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Supporting Information

Efficient Rh-catalyzed C-H Borylation of Arene Derivatives under Photochemical Conditions

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I. General Information

All the synthetic manipulations were carried out using standard schlenk tubes (1.2 mm thickness) technique in over dried Duran borosilicate glassware conducted in a nitrogen glove box. All the substrates, reagents and materials were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, Alfa Aesar and TCI Chemicals. Unless otherwise noted, all commercial reagents were used without further purification. Air and moisture-sensitive manipulations were carried out using standard high vacuum line, Schlenk tubes are using 1.2 mm thickness. The catalyst *trans*-Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl was prepared according to literature procedure.^[1]

The portable Lumatec Superlite 400 (150 W, 100-240 V, 50-60 Hz) with highly flexible fiber optic cable of 5 mm diameter was used as light source throughout our study.^[2] The power of light was measured using Laser point plus power and energy meter.^[3] It should be noted that accuracy of such C-H borylation photocatalytic system; so stirring rate of 1000 rpm has been maintained. The product(s) were analyzed against authenticated sample and yield was determined by Gas Chromatographic technique using an Agilent 6890N network GC system with (60m×250µm×0.25µm) DB Wax column with respect to mesitylene as an internal standard after dilution of aliquot with acetone. Response factors of each analyte were determined by 'Multiple Point Internal Standard GC Quantitation Method' against authenticated samples with respect to mesitylene.

Air- and moisture-sensitive syntheses were performed under argon atmosphere. The products were characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, HRMS spectroscopy. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300 (300 MHz) or 400 (400 MHz) NMR spectrometers. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are reported relative to the center of solvent resonance [CDCl₃: 7.26 (¹H), 77.0 (¹³C)] or [CD₂Cl₂: 5.32 (¹H), 54.0 (¹³C)]. ³¹P NMR was referenced to 85% H₃PO₄ at 0 ppm. ¹³C-NMR spectra were acquired on a broad band decoupled mode. Multiplets were assigned as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), ddd (double of doublet), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublet), q (quartert), m (multiplet) and. EI (Electron impact) mass spectra were recorded on an MAT 95XP spectrometer (70 eV, Thermo ELECTRON CORPORATION). ESI (electrospray ionization) high resolution mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies 6210 TOF LC/MS

using $H_2O + 0.1\%$ formic acid (10%) and methanol (90%) as eluent. GC analysis was performed on an Agilent 7890A chromatograph with a 29 m HP5 column. The products were isolated from the reaction mixture by solvent evaporation and further purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

II. General Experimental set up



Figure S1. The general experimental set up.

III. GC Table of conversion of phenylboronic esters (Table 1 Entry 1)

Data File C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\102014\CB 389.D Sample Name: CB 389 1 Seq. Line : Acq. Operator : Acq. Instrument : GC-2 Location : Vial 96 Injection Date : 10/24/2014 5:52:52 PM Inj: 1 Inj Volume : 1 µl : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\OCT-WAX1.M : 10/8/2014 11:12:57 AM Acq. Method Last changed Analysis Method : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\JENN1.M Last changed : 3/17/2015 9:22:46 AM (modified after loading) Method Info : 35/10-8-280/20 Additional Info : Peak(s) manually integrated FID1 A, (102014\CB 389.D) CINTO pА -07 1.222 700 27.053 600 500 7E 400 300 200 100 0 10 15 20 25 30 min ό Area Percent Report Sorted By Signal : Multiplier: 1.0000 Dilution: 1.0000 : Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs Signal 1: FID1 A, Peak RetTime Type Width Height Area Area # [min] [min] [pA*s] [pA] 8 1 11.222 BB 0.1023 4.80727e4 5826.51660 84.96492 2 13.086 BB 0.0637 1297.51428 314.61230 2.29326 3 18.917 BB 0.0981 5178.38184 732.35791 9.15241 4 24.064 BV 0.0153 1196.94580 1231.60083 2.11551 5 27.053 BV 0.0274 833.92139 472.43069 1.47389 5.65794e4 8577.51834 Totals : *** End of Report ***



IV. GCMS of dehydrogenation of Pinacolborane (Table 1 Entry 13)



V. Experimental procedures and characterization of compounds

1b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of benzene (5.0 mmol, 0.45 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 83% yield based on HBPin.

¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dddd, J = 6.4, 6.4, 1.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (ddd, J = 7.8, 6.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 134.86, 131.38, 127.83, 83.89, 24.99.

 ^{11}B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.01. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data.^[4]

2b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)fluorobenzene



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of fluorobenzene (5.0 mmol, 0.67 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure

to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO_2 using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 84% yield based on HBPin. The *ortho:meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.1:0.5:0.4 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*ortho* isomer)7.85 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H),7.00 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 12H), (*meta* isomer)7.58 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer)7.82 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*ortho* isomer)137.09 (d, J = 8.6 Hz), 133.39 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 123.70 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 114.94 (d, J = 20.2 Hz), 83.99, 24.93, (*meta* isomer) 162.60 (d, J = 246.3 Hz), 130.40 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 129.58 (d, J = 7.1 Hz), 121.06 (d, J = 19.3Hz), 118.27 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 84.19, 24.96, (*para* isomer) 167.30 (d, J = 250.9 Hz), 136.95 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 115.35 (d, J = 24.0 Hz), 83.99, 24.93.

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 282 MHz) δ (*ortho* isomer)-108.01 --107.91 (m), (*meta* isomer)-102.27--102.22 (m), (*para* isomer)-113.74--113.81 (m). ¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.12. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the para isomer agree with previously reported data.^[13-15]

3b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)(trifluoromethyl)benzene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of (trifluoromethyl)benzene (5.0 mmol, 0.61 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 84% yield based on HBPin. The meta:para ratio was determined to be 0.6:0.4 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer) 7.92 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 138.13, 131.50 (q, J (CF) = 3.8 Hz), 129.94, 127.93 (q, J (CF) = 3.7 Hz), 124.35 (q, J (CF) = 272.4 Hz), 84.42, 24.99, (*para* isomer) 135.2, 130.15 (q, J (CF) = 32.1 Hz), 124.48 (q, J (CF) = 3.8 Hz), 124.19 (q, J (CF) = 272.9 Hz), 84.42, 24.99.

 ^{11}B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.23. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data.^[4]

4b 5-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)1,3-trifluoromethylbenzene



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl] 0.5\%$ (2.0 mg, 0.0062 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalents of 1,3-bis (trifluoromethyl)benzene (5.0 mmol, 0.78 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 89% yield based on HBPin.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (s, 2H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 1.37 (s, 6H).¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 134.81 (d, J = 1.7 Hz), 131.04 (q, J = 33.2 Hz), 125.01 – 124.68 (m), 123.65 (q, J = 272.6 Hz), 85.00, 24.99.

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 282 MHz) δ-62.48. ¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ29.80. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the para isomer agree with previously reported data.^[16]

5b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)toluene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 2.0% (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of toluene (5.0 mmol, 0.53 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 73% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.29 (m, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer) 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 137.22, 135.46, 132.16, 131.91, 127.81, 83.81, 24.97, 21.38, (*para* isomer) 141.49, 134.94, 128.63, 83.71, 24.97, 21.84.

 ^{11}B NMR (96MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.06. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data. $^{[4]}$

6b 4-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-o-xylene.



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl] 2.0\%$ (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalents of *o*-xylene (5.0 mmol, 0.6 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 5h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 80% yield based on HBPin. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.9, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.8, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.25, 136.05, 135.98, 132.53, 129.28, 83.70, 24.97, 20.14, 19.60.

 ^{11}B NMR (96MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.60. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data. $^{[4]}$

7b 5-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-m-xylene.



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl] 2.0\%$ (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalents of *m*-xylene (5.0 mmol, 0.62 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 10h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 73% yield based on HBPin.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 7H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.67, 133.37, 132.87, 84.18, 25.25, 21.47.

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.68.^[4]

8b 5-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-p-xylene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 2.0% (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of *p*-xylene (5.0 mmol,

0.62 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 10h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. There was a no conversion of starting material.

9b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)cumene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 2.0% (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of cumene (5.0 mmol, 0.7 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 10h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 71% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.5 (d, J = 7.2, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 2.93 – 2.78 (m, 1H), 1.28 (s, 12H), 1.20 (d, J = 7.0, 6H), (*para* isomer) 7.69 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.93 – 2.78 (m, 1H), 1.27 (s, 12H), 1.18 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 148.14, 133.00, 132.49, 129.43, 127.89, 83.76, 34.25, 24.88, 24.14, (*para* isomer) 152.39, 135.07, 128.28, 126.72, 126.00, 83.67, 34.45, 24.92, 23.96.

 ^{11}B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 31.06. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data. $^{[8]}$

10b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)biphenyl.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062 mmol), 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of biphenyl (5.0 mmol, 0.78 g) were dissolved in 1 mL of THF. The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 12h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 69% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ (*meta* isomer) 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.77 (ddd, J = 7.3, 1.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer) 7.86 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.61 (m, 4H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ(*meta* and *para* isomer) 144.22, 141.59, 141.39, 140.95, 135.72, 134.11, 133.86, 130.40, 129.36, 129.29, 128.75, 128.18, 127.82, 127.65, 126.89, 84.45, 84.39, 25.28.

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.87. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the para isomer agree with previously reported data.^[9]

11b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenylcyclohexane.

In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 2.0% (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalents of phenylcyclohexane (5.0 mmol, 0.85 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 12h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (15:1). The product is obtained as a white solid in 71% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR. The NMR signals are described for the mixture of *meta* and *para* isomers due to their complexity, highlighting the distinguishable peaks.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ (*meta* and *para* isomer) 7.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, *para* isomer), 7.58 (s, 1H, *meta* isomer), 7.54 – 7.57 (m, 1H, *meta* isomer), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 2H, *meta* isomer), 7.14(d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, *para* isomer), 2.48 – 2.38 (m, 2H), 1.71 – 1.83 (m, 8H), 1.70 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.29 (m, 12H), 1.26 (s, 12H, *meta* isomer), 1.25 (s, 12H, *para* isomer), 1.23 – 1.09 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* and *para* isomer) 151.59, 147.38, 135.02, 133.44, 132.46, 129.88, 127.85, 126.45, 83.75, 83.68, 44.97, 44.74, 34.53, 34.37, 27.06, 26.97, 26.26, 24.98, 24.96.

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.06.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₈BO₂ [M+H]⁺: 287.21802; Found: 287.21781.

12b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)anisole.



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl] 2.0\%$ (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of B₂Pin₂ (0.65 mmol, 165 mg) and 4.0 equivalents of anisole (5.0 mmol, 0.54 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 8h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a colourless liquid with 52% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.6:0.4 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ (*meta* isomer) 7.36-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.00 (ddd, J = 7.9, 2.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer) 7.70 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 1.32 (s, 12H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 159.71, 129.45, 127.49, 119.41, 117.99, 84.39, 55.70, 25.24, (*para* isomer) 162.80, 136.91, 113.82, 84.09, 55.60, 25.24.

 ^{11}B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.44. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data.^[4]

13b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)diphenylether



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl] 2.0% (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of B₂Pin₂ (0.65 mmol, 165 mg) and 3.0 equivalent of diphenyl ether (3.75 mmol, 0.64 g). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 10h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a colourless liquid with 63% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR. The NMR signals are described for the mixture of *meta* and *para* isomers due to their complexity, highlighting the distinguishable peaks.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ (*meta* and *para* isomer)7.75 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, *para* isomer), 7.54 (d, J = 7.3Hz, 1H, *meta* isomer), 7.43 – 7.32 (m, 8H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 6.97 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 12H, *para* isomer), 1.33 (s, 12H, *meta* isomer).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ (*meta* and *para* isomer) 160.79, 158.09, 157.83, 157.26, 157.02, 137.06, 130.40, 130.31, 130.18, 129.86, 125.21, 124.33, 123.79, 123.65, 122.63, 120.08, 119.37, 119.22, 118.04, 84.52, 84.29, 25.22.

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.44. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the para isomer agree with previously reported data.^[12]





In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl]] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalent of (trifluoromethoxy)benzene (5.0 mmol, 0.67 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 8h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a colourless liquid with 78% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.8:0.2 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (meta isomer) 7.64 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.1, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.25 (s, 12H), (para isomer) 7.75 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 1.25 (s, 12H).

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.37. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₆BF₃O₃ [M+H]⁺: 287.11202; Found: 287.11781.

15b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)(trifluoromethylsulfane)benzene.



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]] 0.5\%$ (2.0 mg, 0.0062mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalent of (trifluoromethylsulfane)benzene (5.0 mmol, 0.72 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 8h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a colourless liquid with 75% yield based on HBPin. The *meta:para* ratio was determined to be 0.7:0.3 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.83 (ddd, J = 7.4, 1.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 7.7, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 12H), (*para* isomer) 7.77 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*meta* isomer) 142.71, 139.09, 137.22, 129.06, 124.15, 84.38, 25.00, (*para* isomer) 135.7, 135.28, 127.62 84.38, 25.00.

 ^{11}B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.57. ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR data agree with previously reported data.^[4]

16b (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)(methyl)thiophene.



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl]] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 μ L) and 4.0 equivalent of 2-methylthiophene (5.0 mmol, 0.5 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 8h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using heptane:ethyl acetate (20:1). The product is obtained as a colourless liquid with 69% yield based on HBPin. The C3:C5 ratio was determined to be 0.5:0.5 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ (2- tetramethyldioxaborolan 5-methyl isomer) 7.45 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H), (3- tetramethyldioxaborolan 2-methyl isomer) 7.21 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (2- tetramethyldioxaborolan 5-methyl isomer) 147.66, 137.77,
127.13, 84.01, 24.88, 15.52, (3- tetramethyldioxaborolan 2-methyl isomer) 133.21, 122.05,
83.32, 25.03, 15.77.

¹¹B NMR (96 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 28.98. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data agree with previously reported data.^[4]

17b 5-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-p-xylene.



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]$] 1.0% (4.0 mg, 0.0125 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalent of 0 2,6 lutidine (7.5 mmol, 0.9 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 10h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. There was a no conversion of starting material.

18b 1-[4'-(Trimethylsilyl)biphenyl-4-yl]ethanone



In an argon filled glove box, [Rh(PMe₃)₂(CO)Cl]] 0.5% (2.0 mg, 0.0062mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalent of phenyltrimethylsilane (5.0mmol, 0.86 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 12h. After cooling, the catalyst Pd(PPh₃)₄ 5.0% (0.0625 mmol, 72 mg), 1.0 equivalent of 4bromoacetophene (1.25 mmol, 249 mg) and 2.0 equivalent of sodium carbonate (2.5 mmol, 265 mg,) with respect to HBpin were added under argon atmosphere. Then, the reaction mixture was dissolved in dioxane/ethanol/water (5:4:1 ratio) and the reaction vessel was sealed and heated upto 110 °C in oil bath with stirring for 20 hours. Next, it was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a short plug of silica gel using heptane:Ethylacetate = 1:1 as eluants. After removing all the solvent under reduced pressure, the product was crystalised in ether:heptane and obtained as white crystals with 42% yield based on HBPin. 1-tetramethyldioxaborolan-1-phenyl:1-tetramethyldioxaborolan-2-phenyl The ratio was determined to be 0.9:0.1 by integration of the characteristic peaks in ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.65 (m, 4H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 0.31 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ 197.91, 146.00, 141.23, 140.58, 136.56, 134.52, 129.35, 127.64, 126.96, 27.07, -0.95. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of the para isomer agree with previously reported data.^[17]

19b 2'-Fluoro-5'-methoxy-N,N-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]] 0.5\%$ (2.0 mg, 0.0062mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) 6.0 equivalent of 4-fluoroanisole (7.5mmol, 0.85 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 12h. After cooling, the catalyst Pd(PPh_3)_4 5.0% (0.0625 mmol, 72 mg), 1.0 equivalent of 4-bromo-N,Ndimethylaniline (1.25 mmol, 250 mg) and 2.0 equivalent of sodium carbonate (2.5 mmol, 265 mg,) with respect to HBpin were added under argon atmosphere. Then, the reaction mixture was dissolved in dioxane/ethanol/water (5:4:1 ratio) and the reaction vessel was sealed and heated upto 110 °C in oil bath with stirring for 20 hours. Next, it was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a short plug of silica gel using diethylether as eluant. After removing all the solvent under reduced pressure, the product was the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using pentane:diethylether (10:1) and obtained as yellowish liquid with 62% yield based on HBPin.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.44 (dd,J = 9.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 10.4, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 6.5, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.76 – 6.72 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ 156.42 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 156.35, 150.79, 132.06 (d, J = 230.2 Hz), 130.06 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 123.80 (d, J = 1.2 Hz), 116.83 (d, J = 25.2 Hz), 115.36 (d, J = 3.8 Hz), 112.92 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 112.66, 56.25, 40.76.

¹⁹F NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 282 MHz) δ -129.52.

HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₆FNO [M+H]⁺: 246.12887; Found: 246.12876.

20b 2-(5-Fluoro-2-methoxy-3-methylphenyl)thiophene



In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]$] 1.0% (4.0 mg, 0.0125 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) 4.0 equivalent of 4-fluoro-3-methylanisole (5.0 mmol, 0.65 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 12h. After cooling, the catalyst Pd(PPh_3)_4 5.0% (0.0625 mmol, 72 mg), 1.0 equivalent of 2-bromothiophene (1.25 mmol, 120 µL) and 2.0 equivalent of sodium carbonate (2.5 mmol, 265 mg,) with respect to HBpin were added under argon atmosphere. Then, the reaction mixture was dissolved in dioxane/ethanol/water (5:4:1 ratio) and the reaction vessel was sealed and heated upto 110 °C in oil bath with stirring for 20 hours. Next, it was cooled to room temperature and filtered through a short plug of silica gel using diethylether as eluant. After removing all the solvent under reduced pressure, the product was the product was purified by flash chromatography on SiO₂ using pentane:diethylether (10:1) and obtained as yellowish liquid with 63% yield based on HBPin.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 7.47 (ddd, J = 3.6, 1.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 5.0, 3.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, J = 5.7, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (ddd, J = 5.8, 3.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.31 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) δ 155.62 (d, J = 2.3 Hz), 152.51 (d, J = 240.9 Hz), 137.76 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 127.89, 127.05 (d, J = 19.6 Hz), 126.66 (d, J = 6.1 Hz), 126.15 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 122.35 (d, J = 15.3 Hz), 115.89 (d, J = 4.6 Hz), 111.01 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 56.05, 15.21 (d, J = 4.7 Hz).

¹⁹F NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 282 MHz) δ -128.63. HRMS (ESI):

Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁FOS [M+H]⁺: 223.05874; Found: 223.05853.

Competitive C-H borylation experiments

In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]$] 1.0% (4.0 mg, 0.0125 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (1.25 mmol, 180 µL) and 4.0 equivalent of benzene (5.0

mmol, 0.45 mL) and 4.0 equivalent of 2,6 lutidine (5.0 mmol, 0.58 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 16h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. The volatiles were then removed under reduced pressure and the only (4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzene was observed with 71% of yield of the product.

Photocatalytic C-H borylation of benzene with low amount of catalyst loading:

In an argon filled glove box, $[Rh(PMe_3)_2(CO)Cl]] 0.1\%$ (1.2 mg, 0.0038 mmol) was dissolved in 1.0 equivalent of HBPin (3.8 mmol, 550 µL) and 6.0 equivalent of benzene (22.8 mmol, 2.0 mL). The reaction vessel is sealed and irradiated with light for 16h. After exposure to air the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 minutes. TON was then determined by GC with respect to mesitylene as an internal standard. Turnover numbers (TON) represented can be expressed as [mmol of product]/[mmol of catalyst] and TOF (turn over frequency) is expressed as (TON/Time in h). TONs reported in this study are averages of at least two runs.

Preparation of [Rh(Cl)(Me₂IMes)(COD)]

This [Rh(Cl)(Me₂IMes)(COD)] was prepared according to the procedure reported in the article.^[18]

VI. References

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VII. NMR spectra of compounds







160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -50 -50 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 (ppm)





160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 (ppm)













160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 (ppm)





S34

9b

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S37































