

Supporting materials

Formation of C(sp²)-S bond through decarboxylation of α - Oxocarboxylic Acids with Disulfides or Thiophenols

*Guangwei Rong^a, Jincheng Mao,^{*a,b} Defu Liu^a, Hong Yan^a, Yang Zheng^a, and Jie Chen^a*

^a Key Laboratory of Organic Synthesis of Jiangsu Province College of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Soochow University, Suzhou 215123, P. R. China

^b State Key Laboratory of Oil and Gas Reservoir Geology and Exploitation, Southwest Petroleum University, Chengdu 610500, P. R. China
jcmao@suda.edu.cn

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Experimental Section

General information

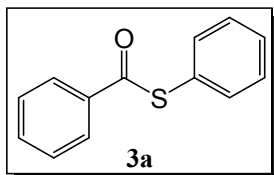
All manipulations were carried out under air atmosphere. α -Oxocarboxylic acids, disulfides and thiophenols were purchased from Acros Organics and used without further purification. Copper catalysts and oxidants were purchased from Adamas corporation. Column chromatography was generally performed on silica gel (300-400 mesh) and reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using UV light to visualize the course of the reactions. The ^1H (400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz) data were recorded on Varian 400 M spectrometers using CDCl_3 as solvent. The chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm and coupling constants (J) in Hz. ^1H NMR spectra was recorded with tetramethylsilane ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm) as internal reference; ^{13}C NMR spectra was recorded with CDCl_3 ($\delta = 77.00$ ppm) as internal reference. MS were performed by the State-authorized Analytical Center in Soochow University.

General procedure for copper-catalyzed decarboxylative coupling between α -oxocarboxylic acids with disulfides or thiophenols:

A mixture of α -oxocarboxylic acid (0.3 mmol), disulfide (0.3 mmol) or thiophenol (0.6 mmol), $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ (0.6 mmol), CuO (20 mol%), and DMSO/water (5/1) (2 mL) in a sealed tube was stirred in air at 80 °C for 12 h. At the end of the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and was diluted with ethyl acetate (15 mL, three times) and water (20 mL) was added. The combined organic phase (45 mL) was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After removal of the solvent, the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate and petroleum ether mixtures to afford the corresponding product.

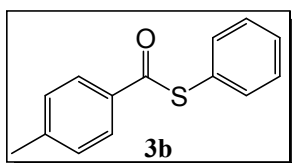
Characterization of the corresponding products:

S-Phenyl benzothioate^{1,2}



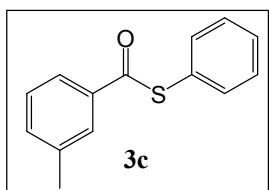
White solid, mp: 51 – 53°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1667 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.95 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.37 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 190.2, 136.7, 135.1, 133.7, 129.6, 129.3, 128.8, 127.5, 127.4; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{OS}$ 215.1, found 215.1 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 4-methylbenzothioate³



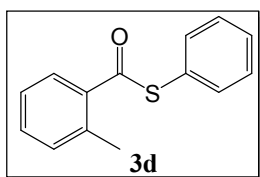
White solid, mp: 78 – 80°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1668 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.92 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.26 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 189.7, 144.6, 135.2, 134.1, 129.4, 129.2, 127.6, 21.7; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 3-methylbenzothioate⁴



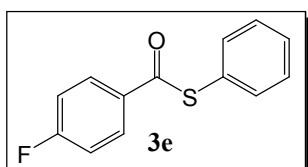
White solid, mp: 95 – 97°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1665 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.85 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 190.3, 138.7, 136.7, 135.1, 134.5, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 124.7, 21.4; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 2-methylbenzothioate⁵



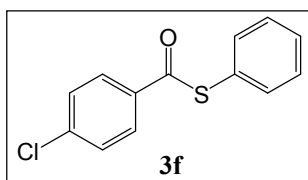
White solid, mp: 46 – 48°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1691 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.94 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 191.7, 137.0, 136.3, 134.4, 131.6, 131.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.8, 125.4, 20.3; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺.

S-Phenyl 4-fluorobenzothioate²



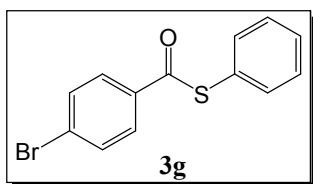
White solid, mp: 60 – 62°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1676 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.08-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 188.7, 166.1 (d, $J = 253.8$ Hz), 135.1, 133.0 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz), 130.1 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz), 129.7, 129.3, 127.1, 115.9 (d, $J = 22.0$ Hz); MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{FOS}$ 233.0, found 233.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺.

S-Phenyl 4-chlorobenzothioate³



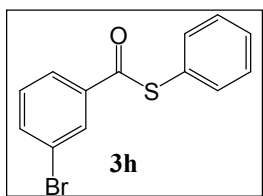
White solid, mp: 56 – 58°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1675 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.97 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.42 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 189.0, 140.1, 135.1, 135.0, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 126.9; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{ClOS}$ 249.0, found 249.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$)⁺.

S-Phenyl 4-bromobenzothioate³



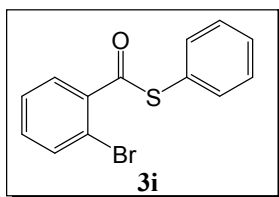
White solid, mp: 94 – 96°C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1673 (C=O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.43 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 188.8, 134.9, 134.6, 131.6, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 126.4; MS (m/z) calcd for C₁₃H₉BrOS 293.0, found 293.0 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 3-bromobenzothioate²



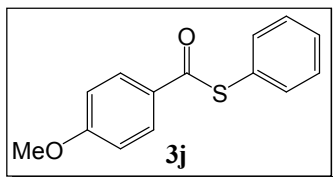
White solid, 42 – 44°C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1674 (C=O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.45 (m, 5H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 188.5, 137.9, 136.0, 134.5, 130.0, 139.8, 129.3, 128.9, 126.3, 125.6, 122.5; MS (m/z) calcd for C₁₃H₉BrOS 293.0, found 293.0 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 2-bromobenzothioate³



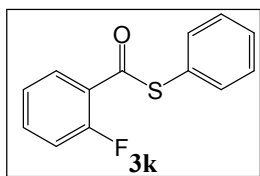
White solid, 56 – 58°C; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 1702 (C=O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 7.71 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.42 – 7.31 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) (δ, ppm): 191.1, 139.2, 134.6, 134.1, 132.4, 129.8, 129.4, 129.0, 127.4, 127.3, 119.1; MS (m/z) calcd for C₁₃H₉BrOS 293.0, found 293.0 (M+H)⁺.

S-Phenyl 4-methoxybenzothioate²



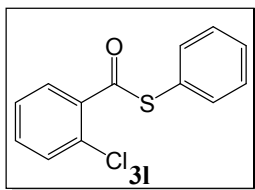
White solid, 92 – 94°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1666 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.00 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 6.95 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 188.6, 164.0, 135.2, 129.7, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 127.7, 113.9, 55.6; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ 267.0, found 267.0 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$.

S-Phenyl 2-fluorobenzothioate⁶



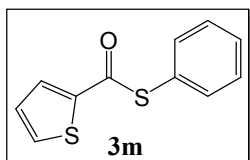
White solid, mp: 44 – 46°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1715; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.92 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.29 – 7.15 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 187.2 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz), 160.5 (d, $J = 256.5$ Hz), 135.0, 134.6 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 129.9 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz), 129.7, 129.3, 127.2 (d, $J = 4.2$ Hz), 125.2 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz), 124.3 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz), 117.0 (d, $J = 22.1$ Hz); MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{FOS}$ 233.0, found 233.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Phenyl 2-chlorobenzothioate²



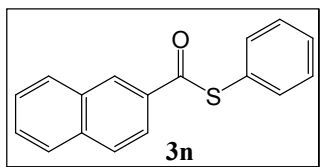
White solid, mp: 53 – 55°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1705 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.76 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 190.2, 137.1, 134.7, 132.4, 131.1, 131.0, 129.8, 129.4, 129.2, 127.4, 126.7; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{ClOS}$ 249.0, found 249.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Phenyl thiophene-2-carbothioate²



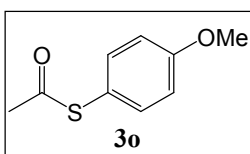
Colorless oil; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1655 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.90 (dd, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 182.0, 141.4, 135.1, 133.3, 131.6, 129.7, 129.3, 128.0, 126.9; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{OS}_2$ 221.0, found 221.0 ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Phenyl naphthalene-2-carbothioate²



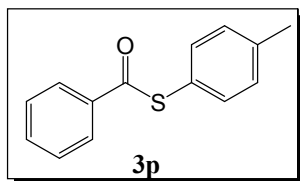
White solid, mp: 118 – 120°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1670 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 8.98 (m, 2H), 7.91 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.55 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 90.1, 135.9, 135.2, 134.0, 132.5, 129.6, 129.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.7, 128.7, 127.9, 127.5, 127.0, 123.3; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 265.1, found 265.1 ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$.

S-4-Methoxyphenyl ethanethioate⁴



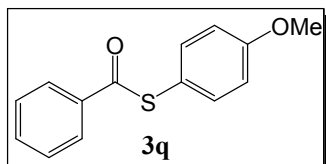
Colorless oil; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1764 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.92 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 195.2, 160.7, 136.1, 118.7, 114.9, 55.3, 29.9; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ 205.0, found 205.0 ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$.

S-p-Tolyl benzothioate⁷



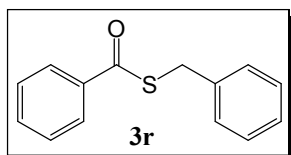
White solid, mp: 75 – 77°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1667 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 190.6, 139.8, 136.7, 135.1, 133.6, 130.1, 128.7, 127.5, 123.8, 21.4; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-4-Methoxyphenyl benzothioate⁸



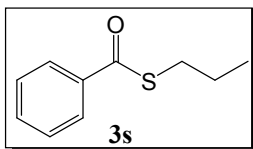
White solid, mp: 92 – 94°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1668 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.01 (dd, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 191.1, 160.8, 136.7, 133.6, 128.7, 127.5, 117.9, 115.0, 55.4; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ 245.1, found 245.1 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Benzyl benzothioate⁹



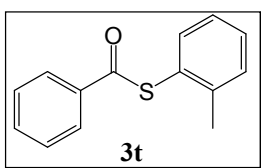
White solid, mp: 36 – 38°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1661 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.99 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 4.32 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 191.3, 137.5, 136.8, 133.5, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 127.4, 127.3, 33.4; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Propyl benzothioate¹⁰



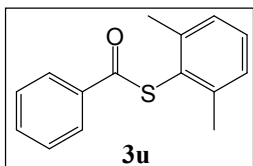
Colorless oil; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1663 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 7.90 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 192.1, 137.3, 133.2, 128.6, 127.2, 30.9, 23.0, 13.5; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 181.1, found 181.1 (M+H) $^+$.

***S*-*o*-Tolyl benzothioate** ¹¹



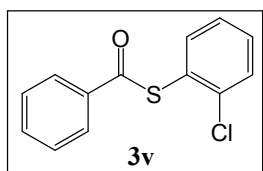
White solid, mp: 62 – 64°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1665 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.07 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 189.7, 142.7, 136.8, 136.4, 133.6, 130.8, 130.2, 128.7, 127.6, 126.8, 126.7, 20.8; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{OS}$ 229.1, found 229.1 (M+H) $^+$.

***S*-2,6-Dimethylphenyl benzothioate** ¹²



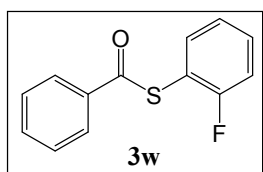
White solid, 56 – 58°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1669 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.08 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 189.1, 143.3, 137.0, 133.5, 130.0, 128.7, 128.4, 127.6, 126.7, 21.8; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{OS}$ 243.1, found 243.1 (M+H) $^+$.

***S*-2-Chlorophenyl benzothioate** ³



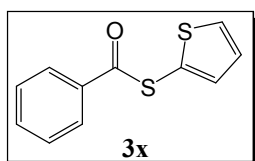
White solid, mp: 72 – 74°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1676 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.07 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 188.3, 139.2, 137.6, 136.4, 133.9, 131.3, 130.4, 128.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.0; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{ClOS}$ 249.0, found 249.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-2-Fluorophenyl benzothioate



White solid, mp: 62 – 64°C; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1678 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.06 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 188.2, 162.6 (d, $J = 248.2$ Hz), 137.2, 136.2, 133.9, 132.3 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 128.8, 127.7, 124.7 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 116.3 (d, $J = 22.5$ Hz), 114.8 (d, $J = 18.5$ Hz); MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{FOS}$ 233.0, found 233.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

S-Thiophen-2-yl benzothioate



Colorless oil; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 1662 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 8.07 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.52 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.17 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) (δ , ppm): 189.8, 136.3, 136.0, 134.0, 132.2, 128.9, 127.9, 127.6, 124.2; MS (m/z) calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{OS}_2$ 221.0, found 221.0 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

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Copy of HRMS and NMR Spectra for desired products:

