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- Supporting Information -

# Unexpected Hydrazine Hydrate-Mediated Aerobic Oxidation of Aryl/Heteroaryl boronic Acids to Phenols with Ambient Air

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1. General Procedure for aerobic oxidation of aryl/heteroaryl boronic acids to phenols with ambient Air. A flask was charged with aryl/heteroaryl boronic acid 1 (0.5 mmol),  $N_2H_4$ · $H_2O$  (0.25 mmol, 14.4 µL),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (1.0 mmol, 329.1 mg),  $H_2O$  (2.5 mmol, 45.0 µL), and PEG-400 (2.0 g). Then, the flask was stirred at 80 °C in open air for the indicated time. At the end of the reaction, the reaction mixture was acidified with dilute aqueous HCl and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 15 mL). The organic phases were combined, and the volatile components were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate).

### 2. Analytical methods

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of solutions in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO– $d_6$  were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 instrument. Chemical shifts were expressed in parts per million (ppm) downfield from tetramethylsilane and refer to the solvent signals (CDCl<sub>3</sub> : H 7.24 and C 77.0 ppm; DMSO- $d_6$  : H 2.50 and C 39.5 ppm). The signals of water were observed at about 1.58 ppm and 3.34 ppm in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO- $d_6$ , respectively. Abbreviations for signal couplings are: br, broad; s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet; dd, doublet of doublets; dt, triplet of doublets; td, doublet of triplets; tt, triplet of triplets; ddd, doublet of doublet of doublets; tdd, doublet of triplets. Coupling constants, *J*, were reported in hertz unit (Hz).

### 3. Analytical data of products



**Dibenzothiophen-4-ol (2a):** Following general procedure, **2a** was isolated as a light pink solid (86% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.5 (br s, 1 H), 8.29–8.26 (m, 1 H), 8.02–7.99 (m, 1 H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.52–7.45 (m, 2 H), 7.34 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.95 ppm (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  152.3, 138.7, 136.9, 135.7, 126.9, 126.2, 125.6, 124.6, 123.2, 122.2, 112.9, 111.5 ppm; mp 166.3–167.1 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 158-160 °C).



**2,5-Dimethoxyphenol (2b):** Following general procedure, **2b** was isolated as a light yellow liquid (91% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.65 (s, 1 H), 3.82 (s, 3 H), 3.73 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  154.5, 146.4, 140.9, 111.4, 104.2, 101.7, 56.6, 55.6 ppm.



**3,5-Dimethoxyphenol (2c):** Following general procedure, **2c** was isolated as a light brown oil. (92% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.04 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.02 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.73 (br s, 1 H), 3.71 ppm (s, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  161.5, 157.6, 94.3, 92.9, 55.3 ppm.

**2,6-Dimethylphenol (2d):** Following general procedure A, **2d** was isolated as a white solid (96% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.74 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.58 (br s, 1 H), 2.24 ppm (s, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  152.1, 128.6, 122.9, 120.2, 15.8 ppm; mp 42.8–44.2 °C (lit. <sup>S1</sup> mp 43-45 °C).



**2-Methoxyphenol (2e):** Following general procedure, **2e** was isolated as a light yellow oil (97% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.94–6.91 (m, 1 H), 6.89–6.84 (m, 3 H), 5.64 (br s, 1 H), 3.87 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  146.5, 145.6, 121.4, 120.1, 114.5, 110.7, 55.8 ppm.



**3-Methoxyphenol (2f):** Following general procedure, **2f** was isolated as a light yellow oil (83% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.11 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.49–6.30 (m, 3 H), 4.14 (br s, 1 H), 3.76 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  160.9, 156.9, 130.1, 107.9, 106.3, 101.6, 55.3 ppm.



**4-Methoxyphenol (2g):** Following general procedure, **2g** was isolated as a low melting point solid (98% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 6.79–6.73 (m, 4 H), 4.86 (br s, 1 H), 3.75 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 153.7, 149.4, 116.0, 114.8, 55.8 ppm.



**3-Aminophenol (2h):** Following general procedure, **2h** was isolated as a white solid (85% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S4</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.86 (br s, 1 H), 6.80–6.76 (m, 1 H), 6.02–6.00 (m, 2 H), 5.96–5.93 (m, 1 H), 4.92 ppm (br s, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.1, 149.8, 129.5, 105.6, 103.5, 101.1 ppm; mp 118.8–120.2 °C (lit.<sup>S4</sup> mp 120–121 °C).

Me

**2-Methylphenol (2i):** Following general procedure, **2i** was isolated as a low melting point solid (91% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S5</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.13–7.06 (m, 2 H), 6.85 (td, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.78 (br s, 1 H), 2.25 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  153.7, 131.0, 127.1, 123.7, 120.7, 114.8, 15.7 ppm.



**3-Methylphenol (2j):** Following general procedure, **2j** was isolated as a colorless oil (95% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S6</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.13 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.67–6.64 (m, 2 H), 4.89 (br s, 1 H), 2.30 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  155.3, 139.8, 129.4, 121.6, 116.0, 112.3, 21.3 ppm.



**4-Methylphenol (2k):** Following general procedure, **2k** was isolated as a low melting point solid (90% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S6</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.02–6.91 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.49 (br s, 1 H), 2.26 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  153.2, 130.0, 129.9, 115.0, 20.4 ppm.



**Phenol (21):** Following general procedure A, **21** was isolated as a white yellow solid (87% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.93 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.84 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  155.3, 129.7, 120.8, 115.3 ppm; mp 41.2–42.6 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 40-42 °C).



**4-Iodophenol (2m):** Following general procedure A, **2m** was isolated as a light yellow solid (98% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 5.03 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  155.3, 138.4, 117.8, 82.7 ppm; mp 63.3–64.2 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 90–93 °C).



4-Bromophenol (2n): Following general procedure, 2n was isolated as a light yellow solid (96%

yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.83 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  154.6, 132.4, 117.2, 112.9 ppm; mp 54.3–56.2 °C (lit. <sup>S1</sup> mp 55–58 °C).

**3-Hydroxyacetophenone (20):** Following general procedure, **20** was isolated as a white solid (95% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S7</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  9.79 (s, 1 H), 7.41 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.03 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.52 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  197.8, 157.6, 138.3, 129.8, 120.3, 119.3, 114.3, 26.8 ppm; mp 85.8–86.2 °C (lit.<sup>S7</sup> mp 92–95 °C).



**Methyl 4-Hydroxybenzoate (2p):** Following general procedure, **2p** was isolated as a white solid (97% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 5.51 (br s, 1 H), 3.87 ppm (s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  167.3, 160.1, 131.9, 122.4, 115.2, 52.0 ppm; mp 112.0–113.1 °C (lit. <sup>S1</sup> mp 121–123 °C).



**4-Hydroxybenzonitrile (2q):** Following general procedure, **2q** was isolated as a light yellow solid (98% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.34 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  160.4, 134.3, 119.3, 116.5, 102.8 ppm; mp 109.1–111.2 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 107–109 °C)..



**3-Nitrophenol (2r):** Following general procedure, **2r** was isolated as a light yellow solid (89% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.79 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 8.0, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.19 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.97 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.3, 149.0, 130.3, 122.1, 115.9, 110.5 ppm; mp 99.0–100.1 °C(lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 96–99 °C).

## OH 2s

**2-Napthol (2s):** Following general procedure, **2s** was isolated as a white solid (97% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.75 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.44–7.40 (m, 1 H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 1 H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.11 (td, *J* = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.86 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  153.3, 134.6, 129.8, 128.9, 127.7, 126.5, 126.4, 123.6, 117.7, 109.5 ppm; mp 116.0–116.8 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 121–123 °C).

**4-(Methylmercapto)phenol (2t):** Following general procedure A, **2t** was isolated as a white solid (85% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S8</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 5.18 (br s, 1 H), 2.42 ppm (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  154.0, 130.3, 128.8, 116.1, 18.0 ppm; mp 83.4-84.3 °C (lit.<sup>S8</sup> mp 83-85 °C).



**Dibenzofuran-4-ol (2u):** Following general procedure, **2u** was isolated as a white solid (83% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.51 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (td, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.34 (td, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.21 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.02 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.49 ppm (br s, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.0, 144.0, 141.1, 127.3, 125.7, 124.6, 123.7, 122.9, 121.0, 113.6, 112.8, 111.8 ppm; mp 98.2–100.1 °C (lit.<sup>S1</sup> mp 98–100 °C).



**Pyridin-3-ol (2v):** Following general procedure, **2v** was isolated as a white solid (91% yield), known compound. The NMR spectroscopic data agree with those described in ref..<sup>S7</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.27 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.08 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.32–7.25 ppm (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  155.1, 139.3, 136.5, 125.2, 125.1 ppm; mp 125.0–126.2 °C (lit.<sup>S7</sup> mp 127 °C).



**1***H***-indazol-6-ol (2w):** Following general procedure, **2w** was isolated as a light yellow solid (96% yield), known compound (CAS: 23244-88-4). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  12.58 (br s, 1 H),

9.57 (br s, 1 H), 7.86 (s, 1 H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.78 (s, 1 H), 6.64 ppm (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 156.5, 141.5, 133.3, 121.1, 117.0, 112.3, 93.2 ppm; mp 161.8–164.2 °C.

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### 5. Copies of NMR Spectra













































