Supplementary Information

Rh(I)-catalyzed regioselective arylcarboxylation of acrylamides

with arylboronic acids and CO₂

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1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, commercially available reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers (such as Adamas, Strem, J&K Chemical Co., Energy Chemical, etc.), and used as received. Rhodium catalysts were purchased from Sinocompound. Sensitive reagents, such as Cs₂CO₃ (Energy Chemical) and AgOTf (Energy Chemical), were stored and weighed in glove box. CO₂ was provided by Linde Gas (Xiamen) and its purity was \geq 99.995%. Solvents were generally dried over 4 Å molecular sieves and degassed. The reaction vessels used were 50 mL Schlenk sealed tube (Synthware). Purification of products was performed by flash chromatography (FC) using silica gel or preparative thin layer chromatography (PTLC). ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE III spectrometer (400 MHz, 101 MHz and 376 MHz respectively) and JEOL ECZ600S (600 MHz and 151 MHz, respectively). Chemical shifts are reported parts per million (ppm) referenced to CDCl₃ (δ 7.26 ppm), tetramethylsilane (TMS, $\delta 0.00$ ppm) for ¹H NMR; CDCl₃ ($\delta 77.16$ ppm) for ¹³C NMR. The following abbreviations (or combinations thereof) were used to explain multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, hept = heptaplet, m =multiplet, and br = broad. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an Impact II UHR-TOF mass spectrometry equipped with an ESI source from Bruker at Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter.

2. Experimental Section

2.1 Preparation of substrates

General Procedure for Preparation of Substrates 1a, 1m and 1n

1a, 1m, 1n

Secondary amine (5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (20 mL) in a roundbottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, NaH (10 mmol, 2 equiv.) was added slowly at 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. Acryloyl chloride (6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise via syringe with vigorous stirring. and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 minutes and warmed to room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC analysis and once the reaction was completed, the suspension was brought to 0 °C and diluted with H₂O. The mixture was extracted with EA (10 mL, \times 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The resulting was purified by flash silica gel chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent.

General Procedure for Preparation of Substrates 1b-11



Step 1: to a solution of DCM (15 mL), aniline (5 mol, 1 equiv) and TEA (2.0 equiv.) were added in a round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0°C and stirred for 5 minutes under an argon atmosphere. Acryloyl chloride (1.2 equiv) was added dropwise and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 minutes and warmed to room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC analysis and once the reaction was completed, the suspension was brought to 0 °C and diluted with H₂O. The mixture was extracted with DCM (10 mL, \times 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The resulting was purified by flash silica gel chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent.

Step 2: The amide was dissolved in anhydrous THF (20 mL) in a round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, NaH (2 equiv) was added slowly at 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature. 15 minutes afterwards, the solution was re-cooled to 0 °C and MeI (3 equiv) was added dropwise. At this time, the resulting solution was warmed to room temperature and once TLC analysis indicated full conversion of starting material, the reaction was slowly quenched at 0 °C by the addition of a saturated aqueous solution of ammonium chloride. The layers of the resulting biphasic mixture were separated and aqueous layer was extracted with EA (10 mL, \times 3). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The pure alkylated acrylamides were obtained by silica gel flash column chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent.

General Procedure for Preparation of Substrates 10 and 1p



Indoline or tetrahydroquinoline (5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (20 mL) in a round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, K_2CO_3 (10 mmol, 2 equiv.) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. Acryloyl chloride (6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise via syringe with vigorous stirring. and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 minutes and warmed to room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC analysis and once the reaction was completed, the suspension was brought to 0 °C and diluted with H₂O. The mixture was extracted with EA (10 mL, \times 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The resulting was purified by flash silica gel chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent.

2.2 Characterization of substrates



N-methyl-*N*-phenylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.37 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 16.7, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 143.5, 129.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 37.5.



N-methyl-*N*-(*m*-tolyl)acrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.94 (m, 2H), 6.36 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (dd, J = 16.7, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 143.4, 139.8, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.3, 124.4, 37.5, 21.4.



N-(3-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: colorless oil;¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 160.5, 144.7, 130.4, 128.7, 127.5, 119.7, 113.3, 55.6, 37.5.



N-(3-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 163.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 249.0 Hz), 145.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 9.4 Hz), 130.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 9.2 Hz), 128.3, 128.2, 123.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.1 Hz), 114.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 4.4 Hz), 114.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 5.6 Hz), 37.4.



N-(3-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.09 (dt, *J* = 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 144.7, 135.2, 130.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 125.7, 37.5.



N-(3-bromophenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 16.6, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 144.9, 130.9, 130.9, 130.6, 128.3, 128.3, 126.2, 123.0, 37.5.



methyl 3-(*N***-methylacrylamido)benzoate:** colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 16.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, J = 10.0 Hz,1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.2, 165.7, 143.7, 131.9, 129.8, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 52.6, 37.5.



N-methyl-*N*-(*p*-tolyl)acrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.9, 140.9, 137.6, 130.2, 128.6, 127.2, 127.1, 37.5, 21.1.



N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.09 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.8 Hz 2H), 6.34 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.1, 158.9, 136.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.3, 114.8, 55.6, 37.7.



N-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.07 (m, 2H), 6.37 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 16.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.9, 161.7 (d, $J_{C-F} = 248.0$ Hz), 139.5 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.2$ Hz), 129.2 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.5$ Hz), 128.3, 127.9, 116.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 22.7$ Hz), 37.7.



N-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, J = 16.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 142.0, 133.5, 129.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 37.5.



N-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (dd, J = 10.4, 1.2 Hz 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 142.3, 135.9, 135.1, 131.8, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 125.7, 37.5, 19.9.



N-benzyl-*N*-phenylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.19 (m, 5H), 7.00 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 16.7, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.98 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR

(101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 141.9, 137.4, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.5, 53.3.

N, *N*-diphenylacrylamide: white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 6H), 6.47 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.9, 142.6, 129.7, 129.4, 128.6, 127.1.



10 1-(indolin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one: colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.04 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.67-6.46 (m, 2H), 5.80 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.22 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.9, 142.9, 131.6, 129.1, 129.0, 127.6, 124.6, 124.1, 117.6, 48.1, 28.1.



1-(3,4-dihydroquinolin-1(2*H***)-yl)prop-2-en-1-one:** colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.54 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (dd, J = 16.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (dd, J = 10.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.03-1.94 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.8, 138.4, 130.1, 128.5, 127.6, 126.2, 125.4, 125.1, 43.3, 27.1, 24.1.

2.3 Optimization of reaction conditions

General procedure: In a glove box, acrylamide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), arylboronic acid **2a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), catalyst, ligand, base and additive were added sequentially to an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk sealed tube (with a Teflon cap) equipped with a magnetic stir bar. The tube was evacuated under vacuum and charged with CO₂ (1 atm, \times 3) after taken out of the glove box. Then anhydrous solvent (1.0 mL) was added along the inside wall of the tube under a flow of CO₂. Again, the reaction tube was evacuated briefly under vacuum and charged with CO₂ (1 atm, \times 4). The tube was capped and then placed into a preheated hotplate. The reaction was stirred vigorously (1000 r/min) for 24 h, the additional K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4mmol) and MeI (62 µL, 1.0

mmol) was added and stirred for another 2 h at the same temperature. Upon completion, cooled to room temperature, removed the volatile matter under reduced pressure, the residue was diluted with EA (5 mL), and filtered through a short pad of Celite. The sealed tube and Celite pad were washed with an additional 20 mL of EA. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum, and crude ¹H NMR spectrum was taken using CH₂Br₂ as the internal standard.



Table S1 Reaction conditions screening^a

	27	$[Rh(cod)Cl]_2$			PMDETA	Ag ₂ O	75/6/13/
	28	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	83/6/5/
	29	$[Rh(cod)Cl]_2$			PMDETA	AgOAc	62/9/6/5
	30	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOBz	69/12/6/5
	31	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgCl	77/6/13/
	32	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgBF ₄	67/10/9/4
	33	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgSbF ₆	52/10/2/22
	34	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOPiv	69/5/15/1
	35	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	CuCl	58/18/7/
	36	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	CuI	60/19/6/
	37	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	CuBr	62/19/4/2
	38	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	Cu(MeCN)4	PF ₆ 73/13/8/
	39	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	Cu ₂ O	48/25/4/
	40^{c}	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	13/14/57/2
	41^d	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	43/14/12/
	42^e	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	19/9/52/
	43 ^{<i>f</i>}	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	15/9/73/
	44	Rh(cod)2OTf			PMDETA	AgOTf	59/16/8/
	45	Rh(cod) ₂ BF ₄			PMDETA	AgOTf	57/18/9/6
	46	$[Rh(CO)_2Cl]_2$			PMDETA	AgOTf	/10//81
	47	[Rh(cod)OH] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	80/9/11/
	48	$[Rh(coe)_2Cl]_2$			PMDETA	AgOTf	//84
	49				PMDETA	AgOTf	//53
	50^{g}	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	46/14/3/18
	51	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂				AgOTf	46/17/13/
	52^{h}	[Rh(cod)Cl] ₂			PMDETA	AgOTf	/8/70/
R ₂ ~	P(R ₁) ₂	L1: $R_1 = Cy$, $R_2 = R_3 = OMe$, R_4 L2: $R_1 = Cy$, $R_2 = R_3 = O'Pr$, $R_4 =$ L3: $R_1 = {}^{t}Bu$, $R_2 = R_3 = R_4 = H$ L4: $R_1 = {}^{t}Bu$, $R_2 = R_3 = R_4 = {}^{t}Pr$ L5: $R_1 = Ph$, $R_2 = N(Me)_2$, $R_3 = F$	= H = H R ₄ = H	R ^P R R ^P R	L6: R = 4-Me-Ph L7: R = 4-CF ₃ -Ph L8: R = Cy L9: n = 1 L10: n = 2	√─_\+ R [∽] N <u>√</u> N _` R CI	L12: R = 2,6-diisopropylphenyl L13: R = 2,4,6-trimethylphenyl L14: R = Cy
	rt4				L11: n = 3		

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2b** (0.3 mmol), CO₂ (1 atm, closed), Catalyst (2.5 mol%), Ligand (5 mol%), Cs₂CO₃ (0.2 mmol), Additive (5 mol%), Co-base (50 mol%), DMA (1 mL), 60 °C, 24 h. ^{*b*} Yield was determined by ¹H NMR with CH₂Br₂ as the internal standard. ^{*c*} CsF (0.2 mmol) as base. ^{*d*} KO'Bu (0.2 mmol) as base, ^{*e*} DMF as solvent, ^{*f*}NMP as solvent, ^{*g*} [Rh(cod)Cl]₂ (1 mol%) as catalyst, ^{*h*} Ar (1 atm, closed) was used instead of CO₂. TMEDA: N, N, N', N'-Tetramethylethylenediamine; PMDETA: N, N, N', N', *N*^{*n*}-pentamethyldiethylenetriamine; DABCO: 1,4-diaza[2.2.2]bicyclooctane; DBU: 1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undecane-7-ene.



N-methyl-*N*-phenylcinnamamide: colorless sticky oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.1

Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.3, 143.8, 141.9, 135.3, 129.8, 129.6, 128.8, 128.0, 127.7, 127.5, 118.9, 37.7.



N-methyl-*N*,3-diphenylpropanamide: colorless sticky oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.8 Hz, 4H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.91 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.4, 144.1, 141.3, 129.9, 128.5, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 126.1, 37.5, 36.1, 31.9.

2.4 General procedure for preparation of arylcarboxylation products



In a glove box, acrylamide 1 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), arylboronic acid 2 (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), [Rh(cod)Cl]₂ (2.5-5 mol%), Ag salt (0.01 mmol, 5 mol%) and Cs₂CO₃ (1.0-3.0 equiv) were added sequentially to an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk sealed tube (with a Teflon cap) equipped with a magnetic stir bar. The tube was evacuated under vacuum and charged with $CO_2(1 \text{ atm}, \times 3)$ after taken out of the glove box. Then PMDETA (21 µL, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and anhydrous DMA (1.0 mL) were added along the inside wall of the tube under a flow of CO₂. Again, the reaction tube was evacuated briefly under vacuum and charged with $CO_2(1 \text{ atm}, \times 4)$. The tube was capped and then placed into a preheated hotplate (60 °C). The reaction was stirred vigorously (1000 r/min) for 24 h and MeI (62 µL, 1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv) and K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added and stirred for another 2 h at the same temperature. Upon completion, cooled to room temperature, removed the volatile solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was diluted with EA (5 mL), and filtered through a short pad of Celite. The sealed tube and Celite pad were washed with an additional 20 mL of EA. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography or preparative thin layer chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent. (Note: the quality of Cs₂CO₃ and AgOTf is of vital importance for reproducibility and they should be kept dry; the solvent should also be dry and the stirring should be fast and even for good results.)

Scale-up synthesis of product 3a

In a glove box, acrylamide **1a** (161 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), phenylboronic acid **2a** (183 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv), [Rh(cod)Cl]₂ (12.5 mg, 0.025 mmol, 2.5 mol%), AgOTf (13 mg, 0.05 mmol, 5 mol%) and Cs₂CO₃ (325.8 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added sequentially to an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk sealed tube (with a Teflon cap) equipped with a magnetic stir bar. The tube was evacuated under vacuum and charged with CO2 (1 atm, \times 3) after taken out of the glove box. Then PMDETA (105 µL, 0.5 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and anhydrous DMA (5.0 mL) was added along the inside wall of the tube under a flow of CO₂. Again, the reaction tube was evacuated briefly under vacuum and charged with CO_2 (1 atm, \times 4). The tube was capped and then placed into a preheated hotplate (60 °C). The reaction was stirred vigorously (1000 r/min) for 24 h and MeI (310 µL, 5.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv) K₂CO₃ (276 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added and stirred for another 2 h at the same temperature. Upon completion, cooled to room temperature, removed the volatile solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was diluted with EA (5 mL), and filtered through a short pad of Celite. The sealed tube and Celite pad were washed with an additional 20 mL of EA. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent to give product **3a** (202mg, 68%; The side product from Heck type coupling is 11%, and that from 1,4-addition is 12% from crude ¹H NMR.).

2.5 Control experiment



In a glove box, acrylamide **1a** (32.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), phenylboronic acid **2a** (36.6 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), $[Rh(cod)Cl]_2$ (2.5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2.5 mol%), AgOTf (2.6 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol%), Cs₂CO₃ (65.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and D₂O (10.8 µL, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv) were added sequentially to an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk sealed tube (with a Teflon cap) equipped with a magnetic stir bar. The tube was evacuated under vacuum and charged with argon (1 atm, × 3) after taken out of the glove box. Then PMDETA (21 µL, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and anhydrous DMA (1.0 mL) was added along the inside wall of the tube under a flow of argon. Again, the reaction tube was evacuated briefly under vacuum and charged with argon (1 atm, × 4). The tube was capped and then placed into a preheated hotplate (60 °C). The reaction was stirred vigorously (1000 r/min) for 24 h and MeI (62 µL, 1.0 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4 mmol) were added and stirred for another 2 h at the same temperature. Upon completion, cooled to room temperature, removed the volatile solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was diluted with EA (5 mL), and filtered through a short pad of Celite. The sealed tube and Celite pad were washed with an additional 20 mL of EA. The filtrate

was concentrated under vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography or preparative thin layer chromatography using PE/EA (5/1-3/1) as the eluent.



colorless sticky oil; 34.9 mg; yield: 73%; 70% deuterated: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 7.5 Hz, 4H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.91 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1.3H).



2.6 Product elaboration^[S1]

To a 38 mL sealed tube (with a Teflon cap) equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with product **3a** (29.7 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O$ (20 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and KO'Bu (12.3mg, 0.11 mmol, 1.1 equiv) sequentially. DMF (1.0 mL) was added to the mixture along the inside wall of the tube. The reaction tube was capped, then submerged into a preheated oil bath (110 °C). The reaction was stirred for 24 h and cooled to room temperature. The reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate (5 mL) and filtered through a short pad of Celite. The sealed tube and Celite pad were washed with an additional 15 mL of EA. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*, and

the resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography using PE/EA(5/1-3/1) as the eluent.



methyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate: white solid; 23.6 mg; yield: 80%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (td, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11-6.96 (m, 4H), 6.84 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz 2H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.6, 169.9, 144.1, 134.4, 130.1, 129.2, 127.7, 127.4, 126.9, 124.1, 122.7, 108.3, 60.9, 53.2, 40.2, 26.3.

2.7 Characterization of products



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 47.6 mg; yield: 80% (known compound)^[S2]. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 6%, and that from 1,4-addition is 5% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31-7.21 (m, 6H), 7.06-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.62 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.56 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.26-3.15 (m, 4H), 3.09 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.6, 143.2, 138.4, 129.7, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 127.6, 126.7, 52.6, 51.0, 37.6, 35.5.



butyl 2-benzyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: colorless sticky oil; 51.5 mg; yield: 76%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 9%, and that from 1,4-addition is 10% from crude ¹H NMR; BuBr (1.0 mmol) was used for esterification). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 6H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.60 (br, 2H), 4.14 – 4.05 (m, 2H), 3.53 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.63 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 1.32 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.6, 168.7, 143.3, 138.6, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 128.1, 127.7, 126.7, 65.3, 51.1, 37.5, 35.4, 30.6, 19.2,

13.8. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for $C_{21}H_{25}NO_3Na^+$ [M+Na⁺] 362.1727, found 362.1727.



benzyl 2-benzyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: colorless sticky oil; 54.5 mg; yield: 73%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 10%, and that from 1,4-addition is 14% from crude ¹H NMR; BnBr (1.0 mmol) was used for esterification).¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.52 (br, 2H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.4, 168.4, 143.2, 138.5, 135.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 126.7, 67.1, 51.1, 37.5, 35.4. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 396.1570, found 396.1571.



methyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-2-(2-methylbenzyl)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 42.3 mg; yield: 68%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 6%, and that from 1,4-addition is 23% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.14 -7.05 (m, 3H), 6.49 (br, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.60 (dd, J = 10.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.23-3.11 (m, 5H), 1.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.2, 168.7, 143.2, 136.7, 136.2, 130.4, 130.4, 129.6, 128.0, 127.5, 127.0, 126.0, 52.6, 48.4, 37.4, 32.9, 18.9. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 334.1414, found 334.1414.



methyl 2-(2-chlorobenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 33.8 mg; yield: 51%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 12%, and that from 1,4-addition is 20% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37-7.15 (m, 7H), 6.62 (br, 2H), 3.82 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.33 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.25-3.10 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 168.5,

143.0, 135.8, 134.6, 132.2, 129.7, 129.4, 128.4, 128.2, 127.4, 126.9, 52.6, 47.7, 37.5, 33.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for $C_{18}H_{18}CINO_3Na^+$ [M+Na⁺] 354.0867, found 354.0867.



methyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-2-(3-methylbenzyl)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 35.5 mg; yield: 57%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 14%, and that from 1,4-addition is 12% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.60 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.56 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.22 -3.12 (m, 4H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.7, 143.3, 138.3, 138.0, 130.0, 129.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 126.4, 52.6, 51.0, 37.5, 35.4, 21.4. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 334.1414, found 334.1412.



methyl 2-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 45.2 mg; yield: 69%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 17%, and that from 1,4-addition is 13% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.10 (m, 5H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.50 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.16 – 3.08 (m, 4H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 5.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 168.6, 159.8, 143.3, 140.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.1, 127.7, 121.7, 114.3, 112.8, 55.3, 52.6, 50.9, 37.6, 35.6. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₄Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 350.1363, found 350.1363.



methyl 2-(3-fluorobenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 41.6 mg; yield: 66%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 7%, and that from 1,4-addition is 27% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.10-6.40 (m, 5H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.57 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.26-3.16 (m, 4H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.4, 5.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.3, 162.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 245.8$ Hz), 143.1, 140.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 7.4$ Hz), 129.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.2$ Hz), 129.8, 128.3, 127.5, 125.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 2.7$ Hz), 116.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.1$ Hz), 113.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 20.9$ Hz), 52.7, 50.7, 37.6, 35.1. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -

113.54. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈FNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 338.1163, found 338.1163.



methyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-2-(4-methylbenzyl)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 41.7 mg; yield: 67% (known compound)^[S3]. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 11%, and that from 1,4-addition is 22% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.8Hz, 2H), 6.67 (br, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.55 (dd, J = 9.8, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.21-3.12 (m, 4H), 3.07 (dd, J = 13.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.7, 143.3, 136.2, 135.3, 129.7, 129.2, 129.1, 128.1, 127.7, 52.6, 51.1, 37.6, 35.0, 21.2.



methyl 2-(4-isopropylbenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 37.3 mg; yield: 55%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 17%, and that from 1,4-addition is 20% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.53 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.24-3.13 (m, 4H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.96-2.84 (m, 1H), 1.29-1.24 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.8, 147.5, 143.3, 135.8, 129.6, 129.3, 128.1, 127.6, 126.5, 52.6, 51.1, 37.6, 35.1, 34.0, 24.4, 24.2. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₁H₂₅NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 362.1727, found 362.1727.



methyl 2-(4-(tert-butyl)benzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 38.9 mg; yield: 55%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 17%, and that from 1,4-addition is 8% from crude ¹H NMR.).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.16 (m, 5H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.53 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.22-3.12 (m, 4H), 3.06 (dd, J = 13.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.8, 149.7, 143.3, 135.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.1, 127.6, 125.4, 52.6, 51.1, 37.6, 35.0, 34.6, 31.6. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₂H₂₇NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 376.1883, found 376.1884.



methyl 2-(4-fluorobenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 42.9 mg; yield: 68%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 14%, and that from 1,4-addition is 7% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.02-6.89 (m, 4H), 6.71 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.54 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.23-3.15 (m, 4H), 3.06 (dd, J = 13.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 168.4, 161.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 244.7$ Hz), 143.2, 134.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.2$ Hz), 130.8 (d, $J_{C-F} = 7.9$ Hz), 129.8, 128.3, 127.6, 115.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.1$ Hz), 52.7, 51.0, 37.6, 34.6. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -116.37. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈FNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 338.1163, found 338.1163.



methyl 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 32.7 mg; yield: 50% (known compound)^[S3]. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 18%, and that from 1,4-addition is 13% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.60-6.45 (m, 4H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.54 (dd, J = 10.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.11 (m, 4H), 3.03 (dd, J = 13.5, 5.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.7, 158.5, 143.3, 130.5, 130.3, 129.7, 128.2, 127.7, 113.8, 55.5, 52.6, 51.2, 37.6, 34.6.



methyl 2-(3,4-dimethylbenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 44.3 mg; yield: 68%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 10%, and that from 1,4-addition is 13% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.40 (m, 4H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.56 (dd, J = 9.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.12 (dd, J = 13.4, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, J =13.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.2, 168.8, 143.3, 136.5, 135.7, 134.8, 130.5, 129.7, 129.6, 128.1, 127.7, 126.7, 52.5, 51.0, 37.6, 35.0, 19.8, 19.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 348.1570, found 348.1570.



methyl 2-(4-fluoro-3-methylbenzyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 34.9 mg; yield: 53%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 12%, and that from 1,4-addition is 17% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.02-6.30 (m, 5H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.55 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.13 (dd, J = 13.5, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd, J = 13.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 168.5, 160.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 243.4 Hz), 143.2, 133.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 132.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 5.1 Hz), 129.7, 128.2, 128.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.9 Hz), 127.6, 124.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 17.3 Hz), 114.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.1 Hz), 52.6, 51.0, 37.5, 34.6, 14.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -120.95. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀FNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 352.1319, found 352.1320.



methyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxo-2-(3,4,5-trifluorobenzyl)propanoate: pale yellow oil; 49.9 mg; yield: 71%. (The side product from 1,4-addition is 22% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.86 (br, 2H), 6.68-6.60 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.56 (dd, J = 9.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.13 (dd, J = 13.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, J = 13.7, 5.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.4, 167.9, 151.0 (ddd, $J_{C-F} = 250.0$, 9.8, 4.0 Hz), 143.0, 138.7 (dt, $J_{C-F} = 250.5$, 15.3 Hz), 134.8-134.6 (m), 130.0, 128.6, 127.5, 113.4-113.1 (m), 52.8, 50.5, 37.7, 34.6. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -134.66 (d, J = 20.5 Hz), -163.15 (t, J = 20.5 Hz). HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₆F₃NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 374.0974, found 374.0974.



methyl 2-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 36.9mg; yield: 54%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 12%, and that from 1,4-addition is 15% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.01-6.61 (m, 3H), 6.54-6.41 (m, 2H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.54 (dd, J = 9.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 3.12 (dd, J =13.5, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, J = 13.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 168.6, 147.6, 146.3, 143.3, 132.1, 129.7, 128.3, 127.7, 122.3, 109.8, 108.3, 101.0, 52.6, 51.1, 37.6, 35.2. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₁₉NO₅Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 364.1155, found 364.1155.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(methyl(m-tolyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 38.6 mg; yield: 62%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 8%, and that from 1,4-addition is 17% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 -7.22 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.55 (br, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.57 (dd, J = 10.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.2, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.6, 143.2, 139.7, 138.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.5, 128.1, 126.7, 124.5, 52.6, 50.9, 37.5, 35.5, 21.3. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 334.1414, found 334.1414.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-methoxyphenyl)(methyl) amino)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 41.2 mg; yield: 63%. (The side product from 1,4-addition is 22% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.82 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (br, 2H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.63 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 5.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.5, 160.4, 144.3, 138.5, 130.3, 129.3, 128.5, 126.7, 119.7, 114.0, 113.0, 55.5, 52.6, 51.0, 37.5, 35.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₄Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 350.1363, found 350.1363.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-fluorophenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 44.1 mg; yield: 70%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 1%, and that from 1,4-addition is 21% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34-7.16 (m, 4H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 3H), 6.31 (br d, J = 106.8 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.54 (dd, J = 10.7, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.27-3.19 (m, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.09 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.5, 162.8 (d, $J_{C-F} = 249.3$ Hz), 144.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 9.5$ Hz), 138.2, 130.8 (d, $J_{C-F} = 9.1$ Hz), 129.3, 128.6, 126.9, 123.4 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.2$ Hz), 115.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 20.9$ Hz), 115.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 22.1$ Hz), 52.7, 51.1, 37.4, 35.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -110.45. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈FNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 338.1163, found 338.1163.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 51.7 mg; yield: 78%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 6%, and that from 1,4-addition is 15% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.58 (br, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.52 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 10.8 Hz,1H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.4, 144.3, 138.2, 135.0, 130.6, 129.3, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.0, 125.9, 52.7, 51.1, 37.5, 35.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈ClNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 354.0867, found 354.0867.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-bromophenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 40.3 mg; yield: 54%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 5%, and that from 1,4-addition is 19% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.64 (br, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.52 (dd, J = 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, 13.3, 10.9 Hz 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.4, 144.5, 138.2, 131.4, 130.9, 130.8, 129.3, 128.7, 127.0, 126.4, 122.9, 52.7, 51.1, 37.5, 35.6. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈BrNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 398.0362, found 398.0362.



methyl 3-(2-benzyl-3-methoxy-N-methyl-3-oxopropanamido)benzoate : pale yellow oil; 55.8 mg; yield: 79%. (The side product from 1,4-addition is 17% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.10-6.50 (m, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.51 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.2, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.4, 4.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.5, 166.0, 143.4, 138.2, 132.2, 131.8, 129.8, 129.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 126.8, 52.7, 52.5, 51.1, 37.5, 35.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₀H₂₁NO₅Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 378.1312, found 378.1311.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(methyl(p-tolyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 33 mg; yield: 53%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 18% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.11-6.98 (m, 4H), 6.49 (br, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.58 (dd, J = 10.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (dd, J = 13.3, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.7, 140.7, 138.5, 138.1, 130.3, 129.4, 128.5, 127.4, 126.7, 52.6, 50.9, 37.6, 35.5, 21.2. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 334.1414, found 334.1414.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate : pale yellow oil; 35.4 mg; yield: 54% (known compound) ^[S4]. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 27%, and that from 1,4-addition is 6% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.90-5.90 (m, 4H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.58 (dd, J = 10.3, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (dd, J = 13.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 168.9, 159.1, 138.6, 136.1, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 126.7, 114.7, 55.6, 52.5, 50.9, 37.7, 35.5.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((4-fluorophenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 33.8 mg; yield: 54%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 13%, and that from 1,4-addition is 17% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.01 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.85 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (br, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.44 (dd, J = 10.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dd, J = 13.3, 10.7 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.01 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 168.7, 161.9 ((d, $J_{C-F} = 249.5$ Hz)), 139.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.0$ Hz), 138.4, 129.5 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.4$ Hz), 129.4, 128.6, 126.9, 116.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 22.6$ Hz), 52.7, 51.0, 37.7, 35.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.98. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈FNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 338.1163, found 338.1160.





methyl 2-benzyl-3-((4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 37.8 mg; yield: 57%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 10%, and that from 1,4-addition is 15% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.4 (m, 3H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.47 (br, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.51 (dd, J = 10.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, J = 13.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 168.5, 141.8, 138.4, 134.0, 129.9, 129.4, 129.1, 128.6, 126.9, 52.7, 51.0, 37.5, 35.5. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈CINO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 354.0867, found 354.0867.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-chloro-4-methylphenyl) (methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 45.9 mg; yield: 67%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 6%, and that from 1,4-addition is 23% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.47 (br, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.54 (dd, J = 10.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, J = 13.2, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 168.5, 141.9, 138.2, 136.4, 134.9, 131.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.2, 126.9, 125.9, 52.6, 51.0, 37.5, 35.5, 19.9. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀ClNO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 368.1024, found 368.1024.



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methyl 2-benzyl-3-(benzyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow wax; 44.8 mg; yield: 60%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 13%, and that from 1,4-addition is trace from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-7.10 (m, 9H), 7.09-6.99 (m, 4H), 6.05 (br, 2H), 4.91 (d, J = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, J = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.52 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.33-3.23 (m, 1H), 3.11 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 168.4, 141.5, 138.3, 136.9, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.4, 126.7, 53.3, 52.6, 51.1, 35.3. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 396.1570, found 396.1572.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(diphenylamino)-3-oxopropanoate: white solid; 44.6 mg; yield: 62%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 6%, and that from 1,4-addition is 18% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35-7.21 (m, 8H), 7.19-7.06 (m, 5H), 6.73 (br, 2H), 3.80-3.72 (m, 4H), 3.34 (dd, J = 13.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (dd, J = 13.3, 4.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 168.8, 142.3, 142.2, 138.3, 129.7, 129.6, 129.0, 129.0, 128.6, 128.2, 126.9, 126.6, 126.5, 52.7, 51.7, 35.6. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 382.1414, found 382.1413.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(indolin-1-yl)-3-oxopropanoate: pale yellow oil; 39.6 mg; yield: 64%. (The side product from 1,4-addition is 24% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.11 (m, 7H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.17-4.08 (m, 1H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.77-3.62 (m, 4H), 3.42-3.28 (m, 2H), 3.16-3.06 (m, 1H), 3.05-2.95 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.6, 166.3, 142.6, 138.4, 131.6, 129.0, 128.7, 127.7, 126.9, 124.6, 124.3, 117.7, 54.0, 52.8, 48.5, 35.3, 27.9. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₁₉H₁₉NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 332.1257, found 332.1258.



methyl 2-benzyl-3-(3,4-dihydroquinolin-1(2*H***)-yl)-3-oxopropanoate:** pale yellow oil; 43.9 mg; yield: 68%. (The side product from Heck type coupling is 9%, and that from 1,4-addition is 13% from crude ¹H NMR.). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22-6.99 (m, 7H), 6.93 (s, 2H), 4.38 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.90 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.36-3.24 (m, 1H), 3.23-3.13 (m, 2H), 2.47-2.29 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.47 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.5, 168.8, 138.9, 137.9, 135.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 126.7, 126.3, 126.1, 124.5, 52.8, 50.2, 42.8, 36.0, 26.0, 23.8. HRMS (m/z, ESI-TOF): Calcd for C₂₀H₂₁NO₃Na⁺ [M+Na⁺] 346.1414, found 346.1411.

2.8 References

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3. NMR Spectra of Substrates and Products













-3.350





--3.346







210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)







--3.335





-3.341


























S41

























































10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)



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3.719 3.719 3.719 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.728 3.729









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~170018 ~188.349 188.350 188.350 128.8919 128.8919 128.2919 128.2919 128.2919 128.2919 128.2919 128.2919 128.2318 126.719 126.















-234 -7251 -7251 -7251 -7253 -

