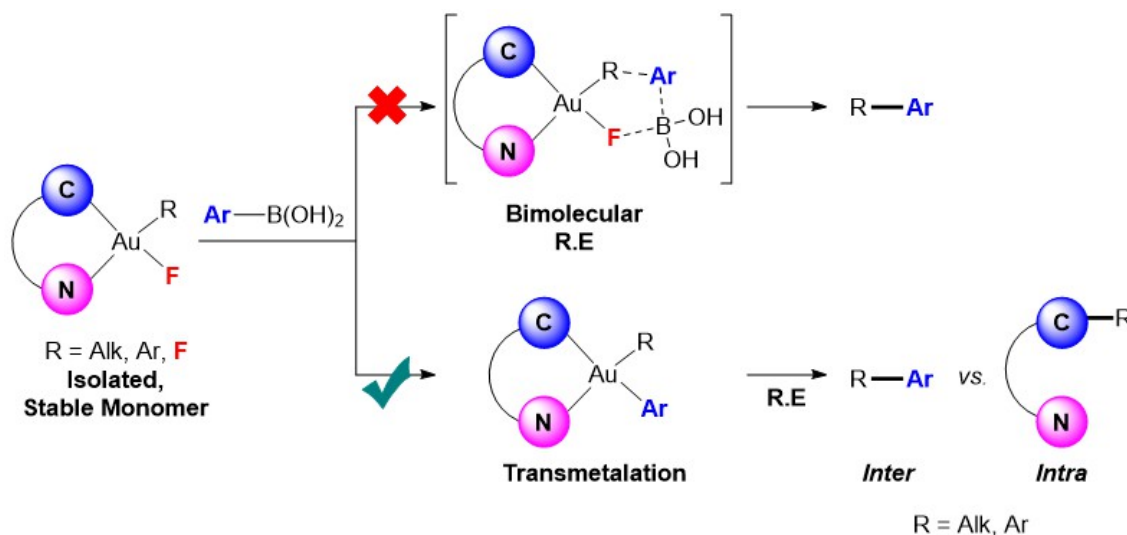


## How Boronic Acids Interact with Gold(III)-Fluorides: A Mechanistic Investigation

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In the past decade numerous Au<sup>I</sup>/Au<sup>III</sup> catalyzed transformations have been developed in order to construct C-C, C-X and C-F bonds.<sup>1</sup> Many of these reactions use Selectfluor (an electrophilic fluorinating reagent) as a sacrificial oxidant and aryl boronic acids as coupling partners. In these processes, it has been proposed that gold(III) fluorides intermediates react with boronic acids via a bimolecular reductive elimination pathway or transmetalation followed by reductive elimination to deliver the product.<sup>2-3</sup> However, due to highly reactive nature of Au<sup>III</sup>-F species, these mechanistic proposals still lack experimental support. Here, we present our results on the preparation and characterization of a series of novel (C<sup>^</sup>C<sup>^</sup>N) and (C<sup>^</sup>N)-stabilized gold(III) fluorides in monomeric form and an in depth study on their reactivity with aryl boronic acids where we observe and isolate the transmetalation product.<sup>4-5</sup> Importantly, this novel (C<sup>^</sup>C<sup>^</sup>N) pincer type gold(III) framework enable the synthesis of first stable gold(III) formate complex which open a way towards homogeneous gold catalyzed dehydrogenation of formic acid.<sup>6</sup>



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