

Supporting Information for

**AIBN-Initiated Direct Thiocyanation of Benzylic sp^3 C–H with *N*-
Thiocyanatosaccharin**

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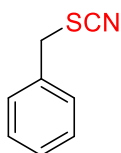
1. General Information

All reactions were carried out under air atmosphere, unless otherwise stated. All chemicals were purchased from commercial companies. All solvents were used directly. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance400 (400 MHz) spectrometer, all signals are reported in ppm with the internal chloroform signal at 7.26 ppm as the standard. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance400 (100 MHz) spectrometer, all signals are reported in ppm with the internal chloroform signal at 77.0 ppm as the standard. The data is reported as (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration, assignment). Other analyses were carried out on the following instruments. Infrared spectrometer: Bruker ALPHA FT-IR-Spektrometer. High resolution mass spectrum: AGILENT 7890A/5975C. Melting point detector: Binocular microscope XT4A melting point apparatus (without correct).

2. General procedure

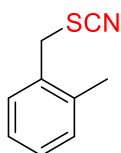
1 (1.00 mmol, 5.0 equiv), AIBN (0.04 mmol, 20 mol%) and benzene (1.0 mL) was added to a glass tube, Then, **R3** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added to the system, and the reaction system was continually stirred 4 h at 80 °C. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1, v/v) to afford the pure desired product.

3. Spectral data of the products



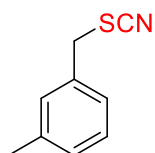
2a

(Thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2a**)¹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (27 mg, 93% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 4.17 (s, 2H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 134.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.9, 111.9, 38.3.



2b

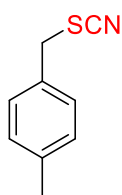
1-Methyl-2-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2b**)² was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (30 mg, 92% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 4.18 (s, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (175 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 136.8, 131.9, 131.0, 130.2, 129.3, 126.7, 111.9, 36.6, 19.0.



2c

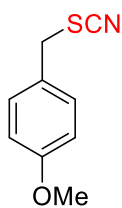
1-Methyl-3-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2c**)³ was synthesized following the general procedure: colourless oil (33 mg, 100% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.25 – 7.11 (m, 4H), 4.09 (s, 2H),

2.33 (s, 3H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (175 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 138.9, 134.1, 129.7, 129.6, 129.0, 126.0, 112.0, 38.4, 21.3.



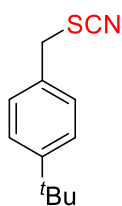
2d

1-Methyl-4-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2d**)¹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (32 mg, 98% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.26 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (175 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 138.9, 131.2, 129.8, 128.9, 112.1, 38.2, 21.2.



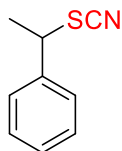
2e

1-Methoxy-4-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2e**)¹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (36 mg, 100% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.29 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, $J = 3$ Hz), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 160.0, 130.3, 128.2, 114.5, 112.2, 55.3, 38.2.



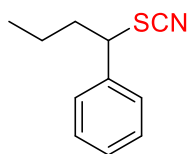
2f

1-(*tert*-Butyl)-4-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2f**)⁴ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (38 mg, 93% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.41 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 1.33 (s, 9H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (175 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 152.0, 131.2, 128.7, 126.1, 38.2, 34.7, 31.2.



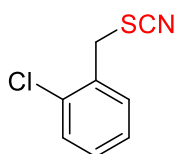
2g

(1-Thiocyanoethyl)benzene (**2g**)¹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (33 mg, 100% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 5H), 6.61 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (175 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 139.0, 129.0, 128.9, 127.0, 111.7, 48.4, 21.9.



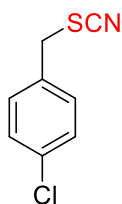
2h

(1-Thiocyanatobutyl)benzene (**2h**)⁵ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (36 mg, 94% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 4.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.17 – 2.11 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 138.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.4, 111.7, 53.4, 37.7, 20.6, 13.4.



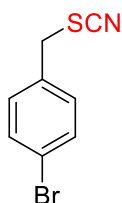
2i

1-Chloro-2-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2i**)² was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (14 mg, 38% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 134.2, 132.3, 131.1, 130.5, 130.1, 127.5, 111.8, 36.2.



2j

1-Chloro-4-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2j**)² was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (19 mg, 52% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.12 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 135.0, 132.9, 130.3, 129.4, 111.5, 37.6.



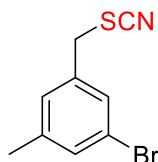
2k

1-Bromo-4-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2k**)² was synthesized following the general procedure: colourless oil (30 mg, 66% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 133.4, 132.3, 130.5, 123.1, 111.5, 37.6.



2l

1-Bromo-3-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2l**)⁶ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (21 mg, 46% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.54 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 4.13 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 136.5, 132.1, 131.9, 127.6, 123.0, 111.4, 37.4.



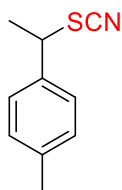
2m

1-Bromo-3-methyl-5-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2m**) was synthesized following the general procedure: White solid, mp. 50 – 52 °C, (44 mg, 91% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 141.0, 136.1, 132.7, 128.9, 122.7, 111.5, 37.5, 21.1. IR (KBr): 2916, 2152 (SCN), 1597, 1566, 1442, 1257 cm⁻¹. HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd C₉H₉BrNS for [M + H]⁺: 241.9634, found: 241.9634.



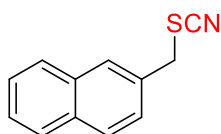
2n

1,3-Dimethyl-5-(thiocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2n**) was synthesized following the general procedure: White solid, mp. 47 – 49 °C, (35 mg, 99% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.97 (s, 2H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 6H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 138.8, 134.0, 130.6, 126.7, 112.2, 38.4, 21.2. IR (KBr): 2916, 2152 (SCN), 1604, 1466 cm⁻¹. HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd C₁₀H₁₂NS for [M + H]⁺: 178.0685, found 178.0678.



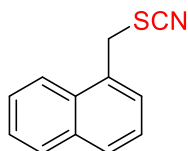
2o

1-Methyl-4-(1-thiocyanatoethyl)benzene (**2o**)⁷ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (31 mg, 88% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.60 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.87 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 138.9, 136.0, 129.7, 126.9, 111.9, 48.4, 22.0, 21.1.



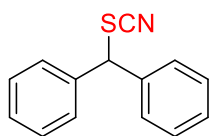
2p

2-(Thiocyanatomethyl)naphthalene (**2p**)⁸ was synthesized following the general procedure: White solid, mp. 96 – 98 °C, (30 mg, 75% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.89 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 133.1, 133.1, 131.5, 129.2, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 126.0, 111.9, 38.7.



2q

1-(Thiocyanatomethyl)naphthalene (**2q**)⁹ was synthesized following the general procedure: White solid, mp. 81 – 83 °C, (33 mg, 83% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.98 – 7.88 (m, 3H), 7.65 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 4.66 (s, 2H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 134.0, 130.6, 130.2, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 127.0, 126.3, 125.3, 122.7, 112.0, 36.4.



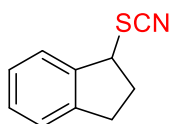
2r

(Thiocyanatomethylene)dibenzene (**2r**)⁹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (36 mg, 80% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 10H), 5.83 (s, 1H), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (175 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 137.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 111.7, 57.4.



2s

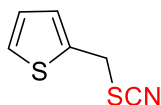
1-Thiocyanato-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene (**2s**) was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (37 mg, 98% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (t, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.92 – 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.43 – 1.91 (m, 4H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 137.9, 131.5, 130.3, 129.7, 128.8, 126.4, 112.4, 49.7, 29.7, 28.6, 18.2. IR (KBr): 2931, 2145 (SCN), 1489, 1450, 1265 cm⁻¹. HRMS (APCI) *m/z* calcd C₁₁H₁₂NS for [M + H]⁺: 190.0685, found 190.0676.



2t

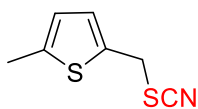
1-Thiocyanato-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene (**2t**) was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (32 mg, 91% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m,

3H), 4.93 (dd, $J = 7.2, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 – 3.16 (m, 1H), 3.00 – 2.93 (m, 1H), 2.71 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.43 – 2.36 (m, 1H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 143.8, 139.4, 129.4, 127.2, 125.1, 124.9, 112.2, 53.3, 34.1, 30.4. IR (KBr): 2939, 2144 (SCN), 1465, 1319 cm^{-1} . HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{NS}$ for $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 176.0528, found 176.0524.



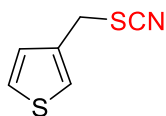
2u

2-(Thiocyanatomethyl)thiophene (**2u**)⁷ was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (29 mg, 94% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.34 (dd, $J = 5.2, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, $J = 5.2, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.42 (s, 2H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 136.0, 128.7, 127.4, 127.3, 111.6, 33.2.



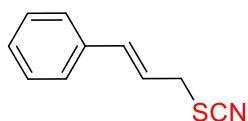
2v

2-Methyl-5-(thiocyanatomethyl)thiophene (**2v**) was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (33 mg, 98% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 6.91 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.35 (s, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 142.3, 133.5, 128.8, 125.4, 111.8, 33.8, 15.4. IR (KBr): 2973, 2912, 2152 (SCN), 1666, 1427, 1249 cm^{-1} . HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{NS}_2$ for $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 170.0093, found 170.0085.



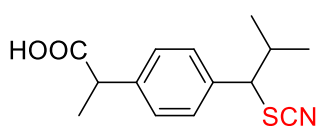
2w

3-(Thiocyanatomethyl)thiophene (**2w**) was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (28 mg, 90% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.11 (dd, $J = 4.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (s, 2H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 134.4, 127.4, 127.3, 125.1, 112.0, 32.9. IR (KBr): 2970, 2923, 2154 (SCN), 1667, 1521, 1420, 1250 cm^{-1} . HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{NS}_2$ for $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 155.9936, found 155.9932.



2x

(E)-3-(thiocyanatoprop-1-en-1-yl)benzene (**2x**)¹⁰ was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (33 mg, 94%). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.42 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 6.70 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.30 – 6.25 (m, 1H), 3.76 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 136.5, 135.4, 128.7, 12.6, 126.8, 121.2, 111.8, 36.9.



2y

2-(4-(2-methyl-1-thiocyanatopropyl)phenyl)propanoic acid (**2y**) was synthesized following the general procedure: Colourless oil (46 mg, 87%). eluent PE/EtOAc (2:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.33 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.06 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.38 – 2.30 (m, 1H), 1.52 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.17 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 0.89 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 180.1, 140.0, 137.6, 128.1, 128.0, 111.9, 61.4, 44.9, 33.5, 21.0, 20.5, 18.0. IR (KBr): 2970, 2931, 2152, 1705, 1512, 1458, 1226 cm^{-1} . HRMS (APCI) m/z calcd $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ for $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$: 262.0907, found 262.0915.



2z

(Selenocyanatomethyl)benzene (**2z**)¹¹ was synthesized following the general procedure: Yellow oil (23 mg, 58% yield). eluent PE/EtOAc (10:1, v/v). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 4.32 (s, 2H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 135.3, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 101.8, 32.8.

4. References

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5. NMR spectra of products

