

*Supporting Information for*

**CATALYTIC AROMATIC BORYLATION  
VIA *IN SITU*-GENERATED BORENIUM SPECIES**

Fumiya Kitani,<sup>a,b</sup> Ryo Takita,<sup>\*a</sup> Tatsushi Imahori,<sup>b</sup> and Masanobu Uchiyama<sup>\*a,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *RIKEN Center for Sustainable Resource Science, 2-1 Hirosawa, Wako-shi, Saitama 351-0198, Japan.*

<sup>b</sup> *Department of Industrial Chemistry, Tokyo University of Science, 1-3 Kagurazaka, Shinjyuku-ku Tokyo 162-8601, Japan.*

<sup>c</sup> *Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan.*

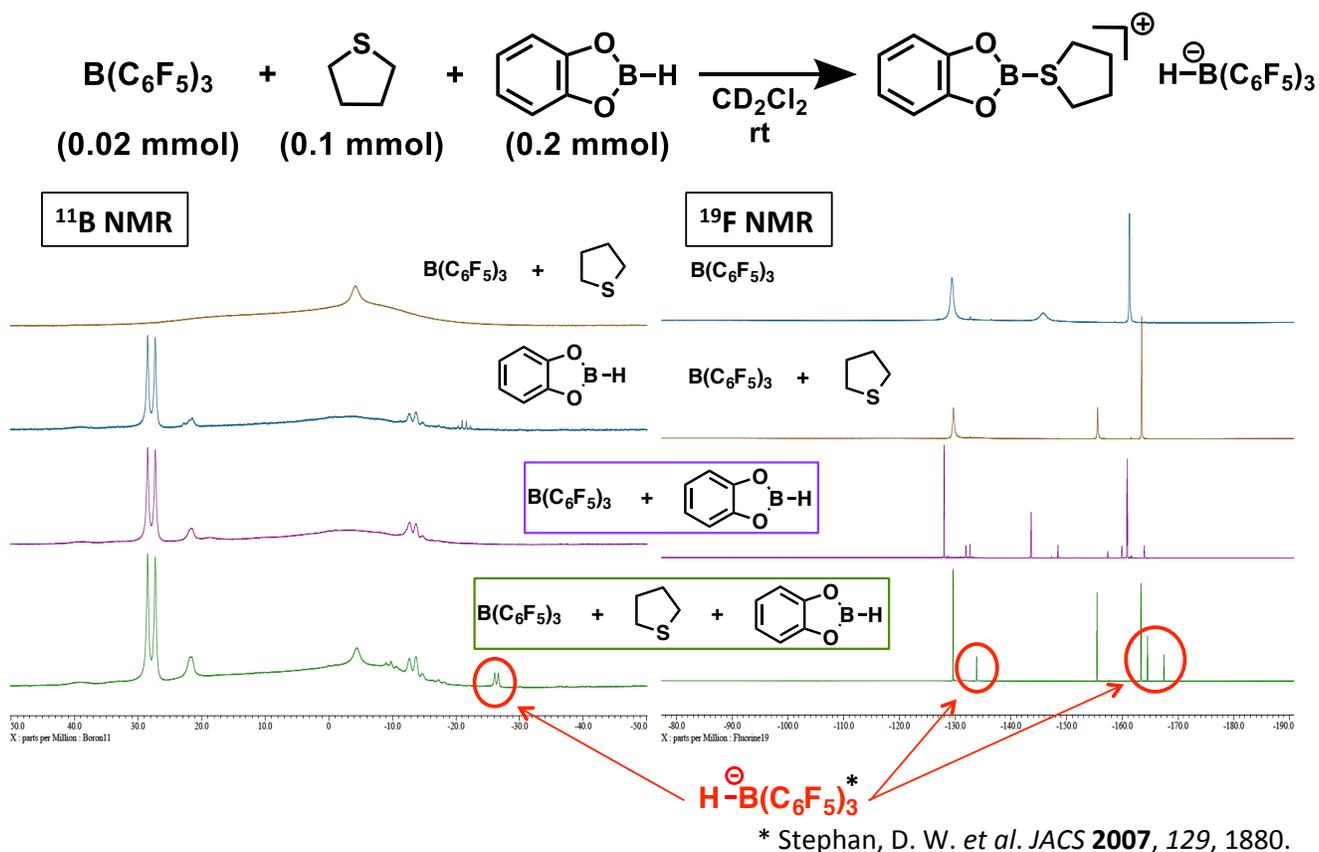
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## 1. General

NMR spectra were obtained on a JEOL-AL300 or 400, or an ECA500 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are expressed in  $\delta$  (ppm) values, and coupling constants are expressed in hertz (Hz).  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were referenced to tetramethylsilane as an internal standard.  $^{11}\text{B}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were unreferenced. The following abbreviations are used: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, and sept = septet. ESI mass spectra were measured on a Bruker micrOTOF-II spectrometer. Air- and moisture-sensitive manipulations were performed with standard Schlenk techniques or in a glove box under argon atmosphere. Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane,  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ , was purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. and purified by the sublimation after treatment with triethylsilane. Catecholborane was purchased from AstaTech Inc. and used as received. Tetrahydrothiophene, 1,2-dichloroethane, and arene substrates were used after distillation. Normal-phase column chromatography was performed with silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh) from Merck, silica gel 60N (spherical, neutral, 40-50  $\mu\text{m}$ ) from Kanto Chemical Co. Ltd., or CHROMATOREX-DIOL MB 100-40/75 from Fuji Silysia Chemical and thin-layer chromatography was carried out on 0.25 mm Merck silica gel plates (60F-254).

## 2. $^{11}\text{B}$ and $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR Spectra of Reaction Conditions

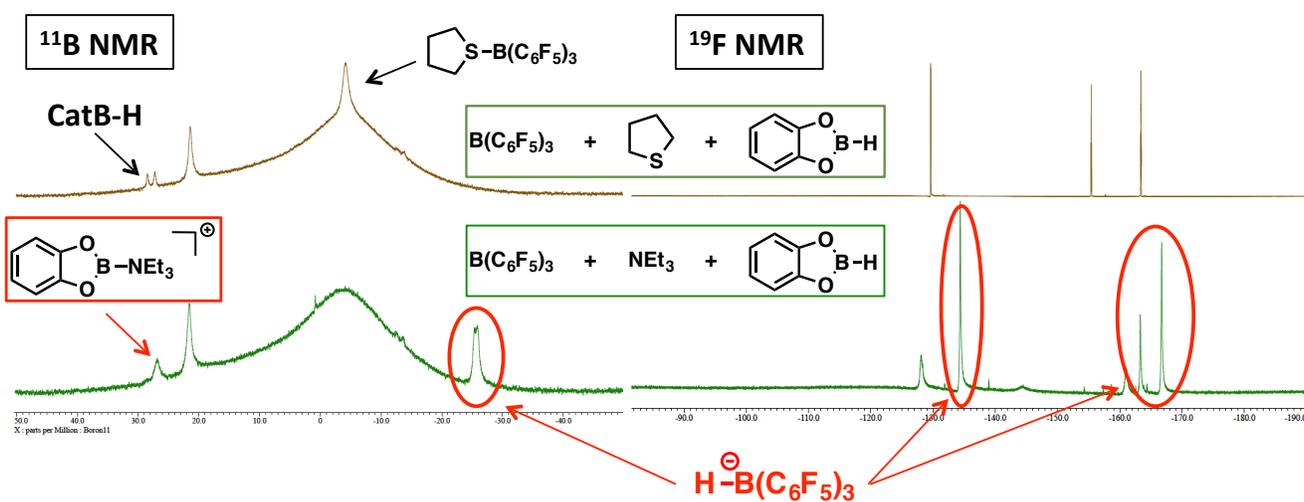
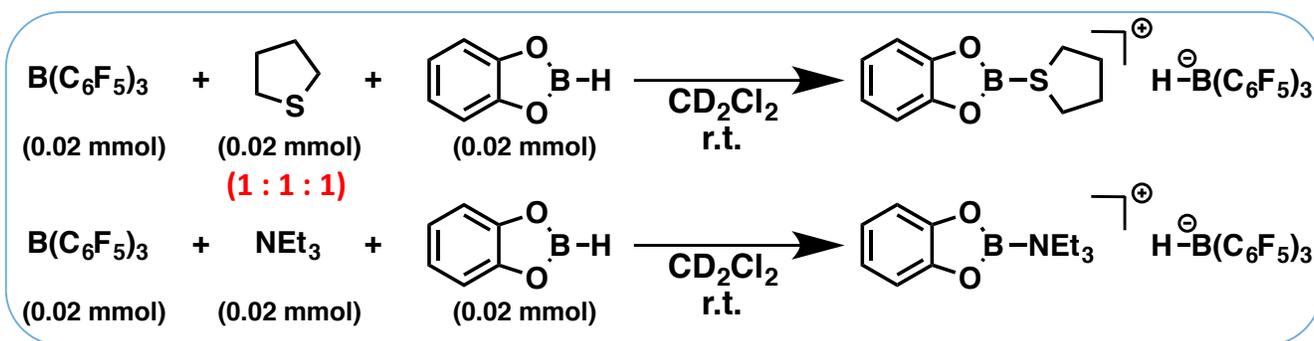


The peak corresponding to the borenium species ( $[\text{CatB-THT}]^+$ ) would be overlapped with the peak of catecholborane in  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR spectrum (since the peak of  $[\text{CatB-NEt}_3]^+$  is found to be overlapped with the peak of catecholborane, see the next section.) Judged from the  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum, 23% of  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  was converted to  $[\text{H-B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3]^-$  under these conditions.

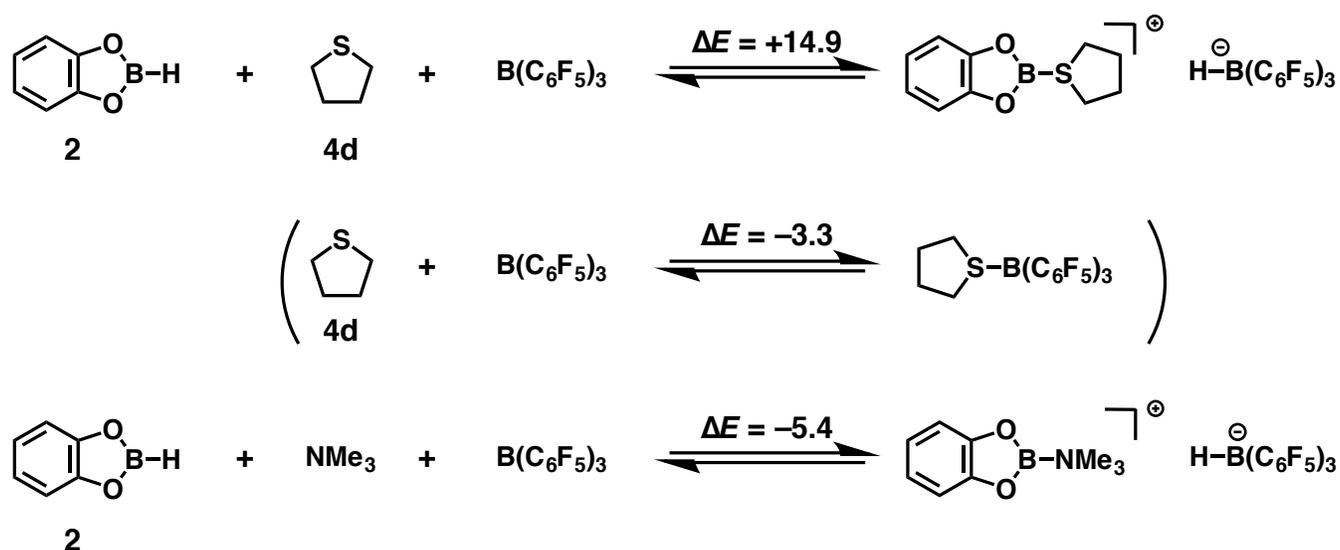
Combined with the results of the Lewis base effects (**4d** vs  $\text{NEt}_3$  (or  $\text{NMe}_3$ )) shown in the next section and DFT calculations about the borylation step (Figure 1 in the manuscript), the generation of borenium species using **2**, **4d**, and  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  should be thermodynamically unfavorable in the equilibrium. But, once generated, the **4d**-based borenium species is sufficiently reactive in the borylation reaction with a reasonable activation barrier ( $\Delta E^\ddagger = 8.0$  kcal/mol), which gives the stable intermediate (*i.e.*,  $\text{IM2}_{\text{THT}}$ ). Furthermore, in  $\text{IM2}_{\text{THT}}$ , **4d** is already released, making the catalytic cycle feasible.

### 3. Effects of Lewis Base on the Generation of Borenium Species: NMR Studies and DFT Calculations

- NMR Studies



- Results of DFT Calculations (at B3LYP/6-31++G\*\*, energies shown in kcal/mol)



## 4. Computational Details

### 4-1. Methods

All calculations were carried with the Gaussian 09 program package.<sup>S1</sup> The molecular structures and harmonic vibrational frequencies were obtained using the hybrid density functionals based on Becke's three-parameter exchange function and the Lee-Yang-Parr nonlocal correlation functional (B3LYP).<sup>S2</sup> We used 6-31++G\*\* basis set for all other atoms. We used an additional Integral keyword to specify an ultrafine grid. All stationary points were optimized without any symmetry assumptions, and characterized by normal coordinate analysis at the B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* of theory (number of imaginary frequencies, NIMAG, 0 for minima and 1 for TSs). The intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC) method was used to track minimum energy paths from transition structures to the corresponding local minima.<sup>S3</sup>

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<sup>S1</sup> Gaussian 09, Revision C.01 or D.01, Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Caricato, M.; Li, X.; Hratchian, H. P.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Bloino, J.; Zheng, G.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Peralta, J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E.; Kudin, K. N.; Staroverov, V. N.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Rega, N.; Millam, N. J.; Klene, M.; Knox, J. E.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Farkas, Ö.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cioslowski, J.; Fox, D. J. Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.

<sup>S2</sup> (a) Beche, A. D. *Phys. Rev.* **1988**, *A38*, 3098-3100. (b) Beche, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 1372-1377. (c) Beche, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648-5652. (d) Lee, C.; Yang, W.; Parr, R. G. *Phys. Rev.* **1988**, *B37*, 785-788.

<sup>S3</sup> (a) Fukui, K. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1981**, *14*, 363-368. (b) Ishida, K.; Morokuma, K.; Komornicki, A. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1977**, *66*, 2153-2156. (c) Gonzalez, C.; Schlegel, H. B. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1989**, *90*, 2154-2161. (d) Schlegel, H. B.; Gonzalez, C. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1990**, *94*, 5523-5527.

## 4-2. Cartesian Coordinates and Energies (Figure 1)

### IM1<sub>THT</sub>

Energy (B3LYP) = -1327.93211089 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1327.606732 (A. U.)

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C	-4.80226300	-2.19909700	0.29223000
C	-3.93957700	-1.56911500	1.20150900
C	-3.22543300	-0.49389500	0.70529200
C	-3.34896400	-0.05798300	-0.61173000
C	-4.19421200	-0.66651100	-1.52123400
C	-4.92631500	-1.75956600	-1.03426100
H	-5.39042300	-3.04684700	0.62719000
H	-3.84025400	-1.89837200	2.22944300
H	-4.28565000	-0.31783100	-2.54348900
H	-5.60757800	-2.27530300	-1.70259300
O	-2.50013200	1.04511800	-0.80467000
O	-2.30239400	0.32670300	1.37104300
B	-1.91160100	1.20634600	0.41211400
C	2.33137500	-1.26203100	-1.27429400
C	0.98497800	-1.62603200	-1.23965700
C	0.36049600	-1.98335100	-0.03980700
C	1.12568200	-1.98265100	1.13151600
C	2.47254600	-1.61839900	1.11582800
C	3.11352000	-1.23786800	-0.09116200
H	2.77927000	-1.02634000	-2.23162400
H	0.42806800	-1.65832000	-2.17258200
H	-0.67574000	-2.30572600	-0.02642100
H	0.67938600	-2.29252900	2.07271100
H	3.03028800	-1.66134200	2.04280700
N	4.44653400	-0.84228300	-0.11144800
C	5.14108600	-0.77374300	-1.39526700
H	6.16400700	-0.43609800	-1.22605100
H	5.17628200	-1.74572200	-1.90996700
H	4.66451900	-0.04860600	-2.06221900
C	5.27731100	-1.10572400	1.06151000
H	6.27672400	-0.70771200	0.88313400
H	4.87770300	-0.60038300	1.94597800
H	5.36549300	-2.17941000	1.28598500
S	-0.74456000	2.62930300	0.79611200
C	-0.18699100	3.20544100	-0.89402400
C	0.89779500	1.79938700	1.21680600
C	1.14687200	2.49461200	-1.14667400
H	-0.08623700	4.28811500	-0.79653900
H	-0.97869300	2.97199600	-1.60722700
C	1.87876000	2.38982000	0.19843900
H	0.76709600	0.72111900	1.10986200
H	1.11007100	2.05385600	2.25550700

H	0.97133200	1.49474700	-1.55570500
H	1.72656200	3.06323700	-1.88043600
H	2.75104000	1.73202400	0.13407600
H	2.22218200	3.37652000	0.52883900

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**TS1<sub>THT</sub>**

Energy (B3LYP) = -1327.91937944 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1327.588363 (A. U.)

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C	-5.36937000	-1.31680900	0.73551800
C	-4.29880500	-0.75858600	1.45151300
C	-3.24748300	-0.26556300	0.69791100
C	-3.24375600	-0.31981000	-0.69787800
C	-4.29127400	-0.87015400	-1.41628600
C	-5.36565900	-1.37127300	-0.66464900
H	-6.21901100	-1.71307200	1.28159100
H	-4.29421500	-0.70859800	2.53460000
H	-4.28116700	-0.90429600	-2.49994800
H	-6.21256200	-1.80882900	-1.18273400
O	-2.07083600	0.25519300	-1.18175800
O	-2.07664600	0.34510800	1.14190600
B	-1.33024600	0.51988800	-0.02663600
C	2.12960200	-1.34095400	-1.18608700
C	0.75046300	-1.29640000	-1.17389300
C	0.01243900	-1.19265100	0.03824300
C	0.75834600	-1.21607700	1.25016100
C	2.13781500	-1.26147000	1.25712700
C	2.87523000	-1.34289500	0.03465200
H	2.64215800	-1.42494900	-2.13580600
H	0.21116100	-1.36058100	-2.11508000
H	-0.98782900	-1.62071400	0.05651700
H	0.22475200	-1.21731800	2.19683100
H	2.65609400	-1.28449600	2.20718900
N	4.23386700	-1.42681900	0.03251600
C	4.96391400	-1.62172700	-1.22240300
H	6.03235800	-1.63050100	-1.01289200
H	4.69916100	-2.57201900	-1.70203000
H	4.76667400	-0.80571000	-1.92554100
C	4.97311400	-1.53422900	1.29243800
H	6.04022300	-1.55143300	1.07669600
H	4.77578900	-0.67407300	1.94075500
H	4.71669300	-2.45170500	1.83626400
S	-0.48007100	2.26694500	-0.08598500
C	0.81113100	2.32621500	-1.42390200
C	0.73054400	2.42611500	1.30732300
C	2.16630300	2.41734700	-0.70351500
H	0.57584200	3.22074000	-2.00330100

H	0.69899600	1.44577200	-2.05711100
C	1.94310100	3.10081000	0.65454000
H	0.95511200	1.42602300	1.68018600
H	0.25239300	3.01992100	2.08726300
H	2.56584200	1.41072100	-0.55377900
H	2.87639700	2.97306800	-1.32316500
H	2.81569500	3.00427500	1.30769600
H	1.75066900	4.17120300	0.52107800

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**IM2<sub>THT</sub>**

Energy (B3LYP) = -1327.94224033 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1327.617401 (A. U.)

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C	-4.96294800	-0.60210600	0.68903100
C	-3.80309500	-0.90180700	1.42109100
C	-2.66723200	-1.17369600	0.67918000
C	-2.66621800	-1.15578500	-0.71421000
C	-3.80108800	-0.86496700	-1.45052800
C	-4.96196200	-0.58414100	-0.71266700
H	-5.88215400	-0.38509800	1.22312100
H	-3.79633400	-0.92641200	2.50509800
H	-3.79281100	-0.86206100	-2.53481200
H	-5.88046900	-0.35365200	-1.24229300
O	-1.38910600	-1.47628400	-1.16988600
O	-1.39076400	-1.50624500	1.12826300
B	-0.64918800	-1.65780700	-0.02247700
C	2.73759400	-1.12030800	-1.25060700
C	1.58053300	-1.82254600	-1.26254500
C	0.86091400	-2.20799800	-0.02867500
C	1.57604500	-1.86151900	1.21926800
C	2.73280600	-1.15888800	1.23364800
C	3.35083200	-0.72208600	-0.00082000
H	3.20480700	-0.85168000	-2.18845400
H	1.13684300	-2.10354600	-2.21328000
H	0.67483000	-3.30030900	-0.04623800
H	1.12913100	-2.17249000	2.15910400
H	3.19624200	-0.91929600	2.18117700
N	4.45987700	0.01459900	0.01283900
C	5.09172300	0.46632800	-1.24197300
H	5.96018300	1.07363100	-0.99818000
H	5.42369200	-0.38778700	-1.83879800
H	4.39552000	1.07498900	-1.82500400
C	5.08697500	0.42671000	1.28360600
H	5.95849100	1.03819300	1.06218800

H	4.38969500	1.01983900	1.88123200
H	5.41357600	-0.44584500	1.85616700
S	0.36962700	1.59870500	0.01986600
C	-0.53789800	2.49208700	-1.33308900
C	-0.56207500	2.45175900	1.38167500
C	-1.28173400	3.64744300	-0.65051900
H	-1.23006500	1.79278700	-1.80932100
H	0.18410000	2.83568200	-2.07697600
C	-1.76381100	3.12895200	0.71070100
H	0.10025900	3.18381800	1.85144700
H	-0.85454900	1.71015700	2.12818200
H	-0.60014300	4.49400200	-0.50665600
H	-2.11237100	3.99360800	-1.27485400
H	-2.15362900	3.93543700	1.34105100
H	-2.56927500	2.39924300	0.56834800

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**IM1<sub>THF</sub>**

Energy (B3LYP) = -1004.96846840 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1004.637790 (A. U.)

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C	-5.41821300	-1.14735800	0.68679700
C	-4.41434500	-0.47651900	1.40342500
C	-3.37204400	0.02830900	0.65027600
C	-3.31240700	-0.11375200	-0.73451500
C	-4.29127500	-0.76974000	-1.45558300
C	-5.35830400	-1.29011000	-0.70591400
H	-6.26107000	-1.56368100	1.22809300
H	-4.45261600	-0.35944700	2.48039200
H	-4.23702300	-0.87349700	-2.53322900
H	-6.15572500	-1.81472200	-1.22131300
O	-2.14068200	0.50385200	-1.20903700
O	-2.24031400	0.74058500	1.08753500
B	-1.56121800	0.96853300	-0.06923000
C	2.26355600	-1.42852800	-1.04818100
C	0.91792000	-1.76353800	-0.89463900
C	0.31391800	-1.78405300	0.36780800
C	1.10070100	-1.47576200	1.48385700
C	2.44799300	-1.13904200	1.34956200
C	3.06950800	-1.10122300	0.07379100
H	2.69567600	-1.46393200	-2.04051800
H	0.34504900	-2.04403700	-1.77478900
H	-0.71754000	-2.10122600	0.48635000
H	0.67174900	-1.52965800	2.48122500
H	3.02528200	-0.94689200	2.24533900
N	4.40442300	-0.75194900	-0.07178500
C	5.06984400	-1.01138600	-1.34662300
H	6.10051400	-0.66131700	-1.28523100

H	5.08089700	-2.08007300	-1.60740100
H	4.58671400	-0.46291000	-2.16147100
C	5.25620800	-0.69718500	1.11402700
H	6.25714600	-0.38386700	0.81631700
H	4.88296000	0.04013100	1.83175300
H	5.33376100	-1.66881800	1.62417900
C	0.44379900	1.99673300	-1.35667500
C	0.35671700	2.22226700	1.14807700
C	1.75520400	2.51885100	-0.79379100
H	-0.14213600	2.73111800	-1.90989400
H	0.50419600	1.04522100	-1.88172900
C	1.37163100	3.17544900	0.54791800
H	0.78943400	1.33034200	1.60255900
H	-0.41378700	2.66710200	1.77566800
H	2.45225500	1.69169100	-0.63511500
H	2.21154400	3.23260800	-1.48382800
H	2.23342100	3.28544900	1.21042300
H	0.92907800	4.16428300	0.39383600
O	-0.36239300	1.72139200	-0.09483100

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**TS1<sub>THF</sub>**

Energy (B3LYP) = -1004.95888443 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1004.622941 (A. U.)

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C	-5.27357500	-1.07722200	0.68642900
C	-4.14852100	-0.67619400	1.42553400
C	-3.03918800	-0.29080000	0.69435700
C	-3.02915500	-0.30079600	-0.70172200
C	-4.12848500	-0.69622100	-1.44269700
C	-5.26378000	-1.08692600	-0.71380300
H	-6.16856200	-1.38728400	1.21551700
H	-4.14702300	-0.66536200	2.50982000
H	-4.11187600	-0.70045200	-2.52689600
H	-6.15138000	-1.40431200	-1.25094000
O	-1.78962400	0.14054300	-1.16062200
O	-1.80615900	0.15792400	1.16448800
B	-1.03272800	0.28155400	0.00608700
C	2.26883300	-1.21930300	-1.20229300
C	0.90715700	-1.44592100	-1.18514100
C	0.16963000	-1.48722300	0.02895300
C	0.91274900	-1.40751900	1.23765100
C	2.27462900	-1.18108100	1.24105700
C	3.00540200	-1.08588900	0.01592000
H	2.78340300	-1.19419600	-2.15433900
H	0.38400700	-1.58861800	-2.12649600
H	-0.79221300	-1.99585100	0.03891700
H	0.39410300	-1.51846200	2.18572500

H	2.79349100	-1.12564100	2.18949600
N	4.35294300	-0.88971600	0.00955600
C	5.09922400	-0.90528000	-1.25010300
H	6.14670200	-0.69030400	-1.04430400
H	5.03941000	-1.88196500	-1.74611300
H	4.72847300	-0.13854400	-1.93867900
C	5.10555400	-0.86854100	1.26532600
H	6.15255200	-0.66307900	1.04775500
H	4.74045700	-0.07988800	1.93188300
H	5.04553900	-1.82930900	1.79143800
C	0.25244300	2.16031600	-1.25588700
C	0.28410500	2.18889100	1.22893200
C	1.10698400	3.30576700	-0.74120500
H	-0.71199800	2.46941900	-1.66018900
H	0.74922800	1.46406000	-1.92922500
C	0.54431400	3.57714400	0.66648300
H	1.16406900	1.70973600	1.65877700
H	-0.57350100	2.09805800	1.89272200
H	2.15917400	3.00922700	-0.68974200
H	1.02872600	4.17588700	-1.39727300
H	1.24411200	4.13074000	1.29699400
H	-0.38729800	4.14837300	0.60868700
O	-0.04252700	1.38388200	-0.00231500

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**IM2<sub>THF</sub>**

Energy (B3LYP) = -1004.96274578 (A. U.)

Gibbs Free Energy = -1004.627988 (A. U.)

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C	-5.27582900	-0.90401300	0.70910700
C	-4.08955500	-0.71505600	1.44002800
C	-2.92042000	-0.59086700	0.70991100
C	-2.91159600	-0.65387900	-0.68596200
C	-4.07134800	-0.84191500	-1.41754800
C	-5.26708200	-0.96590400	-0.68811900
H	-6.21471100	-1.00641000	1.24341500
H	-4.08657300	-0.67127100	2.52385400
H	-4.05392700	-0.89521900	-2.50082700
H	-6.19914900	-1.11579200	-1.22312200
O	-1.61505100	-0.51384400	-1.15600300
O	-1.62977300	-0.40928400	1.18148500
B	-0.81100000	-0.32386700	0.01010600
C	2.59758300	-1.02297600	-1.20953800
C	1.27703000	-1.35680600	-1.17632500
C	0.50704200	-1.41997000	0.06150500
C	1.29625800	-1.25402900	1.27730900
C	2.61769400	-0.92143300	1.26126200
C	3.32794700	-0.78917000	0.01225700

H	3.10869600	-0.97076500	-2.16184600
H	0.75547700	-1.56144400	-2.10737500
H	-0.13123500	-2.31354100	0.10520500
H	0.79109000	-1.38167400	2.23103600
H	3.14466500	-0.79281200	2.19762900
N	4.63283400	-0.47865700	-0.01104800
C	5.36848800	-0.38995000	-1.28344500
H	6.39005000	-0.07711600	-1.07834400
H	5.39857300	-1.36041100	-1.78897200
H	4.91102600	0.34906800	-1.94718400
C	5.39055600	-0.29160200	1.23741800
H	6.41003200	-0.00310500	0.99058000
H	4.94863500	0.50174900	1.84687600
H	5.42460900	-1.21797400	1.81955000
C	-0.45793100	2.04402300	-1.25348700
C	-0.03766600	2.01957100	1.15542000
C	-0.09442500	3.44010300	-0.77315100
H	-1.51557900	1.93335300	-1.49316500
H	0.14907400	1.66005900	-2.07298200
C	-0.48715800	3.40539000	0.71295200
H	1.01884300	1.98204800	1.43038100
H	-0.65318100	1.55835700	1.92549400
H	0.97889800	3.62567900	-0.88729900
H	-0.63369500	4.20484900	-1.33750600
H	-0.00349600	4.18964400	1.30035200
H	-1.57035200	3.51175100	0.82899600
O	-0.17519400	1.18210500	-0.06992000

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## 5. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectra of New Compounds

