Supporting Information

Electrophilic N-Trifluoromethylthiophthalimide as a Fluorinated

Reagent in the Synthesis of Acyl Fluorides

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1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all commercially available compounds were used as provided without further purification. Solvents for chromatography were HPLC grade. Anhydrous and degassed CH₃CN used in reactions was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich in Sure/SealTM bottle. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel aluminium plates with F-254 indicator, visualized by irradiation with UV light. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (particle size 0.043–0.063 mm) by using Interchim PuriFlash[®]430 automatic purification system. ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR were recorded on Bruker DRX-500 and AMX-400 instruments in CDCl₃ and are reported relative to the solvent residual peaks. Data are reported in the following order: chemical shift (δ) in ppm; multiplicities are indicated s (singlet), bs (broad singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), m (multiplet); coupling constants (*J*) are in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectra (EI-MS, 70 eV) were conducted on a Agilent 7890 gas chromatograph equipped with 5975C EI-MSD Triple-Axis Detector using DB5MS and HP5MS columns. HRMS analysis was performed using a Thermo LTQ Velos Orbitrap mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA, USA) equipped with an ESI source.

2. General Procedure for the Deoxygenative Fluorination of Carboxylic

Acids



A dry 10 mL vial equipped with a stirring bar was charged with *N*-trifluoromethylthiophthalimide (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), carboxylic acid (0.4 mmol, 2 equiv.), TBAI (7.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%) in glovebox. Anhydrous and degassed CH₃CN (2.0 mL) and Et₃N (28 uL, 1 equiv.) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 35 °C for 16 h. After the reaction is completed, the mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel using hexane/EtOAc as eluent.

3. Spectroscopic Data of the Products

4-(tert-butyl)benzoyl fluoride (3a)



Yield: 89% (32.0 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5, 157.5 (d, J = 342.9 Hz), 131.4 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 126.1, 122.0 (d, J = 60.9 Hz), 35.4, 31.0. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 17.66. Data in accordance with the literature. ¹

3-methylbenzoyl fluoride (3b)



Yield: 83% (22.9 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.6 (d, J = 344.4 Hz), 139.1, 136.1, 131.9, 128.9, 128.6, 124.9 (d, J = 60.1 Hz), 21.2. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.25. Data in accordance with the literature.¹

3-methoxybenzoyl fluoride (3c)



Yield: 97% (29.9 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 157.3 (d, J = 344.6 Hz), 130.1, 126.1 (d, J = 60.9 Hz), 123.9 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 122.0, 115.5 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 55.6. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.60. Data in accordance with the literature. ²

4-(methylthio)benzoyl fluoride (3d)



Yield: 91% (30.9 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3 (d, J = 341.3 Hz), 149.4, 131.6 (d, J = 3.8 Hz), 125.1,

120.5 (d, J = 61.8 Hz), 14.6. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.63. Data in accordance with the literature.²

4-phenoxybenzoyl fluoride (3e)



Yield: 92% (39.7 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.1, 157.0 (d, J = 340.9 Hz), 154.7, 133.8 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 130.3, 125.3, 120.6, 118.5 (d, J = 62.0 Hz), 117.4. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.79. Data in accordance with the literature.³

4-chlorobenzoyl fluoride (3f)



Yield: 44% (14.0 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.6 (d, *J* = 343.4 Hz), 142.2, 132.7 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 129.6, 123.4 (d, *J* = 62.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.43. Data in accordance with the literature.⁴

4-bromobenzoyl fluoride (3g)



Yield: 62% (25.3 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8 (d, *J* = 343.7 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 132.6, 131.0, 123.8 (d, *J* = 62.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.43. Data in accordance with the literature.¹

4-iodobenzoyl fluoride (3h)



Yield: 50% (25.1 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 8H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 7H), 7.28 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.1 (d, J = 343.9 Hz), 138.6, 132.5 (d, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.4 (d, J = 62.2 Hz), 104.0. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.28. Data in accordance with the literature.⁵

Tert-butyl (4-(fluorocarbonyl)phenyl)carbamate (3i)



Yield: 99% (47.2 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (d, J = 340.6 Hz), 152.0, 145.1, 133.0 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 118.4 (d, J = 61.8 Hz), 117.7, 81.8, 28.2. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.21. HRMS (FDMS) for C₁₂H₁₄FNO₃: calculated for [M]⁺ 239.0952, found 239.0995.

[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carbonyl fluoride (3j)



Yield: 52% (20.8 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4 (d, *J* = 343.2 Hz), 148.1, 139.3, 132.0 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 129.1, 128.8, 127.7, 127.4, 123.5 (d, *J* = 61.2 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.14. Data in accordance with the literature.¹

[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonyl fluoride (3k)



Yield: 91% (36.4 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (q, *J* = 7.2, 6.5 Hz, 4H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.6 (d, *J* = 348.1 Hz), 145.5 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 140.1, 133.9, 132.2 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 131.8 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6, 124.2 (d, *J* = 56.9 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 35.04. Data in accordance with the literature.¹

Benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carbonyl fluoride (31)



Yield: 98% (33.0 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9 (d, J = 340.1 Hz),

153.8, 148.3 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 128.2 (d, J = 3.9 Hz), 118.4 (d, J = 62.5 Hz), 110.7 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 108.6, 102.4. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.40. Data in accordance with the literature.⁶

2-naphthoyl fluoride (3m)



Yield: 95% (33.1 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 2H), 7.99 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.71 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7 (d, J = 343.6 Hz), 136.5, 134.0 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 132.3, 129.71, 129.66, 129.1, 128.0, 127.4, 125.6 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 122.0 (d, J = 60.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.08. Data in accordance with the literature.¹ **1-naphthoyl fluoride (3n)**



Yield: 92% (32.0 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.4 (d, J = 344.5 Hz), 136.7, 133.9 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 133.7 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 132.1 (d, J = 7.2 Hz), 129.2, 129.0, 127.0, 125.2, 124.5, 120.3 (d, J = 55.8 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 29.91. Data in accordance with the literature.¹

Cinnamoyl fluoride (5a)



Yield: 72% (21.6 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 6.40 (dd, J = 16.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.1 (d, J = 338.5 Hz), 151.4 (d, J = 6.1 Hz), 133.1, 131.9, 129.2, 128.8, 112.1 (d, J = 67.2 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.61. Data in accordance with the literature.⁷

(*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acryloyl fluoride (5b)



Yield: 97% (34.8 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (dd, J = 15.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.7, 157.6 (d, J = 336.6 Hz), 151.1 (d, J = 6.3 Hz), 130.7, 125.9, 114.6, 109.1 (d, J = 67.1 Hz), 55.5. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.39. Data in accordance with the literature.⁷

(*E*)-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)acryloyl fluoride (5c)



Yield: 93% (39.1 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5 (d, *J* = 336.5 Hz), 152.5, 151.4 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 149.4, 126.1, 124.0, 111.1, 109.9, 109.3 (d, *J* = 67.2 Hz), 56.1, 56.0. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.49. Data in accordance with the literature.⁸

(E)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)acryloyl fluoride (5d)



Yield: 60% (20.2 mg); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 8.7, 5.3 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, J = 23.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8 (d, J = 254.1 Hz), 157.0 (d, J = 338.3 Hz), 150.0 (d, J = 6.1 Hz), 130.8 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 129.5 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 116.5 (d, J = 22.1 Hz), 111.9 (dd, J = 67.8, 2.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.61, -106.62. GC-MS (EI): m/z = 168.2 (M⁺).

(E)-3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)acryloyl fluoride (5e)



Yield: 90% (35.0 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11 – 7.04 (m, 2H),

6.87 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (dd, J = 15.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4 (d, J = 336.9 Hz), 151.1, 151.0, 148.7, 127.6, 126.1, 109.7 (d, J = 67.3 Hz), 108.8, 106.7, 102.0. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.77. Data in accordance with the literature.⁹

(E)-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)acryloyl fluoride (5f)



Yield: 75% (30.1 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.52 (m, 3H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.0 (d, *J* = 339.0 Hz), 148.3 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 133.7, 132.2, 131.3, 130.2, 129.0, 127.6, 126.6, 125.9, 125.4, 122.9, 114.3 (d, *J* = 66.8 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.96. Data in accordance with the literature.¹⁰

(E)-3-(furan-3-yl)acryloyl fluoride (5g)



Yield: 60% (16.9 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.10 (dd, J = 15.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.1 (d, J = 337.3 Hz), 146.3, 145.1, 141.4 (d, J = 6.3 Hz), 122.2, 111.7 (d, J = 67.6 Hz), 107.2. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.17. Data in accordance with the literature.¹¹

(E)-3-(thiophen-2-yl)acryloyl fluoride (5h)



Yield: 70% (21.9 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 6.16 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.1 (d, J = 336.4 Hz), 143.4 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 138.3, 133.3, 131.1, 128.6, 110.3 (d, J = 68.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.30. Data in accordance with the literature.¹²

(E)-3-(thiophen-3-yl)acryloyl fluoride (5i)



Yield: 64% (20.1 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5 (d, *J* = 337.6 Hz), 144.5 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 136.6, 131.0, 127.8, 125.1, 111.5 (d, *J* = 67.3 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.70. Data in accordance with the literature.¹²

(2E,4E)-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoyl fluoride (5j)



Yield: 64% (22.4 mg); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 (dd, J = 15.2, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.42 (q, J = 5.3 Hz, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, J = 15.5, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (dd, J = 15.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (d, J = 337.2 Hz), 151.2 (d, J = 6.0 Hz), 144.2, 135.3, 130.1, 129.0, 127.7, 125.2, 114.6 (d, J = 67.0 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.46. Data in accordance with the literature.¹³

4. Gram-Scale Reaction and Synthetic Application

4.1 Gram-Scale Reaction

A dry 100 mL flask equipped with a stirring bar was charged with N-trifluoromethylthiophthalimide (5.0 mmol, 1.23 g, 1 equiv.), carboxylic acid **1i** (10 mmol, 2.37 g, 2 equiv.), TBAI (185.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 10 mol%) in glovebox. Anhydrous and degassed CH₃CN (50 mL) and Et₃N (0.7 mL, 1 equiv.) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 35 °C for 16 h. After the reaction is completed, the mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel using hexane/EtOAc as eluent to give the product **3i** in 98% yield.

4.2 Synthetic Application



4-methoxybenzoyl fluoride (7)



Acyl fluoride was synthesized according to the general procedure for the deoxygenative fluorination of carboxylic acids. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 157.3 (d, J = 339.8 Hz), 133.8 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 116.9 (d, J = 61.8 Hz), 114.4, 55.7. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 15.98. Data in accordance with the literature.¹ **1-methoxy-4-(3-(p-tolyl)propyl)benzene (9)**



A dry 20 mL high pressure tube equipped with a stirring bar was charged with $Pd(acac)_2$ (6.1 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %), dppe (12.0 mg, 0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), KF (17.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), toluene (0.8 mL), and DMSO (0.2 mL) in glovebox and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 min at room temperature. Then alkyl 9-BBN **8** (0.32 mmol in 1 mL toluene, 1.6 equiv., generated from the reaction of 0.16 mmol 9-BBN-dimer and 0.32 mmol alkene in dry toluene at 80 °C for 3 h) and acyl fluoride 7 (30.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added sequentially. The reaction mixture was stirred at 140 °C for 5 h. After the mixture was cooled to room temperature, quenched with saturated NH₄Cl, and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO4, and

evaporated under vacuum to obtain the crude product which was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:hexane) on silica gel to afford the desired products **9** in 52% yield (25.1 mg).¹⁴ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 6H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.64 (td, *J* = 7.7, 4.5 Hz, 4H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.96 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7, 139.3, 135.1, 134.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.4, 113.7, 55.3, 35.0, 34.5, 33.3, 21.0. HRMS (APPI FT-ICR MS) for C₁₇H₂₀O: calculated for [M]⁺ 240.15087, found 240.15090.

4-(3-(p-tolyl)propyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (10)



A dry 20 mL high pressure tube equipped with a stirring bar was charged with NiCl₂(PCy₃)₂ (13.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %), PCy₃ (11.2 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol %), aryl methyl ether 9 (48.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), and toluene (1.4 mL) in glovebox. Then PhMgBr (0.6 ml, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv., 1 M in THF) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 16 h. After the mixture was cooled to room temperature, quenched with saturated NH₄Cl, and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under vacuum to obtain the crude product which was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:hexane) on silica gel to afford the desired products **10** in 63% yield (36.2 mg).¹⁵ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (s, 4H), 2.73 (dt, *J* = 15.5, 7.7 Hz, 4H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.04 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.6, 141.2, 139.2, 138.7, 135.2, 129.1, 128.92, 128.86, 128.76, 128.4, 127.1, 127.0, 35.1, 33.1, 21.6, 21.1. HRMS (APPI FT-ICR MS) for C₂₂H₂₂: calculated for [M]⁺ 286.1716, found 286.1717.

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6. Copies of NMR Spectra







60 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -16 f1 (ppm)





















150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -15c f1 (ppm)













8.0 7.5 7.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 f1 (ppm) 9.5 9.0 8.5 6.0 0.0 6.5 4.0 3.0 2.5 1.5 1.0 0.5 3.5 2.0











































-158.72 -158.72 -18.830 -18.232 -18.2323 -18.2525 -1125565 -11255655 -114.00 -114.00 -114.00

0



















