

Supporting Information

**Rhodium-catalyzed Regiospecific C–H
ortho-Phenylation of Benzoic Acids with Cu/Air as Oxidant**

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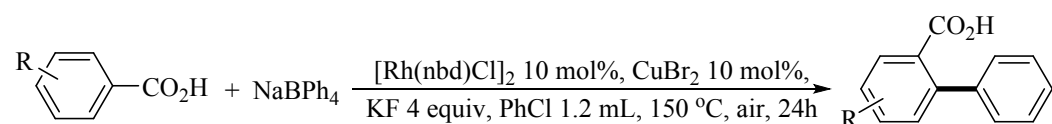
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Part I: Experimental section

General Information:

All reactions were carried out in air and all reagents were weighed and handled in air unless otherwise stated. All reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh) and visualized with ultraviolet light. Ethyl acetate and petroleum ether was used as eluents. ^1H , ^{13}C , ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz, 100 MHz and 377 MHz NMR spectrometer respectively. NMR spectrometer as solutions in CDCl_3 unless otherwise stated. IR spectra were recorded on a New Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy. HRMS were made by means of ESI. Melting points (mp) were measured on micro melting point apparatus and uncorrected.

Typical procedure for the synthesis of 2a (Table 2):



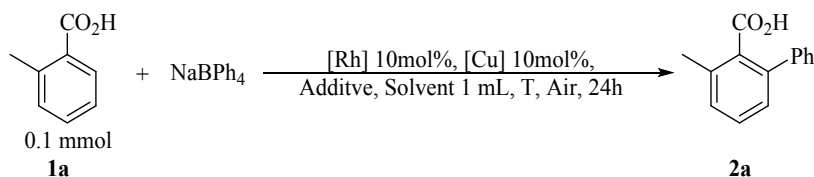
A solution of aromatic acid **1a** (27.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), NaBPh₄ (0.27 g, 0.8 mmol), KF (46 mg, 0.8 mmol), [Rh(nbd)Cl]₂ (9.2 mg, 0.02 mmol) and CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) in chlorobenzene (1.2 mL) was stirred in a sealed tube under air at 150 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature and acidified by dilute aqueous HCl to pH<3, and then the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel with petroleum ether and ethyl acetate as eluent to give the pure product **2a**.

Half-gram-scale synthesis of 2a:

A solution of o-Toluic acid (3.7 mmol), [Rh(nbd)Cl]₂ (27 mg, 1.6 mol%), Sodium tetraphenylboron (14.8 mmol), CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.37 mmol) and activated KF (46.4 mg, 14.8 mmol) in distilled 4-chlorotoluene (20 mL) was stirred in a sealed tube at 150 °C for 72 h under an atmosphere of air. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature and acidified by dilute HCl to PH<3, and then the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel with ethyl acetate and petroleum ether containing appropriate quantity of acetic acid to give the pure product.

Optimization results of Rh-catalyzed *ortho*-phenylation:

Table 1S Optimization of Rh-catalyzed *ortho*-phenylation of benzoic acid^a

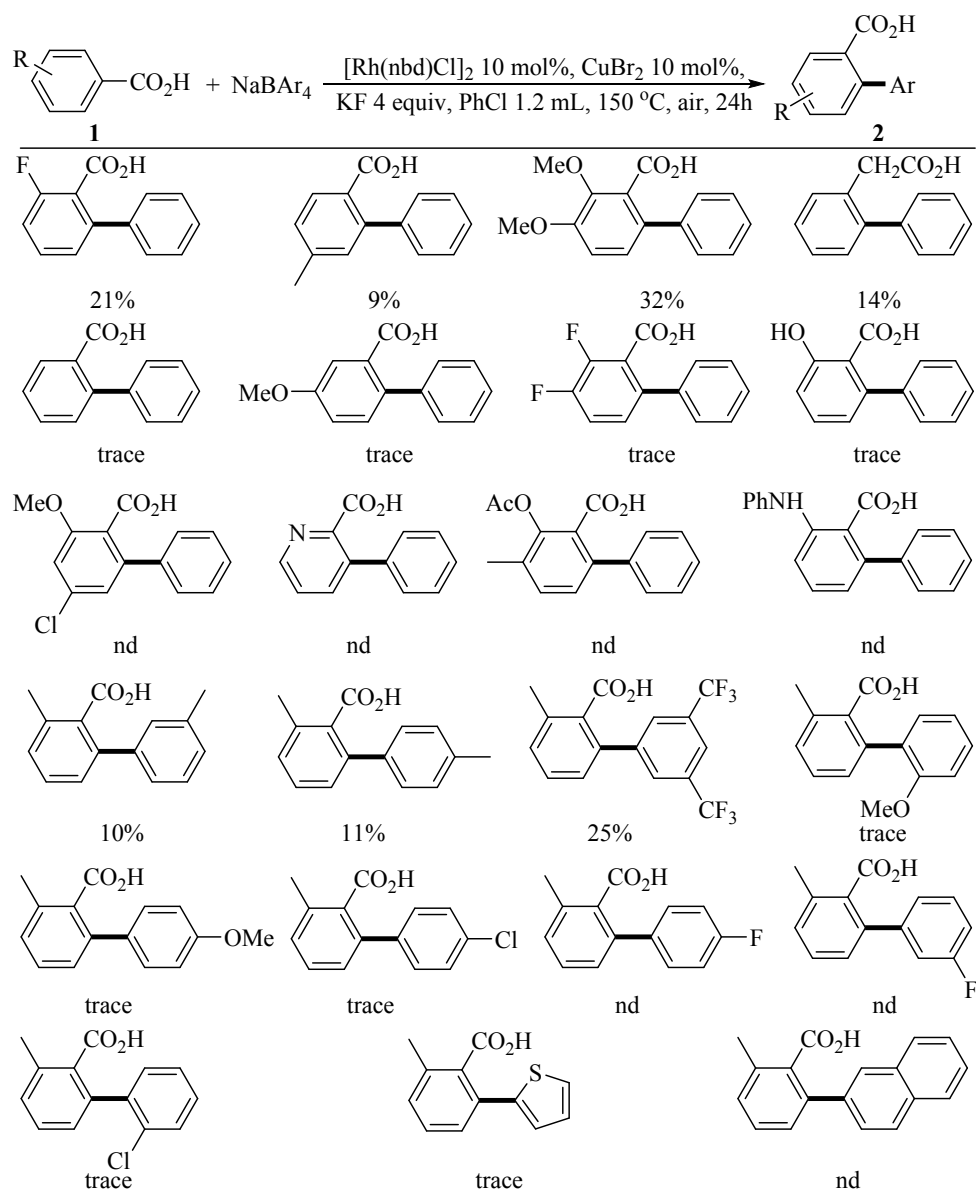


Entry	Catalyst	Cu-salt	Solvent	NaBPh ₄ /equiv.	Additive	T /°C	Yield /%
1 ^b	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	75
2 ^b	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	130	20
3 ^c	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	82
4	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	82(71) ^d
5 ^e	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	46
6	(Ph ₃ P) ₃ RhCl	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	22
7	RhCl ₃ ·3H ₂ O	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	8
8	Rh(CO) ₂ acac	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	54
9	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	3	KF	150	57
10	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	0	KF	150	trace
11	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuI	PhCl	4	KF	150	41
12	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuCl	PhCl	4	KF	150	30
13	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuCl ₂ ·2H ₂ O	PhCl	4	KF	150	64
14	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuO	PhCl	4	KF	150	22
15	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuSO ₄ ·5H ₂ O	PhCl	4	KF	150	42
16	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	Cu(OAc) ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	35
17	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	LiF	150	19
18	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	NaF	150	28
19	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	NaOAc	150	10
20	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KOAc	150	43
21	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	K ₃ PO ₄	150	31
22	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	H ₂ O	4	KF	150	5
23	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	Toluene	4	KF	150	27
24	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	DMF	4	KF	150	33
25	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	DMSO	4	KF	150	46
26	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	NMP	4	KF	150	42
27	—	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	KF	150	trace
28	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	—	PhCl	4	KF	150	14
29	[Rh(nbd)Cl] ₂	CuBr ₂	PhCl	4	—	150	25

^a Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out using 0.1 mmol **1a**, 10 mol% [Rh], 10 mol % [Cu] and 1 mL solvent in a sealed tube under air for 24h. Yields are based on ¹H NMR using CH₃NO₂ as internal standard. ^b 4 equiv. of CuBr₂ was used and reaction was carried out under Argon. ^c 20 mol % CuBr₂ was used. ^d Isolated yield. ^e 5 mol % [Rh(nbd)Cl]₂ was used.

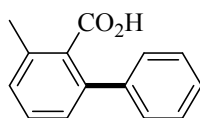
Some failures coupling reactions

Table 2S Some failures coupling reactions^a

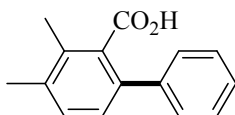


^a) All reactions were carried out with aromatic acid (0.2 mmol), NaBPh₄ (4 equiv.), [Rh(nbd)Cl]₂ (10 mol %), CuBr₂ (10 mol %), KF (4 equiv.) and 1.2 mL PhCl in a sealed tube under air at 150 °C for 24 h. All yields are detected by GC-MS.

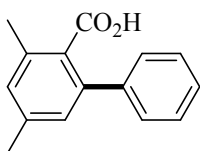
Characterization of products:



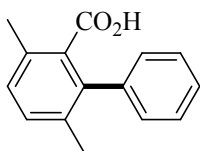
2a White solid; Yield 86%; Mp 132-134 °C [lit¹ mp 133-135°C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3057, 2917, 2849, 2627, 1682, 1461, 1133, 1064, 1000, 759, 696 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.35-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.23 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.5, 140.7, 140.2, 135.5, 132.2, 129.7, 129.2, 128.4 (2C), 127.6, 127.5, 20.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$ 213.0910, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 213.0912.



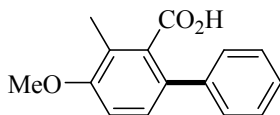
2b White solid; Yield 85%; Mp 143-146 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3057, 2921, 2852, 2644, 2360, 1687, 1566, 1417, 1289, 1163, 769, 705 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.45-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.25 (d, J = 3 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 175.6, 140.7, 137.5, 136.2, 133.2, 132.7, 131.0, 128.4, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 20.0, 16.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_2$ 227.1067, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 227.1061.



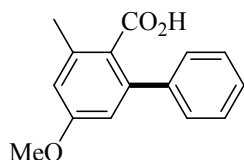
2c White solid; Yield 83%; Mp 133-135 °C [lit² mp 134-135°C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3029, 2972, 2853, 2645, 2361, 1676, 1605, 1576, 1301, 976, 850, 783, 730 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.40-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 175.4, 140.9, 140.5, 139.9, 135.8, 130.1, 129.3, 128.4, 128.3, 127.5, 21.3, 20.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_2$ 227.1067, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 227.1061.



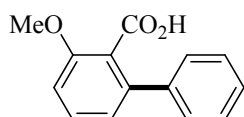
2d White solid; Yield 81%; Mp 141-143 °C [lit³ mp 145°C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3059, 2919, 2854, 2619, 2525, 1682, 1442, 1425, 1289, 994, 774, 702 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.40-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.5, 139.1, 139.0, 133.7, 133.3, 131.9, 131.2, 129.2, 129.1, 128.1, 127.3, 77.4, 77.1, 76.7, 20.2, 19.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$ 225.0921, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 225.0921.



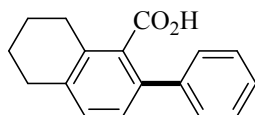
2e White solid; Yield 88%; Mp 186-187 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3008, 2844, 2545, 2359, 2341, 1683, 1597, 1457, 1293, 930, 813, 771, 709 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.45-7.32 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ = 172.2, 156.8, 140.7, 135.6, 131.2, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 126.6, 122.4, 110.4, 54.8, 11.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$ 241.0870, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 241.0871.



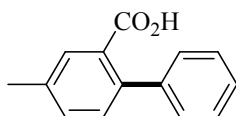
2f White solid; Yield 78%; Mp 164-166 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2978, 2846, 2646, 2541, 2359, 1673, 1598, 1451, 1336, 1280, 1045, 940, 768, 700 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.41-7.34 (m, 5H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ = 172.65, 159.9, 141.6, 141.0, 136.7, 128.1, 127.9, 127.1, 126.8, 114.0, 112.4, 54.4, 18.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$ 243.1016, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 243.1009.



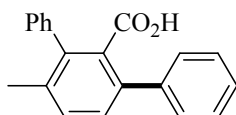
2g White solid; Yield 87%; Mp 106-107 °C [lit⁴ mp 108.5-109.5°C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3196, 2965, 2839, 2659, 2365, 1692, 1587, 1466, 1255, 1114, 1015, 755, 701 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.46-7.37 (m, 6H), 6.96-7.01 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ = 173.0, 156.5, 141.4, 139.9, 130.9, 128.4, 128.4, 127.7, 122.3, 122.2, 110.0, 56.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{NaO}_3$ 251.0679, found $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 251.0677.



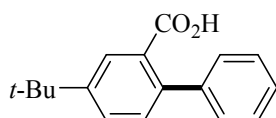
2h White solid; Yield 75%; Mp 134-135 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3026, 2943, 2863, 2360, 2342, 1696, 1522, 1428, 1225, 1152, 1074, 1031, 819, 769, 699 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.43-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.19 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (m, 4H), 1.84 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 175.4, 140.6, 137.2, 136.8, 133.9, 132.2, 130.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.4, 127.0, 29.7, 26.9, 22.9, 22.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$ 253.1223, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 253.1222.



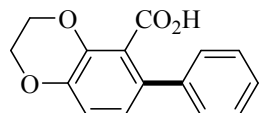
2ia White solid; Yield 60%; Mp 150-151 °C [lit⁵ mp 140-147°C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3029, 2850, 2566, 2360, 1696, 1466, 1292, 829, 760 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.31 (m, 7H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 173.1, 141.0, 140.5, 137.1, 132.9, 131.1, 129.1, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 20.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$ 211.0765, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 211.0765.



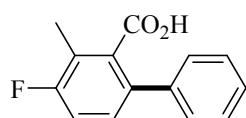
2ic White solid; Yield 70%; Mp 81-84 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3056, 2921, 2360, 2341, 1696, 1292, 760, 698, cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.38 (m, 10H), 7.28 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.2, 140.3, 139.4, 138.8, 137.2, 135.6, 132.9, 131.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.4, 128.1, 127.4, 20.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2$ 311.1043, found $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 311.1041.



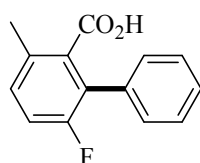
2j White solid; Yield 81%; mp 182 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2961, 2867, 2650, 2536, 1678, 1583, 1442, 1406, 1287, 1176, 1086, 950, 823, 763, 694 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 8, 2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (m, 6H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.00, 150.40, 141.11, 140.57, 131.07, 129.29, 128.96, 128.61, 128.09, 127.69, 127.21, 34.72, 31.29; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$ 253.1234, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 253.1230.



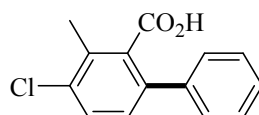
2k White solid; Yield 58%; Mp 168-170 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2921, 2361, 2342, 1697, 1478, 1307, 1251, 902, 956, 700 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.00 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 4.41-4.31 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 171.1, 142.9, 141.0, 139.8, 133.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 122.8, 121.5, 118.8, 64.7, 64.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{NaO}_4$ 279.0628, found $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 279.0629.



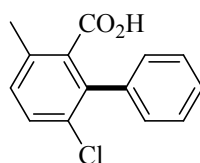
2l White solid; Yield 69%; Mp 139-141 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2920, 2359, 2341, 1691, 1449, 1291, 1241, 913, 828, 772 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 173.7, 160.3 (d, J = 244 Hz), 139.8, 136.0 (d, J = 4 Hz), 134.0 (d, J = 4 Hz), 128.9 (d, J = 8 Hz), 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 122.7 (d, J = 19 Hz), 116.5 (d, J = 23 Hz), 11.9; ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -117.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{FO}_2$ 229.0670, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 229.0671.



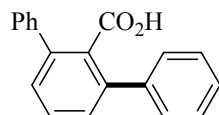
2m White solid; Yield 68%; Mp 140-141 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 3191, 2360, 2341, 1687, 1445, 1277, 1196, 949, 823, 747 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.45-7.38 (m, 5H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 9 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 173.1, 157.7 (d, J = 243 Hz), 135.7, 134.3 (d, J = 3 Hz), 133.2, 130.8 (t, J = 4 Hz), 129.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.5 (d, J = 18 Hz), 117.1 (d, J = 23 Hz), 19.3; ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -119.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{FNO}_2$ 248.1081, found $[\text{M}+\text{NH}_4]^+$ 248.1086.



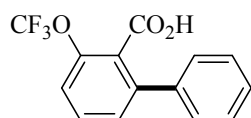
2n White solid; Yield 66%; Mp 165-168 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2922, 2629, 2359, 2342, 1691, 1447, 1279, 1114, 908, 823, 767 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.47 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 5H), 7.17 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.2, 139.6, 138.5, 134.2, 134.0, 133.0, 130.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 17.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClO}_2$ 245.0375, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 245.0373.



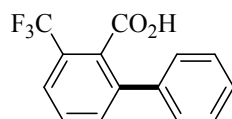
2o White solid; Yield 43%; Mp 157-163 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2919, 2625, 2360, 2342, 1683, 1439, 1274, 943, 847, 698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.43 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 172.9, 137.9, 137.0, 135.0, 133.5, 131.1, 130.6, 130.5, 129.5, 128.1, 128.0, 19.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClO}_2$ 245.0375, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 245.0374.



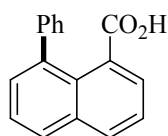
2p White solid; Yield 84% (*ortho*-phenylbenzoic acid used as substrate); 64% (*ortho*-chlorobenzoic acid used as substrate); Mp 189-191 °C [lit⁶ mp 188-189 °C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2360, 1691, 1458, 1297, 1134, 916, 815, 757, 696 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.52 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 12H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.7, 140.3, 131.8, 129.7, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$ 273.0921, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 273.0919.



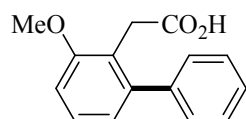
2q White solid; Yield 75%; Mp 78-82 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2926, 1706, 1462, 1166, 1065, 760, 699 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.59-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.34 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 170.4, 146.1, 142.4, 138.8, 131.0, 128.6, 128.3, 128.3, 127.1, 121.7 (q, J = 170 Hz), 119.2; ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -57.17; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{O}_3$ 283.0577, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 283.0588.



2r White solid; Yield 81%; Mp 153-156 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2919, 3850, 2360, 2341, 1700, 1326, 1292, 1170, 1118, 938, 762, 702 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.72 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (q, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 172.2, 140.0 (d, J = 245 Hz), 133.7, 130.4, 129.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 127.5 (q, J = 32 Hz), 125.1 (q, J = 5 Hz), 123.4 (q, J = 272 Hz); ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -59.34; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{F}_3\text{O}_2$ 265.0482, found $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 265.0479.



2s White solid; Yield 54%; Mp 203-217 °C [lit⁷ mp 223-224 °C]; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2919, 1287, 1240, 1072, 759, 745, 698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.10 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.52 (m, 5H), 7.49-7.42 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 174.8, 140.7, 138.4, 132.3, 130.4, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 126.5, 125.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$ 249.0910, found $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 249.0904.



2t White solid; Yield 57%; Mp 146-148 °C; IR (neat) $\nu_{\max}$ 2924, 2360, 2341, 1715, 1636, 1259, 1368, 1259, 1118, 1017, 858, 758, 701 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.45-7.33 (m, 6H), 6.95 (d, J =

8 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.9, 157.9, 144.0, 140.9, 129.2, 128.3, 128.1, 127.3, 122.4, 120.7, 109.3, 55.8, 33.3; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₃O₃ 241.0870, found [M-H]⁻ 241.0868.

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Chemical structure: Cc1c(ccccc1C(=O)O)-c2ccccc2

¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO-d₆) showing peaks at 7.398, 7.385, 7.373, 7.365, 7.257, 7.249, 7.237, 7.210, 2.155, and 0.000 ppm. Integration values are 6.01 and 1.99 for the aromatic region, and 2.00 for the methyl group.

