

Supporting Information

“Thiol-free Synthesized” and Sustainable Thiolating Synthons for Nickel-catalyzed Reductive Assembling Sulfides

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Note added after first publication: This supplementary information file replaces that originally published on 04 Oct 2022. This updated file provides corrected ¹H and ¹³C NMR data for compound **6b**. This does not affect the results or conclusions of the work.

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I. General information

General procedures. General Information Unless specifically stated, all reagents were commercially obtained and where appropriate, purified prior to use. For example, dichloromethane (DCM) was freshly distilled from CaH₂; toluene, ether (Et₂O) was dried and distilled from metal sodium and benzophenone. Other commercially available reagents and solvents were used directly without purification. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica (200 – 300 mesh). ¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz or 500 MHz spectrometer in CDCl₃, CD₃COCD₃ or *d*₆-DMSO. Multiplicities were given as: s (singlet); d (doublet); dd (doublets of doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); td (triplet of doublets); tt (triplet of triplets) ddd (doublet of doublet of doublets) or m (multiplets). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) of the products were obtained on a Bruker Daltonics micro TOF-spectrometer.

Reagents. The following chemicals were used as received: Bis(4-chlorophenyl)disulfide (Energy-Chemical), Bis(triphenylphosphine)nickel(II) chloride (Adamas), 1-(2-Bromo-ethyl)-4-chloro-benzene (Energy-Chemical), 1-Bromo-4-iodobenzene (Energy-Chemical), 1-(4-Bromophenyl)ethanone (Leyan.com), 2-Bromopyridine (Energy-Chemical), 2-(2-Bromoethyl)-1,3-dioxolane (Energy-Chemical), 3-Bromobenzoate (Energy-Chemical), 3-Bromoquinoline (Energy-Chemical), 3-Bromobenzoate (Energy-Chemical), 4-Bromobenzoyl chloride (Energy-Chemical), 4-Bromobenzotrifluoride (Leyan.com), 5-Bromopyrimidine (Energy-Chemical), 5-bromobenzofuran (Energy-Chemical), Copper(II) trifluoromethanesulfonate (Energy-Chemical), 1-Chloro-4-iodobenzene (Energy-Chemical), 1,4-Dibromobenzene (Leyan.com), 4,4'-Dimethyl-2,2'-dipyridyl (Energy-Chemical), 5,5'-Dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridyl (Energy-Chemical), 1-Fluoro-2-[(2-fluorophenyl)disulfanyl]benzene (Energy-Chemical), Iodine (Energy-Chemical), Iodobenzene (Energy-Chemical), 4-Iodoanisole (Energy-Chemical), 4-

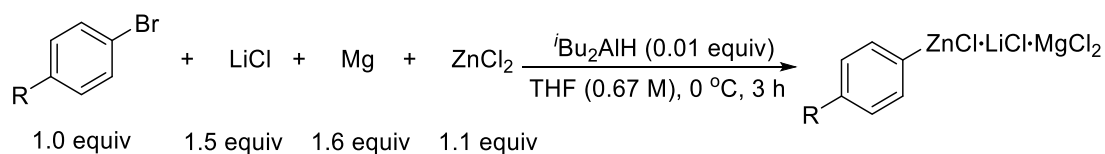
Iodobenzotrifluoride (Leyan.com), 5-Iodoindole (Adamas), lithium chloride (Leyan.com), Methyl cyclopropylcarbinol (Adamas), Methyl 2-bromobenzoate (Energy-Chemical), Methyl 3-pyridyl bromide (Energy-Chemical), Methyl 4-bromobenzoate (Energy-Chemical), Methyl 4-iodobenzoate (Energy-Chemical), Nickel bromide (Adamas), Phenyl disulfide (Energy-Chemical), phthalimide (Energy-Chemical), 1,10-Phenanthroline (Energy-Chemical), 3-Phenylpropyl bromide (Energy-Chemical), *p*-Tolyl disulfide (Energy-Chemical), Sodium iodide (Leyan.com), Sulfuryl chloride (aladdin), Sulfur monochloride (Adamas), 2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidinyl-1-oxidezinc (Leyan.com).

II. Synthesis of starting materials

1. Synthesis of aryl(hetero) iodides 5c-e, 5g, 5h, 5x, 5y,:

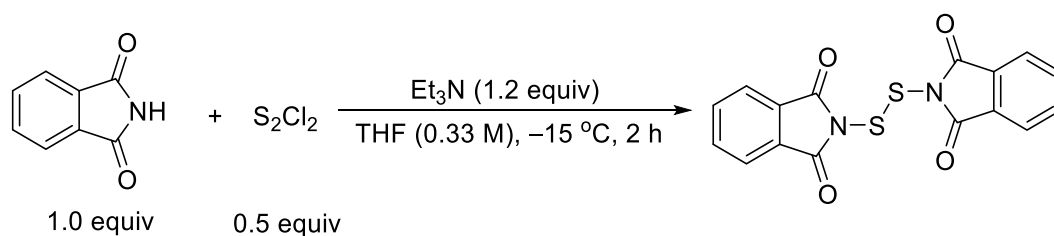
The aryl(hetero) iodides **5c-e**, **7g**, **7h**, **5x**, **5y**, were synthesized according to our previous report^[1].

2. Synthesis of organozinc halides from aryl halides



An oven-dried 100-mL round-bottom flask, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with magnesium turnings (583 mg, 24.0 mmol, 1.60 equiv), LiCl (954 mg, 22.5 mmol, 1.50 equiv), ZnCl₂ (2.25 g, 16.5 mmol, 1.10 equiv) was added, then the bottom was dried at 150 °C under vacuum for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature and dry THF (23.0 mL) was added, the magnesium was activated with ^tBu₂AlH (1.50 mL, 0.100 M in THF, 0.150 mmol, 0.0100 equiv) in 0 °C. After 5 min of stirring, the aryl bromide (15.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was added in one portion at 0 °C. The mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at 0 °C. The organozinc chlorides were titrated against iodine before use^[1]. Round-bottom flask and the yield of the zinc reagent was determined by iodometric titration. (0.33 M, **3a**), (0.29 M, **3b**), (0.36 M, **3c**), (0.36 M, **3d**), (0.35 M, **3e**), (0.36 M, **3f**).

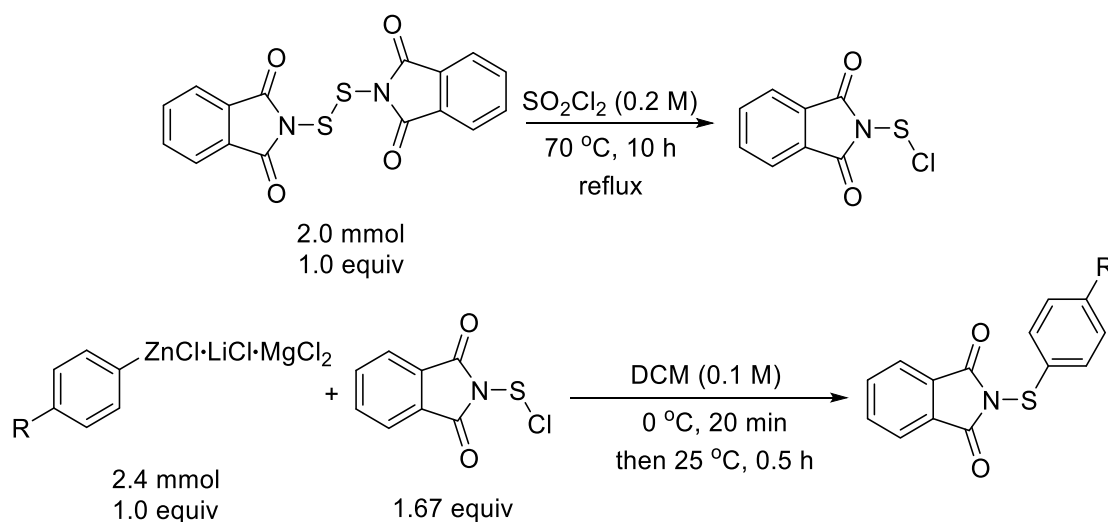
3. Synthesis of di(1-phthalimidy)disulfane



An oven-dried 500-mL round-bottom flask, equipped with a stir bar, phthalimide (5.88 g, 40.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was dissolved in THF (120 mL) and triethylamine (4.86 g, 48.0 mmol, 1.20 equiv). The mixture was cooled in -15 °C, and then sulfur monochloride (1.35 g, 20.0 mmol, 0.500 equiv) was added dropwise. The mixture was

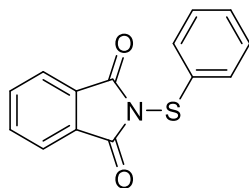
stirred for 2 h, and then quenched with 150 mL of H₂O. The resulting precipitate was filtered and washed with diethyl ether. Recrystallization from CHCl₃:MeOH (2:1, v:v) yielded di(1-phthalimidy1)disulfane as a white solid (6.04 g, 85% yield). Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].

4. General Method A: Synthesis of *N*-thiophthalimides 4a-4f

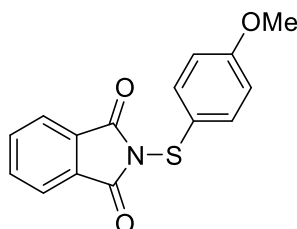


An oven-dried 100-mL round-bottom flask, equipped with a stir bar, di(1-phthalimidy1) disulfane (713 mg, 2.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and SO₂Cl₂ (10.0 mL) were added under N₂. The reaction was heated to 70 °C reflux for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the insoluble precipitate was removed, and the filtrate was concentrated to give a yellow solid of Phth-SCl. The product was subsequently used for next step.

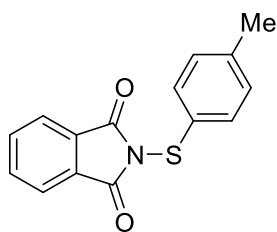
DCM (25.0 mL) was added to the round-bottom flask at 25 °C under N₂. The mixture was subsequently cooled to 0 °C followed by addition of the THF solution of the above arylzinc chloride (2.40 mmol, 1.00 equiv) over 10 min. The reaction was stirred at the same temperature for another 10 min and then allowed to warm up to 25 °C. The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h. Upon the completion of reaction, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 100:1 to 1:1 petroleum ether: DCM)^[2].



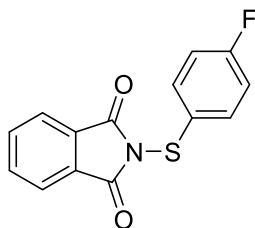
2-(Phenylthio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4a: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (346.9 mg, 1.36 mmol, 56.6% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 – 7.92 (2H, m), 7.79 – 7.77 (2H, m), 7.62 – 7.59 (2H, m) 7.33 – 7.31 (3H, m); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.8, 135.1, 134.8, 132.0, 131.0, 129.4, 124.2. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].



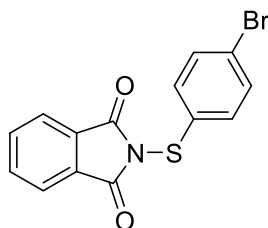
2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4b: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (494.5 mg, 1.73 mmol, 72.2% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.90 – 7.88 (2H, m), 7.79 – 7.73 (4H, m), 6.85 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.79 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.0, 161.6, 136.9, 134.7, 132.2, 125.5, 124.0, 114.8, 55.5. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].



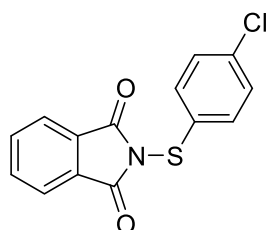
2-(p-Tolylthio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4c: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (545.1 mg, 2.02 mmol, 84.3% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 – 7.90 (2H, m), 7.77 – 7.75 (2H, m), 7.60 (2H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.14 (2H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 2.32 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.9, 140.4, 134.7, 132.8, 132.1, 131.5, 130.2, 124.1, 21.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].



2-((4-Fluorophenyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4d: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (396.2 mg, 1.45 mmol, 60.4% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 – 7.91 (2H, m), 7.79 – 7.73 (4H, m), 7.05 – 7.01 (2H, m); **¹⁹F NMR** (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –110; **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.8, 163.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 252.2 Hz), 162.6, 135.7(d, J_{C-F} = 88.3 Hz), 134.9, 132.1, 130.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.9 Hz), 124.2, 116.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.1 Hz). Spectra were consistent with literature data^[3].



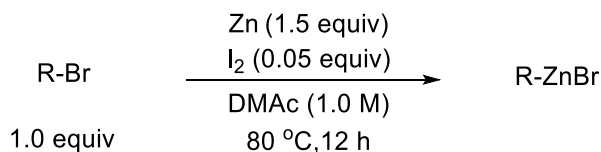
2-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4e: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (616.0 mg, 1.84 mmol, 76.8% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.92 (2H, m), 7.80 – 7.78 (2H, m), 7.50 – 7.44 (4H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.7, 135.0, 134.2, 132.9, 132.7, 132.0, 124.3, 124.1. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].



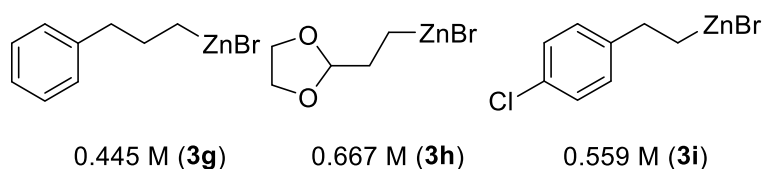
2-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4f: Prepared according to **General Method A** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (513.6 mg, 1.77 mmol, 73.9% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.92 (2H, m), 7.80 – 7.78 (2H, m), 7.58 (2H, d, J =

8.6 Hz), 7.30 (2H, d, $J = 8.6$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.7, 136.0, 135.0, 133.5, 133.0, 132.0, 129.7, 124.3. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[2].

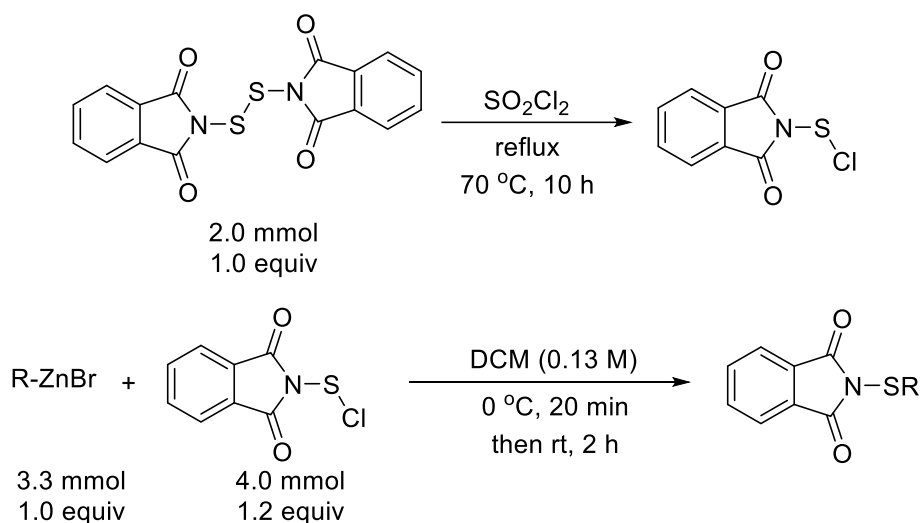
5. Synthesis of Alkylzinc Reagents



An 25-mL of Schlenk tube, equipped with a stir bar, and charged with zinc powder (1.47 g, 22.5 mmol, 1.50 equiv) and heated to 80 °C under vacuum for 30 min. After the tube was back-filled with argon and cooled to room temperature, iodine (190 mg, 0.750 mmol, 0.0500 equiv) and DMAc (15.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred until the brown color disappeared, alkyl bromide (15.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C. After stirring for 12 h at 80 °C, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The gray solution was filtered and the filtrate was stored under argon in a Schlenk tube, the solution of the alkylzinc reagent was titrated with I_2 according to Knochel's method. This alkylzinc solution can be stored at room temperature under argon for several weeks without deterioration^[4].

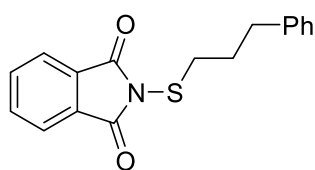


6. General Method B: Synthesis of *N*-thiophthalimides 4g-4i

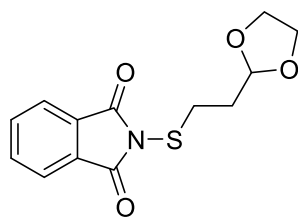


An oven-dried 100-mL round-bottom flask, equipped with a stir bar, di(1-phthalimidy1) disulfane (713 mg, 2.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and SO₂Cl₂ (10.0 mL) were added under N₂. The reaction was heated to 70 °C reflux for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the insoluble precipitate was removed, and the filtrate was concentrated to give a yellow solid of Phth-SCl. The product was subsequently used for next step.

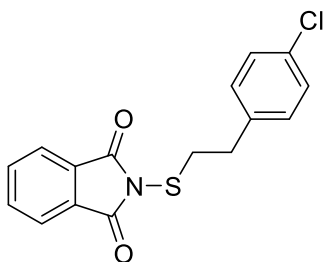
DCM (25.0 ml) was added to the round-bottom flask at 25 °C under N₂. The mixture was subsequently cooled to 0 °C followed by addition of the solution of R-ZnBr (3.30 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in DMF over 10 min. The reaction was stirred at the same temperature for another 10 min and then allowed to warm up to 25 °C. The mixture was stirred for 2 h. Upon the completion of reaction, the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer extracted with DCM (50.0 mL x 3). The organic phase was separated, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (Eluent: 50:1 to 2:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to provide the product^[2].



2-((3-Phenylpropyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4g: Prepared according to **General Method B** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (613.6 mg, 2.06 mmol, 62.5% yield). **M.p.** = 79.9 – 80.5 °C; **IR** (thin film) 1785 (w), 1743 (s), 1715 (s), 1454 (w), 1342 (m), 1283 (s), 1051 (s), 868 (m), 800 (w), 745 (m), 711 (s), 693 (s) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 – 7.91 (2H, m), 7.79 – 7.77 (2H, m), 7.27 – 7.24 (2H, m), 7.18 – 7.15 (3H, m), 2.88 (2H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.80 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 1.94 – 1.86 (2H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.7, 141.1, 134.7, 132.2, 128.7, 128.6, 126.2, 124.0, 38.2, 34.3, 29.8; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+Na]⁺ calc'd for C₁₇H₁₅NaNO₂S: 320.0716, found: 320.0708.

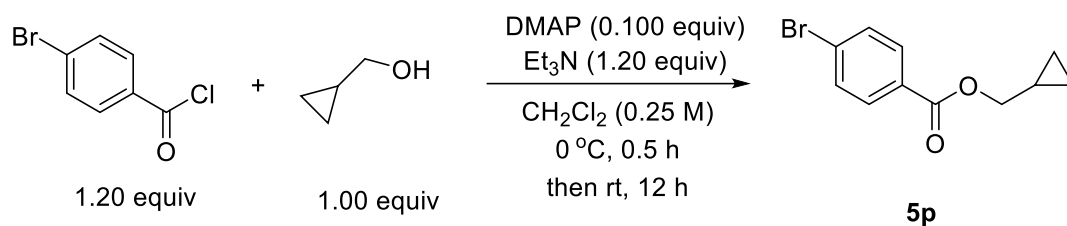


2-((2-(1,3-Dioxolan-2-yl)ethyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4h: Prepared according to **General Method B** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (730.7 mg, 2.62 mmol, 79.3% yield). **M.p.** = 90.1 – 90.9 °C; **IR** (thin film) 1730 (m), 1706 (m), 1341 (w), 1278 (m), 1232 (w), 1045 (m), 865 (m), 712 (s) cm^{-1} ; **$^1\text{H NMR}$** (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.91 – 7.89 (2H, m), 7.77 – 7.75 (2H, m), 5.00 (1H, t, $J = 4.1$ Hz), 3.92 – 3.88 (2H, m), 3.81 – 3.78 (2H, m), 2.98 – 2.95 (2H, m), 2.02 – 1.98 (2H, m); **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.6, 134.7, 132.1, 124.0, 102.6, 65.2, 33.2, 33.0; **HRMS** (ESI^+) $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calc'd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$: 280.0638, found: 280.0635.



2-((4-Chlorophenethyl)thio)isoindoline-1,3-dione 4i: Prepared according to **General Method B** (Eluent: 50:1 to 5:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (662.1 mg, 1.96 mmol, 59.5% yield). **M.p.** = 123.2 – 124.7 °C; **IR** (thin film) 1781 (w), 1733 (s), 1709 (s), 1489 (w), 1466 (w), 1341 (w), 1280 (s), 1092 (m), 1051 (s), 1012 (m), 866 (m), 803 (m), 710 (s) cm^{-1} ; **$^1\text{H NMR}$** (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.91 – 7.89 (2H, m), 7.80 – 7.77 (2H, m), 7.19 – 7.13 (4H, m), 3.15 (2H, t, $J = 7.3$ Hz), 2.94 (2H, t, $J = 7.4$ Hz); **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.6, 137.6, 134.8, 132.5, 132.1, 130.0, 128.7, 124.0, 39.4, 34.7; **HRMS** (ESI^+) $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calc'd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClNaNO}_2\text{S}$: 340.0169, found: 340.0164.

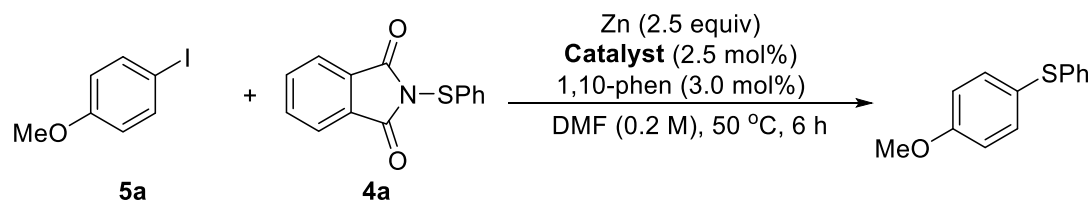
7. Synthesis of cyclopropylmethyl 4-bromobenzoate **5p**:



An oven-dried 25-mL Schlenk tube, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with cyclopropylmethanol (505 mg, 7.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Et₃N (0.850 g, 8.40 mmol, 1.20 equiv), DMAP (8.55 mg, 0.0700 mmol, 0.100 equiv), and DCM (14.0 mL). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and 4-bromobenzoyl chloride (1.84 g, 8.40 mmol, 1.20 equiv) in DCM (14.0 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C for 0.5 h under N₂. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 12 h and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 50:1 to 20:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to obtain the product as a white solid (1.59 g, 6.23 mmol, 89.0% yield). **M.p.** = 49.2 – 50.8 °C; **IR** (thin film) 1698 (s), 1588 (m), 1484 (w), 1395 (w), 1345 (m), 1262 (s), 1173 (m), 1119 (s), 1101 (s), 1069 (m), 1011 (s), 959 (s), 849 (s), 751 (s), 681 (m) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (2H, d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.57 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 4.14 (2H, d, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.28 – 1.21 (1H, m), 0.64 – 0.59 (2H, m), 0.38 – 0.34 (2H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.1, 131.8, 131.3, 130.0, 128.0, 70.1, 10.0, 3.5; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+Na]⁺ calc'd for C₁₁H₁₁NaO₂Br : 276.9835, found: 276.9832.

III. Optimization of the reaction conditions

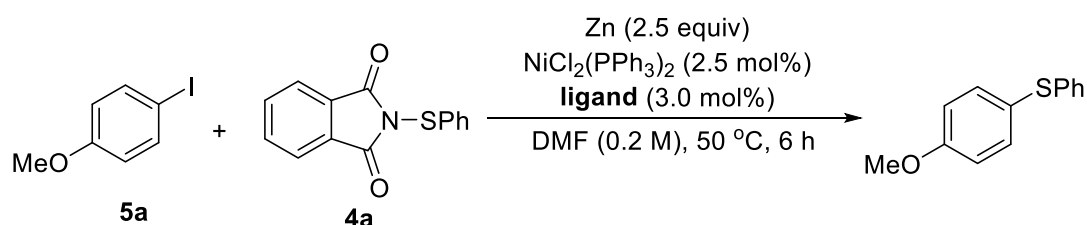
Table S1. Evaluation of different catalysts



Entry	Catalyst	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	Cu(OTf) ₂	<5
2	CrCl ₃	<5
3	PdCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂	<5
4	NiCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂	>99
5	NiBr ₂	98
6	CoBr ₂	<5
7	Ni(OAc) ₂	95

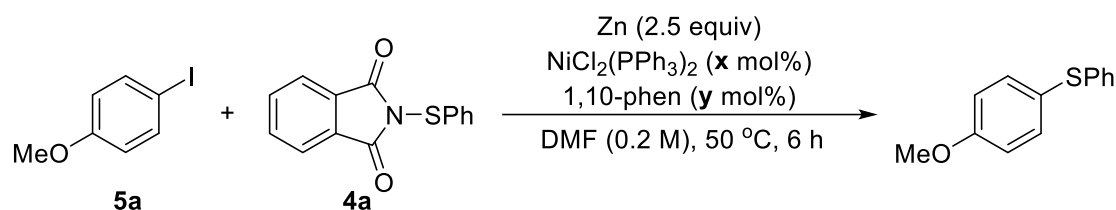
Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (1.00 mmol), **catalyst** (2.50 mol%), 1,10-phen (3.00 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at 50 °C for 6 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S2. Evaluation of different ligands



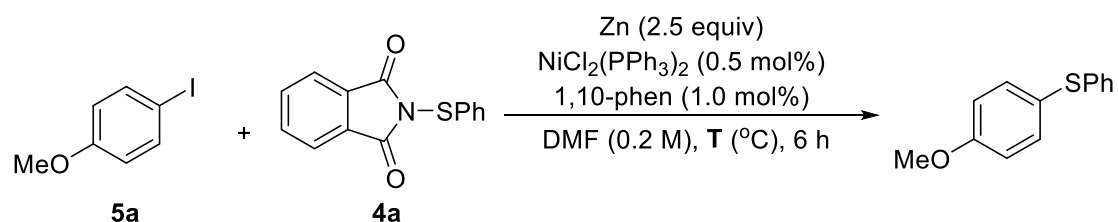
			DMAP
L1 99% yield	L2 88% yield	L3 92% yield	L4 7% yield
		PPh ₃	none
L5 29% yield	L6 10% yield	L7 6% yield	<5% yield

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (1.00 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (2.50 mol%), **ligand** (3.00 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at 50 °C for 6 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S3. Evaluation of different amounts of catalysts and ligands

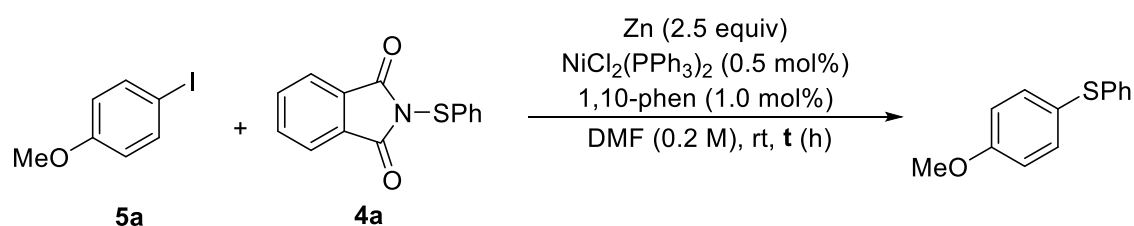
Entry	x	y	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	2.5	3.0	>99
2	1.0	2.0	>99
3	0.5	1.0	>99
4	2.5	0	<1

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.750 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (x mol%), 1,10-phen (y mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at 50 °C for 6 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S4. Evaluation of different temperature

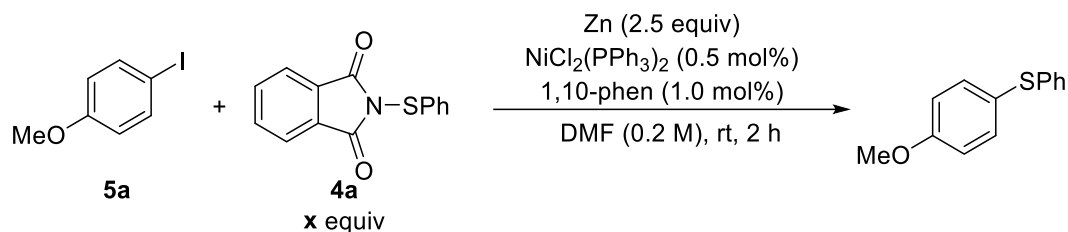
Entry	T (°C)	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	50	>99
2	rt	>99

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.600 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (1.00 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at T °C for 2 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S5. Evaluation of different reaction time

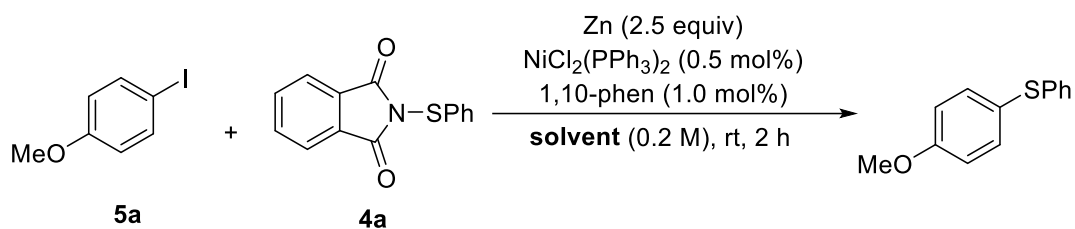
Entry	t (h)	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	6	>99
2	2	>99
3	1	98
4	0.5	50

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.600 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (0.100 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at rt for t h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S6. Evaluation of different amounts of reagent

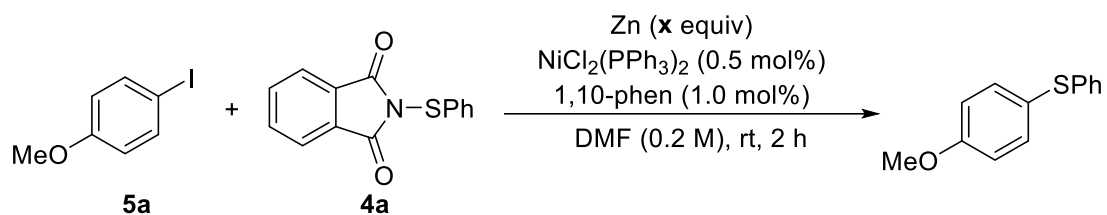
Entry	x (equiv)	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	1.5	>99
2	1.2	>99

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (x equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (1.00 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at rt for 2 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S7. Evaluation of different solvents

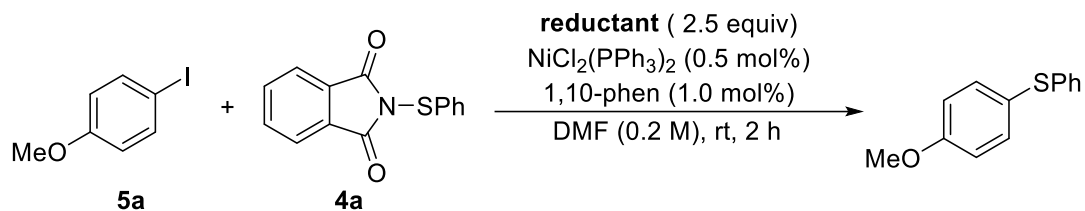
Entry	solvent	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	THF	<5
2	MeOH	57
3	DMAc	>99
4	1,4-Dioxane	<5
5	DMSO	45
6	DCM	<5
7	DMF	>99

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.600 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (1.00 mol%), Zn (2.50 equiv), solvent (2.50 mL) at rt for 2 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

Table S8. Evaluation of different amounts of Zinc

Entry	<i>x</i> (equiv)	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	2.5	99
2	1.0	<5
3	0	<5

Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.600 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (1.00 mol%), Zn (*x* equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at rt for 2 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

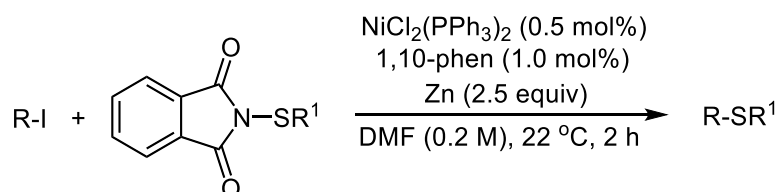
Table S9. Evaluation of different reductant

Entry	reductant	¹ H NMR yield (%)
1	Mn	<5
2	Fe	<5
3	Cu	<5
4	Zn	>99

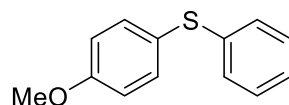
Reaction conditions: **5a** (0.500 mmol), Phth-SPh **4a** (0.600 mmol), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.500 mol%), 1,10-phen (1.00 mol%), reductant (2.50 equiv), DMF (2.50 mL) at rt for 2 h. Yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard.

IV. Substrate scope

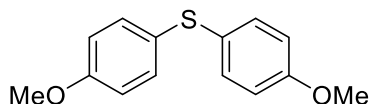
1. General Method C:



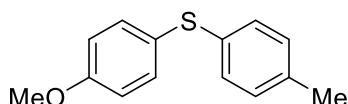
An oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenk, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with aryl(hetero)iodide (0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SR¹ (0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography.



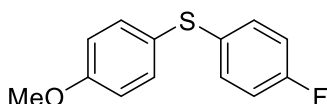
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfane 6a: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (94.0 mg, 0.435 mmol, 86.9% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (2H, m, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.23 – 7.09 (5H, m), 6.87 (2H, m, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 3.78 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 138.7, 135.5, 129.0, 128.2, 125.8, 124.3, 115.1, 55.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



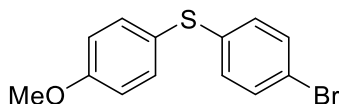
Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 6b: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (112.3 mg, 0.456 mmol, 91.2% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.31 (4H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 6.86 (4H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.80 (6H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.0, 132.8, 127.4, 114.8, 55.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[6].



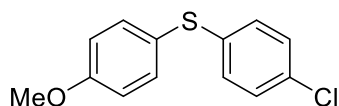
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(*p*-tolyl)sulfane 6c: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (102.0 mg, 0.443 mmol, 88.6% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.35 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.12 (2H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.05 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 6.85 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.78 (3H, s), 2.29 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.5, 136.2, 134.5, 134.5, 129.9, 129.5, 125.7, 115.0, 55.4, 21.1. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



(4-Chlorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 6d: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (103 mg, 0.440 mmol, 87.9% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.36 (2H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 7.21 – 7.17 (2H, m), 6.97 – 6.93 (2H, m), 6.87 (2H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 3.80 (3H, s); $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ –116 – –111 (1F, m); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 246.9$ Hz), 159.8, 134.6, 133.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$ Hz), 131.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.1$ Hz), 125.3, 116.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 22.0$ Hz), 115.1, 55.5. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

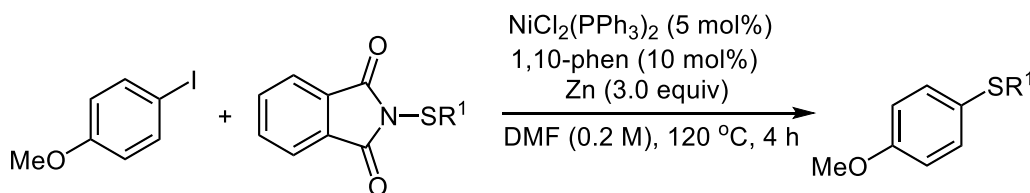


(4-Bromophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 6e: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (119.6 mg, 0.405 mmol, 81.0% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.33 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.00 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 6.91 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.83 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.2, 138.3, 135.8, 132.0, 129.6, 123.6, 119.5, 115.3, 55.5. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[7].



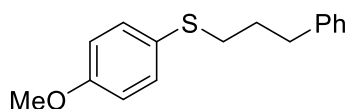
(4-Chlorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 6f: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (100.5 mg, 0.401 mmol, 80.2% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.39 (2H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 7.18 (2H, d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 7.06 (2H, d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 6.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 3.81 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.5, 137.8, 136.0, 132.0, 129.7, 129.4, 124.1, 115.5, 55.8. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[7].

2. General Method D:

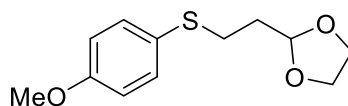


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (23.4 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SR¹ (0.200 mmol, 2.00 equiv), Zn (19.6 mg, 0.300 mmol, 3.00 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (3.27 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (1.80 mg, 0.0100 mmol, 0.100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 4 h at 120 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with saturated

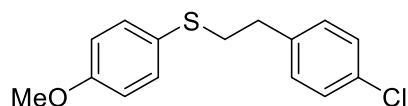
NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography.



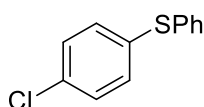
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(3-phenylpropyl)sulfane 6g: Prepared according to **General Method D** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (25.3 mg, 0.0979 mmol, 97.9% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.30 – 7.24 (2H, m), 7.21 – 7.11 (3H, m), 6.82 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 3.77 (3H, s), 2.82 (2H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.72 (2H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 1.89 (2H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.9, 141.6, 133.3, 128.6, 128.5, 126.6, 126.0, 114.6, 55.4, 35.2, 34.7, 30.9. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



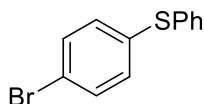
2-(2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)ethyl)-1,3-dioxolane 6h: Prepared according to **General Method D** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (19.4 mg, 0.0810 mmol, 81.0% yield). **IR** (thin film) 2883 (w), 1592 (w), 1493 (s), 1284 (m), 1243 (s), 1174 (m), 1129 (s), 1029 (s), 878 (w), 825 (s), 638 (w) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 6.84 (2H, d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 4.95 (1H, t, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 3.97 – 3.82 (4H, m), 3.79 (3H, s), 2.93 – 2.89 (2H, m), 1.95 – 1.90 (2H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.1, 133.4, 126.2, 114.7, 103.2, 65.1, 55.5, 33.8, 30.2; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+Na]⁺ calc'd for C₁₂H₁₆NaO₃S: 263.0712, found: 263.0723.



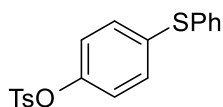
(4-Chlorophenethyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 6i: Prepared according to **General Method D** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (26.8 mg, 0.961 mmol, 96.1% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.35 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.24 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.08 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 6.86 (2H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz), 3.80 (3H, s), 3.03 (2H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 2.82 (2H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.2, 138.8, 133.6, 132.2, 130.0, 128.7, 126.1, 114.7, 55.5, 37.3, 35.3. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



(4-Chlorophenyl)(phenyl)sulfane 7a: Prepared according to **General Method C** (1.00 mol% $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ and 2.00 mol% 1,10-phen were used) (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (102.7 mg, 0.465 mmol, 93.1% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.35 – 7.24 (9H, m); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.2, 134.8, 133.1, 132.1, 131.5, 129.5, 129.5, 127.6. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

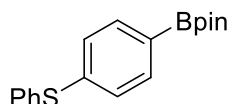


(4-Bromophenyl)(phenyl)sulfane 7b: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:0 to 500:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (97.4 mg, 0.367 mmol, 73.5% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.35 – 7.22 (5H, m), 7.15 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.6, 134.9, 132.3, 132.2, 131.7, 129.5, 127.7, 121.0. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

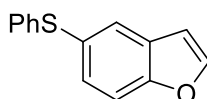


4-(Phenylthio)phenyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate 7c: Prepared according to **General Method C** (1.00 mol% $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$, 2.00 mol% 1,10-phen were used.) (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white

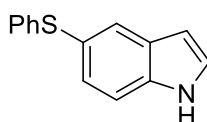
solid (151.1 mg, 0.424 mmol, 84.8 % yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.70 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.35 – 7.28 (7H, m), 7.18 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 6.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 2.45 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 148.4, 145.6, 135.7, 134.5, 132.3, 132.0, 131.3, 129.9, 129.5, 128.6, 127.9, 123.2, 21.9. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-2-(4-(phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3,2-Dioxaborolane 7d: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (102.6 mg, 0.329 mmol, 65.8% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.63 (2H, m, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.32 – 7.29 (2H, m), 7.25 – 7.15 (5H, m), 1.24 (12H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.5, 135.5, 134.6, 132.2, 129.4, 129.1, 127.7, 84.0, 25.0 (the signal of one carbon connected to B atom was not observed). Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

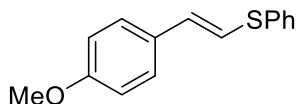


5-(Phenylthio)benzofuran 7e: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (109.6 mg, 0.484 mmol, 96.9% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.71 (1H, d, $J = 1.3$ Hz), 7.61 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.47 – 7.45 (1H, m), 7.38 (1H, dd, $J = 8.6, 1.9$ Hz), 7.23 – 7.22 (4H, m), 7.16 – 7.12 (1H, m), 6.71 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 154.8, 146.0, 138.3, 129.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 127.9, 126.5, 126.2, 112.5, 106.6. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

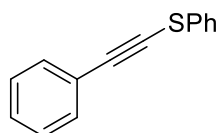


6-(Phenylthio)-1H-indole 7f: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (100 mg, 0.444 mmol, 88.8% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.14 (1H, s), 7.85 – 7.84 (1H, m), 7.34 – 7.29 (2H, m), 7.21 – 7.14 (5H, m), 7.11 – 7.07 (1H,

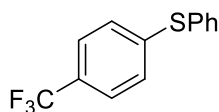
m), 6.53 – 6.51 (1H, m). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.8, 135.7, 128.9, 128.9, 128.3, 127.7, 127.5, 125.4, 125.3, 123.0, 112.2, 102.9. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



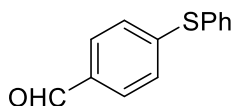
(E)-4-methoxystyryl(phenyl)sulfane 7g: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: petroleum ether) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (98.6 mg, 0.407 mmol, 81.4 % yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 (2H, d, $J = 7.0$ Hz), 7.33 – 7.27 (4H, m), 7.24 – 7.20 (1H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 6.84 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 6.77 – 6.68 (2H, m), 3.79 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.5, 136.1, 132.9, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 127.5, 126.7, 120.1, 114.2, 55.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



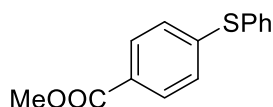
Phenyl(phenylethynyl)sulfane 7h: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:0 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (30.1 mg, 0.143 mmol, 28.6% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.52 – 7.47 (4H, m), 7.36 – 7.32 (5H, m), 7.24 – 7.20 (1H, m); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.1, 132.6, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 127.6, 127.3, 121.9, 81.7, 74.0. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



Phenyl(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfane 7i: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (105.3 mg, 0.414 mmol, 82.8% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48 – 7.46 (4H, m), 7.41 – 7.38 (3H, m), 7.26 (2H, d, $J = 9.0$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ – 62.5; ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.0, 133.7, 132.6, 129.8, 129.2, 128.8, 128.1 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 33.0$ Hz), 126.0 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.8$ Hz), 125.9 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 272.8$ Hz). Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

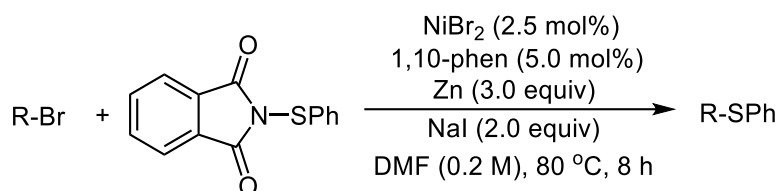


4-(Phenylthio)benzaldehyde 7j: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (84.4 mg, 0.394 mmol, 78.8% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.89 (1H, s), 7.70 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.53 – 7.51 (2H, m), 7.43 – 7.40 (3H, m), 7.22 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.2, 147.3, 134.4, 133.7, 131.3, 130.2, 129.9, 129.2, 127.2. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



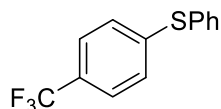
Methyl 4-(phenylthio)benzoate 7k: Prepared according to **General Method C** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (113.1 mg, 0.463 mmol, 92.6% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 7.49 – 7.47 (2H, m), 7.39 – 7.37 (3H, m), 7.19 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 3.88 (3H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.7, 144.5, 133.8, 132.4, 130.2, 129.7, 128.7, 127.6, 127.5, 52.2. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

3. General Method E:

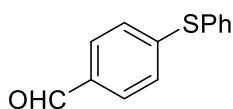


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with aryl(hetero)bromide (0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (255 mg, 1.00 mmol, 2.00 equiv), Zn (98.1 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.00 equiv), NiBr₂ (2.73 mg, 0.0125 mmol, 0.0250 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (4.51 mg, 0.0250 mmol, 0.0500 equiv), NaI (149.9 mg, 1.00 mmol, 2.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 8 h at 80 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers

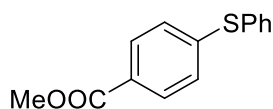
were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography.



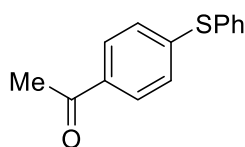
Phenyl(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfane 7l: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (104.6 mg, 0.411 mmol, 82.2% yield). The structure of compound **7l** was the same with compound **7i**.



4-(Phenylthio)benzaldehyde 7m: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (45.2 mg, 0.211 mmol, 42.2% yield). The structure of compound **7m** was the same with compound **7j**.

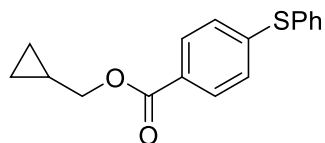


Methyl 4-(phenylthio)benzoate 7n: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (98.4 mg, 0.403 mmol, 80.6% yield). The structure of compound **7n** was the same with compound **7k**.

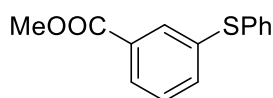


1-(4-(Phenylthio)phenyl)ethan-1-one 7o: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (63.3 mg, 0.277 mmol, 55.5% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.51 – 7.48 (2H, m), 7.41 – 7.39 (3H, m), 7.20 (2H,

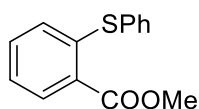
d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 2.55 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.2, 145.0, 134.5, 134.0, 132.1, 129.8, 129.0, 128.9, 127.5, 26.6. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



Cyclopropylmethyl 4-(phenylthio)benzoate 7p: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (119.4 mg, 0.420 mmol, 84.0% yield). **IR** (thin film) 1712 (s), 1594 (m), 1475 (w), 1400 (w), 1345 (w), 1266 (s), 1177 (m), 1101 (s), 1014 (m), 962 (m), 846 (w), 746 (s), 689 (s) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.93 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.49 – 7.47 (2H, m), 7.40 – 7.37 (3H, m), 7.22 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 4.13 (2H, d, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.27 – 1.21 (1H, m), 0.62 – 0.57 (2H, m), 0.36 – 0.33 (2H, m); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.5, 144.3, 133.7, 132.6, 130.3, 129.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.8, 69.8, 10.0, 3.4; **HRMS** (ESI^+) $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ calc'd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2\text{S}$: 307.0763, found: 307.0773.

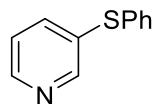


Methyl 3-(phenylthio)benzoate 7q: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (75.7 mg, 0.310 mmol, 62.0% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 – 8.00 (1H, m), 7.90 – 7.87 (1H, m), 7.47 – 7.45 (1H, m), 7.38 – 7.28 (6H, m), 3.89 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.6, 137.2, 134.8, 134.7, 131.8, 131.5, 131.2, 129.5, 129.3, 128.1, 127.8, 52.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[8].

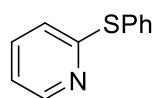


Methyl 2-(phenylthio)benzoate 7r: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (61.2 mg, 0.251 mmol, 50.1% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.98 (1H, dd, $J = 7.8, 1.6$ Hz), 7.61 – 7.53 (2H, m), 7.47 – 7.39 (3H, m), 7.26 – 7.21 (1H,

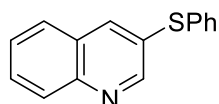
m), 7.14 – 7.10 (1H, m), 6.81 (1H, dd, $J = 8.2, 1.2$ Hz), 3.95 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.0, 143.4, 135.7, 132.6, 132.5, 131.2, 129.9, 129.2, 127.5, 126.8, 124.4, 52.3. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[9].



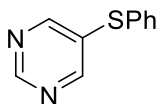
3-(Phenylthio)pyridine 7s: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 100:1 to 10:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a yellow oil (58.6 mg, 0.313 mmol, 62.6% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.56 – 8.55 (1H, m), 8.47 – 8.45 (1H, m), 7.61 – 7.58 (1H, m), 7.39 – 7.30 (5H, m), 7.23 – 7.20 (1H, m); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.1, 148.0, 138.0, 134.0, 133.8, 131.9, 129.6, 128.0, 124.0. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[10].



2-(Phenylthio)pyridine 7t: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a yellow oil (75.1 mg, 0.401 mmol, 80.2% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.42 – 8.40 (1H, m), 7.59 – 7.57 (2H, m), 7.42 – 7.39 (4H, m), 6.99 – 6.95 (1H, m), 6.87 (1H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.5, 149.5, 136.7, 134.9, 131.0, 129.6, 129.1, 121.3, 119.9. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

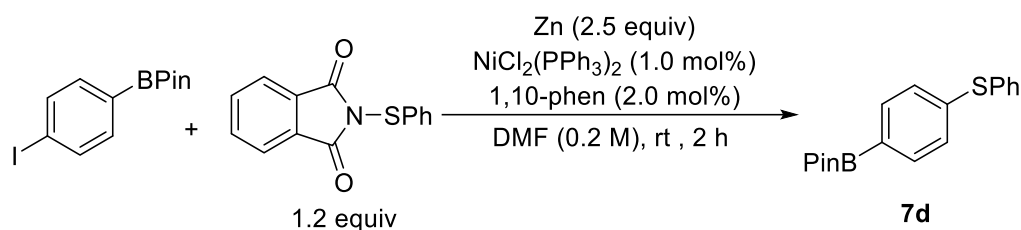


3-(Phenylthio)quinoline 7u: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 100:1 to 10:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a yellow oil (61.8 mg, 0.260 mmol, 52.1% yield). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.82 – 8.81 (1H, m), 8.09 – 8.06 (2H, m), 7.72 – 7.67 (2H, m), 7.56 – 7.52 (1H, m), 7.41 – 7.30 (5H, m); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.3, 146.8, 137.2, 134.4, 131.5, 130.2, 129.7, 129.7, 129.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.4, 127.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].



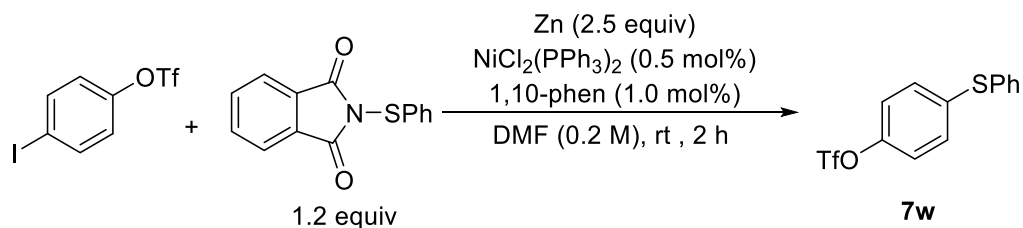
5-(Phenylthio)pyrimidine 7v: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (43.1 mg, 0.229 mmol, 45.8% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.03 (1H, s), 8.59 (2H, s), 7.46 – 7.37 (5H, m); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.1, 156.3, 133.7, 132.8, 131.7, 130.0, 128.9. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[11].

4. Synthesis of 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(4-(phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane 7d



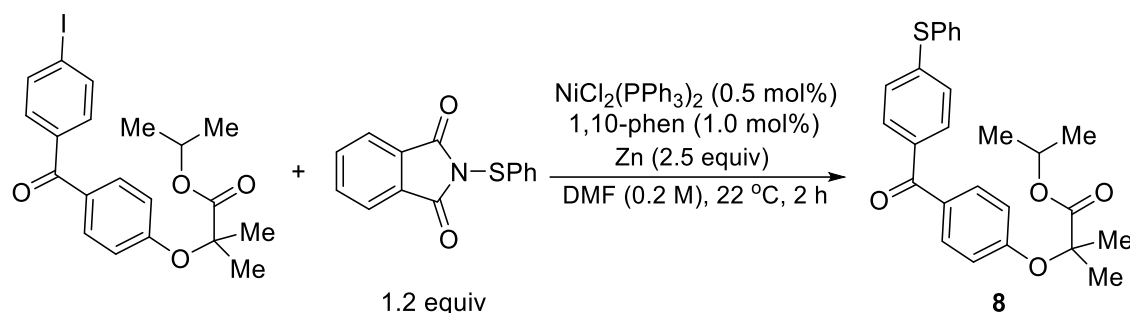
An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 2-(4-iodophenyl)-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (1.16 g, 3.50 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (1.07 g, 4.20 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (572 mg, 8.75 mmol, 2.50 equiv), $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (22.9 mg, 0.0350 mmol, 0.0100 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (12.6 mg, 0.0700 mmol, 0.0200 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (17.5 mL) was added under N_2 and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (50.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (50.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (40.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (50.0 mL x 3), dried over Na_2SO_4 and filtered. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to obtain the product as a white solid (819.6 mg, 2.62 mmol, 75.0% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.63 (2H, m, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.32 – 7.29 (2H, m), 7.25 – 7.15 (5H, m), 1.24 (12H, s); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.5, 135.5, 134.6, 132.2, 129.4, 129.1, 127.7, 84.0, 25.0 (the signal of one carbon connected to B atom was not observed). Spectra were consistent with literature data.

5. Synthesis of 5-(Phenylthio)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate **7w**

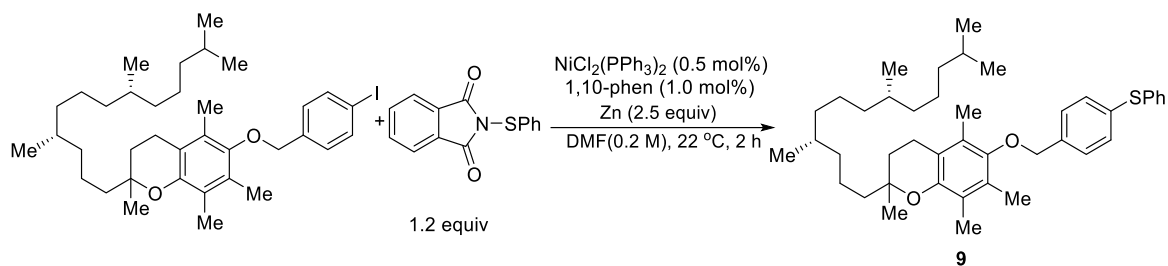


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodophenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (975 mg, 3.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (919 mg, 3.60 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (491 mg, 7.50 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (9.81 mg, 0.0150 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (5.40 mg, 0.0300 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (15.0 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (50.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (50.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (40.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (50.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to obtain the product as a colorless oil (840.9 mg, 2.52 mmol, 83.8% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44 – 7.42 (2H, m), 7.38 – 7.34 (3H, m), 7.27 (2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.15 (2H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -72.8; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.0, 138.5, 133.3, 133.0, 130.7, 129.8, 128.6, 122.1, 118.8 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 322.1 Hz). Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

V. Late-stage thiolation of complex molecules

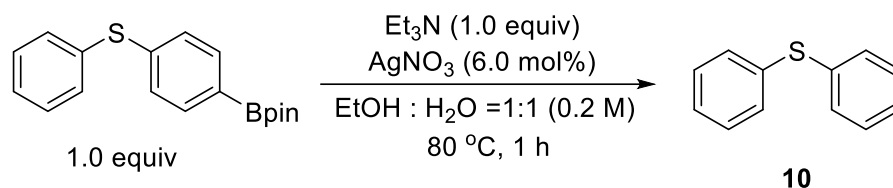


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with isopropyl 2-(4-(4-iodobenzoyl)phenoxy)-2-methylpropanoate (226 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N_2 and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na_2SO_4 and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 500:1 to 20:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to obtain the product as a white solid (212.8 mg, 0.490 mmol, 97.9% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.73 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.65 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.51 – 7.48 (2H, m), 7.40 – 7.36 (3H, m), 7.24 (2H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 6.86 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 5.11 – 5.05 (1H, m), 1.65 (6H, s), 1.20 (6H, d, $J = 6.3$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.6, 173.2, 159.5, 143.4, 135.5, 133.7, 132.5, 132.0, 130.6, 130.6, 129.7, 128.7, 127.6, 117.2, 79.4, 69.4, 25.4, 21.6. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

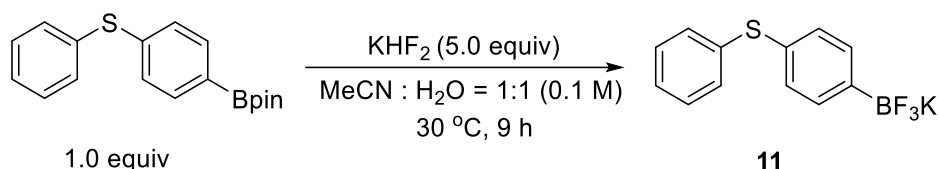


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 6-((4-iodobenzyl)oxy)-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-2-((4R,8R)-4,8, 12-trimethyltridecyl)chromane (323 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 500:1 to 20:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to obtain the product as a colorless oil (273.3 mg, 0.434 mmol, 86.9% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (2H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.36 – 7.31 (4H, m), 7.27 – 7.23 (2H, m), 7.20 – 7.19 (1H, m), 4.64 (2H, s), 2.56 (2H, t, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 2.19 (3H, s), 2.14 (3H, s), 2.10 (3H, s), 1.84 – 1.70 (2H, m), 1.54 – 1.08 (24H, m), 0.87 – 0.84 (12H, m); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.1, 148.0, 137.2, 136.1, 135.1, 131.4, 130.9, 129.2, 128.6, 127.9, 127.0, 125.9, 123.0, 117.7, 74.9, 74.2, 40.1, 39.5, 37.6, 37.5, 37.4, 32.9, 32.8, 31.4, 28.1, 24.9, 24.6, 24.0, 22.9, 22.8, 21.1, 20.8, 19.9, 19.8, 13.0, 12.1, 12.0. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

VI. Derivations of the products

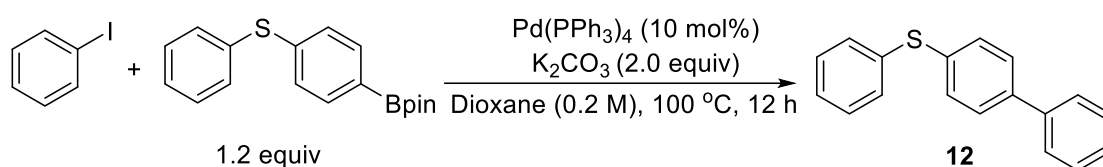


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(4-(phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (62.4 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 equiv), AgNO₃ (2.04 mg, 0.0120 mmol, 0.0600 equiv), Et₃N (20.2 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and EtOH/H₂O (0.500 mL/0.500 mL). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h in air. The aqueous solution was then washed with ethyl acetate (2.00 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 500:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate)^[12]. The product was isolated as colorless oil (34.9 mg, 0.187 mmol, 93.7% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.32 (4H, m), 7.32 – 7.27 (4H, m), 7.26 – 7.22 (2H, m); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.9, 131.1, 129.3, 127.1. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[11].

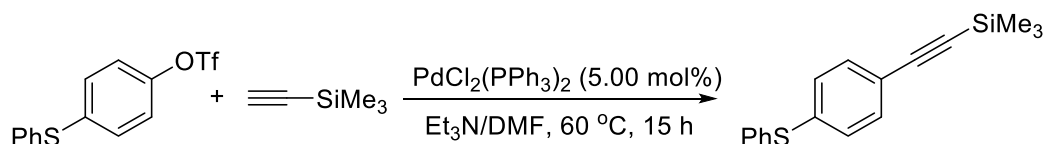


An oven-dried 25-mL Schlenk tube, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(4-(phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (62.4 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 equiv), KHF₂ (78.1 mg, 1.00 mmol, 5.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. MeCN/H₂O (1.00 mL/1.00 mL) was added under N₂. The mixture was vigorously stirred 9 h at 30 °C. Then the mixture concentrated under reduced pressure. The remaining solids were extracted with boiling acetone (5.00 mL x 2) and twice with acetone at room temperature (5.00 mL x 2). The acetone was removed under reduced pressure and the remaining solid was dissolved in a minimum amount of boiling acetone, before being treated with

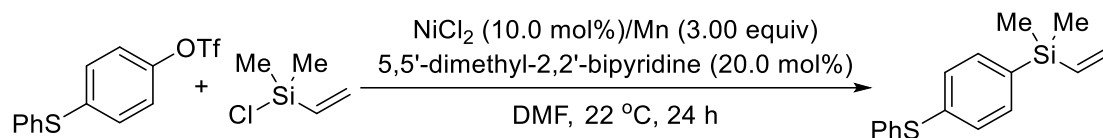
diethyl ether, which resulted in precipitation of a white solid. The solids were filtered, washed with diethyl ether and dried in vacuo to product. The product was isolated as a white solid (31.5 mg, 0.108 mmol, 53.9% yield)^[13]. **M.p.** = 193.6 – 194.3 °C; **IR** (thin film) 1592 (w), 1477 (w), 1222 (m), 1080 (w), 966 (s), 828 (s), 811 (s), 735 (s), 689 (s) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₃COCD₃) δ 7.53 (2H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.28 – 7.23 (4H, m), 7.17 – 7.13 (3H, m); **¹⁹F NMR** (471 MHz, CD₃COCD₃) δ -143.0; **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CD₃COCD₃) δ 139.8, 133.9, 133.9, 132.5, 129.9, 129.8, 129.1, 126.5; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+K]⁺ calc'd for C₁₂H₉BF₃SK₂: 329.9775, found: 329.9767.



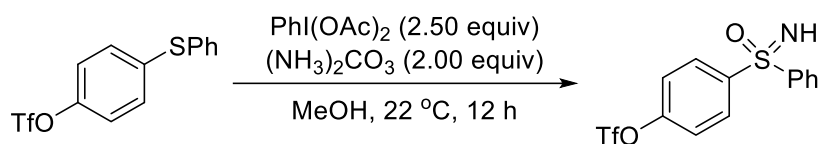
An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(4-(phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3,2-dioxaborolane (74.9 mg, 0.240 mmol, 1.20 equiv), iodobenzene (40.8 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (14.0 mg, 0.0200 mmol, 0.100 equiv), K₂CO₃ (55.3 mg, 0.400 mmol, 2.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. The dry dioxane (1.00 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 12 h at 100 °C. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with H₂O (15.0 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (15.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to provide the desired product as a white solid (38.4 mg, 0.146 mmol, 73.2% yield). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 – 7.56 (2H, m), 7.54 – 7.52 (2H, m), 7.45 – 7.36 (6H, m), 7.34 – 7.24 (4H, m); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.4, 140.1, 135.8, 135.0, 131.4, 131.3, 129.4, 129.0, 128.0, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[8].



An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-(phenylthio)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (167.0 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), and bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (II) dichloride (21.1 mg, 0.0250 mmol, 0.0500 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry Et₃N (0.500 mL) and DMF (1.50 mL) was added under N₂. After standing for 5 min at room temperature, the ethynyltrimethylsilane (58.5 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv) was added into the reaction mixture and the mixture was allowed to stir for 15 h at 60 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (15.0 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL × 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 200:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to provide the desired product as a colorless oil (95.5 mg, 0.428 mmol, 86.7% isolated yield). D-inc. >99% (determined by ¹H NMR). **IR** (thin film) 2155 (m), 1489 (m), 1249 (m), 1094 (w), 841 (s), 759 (m), 697 (m), 664 (w) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.06 (2H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 0.19 (9H, s); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.7, 132.3, 125.6, 119.4, 105.0, 94.2, 15.0 – 14.3 (m, C-D₃), 0.1; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+H]⁺ calc'd for C₁₂H₁₄D₃SSi: 224.1003, found: 224.1008.

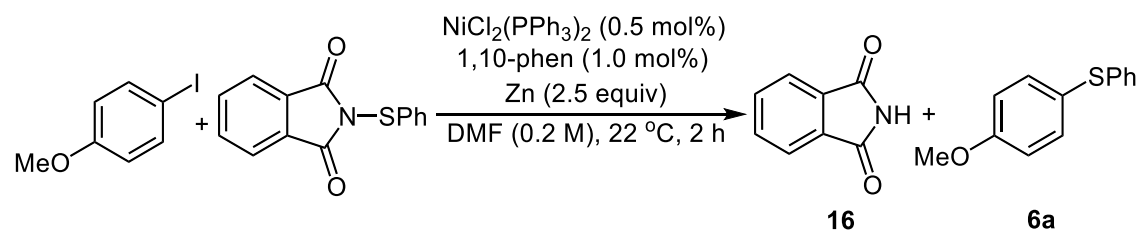


A 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-(phenylthio)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (167.0 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Mn (82.5 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂ (6.50 mg, 0.0500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv), 5,5'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (18.5 mg, 0.100 mmol, 0.0200 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) and chlorosilane (180.0 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.00 equiv) were added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 24 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL × 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 200:1 to 100:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to provide the desired product as a colorless oil (126.5 mg, 0.449 mmol, 89.7% yield). **IR** (thin film) 1577 (w), 1477 (w), 1249 (w), 1074 (w), 1007 (w), 954 (w), 818 (s), 773 (s), 738 (m), 690 (s), 619 (w) cm⁻¹; **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.41 (2H, m), 7.39 – 7.37 (2H, m), 7.32 – 7.25 (5H, m), 7.30 – 7.21 (1H, m), 6.06 – 6.02 (1H, m), 5.77 – 5.71 (1H, m), 0.32 (6H, s); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.8, 137.6, 136.8, 135.0, 134.7, 133.2, 131.9, 129.5, 129.4, 127.5, –2.8; **HRMS** (ESI⁺) [M+H]⁺ calc'd for C₁₆H₁₉SSi: 271.0971, found: 271.0968.



An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stir bar, was charged with 4-(phenylthio)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (167 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), PhI(OAc)₂ (403 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv) and ammonium carbamate (78.1 mg, 1.00 mmol, 2.00 equiv) and methanol (1.25 mL). The mixture was stirred at 22 °C for 12 h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography (Eluent: 30:1 to 1:4 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) to provide the desired product as a yellow solid (167.2 mg, 0.458 mmol, 73.0% yield). M.p. = 81.0 – 81.6 °C; IR (thin film) 1483 (w), 1418 (s), 1227 (s), 1200 (s), 1131 (s), 1092 (s), 985 (m), 890 (s), 784 (m), 757 (m), 706 (m), 688 (m), 652 (s) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.15 (2H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 8.06 – 8.03 (2H, m), 7.58 – 7.50 (3H, m), 7.38 (2H, d, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 3.18 (1H, s); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -72.7; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 143.9, 142.5, 133.2, 130.5, 129.4, 128.1, 122.2, 118.6 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 322.3 Hz); HRMS (ESI+) [M+K]⁺ calc'd for C₁₃H₁₀O₄F₃S₂NK: 403.9635, found: 403.9646.

VII. Scale up reaction and recycle of phthalimide

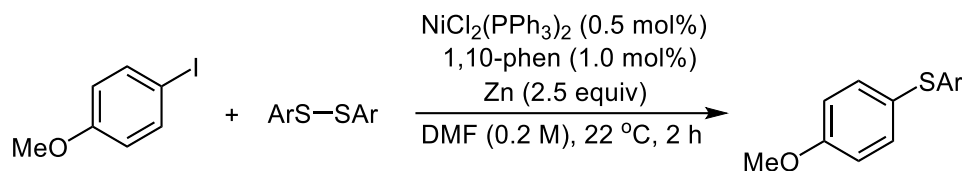


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (468 mg, 2.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (613 mg, 2.40 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (327 mg, 5.00 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (6.54 mg, 0.0100 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (3.60 mg, 0.0200 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (10.0 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for

2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (30.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (30.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (20.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (30.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation to get the mixture. The mixture is washed with petroleum ether and filtered through a Celite pad to obtain the product (4-methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfane (426.3 mg, 1.97 mmol, 98.5% yield) and the white solid (293.8 mg, 1.99 mmol, 99.9% yield) isoindoline-1,3-dione. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 – 7.87 (2H, m), 7.78 – 7.76 (2H, m); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 134.5, 132.8, 123.8. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[14].

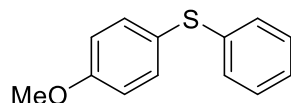
VIII. Reductive thiolation utilizing disulfides

General Method E:

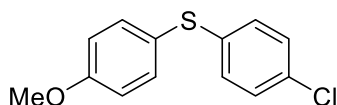


An oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenk, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (117 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), ArS-SAr (0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.0900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered.

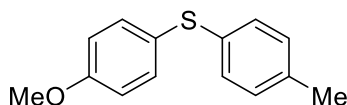
The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash silica gel chromatography.



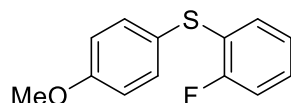
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfane 18a: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (107.9 mg, 0.499 mmol, 99.8% yield). The structure of compound **18a** was the same with compound **6a**.



(4-Chlorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 18b: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a white solid (86.4 mg, 0.345 mmol, 68.9% yield). The structure of compound **18b** was the same with compound **6f**.



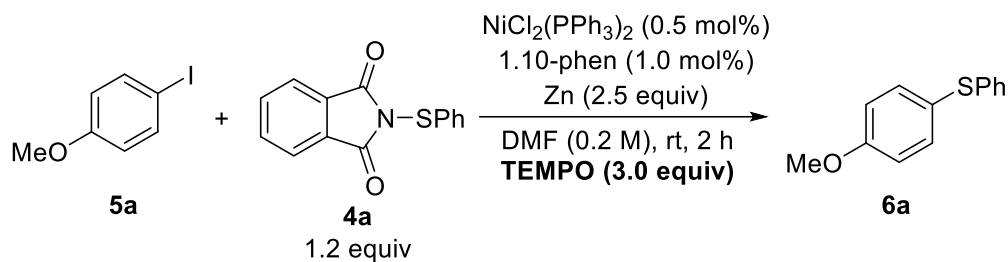
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(p-tolyl)sulfane 18c: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (96.0 mg, 0.417 mmol, 83.4% yield). The structure of compound **18c** was the same with compound **6c**.



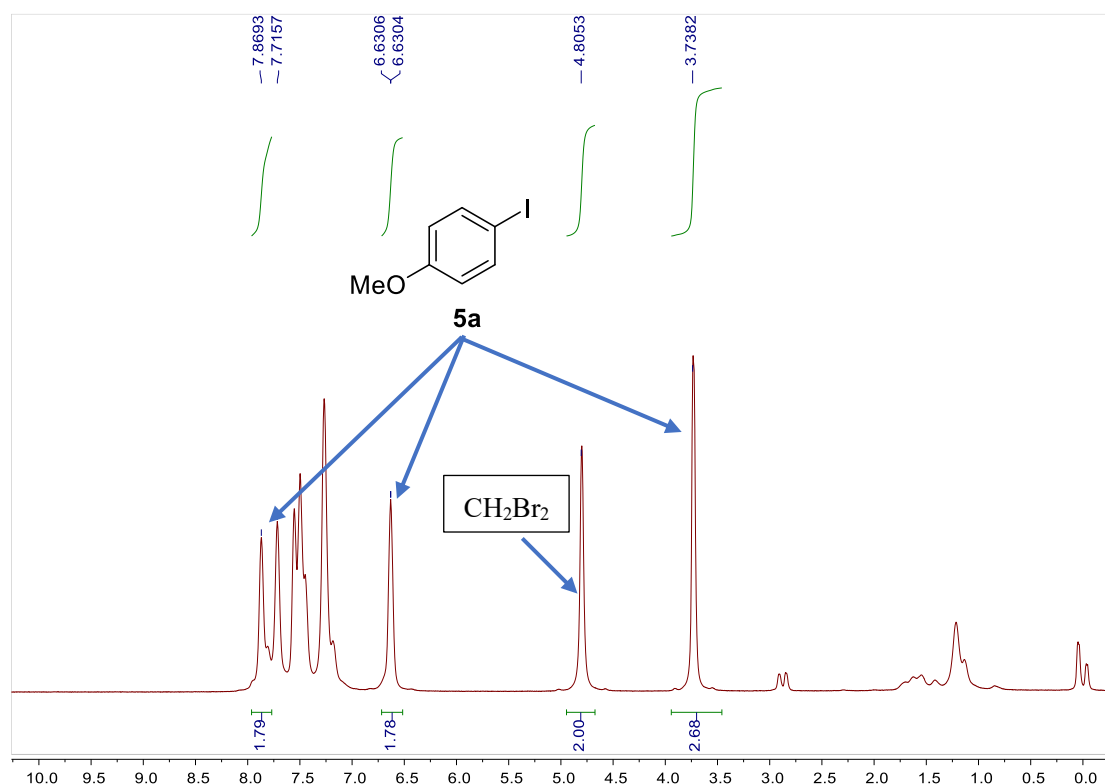
(2-Fluorophenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfane 18d: Prepared according to **General Method E** (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (101.3 mg, 0.432 mmol, 86.5% yield). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.14 – 7.11 (1H, m), 7.04 – 6.96 (3H, m), 6.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 3.80 (3H, s); $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -111; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.1, 159.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 246.0$ Hz), 135.6, 130.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.1$ Hz), 127.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.7$ Hz), 125.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 17.2$ Hz), 124.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.6$ Hz), 122.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} =$

1.4 Hz), 115.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.8$ Hz), 115.2, 55.4. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[5].

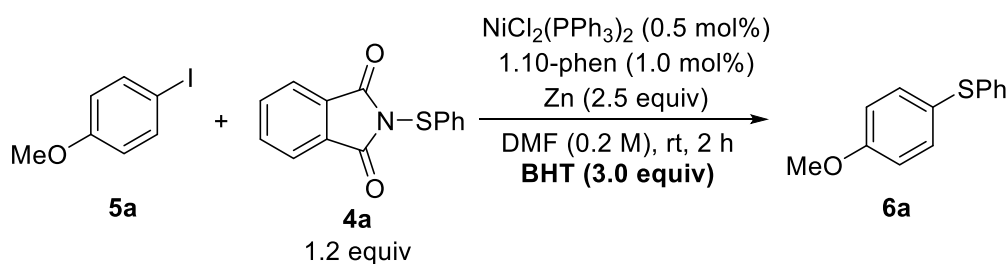
IX. Mechanistic studies



An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenk, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (117 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv), 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-piperidinyloxy (Tempo) (234 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N_2 and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 25 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na_2SO_4 and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to ^1H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH_2Br_2 (86.9 mg, 0.500 mmol).

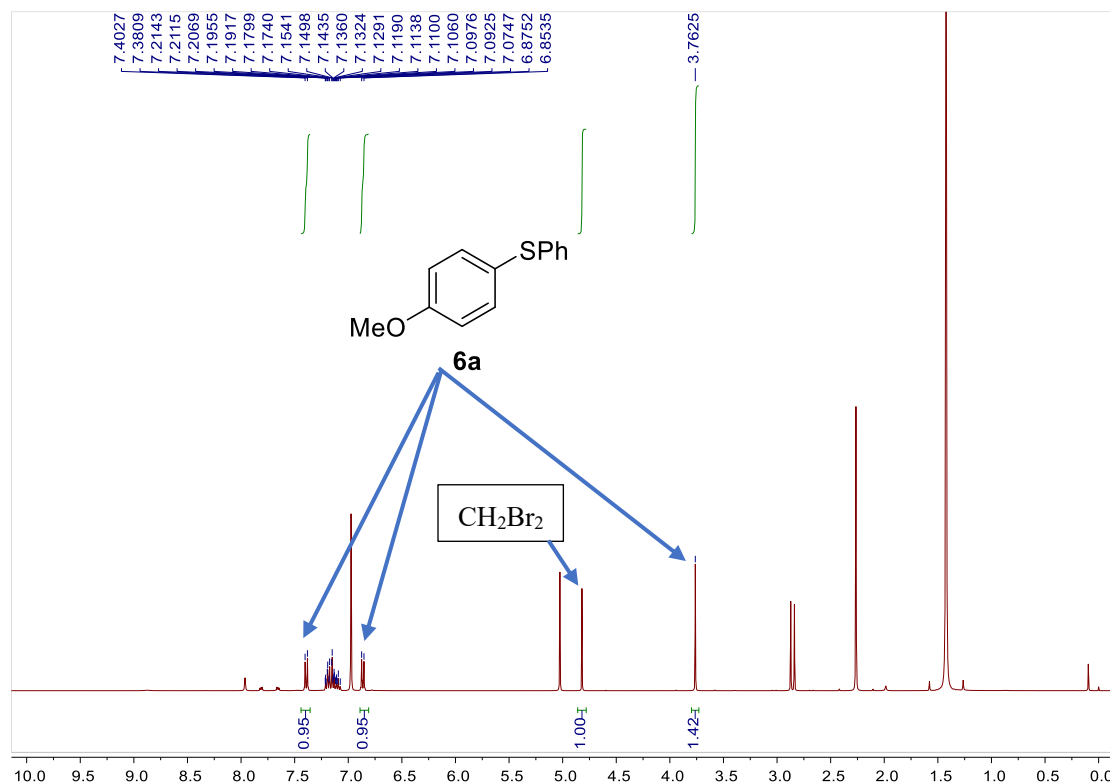


Tempo as the additive in the reductive coupling

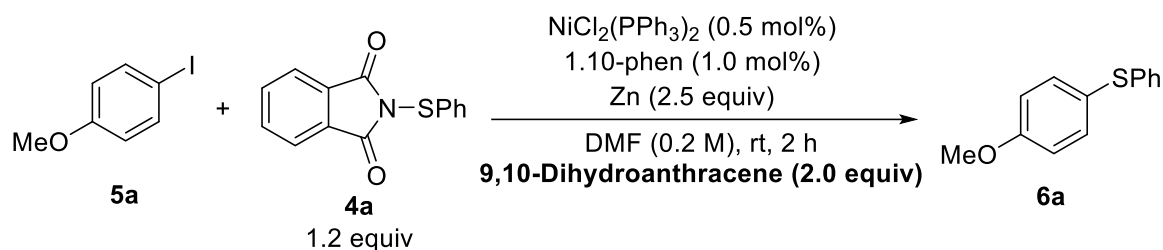


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (117 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv), 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol (BHT) (331 mg, 1.50 mmol, 3.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were

washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ (86.9 mg, 0.500 mmol).

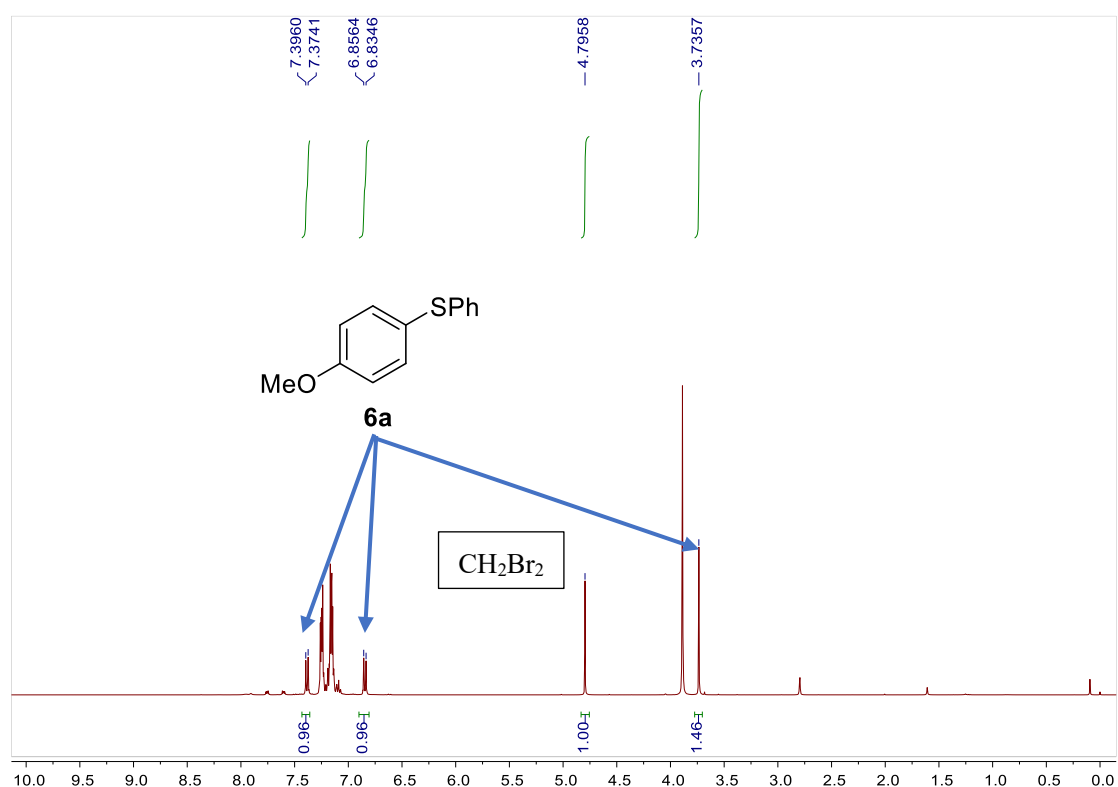


BHT as the additive in the reductive coupling

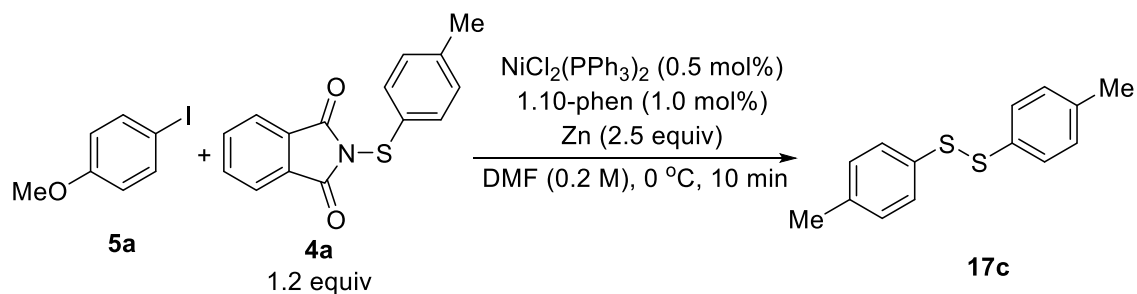


An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (117 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv), 9,10-Dihydroanthracene (180 mg, 1.00 mmol, 2.00 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for

2 h at 22 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ (86.9 mg, 0.500 mmol).

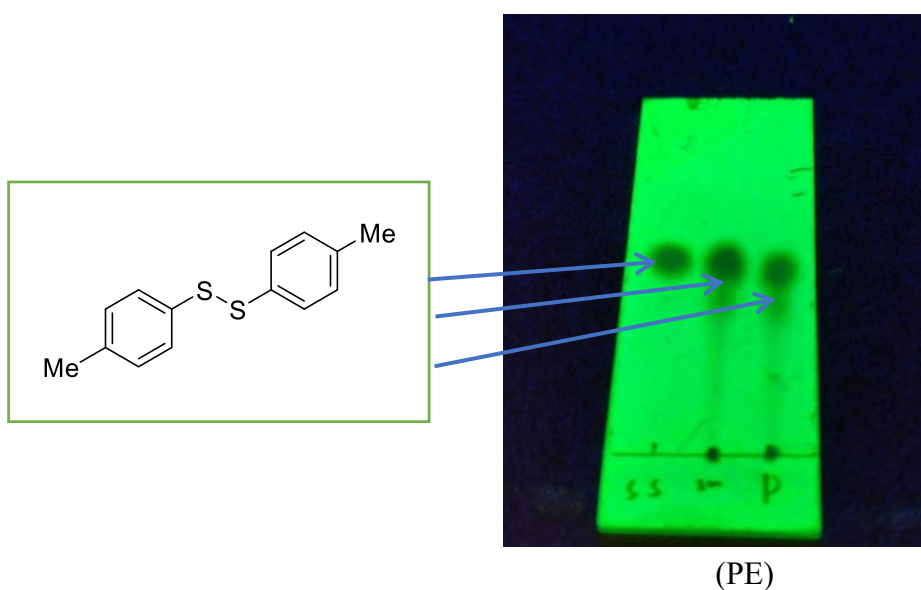


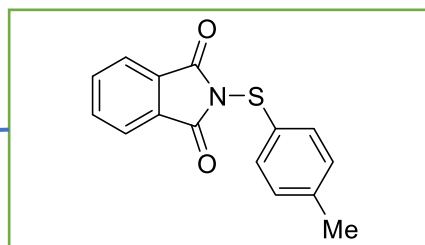
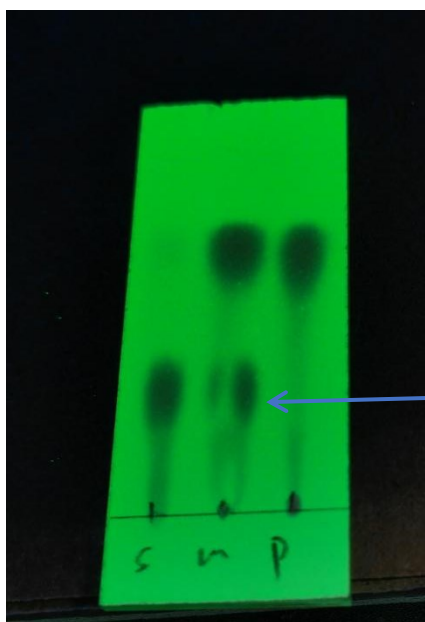
9,10-Dihydroanthracene as the additive in the reductive coupling



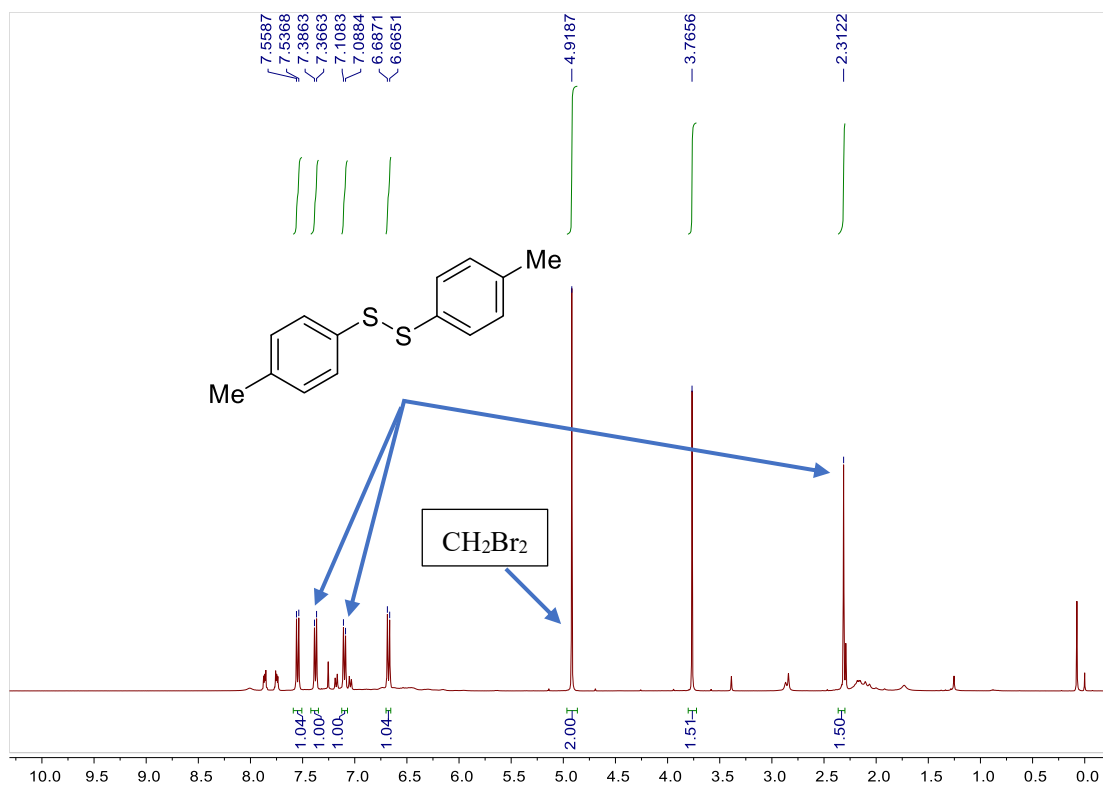
An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenk, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 4-iodoanisole (117 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), 2-(*p*-tolylthio)isoindoline-1,3-dione (171 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv),

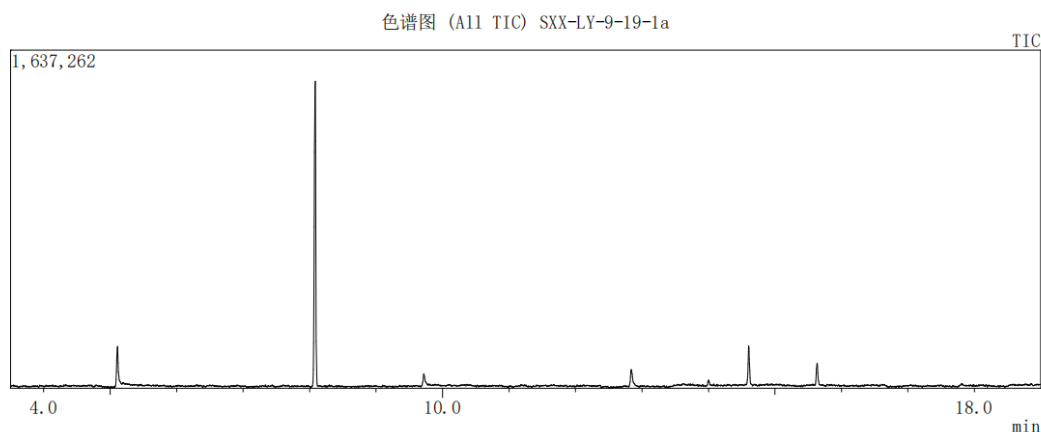
$\text{NiCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N_2 and the mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min at 0 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na_2SO_4 and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to GC-MS and ^1H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH_2Br_2 (86.9 mg, 0.500 mmol).



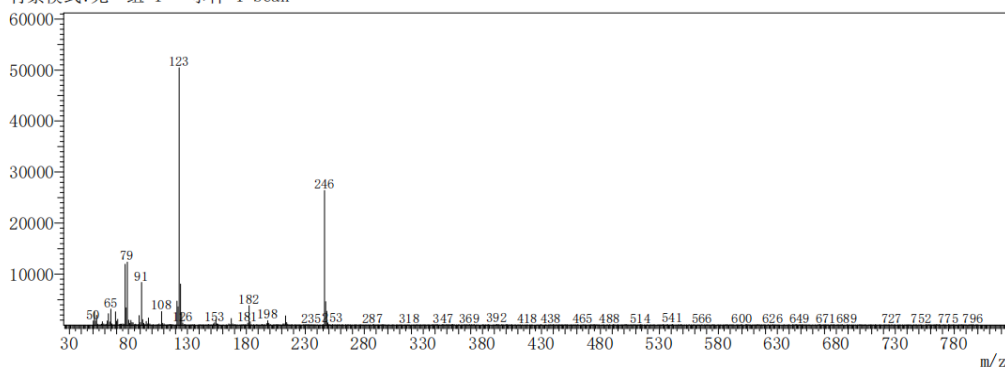


(PE:EA=5:1)

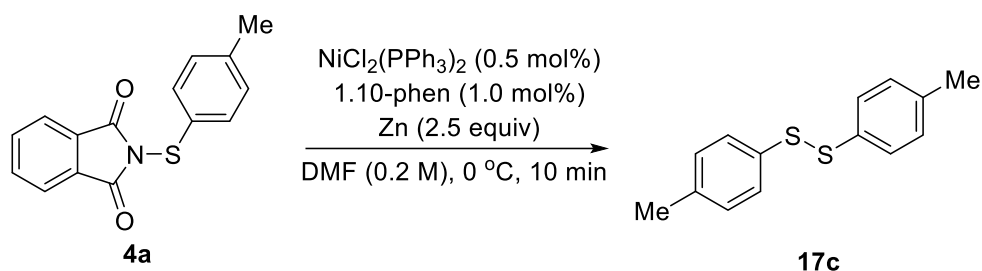




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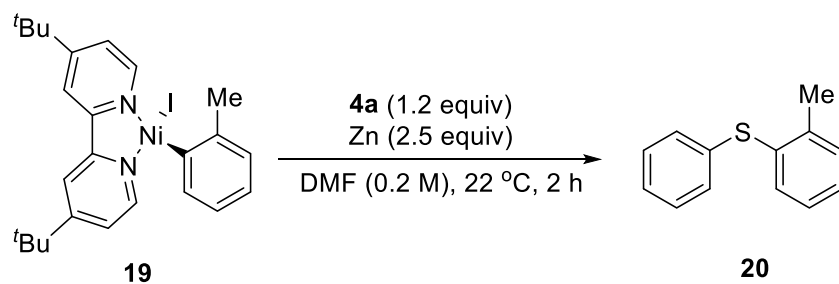
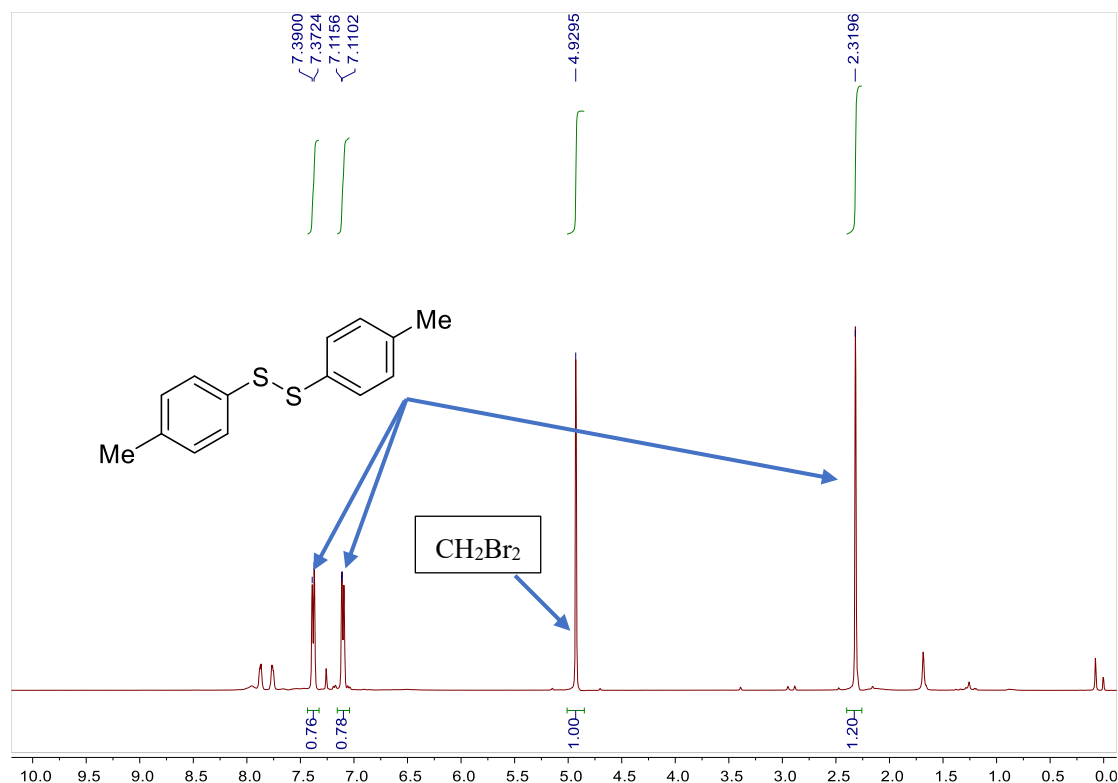


Evidence on GC-MS of 1,2-di-*p*-tolylidysulfane



An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged with 2-(*p*-tolylthio)isoindoline-1,3-dione (143 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min at 0 °C. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a

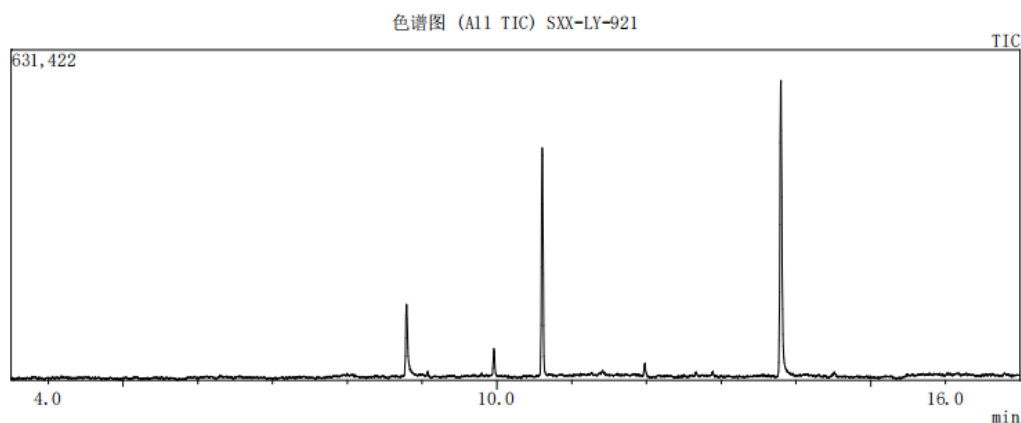
Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ (86.9 mg, 0.500 mmol).



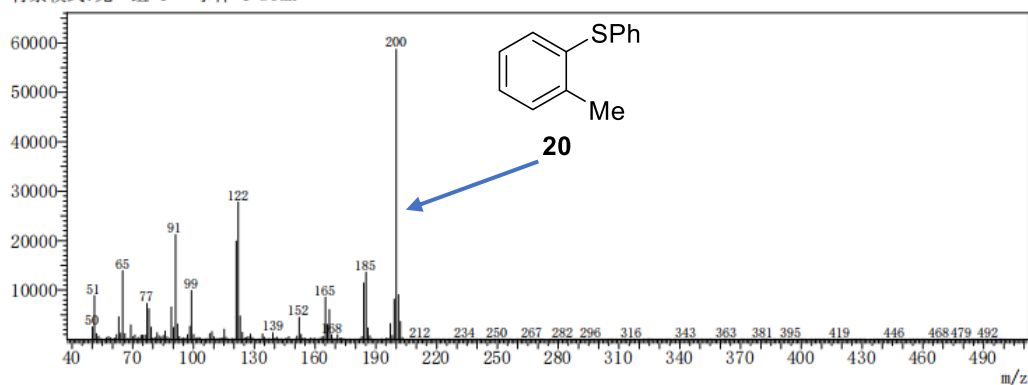
The nickel-complex **19**^[15] (54.4 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Phth-SPh (30.6 mg, 0.120 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (16.4 mg, 0.250 mmol, 2.50 equiv) and DMF (0.500 mL) were added to the reaction mixture. After that, the reaction mixture was stirred at 22 °C for 2 h. After the addition was complete, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed

with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 3), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the crude mixture was subjected to ¹H NMR spectroscopy in the presence of CH₂Br₂ (17.4 mg, 0.100 mmol) and the crude ¹H NMR yield of **20** is 57.3%.

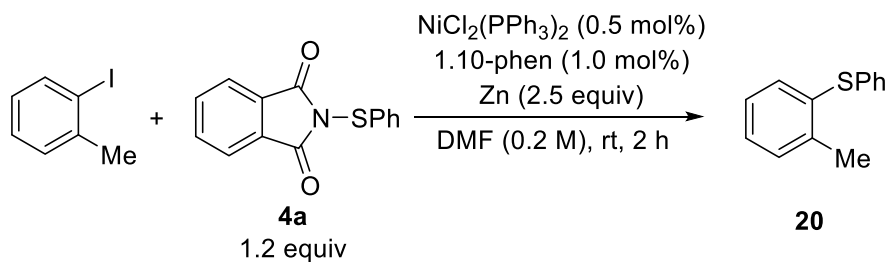
D:\SXX\SXX-LY-921_2022922_001.qgd



流路号:1 保留时间:10.615(扫描数:1424)
 质量峰:423
 原始模式:单个 10.615(1424) 基峰:200.10(58742)
 背景模式:无 组 1 - 事件 1 Scan



GC-MS of phenyl(o-tolyl)sulfane



An 120 °C oven-dried 25-mL glass schlenck, equipped with a stirring bar, was charged

with 2-iodotoluene (109 mg, 0.500 mmol, 1.00 equiv), Phth-SPh (153 mg, 0.600 mmol, 1.20 equiv), Zn (81.8 mg, 1.25 mmol, 2.50 equiv), NiCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (1.64 mg, 0.00250 mmol, 0.00500 equiv), 1,10-phenanthroline (0.900 mg, 0.00500 mmol, 0.0100 equiv). The mixture was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then dry DMF (2.50 mL) was added under N₂ and the mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at 22 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL) and ethyl acetate (15.0 mL). The mixture was filtered through a Celite pad and the organic layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL x 2). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl aqueous solution (15.0 mL x 2), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: 500:1 to 50:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) and the title compound was isolated as a colorless oil (99.3 mg, 0.496 mmol, 99.3% yield). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.23 (8H, m), 7.21 – 7.18 (1H, m), 2.44 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.1, 136.3, 133.9, 133.1, 130.7, 129.8, 129.3, 128.0, 126.9, 126.5, 20.7. Spectra were consistent with literature data^[9].

X. References

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XI. NMR spectra

