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Electronic supplementary information

Iron hexamesityl-5,15-diazaporphyrin: Synthesis, structure and catalytic use for direct oxidation of sp³ C–H bonds

Tsubasa Nishimura, Takahiro Sakurai, Hiroshi Shinokubo, and Yoshihiro Miyake*

Department of Molecular and Macromolecular Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University, Nagoya, 464-8603, Japan.

Instrumentation and Materials

¹H NMR (500 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (126 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE III HD spectrometer, and chemical shifts were reported as the delta scale in ppm relative to CHCl₃ (δ 7.26 ppm) for ¹H NMR and CHCl₃ (δ 77.16 ppm) for ¹³C NMR. UV/vis absorption spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2550. Mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker microTOF using positive mode ESI-TOF method for 2-propanol solutions and positive mode APCI-TOF method. X-ray data were taken on a Rigaku CCD diffractometer (Saturn 724 with MicroMax-007) with Varimax Mo optics using graphite monochromated Mo-K α radiation (λ = 0.71075 Å) or a Bruker D8 QUEST X-ray diffractometer equipped with PHOTON 100 CMOS active pixel sensor detector and IµS micro focus source using Mo-K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). Elemental analysis were recorded on a ParkinElmer 2400II. Redox potentials were measured by cyclic voltammetry method on an ALS electrochemical analyzer model 612C. Time profile analyses were performed by Shimadzu-GC-2025 instrument with FID detector and CBP10 capillary column (25 m × 0.22 mm). Benzene, dichloromethane, and toluene were dried by the general methods, and degassed before use. Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification.

Reactions of 1a and 1b with alumina column.



The solution of **1a** (12.7 mg, 20.0 μ mol) in CHCl₃ was passed through a short column chromatography (Al₂O₃, eluent: CHCl₃) and then evaporated to give μ -oxo dimer **6** (10.7 mg, 8.77 μ mol, 88%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 14.50, 14.37, 7.62, 7.10, 2.60, 2.16, 0.900. HRMS (ESI): Calcd. for C₇₂H₆₀N₁₂Fe₂O [M+H]⁺: 1221.3785. Found: 1221.3826.



The solution of **1b** (22.2 mg, 20.0 μ mol) in CHCl₃ was passed through a short column chromatography (Al₂O₃, eluent: CHCl₃) and then evaporated to give **7** (20.1 mg, 18.4 μ mol, 92%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 86.71, 11.94, 11.66, 11.06, 10.15, 7.15, 5.82, 5.77, 4.26, 3.37, 2.55. HR MS (APCI): Calcd. for C₇₂H₇₁N₆OFe [M⁺]: 1091.5033. Found: 1091.4993.

Catalytic oxidations of 8 catalyzed by 1

A typical experimental procedure for the catalytic oxidation of alkanes is described below. In a 20 mL Schlenk tube were placed **1b** (2.22 mg, 2.00 μ mol) under N₂, and then a dry benzene (5.0 mL), cyclooctane (673 μ L, 5.00 mmol) and iodosylbenzene (220.1 mg, 1.00 mmol) was added. After the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature, remained iodosylbenzene was removed by the filtration through Celite pad, and then the solvent was removed in *vacuo*. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR measurement (1,1,2,2tetrachloroethane was used as an internal standard).

Time profile of oxidation of cyclooctane.

In a 20 mL Schlenk tube were placed **1b** (2.22 mg, 2.00 μ mol) and biphenyl as an internal standard under N₂, and then a dry benzene (5.0 mL), cyclooctane (673 μ L, 5.00 mmol) and iodosylbenzene (220.0 mg, 1.00 mmol) was added. the oxidation reaction was monitored over time at 15 °C by GC analysis.

Oxidation of cyclooctane by sequential addition of PhIO

A typical experimental procedure for the catalytic oxidation is described below. In a 20 mL Schlenk tube were placed **1b** (2.22 mg, 2.00 μ mol) under N₂, and then a dry benzene (5.0 mL), cyclooctane (1.34 mL, 10.0 mmol). Iodosylbenzene (220.1 mg, 1.00 mmol, 220.0 mg, 1.00 mmol) was added in a stepwise per 1 h. After the addition of PhIO of 3.0 mmol, the reaction mixture is stirred for 24 h in total at room temperature. Yield was determined by GC analysis.

X-Ray Diffraction Analysis

A crystal suitable for X-ray analysis of **2b**, **6•**C₆**H**₁₄ and **7•**C₈**H**₁₈ were obtained by recrystallization from dichloromethane/methanol and hot octane. X-ray diffraction data for **2b**, **6•**C₆**H**₁₄ and **7•**C₈**H**₁₈ were taken on a Bruker D8 QUEST X-ray diffractometer equipped with PHOTON 100 CMOS active pixel sensor detector and IµS micro focus source using Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) or a Rigaku CCD diffractometer (Saturn 724 with MicroMax-007) with Varimax Mo optics using graphite monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71075$ Å). All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters and hydrogen atoms were placed in idealized positions and refined as rigid atoms with the relative isotropic displacement parameters. Crystallographic data for the structures of **2b**, **6•**C₆H₁₄ and **7•**C₈H₁₈ have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-2071242 (**2b**), CCDC-2071243 (**6•**C₆H₁₄) and CCDC-2071244 (**7•**C₈H₁₈). This data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

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compound	2b	6•C ₆ H ₁₄	7•C8H18
Formula	$C_{72}H_{72}N_6$	$C_{78}H_{74}Fe_2N_{12}O$	C ₈₀ H ₈₉ FeN ₆ O
Formula weight	1021.35	1307.19	1206.42
Crystal system	monoclinic	Triclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C 2/c	<i>P</i> -1	C 2/c
Crystal color	black	purple	black
Crystal description	prism	prism	block
<i>a</i> [Å]	30.8193(16)	11.8870(8)	21.0219(6)
<i>b</i> [Å]	12.6917(7)	13.2939(10)	26.3677(6)
<i>c</i> [Å]	16.8411(9)	23.5461(16)	13.5664(4)
α [°]	90	78.373(2)	90
β[°]	116.726(2)	89.739(2)	95.128(2)
γ [°]	90	65.489(2)	90
V[Å ³]	5883.6(6)	3303.0(4)	7489.7(4)
Ζ	4	2	4
$d_{ m calcd} [m g \ m cm^{-3}]$	1.153	1.314	1.070
<i>R</i> 1 ($F^2 < 2\sigma < (F^2)$)	0.0453	0.0402	0.0761
<i>R</i> w (all data)	0.1164	0.1029	0.2350
GOF	1.055	1.054	1.088
Temperature [K]	93	98	93
Structure solution	SHELXT ^{S1}	SHELXT ^{S1}	SHELXT ^{S1}
Structure refinement	SHELXL ^{S1}	SHELXL ^{S1}	SHELXL ^{S1}

Table S1. Crystallographic data of $2b,\,6{}^{\bullet}C_{6}H_{14}$ and $7{}^{\bullet}C_{8}H_{18}$



Fig. S1. Molecular structure of **6** in the crystalline state. All hydrogen atoms and solvents are omitted for clarity and thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability.

Electrochemical Measurement

Electrochemical measurements were recorded on ALS electrochemical analyser 612C. Measurements of the iron complexes (0.1 mM) were performed in chlorobenzene with nBu_4NPF_6 as an electrolyte (0.1M). A platinum electrode, a platinum wire and Ag/AgNO₃ were used as working, counter, and reference electrodes, respectively. The scan rate was 100 mVs⁻¹. The measurement was performed after bubbling of nitrogen gas. All potentials are referenced to the potential of ferrocene/ferrocenium cation couple.



Fig. S2. Cyclic Voltammograms of iron complexes. (a): **1b**, (b): **1a**. (solid line: cyclic voltammetry, dashed line differential pulse voltammetry)

Reference

(S1) Crystal structure refinement with SHELXL, G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.* 2015, C71, 3-8.



Fig. S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of 4 in CDCl₃



Fig. S4. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 4 in CDCl₃



Fig. S5. ¹H NMR spectrum of **5** in 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane- d_2



Fig. S6. ¹H NMR spectrum of 2b in CDCl₃/CS₂



Fig. S7. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 2b in CDCl₃/CS₂



Fig. S8. ¹H NMR spectrum of 1b in CDCl₃



Fig. S9. ¹H NMR spectrum of 6 in CDCl₃



Fig. S10. ¹H NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl₃



Fig. S11. APCI-MS spectrum of 4 (top: observed, bottom: simulated).



Fig. S12. APCI-MS spectrum of 5 (top: observed, bottom: simulated).



Fig. S13. APCI-MS spectrum of 2b (top: observed, bottom: simulated).



Fig. S14. APCI-MS spectrum of 1b (top: observed, bottom: simulated).



Fig. S15. ESI-MS (2-propanol) spectrum of 6 (top: observed, bottom: simulated).



Fig. S16. APCI-MS spectrum of 7 (top: observed, bottom: simulated).