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# Cobalt(II)-Catalyzed Regioselective C–H Halogenation of Anilides

Ze-lin Lia, Kang-kang Suna, and Chun Cai\*a

<sup>a</sup> Chemical Engineering College, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing 210094, People's Republic of China

Fax: (+86)-25-8431-5030; phone: (+86)-25-8431-5514; e-mail: c.cai@njust.edu.cn

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#### 1.General information

All compounds are characterized by  $^{1}H$  NMR,  $^{13}C$  NMR and MS. Analytical thin-layer chromatography is performed on glass plates precoated with silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm), and the plates are visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light.  $^{1}H$  NMR and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra are recorded on an AVANCE 500 Bruker spectrometer operating at 500 MHz and 125 MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, respectively, and chemical shifts are reported in ppm.GC analyses are performed on an Agilent 7890A instrument (Column: Agilent 19091J-413:30 m  $\times$  320  $\mu$ m  $\times$  0.25  $\mu$ m, H, FID detection). GC-MS data was recorded on a 5975C Mass Selective Detector, coupled with a 7890A Gas Chromatograph (Agilent Technologies).

### 2.General procedure

General procedure for the synthesis of ortho-bromination product: To a mixture of acetanilide (0.5 mmol) 1a,  $Co(acac)_2$  (10%mmol), additives  $Ag_2O$  (20% mmol), additives TFA (25% mmol), and solvent (DCE =1.5ml) in a reaction tube was added N-bromosuccinimide (NBS) (1.2 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60°C for 16h in air. The reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired products 3.

#### 3. Characterization data

**N-(2-bromophenyl)acetamide** (3a): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3a** as white solid (91.59mg, 86%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.3, 134.7, 131.2, 127.4, 124.2, 121.0, 112.2, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 213.

**N-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)acetamide (3b):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3b** as white solid (96.48mg, 85%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 134.3, 132.2, 131.5, 128.0, 121.0, 112.3, 23.8, 19.6. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 227.

**N-(2-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)acetamide (3c):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3c** as white solid (96.20mg, 80%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.10 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 155.5, 128.1, 122.6, 116.5, 113.6, 112.9, 54.8, 23.6. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 243.

**N-(2-bromo-4-fluorophenyl)acetamide (3d):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3d** as white solid (64.68mg, 56%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.27 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 7.8, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (ddd, J = 9.1, 7.8, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.2, 131.2, 122.1, 118.4, 118.2, 114.4, 114.2, 112.4, 23.7. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 231.

**N-(2-bromo-4-chlorophenyl)acetamide (3e):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3e** as white solid (97.57mg, 79%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.30 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 133.5, 130.7, 128.4, 127.5, 121.5, 112.3, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 247.

**N-(2,4-dibromophenyl)acetamide (3f):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3f** as white solid (109.88mg, 75%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.25 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 134.0, 133.4, 130.5, 121.8, 115.7, 112.5, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 293.

**N-(2-bromo-6-methylphenyl)acetamide (3g):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3g** as white solid (91.94mg, 81%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.4, 137.5, 133.0, 129.2, 129.0, 127.5, 121.1, 22.4, 18.3. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 227.

**N-(2-bromo-6-fluorophenyl)acetamide (3h):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3h** as white solid (84.68mg, 73%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.39 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (q, J = 9.2, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 158.3,156.3, 127.8, 127.2, 123.4, 121.2, 114.7, 22.2. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 231.

N-(2-bromo-5-methylphenyl)acetamide (3i): The crude product was purified by

column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3i** as white solid (87.39mg, 77%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.51 (s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 5.6, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.5, 137.6, 136.1, 131.6, 121.2, 118.5, 117.9, 23.6, 22.1. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 227.

**N-(2-bromo-5-methylphenyl)acetamide (3j):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3j** as white solid (80.59mg, 71%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.24 (dd, J = 11.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (ddd, J = 8.8, 7.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.3, 162.2, 160.2, 135.9, 131.7, 111.1, 108.0, 105.8, 24.0. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 231.

**N-(2-bromonaphthalen-1-yl)acetamide (3k):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3k** as white solid (52.60mg, 40%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.89 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.66 (q, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  168.3, 130.5, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 126.1, 125.6, 122.8, 22.5. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 263.

**4-acetamido-3-bromophenyl acetate (3m):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3m** as white solid (104.34mg, 77%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.38 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  168.1, 167.1, 145.5, 132.6, 124.4, 121.2, 120.6, 111.9, 23.8, 20.0. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 271.

**N-(2-iodophenyl)acetamide (4a):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4a** as white solid (111.78mg, 85%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.3, 137.8, 137.3, 128.3, 125.0,

121.1, 89.0, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 261.

**N-(2-iodo-4-methylphenyl)acetamide (4b):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4b** as white solid (108.42mg, 79%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.02 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 138.0, 135.1, 134.8, 129.0, 121.1, 89.2, 23.8, 19.4. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 275.

**N-(2-iodo-4-methoxyphenyl)acetamide (4c):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4c** as white solid (119.31mg, 82%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.93 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 155.8, 130.7, 122.8, 122.7, 113.8, 90.5, 54.7, 23.5. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 291.

**N-(4-fluoro-2-iodophenyl)acetamide (4d):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4d** as white solid (71.28mg, 51%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.11 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.09 (ddd, J = 9.1, 7.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.2, 133.8, 124.5, 124.3, 122.2, 122.1, 115.2, 115.0, 23.7. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 279.

**N-(4-chloro-2-iodophenyl)acetamide (4e):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4e** as white solid (112.10mg, 76%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.16 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.2, 136.9, 136.1, 128.9, 128.3, 121.4, 88.6, 23.8. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 295.

**N-(4-bromo-2-iodophenyl)acetamide (4f):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4f** as white solid (115.26mg, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.12 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 139.5, 136.5, 131.3, 121.7, 116.4, 89.0, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 339.

**N-(2-iodo-5-methylphenyl)acetamide (4g):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4g** as white solid (75.63mg, 55%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.04 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.2, 138.7, 137.3, 136.9, 126.1, 121.8, 85.0, 23.9, 20.3. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 275.

**N-(5-fluoro-2-iodophenyl)acetamide (4h):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4h** as white solid (80.91mg, 58%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.15 (dd, J = 11.4, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.69 – 6.58 (m, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.3, 163.2, 161.3, 138.5, 138.1, 112.1, 108.1, 80.8, 24.0. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 279.

**4-acetamido-3-iodophenyl acetate (4k):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4k** as white solid (113.25mg, 71%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.24 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  168.2, 167.2, 145.9, 135.2, 130.6, 121.4, 121.2, 99.0, 23.6, 20.0. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 319.

**N-(2-iodo-4-nitrophenyl)acetamide (4m):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **4m** as white solid (91.8mg, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.69 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.4, 142.8, 142.5, 133.2, 124.0, 118.7, 86.3, 24.2.

GC-MS (EI) m/z: 306.

**N-(2-chlorophenyl)acetamide (5a):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5a** as white solid (60.84mg, 72%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.33 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.3, 133.6, 128.0, 126.7, 123.7, 121.7, 120.8, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 169.

**N-(2-chloro-4-methylphenyl)acetamide (5b):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5b** as white solid (59.48mg, 65%). H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.1, 133.8, 131.0, 128.3, 127.4, 121.5, 120.6, 23.8, 19.7. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 183.

**N-(2-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)acetamide (5c):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5c** as white solid (58.71mg, 59%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.1, 155.3, 126.9, 123.1, 122.4, 113.5, 112.2, 54.7, 23.6. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 199.

**N-(4-bromo-2-chlorophenyl)acetamide (5d):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5d** as white solid (79.04mg, 64%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.29 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 132.9, 130.4, 129.9, 122.2, 121.6, 115.2, 23.9. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 247.

**N-(2-chloro-6-methylphenyl)acetamide (5e):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5e** as white solid (57.65mg, 66%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.6, 137.3, 131.7, 130.3, 128.3, 127.0, 126.0, 22.3, 18.0. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 183.

**N-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)acetamide (5f):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5f** as white solid (66.39mg, 71%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.40 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.05 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  167.2, 150.6, 148.6, 128.8, 126.3, 122.9, 120.5, 114.5, 23.7. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 187.

**N-(2-chloro-5-methylphenyl)acetamide (5g):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5g** as white solid (46.67mg, 51%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.18 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.2, 137.0, 133.2, 127.5, 124.5, 121.1, 118.5, 23.9, 20.4. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 183.

**N-(2-chloro-5-fluorophenyl)acetamide (5h):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **5h** as white solid (55.17mg, 59%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.26 (dd, J = 11.2, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (ddd, J = 8.8, 7.4, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  167.3, 161.6, 159.6, 134.6, 128.5, 115.9, 110.3, 107.7, 24.0. GC-MS (EI) m/z: 187.

**N-(2-bromophenyl)-N-methylacetamide (6a):** The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **6a** as white solid (81.72mg, 72%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.97 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, J = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.11 (td, J = 7.7, 1.6

Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.3, 145.7, 139.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.9, 98.5, 34.9, 21.5. GC-MS (EI) *m/z*: 227.

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## 4. NMR spectra











































































































