Supporting Information

An efficient synthesis of N-nitrosamines under solvent, metal and acid free

conditions using tert-butyl nitrite

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Solvents and chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purifications. The NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 400 MHz or 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. A short purification of the products were performed on silica gel (60-120 mesh) using a mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane. Thin layer chromatography was performed using pre-coated plates obtained from E. Merck (TLC silica gel 60 F254). The proton and carbon NMR was recorded for all the compounds and compared with the literature reports.

2. PREPARATION OF SECONDARY AMINES 1k and 1l

2.1 N-[4-(tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)benzyl] aniline



4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)benzaldehyde (2.4 mmol, 0.566 g) and aniline (2.40 mmol, 0.223g) was stirred in methanol (15 ml) for 12 hrs at room temperature. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0°C to which sodium borohydride (1.2 mmol, 0.444g) was added in a portion wise and allowed to stir for 4 hrs at room temperature. After completion, methanol was evaporated and the residue was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with water and brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate, concentrated and subjected for column chromatography (SiO₂: ethyl acetate/hexane). The title product was obtained as pale yellow liquid (0.650 g, 87%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (t, *J* =8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* =7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 3.84 (br, 1H), 0.91 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.1, 148.4, 132.2, 129.4, 128.9, 120.3, 117.6, 113.0, 48.1, 25.9, -4.21. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₉H₂₈NOSi [M+H]⁺: 314.1940, Obser. 314.1933.

2.2 N-[4-(tert-Butoxycarbonyloxy)benzyl] aniline



4-(tert-Butoxycarbonyloxy)benzaldehyde (2.0 mmol, 0.444g) and aniline (2.0 mmol, 0.186g) was stirred in methanol (15 ml) for 12 hrs at RT. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0°C to which sodium borohydride (1.0 mmol, 0.037g) was added in a portion wise and allowed to stir for 1hr at room temperature. After completion, methanol was evaporated and the residue was dissolved in water and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 X 20 ml). The organic layer was washed with brine solution and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate, concentrated and subjected for column chromatography (SiO₂: ethyl acetate/hexane). The title product was obtained as pale yellow crystals (0.510 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 27.4 Hz, 4H), 6.70 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (s, 2H), 4.03 (br, 1H), 1.54 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 150.4, 148.2, 137.1, 129.5, 128.6, 121.6, 117.9, 113.0, 47.9, 29.9. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₃ [M+H] ⁺: 300.1600, Obser. 300.1594.

3. Experimental procedures for *N*-nitrosation of secondary amines:

$$R_{1} \xrightarrow{N} R_{2} \xrightarrow{R_{1} \cap R_{2}} N_{N} \xrightarrow{NO} R_{1} \xrightarrow{N} R_{2} \xrightarrow{NO} R_{1} \xrightarrow{NO} R_{1} \xrightarrow{NO} R_{1} \xrightarrow{NO} R_{2}$$

For optimization: To a stirred solution of *N*-methyl aniline (107mg, 1mmol) in an appropriate solvent (2 mL), tert-butyl nitrite (1.0 or 1.5 equiv.) was added at room temperature and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate, concentrated and subjected for column chromatography (SiO₂: ethyl acetate/hexane) to obtain *N*-methyl-*N*-nitrosoaniline (**2a**).

General procedure for Solvent free reaction: Secondary amine (1.0 mmol) and tert-butyl nitrite (1.0 equiv for anilines, 1.5 equiv. for benzyl amines and 2.0 equiv. for alkyl amines)

was mixed carefully at room temperature and allowed to stir in appropriate temperature for appropriate time. After completion (as seen by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with diethyl ether and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and evaporated to obtain pure products. On the other hand, after completion of the reaction, the crude product was directly subjected for short column chromatography (SiO₂: ethyl acetate/hexane) to obtain pure products.

4. Analytical data for the products:

4.1 *N***-Methyl-***N***-nitrosoaniline (2a)¹** was obtained as yellow oil (131 mg, 97%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.32 (m, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.5, 129.6, 127.5, 119.4, 31.6. HRMS: Calc. for C₇H₉N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 137.0715, Obser. 137.0697.



4.2 **N-Ethyl-N-nitrosoaniline (2b)**¹ was obtained as yellow oil (143 mg, 95%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, 2H), 7.39 – 7.34 (t, 1H), 4.08 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.6, 129.7, 127.5, 119.7, 39.4, 11.9. HRMS: Calc. for C₈H₁₁N₂O [M+H]⁺: 151.0871, Obser. 151.0871.



4.3 *N***-Nitrosodiphenyl amine (2c)**² was obtained as yellow solid crystals (194 mg, 98%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.5 –7.43 (m, 3H), 7.43–7.37 (m, 4H), 7.32 (dq, *J* = 8.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.7, 136.9, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 127.5, 127.1, 119.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₂H₁₁N₂O [M+H]⁺: 199.0871, Obser. 199.0867.



4.4 **N-Benzyl-N-nitrosoaniline** $(2d)^3$ was obtained as yellowish orange crystals (201 mg, 96%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H),7.36 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H),7.29 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.18 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.9, 134.4, 129.6, 128.9, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 119.7, 47.4. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₃H₁₃N₂O [M+H]⁺: 213.1028, Obser. 213.1019.



2d

4.5 *N*-(4-Methylbenzyl) *N*-nitrosoaniline (2e) was obtained as yellow oil (214 mg, 95%) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32 (td, *J* = 7.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.9, 137.5, 131.4, 129.6, 129.6, 127.5, 127.1, 119.7, 47.2, 21.2. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₁₅N₂O [M+H]⁺: 227.1184, Obser. 227.1184.



4.6 *N*-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-*N*-nitrosoaniline (2f) was obtained as yellow orange crystals (227 mg, 94%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H),5.19 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.1, 141.9, 129.5, 128.7, 127.5, 126.5, 119.9, 114.3, 55.4, 46.9. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₁₅N₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺: 265.1134, Obser. 265.0957.



4.7 *N*-[(4-Methoxy)benzyl]-*N*-nitroso-(4-methyl)aniline (2g) was obtained as yellow powder (240 mg, 94%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.82–6.77 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.2, 139.5, 137.6, 130.2, 128.8, 126.7, 120.2, 114.3, 77.2, 55.4, 47.1, 21.1. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₅H₁₇N₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺: 279.1109, Obser. 279.1109.



4.8 *N***-Benzyl-N-nitroso-(4-methyl)aniline (2h**) was obtained as yellow oil (214 mg, 95%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.19 (m, 5H), 7.08–7.04 (m, 2H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.5, 137.5, 134.5, 130.1, 128.9, 127.7, 127.2, 119.8, 47.6, 21.0. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₁₅N₂O [M+H]⁺: 227.1184, Obser. 227.1187.



4.9 *N***-benzyl p-bromo** *N*-nitrosoaniline (2i) was obtained as yellow crystals. (276 mg, 95%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.9, 134.1, 132.7, 129.1, 128.0, 127.1, 120.9, 77.4, 77.2, 76.9, 47.0. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₃H₁₁BrN₂O [M+H]⁺: 291.0133, Obser. 291.0127.



4.10 *N*-Isopropyl-*N*-nitrosoaniline (2j)² was obtained as dark brown oil [149 mg, 91%, mixture of two isomers in ≈6:4 ratio]. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.32 (dd, J = 5.3, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (hept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (hept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.4, 136.5, 129.4, 129.2, 129.16, 128.8, 127.7, 125.9, 56.1, 46.3, 22.0, 19.7. HRMS: Calc. for C₉H₁₃N₂O [M+H]⁺: 165.1028, Obser. 165.1021.



4.11 **N-[4-(TBDMS)Benzyl]-N-nitrosoaniline** (**2k**) was obtained as yellow oil (310 mg, 92%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 1H), 6.94 (t,

J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 6.74–6.70 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.14 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.1, 141.8, 129.4, 128.5, 127.3, 127.0, 120.3, 119.8, 46.9, 25.6, 18.1, -4.4. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₉H₂₇N₂O₂Si [M+Na]⁺: 365.1842, Obser. 365.1654.



4.12 *N*- [4-(Boc)Benzyl]-*N*-nitrosoaniline (2I) was obtained as yellow solid crystals (314 mg, 95%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 4H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 1.52 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 150.7, 141.8, 131.9, 129.7, 128.4, 127.6, 121.9, 119.8, 83.9, 46.9, 27.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₈H₂₁N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 329.1501, Obser. 329.1500.



4.13 *N*-nitroso (4-Hydroxybenzyl)4-bromoaniline (2m) was obtained as red crystals (279 mg, 91%) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 4.85 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.9, 132.7, 128.9, 121.2, 115.9, 46.6.HRMS: Calc.for C₁₃H₁₁BrN₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺:328.9902 Obser.328.9896.



4.14 *N*-nitroso (4-Hydroxy-3-nitrobenzyl)4-bromoaniline (2m') was obtained as yellow crystals (296 mg, 84%) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.49 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.8, 140.3, 136.5, 133.6, 133.0, 126.5, 123.8, 121.5, 121.1, 121.1, 45.9. Calc.for C₁₃H₁₀BrN₃O₄ [M+H]⁺:351.9933 Obser.351.9927.



4.15 **N-Allyl-N-nitrosoaniline** (**2n**) was obtained as dark brown oil (152 mg, 94%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.31 (m,1H), 5.74 (ddt, *J* = 17.2, 10.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (m, *J* = 10.4, 2.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.10 – 5.04 (m, 1H), 4.62 (dt, *J* = 5.2, 1.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.9, 129.6, 129.5, 127.4, 119.5, 118.1, 46.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₉H₁₁N₂O [M+H]⁺: 163.0691, Obser.163.0862.



4.16 *N*-Propargyl *N*-nitrosoaniline (2o) was obtained as dark brown oil (145 mg, 91%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.35 (m, 1H), 4.70 (dd, *J* = 2.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.9, 129.6, 127.8, 119.8, 77.4, 77.2, 76.9, 75.8, 72.2, 32.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₉H₉N₂O [M+H]⁺: 161.0715, Obser. 161.0711.



4.17 *N*-Nitroso dibenzylamine (2p)³ was obtained as yellow solid crystals (219 mg, 97%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.07–7.02 (m, 2H), 5.20 (s, 2H), 4.66 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 134.4, 133.8, 129.0, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 77.3, 77.0, 76.7, 54.9, 44.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₄H₁₅N₂O [M+H]⁺: 227.1184, Obser. 227.1163.



4.18 *N*-(4-methoxybenzyl)-*N*-nitroso benzylamine (2q) was obtained as dark yellow liquid (244 mg, 95%, mixture of two isomers in ≈1:1 ratio) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.20 (qdd, *J* = 9.3, 4.8, 2.2 Hz, 6H), 7.11–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.92–6.87 (m, 2H), 6.85–6.80 (m, 2H), 6.78–6.72 (m, 2H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s,2H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H).¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 159.4, 134.7, 134.1, 130.2, 129.9, 129.2, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 126.4, 126.1, 114.6, 114.3, 55.5, 55.5, 55.0, 54.6, 44.8, 44.6. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₅H₁₇N₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺: 279.1108, Obser. 279.1109.



4.19 *N*-(4-methylbenzyl)-*N*-nitroso benzylamine (2r) was obtained as yellow oil (231 mg, 96%, mixture of two isomers in ≈1:1 ratio). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.28 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 4.1 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (m, 4H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (s, 2H), 5.18 (s, 2H), 4.68 (s, 2H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.6, 137.8, 134.7, 134.1, 131.5, 131.0, 129.8, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 54.9, 54.8, 44.8, 44.7, 21.3, 21.3. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₅H₁₇N₂O [M+H]⁺: 241.1341, Obser. 241.1340.



4.20 *N*-Nitroso *N*-butylbenzylamine (2s) was obtained as yellow oil (174 mg, 91%, mixture of two isomers in ≈1:1 ratio) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 1H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 3.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.38–3.35 (m, 1H), 1.66–1.58 (m, 1H), 1.32–1.10 (m, 4H), 0.89–0.74 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.0, 134.4, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.3, 128.3, 127.9, 56.2, 51.4, 46.1, 43.0, 30.2, 28.0, 20.4, 19.8, 13.7, 13.6. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₁H₁₇N₂O [M+H]⁺: 193.1341, Obser. 193.1331.



4.21 *N*-Nitroso diisopropylamine (2t)³ was obtained as off-white crystals (118 mg, 91%) ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.04–4.96 (m, 1H), 4.26-4.18 (dh, *J* = 13.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 1.4 Hz, 6H), 1.13 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 50.6, 44.6, 23.8, 19.2. HRMS: Calc. for C₆H₁₅N₂O [M+H]⁺: 131.1184, Obser. 131.1183.



4.22 *N*-Nitroso dibutylamine (2u)² was obtained as pale yellow oil (148 mg, 94%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (t, *J* = 9.8, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 1.69–1.60 (m, 2H), 1.42–1.34 (m, 2H), 1.33–1.24 (m, 2H), 1.24–1.15 (m, 2H), 0.90–0.85 (t, 3H), 0.84–0.80 (t, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 51.9, 43.3, 30.2, 28.0, 20.3, 19.6, 13.5, 13.4. HRMS: Calc. for C₈H₁₉N₂O [M+H]⁺: 159.1497, Obser. 159.1490.



4.23 **N-Nitroso dihexylamine** (**2v**)⁴ was obtained as yellow oil (171 mg, 80%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.04–4.01 (m, 3H), 3.51–3.47 (m, 3H), 1.72–1.68 (m, 2H), 1.48–1.40 (m, 2H), 1.22–1.22 (m, 12H), 0.88–0.83 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 52.5, 43.8, 31.5, 31.4, 28.4, 27.0, 26.3, 26.1, 22.6, 14.1. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₂H₂₇N₂O [M+H]⁺: 215.2123, Obser. 215.2121.



4.24 *N*-Nitroso dicyclohexylamine $(2w)^3$ was obtained as off white crystals (189 mg, 90%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.92–4.75 (m, 2H), 3.78–3.61 (m, 2H), 1.94–1.84 (m,6H), 1.69 (m, 4H), 1.56 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.45–1.07 (m, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 58.5, 52.2, 34.3, 29.3, 26.0, 25.4, 25.3, 25.2. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₂H₂₂N₂O [M+H]⁺: 211.1810, Obser. 211.1790.



4.25 *N*-Nitrosopiperidine $(2x)^3$ was obtained as yellow solid crystals (93 mg, 82%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.16–4.12 (m, 2H), 3.75–3.72 (m, 2H), 1.77–1.72 (m, 4H), 1.53–1.51 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 51.0, 39.9, 26.5, 24.9, 24.33.HRMS: Calc. for C₅H₁₀N₂O [M+H]⁺: 115.0871, Obser. 115.0859.



4.26 **1-benzhydryl-4-nitrosopiperazine (2y)** was obtained as yellow oil. (230 mg, 82%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 4.8 Hz, 4H), 7.20 (ddt, *J* = 6.2, 5.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (s, 1H), 4.25 – 4.22 (m, 2H), 3.81 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.40 – 2.27 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.9, 128.9, 127.9, 127.5, 52.0, 50.6, 50.0, 39.9, 29.8. HRMS: Calc. for C₁₇H₁₉N₃O [M+H]⁺: 282.1606, Obser. 282.1607.



5. SYNTHESIS OF N-NITROSO-N-CYCLOHEXYLHYDROXYLAMINE (G)

5.1 Procedure for preparation of *n*-cyclohexylhydroxylamine⁵



A round-bottom flask was charged with 1.67g of NH₂OH.HCl (24 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and 0.96 g of NaOH (24 mmol, 1.2equiv.) in 10ml of water at 0°C to which 2.24 g of cyclohexylhydroxylamine (20 mmol) was added drop wise. Then, the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for approximately for 2 hrs at 0°C after which 15 ml of methanol was added along with a drop of methyl orange. The solution was acidified to a pink colour with addition of 2M HCl in methanol and then NaBH₃CN (0.73 g, 11.6 mmol, 0.67 equiv) was added portion wise at 0°C. After 1 hr, the reaction mixture was neutralized with NaOH (2 X 10 ml) and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 X 15 ml). The organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate, evaporated and subjected for column chromatography to obtain the title product as white solid (542 mg, 24%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3+CD_3OD$)⁵ δ 3.79 (s, 2H), 2.67 (tt, *J* = 10.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 1.80 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz, 2H), 1.65 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 1.22 - 1.12 (m, 2H), 1.10 - 1.02 (m, 1H), 1.01 - 0.91 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3+CD_3OD$) δ 60.5, 30.1, 26.0, 24.6. **5.1** *N*-nitrosation of *N*-cyclohexylhydroxylamine



N-cyclohexylhydroxylamine (1.0 mmol) and tert-butyl nitrite (2.0 equiv.) was added at room temperature and allowed to stir for 5 min. After completion (as seen by TLC), the desired product was obtained in high purity through short silica purification as off-white to pale yellow solid. (95 mg, 83%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.04 (tt, *J* = 11.4, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 1.88 (dd, *J* = 44.4, 12.3 Hz, 4H), 1.69–1.56 (m, 3H), 1.42–1.29 (m, 2H), 1.26–1.16 (m, 1H).¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 65.9, 28.4, 25.2, 24.8.

6. PROCEDURE FOR ONE-POT SYNTHESIS OF 1-METHYL 1- PHENYLHYDRAZINE



N-Methylaniline (2 mmol, 250 mg) and tert-butyl nitrite (1.2 equiv.) was stirred in a round bottom flask at room temperature approximately for 5 mins. Then the reaction mixture was diluted with glacial acetic acid (1 ml) and transferred to the flask containing a mixture of Zn dust (500mg) and water (1ml) while the temperature was maintained at ~15°C. Further the reaction mixture was allowed to stirr for 3 hrs at room temperature and warmed to 80°C on a steam bath.⁶ The hot solution was filtered from un-reacted Zn and washed with 5% HCl solution (5 ml). The companied filtrate was treated with 40% NaOH solution and extracted with diethyl ether (3x5 ml). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and evaporated to dryness. The yield was calculated based on crude proton NMR. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.01 (m, 2H), 6.90–6.84 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.8, 129.0, 18.6, 113.6, 44.5.

7. PROCEDURE FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF ARYL AZIDES FROM ARYL HYDRAZINES



To a stirred solution of aryl hydrazine (2 mmol) in acetonitrile (3 ml), tert-butyl nitrite (2.0 equiv. for **3a-3c** and 5.0 equiv. for **3d**) was added drop-wise at room temperature. Further, the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for appropriate time while the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO₃ (2 X 5ml) and brine (2 X 5ml).

The companied organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate, evaporated and the residue was subjected to column chromatography to obtain the desired products.

7.1 **4-Bromophenyl azide** $(4a)^7$ was obtained as yellow oil (360 mg, 91%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.4, 133.0, 120.8, 117.9.



7.2 3-Nitrophenyl azide (4b)⁸ was obtained as dark orange solid (278 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 2.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.3,142.2, 130.8, 125.1, 119.9, 114.3.



7.3 **4-cyanophenyl azide** (**4c**)⁹ was obtained as yellow crystals (256 mg, 89%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64–7.61 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.1, 134.0, 119.9, 118.5, 108.5.



7.4 **2-Azido pyridine** $(4d)^{10}$ was obtained as yellowish red crystals (224 mg, 94%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.88 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (ddd, J = 8.9, 6.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.25 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.8, 132.0 125.6, 116.7, 116.2.



8. PROCEDURE FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF SUBSTITUTED BENZOIC ACIDS FROM CORRESPONDING AMIDES:



To a stirred solution of primary amide (1mmol) in acetic acid (3 ml), tert-butyl nitrite (3 equiv.) was added slowly under N₂ atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 60 min at 75°C while the progress was monitored by TLC. After completion, the reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness to obtain corresponding benzoic acids in quantitative yield. However, to obtain high purity for NMR analysis, the crude products were subjected to short silica filtration using a mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane.

8.1 **Benzoic acid** (**6a**)¹¹ was obtained as white crystalline solid {Crude yield, >120 mg (>99%); After purification, 115 mg (95%)}. Melting point: 122° C (observed), Lit. 122° C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 12.43 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 133.8, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5.



8.2 **4-Methoxy benzoic acid** $(6b)^{12}$ was obtained as white crystals {(Crude yield, >150mg, (>99%); After purification, 144 mg (95%)}. Melting point: 183^oC (observed), Lit. 184 ^oC. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.1, 163.6, 132.1, 122.7, 113.7, 55.5.



8.3 **4-Nitrobenzoic acid** $(6c)^{13}$ was obtained as white to yellow crystals {(Crude yield, >165mg, (>99%); After purification, 155 mg (93%)}. Melting point: 237 ^oC (Observed), Lit. 240 ^oC] ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.59 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.8, 149.9, 136.6, 130.6, 123.6.



8.4 Nicotinic acid (6d)¹⁴ was obtained as white crystals (113 mg, 92%). Melting Point: 143 ^oC (Observed), Lit. 141 ^oC. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.41 (s, 1H), 9.07 (s, 1H), 8.8 –8.76 (m, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 166.2, 153.2, 150.2, 136.9, 126.5, 123.7.



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Datablock: 2F

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0034 A	Wavelength=0.71073		
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Volume	607.93(6)	607.93(6)		
Space group	P 21	P 21		
Hall group	P 2yb	P 2yb		
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Sum formula	C14 H14 N2 O2	C14 H14 N2 O2		
Mr	242.27	242.27		
Dx,g cm-3	1.324	1.324		
Z	2	2		
Mu (mm-1)	0.090	0.090		
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Alert level C PLAT089_ALERT_3_C Poor Data / Parameter Ratio (Zmax < 18) PLAT480_ALERT_4_C Long HA H-Bond Reported H8B N2	7.24 2.67	Note Ang.
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