## Electronic supplementary information

# Structural effects on the bromination rate and selectivity of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes in aqueous solution ${ }^{\dagger}$ 

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## S1. Reagent Information

Table S1. Reagents list with corresponding purity and vendor information.

| Reagent | Purity | Vendor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene | $\geq 99 \%$ | Aldrich Chemistry |
| 2-chlorobenzonitrile (CBN) | $\geq 98 \%$ | Sigma-Aldrich |
| benzene | 99.9\% | Alfa Aesar |
| bromobenzene | 99\% | Acros Organics |
| chlorobenzene | $\geq 99.0 \%$ | Mallinckrodt |
| ethoxybenzene | 99\% | Acros Organics |
| ethylbenzene | 99\% | Acros Organics |
| ethyl acetate | $\geq 99.5 \%$ | Acros Organics |
| isooctane | $\geq 95 \%$ | Acros Organics |
| isopropoxybenzene | 97\% | Oakwood Chemical |
| isopropylbenzene | 99.9\% | Acros Organics |
| methanol | 99.9\% | Fisher Scientific |
| nitric acid | ACS grade | Fisher Scientific |
| ortho-bromo-ethoxybenzene | 99\% | Oakwood Chemical |
| ortho-bromo-ethylbenzene | 98\% | Alfa Aesar |
| ortho-bromo-isopropoxybenzene | 97\% | Alfa Aesar |
| ortho-bromo-isopropylbenzene | 97\% | Alfa Aesar |
| ortho-bromo-tert-butoxybenzene | 94\% ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Novel Chemical Solutions |
| ortho-bromo-tert-butylbenzene | 95\% | Oakwood Chemical |
| para-bromo-ethoxybenzene | 97\% | Acros Organics |
| para-bromo-ethylbenzene | 99\% | Acros Organics |
| para-bromo-isopropoxybenzene | 98\% | Oakwood Chemical |
| para-bromo-isopropylbenzene | 97\% | Alfa Aesar |
| para-bromo-tert-butoxybenzene | 98\% | Alfa Aesar |
| para-bromo-tert-butylbenzene | 97\% | Oakwood Chemical |
| sodium bicarbonate | $\geq 99.7 \%$ | Acros Organics |
| sodium bromide | 99.5\% | Sigma-Aldrich |
| sodium chloride | 99.999\% | Sigma-Aldrich |
| sodium hydroxide (aqueous) | 50\% | Ricca Chemical Company |
| sodium hypochlorite solution | 5.65-6\% | Fisher Scientific |
| sodium nitrate | $\geq 99.0 \%$ | Sigma-Aldrich |
| sodium phosphate dibasic (anhydrous) | $\geq 99.0 \%$ | Acros Organics |
| sodium sulfite (anhydrous) | $\geq 98 \%$ | Acros Organics |
| sodium tetraborate decahydrate | 99.5\% | Acros Organics |
| sodium thiosulfate (anhydrous) | > 98\% | Fisher Scientific |
| tert-butoxybenzene | 98\% | Alfa Aesar |
| tert-butylbenzene | 99\% | Aldrich Chemistry |
| tert-butyl methyl ether | 99.9\% | Fisher Scientific |
| toluene | 99.9\% | Fisher Scientific |

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## S2. Liquid-Liquid Extraction of NaOCl to Remove Chloride Ion

Laboratory grade (5.65-6\%) sodium hypochlorite $(\mathrm{NaOCl})$ is typically manufactured by bubbling $\mathrm{Cl}_{2}(\mathrm{~g})$ into $\mathrm{NaOH}(\mathrm{aq})$, resulting in the formation of NaOCl and HCl at equimolar concentrations ( $\sim 1 \mathrm{M}$ ). Reactions that were chloride-sensitive required the removal of chloride from the stock NaOCl solution by means of a liquidliquid extraction. The extraction began with 50 mL of $\mathrm{NaOCl}(\mathrm{aq}), 3.5 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}(\mathrm{~s}), 30 \mathrm{~mL}$ of ethyl acetate, and 3 mL of concentrated $\mathrm{HNO}_{3}$ in a separatory funnel; the funnel was shaken vigorously, and air was periodically released from the stopcock. The low pH favored the formation of neutral free available chlorine (FAC) species (e.g., $\mathrm{HOCl}, \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$, and $\mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) and partitioning into the ethyl acetate (top layer). The bottom, aqueous layer was removed; 50 mL of $1.25 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{NaOH}(\mathrm{aq})$ was added to the separatory funnel and shaken vigorously. Under such conditions, virtually all of the FAC exists as $\mathrm{OCl}^{-}$in the aqueous layer, which was removed from the funnel and stored in a plastic bottle wrapped in aluminum foil to minimize light exposure. To measure the success of the extraction, high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and a chloride selective electrode were employed as methods of analysis of FAC and $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$concentrations, respectively. Both analytical methods are described below.

Analysis of FAC in extracted NaOCl . 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (TMB) can react stoichiometrically (1:1) with FAC to give the chlorinated product, 2-chloro-1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene ( $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{TMB}$ ), that can be analyzed via HPLC. ${ }^{1,2}$ Quantification of Cl-TMB serves as a surrogate method of analysis for [FAC]. Samples of extracted FAC required two dilution steps in order for TMB to be in sufficient excess to quench and form its monohalogenated product (Cl-TMB). For the first dilution, 0.400 mL of extracted FAC was dissolved in 40 mL of $18 \mathrm{M} \Omega \cdot \mathrm{cm}$ water (Nanopure, Thermo Scientific) such that [FAC] $\sim 0.01 \mathrm{M}$. For the second dilution, 0.250 mL of $\sim 0.01$ M FAC was added to a 25 mL buffer (sodium phosphate at 10 mM , adjusted to pH 7.00 using $\mathrm{HNO}_{3}$ ). Three aliquots ( 1.00 mL each) of FAC in phosphate buffer were quenched in 2-mL HPLC autosampler vials pre-amended with TMB ( 0.333 mL at 2.624 mM , dissolved in methanol); vials were immediately capped and shaken for 10 s . After the FAC aliquot and TMB solution were combined, but prior to any reaction between them, theoretical concentrations of TMB and FAC were $650 \mu \mathrm{M}$ and approximately $75 \mu \mathrm{M}$, respectively. Samples were analyzed via a Shimadzu HPLC with a diode array detector (DAD). The monitored wavelengths
on the DAD (corresponding the wavelengths of maximum absorbance) were 266 nm (for TMB) and 271 nm (for Cl-TMB). Separations were achieved using an Agilent Poroshell 120 column ( 50 mm length, 2.1 mm inner diameter, and $2.7 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ particle size) with an isocratic mobile phase consisting of $62 \mathrm{vol} \% 18 \mathrm{M} \Omega \mathrm{cm}$ water (Nanopure, Thermo Scientific) and 38 vol\% acetonitrile.

Analysis of chloride in extracted NaOCl . To 40 mL of $18 \mathrm{M} \Omega \cdot \mathrm{cm}$ water (Nanopure, Thermo Scientific, ionic strength adjusted to 100 mM using $\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}$ ), 0.400 mL of the extracted NaOCl was added. This dilution allowed for the presumed $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$to be within the calibration range. A combination chloride selective electrode (Fisher Accumet AB 150) was used to measure the potential (mV) of samples and standards prepared using ultrahigh-purity (99.999\%) NaCl .

## S3. Gas Chromatography Methods

Samples were analyzed on an Agilent 7890A gas chromatograph (GC) interfaced with an Agilent 5975C mass spectrometer (MS). An Agilent DB-5MS+DG column (30 m + 10 m DuraGuard, 0.250 mm inner diameter, $0.25 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ film thickness) was used to effect separations. The inlet temperature was held at $280^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and operated in splitless mode. The column flow rate was a constant $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$ using ultra-high purity helium as the carrier gas. GC oven temperature programs and MS method details are provided below.

1. Benzene Experiments. The oven temperature program included an initial temperature of $35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (hold 2 min ), ramp at $15^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}-1$ to $75^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $225^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold); the total analysis time was 10.7 min . Retention times and ions detected in selected ion monitoring (SIM) mode for each analyte are shown in Table S2.

Table S2. GC-MS SIM method for analyzing mono-halogenated products of benzene.

| Analyte | SIM <br> Group | Retention <br> Time (min) | Quantitation <br> Ion | Monitoring <br> Ion |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| chlorobenzene | A | 5.49 | 112 <br> $\mathrm{M}^{+\cdot}$ | 114 <br> $\mathrm{M}^{+}\left({ }^{37} \mathrm{Cl}\right)$ |
| bromobenzene | B | 6.54 | 157 <br> $\mathrm{M}^{+\cdot}$ | 159 <br> $\mathrm{M}^{+}\left({ }^{81} \mathrm{Br}\right)$ |
| 2-chlorobenzonitrile <br> (internal standard) | C | 8.93 | 137 <br> $\mathrm{M}^{+\cdot}$ | 102 <br> $(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Cl})^{+}$ |

2. Alkylbenzene Experiments. The oven temperature program included an initial temperature of $35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $5^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}-1$ to $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $15^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $105^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at 2 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \min ^{-1}$ to $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}{ }^{-1}$ to $205^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold); the total analysis time was 21.2 min. Retention times and ions detected in SIM mode for each analyte are shown in Table S3.

Table S3. GC-MS SIM method details for analyzing alkylbenzenes and their para/ortho-brominated products.

| Analyte | $\begin{gathered} \text { SIM } \\ \text { Group } \end{gathered}$ | Retention Time (min) | Quantitation Ion | Monitoring Ion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ethylbenzene | A | 6.41 | $\begin{aligned} & 106 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 91 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| isopropylbenzene | B | 7.85 | $\begin{aligned} & 120 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 105 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| tert-butylbenzene | C | 9.68 | $\begin{aligned} & 134 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 119 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| ortho-bromoethylbenzene para-bromoethylbenzene | D | 13.90 14.57 | $\begin{aligned} & 184 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 169 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| ortho-bromoisopropylbenzene para-bromoisopropylbenzene | E | 15.45 16.35 | $\begin{aligned} & 198 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\cdot} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 184 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}\left({ }^{81} \mathrm{Br}\right)-{ }^{13} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \\ 185 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}\left({ }^{79} \mathrm{Br}\right)-{ }^{12} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+a} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 2-chlorobenzonitrile (internal standard) | F | 17.78 | $\begin{aligned} & 137 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 102 \\ (\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Cl})^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| para-bromo-tertbutylbenzene <br> ortho-bromo-tertbutylbenzene | G | 18.69 18.86 | $\begin{aligned} & 212 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 197 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |

${ }^{a}$ While typically $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}=185$ would be selected as the monitoring ion for ortho/para-bromoisopropylbenzene, for most analyses herein, $m / z=184$ was used.
3. Alkoxybenzene Experiments. The oven temperature program included an initial temperature of $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $110^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $160^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $18{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $196^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold), ramp at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ to $241^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (no hold); the total analysis time was 11 min. Retention times and ions detected in SIM mode for each analyte are shown in Table S4.

Table S4. GC-MS SIM method details for analyzing alkoxybenzenes and their para/ortho-brominated products.

| Analyte | $\begin{gathered} \text { SIM } \\ \text { Group } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Retention <br> Time (min) | Quantitation Ion | Monitoring Ion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ethoxybenzene | A | 5.35 | $\begin{aligned} & 122 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\cdot} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 94 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| isopropoxybenzene |  | 5.66 | $\begin{aligned} & 136 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 94 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| tert-butoxybenzene | B | 6.11 | $\begin{gathered} 135 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 94 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| 2-chlorobenzonitrile (internal standard) | C | 7.08 | $\begin{aligned} & 137 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 102 \\ (\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Cl})^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| ortho-bromoethoxybenzene | D | 7.81 | $\begin{aligned} & 200 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 172 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| para-bromoethoxybenzene |  | 7.98 |  |  |
| ortho-bromoisopropoxybenzene |  | 7.99 | $\begin{aligned} & 216 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\bullet} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 172 |
| para-bromoisopropoxybenzene | E | 8.24 | $\begin{aligned} & 214 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{+\cdot} \end{aligned}$ | $\left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{2}\right)^{+}$ |
| ortho-bromo-tertbutoxybenzene |  | 8.39 | $\begin{gathered} 213 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 172 \\ \left(\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right)^{+} \end{gathered}$ |
| para-bromo-tertbutoxybenzene |  | 8.61 |  |  |

## S4. Example Time Courses

Example time courses of bromination of alkyl- and alkoxybenzenes are given in Figures $\mathbf{S 1}$ and $\mathbf{S 2}$, respectively.


Figure S1. Example time course of ethylbenzene reacting with free bromine to produce para- and orthobromoethylbenzene. Solution conditions: $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.99 \mathrm{mM},[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.16 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=$ 6.30, [ethylbenzene $]_{0}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},[\mathrm{NaCl}]=25 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=75 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.


Figure S2. Example time course of ethoxybenzene bromination showing (A) loss of ethoxybenzene and (B) linear regression of $\ln$ [ethoxybenzene] over time. Solution conditions: $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.35 \mathrm{mM},[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate (20 mM ) as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$, [ethoxybenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mu \mathrm{M},[\mathrm{NaCl}]=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

## S5. Reactor Solution Conditions and Measured Rate Constants

Varied Chloride. Solution conditions and pseudo-first-order rate constants for regiospecific bromination of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes as a function of the total chloride concentration ( $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ ) are given in

Tables S5 and S6, respectively.

Table S5. Pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ ) for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkylbenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of the total chloride concentration. ${ }^{a}$
[ $\left.\mathbf{C l}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}(\mathbf{m M})$ (
${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.16 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=6.30$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=0.99 \mathrm{mM},[\mathrm{NaCl}]+\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=100 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$, including NaCl , added FAC , and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Table S6. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkoxybenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of the total chloride concentration. ${ }^{a}$

 $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs,para }}$

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$, [alkoxybenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=10$ $\mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=0.35 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$tot is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$, including NaCl , added FAC , and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC . Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Varied Free Available Chlorine. Solution conditions and pseudo-first-order rate constants for regiospecific bromination of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes as a function of the initial FAC concentration are given in

Tables S7 and S8, respectively. Effects of [FAC] ${ }_{o}$ on regiospecific $k_{o b s}$ for alkylbenzenes are shown in Figure S3.

Table S7. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkylbenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of free available chlorine concentration. ${ }^{a}$

| [FAC] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (mM) |, $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs, para }}$

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.40$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=50 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=30.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=1.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=70 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.
${ }^{b}$ Not significantly different than zero.


Figure S3. Regiospecific pseudo-first-order rate constants for bromination of alkylbenzenes at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions as a function of free available chlorine (FAC) concentration. Solution conditions: [FAC] ${ }_{0}$ ranged from $1.50-5.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.40$, [alkylbenzene] ${ }_{\mathrm{o}}=50 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=30.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=70 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}^{2}\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{o}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. All error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Table S8. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkoxybenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of free available chlorine concentration. ${ }^{a}$

| [FAC] |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (mM) |

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.2$, [alkoxybenzene] ${ }_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=0.35 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Varied Bromide in the Presence of Excess FAC. Solution conditions and pseudo-first-order rate constants for regiospecific bromination of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes as a function of initial bromide concentration in the presence of excess FAC are given in Tables $\mathbf{S 9}$ and $\mathbf{S 1 0}$, respectively.

Table S9. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkylbenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of initial bromide concentration in the presence of excess free available chlorine. ${ }^{a}$

| $\left[\mathbf{B r}^{-}\right]_{\mathbf{0}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(\mathrm{mM})$ |, $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs,para }}$

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}+0.5 \mathrm{mM}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.00$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=50$ $\mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}=5.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.
${ }^{b}$ Not significantly different than zero.

Table S10. Pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ ) for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkoxybenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of initial bromide concentration in the presence of excess free available chlorine. ${ }^{a}$

 $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs, para }}$

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$, [alkoxybenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=10$ $\mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

Varied Excess Bromide. Solution conditions and pseudo-first-order rate constants for regiospecific bromination of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes as a function of excess bromide concentration are given in

Tables S11 and S12, respectively. Effect of $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}$ on bromination of alkyl- and alkoxybenzenes is shown in
Figures S4A and S4B, respectively.

Table S11. Pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ ) for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkylbenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of excess bromide concentration. ${ }^{a}$

| $\begin{gathered} {\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}} \\ (\mathrm{mM}) \end{gathered}$ | $k_{\text {obs }, \text { para }}$ | $k_{\text {obs, }, \text { ara }}$ |  | $k_{\text {obs, }, \text { rtho }}$ | kobs,ortho | $k_{\text {obs,ortho }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.96 | $\begin{gathered} (4.20 \pm 0.13) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.98 \pm 0.12) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.53 \pm 0.05) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.04 \pm 0.17) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.54 \pm 0.16) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.2 \pm 1.9) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ |
| 1.96 | $\begin{gathered} (5.9 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.6 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.3 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.8 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.3 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.1 \pm 5.0) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ |
| 2.95 | $\begin{gathered} (7.1 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.5 \pm 0.7) \times \\ 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.9 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.9 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.7 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.6 \pm 8.5) \\ \times 10^{-8 b} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 3.93 | $\begin{gathered} (7.4 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.1 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.0 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.4 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.8 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.1 \pm 4.9) \\ \times 10^{-8} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 4.92 | $\begin{gathered} (7.8 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.5 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.2 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.9 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (8.1 \pm 0.9) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (5 \pm 11) \\ & \times 10^{-8 b} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}-[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=6.30$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}=6.75 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}-[\mathrm{FAC}]_{0} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only while $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$(which includes NaCl , added FAC , and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC). Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.
${ }^{b}$ Not significantly different than zero.

Table S12. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkoxybenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of excess bromide concentration. ${ }^{a}$

 $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs, para }}$

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.4$, [alkoxybenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}-\left[\mathrm{FAC}_{\mathrm{o}} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}\right.$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.


Figure S4. Pseudo-first-order rate constants for bromination of $(A)$ alkyl- and $(B)$ alkoxybenzenes as a function of excess bromide concentration ( $\left.\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}-[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}\right)$. Solution conditions: $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, (A) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=6.30$, $[\text { alkylbenzene }]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}=6.75$ mM ; (B) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.400 \mathrm{mM}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.4$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only while $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$(which includes NaCl , added FAC, and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC ). All error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown).

Varied pH . Solution conditions and pseudo-first-order rate constants for regiospecific bromination of alkylbenzenes and alkoxybenzenes as a function of pH are given in Tables $\mathbf{S 1 3}$ and $\mathbf{S 1 4}$, respectively.

Table S13. Pseudo-first-order rate constants $\left(\mathrm{s}^{-1}\right)$ for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkylbenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of $\mathrm{pH} .{ }^{a}$

| pH | $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs,para }}$ | $\boldsymbol{k}_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { para }}$ |  | $k_{\text {obs, }, \text { rrtho }}$ | $k_{\text {obs, }, \text { rtho }}$ | $k_{\text {obs, } \text { ortho }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5.31 | $\begin{gathered} (3.5 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.1 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.11 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.2 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.2 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline(5 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-7} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 5.54 | $\begin{gathered} (2.62 \pm 0.11) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.80 \pm 0.12) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.40 \pm 0.07) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.9 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.3 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (3 \pm 3) \\ \times 10^{-7 b} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 5.68 | $\begin{gathered} (1.88 \pm 0.10) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.13 \pm 0.12) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.05 \pm 0.08) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.0 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.3 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (2 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-7 b} \end{aligned}$ |
| 6.00 | $\begin{gathered} (9.8 \pm 1.5) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.07 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.4 \pm 1.5) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.7 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.62 \pm 0.10) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.3 \pm 1.1) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ |
| 6.25 | $\begin{gathered} (3.1 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.6 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.7 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.0 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.1 \pm 0.8) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (5 \pm 8) \\ & \times 10^{-8 b} \end{aligned}$ |
| 6.50 | $\begin{gathered} (2.10 \pm 0.14) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.13 \pm 0.14) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (9.8 \pm 1.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.4 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.3 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (4 \pm 5) \\ & \times 10^{-8 b} \end{aligned}$ |
| 6.75 | $\begin{gathered} (1.14 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.12 \pm 0.08) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.4 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.16 \pm 0.19) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.02 \pm 0.08) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.3 \pm 0.9) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.00 | $\begin{gathered} (8.7 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (8.3 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.2 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.38 \pm 0.10) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.34 \pm 0.06) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (9 \pm 6) \\ \times 10^{-9} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.25 | $\begin{gathered} (6.4 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.2 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.6 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.09 \pm 0.11) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.02 \pm 0.06) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (7 \pm 7) \\ \times 10^{-9 b} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| 7.50 | $\begin{gathered} (4.0 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.3 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.0 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.9 \pm 1.0) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.3 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline(9 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-9} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 7.75 | $\begin{gathered} (2.28 \pm 0.04) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.19 \pm 0.06) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.09 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.6 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.79 \pm 0.15) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (2 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-9 b} \end{aligned}$ |
| 8.00 | $\begin{gathered} (1.24 \pm 0.03) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.19 \pm 0.06) \\ \times 10^{-7} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.0 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-8} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.7 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.14 \pm 0.14) \\ \times 10^{-8} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.4 \pm 1.6) \\ \times 10^{-9} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, [alkylbenzene] $]_{\mathrm{o}}$ $=50 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.
${ }^{b}$ Not significantly different than zero.

Table S14. Pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ ) for formation of para- and ortho-brominated alkoxybenzenes via reactions with free bromine as a function of $\mathrm{pH} .{ }^{a}$

| pH | $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs,para }}$ | $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs }, \text { para }}$ |  | $\boldsymbol{k}_{\text {obs, }, \text { rtho }}$ | $k_{\text {obs, }, \text { rtho }}$ | $k_{\text {obs, ortho }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6.53 | $\begin{gathered} (2.1 \pm 1.2) \\ \times 10^{-2} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.2 \pm 1.9) \\ \times 10^{-2} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.01 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-2} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.2 \pm 2) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (5 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-3} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.0 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-3} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 6.76 | $\begin{gathered} (1.6 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.6 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (8 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-3} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.2 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.6 \pm 1.3) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.8 \pm 1.4) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ |
| 6.94 | $\begin{aligned} & (9 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-3} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.8) \\ \times 10^{-2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.76 \pm 0.09) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.8 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.4 \pm 1.7) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (8.7 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.20 | $\begin{gathered} (6.6 \pm 0.8) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (8.6 \pm 1.4) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.0 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.31 \pm 0.16) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.8 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.9 \pm 1.9) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.34 | $\begin{gathered} (5.3 \pm 0.8) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.8 \pm 1.0) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (6 \pm 3) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.04 \pm 0.16) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.4 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.7 \pm 1.2) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.50 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline(2 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-3 b} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.7 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3.6 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.1 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.7 \pm 1.5) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.72 \pm 0.15) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.68 | $\begin{array}{r} (1 \pm 3) \\ \times 10^{-3 b} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.9 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.43 \pm 0.10) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.7 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.8 \pm 1.2) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.09 \pm 0.04) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 7.85 | $\begin{gathered} (1.08 \pm 0.10) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.4 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.73 \pm 0.04) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.92 \pm 0.18) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.5 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.240 \pm 0.015) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ |
| 8.12 | $\begin{gathered} (6.7 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (9.2 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.05 \pm 0.13) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.07 \pm 0.05) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.45 \pm 0.07) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.0 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ |
| 8.23 | $\begin{gathered} (4.8 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6.7 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (8.4 \pm 1.0) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (7.2 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (9.9 \pm 0.9) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.0 \pm 0.4) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ |
| 8.49 | $\begin{gathered} (3.1 \pm 0.18) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.40 \pm 0.18) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.6 \pm 1.7) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.8 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.2 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.3 \pm 0.5) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ |
| 8.68 | $\begin{gathered} (1.90 \pm 0.11) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.73 \pm 0.15) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.2 \pm 1.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.15 \pm 0.13) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.94 \pm 0.16) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (8 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 8.86 | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.8 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-4} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.3 \pm 1.8) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.2 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.7 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (6 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 9.07 | $\begin{aligned} & (7 \pm 2) \\ & \times 10^{-5} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.09 \pm 0.16) \\ \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.1 \pm 1.8) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (7 \pm 2) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (9.4 \pm 1.4) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (5 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 9.29 | $\begin{gathered} (3.3 \pm 1.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (5.2 \pm 1.5) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.1 \pm 1.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (4.1 \pm 1.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline(2.9 \pm 1.7) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 9.77 | $\begin{aligned} & (9 \pm 4) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.3) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (4 \pm 3) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.3 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2.3 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.3 \pm 0.9) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ |
| 9.91 | $\begin{gathered} (3.9 \pm 1.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.2 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-5} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3.0 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (7 \pm 3) \\ \times 10^{-7} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (4 \pm 2) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| 10.03 | $\begin{gathered} (1.0 \pm 0.7) \\ \times 10^{-5} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (9 \pm 5) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (4 \pm 2) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline(2.3 \pm 1.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (3 \pm 2) \\ & \times 10^{-6} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (1.1 \pm 0.6) \\ \times 10^{-6} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |

${ }^{a}$ All reactors contained: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.35 \mathrm{mM}$, borate and phosphate ( 20 mM each) as pH buffer, [alkoxybenzene $]_{o}=10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ for each parent compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error estimates denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.
${ }^{b}$ Not significantly different than zero.

## S6. Determination and Modeling of Second-Order Rate Constants

For robust calculations of second-order rate constants, reactivity data were divided into bins (Table S15 and S16) according to the regiospecific product and brominating agent that were anticipated to predominate under the specific solution conditions.

Table S15. Data bins used as input parameters to fit regiospecific second-order bromination rate constants for bromination of alkylbenzenes.

| Brominating Agent | $k_{\text {obs.para }}{ }^{a}$ | $k_{\text {obs }, \text { para }}{ }^{a}$ | $k_{\text {obs,para }}{ }^{a}$ | $k_{\text {obs,ortho }}{ }^{b}$ | $k_{\text {obs }, \text { ortho }}{ }^{b}$ | $k_{\text {obs }, \text { ortho }}{ }^{b}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BrCl | Table S5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Table S7 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ | Table S9 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$ | not quantified ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |  | Table S5 and S11 (pH = 5.31-6.48 only) |  |  |
| HOBr | not quantified ${ }^{d}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| BrOCl | not quantified ${ }^{e}$ |  |  |  |  |  |

${ }^{a}$ Order of optimization: $\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{Br}_{2}$
${ }^{b}$ Order of optimization: $\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{Br}_{2}, \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$
${ }^{c}$ Our results suggested $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$did not appreciably influence overall bromination rates of these compounds.
${ }^{d}$ The contribution of HOBr to the overall regiospecific bromination rates was too small to quantify, although attempts were made to fit it concurrently with $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$.
${ }^{e}$ Kinetic experiments suggested varying $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{o}$ had no effect on the overall bromination rate; therefore, BrOCl was unable to be quantified.

Table S16. Data bins used as input parameters to fit regiospecific second-order bromination rate constants for bromination of alkoxybenzenes. ${ }^{a}$


${ }^{a}$ Order of optimization: BrOCl and $\mathrm{HOBr}, \mathrm{BrCl}$ and $\mathrm{HOBr}, \mathrm{Br}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{HOBr}$

## S7. Determination of Taft Parameters

Literature values for the polar substituent constants and steric substituent constants of alkyl and alkoxy substituent groups are shown in Table S17.

Table S17. Literature reported and normalized values for polar and steric substituent constants of substituted benzenes. ${ }^{3}$

| Compound | Substituent | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{*}$ | $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{s}}$ | Normalized <br> $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{*} \boldsymbol{a}$ | Normalized <br> $\mathbf{E s}_{\mathbf{s}}{ }^{\boldsymbol{a}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| benzene | -H | 0.49 | 1.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| ethylbenzene | $-\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ | -0.10 | -0.07 | -0.59 | -1.31 |
| isopropylbenzene | $-\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7}$ | -0.19 | -0.47 | -0.68 | -1.71 |
| tert-butylbenzene | $-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}$ | -0.30 | -1.54 | -0.79 | -2.78 |
| methoxybenzene | $-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}$ | -0.22 | 0.99 | -0.71 | -0.25 |
| ethoxybenzene | $-\mathrm{OC}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ | -0.18 | 0.90 | -0.67 | -0.34 |

${ }^{a}$ Benzene was defined as the reference reaction, and values for both substituent constants were accordingly assigned as zero; substituent constants for other compounds were normalized by subtracting the corresponding value for benzene.

The predicted Taft parameters were compared to the experimental ratio of $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}\left(\log \left(\frac{k_{\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{s}}}{k_{\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{H}}}\right)\right.$, where $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{s}}$ and $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}, \mathrm{H}}$ are the experimentally determined second order rate constants of BrCl towards the bromination of the substituted compound and benzene, respectively. Values for each examined subgroup of alkyl- and alkoxybenzenes and are shown in Figures S5-S8.


Figure S5. Comparison of predicted Taft parameters to the experimental ratio of $k_{\text {BrCl }}$ for (A) para and (B) ortho bromination of alkyl- and alkoxybenzenes. Dashed lines represent the $95 \%$ confidence interval of the linear regression.


Figure S6. Comparison of predicted Taft parameters to the experimental ratio of $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}$ for (A) alkyl- and (B) alkoxybenzenes. Dashed lines represent the $95 \%$ confidence interval of the linear regression.


Figure S7. Comparison of predicted Taft parameters to the experimental ratio of $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}$ for (A) para- and (B) orthobromination of alkylbenzenes. Dashed lines represent the $95 \%$ confidence interval of the linear regression.


Figure S8. Comparison of predicted Taft parameters to the experimental ratio of $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}$ for para and ortho bromination of alkoxybenzenes. Only two compounds (methoxybenzene and ethoxybenzene) were examined in each category, so $95 \%$ confidence intervals could not be calculated.

## S8. Influence of Solution Conditions on Regioselectivity

The ratios of para-to-ortho brominates rates as a function of varied $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right],[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}$, and pH are given in Figures S9 to S13.


Figure S9. The ratio of $k_{\mathrm{obs}, p a r a}$ to $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { ortho }}$ as a function of chloride concentration which corresponds to the rate of bromination at the para position relative to the ortho positions of the parent (A) alkyl- and (B) alkoxybenzenes. Conditions: (A) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.16 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=6.30$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=0.99$ mM , and $[\mathrm{NaCl}]+\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=100 \mathrm{mM}$; (B) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$, [alkoxybenzene $]_{\circ}=10 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=0.35 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$. Error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown).


Figure S10. The ratio of $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { para }}$ to $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { orth }}$ as a function of free available chlorine concentration which corresponds to the rate of bromination at the para position relative to the ortho positions of the parent (A) alkyl- and (B) alkoxybenzenes. Conditions: $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, (A) $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.40$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=50 \mu \mathrm{M}$, $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=30.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=70 \mathrm{mM}$; (B) $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]=350 \mu \mathrm{M}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.2$, [alkoxybenzene] ${ }_{\circ}$ $=10 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. All error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown). Error bars for tert-butyl benzene extend past the axes so are not shown.


Figure S11. The ratio of $k_{\text {obs }, \text { para }}$ to $k_{\text {obs, ortho }}$ as a function of initial bromide concentration in the presence of excess FAC which corresponds to the rate of bromination at the para position relative to the ortho positions of the parent (A) alkyland (B) alkoxybenzenes Conditions: $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, (A) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}+0.5 \mathrm{mM}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=$ 8.00, [alkylbenzene $]_{o}=50 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$; (B) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$, [alkoxybenzene $]_{\circ}=10 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\circ}=10.0 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. Error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown). Error bars for tert-butyl benzene extend past the axes so are not shown.


Figure S12. The ratio of $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { para }}$ to $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { ortho }}$ as a function of excess bromide concentration ( $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{xs}}=\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}-\left[\mathrm{FAC}_{0}\right.$ ) which corresponds to the rate of bromination at the para position relative to the ortho positions of the parent (A) alkyland (B) alkoxybenzenes. Conditions: $\mathrm{T}=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, (A) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=6.30$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}=6.75 \mathrm{mM}$; (B) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=0.400 \mathrm{mM}$, borate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $\mathrm{pH}=8.4$, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=16 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=10 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only while $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$(which includes NaCl , added FAC, and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC). Error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown). Error bars for tert-butyl benzene extend past the axes and are not shown.


Figure S13. The ratio of $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { para }}$ to $k_{\mathrm{obs}, \text { ortho }}$ as a function of pH , corresponding to the rate of bromination at the para position relative to the ortho positions of the parent (A) alkyl- and (B) alkoxybenzenes. Conditions: T $=20.00^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, (A) $[F A C]_{0}=1.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, [alkylbenzene $]_{\mathrm{o}}=50 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=5.00 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$; (B) $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=400 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=350 \mu \mathrm{M}$, borate and phosphate ( 20 mM each ), [alkoxybenzene $]_{\circ}$ $=10 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{o}=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=90 \mathrm{mM} .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{o}$ represents the contribution from NaCl . Error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals (smaller than symbols when not shown). Error bars for tert-butyl benzene extend past axes and are not shown.

## S9. Second-Order Rate Constants of Other Potentially Relevant Brominating Agents to the Bromination of Benzene

Calculations were performed assuming the non-zero value of the $y$-intercept $(j)$ of $k_{\text {obs,net,benzene }}$ as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$(Figure 1A) could be attributed to only one brominating agent. Simplifying eq 12 and using equilibrium constant expressions corresponding to eq 3 and 4 (main text), upper limits of second-order rate constants for $\mathrm{Br}_{2}, \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, and HOBr were determined (Table S18). The absence of a dependable literature value for $\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a} 1}$ of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$precludes upper limits to be calculated for reactions involving $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$.

Table S18. Upper limits for second-order rate constants of additional brominating species in reactions with benzene at $20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

| Brominating Agent | Equation | Upper Limit of $\boldsymbol{k}\left(\mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{s}^{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{)}\right.$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ | $k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2}}=\frac{j \mathrm{~K}_{3}}{[\mathrm{HOBr}]\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]}$ | $(7 \pm 2) \times 10^{-4}$ |
| HOBr | $k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}=\frac{j}{[\mathrm{HOBr}]}$ | $(6 \pm 2) \times 10^{-3}$ |
| $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | $k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}=\frac{j}{\mathrm{~K}_{4}[\mathrm{HOBr}]^{2}}$ | $1.6 \pm 0.6$ |
| ${ }^{a}[\mathrm{HOBr}]_{\mathrm{avg}}=6.16 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{M}$ |  |  |

The reactivity of brominating agents towards benzene is expected to follow the same trend as those for alkyland alkoxybenzenes (i.e., $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}<k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2}}<k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}<k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}$ ). The calculated upper limit of the rate constant for $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ best fits this expected trend (assuming that HOBr and $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ are not more inherently reactive than $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ toward benzene). We note that bromination reactions of benzene performed as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$were conducted in the presence of excess bromide (Figure 1, main text). As such, it is anticipated that the non-zero value of the $y$-intercept can be predominantly attributed to $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$.

## S10. Relevance of $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{2}} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$to Bromination of Alkylbenzenes

Model fits comparing $k_{\mathrm{obs}}$ to $k_{\text {calc }}$ as a function of pH were plotted with and without accounting for $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$in the determination of $k_{\text {calc }}$ (Figure S14).


Figure S14. Regiospecific pseudo-first-order rate constants for bromination of ethylbenzene at the (A, B) para and (C, D) ortho positions as a function of pH . (B) and (D) account for the possible influence of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$in the calculated bromination rates of ethylbenzene while ( $\mathbf{A}$ ) and (C) do not. The experimentally measured rate is denoted by $k_{\text {obs }}$ and
 that formation of $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ is negligible when free chlorine is added in excess relative to bromide). Reaction conditions were uniform for all frames: $\mathrm{T}=20.00{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C},[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, phosphate $(20 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer, $[\text { alkylbenzene }]_{o}=50 \mu \mathrm{M},[\mathrm{NaCl}]=5.00 \mathrm{mM}$, and $\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]=95 \mathrm{mM}$.

To determine if $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$was relevant to bromination of alkylbenzenes, $k_{\mathrm{obs}}$ values were plotted as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$at varying pH (Figure S15).


Figure S15. Alkylbenzene reactivity (extrapolated to $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]=0$ ) as a function of $\left[\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]$for bromination of ethylbenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions; isopropylbenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions; and tert-butylbenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. Reaction conditions were uniform for all frames ( $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{\circ}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=1.00 \mathrm{mM}$, [alkylbenzene $]_{o}=50 \mu \mathrm{M}$, phosphate $(40 \mathrm{mM})$ as pH buffer ranging from $5.30-5.90$ and $\left.\left[\mathrm{NaNO}_{3}\right]+\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=100 \mathrm{mM}\right) .\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}$ represents the contribution from NaCl only. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$tot (which is the contribution from all sources of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$, including NaCl , added FAC, and generation of $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$during oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC ) varied from $5.60-40.43 \mathrm{mM}$. The y-intercept obtained from graphing $k_{\mathrm{obs}}$ versus $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ is equal to $k_{\mathrm{obs}}$ (extrapolated to $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]=0$ ). Slopes significantly different from zero (seen for all ortho products) demonstrate the reactivity of the bromine species $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$. Error bars denote $95 \%$ confidence intervals.

## S11. Contributions of Individual Brominating Agent to Overall Bromination Rates

Influence of Bromide. The influence of bromide concentration on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for the para and ortho bromination of isopropylbenzene and tert-butylbenzene is depicted in Figure S16. The influence of bromide concentration on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for the para and ortho bromination of isopropoxybenzene, and tertbutoxybenzene is depicted in Figures S17.


Figure S16. Contributions of brominating agents to alkylbenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $\left.k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{H}^{+}, \mathrm{HOBr}}\left[\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}\right]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2}\right]\right)$ as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]$for bromination of isopropylbenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions and tert-butylbenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions. All $k_{\text {calc }}$ values assume stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by excess FAC. Conditions: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=6.00 \mathrm{mM},[\mathrm{NaCl}]=10.00$ $\mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{pH}=8.30$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

|  | BrCl | $\ldots-\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | $\ldots \ldots$. | HOBr | $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ | BrOCl | $\ldots .$. | $\mathrm{Br}_{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



Figure S17. Contributions of brominating agents to alkoxybenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2}\right]+k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}[\mathrm{HOBr}]+k_{\mathrm{BrOCl}[\mathrm{BrOCl}]) \text { as a function of }[\mathrm{Br}] \text { for bromination of }}$ isopropoxybenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions and tert-butoxybenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions. All $k_{\text {calc }}$ values assume stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by excess FAC . Conditions: [FAC] ${ }_{0}=0.40 \mathrm{mM}$, $[\mathrm{NaCl}]$ $=10.00 \mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{pH}=8.46$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

Influence of Chloride. The influence of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ values of alkylbenzenes is depicted in Figure S18.


Figure S18. Contributions of brominating agents to alkylbenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{H}^{+}, \mathrm{HOBr}}\left[\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}\right]$) as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$( $\log$ scale) for bromination of ethylbenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions, isopropylbenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions, and tert-butylbenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. Conditions: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=150 \mu \mathrm{M},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=130 \mu \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{pH}=8.30$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Graphed $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$ represents $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot, }}$, which includes $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$from $\mathrm{NaCl}, \mathrm{FAC}$, and stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC .

For bromination at both the para and ortho positions of alkylbenzenes, the contribution of BrCl to $k_{\text {calc }}$ increased with increasing $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$. For formation of para-brominated alkylbenzenes at $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{0}=0.4 \mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ had a greater contribution than BrCl . The maximal $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ ranged from $69 \%$ to $84 \% . \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ contributed the most to overall bromination rates when $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right] \leq 1.95 \mathrm{mM}, 0.93 \mathrm{mM}$, and 1.95 mM for bromination of ethyl, isopropyl, and tert-butylbenzene, respectively, at the para position under the stated conditions. For ortho-bromination of alkylbenzenes, $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$contributed the most to overall bromination rates when $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right] \leq 7.95 \mathrm{mM}, 4.95 \mathrm{mM}$, and 7.95 mM for ethyl, isopropyl, and tert-butylbenzene, respectively, under the stated conditions. Due to the lesser reactivity of $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ toward the ortho positions of the alkylbenzenes, its fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ never exceeded $10 \%$.

The influence of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ values of alkoxybenzenes is depicted in Figure S19.
—— BrCl -.-.- $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$........ HOBr ...... BrOCl


Figure S19. Contributions of brominating agents to alkoxybenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $\left.k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}[\mathrm{HOBr}]+k_{\mathrm{BrOCl}}[\mathrm{BrOCl}]\right)$ as a function of $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$(log scale) for bromination of ethoxybenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions, isopropoxybenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions, and tertbutoxybenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. Conditions: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=400 \mu \mathrm{M},[\mathrm{Br}]_{\mathrm{o}}=350 \mu \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{pH}=7.0, \mathrm{~T}=20.0$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Graphed $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$represents $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$, which includes $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$from $\mathrm{NaCl}, \mathrm{FAC}$, and stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC .

BrCl was the predominant contributor to bromination of alkoxybenzenes; the fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for all other species was $\leq 5 \%$ at all $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$. For para bromination of alkoxybenzenes, the contribution of BrCl was greater than $95 \%$ at $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]>20 \mathrm{mM}$; for ortho bromination of alkoxybenzenes, the contribution of BrCl was greater than $95 \%$ at all examined chloride concentrations.

Influence of FAC. Because [FAC] ${ }_{\mathrm{o}}$ had no influence on bromination rates of alkylbenzenes, fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ values were not calculated for alkylbenzenes as a function of $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}$. The influence of $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}$ on the fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for alkoxybenzenes is illustrated in Figure S20.



Figure S20. Contributions of brominating agents to alkoxybenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}[\mathrm{HOBr}]+k_{\mathrm{BrOCl}}[\mathrm{BrOCl}]$ ) as a function of $[\mathrm{FAC}]$ (log scale) for bromination of ethoxybenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions, isopropoxybenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions, and tertbutoxybenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. All $k_{\text {calc }}$ values assume stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by excess FAC . Conditions: $[\mathrm{NaCl}]=10 \mathrm{mM},[\mathrm{Br}]_{\mathrm{o}}=350 \mu \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{pH}=8.2$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

The contributions of HOBr and $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ did not change substantially as a function of [FAC] ${ }_{\mathrm{o}}$. The contributions were approximately $20 \%$ for HOBr and $6-30 \%$ for $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, depending on substitution position. Generally, the fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ associated with $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ was greater for para than for ortho bromination of the alkoxybenzenes. The contribution of BrOCl increased with increasing [FAC] $]_{o}$ to maximums of $10-29 \%$. BrCl was the primary contributor to bromination rates with maximums of $45-69 \%$ that decreased slightly as $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\text {o }}$ increased.

Influence of pH . The influence of pH on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for the para and ortho bromination of alkylbenzenes is depicted in Figure S21.


Figure S21. Contributions of brominating agents to alkylbenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{H}^{+}, \mathrm{HOBr}}\left[\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}\right]$) as a function of pH for bromination of ethylbenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions, isopropylbenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions, and tert-butylbenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. Conditions: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=2.50 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}=7.50 \mathrm{mM}$, and $[\mathrm{Br}]=2.00 \mathrm{mM}, \mathrm{T}=20.0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $\left[\mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]_{\text {tot }}$ includes $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$ from added NaCl , added FAC , and $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$formed during stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by FAC .

For all compounds and substitution positions, there was a point at which BrCl and $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ intersect (at pH values between 7.50 and 8.80); at higher pH , the contribution of BrCl fell below that of $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The concentrations of BrCl and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$increased as pH decreased (eqs 2 and 6). The contribution of BrCl to the fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ was similar to the contribution of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{OBr}^{+}$at any given pH for ortho bromination of the alkylbenzenes.

The influence of pH on fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ for the bromination of alkoxybenzenes is shown in Figure S22.
$-\mathrm{BrCl}-\ldots \mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$\ldots \ldots . \mathrm{HOBr} \quad \cdots \cdots \mathrm{BrOCl}$






Figure S22. Contributions of brominating agents to alkoxybenzene reactivity (as fraction of $k_{\text {calc }}$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, where $k_{\text {calc }}=$ $\left.k_{\mathrm{BrCl}}[\mathrm{BrCl}]+k_{\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}}\left[\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right]+k_{\mathrm{HOBr}}[\mathrm{HOBr}]+k_{\mathrm{BrOCl}}[\mathrm{BrOCl}]\right)$ as a function of pH for bromination of ethoxybenzene at the (A) para and (B) ortho positions, isopropoxybenzene at the (C) para and (D) ortho positions, and tert-butoxybenzene at the (E) para and (F) ortho positions. All $k_{\text {calc }}$ values assume stoichiometric oxidation of $\mathrm{Br}^{-}$by excess FAC . Conditions: $[\mathrm{FAC}]_{\mathrm{o}}=400 \mu \mathrm{M},[\mathrm{NaCl}]=10 \mathrm{mM},\left[\mathrm{Br}^{-}\right]_{\mathrm{o}}=350 \mu \mathrm{M}$, and $\mathrm{T}=20.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

For all alkoxybenzenes at both substitution positions, the contribution of HOBr increased to $>90 \%$ with increasing pH ; the contribution of BrCl was greater than $95 \%$ at the lowest examined $\mathrm{pH}(6.50)$ and decreased to less than $5 \%$ with increasing pH up to 9.91 . The contribution of HOBr and BrCl intersected at $\mathrm{pH} 8.34-$ 8.51 and $8.60-8.64$ for para and ortho substituted alkoxybenzenes, respectively. The contribution of $\mathrm{Br}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ increased to a maximum of $7-35 \%$ at $\mathrm{pH} 8.47-8.64$, then decreased to less than $5 \%$ at higher pH values.

## S12. References

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[^0]:    ${ }^{a}$ Purity determined via gas chromatography-mass spectrometry

