

# Supporting Information

## **Palladium-Catalyzed Direct Arylation of Benzoxazoles with Unactivated Simple Arenes**

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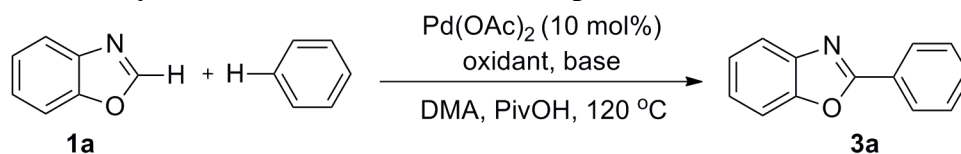
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## General Information

5-fluorobenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-bromobenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-phenylbenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> naphtha[1,2-d]oxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-acetylbenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 6-methylbenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> benzoxazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester,<sup>1</sup> 4-methylbenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-tert-butylbenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-methoxybenzoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-nitrobenzisoxazole,<sup>1</sup> 5-trifluoromethylbenzoxazole<sup>1</sup> benzoxazole-6-carboxylic acid methyl ester<sup>1</sup> and 2-deuterated 5-methylbenzoxazole<sup>2</sup> were prepared according to the reported procedures. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra of known compounds were in accordance with those described in the literatures. All other reagents were purchased from TCI, Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, Acros, and Meryer and used without further purification. DMA was distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> under nitrogen and stored under nitrogen. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) and <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz) spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solutions using a Burkert AVANCE 400 spectrometer. Elemental analysis was done on the CHNOS Elemental Analyzer (Vario MICRO). Analysis of crude reaction mixture was done on the Varian 4000 GC/MS and 1200LC.

## General Experimental Procedures

**Table 1 Selected Results from the Optimization Studies for Palladium-Catalyzed Direct Arylation of Benzoxazole with Simple Benzene<sup>a</sup>**



Entry	Base (equiv)	Oxidant (equiv)	Solvent(mL)	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
2	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
3	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	trace
4	NaOAc (2.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
5	tBuOLi (2.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
6	Pyridine (0.2)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
7	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
8	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	14
9	PivOK (2.0) +PivOH (1.0)	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
10	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuCl <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	62
11	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	27
12	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	85(79) <sup>c</sup>
13 <sup>d</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	65
14 <sup>e</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	12
15 <sup>f</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
16	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
17	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	AgOAc (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
18	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	Ag <sub>2</sub> O (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
19	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0v)	AgF (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
20	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	BQ (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	trace
21 <sup>g</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	26
22 <sup>h</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	70
23 <sup>i</sup>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	60
24 <sup>j</sup>	PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	none
25	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMF (2.0)	28
26	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMSO (2.0)	24
27	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	Dioxane (2.0)	14
28	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	NMP (2.0)	36
29	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (0)	none
30	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (0.5)	10
31	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (1.0)	28
32	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) +PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (1.5)	60
33	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (1.2) +PivOH (1.8)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	14
34	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (1.6) +PivOH (2.4)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	30

35	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.4) + PivOH (3.6)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	32
36	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.8) + PivOH (4.2)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (2.0)	DMA (2.0)	14
37	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) + PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (1.6)	DMA (2.0)	71
38	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) + PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (1.2)	DMA (2.0)	50
39	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) + PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (1.0)	DMA (2.0)	38
40	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0) + PivOH (3.0)	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (0.2)	DMA (2.0)	8

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: benzoxazole **1** (0.2 mmol), benzene **2** (4.0 mL), base (2.0 equiv), acid (3.0 equiv), oxidant (2 equiv), solvent (2.0 mL), O<sub>2</sub> (1 atm), 120 °C, 24 h. <sup>b</sup> GC yields. <sup>c</sup> isolated yield.

<sup>d</sup> Reaction was carried out under air. <sup>e</sup> Reaction was carried out under nitrogen. <sup>f</sup> In the absence of palladium. <sup>g</sup> acetic acid (3.0 equiv). <sup>h</sup> *tert*-butylacetic acid (3.0 equiv). <sup>i</sup> Isobutyric acid (3.0 equiv).

<sup>j</sup> in the absence of K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. Note: BQ = benzoquinone.

## General Procedure of Palladium-Catalyzed Direct Arylation of Benzoxazoles with Simple Arenes:

In a glove box, a 25 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with CuBr<sub>2</sub> (2 equiv), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (2 equiv), PivOH (3 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol %). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, and then it was evacuated and refilled with dioxygen three times. Under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL), arene (4 mL), and benzoxazoles (0.2 mmol) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 h. After cooling down, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of ethyl ether, filtered through a pad of silica gel, followed by washing the pad of the silica gel with the same solvent (20 mL). The filtrate was washed with water (3×15 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to provide the corresponding product.

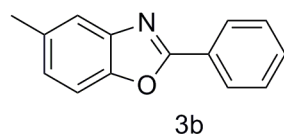
## Characterization of Products in Details :

### 2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>3</sup>



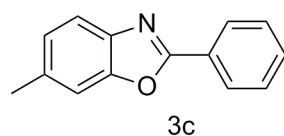
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (79% yield). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

### 5-methyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>3</sup>



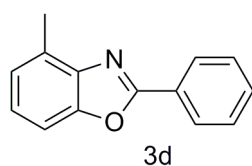
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (93% yield). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

### 6-methyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>3</sup>



Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (65% yield). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

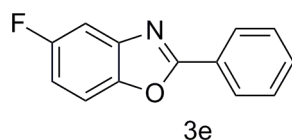
### 4-methyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>3</sup>



Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a

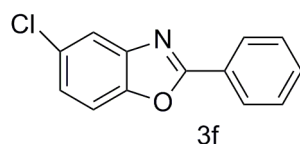
white solid (69% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 5-fluoro-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>4</sup>



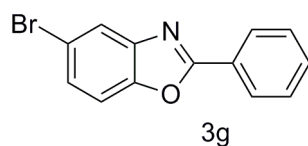
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (91% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 5-chloro-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>4</sup>



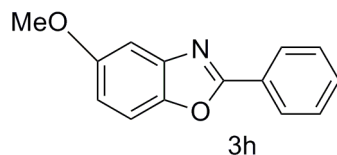
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (83% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 5-bromo-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>4</sup>



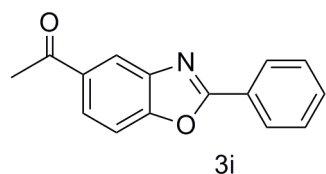
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (52% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 5-methoxy-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>3</sup>



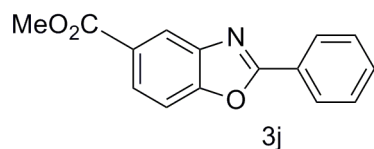
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (74% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

### 5-acetyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole



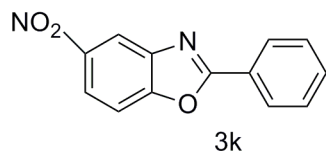
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (65% yield) in 48h.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (d,  $J = 1.5$  Hz, 1 H), 8.27 - 8.25 (m, 2H), 8.05 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.53(m, 3H), 2.69(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): $\delta$  197.1, 164.5, 153.7, 142.3, 134.4, 132.1, 129.0, 127.8, 126.6, 125.8, 120.9, 110.6, 26.8; Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2$ : C, 75.94; H, 4.67; N, 5.90. Found: C, 75.88; H, 5.18; N, 5.61.

### 2-phenyl-benzoxazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester



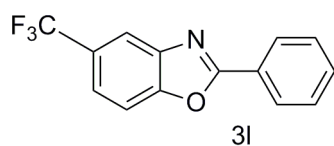
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (77% yield) in 48h.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.4 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.25-8.23 (m, 2 H), 8.09 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.6(d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.49(m, 3H), 3.95(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  166.7, 164.3, 153.6, 142.2, 131.9, 128.9, 127.8, 127.0, 126.6, 121.9, 110.3, 52.3; Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_3$ : C, 71.14; H, 4.38; N, 5.53. Found: C, 71.14; H, 4.57; N, 5.47.

### 5-nitro-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>5</sup>



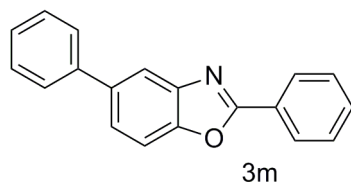
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (63% yield) in 48h. The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 5-trifluoromethyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>6</sup>



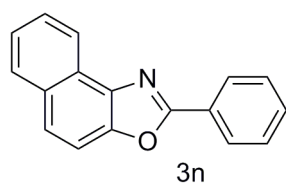
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (66% yield) in 48h. The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

#### 2,5-diphenyl-benzoxazole<sup>7</sup>



Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (75% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

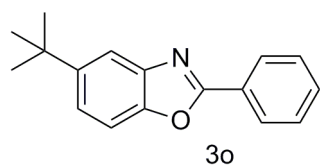
#### 2-phenyl-naphth[1,2-d]oxazole<sup>3</sup>



Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (86% yield). The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

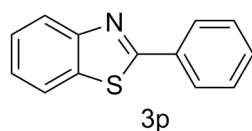


### 5-tert-butyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole<sup>8</sup>



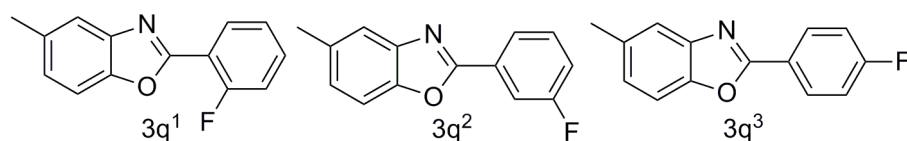
Following the general procedure, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (94% yield). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

### 2-phenylbenzothiazole<sup>9</sup>



Follow the general procedures, 2.0 equiv Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 1.5 equiv PivOH was used at 130°C for 48h, using 9:1 hexane-EtOAc as the eluant afforded a white solid (52% yield). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were in accordance with those described in the literature.

### 5-methyl-2-(o-fluorophenyl)benzoxazole, 5-methyl-2-(m-fluorophenyl)benzoxazole and 5-methyl-2-(p-fluorophenyl)benzoxazole



Following the general procedure for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (80% yield) containing (1:1.2:4) isomers (determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR, for two isomers had the same retention time on GC).

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FNO: C, 74.00; H, 4.44; N, 6.16. Found: C, 74.14; H, 4.47; N, 6.32.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>19</sup>F NMR respectively.

### 3q<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.26-8.22 (m, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.44(d, *J* = 8.3Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.15(m, 3H), 2.48(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 164.8(d,

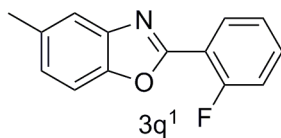
$J_F=252.6\text{Hz}$ ), 162.2, 149.0, 142.1, 134.6, 129.8(d,  $J_F=8.9\text{Hz}$ ), 128.9, 127.6, 126.3, 123.6(d,  $J_F=3.1\text{Hz}$ ), 119.9, 116.1(d,  $J_F=22.3\text{Hz}$ ), 110.0, 21.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -107.66 (s, 1F).

### **$3\text{q}^2$**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.05 (dm,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dm,  $J=9.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.58(s, 1H), 7.53-7.47(m, 2H), 7.25-7.18(m, 2H), 2.50(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  162.9(d,  $J_F=246.7\text{Hz}$ ), 161.8(d,  $J_F=3.5\text{Hz}$ ), 149.0, 142.0, 134.7, 130.5(d,  $J_F=8.2\text{Hz}$ ), 129.3(d,  $J_F=8.6\text{Hz}$ ), 126.7, 123.3(d,  $J_F=3.2\text{Hz}$ ), 120.0, 118.4(d,  $J_F=21.3\text{Hz}$ ), 114.4(d,  $J_F=24.0\text{Hz}$ ), 110.0, 21.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -111.9 (s, 1F).

### **$3\text{q}^3$**

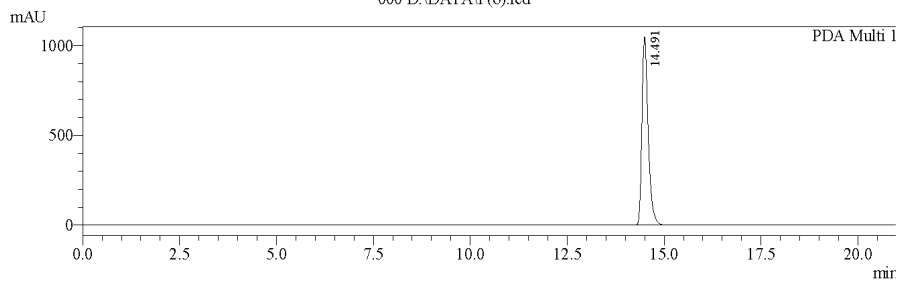
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.22 (td,  $J=7.6, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.47(m, 2H), 7.32-7.23(m, 2H), 7.20-7.18(m, 1H), 2.49(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  160.8(d,  $J_F=258.4\text{Hz}$ ), 159.9, 148.7, 141.9, 134.5, 133.0(d,  $J_F=8.7\text{Hz}$ ), 130.5 (d,  $J_F=1.3\text{Hz}$ ), 126.7, 124.4(d,  $J_F=3.9\text{Hz}$ ), 120.2, 117.0(d,  $J_F=21.7\text{Hz}$ ), 115.7(d,  $J_F=10.4\text{Hz}$ ), 110.0, 21.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -110.2 (s, 1F).



Sample Information

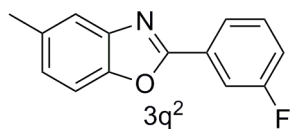
Acquired by : Admin  
Sample Name : 000  
Sample ID : 000  
Vial# :  
Injection Volume : 20 uL  
Data Filename : F(o).lcd  
Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
Batch Filename :  
Report Filename : Default.lcr  
Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 16:40:16  
Data Processed : 2012-7-10 17:46:58Unknown

Chromatogram  
000 D:\DATA\F(o).lcd



PeakTable

Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1	o	14.491	11692901	1048164	100.000	0.000
Total			11692901	1048164	100.000	

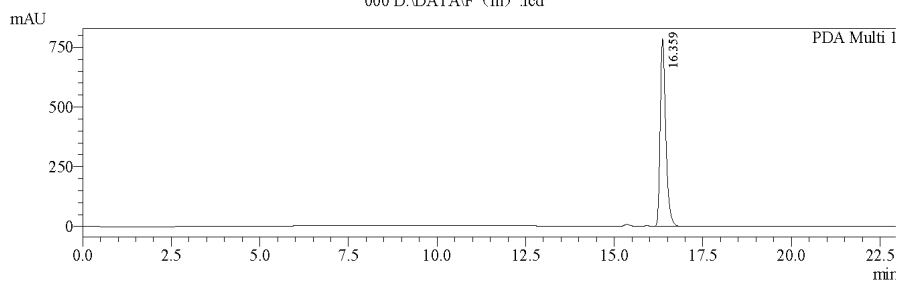


#### Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
Sample Name : 000  
Sample ID : 000  
Vial# :  
Injection Volume : 20 uL  
Data Filename : F (m) .led  
Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
Batch Filename :  
Report Filename : Default.lcr  
Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 17:09:43  
Data Processed : 2012-7-10 17:47:52Unknown

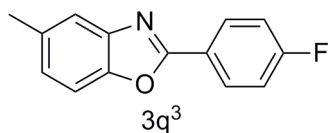
#### Chromatogram

000 D:\DATA\F (m) .led



#### PeakTable

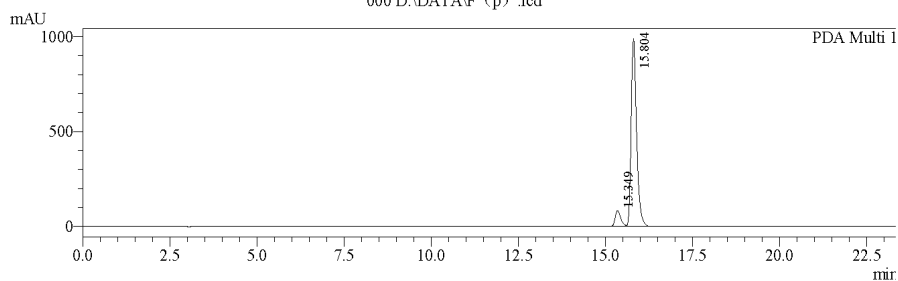
PDA Ch1 310nm 4nm						
Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1	m	16.359	8576365	785137	100.000	0.000
Total			8576365	785137	100.000	



Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
Sample Name : 000  
Sample ID : 000  
Vial# :  
Injection Volume : 20 uL  
Data Filename : F (p) .lcd  
Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
Batch Filename :  
Report Filename : Default.lcr  
Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 17:42:10  
Data Processed : 2012-7-10 18:07:20Unknown

Chromatogram  
000 D:\DATA\F (p) .lcd

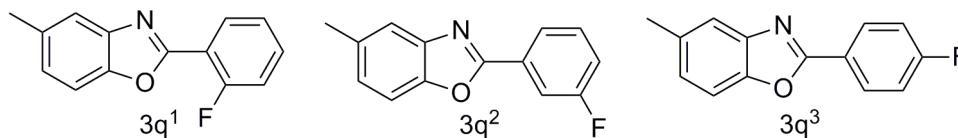


1 PDA Multi 1 / 310nm 4nm

PeakTable

PDA Ch1 310nm 4nm

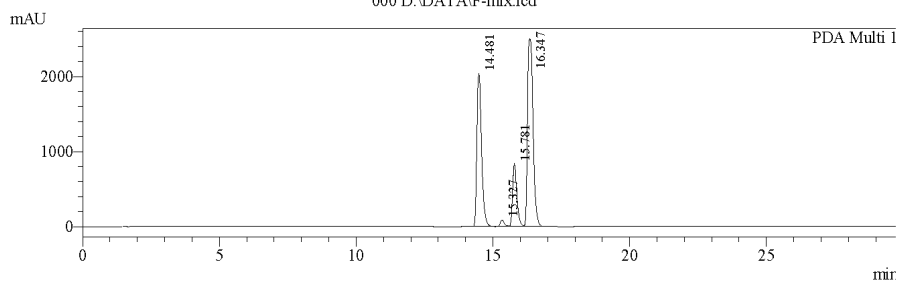
Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1		15.349	893390	82119	7.660	0.000
2	p	15.804	10769793	988560	92.340	1.550
Total			11663183	1070679	100.000	



Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
 Sample Name : 000  
 Sample ID : 000  
 Vial# :  
 Injection Volume : 20 uL  
 Data Filename : F-mix.lcd  
 Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
 Batch Filename :  
 Report Filename : Default.lcr  
 Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 16:07:50  
 Data Processed : 2012-7-10 18:11:28Unknown

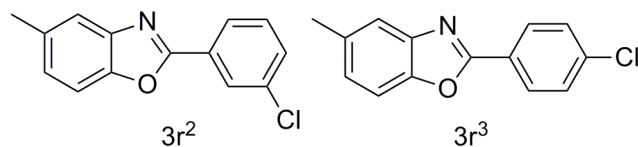
Chromatogram  
 000 D:\DATA\F-mix.lcd



PeakTable

Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1	o	14.481	24411513	2038983	34.855	0.000
2		15.327	978921	88309	1.398	2.767
3	p	15.781	9304507	840560	13.285	1.527
4	m	16.347	35342105	2502116	50.462	1.769
Total			70037046	5469968	100.000	

### 2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub>, 2.5 equiv K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 3.75 equiv PivOH was used for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (68% yield) containing (1.4:1) isomers (determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, for they had the same retention time on GC).

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClNO: C, 69.00; H, 4.14; N, 5.75. Found: C, 69.47; H, 4.20; N, 5.80.

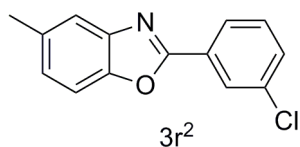
Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

#### 3r<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.10-8.08 (m, 1H), 7.54(s, 1H), 7.48-7.40(m, 3H), 7.16(d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.47(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.6, 149.0, 142.1, 135.0, 134.7, 131.3, 130.2, 129.0, 127.5, 126.7, 125.5, 120.0, 110.0, 21.5

#### 3r<sup>3</sup>

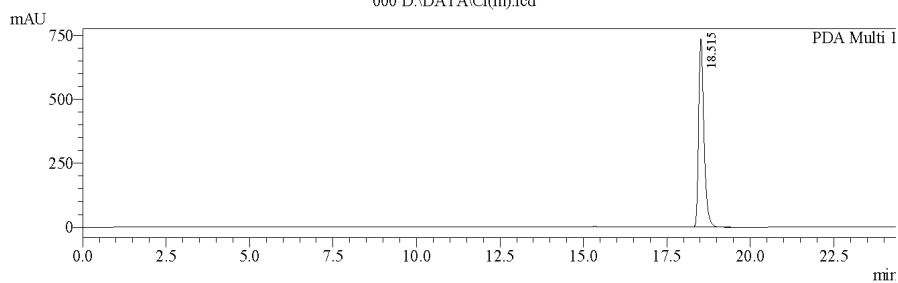
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.19-8.16 (m, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.48(m, 2H), 7.44(d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17(d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.49(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.1, 149.0, 142.1, 137.7, 134.7, 129.3, 128.8, 126.5, 125.8, 120.0, 110.0, 21.5;



Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
Sample Name : 000  
Sample ID : 000  
Vial# :  
Injection Volume : 20 uL  
Data Filename : Cl(m).lcd  
Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
Batch Filename :  
Report Filename : Default.lcr  
Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 10:55:06  
Data Processed : 2012-7-10 17:39:43Unknown

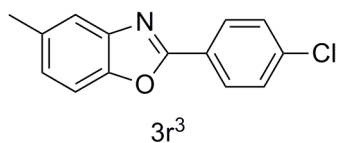
Chromatogram  
000 D:\DATA\Cl(m).lcd



PeakTable

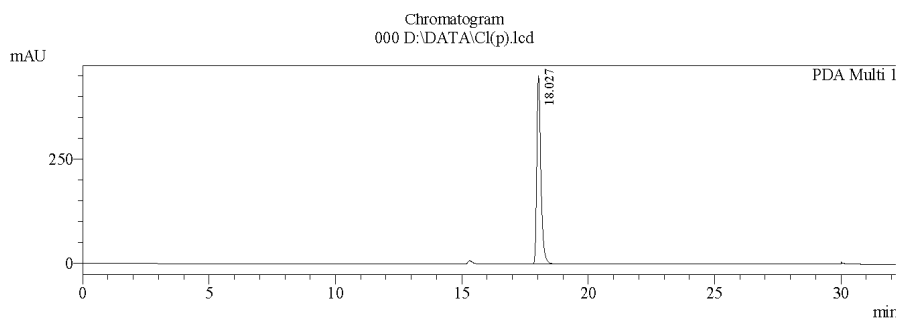
Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1	m	18.515	8159918	736668	100.000	0.000
Total			8159918	736668	100.000	





Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
Sample Name : 000  
Sample ID : 000  
Vial# :  
Injection Volume : 20 uL  
Data Filename : Cl(p).lcd  
Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
Batch Filename :  
Report Filename : Default.lcr  
Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 10:16:56  
Data Processed : 2012-7-10 17:44:29Unknown

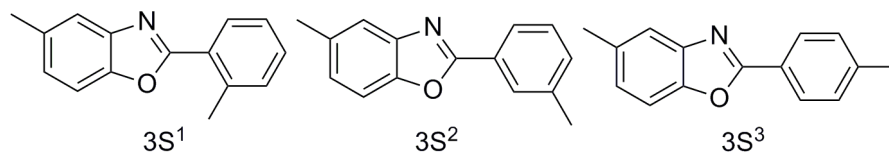


PeakTable

Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
1	p	18.027	5004049	450620	100.000	0.000
Total			5004049	450620	100.000	



**2-(o-tolyl)-5-methyl-benzoxazole, 2-(m-tolyl)-5-methyl-benzoxazole and  
2-(p-tolyl)-5-methyl-benzoxazole**



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140 °C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (74% yield) containing (1:1.8:1.6) isomers (determined by GC).

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO: C, 80.69; H, 5.87; N, 6.27. Found: C, 80.26; H, 5.91; N, 6.26.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

**3s<sup>1</sup>**

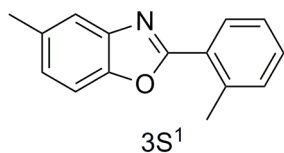
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.16 (d, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.55(s, 1H), 7.46(d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.32(m, 3H), 7.17(d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.81(s, 3H), 2.50(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.6, 148.6, 142.3, 138.8, 134.2, 131.8, 130.8, 129.9, 126.4, 126.1, 126.0, 120.1, 109.8, 22.2, 21.5.

**3s<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J*= 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55(s, 1H), 7.45-7.38(m, 2H), 7.33(d, *J*= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15(d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.49(s, 3H), 2.45(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.3, 149.0, 142.3, 138.6, 134.2, 132.1, 128.7, 128.0, 127.2, 126.1, 124.7, 119.9, 109.9, 21.5, 21.3.

**3s<sup>3</sup>**

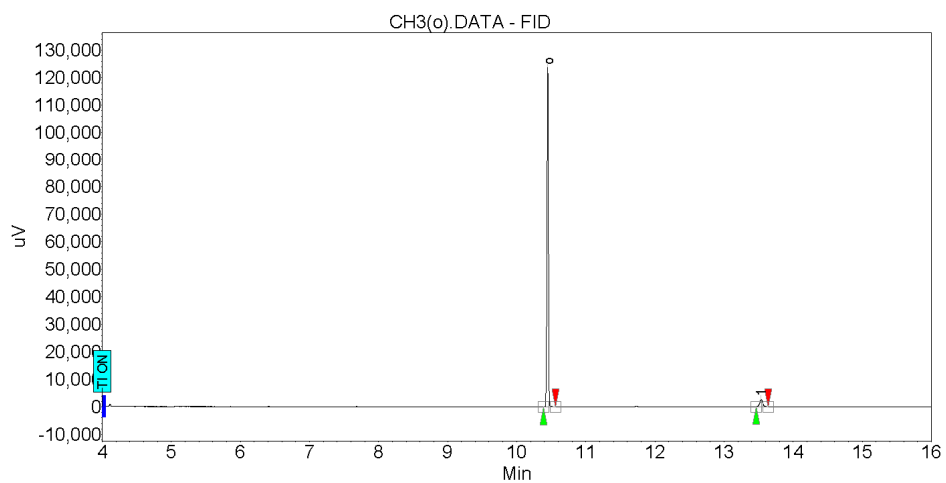
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.14 (d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.43(d, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32(d, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14(d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.48(s, 3H), 2.44(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.4, 148.9, 142.1, 142.0, 134.4, 129.6, 127.6, 126.0, 124.4, 119.7, 109.9, 21.6, 21.5.



### Chromatogram : CH3(o)\_channel1

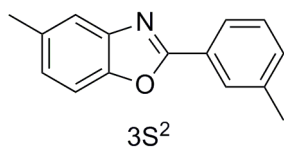
System : 430GC  
Method : wuge-CH3  
User : 430

Acquired : 2012-7-9 16:09:45  
Processed : 2012-7-10 16:03:22  
Printed : 2012-7-10 16:05:17



#### Peak results :

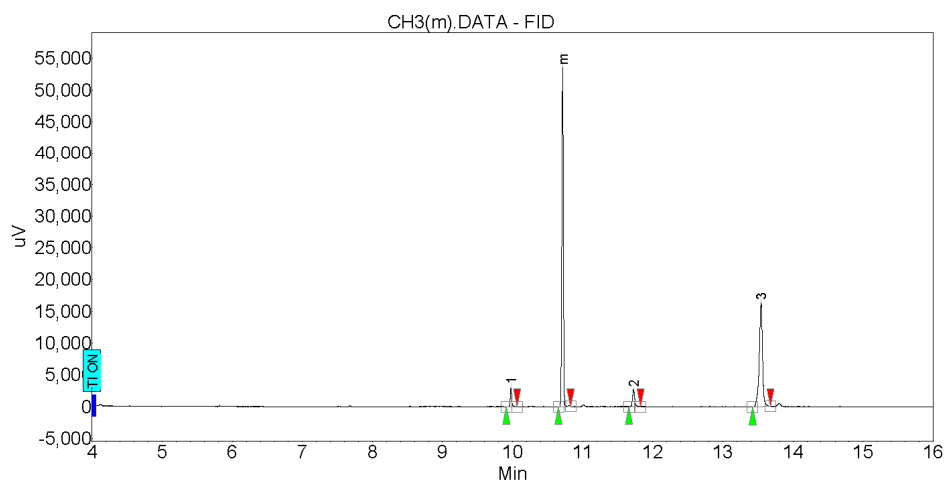
Index	Name	Time [Min]	Quantity [% Area]	Height [uV]	Area [uV.Min]	Area % [%]	Res. USP
1	o	10.45	95.59	123902.4	2988.6	95.587	0.00
2	1	13.54	4.41	2573.2	138.0	4.413	51.34
Total			100.00	126475.6	3126.6	100.000	



### Chromatogram : CH3(m)\_channel1

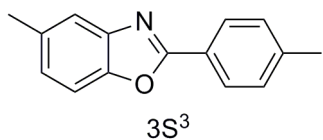
System : 430GC  
Method : wuge-CH3  
User : 430

Acquired : 2012-7-9 16:32:43  
Processed : 2012-7-10 16:03:06  
Printed : 2012-7-10 16:05:30



#### Peak results :

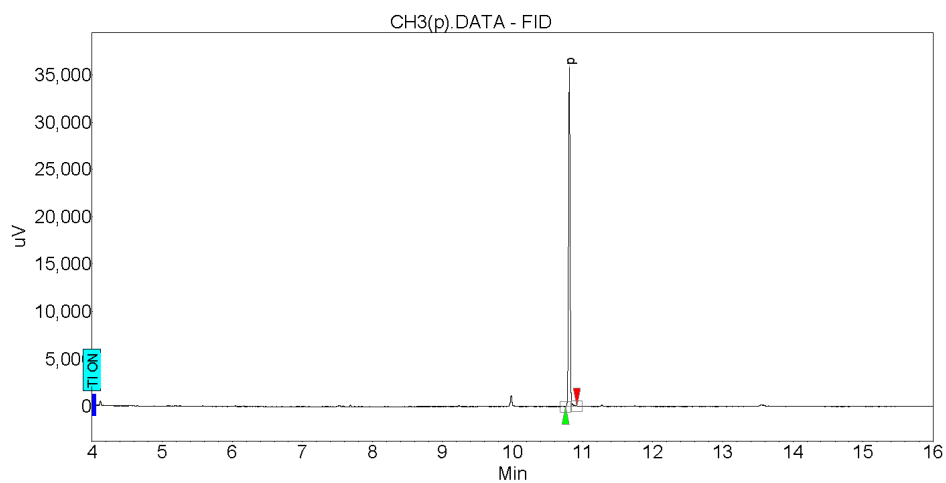
Index	Name	Time [Min]	Quantity [% Area]	Height [uV]	Area [uV.Min]	Area % [%]	Res. USP
1	1	9.98	2.95	2936.9	70.6	2.948	0.00
2	m	10.71	56.34	53659.5	1348.4	56.339	19.00
3	2	11.73	4.03	2724.4	96.5	4.030	21.18
4	3	13.55	36.68	16418.7	877.9	36.683	26.43
Total			100.00	75739.5	2393.4	100.000	



### Chromatogram : CH3(p)\_channel1

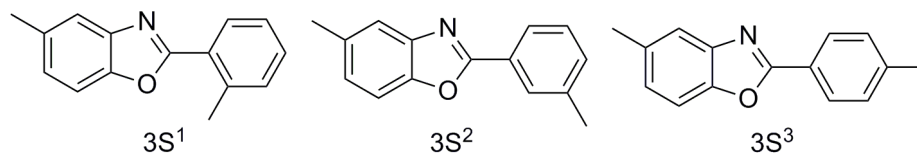
System : 430GC  
Method : wuge-CH3  
User : 430

Acquired : 2012-7-9 15:46:42  
Processed : 2012-7-10 16:03:40  
Printed : 2012-7-10 16:05:42



#### Peak results :

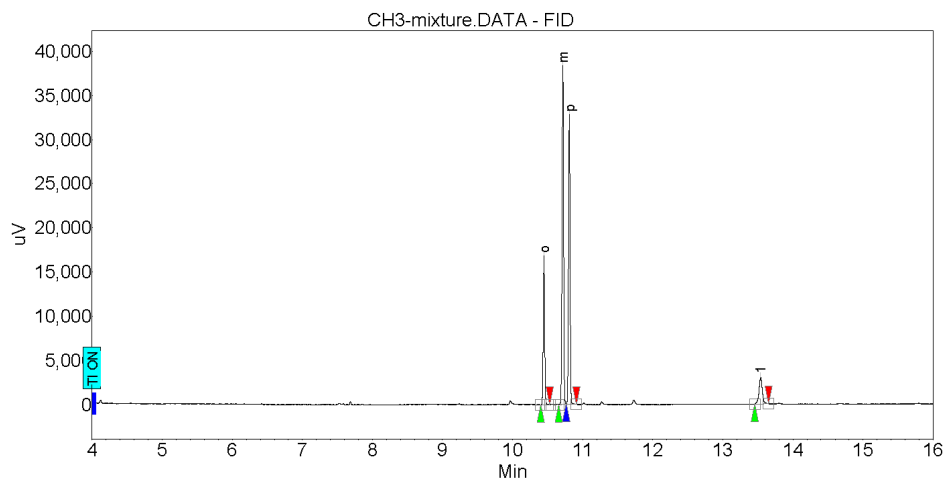
Index	Name	Time [Min]	Quantity [% Area]	Height [uV]	Area [uV.Min]	Area % [%]	Res. USP
1	p	10.81	100.00	35876.9	918.1	100.000	0.00
Total			100.00	35876.9	918.1	100.000	



**Chromatogram : CH3-mixture\_channel1**

System : 430GC  
 Method : wuge-CH3  
 User : 430

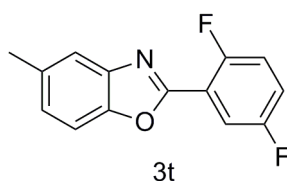
Acquired : 2012-7-9 16:57:08  
 Processed : 2012-7-10 16:04:00  
 Printed : 2012-7-10 16:04:58



**Peak results :**

Index	Name	Time [Min]	Quantity [% Area]	Height [uV]	Area [uV.Min]	Area % [%]	Res. USP
1	o	10.45	17.14	16841.8	408.8	17.139	0.00
2	m	10.72	41.18	38409.5	982.2	41.183	6.78
3	p	10.81	34.84	32906.1	830.9	34.837	2.27
4	1	13.54	6.84	3018.7	163.1	6.840	44.80
Total			100.00	91176.1	2385.0	100.000	

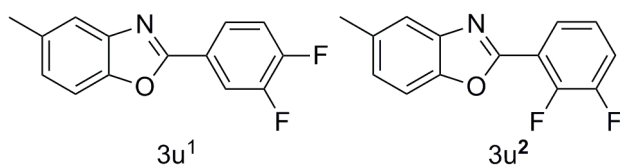
### 2-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-5- methylbenzoxazole



Following the general procedure for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (76% yield)

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.93 -7.89 (m, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1 H), 7.48(d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.16(m, 3H), 2.49(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  158.5 (dd,  $J_F=243.6, 2.5$  Hz), 158.3(dd,  $J_F=6.0, 2.7$  Hz), 156.8(dd,  $J_F=255.2, 2.5$  Hz), 148.7(d,  $J_F=1.1$  Hz), 141.8, 134.8, 127.1, 120.4, 119.5(dd,  $J_F=24.2, 8.8\text{Hz}$ ), 118.4(dd,  $J_F=24.4, 8.3\text{Hz}$ ), 116.7(dd,  $J_F=13.0, 8.7\text{Hz}$ ), 116.4(d,  $J_F=2.1\text{Hz}$ ), 110.1, 21.5;  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -117.7 (d,  $J_F= 17.7$  Hz, 1F), -116.1 (d,  $J_F= 17.7$  Hz, 1F); Anal.Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_2\text{NO}$ : C, 68.57; H, 3.70; N, 5.71. Found: C, 68.74; H, 3.75; N, 6.03.

### 2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(2,3-difluorophenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole



Following the general procedure for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded **3u<sup>1</sup>** and **3u<sup>2</sup>** in 46% and 38% yield, respectively, they were both white solids.

Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_2\text{NO}$ : C, 68.57; H, 3.70; N, 5.71. Found: C, 68.44; H, 3.97; N, 5.82.

Assignments of  $^1\text{H NMR}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  respectively.

#### **3u<sup>1</sup>**

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.05 -7.95 (m, 2H), 7.52 (s, 1 H), 7.42(d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.25(m, 1H), 7.17-7.15(m, 1H), 2.47(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  161.0, 152.4(dd,  $J_F=254.6, 12.8$  Hz), 150.6(dd,  $J_F=249.6, 13.2$  Hz), 149.0, 142.1, 134.7, 126.6, 124.4(dd,  $J_F=6.7, 3.8\text{Hz}$ ), 119.5(dd,  $J_F=7.0, 3.8\text{Hz}$ ), 120.0, 118.0(d,  $J_F=18.1\text{Hz}$ ), 116.7(d,  $J_F=19.8\text{Hz}$ ), 110.0, 21.5;  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$

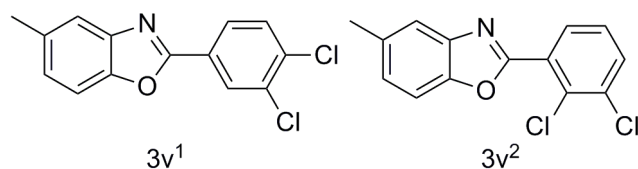


-132.4 (d,  $J_F$  = 21.5 Hz, 1 F), -136.1 (d,  $J_F$  = 20.6 Hz, 1 F).

### **3u<sup>2</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.97-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.59(s, 1 H), 7.46(d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.26(m, 1H), 7.23-7.18(m, 2H), 2.48(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.5, 151.3(dd,  $J_F$  = 248.0, 11.4 Hz), 149.2(dd,  $J_F$  = 258.6, 11.5 Hz), 148.8, 141.8, 134.8, 127.0, 125.0(d,  $J_F$  = 3.7Hz), 124.3(dd,  $J_F$  = 6.5, 5.3Hz), 120.3, 119.8(d,  $J_F$  = 17.3Hz), 117.7(d,  $J_F$  = 7.3Hz), 110.1, 21.5; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -136.0 (d,  $J_F$  = 19.7 Hz, 1 F), -136.5 (d,  $J_F$  = 20.0Hz, 1 F).

### **2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole**



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140 °C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded **3v<sup>1</sup>** and **3v<sup>2</sup>** in 52% and 17% yield, respectively, they were both white solids.

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO: C, 60.46; H, 3.26; N, 5.04. Found: C, 60.89; H, 3.34; N, 5.07.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

### **3v<sup>1</sup>**

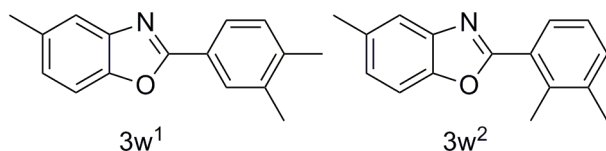
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.28 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55(d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52(s, 1H), 7.41(d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.15(m, 1H), 2.47(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.8, 149.0, 142.0, 135.6, 134.8, 133.4, 131.0, 129.2, 127.1, 126.8, 126.4, 120.1, 110.0, 21.5.

### **3v<sup>2</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.00 (dd,  $J$  = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.48(d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.33(t,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.20(m, 1H), 2.49(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C**

**NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.4, 148.9, 141.7, 135.0, 134.7, 132.6, 132.0, 130.1, 128.7, 127.3, 127.0, 120.4, 110.2, 21.5.

**2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole**



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140°C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded **3w<sup>1</sup>** and **3w<sup>2</sup>** in 55% and 10% yield, respectively, they were both white solids.

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO: C, 80.98; H, 6.37; N, 5.90. Found: C, 81.11; H, 6.49; N, 5.77.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

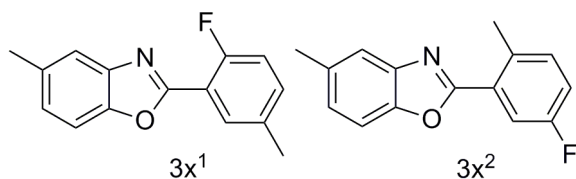
**3w<sup>1</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.52(s, 1H), 7.41-7.38(m, 1H), 7.25-7.23(m, 1H), 7.10(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 2.46(s, 3H), 2.33-2.29(m, 6H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.5, 148.9, 142.3, 140.7, 137.3, 134.2, 130.0, 128.6, 125.9, 125.1, 124.8, 119.7, 109.8, 21.5, 19.9, 19.7.

**3w<sup>2</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.79 (d, *J*=7.7Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.33(d, *J*=8.3Hz, 1H), 7.18(d, *J*=7.3Hz, 1H), 7.11(t, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.05-7.03(m, 1H), 2.56(s, 3H), 2.38(s, 3H), 2.27(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 164.0, 148.6, 142.2, 138.1, 137.1, 134.0, 132.3, 128.0, 127.0, 126.0, 125.5, 120.0, 21.4, 20.7, 17.1.

**2-(2-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole**



Following the general procedure for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded **3x<sup>1</sup>** and **3x<sup>2</sup>** in 64% and 10% yield, respectively, they were both light yellow solids.

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FNO: C, 74.67; H, 5.01; N, 5.81. Found: C, 74.74; H, 5.32; N, 5.83.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>19</sup>F NMR respectively.

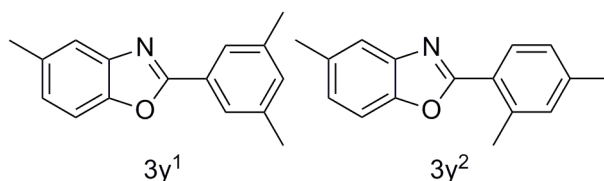
### **3x<sup>1</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.03 -8.00 (m, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1 H), 7.47(d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.26(m, 1H), 7.19-7.10(m, 2H), 2.48(s, 3H), 2.40(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.8(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=5.2 Hz), 159.0(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=256.0Hz), 148.7(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=1.1Hz), 141.9, 134.5, 134.0(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=3.7Hz), 133.5(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=8.3Hz), 130.5(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=1.1Hz), 126.6, 120.1, 116.7(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=21.7Hz), 115.0(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=10.6Hz), 110.0, 21.5, 20.6; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -115.6 (s, 1F).

### **3x<sup>2</sup>**

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.87 (dd, *J*=9.7, 2.8Hz 1H), 7.59 (s, 1 H), 7.45(d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.27(m, 1H), 7.19-7.17(m, 1H), 7.09(td, *J*=8.2, 2.8Hz, 1H) 2.76(s, 3H), 2.49(s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.2(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=2.9 Hz), 160.9(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=244.1Hz), 148.5, 142.2, 134.4, 134.4, 133.2(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=7.7 Hz), 127.6(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=8.0 Hz), 126.5, 120.2, 117.6(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=20.8 Hz), 116.3(d, *J<sub>F</sub>*=23.7 Hz), 110.0, 21.5, 21.5; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -117.0 (s, 1F).

**5-methyl-2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)benzoxazole<sup>10</sup>**                      **and**                      **5-methyl-2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl) benzoxazole<sup>11</sup>**



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140°C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded **3y**<sup>1</sup> and **3y**<sup>2</sup> in 54% and 23% yield, respectively, they were both white solids.

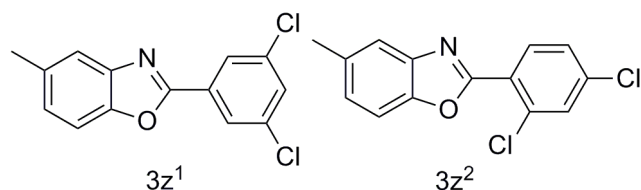
Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO: C, 80.98; H, 6.37; N, 5.90. Found: C, 81.11; H, 6.49; N, 5.77.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3y**<sup>1</sup> in accordance with those described in the literature.<sup>11</sup>

The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3y**<sup>2</sup> in accordance with those described in the literature.<sup>12</sup>

### 5-methyl-2-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)benzoxazole and 5-methyl-2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)benzoxazole



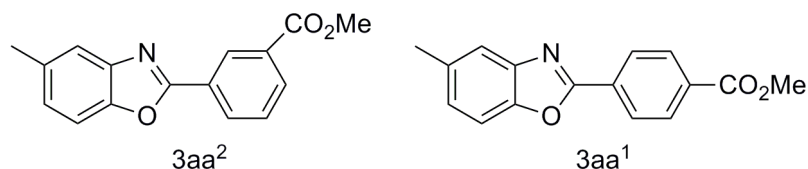
Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140°C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant mixture of regioisomers **3z**<sup>1</sup>:**3z**<sup>2</sup> (17:1) determined by GC and 78% yield separated by column chromatography. Due to the low yield of the **3z**<sup>2</sup> isomer, it is not possible to report its spectroscopic data. The following data belongs to the major regioisomer.

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO: C, 60.46; H, 3.26; N, 5.04. Found: C, 60.50; H, 3.42; N, 5.32.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **3z**<sup>1</sup> major product.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.52(s, 1H), 7.41-7.38(m, 1H), 7.25-7.23(m, 1H), 7.10(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 2.46(s, 3H), 2.33-2.29(m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.5, 148.9, 142.3, 140.7, 137.3, 134.2, 130.0, 128.6, 125.9, 125.1, 124.8, 119.7, 109.8, 21.5, 19.9, 19.7.

### 2-(3-Methoxycarbonyl-phenyl) -5-methylbenzoxazole and 2-(4-Methoxycarbonyl-phenyl) -5-methylbenzoxazole



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140 °C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (73% yield) containing (2:1) isomers (determined by GC).

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 71.90; H, 4.90; N, 5.24. Found: C, 71.96; H, 5.01; N, 5.26.

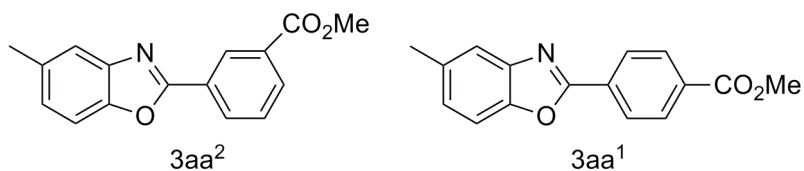
Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR respectively.

### 3aa<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.26 (d, *J*=7.7Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d, *J*=7.7Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 3.94(s, 3H), 2.47(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 166.3, 161.9, 142.3, 149.1, 142.2, 134.7, 132.3, 131.1, 130.0, 126.9, 120.2, 110.1, 52.3, 21.5.

### 3aa<sup>2</sup>

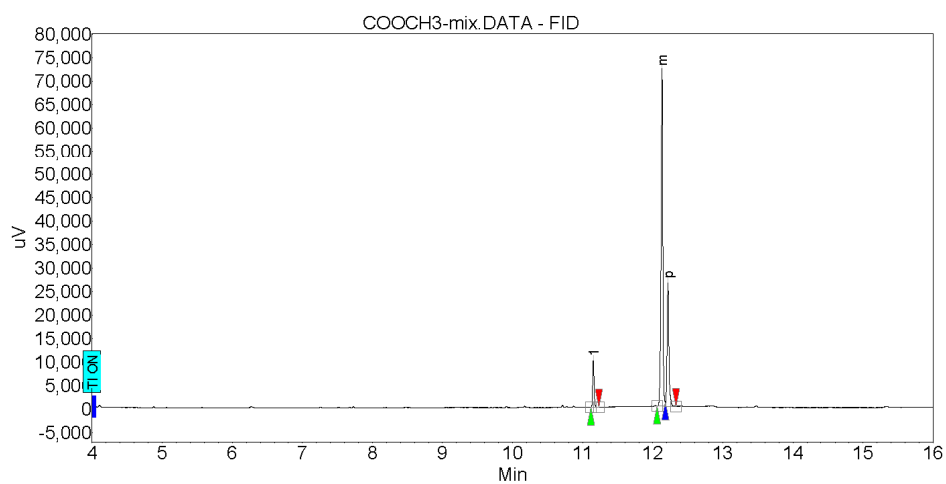
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.89 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J*=7.8Hz, 1H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J*=8.3Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J*=8.3Hz, 1H), 3.98(s, 3H), 2.49(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 166.3, 162.1, 149.0, 142.1, 134.7, 132.3, 131.6, 131.1, 128.6, 127.7, 126.7, 120.0, 110.1, 52.4, 21.5.



**Chromatogram : COOCH3-mix\_channel1**

System : 430GC  
 Method : wuge-酯  
 User : 430

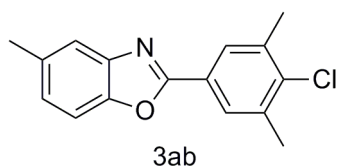
Acquired : 2012-7-6 15:15:41  
 Processed : 2012-7-10 16:08:09  
 Printed : 2012-7-10 16:10:40



**Peak results :**

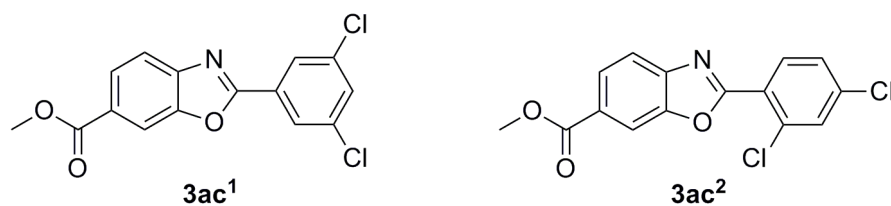
Index	Name	Time [Min]	Quantity [% Area]	Height [uV]	Area [uV.Min]	Area % [%]	Res. USP
1	t	11.15	7.29	10060.8	230.7	7.285	0.00
2	m	12.13	67.10	72265.7	2125.1	67.105	24.34
3	p	12.22	25.61	26466.3	811.1	25.610	1.86
Total			100.00	108792.8	3166.9	100.000	

### 2-(4-chloro-3,5-dimethylphenyl)-5-methylbenzoxazole



Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140 °C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant afforded a white solid (52% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.77 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J*=8.3Hz, 1H), 7.11(d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06(d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.75(s, 3H), 2.39(s, 3H), 2.36(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 163.0, 148.6, 142.2, 139.5, 136.7, 136.5, 134.3, 128.1, 128.0, 126.3, 126.1, 120.1, 109.8, 21.5, 21.5, 18.5; Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClNO: C, 69.91; H, 4.69; N, 5.43. Found: C, 70.05; H, 4.75; N, 5.50.

### methyl 2-(3,5-dichlorophenyl) benzoxazole-6-carboxylate and methyl 2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl) benzoxazole-6-carboxylate

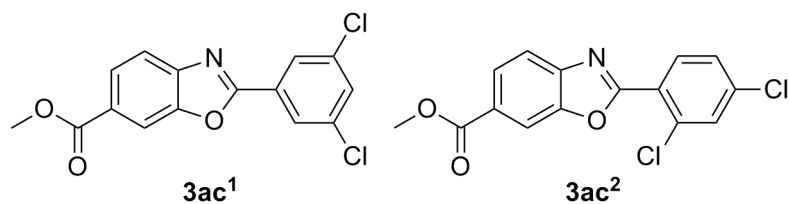


Following the general procedure and 1.8 equiv CuBr<sub>2</sub> was used at 140 °C for 48h, using hexane as the eluant mixture of regioisomers **3ac<sup>1</sup>**:**3ac<sup>2</sup>** (12:1) determined by GC and 43% yield separated by column chromatography. Due to the low yield of the **3ac<sup>2</sup>** isomer, it is not possible to report its spectroscopic data. The following data belongs to the major regioisomer.

Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 55.93; H, 2.82; N, 4.35. Found: C, 56.01; H, 2.91; N, 4.38.

Assignments of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **3ac<sup>1</sup>** major product.

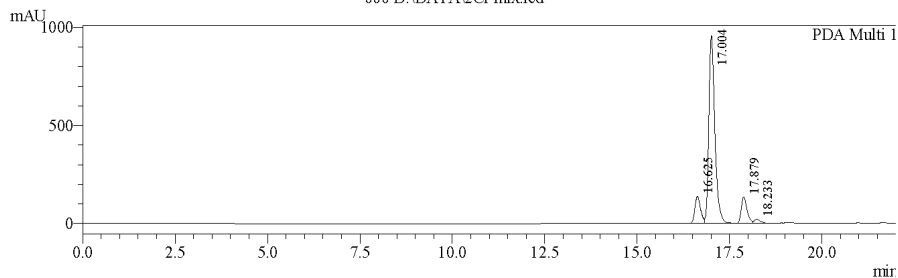
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.12 (t, *J*=7.8Hz, 2H), 7.83(d, *J*=8.4Hz, 1H), 7.58(s, 1H), 7.41(d, *J*=8.4Hz, 1H), 3.96(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 166.5, 162.6, 150.2, 145.4, 138.2, 134.6, 132.7, 131.5, 127.8, 127.6, 126.5, 124.2, 120.1, 112.5, 52.4.



Sample Information

Acquired by : Admin  
 Sample Name : 000  
 Sample ID : 000  
 Vial# :  
 Injection Volume : 20 uL  
 Data Filename : 2Cl-mix.lcd  
 Method Filename : 50-100%20min.lcm  
 Batch Filename :  
 Report Filename : Default.lcr  
 Date Acquired : 2012-7-10 12:26:12  
 Data Processed : 2012-7-10 18:25:31Unknown

Chromatogram  
 000 D:\DATA\2Cl-mix.lcd



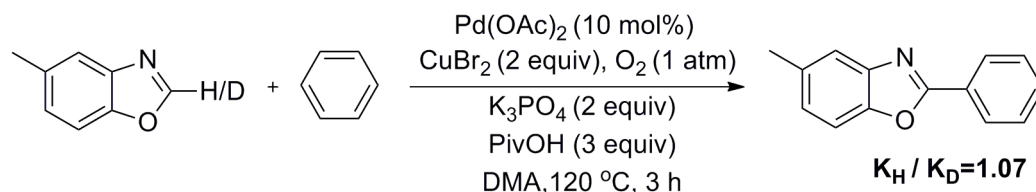
1 PDA Multi 1 / 310nm 4nm

PeakTable

Peak#	Name	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Resolution
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2		17.004	10842166	957228	77.557	1.273
3		17.879	1429956	133952	10.229	2.982
4		18.233	242395	20060	1.734	1.069
Total			13979531	1248143	100.000	

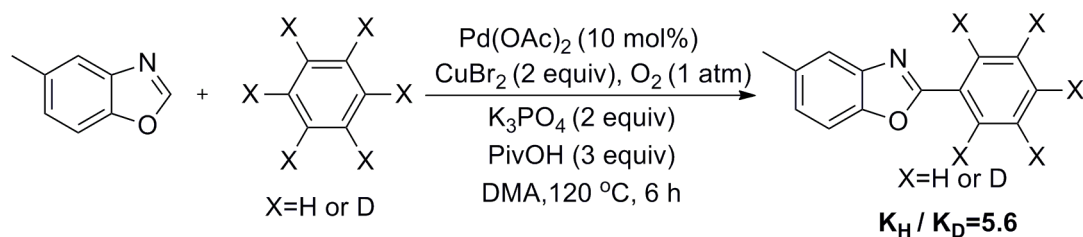


## Kinetic Isotope Effect Experiment:

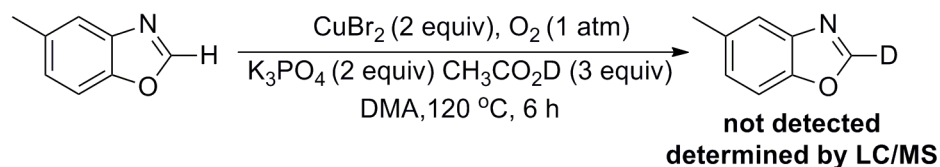


Initially, the target product, 5-methyl-2-phenylbenzoxazole was used as a standard compound to make a curve involving the product concentration and peak area (external standard method, GC-MS). Then an intermolecular competition reaction between 5-methylbenzoxazole and deuterated 5-methylbenzoxazole was carried out.

In a glove box, two 25 mL of Schlenk tubes equipped with a stir bar were charged with 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol), CuBr<sub>2</sub> (2 equiv), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (2 equiv), PivOH (3 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol %). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, and then it was evacuated and refilled with dioxygen three times. In one tube, under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL), and benzene (4 mL) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. In another tube, under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL), benzene (4mL), and deuterated 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 3 h (conversion approximately 20% yield) and When measuring the values of KIE, the reaction was quenched at ( 3 h, 6 h, 9 h and 12 h, no significant difference in the KIE value was observed for different reaction time). After cooling down, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of ethyl ether, filtered through a pad of silica gel, Finally, the mixture was analyzed by GC, and the GC yield of the target product was calculated according to the pre-established curve. The ratio of the two target products represents the KIE value.



In a glove box, two 25 mL of Schlenk tubes equipped with a stir bar were charged with 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol),  $\text{CuBr}_2$  (2 equiv),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (2 equiv), PivOH (3 equiv),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (10 mol %). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, and then it was evacuated and refilled with dioxygen three times. In one tube, under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL) and benzene (4 mL) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. In another tube, under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL), benzene- $d_6$  (4 mL), and 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 6 h, The reaction was then cooled and an aliquot was removed and analyzed by GC/MS.

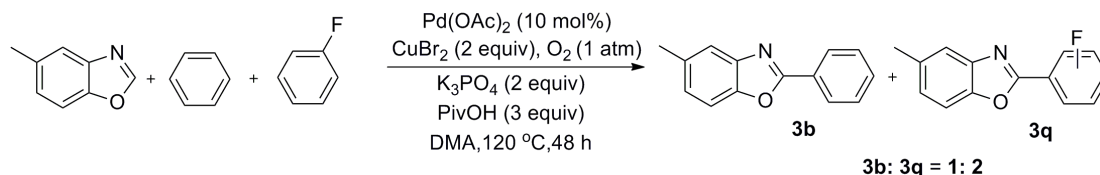


In a glove box, a 25 mL of Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar were charged with  $\text{CuBr}_2$  (2 equiv),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (2 equiv), 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol), the tube was fitted with a rubber septum, and then it was evacuated and refilled with dioxygen three times. In one tube, under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL) and  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{D}$  (3 equiv) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 6 h, The reaction was then cooled and an aliquot was removed and analyzed by LC/MS.

**Note: no deuterium incorporation into the 5-methylbenzoxazole substrate was observed in the presence or in the absence of  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  catalyst, or  $\text{CuBr}_2$**

(2equiv)  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{D}$  (3equiv),  $\text{O}_2$ , DMA and in the absence of  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  base as catalyst system, corresponding experiments results also analyzed by LC/MS.

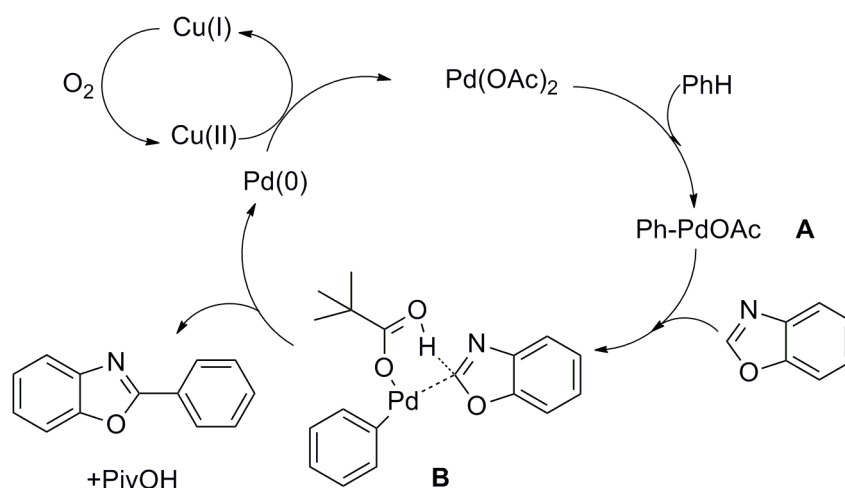
**Competition investigation:**



In a glove box, a 25 mL of Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with 5-methylbenzoxazole (0.2 mmol),  $\text{CuBr}_2$  (2 equiv),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (0.75 equiv), PivOH (3 equiv),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (10 mol %). The tube was fitted with a rubber septum, and then it was evacuated and refilled with dioxygen three times. Under dioxygen, DMA (2 mL), benzene (2 mL), and fluorobenzene (2 mL) were added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, and then the septum was replaced by a Teflon screwcap under a oxygen flow. The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 48 h. The solution was then extracted and analyzed by GC to determine the product distribution.

**Plausible Mechanism to Approach Oxidative Cross-Coupling of Benzoxazole**

### with Arenes



On the basis of the data above and precedent literature, a plausible catalytic cycle is proposed. Taking the coupling of benzoxazole with benzene for example, the initial palladation of benzene afforded **A** via an intramolecular abstraction process (This hypothesis is supported by the fact that electron-rich arenes such as anisole failed to react, while benzene and methyl benzoate readily coupled with benzoxazole), followed by coordination of benzoxazole to Pd through N atom and subsequent via concerted metalation-deprotonation to form an ArPd(benzoxazole) intermediate, which underwent reductive elimination to generate the product, along with Pd(0) which is reoxidized by the excess Cu(II)/O<sub>2</sub> regenerated the catalytically active Pd(II) species to complete the catalytic cycle.

### References:

- (1) J. J. Lee, J. Kim, Y. M. Jun, B. M. Lee, B. H. Kim, *Tetrahedron* **2009**, *65*, 8821-8831.
- (2) For the synthesis of 2-deuterated oxazoles, see: E. Crowe, F. Hossner, M. J. Hughes, *Tetrahedron* **1995**, *51*, 8889-8900.
- (3) S. Ueda, H. Nagasawa, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 6511-6513; *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 6411-6413.
- (4) S. Ueda, H. Nagasawa, *J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, *74*, 4272-4277.
- (5) J. Bonnamour, C. Bolm, *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 2665-2667.
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