A Facile Approach to Highly Functional Trisubstituted Furans via Intramolecular Wittig Reactions

Ko-Wei Chen, Siang-en Syu, Yeong-Jiunn Jang, and Wenwei Lin*

Department of Chemistry, National Taiwan Normal University No. 88, Section 4, Tingchow Road, Taipei 116, Taiwan, ROC Fax: (+886) 02 29354249 e-mail: wenweilin@ntnu.edu.tw

Supplementary Information

Index

I. General Information	S2
II. Typical procedure for syntheses of furans 1 from 2 and acid chlorides	3 in the
presence of Bu ₃ P and Et ₃ N. (TP for Tables 1-3, Schemes 2 and 4)	S2
III. Spectra data of compounds 1, 2 and 8	S2
IV. Spectra of X-ray crystallography (1da, 1oa, 2l, 2n, 2o, 2p, 2r, and 8)	S28
V. Spectra of ¹ H, ¹³ C, and ³¹ P NMR	S30

I. General Information: All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere in dried glassware. All starting materials were purchased from commercial sources, and used without further purification. THF was continuously refluxed and freshly distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl under nitrogen. Yields refer to isolated yields of compounds estimated to be > 95 % pure as determined by ¹H-NMR. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck 60 F254 precoated silica gel plate (0.2 mm thickness). Flash chromatography was performed using Merck silica gel 60. The temperature of our RT condition ranges from 27 to 30 °C. Majority of β-aryl-substituted α,β-unsaturated ketones are commercial available, except **21**, **2n**, **2o**, **2p**, and **2r**, which are prepared according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

II. Typical procedure for syntheses of furans 1 from 2 and acid chlorides 3 in the presence of Bu_3P and $Et_3N_.$ (TP for Tables 1-3, Schemes 2 and 4)



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 10-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was charged with a solution of acid chloride **3** (1.1 equiv) and Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (0.5 mL), A solution of **2** (0.5 mmol) in dry THF (2.0 mL) was added, which was followed by the addition of Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for the indicated time at room temperature. Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. Purification by flash chromatography furnished **1**.

III. Spectra data of compounds 1, 2 and 8:

Synthesis of 2,3,5-triphenylfuran (1aa)²:

¹ Choudary, B. M.; Kantam, M. L.; Ranganath, K. V. S.; Mahendar, K.; Sreedhar, B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 3396-3397

² Dudnik, Alexander S.; Gevorgyan, Vladimir. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 5195-5197



Prepared according to **TP** from **2a** (104.3 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 30 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes; R_f : 0.56) yielded **1aa** as white solids (112.4 mg, 76%).

¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.77 (d, 2H, J = 7.7Hz), 7.61 (d, 2H, J = 7.3Hz), 7.50-7.26 (m, 11H), 6.82 (s, 1H).
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.5, 147.9, 134.27, 131.1, 130.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 126.1, 124.5, 123.8, 109.4.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 296 [M]⁺ (100).

Synthesis of 3-(4-nitrophenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran (1ba):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2b** (126.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.41) yielded **1ba** as yellow solids (139.0 mg, 82%).

mp.: 126.5-126.7 °C

¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.23 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.81-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.40-7.30 (m, 4H), 6.84 (s, 1H).
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.4, 149.3, 146.7, 141.1, 130.2, 129.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 126.6, 123.9, 123.8, 122.2, 108.2.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 342 [M+1]⁺ (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3062 (w), 1598 (m), 1517 (s), 1344 (s). **HRMS** (ESI) for C₂₂H₁₆NO₃, [M+H]⁺ (342.1130) found: 342.1133.

Synthesis of 4-(2,5-diphenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ca)³:



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.41) yielded **1ca** as white solids (149.4 mg, 93%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.79-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.65 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.57 (d, 4H, J = 4.2 Hz), 7.42 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.40-7.29 (m, 4H), 6.82 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.3, 149.0, 139.1, 132.4, 130.3, 130.0, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 126.5, 123.8, 122.6, 118.8, 110.7, 108.2.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 321[M]⁺ (100).

Synthesis of 3-(4-bromophenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran (1da):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2d** (143.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu_3P (137.0 µL, 1.1 equiv), Et_3N (84.0 µL, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 µL, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction

³ Braun, R. U.; Mueller, T. J. J. Synthesis **2004**, 2391-2406.

condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes; R_f : 0.58) yielded **1da** as white solids (136.5 mg, 73%).

mp.: 127.3-127.5 °C ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.78 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.53 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.45 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.40-7.27 (m, 6H), 6.80 (s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 152.8, 148.0, 133.2, 131.8, 130.8, 130.3, 130.2, 128.7, 128.5, 127.7, 127.6, 126.2, 123.8, 123.2, 121.2, 108.9. MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 376 [M+2]⁺ (100), 374 (64). IR (KBr) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (m), 3033 (m), 1547 (m), 1488 (s), 691 (m), 595 (m). HRMS (ESI) for C₂₂H₁₆BrO, [M+H]⁺ (375.0385) found: 375.0380.

Synthesis of 2,5-diphenyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)furan (1ea):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2e** (138.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes; R_f : 0.40) yielded **1ea** as white solid (152.1 mg, 93%).

mp.: 103.1-103.9 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.79 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.70-7.55 (m, 6H), 7.45 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.41-7.29 (m, 4H), 6.84 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 153.1, 148.6, 138.1, 130.6, 130.2, 129.4 (quartet, *J* = 32.0 Hz), 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 126.4, 125.6 (quartet, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 124.2 (quartet, *J* = 270.0 Hz), 123.9, 123.0, 108.8.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 364 [M]⁺ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 1617 (w), 1594 (w), 1495 (m), 1325 (s), 1167 (m), 1123 (m), 1067 (s).

HRMS (ESI) for $C_{23}H_{16}F_{3}O$, $[M+H]^+$ (365.1153) found: 365.1156.

Synthesis of 3-(3-nitrophenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran (1fa):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2f** (126.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.38) yielded **1fa** as yellow solid (143.5 mg, 84%).

mp.: 126.6-126.8 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.36-8.34 (m, 1H), 8.21-8.15 (m, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 3H), 7.60-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.39-7.29 (m, 4H), 6.86 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.2, 148.8, 148.5, 136.0, 134.5, 130.2, 130.0, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 126.3, 123.8, 123.2, 122.0, 121.9, 108.4.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 341 [M]⁺ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (w), 1528 (s), 1488 (m), 1440 (w), 1351 (s). **HRMS** (EI) for C₂₂H₁₆NO₃, [M+H]⁺ (342.1130) found: 342.1139.

Synthesis of 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran (1ga):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2g** (121.4 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes; R_f : 0.5) yielded **1ga** as yellow oil (128.8 mg, 78%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.69 (d, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.55-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.35 (t, 2H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.30-7.16 (m, 7H), 6.72 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.8, 148.3, 136.2, 134.5, 130.7, 130.3, 129.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 126.9, 126.2, 123.8, 128.1, 109,0. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 333[(M+2)+1]⁺ (15), 331 [M+1]⁺ (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (w), 1591 (m), 1561 (m), 1488 (s), 1148 (s), 765 (s), 695 (s).

HRMS (EI) for C₂₂H₁₅ClO, [M]⁺ (330.0811) found: 330.0811.

Synthesis of 3-(2-nitrophenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran (1ha):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2h** (126.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 60 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.24) yielded **1ha** as orange solid (119.1 mg, 70%).

mp.: 127.0-127.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.99 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.76 (d, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.63-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.35-7.21 (m, 4H), 6.71 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.8, 149.5, 148.7, 132.8, 130.1, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 125.5, 124.5, 123.9, 119.3, 109.1. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 342 [M+1]⁺ (32), 105 (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 1524 (s), 1488 (m), 1457(m), 1347 (m). **HRMS** (EI) for **C₂₂H₁₆NO₃**, [**M**+**H**]⁺ (342.1130) found: 342.1139.

Synthesis of 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,5-diphenylfuran⁴ (1ia):

⁴ Gopidas, K. R.; Cyr, D. R.; Das, P. K.; George, M. V. J. Org. Chem. **1987**, 52, 5505 - 5511



Prepared according to **TP** from **1ia** (119.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (187.0 μ L, 1.5 equiv), Et₃N (90.6 μ L, 1.3 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 2 h]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.44) yielded **2ia** as yellow oil (67.1 mg, 41%).

¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.79-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.21(m, 8H), 6.96-6.90 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H).
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 158.9, 152.4, 147.5, 131.2, 130.6, 129.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.4, 127.3, 126.6, 126.0, 124.2, 123.8, 114.1, 109.6, 55.2.
MS (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 327 [M+1]⁺ (100), 312 (11), 221 (9), 105 (11).

Synthesis of 2',5'-diphenyl-2,3'-bifuran (1ja):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2j** (99.8 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (63.8 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes; R_f : 0.30) yielded **1ja** as red solid (86.4 mg, 60%).

mp.: 70.8-72.4 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.87(d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.81 (d, 2H, J = 7.6Hz), 7.55-7.42 (m, 5H), 7.42-7.30 (m, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.58 (d, 1H, J = 3Hz), 6.54-6.47 (m, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.8, 148.3, 147.9, 141.5, 130.9, 130.2, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.7, 126.7, 123.9, 114.8, 111.2, 107.1, 107.0.
MS (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 286 [M]⁺ (100).
IR (CH₂Cl₂) ν̃ (cm⁻¹): 3114 (w), 3055 (m), 3033 (w), 1606 (m), 1484 (s), 1359 (w), 1148 (s).
HRMS (EI) for C₂₀H₁₄O₂, [M]⁺ (286.0994) found: 286.0987

Synthesis of 2,5-diphenyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)furan (1ka)⁵:



Prepared according to **TP** from **2k** (107.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 20 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.41) yielded **1ka** as yellow solid (103.0 mg, 68%).

¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.78 (t, 4H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.50-7.28 (m, 7H), 7.19 (d, 1H, J = 3.2 Hz), 7.13-7.06 (m, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H).
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.5, 148.5, 135.5, 130.7, 130.2, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 126.4, 126.0, 125.1, 123.8, 117.5, 109.6.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 302 [M]⁺ (100).

Synthesis of 4-(5-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (11a):



⁵ Morrison, B. J.; Musgrave, Oliver C. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1, 2002, 1944–1947.

Prepared according to **TP** from **2l** (139.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 20/1; R_f: 0.50) yielded **1la** as yellow oil (100.9 mg, 55%).

mp.: 210.5-212.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.29 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.87 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.68 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.56 (d, 4H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.38 (s, 3H), 7.05 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 151.2, 150.9, 146.7, 138.3, 135.6, 132.6, 129.6, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 126.8, 124.4, 124.0, 123.2, 118.6, 112.1, 111.3. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 367 [M+1]⁺ (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3107 (w), 2221 (m), 1598 (s), 1543 (m), 1510 (s), 1443 (m), 1333 (s), 1100 (s).

HRMS (EI) for $C_{23}H_{14}N_2O_3$, $[M]^+$ (366.1004) found: 366.0999.

Synthesis of 4-(5-(4-bromophenyl)-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ma):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2m** (156.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.25) yielded **1ma** as white solid (165.8 mg, 83%).

mp.: 145.0-146.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 7.69-7.44 (m, 10H), 7.41-7.28 (m, 3H), 6.78 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.1, 149.2, 138.7, 132.4, 131.8, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 126.5, 125.2, 122.6, 121.6, 118.7, 110.8, 108.7.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 401 [M+2]⁺ (100), 399[M]⁺ (72).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (w), 2229 (s), 1609 (s), 1488 (s), 1148(m), 1008(m), 695(s).

HRMS (EI) for C₂₃H₁₄BrNO, [M]⁺ (399.0251) found: 399.0259.

Synthesis of 4-(5-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1na):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2n** (139.1mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 10/1; R_f: 0.27) yielded **1na** as yellow solid (124.4 mg, 68%).

mp.: 185.5-187.3 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 8.53 (s, 1H), 8.12 (dd, 2H, J = 8.1, 1.7 Hz), 7.66 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.63-7.51 (m, 5H), 7.41-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.98 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 150.7, 150.3, 148.7, 138.4, 132.5, 131.5, 129.8, 129.7, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 126.7, 122.8, 122.1, 118.6, 118.4, 111.1, 110.4.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 367 [M+1]⁺ (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3048 (s), 2303 (m), 2229 (s), 1558 (m), 1532 (m). **HRMS** (ESI) for **C**₂₃**H**₁₄**N**₂**NaO**, [**M**+**Na**]⁺ (389.0902) found: 389.0910.

Synthesis of 4-(5-(2-bromophenyl)-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (10a):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2o** (156.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.39) yielded **1oa** as lemon yellow solid (133.9 mg, 67%).

mp.: 124.5-126.1 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 7.95-7.86 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.50 (m, 7H), 7.45-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.11 (m, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 150.6, 149.2, 138.9, 134.3, 132.4, 130.4, 130.1, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.5, 126.7, 122.3, 119.6, 118.8, 113.7, 110.8.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 402 $[(M+2)+1]^+$ (59), 400 $[M+1]^+$ (100),.

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (m), 2229 (s), 1613 (s), 1469 (s), 1156 (m), 1023 (s), 694 (s).

HRMS (ESI) for C₂₃H₁₅BrNO, [M+H]⁺ (400.0337) found: 400.0341.

Synthesis of 4-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1pa):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2p** (131.7 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 20/1; R_f: 0.30) yielded **1pa** as lemon yellow solid (121.2 mg, 69%).

mp.: 121.5-123.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.68 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.63 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.54 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.39-7.27 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 6.67 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 159.4, 153.4, 148.3, 139.2, 132.4, 130.4, 130.0, 128.6, 128.0, 126.4, 125.3, 123.0, 122.5, 118.8, 114.2, 110.5, 106.7, 55.3. **MS** (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 351 [M]⁺ (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 2229 (s), 1609 (s), 1502 (s), 1303 (m), 1252 (s). **HRMS** (MALDI) for C₂₄H₁₈NO₂, [M+H]⁺ (352.1337) found: 352.1341.

Synthesis of 4-(5-tert-butyl-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1qa):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2q** (106.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 60 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.27) yielded **1qa** as white solid (78.1 mg, 52%).

mp.: 152.8-153.7 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.58 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.52-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 164.1, 147.7, 139.8, 132.3, 131.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 126.4, 120.9, 119.0, 110.2, 105.6, 32.7, 29.0. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 302 [M+1]⁺ (100), 286 (73). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (w), 2229 (s), 1609 (m), 1558 (m), 1510 (m). **HRMS** (EI) for **C₂₁H₁₉NO**, [**M**]⁺ (301.1467) found: 301.1469.

Synthesis of 4-(5-cyclohexyl-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ra):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2r** (83.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), tributylphosphine (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), triethylamine (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF

(2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 60 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f : 0.38) yielded **1ra** as white solid (83.1 mg, 51%).

mp.: 161.3-162.1 °C ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.54 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.48-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 2.70-2.60 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.64 (m, 3H), 1.44-1.16 (m, 5H). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 160.9, 147.6, 139.8, 132.3, 130.9, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 126.4, 120.9, 118.9, 110.2, 106.4, 37.2, 31.4, 26.0, 25.8. MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 327 [M]⁺ (100), 285 (21). IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (m), 2221 (s), 1602 (s), 1558 (s), 1448 (s), 1255 (m). HRMS (MALDI) for C₂₃H₂₂NO, [M+H]⁺ (328.1711) found: 328.1701.

Synthesis of ethyl 2'-phenyl-2,3'-bifuran-5'-carboxylate (1sa):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2s** (179.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 0.5 h]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.30) yielded **1sa** as colorless oil (132.0 mg, 55%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.78 (d, 2H, J = 6.5 Hz), 7.44-7.40 (m, 5H), 6.50-6.49 (m, 1H), 6.45-6.44 (m, 1H), 4.40 (quartet, 2H, J = 7.0 Hz), 1.40 (t, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 158.7, 152.2, 146.6, 143.4, 142.0, 129.8, 129.3, 128.4, 127.5, 119.1, 114.7, 111.3, 107.7, 61.1, 14.4.
MS (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 282 [M]⁺ (100), 254 (39), 181 (10).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 2988 (w), 1723 (s), 1476 (s), 1321 (s), 1177 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{17}H_{15}O_4$, $[M+H]^+$ (283.0970) found: 283.0979.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cb):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3b** (74.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 10/1; R_f: 0.32) yielded **1cb** as yellow solid (119.6 mg, 65%).

mp.: 197.2-199.2 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.16 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.88-7.30 (m, 11H), 6.84 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 155.0, 146.6, 146.1, 138.3, 136.1, 132.8, 129.3, 129.3, 129.0, 128.7, 126.4, 126.1, 124.1, 124.2, 118.4, 111.9, 109.4.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 367 $[M+1]^+$ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3113 (w), 3061 (w), 2227 (s), 1598 (s), 1544 (m), 1515 (s), 1338 (s), 1110 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for C₂₃H₁₅N₂O₃, [M+H]⁺ (367.1077) found: 367.1093.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cc):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3c** (70.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 20/1; R_f: 0.32) yielded **1cc** as white solid (137.3 mg, 77%).

mp.: 138.1-139.0 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.74 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.65 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.52-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.37-7.28 (m, 3H), 6.79 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 153.5, 147.7, 138.7, 134.0, 132.5, 129.7,

129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.6, 123.8, 123.1, 118.7, 111.0, 108.4.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 357 $[M+2]^+$ (74), 355 $[M]^+$ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 2229 (s), 1609 (s), 1491 (s), 1266 (m), 1097 (m), 957 (m), 821 (s), 761 (m), 691 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for C₂₃H₁₅ClNO, [M+H]⁺ (356.0842) found: 356.0851.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cd):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3d** (78.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 20/1; R_f: 0.32) yielded **1cd** as yellow solid (139.4 mg, 80%).

mp.: 145.0-147.0 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.63 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.54 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz), 7.43 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.35-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.80 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 159.7, 152.8, 149.2, 139.2, 132.3, 130.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 123.7, 123.0, 121.2, 118.9, 114.1, 110.4, 108.0, 55.2.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 352 [M+1]⁺ (100), 336 (10).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3113 (w), 3061 (m), 3002 (m), 2962 (m), 2939 (m), 2906 (m), 2227 (s), 1608 (s), 1570 (m), 1516 (s), 1492 (s), 1385 (m), 1301 (m), 1254 (s), 1177 (s), 1028 (s).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{24}H_{17}NO_2$, $[M+H]^+$ (352.1337) found: 352.1345.

Synthesis of 4-(5-phenyl-2-p-tolylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ce):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3e** (74.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1: 0.42) yielded **1ce** as lemon yellow solid (145.5 mg, 87%).

mp.: 169.5-170.9 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.76 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.63 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.55 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.50-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 6.81 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.1, 149.4, 139.3, 138.5, 132.5, 130.2, 129.5, 129.1, 128.9, 127.9, 127.6, 126.7, 123.9, 122.1, 119.0, 110.6, 108.2, 21.3. **MS** (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 336 [M+1]⁺ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3061 (w), 3031 (w), 2923 (w), 2867 (w), 2227 (s), 1608 (s), 1516 (m), 1493 (s), 1384 (w), 1148 (m), 1051 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{24}H_{18}NO$, $[M+H]^+$ (336.1388) found: 336.1395.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cf):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3f** (72.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.28) yielded **1cf** as lemon yellow solid (118.4 mg, 67%).

mp.: 105.5-107.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.73 (d, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.65 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.58-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.42 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.36-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.8, 147.2, 138.6, 134.7, 132.5, 132.0, 129.8, 129.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 126.2, 124.3, 123.9, 123.6, 118.7, 111.1, 108.5.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 357 [M+2]⁺(34), 356 [M+1]⁺ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3120 (w), 3064 (m), 2227 (s), 1608 (s), 1592 (s), 1254 (m), 1149 (s), 762 (s).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{23}H_{14}CINO$, $[M+H]^+$ (356.0842) found: 356.0851.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ch):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3h** (70.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.25) yielded **1ch** as white solid (118.1 mg, 72%).

mp.: 118.8-119.4 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.77 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.56 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.53-7.29 (m, 9H), 6.98 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 154.3, 147.0, 138.2, 133.9, 132.3, 132.1, 130.6, 130.4, 129.9, 129.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.6, 126.9, 124.5, 123.9, 118.8, 110.3, 106.0.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 357 [M+2]⁺ (34), 356 [M+1]⁺ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3117 (w), 3064 (m), 2227 (s), 1610 (s), 1557 (m), 1384 (m), 1182 (s), 1151 (s), 762 (s).

HRMS (MALDI) for C₂₃H₁₅ClNO, [M+H]⁺(356.0842) found: 356.0854.

Synthesis of 4-(2-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ci):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3i** (74.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.25) yielded **1ci** as white solid (122.0 mg, 67%).

mp.: 122.2-123.2 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 7.80-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.29 (m, 8H), 6.98 (s, 1H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 154.3, 148.6, 138.1, 133.8, 132.5, 132.4, 132.1, 131.0, 130.0, 128.9, 128.2, 127.8, 127.6, 124.2, 124.1, 124.0, 118.9, 110.4, 105.9.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 401 $[M+2]^+$ (93), 400 $[M+1]^+$ (100).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3120 (w), 3064 (m), 2227 (s), 1607 (s), 1487 (s), 1462 (m), 1267 (m), 1241 (m), 1147 (s), 1028 (s), 689 (s).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{23}H_{15}BrNO$, $[M+H]^+$ (400.0337) found: 400.0348.

Synthesis of 4-(5-phenyl-2,2'-bifuran-3-yl)benzonitrile³ (1cj):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu_3P (137.0 µL, 1.1 equiv), Et_3N (84.0 µL, 1.2 equiv), and **3j** (55.0 µL, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction

condition: RT for 60 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f : 0.28) yielded **1cj** as red solid (79.0 mg, 62%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.70-7.63 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.41 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, 1H, J = 3.4 Hz), 6.53-6.47 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMP (100 MHz, CDCl, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 153.4, 145.6, 142.4, 141.1, 137.9, 132.0

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.4, 145.6, 142.4, 141.1, 137.9, 132.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 123.9, 122.7, 118.9, 111.5, 110.7, 108.3, 107.7.
MS (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 312 [M+1]⁺ (100).

Synthesis of 4-(5-phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)furan-3-yl)benzonitrile (1ck):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3k** (62.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.32) yielded **1ck** as green solid (117.9 mg, 72%).

mp.: 115.1-115.5 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.74-7.64 (m, 6H), 7.43 (t, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.37-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.06-6.98 (m, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 153.1, 144.4, 138.4, 132.4, 132.2, 129.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.0, 127.5, 125.7, 125.0, 123.8, 122.4, 118.8, 111.0, 108.1. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 327 [M]⁺ (100). **IB** (CH Cl) \tilde{u} (am^{-1}): 3110 (w) 3071 (w) 2227 (a) 1608 (c) 1556 (w) 1525 (w)

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3110 (w), 3071 (w), 2227 (s), 1608 (s), 1556 (w), 1525 (w), 1495 (m), 1248 (w), 1146 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{21}H_{14}NOS$, $[M+H]^+$ (328.0796) found: 328.0801.

Synthesis of 4-(2-methyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cl):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (126.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (187.0 μ L, 1.5 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3l** (40.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 1800 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.25) yielded **1cl** as white solids (28.0 mg, 24%).

mp.: 134.9-136.0 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.72-7.63 (m, 4H), 7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.2Hz), 7.39 (t, 2H, J = 7.6Hz), 7.30-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 152.4, 148.9, 138.9, 132.4, 130.3, 128.7, 127.7, 127.5, 123.5, 121.7, 119.0, 109.8, 105.5, 13.5. **MS** (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 260 [M+1]⁺ (19), 259 [M] (100). **IR** (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3057 (w), 2921 (w), 2220 (s), 1606 (s), 1560 (m), 1504 (m), 1486 (m), 1443 (m), 1223 (m), 1181 (m), 1060 (m). **HRMS** (EI) for **C₁₈H₁₃NO**, [**M**]⁺ (259.0997) found: 259.0993.

Synthesis of 4-(2-isopropyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)benzonitrile (1cm):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2c** (116.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3l** (60.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 60 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.29) yielded **1cl** as white solid (75.0 mg, 52%).

mp.: 112.1-122.9 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 7.67 (d, 4H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.48 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.39 (t, 2H, 7.6Hz), 7.26 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.24 (septet, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 1.37 (d, 6H, J = 6.8 Hz).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 157.0, 152.0, 139.1, 132.4, 130.4, 128.7, 128.3, 127.4, 123.5, 120.1, 119.0, 110.0, 105.7, 26.8, 21.6.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 287 [M]⁺ (100), 272 (77).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3055 (w), 2229 (s), 1609 (s), 1488 (s), 1075 (m), 761 (m).

HRMS (EI) for C₂₀H₁₇NO, [M]⁺ (287.1310) found: 287.1307.

Synthesis of ethyl 2,5-diphenylfuran-3-carboxylate⁶ (1ta):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2t** (92.0 μ L, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 50/1; R_f: 0.38) yielded **1ta** as white solid (101.3 mg, 70%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.12 (d, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz), 7.76 (d, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.53-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.37-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.11(s, 1H), 4.36 (quartet, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.39 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.4, 156.4, 152.3, 129.7, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 123.9, 115.7, 107.9, 60.5, 14.2.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 292 [M]⁺ (100).

Synthesis of ethyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate⁶ (1tc):

⁶ Kajikawa, S.; Noiri, Y.; Shudo, H.; Nishino, H.; Kurosawa, K. Synthesis, 1998, 1457-1462



Prepared according to **TP** from **2t** (92.0 μ L, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **3c** (70.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 10 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 20/1; R_f: 0.54) yielded **1tc** as white solid (98.0 mg, 60%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.06 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.73 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.50-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 4.34 (quartet, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.38 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 163.4, 155.1, 152.5, 135.2, 129.5, 128.8, 128.4, 128.2, 124.0, 116.2, 108.0, 67.7, 14.2.

MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 328 $[M+2]^+$ (28), 326 (100).

Synthesis of (2,5-diphenylfuran-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone⁷ (1ua):



Prepared according to **TP** from **2u** (118.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv), and **1a** (64.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv) in dry THF (2.5 mL) [reaction condition: RT for 2400 min]. Purification by *flash*-chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate: 40/1; R_f: 0.33) yielded **1ua** as yellow liquid (94.6 mg, 58%).

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.92 (d, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.86-7.74 (m, 4H), 7.59-7.28 (m, 9H), 6.95 (s, 1H). ¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 191.6, 154.8, 152.4, 137.9, 132.8, 129.7,

128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.3, 124.0, 122.7, 108.6.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 324 [M]⁺ (100), 247 (78), 105 (71).

⁷ Perrier, H.; Bayly, C.; Laliberte, F.; Huang, Z.; Rasori, R.; Robichaud, A.; Girard, Y.; Macdonald, D. *Bio. Med. Chem. Lett.* **1999**, *9*, 323-326.

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile⁸ (2l):



The compound **2l** was yielded as orange solid (1.15 g, 35%) according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.37 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 8.16 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.83 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.7 Hz), 7.75 (s, 4H), 7.40 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.7 Hz).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 188.3, 150.3, 143.9, 142.3, 138.5, 132.8, 129.5, 128.9, 124.2, 124.0, 118.2, 114.1.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 277 [M-1]⁺ (100), 260 (7), 231 (15), 156 (7).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3047 (w), 2221 (s), 1731(w), 1672 (s), 1609 (s), 1524 (s), 1333 (s).

HRMS (EI) for C₁₆H₁₀N₂O₃, [M]⁺ (278.0691) found: 278.0695.

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile⁸ (2n):



The compound 2n was yielded as brown solid (0.79 g, 56%) according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ /ppm: 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.51-8.44 (m, 1H), 8.37 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.87 (d, 1H, J = 15.7Hz), 7.80-7.70 (m, 5H), 7.61 (d, 1H, J = 15.6 Hz).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 187.4, 148.5, 143.9, 138.9, 138.5, 134.1, 132.8, 130.1, 129.0, 127.5, 123.6, 123.3, 118.2, 114.2.
MS (20 eV, EI) m/z (%): 277 [M-1]⁺ (100).

⁸ Dzurilla, M.; Kristian, P. Collect. Czech. Chem. Commun. 1970, 35, 417 - 429

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3092 (w), 3041 (w), 2229 (s), 1668 (s), 1609 (s), 1528 (s), 1432 (m), 1347 (s), 1336 (s).

HRMS (MALDI) for $C_{16}H_{11}N_2O_3$, $[M+H]^+$ (279.07769) found: 279.0775.

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-(2-bromophenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile (20):



The compound **20** was yielded as yellow solid (2.0784 g, 67%) according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

mp.: 130.2-131.1 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 7.70-7.60 (m, 5H), 7.47-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, 1H, J = 16.1 Hz).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 193.6, 143.0, 140.5, 138.6, 133.4, 132.6, 131.8, 129.3, 128.7, 127.4, 119.4, 118.2, 113.6.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 313 [M+2]⁺ (92), 311 [M]⁺ (100), 232(51), 156 (30).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 2221 (s), 1668 (s), 1602 (s), 1333 (s), 665 (m), 629 (m).

HRMS (MALDI) for C₁₆H₁₁BrNO, [M+H]⁺ (312.0024) found: 312.0032.

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile⁹ (2p):



The compound $2\mathbf{r}$ was yielded as lemon yellow solid (1.96 g, 75%) according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 8.06-8.01 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.67 (m, 5H), 7.61 (d, 1H, J = 15.6 Hz), 7.02-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

⁹ Schramm; Oana G.; Mueller, Thomas J. J. Synlett. 2006, 1841-1846

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 187.8, 163.8, 141.2, 139.4, 132.6, 130.9,

130.5, 128.6, 125.0, 118.4, 114.0, 113.2, 55.5.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 263 [M]⁺ (100), 135 (49), 108 (7).

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-cyclohexyl-3-oxoprop-1-enyl)benzonitrile (2r):



The compound 2p was yielded as white solid (0.21 g, 20%) according to the procedure of the reported literature¹.

mp.: 93.8-94.6 °C

¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) *δ*/ppm: 7.69-7.61 (m, 4H), 7.55 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 6.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 2.68-2.58 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.78 (m, 4H), 1.75-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.49-1.17 (m, 5H).

¹³**C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 202.32, 139.6, 139.1, 132.6, 128.5, 127.5, 118.3, 113.3, 48.8, 28.5, 25.8, 25.6.

MS (20 eV, EI) *m*/*z* (%): 240 [M+1]⁺ (100), 184 (14), 171 (35), 156 (58), 130 (11), 83 (5).

IR (CH₂Cl₂) $\tilde{\nu}$ (cm⁻¹): 3063 (w), 2982 (w), 2944 (w), 2223 (m), 1661 (s), 1613 (s), 1510 (m).

HRMS (EI) for C₁₆H₁₈NO, [M+H]⁺ (240.1388) found: 240.1398.

Synthesis of ((1Z,3E)-1,4-bis(benzoyloxy)-1,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dien-2-yl) tributylphosphonium chloride (8):



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 10-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was charged with a solution of **3a** (128.0 μ L, 2.2 equiv), Bu₃P (137.0 μ L, 1.1 equiv), Et₃N (84.0 μ L, 1.2 equiv) and **2u** (118.1 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry THF (2.5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature.

Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation in vacuo. Purification by simply washing with pentane, and ethyl acetate, then recrystallization (dichloromethane / hexanes) furnishes the adduct 8 and NEt₃·HCl.

¹**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.81 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.61 (quartet, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.49-7.34 (m, 9 Hz), 7.30-7.21 (m, 5H), 6.81 (d, 1H, 4.5 Hz), 2.68-2.54 (m, 6H), 1.32-1.27 (m, 12H), 0.75 (t, 9H, 7.2 Hz). ¹³**C-NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.4, 162.8, 162.2, 150.9 (d, J = 8 Hz), 135.2, 134.3, 133.2 (d, J = 7 Hz), 132.9, 131.1, 129.9, 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6 (d, J = 3 Hz), 128.5, 127.7, 127.5, 126.7, 124.9, 107.9 (d, J = 3 Hz), 103.8 (d, J = 58 Hz), 24.0 (d, J = 3 Hz), 23.9 (d, J = 5 Hz), 21.1 (d, J = 38 Hz), 13.1. ³¹**P-NMR** (200 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 32.7. **MS** (20 eV, ESI) m/z (%): 648 [M-34]⁺ (37), 647 [M-35]⁺ (100). **HRMS** (FAB) for **C**₄₂**H**₄₈**O**₄**P**, [**M-Cl**]⁺ (647.3285) found: 647.3290.

X-ray analysis: CCDC 792216

VI. Spectra of X-ray crystallography (1da, 1oa, and 8) 1da:

CCDC 792217



1oa: CCDC 792218



8: CCDC 792216



V. Spectra of ¹H, ¹³C, and ³¹P NMR




















Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2011



















S48

































S64
































S80





S82









Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2011















Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2011































