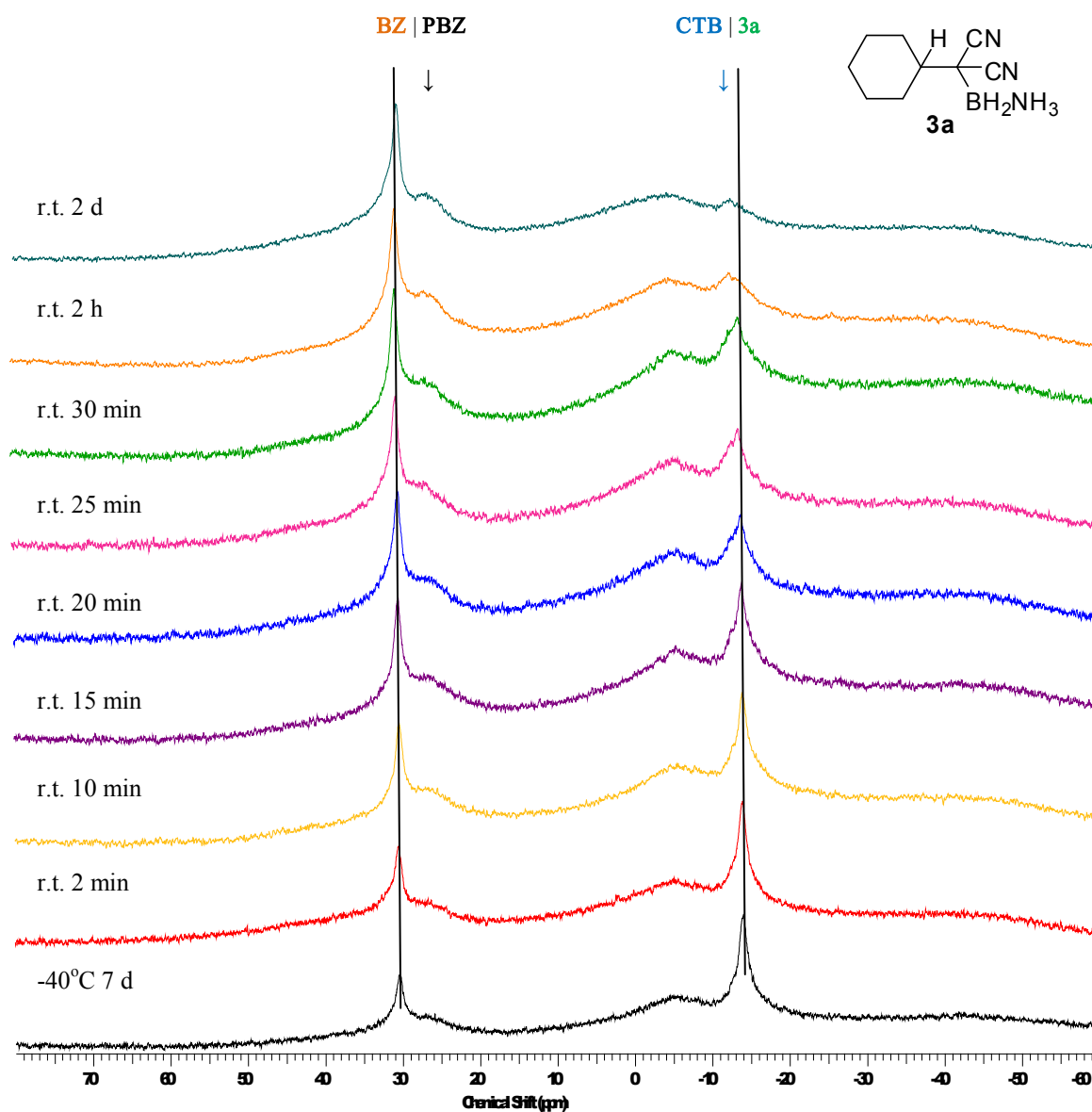


**Supplementary Information for**

**Synthetic and Mechanistic Studies of Metal-Free Transfer  
Hydrogenations Applying Polarized Olefins as Hydrogen  
Acceptors and Amine Borane Adducts as Hydrogen Donors**

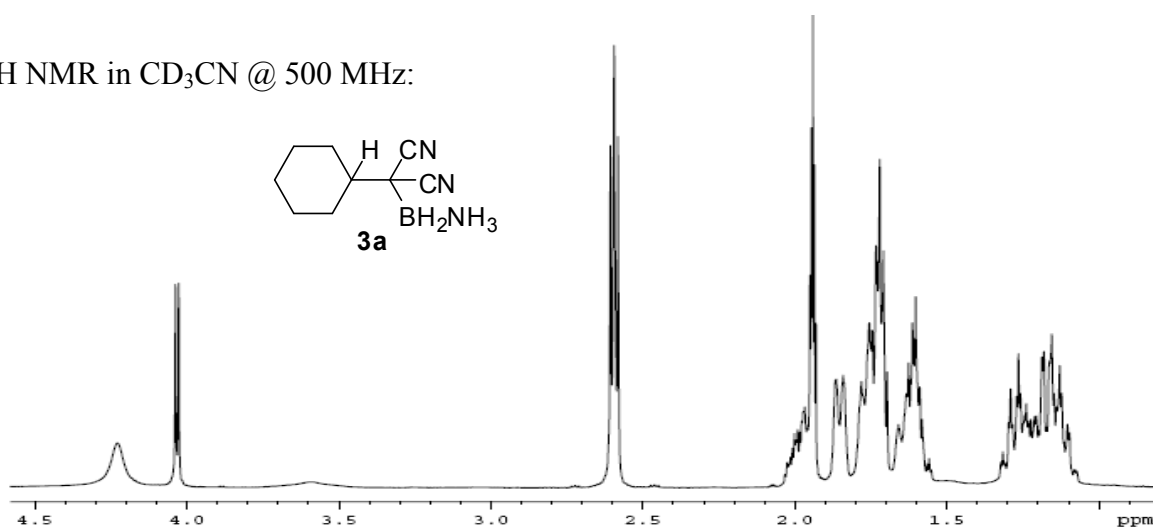
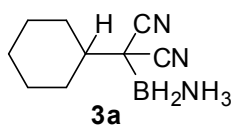
**Xianghua Yang,<sup>a</sup> Thomas Fox<sup>a</sup> and Heinz Berke<sup>\*a</sup>**

**S1** *In situ*  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectra in THF- $\text{D}_8$  showing the decomposition of -2-cyclohexylmalononitrile-2-boryl ammonia (**3a**) were pursued at room temperature to cyclotriborazane (CTB), borazine (BZ) and polyborazylene (PBZ). Initially **3a** was formed by keeping a NMR sample of 2-cyclohexylidenemalononitrile (**1a**) with ammonia borane (AB) (3:1 molar ratio) at  $-40^\circ\text{C}$  over one week; by that time AB was completely consumed with concomitant formation of small amounts of BZ. (Fig. 3 in the main text)

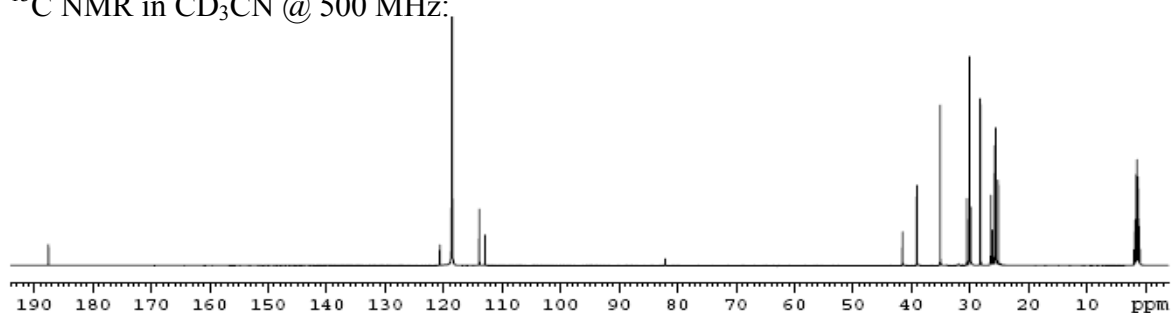


## S2 Determination of the hydroboration intermediate **3a** in the reaction mixture.

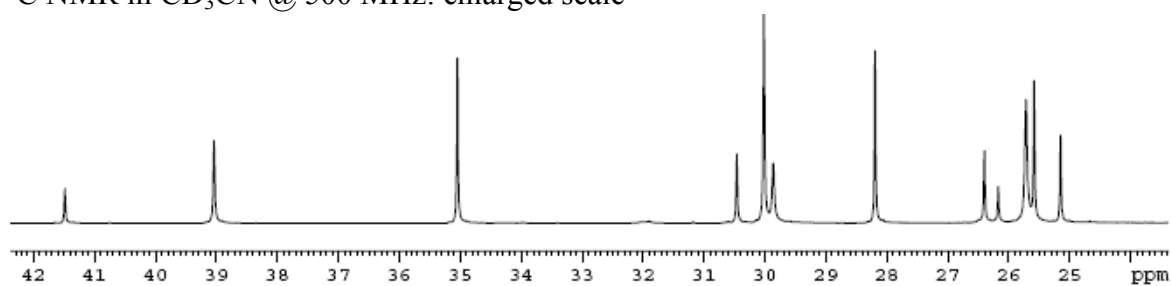
$^1\text{H}$  NMR in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  @ 500 MHz:



$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  @ 500 MHz:

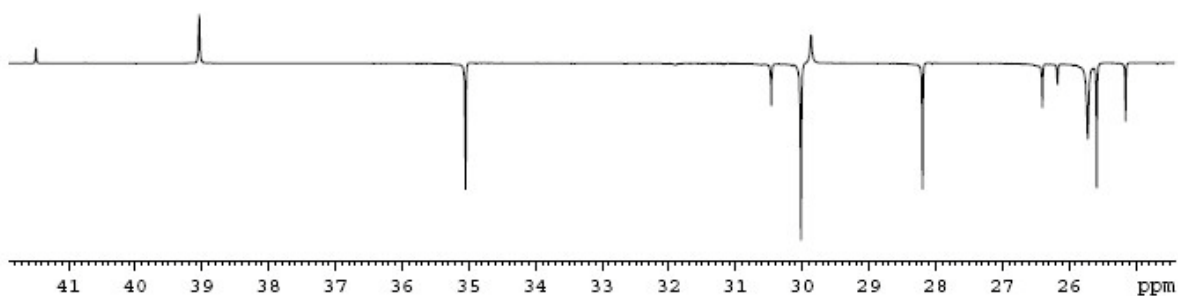


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  @ 500 MHz: enlarged scale

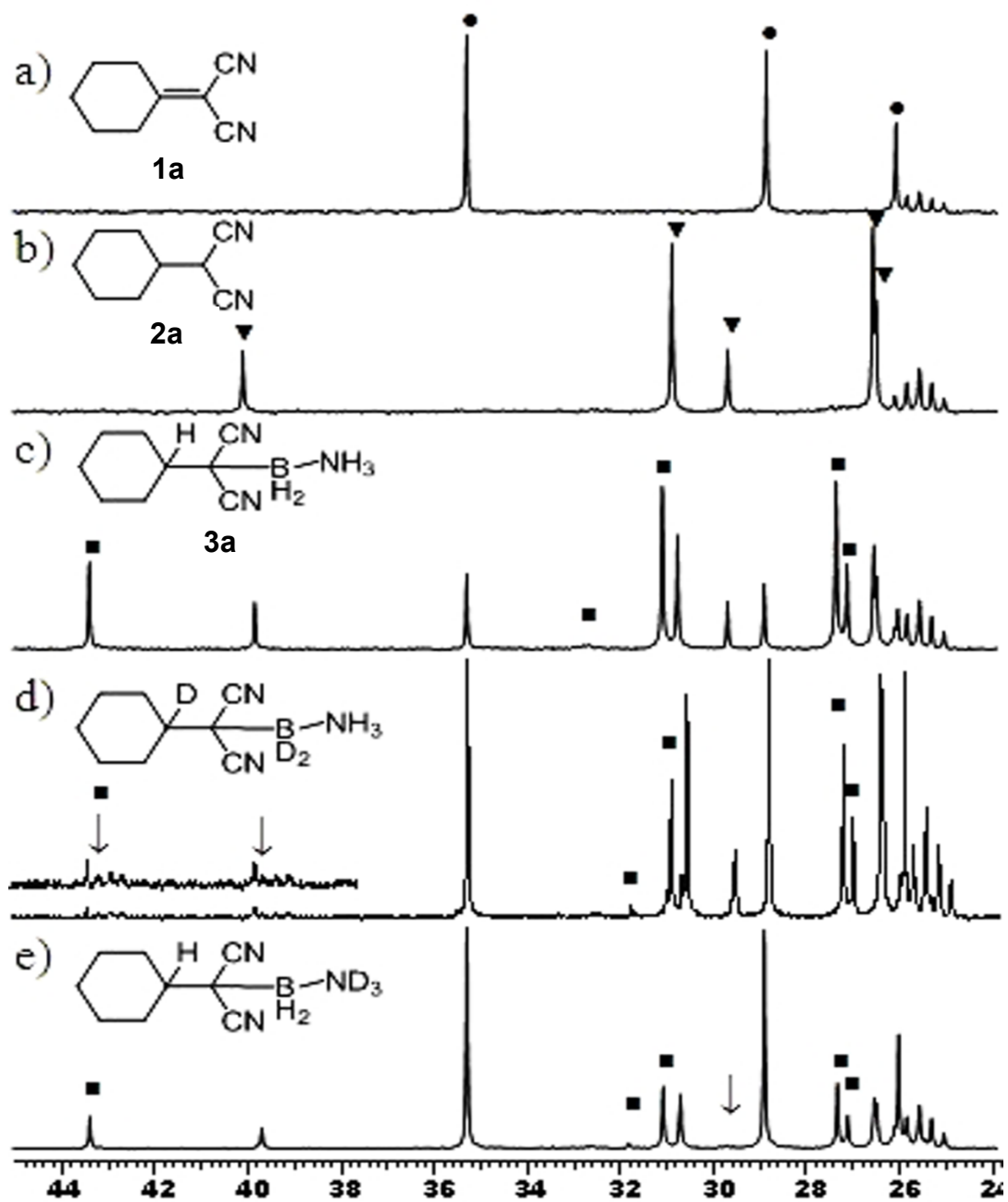


DEPT @ 500 MHz:

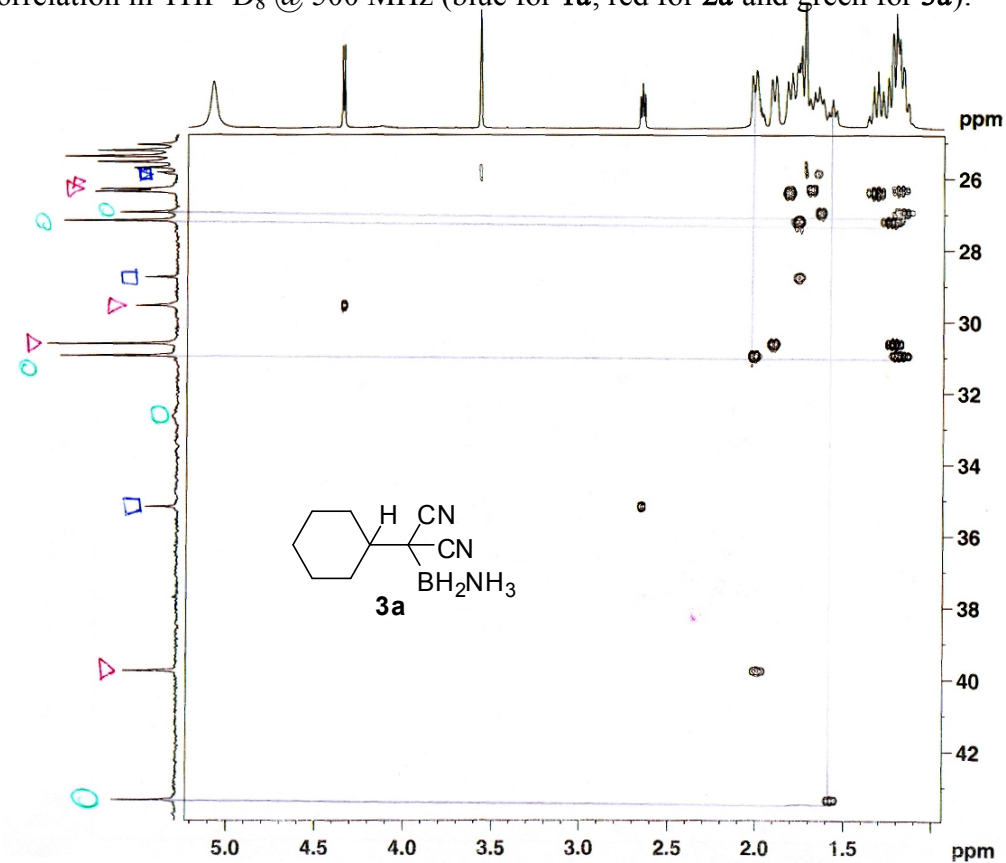
CH, CH3 up; CH2 down; C(q) zero



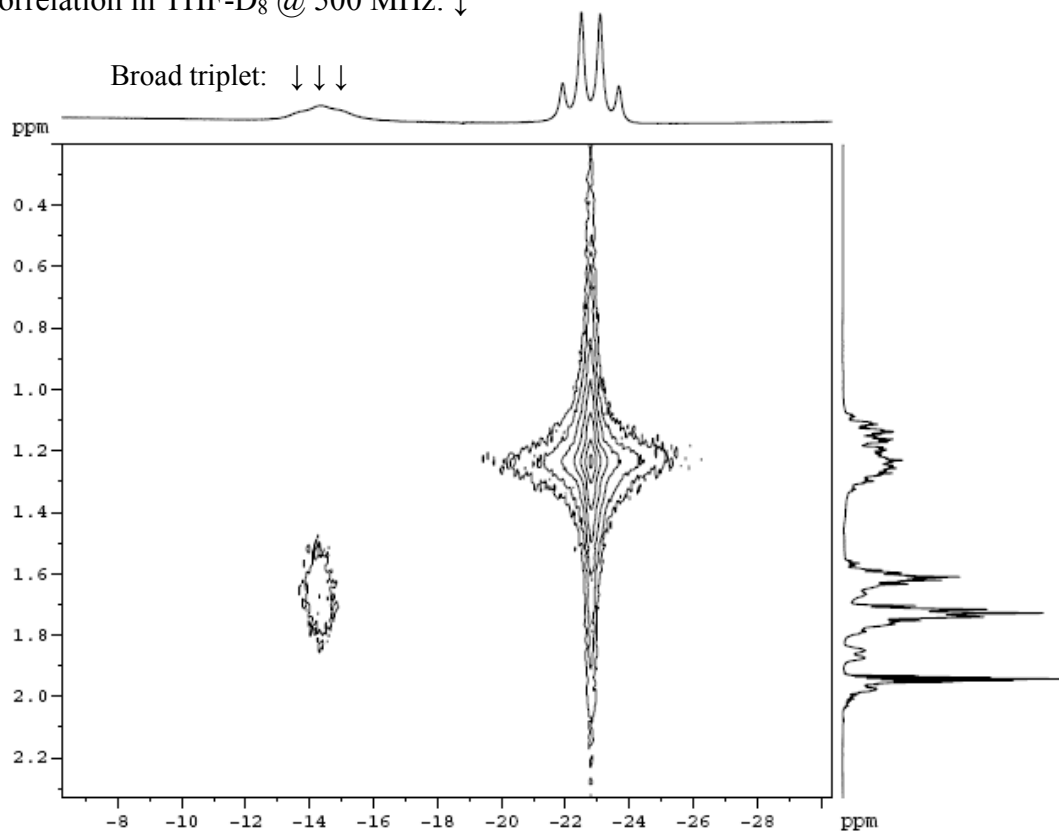
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR in  $\text{THF-D}_8$  @ 500 MHz: enlarged scale



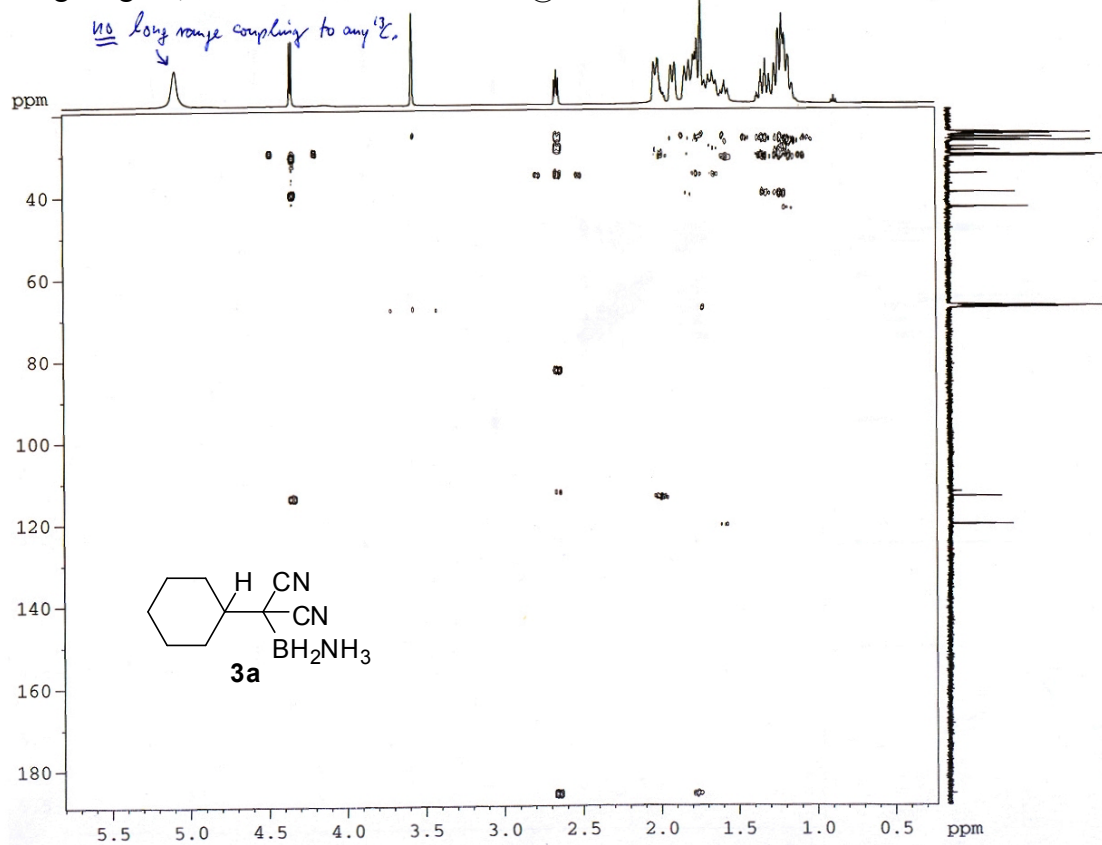
C, H-Correlation in THF-D<sub>8</sub> @ 500 MHz (blue for 1a, red for 2a and green for 3a):



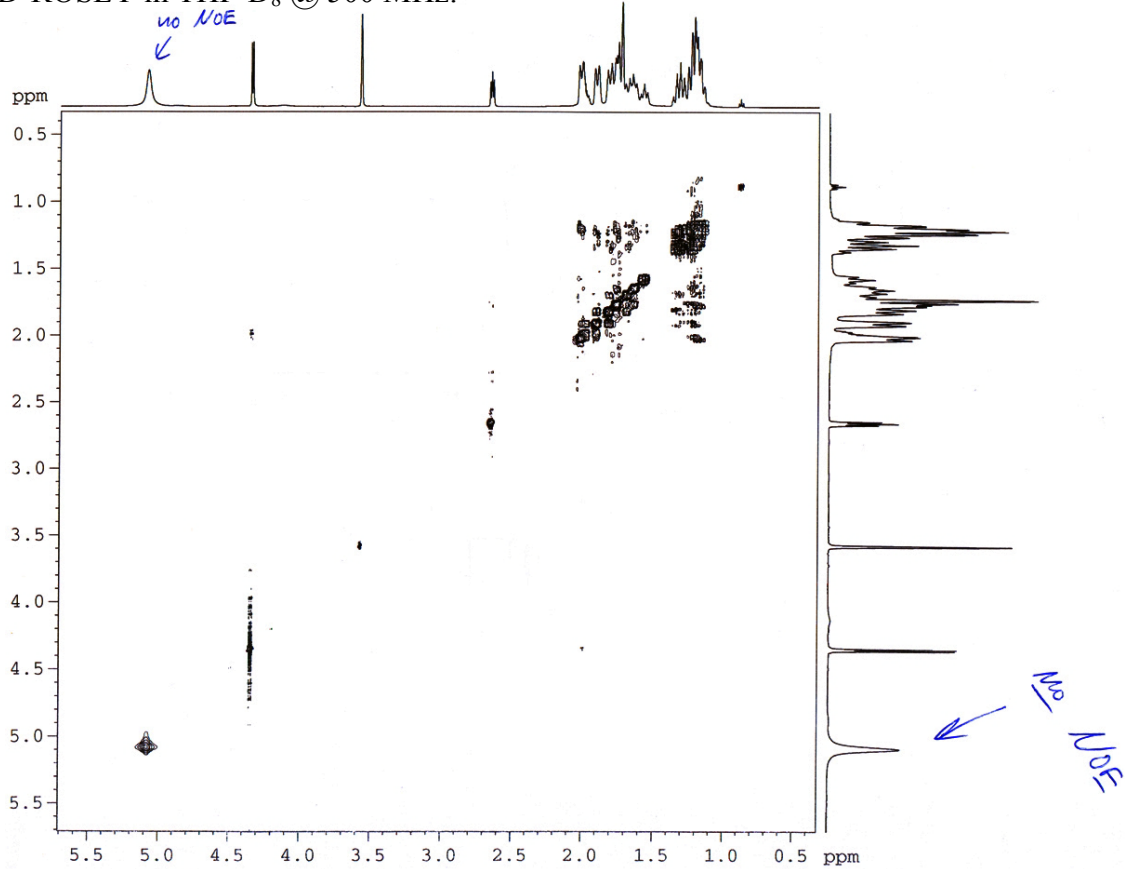
B, H-Correlation in THF-D<sub>8</sub> @ 500 MHz: ↓



Long range C, H-Correlation in THF-D<sub>8</sub> @ 500 MHz:



2D-ROSEY in THF-D<sub>8</sub> @ 500 MHz:



S3 *In situ*  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra for the transfer hydrogenation reactions.

