## **Supporting Information**

# Remarkable Catalytic Property of Nanoporous Gold on Activation of Diborons for Direct Diboration of Alkynes

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$$R^{1} = R^{2} + \begin{pmatrix} O \\ B - B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} O \\ O \\ O \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cat. AuNPore \\ toluene, 100-140 \ ^{\circ}C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R^{1} \\ (nip)B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R^{2} \\ B(pin) \end{pmatrix} \\ B(pin) \end{pmatrix}$$

# Content

General Information	S2
Characterization of AuNPore, PtNPore, and PdNPore	<b>S</b> 3
Representative Procedure	<b>S3</b>
Leaching Experiment	<b>S4</b>
Cross-addition Reaction	<b>S5</b>
Analytical Data of 3 and 3'	<b>S8</b>
NMR spectra of 3 and 3'	S14

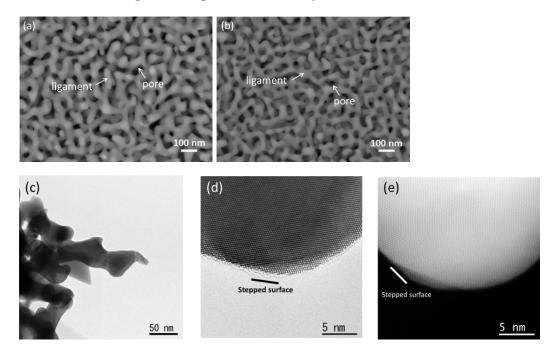
General Information: GC-MS analysis was performed on an Agilent 6890N GC interfaced to an Agilent 5973 mass-selective detector (30 m  $\times$  0.25 mm capillary column, HP-5MS). Scanning electron microscope (SEM) observation was carried out using a JEOL JSM-6500F instrument operated at an accelerating voltage of 30 kV. TEM characterization was performed using a JEM-2100F TEM (JEOL, 200 kV) equipped with double spherical aberration (Cs) correctors for both the probe-forming and image-forming lenses. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM AL 400 (400, 700 MHz) spectrometers. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM AL 700 (225 MHz) spectrometers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to the chemical shift of CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 7.26 ppm, integration, multiplicities (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet and br = broadened), and coupling constants (Hz).  $^{13}C$ NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM AL 400 (100.5 MHz) spectrometers with complete proton decoupling, and chemical shift reported in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to the central line of triplet for CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 77 ppm. High-resolution mass spectra were obtained on a BRUKER APEXIII spectrometer and JEOL JMS-700 MStation operator. Column chromatography was carried out employing Merck silica (spherical, neutral, MercK Chemical Co.) and the florisil (particle size 150 -250 µm, Kanto Chemical Co.). Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on 0.2 mm precoated plate Kieselgel 60 F254 (Merck).

**Materials.** The bis(pinacolato)diboron and alkynes are commercially available (Aldrich), which were used as received. Au (99.99%) and Ag (99.99%) are purchased from Tanaka Kikinzoku Hanbai K. K. and Mitsuwa's Pure Chemical, respectively. Alkyne **10** was prepared following the reported literature.<sup>1</sup> Structure of **3a**<sup>2</sup>, **3b**<sup>3</sup>, **3d**<sup>4</sup>, **3f**<sup>3</sup>, **3i**<sup>5</sup>, **3j**<sup>2</sup>, **3k**<sup>6</sup>, **3m**<sup>2</sup> and **3n**<sup>6</sup> were the reported compounds. Products **3c**, **3e**, **3g**, **3h**, **3l**, **3o**, **3p**, and **3bb** were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>11</sup>B NMR and HRMS. Tran-adduct **3d**' and **3p**' were determined by using NOE.

References

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TEM and SEM images of nanoporous metal catalysts



**Figure S1**. (a) SEM image of the fresh AuNPore (before reaction). (b) SEM image of AuNPore after third run. (c) TEM image of AuNPore. (d) HRTEM image of AuNPore. (e) HADDF-STEM image of AuNPore.

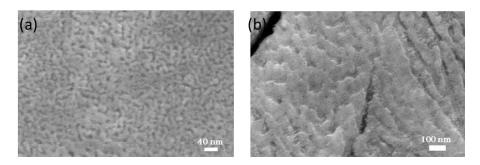
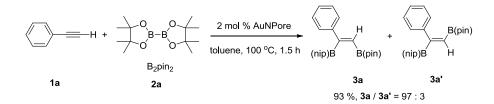


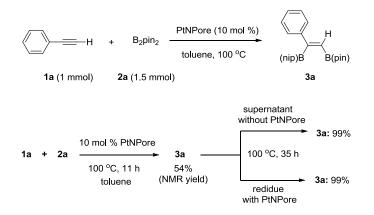
Figure S2. SEM images of PtNPore (a) and PdNPore (b).

Representative procedure for the AuNPore-catalyzed diboration of 1a (Table 1, entry 2)



To a toluene solution (0.5 M, 2 ml) of AuNPore (2 mol%, 4.0 mg) were added **2a** (382 mg, 1.5 mmol) and **1a** (110  $\mu$ L, 1 mmol) subsequently at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred

at 100 °C for 1.5 h and was monitored by GC-MS analysis. The AuNPore catalyst was recovered by filtration. The recovered AuNPore catalyst was washed with acetone and water then acetone, and dried under vacuum. After concentration of the filtrate, the remaining  $B_2pin_2$  **2a** was removed by Kugelrohr distillation, and the residue was further purified through a pad of florisil to afford **3a** and **3a'** (332 mg, 93%, 97:3) as a light yellow liquid.



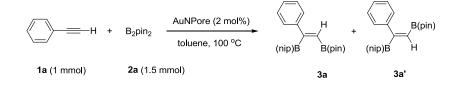
#### Leaching experiment of PtNPore catalyst

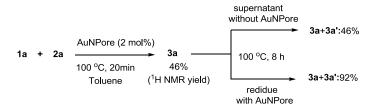
Scheme S1. Leaching experiments for the reaction using PtNPore as catalyst.

The toluene solution of phenyl acetylene (1a) and  $B_2pin_2$  (2a) in the presence of PtNPore catalyst (10 mol%) was stirred at 100 °C for 11 h. At this time the yield of 3a was 54% which determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using anisole as an internal standard. A part of the supernatant was transferred to the other reaction vessel. The supernatant without PtNPore catalyst was continuously stirred at 100 °C for 35 h, affording the corresponding product 3a in 99% <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield, and the residual containing the PtNPore catalyst gave 3a in 99% <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield after stirring at 100 °C for 35 h.

The ICP-MS analysis of the reaction in entry 1 of Table 1 showed that 280 ppm of Pt was leached to the toluene solution after reaction. These results clearly indicated that the PtNPore catalyst was leached in the present reaction conditions and the leached Pt species indeed acted as a homogeneous catalyst for promoting the present boration.

#### Leaching experiment of AuNPore catalyst



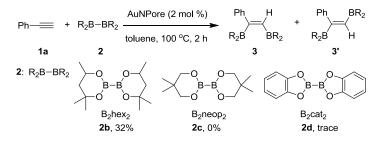


Scheme S2. Leaching experiment of the reaction using AuNPore as catalyst.

The toluene solution of phenyl acetylene (**1a**) and  $B_2pin_2$  (**2a**) in the presence of AuNPore catalyst (2 mol%) was stirred at 100 °C for 20 min. At this time the yield of **3a** was 46% which determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using anisole as an internal standard. A part of the supernatant was transferred to the other reaction vessel. The supernatant without AuNPore catalyst was continuously heated at 100 °C for 8 h, affording **3a** in 46% <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield. In contrast, the residual containing the AuNPore catalyst gave **3a** in 92% <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield after heating at 100 °C for 8 h.

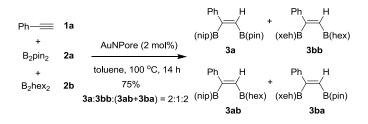
The ICP-MS analysis did not show any detectable leached Au atoms as well as Pt and Pd atoms at ppb levels. These results clearly indicated that the present boration was occurred on the solid state of AuNPore catalyst and was not catalysed by the adventitious Pt or Pd catalyst which sometimes exists in the used glassware and chemicals.

#### Screening of other diborons

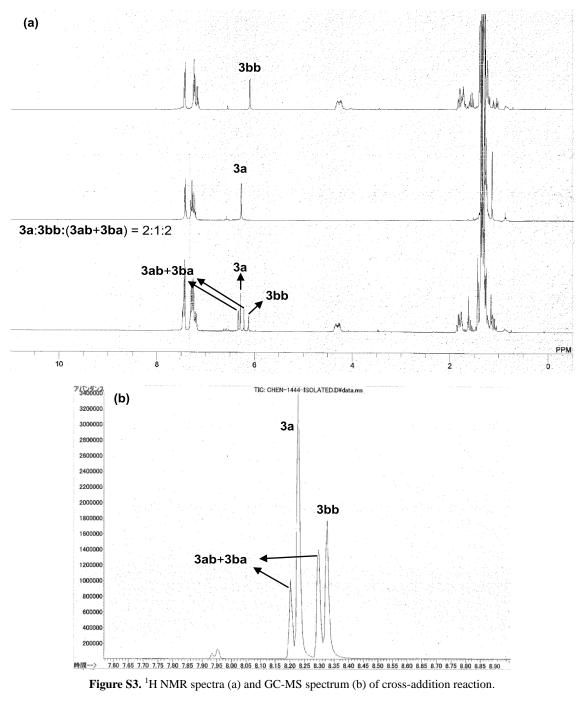


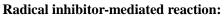
Scheme S3. Examination of other diborons instead of using B<sub>2</sub>(pin)<sub>2</sub>.

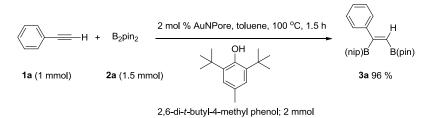
#### Cross-addition Experiment for Diboration of 1a with 2a and 2b



Scheme S4. Cross-addition experiment for diboration of 1a with 2a and 2b. *cis*-Adducts are major products. The corresponding *trans*-adducts were not shown for clarification.





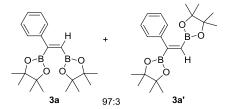


Scheme S5. Radical examination using BHT as radical inhibitor.

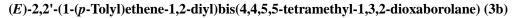
To a toluene solution (0.5 M, 2 ml) of AuNPore (2 mol%, 4.0 mg) were added **2a** (382 mg, 1.5 mmol), **1a** (110  $\mu$ L, 1 mmol), and 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methyl phenol (BHT) (2 mmol) subsequently at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 1.5 h. The AuNPore catalyst was recovered by filtration. The recovered AuNPore catalyst was washed with acetone and water then acetone and dried under vacuum. After concentration of filtration, the residue showed that **3a** was formed in 96% <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield by using CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as an internal standard, indicating the radical inhibitor BHT did not decrease the rate and yield of **3a**.

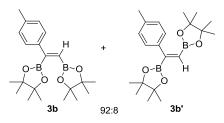
#### Analytical data

(E)-2,2'-(1-Phenylethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3a)



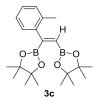
*E*:*Z* = 97:3; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.16 (m, 3H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 1.34 (s, 12H), 1.27 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.8, 128.1, 127.4, 126.4, 84.0, 83.5, 25.0, 24.8; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.59; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 379.2222, found: 379.2222.





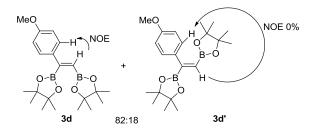
*E*:*Z* = 92:8; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.16-7.07 (m, 2H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 12H), 1.31 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.0, 137.2, 128.9, 126.3, 84.0, 83.4, 25.1, 24.8, 21.1; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.33; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 393.2378, found: 393.2378.

## (E)-2,2'-(1-(o-Tolyl)ethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3c)



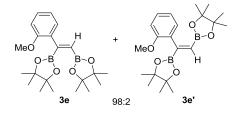
*E*:*Z* = 100:0; white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.16-7.09 (m, 4H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 12H), 1.30 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 134.3, 129.7, 127.8, 126.5, 125.4, 83.8, 83.5, 24.9, 24.8, 20.4; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.05; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 393.2378, found 393.2378.

(E)-2,2'-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3d)



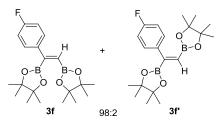
*E*:*Z* = 82:18; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  **3d**: 7.40-7.38 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.82 (m, 2H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 12H), 1.29 (s, 12H); **3d**': 7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 6.82-6.80 (m, 2H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 12H), 1.18 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  **3d**: 159.4, 135.4, 127.7, 113.7, 84.0, 83.4, 55.1, 25.1, 24.8; **3d**': 158.8, 134.8, 129.6, 112.9, 83.8, 83.3, 55.1, 24.7, 24.6; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  29.87; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 409.2328, found 409.2328.

(*E*)-2,2'-(1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)ethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3e)



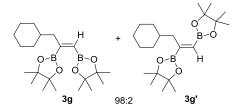
*E*:*Z* = 98:2; light yellow solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.93-6.87 (m, 1H), 6.81-6.76 (m, 1H), 6.20 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H), 1.29 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.0, 133.9, 128.8, 128.7, 121.0, 110.0, 83.5, 83.3, 55.2, 25.1, 24.9; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.04; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> : 409.2328, found 409.2328.

(E)-2,2'-(1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3f)



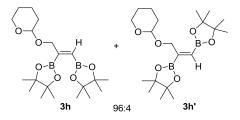
*E*:*Z* = 98:2; colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.23 (s, 1H), 1.36 (s, 12H), 1.30 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3 (d,  $J^{l}$  = 245.0 Hz), 138.9 (d,  $J^{4}$  = 3.3 Hz), 128.0 (d,  $J^{3}$  = 8.2 Hz), 115.0 (d,  $J^{2}$  = 21.4 Hz), 84.1, 83.5, 25.0, 24.8; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.31; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>29</sub>B<sub>2</sub>FO<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 397.2128, found 397.2128.

(E)-2,2'-(3-Cyclohexylprop-1-ene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3g)



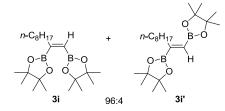
*E*:*Z* = 98:2; colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.76 (s, 1H), 2.09 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.70-1.57 (m, 5H), 1.41-1.32 (m, 1H), 1.28 (s, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.17-1.07 (m, 3H), 0.88-0.76 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  83,4, 83.1, 48.3, 37.0, 33.3, 26.5, 26.3, 24.8(8), 24.8(7); <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.16; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>38</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 399.2848, found: 399.2848.

(*E*)-2,2'-(3-((Tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxy)prop-1-ene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-di oxaborolane) (3h)



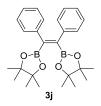
*E*:*Z* = 96:4; white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.11 (s, 1H), 4.62 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.79 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.44 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.72-1.41 (m, 5H), 1.28 (s, 12H), 1.25 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  97.4, 83.6, 83.3, 71.5, 61.4, 30.4, 25.5, 24.9, 24.8, 19.0; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.17; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 417.2590, found: 417.2589.

#### (E)-2,2'-(Dec-1-ene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3i)



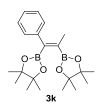
*E*:*Z* = 96:4; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.82 (s, 1H), 2.19 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.46-1.36 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 12H), 1.25 (s, 12H), 1.3-1.2 (m, 10H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  83.5, 83.1, 39.9, 31.9, 29.4(7), 29.4(1), 29.2, 28.6, 24.9, 24.8, 22.7, 14.1; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.33; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>42</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 415.3161, found 415.3161.

(Z)-1,2-Diphenyl-1,2-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)ethane (3j)



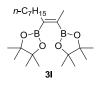
White solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.13-7.01 (m, 6H), 7.00-6.93 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 24H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.0, 129.1, 127.2, 125.6, 83.9, 24.8; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.54; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 455.2535, found 455.2535.

# (Z)-2,2'-(1-Phenylprop-1-ene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3k)



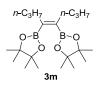
Pale liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.05 (m, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 12H), 1.23 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.3, 128.1, 127.6, 125.7, 83.6, 83.5, 24.8(9), 24.8(0), 18.1; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.39; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 393.2378, found 393.2378.

# (Z)-2,2'-(Dec-2-ene-2,3-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (31)



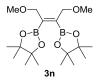
Colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.169 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.44-1.17 (m, 10H), 1.27 (s, 12H), 1.26 (s, 12H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  83.2, 83.1, 31.8, 31.2, 29.9, 29.2, 28.8, 24.9, 24.8, 22.6, 15.9, 14.1; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.53, 22.27; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>42</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> : 415.3161, found 415.3161.

### (Z)-2,2'-(Oct-4-ene-4,5-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3m)



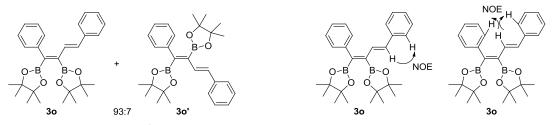
Light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.20-2.11 (m, 4H), 1.44-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.27 (s, 24H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  83.2, 33.0, 24.9, 23.0, 14.6; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.59; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>38</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 387.2848, found 387.2847.

(Z)-2,2'-(1,4-Dimethoxybut-2-ene-2,3-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (3n)



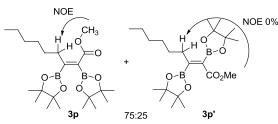
Light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.13 (s, 4H), 3.25 (s, 6H), 1.26 (s, 24H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  83.6, 71.4, 57.9, 24.8; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.13; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>34</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 391.2433, found 391.2433.

# 2,2'-((1*Z*,3*E*)-1,4-Diphenylbuta-1,3-diene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane) (30)



*Z*:*E* = 93:7; white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.16 (m, 8H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 1.46 (s, 12H), 1.28 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.4, 137.8, 133.3, 130.5, 129.4, 128.4, 127.5, 127.4, 126.6, 126.2, 84.0, 83.9, 25.3, 24.8; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  30.72; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>36</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 481.2691, found 481.2691.

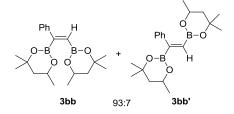
#### (Z)-Methyl 2,3-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)non-2-enoate (3p)



**3p:3p'** = 75:25; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.73 (**3p'**: s, 3H), 3.70 (**3p**: s, 3H), 2.37 (**3p'**: t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (**3p**: t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.42-1.22 (**3p**: m, 32H), 0.86 (**3p'**: t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.85 (**3p**: t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  **3p**: 169.6, 84.0, 83.9,

51.1, 34.4, 31.6, 29.5, 29.1, 24.8, 24.7, 22.5, 14.1; **3p**':171.7, 83.4, 83.2, 52.3, 35.1, 31.5, 29.4, 28.7, 24.9, 24.6, 22.5, 14.1; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  29.84; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>40</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 445.2903, found 445.2903.

# (E)-2,2'-(1-Phenylethene-1,2-diyl)bis(4,4,6-trimethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborinane) (3bb)



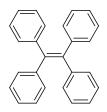
*E*:*Z* = 93:7; light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.46-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 3H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 4.38-4.22 (s, 2H), 1.86-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.48-1.25 (m, 18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.47, 143.42, 127.89, 126.82, 126.35, 71.39, 71.34, 70.86, 70.78, 64.93, 64.67, 64.61, 45.90, 45.84, 45.75, 31.45, 31.35, 31.33, 28.34, 28.31, 28.27, 28.18, 23.42, 23.17, 23.13; <sup>11</sup>B NMR (225 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 26.59; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for  $C_{20}H_{30}B_2O_4$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 379.2222, found: 379.2221.

#### 9,10-Diphenylphenanthrene



White solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.73-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.16 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.4, 137.1, 131.7, 130.9, 129.9, 127.7(5), 127.7(4), 126.5, 126.3(9), 126.3(0), 122.4; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>: 330.1403, found 330.1402.

#### 1,1,2,2-Tetraphenylethene



White solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.13-7.08 (m, 12H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.6, 140.8, 131.2, 127.5, 126.3; HRMS (ESI positive) calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>20</sub>: 332.1559, found 332.1559.

# NMR spectra

