

*Supporting Information*

**Copper(II)-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling between  
Two Azoles**

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## I. General Information

All reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. 5-Substituted oxazoles,<sup>1</sup> ethyl 4-methyloxazole-5-carboxylate,<sup>2</sup> ethyl 4-methylthiazole-5-carboxylate,<sup>2</sup> ethyl thiazole-5-carboxylate,<sup>2</sup> and 1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to the literature procedures. All solvents were purified and dried according to standard methods prior to use. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz or 600 MHz) chemical shifts were measured relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal reference (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  = 7.26 ppm). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz or 150 MHz) chemical shifts were given using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  = 77.16 ppm). The following abbreviations were used to designate the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, bs = broad signal, m = multiplet. GC-MS analyses were performed using naphthalene as internal standard.

## II. Optimization of the Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazole with 5-Phenylloxazole

A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with Cu salt (20 mol%), base (1.5 equiv), oxidant (1.5 equiv), additive (1.0 equiv), benzothiazole (0.25 mmol), 5-phenylloxazole (0.25 mmol) and solvent (1.0 mL) under O<sub>2</sub> (1 atm) atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for the indicated time. The reaction mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with 20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with 10-20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were concentrated, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethyl acetate = 10/1-5/1 v/v) to provide the desired product **3a**.

## III. Detailed Hetero-Couplings and Homo-Couplings for all Described Reactions

**Table S1. Selective Cross-Couplings of Benzothiazole with Azoles<sup>a,b</sup>**

entry	benzothiazole	azole 2	heterocoupling product	yield (%)
1				76 (10, 17)
2				75 (13, 15)
3				75 (10, <5)
4				69 (10, 8)
5				69 (13, <5)
6				71 (13, <5)
7				70 (12, 18)
8				64 (10, <5)
9				78 (12, <5)
10				67 (13, 18)

<sup>a</sup> Reactions were carried out using Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (20 mol%), Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.5 equiv), pyridine (1.0 equiv), benzothiazole (0.5 mmol), and azole 2 (0.5 mmol) at 140 °C for 24 h under oxygen atmosphere. <sup>b</sup>

Yields of isolated product. The yields in parentheses refer to the homocoupling products of benzothiazole (**1a**) and azole **2**, respectively.

**Table S2. Selective Cross-Couplings between Two Non-benzofused Azoles<sup>a,b</sup>**

		4a - 4o	1bb - 1gg, 2hh	2aa - 2kk
entry	azole 1	azole 2	heterocoupling Product	yield (%)
1				65 (13, 19)
2				62 (16, 18)
3				70 (21, trace)
4				73 (23, trace)
5				73 (18, 8)
6				61 (23, 12)
7				63 (21, <5)
8				70 (trace, <5)
9				65 (trace, 19)
10				66 (<5, trace)

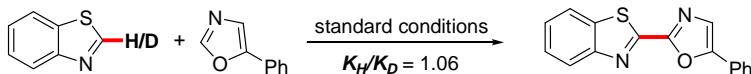
11				63 (15, 19)
12				65 (13, 11)
13				60 (<5, trace)
14				58 (<5, n.d)
15				52 <sup>c</sup> (<5, n.d)

<sup>a</sup> Reactions were carried out using Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (20 mol%), Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.5 equiv), pyridine (1.0 equiv), azole **1** (0.5 mmol), and azole **2** (0.5 mmol) at 140 °C for 24 h under oxygen atmosphere. <sup>b</sup> Yields of isolated product. The yields in parentheses refer to the homocoupling products of azole **1** and azole **2**, respectively. <sup>c</sup> Oxazole **1** (0.5 mmol), and imidazole **2** (0.75 mmol).

#### IV. Experimental Procedures for the KIE Study for Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazole with 5-Phenylloxazole

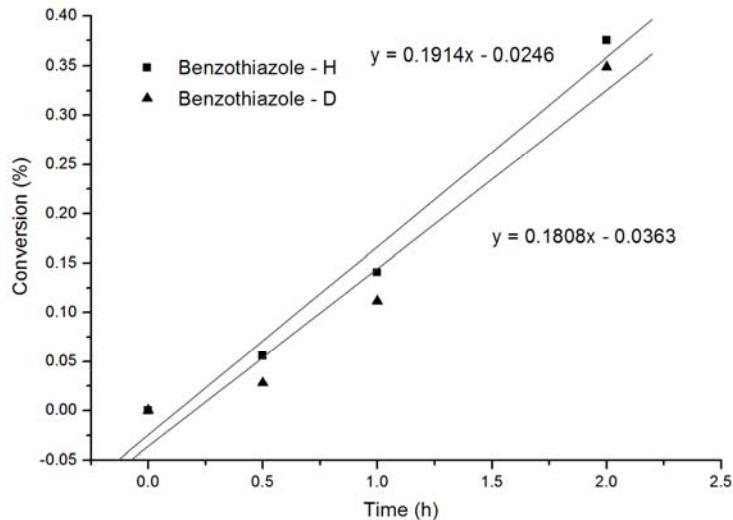
Two sets of reactions were carried out in a parallel manner. In each case 5-phenyloxazole was allowed to react with benzothiazole and 2-deuterio-benzothiazole, respectively.<sup>4</sup> The conversion was measured carefully after designated time (0 h, 0.5 h, 1 h, 2 h) by GC-MS analyses (naphthalene as internal standard) to compare the initial reaction rates.

**Table S3. Conversion (%) of the Reaction of Benzothiazole (2-H and 2-D)**



reaction time (h)	2-deuterio-benzothiazole	benzothiazole
0	0.0%	0.0%

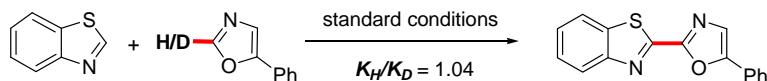
0.5	2.8%	5.6%
1	11.1%	14.1%
2	34.9%	37.5%



**Figure S1** Conversion (%) versus Time (h)

Two sets of reactions were carried out in a parallel manner. In each case benzothiazole was allowed to react with 5-phenyloxazole and 2-deuterio-5-phenyloxazole, respectively.<sup>4</sup> The conversion was measured carefully after designated time (0 h, 0.5 h, 1 h, 2 h) by GC-MS analyses (naphthalene as internal standard) to compare the initial reaction rates.

**Table S4. Conversion (%) of the Reaction of 5-Phenyloxazole (2-H and 2-D)**

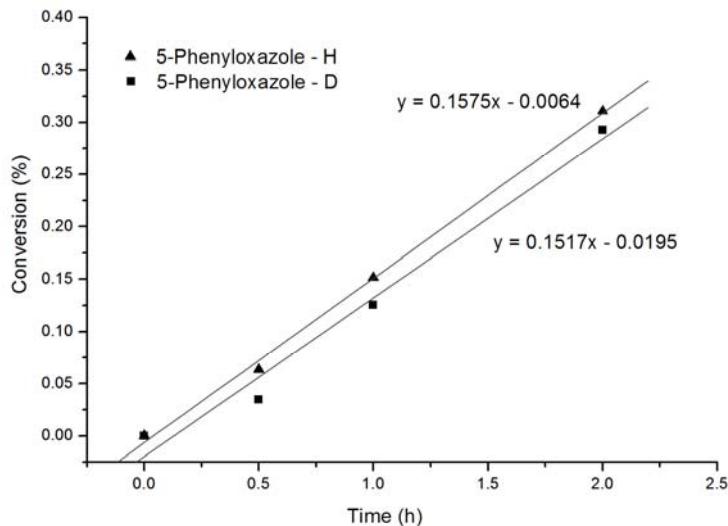


reaction time (h)	2-deuterio-5-phenyloxazole	5-phenyloxazole
0	0.0%	0.0%
0.5	3.5%	6.3%

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1	12.6%	15.2%
2	29.3%	31.1%

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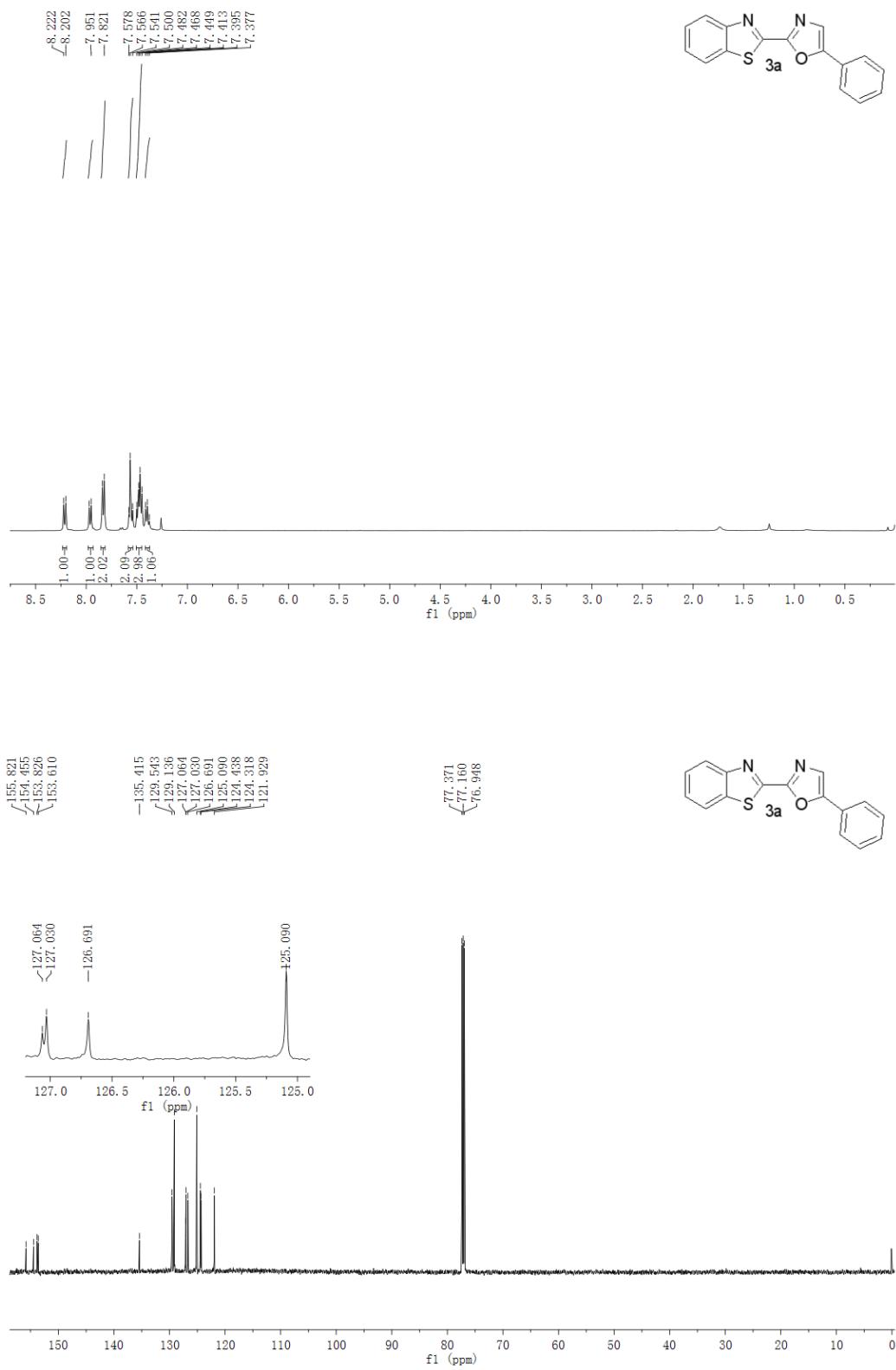


**Figure S2** Conversion (%) versus Time (h).

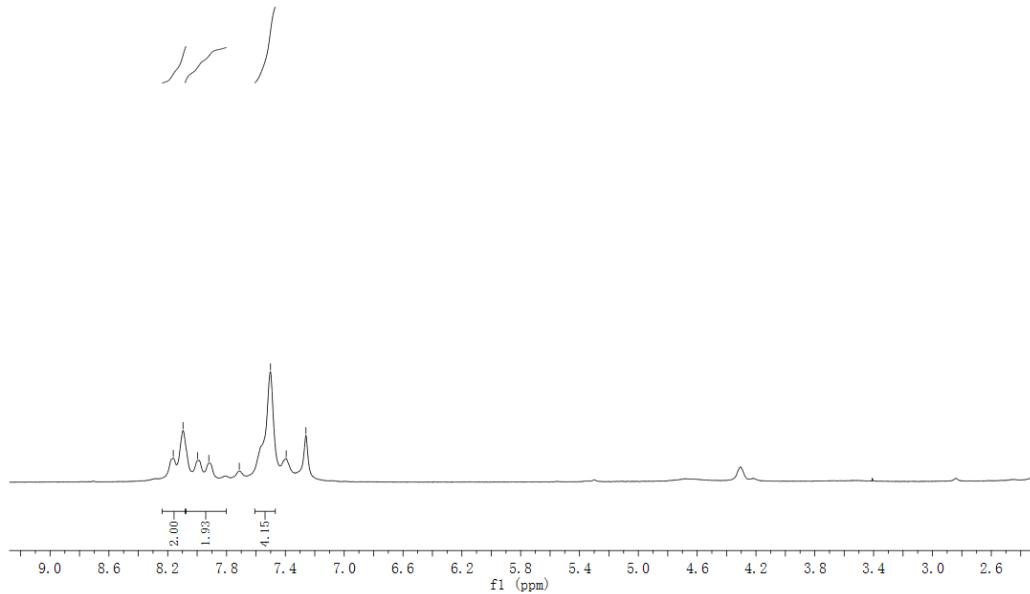
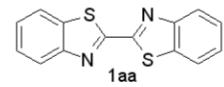
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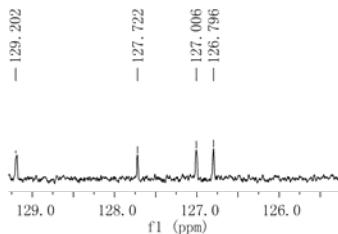
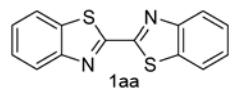
## VI. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectra



8.162  
8.096  
7.997  
7.921  
7.713  
7.501  
7.394  
7.260



135.979  
129.202  
127.006  
126.796  
124.237  
122.201



77.371  
77.448  
76.948

