Supporting Information

Copper-promoted N-Cyclopropylation of Anilines and Amines by Cyclopropylboronic acid

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General information

Melting points (m.p.) were recorded using Büchi B-540 melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

Optical rotations were measured on a Jasco P-1010 polarimeter using 10 cm cells and the sodium D line (589 nm), in the solvent, at concentration and temperature indicated.

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum BX FT-IR spectrometer.

Proton NMR (¹H NMR) spectra were recorded at 500 MHz on a Bruker AC-500 spectrometer or at 300 MHz on a Bruker AC-300 spectrometer. Carbon NMR (¹³C NMR) spectra were similarly recorded at 125 or 75 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to residual proton signals in CDCl₃ (δ = 7.27, 77.16). Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hertz (Hz) and refer to apparent multiplicities. The following abbreviations are used for the multiplicities: s: singlet, bs: broad signal, d: doublet, t: triplet, quint: quintuplet, sept: septuplet, m: multiplet.

Analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on Hitachi LaChrom-Elite, equipped with diode array UV detectors. The enantiomeric excesses were determined employing the indicated chiral stationary phase column and by comparing the samples with the appropriate racemic mixtures.

Mass spectra were obtained either from an AEI MS-50 (EI) or an AEI MS-9 using positive or negative electron spray (ES^+ or ES^-) for the high resolution mass spectra (HRMS).

Elemental analyses (EA) were performed on CHN 2400 Perkin-Elmer analysers (carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen).

Flash chromatography was performed using SDS silicagel 60 (35-70 μ m). Preparative Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on 20 x 20 cm plates with a layer thickness of 0.50 mm (SDS Silicagel 60 F254). Visualization was achieved under a UVP mineralight UVGL-58 lamp.

All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers unless otherwise stated. 1,2dichloroethane was routinely dried from calcium hydride and distilled prior to use.

General procedure for the N-cyclopropylation

To a suspension of cyclopropyl boronic acid (51.6 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 eq), aniline or amine (0.3 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (63.6 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 eq) in 0.5 ml 1,2-dichloroethane was added a suspension of Cu(OAc)₂ (54.5 mg, 0.3 mmol) and bipyridine (46.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 eq) in hot dichloroethane (2.5 ml). The mixture was warmed up to 70 °C and stirred for 2-4 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature and a 25% aqueous NH₄OH solution was added (20 mL). The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted 3 times with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. Simple filtration on Celite[®], purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel or on preparative TLC afforded the desired pure *N*-cyclopropyl compound.

Description of compounds 3a-3q

N-cyclopropyl-*N*-methyl-4-methoxyaniline **3a**.¹

MeO N Me

Me According to the general procedure, filtration on celite[®] (DCM) afforded the title compound as yellow oil (54 mg, 99 %). $R_f = 0.59$ (DCM). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3005, 2923, 1509, 1454, 1360, 1242, 1038, 817; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 6.97 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.33-2.28 (m, 1H), 0.82-0.78 (m, 2H), 0.65-0.62 (m, 2H); ¹³C -NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 152.5, 145.7, 115.6, 114.6, 55.9, 40.4, 34.1, 9.1; MS (m/z, ES⁺): 178.1 (M+H)⁺.

N-cyclopropyl-N-methyl-4-chloroaniline **3b**.² Cl N Me According to the general procedure,

Me According to the general procedure, purification by preparative TLC (SiO₂, 6:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as pale orange oil (30 mg, 55%). $R_f = 0.68$ (6:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3086, 3006, 2930, 2816, 1597, 1494, 1454, 1359, 1333, 1236, 811, 733; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.37-2.33 (m, 1H), 0.83-0.78 (m, 2H), 0.61-0.57 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 149.6, 128.8, 122.4, 115.0, 39.3, 33.5, 9.3; MS (m/z, IE): 141, 139, 113, 111.

N-cyclopropyl-4-nitroaniline **3c**. O_2N

According to the general procedure, purification by preparative TLC (SiO₂, DCM) afforded the title compound as yellow solid (50 mg, 93%). R_f = 0.74 (SiO₂, DCM). M.p. 120-122 °C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3388, 3080, 2986, 1588, 1493, 1294, 1107, 883; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 4.87 (s,1H), 2.59-2.52 (m, 1H), 0.91-0.85 (m, 2H), 0.63-0.58 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 154.4, 139.0, 126.6, 112.1, 25.2, 8.1; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁻) calcd for C₉H₉N₂O₂ ([M-H]) 177.0664, found 177.0670.

N-cyclopropyl-2,6-dimethylaniline **3d**.



Me According to the general procedure, filtration on celite[®] (DCM) afforded the title compound as pale orange oil (48 mg, 98 %). $R_f = 0.67$ (SiO₂, 4:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3249, 2922, 2852, 1600, 1581, 1471, 1454, 1305, 759 ; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 6.98 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.68-2.662 (m, 1H), 2.30 (s, 6H), 0.68-0.64 (m, 2H), 0.52-0.48 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 146.1, 129.2, 127.9, 121.1, 30.4, 19.8, 9.6; MS (m/z, IE): 161, 146, 144, 132, 117, 105, 91, 77.

N-cyclopropyl-2-iodo-5-nitroaniline 3e.



According to the general procedure, filtration on celite[®] (DCM) afforded the title compound as yellow solid (92 mg, 99 %). $R_f = 0.67$ (2:1 heptane/EtOAc). M.p. 80-82 °C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3376, 3088, 3003, 1606, 1505, 1340, 1301, 1014, 1008; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.80 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 8.2-2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (bs, 1H), 2.58-2.54 (m, 1H), 0.96-0.92 (m, 2H), 0.66-0.63 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 149.8, 149.2, 139.5, 113.4, 105.8, 92.2, 25.8, 8.1; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₉H₉N₂O₂I: C 35.55, H 2.98, N 9.21; found C 35.51, H 2.68, N 9.05.

N-cyclopropylindoline **3f**.

According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 pentane/toluene) afforded the title compound as colorless oil (40 mg, 83%). $R_f = 0.27$ (SiO₂, 4:1 pentane/toluene). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3010, 2942, 2820, 1605, 1486, 1451, 1367, 1264, 1220, 744; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.09-7.05 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.9 Hz,1H), 6.70 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.90 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.13-2.09 (m, 1H), 0.69-0.61 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 153.4, 130.7, 127.4, 124.4, 118.7, 108.8, 54.5, 30.4, 28.8, 5.7; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₄N ([M+H]) 160.1126, found 160.1119.

N-Boc-N-cyclopropylpiperazine 3g.

Boc^{-N} According to the general procedure, filtration on celite[®] (DCM) afforded the title compound as viscous oil (66 mg, 97%). R_f = 0.58 (SiO₂, 98:2 DCM/MeOH). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 2925, 1693, 1608, 1416, 1363, 1248, 1163, 1003; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 3.35 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 2.51 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 1.60-1.53 (m, 1H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 0.43-0.38 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 155.0, 79.7, 53.3, 43.8, 38.7, 28.6, 6.0; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₂H₂₃N₂O₂ ([M+H]) 227.1762, found 227.1760 1-Cyclopropyl-4-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)piperazine 3h.



Pł O



Me According to the general procedure, purification by preparative TLC (SiO₂, 4:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as colorless oil (53 mg, 75%). $R_f = 0.73$ (4:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3007, 2936, 2800, 1504, 1450, 1362, 1243, 1143, 993; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.04 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.89 (m, 4H), 2.78-2.76 (m, 4H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.71-1.67 (m, 1H), 0.49-0.46 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 151.7, 136.3, 131.0, 129.5, 123.9, 120.0, 54.1, 51.8, 38.8, 21.4, 17.7, 5.9; HRMS m/z (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₅H₂₂N₂ ([M+H]) 231.1861, found 231.1864.

N-Cyclopropyl-4-acetyl-4-phenylpiperidine 3i.

According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, DCM) afforded the title compound as white solid (67 mg, 92%). R_f = 0.57 (SiO₂, DCM). M.p. 84-86 °C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3086, 3004, 2916, 1697, 1447, 1360, 1348, 1014; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.29-7.17 (m, 5H), 2.84-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.40-2.34 (m, 4H), 2.00-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 1.51-1.43 (m, 1H), 0.38-0.34 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 209.8, 141.9, 129.1, 127.1, 126.6, 55.0, 51.2, 38.7, 32.9, 25.9, 6.0; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₆H₂₂NO ([M+H]) 244.1701, found 244.1693.

N-cyclopropylisoindoline **3**j.

According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 4:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as brown oil (34 mg, 71%). $R_f = 0.29$ (SiO₂, 4:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3007, 2890, 2768, 1720,1462,1454, 1353, 886, 737; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.17 (s, 4H), 4.05 (s, 4H), 2.05-1.99 (m, 1H), 0.53-0.49 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 140.4, 126.9, 122.6, 59.1, 35.8, 6.2; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₄N ([M+H]) 160.1126, found 160.1131.

tert-Butyl-4-cyclopropyl-1,4-diazepane-1-carboxylate 3k.

Boc^{-N} According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, EtOAc) afforded the title compound as pale orange oil (27 mg, 56%). $R_f = 0.48$ (SiO₂, EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 2930, 1689, 1409, 1364, 1158, 1119, 1014; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz, mixture of rotamers) δ 3.47-3.35 (m, 4H), 2.79-2.69 (m, 4H), 1.83-1.70 (m, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 0.46-0.33 (m, 4H); ¹³C -NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz, mixture of rotamers) 155.7, 79.4, 56.3, 55.3 and 55.0, 47.0, 46.4 and 46.2, 45.3, 38.0 and 37.9, 28.7, 28.1 and 27.9, 7.4; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₃H₂₅N₂O₂ ([M+H]) 241.1916, found 241.1907.

N-benzyl-N-isopropylcyclopropylamine 31.

According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 9:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as colorless oil (23 mg, 40%). $R_f = 0.61$ (SiO₂, 4:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3086, 2963, 2926, 1494, 1453, 1345, 1176, 1018, 713, 694; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.30-7.16 (m, 5H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 2.95 (sept, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.92-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 0.41-0.23 (m, 4H); ¹³C -NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) 141.4, 129.0, 128.1, 126.6, 55.9, 51.9, 33.2, 19.1, 7.4; HRMS m/z (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₃H₂₀N ([M+H]) 190.1596, found 190.1596.

Methyl-6-(dicyclopropylamino)hexanoate 3m.

MeO₂C

According to the general procedure using 4.0 eq of cyclopropylboronic acid, purification by preparative TLC (SiO₂, 1:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as pale orange oil (40 mg, 60%). R_f = 0.73 (SiO₂, 1:1 heptane/EtOAc). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3091, 2939, 1738, 1436, 1350, 1169, 1012; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 7.6-7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.85-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.55 (m, 4H), 1.30-1.21 (m, 2H), 0.41-0.36 (m, 8H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 174.4, 57.5, 51.6, 37.0, 34.3, 27.6, 26.3, 25.2, 5.8; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₃H₂₄NO₂ ([M+H]) 226.1807, found 226.1796.

N-dicyclopropylgeranylamine **3n**.



(S)-Methyl-2-(cyclopropylamino)-3-phenylpropanoate **30**.

According to the general procedure using NaHCO₃ instead of Na₂CO₃ (50.4 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 eq), purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 3:7 Heptane/DCM) afforded the title compound as colorless oil (31 mg, 47%). R_f = 0.23 (SiO₂, 3:7 Heptane/DCM). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3028, 2950, 1732, 1454, 1434, 1197, 1169, 730, 698; [α]_D = -15.6, (c 1.20, Acetone); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.28-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.62 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.15 (bs, 1H), 2.10-2.05 (m, 1H), 0.42-0.25 (m, 4H); ¹³C -NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) 175.3, 137.5, 129.3, 128.6, 126.9, 63.2, 51.8, 39.7, 29.2, 7.0 and 6.2; Chiral HPLC: (*R*)-**30**, *t*_R 8.3 min (6.8 %); (*S*)-**30**, *t*_S 9.4 min (93.2 %) (Daicel Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/*i*PrOH, 99/1; 0.75 mL/min; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂ ([M+H]) 220.1338, found 220.1342.

1-Cyclopropyl-*N*-isobutylpiperidine-3-carboxamide **3p**.



According to the general procedure, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 1:1 heptane/EtOAc) afforded the title compound as a white solid (64 mg, 95%). R_f = 0.12 (SiO₂, 1:1 heptane/EtOAc). M.p. 76-78 °C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3289, 2932, 2806, 1639, 1557, 1362, 1218, 1162, 703; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.71 (bs, 1H), 3.07-3.02 (m, 1H), 3.00-2.93 (m, 2H), 2.85 (bs, 1H), 2.46-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.28 (bs, 1H), 1.84 (bs, 1H), 1.67 (sept, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.59-1.46 (m, 4H), 0.85 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.49-0.42 (m, 2H), 0.36-0.27 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 175.3, 55.6, 54.2, 46.6, 41.8, 38.8, 28.6, 27.3, 22.8, 20.4, 6.3 and 6.0; HRMS *m/z* (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₄H₂₀N ([M+H]) 225.1967, found 225.1966.

N-(dicyclopropylamino)butyl)acetamide **3q.**

the general procedure According to using 4.0 of ea cyclopropylboronic acid, purification by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 2% of MeOH in DCM) afforded the title compound as colorless oil (39 mg, 62%). $R_f = 0.22$ (SiO₂, 2% of MeOH in DCM). IR (neat, cm⁻¹) v 3284, 3089, 3008, 2931, 1644, 1555, 1446, 1364, 1350, 1021, 1012, 733; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 5.70 (bs, 1H), 3.21 (dd, J = 6.8-6.7 Hz, 2H),2,65 (dd, J = 7.1-7.3Hz, 2H), 1.93 (s, 3H), 1,83-1,79 (m, 2H), 1,62-1,56 (m, 2H), 1.47-1.41 (m, 2H), 0.42-0.37 (m, 4H), 0.36-0.32 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 170.2, 57.4, 39.8, 37.1, 28.1, 24.3, 23.5, 5.8; HRMS m/z (ES⁺) calcd for C₁₂H₂₃N₂O ([M+H]) 211.1810, found 211.1801.

References

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Spectral data

Compound 3a :



Compound 3b :



Compound 3c :



Compound 3d :



Compound 3e :



Compound $\mathbf{3f}$:



Compound 3g :



Compound 3h :



Compound 3i :



Compound 3j:



Compound 3k :



Compounds 31 :



Compound 3m :



Compound 3n :



Compound **30** :



Compound **3p** :



Compound 3q :



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HPLC data for compound 30

Racemate.



DAD-CH1 (224 nm)

Results			
Pk #	Retention Time	Area	Area %
1	8.21	9940015	49.93
2	9.24	9966173	50.07

Compound (S)-30.





Pk #	Retention Time	Area	Area %
1	8.32	3187658	6.78
2	9.24	43820656	93.22

Synthesis of *N*-cyclopropyl-4-nitroaniline 3c: a comparison with literature procedures.



Scheme 1

In scheme 1 were summarized other methods used for the synthesis of *N*-cyclopropyl-4-nitroaniline **3c** (*cf* entry 3, table 1). Condensation of 4-nitroaniline (**2c**) with 1-bromo-1-ethoxycyclopropane (**4**) followed by reduction afforded **3c** in 52% overall yield (eq 1).¹ On the other hand, reaction between 4-nitro-bromobenzene (**5**) and cyclopropylamine (**6**) failed to give **3c** (eq 2).² Finally, the S_NAr reaction between 4-nitro-fluorobenzene with **6** under literature conditions (neat in the presence of Et₃N) afforded **3c** in less than 10% yield.³ However, stirring a DMSO solution of **6** and **7** in the presence of potassium carbonate afforded **3c** in excellent yield (95%, eq 3).⁴ Nevertheless, this last method is applicable only to electron-deficient aromatic fluorides. Overall, these results illustrated well the power of the present synthetic method.

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