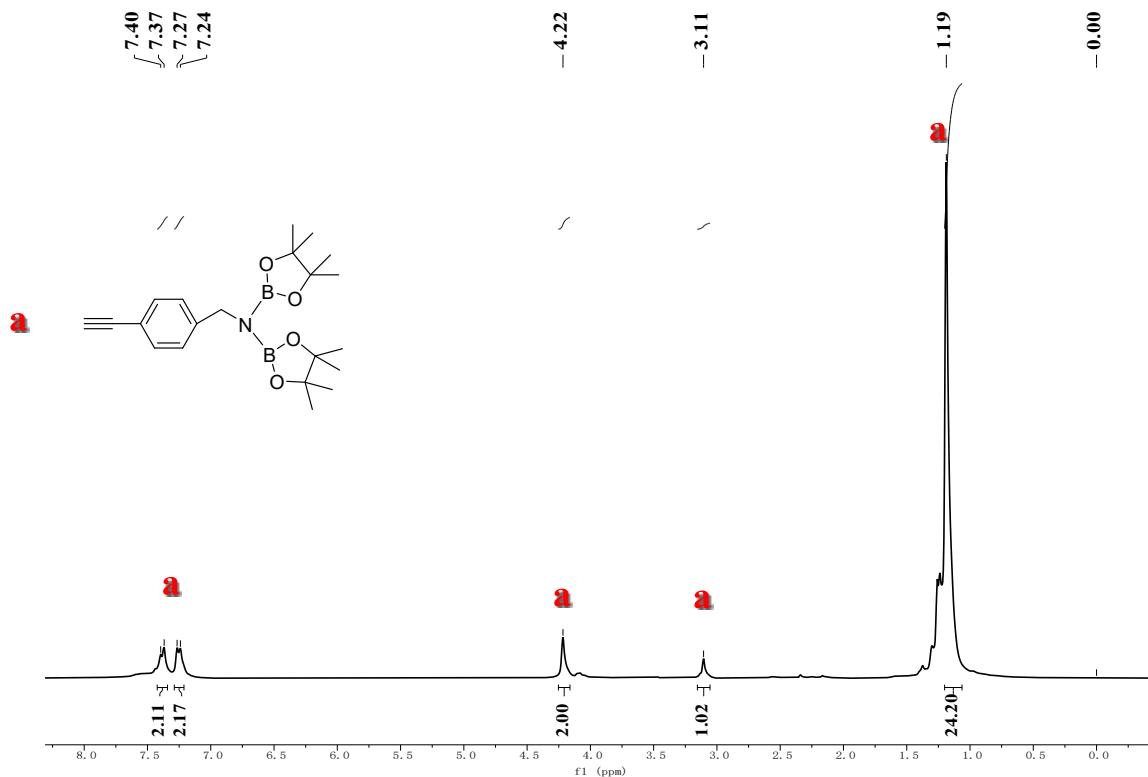
**Figure S74.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9s**.



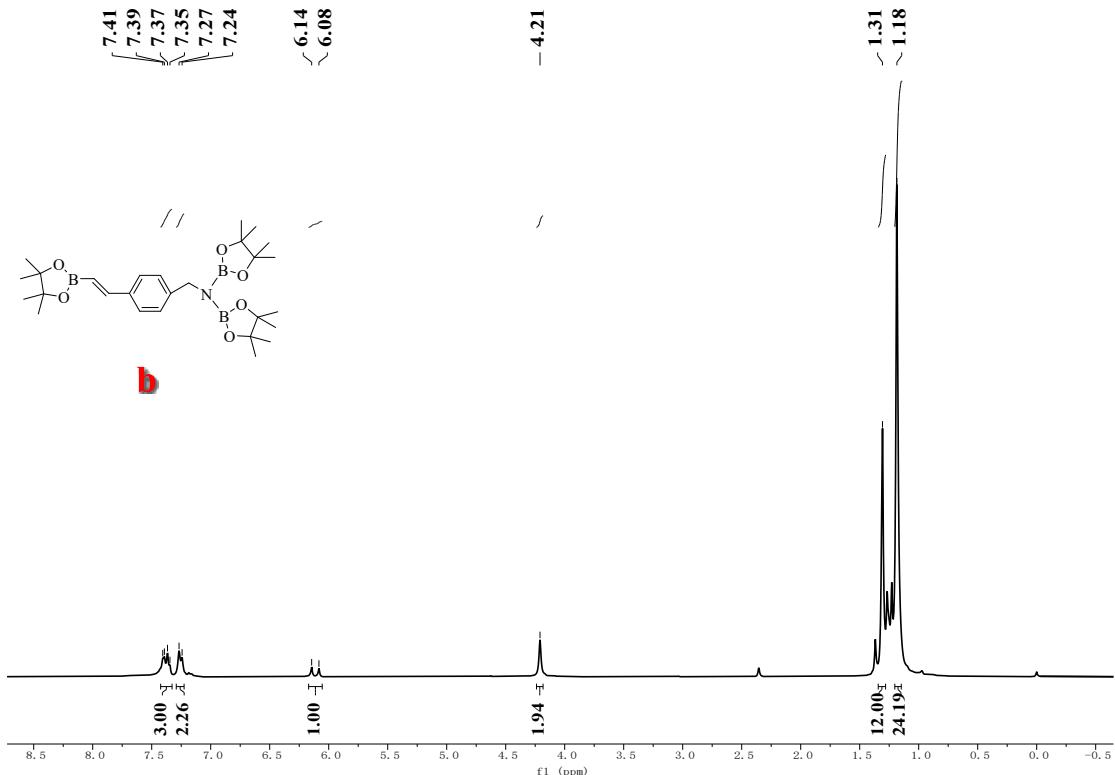
**Figure S75.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ) spectrum of **9s**.



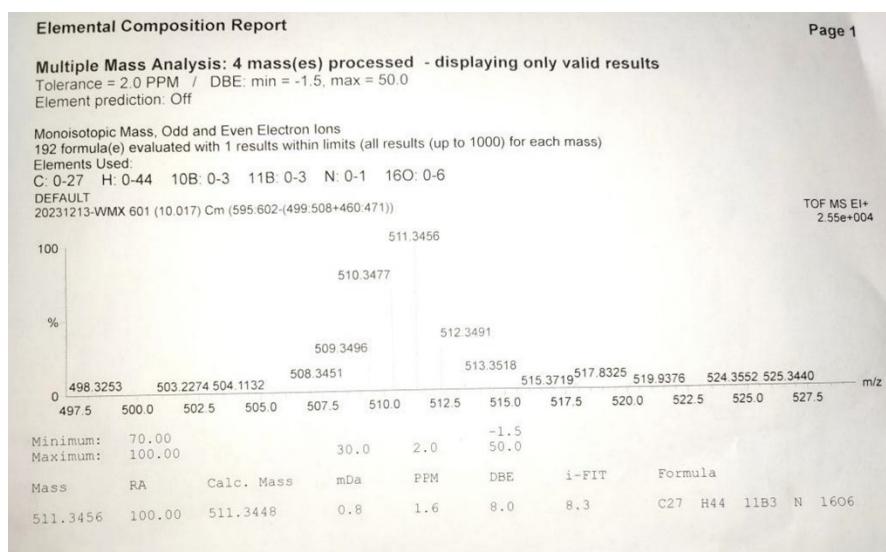
**Figure S76.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4-ethynylbenzonitrile reacted with HBPin at a 1:1 molar ratio.



**Figure S77.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4-ethynylbenzonitrile reacted with HBPin at a 1:2 molar ratio.



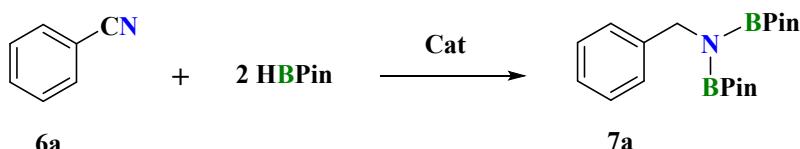
**Figure S78.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4-ethynylbenzonitrile reacted with HBPin at a 1:3 molar ratio.



**Figure S79.** HRMS of compound 11

## 7. Comparison of the catalytic performance of different catalysts for the hydroboration of benzonitrile (6a) and ethynylbenzene (8a).

**Table S11.** Comparison of the catalytic performance of different catalysts for the dihydroboration of benzonitrile (6a)



| Cat. loading  | Temperature (°C) | Time (h) | Solvent                       | Yield <sup>a</sup> (%) |
|---|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 5 mol % [(ArN)Mo(H)(Cl)(PMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ]                   | RT               | 12       | C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub> | >99 <sup>[S5]</sup>    |
| 1 mol % [ <sup>dpp</sup> BIANFe]  | 70               | 3.5      | Tol                           | 98 <sup>[S6]</sup>     |
| 1 mol % [Mn(S <sup>Me</sup> NS)(CO) <sub>3</sub> ]                          | 25( <i>hν</i> )  | 8        | THF                           | >99 <sup>[S7]</sup>    |
| 2 mol % [Ni <sup>II</sup> X(NNN)]   | RT               | 10       | Neat                          | >99 <sup>[S8]</sup>    |
| 2 mol % [L <sup>1</sup> ZnH] <sub>2</sub>                                   | 60               | 12       | Neat                          | >99 <sup>[S9]</sup>    |
| 5 mol % [OsH <sub>6</sub> (P <sup>i</sup> Pr <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]  | 60               | 24       | C <sub>7</sub> D <sub>8</sub> | 92 <sup>[S10]</sup>    |
| 3 mol % [( <i>η</i> <sup>6</sup> -cymene){(IMes)P}RuCl]                     | 60               | 11       | Neat                          | >99 <sup>[S11]</sup>   |
| 3 mol % [L <sup>2</sup> Ti(NMe <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]                | 60               | 2        | Neat                          | >99 <sup>[S12]</sup>   |
| 2 mol % [L <sup>3</sup> Zr(C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl] | 60               | 12       | Neat                          | >99 <sup>[S13]</sup>   |
| 1 mol % [Mg]  | RT               | 12       | CDCl <sub>3</sub>             | >99 (This work)        |

a = <sup>1</sup>H-NMR yield

Ar = 2,6-<sup>i</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>[S5]</sup>

BIAN = 1,2-((bis-2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imino)acenaphthene<sup>[S6]</sup>

L<sup>1</sup> = { (ArNH)(ArN)-C=N-C=(NAr)(NHAr)}; Ar = 2,6-Et<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>[S9]</sup>

IMes = 1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)imidazolin-2-ylidene<sup>[S11]</sup>

H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup> = {Ph<sub>2</sub>P(BH<sub>3</sub>)NH}<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub><sup>[S12]</sup>

HL<sup>3</sup> = [Ph<sub>2</sub>P(S) NH-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>[S13]</sup>

**Table S12.** Comparison of the catalytic performance of different catalysts for the hydroboration of ethynylbenzene (8a).



| Cat. loading | Temperature | Time | Solvent | Yield <sup>a</sup> (%) |
|--------------|-------------|------|---------|------------------------|
|--------------|-------------|------|---------|------------------------|

|   | (°C) | (h) |                                 |                        |
|---|------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 mol % Co(acac) <sub>2</sub><br>3 mol % dppp   | 50   | 24  | THF                             | 41 [S <sup>14</sup> ]  |
| 5 mol % [(IPrCl)Zn-C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ][B(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> ] | RT   | 24  | CD <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> | 77[S <sup>15</sup> ]   |
| 10 mol % (7-DIPP)ZnPh(NTf <sub>2</sub> )  | 90   | 36  | C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>   | 73 [S <sup>16</sup> ]  |
| 1 mol % (NHC)CoCl <sub>2</sub><br>1 mol % LiHBEt <sub>3</sub>                                       | 80   | 12  | Neat                            | >99 [S <sup>17</sup> ] |
| 1 mol % [L <sup>2</sup> Ti(NMe <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ]  | RT   | 1   | Tol                             | >99 [S <sup>12</sup> ] |
| 2 mol % [L <sup>3</sup> Zr (C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl]                        | 60   | 12  | Neat                            | 94 [S <sup>13</sup> ]  |
| 5 mol % [Mg-Me]   | 80   | 18  | Neat                            | 91 [S <sup>18</sup> ]  |
| 2 mol % [Mg]  | 80   | 12  | Tol                             | >99 (This work)        |

a = <sup>1</sup>H-NMR yield  
Dppp = 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane [S<sup>14</sup>]  
7-DIPP = 1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-1,3-diazepin-3-ium-2-ide) [S<sup>16</sup>]  
H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup> = {Ph<sub>2</sub>P(BH<sub>3</sub>)NH}<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> [S<sup>12</sup>]  
HL<sup>3</sup> = [Ph<sub>2</sub>P(S) NH-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>N(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O] [S<sup>13</sup>]

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