# **Supporting Information**

## Photoinduced, Catalyst-Free Borylation of Alkenyl Triflates with

## Lewis Base Complexes of Boranes

Zhi-Peng Ye,‡<sup>a</sup> Si-Jia Yang,‡<sup>a</sup> Zhi-Lin, Liu,<sup>a</sup> Jie, Gao,<sup>a</sup> Jian-Ping, Guan,<sup>a</sup> Hong-Bin, Chen,<sup>b</sup> Peng-Ju, Xia,<sup>c</sup> Kai, Chen,<sup>a</sup> Hao-Yue, Xiang,\*<sup>a,d</sup> Hua, Yang.\*<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Central South University, Changsha 410083, P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup>Jiangxi Time Chemical Company, Ltd., Fuzhou 344800, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup>School of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Guangxi Normal University, Guilin 541004, P. R. China.

<sup>d</sup>School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan Normal University, Xinxiang 453007 Henan, P. R. China.

E-mail: hyangchem@csu.edu.cn, xianghaoyue@csu.edu.cn

# Contents

1. General Experimental Methods	3
2. Detailed optimization of reaction conditions	3
3. Mechanistic Studies.	1
3.1 Trapping Experiment	1
3.2 UV–Vis spectrum	5
3.3 Emission Quenching Experiments (Stern–Volmer Studies)	5
4. General Preparation Process	5
4.1 General procedure for the synthesis of compounds 1 and 2	5
4.2 General procedure for the synthesis of compounds <b>3</b> and <b>4</b>	7
4.3 Scale-up reaction	7
4.4 Unsuccessful attempt	3
5. References	)
6. Characterization Data of Compound10	)
6.1. Characterization data of starting materials 1a-1e, 1g-1i, 1k10	)
6.2. Characterization data of products <b>3</b> and <b>4</b> 13	3
7. Copies of NMR Spectra	2
7.1. Starting materials <b>1a-1e, 1g-1i, 1k</b>	2
7.2 Products <b>3</b> and <b>4</b>	)

## 1. General Experimental Methods.

Unless otherwise noted, all the reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz. The chemical shifts were recorded in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane and with the solvent resonance as the internal standard. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constants (Hz), integration. <sup>13</sup>C NMR data were collected at 100 MHz with complete proton decoupling. <sup>19</sup>F NMR data were collected at 376 MHz with complete proton decoupling. UV–Vis spectra were recorded using a shimadzu UV-2600. Infrared spectra (IR) were measured by FT-IR apparatus. High resolution mass spectroscopy (HRMS) was recorded on TOF MS ES+ mass spectrometer and acetonitrile was used to dissolve the sample. Emission intensities were recorded using Perkin-Elemer LS 55 Fluorescence Spectrometer. Column chromatography was carried out on alkaline silica gel (200-300 mesh).

H	3 <sup>B</sup> , + N N + +	OTf	base	Ph H <sub>2</sub> Ph N N
	1a	2a	solvent T, Ar, 36 h	3a
entry	solvent	T (°C)	Base (mmol)	yield (%)
1	DCM	30	DIPEA(0.05)	trace
2	DCM	30	DIPEA(0.2)	trace
3	DCM	30	DIPEA(0.6)	38
4	DCM	30	DIPEA(1.5)	10
6	MeCN	30	DIPEA(0.6)	trace
7	THF	30	DIPEA(0.6)	26
8	DCE	30	DIPEA(0.6)	31
9	Pentane	30	DIPEA(0.6)	37
10	EA	30	DIPEA(0.6)	10
11	1,4-dioxane	30	DIPEA(0.6)	33
12	PhMe	30	DIPEA(0.6)	30
14	DCM	10	DIPEA(0.6)	42
15	DCM	0	DIPEA(0.6)	45

# 2. Detailed optimization of reaction conditions<sup>a</sup>

16	DCM	-10	DIPEA(0.6)	56
17	DCM	-30	DIPEA(0.6)	43
18	DCM	-10	DIPEA (0.9)	65
19	DCM	-10	DIPEA (1.2)	55
20	DCM	-10	K <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> (0.9)	trace
21	DCM	-10	TMEDA (0.9)	trace
22	DCM	-10	-	trace
$23^{b}$	DCM	-10	DIPEA(0.9)	trace
24 <sup>c</sup>	DCM	-10	DIPEA(0.9)	15

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: 1a (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 2a (1.2 mmol, 6.0 equiv.), solvent (2.0 mL), base, 30 W 450 nm blue LEDs, Ar, 36 h. <sup>b</sup>no Ar or light, <sup>c</sup>405 nm.

## 3. Mechanistic Studies.

## **3.1 Trapping Experiment**

In order to ensure whether the putative radical was trapped by TEMPO, ESI-MS analysis of the crude reaction mixture was performed. The resulting mass spectrum clearly shows peaks corresponding to the adduct products between TEMPO radical and possible radical intermediates: **TEMPO** + **boron** radical:  $C_{15}H_{31}BN_{3}O^{+}$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>] calcd 280.2555, found 280.2560, **TEMPO** + **CF<sub>3</sub>** radical:  $C_{10}H_{18}F_{3}NNaO^{+}$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>] calcd 248.1233, found 248.1246 (**Figure S1**).





Figure S1. Crude ESI-MS of the TEMPO trapping experiments described above

## 3.2 UV–Vis spectrum

The UV–Vis spectra of **2a**, feature a maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) at 247nm (Figure S2).



Figure S2. Absorbance of 1×10<sup>-4</sup> M solution of 1a, 2a, base in DCM

## 3.3 Emission Quenching Experiments (Stern–Volmer Studies)

All fluorescence measurements were recorded using a Hitachi FL-7000 Fluorometer. Quenching studies were conducted in DCM. All **2a** solutions (concentration of 100  $\mu$ M) were excited at 340 nm and the emission intensity was collected at 405 nm. Measurements using corresponding quencher **1a and 1a+base** was taken in triplicate at different concentrations (Figure S3).



Figure S3. The Stern-Volmer plot for quenching the fluorescence of 2a using the quencher 1a and 1a+base

## 4. General Preparation Process

### 4.1 General procedure for the synthesis of compounds 1 and 2

General procedure for the preparation of 1 : To a solution of imidazole (10 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (1.0 M), was added sodium borohydride (15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv). Subsequently,  $H_2O$  (3.0 equiv.) was added to reaction mixtures. The reaction process was monitored by TCL until the reaction was completed. Thereafter, the reaction mixtures were filtered through sodium sulfate and celite, and then collected filtrate was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and then the residue was purified by column chromatography using PE/EA.<sup>[1]</sup>



General procedure for the preparation of 2 : A solution of acetophenone (15 mmol) in dichloromethane (45 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Then  $Na_2CO_3$  (19.5 mmol) and trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (18 mmol) were successively added. The obtained mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature and the reaction process was monitored by TCL. Thereafter, the mixture was quenched via added water (30 mL). the organic layer was washed by brine solution (30 mL ×3). Collect the organic phase to dry over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , which was removed under reduced pressure and then the residue was purified by column chromatography using PE/EA.<sup>[2]</sup>

### 4.2 General procedure for the synthesis of compounds 3 and 4



1 (2.0 mmol, 24.8 mg), 2 (1.2 mmol, 302.4 mg), DIPEA (0.9 mmol, 116.3 mg) and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2.0 mL) were added to a 15 mL seal tube equipped with a stirring bar. The seal tube was evacuated and backfilled with Ar three times. The tube was screw-capped and stirred at -10 °C under irradiation of 30 W blue LEDs (distance app. 5 cm) for 36 h. Thereafter, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and then the residue was further purified by flash chromatography using alkaline silica gel (EtOAc/PE = 1:6 to 1:3) to afford the desired products **3** and **4**.

### 4.3 Scale-up reaction

1a (2.00 mmol, 248 mg), 2a (12.00 mmol, 3024 mg), DIPEA (9.00 mmol, 1163 mg) and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20.0 mL) were added to a 120 mL seal tube equipped with a stirring bar. The seal tube was evacuated and backfilled with Ar three times. The tube was screw-capped and stirred at -10

°C under irradiation of 30 W blue LEDs (distance app. 5 cm) for 36 h. Thereafter, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and then the residue was further purified by flash chromatography using alkaline silica gel (EtOAc/PE = 1:6 to 1:3) to afford the desired product **3a** in 48% yield (232.3 mg).

## 4.4 Unsuccessful attempt



## 5. References

- [1] (a) P. V. Ramachandran, H. J. Hamanna and R. Lina. Activation of sodium borohydride *via* carbonyl reduction for the synthesis of amine- and phosphine-boranes. *Dalton Trans.*, 2021, 50, 16770-16774. (b) P. V. Ramachandran, A. S. Kulkarni, Y. Zhao and J.-.G. Mei. Amine-boranes bearing borane-incompatiblefunctionalities: application to selective amineprotection and surface functionalization, *Chem. Commun.*, 2016, 52, 11885-11888.
- [2] (a) W, Dai, S, J. Geib, and D, P. Curran, Facile Synthesis of α-N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Boryl Ketones from N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Boranes and Alkenyl Triflates, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 12355-12361. (b) X,-L. Su, H.-G. Huang and Y.-F. Yuan, Radical Desulfur-Fragmentation and Reconstruction of Enol Triflates: Facile Access to α-Trifluoromethyl Ketones, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2017, 56, 1338-1341.

## 6. Characterization Data of Compound

### 6.1. Characterization data of starting materials 1a-1e, 1g-1i, 1k.

H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>+</sup>, H<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>4</sub>

 $H_3B_{+}^{+}$ *I-ethylimidazoleborane* (1b).Colorless oil (yield 70%), the product was $N_{-}$ purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford1bthe desired product;  $R_f = 0.4$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); IR (neat) v 3133, 2301,1541, 1169, 1123, 829, 745, 640 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H),6.94 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.60 - 1.88 (m, 3H), 1.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>BNMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -19.44 (q, J = 95.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  135.7,127.8, 119.4, 43.4, 15.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>Na<sup>+</sup> 133.0907;Found 133.0917.



*1-butylimidazoliumborane* (1c). White solid (yield 85%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 37 - 39 °C;  $R_f = 0.5$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3130, 2953, 2260, 1543, 1179, 1117,

854, 758, 646 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (s, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.83 - 1.75 (m, 2H), 2.72 - 2.0 (m, 3H), 1.40 - 1.30 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -19.44 (q, J = 95.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 136.1, 127.7, 119.7, 48.3, 32.4, 19.5, 13.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>Calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>Na<sup>+</sup> 161.1221; Found 161.1230.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76 (s, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.72 - 1.94 (m, 3H), 1.83 - 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.33 - 1.26 (m, 6H), 0.92 - 0.86 (m, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -19.45 (q, J = 98.2 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.1, 127.6, 119.8, 48.6, 31.1, 30.4, 26.0, 22.3, 13.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>Na<sup>+</sup> 189.1534; Found 189.1526.



*1-Octylimidazolium borane* (1e). Colorless oil (yield 84%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f$ = 0.4 (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 2925, 2855, 2302, 2258,

1732, 1542, 1243, 1168, 1124, 1045, 823, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (s, 1H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.58 - 1.99 (m, 3H), 1.83 - 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.35 - 1.23 (m, 10H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -19.48 (q, *J* = 95.2 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.1, 127.4, 119.9, 48.5, 31.6, 30.5, 28.9, 28.8, 26.2, 22.5, 14.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C11H23BN2Na<sup>+</sup> 217.1847; Found 217.1828.



3132, 2302, 1538, 1168, 1114, 939, 828, 744, 639 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.99 - 5.90 (m, 1H), 5.40 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz,

1H), 5.31 (d, J = 17.2 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.50 - 1.85 (m, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -19.37 (q, J = 95.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.2, 130.7, 127.9, 120.9, 119.9, 50.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>Na<sup>+</sup> 145.0907; Found 145.0918.

H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>3</sub>B<sup>-+</sup> H<sub>1</sub> H<sub>1</sub>



*4-Methoxypyridine borane* (1i). White solid (yield 77%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 90 - 92 °C;  $R_f = 0.4$  (pentane/EtOAc =

1/1); **IR (neat)** v 2360, 1626, 1510, 1298, 1163, 1096, 1010, 822 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.40 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.93 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 2.91 - 2.07 (m, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.90 (q, J = 97.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.3, 149.0, 110.9, 56.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BNNaO<sup>+</sup> 146.0748; Found 146.0726.



*2-amino-4-methylpyridine borane* (1k). White solid (yield 81%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 104 - 106 °C;  $R_f = 0.4$  (pentane/EtOAc =

1/1); IR (neat) v 3436, 3337, 2313, 1648, 1613, 1517, 1168, 1152, 888, 823 cm<sup>-</sup>

<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 2.56 - 1.76 (m, 6H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -17.36 (q, *J* = 96.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.6, 144.4, 141.4, 122.3, 111.3, 17.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:

### 6.2. Characterization data of products 3 and 4.



(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate (3a). Yellow oil (31.5 mg, 65%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); IR

(neat) v 3133, 2966, 2353, 1446, 1276, 1128, 1014, 695, 663 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 - 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.72 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 - 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.40 - 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.04 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.56 - 2.53 (m, 2H), 1.84 - 1.75 (m, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.08 (t, J = 101.9Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.7, 138.3, 135.9, 131.5, 128.4, 127.9, 126.2, 119.6, 50.2, 37.5, 23.8, 10.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 265.1483; Found 265.1479.



#### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(1-ethyl-1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate

**(3b).** Colorless oil (18.2 mg, 40%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford

the desired product;  $R_f = 0.5$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3135, 2922, 2331, 1644, 1446, 1276, 1126, 825, 665 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.02 - 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.48 - 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.42 - 7.36 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.89 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 2H), 1.47 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.13 (t, J = 100.9 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.9, 138.3, 135.4, 131.4, 128.5, 127.9, 126.9, 119.1, 43.5, 37.6, 15.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 251.1326; Found 251.1330.



### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(1-butyl-1H-imidazole)-

*dihydroborate* (3c). Colorless oil (23.6 mg, 46%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography

(PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3134, 2930, 2332, 1644, 1275, 1126, 1091, 753, 661 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 2H), 1.80 - 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.38 - 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.52 (d, J = 97.9 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.8, 138.3, 135.8, 131.4, 128.5, 127.9, 126.8, 119.5, 48.4, 37.6, 32.3, 19.5, 13.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+K]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BKN<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> 295.1379; Found 295.1385.



#### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)ethyl)(1-hexyl-1H-imidazole)-

*dihydroborate* (3d). Colorless oil (25.6 mg, 45%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;

 $R_f$ = 0.5 (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** *v* 3133, 2929, 2350, 1636, 1446, 1277, 1084, 985, 755, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.55 (s, 2H), 1.78 - 1.72 (m, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.29 - 1.26 (s, 6H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -12.14 (t, *J* = 93.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 207.7, 138.4, 135.8, 131.4, 128.5, 127.9, 126.7, 119.6, 48.6, 37.5, 31.1, 30.4, 26.0, 22.4, 13.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 307.1952; Found 307.1967.



#### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)ethyl)(1-octyl-1H-

*imidazole)-dihydroborate* (3e). Colorless oil (26.9 mg, 43%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 4:1 to 3:1) to afford

the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3133, 2925, 2327, 1647, 1541, 1446, 1274, 1092, 907, 756 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.90 - 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.48 - 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.40 - 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.74 - 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.32 - 1.22 (m, 10H), 0.876 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -12.10 (t, J = 100.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100

**MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN**) δ 206.4, 139.4, 137.1, 131.8, 128.6, 128.5, 126.3, 121.1, 48.7, 37.8, 32.1, 30.6, 29.4, 29.2, 26.4, 23.0, 14.0; **HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [M+Na]+ Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>29</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 335.2265; Found 335.2275.



(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(1-benzyl-1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate (3f). Colorless oil (27.3 mg, 47%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); IR

(neat) v 3133, 2332, 1643, 1539, 1446, 1276, 1077, 915, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 - 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.47 - 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.42 - 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.20 - 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 2.56 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.45 (t, J = 109.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.7, 138.3, 136.2, 133.6, 131.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 119.9, 52.3, 37.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 313.1483; Found 313.1501.



#### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(1-allyl-1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate

(3g). Colorless oil (13.4 mg, 28%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); IR

(neat) v 3134, 2926, 2330, 1644, 1541, 1275, 1091, 1030, 755, 695, 638 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 5.95 - 5.85 (m, 1H), 5.39 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 2H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.22 (t, J = 83.2 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.8, 138.3, 136.0, 131.5, 130.5, 128.5, 128.0, 126.9, 121.0, 119.7, 50.8, 37.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO 263.1326; Found 263.1347.



### (2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)ethyl)(1-vinyl-1H-imidazole)-

dihydroborate (3h). Colorless oil (20.8 mg, 46%), the product

was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3131, 2922, 2332, 1645, 1527, 1276, 1126, 1089, 756, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 - 8.00 (m, 3H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 2.4Hz, 1H), 5.16 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -11.96 (t, *J* = 103.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.9, 138.2, 134.8, 131.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.6, 116.6, 106.3, 37.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 249.1170; Found 249.1148.



(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(2-methoxypyridin)-dihydroborate (3i). Colorless oil (18.3 mg, 38%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1);

IR (neat) v 2922, 2848, 2368, 1627, 1513, 1304, 1078, 834, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  8.22 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.48 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -6.32 (t, J = 101.7 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  205.9, 168.8, 149.1, 139.2, 132.0, 128.6, 111.9, 57.1, 38.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BNNaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 264.1166; Found 264.1155.



(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(4-N,N-dimethylpyridin)-dihydroborate (3j). White solid (23.4 mg, 46%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 90 - 92 °C;  $R_f = 0.6$ 

(pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 2921, 2346, 1634, 1272, 1143, 1092, 810, 773, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H **NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  8.01 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (tt, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 6.8, 2H), 6.47 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.08 (s, 6H), 2.57 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>11</sup>B **NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  -7.06 (t, J = 84.8 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  207.3, 155.0, 146.3, 138.4, 131.4, 128.6, 128.0, 106.4, 39.5, 38.7; **HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [2M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{30}H_{39}B_2N_4O_2^+$  509.3254; Found 509.3268.



(2-phenyl-2-oxoethyl)(2-amino-5-methylpyridin)-dihydroborate (3k). White solid (19.2 mg, 40%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 106 - 108 °C;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1);

IR (neat) v 3412, 3157, 2922, 2390, 1647, 1519, 1280, 1147, 825, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.91 - 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.50 (tt, *J* = 5.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 - 7.39 (m, 3H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 2.46 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -10.44 (t, *J* = 99.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  206.4, 154.6, 143.7, 142.4, 139.2, 132.0, 128.6, 128.5, 122.3, 112.6, 34.6, 16.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 263.1326; Found 263.1348.



### (1,3-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-3-ium-2-yl)(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)-

*dihydroborate* (31). White solid (39.7 mg, 87%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR

(400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H),
6.92 (s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 2H).<sup>2a</sup>



#### (2-(4-bromophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1H-

*imidazole)-dihydroborate* (4a). White solid (33.3 mg, 52%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the

desired product; **m.p.** 99 - 101 °C; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** *v* 3390, 3189, 3120, 2917, 2849, 2359, 2328, 1643, 1277, 1134, 1085, 846, 654 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)** δ 7.80 - 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.79 - 1.70 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>**B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)** δ -12.17 (t, *J* = 99.9 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)** δ 205.2,

138.3, 137.2, 131.6, 130.6, 126.3, 126.0, 121.2, 50.2, 37.9, 24.0, 10.5; **HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BBrN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 343.0588; Found 343.0614.



(2-(4-Chlorophenylphenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1Himidazole)-dihydroborate (4b). Colorless oil (35.3 mg, 64%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the

desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3133, 2966, 2352, 1646, 1272, 1087, 1011, 821, 744, 658 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 1.79 - 7.70 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -12.17 (t, J = 100.1 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  205.1, 137.9, 137.4, 137.2, 130.4, 128.6, 126.3, 121.1, 50.2, 38.0, 24.0, 10.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BClN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 299.1093; Found 299.1105.



(2-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1propyl-1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate (4c).
Yellow oil (8.4 mg, 14%), the product was

purified by flash column chromatography

(PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); IR (neat) v3342, 2958, 1719, 1677, 1435, 1278, 1111, 1014, 768, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 8.05 (s, 4H), 7.73 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.87 - 1.78 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.28 (t, J = 106.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 206.9, 166.8, 141.9, 135.8, 132.3, 129.3, 128.4, 126.8, 119.6, 52.2, 50.3, 37.7, 23.8, 10.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [2M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>43</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> 601.3363; Found 601.3381.



**S**18

21%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 49 - 51 °C;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3139, 2966, 2339, 2229, 1654, 1270, 1130, 1080, 825, 757, 659 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.80 - 1.71 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -12.36 (t, J = 101.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  204.9, 142.6, 137.2, 132.6, 129.1, 126.2, 121.2, 119.0, 114.7, 50.2, 38.1, 24.0, 10.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H+CH<sub>3</sub>CN]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BN<sub>4</sub>O<sup>+</sup> 309.1881; Found 309.1890.



#### (2-(4-(ethoxycarbonyl)-2-

### oxoethyl)ethyl)dihydroborate)(1-propyl-1H-

*imidazole)-dihydroborate* (4e). Yellow oil (20.1 mg, 32%), the product was purified by flash column

chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.7$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** *v* 3134, 2966, 2351, 1712, 1650, 1269, 1100, 1016, 764, 707 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 2H), 7.81 - 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  -12.24 (t, *J* = 93.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  205.8, 166.4, 142.9, 137.2, 133.2, 129.5, 128.6, 126.3, 121.2, 61.6, 50.2, 38.2, 24.0, 14.6, 10.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> 337.1694; Found 337.1671.



### (2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-

*1H-imidazole)-dihydroborate* (4f). Colorless oil (23.6 mg, 38%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the

desired product; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** *v* 3134, 2933, 2357, 1652, 1323, 1120, 1064, 1015, 830, 740, 663 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 1.80 - 1.71 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz,

**CDCl<sub>3</sub>**)  $\delta$  -12.31 (t, J = 101.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  206.4, 141.0, 135.8, 132.8 (q, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.2 Hz), 128.8, 126.8, 125.0 (q, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.7 Hz), 124.0 (q, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 272.4 Hz), 119.7, 50.3, 37.9, 23.8, 10.9; **HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 333.1356; Found 333.1384.



(2-(4-(bromo)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1H-imidazole)dihydroborate (4g). White oil (30.1 mg, 47%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc

= 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3135, 2963, 2352, 1650, 1280, 1257, 1127, 1080, 778, 742, 659 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.59 - 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.29 - 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.89 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 1.88 - 1.79 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.27 (d, J = 103.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  206.0, 140.1, 135.8, 134.3, 131.4, 129.6, 127.3, 126.8, 122.4, 119.7, 50.3, 37.7, 23.8, 10.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BBrN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 343.0588; Found 343.0591.



(2-(3-(chlorophenyl)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1Himidazole)-dihydroborate (4h). Yellow oil (20.4 mg, 37%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the

desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$  (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3134, 2965, 2353, 1650, 1280, 1258, 1128, 1092, 783, 744, 668 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.88 - 1.79 (m, 2H), 0.96 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -12.25 (d, J = 109.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  206.1, 140.0, 135.8, 134.2, 131.3, 129.3, 128.5, 126.8, 119.6, 50.3, 37.7, 23.8, 10.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BClN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> 299.1093; Found 299.1118.

(2-(3-(methyl)phenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1H-



imidazole)-dihydroborate (4i). White oil (16.0 mg, 31%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product;  $R_f = 0.6$ (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR (neat)** v 3130.5, 2964.8, 2326.5, 1644.2, 1280.6, 1125.7, 1091.5, 787.3, 745.2, 703.8, 655.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.30 - 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.79 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128) **MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN**)  $\delta$  -12.13 (t, J = 99.9 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) 206.7, 139.6, 138.2, 137.2, 132.5, 129.12, 128.5, 126.4, 125.9, 121.1, 50.2, 37.6, 24.0, 21.0, 10.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+K]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BKN<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> 295.1379; found:295.1402.



*imidazole)-dihydroborate* (4j). White solid (31.6 mg, 51%), the product was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 3:1 to 2:1) to afford the desired product; **m.p.** 49 - 51 °C;  $R_f = 0.6$ (pentane/EtOAc = 1/1); **IR** (neat) v 3122, 2971, 2920, 2360, 2329, 1642, 1281, 1133, 1085, 1029, 980, 801, 766, 679, 655 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.955 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H) 7.536 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 3.91 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 2H), 1.77 - 1.72 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, **CD<sub>3</sub>CN**)  $\delta$  -12.23 (t, J = 94.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  203.8, 139.3, 137.2, 135.3, 132.2, 130.8, 130.5, 128.4, 126.2, 121.2, 50.2, 37.8, 24.0, 10.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:  $[2M+Na]^+$  Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>34</sub>B<sub>2</sub>C<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 643.1514; Found 643.1503.

(2-(3,4-dichlorophenylphenyl)-2-oxoethyl)(1-propyl-1H-

# 7. Copies of NMR Spectra

## 7.1. Starting materials 1a-1e, 1g-1i, 1k.

Material 1a: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.





**S**23



Material 1b: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.





## Material 1c: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.

90

80

70 60

50

40 30

20

10 0 f1 (ppm) -10

-20 -30

-40 -50

-60

-70

-80

-90



Material 1d: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.





















### Material 1h: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.







## Material 1i: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.








-10 -20 -30 -40 -50

-60 -70 -80

-90

90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm)



## 7.2 Products 3 and 4



Product 3a: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.

0 f1 (ppm)

10

-10

-20 -30 -40

-50 -60 -70

90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20











### **Product 3c:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.

90

70

50

 $\frac{1}{40}$ 

30

20

80

10 0 f1 (ppm) -10

-20

-30

-40

-50

-60

-70

-80

-90



### **Product 3d:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.



















15

10

5

0

-5

-10 f1 (ppm) -15

-20

-25

-30

-35

-40







-25

-20

-30

-40

-35

-45

-50

25

15

10

20



















# **Product 3j:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.













#### Product 31: <sup>1</sup>H NMR









#### **Product 4b:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.













#### **Product 4d:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.







#### Product 4e: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.






## **Product 4f:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.















## **Product 4h:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.







## Product 4i: <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.





## **Product 4j:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR <sup>11</sup>B NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR.



