# Acid-Mediated Decarboxylative C–H Coupling between Arenes and *O*-Allyl Carbamates

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# **General Information**

All available chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and were used without any further purification. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using 0.25 mm silica gel precoated plates Si 60-F254 (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) visualized by UV-254 light and CAM staining. Purification by flash column chromatography (FCC) was conducted by using silica gel Si 60, 230-400 mesh, 0.040-0.063 mm (Merck). Melting points were determined on a Stuart Scientific SMP3 and are corrected. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 (400 and 101 MHz, respectively) or Bruker Avance 300 (300 and 75 MHz, respectively); chemical shifts are indicated in parts per million downfield from SiMe4, using the residual proton (CHCl<sub>3</sub> = 7.27 ppm) and carbon (CDCl<sub>3</sub> = 77.0 ppm) solvent resonances as internal reference. Coupling constants values J are given in Hz. FTIR spectra were recorded on a Tensor 27 (ATR Diamond) Bruker infrared spectrophotometer and are reported in frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>). Elemental analyses were executed on Perkin-Elmer CHN Analyzer Series II 2400. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded using a mass spectrometer MicroTOF from Bruker with an electron spray ion source (ESI) and a TOF detector or using a mass spectrometer from Thermo Fisher Scientific with an electron spray ion source (ESI) and a LTQ Orbitrap as detector at Institut Parisien de Chimie Moléculaire.

# **Preparation of Starting Materials**



#### General procedure for the synthesis of O-allyl N-substituted carbamates 1a-b, 1d-g

In a round bottom flask was poured the appropriate allyl alcohol (10.00 mmol) dissolved in DCE (15 mL) followed by the addition of the suitable isocyanate (10.00 mmol). The resulting solution was allowed to reach at 25 °C under N<sub>2</sub>, and the stirring was continued for 16 h. Then, after evaporation of the solvent and the volatiles under vacuum, the title compound was obtained. Starting from corresponding allyl alcohol and isocyanate, yield, spectroscopic and analytical data of *O*-allyl-carbamates *N*-substituted carbamates **1a-b**, **1d-g** are as follows.

#### O-Allyl-N-tosylcarbamate (1a)

<sup>Γs</sup> Allyl alcohol (660 μL); tosyl isocyanate (1.98 g). **1a** (2.54 g, 99%). The characterization of product **1a** is consistent with that reported in the literature.1

#### O-Allyl-N-(4-chlorophenyl)carbamate (1b)



1a

Allyl alcohol (660  $\mu$ L); 4-chlorophenylisocyanate (1.53 g). **1b** (1.88 g, 89%). The characterization of product **1b** is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

#### O-But-3-en-2-yl-N-tosylcarbamate (1d)



But-3-en-2-ol (721 mg); tosyl isocyanate (1.98 g). 1d (2.53 g, 94%). The characterization of product 1d is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>1</sup>

#### O-But-2-en-1-yl-*N*-tosylcarbamate (1e)



Crotyl alcohol (721 mg); tosyl isocyanate (1.98 g). **1e** (2.56 g, 96%). The characterization of product **1e** is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> S. Nicolai, C. Piemontesi, and J. Waser, A palladium-catalyzed aminoalkynylation stratedy towards bicyclic heterocycles: synthesis of (±)trachelanthamidine, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2011, **50**, 4680-4683.

<sup>2</sup> Y. Sabesan, and M. Scott, N-Methylimidazole-catalyzed synthesis of carbamates from hydroxamic acids via the Lossen rearrangement, Org. Lett., 2013, 15, 602-605.

<sup>3</sup> D. Xing, D., and Yang, Gold(I)-catalyzed highly regio- and stereoselective decarboxylative amination of allylic *N*-tosylcarbamates via base-induced aza-Claisen rearrangement in water, *Org. Lett.*, 2010, **12**, 1068-1071.

#### O-But-3-en-1-yl-N-tosylcarbamate (1f)



Crotyl alcohol (721 mg); tosyl isocyanate (1.98 g). **1f** (2.56 g, 96%). The characterization of product **1f** is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>4</sup>

#### O-2-Methylbut-3-en-2-yl-N-tosylcarbamate (1g)



2-Methylbut-3-en-2-ol (861 mg); tosyl isocyanate (1.98 g). **1g** (2.69 g, 95%). The characterization of product **1g** is consistent with that reported in the literature. <sup>3</sup>

#### Procedure for the synthesis of O-allyl N-(o-nosyl) carbamate 1c



Triethylamine (111.3 mg, 1.1 mmol) was added to a solution of allylchloroformate (132.6 mg, 1.1 mmol), DMAP (12.2 mg, 0.1 mmol) and the 2-nitrobenzene sulfonamide (202.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) in dry DCM (20 mL) at 0 °C. Then the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. After 24 h, the reaction was diluted with DCM (10 mL), washed with HCl 10% solution (2x5 mL), saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2x10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Compound **1c** was obtained in 70% yield (2.0 g). The characterization of product **1c** is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>5</sup>

# Arylation/Hydroamination procedures

#### General procedure for the synthesis of arylated/hydroaminated products



In a sealed tube,  $Cu(OTf)_2$  (4.0 mmol, 1.45 g) and  $H_2O$  (100  $\mu$ L) were added to a solution of the appropriate *O*-allyl carbamate (1.0 mmol), arene (5.0 mmol) in chlorobenzene (0.4 M). The resulted solution was magnetically stirred and heated at 130 °C in oil bath for 3-4 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from *O*-allyl carbamate **1a**,**1c**-**f**, aromatic source, yield and physical, spectroscopic and analytical data of compounds **2**, **5-15**, **17-18** are as follows.

<sup>4</sup> J. Rajabi, M. M. Lorion, V. L. Ly, F. Liron, J. Oble, G. Prestat, and G. Poli, Dormant versus evolving aminopalladated intermediates: toward a unified mechanistic scenarion in Pd<sup>II</sup>-catalyzed aminations, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2014, **20**, 1539-1546.

<sup>5</sup> F. Foschi, C. Loro, R. Sala, J. Oble, L. Lo Presti, E. M. Beccalli, G. Poli, and G. Broggini, Intramolecular aminoazidation of unactivated terminal alkenes by palladium-catalyzed reactions with hydrogen peroxide as oxidant, Org. Lett., 2020, 22, 1402-1406.

#### 1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (2)



1a (255.3 mg); mesitylene (0.69 mL); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (1:1). 2 (254.9 mg, 77%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  7.56 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.19 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 6.74 (s, 2H), 4.33 (d, 1H, J = 6.6 Hz), 3.50-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.79 (dd, 1H, J = 14.1, 7.4 Hz,), 2.64 (dd, 1H, J = 14.1, 8.0 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.14 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 143.1, 137.5, 136.6, 135.8, 131.5, 129.5, 129.2, 127.0, 49.9, 36.9, 21.5, 21.4, 20.8, 20.3; IR v max 2926, 1321, 1154 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup>

HRMS(ESI): 332.1679; found: 332.1679.

## 1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (5)



1a (255.3 mg); p-xylene (0.62 mL); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (2:3). 5 (250.5 mg, 79%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.59 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.20 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.95-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 4.72 (d, 1H, J = 6.7 Hz), 3.48-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, 1H, J = 13.7, 6.9 Hz), 2.59 (dd, 1H, J = 13.7, 7.4 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.15 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  143.0, 137.5, 135.5, 135.4, 133.2, 130.9, 130.5, 129.5, 127.5, 126.9, 50.1, 41.1, 21.7, 21.5, 20.9, 18.9; IR v  $_{max}$  2934, 1324, 1151 cm  $^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C,

68.11; H, 7.30; N, 4.41. Found: C, 68.31; H, 7.171; N, 4.39.

#### 1-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (6a) and 1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (6b)



1a (255.3 mg); o-xylene (0.60 mL); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (1:4). 6a + 6b (241.0 mg, 76%, 6a:6b: 1/1.4 isomeric ratio after purification); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) major isomer **6a**:  $\delta$  7.59 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.21 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1H), 6.74-6.73 (m, 2H), 4.26 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 3.51-3.45 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.55 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.13 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) minor isomer: δ 7.48 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.16 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.00-6.96 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.83 (m, 1H), 4.34 (d, 1H, J = 6.2 Hz), 3.41-3.35 (m, 1H), 2.71 (d, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz),

2.41 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.19 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 143.0,142.9, 137.6, 137.4, 136.7, 134.9, 134.3, 130.6, 129.8, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 127.0, 126.9, 126.7, 125.5, 50.9, 49.9, 42.9, 41.9, 22.0, 21.5, 20.6, 19.7, 19.3, 15.1; IR v max 2923, 1321, 1159 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 318.1528; found: 318.1522.

#### 1-(2,6-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (7a) and 1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (7b)



1a (255.3 mg); *m*-xylene (0.62 mL); FCC–DCM. 7a + 7b (228.3 mg, 72%; 7a:7b: 1/1 isomeric ratio after purification); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) mixture of two isomers **7a** + **7b**:  $\delta$  7.57 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.56 (d, 2H, J = 9.0 Hz), 7.19 (d, 4H, 8.1 Hz), 7.02-6.98 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz), 6.88-6.82 (m, 4H), 4.37 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.54-3.38 (m, 2H), 2.85 (dd, 1H, J = 13.9, 7.0 Hz), 2.73-2.58 (m, 3H), 2.42(s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 4H), 2.19 (s, 4H), 2.09 (s, 4H), 1.14 (d, 6H, J = 6.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 143.1, 143.0, 137.4, 137.3, 136.4, 136.1, 136.0,

134.4, 132.4, 131.4, 130.1, 129.5, 128.5, 127.0, 126.9, 50.1, 49.8, 40.8, 37.2, 21.7, 21.6, 21.5, 21.4, 20.9, 20.4, 19.2; IR v  $_{max}$ 2925, 1325, 1159 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 318.1528; found: 318.1522.

#### 1-(2 -Methylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (8a) and 1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (8b)



1a (255.3 mg); toluene (0.53 mL); FCC-DCM. 8a + 8b (87.9 mg, 29%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) major isomer: δ 7.62-7.56 (m, 2H,), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.01 (m, 3H), 6.99 (d, 1H, J = 13.4 Hz), 4.32 (d, 1H, J = 4.7 Hz), 3.52-3.43 (m, 1H), 2.77 (dd, 1H, J = 10.3, 5.2 Hz), 2.67-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.14 (d, 3H, J = 4.9 Hz); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) minor isomer:  $\delta$  7.62-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d, 2H, J = 5.9 Hz), 4.24 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.52-

3.43 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.62 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.11 (d, 3H, J = 4.9 Hz);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  143.1, 143.0,

137.4, 136.4, 136.3, 135.5, 130.6, 130.2, 129.6, 129.2, 127.1, 126.9, 126.8, 126.0, 50.9, 49.9, 42.9, 41.2, 21.7, 21.5, 21.4, 19.3; IR v max 2917, 1378, 1157 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. For  $C_{17}H_{21}NO_2S$ : C, 67.30; H, 6.98; N, 4.62. Found: C, 67.44; H, 7.21; N, 7.27.

#### 1-Phenyl-2-tosylamino-propane (9)

NHTs Me
1a (255.3 mg); benzene (0.45 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). 9 (211.1 mg, 73%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.64 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.24-7,21 (m, 5H), 7.04-7.01 (m, 2H), 4.47 (d, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 3.57-3.49 (m, 1H), 2.74-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.10 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 143.1,

137.7, 137.1, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 126.9, 126.6, 50.9, 43.5, 21.5, 21.3. The characterization of product  $\mathbf{9}$  is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>6</sup>

#### 1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (10)



**1a** (255.3 mg); 1,2,4,5-tetramethyl benzene (671.1 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (4:1). **10** (269.2 mg, 78%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.49 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.51 (d, 1H, J = 6.7 Hz), 3.45-3.38 (m, 1H), 2.90 (dd, 1H, J = 14.3, 7.8 Hz), 2.77 (dd, 1H, J = 14.3, 7.5 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 2.04 (s, 6H), 1.19 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  142.9, 137.2, 134.1, 133.9, 132.5, 130.2, 129.3, 126.9, 50.3, 37.2, 21.9, 21.5, 20.7, 16.1; IR v max 2925, 1378, 1155 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for the turbule (50.1) and (50.1)

 $C_{20}H_{28}NO_2S\;[M+H]^+\;HRMS(ESI){\rm :}\;346.1835;\;found{\rm :}\;346.1835.$ 

### 1-(2,4,6-Triethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (11)



**1a** (255.3 mg); 1,3,5-triethyl benzene (0.94 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (4:1). **11** (276.2 mg, 74%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.57 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.19 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 6.81 (s, 2H), 4.48 (s, 1H), 3.43-3.36 (m, 1H), 2.82 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.1, 7.2 Hz), 2.69 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.1, 8.4 Hz), 2.61-2.55 (m, 2H), 2.54-2.43 (m, 4H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.27-1.25 (m, 3H), 1.15-1.09 (m, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  143.0, 142.7, 142.6, 137.3, 129.8, 129.5, 127.1, 126.0, 50.6, 35.4, 28.5, 26.1, 21.5, 21.4, 15.5, 15.4; IR v max 2931, 1321, 1161 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal.

Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 374.2148; found: 374.2149.

#### 1-MesityI-2-(o-nosylamino)-propane (12)



**1c** (286.3 mg); mesitylene (0.69 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). **12** (162.9 mg, 45%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.98 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.68-7.61 (m, 2H), 6.62 (s, 2H), 5.31 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 3.85-3.78 (m, 1H), 2.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 8.0 Hz), 2.72 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 7.5 Hz ) 2.19 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  136.5, 136.4,135.7, 134.8, 132.8, 131.1, 130.4, 129.2, 125.4, 125.4, 51.2, 36.6, 22.4, 20.3; IR v max 2919, 1537, 1347, 1162 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C, 59.65; H, 6.12; N, 7.73. Found: C, 58.52; H, 5.91; N, 7.56.

#### 1-(3-Bromo-2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (13)



**1a** (255.3 mg); mesitylbromide (0.77 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). **13** (335.4 mg, 82%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.49 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.83 (s, 1H), 4.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 3.46-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.9 Hz), 2.71 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.3 Hz), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.18(s, 3H), 1.19 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  143.2, 139.9, 136.9, 136.3, 135.2, 133.5, 130.3, 129.4, 126.8, 126.6, 50.1, 37.9, 23.9, 22.1, 21.6, 20.7, 20.5; IR v max 2925, 1328, 1157 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd.

for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 410.0784; found: 410.0783.

<sup>6</sup> C. Michon, F. Medina, F. Capet, and P. Roussel, Inter- and intramolecular hydroamination of unactivated alkenes catalysed by a combination of copper and silver salts: the unveiling of a Brønsted acid catalysis, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2010, **352**, 3293-3305.

#### 1-(2-Methoxy-5-methylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (14)



1a (255.3 mg); 4-methyl anisole (0.63 mL); FCC-DCM. 14 (256.5 mg, 77%); light brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.42 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.66-6.63 (m, 2H), 4.99 (d, 1H, J = 5.3 Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.45-3.38 (m, 1H), 2.69 (dd, 1H, J = 13.6, 8.9 Hz), 2.51 (dd, 1H, J = 13.6, 4.9 Hz), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.25 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  169.4, 142.4, 137.2, 131.8, 130.0, 129.2, 128.2, 126.8, 125.7, 110.4, 55.4, 51.2, 37.3, 27.1, 22.8, 21.4; IR v max 2925, 2851, 1319,

1157 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 334.1471; found: 334.1471.

#### 1-(5-Bromo-2-methoxyphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (15)



1a (255.3 mg); 4-bromo anisole (0.63 mL); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (1:4). 15 (266.0 mg, 67%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.43 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.23-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.95 (d, 2H, J = 2.3 Hz), 4.79 (d, 1H, J = 6.2 Hz), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.47-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dd, 1H, J = 13.6, 10.7 Hz), 2.49 (dd, 1H, J = 13.6, 4.9 Hz), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, 3H, J = 3.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 156.2, 142.8, 136.9, 133.5, 130.5, 129.4, 128.4, 126.7, 113.1, 112.1, 55.6, 51.2, 37.1, 23.0, 21.5; IR v max 2927, 2853 1323, 1157 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS(ESI): 398.0420; found: 398.0418.

#### 1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-butane (17)



NHTs 1e (269.3 mg); mesitylene (0.69 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). 17 (265.8 mg, 77%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.71 (s, 2H), 4.26 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.36-3.29 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, 1H, J = 14.1, 7.8 Hz), 2.66 (dd, 1H, J = 14.1, 7.6 Hz), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 1.55-1.45 (m, 2H), 0.84 (t, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 142.8, 137.6, 136.5, 135.7, 129.3, 129.2, 126.9, 55.5, 34.9, 21.5, 20.8, 20.3, 10.1; IR v max 2916, 1318, 1153 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 69.53; H, 7.88;

N, 4.05. Found: C, 69.72; H, 8.09; N, 4.28.

#### 1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-butane (18)



1d (269.3 mg); p-xylene (0.62 mL); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (1:4). 18 (135.8 mg, 41%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.55 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.17 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.93-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 4.36 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 3.36-3.27 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.63 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.43 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 142.9, 137.5, 135.6, 135.3, 133.1, 130.9, 130.5, 129.4, 127.4, 18 126.9, 55.6, 38.7, 27.7, 21.5, 20.9, 18.9, 9.7; IR v max 2921, 1323, 1155 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 68.85; H, 7.60; N,

4.23. Found: C, 68.66; H, 7.68; N, 4.42.

#### Gram-scale synthesis of 1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane 5



In a sealed tube, Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (8.0 mmol, 2.89 g) and H<sub>2</sub>O (500 µL) were added to a solution of the O-allyl N-tosyl carbamate 1a (5.0 mmol, 1.28 g), p-xylene (10.0 mmol, 1.23 mL) in chlorobenzene (0.4 M). The resulted solution was magnetical stirred and heated at 130 °C in oil bath for 6 hours. The reaction was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Compound 5 was afforded (1.09 g, 69%) as a light brown oil after FCC- AcOET/hexane (2:3).

# **Diarylation procedures**



General procedure for the synthesis of diarylated products with mesitylene

In a sealed tube, TMSOTf (4.0 mmol, 0.726 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of the appropriate *O*-allyl carbamate (1.0 mmol), mesitylene (5.0 mmol, 0.69 mL) in DCE (0.25 M). The resulted solution was magnetical stirred and heated at 80 °C in oil bath for 4 hours. Then the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction was diluted with DCM (10 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2×10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from *O*-allyl carbamate **1a**,**1d-e**, yield and physical, spectroscopic and analytical data of compound **3**, **24-25** are as follows.

### 1,2-Bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-propane (3)



**1a** (255.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). **3** (221.4 mg, 79%); brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  6.96 (s, 4H), 3.58-3.49 (m, 1H), 3.26 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 7.7 Hz), 3.12 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 6.3 Hz), 2.72 (s, 2H), 2.39 (s, 5H), 2.35 (s, 7H), 2.18 (s, 2H), 1.48 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  140.2, 137.7, 136.5, 135.8, 135.0, 134.9, 128.9, 126.9, 77.3, 77.0, 76.7, 36.0, 34.2, 21.2, 20.8, 20.6, 20.2, 18.9. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>28</sub>: C, 89.94; H, 10.06. Found: C, 90.13; H, 9.96.

#### 1,2-Bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-butane (24)



**1e** (269.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). **24** (94.2 mg, 32%); brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  6.82 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 3.26-3.18 (m, 1H), 3.02 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz ), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 2.04-1.96 (m, 1H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.83-1.72 (m, 1H), 0.78 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6 Hz ); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  137.8, 137.5, 136.6, 136.4, 135.6, 134.9, 134.8, 131.1, 129.0, 128.9, 42.9, 33.6, 26.8, 21.6, 21.5, 20.8, 20.7, 20.2, 13.0. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>30</sub>: C, 89.73; H, 10.27. Found: C, 89.99; H, 10.18.

#### 1,3-Bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-butane (25)



<sup>2</sup> **1d** (269.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). **25** (203.0 mg, 69%); brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 6.86-6.79 (m, 4H), 3.38-3.29 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.61 (m, 1H), 2.46 (dd, 1H, J = 12.1, 5.4 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 9H), 1.91-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.41 (d, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 139.9, 136.4, 136.1, 135.8, 134.9, 134.8, 35.5, 35.2, 28.8, 20.8, 20.7, 19.6, 19.1. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>30</sub>: C, 89.73; H, 10.27. Found: C, 89.76; H, 10.48.

#### Procedure for the synthesis of diarylated product 1,2-bis(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)-propane 16



In a sealed tube,  $Cu(OTf)_2$  (4.0 mmol, 1.45 g) and  $H_2O$  (100 µL) were added to a solution of the *O*-allyl *N*-tosyl carbamate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 255.3 mg), 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (5.0 mmol, 840.9 mg) in chlorobenzene (0.4 M). The resulted solution was magnetical stirred and heated at 130 °C in oil bath for 4 hours. The reaction was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Compound **16** was afforded (229.5 mg, 61%) as a white wax after FCC–hexane. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz)  $\delta$  6.09 (d, 4H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.71 (s, 12H), 3.65-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.00 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.5, 5.7 Hz), 2.88 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.5, 5.4 Hz), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J* = 5.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 95 MHz)  $\delta$  158.3, 158.8, 158.7, 116.9, 112.1, 91.5, 90.4, 55.6, 55.3, 55.2, 29.5, 27.8, 18.4; IR v max 2854 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+H]+ HRMS(ESI): 377.1959; found: 377.1959.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of diarylated products with p-xylene



In a sealed tube, TMSOTf (4.0 mmol, 0.726 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of the appropriate *O*-allyl carbamate (1.0 mmol), *p*-xylene (5.0 mmol, 0.62 mL) in DCE (0.25 M). The resulted solution was magnetical stirred and heated at 80 °C in oil bath for 4 hours. Then the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction was diluted with DCM (10 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2×10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from *O*-allyl carbamate **1a**,**1d-e**, yield and physical, spectroscopic and analytical data of compound **19-23** are as follows.

#### 1,2-Bis(2,5-dimethylphenyl)-propane (19) and 1,1-bis(2,5-trimethylphenyl)-propane (20)



**1a** (255.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (0.05:9.95). **19** + **20** (153.8 mg, 61%); white wax. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.14 (s, 1H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.95-6.87 (m, 7H), 4.08 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 3.24-3.17 (m, 1H), 2.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.4, 5.3 Hz), 2.74 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.4, 9.2 Hz), 2.35-2.19 (m, 24H), 1.99-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.19 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 0.97 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  145.5, 142.5, 139.1, 135.5, 135.1, 134.9, 133.2, 133.0, 132.0, 130.8, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 127.8, 126.6, 126.4, 126.2, 44.4, 41.4, 35.4, 28.9, 21.3,

21.2, 21.0, 20.6, 19.2, 19.1, 19.0, 13.0. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{19}H_{24}$ : C, 90.42; H, 9.58. Found: C, 91.18; H, 9.39.

## 1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-3-ethyl-2,4,7-trimethyl-indane (21)



**1a** (255.3 mg); FCC–hexane. **21** (102.3 mg, 35%); white wax. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 6.95-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.25 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 3.22-3.17 (m, 1H), 2.54-2.48 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.83-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H),1.57-1.53 (m, 1H),1.11 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 0.91 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  147.2, 144.8, 143.4, 135.6, 132.8, 131.6, 130.6, 129.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.9, 126.4, 51.6, 50.3, 47.2, 22.6, 21.0, 19.8, 19.0, 18.9, 13.5, 12.9. Anal. Calcd.

for  $C_{22}H_{28}\!\!:C,\,90.35;\,H,\,9.65.\;$  Found:  $C,\,90.08;\,H,\,9.81.\;$ 

## 1,2-Bis(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-butane (22)



**1e** (269.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (0.05:9.95). **22** (194.3 mg, 73%); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 7.20 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.97 (s, 2H), 6.92 (d, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz), 4.21 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 2.30 (s, 6H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 1.93-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.34 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz) δ 142.7, 135.1, 133.1, 130.1, 127.9, 126.4, 42.2, 38.2, 21.3, 21.2, 19.2, 14.2. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>: C, 90.16; H, 9.84. Found: C, 89.94; H, 10.09.

#### 1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-ethyl-4,7-dimethyl-3-propyl-indane (23)



**1d** (269.3 mg); FCC–hexane. **23** (76.9 mg, 24%); white wax. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.04 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 6.91 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.28 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.5 Hz), 3.38-3.33 (m, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.29-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.73-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.47-1.36 (m, 2H), 1.33-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.87 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  147.4, 145.0, 143.6, 135.6, 132.9, 131.7, 130.4, 129.5, 128.6, 128.1, 127.8, 126.4, 58.5, 49.9, 43.0, 32.2, 21.0, 21.0, 20.4, 19.9, 19.2, 19.1, 14.9, 13.2.

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>: C, 89.94; H, 10.06. Found: C, 89.70; H, 10.25.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of indane structures



In a sealed tube, TMSOTf (4.0 mmol, 0.726 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of the appropriate  $\alpha, \alpha$ -dimethyl substituted *O*-allyl-tosyl carbamate **1g** (1.0 mmol, 283.3 mg), arene (5.0 mmol) in DCE (0.25 M). The resulted solution was magnetical stirred and heated at 80 °C in oil bath for 4 hours. Then the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction was diluted with DCM (10 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (2×10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from arenes, yield and physical, spectroscopic and analytical data of compound **26-28** are as follows.

#### 1,1,4,5,6,7-Hexamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (26)



1,2,4,5-Tetramethyl benzene (671.1 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (3:7). **26** (175.9 mg, 87%): light yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  2.80 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.91 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.39 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  146.0, 139.7, 133.9, 133.2, 129.6, 129.5, 43.0, 28.9, 28.0, 16.5, 16.3, 16.1, 15.9. The characterization of product **26** is consistent with that reported in the

literature.7

#### 1,1,4,5,7-Pentamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (27a) and 1,1,4,6,7-pentamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (27b)



Mesitylene (0.69 mL); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (3:7). **27a** + **27b** (167.5 mg, 89%, **27a/27b**: 2/1 isomeric ratio after purification); yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) major isomer:  $\delta$  6.87 (s, 1H), 2.86 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 2.33-2.21 (m, 9H), 1.94 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.29 (s, 6H); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) minor isomer  $\delta$  6.87 (s, 1H), 2.76 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 2.33-2.21 (m, 9H), 1.94 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.41 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  149.4, 148.8,

<sup>7</sup> Y. Zhang, L. Chen, and T. Lu, A copper(II) triflate-catalyzed tandem Friedel-Crafts alkylation/cyclization process towards dihydroindenes, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2011, 353, 1055-1060.

139.9, 139.4, 135.3, 134.7, 132.8, 132.2, 130.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 120.9, 43.1, 41.2, 29.2, 28.9, 27.9, 27.8, 21.1, 20.0, 18.7, 16.4, 15.3, 14.9. Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{14}H_{20}$ : C, 89.29; H, 10.71. Found: C, 89.03; H, 10.82.

## 1,1,4,5,6,7-Hexamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (28) and 1,1,4,5,5,8-hexamethyl-hydrindacene (29)



*p*-Xylene (0.62 mL); FCC–hexane. **28 + 29** (187.4 mg, 93%; **28:29**: 3/2 isomeric ratio after purification); colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  6.88-6.83 (m, 2H), 2.78-2.72 (m, 4H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.93-1.91 (m, 4H), 1.36 (s, 18 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz)  $\delta$  147.7, 145.8, 144.4, 141.8, 131.5, 130.3, 129.8, 128.2, 126.3, 45.4, 42.5, 41.9, 41.4, 27.5, 27.4, 26.8, 26.3, 18.0, 17.7, 14.2.

# <sup>1</sup>HNMR and <sup>13</sup>CNMR of Arylated/Hydroaminated products



1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (5)





# 1-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (6a) and 1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (6b)





# 1-(2 -Methylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (8a) and 1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (8b)









S-20







1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-butane (17)



f1 (ppm) 



# <sup>1</sup>HNMR and <sup>13</sup>CNMR of Diarylated products



100 f1 (ppm)













1,2-Bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-butane (24)





1,1,4,5,6,7-Hexamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (26)



1,1,4,5,7-Pentamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (27a) and 1,1,4,6,7-Pentamethyl-2,3-dihydro-indane (27b)



