

# Chemistry–A European Journal

Supporting Information

## **Lewis Acidic Boranes, Lewis Bases, and Equilibrium Constants: A Reliable Scaffold for a Quantitative Lewis Acidity/Basicity Scale**

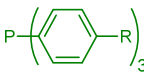
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## I. Additional Figures and Tables

**Table S1.** Equilibrium Constants  $K_B$  ( $M^{-1}$ ) for the Reactions of Boranes **1** and Lewis Bases **2–11** in dichloromethane and comparison with the Equilibrium Constants  $K_B^{eq}$  Derived by Applying Equation (1).

Lewis Base	R =	$LB_B$	$LA_B$	$K_B^{exp}$ ( $M^{-1}$ )	Method <sup>a</sup>	$K_B^{eq}$ ( $M^{-1}$ )	$K_B^{eq}/K_B^{exp}$		
4-NMe <sub>2</sub>	<b>2a</b>	8.63	<b>1j</b>	-8.97	$(4.54 \pm 0.26) \times 10^{-1}$	NMR	$4.54 \times 10^{-1}$		
	<b>2a</b>	8.63	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$(3.53 \pm 0.16) \times 10^4$	ITC	$2.20 \times 10^4$	0.62	
	<b>2a</b>	8.63	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(3.21 \pm 1.31) \times 10^6$	ITC	$5.15 \times 10^6$	1.60	
	4-Morpholino	<b>2b</b>	8.13	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$(9.35 \pm 0.22) \times 10^3$	ITC	$7.07 \times 10^3$	0.76
	4-Morpholino	<b>2b</b>	8.13	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(1.25 \pm 0.17) \times 10^6$	ITC	$1.65 \times 10^6$	1.32
	4-OMe	<b>2c</b>	7.16	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$(1.01 \pm 0.06) \times 10^3$	NMR	$7.52 \times 10^2$	0.74
	4-OMe	<b>2c</b>	7.16	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(1.31 \pm 0.08) \times 10^5$	ITC	$1.76 \times 10^5$	1.34
	H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$(7.81 \pm 0.04) \times 10^1$	NMR	$7.05 \times 10^1$	0.90
	H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(2.22 \pm 0.15) \times 10^4$	ITC	$1.65 \times 10^4$	0.74
	H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(3.40 \pm 0.78) \times 10^5$	ITC	$3.68 \times 10^5$	1.08
H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(1.39 \pm 0.04) \times 10^6$	ITC	$1.36 \times 10^6$	0.98	
H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(1.30 \pm 0.04) \times 10^6$	ITC	$1.83 \times 10^6$	1.41	
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$9.93 \pm 0.42$	NMR	$1.37 \times 10^1$	1.38	
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(3.25 \pm 0.27) \times 10^3$	ITC	$3.20 \times 10^3$	0.99	
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(3.14 \pm 0.06) \times 10^3$	NMR			
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(7.86 \pm 1.22) \times 10^4$	ITC	$7.14 \times 10^4$	0.91	
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(3.86 \pm 0.24) \times 10^5$	ITC	$2.64 \times 10^5$	0.68	
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(3.01 \pm 0.41) \times 10^5$	ITC	$3.56 \times 10^5$	1.18	
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	$1.52 \pm 0.29$	NMR	3.48	2.29	
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(7.99 \pm 1.81) \times 10^2$	NMR	$8.14 \times 10^2$	1.02	
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(3.31 \pm 1.14) \times 10^4$	ITC	$1.81 \times 10^4$	0.55	
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(9.33 \pm 1.05) \times 10^4$	ITC	$6.70 \times 10^4$	0.72	
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(8.30 \pm 0.14) \times 10^4$	ITC	$9.05 \times 10^4$	1.09	
4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	4.52	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(4.88 \pm 0.43) \times 10^2$	NMR	$4.07 \times 10^2$	0.83	
4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	4.52	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(1.43 \pm 0.25) \times 10^4$	ITC	$9.06 \times 10^3$	0.63	
4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	4.52	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(2.42 \pm 0.34) \times 10^4$	ITC	$3.35 \times 10^4$	1.38	
4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	4.52	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(3.31 \pm 0.22) \times 10^4$	ITC	$4.53 \times 10^4$	1.37	
4-CN	<b>2h</b>	3.92	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$(1.68 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$	NMR	$9.99 \times 10^1$	0.59	
4-CN	<b>2h</b>	3.92	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(3.60 \pm 0.23) \times 10^3$	ITC	$2.23 \times 10^3$	0.62	
4-CN	<b>2h</b>	3.92	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(4.27 \pm 0.32) \times 10^3$	ITC	$8.22 \times 10^3$	1.93	
4-CN	<b>2h</b>	3.92	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(7.87 \pm 1.06) \times 10^3$	ITC	$1.11 \times 10^4$	1.41	
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	1.76	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(1.62 \pm 0.07) \times 10^1$	NMR	$1.57 \times 10^1$	0.97	
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	1.76	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(5.04 \pm 0.71) \times 10^1$	NMR	$5.81 \times 10^1$	1.15	
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	1.76	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(6.37 \pm 0.19) \times 10^1$	NMR	$7.85 \times 10^1$	1.23	
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	1.76	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(1.71 \pm 0.75) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.24 \times 10^3$	0.73	
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	$6.06 \pm 0.30$	NMR	5.75	0.95	
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(1.22 \pm 0.11) \times 10^2$	NMR	$1.28 \times 10^2$	1.05	
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(4.33 \pm 0.85) \times 10^2$	NMR	$4.73 \times 10^2$	1.09	
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(7.56 \pm 0.56) \times 10^2$	NMR	$6.39 \times 10^2$	0.85	
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(9.29 \pm 0.22) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.01 \times 10^4$	1.09	
3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	1.43	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$7.11 \pm 0.61$	NMR	7.24	1.02	
3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	1.43	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$(5.35 \pm 1.07) \times 10^1$	NMR	$2.68 \times 10^1$	0.50	
3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	1.43	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(2.96 \pm 0.13) \times 10^1$	NMR	$3.62 \times 10^1$	1.22	
3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	1.43	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(3.56 \pm 0.08) \times 10^2$	NMR	$5.72 \times 10^2$	1.61	
3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	-0.75	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(2.38 \pm 0.51) \times 10^{-1}$	NMR	$2.43 \times 10^{-1}$	1.02	
3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	-0.75	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$7.91 \pm 0.28$	NMR	3.84	0.49	
3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	-0.75	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(4.50 \pm 1.11) \times 10^3$	NMR	$2.18 \times 10^3$	0.48	
3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	-0.75	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(4.10 \pm 0.35) \times 10^2$	NMR	$1.71 \times 10^3$	4.18	
4-Cl-3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2m</b>	-1.07	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$4.87 \pm 0.12$	NMR	1.81	0.37	
4-Cl-3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2m</b>	-1.07	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(1.60 \pm 0.22) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.03 \times 10^3$	0.64	
4-Cl-3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2m</b>	-1.07	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(1.94 \pm 0.07) \times 10^2$	NMR	$8.10 \times 10^2$	4.18	
2,6-(Me) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2n</b>	-5.50	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(5.47 \pm 1.02) \times 10^1$	NMR	$5.47 \times 10^1$		
R-CN	Me	<b>3a</b>	-0.48	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$4.93 \pm 0.16$	NMR	7.15	1.45
	Me	<b>3a</b>	-0.48	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(4.63 \pm 0.25) \times 10^3$	NMR	$3.19 \times 10^3$	0.69
	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3b</b>	-0.81	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$1.87 \pm 0.04$	NMR	3.33	1.78
	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3b</b>	-0.81	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(2.39 \pm 0.28) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.89 \times 10^3$	0.79
	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3b</b>	-0.81	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(2.10 \pm 0.38) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.49 \times 10^3$	0.71
P(  ) <sub>3</sub>	4-OMe	<b>4a</b>	2.43	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(3.60 \pm 0.36) \times 10^2$	NMR	$3.60 \times 10^2$	
	4-OMe	<b>4a</b>	2.43	<b>1f</b>	1.33	too high	NMR	$5.69 \times 10^3$	
	4-OMe	<b>4a</b>	2.43	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(8.61 \pm 0.75) \times 10^2$	NMR	$3.23 \times 10^6$	
	4-OMe	<b>4a</b>	2.43	<b>1h</b>	3.98	too high	NMR	$2.54 \times 10^6$	
	H	<b>4b</b>	0.87	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(1.58 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$	NMR	$1.58 \times 10^2$	
	H	<b>4b</b>	0.87	<b>1h</b>	3.98	too high	NMR	$7.06 \times 10^4$	
	4-Cl	<b>4c</b>	-0.11	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(1.67 \pm 0.08) \times 10^1$	NMR	$1.67 \times 10^1$	
	4-OMe	<b>5a</b>	-1.99	<b>1f</b>	1.33	too low	NMR	$2.19 \times 10^{-1}$	
	4-OMe	<b>5a</b>	-1.99	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(9.79 \pm 0.32) \times 10^1$	NMR	$1.24 \times 10^2$	1.27

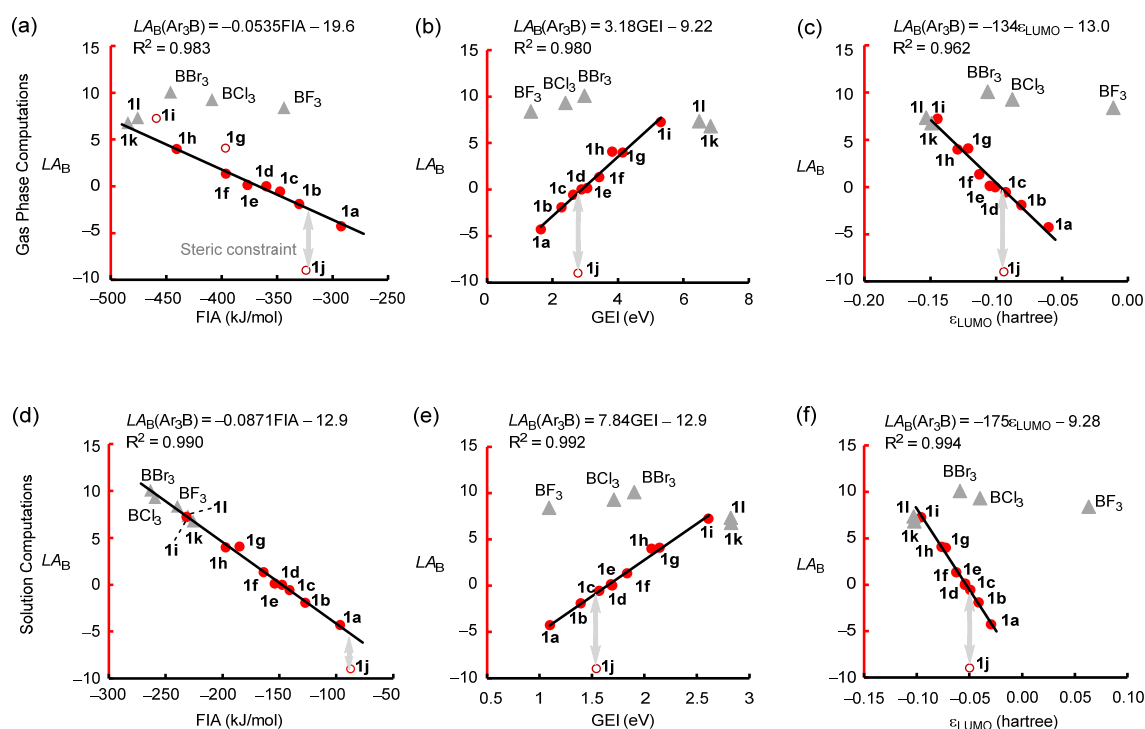
	4-OMe	<b>5a</b>	-1.99	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(1.24 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$	NMR	$9.78 \times 10^1$	0.79
	4-Me	<b>5b</b>	-2.57	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(2.97 \pm 0.34) \times 10^1$	NMR	$3.24 \times 10^1$	1.09
	4-Me	<b>5b</b>	-2.57	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(2.78 \pm 0.25) \times 10^1$	NMR	$2.55 \times 10^1$	0.92
	4-Br	<b>5c</b>	-2.99	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$6.22 \pm 0.92$	NMR	$1.23 \times 10^1$	1.98
	4-Br	<b>5c</b>	-2.99	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(3.51 \pm 1.82) \times 10^4$	NMR	$1.77 \times 10^4$	0.50
	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>5d</b>	-3.29	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$5.42 \pm 0.58$	NMR	6.17	1.14
	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>5d</b>	-3.29	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(1.01 \pm 0.60) \times 10^4$	NMR	$8.87 \times 10^3$	0.88
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>5e</b>	-3.90	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$5.02 \pm 0.82$	NMR	1.51	0.30
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>5e</b>	-3.90	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(6.53 \pm 0.92) \times 10^2$	NMR	$2.17 \times 10^3$	3.33
	3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>5f</b>	-6.12	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(1.31 \pm 0.37) \times 10^1$	NMR	$1.31 \times 10^1$	
	<b>6</b>	-5.38	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(7.31 \pm 2.19) \times 10^1$	NMR	$7.31 \times 10^1$		
	4-OMe	<b>7a</b>	-0.18	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$6.75 \pm 0.21$	NMR	$1.42 \times 10^1$	2.10
	4-OMe	<b>7a</b>	-0.18	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(4.90 \pm 2.02) \times 10^3$	NMR	$8.04 \times 10^3$	1.64
	4-OMe	<b>7a</b>	-0.18	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(2.18 \pm 1.10) \times 10^4$	NMR	$6.33 \times 10^3$	0.29
	H	<b>7b</b>	-1.78	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(1.41 \pm 0.05) \times 10^2$	NMR	$2.00 \times 10^2$	1.42
	H	<b>7b</b>	-1.78	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(2.24 \pm 0.06) \times 10^2$	NMR	$1.58 \times 10^2$	0.70
	4-Br	<b>7c</b>	-2.25	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(5.34 \pm 0.12) \times 10^1$	NMR	$6.78 \times 10^1$	1.27
	4-Br	<b>7c</b>	-2.25	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(6.78 \pm 0.03) \times 10^1$	NMR	$5.34 \times 10^1$	0.79
	4-Br	<b>7c</b>	-2.25	<b>1i</b>	7.24	too high	NMR	$9.75 \times 10^4$	
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>7d</b>	-3.76	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$2.31 \pm 0.28$	NMR	2.10	0.91
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>7d</b>	-3.76	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$1.02 \pm 0.13$	NMR	1.66	1.62
4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>7d</b>	-3.76	<b>1i</b>	7.24	$(4.46 \pm 1.41) \times 10^3$	NMR	$3.02 \times 10^3$	0.68	
		<b>8</b>	-0.73	<b>1g</b>	4.08	$(1.38 \pm 0.21) \times 10^3$	NMR	$2.23 \times 10^3$	1.62
		<b>8</b>	-0.73	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$(2.84 \pm 0.42) \times 10^3$	NMR	$1.76 \times 10^3$	0.62
		<b>9</b>	0.97	<b>1d</b>	0.00	$7.60 \pm 0.18$	NMR	9.43	1.24
		<b>9</b>	0.97	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$(2.50 \pm 0.19) \times 10^2$	NMR	$2.01 \times 10^2$	0.81
		<b>10</b>	2.51	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	$(1.90 \pm 0.12) \times 10^1$	NMR	$8.68 \times 10^1$	4.57
		<b>10</b>	2.51	<b>1e</b>	0.13	$(1.98 \pm 0.33) \times 10^3$	NMR	$4.33 \times 10^2$	0.22
		<b>11</b>	-0.90	<b>1f</b>	1.33	$[3.54 \pm 0.05]^b$	NMR	2.73	$0.77^b$
		<b>11</b>	-0.90	<b>1h</b>	3.98	$[9.36 \pm 1.70] \times 10^{2b}$	NMR	$1.22 \times 10^3$	$1.33^b$

<sup>a</sup> ITC measurements were performed at 20 °C, NMR titrations at 22 °C. <sup>b</sup> Equilibrium constants  $K_B^{\text{exp}}$  for reactions of **11** were not used to determine the Lewis acidities  $LA_B$  of the boranes **1**.

**Table S2.** Lewis Acidity Parameters  $LA_B$  and Further Acidity Descriptors for Boranes


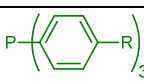
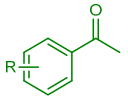
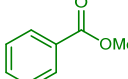
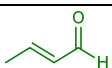
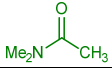


Borane	$LA_B$	$\sigma^a$	FIA ( $\Delta H$ , kJ/mol) <sup>b</sup>	$\epsilon_{LUMO}$ (Hartree)	GEI (eV)	FIA ( $\Delta G$ , kJ/mol)	$\epsilon_{LUMO}$ (Hartree)	GEI (eV)
			at the BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP level in gas-phase			at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP in dichloromethane		
B(4-Me <sub>2</sub> N-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1a</b>	-4.28	-292.1	-0.06001	1.65	-96.7	-0.02941	1.10
B(4-MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1b</b>	-1.92	-330.0	-0.08069	2.27	-127.1	-0.04147	1.39
B(4-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1c</b>	-0.57	-347.3	-0.09261	2.63	-141.2	-0.04908	1.57
B(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1d</b>	0.00	-359.7	-0.10049	2.88	-147.7	-0.05429	1.69
B(4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1e</b>	0.13	-376.7	-0.10466	3.06	-154.1	-0.05390	1.68
B(4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1f</b>	1.33	-396.1	-0.11260	3.44	-163.7	-0.06249	1.84
B(2,4,6-(F) <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1g</b>	4.08	-396.5	-0.12108	3.83	-185.1	-0.07655	2.14
B(3,4,5-(F) <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1h</b>	3.98	-440.3	-0.12913	4.14	-197.2	-0.07260	2.07
B(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1i</b>	7.24	-458.8	-0.14437	5.31	-231.7	-0.09589	2.61
B(2,4,6-(Me) <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1j</b>	(-8.97)	-323.8	-0.09395	2.78	-87.4	-0.04968	1.54
BF <sub>3</sub>		(8.4)	-343.9	-0.01084	1.34	-239.7	0.06314	1.09
BCl <sub>3</sub>		(9.3)	-408.7	-0.08770	2.39	-259.6	-0.04009	1.71
BBr <sub>3</sub>		(10.1)	-446.1	-0.10629	2.98	-263.2	-0.05910	1.90
tris(perfluoro- $\beta$ - naphthyl)borane	<b>1k</b>	(6.8)	-484.6	-0.14906	6.83	-226.0	-0.10251	2.83
F <sub>13</sub> -9-phenyl-9- borafluorene	<b>1l</b>	(7.35)	-475.7	-0.15295	6.49	-230.5	-0.10311	2.82

<sup>a</sup> Hammett  $\sigma$  values taken from ref S1. <sup>b</sup> Calculated according to the procedure outlined in ref S2 and anchored to the dissociation of fluorotrimethylsilane calculated at the G3 level in ref S3.

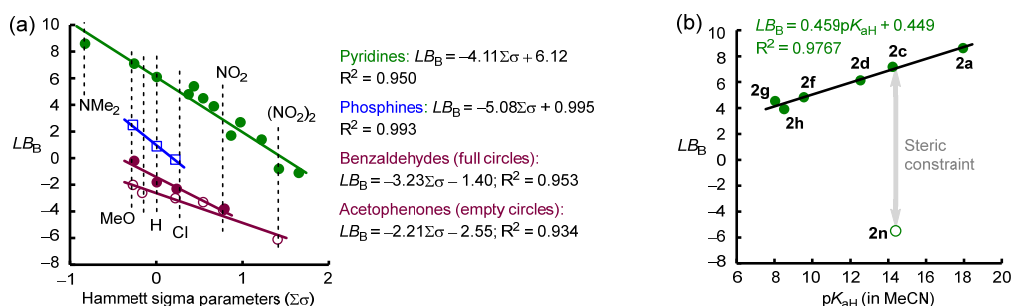


**Figure S1.** Correlation of  $LA_B$  with different quantum-chemically calculated acidity descriptors for boranes in gas phase and solution. (a)-(c): Correlation of  $LA_B$  with fluoride ion affinities FIA (a), global electrophilicity indices GEI (b) and LUMO energies  $\epsilon_{LUMO}$  (c) obtained at the BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP level of theory in gas phase (all values from Table S2). (d)-(f): Correlation of  $LA_B$  with fluoride ion affinities FIA (d), global electrophilicity indices GEI (e) and LUMO energies  $\epsilon_{LUMO}$  (f) obtained considering dichloromethane solvation at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory (all values from Table S2). The data for BF<sub>3</sub>, BCl<sub>3</sub>, BBr<sub>3</sub>, **1k** and **1l** (gray triangles) were not used for the calculation of the correlation lines.

**Table S3.** Lewis Basicity Parameters  $LB_B$  and Further Basicity Descriptors for Pyridines, Nitriles, Phosphines, Carbonyl Compounds and Triethylphosphine Oxide

Lewis Base	R =	$LB_B$	$\Sigma\sigma^a$	$LB$ (vs $Ar_2CH^+$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$pK_{aH}(H_2O)$	$pK_{aH}(MeCN)$	$\Delta H_{BF_3}^c$	$BA^d$	
	4-NMe <sub>2</sub>	<b>2a</b>	8.63	-0.83	16.42	9.39 (ref S4)	17.95 (ref S5)	151.55	-155.3
	4-Morpholino	<b>2b</b>	8.13		15.04	8.53 (ref S4)		144.47	-152.2
	4-MeO	<b>2c</b>	7.16	-0.27	11.99	6.58 (ref S6)	14.23 (ref S5)	135.27	-146.5
	H	<b>2d</b>	6.13	0	10.02	5.21 (ref S6)	12.53 (ref S5)	128.08	-141.7
	4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	5.42	0.43	8.78	3.35 (ref S6)			-134.9
	3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	4.83	0.37	7.44	2.81 (ref S6)	9.55 (ref S5)	118.79	-131.1
	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	4.52	0.54	6.71	2.63 (ref S7)	8.03 (ref S5)	115.75	-130.7
	4-CN	<b>2h</b>	3.92	0.66	6.08	1.86 (ref S6)	8.50 (ref S8)	113.27	-129.3
	3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	1.76	0.86		--			-118.8
	3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2.67	0.97		--			-117.5
	3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	1.43	1.22		--			-114.5
	3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	-0.75	1.42		--			-106.2
	4-Cl-3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2m</b>	-1.07	1.65		--			-102.9
2,6-(Me) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2n</b>	(-5.50)	--		6.72 (ref S9)	14.41 (ref S5)	97.73	-125.5	
R-CN	Me	<b>3a</b>	-0.48	--			60.39	-98.8	
	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3b</b>	-0.81	--		--		-93.4	
	4-MeO	<b>4a</b>	(2.43)	-0.27	17.00	4.57 (ref S10)	10.06 (ref S11)		-145.3
	H	<b>4b</b>	(0.87)	0	14.27	2.73 (ref S12)	7.64 (ref S11)		-138.4
	4-Cl	<b>4c</b>	(-0.11)	0.23	11.65	1.03 (ref S10)			-132.7
	4-MeO	<b>5a</b>	-1.99	-0.27			83.01	-88.5	
	4-Me	<b>5b</b>	-2.57	-0.17			77.82	-85.4	
	4-Br	<b>5c</b>	-2.99	0.23			73.09	-79.9	
	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>5d</b>	-3.29	0.54				-75.8	
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>5e</b>	-3.90	0.78			67.07	-73.9	
	3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>5f</b>	-6.12	1.42				-67.9	
	<b>6</b>	-5.38	--				59.4	-49.4	
	4-MeO	<b>7a</b>	-0.18	-0.27			84.81	-88.7	
	H	<b>7b</b>	-1.78	0			74.88	-80.8	
	4-Br	<b>7c</b>	-2.25	0.23				-77.7	
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>7d</b>	-3.76	0.78			62.32	-70.6	
	<b>8</b>	-0.73	--					-88.9	
		<b>9</b>	0.97	--			112.14	-105.7	
		<b>10</b>	2.51	--			119.28	-121.9	
			-1.0				78.77	-80.2	
		<b>11</b>	-0.90				51.62	-97.3	

<sup>a</sup> Sum of Hammett  $\sigma$  parameters, from ref S1. <sup>b</sup> Lewis basicities  $LB$  (in dichloromethane) toward diarylcarbenium ions from ref S13. <sup>c</sup> Experimental  $BF_3$  affinities (in kJ/mol), from ref S14. <sup>d</sup> Calculated borane ( $BH_3$ ) affinities  $BA$  in dichloromethane ( $BA = \Delta G_{BH_3}$  in kJ/mol, this work, Supporting Information).



**Figure S2.** (a) Correlation of  $LB_B$  with the sum of Hammett substituent parameters  $\sigma^{S1}$  for the different classes of compounds investigated in this study with data summarized in Table S3. (b) Correlation of  $LB_B$  for pyridines with their  $pK_{aH}$  in MeCN (with data from Table S3).

## II. General

**Solvents, Reagents, and Analytcs.** Triarylboranes were prepared according to the modified literature procedures as outlined below using commercially available chemicals purchased from Sigma Aldrich, ABCR or TCI. Trimesitylborane (**1j**) was purchased from EGA-Chemie KG and used without further purification.  $Ph_3B \cdot NaOH$  was purchased from TCI. All boranes were stored in an argon-filled glove box at  $-35\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . Hydrazine monohydrate (prium, > 99%) was purchased from Fluka.

Dichloromethane for isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) measurements was purchased from Merck (HPLC grade) and stirred over concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  for 2 weeks to remove olefinic stabilizers. Subsequently, distillation over calcium hydride provided anhydrous material which was stored for 24 h over activated molecular sieves (3 Å).

Deuterated dichloromethane ( $CD_2Cl_2$ ) was purchased from Eurisotop and stored for 24 h over activated molecular sieves (3 Å).

Melting points were acquired on Büchi Melting Point M-560 devices and are not corrected.

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were acquired on 400 MHz spectrometers. The following abbreviations and their combinations were used in the analysis of NMR spectra: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br s = broad singlet, app = apparent. NMR signals were assigned based on information from additional 2D NMR experiments (COSY, gHSQC, gHMBC, NOESY). Chemical shifts are given in ppm. Internal reference was set to the residual solvent signals (for  $CD_2Cl_2$ :  $\delta_H = 5.32$ ,  $\delta_C = 54.00$ ,  $CDCl_3$ :  $\delta_H = 7.26$ ,  $\delta_C = 77.16$ ; for  $d_6$ -DMSO:  $\delta_H = 2.50$ ,  $\delta_C = 39.52$ ).<sup>S15</sup> The  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra (101 MHz) were recorded under broad-band proton-decoupling.

High resolution (HRMS) mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan MAT 95 sectorfield mass spectrometer where samples were vaporized on a platinum wire from 20 to 1600  $^\circ\text{C}$  at a rate of 120  $^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$ . For ionization of the samples, electron-impact ionization (EI) was applied.

**Isothermal Titration Calorimetry (ITC).** The ITC measurements were performed on a Microcal VP-ITC instrument with solutions maintained under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen. The reference cell was filled with dichloromethane and the sample cell was filled with a solution of the borane in the same solvent. The syringe was filled with a solution of the Lewis base in dichloromethane, which was then gradually injected (6  $\mu\text{L}/\text{injection}$ , 40 steps, 120 s spacing between injections) into the sample cell. The ITC raw data were processed and analyzed with the AFFINimeter ITC software (v.2.1710) assuming a 1:1 interaction model.<sup>S16</sup>

**NMR Spectroscopic Titrations.** NMR spectroscopic titration experiments were performed with a series of NMR tubes that were handled in an argon filled glovebox and filled with anhydrous CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solutions. In most cases, the borane was used as the minor component. Only in case of tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**1i**), the Lewis base was used as minor component and treated with an excess of **1i**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR measurements were performed on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer at 22 °C. The resulting dependency of the chemical shift difference  $\Delta\delta$  (in ppm, referenced to the residual solvent signal in *d*<sub>2</sub>-dichloromethane) of the resonance of the Lewis acid (or Lewis base for reactions with **1i**) vs. the concentration of the excess component was analyzed according to the equation (S1) by non-linear fitting with the Origin software.<sup>S17</sup> For the detailed derivation of Eq (S1) see ref.<sup>S18</sup>. The only variable in Eq (S1) is  $K_B$ , all other quantities are known from the concentrations used in the titrations.

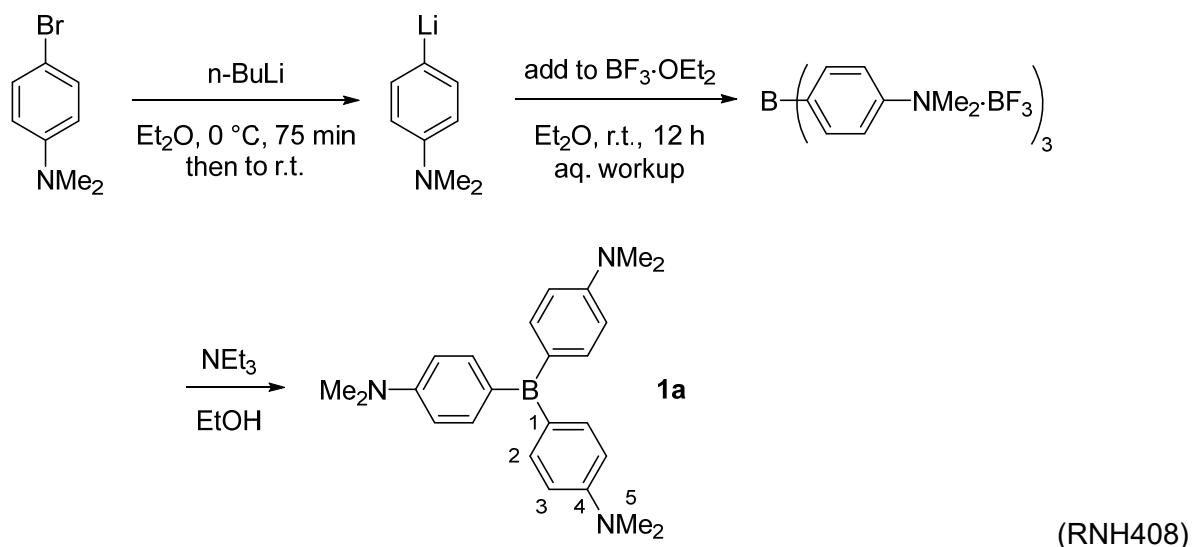
$$\Delta\delta = \frac{\Delta\delta_{\max}}{[LA]} \left( \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left( [LA] + [LB] + \frac{1}{K_B} \right) - \sqrt{\left( [LA] + [LB] + \frac{1}{K_B} \right)^2 + 4[LA][LB]} \right\} \right) \quad (S1)$$



### III. Synthesis

#### Tris(4-dimethylaminophenyl)borane (**1a**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. <sup>S19</sup>.



To a flame dried 100 mL Schlenk flask under nitrogen was added diethyl ether (27 mL) and 4-(dimethylamino)bromobenzene (3.58 g, 17.9 mmol). The resulting solution was cooled to 0 °C. Under stirring *n*-BuLi (2.3 M, 7.78 mL, 17.9 mmol) was added. Then the mixture was stirred for further 75 min at 0 °C and subsequently allowed to warm to room temperature.

In a separate flame dried 100 mL Schlenk flask under nitrogen was dissolved freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (2.62 mL, 21.3 mmol) in diethyl ether (25 mL). Under stirring, the solution of the above prepared aryl lithium species was added dropwise causing the formation of a cloudy, yellowish precipitate. After stirring overnight, water (20 mL) was added. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous phase placed on a rotary evaporator (40 °C, 300 mbar) to remove residual diethyl ether. The aqueous phase was filtrated, and a solution of triethylamine (1.80 g, 17.8 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL) was added. The resulting yellow precipitate was separated, washed several times with water and then methanol, and finally dried under reduced pressure (crude yield: 605 mg).

For purification, that crude material was suspended in acetone (10 mL), heated under reflux for 2.5 h and the hot mixture filtrated. The solution was concentrated to dryness and the residue recrystallized from acetone to give the borane (148 mg, 7%) as yellow, fluorescent solid.

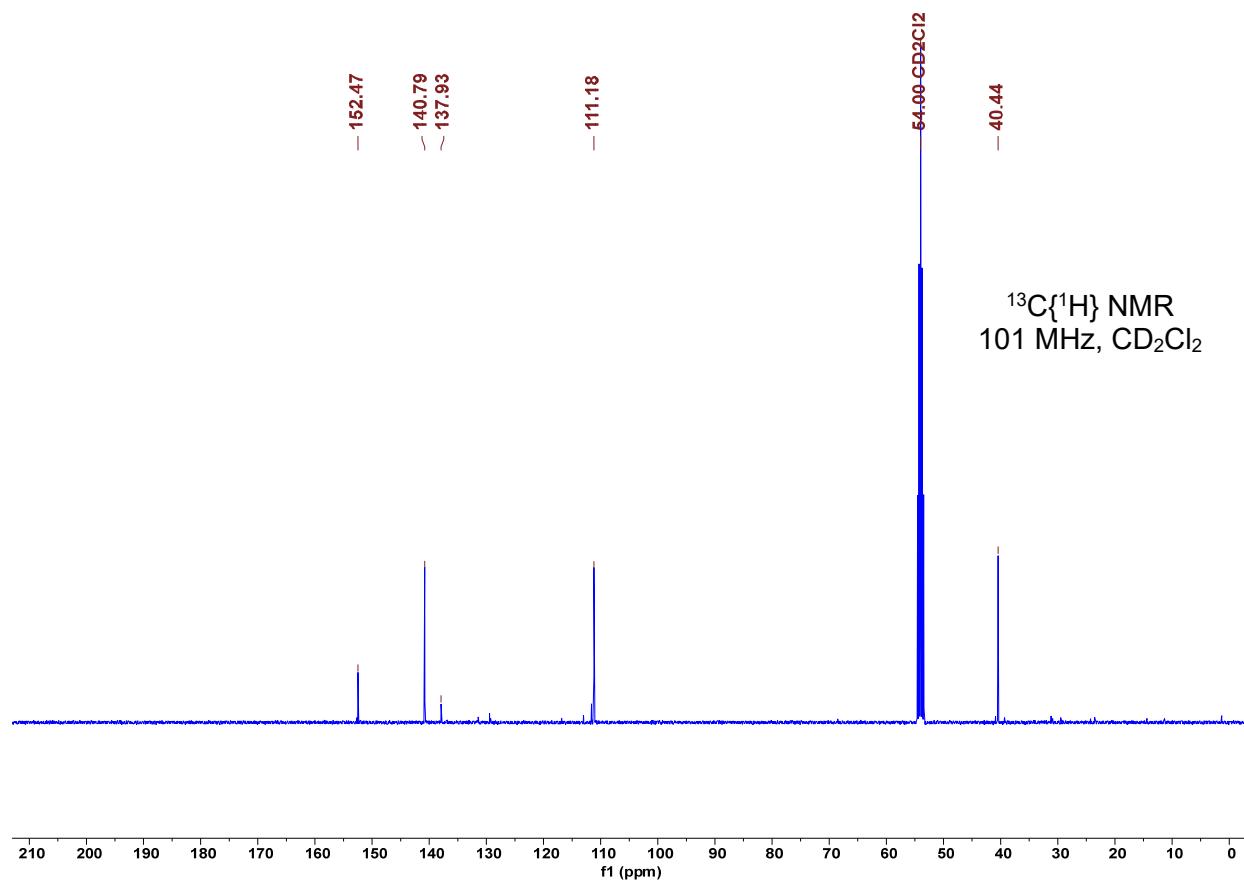
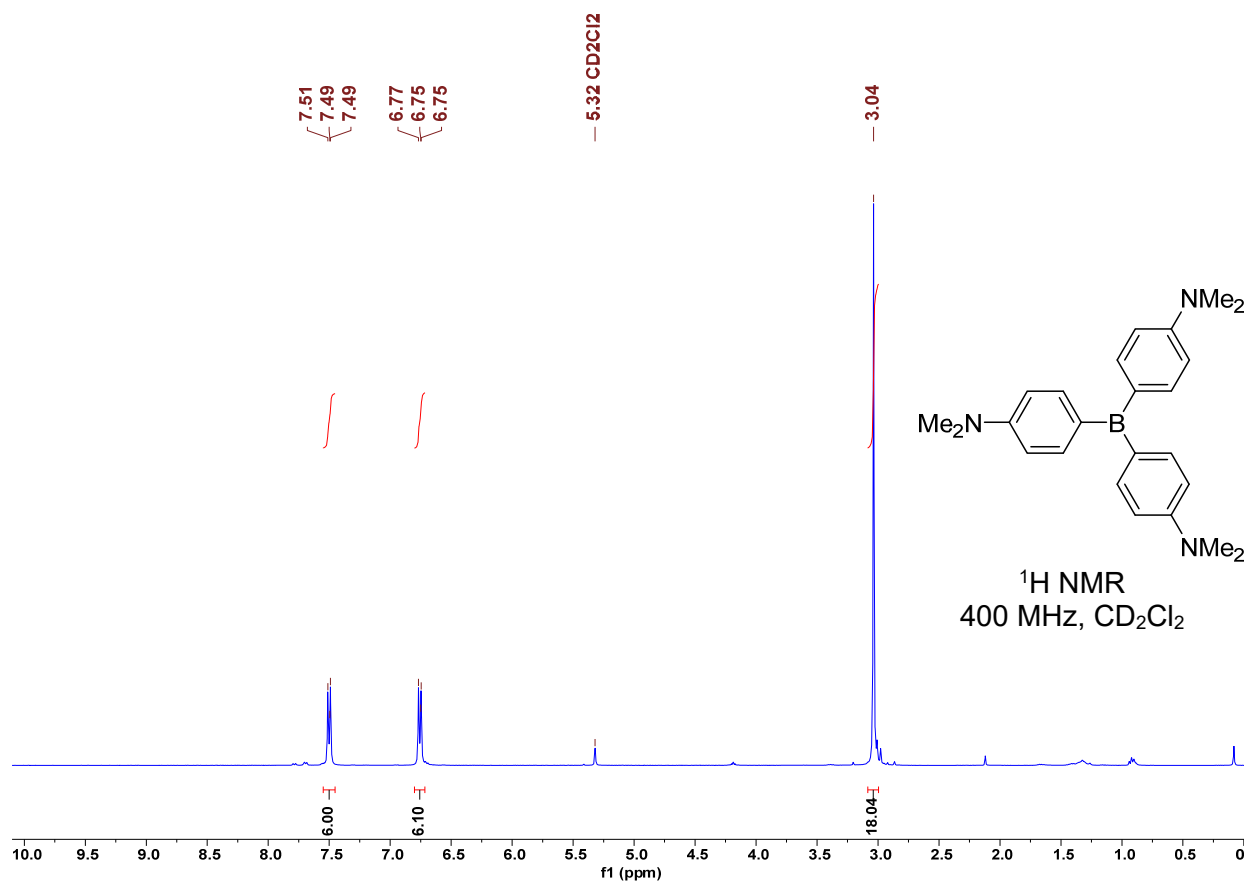
Though borane **1a** is not particularly sensitive towards moisture, we stored it in an argon filled glovebox at -35 °C. Under nitrogen, initially colorless diluted solutions of **1a** in dichloromethane turned intense yellow after exposure to light.

Mp.: 199-221 °C (ref. <sup>S19</sup>: mp 209-212 °C)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.51–7.49 (m, 6 H), 6.77–6.75 (m, 6 H), 3.04 (s, 18 H).

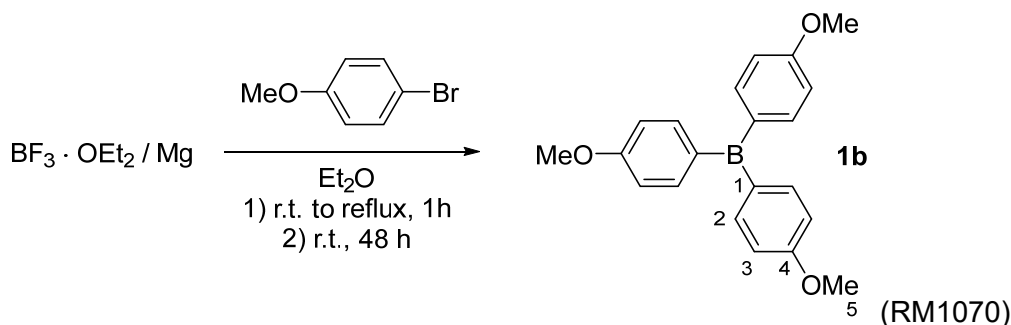
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 152.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-4), 140.8 (CH, C-2), 137.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 111.2 (CH, C-3), 40.4 ( $\text{CH}_3$ , C-5).

HRMS ( $\text{EI}^+$ ) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{BN}_3^{++}$  ( $\text{M}^{++}$ ) 371.2527; found 371.2538.



### Tris(4-methoxyphenyl)borane (**1b**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S20](#).



A 100 mL Schlenk flask with reflux condenser was charged with magnesium turnings (854 mg, 35.1 mmol), flame dried under vacuum, and filled with dry nitrogen. Diethyl ether (20 mL) and freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (1.26 mL, 10.0 mmol) were added. To the vigorously stirred mixture, a solution of 4-bromoanisole (3.78 mL, 30.2 mmol) in diethyl ether (20 mL) was added. The Grignard reaction was initiated by the addition of 2 drops of iodomethane and careful heating to reflux causing the suspension to turn yellow. The mixture was heated to reflux for 3 h, allowed to cool to room temperature, and then stirred for another 64 h. All volatiles were subsequently removed under reduced pressure. The residue was suspended in *n*-hexane (50 mL) and filtered through a Schlenk-frit. The resulting yellow solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to leave a yellow solid residue, which was recrystallized from *n*-hexane to afford the product (1.22 g, 37%) as yellowish, crystalline solid.

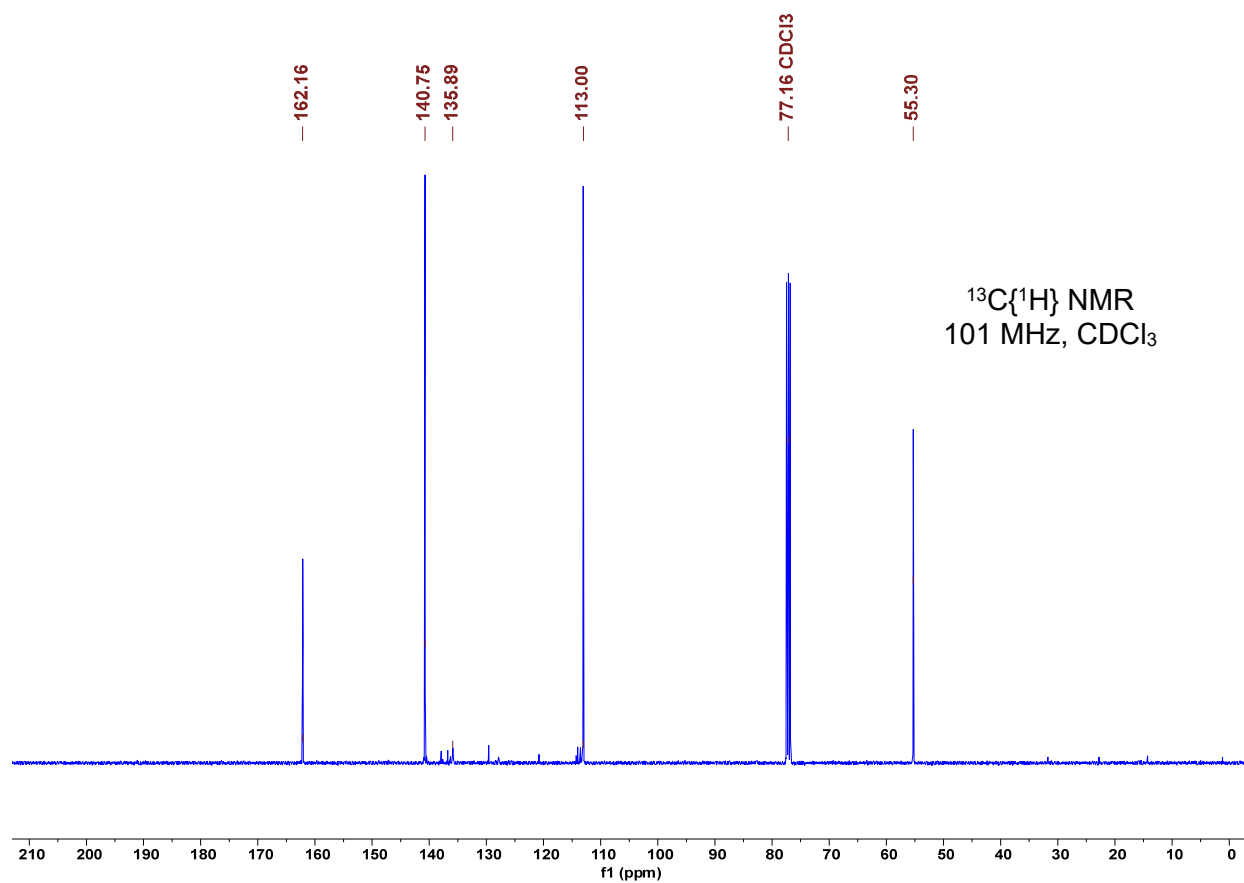
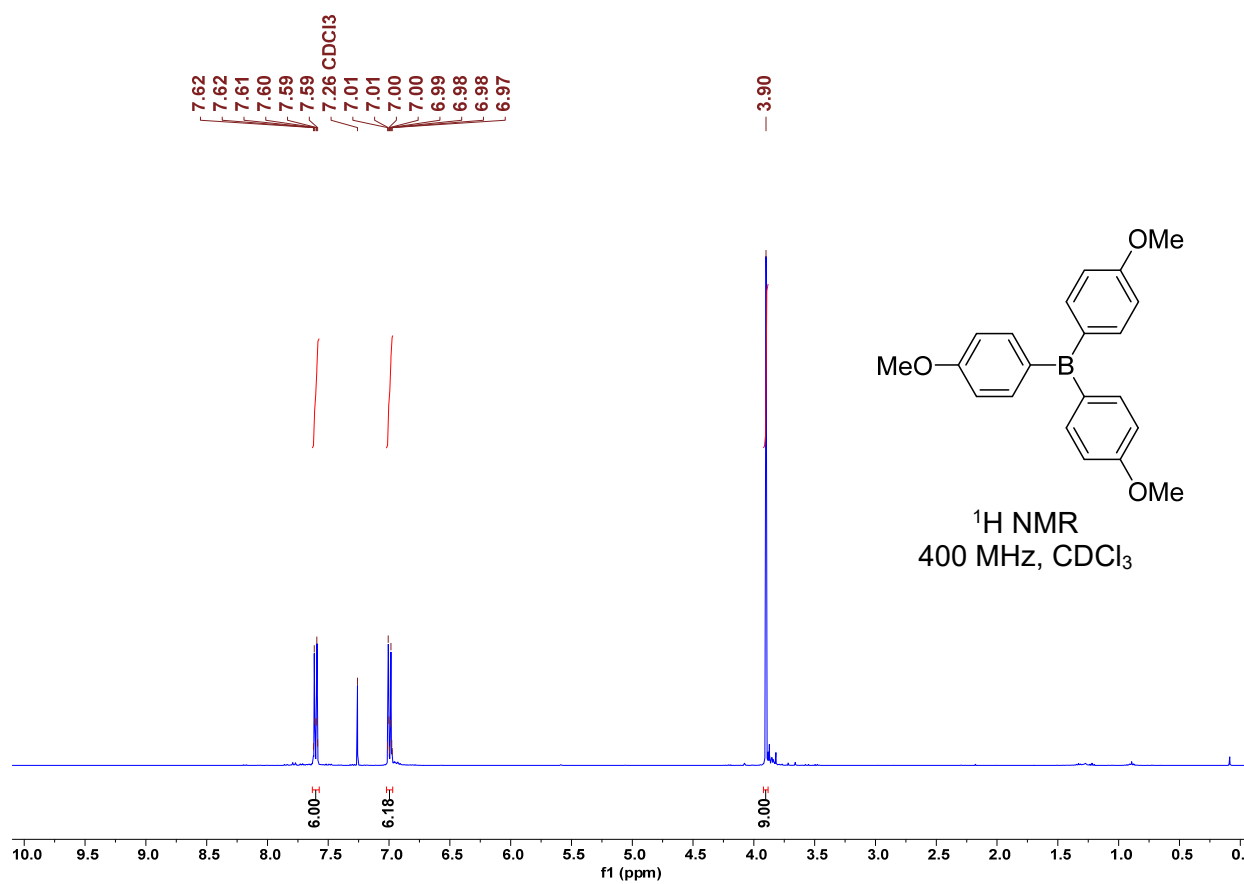
Mp.: 80-95 °C (ref. [S21](#): mp 128 °C)

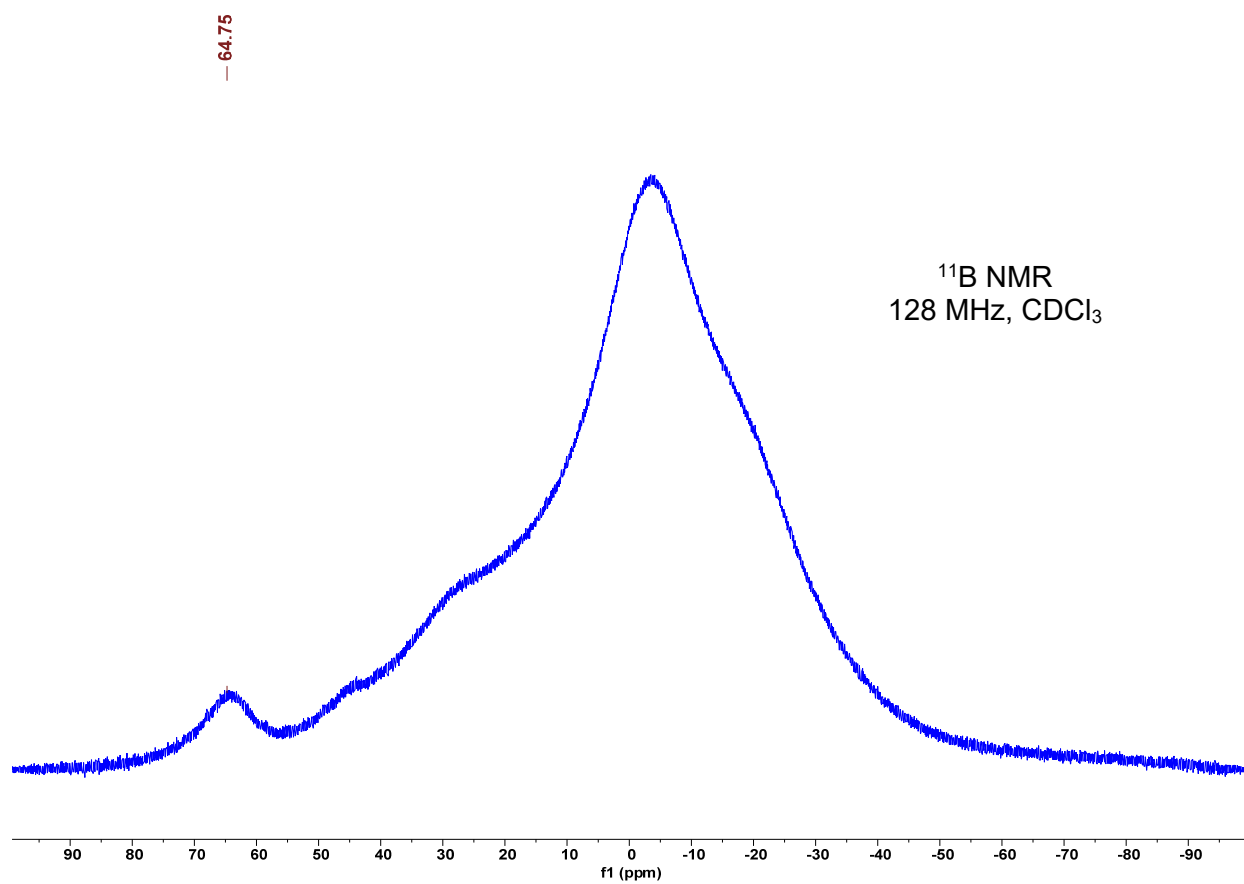
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 7.62–7.59 (m, 6 H, 2-H), 7.01–6.97 (m, 6 H, 3-H), 3.90 (s, 9 H, 5-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 162.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-4), 140.7 (CH, C-2), 135.9 (br,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 113.0 (CH, C-3), 55.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ , C-5).

$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 64.8.

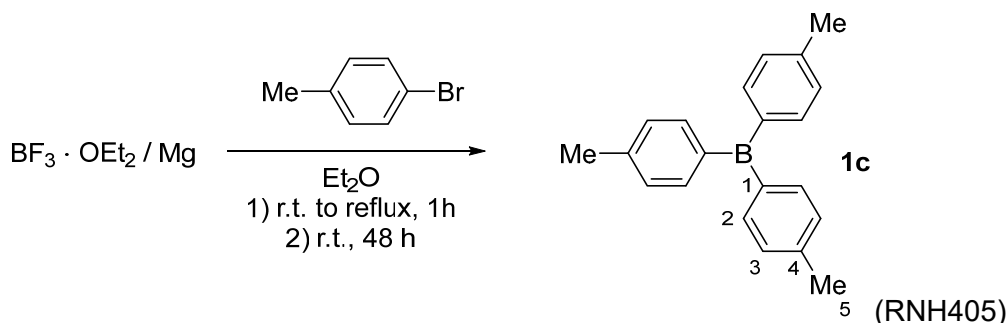
HRMS ( $\text{EI}^+$ ) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{BO}_3^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 332.1578; found 332.1571.





### Tris(4-methylphenyl)borane (1c)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S20](#).



A 100 mL Schlenk flask with reflux condenser was charged with magnesium turnings (853 mg, 35.1 mmol), flame dried under vacuum, and filled with dry nitrogen. Diethyl ether (20 mL), a crystal of iodine and freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (1.26 mL, 10.0 mmol) were added. To the vigorously stirred mixture, a solution of 4-bromotoluene (3.74 mL, 30.2 mmol) in diethyl ether (20 mL) was added. The Grignard reaction was initiated by careful heating causing the suspension to turn yellow. The mixture was stirred for another 12 h. Volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was suspended in *n*-hexane (40 mL) and stirred for 30 minutes or until the residue was finely suspended. The suspension was filtered through a Schlenk-frit. The solid was washed with *n*-hexane (10 mL), and the clear filtrate concentrated to dryness. The crude product was recrystallized from *n*-hexane to give the borane (646 mg, 23%) as colorless, crystalline solid. Further concentration of the mother liquor afforded additional material of lower quality, which was not used in our experiments.

Mp.: 150 °C (ref. [S19](#): mp 142-144 °C)

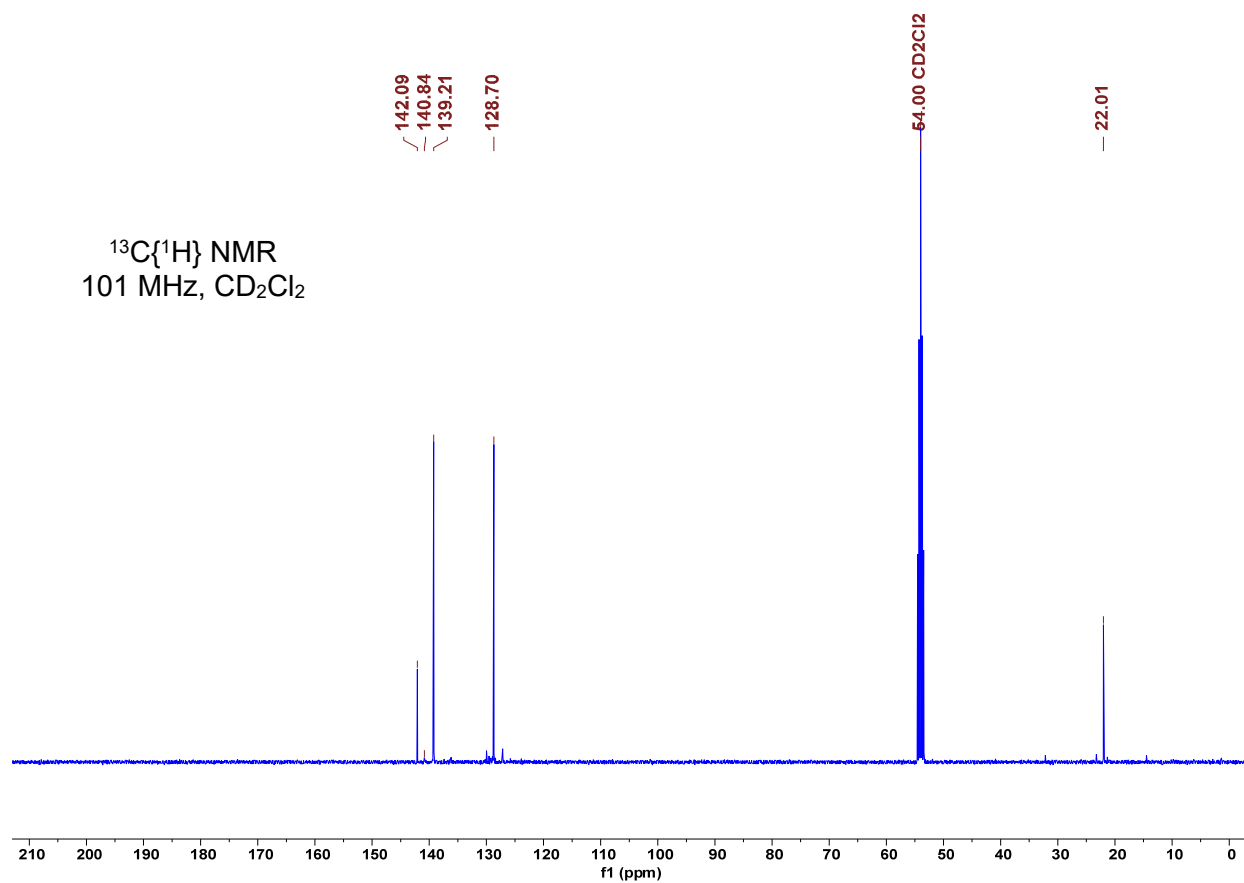
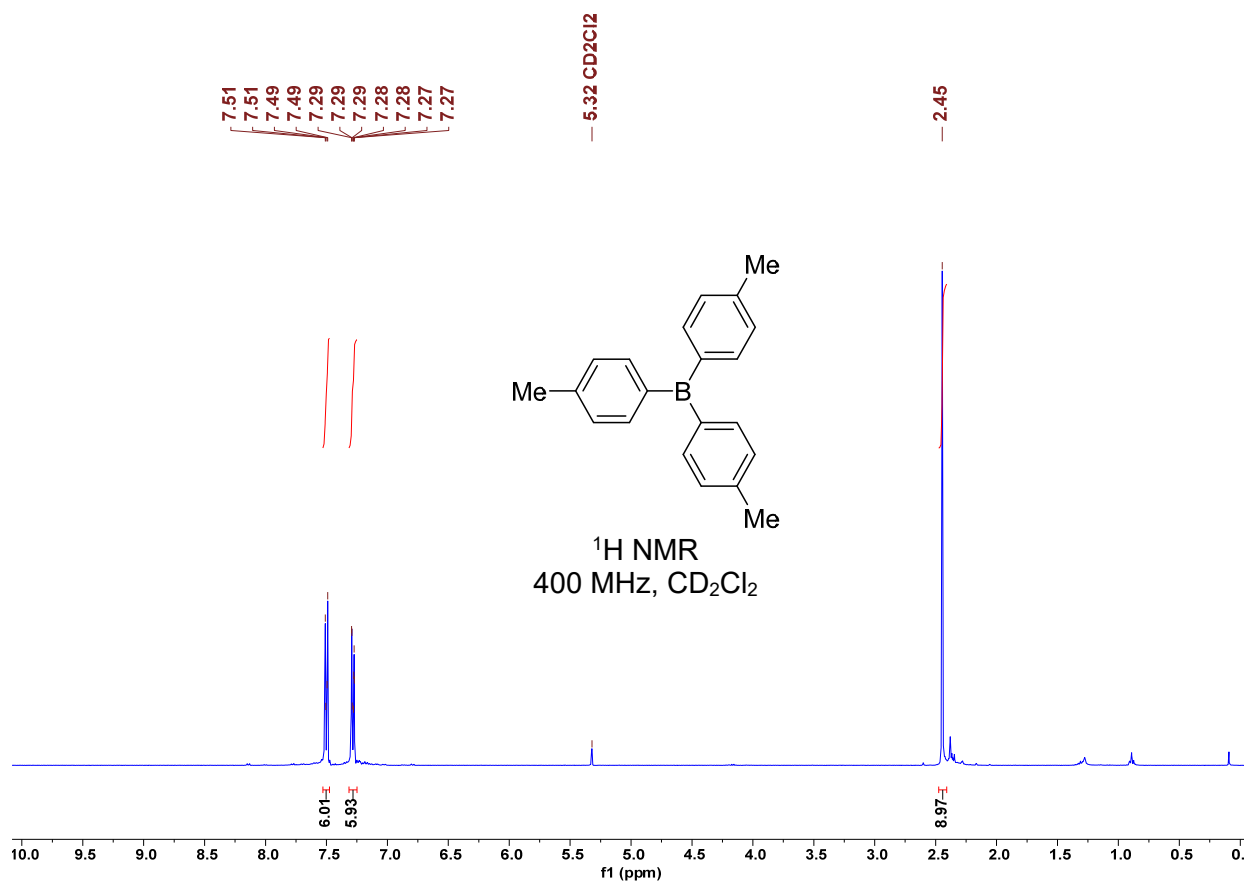
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.51–7.49 (m, 6 H, 2-H), 7.29–7.27 (m, 6 H, 3-H), 2.45 (s, 9 H, 5-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 142.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-4), 140.8 (br,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 139.2 (CH, C-2), 128.7 (CH, C-3), 22.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ , C-5).

$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 66.8.

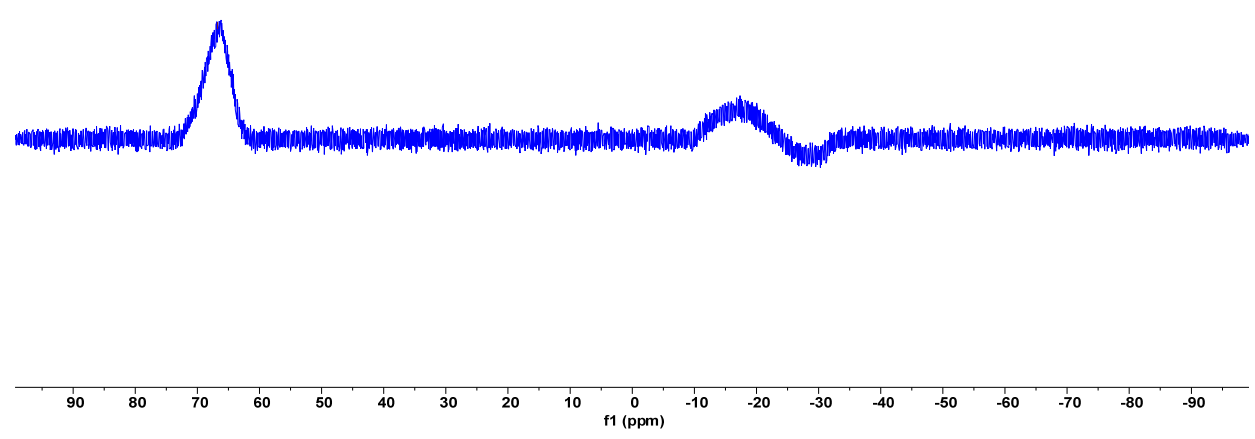
HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{B}^+$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 284.1731; found 284.1717.

NMR data agree with those reported in ref. [S22](#).



— 66.75

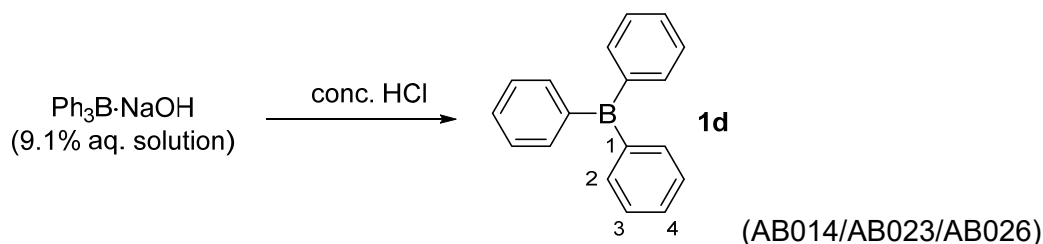
<sup>11</sup>B NMR  
128 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(quartz NMR tube,  
spectrum after baseline  
correction)





## Triphenylborane (**1d**)

Triphenylborane from various commercial sources was not of sufficient quality for our experiments. Starting from an aqueous solution of the adduct  $\text{Ph}_3\text{B}\cdot\text{NaOH}$  and following the procedure described in ref. [S23](#) yielded pure **1d**.



In a 100 mL Schlenk flask under nitrogen was placed a commercial solution of 9.1 w% aq  $\text{Ph}_3\text{B}\cdot\text{NaOH}$  (25 g, 8.1 mmol). Careful addition of conc. hydrochloric acid (ca. 3 mL in total, pH 1) caused the formation of a colorless precipitate, which was isolated immediately by filtration through a Schlenk-frit under nitrogen (according to the literature, the freshly formed  $\text{Ph}_3\text{B}$  is highly oxygen sensitive and decomposes rapidly in acidic aq solution [S23b](#)). The solid material was washed with water and dried under reduced pressure. The crude product was recrystallized from *n*-heptane (7 mL) to give **1d** (1.65 g, 84%) as colorless, crystalline needles which were further purified by sublimation (120 °C,  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mbar).

$\text{Ph}_3\text{B}$  was found to be highly air and moisture sensitive. Already during the time needed for NMR characterization small amounts of decomposed material were observed.

Mp.: 128-133 °C (ref. [S24](#): mp 142 °C)

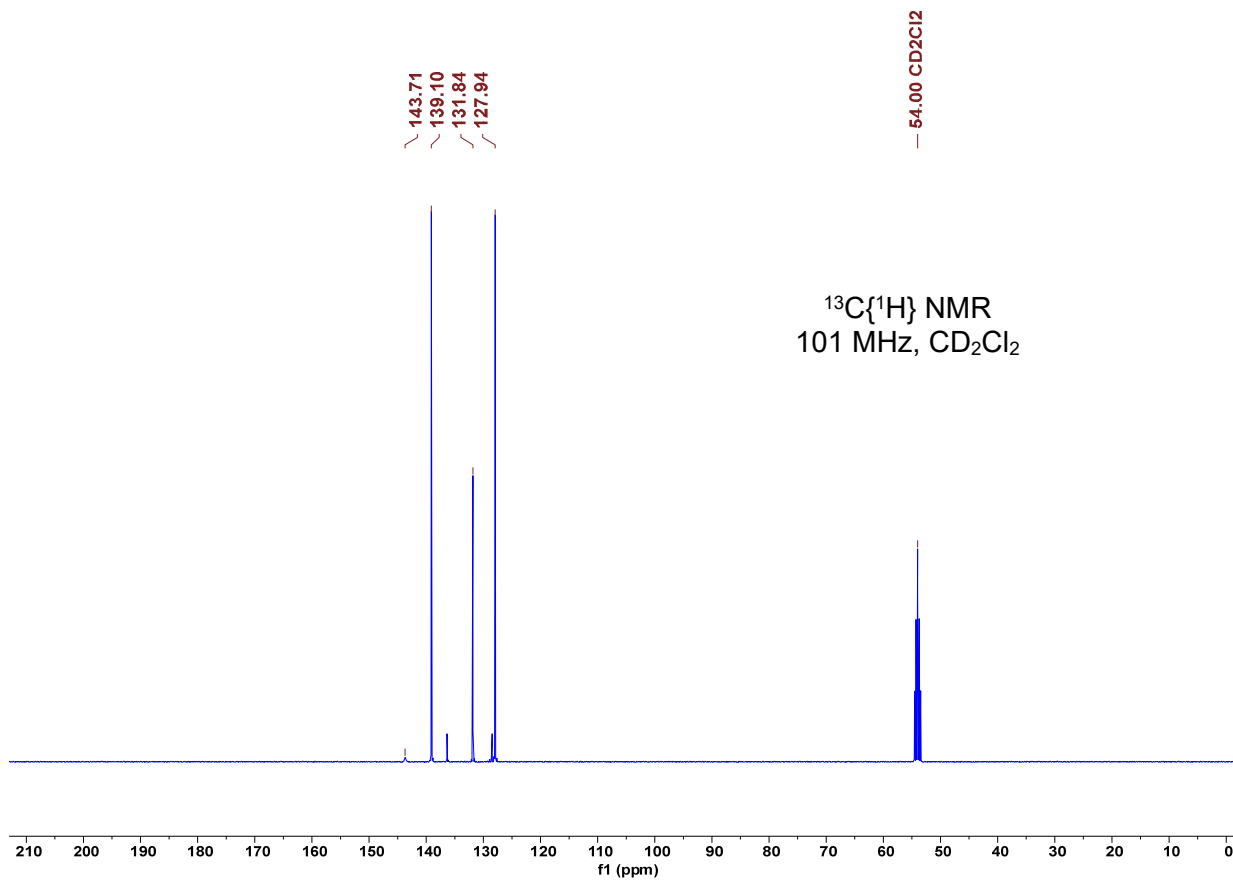
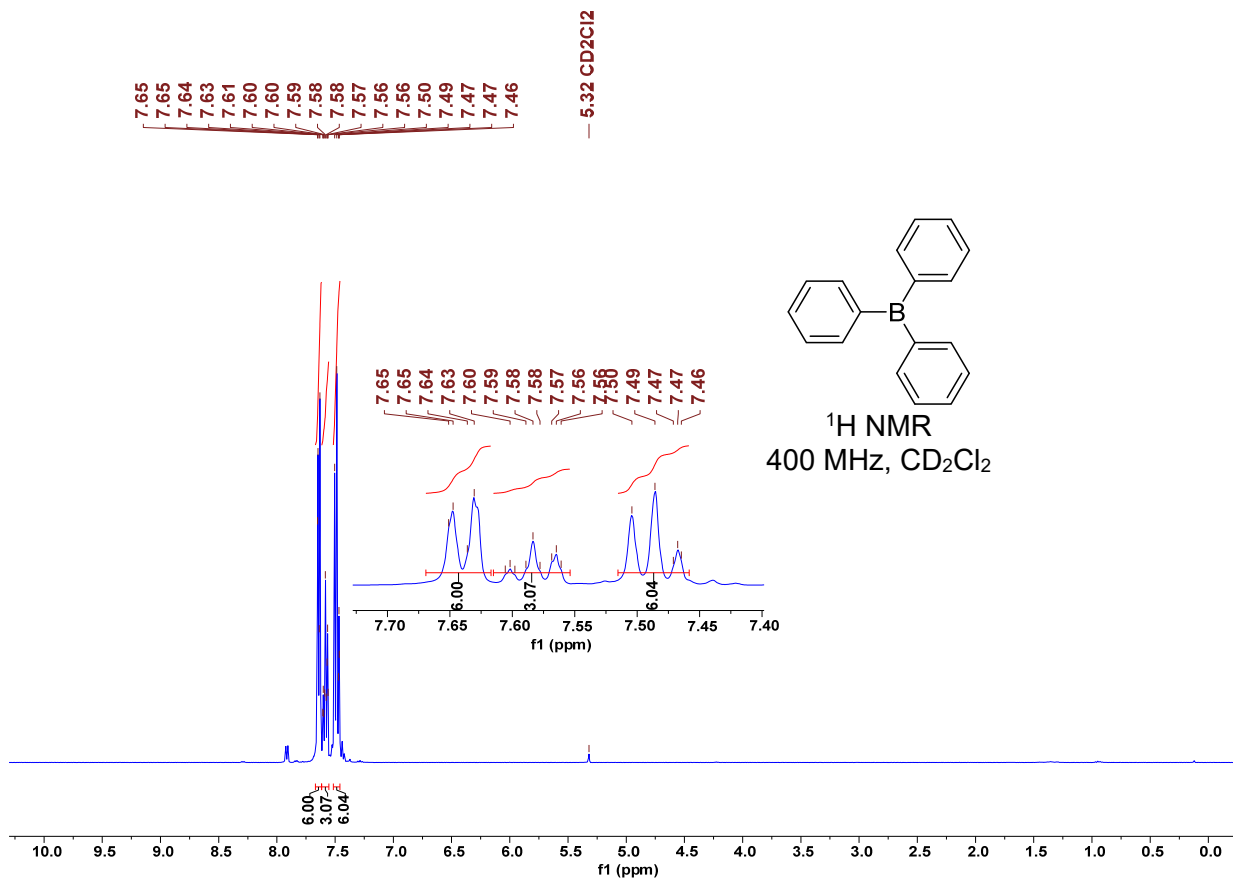
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.65–7.63 (m, 2 H, 2-H), 7.60–7.56 (m, 1 H, 4-H), 7.50–7.46 (m, 2 H, 3-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 143.7 (br,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 139.1 (CH, C-2), 131.8 (CH, C-4), 127.9 (CH, C-3).

$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 67.9.

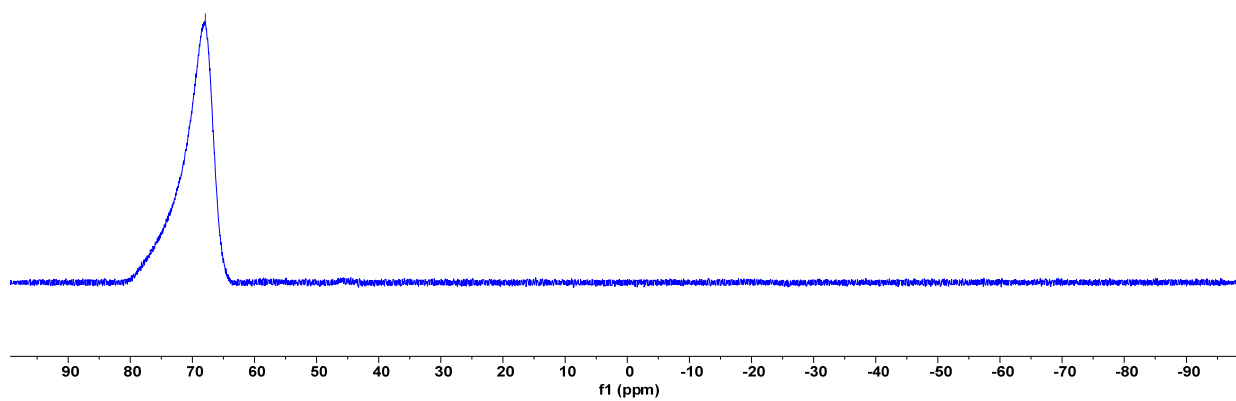
HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{B}^{++}$  ( $\text{M}^{++}$ ) 242.1261; found 242.1249.

NMR data agree with those reported in ref. [S25](#).



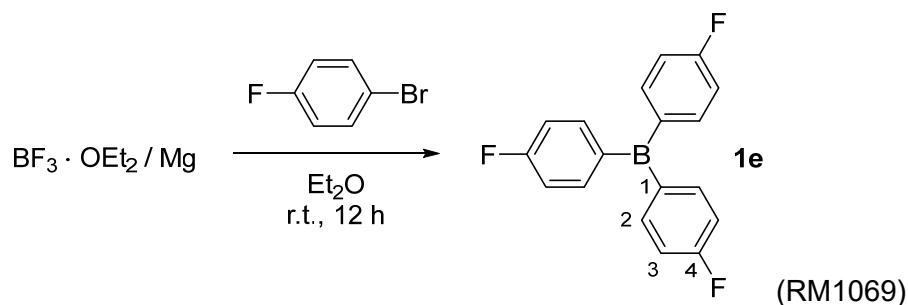
— 67.91

<sup>11</sup>B NMR  
128 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(quartz NMR tube,  
spectrum after  
baseline correction)



### Tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (**1e**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S20](#).



A 100 mL Schlenk flask with reflux condenser was charged with magnesium turnings (854 mg, 35.1 mmol), flame dried under vacuum, and filled with dry nitrogen. Diethyl ether (20 mL) and freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (1.26 mL, 10.0 mmol) were added. To the vigorously stirred mixture, a solution of 4-bromo-1-fluorobenzene (3.30 mL, 30.2 mmol) in diethyl ether (20 mL) was added. The Grignard reaction was initiated by heating causing the suspension to turn brownish. The mixture was stirred for another 12 h to give a mixture of liquid two phases, whereupon all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to form a solid. The residue was suspended in *n*-hexane (40 mL) and filtered through a Schlenk-frit and washed with *n*-hexane (10 mL) to give a clear filtrate, which was concentrated to dryness to give a solid residue. The crude product was recrystallized from *n*-hexane to give the borane **1e** (955 mg, 32%) as a soft yellow, crystalline solid.

Mp.: 99-113 °C

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.63–7.59 (m, 6 H, 2-H), 7.21–7.15 (m, 6 H, 3-H).

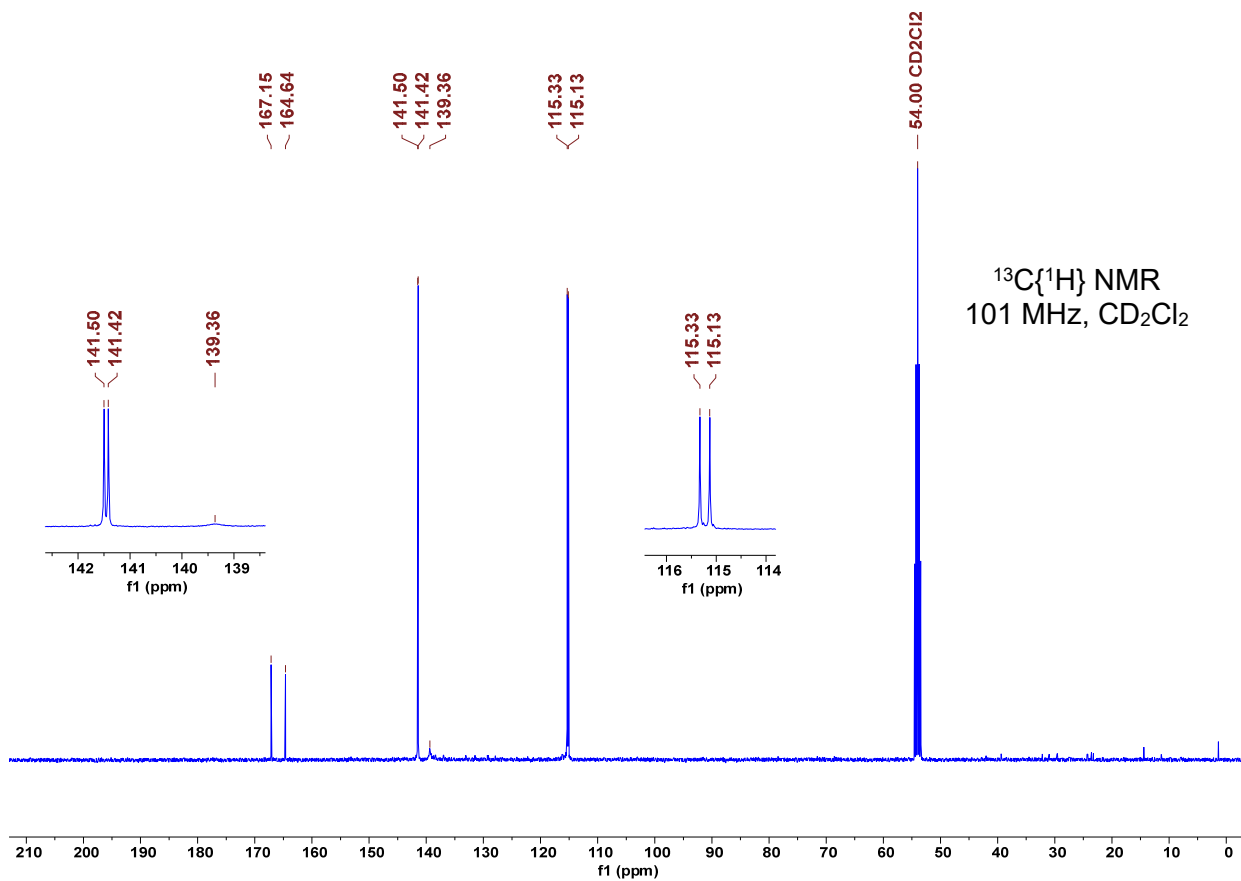
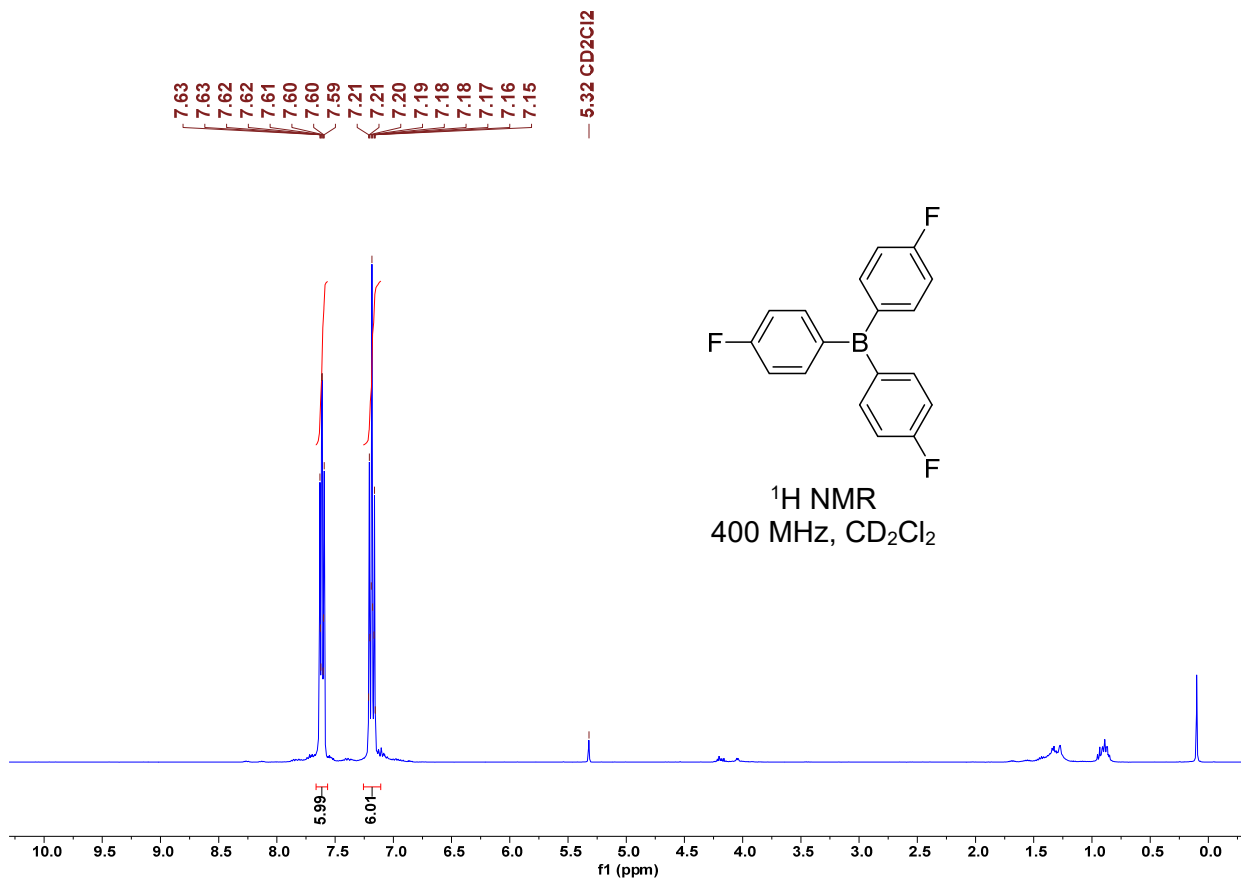
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 165.9 (d,  $\text{C}_q$ ,  $J_{\text{C},\text{F}}$  = 252.0 Hz, C-4), 141.5 (d, CH,  $J_{\text{C},\text{F}}$  = 8.4 Hz, C-2), 139.4 (br,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 115.2 (d, CH,  $J_{\text{C},\text{F}}$  = 20.0 Hz, C-3).

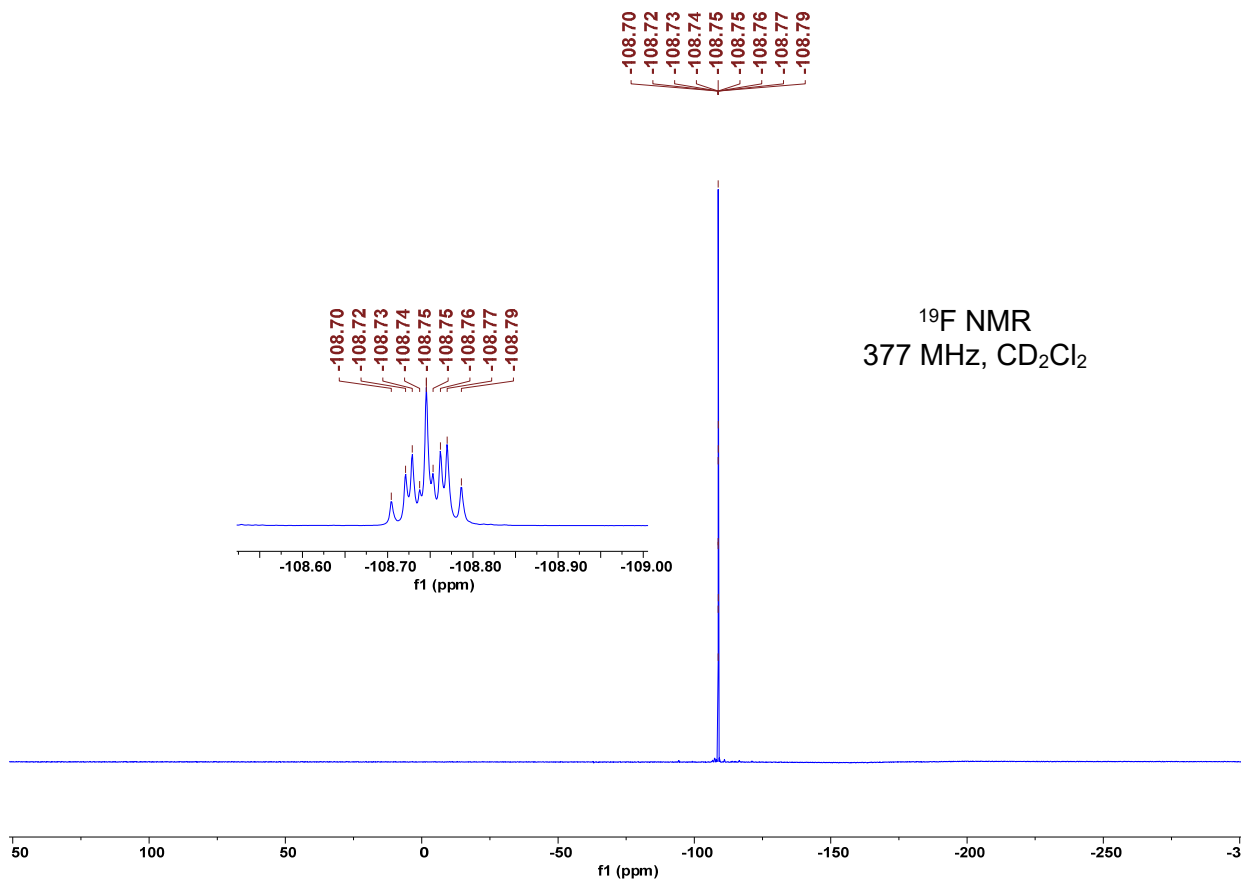
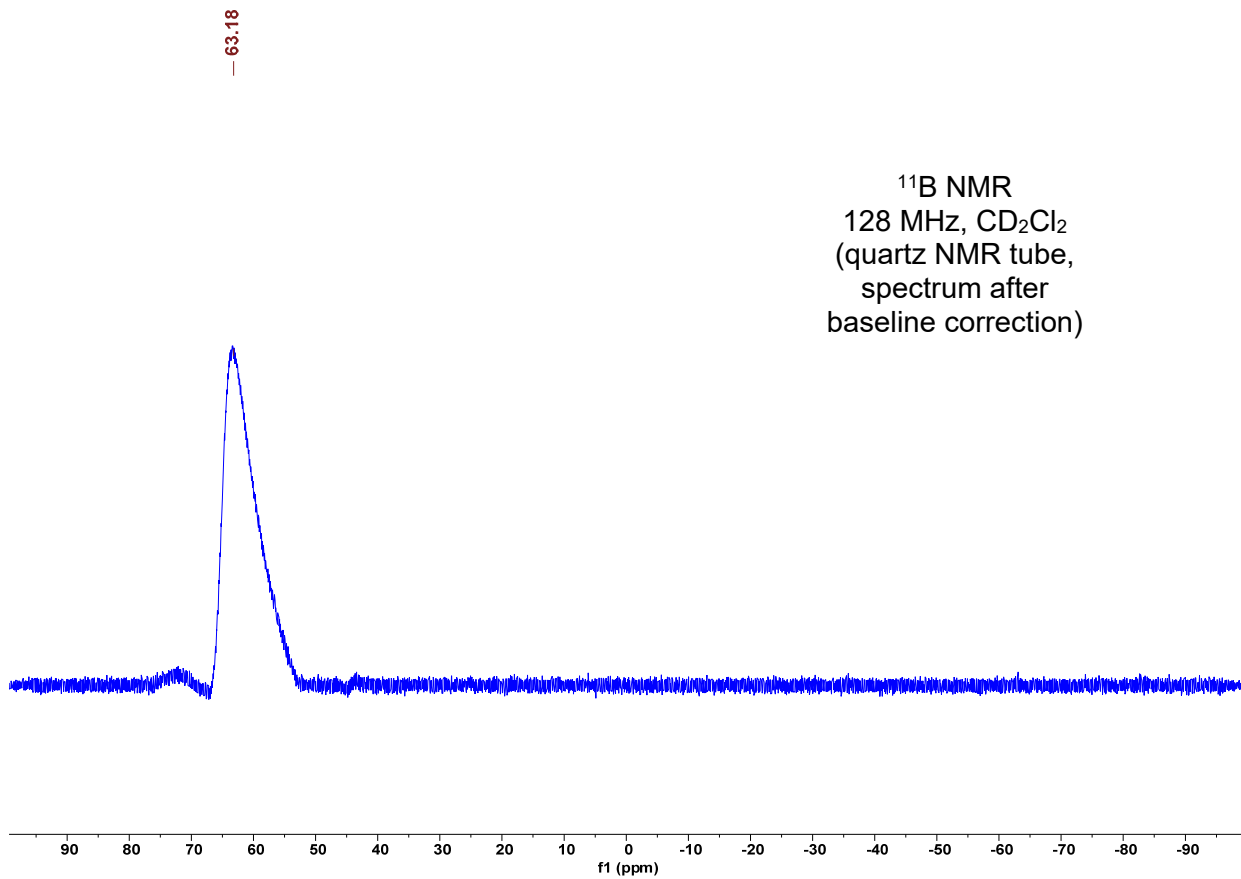
$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 63.2.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = -108.75 (tt,  $J$  = 9.3, 6.3 Hz)

HRMS ( $\text{EI}^+$ ) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{B}^{++}$  ( $\text{M}^{++}$ ) 296.0979; found 296.0984.

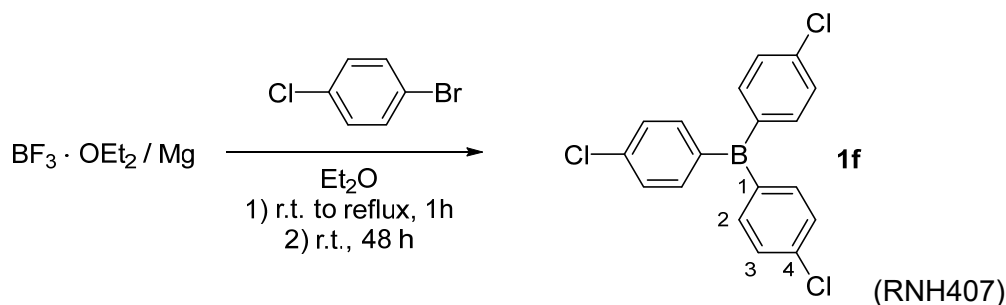
NMR data agree with those reported in ref. [S26](#).





### Tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (**1f**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S20](#).



A 100 mL Schlenk flask with reflux condenser was charged with magnesium turnings (853 mg, 35.1 mmol), flame dried under vacuum, and filled with dry nitrogen. Diethyl ether (20 mL) and freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (1.26 mL, 10.0 mmol) were added. To the vigorously stirred mixture, a solution of 4-bromo-1-chlorobenzene (5.78 g, 30.2 mmol) in diethyl ether (20 mL) was added. After about 10 mL of the bromoarene solution was added, heat was applied to initiate the Grignard reaction. Then the remaining 4-bromo-1-chlorobenzene solution was added. The mixture was stirred for another 12 h. Then volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was suspended in dichloromethane (40 mL) and filtrated through a Schlenk-frit. The clear solution was concentrated to dryness and the residue purified by sublimation (191 °C,  $1.6 \times 10^{-2}$  mbar) to give **1e** (885 mg, 26%) as colorless to pale yellow crystals.

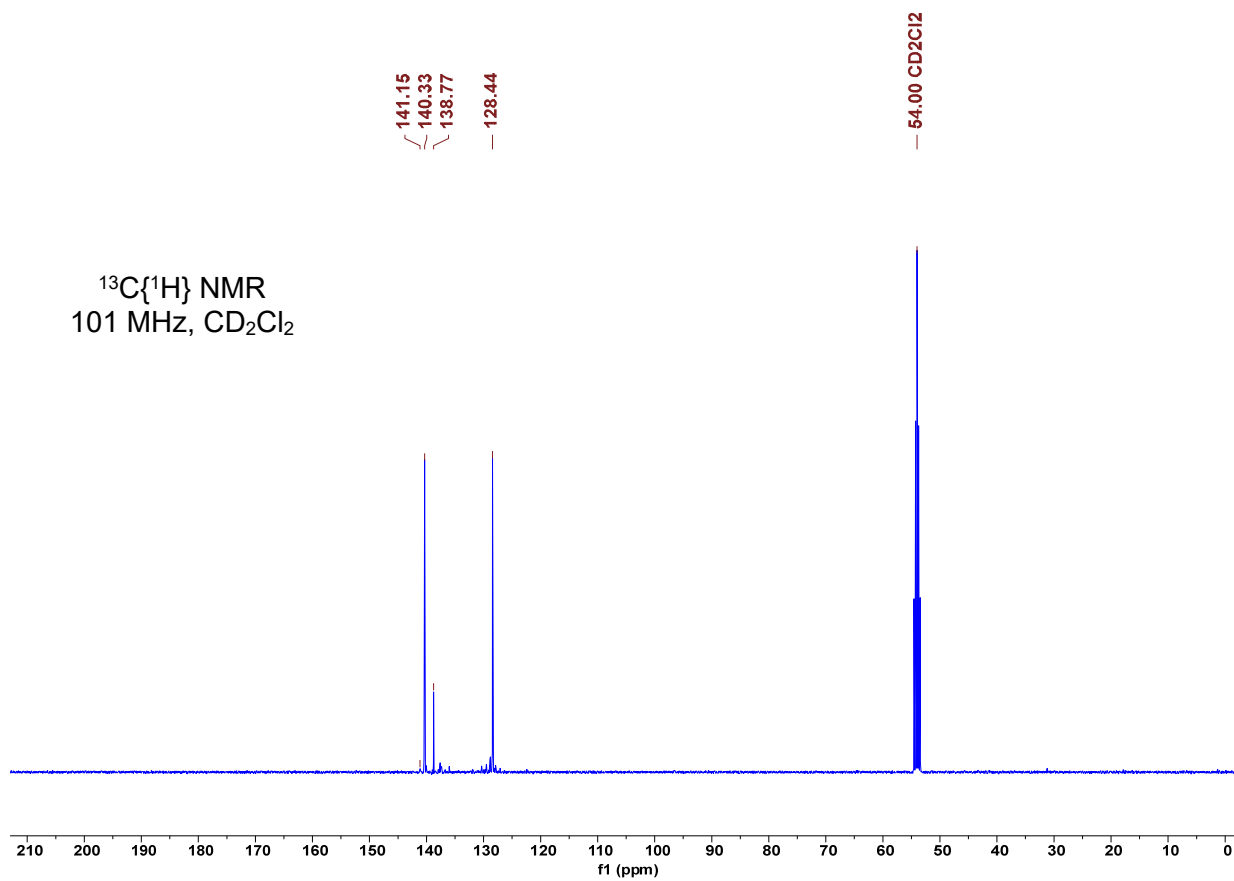
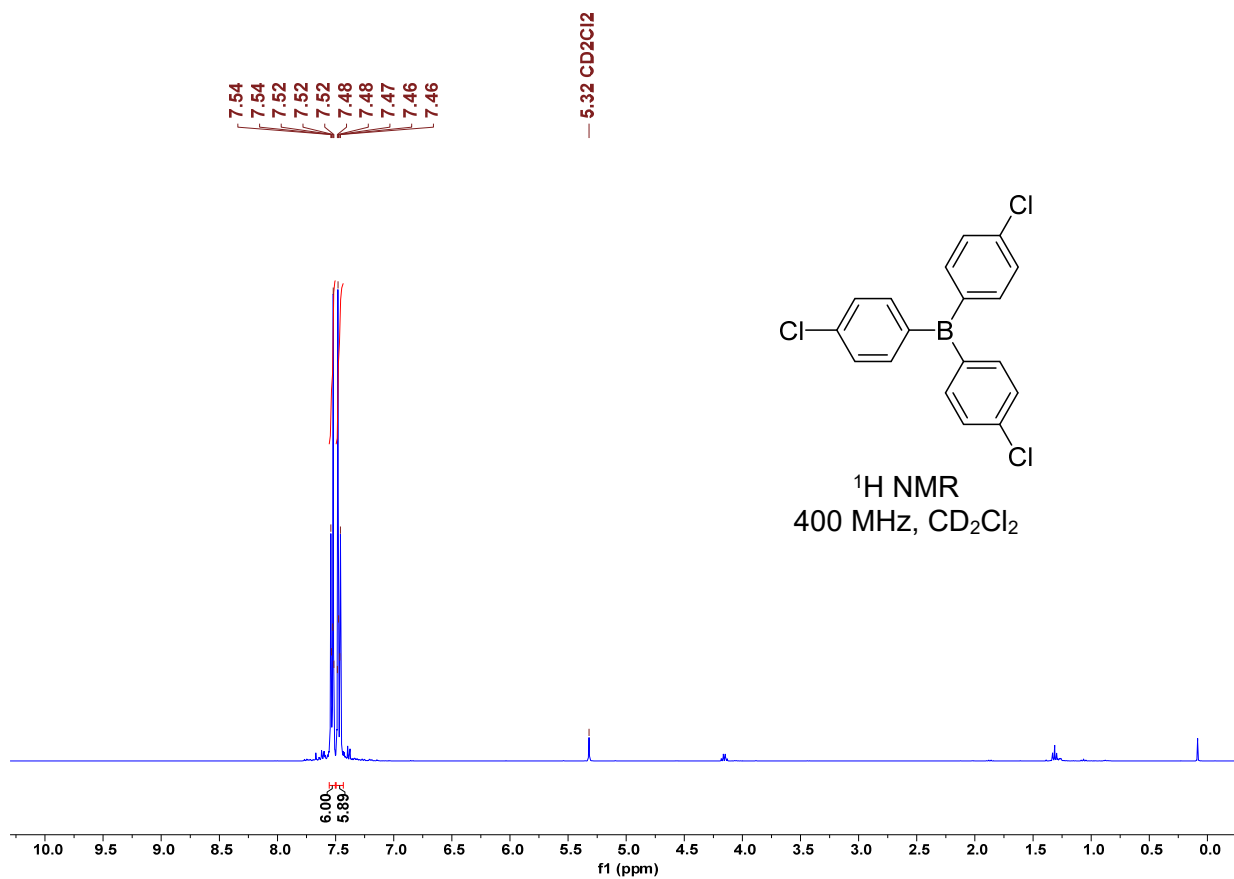
Mp.: 166 °C (ref. [S27](#): mp 197-202 °C)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.54–7.52 (m, 6 H), 7.48–7.46 (m, 6 H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 141.2 (br,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-4), 140.3 (CH), 138.8 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-1), 128.4 (CH).

$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 66.3.

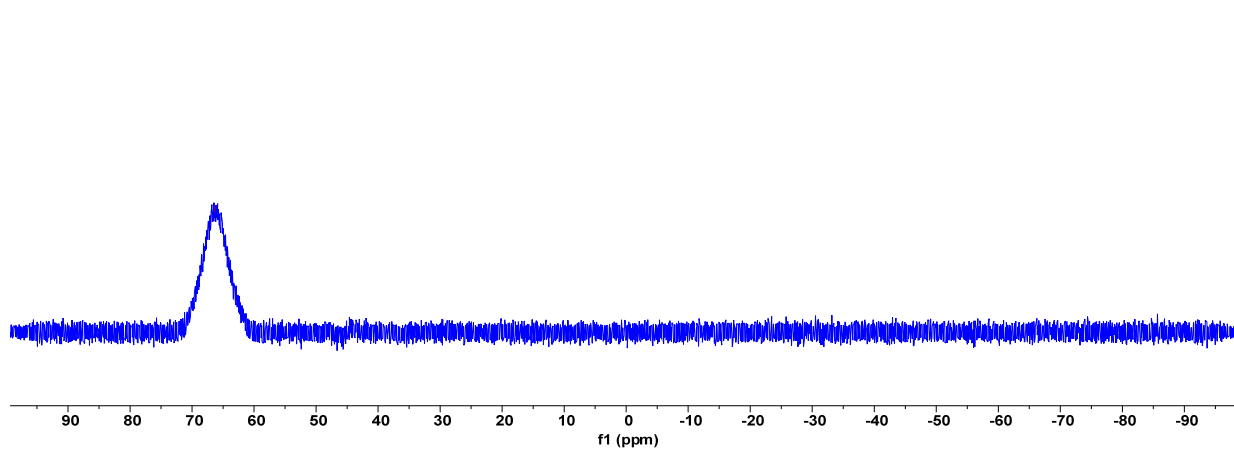
HRMS ( $\text{EI}^+$ ) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{BCl}_3^{*+}$  ( $\text{M}^{*+}$ ) 344.0092; found 344.0093.





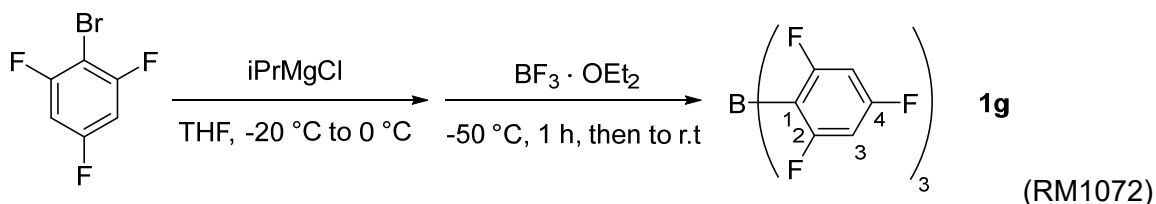
66.34

<sup>11</sup>B NMR  
128 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(quartz NMR tube,  
spectrum after  
baseline correction)



### Tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (**1g**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S28](#).



In a 100 mL flame dried Schlenk flask under nitrogen was dissolved 1-bromo-2,4,6-trifluorobenzene (3.50 mL, 30 mmol) in THF (100 mL). The solution was cooled to -20 °C and isopropylmagnesium chloride (2.0 M solution in THF, 15 mL, 30 mmol) was added in portions. The solution was allowed to warm to 0 °C over a period of 1 h and subsequently cooled to -50 °C. At -50 °C, freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (1.26 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred at -50 °C for another 60 min. The solution was subsequently allowed to warm up to room temperature within 2 d. Next, all volatiles were removed. The residue was suspended in *n*-hexane (40 mL) and filtered through a Schlenk-frit. After washing of the solid with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and concentration of the filtrate the crude product was furnished as a colorless solid. Purification by sublimation (120 °C,  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  mbar) afforded **1g** (524 mg, 13%) as colorless, crystalline solid.

Mp.: 106-111 °C

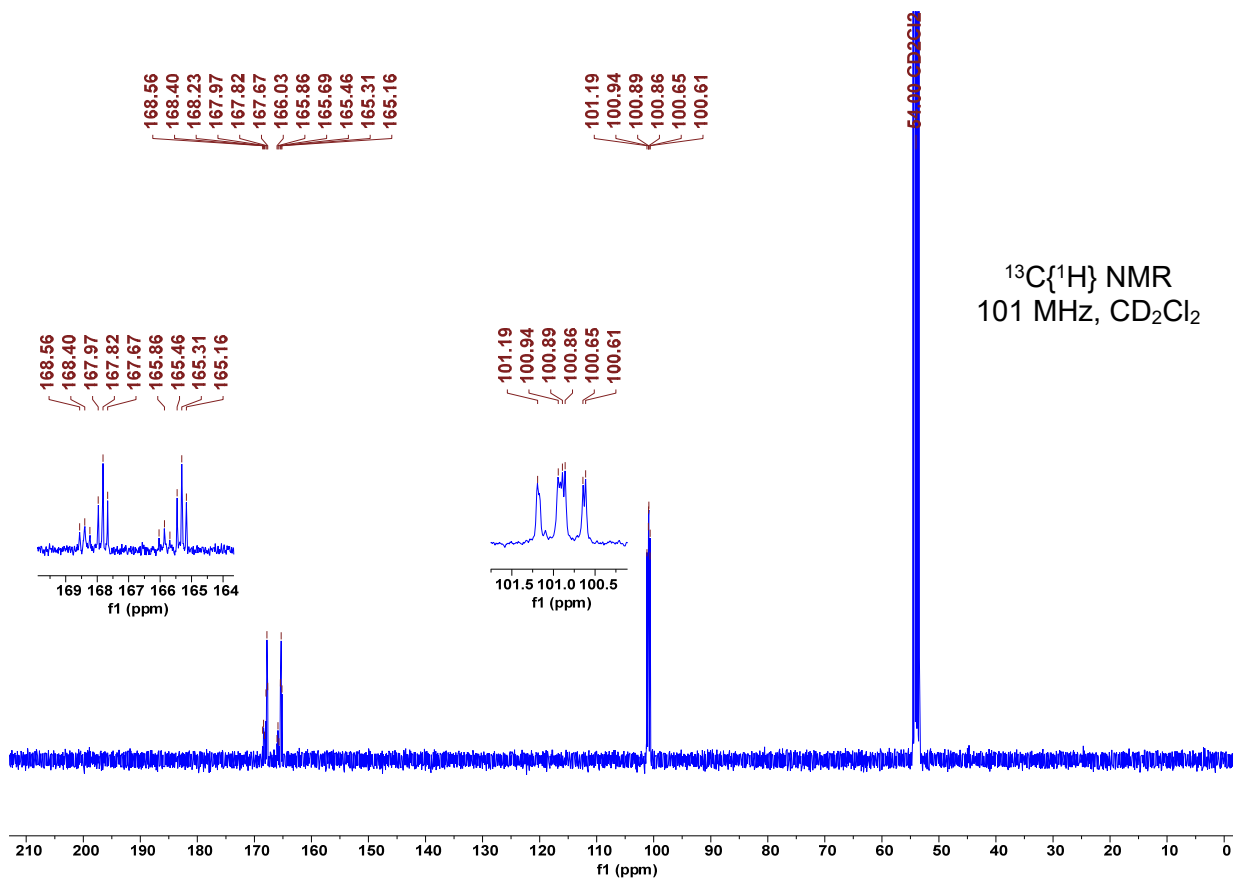
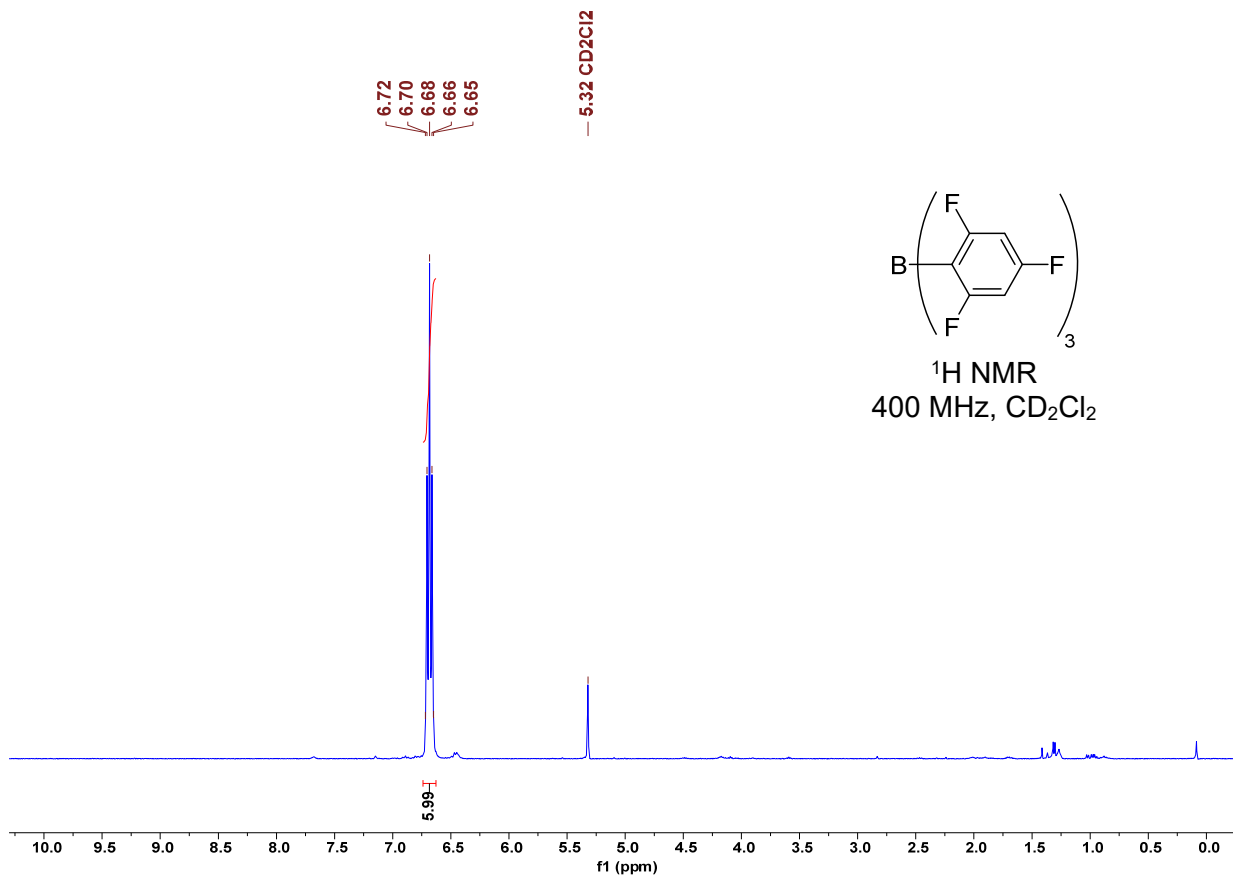
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 6.72–6.65 (m, 6 H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 167.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ , dt,  $J$  = 256.0 Hz, 16.6 Hz, C-4), 166.6 ( $\text{C}_q$ , dt,  $J_{\text{C,F}}$  = 252.2 Hz,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, C-2), 101.3–100.5 (m, CH, C-3). The resonance for C-1 was not detected.

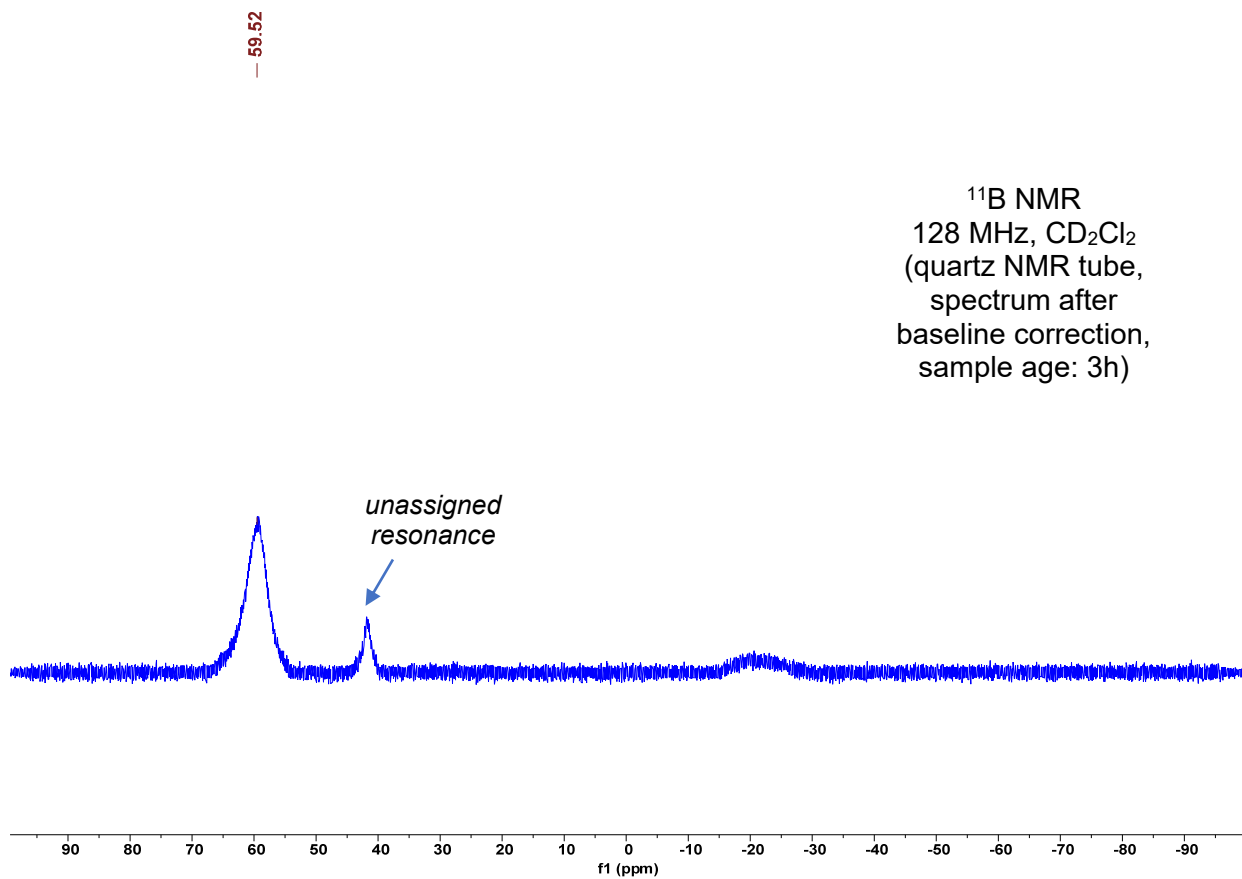
$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 59.5.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = -96.4 (app t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 6 F, 2-F), -100.9 (app pent,  $J$  = 9.8 Hz, 3 F, 4-F).

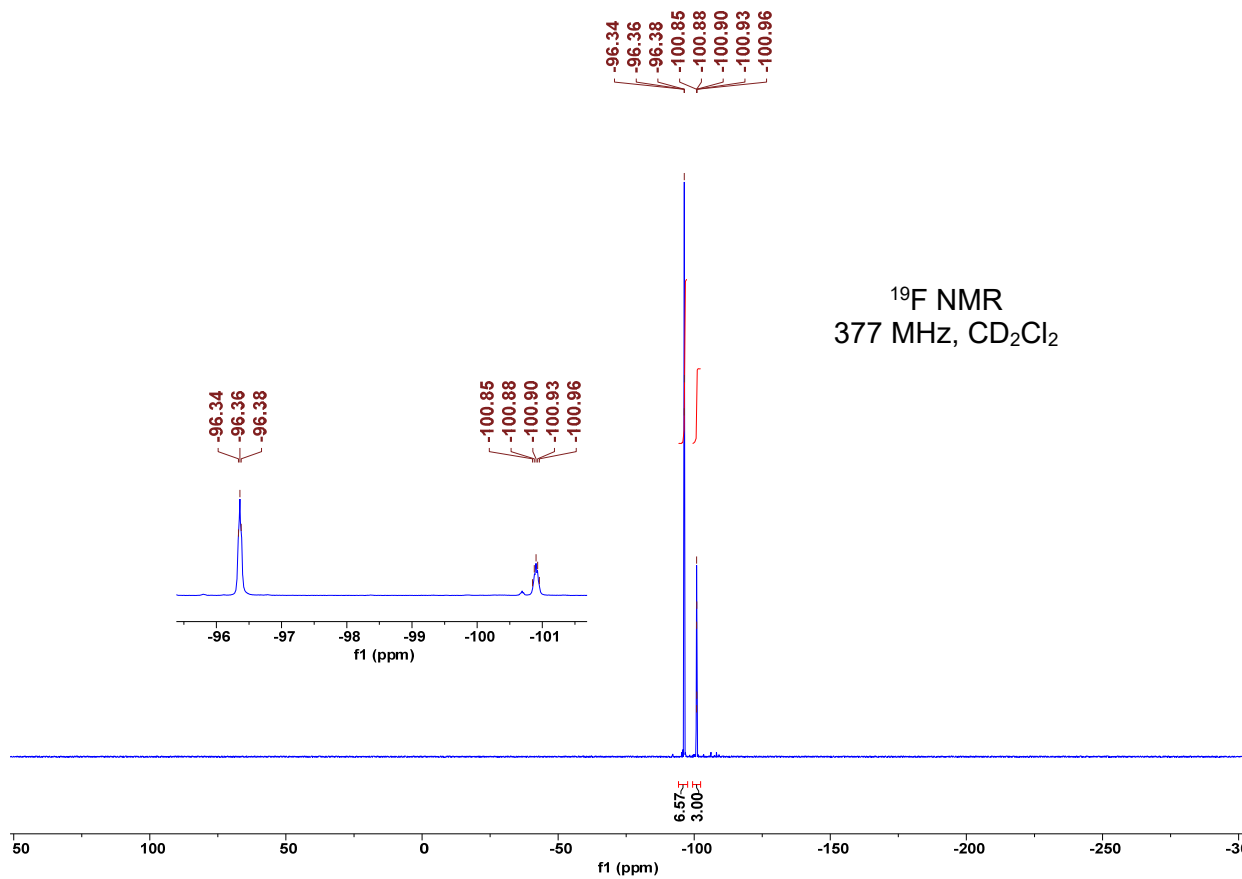
HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_6\text{BF}_9^{++}$  ( $\text{M}^{++}$ ) 404.0413; found 404.0398.



<sup>11</sup>B NMR  
128 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(quartz NMR tube,  
spectrum after  
baseline correction,  
sample age: 3h)

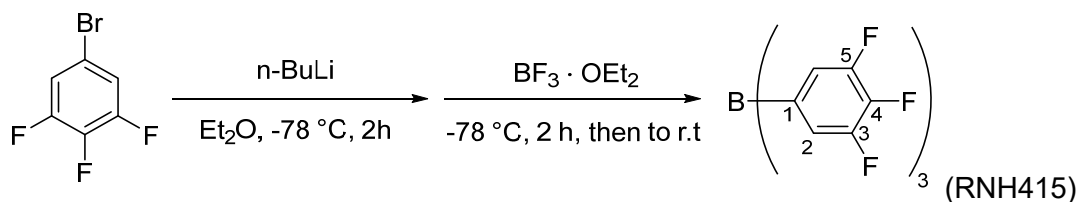


<sup>19</sup>F NMR  
377 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



### Tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S28](#).



In a 250 mL flame dried Schlenk flask under nitrogen was added 1-bromo-3,4,5-fluorobenzene (7.02 mL, 58.8 mmol) and diethyl ether (100 mL). The solution was cooled to  $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  and  $n\text{-BuLi}$  (2.3 M, 25.6 mL, 58.8 mmol) was added slowly to give a milky suspension. Stirring was continued for 2 h at  $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  whereupon freshly distilled  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (2.39 mL, 19.4 mmol) was added and the mixture stirred for an additional 2 h at  $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was allowed to warm up to room temperature overnight and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was suspended in pentane, the solvent again removed and the crude product purified by sublimation ( $150\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $8 \times 10^{-3}$  mbar) to give the borane as yellowish, oily crystals. The sublimated material was suspended in  $n\text{-hexane}$  (5 mL) and the solvent removed with a Pasteur pipett (repeated two more times) to give the borane as colorless solid (2.20 g, 28%).

Mp.:  $160\text{--}177\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 7.24–7.16 (m, 6 H, 2-H).

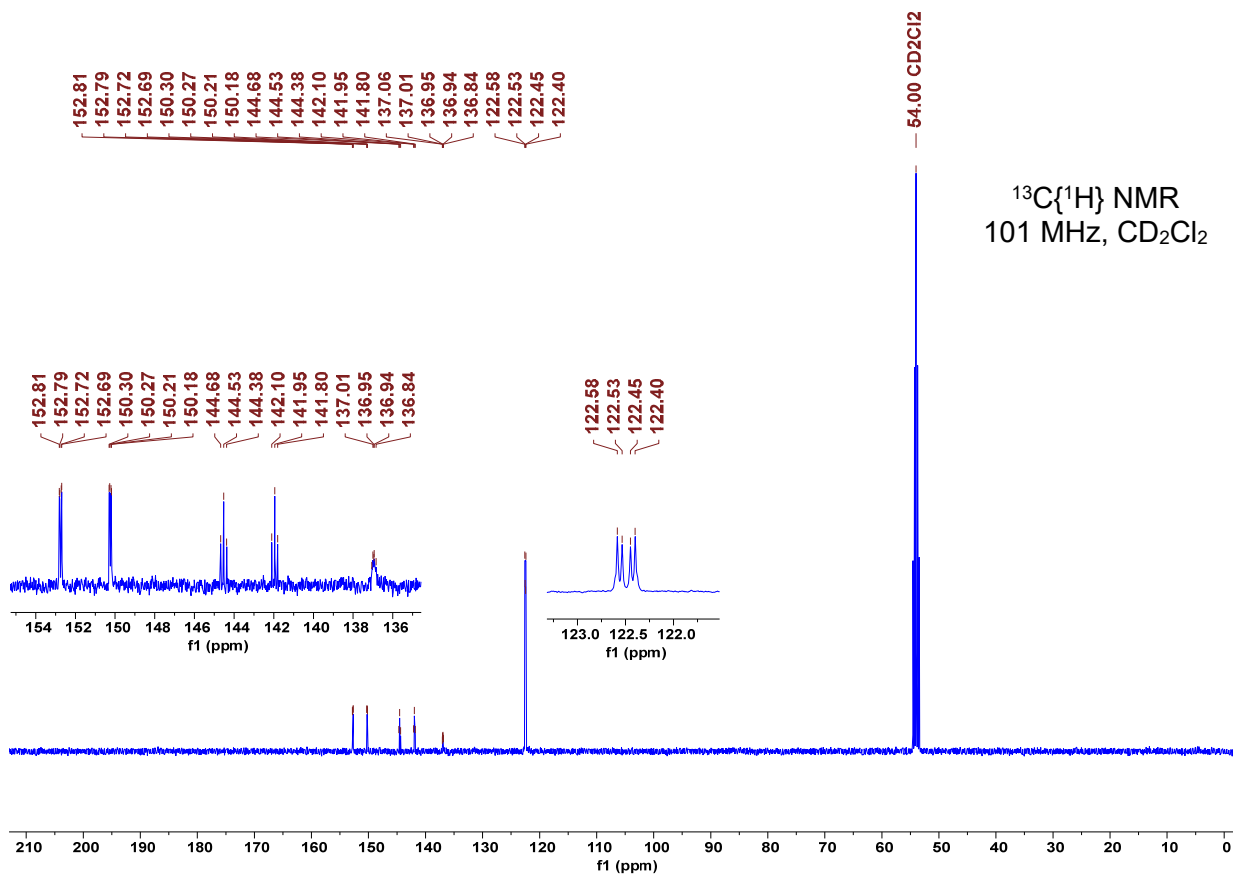
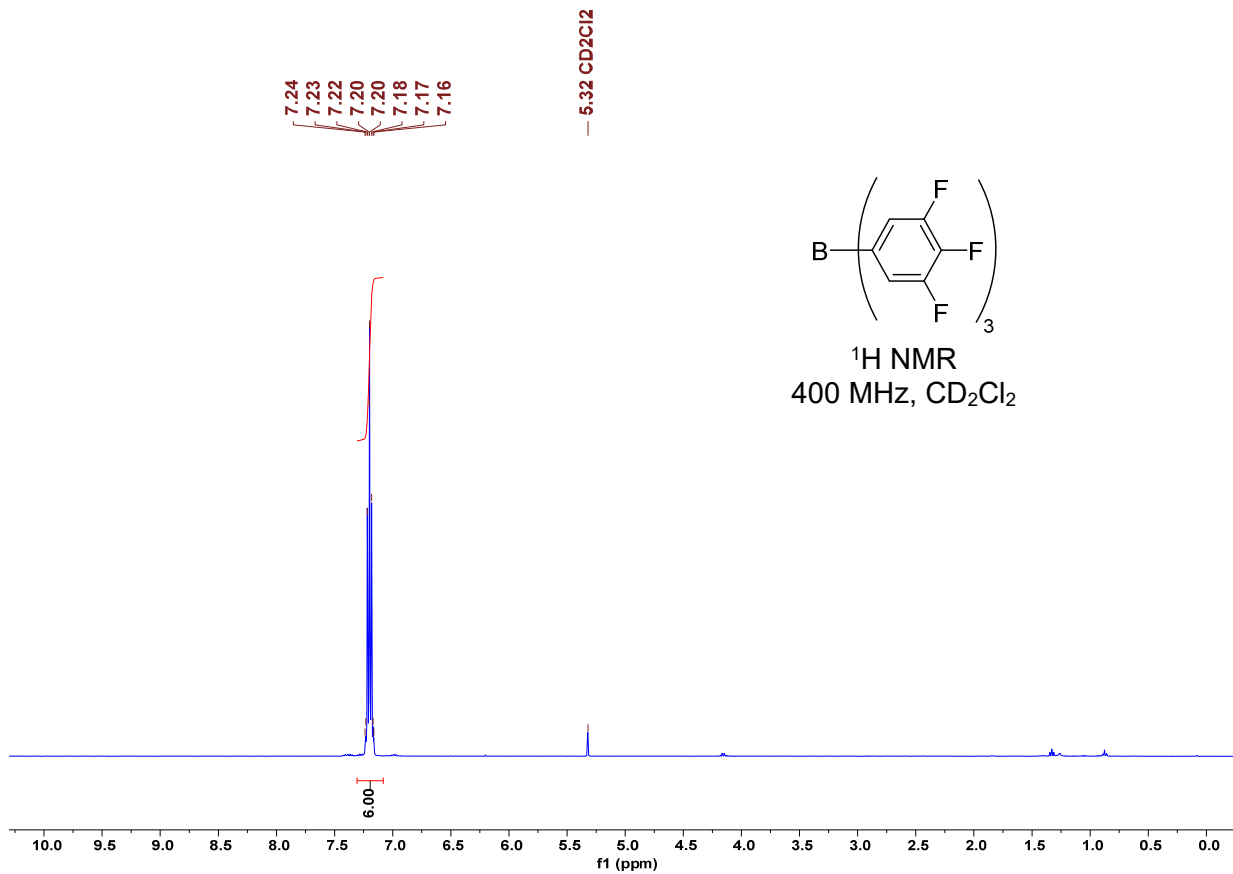
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 151.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ , ddd,  $J$  = 252.8 Hz, 9.6 Hz, 2.9 Hz, C-3), 143.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ , dt,  $J$  = 259.0 Hz, 15.2 Hz, C-4), 137.0–136.8 ( $\text{C}_q$ , m, C-1), 122.5 (CH, dd,  $J$  = 13.7 Hz, 5.0 Hz, C-2).

$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 64.7.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = (-134.6) – (-134.7) (m, 6 F, 3-F and 5-F), (-154.1) – (-154.2) (m, 3 F, 4-F).

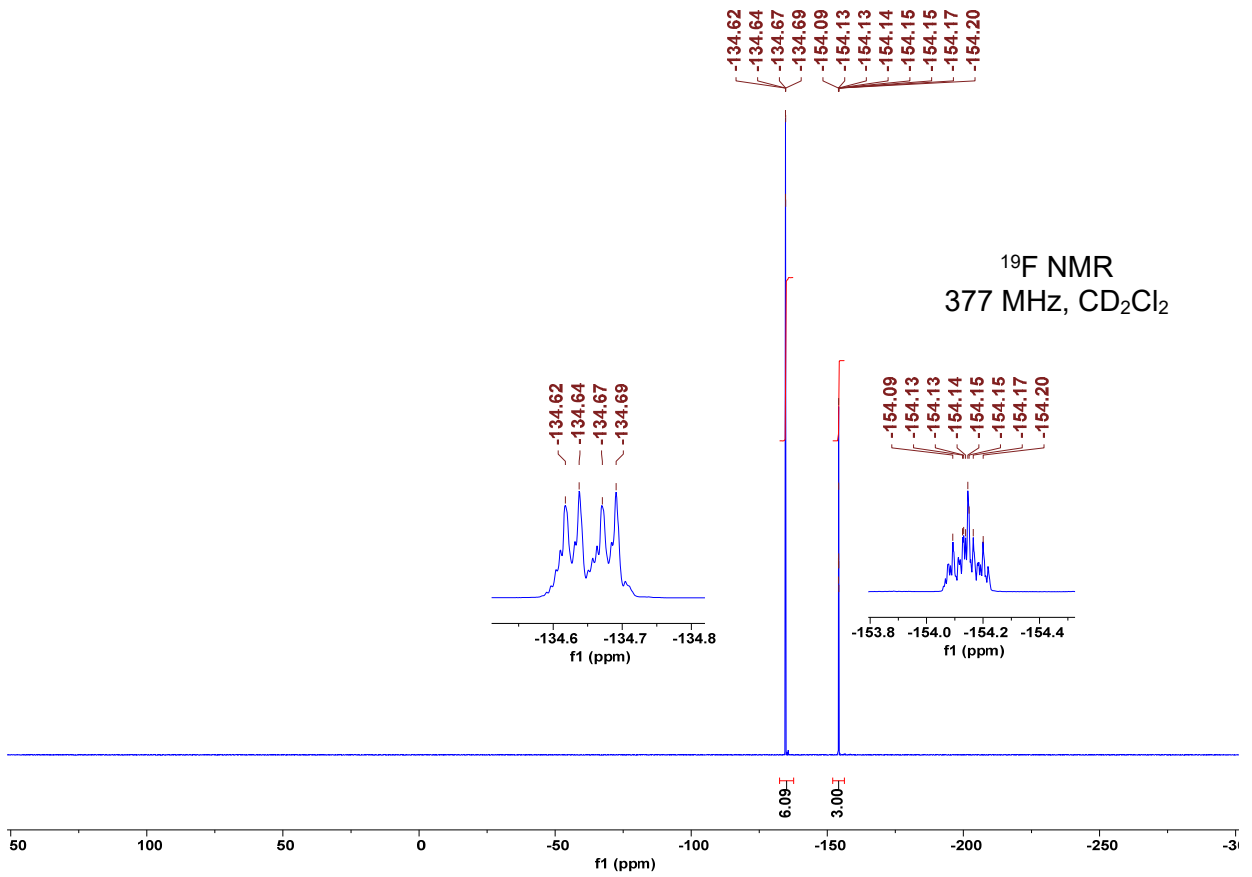
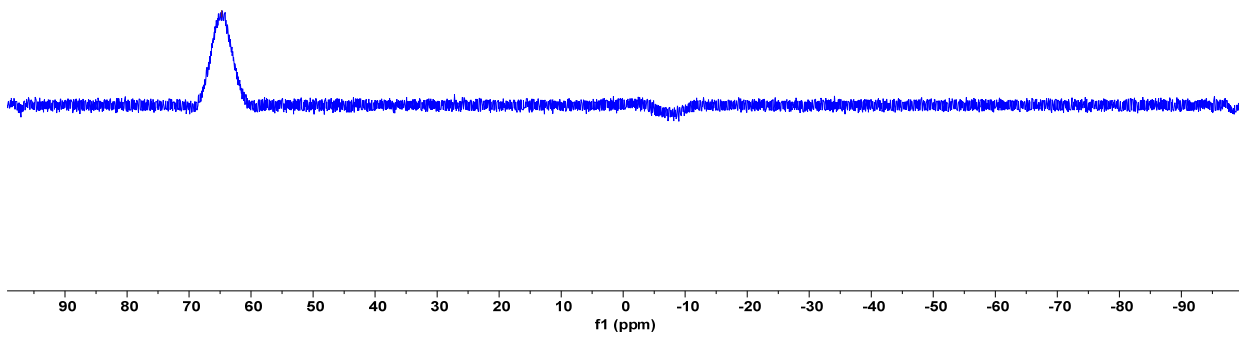
HRMS ( $\text{EI}^+$ ) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_6\text{BF}_9^{+}$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 404.0413; found 404.0409.

NMR data agree with those reported in ref. [S28](#).



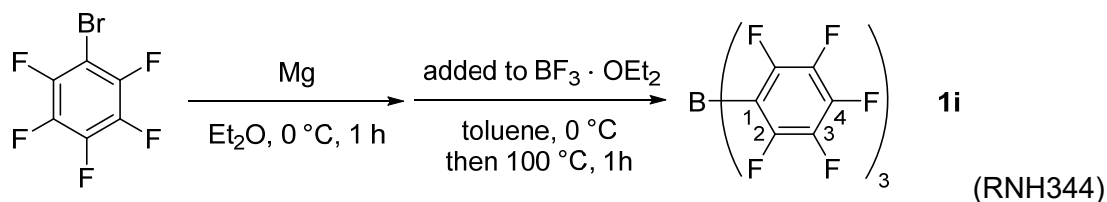
— 64.74

<sup>11</sup>B NMR  
128 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  
(spectrum after  
baseline correction)



### Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (**1i**)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S29](#).



In a flame dried 500 mL three necked round bottom flask with nitrogen inlet and reflux condenser under nitrogen was added magnesium turnings (2.43 g, 0.100 mol) and diethyl ether (167 mL). Bromopentafluorobenzene (12.5 mL, 0.100 mol) was added dropwise under stirring. After the initiation of the Grignard reaction the reaction mixture was cooled with an ice-bath. After stirring for another 60 min at 0 °C, the Grignard solution was transferred via syringe techniques into a separate flame dried flask containing a solution of  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (4.10 mL, 0.033 mol) in toluene (67 mL) at 0 °C. After the transfer of the Grignard reagent was complete, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm at room temperature while diethyl ether was removed under reduced pressure. The remaining toluene solution was heated to 100 °C for 1 h. Then concentration to dryness yielded a beige solid residue. *n*-Hexane (200 mL) was added and the mixture was heated to 45 °C under vigorous stirring. The suspension was filtrated through a pre-heated Schlenk frit. The clear filtrate was cooled to 5 °C causing the formation of feathery, colorless crystals. Filtration through a Schlenk frit, washing with *n*-hexane (20 mL) and drying gave pure **1i** (8.74 g, 52%).

Mp.: 133-134 °C (ref. [S30](#): mp 132-134 °C)

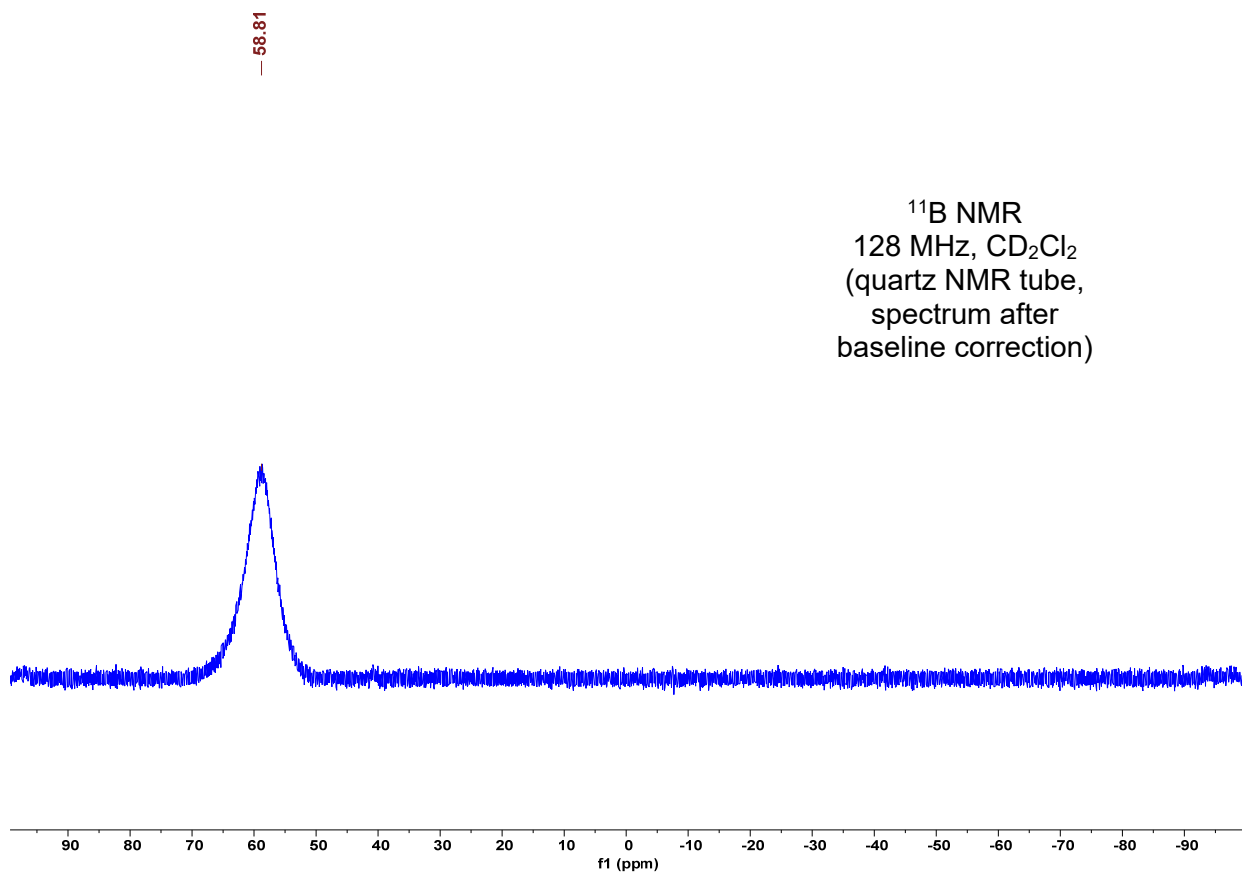
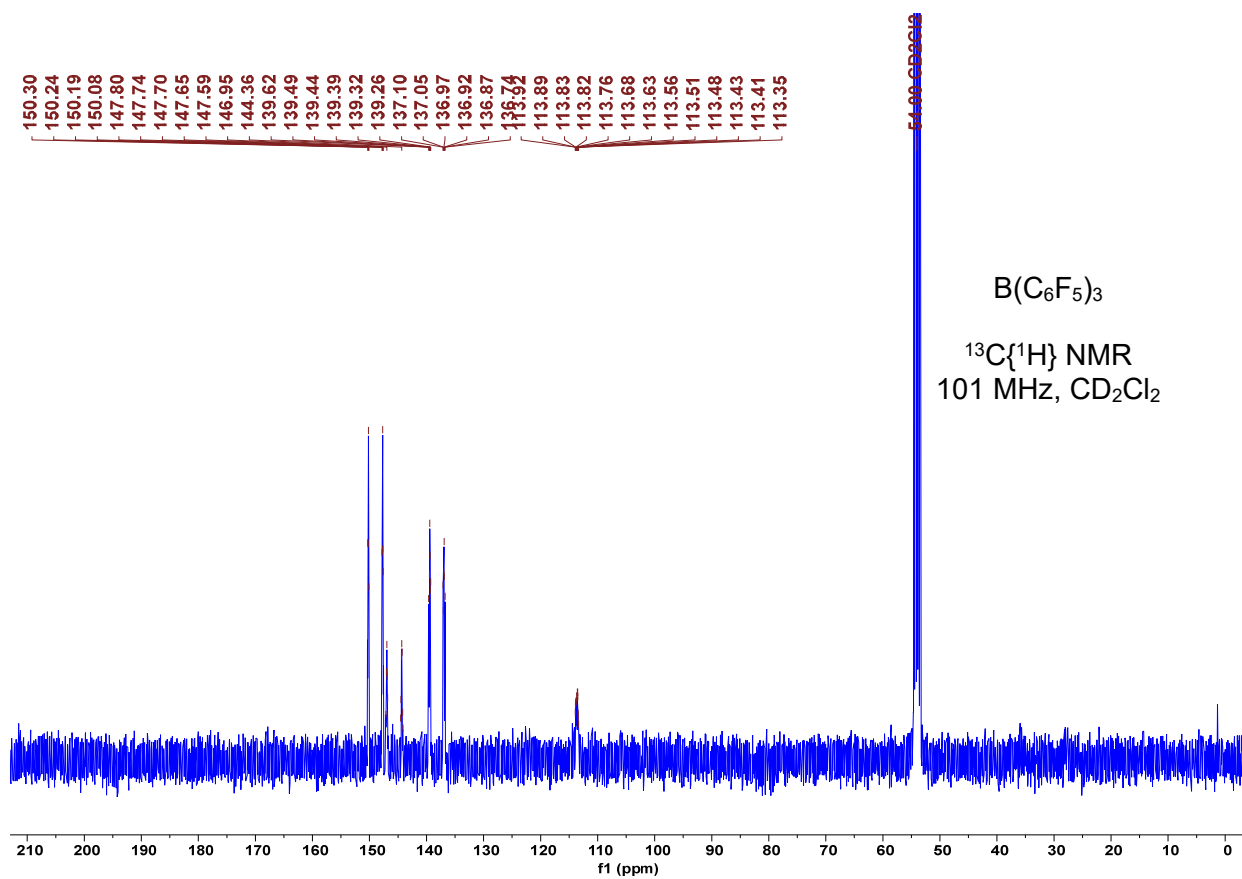
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 150.3–147.6 (m), 147.1–144.1 (m), 139.6–136.7 (m), 113.9–113.3 (m,  $\text{C}_q$ , C-1).

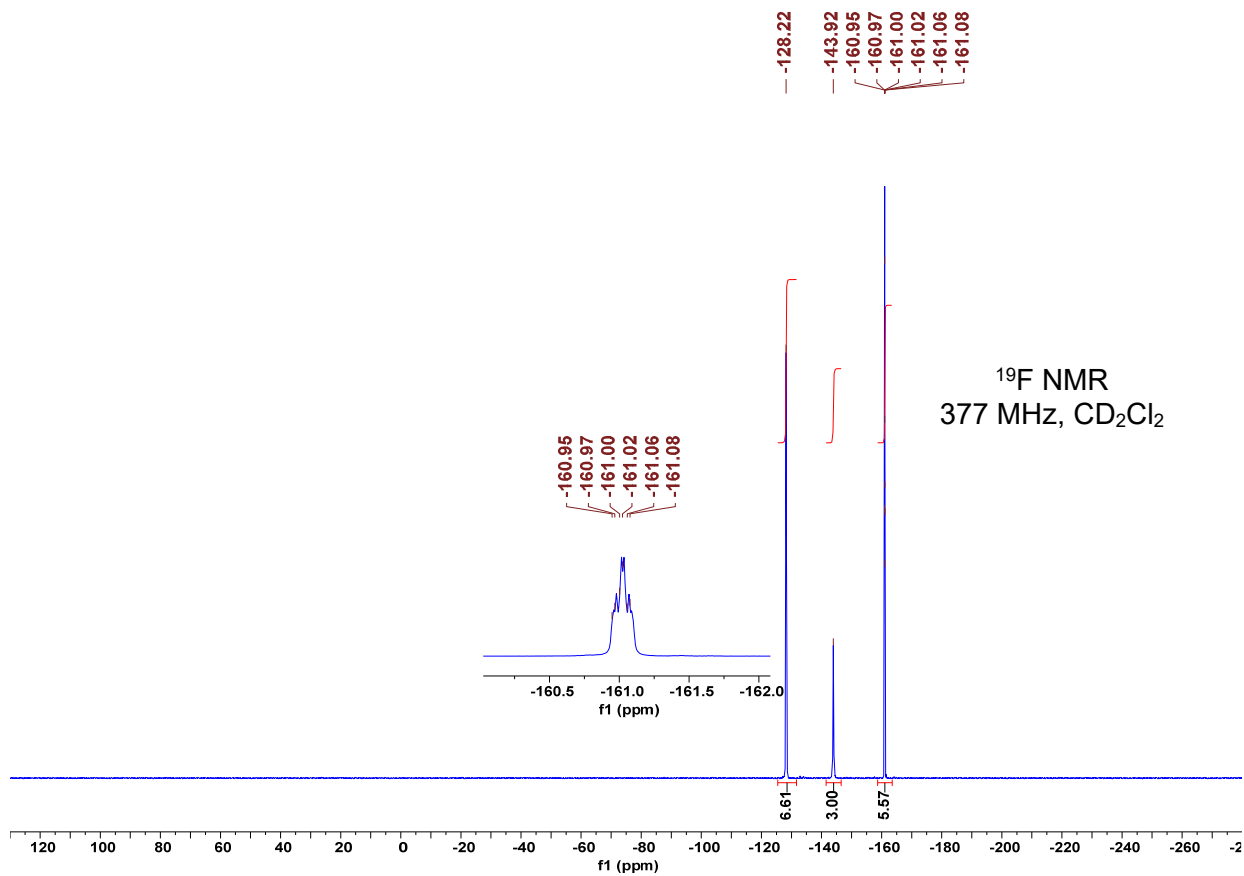
$^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = 58.8.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  = -128.2 (s, 2 F, 2-F), -143.9 (s, 1 F, 4-F), (-161.0) – (-161.1) (m, 2 F, 3-F).

HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd  $m/z$  for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{BF}_{15}^{*+}$  ( $\text{M}^{*+}$ ) 511.9848; found 511.9846.

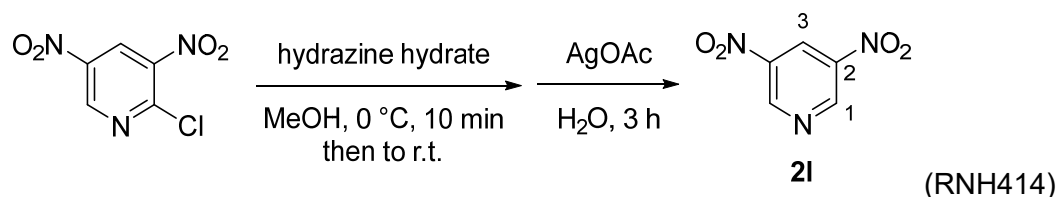






### 3,5-Dinitropyridine (2I)

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref. [S31](#).



In a 100 mL round-bottom flask was dissolved 2-chloro-3,5-dinitropyridine (2.00 g, 9.83 mmol) in methanol (20 mL). The resulting yellow solution was cooled at 0 °C and hydrazine monohydrate (0.77 mL, 15.8 mmol) was added dropwise over a period of 10 min causing the formation of a dark-brown precipitate. Stirring was continued overnight at room temperature and gave a red suspension. The suspension was filtrated. The collected solid material was washed with MeOH (2 × 10 mL) and dried to give a red-brownish solid (1.61 g), which was used without further purification.

The solid was suspended in water (53 mL), and silver acetate (4.83 g, 28.9 mmol) was added. The brown suspension was heated for 3 h under reflux which led to decolorization. After cooling to room temperature a pH 9 was adjusted with 25% aq NaOH. Then the mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 100 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtrated and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was recrystallized from ethanol to yield pyridine **2I** (487 mg, 29%) as a yellow-orange crystalline solid.

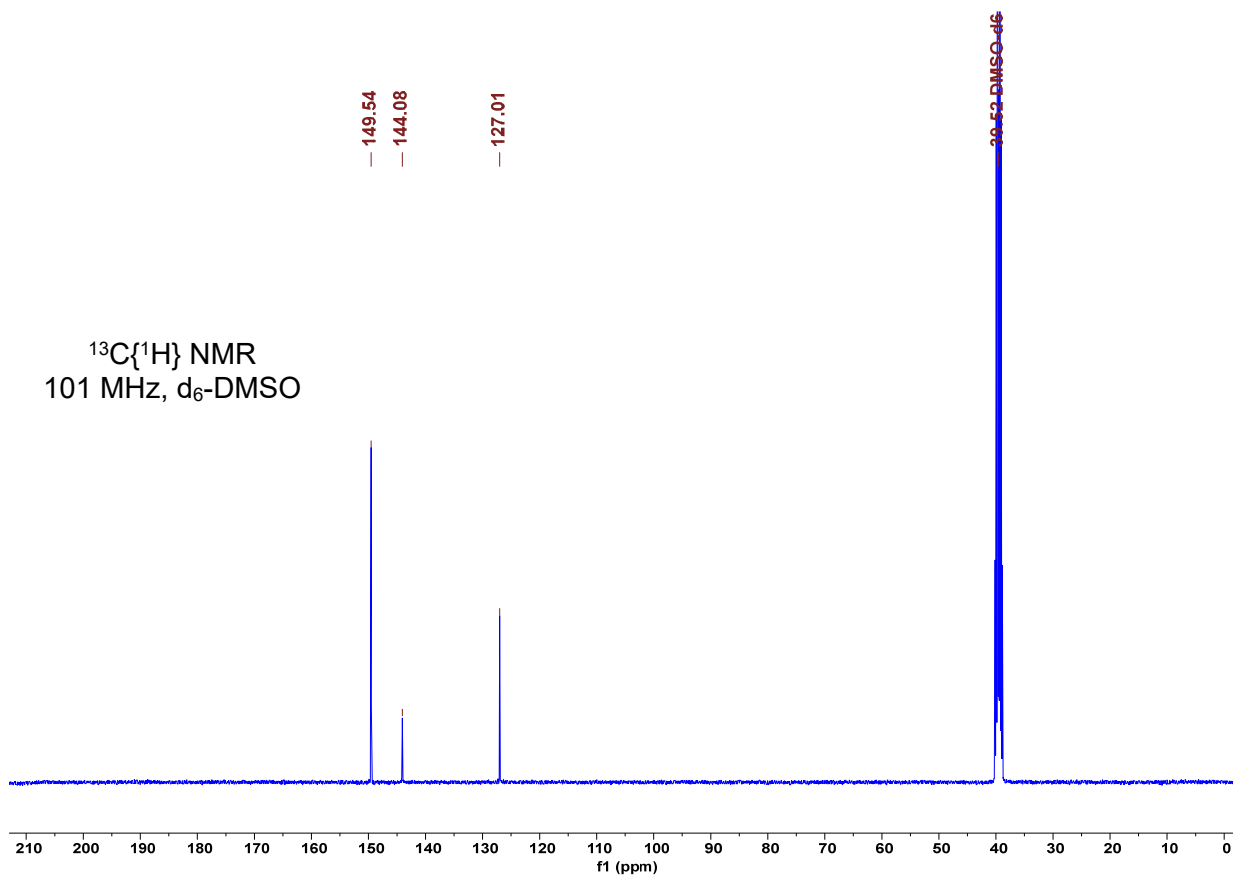
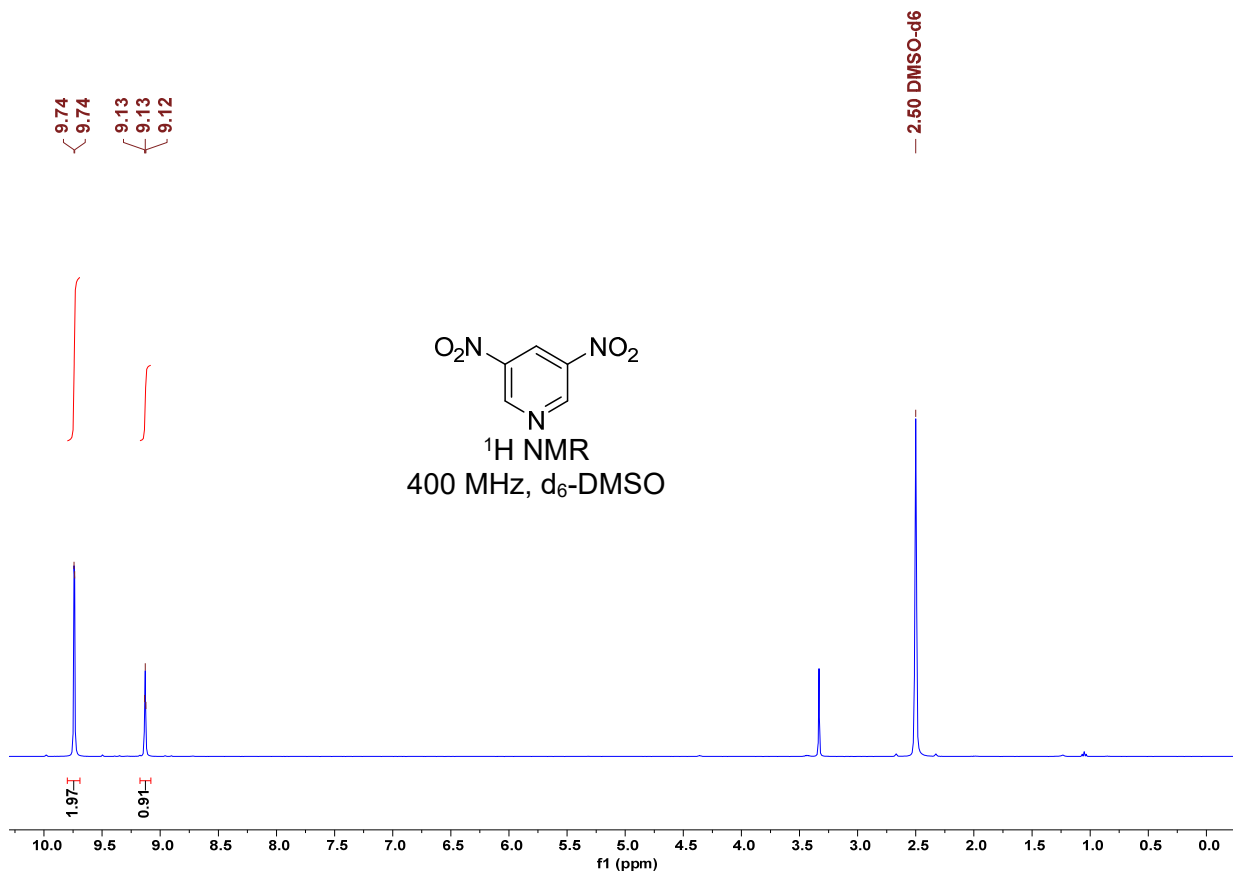
Mp.: 105-107 °C (ref. [S31](#): 106 °C)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ = 9.74 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2 H, 1-H), 9.13 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H, 3-H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ = 149.5 (CH, C-1), 144.1 (C<sub>q</sub>, C-2), 127.0 (CH, C-3).

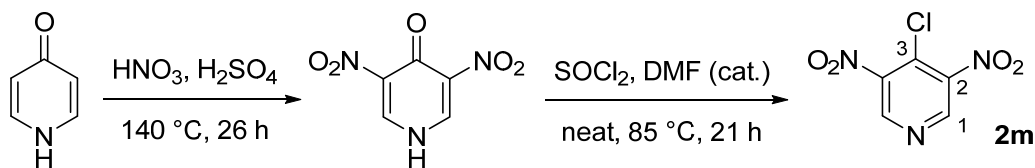
HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd *m/z* for C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> (M<sup>+</sup>) 169.0118; found 169.0120.

NMR data agree with those reported in ref. [S32](#).



#### 4-Chloro-3,5-dinitropyridine (**2m**)

**Caution:** This reaction uses highly corrosive chemicals and produces large amounts of nitrous oxides. The reaction has to be carried out in a well ventilated fume hood.



The pyridine **2m** was prepared according to the modified procedure in ref.<sup>S33</sup>. A 100 mL round bottom flask with reflux condenser and drying tube (CaCl<sub>2</sub>) was charged with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (96%, 25 mL). 4-Pyridone (2.0 g, 21 mmol) was added, followed by HNO<sub>3</sub> (100%, 7 mL). The resulting solution was heated under stirring to 140 °C for 26 h (progress monitored by NMR spectroscopy). The reaction mixture was poured into ice cold water (100 mL) causing the precipitation of the product, which was collected by filtration. The crude product was recrystallized from an 1:1 mixture of acetic acid/water (100 mL) to give the product as colorless needles (2.12 g, 55%).

Synthesis according to the modified procedure in ref.<sup>S34</sup>. In a 20 × 1.5 cm pressure tube (Ace glassware) was added 3,5-dinitro-4-pyridone (2.12 g, 11.5 mmol), thionyl chloride (1.66 mL, 22.9 mmol) and DMF (2 drops). The pressure tube was sealed under nitrogen and heated at 85 °C overnight. The initially solid mixture slowly converted to a suspension and yielded a clear yellow solution after 21 h. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was transferred into a Schlenk flask, washed with dichloromethane (2 mL), and all volatiles were removed under reduces pressure to give a pale yellow solid. The crude product was recrystallized from cyclohexane to yield **2m** (1.02 g, 44%) as colorless crystalline solid.

Pyridine **2m** is highly moisture sensitive and was stored at -35 °C in an argon filled glovebox.

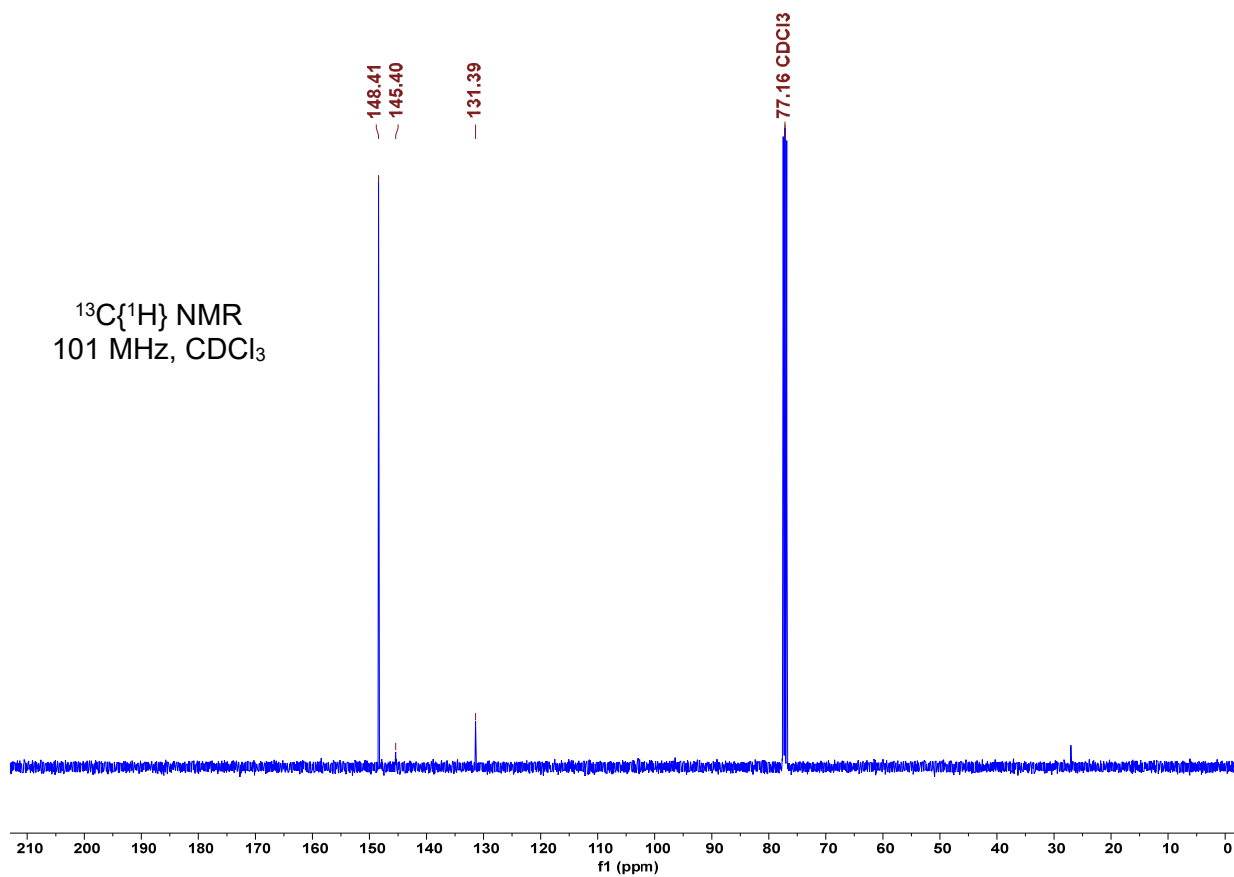
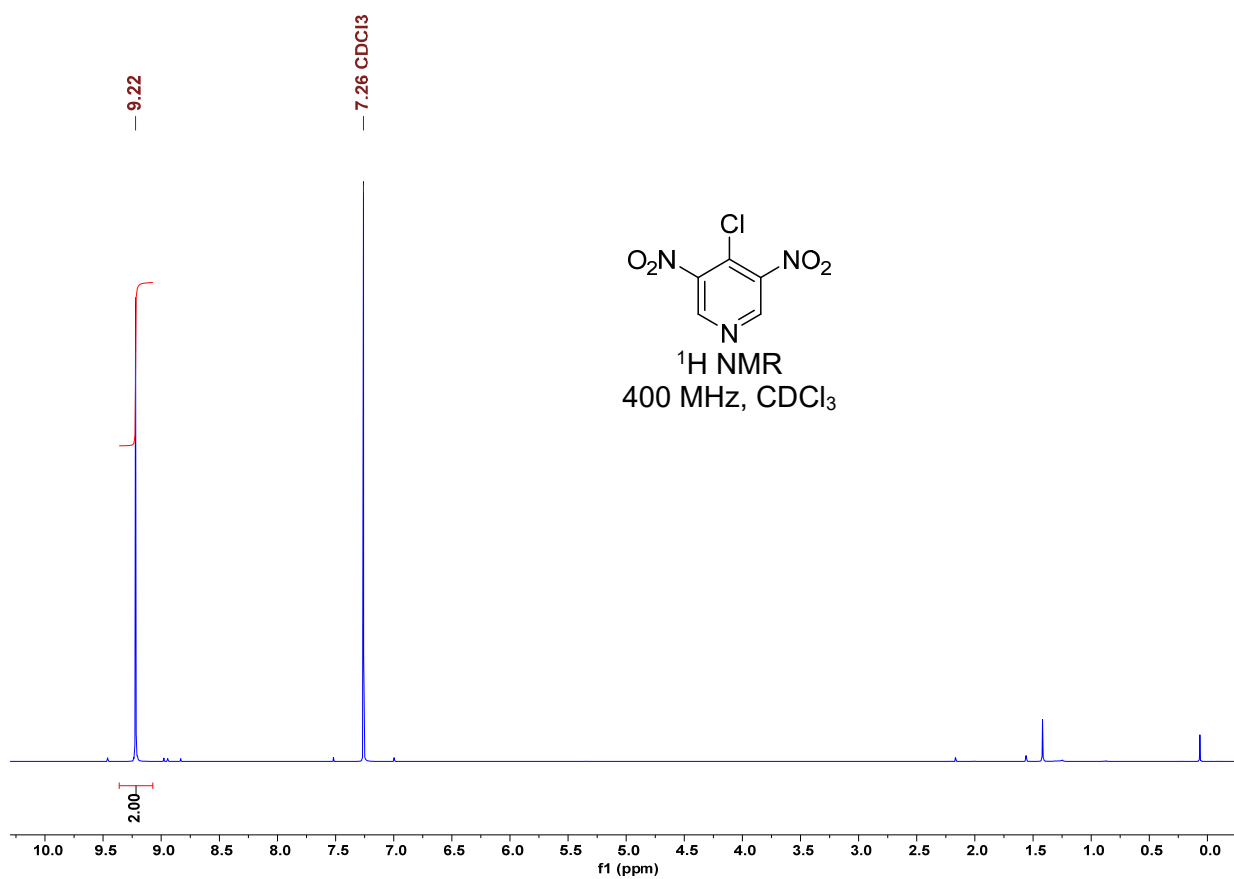
Mp.: 69-71 °C (ref.<sup>S35</sup>: mp 68-70 °C)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 9.22 (s, 2 H, 1-H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 148.4 (CH, C-1), 145.4 (C<sub>q</sub>, C-3), 131.4 (C<sub>q</sub>, C-2).

HRMS (EI<sup>+</sup>) calcd *m/z* for C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> (M<sup>+</sup>) 202.9728; found 202.9725.

NMR data agree with those reported in ref.<sup>S34</sup>.



## IV. Application of Lewis Acidity Parameters in Borane Catalyzed Reactions

### Nazarov Cyclizations (RNH426)

Under an atmosphere of dry argon a solution of the Nazarov precursor (6.0 mg, 0.028 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.35 mL) was added to a solution of the borane (0.0028 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.35 mL). The reaction mixture was transferred into an NMR tube which was sealed with a rubber septum. The progress of the Nazarov cyclization was monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectroscopy.

Conversion to the cyclopentenone product<sup>S36,S37</sup> was observed for  $\text{BBr}_3$ ,  $\text{BCl}_3$  and the triarylboranes **1i**, **1g** within 1–2 h. After 24 h reaction time partial conversion to the product was observed with **1h** but not when **1f** was used as the catalyst.

### Diels-Alder Reactions of Methyl Vinyl Ketone with Cyclopentadiene

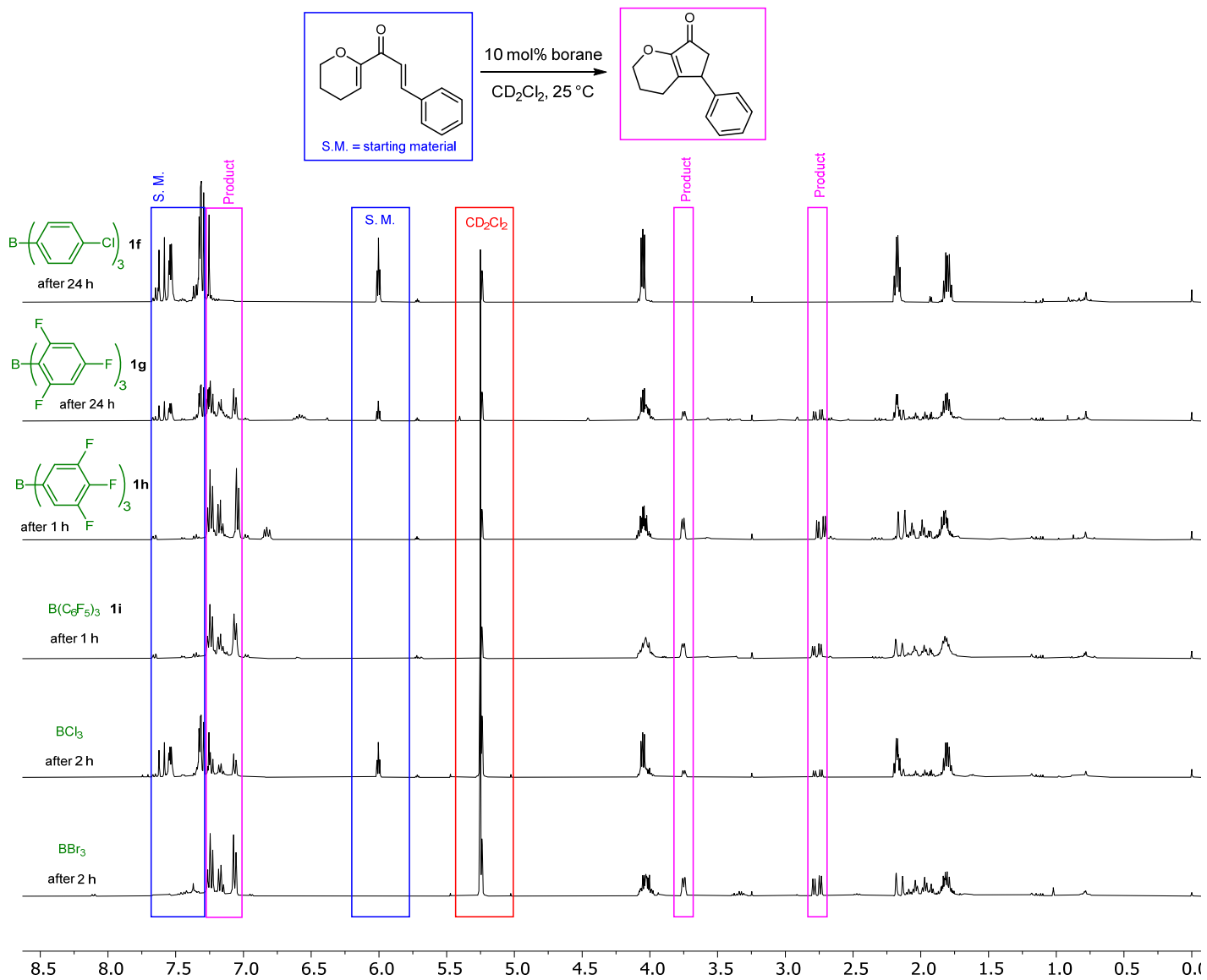
Under an atmosphere of dry argon  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solutions of methyl vinyl ketone (0.028 mmol), cyclopentadiene (freshly prepared by thermal decomposition of its dimer and subsequent distillation, 0.028 mmol), and the borane (0.0028 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.75 mL) were transferred into an NMR tube, which was sealed with a rubber septum. The reaction mixtures were analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy (200 MHz) after 20 min reaction time at room temperature (25 °C).

Quantitative conversion of the educts to the Diels-Alder adduct<sup>S38</sup> was observed after 20 min for solutions that contained 10 mol% of the boranes **1h**, **1i** and  $\text{BCl}_3$ . With borane **1f**, traces of the product (15%) were observed after 2 h reaction time.

### Michael Additions of 1-Methylindole to Methyl Vinyl Ketone

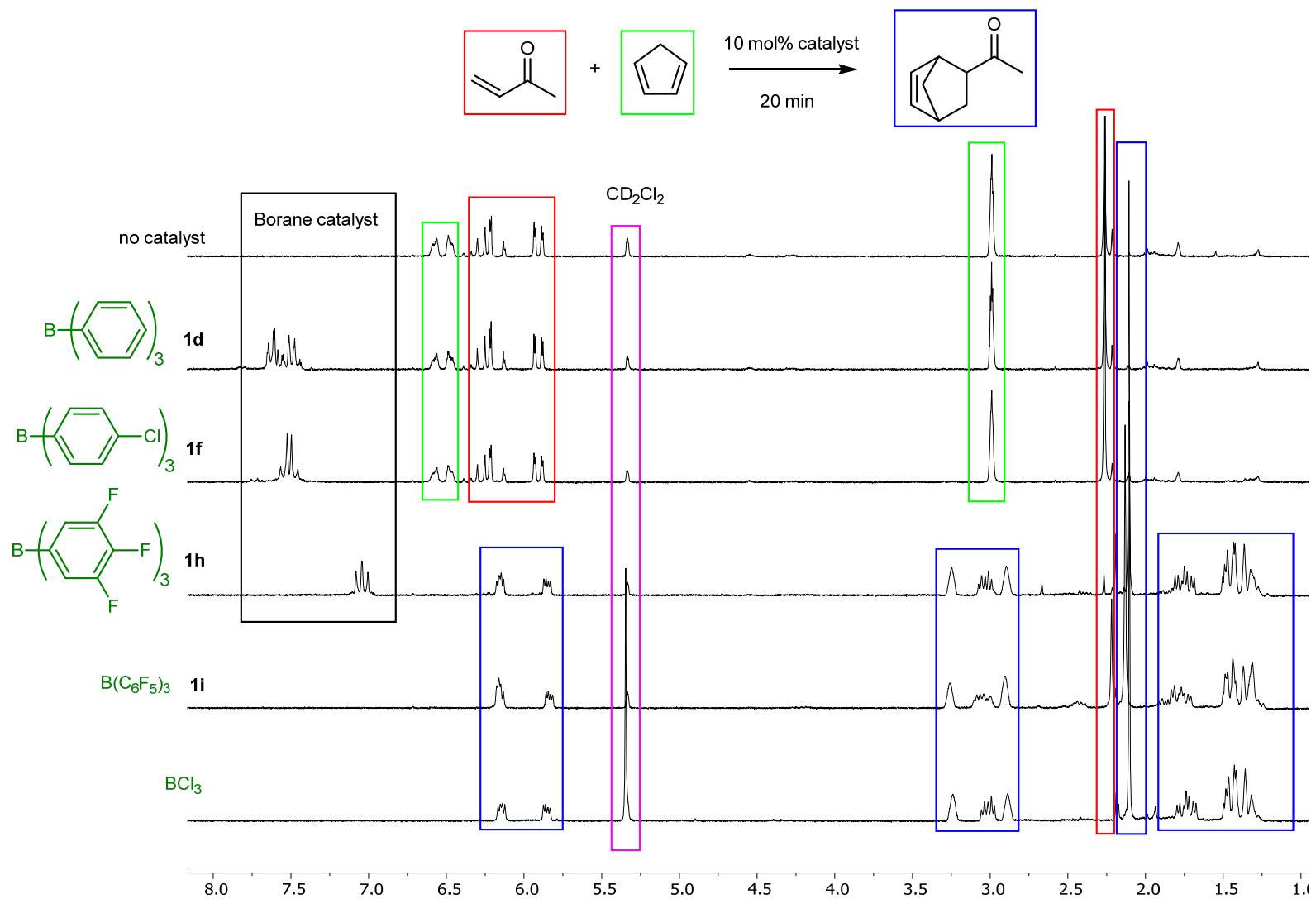
Under an atmosphere of dry argon  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solutions of methyl vinyl ketone (0.028 mmol), 1-methylindole (0.028 mmol) and the borane (0.0028 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.75 mL) were transferred into an NMR tube which was sealed with a rubber septum. The reaction mixtures were analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy (200 MHz) after 20 min reaction time at room temperature (25 °C).

Quantitative conversion of the educts to the Michael adduct<sup>S39</sup> was observed after 20 min for solutions that contained 10 mol% of boranes **1h**, **1i**. With borane **1f**, traces of the product (24%) were observed after 24 h reaction time.

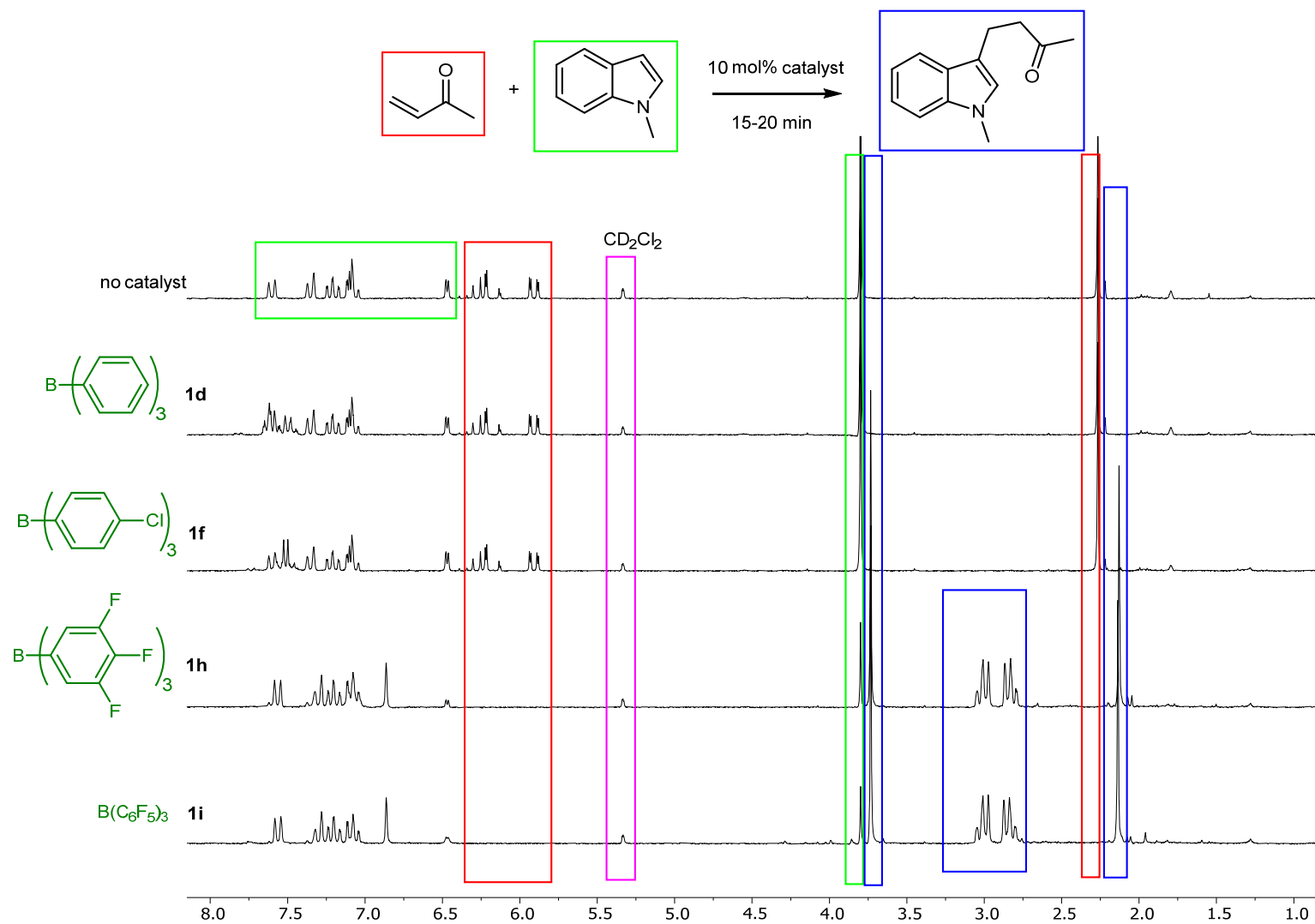


**Figure S3:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  of the borane catalyzed Nazarov reaction.





**Figure S4:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (200 MHz) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  of the borane catalyzed Diels-Alder reaction of methyl vinyl ketone with cyclopentadien.



**Figure S5:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (200 MHz) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  of the borane catalyzed Michael addition of 1-methylindole at methyl vinyl ketone.

## V. Determination of Equilibrium Constants by Isothermal Titration Calorimetry (ITC)

### Summary of ITC experiments in dichloromethane

Reported errors are standard deviations from the averaged results of three experiments under identical conditions at 20 °C.

**Table S4:** Summary of ITC titration experiments of boranes **1** with Lewis bases in dichloromethane at 20 °C.

Experiment	Ar <sub>3</sub> B	LB	[Ar <sub>3</sub> B] (mM)	[LB] (mM)	T (°C)	K (M <sup>-1</sup> )	ΔG (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	ΔH (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	TΔS (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	n
RM1087e1	<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.996	11.7	20.0	3.74 × 10 <sup>4</sup>	-25.7	-55.2	-29.5	0.928
RM1087e2	<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.996	11.7	20.0	3.46 × 10 <sup>4</sup>	-25.5	-54.8	-29.3	0.656
RM1087e3	<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.97	11.7	20.0	3.39 × 10 <sup>4</sup>	-25.4	-56.8	-31.4	0.775
						(3.53 ± 0.16) × 10 <sup>4</sup>	-25.5 ± 0.1	-55.6 ± 0.9	-30.1 ± 1.0	
RM1089e1	<b>1a</b>	<b>2b</b>	1.02	11.0	20.0	9.28 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	-22.3	-54.8	-32.5	0.821
RM1089e2	<b>1a</b>	<b>2b</b>	0.996	10.1	20.0	9.12 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	-22.2	-58.1	-35.9	0.734
RM1089e3	<b>1a</b>	<b>2b</b>	0.996	10.1	20.0	9.64 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	-22.4	-57.3	-34.9	0.691
						(9.35 ± 0.22) × 10 <sup>3</sup>	-22.3 ± 0.1	-56.7 ± 1.4	-34.4 ± 1.4	
RM1091e1	<b>1b</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.963	11.4	20.0	2.31 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-35.7	-64.8	-29.1	0.763
RM1091e2	<b>1b</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.963	11.4	20.0	5.06 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-37.6	-66.5	-28.8	0.754
RM1091e3	<b>1b</b>	<b>2a</b>	0.963	11.4	20.0	2.27 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-35.7	-66.5	-30.8	0.749
						(3.21 ± 1.31) × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-36.3 ± 0.9	-65.9 ± 0.8	-29.6 ± 0.9	
RM1081e1	<b>1b</b>	<b>2b</b>	0.993	10.3	20.0	1.18 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-34.1	-70.2	-36.1	0.749
RM1081e2	<b>1b</b>	<b>2b</b>	0.993	10.3	20.0	1.47 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-34.6	-68.6	-33.9	0.71
RM1081e3	<b>1b</b>	<b>2b</b>	0.993	10.3	20.0	1.09 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-33.9	-70.2	-36.3	0.68
						(1.25 ± 0.17) × 10 <sup>6</sup>	-34.2 ± 0.3	-69.7 ± 0.8	-35.5 ± 1.1	
RM1078e1	<b>1b</b>	<b>2c</b>	1.32	14.0	20.0	1.33 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-28.8	-58.1	-29.3	0.809
RM1078e2	<b>1b</b>	<b>2c</b>	1.32	14.0	20.0	1.39 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-28.9	-58.1	-29.2	0.782
RM1078e3	<b>1b</b>	<b>2c</b>	1.32	14.0	20.0	1.22 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-28.5	-59.8	-31.2	0.744
						(1.31 ± 0.08) × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-28.7 ± 0.1	-58.7 ± 0.8	-29.9 ± 0.9	

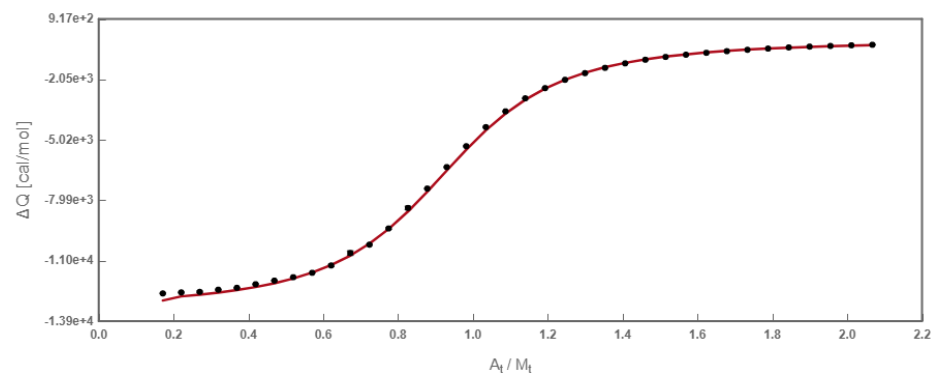
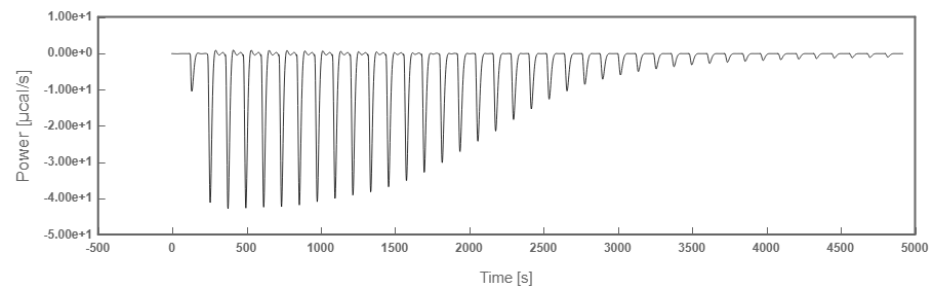
RM1075e3	<b>1b</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.50	13.2	20.0	$2.02 \times 10^4$	-24.2	-51.8	-27.7	0.871
RM1075e4	<b>1b</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.50	13.2	20.0	$2.37 \times 10^4$	-24.6	-51.0	-26.4	0.821
RM1075e5	<b>1b</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.50	13.2	20.0	$2.27 \times 10^4$	-24.4	-53.9	-29.5	0.797
						$(2.22 \pm 0.15) \times 10^4$	$-24.4 \pm 0.2$	$-52.3 \pm 1.2$	$-27.9 \pm 1.2$	
RM1077e2	<b>1b</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.50	15.0	20.0	$2.89 \times 10^3$	-19.4	-57.7	-38.3	0.691
RM1077e3	<b>1b</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.50	15.0	20.0	$3.51 \times 10^3$	-19.9	-52.3	-32.4	0.674
RM1077e4	<b>1b</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.50	15.0	20.0	$3.34 \times 10^3$	-19.8	-53.1	-33.3	0.657
						$(3.25 \pm 0.27) \times 10^3$	$-19.7 \pm 0.2$	$-54.3 \pm 2.4$	$-34.6 \pm 2.6$	
RM1079e2	<b>1c</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.06	10.8	20.0	$3.18 \times 10^5$	-30.9	-69.0	-38.1	0.857
RM1080e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.06	10.1	20.0	$2.29 \times 10^5$	-30.1	-74.0	-43.9	0.754
RM1116e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.02	9.62	20.0	$3.69 \times 10^5$	-31.2	-67.7	-36.5	0.781
RM1116e2	<b>1c</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.02	9.62	20.0	$4.43 \times 10^5$	-31.7	-69.4	-37.7	0.763
						$(3.40 \pm 0.78) \times 10^5$	$-31.0 \pm 0.6$	$-70.0 \pm 2.4$	$-39.0 \pm 2.9$	
RM1083e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.06	9.72	20.0	$9.41 \times 10^4$	-27.9	-76.5	-48.6	0.716
RM1086e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.09	9.95	20.0	$6.42 \times 10^4$	-27.0	-64.4	-37.4	0.773
RM1086e2	<b>1c</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.09	9.95	20.0	$7.75 \times 10^4$	-27.4	-69.0	-41.5	0.74
						$(7.86 \pm 1.22) \times 10^4$	$-27.4 \pm 0.4$	$-69.9 \pm 5.0$	$-42.5 \pm 4.6$	
RM1084e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.06	10.7	20.0	$2.14 \times 10^4$	-24.3	-79.8	-55.5	0.772
RM1084e3	<b>1c</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.06	10.7	20.0	$2.94 \times 10^4$	-25.1	-78.2	-53.1	0.763
RM1084e4	<b>1c</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.09	10.7	20.0	$4.86 \times 10^4$	-26.3	-76.1	-49.8	0.618
						$(3.31 \pm 1.14) \times 10^4$	$-25.2 \pm 0.4$	$-79.0 \pm 0.8$	$-54.3 \pm 1.2$	
RM1124e1	<b>1c</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.06	10.1	20.0	$1.08 \times 10^4$	-22.6	-71.9	-49.3	0.766
RM1124e2	<b>1c</b>	<b>2g</b>	0.985	10.1	20.0	$1.58 \times 10^4$	-23.6	-70.6	-47.1	0.759
RM1124e3	<b>1c</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.06	9.94	20.0	$1.63 \times 10^4$	-23.6	-71.9	-48.3	0.812
						$(1.43 \pm 0.25) \times 10^4$	$-23.3 \pm 0.5$	$-71.5 \pm 0.6$	$-48.2 \pm 0.9$	

RM1125e2	<b>1c</b>	<b>2h</b>	1.06	10.8	20.0	$3.30 \times 10^3$	-19.7	-65.2	-45.5	0.681
RM1125e3	<b>1c</b>	<b>2h</b>	0.985	10.8	20.0	$3.66 \times 10^3$	-20.0	-63.5	-43.5	0.723
RM1125e4	<b>1c</b>	<b>2h</b>	1.06	10.8	20.0	$3.83 \times 10^3$	-20.1	-68.6	-48.4	0.657
						$(3.60 \pm 0.23) \times 10^3$	$-20.0 \pm 0.2$	$-65.8 \pm 2.1$	$-45.8 \pm 2.0$	
RM968e1	<b>1d</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$1.39 \times 10^6$	-34.5	-70.2	-35.7	1.1
RM968e3	<b>1d</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$1.43 \times 10^6$	-34.5	-74.0	-39.4	1.0
RM968e5	<b>1d</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.05	10.1	20.0	$1.34 \times 10^6$	-34.4	-76.1	-41.7	1.07
						$(1.39 \pm 0.04) \times 10^6$	$-34.5 \pm 0.1$	$-73.4 \pm 2.4$	$-39.0 \pm 2.4$	
RM1118e1	<b>1d</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.03	10.6	20.0	$4.20 \times 10^5$	-31.6	-74.4	-42.8	0.918
RM1118e2	<b>1d</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.20	10.6	20.0	$3.69 \times 10^5$	-31.2	-75.7	-44.4	0.936
RM1118e3	<b>1d</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.24	10.6	20.0	$3.70 \times 10^5$	-31.3	-73.2	-41.9	0.861
						$(3.86 \pm 0.24) \times 10^5$	$-31.4 \pm 0.1$	$-74.4 \pm 1.0$	$-43.1 \pm 1.0$	
AB037e2	<b>1d</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$8.81 \times 10^4$	-27.8	-71.9	-44.1	1.12
AB037e3	<b>1d</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.05	10.1	20.0	$8.39 \times 10^4$	-27.6	-74.0	-46.4	0.84
RM1121e1	<b>1d</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.12	10.1	20.0	$1.08 \times 10^5$	-28.2	-66.9	-38.6	1.01
						$(9.33 \pm 1.05) \times 10^4$	$-27.9 \pm 0.3$	$-70.9 \pm 3.0$	$-43.0 \pm 3.2$	
AB035e3	<b>1d</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$2.82 \times 10^4$	-25.0	-67.3	-42.3	1.0
AB035e4	<b>1d</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.05	10.1	20.0	$2.43 \times 10^4$	-24.6	-64.0	-39.3	1.22
AB035e5	<b>1d</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.05	10.1	20.0	$2.01 \times 10^4$	-24.2	-63.1	-39.0	0.89
						$(2.42 \pm 0.34) \times 10^4$	$-24.6 \pm 0.3$	$-64.8 \pm 1.8$	$-40.2 \pm 1.5$	
RM974e1	<b>1d</b>	<b>2h</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$3.87 \times 10^3$	-20.1	-81.9	-61.8	0.95
RM974e2	<b>1d</b>	<b>2h</b>	1.13	10.1	20.0	$4.64 \times 10^3$	-20.6	-80.3	-59.7	0.99
RM974e3	<b>1d</b>	<b>2h</b>	1.05	10.1	20.0	$4.31 \times 10^3$	-20.4	-80.7	-60.3	0.93
						$(4.27 \pm 0.32) \times 10^3$	$-20.4 \pm 0.2$	$-81.0 \pm 0.7$	$-60.6 \pm 0.9$	
RM1094e1	<b>1e</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.01	10.0	20.0	$1.34 \times 10^6$	-34.4	-68.1	-33.7	0.96
RM1094e2	<b>1e</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.08	10.0	20.0	$1.31 \times 10^6$	-34.3	-70.2	-35.9	0.894
RM1094e3	<b>1e</b>	<b>2d</b>	1.01	9.67	20.0	$1.25 \times 10^6$	-34.2	-71.9	-37.7	0.997

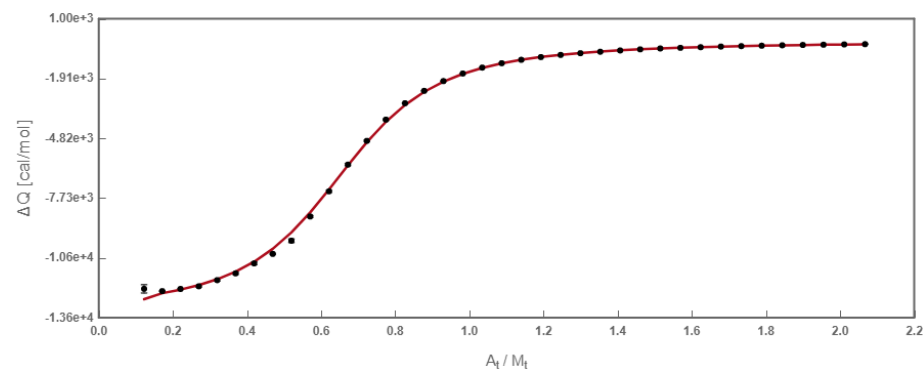
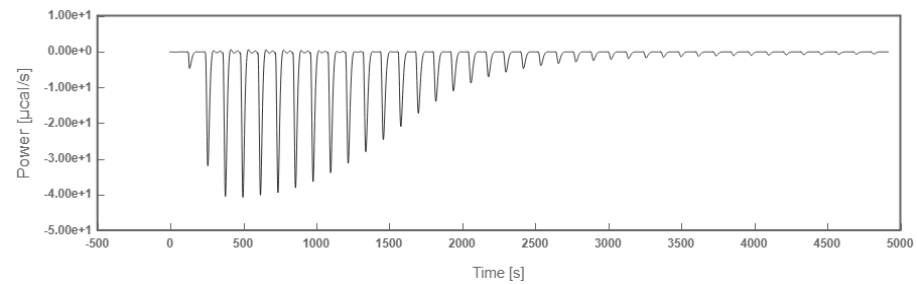
						$(1.30 \pm 0.04) \times 10^6$	$-34.3 \pm 0.1$	$-70.1 \pm 1.5$	$-35.8 \pm 1.6$	
RM1092e1	<b>1e</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.01	10.4	20.0	$2.72 \times 10^5$	-30.5	-71.9	-41.4	0.409
RM1092e2	<b>1e</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.01	10.4	20.0	$2.73 \times 10^5$	-30.5	-73.6	-43.1	0.904
RM1092e3	<b>1e</b>	<b>2e</b>	1.08	10.4	20.0	$3.58 \times 10^5$	-31.2	-69.8	-38.6	0.857
						$(3.01 \pm 0.41) \times 10^5$	$-30.7 \pm 0.3$	$-71.8 \pm 1.5$	$-41.0 \pm 1.8$	
RM1096e1	<b>1e</b>	<b>2f</b>	0.979	10.7	20.0	$8.41 \times 10^4$	-27.6	-68.1	-40.5	0.88
RM1096e2	<b>1e</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.05	10.7	20.0	$8.37 \times 10^4$	-27.6	-68.1	-40.5	0.864
RM1096e3	<b>1e</b>	<b>2f</b>	1.01	10.7	20.0	$8.11 \times 10^4$	-27.6	-68.1	-40.6	0.921
						$(8.30 \pm 0.14) \times 10^4$	$-27.6 \pm 0.0$	$-68.1 \pm 0.0$	$-40.5 \pm 0.1$	
RM1097e1	<b>1e</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.05	9.93	20.0	$3.55 \times 10^4$	-25.5	-61.4	-35.9	0.914
RM1097e2	<b>1e</b>	<b>2g</b>	1.01	10.3	20.0	$3.35 \times 10^4$	-25.4	-64.4	-39.0	0.848
RM1097e3	<b>1e</b>	<b>2g</b>	0.979	10.3	20.0	$3.03 \times 10^4$	-25.2	-66.0	-40.9	1.03
						$(3.31 \pm 0.22) \times 10^4$	$-25.4 \pm 0.2$	$-64.0 \pm 1.9$	$-38.6 \pm 2.1$	
RM1099e1	<b>1e</b>	<b>2h</b>	0.946	11.1	20.0	$6.95 \times 10^3$	-21.6	-66.5	-44.9	0.948
RM1099e2	<b>1e</b>	<b>2h</b>	0.912	11.1	20.0	$7.30 \times 10^3$	-21.7	-64.8	-43.1	0.996
RM1099e3	<b>1e</b>	<b>2h</b>	0.979	11.1	20.0	$9.36 \times 10^3$	-22.3	-61.9	-39.6	0.988
						$(7.87 \pm 1.06) \times 10^3$	$-21.8 \pm 0.3$	$-64.4 \pm 1.9$	$-42.5 \pm 2.2$	

# Individual ITC measurements

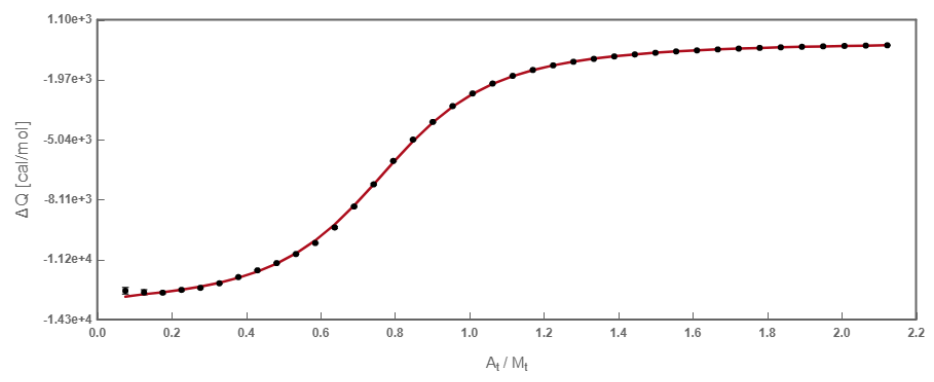
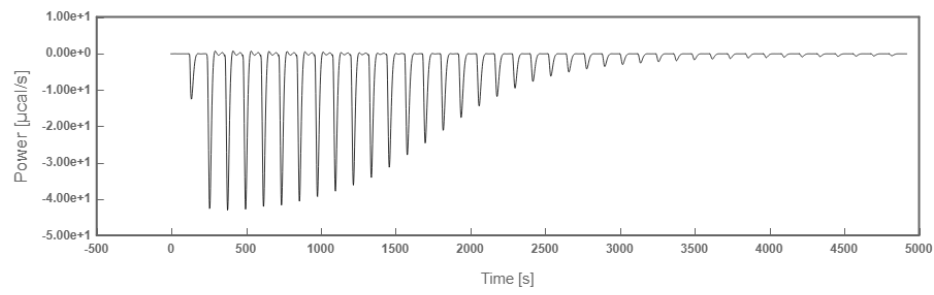
## RM1087e1



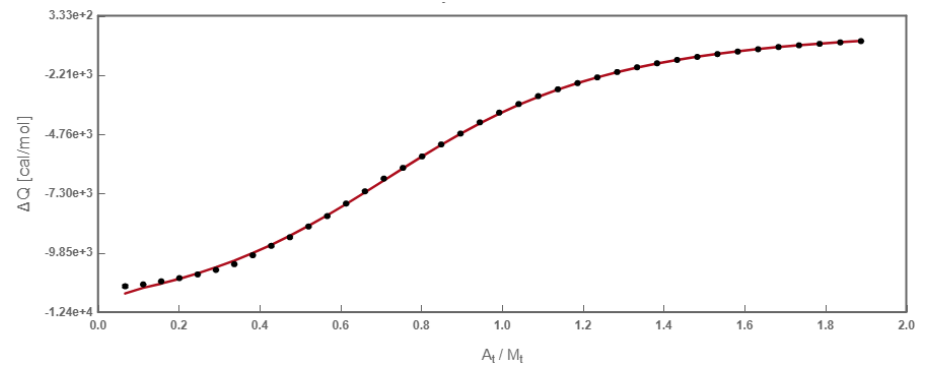
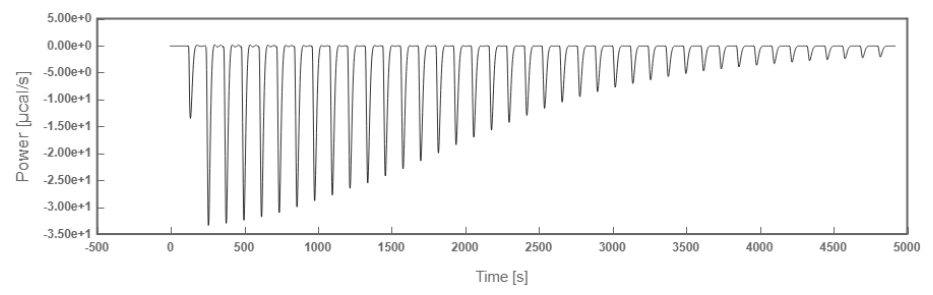
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RM1087e3

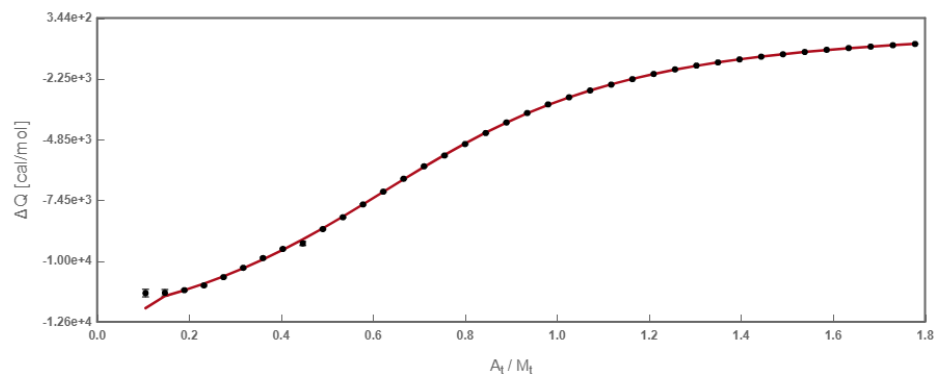
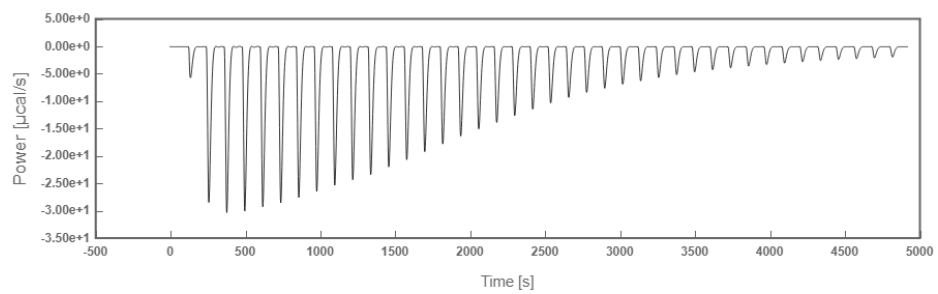


RM1089e1

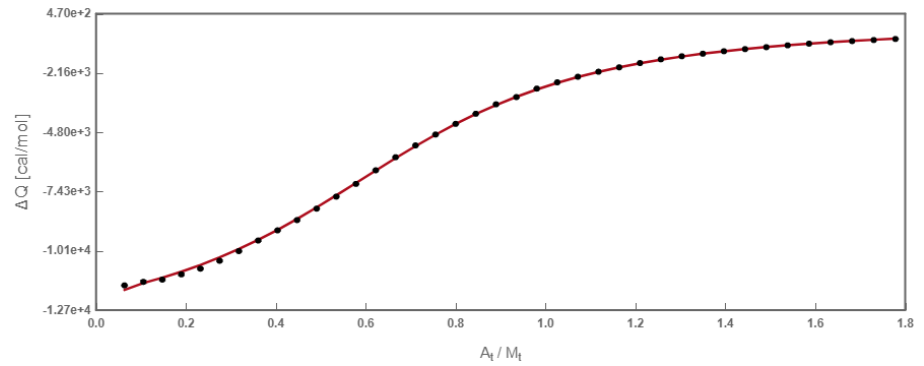
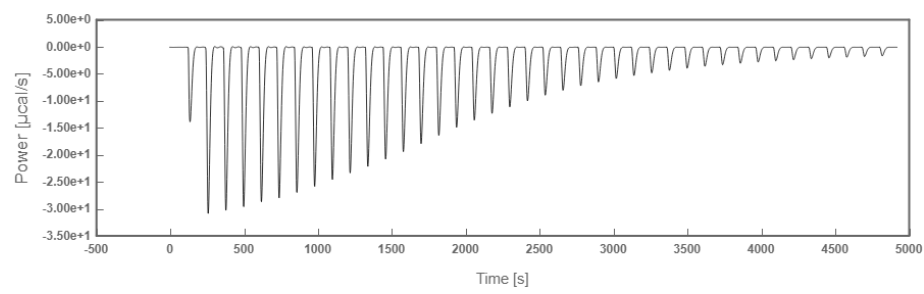




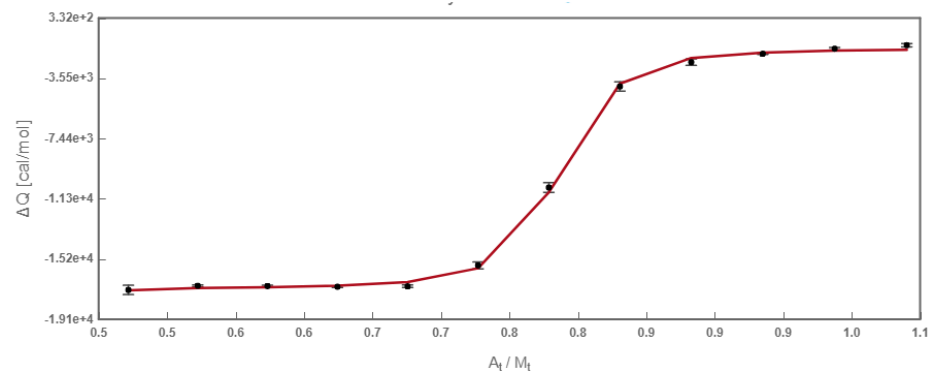
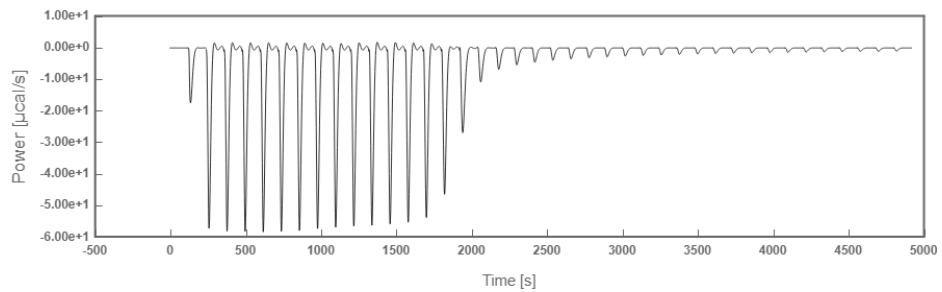
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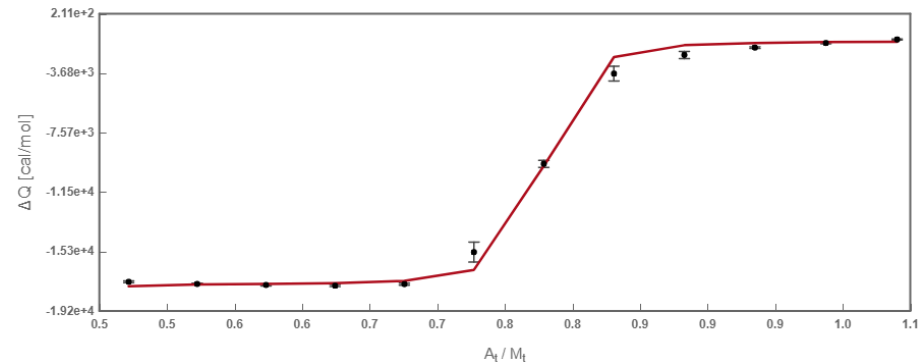
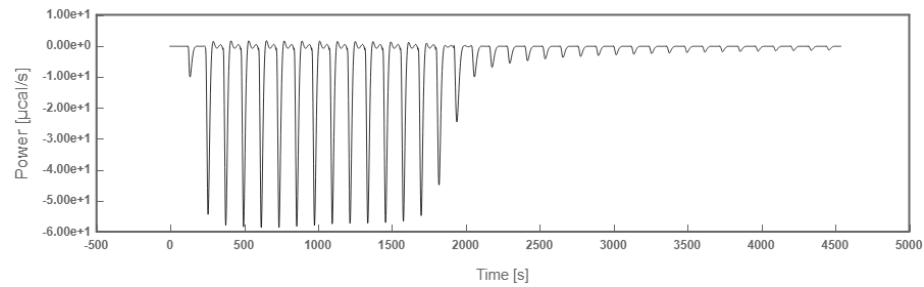
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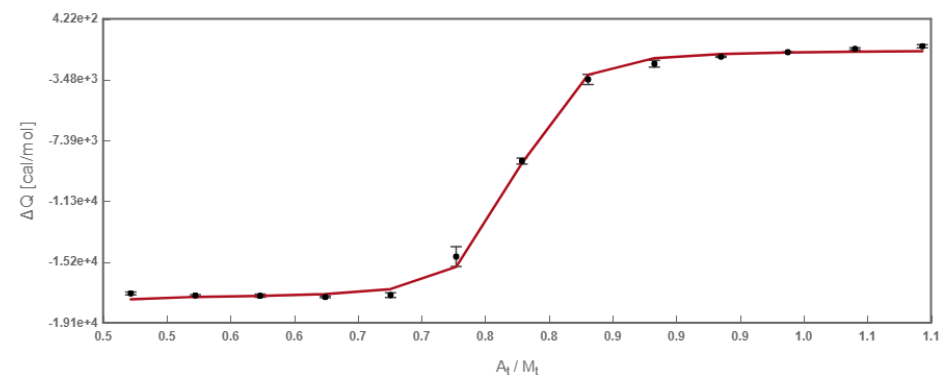
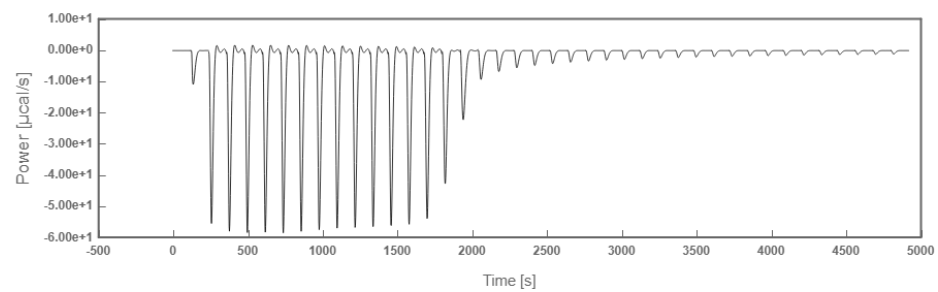
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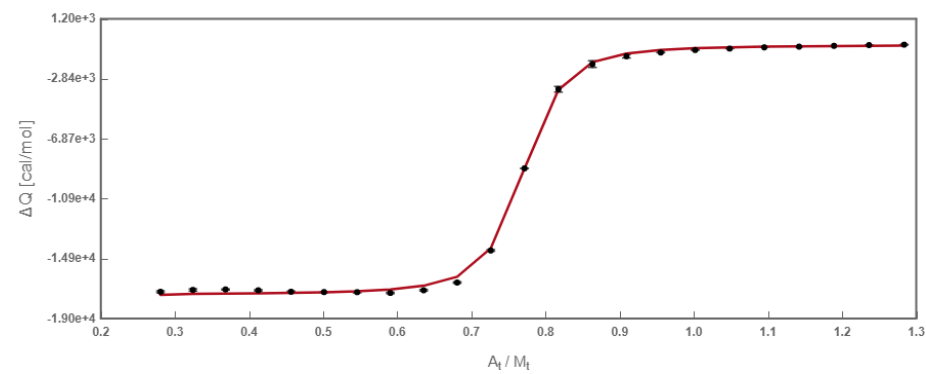
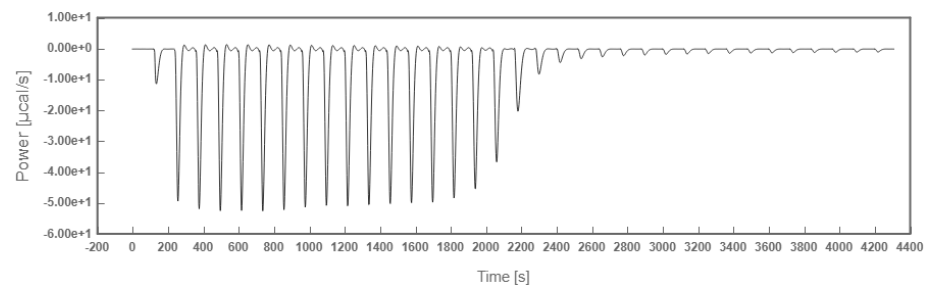
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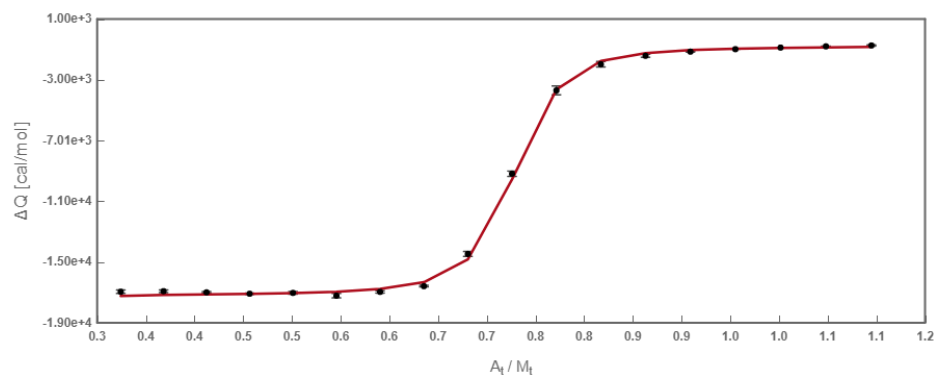
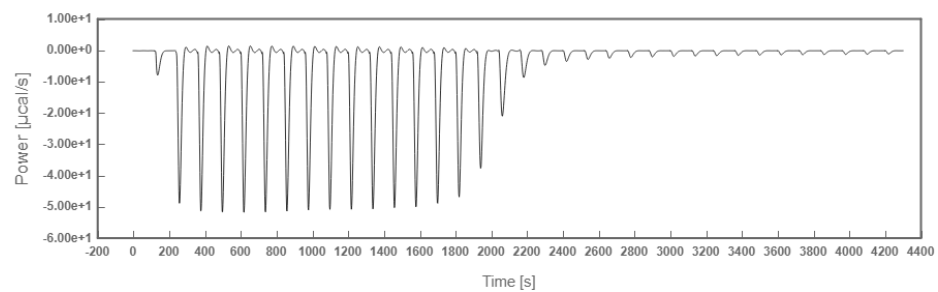
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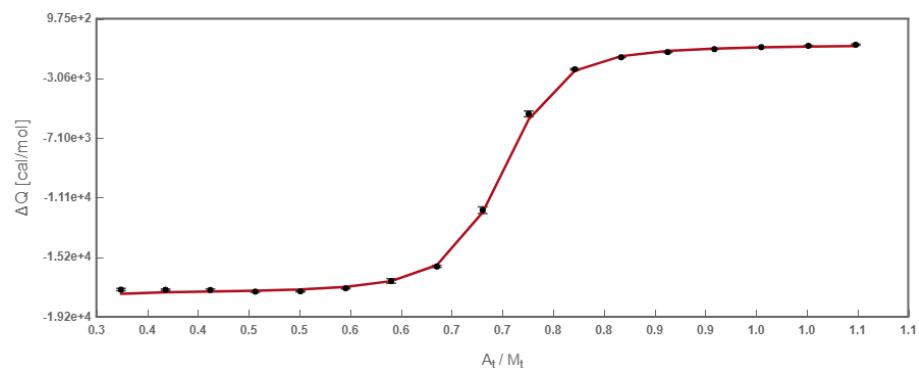
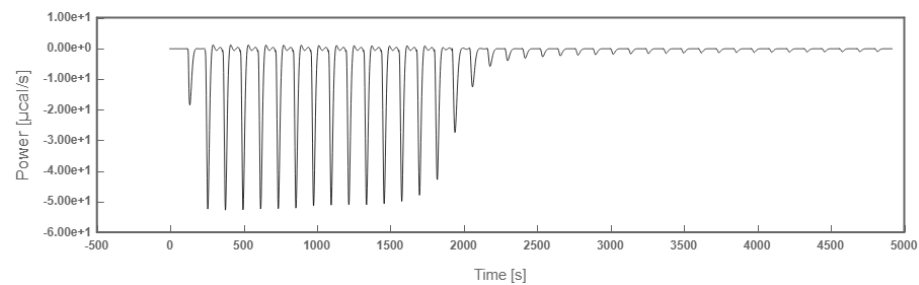
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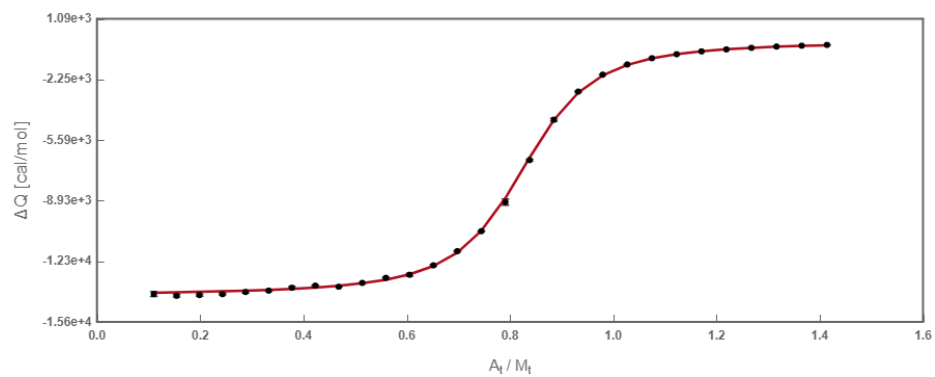
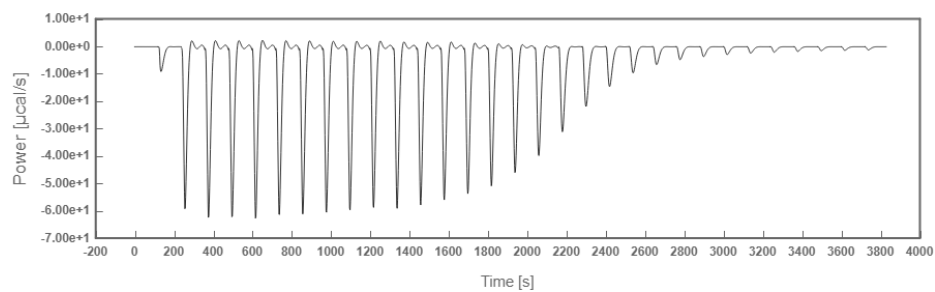
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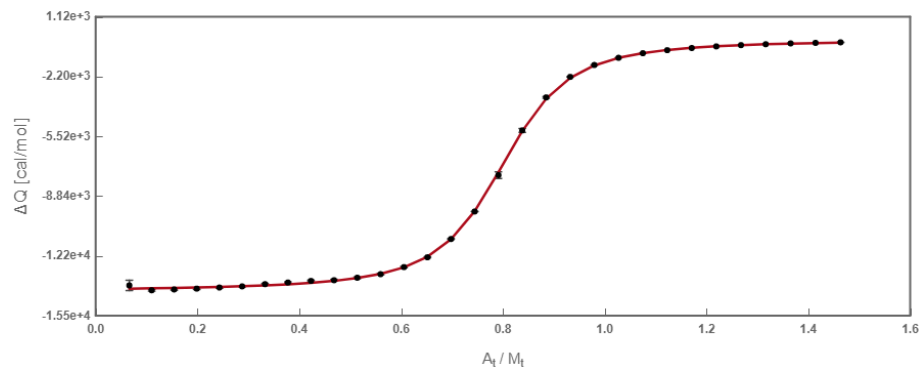
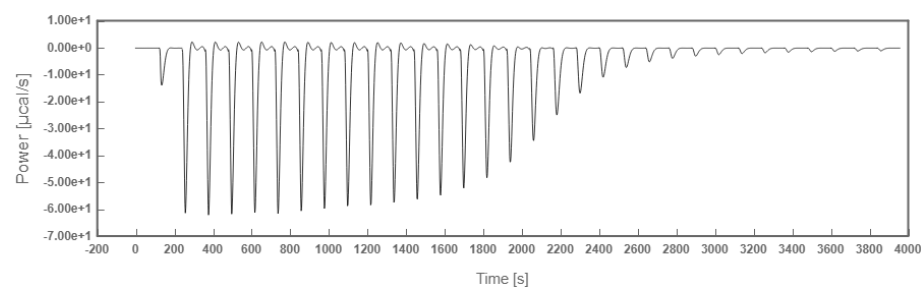
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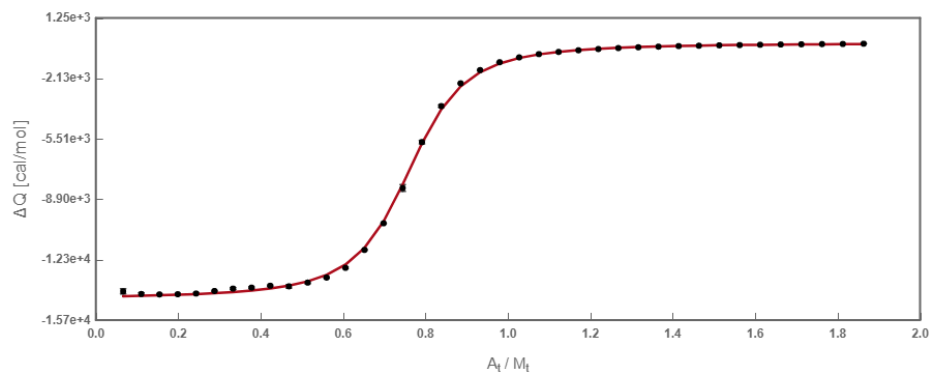
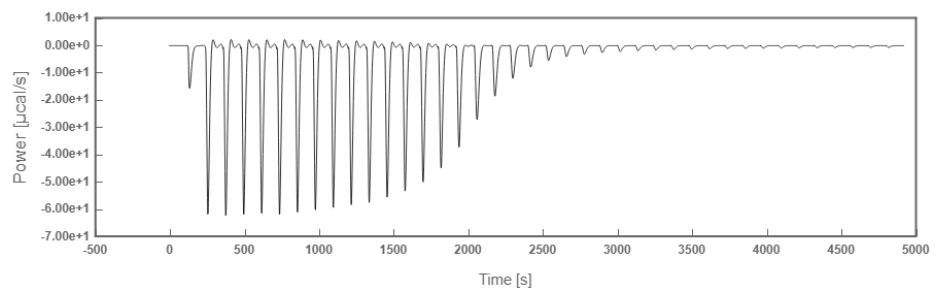
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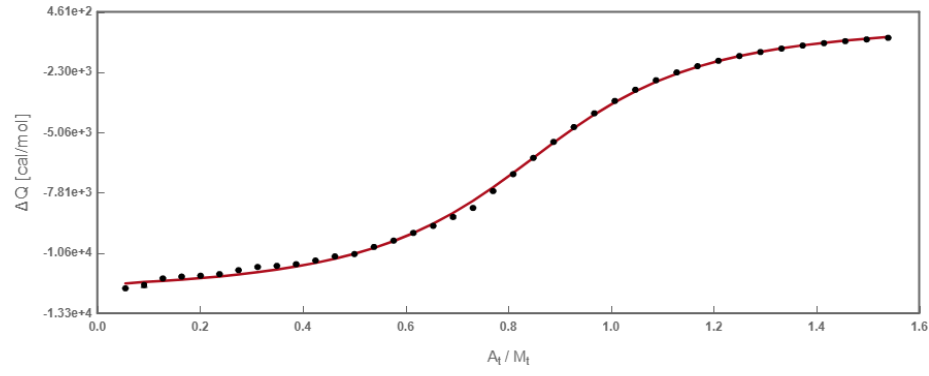
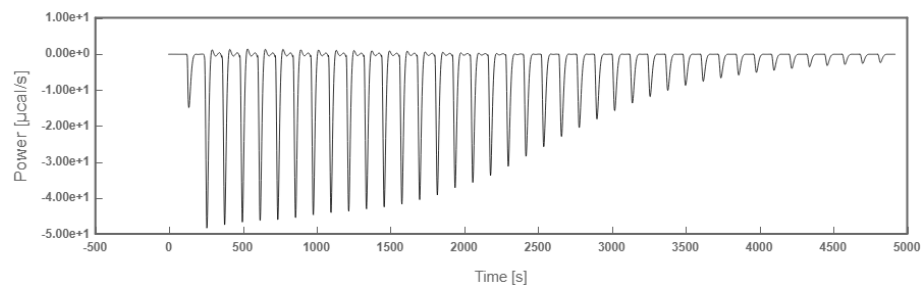
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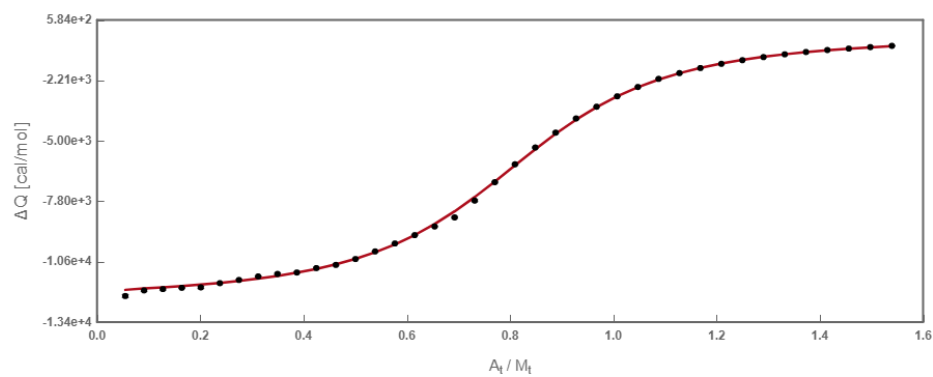
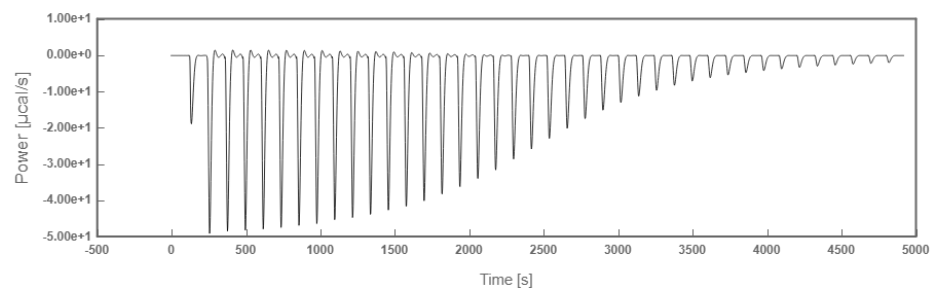
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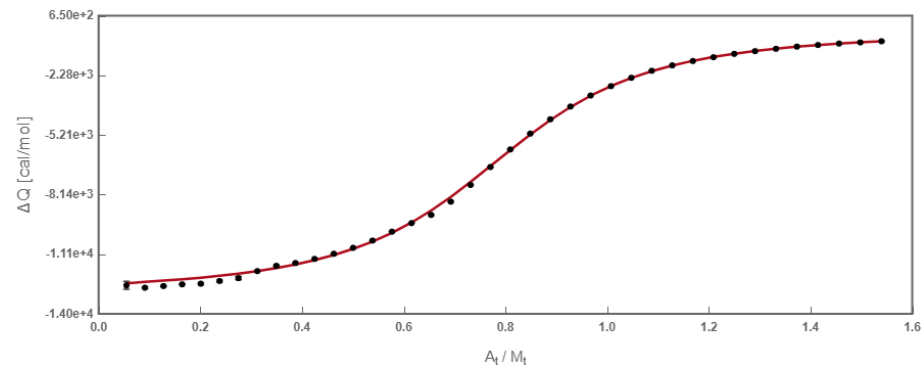
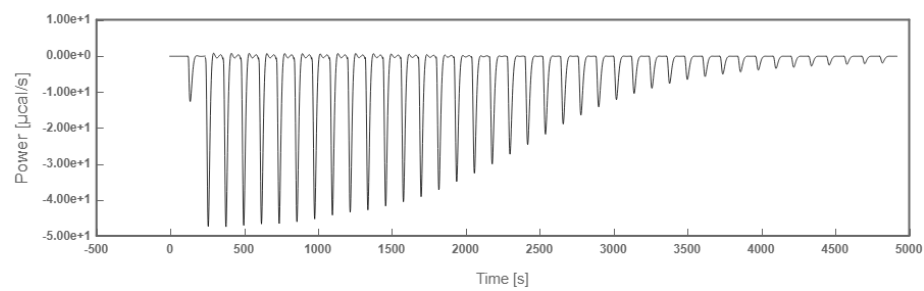
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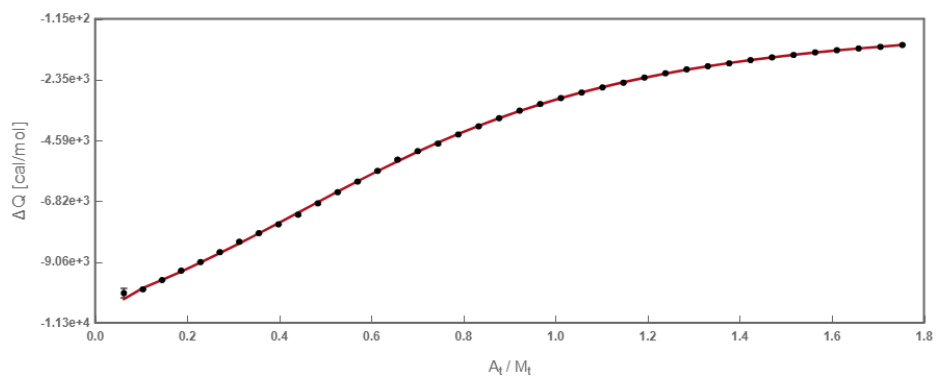
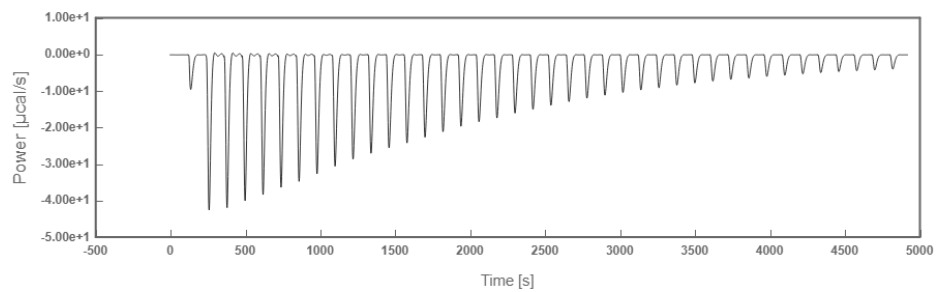
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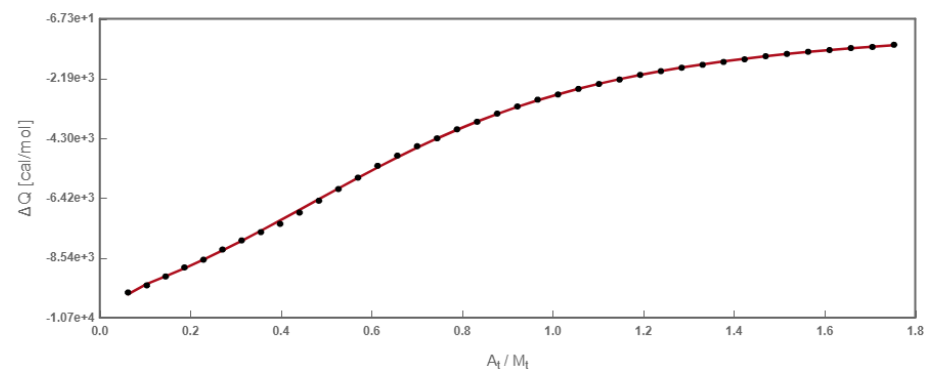
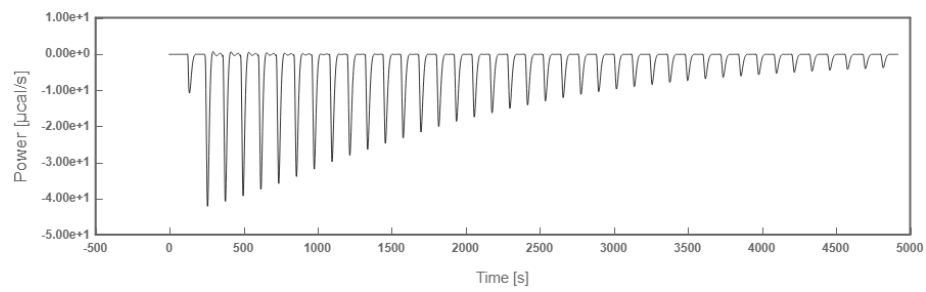
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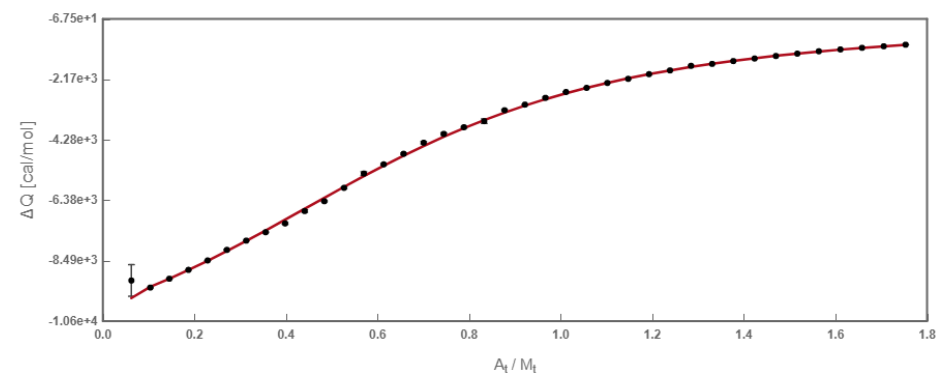
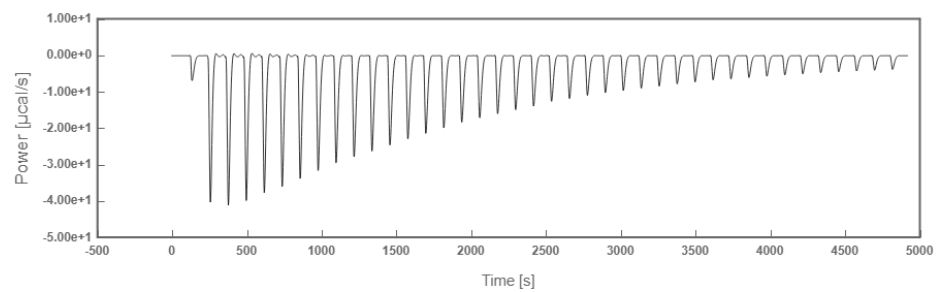


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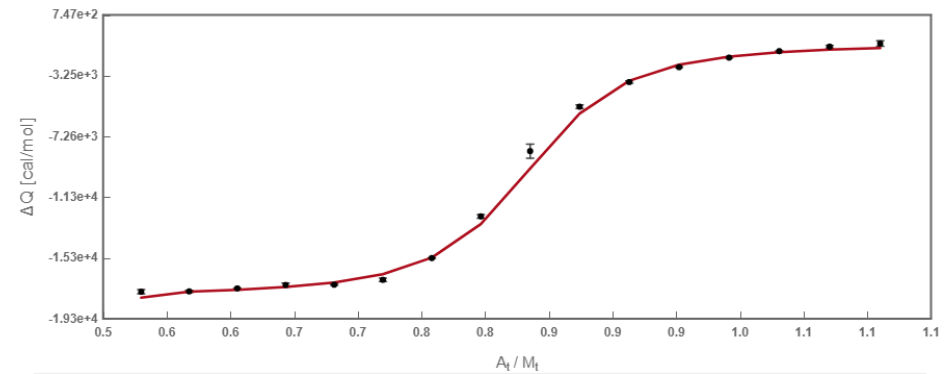
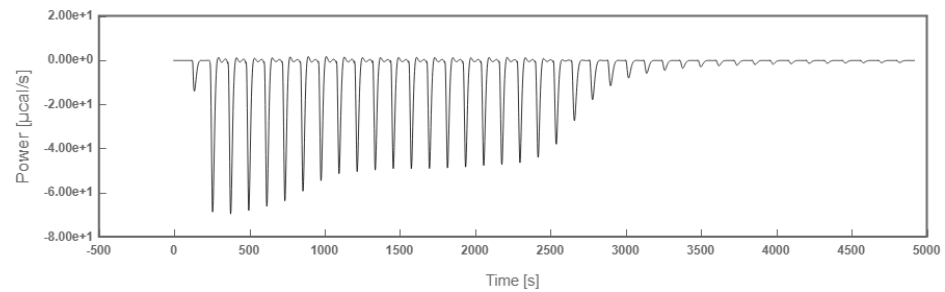




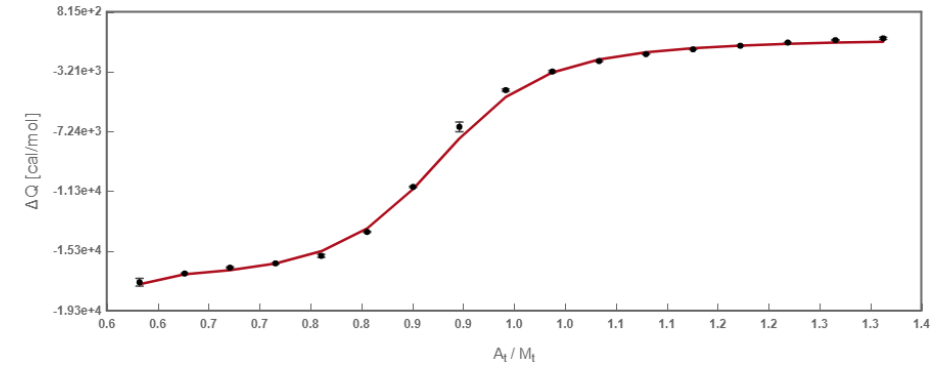
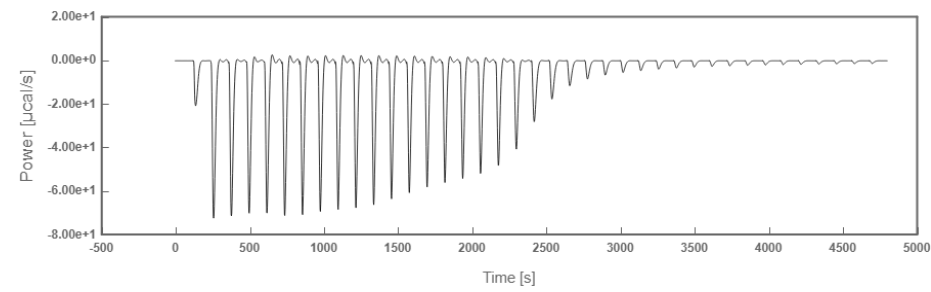
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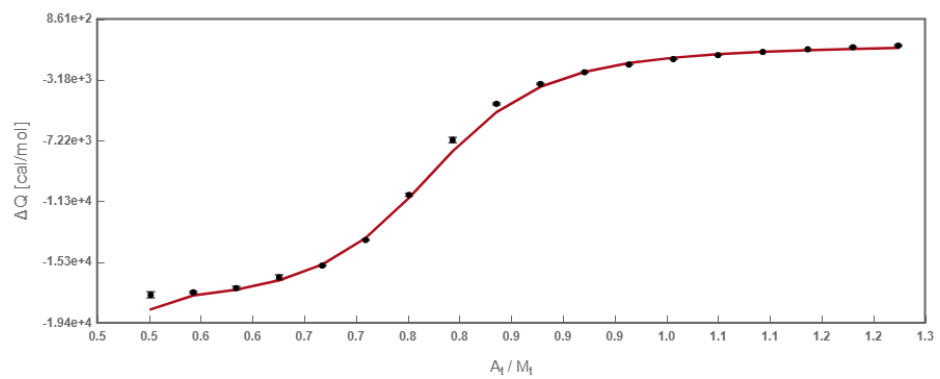
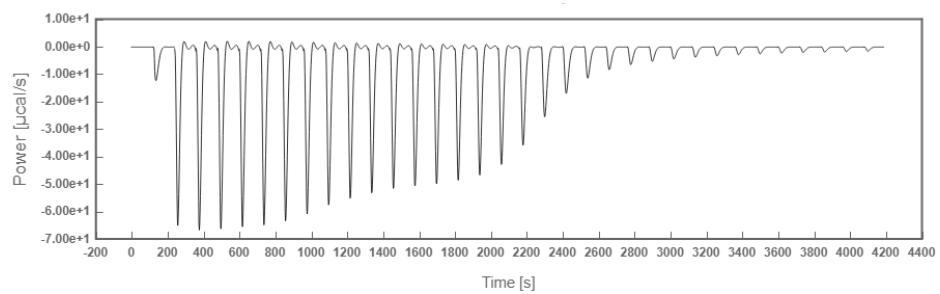
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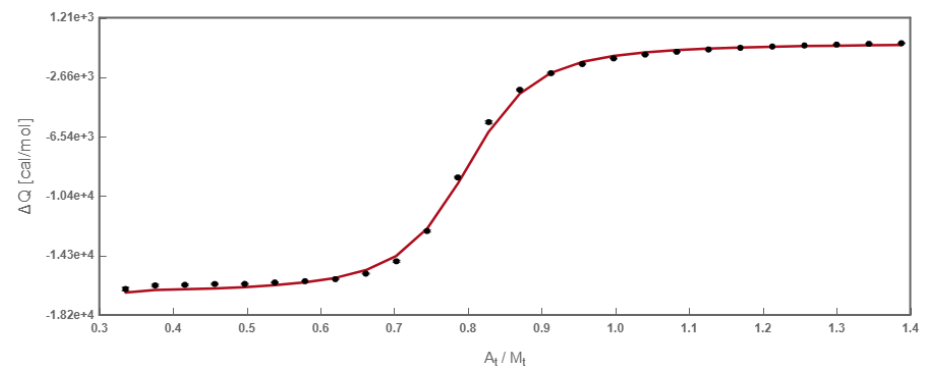
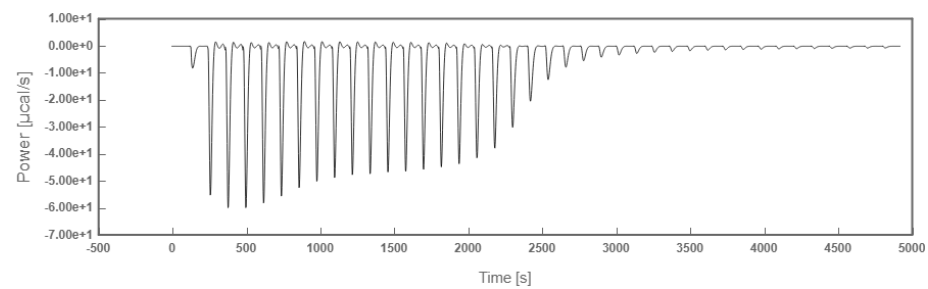
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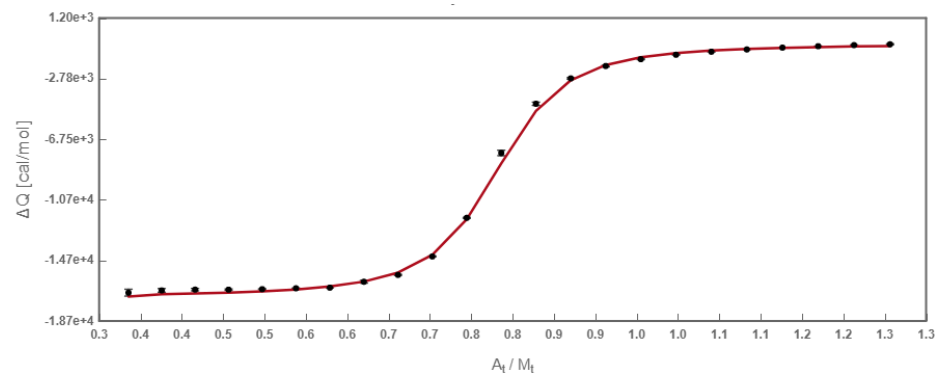
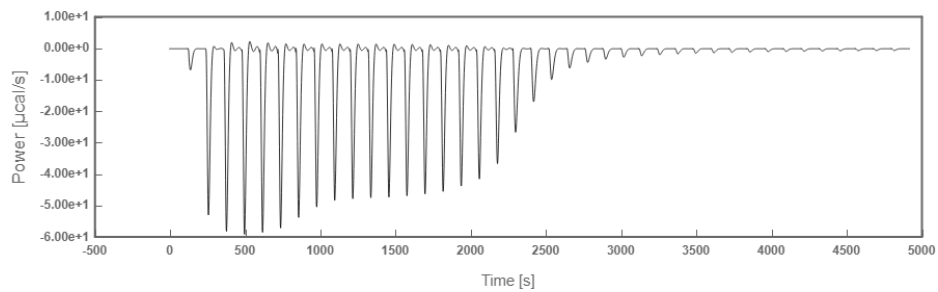
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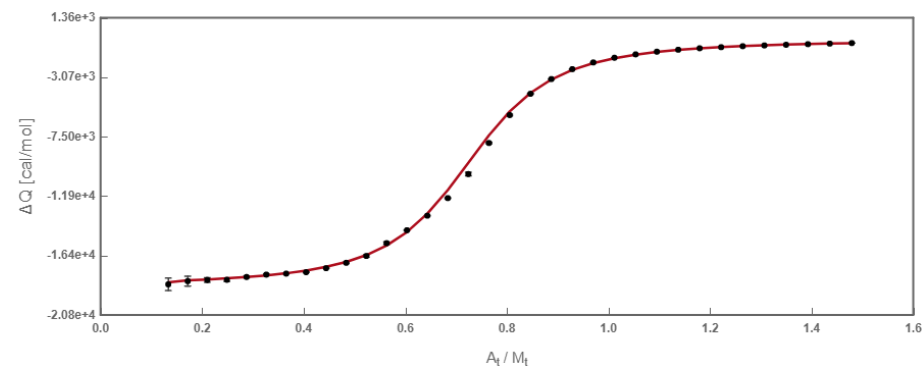
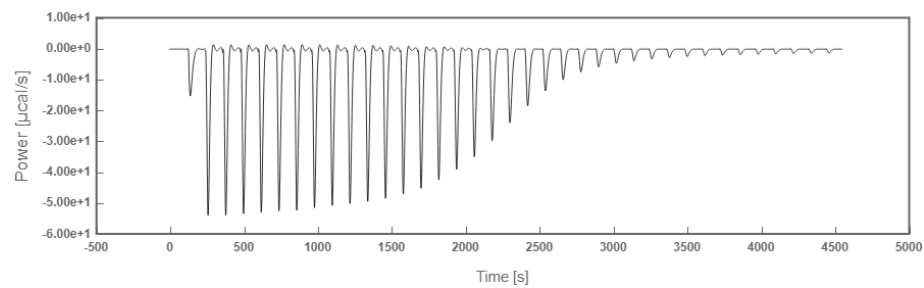
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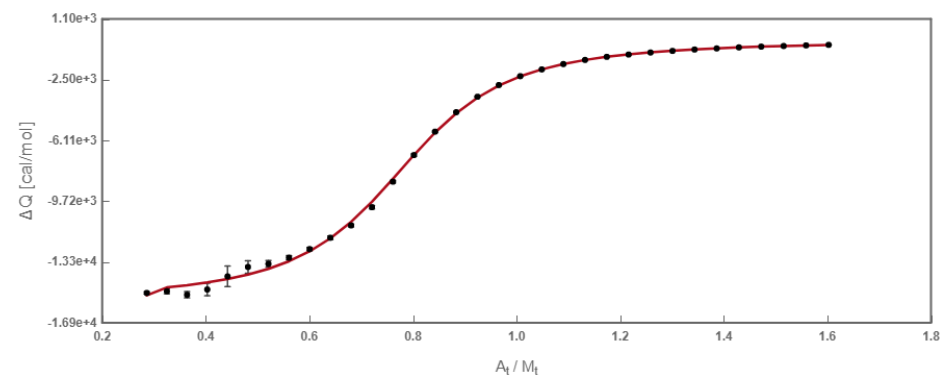
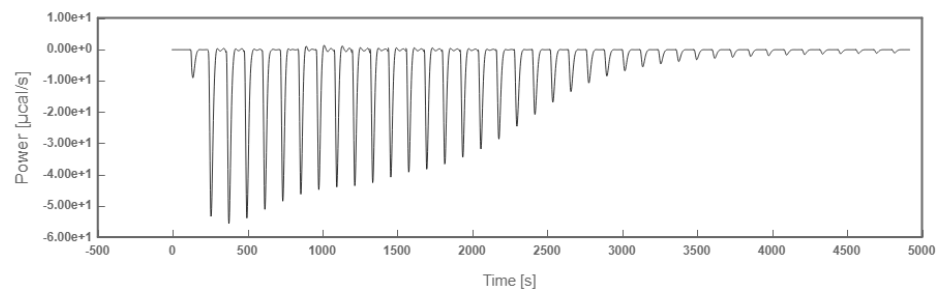
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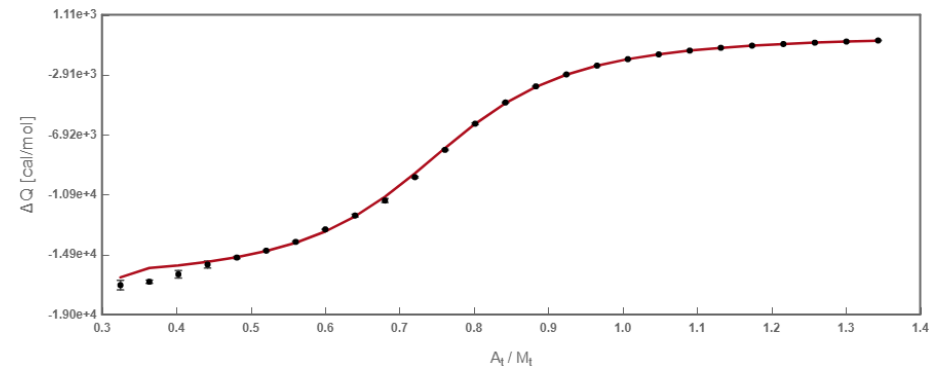
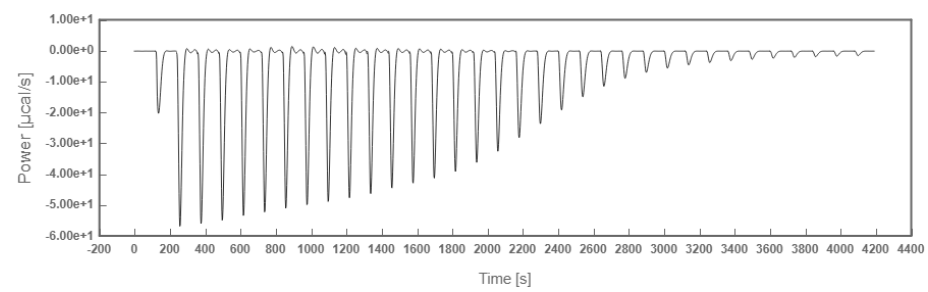
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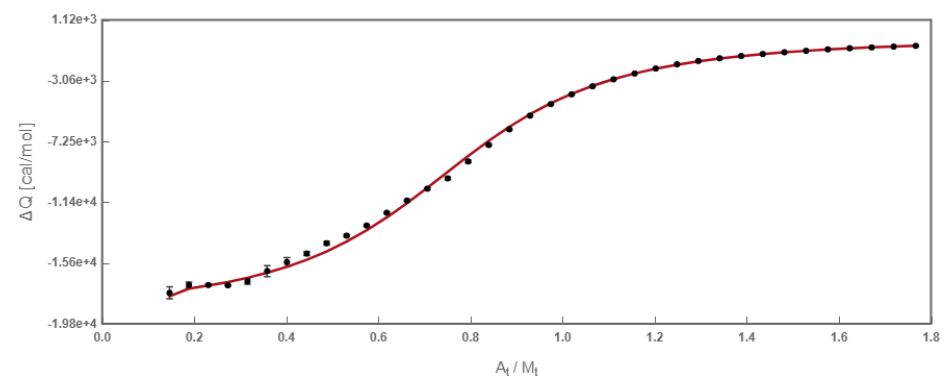
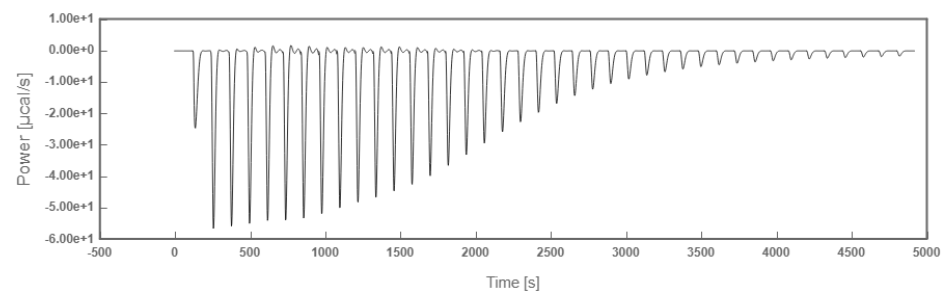
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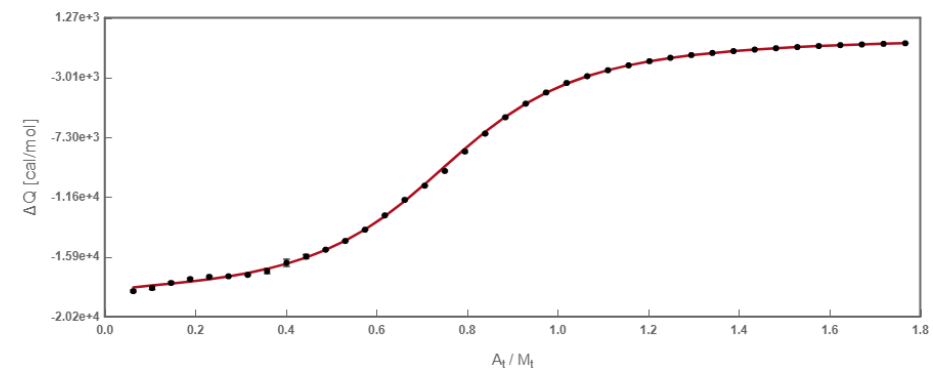
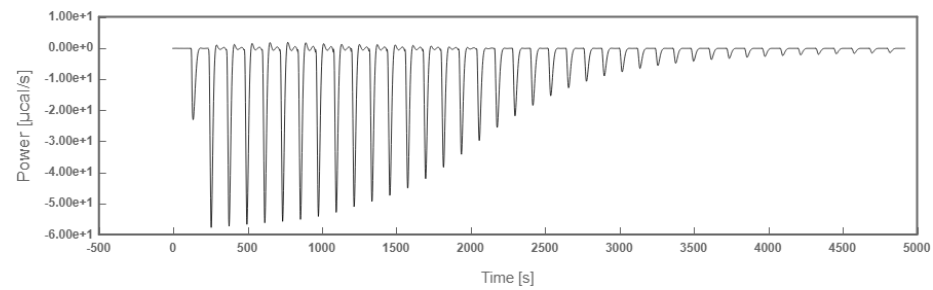
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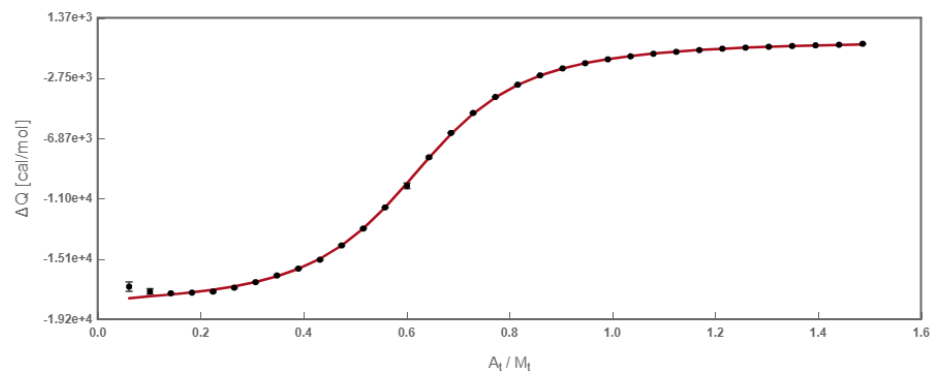
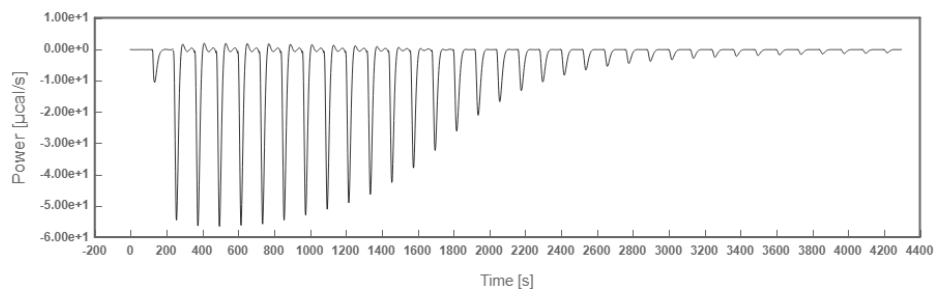
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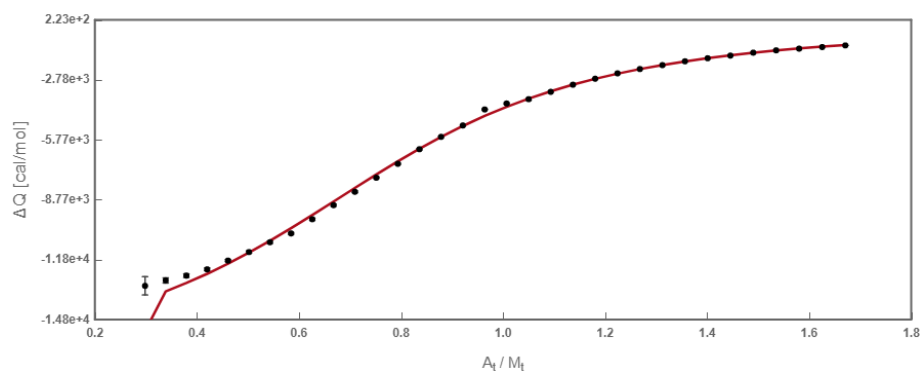
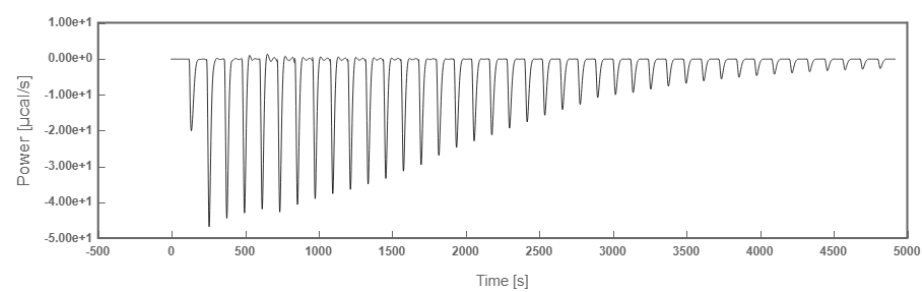
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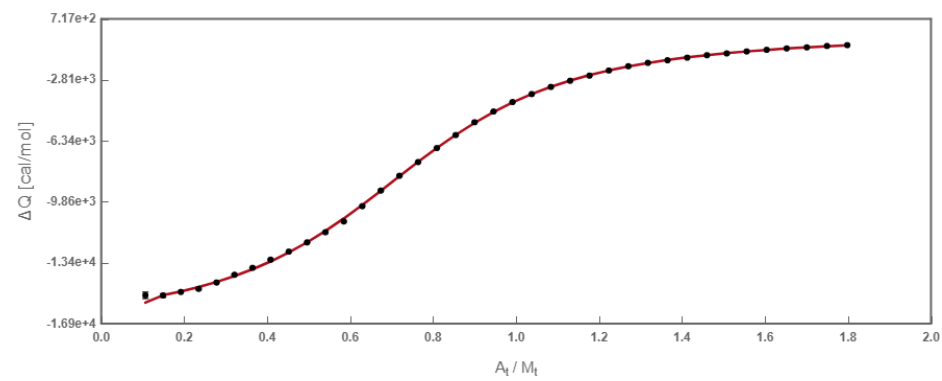
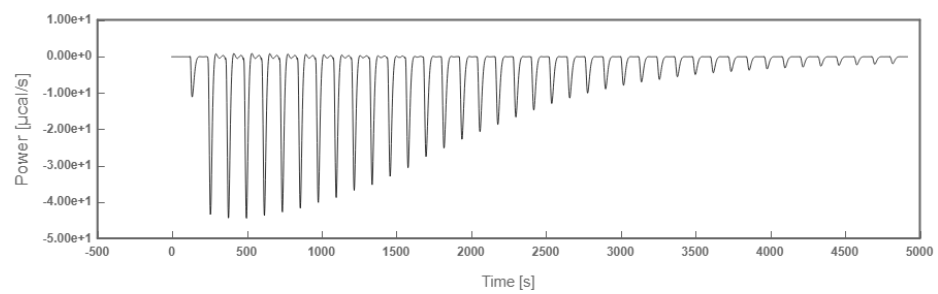
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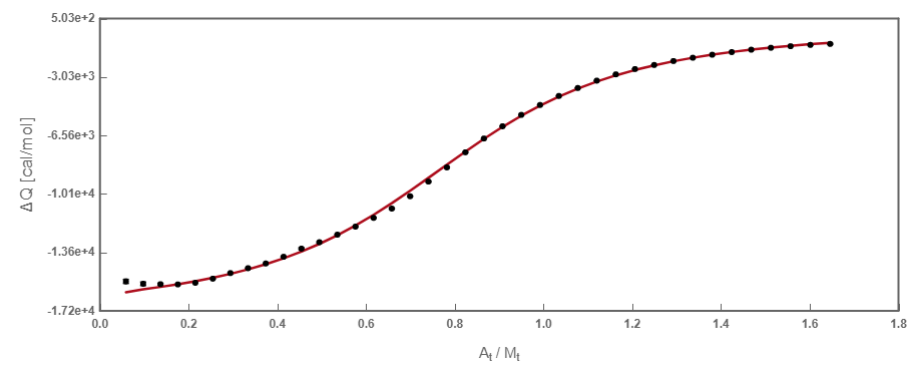
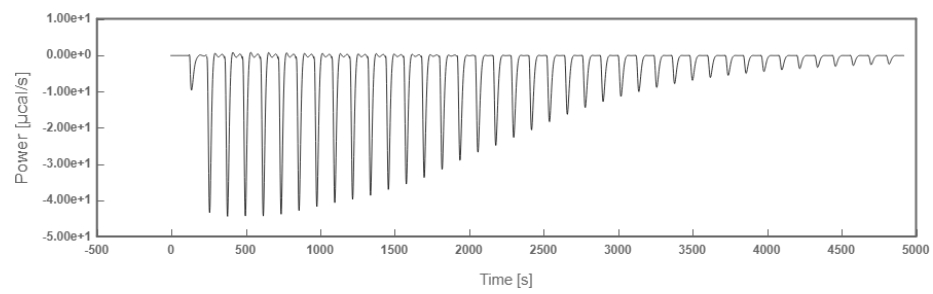
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RM1124e2

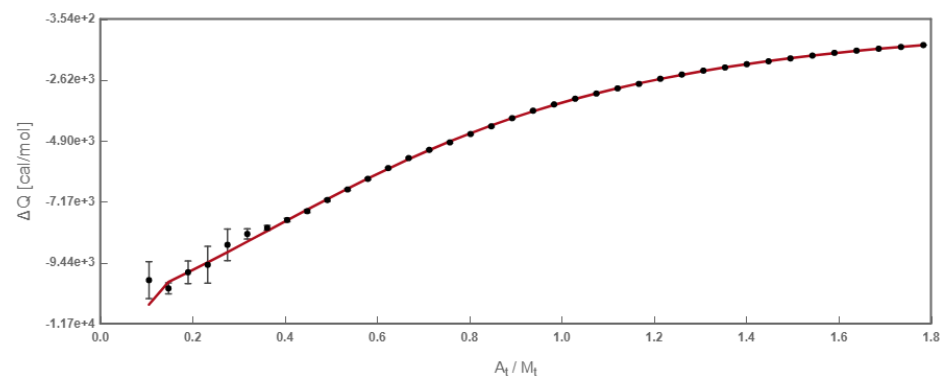
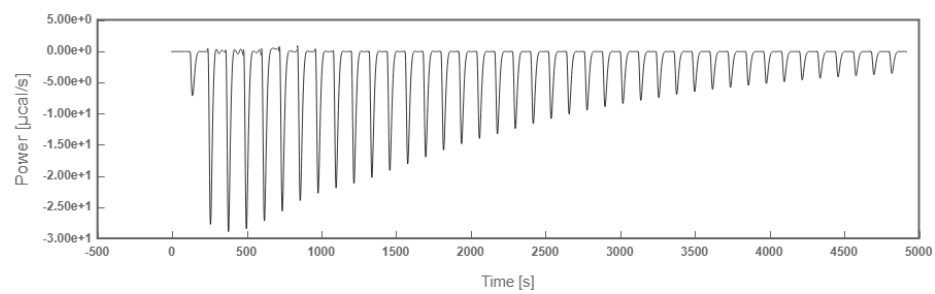


RM1124e3

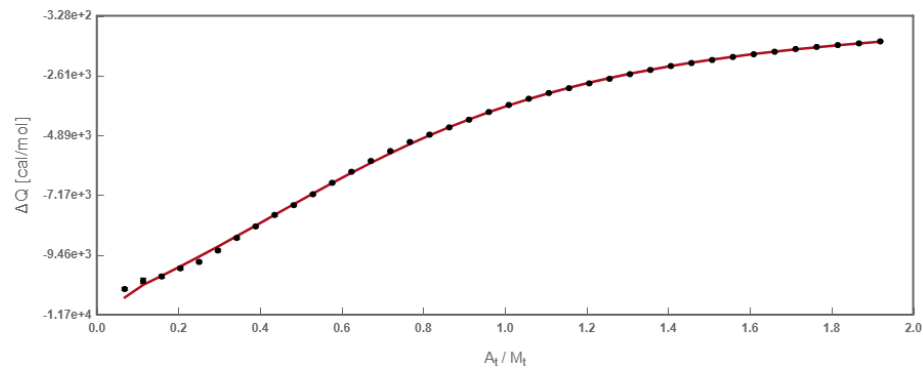
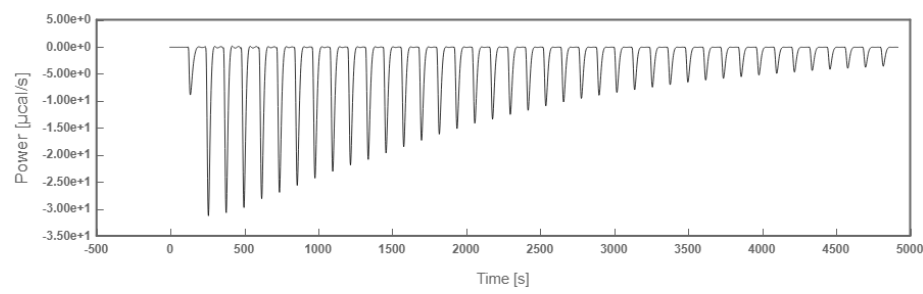




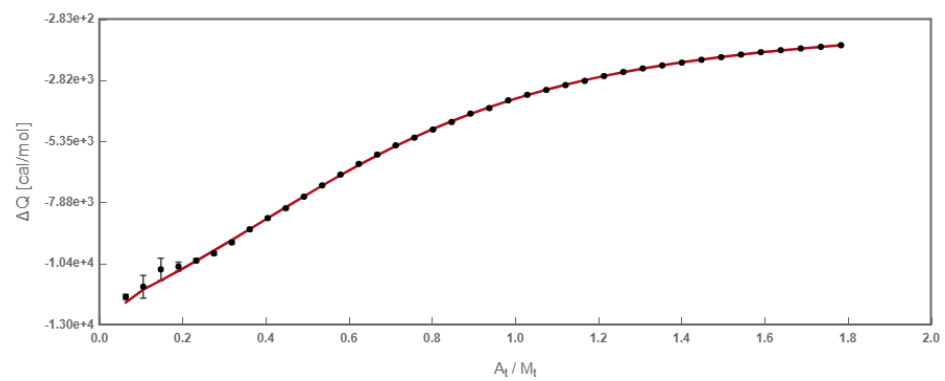
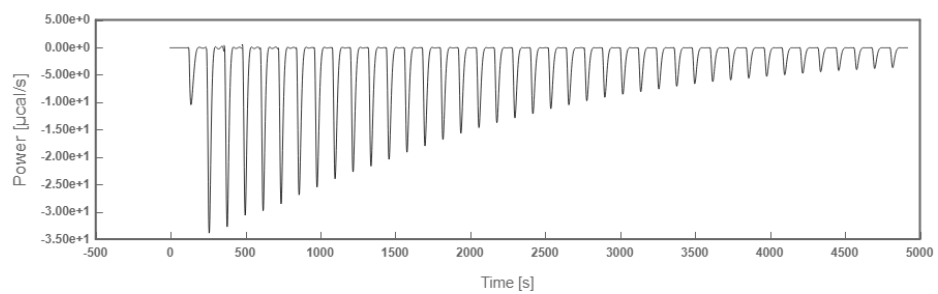
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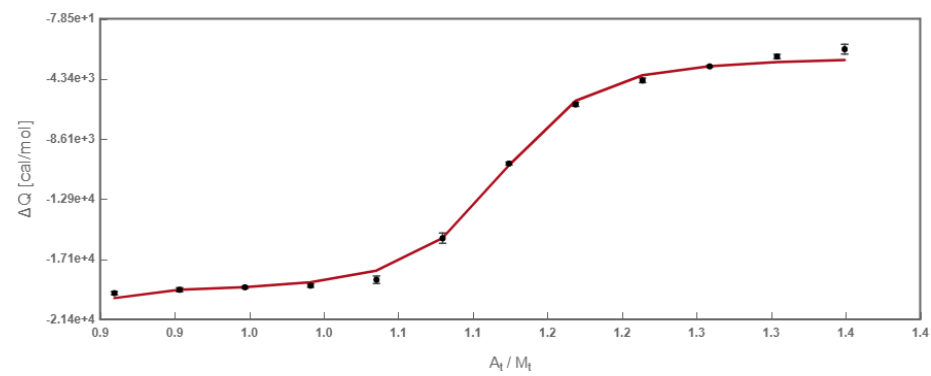
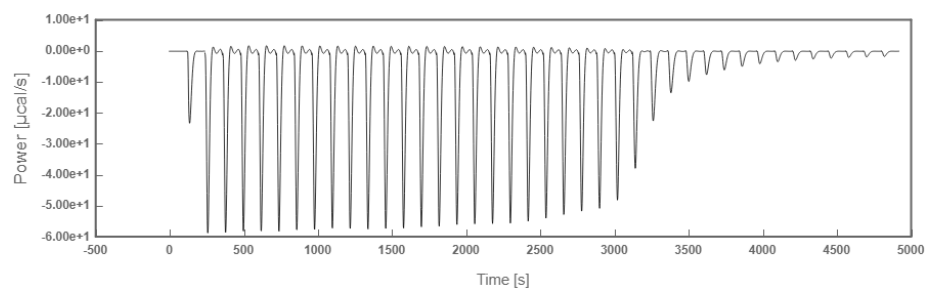
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RM1125e4

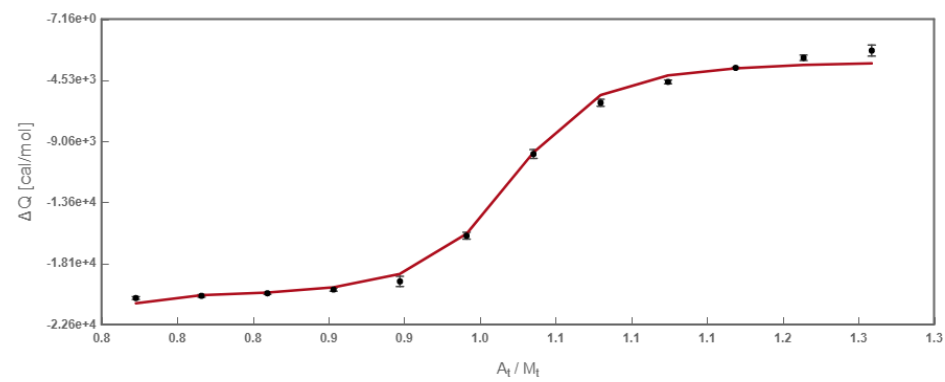
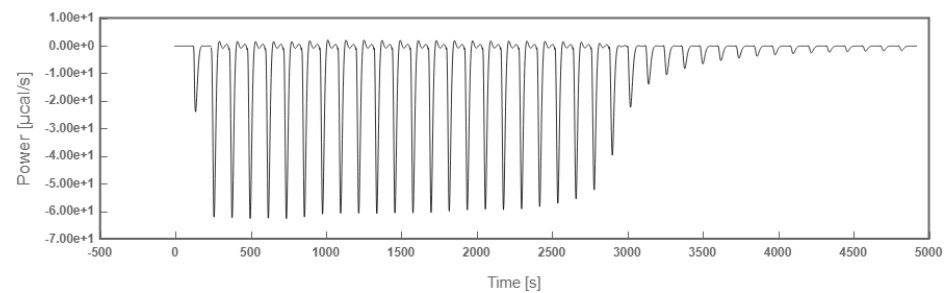


RM968e1

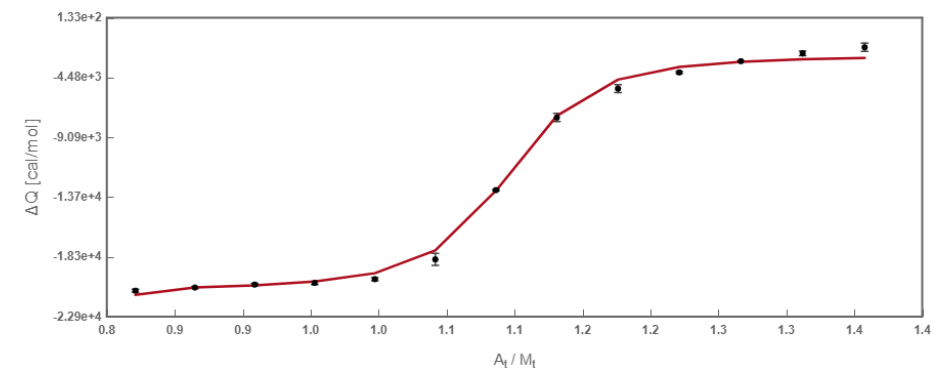
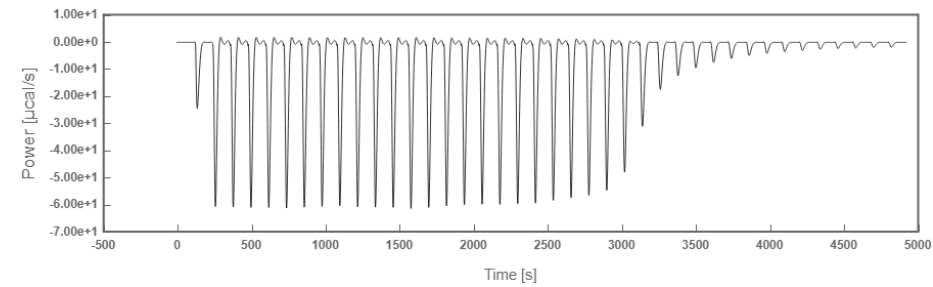


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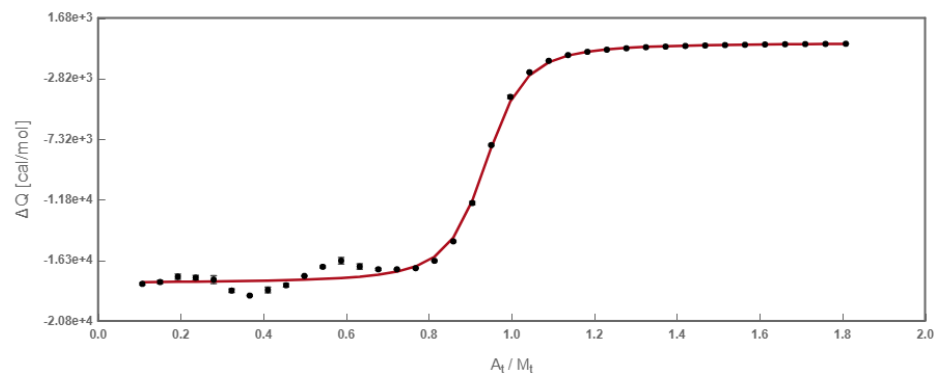
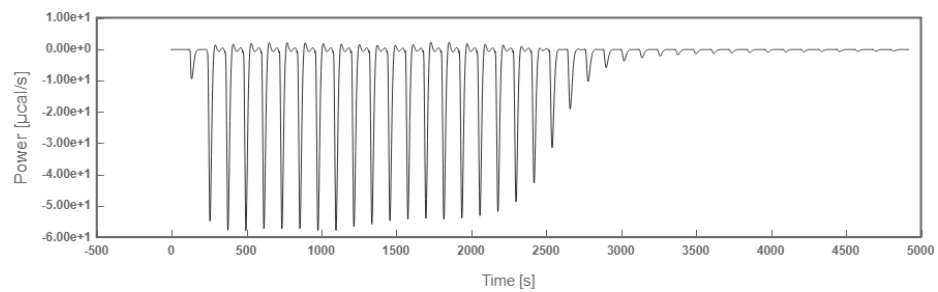
RM968e3



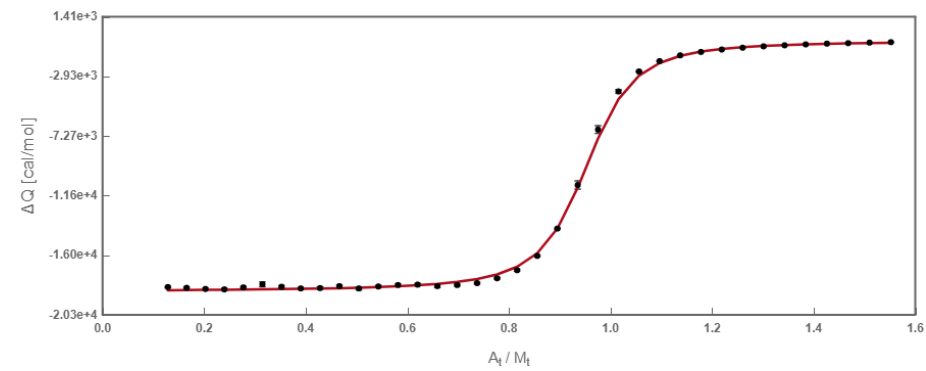
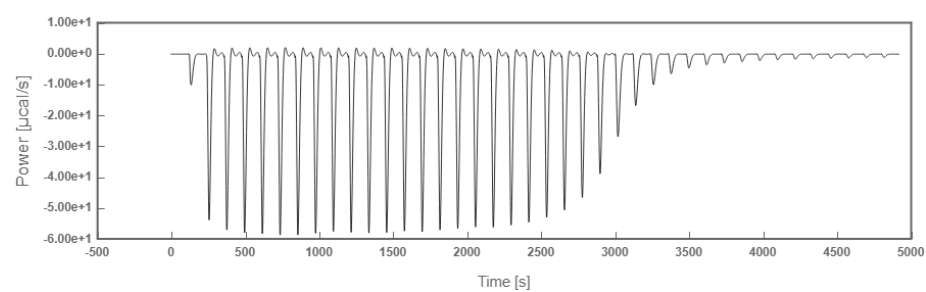
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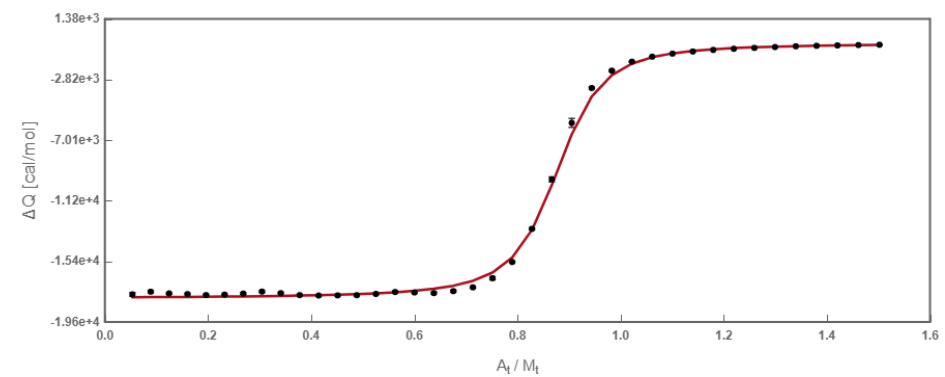
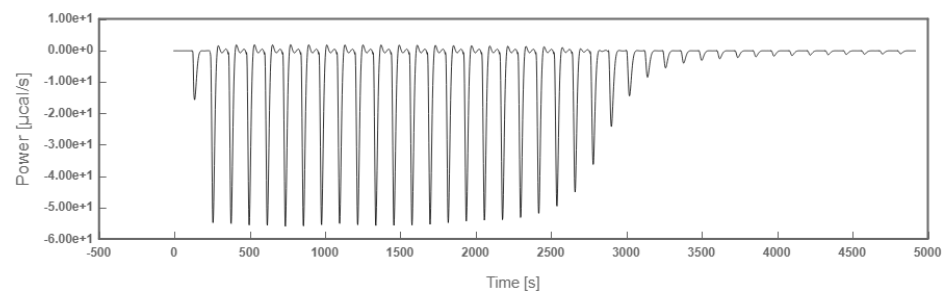
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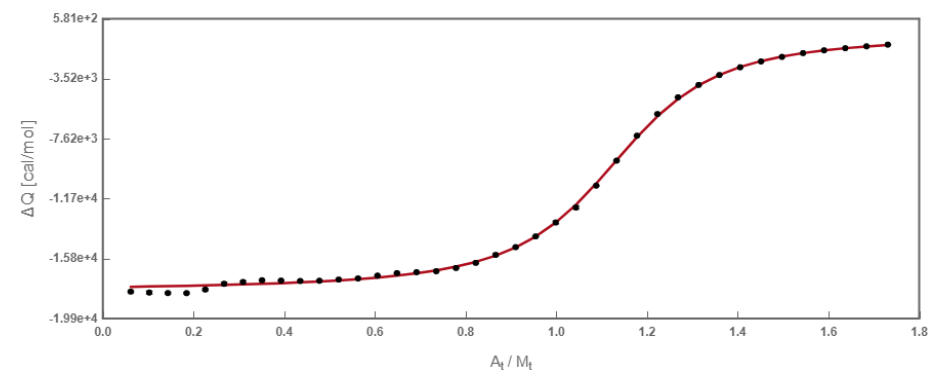
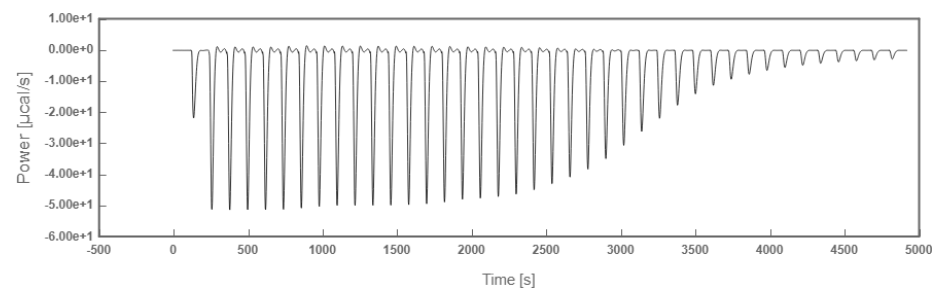
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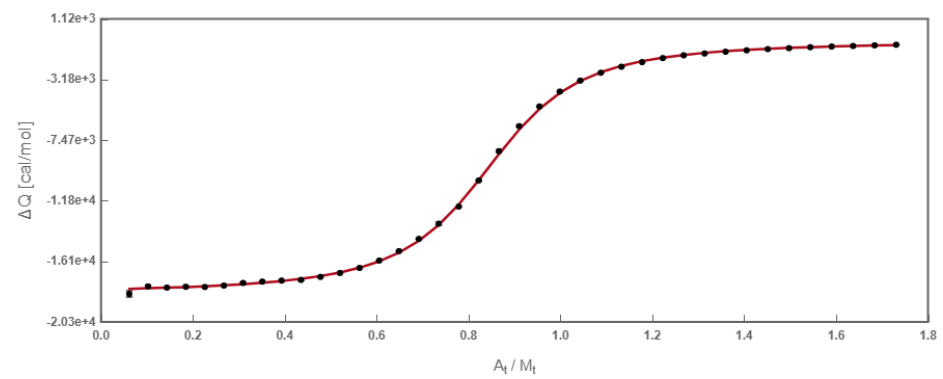
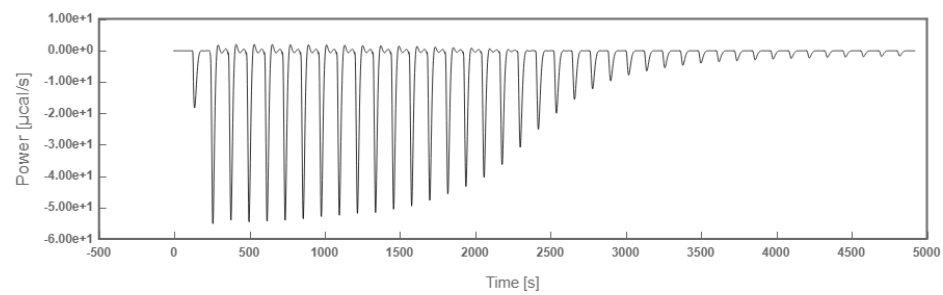
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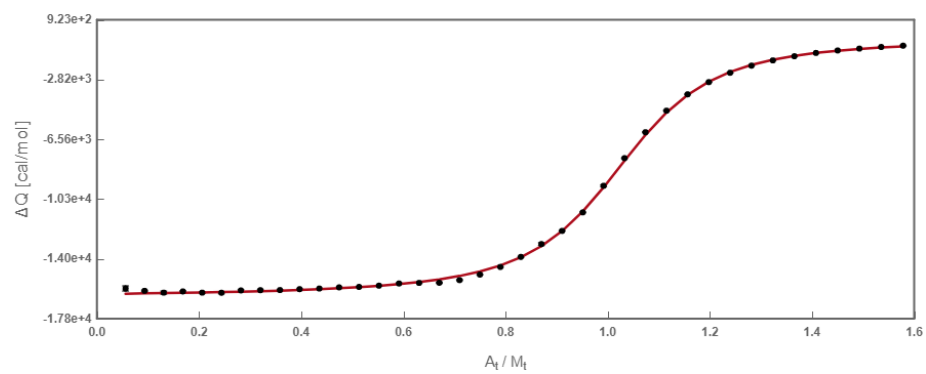
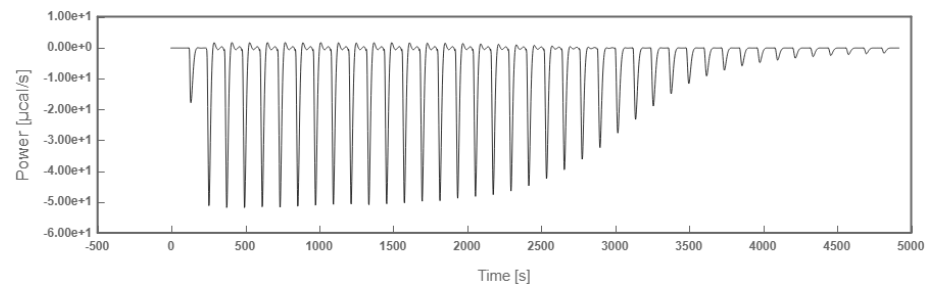
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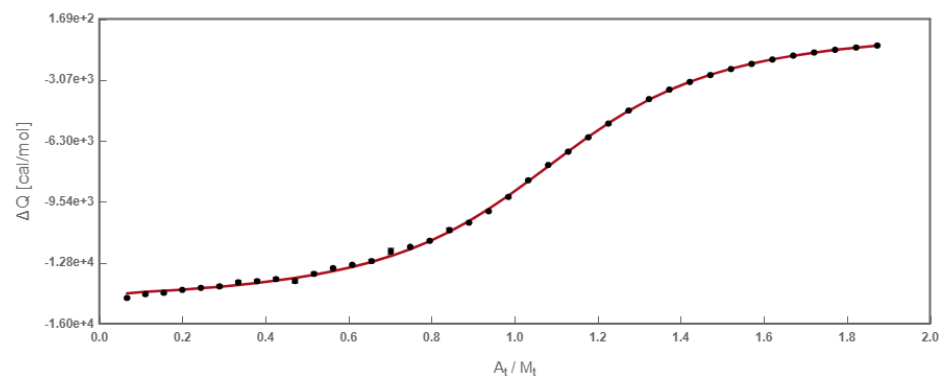
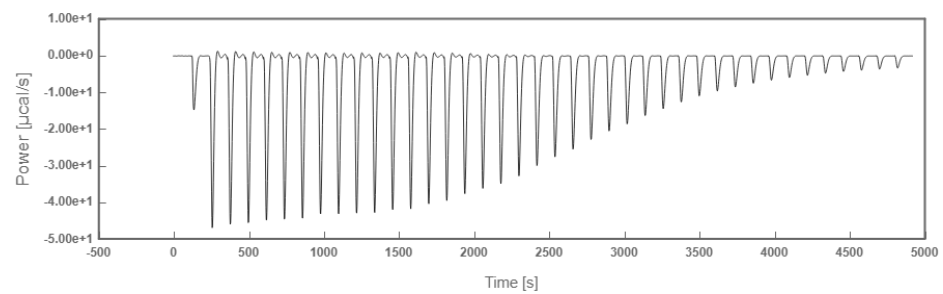
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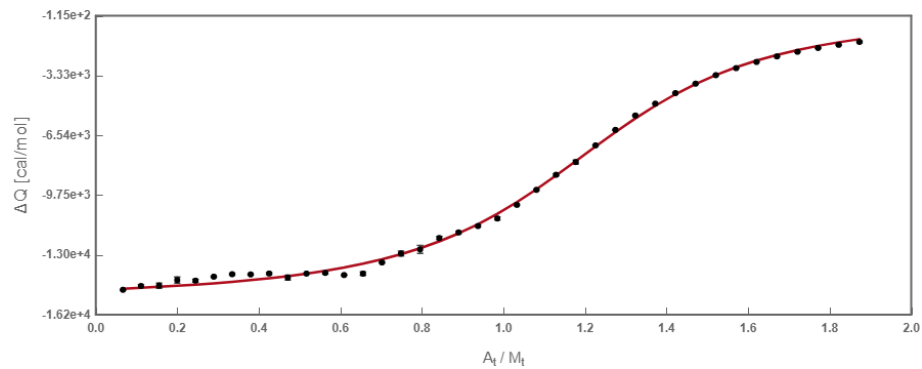
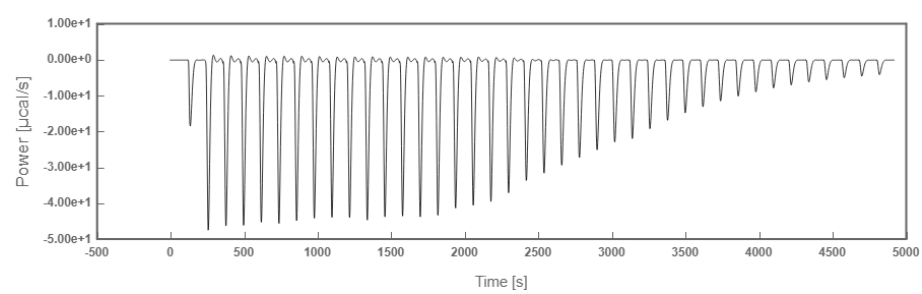
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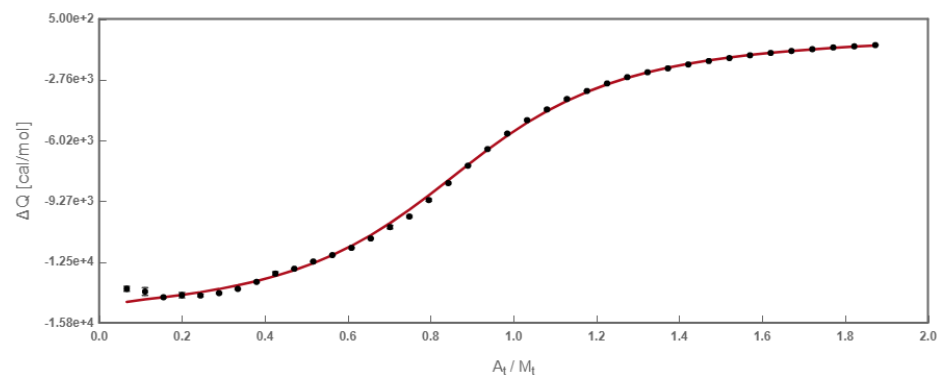
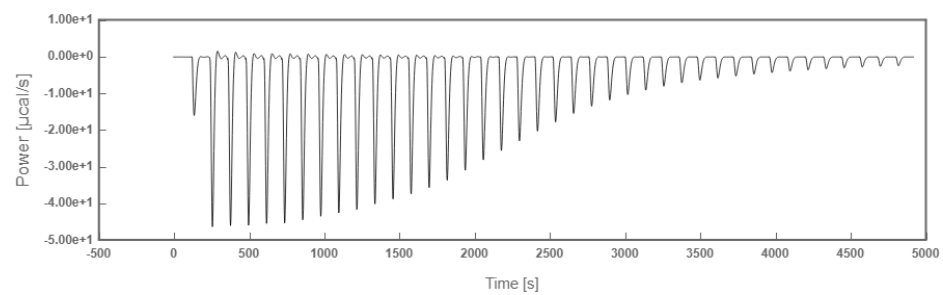
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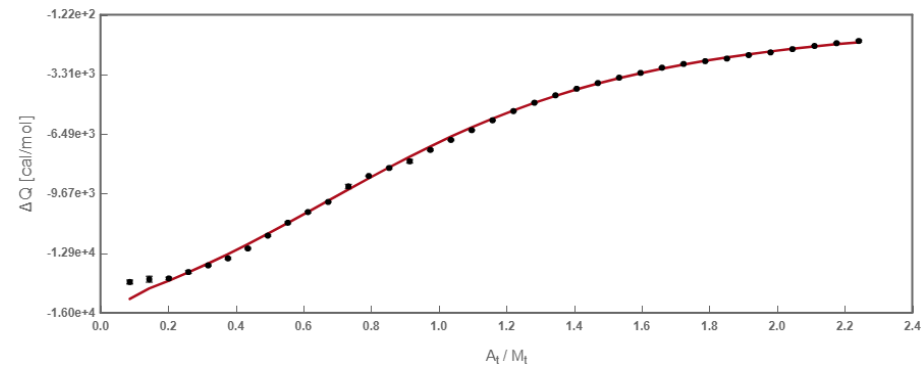
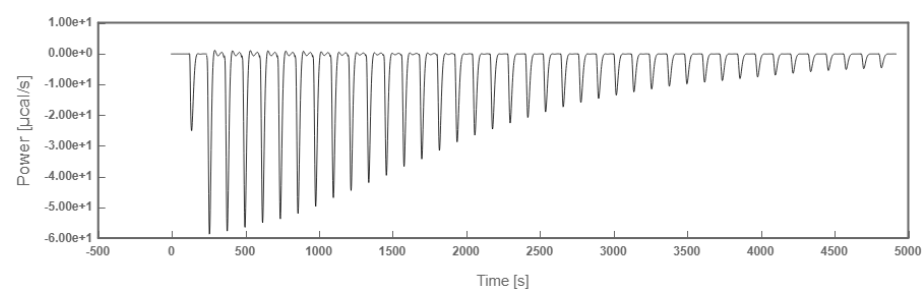
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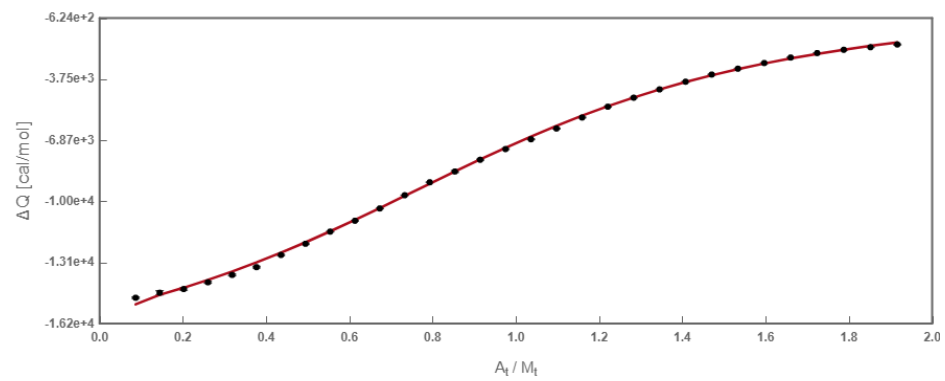
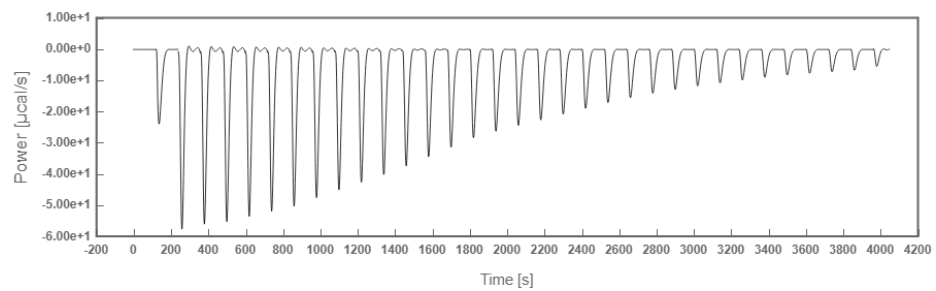


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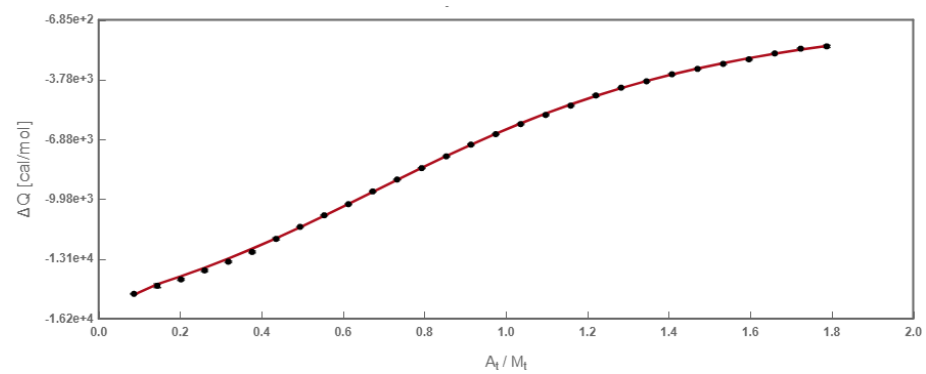
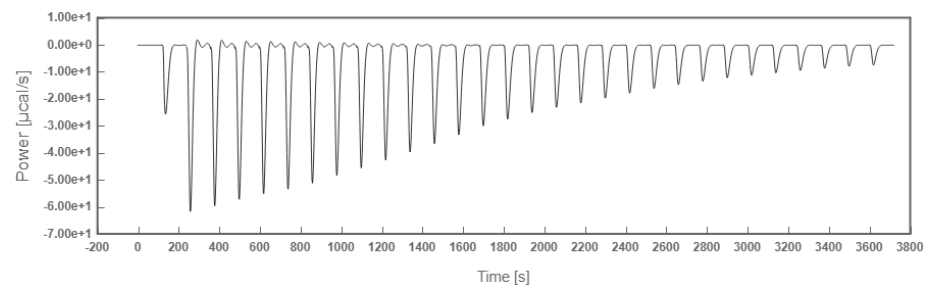




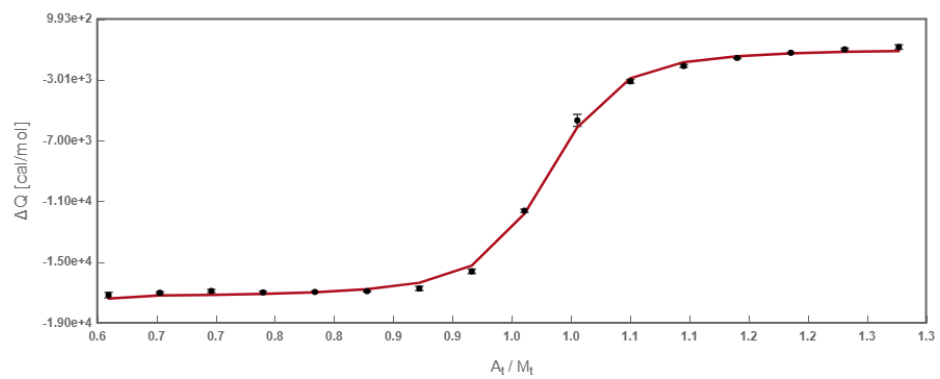
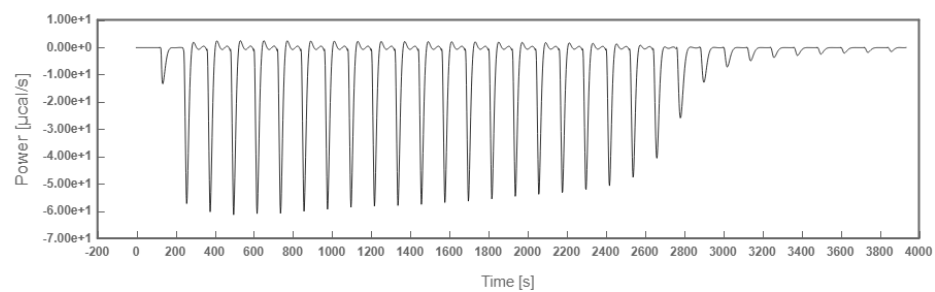
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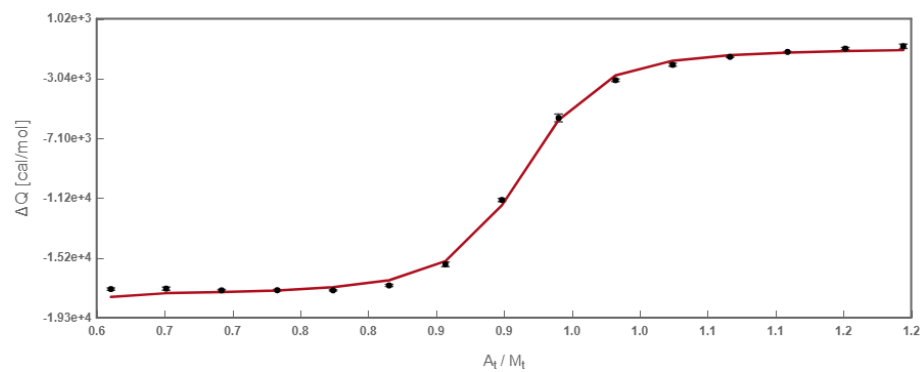
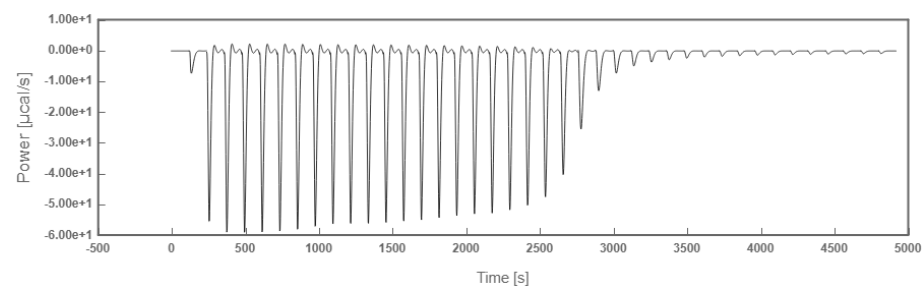
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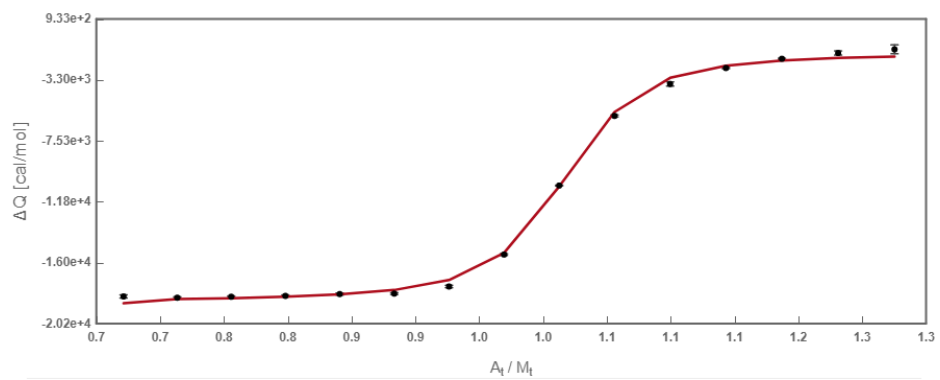
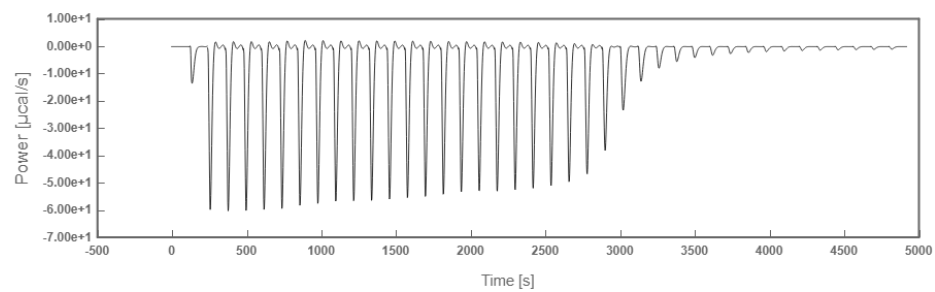
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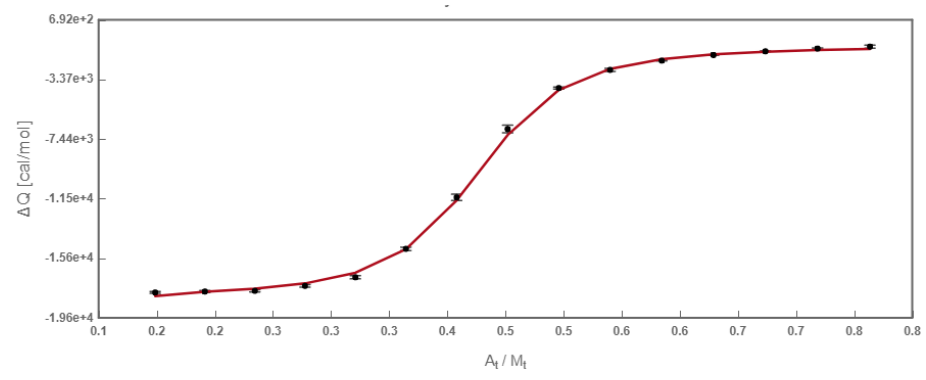
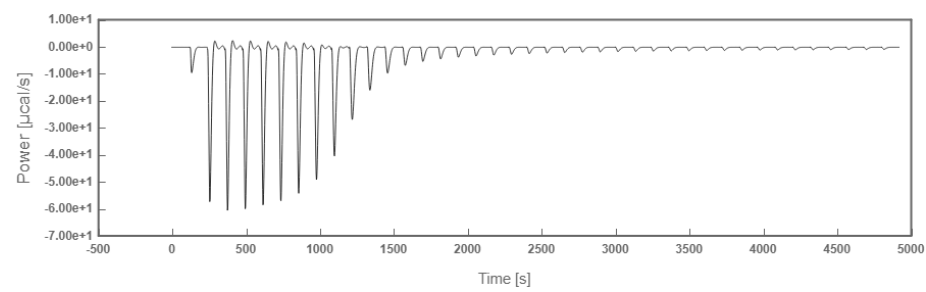
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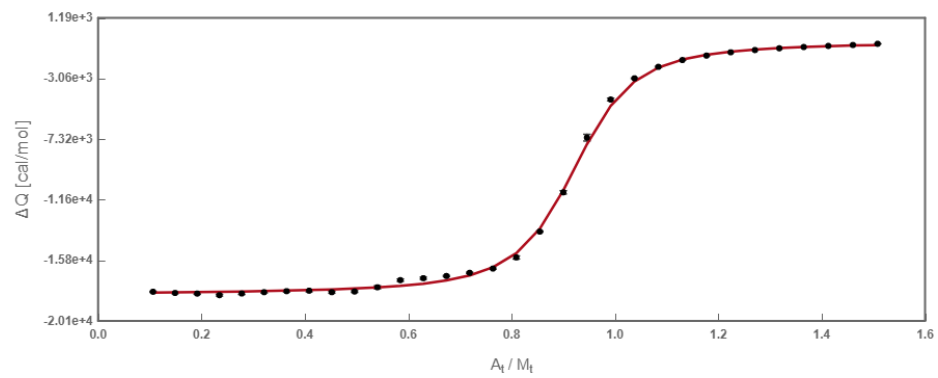
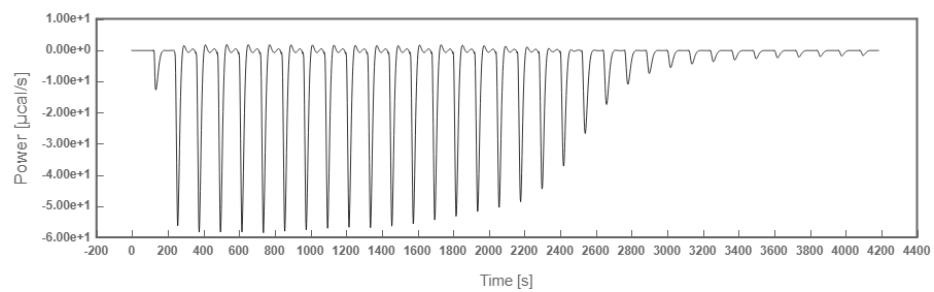
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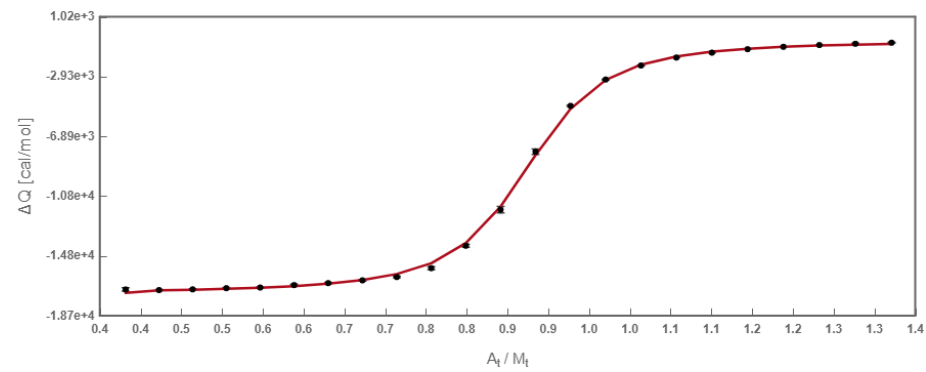
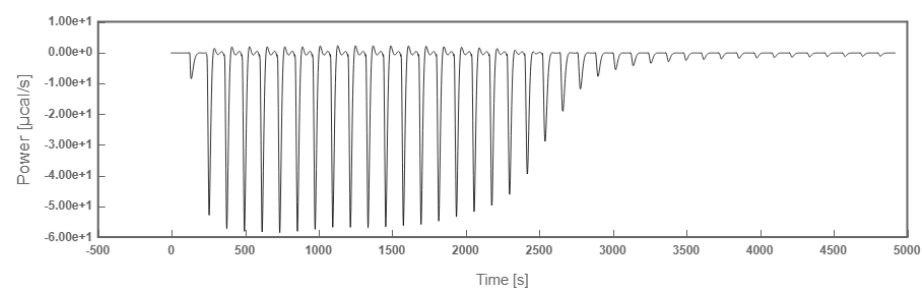
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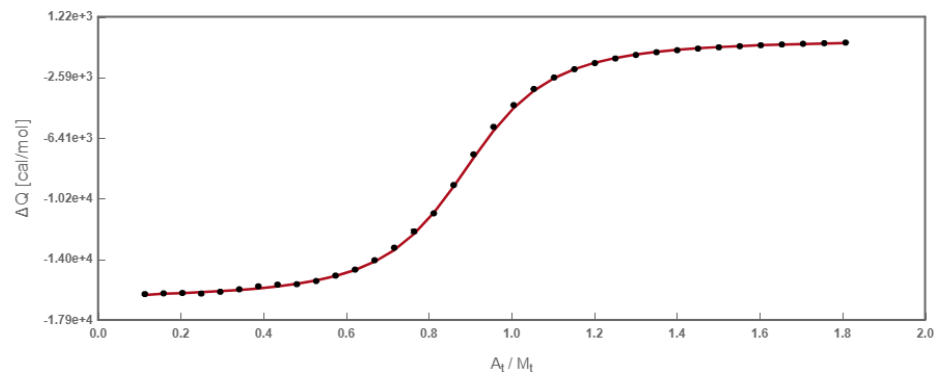
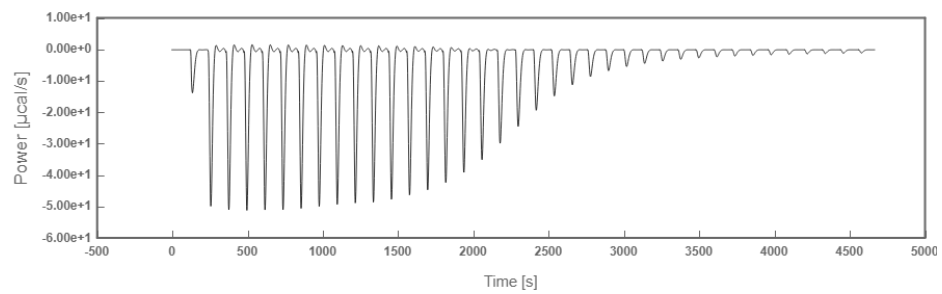
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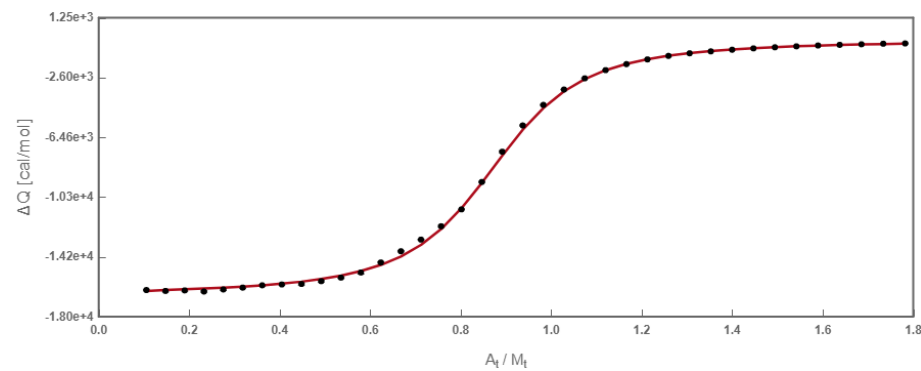
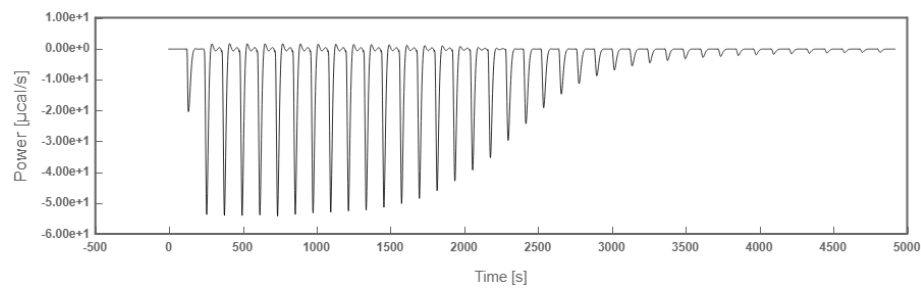
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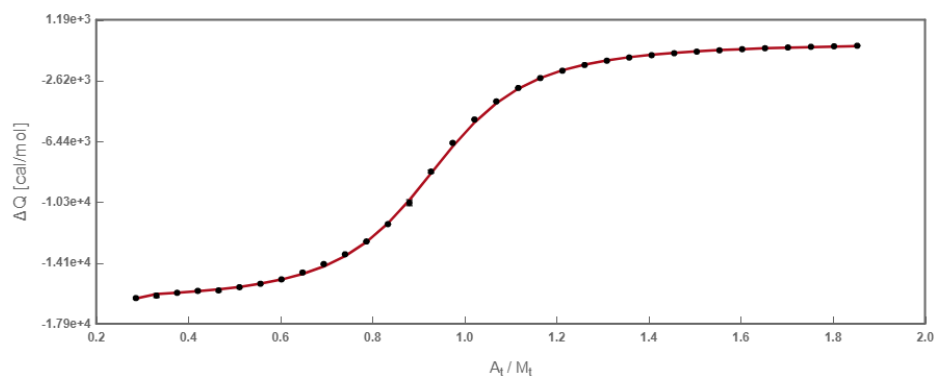
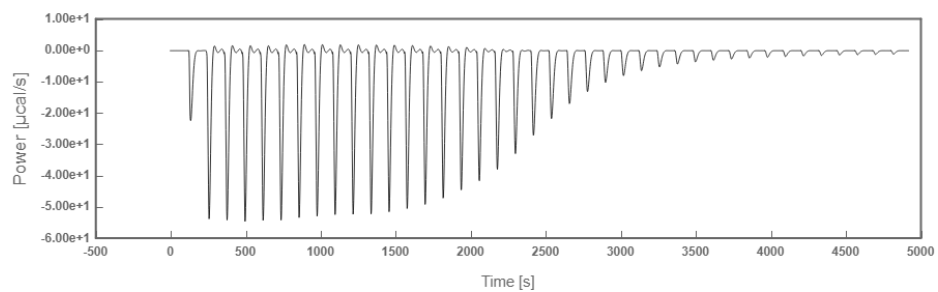
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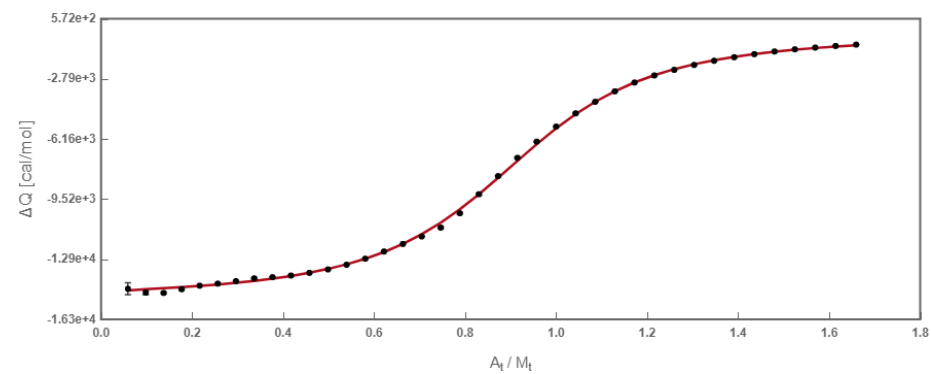
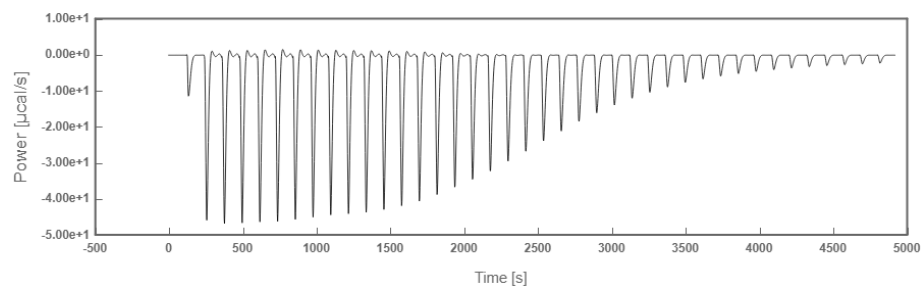
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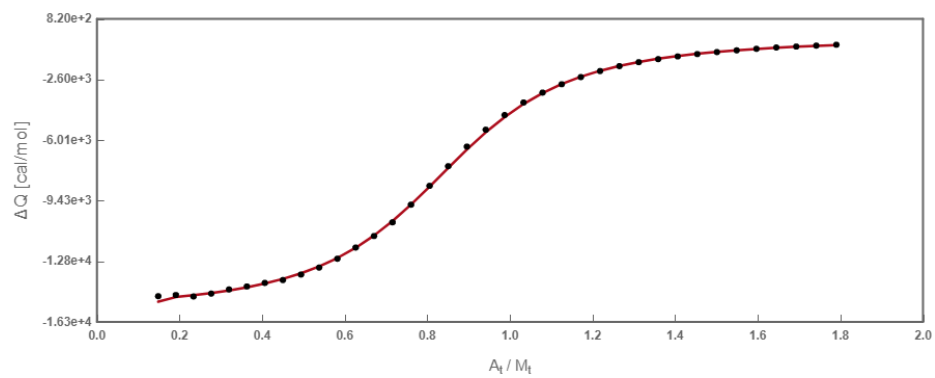
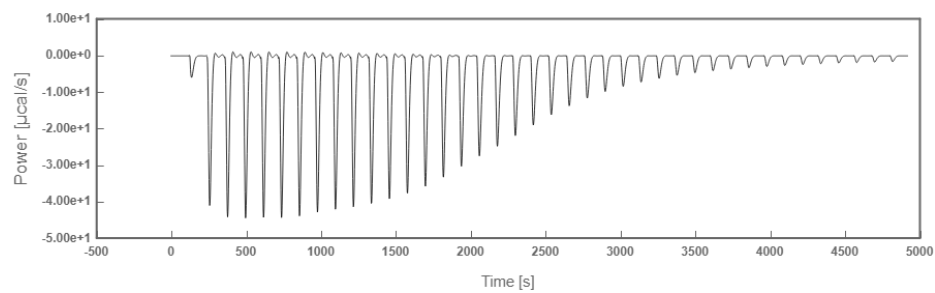
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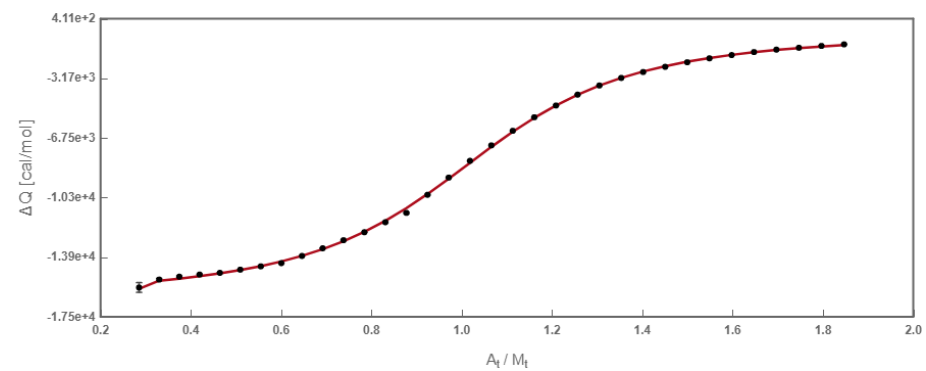
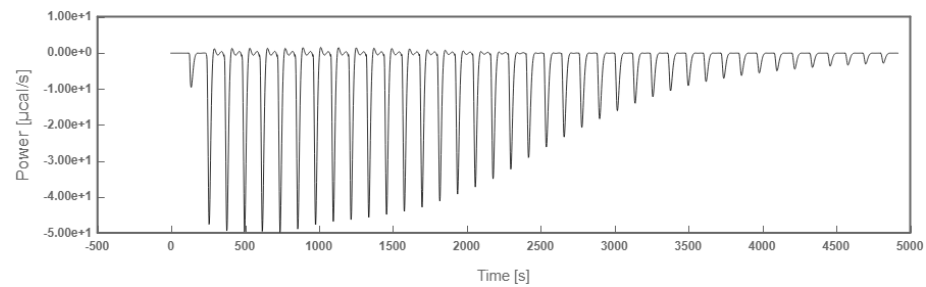
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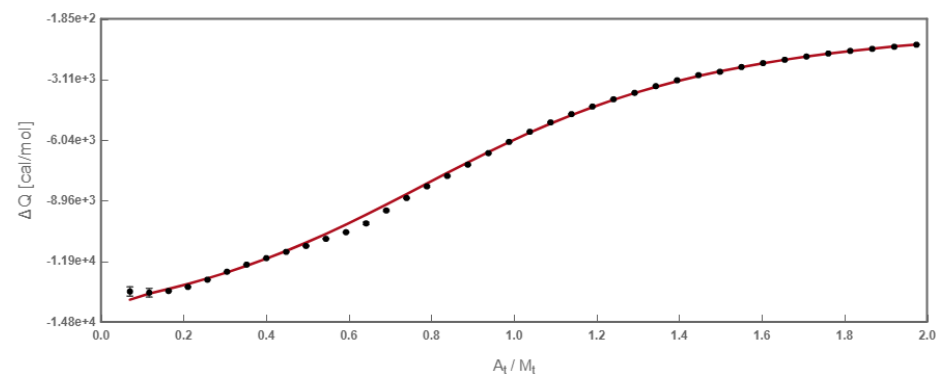
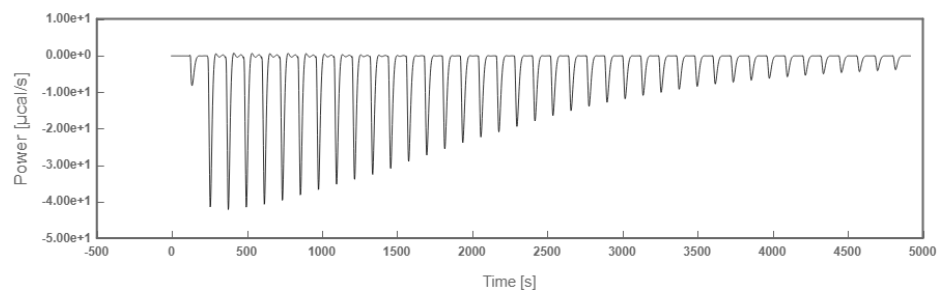
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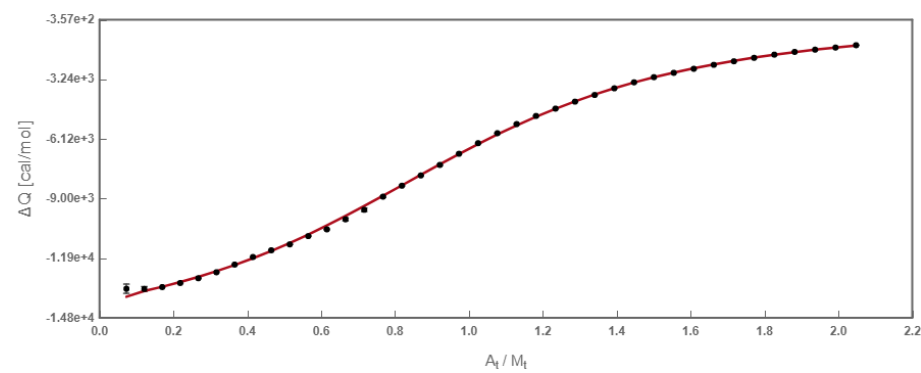
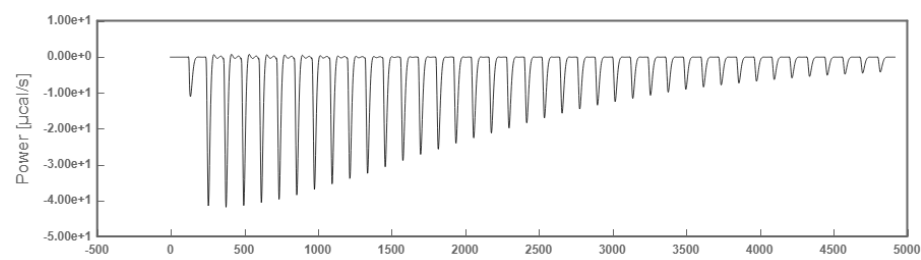
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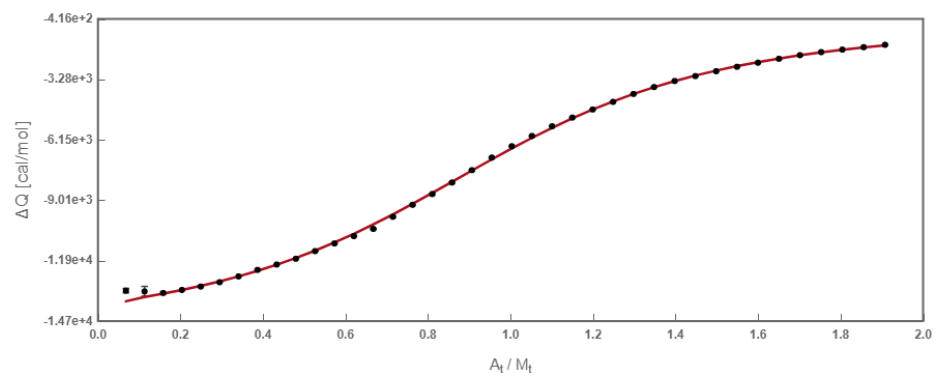
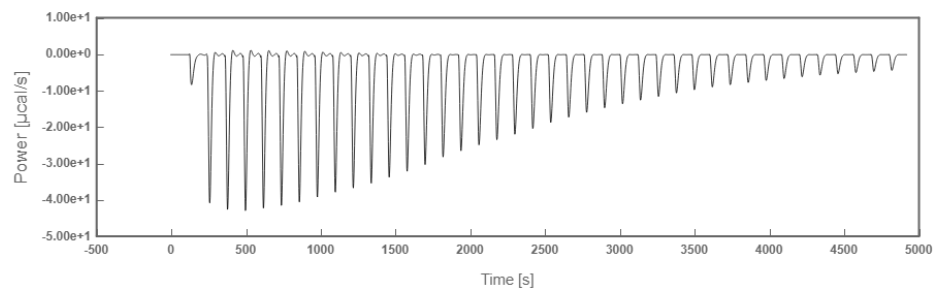


RM1099e2





RM1099e3



## VI. Determination of Equilibrium Constants by NMR Chemical Shift Changes

### Summary

For the determination of equilibrium constants, typically 6 to 9 individual NMR samples with a constant Lewis acid concentration and a variable (excess) concentration of the Lewis base were prepared. Then  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were acquired for each individual sample in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $22^\circ\text{C}$ , and the changes in the chemical shift of one resonance (unequivocally assigned to the Lewis acid) was evaluated.

To determine equilibrium constants for reactions of the perfluorinated Lewis acid **1i** with Lewis bases, 6 to 8 individual NMR samples with a constant Lewis base concentration and a variable (excess) concentration of **1i** were prepared.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were acquired for each individual sample in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $22^\circ\text{C}$ , and the change in the chemical shift of one resonance (unequivocally assigned to the Lewis base) was evaluated.

Errors correspond to the standard deviations of variables in the least-squares fitting of Eq (S1).

**Table S5:** Summary of equilibrium constants obtained from NMR titration experiments of boranes **1** with Lewis bases ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $22^\circ\text{C}$ )

$\text{BAr}_3$	LB	Experiment	$K_B$ ( $\text{M}^{-1}$ )
<b>1a</b>	<b>2c</b>	RM1102	$(1.01 \pm 0.06) \times 10^3$
<b>1a</b>	<b>2d</b>	RM1110	$(7.81 \pm 0.04) \times 10^1$
<b>1a</b>	<b>2e</b>	RM1111	$9.93 \pm 0.42$
<b>1a</b>	<b>2f</b>	RM1123	$1.52 \pm 0.29$
<b>1b</b>	<b>2e</b>	RM1463	$(3.14 \pm 0.06) \times 10^3$
<b>1b</b>	<b>2f</b>	RM1120	$(7.99 \pm 1.81) \times 10^2$
<b>1b</b>	<b>2g</b>	RM1106	$(4.88 \pm 0.43) \times 10^2$
<b>1b</b>	<b>2h</b>	RM1122	$(1.68 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$
<b>1b</b>	<b>2j</b>	RM1131	$6.06 \pm 0.30$
<b>1c</b>	<b>2i</b>	RM1146	$(1.62 \pm 0.07) \times 10^1$
<b>1c</b>	<b>2j</b>	RM1129	$(1.22 \pm 0.11) \times 10^2$
<b>1c</b>	<b>2k</b>	RM1170	$7.11 \pm 0.61$
<b>1c</b>	<b>10</b>	RM1262	$(1.90 \pm 0.12) \times 10^1$
<b>1d</b>	<b>2i</b>	RM1147	$(5.04 \pm 0.71) \times 10^1$
<b>1d</b>	<b>2j</b>	RM1130	$(4.33 \pm 0.85) \times 10^2$
<b>1d</b>	<b>2k</b>	RM1169	$(5.35 \pm 1.07) \times 10^1$
<b>1d</b>	<b>9</b>	RM1270	$7.60 \pm 0.18$
<b>1e</b>	<b>2i</b>	RM1144	$(6.37 \pm 0.19) \times 10^1$
<b>1e</b>	<b>2j</b>	RM1128	$(7.56 \pm 0.56) \times 10^2$
<b>1e</b>	<b>2k</b>	RM1167	$(2.96 \pm 0.13) \times 10^1$
<b>1e</b>	<b>2l</b>	RM1157	$(2.38 \pm 0.51) \times 10^{-1}$
<b>1e</b>	<b>4a</b>	RM1260	$(3.60 \pm 0.36) \times 10^2$
<b>1e</b>	<b>10</b>	RM1261	$(1.98 \pm 0.33) \times 10^3$
<b>1f</b>	<b>2i</b>	RM1145	$(1.71 \pm 0.75) \times 10^3$
<b>1f</b>	<b>2j</b>	RM1133	$(9.29 \pm 0.22) \times 10^3$
<b>1f</b>	<b>2k</b>	RM1168	$(3.56 \pm 0.08) \times 10^2$
<b>1f</b>	<b>2l</b>	RM1155	$7.91 \pm 0.28$

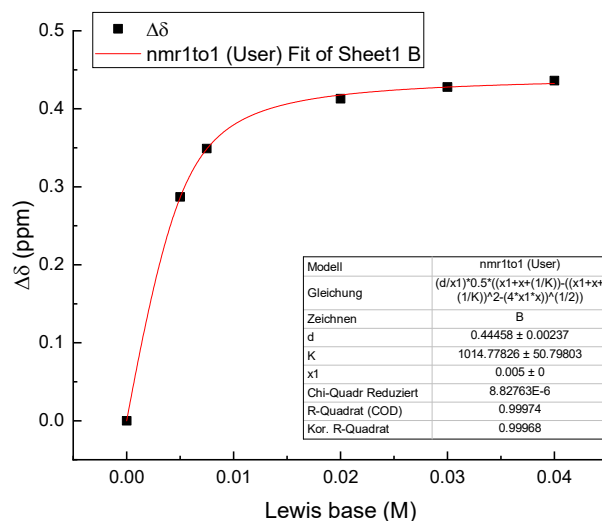
<b>1f</b>	<b>2m</b>	RM1166	$4.87 \pm 0.12$
<b>1f</b>	<b>7a</b>	RM1188	$6.75 \pm 0.21$
<b>1f</b>	<b>3a</b>	RM1258	$4.93 \pm 0.16$
<b>1f</b>	<b>3b</b>	RM1195	$1.87 \pm 0.04$
<b>1f</b>	<b>4b</b>	RM1259	$(1.58 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$
<b>1f</b>	<b>4c</b>	RM1254	$(1.67 \pm 0.08) \times 10^1$
<b>1e</b>	<b>9</b>	RM1271	$(2.50 \pm 0.19) \times 10^2$
<b>1g</b>	<b>2l</b>	RM1239	$(4.50 \pm 1.11) \times 10^3$
<b>1g</b>	<b>2m</b>	RM1165	$(1.60 \pm 0.22) \times 10^3$
<b>1g</b>	<b>3b</b>	RM1238	$(2.39 \pm 0.28) \times 10^3$
<b>1g</b>	<b>4a</b>	RM1237	$(8.61 \pm 0.75) \times 10^2$
<b>1g</b>	<b>5a</b>	RM1148	$(9.79 \pm 0.32) \times 10^1$
<b>1g</b>	<b>5b</b>	RM1141	$(2.97 \pm 0.34) \times 10^1$
<b>1g</b>	<b>5c</b>	RM1177	$6.22 \pm 0.92$
<b>1g</b>	<b>5d</b>	RM1153	$5.42 \pm 0.58$
<b>1g</b>	<b>5e</b>	RM1158	$5.02 \pm 0.82$
<b>1g</b>	<b>7a</b>	RM1187	$(4.90 \pm 2.02) \times 10^3$
<b>1g</b>	<b>7b</b>	RM1214	$(1.41 \pm 0.05) \times 10^2$
<b>1g</b>	<b>7c</b>	RM1186	$(5.34 \pm 0.12) \times 10^1$
<b>1g</b>	<b>7d</b>	RM1185	$2.31 \pm 0.28$
<b>1g</b>	<b>8</b>	RM1184	$(1.38 \pm 0.21) \times 10^3$
<b>1h</b>	<b>2l</b>	RM1174	$(4.10 \pm 0.35) \times 10^2$
<b>1h</b>	<b>2m</b>	RM1173	$(1.94 \pm 0.07) \times 10^2$
<b>1h</b>	<b>3a</b>	RM1211	$(4.63 \pm 0.25) \times 10^3$
<b>1h</b>	<b>3b</b>	RM1201	$(2.10 \pm 0.38) \times 10^3$
<b>1h</b>	<b>5a</b>	RM1172	$(1.24 \pm 0.04) \times 10^2$
<b>1h</b>	<b>5b</b>	RM1163	$(2.78 \pm 0.25) \times 10^1$
<b>1h</b>	<b>7a</b>	RM1198	$(2.18 \pm 1.10) \times 10^4$
<b>1h</b>	<b>7b</b>	RM1257	$(2.24 \pm 0.06) \times 10^2$
<b>1h</b>	<b>7c</b>	RM1197	$(6.78 \pm 0.03) \times 10^1$
<b>1h</b>	<b>7d</b>	RM1196	$1.02 \pm 0.13$
<b>1h</b>	<b>8</b>	RM1199	$(2.84 \pm 0.42) \times 10^3$
<b>1i</b>	<b>2n</b>	RM1240	$(5.47 \pm 1.02) \times 10^1$
<b>1i</b>	<b>5c</b>	RM1241	$(3.51 \pm 1.82) \times 10^4$
<b>1i</b>	<b>5d</b>	RM1251	$(1.01 \pm 0.60) \times 10^4$
<b>1i</b>	<b>5e</b>	RM1143	$(6.53 \pm 0.92) \times 10^2$
<b>1i</b>	<b>5f</b>	RM1150	$(1.31 \pm 0.37) \times 10^1$
<b>1i</b>	<b>6</b>	RM1200	$(7.31 \pm 2.19) \times 10^1$
<b>1i</b>	<b>7d</b>	RM1180	$(4.46 \pm 1.41) \times 10^3$
<b>1j</b>	<b>2a</b>	RM1256	$(4.54 \pm 0.26) \times 10^{-1}$

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## Individual NMR titrations

### NMR titration of tris(4-dimethylaminophenyl)borane (1a) with 4-methoxypyridine (2c)

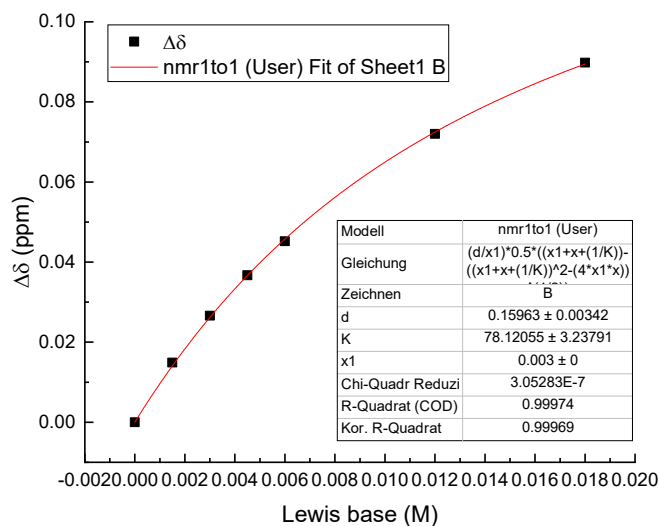
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.498	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.211	0.287
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.149	0.349
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.085	0.413
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.070	0.428
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.062	0.436



(RM1102)

### NMR titration of tris(4-dimethylaminophenyl)borane (1a) with pyridine (1d)

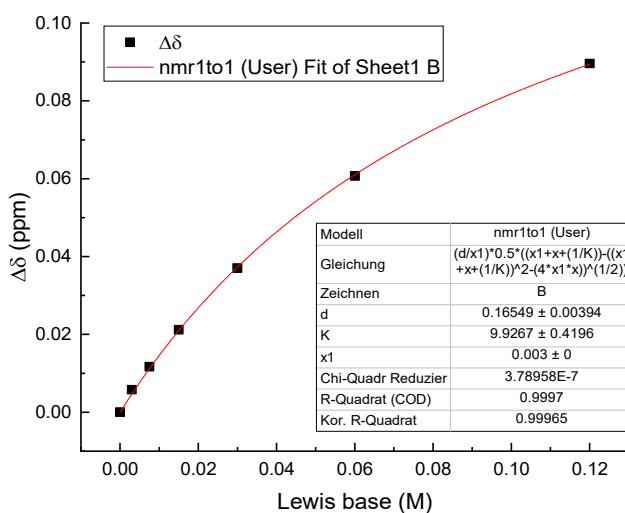
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.0350	0.0000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.0201	0.0149
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.0084	0.0266
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.5 \times 10^{-3}$	2.9983	0.0367
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-3}$	2.9898	0.0452
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9630	0.0720
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9452	0.0898



(RM1110)

### NMR titration of tris(4-dimethylaminophenyl)borane (1a) with 4-benzoylpyridine (2e)

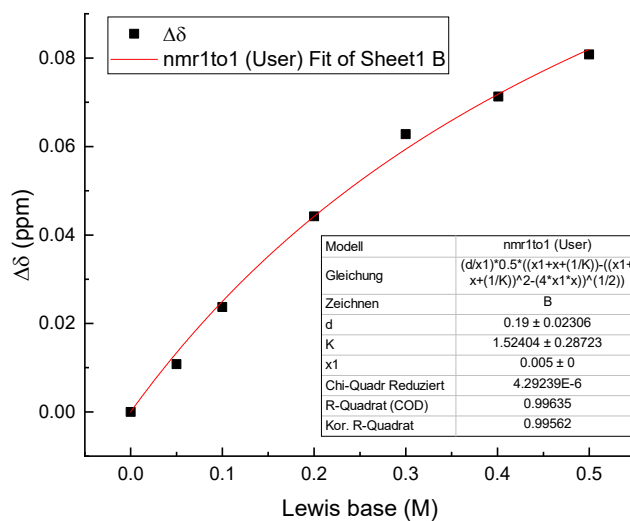
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.0351	0.0000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.0293	0.0058
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.0234	0.0117
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	3.0139	0.0212
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9981	0.0370
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9744	0.0607
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-1}$	2.9455	0.0896



(RM1111)

### NMR titration of tris(4-dimethylaminophenyl)borane (1a) with 3-chloropyridine (2f)

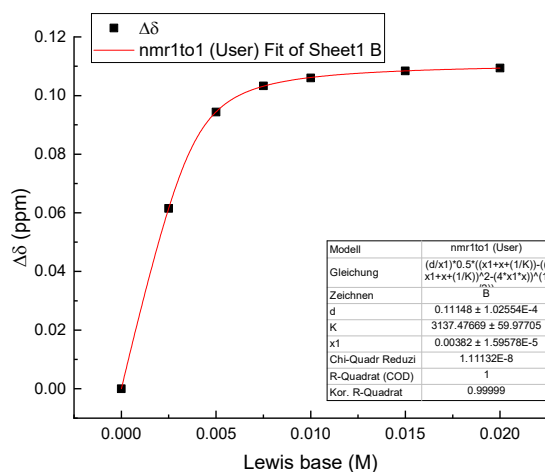
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.0347	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.0239	0.0108
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	3.0110	0.0237
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-1}$	2.9905	0.0442
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-1}$	2.9719	0.0628
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-1}$	2.9634	0.0713
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-1}$	2.9539	0.0808



(RM1123)

### NMR titration of tris(p-anisyl)borane (1b) with 4-benzoylpyridine (2e)

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.878	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.816	0.062
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.783	0.094
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.774	0.103
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.772	0.106
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	3.769	0.108
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.768	0.109

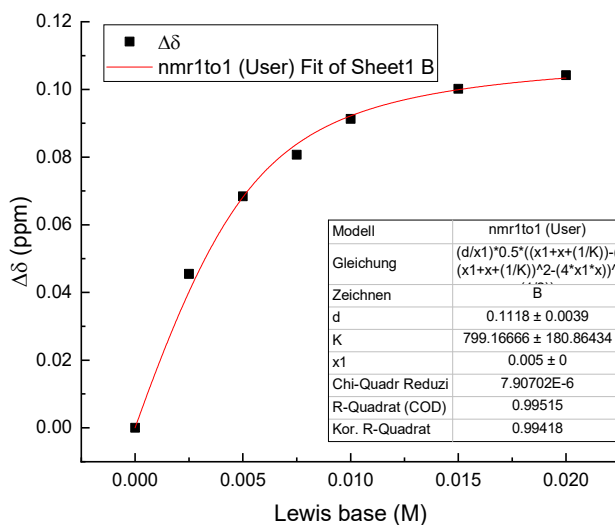


(RM1463)

The value of x1 (that is, the borane concentration) was allowed to vary in the fitting process.

### NMR titration of tris(p-anisyl)borane (1b) with 3-chloropyridine (2f)

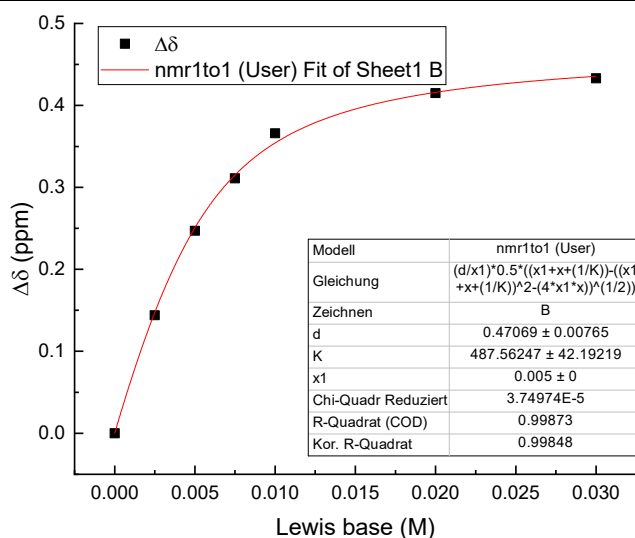
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.8777	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8322	0.0455
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8093	0.0684
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.7970	0.0807
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7864	0.0913
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7775	0.1002
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7735	0.1042



(RM1120)

### NMR titration of tris(p-anisyl)borane (1b) with 4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2g)

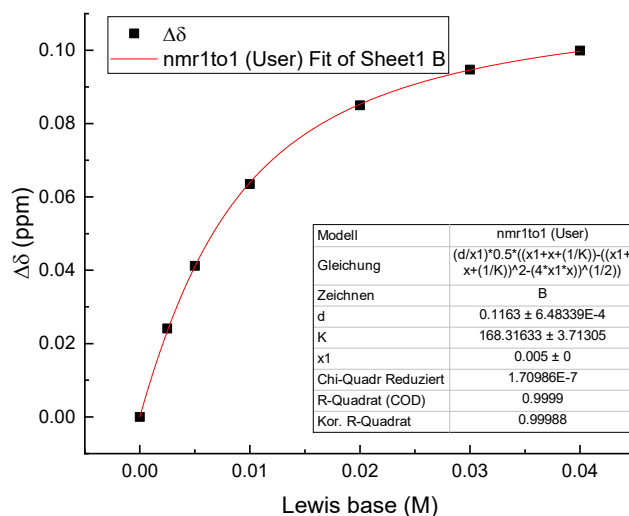
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.560	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.416	0.144
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.313	0.247
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.249	0.311
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.194	0.366
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.145	0.415
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.127	0.433



(RM1106)

### NMR titration of tris(p-anisyl)borane (1b) with 4-cyanopyridine (2h)

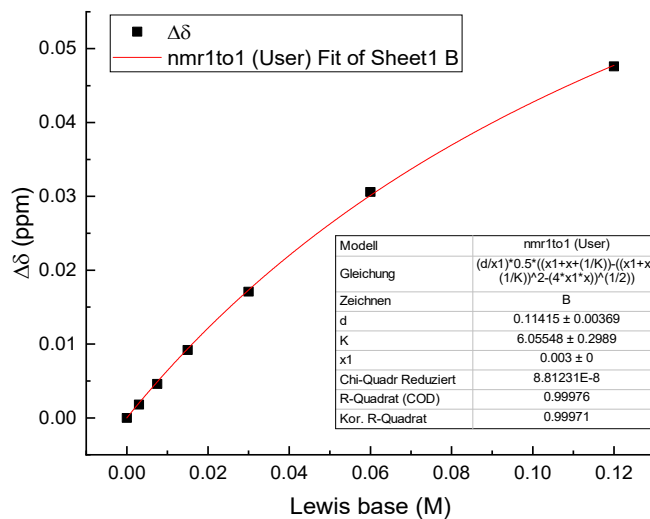
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.8777	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8536	0.0241
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8365	0.0412
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.8142	0.0635
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7927	0.0850
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7830	0.0947
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.7778	0.0999



(RM1122)

NMR titration of tris(p-anisyl)borane (1b) with 3,4,5-trichloropyridine (2j)

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	3.8777	0.0000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8759	0.0018
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	3.8731	0.0046
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	3.8685	0.0092
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.8606	0.0171
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-2}$	3.8471	0.0306
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-1}$	3.8301	0.0476

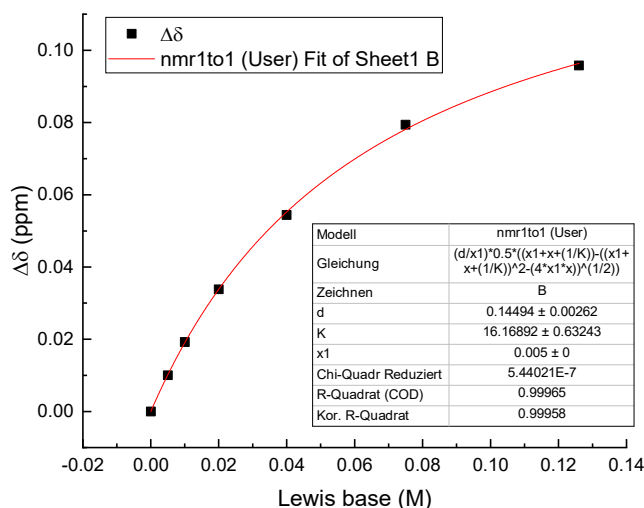


(RM1131)



### NMR titration of tris(p-tolyl)borane (1c) with 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2i)

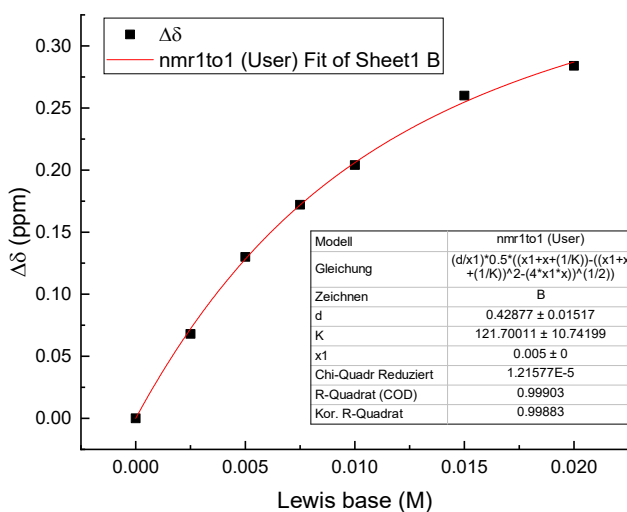
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	2.4378	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	2.4278	0.0100
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.4186	0.0192
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.4040	0.0338
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.3834	0.0544
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-2}$	2.3584	0.0794
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.26 \times 10^{-1}$	2.3420	0.0958



(RM1146)

### NMR titration of tris(p-tolyl)borane (1c) with 3,4,5-trichloropyridine (2j)

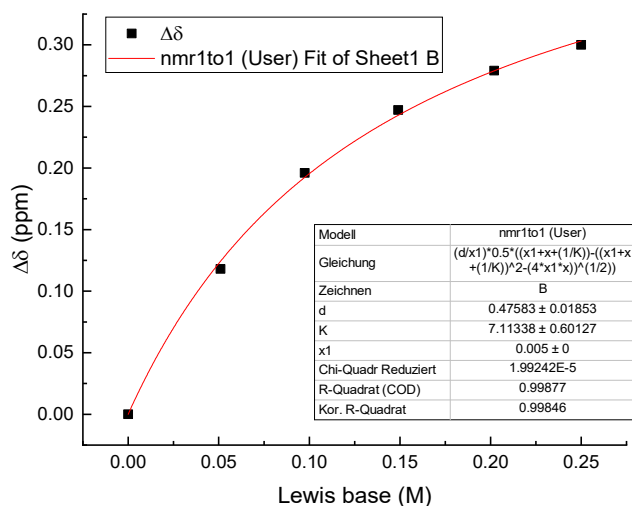
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.489	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.421	0.068
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.359	0.130
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.317	0.172
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.285	0.204
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.229	0.260
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.205	0.284



(RM1129)

### NMR titration of tris(p-tolyl)borane (1c) with 3,5-difluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2k)

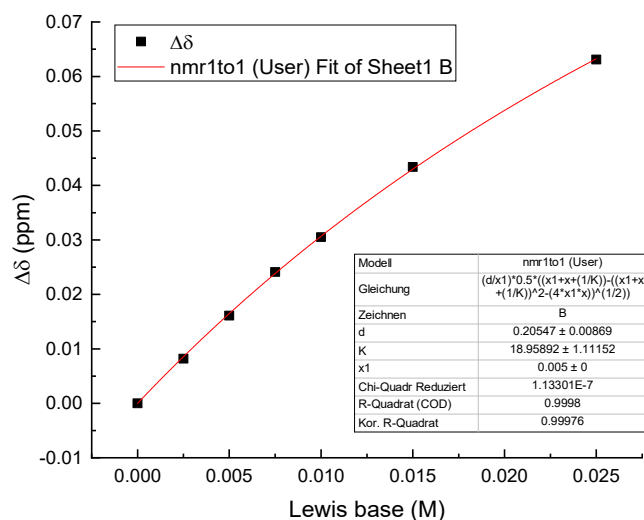
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.490	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.10 \times 10^{-2}$	7.372	0.118
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.75 \times 10^{-2}$	7.294	0.196
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.49 \times 10^{-1}$	7.243	0.247
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-1}$	7.211	0.279
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-1}$	7.190	0.300



(RM1170)

### NMR titration of tris(p-tolyl)borane (1c) with triethylphosphine oxide (10)

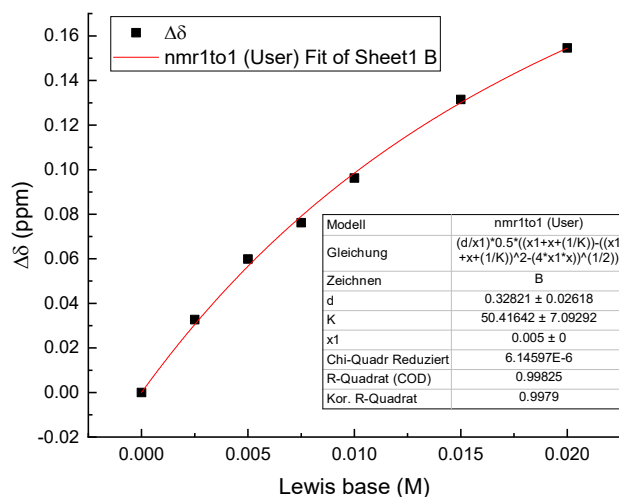
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	2.4381	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	2.4299	0.0082
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	2.4220	0.0161
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	2.4140	0.0241
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.4076	0.0305
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	2.3947	0.0434
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	2.3750	0.0631



(RM1262)

### NMR titration of triphenylborane (1d) with 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2i)

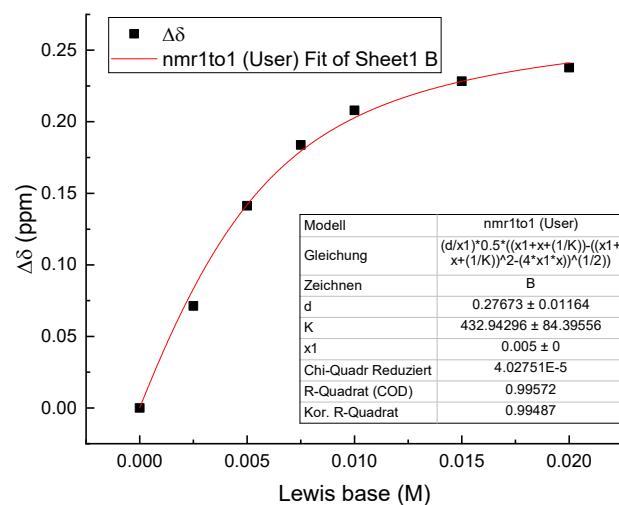
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.4669	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4342	0.0327
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4070	0.0599
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.3907	0.0762
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3707	0.0962
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3354	0.1315
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3123	0.1546



(RM1147)

### NMR titration of triphenylborane (1d) with 3,4,5-trichloropyridine (2j)

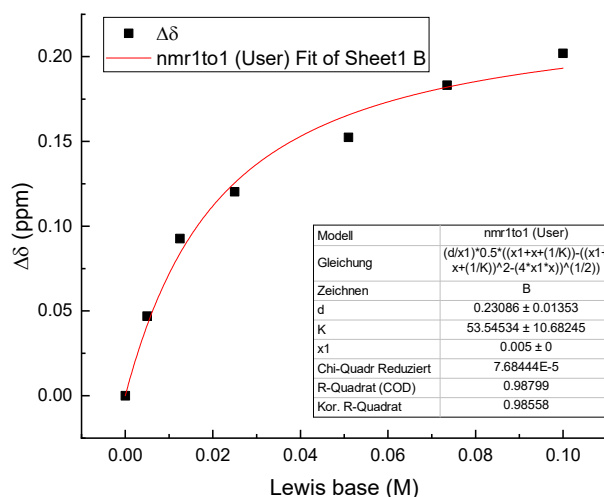
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.4671	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.3958	0.0713
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.3258	0.1413
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.2833	0.1838
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.2591	0.2080
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.2387	0.2284
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.2292	0.2379



(RM1130)

### NMR titration of triphenylborane (1d) with 3,5-difluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2k)

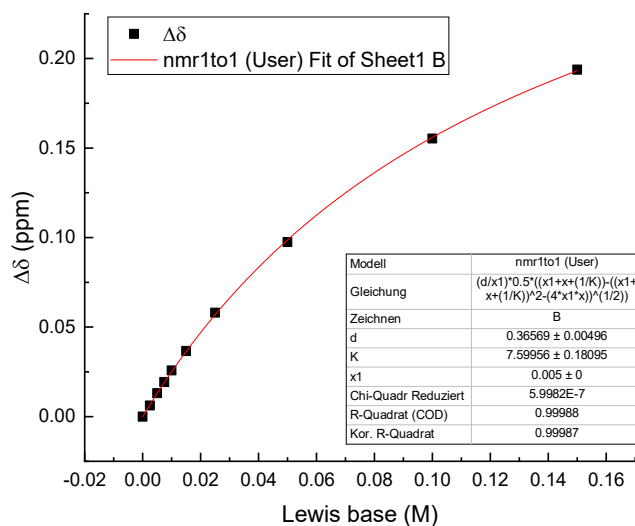
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.4662	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4193	0.0469
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3735	0.0927
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3459	0.1203
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.10 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3138	0.1524
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.35 \times 10^{-2}$	7.2830	0.1832
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-1}$	7.2643	0.2019



(RM1169)

### NMR titration of triphenylborane (1d) with dimethylacetamide (9)

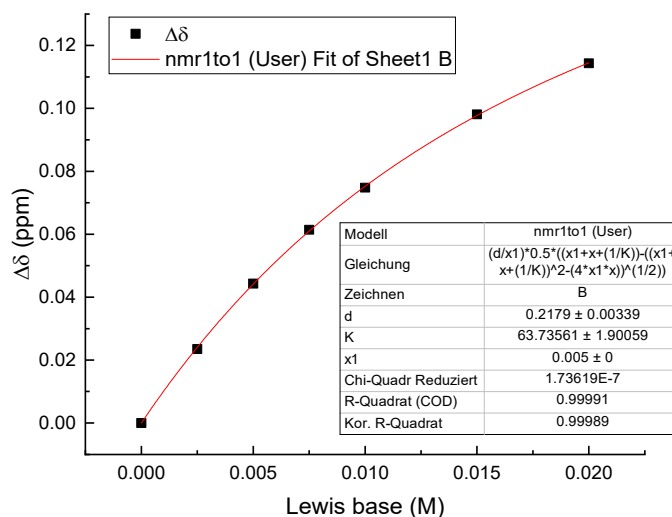
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.4670	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4608	0.0062
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4539	0.0131
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.4477	0.0193
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.4412	0.0258
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.4304	0.0366
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.4089	0.0581
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.3695	0.0975
9	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.3117	0.1553
10	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.2732	0.1938



(RM1270)

**NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2i)**

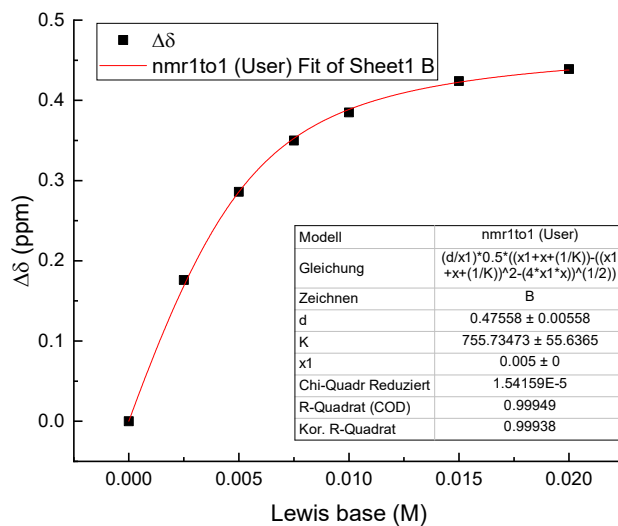
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1794	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1559	0.0235
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1351	0.0443
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1180	0.0614
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1046	0.0748
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.0813	0.0981
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.0651	0.1143



(RM1144)

**NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with 3,4,5-trichloropyridine (2j)**

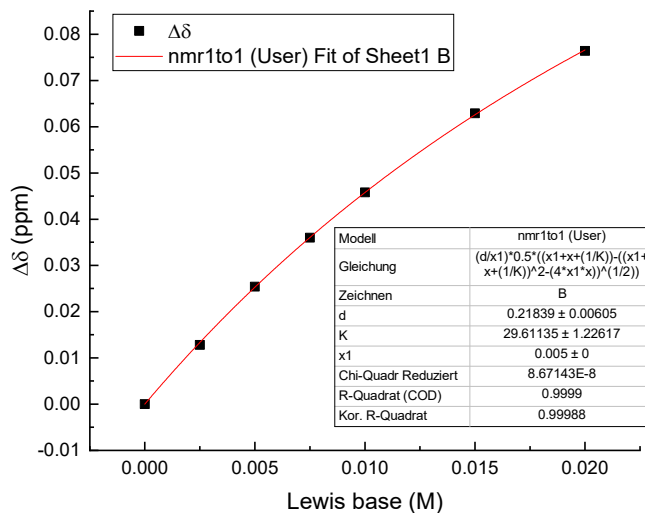
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.605	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.429	0.176
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.319	0.286
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.255	0.350
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.220	0.385
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.181	0.424
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.166	0.439



(RM1128)

**NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with 3,5-difluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2k)**

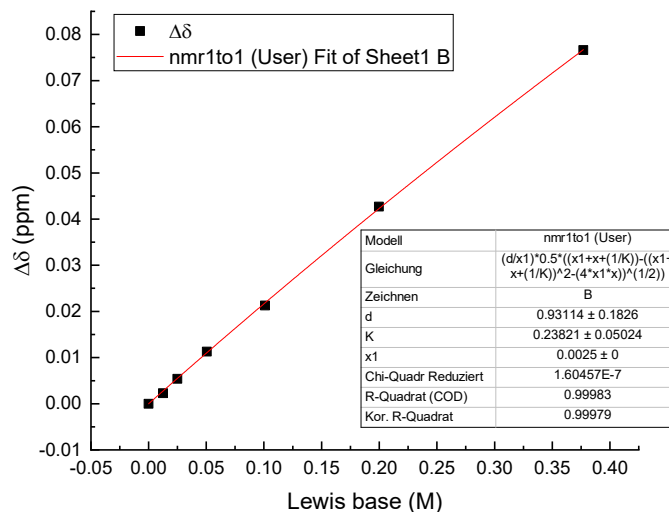
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1794	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1666	0.0128
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1540	0.0254
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1434	0.0360
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1336	0.0458
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1165	0.0629
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1030	0.0764



(RM1167)

**NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with 3,5-dinitropyridine (2l)**

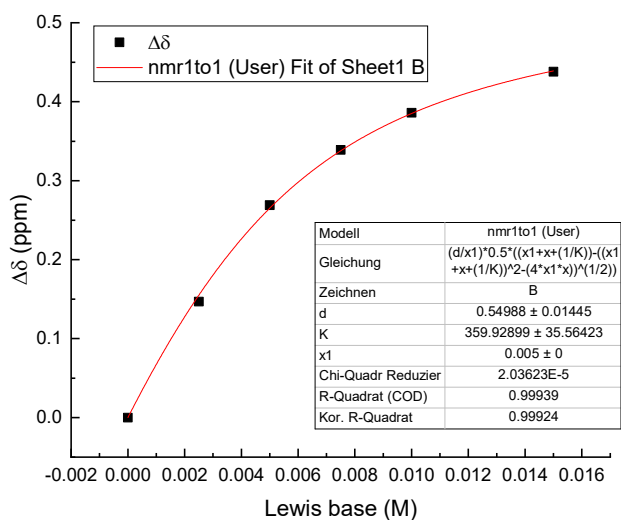
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1787	0.0000
2	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1764	0.0023
3	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1733	0.0054
4	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.05 \times 10^{-2}$	7.1674	0.0113
5	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.01 \times 10^{-1}$	7.1574	0.0213
6	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-1}$	7.1360	0.0427
7	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.77 \times 10^{-1}$	7.1021	0.0766



(RM1157)

NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (4a)

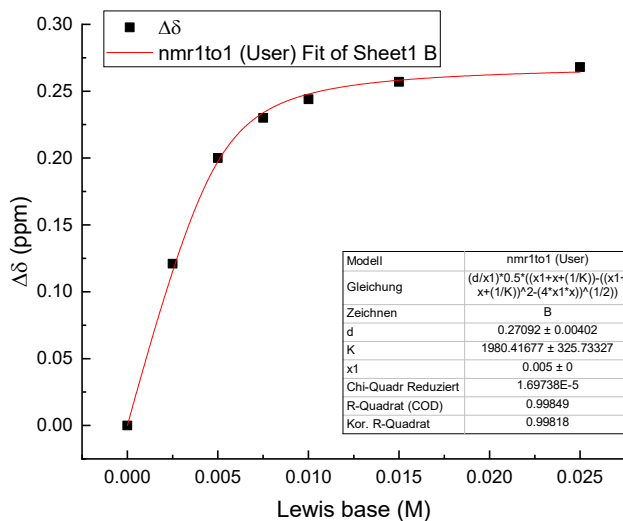
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.605	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.458	0.147
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.336	0.269
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.266	0.339
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.219	0.386
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.167	0.438



(RM1260)

NMR titration of tris(4-fluorophenyl)borane (1e) with triethylphosphine oxide (10)

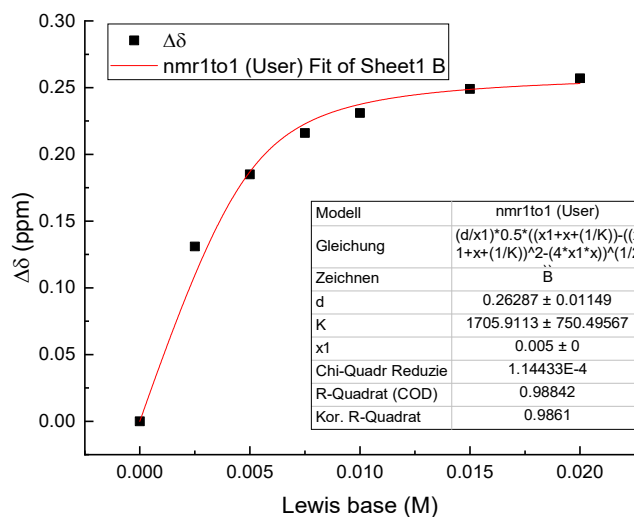
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.604	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.483	0.121
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.404	0.200
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.374	0.230
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.360	0.244
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.347	0.257
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.336	0.268



(RM1261)

**NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2i)**

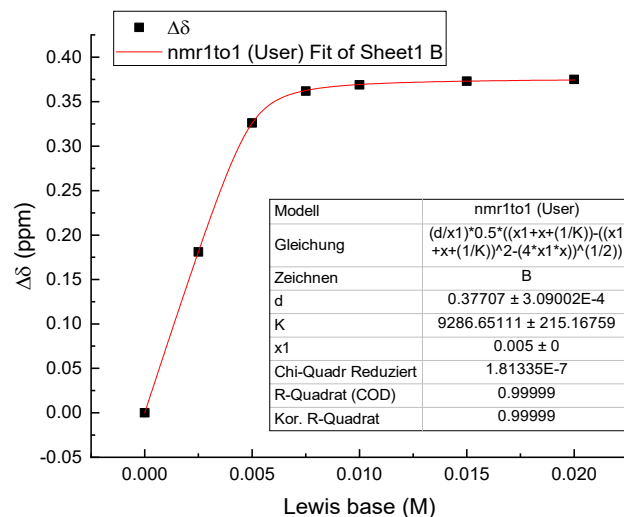
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.529	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.398	0.131
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.344	0.185
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.313	0.216
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.298	0.231
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.280	0.249
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.272	0.257



(RM1145)

**NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 3,4,5-trichloropyridine (2j)**

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.465	0
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.284	0.181
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.139	0.326
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.103	0.362
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.096	0.369
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.092	0.373
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.090	0.375

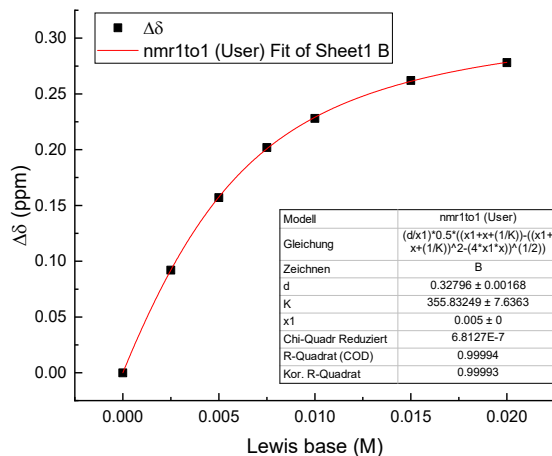


(RM1133)



**NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 3,5-difluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (2k)**

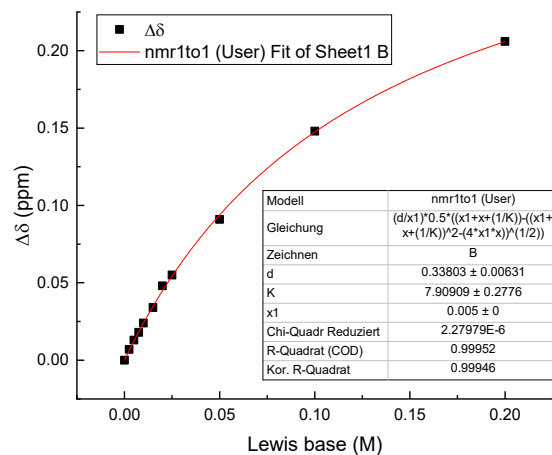
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.500	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.408	0.092
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.343	0.157
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.298	0.202
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.272	0.228
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.238	0.262
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.222	0.278



(RM1168)

**NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 3,5-dinitropyridine (2l)**

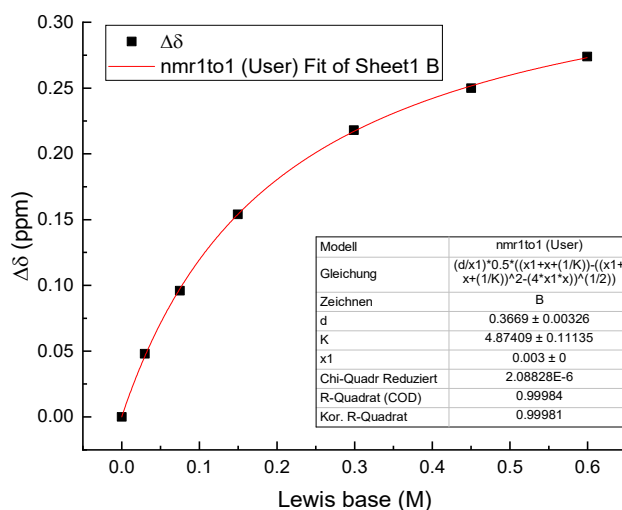
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.495	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.488	0.007
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.482	0.013
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.477	0.018
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.471	0.024
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.461	0.034
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.447	0.048
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.440	0.055
9	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.404	0.091
10	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.347	0.148
11	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.289	0.206



(RM1155)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 4-chloro-3,5-dinitropyridine (2m)

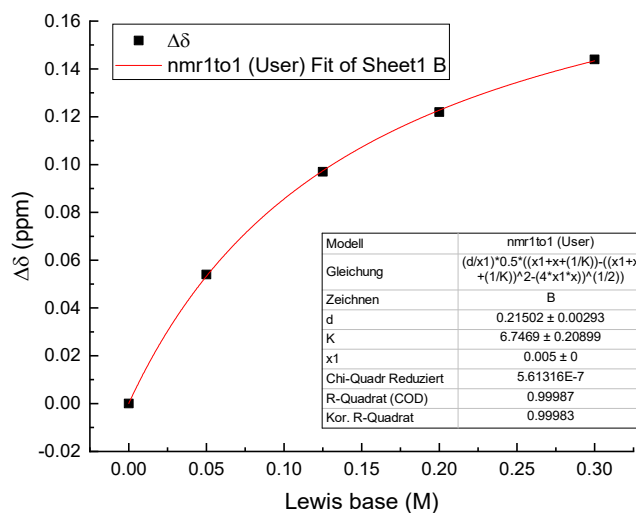
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.499	0.000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.451	0.048
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.403	0.096
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.345	0.154
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.281	0.218
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.249	0.250
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.225	0.274



(RM1166)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (7a)

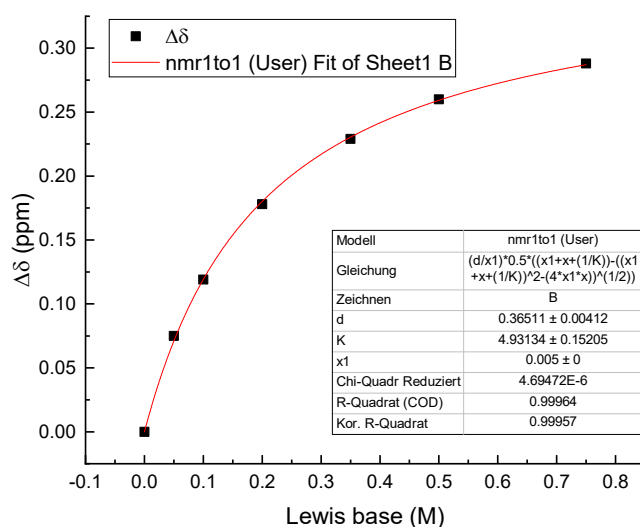
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.460	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.00 \times 10^{-2}$	7.406	0.054
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-1}$	7.363	0.097
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-1}$	7.338	0.122
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.00 \times 10^{-1}$	7.316	0.144



(RM1188)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with acetonitrile (3a)

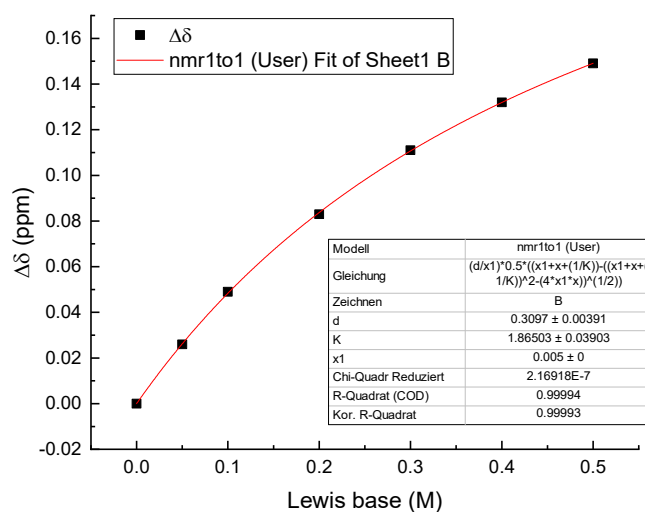
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.498	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.423	0.075
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.379	0.119
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.320	0.178
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.269	0.229
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.238	0.260
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.210	0.288



(RM1258)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with 4-fluorobenzonitrile (3b)

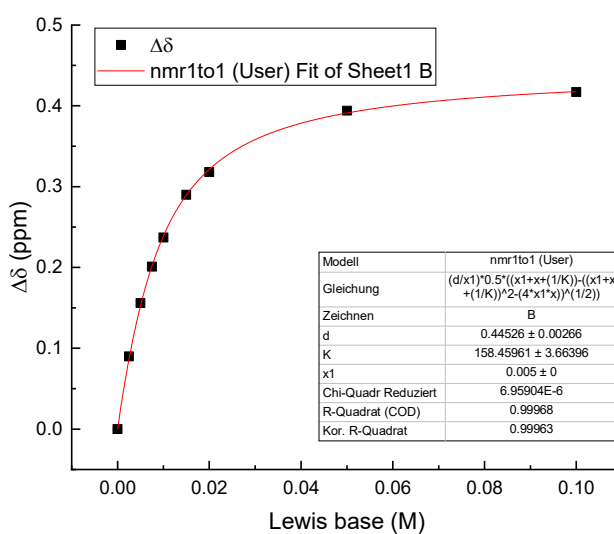
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.499	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.473	0.026
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.450	0.049
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.416	0.083
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.388	0.111
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.367	0.132
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.350	0.149



(RM1195)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with triphenylphosphine (4b)

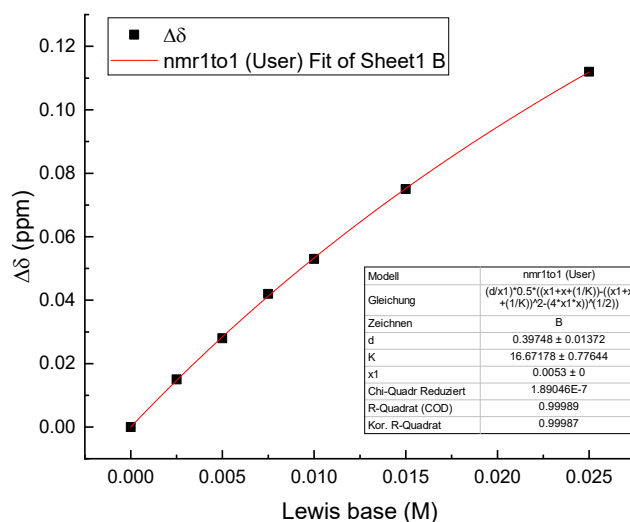
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.496	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.406	0.090
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.340	0.156
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.295	0.201
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.259	0.237
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.206	0.290
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.178	0.318
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.102	0.394
9	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	7.079	0.417



(RM1259)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with tris(4-chlorophenyl)phosphine (4c)

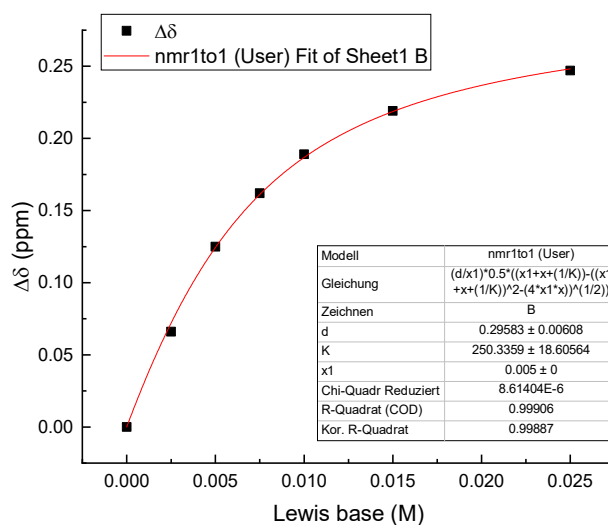
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.499	0.000
2	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.484	0.015
3	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.471	0.028
4	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.457	0.042
5	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.446	0.053
6	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.424	0.075
7	$5.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.387	0.112



(RM1254)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (9)

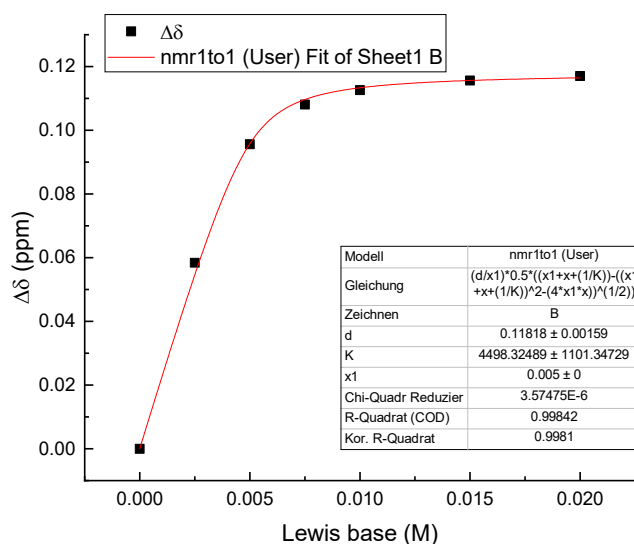
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.499	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.433	0.066
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.374	0.125
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.337	0.162
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.310	0.189
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.280	0.219
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.252	0.247



(RM1271)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 3,5-dinitropyridine (2l)

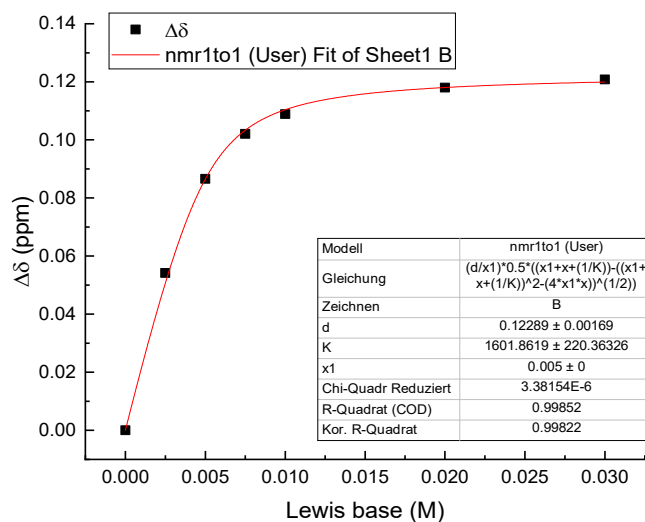
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6768	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6184	0.0584
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5812	0.0956
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5687	0.1081
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5642	0.1126
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5612	0.1156
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5598	0.1170



(RM1239)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-chloro-3,5-dinitropyridine (2m)

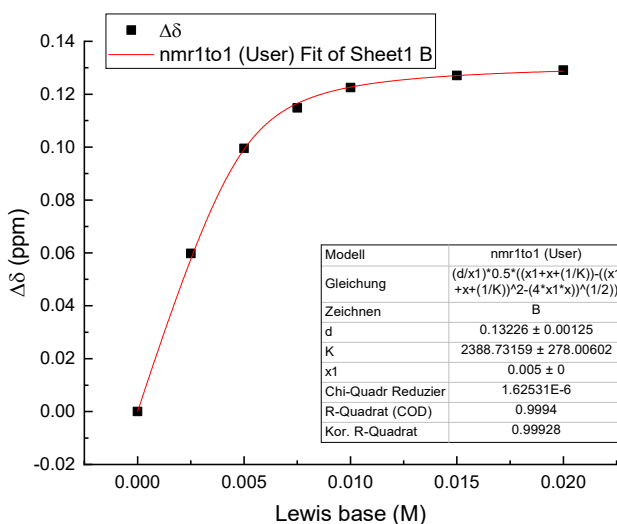
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6811	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6269	0.0542
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5945	0.0866
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5790	0.1021
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5722	0.1089
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5631	0.1180
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5603	0.1208



(RM1165)

**NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-fluorobenzonitrile (3b)**

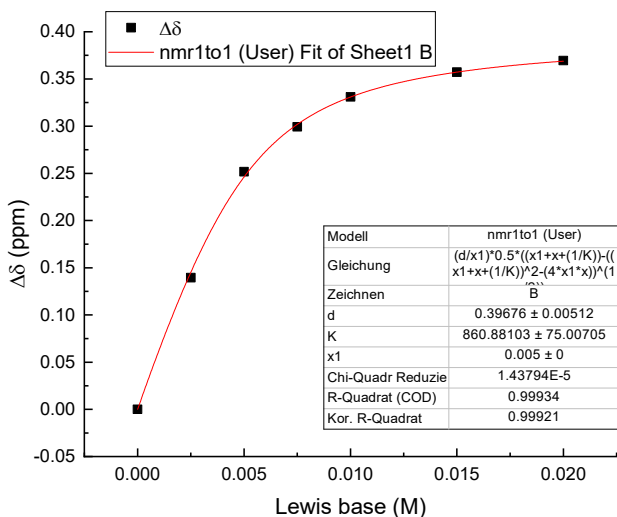
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6766	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6168	0.0598
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5771	0.0995
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5618	0.1148
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5541	0.1225
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5495	0.1271
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5475	0.1291



(RM1238)

**NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (4a)**

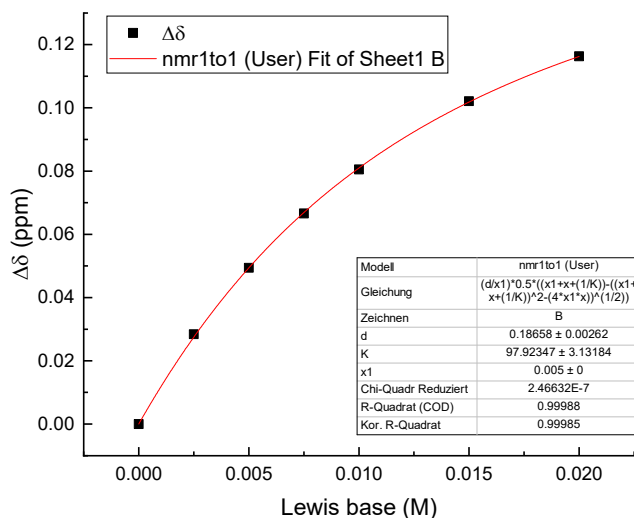
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6759	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5364	0.1395
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.4241	0.2518
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.3767	0.2992
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.3449	0.3310
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.3187	0.3572
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.3065	0.3694



(RM1237)

**NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-methoxyacetophenone (5a)**

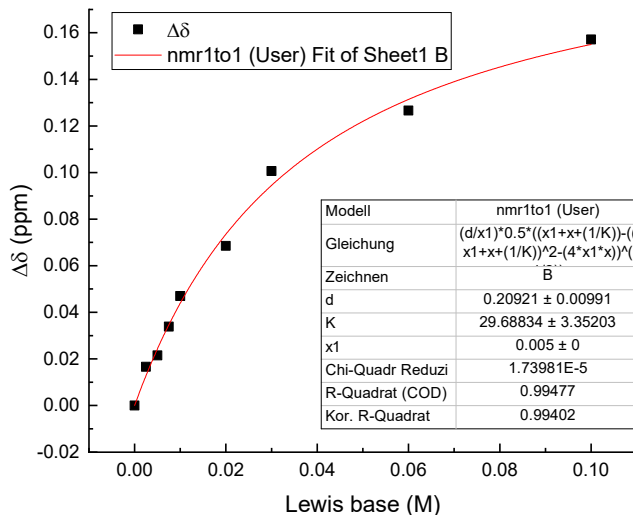
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6790	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6506	0.0284
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6296	0.0494
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6124	0.0666
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5985	0.0805
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5769	0.1021
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5627	0.1163



(RM1148)

**NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-methylacetophenone (5b)**

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6823	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6657	0.0166
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6608	0.0215
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6484	0.0339
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6353	0.0470
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6138	0.0685
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5817	0.1006
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5557	0.1266
9	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	6.5252	0.1571

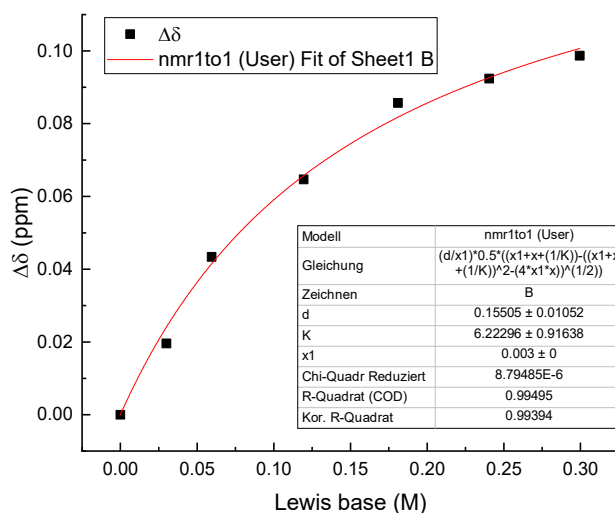


(RM1141)



### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-bromoacetophenone (5c)

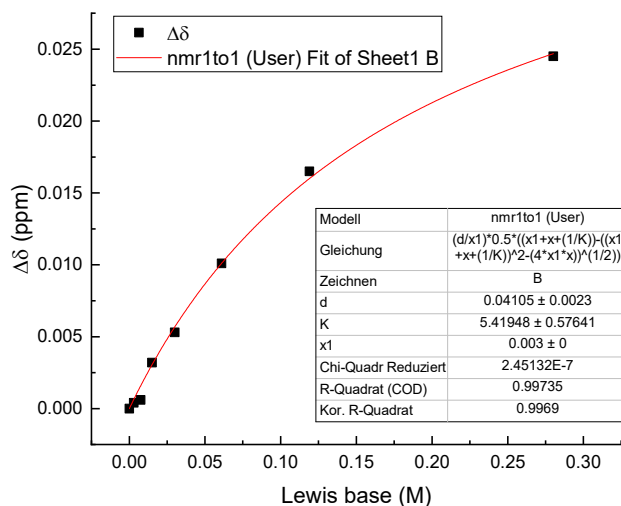
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6815	0.0000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.00 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6619	0.0196
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.95 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6381	0.0434
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.12 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6168	0.0647
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.81 \times 10^{-1}$	6.5958	0.0857
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.41 \times 10^{-1}$	6.5891	0.0924
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.00 \times 10^{-1}$	6.5828	0.0987



(RM1177)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-(trifluoromethyl)acetophenone (5d)

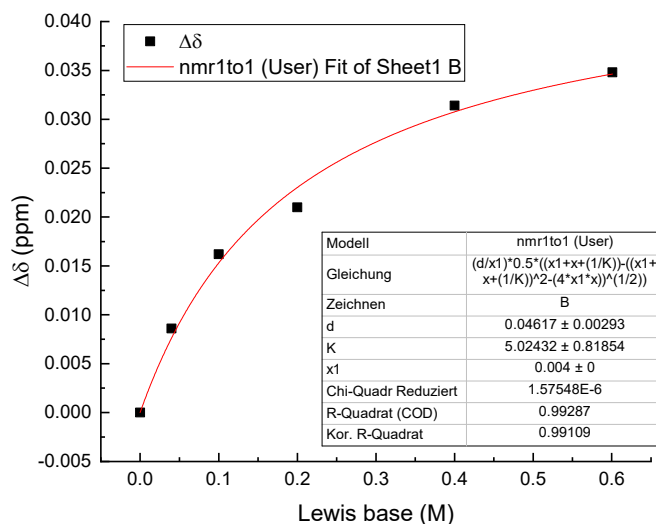
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6783	0.0000
2	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6779	0.0004
3	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6777	0.0006
4	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6751	0.0032
5	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6730	0.0053
6	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.1 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6682	0.0101
7	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6618	0.0165
8	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.8 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6538	0.0245



(RM1153)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-nitroacetophenone (5e)

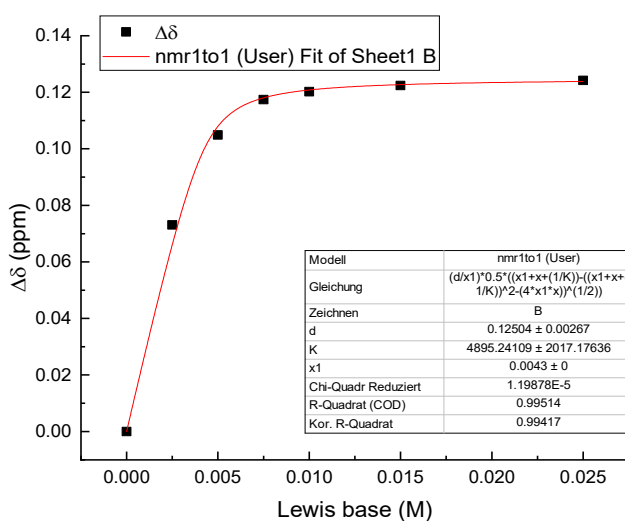
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6807	0.0000
2	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.00 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6721	0.0086
3	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6645	0.0162
4	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6597	0.0210
5	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.00 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6493	0.0314
6	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.01 \times 10^{-1}$	6.6459	0.0348



(RM1158)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (7a)

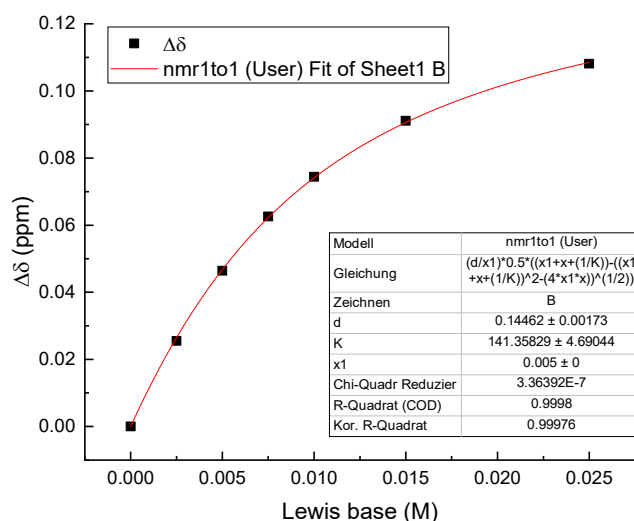
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6481	0.0000
2	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5750	0.0731
3	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5432	0.1049
4	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5307	0.1174
5	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5279	0.1202
6	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5257	0.1224
7	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5239	0.1242



(RM1187)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with benzaldehyde (7b)

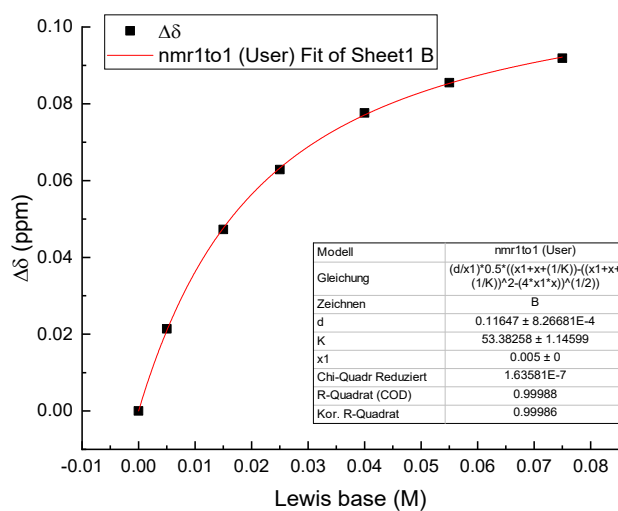
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6803	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6548	0.0255
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6339	0.0464
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6177	0.0626
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6059	0.0744
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5892	0.0911
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5722	0.1081



(RM1214)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-bromobenzaldehyde (7c)

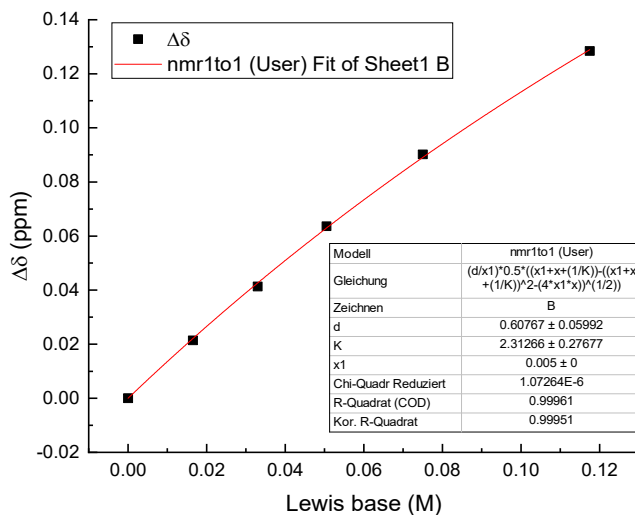
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6507	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.6293	0.0214
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.6034	0.0473
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5878	0.0629
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5731	0.0776
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5652	0.0855
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5588	0.0919



(RM1186)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (7d)

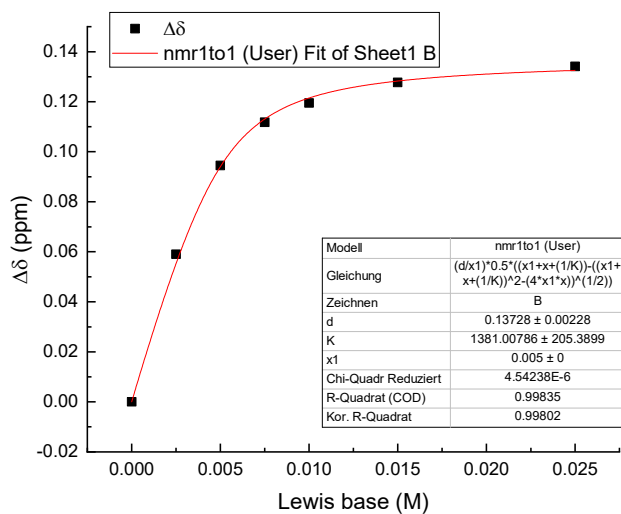
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	10.1462	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-2}$	10.1248	0.0214
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-2}$	10.1049	0.0413
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.05 \times 10^{-2}$	10.0826	0.0636
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.50 \times 10^{-2}$	10.0560	0.0902
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.175 \times 10^{-1}$	10.0178	0.1284



(RM1185)

### NMR titration of tris(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)borane (1g) with trans-crotonaldehyde (8)

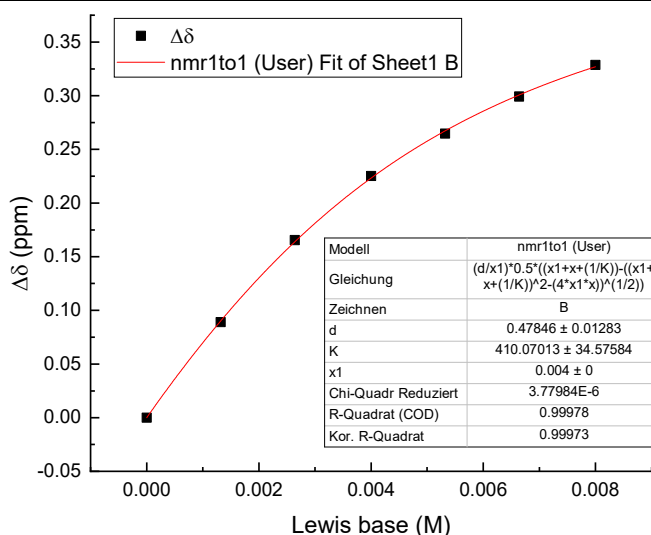
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6572	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5982	0.0590
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5627	0.0945
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5454	0.1118
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5377	0.1195
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5295	0.1277
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5231	0.1341



(RM1184)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 3,5-dinitropyridine (2l)

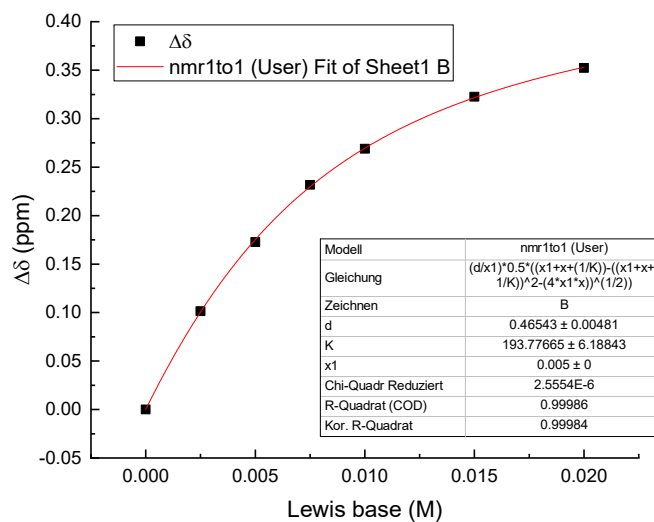
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1927	0.0000
2	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.32 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1036	0.0891
3	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.64 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0273	0.1654
4	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.00 \times 10^{-3}$	6.9675	0.2252
5	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.32 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9280	0.2647
6	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.64 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8935	0.2992
7	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.00 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8640	0.3287



(RM1174)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-chloro-3,5-dinitropyridine (2m)

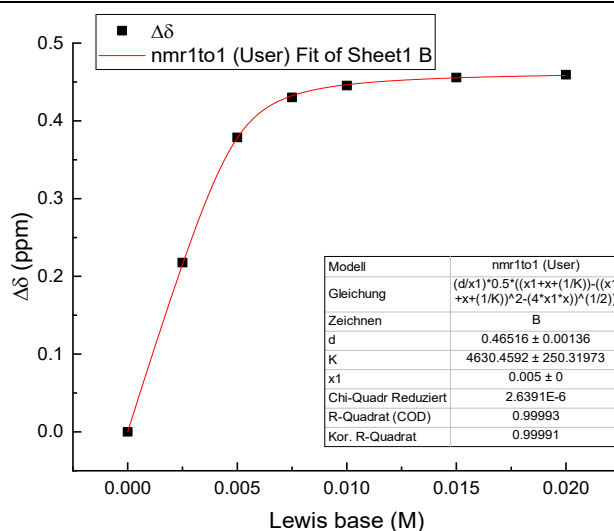
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1864	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0850	0.1014
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0136	0.1728
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.9547	0.2317
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9175	0.2689
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8637	0.3227
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8341	0.3523



(RM1173)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with acetonitrile (3a)

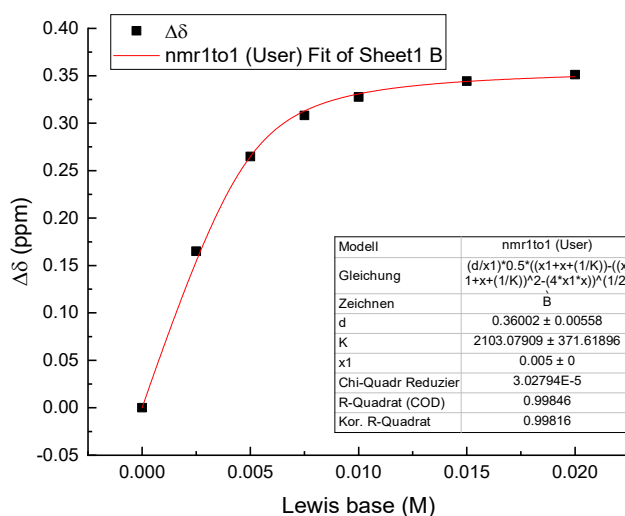
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1920	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.9743	0.2177
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.8132	0.3788
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.7617	0.4303
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.7465	0.4455
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.7362	0.4558
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.7325	0.4595



(RM1211)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-fluorobenzonitrile (3b)

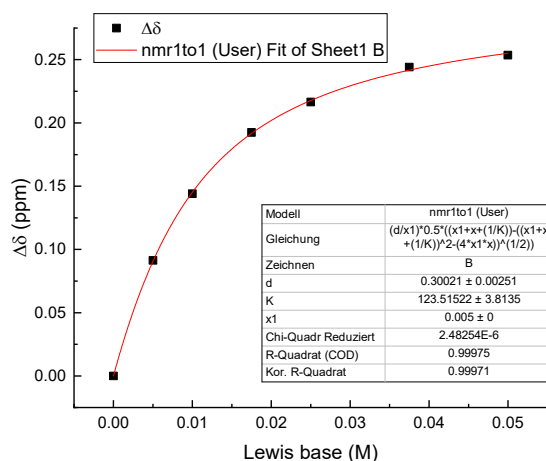
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1654	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0004	0.1650
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.9005	0.2649
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.8572	0.3082
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8378	0.3276
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8210	0.3444
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8142	0.3512



(RM1201)

**NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-methoxyacetophenone (5a)**

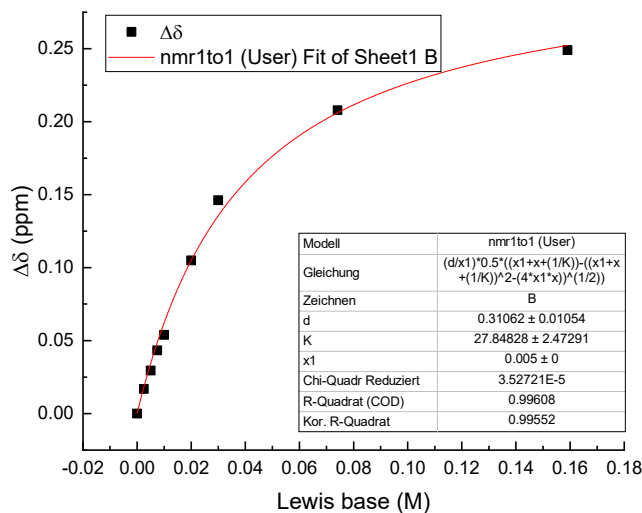
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1869	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0956	0.0913
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.0429	0.1440
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.75 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9944	0.1925
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9704	0.2165
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.75 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9427	0.2442
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9333	0.2536



(RM1172)

**NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-methylacetophenone (5b)**

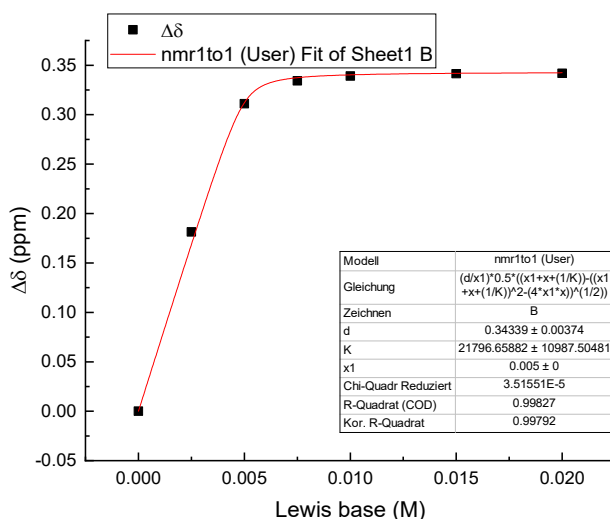
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.193	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.176	0.017
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.164	0.029
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.150	0.043
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.139	0.054
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.088	0.105
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.047	0.146
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.41 \times 10^{-2}$	6.985	0.208
9	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.59 \times 10^{-1}$	6.944	0.249



(RM1163)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with *p*-anisaldehyde (7a)

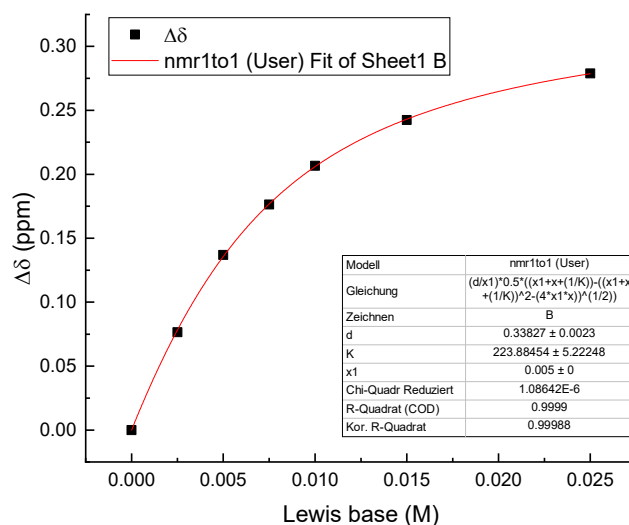
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	6.6584	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5893	0.0691
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5609	0.0975
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.5529	0.1055
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5493	0.1091
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5465	0.1119
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.5466	0.1118



(RM1198)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with benzaldehyde (7b)

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1840	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.1075	0.0765
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0470	0.1370
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.0076	0.1764
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9774	0.2066
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9415	0.2425
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.9052	0.2788

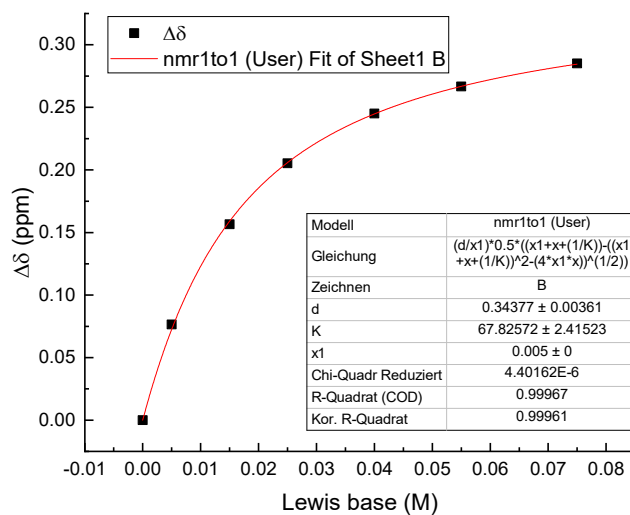


(RM1257)



### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-bromobenzaldehyde (7c)

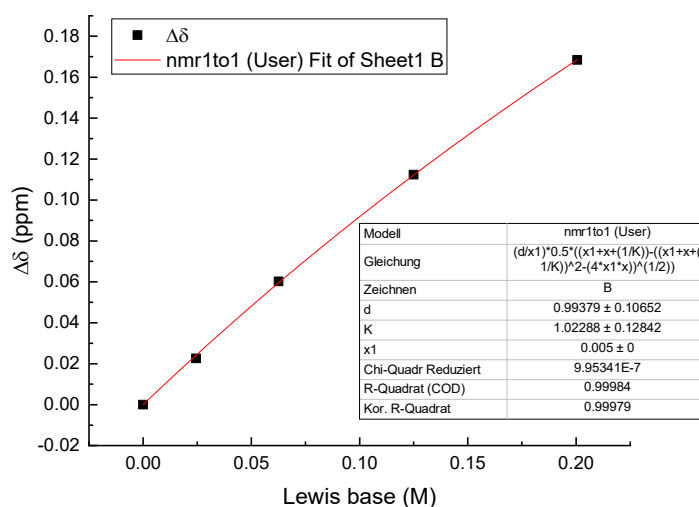
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1720	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.0955	0.0765
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-1}$	7.0154	0.1566
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-1}$	6.9667	0.2053
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-1}$	6.9269	0.2451
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.5 \times 10^{-1}$	6.9053	0.2667
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-1}$	6.8869	0.2851



(RM1197)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (7d)

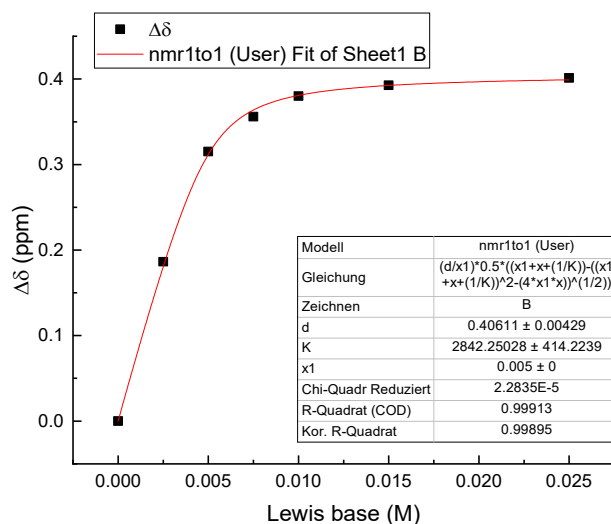
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	10.1462	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.45 \times 10^{-2}$	10.1236	0.0226
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.26 \times 10^{-2}$	10.0860	0.0602
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-1}$	10.0338	0.1124
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.005 \times 10^{-1}$	9.9778	0.1684



(RM1196)

**NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with trans-crotonaldehyde (8)**

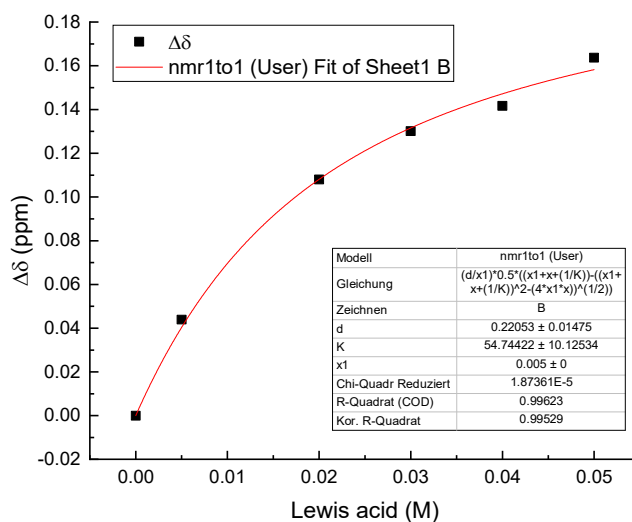
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.1816	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.9953	0.1863
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.8664	0.3152
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	6.8256	0.3560
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.8015	0.3801
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.7889	0.3927
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	6.7803	0.4013



(RM1199)

**NMR titration of 2,6-lutidine (2n) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)**

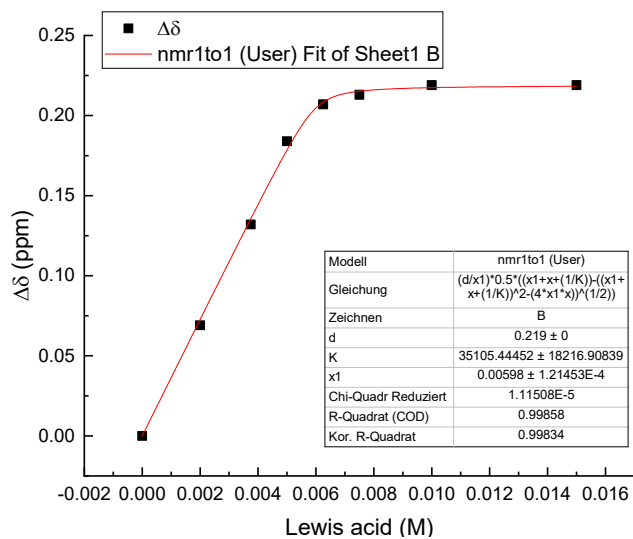
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	2.4587	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	2.5026	0.0439
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.5667	0.1080
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.5888	0.1301
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.6004	0.1417
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.6224	0.1637



(RM1240)

### NMR titration of 4-bromoacetophenone (5c) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)

Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.722	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.791	0.069
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.75 \times 10^{-3}$	7.854	0.132
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.906	0.184
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.25 \times 10^{-3}$	7.929	0.207
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.50 \times 10^{-3}$	7.935	0.213
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.941	0.219
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.941	0.219

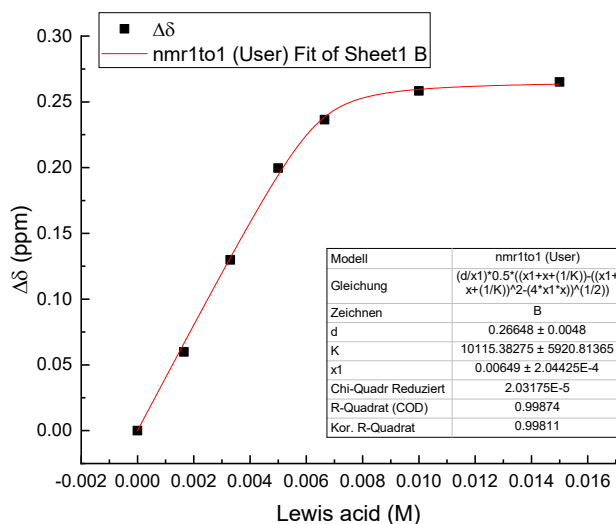


(RM1176/RM1241)

The value of x1 (that is, the LB concentration) was allowed to vary in the fitting process.

**NMR titration of 4-(trifluoromethyl)acetophenone (5d) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)**

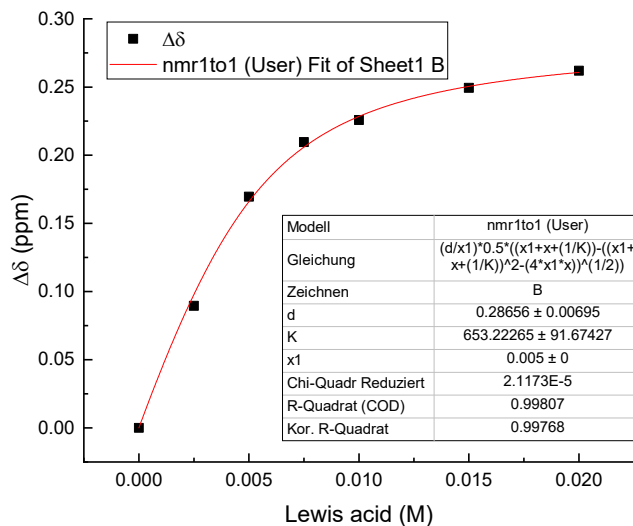
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.00	2.6261	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-3}$	2.6860	0.0599
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-3}$	2.7559	0.1298
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.00 \times 10^{-3}$	2.8257	0.1996
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.65 \times 10^{-3}$	2.8625	0.2364
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-2}$	2.8844	0.2583
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.50 \times 10^{-2}$	2.8912	0.2651



(RM1251)

**NMR titration of 4-nitroacetophenone (5e) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)**

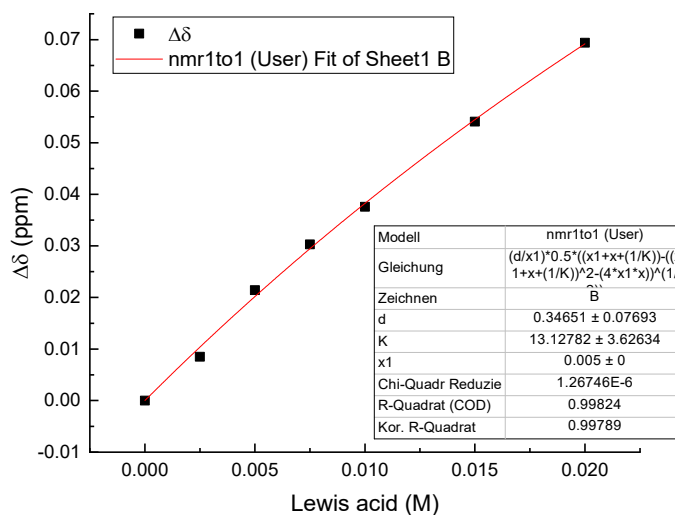
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	2.6542	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	2.7437	0.0895
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	2.8238	0.1696
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	2.8638	0.2096
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.8800	0.2258
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9036	0.2494
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	2.9161	0.2619



(RM1143)

### NMR titration of 3,5-dinitroacetophenone (5f) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)

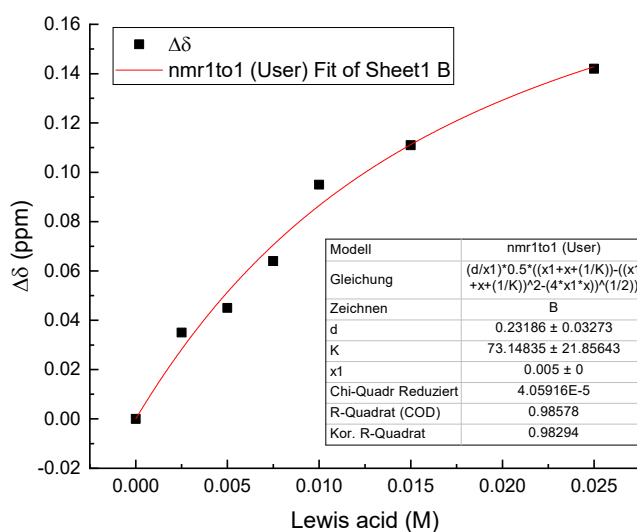
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	9.2197	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	9.2282	0.0085
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	9.2411	0.0214
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	9.2500	0.0303
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	9.2573	0.0376
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	9.2738	0.0541
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	9.2891	0.0694



(RM1150)

### NMR titration of methyl benzoate (6) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)

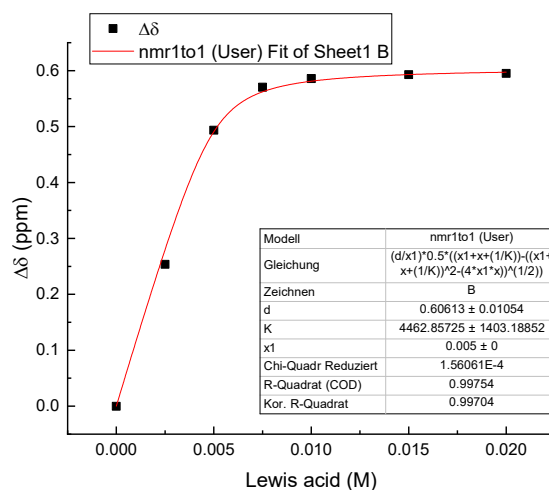
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	8.018	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.983	0.035
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	7.973	0.045
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.954	0.064
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	7.923	0.095
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.907	0.111
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	7.876	0.142



(RM1200)

**NMR titration of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (7d) with tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1i)**

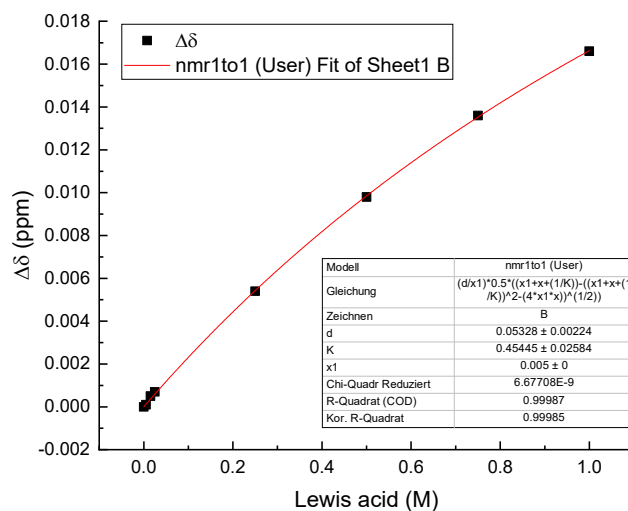
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	10.1462	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	9.8925	0.2537
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	9.6528	0.4934
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-3}$	9.5759	0.5703
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	9.5604	0.5858
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	9.5534	0.5928
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	9.5510	0.5952



(RM1180)

**NMR titration of 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (2a) with tris(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)borane (1j)**

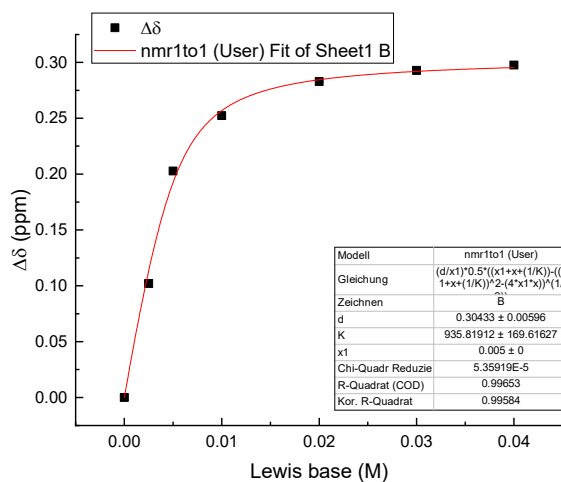
Entry	LB (M)	Borane (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	1.9521	0.0000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	1.9522	0.0001
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	1.9526	0.0005
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	1.9528	0.0007
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-1}$	1.9575	0.0054
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-1}$	1.9619	0.0098
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.5 \times 10^{-1}$	1.9657	0.0136
8	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	1.0	1.9687	0.0166



(RM1256)

### NMR titration of tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane (1h) with tetrahydrothiophene (11)

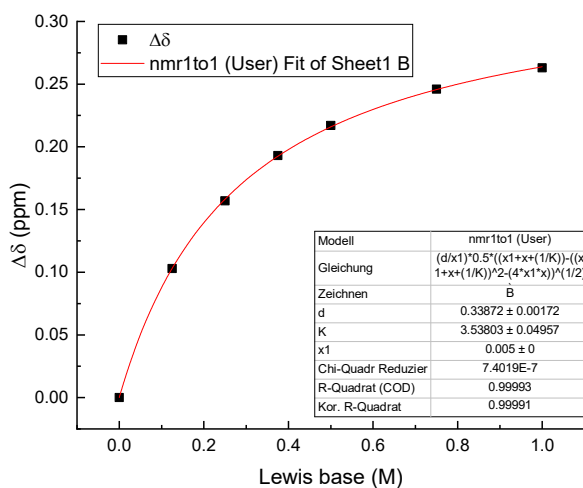
Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0	7.193	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	7.091	0.102
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	6.990	0.203
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.941	0.252
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.910	0.283
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.900	0.293
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-2}$	6.895	0.298



(RM1465)

### NMR titration of tris(4-chlorophenyl)borane (1f) with tetrahydrothiophene (11)

Entry	Borane (M)	LB (M)	$\delta$ (ppm)	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
1	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	0.00	7.498	0.000
2	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.25 \times 10^{-1}$	7.395	0.103
3	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-1}$	7.341	0.157
4	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.75 \times 10^{-1}$	7.305	0.193
5	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.00 \times 10^{-1}$	7.281	0.217
6	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.50 \times 10^{-1}$	7.252	0.246
7	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	1.00	7.235	0.263



(RM1464)

## VII. Computation Details

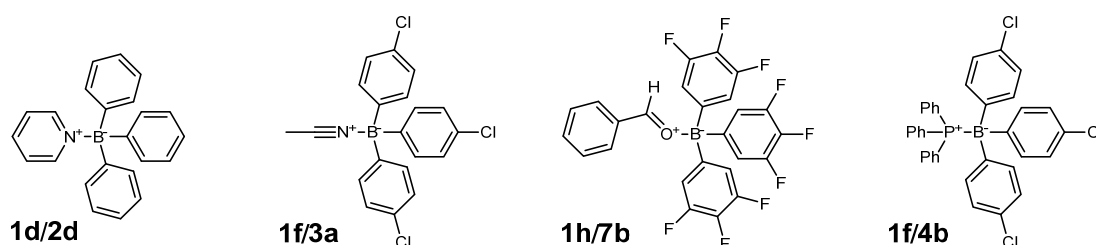
### General

Initially, all structures were subjected to a conformational search using the OPLS3<sup>S40</sup> force field as implemented in Macromodel.<sup>S41</sup> All conformers were then optimized at the corresponding level of theory (see respective sections below) with the Gaussian 16 software package.<sup>S42</sup> Frequency analyses were performed to confirm that all structures correspond to minima.

### Test of DFT Functionals

We tested the overall quality of different commonly employed DFT functionals for the prediction of equilibrium constants for Lewis adduct formation in comparison to a set of experimental equilibrium constants determined in this work. To avoid a bias for a certain type of Lewis base, the set of Lewis adducts **1d/2d**, **1f/3a**, **1h/7b**, and **1f/4b** was selected under the aspect of diversity to reflect the formation of B-N, B-O, and B-P adducts. At the same time, the experimentally determined equilibrium constants for these four Lewis adducts cover the experimentally relevant range from  $1.4 \times 10^6$  to  $4.9 \text{ M}^{-1}$ .

Within the test set, conformers of the Lewis adducts depicted below were first optimized at SMD(DCM)<sup>S43</sup>/B3LYP<sup>S44</sup>-D3BJ<sup>S45</sup>/def2-SVP<sup>S46</sup> level of theory. The minimum conformer of each species was subsequently optimized with further DFT methods. Thermochemical corrections were obtained at the same level using the rigid rotor harmonic oscillator (RRHO) model as implemented in Gaussian. Alternatively, we tested the Grimme's quasi-harmonic RRHO approximation.<sup>S47</sup> A free energy change of  $+7.91 \text{ kJ/mol}$  ( $= R \cdot 298 \text{ K} \cdot \ln(22.46 \text{ L mol}^{-1}/\text{L mol}^{-1})$ ) was applied to all free energies for their conversion from gas phase (1 atm) to liquid phase (1 M).



**Table S6:** Gibbs reaction energies  $\Delta_r G$  calculated at different DFT levels with thermochemical analysis based on the RRHO model.

	1d/2d	1f/3a	1h/7b	1f/4b	1d/2d	1f/3a	1h/7b	1f/4b	MUE	Error
	$\Delta_r G$ (kJ/mol)				deviation from experiment (kJ/mol)					
Experimental	-34.5	-3.9	-13.2	-12.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-SVP	-42.5	-19.6	-23.1	-39.8	8.0	15.7	9.9	27.5	15.3	$15.3 \pm 7.6$
B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-21.7	-1.3	-4.8	-23.4	-12.7	-2.5	-8.4	11.0	8.7	$-3.2 \pm 9.0$
M06-2X/def2-TZVP	-31.3	-11.5	-17.9	10.6	-3.2	7.6	4.7	-22.9	9.6	$-3.4 \pm 11.9$
wb97xd/def2-TZVP	-24.4	-2.7	-10.1	-18.1	-10.0	-1.2	-3.1	5.8	5.0	$-2.1 \pm 5.6$
PBE-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-35.3	-17.5	-14.5	-29.3	0.8	13.6	1.3	16.9	8.2	$8.2 \pm 7.2$
PBE0-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-38.0	-15.3	-14.7	-33.0	3.5	11.4	1.5	20.7	9.3	$9.3 \pm 7.5$
M06/def2-TZVP	-13.4	-1.1	3.3	9.4	-21.1	-2.8	-16.5	-21.7	15.5	$-15.5 \pm 7.6$
M06-L/def2-TZVP	-12.4	1.5	5.4	9.0	-22.0	-5.4	-18.6	-21.3	16.8	$-16.8 \pm 6.7$
MN15/def2-TZVP	-33.2	-12.5	-20.8	-7.7	-1.3	8.6	7.6	-4.7	5.5	$2.6 \pm 5.7$
BP86-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-42.5	-11.9	-13.7	-57.1	8.1	8.0	0.5	44.7	15.3	$15.3 \pm 17.2$
B97D3/def2-TZVP	-20.7	-1.7	1.7	-28.4	-13.8	-2.1	-14.9	16.1	11.7	$-3.7 \pm 12.5$

MUE = mean unassigned error

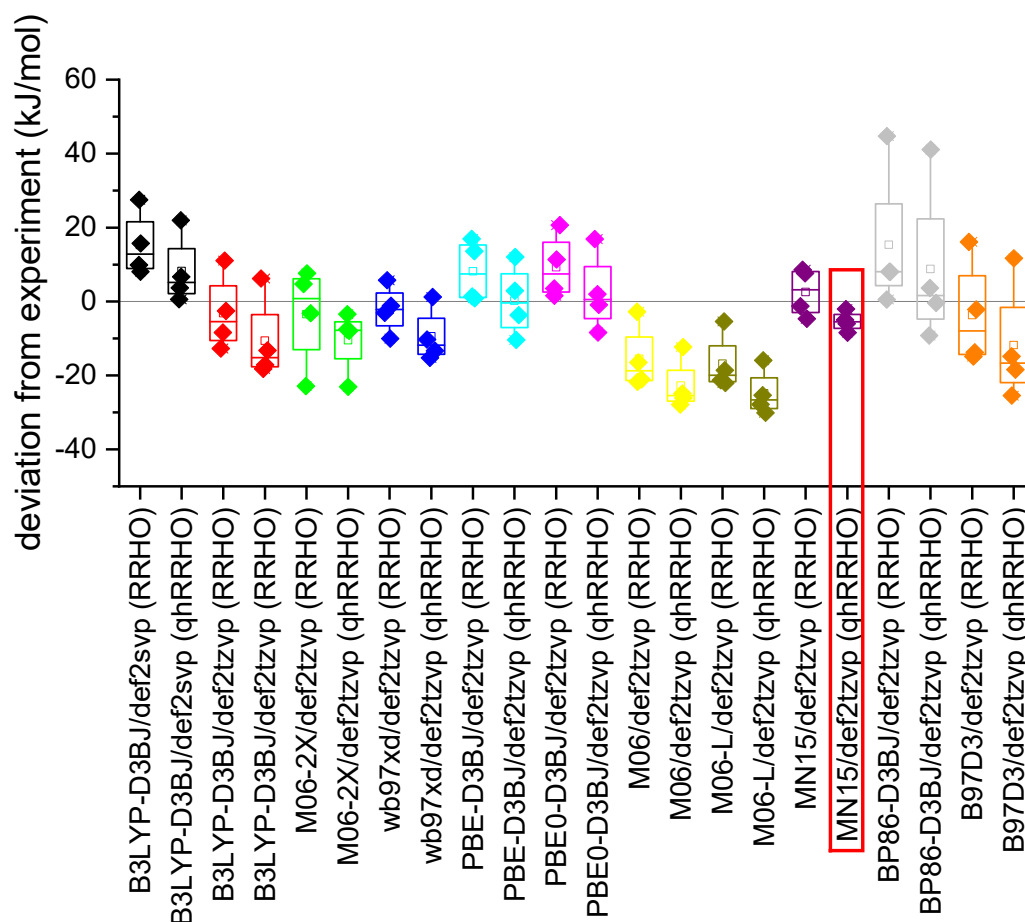


**Table S7** Gibbs reaction energies  $\Delta G$  calculated at different DFT levels with thermochemical analysis based on Grimme's quasi-harmonic RRHO approximation.

	1d/2d	1f/3a	1h/7b	1f/4b	1d/2d	1f/3a	1h/7b	1f/4b	MUE	Error
	$\Delta G$ (kJ/mol)				deviation from experiment (kJ/mol)					
Experimental	-34.5	-3.9	-13.2	-12.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-SVP	-38.1	-10.6	-13.8	-34.3	3.7	6.7	0.6	21.9	8.2	$8.2 \pm 8.2$
B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-17.3	9.4	5.0	-18.5	-17.1	-13.2	-18.2	6.2	13.7	$-10.6 \pm 9.9$
M06-2X/def2-TZVP	-26.5	-0.5	-5.6	10.8	-7.9	-3.4	-7.6	-23.1	10.5	$-10.5 \pm 7.5$
wb97xd/def2-TZVP	-21.1	6.4	2.0	-13.6	-13.3	-10.3	-15.2	1.2	10.0	$-9.4 \pm 6.4$
PBE-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-30.8	-6.8	-2.8	-24.4	-3.7	2.9	-10.4	12.1	7.3	$0.2 \pm 8.3$
PBE0-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-33.6	-5.9	-4.8	-29.2	-0.9	2.0	-8.4	16.9	7.0	$2.4 \pm 9.2$
M06/def2-TZVP	-9.6	8.4	12.9	15.5	-24.9	-12.3	-26.1	-27.9	22.8	$-22.8 \pm 6.1$
M06-L/def2-TZVP	-6.6	12.0	16.9	13.0	-27.8	-15.9	-30.1	-25.4	24.8	$-24.8 \pm 5.4$
<b>MN15/def2-TZVP</b>	<b>-28.4</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>-8.2</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>-6.0</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b><math>-5.4 \pm 2.4</math></b>
BP86-D3BJ/def2-TZVP	-38.1	-3.5	-4.0	-53.4	3.6	-0.4	-9.2	41.1	13.6	$8.8 \pm 19.2$
B97D3/def2-TZVP	-16.0	11.0	12.3	-24.0	-18.5	-14.9	-25.5	11.7	17.6	$-11.8 \pm 14.1$

MUE = mean unassigned error

The accuracy of the different DFT methods in predicting the experimental Gibbs energies of reaction for the Lewis adduct formations **1d/2d**, **1f/3a**, **1h/7b**, and **1d/4b** is illustrated in Fig. S6. The best agreement of computed and experimental  $\Delta_r G$  with the lowest scattering was obtained for the MN15 functional using the quasi-harmonic approximation by Grimme. By using the MN15 functional  $\Delta G$  values are on average by  $-5.4 \pm 2.4$  kJ/mol lower than those determined by experiment. All other methods show a significantly stronger scattering and/or enhanced errors.



**Fig. S6.** Comparison of the predictive power of the tested DFT methods.

**Table S8:** Raw computational data at different levels of theory in dichloromethane.

Species	Filename	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$G_{298, \text{RRHO}}$ (hartree)	$G_{298, \text{qHRRHO}}$ (hartree)
<b>SMD(DCM)/B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-SVP</b>				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_b3lyp_svp.log	-967.580904	-967.261964	-967.257686
<b>1d</b>	1d_b3lyp_svp.log	-719.411898	-719.178108	-719.175492
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_b3lyp_svp.log	-2230.516442	-2230.280204	-2230.272777
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_b3lyp_svp.log	-3133.687340	-3133.234860	-3133.224625
<b>1f</b>	1f_b3lyp_svp.log	-2097.826879	-2097.628483	-2097.624492
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_b3lyp_svp.log	-1957.187909	-1956.937739	-1956.929423
<b>1h</b>	1h_b3lyp_svp.log	-1611.800125	-1611.650875	-1611.646157
<b>1d</b>	2d_b3lyp_svp.log	-248.132100	-248.070679	-248.070681
<b>3a</b>	3a_b3lyp_svp.log	-132.668240	-132.647276	-132.647277
<b>4b</b>	4b_b3lyp_svp.log	-1035.821657	-1035.594213	-1035.590088
<b>7b</b>	7b_b3lyp_svp.log	-345.360643	-345.281089	-345.281040
<b>SMD(DCM)/B3LYP-D3BJ/def2-TZVP</b>				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_b3lyp.log	-968.619918	-968.302046	-968.297641
<b>1d</b>	1d_b3lyp.log	-720.184081	-719.951320	-719.948593
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_b3lyp.log	-2231.916474	-2231.682054	-2231.673940
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_b3lyp.log	-3135.801163	-3135.349237	-3135.339261
<b>1f</b>	1f_b3lyp.log	-2099.078392	-2098.880774	-2098.876735
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_b3lyp.log	-1959.441112	-1959.193556	-1959.184953
<b>1h</b>	1h_b3lyp.log	-1613.676211	-1613.528486	-1613.523710
<b>1d</b>	2d_b3lyp.log	-248.406839	-248.345462	-248.345465
<b>3a</b>	3a_b3lyp.log	-132.824924	-132.803781	-132.803783
<b>4b</b>	4b_b3lyp.log	-1036.689409	-1036.462575	-1036.458481
<b>7b</b>	7b_b3lyp.log	-345.745387	-345.666256	-345.666178
<b>SMD(DCM)/M06-2X/def2-TZVP</b>				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_m062x.log	-968.100562	-967.779940	-967.775479
<b>1d</b>	1d_m062x.log	-719.791317	-719.556428	-719.553786
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_m062x.log	-2231.382375	-2231.145307	-2231.137190
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_m062x.log	-3134.901979	-3134.443477	-3134.434943
<b>1f</b>	1f_m062x.log	-2098.608465	-2098.408712	-2098.404788
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_m062x.log	-1958.616550	-1958.366699	-1958.357276
<b>1h</b>	1h_m062x.log	-1613.026267	-1612.875443	-1612.870786
<b>1d</b>	2d_m062x.log	-248.276759	-248.214604	-248.214606
<b>3a</b>	3a_m062x.log	-132.756869	-132.735240	-132.735243
<b>4b</b>	4b_m062x.log	-1036.269873	-1036.041797	-1036.037265
<b>7b</b>	7b_m062x.log	-345.567578	-345.487449	-345.487360
<b>SMD(DCM)/wb97xd/def2-TZVP</b>				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_wb97xd.log	-968.168956	-967.847063	-967.842849
<b>1d</b>	1d_wb97xd.log	-719.843274	-719.608527	-719.605569
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_wb97xd.log	-2231.464208	-2231.225314	-2231.217923
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_wb97xd.log	-3135.048309	-3134.590520	-3134.580953
<b>1f</b>	1f_wb97xd.log	-2098.682607	-2098.482187	-2098.478264
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_wb97xd.log	-1958.709887	-1958.460350	-1958.450821
<b>1h</b>	1h_wb97xd.log	-1613.097827	-1612.947456	-1612.942642
<b>1d</b>	2d_wb97xd.log	-248.294468	-248.232249	-248.232251
<b>3a</b>	3a_wb97xd.log	-132.766630	-132.745101	-132.745102
<b>4b</b>	4b_wb97xd.log	-1036.334240	-1036.104451	-1036.100536
<b>7b</b>	7b_wb97xd.log	-345.592189	-345.512061	-345.511966
<b>SMD(DCM)/PBE-D3BJ/def2-TZVP</b>				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_pbe.log	-967.293236	-966.986715	-966.982117
<b>1d</b>	1d_pbe.log	-719.181463	-718.957143	-718.954274
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_pbe.log	-2230.165310	-2229.940207	-2229.931922
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_pbe.log	-3133.095328	-3132.660591	-3132.650168
<b>1f</b>	1f_pbe.log	-2097.498537	-2097.308682	-2097.304458
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_pbe.log	-1957.244910	-1957.009102	-1956.999658
<b>1h</b>	1h_pbe.log	-1611.923522	-1611.782716	-1611.777824
<b>1d</b>	2d_pbe.log	-248.077896	-248.019138	-248.019141
<b>3a</b>	3a_pbe.log	-132.647717	-132.627882	-132.627884
<b>4b</b>	4b_pbe.log	-1035.561851	-1035.343774	-1035.339435
<b>7b</b>	7b_pbe.log	-345.299640	-345.223866	-345.223777

SMD(DCM)/PBE0-D3BJ/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_pbe0.log	-967.387272	-967.067805	-967.063415
<b>1d</b>	1d_pbe0.log	-719.256980	-719.023109	-719.020394
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_pbe0.log	-2230.344786	-2230.108025	-2230.100235
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_pbe0.log	-3133.366539	-3132.912014	-3132.902272
<b>1f</b>	1f_pbe0.log	-2097.671216	-2097.472801	-2097.468589
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_pbe0.log	-1957.292343	-1957.042154	-1957.033463
<b>1h</b>	1h_pbe0.log	-1611.949681	-1611.800098	-1611.795266
<b>1d</b>	2d_pbe0.log	-248.095085	-248.033246	-248.033249
<b>3a</b>	3a_pbe0.log	-132.653753	-132.632424	-132.632426
<b>4b</b>	4b_pbe0.log	-1035.657668	-1035.429656	-1035.425561
<b>7b</b>	7b_pbe0.log	-345.319088	-345.239458	-345.239378

SMD(DCM)/M06/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_m06.log	-967.733609	-967.417800	-967.413369
<b>1d</b>	1d_m06.log	-719.516036	-719.284990	-719.282007
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_m06.log	-2231.046586	-2230.812920	-2230.805035
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_m06.log	-3134.336287	-3133.885260	-3133.876500
<b>1f</b>	1f_m06.log	-2098.313635	-2098.117557	-2098.113308
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_m06.log	-1958.250996	-1958.001934	-1957.993539
<b>1h</b>	1h_m06.log	-1612.770727	-1612.621481	-1612.616817
<b>1d</b>	2d_m06.log	-248.191668	-248.130716	-248.130719
<b>3a</b>	3a_m06.log	-132.719081	-132.697950	-132.697951
<b>4b</b>	4b_m06.log	-1036.003773	-1035.778522	-1035.774321
<b>7b</b>	7b_m06.log	-345.463559	-345.384724	-345.384645

SMD(DCM)/M06L/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_m06l.log	-968.357473	-968.039917	-968.035239
<b>1d</b>	1d_m06l.log	-719.988165	-719.754203	-719.751730
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_m06l.log	-2231.628541	-2231.393246	-2231.385488
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_m06l.log	-3135.308322	-3134.855736	-3134.846200
<b>1f</b>	1f_m06l.log	-2098.818832	-2098.620140	-2098.616394
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_m06l.log	-1959.037087	-1958.790129	-1958.781018
<b>1h</b>	1h_m06l.log	-1613.359921	-1613.211214	-1613.206559
<b>1d</b>	2d_m06l.log	-248.345402	-248.283996	-248.283998
<b>3a</b>	3a_m06l.log	-132.798126	-132.776694	-132.776695
<b>4b</b>	4b_m06l.log	-1036.468976	-1036.242020	-1036.237784
<b>7b</b>	7b_m06l.log	-345.663250	-345.583981	-345.583913

SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d.log	-967.288983	-966.970440	-966.966127
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-719.183183	-718.949547	-718.947039
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a.log	-2230.425035	-2230.189357	-2230.181409
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b.log	-3133.375826	-3132.922388	-3132.913002
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-2097.759858	-2097.561415	-2097.557514
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b.log	-1957.359664	-1957.112128	-1957.102630
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-1612.040717	-1611.891398	-1611.886781
<b>1d</b>	2d.log	-248.073066	-248.011268	-248.011271
<b>3a</b>	3a.log	-132.647673	-132.626196	-132.626199
<b>4b</b>	4b.log	-1035.588730	-1035.361063	-1035.357020
<b>7b</b>	7b.log	-345.295354	-345.215818	-345.215736

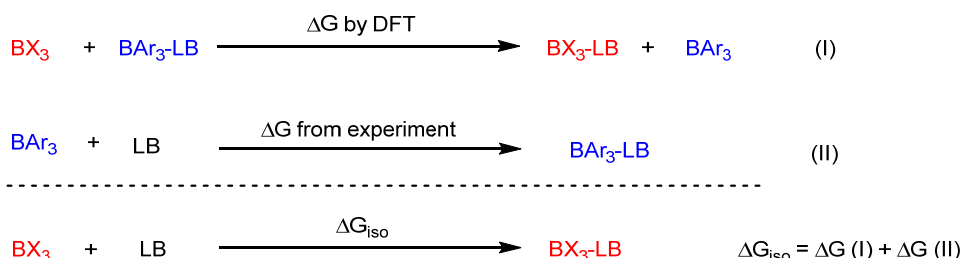
SMD(DCM)/BP86-D3BJ/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d_bp86.log	-968.575732	-968.269541	-968.264937
<b>1d</b>	1d_bp86.log	-720.140941	-719.917037	-719.914119
<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a_bp86.log	-2231.976088	-2231.749547	-2231.742032
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b_bp86.log	-3135.864960	-3135.429199	-3135.419395
<b>1f</b>	1f_bp86.log	-2099.138799	-2098.949652	-2098.945347
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b_bp86.log	-1959.411206	-1959.174476	-1959.165771
<b>1h</b>	1h_bp86.log	-1613.654461	-1613.514177	-1613.509268
<b>1d</b>	2d_bp86.log	-248.397924	-248.339318	-248.339321
<b>3a</b>	3a_bp86.log	-132.818123	-132.798366	-132.798368
<b>4b</b>	4b_bp86.log	-1036.679163	-1036.460823	-1036.456723
<b>7b</b>	7b_bp86.log	-345.733688	-345.658084	-345.657994

SMD(DCM)/B97D3/def2-TZVP				
<b>1d-2d</b>	1d_2d.log	-967.863511	-967.554716	-967.549973
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-719.614698	-719.388593	-719.385636

<b>1f-3a</b>	1f_3a.log	-2231.291166	-2231.065370	-2231.056388
<b>1f-4b</b>	1f_4b.log	-3134.713161	-3134.273861	-3134.263638
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-2098.549749	-2098.358103	-2098.353959
<b>1h-7b</b>	1h_7b.log	-1958.191922	-1957.953159	-1957.944221
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-1612.682208	-1612.539965	-1612.535138
<b>1d</b>	2d.log	-248.220603	-248.161254	-248.161257
<b>3a</b>	3a.log	-132.729784	-132.709617	-132.709618
<b>4b</b>	4b.log	-1036.128072	-1035.907940	-1035.903554
<b>7b</b>	7b.log	-345.493445	-345.416856	-345.416770

## Isodesmic Reactions as Tool to Calculate Equilibrium Constants

Isodesmic reactions are appropriate tools to reduce the errors of computational methods. The MN15 DFT level was identified to reproduce experimental equilibrium constants of Lewis adduct formation in this work with acceptable accuracy, and we used the following Scheme for the computation of Gibbs energies of association of boranes and Lewis bases. By combining the experimental  $\Delta_r G$  values from Eq (II) with the computationally accessible  $\Delta_r G$  for the isodesmic reaction in Eq (I), we arrive at  $\Delta G_{\text{iso}}$  which is founded on the experimental equilibrium constants for a certain Lewis base.



Next, we set out to assess the Lewis acidity  $LA_B$  of  $\text{BBr}_3$ ,  $\text{BCl}_3$ , and  $\text{BF}_3$ . Pyridine (**2d**), acetonitrile (**3a**), and benzaldehyde (**7b**) were chosen as reference Lewis bases which were optimized at the SMD(DCM)<sup>S43</sup>/MN15<sup>S48</sup>/def2-TZVP<sup>S46</sup> level of theory. Thermochemical corrections were calculated using Grimme's quasi-harmonic approximation.<sup>S47</sup>

**Table S9:** Energies of the reaction of boron halides with pyridine (**1d**) at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory and calculation of  $LA_B$  via an isodesmic reaction.

Species		$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$G_{298}$ (hartree)	$\Delta_r G(\text{I})$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta_r G(\text{II})^a$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta G_{\text{iso}}$ (kJ/mol)	$K_B$ ( $\text{M}^{-1}$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$LA_B^b$
<b>1d</b> -Pyridine	1d_2d.log	-967.288983	-966.966127					
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-719.183183	-718.947039					
$\text{BBr}_3$	bbr3.log	-7748.408212	-7748.434048					
$\text{BBr}_3$ -Pyridine	bbr3_2d.log	-7996.538426	-7996.478099	-65.5	-34.5	-100.0	$6.85 \times 10^{17}$	11.7
$\text{BCl}_3$	bcl3.log	-1405.317291	-1405.338254					
$\text{BCl}_3$ -Pyridine	bcl3_2d.log	-1653.446263	-1653.381447	-63.3	-34.5	-97.8	$2.72 \times 10^{17}$	11.3
$\text{BF}_3$	bf3.log	-324.456841	-324.470180					
$\text{BF}_3$ -Pyridine	bf3_2d.log	-572.582190	-572.511173	-57.5	-34.5	-92.0	$2.54 \times 10^{16}$	10.3

<sup>a</sup> Experimental  $K_B$  for the reaction of **1d** with **2d** (see Table S1) converted to  $\Delta_r G$  with  $\Delta_r G = -RT \ln K_B$ . <sup>b</sup> At 20 °C.

**Table S10:** Energies of the reaction of boron halides with benzaldehyde (**7b**) at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory and calculation of  $LA_B$  via an isodesmic reaction.

Species		$E_{tot}$ (hartree)	$G_{298}$ (hartree)	$\Delta_rG(I)$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta_rG(II)^a$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta G_{iso}$ (kJ/mol)	$K_B$ ( $M^{-1}$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$LA_B^b$
<b>1h</b> -PhCHO	1h_7b.log	-1957.359664	-1957.102630					
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-1612.040717	-1611.886781					
BBr <sub>3</sub>	bbr3.log	-7748.408212	-7748.434048					
BBr <sub>3</sub> -PhCHO	bbr3_7b.log	-8093.740174	-8093.662573	-33.3	-13.2	-46.5	$1.94 \times 10^8$	10.1
BCl <sub>3</sub>	bcl3.log	-1405.317291	-1405.338254					
BCl <sub>3</sub> -PhCHO	bcl3_7b.log	-1750.647924	-1750.566009	-31.3	-13.2	-44.5	$8.44 \times 10^7$	9.7
BF <sub>3</sub>	bf3.log	-324.456841	-324.470180					
BF <sub>3</sub> -PhCHO	bf3_7b.log	-669.786167	-669.697911	-31.2	-13.2	-44.4	$8.23 \times 10^7$	9.7

<sup>a</sup>: Experimental  $K_B$  for the reaction of **1h** with **7b** (see Table 1) converted to  $\Delta_rG$  with  $\Delta_rG = -RT \ln K_B$ . <sup>b</sup> At 20 °C.

**Table S11:** Energies of the reaction of boron halides with acetonitrile (**3a**) at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory and calculation of  $LA_B$  via an isodesmic reaction.

Species		$E_{tot}$ (hartree)	$G_{298}$ (hartree)	$\Delta_rG(I)$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta_rG(II)^a$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta G_{iso}$ (kJ/mol)	$K_B$ ( $M^{-1}$ ) <sup>b</sup>	$LA_B^b$
<b>1f</b> -MeCN	1f_3a.log	-2230.425035	-2230.181409					
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-2097.759858	-2097.557514					
BBr <sub>3</sub>	bbr3.log	-7748.408212	-7748.434048					
BBr <sub>3</sub> -MeCN	bbr3_3a.log	-7881.089538	-7881.073402	-40.6	-3.9	-44.5	$8.53 \times 10^7$	8.4
BCl <sub>3</sub>	bcl3.log	-1405.317291	-1405.338254					
BCl <sub>3</sub> -MeCN	bcl3_3a.log	-1537.995002	-1537.974251	-31.8	-3.9	-35.7	$2.29 \times 10^6$	6.8
BF <sub>3</sub>	bf3.log	-324.456841	-324.470180					
BF <sub>3</sub> -MeCN	bf3_3a.log	-457.130481	-457.103044	-23.5	-3.9	-27.4	$7.82 \times 10^4$	5.4

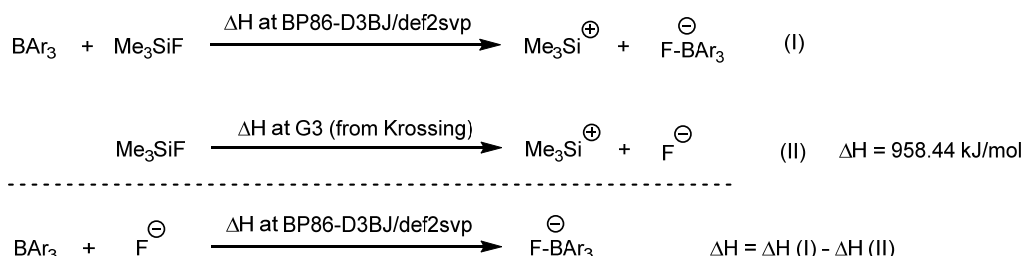
<sup>a</sup>: Experimental  $K_B$  for the reaction of **1f** with **3a** (see Table 1) converted to  $\Delta_rG$  with  $\Delta_rG = -RT \ln K_B$ . <sup>b</sup> At 20 °C.

**Table S12:**  $LA_B$  from the three reference reactions and averaged  $LA_B$

Lewis Acid	$LA_B$ from Pyridine	$LA_B$ from Benzaldehyde	$LA_B$ from MeCN	$LA_B$ Average
BBr <sub>3</sub>	11.7	10.1	8.4	$10.1 \pm 1.3$
BCl <sub>3</sub>	11.3	9.7	6.8	$9.3 \pm 1.8$
BF <sub>3</sub>	10.3	9.7	5.4	$8.4 \pm 2.0$

## Fluoride Ion Affinities (FIA)

First, we calculated gas-phase FIA (as  $\Delta H$ ) following the procedure outlined in ref.<sup>S2</sup> at the BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP level of theory. As suggested, we used the isodesmic reaction of  $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}^+ + \text{F}^- \rightarrow \text{Me}_3\text{SiF}$  (with  $\Delta H$  at the G3 level as suggested in ref.<sup>S3</sup>) as anchor point. Therefore, all geometries were optimized in gas phase at the BP86<sup>S49</sup>-D3BJ<sup>S45</sup>/def2-SVP<sup>S46</sup> level of theory and confirmed to be energetic minima by frequency analyses.

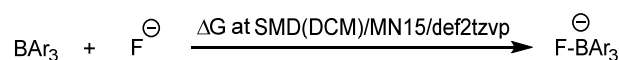


**Table S13:** Gas-phase FIA at the BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP level of theory anchored to the  $\text{Me}_3\text{SiF}/\text{Me}_3\text{Si}^+ + \text{F}^-$  reaction (with  $\Delta H$  at the G3 level from ref.<sup>S3</sup>).

Compound	Name	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$\Delta H$ (hartree)	$\Delta H(\text{I})$ (kJ/mol)	FIA = $\Delta H - \Delta H(\text{II})$ (kJ/mol)
$\text{Me}_3\text{SiF}$	tms_cation.log	-408.832819	-408.718535		
$\text{Me}_3\text{Si}^+$	tms_f.log	-508.947655	-508.828343		
<b>1a</b>	1a.log	-1121.022940	-1120.512056		
<b>1a-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1a_f.log	-1220.879285	-1220.368078	666.3	-292.1
<b>1b</b>	1b.log	-1062.706045	-1062.317768		
<b>1b-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1b_f.log	-1162.577430	-1162.188214	628.4	-330.0
<b>1c</b>	1c.log	-837.236925	-836.866150		
<b>1c-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1c_f.log	-937.115155	-936.743194	611.1	-347.3
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-719.359926	-719.073788		
<b>1d-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1d_f.log	-819.242997	-818.955556	598.7	-359.7
<b>1e</b>	1e.log	-1016.851796	-1016.586953		
<b>1e-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1e_f.log	-1116.741597	-1116.475206	581.7	-376.7
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-2097.875931	-2097.614239		
<b>1f-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1f_f.log	-2197.773400	-2197.509855	562.4	-396.1
<b>1g</b>	1g.log	-1611.827482	-1611.605375		
<b>1g-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1g_f.log	-1711.725270	-1711.501146	562.0	-396.5
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-1611.783601	-1611.560989		
<b>1h-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1h_f.log	-1711.698201	-1711.473463	518.1	-440.3
<b>1i</b>	1i.log	-2206.709158	-2206.528720		
<b>1i-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1i_f.log	-2306.630948	-2306.448215	499.7	-458.8
<b>1j</b>	1j.log	-1072.981077	-1072.440991		
<b>1j-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1j_f.log	-1172.850930	-1172.309088	634.6	-323.8
$\text{BF}_3$	bf3.log	-324.301595	-324.284934		
$\text{BF}_3\text{-F}^-$	bf3_f.log	-424.180170	-424.160668	614.6	-343.9
$\text{BCl}_3$	bcl3.log	-1405.258983	-1405.246111		
$\text{BCl}_3\text{-F}^-$	bcl3_f.log	-1505.162885	-1505.146538	549.7	-408.7
$\text{BBr}_3$	bbr3.log	-7747.298444	-7747.286611		
$\text{BBr}_3\text{-F}^-$	bbr3_f.log	-7847.216865	-7847.201283	512.3	-446.1
<b>1k</b>	1k.log	-3262.302170	-3262.144122		
<b>1k-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1k_f.log	-3362.231906	-3362.073460	473.8	-484.6
<b>1l</b>	1l.log	-2007.206280	-2007.118481		
<b>1l-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1l_f.log	-2107.130738	-2107.044422	482.7	-475.7

## Fluoride Ion Affinities in Dichloromethane (FIA<sup>DCM</sup>)

Fluoride ion affinities (as  $\Delta G_{298}$ ) in dichloromethane solution were calculated at the SMD(DCM)<sup>S43</sup>/MN15<sup>S48</sup>/def2-TZVP<sup>S46</sup> level of theory with thermochemical corrections calculated using Grimme's quasi-harmonic approximation.<sup>S47</sup> A free energy change of +7.91 kJ/mol (=  $R \cdot 298 \text{ K} \cdot \ln(22.46 \text{ L mol}^{-1}/\text{L mol}^{-1})$ ) was applied to all free energies for their conversion from gas phase (1 atm) to liquid phase (1 M).



In contrast to gas-phase FIA, there is no reliable anchor reaction for fluoride association with a borane in dichloromethane solution, and due to ion pairing in organic solution it is also unlikely to exist. Therefore, the absolute FIA<sup>DCM</sup> values reported herein should not be overinterpreted.

**Table S14:** FIA in dichloromethane solutions (FIA<sup>DCM</sup>) at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory.

Compound	Name	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$\Delta G$ (hartree)	FIA <sup>DCM</sup> (kJ/mol)
F <sup>-</sup>	fluoride.log	-99.922600	-99.936759	
<b>1a</b>	1a.log	-1120.757210	-1120.317861	
<b>1a-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1a_f.log	-1220.727944	-1220.288428	-96.7
<b>1b</b>	1b.log	-1062.545388	-1062.218981	
<b>1b-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1b_f.log	-1162.525919	-1162.201148	-127.1
<b>1c</b>	1c.log	-837.018675	-836.707329	
<b>1c-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1c_f.log	-937.004045	-936.694851	-141.2
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-719.183183	-718.947039	
<b>1d-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1d_f.log	-819.172812	-818.937033	-147.7
<b>1e</b>	1e.log	-1016.820334	-1016.611786	
<b>1e-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1e_f.log	-1116.811692	-1116.604241	-154.1
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-2097.759858	-2097.557514	
<b>1f-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1f_f.log	-2197.755352	-2197.553620	-163.7
<b>1g</b>	1g.log	-1612.079522	-1611.925116	
<b>1g-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1g_f.log	-1712.084355	-1711.929353	-185.1
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-1612.040717	-1611.886781	
<b>1h-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1h_f.log	-1712.048259	-1711.895637	-197.2
<b>1i</b>	1i.log	-2207.247423	-2207.146808	
<b>1i-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1i_f.log	-2307.270349	-2307.168786	-231.7
<b>1j</b>	1j.log <sup>a</sup>	-1072.672657	-1072.205711	
<b>1j-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1j_f.log	-1172.642414	-1172.172727	-87.4
BF <sub>3</sub>	bf3.log	-324.456841	-324.470180	
BF <sub>3</sub> -F <sup>-</sup>	bf3_f.log	-424.481810	-424.495205	-239.7
BCl <sub>3</sub>	bcl3.log	-1405.317291	-1405.338254	
BCl <sub>3</sub> -F <sup>-</sup>	bcl3_f.log	-1505.350042	-1505.370892	-259.6
BBr <sub>3</sub>	bbr3.log	-7748.408212	-7748.434048	
BBr <sub>3</sub> -F <sup>-</sup>	bbr3_f.log	-7848.442427	-7848.468054	-263.2
<b>1k</b>	1k.log	-3262.995914	-3262.817370	
<b>1k-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1k_f.log	-3363.016997	-3362.8	-226.0
<b>1l</b>	1l.log	-2007.649645	-2007.551438	
<b>1l-F<sup>-</sup></b>	1l_f.log <sup>a</sup>	-2107.672320	-2107.572987	-230.5

<sup>a</sup> Structures have small imaginary frequencies (**1j**: -13.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, **1l-F<sup>-</sup>**: -3.44 cm<sup>-1</sup>) as convergence showed to be problematic.

## Orbital Energies

Both LUMO energies as well as global electrophilicity indices (GEI) were proposed to be a suitable descriptor for Lewis acidity.<sup>S2,S50</sup> Parr global electrophilicity indices can be calculated from the electronic chemical potential ( $\mu$ ), chemical hardness ( $\eta$ ) and the global electrophilicity index ( $\omega$ ) as follows:<sup>S51</sup>

$$\mu \approx \frac{E_{\text{HOMO}} + E_{\text{LUMO}}}{2}$$

$$\eta \approx E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}}$$

$$\omega = \frac{\mu^2}{2\eta}$$

The following two tables list HOMO and LUMO energies, chemical potential ( $\mu$ ), chemical hardness ( $\eta$ ) and the global electrophilicity index ( $\omega$ ) for both gas-phase optimized boranes (BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP, Table S15) as well as the ones in dichloromethane solution (SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP, Table S16). The corresponding correlation with experimental Lewis acidities is shown in Fig. S1.

**Table S15:** Orbital energies and GEI analysis for boranes optimized in the gas-phase at the BP86-D3BJ/def2-SVP level of theory.

Compound	Name	$E_{\text{HOMO}}$ (hartree)	$E_{\text{LUMO}}$ (hartree)	Chemical Potential (hartree)	Chemical Hardness (hartree)	Global Electrophilicity (eV)
<b>1a</b>	1a.log	-0.15683	-0.06001	-0.10842	0.09682	1.65
<b>1b</b>	1b.log	-0.19166	-0.08069	-0.13618	0.11097	2.27
<b>1c</b>	1c.log	-0.21392	-0.09261	-0.15327	0.12131	2.63
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-0.22686	-0.10049	-0.16368	0.12637	2.88
<b>1e</b>	1e.log	-0.22650	-0.10466	-0.16558	0.12184	3.06
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-0.22634	-0.11260	-0.16947	0.11374	3.44
<b>1g</b>	1g.log	-0.23176	-0.12108	-0.17642	0.11068	3.83
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-0.24254	-0.12913	-0.18584	0.11341	4.14
<b>1i</b>	1i.log	-0.23790	-0.14437	-0.19114	0.09353	5.31
<b>1j</b>	1j.log	-0.19839	-0.09395	-0.14617	0.10444	2.78
BF <sub>3</sub>	bf3.log	-0.35988	-0.01084	-0.18536	0.34904	1.34
BCl <sub>3</sub>	bcl3.log	-0.27814	-0.08770	-0.18292	0.19044	2.39
BBr <sub>3</sub>	bbr3.log	-0.25686	-0.10629	-0.18158	0.15057	2.98
<b>1k</b>	1k.log	-0.21513	-0.14906	-0.18210	0.06607	6.83
<b>1l</b>	1l.log	-0.22974	-0.15295	-0.19135	0.07679	6.49

**Table S16:** Orbital energies and GEI analysis for boranes optimized in dichloromethane solution at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory.

Compound	Name	$E_{\text{HOMO}}$ (hartree)	$E_{\text{LUMO}}$ (hartree)	Chemical Potential (hartree)	Chemical Hardness (hartree)	Global Electrophilicity (eV)
<b>1a</b>	1a.log	-0.21710	-0.02941	-0.12326	0.18769	1.10
<b>1b</b>	1b.log	-0.25312	-0.04147	-0.14730	0.21165	1.39
<b>1c</b>	1c.log	-0.27054	-0.04908	-0.15981	0.22146	1.57
<b>1d</b>	1d.log	-0.28319	-0.05429	-0.16874	0.22890	1.69
<b>1e</b>	1e.log	-0.28154	-0.05390	-0.16772	0.22764	1.68
<b>1f</b>	1f.log	-0.28062	-0.06249	-0.17156	0.21813	1.84
<b>1g</b>	1g.log	-0.29157	-0.07655	-0.18406	0.21502	2.14
<b>1h</b>	1h.log	-0.29536	-0.07260	-0.18398	0.22276	2.07
<b>1i</b>	1i.log	-0.29833	-0.09589	-0.19711	0.20244	2.61
<b>1j</b>	1j.log	-0.25626	-0.04968	-0.15297	0.20658	1.54
BF <sub>3</sub>	bf3.log	-0.48092	0.06314	-0.20889	0.54406	1.09
BCl <sub>3</sub>	bcl3.log	-0.36253	-0.04009	-0.20131	0.32244	1.71
BBr <sub>3</sub>	bbr3.log	-0.33101	-0.05910	-0.19506	0.27191	1.90
<b>1k</b>	1k.log	-0.26549	-0.10251	-0.18400	0.16298	2.83
<b>1l</b>	1l.log	-0.28042	-0.10311	-0.19177	0.17731	2.82



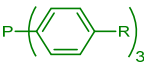
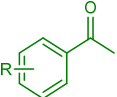
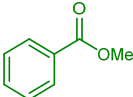
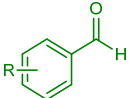
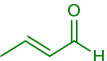
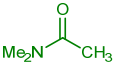




**Table S17:** Borane affinities in dichloromethane at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory.

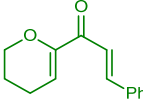

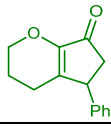
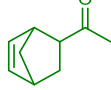
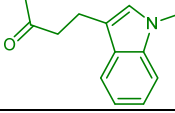
Compound	Name	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$\Delta G$ (hartree)
BH <sub>3</sub>	bh3.log	-26.571987	-26.564324
BH <sub>3</sub> -2d	bh3_2d.log	-274.716247	-274.624257
1d	1d.log	-719.183183	-718.947039
2d	2d.log	-248.073066	-248.011271
1d-2d	1d_2d.log	-967.288983	-966.966127
		$\Delta G_{\text{I}}$ (kJ/mol):	-107.2
		$\Delta G_{\text{II, exp}}$ (kJ/mol):	-34.5
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3Py}}$ (kJ/mol):	-141.7

Compound	R =	Name	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$\Delta G$ (hartree)
4-NMe <sub>2</sub>	<b>2a</b>	2a.log	-381.934671	-381.805184
		bh3_2a.log	-408.583729	-408.423337
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-155.3
4-Morpholino	<b>2b</b>	2b.log	-534.464827	-534.295128
		bh3_2b.log	-561.112566	-560.912079
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-152.2
4-MeO	<b>2c</b>	2c.log	-362.528691	-362.437424
		bh3_2c.log	-389.173948	-389.052228
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-146.5
H	<b>2d</b>	2d.log	-248.073066	-248.011271
		bh3_2d.log	-274.716247	-274.624257
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-141.7
4-COPh	<b>2e</b>	2e.log	-592.183945	-592.040244
		bh3_2e.log	-618.825044	-618.650624
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-134.9
3-Cl	<b>2f</b>	2f.log	-707.596035	-707.546045
		bh3_2f.log	-734.235338	-734.154962
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-131.1
4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2g</b>	2g.log	-584.999106	-584.938099
		bh3_2g.log	-611.638527	-611.546893
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-130.7
4-CN	<b>2h</b>	2h.log	-340.246417	-340.188790
		bh3_2h.log	-366.884992	-366.797051
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-129.3
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2i</b>	2i.log	-921.923968	-921.863313
		bh3_2i.log	-948.558534	-948.467577
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-118.8
3,4,5-(Cl) <sub>3</sub>	<b>2j</b>	2j.log	-1626.635341	-1626.608150
		bh3_2j.log	-1653.269439	-1653.211890
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-117.5
3,5-(F) <sub>2</sub> -4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>2k</b>	2k.log	-783.403845	-783.361163
		bh3_2k.log	-810.036760	-809.963770
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-114.5
3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2l</b>	2l.log	-656.846806	-656.787791
		bh3_2l.log	-683.476479	-683.387257
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-106.2
4-Cl-3,5-(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<b>2m</b>	2m.log	-1116.348325	-1116.300644
		bh3_2m.log	-1142.976501	-1142.898845
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-102.9
2,6-Me	<b>2n</b>	2n.log	-326.635224	-326.523532
		bh3_2n.log	-353.275512	-353.130321
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-125.5
Me	<b>3a</b>	3a.log	-132.647673	-132.626199
		bh3_3a.log	-159.272603	-159.222836
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH3}}$ (kJ/mol):		-98.8
4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<b>3b</b>	3b.log	-423.427299	-423.367386
		bh3_3b.log	-450.051296	-449.961957

				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-93.4
	4-MeO	<b>4a</b>	4a.log bh3_4a.log	-1378.946594 -1405.591504	-1378.625288 -1405.239627
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-145.3
	H	<b>4b</b>	4b.log bh3_4b.log	-1035.588730 -1062.230358	-1035.357020 -1061.968738
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-138.4
	4-Cl	<b>4c</b>	4c.log bh3_4c.log	-2414.163212 -2440.803224	-2413.965711 -2440.575235
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-132.7
	4-MeO	<b>5a</b>	5a.log bh3_5a.log	-499.035065 -525.657975	-498.899400 -525.492098
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-88.5
	4-Me	<b>5b</b>	5b.log bh3_5b.log	-423.859519 -450.481111	-423.728844 -450.320387
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-85.4
	4-Br	<b>5c</b>	5c.log bh3_5c.log	-2958.474380 -2985.093870	-2958.381682 -2984.971115
	4-CF <sub>3</sub>	<b>5d</b>	5d.log bh3_5d.log	-721.508489 -748.126799	-721.403174 -747.991046
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-75.8
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>5e</b>	5e.log bh3_5e.log	-588.972745 -615.589804	-588.867934 -615.455082
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-73.9
	3,5-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>5f</b>	5f.log bh3_5f.log	-793.360191 -819.974823	-793.255962 -819.840805
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-67.9
		<b>6</b>	6.log bh3_6.log	-459.778391 -486.385602	-459.668022 -486.245820
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-49.4
	4-MeO	<b>7a</b>	7a.log bh3_7a.log	-459.750289 -486.373253	-459.640878 -486.233653
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-88.7
	H	<b>7b</b>	7b.log bh3_7b.log	-345.295354 -371.915384	-345.215736 -371.805519
	4-Br	<b>7c</b>	7c.log bh3_7c.log	-2919.188659 -2945.807705	-2919.122201 -2945.710780
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-77.7
	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	<b>7d</b>	7d.log bh3_7d.log	-549.686430 -576.302788	-549.607758 -576.193642
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-70.6
		<b>8</b>	8.log bh3_8.log	-231.051410 -257.674619	-230.990400 -257.583270
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-88.9
		<b>9</b>	9.log bh3_9.log	-287.605958 -314.235888	-287.506926 -314.106202
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-105.7
		<b>10</b>	10.log bh3_10.log	-653.944244 -680.580453	-653.776810 -680.382227
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-121.9
		<b>11</b>	11.log 11_bh3.log	-555.195297 -581.820771	-555.109791 -581.705858
				$\Delta G_{BH3}$ (kJ/mol):	-97.3

**Table S18:** Borane affinities in dichloromethane at the SMD(DCM)/MN15/def2-TZVP level of theory for additional compounds.

Compound	Name	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (hartree)	$\Delta G$ (hartree)
Et <sub>2</sub> O	et2o.log	-233.465310	-233.358767
	bh3_et2o.log	-260.086473	-259.948304
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-80.2
	nazarov_starting.log	-691.778042	-691.571430
	bh3_nazarov_starting.log	-718.397500	-718.160161
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-78.1
	methylvinylketon.log	-231.053607	-230.992865
	bh3_methylvinylketon.log	-257.673518	-257.582480
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-80.4
	nazarov_prod.log	-691.807860	-691.597841
	bh3_nazarov_prod.log	-718.432079	-718.192298
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-93.1
	dielsalder_prod.log	-425.023820	-424.866890
	bh3_dielsalder_prod.log	-451.645604	-451.458589
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-85.9
	michael_addition.log	-633.877139	-633.667021
	bh3_michael_addition.log	-660.498830	-660.257689
		$\Delta G_{\text{BH}_3}$ (kJ/mol):	-83.1

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