
Palladium Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Coupling of Cyclic Enones with Thiophenes: A Rapid Access to β -Heteroarylated Cyclic Enones

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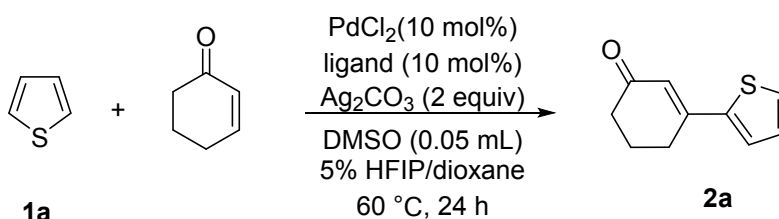
of β-thiophene-substituted cyclohexenone to <i>meta</i>-phenol	
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General methods

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Column chromatography purifications were performed using 200–300 mesh silica gel. Commercial grade solvents and reagents were used without further purification. Experiments involving moisture and/or air sensitive components were performed in oven-dried glassware under a positive pressure of nitrogen using freshly distilled solvents. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck 60 F254 pre-coated silica gel plate (0.2 mm thickness). Subsequent to elution, plates were visualized using UV radiation (254 nm) on Spectroline Model ENF-24061/F 254 nm. Further visualization was possible by staining with basic solution of potassium permanganate or acidic solution of ceric molybdate. Flash chromatography was performed using 200-300 mesh silica gel with the

indicated solvent system. Columns were typically packed as slurry and equilibrated with the appropriate solvent system prior to use. High resolution mass spectral analysis (HRMS) was performed on an AB SCIEX TripleTOF 5600 Instruments. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR experiments were performed with a BRUKER AVANCE III HD 600 MHz and 151 MHz NMR spectrometer, respectively (Bruker, Billerica, MA). Chemical shifts for ^1H NMR spectra are reported as δ in units of parts per million (ppm) downfield from SiMe_4 (δ 0.0) and relative to the signal of chloroform-*d* (δ 7.2600, singlet). Multiplicities were given as: s (singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); dd (doublets of doublet); dt (doublets of triplet); or m (multiplets). The number of protons (n) for a given resonance is indicated by nH. Coupling constants are reported as a *J* value in Hz. Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (^{13}C NMR) are reported as δ in units of parts per million (ppm) downfield from SiMe_4 (δ 0.0) and relative to the signal of chloroform-*d* (δ 77.0, triplet).

Optimization of Reaction Conditions

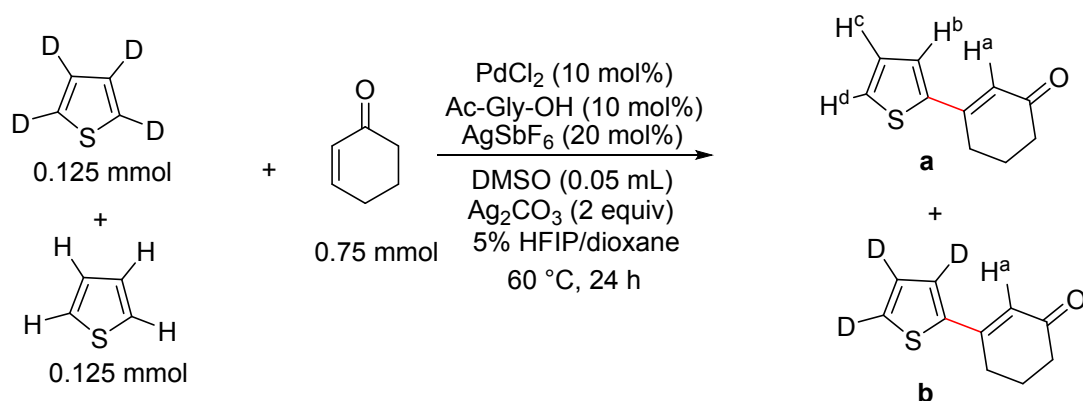


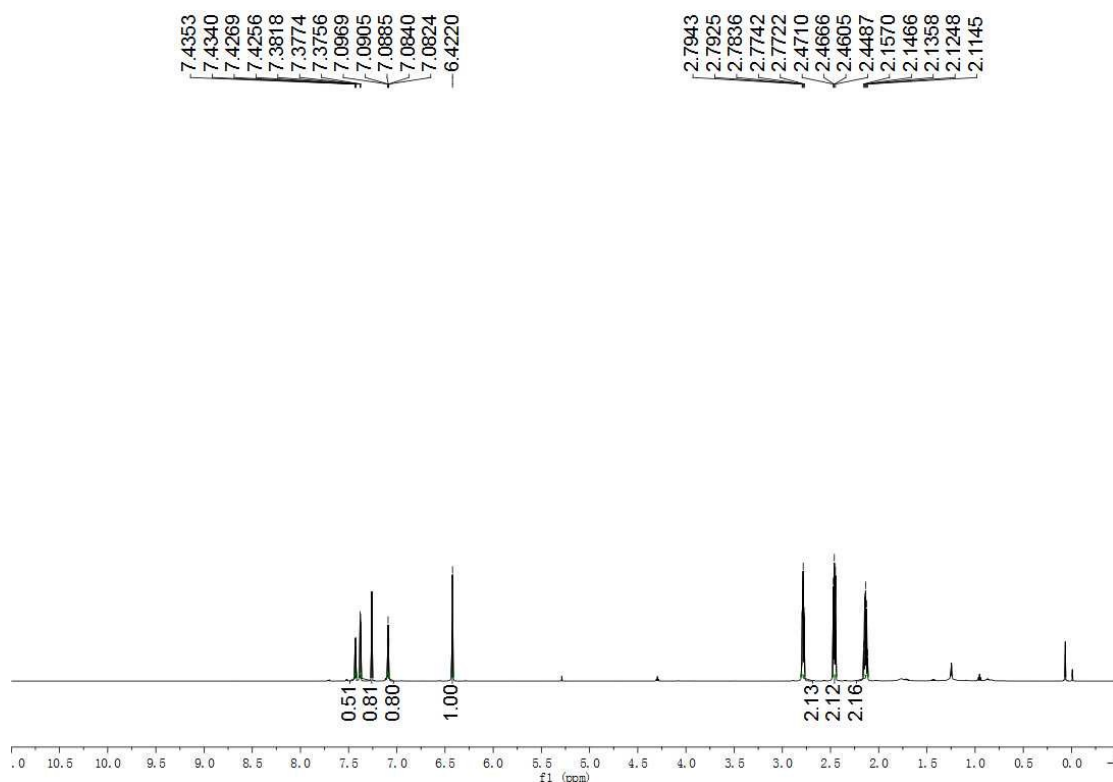
Screening of amino acid ligands effect of the reaction.^a

entry	ligand	yield/%
1	Ac-Gly-OH	64%
2	Ac-Leu-OH	56%
3	Ac-Val-OH	54%
4	Ac-Ile-OH	50%
5	Ac-Phe-OH	48%
6 ^b	Ac-Gly-OH	0
7 ^c	-	0

^a General conditions: **1a** (0.25 mmol), cyclohexenone (3.0 equiv), amino acid ligand (10 mol%), Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mol%), HFIP:1,4-dioxane =1:20 (0.05mL, 1 mL), 60 °C, 24 h. The yields indicated were determined upon isolation. ^bin the absence of PdCl₂ ^cin the absence of Ac-Gly-OH.

Competing Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment

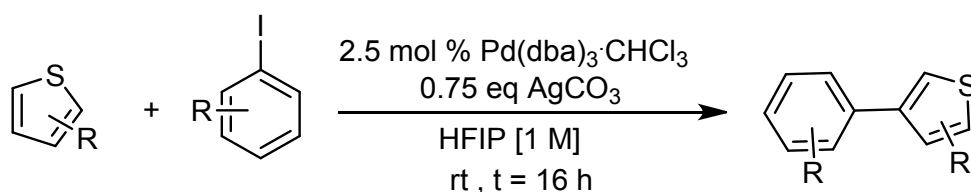




¹H NMR spectra of the mixture of compound **a** and **b**

Note: The value of k_H/k_D was calculated from the ¹H NMR spectra above which should be the mixture of compound **a** and **b** (the KIE scheme). The compound **a** was integrated as 0.8 (since the H^b and H^c was integrated as 0.8). Therefore, the compound **b** was integrated as 0.2 (since the mixed H^a of compound **a** and **b** with chemical shift 6.422 (s, 1H) was integrated as 1.0, so 1.0-0.8 = 0.2). Therefore, $k_H/k_D = 0.8/(1.0-0.8) = 4$.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of thiophene homologues.

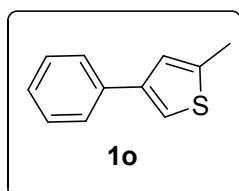


Thiophene homologues was synthesized according to the procedure of

Larrosa *et al.*¹ Thiophene homologues (2 mmol), Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (51.8 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.025 equiv), silver carbonate (413.6 mg, 1.5 mmol, 0.75 equiv), aryl iodide (3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and were stirred in hexafluoro-2-propanol (2 mL) at room temperature for 16 h. After this time, the resultant mixture was diluted with EtOAc (5 mL) and filtered through a plug of silica. The silica plug was flushed with EtOAc (30 mL) and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography to give the corresponding product.

Characterization data for the substituted thiophenes

2-methyl-4-phenylthiophene (**1o**)

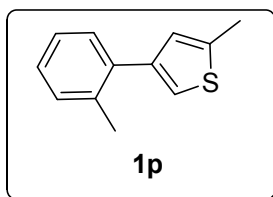


The product **1o** was obtained via general procedure using 2-methylthiophene (0.194 mL, 2 mmol) and iodobenzene (0.334 mL, 3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and

isolated by column chromatography as a white solid in 70% yield (244 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.65; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.05, 140.49, 136.12, 128.71, 126.92, 126.23, 124.62, 118.00, 15.43. This data is in accordance with the reported literature.²

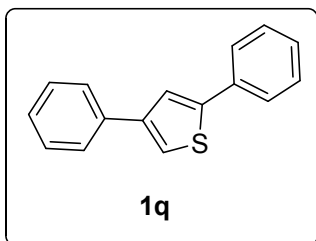
2-methyl-4-(*o*-tolyl)thiophene (**1p**)



The product **1p** was obtained via general procedure using 2-methylthiophene (0.194 mL, 2 mmol) and 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene (0.382 mL, 3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and isolated by column chromatography as a colorless oil in 68% yield (256 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.70; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.01, 139.08, 136.91, 135.59, 130.39, 129.59, 127.20, 127.11, 125.71, 120.33, 20.77, 15.30; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₂H₁₃S [M+H]⁺: 189.0732, found 189.0732.

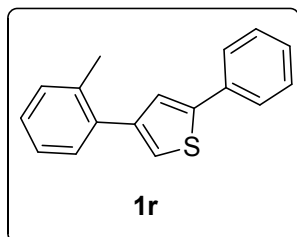
2,4-diphenylthiophene (**1q**)



The product **1q** was obtained via general procedure using 2-phenylthiophene **1h** (320.5 mg, 2 mmol) and iodobenzene (0.334 mL, 3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and isolated by column chromatography as a white solid in 45% yield (214 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.55; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67-7.61 (m, *J* = 21.7, 9.3 Hz, 4H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 5H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 5.8 Hz, 2H). the data is in accordance with the reported literature.³

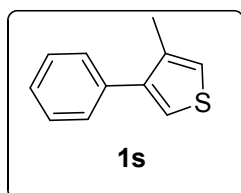
2-phenyl-4-(*o*-tolyl)thiophene (**1r**)



The product **1r** was obtained via general procedure using 2-phenylthiophene (320.5 mg, 2 mmol) and 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene (0.382 mL, 3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and isolated by column chromatography as a colorless oil in 54% yield (269 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.50; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 9.1, 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.80, 143.07, 136.58, 135.66, 134.34, 130.49, 129.59, 128.90, 127.55, 127.43, 127.40, 125.81, 124.99, 122.07, 20.77; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₅S [M+H]⁺: 251.0889, found 251.0892.

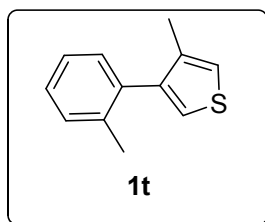
3-methyl-4-phenylthiophene (**1s**)



The product **1s** was obtained via general procedure using 3-methylthiophene (0.193 mL, 2 mmol) and iodobenzene (0.334 mL, 3 mol, 1.5 equiv) and isolated by column chromatography as a colorless oil in 76% yield (265 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.65; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 4H), 7.37-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.11, 137.07, 136.13, 128.60, 128.28, 126.94, 122.93, 121.96, 15.51. The data is in accordance with the literature.⁴

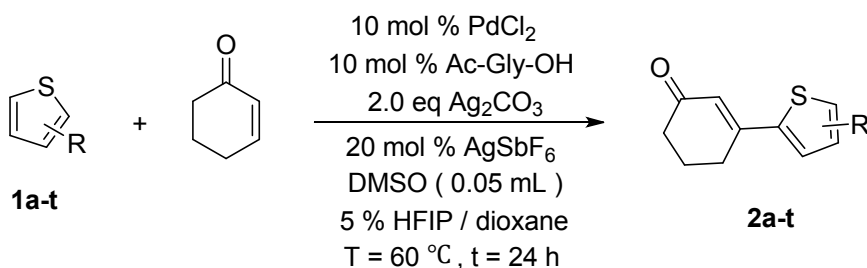
3-methyl-4-(o-tolyl)thiophene (**1t**)



The product **1t** was obtained via general procedure using 3-methylthiophene (0.193 mL, 2 mmol) and 1-iodo-2-methylbenzene (0.382 mL, 3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and isolated by column chromatography as a colorless oil in 57% yield (216 mg).

R_f (hexane): 0.65; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (dt, *J* = 8.2, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.73, 137.01, 136.87, 136.81, 130.03, 129.86, 127.45, 125.41, 122.58, 120.84, 19.93, 14.74. The data is in accordance with the literature.⁴

General procedure for the palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling of thiophenes with cyclic enones.

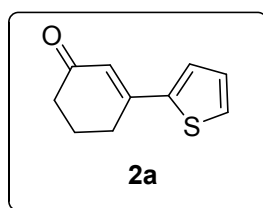


A 10 mL reaction tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added thiophene derivative (0.25 mmol), PdCl₂ (0.025 mmol, 10 mol%), silver carbonate (0.75 mmol, 2 equiv), Ac-Gly-OH (0.025 mmol, 10 mol%), AgSbF₆ (0.05 mmol, 20 mol%), DMSO (0.05 mL), and 2-cyclohexen-1-one (0.75 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in 5% HFIP / 1,4-Dioxane (v/v, 1 mL) at 60

°C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, followed by the addition of water and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtrated and concentrated in *vacuo*, the residue was purified through column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products.

Characterization data for the products

3-(thiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2a)

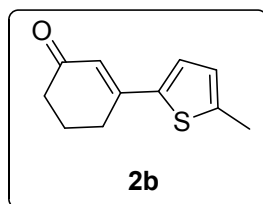


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow oil (28.6 mg) in 64% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.40; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.48-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.09 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.39, 152.38, 142.70, 128.71, 128.22, 127.28, 122.68, 37.19, 27.96, 22.39; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₀H₁₁OS [M+H]⁺: 179.0525, found 179.0525. the data is in accordance with the literature.⁵

3-(5-methylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2b)

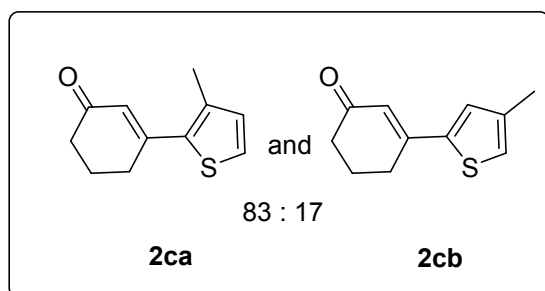
This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above



and was obtained as a yellow oil (32.6 mg) in 68% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.45; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.39 (dd, *J* = 9.4, 3.8 Hz, 2H), 2.08-2.04 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.19, 152.56, 144.19, 140.13, 127.80, 126.61, 121.51, 37.07, 27.38, 22.27, 15.59; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₁H₁₃OS [M+H]⁺: 193.0682, found 193.0681.

3-(4-methylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2ca)

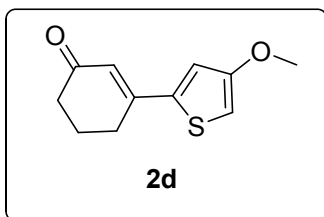


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow oil (33.6 mg) of inseparable

mixture (**2ca/2ccb** = 83:17) in 70% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.45; ¹H and ¹³C NMR are described for the **2ca** isomer: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 11.2, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 2.45-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.10 (dt, *J* = 12.8, 6.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.19, 153.74, 137.64, 136.45, 132.58, 126.16, 125.24, 36.86, 30.76, 22.62, 16.93; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₁H₁₃OS [M+H]⁺: 193.0682, found 193.0682.

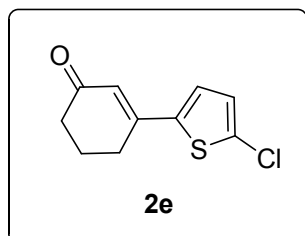
3-(4-methoxythiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2d)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above in the absence of AgSbF_6 and was obtained as a yellow solid (32.6 mg) in 63% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.40; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.34 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.74 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.44-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.11-2.05 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.96, 158.43, 152.10, 126.81, 122.51, 118.54, 116.82, 58.54, 37.11, 29.29, 22.62; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 209.0631, found 209.0631.

3-(5-chlorothiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2e)

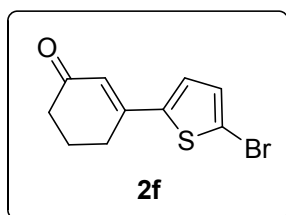


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (31.2 mg) in 59% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.35; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.15 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 2.71-2.68 (m, 2H), 2.46-2.44 (m, 2H), 2.14-2.10 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.00, 151.32, 141.08, 133.67, 127.49, 126.84, 122.63, 37.17, 27.24, 22.26; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_9\text{ClOS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 213.0135, found 213.0134.

3-(5-bromothiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2f)

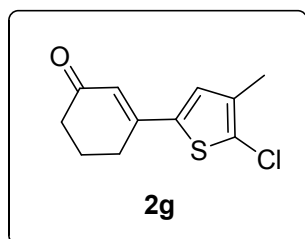
This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above



and was obtained as a yellow solid (36.6 mg) in 57% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.35; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.12 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 2.71-2.69 (m, 2H), 2.46-2.44 (m, 2H), 2.16-2.10 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.04, 151.17, 143.99, 131.20, 127.56, 122.81, 116.37, 37.17, 27.36, 22.29; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₀H₁₀BrOS [M+H]⁺: 256.9630, found 256.9623. Data is in accordance with the literature.⁶

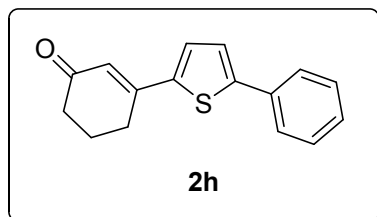
3-(5-chloro-4-methylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2g)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow solid (37.9 mg) in 67% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.40; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 2.69-2.65 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.41 (m, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.13-2.07 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.02, 151.44, 138.42, 135.85, 129.04, 128.82, 122.23, 37.16, 27.14, 22.27, 13.59; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₁H₁₂ClOS [M+H]⁺: 227.0292, found 227.0290.

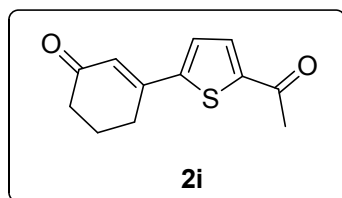
3-(5-phenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2h)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow solid (47.7 mg) in 75% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.47; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.61 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 2.78 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.12 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.26, 152.22, 147.66, 141.51, 133.42, 129.02, 128.54, 128.44, 125.91, 124.08, 122.32, 37.22, 27.61, 22.40; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{OS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 255.0838, found 255.0837.

3-(5-acetylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2i)

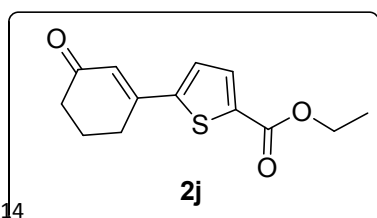


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above using 0.5 equivalent Ac-Gly-OH in HFIP/dioxane (0.5 mL/0.5 mL)

instead of HFIP/dioxane (0.05 mL/1 mL) at 110 °C and was obtained as a yellow solid (24.4 mg) in 44% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.38; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.63 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 2.76 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.48 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.18-2.13 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.04, 190.48, 151.13, 149.83, 145.52, 132.67, 127.20, 124.74, 37.14, 27.89, 26.74, 22.29; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 221.0631, found 221.0629.

ethyl 5-(3-oxocyclohex-1-en-1-yl)thiophene-2-carboxylate (2j)

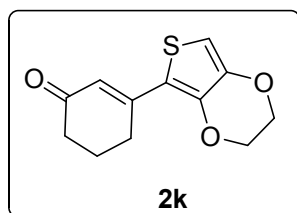


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above using 0.5

equivalent Ac-Gly-OH in HFIP/dioxane (0.5 mL/0.5 mL) instead of HFIP/dioxane (0.05 mL/1 mL) at 110 °C and was obtained as a yellow solid (37.4 mg) in 60% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.65; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.49-2.46 (m, 2H), 2.17-2.13 (m, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.00, 161.65, 151.23, 148.43, 135.64, 133.65, 126.91, 124.32, 61.52, 37.14, 27.83, 22.28, 14.23; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₃H₁₅O₃S [M+H]⁺: 251.0736, found 251.0735.

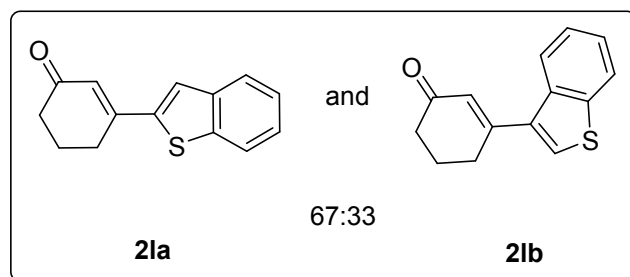
3-(2,3-dihydrothieno[3,4-b][1,4]dioxin-5-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2k)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (17.2 mg) in 29% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.35; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 4.32-4.29 (m, 2H), 4.23-4.21 (m, 2H), 2.71-2.68 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.11-2.06 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.75, 151.56, 142.41, 142.25, 122.65, 116.63, 102.93, 64.90, 64.17, 37.19, 28.16, 22.50; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₂H₁₃O₃S [M+H]⁺: 237.0580, found 237.0578.

3-(benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (**2la**)

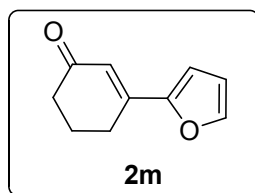


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white

solid (13.4 mg) of inseparable mixture (**2c**/**2c'** = 67:33) in 23% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ^1H and ^{13}C NMR are described for the **2la** isomer: ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.79 (dd, J = 16.4, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.35 (td, J = 13.6, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 2.87 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.53-2.50 (m, 2H), 2.24-2.16 (m, J = 19.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.34, 152.47, 142.45, 140.13, 139.68, 126.21, 124.88, 124.83, 124.73, 124.43, 122.37, 37.33, 27.53, 22.43; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{OS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 229.0682, found 229.0681. Data is in accordance with the literature.⁷

3-(furan-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (**2m**)

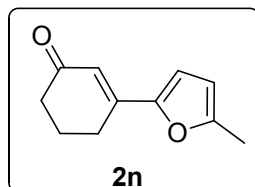


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a colorless oil (16.9 mg) in 42% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.40; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.14 – 2.09 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.48, 152.18, 147.11, 145.00, 120.98, 112.49, 112.28, 37.50, 25.31,

22.39; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{10}H_{11}O_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 163.0754, found 163.0753.

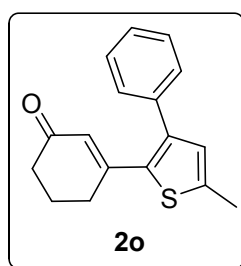
3-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2n)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (24.7 mg) in 56% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.45; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.64 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 6.12-6.09 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.59 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.42 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.11-2.05 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.45, 155.78, 150.53, 147.17, 119.60, 114.13, 108.85, 37.48, 25.13, 22.42, 13.87; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{11}H_{13}O_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 177.0910, found 177.0909. The data is in accordance with the literature.⁸

3-(5-methyl-3-phenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2o)

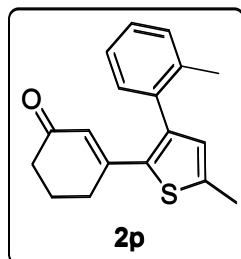


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (57.2 mg) in 85% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.39-2.34 (m, 4H), 1.94-1.89 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.14, 155.36, 142.07, 140.90, 136.86, 134.37, 130.07, 128.50, 128.45, 127.65, 126.81, 37.18, 29.94, 22.90, 15.30; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated

for $C_{17}H_{17}OS$ $[M+H]^+$: 269.0995, found 269.0991.

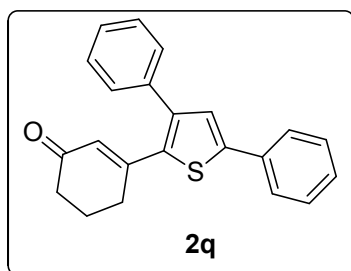
3-(5-methyl-3-(*o*-tolyl)thiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2p)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a colorless oil (67.8 mg) in 96% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; 1H NMR (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.26-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.32-2.27 (m, 4H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.90-1.85 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 199.20, 154.42, 142.35, 141.19, 136.99, 135.71, 135.10, 130.52, 130.18, 129.10, 127.96, 125.85, 124.62, 36.98, 29.27, 22.77, 19.89, 15.38; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{18}H_{19}OS$ $[M+H]^+$: 283.1151, found 283.1150.

3-(3,5-diphenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2q)

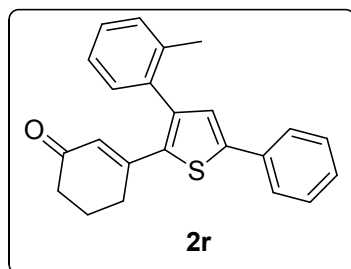


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow oil (43.8 mg) in 53% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.47; 1H NMR (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.63-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.31 (m, 8H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 2.44-2.39 (m, 4H), 1.96 (dt, J = 12.6, 6.2 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 199.03, 154.87, 144.50, 142.89, 136.63, 135.83, 133.27, 129.00, 128.62, 128.46, 128.28, 127.92, 127.35, 127.24, 125.77, 37.19, 29.89, 22.89; HRMS (ESI)

m/z calculated for $C_{22}H_{19}OS$ $[M+H]^+$: 331.1151, found 331.1148.

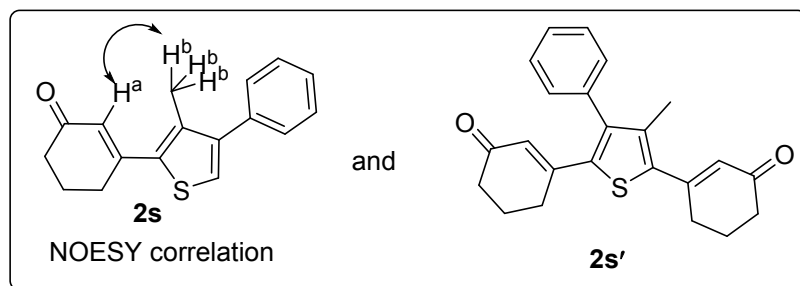
3-(5-phenyl-3-(*o*-tolyl)thiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2r)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow oil (43.4 mg) in 50% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.42; 1H NMR (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.64-7.61 (t, 2H), 7.41 (dd, J = 10.6, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.24 (m, J = 11.5, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 2.39-2.34 (m, 4H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.96-1.91 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 199.12, 153.92, 144.66, 143.14, 136.77, 136.59, 135.83, 133.27, 130.37, 129.17, 129.03, 128.34, 128.28, 127.83, 126.05, 125.75, 125.25, 37.06, 29.33, 22.83, 19.99; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{23}H_{21}OS$ $[M+H]^+$: 345.1308, found 345.1305.

3-(3-methyl-4-phenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2s) and 3,3'-(3-methyl-4-phenylthiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(cyclohex-2-enone) (2s')



The use of **1s** as substrate following the general

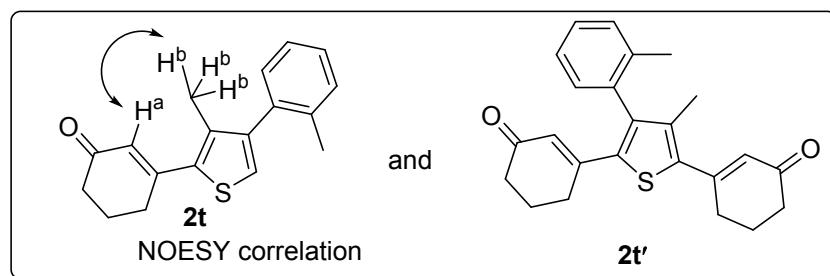
procedure, **2s** (30 mg, 45%) and **2s'** (42.0 mg, 46%) were obtained.

2s, R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.40, green solid; 1H NMR (600 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.43 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 2.80 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.52 – 2.48 (t, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.19 – 2.14 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.36, 154.22, 146.03, 137.95, 136.61, 135.80, 128.96, 128.39, 127.46, 126.23, 124.10, 37.08, 31.15, 22.78, 16.44; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₇OS [M+H]⁺: 269.0995, found 269.0992.

2s', R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.40, yellow oil; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 2H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 2.78 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.51-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.33 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.14 (m, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.12, 198.92, 154.01, 153.31, 144.45, 138.96, 138.39, 137.86, 136.31, 129.40, 128.77, 128.20, 127.83, 127.10, 37.10, 37.02, 31.13, 29.80, 22.81, 22.75, 16.30; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₂₃H₂₃O₂S [M+H]⁺: 363.1413, found 363.1409.

3-(3-methyl-4-(o-tolyl)thiophen-2-yl)cyclohex-2-enone (2t) and 3,3'-(3-methyl-4-(o-tolyl)thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(cyclohex-2-enone) (2t')



The use of **1t** as substrate following the general

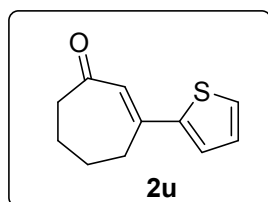
procedure, **2t** (31.7 mg, 45%) and **2t'** (48.1 mg, 40%) were obtained.

2t, R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.42, white solid; ¹H NMR (600 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 2.82 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (dt, J = 12.7, 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.11 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.43, 154.22, 145.58, 137.12, 136.94, 136.79, 136.38, 130.08, 129.98, 127.93, 125.67, 125.62, 124.04, 37.08, 30.99, 22.81, 19.89, 15.89; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₉OS [M+H]⁺: 283.1151, found 283.1148.

2t', R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.40, yellow oil; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 2.79 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.51-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.26 (m, 4H), 2.20-2.14 (m, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.92-1.87 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.16, 199.04, 153.25, 153.20, 144.50, 138.81, 138.65, 138.12, 136.32, 136.08, 130.50, 129.44, 128.63, 126.90, 126.43, 126.42, 37.05, 30.99, 29.36, 22.78, 22.77, 19.68, 15.84; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₂₄H₂₅O₂S [M+H]⁺: 377.1570, found 377.1565.

3-(thiophen-2-yl)cyclohept-2-en-1-one (2u)

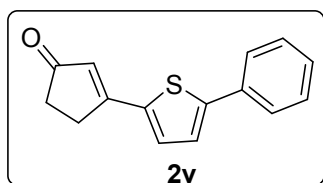


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow solid (13.5 mg) in 28% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.45; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 2.93-2.90 (m, 2H),

2.68-2.65 (m, 2H), 1.97-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 203.62, 149.66, 145.16, 128.24, 128.01, 127.18, 126.73, 41.89, 31.23, 24.90, 21.00; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{OS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 193.0682, found: 193.0683.

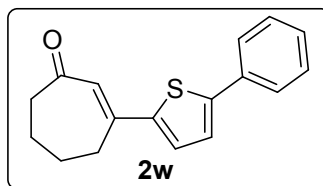
3-(5-phenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclopent-2-en-1-one (2v)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow solid (25.6 mg) in 43% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.3; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.65-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 2H), 6.36 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (ddd, J = 6.7, 3.2, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.59 – 2.56 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 208.36, 166.36, 149.31, 137.46, 133.28, 129.65, 129.09, 128.68, 126.01, 125.42, 124.12, 35.02, 29.02; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{OS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 241.0682, found 241.0682.

3-(5-phenylthiophen-2-yl)cyclohept-2-en-1-one (2w)

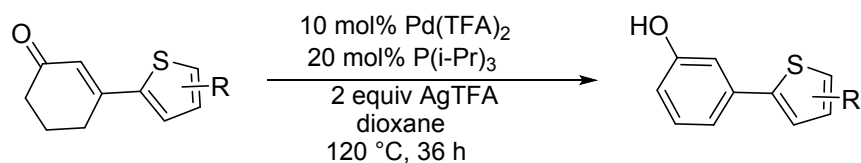


This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow solid (28.2 mg) in 42% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.35; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.62-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.34- 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 2.94-2.91 (m, 2H), 2.70-2.67 (m, 2H), 1.99-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.89 (dt, J = 13.2, 6.5 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ

203.56, 149.58, 146.92, 143.97, 133.59, 129.00, 128.26, 127.97, 126.81, 125.84, 124.12, 41.87, 30.67, 24.89, 21.01; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{17}H_{17}OS$ $[M+H]^+$: 269.0995, found 269.0996.

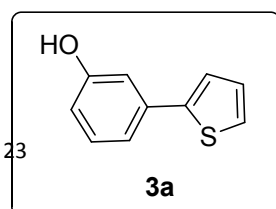
General procedure for the palladium-catalyzed dehydrogenation of β -thiophene-substituted cyclohexenone to *meta*-phenol derivatives



A 10 mL reaction tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added β -thiophene-substituted cyclohexenone (0.15 mmol), Pd(TFA)_2 (10 mol%), silver trifluoroacetate (2.0 equiv), triisopropylphosphane (20 mol%) in 1,4-dioxane (0.75 mL) at 120°C for 36 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, followed by the addition of water and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate ($3 \times 10 \text{ mL}$). The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtrated and concentrated in *vacuo*, the residue was purified through column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products.

Characterization data for the products

3-(thiophen-2-yl)phenol (3a)

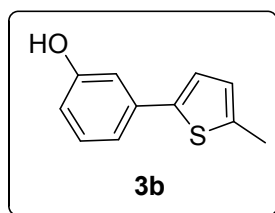


This compound was prepared by the general

procedure described above and was obtained as a yellow oil (14.7 mg) in 83% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 7.08 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (m, 1H), 4.93 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.81, 143.86, 135.96, 130.13, 127.95, 124.95, 123.33, 118.64, 114.42, 112.79; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₀H₇OS [M-H]⁻: 175.0212, found 175.0217.

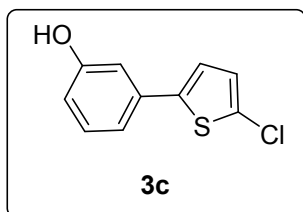
3-(5-methylthiophen-2-yl)phenol (3b)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (9.4 mg) in 33% yield.

R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.48; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.73-6.70 (m, 2H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 2.50 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.80, 141.40, 139.71, 136.28, 130.03, 126.15, 123.16, 118.18, 113.94, 112.30, 15.45; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₁₁H₉OS [M-H]⁻: 189.0369, found 189.0375.

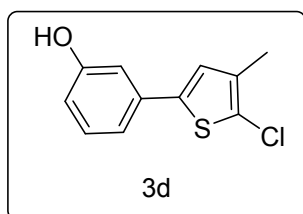
3-(5-chlorothiophen-2-yl)phenol (3c)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (22.9 mg) in 72% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.24 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99-6.98 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.97, 142.37, 135.21, 130.26, 129.30, 127.06, 122.49, 118.18, 114.82, 112.39; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{ClOS}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 208.9822, found 208.9831.

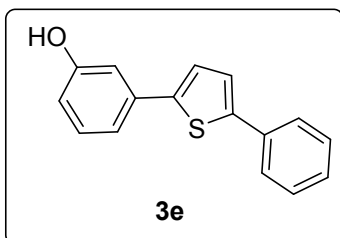
3-(5-chloro-4-methylthiophen-2-yl)phenol (3d)



This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (23.5 mg) in 74% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.22 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.97-6.95 (m, 2H), 6.76-6.73 (m, 1H), 4.90 (s, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.92, 139.74, 135.31, 135.29, 130.20, 124.87, 124.25, 118.02, 114.65, 112.20, 13.68; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{ClOS}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 222.9979, found 222.9987.

3-(5-phenylthiophen-2-yl)phenol (3e)



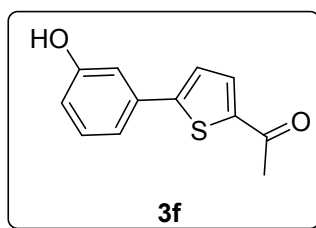
This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (20.8 mg) in 55% yield.

Rf (hexane:EtOAc = 5:1): 0.50; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.63 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, J = 10.6, 4.9 Hz,

2H), 7.31-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.90, 143.77, 143.04, 135.87, 134.22, 130.16, 128.92, 127.57, 125.64, 124.26, 123.94, 118.32, 114.49, 112.44; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{OS}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 251.0525, found 251.0537.

1-(5-(3-hydroxyphenyl)thiophen-2-yl)ethanone (3f)

This compound was prepared by the general procedure described above and was obtained as a white solid (22.9 mg) in 70% yield.



R_f (hexane:EtOAc = 2:1): 0.40; ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.67 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (d, J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.09, 156.32, 152.78, 143.00, 134.71, 133.70, 130.38, 124.11, 118.63, 116.20, 113.25, 26.53; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{O}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 217.0318, found 217.0327.

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Copy of ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR Spectra