## **Supporting Information**

## Chemoselective N-arylation of Aminobenzamides via Copper Catalysed

### **Chan-Evans-Lam Reactions**

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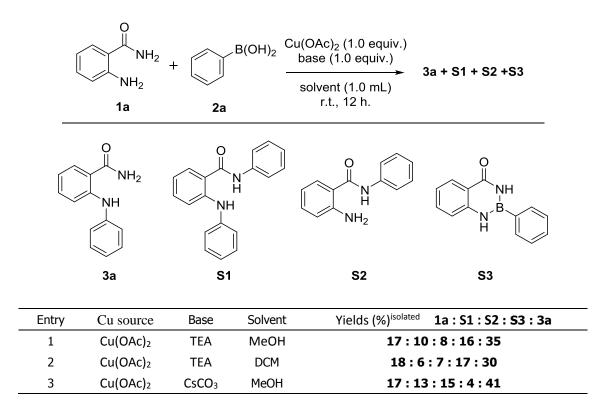
### 1 General considerations

**General.** Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out under an air atmosphere. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on glass plates coated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel containing a fluorescent indicator. Visualization was accomplished by exposure to a UV lamp. All the products in this article are compatible with standard silica gel chromatography. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200–300 mesh) using standard methods.

**Structural analysis.** NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker Ascend 400 spectrometer and chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz in NMR solvents and referenced internally to corresponding solvent resonance, and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz and referenced to corresponding solvent resonance. Coupling constants are reported in Hz with multiplicities denoted as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) and br (broad). Infrared spectra were collected on a Thermo Fisher Nicolet 6700 FT-IR spectrometer using ATR (Attenuated Total Reflectance) method. Absorption maxima (v max) are reported in wavenumbers (cm<sup>-1</sup>). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were acquired on Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL with an ESI source.

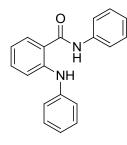
**Materials.** Commercial reagents and solvent were purchased from Adamas, J&K, Energy, Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, Acros Organics, TCI and used as received unless otherwise stated.

## 2.1 Table S1: Preliminary attempts for *N*-arylation reactions



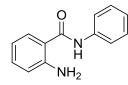
A flame-dried 25 mL pear shaped flask were placed with a stirring bar. Then, 2-aminobenzamide (68.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.),  $Cu(OAc)_2$  (90.8 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.), Bases (1.0 eq.), arylboronic acid (0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and Solvents (1.0 mL) were added .The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered, concentrated and then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the target product.

#### (S1) N-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 34237-88-2)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 9.11 (s, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 - 7.69 dd, J = 8.8, 1.2Hz), 7.42 - 7.26 (m, 6H), 7.16 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, 1.2H, 2H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.72, 144.33, 133.94, 131.91, 131.10, 129.25, 128.61, 121.94, 119.01, 117.63.

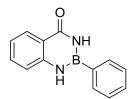
#### (S2) 2-amino-N-phenylbenzamide (CAS: 4424-17-3)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (s, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 6.75 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 5.49 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.61, 148.98, 137.87, 132.77, 129.08, 127.19, 124.52, 120.57, 117.56, 116.86, 116.27.

#### (S3) 2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrobenzo[d][1,3,2]diazaborinin-4(1H)-one (CAS: 28249-75-4)

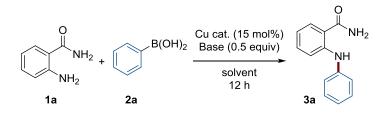


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  9.68 (s, 1H), 9.31 (s, 1H), 8.03 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.54 (td, *J* = 6.8, 1.6, 1H), 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.14 – 7.08 (td, *J* = 7.2, 1.2, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.54, 150.71, 138.59, 138.56, 138.51, 137.53, 135.73, 133.19,

133.13, 133.03, 126.04, 124.00, 123.38.

# 2.2 Table S2: Detailed table of reaction condition optimization for

## o-aminobenzamides



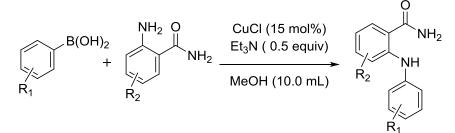
Entry	Catalyst	Base	Oxidant	Solvent	Isolated
					yields (%)
1	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	TEA	Air	DCM	N.R.
2	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	TEA	Air	MeOH	34
3	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>		Air	MeOH	54
4	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>		Air	DMF	N.R.
5	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>		Air	DMSO	N.R.
6	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>		DTBP	MeOH	60
7	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>		TBHP	MeOH	14
8	Cu <sub>2</sub> O		Air	MeOH	N.R.
9	CuI		Air	MeOH	N.R.
10	CuTC		Air	MeOH	N.R.
11	CuCl		Air	MeOH	63
12	CuCl	2,2'-Dipyridyl	Air	MeOH	70
13	CuCl	4-Phenylpyridine	Air	MeOH	69
14	CuCl	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Air	MeOH	81
15	CuCl	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Air	MeOH	75
16	CuCl	KHCO <sub>3</sub>	Air	MeOH	68
17	CuCl	DBU	Air	MeOH	68
18	CuCl	Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Air	MeOH	64
19	CuCl	t-BuOK	Air	MeOH	64
20	CuCl	TEA	Air	MeOH (1.0 mL)	66
21	CuCl	TEA	Air	MeOH (70 °C)	24
22	CuCl	TEA	Air	MeOH	90
23	CuCl	TEA	Air	DCM	N.R.
24	CuCl	TEA	Air	THF	N.R.

25	CuCl	TEA	Air	toluene	N.R.
26	CuCl	TEA	Air	MeOH	79% <sup>[a, b]</sup>
27	CuCl	TEA	Air	MeOH	<b>9%</b> [a, c]
28	CuCl	TEA	$O_2$	MeOH	83% <sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>[a]</sup> NMR yield. <sup>[b]</sup> phenyl boronic acid pinacol ester was used instead of free boronic acid. <sup>[c]</sup> potassium phenyl trifluoroborate was used.

### 2.3 General procedure A for Cu-catalysed selective arylation of

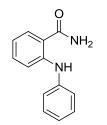
### o-aminobenzamides



A flame-dried 100 mL pear shaped flask were placed with a stirring bar. Then, 2-aminobenzamide (68.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.), CuCl (7.4 mg, 0.075 mmol, 15 mol%), Et<sub>3</sub>N (35.0  $\mu$ L, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 eq.), arylboronic acid (0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.), and MeOH (10.0 mL) were added .The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered, concentrated and then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the target product.

### 2.4 Cu-catalysed selective arylation of ortho-aminobenzamides

#### (3a) 2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS : 1211-19-4)

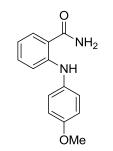


2-(phenylamino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 212.0950 Molecular Weight: 212.2472

The general procedure A was followed using phenylboronic acid **2a** (91.4 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3a** was obtained as yellow solid (95.2 mg, 90%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 124.6-132.3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.50 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.26 (m, 4H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.08–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.74 (td, *J* = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (br, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.07, 146.46, 141.30, 132.93, 129.34, 128.37, 122.89, 121.51, 117.61, 116.07, 115.34. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 213.10224, found 213.10234.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3469, 3330, 1665, 1606, 1585, 1510, 756, 743.

#### (3b) 2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS : 16328-60-2)



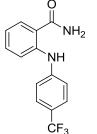
2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 242.1055 Molecular Weight: 242.2732 **2b** (114.0 mg, 0.75 mmol. ) as starting material. **3b** was obtained as yellow solid (86.1 mg, 72%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 128.4-129.8 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.40 (s, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.12 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92–6.86 (m, 2H), 6.69–6.62 (m, 1H), 5.96 (br, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.14, 156.33, 148.41, 133.93, 133.08, 128.28, 125.26, 116.40, 114.64, 114.32, 114.27, 55.54. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 243.11280, found

The general procedure A was followed using (4-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid

#### 243.11205.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3479, 3149, 1681, 1596, 1506, 1230, 1022, 838, 732.

#### (3c) 2-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS : 1382353-86-7)



2-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 280.0823 Molecular Weight: 280.2451

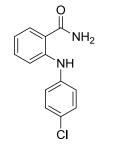
The general procedure A was followed using (4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)boronic acid 2c (142.5 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. 3c was obtained as white solid (105.1 mg, 75%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).

Melting point(°C): 178.2-181.2

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.58 (s, 1H), 7.52–7.45 (dd, *J*=7.6,1.2Hz,1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, *J* = 10.4, 7.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.82 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (m, 1H), 5.94 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.29, 146.33, 142.82, 132.44, 129.86, 127.06 (q, *J* = 3 Hz), 125.17 (q, *J* = 269 Hz), 121.18, 120.82 (q, *J* = 32 Hz), 120.55, 117.80, 117.61 <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -61.72. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 281.08962, found 281.08969. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3415, 3361, 3198, 1640, 1614, 1527, 1330, 1102, 1068, 834,755.

#### (3d) 2-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 13799-33-2)



2-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 246.0560 Molecular Weight: 246.6922 The general procedure A was followed using (4-chlorophenyl)boronic acid 2d (117.3 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. 3d was obtained as white solid (102.9 mg, 83%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 160.2-162.3

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.54 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H),

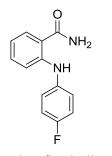
7.38–7.21 (m, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.84–6.71 (m, 1H), 5.83 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.83, 146.11, 139.93, 133.04, 129.33, 128.36, 127.60, 122.60, 117.99, 116.17, 115.27.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}ClN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 247.06327, found 247.06357.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3401, 3364, 3191, 1638, 1587, 1509, 1321, 1092, 827, 755.

#### (3e) 2-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 18201-71-3)



The general procedure A was followed using (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid **2e** (105.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3e** was obtained as yellow solid (93.6 mg, 82%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).

Melting point(°C): 123.5-125.4

6.79-6.67 (m, 1H), 6.02 (br, 2H).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.48 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.22 (td, J = 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.08 (m, 3H), 7.05–6.95 (m, 2H),

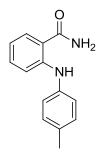
2-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 230.0855 Molecular Weight: 230.2376

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.03, 159.16 (d, *J* = 241 Hz), 147.39, 137.11 (d, *J* = 3 Hz), 133.11, 128.33, 124.36 (d, *J* = 8 Hz), 117.23, 116.03 (d, *J* = 23 Hz), 115.15, 114.56.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -119.48.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}FN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 231.09282, found 231.09275. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3469, 3171, 1866, 1620, 1506, 1218, 818, 737.

#### (3f) 2-(p-tolylamino)benzamide (CAS: 193265-70-2)



2-(*p*-tolylamino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 226.1106 Molecular Weight: 226.2738

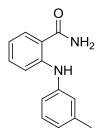
The general procedure A was followed using p-tolylboronic acid **2f** (102.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3f** was obtained as yellow solid (86.9 mg, 77%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 119.7-121.2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.44 (s, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.07 (m, 4H), 6.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 6.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (br, 2H),

2.33 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.07, 147.28, 138.48, 132.97, 132.85, 129.90, 128.32, 122.41, 116.97, 115.25, 114.87, 20.87.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 227.11789, found 227.11789. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3466, 3349, 3197, 1635, 1610, 1514, 1287, 747.

#### (3g) 2-(m-tolylamino)benzamide (CAS: 1188890-42-7)

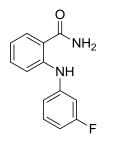


2-(*m*-tolylamino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 226.1106 Molecular Weight: 226.2738

The general procedure A was followed using m-tolylboronic acid **2g** (102.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3g** was obtained as white solid (93.1 mg, 82%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 118.4-120.1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.46 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 2.2, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 6.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (br, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.90, 146.59, 141.19, 139.22, 132.92, 129.10, 128.32, 123.75, 122.28, 118.51, 117.42, 115.91, 115.46, 21.48. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 227.11789, found 227.11783.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3373, 3317, 3139, 1660, 1601, 1508, 1487, 1282, 766, 691.

#### (3h) 2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)benzamide



2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 230.0855 Molecular Weight: 230.2376 The general procedure A was followed using (3-fluorophenyl)boronic acid **2h** (105.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3h** was obtained as white solid (83.2 mg, 73%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).

Melting point(°C): 112.5-114.1

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.58 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, *J* = 10.4, 7.6,

4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00–6.89 (m, 2H), 6.82 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (tdd, *J* = 8.4, 2.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.90, 163.57 (d, J = 244 Hz), 145.27,

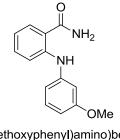
143.33 (d, *J* = 11 Hz), 132.97, 130.43 (d, *J* = 10 Hz), 128.37, 118.60, 117.05,

116.14 (d, J = 3 Hz), 116.08, 109.00 (d, J = 21 Hz), 107.14 (d, J = 24 Hz)

#### <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -112.16.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}FN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 231.09282, found 231.09291. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3445, 3361, 2976, 2360, 1650, 1619, 1529, 1340, 845, 766.

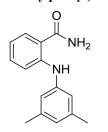
#### (3i) 2-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 1376246-78-4)



2-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 242.1055 Molecular Weight: 242.2732 The general procedure A was followed using (3-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid **2i** (114.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3i** was obtained as yellow solid (103.6 mg, 86%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 80.9-82.4 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.50 (s, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86–6.72 (m, 3H), 6.63–6.56 (m, 1H), 5.78 (br, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.89, 160.60, 146.13, 142.63, 132.92, 130.00, 128.31, 117.81, 116.32, 115.87, 113.60, 108.33, 106.83, 55.30.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O_2^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 243.11280, found 243.11259. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3328, 3155, 2829, 1661, 1586, 1489, 1268, 1157, 858.

#### (3j) 2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)benzamide

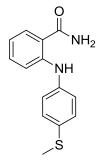


2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 240.1263 Molecular Weight: 240.3003 The general procedure A was followed using (3,5-dimethylphenyl)boronic acid **2j** (112.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3j** was obtained as white solid (98.9 mg, 82%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 161.6-165.2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.40 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.73 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 7.8, 4.5 Hz, 2H), 5.80 (br, 2H), 2.29 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.00, 146.64, 141.15, 138.99, 132.88,

128.34, 124.71, 119.24, 117.34, 115.95, 115.61, 21.39.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 241.13354, found 241.13361. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3374, 3328, 3143, 2914, 1592, 1511, 1328, 768.

#### (3k) 2-((4-(methylthio)phenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 1382353-90-3)



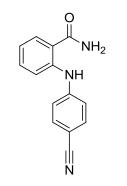
2-((4-(methylthio)phenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS Exact Mass: 258.0827 Molecular Weight: 258.3388 The general procedure A was followed using (4-(methylthio)phenyl)boronic acid **2k** (126.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3k** was obtained as yellow solid (89.5 mg, 70%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point( $^{\circ}$ C): 151.4-153.2

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.52 (s, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (dd, *J* =8.4, 1.2Hz, 1H), 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.12 (m, 2H), 6.75 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 6.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (br, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.89, 146.50, 139.10, 132.99, 131.63, 128.96, 128.34, 122.28, 117.59, 115.83, 115.22, 17.20.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2OS^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 259.08996, found 259.08994. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3407, 3369, 3203, 1630, 1581, 1504, 1314, 804, 755.

#### (3l) 2-((4-cyanophenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 564483-27-8)



The general procedure A was followed using (4-cyanophenyl)boronic acid **21** (110.2 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **31** was obtained as white solid (60.8 mg, 51%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).

Melting point(°C): 158.0-180.0

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.92–9.63 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.42– 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 2H), 6.97–6.87 (m, 1H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 130.0 Hz, 2H).

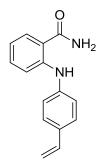
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.26, 146.03, 143.10, 133.64, 132.90, 128.43, 120.47, 119.61, 119.03, 118.01, 117.60, 103.40.

2-((4-cyanophenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O Exact Mass: 237.0902 Molecular Weight: 237.2566

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3442, 3328, 2829, 1661, 1586, 1489, 1268, 1157, 858.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 238.09749, found

#### (3m) 2-((4-vinylphenyl)amino)benzamide



2-((4-vinylphenyl)amino)benzamide Chemical Formula: C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 238.1106 Molecular Weight: 238.2845 The general procedure A was followed using (4-vinylphenyl)boronic acid **2m** (111.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **3m** was obtained as yellow solid (78.4 mg, 66%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 2:1).

Melting point(°C): 173.2-175.6

238.09811.

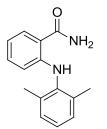
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.56 (s, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (ddd, J = 5.9, 4.8, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.76 (ddd, J = 8.1, 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 17.6, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 6.21–5.53 (m, 3H), 5.16 (dd, J = 10.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.85, 146.07, 140.95, 136.31, 132.95, 132.19, 128.34, 127.20, 121.00, 117.81, 116.23, 115.61, 112.07.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 239.11789, found 239.11768. 583, 1515, 1325, 898, 834.

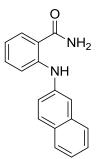
IR (cm-1): 3402, 3365, 3202, 1633, 1583, 1515, 1325, 898, 834.

#### (3n) 2-((2,6-dimethylphenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS:13625-38-2)



The general procedure A was followed using ((2,6-dimethylphenyl) boronic acid **2n** (112.5 mg, 0.75 mmol. ) as starting material. **3n** was obtained as yellow solid (44.6 mg, 37%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 156.7-158.8 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.26 (s, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.07 (m, 4H), 6.66–6.57 (m, 1H), 6.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (br, 2H), 2.21 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.16, 149.11, 137.53, 136.69, 133.43, 128.41, 128.18, 126.27, 115.44, 113.30, 112.69, 18.34. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 241.13354, found 241.13353. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3480, 3377, 3249, 1651, 1558, 1278, 766, 730.

#### (30) N-methyl-2-(naphthalen-2-ylamino)benzamide (CAS:1382353-91-4)

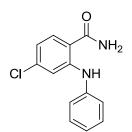


The general procedure A was followed using naphthalen-2-ylboronic acid **20** (129 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **30** was obtained as white solid (73.3 mg, 56%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 141.6-145.5 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.70 (s, 1H), 7.83–7.73 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.53–7.28 (m, 6H), 6.79 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (br, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.92, 146.26, 138.95, 134.41, 133.01, 130.12, 129.12, 128.39, 127.67, 126.89, 126.40, 124.29, 122.44, 117.97, 116.40, 116.38, 115.68. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 263.11789, found 263.11789.

Chemical Formula: C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 262.1106 Molecular Weight: 262.3059

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3481, 3152, 2360, 1644, 1528, 1387, 860, 731.

#### (3p) 4-chloro-2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 64445-26-7)



Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 246.0560 Molecular Weight: 246.6922

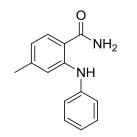
The general procedure A was followed using 2-amino-4-chlorobenzamideas **1b** (85.3mg, 0.5mmol.) starting material. **3p** was obtained as white solid (74.9 mg, 60%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 137.3-139.7

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 7.42–7.31 (t, *J* = 8.4Hz, 3H), 7.25– 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.32, 148.04, 140.22, 139.28, 129.55, 129.50, 123.97, 122.54, 117.28, 114.29, 113.53.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}CIN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 247.06327, found 247.06325. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3440, 3165, 2360, 1620, 1589, 1563, 1505, 1273, 1075, 929, 774.

#### (3q) 4-methyl-2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 95216-63-0)



Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 226.1106 Molecular Weight: 226.2738

The general procedure A was followed using 2-amino-4-methylbenzamide 1c (75.1mg, 0.5mmol.) starting material. **3q** was obtained as yellow solid (86.5 mg, 77%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 143.8-145.9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.57 (s, 1H), 7.37–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (br, 2H),

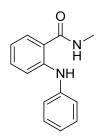
2.25 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.97, 146.65, 143.70, 141.37, 129.31, 128.36, 122.82, 121.70, 118.73, 115.39, 113.19, 21.84.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 227.11789, found 227.11795.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3409, 3331, 3169, 2975, 1619, 1587, 1511, 1278, 743, 690.

#### (3r) N-methyl-2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS:4-61-7)



Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 226.1106 Molecular Weight: 226.2738 The general procedure A was followed using 2-amino-N-methylbenzamide 1d (75.1mg, 0.5mmol.) starting material. **3r** was obtained as white solid (90.4 mg, 80%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1). Melting point(°C): 87.2-88.8

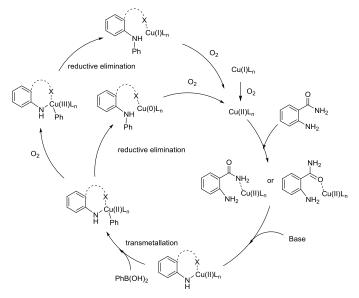
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.29 (s, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, *J* = 15.0, 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80–6.71 (m, 1H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.23, 145.28, 141.61, 132.07, 129.29, 127.44, 122.33, 120.64, 118.64, 117.97, 115.53, 26.65.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 227.11789, found 227.11786.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3379, 3260, 3065, 2882, 2361, 1620, 1551, 1508, 1310, 759, 695.

### 2.5 Proposed mechanism for C-N coupling of o-aminobenzamide

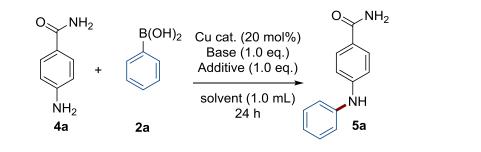


The "n" value in "Cu(X)Ln" might vary in the catalytic cycle.

Although it is hard to propose a precise and inerrant catalytic mechanism for this reaction, especially considering the lability of valence state of Cu under air atmosphere, we would like to proposed a possible reaction mechanism based on our experimental observations and literature survey. The plausible reaction mechanism was depicted above. Cu(II) species was thought to be catalytic active complex. After complexation of **1a** with copper catalyst and deprotonation of aniline NH<sub>2</sub>, Cu(II) cyclometalated species was formed. Then, the transmetallation process proceeded with PhB(OH)<sub>2</sub>, generating Cu(II) species coordinated by nitranion and carbanion. The following reductive elimination would afford the product and Cu(0) complex, which was then oxidized to Cu(II) catalyst. A higher oxidation Cu(III) complex might also participate in this catalytic cycle, due to the oxidation effect of air.

### 2.6 Table S3: Detailed table of reaction condition optimization for

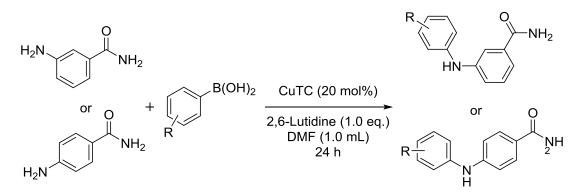
### *p*-aminobenzamides



Entry	Catalyst	Base	Additive	Solvent	Isolated yields (%)
1	CuCl	TEA	_	MeOH	N.R.
2	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	TEA	_	MeOH	N.R.

3	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	2,6-Lutidine	Myristic acid	toluene	23
4	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	TEA	Myristic acid	toluene	8
5	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> /TEA	_	MeCN	12
6	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	DMAP	Myristic acid	toluene	N.R.
7	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	$Cs_2CO_3$	benzoic acid	MeOH	57
8	CuCl	2,6-Lutidine	Myristic acid	toluene	N.R.
9	CuTC	2,6-Lutidine	_	MeOH	49
10	CuTC	pyridine	_	MeOH	31
11	CuTC	2,6-Lutidine	_	1,4-dioxane	64
12	CuTC	2,6-Lutidine	_	THF	49
13	CuTC	2,6-Lutidine	—	DMF	88

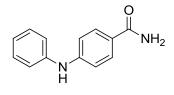
### 2.7 General procedure B for Cu-catalyzed selective arylation



A flame-dried 100 mL pear shaped flask were placed with a stirring bar. Then, 4-aminobenzamide (68.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.), CuTC (19.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), 2,6-Lutidine (58.0  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.), arylboronic acid (0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.), and DMF (1.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was treated with EtOAc (5.0 mL) and water (5.0 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5.0 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine (2 × 5.0 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to afford residue, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the target product.

### 2.8 Cu-catalysed selective arylation of *p*- and *m*-aminobenzamides

#### (5a) 4-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 183557-73-5)

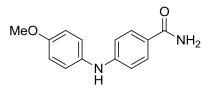


Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 212.0950 Molecular Weight: 212.2472

The general procedure B was followed using phenylboronic acid **2a** (91.4 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **6a** was obtained as gray solid (93.7 mg, 88%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 165.1-169.6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.89–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.16 (dt, *J* = 8.7, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.09–6.99 (m, 3H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 95.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.92, 147.35, 141.04, 129.54, 129.23, 124.11, 122.99, 120.19, 115.05. O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 213.10224, found 213.10207.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{13}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 213.10224, found 213.10207. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3473, 3325, 2976, 2360, 1652, 1621, 1586, 1525, 1387, 1329, 765, 693.

#### (5b) 4-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 183723-13-9)

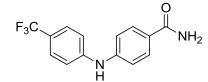


Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 242.1055 Molecular Weight: 242.2732

The general procedure B was followed using phenylboronic acid **2b** (114.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **6b** was obtained as yellow solid (78.4 mg, 65%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 166.1-170.1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.64 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.83–6.77 (m, 2H), 5.78 (br, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  168.17, 155.16, 148.63, 135.12, 129.63, 123.67, 122.46, 115.06, 113.19, 55.69.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O_2^+(M+H)^+$  243.11280, found 243.11259. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3479, 3362, 3327, 2977, 1664, 1591, 1525, 1510, 1374, 1337, 1243, 825, 765.

#### (5c) 4-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)benzamide



Chemical Formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 280.0823 Molecular Weight: 280.2451

The general procedure B was followed using (4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)boronic acid 2c (142.5 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **6c** was obtained as white solid (49.6 mg, 41%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2).

Melting point(°C): 135.0-141.2

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 5.84 (br, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 167.88, 146.71, 145.09, 129.58, 127.05 (q, *J* = 3 Hz), 126.90, 125.25 (q, *J* = 269 Hz), 120.20 (q, *J* = 32 Hz), 116.98, 116.64.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -61.75.

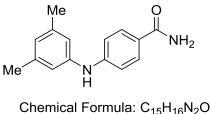
HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{12}F_3N_2O^+(M+H)^+$  281.08962, found 281.08963.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):3388, 3209, 1640, 1602, 1526, 1320, 1110, 1067, 837.

#### (5d) 4-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 564483-29-0)

The

general



Exact Mass: 240.1263 Molecular Weight: 240.3003 4-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)benzamide **2j** (112.5 mg, 0.75 mmol. ) as starting material. **6d** was obtained as white solid (106.5 mg, 88%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 201.1-204.6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 5.90 (br, 3H), 2.30 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.07, 147.73, 140.83, 139.28, 129.27, 124.91,

В

was

procedure

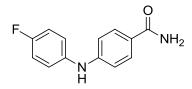
followed

using

123.47, 118.05, 115.06, 21.38.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{15}H_{17}N_2O^+(M+H)^+$  241.13354, found 241.13339. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3382, 3178, 2976, 1682, 1591, 1335, 855, 773.

#### (5e) 4-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)benzamide (CAS: 852927-43-6)



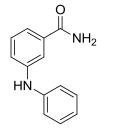
Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 230.0855 Molecular Weight: 230.2376 The general procedure B was followed using (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid **2e** (105.0 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **6d** was obtained as white solid (76.6 mg, 67%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 167.5-170.6

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.70 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 5.67 (br, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.96, 159.15 (d, *J* = 241 Hz), 148.09, 136.86 (d, *J* = 2 Hz), 129.30, 123.82, 123.15 (d, *J* = 8 Hz), 116.27 (d, *J* = 23 Hz), 114.32,

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -119.05.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}FN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 231.09282, found 231.09279. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3417, 3335, 2976, 1698, 1598, 1507, 1338, 1194, 821.

#### (7a) 3-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 935688-08-7)



Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 212.0950 Molecular Weight: 212.2472

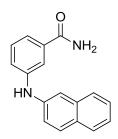
The general procedure B was followed using phenylboronic acid **2a** (91.4 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **7a** was obtained as white solid (92.0 mg, 87%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 154.4-159.6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.24 (m, 5H), 7.21

(ddd, J = 7.8, 2.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.02–6.96 (m, 1H), 5.91 (d, J = 120.0 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.44, 143.99, 142.07, 134.55, 129.54, 122.14, 120.37, 119.05, 118.89, 116.19, 100.00.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{13}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 213.10224, found 213.10213. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3338, 3154, 2363, 1657, 1599, 1417, 789, 683.

#### (7b) 3-(naphthalen-2-ylamino)benzamide (CAS:5-94-4)



Chemical Formula: C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 262.1106 Molecular Weight: 262.3059

The general procedure B was followed using phenylboronic acid **20** (131.6 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **7b** was obtained as gray solid (101.4 mg, 80%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2).

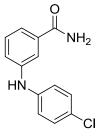
Melting point(°C): 148.6-149.9

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.77 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 18 Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 143.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.44, 143.78, 139.77, 134.56, 134.46, 129.69, 129.44, 127.70, 126.70, 126.60, 124.07, 120.78, 120.41, 119.52, 116.77, 113.37. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}N_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 263.11789, found 263.11783.

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3331, 3153, 2977, 2360, 1660, 1578, 1540, 1421, 1393, 739.

#### (7c) 3-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)benzamide

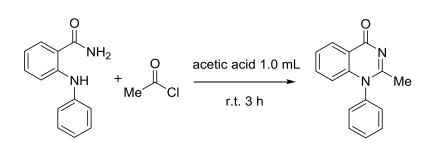


Chemical Formula: C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O Exact Mass: 246.0560 Molecular Weight: 246.6922 The general procedure B was followed using phenylboronic acid **2d** (131.6 mg, 0.75 mmol.) as starting material. **7c** was obtained as gray solid (58.4 mg, 47%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:2). Melting point(°C): 125.9-127.6

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (t, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.18 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 2.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06–6.99 (m, 2H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 152.8 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.53, 143.63, 140.87, 134.61, 129.67, 129.47, 126.61, 120.46, 119.85, 119.33, 116.54.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{12}ClN_2O^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 247.06327, found 247.06326. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3382, 2976, 2361, 1644, 1531, 1332, 1090, 787.



According to literature Chem. Pharm. Bull. 28(3) 702-707 (1980), a flame-dried 25 mL vial were placed with a stirring bar. Then, **3a** (63.6 mg, 0.3 mmol), acetyl chloride 65  $\mu$ L (3.0 eq.) and acetic acid (1.0 mL) were added .The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 3 hours and the solvent was evaporated off in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O and neutralized with aqueous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, to give a crude product. Recrystallization from EtOH gave a pure sample as colorless needles (54.2 mg, 77%).

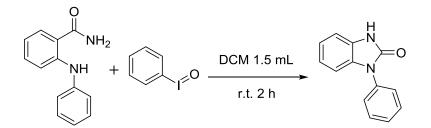
#### (12) 2-methyl-1-phenylquinazolin-4(1H)-one (CAS: 1086-20-0)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.35 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.61 (m, 3H), 7.50 (ddd, J = 8.6, 7.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.36–7.32 (m, 2H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.10, 161.07, 142.43, 137.99, 133.39, 130.93, 130.32, 128.34, 128.00, 125.78, 119.11, 116.53, 24.63.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 237.10224, found 237.10214.





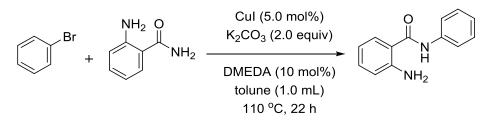
According to literature Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2012, 1994–2000, a flame-dried 25 mL vial were placed with a stirring bar. Then, **3a** (63.6 mg, 0.3 mmol), iodosylbenzene (99.0 mg, 1.5equiv) and DCM (1.5 mL) were added .The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered, concentrated and then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the target product as white solid (58.6mg, 93%).

#### (13) 1-phenyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-one (CAS: 14813-85-5)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 3H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.23, 134.44, 130.52, 129.66, 128.19, 127.93, 126.30, 122.32, 121.47, 110.14, 108.87. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{13}H_{11}N_2O^+$  (M+H) + 211.08659, found 211.08650.

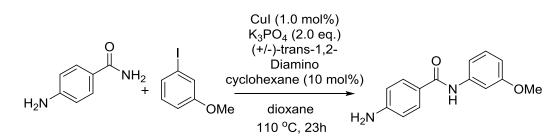
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According to literature J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2003, 125, 6653-6655•6653, a Schlenk tube was charged with CuI (9.7 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol%), 2-aminobenzamide (167 mg, 1.2 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (276 mg, 2.0 equiv), evacuated and backfilled with argon. N,N'-dimethylethylenediamine (11  $\mu$ L, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol%), bromobenzene (106  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) were added under argon. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon valve and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 22 h. Product was obtained as white solid (172mg, 85%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 8:1).

#### (8) 2-amino-N-phenylbenzamide (CAS: 4424-17-3)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (s, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 6.75 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 5.49 (br, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.61, 148.98, 137.87, 132.77, 129.08, 127.19, 124.52, 120.57, 117.56, 116.86, 116.27. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (M+H) + 213.10224, found 213.10252.



According to literature J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 7727-7729, a Schlenk tube was charged with CuI (1.0 mg, 0.005 mmol, 1.0 mol%), 4-aminobenzamide (83.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (212.5 mg, 2 equiv), evacuated and backfilled with argon. rac-trans-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (7  $\mu$ L, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), 1-iodo-3-methoxybenzene (70 uL, 0.5 mmol) and toluene (0.5 mL) were added under argon. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon valve and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 23 h. Product was obtained as white solid (90.3mg, 75%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 1:1).

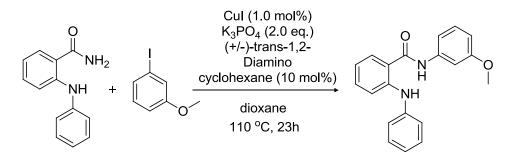
#### (10) 4-amino-N-(3-methoxyphenyl)benzamide (CAS: 897594-57-9)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.70 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.74 - 6.65 (m, 3H), 4.03 (br, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.41, 160.23, 149.99, 139.61, 129.66, 128.88, 124.26, 114.27, 112.08, 110.17, 105.56, 55.34.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O_2^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 243.11280, found 243.11275.

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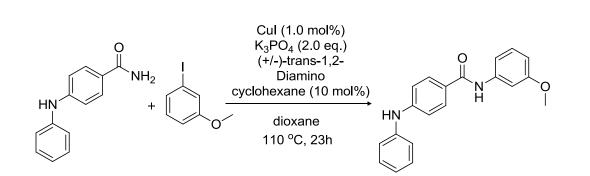
According to literature J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 7727-7729, a Schlenk tube was charged with CuI (1.0 mg, 0.005 mmol, 1.0 mol%), 2-(phenylamino)benzamide (127.2 mg, 1.2 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (212.5 mg, 2 equiv), evacuated and backfilled with argon. rac-trans-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (7  $\mu$ L, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), 1-iodo-3-methoxybenzene (70 uL, 0.5 mmol) and toluene (0.5 mL) were added under argon. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon valve and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 23 h Product was obtained as yellow viscous liquid (93.7mg, 59%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 8:1).

#### (9) N-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-(phenylamino)benzamide (CAS: 1181002-63-0)

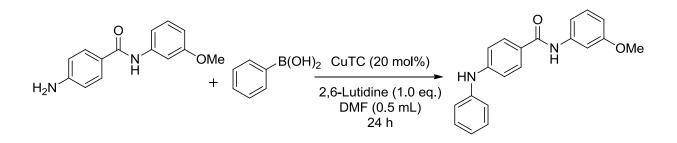
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.06 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.28 (dt, J = 11.9, 5.7 Hz, 4H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m, 1H), 6.69 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.78, 160.24, 145.72, 141.40, 138.92, 132.68, 129.81, 129.37, 127.66, 122.71, 120.91, 118.86, 118.32, 116.00, 112.86, 110.57, 106.44, 55.38.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{20}H_{19}N_2O_2^+$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 319.14410, found 319.14423.



According to literature J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2001, 123, 7727-7729, a Schlenk tube was charged with CuI (1.0 mg, 0.005 mmol, 1.0 mol%), 4-(phenylamino)benzamide (127.2 mg, 1.2 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (212.5 mg, 2 equiv), evacuated and backfilled with argon. rac-trans-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (7  $\mu$ L, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), 1-iodo-3-methoxybenzene (70 uL, 0.5 mmol) and toluene (0.5 mL) were added under argon. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon valve and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 23 h. Product was obtained as white solide (155.1mg, 97%) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).



A flame-dried 100 mL pear shaped flask were placed with a stirring bar. Then, 4-amino-N-(3-methoxyphenyl)benzamide (48.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), CuTC (7.6 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%), 2,6-Lutidine (23  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), arylboronic acid (36.6 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.), and DMF (0.5 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at ambient temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was treated with EtOAc (5.0 mL) and water (5.0 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5.0 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine (2 × 5.0 mL), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to afford residue, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the target product, Product was obtained as white solide ( 59.3 mg, 93% ) after purification by silica gel flash chromatography (PE:EA = 3:1).

#### (11) N-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-(phenylamino)benzamide

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 16, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 16.8, 8.0 Hz, 4H), 6.69 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.25, 160.24, 147.24, 141.04, 139.53, 129.69, 129.55, 128.80, 125.66, 122.98, 120.14, 115.24, 112.16, 110.27, 105.64, 55.35.

# 4 Copies of NMR

