Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for ChemComm. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2020

Supporting Information

Manganese-catalyzed Selective C-H Activation and Deuteration by means of a Catalytic Transient Directing Group Strategy

Sara Kopf, Helfried Neumann* and Matthias Beller*

Leibniz-Institut für Katalyse, Albert-Einstein-Straße 29a, 18059 Rostock, Germany.

E-Mail: matthias.beller@catalysis.de

Inhalt

1 General comments	3
2 General procedure for the deuteration of aromatic aldehydes	3
3 Optimization details	3
4 Characterization data for deuterated compounds	6
5 Unsuccessful substrates	9
6 Functional group tolerance	10
7 Competition experiments with other directing groups	11
8 NMR spectra	11
9 Mass spectra	41

1 General comments

All reactions were carried out in 25 mL Schlenk pressure tubes (FengTecEx) under an atmosphere of argon using standard Schlenk techniques. DCE was purchased from AlfaAesar. D₂O (99.90%) was purchased from Deutero. Aldehydes were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Fluorochem, AlfaAesar, and TCI and stored under argon. Anhydrous sodium acetate was purchased from Fisher. Manganese carbonyl complexes were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and stored under argon at 4 °C. All solvents and reagents were used as received. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300 (300 MHz) or 400 (400 MHz) NMR spectrometers. Chemical shifts δ (ppm) are given relative to solvent: references for CDCl₃ were 7.26 ppm (¹H) and 77.16 ppm (¹³C), for CD₃OD 3.31 ppm (¹H) and 49.00 ppm (¹³C). Multiplets of NMR were assigned as s (singlet), br s (broad singlet) d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), dq (doublet of quartet), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublet), and m (multiplet). All measurements were carried out at room temperature. Electron impact (EI) mass spectra were recorded on AMD 402 mass spectrometer (70 eV). The data is given as mass units per charge (m/z).

2 General procedure for the deuteration of aromatic aldehydes

A. The aldehyde (0.5 mmol), sodium acetate (41 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and manganese pentacarbonyl bromide (6.9 mg, 25 µmol, 5 mol%) were weighed into a 25 mL pressure-resistent Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was evacuated and backfilled with argon three times before DCE (400 µL), D_2O (100 µL) and *n*-butylamine (7.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%) were added. Liquid aldehydes were also added at this stage. The reaction mixture was subsequently heated to 100 °C and stirred at this temperature for the indicated reaction time. The resulting suspension was diluted with DCM, washed with distilled water (20 mL), and extracted with DCM (2x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated. The deuterated products were then purified by silica gel column chromatography.

B. The aldehyde (0.5 mmol), 4-chlorobenzoic acid (39 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 eq.) and manganese pentacarbonyl bromide (6.9 mg, 25 μ mol, 5 mol%) were weighed into a 25 mL pressure-resistent Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was evacuated and backfilled with argon three times before DCE (400 μ L), D₂O (100 μ L) and benzylamine (11 μ L, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%) were added. Liquid aldehydes were also added at this stage. The reaction mixture was subsequently heated to 100 °C and stirred at this temperature for the indicated reaction time. The resulting suspension was diluted with DCM, washed with an aqueous saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate (20 mL), and extracted with DCM (2x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (20 mL), dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated. The deuterated products were then purified by silica gel column chromatography.

3 Optimization details

Table 1 The effect of different catalytic amines.



Entry	Catalytic amine [20 mol%]	Deuterium incorporation [%]	
1	-	0	
2	2-aminobenzotrifluoride	0	
3	benzylamine	66	
4	2-methylbenzylamine	65	
5	2,6-dimethylbenzylamine	69	

6	3-methoxybenzylamine	57
7	4-methoxybenzylamine	67
8	2-(trifluoromethyl)benzylamine	67
9	3-(trifluoromethyl)benzylamine	56
10	4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylamine	54
11	3,4-difluorobenzylamine	52
12	1-phenylethylamine	32
13	n-butylamine	73
14	n-octylamine	72
15	cyclopentylamine	48
16	4-phenylbutylamine	72
17	glycine	0

Scale: 0.5 mmol **1**. Deuterium incorporation was determined by ¹H NMR through the decrease of the doublet at 7.81 ppm while referencing on the protons in *meta* position.

Table 2 The effect of different catalyst precursors.



Entry	Catalyst precursor [5 mol%]	Deuterium incorporation [%]	
1	-	0	
2	Mn(CO) ₅ Br	73	
3	Mn ₂ (CO) ₁₀	85	
4	MnCl ₂	0	
5	Mn(OAc) ₂	0	

Scale: 0.5 mmol **1**. Deuterium incorporation was determined by ¹H NMR through the decrease of the doublet at 7.81 ppm while referencing on the protons in *meta* position.

Since dimanganese decacarbonyl was completely ineffective for the deuteration of 2-nitrobenzaldehyde, the model substrate for acidic deuteration conditions, while manganese pentacarbonyl bromide was an efficient catalyst under these conditions, the latter was used as a catalyst for further experiments to allow for a broader scope of the reaction.

Table 3 The effect of catalyst loading.



Entry	Catalyst loading [mol%]	Deuterium incorporation [%]	
1	0	0	
2	2.5	62	
3	5	73	
4	10	81	
5	20	94	

Scale: 0.5 mmol **1**. Deuterium incorporation was determined by ¹H NMR through the decrease of the doublet at 7.81 ppm while referencing on the protons in *meta* position.

Aiming for a cost-efficient procedure, a catalyst loading of 5 mol% was used for the evaluation of the substrate scope. Indeed, most substrates were sufficiently reactive with this lower catalyst loading.

 Table 4 Effect of solvents.



Scale: 0.5 mmol **1**. Deuterium incorporation was determined by ¹H NMR through the decrease of the doublet at 7.81 ppm while referencing on the protons in *meta* position.

62

Table 5 Effect of base and acid additives.

7

1,4-Dioxane



Entry	Additive (0.5 eq.)	Deuterium incorporation [%]		
1	NaOAc	60		
2	K ₂ CO ₃	0		
3	Cy ₂ NH	9		
4	AcOH	50		
5	TFA	0		
6	PivOH	21		
7	AdCO ₂ H	22		
8	PhCO₂H	21		
9	4-Cl-PhCO₂H	21		
10	4-OMe-PhCO ₂ H	29		
11	4-CF ₃ -PhCO ₂ H	10		

Scale: 0.5 mmol **1**. Deuterium incorporation was determined by ¹H NMR through the decrease of the doublet at 7.81 ppm while referencing on the protons in *meta* position. AdCO₂H = adamantane carboxylic acid.

 Table 6 Effect of base loading.



4 Characterization data for deuterated compounds

p-Anisaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (1-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 73% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 80% isolated yield (average of two runs). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.86 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 28% ¹H, 2H), 6.99–6.97 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.8, 164.7, 131.7 (t, *J* = 24.7 Hz), 129.9 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 114.3, 55.6. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M]: 138.0644, found 138.0640. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 138 (49.2) M-*d*₂, 137 (100.0) M-*d*₂-H, 136 (55.9) M-*d*-H, 109 (8.0), 94 (10.6), 79 (16.3).

p-Fluorobenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (2-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1 → 10:1. 93% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 89% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 5.3 Hz, 7% ¹H, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.6, 166.6 (d, *J* = 255.7 Hz), 133.0 (m), 132.4–131.6 (m), 116.4 (d, *J* = 22.3 Hz). MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 126 (79.9) M-*d*₂, 125 (100.0) M-*d*₂-H, 124 (16.6) M-*d*-H, 97 (70.7).

p-Chlorobenzaldehyde-2,6- d_2 (3- d_2). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 91% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 48% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.84–7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 19% ¹H, 2H), 7.53–7.51 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.0, 141.1, 134.7, 130.7 (t, *J* = 24.5 Hz), 129.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H]: 141.0071, found 141.0074. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 144 (21.1) M(³⁷Cl)- d_2 , 143 (36.9) M(³⁷Cl)- d_2 -H, 142 (69.1) M(³⁵Cl)- d_2 , 141 (100.0) M(³⁵Cl)- d_2 -H, 140 (17.9) M(³⁵Cl)- d_4 , 115 (14.9), 113 (45.2).

o-Chlorobenzaldehyde-6-*d* (4-*d*). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 19 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 88 % Deuterium incorporation in position 6, 32 % isolated yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.49 (s, 1H), 7.92 (ddd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8, 0.4 Hz, 12% ¹H, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42–7.35 (m, 1H). HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M-H]: 140.0008, found 140.0005. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 142 (38.6) [M-H](³⁷Cl)-*d*, 141 (72.9) [M-H](³⁷Cl), 140 (100.0) [M-H](³⁵Cl)-*d*, 139 (14.5) [M-H](³⁵Cl), 112 (36.9).

m-Bromobenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (5-*d*₂). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1. 70% Deuterium incorporation in positions 2 and 6, 79% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.95 (m, 1H), 8.00–7.99 (m, 30% ¹H, 1H), 7.82–7.78 (m, 30% ¹H, 1H), 7.76–7.72 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.9, 138.1, 137.4, 132.5, 130.7, 128.5, 123.4. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H]: 186.9545, found 186.9545. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 187 (96.5) M(⁸¹Br)-*d*₂, 186 (99.9) M(⁸¹Br)-*d*, 185 (100.0) M(⁷⁹Br)-*d*₂, 184 (53.9) M(⁷⁹Br)-*d*, 159 (27.1), 158 (26.6), 157 (29.3), 156 (23.9), 78 (30.0), 77 (23.8), 51 (23.2).

4-Bromo-2-fluorobenzaldehyde-6-*d* (6-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1. 96% Deuterium incorporation in position 6, 78% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.30 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76–7.71 (m, 4% ¹H, 1H), 7.42–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 9.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.2 (d, J = 6.3 Hz), 164.2 (d, J = 263.1 Hz), 130.3 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 129.8–129.1 (m), 128.4 (d, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.2 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 120.4 (d, J = 23.6 Hz). HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd. for [M-H]: 201.9409, found 201.9411. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%): 205 (57.6) M(⁸¹Br)-*d*, 204 (100.0) M(⁸¹Br)-*d*-H, 203 (62.0) M(⁷⁹Br)-*d*, 202 (97.9) M(⁷⁹Br)-*d*-H, 176 (19.9), 174 (20.6), 95 (29.7).

5-Chloro-2-fluorobenzaldehyde-6-*d* (7-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. 90% Deuterium incorporation in position 6. Purification on silica gel was unsuccessful. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.29 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 2.8 Hz, 10% ¹H, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H). HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H] (³⁷Cl): 159.9884, found 159.9888. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 161 (20.5) [M](³⁷Cl)-*d*, 160 (36.5) [M-H](³⁷Cl)-*d*, 159 (69.3) [M](³⁵Cl)-*d*, 158 (100.0) [M-H](³⁵Cl)-*d*, 157 (22.4) [M-H](³⁵Cl), 130 (36.8), 110 (8.4), 95 (29.2), 75 (31.0).

p-(Trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (8-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 76% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 30% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.00 (dq, *J* = 8.5, 0.7 Hz, 34% ¹H, 2H), 7.82–7.79 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.2, 138.8, 136.1, 130.0, 126.2, 121.8. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M-H]: 175.0334, found 175.0335. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 176 (56.2) M-*d*₂, 175 (100.0) M-H-*d*₂/M-*d*, 174 (44.4) M-H-*d*, 147 (73.2), 146 (44.1).

1-Naphthaldehyde-2-*d* (**9**-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 81% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 85% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.41 (s, 1H), 9.28–9.24 (m, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 19% ¹H, 1H), 7.94–7.91 (m, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66–7.57 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.6, 136.4 (t, *J* = 24.4 Hz), 135.4, 133.8, 131.5, 130.6, 129.2, 128.6, 127.1, 125.0. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M]: 157.0632, found 157.0630.

Benzaldehyde-2,6- d_2 (**10**- d_2). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 50% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 79% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.02 (s, 1H), 7.90–7.86 (m, 50% ¹H, 2H), 7.66–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.5, 136.5, 134.6, 129.9, 129.0.

o-Tolualdehyde-6-*d* (11-*d*). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1. 61% Deuterium incorporation in position 6, 61% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.28 (s, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 5% ¹H, 1H), 7.51–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.39–7.35 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.25 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.0, 140.8, 134.3, 133.8, 132.2, 131.9, 126.4, 19.7. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H]: 120.0554, found 120.0553. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 121 (71.7) M-d, 120 (100.0) M-H-d, 119 (35.0) M-H, 92 (79.8), 65 (15.6), 51 (7.2), 39 (9.2).

Biphenyl-4-carboxaldehyde-3,5- d_2 (12- d_2). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 44% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 3 and 5, 83% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.06 (s, 1H), 7.97–7.93 (m, 57% ¹H, 2H), 7.77–7.73 (m, 2H), 7.66–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.39 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.9, 147.2, 139.8, 130.3, 129.1, 128.6, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd. for [M-H]: 183.0774, found 183.0780. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%): 184 (22.7) M- d_2 , 183 (76.7) M- d_2 .H, 182 (100.0) M-d-H, 181 (44.9) M-H, 154 (34.3), 153 (54.8), 152 (42.5).

p-tert-Butylbenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (13-*d*₂). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1. 18% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 77% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 83% ¹H, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.1, 158.6, 134.2, 129.8, 126.1, 35.5, 31.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H] (monodeuterated compound): 162.1024, found 162.1029. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 163 (14.2) M-*d*, 162 (23.8) M-*d*-H, 148 (58.7), 147 (100.0), 120 (12.6), 119 (24.2), 92 (19.4), 91 (42.7).

3,4-Dimethoxybenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (**14**-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 4:1 → 2:1. 79% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 62% deuterium incorporation in position 6, 77% isolated yield. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl**₃) δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 38% ¹H, 1H), 7.36 (br s, 21% ¹H, 1H), 6.95–6.92 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl**₃) δ 190.9, 154.5, 149.6, 130.0, 126.8, 110.3, 108.9, 56.2, 56.0. **MS** (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 168 (62.8) M-*d*₂, 167 (100.0) M-*d*, 166 (55.9) M-*d*-H, 165 (10.1) M-H), 96 (17.6).

p-Dimethylaminobenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (15-*d*₂). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 4:1. 51% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 100% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.29 (br s, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 49% ¹H, 2H), 7.27–7.23 (m, 2H), 3.63 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.3, 154.4, 132.0, 125.1, 111.0, 40.1. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M]: 151.0961, found 151.0959. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 151 (33.1) M-*d*₂, 150 (94.3) M-*d*, 149 (100.0) M, 148 (32.8).

Piperonal-2,6-*d*₂ (16-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 4:1. 95% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 39% deuterium incorporation in position 6, 78% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 9.78 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 61% ¹H, 1H), 7.30 (m, 5% ¹H, 1H), 6.92–6.89 (m, 1H), 6.05 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.3, 153.2, 148.7, 131.9, 128.7, 108.4, 106.7 (t, *J* = 26.3 Hz), 102.2. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M]: 152.0437, found 152.0434. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 152 (38.2) M-*d*₂, 151 (100.0) M-*d*, 150 (74.3) M, 123 (12.0), 122 (19.0).

6-Bromopiperonal-*d* (**17**-*d*). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 17 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 77% Deuterium incorporation, 85% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.15 (s, 1H), 7.34 (s, 5% ¹H, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.07 (s, 2H).). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.4, 160.6, 153.5, 148.2, 128.1, 121.7, 113.4, 102.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M]: 228.9479, found 228.9484. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 231 (82.5) M(⁸¹Br)-*d*, 230 (100.0) M(⁸¹Br)-H-*d*, 229 (88.1) M(⁷⁹Br)-*d*, 228 (95.7) M(⁷⁹Br)-H-*d*, 202 (19.7), 200 (22.8), 144 (10.4), 121 (9.5), 91 (6.1), 64 (23.2), 63 (28.8).

p-Formylacetanilide-3,5-*d*₂ (18-*d*₂). Procedure A, 72 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 1:1. 75% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 3 and 5, 96% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.92 (br s), 7.85 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 25% ¹H, 2H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.3, 168.9, 143.7, 132.2, 131.3, 119.3, 24.9. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M]: 165.0753, found 165.0756. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 165 (27.0) M-*d*₂, 164 (20.4) M-*d*, 123 (43.2), 122 (100.0), 121 (62.3), 94 (10.7), 66 (10.6), 43 (26.6).

p-Cyanobenzaldehyde-2,6-*d*₂ (19-*d*₂). Procedure B, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1 → 9:1. 88% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 100% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 12% ¹H, 2H), 7.85–7.83 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.7, 138.7, 132.9, 129.7 (t, *J* = 25.3 Hz), 117.8, 117.7. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M-H]: 132.0413, found 131.0412. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 133 (59.5) M-*d*₂, 132 (100.0) M-H-*d*₂, 131 (22.5) M-H-*d*, 104 (47.4), 77 (16.9), 51 (9.4).

m-Cyanobenzaldehyde-2,6- d_2 (20- d_2). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 8 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 89% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 78% deuterium incorporation in position 6, 90 % isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.17–8.10 (m, 35% ¹H, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.67 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.0, 137.3, 136.8, 133.4, 133.2, 130.1, 117.6, 113.7. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M-H]: 132.0413, found 132.0413. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 133 (55.8) M- d_2 , 132 (100.0) M-H- d_2 , 131 (36.1) M-H- d_3 , 104 (41.9), 77 (17.6), 51 (9.8).

*p***-Nitrobenzaldehyde-2,6-***d*₂ (21-*d*₂). Procedure B, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 91% Deuterium incorporation on average in positions 2 and 6, 81% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.16 (s, 1H), 8.42–8.38 (m, 2H), 8.08 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 9% ¹H, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.4, 151.2, 140.0, 130.3 (t, J = 25.5 Hz), 124.3. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd. For [M]: 153.0390, found 131.0387. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%): 153 (88.9) M-*d*₂, 152 (100.0) M-H-*d*₂, 151 (21.8) M-H-*d*, 137 (2.7), 122 (4.4), 107 (18.0), 106 (18.6), 94 (9.3), 79 (49.7), 67 (7.8), 52 (28.7).

m-Nitrobenzaldehyde-2,6- d_2 (22- d_2). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 19 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1 → 9:1. 50% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 90% deuterium incorporation in position 6, 100 % isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.11 (s, 1H), 8.69 (dd, J = 2.3, 0.4 Hz, 50% ¹H, 1H), 8.49–8.46 (m, 1H), 8.26–8.21 (m, 10% ¹H, 1H), 7.79–7.74 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.8, 148.9, 137.3, 134.5 (t, J = 25.4 Hz), 130.4, 128.7, 124.5. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd. For [M-H]: 152.0327, found 152.0324. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%): 153 (45.7) M- d_2 , 152 (100.0) M-H- d_2 , 151 (59.1) M-H-d, 106 (29.7), 78 (47.1), 52 (27.4).

o-Nitrobenzaldehyde-6-*d* (23-*d*). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 8 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 95 % Deuterium incorporation in position 6, 77 % isolated yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.41 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.96–7.93 (m, 5% ¹H, 1H), 7.81–7.74 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.3, 149.7, 134.1, 133.8, 131.4, 129.8, 129.5 (t, *J* = 20.6 Hz), 124.6.

Indole-3-carboxaldehyde-2-*d* **(24-***d***)**. Procedure B, 16 hrs. Purification with DCM:acetone 20:1. 84% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 82% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 9.88 (s, 1H), 8.17–8.14 (m, 1H), 8.09 (s, 16% ¹H, 1H), 7.49–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.30–7.21 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 187.4, 139.3 (t, *J* = 28.9 Hz), 138.9, 125.7, 125.0, 123.6, 122.4, 120.0, 133.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z*: calcd. For [M+H]⁺: 147.0668, found 147.0673.

Indole-6-carboxaldehyde-3,7-*d*₂ (25-*d*₂). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 2:1. 91% Deuterium incorporation in position 3, 10% deuterium incorporation in position 5, 92% deuterium incorporation in position 7, 89% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.45 (br s, 5% ¹H, 1H), 9.87 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 8% ¹H, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 90% ¹H, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 9% ¹H, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.6, 135.4, 133.3, 130.2, 129.5, 120.7, 120.3, 114.8, 102.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M]: 147.0648, found 147.0646. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 148 (37.6) M-*d*₃, 147 (100.0) M-*d*₂, 146 (77.3) M-*d*, 145 (13.4) M, 119 (26.8), 118 (53.5), 91 (23.4).

Thiophene-3-carboxaldehyde- d_2 (26- d_2). Procedure B, 2.5 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 17 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1 \rightarrow 10:1. 94% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 39% deuterium incorporation in position 4, 66% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.12 (dd, J = 2.9, 1.1 Hz, 6% ¹H, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 61% ¹H, 1H), 7.37–7.35 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.0, 143.0, 136.6 (t, J = 28.0 Hz), 127.3, 125.5.

Benzothiophene-3-carboxaldehyde-2-*d* (27-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 10:1. 96% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 100% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.13 (s, 1H), 8.68 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 4% ¹H, 1H), 7.87 (ddd, *J* = 7.7, 1.4, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54–7.42 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.5, 143.1 (t, *J* = 27.9 Hz), 140.5, 136.4, 135.2, 126.2, 126.2, 124.9, 122.5. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. for [M]: 163.0181, found 163.0186. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 163 (89.4) M-*d*, 162 (100.0) M, 134 (23.3), 90 (31.3).

3-Formyl-6-methyl-chromone- d_2 (**28**- d_2). Procedure A, 10 mol% Mn(CO)₅Br, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 4:1. 72% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 68% formyl D, 48% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.38 (s, 32% ¹H, 1H), 8.52 (m, 28% ¹H, 1H), 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.57–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (**75** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.9, 176.2, 160.7, 154.6, 137.1, 136.1, 125.7, 125.1, 120.2, 118.5, 21.1. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M]⁻: 189.0531, found 189.0531.

Cinnamaldehyde-2-*d* (**29**-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1 → 10:1. 60% Deuterium incorporation in position 2, 100% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.72–9.70 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.41 (m, 4H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 7.7 Hz, 40% ¹H, 1H). HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M]⁻: 133.0632, found 133.0634. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 133 (46.6) M-*d*, 132 (100.0) M, 131 (48.5), 105 (20.0), 104 (45.1), 103 (30.9), 78 (40.1), 77 (28.8), 51 (20.1).

Acetocinnamone-3-*d* (30-*d*). Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 9:1. 64% Deuterium incorporation in the olefinic *α* position, 90% deuterium incorporation in the *α*-carbonyl position, 84% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55–7.47 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 3H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 36% ¹H, 1H), 2.36–2.32 (m, 10% ¹H, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.6, 143.5, 134.5, 130.6, 129.0, 128.3, 127.3. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M+H]: 148.0867, found 148.0866. MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%): 150 (53.9) M-*d*₃, 149 (94.1) M-*d*₂, 148 (48.6) M-*d*, 132 (100.0), 131 (50.6), 104 (90.1), 103 (56.0), 78 (26.1), 77 (40.2), 51 (23.1).

Citral-3,4,6-*d*₆ **(31-***d***).** Procedure A, 16 hrs. Purification with pentane:ethyl acetate 20:1. 89% Deuterium incorporation in the olefinic α position, 97% deuterium incorporation in the allylic methyl group, 65% deuterium incorporation in the allylic methylene group, 41% isolated yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.99–9.87 (m, 1H), 5.88–5.85 (m, 11% ¹H, 1H), 5.12–5.02 (m, 1H), 2.60–2.51 (m, 3% ¹H, 3H), 2.22–2.16 (35% ¹H, 6H), 1.67 (m, 3H), 1.60–1.58 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.5, 190.9, 163.8, 133.8, 133.0, 127.7, 122.7, 122.4, 41.7, 32.1, 27.0, 25.8, 25.7, 17.8. The ratio of *E/Z* isomers was conserved during the reaction. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd. For [M-H]: 157.1494, found 157.1477.

5 Unsuccessful substrates

Free hydroxy groups in the benzaldehyde moiety, terminal alkynes, heterocycles with the aldehyde moiety α to the heteroatom and pyridine were not tolerated and either led to recovery of undeuterated starting material (*Figure 1*) or, in some cases, to decomposition (*Figure 2*). Further, the methodology could not be extended to ketones (*Figure 1*).



Figure 1 List of substrates that were not deuterated under the reaction conditions.



Figure 2 List of substrates that decomposed under the reaction conditions.

Some other substrates only afforded low deuteration levels and are listed in *Figure 3*.



Figure 3 List of poorly reactive substrates.

6 Functional group tolerance

The functional group tolerance of the reaction was evaluated using General Procedure A with piperonal as the substrate and equimolar additives (*Table 7*).

Table 7 Test of functional group tolerance.



Entry	additive	D² [%]	D ⁶ [%]
1	none	95	39
2	4-(trifluoromethyl)styrene	90	40
3	acetophenone	93	26
4	phenylboronic acid	91	68
5	phenol	93	43
6	phenylsulfonamide	91	7
7	N-methylbenzamide	94	35
8	propyl benzoate	93	35
9	phenyl acetate	59	6
10	pyridine	26	0
11	1-ethynyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene	9	0

7 Competition experiments with other directing groups

Following General Procedure A and using benzaldehyde as the substrate, equimolar amounts of substrates containing other potential directing groups were added to the reaction mixture in order to compare them in intermolecular competition experiments (*Table 8*).



Table 8 Intermolecular competition experiments with other directing groups.

Entry	DG	D ^A [%]	D ^B [%]
1	none	50	-
2	2-pyridine	45	91
3	1-pyrazole	35	39
4	2-imidazole	27	55
5	N-methylamide	46	0
6	propyl ester	46	0
7	acetate	14	0

8 NMR spectra





























































9 Mass spectra



41



































