

# **Photocatalytic metal-organic frameworks for the aerobic oxidation of arylboronic acids**

Xiao Yu and Seth M. Cohen\*

*Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California, San  
Diego, La Jolla, California 92093, United States*

## **Supporting Information**

\* To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: scohen@ucsd.edu. Telephone:  
(858) 822-5596.

## General Methods

Starting materials and solvents were purchased and used without further purification from commercial suppliers (Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, EMD, TCI, Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc., and others). Proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) were recorded on a Varian FT-NMR spectrometer (400 MHz). Chemical shifts were quoted in parts per million (ppm) referenced to the appropriate solvent peak or 0 ppm for TMS. A Rayonet Photochemical reactor (Model RPR-200) was used for photocatalysis reactions equipped with near-UV lamps ( $\lambda = 365$  nm). A compact fluorescent bulb (23 W, 1600 lumen) was used as visible-light source. Centrifugation was performed using a Beckman Coulter Allegra X-22R Centrifuge, with a fixed-angle rotor at 6800 rpm for 10 min.

## Experimental Procedures

*Synthesis of UiO-67-bpy*<sub>0.25</sub>. ZrCl<sub>4</sub> (120 mg, 0.514 mmol), benzoic acid (1.88g, 15.4 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>bpdc (biphenyldicarboxylic acid, 94 mg, 0.39 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>bpydc (2,2'-bipyridine-5,5'-dicarboxylic acid, 31 mg, 0.13 mmol) were placed in a vial with 20 mL of DMF. The solids were dispersed via sonication for ~10 min, followed by incubation at 120 °C for 24 h. After cooling, solids were collected by centrifugation and the solvent was decanted. The solids were washed with DMF (2×20 mL), followed by soaking in ethanol (EtOH) for 3 d, and the solution was exchanged with fresh EtOH (10

mL) every 24 h. After 3 d of soaking, the solids were collected via centrifugation and dried under vacuum.

*Using PSM to prepare UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub>.* UiO-67-bpy<sub>0.25</sub> (35.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) and *cis*-Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (*cis*-bis(2,2'-bipyridine)dichlororuthenium(II) hydrate) (14.6 mg, 0.03 mmol) were placed in a scintillation vial with 1 mL EtOH and 1 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. The solids were dispersed via sonication for ~10 min, followed by incubation at 80 °C for 2 h. After cooling, solids were collected by centrifugation and the solvent was decanted. The solids were washed once with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and twice with EtOH (20 mL), followed by soaking in EtOH for 3 d, with the solution exchanged with fresh EtOH (10 mL) every 24 h. After 3 d of soaking, the solids were collected via centrifugation and dried under vacuum.

*Aerobic oxidation reaction catalyzed by UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub>.* Arylboronic acid (0.5 mmol), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (0.6 mmol), and UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> (100 mg, 5 mol%) were placed in a 20 mL round-bottom flask with 5 mL MeOH. After sonication for 10 min, the flask was opened to air and put into a photoreactor ( $\lambda = 365$  nm) equipped with a cooling fan for 24 h. For visible-light reactions, a 23W compact fluorescent bulb (1600 lumen) was put under the round-bottom flask at a distance of 5 cm. A condenser was connected to the round-bottom flask to prevent solvent evaporation. After the reaction was complete, the supernatant was separated by centrifugation and evaporated before being analyzed by <sup>1</sup>HNMR (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD). Some leaching of biphenyl dicarboxylic acid ligand is observed in analysis, and control experiments were performed by soaking

UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> in reactants solution without light irradiation (see Fig S12). To test recyclability, the supernatant was decanted from the catalyst after 48 h reaction and the catalyst was washed with MeOH (3×10 mL). The washed MOFs were directly used for the next round oxidation catalysis for the same substrate.

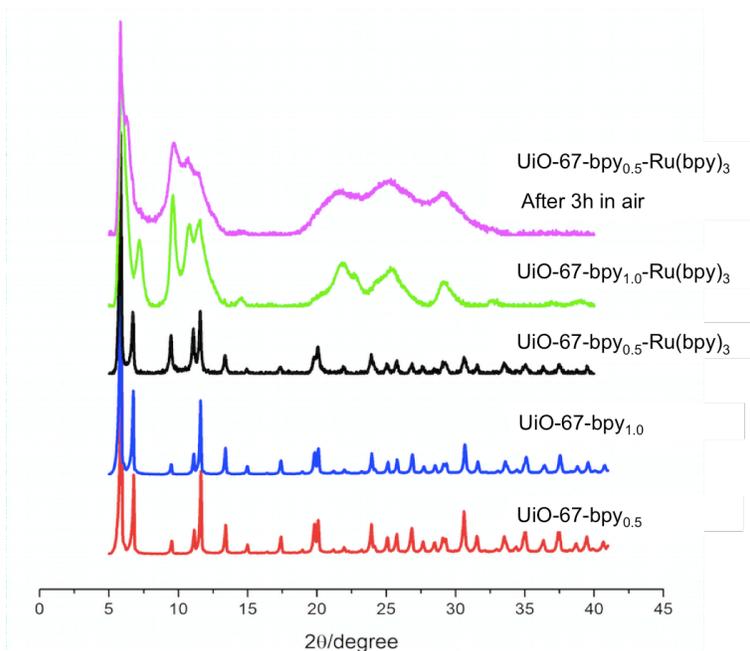
*Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD) Analysis.* ~20-30 mg of UiO-67-bpy material was dried under vacuum prior to PXRD analysis. PXRD data were collected at ambient temperature on a Bruker D8 Advance diffractometer at 40 kV, 40 mA for Cu K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$ = 1.5418 Å), with a scan speed of 1 sec/step, a step size of 0.02° in 2 $\theta$ , and a 2 $\theta$  range of ~5 to 45° (sample dependent). The experimental background was corrected using the Jade 5.0 software package.

*Digestion and Analysis by <sup>1</sup>HNMR.* ~10 mg of UiO-67-bpy material was dried under vacuum and digested with sonication in 600  $\mu$ L DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> and 10  $\mu$ L of 40% HF. Approximately 10 mg UiO-67-Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub> was suspended in a 0.1 M solution (1 mL) of D<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in D<sub>2</sub>O/DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (prepared by mixing 11.9 mg of a solution of D<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (85% in D<sub>2</sub>O) with 1 mL DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) and stirred at room temperature for 5 h. The solution was filtered through cotton and placed in an NMR tube.

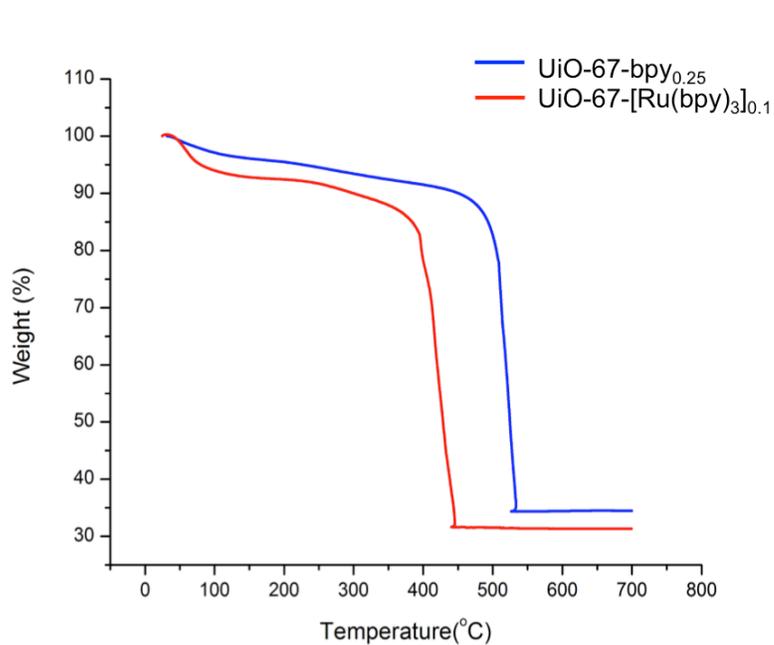
*BET Surface Area Analysis.* ~50 mg of UiO-67-bpy material was evacuated on a vacuum line overnight at room temperature. The sample was then transferred to a pre-weighed sample tube and degassed at 105 °C on an Micromeritics ASAP 2020 Adsorption Analyzer for a minimum of 12 h or until the outgas rate was <5 mm Hg. The sample tube was re-weighed to obtain a consistent mass for the degassed exchanged

MOF. BET surface area ( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ ) measurements were collected at 77 K by  $\text{N}_2$  on a Micromeritics ASAP 2020 Adsorption Analyzer using the volumetric technique, and the surface areas reported for each material is the average of three independent samples.

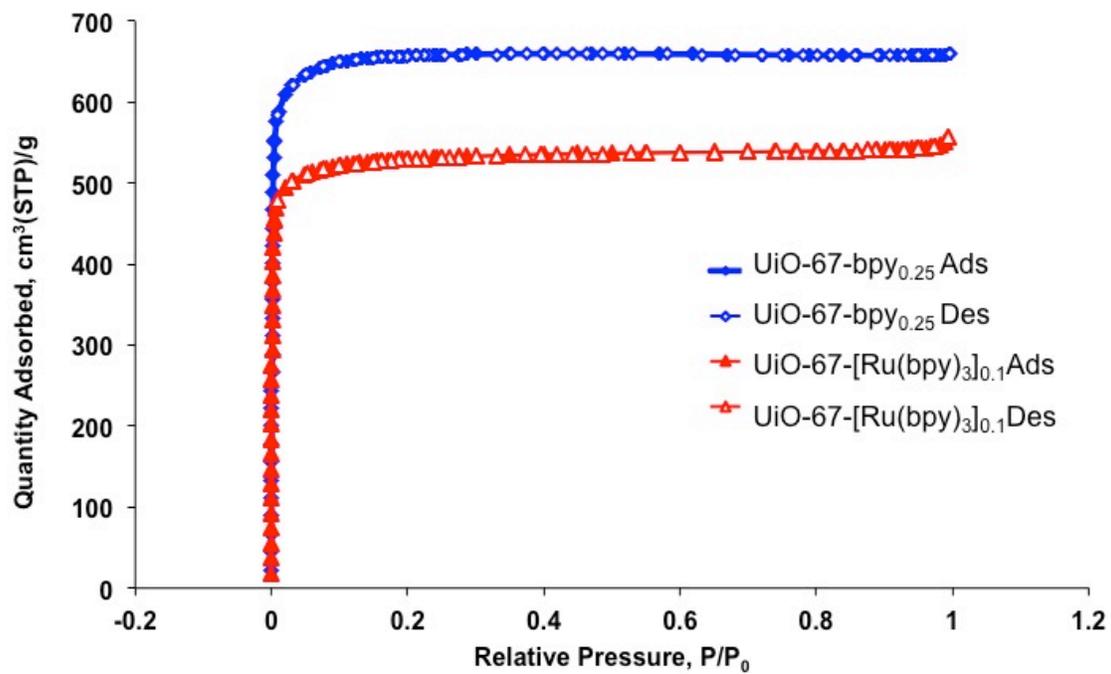
*Thermalgravimetric Analysis.* ~10-15 mg of UiO-67-bpy material was used for TGA measurements, after BET analysis (activated). Samples were analyzed under a stream of  $\text{N}_2$  using a TA Instrument Q600 SDT running from room temperature to 800 °C with a scan rate of 5 °C/min.



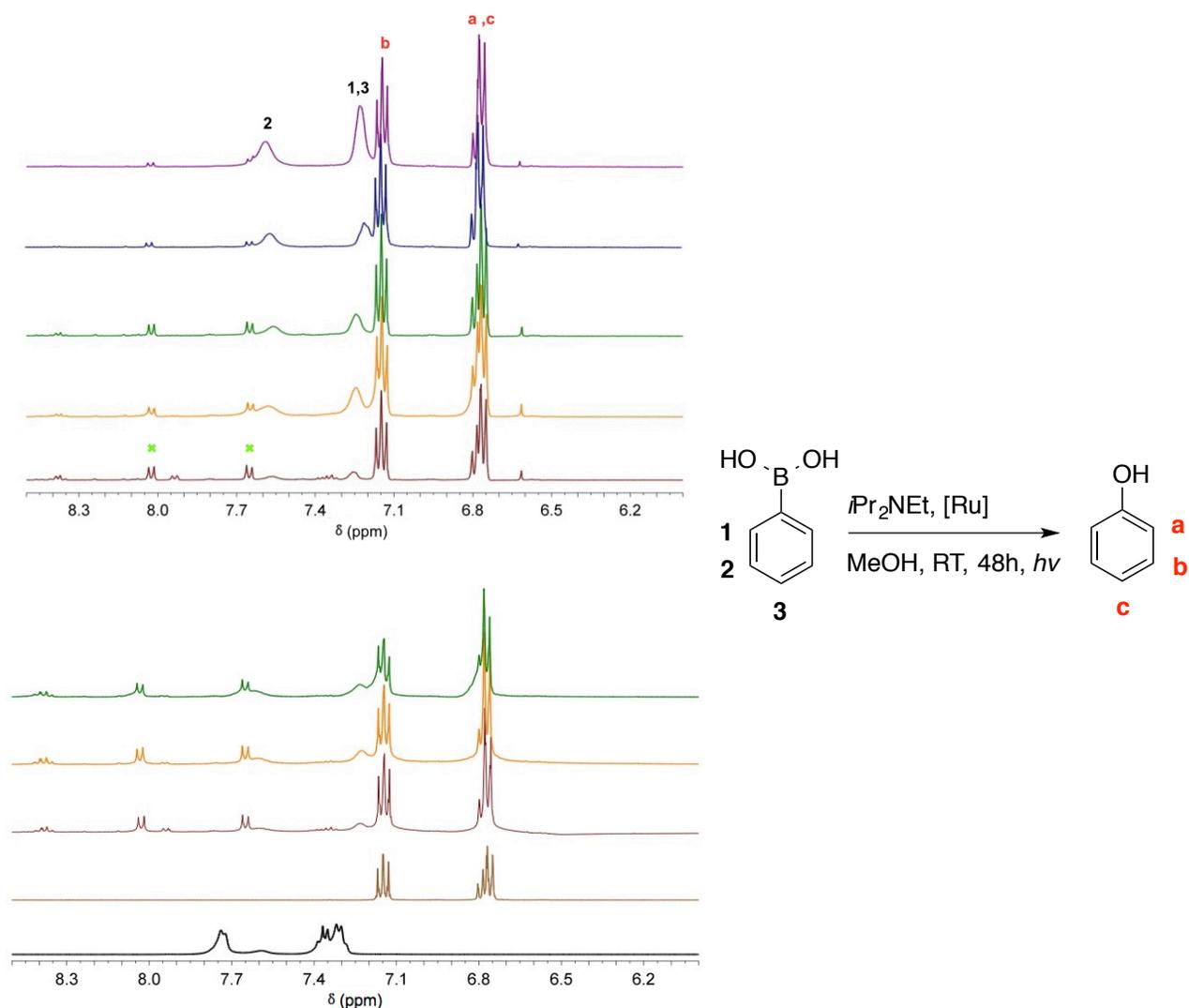
**Figure S1.** PXRD of UiO-67-bpy<sub>0.5</sub>, UiO-67-bpy<sub>1.0</sub>, and their metalated derivatives (PSM for 1 h).



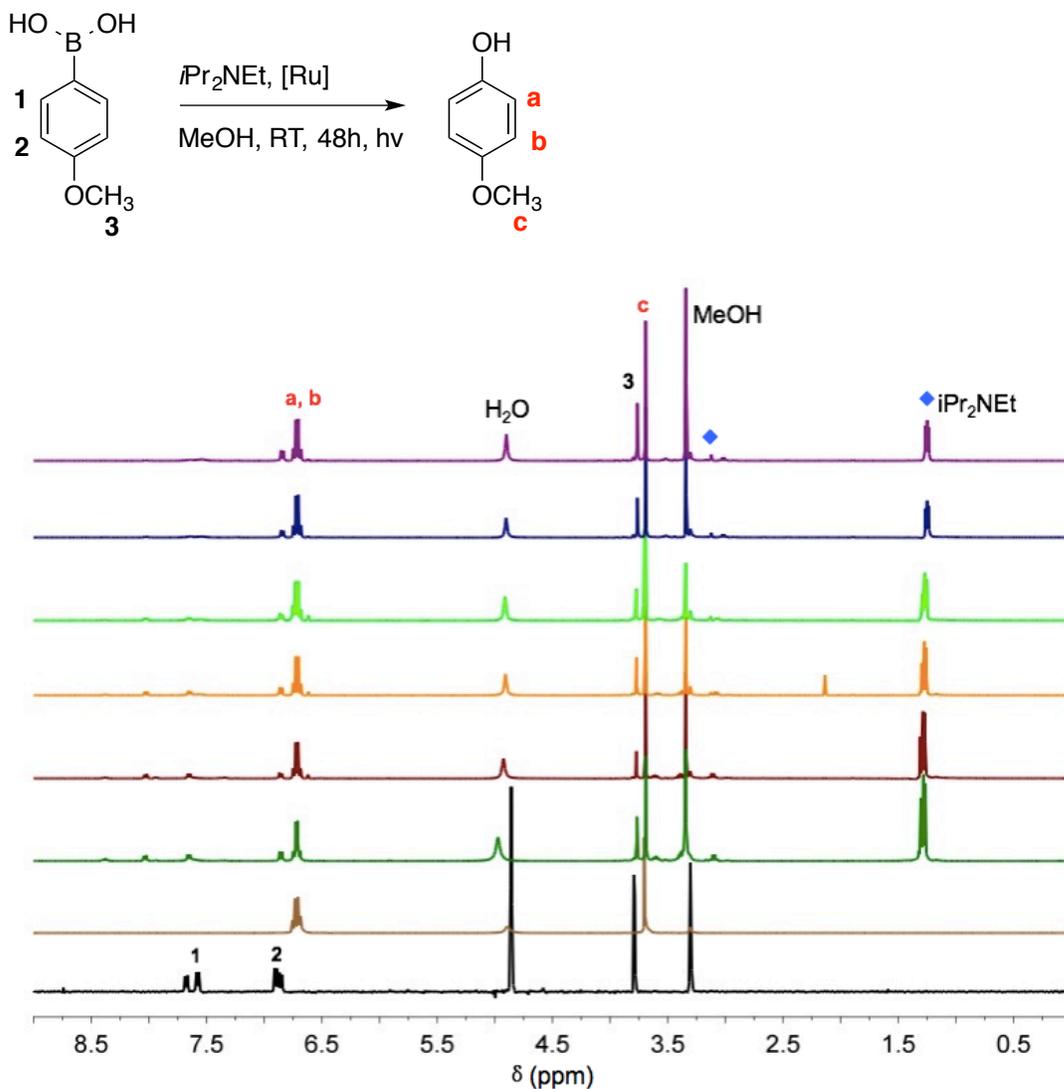
**Figure S2.** TGA of UiO-67-bpy<sub>0.25</sub> (blue) and UiO-bpy-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> (red).



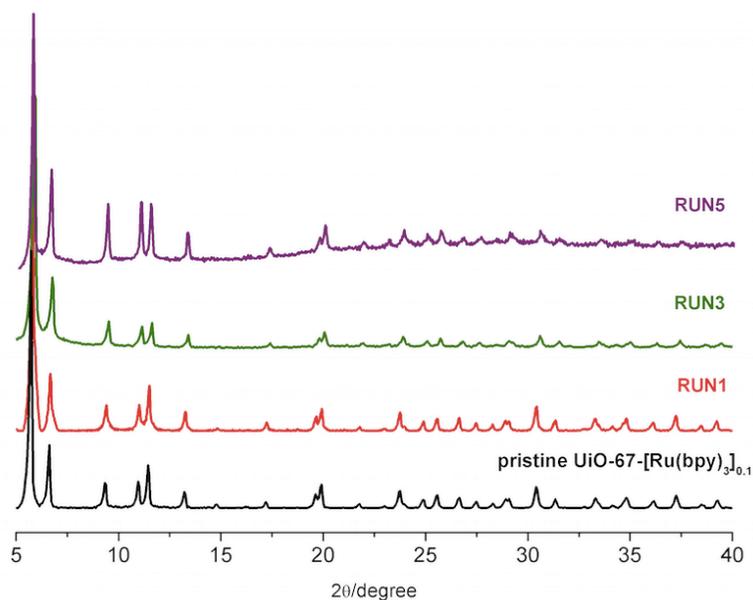
**Figure S3.** N<sub>2</sub> isotherms of UiO-67-bpy<sub>0.25</sub> and UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub>



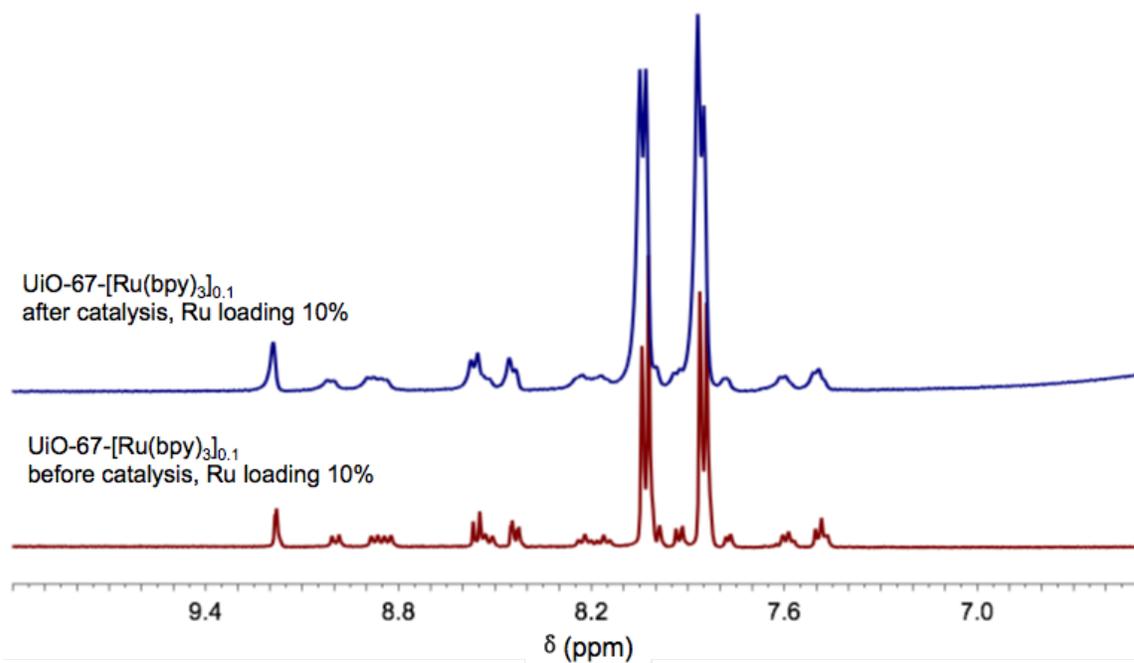
**Figure S4.** Top: <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 5 cycles of aerobic oxidation of phenylboronic acid using UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> as catalyst under near-UV irradiation (peaks for substrate and product are labeled): Run 1 (dark red, yield 81%); Run 2 (orange, yield 72%); Run 3 (green, yield 74%); Run 4 (blue, yield 73%); and Run 5 (dark magenta, yield 57%). Bottom: <sup>1</sup>H NMR of phenyl boronic acid (black), phenol (brown) and 3 cycles of aerobic oxidation of phenylboronic acid using UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> as catalyst under visible-light irradiation: Run 1 (dark red, yield 85%); Run 2 (orange, yield 78%); Run 3 (green, yield 78%). Some dcbp<sup>2-</sup> ligand (\*) is observed in the reaction mixture after photocatalysis (see Fig. S8).



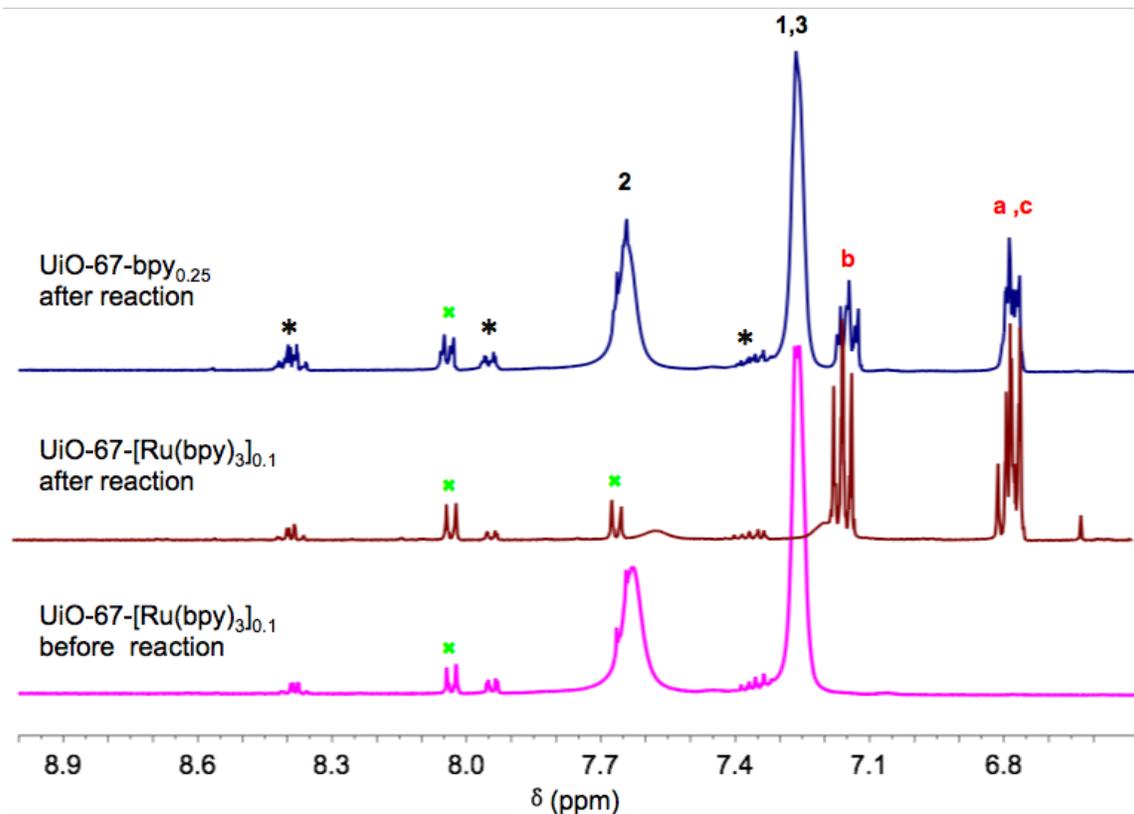
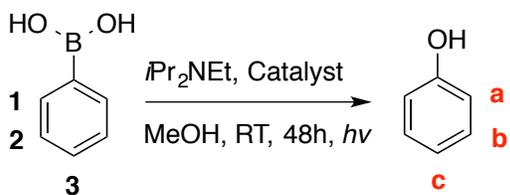
**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  of 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid (black), 4-methoxyphenol (brown), aerobic oxidation of 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid using  $\text{UiO-67-}[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]_{0.1}$  as catalyst under visible-light irradiation (dark green, Yield 72%) and 5 cycles under near-UV irradiation: Run 1 (dark red, Yield 76%), Run 2 (orange, Yield 72%), Run 3 (green, Yield 72%), Run 4 (dark blue, Yield 73%) and Run 5 (dark magenta, Yield 66%).



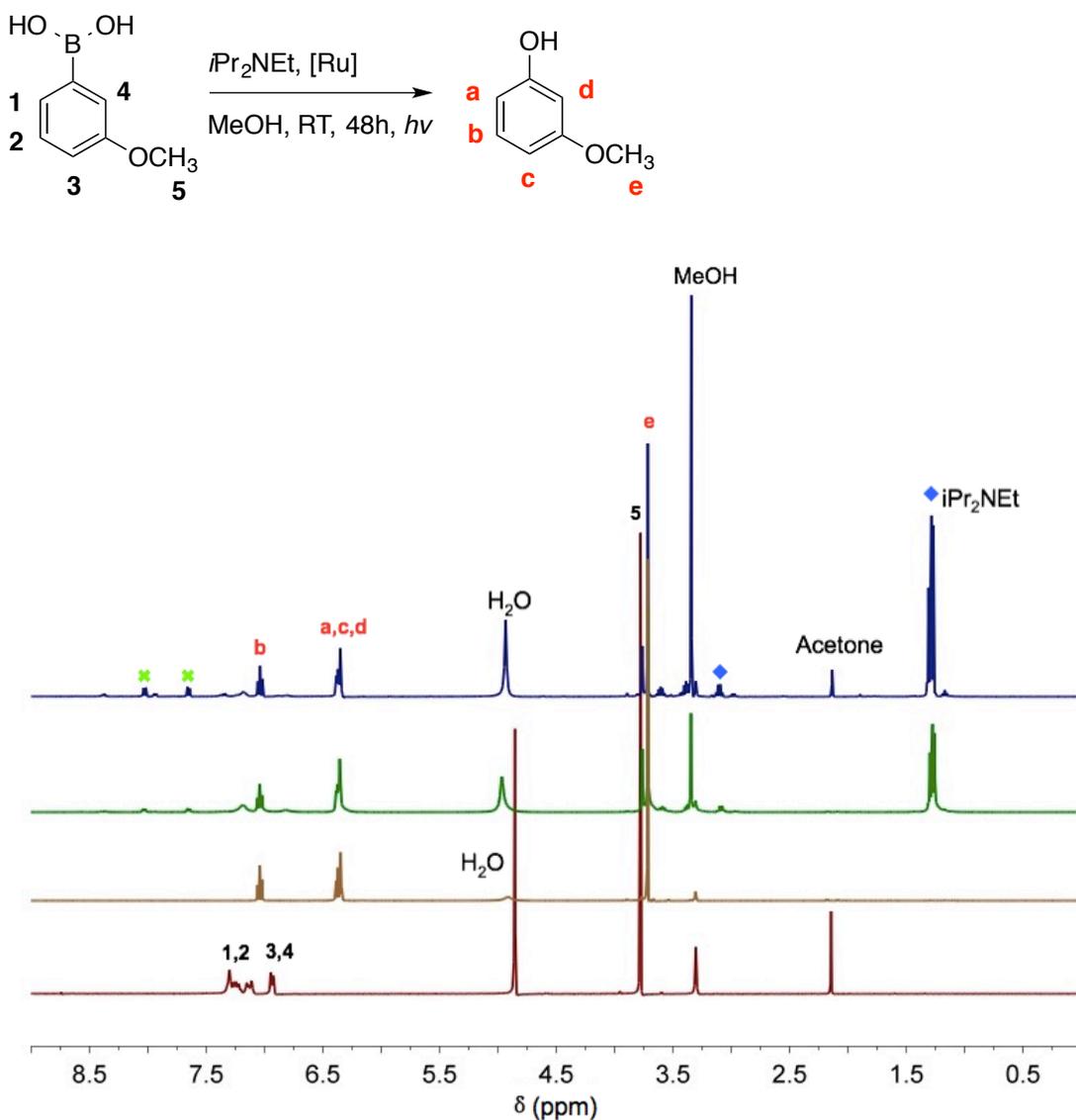
**Figure S6.** PXRD of 5 cycles of UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> catalyst.



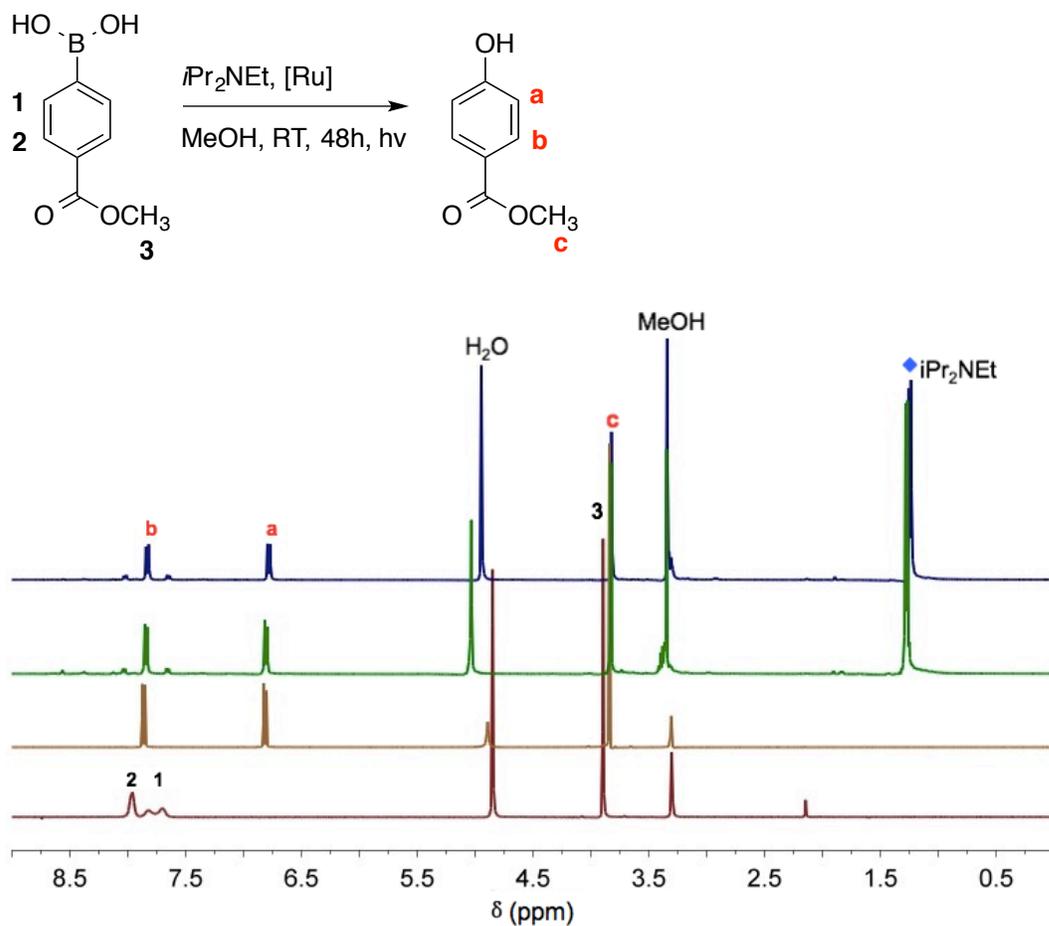
**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of digested UiO-67-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>0.1</sub> before (red) and after (blue) catalysis showing minimal or no loss in Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub> from the MOF.



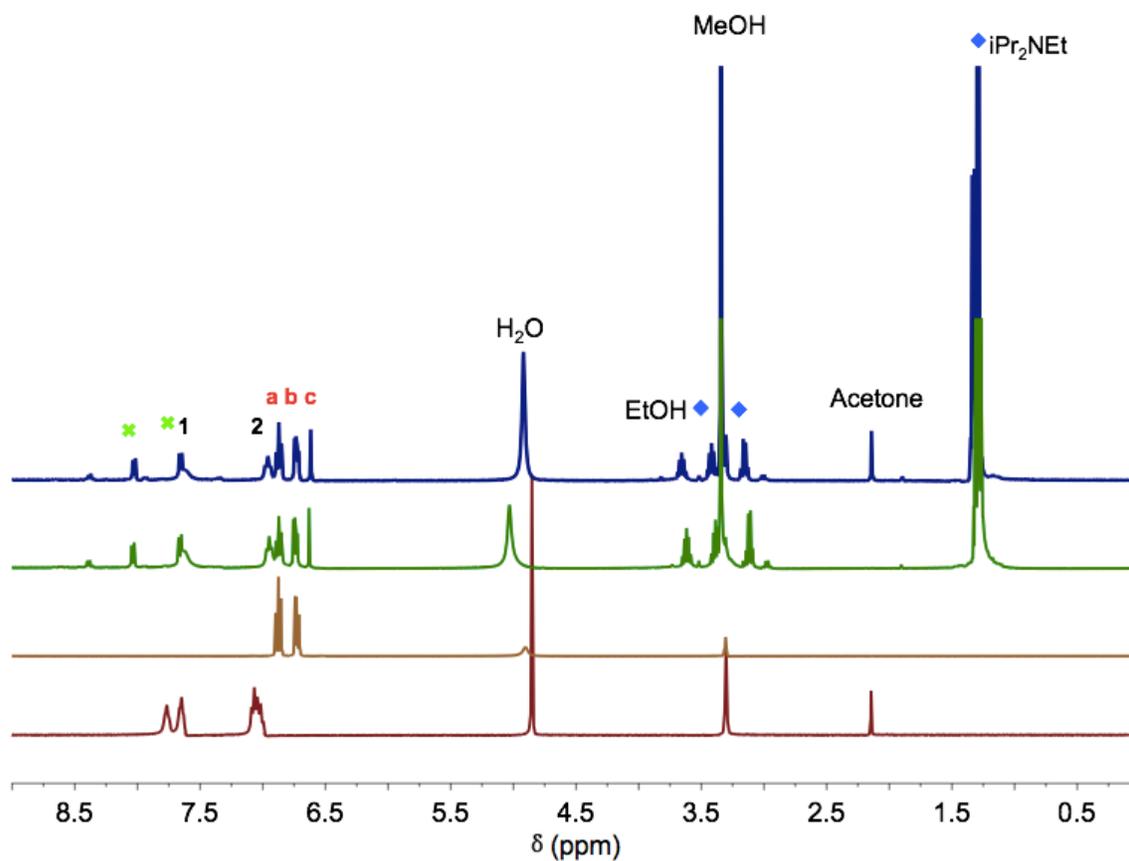
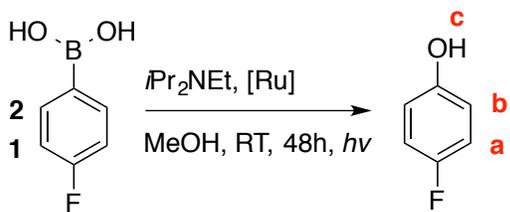
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of oxidation of phenylboronic acid using UiO-67-[Ru(bpy) $_3$ ] $_{0.1}$  as catalyst (before reaction, magenta; after reaction, dark red) and UiO-67-bpy $_{0.25}$  as catalyst (after reaction, dark blue). Both reaction mixtures show some degree of dcbp $^{2-}$  ligand (x) before and after photocatalysis. The dcbp $^{2-}$  ligand may be leaching from within the MOF (incomplete washing, trapped in pores) or from the MOF itself (partial degradation). Peaks denoted with asterisks represent a small amount of unidentified impurities.



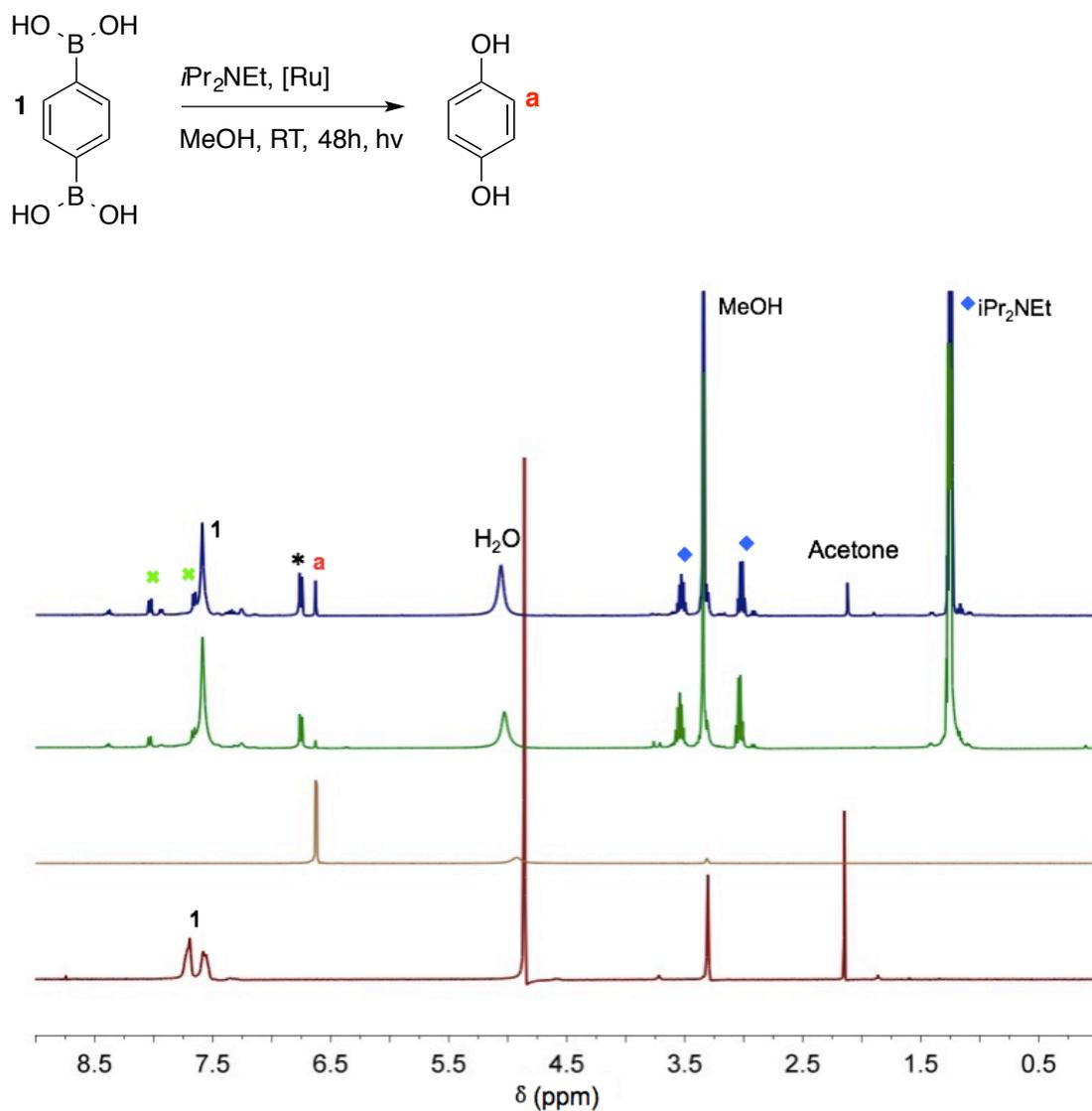
**Figure S9.**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  of 3-methoxyphenylboronic acid (dark red), 3-methoxyphenol (brown), and the reaction mixture after photocatalysis under visible-light irradiation (dark green, yield ~72%) and near-UV light irradiation (dark blue, yield ~79%). Some  $\text{dcbp}^{2-}$  ligand (\*) is observed in the reaction mixture after photocatalysis (see Fig. S8).



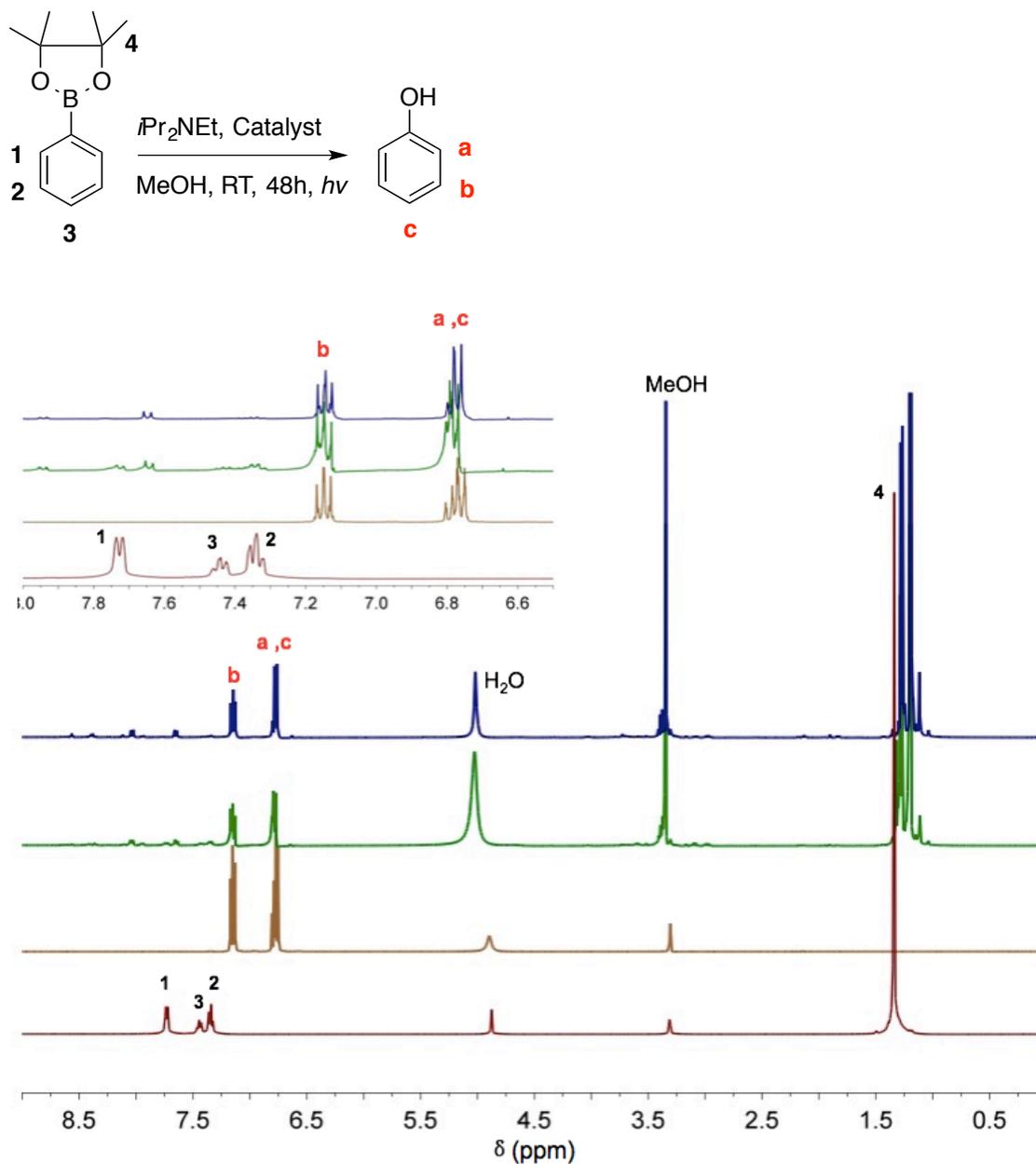
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  of 4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenylboronic acid (dark red), methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate (brown), and the reaction mixture after photocatalysis under both visible light (dark green, yield > 95%) and near-UV irradiation (dark blue, yield > 95%).



**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$ NMR of 4-fluorophenylboronic acid (dark red), 4-fluorophenol (brown), and the reaction mixture after photocatalysis under both visible-light irradiation (dark green, yield ~50%) and near-UV irradiation (dark blue, yield ~55%). Some dcbp<sup>2-</sup> ligand (\*) is observed in the reaction mixture after photocatalysis (see Fig. S8).



**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$ NMR of 1,4-phenylenediboronic acid (dark red), hydroquinone (brown), and the reaction mixture after reaction under visible-light irradiation (dark green, yield 15%) and near-UV irradiation (dark blue, yield 23%). Peaks denoted with asterisks are from benzoquinone, the oxidation product of hydroquinone.  $\text{dcbp}^{2-}$  ligand (x) is observed in the reaction mixture after photocatalysis (see Fig. S8).



**Figure S13.**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  of phenylboronic acid pinacol ester (dark red), phenol (brown) and the reaction mixture after photocatalysis under both visible-light (dark green, yield 91%) and near-UV irradiation (dark blue, yield > 95%).