

Electronic Supplementary Information

For

Amide Bond Formation in Aqueous Solution: Direct Coupling of Metal Carboxylate Salts with Ammonium Salts at Room Temperature

Truong Thanh Tung,^{a,b*} John Nielsen^c

^a*Faculty of Pharmacy, PHENIKAA University, Hanoi, 12116, Vietnam*

^b*PHENIKAA Institute for Advanced Study (PIAS), PHENIKAA University, Hanoi, 12116, Vietnam*

^c*Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, University of Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 2, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark*

*tung.truongthanh@phenikaa-uni.edu.vn

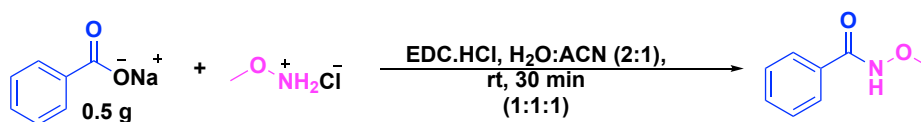
Table of contents

I. General information.....	S2
II. General procedure.....	S2
III. Gram scale synthesis of drug: acetaminophen.....	S5
IV. Characterization of the synthesized compounds.....	S5
V. Copy of NMR spectra.....	S12

I. General information

Reagents were purchased from commercially available vendors (TCI, Aldrich) and were used without further purification unless otherwise noted. All solvents were used as obtained from commercial sources without further purification unless noted. NMR-spectra were recorded using a 400, 500 and/or 600 MHz Bruker Avance III HD equipped with a cryogenically cooled 5 mm dual probe optimized for ^1H and ^{13}C NMR. ^{13}C spectra were recored at 126 MHz, 151 MHz or 101 MHz as indicated. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to the residual solvent peak (^1H NMR) or the solvent peak (^{13}C NMR) as the internal standard. The coupling constant (J) are reported in Hz. HRMS data were obtained on a Thermo Scientific Exactive HRMS coupled to a Thermo Scientific Accela HPLC system using a 2.1 x 50 mm 3.5 μm Waters XTerra C₁₈ column eluting with MeCN/H₂O containing 0.1% formic acid.

II. General procedure



Procedure for the synthesis of representative compound *N*-methoxybenzamide:

Our procedure for the synthesis of amide is very simple, follow three steps of solid mixing three salts (carboxylate, ammonium salts, EDC.HCl), add solvent and extraction. An example of synthesis of representative compound *N*-methoxybenzamide as follow:

To a 150 mL RBF, sodium benzoate (0.50 g, 3.47 mmol, 1 equiv.), *O*-methylhydroxylamine (0.29 g, 3.47 mmol, 1 equiv.) and EDC.HCl (0.67 g, 3.47 mmol, 1 equiv.) were added. The solid mixture was stirred, followed by the addition of the mixture

of solvents H₂O:ACN (2:1). The total mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. After that, it was extracted with 2 x 150 mL of ethyl acetate, then washed with 5% NaHSO₄(aq.) and 5% NaHCO₃(aq.), respectively. The organic layer was concentrated, dried under reduced pressure to afford a clean product as white solid without additional purification. 0.478 g, yield 91%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.26, 131.89, 131.73, 128.46, 127.30, 63.97. LCMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]⁺ found 152.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₈H₁₀NO₂⁺ 152.0712, found 152.0713.

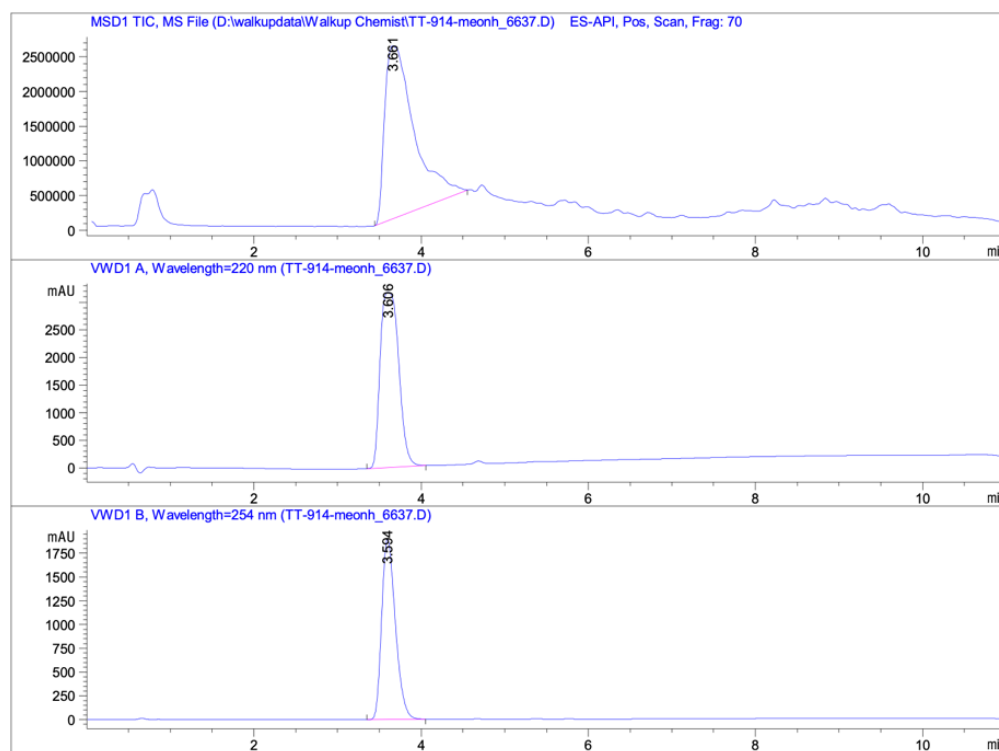


Figure S1. LCMS of *N*-methoxybenzamide after extraction

Retention Time (MS)	MS Area	Mol. Weight or Ion
3.661	60784748	152.00 I

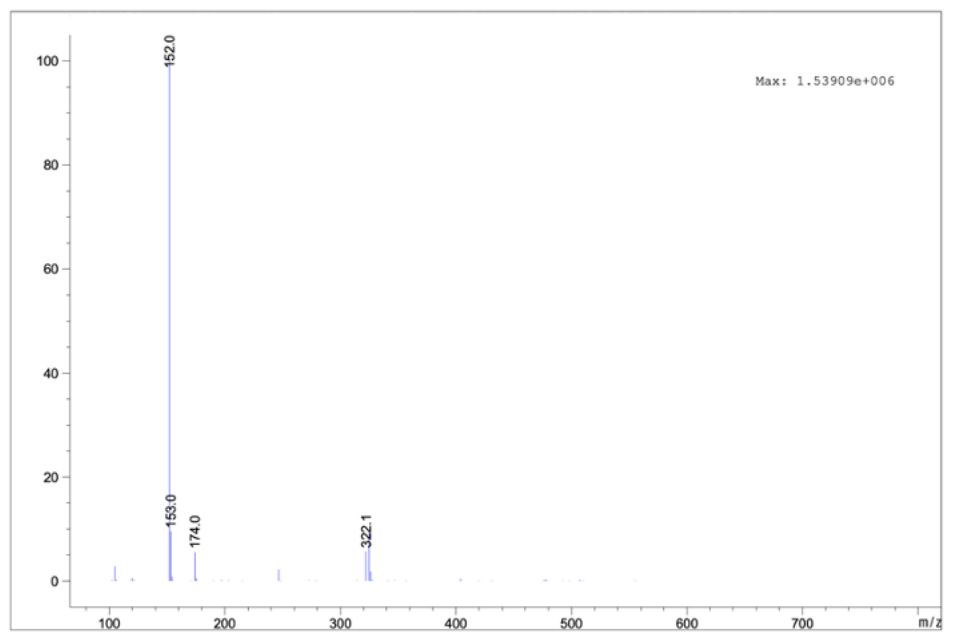


Figure S2. Copy of MS of *N*-methoxybenzamide

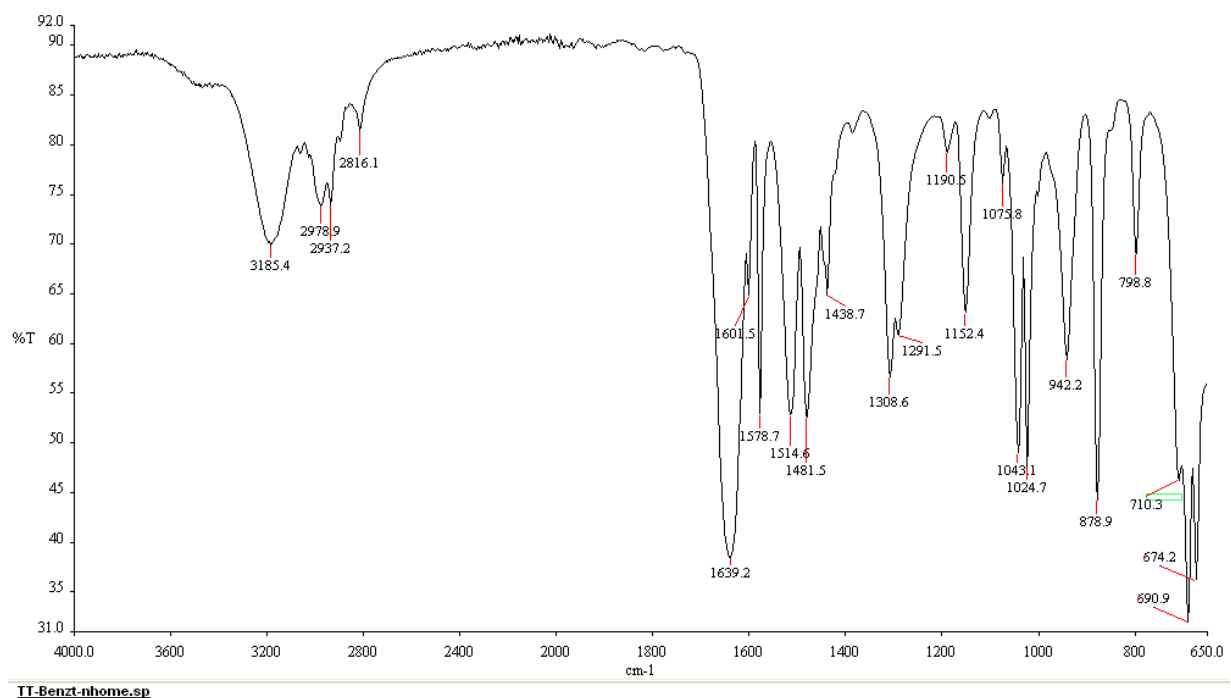
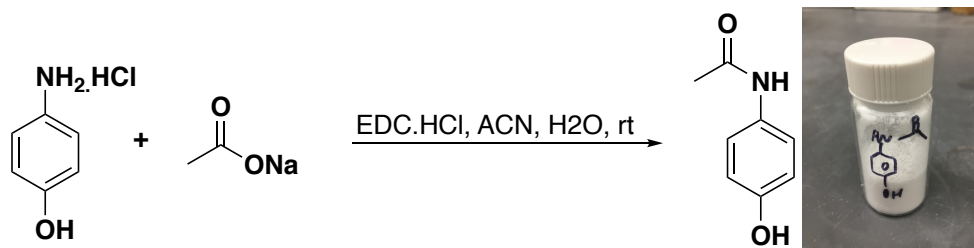


Figure S2. Copy of IR of *N*-methoxybenzamide

III. Gram scale synthesis of drug: acetaminophen

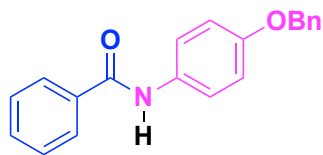


Scheme S1. Gram scale synthesis of drug: acetaminophen

The gram scale synthesis of acetaminophen follows the general procedure as described above, using 4-aminophenol hydrochloride (11.0 g, 76 mmol, 1 equiv.), sodium acetate (6.2 g, 76 mmol, 1 equiv.), EDC.HCl (14.5 g, 76 mmol, 1 equiv.) afford average of 10.28 g of acetaminophen as a white solid, 90% yield. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.68 (s, 1H), 9.19 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.60 (m, 2H), 2.03 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 168.32, 153.76, 131.39, 121.65, 115.55, 24.11. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 152.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}_2^+$ 152.0712, found 152.0712.

IV. Characterization of the synthesized compounds

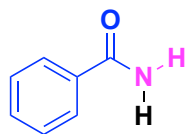
The synthesis of the library compounds starts with 0.5 g of corresponding carboxylate salt. The equivalent of ammonium salt and EDC.HCl is 1:1 with respect to the carboxylate salt.



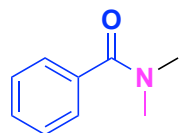
1.052 g, quantitative yield as a white solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.76 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 0H), 7.06 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.82 – 6.70 (m, 5H), 6.43 (tt, $J = 7.3, 1.1$ Hz, 2H), 6.36 – 6.30 (m, 4H), 4.48 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.28, 155.03, 150.37, 133.29, 129.74, 129.16, 129.08,

128.88, 128.15, 125.56, 121.22, 120.21, 114.86. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 304.1.

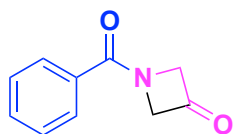
HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{20}H_{18}NO_2^+$ 304.1337, found 304.1336.



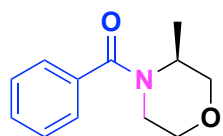
0.193 g, 46 % as a white solid. 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.85 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 6.38 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 169.85, 133.39, 132.01, 128.63, 127.38. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 122.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_7H_8NO^+$ 122.0605, found 122.0606.



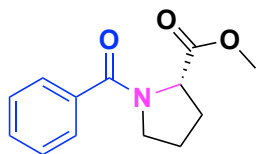
0.450 g, 87 %, as a colorless oil. 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.88 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 170.56, 137.03, 129.71, 128.68, 127.36, 39.34, 35.10. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 150.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_9H_{12}NO^+$ 150.0919, found 150.0918.



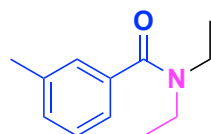
0.607 g, quantitative yield as a white solid. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.70 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 4.91 (s, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 198.51, 170.13, 133.50, 131.83, 128.94, 128.49, 74.07, 71.30. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 176.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{10}H_{10}NO_2^+$ 176.0712, found 176.0712.



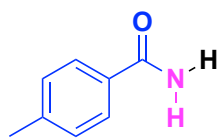
0.647 g, 91 % as a colorless solid. 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.82 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 4.03-3.34 (br, 7H), 1.35 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 170.51, 135.91, 129.65, 128.60, 126.66, 70.98, 67.14, 15.42. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 206.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{12}H_{16}NO_2^+$ 206.1181, found 206.1182.



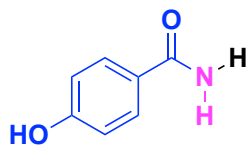
0.720 g, 89 % as a fine white solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.59 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 4.66 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 3.73 – 3.62 (m, 1H), 3.62 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.56 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 2.32 – 2.17 (m, 1H), 2.00 (tdd, J = 16.5, 7.3, 3.0 Hz, 3H), 1.94 – 1.81 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.76, 169.68, 136.13, 130.20, 128.25, 128.23, 127.28, 59.14, 52.25, 49.93, 29.38, 25.37. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 234.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3^+$ 234.1130, found 234.11302.



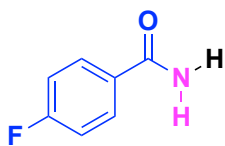
0.604 g, quantitative yield as a colorless oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.76 – 6.58 (m, 4H), 2.70-2.98 (br, 4H), 2.70 (s, 1H), 1.80 (s, 4H), 0.54-0.70 (br, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.52, 137.45, 137.00, 129.23, 127.72, 126.45, 122.75, 42.75, 38.72, 20.77, 13.72, 12.46. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 192.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}^+$ 192.1388, found 192.1387.



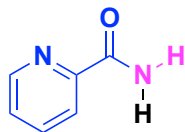
0.248 g, 58 % as a white solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 168.53, 141.56, 131.94, 129.19, 128.02, 21.35. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 136.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}^+$ 136.0762, found 136.0762.



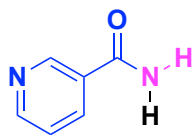
0.274 g, 64 % as a light-pink solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.12 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 169.24, 160.88, 130.17, 125.16, 115.45. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 138.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{NO}_2^+$ 138.0555, found 138.0556.



0.425 g, 99 % as a fine white solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.10 (s, 1H), 8.03 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.27 – 7.19 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 167.61, 164.43 (d, J = 248.6 Hz), 131.12 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 130.59 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 115.47 (d, J = 21.6 Hz). LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 140.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{FNO}^+$ 140.0512, found 140.0511.



0.265 g, 63 % as a light-yellow oil. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD) δ 8.59 (dt, J = 4.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dt, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (td, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, J = 7.6, 4.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H). 4.87 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, MeOD) δ 167.94, 149.65, 148.46, 137.31, 126.46, 121.97. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 123.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{N}_2\text{O}^+$ 123.0558, found 123.0558.

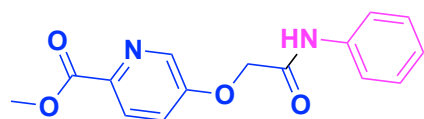


0.252 g, 60 % as a light-yellow oil. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.10 (dd, J = 2.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 8.24 (dt, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz,

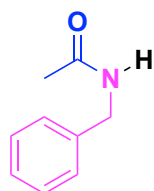
1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.44 (ddd, $J = 7.9, 4.9, 0.9$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 167.31, 152.29, 149.16, 135.66, 130.10, 123.79. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 123.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{N}_2\text{O}^+$ 123.0558, found 123.0558.



0.454 g, 83 %. Colorless oil. ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.99 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (br, 1H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 2.8, 2.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.09 (br, 1H), 3.41 (dd, $J = 6.8, 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.14 (t, $J = 7.1$, 2H) 1.60-1.71 (m, 4H), 0.96-1.03 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.90, 146.30, 139.10, 133.60, 123.30, 117.70, 45.10, 41.0, 23.10, 22.50, 11.50, 11.50. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 222.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$ 222.1606, found 222.1606.

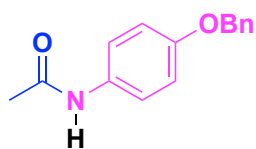


0.540 g, 88 %. yellow solid. ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.54 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (dd, $J = 2.6, 6.5$ Hz, 3H), 7.18 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.72 (s, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.01, 164.50, 155.61, 141.90, 138.70, 136.42, 129.21, 126.7, 125.30, 120.90, 120.30, 67.60, 52.91. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 287.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4^+$ 287.1032, found 287.1030.

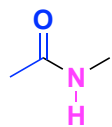


0.91 g, quantitative yield as a colorless solid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.44 (dd, $J = 12.2, 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.23 (m, 5H), 4.32 (dq, $J = 9.4, 3.9$ Hz, 2H), 1.97 – 1.90 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 169.76, 140.08, 128.72, 127.77, 127.19,

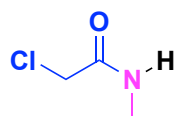
42.73, 23.01. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 150.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_9H_{12}NO^+$ 150.0919, found 150.0918.



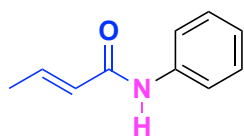
1.34 g, 91 % as a white solid. 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.00 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 168.26, 154.59, 137.69, 133.29, 128.85, 128.22, 128.12, 121.02, 115.25, 69.85, 24.29. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 242.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{15}H_{16}NO_2^+$ 242.1181, found 242.11812.



0.369 g, 83 % as a white needle-like crystals. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 6.91 (br, 1H), 2.67 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 3H), 1.87 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 171.30, 26.15, 22.77.

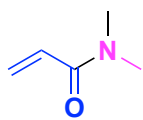


0.351 g, 76 % as a light-yellow oil. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 3.82 (s, 2H), 2.56 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 167.63, 42.43, 26.38.

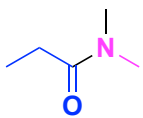


0.746 g, quantitative yield as a white solid. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.97 (s, 1H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.04 (td, J = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dq, J = 15.4, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dq, J = 15.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 1.86 (dd, J = 6.9, 1.7 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.98, 140.19, 139.82, 129.12, 126.56, 123.58,

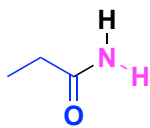
119.74, 17.93. LCMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ found 162.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{10}H_{12}NO^+$ 162.0919, found 162.0919.



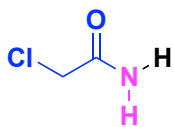
0.406 g, 77 % as a yellow oil. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 5.97 (dd, $J = 16.7$, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dd, $J = 16.7$, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (dd, $J = 10.4$, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 165.37, 127.48, 126.18, 36.44, 34.63.



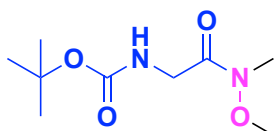
0.416 g, 79 % as a yellow oil. 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.45 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.21 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (76 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 172.53, 36.14, 34.28, 25.57, 8.48.



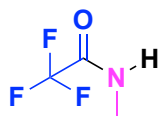
0.266 g, 70 % as a white snowflake. 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.29 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 2.06 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (76 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.31, 28.62, 10.01.



0.221 g, 55 % as a light-yellow oil. 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 168.98, 42.91.

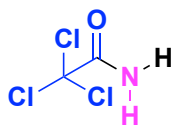


0.493 g, 89 % as a white crystal. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 5.32 (t, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 170.15, 155.82, 79.26, 61.27, 41.53, 32.20, 28.19 (3C).



0.425 g, 91 % as a fine white needle-like crystals. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

δ 7.80 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 2.86 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (76 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.35 (q, J = 37.0 Hz), 115.87 (q, J = 286.5 Hz), 26.00. ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -76.61.



0.263 g, 60 % as a deep yellow oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.12 (s,

2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.39, 93.39.

V. Copy of NMR spectra

