

## Supplementary Information

### Transition-metal-free and organic solvent-free conversion of N-substituted 2-aminobiaryls into corresponding carbazoles *via* intramolecular oxidative radical cyclization induced by peroxodisulfate

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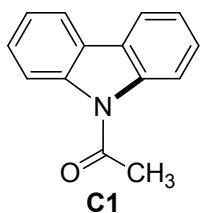
## Experimental Section

### General Aspects

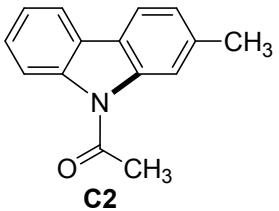
All commercial chemicals, reagents and some precursors **A1** and **A23-A27** were used as received. All reactions were carried out in Schlenk-tubes filled with nitrogen. All reactions were carried out under nitrogen gas atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. All solvents and water were double-distilled and de-aerated prior to use. Reactions were monitored by analytical thin layer chromatography on silica gel with visualization under UV light. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel using 60-120 mesh powder. NMR spectra were recorded using a 300 MHz spectrometer in deuterated solvents. IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet Nexus FTIR spectrometer and only major peaks are reported in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . All melting points were measured on a PERFIT melting point apparatus and uncorrected.

### General procedure for the synthesis of N-substituted carbazoles

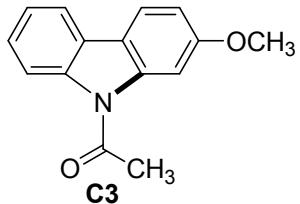
N-substituted 2-aminobiaryls (1.0 equiv.),  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$  (2.0 equiv.) and TBAB (5.0 equiv.) were added into an oven-dried Schlenk-tube. The tube was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen (3 times). Then, water (3 mL/ mmol) was injected into the tube by syringe and sealed with a Teflon lined cap. Resultant mixture was vigorously stirred under reflux for 1.5-2 h. Subsequently, the mixture was cooled and the organic matters were precipitated by saturation with  $\text{NaCl}$  and purified by recrystallization using aqueous ethanol solution. The purity of the compound was confirmed by melting point, IR and NMR measurements, *vide infra*.



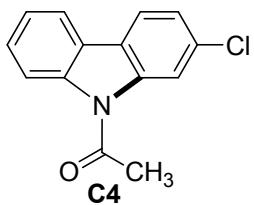
**1-(9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C1):** Yield 93%; m.p. 109-111 °C (lit. m.p. 110-112 °C)<sup>2</sup>;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.16 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 8.05-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.0, 138.4, 128.0, 126.4, 124.4, 120.4, 114.9, 28.4; IR (neat,  $\nu \text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3031, 2932, 1693, 1446, 1372, 1172.



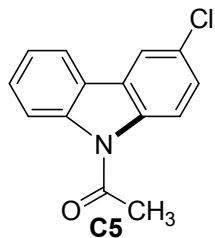
**1-(2-methyl-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C2):** Yield 86%; m.p. 85-88 °C (lit. m.p. 87 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.4, 139.3, 138.8, 137.7, 127.0, 126.8, 125.1, 124.3, 123.8, 119.9, 119.5, 116.9, 116.5, 28.1, 22.6. IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3032, 2928, 1696, 1464, 1371, 1329, 1292.



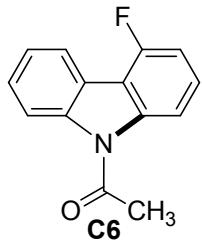
**1-(2-methoxy-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C3):** Yield 81%; m.p. 83-85 °C (lit. m.p. 82-84 °C)<sup>3</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.31 (m, 2H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.6 Hz, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.0, 159.7, 140.1, 138.5, 126.7, 125.8, 123.6, 120.2, 119.6, 119.3, 115.7, 111.4, 101.9, 55.8, 27.6; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3029, 2961, 1687, 1494, 1372, 1206, 748.



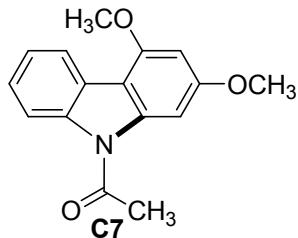
**1-(2-chloro-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C4):** Yield 89%; m.p. 110-112 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.30 (m, 2H), 2.86 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.0, 139.3, 138.7, 133.3, 127.6, 125.9, 124.7, 124.4, 124.1, 120.5, 120.2, 117.1, 115.9, 27.9; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3027, 2927, 1694, 1492, 1309, 1229, 1189.



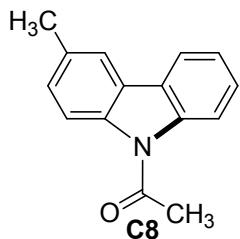
**1-(3-chloro-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C5):** Yield 91%; m.p. 123-124 °C (lit. m.p. 124-125 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.35 (m, 2H), 2.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.9, 139.1, 137.2, 129.5, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 125.6, 123.9, 120.3, 119.7, 117.6, 116.1, 27.9; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3038, 2925, 1689, 1477, 1366, 1191.



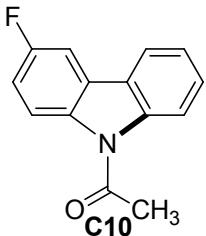
**1-(4-fluoro-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C6):** Yield 86%; m.p. 115-117 °C (lit. m.p. 115-116 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.14-6.94 (m, 1H), 2.86 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.2, 159.2, 157.1, 140.7, 140.5, 138.2, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 124.4, 123.9, 123.8, 123.3, 123.2, 115.9, 115.1, 114.9, 112.3, 112.4, 110.2, 110.1, 27.8; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3056, 3049, 2937, 1698, 1456, 1254.



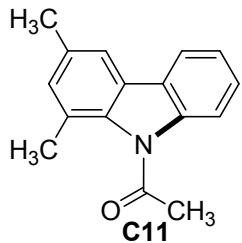
**1-(2,4-dimethoxy-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C7):** Yield 64%; m.p. 135-137 °C (lit. m.p. 137 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.25-8.21 (m, 1H), 7.97-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 2H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 2.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.3, 160.8, 156.1, 141.0, 137.8, 126.4, 125.1, 123.9, 122.6, 115.2, 109.3, 94.9, 93.7, 56.0, 55.6, 28.1; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3040, 2962, 2943, 1698, 1457, 1288, 1218.



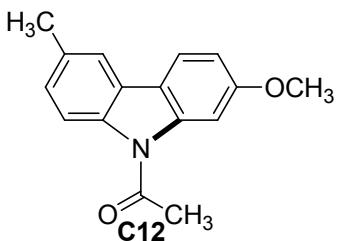
**1-(3-methyl-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C8):** Yield 88%; m.p. 110-112 °C (lit. m.p. 71-72 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.4, 138.2, 136.3, 132.8, 127.9, 126.5, 126.1, 125.8, 123.2, 119.5, 119.2, 115.8, 115.4, 27.2, 20.7; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3054, 2961, 2946, 1699, 1619, 1458, 1289, 1217.



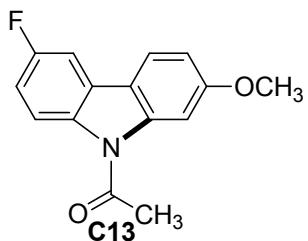
**1-(3-fluoro-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C10):** Yield 89%; m.p. 110-112 °C (lit. m.p. 107-108 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.28 (dd, *J* = 8.8 Hz, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.16 Hz, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.8, 160.2, 157.5, 138.6, 134.4, 127.3, 127.1, 126.9, 125.4, 125.3, 123.2, 119.7, 117.3, 117.2, 115.5, 114.2, 113.8, 105.5, 105.2, 27.2; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3049, 2973, 1698, 1567, 1432, 1273.



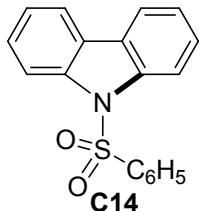
**1-(1,3-dimethyl-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C11):** Yield 85%; m.p. 110-112 °C (lit. m.p. 65-66 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.0, 139.4, 136.4, 133.1, 130.5, 127.4, 126.4, 126.1, 125.5, 122.6, 119.2, 117.0, 114.0, 26.5, 20.7, 20.5; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3051, 2969, 1696, 1578, 1446, 1288.



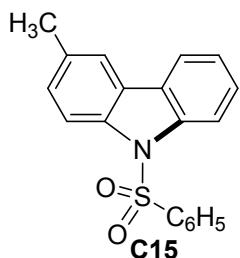
**1-(2-methoxy-6-methyl-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C12):** Yield 72%; m.p. 77-78 °C (lit. m.p. 78 °C)<sup>1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.85 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.1, 159.7, 140.5, 136.7, 133.4, 127.1, 127.0, 120.3, 119.9, 119.6, 115.4, 111.6, 102.2, 55.9, 27.6, 21.4; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3059, 2917, 1688, 1428, 1371, 1321.



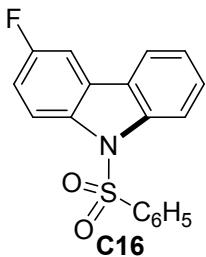
**1-(6-fluoro-2-methoxy-9H-carbazol-9-yl)ethanone (C13):** Yield 83%; m.p. 114-116 °C (lit. m.p. 115-116 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.0, 160.2, 159.7, 140.9, 135.0, 128.2, 120.9, 119.1, 117.1, 113.2, 111.4, 105.5, 102.1, 55.9, 27.8; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3062, 2957, 1698, 1625, 1376, 1169.



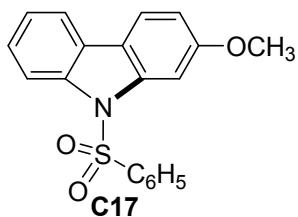
**9-(phenylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C14):** Yield 86%; m.p. 120-123 °C (lit. m.p. 120-122 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.38-8.32 (m, 2H), 7.93-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 8.2 Hz, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.3, 137.9, 134.0, 129.3, 127.5, 126.4, 126.6, 124.2, 120.3, 115.1; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3027, 2924, 1439, 1378, 1177.



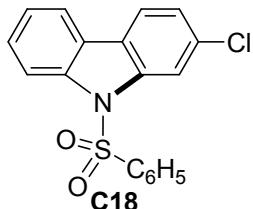
**3-methyl-9-(phenylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C15):** Yield 91%; m.p. 142-144 °C (lit. m.p. 142-145 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 8.2 Hz, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.21 (m, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.6, 138.1, 136.6, 133.9, 133.7, 129.1, 128.8, 127.3, 126.7, 126.4, 126.6, 124.1, 120.3, 120.1, 115.4, 115.0, 21.3; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3033, 2941, 1454, 1432, 1371, 1173.



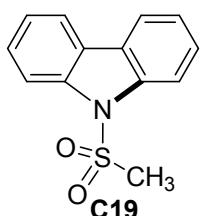
**3-fluoro-9-(phenylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C16):** Yield 87%; m.p. 130-132 °C (lit. m.p. 131-132 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.31 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.9, 139.4, 137.7, 134.5, 134.1, 129.1, 128.3, 127.9, 126.6, 126.1, 116.3, 115.2, 114.9, 106.3; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3036, 2924, 1596, 1443, 1377, 1169.



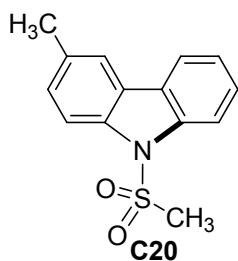
**2-methoxy-9-(phenylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C17):** Yield 79%; m.p. 134-136 °C (lit. m.p. 135-137 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.24 (m, 1H), 7.96-7.85 (m, 3H), 7.83-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 3H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.0, 139.7, 138.4, 138.2, 134.1, 129.3, 126.4, 126.7, 126.2, 124.1, 120.3, 120.0, 119.2, 115.1, 112.2, 100.1, 56.2; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3019, 2926, 1606, 1457, 1372, 1176.



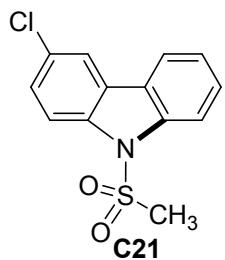
**2-chloro-9-(phenylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C18):** Yield 92%; m.p. 157-160 °C (lit. m.p. 158-159 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.31 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.79 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.0, 138.6, 137.6, 134.3, 133.3, 129.2, 127.5, 126.7, 125.5, 125.1, 124.4, 124.5, 121.0, 120.3, 115.7, 115.3; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3021, 2924, 1598, 1453, 1417, 1174.



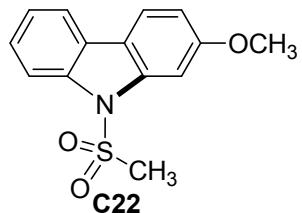
**9-(methylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C19):** Yield 89%; m.p. 85-88 °C (lit. m.p. 89 °C)<sup>2</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.02-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 2H), 2.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.6, 127.8, 126.4, 124.5, 120.4, 114.9, 38.4; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3019, 2926, 1489, 1438, 1398, 1210.



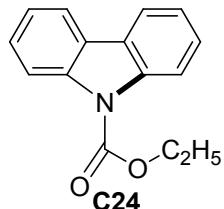
**3-methyl-9-(methylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C20):** Yield 94%; m.p. 122-124 °C (lit. m.p. 121-124 °C)<sup>4</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.5, 136.4, 134.0, 128.7, 127.2, 126.4, 126.1, 124.2, 120.3, 120.1, 114.9, 114.4, 38.3, 21.2; IR (neat, ν cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3016, 2926, 1484, 1441, 1382, 1219, 1154.



**3-chloro-9-(methylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C21):** Yield 85%; m.p. 146-149 °C (lit. m.p. 146-148 °C)<sup>4</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.96-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.7, 136.4, 129.8, 128.3, 127.4, 125.1, 124.2, 120.5, 120.0, 115.8, 114.7, 38.6; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3018, 2936, 1468, 1437, 1426, 1358, 1264, 1151.



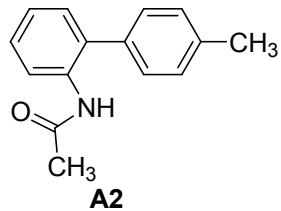
**2-methoxy-9-(methylsulfonyl)-9H-carbazole (C22):** Yield 81%; m.p. 114-118 °C (lit. m.p. 116-117 °C)<sup>4</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.7, 139.4, 138.2, 126.1, 126.4, 124.2, 120.9, 119.2, 114.7, 112.6, 112.3, 99.1, 55.8, 38.5; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3015, 2968, 1496, 1457, 1438, 1427, 1356, 1268, 1164.



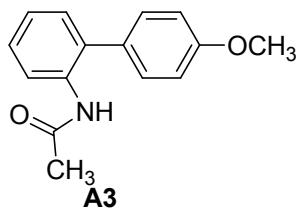
**Ethyl 9H-carbazole-9-carboxylate (C24):** Yield 28%; m.p. 72-74 °C (lit. m.p. 73-74 °C)<sup>5</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 4.52 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.48 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.2, 138.2, 127.0, 125.7, 123.1, 119.4, 116.2, 62.8, 14.3; IR (neat,  $\nu$  cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3032, 2944, 1742, 1446, 1367, 1209, 1171.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of 2-amidobiaryls A2-A22

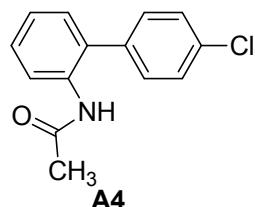
The 2-amidobiaryls (**A2-A22**) were readily synthesized by utilizing the literature described method. A solution of 2-aminobiaryls (1.0 equiv.), obtained by Suzuki-cross coupling reactions, and dry pyridine (10.0 equiv.) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 0 °C was drop wise added 3.0 equiv., of acetyl chloride (for synthesis of **A2-A13**)/benzenesulfonyl chloride (for synthesis of **A14-A18**)/methanesulfonyl chloride (for synthesis of **A19-A22**) under nitrogen gas atmosphere. Resultant reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15-18 h. Subsequently, the reaction mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. The layers were separated and the organic phase was washed with water, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated by rotary evaporation. The residue obtained was purified by silica gel column chromatography filtration to provide the desired 2-amidobiaryls. The spectroscopic characterization data were in accordance with those reported in the literature, cf. vide infra.



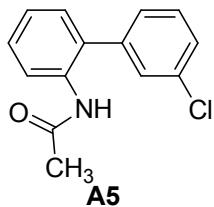
**N-(4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A2):<sup>1</sup>** Yield 74%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.31 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  168.3, 138.0, 135.3, 135.0, 132.4, 130.3, 130.1, 129.4, 128.3, 124.6, 121.5, 24.7, 21.4.



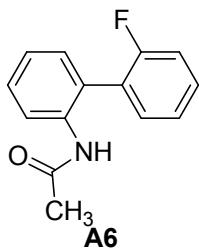
**N-(4'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A3):<sup>3</sup>** Yield 89%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.24 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  168.2, 159.5, 134.8, 131.9, 130.4, 130.2, 128.0, 124.2, 121.4, 114.3, 55.2, 24.4.



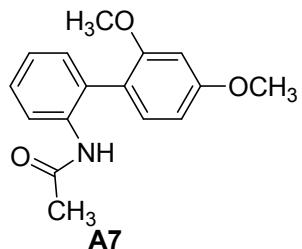
**N-(4'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A4):<sup>6</sup>** Yield 72%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.18 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  167.9, 136.6, 134.6, 134.1, 131.4, 130.6, 129.9, 129.2, 128.5, 124.6, 122.3, 24.5.



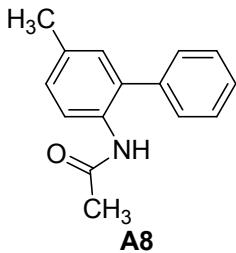
**N-(3'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A5):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 76%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 140.3, 135.2, 134.9, 131.2, 130.4, 130.2, 129.6, 129.2, 128.3, 127.6, 124.9, 122.7, 24.7.



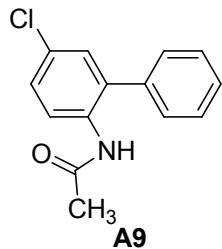
**N-(2'-fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A6):**<sup>1</sup> Yield 68%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.18 (m, 5H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.5, 160.6, 158.6, 135.5, 132.3, 132.3, 130.9, 130.5, 130.6, 129.4, 127.4, 125.8, 125.7, 125.2, 125.0, 124.9, 123.1, 116.5, 116.2, 24.6.



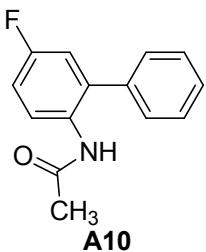
**N-(2',4'-dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A7):**<sup>1</sup> Yield 69%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.11 (m, 3H), 6.69-6.54 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 161.2, 157.3, 135.9, 132.8, 131.4, 129.8, 128.3, 124.7, 122.4, 119.9, 105.7, 99.4, 56.1, 55.8, 24.7.



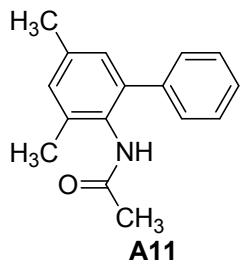
**N-(5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A8):<sup>1</sup>** Yield 75%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3, 138.6, 134.4, 132.6, 132.4, 130.9, 129.6, 129.3, 129.1, 128.1, 122.2, 24.7, 21.2.



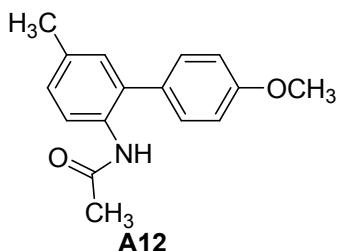
**N-(5-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A9):<sup>3</sup>** Yield 73%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 2.01 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.2, 136.6, 133.7, 133.4, 129.9, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.5, 128.2, 122.9, 24.4.



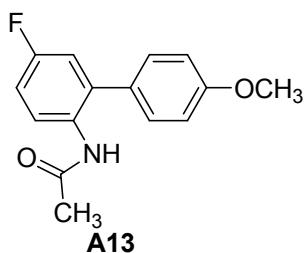
**N-(5-fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A10):<sup>1</sup>** Yield 69%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17-8.15 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13-7.02 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.96 (m, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.5, 160.5, 158.6, 137.4, 137.3, 134.7, 134.6, 130.9, 130.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 124.2, 124.1, 117.0, 116.8, 115.2, 115.0, 24.6.



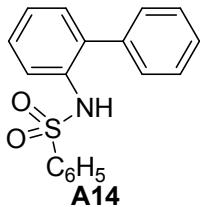
**N-(3,5-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A11):<sup>1</sup>** Yield 61%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 2H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3, 141.2, 140.6, 137.1, 136.9, 132.1, 131.1, 129.7, 128.5, 127.4, 22.1, 20.9, 18.7.



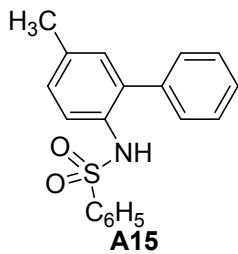
**N-(4'-methoxy-5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A12):<sup>1</sup>** Yield 87%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13-6.94 (m, 4H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 159.5, 134.2, 132.5, 132.2, 130.9, 130.8, 130.6, 128.8, 122.0, 114.7, 55.6, 24.7, 21.0.



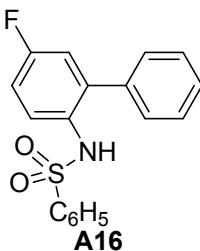
**N-(5-fluoro-4'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)acetamide (A13):<sup>2</sup>** Yield 76%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.16-8.14 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.96-6.93 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.5, 159.8, 159.6, 159.4, 134.5, 134.4, 131.0, 130.5, 129.4, 123.9, 123.85, 116.9, 116.8, 114.8, 114.7, 55.5, 24.6.



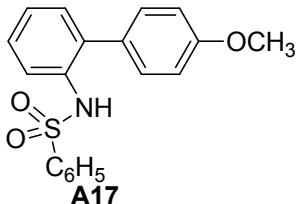
**N-([1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide (A14):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 92%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.29 (m, 6H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 6.82-6.78 (m, 2H), 6.59 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.1, 137.2, 134.1, 133.6, 132.9, 130.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 125.1, 121.8.



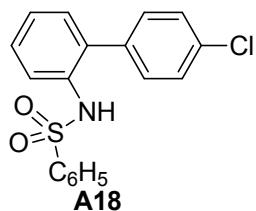
**N-(5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide (A15):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 87%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.77-6.73 (m, 2H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.2, 137.3, 134.9, 134.3, 132.7, 130.8, 130.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 127.8, 127.2, 122.1, 20.9.



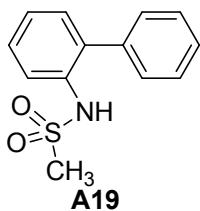
**N-(5-fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide (A16):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 72%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.82-6.80 (m, 1H), 6.74-6.70 (m, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.2, 158.6, 138.6, 137.0, 136.9, 136.1, 132.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 126.8, 124.9, 124.7, 116.9, 116.7, 115.3, 115.1.



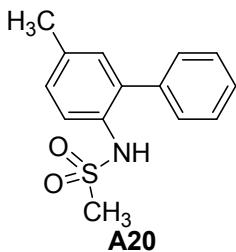
**N-(4'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide (A17):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 86%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.04 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 2H), 6.76-6.70 (m, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.3, 139.2, 133.8, 133.6, 132.8, 130.4, 130.1, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 127.1, 125.0, 121.3, 114.5, 55.2.



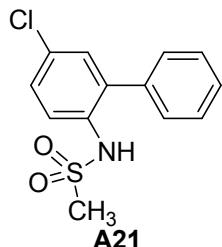
**N-(4'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide (A18):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.68-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.75-6.72 (m, 2H), 6.42 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.2, 135.5, 134.2, 133.4, 133.3, 132.9, 130.2, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 127.1, 125.3, 122.2.



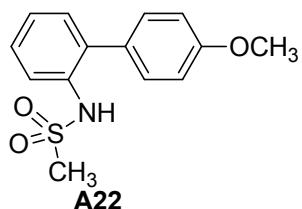
**N-([1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)methanesulfonamide (A19):**<sup>2</sup> Yield 88%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 2.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 137.8, 134.8, 134.1, 131.1, 130.9, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.1, 121.3, 39.5.



**N-(5-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)methanesulfonamide (A20):**<sup>4</sup> Yield 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 137.6, 135.1, 133.9, 131.2, 131.1, 129.6, 129.3, 128.8, 128.2, 121.2, 39.4, 20.6.



**N-(5-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)methanesulfonamide (A21):**<sup>4</sup> Yield 78%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 136.2, 134.9, 132.6, 130.7, 130.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 121.6, 39.7.



**N-(4'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)methanesulfonamide (A22):**<sup>4</sup> Yield 86%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.66-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.5, 134.1, 132.9, 130.8, 130.3, 129.4, 128.8, 124.8, 119.9, 114.8, 55.4, 39.5.

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