

Palladium-Catalyzed Decarboxylative 1,2-Addition of Carboxylic Acids to Aldehydes or Imines

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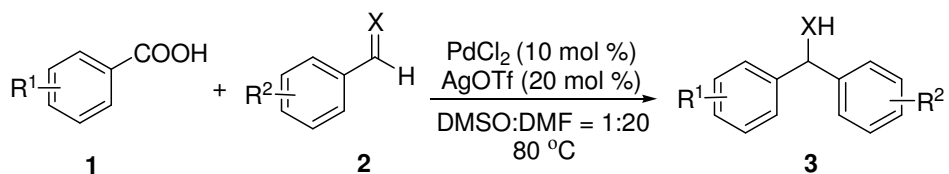
Supporting Information

1. General experimental method (S2)
2. General Experimental procedure (S2)
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General experimental method:

All reactions were performed in test tubes under nitrogen atmosphere at 80 °C. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (60-Å pore size, 32–63 µm, standard grade). Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Thin layer chromatography plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Organic solutions were concentrated at ~20 Torr (house vacuum) at 25–35 °C. Solvents were re-distilled prior to use in the reactions. Other commercial reagents were used as received. (All the products are known compounds. The characterizations of these compounds are identical with the literature reports.)

General procedure for palladium-catalyzed decarboxylative 1,2-addition of carboxylic acids to aldehydes or imines



Carboxylic acid **1** (0.24 mmol) and aldehyde or imine **2** (0.20 mmol) were added to a mixture of PdCl₂ (10 mol %, 3.6 mg) and AgOTf (20 mol %, 10.3 mg) in DMF (2.0 mL) and DMSO (0.1 mL). The reaction was stirred at 80 °C. After completion of reaction as indicated in TLC, the mixture was diluted by EtOAc (20 mL), washed with saturated brine (2 x 20 mL), and dried by Na₂SO₄. Evaporation the solvent followed by purification on silica gel provided the product **3**.

(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(4-nitrophenyl)methanol **3a**

White solid, melting point: 136–137 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.31 (br, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 157.5, 152.6, 146.6, 129.6, 126.2, 123.1, 118.3, 104.5, 67.8, 55.8. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3536, 1597, 1518, 1476.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{15}NO_5$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 312.0848, found 312.0848.

(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methanol **3b**

White solid, melting point: 106-107 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.35 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (br, 1H), 4.19 (br, 1H), 3.78 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 158.0, 139.6, 134.4, 133.1, 129.50, 129.45, 129.36, 126.3, 116.9, 104.5, 66.5, 55.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(cm^{-1})$ 3530, 1594, 1560, 1474. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{14}Cl_2O_3$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 335.0218, found 335.0223.

(2-Chlorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methanol **3c**

White solid, melting point: 99-100 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.36-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.18 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 4.27(br, 1H) 3.79 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 158.1, 140.8, 133.9, 129.7, 129.2, 128.5, 128.3, 126.1, 117.3, 104.5, 67.0, 55.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(cm^{-1})$ 3531, 1595, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{15}ClO_3$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 301.0607, found 301.0618.

(2-Bromo-4-fluorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methanol **3d**

White solid, melting point: 110-111 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.87-6.92 (m, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 4.33(br, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.4 (d, J (C,F) = 248.9 Hz), 158.0, 138.4, 129.7 (d, J (C,F) = 8.6 Hz), 129.4, 124.1 (d, J (C,F) = 9.5 Hz), 120.1(d, J (C,F) = 24.8 Hz), 117.2, 113.7(d, J (C,F) = 20.0 Hz), 104.5, 68.6, 55.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(cm^{-1})$ 3531, 1595, 1476. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{14}BrFO_3$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 363.0008, found 363.0015.

(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanol **3e**

White solid, melting point: 100.6-101.7 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.52 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.79(s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M

Hz): δ 157.6, 148.9, 129.3, 128.6 (q, J (C,F) = 31.4 Hz), 125.8, 124.3 (q, J (C,F) = 270.7 Hz), 124.8 (q, J (C,F) = 3.8 Hz), 118.8, 104.5, 68.0, 55.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3564, 1594, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 335.0871, found 335.0875.

(2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(2-nitrophenyl)methanol **3f**

White solid, melting point: 93-94 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.66-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.40 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 157.9, 149.6, 137.9, 131.5, 129.7, 128.2, 127.7, 123.8, 116.4, 104.4, 65.2, 55.7. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3523, 1595, 1530, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 312.0848, found 312.0856.

Methyl 4-((2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)benzoate **3g**

White solid, melting point: 129-130 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.94(d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.36 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.30(d, J = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88(s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 167.2, 157.6, 150.3, 129.2, 128.2, 125.4, 119.0, 104.5, 68.1, 55.8, 51.9. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3539, 1719, 1596, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 325.1052, found 325.1055.

(2-Bromo-5-fluorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methanol **3h**

White solid, melting point: 81-82 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.51-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.07-7.04 (m, 1H), 6.83-6.79 (m, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (dr, 1H), 4.25 (dr, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.8 (d, J (C,F) = 244.1 Hz), 158.0, 144.8(d, J (C,F) = 6.6 Hz), 134.0 (d, J (C,F) = 7.6 Hz), 129.6, 117.8, 116.7, 116.0(d, J (C,F) = 23.9 Hz), 115.5 (d, J (C,F) = 21.9 Hz), 104.5, 68.9, 55.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3518, 1595, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrFO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 363.0008, found 363.0014.

N-((2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3i**

White solid, melting point: 115-116 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 6H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 156.9, 148.9, 146.7, 142.9, 137.1, 129.7, 128.8, 127.1, 126.8, 123.2, 115.1, 103.9, 55.7, 51.1, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3358, 3262, 1597, 1519, 1476. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₂N₂O₆S [M+Na]⁺ requires 465.1096, found 465.1106.

4-Methyl-*N*-((4-nitrophenyl)(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide **3j**

White solid, melting point: 138-139 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.9 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 6H), 2.31 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.3, 157.6, 149.4, 146.6, 142.8, 137.2, 128.8, 127.1, 126.8, 123.1, 107.7, 90.4, 55.5, 55.3, 51.0, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3317, 1597, 1518, 1495. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₄N₂O₇S [M+Na]⁺ requires 495.1202, found 495.1209. Elem. Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₂₄N₂O₇S: C, 58.46; H, 5.12; N, 5.93; Found: C, 58.76; H, 4.96; N, 5.88.

N-((2,4-Dichlorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamid **3k**

White solid, melting point: 185-186 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.14 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 6H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 157.3, 142.6, 137.4, 136.8, 134.1, 133.2, 130.5, 129.4, 128.7, 126.8, 126.2, 114.2, 103.9, 55.5, 50.0, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3290, 1595, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₁Cl₂NO₄S [M+Na]⁺ requires 488.0466, found 488.0475.

N-((2,4-Dichlorophenyl)(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonami

de **3l**

White solid, melting point: 213-214 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (m, 1H), 5.85 (s, 2H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.2, 158.0, 142.5, 137.5, 137.1, 134.0, 133.0, 130.5, 129.3, 128.7, 126.8, 126.1, 106.9, 90.4, 55.4, 55.2, 49.8, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3273, 1592, 1494, 1466. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₃H₂₃Cl₂NO₅S [M+Na]⁺ requires 518.0572, found 518.0574.

N-((2-Bromo-4-fluorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3m**

White solid, melting point: 180-181 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.12 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.3 (d, *J* (C,F) = 248.9 Hz), 157.3, 142.6, 137.4, 135.6, 130.9, 130.8(d, *J* (C,F) = 8.6 Hz), 129.3, 128.6, 126.7, 123.8(d, *J* (C,F) = 9.5 Hz), 120.1(d, *J* (C,F) = 24.8 Hz), 114.3, 113.8 (d, *J* (C,F) = 21.0 Hz), 103.9, 55.5, 52.3, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3286, 1595, 1476. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₁BrFNO₄S [M+Na]⁺ requires 516.0256, found 516.0247.

N-((2-Bromo-4-fluorophenyl)(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3n**

White solid, melting point: 206-207 °C. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃): δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.87-6.81 (m, 1H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.2 (d, *J* (C,F) = 248.9 Hz), 161.1, 158.0, 142.4, 137.5, 135.8, 130.9 (d, *J* (C,F) = 8.6 Hz), 128.6, 126.8, 123.7 (d, *J* (C,F) = 9.6 Hz), 120.0 (d, *J* (C,F) = 23.8 Hz), 113.6 (d, *J* (C,F) = 21.0 Hz), 107.0, 90.5, 55.4, 55.2, 52.1, 21.3. IR (thin film): ν(cm⁻¹) 3270, 1594, 1494, 1461.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{23}H_{23}BrFNO_5S$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 546.0362, found 546.0350.

N-((2-Chlorophenyl)(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide

3o

White solid, melting point: 197-198 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.51 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 6H), 2.31 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.0, 158.1, 142.3, 138.2, 137.6, 133.5, 129.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.1, 128.1, 126.8, 125.9, 107.3, 90.5, 55.4, 55.2, 50.3, 21.3. IR (thin film): $\nu(cm^{-1})$ 3279, 1592, 1494, 1439. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{23}H_{24}ClNO_5S$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 484.0961, found 484.0958. Elem. Anal. Calcd for $C_{23}H_{24}ClNO_5S$: C, 59.80; H, 5.24; N, 3.03; Found: C, 59.63; H, 5.32; N, 2.93.

N-((2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(2-nitrophenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3p**

White solid, melting point: 162-163 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.52 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.40-6.34 (m, 3H), 6.25 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 6H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 156.9, 148.9, 146.7, 142.9, 137.1, 129.7, 128.8, 127.2, 126.8, 123.2, 115.1, 103.9, 55.7, 51.1, 21.4. IR (thin film): $\nu(cm^{-1})$ 3270, 1597, 1518, 1477. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{22}H_{22}N_2O_6S$ $[M+Na]^+$ requires 465.1096, found 465.1093. Elem. Anal. Calcd for $C_{22}H_{22}N_2O_6S$: C, 59.72; H, 5.01; N, 6.33; Found: C, 59.86; H, 4.77; N, 6.22.

N-((2-Bromo-5-fluorophenyl)(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3q**

White solid, melting point: 194-195 °C. 1H NMR (400M Hz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.51 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.79-6.76 (m, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.08 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 6H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.6 (d, J (C,F) =

244.1 Hz), 157.4, 142.6, 141.8 (d, J (C,F) = 7.6 Hz), 137.4, 134.2(d, J (C,F) = 7.6 Hz), 129.5, 128.7, 126.8, 117.6, 117.1 (d, J (C,F) = 24.8 Hz), 115.7 (d, J (C,F) = 21.9 Hz), 114.0, 104.0, 55.5, 52.8, 21.3. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3292, 1596, 1475. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrFNO}_4\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 516.0256, found 516.0247.

N-((2,6-Dimethoxyphenyl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide **3r**

White solid, melting point: 168-169 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.50(d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 6H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 157.0, 145.2, 142.7, 137.2, 129.3, 128.8 (q, J (C,F) = 31.5 Hz), 128.7, 126.7, 126.6, 124.8 (q, J (C,F) = 3.8 Hz), 124.2 (q, J (C,F) = 269.8 Hz), 115.4, 103.9, 55.6, 51.2, 21.3. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3288, 1596, 1494, 1462. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 488.1119, found 488.1126.

4-Methyl-*N*-((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methyl)benzenesulfonamide **3s**

White solid, melting point: 121-122 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.51 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 6H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 161.1, 157.7, 145.6, 142.6, 137.3, 128.8(q, J (C,F) = 42.4 Hz), 128.7, 126.8, 126.6, 124.7(q, J (C,F) = 3.8 Hz), 124.2 (q, J (C,F) = 270.8 Hz), 108.1, 90.5, 55.5, 55.3, 51.1, 21.3. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 3296, 1609, 1496. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 518.1225, found 518.1236.

2,2'-((2,4-Dichlorophenyl)methylene)bis(1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene) **4a**

White solid, melting point: 162-163 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.03-7.00(m, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 6.09 (s, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H),

3.51 (s, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 159.7, 159.4, 141.8, 134.1, 131.5, 130.6, 127.9, 125.9, 113.0, 91.9, 56.3, 55.2, 35.5. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 1590, 1491, 1465. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 515.1004, found 515.1010.

2,2'-((2-Chlorophenyl)methylene)bis(1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene) **4b**

White solid, melting point: 193-194 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.25-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 3H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 6.10 (s, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 3.49 (s, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 159.7, 159.1, 142.8, 133.4, 130.4, 128.2, 125.8, 125.6, 113.6, 92.0, 56.3, 55.1, 35.8. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 1591, 1492, 1466. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClO}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 481.1394, found 481.1392. Elem. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClO}_6$: C, 65.43; H, 5.93; Found: C, 65.29; H, 6.01.

2,2'-((2-Bromo-4-fluorophenyl)methylene)bis(1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene) **4c**

White solid, melting point: 192-193 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.20-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.98-7.02(m, 1H), 6.79-6.84 (m, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 6.10 (s, 4H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.51 (s, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 160.0 (d, J (C,F) = 244.0 Hz), 159.6, 159.3, 140.3, 131.4 (d, J (C,F) = 7.6 Hz), 123.3 (d, J (C,F) = 9.6 Hz), 118.4 (d, J (C,F) = 23.8 Hz), 113.4, 113.0 (d, J (C,F) = 20.0 Hz), 91.9, 56.3, 55.1, 37.6. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 1592, 1481, 1455. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{BrFO}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 543.0794, found 543.0786.

2,2'-((4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methylene)bis(1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene) **4d**

White solid, melting point: 175-176 °C. ^1H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl_3): δ 7.39 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 4H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.51 (s, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (100M Hz): δ 159.7, 159.4, 150.2, 127.9, 126.3(q, J (C,F) = 31.4 Hz), 124.8 (q, J (C,F) = 271.7 Hz), 123.9(q, J (C,F) = 3.8 Hz), 113.1, 91.6, 56.0, 55.1, 37.0. IR (thin film): $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ 1590, 1492, 1456. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{27}\text{F}_3\text{O}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ requires 515.1657, found 515.1655.

