Electronic Supporting Information Guanidine Catalyzed Aerobic Reduction: A Selective Reduction of Olefins using Aqueous Hydrazine

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General experimental

NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL LA-400, BRUKER-AV400 spectrometer in CDCl₃, Tetramethylsilane (TMS; $\delta = 0.00$ ppm) served as internal standards for ¹H NMR. The corresponding residual non-deuterated solvent signal (CDCl₃: $\delta = 77.00$ ppm) was used as internal standards for ¹³C NMR. IR spectra were measured using a JASCO FT/IR-410 spectrometer, and Perkin-Elmer FT/IR Spectrum BX, GX. Mass spectra were measured with Micromass Q-Tof (ESI-HRMS). Column chromatography was conducted on Silica gel 230-400 mesh (Merck) and preparative thin-layer chromatography was carried out using SILICA GEL GF-254. Aq hydrazine (hydrazine monohydrate) was purchased from sigma Aldrich composition:N₂H₄, 64-65 %, reagent grade, assay: 98%, Batch # 24696JK) and guanidine nitrate was is obtained from SD Fine-Chem Ltd, Mumbai, India, (assay: 98%, Batch no: BO8X/0708/0502/13).

Typical experimental procedure

To a stirred solution of guanidine nitrate (12 mg, 0.1 mmol) and olefin (**3a**, 148 mg, 1 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) was added $NH_2NH_2 \cdot H_2O$ (100 mg, 2 mmol). The reaction was stirred at room temperature in the presence of oxygen (1atm). Ethanol was removed under reduced pressure and extracted with dichloromethane (20 mL x 3) and dried over Na_2SO_4 , solvent was removed under reduced preduced pressure to afford the reduced product **3b** (135 mg, 90%).

Characterization data for selected olefins

1-((allyloxy)methyl)-4-(benzyloxy)benzene (4a)¹:



Pale yellow liquid; yield- 80%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3066, 2857,1612, 1512, 1242, 1080, 738; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.42-7.25 (m, 7H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.97-5.90 (m, 1H), 5.31-5.26 (m, 1H), 5.20-5.17 (m, 1H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 4.0-3.98 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 158.3, 137.0, 134.8, 130.6, 129.3, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 117.0, 114.7, 71.7, 70.8, 69.9; **HRESI-MS** (*m/z*): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₈O₂ (M + Na): 277.1204, found (M + Na): 277.1201.

1-(allyloxy)-4-(azidomethyl)-2-methoxybenzene (8a)²:



Colorless liquid; Yield – 92%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2099; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 6.81-6.88 (m, 3H), 6.03-6.13 (m, 1H), 5.41 (dd, J_1 = 13.8 Hz, J_2 = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (dd, J_1 = 13.8 Hz, J_2 = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.6, 148.1, 133.1, 128.2, 120.6, 118.1, 113.3, 111.7, 69.8, 55.9, 54.7; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₁H₁₃N₃O₂ (M + Na): 242.0905, found (M + Na): 242.0902.

N-allyl-3-nitroaniline (9a)³:



Pale yellow liquid; yield - 96%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3408, 2922,1619, 1542, 1340, 733; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.53-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.29-7.24 (m, 1H), 6.87 (dd, J_1 = 8.1Hz, J_2 = 1.8Hz, 1H), 5.97- 5.88 (m, 1H), 5.32-5.20(m, 2H), 4.19(s, br, 1H), 3.84(s, 2H),; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ

149.4,148.7, 134.04, 118.82, 116.93, 112.01, 106.52, 46.14, 30.89; **HRESI-MS** (m/z): Calculated for C₉H₁₀N₂O₂ (M + H): 179.0821, found (M + H): 179.0831.

benzyl allyl(phenyl)carbamate (10a)⁴:



Brown liquid, Yield-96%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 1705, 1496,1398, 697; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.51-7.00 (m,10H), 5.94-5.85 (m, 1H), 5.15-5.10 (m, 4H), 4.26 (d, J = 5.6Hz, 2H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 155.1, 136.5, 133.6, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8, 127.5, 126.4, 67.1, 53.2; **HRESI-MS** (*m/z*): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₇ NO₂(M + Na): 290.1157, found (M + Na): 290.1157.

N-allyl-N-benzyl-3-nitroaniline (25a):



Brown liquid; yield-55%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3086, 2865,1526, 1347, 1237, 733; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.53-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.31 (m,2H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 4H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.91-5.82 (m, 1H), 5.25-5.18 (m, 2H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.07 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³**C** NMR (CDCl₃, 100 M Hz): δ 149.5, 149.4, 137.4, 132.2, 129.6, 128.8, 127.3, 126.4, 117.9, 117.0, 111.0, 106.5, 54.1, 53.3; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₆H₁₆N₂O₂ (M + H): 269.1290, found (M + H): 269.1284.

N,N-diallyl-3-nitroaniline (26a)⁵



Pale yellow liquid; yield - 60%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3085, 2982, 2867, 1619, 1526, 1495, 1391, 1347, 1238, 1181, 922, 734, 669; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H), 6.94-6.91(m, 1H), 5.89-5.80 (m, 2H), 5.22-5.15 (m, 4H), 3.99-3.98 (m, 4H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.42, 149.16, 132.56, 129.54, 117.72, 116.63, 110.79, 106.36, 52.92; **HRESI-MS** (*m/z*): Calculated for C₁₂H₁₄N₂O₂ (M + Na): 241.0953, found (M + Na): 241.0947.

Characterization data for reduced products:

(propoxymethyl)benzene (3b)⁶:



Colorless liquid; Yield - 90%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3065, 2965, 2937, 2877, 1720, 713; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.35-7.34(m, 4H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H), 3.44 (t, *J* = 6.7Hz, 2H), 1.69-1.60 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.6Hz, 3H); ¹³**C** NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz) δ :138.69, 128.33, 127.61, 127.45, 72.88, 72.11, 22.95, 10.62; **MS** (*m/e*) 150.

1-(benzyloxy)-4-(propoxymethyl)benzene (4b):



Pale yellow liquid; yield- 92%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3065, 2962, 2859, 1612, 1242, 1096, 820, 696; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.4-7.25 (m, 7H), 6.92(d, J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 4.41 (s, 2H), 3.38 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.65-1.56 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 158.2, 137.0, 131.0, 129.1, 128.4, 127.8,127.3, 114.6, 72.4, 71.9, 70.0, 22.9, 10.6; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₇H₂₀O₂ (M + Na): 279.1361, found (M + Na): 279.1357.

(3-methoxy-4-propoxyphenyl)methanol (5b):



Colorless liquid; yield-85%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2964, 2937, 2877, 1510, 1263, 1234, 1159, 1037, 978, 807; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 6.92(s, 1H), 6.858-6.852 (m, 2H), 4.60(s, 2H), 3.97(t, 2H, J= 7.2Hz), 3.87(s, 3H), 1.88-1.79(m, 2H), 1.03(t, 3H, J= 8Hz). ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.46, 148.06, 133.47, 119.39, 112.75, 110.86, 70.54, 65.29, 55.90, 22.40, 10.36; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₁H₁₆O₃ (M + Na): 219.0997, found (M + Na): 219.0995.

1-Bromo-4-propoxybenzene (6b)⁷:



Pale yellow liquid; Yield - 91%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2965, 1489, 1243, 1071, 977, 821; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.34 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t, J = 6.5Hz, 2H), 1.83-1.74 (m, 2H), 1.02 (t, J = 7.3Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 158.21, 132.14, 116.27, 112.52, 69.7, 22.46, 10.43; Anal.Calcd for C₉H₁₂O; C, 50.26; H, 5.15; Found: C, 50.61; H, 5.47.

1-Nitro-4-propoxybenzene (7b)⁸:



Colorless liquid; Yield - 92%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2970, 1489, 1505, 1338, ; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ : 8.19 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 6.5Hz, 2H), 1.90-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.4Hz, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 164.2, 141.2, 125.8, 114.3, 70.3, 22.3, 10.3; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₉H₁₁NO₃ (M + Na): 204.0637, found (M + Na): 204.0632.

4-(azidomethyl)-2-methoxy-1-propoxybenzene (8b):



Colorless liquid; Yield – 85%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹):2938, 2100,1515, 1264; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 6.84-6.83 (m, 3H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 3.97(t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 2H), 1.90-1.81(m, 2H), 1.03(t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.54, 148.61, 127.64, 120.75, 112.70, 111.78, 70.44, 55.93, 54.71, 22.37, 10.33; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₁H₁₅N₃O₂ (M + Na): 244.1062, found (M + Na): 244.1066.

3-Nitro-*N*-propylaniline (9b)⁹:



Pale yellow liquid; yield - 92%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3415, 2964, 2876, 1623, 1526, 1350, 1260, 1142, 991, 734; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.7.48-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.83(m, 1H), 4.04 (s, br, 1H), 3.12(t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.71-1.62(m, 2H), 1.01(t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H),; ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.38,149.17, 129.55, 118.56, 111.43, 105.97, 45.47, 22.34, 11.45; **HRESI-MS** (*m/z*): Calculated for C₉H₁₂N₂O₂ (M + Na): 203.0796, found (M + Na): 203.0795.

Benzyl phenyl(propyl)carbamate (10b)¹⁰:



Pale yellow liquid, Yield-99%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2963, 2934, 1704, 1149, 696; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.30-7.11 (m, 10H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 3.56 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.53-1.43 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.6Hz, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): 155.4, 141.8, 136.8, 128.9, 128.3, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 126.6, 66.9, 52.0, 21.5, 11.1; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₉ NO₂(M + H): 270.1494 found (M + H): 270.1494.

Phenyl 1-propyl sulfide (11b)¹¹:



Colorless liquid; Yield - 88%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2962, 1585, 1480, 1091, 737, 690; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.33-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 1H), 2.89 (t, *J* = 7.3Hz, 2H), 1.71-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.3Hz, 3H); ¹³**C** NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 136.9, 129.0, 128.9, 125,6, 35.6, 22.5, 13.4; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₉H₁₂S (M + K): 191.0297, found (M + K): 191.0300.

1-Phenyl-1-propanol (12b)¹²:



Colorless liquid; Yield - 80%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3453, 3078, 3035, 2978, 2910, 1591, 1455, 917, 753; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.33-7.24 (m, 5H), 4.56 (t, *J* = 6.4Hz, 1H), 2.12 (b, 1H), 1.94-1.67 (m, 2H), 0.89(t, *J* = 7.6Hz, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 144.58, 128.34, 127.42, 125.94, 75.95, 31.82, 10.07; Anal.Calcd for C₉H₁₂O; C, 79.37; H, 8.88; Found: C, 79.22; H, 8.90.

3-phenylpropanoic acid (14b) ¹³:



White solid; yield - 97%; mp:44-46 °C ; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3030, 2980, 2938, 1704, 1599, 1498, 1412, 1377, 1286, 1183, 1066, 937, 859, 761; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 9.23(br, 1H), 7.31-7.20(m, 5H), 2.95(t, 2H, J= 7.6Hz), 2.68(t, 2H, J= 8Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 178.91, 140.15, 128.52, 128.23, 126.32, 35.61, 35.6; Anal.Calcd for C₉H₁₀O₂; C, 71.98; H, 6.71; Found: C, 71.85; H, 6.75.

Ethyl 3-phenylpropanoate (15b)¹⁴:



Colorless liquid; Yield – 55%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3086, 2975, 2938, 1739, 1496, 1452, 1373, 1296, 1165, 1041, 748; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.30-7.19 (m, 5H), 4.11 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 7.7Hz, 2H), 2.61(t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 172.9, 140.5, 128.5, 128.3, 126.2, 60.4, 35.9, 30.9, 14.2; MS (EI) m/z 178 (M⁺); Anal.Calcd for C₉H₁₂O; C, 74.13; H, 7.92; Found: C, 73.74; H, 7.74.

1,3-diphenylpropan-1-ol (16b) ¹⁵:



Colorless liquid; Yield- 90%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3367, 3028, 1495, 1455, 1057, 698; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.35-7.18(m, 10H), 4.69-4.66 (m, 1H) 2.77-2.62 (m, 2H), 2.15-1.99 (m, 3H) ,1.87(br, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 144.5, 141.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 125.9, 125.8, 73.8, 40.4, 32.0; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₅H₁₆O (M + Na): 235.1099 found (M + Na): 235.1096.

3-Phenyl-1-propanol (17b)¹⁶:



Colorless liquid; Yield - 90%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3338, 2939,1058, 1031; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.29-7.16 (m, 5H), 3.65 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (*t*, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.91-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.78 (s, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 141.8, 128.4, 128.3, 125.8, 62.2, 34.1, 32.0; Anal.Calcd for C₉H₁₂O; C, 79.37; H, 8.88; Found: C, 79.47; H, 8.59.

2-phenethylbenzoic acid (18b)¹⁷:



Colorless solid, Yield-95%; mp:130-132 °C ; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2926, 2863, 1690, 1475, 1273, 758, 699; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.17 (m, 7H), 3.36-3.32 (m, 2H), 2.97-2.93 (m, 2H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 172.9, 144.8, 141.9, 133.0, 131.8, 131.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.0, 126.2, 125.9; Anal.Calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O₂; C, 79.62; H, 6.24; Found: C, 79.59; H, 6.35.

1,2-diphenylethane (19b)¹⁵:



White solid; yield- 98%; mp: 48-51 °C; **IR** (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3082, 3026, 2943, 2918, 1599, 1490, 1450; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.29-7.16 (m, 10H), 2.91 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 141.8, 128.4, 128.3, 125.9, 37.9; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₄ (M + K): 221.0733, found (M + K): 221.080.

3,7-dimethyloct-6-en-4-ol (20b)¹⁸:



Colorless liquid; Yield- 90%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3754, 3401, 2971, 2928, 1638, 1378, 1116, 836; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 5.15-5.11(m,1H), 2.06-2.00(m, 2H), 1.68(s, 3H), 1.62(s, 3H), 1.52-1.45(m, 4H), 1.15(s,3H),0.90(t, 3H, 8Hz). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 131.49, 124.49, 72.83, 41.00, 34.21, 26.15,25.61, 22.55, 17.53,8.15; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₀H₂₀O (M + K): 195.1151, found (M + K): 195.1300.

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid (23b)¹⁹:



White solid, Yield- 98%; mp:56-58 °C; **IR** (KBr, cm⁻¹): 1710, 1605, 1515, 1465, 1305, 1185, 950, 795; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 8.7(br, 1H), 7.23(d, 2H, J= 8Hz), 6.85(d, 2H, J= 8Hz), 3.77(s, 3H), 3.67(q, J=7Hz,1H), 1.47(d, 3H, J= 8Hz) ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 180.29, 158.74,132.11, 128.57, 113.98, 55.21, 44.52, 18.19; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₄ (M + Na): 203.0684, found (M + Na): 203.0695. 2-(4-isobutylphenyl)propanoic acid (24b)²⁰:



White solid; Yield 80%; mp:74-76 °C ; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3461, 2956, 1716, 1722, 1231,936; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.21(d, J = 8Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8Hz, 2H), 3.69 (q, J = 7.1Hz, 1H), 2.43 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.87-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.48 (d, J = 7.1Hz, 3H), 0.89 (d, J = 6.6Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 181.1, 140.8, 136.9, 129.4, 127.3, 45.0, 45.0, 30.1, 22.4, 18.0; **HRESI-MS** (m/z): Calculated for C₁₃H₁₈O₂ (M + Na): 229.1204, found (M + Na): 229.1209.

N-benzyl-3-nitro-*N*-propylaniline (25b):



Brown liquid; yield-94%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 2962, 2874, 1621, 1525, 1347, 1239, 733; ¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.49-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 4H), 6.87 (dd, $J_1 = 2.24$, $J_2 = 8.36$), 4.58 (s, 2H), 3.43 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.76-1.66 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 149.4, 149.0, 137.5, 129.6, 128.7, 127.0, 126.2, 117.5, 110.3, 105.9, 54.3, 53.2, 20.1, 11.3; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₆H₁₈N₂O₂ (M + Na): 293.1266, found (M + Na): 293.1265.

3-nitro-*N*-dipropylaniline (26b)²¹:



Pale yellow liquid; yield - 98%; **IR** (Neat, cm⁻¹): 3834, 3732, 2918, 1697, 1521, 734; ¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400MHz): δ 7.42-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.88-6.85(m, 1H), 3.29 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 1.67-1.58 (m, 4H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100MHz): δ 149.60, 148.72, 129.57, 117.04, 109.58, 105.60, 52.84, 20.16, 11.34; **HRESI-MS** (*m*/*z*): Calculated for C₁₂H₁₈N₂O₂ (M + Na): 245.1266, found (M + Na): 245.1261.

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