Electronic Supplementary Information

Cooperation between an Alcoholic Proton and Boryl species in the Catalytic *gem*-Hydrodiborylation of Carboxylic Esters to Access 1,1-Diborylalkanes

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I. General Information

All reactions were performed isolating from moisture and oxygen by using standard Schlenk techniques under the nitrogen atmosphere with dry solvents. All glassware was oven dried by flame and cooled down under vacuum. Toluene (HPLC grade) was purified by using Pure Solv 7-SDS solvent drying system. EtOH was treated with magnesium powered. Commercially available chemicals were obtained from Acros Organics, Aldrich Chemical Co., Alfa Aesar, Strem, and TCI. Fe(OAc)₂ was purchased from Aldrich with 99.99% purity. FeBr₂ was purchased from Strem. Without otherwise noted, materials were used without further purification. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed using commercially available silica gel GF254 plates. Purification of products were performed by flash chromatography columns packing by 100-200 mesh silica gel in petroleum (60-90 b.p.). Chromatographic analyses were performed on a Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus instrument equipped with an FID detector and biphenyl was added as an internal standard. GC-MS spectra were recorded on a GCMS-OP2010 SE using He as the carrier gas. The High-Resolution MS analyses were recorded on Agilent 6530 Accurate Mass Q-TOF LC/MS with ESI mode. NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz for ¹H and 101 MHz for ¹³C NMR, using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal reference and CDCl₃ as a solvent. Chemical shift values for protons were quoted in parts per million (ppm, δ scale) and are calibrated against the referenced to residual proton in tetramethylsilane of (TMS, 0 ppm). ¹³C NMR were recorded at 101 MHz and were calibrated against the peaks of CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm). The boron-bound carbon was not detected due to quadrupolar relaxation.

The starting materials isopropyl octanoate (**1bc**),^[1] *tert*-butyl octanoate (**1bd**),^[1] benzyl octanoate (**1be**),^[1] phenyl octanoate (**1bf**),^[1] *p*-tolyl octanoate (**1bg**),^[1] methyl 4-(octanoyloxy)benzoate (**1bh**),^[1] methyl 2-cyclohexylacetate (**1fa**),^[2] phenyl 2-cyclohexylacetate (**1fb**),^[1] methyl 2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3yl)acetate (**1h**),^[2] methyl 3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)propanoate (**1j**),^[2] methyl 2-(4isobutylphenyl)propanoate (**1o**),^[2] methyl (R)-4-((3R,5R,8R,9S,10S,13R,14S,17R)-3-methoxy-10,13dimethylhexadecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-yl)pentanoate (**1q**)^[3] were prepared according to the literatures.

II. Procedures for the Fe-catalyzed gem-hydrodiborylation of Carboxylic Esters

Method A:

In a glove box, a flame dried 25 mL sealed tube equipped with a magnetic stirrer bar was placed with B_2pin_2 (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol), FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 0.03 mmol) and toluene (2 mL). The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. Then, the corresponding ester (0.3 mmol) and fresh EtOH (0.3 mmol) were added by syringe under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and stirred at 100 °C for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate and water, extracted with

ethyl acetate (3×15 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was then removed using rotary evaporator. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

Method B:

In the glove box, a flame dried 25 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirrer bar was placed with B_2pin_2 (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol), Fe(OAc)₂ (5.2 mg, 0.03 mmol) and toluene (2 mL). The reaction flask was sealed with a rubber septum and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was reacted at 100 °C for 1h. After that, the corresponding ester (0.3 mmol) and fresh EtOH (0.3 mmol) were added sequentially by syringe and the temperature was maintained at 100 °C with stirring for 12 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate and water. Aqueous layer was extracted by ethyl acetate (3×15 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The combined organic solvent was removed by using rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

Method C:

The procedure is identical to that of *Method B* except that $PCy_3 \cdot HBF_4$ (22.1 mg, 0.06 mmol) was added and 3 mL toluene was used.

Method D:

The procedure is identical to that of *Method A* except that Fe(OAc)₂ (5.2 mg, 0.03 mmol) was used to replace FeBr₂.

III. Procedures for Gram scale experiment

2,2'-(ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2c)



In a glove box, a flame dried 250 mL sealed tube equipped with a magnetic stirrer bar was charged with B_2pin_2 (10.16 g, 40.0 mmol), NaO'Bu (2.88 g, 30.0 mmol), FeBr₂ (215.7 mg, 1.0 mmol) and toluene (60 mL). The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. Ethyl acetate (881.0 mg, 10.0 mmol, HPLC grade) and EtOH (460.0 mg, 10.0 mmol) were added by syringe under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was heated at 100 °C with stirring for 24 h. Then, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate, diluted with water, and extracted by ethyl acetate (3×100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (100 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel.



Compound **3a** was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[4] In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with LiTMP (44.2 mg, 0.3 mmol) and 1.5 mL dry THF. The tube was sealed with a rubber septum and moved out of the glove box. Then, the solution of **2c** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) was added at 0 °C. After 5 min, acetophenone (24.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) was added at 0 °C. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel.

2-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (3b)



Compound **3b** was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[5] In a glove box, a flame-dried sealed tube was charged with **2c** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol), and Pd(P'Bu₃)₂ (5.1 mg, 5 mol%) in 1 mL dioxane. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. Then 4-bromoanisole (37.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) and KOH (0.9 mmol, 112 μ L, 8M aq.) were added by syringe under nitrogen atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 6 h. Upon completion, the mixture was filtered through a pad of silica gel with ethyl acetate. The pure product was obtained by silica gel column chromatography.

2-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)thiophene (3c)



Compound **3c** was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[6] A flame-dried sealed tube was charged with thiophene (50.5 mg, 0.6 mmol) and THF (2 mL) and cooled down to -78 °C. The mixture was treated with ^{*n*}BuLi (0.375 mL, 0.6 mmol, 1.6 M in hexanes). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h. After that the reaction system was cooled to -78 °C again, and

3b was added dropwise as a solution of THF (1.0 mL) and was stirred for 1 h. Then a solution of NBS (106.8 mg, 0.6 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise at -78 °C. After 1 h, saturated solution of $Na_2S_2O_3$ (2 mL) was added and the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The residual mixture was diluted by ethyl acetate (10 mL), then water (5 mL) was added. The aqueous layer was extracted by ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated using rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

2-(1-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (3d)



Compound **3d** was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[5] In a glove box, a flame-dried sealed tube was charged with **2c** (84.6 mg, 0.3 mmol,), and Pd(P^{*t*}Bu₃)₂ (5.1 mg, 5 mol %) in 1 mL dioxane. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. Then the 2-bromo-6-methoxynaphthalene (47.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) and KOH (0.9 mmol, 112 μ L, 8M aq.) were added by syringe at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 12 h. Upon completion, the mixture was filtered through a pad of silica gel with ethyl acetate. The pure product was obtained by silica gel column chromatography.

2-((*R*)-4-((3*R*,5*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*S*,13*R*,14*S*,17*R*)-3-methoxy-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl)pentyl)quinoline (3e)



Compound **3e** was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[7] In a glove box, a flame-dried sealed tube was charged with **2q** (245.0 mg, 0.4 mmol,), NaOMe (32.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) and quinoline *N*-oxide (29.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) in 2 mL toluene. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 3 h. The crude mixture was filtered through celite and washed with ethyl acetate (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated using rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. After that NaBO₃·4H₂O (93.0 mg, 0.6 mmol) and THF/H₂O (3.0 mL, 1:1) were added, followed by stirring at room temperature for 3 h. Upon completion, brine (5.0 mL) was added to reaction mixture and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered.

The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

V. Mechanistic Studies

1. Deuterium-labelling experiments

The procedure is identical to that of *Method A* except that different proton source was used.



To verify the proton source of this reaction, deuterium-labelling experiments were carried out. Since it has the possibilities that the H comes from the β -hydride elimination of alcohol or from the protonation with alcohol, the *d*₃-methanol CD₃OH was first applied to confirm the H-source in the final product. As a result, no D-labeled **2ia** was observed from both MS spectra and ¹H NMR characterization. When fully deuterated CD₃OD was used, the D-labeled **2ia'** was observed. As shown in the MS spectra of **2ia'**, the peak of 372, 373 and 374 were observed (the MW of **2ia** is 372), indicating that both of one D-labeled, two D-labeled and none D-labeled products were obtained. Further ¹H NMR spectra of the standard reaction with EtOH as the H-source are utilized for comparison). *Therefore, we can conclude that the H-source of the formed C-H in the final product is originated from the alcoholic proton (O-H). Furthermore, the proton-exchange of the ester α-CH with alcohol occurs under the reaction condition.*

MS spectra of deuterium-labelling experiments

MS spectra of the standard 2ia with EtOH as the hydrogen source.





¹H NMR spectra of the deuterium-labelling experiments

¹H NMR spectra of the standard reaction with EtOH as the H-source (for comparison).



¹H NMR spectra of 2ia with CD₃OH as the H-source



¹H NMR spectra of **2ia'** with CD₃OD as the H-source



2. Procedure for Control Experiments



In a glove box, a flame-dried sealed tube was charged with FeBr₂ (64.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol) and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene (4 mL). The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box, then **1a** (43.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) and EtOH (13.8 mg, 0.3 mmol) were added by syringe under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the mixture was heated at 100 °C for 2 h. The reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The reaction mixture was analyzed by GC with biphenyl as the internal standard.



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 0.03 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol) and NaO^{*t*}Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 2 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was heated at 100 °C. After that, compound **2a-A** (30.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) which was dissolved in 0.5 mL toluene was added by a peristaltic pump for 1 h. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 100 °C for another 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



The procedure is identical to that of *Method A* using ethyl (3r,5r,7r)-adamantane-1-carboxylate (62.5 mg, 0.3 mmol). The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



The procedure is identical to that of *Method A* except that no EtOH was added. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



The procedure is identical to that of *Method A* except that (3r, 5r, 7r)-adamantane-1-carbaldehyde (49.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) was used without the addition of EtOH. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

Alcohol and base effects



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 0.03 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), 'BuOH (22.2 mg, 0.3 mmol) and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 2 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was heated at 100 °C. After that, compound **2ia- A** (40.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), which was dissolved in 0.5 mL toluene, was added by a peristaltic pump for 1 h.

The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for another 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 0.03 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), EtOH (13.8 mg, 0.3 mmol) and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 2 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was heated at 100 °C. After that, compound **2ia- A** (40.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), which was dissolved in 0.5 mL toluene, was added by a peristaltic pump for 1 h. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for another 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 0.03 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), EtOH (13.8 mg, 0.3 mmol) and NaOEt (61.2 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 2 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was heated at 100 °C. After that, compound **2ia-A** (40.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), which was dissolved in 0.5 mL toluene, was added by a peristaltic pump for 1 h. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for another 2 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (64.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), ^{*t*}BuOH (22.2 mg, 0.3 mmol), Compound **2ia-A** (40.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) and NaO^{*t*}Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 4 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was then stirred at 100 °C for 1 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.



In a glove box, a flame-dried Schlenk tube was charged with FeBr₂ (64.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), 'BuOH (22.2 mg, 0.3 mmol), and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene 4 mL. The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixture was heated to 100 °C for 6 h. After that Compound **2ia-A** (40.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) was added, then the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for another 1 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by ethyl acetate. The yield was determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.

Effect of initial concentration of FeBr₂ on reaction rate

In a glove box, flame-dried Schlenk tubes were parallelly charged with various amount of FeBr₂ (2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 12.5 mol%), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene (2 mL). The tube was sealed and taken out of the glove box. The mixtures were stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Then, EtOH (13.8 mg, 0.3 mmol) and compound **1ia** (49.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) were added by syringe and heated at 100 °C for 12 min. Upon completion, the reactions were quenched by ethyl acetate. The yields were determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.

Table S1 Effect of initial concentration of FeBr2 on reaction rate



^a Conditions: FeBr₂ (2.5-12.5 mol%) **1ia** (0.3 mmol), B₂pin₂ (1.2 mmol), EtOH (0.3 mmol), NaO^fBu (0.9 mmol), toluene (2.0 mL), 100 °C, 12 min. ^b Yield determined by GC with biphenyl as internal standard.



Figure S1 Effect of initial concentration of FeBr2 on reaction rate

Effect of initial concentration of EtOH on reaction rate

In a glove box, flame-dried Schlenk tubes were charged with FeBr₂ (6.5 mg, 10 mol%), B₂pin₂ (304.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), and NaO'Bu (86.5 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene (2 mL). The tubes were sealed and taken out of the glove box. After that various amount of EtOH (0.18, 0.24, 0.3, 0.36, 0.42 mmol) and compound **1ia** (49.3 mg, 0.3 mmol) were added by syringe, respectively. Then the reaction mixtures were heated at 100 °C for 12 min. Upon completion, the reactions were quenched by ethyl acetate. The yields were determined by GC analysis with biphenyl as the internal standard.

Table S2 Effect of initial concentration of EtOH on reaction rate



^a Conditions: FeBr₂ (10 mol%), 1ia (0.3 mmol), B₂pin₂ (1.2 mmol), EtOH (0.18-0.42 mmol), NaO⁴Bu (0.9 mmol), toluene (2.0 mL), 100 °C, 12 min. ^b Yield determined by GC with biphenyl as internal standard.



Figure S2 Effect of initial concentration of EtOH on reaction rate

VI. Detailed Descriptions for Reaction Products



2,2'-(hexane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2a**).^[8] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1a** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.58 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.33 - 1.16 (m, 30H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.71 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 32.2, 31.8, 25.6, 24.8, 24.5, 22.5, 14.0 ppm.



2,2'-(octane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2b**).^[9] The reactions were treated with **1ba - 1bf** (0.3 mmol), **1bg** (0.3 mmol), were performed according to *Method A*, *Method B*, respectively. For **1bh** (0.3 mmol), *Method B* was used except that methyl 4-(octanoyloxy)benzoate (**1bh**, 83.5 mg, 0.3 mmol) which was dissolved in 0.4 mL toluene and added by syringe. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.60 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.34 - 1.18 (m, 34H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.71 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 32.5, 31.8, 29.5, 29.2, 25.6, 24.8, 24.4, 22.6, 14.1 ppm.



2,2'-(ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2c**).^[4] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1c** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.23(5) (s, 12H), 1.22(7) (s, 12H), 1.04 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.73 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.9, 24.8, 24.5, 9.0 ppm.



2,2'-(hexadecane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2d**). The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1d** (0.3 mmol), except that B₂pin₂ (342.9 mg, 1.35 mmol), NaO'Bu (100.9 mg, 1.05 mmol), EtOH (20.7 mg, 0.45 mmol) and 3 mL toluene were used. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.59 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.33 - 1.16 (m, 50H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.71 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 32.6, 31.9, 29.6(8), 29.6(5), 29.6(3), 29.5(9), 29.5(2), 29.3, 25.7, 24.8, 24.5, 22.7, 14.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₈H₅₆B₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 501.4262; found: 501.4267.



2,2'-(3-methylbutane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2e**).^[8] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1ea** or **1eb** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.49 - 1.42 (m, 3H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.22 (s, 12H), 0.88 - 0.78 (m, 7H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.9, 34.5, 30.1, 24.8, 24.5, 22.4 ppm.



2,2'-(2-cyclohexylethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2f**).^[10] Prepared according to *Method B* with compound **1fa** or **1fb** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.76 - 1.58

(m, 5H), 1.49 - 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.29 - 1.04 (m, 28H), 0.88 - 0.72 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 39.8, 33.1, 32.9, 26.7, 26.4, 24.8, 24.5 ppm.



2,2'-(2-phenylethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2ga**).^[8] Prepared according to *Method B* with compound **1ga** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.26 - 7.18 (m, 4H), 7.15 - 7.07 (m, 1H), 2.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.20 - 1.15 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 144.4, 128.2, 127.9, 125.2, 83.0, 31.2, 24.7, 24.4 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(*p***-tolyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane)** (**2gb**).^[11] Prepared according to *Method D* with compound **1gb** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.16 - 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.06 - 6.99 (m, 2H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.20 - 1.09 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 141.3, 134.6, 128.6, 128.1, 83.0, 30.8, 24.8, 24.5, 21.0 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2gc). Prepared according to *Method B* with compound 1gc (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.30-7.11 (m, 4H), 2.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.28 (s, 9H), 1.16 (s, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 148.0, 141.3, 128.0, 124.8, 83.0, 34.2, 31.4, 30.7, 24.7, 24.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₄₀B₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 437.3010; found: 437.3018.



2,2'-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2gd).^[10] Prepared according to *Method D* with compound 1gd (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.20 - 1.10 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.4, 136.6, 129.2, 113.3, 83.0, 55.2, 30.4, 24.8, 24.5 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(4-fluorophenyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2ge).^[10] Prepared according to *Method D* with compound 1ge (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.25 - 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.98 - 6.83 (m, 2H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.22 - 1.09 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.0 (d, *J* = 243.3 Hz), 140.0 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 129.6 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 114.5 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 83.1, 30.5, 24.8, 24.4 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2gf). Prepared according to *Method C* with compound **1gf** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.21 - 7.11 (m, 4H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (s, 12H), 1.17 (s, 12H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 142.9, 130.9, 129.7, 128.0, 83.2, 30.6, 24.8, 24.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₃₁B₂ClO₄ [M+H]⁺: 393.2175; found: 393.2176.



2,2'-(2-(*o***-tolyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane)** (**2gg**).^[11] Prepared according to *Method D* with compound **1gg** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.25 - 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.11 - 6.98 (m, 3H), 2.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.20 - 1.12 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 142.4, 136.0, 129.8, 128.4, 125.5, 125.4, 83.0, 28.3, 24.8, 24.5, 19.4 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(3-fluorophenyl)ethane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2gh). Prepared according to *Method D* with compound **1gh** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.24 - 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.03 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.85 - 6.76 (m, 1H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.20 - 1.10 (m, 25H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.6 (d, *J* = 245.4 Hz), 147.1 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz) 129.3 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 123.9 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 115.2 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 112.1 (d, *J* = 21.2 Hz), 83.2, 31.1, 24.7, 24.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₃₁B₂FO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 399.2290; found: 399.2287.



3-(2,2-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)ethyl)-1-methyl-1*H***-indole (2h)**. The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1h** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69 - 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.28 - 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.09 - 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.19 (s, 12H), 1.18 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 136.9, 128.0, 126.0, 121.1, 119.5, 118.1, 117.8, 108.6, 83.0, 32.4, 24.7, 24.5, 20.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₃₅B₂NO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 434.2650; found: 434.2654.



2,2'-(3-phenylpropane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane)(2ia).^[8] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1ia** (0.3 mmol).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.28 - 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.20 - 7.11 (m, 3H), 2.59 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.89 - 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.24 (s, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 142.9, 128.6, 128.1, 125.4, 83.0, 38.7, 28.0, 24.9, 24.5 ppm.



2,2'-(3-(*p***-tolyl)propane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane)(2ib).** The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1ib** (0.3 mmol).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.10 - 7.02 (m, 4H), 2.60 - 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.88 - 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.24 (s, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 0.81 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 139.8, 134.8, 128.8, 128.4, 82.9, 38.2, 28.1, 24.9, 24.4, 21.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₆B₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 387.2878; found: 387.2884.



2,2'-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)propane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2ic**).^[12] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1ic** (0.3 mmol).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.20 - 7.04 (m, 2H), 7.01 - 6.84 (m, 2H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.92 - 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.28 - 1.15 (m, 24H), 0.78 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.1 (d, *J* = 244.4 Hz), 138.5 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 129.8 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 114.7 (d, *J* = 21.2 Hz), 83.0, 37.8, 28.0, 24.9, 24.5 ppm.



2,2'-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2id**). The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1id** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.57 - 2.46 (m, 2H), 1.88 - 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.24 (s, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.5, 135.0, 129.4, 113.5, 82.9, 55.2, 37.8, 28.2, 24.9, 24.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₆B₂O₅ [M+H]⁺: 403.2827; found: 403.2831.



2,2'-(3-(benzo[*d*][**1,3]dioxol-5-yl)propane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane**) (**2j**). The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with slight modification, using **1j** (0.3 mmol) and toluene was 3 mL. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.72 - 6.66 (m, 2H), 6.64 - 6.57 (m, 1 H), 5.88 (s, 2H), 2.56 - 2.43 (m, 2H), 1.85 - 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.22 (s, 12H), 0.78 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR

(101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 147.3, 145.3, 136.8, 121.2, 109.1, 107.9, 100.5, 82.9, 38.3, 28.1, 24.8, 24.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₃₄¹⁰B₂O₆ [M]⁺: 414.2614; found: 414.2615.



2,2'-(cyclohexylmethylene)bis(**4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane**) (**2k**).^[8] Prepared according to *Method B* with compound **1k** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.82 - 1.55 (m, 6H), 1.34 - 1.01 (m, 27 H), 0.99 - 0.83 (m, 2H), 0.64 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 36.0, 35.9, 26.7, 26.3, 24.8, 24.5 ppm.



2,2'-(cyclopentylmethylene)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2l**).^[8] Prepared according to *Method D*. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.16 - 2.03 (m, 1H), 1.93 - 1.83 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.44 (m, 4H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.22 (s, 12H), 1.05 - 0.93 (m, 2H), 0.66 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 37.9, 35.1, 24.9, 24.8, 24.4 ppm.



2,2'-(2-methylpentane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2m**).^[8] The reaction was performed according to *Method A* with **1m** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.98 - 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.42 - 1.04 (m, 28H), 0.93 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.70 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.8, 42.0, 30.8, 24.8(8), 24.8(7), 24.5(0), 24.4(7), 21.6, 20.1, 14.3 ppm.



2,2'-(2-phenylbutane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (**2n**).^[13] Prepared according to *Method A* with compound **1n** (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.26 - 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.13 - 7.07 (m, 1H), 2.95 - 2.84 (m, 1H), 1.79 - 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.52 - 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.30 - 1.22 (m,

13H), 0.92 (s, 6H), 0.88 (s, 6H), 0.67 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 147.0, 128.0, 127.7, 125.5, 83.0, 82.7, 44.9, 32.7, 24.9, 24.4, 24.3, 24.1, 12.2 ppm.



2,2'-(2-(4-isobutylphenyl)propane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (20). Prepared according to *Method A* with slight modification, using compound **10** (0.3 mmol) and 3 mL toluene. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.20 - 3.08 (m, 1H), 2.40 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.83 - 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.28 - 1.22 (m, 16H), 0.95 (s, 6H), 0.90 (s, 6H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H), 0.85 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 146.7, 138.7, 128.7, 126.7, 83.0, 82.7, 45.0, 37.5, 30.2, 26.2, 24.9, 24.4(2), 24.3(8), 24.2, 22.3, 22.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₄₂B₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 451.3167; found: 451.3167.



2,2'-((tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methylene)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2p). Prepared according to *Method B* with compound 1p (0.3 mmol). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.95 - 3.86 (m, 2H), 3.45 - 3.33 (m, 2H), 1.96 - 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.73 - 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.40 - 1.11 (m, 26H), 0.69 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 83.0, 68.4, 35.4, 32.9, 24.9, 24.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₃₄B₂O₅ [M+H]⁺: 353.2671; found: 353.2674.



2,2'-((*R***)-4-((3***R***,5***R***,8***R***,9***S***,10***S***,13***R***,14***S***,17***R***)-3-methoxy-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1***H***cyclopenta[***a***]phenanthren-17-yl)pentane-1,1-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2q). The reaction was performed according to** *Method A* **with slight modification, using 1q (0.3 mmol) and toluene was 3 mL.¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDC1₃): δ 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.23 - 3.10 (m, 1H), 1.97 - 1.53 (m, 8H), 1.40 - 0.87 (m, 50H), 0.68 - 0.55(m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDC1₃): δ 82.8, 80.4, 56.4, 55.9,** 55.4, 42.6, 42.0, 40.2, 40.0, 39.1, 35.8(4), 35.7(8), 35.2, 34.8, 32.7, 28.2, 27.3, 26.7, 26.3, 24.8, 24.4, 24.2, 23.4, 22.1, 20.7, 18.8, 11.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₇H₆₆¹⁰B₂O₅ [M]⁺: 610.5169; found: 610.5173.



2,2'-(((3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-1-yl)methylene)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (2r). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.96 - 1.83 (m, 3H), 1.75 - 1.56 (m, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.22 (s, 12H), 0.62 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 82.5, 44.2, 37.0, 33.6, 29.2, 24.9, 24.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₄₀B₂O₄ [M]⁺: 402.3187; found: 402.3185.



(*E*)-4,4,5,5-tetrametyl-2-(3-phenylbut-2-en-2-yl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (3a).^[4] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.29 - 7.16 (m, 5H), 2.05 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.84 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 147.5, 146.3, 127.6(8), 127.6(6), 126.5, 82.9, 24.5, 20.2, 17.2 ppm.



2-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (**3b**).^[5] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.14 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.37 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.34 - 1.27 (m, 3H), 1.25 - 1.16(m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.2, 137.0, 128.6, 113.7, 83.2, 55.2, 24.6(0), 24.5(7), 17.4 ppm.



2-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)thiophene (**3c**).^[14] ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.22 - 7.05 (m, 3H), 6.93 - 6.75 (m, 4H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.70 - 1.64 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.1, 151.2, 138.2, 128.2, 126.4, 123.4, 113.8, 55.2, 39.8, 23.4 ppm. **2-(1-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane** (**3d**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.68 - 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.60 - 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.38 - 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.13 - 7.06 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.57 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (s, 6H), 1.19 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.9, 140.1, 132.6, 129.3, 128.9, 127.6, 126.6, 125.1, 118.3, 105.5, 83.3, 55.2, 24.6(0), 24.5(6), 16.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₉H₂₅¹⁰BO₃ [M]⁺: 311.1933; found: 311.1932.



2-((R)-4-((3R,5R,8R,9S,10S,13R,14S,17R)-3-methoxy-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1H-

cyclopenta[*a*]**phenanthren-17-yl**)**pentyl**)**quinoline** (3e). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.10 - 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 - 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.54 - 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.22-3.08 (m, 1H), 3.03 - 2.82 (m, 2 H), 1.96 - 1.51 (m, 11H), 1.45 - 0.98 (m, 17H), 0.93 - 0.88 (m, 6H), 0.62 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.1, 147.8, 136.1, 129.3, 128.7, 127.4, 126.6, 125.6, 121.3, 80.4, 56.4, 56.0, 55.5, 42.6, 42.0, 40.2, 40.1, 39.8, 35.7(9), 35.7(7), 35.7, 35.2, 34.8, 32.7, 28.2, 27.3, 26.7, 26.4, 24.2, 23.4, 20.7, 18.6, 12.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₄H₄₉NO [M]⁺: 487.3814; found: 487.3813.









S26









2gb



S31





S33



2gf





2gh



2h



2ia





2ic



2id



2j











20



S48





3a S50





S52



3c





VIII. References

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