

**Supplementary Information for**

**Synthesis and X-ray structural characterization of amidine, amide,  
urea and isocyanate derivatives of the *closو*-aminododecaborate  
anion  $[\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}(\text{NH}_3)]^-$**

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## I General Information

### Chemicals

If not otherwise specified, reagents and organic solvents were commercially available and used without further purification. Anhydrous solvents were prepared by passage through activated Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and stored over 3 Å molecular sieves. CD<sub>3</sub>CN and CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories and filtered through Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> prior to use. [B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> and [B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>-</sup> salts and dodecaborate amides **3a–e** were prepared according to the literature.[1–3]

### Reaction Conditions

Glassware for air-sensitive reactions was dried at 150 °C and allowed to cool in a vacuum. Reactions carried out in a glovebox were run under a nitrogen atmosphere with O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O <1 ppm.

### Characterization

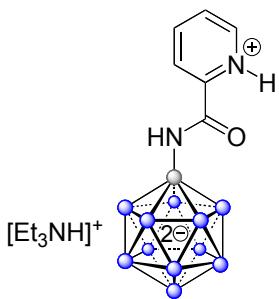
Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using silica gel 60, F254 with a thickness of 0.25 mm. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (200-30 mesh).

Low-resolution ESI-MS data were recorded on Advion Expression CMS instrument. High-resolution MS data were recorded using IT-TOF detection (Shimadzu, Japan) equipped with an electrospray ionization source (ESI). Accurate mass determination was corrected by calibration using sodium trifluoroacetate clusters as a reference.

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction studies were performed on an Oxford Diffraction Gemini A Ultra diffractometer equipped with an 135mm Atlas CCD detector and using Mo K- $\alpha$  radiation

NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE III 500 spectrometer ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR 500.13 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR 125.77 MHz,  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR 160.46 MHz) or a Bruker AVANCE III 400 spectrometer ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR 400.13 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR 100.62 MHz,  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR 128.38 MHz) at the temperature indicated. Data are reported as follows: Chemical shift in ppm, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets, etc.), coupling constant  $J$  in Hz, integration, and (where applicable) interpretation. Signals were referenced against solvent peaks ( $^1\text{H}$ : residual  $\text{CHD}_2\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CD}_3$  = 2.05 ppm, residual  $\text{CHD}_2\text{CN}$  = 1.94 ppm, residual  $\text{CHDCl}_2$  = 5.32 ppm,  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ :  $\text{CD}_3\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CD}_3$  = 29.84 ppm,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  = 1.32 ppm,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  = 53.32 ppm).  $^{11}\text{B}$  and  $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra were calibrated against external  $\text{BF}_3^*\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  = 0 ppm ( $\text{BF}_3^*\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  capillary in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ).

## II Experimental Section



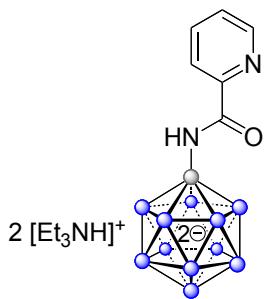
**Synthesis of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{3e}\text{-H}]$ :** In a glovebox filled with  $\text{N}_2$ , a 20 mL vial was charged with  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NH}_3]$  (212.4 mg, 0.817 mmol, 1 equiv),  $\text{NaH}$  (138.2 mg, 5.758 mmol, 7 equiv) and a stir bar. THF (4 mL) and DMF (4 mL) were added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes until there was no  $\text{H}_2$  evolution anymore. Then pyridine-2-carbonyl chloride hydrochloride  $\text{PyCOCl}\cdot\text{HCl}$  (220.2 mg, 1.237 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was slowly added. The conversion was complete after stirring for 5 h. The flask was transferred out of the glovebox.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4 mL) was added, and the pH value of the reaction mixture was adjusted to 2–3 with 1 M aqueous HCl.  $[\text{NEt}_3\text{H}]\text{Cl}$  (300 mg, 2.180 mmol, 2.7 equiv) was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted with MeCN/EtOAc (1:2 v/v). The organic layers were concentrated on a rotary evaporator. The residue was purified by recrystallization from methanol to afford yellowish crystals of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{3e}\text{-H}]$  (150 mg, 50%).

$^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 8.96$  (s, 1H, anionic  $\text{NH}$ ), 8.90–8.86 (m, 1H, Py H), 8.18–8.14 (overlapping m, 2H, Py H), 7.89–7.72 (m, 1H, Py H), 6.63 (t, 1H,  $J_{\text{NH}} = 52$  Hz,  $\text{NH}$ ), 3.27 (s, 1H,  $\text{NH}$ ), 3.20–3.15 (m, 6H, cationic  $\text{N-CH}_2$ ), 1.47 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.24 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 9H, cationic  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.20 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.13 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 166.7, 149.5, 143.9, 141.5, 129.8, 124.5$  (6 anionic signals), 48.0, 9.2 (2 cationic signals).

$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = -7.6$  (1B, B-N), -15.3 (5B, B-H), -15.7 (overlapping signals, 6B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH):  $m/z$  calcd for  $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_{17}\text{B}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^-$  263.2430. Found: 263.2459.



**Transformation of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][3e-H] to [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3e]:** A 20 mL vial was charged with [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][3e-H] (50 mg) and a stir bar. MeCN (3 mL) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.5 mL) were added, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Then the stir bar was removed, and the solution was concentrated on a rotary evaporator and dried overnight under vacuum at 80 °C to afford compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3e] in quantitative yield.

This method can also be applied for the transformation of other compounds **3-H** to **3** quantitatively. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of **3b**, **3b-H**, **3e** and **3e-H** are displayed in Figure S1.

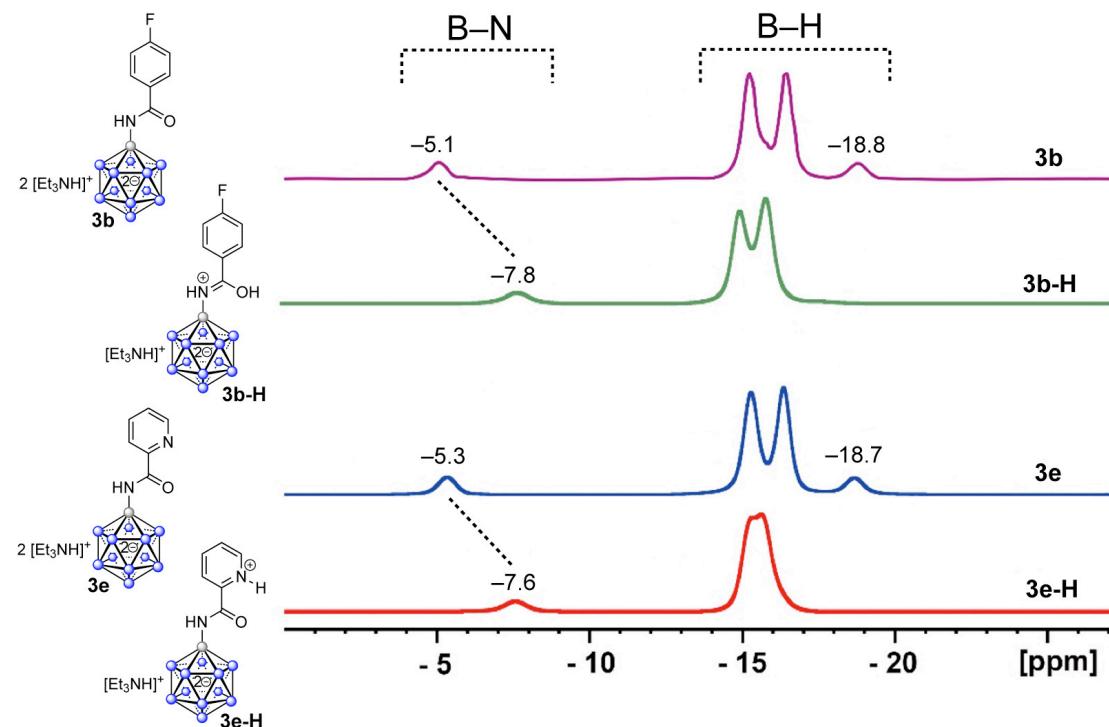
<sup>1</sup>H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = 8.56 (broad signal, 1H, Py H), 8.09-8.00 (m, 1H, Py H), 7.99-7.80 (overlapping m, 2H, Py H and amide N-H), 7.50-7.38 (m, 1H, Py H), 4.63 (broad t, 2H, *J*<sub>NH</sub> = 52 Hz, N-H from cation), 3.25-3.01 (m, 12H, cationic N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.34 (s, 5H, B-H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 9H, cationic CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.03 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 0.89 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = 166.2, 152.9, 149.0, 138.5, 126.4, 122.2 (6 anionic signals), 47.8, 9.1 (2 cationic signals).

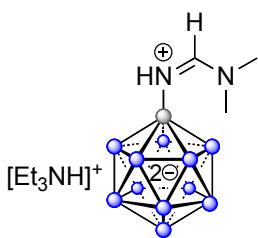
<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = -5.3 (1B, B-N), -15.3 (5B, B-H), -16.4 (5B, B-H), -18.7 (1B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH): *m/z* calcd for [C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>17</sub>B<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>2-</sup> 131.1226. Found: 131.1254.

The  $^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of **3b**, **3b-H**, **3e** and **3e-H** are shown in Figure S1 as representative examples to demonstrate the effect of protonation. For both product pairs **3b/3b-H** and **3e/3e-H**, similar effects are observed. Upon protonation, the B–N signal is shifted from  $-5$  ppm to  $-8$  ppm. On the other hand, the B–H vertices become more deshielded; the B12 signal appears at  $-19$  ppm in the dianionic form and overlaps with the B2–11 resonances in the monoanionic form.



**Figure S1.**  $^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of **3b**, **3b-H**, **3e** and **3e-H** (acetonitrile- $d_3$ , 128 MHz, 23 °C).



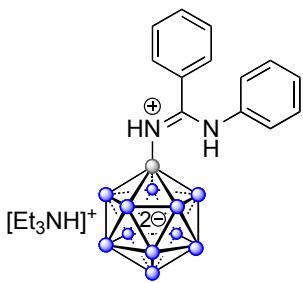
**Synthesis of amidine [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6a]:** In a glovebox, a dry 20 mL vial, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>] (102 mg, 0.40 mmol, 1 equiv). Then anhydrous DMF (1 mL) was added. The vial was transferred to a fumehood, and dry Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.0 mL, 7.20 mmol, 18 equiv) was added to the solution under N<sub>2</sub> protection. Then 2,4,6-trimethylphenylcarboxylic acid chloride (110 mg, 0.60 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added. The mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 4 h. The reaction was quenched with an aqueous [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]Cl solution (2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O + 2 equiv [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]Cl); the pH value at this point was ca. 7–8. The mixture was extracted with DCM/MeCN = 4 : 1 (8 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and the solution was filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The cloudy residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent DCM/MeCN = 10:3, fraction size 20 mL). The combined eluates were concentrated on a rotary evaporator and dried under vacuum at 60 °C overnight to afford compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6a] as a colorless solid (50.4 mg, 40%).

<sup>1</sup>H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 23 °C): δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, N=CH-N), 6.41 (broad signal, 1H, N-H), 3.13 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H, cationic N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.08 (s, 3H, anionic N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.83 (s, 3H, anionic N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 9H, cationic N-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.03 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 0.85 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 23 °C): δ 157.3 (N=C-N), 48.0 (cationic CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.1, 35.7 (two N-C signals), 9.2 (cationic CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (160 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 23 °C): δ -4.2 (1B, B-N), -14.5 to -17.0 (10B, B-H), -19.0 (1B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH): *m/z* calcd for [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>19</sub>B<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>: 213.2738. Found: 213.2762.



**Synthesis of amidine  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{6b}]$ :** A dry 20 mL vial, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}]_2[\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NHCOC}_6\text{H}_5]$  (101 mg, 0.22 mmol, 1 equiv). Then anhydrous MeCN (3 mL) was added, and dry  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.3 mL, 2.16 mmol, 9.8 equiv) was added to the solution under  $\text{N}_2$  protection. Pentafluorophenylcarboxylic acid chloride (80.0 mg, 0.35 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added at 25 °C. The temperature was raised to 50 °C. After 30 min, aniline (61 mg, 0.66 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added. The mixture was stirred for another 4 h and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The cloudy residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent DCM/MeCN = 4:1, fraction size 20 mL). The combined eluates were concentrated on a rotary evaporator and dried under vacuum at 60 °C overnight to afford compound  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{6b}]$  as a yellow solid (87.7 mg, 91%).

$^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  10.00 (s, 1H, N-H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 1H, phenyl H), 7.41-7.35 (overlapping m, 4H, phenyl H), 7.24-7.09 (overlapping m, 3H, phenyl H), 7.03-6.78 (overlapping broad signal and m, 3H, phenyl H and N-H), 6.65 (broad signal, 1H, N-H) 3.29-3.22 (m, 6H, cationic  $\text{N}-\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.62 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.40 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 9H, cationic  $\text{N}-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.22 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.05 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

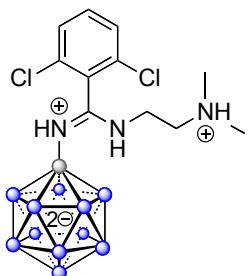
This spectrum contained small signals at 7.18, 6.71 and 6.67 ppm ascribed to residual aniline

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  165.6 (N=C-N), 138.1, 133.2, 131.3, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 127.5, 125.6 (8 aryl signals), 48.3 (cationic  $\text{N}-\text{CH}_2$ ), 9.4 (cationic  $\text{N}-\text{CH}_3$ ).

This spectrum showed small signals at 149.1, 130.2, 118.3 and 115.6 ppm ascribed to residual aniline.

$^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  -5.8 (1B, B-N), -13.5 to -16.5 (10B, B-H), -17.4 (1B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH):  $m/z$  calcd for  $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{23}\text{B}_{12}\text{N}_2]^-$ : 337.3056. Found: 337.2382.



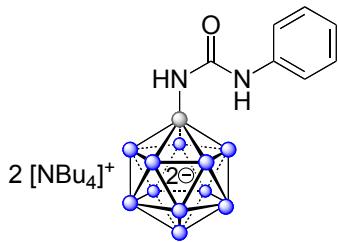
**Synthesis of amidine  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{6c}]$ :** A dry 20 mL vial, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}]_2[\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NHCOC}_6\text{H}_3\text{Cl}_2]$  (177 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv). Then anhydrous MeCN (3 mL) was added, and dry  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.45 mL, 3.25 mmol, 9.8 equiv) was added to the solution under  $\text{N}_2$  protection. Pentafluorophenylcarboxylic acid chloride (128 mg, 0.55 mmol, 1.7 equiv) was added at 25 °C. The temperature was raised to 50 °C. After 30 min, *N,N*-dimethylethylamine (88 mg, 1.00 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added. The mixture was stirred for another 4 h, and 1 M aqueous HCl (5 mL) was added. The suspension was extracted with EtOAc/MeCN 3:1 (5 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , and the solution was filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The cloudy residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent DCM/MeCN = 4:3, fraction size 20 mL). The combined eluates were concentrated and dried under vacuum at 60 °C overnight to afford compound  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{6c}]$  as a yellow solid (132 mg, 100%).

$^1\text{H}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  8.54 (broad signal, 1H, N-H), 7.59-7.55 (overlapping m, 3H, aryl H), 7.46 (broad signal, 1H, N-H), 6.98 (very broad signal, 1H, N-H), 3.43 (dt,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.24 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.77 (s, 6H, N- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.41 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.12 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.06 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  161.9 (N=C-N), 134.6, 134.2, 129.8, 129.2 (4 aryl signals), 56.9, 44.8, 40.0.

$^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 23 °C):  $\delta$  -6.9 (1B, B-N), -13.0 to -18.0 (overlapping signals with peaks at -15.2 and -16.1 ppm, 11B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH):  $m/z$  calcd for  $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{27}\text{B}_{12}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_3\text{-H}]^-$ : 400.2699. Found: 400.2714.



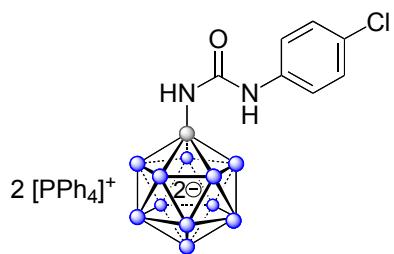
**Synthesis of urea  $[\text{NBu}_4]_2[7\mathbf{a}]$ :** In a glovebox filled with  $\text{N}_2$ , a 20 mL vial was charged with  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NH}_3]$  (260 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv),  $\text{NaH}$  (53 mg, 2.2 mmol, 2.2 equiv) and a stir bar. THF (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes until there was no  $\text{H}_2$  evolution anymore. Phenyl isocyanate (238 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) was slowly added. The conversion was complete after stirring for 5 h. The flask was transferred out of the glovebox. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL) was added. The aqueous solution was heated to 50 °C, and  $[\text{NBu}_4]\text{Br}$  (677 mg, 2.1 mmol, 2.1 equiv) was added. A white solid precipitated immediately and was collected by filtration. It was dried under vacuum overnight to afford  $[\text{NBu}_4]_2[7\mathbf{a}]$  as a colorless microcrystalline product (685 mg, 90%).

$^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 8.52$  (broad s, 1H, anionic NH), 7.41 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, Ph H), 7.18 (dd, 2H,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 7.6 Hz, Ph H), 6.83 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, Ph H), 3.96 (broad s, 1H, NH), 3.25-3.01 (m, 16H, cationic  $\text{N-CH}_2$ ), 1.67-1.50 (m, 16H, cationic  $\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.41-1.27 (overlapping m and s, 21H, cationic  $\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$  and B-H), 1.04 (s, 5H, B-H), 0.95 (t, 24H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, cationic  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 0.85 (s, 1H, B-H).

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 158.6$ , 142.8, 129.5 (overlapping signals), 121.2, 59.2, 24.3, 20.3, 10.8.

$^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = -5.0$  (1B, B-N), -15.4 (5B, B-H), -16.2 (5B, B-H), -19.3 (1B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH):  $m/z$  calcd for  $[\text{C}_7\text{H}_{18}\text{B}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^2$  138.1320. Found: 138.1331.



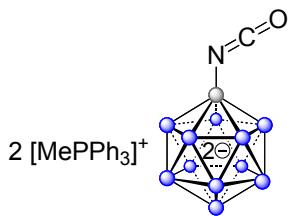
**Synthesis of urea  $[PPh_4]_2[7b]$ :** This product was prepared in a similar manner to  $[NBu_4]_2[7a]$ , using 4-chlorophenyl isocyanate (307 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2 equiv) and  $[PPh_4]Br$  (881 mg, 2.1 mmol, 2.1 equiv).  $[PPh_4]_2[7b]$  was obtained as a colorless microcrystalline solid (869 mg, 91%).

$^1H\{^{11}B\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ ):  $\delta = 8.59$  (s, 1H, anionic NH), 7.95-7.85 (m, 8H, cationic H), 7.81-5.58 (overlapping m, 32H, cationic H), 7.41-7.28 (m, 2H, Ph H), 7.13-6.96 (m, 2H, Ph H), 4.00 (s, 1H, N-H), 1.33 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 1.07 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 0.88 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

$^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ ):  $\delta = 158.4$ , 141.7, 136.4 (d,  $J_{P,C} = 2.4$  Hz, cation CH), 135.6 (d,  $J_{P,C} = 10$  Hz, cation CH), 131.3 (d,  $J_{P,C} = 13.0$  Hz, cation CH), 129.2, 124.9, 119.6, 118.8 (d,  $J_{P,C} = 89$  Hz, cation C<sub>q</sub>).

$^{11}B\{^1H\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ ):  $\delta = -5.0$  (1B, B-N), -15.5 (5B, B-H), -16.2 (5B, B-H), -19.2 (1B, B-H).

High-resolution ESI-MS (negative mode, MeOH):  $m/z$  calcd for  $[C_7H_{17}B_{12}N_2OCl]^{2-}$  155.1125. Found: 155.1133.



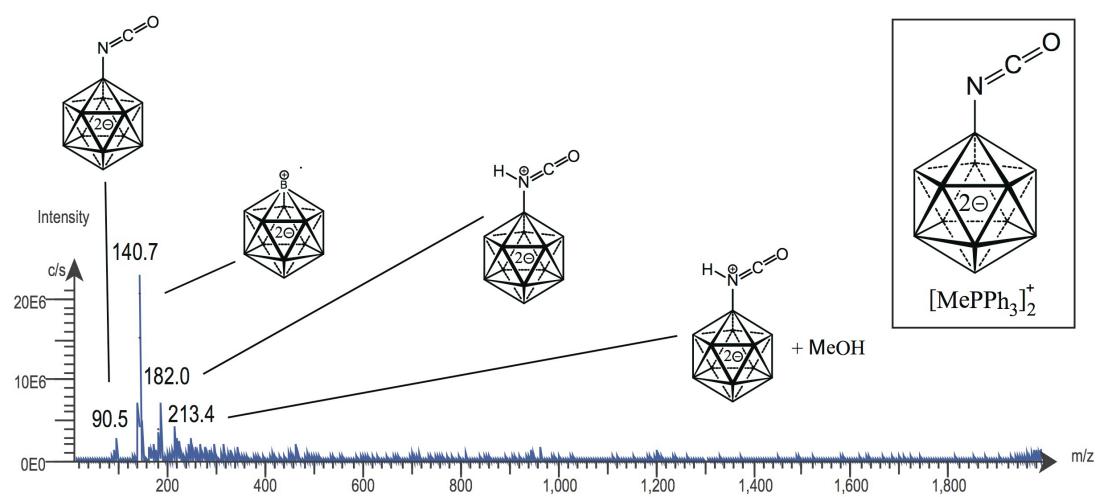
**Synthesis of isocyanate  $[\text{MePPh}_3]_2[8]$ :** In a glovebox filled with  $\text{N}_2$ , a 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with  $\text{Cs}[\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NH}_3]$  (594 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1 equiv),  $\text{NaH}$  (144 mg, 6.0 mmol, 3 equiv) and a stir bar. DMF (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 10 minutes until there was no  $\text{H}_2$  evolution anymore. Then  $\text{ClC(O)NMe}_2$  (6 equiv) diluted in DMF (2 mL) was slowly added by an Eppendorf pipet. The conversion was complete after stirring for 4 h. The flask was transferred out of the glovebox, and the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL) at *ca.* 90 °C, giving a slightly yellow solution. The solution was stirred at 80–100 °C for 1 h, and  $[\text{MePPh}_3]\text{Br}$  (1.29 g, 5 mmol, 2.5 equiv) was added. A white precipitate formed, and it was collected by filtration. Purification by column chromatography (eluent DCM/MeCN 4:3) afforded  $[\text{MePPh}_3]_2[8]$  as a colorless solid (369 mg, 25%).

$^1\text{H}\{\text{B}\}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 7.90\text{--}7.83$  (m, 6H, cationic CH), 7.76–7.62 (overlapping m, 24H, cationic CH), 2.83 (d,  $J = 13.8$  Hz, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.23 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 0.97 (broad signal, 5H, B-H), 0.75 (broad signal, 1H, B-H).

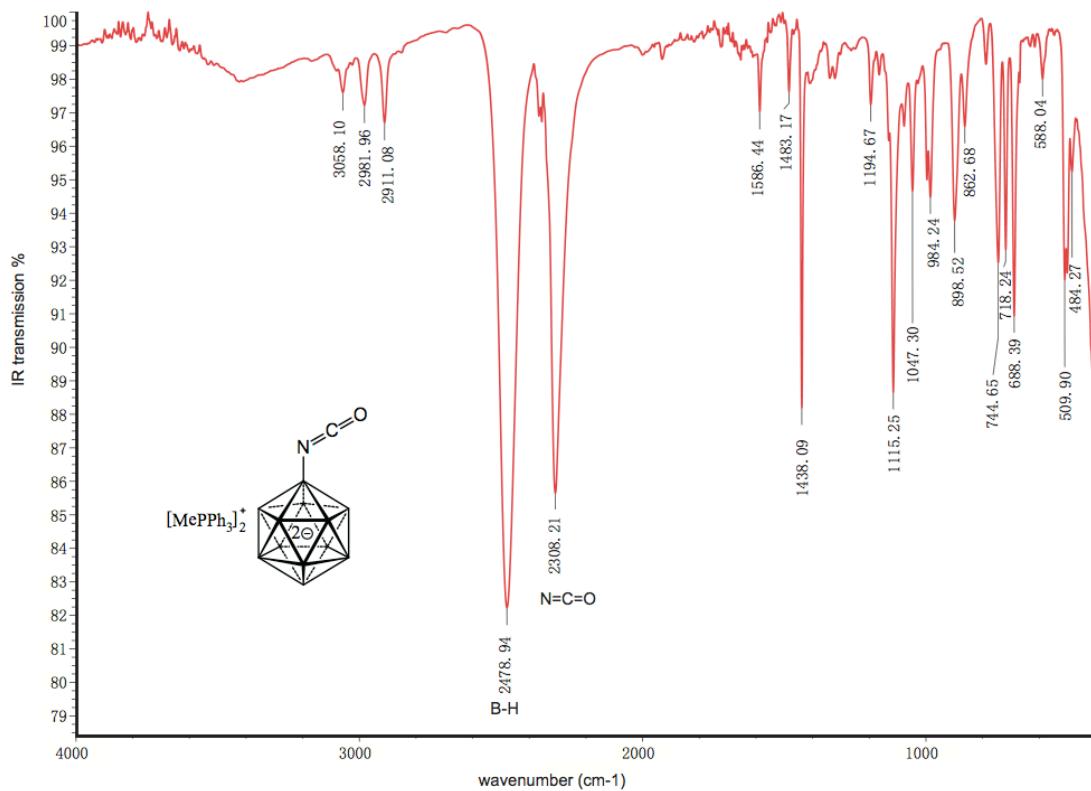
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 136.1$  (d,  $J_{\text{P,C}} = 3.0$  Hz, cation CH), 134.2 (d,  $J_{\text{P,C}} = 11$  Hz, cation CH), 131.1 (d,  $J_{\text{P,C}} = 13$  Hz, cation CH), 120.4 (d,  $J_{\text{P,C}} = 89$  Hz, cation  $\text{C}_q$ ), 9.37 (d,  $^1J_{\text{P,C}} = 58$  Hz, cation  $\text{CH}_3$ ). The  $\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$  carbon atom could not be detected unambiguously.

$^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = -7.74$  (1B, B-N), -15.4 (5B, B-H), -16.7 (5B, B-H), -19.6 (1B, B-H).

Mass-spectrometric characterization of this product proved difficult; the results that were obtained by negative-mode ESI-MS are shown in Figure S2, along with the IR spectrum in Figure S3.



**Figure S2.** (–)-ESI Mass spectrum of **8** in MeOH.



**Figure S3.** IR spectrum of  $[PPh_4]_2[8]$ .

### III X-ray Crystallography

CCDC1861483–1861492 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this publication. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre *via* [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

Crystals of the products  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}]_2[\mathbf{3b}]$ ,  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{3d-H}]$ ,  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}]_2[\mathbf{3e}]$ ,  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{3e-H}]$ ,  $[\text{MePPh}_3][\mathbf{6a}]$ ,  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\mathbf{6c}]$  and  $[\text{MePPh}_3]_2[\mathbf{8}]$  were measured at room temperature because the X-ray facility of our department does not routinely offer measurements with nitrogen cooling.

## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3a] (CCDC1861488)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3a] (20 mg) was dissolved in acetone/MeCN (0.25 mL/0.25 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with hexanes (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>4</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCOPh]<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 3 d at 25 °C.

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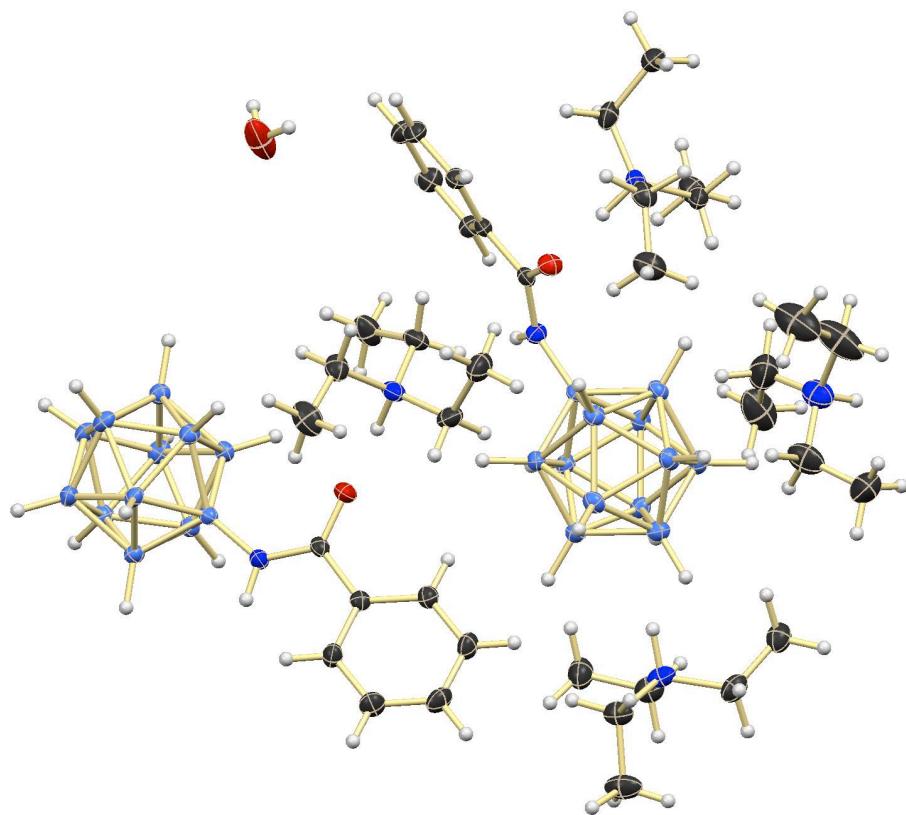
Bond precision: C-C = 0.0084 Å                          Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:            a=10.3802(8)            b=15.9133(12)            c=18.0577(15)  
                  alpha=79.497(7)        beta=87.786(7)        gamma=87.828(6)

Temperature: 170 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	2929.2(4)	2929.2(4)
Space group	P -1	P -1
Hall group	-P 1	-P 1
Moiety formula	2(C7 H17 B12 N O), 4(C6 H16 N), H2 O	2(C7 H17 B12 N O), 4(C6 H16 N), H2 O
Sum formula	C38 H100 B24 N6 O3	C38 H100 B24 N6 O3
Mr	948.68	948.67
Dx,g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.076	1.076
Z	2	2
Mu (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.060	0.060
F000	1028.0	1028.0
F000'	1028.24	
h,k,lmax	12,19,21	12,19,21
Nref	10756	10623
Tmin,Tmax	0.972,0.977	0.849,1.000
Tmin'	0.972	
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.849 Tmax=1.000		
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN		
Data completeness= 0.988	Theta(max)= 25.350	
R(reflections)= 0.1239( 6692)	wR2(reflections)= 0.3535( 10623)	
S = 1.034	Npar= 655	

---



**Figure S4.** ORTEP representation of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}]_4[\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NHCOPh}]_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

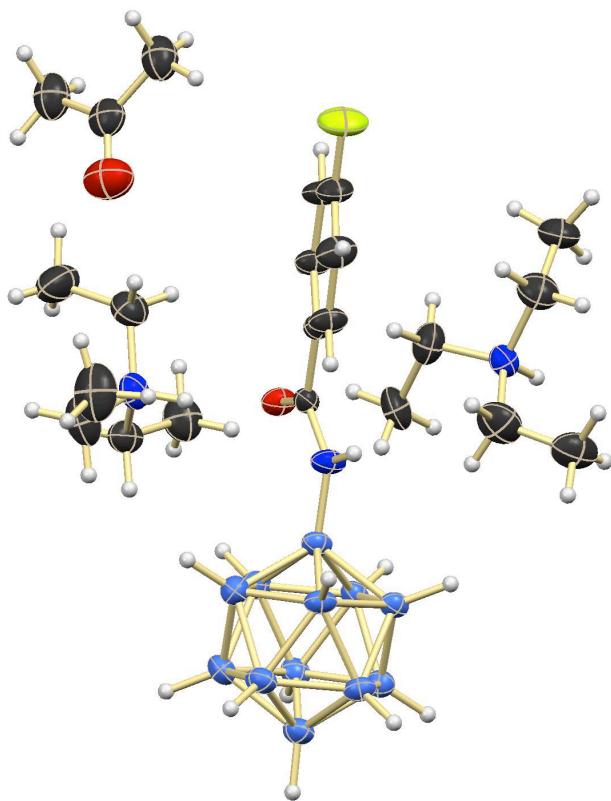
## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3b] (CCDC1861489)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3b] (20 mg) was dissolved in acetone/MeCN (0.25 mL/0.25 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with hexanes (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCO-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-F]·0.5CH<sub>3</sub>C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 1 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0060 Å	Wavelength=0.71073	
Cell:	a=17.517(2) alpha=90	b=10.7703(8) beta=106.010(11)	c=35.537(4) gamma=90
Temperature:	293 K		
	Calculated	Reported	
Volume	6444.5(12)	6444.4(12)	
Space group	C 2/c	C 1 2/c 1	
Hall group	-C 2yc	-C 2yc	
Moiety formula	2(C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> F N O), 4(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N), C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	2(C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> F N O), C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O, 4(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N)	
Sum formula	C <sub>41</sub> H <sub>102</sub> B <sub>24</sub> F <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>41</sub> H <sub>102</sub> B <sub>24</sub> F <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	
Mr	1024.73	1024.72	
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.056	1.056	
Z	4	4	
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.063	0.063	
F000	2208.0	2208.0	
F000'	2208.65		
h,k,lmax	21,12,42	21,12,42	
Nref	5906	5882	
Tmin, Tmax	0.973, 0.992	0.780, 1.000	
Tmin'	0.970		
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.780 Tmax=1.000			
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN			
Data completeness= 0.996	Theta(max)= 25.350		
R(reflections)= 0.0819( 3329)	wR2(reflections)= 0.2399( 5882)		
S = 1.015	Npar= 351		

---



**Figure S5.** ORTEP representation of  $[Et_3NH]_4[B_{12}H_{11}NHCO-C_6H_4-F]_2 \cdot CH_3C(O)CH_3$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3c] (CCDC1861486)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3c] (20 mg) was dissolved in MeCN (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with Et<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCO-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-I] suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 1 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0060 Å      Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:            a=10.4220(6)      b=14.6666(8)      c=20.0458(10)  
                alpha=90                beta=96.507(5)      gamma=90  
Temperature:     181 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	3044.4(3)	3044.4(3)
Space group	P 21/n	P 1 21/n 1
Hall group	-P 2yn	-P 2yn
Moiety formula	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> I N O, 2(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> I N O, 2(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N))	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> I N O, 2(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N))
Sum formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> I N <sub>3</sub> O	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> I N <sub>3</sub> O
Mr	591.22	591.22
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.290	1.290
Z	4	4
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.071	1.071
F000	1216.0	1216.0
F000'	1214.35	
h,k,lmax	14,20,27	14,20,27
Nref	8520	7186
Tmin, Tmax	0.705, 0.807	0.838, 1.000
Tmin'	0.681	

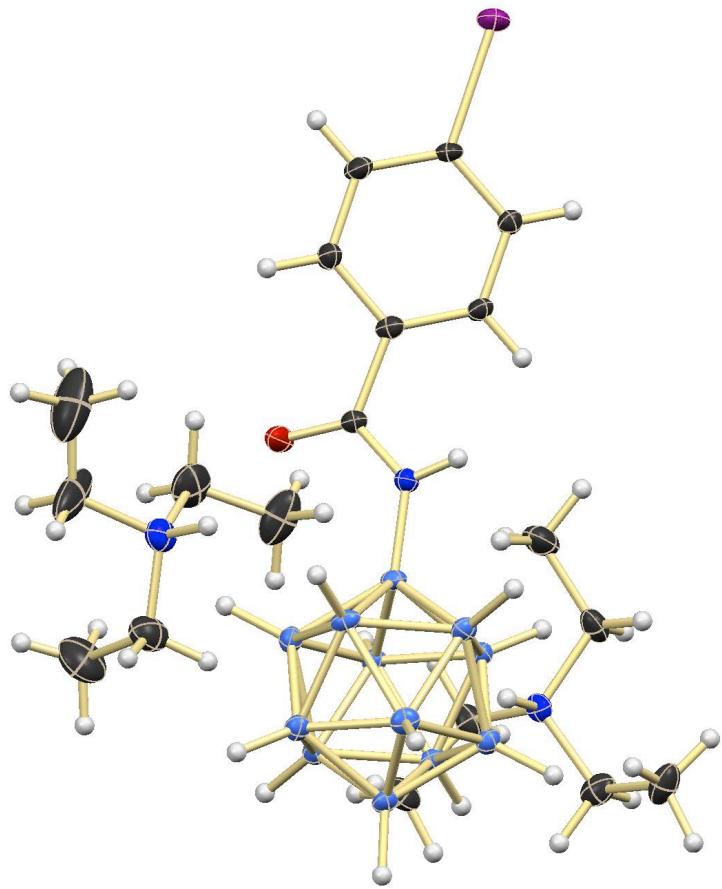
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.838 Tmax=1.000  
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.843      Theta(max)= 29.551

R(reflections)= 0.0530( 5330)      wR2(reflections)= 0.1254( 7186)

S = 1.077      Npar= 331

---



**Figure S6.** ORTEP representation of  $[Et_3NH]_2[B_{12}H_{11}NHCO-C_6H_4-I]$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

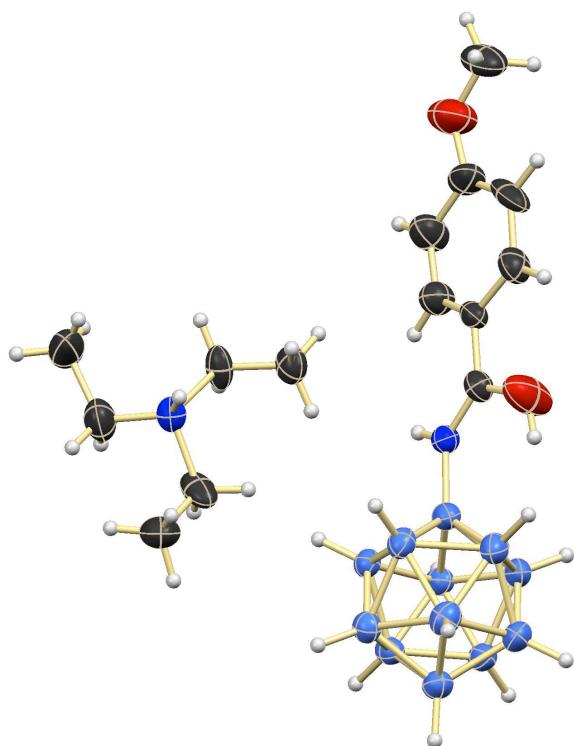
## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][3d-H] (CCDC1861491)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][3d-H] (10 mg) was dissolved in acetone (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into a 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with hexanes (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]  
[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHC(OH)-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-OCH<sub>3</sub>] suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 5 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision:	B-B = 0.0051 Å	Wavelength=0.71073	
Cell:	a=9.0952(6) alpha=90	b=35.086(2) beta=90	c=14.8327(9) gamma=90
Temperature:	293 K		
	Calculated	Reported	
Volume	4733.3(5)	4733.4(5)	
Space group	P c c n	P c c n	
Hall group	-P 2ab 2ac	-P 2ab 2ac	
Moiety formula	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>20</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>20</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N	
Sum formula	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>36</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>36</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
Mr	394.17	394.17	
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.106	1.106	
Z	8	8	
Mu (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.062	0.062	
F000	1680.0	1680.0	
F000'	1680.43		
h,k,lmax	10,42,17	10,42,17	
Nref	4329	4318	
Tmin,Tmax	0.981,0.989	0.935,1.000	
Tmin'	0.971		
Correction method=	# Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.935 Tmax=1.000		
AbsCorr =	MULTI-SCAN		
Data completeness=	0.997	Theta(max)= 25.349	
R(reflections)=	0.0927( 2910)	wR2(reflections)= 0.3020( 4318)	
S =	1.042	Npar= 366	

---



**Figure S7.** ORTEP representation of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NHC(OH)}\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-OCH}_3]$ ; the protonated 4-methoxybenzamide moiety and the triethylammonium cation are both disordered. Only one of the two disordered parts is shown for clarity; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3e] (CCDC1861492)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[3e] (20 mg) was dissolved in MeCN (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with Et<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCO-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N] suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 2 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0035 Å      Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:            a=31.573(2)    b=10.9139(7)    c=17.2044(13)  
                alpha=90        beta=101.056(7)    gamma=90  
Temperature:    293 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	5818.3(7)	5818.3(7)
Space group	C 2/c	C 1 2/c 1
Hall group	-C 2yc	-C 2yc
Moiety formula	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O, 2(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N)	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O, 2(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N)
Sum formula	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>48</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O
Mr	466.32	466.32
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.065	1.065
Z	8	8
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.059	0.059
F000	2016.0	2016.0
F000'	2016.43	
h,k,lmax	38,13,20	38,13,20
Nref	5345	5342
Tmin,Tmax	0.972,0.977	0.949,1.000
Tmin'	0.972	

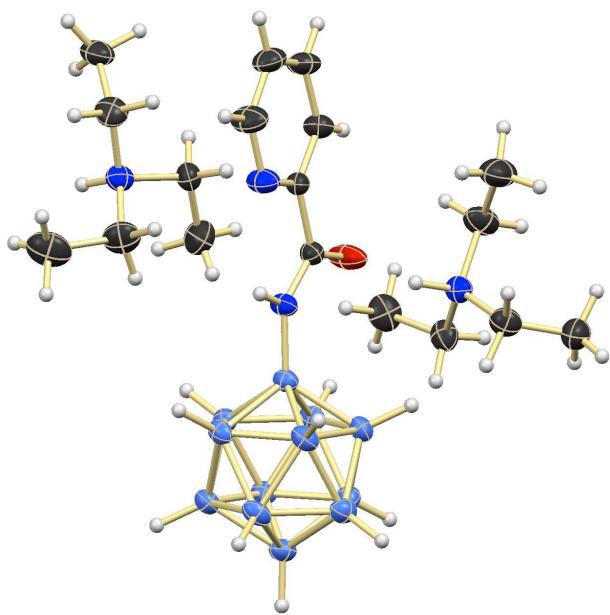
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.949 Tmax=1.000  
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.999      Theta(max)= 25.350

R(reflections)= 0.0605( 3486)      wR2(reflections)= 0.1775( 5342)

S = 1.050      Npar= 350

---



**Figure S8.** ORTEP representation of  $[Et_3NH]_2[B_{12}H_{11}NHCO-C_5H_4N]$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of 3e-H (CCDC1861490)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][3e-H] (25 mg) was dissolved in MeOH/MeCN (1 mL/1 mL) at ca. 50 °C in a 4 mL glass vial and allowed to cool to room temperature. Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCO-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N-H]·CH<sub>3</sub>CN suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained within 1 d.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0041 Å                    Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:                a=12.4068(12)                b=15.2490(18)                c=13.0624(12)  
                      alpha=90                        beta=102.374(10)                gamma=90  
Temperature:        293 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	2413.9(4)	2413.9(4)
Space group	P 21/c	P 1 21/c 1
Hall group	-P 2ybc	-P 2ybc
Moiety formula	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>17</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>17</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N
Sum formula	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>36</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>36</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O
Mr	406.19	406.19
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.118	1.118
Z	4	4
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.062	0.062
F000	864.0	864.0
F000'	864.18	
h,k,lmax	14,18,15	14,18,15
Nref	4420	4405
Tmin, Tmax	0.976, 0.982	0.948, 1.000
Tmin'	0.976	

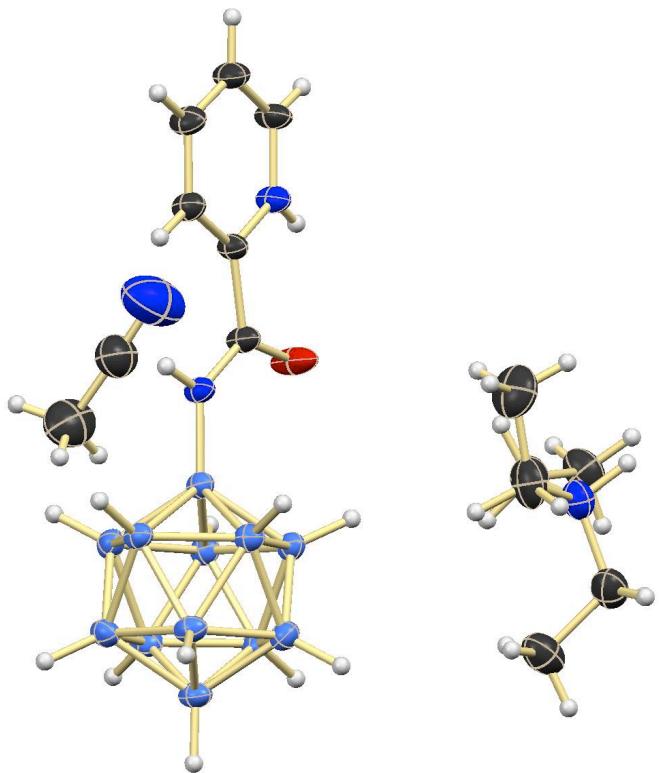
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.948 Tmax=1.000  
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.997                    Theta(max)= 25.348

R(reflections)= 0.0654( 2790)            wR2(reflections)= 0.1858( 4405)

S = 1.025                                  Npar= 288

---



**Figure S9.** ORTEP representation of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}] [\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NHCO-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N-H}] \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

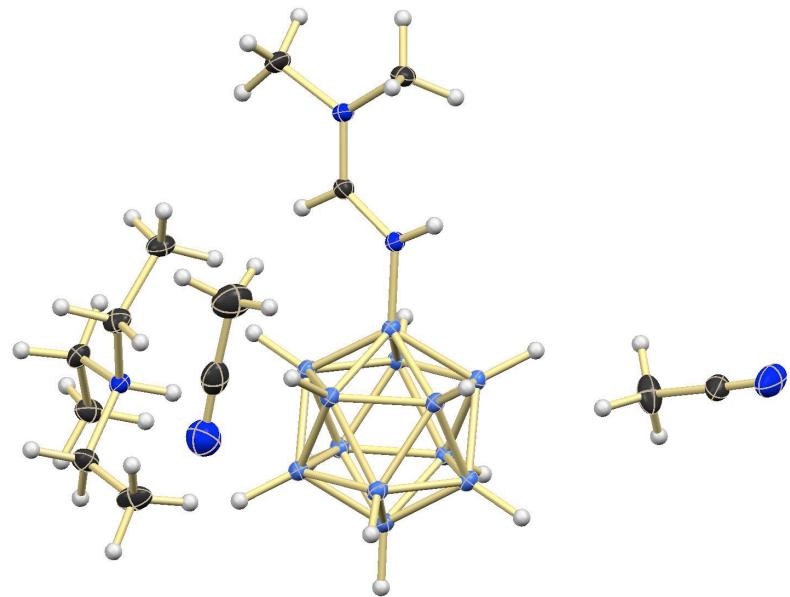
## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6a] (CCDC1861483)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6a] (10 mg, 0.031 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into a 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with diethylether (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NH=CH–N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]·2CH<sub>3</sub>CN suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 5 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0028 Å	Wavelength=0.71073	
Cell:	a=8.7477(5) alpha=90	b=21.7928(15) beta=97.268(5)	c=13.5423(8) gamma=90
Temperature:	170 K		
	Calculated	Reported	
Volume	2560.9(3)	2560.9(3)	
Space group	P 21/n	P 1 21/n 1	
Hall group	-P 2yn	-P 2yn	
Moiety formula	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>19</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, 2(C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N)	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>19</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, 2(C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N)	
Sum formula	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>41</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>41</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	
Mr	397.23	397.23	
Dx,g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.030	1.030	
Z	4	4	
Mu (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.055	0.055	
F000	856.0	856.0	
F000'	856.13		
h,k,lmax	10,26,16	10,26,16	
Nref	4700	4689	
Tmin,Tmax	0.982,0.986	0.917,1.000	
Tmin'	0.979		
Correction method=	# Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.917 Tmax=1.000		
AbsCorr =	MULTI-SCAN		
Data completeness=	0.998	Theta(max)= 25.350	
R(reflections)=	0.0464( 3655)	wR2(reflections)= 0.1289( 4689)	
S =	1.028	Npar= 278	

---



**Figure S10.** ORTEP representation of  $[\text{Et}_3\text{NH}][\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NH}=\text{CH}-\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2]\cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of [MePPh<sub>3</sub>][6a] (CCDC1861484)

Single crystals of **6a** were also obtained with the [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> cation, and the structure is similar to that of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][**6a**]. [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][**6a**] (30 mg) was suspended in water (1 mL), and NaOH (2 equiv) was added to form the Na<sup>+</sup> salt. To this solution [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]Br (2 equiv) was added to give [MePPh<sub>3</sub>][**6a**] as a colorless precipitate. [MePPh<sub>3</sub>][**6a**] (20 mg) was dissolved in acetone (0.5 mL). The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with Et<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [MePPh<sub>3</sub>] [B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NH=CH–N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 2 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0045 Å                    Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:                    a=13.1538(7)            b=20.5673(9)            c=11.3688(6)  
                          alpha=90                    beta=103.263(5)            gamma=90  
Temperature:            293 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	2993.7(3)	2993.7(3)
Space group	P 21/c	P 1 21/c 1
Hall group	-P 2ybc	-P 2ybc
Moiety formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> P, C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>19</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> P, C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>19</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub>
Sum formula	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>37</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> P	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>37</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> P
Mr	490.23	490.23
Dx, g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.088	1.088
Z	4	4
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.108	0.108
F000	1032.0	1032.0
F000'	1032.62	
h,k,lmax	15,24,13	15,24,13
Nref	5485	5453
Tmin, Tmax	0.948, 0.958	0.982, 1.000
Tmin'	0.948	

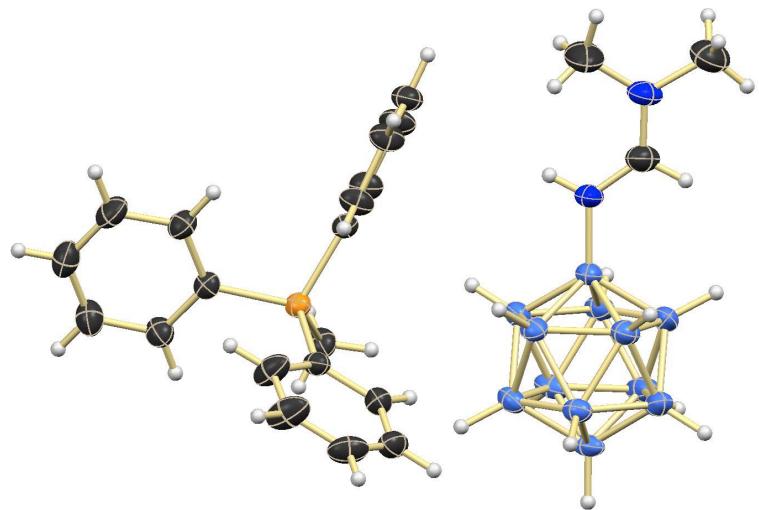
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AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.994                    Theta(max)= 25.350

R(reflections)= 0.0587( 3574)            wR2(reflections)= 0.1595( 5453)

S = 1.033                    Npar= 337

---



**Figure S11.** ORTEP representation of  $[\text{MePPh}_3][\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NH}=\text{CH}-\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2]$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6c] (CCDC1861485)

Compound [Et<sub>3</sub>NH][6c] (10 mg) was dissolved in acetonitrile (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into a 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with diethylether (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [Et<sub>3</sub>NH]  
[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NH=C(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(NH-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)].H<sub>2</sub>O suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 5 d at 25 °C.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0059 Å                          Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:            a=10.8688(7)            b=12.0426(6)            c=13.1037(9)  
                  alpha=66.402(5)        beta=67.187(6)        gamma=85.080(5)  
Temperature: 293 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	1443.85(18)	1443.85(15)
Space group	P -1	P -1
Hall group	-P 1	-P 1
Moiety formula	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>23</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, H <sub>2</sub> O	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>23</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N, H <sub>2</sub> O
Sum formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>41</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>41</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O
Mr	457.27	457.27
Dx,g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.052	1.052
Z	2	2
Mu (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.057	0.057
F000	488.0	488.0
F000'	488.11	
h,k,lmax	13,14,15	13,14,15
Nref	5276	5202
Tmin,Tmax	0.976,0.980	0.985,1.000
Tmin'	0.976	

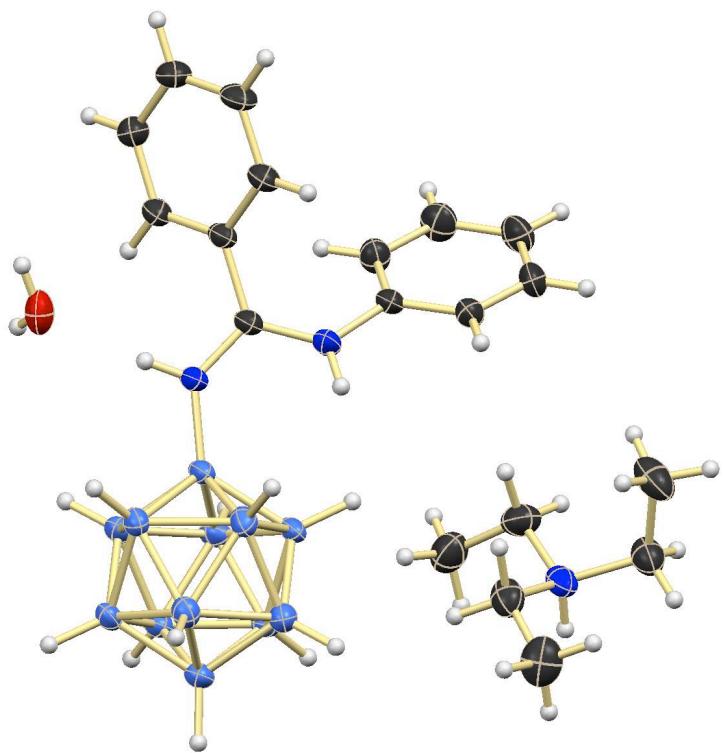
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AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.986                          Theta(max)= 25.350

R(reflections)= 0.0962( 3419)                  wR2(reflections)= 0.3064( 5202)

S = 1.050                          Npar= 329

---



**Figure S12.** ORTEP representation of  $[B_{12}H_{11}NH=C(C_6H_5)(NH-C_6H_5)] \cdot H_2O$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

## Crystal structure of [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[8] (CCDC1861487)

[MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[8] (10 mg) was dissolved in acetone (0.5 mL) in a 1 mL glass vial. The resulting colorless solution was filtered into an 18 cm long NMR tube and layered with Et<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL). Colorless crystals of the composition [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N=C=O] suitable for X-ray diffraction grew within 2 d at 25 °C. Single crystals could also be obtained by recrystallization from acetone.

---

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0041 Å                          Wavelength=0.71073

Cell:            a=11.3939(14)        b=13.1505(15)        c=14.8700(15)  
                  alpha=89.844(9)      beta=81.969(9)      gamma=71.540(11)

Temperature: 293 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	2090.6(4)	2090.6(4)
Space group	P -1	P -1
Hall group	-P 1	-P 1
Moiety formula	2(C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> P), C H <sub>11</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O	2(C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> P), C H <sub>11</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O
Sum formula	C <sub>39</sub> H <sub>47</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O P <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>39</sub> H <sub>47</sub> B <sub>12</sub> N O P <sub>2</sub>
Mr	737.44	737.44
Dx,g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.171	1.171
Z	2	2
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.137	0.137
F000	772.0	772.0
F000'	772.62	
h,k,lmax	13,15,17	13,15,17
Nref	7655	7633
Tmin,Tmax	0.952,0.973	0.575,1.000
Tmin'	0.952	

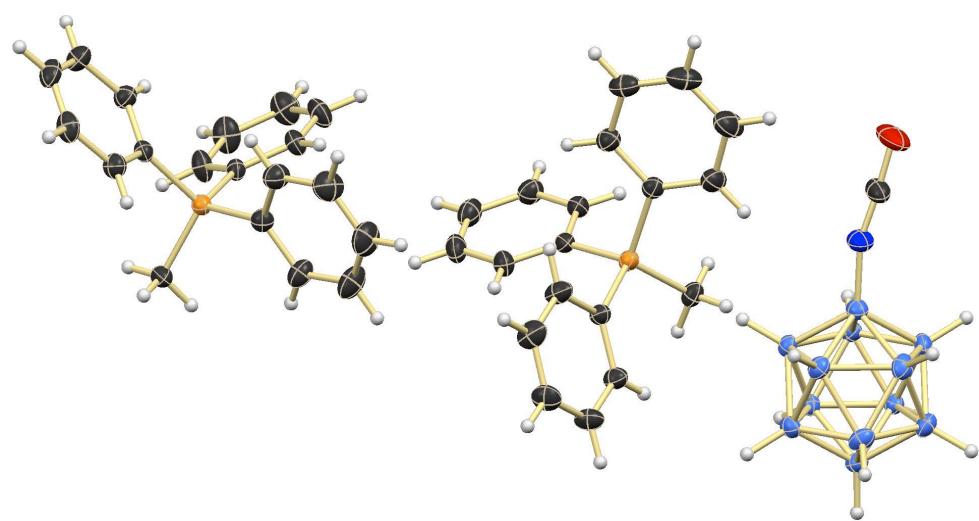
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.575 Tmax=1.000  
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.997                          Theta(max)= 25.350

R(reflections)= 0.0507( 4888)        wR2(reflections)= 0.1366( 7633)

S = 0.961                          Npar= 498

---

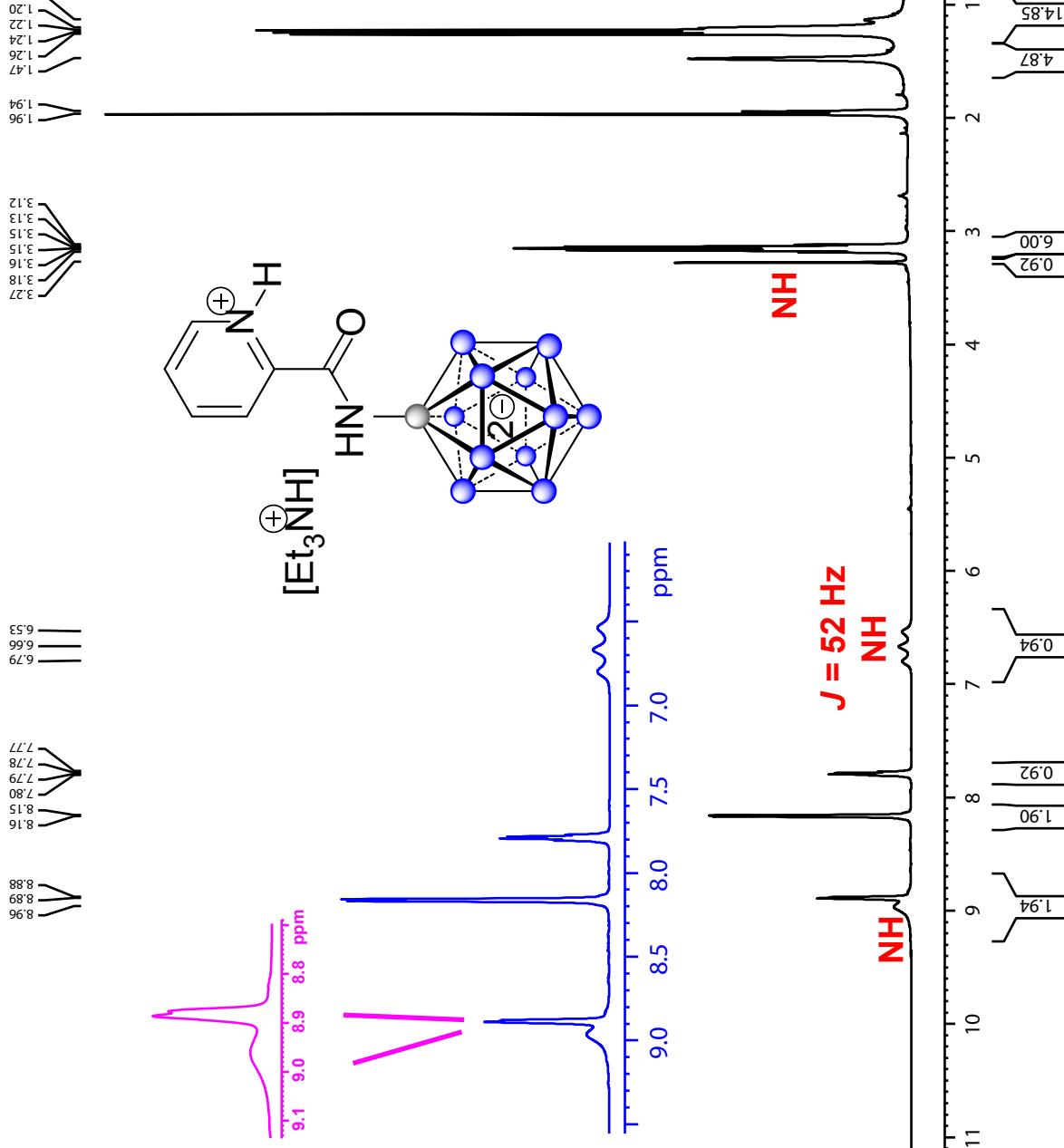


**Figure S13.** ORTEP representation of  $[MePPh_3]_2[B_{12}H_{11}N=C=O]$ ; 30% displacement ellipsoids.

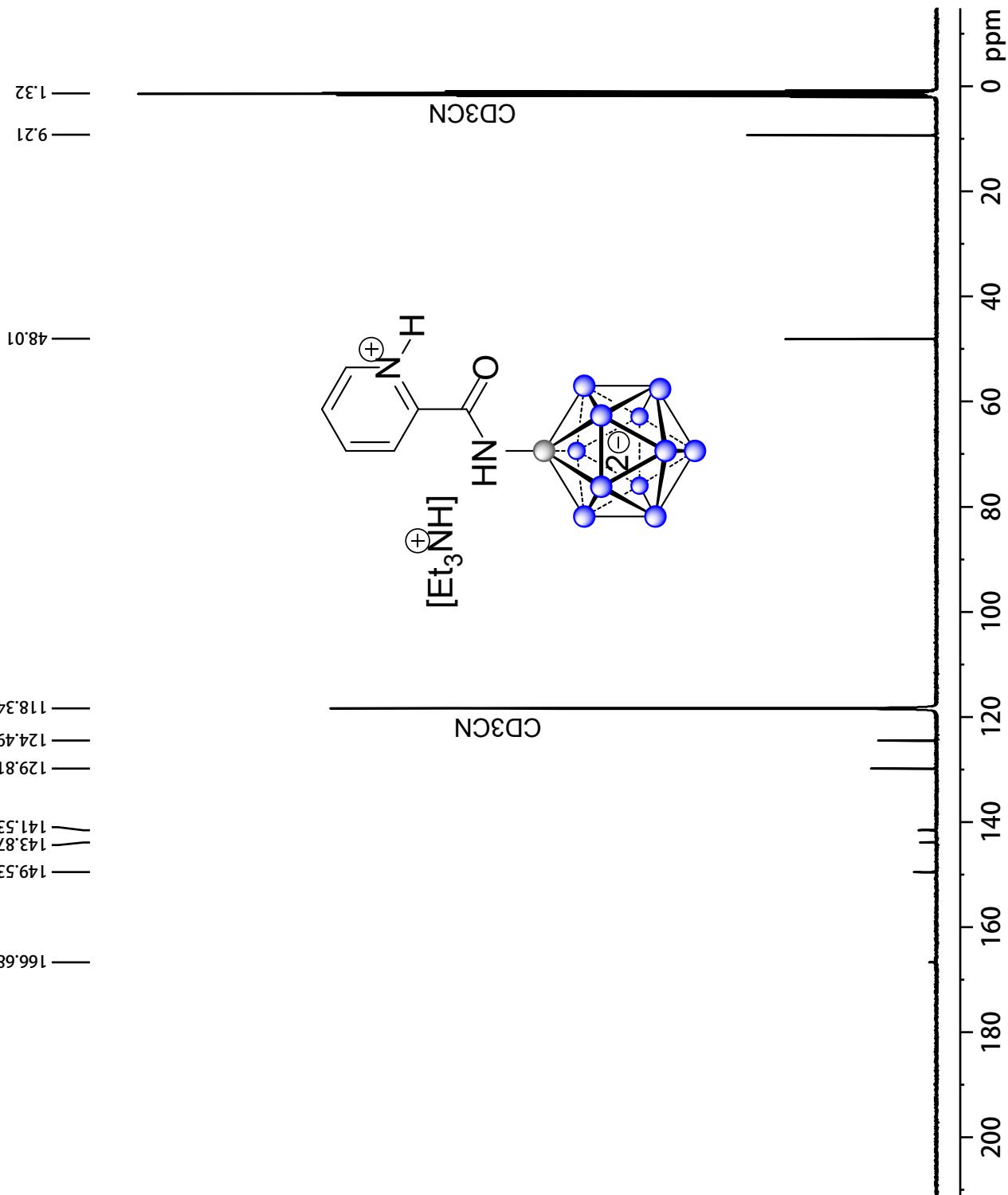
## **IV References**

- [1] V. Geis, K. Guttsche, C. Knapp, H. Scherer, R. Uzun, *Dalton Trans.* **2009**, 2687–2694.
- [2] O. Bondarev, A. A. Khan, X. Tu, Y. V. Sevrugina, S. S. Jalilatgi, M. F. Hawthorne, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 13204–13211.
- [3] Y. Sun, J. Zhang, Y. Zhang, J. Liu, S. van der Veen, S. Duttwyler, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2018**, *24*, 10364–10371.

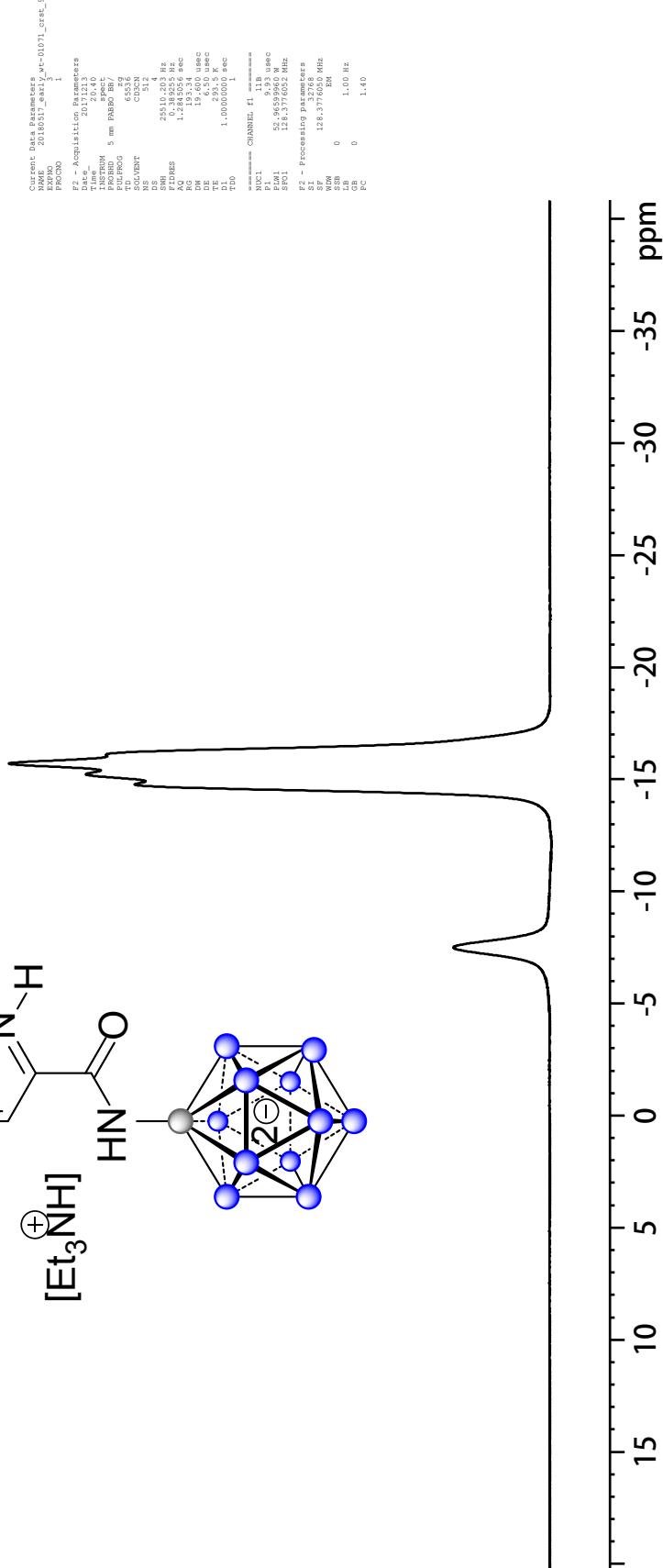
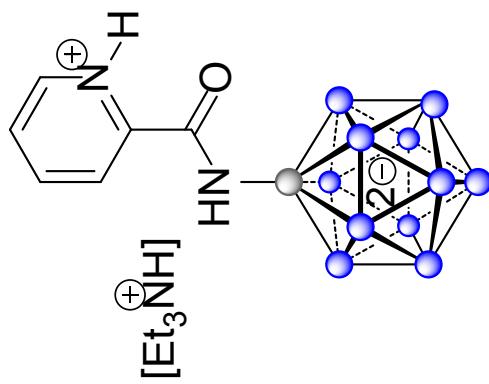
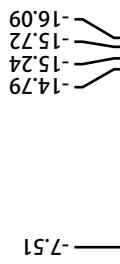
# <sup>1</sup>H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR 400MHz CD3CN



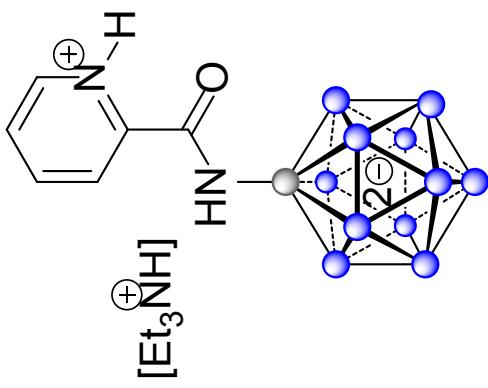
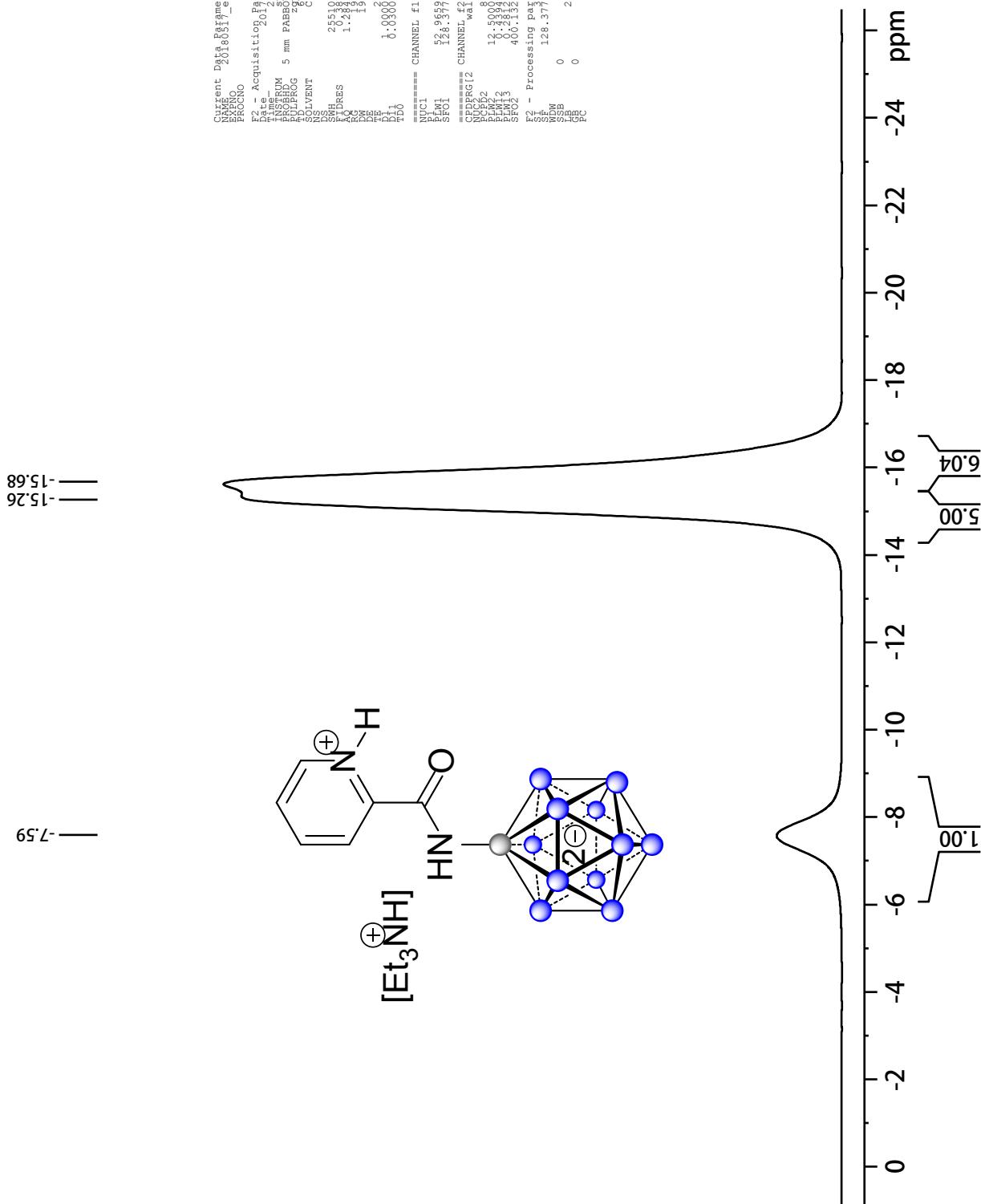
# 13C{1H} NMR 101MHz CD3CN



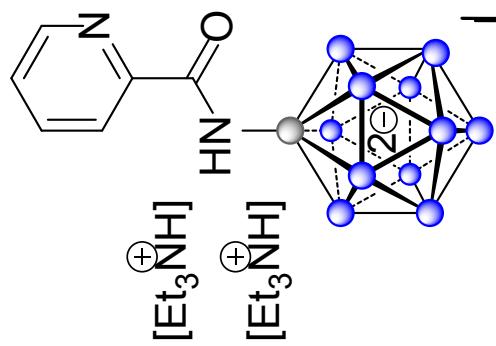
# 11B NMR 126 MHz CD3CN



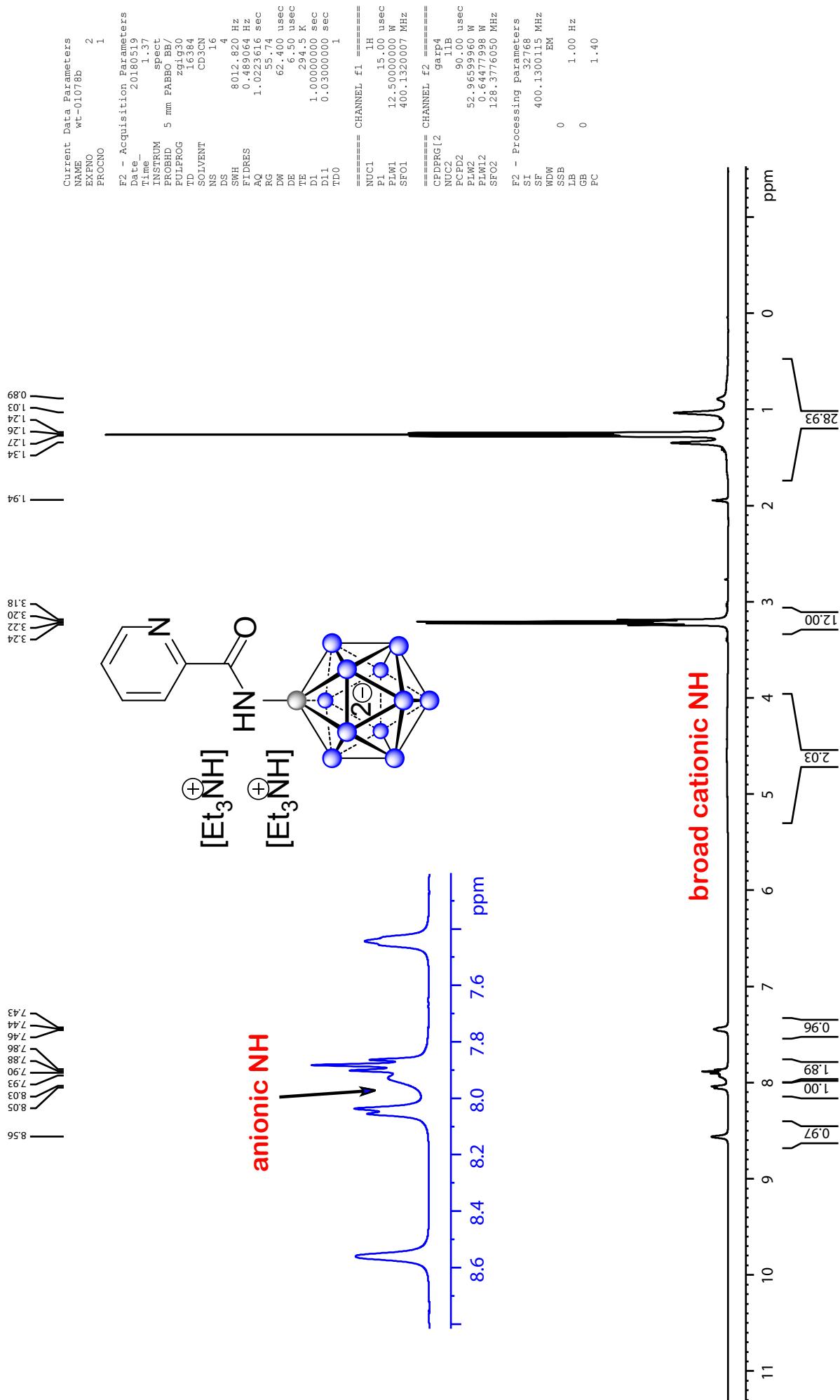
**11B{1H} NMR 126 MHz CD3CN**



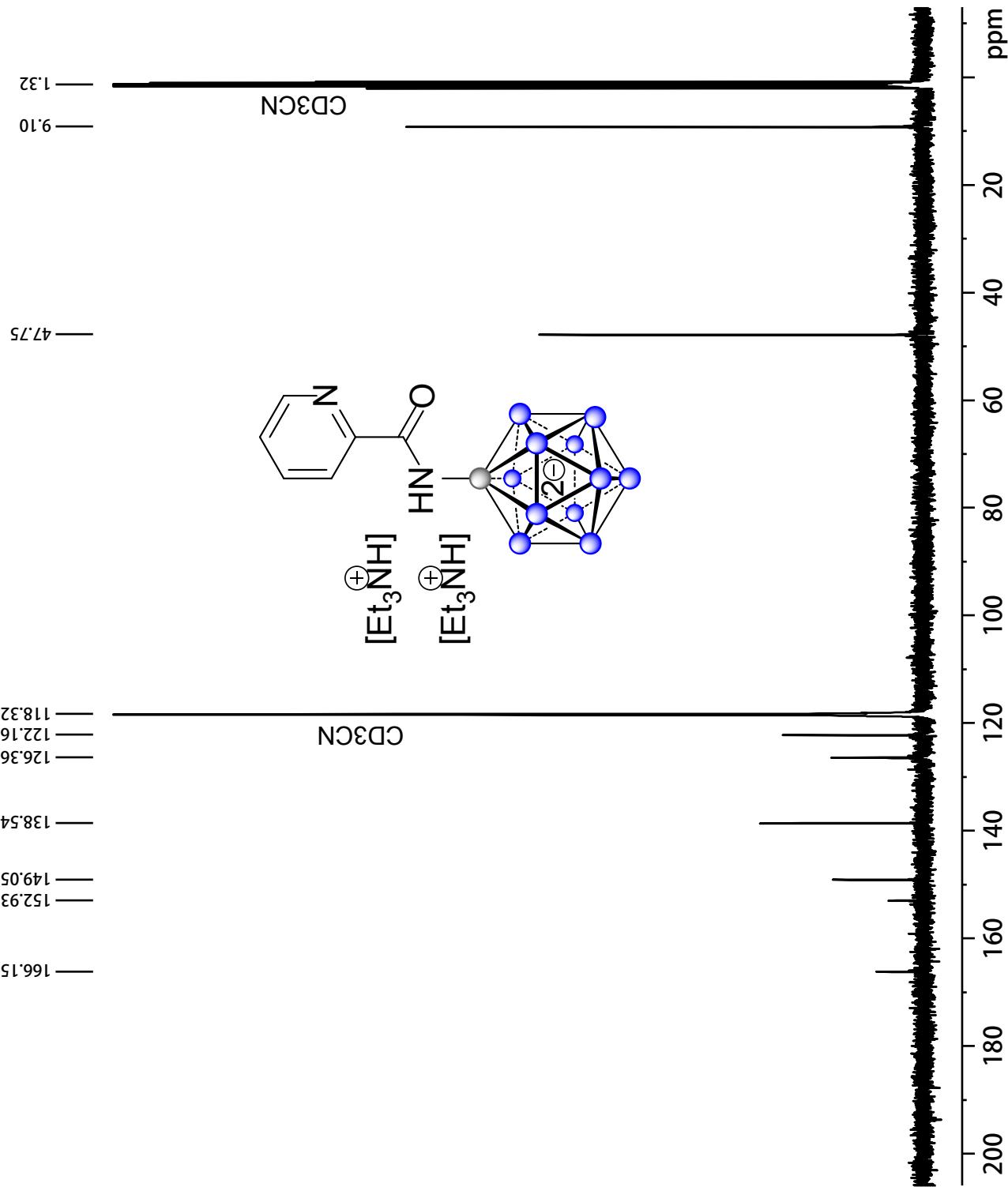
1H{11B} NMR 400MHz CD3CN



anionic NH

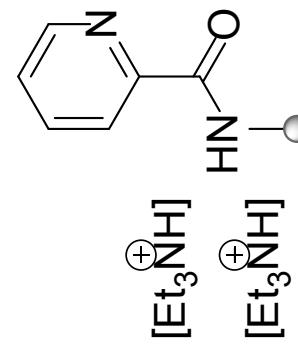


# <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR 101MHz CD3CN

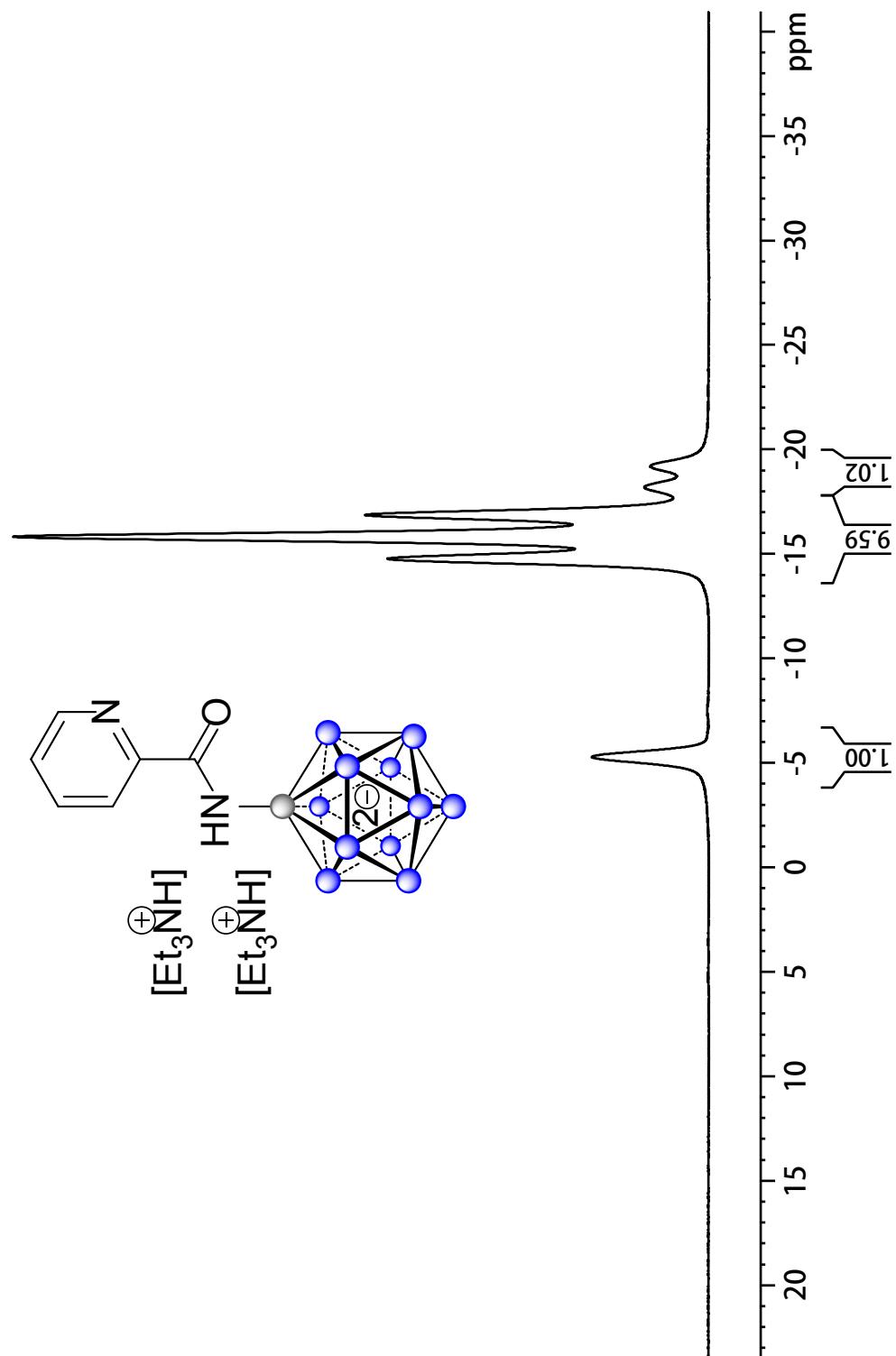


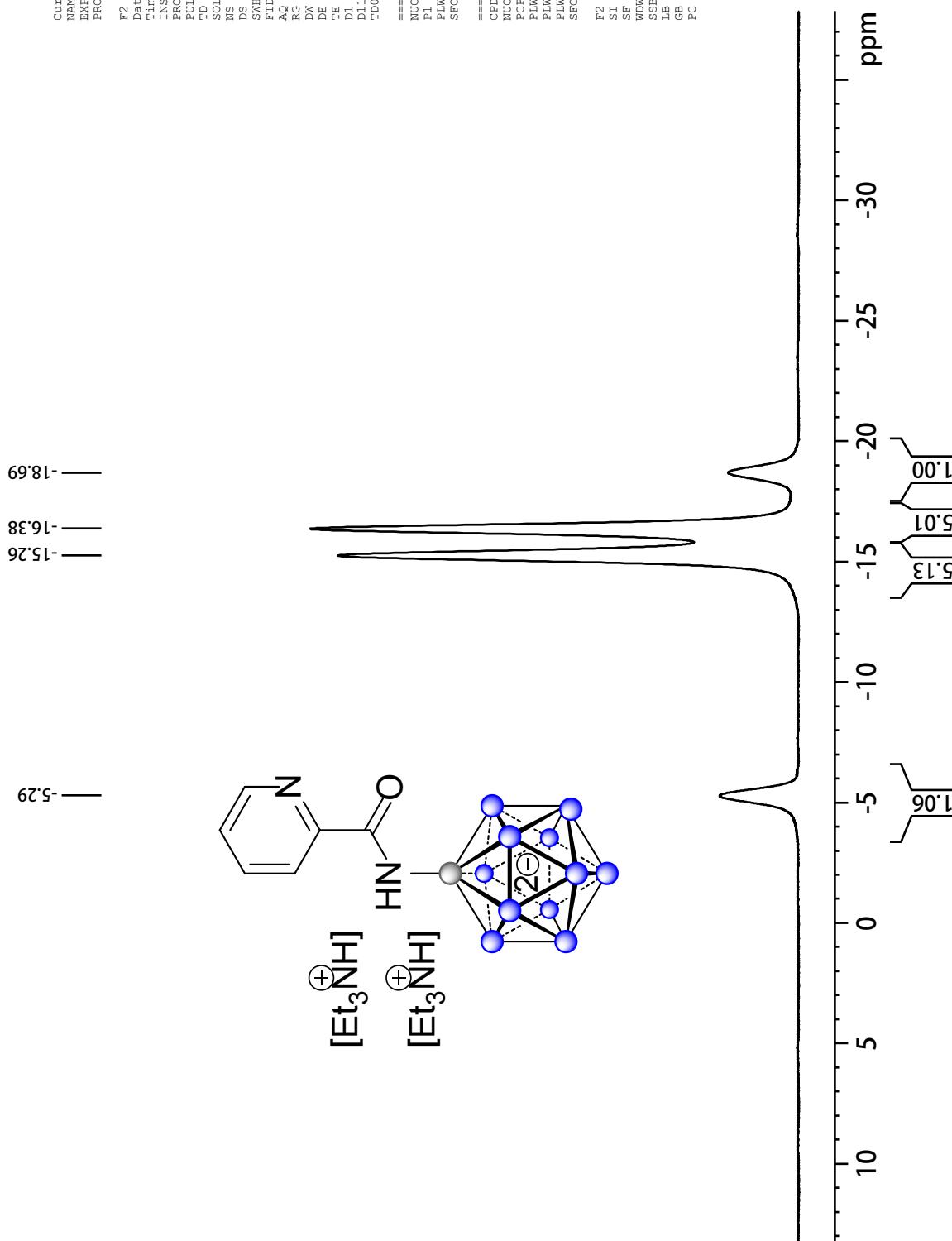
-5.29

-14.78  
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-16.88  
-18.21  
-19.21

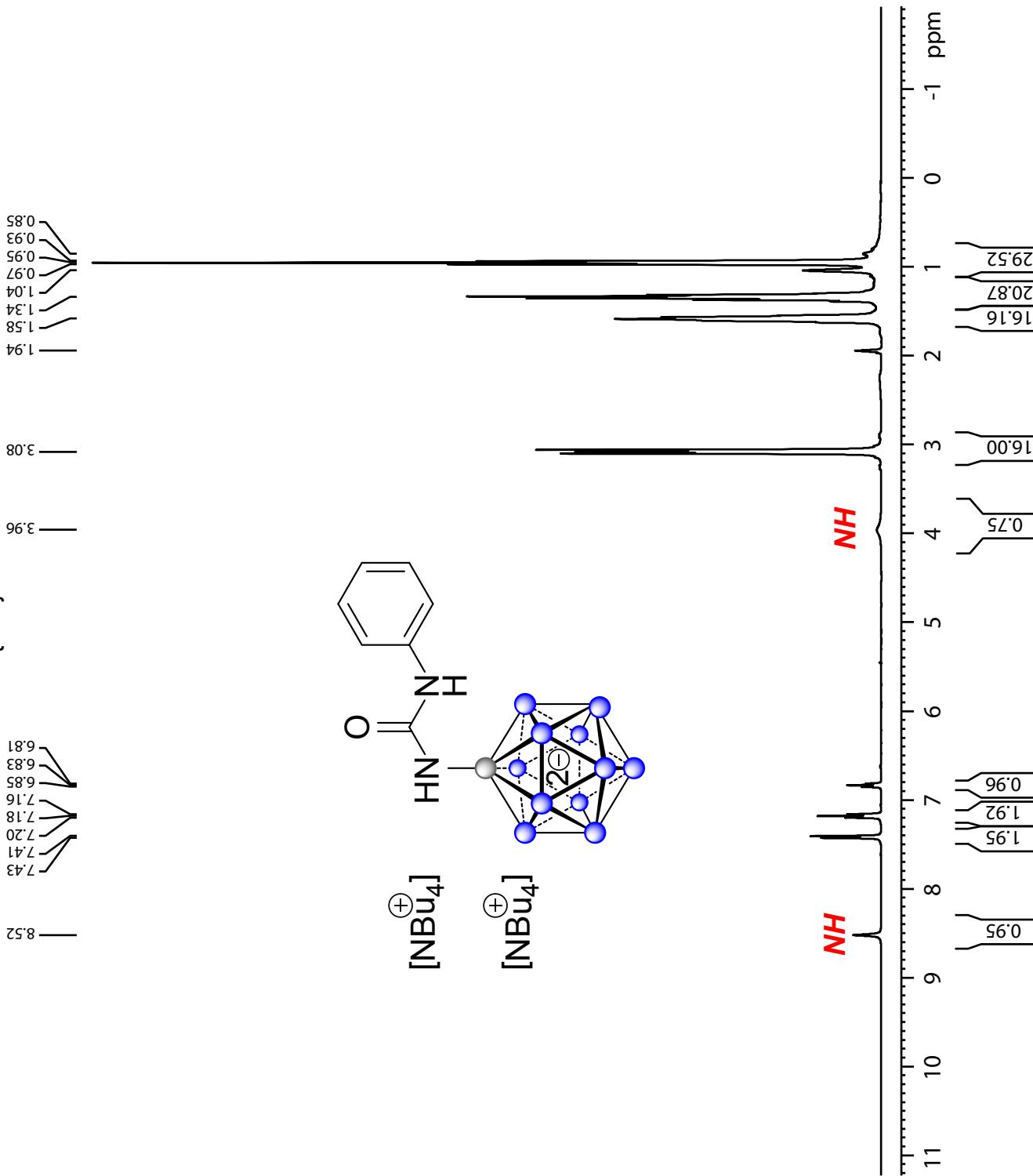


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EXNO 3  
PROCNO 1  
F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20180519  
Time\_ 1.43  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB/  
PULPROG zg  
TD 65536  
SOLVENT CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
NS 128  
DS 4  
SWH 25510.203 Hz  
ETRIMES 0.389255 Hz  
AQ 1.2945956 sec  
RG 193.34  
DW 19.600 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 294.5 K  
D1 1.0000000 sec  
TDO 1  
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NUC1 11B  
P1 9.93 usec  
P1M1 52.96599960 W  
SF 128.3776952 MHz  
SF01  
F2 - Processing parameters  
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WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 1.00 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.40

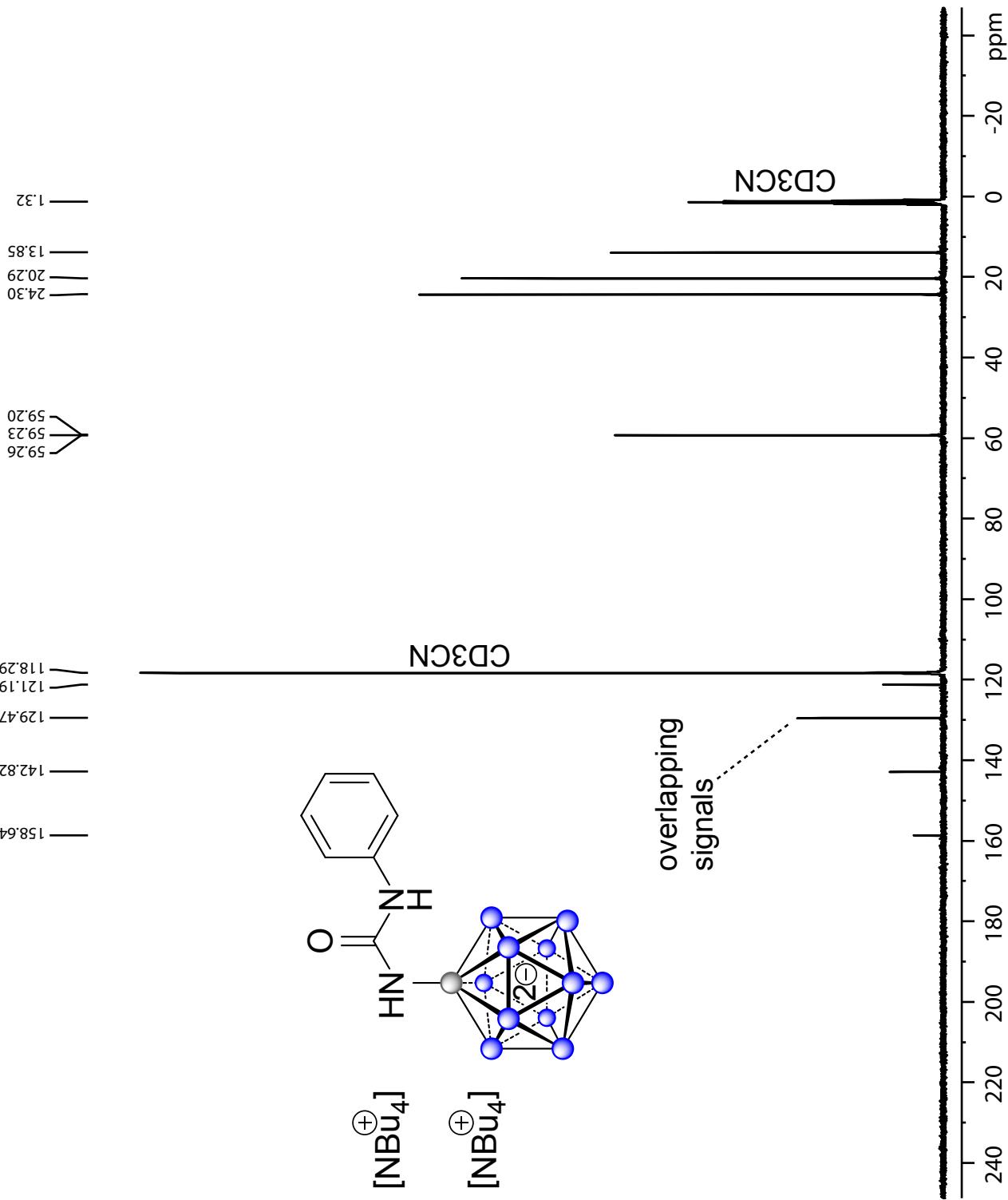




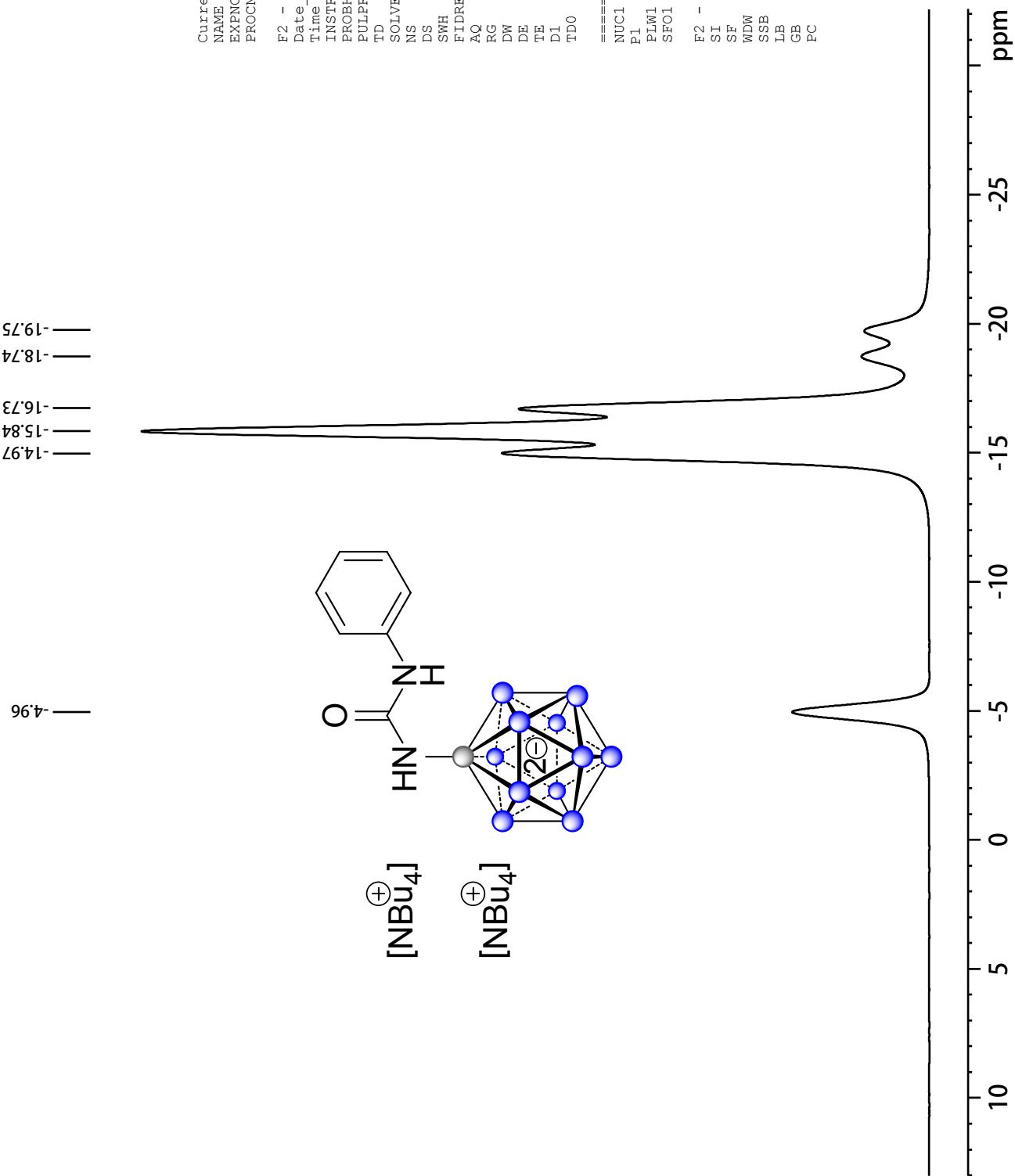
20180602 [NBu<sub>4</sub>][B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 40mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
 1H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR 400 MHz



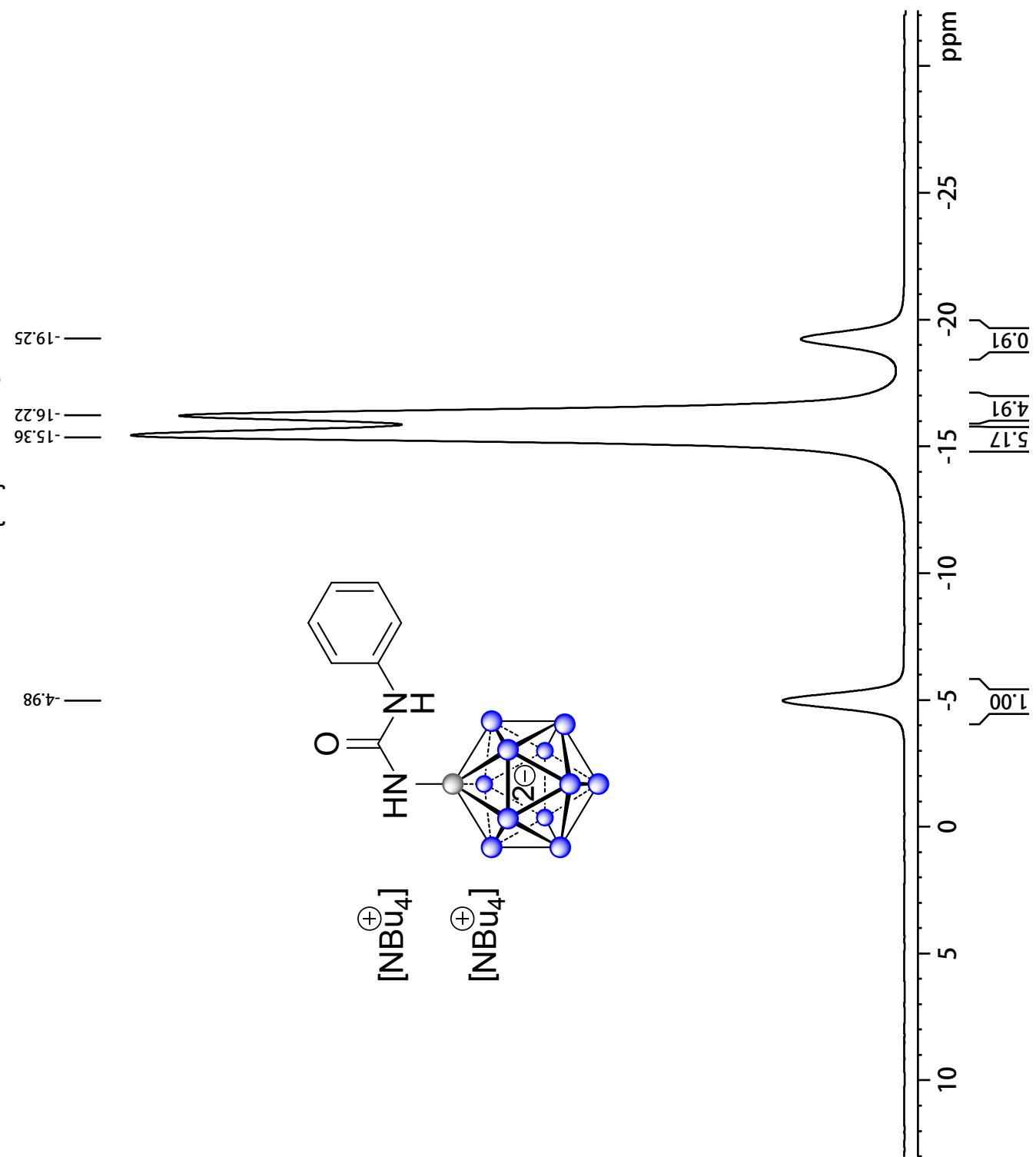
20180602 [NBu<sub>4</sub>]2[B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 40mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR 101MHz



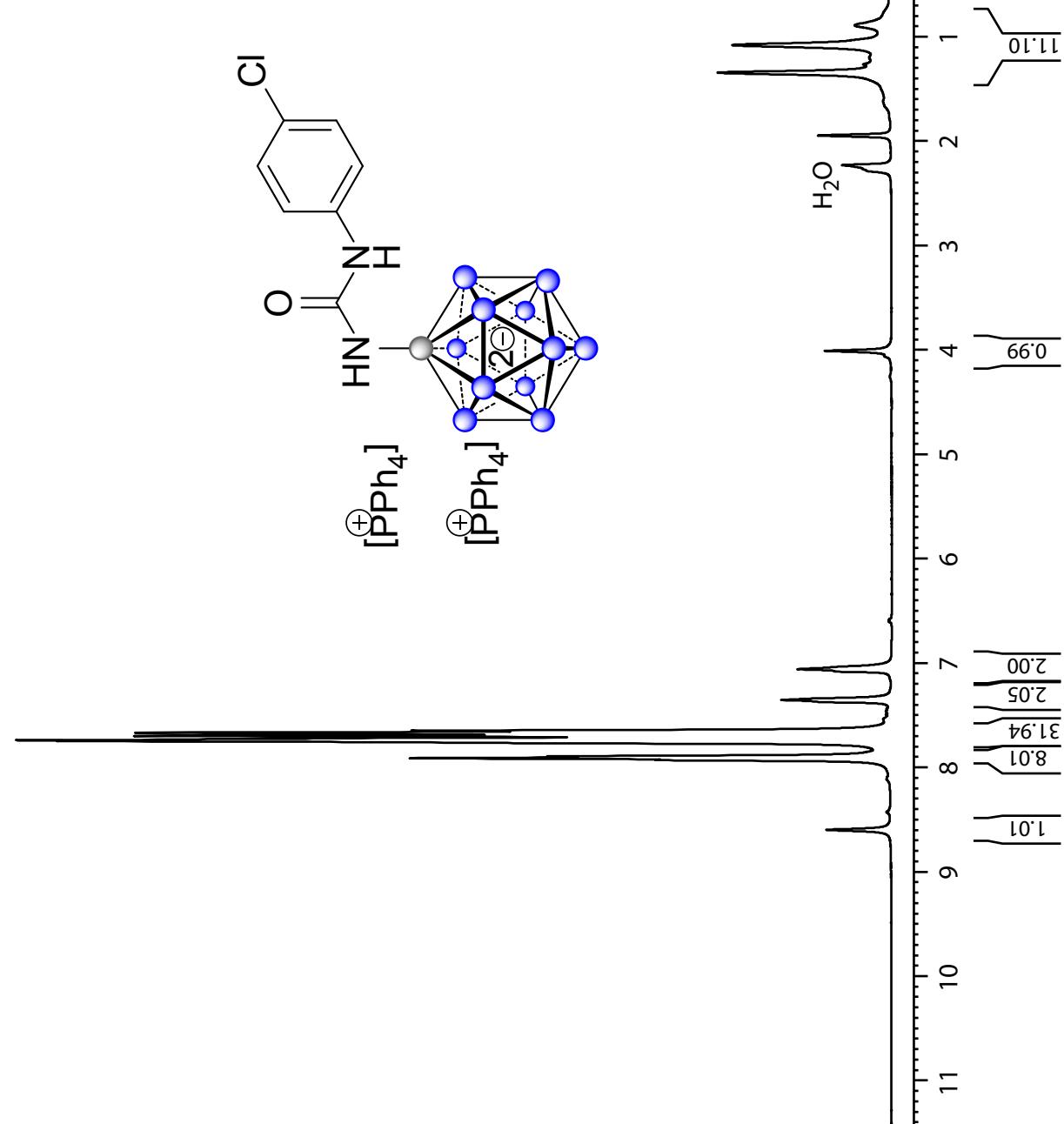
20180602 [NBu<sub>4</sub>][B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 40mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
 11B NMR 128 MHz



20180602 [NBu<sub>4</sub>][B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 40mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN



20180603 [PPh<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 50mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN



```

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PROCNO       1

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Time_   3.33
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PULPROG zg1g30
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SOLVENT CD3CN
NS      16
DS      4
SWH    8012.820 Hz
FIDRES 0.488064 Hz
AQ     1.0242616 sec
RG      64.43
DW      62.400 usec
DE      6.50 usec
TE      294.4 K
D1     1.0000000 sec
D11    0.0300000 sec
TDO      1

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P1      15.00 usec
PLW1  12.5000000 W
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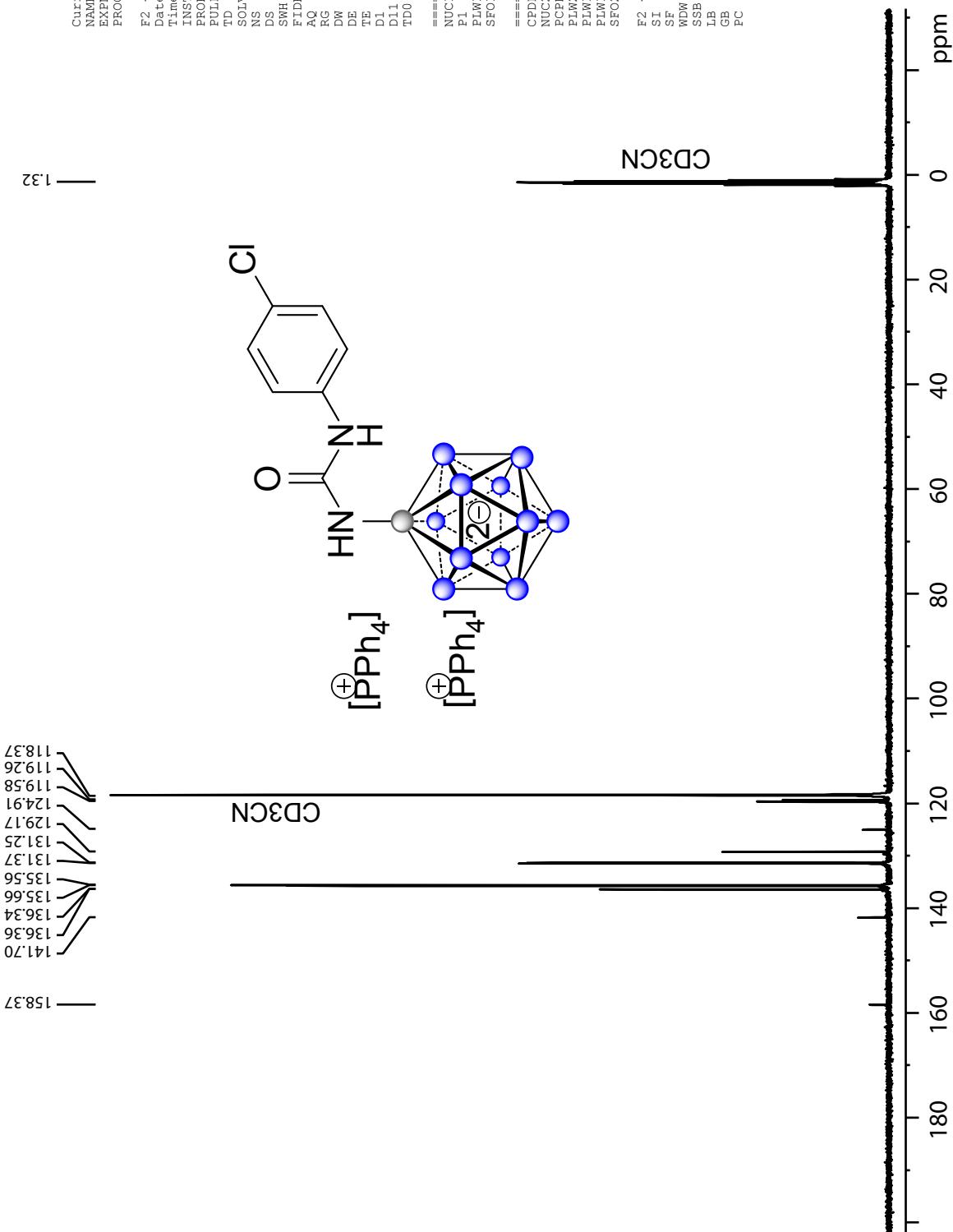
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PLW1.2  0.44771998 W
SF02  128.377050 MHz

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LB      0
GB      1.40
PC      1.40

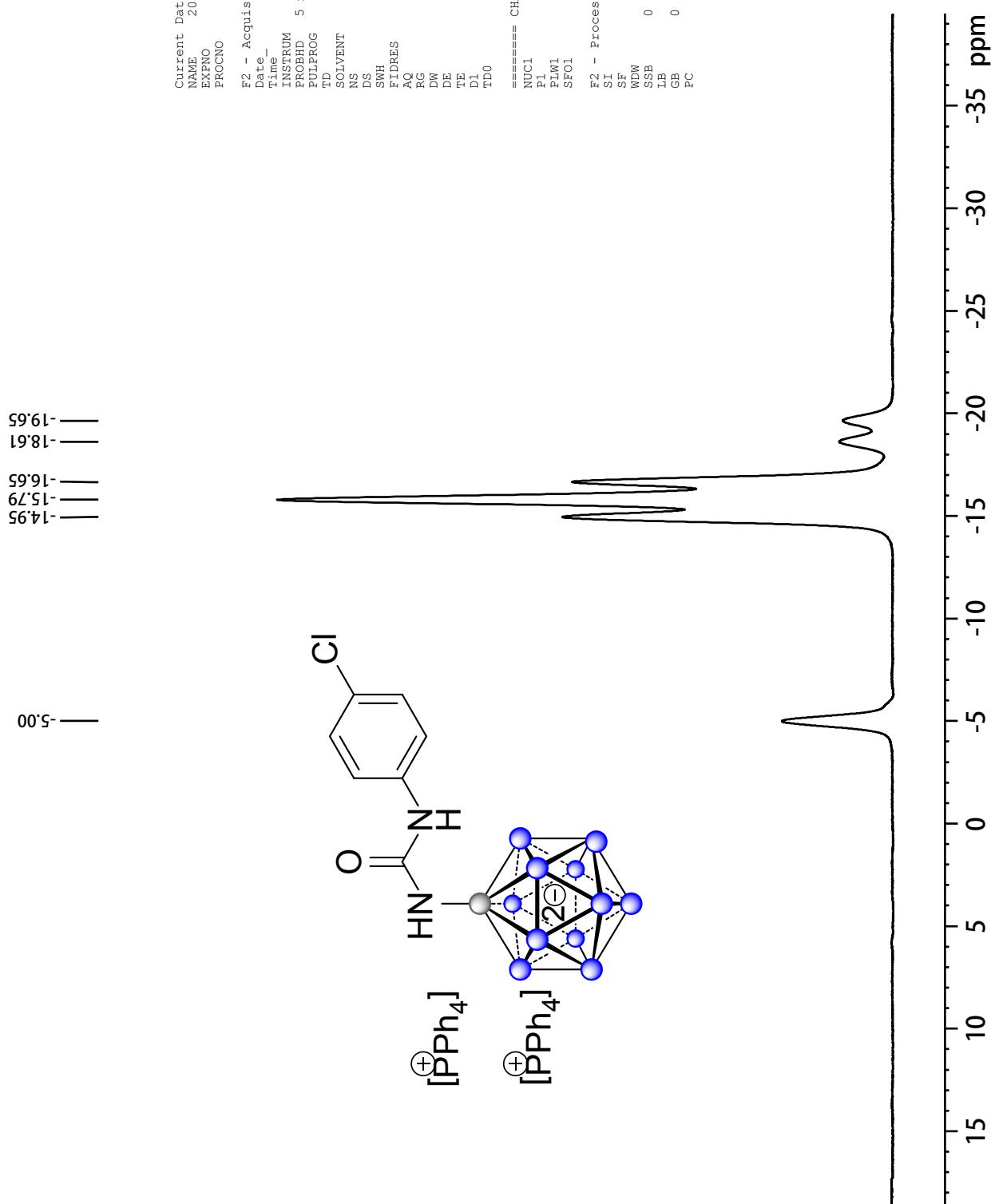
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20180603 [PPh<sub>4</sub>]2[B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 50mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR 101MHz

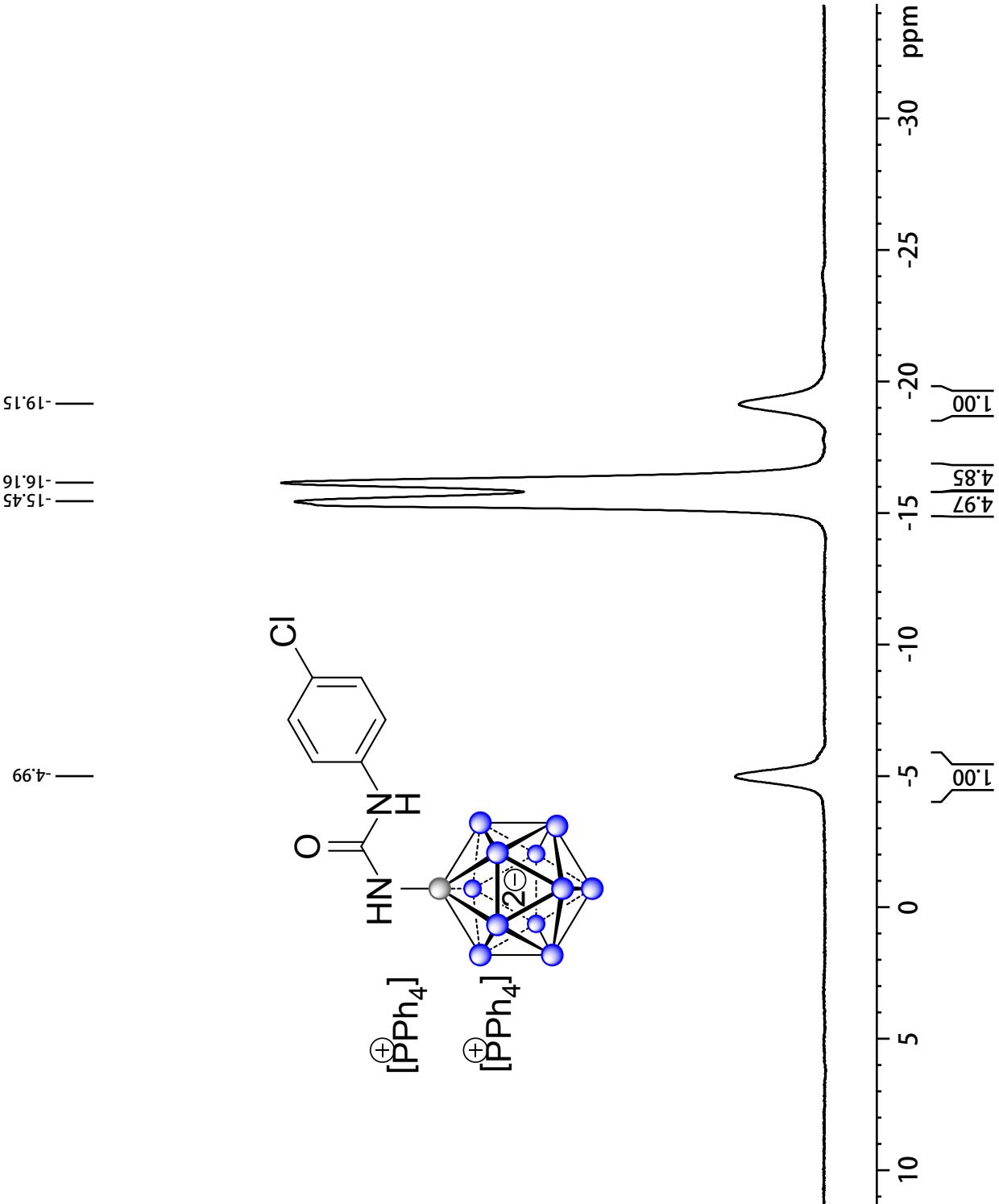
o = cation resonances



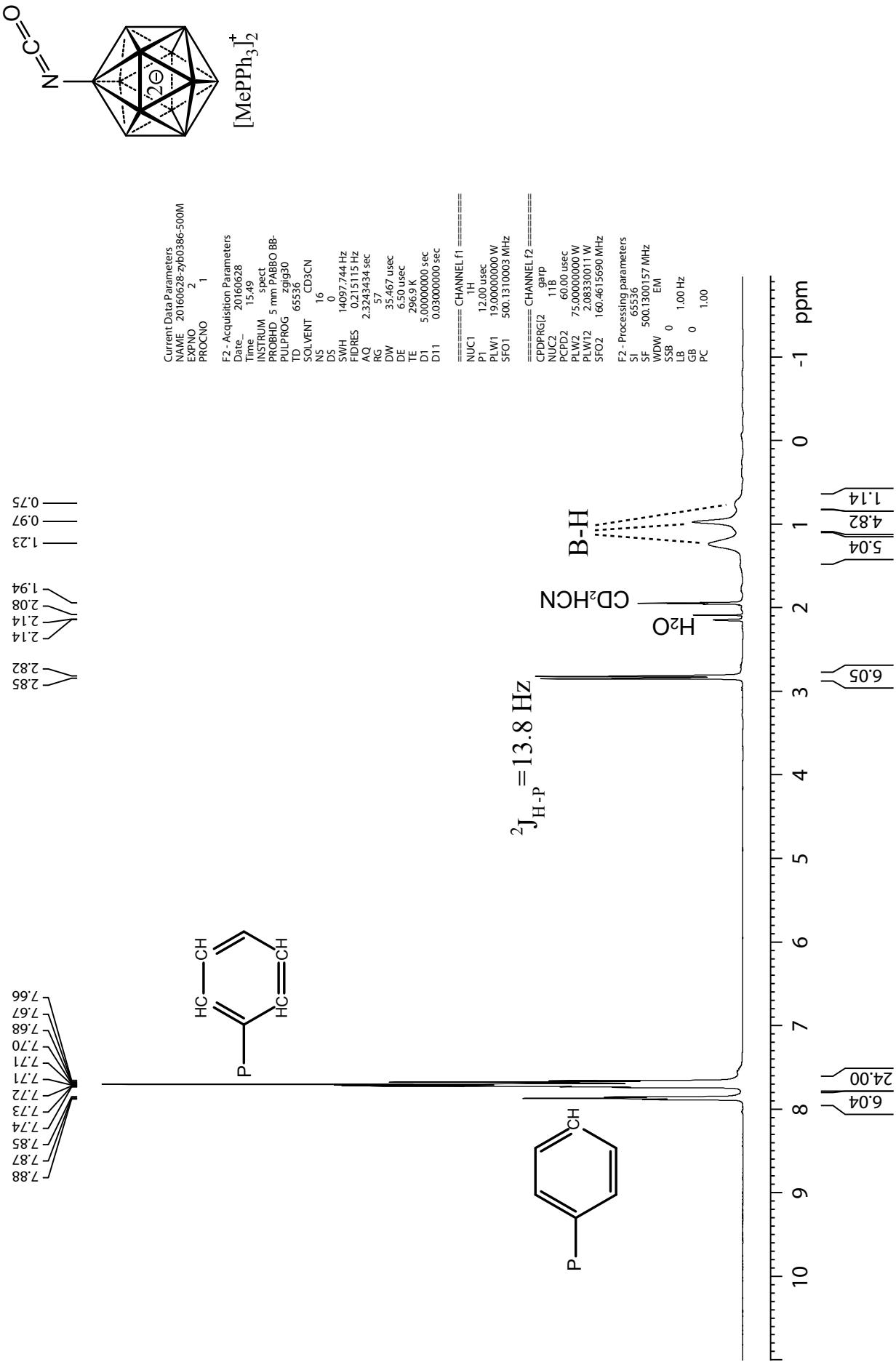
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 11B NMR 128 MHz

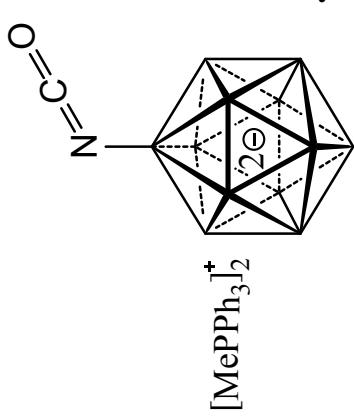


20180603 [PPh<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[B12H<sub>11</sub>NHCONHPh] 50mg dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
 11B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR 128 MHz

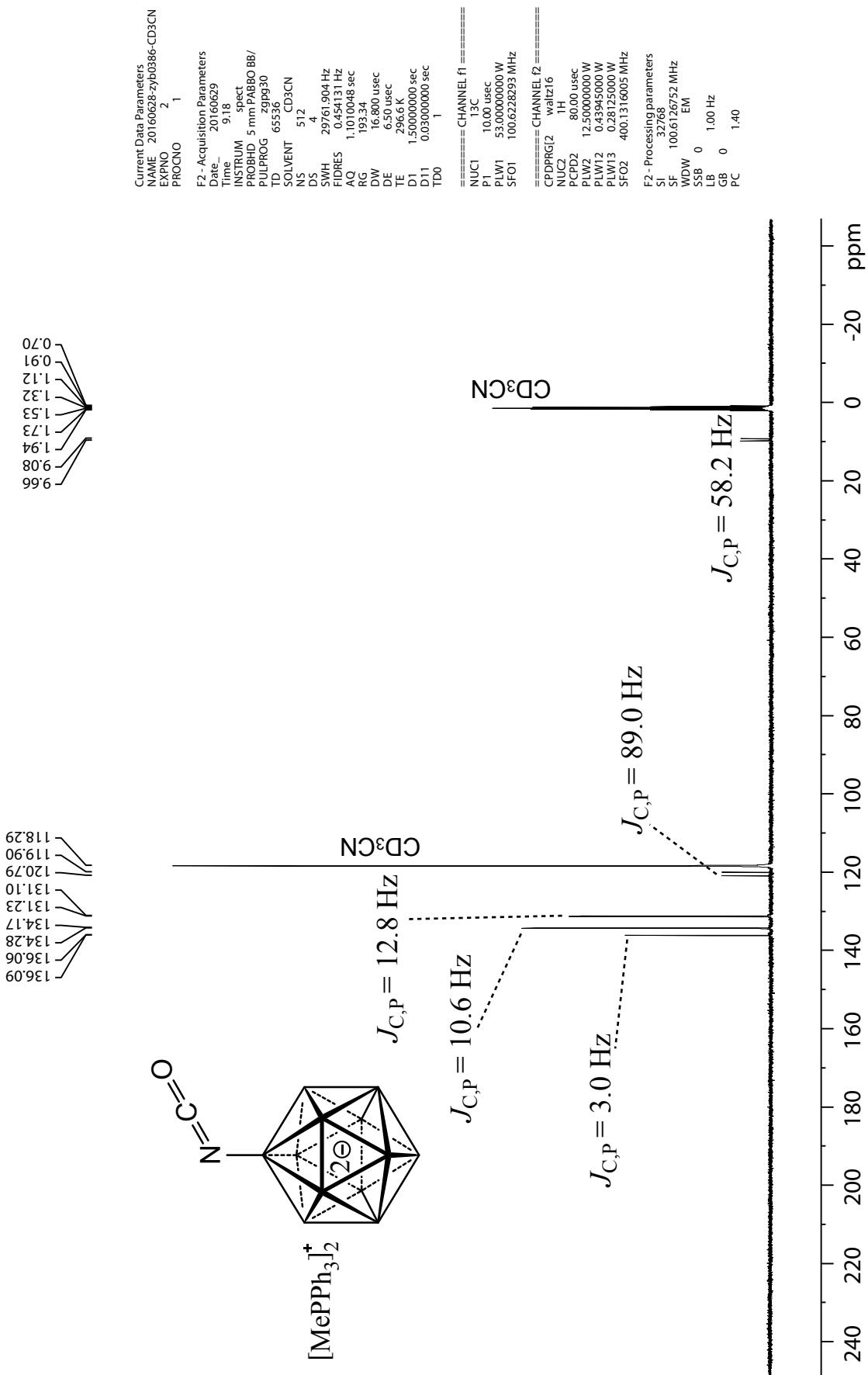


20160629 20 mg [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]2[B12H<sub>11</sub>NCO] dissolved in 0.6 mL CD<sub>3</sub>CN , <sup>1</sup>H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR, 500MHz

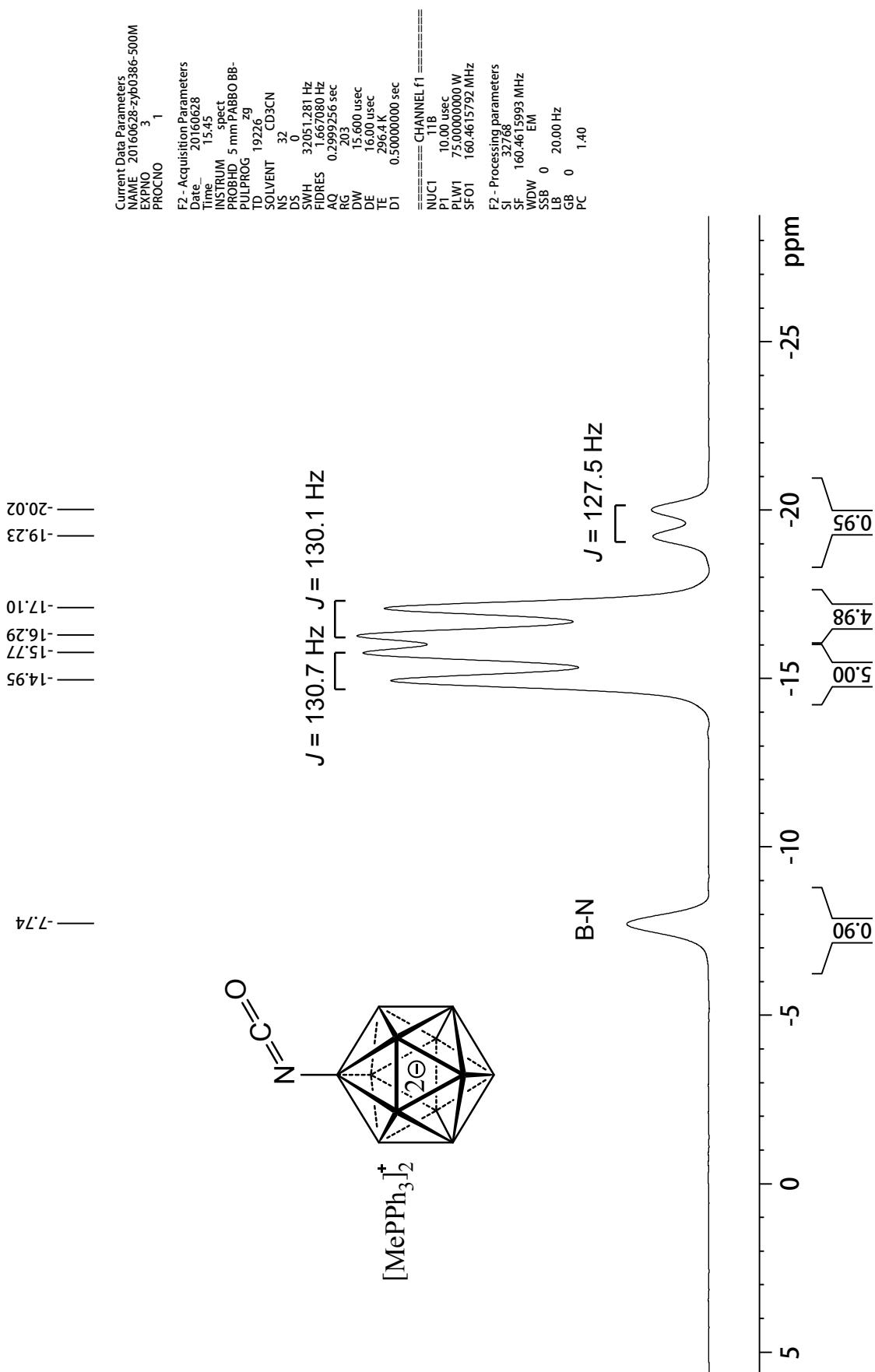




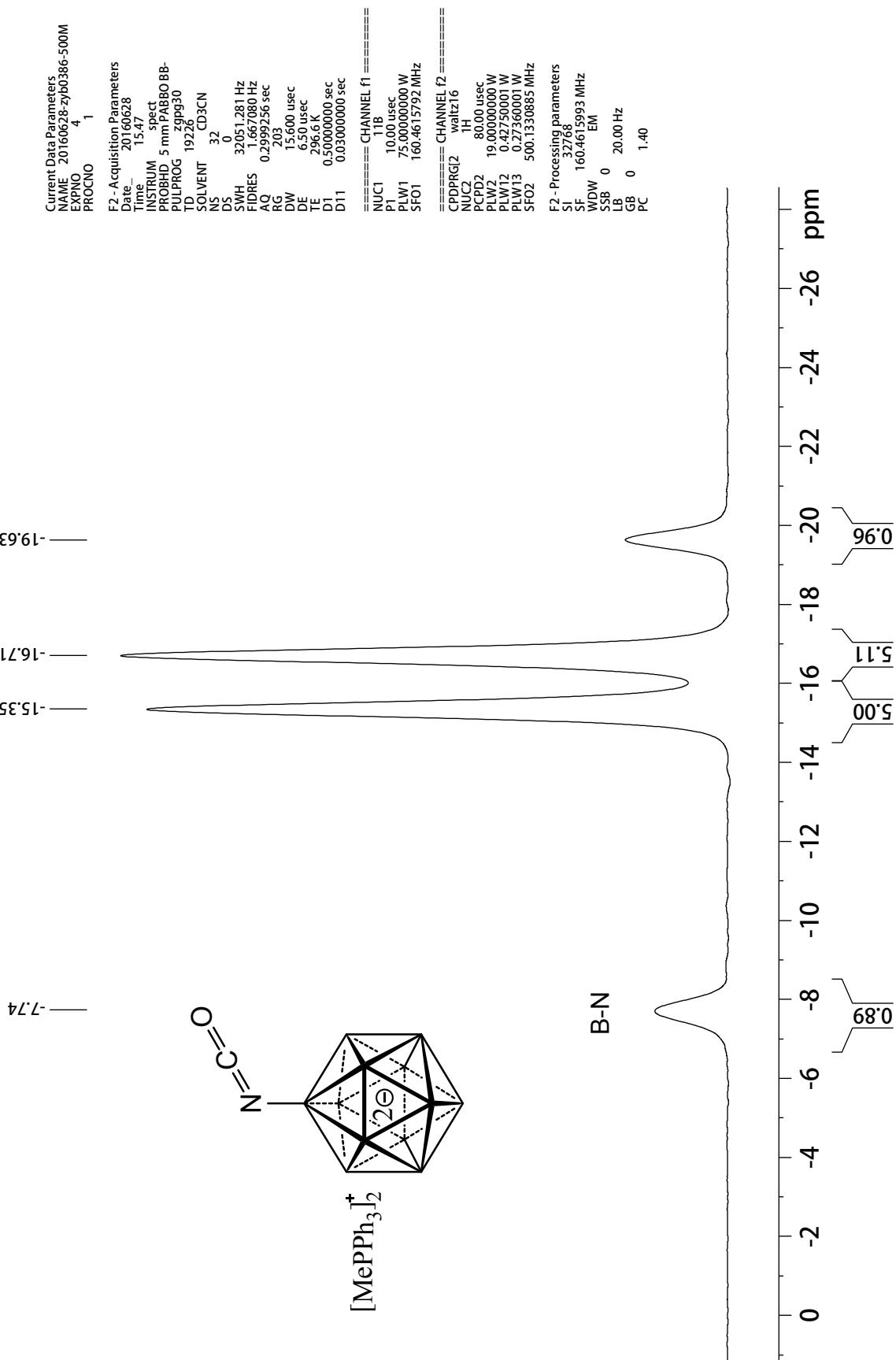
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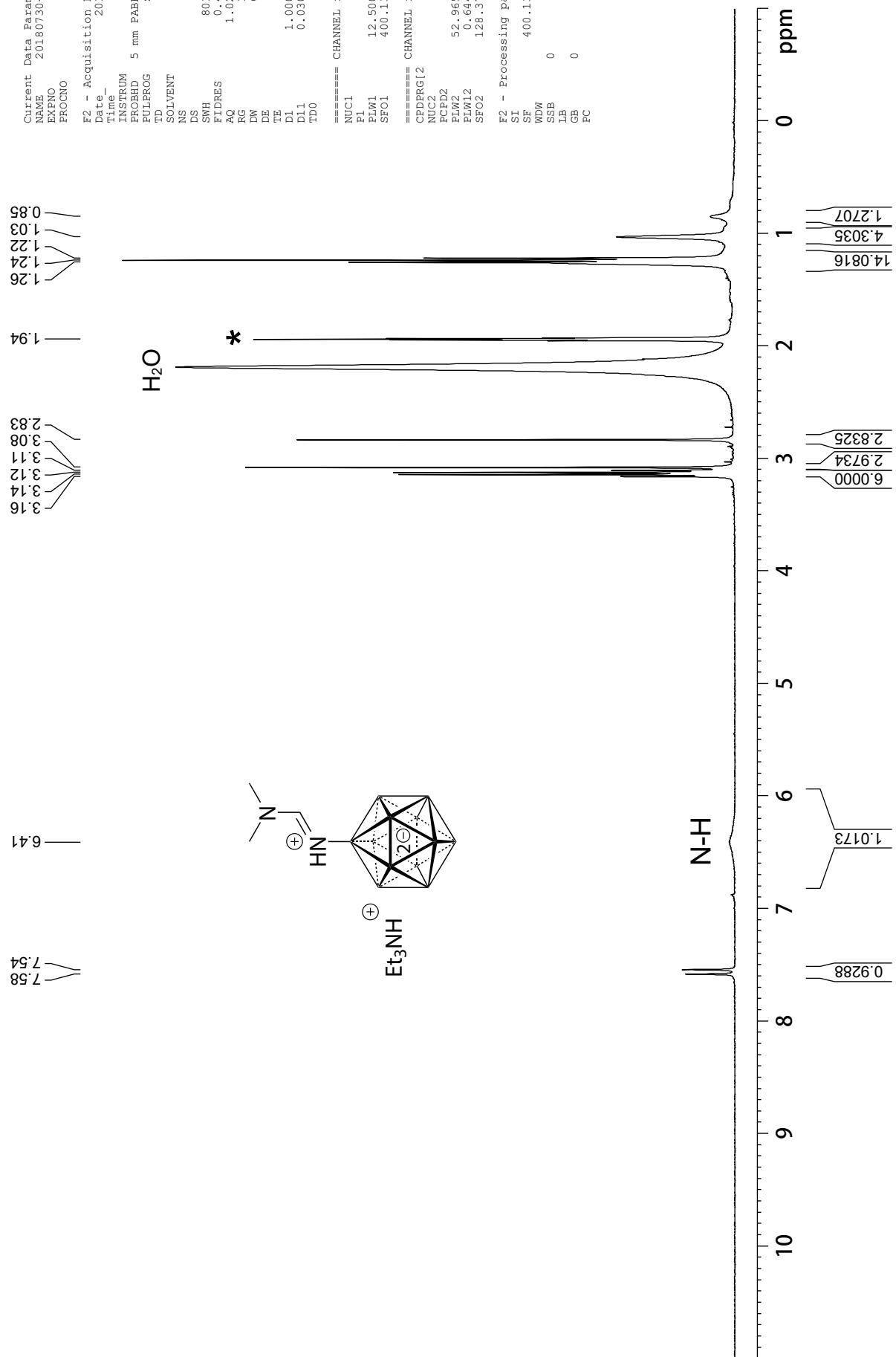
20 mg [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[B12H<sub>11</sub>NCO] dissolved in 0.6 mL CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
<sup>11</sup>B NMR, 160 MHz



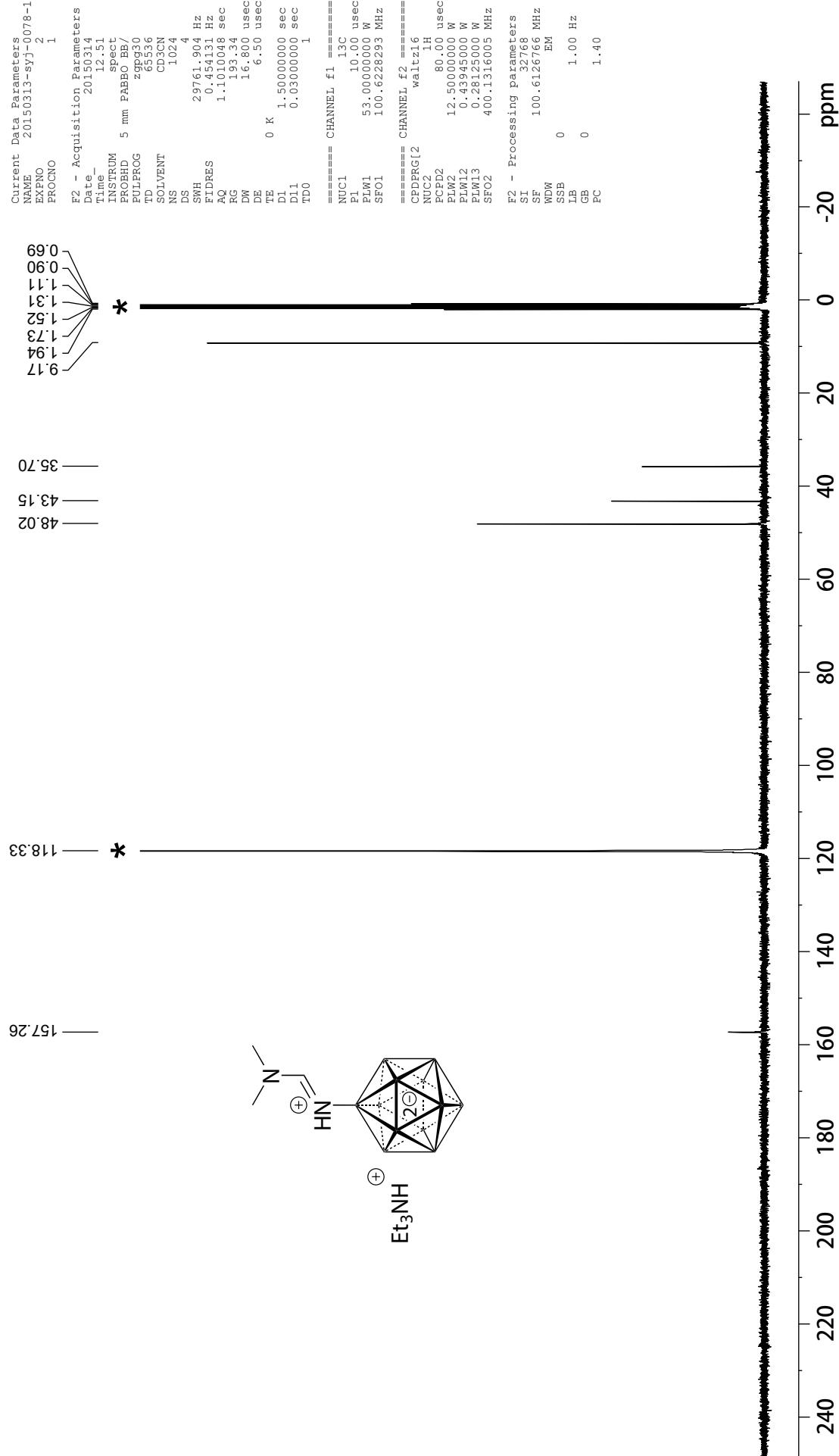
20 mg [MePPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>[B<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NCO] dissolved in 0.6 mL CD<sub>3</sub>CN  
 11B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, 160 MHz



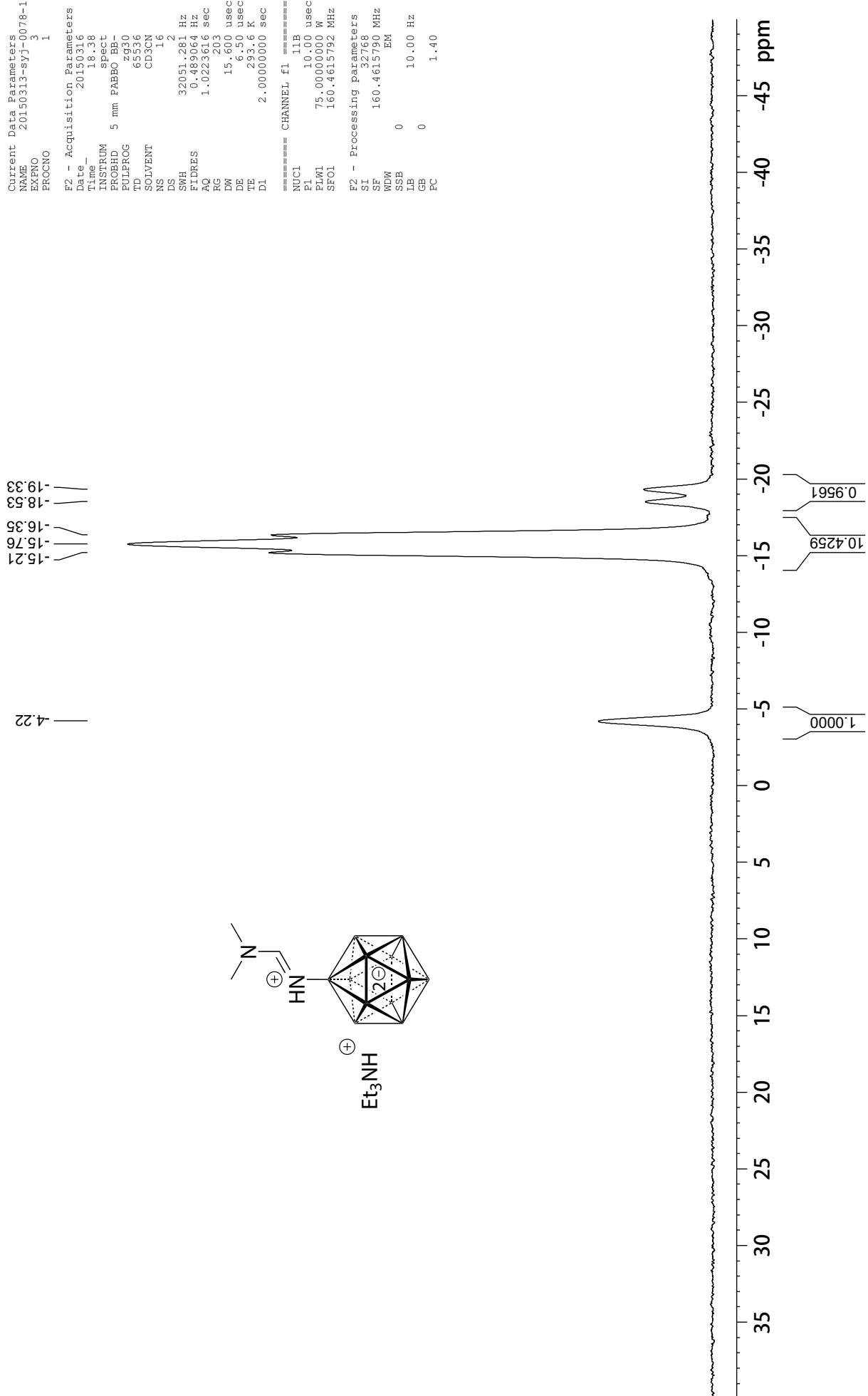
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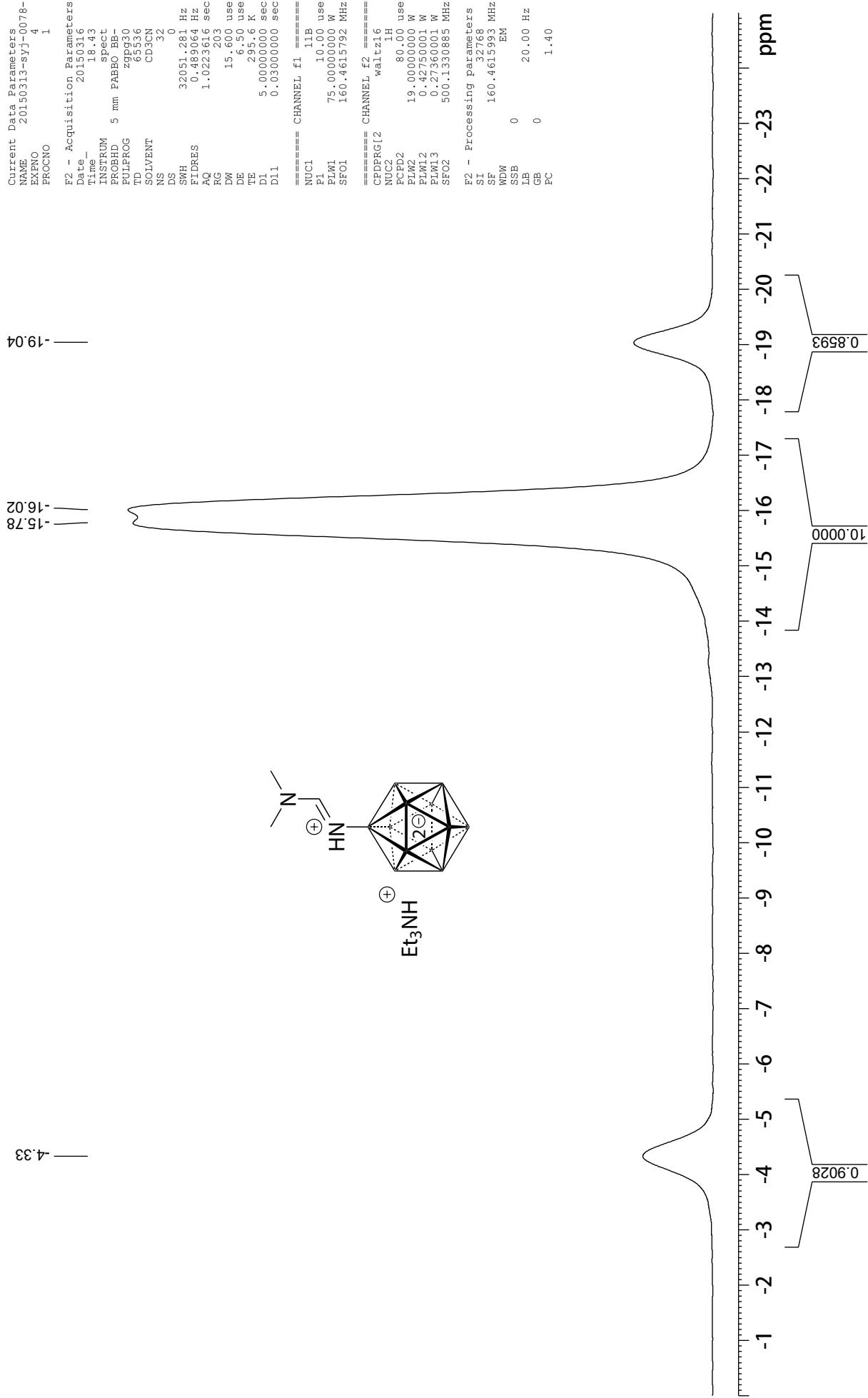
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20150313, 100 MHz,  $\delta$  [ppm]: 13 [1H], 12.4mq in 0.6ml CD3CN\*



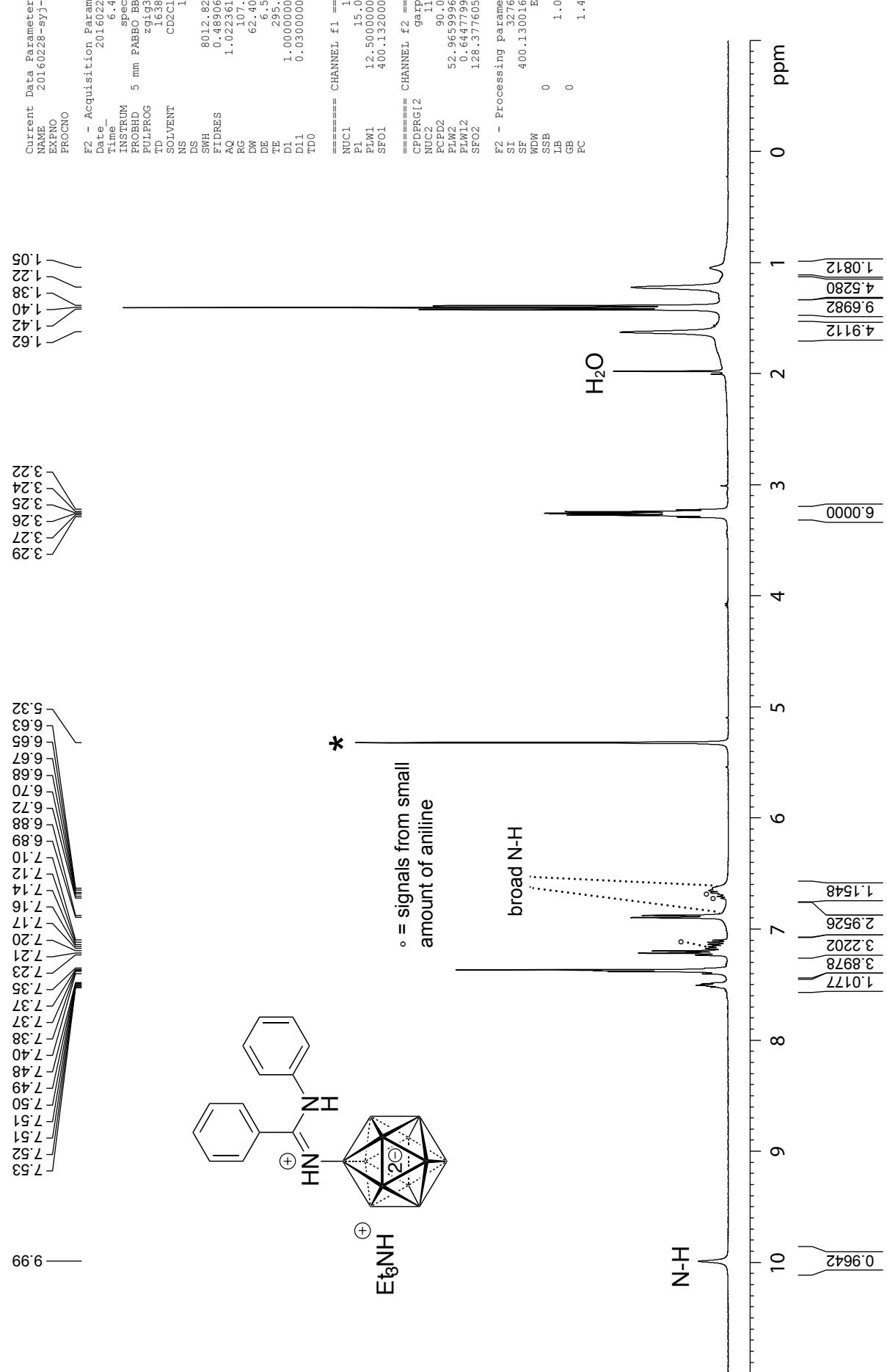
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 20150316, 160 MHz, <sup>1</sup>H, 12.4mg in 0.6ml CD<sub>3</sub>CN



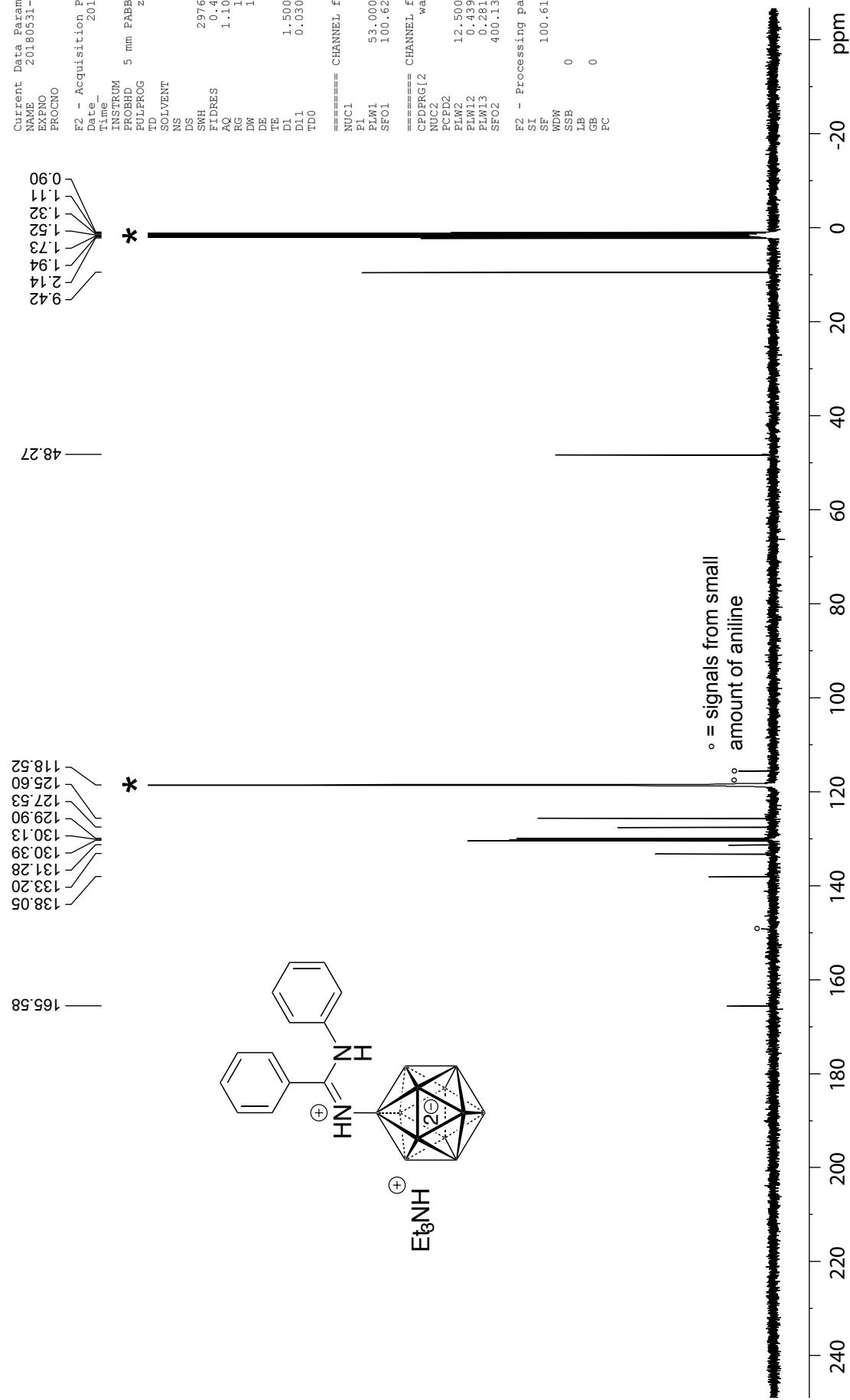
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 20150316, 160 MHz, 11B{<sup>1</sup>H}, 12.4mg in 0.6ml CD<sub>3</sub>CN



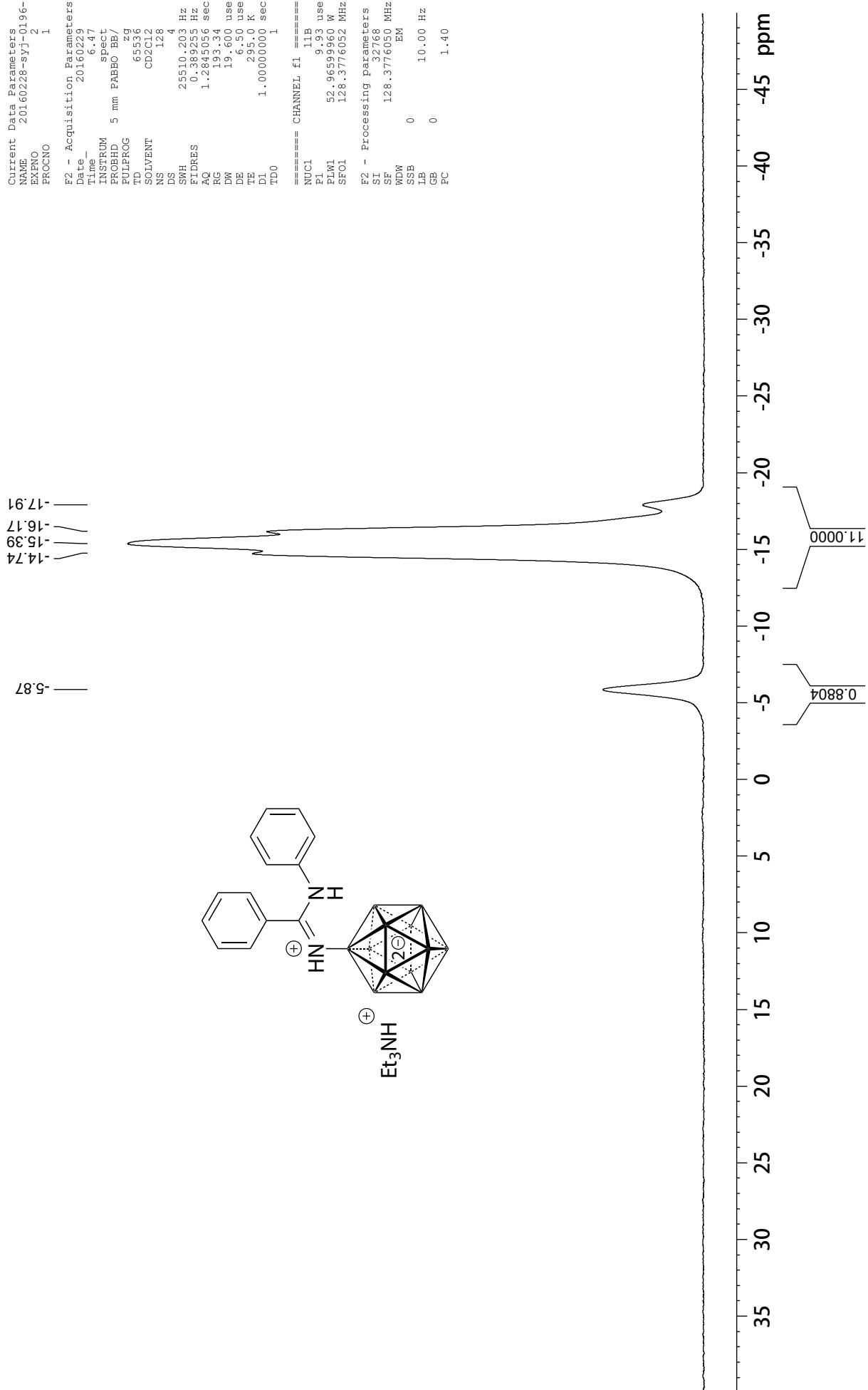
20160228-syj-0196-1, Et<sub>3</sub>NHB12NHC(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)NHC6H<sub>5</sub>  
 20160228, 400 MHz, <sup>1</sup>H{<sup>11</sup>B} NMR, 6.2 mg in 0.6 ml CD<sub>2</sub>C<sub>12</sub>\*



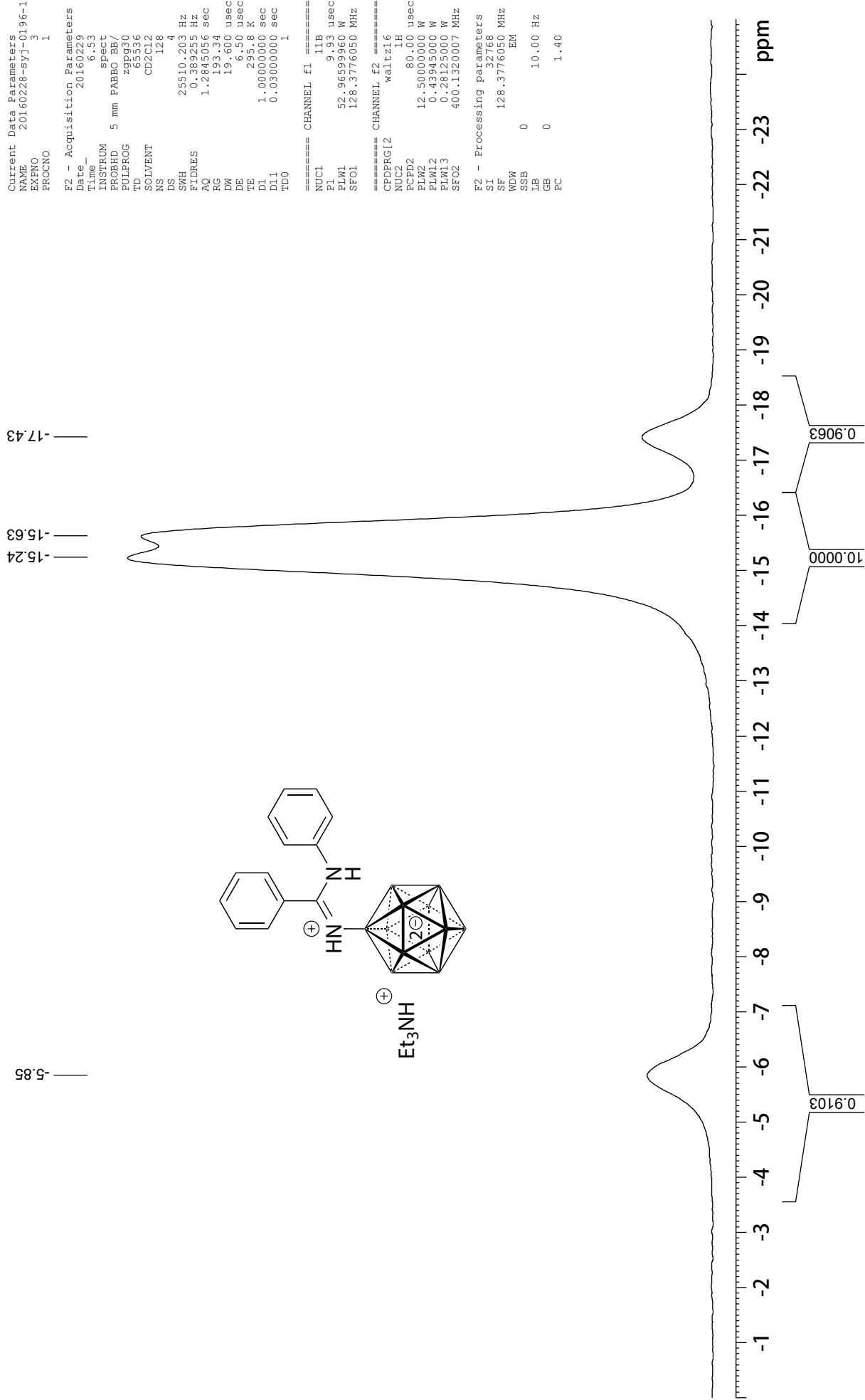
20160228-syj-0196-1, Et<sub>3</sub>NHB12NHC(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)NHC6H<sub>5</sub>  
 20160228, 100 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, in 0.6 ml CD<sub>3</sub>CN\*



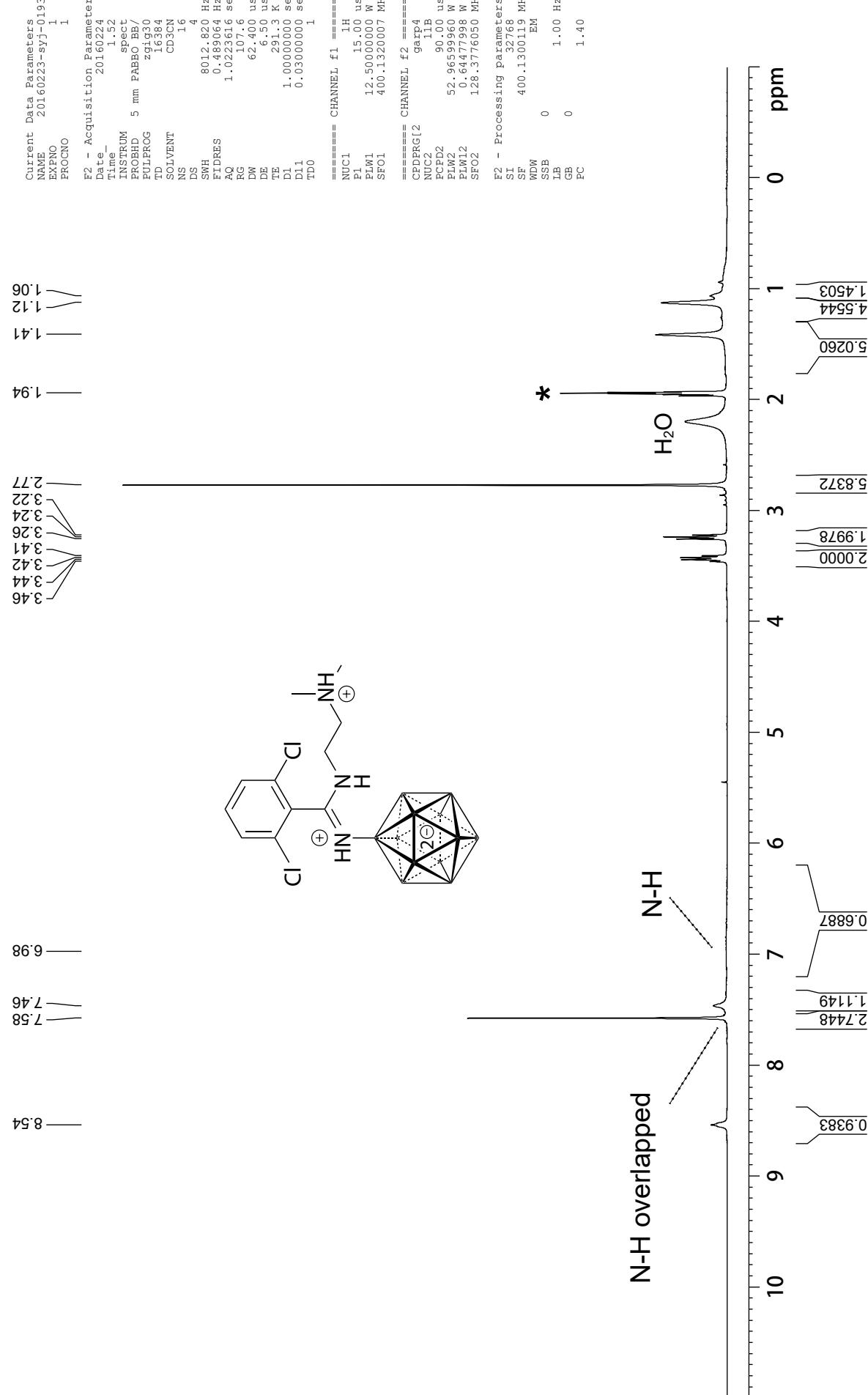
20160228-syj-0196-1, Et<sub>3</sub>NHB12NHC(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)NHC6H<sub>5</sub>  
20160228, 128 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, 6.2 mg in 0.6 ml CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



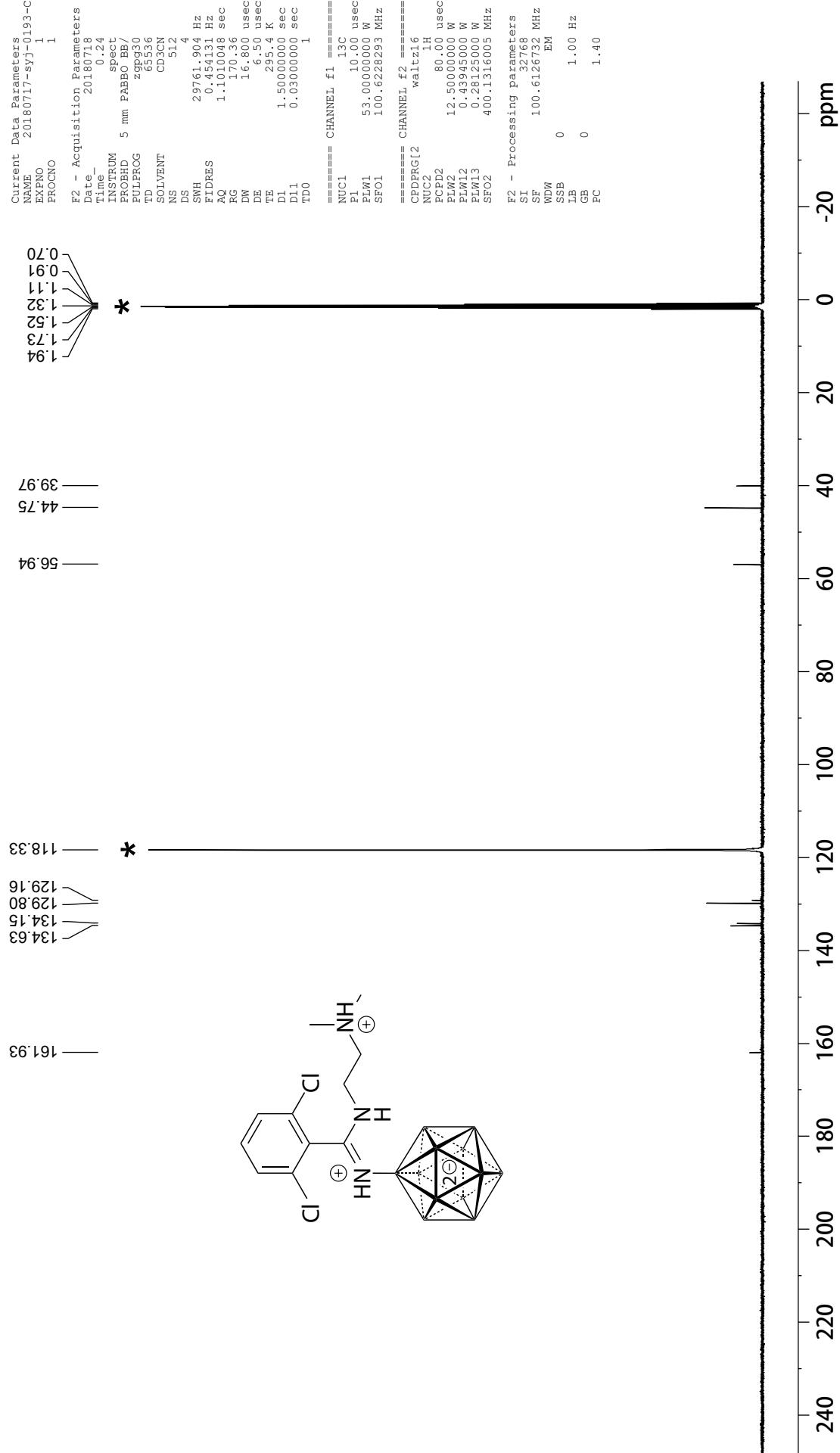
20160228-syj-0196-1, Et<sub>3</sub>NHB12NHC(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)NHC6H<sub>5</sub>  
 20160228, 128 MHz, 11B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, 6.2 mg in 0.6 ml CD<sub>2</sub>C<sub>12</sub>



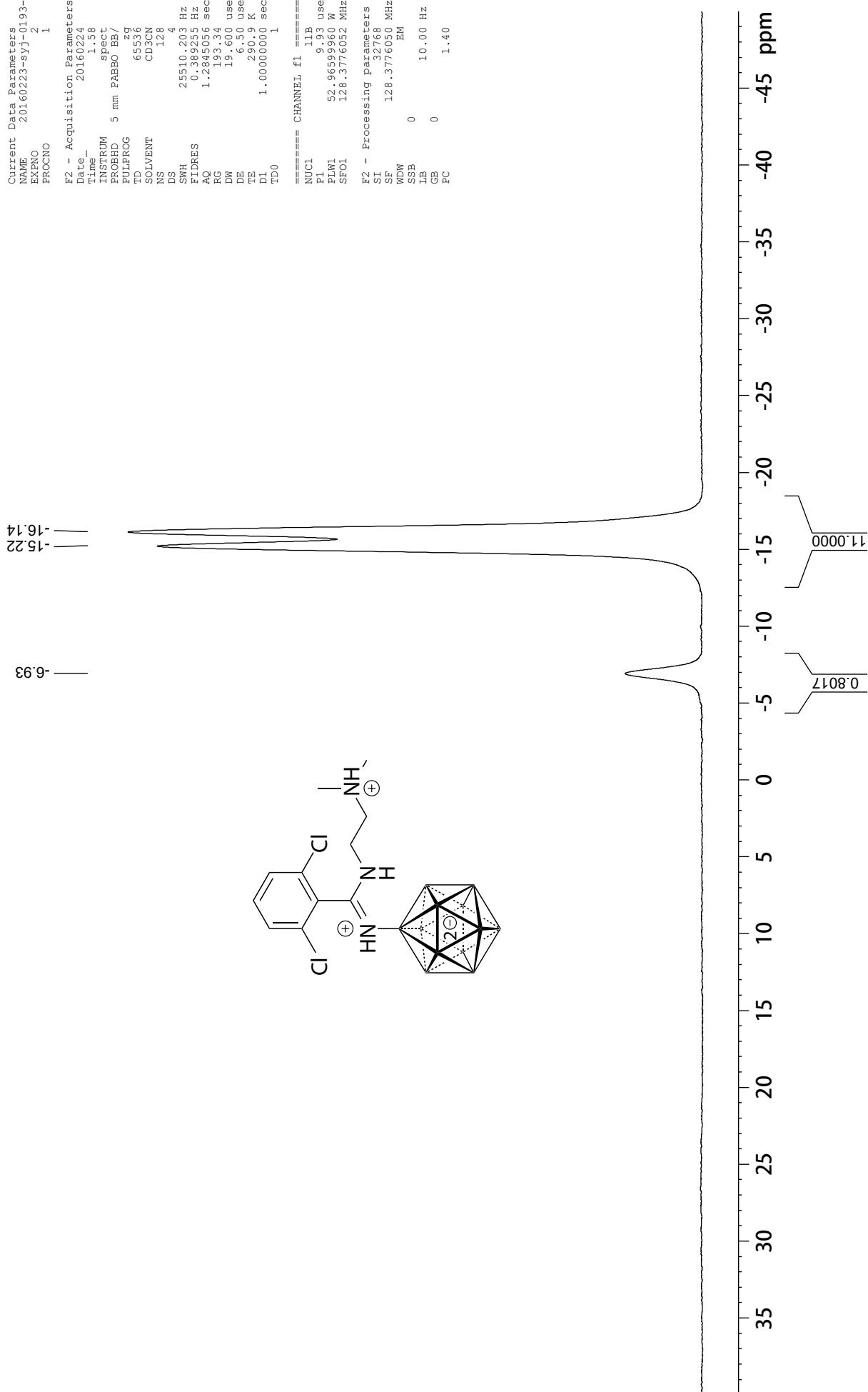
20160223-syj-0193-1, B12NHC(C6H3Cl2)NH(CH2)2NH(CH3)2  
 20160223, 400 MHz, 1H{11B} NMR, in 0.6 ml CD3CN\*



20160223-syj-0193-1, B12NHC(C6H3Cl2)NH(CH2)2NH(CH3)<sup>2</sup>  
 20160223, 100 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR, in 0.6 ml CD<sub>3</sub>CN\*



20160223-syj-0193-1, B12NHC(C6H3Cl2)NH(CH2)2NH(CH3)2  
 20160223, 128 MHz, 11B NMR, in 0.6 ml CD3CN



20160223-syj-0193-1, B12NHC(C6H3Cl2)NH(CH2)2NH(CH3)2  
 20160223, 128 MHz, 11B{1H} NMR, in 0.6 ml CD3CN

