SYNTHESIS OF FLUORINATED BENZALDEHYDES AND BENZOYL FLUORIDES USING HALEX METHODOLOGY

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Halex fluorination, using potassium fluoride in hot sulpholane, can be used to convert 2,4-dichlorobenzaldehyde and 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde to the corresponding difluorobenzaldehydes in good yields. Partial halogen exchange leads to the formation of 2-chloro-4-fluoro- and 4-chloro-2-fluoro-benzaldehyde in the case of the 2,4-dichloro starting material, and 2-chloro-6-fluorobenzaldehyde when 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde is the substrate.

3,4-Dichlorobenzaldehyde reacts with potassium fluoride in sulpholane to give 3-chloro-4-fluorobenzaldehyde in excellent yield.

2-Fluoro-, 4-fluoro- and 3-chloro-4-fluoro-benzoyl fluorides can be prepared in good yields via similar halex fluorination of the appropriate chlorobenzoyl chlorides.