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SYNFACTS Highlights in Current Synthetic Organic Chemistry

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Category

Metal-Mediated Synthesis

Key words

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Enantiospecific sp^2–sp^3 Coupling of *ortho*- and *para*-Phenols with Secondary and Tertiary Boronic Esters
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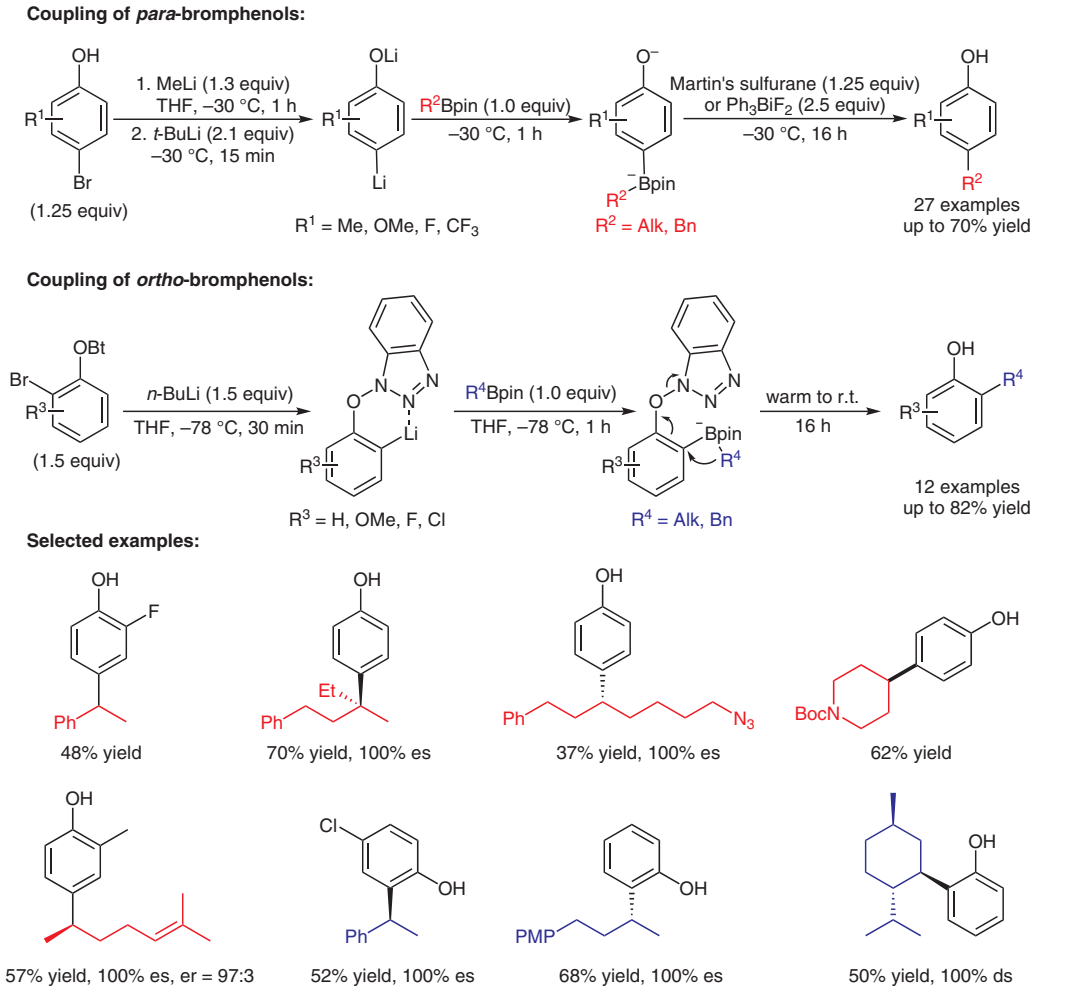
Enantiospecific Coupling of Phenols with Boronic Esters



Significance: The authors report an enantiospecific coupling of *ortho*- and *para*-phenols with secondary and tertiary boronic esters. For *para*-phenols, reaction with Ph_3BiF_2 or Martin's sulfurane led to the product, whereas for *ortho*-phenols initial incorporation of a benzotriazole on the phenol oxygen was necessary.

Comment: The utility of the methodology was demonstrated by application to the synthesis of the broad spectrum antibacterial natural product (–)-4-(1,5-dimethylhex-4-enyl)-2-methyl phenol in good yield and with high enantioselectivity.

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