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(54) **METHODS FOR PRODUCING BORYLATED ARENES**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods for the borylation of aromatic compounds using cobalt catalysts are provided.

METHODS FOR PRODUCING BORYLATED ARENES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

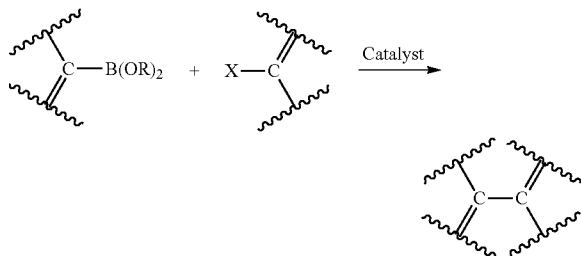
[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/012,681 filed Jun. 16, 2014, which is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] This application relates generally to methods of forming borylated arenes, as well as methods of using thereof.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Arylboronic acids and arylboronic acid esters are versatile reagents in organic chemistry. In particular, arylboronic acids and arylboronic acid esters can participate in a variety of cross-coupling reactions, such as Suzuki-type cross-coupling reactions, which can result in carbon-carbon bond formation, as generally illustrated below.



As a consequence, arylboronic esters and arylboronic acids are frequently key intermediates in the synthesis of highly functionalized organic compounds, including pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals. Improved methods for preparing arylboronic acids and arylboronic acid esters, including regioselective methods of preparing substituted arylboronic acids and substituted arylboronic acid esters, offer the potential to improve synthesis of important classes of organic compounds, including pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals.

SUMMARY

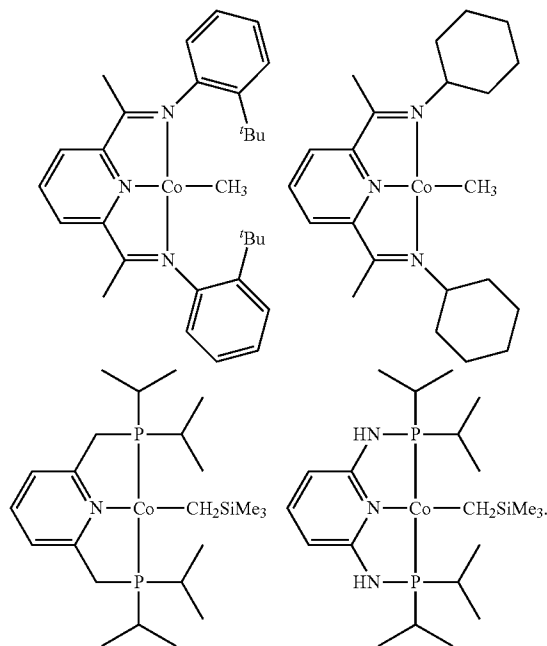
[0004] Metal-catalyzed C—H activation-borylation can be used to prepare arylboronic acids and arylboronic acid esters from their aromatic precursor in a single step. Metal-catalyzed C—H activation-borylation offers many advantages relative to alternative methods of borylation. For example, metal-catalyzed C—H activation-borylation does not require the cryogenic reaction temperatures that are typically required when using classical lithium-hydrogen exchange reactions to activate the C—H position for borylation. However, the metal-catalyzed C—H activation borylation typically employs costly iridium and rhodium catalyst systems. Provided herein are methods for the C—H activation-borylation of aromatic compounds that employ cobalt catalyst systems. The cobalt catalyst systems can be significantly less expensive than the costly iridium and rhodium catalyst systems typically employed for C—H activation-borylation.

[0005] Provided are methods for preparing borylated aromatic compounds. Methods for preparing a borylated aromatic compound can comprise contacting an aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form the borylated aromatic compound.

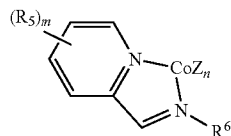
[0006] The aromatic substrate can be any suitable aromatic compound that can be subjected to C—H activation-borylation. For example, the aromatic substrate can be a substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted benzene), a substituted or unsubstituted six-membered heteroaromatic compound (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted pyridine), or a substituted or unsubstituted five-membered heteroaromatic compound (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted pyrrole, a substituted or unsubstituted furan, or a substituted or unsubstituted thiophene).

[0007] In these methods, the catalytic cobalt complex can be any suitable cobalt(I) or cobalt(II) complex that can catalyze the C—H activation-borylation of the aromatic substrate. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is a cobalt(I) complex.

[0008] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a tridentate ligand. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt pincer complex. In some cases, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt chelate complex comprising a CCC, CNC, CNS, NNN, NCN, PCP, PNP, PCN, OCO, SCS, SNS, or SPS pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt chelate complex comprising an NNN or NPN pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not one of the following:



[0009] In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt pincer complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a bidentate ligand, such as a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

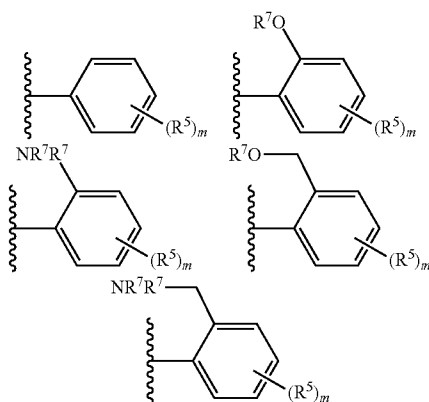
[0010] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0011] n is 2,

[0012] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0013] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0014] R⁶ is selected from one of the following:



[0015] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

[0016] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0017] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt complex comprising exclusively monodentate ligands. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise Py₂Co(CH₂SiMe₃)₂.

[0018] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a polymetallic cobalt complex, such as a bridged dicobalt complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise [(Cp*Co)₂-μ-(η⁴:η⁴-toluene)].

[0019] Also provided are methods for borylating aromatic compounds having a ring substituent which includes a carbon atom in the alpha-position to the aromatic ring which is substituted with at least one hydrogen atom (e.g., at least two hydrogen atoms or three hydrogen atoms). The methods can include contacting the aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to borylate the carbon atom in the alpha-position to the aromatic ring.

[0020] For example, provided are methods for preparing borylated compounds defined by Formula VII

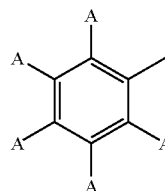


Formula VII

wherein X is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group or a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group, and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. The methods can include providing an aromatic substrate comprising a methyl-substituted aryl group or a methyl-substituted heteroaryl group and contacting the aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form a compound defined by Formula VII.

[0021] The aromatic substrate can comprise any suitable methyl-substituted aryl or methyl-substituted heteroaryl group. The aryl or heteroaryl group can optionally further comprise one or more substituents in addition to the methyl substituents. As a consequence, X can be any suitable substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl group. For example, X can be a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group). In other cases, X can be a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted pyridyl group).

[0022] In certain embodiments, the aromatic substrate can comprise a compound defined by Formula VIII



Formula VIII

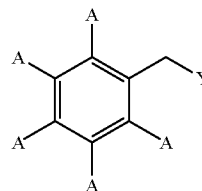
wherein

[0023] A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, —OR¹, —NR²R³, —C(=O)R⁴, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

[0024] R¹, R², and R³ are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

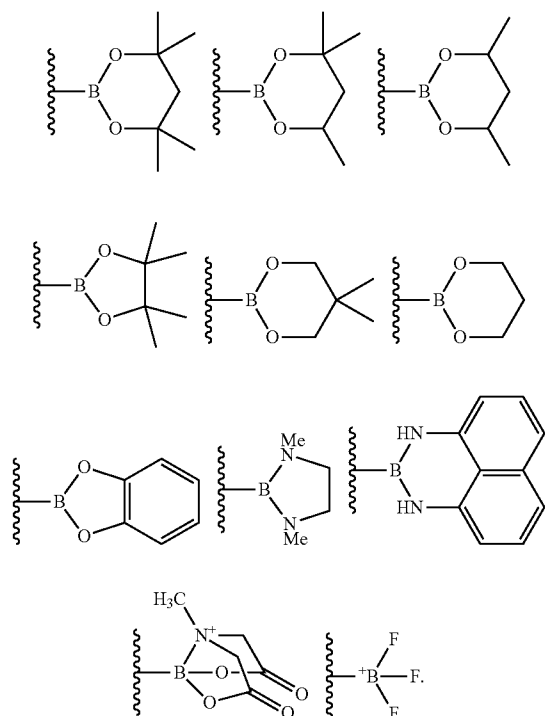
[0025] R⁴ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR¹, —NR²R³, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0026] In these embodiments, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula IX



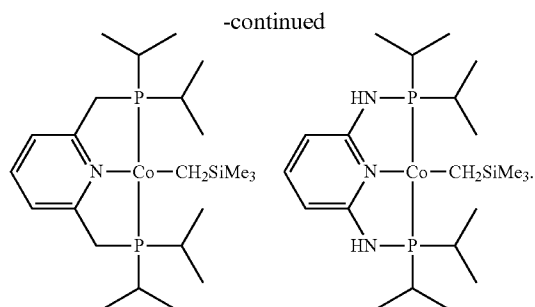
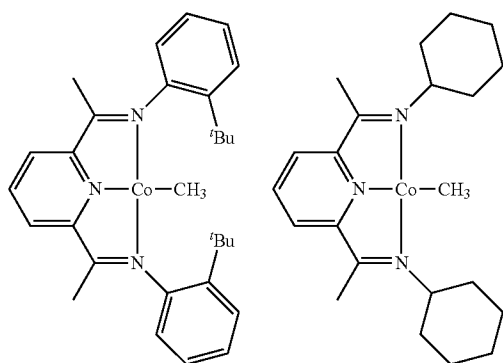
Formula IX

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. In certain cases, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula IX, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:

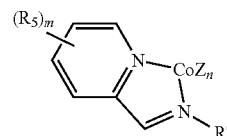


[0027] In these methods, the catalytic cobalt complex can be any suitable cobalt(I) or cobalt(II) complex that can catalyze the C—H activation-borylation of the aromatic substrate. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is a cobalt(II) complex.

[0028] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a tridentate ligand. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt pincer complex. In some cases, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt chelate complex comprising a CCC, CNC, CNS, NNN, NCN, PCP, PNP, PCN, OCO, SCS, SNS, or SPS pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt chelate complex comprising an NNN or NPN pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not one of the following:



[0029] In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt pincer complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a bidentate ligand, such as a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

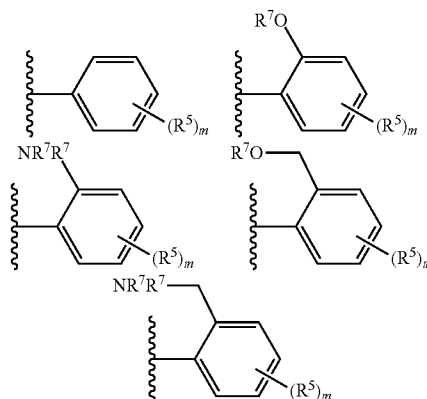
[0030] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0031] n is 2.

[0032] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁–C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁–C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0033] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0034] R⁶ is selected from one of the following:



[0035] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

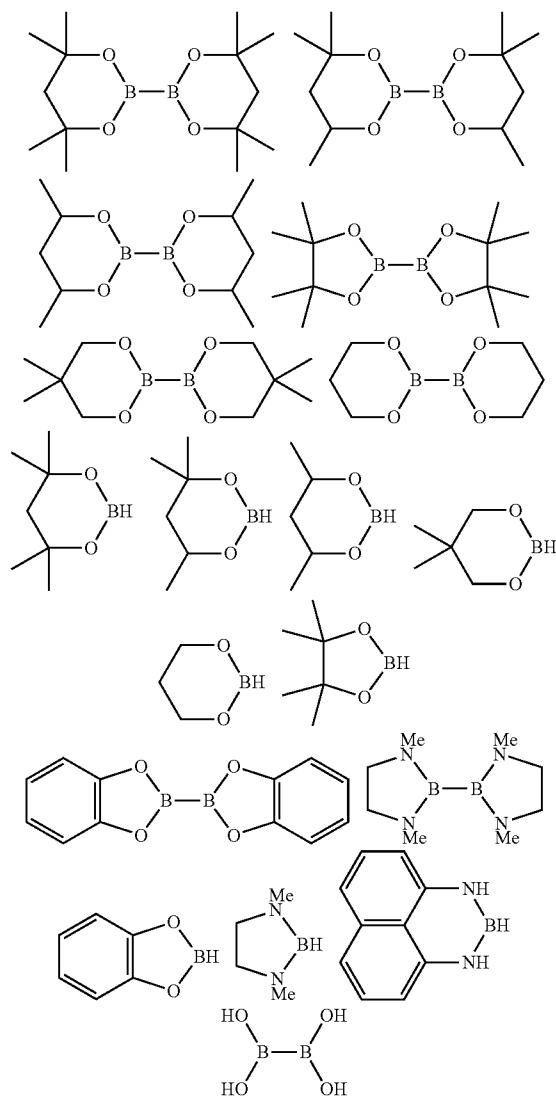
[0036] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0037] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt complex comprising exclusively monodentate ligands. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$.

[0038] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a polymetallic cobalt complex, such as a

bridged dicobalt complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise $[(\text{Cp}^*\text{Co})_2\text{-}\mu\text{-(}\eta^4\text{:}\eta^4\text{-toluene)}]$.

[0039] The borylation reagent used in the methods described above can be any suitable HB or B—B organic compound known in the art as a borylation reagent. Suitable borylation reagents can be selected in view of a variety of factors, including considerations regarding the desired reactivity of the resulting borylated arenes. Exemplary borylation reagents include the HB or B—B organic compounds shown below.



In some embodiments, the borylation reagent is selected from pinacolborane (HBPin), catecholborane, bis(neopentyl glycolato)diboron, bis(pinacolato)diboron (B_2Pin_2), bis(hexylene glycolato)diboron, and bis(catecholato)diboron. In certain embodiments, the borylation reagent is pinacolborane (HBPin) or bis(pinacolato)diboron (B_2Pin_2).

[0040] The borylated compounds prepared using the methods described herein can be utilized in additional chemical reactions, including cross-coupling reactions, such as Suzuki-type cross-coupling reactions. In some embodiments,

the methods described herein can further comprise contacting the borylated aromatic compound with a reactant selected from the group consisting of an aryl halide, an aryl pseudohalide, a vinyl halide, and an vinyl pseudohalide, and a transition metal catalyst to cross-couple the borylated aromatic compound and the reactant.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Definitions

[0041] Terms used herein will have their customary meaning in the art unless specified otherwise. The organic moieties mentioned in the definitions of the variables of the formulae described herein are—like the term halogen—collective terms for individual listings of the individual group members. The prefix C_n - C_m indicates in each case the possible number of carbon atoms in the group.

[0042] The term "alkyl," as used herein, refers to saturated straight, branched, cyclic, primary, secondary or tertiary hydrocarbons, including those having 1 to 6 carbon atoms. In some embodiments, alkyl groups will include C₁, C₁-C₂, C₁-C₃, C₁-C₄, C₁-C₅ or C₁-C₆ alkyl groups. Examples of C₁-C₆ alkyl groups include, but are not limited to, methyl, ethyl, propyl, 1-methylethyl, butyl, 1-methylpropyl, 2-methylpropyl, 1,1-dimethylethyl, pentyl, 1-methylbutyl, 2-methylbutyl, 3-methylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylpropyl, 1-ethylpropyl, hexyl, 1,1-dimethylpropyl, 1,2-dimethylpropyl, 1-methylpentyl, 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 4-methylpentyl, 1,1-dimethylbutyl, 1,2-dimethylbutyl, 1,3-dimethylbutyl, 2,2-dimethylbutyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl, 3,3-dimethylbutyl, 1-ethylbutyl, 2-ethylbutyl, 1,1,2-trimethylpropyl, 1,2,2-trimethylpropyl, 1-ethyl-1-methylpropyl, 1-ethyl-2-methylpropyl, and their isomers. C₁-C₄-alkyl groups can include, for example, methyl, ethyl, propyl, 1-methylethyl, butyl, 1-methylpropyl, 2-methylpropyl, and 1,1-dimethylethyl.

[0043] Cyclic alkyl groups or “cycloalkyl” groups, which are encompassed by alkyl include those with 3 to 6 carbon atoms having single or multiple condensed rings. In some embodiments, cycloalkyl groups include C₄-C₆ or C₃-C₄ cyclic alkyl groups. Non-limiting examples of cycloalkyl groups include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, and cyclohexyl groups.

[0044] Alkyl groups can be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more moieties, such as alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, hydroxyl, carboxyl, acyl, acyloxy, amino, alkyl- or dialkylamino, amido, nitro, cyano, azido, thiol, or any other viable functional group that does not preclude the synthetic methods described herein, either unprotected, or protected as necessary, as known to those skilled in the art, for example, as taught in Greene, et al., *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*, John Wiley and Sons, Third Edition, 1999, hereby incorporated by reference.

[0045] The term “haloalkyl,” as used herein, refers to an alkyl group, as defined above, which is substituted by one or more halogen atoms. For example C₁-C₄-haloalkyl includes, but is not limited to, chloromethyl, bromomethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chlorofluoromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, chlorodifluoromethyl, 1-chloroethyl, 1-bromoethyl, 1-fluoroethyl, 2-fluoroethyl, 2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2-chloro-2-fluoroethyl, 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2-dichloro-2-fluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethyl, pentafluoroethyl and the like.

[0046] The term “alkoxy,” also defined as —OR where R is alkyl, refers to —O-alkyl, wherein alkyl is as defined above. Similarly, the term haloalkoxy can be used to refer to —O-haloalkyl, wherein haloalkyl is as defined above. In some embodiments, alkoxy groups can include 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Examples of C₁-C₆-alkoxy groups include, but are not limited to, methoxy, ethoxy, C₂H₅—CH₂O—, (CH₃)₂CHO—, n-butoxy, C₂H₅—CH(CH₃)O—, (CH₃)₂CH—CH₂O—, (CH₃)₃CO—, n-pentoxy, 1-methylbutoxy, 2-methylbutoxy, 3-methylbutoxy, 1,1-dimethylpropoxy, 1,2-dimethylpropoxy, 2,2-dimethylpropoxy, 1-ethylpropoxy, n-hexoxy, 1-methylpentoxy, 2-methylpentoxy, 3-methylpentoxy, 4-methylpentoxy, 1,1-dimethylbutoxy, 1,2-dimethylbutoxy, 1,3-dimethylbutoxy, 2,2-dimethylbutoxy, 2,3-dimethylbutoxy, 3,3-dimethylbutoxy, 1-ethylbutoxy, 2-ethylbutoxy, 1,1,2-trimethylpropoxy, 1,2,2-trimethylpropoxy, 1-ethyl-1-methylpropoxy, and 1-ethyl-2-methylpropoxy.

[0047] The terms “alkylamino” and “dialkylamino” refer to alkyl-NH— and (alkyl)₂N— where alkyl is as defined above. Similarly, the terms haloalkylamino and halodialkylamino refer to haloalkyl-NH— and (haloalkyl)₂-NH—, where haloalkyl is as defined above. The term “aminoalkyl” refers to an alkyl group, as defined above, substituted with an amino group.

[0048] The terms “alkylcarbonyl,” “alkoxycarbonyl,” “alkylaminocarbonyl,” and “dialkylaminocarbonyl” refer to —C(=O)-alkyl, —C(O)-alkoxy, —C(O)-alkylamino, and —C(O)— dialkylamino, where alkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, and dialkylamino are as defined above.

[0049] The term “boronic acid,” as used herein, refers to a —B(OH)₂ moiety. The term boronic acid derivative refers to boron-containing moieties which differ from boronic acid by the presence or absence of one or more atoms, functional groups, or substructures, and which can be imagined to be formed, at least theoretically, from boronic acid via some chemical or physical process. Examples of boronic acid derivatives include boronic acid esters, also referred to as boronates, boronate esters, or boronic esters; aminoboranes, including cyclic aminoboranes such as the 1,3,2-diazaborolidyl group; and boronic acid anhydrides. The term boronic acid ester refers to an esterified boronic acid moiety, such as —B(OR)₂ where R is an alkyl group as defined above, and cyclic boronic acid moieties represented by —B(OR)₂ wherein the two R substituents are linked together so as to form a C₂-C₆ cyclic moiety optionally including one or more additional heteroatoms (e.g., N, O, S, or combinations thereof), and optionally further substituted with one or more substituents and/or fused with (sharing at least one bond) one or more further carbocyclyl or heterocarbocyclyl groups. Examples of cyclic boronic esters include, but are not limited to, pinanediol boronic esters, pinacol boronic esters, 1,2-ethanediol boronic esters, 1,3-propanediol boronic esters, 1,2-propanediol boronic esters, 2,3-butanediol boronic esters, 1,1,2,2-tetramethylethanediol boronic esters, 1,2-diisopropylethanediol boronic esters, 5,6-decanediol boronic esters, 1,2-dicyclohexylethanediol boronic esters, bicyclohexyl-1,1'-diol boronic esters, diethanolamine boronic esters, and 1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediol boronic esters.

[0050] The term “halogen” refers to the atoms fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine. The prefix halo- (e.g., as illustrated by the term haloalkyl) refers to all degrees of halogen substitution, from a single substitution to a perhalo substitut-

tion (e.g., as illustrated with methyl as chloromethyl (—CH₂Cl), dichloromethyl (—CHCl₂), trichloromethyl (—CCl₃)).

[0051] The term “aromatic compound” is used herein generally to refer to an aromatic ring or multiple aromatic rings that are fused together. Examples of aromatic compounds include, for example, benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, and the like. The term aromatic compound also includes heteroaromatic compounds (i.e., aromatic compounds in which one or more of the carbon atoms in the aromatic ring has been replaced by a heteroatom, such as O, N, or S). Examples of heteroaromatic compounds include, for example, pyridine, furan, indole, benzimidazole, thiophene, benzthiazole, and the like.

[0052] The term “aryl,” as used herein, refers to a monovalent aromatic carbocyclic group of from 6 to 14 carbon atoms. Aryl groups can include a single ring or multiple condensed rings. In some embodiments, aryl groups include C₆-C₁₀ aryl groups. Aryl groups include, but are not limited to, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, phenylcyclopropyl and indanyl. Aryl groups may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more moieties selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, mercapto, amino, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, haloalkyl, haloalkenyl, haloalkynyl, halocycloalkyl, halocycloalkenyl, alkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, haloalkoxy, haloalkenyloxy, haloalkynyloxy, cycloalkoxy, cycloalkenyloxy, halocycloalkoxy, halocycloalkenyloxy, alkylthio, haloalkylthio, cycloalkylthio, halocycloalkylthio, alkylsulfanyl, alkenylsulfanyl, alkynylsulfanyl, haloalkylsulfanyl, haloalkenylsulfanyl, haloalkynylsulfanyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkenylsulfonyl, alkynylsulfonyl, haloalkylsulfonyl, haloalkenylsulfonyl, haloalkynylsulfonyl, alkylamino, alkenylamino, alkynylamino, di(alkyl)amino, di(alkenyl)amino, di(alkynyl)amino, or trialkylsilyl.

[0053] The term “heteroaryl,” as used herein, refers to a monovalent aromatic group of from 1 to 15 carbon atoms (e.g., from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, from 2 to 8 carbon atoms, from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, or from 4 to 6 carbon atoms) having one or more heteroatoms within the ring. The heteroaryl group can include from 1 to 4 heteroatoms, from 1 to 3 heteroatoms, or from 1 to 2 heteroatoms. In some cases, the heteroatom(s) incorporated into the ring are oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, or combinations thereof. When present, the nitrogen and sulfur heteroatoms may optionally be oxidized. Heteroaryl groups can have a single ring (e.g., pyridyl or furyl) or multiple condensed rings provided that the point of attachment is through a heteroaryl ring atom. Preferred heteroaryls include pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, triazinyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, furanyl, thiophenyl, furyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, benzofuranyl, and benzothiophenyl. Heteroaryl rings may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more moieties as described for aryl above.

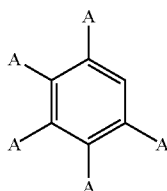
[0054] Methods

[0055] Provided are methods for preparing borylated aromatic compounds. Methods for preparing a borylated aromatic compound can comprise contacting an aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form the borylated aromatic compound.

[0056] The aromatic substrate can be any suitable aromatic substrate that can be subjected to C—H activation-borylation. For example, the aromatic substrate can be a substituted or

unsubstituted aryl compound (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted benzene), a substituted or unsubstituted six-membered heteroaromatic substrate (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted pyridine), or a substituted or unsubstituted five-membered heteroaromatic substrate (e.g., a substituted or unsubstituted pyrrole, a substituted or unsubstituted furan, or a substituted or unsubstituted thiophene).

[0057] In some cases, the aromatic substrate can comprise a phenyl ring. For example, the aromatic substrate can comprise a compound defined by Formula I



Formula I

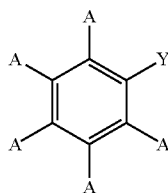
wherein

[0058] A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

[0059] R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

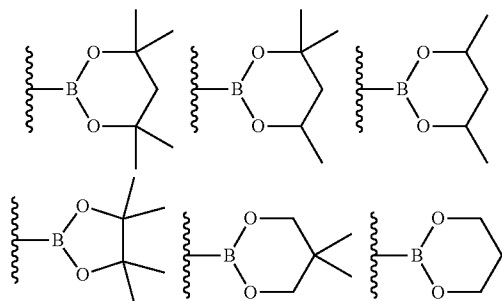
[0060] R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

[0061] In these embodiments, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula II

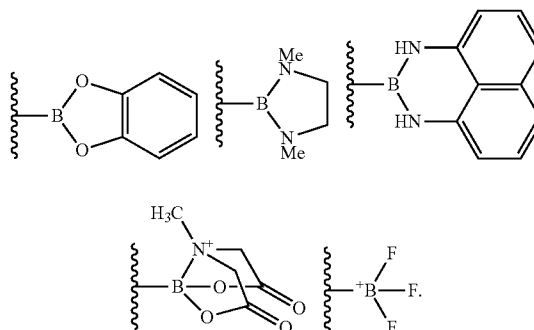


Formula II

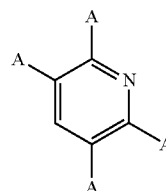
wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. In certain cases, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula II, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



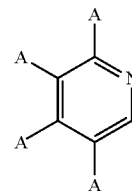
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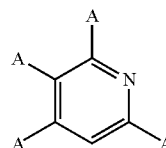
[0062] In some cases, the aromatic substrate can comprise a six-membered heteroaromatic compound. In certain cases, the aromatic substrate can comprise a six-membered heteroaromatic defined by one of Formula IIIa, Formula IIIb, or Formula IIIc



Formula IIIa



Formula IIIb



Formula IIIc

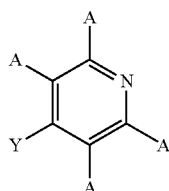
wherein

[0063] A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

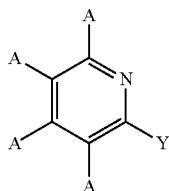
[0064] R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0065] R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

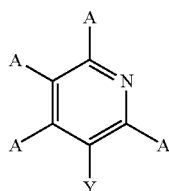
[0066] In these embodiments, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by one of Formula IVa, Formula IVb, or Formula IVc



Formula IVa

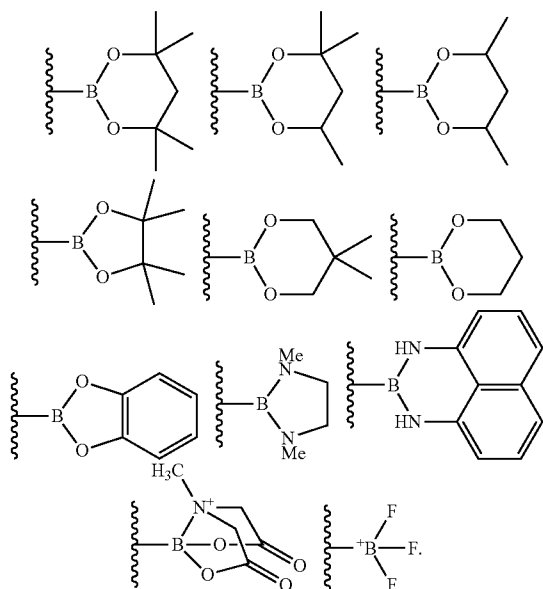


Formula IVb

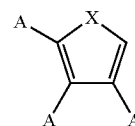


Formula IVc

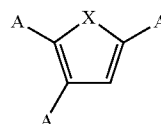
wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. In certain cases, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula IVa, Formula IVb, or Formula IVc, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



[0067] In some cases, the aromatic substrate can comprise a five-membered heteroaromatic compound. In certain cases, the aromatic substrate can comprise a five-membered heteroaromatic compound defined by one of Formula Va or Formula Vb



Formula Va



Formula Vb

wherein

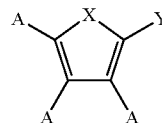
[0068] X is NH, O, or S;

[0069] A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

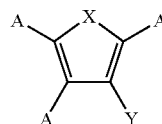
[0070] R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0071] R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

[0072] In these embodiments, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by one of Formula VIa or Formula VIb

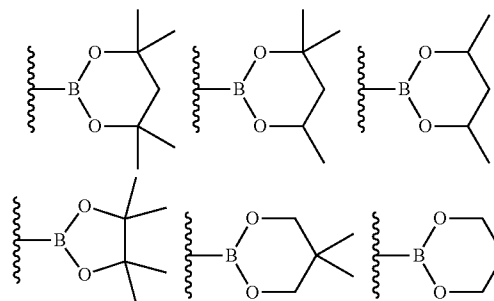


Formula VIa

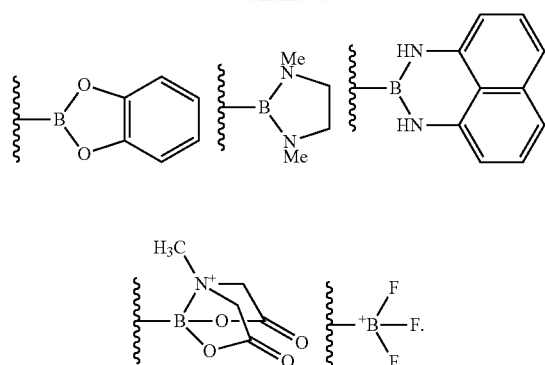


Formula VIb

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. In certain cases, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula VIa or Formula VIb, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



-continued

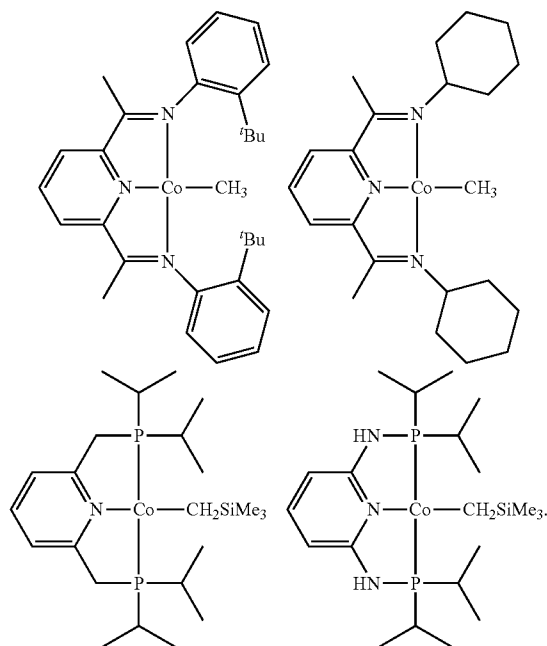


[0073] Percent conversion of the aromatic substrate to the borylated aromatic compound can vary depending on a number of factors, including the reactivity of the aromatic substrate, the identity of the catalytic cobalt complex, and the identity of the borylation reagent. In some embodiments, percent conversion of the aromatic substrate to the borylated aromatic compound can be at least 30% (e.g., at least 35%, at least 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, or at least 95%).

[0074] The methods of forming borylated aromatic compounds described above can comprise contacting the aromatic substrate to be reacted with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent. The aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent in any suitable fashion, such that the aromatic substrate and the borylation reagent are present in combination with a catalytically effective amount of the catalytic cobalt complex. For example, the aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent by combining in any order or fashion the aromatic substrate, the catalytic cobalt complex, and the borylation reagent in a single reaction vessel or solution (e.g., by sequential or simultaneous addition of the aromatic substrate, the catalytic cobalt complex, and the borylation reagent to a reaction vessel). In some embodiments, the aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent at a temperature of from greater than 25° C. to 85° C.

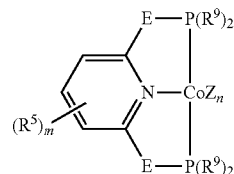
[0075] The catalytic cobalt complex can be any suitable cobalt(I) or cobalt(II) complex that can catalyze the C—H activation-borylation of the aromatic substrate. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is a cobalt(I) complex.

[0076] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a tridentate ligand. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt pincer complex. In some cases, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt chelate complex comprising a CCC, CNC, CNS, NNN, NCN, PCP, PNP, PCN, OCO, SCS, SNS, or SPS pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt chelate complex comprising an NNN or NPN pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not one of the following:



In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt pincer complex.

[0077] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0078] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0079] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0080] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0081] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0082] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0083] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

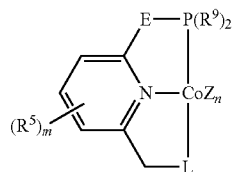
[0084] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0085] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0086] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0087] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from —CH₂— and —C(R¹⁰)₂—, where R¹⁰ is as defined above.

[0088] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0089] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0090] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0091] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0092] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0093] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0094] L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

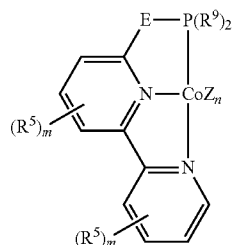
[0095] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0096] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0097] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0098] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0099] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0100] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0101] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0102] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0103] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0104] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0105] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

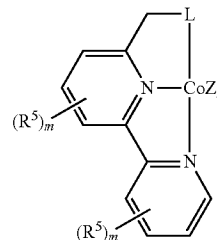
[0106] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0107] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0108] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0109] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from —CH₂— and —C(R¹⁰)₂—, where R¹⁰ is as defined above.

[0110] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0111] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0112] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0113] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0114] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

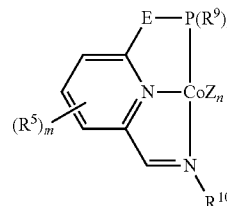
[0115] L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

[0116] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0117] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

[0118] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0119] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0120] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0121] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0122] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0123] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0124] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0125] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

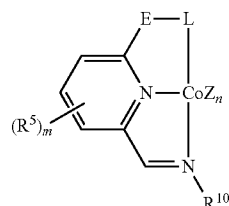
[0126] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0127] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0128] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0129] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from $-\text{CH}_2-$ and $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, where R^{10} is as defined above.

[0130] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0131] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0132] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0133] E is $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, $-\text{NR}^7-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{O}-$,

[0134] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

[0135] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0136] L is $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

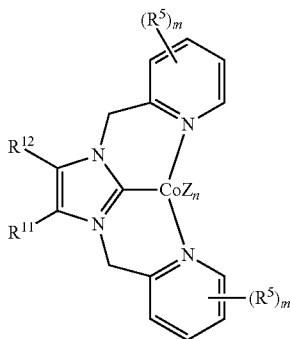
[0137] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0138] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0139] R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0140] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from $-\text{CH}_2-$ and $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, where R^{10} is as defined above.

[0141] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0142] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0143] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0144] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

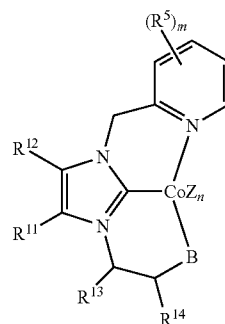
[0145] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0146] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0147] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0148] R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group.

[0149] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0150] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0151] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0152] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

[0153] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0154] B is $-\text{P}(\text{R}^9)_2$, $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

[0155] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0156] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

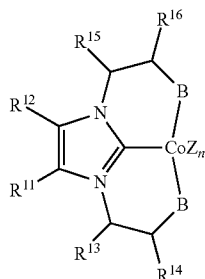
[0157] R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$,

[0158] R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group or an aryl group,

[0159] R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, and

[0160] R^{13} and R^{14} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or R^{13} and R^{14} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group.

[0161] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0162] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0163] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0164] B is —P(R⁹)₂, —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

[0165] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰,

[0166] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group,

[0167] R¹¹ and R¹² are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, and

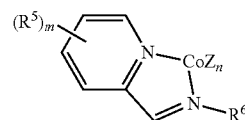
[0168] R¹³ and R¹⁴ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹³ and R¹⁴, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0169] R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0170] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

[0171] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0172] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a bidentate ligand. For example, in some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

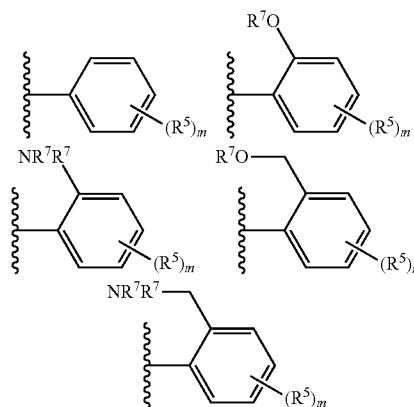
[0173] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0174] n is 2,

[0175] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0176] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0177] R⁶ is selected from one of the following:



[0178] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

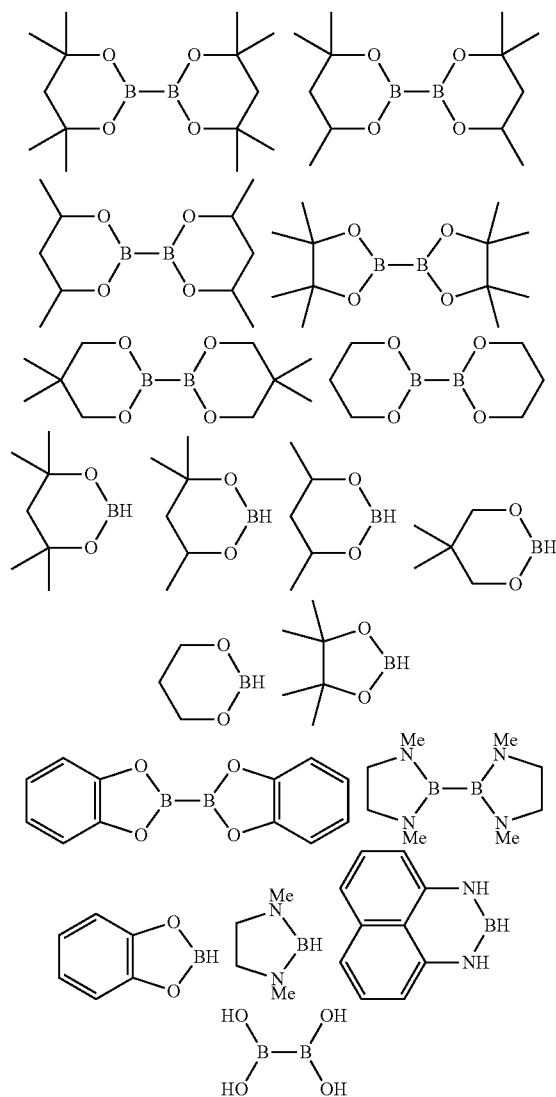
[0179] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0180] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt complex comprising exclusively monodentate ligands. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise Py₂Co(CH₂SiMe₃)₂. In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise an N-heterocyclic carbene-ligated cobalt complex.

[0181] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a polynuclear cobalt complex, such as a bridged dicobalt complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise [(Cp*Co)₂-μ-(η⁴:η⁴-toluene)].

[0182] Methods can involve contacting the aromatic substrate with any catalytically effective amount of the catalytic cobalt complex. In some cases, the aromatic substrate can be contacted with from 0.5 mole percent (mol %) to 5.0 mol % of the catalytic cobalt complex (e.g., from 1.0 mol % to 3.0 mol %), based on the number of moles of the aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction.

[0183] The borylation reagent can be any suitable HB or B—B organic compound known in the art as a borylation reagent. Suitable borylation reagents can be selected in view of a variety of factors, including considerations regarding the desired reactivity of the resulting borylated arenes. Exemplary borylation reagents include the HB or B—B organic compounds shown below.



In some embodiments, the borylation reagent is selected from pinacolborane (HBPIn), catecholborane, bis(neopentyl glycolato)diboron, bis(pinacolato)diboron (B₂Pin₂), bis(hexamethylene glycolato)diboron, and bis(catecholato)diboron. In certain embodiments, the borylation reagent is pinacolborane (HBPIn) or bis(pinacolato)diboron (B₂Pin₂).

[0184] The borylation reagent can be incorporated in the borylation reaction in any suitable amount. For example, in some embodiments, the borylation reagent can be present in the borylation reaction in an amount ranging from 1 molar equivalent of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction to 5 molar equivalents of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic compound present in the borylation reaction (e.g., from 1 molar equivalent of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction to 3 molar equivalents of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction).

[0185] Also provided are methods for borylating aromatic compounds having a ring substituent which includes a carbon atom in the alpha-position to the aromatic ring which is sub-

stituted with at least one hydrogen atom (e.g., at least two hydrogen atoms, or three hydrogen atoms). The methods can include contacting the aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to borylate the carbon atom in the alpha-position to the aromatic ring.

[0186] For example, provided are methods for preparing borylated compounds defined by Formula VII

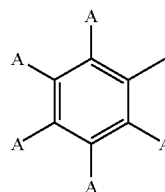


Formula VII

wherein X is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group or a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group, and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. The methods can include providing an aromatic substrate comprising a methyl-substituted aryl group or a methyl-substituted heteroaryl group; and contacting the aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form a compound defined by Formula VII.

[0187] The aromatic substrate can comprise any suitable methyl-substituted aryl or methyl-substituted heteroaryl group. The aryl or heteroaryl group can optionally further comprise one or more substituents in addition to the methyl substituents. As a consequence, X can be any suitable substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl group. For example, X can be a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, such as a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, phenylcyclopropyl or indanyl group. In other cases, X can be a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group, such as a substituted or unsubstituted pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, triazinyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, quinoliny, isoquinoliny, quinazolinyl, quinoxaliny, furanyl, thiophenyl, furyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, benzofuranyl, or benzothienophenyl group. In certain embodiments, X is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl or substituted or unsubstituted pyridyl group.

[0188] In certain embodiments, the aromatic substrate is a methyl-substituted aryl compound. The methyl-substituted aryl compound can optionally further comprise one or more substituents in addition to the methyl substituent. For example, the aromatic substrate can comprise a compound defined by Formula VIII



Formula VIII

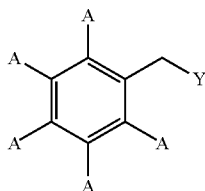
wherein

[0189] A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-OR^1$, $-NR^2R^3$, $-C(=O)R^4$, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

[0190] R¹, R², and R³ are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

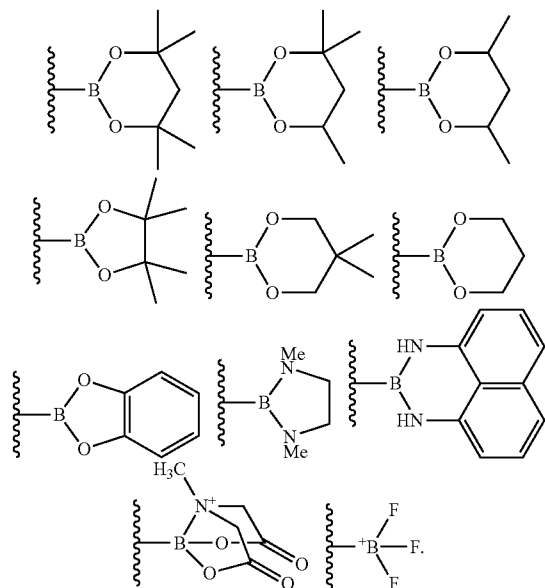
[0191] R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-OR^1$, $-NR^2R^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

[0192] In these embodiments, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula IX



Formula IX

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative. In certain cases, the borylated aromatic compound can comprise a compound defined by Formula IX, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



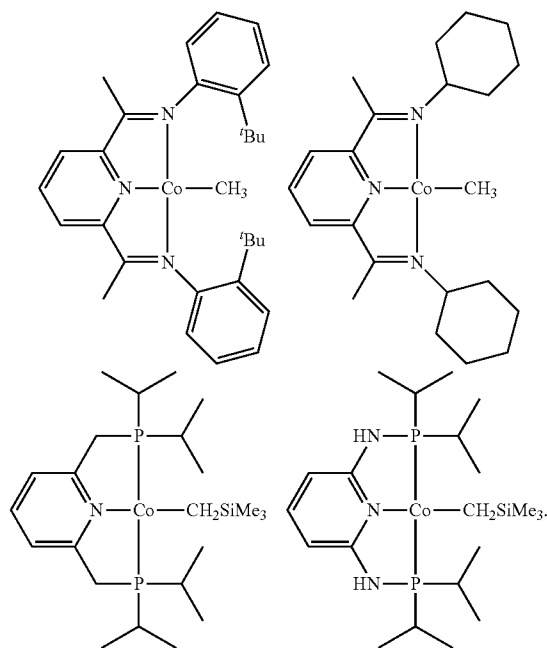
[0193] Percent conversion of the aromatic substrate to the borylated aromatic compound can vary depending on a number of factors, including the reactivity of the aromatic substrate, the identity of the catalytic cobalt complex, and the identity of the borylation reagent. In some embodiments, percent conversion of the aromatic substrate to the borylated aromatic compound can be at least 30% (e.g., at least 35%, at least 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, or at least 95%).

[0194] The methods of forming borylated aromatic compounds described above can comprise contacting the aromatic substrate to be reacted with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent. The aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent in any suitable fashion, such that the aromatic substrate and the borylation reagent are present in combination with a catalytically effective amount of the catalytic cobalt complex. For example, the aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent by combining in any order or fashion the aromatic

substrate, the catalytic cobalt complex, and the borylation reagent in a single reaction vessel or solution (e.g., by sequential or simultaneous addition of the aromatic substrate, the catalytic cobalt complex, and the borylation reagent to a reaction vessel). In some embodiments, the aromatic substrate can be contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent at a temperature of from greater than 25° C. to 85° C.

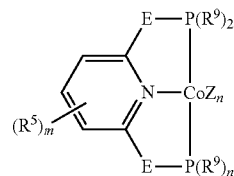
[0195] The catalytic cobalt complex can be any suitable cobalt(I) or cobalt(II) complex that can catalyze the C—H activation-borylation of the aromatic substrate. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is a cobalt(II) complex.

[0196] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a tridentate ligand. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt pincer complex. In some cases, the catalytic cobalt complex can be a cobalt chelate complex comprising a CCC, CNC, CNS, NNN, NCN, PCP, PNP, PCN, OCO, SCS, SNS, or SPS pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt chelate complex comprising an NNN or NPN pincer ligand. In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not one of the following:



In certain embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex is not a cobalt pincer complex.

[0197] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0198] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0199] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0200] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0201] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0202] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0203] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

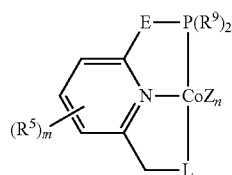
[0204] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0205] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0206] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0207] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from —CH₂— and —C(R¹⁰)₂—, where R¹⁰ is as defined above.

[0208] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0209] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0210] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0211] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0212] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0213] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0214] L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

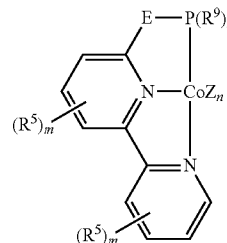
[0215] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0216] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0217] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0218] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0219] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0220] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0221] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0222] E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

[0223] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0224] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0225] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

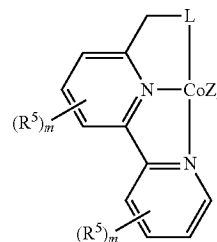
[0226] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0227] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

[0228] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0229] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from —CH₂— and —C(R¹⁰)₂—, where R¹⁰ is as defined above.

[0230] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0231] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0232] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0233] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0234] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

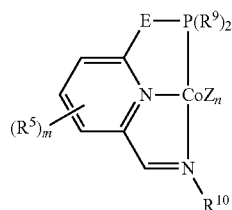
[0235] L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

[0236] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0237] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

[0238] R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0239] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0240] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0241] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0242] E is $-CH_2-$, $-C(R^{10})_2-$, $-NR^7-$, $-S-$, or $-O-$,

[0243] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, $-C(=O)R^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

[0244] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0245] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

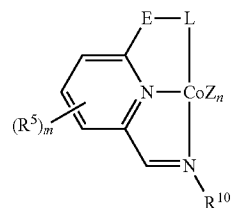
[0246] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0247] R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-OR^{10}$, and

[0248] R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0249] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from $-CH_2-$ and $-C(R^{10})_2-$, where R^{10} is as defined above.

[0250] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0251] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0252] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0253] E is $-CH_2-$, $-C(R^{10})_2-$, $-NR^7-$, $-S-$, or $-O-$,

[0254] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, $-C(=O)R^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

[0255] m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0256] L is $-OR^{10}$ or $-NR^{10}R^{10}$,

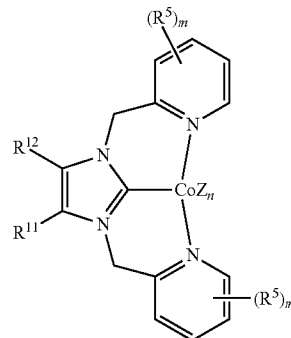
[0257] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0258] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0259] R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group or an aryl group.

[0260] In some of these embodiments, E can be chosen from $-CH_2-$ and $-C(R^{10})_2-$, where R^{10} is as defined above.

[0261] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0262] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0263] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0264] R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, $-C(=O)R^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group,

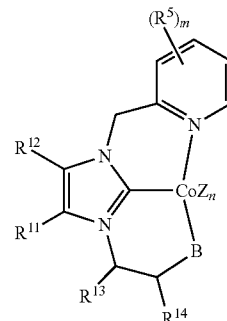
[0265] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0266] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group,

[0267] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

[0268] R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, $-C(=O)R^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, $-C(=O)R^8$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group.

[0269] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0270] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0271] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0272] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0273] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0274] B is —P(R⁹)₂, —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

[0275] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

[0276] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

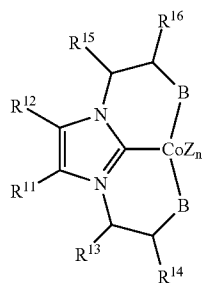
[0277] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰,

[0278] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group,

[0279] R¹¹ and R¹² are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, and

[0280] R¹³ and R¹⁴ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹³ and R¹⁴, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group.

[0281] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

[0282] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

[0283] n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

[0284] B is —P(R⁹)₂, —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

[0285] R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰,

[0286] R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group,

[0287] R¹¹ and R¹² are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the carbon

atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, and

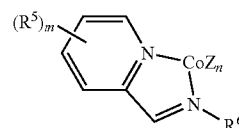
[0288] R¹³ and R¹⁴ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹³ and R¹⁴, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0289] R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0290] R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

[0291] R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

[0292] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt chelate complex comprising a bidentate ligand. For example, in some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

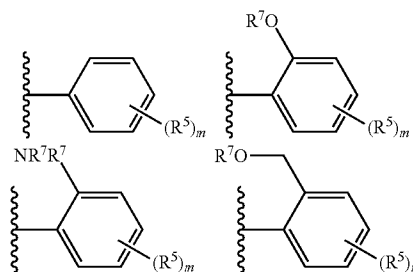
[0293] Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

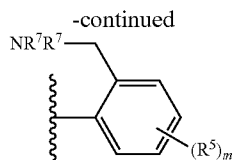
[0294] n is 2,

[0295] R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

[0296] m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

[0297] R⁶ is selected from one of the following:





[0298] R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

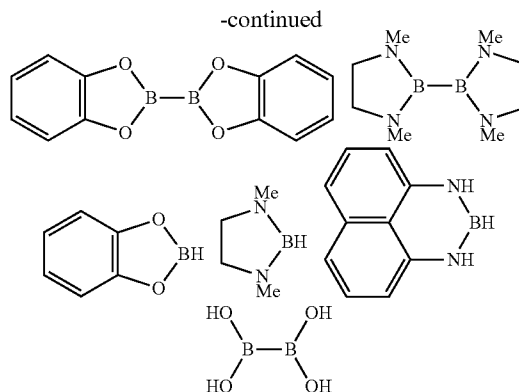
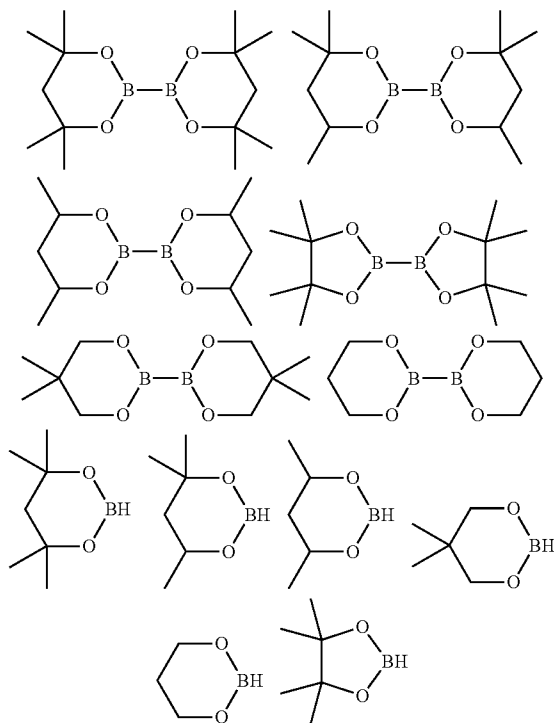
[0299] R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-OR^7$, $-NR^7R^7$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group.

[0300] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a cobalt complex comprising exclusively monodentate ligands. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise $Py_2Co(CH_2SiMe_3)_2$.

[0301] In some embodiments, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise a bridged dicobalt complex. For example, the catalytic cobalt complex can comprise $[(Cp^*Co)_2-\mu-(\eta^4:\mu^4\text{-toluene})]$.

[0302] Methods can involve contacting the aromatic compound with any catalytically effective amount of the catalytic cobalt complex. In some cases, the aromatic compound can be contacted with from 0.5 mol % to 5.0 mol % of the catalytic cobalt complex (e.g., from 1.0 mol % to 3.0 mol %), based on the number of moles of the aromatic compound present in the borylation reaction.

[0303] The borylation reagent can be any suitable HB or B—B organic compound known in the art as a borylation reagent. Suitable borylation reagents can be selected in view of a variety of factors, including considerations regarding the desired reactivity of the resulting borylated arenes. Exemplary borylation reagents include the HB or B—B organic compounds shown below.



In some embodiments, the borylation reagent is selected from pinacolborane (HBPin), catecholborane, bis(neopentyl glycolato)diboron, bis(pinacolato)diboron (B_2Pin_2), bis(hexylene glycolato)diboron, and bis(catecholato)diboron. In certain embodiments, the borylation reagent is pinacolborane (HBPin) or bis(pinacolato)diboron (B_2Pin_2).

[0304] The borylation reagent can be incorporated in the borylation reaction in any suitable amount. For example, in some embodiments, the borylation reagent can be present in the borylation reaction in an amount ranging from 1 molar equivalent of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction to 5 molar equivalents of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction (e.g., from 1 molar equivalent of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction to 3 molar equivalents of borylation reagent per mole of aromatic substrate present in the borylation reaction).

[0305] Borylated arenes prepared using the methods described herein can be utilized in additional chemical reactions, including cross-coupling reactions, such as Suzuki-type cross-coupling reactions. Suzuki-type cross-coupling reactions are known in the art, and can be used to cross-couple an organohalide and an organoborane in the presence of a base and a suitable catalyst. See, for example, Miyaura, N. and Suzuki, A. *Chem. Rev.* 1995, 95, 2457, Stanforth, S. P. *Tetrahedron* 1998, 54, 263, Lipshutz, et al., *Synthesis* 2005, 2989, and Lipshutz, et al., *Organic Letters* 2008, 10, 4279. The organohalide can be an unsaturated halide or pseudohalide (e.g., a triflate (OTf)), such as an aryl halide or pseudohalide or vinyl halide or pseudohalide.

[0306] In some embodiments, the methods described herein can further comprise contacting the borylated aromatic compound with a reactant selected from the group consisting of an aryl halide, an aryl pseudohalide, a vinyl halide, and a vinyl pseudohalide, and a transition metal catalyst to cross-couple the reactant and the borylated aromatic compound. By way of example, a (4-chloro-2-fluoro-3-substituted)boronic acid ester can undergo a cross-coupling reaction with methyl 4-acetamido-3,6-dichloropicolinate to produce or form a 6-(4-chloro-2-fluoro-3-substituted-phenyl)-4-aminopicolinate. In another example, a (4-chloro-2-fluoro-3-substituted)boronic acid ester can undergo a cross-coupling reaction with methyl 6-acetamido-2-chloropyrimidine-4-carboxylate, or its unprotected analog the 6-amino-2-chloropyrimidine-4-carboxylic acid.

[0307] The Suzuki cross-coupling reaction can occur in the presence of a palladium catalyst, a ligand, and a base. In at

least some embodiments, the palladium catalyst is palladium (II)acetate ($\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$), the base is aqueous potassium carbonate (K_2CO_3), and the ligand is triphenylphosphine (PPh_3). The cross-coupling reaction can be conducted in a solvent such as methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), acetonitrile (MeCN), ethyl acetate (EtOAc), water, or combinations thereof.

[0308] By way of non-limiting illustration, examples of certain embodiments of the present disclosure are given below.

Examples

[0309] Material and Methods

[0310] Unless otherwise specified, reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under an atmosphere of nitrogen, with magnetic stirring, and monitored by proton nuclear magnetic resonance (^1H -NMR) spectroscopy. Tetrahydrofuran was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone under nitrogen. $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ and $(\text{Cp}^*\text{Co})_2(\eta^4\text{-}\eta^4\text{-toluene})$ were synthesized according to established literature procedures. Flash or column chromatography was performed with silica gel (230-400 mesh) purchased from Silicycle (Quebec City, Canada). ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded using an Agilent DirectDrive2 500 MHz NMR spectrometer (500 MHz for ^1H NMR, 125 MHz for ^{13}C NMR, 470 MHz for ^{19}F NMR and 160 MHz for ^{11}B NMR) equipped with 7600AS 96 sample autosamplers running VnmrJ 3.2 A. Melting points were measured on a Thomas-Hoover capillary melting point apparatus.

[0311] Solvent Screening Using $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ as Catalyst

[0312] In a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 milliliter (mL) Wheaton® vial was charged with $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ (9.8 milligrams (mg), 0.025 millimoles (mmol), 5 mol %) and m-xylene (306 microliters (μL), 2.5 mmol). The appropriate solvent (1.0 mL) and HBPIn (73 μL , 0.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vial was closed, placed into a 50° C. oil bath outside the glove box, and heated for 24 hours (h). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, and a sample was removed and analyzed by gas chromatography (GC). Results are represented in Table 1.

[0313] Attempt of Using 3-Trifluoromethyltoluene as Substrate

[0314] In nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged sequentially with $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ (9.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), 3-trifluoromethyltoluene (349 μL , 2.5 mmol), and HBPIn (73 μL , 0.5 mmol). The vial was closed, taken out of the glove box, and stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, a sample was taken from the reaction mixture and analyzed by GC. No borylation products were observed.

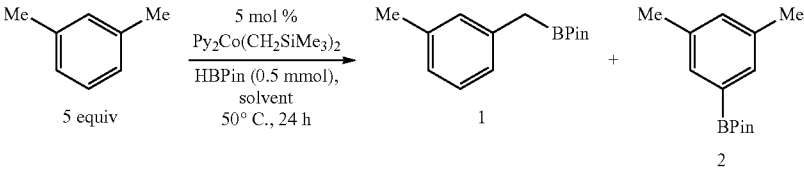
[0315] Borylation Attempt of Bromo- or Chloro-Containing Substrates with $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ as Catalyst

[0316] In a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged sequentially with $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ (9.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), 3-bromotoluene (303 μL , 2.5 mmol), and HBPIn (73 μL , 0.5 mmol). The vial was closed, taken out of the glove box, and heated at 50° C. After 24 h, a sample was taken from the reaction mixture, and analysis by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) of the sample showed the presence of borylation products arising from bromine-boron exchange in amounts stoichiometric in cobalt loadings. The chlorine-boron exchange product was observed by GC-MS in the crude reaction mixture when 2-chlorotoluene was used as substrate.

[0317] Screening of Solvents and Concentrations for Borylation of m-Xylene Using $(\text{Cp}^*\text{Co})_2(\eta^4\text{-}\eta^4\text{-toluene})$ as Catalyst

[0318] In a nitrogen filled glove box, 3 mL Wheaton® vials were charged with $(\text{Cp}^*\text{Co})_2(\eta^4\text{-}\eta^4\text{-toluene})$ (12 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %) and B_2Pin_2 (127 mg, 0.5 mmol). The appropriate solvents (1.0 mL) and m-xylene (306 μL , 2.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vials were closed, capped, taken out of the glove box, and heated at 80° C. for 24 h. Afterwards reaction vials were cooled to room temperature and samples were taken from the reaction mixtures for GC analysis. Results are represented in Table 2. The effect of concentration was assessed using the same conditions, but varying the volume of THF (Table 2). It was found that, by increasing the concentration of reactants, conversion increases, however, selectivity for aromatic borylation decreases.

TABLE 1

Solvent Screening Using $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$ as Catalyst.				
				
Entry	Solvent	1:2	mono:di	Yield ^a
1	none	6.3:1	7.6:1	44% + diBPin
2	DMA	—	—	0%
3	MeCN	—	—	0%
4	THF	—	—	4%
5	1,4-dioxane	12.2:1	5.7:1	12% + diBPin
6	DCM	—	—	0%
7	DCE	—	—	0%
8	CyH	38.1:1	5.5:1	8% + diBPin

^aYields are calibrated GC yields.

TABLE 2

Screening of Solvents and Concentrations for Borylation of m-Xylene Using (Cp*Co) ₂ (η ⁴ :η ⁴ -toluene) as Catalyst.			
Entry	Solvent (1.0 mL)	1:2	Yield ^a
1	none	1:8.0	52%
2	DMA	—	2%
3	MeCN	—	0%
4	THF	1:13.2	21%
5	THF (0.5 mL)	1:11.2	38%
6 ^b	THF (0.25 mL)	1:10.7	68%
7	1,4-dioxane	1:12.6	16%
8 ^b	MeTHF (0.25 mL)	1:10.3	54%
9 ^b	MTBE (0.25 mL)	1:10.5	30%
10 ^b	CpME (0.25 mL)	1:10.4	24%
11	DCE	—	0%
12	CyH	1:10	7%

^aYields are calibrated GC yields.^bReaction conducted for 18 h.

[0319] Screening of External Ligands for m-Xylene Borylation Using (Cp*Co)₂(η⁴:η⁴-Toluene)

[0320] In a nitrogen filled glove box, 3 mL Wheaton® vials were charged with (Cp*Co)₂(η⁴:η⁴-toluene) (12 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), B₂Pin₂ (127 mg, 0.5 mmol), and one of the following ligands: Ph₃P (6.6 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP; 3.0 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), 1,10-phenanthroline (phen; 2.2 mg, 0.0125 mmol, 2.5 mol %), tricyclohexylphosphine (Cy₃P; 7.0 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %), or pyridine (Py; 2.0 μL, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %). Tetrahydrofuran (1.0 mL) and m-xylene (306 μL, 2.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vials were closed, capped, taken out of the glove box, and heated at 80° C. for 24 h. After heating was finished, the reaction vials were cooled to room temperature, and samples were taken from the reaction mixtures for GC analysis. Results are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Screening of External Ligands for m-Xylene Borylation Using (Cp*Co) ₂ (η ⁴ :η ⁴ -toluene)		
Entry	Ligand	Yield ^a
1	Ph ₃ P	0%
2	DMAP	1%
3	phen	2%
4	Py	0%
5	Cy ₃ P	8%

^aYields are calibrated GC yields.

[0321] Borylation Attempt of Methyl 3-Trifluoromethylbenzoate

[0322] In a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with (Cp*Co)₂(η⁴:η⁴-toluene) (12 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %) and B₂Pin₂ (127 mg, 0.5 mmol). Tetrahydrofuran (0.5 mL) and methyl 3-trifluoromethylbenzoate (236 μL, 1.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vial was capped, taken out of the glove box, and heated at 80° C. for 17

h. After heating was finished, the reaction vial was cooled to room temperature, and a sample was taken for analysis. GC analysis shows no presence of borylation product.

[0323] Borylation of 3-Fluorotoluene Using (Cp*Co)₂(η⁴:η⁴-toluene)

[0324] In nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with (Cp*Co)₂(η⁴:η⁴-toluene) (12 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol %) and B₂Pin₂ (127 mg, 0.5 mmol). Tetrahydrofuran (0.5 mL) and 3-fluorotoluene (167 μL, 1.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vial was capped, taken out of the glove box, and heated at 80° C. for 21 h. After heating was finished, the reaction vial was cooled to room temperature, and a sample was taken for analysis. Conversion of 25% (based on B₂Pin₂) was observed as judged from ¹⁹F-NMR spectra. The ratio of 2-(3-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane to 2-(2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane was determined to be 1.4:1 from ¹⁹F-NMR spectra. 2-(3-Fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane: ¹⁹F NMR (283 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -115.4. 2-(2-Fluoro-4-methylphenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane: ¹⁹F NMR (283 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -103.8--103.9.

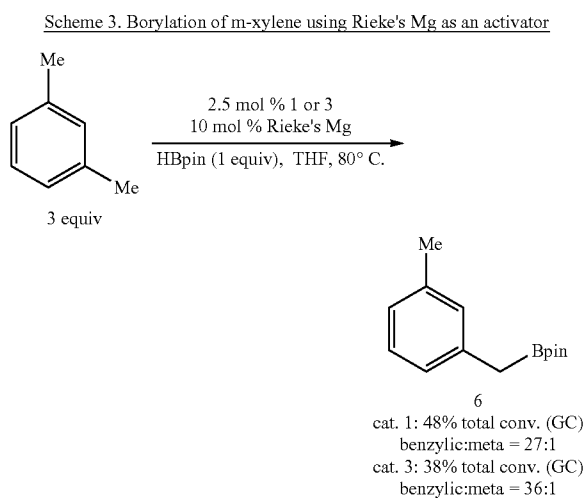
[0325] Screening of External Ligands for m-Xylene Borylation Using CoCl₂ and Zn

[0326] Cobalt-based systems including various phosphine- or nitrogen-containing ligands were evaluated for borylation m-xylene borylation using the general procedure outlined in Scheme 1. In a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with CoCl₂ (6.5 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol %), ligand (0.05 mmol, 10 mol %), and Zn powder (9.8 mg, 0.15 mmol, 30 mol %). 1.0 mL of THF was then added. To the resulting solution, m-xylene (183 μL, 1.5 mmol) and the boron source (0.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The vial was then capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80° C. for 16-20 h. After heating, an aliquot was removed and analyzed via gas chromatography. In all cases, no borylated products were detected.

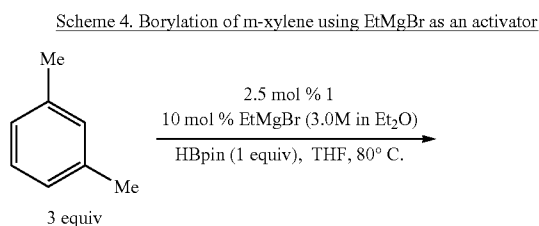
equiv of m-xylene and HBpin (1 equiv) at 50° C. However, the reaction was run in THF at 80° C., 48% total conversion was obtained, with 41% being compound 6. Observed benzylic to meta borylation ratio was 27:1.

[0332] Somewhat lower total conversion (38%) was detected by GC when complex 3 was used as catalyst under identical conditions (Scheme 3). Specifically, in a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 3 (19.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and activated Mg (2.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 10 mol %). 0.5 mL of THF was then added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 5 min. m-Xylene (367 μ L, 3.0 mmol) and HBpin (145 μ L, 1.0 mmol) were then added sequentially. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was then heated at 80° C. for 16 h. Analysis by GC showed 38% conversion based on HBpin, with 34% being identified as benzylic borylation product 6.

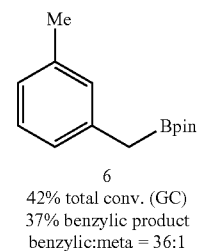
[0333] When zinc or Super-Hydride® (LiHBET₃ 1.0M in THF) were used in place of magnesium, no borylation products were observed. An iron(II) bromide analog of cobalt complex 3 was also prepared and tested for activity in borylation reactions using Rieke's Mg. No borylation products were detected when m-xylene or 3-trifluorotoluene substrates were used.



[0334] The activation of complexes 1-4 using a Grignard reagent was also investigated. In a first experiment, complex 1 and EtMgBr were evaluated as a catalytic system. m-Xylene was borylated in 42% total conversion. Again, benzylic borylation product 6 was the major product and was detected in 37% by GC (Scheme 4). Unfortunately, conversion rates over 3 runs varied from 0-42%.



-continued



[0335] Using similar conditions, the activation of cobalt complex 3 with a variety of Grignard reagents was investigated. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 3 (19.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol %). THF (0.5 mL) and m-xylene (367 μ L, 3.0 mmol) were added sequentially. Next, the Grignard reagent (0.1 mmol, 10 mol %) was added dropwise. The resulting mixture was then stirred for about 5 min. HBpin (145 μ L, 1.0 mmol) was then added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80° C. for 21 h. After heating, an aliquot was removed and analyzed via gas chromatography. The results are included in Table 1 below.

[0336] Significant variation in borylation reaction outcome was observed when using EtMgBr as an activator. Over 6 runs, conversion rates ranging from 31-92% (Table 1, entry 2) were obtained. CyMgCl afforded conversion rates of 79-92% over 5 runs (Table 1, entry 4). In two trials performed using MeMgCl as an activator, conversion rates of 57-84% were observed (Table 1, entry 1). Low conversion was achieved with bulky tBuMgCl, and no borylated products were observed when PhMgCl was employed as catalyst activator.

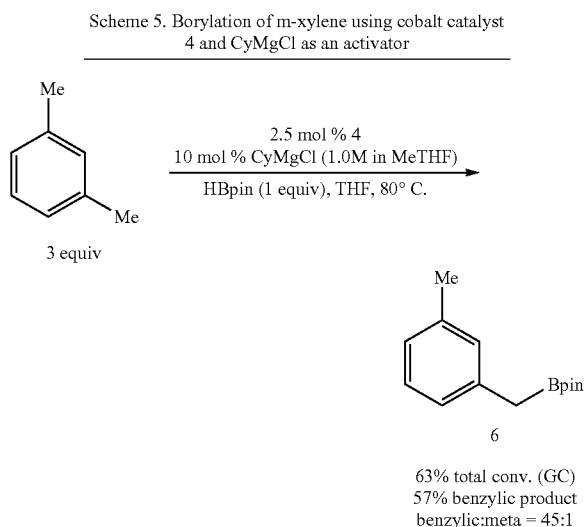
TABLE 1

Borylation of m-xylene using cobalt complex 3 with various Grignard reagents as an activator			
entry	RMgX	Conversion	# of runs
1	MeMgCl	57-84% (total) 47-68% (benzylic)	2
2	EtMgBr	31-92% (total) 27-79% (benzylic)	6
3	EtMgCl	79% (total) 64% (benzylic)	1
4	CyMgCl	79-91% (total) 64-73% (benzylic)	5
5	tBuMgCl	37% (total) 31% (benzylic)	1
6	PhMgCl	no rxn	1

[0337] Other organometallic reagents such as Bu₂Mg or Et₂Zn were also screened as potential reducing agents for use as activators with cobalt complex 3. When diethylzinc was used as catalyst activator, no borylation products were detected by GC. However, with di-n-butylmagnesium 75%

conversion (62% benzylic borylation product 6) to borylated products from m-xylene was observed.

[0338] The activity of cobalt complex 4 (bearing a more bulky pyridylimine ligand) was compared to cobalt complex 3 in the borylation of m-xylene. A borylation reaction performed using cobalt complex 4 resulted in 63% total conversion, and borylated compound 6 was detected in 57% (Scheme 5). However, cobalt complex 4 afforded slightly lower conversion compared to catalyst 3. No significant differences were observed in selectivity.



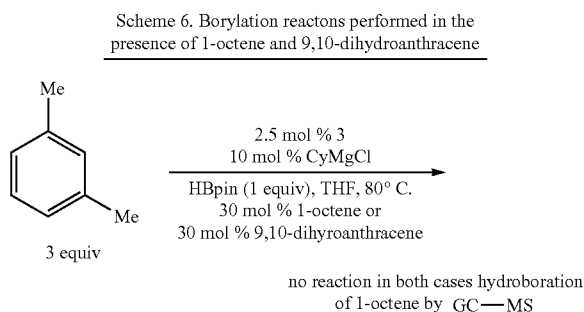
[0339] The amount of activating agent (e.g., Grignard reagent) and sequence of addition of reagents was found to influence the borylation reaction. No borylation products were found by GC if 5 or 20 mol % of Grignard reagent (e.g., EtMgBr and CyMgCl) was used. The order of reagent addition influenced the reaction outcome as well. In the case of the reactions described in Table 1, the catalyst was first suspended in THF and m-xylene. The Grignard reagent was then added slowly to the mixture. The resulting mixture was stirred for approximately 5 min; HBpin was then added to the reaction. However, if the order of addition of reagents was modified so that the Grignard reagent was the last reagent added to the reaction mixture (after HBpin), the overall reaction conversion decreased significantly (34% with EtMgBr; 13% with CyMgCl). The addition of pyridine as an external ligand was also found to shut down the reaction.

[0340] Investigation of the Borylation Mechanism

[0341] It was hypothesized that the borylation reaction could proceed by either a radical or ionic mechanism. If the borylation reaction were to proceed by a radical pathway, one would expect that the addition of radical scavengers to the borylation reaction should slow down or stop the reaction.

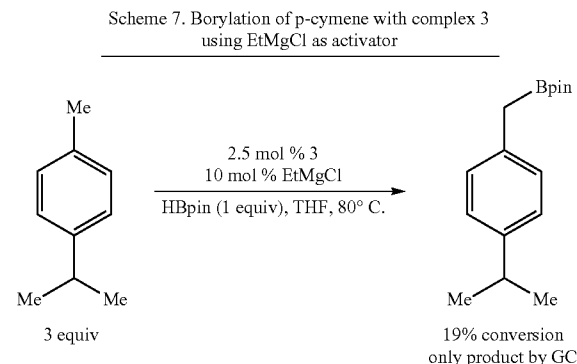
[0342] Borylation reactions were performed in the presence of 1-octene and 9,10-dihydroanthracene (Scheme 6). When alkene was present, additive hydroboration of 1-octene was detected by GC-MS, and no borylation products arising from m-xylene were observed. Similarly, no borylation products arising from m-xylene were observed when 9,10-dihydroanthracene was present. However, in this case, anthracene

(the expected product of reaction of 9,10-dihydroanthracene with radical species) was not detected by GC or GC-MS either.



[0343] To better elucidate the reaction mechanism, p-cymene was used as substrate for borylation. If borylation of p-cymene were to proceed through a radical intermediate, one would expect a balance between primary and tertiary radicals to be established during the reaction. One would expect this to result in formation of two borylated products.

[0344] In a first experiment, the borylation of p-cymene was performed using cobalt complex 3 and EtMgCl as activator. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 3 (19.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol %). Next, THF (0.5 mL) and p-cymene (468 μ L, 3.0 mmol) were added. EtMgCl (2.0M in MeTHF) (50 μ L, 0.1 mmol) was then added dropwise. The resulting mixture was then stirred for about 5 min. HBpin (145 μ L, 1.0 mmol) was then added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80°C for 21 h. Analysis by GC showed 19% conversion to a single isomer based on HBpin (Scheme 7). Performing this reaction using CyMgCl or MeMgCl as an activator afforded no borylation products.

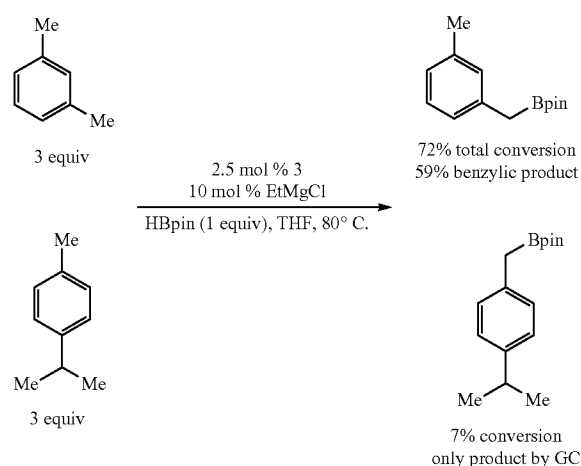


[0345] Next, a competition experiment was performed in which equimolar quantities of m-xylene and p-cymene were subjected to borylation (Scheme 8). In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 3 (19.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol %). THF (0.5 mL), m-xylene (367 μ L, 3.0 mmol), and p-cymene (468 μ L, 3.0 mmol) were added. CyMgCl (1.0M in MeTHF) (100 μ L, 0.1 mmol) was then added dropwise. The resulting mixture was then stirred for about 5 min. HBpin (145 μ L, 1.0 mmol) was then

added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80° C. for 21 h. Analysis by GC showed 72% conversion of m-xylene (based on HBpin) and 7% conversion of p-cymene (based on HBpin).

[0346] p-Cymene is good hydrogen atom donor that can form stable tertiary benzylic radicals through hydrogen atom transfer. Given that p-cymene did not shut down the borylation of m-xylene in the competition reaction, it is likely that these cobalt catalyzed borylations do not proceed via a radical pathway.

Scheme 8. Borylation of an equimolar m-xylene and p-cymene mixture with cobalt complex 3 using CyMgCl as activator

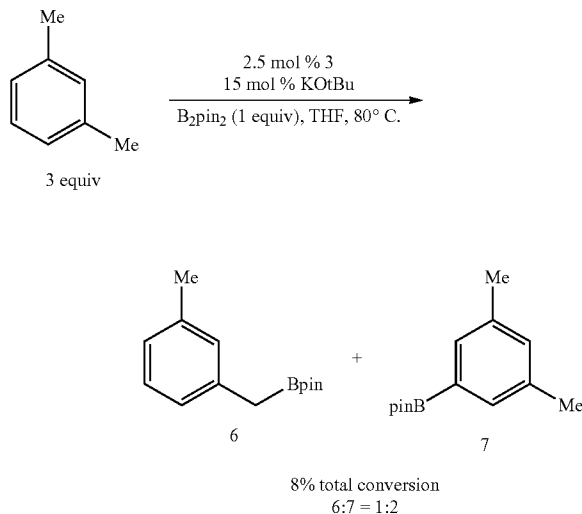


[0347] The fate of alkyl residue from the Grignard reagent was investigated using dodecylmagnesium bromide as an activator. Under catalytic reaction conditions, traces of dodecane were detected by GC and GC-MS. Quantification of dodecane was performed by GC analysis of an aliquot from a stoichiometric reaction between cobalt complex 3 and dodecylmagnesium bromide. Dodecane was formed in 70% yield from this stoichiometric reaction; however, other unidentified C₁₂-containing products were also detected by GC-MS.

[0348] Borylation of several other substrates was attempted as well. Trace amounts of product were observed by GC when 4-methoxytoluene was employed as substrate. No borylation was seen with 3-fluorotoluene or 2,6-lutidine.

[0349] It was hypothesized that the borylation reaction could involve exchange of halide ligands in the cobalt complex with alkoxy groups. To investigate this possibility, m-xylene was subjected to borylation using cobalt complex 3 and KOtBu as activator. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 3 (19.8 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and KOtBu (17 mg, 0.15 mmol). THF (0.5 mL) was then added. The resulting mixture was then stirred for about 5 min. Then, m-xylene (367 µL, 3.0 mmol) and B₂pin₂ (254 mg, 1.0 mmol) were added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80° C. for 17 h. Analysis by GC showed 8% conversion of m-xylene based on B₂pin₂ with 1:2 ratio of benzylic to meta borylation products (Scheme 9). No reaction was observed with HBpin. Similar conversion was achieved with NaOtBu. Other bases such as LiOtBu, K₂CO₃, K₃PO₄, and KOAc were inefficient.

Scheme 9. Borylation of m-xylene using cobalt complex 3 and KOtBu as activator

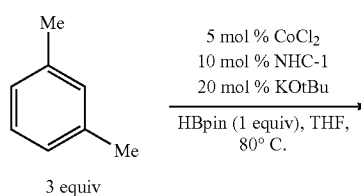


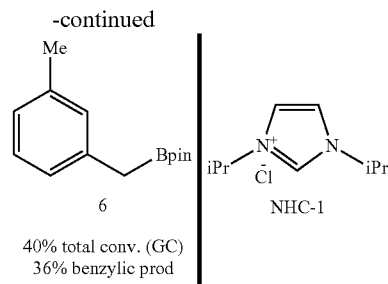
[0350] Borylation Using Cobalt Complexes Including an N-Heterocyclic Carbene (NHC)

[0351] Cobalt complexes including N-heterocyclic carbenes (NHC) as ligands were evaluated as catalysts for borylations. Using CoCl₂ as a cobalt source, NHC-1 as carbene precursor, and a base (KOtBu), the active cobalt catalyst could be formed in situ and successful borylation of m-xylene could be achieved (Scheme 10).

[0352] In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt chloride (6.5 mg, 0.05 mmol, 5 mol %), 1,3-diisopropyl-1H-imidazol-3-ium chloride (18.9 mg, 0.1 mmol) and KOtBu (22.4 mg, 0.2 mmol). THF (0.5 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was stirred for about 10 min. A purple colored solution formed. Then, m-xylene (367 µL, 3.0 mmol) and HBpin (145 µL, 3.0 mmol) were added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was then heated at 80° C. for 16 h. Analysis by GC showed 40% conversion of m-xylene based on HBpin. Under the same reaction conditions, B₂pin₂ afforded none of the borylated product. Under the same reaction conditions, ethylbenzene gave 56% conversion of starting material (45% conversion to the benzylic borylation product).

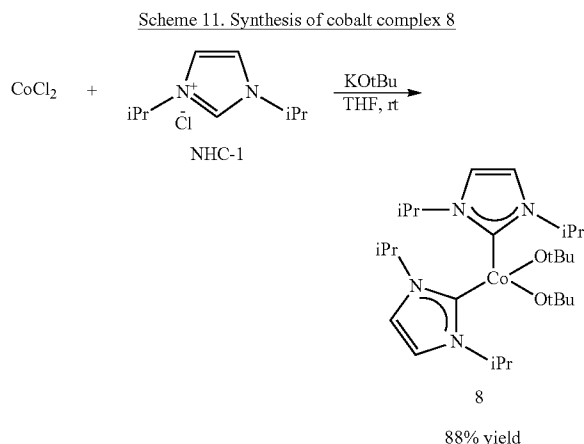
Scheme 10. Borylation of m-xylene using an in situ formed carbene-ligated cobalt complex





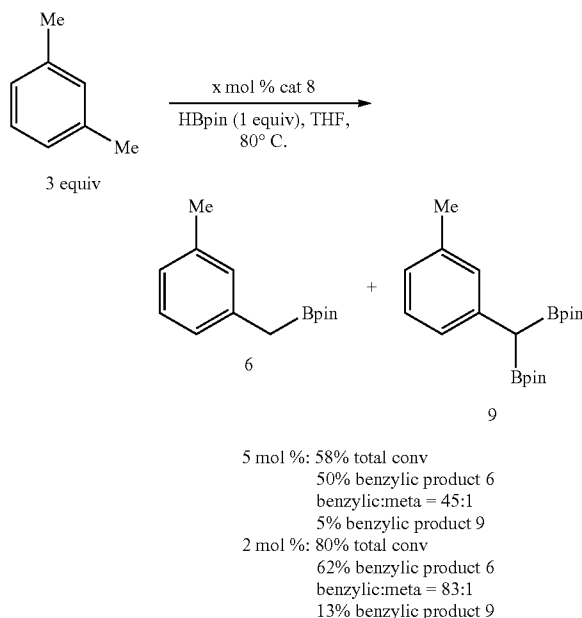
[0353] It was hypothesized that the active borylation catalyst in the reaction above was an NHC-ligated cobalt alkoxide formed in situ during the borylation reaction. To test this hypothesis, the presumed active borylation catalyst (NHC-1) was synthesized and isolated. Briefly, CoCl_2 was reacted with NHC-1 in the presence of KOtBu base to afford cobalt catalyst 8 in 88% yield after recrystallization (Scheme 11).

[0354] An oven-dried flask was charged inside nitrogen-filled glove box with CoCl_2 (168 mg, 1.3 mmol) and 1,3-diisopropyl-1H-imidazol-3-ium chloride (490 mg, 2.6 mmol). THF (8 mL) and KOtBu (583 mg, 5.2 mmol) were then added sequentially. The resulting mixture was stirred inside glove box for 1 h. Then, the solvent was removed under vacuum, and the residue was suspended in toluene and filtered through Celite®. The filtrate was collected, and the solvent removed under vacuum providing 635 mg of dark purple crystalline material. Recrystallization from pentane at -35°C . afforded 582 mg (88%) of cobalt complex 8. Single crystal X-ray diffraction confirmed the structure. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, benzene- d_6 , ppm) δ 41.70 (s, 4H) 39.00 (br s, 4H) 8.76 (br s, 18H) 2.31 (br s, 24H).



[0355] Cobalt complex 8 was then evaluated as a borylation catalyst. In a nitrogen filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 8 (5.1 mg, 0.01 mmol, 2 mol %). THF (0.25 mL) and m-xylene (183 μL , 1.5 mmol) were then added sequentially. HBpin (73 μL , 0.5 mmol) was then added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was then heated at 80°C . for 16 h. Analysis by GC showed 80% conversion of m-xylene based on HBpin. 62% of monoborylated product 6 was formed together with 13% of gem-diBpin product 9.

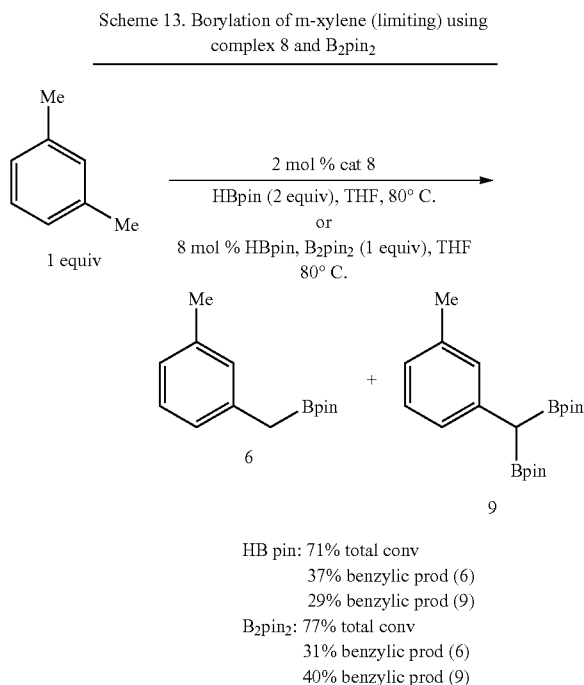
Scheme 12. Borylation of m-xylene using complex 8



[0356] In another experiment, the borylation reaction was performed using the substrate as a limiting reagent. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 8 (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 2 mol %). Next, THF (0.25 mL) and m-xylene (122 μL , 1.0 mmol) were added. Then, HBpin (290 μL , 2.0 mmol) was added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80°C . for 17 h. Analysis by GC showed 71% conversion of m-xylene: 37% of monoborylated product 6 was formed together with 29% of gem-diBpin product 9 and 5% of unidentified diBpin product.

[0357] It was also discovered that B_2pin_2 can be used as the main boron source if a catalytic amount of HBpin is added to activate cobalt precatalyst 8. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 8 (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 2 mol %). THF (0.5 mL) and m-xylene (122 μL , 1.0 mmol) were added. Then, HBpin (11.6 μL , 0.08 mmol, 8 mol %) and B_2pin_2 (381 mg, 1.5 mmol) were added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80°C . for 16 h. Analysis by GC showed 77% conversion of m-xylene: 31% of monoborylated product 6 was formed together with 40% of gem-diBpin product 9 and 6% of unidentified diBpin product. Prolonged heating up to 40 hours did not improve conversion and product ratios. Isolation of products was done by flash column chromatography on silica gel using pentane-diethyl ether mixtures as eluent. 4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane was isolated as colorless oil in 19% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.14 (dd, 1H, $J=7.2$, 7.2 Hz) 7.02-6.98 (m, 2H) 6.95 (d, 1H, $J=7.5$ Hz) 2.32 (s, 3H) 2.27 (s, 2H) 1.25 (s, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 138.4, 137.7, 129.8, 128.1, 125.9, 125.6, 83.4, 24.7, 21.4. Signal for one carbon is not located. ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 33.0. 2,2'-(m-Tolylmethylene)-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) was isolated in 21% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.14-7.09 (m,

2H) 7.05 (s, 1H) 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H) 2.30 (s, 3H) 2.27 (s, 1H) 1.24 (s, 12H) 1.23 (s, 12H). ^{11}B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 32.9.



[0358] Additional substrates were also evaluated. Borylation of 4-chlorotoluene afforded the halogen-boron exchange product in trace amounts. No other borylated products were detected. 3-Fluorotoluene was defluorinated under reaction conditions. Only trace amount of a borylated material were observed in ^{11}B -NMR. 2-Methylthiophene was unreactive under reaction conditions. In separate experiment, using equimolar amounts of 2-methylthiophene and m-xylene, it was confirmed that thiophene could act as a catalyst poison as no borylation of m-xylene was observed. Trace borylation of 2,6-lutidine was observed by GC and GC-MS as well.

[0359] A reaction performed using 3-Methylanisole afforded a mixture of products that arise from the reduction-borylation sequence. In a nitrogen-filled glove box, a 3 mL Wheaton® vial was charged with cobalt complex 8 (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 2 mol %). OTHF (0.24 mL) and 3-methylanisole (126 μL , 1.0 mmol) were then added. Then, HBpin (290 μL , 2.0 mmol) was added. The vial was capped and taken out of the glove box. The reaction mixture was heated at 80°C. for 18 h. Analysis by GC showed 11% of α -Bpin-toluene, 25% of α,α -diBpin-toluene, and 16% of toluene.

[0360] The compositions and methods of the appended claims are not limited in scope by the specific compositions and methods described herein, which are intended as illustrations of a few aspects of the claims. Any compositions and methods that are functionally equivalent are intended to fall within the scope of the claims. Various modifications of the compositions and methods in addition to those shown and described herein are intended to fall within the scope of the appended claims. Further, while only certain representative compositions and method steps disclosed herein are specifically described, other combinations of the compositions and

method steps also are intended to fall within the scope of the appended claims, even if not specifically recited. Thus, a combination of steps, elements, components, or constituents may be explicitly mentioned herein or less, however, other combinations of steps, elements, components, and constituents are included, even though not explicitly stated.

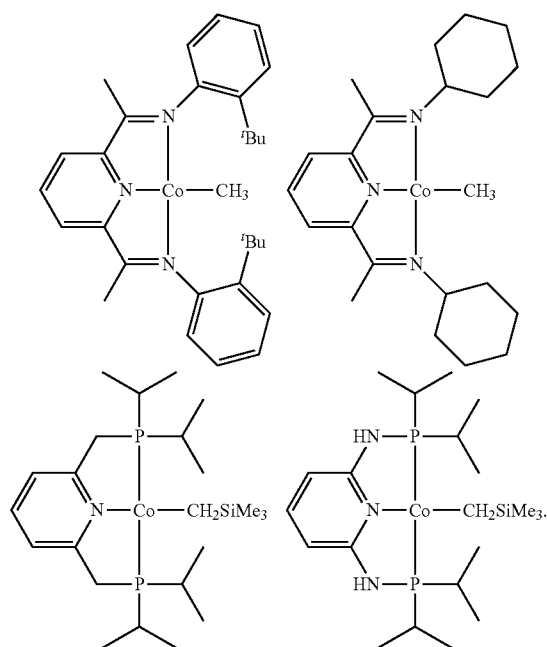
[0361] The term “comprising” and variations thereof as used herein is used synonymously with the term “including” and variations thereof and are open, non-limiting terms. Although the terms “comprising” and “including” have been used herein to describe various embodiments, the terms “consisting essentially of” and “consisting of” can be used in place of “comprising” and “including” to provide for more specific embodiments of the invention and are also disclosed. Other than where noted, all numbers expressing geometries, dimensions, and so forth used in the specification and claims are to be understood at the very least, and not as an attempt to limit the application of the doctrine of equivalents to the scope of the claims, to be construed in light of the number of significant digits and ordinary rounding approaches.

[0362] Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meanings as commonly understood by one of skill in the art to which the disclosed invention belongs. Publications cited herein and the materials for which they are cited are specifically incorporated by reference.

What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing a borylated aromatic compound comprising contacting an aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form the borylated aromatic compound,

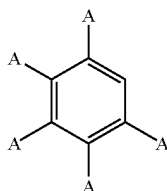
wherein the catalytic cobalt complex is not one of the following:



2. The process of claim 1, wherein the aromatic substrate is selected from the group consisting of a substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound, a substituted or unsubstituted six-

membered heteroaromatic compound, a substituted or unsubstituted five-membered heteroaromatic compound, and combinations thereof.

3. The process of claim 1, wherein the aromatic substrate is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound and the substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound comprises a compound defined by Formula I



Formula I

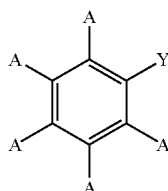
wherein

A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group; and

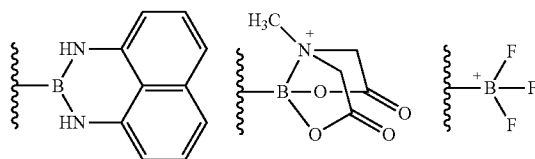
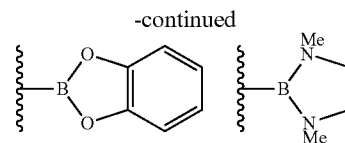
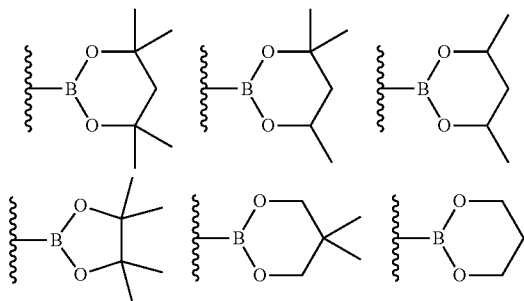
wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by Formula II



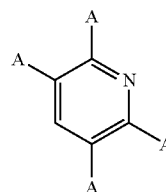
Formula II

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative.

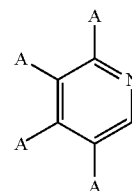
4. The process of claim 3, wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by Formula II wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



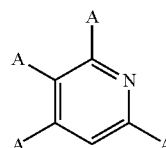
5. The process of claim 1, wherein the aromatic substrate is a six-membered heteroaromatic compound and the six-membered heteroaromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula IIIa, Formula IIIb, or Formula IIIc



Formula IIIa



Formula IIIb



Formula IIIc

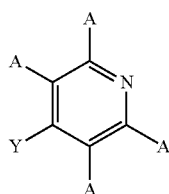
wherein

A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

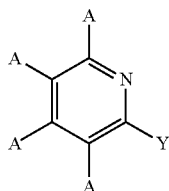
R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group, and

R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl group; and

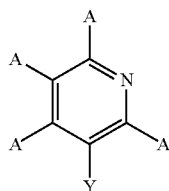
wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula IVa, Formula IVb, or Formula IVc



Formula IVa



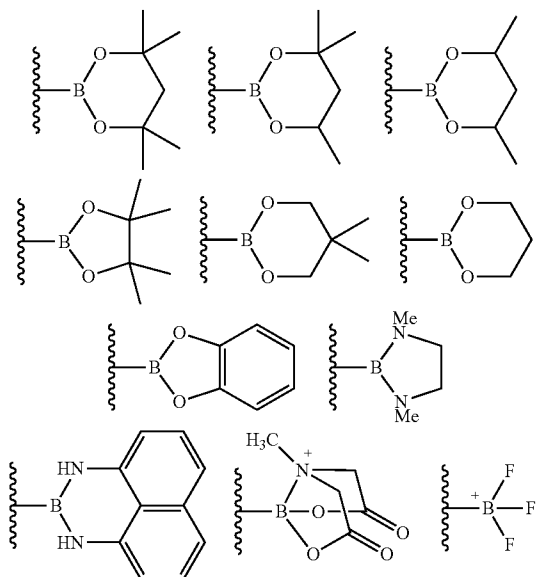
Formula IVb



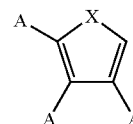
Formula IVc

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative.

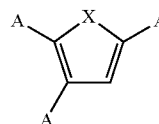
6. The process of claim 5, wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula IVa, Formula IVb, or Formula IVc, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:



7. The process of claim 1, wherein the aromatic substrate is a five-membered heteroaromatic compound and the five-membered heteroaromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula Va or Formula Vb



Formula Va



Formula Vb

wherein

X is NH, O, or S;

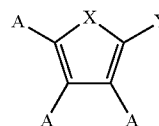
A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^1$,

$-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^4$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

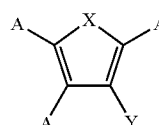
R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, and

R^4 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^1$, $-\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group; and

wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula VIa or Formula VIb



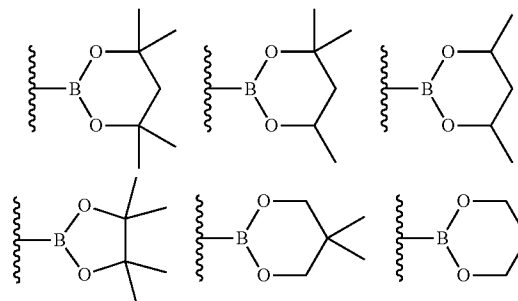
Formula VIa

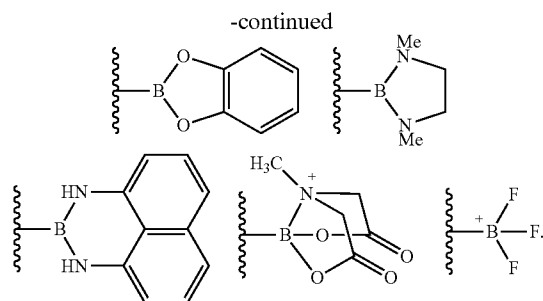


Formula VIb

wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative.

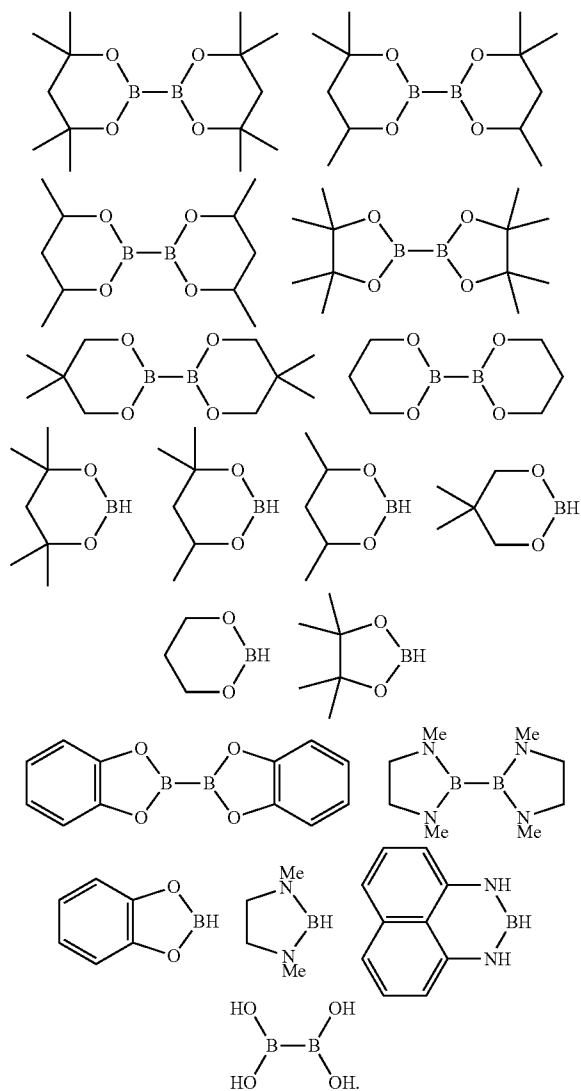
8. The process of claim 7, wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by one of Formula VIa or Formula VIb, wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:





9. The process of claim 1, wherein the borylation reagent comprises a B—B bond, a B—H bond, or a combination thereof.

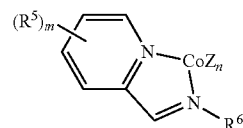
10. The process of claim 1, wherein the borylation reagent comprises one or more of the following:



11. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a cobalt(I) complex.

12. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a cobalt chelate complex comprising a bidentate ligand.

13. The process of claim 12, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

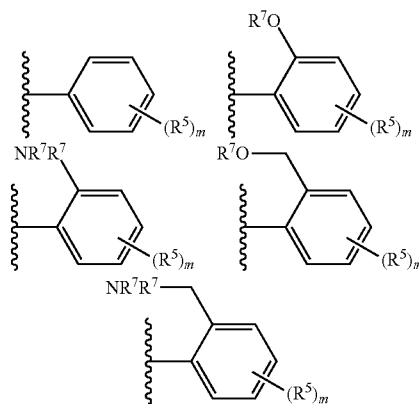
Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 2,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

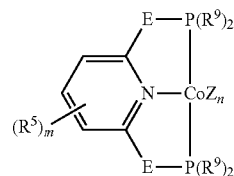
R⁶ is selected from one of the following:



R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

14. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

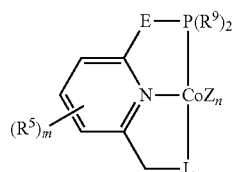
R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

15. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, $-\text{NR}^7-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{O}-$,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

L is $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

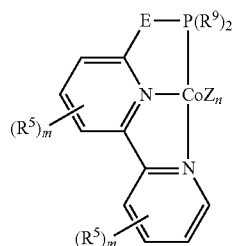
R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

16. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, $-\text{NR}^7-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{O}-$,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

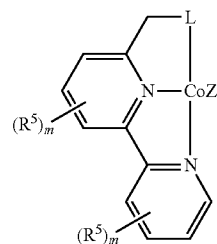
R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

17. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

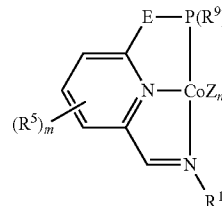
L is $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

18. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, $-\text{NR}^7-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{O}-$,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

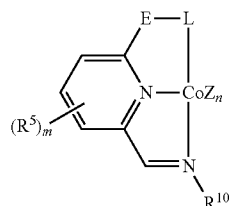
R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

19. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{C}(\text{R}^{10})_2-$, $-\text{NR}^7-$, $-\text{S}-$, or $-\text{O}-$,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

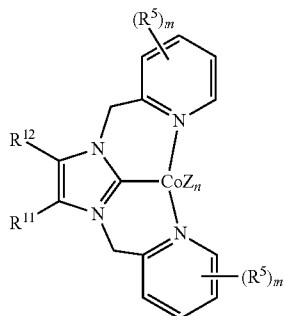
L is $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, and

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group.

20. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

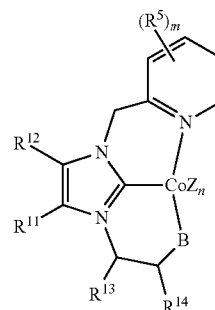
m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, and

R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group.

21. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R^5 is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

B is $-\text{P}(\text{R}^9)_2$, $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

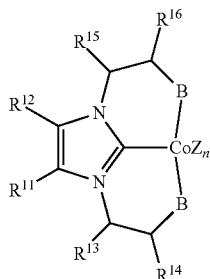
R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$,

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group,

R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, and

R^{13} and R^{14} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{13} and R^{14} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group.

22. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

B is —P(R⁹)₂, —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰,

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group,

R¹¹ and R¹² are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, and

R¹³ and R¹⁴ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹³ and R¹⁴, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

23. The process of claim 1, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises Py₂Co(CH₂SiMe₃)₂, [(Cp*Co)₂-μ-(η⁴:η⁴-toluene)], or a combination thereof.

24. The process of claim 1, wherein the aromatic substrate is contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent at a temperature of from greater than 25° C. to 85° C.

25. A process for preparing a compound defined by Formula VII



Formula VII

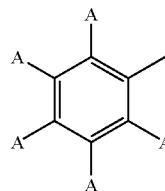
wherein X is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group or a substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl group, and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative, the process comprising:

providing an aromatic substrate comprising a methyl-substituted aryl group or a methyl-substituted heteroaryl group; and

contacting the aromatic substrate with a catalytic cobalt complex and a borylation reagent under conditions effective to form the compound defined by Formula VII.

26. The process of claim 25, wherein X is a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl or a substituted or unsubstituted pyridyl.

27. The process of claim 25, wherein the aromatic substrate is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound and the substituted or unsubstituted aryl compound comprises a compound defined by Formula VIII



Formula VIII

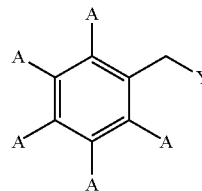
wherein

A is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, a halogen, —OR¹, —NR²R³, —C(=O)R⁴, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative,

R¹, R², and R³ are each, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R⁴ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR¹, —NR²R³, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group; and

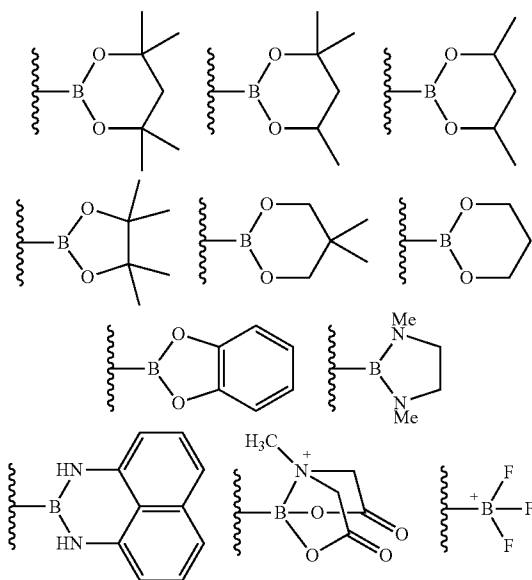
wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by Formula IX



Formula IX

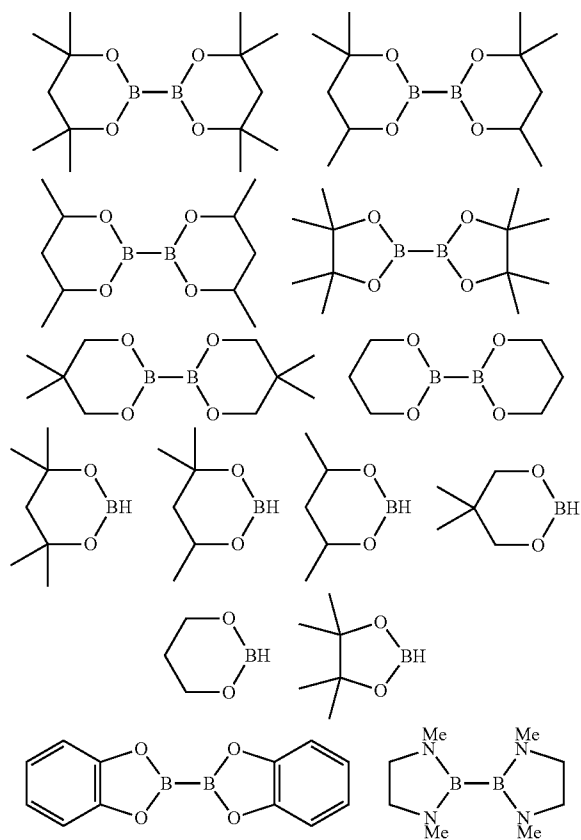
wherein A is, for each occurrence, as described above and Y is a boronic acid or a boronic acid derivative.

28. The process of claim 27, wherein the borylated aromatic compound comprises a compound defined by Formula II wherein Y is a boronic acid derivative selected from one of the following:

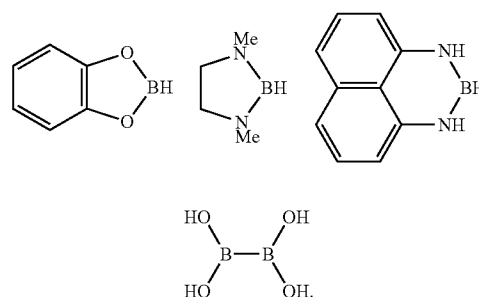


29. The process of claim **25**, wherein the borylation reagent comprises a B—B bond, a B—H bond, or a combination thereof.

30. The process of claim **25**, wherein the borylation reagent comprises one or more of the following:

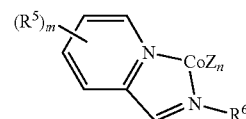


-continued



31. The process of claim **25**, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a cobalt(II) complex.

32. The process of claim **25**, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



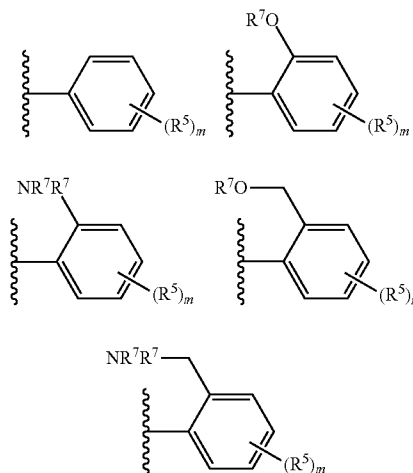
Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 2,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

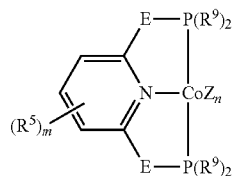
R⁶ is selected from one of the following:



R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group.

33. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

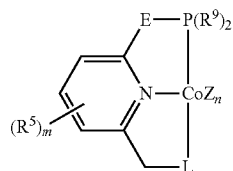
R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

34. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

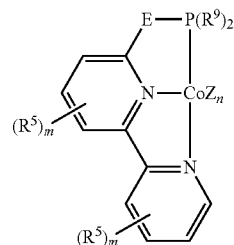
R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰ and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

35. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

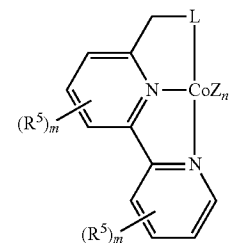
R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

36. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

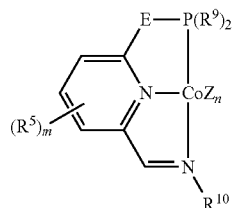
L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹¹,

R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

37. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

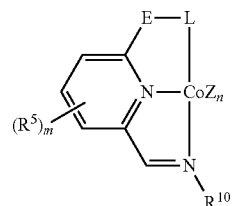
R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁹ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or —OR¹⁰, and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

38. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

E is —CH₂—, —C(R¹⁰)₂—, —NR⁷—, —S—, or —O—,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

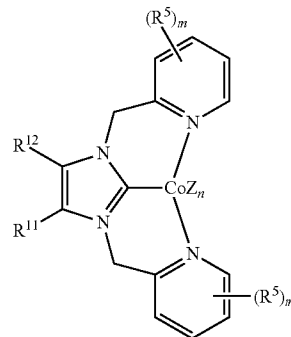
L is —OR¹⁰ or —NR¹⁰R¹⁰,

R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R¹⁰ is, individually for each occurrence, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group or an aryl group.

39. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

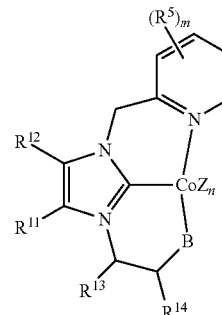
m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

R⁷ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group,

R⁸ is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, or a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, and

R¹¹ and R¹² are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group, or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group.

40. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

R⁵ is, individually for each occurrence, a halogen, —OR⁷, —NR⁷R⁷, —C(=O)R⁸, a nitrile group, a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl group,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4,

B is $-\text{P}(\text{R}^9)_2$, $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group,

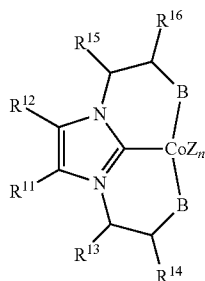
R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$,

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group,

R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, and

R^{13} and R^{14} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{13} and R^{14} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group.

41. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises a complex defined by the formula below



wherein

Z is, independently for each occurrence, a halide, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, or an aryl group,

n is 0, 1, 2, or 3,

B is $-\text{P}(\text{R}^9)_2$, $-\text{OR}^{10}$ or $-\text{NR}^{10}\text{R}^{10}$,

R^9 is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or $-\text{OR}^{10}$,

R^{10} is, individually for each occurrence, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group or an aryl group,

R^{11} and R^{12} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{11} and R^{12} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, and

R^{13} and R^{14} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{13} and R^{14} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

R^{15} and R^{16} are each individually selected from hydrogen, a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group, or R^{15} and R^{16} , together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a phenyl ring, optionally substituted with from 1 to 4 substituents individually selected from a halogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}^8$, a nitrile group, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, an aryl group, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl group,

R^7 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group, and

R^8 is, individually for each occurrence, hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^7$, or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl group.

42. The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic cobalt complex comprises $\text{Py}_2\text{Co}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2$, $[(\text{Cp}^*\text{Co})_2-\mu-(\eta^4:\eta^4\text{-toluene})]$, an N-heterocyclic carbene-ligated cobalt complex, or a combination thereof.

43. The process of claim 25, wherein the aromatic substrate is contacted with the catalytic cobalt complex and the borylation reagent at a temperature of from greater than 25°C . to 80°C .

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