

Supplementary Materials (ESI) for

Efficient and Practical Transition Metal-Free Catalytic Hydration of Organonitriles to Amides

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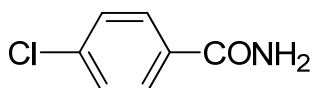
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General: All commercial reagents and solvents were used directly as purchased without further purification. All reactions were carried out by CEM Discover microwave instrument unless otherwise noted. ^1H -NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on JeOL-ECA 400 spectrometers. GC-MS spectra were recorded on Agilent Technologies 1890A GC system and 5975C inert MSD with Triple-Axis Detector.

General procedure for microwave-assisted catalytic hydration of organonitriles: Organonitriles (1 mmol) and base were added into a 10 mL microwave reaction tube with a stir-bar, and then 8.5 mL deionized water or aqueous solvent was added. After irradiation under microwave at 150 °C (50 w with CEM Discover microwave instrument) for certain time, the reaction mixture was cooled and then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in acetone and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The crude products were purified by flash column chromatography.

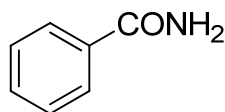
For insoluble solid amide's case, a more convenient isolation process was involved, the product was obtained by simply filtration and then washed with small amount of water to get rid of adsorptive base, which is pure enough for the GC and NMR analysis. The filtrate containing the base could be applied for the next catalytic cycle.

Analytical data of the products:

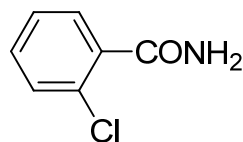


2a^{S1}: ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K): δ = 7.75 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.98 (bd, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 167.3, 136.6, 133.5, 129.9, 128.8. GC-MS: m/z = 157 $[\text{M}+2]^+$, 155 $[\text{M}]^+$, 141

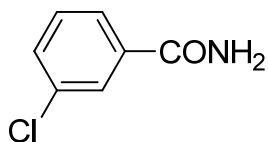
$[M+2-NH_2]^+$, 139 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 113 $[M+2-CONH_2]^+$, 111 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3379, 3177, 1667, 1619, 1573, 1411, 1090, 1012 cm^{-1} .



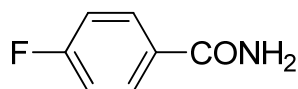
2b^{S1}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ = 7.81 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.09 (bs, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 168.0, 134.2, 131.2, 128.2, 127.5. GC-MS: m/z = 121 $[M]^+$, 105 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 77 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3366, 3173, 1656, 1625, 1578, 1447, 1402 cm^{-1} .



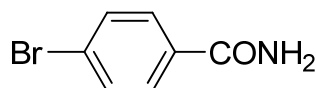
2c^{S2}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ = 7.77 (dd, J = 7.5 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.50 (m, 3H), 6.38 (bs, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 168.1, 134.6, 130.5, 130.0, 129.5, 128.6, 127.0. GC-MS: m/z = 157 $[M+2]^+$, 155 $[M]^+$, 141 $[M+2-NH_2]^+$, 139 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 113 $[M+2-CONH_2]^+$, 111 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3368, 3195, 1637, 1616, 1404 cm^{-1} .



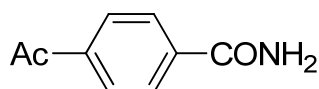
2d^{S3}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ = 7.81 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dt, J = 7.8 and 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dq, J_1 = 7.9 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (bs, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.4, 136.2, 133.1, 131.0, 130.2, 127.3, 126.1. GC-MS: m/z = 157 $[M+2]^+$, 155 $[M]^+$, 141 $[M+2-NH_2]^+$, 139 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 113 $[M+2-CONH_2]^+$, 111 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3358, 3177, 1658, 1625, 1569, 1432, 1389, 1123 cm^{-1} .



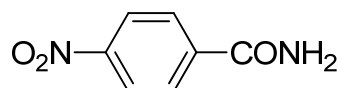
2e^{S4}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 8.02 (bs, 1H), 7.95-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.41 (bs, 1H), 7.25 -7.30 (m, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 167.3, 165.7, 163.2, 130.7, 130.6, 115.8, 115.5. GC-MS: *m/z* = 139 [M]⁺, 123 [M-NH₂]⁺, 95 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3325, 3147, 1676, 1624, 1590, 1512, 1416, 1400 cm⁻¹.



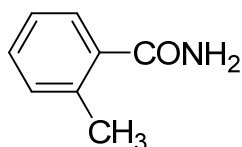
2f^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 8.03 (bs, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (bs, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.9, 133.3, 131.2, 129.6, 125.0. GC-MS: *m/z* = 201 [M+2]⁺, 199[M]⁺, 185 [M+2-NH₂]⁺, 183 [M-NH₂]⁺, 157 [M+2-CONH₂]⁺, 155 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3357, 3174, 1705, 1659, 1622, 1407, 1146 cm⁻¹.



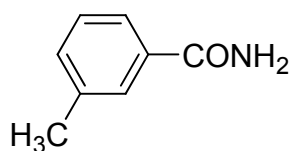
2g^{S5}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.12 (bs, 1H), 5.71 (bs, 1H), 2.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 197.7, 167.1, 138.6, 138.0, 128.1, 127.7, 26.9. GC-MS: *m/z* = 163 [M]⁺, 148 [M-CH₃]⁺, 120. IR (KBr): ν = 3400, 3190, 1680, 1656, 1416, 1269 3368, 3195, 1637, 1616, 1404 cm⁻¹.



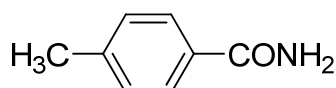
2h^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 8.31-8.29 (m, 3H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (bs, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.2, 149.0, 139.9, 128.9, 123.4. GC-MS: *m/z* = 166 [M]⁺, 150 [M-NH₂]⁺, 120, 76. IR (KBr): ν = 3473, 3414, 3308, 3178, 1669, 1591, 1514, 1339 cm⁻¹.



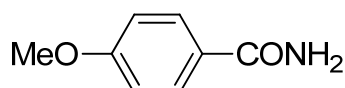
2i^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.45 (dd, *J* = 7.4 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dt, *J* = 7.5 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.28 (m, 2H), 5.90 (bd, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 171.0, 137.0, 135.0, 130.4, 129.1, 126.9, 125.3, 19.5. GC-MS: *m/z* = 135 [M]⁺, 119 [M-NH₂]⁺, 91 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3364, 3177, 2803, 1637, 1496, 1454, 1416, 1283 cm⁻¹.



2j^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 6.07 (bd, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 168.1, 137.4, 134.2, 131.8, 128.1, 124.6, 20.9. GC-MS: *m/z* = 135 [M]⁺, 119 [M-NH₂]⁺, 91 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3374, 3194, 2917, 1648, 1615, 1385, 1112 cm⁻¹.

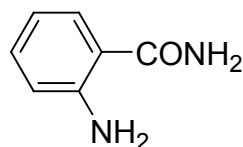


2k^{S1}: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.04 (bs, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 168.3, 141.6, 132.0, 129.2, 128.0, 21.5. GC-MS: *m/z* = 135 [M]⁺, 119 [M-NH₂]⁺, 91 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3336, 3155, 1672, 1616, 1413 cm⁻¹.

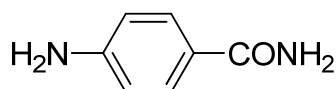


2l^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.91 (bs, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO,

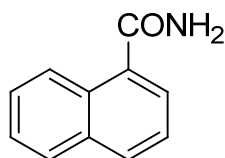
298 K): δ = 168.0, 162.1, 129.9, 127.0, 113.9, 55.8. GC-MS: m/z = 151 $[M]^+$, 135 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 107 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3388, 3168, 2970, 1643, 1572, 1395 cm^{-1} .



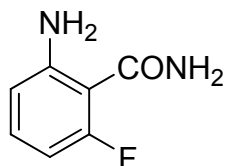
2m^{S6}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ = 7.36 (dd, J = 8.0 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dt, J = 7.7 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.61-6.70 (m, 2H), 5.50-6.00 (m, 4H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 171.3, 150.2, 131.9, 128.7, 116.4, 114.3, 113.6. GC-MS: m/z = 136 $[M]^+$, 119 $[M-NH_3]^+$, 92 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3413, 3319, 3189, 1664, 1628, 1609, 1536, 1401, 1315 cm^{-1} .



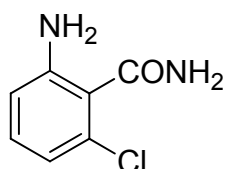
2n^{S7}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 7.57 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (bs, 1H), 6.80 (bs, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.59 (bs, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 168.6, 152.2, 129.6, 121.4, 113.0. GC-MS: m/z = 136 $[M]^+$, 120 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 92 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3466, 3350, 3215, 1604, 1389, 1291 cm^{-1} .



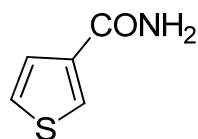
2o^{S2}: 1H -NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ = 8.42 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (bs, 2H). ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO, 298 K): δ = 170.5, 134.6, 133.1, 129.7, 129.6, 128.1, 126.6, 126.1, 125.5, 125.1, 124.9. GC-MS: m/z = 171 $[M]^+$, 155 $[M-NH_2]^+$, 127 $[M-CONH_2]^+$. IR (KBr): ν = 3331, 3157, 3048, 1663, 1615, 1507, 1414, 1364, 1151, 1121 cm^{-1} .



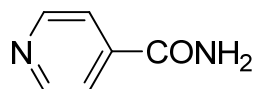
2p^{S8}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.11 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (bs, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (dd, J = 13.2 and 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (bs, 2H), 5.77 (bs, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.7, 162.0, 159.5, 150.5, 150.4, 131.3, 131.2, 111.6, 101.6, 101.4. GC-MS: m/z = 154 [M]⁺, 137 [M-NH₃]⁺, 110 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3487, 3423, 1646, 1635, 1455, 1406, 1295 cm⁻¹.



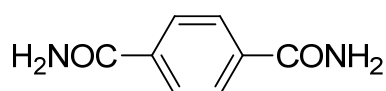
2q^{S8}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.06 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (bs, 2H), 4.82 (bs, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 167.5, 147.0, 129.9, 129.8, 121.6, 116.1, 113.6. GC-MS: m/z = 172 [M+2]⁺, 170 [M]⁺, 155 [M+2-NH₃]⁺, 153 [M-NH₃]⁺, 128 [M+2-CONH₂]⁺, 126 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3474, 3429, 3329, 3160, 1650, 1569, 1470, 1449, 1395 cm⁻¹.



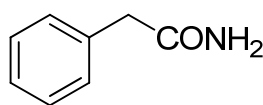
2r^{S2}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K) : δ = 8.12 (dd, J = 2.9 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (bs, 1H), 7.44-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.22 (bs, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 164.3, 137.9, 129.5, 127.4, 127.0. GC-MS: m/z = 127 [M]⁺, 111 [M-NH₂]⁺, 83 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3360, 3169, 1658, 1611, 1435 cm⁻¹.



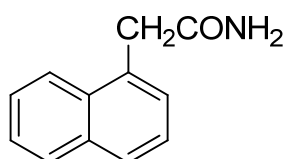
2s^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 8.77 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H), 6.14 (bd, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.3, 150.2, 141.2, 121.4. GC-MS: *m/z* = 122 [M]⁺, 106 [M-NH₂]⁺, 78 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3341, 3057, 1682, 1626, 1552, 1388 cm⁻¹.



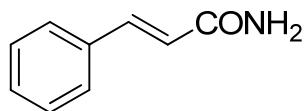
2t^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 8.08 (bs, 2H), 7.93 (s, 4H), 7.50 (bs, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 167.8, 137.1, 127.9. MS: *m/z* = 164 [M]⁺, 148 [M-NH₂]⁺, 120 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3360, 3162, 2779, 1661, 1618, 1410, 1388, 1129 cm⁻¹.



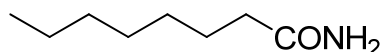
2u^{S9}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.10-7.76 (m, 5H), 5.98 (bs, 1H), 5.47 (bs, 1H), 3.57 (s, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 172.2, 136.5, 129.0, 128.1, 126.2, 42.2. GC-MS: *m/z* = 135 [M]⁺, 91 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3364, 3177, 2803, 1637, 1496, 1454, 1416, 1283 cm⁻¹.



2v^{S10}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.32 (m, 5H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 172.1, 133.3, 132.9, 132.0, 128.3, 127.8, 126.9, 125.9, 125.6, 125.5, 124.3, 39.6. GC-MS: *m/z* = 185 [M]⁺, 141 [M-CONH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3434, 3376, 3185, 1662, 1619, 1397 cm⁻¹.



2w^{S1}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ = 7.64 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (q, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 3H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (bs, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 166.7, 139.1, 134.8, 129.4, 128.9, 127.5, 122.3. GC-MS: *m/z* = 147 [M]⁺, 146 [M-H]⁺, 131 [M-NH₂]⁺, 103 [M-CONH₂]⁺, 77. IR (KBr): ν = 3370, 3166, 1662, 1607, 1398 cm⁻¹.



2x^{S6}: ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 7.26 (bs, 1H), 6.67 (bs, 1H), 2.01 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.24 (m, 8H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO, 298 K): δ = 174.3, 35.0, 31.1, 28.6, 28.4, 25.0, 22.0, 13.9. GC-MS: *m/z* = 143 [M]⁺, 127 [M-NH₂]⁺, 114 [M-CH₃CH₂]⁺. IR (KBr): ν = 3429, 2955, 2924, 2866, 1659, 1633, 1469, 1428, 1412 cm⁻¹.

References

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