

Role of Catechol in the Radical Reduction of *B*-Alkylcatecholboranes in Presence of Methanol

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General Informations: Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. All glassware was oven-dried at 130 °C or flame dried under vacuum, assembled hot and allowed to cool under nitrogen. ¹H and ¹¹B NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II 400 spectrometer (¹H: 400.12 MHz, ¹¹B: 128.38 MHz). The ¹³C and some ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 (¹H: 300.18 MHz, ¹³C: 75.48 MHz). Chemical shifts are reported in units of δ (ppm) using the internal standard residual (C₆H₆ δ = 7.16 ppm for ¹H NMR spectra and C₆D₆ δ = 120.06 ppm for ¹³C NMR spectra) or Et₂OBF₃ as an external standard (δ = 0 ppm) for ¹¹B NMR spectra. The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, br = broad. GC analyses were carried out on a CE instruments MEGA Series HRGC fitted with an Optima delta-3 (Macherey-Nagel) capillary column (30 m and 10 m). GC/MS analyses were carried out on a Finnigan Trace GC/MS fitted with an Optima delta-3 (30 m).

General Procedure for the preparation of NMR samples

C₆D₆ was purchased from Cambridge Isotopes and degassed by 5 cycles freezing / vacuum / nitrogen then stored on MS 4A in the glove box under Argon (MBRAUN Uni-Lab (1200/780)). Commercially available *B*-*n*-propylcatecholborane (PrBCat) and catecholborane (CatBH) were distilled under reduced pressure prior to use (respectively 73 °C, 1 mbar and 50 °C, 67 mbar). Catechol was recrystallised from benzene then sublimed under reduced pressure. Commercial anhydrous methanol (Aldrich) was used without further purification. All the samples were prepared in the glove box and readily sealed under vacuum.

B-Methoxy-1,2,3-benzodioxaborole (4)

To a solution of CatBH (15 mmol, 1.6 mL) in C₆H₆ (10 mL), MeOH (1 equiv, 15 mmol, 0.6 mL) was added dropwise. The resulting solution was stirred until no more H₂ evolution was visible (c.a. 15 min). After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was distilled under reduced pressure to yield MeOBCat **4** as a colorless oil. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆): 6.88-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.71-6.77 (m, 2H), 3.37 (s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): 148.6, 122.5, 112.2, 53.1. ¹¹B-NMR (128 MHz, C₆D₆): 23.5.

Dimethyl-propylboronicester (7b)

Propylboronic acid (5 mmol, 0.44 g) was dissolved in C₆D₆ (2 mL) with MeOH (5 equiv., 25 mmol, 1 mL). After 5 min stirring, the resulting solution was distilled at atmospheric pressure. 0.550 g of an azeotropic mixture (T = 45 – 55 °C) of B(OMe)₃, PrB(OMe)₂ and MeOH (1:10:50 determined by integration of ¹H NMR spectra) was obtained as a colorless liquid. This mixture was readily dissolved in C₆D₆ over MS 4 Å to trap the excess of MeOH. The resulting solution was used as obtained for NMR experiments. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆): 3.36 (s, 6H), 1.53-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.69 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): 51.2, 17.8, 17.4. ¹¹B-NMR (128 MHz, C₆D₆): 31.9. NMR data are in good accordance with the literature.^[1]

B-isopinocampheyl-1,2,3-benzodioxaborole (3a)

Catecholborane (1.2 mL, 9 mmol) was added dropwise to α-pinene **1a** (5 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated neat at 100 °C for 12 h. Distillation of the crude material furnished pure **3a** (80 °C, 10⁻³ mbar) as a colorless oil. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, C₆D₆): 7.09-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.85-6.76 (m, 2H), 2.44-2.10 (m, 4H), 1.93-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.56 (m, 1H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, C₆D₆): 149.1, 122.8, 112.6, 48.3, 41.6, 38.9, 38.8, 34.4, 29.0, 28.6, 23.3, 23.0.

cis-Pinane (2a)

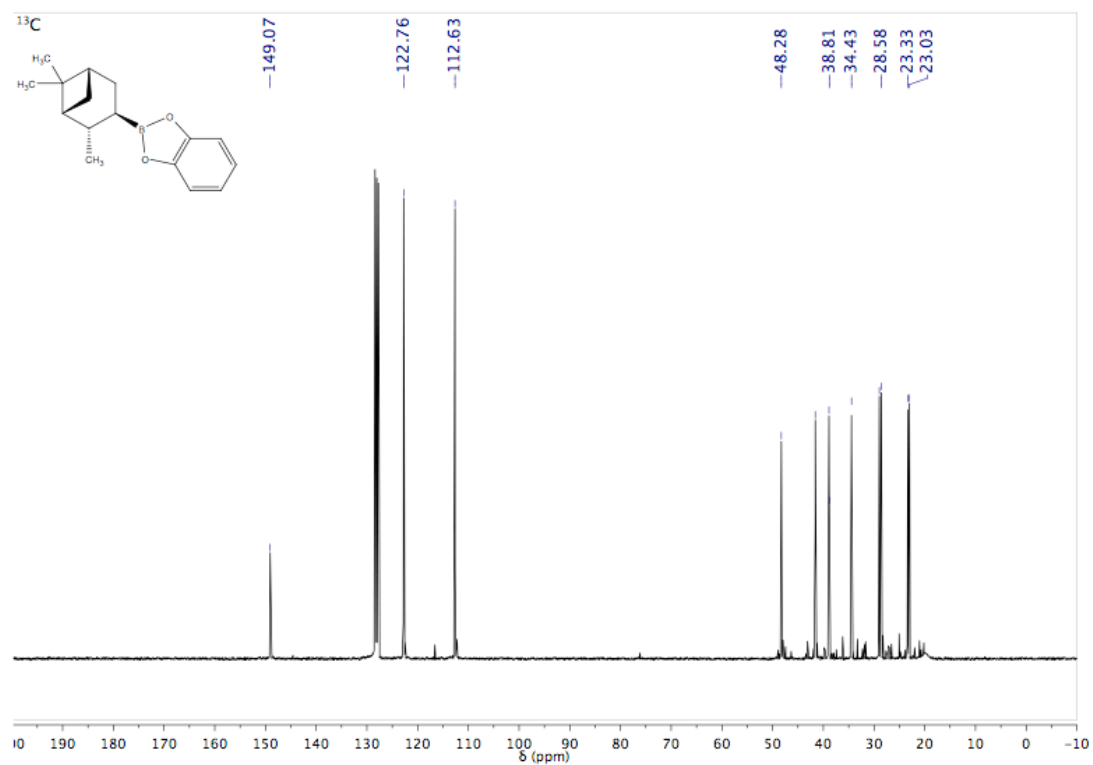
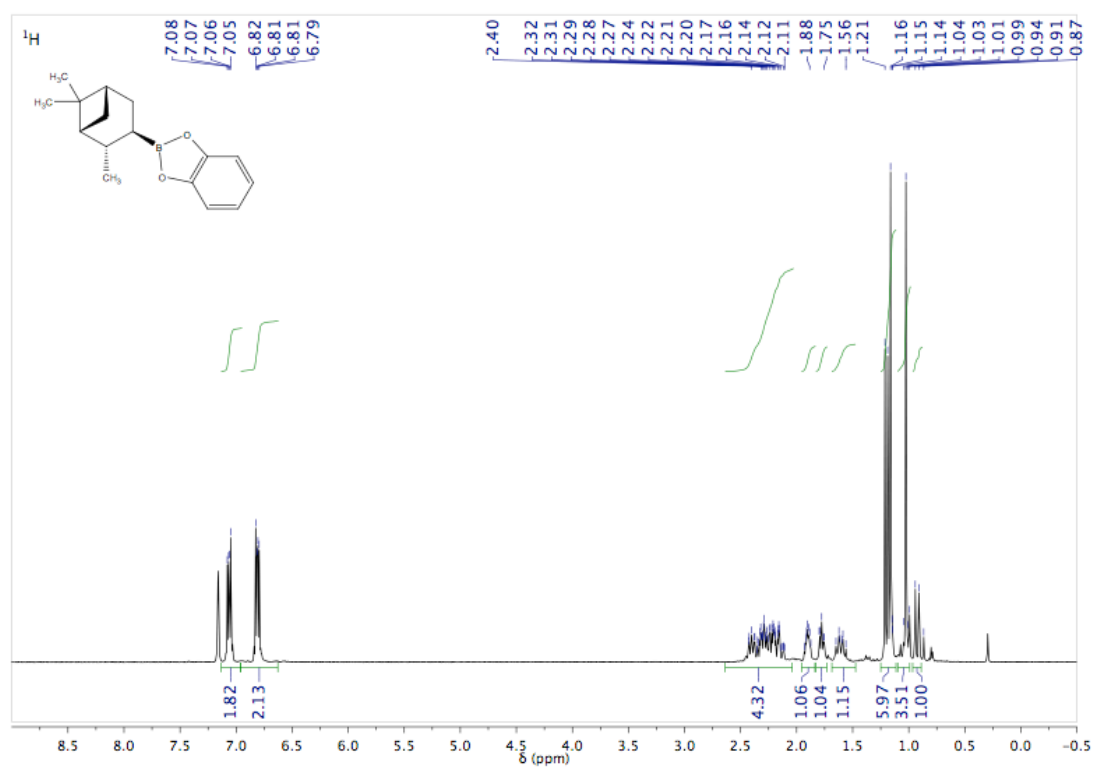
From α-pinene **1a**: Catecholborane (0.4 ml, 3 mmol) was added dropwise at 0 °C to a solution of **1a** (1.5 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (14 μl, 0.15 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 ml) under N₂. The reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 5 h. After cooling down to 0 °C, MeOH (0.24 ml, 6 mmol) was added. The solution was heated under reflux and air (60 ml, 0.5 mmol O₂) was introduced over 1.5 h using a syringe pump (needle placed just below the surface of the reaction mixture).

From *B*-isopinocampheylcatecholborane (**3a**): To a solution of **3a** (1.5 mmol, 384 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 ml) under N₂, MeOH (0.24 ml, 6 mmol) or catechol (1.5 mmol, 249 mg) was added. The solution was heated under reflux and air (60 ml, 0.5 mmol O₂) was introduced over 1.5 h with a syringe.

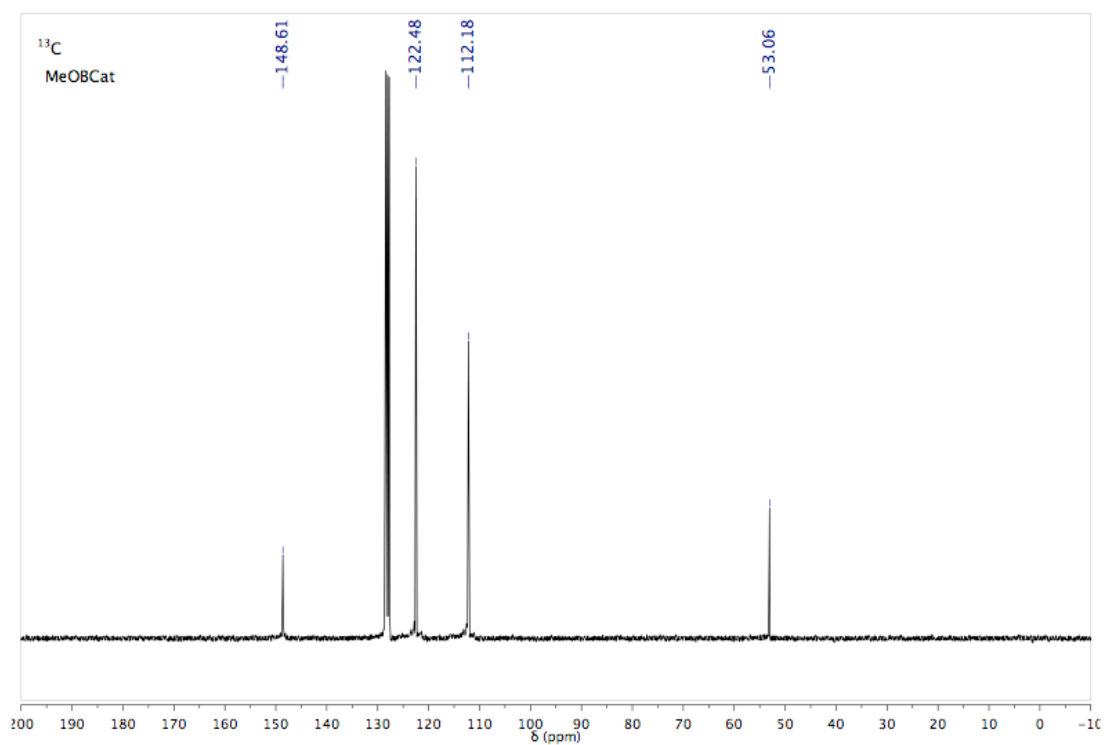
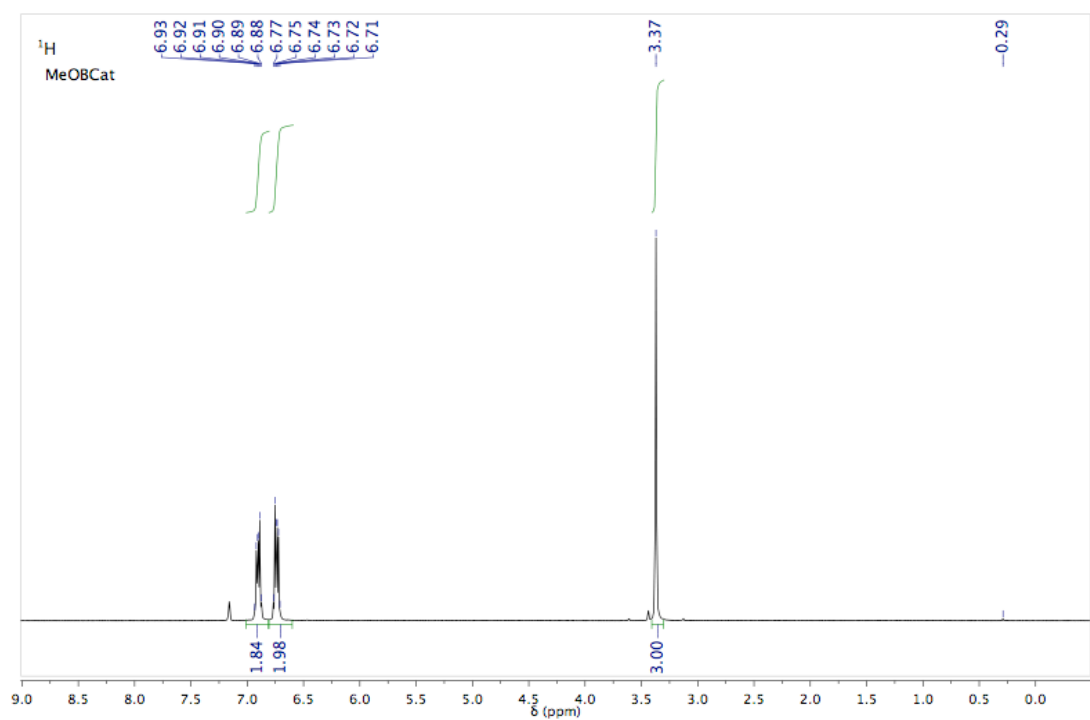
GC yield was determined using phenylcyclohexane as internal standard. The retention time (*t_r* = 2.57 min, 60°C-280 °C, rate: 6 °C/min, 45 KPa, helium, *l* = 10 m) and CG/MS analysis of the reduced product were found to be identical with commercially available (1*R*)-(+)- *cis*-pinane.

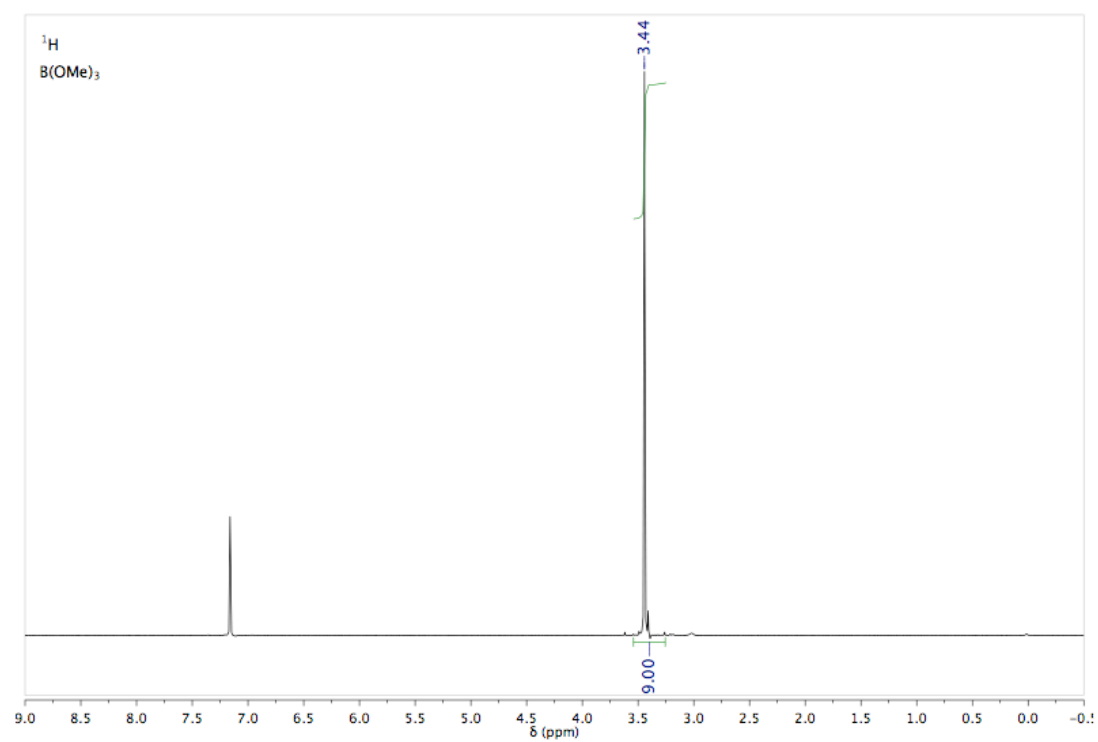
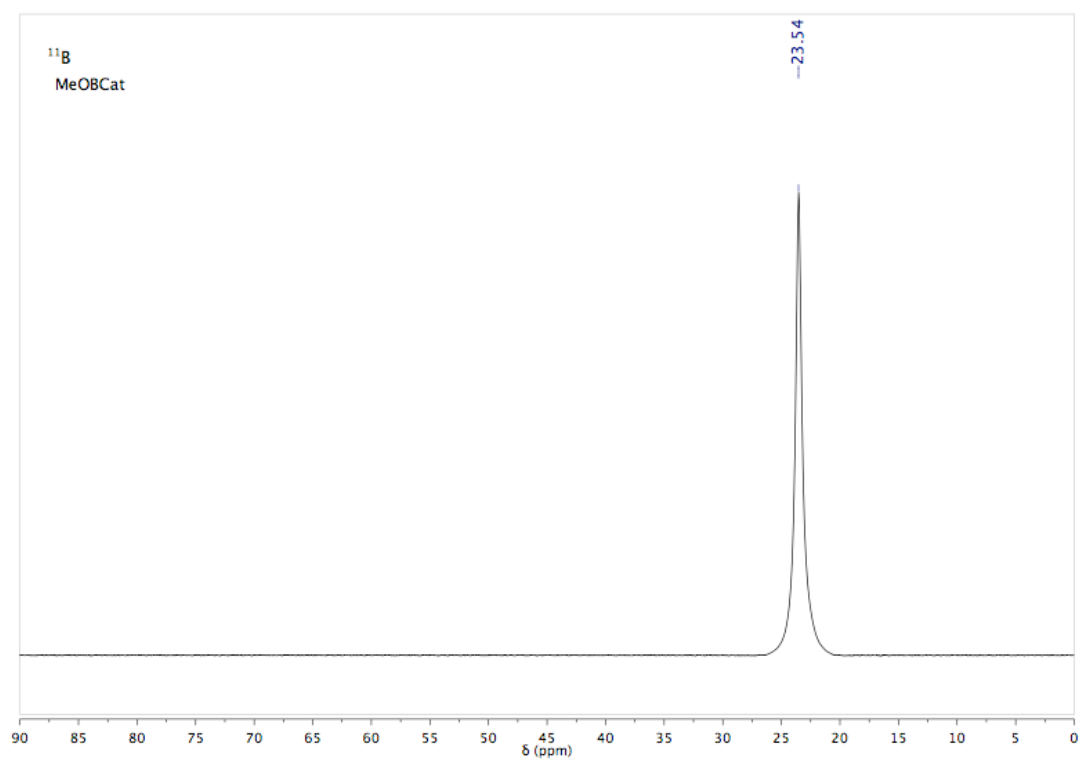
[1] J. P. Costes, G. Cros, J. P. Laurent, *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1979**, 175, 257-71

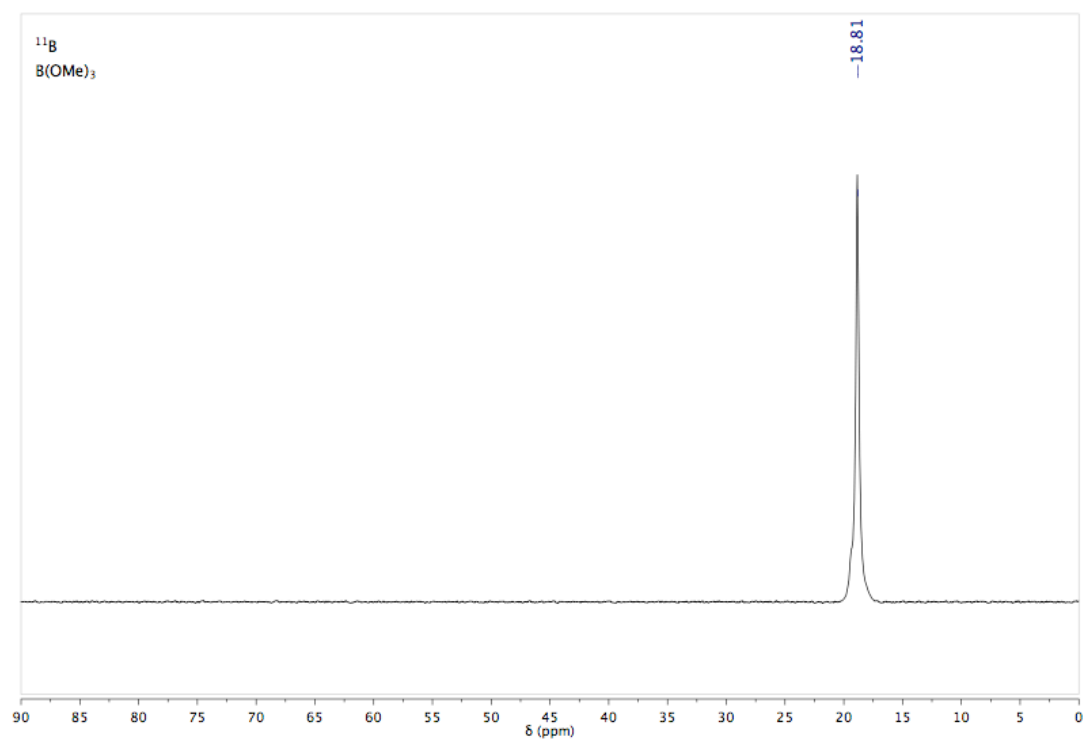
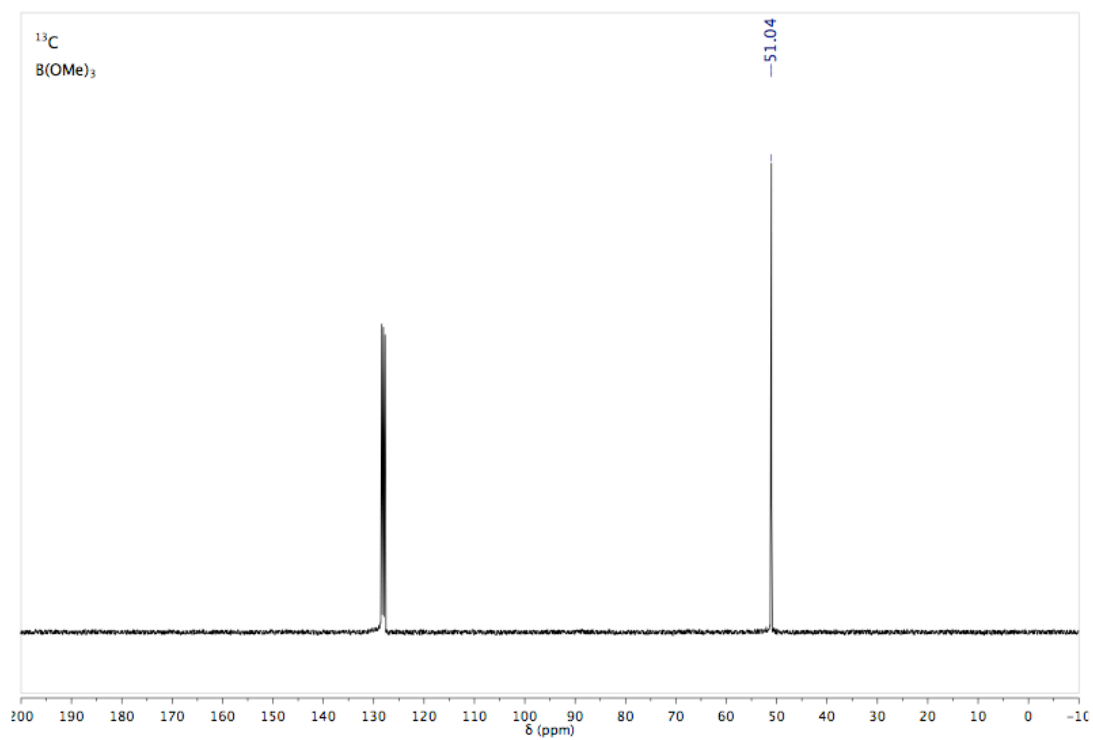
B-cis- α -Piny-1,2,3-benzodioxaborole (3a)

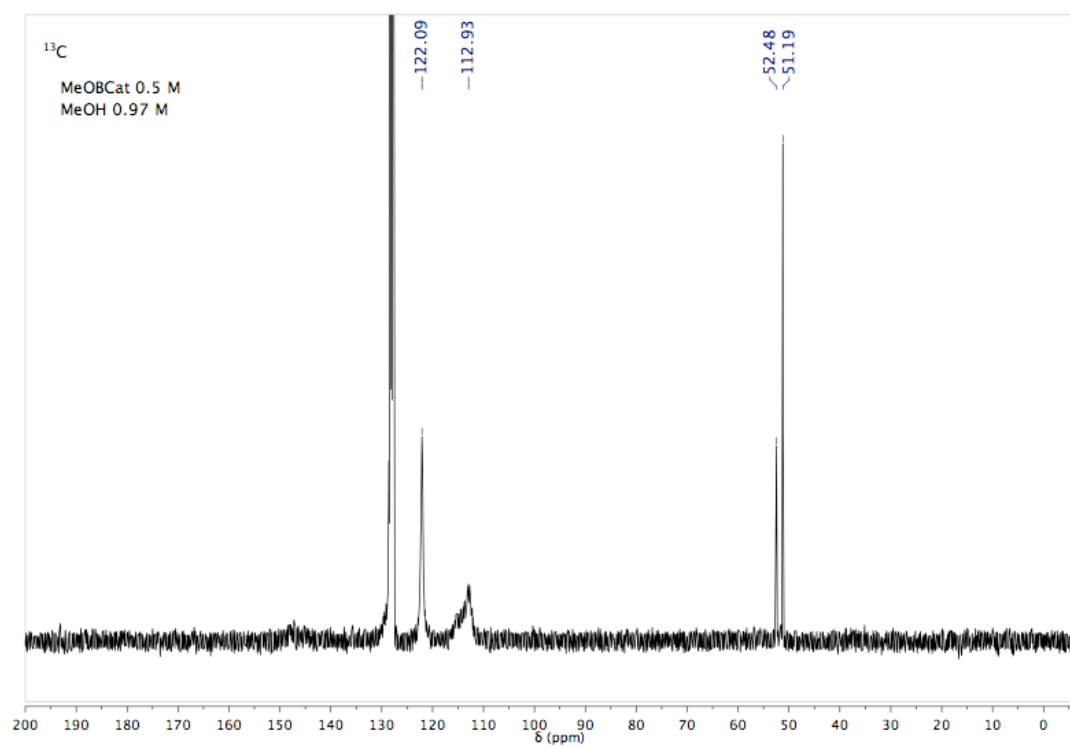
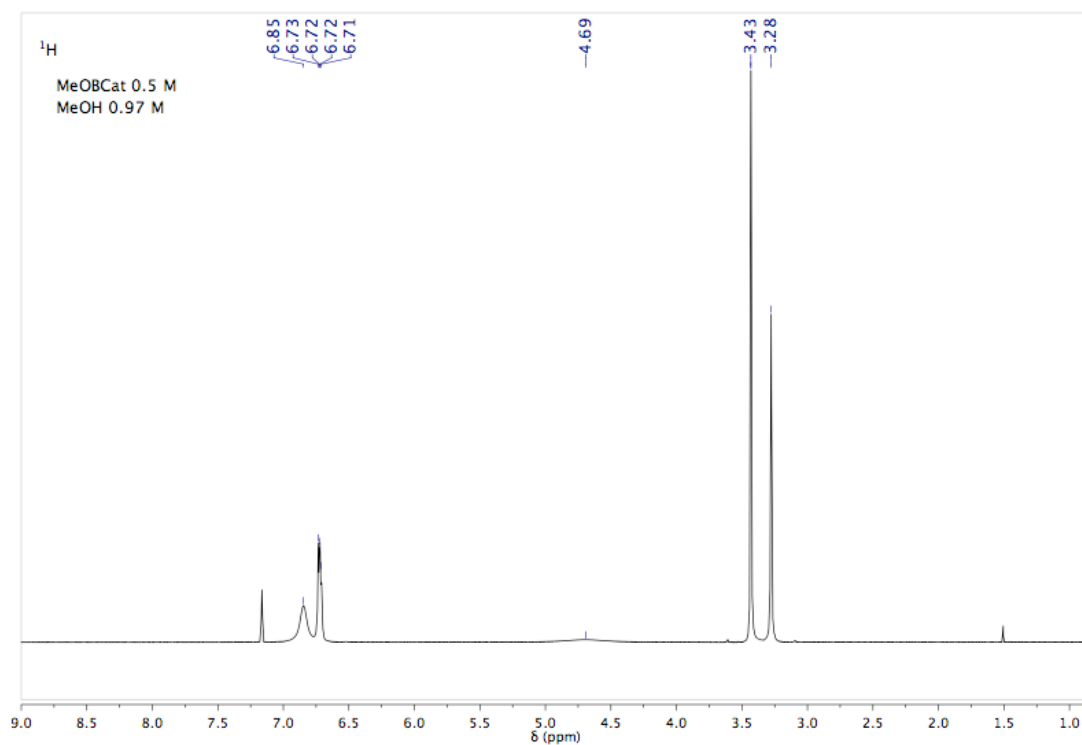


MeOBCat/MeOH NMR study

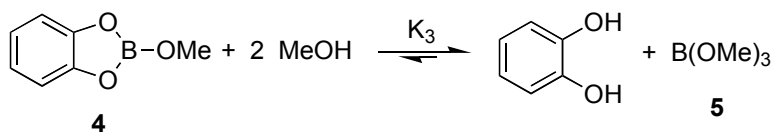








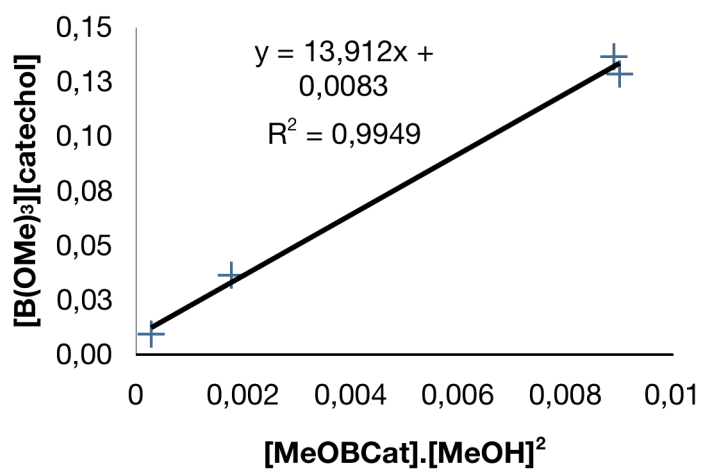
Determination of the equilibrium constant: K_3

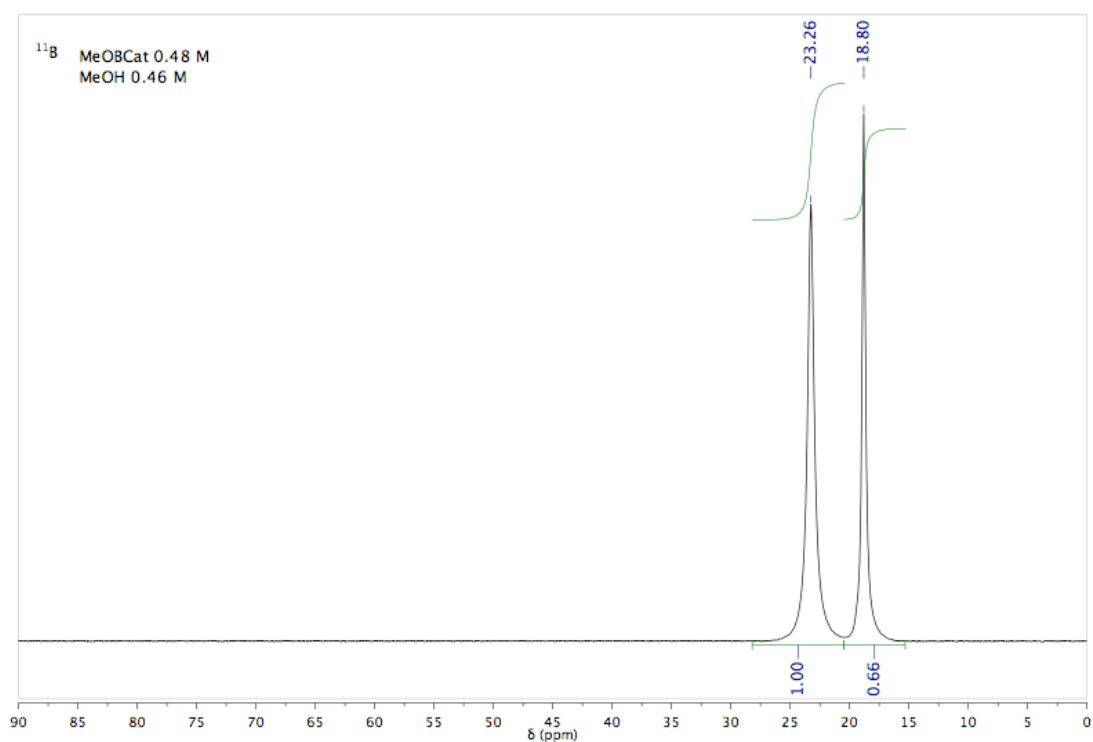
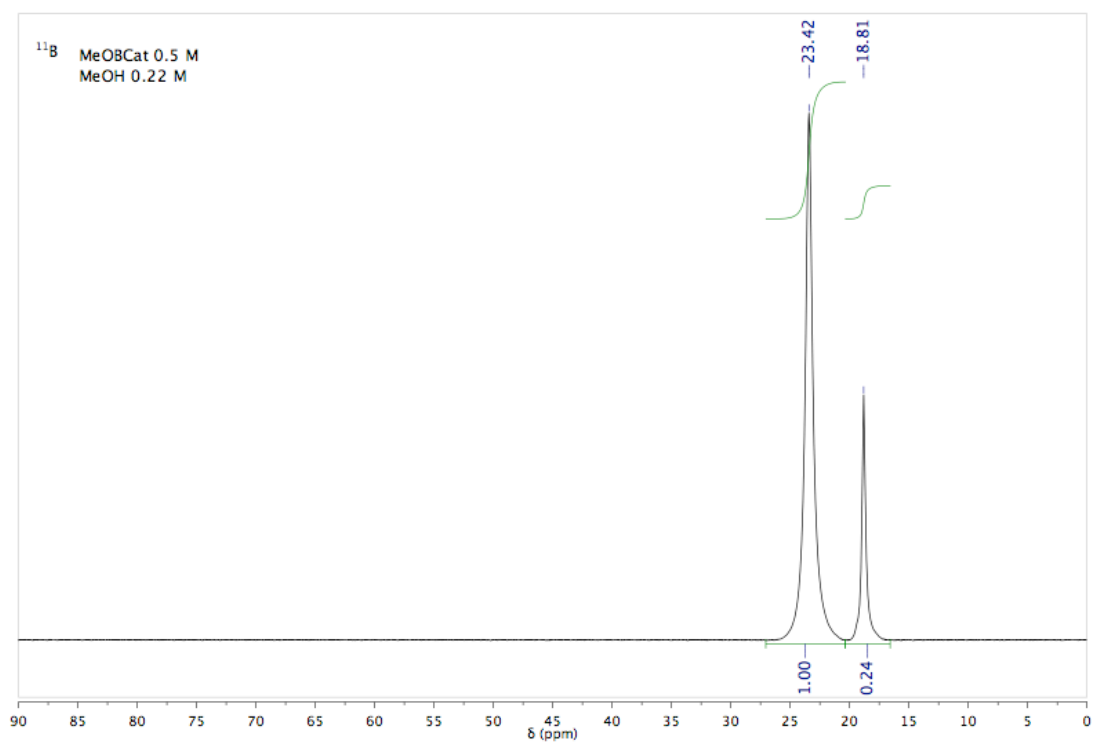


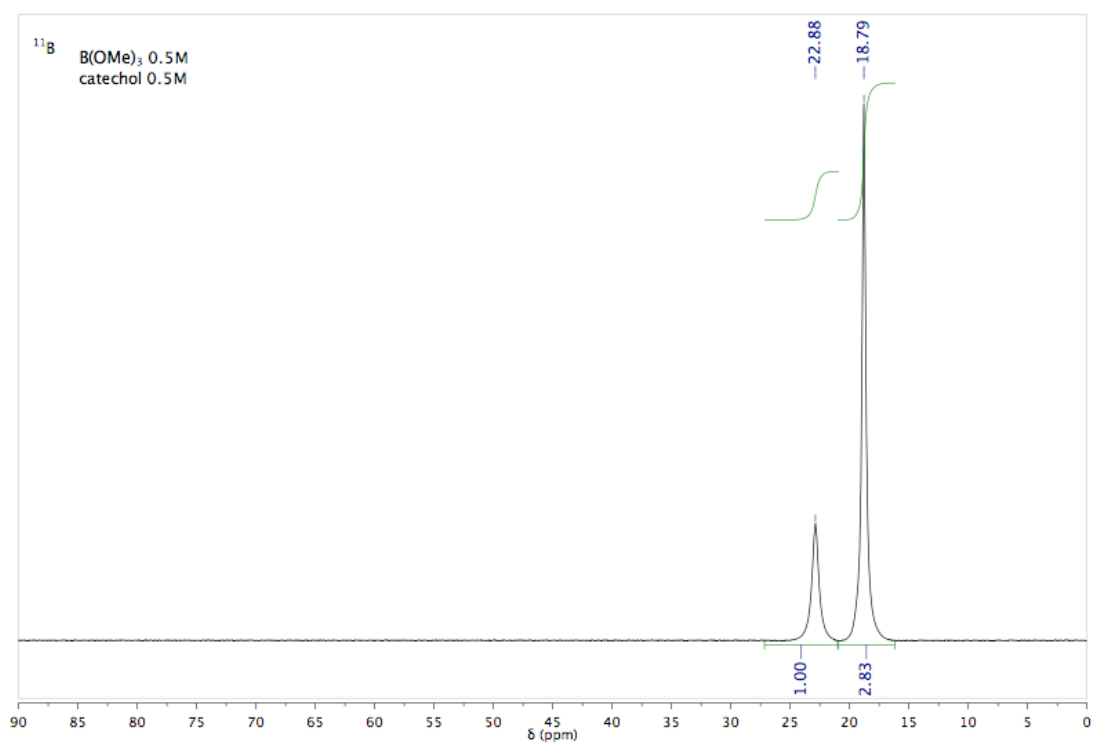
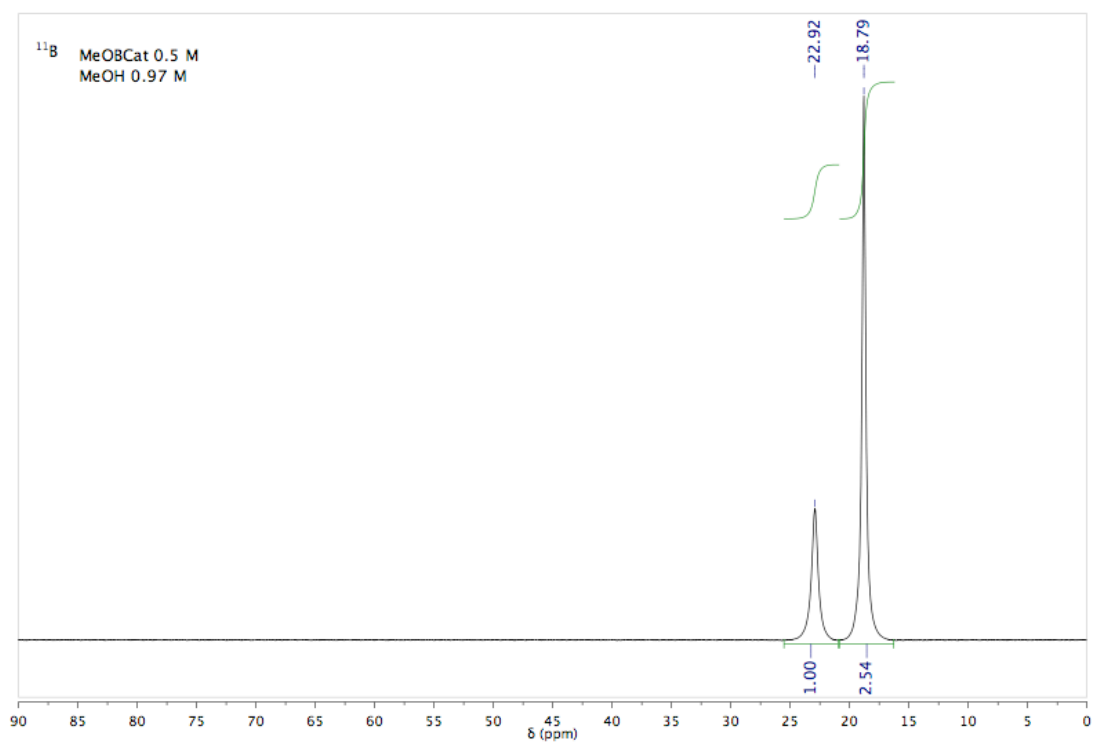
$$K_3 = \frac{[\text{B(OMe)}_3][\text{catechol}]}{[\text{MeOBCat}][\text{MeOH}]^2}$$

equilibrium constant MeOBCat + MeOH									
[MeOBCat] ₀	[MeOH] ₀	[B(OMe) ₃] ₀	[MeOBCat]	[MeOH]	[B(OMe) ₃]	[B(OMe) ₃]	[B(OMe) ₃]	[MeOBCat][MeOH] ²	[B(OMe) ₃][Catechol]
0,5	0,22	0,24	0,403	0,026	0,097	0,097	0,097	0,0003	0,009
0,48	0,46	0,66	0,289	0,078	0,191	0,191	0,191	0,0018	0,036
0,5	0,97	2,54	0,141	0,252	0,359	0,359	0,359	0,0090	0,129
[B(OMe) ₃] ₀	[Catechol] ₀	[B(OMe) ₃]/[MeOBCat]	[MeOBCat]	[MeOH]	[B(OMe) ₃]	[Catechol]	[Catechol]	[MeOBCat][MeOH] ²	[B(OMe) ₃][Catechol]
0,5	0,5	2,83	0,131	0,261	0,369	0,369	0,369	0,0089	0,136

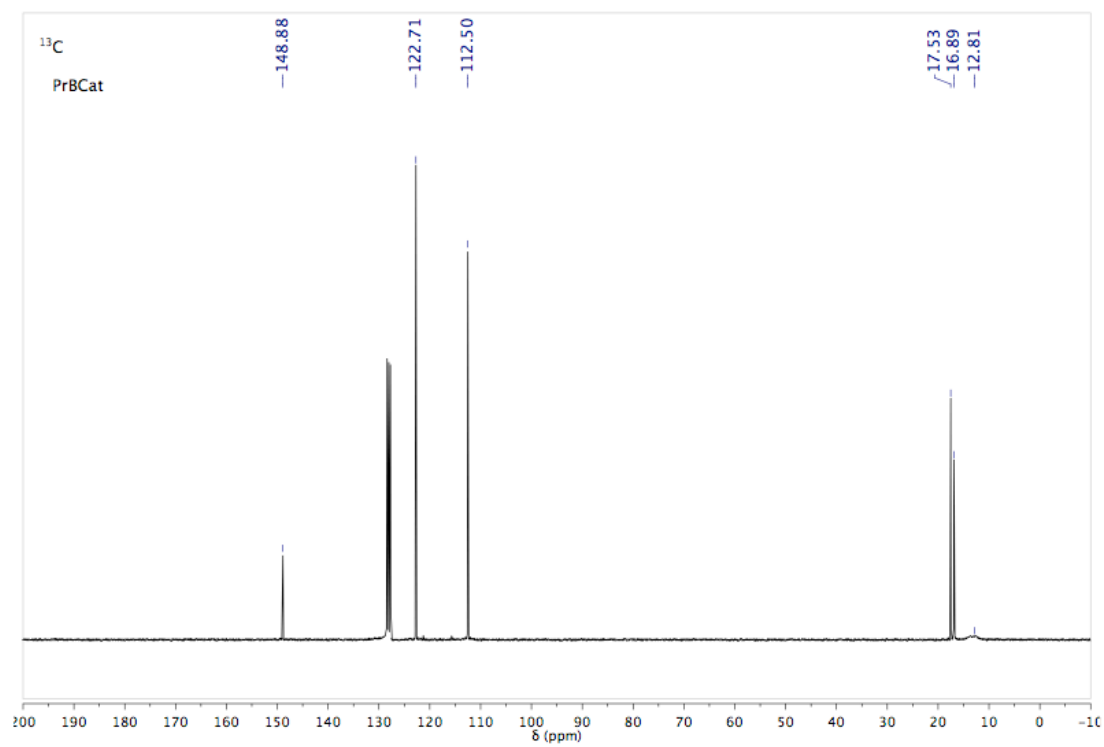
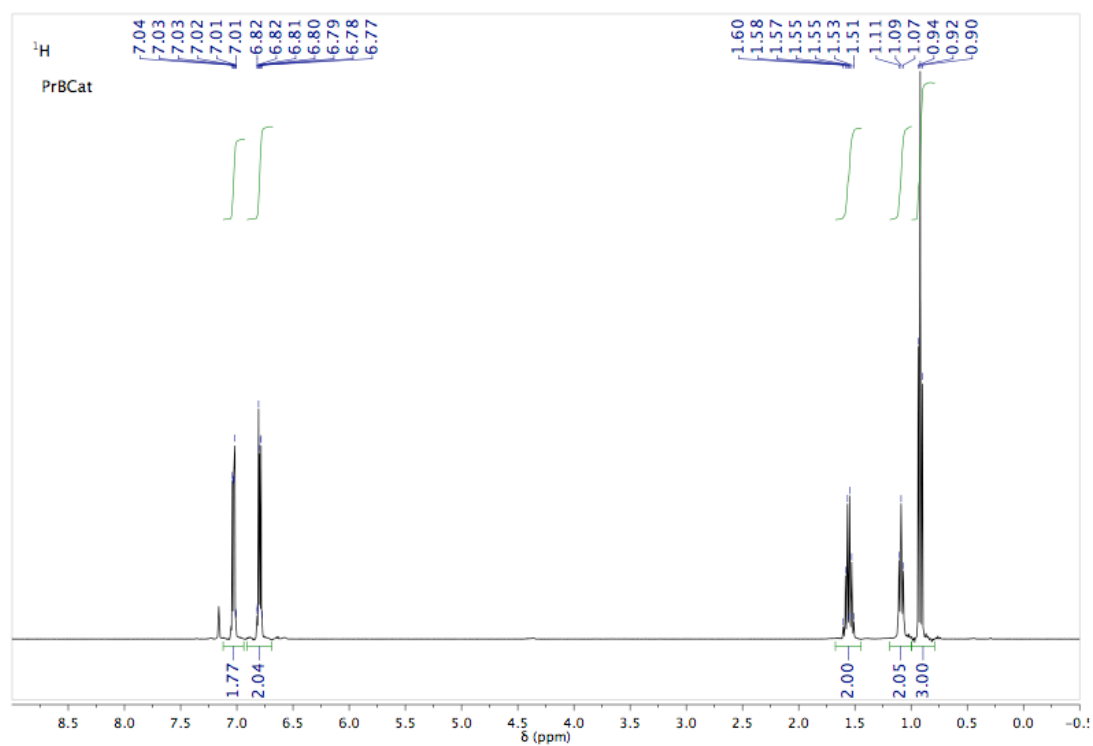
K_3 from ^{11}B -NMR integration

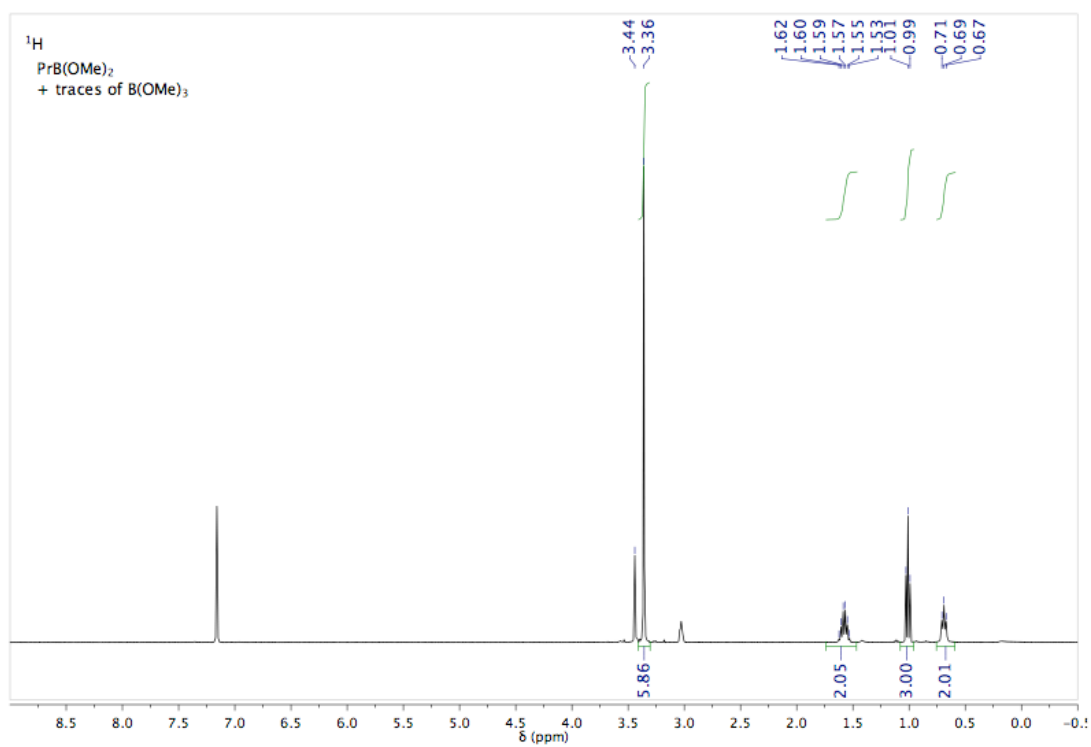
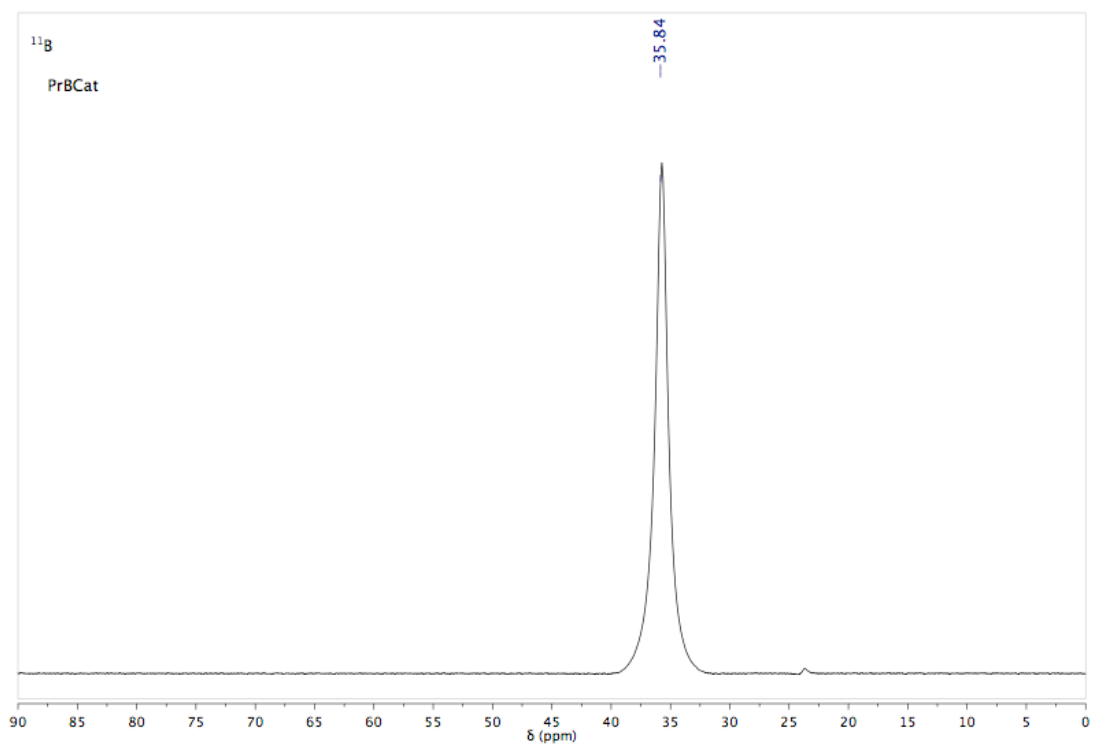


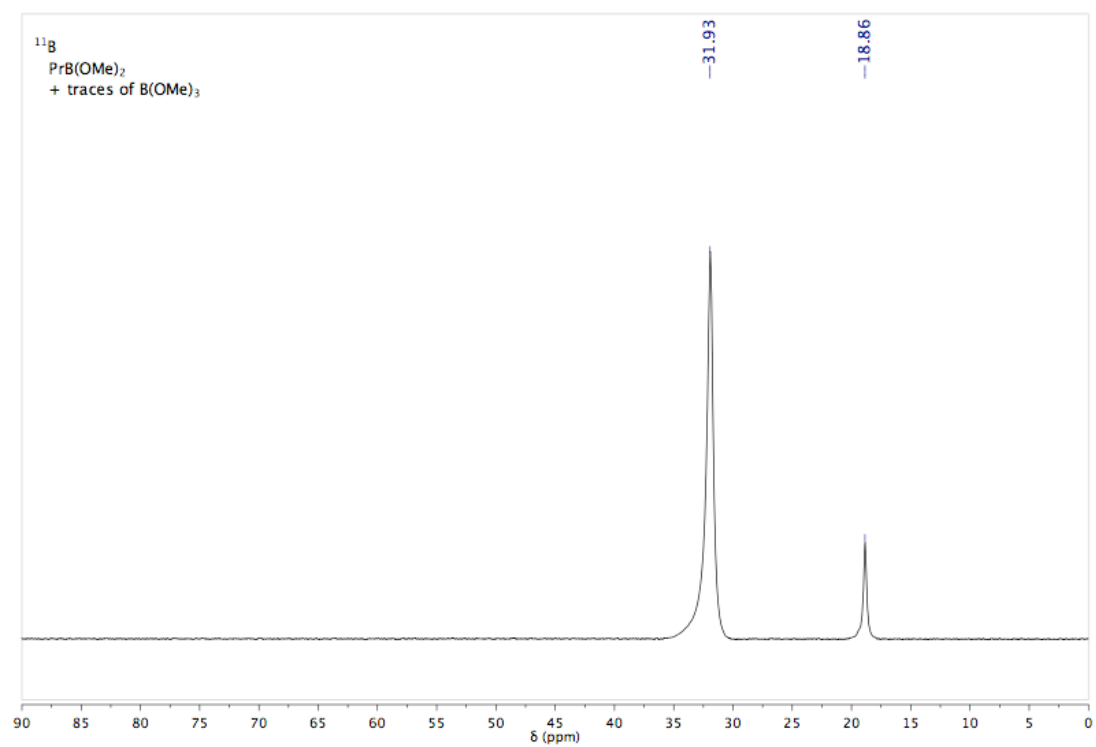
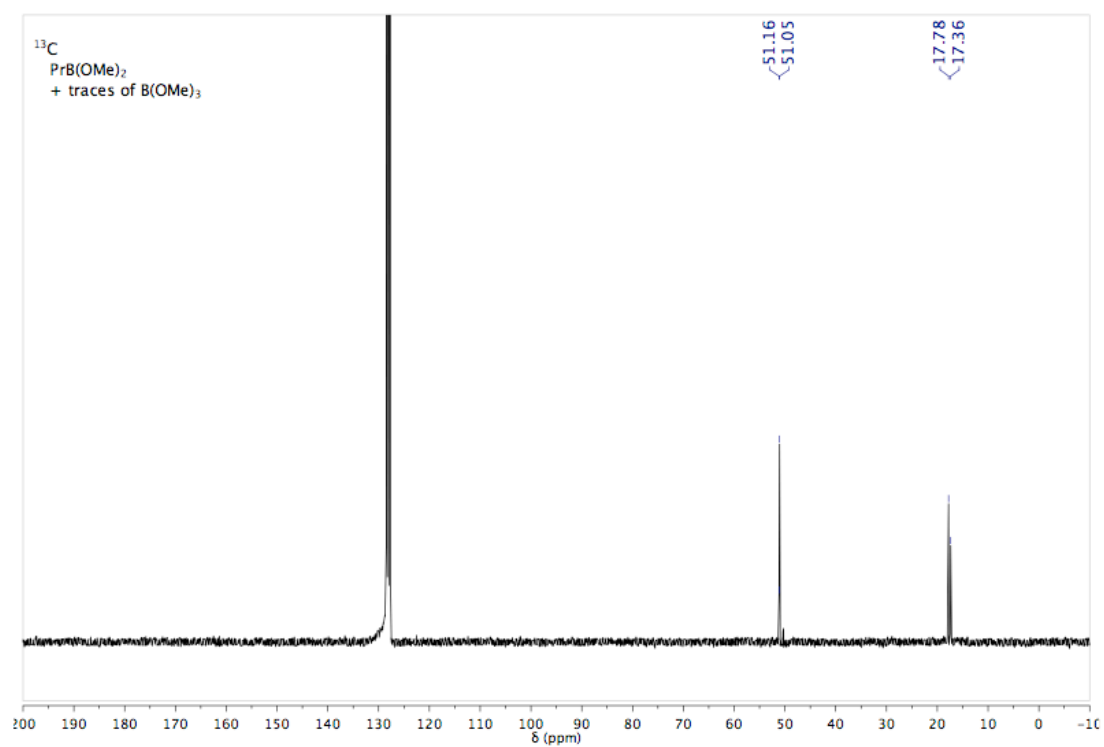


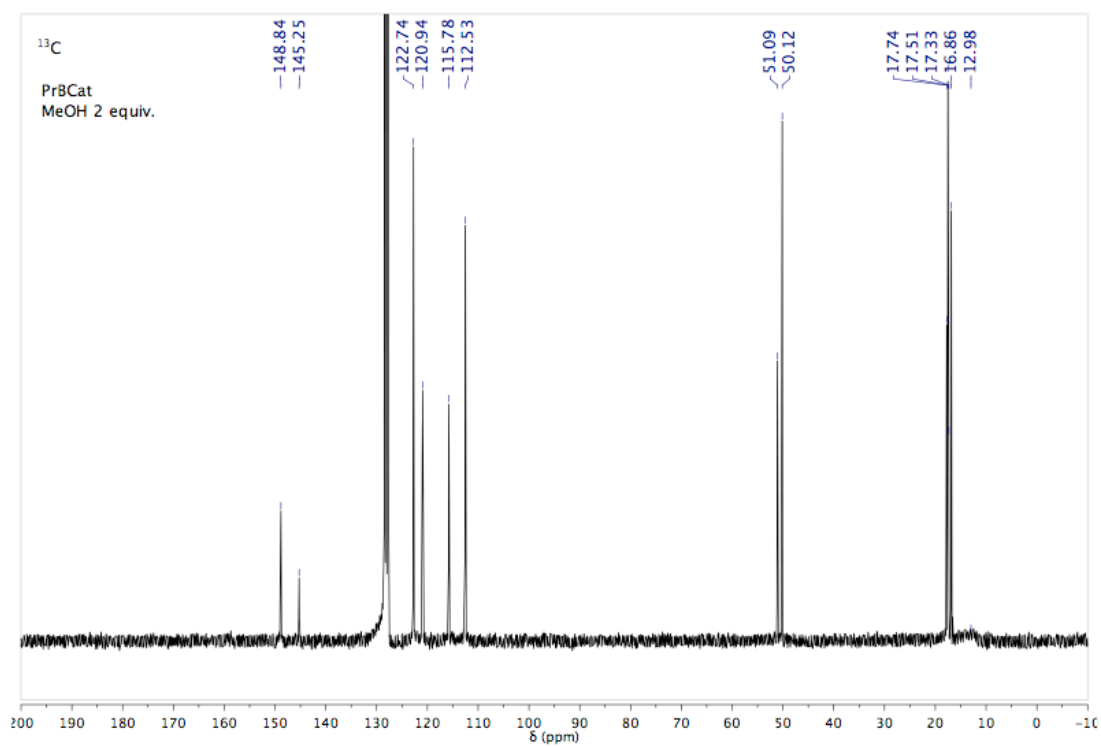
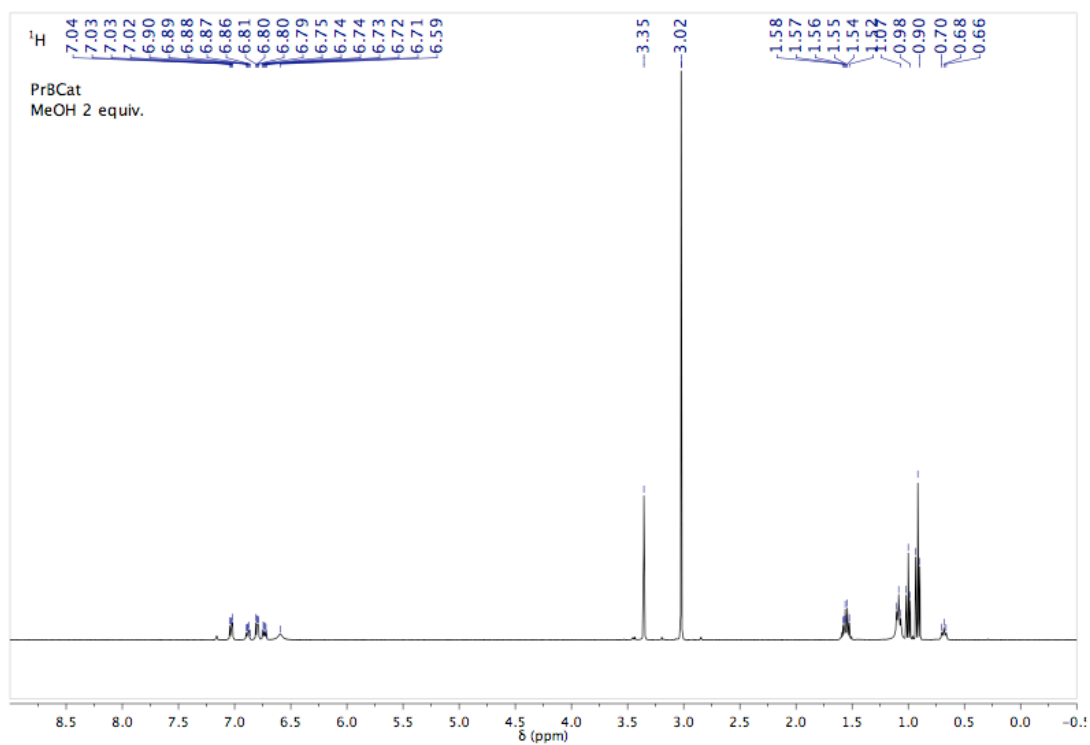


PrBCat/MeOH NMR study

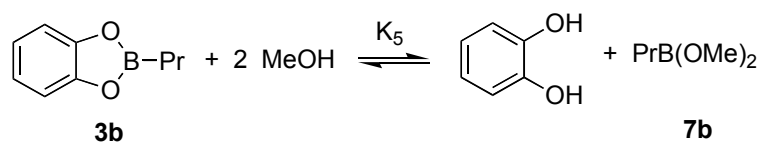








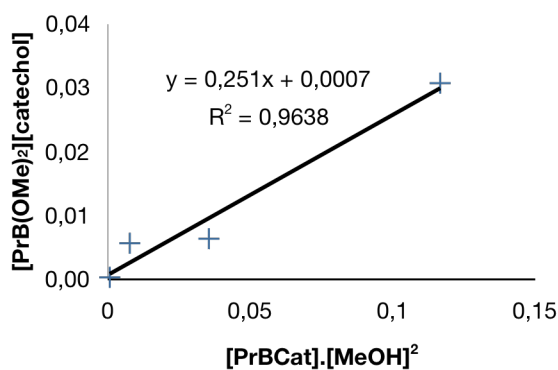
Determination of the equilibrium constant: K_5



$$K_5 = \frac{[\text{PrB(OMe)}_2][\text{catechol}]}{[\text{PrBCat}][\text{MeOH}]^2}$$

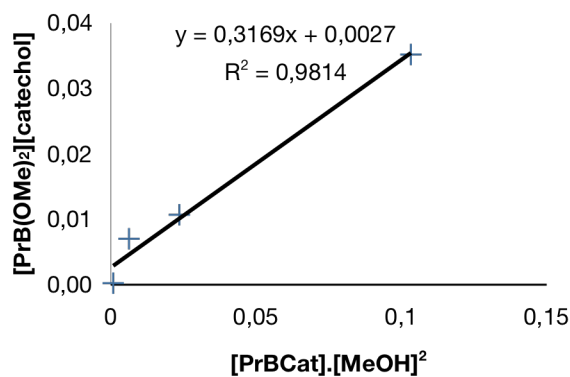
¹ H-NMR									
[PrBCat] ₀	[MeOH] ₀	[PrB(OMe) ₂]/[PrBCat]	[PrB(OMe) ₂]/[MeOH]	[PrBCat]	[MeOH]	[PrB(OMe) ₂]	[Catechol]	[PrBCat][MeOH] ²	[PrB(OMe) ₂][Catechol]
0,2	0,1	0,1	0,550	0,182	0,064	0,018	0,018	0,0007	0,0003
0,2	0,4	0,6	2,290	0,125	0,250	0,075	0,075	0,0078	0,0056
0,5	0,45	0,19	0,420	0,290	0,080	0,080	0,080	0,0354	0,0064
0,5	0,95	0,54	0,325	0,599	0,175	0,175	0,175	0,1166	0,0307

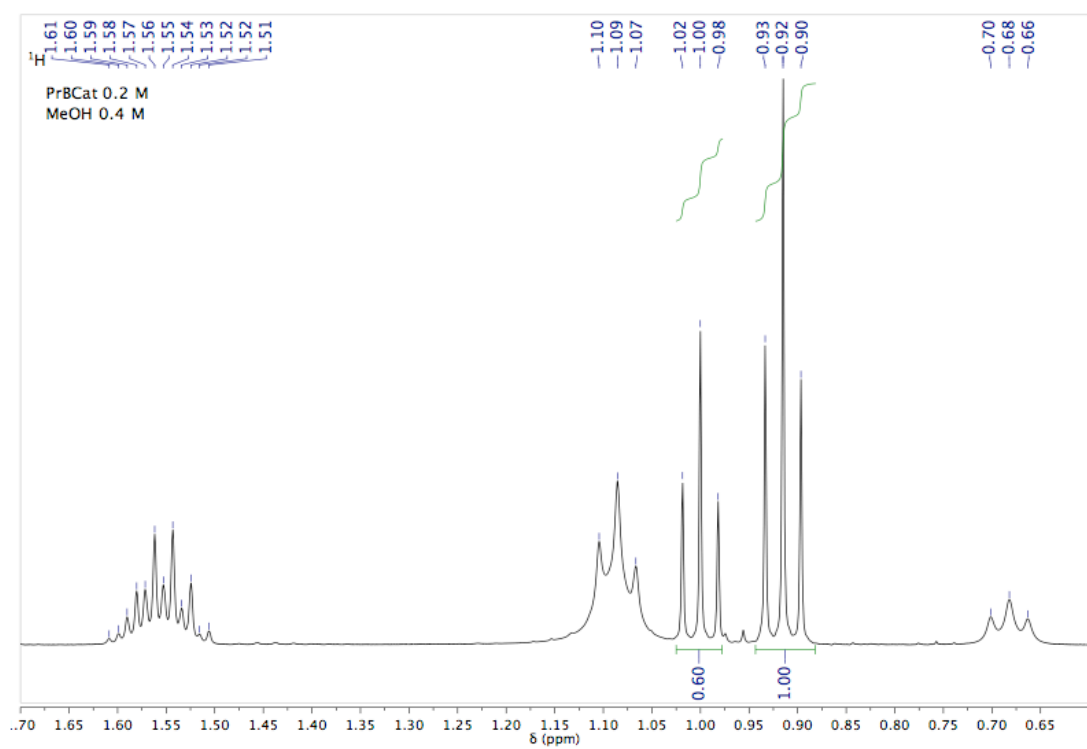
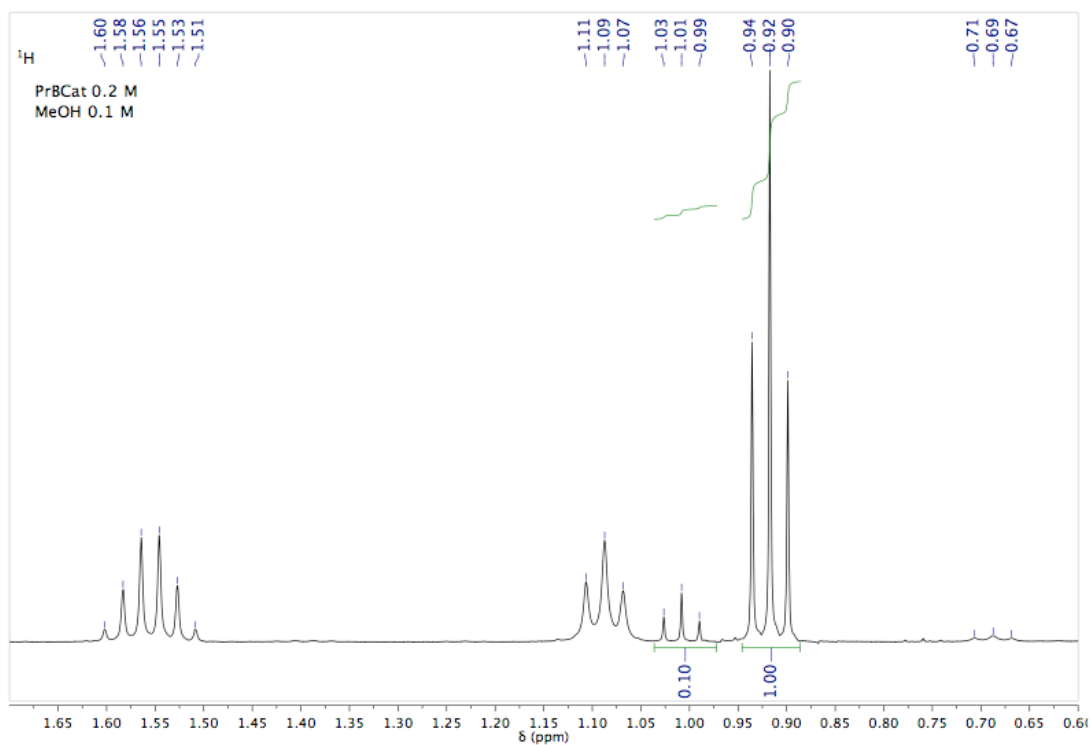
K_5 from ¹H-NMR integration

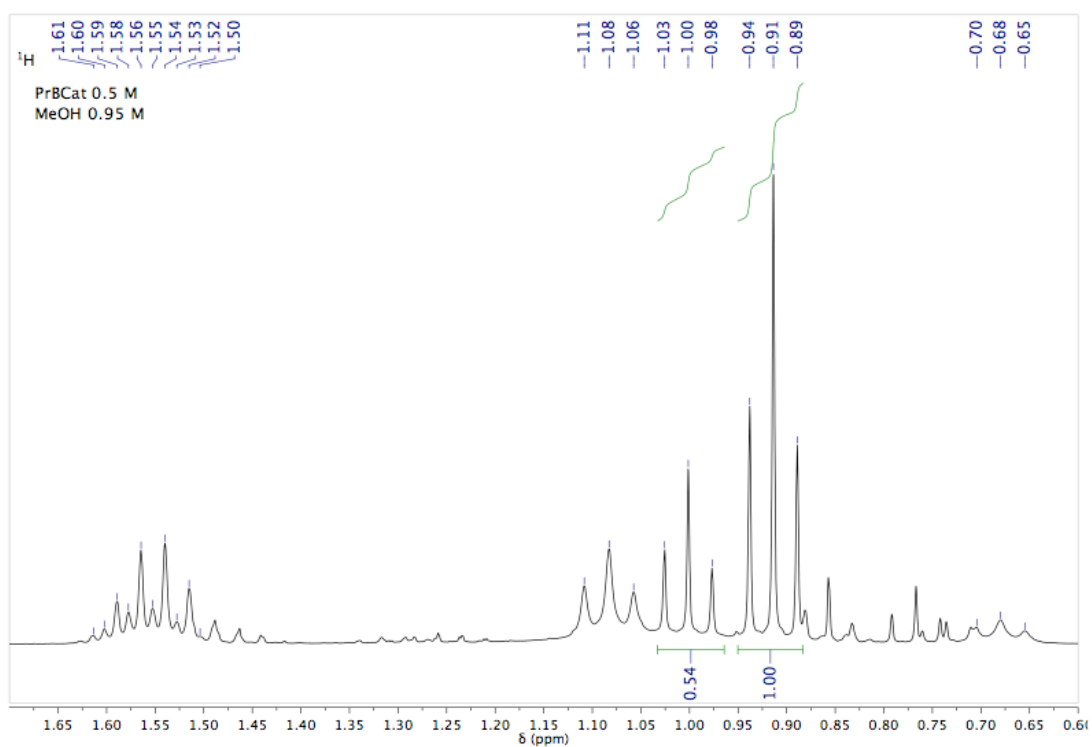
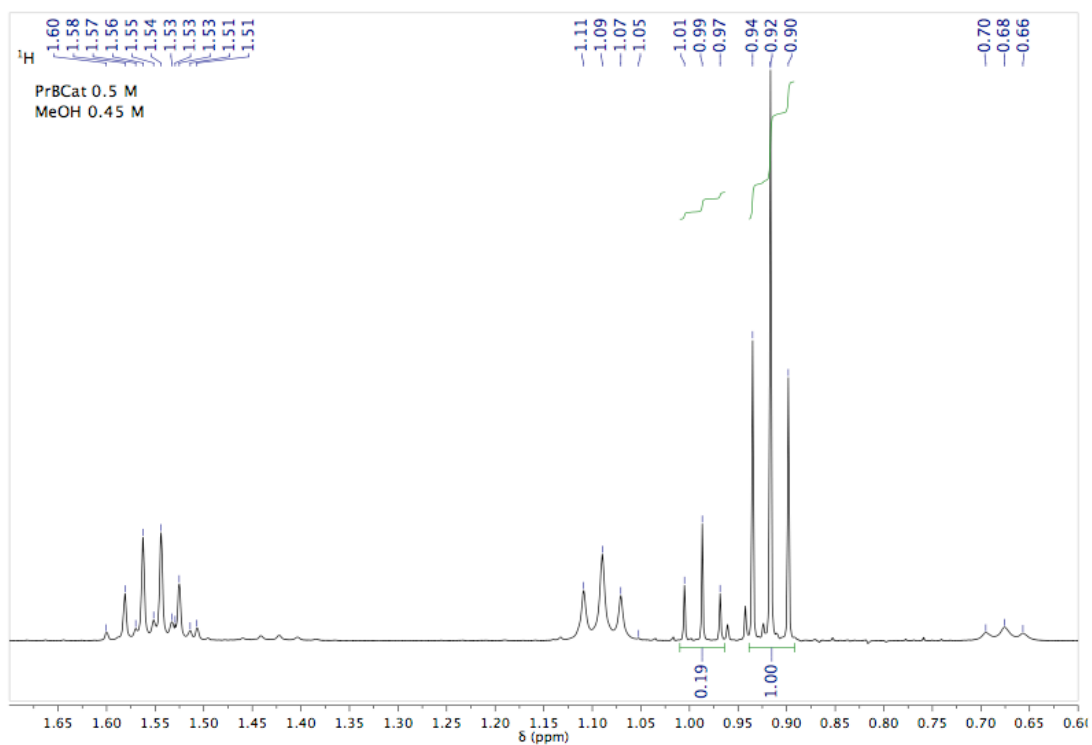


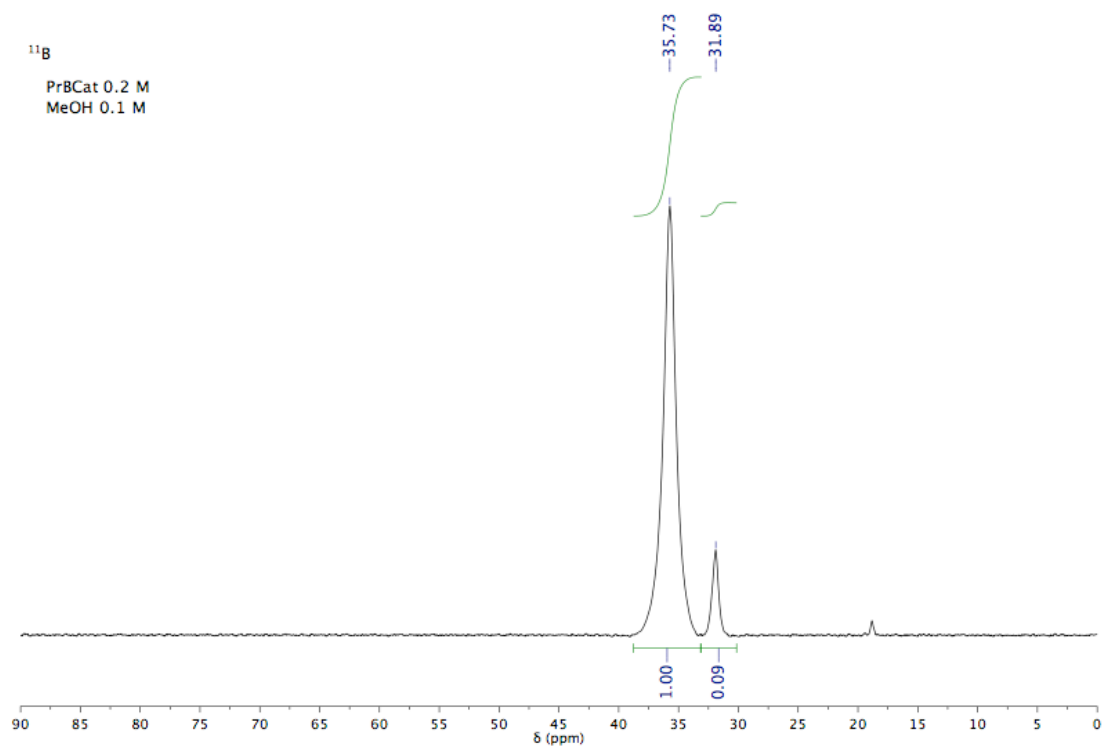
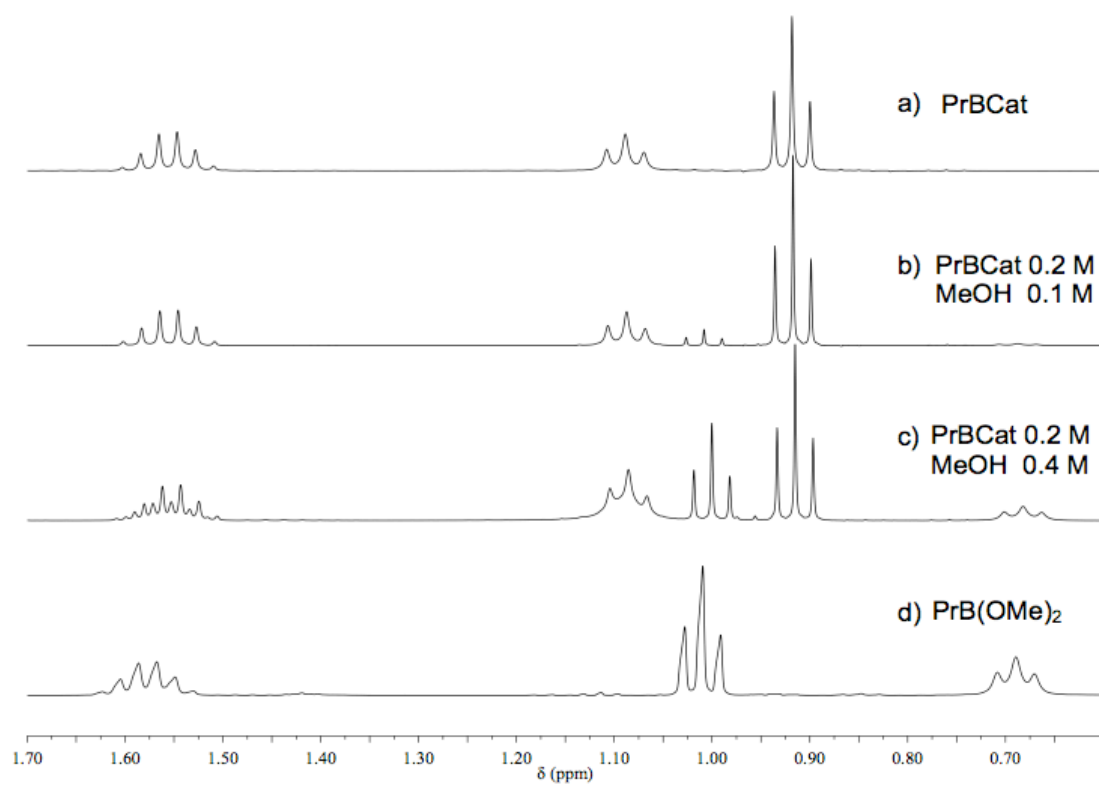
¹¹ B-NMR									
[PrBCat] ₀	[MeOH] ₀	[PrB(OMe) ₂]/[PrBCat]	[PrB(OMe) ₂]/[MeOH]	[PrBCat]	[MeOH]	[PrB(OMe) ₂]	[Catechol]	[PrBCat][MeOH] ²	[PrB(OMe) ₂][Catechol]
0,2	0,1	0,09	0,550	0,183	0,067	0,017	0,016513761	0,0008	0,0003
0,2	0,4	0,72	2,290	0,116	0,233	0,084	0,08372093	0,0063	0,0070
0,5	0,45	0,26	0,397	0,244	0,103	0,103174603	0,0236	0,0236	0,0106
0,5	0,95	0,6	0,313	0,575	0,188	0,1875	0,1033	0,1033	0,0352

K_5 from ¹¹B-NMR integration



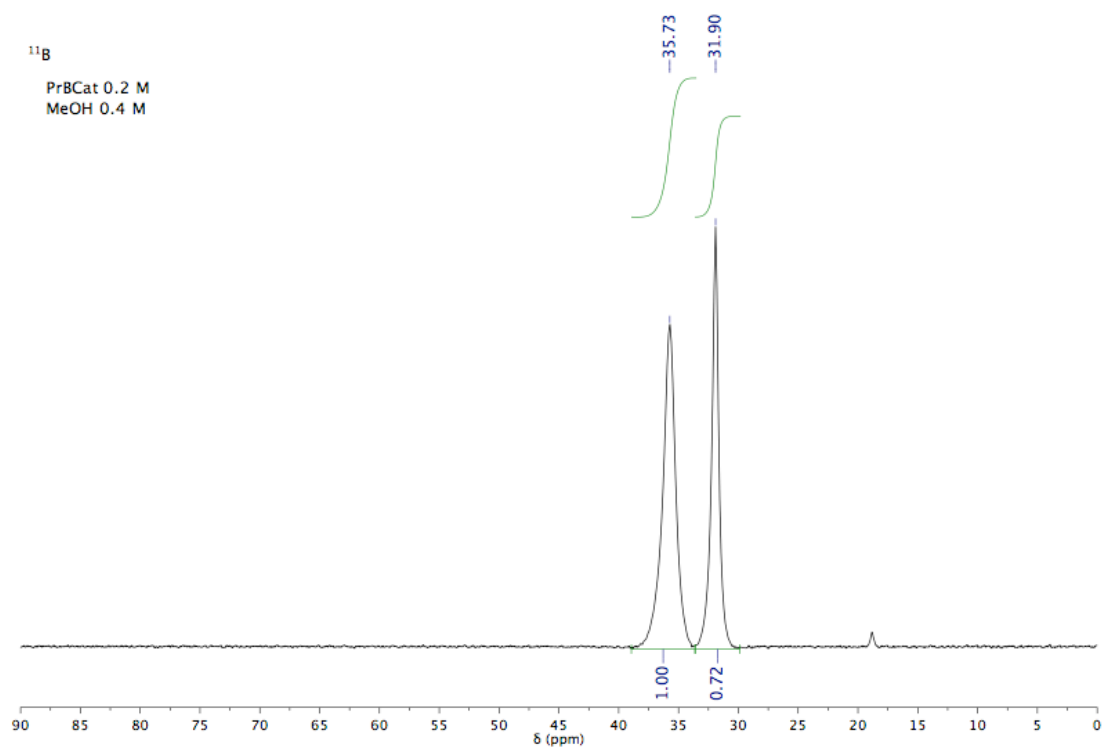






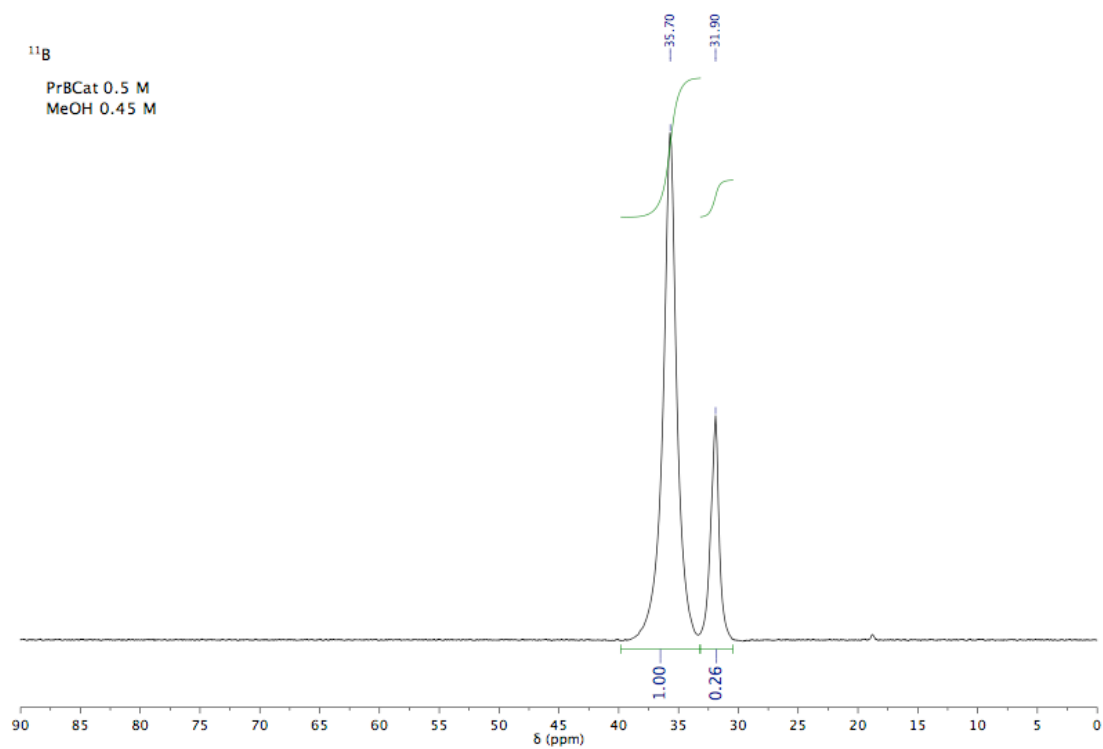
¹¹B

PrBCat 0.2 M
MeOH 0.4 M



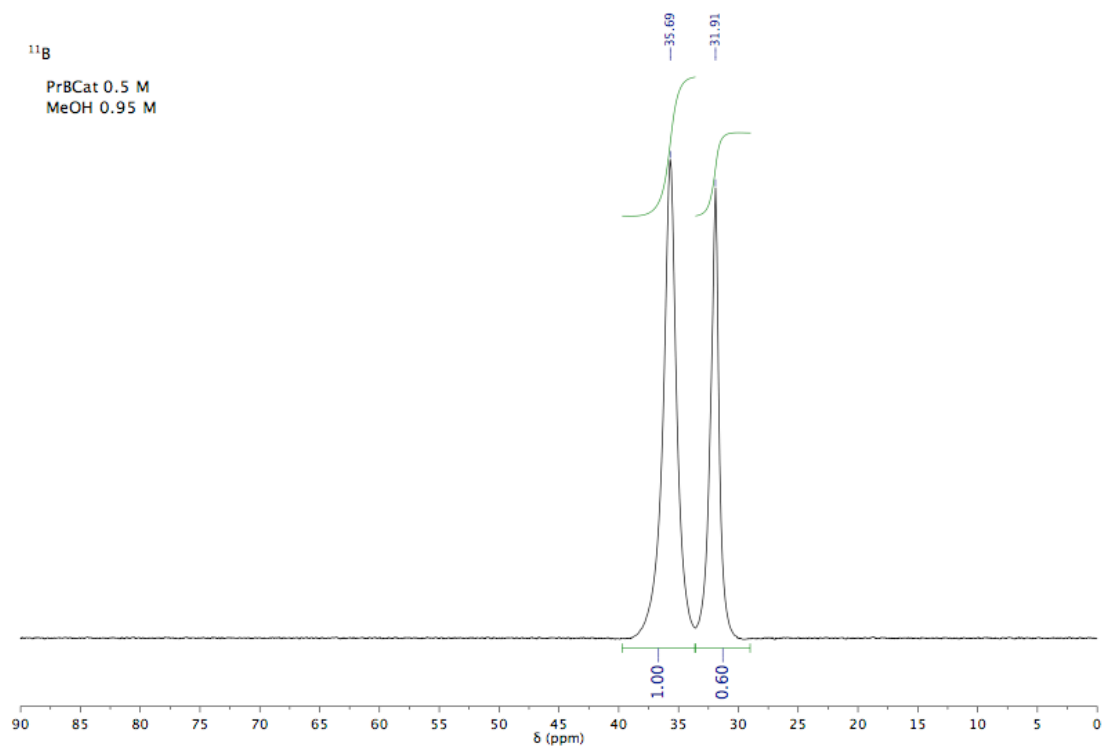
¹¹B

PrBCat 0.5 M
MeOH 0.45 M

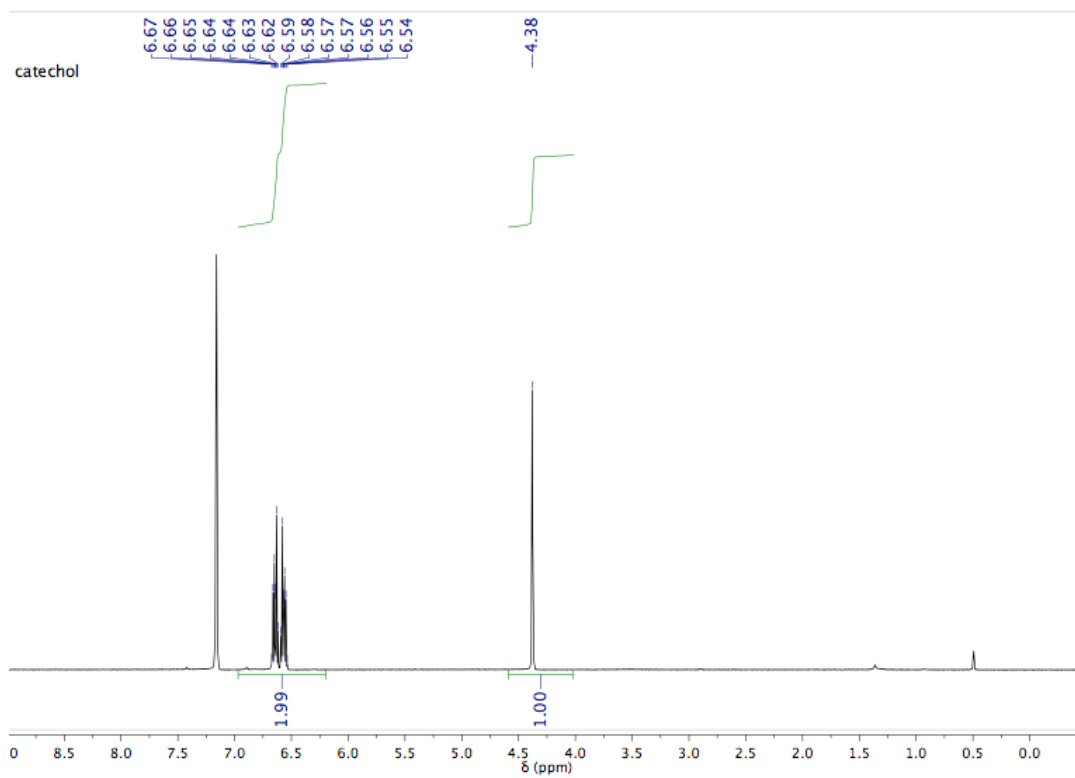


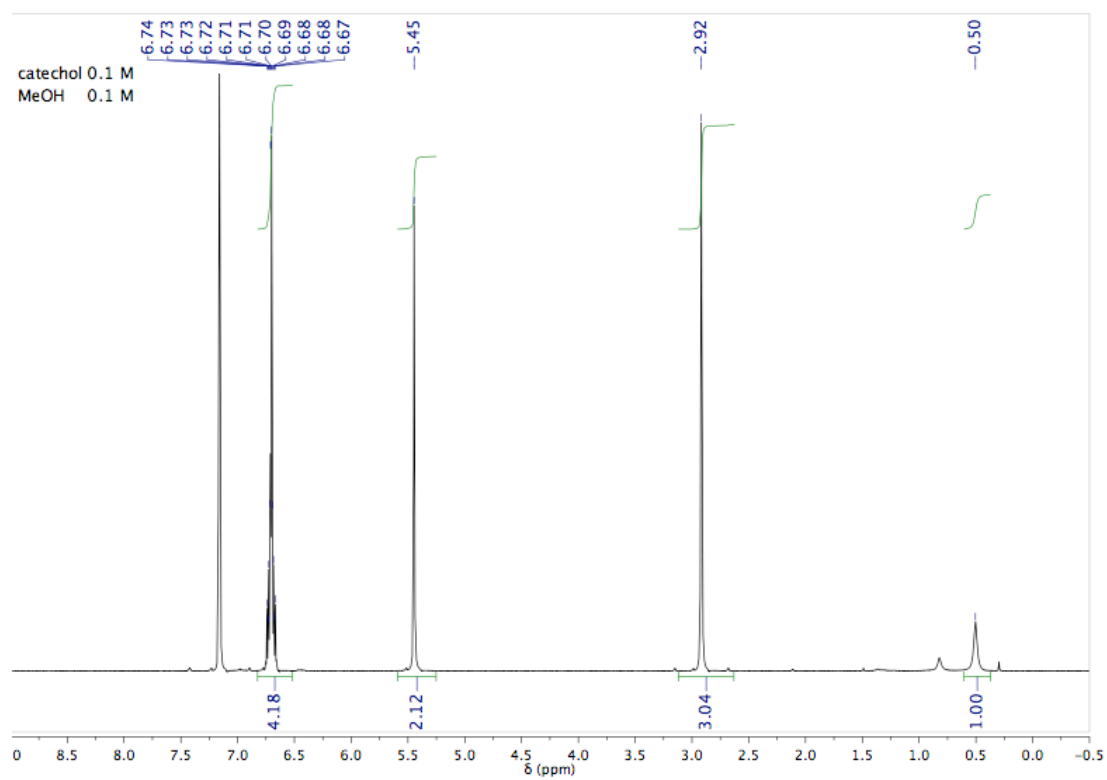
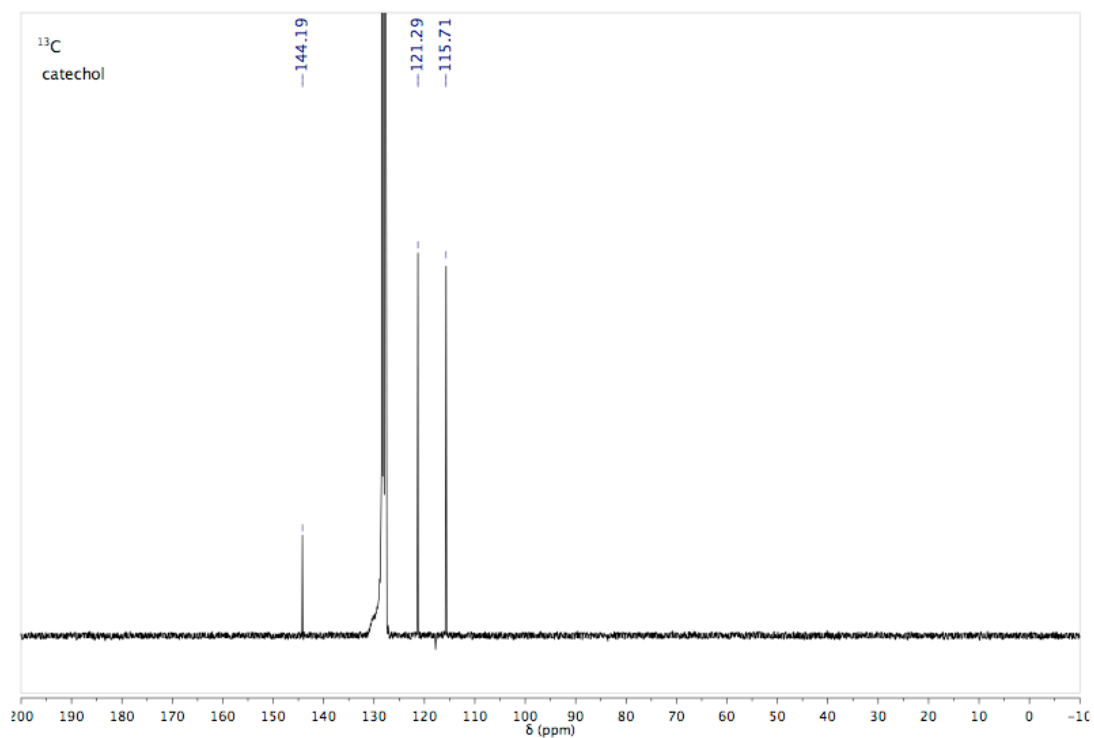
¹¹B

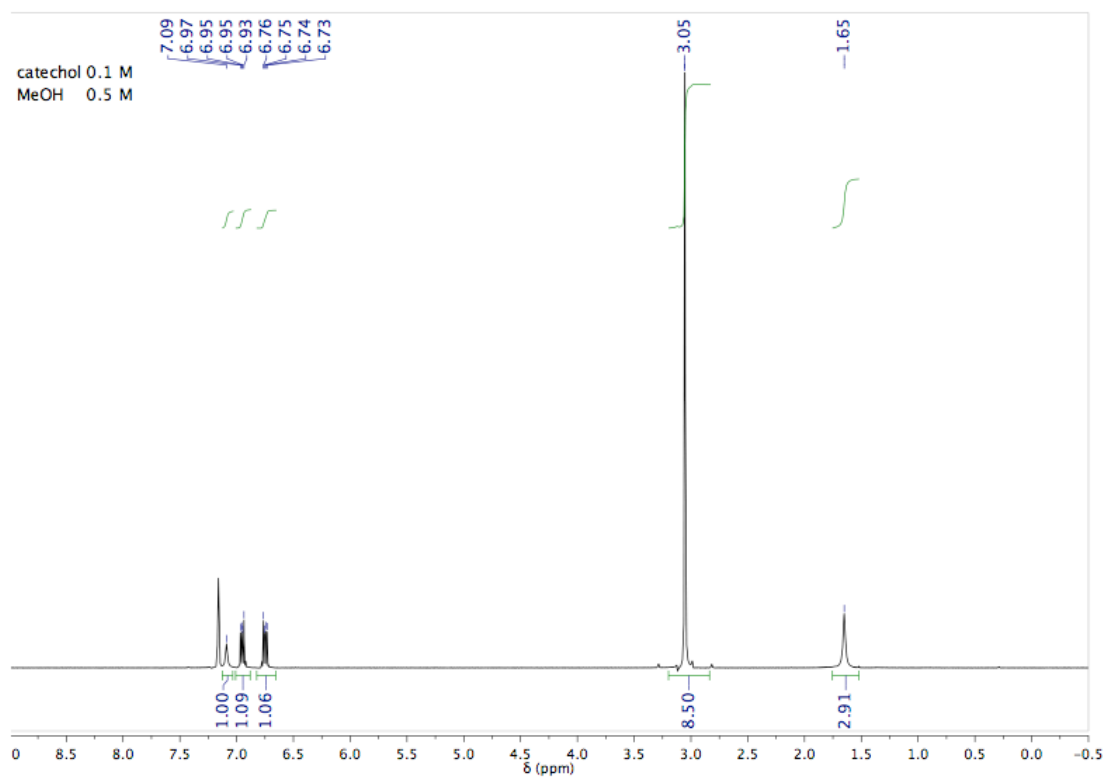
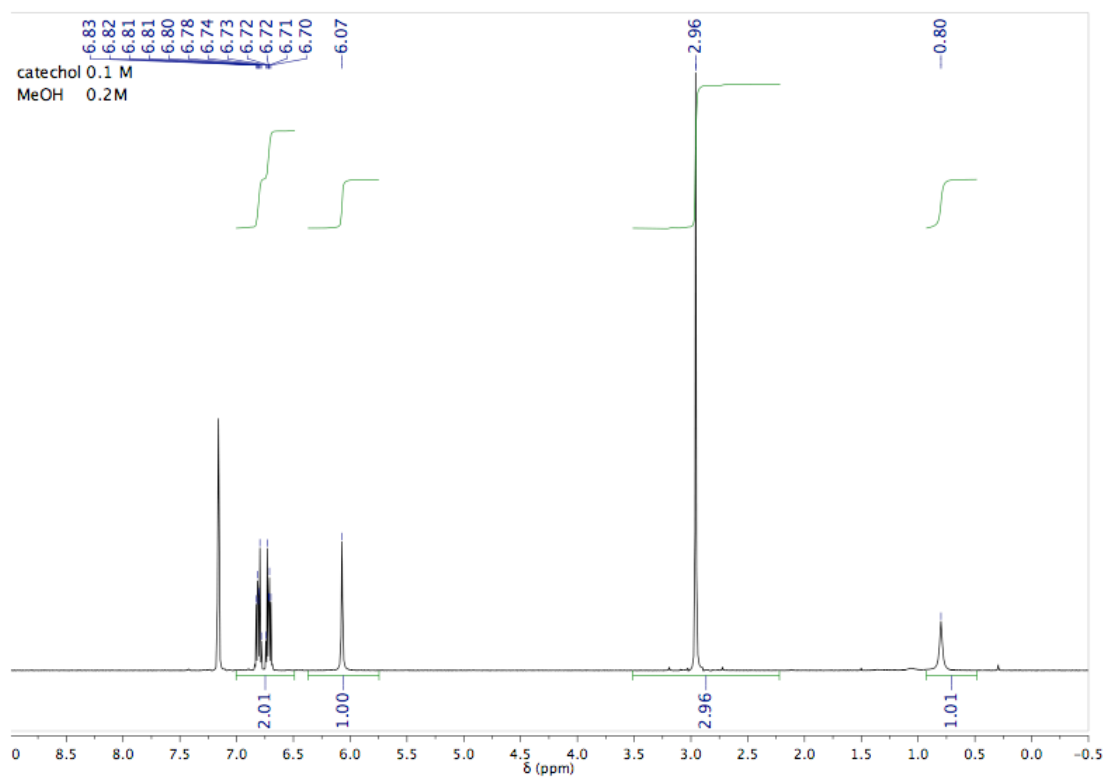
PrBCat 0.5 M
MeOH 0.95 M

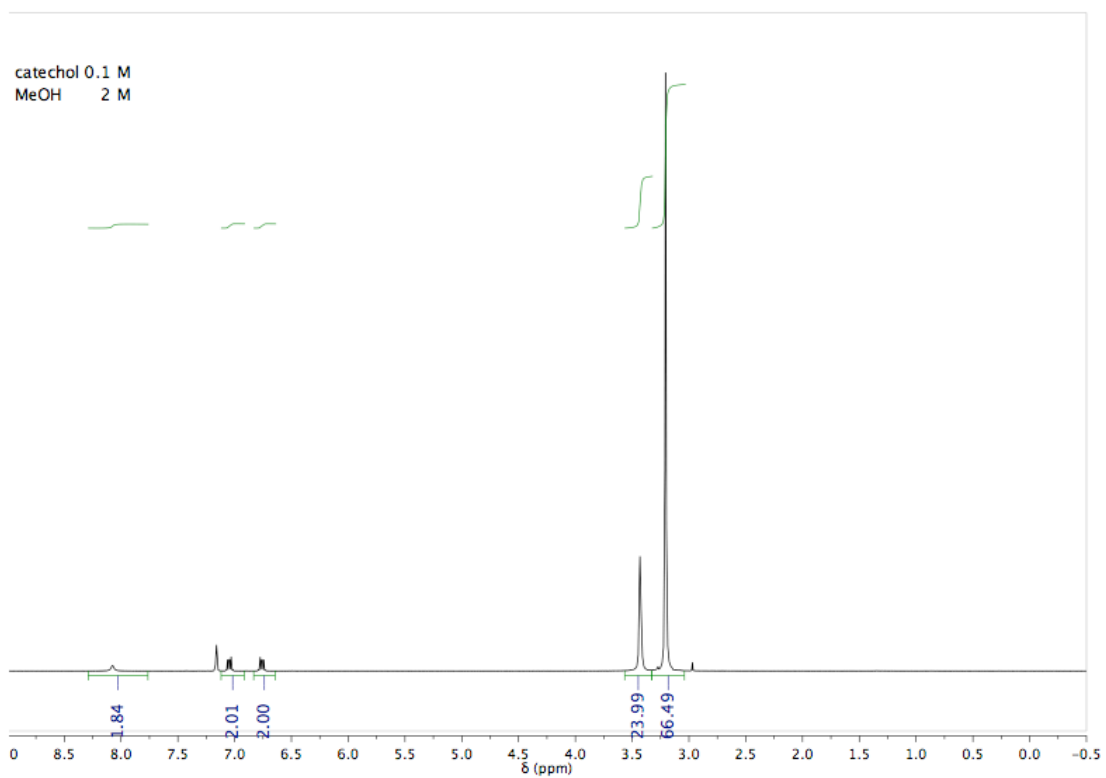
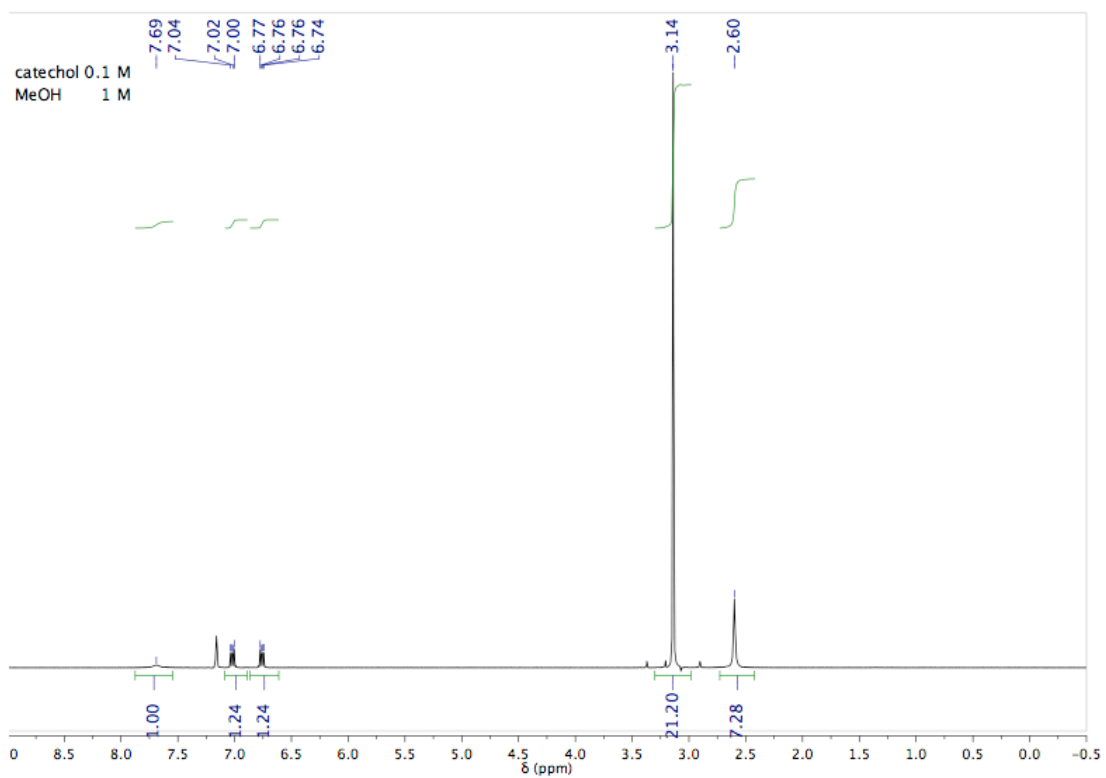


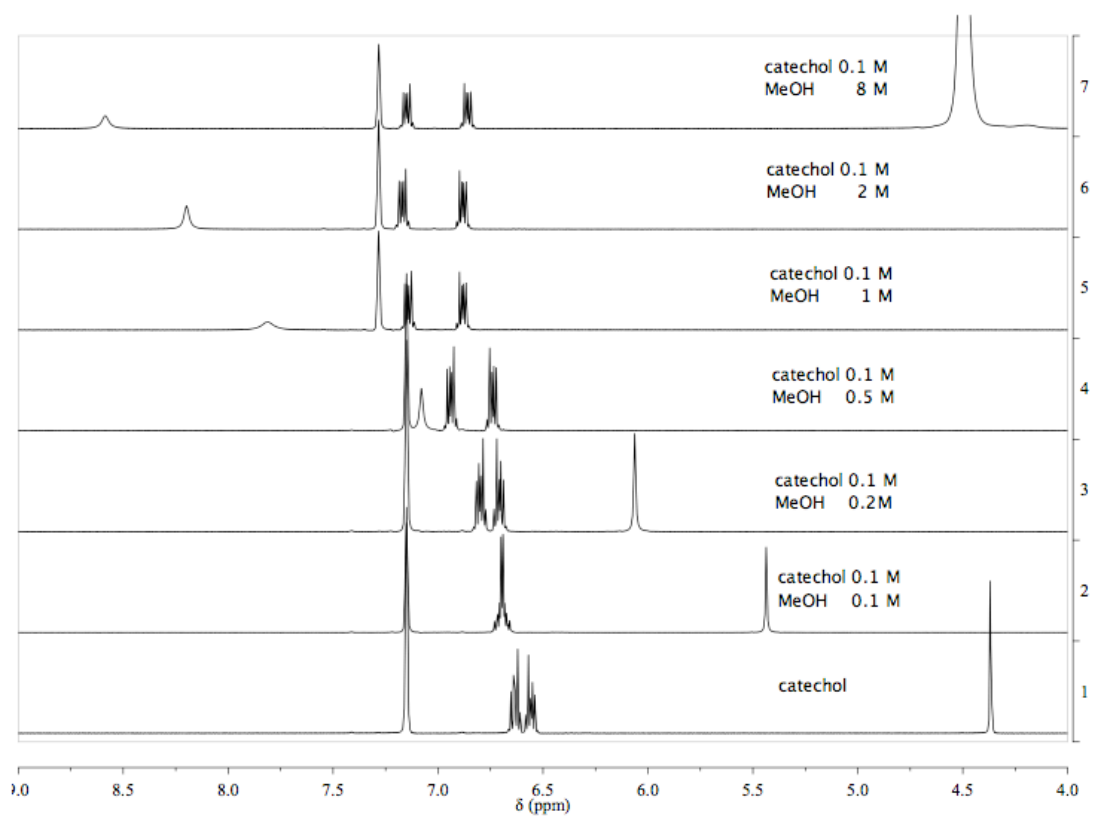
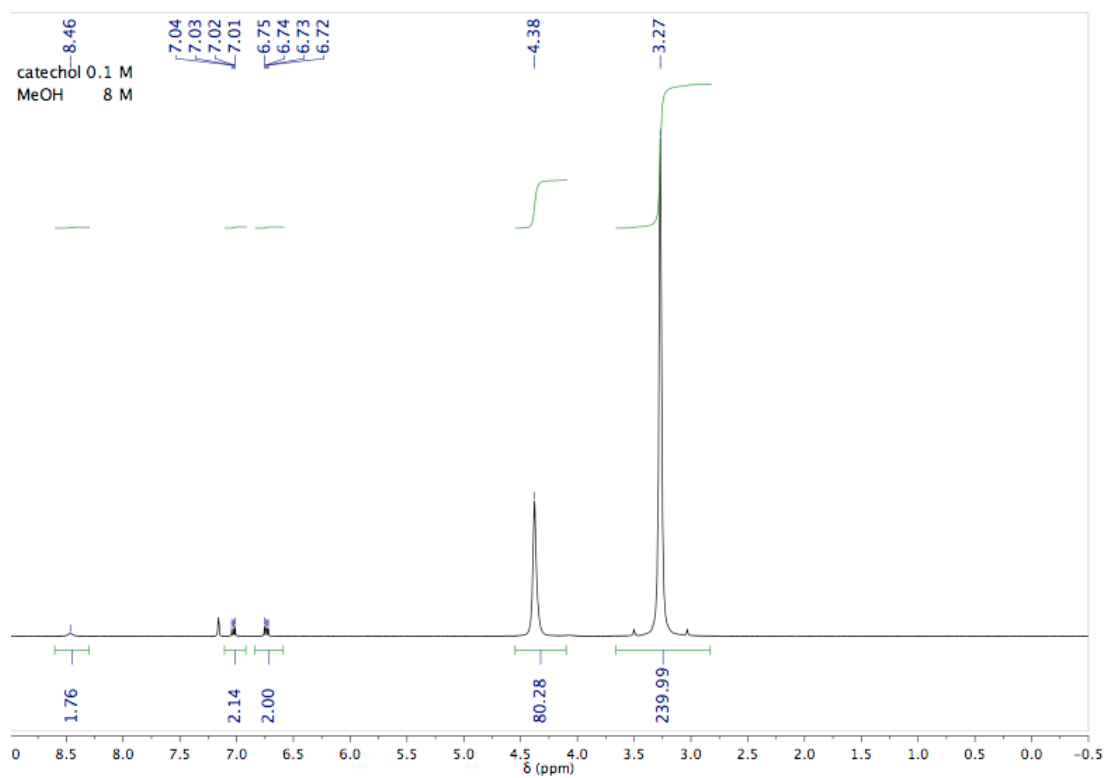
Catechol / MeOH ^1H -NMR study: Evidence for strong H-bonding in benzene solution

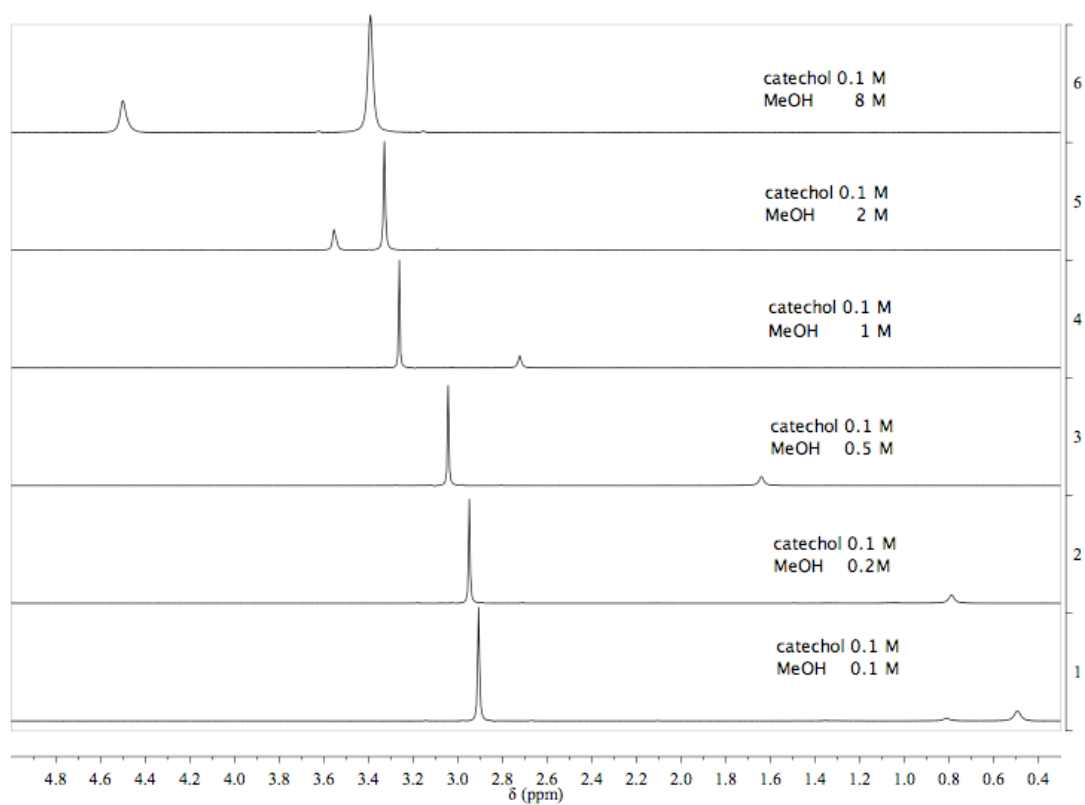




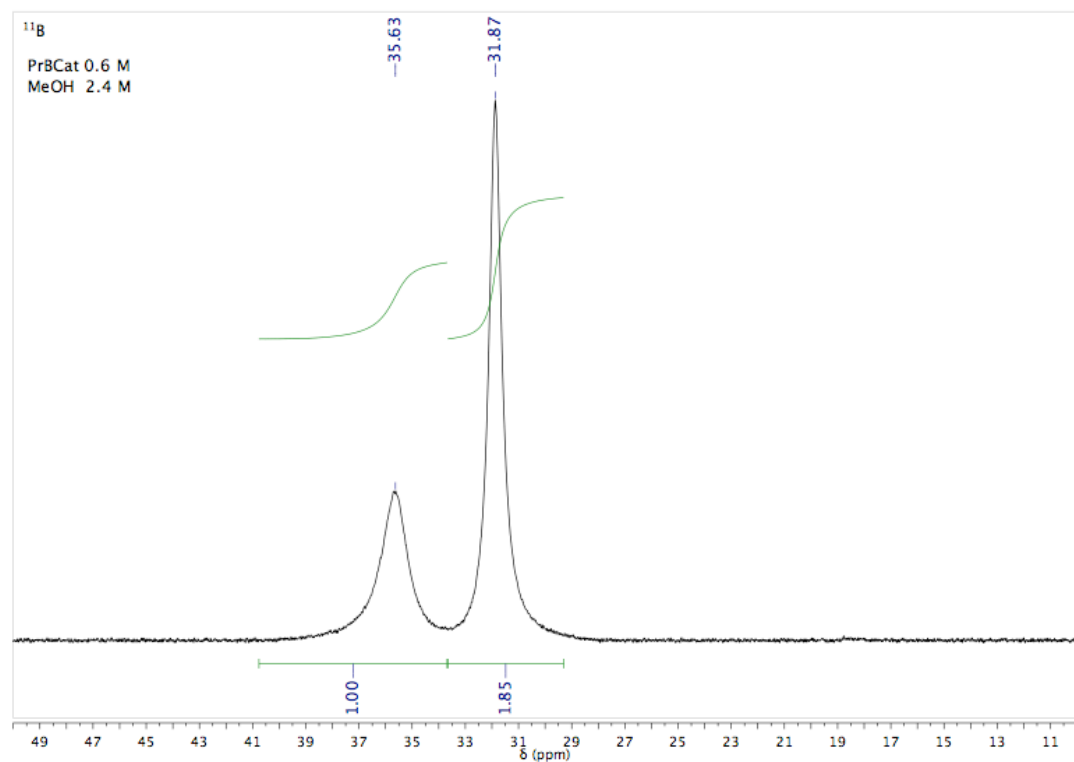
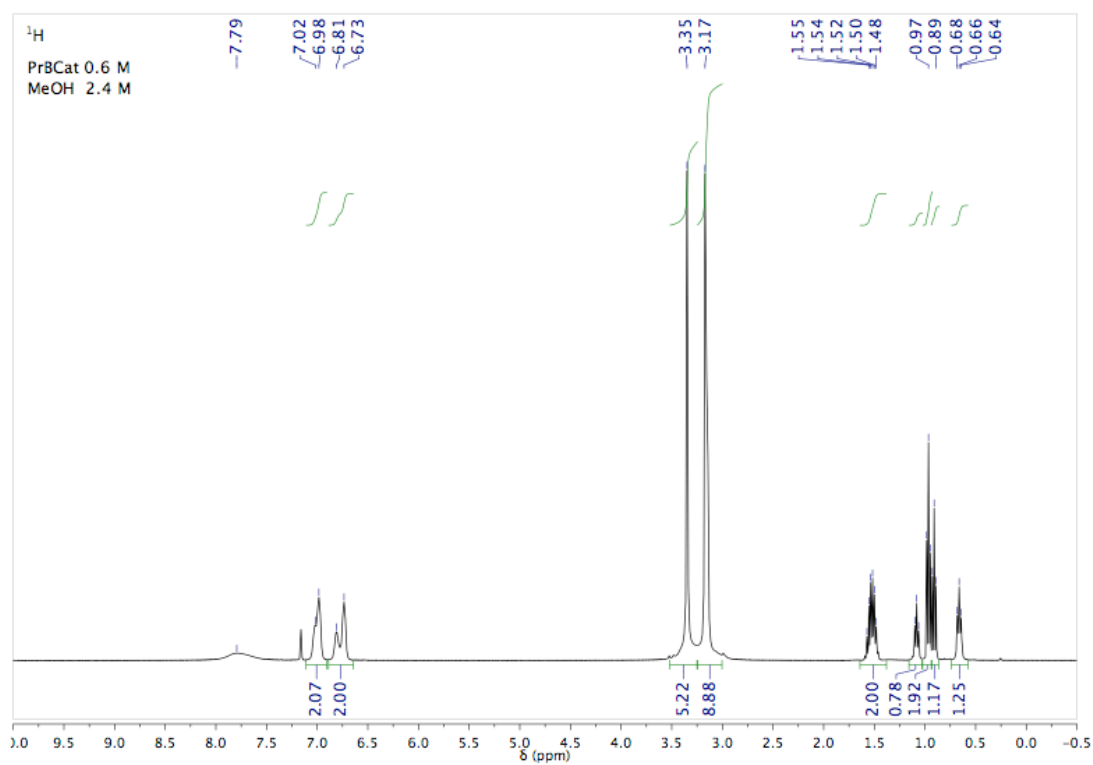


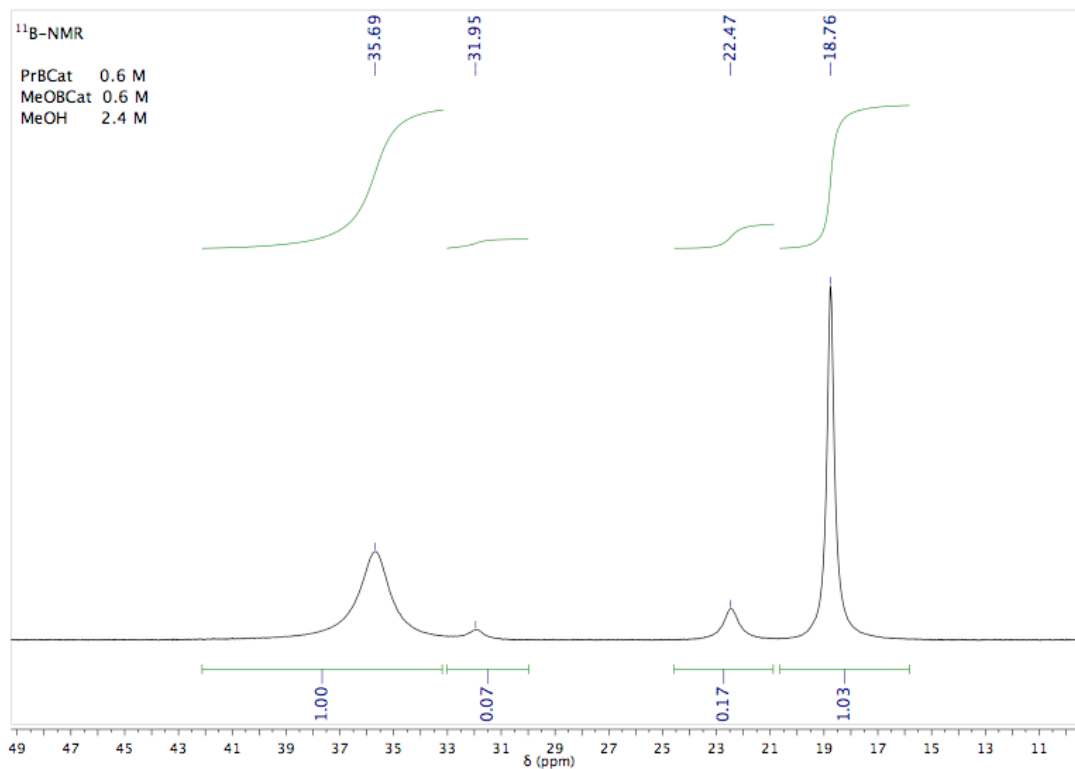
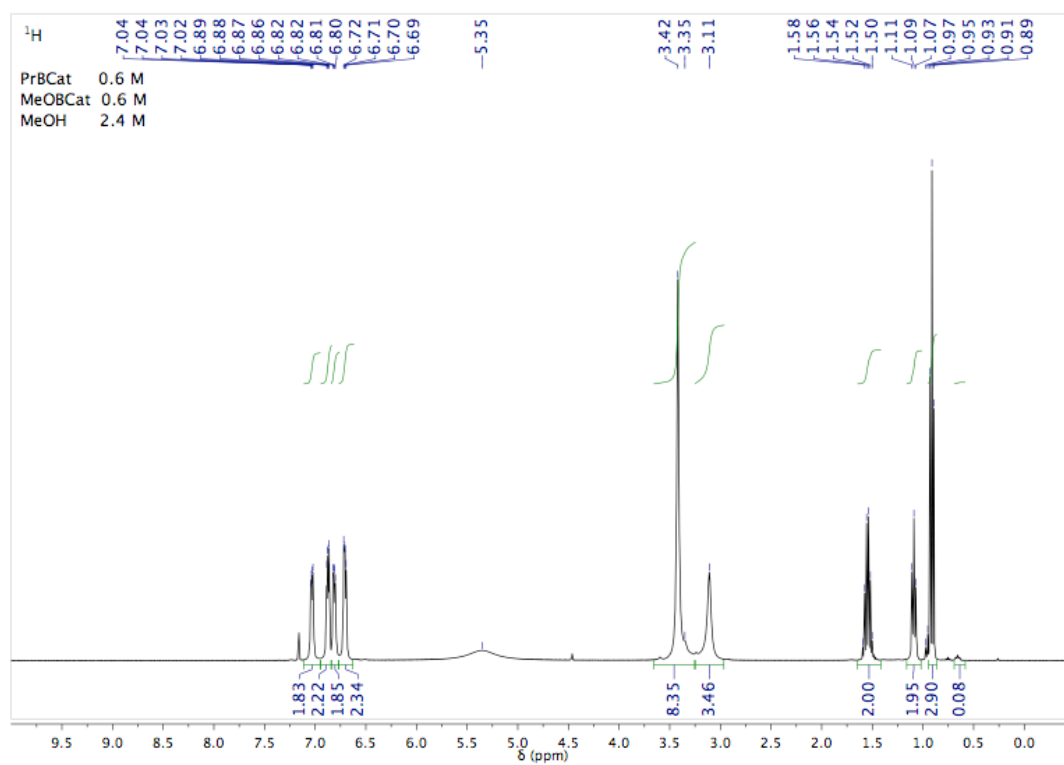




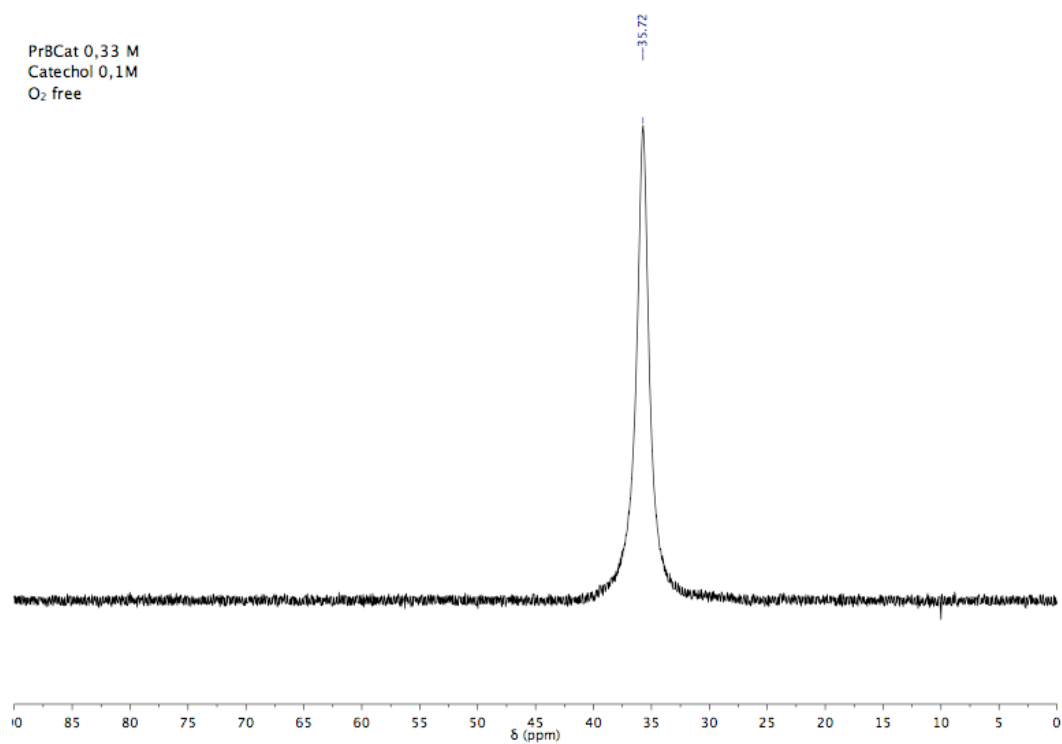
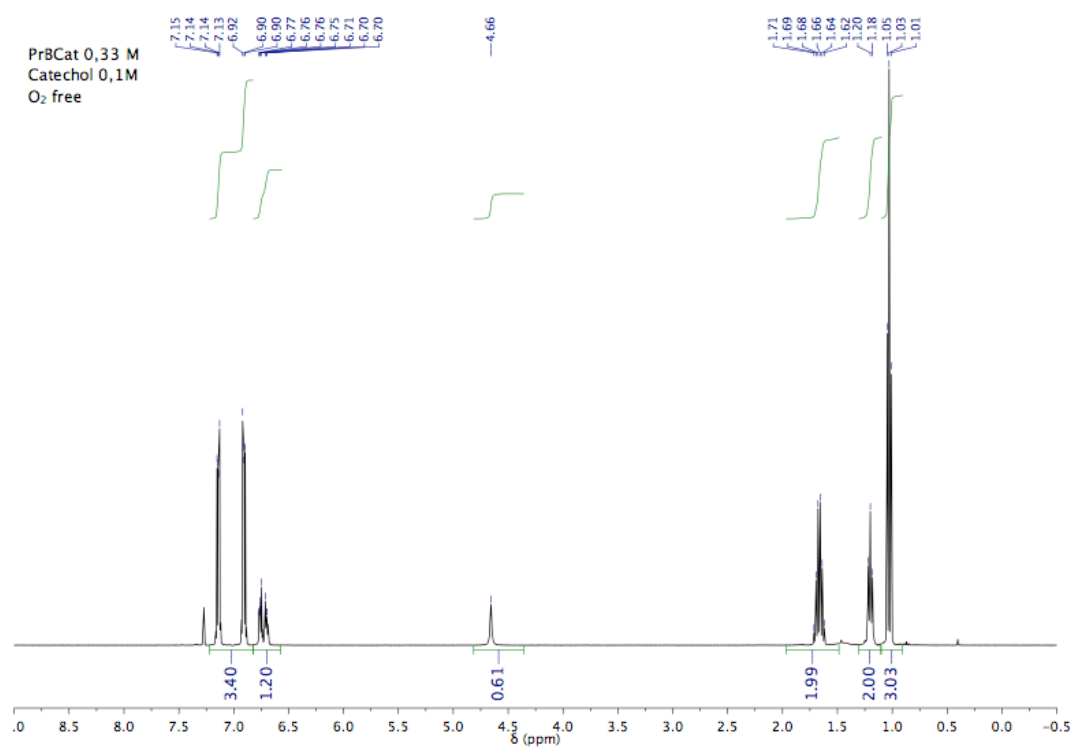


Effective concentrations of borane species in the reaction conditions:

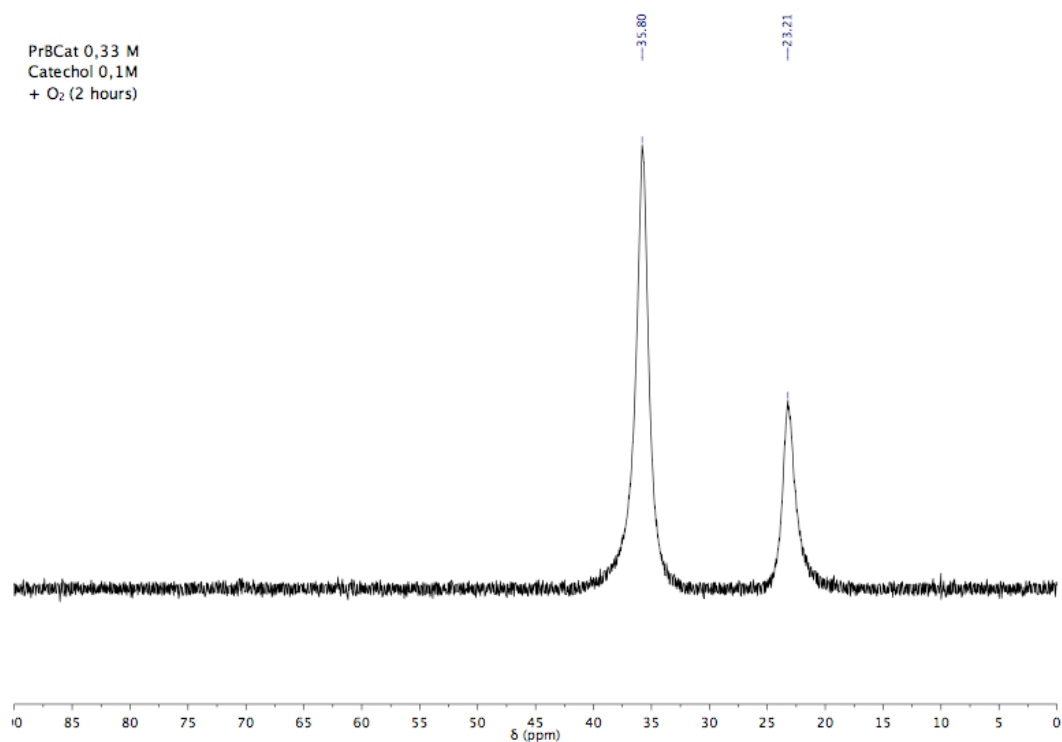
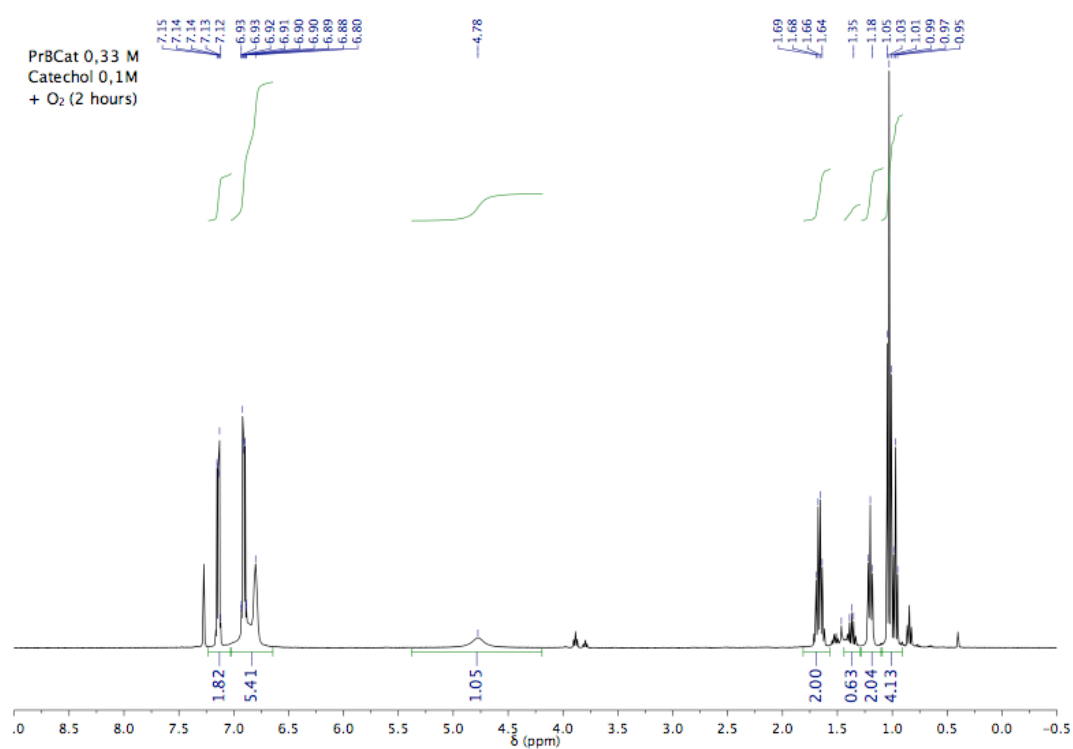




PrBCat + catechol: O₂ free



PrBCat + catechol: O₂ (2 hours)



PrBCat / ROH

