

## **Supporting Information**

### **Metallic salt-catalyzed direct indium insertion into alkyl iodides and their applications in cross-coupling reactions**

Bing-Zhi Chen,<sup>a</sup> Chuang-Xin Wang,<sup>a</sup> Zhen-Hua Jing,<sup>a</sup> Xue-Qiang Chu,<sup>a</sup> Teck-Peng Loh<sup>\*,a,b</sup> and Zhi-Liang Shen<sup>\*,a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Advanced Synthesis, School of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Jiangsu National Synergetic Innovation Center for Advanced Materials, Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing 211816, China

<sup>b</sup> Division of Chemistry and Biological Chemistry, School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 637371, Singapore

### **Table of Contents**

1. General information.....	page S2
2. Experimental procedure.....	page S2
3. ESI-MS data.....	page S5
4. Characterization data of products.....	page S8
5. References.....	page S13
6. <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of products.....	page S14

## **General information**

Commercially available alkyl iodides and aryl halides were used without further purification. Starting materials of 6-iodohexyl benzoate (**1h**)<sup>1</sup> was prepared according to reported methods. Analytical grade THF and DMA were used in all the reactions (without the need of precautions to exclude air and moisture unless otherwise noted) without purification. Indium powder, metallic salt, palladium catalyst, and lithium chloride were purchased from chemical companies and used directly without further purification. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using silica gel plate (0.2 mm thickness). Subsequent to elution, plates were visualized using UV radiation (254 nm). Flash chromatography was performed using Merck silica gel (200-300 mesh) for column chromatography with freshly distilled solvents. Columns were typically packed as slurry and equilibrated with the appropriate solvent system prior to use. IR spectra were recorded on a FT-IR spectrophotometer using KBr optics. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> on Jeol 400 MHz spectrometers. Tetramethylsilane (TMS) served as internal standard for NMR analysis.

## **Experimental procedure**

### **General procedure for the synthesis of alkyl indium reagent from alkyl halides and palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction with aryl halide (Tables 2-4):**

*The insertion step 1:* Alkyl iodide (1 mmol), indium (172.2 mg, 1.5 mmol), indium trichloride (22.1 mg, 0.1 mmol) or lead bromide (36.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), and analytical grade THF (2 mL) was added in a flask equipped with a septum and a magnetic stir bar. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 60 °C for 12 hrs. Then the upper clear solution was carefully separated from the bottom black precipitate by centrifugal. The remaining black precipitate was additionally stirred with THF (3 mL), and the THF layer was carefully separated from bottom precipitate by pipette. The combined organic layers were concentrated under vacuum. The crude mixture was directly used in the next step without further purification.

*The cross-coupling step 2:* To the above residue was added aryl halide (0.7 mmol), LiCl (84.8 mg, 2 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (57.8 mg, 0.05 mmol), and DMA (2 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 24 hrs. Upon completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was directly purified by flash silica gel column chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to afford the pure products.

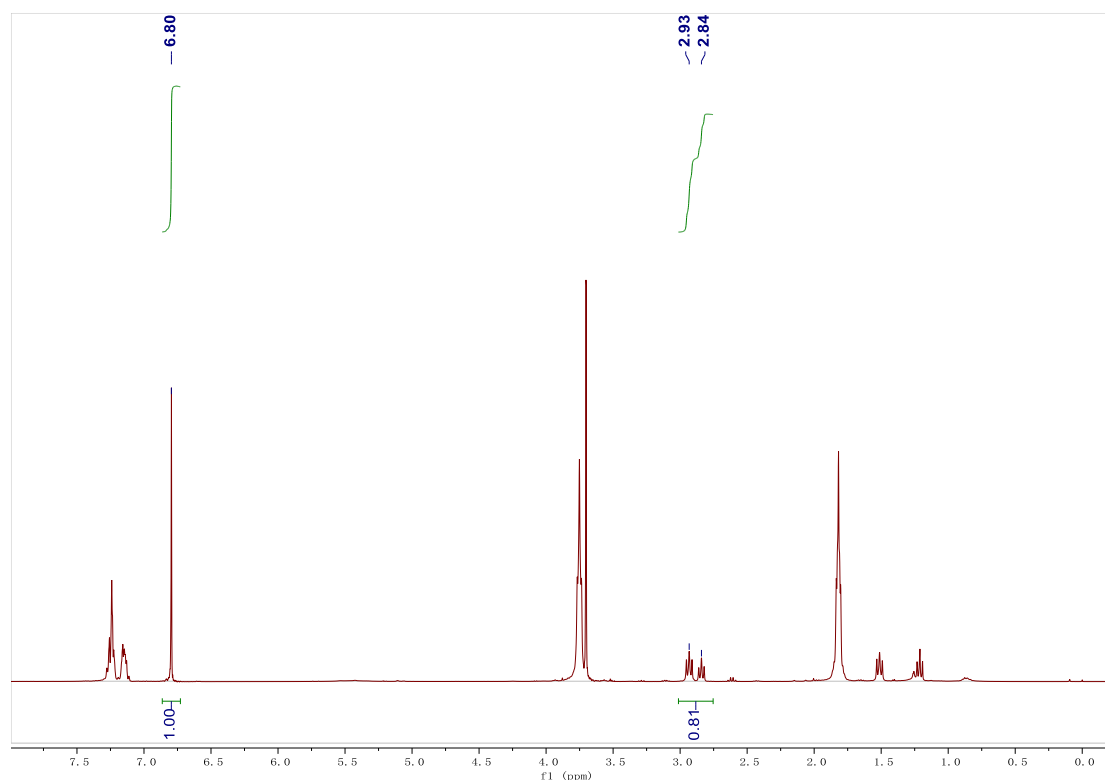
### **General procedure and method for the determination of NMR yield of the formed alkyl indium reagent:**

After normal work-up by following the typical experimental procedure shown above (*the insertion step 1*), 1,4-dimethoxybenzene (0.5 mmol) was added to the obtained crude residue of the alkyl indium reagent followed by the addition of 2 mL CDCl<sub>3</sub>. After complete dissolution of the residue and internal standard, 0.6 mL of the CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution was transferred to a clean NMR tube by pipette

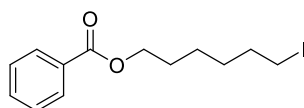
and subjected to NMR analysis. In the obtained  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum, integrations of the singlet peak at 6.8 ppm (belong to the four protons in aromatic ring of 1,4-dimethoxybenzene; suppose the integration value is Q) and the two triplet peaks between 2.8~3.0 ppm (belong to the two protons of the benzylic  $\text{CH}_2$  of the formed two alkyl indium reagents A + B; suppose the integration value is S) could be performed. Based on the integrations, the NMR yield of the formed alkyl indium reagent could be calculated to be 81% yield based on the following calculation:

$$\text{yield\%} = [(S/2 \div Q/4) \times 0.5] \div 1 \times 100\% = [(0.81/2 \div 1/4) \times 0.5] \div 1 \times 100\% = 81\%.$$

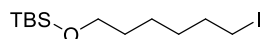
(Please note: 1 and 0.5 is the mmol of substrate and internal standard used, respectively; in addition, based on the integrations in the spectrum shown below, S = 0.81 and Q = 1)



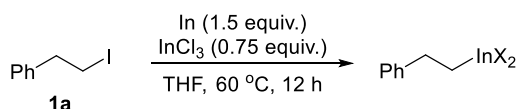
### General procedure for the synthesis of alkyl iodide:



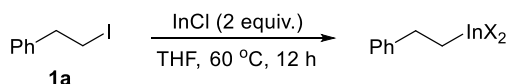
**6-Iodoethyl benzoate (1h)<sup>1</sup>:** The title compound was prepared from benzoyl chloride and 6-iodohexan-1-ol by a reported similar method (85% isolated yield), in which pyridine was used instead of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ .



***tert*-Butyl((6-iodohexyl)oxy)dimethylsilane (1k):** To a solution of 6-chlorohexan-1-ol (8.2 g, 60.0 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (120 mL) was added imidazole (5.3 g, 78 mmol). After 5 min of stirring, *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (10.85 g, 72 mmol) was added over 5 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 h before being diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (150 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 ml × 3). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated to dryness. Purification of the residue by flash silica gel column chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (20:1) as eluent afforded the *tert*-butyl((6-chlorohexyl)oxy)dimethylsilane (12.3 g, 82%) as colorless liquid. To the solution of *tert*-butyl((6-chlorohexyl)oxy)dimethylsilane (6 g, 24.0 mmol) in acetone (120 mL) was added NaI (36 g, 240 mmol) and the solution was refluxed for 12 h. After cooling, the solvent was evaporated and diluted with EtOAc (150 mL), washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solution was evaporated to dryness, the residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (20:1) as eluent to yield **1j** as colorless oil (6.5 g, 90%).



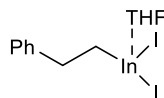
(2-Iodoethyl)benzene (232.1 mg, 1 mmol), indium (172.2 mg, 1.5 mmol), indium trichloride (165.9 mg, 0.75 mmol), and analytical grade THF (2 mL) was added in a flask equipped with a septum and a magnetic stir bar. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 60 °C for 12 hrs.



(2-Iodoethyl)benzene (232.1 mg, 1 mmol), indium(I) chloride (300.5 mg, 2 mmol), and analytical grade THF (2 mL) was added in a flask equipped with a septum and a magnetic stir bar. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 60 °C for 12 hrs.

## ESI-MS data

### ESI-MS data of A1



HRMS (ESI, m/z): [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>I<sub>2</sub>InO: 546.8486, found: 546.8486.

#### Elemental Composition Report

##### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

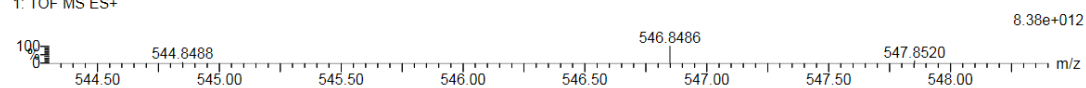
Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

27 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 10-13 H: 15-20 O: 0-2 In: 0-2 I: 0-3

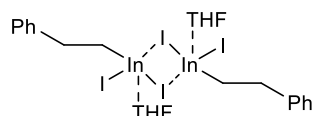
CBZ-2 (1.051) Is (1.00,1.00) C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>I<sub>2</sub>InO  
1: TOF MS ES+



Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 5.0 10.0 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	Mass mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
546.8486	546.8486	0.0	0.0	3.5	63.6	0.000	100.00	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O In I <sub>2</sub>
	546.8492	-0.6	-1.1	1.5	86.0	22.456	0.00	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O I <sub>3</sub>
	546.8480	0.6	1.1	5.5	128.8	65.181	0.00	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O In <sub>2</sub> I

### ESI-MS data of A2



HRMS (ESI, m/z): [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>35</sub>I<sub>4</sub>In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 1092.6893, found: 1092.6893.

#### Elemental Composition Report

##### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

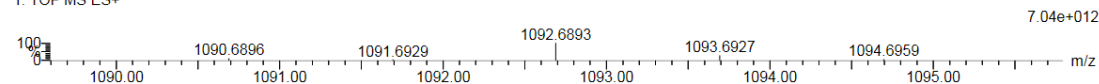
Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

50 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 22-25 H: 34-36 O: 0-2 In: 0-2 I: 0-5

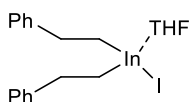
CBZ-2 (0.945) Is (1.00,1.00) C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>35</sub>I<sub>4</sub>In<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
1: TOF MS ES+



Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 5.0 10.0 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	Mass mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
1092.6893	1092.6899	-0.6	-0.5	4.5	117.9	0.000	100.00	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>35</sub> O <sub>2</sub> In I <sub>5</sub>
	1092.6893	0.0	0.0	6.5	182.1	64.131	0.00	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>35</sub> O <sub>2</sub> In <sub>2</sub> I <sub>4</sub>

## ESI-MS data of B1



HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd for  $C_{20}H_{27}InO$ : 525.0145, found: 525.0145.

### Elemental Composition Report

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

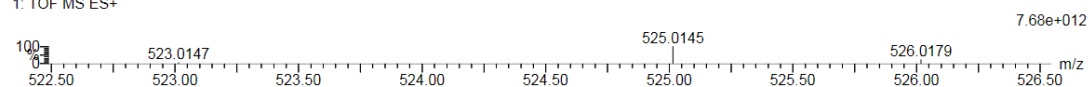
26 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 18-22 H: 25-30 O: 0-2 In: 0-2 I: 0-3

CBZ-2 (1.023) Is (1.00,1.00)  $C_{20}H_{27}InO$

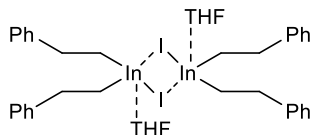
1: TOF MS ES+



Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 5.0 10.0 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
525.0145	525.0145	0.0	0.0	7.5	64.4	0.000	100.00	$C_{20}H_{27}OInI$
	525.0151	-0.6	-1.1	5.5	87.0	22.602	0.00	$C_{19}H_{27}OI_2$
	525.0139	0.6	1.1	9.5	129.4	65.050	0.00	$C_{21}H_{27}OIn_2$

## ESI-MS data of B2



HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd for  $C_{40}H_{53}I_2In_2O_2$ : 1049.0212, found: 1049.0214.

### Elemental Composition Report

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

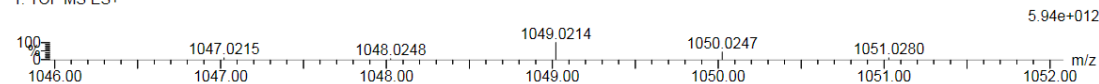
28 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 36-43 H: 50-55 O: 0-2 In: 0-2 I: 0-3

CBZ-2 (1.093) Is (1.00,1.00)  $C_{40}H_{53}I_2In_2O_2$

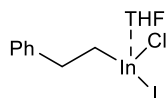
1: TOF MS ES+



Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 5.0 10.0 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
1049.0214	1049.0218	-0.4	-0.4	12.5	120.1	0.000	100.00	$C_{39}H_{53}O_2InI_3$
	1049.0212	0.2	0.2	14.5	184.0	63.841	0.00	$C_{40}H_{53}O_2In_2I_2$

## ESI-MS data of C1



HRMS (ESI, m/z):  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd for  $C_{12}H_{18}ClInO$ : 454.9130, found: 454.9129.

### Elemental Composition Report

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

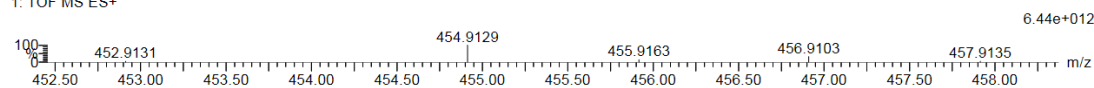
27 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 12-15 H: 15-19 O: 0-2 Cl: 1-3 In: 0-1 I: 0-1

CBZ-1 (2.362) Is (1.00,1.00)  $C_{12}H_{18}ClInO$

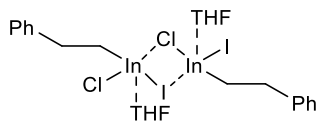
1: TOF MS ES+



Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
454.9129	454.9130	-0.1	-0.2	3.5	119.6	n/a	n/a	$C_{12}H_{18}OClInI$

## ESI-MS data of C2



HRMS (ESI, m/z):  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd for  $C_{24}H_{35}Cl_2I_2In_2O_2$ : 908.8181, found: 908.8180.

### Elemental Composition Report

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = -1.5, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

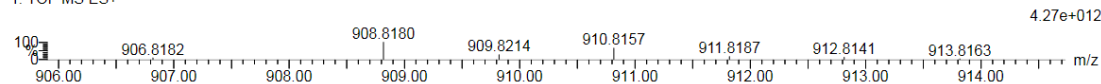
76 formula(e) evaluated with 1 results within limits (up to 50 best isotopic matches for each mass)

Elements Used:

C: 22-25 H: 34-36 O: 0-2 Cl: 0-2 In: 0-2 I: 0-2

CBZ-2 (2.525) Is (1.00,1.00)  $C_{24}H_{35}Cl_2I_2In_2O_2$

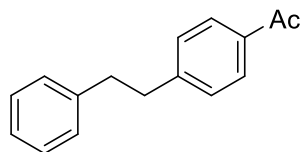
1: TOF MS ES+



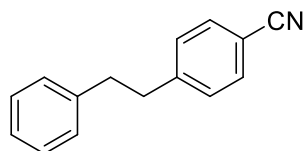
Minimum: -1.5  
Maximum: 50.0

Mass	Calc. Mass	mDa	PPM	DBE	i-FIT	Norm	Conf (%)	Formula
908.8180	908.8181	-0.1	-0.1	6.5	184.8	n/a	n/a	$C_{24}H_{35}O_2Cl_2In_2I_2$

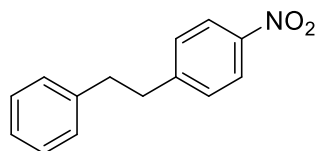
## Characterization data of products



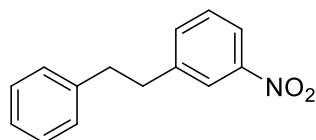
**1-(4-Phenethylphenyl)ethan-1-one (3a):** 135.0 mg. Yield = 86%. Yellow oil. Colorless oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.78 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.92-2.82 (m, 4H), 2.49 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.8, 147.4, 141.0, 135.0, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 126.0, 37.8, 37.4, 26.5 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$ : 225.1274, found: 225.1284. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1676  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**4-Phenethylbenzotrile (3b):** 117.8 mg. Yield = 81%. Yellow solid.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.47 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.93-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.86-2.82 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  147.2, 140.5, 132.1, 129.3, 128.4, 128.4, 126.2, 119.1, 109.7, 37.9, 37.2 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$ : 208.1121, found: 208.1126. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  2226  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



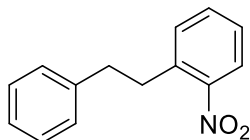
**1-Nitro-4-phenethylbenzene (3c):** 130.5 mg. Yield = 82%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.99-2.86 (m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  149.4, 146.4, 140.4, 129.3, 128.5, 128.4, 126.3, 123.6, 37.7, 37.2 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ : 228.1019, found: 228.1024. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1514  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



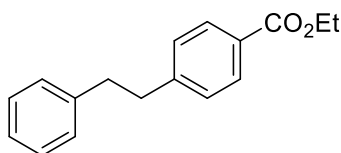
**1-Nitro-3-phenethylbenzene (3d):** 130.5 mg. Yield = 82%. Yellow solid.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.95 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.04 (m, 5H),



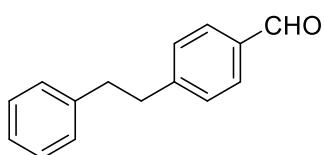
2.95-2.91 (m, 2H), 2.88-2.83 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  148.1, 143.5, 140.4, 134.8, 129.1, 128.4, 128.4, 126.2, 123.2, 121.1, 37.3, 37.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ : 228.1019, found: 228.1024. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1526  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



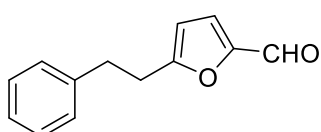
**1-Nitro-2-phenethylbenzene (3e):** 136.8 mg. Yield = 86%. Yellow solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 3H), 3.13-3.09 (m, 2H), 2.90-2.86 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  149.3, 140.9, 136.6, 132.9, 132.2, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 126.2, 124.8, 37.0, 35.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ : 228.1019, found: 228.1024. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1526  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



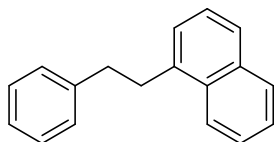
**Ethyl 4-phenethylbenzoate (3f, 3g):** 135.3 mg, 108.6 mg. Yield = 76%, 61%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.06 (m, 5H), 4.28 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.92-2.82 (m, 4H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  166.6, 147.0, 141.1, 129.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 126.0, 60.8, 37.8, 37.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2$ : 255.1380, found: 255.1385. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1713  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



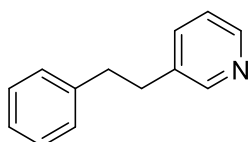
**4-Phenethylbenzaldehyde (3h, 3i, 3j):** 138.4 mg, 114.8 mg, 76.5 mg. Yield = 94%, 78%, 52%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.82 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.06 (m, 5H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.90-2.79 (m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  191.8, 148.9, 140.7, 134.4, 129.8, 129.0, 128.3, 128.3, 126.0, 37.9, 37.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$ : 211.1117, found: 211.1123. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1701  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



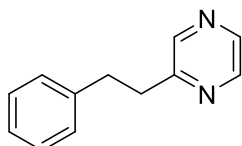
**5-Phenethylfuran-2-carbaldehyde (3k):** 76.3 mg. Yield = 54%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.43 (s, 1H), 7.21 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.13-7.05 (m, 4H), 6.10 (d,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.9, 162.5, 151.7, 140.1, 128.4, 128.2, 126.3, 123.7, 109.1, 33.6, 30.1 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for 201.0910, found: 201.0916. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1677  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



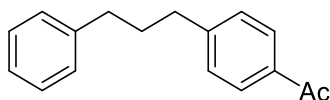
**1-Phenethylnaphthalene (3l):** 133.3 mg. Yield = 82%. Colorless oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.01 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.11 (m, 7H), 3.30-3.27 (m, 2H), 2.94-2.98 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  142.0, 137.8, 133.8, 131.7, 128.8, 128.4, 126.7, 126.0, 126.0, 125.8, 125.5, 125.4, 123.6, 37.1, 35.1 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}$ : 233.1325, found: 233.1330.



**3-Phenethylpyridine (3m):** 110.3 mg. Yield = 86%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37-8.34 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 4H), 2.84 (s, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  149.8, 147.3, 140.7, 136.8, 136.0, 128.4, 128.4, 126.1, 123.2, 37.4, 34.9 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}$ : 184.1121, found: 184.1126.

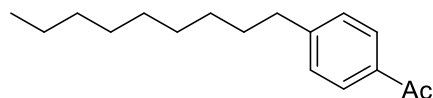


**2-Phenethylpyrazine (3n):** 114.8 mg. Yield = 89%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.52 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.36 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 3H), 3.15-3.11 (m, 2H), 3.09-3.05 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  156.7, 144.7, 144.1, 142.3, 140.7, 128.5, 128.4, 126.2, 37.2, 35.4 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2$ : 185.1073, found: 185.1079. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  3027, 2927, 1430  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

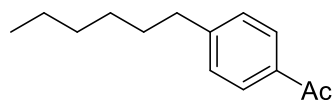


**1-(4-(3-Phenylpropyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (4b):** 140.1 mg. Yield = 84%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.86 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 3H), 2.68-2.60 (m, 4H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 1.98-1.90 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,

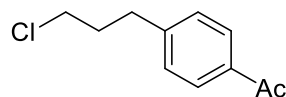
**CDCl<sub>3</sub>**):  $\delta$  197.6, 147.9, 141.7, 134.8, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 125.7, 35.2, 35.2, 32.4, 26.4 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z)**:  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O: 239.1430, found: 239.1430. **FTIR (KBr, neat)**:  $\nu$  1682 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



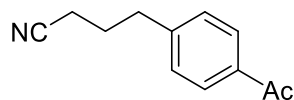
**1-(4-Nonylphenyl)ethan-1-one (4c)**: 141.2 mg. Yield = 82%. Yellow oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  7.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.59-2.51 (m, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.56-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.22-1.17 (m, 11H), 0.78 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 4H) ppm. **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  197.6, 148.7, 134.7, 128.5, 128.3, 35.9, 31.8, 31.1, 29.4, 29.4, 29.2, 29.2, 26.4, 22.6, 14.0 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z)**:  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>27</sub>O: 247.2056, found: 247.2062. **FTIR (KBr, neat)**:  $\nu$  1684 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



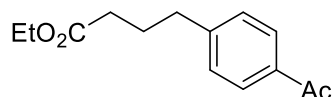
**1-(4-Hexylphenyl)ethan-1-one (4d)**: 118.7 mg. Yield = 83%. Colorless oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  7.90-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.66-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.34-1.27 (m, 6H), 0.90-0.86 (m, 3H) ppm. **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  197.9, 148.8, 134.8, 128.6, 128.4, 36.0, 31.6, 31.1, 28.9, 26.5, 22.5, 14.1 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z)**:  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O: 205.1587, found: 205.1590. **FTIR (KBr, neat)**:  $\nu$  1683 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



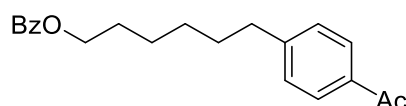
**1-(4-(3-Chloropropyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (4e)**: 85.4 mg. Yield = 62%. Yellow oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  7.83 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.80-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.07-2.00 (m, 2H) ppm. **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  197.8, 146.5, 135.3, 128.8, 128.6, 44.0, 33.5, 32.7, 26.6 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z)**:  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClO: 197.0728, found: 197.0733. **FTIR (KBr, neat)**:  $\nu$  1683 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



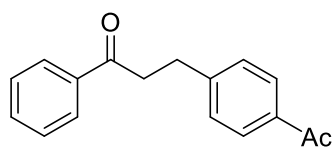
**4-(4-Acetylphenyl)butanenitrile (4f)**: 111.4 mg. Yield = 85%. Brown solid. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  7.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.85 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.36 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.06-1.98 (m, 2H) ppm. **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**:  $\delta$  197.6, 145.3, 135.5, 128.7, 128.6, 119.1, 34.2, 26.5, 26.4, 16.3 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z)**:  $[M+H]^+$ , calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO: 188.1070, found: 188.1078. **FTIR (KBr, neat)**:  $\nu$  2246, 1682 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



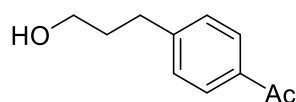
**Ethyl 4-(4-acetylphenyl)butanoate (4g):** 134.5 mg. Yield = 82%. Colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.89 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.13 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 2.74-2.70 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.33 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.01-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.8, 173.2, 147.2, 135.2, 128.7, 128.5, 60.3, 33.5, 30.1, 26.5, 26.1, 14.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3$ : 235.1329, found: 235.1328. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1732, 1683  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



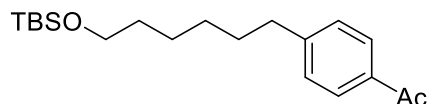
**6-(4-Acetylphenyl)hexyl benzoate (4h):** 193.0 mg. Yield = 85%. White solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.57-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.44 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 4.31 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.80-1.73 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.38 (m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.8, 166.6, 148.4, 134.9, 132.8, 130.4, 129.5, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 64.9, 35.8, 30.9, 28.8, 28.6, 26.5, 25.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_3$ : 325.1798, found: 325.1796. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1710, 1675  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



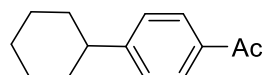
**3-(4-Acetylphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (4i):** 111.3 mg. Yield = 63%. Yellow solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.91-7.80 (m, 4H), 7.52-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.39 (tt,  $J = 6.9$ , 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd,  $J = 8.1$ , 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.32-3.20 (m, 2H), 3.07 (tt,  $J = 7.3$ , 3.3 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  198.6, 197.8, 147.1, 136.6, 135.2, 133.2, 128.7, 128.7, 128.0, 39.7, 29.9, 26.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$ : 253.1223, found: 253.1225. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  1680, 1602  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



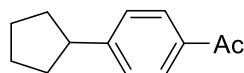
**1-(4-(3-Hydroxypropyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (4j):** 78.6 mg. Yield = 63%. Colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.90-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.29 (m, 2H), 3.69 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.80-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.95-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.78 (s, 1H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  198.0, 147.8, 135.0, 128.6, 128.5, 61.9, 33.8, 32.0, 26.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI,  $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_2$ : 179.1067, found: 179.1069. FTIR (KBr, neat):  $\nu$  3438, 1679  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**1-(4-(6-((*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)hexyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (4k):** 196.7 mg. Yield = 84%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.88 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.59 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.68-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.68-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.37-1.33 (m, 4H), 0.89 (s, 9H), 0.04 (s, 6H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.9, 148.7, 134.9, 128.6, 128.5, 63.2, 35.9, 32.7, 31.1, 29.0, 26.6, 26.0, 25.6, 18.4, -5.3 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{35}\text{O}_2\text{Si}$ : 335.2401, found: 335.2401. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1685  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**1-(4-Cyclohexylphenyl)ethan-1-one (4l):** 126.0 mg. Yield = 89%. Yellow solid.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.81 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.66 (m, 5H), 1.40-1.11 (m, 6H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.8, 153.7, 134.9, 128.5, 127.0, 44.6, 34.0, 26.6, 26.5, 25.9 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}$ : 203.1430, found: 203.1436. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1671  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**1-(4-Cyclopentylphenyl)ethan-1-one (4m):** 98.8 mg. Yield = 75%. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.80 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.00-2.91 (m, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.04-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.46 (m, 6H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.8, 152.4, 134.8, 128.4, 127.2, 45.9, 34.4, 26.5, 25.5 ppm. **HRMS (ESI, m/z):**  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$ : 189.1274, found: 189.1279. **FTIR (KBr, neat):**  $\nu$  1682  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

## References

1. Thompson, A. M.; Delaney, A. M.; Hamby, J. M.; Schroeder, M. C.; Spoon, T. A.; Crean, S. M.; Showalter, H. D. H.; Denny, W. A. *J. Med. Chem.* **2005**, *48*, 4628-4653.

# $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of products

