

Supporting Information

Nickel-Catalyzed Synthesis of Aryl Ketones from Arylsulfonium Salts and Nitriles

Ping Wu, Guan-Sheng Jiao*, Cheng-Pan Zhang*

School of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Life Science, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan 430070, China.

E-mail: cpzhang@whut.edu.cn, zhangchengpan1982@hotmail.com,
gsjiao@whut.edu.cn.

ORCID for Cheng-Pan Zhang: 0000-0002-2803-4611.

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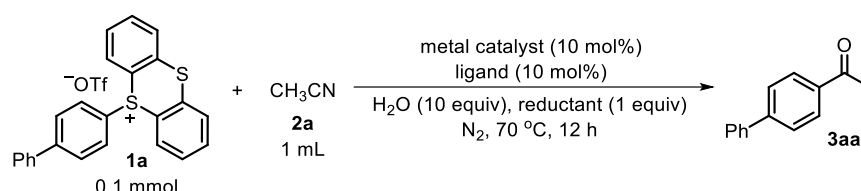
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1. General information.

All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere. Unless otherwise specified, NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃, CD₃COCD₃, or CD₃CN on a 500 MHz (for ¹H), 471 MHz (for ¹⁹F), and 126 MHz (for ¹³C) spectrometer. All chemical shifts were reported in ppm relative to TMS (0 ppm for ¹H NMR) or PhOCF₃ (-58.0 ppm for ¹⁹F NMR) as an internal or external standard. The coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. The HPLC experiments were carried out on a Wufeng LC-100 II instrument (column: SHIMEN Superb II, C18, 5 μm, 4.6 × 250 mm), and the yields of product were determined by using the corresponding pure compound as an external standard. Melting points were measured and uncorrected. MS experiments were performed on a TOF-Q ESI instrument. The dry solvents were purchased from commercial source and used without further purification. *Note: The water contents of these dry solvents were determined to be 9 ppm for CH₃CN, 12 ppm for 1,4-dioxane, and 32 ppm for CD₃CN by Karl Fischer method.* Only the NMR data are given for known compounds and the analytical data are in accordance with those reported in the literature.

2. Optimization of the reaction conditions for Ni-catalyzed acylation.

Table S1. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** with different metal catalysts.^a



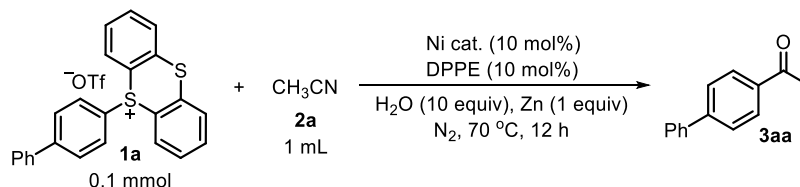
Entry	Metal catalyst	Ligand	Reductant	Yield (3aa , %)
1	(DPPF)PdCl ₂	none	none	0
2	(DPPF)PdCl ₂	none	Zn	0
3	(DPPF)PdCl ₂	DPPE	Zn	0
4	(DPPF)PdCl ₂	DPPE	none	0
5	(PPh ₃) ₄ Pd	none	none	0
6	(PPh ₃) ₄ Pd	none	Zn	0
7	(PPh ₃) ₄ Pd	DPPE	Zn	0
8	(PPh ₃) ₄ Pd	DPPE	none	0

9	CoBr ₂	none	none	0
10	CoBr ₂	none	Zn	0
11	CoBr ₂	DPPE	Zn	trace
12	CoBr ₂	DPPE	none	0
13	Fe(OTf) ₂	none	none	0
14	Fe(OTf) ₂	none	Zn	0
15	Fe(OTf) ₂	DPPE	Zn	0
16	Fe(OTf) ₂	DPPE	none	0
17	FeCl ₃	none	none	0
18	FeCl ₃	none	Zn	0
19	FeCl ₃	DPPE	Zn	0
20	FeCl ₃	DPPE	none	0
21	CuBr ₂	none	none	0
22	CuBr ₂	none	Zn	0
23	CuBr ₂	DPPE	Zn	0
24	CuBr ₂	DPPE	none	0
25	Cu(MeCN) ₄ PF ₆	none	none	0
26	Cu(MeCN) ₄ PF ₆	none	Zn	0
27	Cu(MeCN) ₄ PF ₆	DPPE	Zn	0
28	Cu(MeCN) ₄ PF ₆	DPPE	none	0
29	[RhCl(COD)] ₂	none	none	0
30	[RhCl(COD)] ₂	none	Zn	0
31	[RhCl(COD)] ₂	DPPE	Zn	0
32	[RhCl(COD)] ₂	DPPE	none	0
33	Ni(COD) ₂	none	none	0
34	Ni(COD) ₂	none	Zn	0
35	Ni(COD)₂	DPPE	Zn	65
36	Ni(COD) ₂	DPPE	none	0
37	none	DPPE	Zn	0

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), metal catalyst (10 mol%), ligand (10 mol%), reductant (1 equiv), H₂O (10 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R =

5.1 min) as an external standard. DPPF = 1'1'-(bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene), COD = 1,5-cyclooctadiene. DPPE = 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane)

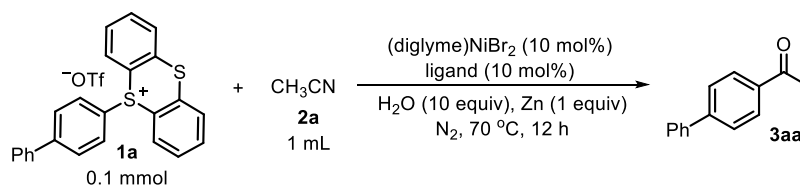
Table S2. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** with different nickel catalysts.^a



Entry	[Ni] catalyst	Yield (3aa , %)
1	(DME)NiBr ₂	73
2	(diglyme)NiBr₂	85
3	(DPPE)NiBr ₂	55
4	(DPPP)NiCl ₂	47
5	(PCy ₃) ₂ NiCl ₂	12
6	(PPh ₃) ₂ NiBr ₂	24
7	NiCl ₂	58
8	NiBr ₂	43
9	NiI ₂	42
10	Ni(COD) ₂	65

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), [Ni] catalyst (10 mol%), DPPE (10 mol%), H₂O (10 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard. DME = 1,2-dimethoxyethane, DPPE = 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane), DPPP = 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane, PCy₃ = tri(cyclohexyl)phosphine

Table S3. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** with different ligands.^a



Entry	Ligand	Yield (3aa , %)
1	DPPM	62

2	DPPE	85
3	DPPP	95
4	DPPB	32
5	DPPBZ	89
6	Dpephos	trace
7	BINAP	31
8	Adbrettphos	0
9	<i>t</i> Buxphos	0
10	Ruphos	trace
11	PPh ₃	0
12	PCy ₃	0

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), ligand (10 mol%), H₂O (10 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

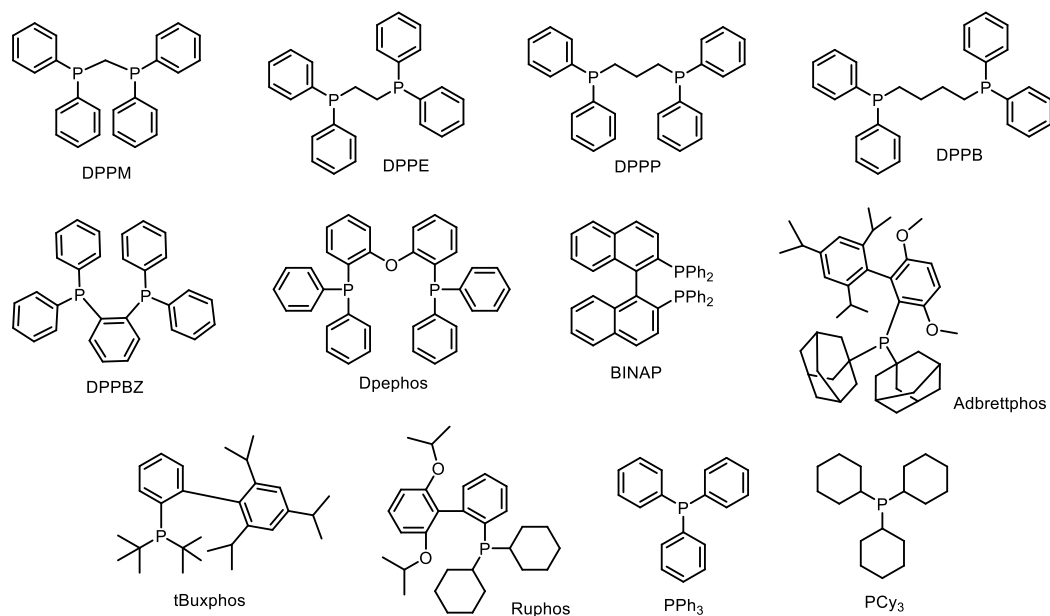
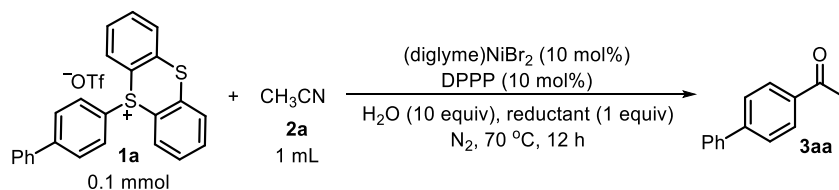


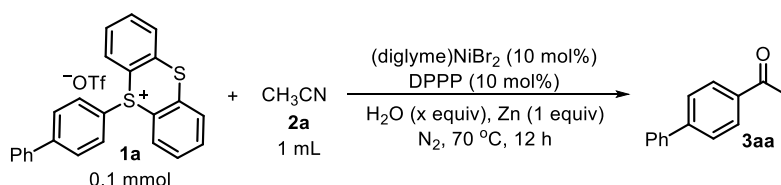
Table S4. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** with different reductants.^a



Entry	Reductant	Yield (3aa , %)
1	Mn	71
2	Mg	57
3	Fe	27
4	Cu	1
5	Zn	95

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (10 equiv), reductant (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

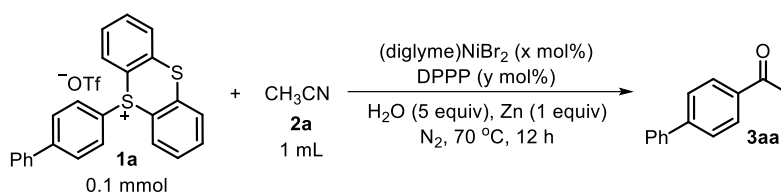
Table S5. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** with different equivalents of H₂O.^a



Entry	x	Yield (3aa , %)
1	1	74
2	2	77
3	3	86
4	5	96
5	7	95
6	10	95
7	20	55

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (x equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

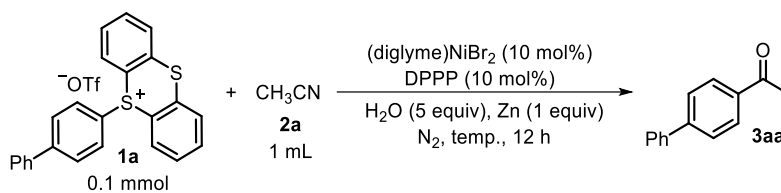
Table S6. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** using different catalyst loadings.^a



Entry	x : y	Yield (3aa , %)
1	5 : 5	32
2	5 : 10	65
3	5 : 15	69
4	5 : 20	71
5	7.5 : 7.5	83
6	10 : 5	36
7	10 : 10	96
8	10 : 12	95
9	10 : 15	92
10	10 : 18	93
11	10 : 20	93
12	20 : 20	91

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (x mol%), DPPPP (y mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

Table S7. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** at different temperatures.^a

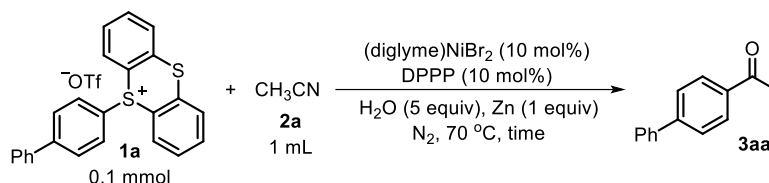


Entry	Temperature	Yield (3aa , %)
1	50	23
2	60	68
3	65	85
4	70	96

5	75	94
6	80	95

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 50-80 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

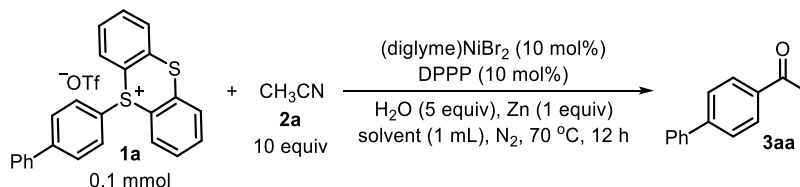
Table S8. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** within different reaction times.^a



Entry	Time (h)	Yield (3aa , %)
1	0.5	63
2	1	71
3	3	92
4	6	94
5	12	96
6	24	95

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 0.5-24 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

Table S9. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** in different solvents.^a

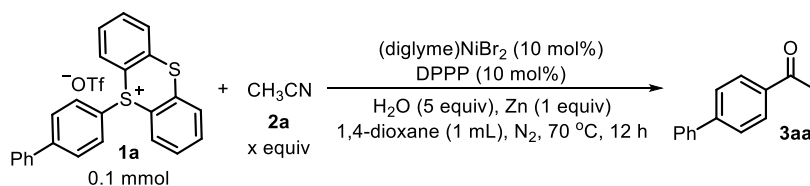


Entry	Solvent	Yield (3aa , %)
1	1,2-dichloroethane (DCE)	45
2	diglyme (DG)	70
3	1,4-dioxane	90

4	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylacetamide (DMAc)	8
5	dimethyl carbonate (DMC)	82
6	1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME)	62
7	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylformamide (DMF)	31
8	dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)	6
9	ethyl acetate (EA)	77
10	tetrahydrofuran (THF)	77
11	toluene	52

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (10 equiv), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), solvent (1 mL), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

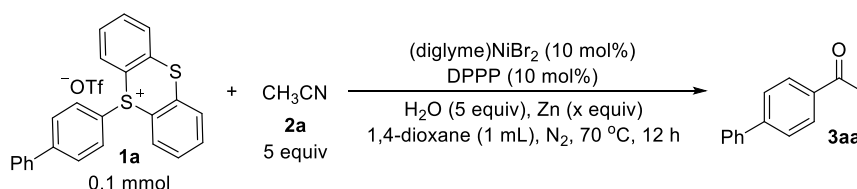
Table S10. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** in presence of different equivalents of **2a** in 1,4-dioxane.^a



Entry	2a (x equiv)	Yield (3aa , %)
1	1	43
2	2	55
3	5	90
4	10	90
5	20	91

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (x equiv), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

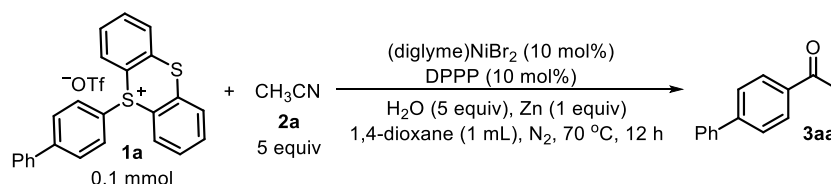
Table S11. Synthesis of **3aa** from **1a** and **2a** in presence of different equivalents of zinc powder in 1,4-dioxane.^a



Entry	x	Yield (3aa , %)
1	0.5	46
2	1	90
3	1.5	90
4	2	91

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (5 equiv), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (0.5-2 equiv), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

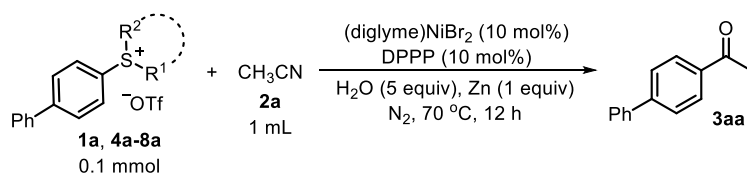
Table S12. Synthesis of **3aa** under different conditions.^a



Entry	Variation of the reaction conditions	Yield (3aa , %)
1	none	90
2	no (diglyme)NiBr ₂	0
3	no DPPP	0
4	no additional H ₂ O	71
5	no Zn	0

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (5 equiv), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** (λ_m = 240 nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), t_R = 5.1 min) as an external standard.

Table S13. Synthesis of **3aa** from different arylsulfonium triflates with **2a**.^a



Entry	Arylsulfonium triflate	Yield (3aa , %)
1	1a	96
2	1a	90^b
3	4a	49
4	4a	46 ^b
5	4a	64 ^{b,c}
6	4a	51 ^d
7	4a	38 ^e
8	5a	53
9	5a	42 ^b
10	5a	79 ^{b,c}
11	6a	51
12	6a	39 ^b
13	6a	47 ^{b,c}
14	7a	15
15	7a	6 ^b
16	7a	17 ^{b,c}
17	8a	26
18	8a	7 ^b
19	8a	31 ^{b,c}
20	8a	27 ^d
21	8a	18 ^e

^a Reaction conditions: arylsulfonium triflate (0.1 mmol), **2a** (1 mL), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPPP (10 mol%), H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. The yields were determined by HPLC using pure **3aa** ($\lambda_m = 240$ nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), $t_R = 5.1$ min) as an external standard. ^b The reaction was conducted in a mixture of **2a** (5 equiv) and 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) instead of **2a** (1 mL) as the solvent. ^c The reaction was run at 100 °C. ^d The reaction was run for 24 h. ^e The reaction was run for 6 h.

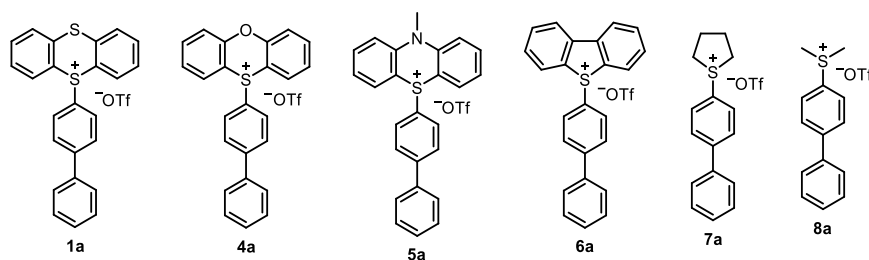
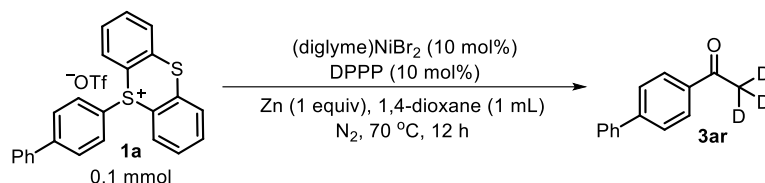


Table S14. Synthesis of deuterated aryl ketone **3ar** from **1a**.^a

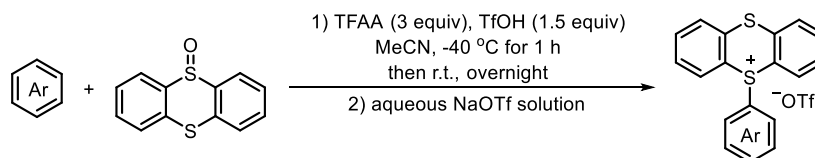


Entry	Conditions	Yield (3ar , %)	D (%)
1	CD ₃ CN (5 equiv)/D ₂ O (5 equiv)	90	99
2	CD ₃ CN (5 equiv)/H ₂ O (5 equiv)	89	91
3	CD ₃ CN (5 equiv)	72	50
4	CH ₃ CN (5 equiv)/D ₂ O (5 equiv)	87	14

^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (10 mol%), DPPP (10 mol%), CD₃CN or CH₃CN (**2r** or **2a**, 5 equiv), D₂O or H₂O (5 equiv), Zn (1 equiv), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), N₂, 70 °C, and 12 h. Isolated yield. *Note: The contents of moisture residual in dry CD₃CN and CH₃CN were 32 ppm and 9 ppm, respectively, and that in dry 1,4-dioxane was 12 ppm, which were measured by Karl-Fischer method. The percentage of D-form was determined by ¹H NMR data.*

3. Procedures for the synthesis of arylsulfonium salts.

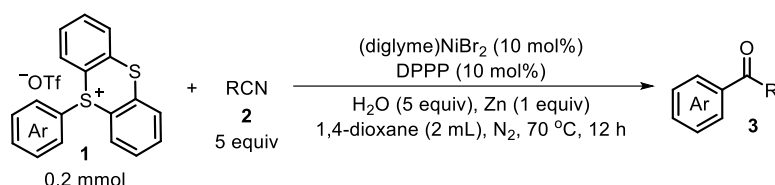
3.1. General procedure for the synthesis of **1a-r** and **1t-c'**.¹⁻⁶



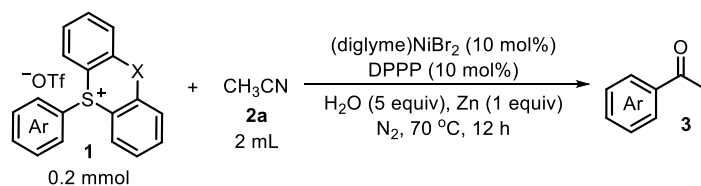
In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, a round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar was charged with arene (2.0 mmol), thianthrene 5-oxide (0.464 g, 2.0 mmol), and MeCN (5.0 mL). The flask was capped with rubber stopper, taken out of the glovebox, and cooled to -40 °C. Then, trifluoroacetic anhydride (TFAA, 0.84 mL, 6.0 mmol) and trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (TfOH, 0.27 mL, 3.0 mmol) were added stepwise under N₂. The reaction mixture was then stirred at -40 °C for 1 h, slowly warmed to room

with thianthrene (0.648 g, 3.0 mmol), 4-nitrobenzeneboronic acid (0.334 g, 2.0 mmol), and Cu(OTf)₂ (1.446 g, 4.0 mmol). The flask was capped with rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, water (72 μ L, 72.0 mg, 4.0 mmol) and dry MeCN (2 mL) were introduced via a syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 3 h, cooled to room temperature, quenched with an aqueous NH₃ solution (30 wt% in H₂O, 20 mL), and extracted with DCM (3 $\times$ 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with an aqueous NaBF₄ solution (2 $\times$ 20 mL, 10% w/w), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of DCM/MeOH (50:1 to 20:1, v/v), and was further crystallized from DCM (2 mL)/*tert*-butyl methyl ether (20 mL) to afford **1s** (0.442 g, 52%) as a white solid.

4. General procedures for the Ni-catalyzed acylation of arylsulfonium salts with nitriles.

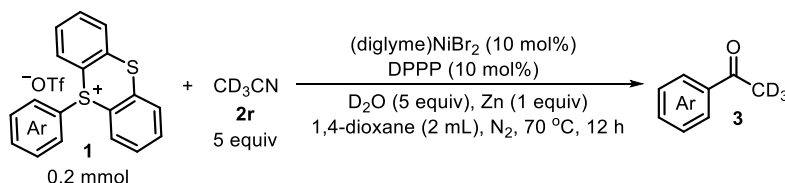


Procedure A: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, a 15 mL reaction tube was charged with arylsulfonium salt (**1**, 0.2 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (7.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), DPPP (8.2 mg, 0.02 mmol), Zn (13.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), RCN (**2**, 1.0 mmol), and 1,4-dioxane (2 mL) with stirring. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, water (18 μ L, 1.0 mmol) was added through a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give the corresponding aryl ketones.



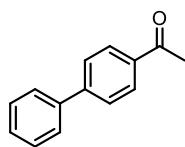
Procedure B: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, a 15 mL reaction tube was charged with arylsulfonium salt (**1**, 0.2 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (7.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), DPPP (8.2 mg,

0.02 mmol), Zn (13.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), and CH₃CN (**2a**, 2 mL) with stirring. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, H₂O (18 µL, 1.0 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give the corresponding aryl ketones.



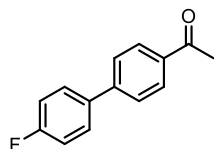
Procedure C: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, a 15 mL reaction tube was charged with arylsulfonium salt (**1**, 0.2 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (7.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), DPPP (8.2 mg, 0.02 mmol), Zn (13.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), CD₃CN (**2r**, 52 µL, 1.0 mmol), and 1,4-dioxane (2 mL) with stirring. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper, and taken out of the glovebox. Then, D₂O (18 µL, 1.0 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give the corresponding deuterated aryl ketones.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**3aa**)⁸



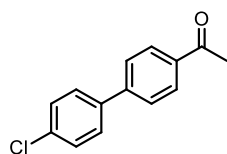
White solid (35.3 mg, 89% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 145.8, 139.9, 135.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 127.3, 127.2, 26.6.

1-(4'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**3ba**)⁸



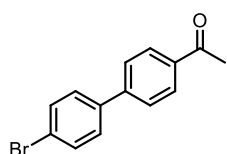
White solid (39.4 mg, 92% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.02 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -114.02 (m, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.5, 163.0 (d, $J = 248.5$ Hz), 144.7, 136.0 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz), 135.9, 129.1, 128.9, 127.2, 115.9 (d, $J = 21.4$ Hz), 26.6.

1-(4'-Chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**3ca**)⁸



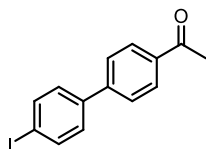
White solid (41.8 mg, 91% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.03 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.5, 144.4, 138.3, 136.2, 134.5, 129.2, 129.0, 128.5, 127.1, 26.6.

1-(4'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**3da**)⁸



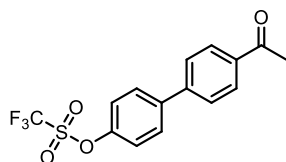
White solid (50.4 mg, 92% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.03 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.5, 144.5, 138.8, 136.2, 132.1, 129.0, 128.8, 127.0, 122.7, 26.6.

1-(4'-Iodo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one (**3ea**)



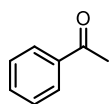
White solid (21.3 mg, 33% yield from **Procedure A** or 33.5 mg, 52% yield from **Procedure B**), m.p.: 163.2-163.7 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.5, 144.6, 139.4, 138.1, 136.3, 129.0, 127.0, 94.3, 26.6. IR (KBr): 2923, 2853, 1699, 1603, 1583, 1477, 1410, 1386, 1357, 1290, 1267, 1214, 1070, 1000, 963, 810, 603 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₄H₁₂IO]⁺ ([*M* + *H*]⁺): 322.9927; found: 322.9929.

4'-Acetyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl trifluoromethanesulfonate (**3fa**)



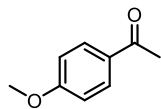
White solid (67.4 mg, 98% yield from **Procedure A**). m.p.: 54.6-55.3 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.69-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -72.77 (s, 3F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.4, 149.5, 143.6, 140.4, 136.5, 129.1, 129.0, 127.3, 121.9, 118.8 (q, *J* = 323.5 Hz), 26.6. IR (KBr): 3007, 2924, 1690, 1605, 1518, 1493, 1424, 1395, 1357, 1265, 1250, 1203, 1177, 1138, 1021, 1006, 963, 890, 826, 792, 733, 608 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₅H₁₂F₃O₄S]⁺ ([*M* + *H*]⁺): 345.0403; found: 345.0406.

Acetophenone (**3ga**)⁹



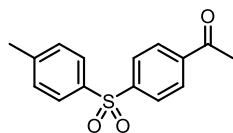
Colorless oil (23.1 mg, 96% yield from **Procedure A** or 22.4 mg, 93% yield from **Procedure A** with [Ph₃S][OTf] as the aryl source). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.1, 137.2, 133.1, 128.6, 128.3, 26.6.

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (**3ha**)⁹



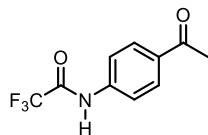
White solid (29.1 mg, 97% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.7, 163.5, 130.5, 130.4, 113.7, 55.4, 26.3.

1-(4-Tosylphenyl)ethan-1-one (**3ia**)¹⁰



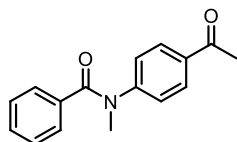
White solid (50.4 mg, 92% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.6, 153.0, 145.8, 135.8, 132.3, 130.0, 129.9, 128.5, 122.5, 26.6, 21.7.

N-(4-Acetylphenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (**3ja**)¹¹



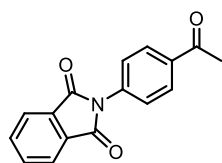
White solid (32.8 mg, 71% yield from **Procedure A** or 37.9 mg, 82% yield from **Procedure B**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -75.67 (s, 3F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.8, 155.0 (q, *J* = 37.9 Hz), 139.4, 134.7, 129.8, 120.0, 115.4 (q, *J* = 288.9 Hz), 26.4.

N-(4-Acetylphenyl)-*N*-methylbenzamide (**3ka**)



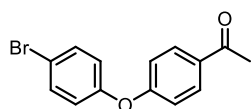
White solid (53.1 mg, 85% yield from **Procedure A**). m.p.: 35.6-37.1 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.9, 170.7, 149.2, 135.5, 134.6, 130.2, 129.3, 128.8, 128.0, 126.4, 38.1, 26.5. IR (KBr): 3058, 2921, 1681, 1645, 1598, 1573, 1508, 1422, 1358, 1266, 1177, 1105, 1014, 957, 844, 791, 720, 698, 602 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₆H₁₆NO₂]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 254.1176; found: 254.1182.

2-(4-Acetylphenyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (**3la**)¹²



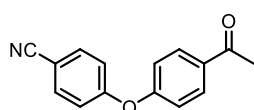
White solid (40.3 mg, 76% yield from **Procedure A** or 49.3 mg, 93% yield from **Procedure B**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.0, 166.7, 136.1, 136.0, 134.7, 131.6, 129.1, 126.1, 123.9, 26.6.

1-(4-(4-Bromophenoxy)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**3ma**)¹³



White solid (52.1 mg, 90% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.6, 161.3, 154.8, 133.1, 132.4, 130.6, 121.7, 117.5, 117.2, 26.4.

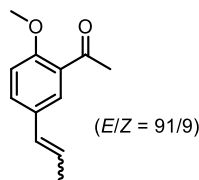
4-(4-Acetylphenoxy)benzonitrile (**3na**)¹³



White solid (38.8 mg, 82% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500

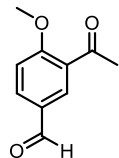
MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 4H), 2.60 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.5, 160.1, 159.4, 134.4, 133.7, 130.8, 119.3, 119.2, 118.5, 107.4, 26.5.

1-(2-Methoxy-5-(prop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**3oa**)¹⁴



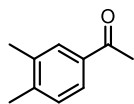
Colorless oil (27.7 mg, 73% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 0.91H), 7.69 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 0.09H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 0.09H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 0.91H), 6.38-6.34 (m, 1H), 6.17 (m, 0.91H), 5.76 (m, 0.09H), 3.94 (s, 0.27H), 3.92 (s, 2.73H), 2.64 (s, 0.27H), 2.63 (s, 2.73H), 1.91-1.87 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 157.8, 130.8, 130.7, 129.5, 128.2, 127.6, 124.9, 111.8, 55.6, 31.7, 18.3.

3-Acetyl-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**3pa**)



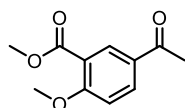
White solid (26.3 mg, 74% yield from **Procedure A** or 31.4 mg, 88% yield from **Procedure B**), m.p.: 108.1-108.8 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.92 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.4, 190.2, 163.2, 133.9, 133.6, 129.7, 128.6, 112.2, 56.1, 31.6. IR (KBr): 3082, 2995, 2955, 2929, 2841, 2739, 1694, 1668, 1597, 1577, 1492, 1428, 1410, 1359, 1281, 1255, 1228, 1185, 1153, 1017, 989, 920, 823, 771, 647 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for [C₁₀H₁₁O₃]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 179.0703; found: 179.0706.

1-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)ethan-1-one (**3qa**)¹⁵



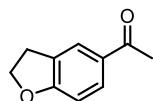
Colorless oil (26.6 mg, 90% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 142.5, 136.8, 135.2, 129.8, 129.4, 126.1, 26.5, 19.9, 19.7.

Methyl 5-acetyl-2-methoxybenzoate (**3ra**)¹⁶



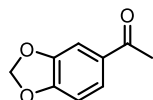
White solid (36.2 mg, 87% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.39 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.0, 165.9, 162.6, 133.8, 132.6, 129.7, 119.9, 111.8, 56.3, 52.2, 26.3.

1-(2,3-Dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3ta**)¹²



White solid (29.8 mg, 92% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.6, 164.4, 130.8, 130.4, 127.6, 125.5, 108.9, 72.1, 29.0, 26.3.

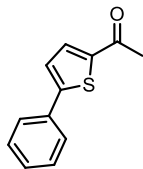
1-(Benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)ethan-1-one (**3ua**)¹²



White solid (28.2 mg, 86% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.54 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (s,

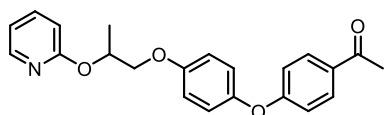
2H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.1, 151.7, 148.1, 132.2, 124.7, 107.9, 107.8, 101.8, 26.4.

1-(5-Phenylthiophen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (**3va**)¹²



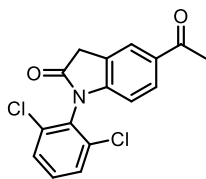
White solid (20.6 mg, 51% yield from **Procedure A** or 31.1 mg, 77% yield from **Procedure B**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.66-7.64 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.5, 152.8, 143.1, 133.4, 133.3, 129.1, 129.0, 126.3, 123.9, 26.6.

1-(4-(4-(2-(Pyridin-2-yloxy)propoxy)phenoxy)phenyl)ethan-1-one (**3wa**)



White solid (65.3 mg, 90% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 31.2-31.7 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.92 (m, 6H), 6.86 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.63-5.56 (m, 1H), 4.20 (dd, J = 9.8 Hz, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 9.8 Hz, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 1.49 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.7, 163.1, 162.9, 156.0, 148.6, 146.7, 138.8, 131.4, 130.6, 121.6, 116.8, 116.3, 116.0, 111.7, 71.0, 69.2, 26.4, 17.0. IR (KBr): 3057, 2978, 2925, 2872, 1678, 1596, 1570, 1498, 1471, 1432, 1357, 1270, 1250, 1228, 1197, 1165, 1000, 957, 834, 779 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_4]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 364.1543; found: 364.1552.

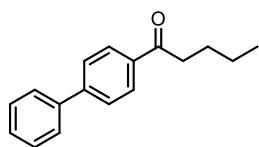
5-Acetyl-1-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)indolin-2-one (**3xa**)



Yellow solid (47.8 mg, 75% yield from **Procedure A** or 55.5 mg, 87% yield from

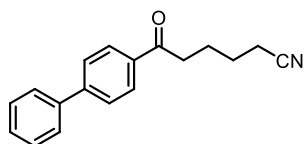
Procedure B), m.p.: 135.0-136.1 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.6, 173.4, 147.4, 135.4, 132.8, 131.1, 129.9, 129.7, 129.1, 125.0, 124.4, 108.7, 35.3, 26.4. IR (KBr): 3058, 2961, 2923, 2852, 1737, 1669, 1612, 1567, 1497, 1464, 1441, 1366, 1324, 1264, 1188, 1156, 1107, 1068, 1019, 962, 948, 821, 789, 730, 665 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₆H₁₂Cl₂NO₂]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 320.0240; found: 320.0240.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)pentan-1-one (**3ab**)¹⁷



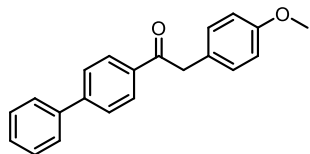
White solid (31.9 mg, 67% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.44 (m, 2H), 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.2, 145.5, 139.9, 135.8, 128.9, 128.6, 128.2, 127.3, 127.2, 38.4, 26.6, 22.5, 13.9.

6-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-6-oxohexanenitrile (**3ac**)



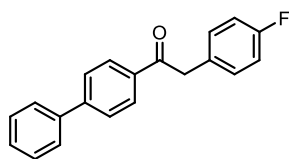
White solid (37.3 mg, 71% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 125.6-125.9 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.83 (m, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.7, 145.9, 139.8, 135.5, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 119.5, 37.4, 25.1, 23.2, 17.2. IR (KBr): 3066, 3038, 2954, 2931, 2872, 2245, 1675, 1602, 1440, 1428, 1355, 1288, 1257, 1194, 1076, 1006, 980, 850, 749, 697 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₈H₁₇NNaO]⁺ ([M + Na]⁺): 286.1202; found: 286.1206.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (**3ad**)



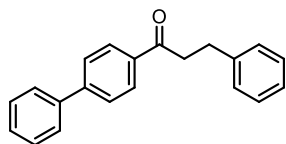
White solid (45.9 mg, 76% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 163.2-163.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.6, 158.6, 145.8, 139.8, 135.3, 130.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 127.3, 126.6, 114.2, 55.3, 44.7. IR (KBr): 3055, 3000, 2948, 2904, 2832, 1686, 1613, 1515, 1450, 1401, 1338, 1305, 1246, 1226, 1202, 1180, 1107, 1034, 998, 840, 798, 764, 721, 692 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₂₁H₁₉O₂]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 303.1380; found: 303.1388.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**3ae**)



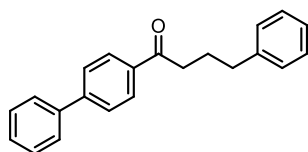
White solid (37.7 mg, 65% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 188.2-188.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.33 (s, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -115.94 (m, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.0, 161.8 (d, *J* = 247.7 Hz), 146.0, 139.8, 135.1, 131.1 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 130.2 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 129.2, 129.0, 128.3, 127.4, 127.3, 115.6 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz), 44.6. IR (KBr): 3062, 2923, 2905, 2862, 1676, 1600, 1513, 1450, 1406, 1330, 1225, 1199, 1156, 1092, 991, 866, 837, 797, 763, 689 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₂₀H₁₆FO]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 291.1180; found: 291.1188.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-3-phenylpropan-1-one (**3af**)¹⁸



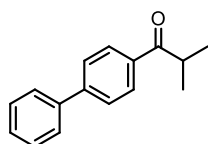
White solid (40.6 mg, 71% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.04 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.22 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.34 (t, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.31 (t, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.8, 145.8, 141.3, 139.9, 135.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.3, 126.1, 40.5, 30.2.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (**3ag**)



White solid (46.8 mg, 78% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 121.9-122.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 3H), 3.02 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.75 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.12 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.7, 145.6, 141.7, 139.9, 135.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.3, 127.2, 125.9, 37.7, 35.2, 25.8. IR (KBr): 3058, 3027, 2933, 1678, 1603, 1485, 1451, 1402, 1354, 1258, 1200, 1183, 1143, 1115, 1064, 1026, 1005, 983, 903, 862, 824, 749, 686, cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 301.1587; found: 301.1581.

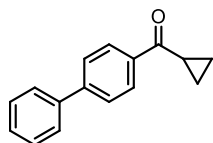
1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-methylpropan-1-one (**3ah**)¹⁹



White solid (36.3 mg, 81% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.04 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz,

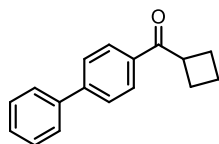
2H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.60 (m, 1H), 1.26 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 204.1, 145.5, 140.0, 134.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 127.3, 35.4, 19.2.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(cyclopropyl)methanone (**3ai**)²⁰



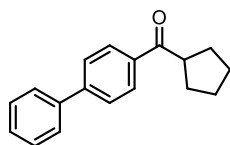
White solid (33.7 mg, 76% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.10 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.72 (m, 1H), 1.28 (m, 2H), 1.06 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.1, 145.4, 140.0, 136.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.3, 127.2, 17.2, 11.6.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(cyclobutyl)methanone (**3aj**)



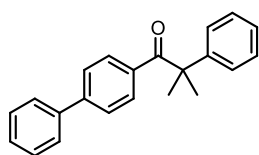
White solid (34.9 mg, 74% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 87.9-88.2 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.97 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.05 (m, 1H), 2.47 (m, 2H), 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.15 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.6, 145.5, 140.0, 134.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.1, 127.3, 127.2, 42.3, 25.1, 18.2. IR (KBr): 3057, 3031, 2981, 2938, 2857, 1673, 1602, 1485, 1447, 1404, 1347, 1249, 1227, 1190, 1114, 1077, 1006, 968, 853, 741, 697 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 237.1274; found: 237.1282.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(cyclopentyl)methanone (**3ak**)



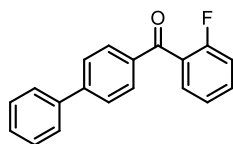
White solid (41.5 mg, 83% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 63.5-63.9 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (m, 1H), 1.96 (m, 4H), 1.80-1.67 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.3, 145.4, 140.0, 135.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.1, 127.3, 127.2, 46.5, 30.1, 26.4. IR (KBr): 3063, 3032, 2952, 2866, 1668, 1603, 1488, 1447, 1405, 1356, 1228, 1005, 973, 852, 743, 696 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₁₈H₁₉O]⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 251.1430; found: 251.1436.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-methyl-2-phenylpropan-1-one. (**3al**)



White solid (39.6 mg, 66% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 125.4-125.8 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.69 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.1, 145.5, 144.3, 139.9, 134.8, 130.4, 129.1, 128.8, 128.0, 127.1, 126.8, 126.6, 125.8, 51.5, 27.9. IR (KBr): 3021, 2988, 2976, 2934, 2852, 1670, 1600, 1493, 1447, 1405, 1385, 1360, 1251, 1162, 973, 899, 851, 743, 702 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₀NaO]⁺ ([M + Na]⁺): 323.1406; found: 323.1404.

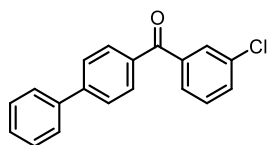
[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(2-fluorophenyl)methanone (**3am**)



White solid (43.6 mg, 79% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 80.8-81.2 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -110.9 (m, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.0, 160.1 (d, *J* = 252.4 Hz), 146.2,

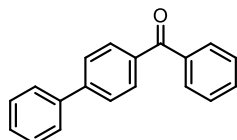
139.9, 136.1, 133.0 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 130.7 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz), 130.5, 129.0, 128.3, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 124.3 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz), 116.3 (d, $J = 22.3$ Hz). IR (KBr): 3080, 3030, 2922, 2849, 1657, 1613, 1604, 1484, 1450, 1400, 1309, 1291, 1221, 1097, 933, 854, 750, 692 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{FO}]^+ ([\text{M} + \text{H}]^+)$: 277.1023; found: 277.1019.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(3-chlorophenyl)methanone (**3an**)



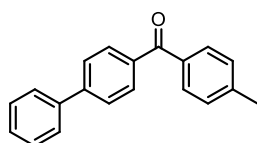
White solid (39.7 mg, 68% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 115.2-116.1 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.63-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.55 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.8, 145.7, 139.8, 139.5, 135.6, 134.6, 132.3, 130.7, 129.8, 129.7, 129.1, 128.3, 128.1, 127.3, 127.1. IR (KBr): 3065, 3037, 1643, 1603, 1567, 1465, 1447, 1401, 1317, 1291, 1267, 1153, 1080, 969, 907, 851, 775, 738 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClO}]^+ ([\text{M} + \text{H}]^+)$: 293.0728; found: 293.0733.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(phenyl)methanone (**3ao**)²¹



White solid (31.8 mg, 61% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.79 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.3, 145.3, 140.0, 137.8, 136.3, 132.4, 130.7, 130.0, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.3, 126.9.

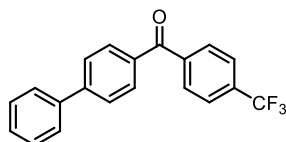
[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(*p*-tolyl)methanone (**3ap**)²¹



White solid (39.7 mg, 73% yield from **Procedure A**). A mixture of petroleum

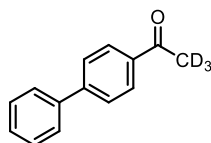
ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.1, 145.0, 143.2, 140.1, 136.7, 136.1, 130.6, 130.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.1, 127.3, 126.9, 21.7.

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (**3aq**)



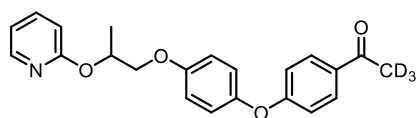
White solid (50.2 mg, 77% yield from **Procedure A**), m.p.: 192.1-192.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94-7.89 (m, 4H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -62.9 (s, 3F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.2, 146.0, 141.0, 139.8, 135.4, 133.7 (q, J = 31.6 Hz), 130.8, 130.1, 129.1, 128.4, 127.4, 127.2, 125.4 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.7 (q, J = 272.4 Hz). IR (KBr): 3062, 2923, 2851, 1644, 1602, 1485, 1408, 1313, 1292, 1273, 1175, 1125, 1109, 1069, 1017, 934, 863, 844, 759, 730, 690 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{O}]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 327.0991; found: 327.0997.

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethan-1-one-2,2,2- d_3 (**3ar**)²²



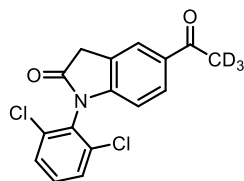
White solid (35.8 mg, 90% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (m, 0.02H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.8, 145.8, 139.9, 135.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 127.3, 127.2, 25.8 (m).

1-(4-(4-(2-(Pyridin-2-yloxy)propoxy)phenoxy)phenyl)ethan-1-one-2,2,2- d_3 (**3wr**)



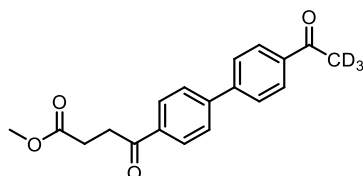
White solid (72.2 mg, 87% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 31.2-31.7 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 4H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (m, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 9.7 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 9.7 Hz, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (m, 0.04H), 1.49 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.8, 163.2, 162.9, 156.1, 148.7, 146.8, 138.7, 131.5, 130.5, 121.6, 116.8, 116.4, 116.1, 111.7, 71.1, 69.2, 25.6 (m), 17.0. IR (KBr): 3056, 2962, 2922, 2849, 1674, 1596, 1498, 1471, 1432, 1272, 1228, 1198, 1165, 1081, 1041, 957, 826, 780 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{D}_3\text{NO}_4]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 367.1732; found: 367.1741.

5-(Acetyl- d_3)-1-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)indolin-2-one (**3xr**)



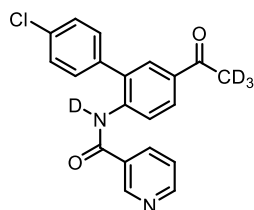
Yellow solid (49.6 mg, 77% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 135.2-136.4 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 2.57 (m, 0.04H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.7, 173.4, 147.5, 135.4, 132.8, 131.1, 129.9, 129.7, 129.1, 125.0, 124.5, 108.7, 35.4, 25.7 (m). IR (KBr): 3080, 2913, 1733, 1676, 1666, 1613, 1496, 1465, 1439, 1361, 1327, 1295, 1265, 1190, 1156, 1104, 1091, 815, 790, 665 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_9\text{D}_3\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_2]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 323.0428; found: 323.0432.

Methyl 4-(4'-(acetyl- d_3)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-oxobutanoate (**3yr**)



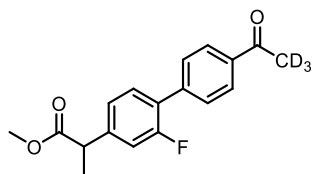
Yellow solid (55.1 mg, 88% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 85.1-86.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 8.09-8.05 (m, 4H), 7.73-7.71 (m, 4H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.36 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (m, 0.04H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 197.6, 197.5, 173.3, 144.5, 144.3, 136.7, 136.1, 128.9, 128.7, 127.5, 127.4, 51.8, 33.5, 28.1, 25.8 (m). IR (KBr): 3075, 3060, 2949, 2923, 2850, 1735, 1672, 1602, 1554, 1438, 1419, 1394, 1331, 1275, 1176, 1152, 1084, 1004, 976, 827, 794 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{D}_3\text{O}_4]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 314.1466; found: 314.1472.

N-(5-(Acetyl- d_3)-4'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)nicotinamide- d_1 (**3zr**)



Yellow solid (43.1 mg, 61% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 66.9-67.5 °C. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.76 (m, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 3H), 2.61 (m, 0.03H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.8, 163.2, 152.8, 138.6, 135.4, 135.3, 135.2, 133.4, 131.2, 131.1, 130.6, 130.2, 129.9, 129.6, 129.0, 124.0, 120.8, 25.6 (m). IR (KBr): 3232, 3041, 2921, 2850, 1672, 1581, 1515, 1479, 1413, 1297, 1235, 1209, 1150, 1092, 1012, 906, 834, 817, 708, 685, 644 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{12}\text{D}_4\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 355.1146; found: 355.1142.

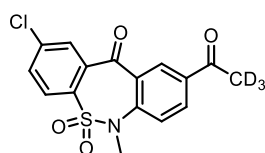
Methyl 2-(4'-(acetyl- d_3)-2-fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)propanoate (**3a'r**)



Colorless liquid (57.6 mg, 95% yield from **Procedure C**, 99% D-form determined by ^1H NMR). A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 3.76 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70

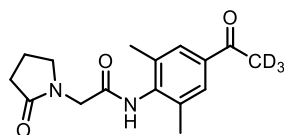
(s, 3H), 2.60 (m, 0.03H), 1.53 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -116.9 (m, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.7, 174.3, 159.7 ($J = 249.9$ Hz), 142.9 ($J = 7.8$ Hz), 140.2, 136.2, 130.7 ($J = 4.1$ Hz), 129.1 ($J = 3.6$ Hz), 128.5, 126.7 ($J = 12.9$ Hz), 123.8 ($J = 3.0$ Hz), 115.5 ($J = 23.1$ Hz), 52.2, 44.9, 25.9 (m), 18.4. IR (KBr): 2953, 2953, 2849, 1737, 1678, 1605, 1575, 1428, 1399, 1335, 1267, 1199, 1170, 1064, 921, 863, 818, 721 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{D}_3\text{FNaO}_3]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$): 326.1242; found: 326.1251.

9-(Acetyl- d_3)-3-chloro-6-methyldibenzo[*c,f*][1,2]thiazepin-11(6*H*)-one 5,5-dioxide
(**3b'r**)



Orange solid (93.0 mg, 85% yield from **Procedure C**, 98% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 65.1-65.4 $^\circ\text{C}$. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.65 (m, 0.05H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 196.3, 189.1, 144.8, 138.9, 138.3, 134.3, 134.1, 133.8, 133.7, 133.1, 132.9, 129.7, 124.9, 123.5, 38.4, 25.9 (m). IR (KBr): 3076, 2922, 2852, 1682, 1593, 1488, 1466, 1388, 1363, 1267, 1233, 1186, 1172, 1141, 1105, 1046, 954, 887, 820, 785, 730, 683 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{D}_3\text{ClNO}_4\text{S}]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$): 353.0437; found: 353.0442.

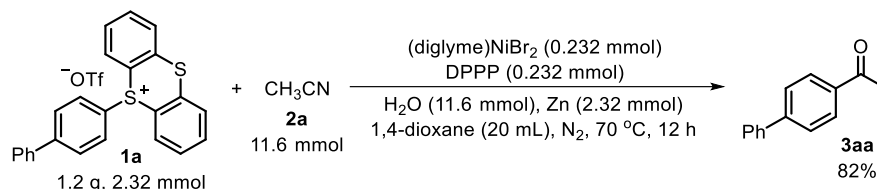
N-(4-(Acetyl- d_3)-2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)acetamide (**3c'r**)



Orange solid (49.5 mg, 85% yield from **Procedure C**, 98% D-form determined by ^1H NMR), m.p.: 156.1-156.5 $^\circ\text{C}$. A mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1/1 (v/v) as eluents for column chromatography. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 8.57 (s, 1H), 7.55 (s, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.46 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 2.37 (m, 0.07H), 2.18 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 1.98-1.91 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CD_3COCD_3) δ 196.8, 175.1, 166.5, 139.2, 135.9, 135.6, 127.8, 54.1, 47.7, 29.8, 25.6 (m), 17.8, 17.7. IR (KBr): 3218,

2958, 2922, 2853, 1694, 1678, 1644, 1598, 1528, 1467, 1445, 1421, 1320, 1286, 1250, 1226, 1166, 1033, 977, 884, 860, 764, 720, 641 cm^{-1} . HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd. for $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{D}_3\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_3]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$): 314.1554; found: 314.1560.

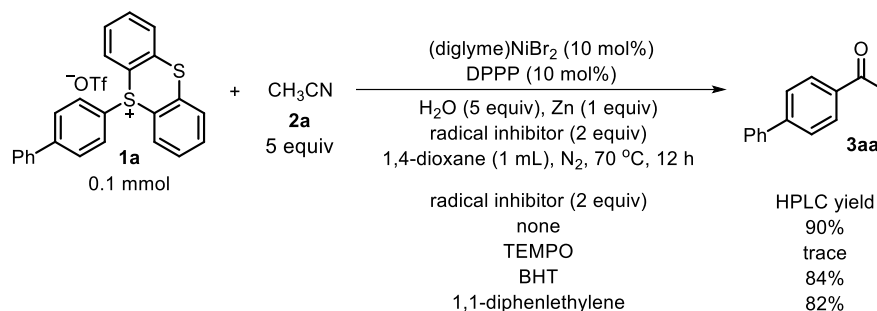
An example for scale-up synthesis of **3aa**.



Procedure: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, 5-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-5*H*-thianthren-5-ium triflate (**1a**, 1.20 g, 2.32 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (82.4 mg, 0.232 mmol), DPPP (95.1 mg, 0.232 mmol), Zn (150.8 mg, 2.32 mmol), CH₃CN (**2a**, 0.606 mL, 11.6 mmol), and 1,4-dioxane (20 mL) were added to a 100 mL reaction tube. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper, and taken out of the glovebox. Then, H₂O (0.209 mL, 11.6 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C under N₂ for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (40/1) to give **3aa** as a white solid (373.1 mg, 82%).

5. The control experiments for mechanistic studies.

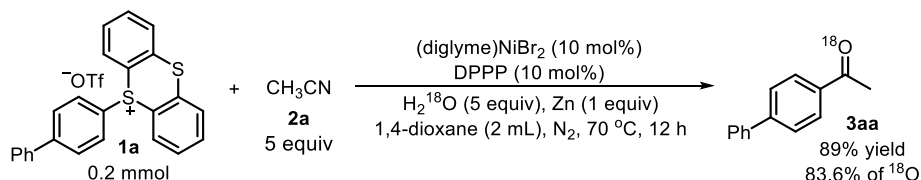
5.1. The Ni-catalyzed reactions of **1a** with **2a** under optimal conditions in the presence of different radical inhibitors.



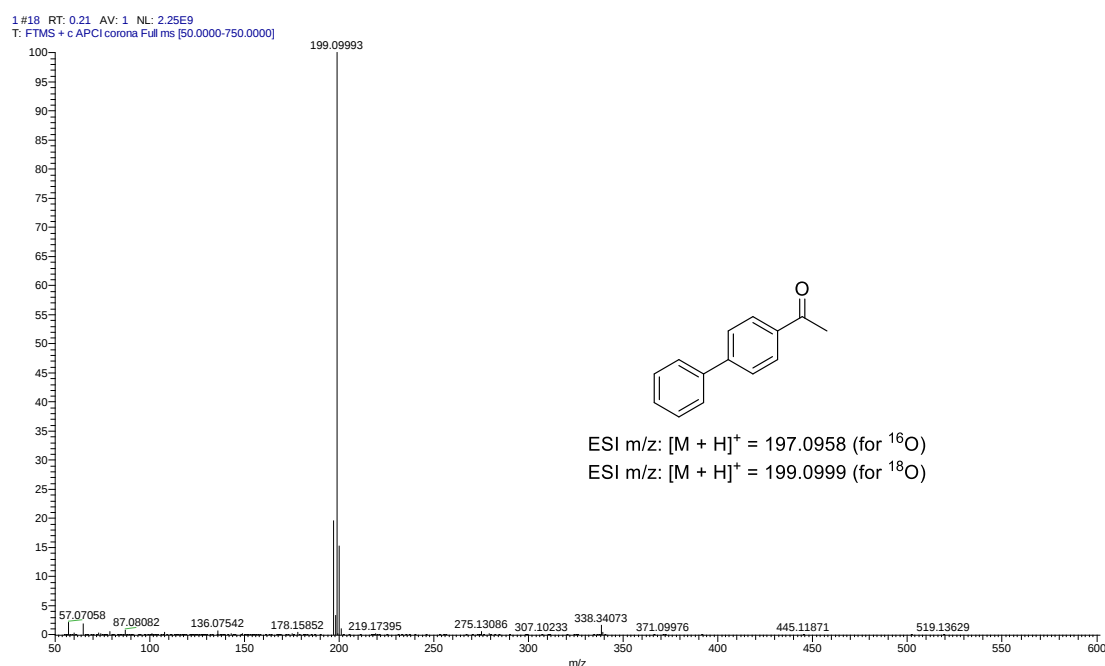
Procedure: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, **1a** (51.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (3.6 mg, 0.01 mmol), DPPP (4.1 mg, 0.01 mmol), Zn (6.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), CH₃CN (**2a**, 26 μL , 0.5 mmol), radical inhibitor (2 equiv), and 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) were added to a 15 mL reaction tube. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, H₂O (9.0 μL , 0.5 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The

resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C under N₂ for 12 h. The yield of the product was determined by HPLC analysis of the reaction mixture using pure **3aa** ($\lambda_m = 240$ nm, water / MeOH = 10 / 90 (v/v), $t_R = 5.1$ min) as an external standard.

5.2. The ¹⁸O-labelling experiment.



Procedure: In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, **1a** (103.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (7.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), DPPP (8.2 mg, 0.02 mmol), Zn (13.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH₃CN (**2**, 52 μ L, 1.0 mmol), and 1,4-dioxane (2 mL) were added to a 15 mL reaction tube. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, H₂¹⁸O (20 μ L, 1.0 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C under N₂ for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a mixture of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (40/1) to give 4-acetylbiphenyl (35.2 mg, 89%) as a white solid with 83.6% of ¹⁸O content, which was verified by ESI-HRMS (**Figure S1**).



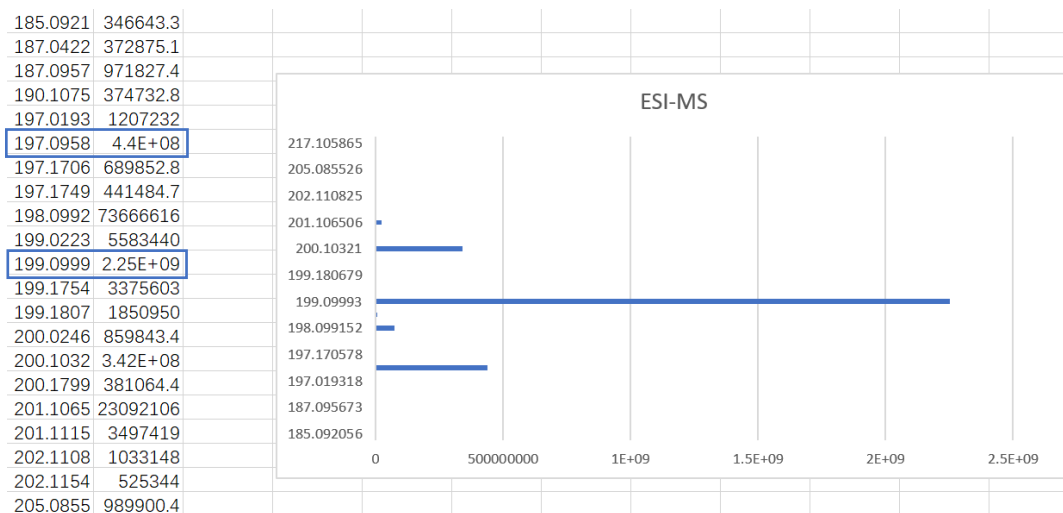
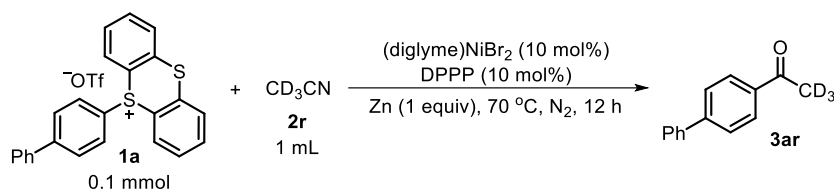


Figure S1. ^{18}O -labelling experiment

The area of normal ^{16}O -containing acetylbiphenyl MS peak 197.0958 is 439983584, and the area of ^{18}O -labeled acetylbiphenyl MS peak 199.0999 is 2253223680. The area ratio of peak 199.0999 to peak 197.0958 is calculated as $2253223680 \div (439983584 + 2253223680) = 0.836$.

5.3. The ^1H NMR analysis of the reaction mixtures.



Procedure A (without H_2O): In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, **1a** (51.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), (diglyme) NiBr_2 (3.6 mg, 0.01 mmol), DPPP (4.1 mg, 0.01 mmol), Zn (6.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), and CD_3CN (**2r**, 1 mL) were added to a 15 mL reaction tube. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. The reaction mixture was heated at 70 °C under N_2 for 12 h and cooled to room temperature. The reaction tube was taken into the glovebox. The resulting mixture was transferred into a sealed NMR tube in the glovebox and was analyzed by ^1H NMR spectroscopy. The spectrum was shown in **Figure S2**, wherein the imine intermediate was observed according to the NMR data.²³

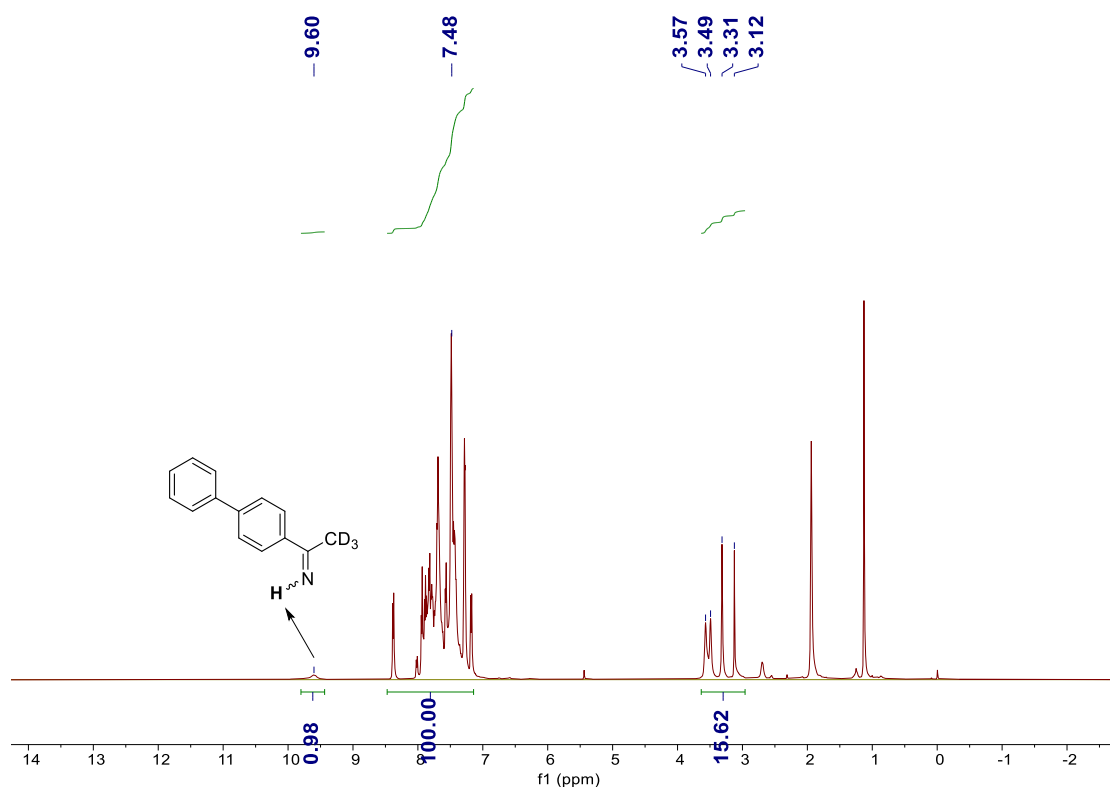
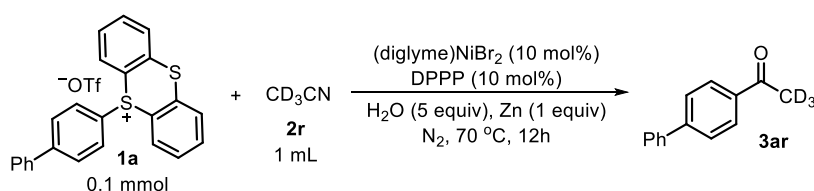


Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture without additional H₂O added



Procedure B (with H₂O): In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, **1a** (51.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), (diglyme)NiBr₂ (3.6 mg, 0.01 mmol), DPPP (4.1 mg, 0.01 mmol), Zn (6.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), and CD₃CN (**2r**, 1 mL) were added to a 15 mL reaction tube. The reaction tube was sealed with a rubber stopper and taken out of the glovebox. Then, H₂O (9.0 μL, 0.5 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. The resulting mixture was heated at 70 °C under N₂ for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, transferred into an NMR tube, and analyzed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The spectrum was shown in **Figure S3**, wherein the imine intermediate was observed according to the NMR data.²³

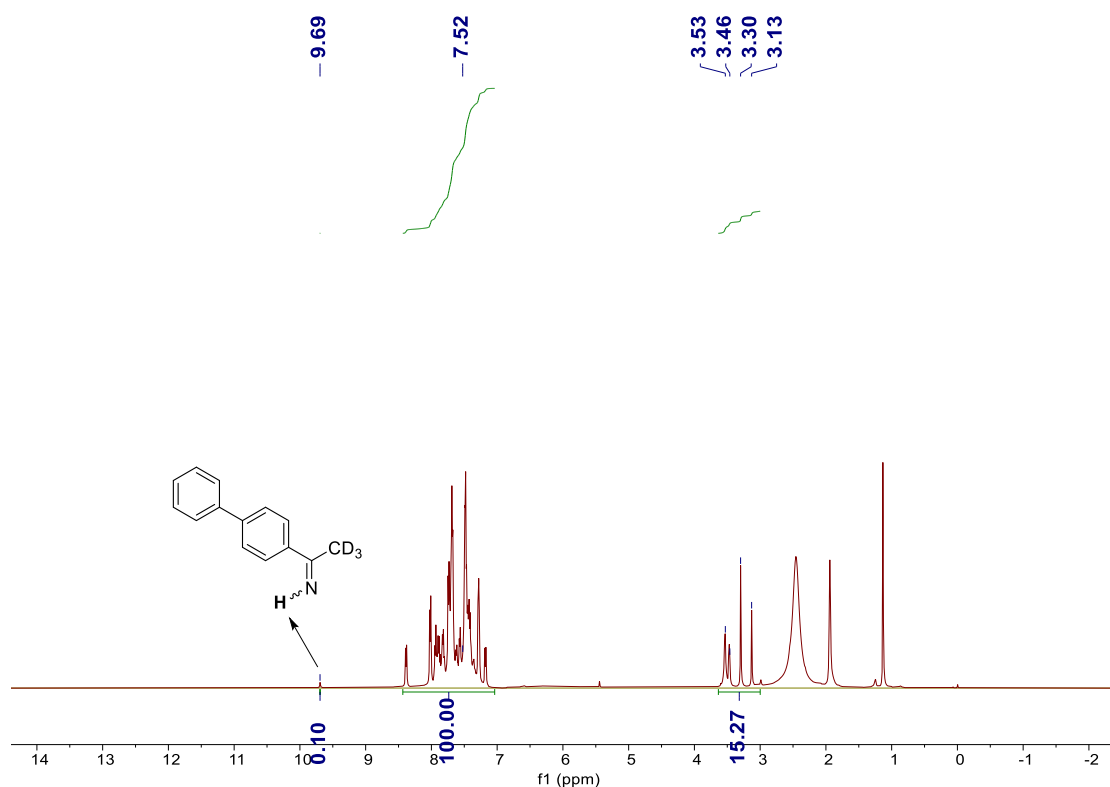


Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture with H₂O (5 equiv) added

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6. NMR spectra of the products.

