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# **A NEW PREPARATIVE METHOD OF ARYL SULFONATE ESTERS BY USING CYCLIC ORGANOBISMUTH REAGENTS**

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Dedicated to Prof. Dr. Ekkehard Winterfeldt on the occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday

*m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (*m*-CPBA) and various sulfonic acids in dichloromethane. **Abstract** – A new method for the preparation of aryl sulfonate esters by using a cyclic pentavalent bismuth is described. Aryl sulfonate esters are formed in good to high yields by treating 10-arylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxides,

#### **INTRODUCTION**

bismuth disulfonates reported, an example of a coupling reaction of cyclic pentavalent organobismuth Syntheses and reactions of organobismuth reagents were intensively studied by Barton et al. in 1980–90,<sup>1</sup> and in recent years, pentavalent organobismuth reagents are reported effective for N-arylation of pyridin-2(1*H*)-ones,<sup>2</sup> O-phenylation of tertiary alcohols<sup>3</sup> and oxidative coupling reaction of carbonyl compounds<sup>4</sup> from our laboratory. Among these reactions, a ligand coupling reaction of pentavalent organobismuth reagents is a very fundamental one, for example aryl halides or acetates were obtained by the ligand coupling of triaryl bismuth dihalides or diacetates (Scheme  $1$ ).<sup>5</sup> On the other hand, Suzuki et al. also reported that the cyclic pentavalent bismuth dichloride such as 10-dichloro-10-(4'-methylphenyl)phenothia-10<sup> $\lambda$ </sup>5-bismine 5,5-dioxide is quite unstable for refluxing  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  to give 4-chlorotoluene quantitatively via reductive elimination whereas cyclic bismuth part remained unchanged (Scheme 2).<sup>6</sup> Although there are hardly any ligand coupling reactions of pentavalent ditosylates in situ to form aryl tosylates was very recently reported from our laboratory.<sup>7</sup>

Aryl sulfonate esters are ubiquitous in the field of organic synthesis and are very attractive both as the protected phenolic hydroxyl group<sup>8</sup> and as the key intermediates of various synthetic reactions. For example, aryl triflates are often used in transition-metal-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions and alkoxycarbonylation,  $9$  and even tosylates or mesylates are recently shown to be applicable to those reactions.10

knowledge, no general procedures for preparing the aryl arenesulfonates by using the corresponding sulfonic acids have been reported yet. In this paper, we would like to describe the extended scope and limitation of the present synthetic method. Aryl sulfonate esters are prepared generally by treating phenols with the corresponding sulfonyl chlorides or sulfonic anhydrides in the presence of organic bases such as pyridine or triethylamine.<sup>11</sup> It is also known that aryl triflates or mesylates are prepared after thermal decomposition of arenediazonium salts in the corresponding sulfonic acids.<sup>12</sup> However, these aryl triflates or mesylates were obtained by the reaction carried out in a sulfonic acids solvent under harsh reaction conditions. To the best of our







#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

reduced to 1.1 equiv., the yield of **2a** decreased to 63% yield (Entry 6). Therefore, it was found that the In the first place, the effects of oxidants and reaction conditions were examined. A model reaction was carried out by using 10-phenylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (**1a**) and 1.1 equiv. of oxidants in the presence of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, whose results are summarized in Table 1. When *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide or benzoyl peroxide was used as an oxidant, the expected phenyl tosylate was not obtained (Entries 1 and 2). On the other hand, the desired phenyl tosylate was obtained in 49 or 87% yields respectively when an oxidant such as peracetic acid or *m*-CPBA was used (Entries 3 and 4) and the reaction proceeded sluggishly at room temperature (Entry 5). When the amount of TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O was

amount of TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O should be needed more than 2 equiv., and the best result was obtained when 2.8 equiv. of TsOH·H2O was used (Entry 7). On the other hand, **2a** was not obtained at all when sodium *p*-toluenesulfonate was used (Entry 8).

$\mathbb{Z}$ Bi Ph	TsOH·H <sub>2</sub> O $^{+}$ 1a	oxidant (1.1 equiv.) $-78$ to 0 °C, 10 min, then reflux, 4 h, $CH_2Cl_2$	<b>PhOTs</b> 2a
Entry	Equiv. of TsOH.H <sub>2</sub> O	Oxidant	Yield / %
1	2.2	<sup><i>t</i>BuOOH</sup>	ND <sup>b</sup>
2	2.2	(PhCOO) <sub>2</sub>	<b>ND</b>
3	2.2	CH <sub>3</sub> COOOH	49
4	2.2	$m$ -CPBA	87
5 <sup>a</sup>	2.2	$m$ -CPBA	48
6	1.1	$m$ -CPBA	63
7	2.8	$m$ -CPBA	91
8	2.8 <sup>c</sup>	$m$ -CPBA	ND

**Table 1.** Reactions of **1a** with various oxidants

<sup>a</sup>Reaction was carried out at rt for 30 h.  $\rm^{b}$ Not Detected.

Sodium *p*-toluenesulfonate was used.

Various aryl tosylates were prepared next by using the corresponding 10-arylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxides under optimized conditions and the results are summarized in Table 2. Trivalent bismuth compounds (**1b**−**1m**) were synthesized by way of substitution reaction of aryl Grignard reagents with 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide. Bismuth compounds, **1b**−**1d**, having methylphenyl groups gave the corresponding aryl tosylates over 80% yields regardless of the substituents' position (Entries 1−3). In the cases of bismuth compounds, **1e**−**1g**, having methoxyphenyl groups, *m*-methoxyphenyl bismuth (**1f**) gave *m*-methoxyphenyl tosylate in 85% yield (Entry 5). However, those with *o*- and *p*-methoxyphenyl groups (**1e** and **1g**) gave *o*-methoxyphenyl tosylate in 5% and *p*-methoxyphenyl tosylate in 32% yields respectively. It was assumed that the intramolecular coordination of oxygen atom of *o*-methoxy group in particular retarded the ligand coupling reaction.<sup>13</sup> When the reaction was tried in refluxing CHCl<sub>3</sub>, *o*-methoxyphenyl tosylate and *p*-methoxyphenyl tosylate were obtained in 52 and 76% yields, respectively. These increases in the yields were caused by the reaction temperature in CHCl<sub>3</sub> that was higher than  $CH_2Cl_2$  (Entries 4 and 6). On the other hand, electron-poor aryl groups having 86% yield (Entry 12). In addition, it was found that the alkylbismuth derivative such as ethoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl or halide substituents were tolerated to afford the expected aryl tosylates (**2h**−**2l**) in moderate to good yields (Entries 7−11), and 2-naphthyl tosylate (**2m**) was also obtained in

10-methylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (**1n**) gave methyl tosylate in moderate yield under these conditions (Scheme 3).





<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> Reflux for 8–12 h. <sup>c</sup>CHCl<sub>3</sub> was used as a solvent (see experimental section for detailed procedure).



Scheme 3

In order to examine the generality of this reaction, various sulfonic acids were employed next by using 10-phenylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (**1a**) or 10-(2-naphthyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (**1m**) under optimized conditions (Table 3). Unsubstituted aromatic sulfonic acids such as benzenesulfonic acid or 2-naphthalenesulfonic acid and those having electron withdrawing substituents such as 4-nitro or 4-chloro group are applicable to this reaction to afford the desired phenyl sulfonate esters in good yields (Entries 1−4). Moreover, the aromatic sulfonic acid having bulky electron donating substituent such as 2,4,6-trimethyl group gave the expected sulfonate ester in sufficient yield (Entry 5). Although a phenyl sulfonate ester having a free phenolic hydroxyl group (**8a**) is considered to be difficult to synthesize by the conventional methods, the desired **8a** was obtained in moderate yields by this method (Entry 6). With respect to alkyl sulfonic acids, methane or ethanesulfonic acid gave the corresponding phenyl sulfonate esters in good yields while trifluoromethanesulfonic acid gave expected 2-naphthyl triflate in moderate yield due to an undesirable decomposition of bismuth compound by TfOH (Entries 7−9).



**Table 3.** Synthesis of aryl sulfonate esters

<sup>a</sup>Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>Reflux 8 h **3a10a**; Ar = Ph, **3m**; Ar = 2-naphthyl

The mechanism of this reaction and the reactivity of bismuth compounds are shown below. The reaction started with the oxidation of trivalent bismuth by *m*-CPBA to form the corresponding pentavalent bismuth dicarboxylate or hydroxy-carboxylate, and then the ligands were exchanged for sulfonic acids to afford pentavalent bismuth disulfonate. Finally, aryl sulfonate esters were formed by lingand coupling reaction of the disulfonates (Scheme 4).



Scheme 4. Plausible mechanism for the formation of the aryl sulfonate esters.

In order to clarify this mechanism, isolation of pentavalent bismuth compounds was tried, and the pentavalent bismuth dicarboxylate (**1o**) was isolated as 1/4 etherate. Preparation of phenyl tosylate was additionally demonstrated by using 1o and TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and PhOTs was obtained in 92% yield (Scheme 5). Although the trivalent bismuth tosylate was not isolated in this reaction, PhOTs was apparently formed by the ligand coupling reaction of the pentavalent bismuth ditosylate since the exchange of ligands from carboxylate to sulfonate would take place easily in the reaction of sulfonic acids



and pentavalent bismuth dicarboxylate.<sup>1g,14</sup> Thus, it was almost proved that formation of aryl sulfonate esters by using cyclic organobismuth compounds proceeded as described in Scheme 4.

Further, it is very interesting to note that the cyclic bismuth compound having sulfone functionality gave aryl sulfonate esters exclusively (see Table 4). When the reactions were carried out by using other bismuth compounds such as triphenylbismuthane (**1p**), phenylbiphenyl-2,2'-ylenebismuthane (**1q**) or 10-phenylphenoxabismine (**1r**), the expected phenyl tosylate was hardly obtained under in any of the three cases (Entries 1−3). Concerning these three bismuth compounds, it was therefore assumed that the key step of the final ligand coupling did not proceed effectively though the oxidation with *m*-CPBA and subsequent ligand exchange that formed their disulfonate took place. This unique reactivity of **1a** might be caused by transannular interaction of **1a** between bismuth and the sulfonyl oxygen atom as was indicated by Suzuki's group.6



In conclusion, a synthesis of aryl sulfonate esters by using a novel ligand coupling between aryl group and sulfonyloxy group on the pentavalent bismuth reagents was established. It was easy to carry out these reactions since there was no need to isolate the less stable pentavalent bismuth reagents compared with trivalent ones which are able to be purified regardless of temperature and moisture. Further, this coupling reaction is considered as an alternative of the conventional method for preparing aryl sulfonate esters because no preparations of sulfonyl chlorides and phenols in advance are needed. In regard to organobismuth chemistry, it is interesting to note that the transannular interaction between bismuth and the sulfonyl oxygen atom of 10-arylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxides brought about extremely unique ligand coupling reaction and that the cyclic pentavalent bismuth dicarboxylate (**1o**) was isolated in high yield for the first time.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### **General.**

Melting points were measured on a micro melting point apparatus (Yanaco MP-S3) and remain

uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu IR-440 spectrophotometer (KBr or neat) or a Thermo Electron Nicolet Avatar 370 spectrometer (ATR). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-EX270 (270 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts  $(\delta_H)$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub> are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS). Splitting patterns are designated as s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; quin, quintet; m, multiplet; br, broad. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-EX270 (68 MHz) spectrometer with complete proton decoupling. Chemical shifts  $(\delta_C)$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub> are reported in ppm relative to TMS using the solvent resonance (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta_c$  77.0 ppm) as an internal standard. HRMS spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-700V (EI positive) and Agilent 6890 series GC system. Analytical TLC was performed on Merck TLC plates coated with silica gel  $(60 F<sub>254</sub>, 0.25 mm)$ . Preparative TLC was carried out on glass plates coated with silica gel (Wakogel B-5F). Anhydrous THF, Et<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub> were purchased from Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.. Other solvents were distilled after dehydrated by using appropriate drying agents. *m*-CPBA (contents > 65 %, remainder 3-chloro benzoic acid and water) and Ph<sub>3</sub>Bi were purchased from Tokyo Kasei Kogyo (TCI) and used without further purification. Hydrate formed sulfonic acids were also purchased from TCI, and used without further purification. Commercially available bismuth (III) chloride was activated by refluxing with thionyl dichloride before use. All reagents were purchased from Tokyo Kasei Kogyo, Kanto Chemical Co., Inc., Wako Pure Chemical Industry or Aldrich.

### **Preparation of organobismuth(III) reagents.**

Organobismuth reagents such as 10-arylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxides (**1a**−**1m**), 10-methylphenothiabismine (**1n**), phenylbiphenyl-2,2'-ylenebismuthane (**1q**) and 10-phenylphenoxabismine (**1r**) were prepared by modified method of the reported procedures, and described below in detail. All the new organobismuth reagents were identified by elemental analysis.

# **10-Phenylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1a**) 11

Dichlorophenylbismuthine (16.1 g, 45 mmol) was prepared as insoluble precipitate by the reaction of triphenylbismuthine (6.6 g, 15 mmol) and bismuth (III) chloride (9.5 g, 30 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) for 2 h at rt, and 100 mL of THF was added just before proceeding next step. To a solution of 2,2'-dilithiodiphenyl sulfone generated from diphenyl sulfone (9.8 g, 45 mmol) and *n*-butyllithium (36 mL of 2.6 M in hexane, 95 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (450 mL) was added dropwise a homogeneous solution of dichlorophenylbismuthine in Et<sub>2</sub>O/THF (150 mL, 50/100) at  $-78$  °C, and resulting mixture was stirred for overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. The reaction mixture was quenched with cold water, and AcOEt was added. Upper organic layer was separated, and concentrated under reduced pressure to leave oily residue, and aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 times). Combined  $CH_2Cl_2$  layer was mixed with that oily residue, then washed with water and brine, dried with

MgSO4, and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/AcOEt =  $10/1$  to  $4/1$ ) to afford almost pure product, and washed with hot EtOH to afford pure product **1a** as white solid (10.5 g, 46%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1297, 1286, 1149, 1087, 1074, 766 ,742, 726, 719, 692; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45−7.31 (m, 7H); 13C NMR  $(68 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$   $\delta$  = 165.3, 158.3, 141.4, 138.4, 137.3, 133.2, 130.6, 128.3, 127.9, 126.8.

## **10-Iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide**<sup>11</sup>

To a solution of compound **1a** (12.5 g, 25.0 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) was added dropwise Et<sub>2</sub>O solution (120 mL) of  $I_2$  (6.6 g, 26.3 mmol), and resulting mixture stirred for 1 h at rt. Yellow powder was filtered off, washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and Et<sub>2</sub>O to afford 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide as yellow solid (12.7 g, 92%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1287, 1250, 1136, 1114, 1084, 1086, 1008, 754, 739, 713, 700; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 9.22 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 163.5, 140.2, 139.9, 135.8, 128.6, 127.5.

## **10-(2-Methylphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1b**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 2-methylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred 3 h, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. The reaction mixture was quenched with cold water and THF was removed under reduced pressure, and aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 times). Combined organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to leave crude solid, which was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1b** as white solid (990 mg, 77%).

mp 239–241 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1300, 1287, 1151, 1134, 1118, 1088, 1074, 767, 739, 713; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.37 (dd, *J* = 7.6 , 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45−7.30 (m, 6H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 166.9$ , 157.6, 144.2, 141.5, 140.9, 137.7, 133.2, 130.2, 129.2, 128.7, 128.1, 126.9, 26.5; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BiO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 44.19; H, 2.93%. Found: C, 44.10; H, 2.83%.

## **10-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1c**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 3,5-dimethylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1c** as white solid (745 mg, 56%).

mp 248−249 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1285, 1249, 1140, 1124, 1086, 1073, 836, 758, 739, 714, 704, 688; <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ = 8.38$  (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43−7.31 (m, 6H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 165.0, 158.2, 141.5, 140.0, 137.5, 135.9, 133.2, 130.3, 128.0, 126.9, 21.5; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BiO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 45.29; H, 3.23%. Found: C, 45.19; H, 3.26%.

# **10-(4-Methylphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1d**) 11

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 4-methylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1d** as white solid (798 mg, 62%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1438, 1295, 1284, 1149, 1121, 1105, 1085, 1074, 789, 763, 739, 716; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.37 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (td,  $J = 7.6$ , 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $(68 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$   $\delta$  = 162.0, 158.1, 141.4, 138.5, 138.3, 137.3, 133.1, 131.5, 127.9, 126.8, 21.6.

## **10-(2-Methoxyphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1e**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 2-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1e** as white solid (870 mg, 65%).

mp 173–177 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1567, 1424, 1286, 1233, 1150, 1117, 1048, 1021, 755, 738, 713; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ = 8.35$  (dd,  $J = 1.9$ , 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (dd,  $J = 1.9$ , 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (dd,  $J =$ 1.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41−7.30 (m, 5H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) *δ* = 162.2, 157.7, 152.6, 141.6, 139.3, 137.5, 132.9, 129.9, 127.7, 126.7, 124.7, 109.9, 55.6; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BiO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 42.87; H, 2.84%. Found: C, 42.81; H, 2.77%.

## **10-(3-Methoxyphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1f**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 3-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1f** as white solid (702 mg, 53%).

mp 180−183 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1579, 1564, 1470, 1298, 1283, 1241, 1226, 1148, 1120, 1087, 1072, 1029, 762, 739, 715; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43−7.32 (m, 7H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 166.2$ , 161.7,

158.5, 141.5, 137.4, 133.3, 131.7, 130.5, 128.1, 127.0, 124.1, 113.9, 55.2; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BiO<sub>2S</sub>: C, 42.87; H, 2.84%. Found: C, 42.97; H, 3.06%.

### **10-(4-Methoxyphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1g**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 4-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexane to afford 1g as white solid (989 mg, 74%).

mp 227–230 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1579, 1564, 1487, 1429, 1283, 1241, 1226, 1148, 808, 764, 739, 716; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.36 (dd, *J* =1.6, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (dd, *J* =1.6, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42−7.30 (m, 4H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 159.7$ , 158.2, 156.6, 141.5, 140.1, 137.4, 133.2, 128.0, 126.8, 116.6, 55.1; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BiO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 42.87; H, 2.84%. Found: C, 42.55; H, 2.68%.

#### **10-(4-Ethoxycarbonylphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1h**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 4-ethoxycarbonylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method B). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1h** as white solid (517 mg, 36%).

mp 183–186 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1171, 1583, 1384, 1305, 1279, 1179, 1151, 1101, 1088, 1050, 1010, 842, 739, 714; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.39 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 171.3, 166.4, 158.6, 141.4, 138.5, 137.2, 133.4, 131.1, 130.3, 128.1, 127.0, 61.0, 14.3; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BiO<sub>4</sub>S: C, 43.91; H, 2.98%. Found: C, 43.88; H, 3.12%.

### **10-(4-Trifluoromethylphenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1i**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 4-trifluoromethylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane to afford **1i** as white solid (751 mg, 53%). mp 187–190 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1592, 1387, 1322, 1304, 1283, 1152, 1114, 1073, 1040, 1008, 823, 760,

739, 715, 673; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.40 (dd *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.34 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  $= 169.7, 158.7, 141.4, 138.9, 137.2, 133.5, 130.3$  (g,  $J_{C-C-F} = 39$  Hz), 128.2, 127.1, 127.0 (g,  $J_{C-C-F} = 4$ Hz), 124.0 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 271$  Hz); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BiF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 40.01; H, 2.12%. Found: C, 39.8; H,

#### 2.18%.

### **10-(3-Fluorophenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1j**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 3-fluorophenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1j** as white solid (911 mg, 70%).

mp 193–195 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1573, 1409, 1297, 1254, 1198, 1151, 1086, 785, 768, 741, 717, 681; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ = 8.39$  (dd,  $J = 7.6$ , 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (dd,  $J = 6.8$ , 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d,  $J =$ 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.34 (m, 6H), 7.02 (td,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 166.8$ , 165.2 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 252 Hz), 158.6, 141.3, 137.2, 133.7 (d,  $J_{C-C-C-F}$  = 3 Hz), 133.4, 131.9 (d,  $J_{C-C-C-F}$  = 6 Hz), 128.1, 127.0, 125.1 (d,  $J_{C-C-F}$  = 19 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J_{C-C-F}$  = 20 Hz); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BiFO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 41.55; H, 2.32%. Found: C, 41.48; H, 2.24%.

## **10-(3-Chlorophenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1k**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0°C was added dropwise a solution of 3-chlorophenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method B). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1k** as white solid (577 mg, 43%).

mp 212−215 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1564, 1426, 1285, 1249, 1149, 1086, 1073, 1014, 836, 758, 739, 714, 688; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.39 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.30 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 166.6, 158.8, 141.4, 138.0, 137.4, 137.3, 136.4, 133.5, 132.0, 128.7, 128.3, 127.2; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BiClO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 40.28; H, 2.25%. Found: C, 40.10; H, 2.08%.

## **10-(4-Chlorophenyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1l**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 4-chlorophenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method B). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1l** as white solid (638 mg, 48%).

mp 209−211 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1557, 1470, 1429, 1377, 1299, 1287, 1151, 1087, 766, 740, 715; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.34 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 163.4, 158.6, 141.5, 140.1, 137.3, 134.7, 133.4, 130.9, 128.2, 127.1; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BiClO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 40.28; H, 2.25%. Found: C, 40.15; H, 2.41%.

## **10-(2-Naphthyl)phenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1m**)

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of 2-naphtylphenylmagnesium bromide (prepared by method A). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexane to afford 1m as white solid (785 mg, 57%).

mp 230−233 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1564, 1284, 1250, 1149, 1107, 1087, 1072, 1013, 860, 814, 762, 742, 715; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.43–8.39 (m, 3H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.82–7.77 (m, 3H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.57−7.47 (m, 2H), 7.41 (td, *J* = 7.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H) 7.31 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 162.8, 158.3, 141.6, 138.3, 137.5, 135.6, 134.8, 133.3, 133.0, 130.5, 128.1, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 126.4, 126.3; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BiO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 47.83; H, 2.74%. Found: C, 47.51; H, 2.85%.

## **10-Methylphenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide** (**1n**) 11

To a suspension of 10-iodophenothiabismine 5,5-dioxide (1.38 g, 2.5 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise a solution of methylmagnesium bromide (3 mL, ca. 1 mol/l in THF solution). Resulting mixture was stirred overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. Usual work-up, and crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1n** as white solid (610 mg, 55%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1560, 1428, 1290, 1144, 1072, 1014, 764, 717; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.30 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45−7.34 (m, 4H), 1.41 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 150.6, 141.4, 136.2, 132.9, 128.0, 126.7, 19.7.

### **Preparation of Grignard reagent**.

**Method A**: To a solution of Mg turnings (73 mg, 0.3 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) was added ArBr (2. 75 mmol). When the reaction started, the temperature was raised and the color of solution was changed to black, and the mixture was stirred until the solution was cooled to rt.

**Method B**: To a solution of ArI (2, 75 mmol) in THF (7.5 mL) was added isopropyl magnesium bromide (3.3 mL, ca. 1 mol/l in THF solution) at −45 to −35 °C, and stirred at −45 to −35 °C for 1 h.

## **Phenylbiphenyl-2,2'-ylenebismuthane** (**1q**) 15

To a solution of 2,2'-dilithiodiphenyl−TMEDA (TMEDA = *N*,*N*,*N*,*N*-tetramethylethylenediamine) generated from biphenyl (6.17 g, 40 mmol), TMEDA (13.3 ml, 88 mmol) and *n*-butyllithium (34 mL of 2.6 M in hexane, 88 mmol) was added dropwise a solution of dichlorophenylbismuthine (16.1 g, 45 mmol, as described above) at −78 °C, and resulting mixture was stirred for overnight, during which time the

temperature was gradually raised to rt. The reaction mixture was quenched with cold water, and AcOEt was added. Upper organic layer was separated, and concentrated under reduced pressure to leave oily residue. Aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 times). Combined  $CH_2Cl_2$  layer was mixed with that oily residue, then washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO4, and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 10/1 to 4/1) to afford almost pure product. The crude solid was washed with hot EtOH, and recrystallized from AcOEt/hexane to afford **1q** as white solid (5.34 g, 30%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3049, 1564, 1425, 742, 726; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.75−7.67 (m, 4H), 7.43−7.36 (m, 4H), 7.19−7.15 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 163.6, 157.8, 152.0, 137.1, 136.8, 130.0, 128.2, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3.

## **10-Phenylphenoxabismine** (**1r**) 11

To a solution of 2,2'-dilithiodiphenylether generated from diphenyl ether (3.57 g, 21 mmol) and *n*-butyllithium (17.8 mL of 2.6 M in hexane, 46 mmol) in  $Et_2O/THF$  (200 mL, 110/90) was added dropwise a solution of dichlorophenylbismuthine (7.5 g, 21 mmol, as described above) at −78 °C, and resulting mixture was stirred for overnight, during which time the temperature was gradually raised to rt. The reaction mixture was quenched with cold water, and AcOEt was added. Upper organic layer was separated, and aqueous layer was extracted with AcOEt (2 times). Combined AcOEt layer was washed with water and brine, dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/AcOEt =  $10/1$ ) to afford almost pure product. The crude solid was recrystallized from AcOEt-hexane to afford **1r** as white solid (1.5 g, 16%).

IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3051, 1568, 1421, 1259, 1207, 1108, 872, 792, 754, 694; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 7.81−7.74 (m, 4H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31−7.22 (m, 5H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 156.9, 152.3, 137.5, 137.1, 134.2, 130.2, 130.1, 127.7, 125.4, 119.4; Anal. Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{13}BiO$ : C, 47.59; H, 2.88%. Found: C, 47.44; H, 2.89%.

#### **Typical procedure for the formation of phenyl tosylate** (**2a**)

To a solution of *m*-CPBA (65% content, 87.6 mg, 0.33 mmol) and TsOH·H2O (159.8 mg, 0.84 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was added **1a** at −78 °C (when the reaction was carried out in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, initial bath temperature was maintained at −55 to −60 °C). The resulting mixture was stirred in an ice-water bath for 10 min. The color of the solution changed to yellow during this time. Following that, reaction mixture was stirred under reflux for 4 h. After  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  was removed from the reaction mixture under reduced pressure, then Et<sub>2</sub>O was added, and the precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1/1) to afford the desired phenyl tosylate **2a** as white solid.

**Phenyl tosylate** (2a)<sup>4b</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1486, 1373, 1195, 1171, 1147, 1091, 855, 815, 804, 775, 724, 687, 657; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31−7.20 (m, 5H), 6.98 (dd,  $J = 8.1$ , 1.4 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 149.5$ , 145.2, 132.2, 129.6, 129.5, 128.4, 126.9, 122.3, 21.8.

**2-Methylphenyl tosylate** (2b)<sup>4b</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1371, 1193, 1179, 1153, 1088, 871, 786, 777, 731, 710, 699, 659; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.15−7.08 (m, 3H), 7.00−6.97 (m, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 148.2, 145.1, 133.0, 131.4(131.44), 131.4(131.41), 129.6, 128.2, 126.8, 126.7, 122.2, 21.8, 16.3.

**3,5-Dimethylphenyl tosylate** (2c)<sup>16</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1593, 1368, 1188, 1176, 1123, 1093, 1018, 942, 854, 806, 770, 668; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 149.3, 145.0, 139.3, 132.6, 129.5, 128.6, 128.4, 119.7, 21.7, 21.2; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C15H16O3S:  $[M+']^2$  276.0820, Found: m/z 276.0815.

**4-Methylphenyl tosylate** (2d)<sup>4b</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1596, 1503, 1372, 1198, 11174, 1155, 1093, 859, 829, 818, 786, 724, 693, 653; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ = 147.3$ , 145.1, 136.8, 132.3, 129.9, 129.6, 128.4, 121.9, 21.7, 20.9;

**2-Methoxylphenyl tosylate** (2e)<sup>17</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1600, 1498, 1368, 1258, 1179, 1157, 1090, 866, 758, 659; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22−7.12 (m, 2H), 6.90−6.82 (m, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 151.6, 144.8, 138.3, 133.1, 129.2, 128.4, 127.9, 123.9, 120.5, 112.6, 55.5, 21.7; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{14}H_{14}O_4S$ :  $[M+]$ <sup>+</sup> 278.0613, Found: m/z 278.0613.

**3-Methoxylphenyl tosylate** (2f)<sup>18</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1606, 1588, 1485, 1369, 1191, 1177, 1121, 1090, 1039, 939, 926, 803, 786, 718, 684, 661; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80−6.76 (m, 1H), 6.56−6.52 (m, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 160.2, 150.3, 145.2, 132.3, 129.7, 129.6, 128.4, 114.2, 112.9, 108.1, 55.4, 21.7; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: [M+·]<sup>+</sup> 278.0613, Found: m/z 278.0610.

**4-Methoxylphenyl tosylate** (2g)<sup>19</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1596, 1500, 1368, 1250, 1168, 1092, 837, 786, 695; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (td, *J* = 2.2, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (td, *J* = 2.2, 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 158, 145.1, 142.9, 132.2, 129.6, 128.4, 123.2, 114.4, 55.6, 21.8; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{14}H_{14}O_4S$ :  $[M+']^2 278.0613$ , Found: m/z 278.0615.

**Ethyl (4-tosyloxy)benzoate** (2h)<sup>20</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1719, 1371, 1287, 1175, 1154, 1119,

1090, 1021, 866, 839, 814, 774, 731, 692, 667; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 165.2$ , 152.6, 145.5, 131.9, 131.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.3, 122.1, 61.2, 21.7, 14.3; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: [M+·]<sup>+</sup> 320.0718, Found: m/z 320.0710.

**4-Trifluoromethylphenyl tosylate** (**2i**) 3d: White solid; IR (ATR, cm-1) 1378, 1322, 1202, 1175, 1159, 1124, 1102, 1065, 1017, 859, 853, 815, 776, 716, 664; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $δ = 151.7$ , 145.8, 131.8, 129.8, 129.2 (q, *J*<sub>C-C-F</sub> = 33 Hz), 128.3, 126.9 (q, *J*<sub>C-C-C-F</sub>  $= 4$  Hz) 123.4 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272$  Hz), 122.8, 21.7; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>F<sub>3</sub>S: [M<sup>++</sup>]<sup>+</sup> 316.0381, Found: m/z 316.0380.

**3-Fluorophenyl tosylate** (2j)<sup>21</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1600, 1482, 1373, 1901, 1178, 1111, 1091, 948, 803, 789, 719, 679, 660; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27−7.21 (m, 1H), 6.97 (td, *J* = 8.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.82−6.72 (m, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); 13C NMR  $(68 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$   $\delta = 162.4$  (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 248 \text{ Hz}$ ), 150.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-C-C-F}} = 11 \text{ Hz}$ ), 145.5, 131.9, 130.2 (d,  $J_{\text{C-C-C-F}}$  $= 9$  Hz), 129.8, 128.4, 118.1 (d, *J*<sub>C-C-C-C-F</sub> = 3 Hz), 114.2 (d, *J*<sub>C-C-F</sub> = 20 Hz), 110.4 (d, *J*<sub>C-C-F</sub> = 24 Hz), 21.8; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{13}H_{11}O_3FS$ :  $[M+]^+$  266.0413, Found: m/z 266.0409.

**3-Chlorophenyl tosylate** (2k)<sup>3c</sup>: Pale yellow solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1585, 1468, 1373, 1197, 1170, 1087, 893, 786, 751, 676, 659; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27−7.21 (m, 2H), 7.04−7.02 (m, 1H), 6.91−6.86 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 149.7, 145.6, 134.7, 131.9, 130.2, 129.8, 128.4, 127.3, 122.9, 120.6, 21.8; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{13}H_{11}O_3CIS$ :  $[M+']^2 282.0117$ , Found: m/z 282.0113.

**4-Chlorophenyl tosylate** (21)<sup>1c</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1596, 1484, 1373, 1201, 1171, 1089, 863, 840, 748, 671; 1 H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 147.9$ , 145.5, 132.6, 131.9, 129.7, 129.6, 128.4, 128.7, 21.8; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>ClS:  $[M+1]$ <sup>+</sup> 282.0117, Found: m/z 282.0122.

**2-Naphthyl tosylate** (2m)<sup>1c</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1596, 1374, 1190, 1175, 1145, 1090, 958, 906, 863, 818, 785, 750, 707, 660; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.82−7,70 (m, 5H), 7.51−7.44 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.09 (dd,  $J = 8.9$ , 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta =$ 147.0, 145.2, 133.3, 132.3, 131.7, 129.6(129.64), 129.6(129.61), 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 126.7, 126.2, 121.0, 119.8, 21.8; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: [M+·]<sup>+</sup> 298.0664, Found: m/z 298.0667.

**Methyl tosylate** (2n)<sup>22</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1598, 1453, 1356, 1173, 1096, 986, 813, 759, 658; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 144.7, 132.1, 129.7, 127.9, 56.1, 21.6.

**Phenyl benzenesulfonate** (3a)<sup>23</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1589, 1485, 1372, 1198, 1172, 1091, 857, 740, 685; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.82 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31–7.21 (m, 3H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) *δ* = 149.4, 135.2, 134.1, 129.5, 129.0, 128.3, 127.0, 122.2.

**Phenyl naphthalene-2-sulfonate** (4a)<sup>24</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1585, 1486, 1372, 1189, 1145, 1074, 915, 862, 780, 726; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.97−7.80 (m, 4H), 7.69−7.56 (m, 2H), 7.27−7.16 (m, 3H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.2 Hz, 2H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 149.4, 135.2, 132.0, 131.6, 130.3, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.0, 122.7, 122.2; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{16}H_{12}O_3S$ :  $[M+]$ <sup>+</sup> 284.0507, Found: m/z 284.0500.

**Phenyl 4-nitrobenzenesulfonate** (5a)<sup>23</sup>: Pale yellow solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3108, 1524, 1485, 1372, 1349, 1194, 1141, 1090, 854, 780, 684; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.37–7.29 (m, 3H), 6.99 (dd,  $J = 8.1$ , 2.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 150.8$ , 149.1, 140.9, 129.9, 129.8, 127.6, 124.2, 122.0; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>5</sub>NS:  $[M+$ <sup>+</sup> 279.0201, Found: m/z 279.0199.

**Phenyl 4-chlorobenzenesulfonate** (6a)<sup>23</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1585, 1477, 1377, 1283, 1172, 1146, 1087, 855, 823, 780, 759, 687; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J*  $= 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.23 (m, 3H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.9 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 149.3$ , 140.8, 133.7, 129.8, 129.6, 129.4, 127.2, 122.2; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>3</sub>ClS:  $[M+1]$ <sup>+</sup> 267.9961, Found: m/z 267.9962.

**Phenyl 2,4,6-trimethylbenzenesulfonate**  $(7a)^{25}$ : White solid; IR  $(ATR, cm^{-1})$  1485, 1455, 1362, 1195, 1145, 851, 785, 731, 691; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl3) *δ* = 7.29−7.21 (m, 3H), 6.97−6.94 (m, 4H), 2.54 (s, 6H), 2.31 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 149.3, 143.7, 140.3, 131.6, 130.4, 129.4, 126.8, 122.1, 22.8, 21.2; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S:  $[M+]^{+}$  276.0820, Found: m/z 276.0823.

**Phenyl 4-hydroxybenzenesulfonate**  $(8a)^{26}$ : Pale yellow solid; IR  $(ATR, cm^{-1})$  3432, 1585, 1486, 1357, 1194, 1149, 1091, 860, 837, 786, 733; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31−7.21 (m, 3H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.17 (br s, 1H); 13C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 160.9, 149.4, 130.9, 129.5, 127.1, 126.3, 122.3, 115.9; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_{12}H_{10}O_4S$ :  $[M+]$ <sup>+</sup> 250.0300, Found: m/z 250.0296.

**Phenyl mesylate** (9a)<sup>5b</sup>: White solid; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1588, 1485, 1353, 1168, 1139, 967, 858, 793, 767, 688; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.46–7.26 (m, 5H), 3.13 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 149.1, 129.9, 127.3, 121.9, 37.4.

**Phenyl ethanesulfonate** (10a)<sup>27</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1588, 1487, 1360, 1141, 858, 779, 749, 688; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.44–7.26 (m, 5H), 3.27 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 149.0, 129.8, 127.1, 121.9, 45.0, 8.3; HRMS (EI positive) Calcd. for  $C_8H_{10}O_3S$ :  $[M+']$ <sup>+</sup> 186.0351, Found: m/z 186.0347.

**2-Naphthyl triflate** (3m)<sup>28</sup>: Colorless oil; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1511, 1420, 1202, 1136, 1106, 955, 912, 832; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) *δ* = 7.91–7.83 (m, 3H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.36 (dd,  $J = 9.2$ , 2.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 147.0$ , 133.2, 132.3, 130.5, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 127.1, 119.4, 119.1, 118.8 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 320 Hz).

## **Preparation of pentavalent bismuth(V) dicarboxylate;**

#### **10,10-Di(3-chlorobenzenecarboxy)-10-(4-methylphenyl)phenothia-10<sup>λ</sup> 5-bismine 5,5-dioxide 1/4 etherate** (**1o**)

To a suspension of **1a** (1.51 g, 3 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (6 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C was added dropwise a solution of 3-chlorobenzoic acid  $(0.47 \text{ g}, 3 \text{ mmol})$  in Et<sub>2</sub>O  $(7 \text{ mL})$  and then a solution of *m*-CPBA  $(65\%$  content, 0.88 g, 3.3 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (7 mL) was added dropwise. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. Yellow precipitate was filtered off and washed with  $CH_2Cl_2/Et_2O = 1/10$  to afford **1o** as yellow solid (2.35 g, 96%).

mp 129–132 °C; IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1597, 1545, 1467, 1426, 1321, 1152, 981, 743; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.50 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (s, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.64−7.42 (m, 7H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.48  $(q, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 1.21 (t, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 1.5\text{H});$  <sup>13</sup>C NMR (68 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 172.7, 168.1, 163.4, 147.9$ 135.1, 134.9, 134.1, 133.0, 132.4, 132.1, 131.6, 131.4, 130.9, 130.3, 129.3, 128.4, 127.9, 65.8, 15.3; Anal. Calcd for  $C_{32}H_{21}BiCl_2O_6S.1/4Et_2O$ : C, 47.64; H, 2.85%. Found: C, 47.46; H, 2.90%.

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