



Research Article

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Acetic Anhydride Facilitated Ipso Iodination of Aryl Boronic Acids: Mild and Rapid Synthesis of Aryl Iodide

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ABSTRACT

Iodoarene are considered to be versatile electrophilic partner in c-c bond forming cross-coupling reaction. They are also important building block for the generation of highly versatile and environmentally benign class of organic compounds called hypervalent iodine compounds. For instance, iodoarenes can be readily converted to Diacetoxy Iodobenzene (DIB), IBX and dichloroiodo benzene under oxidising conditions. In view of the foregoing discussion, there is always ample scope for the development of new and improved synthetic methods for the iodoarenes synthesis. Being electron deficient, the necessary requirement for the ipso substitution of organoboron compound (boronic esters, and boronic acids) is that they must be initially activated by some external nucleophile so as to enable them to have electrophilic substitution readily. In our serendipitous discovery during course of our previous research, we had ascertained that the acetic anhydride so added unintentionally must have played the role of activator for iodine to give iodoacetate and acetyl iodide. Thus both, Acetate ion (CH_3COO^-) and Iodide (I^-) ion so generated must have highly activated boronic acid. In the present work, along this line, we envisage that using hitherto untested ecofriendly and economical viable iodinating agent for that is iodine-acetic anhydride couple for ipso iodination of boronic acid could lead to viable approach for the synthesis of iodoarenes. Herein, we report that our above hypothesis indeed worked well as the structurally diverse aryl boronic acids could be efficiently converted into corresponding aryl iodides using I_2 /Acetic anhydride as novel iodinating agent. Detail investigation of various parameters such as temperature, amount of iodine to acetic anhydride ratio, solvents etc. to find out the optimal conditions was carried out. The wide variety of boronic acids such as electron rich, electron deficient and even highly hindered ortho-substituted found to have successfully participated in this iodination process. Taken together, we have developed the simple and convenient and economical viable approach for the facile synthesis of valuable iodoarenes while avoiding the use of any metal catalyst or hazardous reagent.

Keywords: Ipso substituting; Convenient; Metal catalyst-free; Improve protocol; Economically viable

INTRODUCTION

Iodoarene are proved to be important precursors as the electrophilic partners in Suzuki and related metal mediate cross-coupling reaction. In addition, iodoarene can be easily oxidise leading to several hypervalent iodine reagent, and they useful as radiolabelling and diagnostic agents. As such, intrinsic inertness of iodine and iodo compound, as against other aryl halide, formation C-I bond is difficult process. Oxidation and ipso-substitution of arene diazonium salt are the most common method for the synthesis of titled compound. Unfortunately, these methods are not devoid of drawback and require that the novel protocols for the iodoarene ought to be developed. Metal catalysed (copper catalyst and related reagents) direct iodination of arenes has recently been reported as powerful tool for the aryl iodide synthesis by the group of Buchwald at MIT USA.

Recently, conversion of boronic acids via deborylation to various substituted arene has been emerged as powerful synthetic approach [1]. As a results, based on this approach, synthesis of structurally diverse arylazides, phenols, arylsulfones, aryl halides, nitroarenes and amines have been reported. Reported metal free ipso iodination of arylboronic acid using CTAB/I₂. As further advancement, the N-methylmorpholinium Iodide (NIMI) act as highly efficient iodinating agent for ipso iodination of boronic acids in the presence of copper catalyst has also been reported by same group [2].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All the solvent was purchased from SD Fine Chemical Ltd. Boronic acids were purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chem. Ltd.

Synthesis of aryl iodides

In 25 ml round bottomed flask containing with I₂ (2 equiv.) and acetic anhydride (3.0 equiv.) in CH₃CN (10 ml) and the mixture was for a while. Then, to this mixture arylboronic acid was added and the mixture refluxed for 1 h. The progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. After 1 h, treatment of the mixture with dilute sodium thiosulphate solution, it was extracted with ethyl acetate. Organic layer was washed successively with water and then brine. The solvent was removed under vacuo and resulting crude product subjected to column chromatography (pet ether: ethyl acetate, 9:1) to yield pure product.

Representative spectral data

(4-iodophenyl)-isopropylsulfane

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 1.24 (d, 6H), 3.31 (septet, 1H), 7.000 (dt, 2H), 7.55 (d, 2H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 25, 38, 92, 135, 137, 197

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In view of the high synthetic utility of iodoarene as described in the preceding section, any advancement in the synthetic protocol over previously reported methods is always acclaimed by scientific community [3]. Thus the development of further milder and efficient and economical protocol for the synthesis of iodoarene is highly desired.

In the present work, we report the novel methods for the metal free ipso-iodination of diverse boronic acid using molecular iodine and acetic anhydride (I₂/Ac₂O) couple as iodinating agent under extremely mild conditions. During the course of our previous work, in one of our attempts, we had obtained very striking result that the rate of reaction

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enhanced so dramatically that it was unparalleled to all other results. Delighted by this finding, we were curious about the cause of such dramatic enhancement. Therefore, we thought it worthwhile to ascertain as to what could have added to reaction mixture resulting into this unexpected effect of yield of the reaction. After analysing all the possibilities, we could speculate that that the syringe used for acetic anhydride for another reaction happend to be used to add morpholine in the of the optimisation experiment. To check wheat, he indeed this to be the case, we intensionally carried out the experiment in which acetic anhydride (1 to 2 equiv.) was used aim combination with morpholine and I₂. We were delighted to see that in all the experiment, more or less we got either similar or even better results to that of seridipitious result [4,5]. Thus it was confirmed that indeed it was none other than the accidentally added acetic anhydride causing to reach to completion so rapidly that this result found to be altogether different from all other optimisation experiments. This serendipitious discovery prompted us to develop more improve method for the synthesis of aryl iodides.

As to exactly what amount of acetic anhydride is optimal to get the highet possible yield, it was essential to undertake the optimisation study. Thus, we considered the model reaction involving 4-ethylphenyl boronic acid as a substarte. The various parameter such as use of different solvents, temperature, amount of iodine and acetic anhydride was carried out, Figure 2. After performing series of experiment, the best recation conditions. Among all the solvent screened, the acetonitrile was found to be the best solvent. Also, DCM and methanol were found to othe suitable solvent as both reactions gave high yield of the products. After performing series of experiments, we found that the boroni acid 1 equiv, I₂ 2.0 equi., acetic anhydride 3.0 equiv in acetontile under refluxe for 1 h were best reaction condtions for the present study (Figure 1 and Table 1).

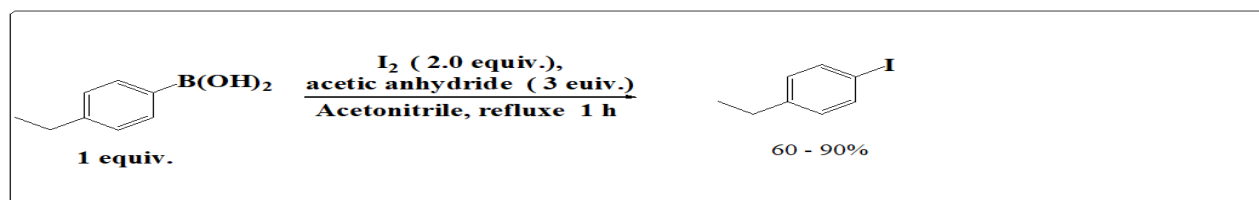


Figure 1: Calibration curve of ciprofloxacin.

Table 1: Recation parameter optimization.

Sr. no	Acetic sanhydride	I ₂	Yield
	(Equiv.)	(Equiv.)	(%)
1	None	1	None
2	0.2	1	25
3	0.5	1	37
4	1	1	42
5	2	2	71
6	2	3	78

Having established the optimised reaction conditions, next in order to fine out the scope and generality of the present approach, the wide variety of boronic acids such as ortho, meta and para substituted aryl boronic acids and some heteroarylboronic acids were subjected to ipso substitution under present reaction conditions [6].

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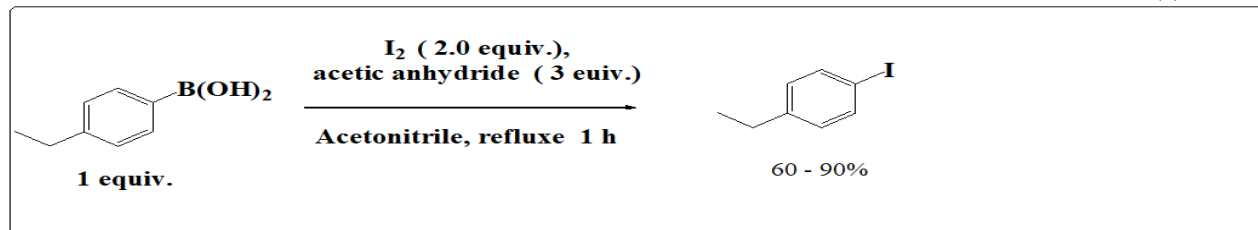


Figure 2: Calibration curve of ciprofloxacin.

Substrate scope

The results of the substrate screening is shown in Table 1. It was found that wide variety of boronic acids were found to be suitable under these conditions corresponding aryl iodides in good yields. In contrast to phenylboronic acid, electron rich substrates reacted efficiently thus proving iodoarene product in high yield [7]. The arylboronic acids bearing alkyl, alkoxy (Table 2, entries 2, 3, 4, 10), alkyl thio (Table 2, entry 5 and 6), carbonyl (Table 2, entry 7), alkoxy carbonyl (Table 2, entry 8 and 9), halides (Table 2, entries 10 and 11), and methane sulfonyl (Table 2, entry 13) etc. participated successfully in the ipso iodination process.

Table 2: Scope of boronic acids in acetic anhydride mediated ipso iodination[a].

Entry	Boronic acids	Product	Yield ^b (%)
1			68
2			78
3			81
4			93
5			83
6			85
7			42
8			39
9			37
10			89
11			87
12			25
13			31

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Unfortunately, electron deficient boronic acid however lead to iodoarenes in moderate yield. Notably, sterically hindered substrates such as 2-chloro-4-methoxyphenylboronic acid gave corresponding iodoarene in excellent yield thereby proving high reactivity of hindered but electron rich boronic acids using this approach. We also screened several alkylboronic acids, for instance indanyl boronic acids, but unfortunately, they gave inferior results under present conditions (results not shown). Thus, we speculate that the present iodinating agent I_2 /acetic anhydride might not be effective to activate alkylboronic acids towards the ipso iodination process.

Mechanistic pathways

After detail investigation of various reaction parameters such as acetic anhydride to I_2 ratio, solvents and temperature, we thought it worthwhile to propose the plausible mechanistic pathway(s) for the present ipso iodination process. As activation of boronic acids in order to have ipso attack on boronic group is the mandatory requirement for the success of this process. The negatively charged boron species is then must add electrophilic partner to itself leading to deborylation product. As in the absence of acetic anhydride the reaction did not proceed (Table 2, entry 1) imply that boronic acid might not have activated and hence iodine [8]. Thus the role of acetic anhydride is to first generate two ionic species following reaction with iodine viz. iodoacetate ($AcOI^+$) and acetyl iodide (Ac^+I^-). Thus the iodoacetate can serve the purpose of both as activator for boronic acids as well as source of electrophilic iodonium ion I^+ .

Based on this we propose the following pathways for the present reaction. The iodine reacts with acetic anhydride to give iodonium acetate and acetyl iodide. The Lewis acid-base type interaction of boronic acid and acetate ion results in ionic species (boronate type anion) [9]. The ipso attack by I^+ on boronate leads to the formation of iodoarene products and acetic anhydride is regenerated. Regeneration of acetic anhydride could be established by the fact that the reaction can proceed even using catalytic amount of acetic anhydride (Figure 3).

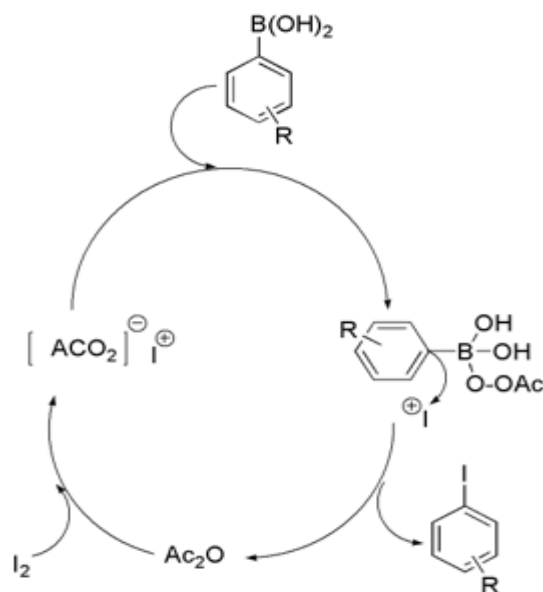


Figure 3: Plausible mechanism for ipso iodination.

CONCLUSION

Organoboron compounds are highly versatile and green reagents. In the present work, we grab this unique character of organoboron compounds, particularly, aryl boronic acid by judicious choice of novel iodinating agent such as I_2 /acetic

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anhydride to develop novel ipso iodination protocols. It worth mentioning here that in the present work, we have first time demonstrated the concomitant use of molecular iodine as iodinating agent and small organic molecules as activators. In conclusion, the use of readily accessible and inexpensive reagents, mild conditions, high yields and operational simplicity make the present protocol as an attractive alternative.

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