## Development of CuCl/phosphine to catalyze phenylation and methylation of N-tosyl aldimines with phenyl boronic and methylboronic acids Akram Ashouri \*, Saadi Samadi, Behzad Nasiri, Hossein Zamani, Somayeh Pourian

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# **Supporting Information**

Table 1.S: The effect of copper salt and ligand ratio on the model reaction.

	Ts + PhB(OH) <sub>2</sub> <u>KF</u> Toh	Cl (x)/ PPh <sub>3</sub> (y) uene/ Reflux/Ar	
1a	2a		3a
Entry	X (mol%)	Y (mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	5	5	10
2	10	10	23
3	5	10	65
	2.5	5	83
4	10	20	55

<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: *p*-chlorobenzaldimine (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), CuCl, PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.3 mmol), toluene (0.5 mL) for 24 h under reflux in Ar atmosphere.

<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

Table 3.S.: Effect of various solvents on the model reaction



Entry	Solvent	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	Toluene	83
2	Dioxane	15
3	THF	trace
4	o-Xylene	65
5	Methanol	-
6	Ethanol	-

<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: *p*-chlorobenzaldimine (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), CuCl (2.5 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (5 mol %), KF (0.3 mmol) and solvent (0.5 mL) for 24 h under reflux in Ar atmosphere. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

Extra Information:

- We presented the activity of phosphine ligands coordinated to copper salt as a first row transition metal in these additions.
- We performed the reaction using PhBF<sub>3</sub>K instead, and only a trace amount of desired product was found. Therefore the same as other reports, KF addition to 2a doesn't intercede PhBF<sub>3</sub>K salt formation and PhBF<sub>3</sub>K salt cannot be the active species in catalytic cycle. Although CuCl salt is insoluble in toluene, however the copper forms a soluble complex with the phosphine ligand in organic solvents.
- The proposed mechanisms for the formation of byproducts.





Entry	Base	Additive	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	KF	-	83
2	KF	Et <sub>3</sub> N	45
3	Et <sub>3</sub> N	-	-
4	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	-	40
5	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	50
6	KOH	Et <sub>3</sub> N	25
7	Na <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	-	15
8	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>		15
9	NaOAc	Et <sub>3</sub> N	25
10	NaOAc	-	28

<sup>a</sup> Reaction condition: *p*-chlorobenzaldimine (0.12 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), CuCl (2.5 mol %), PPh<sub>3</sub> (5 mol %), base (0.3 mmol), additive (0.4 mmol) and toluene (0.5 mL) for 24 h under reflux in Ar atmosphere.

<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.



Proposed mechanism 2: via a hemiaminal for the formation of amides from aldehydes and amines by formation of Cu-OAc precatalyst (Org. Chem. Front., 2015, 2,241–247).







### Characterization of some known products



SpinWorks 4: Nasiri 1HNMR in CDCl3 at 298k























SpinWorks 4: Nasiri 1HNMR in CDCl3 at 298k







