

Supporting Information

One-step preparation of xanthenes via Pd-catalyzed annulation of 1,2-dibromoarenes and salicylaldehydes†

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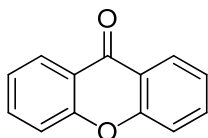
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General Consideration:

All solvents and reagents were purchased from the suppliers and used without further purification. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR were recorded in CDCl_3 at room temperature on a Varian INOVA-400 spectrometer (400 MHz ^1H). The chemical-shifts scale is based on internal TMS. All reactions were carried out under dry nitrogen atmosphere.

Representative Procedure and Selected Compounds Data

9H- xanthone^[1,2,3]



In a 25ml round-bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser under N_2 was placed salicylaldehyde (122 mg, 1 mmol) and 1,2-dibromobenzene (470 mg, 2 mmol), K_2CO_3 (278 mg, 2 mmol), $(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{PdCl}_2$ (35 mg, 0.05 mmol) and 5ml DMF. The mixture was heated to 130 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 12 hours before it was cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether (25 mL) and washed with water and brine. The aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3x25 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried with MgSO_4 , filtered, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 50/1) to afford the 118 mg of the desired product in 61% yield.

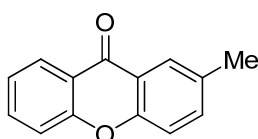
Yield: 61%, colorless crystals, mp: 172-173 $^\circ\text{C}$;

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 7.26-7.30 (m, 2 H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.6 (t, J = 4.2 Hz, 2 H), 8.25 (t, J = 3.8 Hz, 2 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 116.93 (2 C), 120.78 (2 C), 122.85 (2 C), 125.66 (2 C), 133.76 (2 C), 155.10 (2 C), 176.15;

HRMS m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$, 196.0524, found 196.0529.

2-Methyl-9H-xanthone^[2]



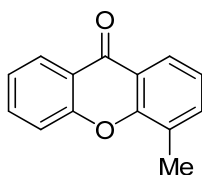
Yield: 54%, colorless oil;

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.39 (s, 3 H), 7.27-7.32 (m, 2 H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 8.04 (s, 1 H), 8.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 19.81, 116.72, 116.93, 120.47, 120.81, 122.68, 125.01, 125.72, 132.68, 133.60, 135.05, 153.40, 155.19, 176.27;

HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$, 210.0681, found 210.0686..

4-Methyl-9H-xanthone^[1]



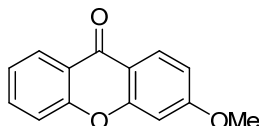
Yield: 56%, colorless crystals, mp: 125-126 °C;

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.47 (s, 3 H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 1 H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.30-7.47 (m, 2 H), 7.61-7.65 (m, 1 H), 8.09 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 8.25 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 14.75, 117, 120.63 (2 C), 122.37, 122.81, 123.28, 125.65, 126.22, 133.60, 134.65, 153.52, 155.03, 176.50;

HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$, 210.0681, found 210.0684.

3-Methoxy-9H-xanthone^[2]



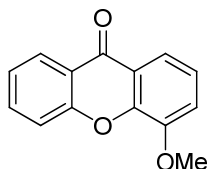
Yield: 53%, colorless oil..

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 3.86 (s, 3 H), 6.81 (s, 1 H), 6.87 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1 H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.38 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.60-7.64 (m, 1 H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1 H), 8.25 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 54.80, 99.21, 112.23, 114.84, 116.66, 120.99, 122.86, 125.66, 127.29, 133.25, 155.22, 157.08, 164.1, 175.27;

HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_3$, 226.0630, Found 226.0632.

4-Methoxy-9H-xanthone^[1,2]



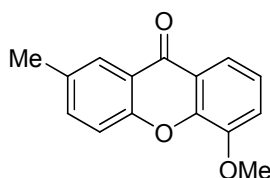
Yield: 52%, colorless crystals, mp: 174-175 °C;

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 3.94 (s, 3 H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.18 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.28-7.53 (m, 1 H), 7.51 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.62-7.66 (m, 1 H), 7.81 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 8.25 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);

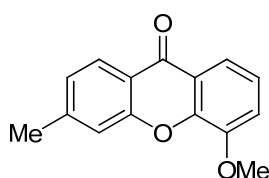
^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 56.311, 115.26, 117.48, 118.18, 121.58, 122.60, 123.33, 123.97, 126.52, 134.66, 146.43, 148.53, 155.84, 177.04;

HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_3$, 226.0630, Found 226.0634.

5-Methoxy-2-methyl-9H-xanthone / 5-Methoxy-3-methyl-9H-xanthone



a



b

Yield: 63%, colorless oil.

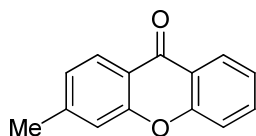
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.40 (s, 3 H), 2.43 (s, 3 H), 3.96 (s, 6 H), 7.14-7.23 (m, 5 H), 7.34 (s, 1 H), 7.46 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 2 H) 7.82-7.85 (m, 2 H), 8.043 (s, 1 H), 8.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 19.82, 20.94, 55.41 (2 C), 114.20, 116.63 (2 C), 116.67 (2 C), 117.03 (2 C), 122.20 (2 C), 122.26 (2 C), 124.61, 124.91, 125.41 (2 C), 132.88, 135.04, 145.25, 145.61 (2 C), 147.64 (2 C), 153.21, 155.05, 175.94, 176.20;

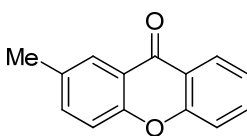
LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 241, found 241.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$: C, 74.99; H, 5.03; Found: C, 75.05; H, 5.12.

3-Methyl-9H-xanthone^[2] / 2-Methyl-9H-xanthone^[2]



a



b

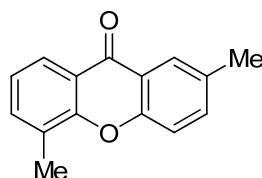
Yield: 56% (**a**: **b** = 1 : 1), colorless oil.

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.35 (s, 3 H), 2.38 (s, 3 H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.14 (s, 1 H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2 H), 7.39-7.42 (m, 1 H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 2 H), 8.00 (s, 1 H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.21-8.24 (m, 2 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 19.77, 20.92, 116.68, 116.86 (2 C), 116.89 (2 C), 122.63 (2 C), 124.70, 124.38, 124.96, 125.45, 125.62, 125.66 (2 C), 132.63, 133.48, 133.55, 133.73, 134.99, 145.25, 153.34, 155.09, 155.13, 155.22, 175.91, 176.18;

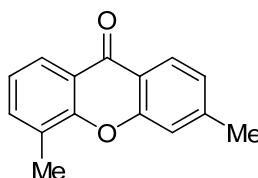
LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 211, found 211.

2,5-Dimethyl-9H-xanthone



a

3,5-Dimethyl-9H-xanthone



b

Yield: 60% (**a**: **b** = 1 : 1), colorless oil.

a: colorless oil. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.42 (s, 3 H), 2.46 (s, 3 H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.24 (s, 1 H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.24 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 14.75, 20.93, 116.77, 118.41, 120.71, 122.229, 123.25, 124.37, 125.44, 126.12, 134.43, 145.10, 153.48, 155.14, 176.32;

LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 225, found 225.

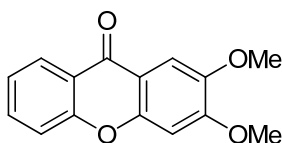
b: colorless oil. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3 H), 7.19 (m, 1 H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 8.036 (s, 1 H), 8.10 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 14.78, 19.82, 116.78, 120.25, 120.61, 122.17, 123.30, 124.95, 126.18, 132.60, 134.47, 134.90, 153.29, 153.50, 176.61;

LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 225, found 225.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$: C, 80.34; H, 5.39; Found: C, 80.42; H, 5.44.

2,3-Dimethoxy-9H-xanthone^[2,3]



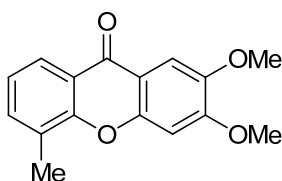
Yield: 36%, colorless oil.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.94 (s, 3 H), 6.85 (s, 1 H), 7.30 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.60 (s, 1 H), 7.63 (m, 1 H), 8.27 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 55.33, 55.45, 98.63, 104.42, 113.91, 116.64, 120.51, 122.73, 125.53, 132.93, 145.73, 151.43, 154.45, 155.06, 175.04;

HRMS m/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₂O₄, 256.0736, found 256.0740.

2,3-Dimethoxy-5-methyl-9H-xanthone



Yield: 33%, colorless oil.

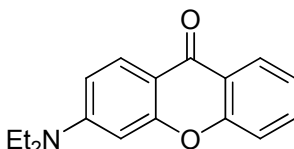
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.47 (s, 3 H), 3.92 (s, 3 H), 3.95 (s, 3 H), 6.86 (s, 1 H), 7.16-7.20 (m, 1 H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.58 (s, 1 H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.77, 55.32, 55.47, 98.70, 104.36, 113.71, 120.31, 122.23, 123.11, 125.89, 133.84, 145.70, 151.30, 153.47, 154.36, 175.38;

LRMS (CI) for C₁₆H₁₄O₄ [M+H]⁺ calcd. 271, found 271.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄O₄: C, 71.10; H, 5.22; Found: C, 71.20; H, 5.30.

3-(Diethyl amino) - 9H-xanthone



Yield: 38%, black oil.

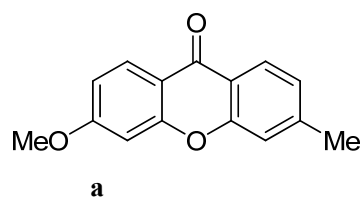
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6 H), 3.35-3.41 (m, 4 H), 6.4 (s, 1 H), 6.60-6.63 (m, 1 H), 7.19-7.25 (m, 1 H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.52-7.56 (m, 1 H), 8.05 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1 H) 8.21-8.23 (m, 1 H);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 11.5 (2 C), 43.78 (2 C), 95.11, 108.39, 110.24, 116.29, 121.28, 122.27, 125.45, 127.14, 132.48, 151.82, 155.10, 157.66, 174.58;

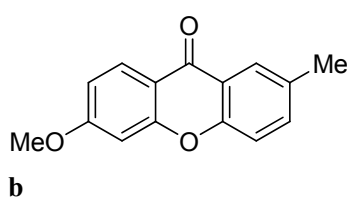
LRMS (CI) for C₁₇H₁₇NO₂ [M+H]⁺ calcd. 268, found 268.

Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₇NO₂: C, 76.38; H, 6.41; N, 5.24; Found: C, 76.48; H, 6.52; N, 5.28.

3-Methoxy-6-methyl-9H-xanthone



6-Methoxy-2-methyl-9H-xanthone



Yield: 59% (**a** : **b** = 1 : 1), colorless oil.

a: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.41 (s, 3 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H), 6.74 (s, 1 H), 6.82-6.85 (m, 1 H), 7.08 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 8.10 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 8.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 21.88, 55.75, 100.17, 112.99, 115.82 (2 C), 117.45, 119.66, 125.31, 126.39, 128.16, 145.66, 156.27, 157.97, 164.87, 176.11;

LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 241, found 241;

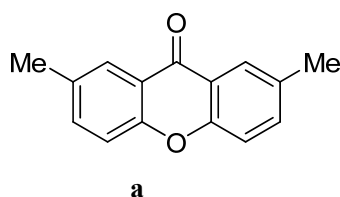
b: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.37 (s, 3 H), 3.83 (s, 3 H), 6.75 (s, 1 H), 6.81-6.84 (m, 1 H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 8.0 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 8.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 20.78, 55.74, 100.05, 113.05, 115.72 (2 C), 117.38, 121.50, 125.94, 128.18, 133.56, 135.42, 154.36, 158.01, 164.90, 176.31;

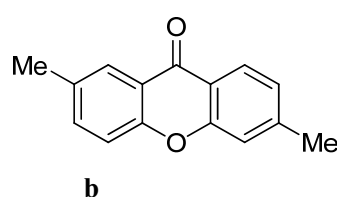
LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 241, found 241.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3$: C, 74.99; H, 5.03; Found: C, 75.12; H, 5.16.

2,7-Dimethyl-9H-xanthone



2,6-Dimethyl-9H-xanthone



Yield: 61% (**a** : **b** = 1 : 1), colorless oil..

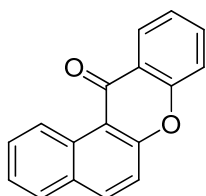
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.34 (s, 9 H), 2.37 (s, 3 H), 7.04 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.11 (s, 1 H), 7.17-7.24 (m, 3 H), 7.37-7.39 (m, 3 H), 7.99 (s, 3 H), 8.09 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 19.78 (3 C), 20.93, 116.65, 116.68, 118.54 (3 C), 120.37 (2 C), 120.47, 124.23, 124.95 (2 C), 125.46, 132.43 (2 C), 132.50, 134.79 (3 C), 134.89, 145.09, 153.32 (2 C), 153.39, 155.26, 176.08, 176.35;

LRMS (CI) for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd. 245, found 245.

Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$: C, 80.34; H, 5.39; Found: C, 80.52; H, 5.48.

12H-benzo[a]xanthone



Yield: 34%, colorless oil..

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 7.39 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.48-7.55 (m, 3 H), 7.65-7.74 (m, 2 H),

7.84 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H) , 8.07 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1 H), 8.38 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H);
 ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 113.62, 116.52, 117.04, 122.63, 123.32, 125.14, 125.71, 125.98,
127.35, 128.56, 129.17, 130.19, 132.93, 135.66, 153.713, 156.66, 177.52;
HRMS m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$, 246.0681, found 246.0684.
Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$: C, 82.91; H, 4.09; Found: C, 83.03; H, 4.18.

Reference :

1. K. Okuma, A. Nojima, N. Matsunaga and K. Shioji, *Org. Lett.*, 2009, **11**, 169.
2. Jian Zhao and Richard C. Larock*, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2007, **72**, 583.
3. Jian Zhao and Richard C. Larock*, *Org. Lett.*, 2005, **7**, 4273.

