

## Supplementary Information

# Photocatalytic Shono-Type Oxidation of *N*-Alkylamides with Hydrogen Evolution

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## 1. General Methods and Materials

### General Methods

All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere using flame-dried glassware. Photoreactions were carried out with blue LEDs (HepatoChem, EvoluChem 425 PF, HCK1012-01-012, 18 W). Gas chromatography of gas phase was measured on SHIMADZU GAS CHROMATOGRAPH GC-2014s equipped with a TCD detector using argon as the carrier gas.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECZ400S/L1 ( $^1\text{H}$  at 400 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  at 101 MHz) spectrometer and JEOL JNM-ECZ500R/S1 ( $^1\text{H}$  at 500 MHz). NMR data were obtained in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  or  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Chemical shifts are recorded in  $\delta$  ppm referenced to a residual  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta = 7.26$  for  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $\delta = 77.0$  for  $^{13}\text{C}$ ) or  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  ( $\delta = 1.94$  for  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $\delta = 1.32$  for  $^{13}\text{C}$ ), respectively. IR measurements were performed on FTIR SHIMADZU Affinity-1S spectrometer fitted with a Pike Technologies MIRacle Single Reflection ATR adapter. High-resolution mass spectra were recorded on Thermo Fisher Scientific Exactive Plus (ESI). Flash column chromatography was performed with Hi-Flash™ Column Silica gel 40  $\mu\text{m}$  60 Å (Yamazen), Hi-Flash™ Premium Column Silica gel 30  $\mu\text{m}$  60 Å (Yamazen) or diol-silica gel CHROMATOREX DIOL MB100-40/75 (FUJISILYSIA).

### Materials

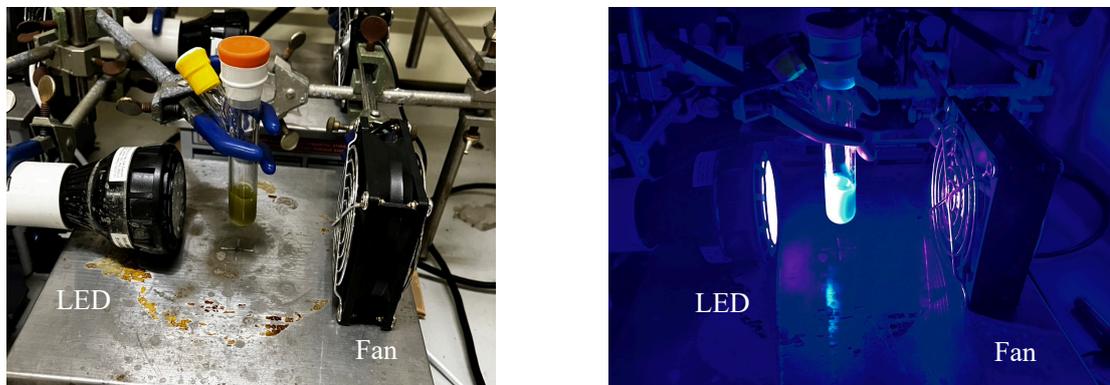
*N*-Butylbenzamide (**1a**),<sup>1</sup> *N*-butyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1b**),<sup>1</sup> *N*-butyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**1c**),<sup>1</sup> *N*-butyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**1e**),<sup>1</sup> *N*-(5-hydroxypentan-1-yl)acetamide<sup>2</sup> and methyl 2,6-bis(benzamido)hexanoate (**1o**)<sup>1</sup> were prepared according to the previously reported methods. Other chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received unless described below.

## 2. C–H Methoxylation of *N*-Alkylamides

### 2-1. A Typical Procedure



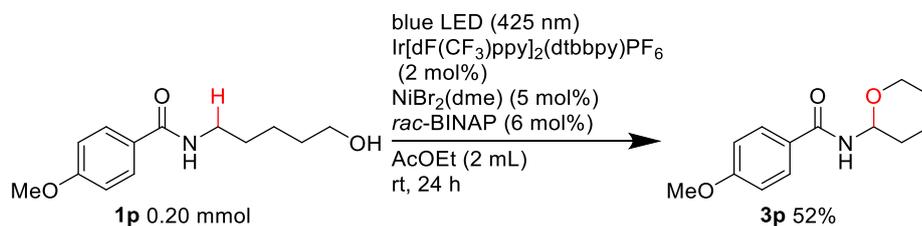
To a Schlenk tube (internal volume: 9.4 mL) containing Ir[dF(CF<sub>3</sub>)ppy]<sub>2</sub>(dtbbpy)PF<sub>6</sub> (4.7 mg, 0.004 mmol, 2 mol%), *rac*-BINAP (7.8 mg, 0.013 mmol, 6 mol%) and *N*-butylbenzamide (**1a**) (35.7 mg, 0.20 mmol) were added NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) (3.1 mg, 0.010 mmol, 5 mol%), dehydrated methanol (128.4 mg, 4.0 mmol, 20 equiv.) and dehydrated ethyl acetate (2.0 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The tube was capped with rubber septa, and the reaction mixture was stirred under blue light irradiation, with being cooled by a fan (Figure S1). After 24 hours, the reaction mixture was passed through a short column of Florisil® with ethyl acetate as an eluent. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (10% AcOEt/Hexane) to give *N*-acetyl-*N,O*-acetal **2a** (28.6 mg, 0.14 mmol, 69%) as a white solid.



**Figure S1.** Photos of the Reaction Vessel (left: light off, right: light on)

**Caution:** The present reaction evolves gaseous hydrogen, increasing the internal pressure. The reaction must be performed using a vessel equipped with a pressure-relief mechanism or a pressure-resistant vessel. In our experiment, rubber septa were used to safely vent excess pressure in case of excessive pressure buildup.

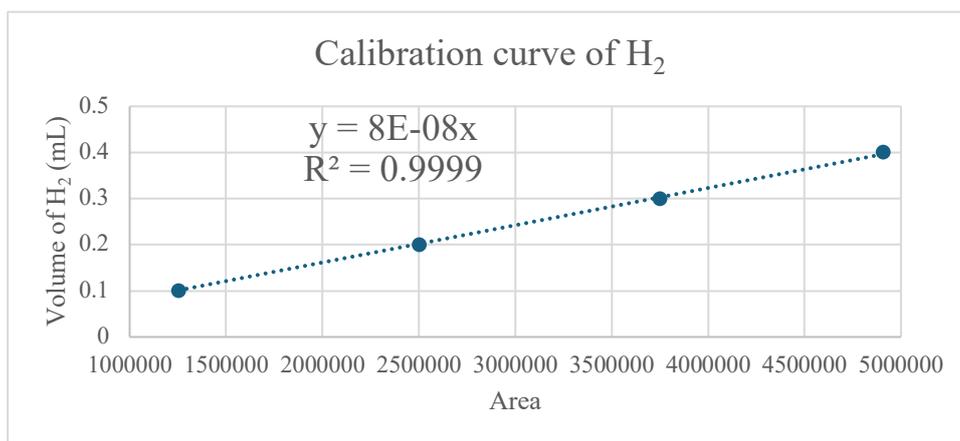
## 2-2. Intramolecular Cyclization



To a Schlenk tube (internal volume: 9.4 mL) containing Ir[dF(CF<sub>3</sub>)ppy]<sub>2</sub>(dtbbpy)PF<sub>6</sub> (4.9 mg, 0.004 mmol, 2 mol%), *rac*-BINAP (7.3 mg, 0.012 mmol, 6 mol%) and *N*-(5-hydroxypentan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1p**) (47.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) (3.2 mg, 0.010 mmol, 5 mol%) and dehydrated ethyl acetate (2.0 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The tube was capped with rubber septa, and the reaction mixture was stirred under blue light irradiation, with being cooled by a fan. After 24 hours, the septum was removed, and the reaction mixture was passed through a short column of Florisil® with ethyl acetate as an eluent. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 79 to 100% AcOEt/Hexane) to give **3p** (24.3 mg, 0.103 mmol, 52%) as a white solid.

### 2-3. Quantification of Evolved Hydrogen Gas

The amount of H<sub>2</sub> was quantified using GC equipped with a TCD detector. GC conditions are as follows: [column temp.: 60 °C | injector temp.: 100 °C | detector temp.: 200 °C | GC column: SHINWA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD., Shincarbon-ST 50-80 (length: 6.0 m, inner diameter: 3.00 mm) | Carrier gas: argon]. The calibration curve prepared using standard H<sub>2</sub> gas (purity: 99.9%, purchased from Kyoto Teisan Co. Ltd.) is shown in Figure S2.



**Figure S2.** Calibration Curve of H<sub>2</sub>

The C–H methoxylation of *N*-butylbenzamide **1a** was performed according to the typical procedure. After completion of the reaction, the gas phase in the headspace of the reaction vessel was analyzed. A gas-tight syringe was used to take a sample (0.20 mL) from the vessel, which was then injected into the GC. The uncorrected amount of H<sub>2</sub> [ $x(H_2)$ ] was calculated according to the following equation, where  $A$  is an area of peak of detected H<sub>2</sub> in the GC chromatogram,  $f$  is a factor determined by a calibration curve, and  $V$  is an internal volume of the gas phase of the reaction vessel.

$$x(H_2) = A \times f \times \frac{V}{0.20} \times \frac{1}{22.4}$$

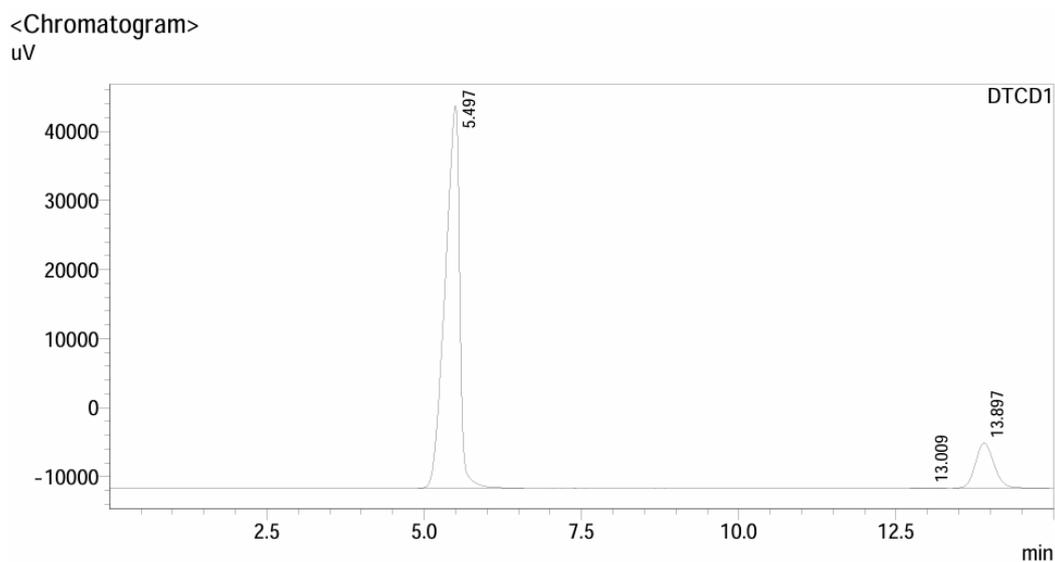
Subsequently, the calculated value is corrected to account for the increase in internal pressure. The relationship between  $x(H_2)$  and actual value  $x'(H_2)$  is represented by the following equation:

$$x(H_2) = x'(H_2) \times \frac{V}{V + 22.4 \times x'(H_2)}$$

This can be rearranged to derive the following equation:

$$x'(H_2) = x(H_2) \times \frac{V}{V - 22.4 \times x(H_2)}$$

Considering the vessel's internal volume of 9.4 mL and 2.0 mL of solvent used, we assumed internal volume of the gas phase ( $V$ ) to be 7.4 mL. The factor ( $f$ ) was  $8 \times 10^{-8}$  according to the calibration curve, and the area ( $A$ ) was 888037. Upon substituting these values into the equation, the amount of  $H_2$  was determined to be 0.18 mmol, indicating the yield was almost quantitative.



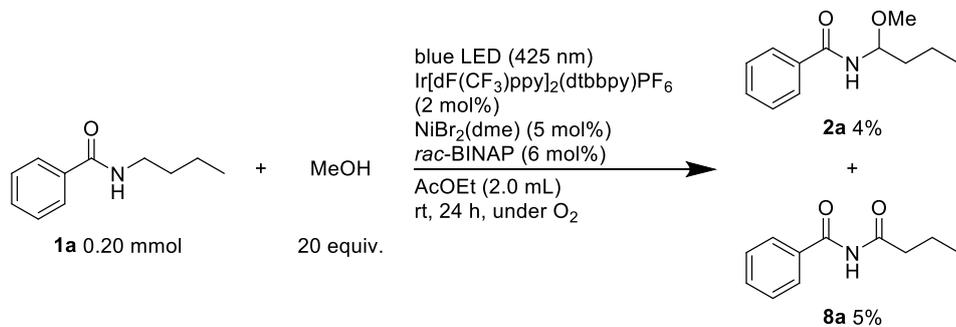
<Peak Reports>

Peak#	Retention Time	Area
1	5.497	888037
2	13.009	463
3	13.897	132754

**Figure S3.** Gas Chromatogram

## 2-4. Reaction under Oxygen Atmosphere

Reaction **1a** was performed in an oxygen atmosphere, with all other conditions kept as described in Section 2-1. A  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the reaction mixture showed the formation of **2a** (4%) and imide **8a** (5%) along with recovery of **1a** (89%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **8a** was confirmed in previous literature.<sup>3</sup>



## 2-5. Screening of Ligands

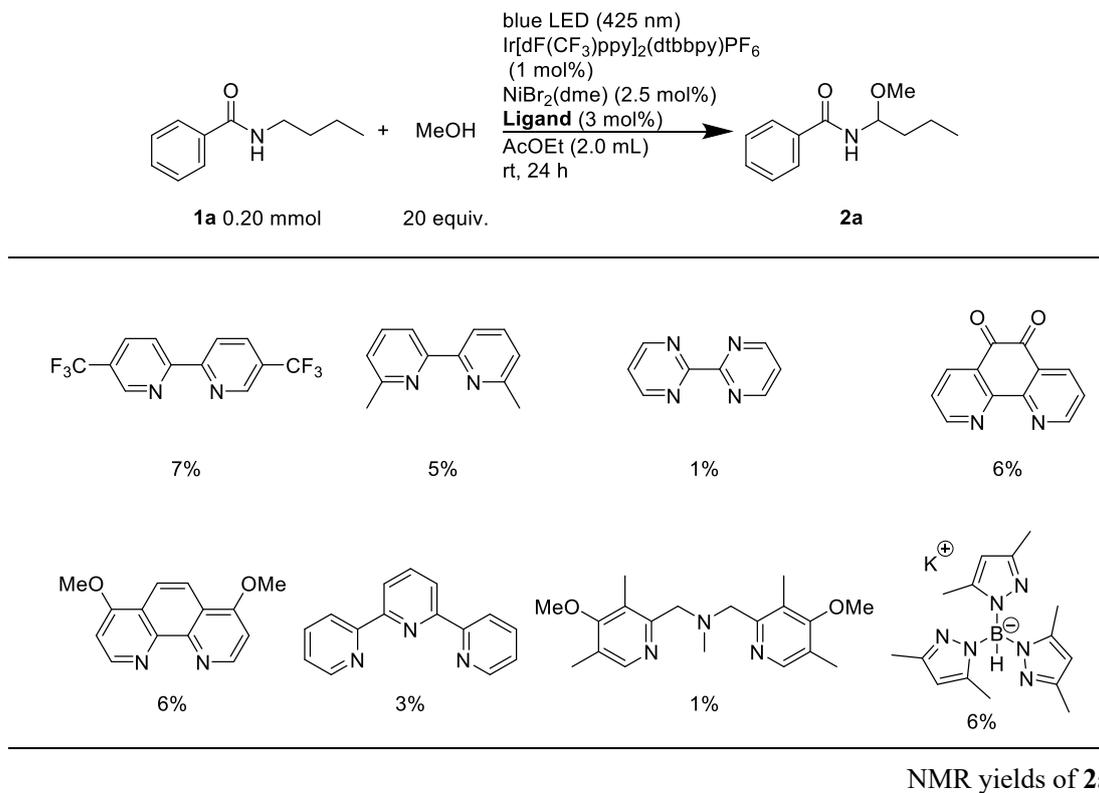
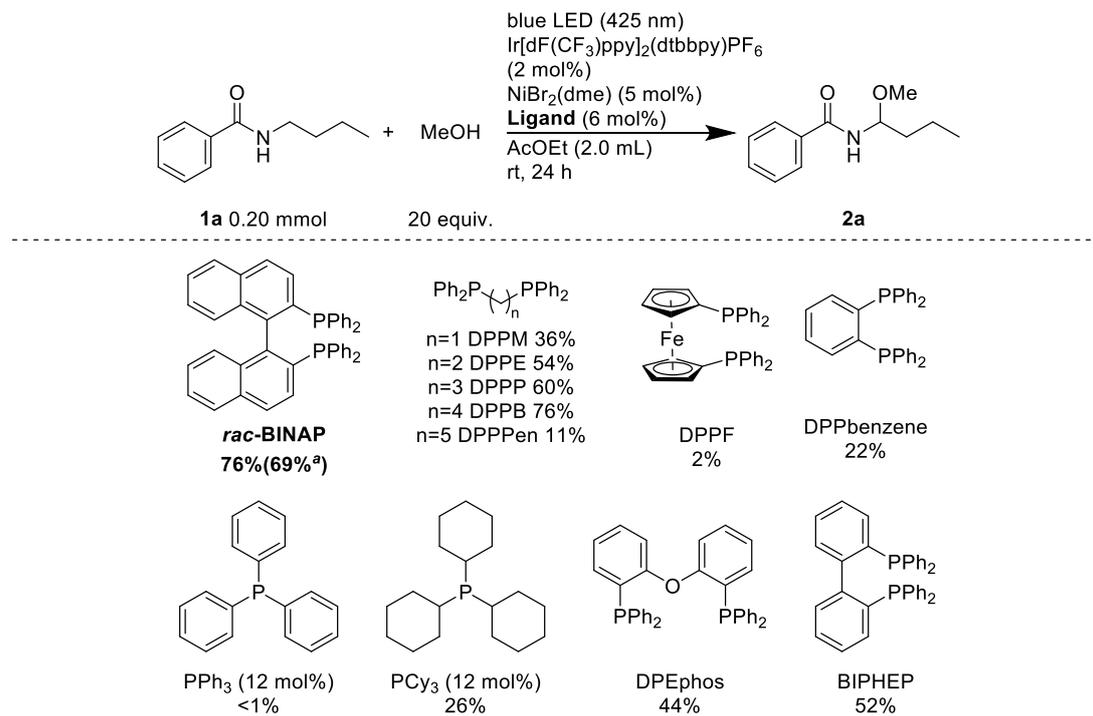


Figure S4. Screening of Heteroaryl Ligands

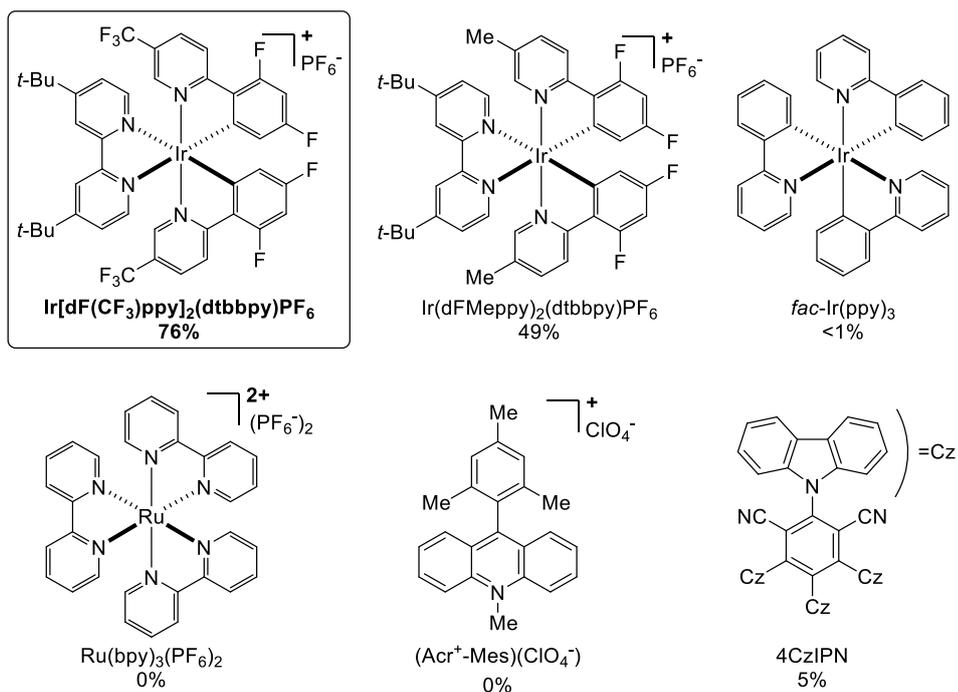
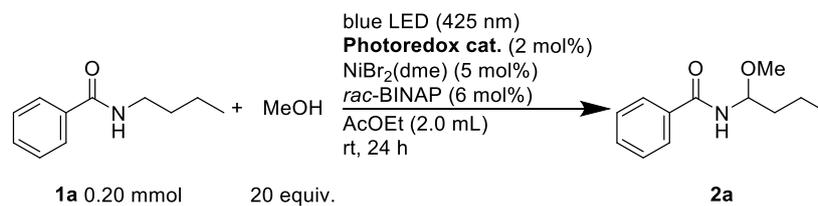


<sup>a</sup>isolated yield

NMR yields of **2a**

**Figure S5.** Screening of Phosphine Ligands

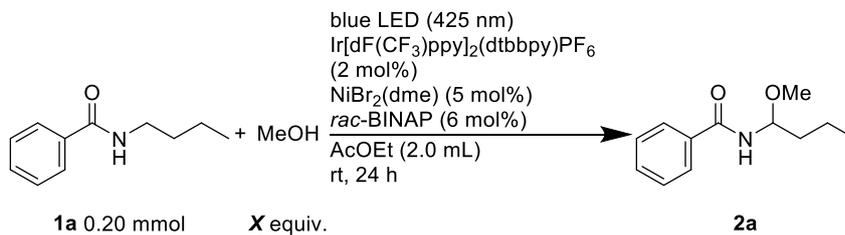
## 2-6. Screening of Photocatalysts



NMR yields of **2a**

**Figure S6.** Screening of Photocatalysts

## 2-7. Screening of the Methanol Amount



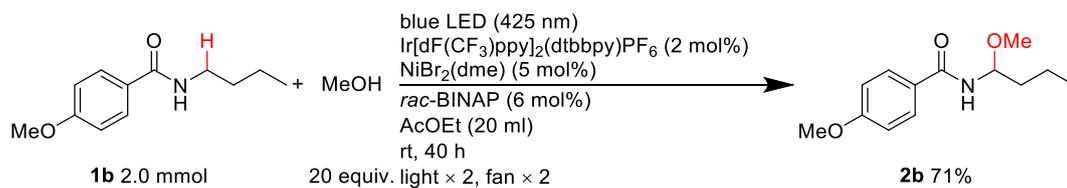
**Table S1. Screening of the Methanol Amount**

Entry	<b>X</b>	NMR yields of <b>2a</b>
1	1.0	20
2	5.0	43
3	10	40
<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>76</b>
5	30	72

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.20 mmol), Ir[dF(CF<sub>3</sub>)ppy]<sub>2</sub>(dtbbpy)PF<sub>6</sub> (0.004 mmol, 2 mol%), NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) (0.010 mmol, 5 mol%), *rac*-BINAP (0.012 mmol, 6 mol%), AcOEt (2.0 mL), 24 h, rt, blue LED irradiation (λ= 425 nm).



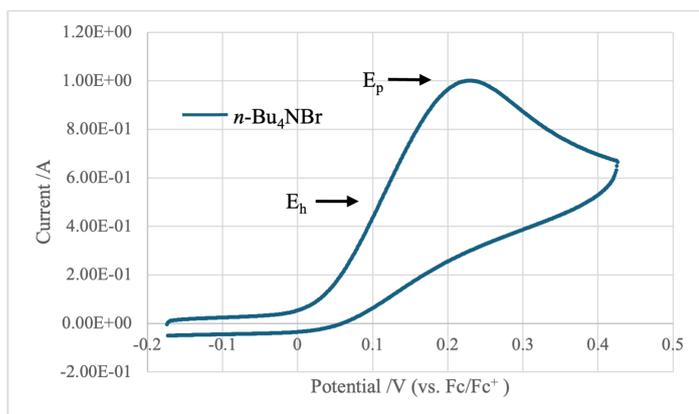
### 2-9. 2 mmol Scale Reaction



Following the typical procedure (section 2-1), the reaction was performed with *N*-butyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1b**) (441.29 mg, 2.0 mmol). A large Schrenk tube (internal volume: 94 mL) equipped with an oil bubbler was employed as the reaction vessel. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2b**) (336.1 mg, 1.42 mmol, 71%) as a white solid.

## 2-10. Cyclic Voltammogram

Oxidation potentials of *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBr, *rac*-BINAP, and NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) were measured by cyclic voltammetry. Cyclic voltammetry was measured on an ALS electrochemical analyzer model 612E by using a glassy carbon working electrode, a Pt counter electrode, and Ag/Ag<sup>+</sup> electrode. A sample (0.01 mmol) and *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub> (1 mmol) were placed in 20 mL cell and dissolved in 10 mL AcOEt (*rac*-BINAP and NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) were not dissolved completely). The solution was degassed by purging N<sub>2</sub> gas prior to the measurements. The voltammograms were taken at room temperature under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.



**Figure S7.** Cyclic voltammogram of *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBr in AcOEt.

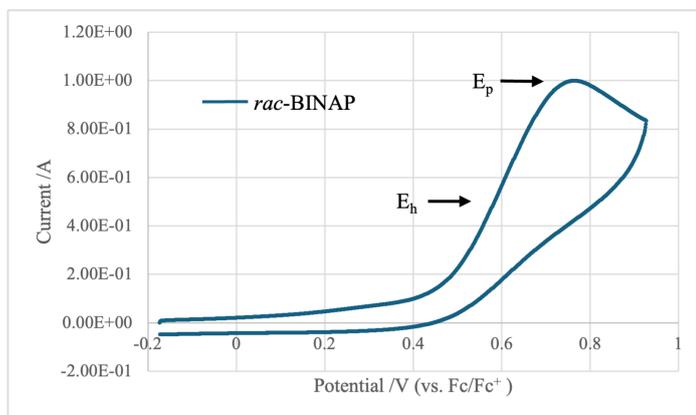
Scan rate: 0.1 V/s

$E_p = 0.23$  V (vs. Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>)

$E_{ox} \cong E_h = 0.11$  V (vs. Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>)

Ferrocene was used as the internal standard.

As an estimate of the oxidation potential, we used the half-peak potential  $E_h$  (the potential at half the current in  $E_p$ ).<sup>4</sup>



**Figure S8.** Cyclic voltammogram of *rac*-BINAP in AcOEt.

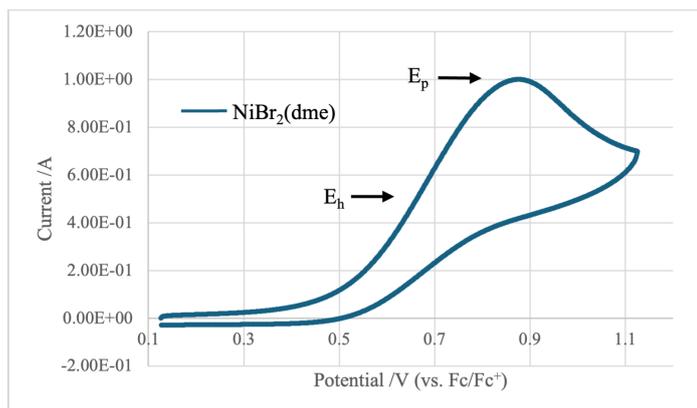
Scan rate: 0.1 V/s

$E_p = 0.76 \text{ V (vs. Fc/Fc}^+)$

$E_{ox} \cong E_h = 0.58 \text{ V (vs. Fc/Fc}^+)$

Ferrocene was used as the internal standard.

As an estimate of the oxidation potential, we used the half-peak potential  $E_h$  (the potential at half the current in  $E_p$ ).<sup>4</sup>



**Figure S9.** Cyclic voltammogram of NiBr<sub>2</sub>(dme) in AcOEt.

Scan rate: 0.1 V/s

$E_p = 0.88 \text{ V (vs. Fc/Fc}^+)$

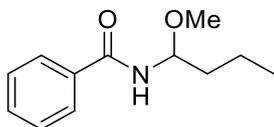
$E_{ox} \cong E_h = 0.66 \text{ V (vs. Fc/Fc}^+)$

Ferrocene was used as the internal standard.

As an estimate of the oxidation potential, we used the half-peak potential  $E_h$  (the potential at half the current in  $E_p$ ).<sup>4</sup>

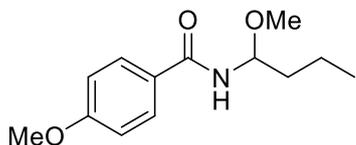
## 2-11. Spectral Data of Products

*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)benzamide (**2a**)



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.82-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.52 (tt,  $J$  = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 2H), 6.39 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dt,  $J$  = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.80-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.57 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.5, 133.9, 131.8, 128.6, 126.9, 81.4, 55.9, 37.7, 18.2, 13.8; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNaO}_2$ , 230.1152; found, 230.1150. IR (neat): 3263, 2938, 1638, 1533, 698  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

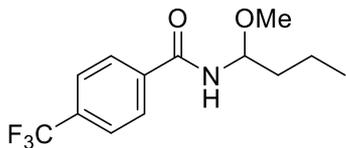
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2b**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1b**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (8% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2b**) (36.8 mg, 0.16 mmol, 78%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (dt,  $J$  = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.36 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.9, 162.4, 128.8, 126.1, 113.7, 81.4, 55.9, 55.4, 37.7, 18.2, 13.7; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 260.1257; found, 260.1252. IR (neat): 3254, 2959, 1634, 1504, 1250, 1182, 851, 689  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

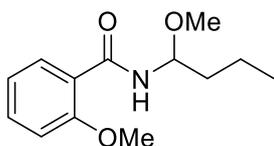
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2c**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**1c**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 0% to 13% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2c**) (31.9 mg, 0.12 mmol, 58%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (dt,  $J$  = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.80-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.58 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.36 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.3, 137.3, 133.5 (q,  $J$  = 32.6 Hz), 127.5, 125.7 (q,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz), 123.5 (q,  $J$  = 271.2 Hz), 81.8, 56.1, 37.6, 18.2, 13.7; HRMS ( $\text{ESI}^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_3\text{NNaO}_2$ , 298.1025; found, 298.1022. IR (neat): 3283, 2986, 1645, 1506, 1327, 1123, 856, 683  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

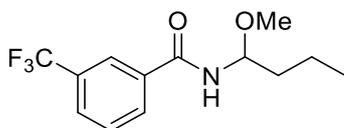
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-2-methoxybenzamide (**2d**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-2-methoxybenzamide (**1d**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 0% to 32% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-2-methoxybenzamide (**2d**) (30.2 mg, 0.13 mmol, 64%) as a pale yellow oil.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.19 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (dt,  $J$  = 9.2, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.39 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.4, 157.4, 132.9, 132.3, 121.2, 120.9, 111.2, 81.0, 55.8, 55.7, 37.6, 17.9, 13.7; HRMS ( $\text{ESI}^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 260.1257; found, 260.1255; IR (neat): 3387, 2959, 1651, 1520, 1236, 754  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2e**)

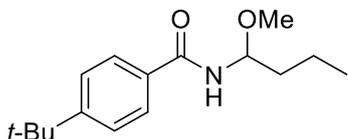


Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**1e**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 0% to 10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2e**) (29.8 mg, 0.11 mmol, 54%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dt,  $J$  = 9.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 1.81-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.59 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.36 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.1, 134.8, 131.2 (q,  $J$  = 32.6 Hz), 130.2, 129.3, 128.4 (q,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz), 124.0 (q,  $J$  = 2.9 Hz), 123.6 (q,  $J$  = 271.2 Hz), 81.8, 56.1, 37.7, 18.2, 13.7; HRMS ( $\text{ESI}^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$

calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>, 298.1025; found, 298.1022; IR (neat): 3298, 2936, 1643, 1533, 1327, 1123, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

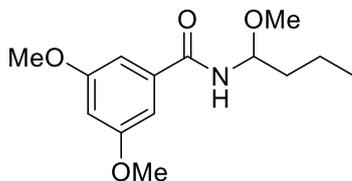
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-*tert*-butylbenzamide (**2f**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-4-*tert*-butylbenzamide (**1f**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-4-*tert*-butylbenzamide (**2f**) (36.9 mg, 0.14 mmol, 70%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.56 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.39 (m, 2H), 1.33 (s, 9H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 167.3, 155.4, 131.0, 126.8, 125.5, 81.3, 55.9, 37.7, 34.9, 31.1, 18.2, 13.8; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>, 286.1778; found, 286.1777. IR (neat): 3306, 2959, 1641, 1499, 851 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

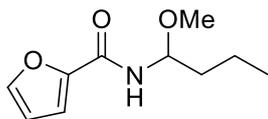
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-3,5-dimethoxybenzamide (**2g**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-3,5-dimethoxybenzamide (**1g**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 8% to 10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-methoxybutan-1-yl)-3,5-dimethoxybenzamide (**2g**) (34.5 mg, 0.13 mmol, 65%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 6.91 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.32 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.34 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 167.3, 160.9, 136.2, 104.9, 103.7, 81.5, 55.9, 55.5, 37.6, 18.2, 13.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>, 290.1363; found, 290.1360. IR (neat): 3256, 2928, 1601, 1533, 1159, 856 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

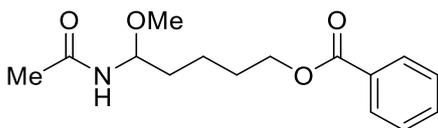
*N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-2-furamide (**2h**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-butyl-2-furamide (**1h**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-Methoxybutan-1-yl)-2-furamide (**2h**) (13.9 mg, 0.070 mmol, 35%) as a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.46 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (dt, *J* = 10.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.56 (m, 1H), 1.50-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 158.4, 147.4, 144.1, 115.0, 112.3, 80.6, 55.9, 37.7, 18.1, 13.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>, 220.0944; found, 220.0946; IR (neat): 3298, 2959, 1651, 1514, 1074, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

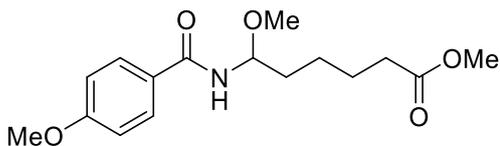
#### 5-Acetamido-5-methoxypentan-1-yl benzoate (**2i**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using 5-acetamidopentan-1-yl benzoate (**2i**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 90% to 100% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford 5-acetamido-5-methoxypentan-1-yl benzoate (**2i**) (24.7 mg, 0.088 mmol, 44%) as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.04-8.01 (m, 2H), 7.55 (tt, *J* = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 2H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.36-4.26 (m, 2H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.86-1.67 (m, 3H), 1.64-1.44 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 170.4, 166.6, 132.9, 130.2, 129.5, 128.3, 80.8, 64.5, 55.8, 35.0, 28.3, 23.4, 21.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>, 302.1363; found, 302.1360; IR (neat): 3321, 2953, 1717, 1653, 1271, 708 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

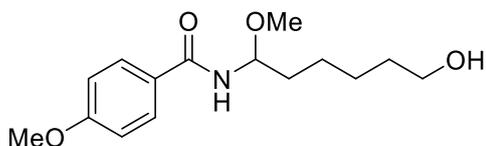
#### Methyl 6-methoxy-6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexanoate (**2j'**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using 6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexanoic acid (**1j**) as a substrate. After irradiation of blue light, saturated

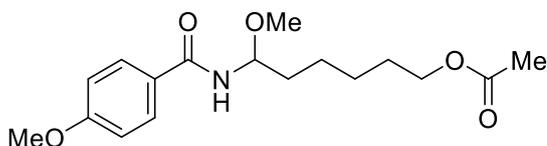
NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq. (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was then extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, followed by addition of methanol (6.0 mL), diethyl ether (6.0 mL) and trimethylsilyldiazomethane (0.6 M in *n*-hexane) (0.66 mL, 0.40 mmol, 2.0 equiv. to **1j**). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min, followed by adding acetic acid (0.5 mL). After removal solvent under reduced pressure, the crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 30% to 40% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford methyl 6-methoxy-6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexanoate (**2j'**) (35.2 mg, 0.11 mmol, 57%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.76 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.80-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.59 (m, 3H), 1.52-1.37 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 173.9, 166.9, 162.4, 128.8, 126.0, 113.7, 81.4, 55.9, 55.4, 51.5, 35.3, 33.8, 24.5, 24.4; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>, 332.1468; found, 332.1465; IR (neat): 3308, 2949, 1639, 1169, 837, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

*N*-(6-Hydroxy-1-methoxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2k**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-(6-hydroxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1k**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with diol silica gel (60% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(6-hydroxy-1-methoxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2k**) (21.7 mg, 0.077 mmol, 39%) as a pale yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = 7.80 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (dt, *J* = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.46 (dt, *J* = 6.4, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.80-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.59 (m, 1H), 1.50-1.29 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = 167.8, 163.3, 130.1, 127.4, 114.5, 82.4, 62.4, 56.1, 55.5, 35.7, 33.4, 26.3, 25.7; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>, 304.1519; found, 304.1518; IR (neat): 3300, 2934, 1638, 1605, 1501, 1252, 1028, 843 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

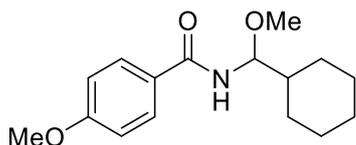
6-Methoxy-6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexan-1-yl acetate (**2l**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using 6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexan-1-yl acetate (**1l**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 35% to 50% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford 6-methoxy-6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexan-1-yl acetate (**2l**) (40.8 mg, 0.13 mmol, 63%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.76 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.31 (d,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (dt,  $J$  = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.80-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.57 (m, 3H), 1.52-1.32 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 171.2, 166.9, 162.4, 128.8, 126.0, 113.8, 81.4, 64.3, 55.9, 55.4, 35.6, 28.4, 25.6, 24.5, 20.9; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NNaO}_5$ , 346.1625; found, 346.1621; IR (neat): 3335, 2940, 1736, 1605, 1501, 1248, 845  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

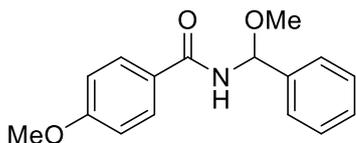
*N*-(Cyclohexyl(methoxy)methyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2m**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-(cyclohexylmethyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1m**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 0% to 10% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(cyclohexyl(methoxy)methyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**2m**) (19.4 mg, 0.070 mmol, 35%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (d,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dd,  $J$  = 9.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.89 (d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 1.76-1.73 (m, 3H), 1.67-1.53 (m, 2H), 1.28-1.05 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.1, 162.4, 128.8, 126.2, 113.8, 85.1, 56.1, 55.4, 42.9, 28.3, 27.9, 26.3, 25.8, 25.7; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 300.1570; found, 300.1567; IR (neat): 3273, 2916, 2849, 1630, 1252, 1032, 841  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

4-Methoxy-*N*-(methoxy(phenyl)methyl)benzamide (**2n**)

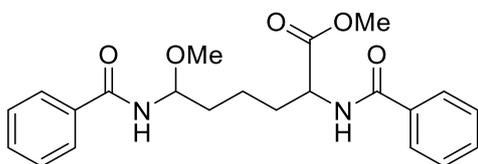


Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using *N*-benzyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1n**) as a substrate. After irradiation of blue light, saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  aq. (10

mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane ( $3 \times 10$  mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 0% to 25% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford methyl 4-methoxy-*N*-(methoxy(phenyl)methyl)benzamide (**2n**) (29.6 mg, 0.11 mmol, 55%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 7.82$  (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.31 (m, 4H), 6.97 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.29 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 167.7$ , 163.5, 141.0, 130.3, 129.3, 129.1, 127.2, 127.1, 114.6, 82.9, 56.2, 56.1; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 294.1101; found, 294.1091; IR (neat): 3262, 2940, 1634, 1256, 1074, 845, 683  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

#### Methyl 2,6-bis(benzamido)-6-methoxyhexanoate (**2o**)



Following the typical procedure, the reaction was performed using methyl 2,6-bis(benzamido)hexanoate (**1o**) as a substrate. The crude mixture was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (gradient from 40% to 45% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford methyl 2,6-bis(benzamido)-6-methoxyhexanoate (**2o**) (40.5 mg, 0.10 mmol, 51%) as a white solid.

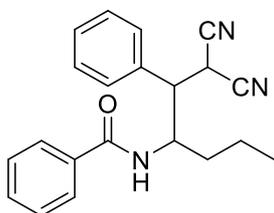
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ): (diastereomer mixture, d.r. = 52 : 48)  $\delta = 7.82$ -7.77 (m, major 4H, minor 4H), 7.56-7.51 (m, major 2H, minor 2H), 7.48-7.41 (m, major 4H, minor 4H), 7.24-7.21 (m, major 1H, minor 1H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, major 1H, minor 1H), 5.28-5.23 (m, major 1H, minor 1H), 4.57-4.53 (m, major 1H, minor 1H), 3.674 (s, major 3H), 3.665 (s, minor, 3H), 3.30 (s, major 3H), 3.29 (s, minor 3H), 1.98-1.64 (m, major 4H, minor 4H), 1.55-1.46 (m, major 2H, minor 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta = 173.8$ , 173.7, 168.6, 168.4, 168.2, 168.1, 135.25, 135.18, 134.95, 134.89, 132.5, 129.41, 129.374, 129.368, 128.233, 128.228, 128.18, 128.17, 82.33, 82.31, 55.69, 55.68, 53.8, 53.7, 52.73, 52.70, 35.1, 35.0, 31.7, 31.6, 22.22, 22.17, Four peaks of the phenyl carbons overlapped at 132.5 ppm and two peaks of the phenyl carbons overlapped at 129.4 ppm, determined by quantitative  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_5$ , 421.1734; found, 421.1726; IR (neat): 3312, 2951, 1638, 1522, 712  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

#### 4-Methoxy-*N*-(tetrahydropyran-2-yl)benzamide (**3p**)



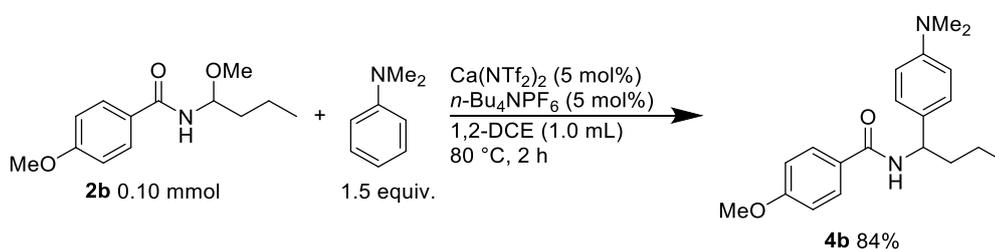
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.75 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (ddd,  $J$  = 9.8, 9.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.04-3.98 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.68-3.62 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.44 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.2, 162.3, 128.9, 126.2, 113.7, 78.3, 67.5, 55.3, 31.7, 25.1, 22.9; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 258.1101; found, 258.1102; IR (neat): 3321, 2995, 1609  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

*N*-(1,1-dicyano-2-phenylhexan-3-yl)benzamide (**7a**)



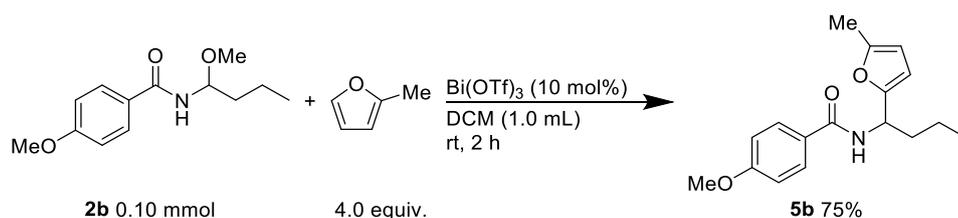
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): (diastereomer mixture, d.r. = 44 : 56)  $\delta$  = 7.84-7.82 (m, minor, 2H), 7.71-7.68 (m, major, 2H), 7.57-7.53 (m, major 1H, minor 1H), 7.48-7.39 (m, major 5H, minor 7H), 7.22-7.18 (m, major 2H), 6.46 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, minor 1H), 5.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, major 1H), 4.77-4.70 (m, major 1H), 4.64-4.56 (m, minor 1H), 4.53 (d,  $J$  = 10.8 Hz, major 1H), 4.36 (d,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, minor 1H), 3.53 (dd,  $J$  = 10.8, 2.4 Hz, major 1H), 3.47 (dd,  $J$  = 10.4, 6.4 Hz, minor 1H), 1.63-1.20 (m, major 4H, minor 4H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, major 3H), 0.80 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, minor 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): (diastereomeric mixture, d.r. = 44 : 56)  $\delta$  = 168.6, 168.3, 135.4, 133.4, 133.2, 133.1, 132.2, 132.1, 129.5, 129.2, 128.84, 128.77, 128.7, 128.4, 127.1, 126.80, 113.0, 112.8, 112.1, 111.9, 52.5, 51.7, 51.6, 50.4, 35.8, 34.5, 27.4, 26.8, 19.4, 19.1, 13.6, 13.5. Three peaks of the phenyl carbons overlapped at 129.2 ppm, determined by quantitative  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{NaO}$ , 354.1577; found, 354.1573; IR (neat): 3250, 2963, 2897, 1636, 698  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

### 3. Synthetic Application of *N*-Acyl-*N,O*-Acetals<sup>5,6,7</sup>



Calcium(II) bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)imide (3.2 mg, 0.005 mmol, 5 mol%), tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (2.1 mg, 0.005 mmol, 5 mol%) and **2b** (23.9 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1 equiv.) were placed in a 5 mL Schlenk tube. The tube was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the tube, *N,N*-dimethylaniline (18.9  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and dehydrated 1,2-dichloroethane (1.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (25% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(1-(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)butan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**4b**) (27.4 g, 0.084 mmol, 84%) as a white solid.

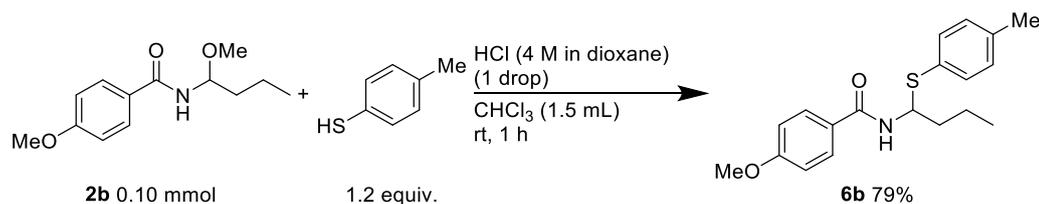
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dt,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 6H), 1.98-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.26 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.0, 161.9, 149.8, 130.1, 128.6, 127.5, 127.1, 113.5, 112.6, 55.3, 53.0, 40.6, 38.1, 19.6, 13.9; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2$ , 349.1886; found, 349.1879; IR (neat): 3296, 2930, 2365, 1632, 1252, 843, 812  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



Bismuth(III) trifluoromethanesulfonate (6.6 mg, 0.010 mmol, 10 mol%) and **2b** (24.4 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1 equiv.) were placed in a 5 mL Schlenk tube. The tube was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the tube, 2-methylfuran (36.1  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.40 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) and dehydrated dichloromethane (1.0 mL) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 2 hours, the septum was removed, and the reaction mixture was passed through a short column of Celite with dichloromethane as an eluent. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 12% to 30% AcOEt/Hexane) to give 4-methoxy-*N*-(1-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)butan-

1-yl)benzamide (**5b**) (21.6 mg, 0.075 mmol, 75%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.75 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (d,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (dq,  $J$  = 3.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (dt,  $J$  = 8.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.27 (d,  $J$  = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 1.93-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.9, 162.1, 152.7, 151.4, 128.7, 126.8, 113.6, 107.0, 106.0, 55.4, 47.4, 36.4, 19.3, 13.8, 13.6; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 310.1414; found, 310.1408; IR (neat): 3281, 2957, 2359, 1624, 1022, 845, 781  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

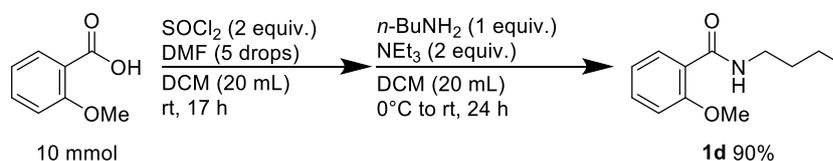


Amide **2b** (24.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and *p*-toluenethiol (15.3 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were dissolved using dehydrated chloroform (1.5 mL) in a 4 mL vial under nitrogen atmosphere. Hydrogen chloride (4 M in 1,4-dioxane) (1 drop) was then added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 8 to 27% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford 4-methoxy-*N*-(1-(*p*-tolylthio)butan-1-yl)benzamide (**6b**) (26.0 g, 0.079 mmol, 79%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.66 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (ddd,  $J$  = 9.6, 8.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.86-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.45 (ddq,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.6, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.6, 163.2, 138.9, 134.8, 130.48, 130.47, 129.9, 127.4, 114.5, 58.4, 56.1, 38.3, 21.1, 20.5, 13.8; HRMS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{NNaO}_2\text{S}$ , 352.1342; found, 353.1335; IR (neat): 3292, 2957, 1628, 1501, 1256, 1179, 810  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

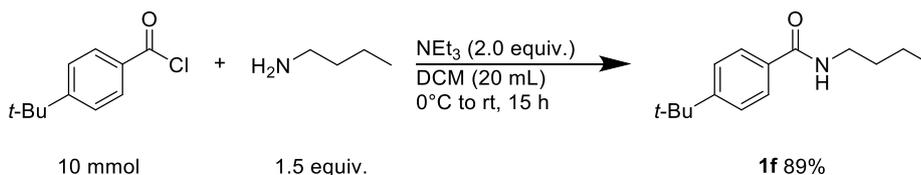
#### 4. Preparation of Substrates

##### *N*-Butyl-2-methoxybenzamide (**1d**)



*o*-Anisic acid (1.51 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was placed in a 50 mL two-necked flask. The flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask dehydrated dichloromethane (20 mL), thionyl chloride (1.45 mL, 20 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and dimethylformamide (5 drops) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 17 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. To the residue was added dehydrated dichloromethane (20 mL), *n*-butylamine (713 mg, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and triethylamine (2.77 mL, 20 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) at 0 °C under argon atmosphere. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature. After 24 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq. (3 × 40 mL) and brine (40 mL), and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 10 to 31% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-butyl-2-methoxybenzamide (**1d**) (1.87 g, 8.98 mmol, 90%) as a brown oil. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>8</sup>

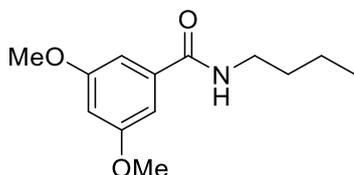
##### *N*-Butyl-4-*tert*-butylbenzamide (**1f**) (Procedure A)



A 50 mL two-necked flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask *n*-butylamine (1.48 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), triethylamine (2.77 mL, 20 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) and dehydrated dichloromethane (20 mL) were added. Then, 4-*tert*-butylbenzoyl chloride (1.97 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was slowly added to the reaction mixture at 0°C. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature. After 15 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq. (3 × 40 mL) and brine (40 mL), and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 5 to 26% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-butyl-4-*tert*-

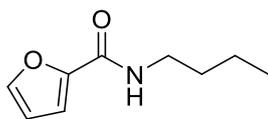
butylbenzamide (**1f**) (2.07 g, 8.87 mmol, 89%) as a white solid. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>9</sup>

*N*-Butyl-3,5-dimethoxybenzamide (**1g**)



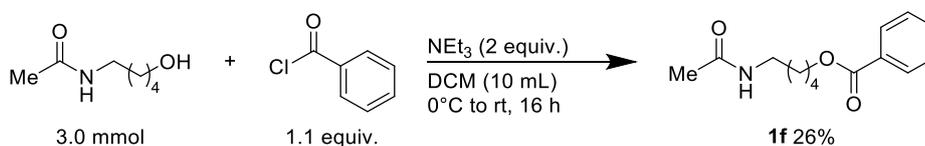
Following procedure A, 3,5-dimethoxybenzoyl chloride (2.03 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and *n*-butylamine (1.48 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were used. The resulting crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 13 to 34% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-butyl-3,5-dimethoxybenzamide (**1g**) (2.05 g, 8.64 mmol, 86%) as a white solid. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>10</sup>

*N*-Butyl-2-furamide (**1h**)



Following procedure A, 2-furoyl chloride (395 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and *n*-butylamine (0.44 mL, 4.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were used. The resulting crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (17% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-butyl-2-furamide (**1g**) (392 mg, 2.34 mmol, 78%) as a pale yellow oil. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>11</sup>

5-(Acetamido)pentan-1-yl benzoate (**1i**)

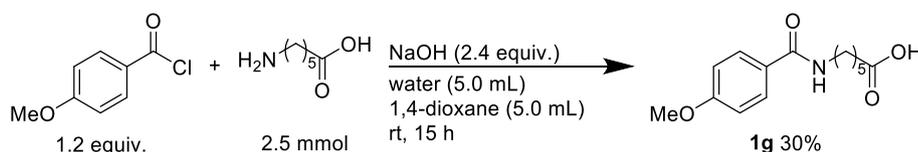


*N*-(5-hydroxypentan-1-yl)acetamide (430 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was placed in a 50 mL two-necked flask. The flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask dehydrated dichloromethane (20 mL) and triethylamine (0.83 mL, 6.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) were added at 0 °C. Benzoyl chloride (0.38 mL, 3.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was slowly added to the reaction mixture at 0°C. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature. After 16 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq. (3 × 40 mL) and brine (40

mL), and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 31 to 90% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford 5-(acetamido)pentan-1-yl benzoate (**1i**) (192 mg, 0.77 mmol, 26%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.05-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.56 (tt, *J* = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (brs, 1H), 4.33 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (dt, *J* = 6.4, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.80 (tt, *J* = 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.62-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.42 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 170.1, 166.7, 132.9, 130.3, 129.5, 128.3, 64.6, 39.5, 29.2, 28.4, 23.4, 23.3; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>, 272.1257; found, 272.1257; IR (neat): 3291, 2943, 1709, 1265, 708 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

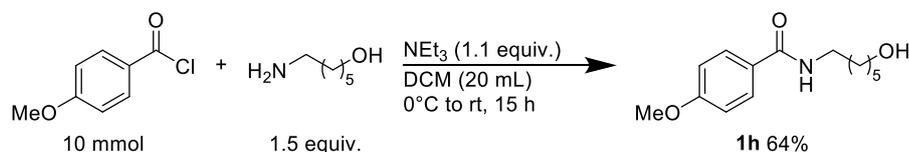
#### 6-(4-Methoxybenzamido)hexanoic acid (**1j**)



6-Aminohexanoic acid (330 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and sodium hydroxide (265 mg, 6.0 mmol, 2.4 equiv.) were placed in a 50 mL two-necked flask. The flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask dehydrated 1,4-dioxane (5.0 mL) and water (5.0 mL) were added. 4-Methoxybenzoyl chloride (513 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was slowly added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 hours. Brine (50 mL) was then added, and the mixture was washed with diethyl ether (3 × 10 mL). Conc. HCl (1 mL) was added to the aqueous layer, and the resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine (40 mL), and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 70 to 100% AcOEt/CHCl<sub>3</sub>) to afford 6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexanoic acid (**1j**) (196 mg, 0.74 mmol, 30%) as a white solid.

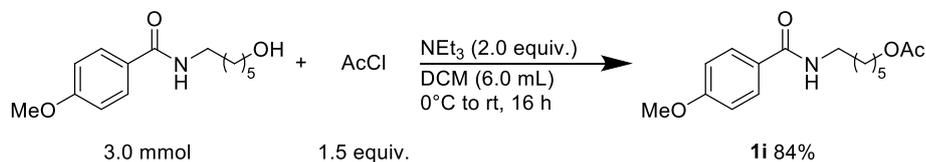
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.13 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.45 (dt, *J* = 6.0, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.73-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.48-1.40 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 178.3, 167.2, 162.1, 128.6, 126.8, 113.7, 55.4, 39.7, 33.7, 29.3, 26.3, 24.2; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>, 288.1206; found, 288.1204; IR (neat): 3348, 1695, 1634, 1504, 1250, 853 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

### *N*-(6-Hydroxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1k**)



A 50 mL two-necked flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask 6-amino-1-hexanol (1.74 g, 10 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), triethylamine (1.48 mL, 10.7 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) and dehydrated dichloromethane (20 mL) were added. 4-Methoxybenzoyl chloride (1.77 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was slowly added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature. After 15 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 40 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  aq. (3 × 40 mL) and brine (40 mL), and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (97% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(6-hydroxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1k**) (1.61 g, 6.40 mmol, 64%) as a white solid. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>12</sup>

### 6-(4-Methoxybenzamido)hexan-1-yl acetate (**1l**)

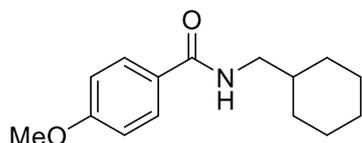


*N*-(6-Hydroxyhexan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (751 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was placed in a 50 mL two-necked flask. The flask was capped with a rubber septum and purged with argon. To the flask triethylamine (0.83 mL, 6.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) and dehydrated dichloromethane (6.0 mL) were added. Acetyl chloride (0.32 mL, 4.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was then slowly added to the reaction mixture at 0°C. The mixture was stirred and warmed to room temperature. After 16 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  aq. (3 × 40 mL) and brine (40 mL), and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (54% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford 6-(4-methoxybenzamido)hexan-1-yl acetate (**1l**) (737 mg, 2.51 mmol, 84%) as a white solid.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.73 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.04 (brs, 1H), 4.06 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.44 (td,  $J$  = 6.8, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.68-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.45-1.37 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 171.3, 167.0, 162.0, 128.6, 127.0, 113.7,

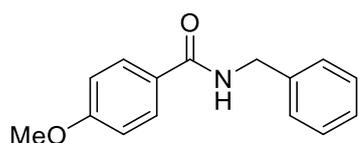
64.4, 55.4, 39.8, 29.6, 28.5, 26.5, 25.6, 21.0; HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>, 316.1519; found, 316.1518; IR (neat): 3304, 2936, 1724, 1607, 1256, 768 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

*N*-(Cyclohexylmethyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1m**)



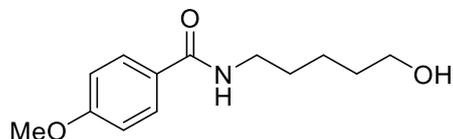
Following procedure A, 4-methoxybenzoyl chloride (342 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and cyclohexylmethylamine (0.39 mL, 3.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were used. The resulting crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 12 to 36% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-(Cyclohexylmethyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1m**) (467 mg, 1.89 mmol, 94%) as a white solid. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>13</sup>

*N*-Benzyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1n**)



Following procedure A, 4-methoxybenzoyl chloride (1.71 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and benzylamine (1.64 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were used. The resulting crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (gradient from 23 to 44% AcOEt/Hexane) to afford *N*-benzyl-4-methoxybenzamide (**1n**) (2.26 g, 9.39 mmol, 94%) as a white solid. Spectral data were matched with previous literature.<sup>14</sup>

*N*-(5-Hydroxypentan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1p**)



Following procedure A, 4-methoxybenzoyl chloride (866 mg, 5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and 5-amino-1-pentanol (772 mg, 7.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were used. The resulting crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography with silica gel (100% AcOEt) to afford *N*-(5-Hydroxypentan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzamide (**1p**) (1.01 g, 4.26 mmol, 85%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.12 (brs, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.67 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (td, *J* = 7.2, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.68-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.51-1.43

(m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 167.1, 162.0, 128.6, 126.9, 113.7, 62.7, 55.4, 39.8, 32.2, 29.5, 23.1$ ; HRMS ( $\text{ESI}^+$ )  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_3$ , 260.1257; found, 260.1259; IR (neat): 3503, 3325, 1609, 1252, 839  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

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