

# Supporting Information

## Alcohol Assisted C-C Bond Breaking: Copper-Catalyzed Deacetylative $\alpha$ -Arylation of $\beta$ -keto Esters and Amides

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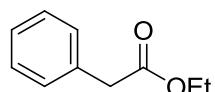
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<b>General Information.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>General Procedures for the Deacetylative Arylation of</b>	
<b><math>\beta</math>-Keto Esters and Amides: .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Reference.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Spectrum.....</b>	<b>10</b>

## General Information

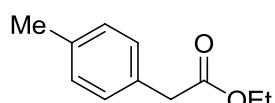
Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum (boiling point is between 30-60 °C). Gradient flash chromatography was conducted eluting with a continuous gradient from petroleum to the indicated solvent, and they are listed as volume/volume ratios. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury spectrometers at 300 MHz ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR), 75 MHz ( $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR). Tetramethylsilane was used as an internal standard. All  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were reported in delta ( $\delta$ ) units, parts per million (ppm) downfield from the internal standard. Coupling constants are reported in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured with a Waters Micromass GCT instrument, accurate masses are reported for the molecular ion ( $[\text{M}]^+$ ). Selective ratios were recorded with a Varian GC 2000 gas chromatography instrument with a FID detector. And GC yield were determined by the same instrument while naphthalene was used as the internal standard. GC-Ms spectra were recorded on a Varian GC-Ms 3900-2100T.

## General Procedures for the Deacetylyative Arylation of $\beta$ -Keto Esters and Amides:



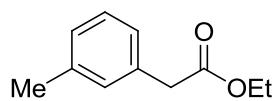
**Ethyl 2-phenylacetate (3aa).**<sup>1</sup> A mixture of iodobenzene **1a** (1.0 mmol), ethyl acetoacetate **2a** (3.0 mmol), CuI (10 mol %),  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  (3.0 mmol), and alcohol additive (3.0 mmol) in DMSO (4 mL) was stirred in  $\text{N}_2$  at 80 °C. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by GC or GC-MS, the mixture was quenched with diluted hydrochloride (2 mL, 2M), the solution was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 5$  mL).

The organic layers were combined, and dried over sodium sulfate. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 50:1) to afford **3aa** in 82% yield. The spectroscopic data of all the products are presented below. All the known compounds gave satisfactory spectroscopic values and are analogue to spectroscopic data reported in the literature. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.27-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.9, 134.4, 129.5, 128.8, 127.3, 61.1, 41.7, 14.4.



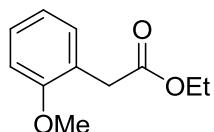
**Ethyl 2-*p*-tolylacetate (**3ba**).<sup>2</sup>**

Isolated yield: 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.11-7.03 (m, 4H), 4.05 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.1, 136.8, 131.3, 129.5, 129.3, 61.0, 41.2, 21.3, 14.4.



**Ethyl 2-*m*-tolylacetate (**3ca**).<sup>3</sup>**

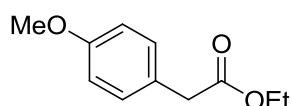
Isolated yield: 88%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02-6.99 (m, 3H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.0, 138.4, 134.3, 130.2, 128.7, 128.0, 126.5, 61.1, 41.6, 21.6, 14.4.



**Ethyl 2-(2-methoxyphenyl)acetate (**3da**).<sup>1</sup>**

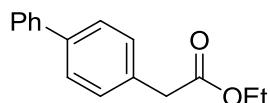
Isolated yield: 68%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.19-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.85-6.77 (m, 2H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C

NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.1, 157.7, 131.0, 128.7, 123.3, 120.6, 110.6, 60.8, 55.6, 36.2, 14.4.



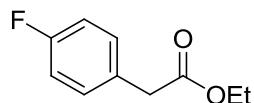
**Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetate (3ea).<sup>2</sup>**

Isolated yield: 76%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.46 (s, 2H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.2, 158.8, 130.5, 126.4, 114.1, 61.0, 55.4, 40.7, 14.4.



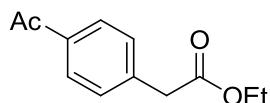
**Ethyl 2-(biphenyl-4-yl)acetate (3fa).<sup>4</sup>**

Isolated yield: 89%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.48-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.24 (m, 5H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.8, 141.0, 140.2, 133.4, 129.9, 129.0, 127.5, 127.3, 61.1, 41.2, 14.4.



**Ethyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)acetate (3ga).<sup>2</sup>**

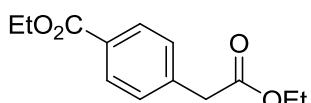
Isolated yield: 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.19-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.95-6.90 (m, 2H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.7, 163.8, 160.6, 131.1, 131.0, 115.7, 115.5, 61.2, 40.7, 14.4.



**Ethyl 2-(4-acetylphenyl)acetate (3ha).<sup>2</sup>**

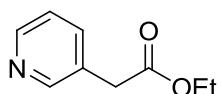
Isolated yield: 88%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d,

$J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.16 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  198.0, 171.0, 139.7, 136.2, 131.7, 129.9, 129.8, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 61.4, 41.5, 26.9, 14.4.



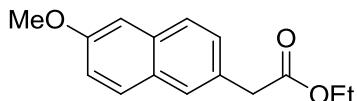
**Ethyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)benzoate (3ia).<sup>2</sup>**

Isolated yield: 87%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.94 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.30 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 4.09 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 1.32 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.18 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.2, 166.7, 139.4, 131.5, 130.3, 130.1, 129.6, 61.4, 61.2, 41.6, 14.6, 14.4.



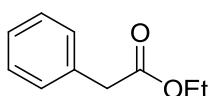
**Ethyl 2-(pyridin-3-yl)acetate (3ja).<sup>1</sup>**

Isolated yield: 73%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 2H), 7.65 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.24 (m, 1H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  170.8, 150.4, 148.5, 136.9, 130.0, 123.5, 61.3, 38.5, 14.2.



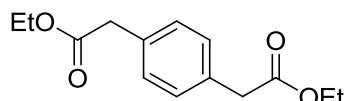
**Ethyl 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)acetate (3ka).<sup>5</sup>**

Isolated yield: 75%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.70-7.64 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 2H), 4.15 (q,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 1.24 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.0, 157.8, 133.8, 129.5, 129.4, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 127.3, 119.2, 105.8, 61.1, 55.5, 41.6, 14.4.



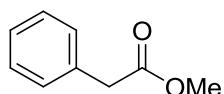
**Ethyl 2-phenylacetate (3la).<sup>1</sup>**

Isolated yield: 38%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.27-7.16 (m, 5H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.9, 134.4, 129.5, 128.8, 127.3, 61.1, 41.7, 14.4.



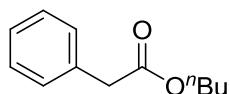
**Diethyl 2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)diacetate (3ma).<sup>2</sup>**

Isolated yield: 80%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.24 (s, 4H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 3.59 (s, 4H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.8, 133.1, 130.4, 129.6, 128.6, 61.0, 41.2, 14.3.



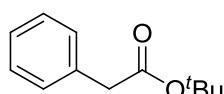
**Methyl 2-phenylacetate (3ab).<sup>6</sup>**

Isolated yield: 75%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.24-7.18 (m, 5H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.3, 134.2, 129.5, 128.8, 127.3, 52.3, 41.4.



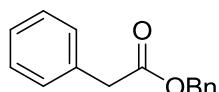
**Butyl 2-phenylacetate (3ac).<sup>7</sup>**

Isolated yield: 87%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.35-7.23 (m, 5H), 4.09 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 1.64-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.0, 134.4, 129.5, 128.8, 127.2, 65.0, 41.7, 30.8, 19.3, 13.9.



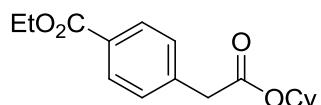
**tert-Butyl 2-phenylacetate (3ad).<sup>8</sup>**

Isolated yield: 70%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.37-7.04 (m, 5H), 3.45 (s, 2H), 1.36 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.2, 134.9, 130.2, 129.4, 128.7, 127.1, 121.9, 81.0, 42.9, 28.3.



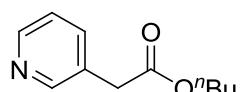
**Benzyl 2-phenylacetate (3ae).<sup>9</sup>**

Isolated yield: 67%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.33-7.24 (m, 10H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.67 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.6, 136.0, 134.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.3, 66.8, 41.5.



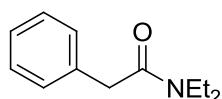
**Ethyl 4-(2-(cyclohexyloxy)-2-oxoethyl)benzoate (3if).**

Isolated yield: 72%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.91 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.70-4.68 (m, 1H), 4.28 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 1.73-1.70 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.33-1.17 (m, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  170.6, 166.7, 139.7, 130.2, 130.0, 129.5, 73.6, 61.2, 42.1, 31.7, 25.6, 23.9, 14.6. HRMS (APCI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4$  [M] $^+$ : 290.1518; found 290.1519.



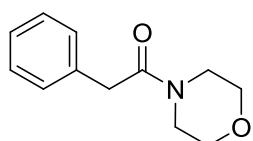
**Butyl 2-(pyridin-3-yl)acetate (3jc).**

Isolated yield: 59%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 2H), 7.65 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 4.11 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 1.66-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.0, 150.6, 148.7, 137.1, 130.1, 123.6, 65.3, 38.8, 30.8, 19.3, 13.9. HRMS (APCI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2$  [M] $^+$ : 193.1103; found 193.1100.



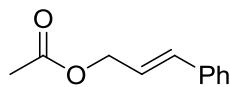
**N,N-diethyl-2-phenylacetamide (3ag).<sup>10</sup>**

Isolated yield: 45%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.24-7.15 (m, 5H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.30 (q,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.20 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 1.06-0.97 (m, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  170.4, 135.5, 129.3, 128.7, 126.7, 42.5, 40.9, 40.3, 14.2, 13.0.



**1-Morpholino-2-phenylethanone (3ah).<sup>10</sup>**

Isolated yield: 44%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.27-7.14 (m, 5H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 3.59-3.56 (m, 4H), 3.38-3.36 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  169.9, 135.0, 129.1, 128.8, 127.2, 67.0, 66.7, 46.8, 42.4, 41.1.



**(Z)-3-phenylallyl acetate.<sup>11</sup>**

Isolated yield: 75%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.40-7.25 (m, 5H), 6.65 (d,  $J = 15.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.33-6.23 (m, 1H), 4.72 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.1, 136.3, 134.4, 128.8, 128.3, 126.8, 123.3, 65.3, 21.2.

## Reference

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## Spectrum

