Supporting Information for

Nano-Fe₂O₃-catalyzed Direct Borylation of Arenes

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ArH + B₂pin₂
$$\frac{K_2CO_3(2 \text{ eq}), {}^t\!\text{BuOO}{}^t\!\text{Bu}(2 \text{ eq}.)}{\text{air, 80 }{}^\circ\text{C}, 4-5 \text{ days}} \text{ ArBpin}$$

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General Information

Chemicals were either purchased or purified by standard techniques without special instructions. All solvents were distilled prior to use. For chromatography, 200-300 mesh silica gel (Qingdao, China) was employed. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) were registered on Varian 300 M spectrometers; ¹H NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) were registered on Bruker ARX 400 M spectrometer, all with CDCl₃ as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported in units (ppm) by assigning TMS resonance in the ¹H spectrum as 0.00 ppm and CDCl₃ resonance in the ¹³C spectrum as 77.0 ppm. All coupling constants (*J* values) were reported in Hertz (Hz). HRMS were performed by Analytical Center of Peking University. IR spectra were recorded with a Nicolet 5MX-S infrared spectrometer. Fe₂O₃ magnetic nanoparticles (NanoArc®) was purchased from Alfa Aesar®.

Experimental Section

(1) Procedure for nano-Fe₂O₃-catalyzed ortho-borylation arene with B₂pin₂

A reflux tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with B₂pin₂ (254 mg, 1 mmol), K₂CO₃ (276 mg, 2 mmol), ^{*t*}BuOO^{*t*}Bu (292 mg, 2mmol), Fe₂O₃ magnetic nanoparticles (NanoArc®, Alfa Aesar®) (32 mg, 0.2 mmol) and aryl substrate (5 mL). The reaction vessel was placed in an oil bath (80 °C) under open air. The reaction progress was monitored by GC-MS. The mixture was cooled to room temperature when B₂pin₂ disappeared completely, Yield and ratio was determined by GC using mesitylene or dodecane as the internal standard. After completion of borylation reaction, the mixture was first puried by a short silica gel column chromatography to removed iron catalyst and inorganic base. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give pure product.

A large scale experiment: Benzene (20 mL) and B_2pin_2 (1 g, 4 mmol) were subjected to the above reaction conditions. PhBpin was isolated in 52% yield after column chromatography

(2) Procedure for Sequential Reactions

A reflux tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with B₂pin₂ (254 mg, 1 mmol), K₂CO₃ (276 mg, 2 mmol), 'BuOO'Bu (292 mg, 2 mmol), Fe₂O₃ magnetic nanoparticles (32 mg, 0.2 mmol) and benzene (5 mL). The reaction vessel was placed in oil bath (80 °C) under air. The solution was cooled to room temperature until B₂pin₂ was disappeared. The reaction progress was monitored and analyzed by GC-MS. After the completion of the borylation reaction, benzene was evaporated under reduced pressure. To this mixture were added aryl iodide(1 mmol), PdCl₂(dppf) (0.030 mmol), K₃PO₄(3 mmol), and DMF (5 mL), and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc, washed with brine, and dried over MgSO₄. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on a silica gel (eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give the product.

(3) Procedure for Nano Fe₂O₃ Catalyst preparation¹⁻⁴

 γ -Fe₂O₃ (20 nm) catalyst was prepared by co-precipitation of aqueous solutions of FeSO₄·7H₂O and FeCl₃·6H₂O by urea hydrolysis (All from Beijing Chemicals, AR grade). The cation (Fe²⁺ + Fe³⁺) concentration was kept at 0.60 M with [Fe²⁺]/[Fe³⁺] ratio of 1/2 and the urea concentration was kept at 6.0 M. The mixed solution was heated to 100 °C under N₂ atmosphere and maintained at 100 °C for 3 h to form precipitates. After filtration and thoroughly washing with deionized water until the filtrate was neutral, the precipitates were treated in ambient air at 110 °C overnight, and then at 300 °C for 3 h. A mixed crystal Fe₂O₃ (9 nm) with α and γ phases was obtained when the concentrations of the cation (Fe²⁺ + Fe³⁺) and urea improved to 1.20 M and 12.0 M respectively.

 α -Fe₂O₃ catalysts were prepared in a similar way, in which Fe(NO₃)₃·9H₂O was used as the Fe³⁺ precursor salt instead of FeCl₃·6H₂O. The average crystallite size of α -Fe₂O₃ decreased from 18 nm to 14 nm by doubling the solution concentration as described above.

The crystalline phase of the catalysts was identified by X-ray diffraction (Rigaku D/MAX-2400 diffractometer) and the crystallite size of Fe₂O₃ was calculated by Scherrer equation, $d = 0.90\lambda / \beta \cos\theta$, where θ is the diffraction angle and β is the full width at half-maximum.

The X-ray diffraction patterns of Fe_2O_3 catalysts (the crystallite size of the commercial γ -Fe₂O₃ was 58 nm)

References

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X-Ray Diffraction of Fe₂O₃ Catalysts



Spectral data for the products



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-phenyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane Colorless liquid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.47~7.43 (m, 1H), 7.38~7.35 (m, 2H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 131.7, 131.2, 127.7, 83.7, 24.8.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-o-tolyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane

Colorless liquid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.77 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33~7.29 (m, 1H), 7.16~7.14 (m, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 144.8, 135.8, 130.8, 129.7, 124.7, 83.4, 24.9, 22.2.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-*m*-tolyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane

White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64~7.60 (m, 2H), 7.28~7.26 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.1, 135.3, 132.0, 131.8, 127.7, 83.7, 24.8, 21.2.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-p-tolyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane

White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.4, 134.8, 128.5, 83.6, 24.8, 21.7.



2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane Colorless liquid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (q, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1, 136.5, 113.3, 83.5, 55.0, 24.8.



2-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane Colorless liquid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33~7.28 (m, 2H), 7.02~6.99 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 128.9, 127.1, 118.6, 117.9,

83.8, 55.2, 24.8.



83.4, 55.8, 24.8.

B O

2-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69~7.66 (m, 1H), 7.41~7.37 (m, 1H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 136.7, 132.4, 120.2, 110.4,

4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.13~7.11 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.7, 136.3, 133.9, 131.5, 129.8, 83.3, 24.9, 21.7, 20.8.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.0, 136.4, 133.5, 132.3, 124.8,

83.4, 24.8, 20.4, 18.4; IR (film): 2978, 1429, 1379, 1346, 1304, 1138, 1034, 827, 850, 728, 669 cm⁻¹; EI-MS (*m*/*z*, relative intensity): 232 (M⁺, 38), 217 (20), 175 (100), 159 (5), 146 (16), 132 (98), 117 (27), 105 (27), 91 (28), 77 (14), 41(44); HRMS calcd for $C_{14}H_{22}BO_2$ [M+H]⁺ 233.1707, found 233.1706.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.5 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.1, 135.9, 135.8, 132.4, 129.1, 83.5,

24.8, 20.0, 19.4.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane Colorless liquid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.9, 140.8, 136.1, 130.7, 125.5, 83.2, 24.9, 22.1, 21.5; IR

(film): 2978, 1612, 1371, 1346, 1311, 1146, 1063, 963, 860, 659 cm⁻¹; EI-MS (m/z, relative intensity): 232 (M⁺, 29), 217 (26), 175 (73), 159 (6), 146 (18), 132 (100), 117 (21), 105 (25), 91 (28), 77 (14), 41 (40); HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₂₂BO₂ [M+H]⁺ 233.1707, found 233.1705.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.12 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 6H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 141.7, 129.1, 126.4, 83.6, 24.9, 22.2.



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44 (s, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 1.34 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.1, 133.0, 132.4, 83.7, 24.8, 21.1.



2-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborola ne

White solid, mp 58-60 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (q, J = 3.3 Hz, 2H), 2.78 (s, 6H), 1.35 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.6, 153.3, 121.0, 118.0, 112.3, 83.5, 56.8, 55.8, 24.8;

IR (film): 2978, 1585, 1494, 1408, 1344, 1220,1139, 1066, 1048, 965, 90, 855, 812,727,672 cm⁻¹; EI-MS (*m*/*z*, relative intensity): 264 (M⁺, 100), 249 (18), 191 (24), 164 (56), 149 (32), 135 (18), 121 (46), 105 (4), 91 (6), 77 (14), 41 (29); HRMS calcd for $C_{14}H_{22}BO_4$ [M+H]⁺ 265.1606, found 265.1605.



2-Mesityl-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-phenyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane White solid

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.76 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 6H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.1, 138.9, 127.4, 83.4, 24.9, 22.1, 21.2.



2-(2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxabor olane

White solid, mp 114-116 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 6.04 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 1.36 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.5, 163.1, 90.2, 83.4, 55.6, 55.2, 24.6; IR (film): 2996, 1607, 1581, 1457,

1356, 1327, 1295, 1221, 1204, 1124, 1037, 864, 804, 733; EI-MS (*m/z*, relative intensity): 294 (M⁺, 100), 279 (16), 236 (42), 221 (52), 194 (69), 151 (40), 135 (56), 121 (59), 105 (10), 91 (20), 77 (24), 41 (44); HRMS calcd for $C_{15}H_{24}BO_5$ [M+H]⁺ 295.1711, found 295.1708.



4-Nitro-biphenyl

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.76~7.65 (m, 2H), 7.24~7.20 (m, 2H), 7.45~7.53 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.6, 147.1, 138.8, 129.1, 128.9, 127.8, 127.4, 124.1.



4-Methoxy-biphenyl

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57~7.52 (m, 4H), 7.44~7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33~7.28 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.2, 140.8, 133.8, 128.7, 128.1, 126.7, 126.6, 114.2, 55.3.



4-Chloro-biphenyl

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56~7.50 (m, 3H), 7.48~7.36 (m, 6H),; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.0, 139.7, 133.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.4, 128.2, 127.0.



4-Acetyl-biphenyl

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (q, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.70~7.62 (m, 4H), 7.50~7.40 (m, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 145.7, 139.8, 135.8, 128.9, 128.8, 128.2, 127.2, 127.1, 26.6.



Biphenyl

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.47~7.37 (m, 4H), 7.35~7.32 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.2, 128.7, 127.2, 127.1.

100

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra



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