

# A Mild, Ferrocene-Catalyzed C–H Imidation of (Hetero)Arenes

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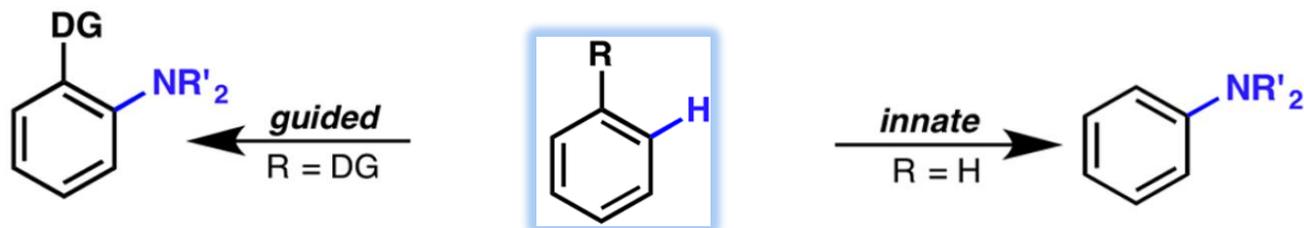
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*14/04/2014*

## Methods for intermolecular C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H amination



External reagent or directing group

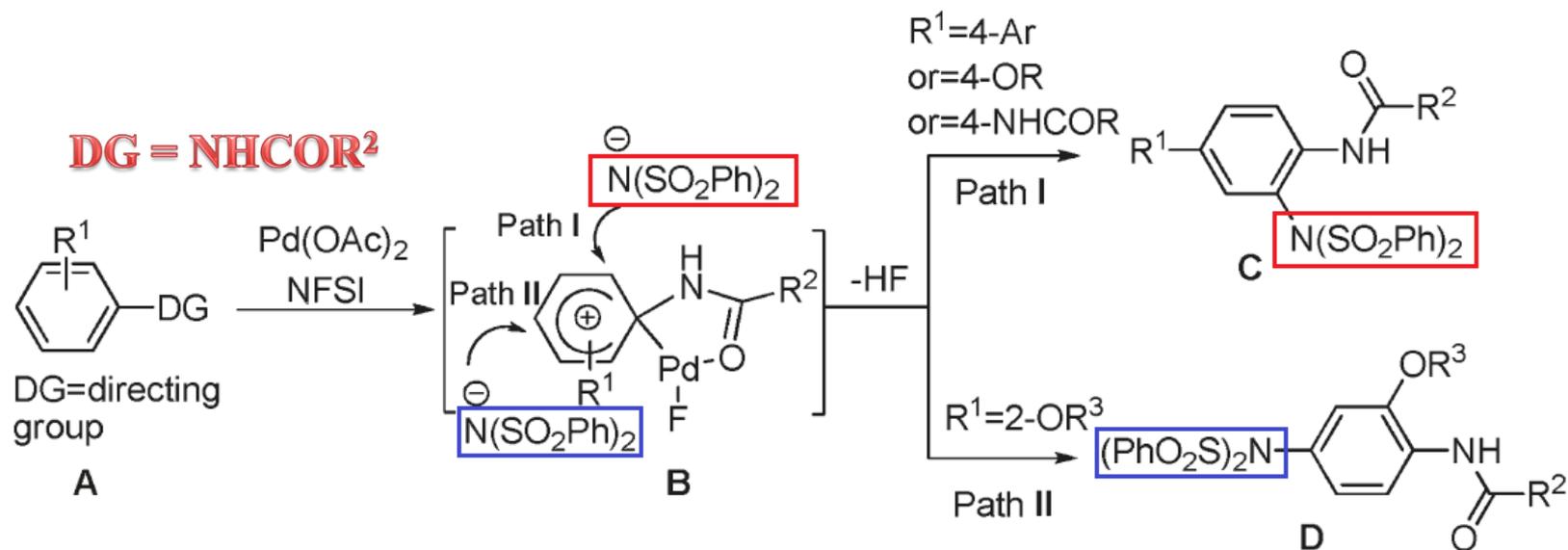
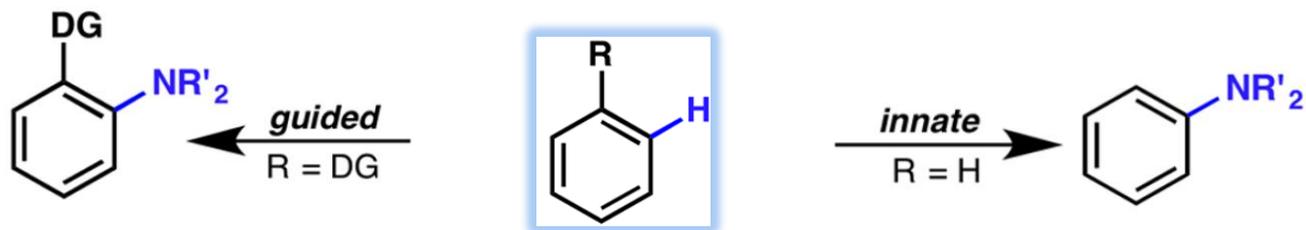
Metal complexation

Steric bias of the reagent

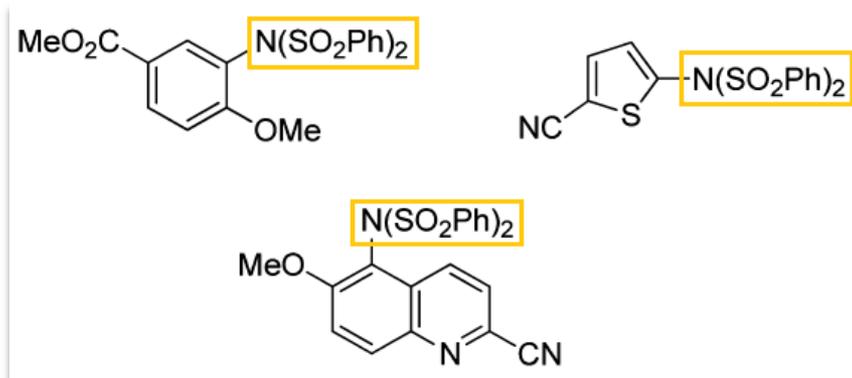
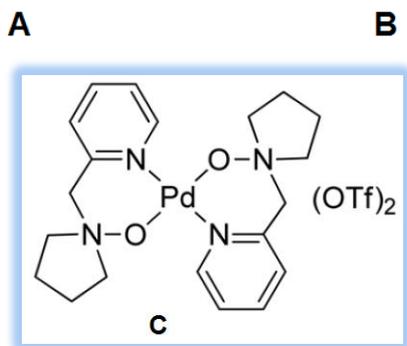
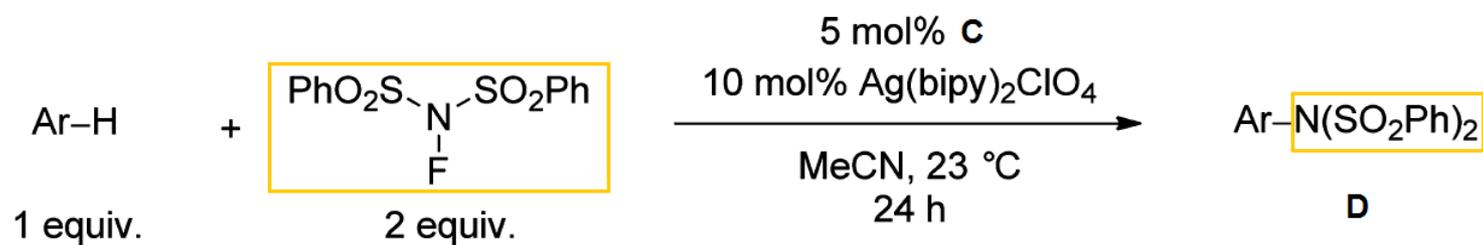
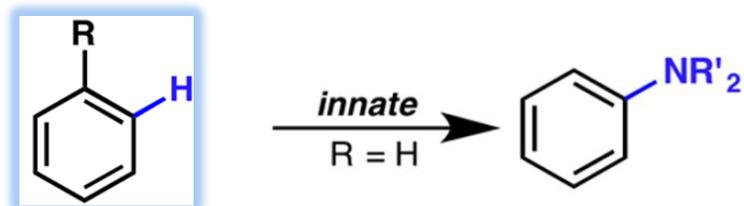
Natural reactivity patterns

Absence of external directing forces

## Methods for intermolecular C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H amination

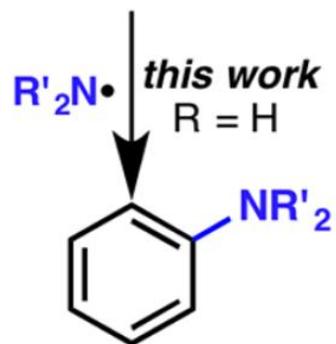
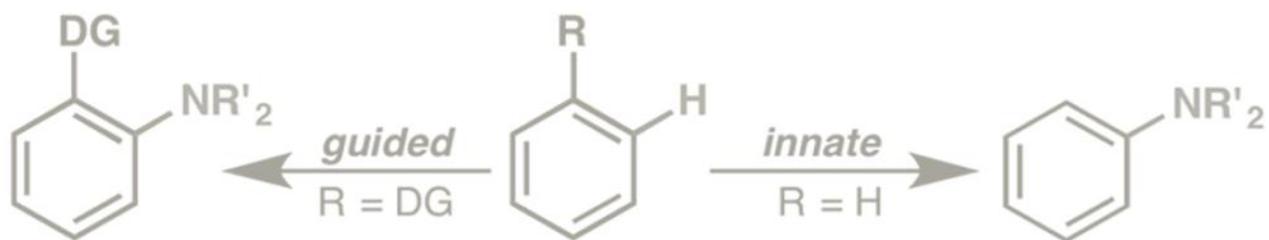


NFSI = *N*-fluorobenzenesulfonimide



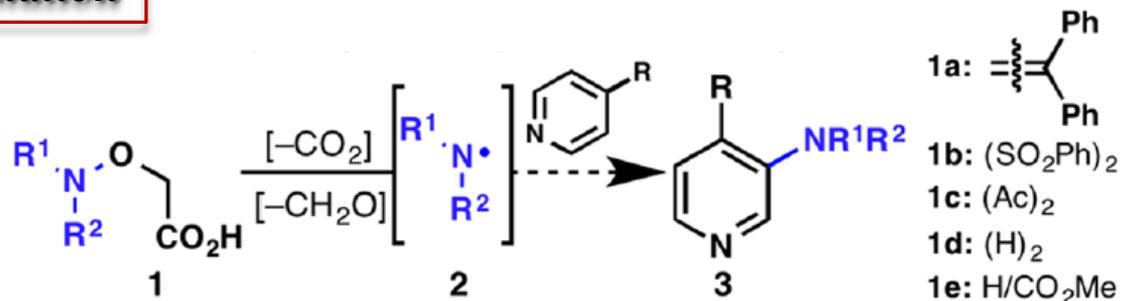
Not require coordinating directing groups

Without the formation of conventional organometallic intermediates



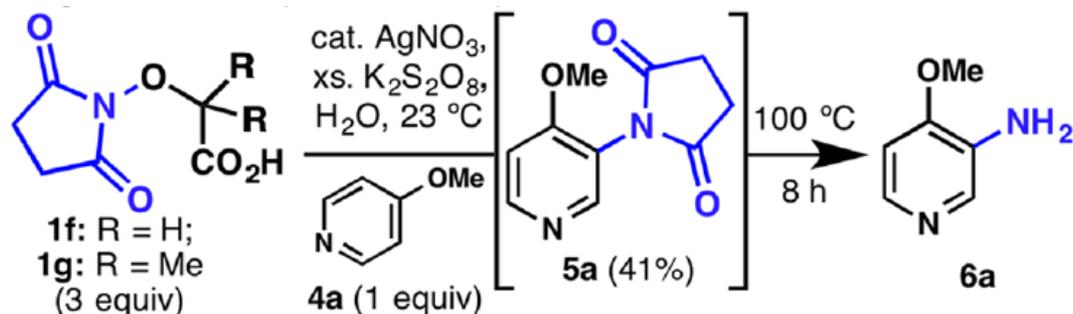
# Preliminary studies towards radical-based C-H amination

## First approximation



- ◆ Propensity of *N*-radicals to hydrogen abstraction
- ◆ Degradation

## Second approximation



Electron-rich  
substrates

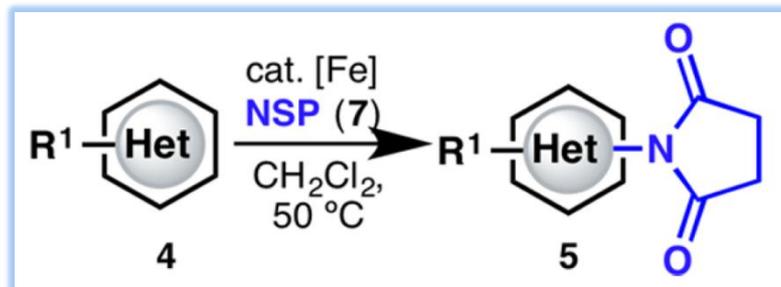
Decomposition

Design

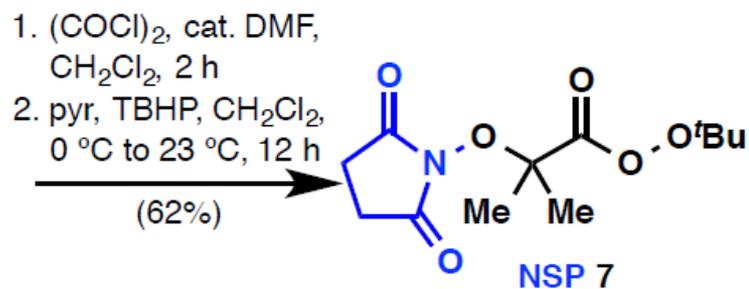
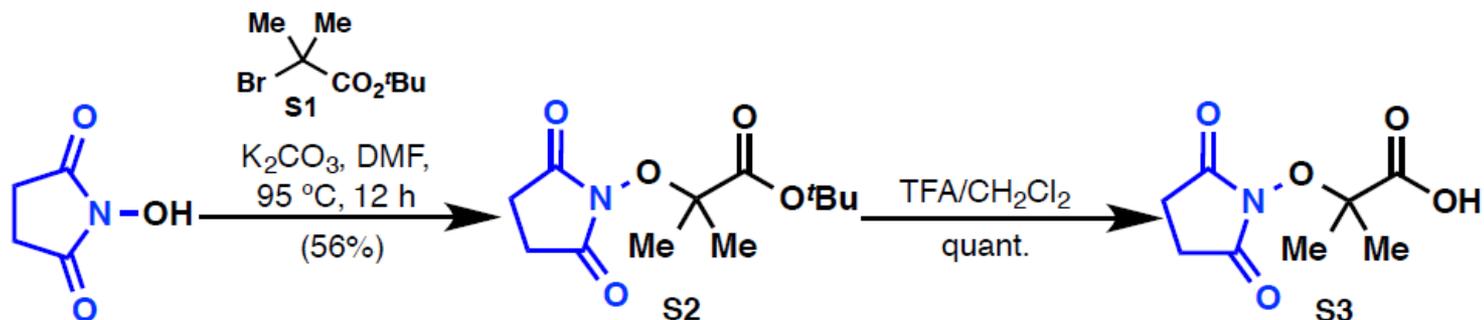


decarboxylation/deformylation

# C-H Imidation of (Hetero)Arenes

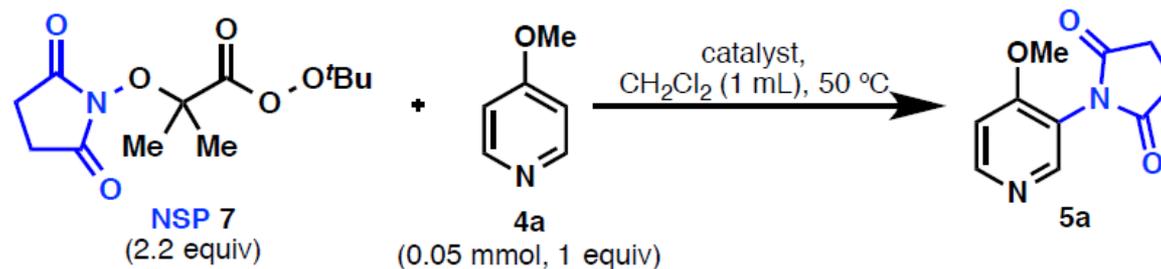


## Preparation of NSP (*N*-succinimidyl perester) 7



# Reaction condition optimization

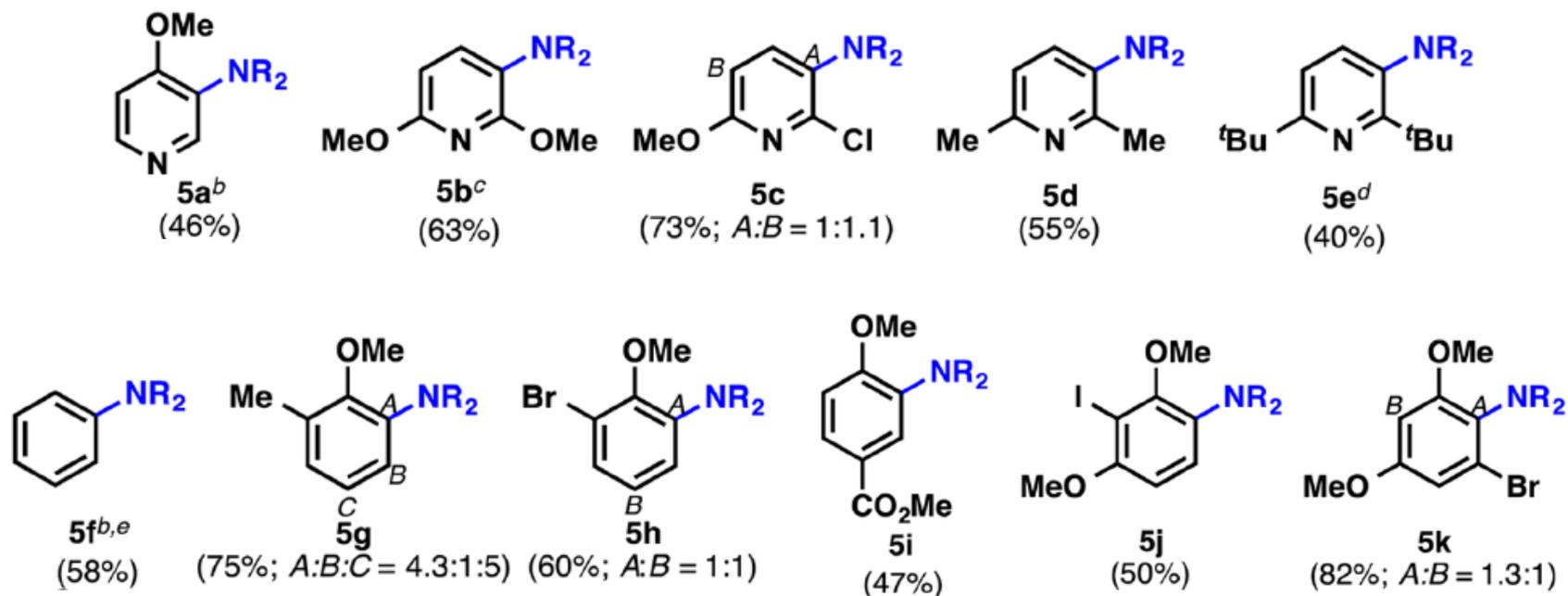
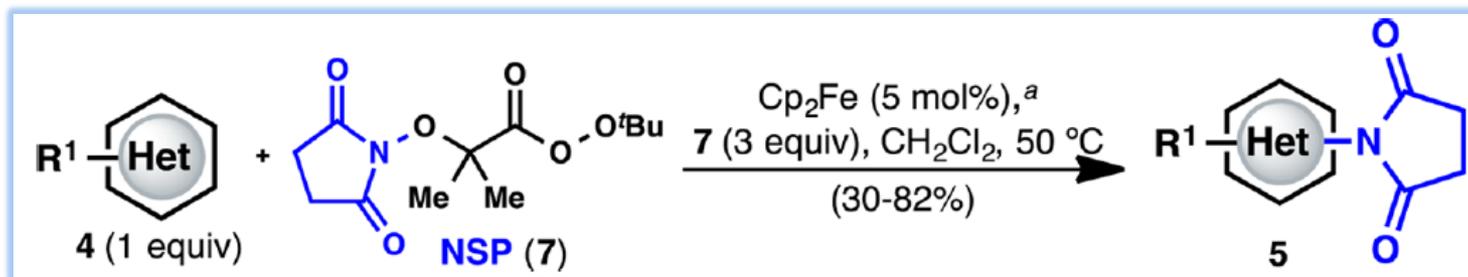
**Table 1.** Catalyst screening for reaction of NSP 7 with 4-methoxypyridine (4a).



Entry	Catalyst	(mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	Entry	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	(mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	none	-	7	8	Cp <sub>2</sub> Fe	5	52
2	CuCl	20	13	9	FeSO <sub>4</sub>	10	24
3	CuI	20	14	10	FeCl <sub>3</sub>	10	15
4	CuBr	20	14	11	Fe(acac) <sub>3</sub>	10	23
5	CuCN	20	18	12	Fe(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	10	25
6	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	10	26	13	Co(acac) <sub>3</sub>	10	21
7	CuF <sub>2</sub>	10	14	14	Mn(acac) <sub>2</sub>	10	23

<sup>a</sup>Yield is based on NMR comparison.

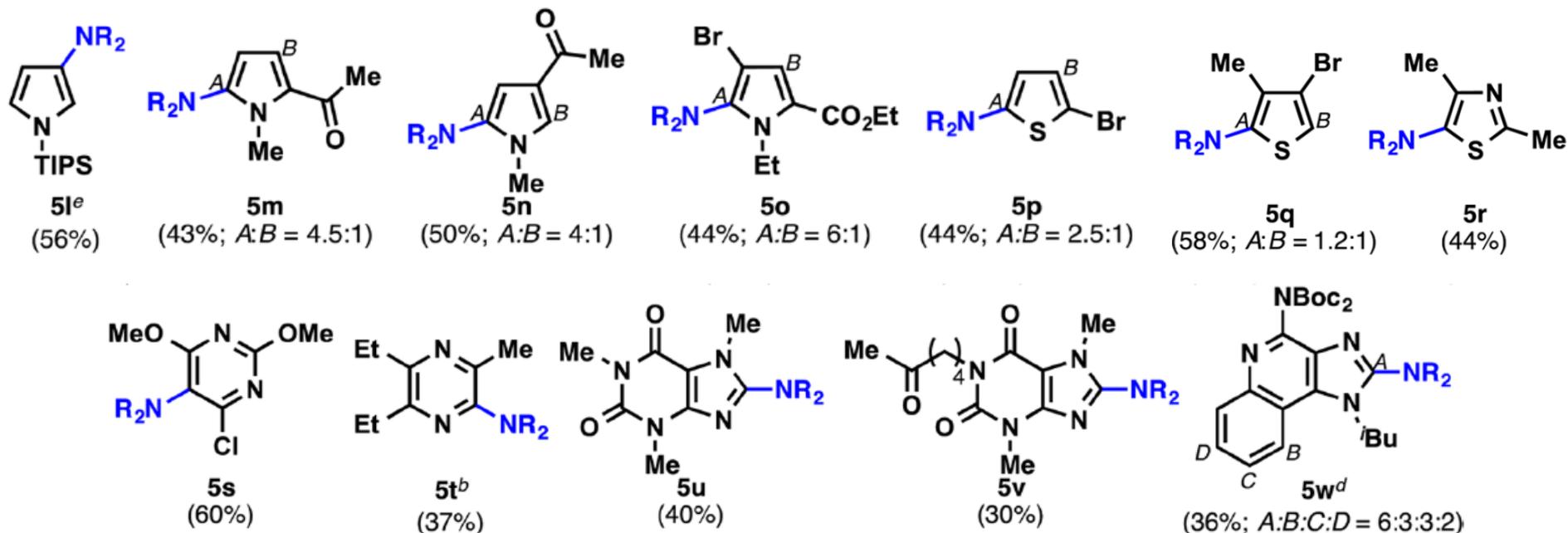
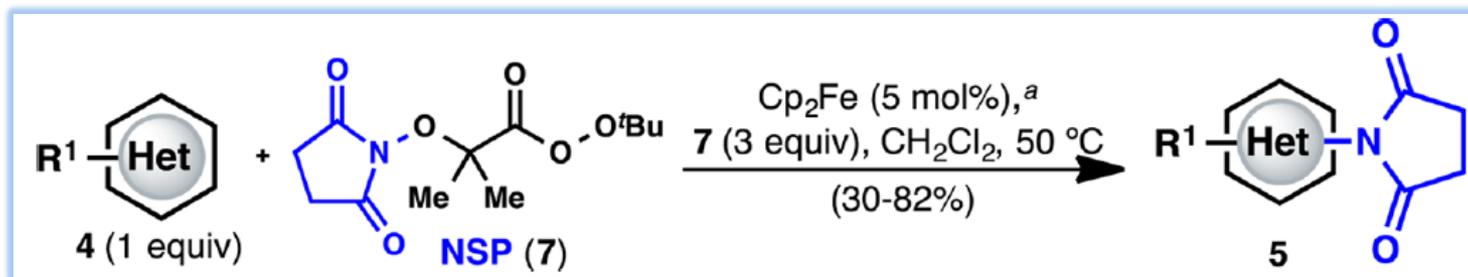
**Table 2.** Substrate Scope of Ferrocene-Catalyzed C–H Imidation of (Hetero)Arenes **4**



<sup>a</sup> $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}$  (5 mol%), (hetero)arene **4** (0.2 mmol), NSP (**7**) (3 equiv),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.05 M),  $50\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , 2–7 h; isolated yields reported.

<sup>b</sup>NSP (**7**) (4 equiv) was used. <sup>c</sup>NSP (**7**) (2.75 equiv) was used. <sup>d</sup>NSP (**7**) (5 equiv) was used. <sup>e</sup> $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}$  (10 mol%) was used.

**Table 2.** Substrate Scope of Ferrocene-Catalyzed C–H Imidation of (Hetero)Arenes **4**

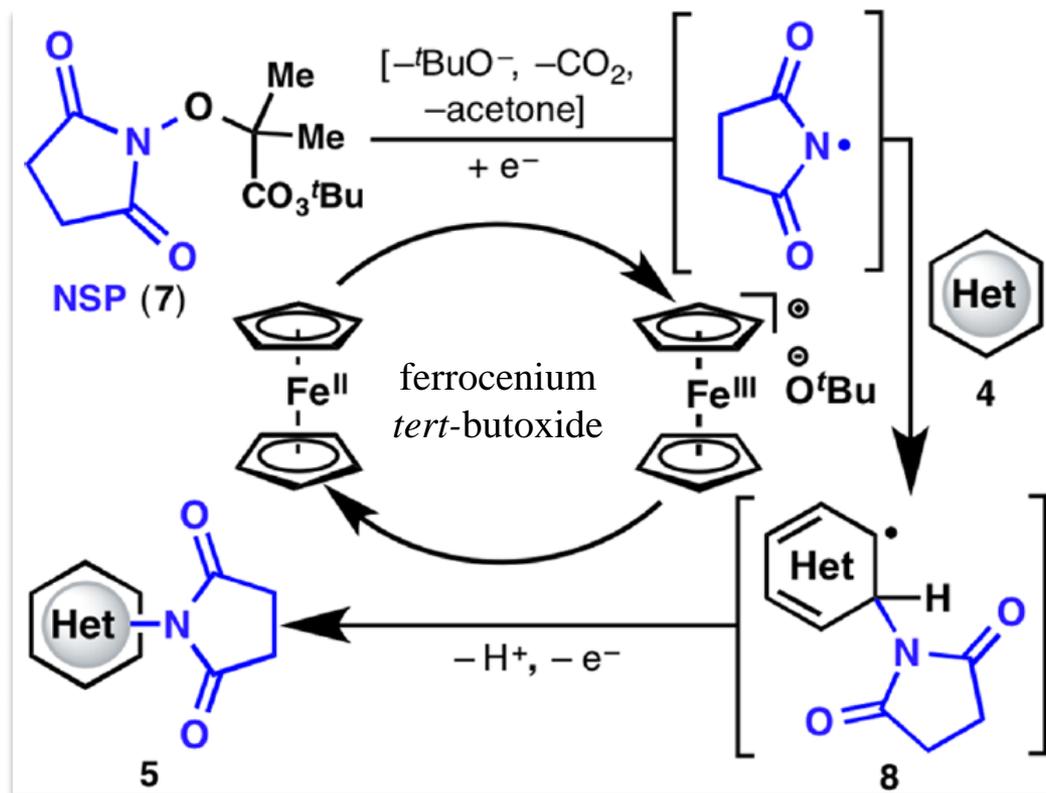


<sup>a</sup> $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}$  (5 mol%), (hetero)arene **4** (0.2 mmol), NSP (**7**) (3 equiv),  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.05 M), 50 °C, 2–7 h; isolated yields reported.

<sup>b</sup>NSP (**7**) (4 equiv) was used. <sup>c</sup>NSP (**7**) (2.75 equiv) was used. <sup>d</sup>NSP (**7**) (5 equiv) was used. <sup>e</sup> $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}$  (10 mol%) was used.

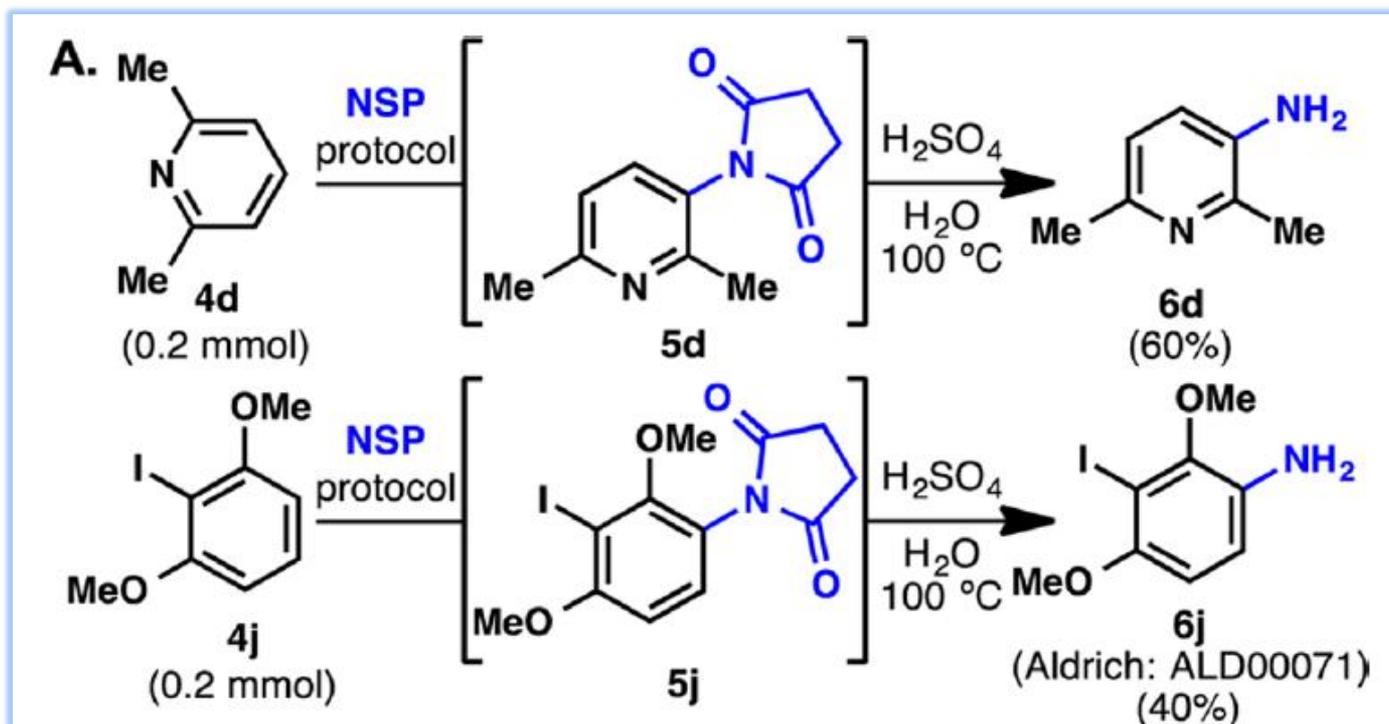
# Proposed mechanism

single-electron transfer from  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}$  to NSP  
O-O bond cleavage



one-electron oxidation  
and deprotonation

## One-pot C–H imidation/deprotection of 4d and 4j



# CONCLUSION

A simple method for direct C–H imidation is reported using a new perester-based self-immolating reagent and a base-metal catalyst.

The scope of the reaction is broad, the conditions are extremely mild, and the reaction is tolerant of oxidizable and acid labile functionality, multiple heteroatoms, and aryl iodides.

The succinimide products obtained can be easily deprotected in to reveal the corresponding anilines directly.