

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Iridium-Catalyzed Regioselective B(3,6)-Dialkenylation or B(4)-Alkenylation of *o*-Carboranes via B–H Activation and 1,2-Carbon Migration of Alkynes

Huifang Zhang,<sup>a,b</sup> Ruofei Cheng,<sup>b</sup> Zaozao Qiu<sup>\*,b,c</sup> and Zuowei Xie<sup>\*,b,d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>NMPA Key Laboratory for Research and Evaluation of Innovative Drug, Henan Key Laboratory of Organic Functional Molecules and Drug Innovation, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan Normal University, Xinxiang, Henan 453007, China

<sup>b</sup>Shanghai-Hong Kong Joint Laboratory in Chemical Synthesis, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 345 Lingling Rd, Shanghai 200032, China. E-mail: qiuuzz@sioc.ac.cn

<sup>c</sup>School of Chemistry and Materials Science, Hangzhou Institute for Advanced Study, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 1 Sub-lane Xiangshan, Hangzhou 310024, China.

<sup>d</sup>Department of Chemistry and State Key Laboratory of Synthetic Chemistry, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N. T., Hong Kong, China. E-mail: zxie@cuhk.edu.hk

#### Table of Contents

Experimental Section	S2
Crystal Data and Summary of Data Collection and Refinements	S20
References	S22
NMR Spectra	S23

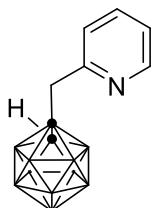
## **General Procedures.**

All reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware under an atmosphere of dry N<sub>2</sub> with the rigid exclusion of air and moisture using standard Schlenk techniques or in a glovebox. Diethyl ether and toluene were purified by solvent purification system prior to use. 1-(2-Picoly)-*o*-carborane (**1**)<sup>1</sup>, alkynes (**2**)<sup>2</sup> and 1-(2-pyridinyl)-2-methyl-*o*-carborane (**7**)<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to literature procedures. All other chemicals were purchased from either Aldrich or J&K Chemical Co. and used as received unless otherwise specified. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker/Agilent/Varian 400 spectrometer at 400 MHz. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}, <sup>11</sup>B and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker/Agilent/Varian 400 spectrometer at 101, 128 and 376 MHz, respectively. All signals were reported in ppm unit with references to the residual solvent resonances of the deuterated solvents for proton and carbon chemical shifts, to external BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> (0.00) for boron chemical shifts and to external CFCl<sub>3</sub> (0.00) for fluorine chemical shifts. Mass spectra were obtained on a Thermo Finnigan MAT 95 XL spectrometer. The melting points of solid compounds were determined by the melting point apparatus (Shanghai INESA Physico-Optical Instrument Co., LTD).

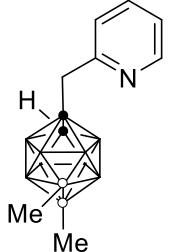
## **A Representative Procedure for the Preparation of Starting Materials **1a**, **1b**, **5a-f**.**

*o*-Carborane/1-substituted-*o*-carborane (10.0 mmol) was dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and cooled to 0 °C, to which was slowly added <sup>7</sup>BuLi (11.0 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane, 4.4 mL). The resulting solution was stirred for 2 h at 0 °C. Then 2-picoly chloride was added at 0 °C. The resulting solution was stirred at 40 °C overnight. After hydrolysis

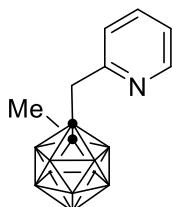
with water (20 mL) and extraction with diethyl ether (20 mL x 3), the ether solutions were combined and concentrated to dryness in vacuo. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography on silica gel (200-300 mesh) using *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate (4/1 in v/v) as eluent to give the products **1/5**.



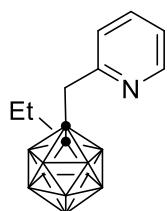
**1a:** White solid. Yield: 87%. Mp: 107.9-109.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $400\text{ MHz}$ ,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.55 (d,  $J = 4.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.70 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 7.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H) (aromatic CH), 4.09 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.65 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $101\text{ MHz}$ ):  $\delta$  155.2, 149.9, 137.4, 124.6, 123.2 (aromatic C), 73.4, 58.5 (cage C), 45.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $128\text{ MHz}$ ):  $\delta$  -1.9 (d,  $J = 148.5\text{ Hz}$ , 1B), -5.4 (d,  $J = 148.5\text{ Hz}$ , 1B), -9.7 (d,  $J = 145.9\text{ Hz}$ , 2B), -10.8 (d,  $J = 142.1\text{ Hz}$ , 2B), -11.9 (d,  $J = 105.0\text{ Hz}$ , 2B), -12.8 (d,  $J = 157.4\text{ Hz}$ , 2B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 236.2437, Found: 236.2437.



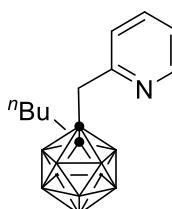
**1b:** White solid. Yield: 81%. Mp: 79.8-81.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $400\text{ MHz}$ ,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.54 (d,  $J = 5.2\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.66 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.15 (d,  $J = 8.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H) (aromatic CH), 3.85 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.63 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.19 (s, 3H), 0.12 (s, 3H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $101\text{ MHz}$ ):  $\delta$  155.5, 149.8, 137.2, 124.5, 123.0 (aromatic C), 66.3, 51.7 (cage C), 44.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $128\text{ MHz}$ ):  $\delta$  8.0 (s, 1B), 4.5 (s, 1B), -7.7 (d,  $J = 147.2\text{ Hz}$ , 2B), -10.9 (d,  $J = 158.7\text{ Hz}$ , 2B), -12.9 (d,  $J = 153.6\text{ Hz}$ , 4B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{22}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 264.2750, Found: 264.2750.



**5a:** White solid. Yield: 80%. Mp: 65.4-66.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.55 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.69 (td,  $J = 7.6, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 3.68 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.26 (s, 3H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.4, 149.5, 136.9, 125.2, 123.1 (aromatic C), 77.4, 75.3 (cage C), 43.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.0 (d,  $J = 184.3$  Hz, 1B), -5.6 (d,  $J = 174.1$  Hz, 1B), -9.4 (d,  $J = 107.5$  Hz, 4B), -10.3 (d,  $J = 142.1$  Hz, 4B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{20}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+$  [M+H $^+$ ]: 250.2593, Found: 250.2593.

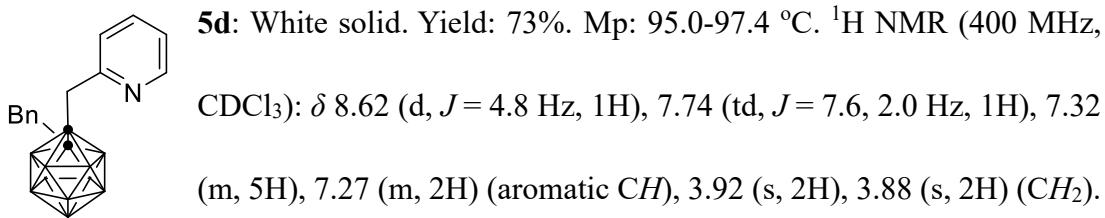


**5b:** Yellow oil. Yield: 74%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.55 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.69 (td,  $J = 7.6, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 3.66 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 2.57 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.4, 149.5, 136.8, 125.2, 123.0 (aromatic C), 81.3, 78.4 (cage C), 43.3 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 29.0 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 14.3 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.8 (d,  $J = 149.8$  Hz, 2B), -10.3 (m, 6B), -11.0 (m, 2B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{22}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+$  [M+H $^+$ ]: 264.2750, Found: 264.2750.

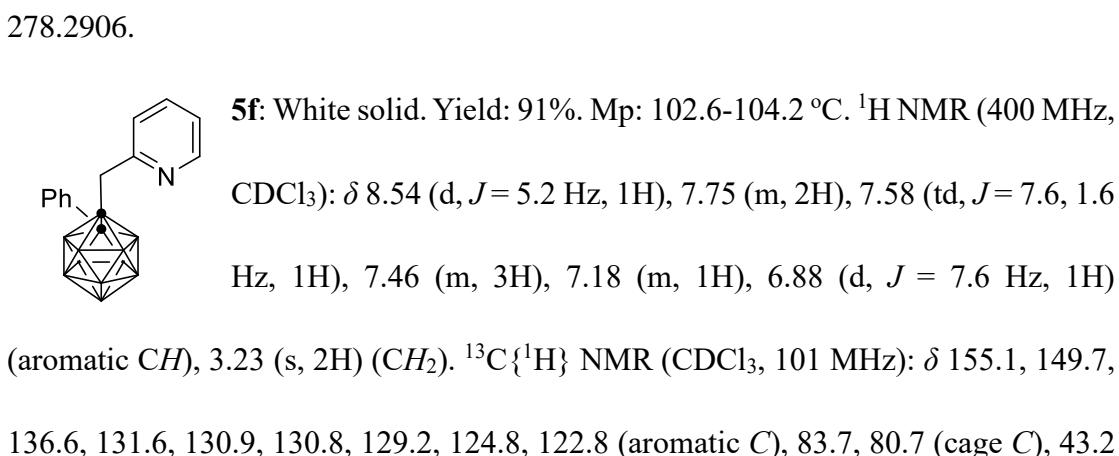
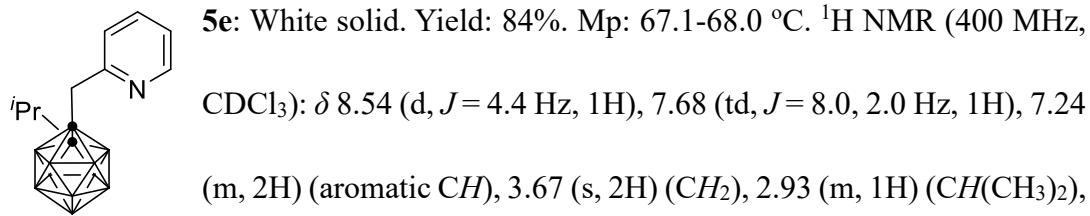


**5c:** White solid. Yield: 89%. Mp: 61.9-62.3 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.55 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 (td,  $J = 7.6, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 3.66 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 2.48 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.38 (m, 2H) (alkyl  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.96 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.3, 149.5, 136.7, 125.1, 122.9 (aromatic C), 80.5, 78.4 (cage C), 43.3 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 35.1, 31.9, 22.5 (alkyl  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 13.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.7 (d,  $J = 147.2$  Hz, 2B), -10.3 (d,  $J = 129.3$  Hz, 8B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for

$C_{12}H_{26}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 292.3063, Found: 292.3063.



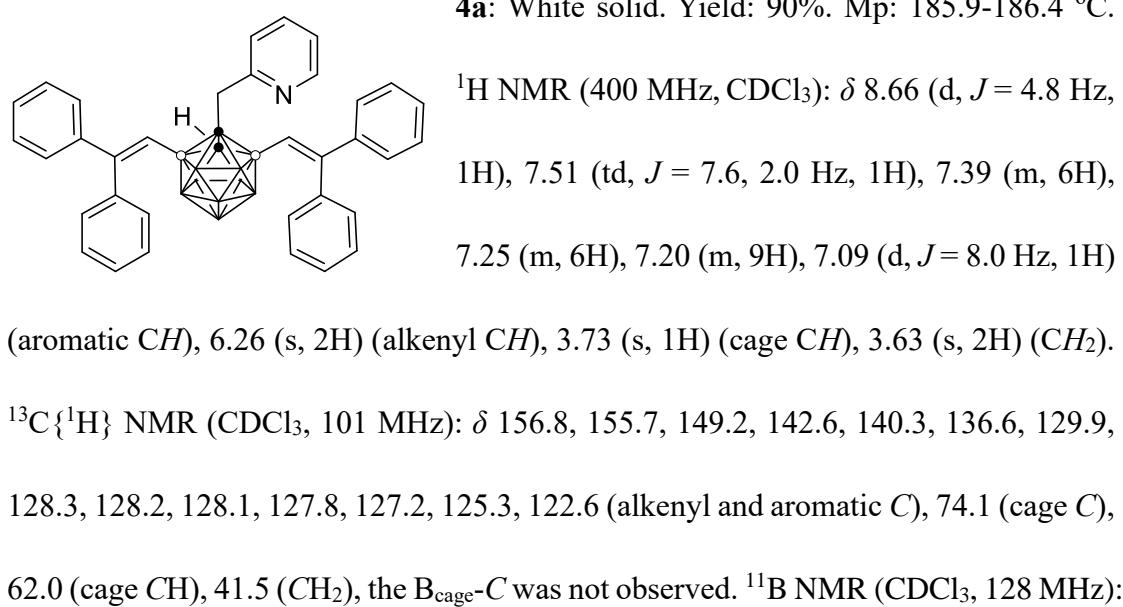
$^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.6, 149.5, 137.0, 135.8, 130.5, 128.6, 128.0, 125.3, 123.2 (aromatic C), 79.9, 78.9 (cage C), 43.8, 40.9 ( $CH_2$ ).  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.4 (d,  $J$  = 144.6 Hz, 2B), -10.0 (d,  $J$  = 125.4 Hz, 8B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{24}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 326.2906, Found: 326.2905.



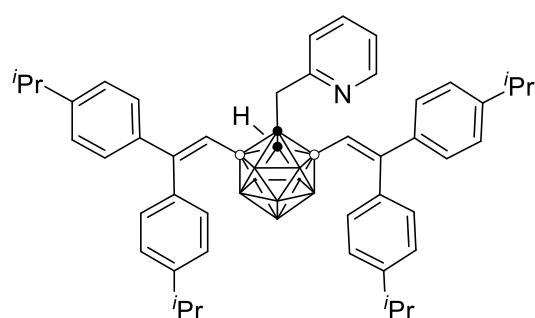
(CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -3.4 (d,  $J$  = 145.9 Hz, 2B), -10.0 (d,  $J$  = 115.2 Hz, 4B), -10.8 (d,  $J$  = 113.9 Hz, 4B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 312.2750, Found: 312.2750.

### General procedure for the synthesis of 4 or 6.

An oven-dried Schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with 1-(2-picolylo)-*o*-carborane (**1/5**) (0.2 mmol), alkyne (**2**) (0.5 mmol), [Cp\*IrCl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (4.0 mg, 0.005 mmol), AgNTf<sub>2</sub> (7.7 mg, 0.02 mmol) and HOAc (6.0 mg, 0.1 mmol), followed by dry toluene (3 mL). The flask was closed under an atmosphere of nitrogen and stirred at 130 °C for 12 h. After the addition of water (5 mL) and extraction with diethyl ether (5 mL x 3), the ether solutions were combined and concentrated to dryness in vacuo. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography on silica gel (200-300 mesh) using *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate (10/1 in v/v) as eluent to give product **4/6**.

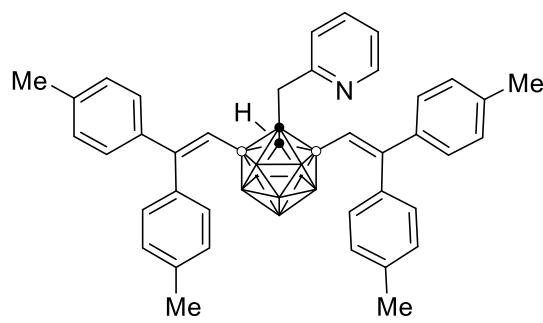


$\delta$  -4.5 (m, 4B), -10.6 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{36}H_{38}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 593.3992, Found: 593.3981.



**4b:** White solid. Yield: 91%. Mp: 102.3-104.0 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.62 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.16 (m, 13H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H)

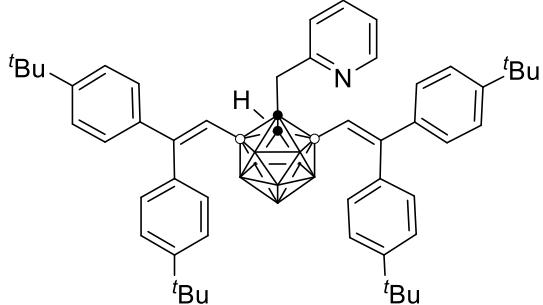
(aromatic CH), 6.15 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.56 (s, 2H) ( $CH_2$ ), 3.26 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.88 (m, 2H) ( $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.30 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H), 1.23 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H) ( $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  156.7, 155.8, 149.2, 149.0, 148.6, 140.5, 137.8, 136.4, 130.0, 127.3, 126.2, 126.1, 125.3, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.5 ( $CH_2$ ), 34.0, 33.9 ( $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 24.3, 24.2, 24.1, 24.0 ( $CH_3$ ), the  $B_{cage}-C$  was not observed.  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.5 (m, 4B), -10.7 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{48}H_{62}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 760.5880, Found: 760.5867.



**4c:** White solid. Yield: 95%. Mp: 101.3-103.4 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.06 (m, 13H) (aromatic CH), 6.19 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH),

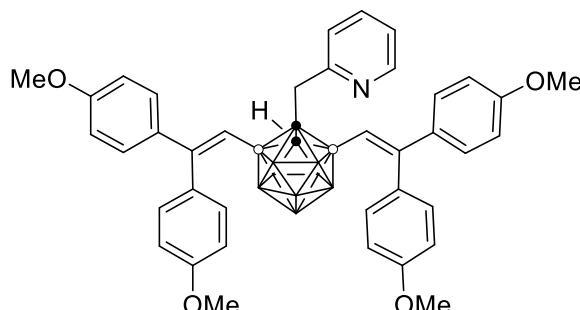
3.64 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.59 (s, 2H) ( $CH_2$ ), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 6H) ( $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  156.7, 155.8, 149.2, 140.3, 138.0, 137.5, 137.4, 136.5,

129.9, 128.9, 127.2, 125.3, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.1 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.5, 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -4.5 (m, 4B), -10.7 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>46</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 648.4628, Found: 648.4623.



**4d:** Yellow solid. Yield: 92%. Mp: 157.7-159.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.62 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.18 (m, 9H), 7.01 (d,

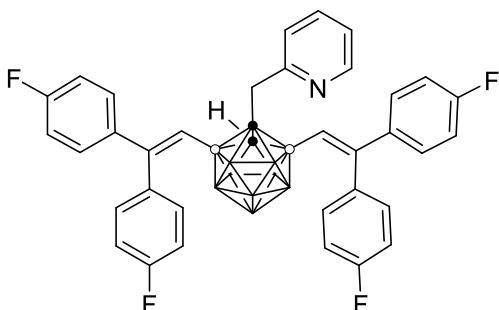
*J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H) (aromatic CH), 6.14 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.56 (s, 2H) (CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.09 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 1.37 (s, 18H), 1.31 (s, 18H) (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 156.5, 155.8, 151.2, 151.0, 149.3, 140.0, 137.4, 136.3, 129.7, 127.0, 125.3, 125.1, 124.9, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.8, 34.7 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 31.6, 31.4 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -4.8 (m, 4B) -10.7 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>70</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 816.6506, Found: 816.6499.



**4e:** Yellow solid. Yield: 90%. Mp: 88.9-89.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.63 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (td, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.10 (m, 9H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.14 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.86 (s, 6H),

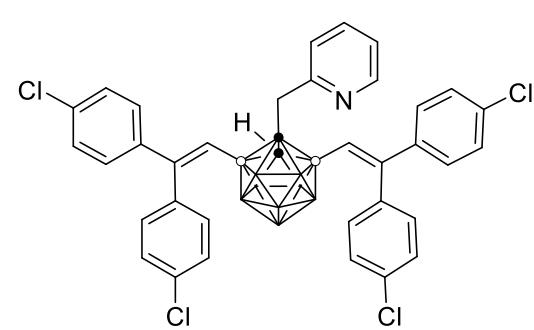
4H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.14 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.86 (s, 6H),

3.79 (s, 6H) ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.62 (s, 1H) (cage  $\text{CH}$ ), 3.60 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  159.7, 159.2, 156.0, 155.8, 149.2, 136.5, 135.8, 132.9, 131.1, 128.6, 125.3, 122.5, 113.6, 113.5 (alkenyl and aromatic  $C$ ), 74.1 (cage  $C$ ), 62.1 (cage  $\text{CH}$ ), 55.4, 55.4 ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 41.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-}C$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.3 (m, 4B), -10.7 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{46}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{NO}_4^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 712.4425, Found: 712.4409.



**4f:** White solid. Yield: 75%. Mp: 89.3-91.1 °C.

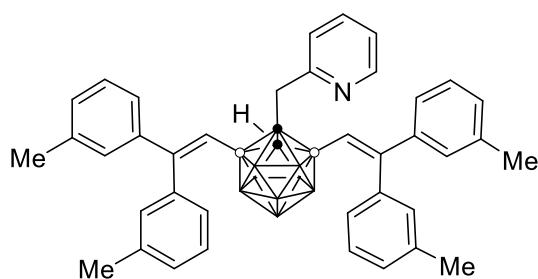
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.66 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td,  $J = 7.6, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.15 (m, 4H), 7.07 (m, 9H), 6.92 (t,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 4H) (aromatic  $\text{CH}$ ), 6.13 (s, 2H) (alkenyl  $\text{CH}$ ), 4.18 (s, 1H) (cage  $\text{CH}$ ), 3.63 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  162.8 (d,  $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 249.5$  Hz), 162.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 248.5$  Hz), 155.7, 155.1, 149.2, 138.7 (d,  $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 3.0$  Hz), 136.9, 136.0 (d,  $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 4.0$  Hz), 131.6 (d,  $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 8.1$  Hz), 128.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 9.1$  Hz), 125.3, 122.8, 115.4 (d,  $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 21.2$  Hz), 115.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 21.2$  Hz) (alkenyl and aromatic  $C$ ), 73.9 (cage  $C$ ), 61.8 (cage  $\text{CH}$ ), 41.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-}C$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.6 (m, 4B), -10.3 (m, 6B).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -113.8 (m, 4F). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{34}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{F}_4\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 664.3625, Found: 664.3623.



**4g:** White solid. Yield: 62%. Mp: 215.0-

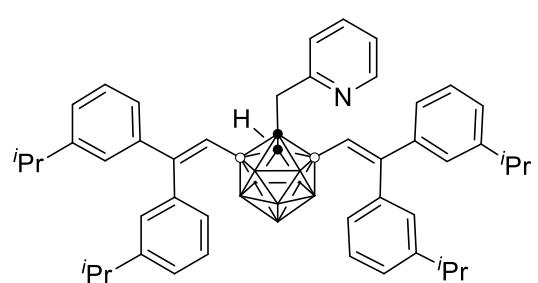
215.8 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.66 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.21 (m, 5H),

7.12 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.15 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.38 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.63 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.6, 154.8, 149.2, 140.7, 138.2, 137.1, 134.3, 134.1, 131.3, 128.7, 128.4, 125.2, 122.8 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 73.8 (cage C), 61.8 (cage CH), 41.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.6 (m, 4B), -10.4 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{34}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{Cl}_4\text{N}^+$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ]: 730.2414, Found: 730.2412.



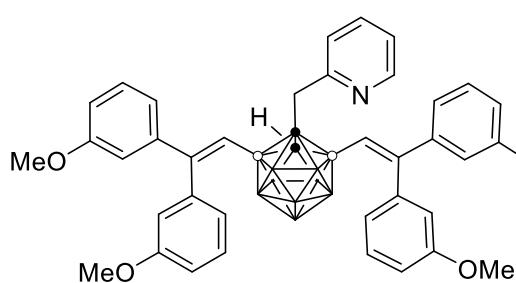
**4h:** White solid. Yield: 84%. Mp: 127.4-129.1 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.15 (m, 5H),

7.04 (m, 7H), 6.96 (m, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.14 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.58 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.53 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 2.35 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 6H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  157.2, 155.9, 149.2, 142.8, 140.2, 137.7, 137.7, 136.6, 130.9, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 126.9, 125.3, 124.6, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 21.6, 21.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.5 (m, 4B), -10.5 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{46}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ]: 648.4628, Found: 648.4619.

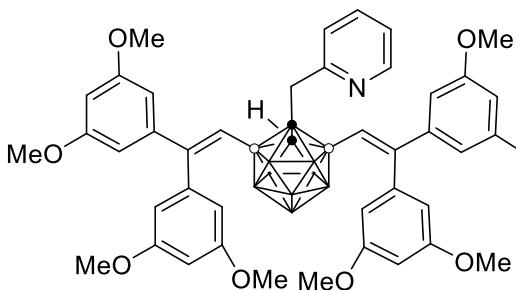


**4i:** Yellow solid. Yield: 95%. Mp: 95.8-96.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 1.6 Hz, 2H),

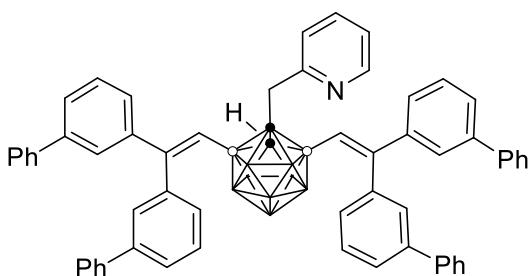
7.20 (m, 11H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.25 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.64 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.57 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 2.91 (m, 4H) ( $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.29 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H), 1.25 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H) ( $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  157.4, 155.9, 149.2, 148.8, 148.7, 142.7, 140.3, 136.5, 128.5, 128.1, 128.1, 127.1, 126.1, 125.8, 125.3, 125.2, 125.1, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.2 (cage C), 62.2 (cage CH), 41.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 34.3 ( $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 24.2, 24.1, 24.1 ( $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.8 (m, 4B), -10.8 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{48}\text{H}_{62}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 760.5880, Found: 760.5865.



**4j:** Yellow solid. Yield: 91%. Mp: 123.9-125.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.65 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (td,  $J=7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.79 (m, 10H) (aromatic CH), 6.24 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.82 (s, 6H) ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.79 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.76 (s, 6H) ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.65 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  159.5, 159.5, 156.5, 155.6, 149.1, 143.9, 141.4, 136.7, 129.3, 129.1, 125.4, 122.7, 122.2, 119.8, 115.6, 113.6, 113.2 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.1 (cage C), 62.2 (cage CH), 55.4, 55.3 ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 41.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -5.0 (m, 4B), -10.8 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{46}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{NO}_4^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 713.4418, Found: 713.4415.

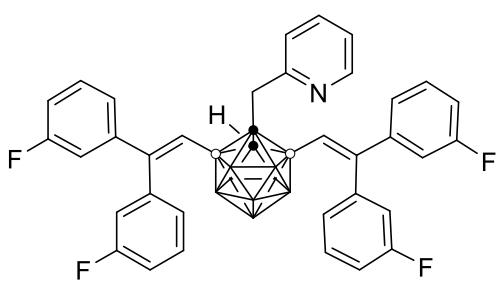


**4k:** White solid. Yield: 77%. Mp: 153.4-153.9 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.64 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (td,  $J = 8.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.49 (s, 2H), 6.43 (s, 8H), 6.40 (s, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.21 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.92 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.80 (s, 12H), 3.75 (s, 12H) ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.69 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  160.6, 160.5, 156.5, 155.7, 149.0, 144.4, 141.8, 136.6, 125.3, 122.6, 108.2, 105.7, 100.0, 99.8 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 55.5, 55.4 ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 41.4 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 192 MHz):  $\delta$  -5.0 (m, 4B), -10.8 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{54}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{NO}_8^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 832.4847, Found: 832.4834.



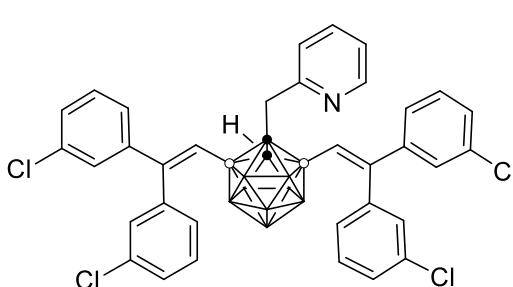
**4l:** Yellow solid. Yield: 73%. Mp: 128.3-129.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.57 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.59 (m, 6H), 7.48 (m, 10H), 7.42 (m, 9H), 7.33 (m, 8H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.03 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.34 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.05 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.69 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  157.0, 155.7, 149.2, 143.1, 141.2, 141.1, 140.9, 140.6, 136.7, 128.9, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 127.5, 127.3, 127.3, 127.0, 126.7, 126.5, 125.8, 125.3, 122.6 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.8 (m, 4B), -10.1 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for

$C_{60}H_{54}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 897.5258, Found: 897.5246.



**4m:** Yellow solid. Yield: 62%. Mp: 129.1-131.4 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.72 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.09 (m, 3H), 7.00

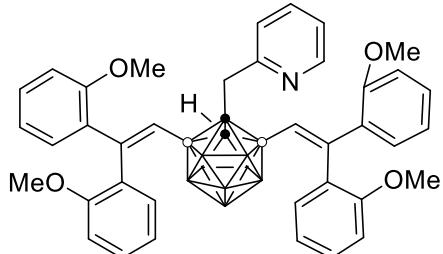
(d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (m, 4H), 6.82 (m, 4H) (aromatic CH), 6.19 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.47 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.67 (s, 2H) ( $CH_2$ ).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  162.8 (d,  $^1J_{CF} = 246.4$  Hz), 162.3 (d,  $^1J_{CF} = 248.5$  Hz), 155.5, 154.6, 149.3, 144.3 (d,  $^3J_{CF} = 7.1$  Hz), 141.7 (d,  $^3J_{CF} = 7.1$  Hz), 137.1, 130.0 (d,  $^3J_{CF} = 9.1$  Hz), 129.7 (d,  $^3J_{CF} = 8.1$  Hz), 125.9 (d,  $^4J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 125.3, 123.0, 122.8 (d,  $^4J_{CF} = 3.0$  Hz), 117.0 (d,  $^2J_{CF} = 21.2$  Hz), 115.2 (d,  $^2J_{CF} = 21.2$  Hz), 115.1 (d,  $^2J_{CF} = 20.8$  Hz), 113.8 (d,  $^2J_{CF} = 22.2$  Hz) (alkenyl and aromatic C), 73.9 (cage C), 61.7 (cage CH), 41.5 ( $CH_2$ ), the  $B_{\text{cage}}\text{-}C$  was not observed.  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.9 (m, 4B), -10.0 (m, 6B).  $^{19}F$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -112.7 (m, 2F), -113.3 (m, 2F). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{36}H_{34}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8F_4N^+$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 664.3625, Found: 664.3609.



**4n:** Yellow solid. Yield: 58%. Mp: 137.7-139.1 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.76 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (m, 5H), 7.15 (m, 11H),

6.91 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.16 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.53 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.66 (s, 2H) ( $CH_2$ ).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  155.4, 154.5, 149.4, 143.8, 141.2, 137.3, 134.4, 134.3, 130.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.0, 125.5, 125.2,

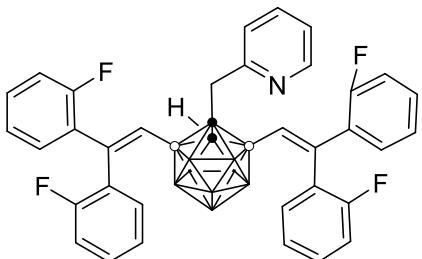
123.1 (alkenyl and aromatic *C*), 74.1 (cage *C*), 61.8 (cage CH), 41.4 (*CH*<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-*C* was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -4.7 (m, 4B), -10.2 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 730.2414, Found: 730.2410.



**4o:** Yellow solid. Yield: 94%. Mp: 96.8-98.5 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.54 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (td, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (m, 9H), 6.85 (m, 8H)

(aromatic CH), 6.22 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.82 (s, 2H) (CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.67 (s, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 12H) (CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.11 (s, 1H) (cage CH). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 157.0, 157.0, 156.2, 151.5, 149.2, 135.9, 133.4, 131.9, 130.5, 130.4, 128.9, 128.5, 125.7, 122.3, 120.5, 120.0, 111.8, 110.8 (alkenyl and aromatic *C*), 74.6 (cage *C*), 62.5 (cage CH), 55.7, 55.5 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 40.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-*C* was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -4.7 (m, 4B), -11.4 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>46</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>NO<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 713.4418, Found: 713.4411.



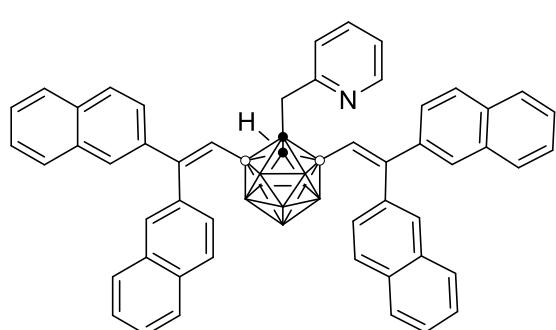
**4p:** Yellow solid. Yield: 60%. Mp: 145.7-146.3

°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.58 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.02 (m, 8H)

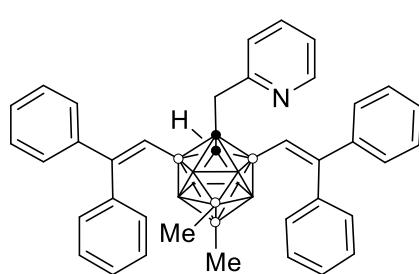
(aromatic CH), 6.25 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.36 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.81 (s, 2H) (CH<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 161.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 18.3 Hz), 158.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 23.3 Hz), 155.5, 149.0, 146.2, 136.5, 132.5 (m), 129.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 274.1 Hz), 129.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 279.1 Hz), 130.3 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 130.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.1 Hz), 129.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 8.1 Hz),

127.9 (d,  $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 17.2$  Hz), 125.6, 124.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 13.5$  Hz), 123.8 (d,  $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 13.3$  Hz), 122.5, 116.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 23.2$  Hz), 115.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 22.2$  Hz) (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.0 (cage CH), 40.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.8 (m, 4B), -10.6 (m, 6B).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -113.9 (m, 2F), -114.5 (m, 2F). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{34}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{F}_4\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 664.3625, Found: 664.3609.

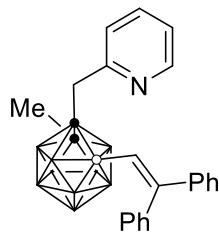


**4q:** Yellow solid. Yield: 60%. Mp: 132.6-133.4 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.79 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.82 (m, 9H), 7.72 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.41 (m, 9H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H) (aromatic CH), 6.39 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 4.17 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 3.76 (s, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 126 MHz):  $\delta$  157.0, 140.0, 137.6, 133.2, 133.1, 133.1, 132.9, 129.5, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.5, 126.4, 124.9, 122.7 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 74.3 (cage C), 62.3 (cage CH), 41.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.3 (m, 4B), -10.4 (m, 6B). HRMS (ESI) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{52}\text{H}_{46}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 792.4628, Found: 792.4625.

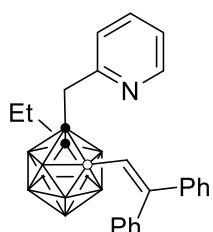


**4r:** White solid. Yield: 98%. Mp: 183.5-183.9 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.69 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.54 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (m, 6H), 7.29 (m, 9H), 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H)

(aromatic CH), 6.33 (s, 2H) (alkenyl CH), 3.66 (s, 2H) (CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.37 (s, 1H) (cage CH), 0.08 (s, 3H), 0.01 (s, 3H) (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 156.2, 156.0, 149.2, 142.8, 140.4, 136.5, 130.0, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.2, 125.3, 122.5 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 67.1, 55.6 (cage C), 40.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ 5.4 (s, 2B), -8.2 (m, 4B), -11.4 (m, 4B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>42</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 620.4315, Found: 620.4299.

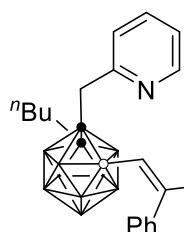


**6a:** White solid. Yield: 99%. Mp: 171.3-172.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.52 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (td, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.21 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.46 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 3.96 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H) (CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.19 (s, 3H) (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 156.0, 156.0, 149.3, 143.3, 140.7, 136.7, 130.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 127.2, 125.3, 122.9 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 77.4, 75.7 (cage C), 41.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -2.6 (s, 1B), -3.9 (d, J = 122.9 Hz, 1B), -4.8 (d, J = 142.1 Hz, 1B), -10.9 (m, 7B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>30</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 428.3376, Found: 428.3368.

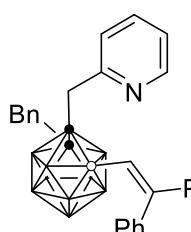


**6b:** White solid. Yield: 98%. Mp: 146.3-146.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.52 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (td, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.20 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.47 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 3.94 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H) (CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 2.56 (m, 2H) (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H) (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 156.0, 155.9, 149.3, 143.3, 140.7, 136.6, 130.4, 128.3,

128.1, 127.9, 127.6, 127.2, 125.4, 122.9 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 81.7, 79.1 (cage C), 41.0 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 29.0 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 14.1 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -2.8 (s, 1B), -4.1 (d,  $J = 148.5$  Hz, 2B), -9.4 (m, 2B), -11.1 (m, 5B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 442.3532, Found: 442.3524.

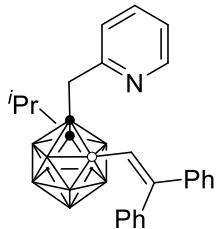


**6c:** White solid. Yield: 99%. Mp: 90.0-91.3 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.52 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.20 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.47 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 3.94 (d,  $J = 15.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d,  $J = 15.2$  Hz, 1H) ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.41 (m, 1H), 1.39 (m, 4H) (alkyl  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) (alkyl  $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  156.0, 155.8, 149.2, 143.3, 140.7, 136.5, 130.3, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.5, 127.2, 125.3, 122.8 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 80.9, 79.2 (cage C), 41.1 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Py}$ ), 35.1, 31.8, 22.5 (alkyl  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 13.9 (alkyl  $\text{CH}_3$ ), the  $\text{B}_{\text{cage}}\text{-C}$  was not observed.  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  -4.5 (m, 3B), -9.5 (m, 2B), 11.2 (m, 5B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{36}^{10}\text{B}_2^{11}\text{B}_8\text{N}^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ : 470.3845, Found: 470.3835.

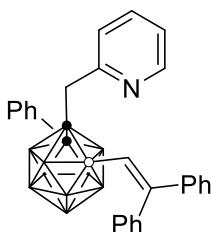


**6d:** White solid. Yield: 98%. Mp: 145.5-146.2 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.60 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (m, 5H), 7.30 (m, 9H), 7.20 (m, 3H) (aromatic CH), 6.48 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 4.09 (d,  $J = 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.05 (d,  $J = 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.77 (d,  $J = 14.0$  Hz, 2H) ( $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  156.2, 156.1, 149.2, 143.3, 140.6, 136.8, 136.2, 130.4, 130.3, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 125.4, 123.0 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 80.2, 79.7 (cage C), 41.3, 40.7

(CH<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -3.7 (m, 3B), -8.9 (m, 2B), -10.9 (m, 5B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>34</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 504.3689, Found: 504.3679.



**6e:** White solid. Yield: 95%. Mp: 129.0-129.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.19 (m, 2H) (aromatic CH), 6.44 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 3.94 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H) (CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.08 (m, 1H) (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 155.9, 155.8, 148.9, 143.3, 140.7, 136.9, 130.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 127.2, 125.6, 123.0 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 87.3, 81.6 (cage C), 40.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.0 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 24.4, 24.3 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -3.0 (m, 2B), -5.0 (d, *J* = 204.8 Hz, 1B), -8.9 (d, *J* = 157.4 Hz, 1B), -10.7 (m, 3B), -12.6 (m, 3B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>34</sub><sup>10</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>8</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 456.3689, Found: 456.3679.



**6f:** White solid. Yield: 95%. Mp: 149.7-150.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.40 (m, 7H), 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) (aromatic CH), 6.60 (s, 1H) (alkenyl CH), 3.70 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H) (CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz): δ 155.4, 155.3, 149.5, 143.3, 140.8, 136.1, 131.6, 131.1, 130.8, 130.4, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 127.2, 125.0, 122.6 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 84.1, 80.8 (cage C), 40.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), the B<sub>cage</sub>-C was not observed. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 128 MHz): δ -

2.5 (m, 4B), -10.3 (m, 6B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{28}H_{32}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+ [M+H^+]$ : 490.3532, Found: 490.3525.

### Synthesis of 8.

An oven-dried Schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with 1-(2-picoly)-2-methyl-*o*-carborane (**5a**) (49.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), diphenylacetylene (**2a**) (89.0 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $[Ir(COD)Cl]_2$  (3.4 mg, 0.005 mmol),  $AgNTf_2$  (3.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) and HOAc (6.0 mg, 0.1 mmol), followed by dry toluene (3 mL). The flask was closed under an atmosphere of nitrogen and stirred at 130 °C for 12 h. After the addition of water (5 mL) and extraction with diethyl ether (5 mL x 3), the ether solutions were combined and concentrated to dryness in vacuo. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography on silica gel (200-300 mesh) using *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate (10/1 in v/v) as eluent to give product **8** as a white solid (46.1 mg, 54%).

**8:** Mp: 138.5-139.1 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.51 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.58 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.19 (m, 5H), 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H) (alkenyl CH and aromatic CH), 4.04 (d,  $J = 15.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.52 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H) ( $CH_2$ ), 2.33 (s, 3H) ( $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 101 MHz):  $\delta$  156.1, 149.2, 143.3, 142.3, 137.5, 136.7, 129.8, 129.0, 128.8, 128.0, 127.3, 126.5, 125.0, 122.8 (alkenyl and aromatic C), 77.6, 76.8 (cage C), 40.5 ( $CH_2$ ), 23.9 ( $CH_3$ ), the  $B_{cage}-C$  was not observed.  $^{11}B$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 128 MHz):  $\delta$  0.86 (s, 1B), -3.1 (d,  $J = 151.0$  Hz, 1B), -4.5 (d,  $J = 152.3$  Hz, 1B), -10.9 (m, 7B). HRMS (DART) Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{30}^{10}B_2^{11}B_8N^+$

[M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 428.3374, Found: 428.3376.

**X-ray Structure Determination.** The data of **4a** (180 K), **6e** (173 K) and **8** (193 K) were collected at different temperatures on a Bruker APEX DUO diffractometer. An empirical absorption correction was applied using the SADABS program.<sup>4</sup> All structures were solved by direct methods and subsequent Fourier difference techniques and refined anisotropically for all non-hydrogen atoms by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  using the SHELXTL program package.<sup>5</sup> All hydrogen atoms were geometrically fixed using the riding model. Crystal data and details of data collection and structure refinements were given in Table S1.

CCDC 2215404-2215406 (**4a**, **6e** and **8**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

**Table S1.** Crystal Data and Summary of Data Collection and Refinements.

compound	<b>4a</b>	<b>6e</b>	<b>8</b>
formula	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>37</sub> B <sub>10</sub> N	C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>33</sub> B <sub>10</sub> N	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>29</sub> B <sub>10</sub> N
crystal size (mm)	0.12 x 0.05 x 0.03	0.17 x 0.15 x 0.12	0.05 x 0.03 x 0.02
fw	591.76	455.62	427.57
crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /c	<i>P</i> -1
<i>a</i> , Å	10.327(1)	10.718(1)	8.172(1)
<i>b</i> , Å	10.604(1)	18.015(1)	11.935(1)
<i>c</i> , Å	16.150(1)	13.762(1)	13.559(1)
$\alpha$ , deg	85.701(1)	90	108.242(5)
$\beta$ , deg	81.211(1)	92.277(2)	94.126(5)
$\gamma$ , deg	68.369(1)	90	99.211(5)
<i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>	1624.3(1)	2655.1(1)	1229.3(2)
<i>Z</i>	2	8	2
<i>D</i> <sub>calcd</sub> , Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1.210	1.140	1.155
radiation ( $\lambda$ ) Å	1.34139	1.34139	1.34139
2 <i>θ</i> range, deg	8.8 to 110.0	7.2 to 109.9	6.0 to 110.4
$\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.306	0.278	0.281
<i>F</i> (000)	620	960	448
no. of obsd reflns	6105	5039	4656
no. of params refnd	424	327	308
goodness of fit	1.045	1.042	1.072
R1	0.0509	0.0517	0.0636
wR2	0.1315	0.1296	0.1661

## References

- 1 E. S. Alekseyeva, A. S. Batsanov, L. A. Boyd, M. A. Fox, T. G. Hibbert, J. A. K. Howard, J. A. H. MacBride, A. Mackinnon and K. Wade, *Dalton Trans.* **2003**, 475-482.
- 2 K. Park, G. Bae, J. Moon, J. Choe, K. H. Song and S. Lee, *J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, 75, 6244-6251.
- 3 J. C. Axtell, K. O. Kirlikovali, P. I. Djurovich, D. Jung, V. T. Nguyen, B. Munekiyo, A. T. Royappa, A. L. Rheingold and A. M. Spokoyny, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, 138, 15758-15765.
- 4 G. M. Sheldrick, SADABS: Program for Empirical Absorption Correction of Area Detector Data. University of Göttingen: Germany, **1996**.
- 5 G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXTL 5.10 for Windows NT: Structure Determination Software Programs. Bruker Analytical X-ray Systems, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA, **1997**.

