Metal-Free, Visible-Light-Mediated transformation of aryl diazonium salts and (hetero)arenes: An Efficient Route to Aryl Ketone

Lijun Gu, ^{a,c*} Cheng Jin, ^b and Jiyan Liu^a

^{*a*} Key Laboratory of Chemistry in Ethnic Medicinal Resources, State Ethnic Affairs Commission & Ministry of Education, Yunnan Minzu University, Kunming 650500, China, ^{*b*} New United Group Company Limited, Changzhou, Jiangsu, 213166, China and ^{*c*}Key Laboratory of Comprehensive Utilization of Mineral Resources in Ethnic Regions, Yunnan Minzu University, Kunming, Yunnan, 650500, China.

Email: gulijun2005@126.com

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(A) Materials and equipment

Reagents were obtained commercially and used as received. Solvents were purified and dried by standard methods. The supplier of the autoclave irradiation set up is YanZheng Co. Ltd., China. For substrates **1** were prepared according the literature methods.¹ All title products were characterized by Infrared (IR), MS, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and High Resolution mass spectrometer (HRMS). IR spectra were reported in frequency of the absorption (cm⁻¹). ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on 400 MHz in CDCl₃, and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on 100 MHz in CDCl₃ using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Chemical shift values (δ) are given in ppm. Coupling constants (*J*) were measured in Hz. Mass spectra were obtained with ionization voltages of 70 eV. HRMS spectra were obtained by ESI on a TOF mass. 200-300 mesh silica gel was used for column chromatography.

(B) Typical experimental procedure

Typical Experimental Procedure for the Synthesis of compounds 3:

To an 8 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with 1 (0.3 mmol), 2 (0.3 mmol), Eosin Y (3 mol%), dry MeCN (2.0 mL), The vial was purged with N₂ in the dark and transferred into an autoclave with a Quartz window bottom. The autoclave was flushed three times and slowly filled with 70 atm of CO. The reaction was irradiated with external LEDs at room temperature for 16 h. After the reaction was finished, the gas was carefully released and the vial retrieved, the reaction mixture was diluted with 5 mL H₂O, extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL×3). The organic portion was washed with a saturated solution of brine, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate) to provide the desired products **3**.

(D) Radical trapping experiments

See standard procedure above, but with addition of TEMPO (1 equiv.)



The HRMS spectra of 4

The HRMS spectra of 5



(E) Analytical data



Benzophenone (3aa): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.83 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 4H), 7.61-7,56 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 196.7, 137.8, 132.5, 130.2, 128.4; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1660 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 182 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₁O (M+H)⁺ 183.0804, found 183.0801.



Phenyl(p-tolyl)methanone (3ab): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.79 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 196.4, 143.2, 137.9, 134.8, 132.1, 130.2, 129.8, 128.9, 128.1, 21.6; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1658 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 196 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O (M⁺H)⁺ 197.0960, found 197.0963.



(4-Methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ac): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.80 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 197.1, 163.2, 138.2, 132.4, 131.7, 130.0, 129.5, 128.2, 113.6, 55.8; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1652 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 212 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O₂ (M+H)⁺ 213.0909, found 213.0913.



Phenyl(o-tolyl)methanone (3ad): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.74 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 2H),

7.33-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 3H); 2.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 198.5, 138.8, 138.1, 137.0, 133.5, 131.7, 130.6, 130.3, 129.0, 128.8, 125.4, 20.4; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1647 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) *m/z* (%): 196 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O (M+H)⁺ 197.0960, found 197.0961.



Phenyl(m-tolyl)methanone (3ae): ³

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.81 (dd, J = 1.2 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.46-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.38 (dd, J = 4.4 Hz, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 196.8, 138.1, 137.4, 137.1, 133.0, 132.1, 130.6, 130.1, 128.4, 128.0, 127.2, 21.3; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1663 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 196 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O (M+H)⁺ 197.0960, found 197.0954.



(4-Florophenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3af): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.86-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.5, 165.5 (J = 252.9 Hz), 137.6, 132.7 (J = 2.5 Hz), 132.6 (J = 14.8 Hz), 132.0, 129.8, 128.3, 115.5 (J = 21.8 Hz); IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1661 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 200 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀FO (M+H)⁺ 201.0710, found 201.0719.



(4-Chlorophenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ag): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.78 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.4, 138.8, 137.2, 135.8, 132.6, 131.4, 129.9, 128.6, 128.3; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1664 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 218 (41), 216 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClO (M+H)⁺ 217.0415, found 217.0410.



(4-Bromophenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ah):²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.78 (t, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, J = 2.0 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.6, 137.1, 136.3, 132.6, 131.6, 131.5, 129.9, 128.4, 127.5; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1659 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 260 (M⁺, 100), 258 (81); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀BrO (M + H)⁺ 260.9909, found 260.9913.



Methyl 4-Benzoylbenzoate (3ai): ⁴

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.14 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.78-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 196.1, 166.2, 141.0, 137.0, 133.1, 132.8, 130.0, 129.6, 129.3, 128.2, 52.1; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1731 (C=O), 1652 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 240 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃O₃ (M+H)⁺ 241.0861, found 241.0855.



(Naphthalen-6-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3aj): 1

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.98-7.84 (m, 6H), 7.63-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.44 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 196.1, 137.8, 135.1, 134.6, 132.4, 32.1, 131.7, 130.0, 129.4, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 126.7, 125.6; 1660 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) *m/z* (%): 232 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₃O (M+H)⁺ 233.0959, found 233.0961.



Phenyl(thiophen-2-yl)methanone (3ba):⁶

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.87 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ : 188.2, 143.6, 138.1, 134.8, 134.1, 132.2, 129.1, 128.3, 127.9; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1638 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) *m/z* (%): 188 (M⁺, 100); HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₉OS (M + H)⁺ 189.0368, found 189.0361.



(Furan-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3ca): ⁷

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.99-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.72 (dd, J = 2.4 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.24 (dd, J = 4.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 4.8 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 182.8, 152.2, 147.2, 137.1, 132.2, 129.2, 128.4, 120.7, 112.5; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1630 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 172 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₉O₂ (M+H)⁺ 173.0637, found 173.0648.



(3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl)phenylmethanone (3da): ⁸

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.76-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.2, 151.7, 148.3, 138.4, 132.3, 132.1, 129.9, 128.1, 127.3, 110.2, 108.0, 102.1; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1663 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 226 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₁O₃ (M+H)⁺ 227.0703, found 227.0698.



3ea

(1-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3ea): 9

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.37-8.34 (m, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.29 (dd, J = 3.6 Hz, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 190.9, 140.9, 137.9, 137.5, 131.1, 128.6, 128.3, 127.1, 123.6, 122.74, 122.73, 115.5, 109.6, 33.6, IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1657 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 235 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₃NNaO (M+Na)⁺ 258.0889, found 258.0897.



(6-Chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3fa): ¹⁰

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 2H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 190.4, 140.2, 138.0, 137.8, 131.2, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 125.4, 123.5, 123.1, 115.2, 109.6, 33.2; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1671 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 269 (M⁺, 71); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₃ClNNaO (M+Na)⁺ 292.0500, found 292.0494



(5-Chlorothiophen-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3ga): ¹¹

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.75-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.44 (m, 3H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 188.8, 144.0, 141.3, 137.6, 136.0, 133.4, 129.8, 128.2, 127.4; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1643 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 221 (M⁺, 81); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₁H₈ClOS (M+H)⁺ 222.9979, found 222.9985. HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃O₃ (M+H)⁺ 241.0861, found 241.0855



(2-Chlorophenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ia): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.83-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.2, 138.7, 136.1, 133.6, 131.4, 130.9, 130.0, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 126.6; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1652 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) *m/z* (%): 218 (36), 216 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClO (M+H)⁺ 217.0415, found 217.0419.



(2-Bromophenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ja): ¹²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.82 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 3H),

7.35 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 195.7, 140.4, 135.9, 133.6, 133.0, 131.0, 130.0, 128.8, 128.5, 127.1, 119.3; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1666 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%): 260 (M⁺, 76), 258 (72); HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₀BrO (M + H)⁺ 260.9909, found 260.9917.



(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)(phenyl)methanone (3ka): ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.79 (dd, J = 0.8 Hz, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 198.2, 140.3, 138.0, 137.2, 135.4, 133.0, 131.9, 130.2, 129.4, 128.5, 125.8, 21.1, 20.0; IR (neat cm⁻¹): 1667 (C=O); LRMS (EI 70 ev) m/z (%):210 (M⁺, 100); HRMS m/z(ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O (M + H)⁺ 211.1116, found 211.1119.

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(G) Spectra





¹H NMR of Compound 3aa



¹³C NMR of Compound 3aa



¹H NMR of Compound 3ab



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ab



¹H NMR of Compound 3ac



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ac



¹H NMR of Compound 3ad



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ad



¹H NMR of Compound 3ae



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ae











¹H NMR of Compound 3ag







-195.458





¹H NMR of Compound 3ah





¹H NMR of Compound 3ai



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ai



¹H NMR of Compound 3aj



¹³C NMR of Compound 3aj



7.878 7.647 7.613 7.595 7.576 7.519 7.499 7.480 7.260 7.177 7.167 7.155

¹H NMR of Compound 3ba



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ba



¹H NMR of Compound 3ca



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ca



¹H NMR of Compound 3da



¹³C NMR of Compound 3da



¹H NMR of Compound 3ea



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ea



¹H NMR of Compound 3fa



¹³C NMR of Compound 3fa







¹³C NMR of Compound 3ga



¹H NMR of Compound 3ia



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ia





¹H NMR of Compound 3ja



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ja



¹H NMR of Compound 3ka



¹³C NMR of Compound 3ka