

Supporting Information for

Enantioselective synthesis of chiral organoborons via carbene B-H insertion catalyzed by engineered neuroglobin

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1 Experimental Section

1.1 Materials and Methods

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals and reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Silica gel chromatography purifications were carried out using silica gel. ^1H , ^{11}B and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker ANANCE NEO 500 MHz, 160 MHz and 126 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts were determined relative to internal standard TMS at 0.0 ppm. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm), and coupling constants are in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations were used to indicate the corresponding multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad.

High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a G2-XS QTOF mass spectrometer (Waters) using ESI. The calibration curves were determined by HPLC (Shimadzu LC-16, GL1F-3P C18 5 μm , 4.6 \times 150 mm, 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, UV 254 nm, flow rate = 0.6-0.8 mL/min, MeCN/H₂O = 60/40). The *ee* and *e.r.* values of compounds were determined by chiral HPLC (Shimadzu LC-16, CHIRALCEL OD-3 and ADH, 3 μm , 4.6 \times 250 mm, 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, UV 254 nm, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min, Hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5–80/20).

1.2 Protein Expression and Purification

1.2.1 Protein expression

Chemically competent *E. coli* BL21(DE3) cells were transformed with a pET3a expression vector carrying wild-type (WT) Ngb or its mutants. Single colonies were picked and inoculated into a starter culture in 5 mL of fresh LB medium containing 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ampicillin. The 3 mL overnight culture was then transferred to a 3 L fresh rich medium containing 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ampicillin and 10 mM 5-aminolevulinic acid hydrochloride (ALA). The culture was grown at 37 $^\circ\text{C}$ and shaken at 220 rpm for 12 h. Protein expression was induced by adding isopropyl β -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) to a final concentration of 0.4 mM for an additional 12 h. Cells were then harvested by centrifugation (6000 rpm) at 4 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 5 min.

1.2.2 Protein purification

The harvested cell pellets were resuspended in 80 mL KPi buffer (20 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.0) and lysed by ultrasonication (40% power, 5 sec on, 5 sec off, 60 min) on ice. The crude lysates were centrifuged (10000 rpm) at 4 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 15 min, and the pellets were discarded. The supernatant was precipitated with 30-60% $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$. Pellets containing Ngb were dissolved in 20 mM KPi (pH 7.0) and concentrated to 10 mL. The Ngb was then loaded on a HiPrepTM 26/60 Sephacryl S-100 Gel filtration column (GE Healthcare) equilibrated with 100 mM KPi buffer (pH 7.0). The fraction containing Ngb was collected and oxidized by $\text{K}_3[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]$, which was further loaded on a HiPrepTM DEAE FF 16/10 column (GE Healthcare) equilibrated with 20 mM KPi buffer (pH 7.0) and eluted with 100 mM KPi (pH 7.0). Purified Ngb proteins were stored at -20 $^\circ\text{C}$.

1.3 B-H Insertion Reactions

1.3.1 B-H insertion reaction catalyzed by purified Ngb mutants

Initial reactions were carried out on a 1 mL scale using purified Ngb mutants (40 μ M), 5 mM borane substrates, 7.5 mM diazo esters and 20 mM sodium dithionite ($\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$) in a N_2 atmosphere. $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ was dissolved in 50 mM KPi buffer (pH 7.0, 0.2 M stock solution).

Typical procedure: 100 μ L of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (20 μ mol, 4.0 equiv) stock solution was added to the 750 μ L of purified Ngb solution (0.04 μ mol). Reactions were initiated by adding 100 μ L of borane substrates (5 μ mol, 1.0 equiv), followed by adding 50 μ L of diazo esters (7.5 μ mol, 1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h in a N_2 atmosphere, and the reaction was quenched by the addition of 10 μ L of 3 M hydrochloric acid (HCl). The reaction mixture was diluted 2-fold with MeCN, and the yields of these compounds were determined by HPLC. After extraction, concentration and purification, the e.r. values of these compounds were determined by chiral HPLC.

1.3.2 Preparative-scale reactions

In a typical preparative-scale reaction procedure, a solution (100 mL) containing 0.7 g $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (4 mmol, 4.0 equiv) and A15C/H64S/V68F/F28M Ngb (CSFM Ngb, 8 μ mol) in 50 mM KPi buffer (pH 7.0) was stirred for 1 min. The reaction was initiated by adding 4 mL of borane substrates (1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4 mL of diazo esters (1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv), both dissolved in MeCN. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h under N_2 , then extracted with dichloromethane (3 \times 200 mL). The organic phase was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Silica gel, PE/EA = 10/1–5/1) to give the corresponding products.

1.4 UV-Vis Spectroscopy

UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a Hewlett-Packard 8453 diode array spectrometer. Ferrous CSFM Ngb was obtained by adding $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (7 mg) to the ferric CSFM Ngb solution (10 μ M, 2 mL) for 1 min. The diazo compound was dissolved in MeCN (20 mM) and added dropwise to the ferrous CSFM Ngb to a final concentration of 100 μ M to produce the MDPB-CSFM Ngb complex. Spectra were recorded after the addition of diazo compounds for 3 min. The py-BH₃ was dissolved in MeCN (20 mM) and added dropwise to a final concentration of 100 μ M in MDPB-CSFM Ngb complex. Spectra were recorded after the addition of py-BH₃ for 5 min.

1.5 Molecular Simulation and Docking Studies

The initial structure of A15C/H64S/V68F/F28M Ngb was generated from the X-ray structure of A15C Ngb (PDB code 7VQG)¹ using program VMD 1.9.² A patch of disulfide bond was applied to both Cys46-Cys55 and Cys15-Cys120. The structure of MDPB was obtained from the X-ray structure of carbene-bound *Rma* TED (PDB code 6CUN).³ A patch of axial ligands (MDPB and His96) was then applied to the ferrous heme iron. The protein was solvated in a cubic box of TIP3 water, followed by the addition of counter ions (Na^+ and Cl^-) to obtain the physiological ionic strength of 0.15 M. The resulting complex system was minimized with NAMD 2.9 (Nanoscale Molecular Dynamics),⁴ using 1000 minimization steps with the conjugate gradient

method at 0 K, and equilibrated for 100,000 molecular dynamics steps (1 fs per step) at 300 K, then further minimized for 1000 steps at 0 K.

The simulated structure of carbene-bound A15C/H64S/V68F/F28M Ngb was used as the initial structure for docking with py-BH₃ using the Autodock 4 program.⁵ The heme iron was set as the center, with a box size of ~80 Å × 80 Å × 90 Å, which covered most of the protein surface. Amino acid residues Met28, Ser64, and Phe68 on the protein surface near the active heme site, and the heme axial ligand MDPB were set as flexible residues. Docked conformations were automatically ranked by Autodock 4 using a binding-energy scoring function. The docking results (10 most favorable conformations) after 2000 steps were then visualized and analyzed using VMD 1.9.²

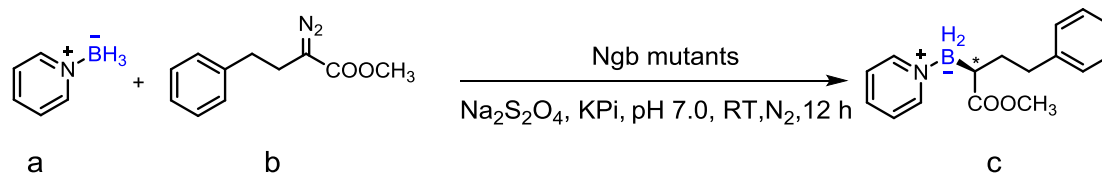
1.6 Synthesis of Racemic Organoborane Products

Racemic standard references of organoborane products were prepared *via* Rh-catalyzed B-H insertion reactions using procedures slightly modified from a previously reported method.⁶ Namely, a 4 mL vial with screw cap and PTFE septum was charged with a borane substrate (0.5 mmol, 1 eq.) and Rh₂(OAc)₄ (11 mg, 5 mol%). The vial was evacuated and backfilled with N₂ three times, and 1 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ was added. A CH₂Cl₂ solution (1 mL) of the diazo compound (0.6 mmol) was slowly added to the reaction mixture, which was then stirred for 12 h at room temperature under N₂. The crude reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography (dry loading) using EtOAc and petroleum ether as eluents.

1.7 HPLC Standard Curves for Organoborane Products

Product formation in enzymatic reactions was quantified by HPLC based on standard curves. To determine the standard calibration curves, stock solutions of chemically synthesized racemic products were prepared at various concentrations (0.25-10 mM in MeCN). All data points represent the average of duplicate runs. The standard curves are plots of product concentration in mM (x-axis) versus area/10⁷ (y-axis).

Table S1. Catalytic activity and enantioselectivity of engineered Ngb variants in the B-H insertion reaction with pyridine borane (py-BH₃) and methyl 2-diazo-4-phenylbutanoate (MDPB).



Entry	Catalyst	<i>ee</i> (%)	Yield (%)
1	WT	25	15
2	A15C	33	18
3	A15C/H64G	22	24
4	A15C/H64V	43	49
5	A15C/H64S	50	55
6	A15C/H64D	43	39
7	A15C/H64S/V68F	64	30
8	A15C/H64S/V68F/F28M	94	60
9	A15C/H64V/V68F/F28M	83	45
10	A15C/H64G/V68F/F28M	15	33

Reaction Conditions: 5 mM py-BH₃, 7.5 mM MDPB, 20 mM Na₂S₂O₄, 40 μM Ngb, 50 mM KPi (15% MeCN, pH 7.0), RT, and 12 h under N₂. Yields were determined based on an HPLC calibration curve with racemic standards. The *ee* values were determined by chiral HPLC.

Table S2. Docking energies of py-BH₃ binding to the complex of MDPB-CSFM Ngb.

Model	E _{binding} ^a	E _{inter-mol} ^b	E _{vdw} ^c	E _{total} ^d	E _{electr} ^e	E _{torsional} ^f
1	-4.21	-4.49	-1.68	-10.47	0.05	0.27
2	-4.19	-4.47	-1.78	-10.28	0.03	0.27
3	-4.05	-4.32	-1.81	-10.75	-0.01	0.27
4	-4.05	-4.32	-1.60	-10.67	0.01	0.27
5	-3.90	-4.18	-1.64	-10.52	0.03	0.27
6	-3.88	-4.15	-1.68	-10.26	0.04	0.27
7	-3.87	-4.15	-1.43	-11.24	0.05	0.27
8	-3.80	-4.08	-1.41	-10.96	0.05	0.27
9	-3.79	-4.06	-1.78	-11.13	0.00	0.27
10	-3.58	-3.86	-1.20	-11.23	0.03	0.27

^a Binding energy. ^b Intermolecular energy. ^c van der Waals energies. ^d total energy of the complex. ^e electrostatic energy. ^f torsional free energy. Unit: kcal/mol.

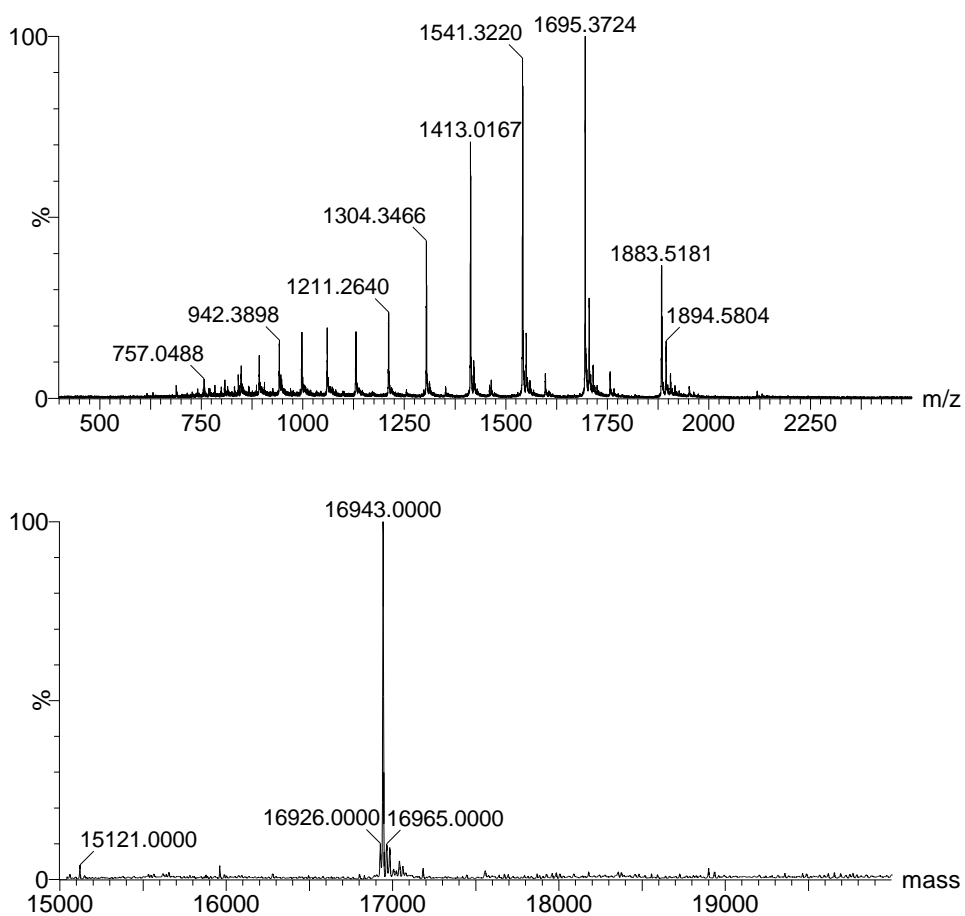


Figure S1. MS spectra of CSFM Ngb with two disulfide bonds; calculated: 16943.5 Da; observed: 16943.0 \pm 0.5 Da.

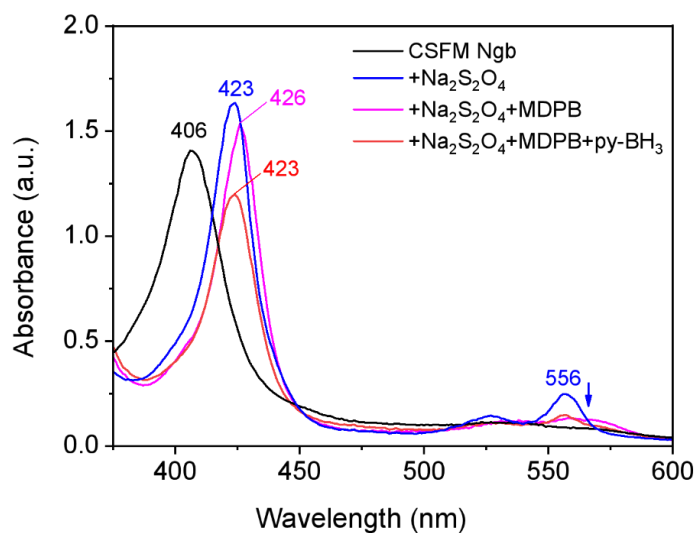
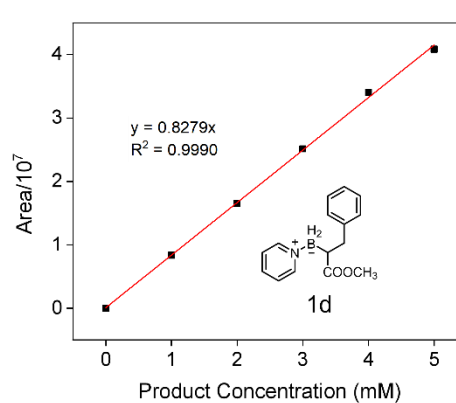
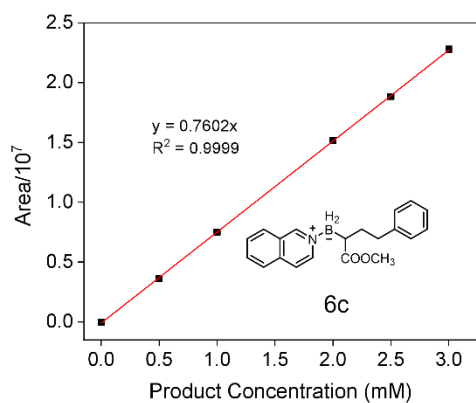
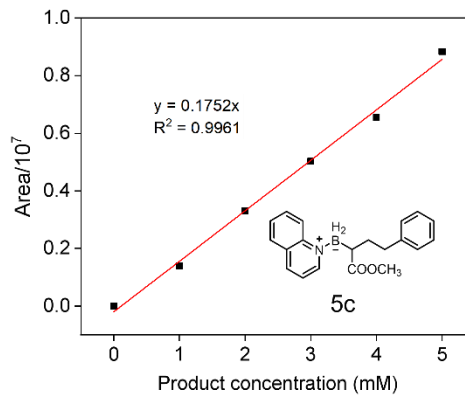
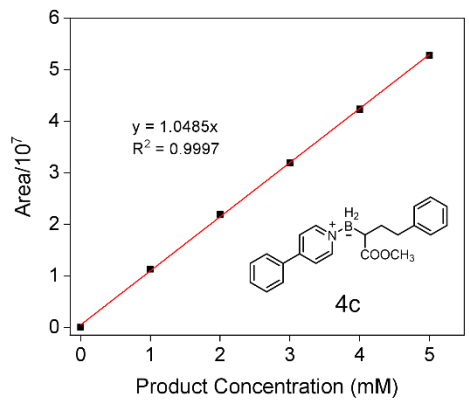
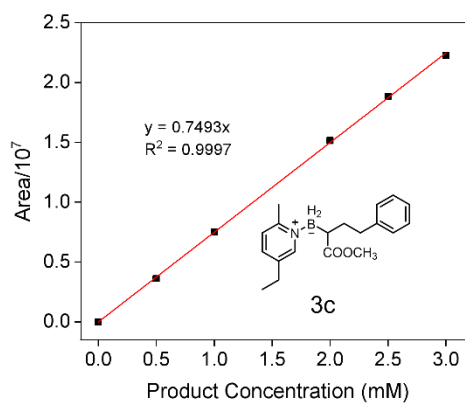
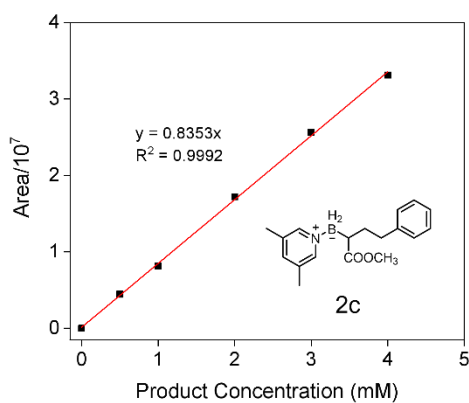
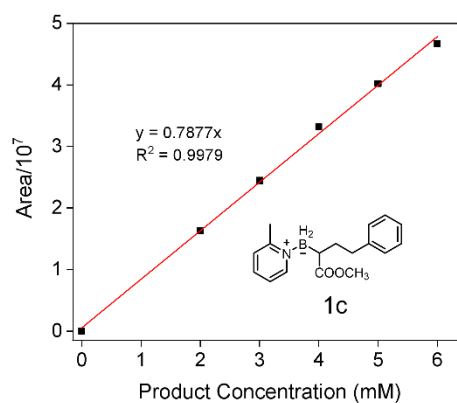
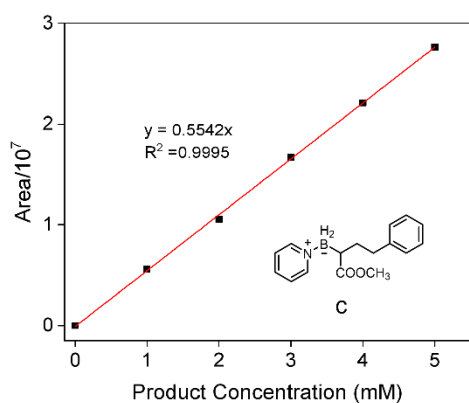
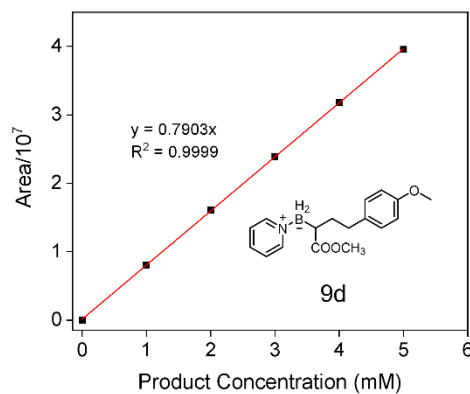
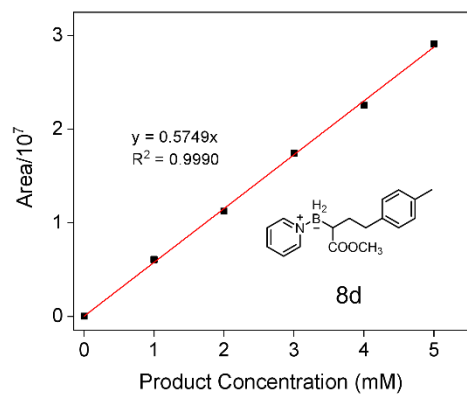
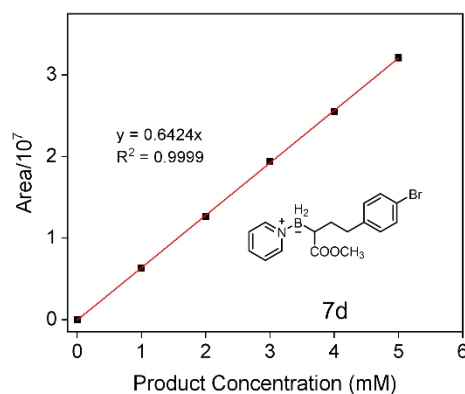
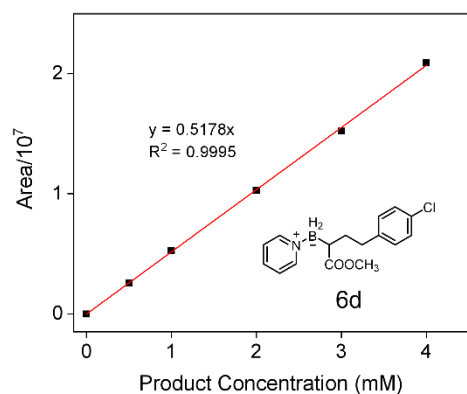
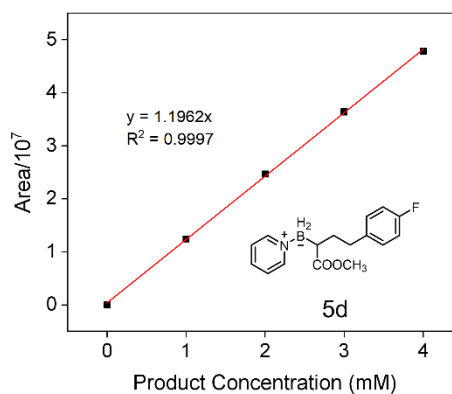
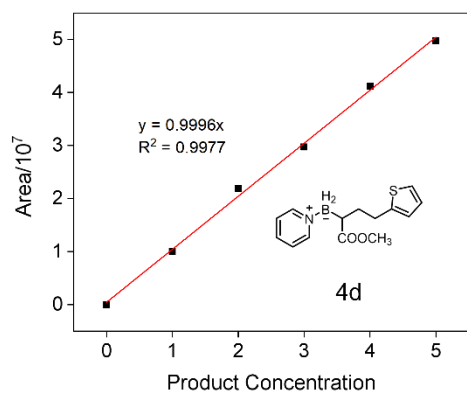
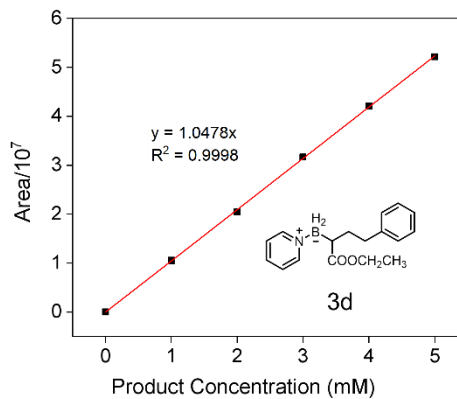
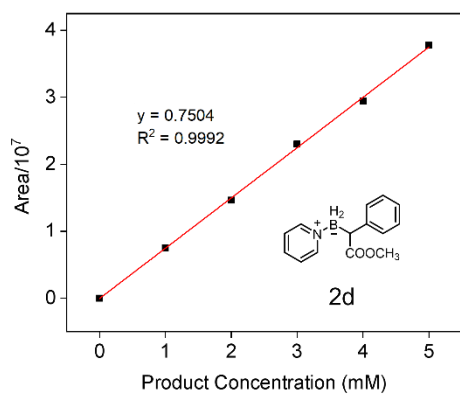


Figure S2. UV-vis spectra of CSFM Ngb: ferric (black), ferrous (blue), MDPB⁻-bound form (magenta), and following py-BH₃ addition to MDPB⁻-CSFM Ngb (red).





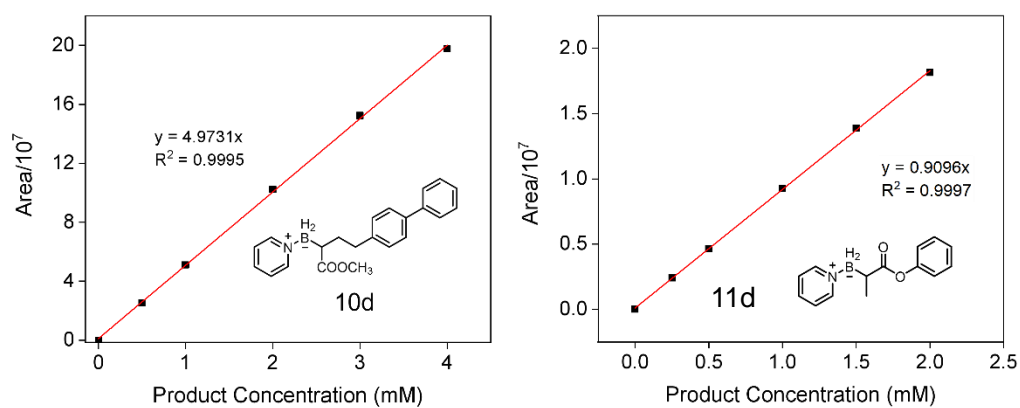
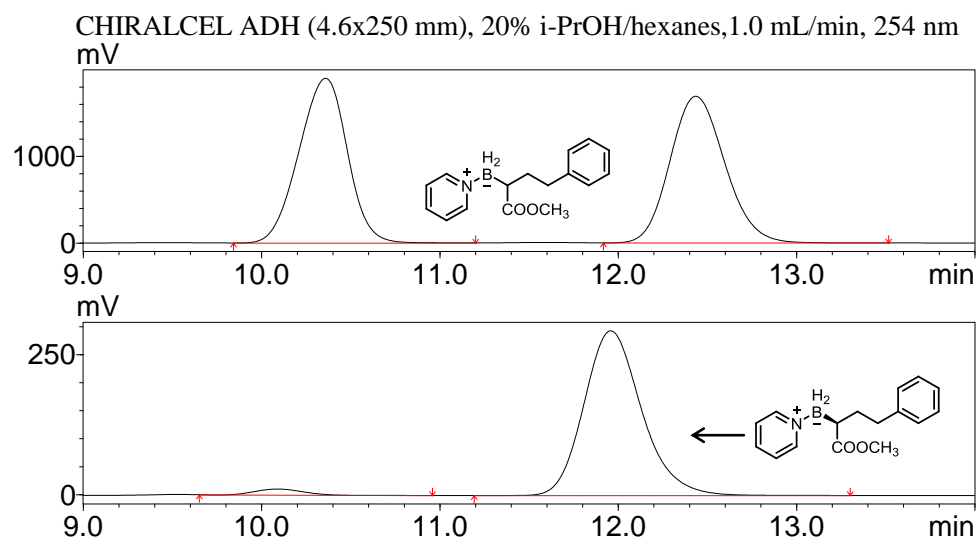
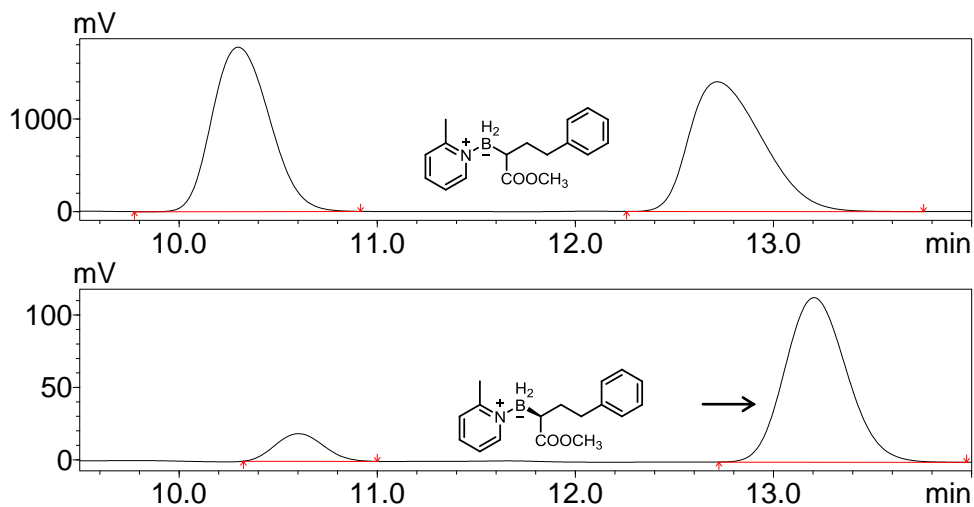


Figure S3. Calibration curves for products.



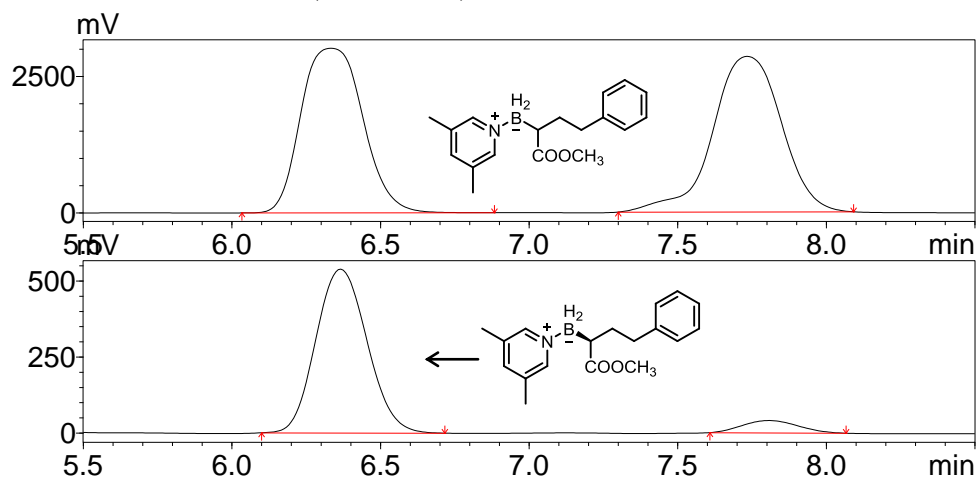
<i>Rac-c</i>			<i>R-c</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
10.359	35948427	49.887	10.088	229133	3.349
12.435	36111159	50.113	11.958	6613214	96.651

CHIRALCEL ADH (4.6x250 mm), 12% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



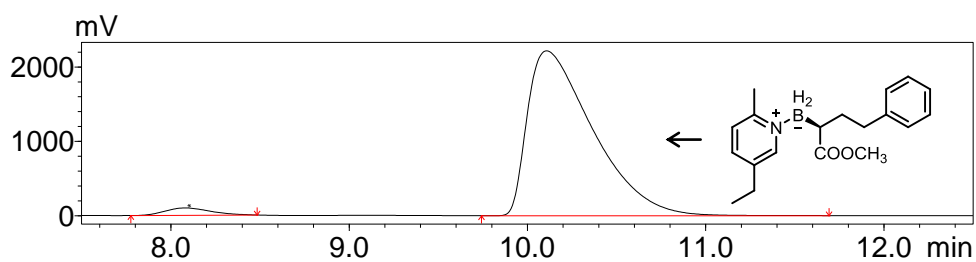
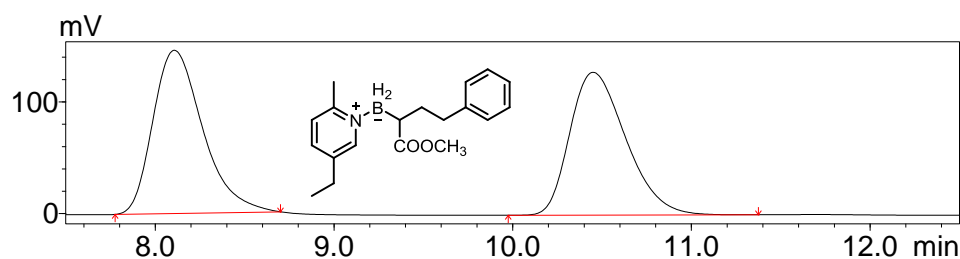
<i>Rac-1c</i>			<i>R-1c</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
10.299	35620693	49.855	10.604	322919	11.610
12.717	35828360	50.145	13.205	2458485	88.390

CHIRALCEL ADH (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



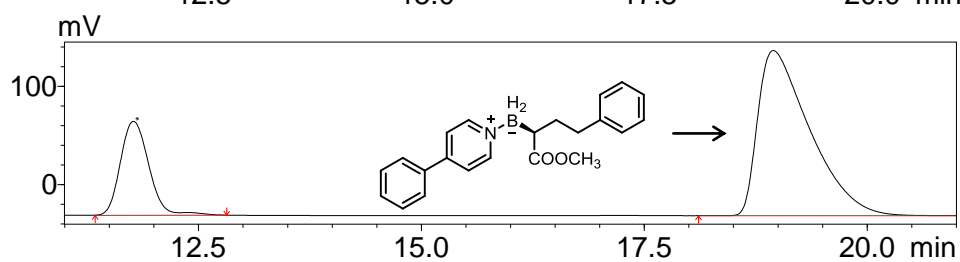
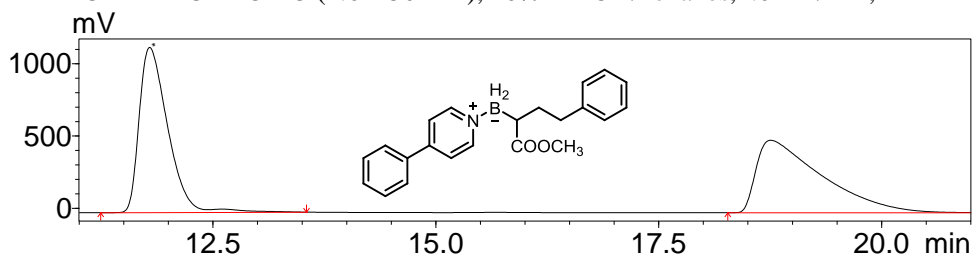
<i>Rac-2c</i>			<i>R-2c</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
6.334	43554111	48.696	6.365	6461076	92.443
7.734	45886301	51.304	7.806	528144	7.557

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



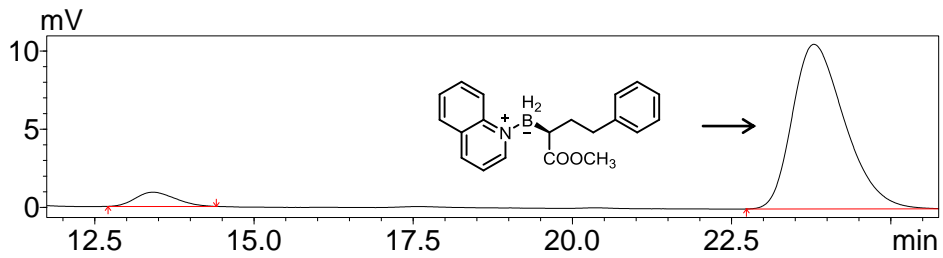
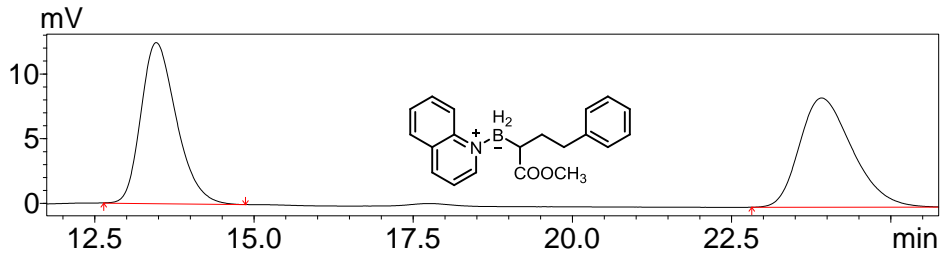
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8.107	2834689	50.487	8.081	1750344	3.007
10.451	2780004	49.513	10.108	56464585	96.993

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min,



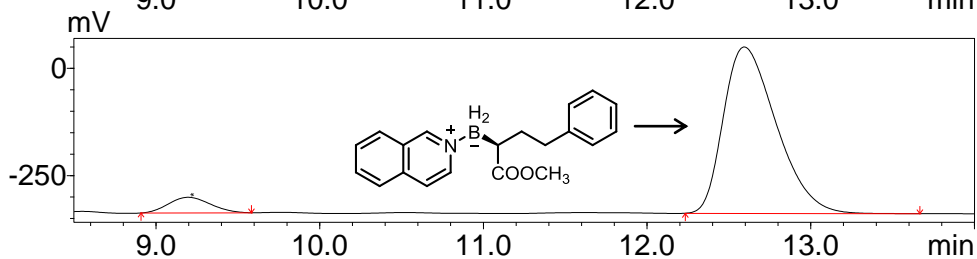
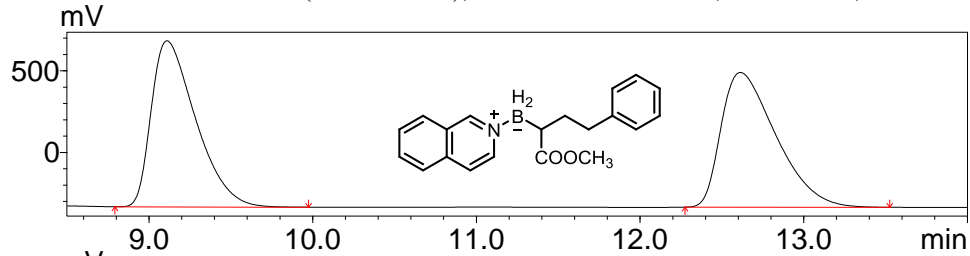
<i>Rac-4c</i>			<i>R-4c</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
11.791	25517075	49.966	11.771	2114276	23.664
18.757	25551610	50.034	18.948	6820236	76.336

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



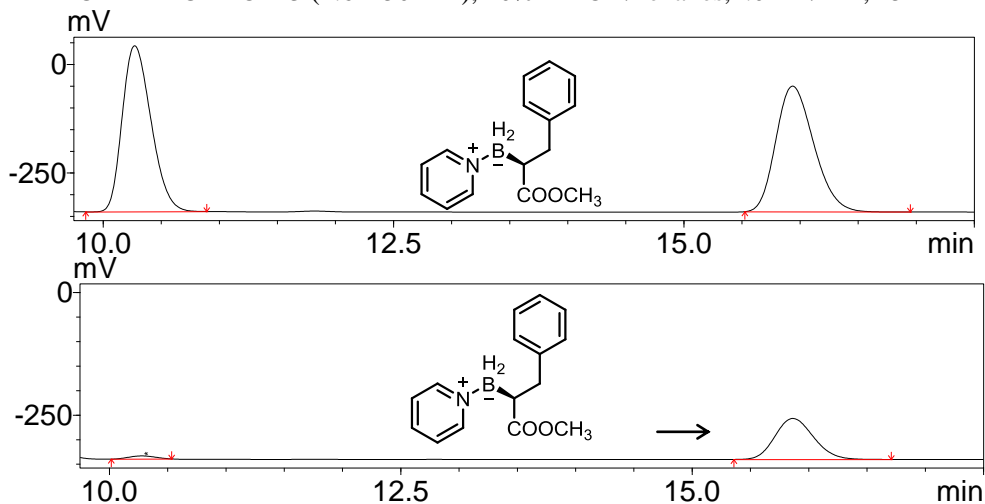
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23.915	485485	50.137	23.795	599864	93.831

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



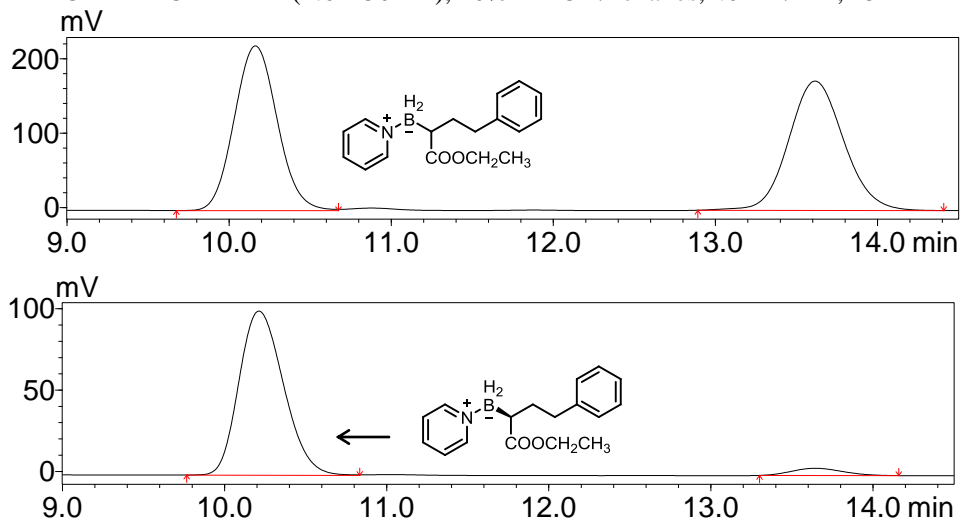
<i>Rac-6c</i>			<i>R-6c</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
9.111	19208039	49.971	9.196	644114	6.884
12.613	19230333	50.029	12.594	8712221	93.116

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



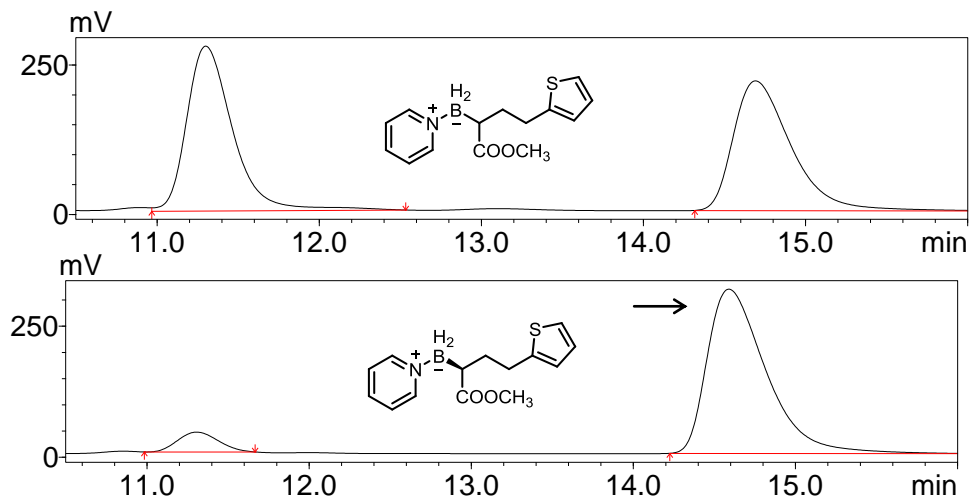
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Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
10.272	6595780	50.112	10.280	99839	4.935
15.936	6566343	49.888	15.864	1923220	95.065

CHIRALCEL ADH (4.6x250mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



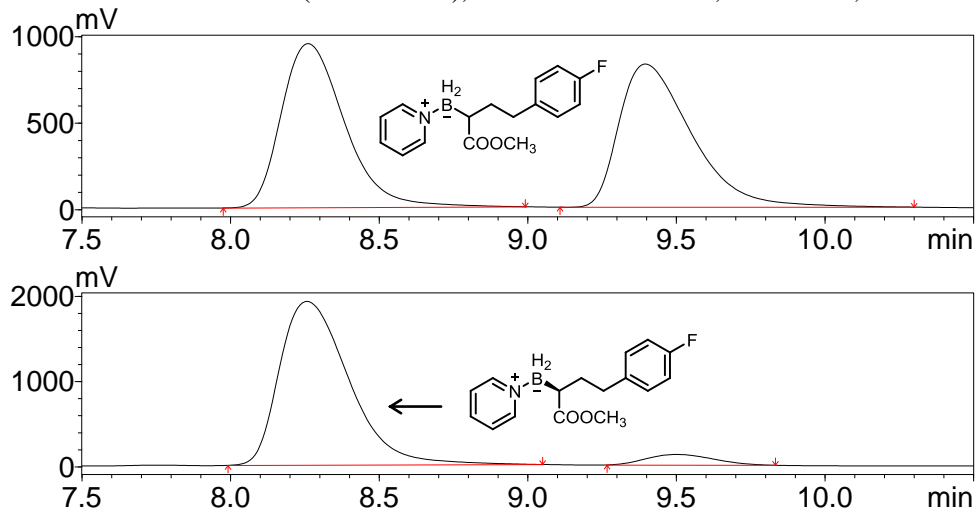
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Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
10.163	4075533	49.697	10.212	1923742	94.819
13.615	4125212	50.303	13.645	105112	5.181

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



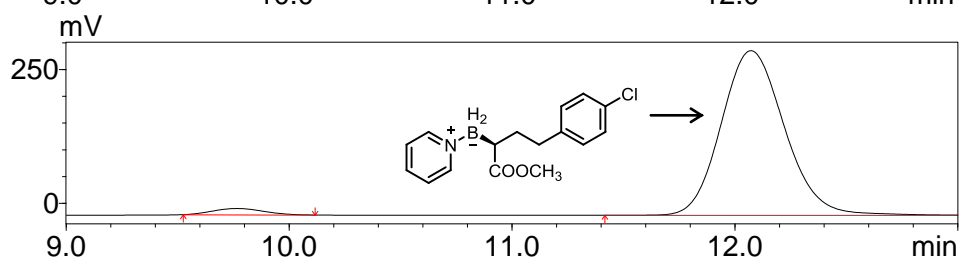
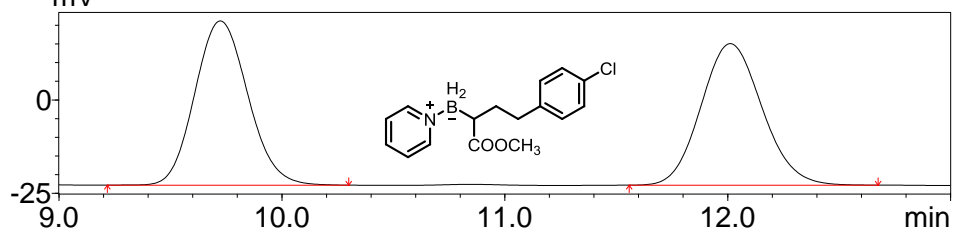
<i>Rac-4d</i>			<i>R-4d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
11.300	5442352	50.528	11.307	660079	7.720
14.692	5328673	49.472	14.590	7889828	92.280

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



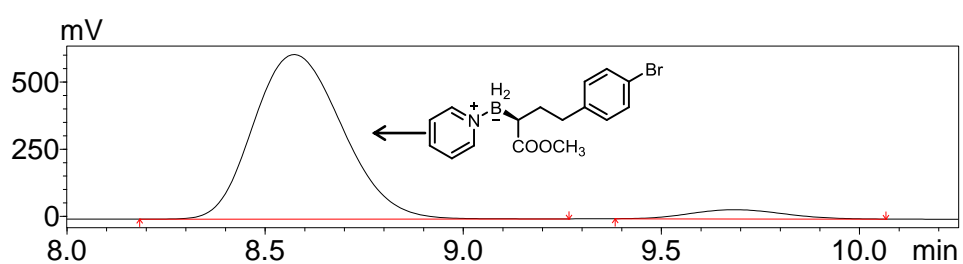
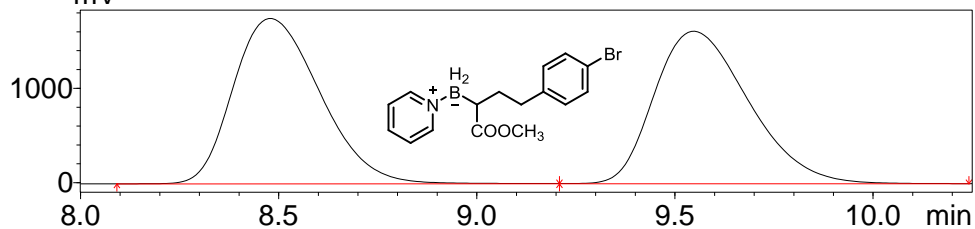
<i>Rac-5d</i>			<i>R-5d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
8.261	14051940	50.045	8.257	31143641	94.075
9.396	14026783	49.955	9.501	1961642	5.925

CHIRALCEL ADH (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm
mV



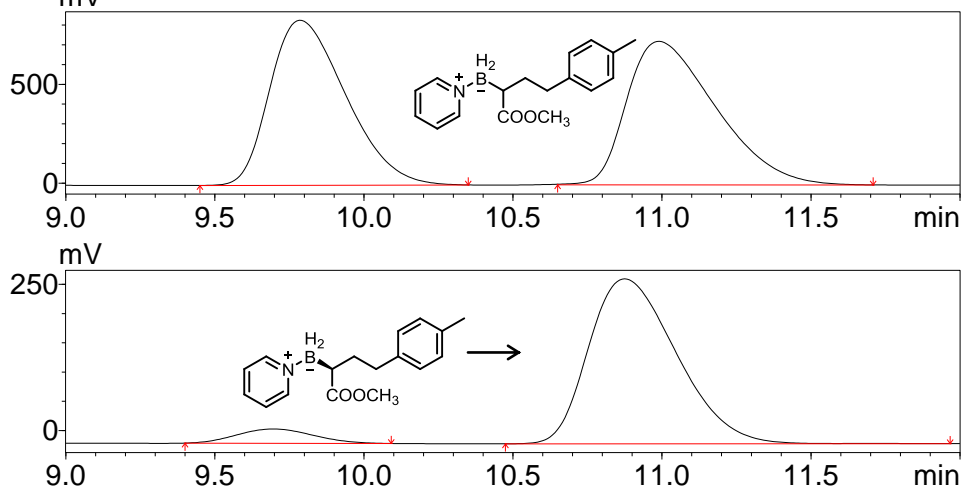
<i>Rac-6d</i>			<i>R-6d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
9.724	727796	50.184	9.765	186055	2.971
12.012	722468	49.816	12.072	6076567	97.029

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm
mV



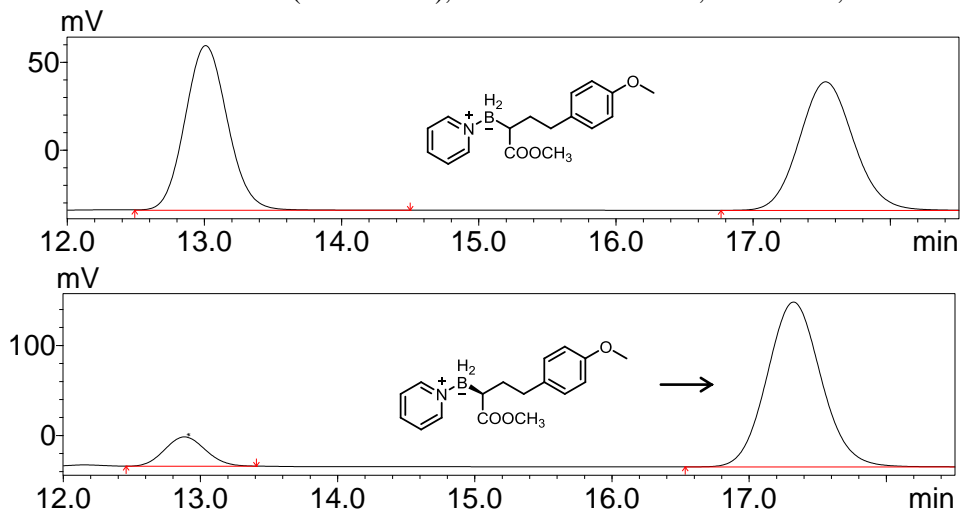
<i>Rac-7d</i>			<i>R-7d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
8.479	26750858	49.955	8.573	9549956	94.497
9.548	26799446	50.045	9.685	556155	5.503

CHIRALCEL OD-3 (4.6x250 mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



<i>Rac-8d</i>			<i>R-8d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
9.786	14783665	49.496	9.696	433446	6.998
10.990	15084495	50.504	10.875	5760416	93.002

CHIRALCEL ADH (4.6x250mm), 20% i-PrOH/hexanes, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm



<i>Rac-9d</i>			<i>R-9d</i>		
Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%	Ret. Time (min)	Area (mv)	Area%
13.009	2012634	50.024	12.884	671097	11.810
17.530	2010694	49.976	17.324	5011191	88.190

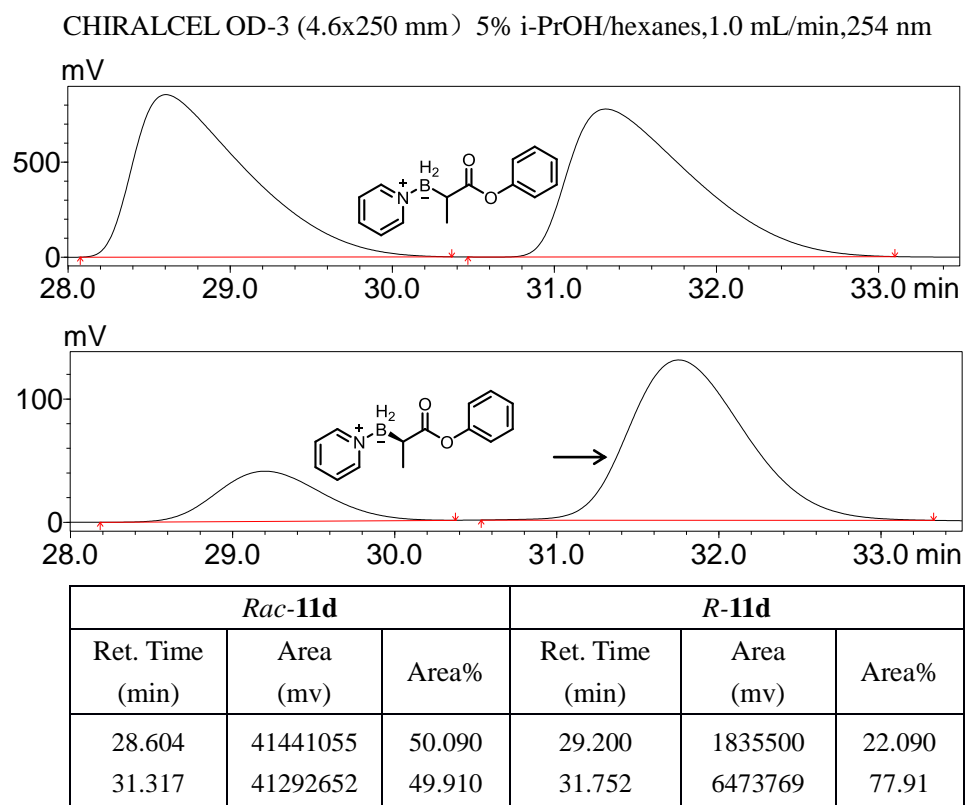
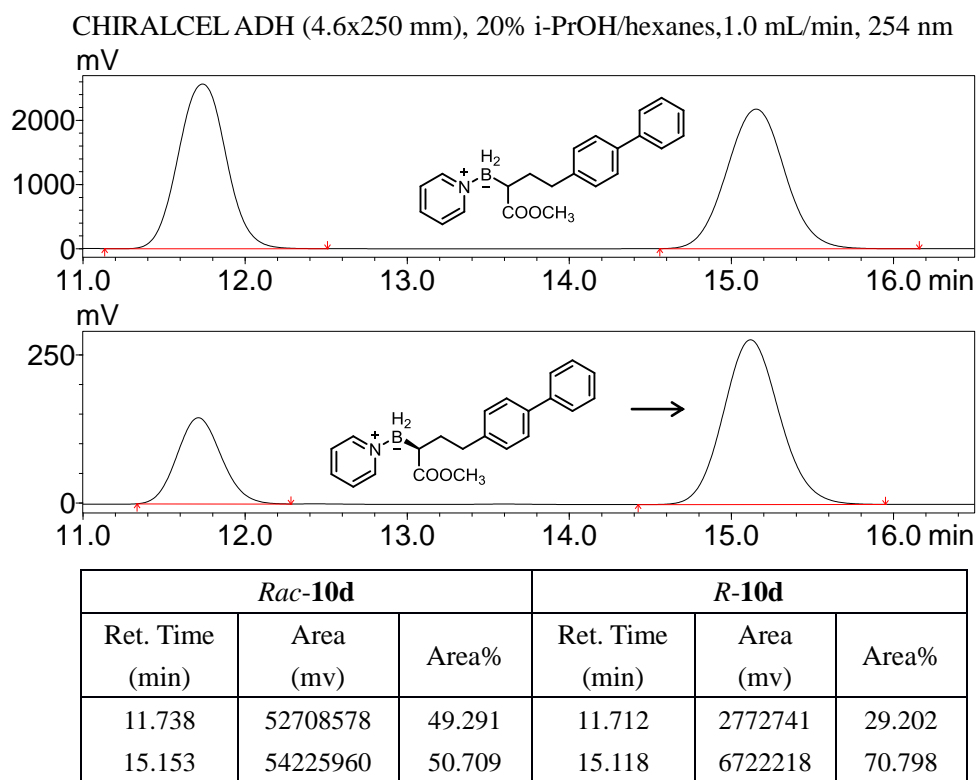
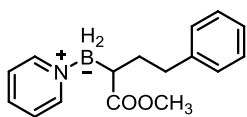
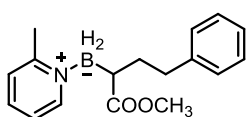


Figure S4. Chiral HPLC traces for products.

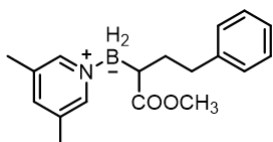
2. NMR data and spectra of the products.



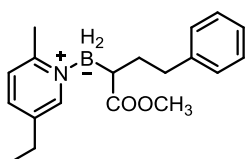
(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)(pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.47 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.98 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 12.5, 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, $J = 16.0, 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 2.69 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.02 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.96 – 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.60 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.03, 147.41, 143.27, 139.99, 128.60, 128.11, 125.38, 125.26, 50.42, 40.99, 36.48, 32.40. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -5.82. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 292.1485, observed: 292.1489.



(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)(2-methylpyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (1c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.50 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 12.0, 4.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.72 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 3H), 2.70 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.58 – 2.53 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 2.05 (m, 1H), 2.01 (dd, $J = 10.0, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.72 – 1.62 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.98, 157.67, 149.00, 143.37, 140.07, 128.59, 128.10, 127.48, 125.35, 122.38, 50.18, 39.59, 36.39, 32.56, 22.48. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -5.74. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 306.1641, observed: 306.1643.

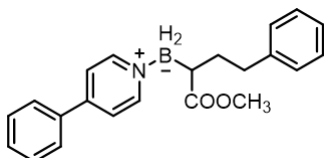


(3,5-dimethylpyridin-1-ium-1-yl)(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)boranuide (2c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.09 (s, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.23 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.69 – 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.53 (dt, $J = 15.0, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 6H), 2.02 – 1.93 (m, 2H), 1.62 (dt, $J = 16.5, 8.0$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.11, 144.65, 143.35, 141.28, 135.16, 128.61, 128.09, 125.34, 50.31, 41.27, 36.48, 32.41, 18.35. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -101.82. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 320.1798, observed: 320.1801.

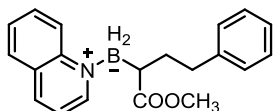


(5-ethyl-2-methylpyridin-1-ium-1-yl)(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)boranuide (3c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.35 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 –

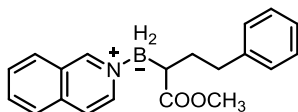
7.22 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.74 – 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.67 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.59 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 2.05 (m, 1H), 2.03 – 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.70 – 1.63 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.03, 154.76, 148.28, 143.40, 139.61, 138.52, 128.59, 128.07, 127.08, 125.30, 50.15, 39.72, 36.38, 32.54, 25.57, 21.95, 14.89. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -6.46. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{26}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 334.1954, observed: 334.1951.



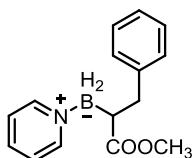
(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)(4-phenylpyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (4c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.45 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.64 (m, 4H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 10.0, 4.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.71 – 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.06 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.01 – 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.72 – 1.64 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.17, 152.28, 147.50, 143.33, 135.52, 130.84, 129.61, 128.64, 128.15, 127.28, 125.41, 122.73, 50.48, 41.11, 36.56, 32.52. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -4.53. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 368.1798, observed: 368.1800.



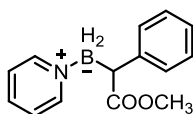
(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)(quinolin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (5c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.99 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.82 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, $J = 8.0, 5.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.77 – 2.67 (m, 1H), 2.60 – 2.51 (m, 1H), 2.20 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.77 – 1.69 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.02, 150.68, 143.39, 142.65, 141.91, 132.40, 129.29, 128.73, 128.59, 128.34, 128.09, 125.33, 124.45, 120.47, 50.20, 40.29, 36.41, 32.67. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -5.83. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 342.1641, observed: 342.1645.



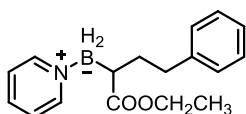
(isoquinolin-2-ium-2-yl)(1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)boranuide (6c). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.15 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.97 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.84 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, $J = 15.0, 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.71 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.11 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.07 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.70 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.13, 150.68, 143.33, 139.34, 136.27, 133.79, 129.41, 128.98, 128.62, 128.09, 127.88, 126.64, 125.35, 122.91, 50.37, 41.26, 36.52, 32.49. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.87. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 342.1641, observed: 342.1645.



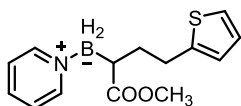
(1-methoxy-1-oxo-3-phenylpropan-2-yl)(pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (1d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.43 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.91 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 7.05 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.87 (dd, $J = 14.5, 10.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.62 (dd, $J = 14.5, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.27 (dd, $J = 10.0, 5.0$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 179.40, 146.36, 142.85, 139.06, 127.44, 126.97, 124.29, 124.21, 49.36, 42.30, 35.26. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.57. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 278.1328, observed: 278.1323.



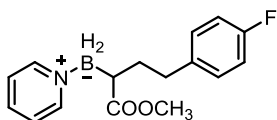
(2-methoxy-2-oxo-1-phenylethyl)(pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (2d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.19 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.90 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.14 (dt, $J = 13.0, 7.5$ Hz, 4H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 178.17, 147.34, 142.58, 140.21, 127.90, 127.75, 125.02, 124.45, 50.90, 49.06. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -2.83. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 264.1172, observed: 264.1176.



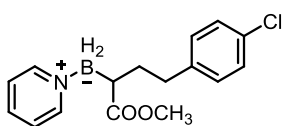
(1-ethoxy-1-oxo-4-phenylbutan-2-yl)(pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (3d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.49 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.98 (m, 1H), 7.53 (dd, $J = 7.5, 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.25 (dd, $J = 12.5, 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 3.95 (m, 2H), 2.70 – 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.02 – 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.96 – 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.09 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.69, 147.46, 143.38, 139.92, 128.61, 128.11, 125.36, 125.22, 58.73, 41.05, 36.46, 32.44, 14.55. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -4.53. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 306.1641, observed: 306.1644.



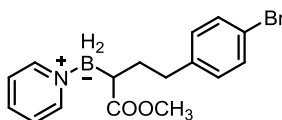
[1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-(thiophen-2-yl)butan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (4d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 8.02 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.53 (dd, $J = 10.0, 4.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, $J = 5.0, 3.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.87 (m, 1H), 2.81 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.06 – 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.65 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 176.86, 143.42, 142.25, 136.19, 122.67, 121.41, 120.03, 118.65, 46.48, 36.83, 28.62, 26.27. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3OD) δ -7.84. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{BNO}_2\text{SNa}$: 298.1049, observed: 298.1054.



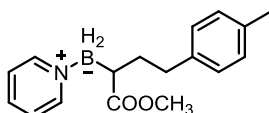
[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-methoxy-1-oxobutan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (5d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.45 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd, $J = 8.5, 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.64 – 2.58 (m, 1H), 2.54 – 2.47 (m, 1H), 1.97 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.93 – 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.65 – 1.56 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.93, 161.04 (d, $J = 240.5$ Hz), 147.34, 140.09, 138.82, 129.85 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 125.32, 114.75 (d, $J = 20$ Hz), 50.38, 40.90, 35.56, 32.49. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.77. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{BFNO}_2\text{Na}$: 310.1391, observed: 310.1392.



[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methoxy-1-oxobutan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (6d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.99 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.65 – 2.58 (m, 1H), 2.54 – 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.93 – 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.65 – 1.57 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.91, 147.36, 141.67, 140.07, 131.00, 129.96, 128.16, 125.30, 50.42, 40.91, 35.71, 32.26. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.86. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{BClNO}_2\text{Na}$: 326.1095, observed: 326.1100.

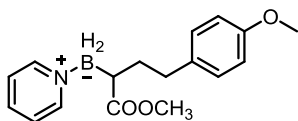


[4-(4-bromophenyl)-1-methoxy-1-oxobutan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (7d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.45 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.98 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.64 – 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.54 – 2.46 (m, 1H), 1.97 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.94 – 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.66 – 1.55 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.87, 147.30, 142.22, 140.14, 131.11, 130.42, 125.35, 119.04, 50.40, 40.88, 35.75, 32.22. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.89. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{BBrNO}_2\text{Na}$: 370.0590, observed: 370.0592.

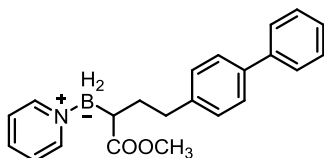


[1-methoxy-4-(methylphenyl)-1-oxobutan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (8d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.97 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.06 (s, 4H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 2.66 – 2.59 (m, 1H), 2.51 (m, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.02 (dd, $J = 9.5, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.67 – 1.58 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.09, 147.36,

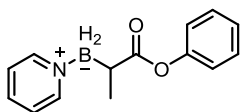
140.18, 140.08, 134.74, 128.84, 128.48, 125.31, 50.40, 41.11, 36.04, 32.59, 21.03. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.78. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 306.1641, observed: 306.1643.



[1-methoxy-4-(methoxyphenyl)-1-oxobutan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (9d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.97 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.63 – 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.51 – 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.00 (dd, $J = 9.5, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.88 (m, 1H), 1.64 – 1.56 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.09, 157.46, 147.38, 140.02, 135.38, 129.44, 125.27, 113.54, 55.25, 50.41, 41.02, 35.51, 32.62. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.89. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{BNO}_3\text{Na}$: 322.1590, observed: 322.1595.

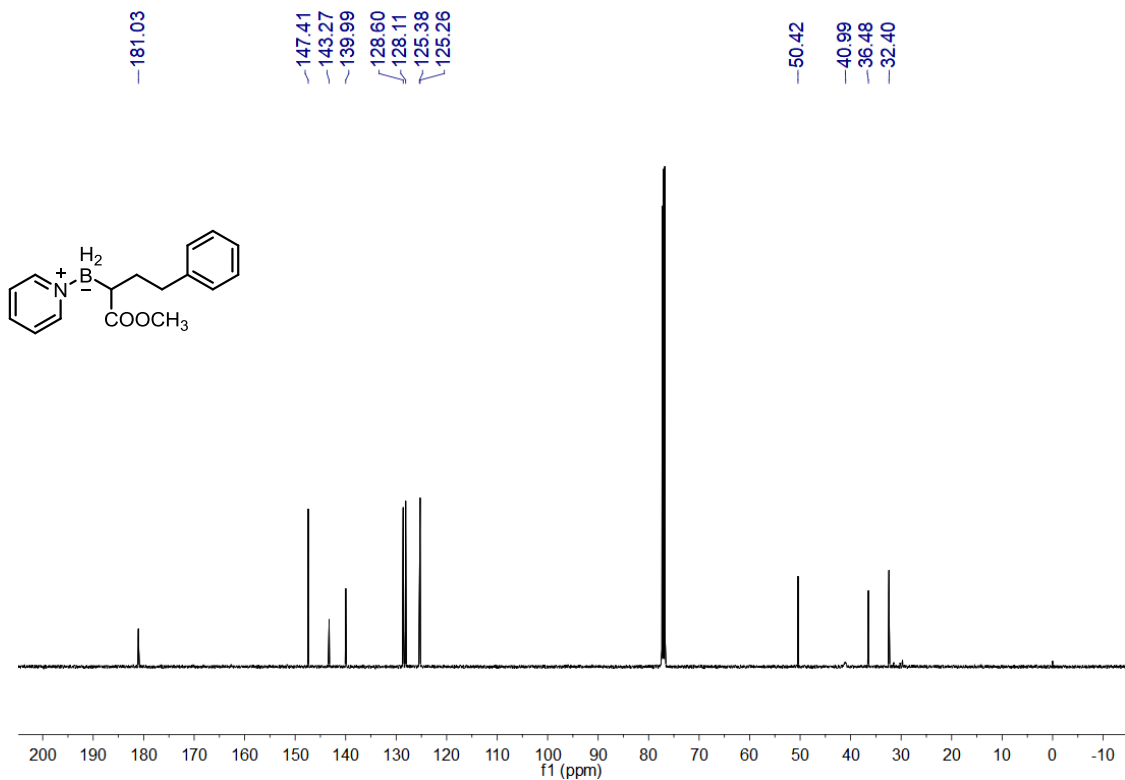
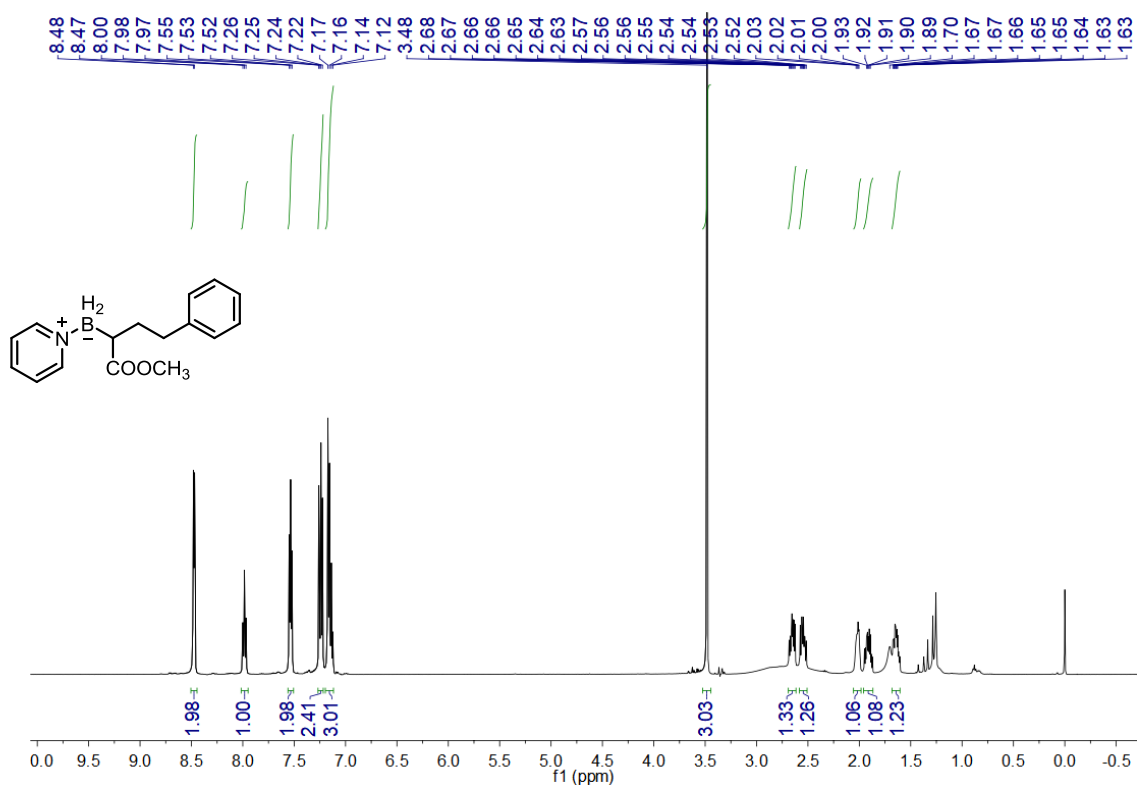


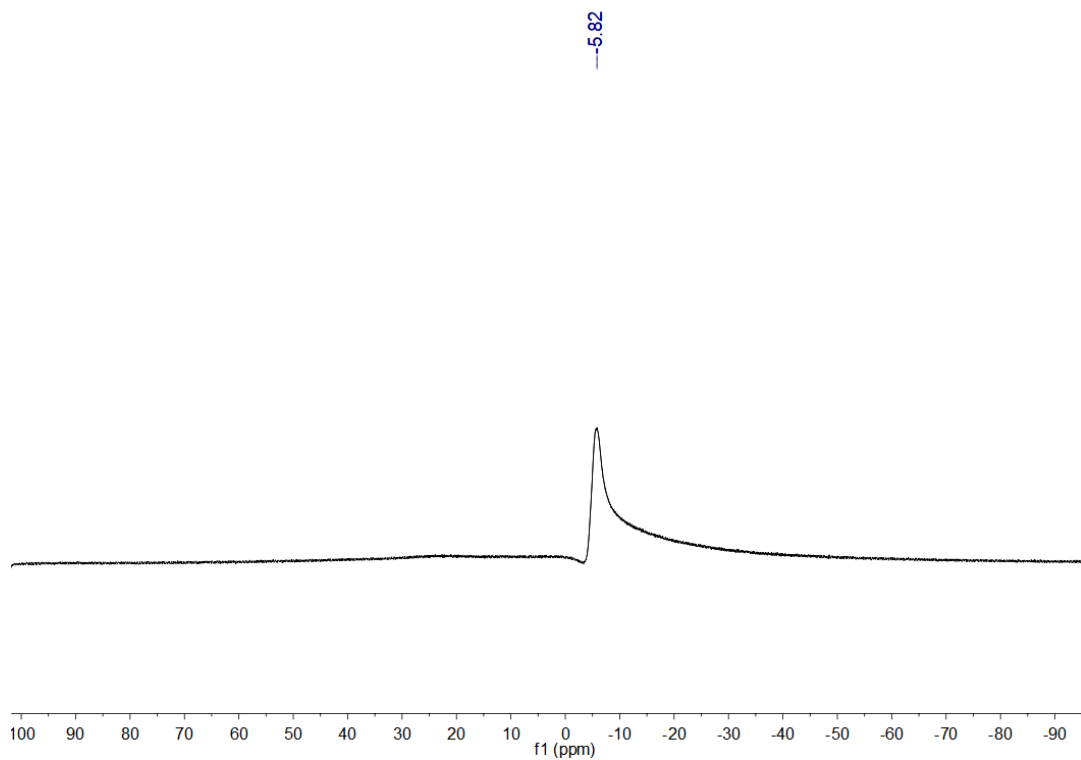
[1-methoxy-1-oxo-4-(4-phenylphenyl)-butan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (10d). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.45 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.93 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 4H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.74 – 2.67 (m, 1H), 2.63 – 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.04 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.68 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.03, 147.37, 142.49, 141.27, 140.08, 138.32, 129.07, 128.74, 126.99, 126.94, 126.89, 125.32, 50.44, 41.11, 36.11, 32.43. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -3.86. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{BNO}_2\text{Na}$: 368.1798, observed: 368.1789.



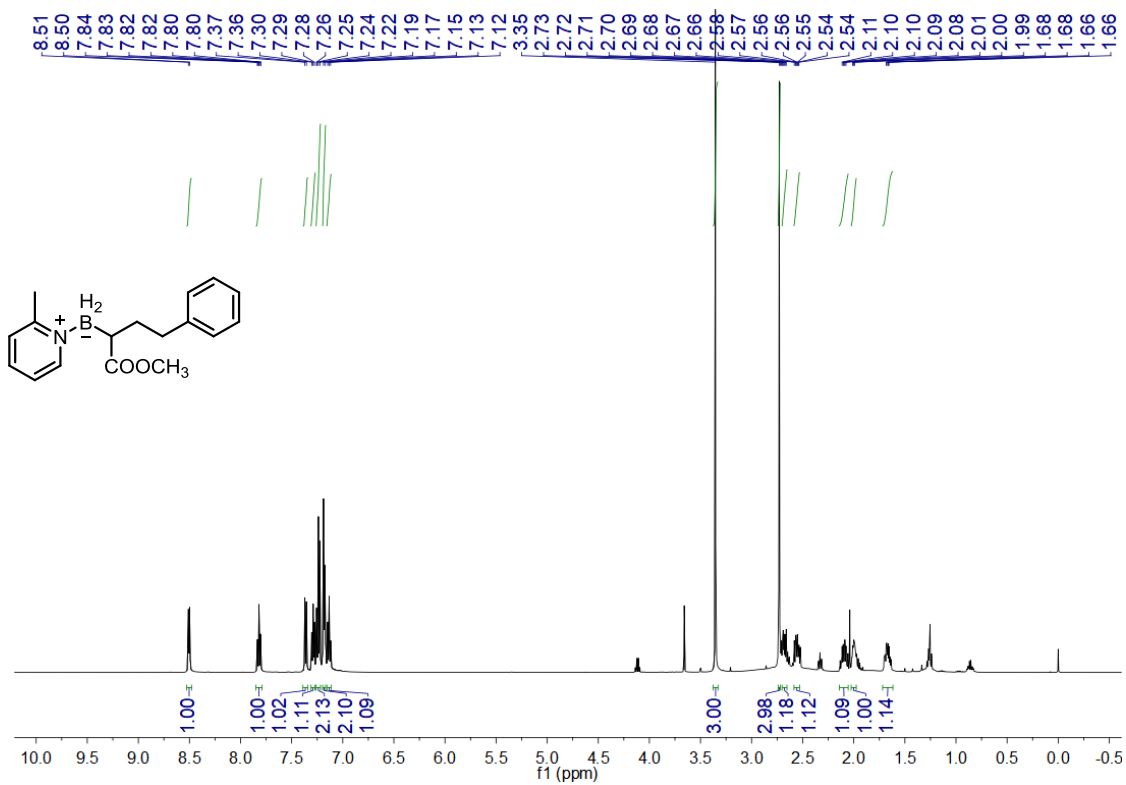
[1-(benzyloxy)-1-oxopropan-2-yl](pyridin-1-ium-1-yl)boranuide (11d). ^1H NMR NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.29 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.84 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 7H), 5.01 (d, $J = 12.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.89 (d, $J = 12.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.73 (d, $J = 101.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.08 (dd, $J = 10.0, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.06 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H). The ^1H NMR data were consistent with those previously reported.⁷

^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for c.



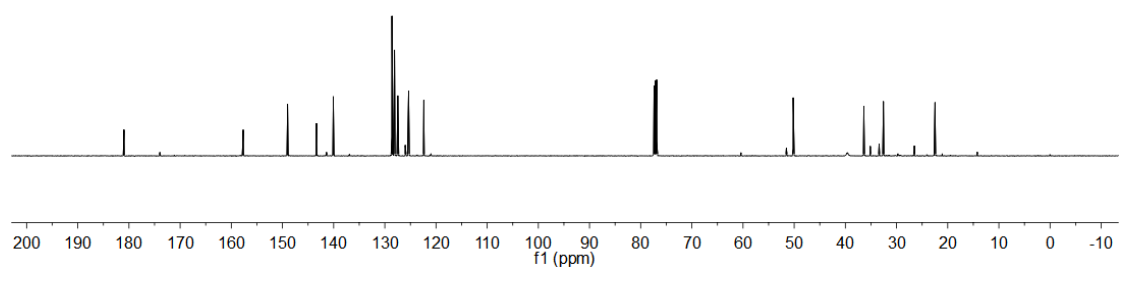
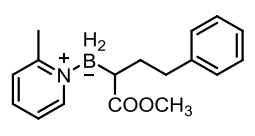


¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **1c**

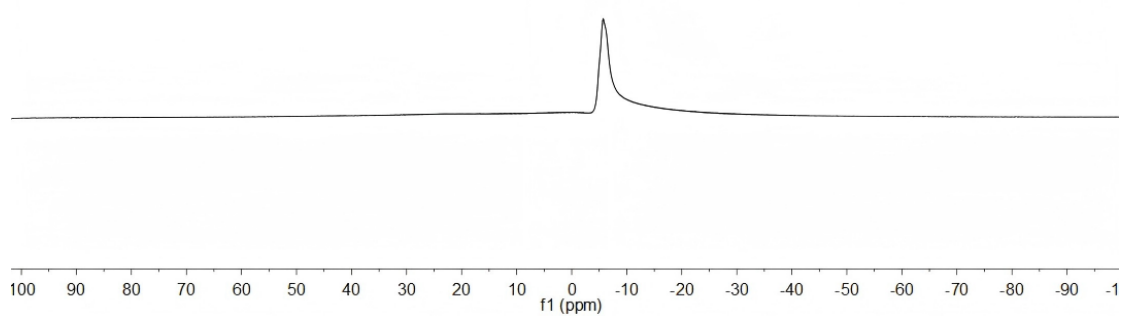
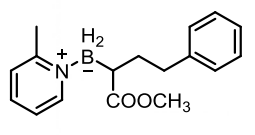


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-140.07
-128.59
-128.10
-127.48
-125.35
-122.38

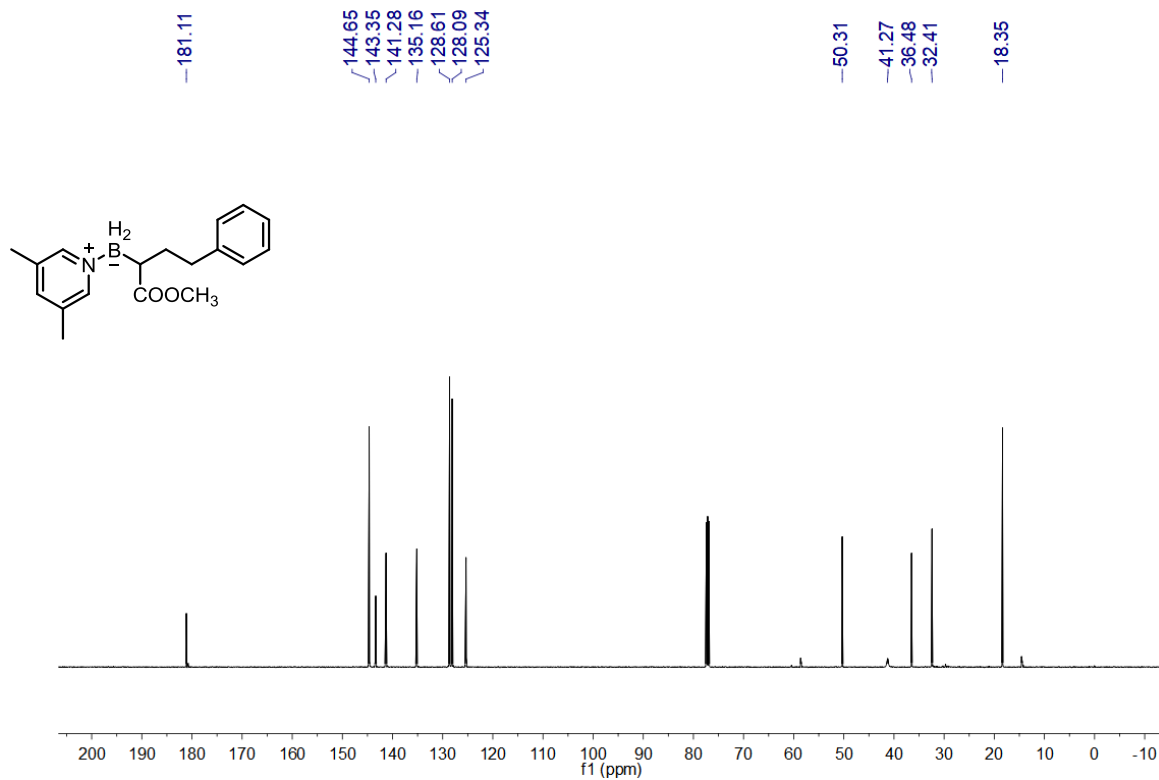
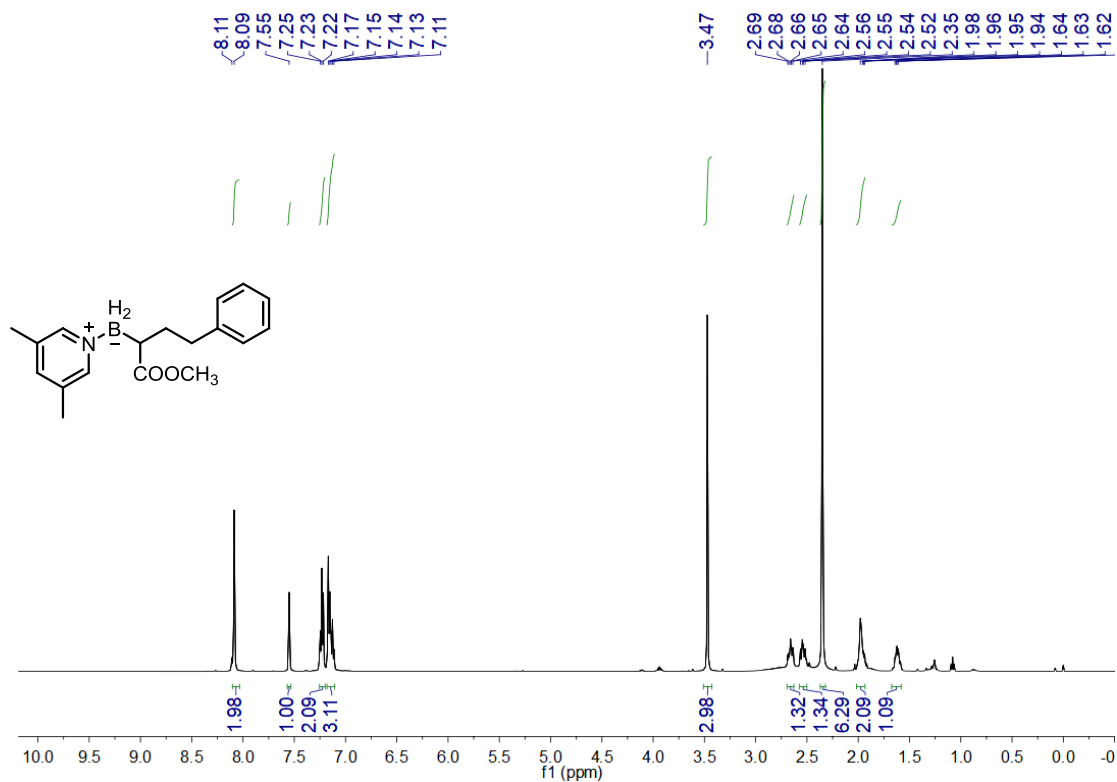
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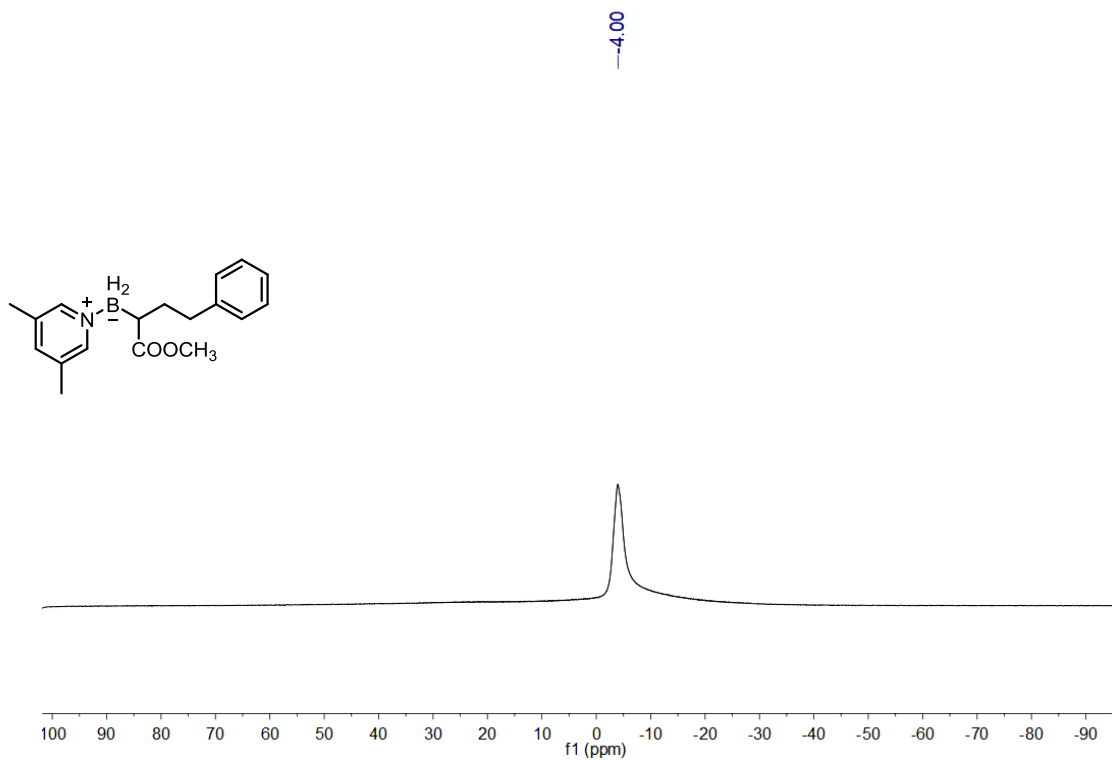


-5.74

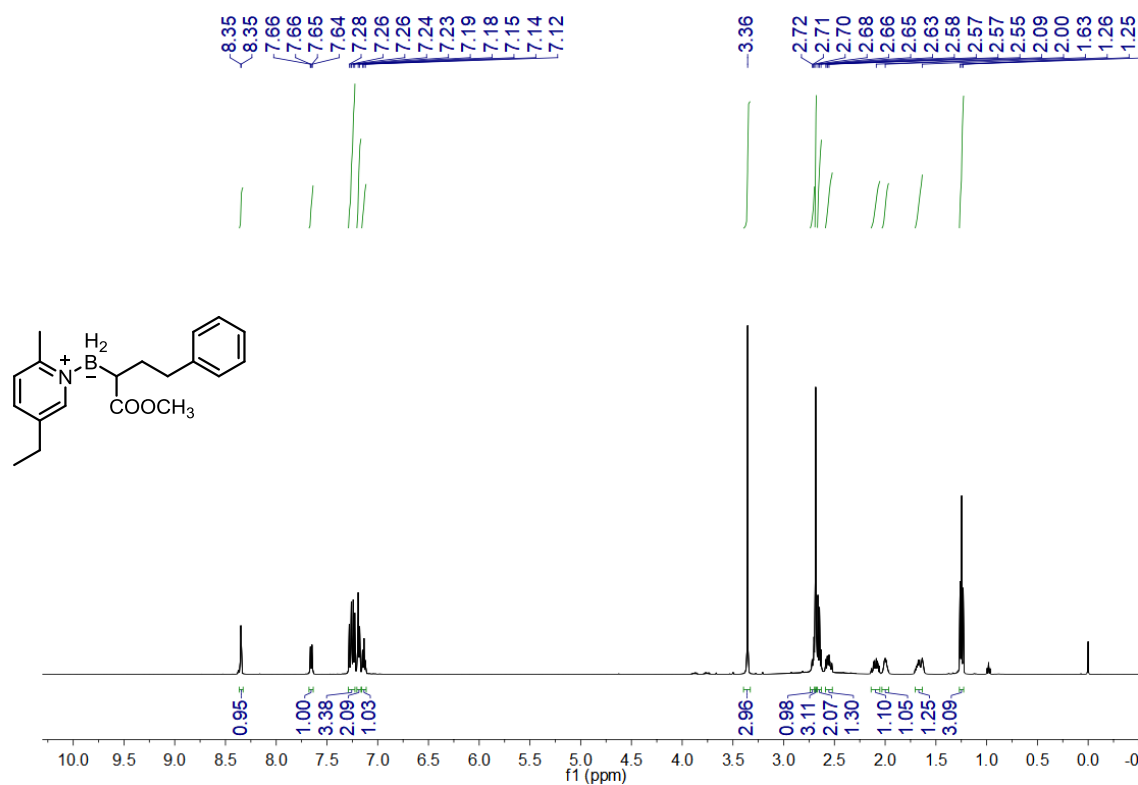


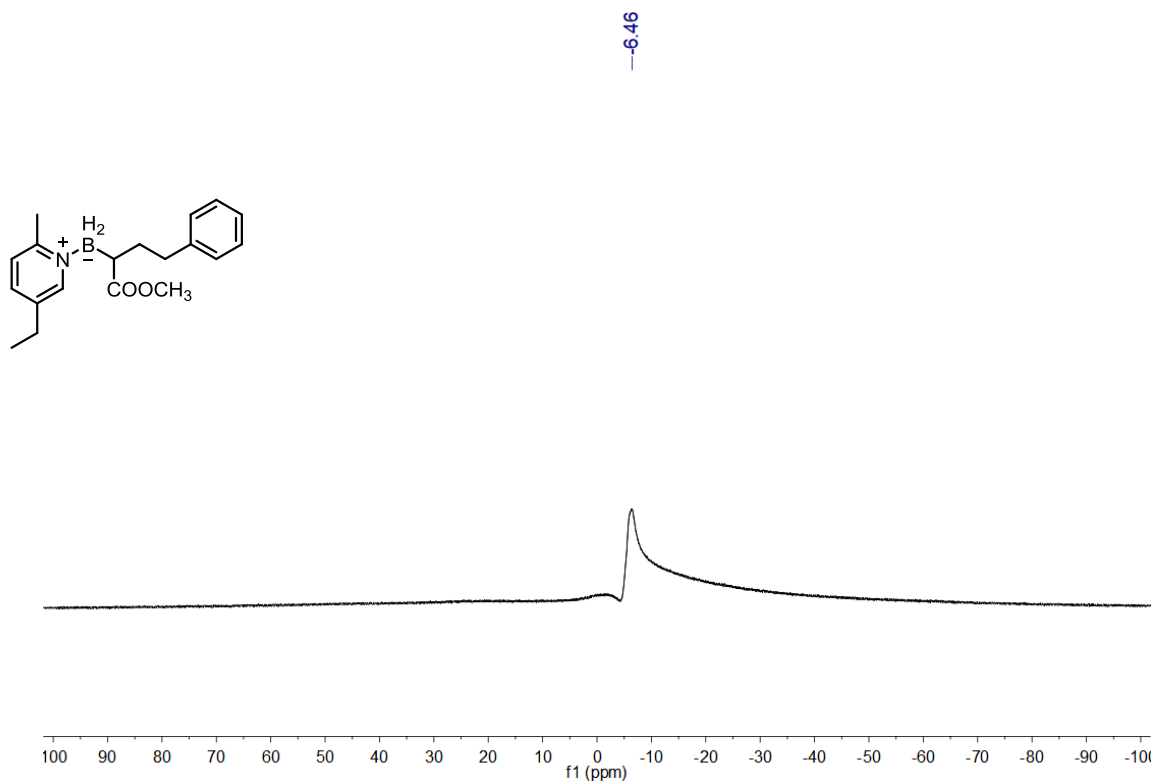
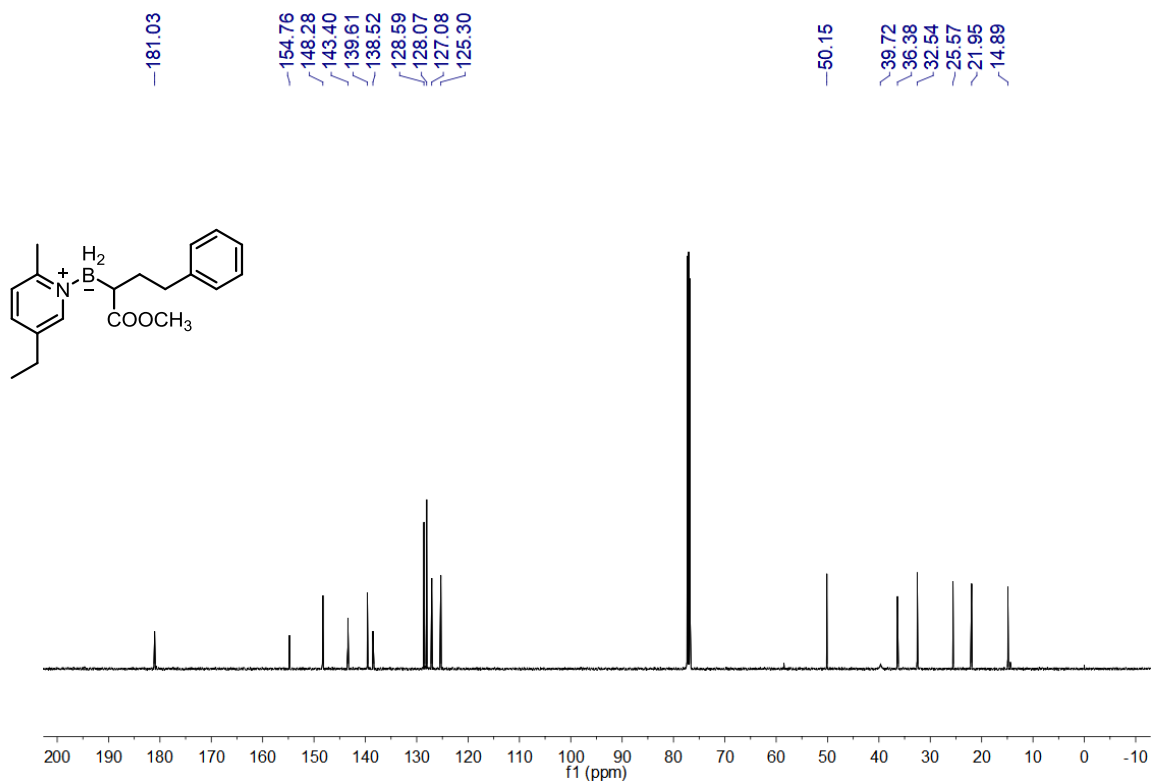
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **2c**



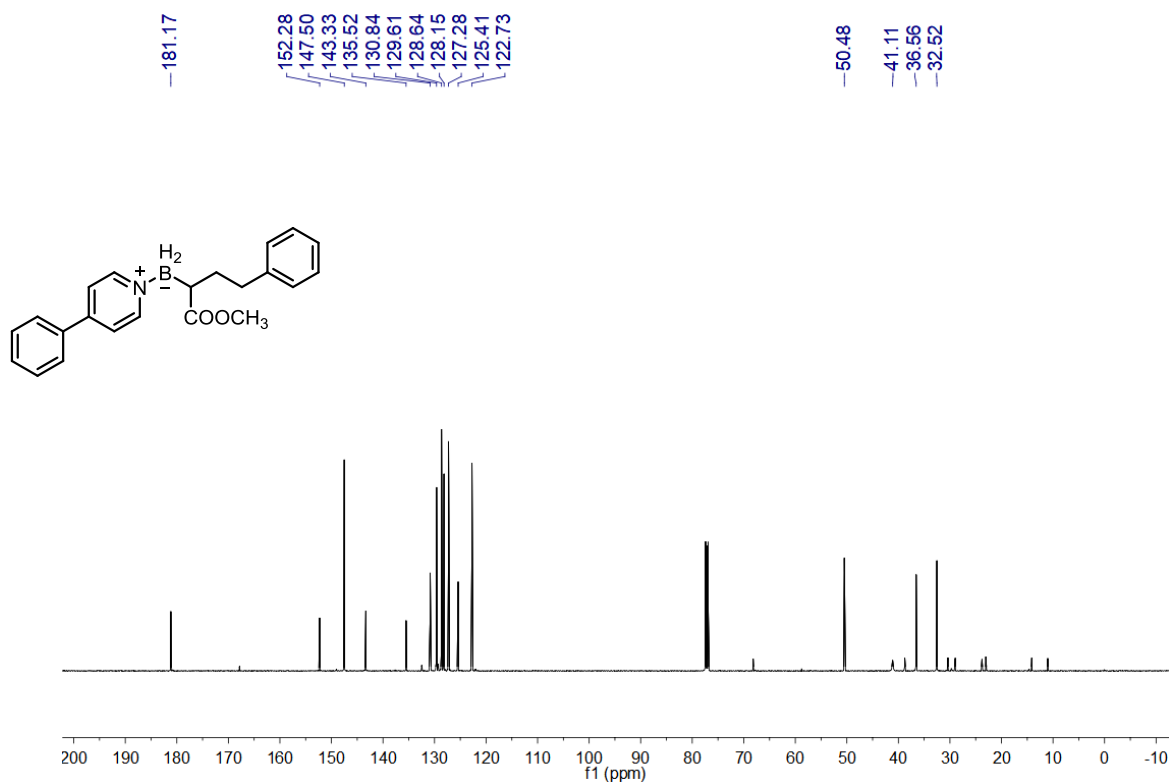
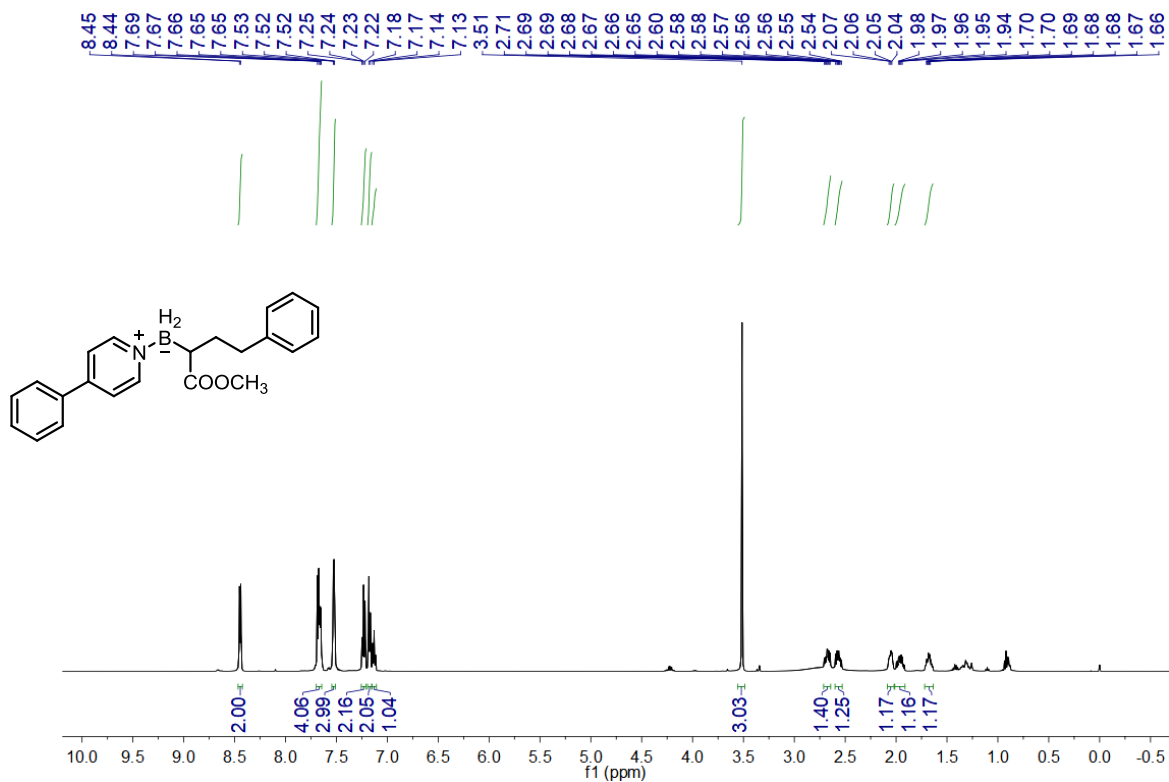


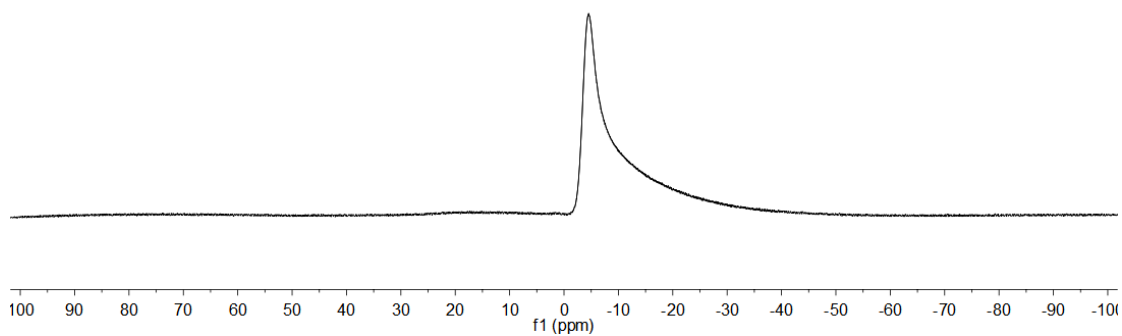
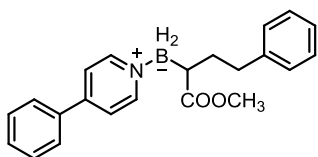
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **3c**



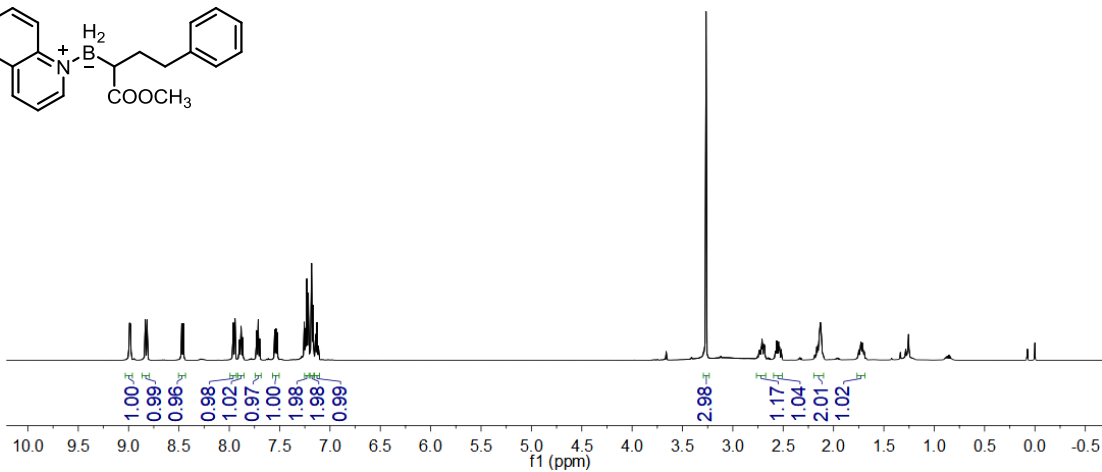
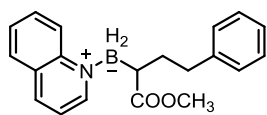
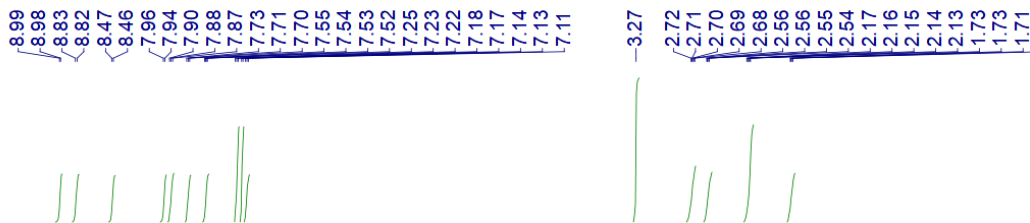


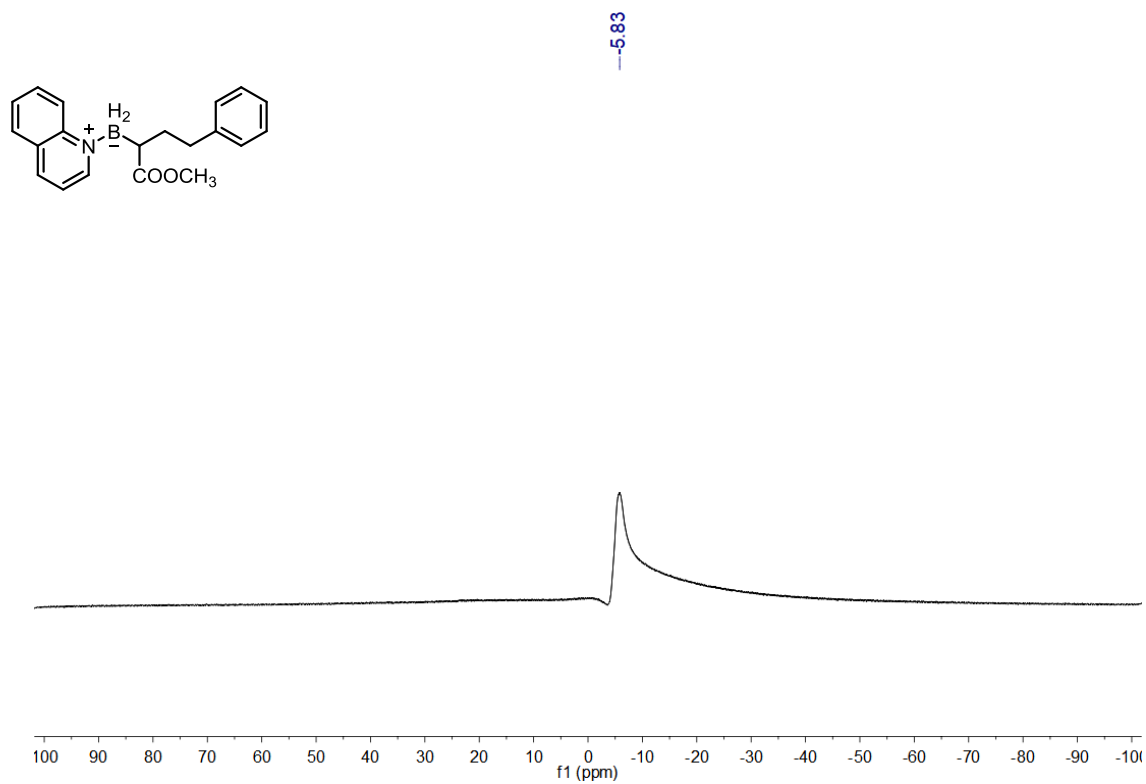
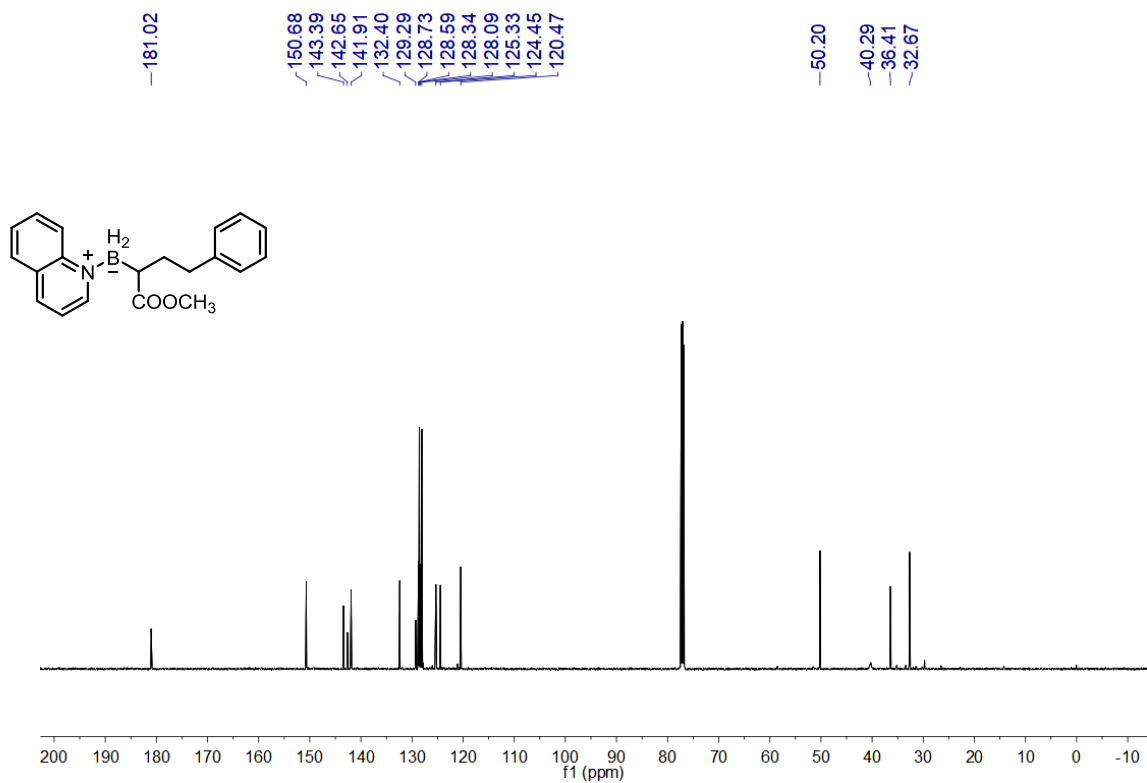
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **4c**



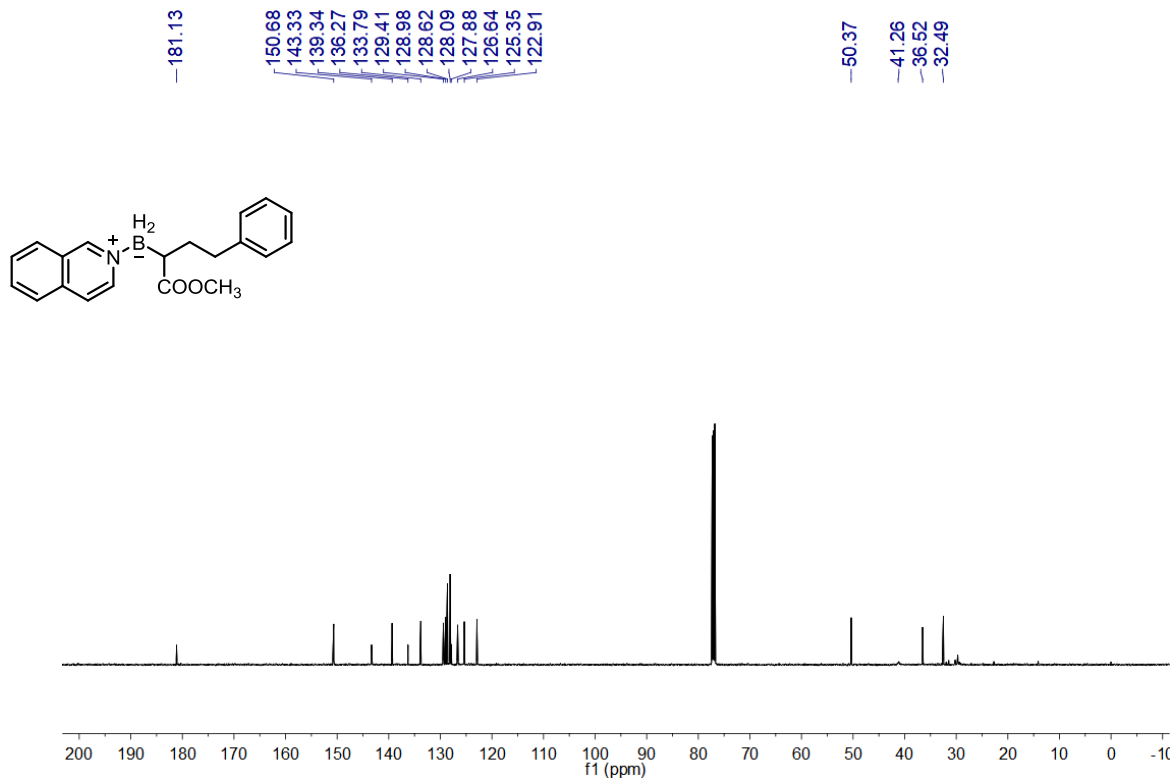
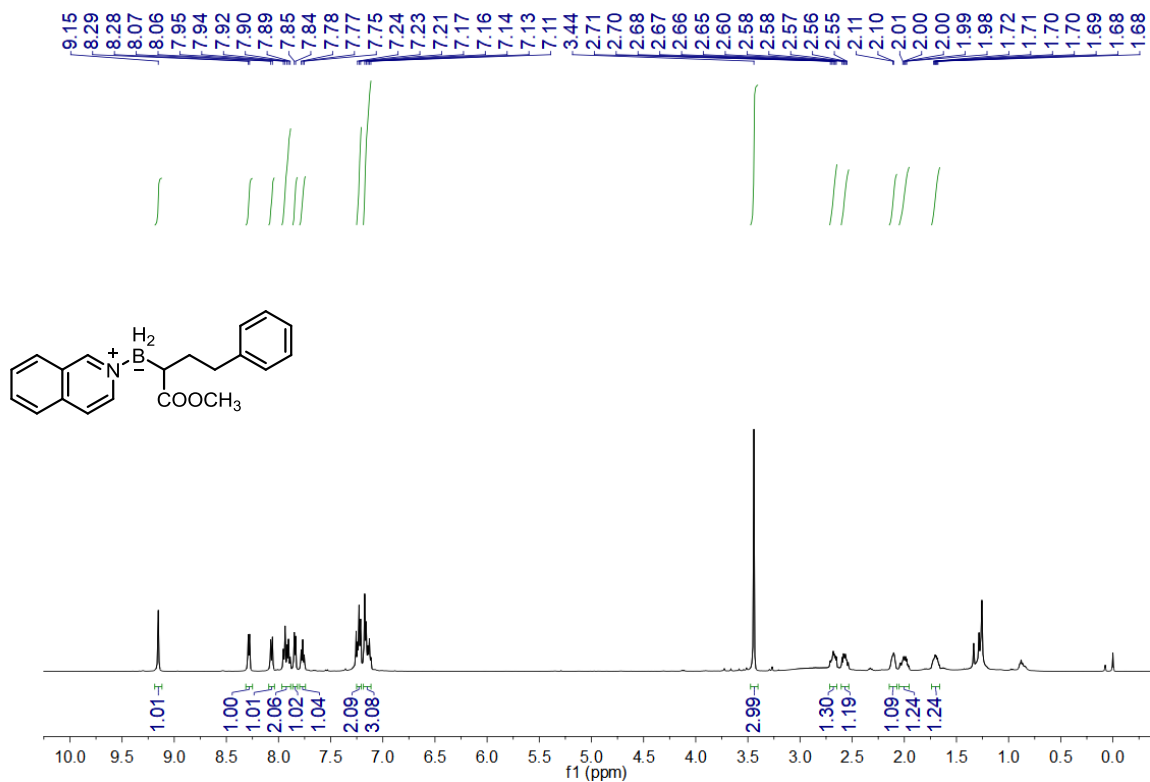


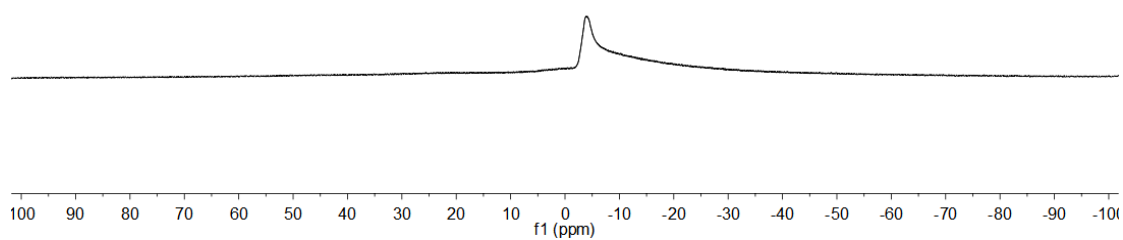
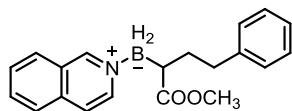
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **5c**





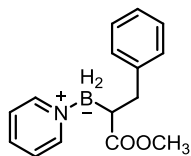
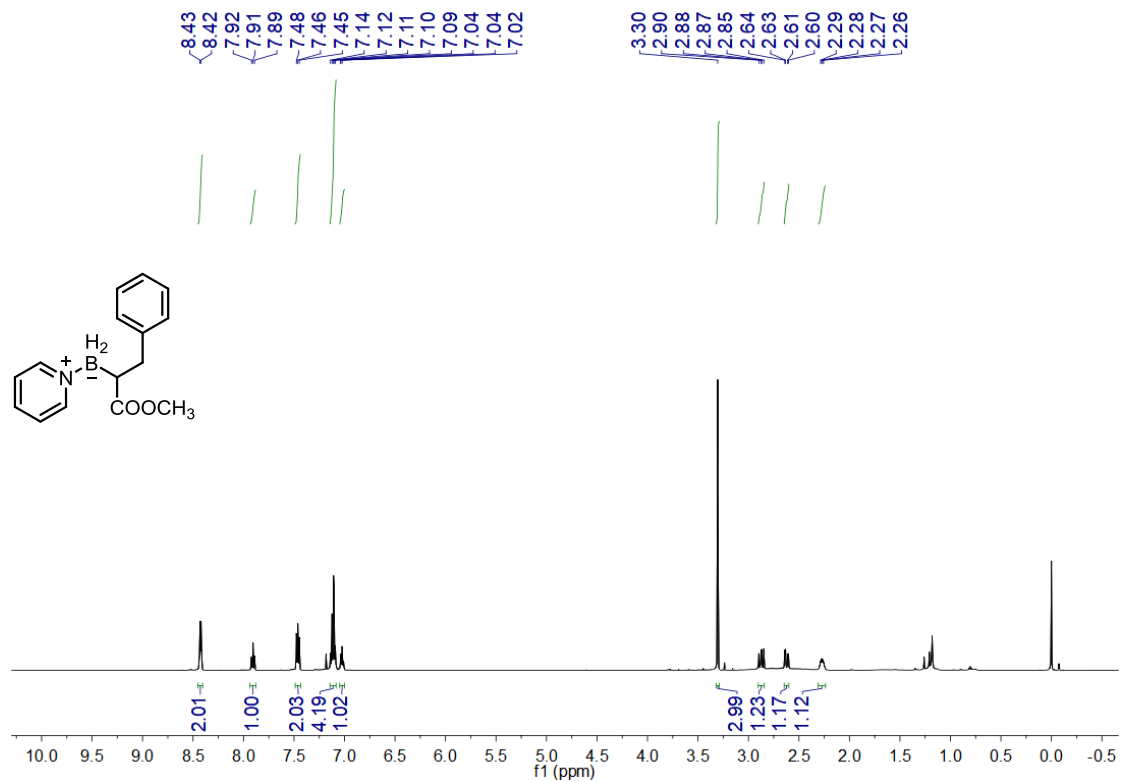
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **6c**

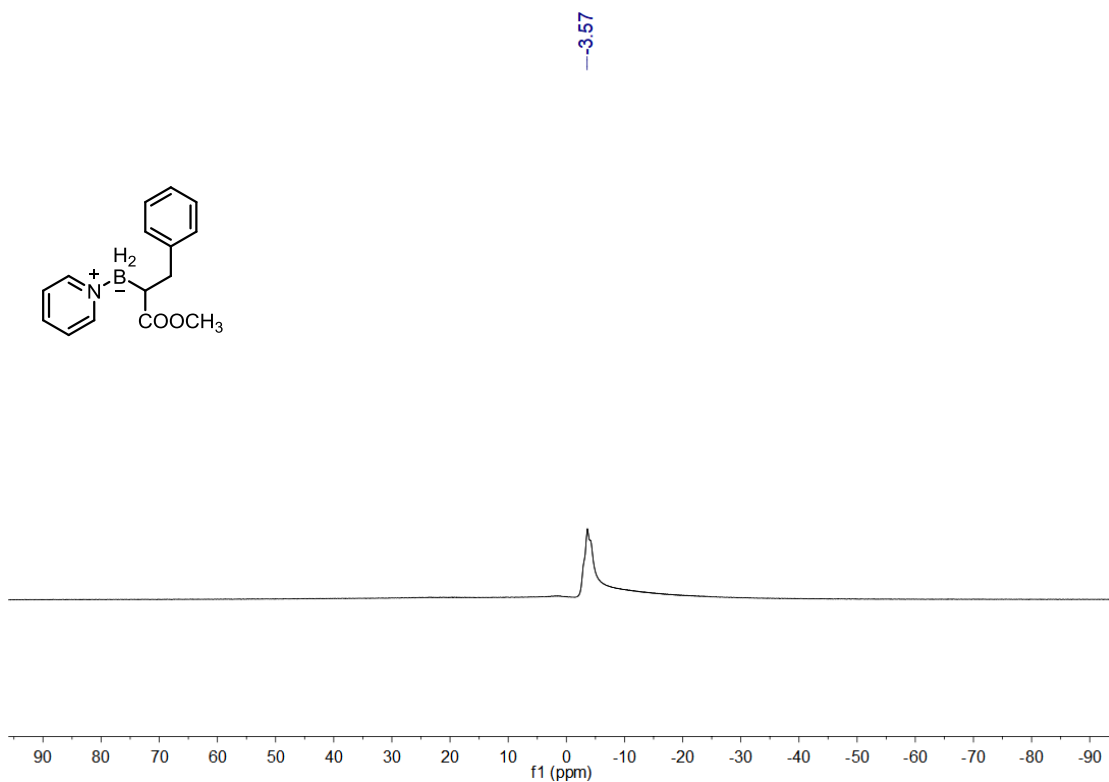
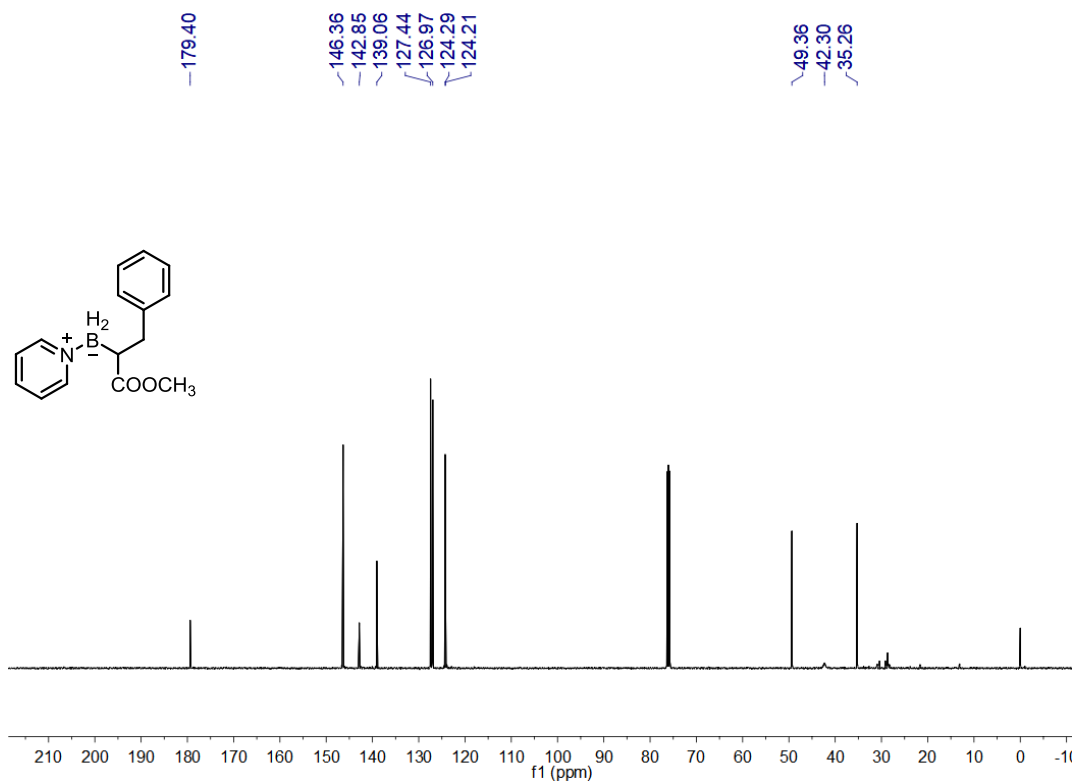




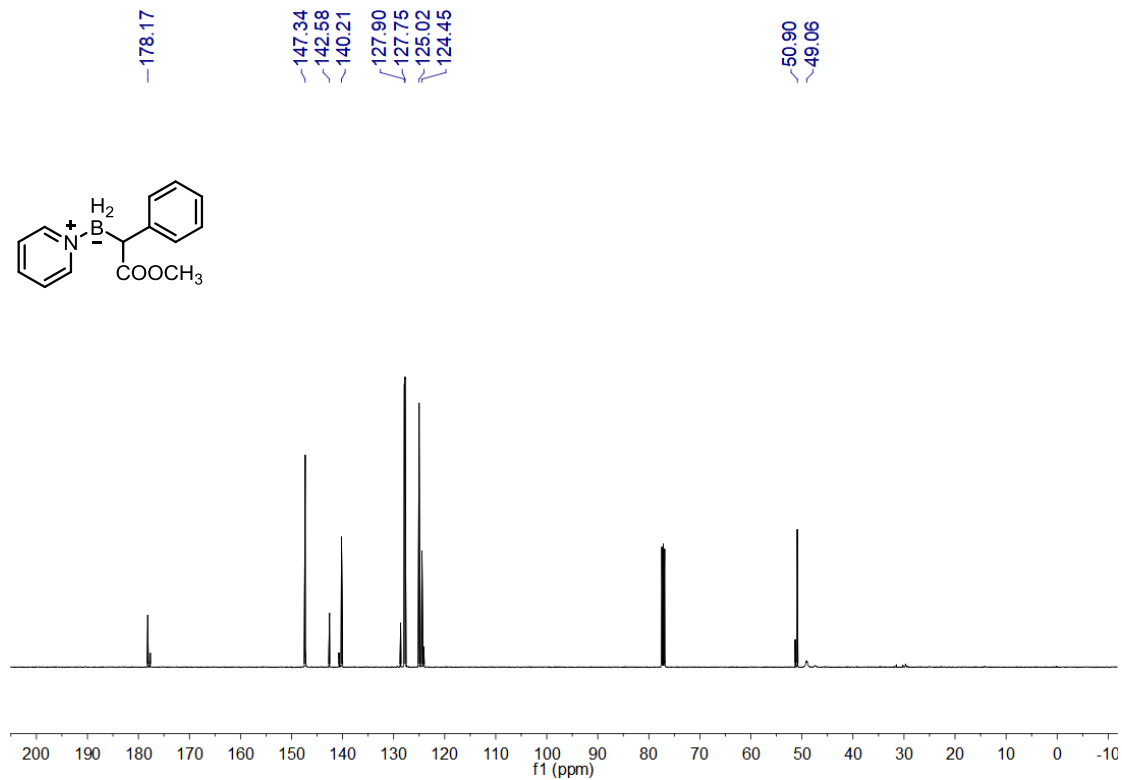
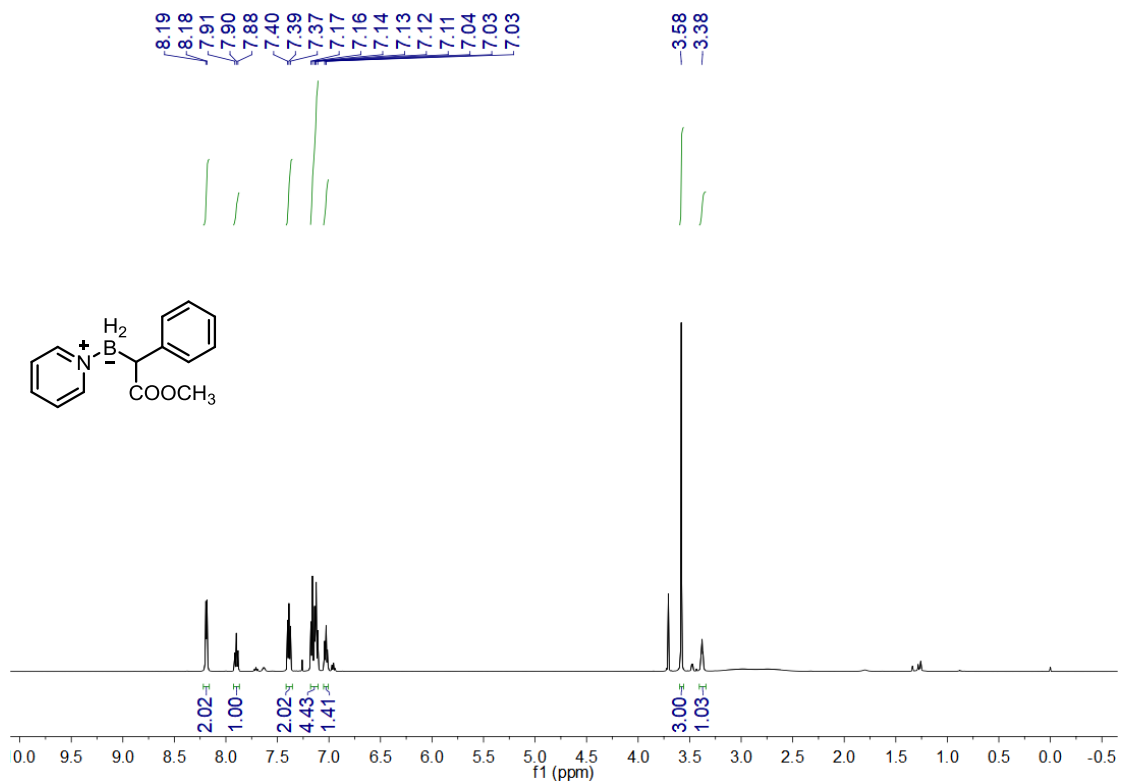
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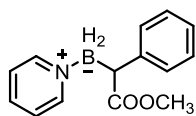
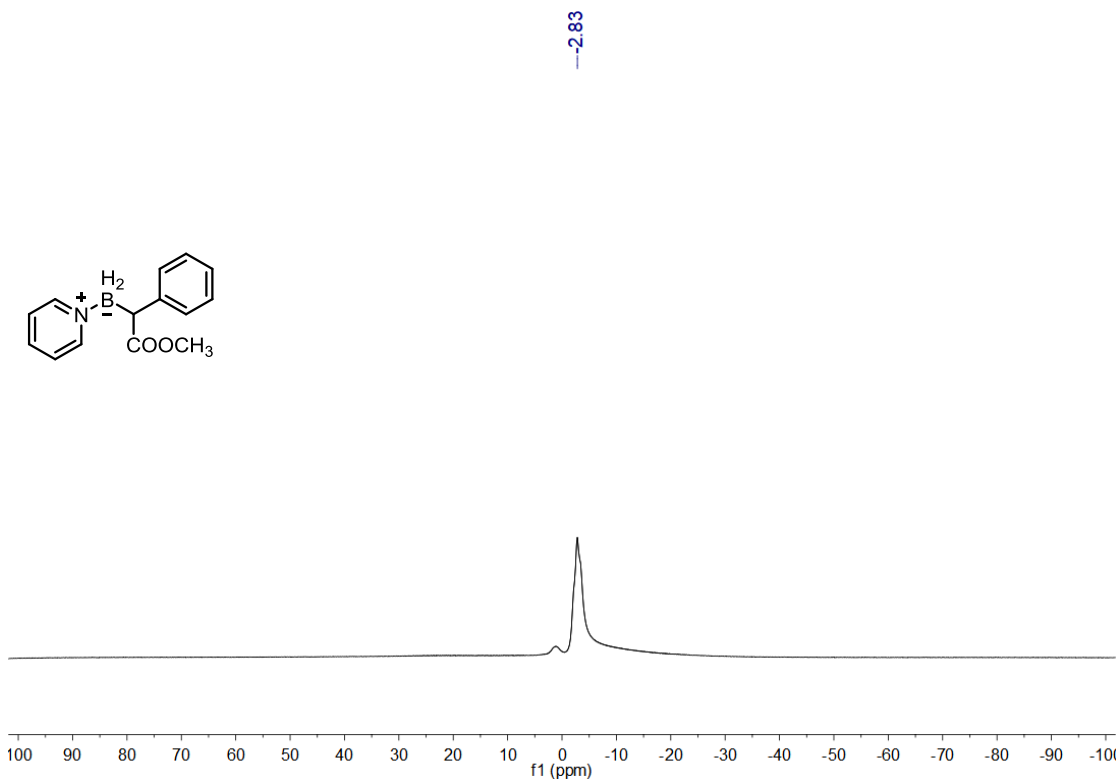
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **1d**



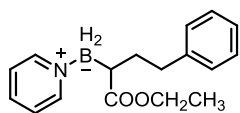
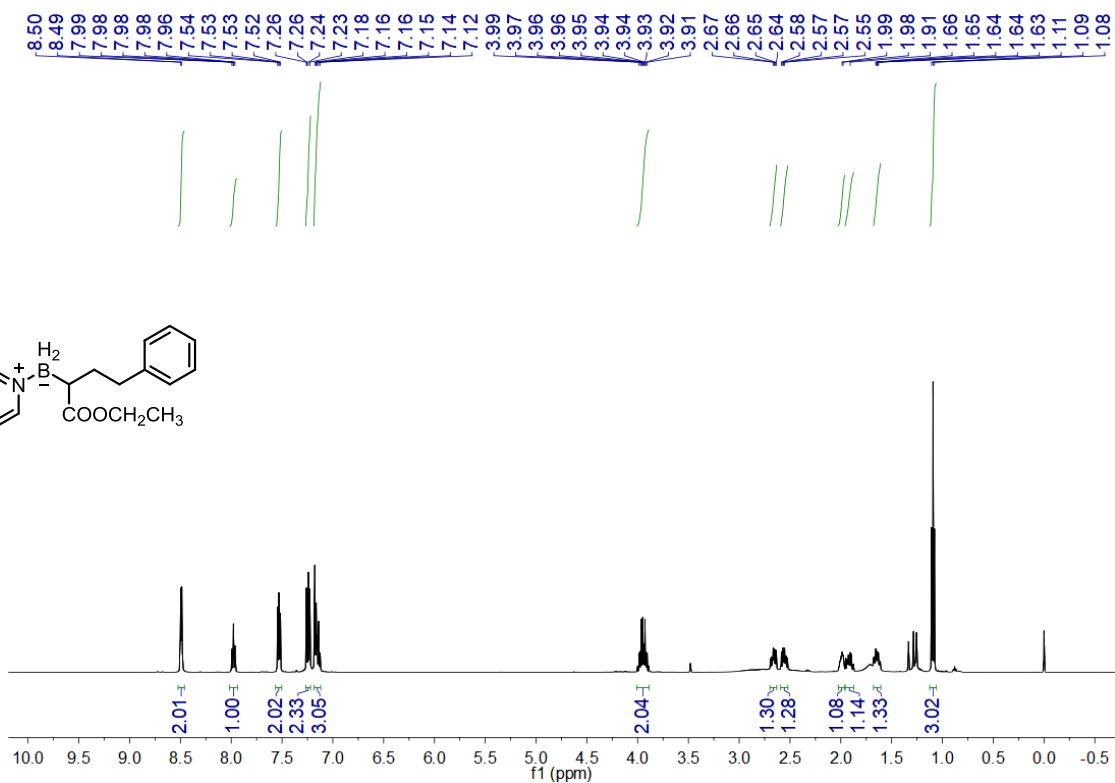


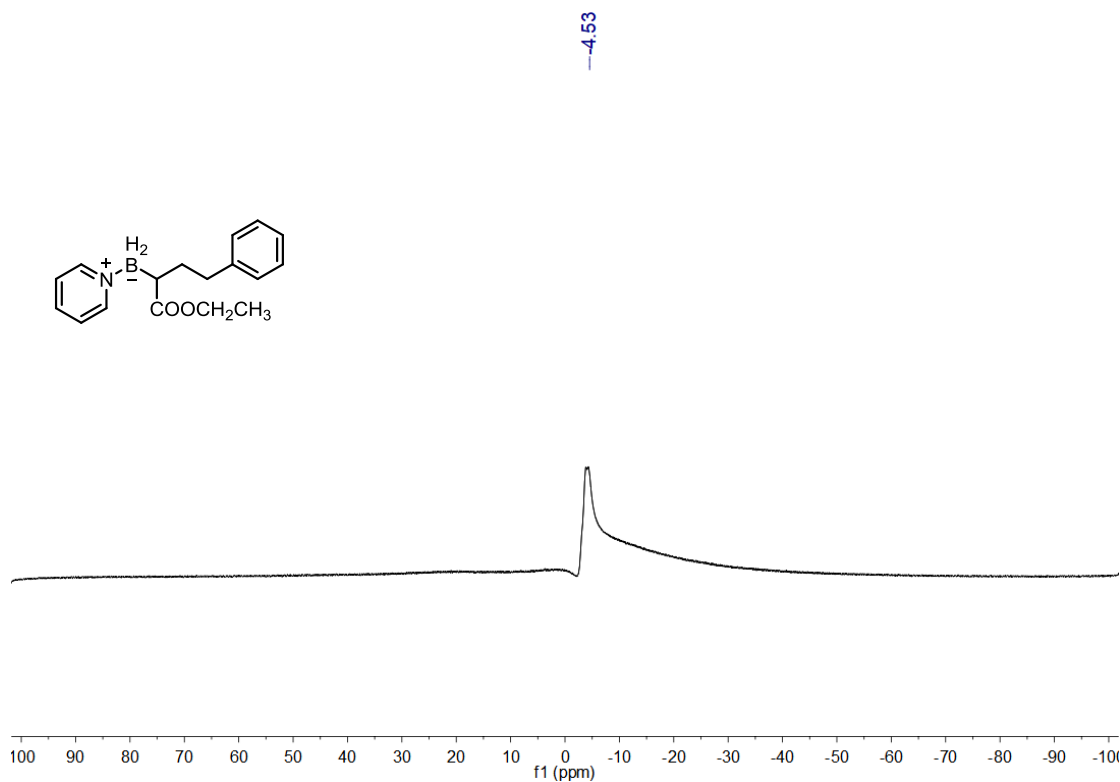
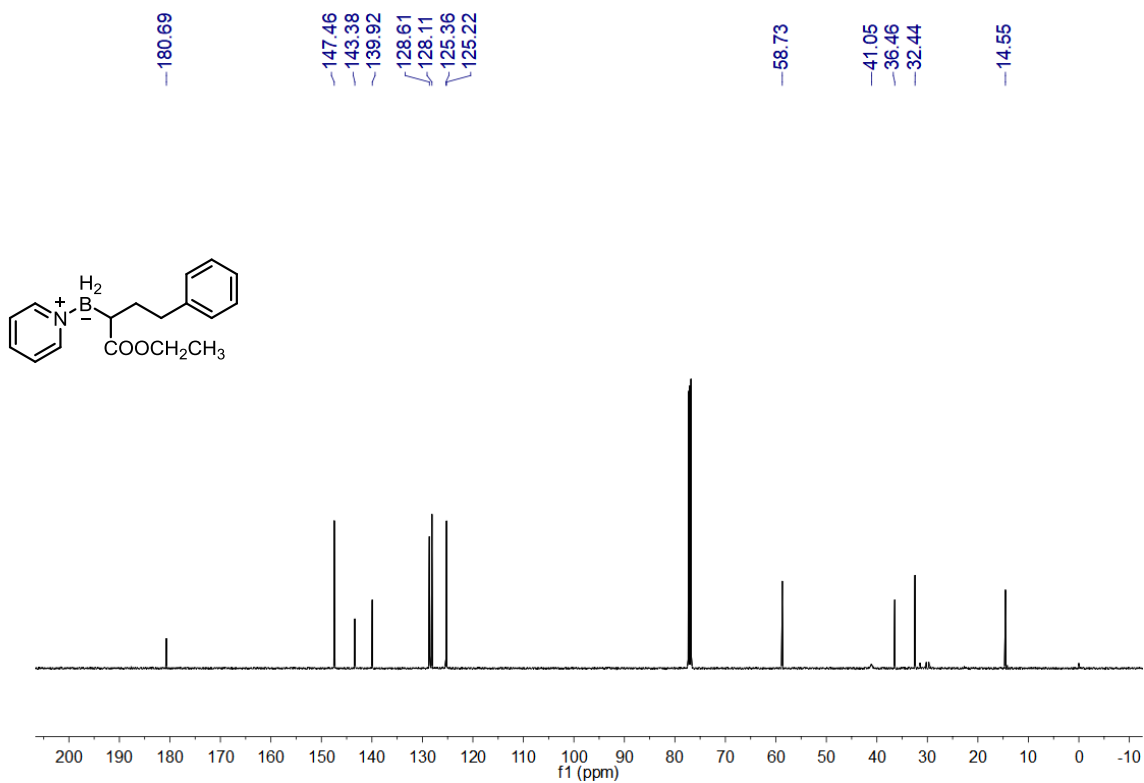
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **2d**



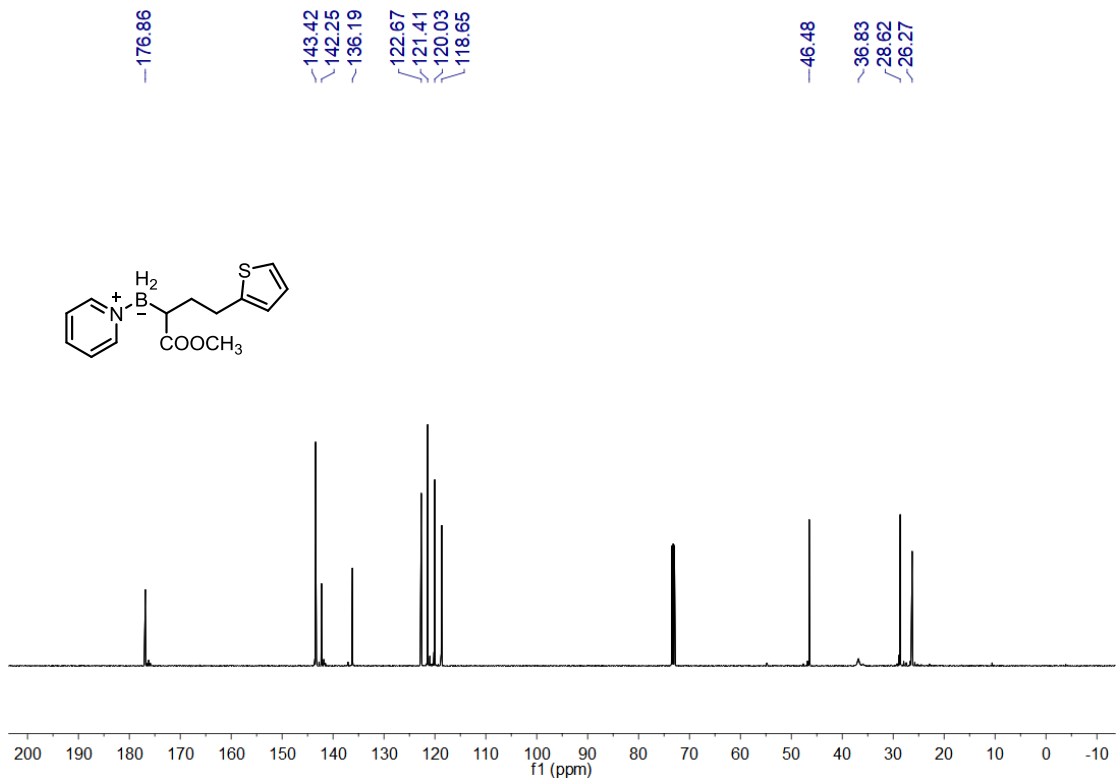
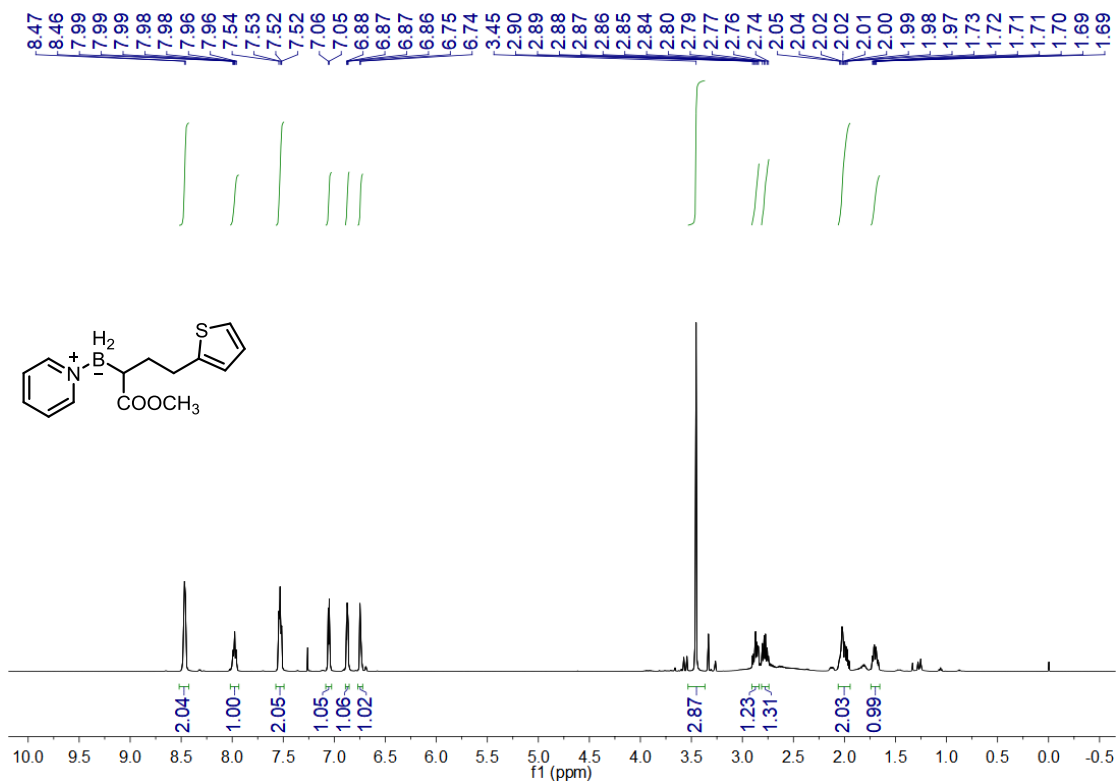


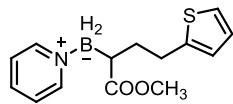
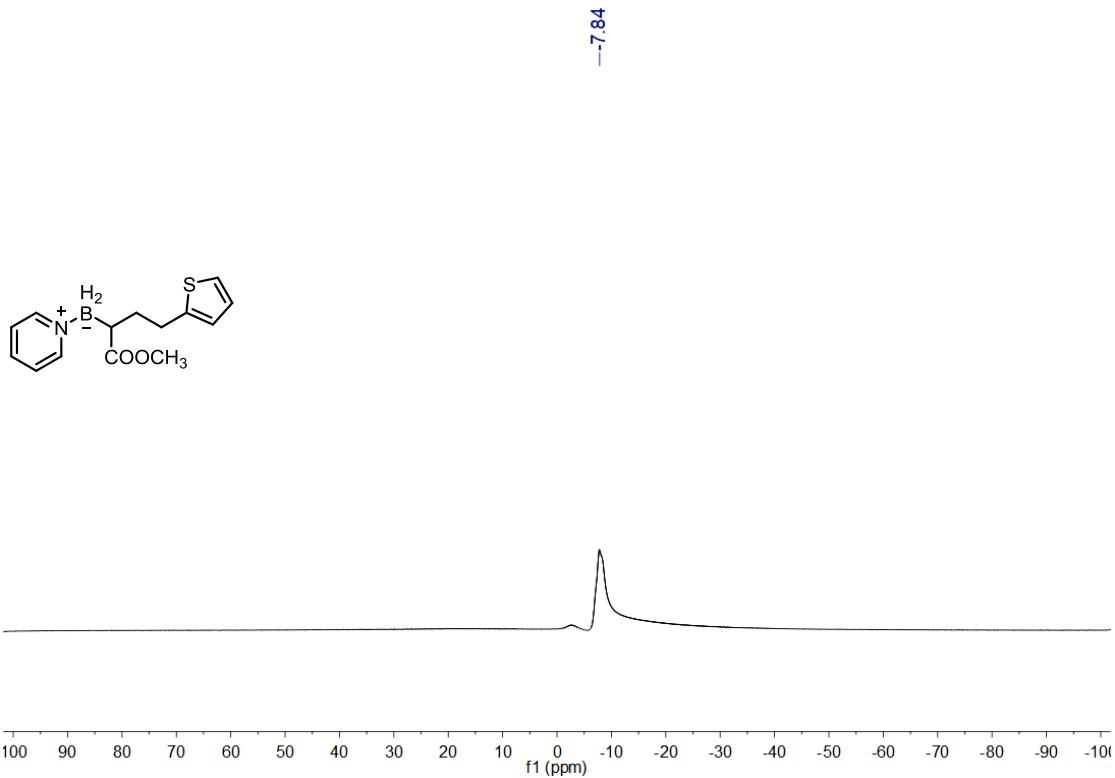
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **3d**



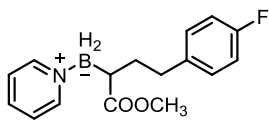
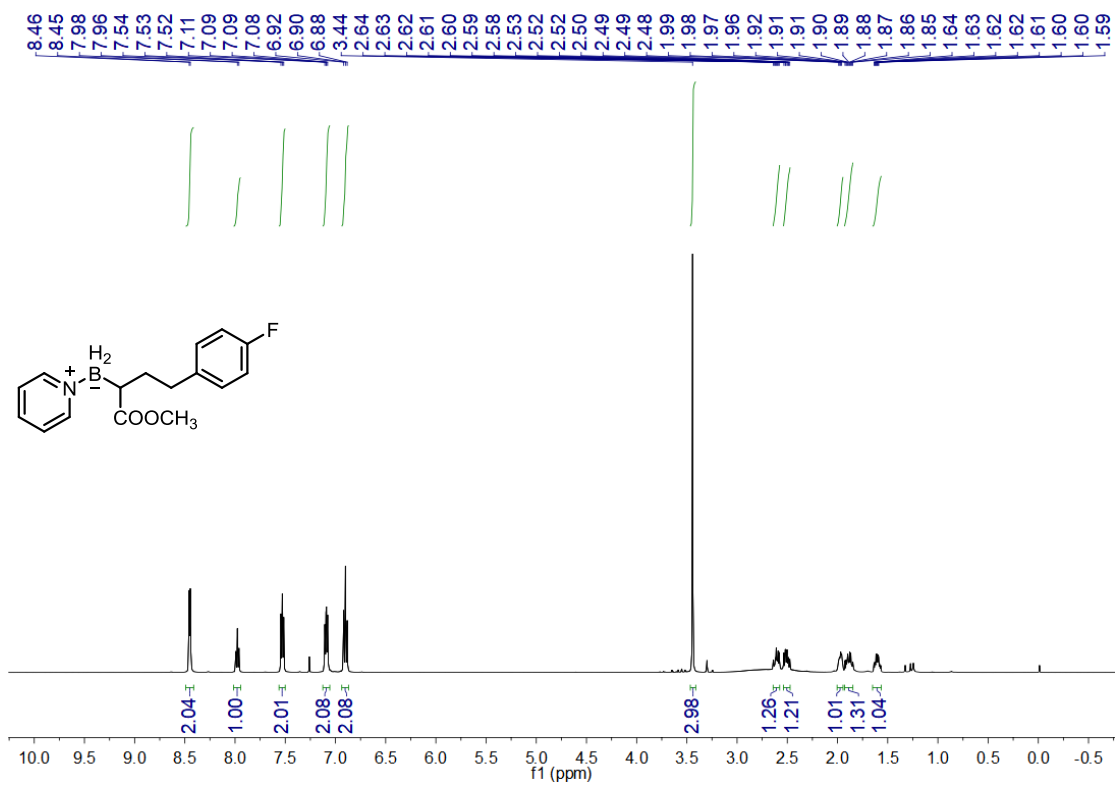


^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CD_3OD) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CD_3OD)
for **4d**.

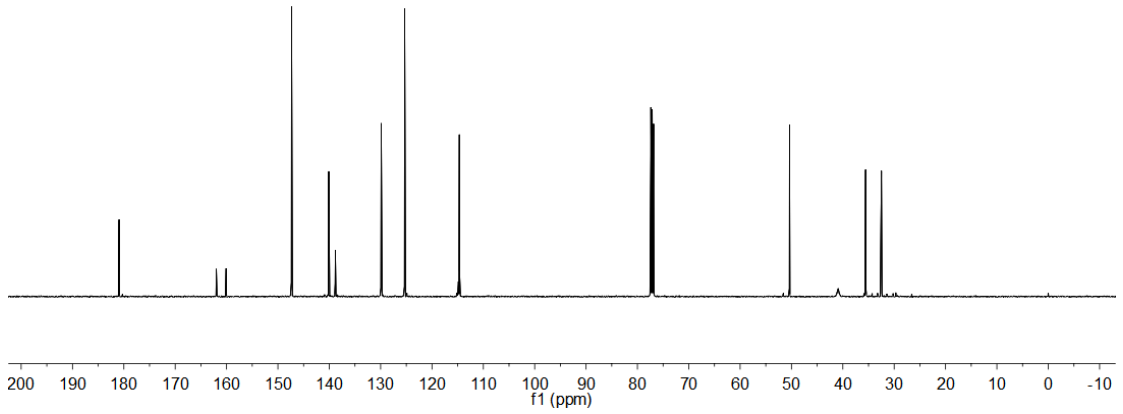
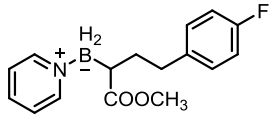




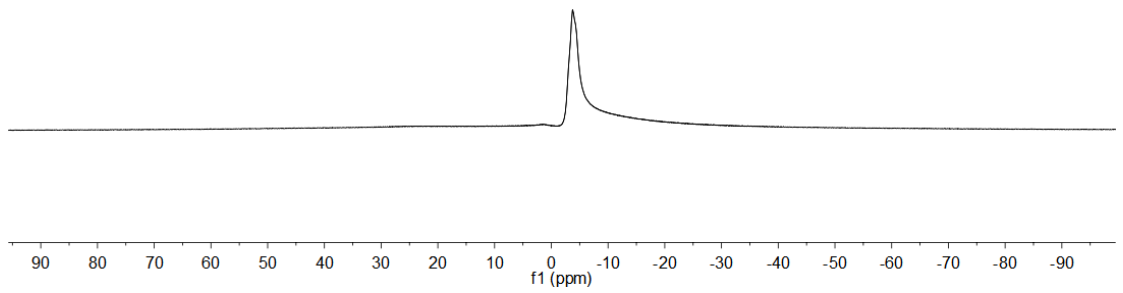
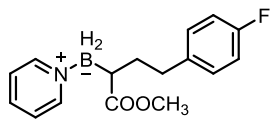
5d. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3) for



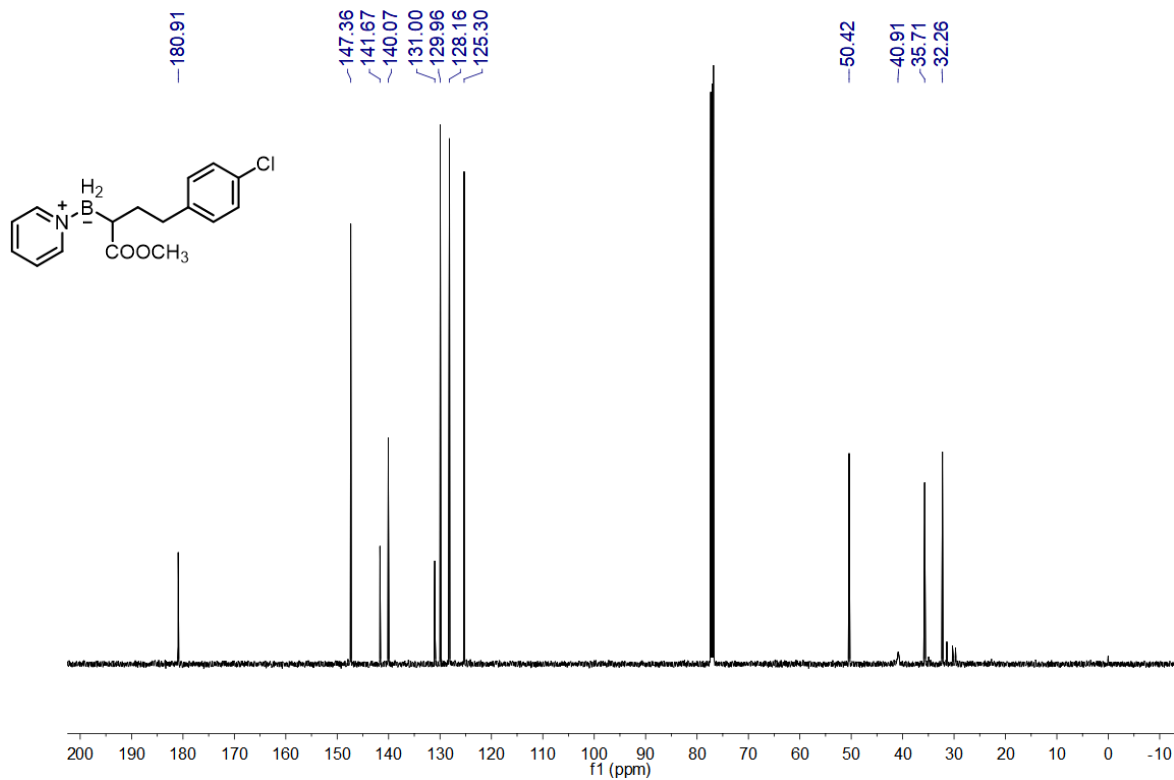
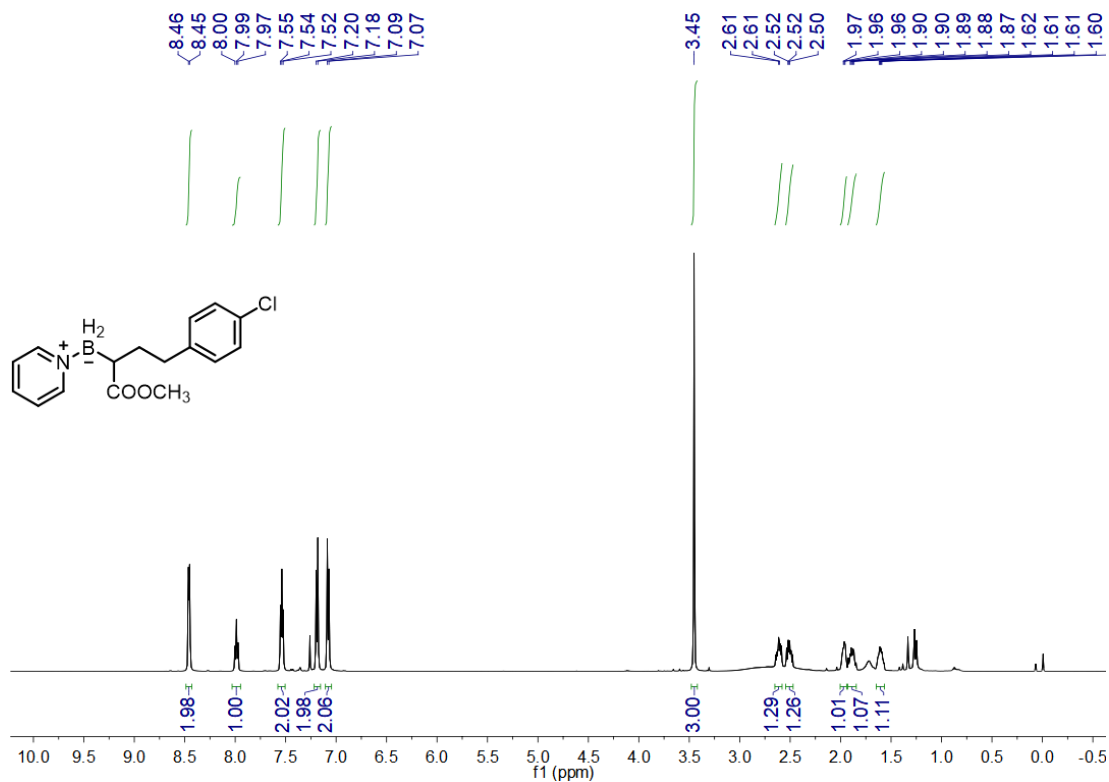
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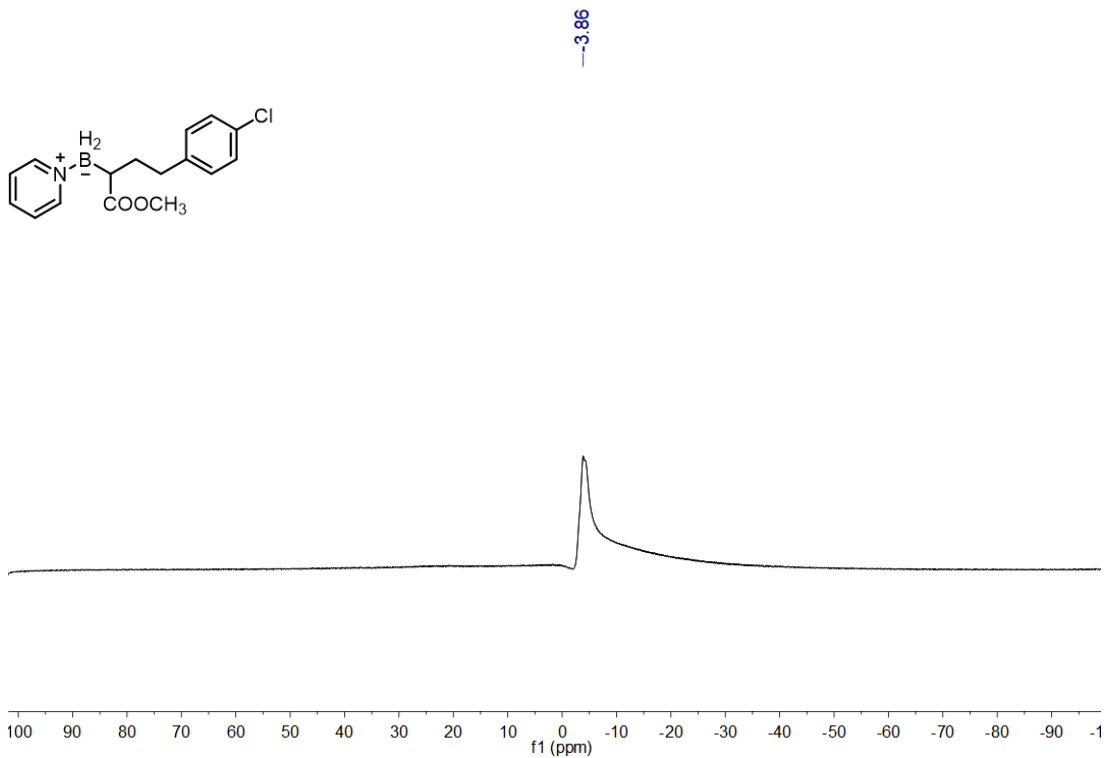


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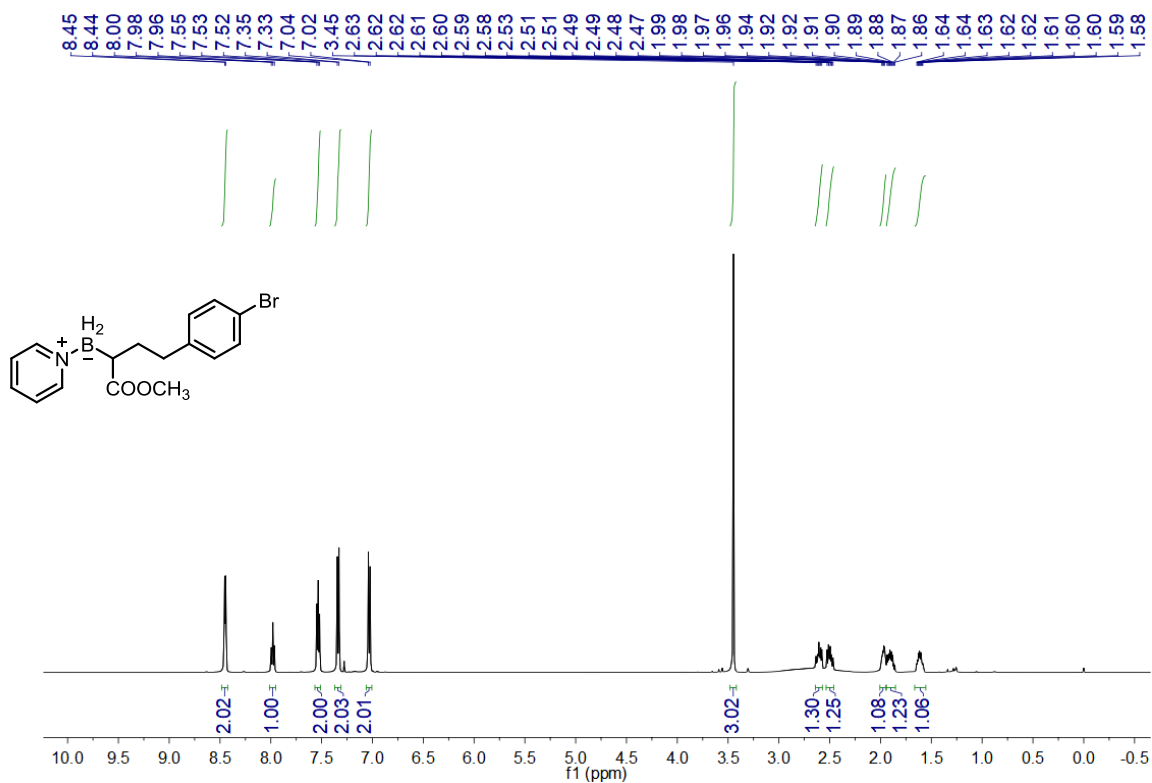


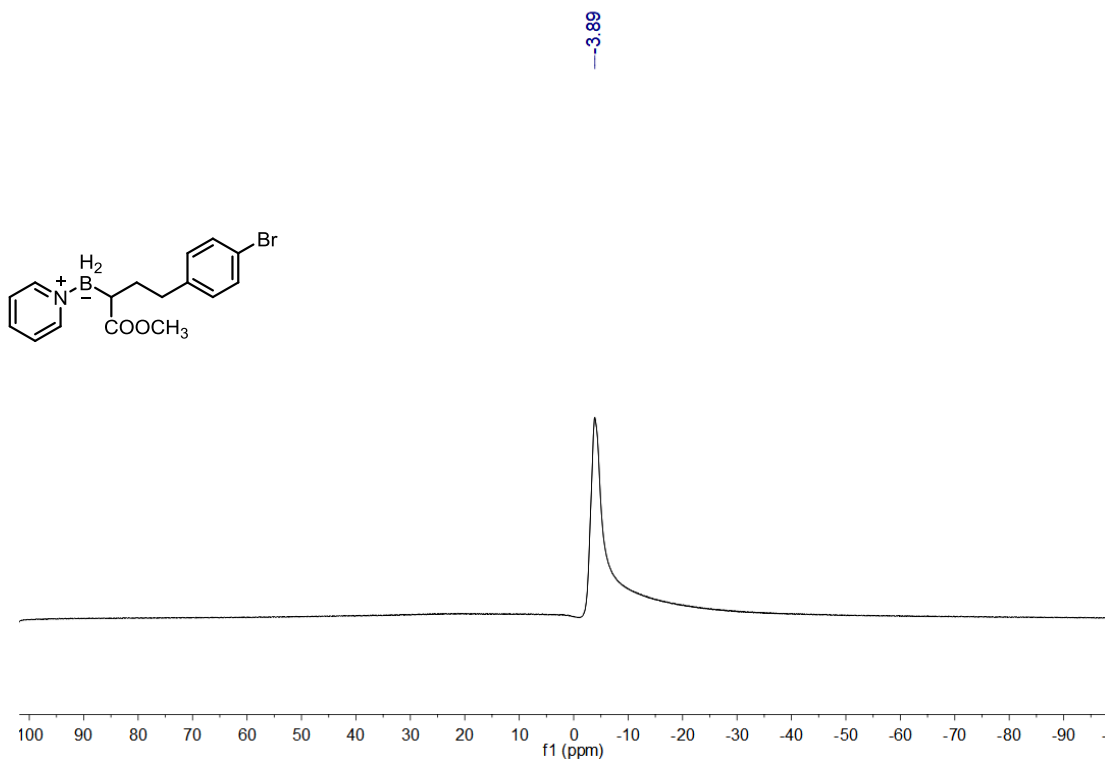
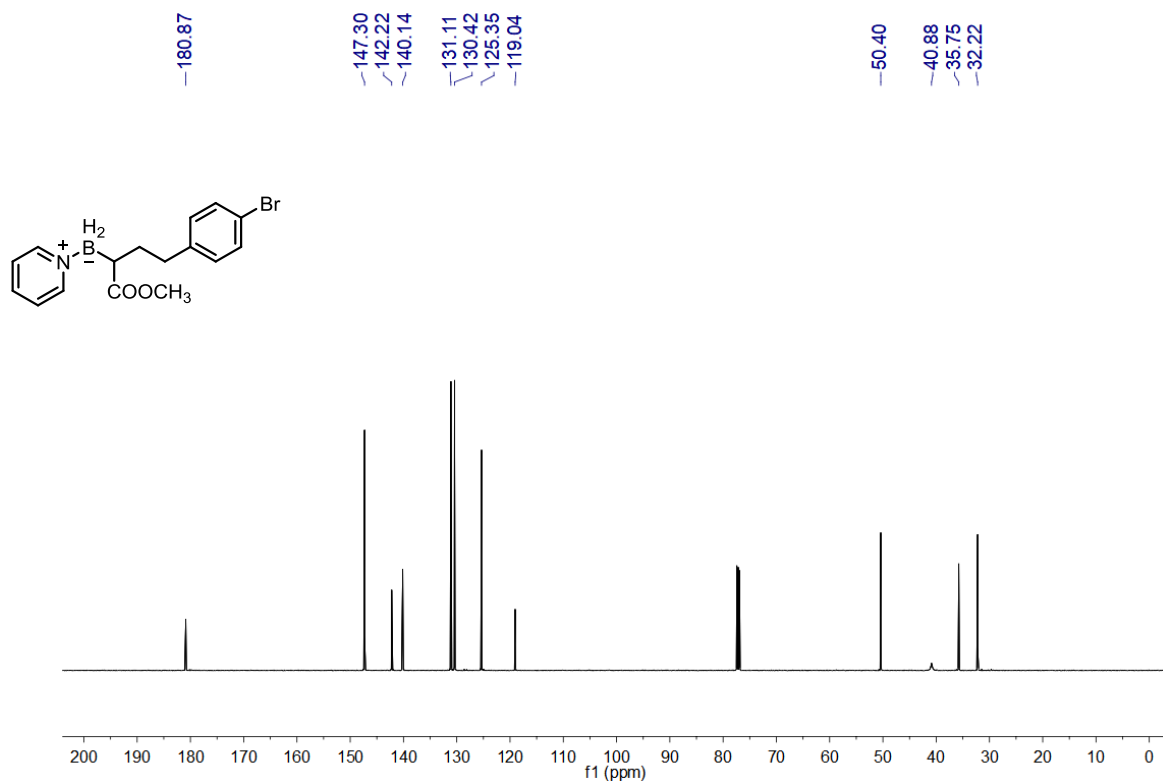
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **6d**.



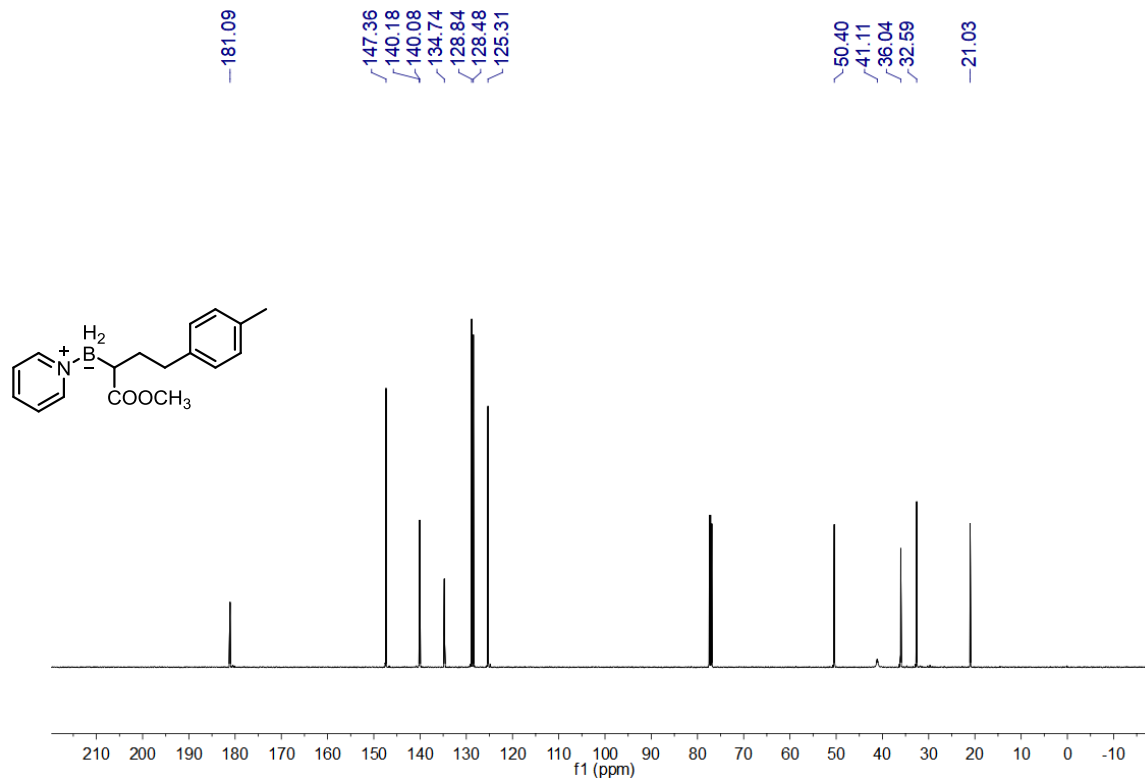
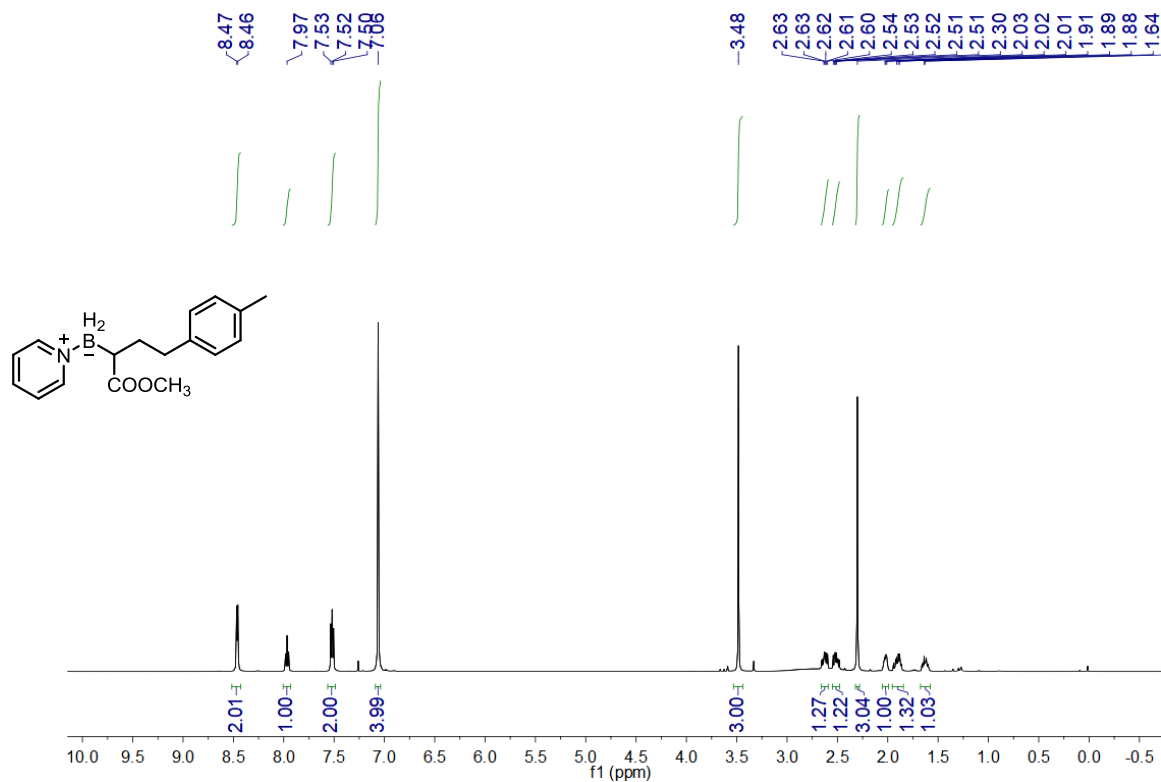


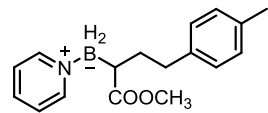
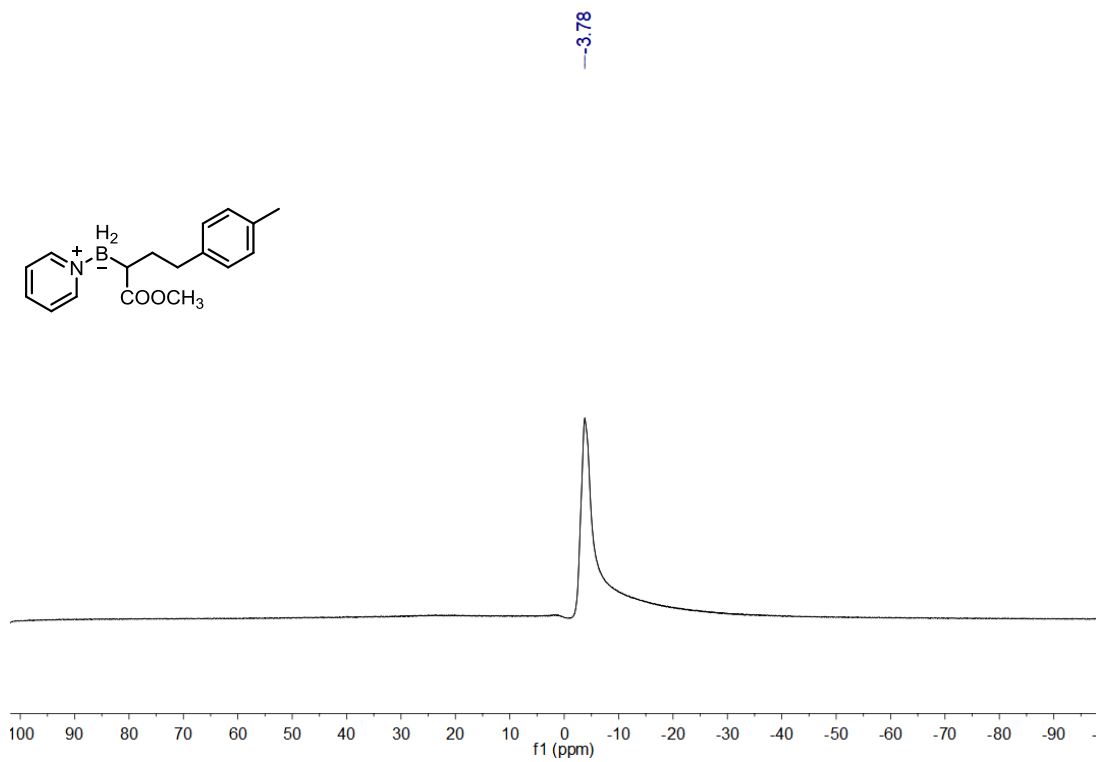
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **7d**.



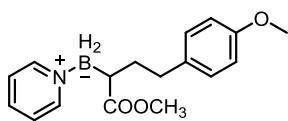
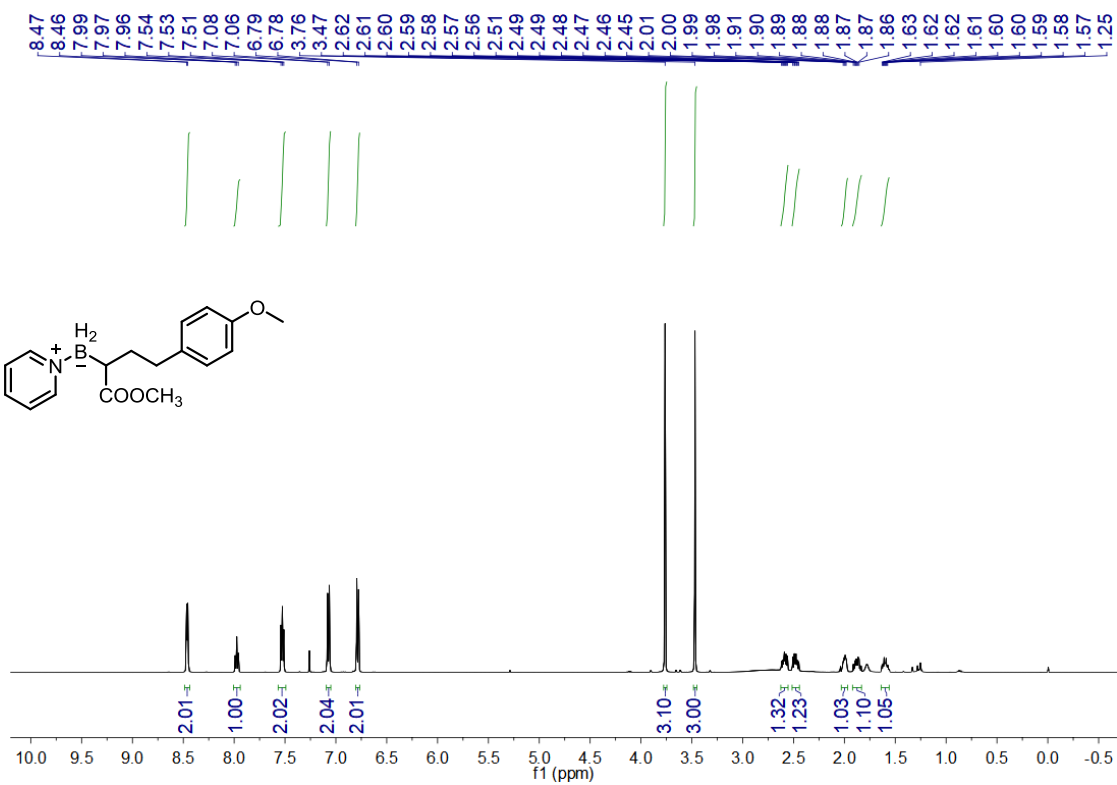


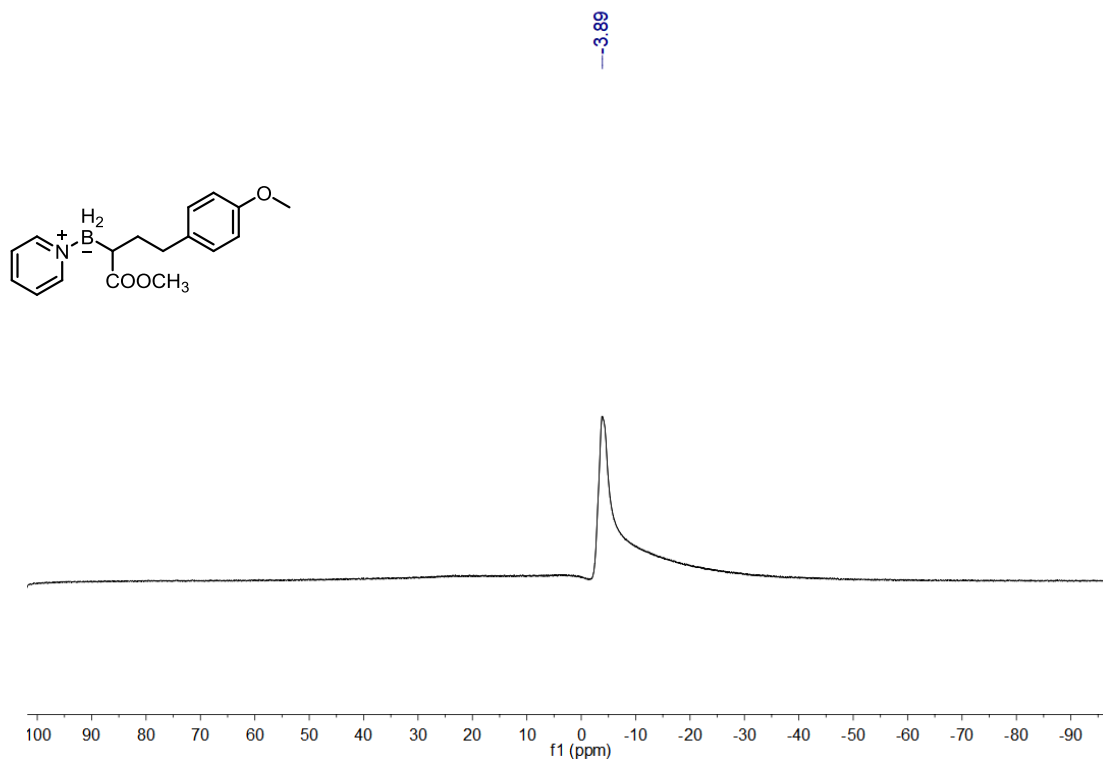
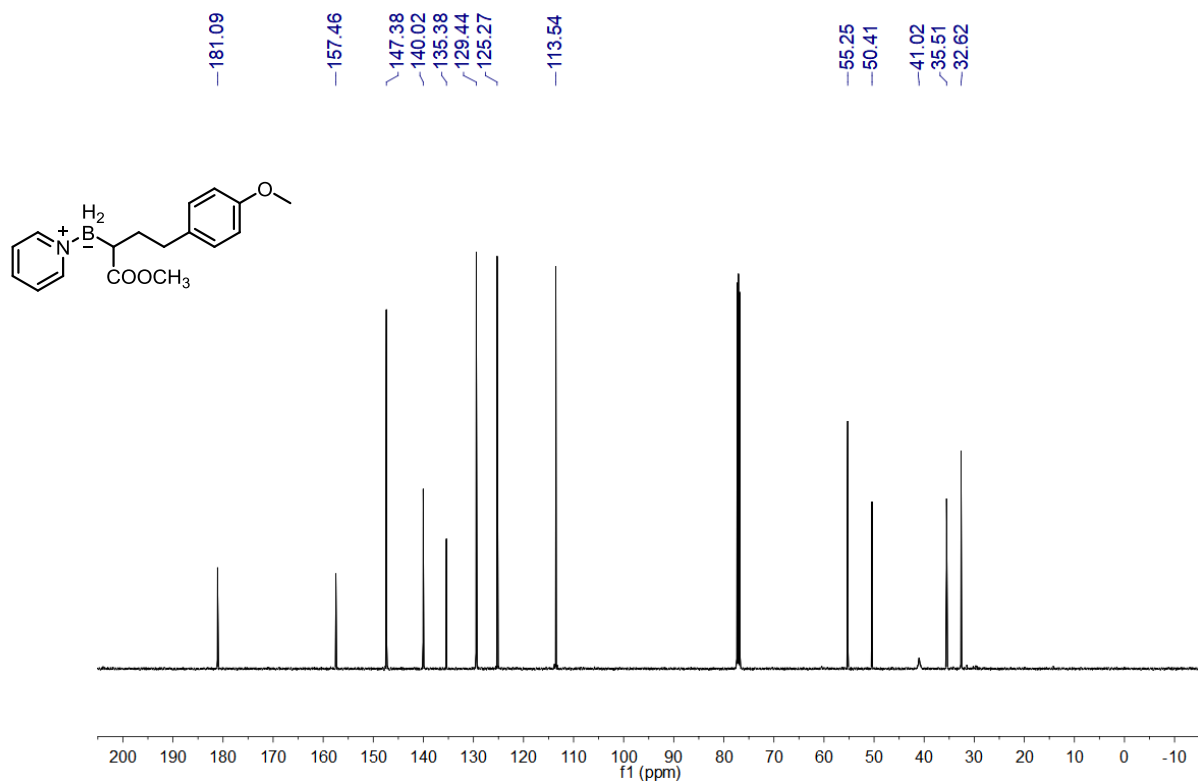
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **8d**.



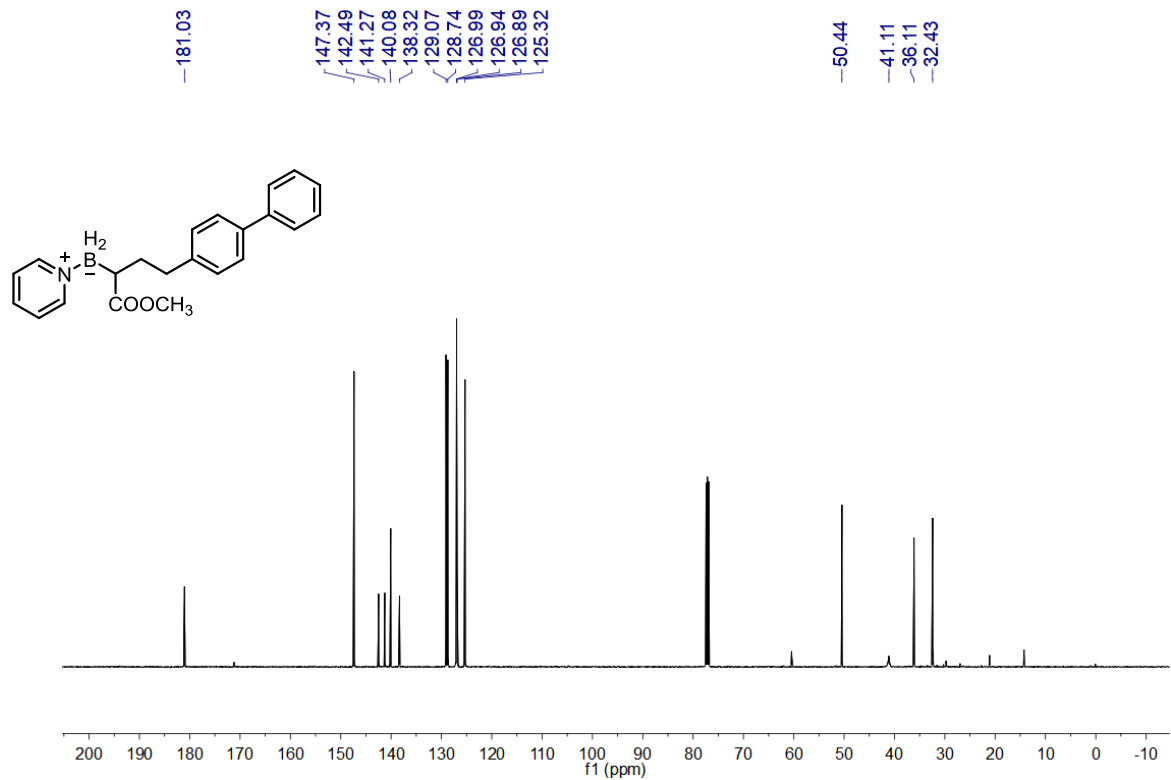
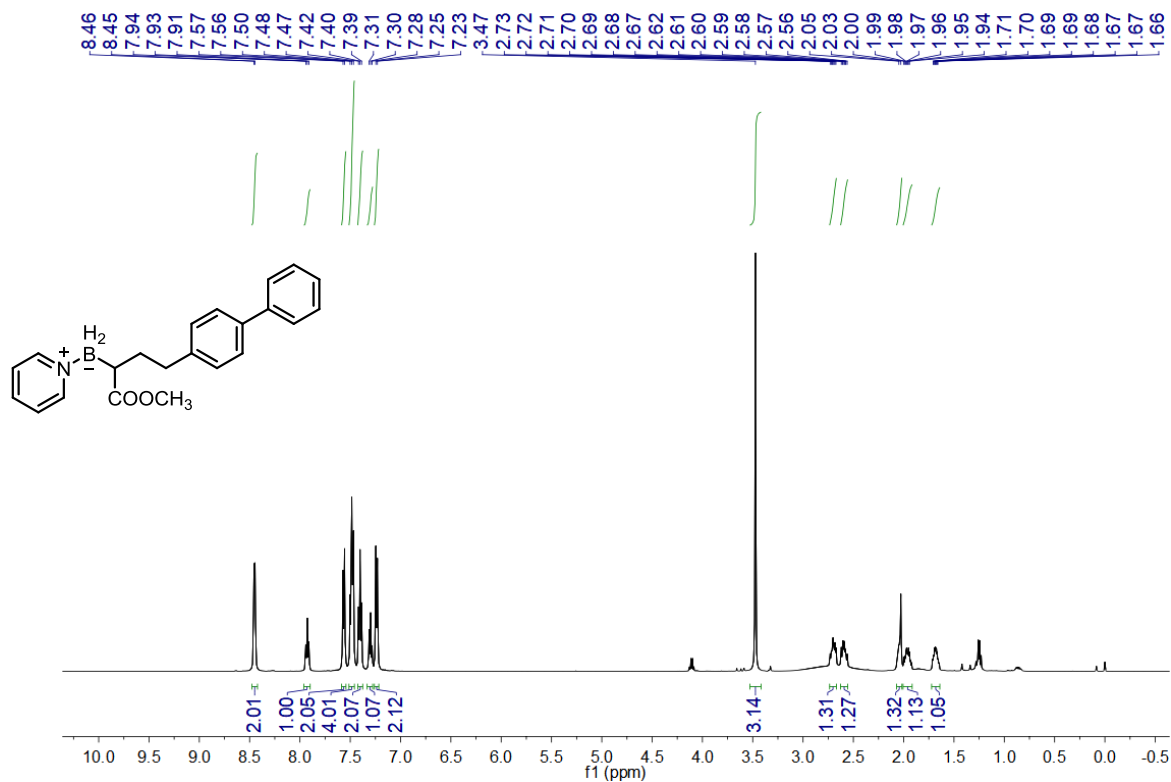


¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & ¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃)
for **9d**.





^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) & ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3)
for **10d**.



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