Category

Metals in Synthesis

Key words

copper catalysis umpolung allylation Z. LI, L. ZHANG*, M. NISHIURA, Z. HOU* (RIKEN CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE SCIENCE AND RIKEN CLUSTER FOR PIONEERING RESEARCH, WAKO, JAPAN)

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Copper-Catalyzed Allylation of Imines via Umpolung

$$\begin{array}{c} R^{3} \\ R^{1} \\ R^{2} \\ R^{2} \\ \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} R^{4} \\ X \\ (1.0 \; equiv) \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} R^{5} \\ \text{dioxanes, 80-100 °C, 18 h} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} R^{3} \\ R^{1} \\ R^{2} \\ \text{up to 89\% yield} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} R^{3} \\ R^{1} \\ R^{2} \\ \text{up to 89\% yield} \\ \end{array}$$

Proposed mechanism:

$$R^3$$
 NH LCuCl t -BuOLi t -BuOLi t -BuOBpin t -Bu

Selected examples:

Significance: The authors developed a coppercatalyzed allylation of various functionalized aldemines and ketimines using allyl halides, carbonates or phosphates. A combination of B₂pin₂ and *t*-BuOLi was crucial to obtain the corresponding allylated amines in high yields.

Comment: The reaction proceeds through an unprecedented copper-boron rearrangement. The 1,2-boryl migration from nitrogen to carbon leads to an α -borylaminoalkylcopper species, which subsequently reacts with an allylic electrophile leading, after hydrolysis, to the functionalized amine.