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Supporting Information

Metal-Free Iodine(III)-Promoted Synthesis of 2,5-Diaryloxazoles

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1. General information

¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on 300MHz and 75MHz in CDCl₃. All chemical shifts are given as δ value (ppm) with reference to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. The high-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on an FT-ICR mass spectrometer using electrospray ionization (ESI). Products were purified by flash chromatogrgraphy on 200-300 mesh silica gel. Unless otherwise noted, commercially reagents were used without further purification

General procedure for the synthesis of 2 (2a as an example)

Synthesis of 2a: A test tube was charged with chalcone (0.2 mmol), PhI(OAc)₂ (0.8 mmol), NH₄OAc (2 mmol) in HFIP (0.5 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h under air atmosphere. When the reaction was completed, the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20:1) to yield the isolated product 2a.

2. Experiments for Mechanistic Studies



In order to elucidate the possible mechanism of this reaction, more

control experiments were investigated. We first use enaminone¹ as substrate to start the reaction with 4 equiv of $PhI(OAc)_2$, unfortunately, we did not get the desirable product. Then we got the 3,5-disubstituted isoxazole.² Unfortunately, we did not get 2,5-disubstituted oxazole under standard conditions by using 3,5-disubstituted isoxazole as substrate. The experimental results indicated that the reaction process did not experience such intermediates.

3. Characterization data for isolated compounds

2,5-Diphenyloxazole 2a. White solid (35.7 mg 86%); m. p. = 64-67 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 – 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.71 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.39 (m, 6H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1, 151.2, 130.3, 128.8, 128.4, 127.9, 127.3, 126.2, 124.1, 123.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺ 222.0914 ; found: 222.0916. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2a were identical to data reported in the literature.³

5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2b. White solid (37.7 mg 79%); m. p. = 87-89 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (dd, J = 7.3, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.8, 5.3 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 3H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H).¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.13, 160.88 (d, J = 7.5 Hz), 150.23, 130.25, 128.70, 127.15,

126.09, 125.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 124.15, 122.94, 116.09, 115.79; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{15}H_{11}FNO [M+H]^+$ 240.0819 ; found: 240.0820. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2b were identical to data reported in the literature.⁴



5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2c. Light yellow solid (38.2 mg 75%); m. p. =102-104 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 (ddd, J = 8.6, 3.7, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2, 150.1, 134.0, 130.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.1, 126.4, 126.2, 125.3, 123.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁CINO [M+H]⁺ 256.0524 ; found: 256.0522. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2c were identical to data reported in the literature.⁵



5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2d. Light yellow solid (35.8 mg 60%); m. p. = 99-100 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (dd, J = 6.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (s, 4H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2, 150.1, 132.0, 130.4, 128.7, 127.0, 126.7, 126.2, 125.4, 123.8, 122.1. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrNO [M+H]⁺ 300.0019 ; found: 300.0018. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2d were identical to data reported in the literature.³



2-phenyl-5-(p-tolyl)oxazole 2e. White solid (19.2 mg 41%); m. p. = 76-78 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (s, 3H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.7, 151.3, 138.4, 130.1, 129.5, 128.7, 127.4, 126.1, 125.1, 124.0, 122.7, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ 236.1070 ; found: 236.1070. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2e were identical to data reported in the literature.⁴



5-(4-Meth phenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2f. Light yellow solid(35.6 mg 71%); m. p. = 78-79 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 (dt, J = 12.6, 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 159.7, 151.2, 130.0, 128.7, 127.4, 126.0, 125.6, 121.8, 120.7, 114.3, 77.4, 77.0, 76.6, 55.3. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 252.1019 ; found: 252.1020. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2f were identical to data reported in the literature.³

5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-2-phenyloxazole 2g. White

solid(22.7 mg 42%); m. p. = 98-99 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

8.16 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.88 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 6.0, 4.6 Hz, 5H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2, 151.3, 133.3, 133.0, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.3, 126.8, 126.4, 126.3, 125.2, 123.9, 122.8, 122.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ 272.1070 ; found: 272.1071. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2g were identical to data reported in the literature.⁵

5-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2h. White solid(37.2 mg 73%); m. p. = 108-110 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (dd, J = 6.6, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.38 (dd, J = 9.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.4, 149.7 (s), 134.9, 130.5, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 127.0, 126.3, 124.3, 124.0, 122.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO [M+H]⁺ 256.0524 ; found: 256.0523. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2h were identical to data reported in the literature.⁸

CI 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-phenyloxazole 2i. White

solid(29.6 mg 58%); m. p. = 103-106 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (dd, J = 6.5, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.40 (dd, J = 7.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.4, 149.7, 134.9, 130.5, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 127.0, 126.3, 124.3, 124.0, 122.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO [M+H]⁺ 256.0524 ; found: 256.0522. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2i were identical to data reported in the literature.⁸

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-phenyloxazole 2j. Light yellow solid(42.5 mg 89%); m. p. = 71-73 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (ddd, J = 16.1, 9.1, 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 7.4, 3.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.09 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.6, 162.3, 160.2, 151.2, 128.9, 128.4 (d, J = 6.1 Hz), 128.2, 127.8, 124.1, 123.7, 123.3, 116.1, 115.8. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁FNO [M+H]⁺ 239.0746 ; found: 239.0750. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2j were identical to data reported in the literature.³

CI

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-phenyloxazole 2k. Light

yellow solid (39.7 mg 78%), m. p. = 115-117 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 151.4, 136.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.7, 127.4, 125.8, 124.1, 123.4. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO [M+H]⁺ 255.0524 ; found: 255.0522. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2k were identical to data reported in the

literature.⁴



2-(2-Chlorophenyl)-5-phenyloxazole 21. Light yellow solid(38.7 mg 76%); m. p. = 81-83 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (ddd, J = 16.1, 9.1, 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 7.4, 3.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.09 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.9, 151.6, 132.2, 131.3, 130.9, 130.6, 128.9, 128.6, 127.7, 126.8, 126.0, 124.3, 123.1. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO [M+H]⁺ 256.0524 ; found: 256.0521. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 21 were identical to data reported in the literature.⁶

2-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-phenyloxazole 2m. White solid(28.5 mg 56%); m. p. = 101-103 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (s, 1H), 8.00 (dd, J = 4.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.41 (m, 5H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 151.7, 134.9, 130.3, 130.1, 129.0, 128.7, 127.6, 126.2, 124.3, 124.2, 123.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO [M+H]⁺ 256.0524 ; found: 256.0520. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2m were identical to data reported in the literature.⁷



yellow solid(43.0 mg 72%); m. p. = 104-106 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.98 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.68 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 7.4, 3.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 151.4, 132.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.6, 127.6, 126.2, 124.6, 124.1, 123.4;HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrNO [M+H]⁺ 300.0019 ; found: 300.0018. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2n were identical to data reported in the literature.⁹

5-Phenyl-2-p-tolyloxazole 2o. White solid(33.4 mg 71%); m. p. = 69-71 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.75 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dt, J = 13.1, 3.7 Hz, 3H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.3, 150.8, 140.6, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 128.0, 126.2, 124.6, 124.0, 123.2, 21.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ 236.1070 ; found: 236.1073. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 20 were identical to data reported in the literature.³



White solid(25.6 mg 58%); m. p. = 92-94 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.75 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dt, J = 13.1, 3.7 Hz, 3H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2, 150.6, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 123.9, 123.1, 120.1, 114.1, 55.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 252.1019 ; found: 252.1015. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2p were identical to data reported in the literature.³



2-(4-ethylphenyl)-5-phenyloxazole 2q. White solid(34.3 mg 69%); m. p. = 85-87 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 2.69 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.3, 150.8, 146.8, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 126.2, 124.8, 124.0, 123.3, 28.8, 15.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₆NO [M+H]⁺ 250.1227 ; found: 250.1223. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2q were identical to data reported in the literature.⁹



2-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-5-phenyloxazole

2r. White solid(32.8 mg 62%); m. p. = 110-112 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 – 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.53 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.86 (t, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.8, 150.7, 149.4, 148.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 123.9, 123.2, 121.5, 120.9, 108.5, 106.5, 101.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 266.0812 ; found: 266.0815.



2u. Light yellow solid(30.0 mg 52%); m. p. = 109-111 °C; ¹H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.54 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.60 (s), 152.01 (s), 131.95 (s), 130.44 (s), 128.98 (s), 128.81 (s), 127.52 (s), 126.38 (s), 126.18 – 125.60 (m), 124.29 (s), 123.72 (s), 122.01 (s). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₁F₃NO [M+H]⁺ 290.0787 ; found: 290.0786. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of 2u were identical to data reported in the literature.⁴



2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxazole 2w. Light yellow solid(26.7 mg 42%); m. p. = 121-122 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (d, J = 18.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 151.9, 136.0, 132.7, 131.2, 131.1, 127.3, 125.9, 124.6, 121.8, 120.3, 114.4, 55.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₂Cl₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 320.0240 ; found: 320.0241.



2-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxazole 2x. Light yellow solid(41.8 mg 69%); m. p. = 105-107 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (dd, J = 19.5, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J = 17.4, 10.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (t, J = 9.8 Hz, 2H), 3.98 –

3.77 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 151.7, 136.6 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 129.8, 125.9, 124.9, 121.9, 120.3, 117.8, 117.5, 114.4, 55.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₂ClFNO₂ [M+H]⁺ 304.0535 ; found: 304.0538.

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4. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra













































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