

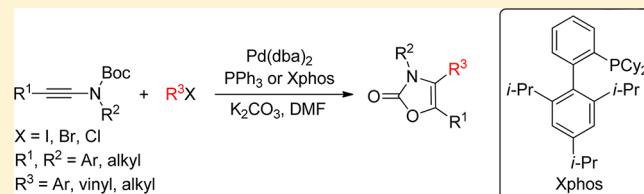
# Preparation of 3,4,5-Trisubstituted Oxazolones by Pd-Catalyzed Coupling of *N*-Alkynyl *tert*-Butyloxycarbamates with Aryl Halides and Related Electrophiles

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 Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** A novel palladium-catalyzed approach for the assembly of 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones has been achieved by the coupling of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates with aryl halides and related electrophiles, which involves an oxidative addition followed by oxypalladation/reductive elimination. The reaction provides a convenient access to diversely substituted oxazolones in satisfactory yields and shows good functional group compatibility.



Oxazolones occur in a number of natural products and pharmacological active compounds and have attracted extensive interest in organic chemistry. For example, oxazolones are known to be versatile starting materials for the cycloaddition reaction,<sup>1–3</sup> radical reaction,<sup>4,5</sup> and assembly of synthetic useful functionalized heterocycles.<sup>6,7</sup> However, there are only limited methods for the effective synthesis of multisubstituted oxazolones.<sup>8–13</sup> A powerful method for the production of 3,5-disubstituted oxazolones featuring a Au-catalyzed cyclization of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates has been developed by Hashmi<sup>14</sup> and Gagosz,<sup>15</sup> independently. In 2008, Jiang and co-workers reported an efficient approach to oxazolones from propargylic alcohols and carbon dioxide under supercritical conditions.<sup>16</sup> More recently, the Lautens group described an elegant synthesis of 3,5-disubstituted oxazolones using a Pd-catalyzed transformation of  $\beta,\beta$ -dibromo enamides.<sup>17</sup> Despite the success of these methods, an effective and general synthesis of 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones from readily available starting materials constitutes a demanding goal. Given our continuing interest in the Pd-catalyzed functionalization of heteroatom-substituted acetylenes,<sup>18–25</sup> we describe herein a facile access to 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones by the Pd(0)-catalyzed coupling of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates with aromatic halides and related electrophiles.

Conditions for the new Pd-catalyzed approach to 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones were explored by the reaction of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamate **1a** with iodobenzene (**2a**). As a result, treating **1a** with 5 mol % of Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub>, 10 mol % of PPh<sub>3</sub> and 1.5 equiv of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in DMF at 70 °C for 8 h produced the desired product **4** in 18% yield (Table 1, entry 1). This result prompted us to investigate the suitable reaction parameters. To our delight, the readily available K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> performed best, and the yield was improved to 92% (Table 1, entries 4 and 5). Polar solvents, such as DMF, DMSO, MeCN, and NMP, worked well for this reaction, whereas nonpolar solvents including dioxane and toluene just led to the recovery of

starting material **1a**, probably due to the low solubility of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in these solvents (Table 1, entries 5–10). The omission of PPh<sub>3</sub> ligand resulted in low conversion (Table 1, entry 11). Interestingly, the ligand evaluation (Table 1, entries 12–18) revealed that the readily accessible PPh<sub>3</sub> was the most effective ligand for this transformation, thus making this reaction rather practical and attractive for the synthetic community. Other palladium sources such as Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> could also promote the reaction, albeit in relative lower yields (Table 1, entries 19 and 20, respectively). Therefore, 5 mol % of Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub>, 10 mol % of PPh<sub>3</sub>, and 1.5 equiv of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in DMF at 70 °C were chosen as the best conditions for the Pd-catalyzed coupling of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates with aromatic iodides.

The optimized reaction conditions appeared to be remarkably general. As shown in Table 2, a wide range of aryl iodides coupled smoothly with **1a** to provide 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones in moderate to excellent yields (Table 2, entries 1–9). For instance, 1-bromo-4-iodobenzene (**2e**) and 4-iodobenzaldehyde (**2f**) formed the desired products **8** and **9** in 90 and 81% yield, respectively (Table 2, entries 5 and 6). The X-ray analysis of **10** clearly demonstrated the structure of 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolone products.

In addition, the more accessible aryl bromides proved to be competent substrates for this reaction, giving rise to 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones in good yields, albeit at an elevated reaction temperature (Table 2, entries 10–25). Various functional groups, such as F, Cl, Br, OMe, CO<sub>2</sub>Et, CHO, COCH<sub>3</sub>, and CN, turned out to be well tolerated under the optimized conditions. For example, 4-chloroiodobenzene (**3d**) generated **7** in 80% yield, while 2-chloroiodobenzene (**3e**) gave rise to **13** in 82% yield (Table 2, entries 13 and 14), indicating that remained high independent of where the chlorine

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Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Parameters<sup>a</sup>

entry	Pd catalyst	base	ligand	solvent	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
					1a      2a      4
1	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	18
2	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	52
3	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	t-BuOK	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	18
4	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	92
5	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	92 (94) <sup>c</sup>
6	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMSO	72
7	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	90
8	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	NMP	75
9	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	dioxane	trace
10	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	toluene	NR
11	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	/	DMF	43
12	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	P(o-tol) <sub>3</sub>	DMF	44
13	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	P(p-tol) <sub>3</sub>	DMF	46
14	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	P(2-furyl) <sub>3</sub>	DMF	85
15	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub> -HBF <sub>4</sub>	DMF	36
16	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Xphos	DMF	87
17	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	dppe	DMF	51
18	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	dppb	DMF	80
19	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	DMF	55
20	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	/	DMF	85

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: 1a (0.25 mmol), 2a (0.30 mmol), Pd catalyst (0.013 mmol), ligand (0–0.025 mmol), and base (0.38 mmol) in 1 mL of solvent at 70 °C for 8 h. <sup>b</sup>Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup>Yield on a 10 mmol scale.

atom was positioned. Notably, the reaction of 4-iodoanisole (2h) and 4-bromoanisole (3i) afforded oxazolone 11 in only moderate yields, thus implying that the oxidative addition of electron-rich carbon–halide bonds might be difficult under the standard conditions. It was reported that electron-rich phosphine ligands such as Xphos<sup>26</sup> can accelerate the oxidative addition. On the other hand, Xphos turned out to be one of the most effective ligands in the initial optimization of the reaction conditions (Table 1, entry 16). As such, we used Xphos as the ligand for these two substrates, and as expected, the reaction provided 11 in good yields within 4 h (Table 2, entries 8 and 18).

We found that the steric hindrance has some effect on this reaction. For instance, 4-bromoacetophenone (3k) reacted well with 1a to generate 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolone 12 in 74% yield, while the reaction of 2-bromoacetophenone (3l, Table 2, entry 21) failed to proceed. 2-Bromomesitylene (3m, Table 2, entry 22) did not provide the expected product, either. As for heteroaryl bromides, 2-bromopyridine (3n), 2-bromothiophene (3o), and 3-bromothiophene (3p), for example, participated well in this reaction and produced the desired oxazolones in good yields (Table 2, entries 23–25, respectively). In the case of alkynyl halides, the reaction of β-bromostyrene (3q) only led to trace of the desired product, while α-bromostyrene (3r) furnished 19 in 71% yield under the same conditions (Table 2, entries 26 and 27, respectively). We also extended this reaction to benzyl bromide (3s), and the reaction occurred successfully to provide 20 in 81% yield (Table 2, entry 28). In contrast, chlorobenzene (3t) proved to be a hindered substrate, only leading to oxazolone 4 in 37% yield. Fortunately, applying Xphos<sup>26</sup> instead of PPPh<sub>3</sub> as the ligand resulted in full

conversion of chlorobenzene and an isolated yield of 84% of product 4 (Table 2, entry 29).

The scope of the reaction with N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates was also briefly investigated. For example, N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates 1b and 1c gave rise to 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones 21 and 22 in respective yields of 84 and 93% (Table 2, entries 34 and 35). Besides the N-Bn substrate 1a, N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates, including 1j, 1k, and 1l, coupled with 2a smoothly to give the corresponding products in good yields (Table 2, entries 42–44). Furthermore, the reaction of aliphatic N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates took place well to form the desired products in reasonable yields (Table 2, entries 45 and 46).

Having established an expeditious route to 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones, the applicability of this protocol was briefly studied (Scheme 1). Hakimelahi et al. reported that phenanthro[9,10-d]oxazol-2-ones could be synthesized by a photolytic closure of 4,5-diphenyl-oxazol-2-ones.<sup>27</sup> Using this photochemical procedure, we found that the resultant 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolone 7 could be smoothly converted into 3-benzyl-6-chlorophenanthro[9,10-d]oxazol-2-one (34) in 61% yield. In addition, a substituted naphtho[1,2-d]oxazol-2-one 35 was synthesized from 19 in good yield (Scheme 1). The structure of 35 was identified by the X-ray diffraction analysis.

We propose that the Pd-catalyzed coupling of N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates with aromatic halides and related electrophiles proceeds according to the mechanism illustrated in Scheme 2. The oxidative addition of carbon–halide bond of R<sup>3</sup>X to Pd<sup>0</sup> catalyst forms the palladium intermediate I, followed by the oxypalladation of C–C triple bond<sup>28–43</sup> via the intermediate II to provide a palladium species III. A similar cationic intermediate has also been suggested in previous studies on the cycloisomerization of N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates.<sup>14,15,24</sup> Finally, the cleavage of C–O bond of the *tert*-butyloxy group in the intermediate III as well as reductive elimination results in the formation of 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones with regeneration of the palladium catalyst (Scheme 2).

In conclusion, we have developed here a new method for the preparation of highly substituted oxazolones by a Pd-catalyzed coupling of N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamates with aryl halides and related electrophiles that involves an oxidative addition followed by oxypalladation/reductive elimination sequence. The reaction proceeds smoothly to afford 3,4,5-trisubstituted oxazolones in satisfactory yields with good functional group tolerance. Moreover, the resulting products are applicable to the construction of phenanthrene and naphthalene derivatives, and we believe that it will be useful for the synthetic community.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Methods.** Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (300–400 mesh). The <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) analyses were carried out using electron ionization–quadrupole or electrospray ionization–time-of-flight (ESI-TOF) mass spectrometry. Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub>, and other reagents were obtained commercially and used without further purification. The N-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamate substrates were prepared from bromoalkynes with secondary *tert*-butyloxycarbamates according to Gagosz's method.<sup>15</sup> To a solution of a phenylethynyl bromide (90 mg, 0.5 mmol) in 2 mL of toluene was added *tert*-butyl benzylcarbamate (124 mg, 0.6 mmol), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (254 mg, 1.2 mmol), CuSO<sub>4</sub>·SH<sub>2</sub>O (25 mg, 0.1 mmol), and 1,10-

Table 2. Scope and Limitations of the Reaction<sup>a</sup>

entry	$R^1/R^2$	$R^3X$	temp (°C)	time (h)	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>	$\begin{array}{c} R^2 \\   \\ O=C-N \\   \\ R^1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} R^3 \\    \\ O=C-N \\   \\ R^1 \end{array}$	
						1	2 or 3	4-33
1	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	92 (4)			
2	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2b</b> )	70	8	82 (5)			
3	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2c</b> )	70	8	84 (6)			
4	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2d</b> )	70	8	91 (7)			
5	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-Br-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2e</b> )	70	8	90 (8)			
6	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CHO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2f</b> )	70	8	81 (9)			
7	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CO <sub>2</sub> Et-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2g</b> )	70	8	84 (10)			
8	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-OMe-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2h</b> )	70	8/4 <sup>c</sup>	38/65 <sup>c</sup> (11)			
9	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CH <sub>3</sub> CO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> I ( <b>2i</b> )	70	8	81 (12)			
10	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	PhBr ( <b>3a</b> )	110	8	84 (4)			
11	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3b</b> )	110	8	78 (5)			
12	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3c</b> )	110	8	77 (6)			
13	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3d</b> )	110	8	80 (7)			
14	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3e</b> )	110	8	82 (13)			
15	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CHO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3f</b> )	110	8	81 (9)			
16	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	3-CHO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3g</b> )	110	8	91 (14)			
17	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CO <sub>2</sub> Et-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3h</b> )	110	8	85 (10)			
18	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-OMe-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3i</b> )	110	8/4 <sup>c</sup>	47/72 <sup>c</sup> (11)			
19	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	3-CN-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3j</b> )	110	8	93 (15)			
20	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CH <sub>3</sub> CO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3k</b> )	110	8	74 (12)			
21	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-CH <sub>3</sub> CO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Br ( <b>3l</b> )	110	8	complex			
22	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2,4,6-(Me) <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> Br ( <b>3m</b> )	110	8	complex			
23	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-bromopyridine ( <b>3n</b> )	110	8	70 (16)			
24	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-bromothiophene ( <b>3o</b> )	110	8	85 (17)			
25	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	3-bromothiophene ( <b>3p</b> )	110	8	77 (18)			
26	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	$\beta$ -bromostyrene ( <b>3q</b> )	110	8	complex			
27	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	$\alpha$ -bromostyrene ( <b>3r</b> )	110	8	71 (19)			
28	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	BnBr ( <b>3s</b> )	80	8	81 (20)			
29	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	PhCl ( <b>3t</b> )	110	8/4 <sup>c</sup>	37/84 <sup>c</sup> (4)			
30	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl ( <b>3u</b> )	110	4 <sup>c</sup>	77 <sup>c</sup> (5)			
31	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl ( <b>3v</b> )	110	4 <sup>c</sup>	82 <sup>c</sup> (6)			
32	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CHO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl ( <b>3w</b> )	110	3 <sup>c</sup>	73 <sup>c</sup> (9)			
33	Ph/Bn ( <b>1a</b> )	4-CH <sub>3</sub> CO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl ( <b>3x</b> )	110	3 <sup>c</sup>	72 <sup>c</sup> (12)			
34	4-CH <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1b</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	84 (21)			
35	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1c</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	93 (22)			
36	4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1d</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	83 (23)			
37	4-Br-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1e</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	71 (24)			
38	3-Br-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1f</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	68 (25)			
39	4-OMe-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> /Bn ( <b>1g</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	95 (26)			
40	3,4-(OMe) <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> /Bn ( <b>1h</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	90 (27)			
41	2-naphthyl/Bn ( <b>1i</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	85 (28)			
42	Ph/Ph ( <b>1j</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	92 (29)			
43	Ph/4-Cl-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( <b>1k</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	85 (30)			
44	Ph/Cy ( <b>1l</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	61 (31)			
45	TBDPSO(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> /Ph ( <b>1m</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	72 (32)			
46	n-C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub> /Ph ( <b>1n</b> )	PhI ( <b>2a</b> )	70	8	71 (33)			

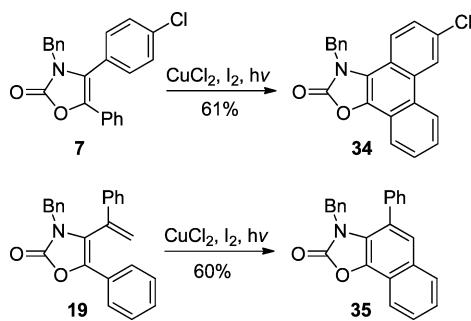
<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1** (0.25 mmol),  $R^3X$  (0.30 mmol), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (0.013 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.025 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.38 mmol) in 1 mL of DMF.<sup>b</sup>Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup>Xphos was used.

phenanthroline (31 mg, 0.2 mmol). After stirring at 80 °C for 48 h, the reaction mixture was cooled and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 8/1) to afford 92 mg (yield 60%) of *N*-alkynyl *tert*-butyloxycarbamate **1a**<sup>15</sup> as a colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 1.56 (s, 9H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 7.27–7.50 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 28.0, 53.5, 70.9, 82.4, 84.3, 123.8,

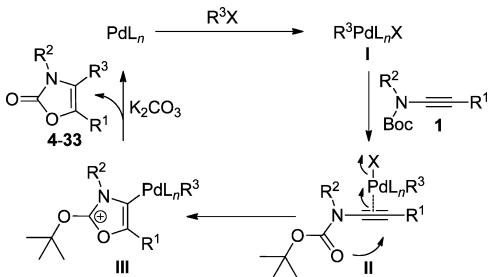
126.9, 127.7, 128.0, 128.1, 128.4, 130.5, 136.5, 153.7; MS (EI, *m/z* 307 (M<sup>+</sup>, 16), 250 (26), 206 (13), 173 (11).

**General Procedure for Pd-Catalyzed Synthesis of 3,4,5-Trisubstituted Oxazolones.** To a mixture of **1a** (77 mg, 0.25 mmol), Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> (7.5 mg, 0.013 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (52 mg, 0.38 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.025 mmol) in 1 mL of DMF was added **2a** (61 mg, 0.3 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. After stirring at 70 °C for 8 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water, extracted with

**Scheme 1. Transformations of 3,4,5-Trisubstituted 2-Oxazolones**



**Scheme 2. Proposed Mechanism**



ethyl acetate, washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. Column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 10/1) gave 92% (75 mg) of compound 4<sup>44</sup> as a yellow solid: mp 96–98 °C. Compound 4 was also prepared from 3a in 84% yield (68 mg) using the general procedure except the reaction temperature was 110 °C: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.68 (s, 2H), 6.95–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.32 (m, 10H), 7.40–7.50 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.6, 123.3, 124.2, 126.9, 127.5, 127.6, 127.7, 128.4, 128.5, 129.2, 130.0, 130.5, 134.5, 136.0, 154.8 (C=O); IR (KBr) 3034, 1754, 1496, 1445, 1054 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 327 (M<sup>+</sup>, 11), 283 (1), 194 (100), 165 (20).

**Compound 5.** It was prepared from 2b, 3b, and 3u in respective yields of 82% (70 mg), 78% (67 mg), and 77% (66 mg); yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 1.84 (s, 3H), 4.52 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 6.87–6.98 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.25 (m, 9H), 7.27–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.50 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 19.0, 45.7, 122.0, 123.5, 126.4, 126.6, 127.4, 127.8, 127.9, 128.0, 128.4, 128.5, 130.4, 130.7, 131.1, 134.3, 135.9, 139.1, 154.9 (C=O); IR (KBr) 3063, 3033, 1755, 1602, 1379, 1055 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 341 (M<sup>+</sup>, 8), 327 (1), 250 (15), 222 (25), 179 (21); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 341.1416, found 341.1411.

**Compound 6.** It was prepared from 2c, 3c, and 3v in respective yields of 84% (72 mg), 77% (66 mg), and 82% (71 mg); white solid: mp 104–106 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.67 (s, 2H), 6.95–7.05 (m, 2H), 7.12 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.42 (m, 10H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 282 MHz) δ -110.0; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.6, 116.5 (d, J = 22.6 Hz), 122.1, 123.0 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 124.2, 127.4, 127.5, 127.8 (d, J = 4.6 Hz), 128.5, 128.6, 132.6, 132.7, 134.8, 135.9, 154.7 (C=O), 163.5 (d, J = 250.0 Hz); IR (KBr) 3054, 1754, 1606, 1514 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 345 (M<sup>+</sup>, 6), 254 (7), 226 (7), 183 (6); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 345.1165, found 345.1169.

**Compound 7.** It was prepared from 2d and 3d in respective yields of 91% (82 mg) and 80% (72 mg); white solid: mp 159–161 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.68 (s, 2H), 6.90–7.01 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.32 (m, 8H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.7, 122.0, 124.3, 125.4, 127.3, 127.5, 127.8, 127.9, 128.5, 128.6, 129.6, 131.9, 134.8, 135.8, 136.2, 154.7 (C=O); IR (KBr) 3093, 3032, 1754, 1598, 1444 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 363 (1), 361 (M<sup>+</sup>, 3), 270 (5), 272 (1), 235 (3); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 361.0870, found 361.0867.

**Compound 8.** 90% yield (91 mg); white solid: mp 166–168 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.67 (s, 2H), 6.99–7.10 (m, 4H), 7.15–7.30 (m, 8H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.7, 122.0, 124.3, 124.5, 125.9, 127.3, 127.8, 127.9, 128.5, 128.6, 132.1, 132.5, 134.8, 135.9, 154.7 (C=O); IR (KBr) 3089, 1754, 1597, 1343, 1057 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 407 (8), 405 (M<sup>+</sup>, 10), 316 (6), 314 (8), 235 (12); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 405.0364, found 405.0363.

**Compound 9.** It was prepared from 2f, 3f, and 3w in respective yields of 81% (72 mg), 81% (72 mg), and 73% (65 mg); white solid: mp 165–167 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.71 (s, 2H), 6.91–7.02 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.25 (m, 8H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 10.08 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.9, 122.0, 124.6, 127.1, 127.3, 127.9, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 130.2, 131.2, 133.1, 135.2, 135.7, 136.9, 154.8 (C=O), 191.2; IR (KBr) 3047, 2815, 2730, 1757, 1701, 1604, 1374 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 355 (M<sup>+</sup>, 5), 326 (1), 264 (2), 208 (5), 165 (6); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 355.1208, found 355.1208.

**Compound 10.** It was prepared from 2g and 3h in respective yields of 84% (84 mg) and 85% (85 mg); white solid: mp 117–119 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 1.43 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.42 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 6.95–7.02 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.25 (m, 8H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 14.2, 45.8, 61.4, 122.3, 124.5, 127.3, 127.4, 127.9, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 130.2, 130.6, 131.5, 131.8, 134.9, 135.8, 154.8 (C=O), 165.7; IR (KBr) 3029, 1754, 1714, 1607, 1445 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 399 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2), 326 (1), 308 (1), 235 (12), 105 (100); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 399.1471, found 399.1477. Crystal data for **10** (C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>, 399.43): monoclinic, space group C2/c, *a* = 22.874(3) Å, *b* = 14.556(2) Å, *c* = 12.4930(12) Å, volume = 4145.3(9) Å<sup>3</sup>, *Z* = 8, specimen 0.341 × 0.237 × 0.187 mm<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 296(2) K, SIEMENS P4 diffractometer, absorption coefficient 0.087 mm<sup>-1</sup>, reflections collected 16761, independent reflections 4747 [R(int) = 0.0542], refinement by full-matrix least-squares on *F*<sup>2</sup>, data/restraints/parameters 4747/0/272, goodness-of-fit on *F*<sup>2</sup> = 0.983, final *R* indices [*I*>2σ(*I*)] *R*1 = 0.0537, *wR*2 = 0.1286, *R* indices (all data) *R*1 = 0.1282, *wR*2 = 0.1629, largest diff peak and hole 0.159 and -0.180 eÅ<sup>-3</sup>. Crystallographic data for compound **10** have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC 896886.

**Compound 11.** It was prepared from 2h and 3i in respective yields of 65% (58 mg) and 72% (64 mg) using Xphos instead of PPh<sub>3</sub>; white solid: mp 122–124 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.40 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 45.5, 55.3, 114.7, 118.8, 123.2, 124.1, 127.5, 127.7, 127.9, 128.4, 128.5, 132.0, 134.5, 136.2, 154.9 (C=O), 160.7; IR (KBr) 3054, 1754, 1606, 1514 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 357 (M<sup>+</sup>, 6), 326 (1), 266 (20), 238 (8), 133 (8); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 357.1365, found 357.1362.

**Compound 12.** It was prepared from 2i, 3k, and 3x in respective yields of 81% (75 mg), 74% (68 mg), and 72% (66 mg); white solid: mp 148–150 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 2.66 (s, 3H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 6.92–7.08 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.25 (m, 8H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 26.7, 45.8, 122.1, 124.5, 127.2, 127.3, 127.9, 128.1, 128.5, 128.6, 129.0, 130.8, 131.7, 135.0, 135.7, 137.9, 154.8 (C=O), 197.2; IR (KBr) 3054, 1755, 1682, 1604, 1380 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 369 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4), 278 (5), 250 (1), 207 (4); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 369.1365, found 369.1364.

**Compound 13.** 82% yield (74 mg); yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ 4.45 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 6.88–6.98 (m, 2H), 7.05–7.12 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.30 (m, 9H), 7.39–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.61 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 46.0, 120.1, 123.9, 126.3, 127.4, 127.4, 127.7, 127.8, 128.4, 128.5, 130.1, 131.7, 133.1, 135.3, 135.6, 135.7, 154.7 (C=O); IR (KBr) 3063, 1758, 1600, 1383, 1237 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI, m/z) 363 (3), 361 (M<sup>+</sup>, 9), 272 (1), 270 (4), 235 (15); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 361.0870, found 361.0863.

**Compound 14.** 91% yield (81 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.68 (s, 2H), 6.86–7.01 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.30 (m, 8H), 7.38–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.52–7.70 (m, 2H), 7.99 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 9.90 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.9, 121.7, 124.4, 127.2, 127.3, 127.9, 128.0, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 130.0, 130.5, 132.1, 135.1, 135.8, 136.3, 137.0, 154.7 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 190.9; IR (KBr) 3062, 2834, 2728, 1751, 1600, 1447  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 355 ( $M^+$ , 6), 326 (2), 264 (3), 242 (7); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$  ( $M^+$ ) 355.1208, found 355.1215.

**Compound 15.** 93% yield (82 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.68 (s, 2H), 6.90–7.02 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.30 (m, 8H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.41–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.75 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.9, 113.5, 117.4, 120.7, 124.4, 126.8, 127.2, 128.0, 128.3, 128.6, 128.7, 130.1, 133.3, 134.1, 134.9, 135.3, 135.5, 154.5 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3064, 2231, 1755, 1602, 1351  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 352 ( $M^+$ , 12), 326 (1), 261 (5), 190 (7); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 352.1212, found 352.1213.

**Compound 16.** 70% yield (57 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  5.03 (s, 2H), 6.90–7.03 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.41 (m, 10H), 7.50–7.64 (m, 1H), 8.78–8.85 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 122.1, 123.8, 125.4, 125.9, 127.3, 127.6, 128.4, 128.5, 128.5, 136.2, 136.3, 136.8, 147.4, 150.2, 154.8 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3062, 1755, 1585, 1349, 1054  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 328 ( $M^+$ , 20), 237 (59), 223 (3), 209 (15), 167 (40); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 328.1212, found 328.1210.

**Compound 17.** 85% yield (71 mg); white solid: mp 122–124  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.73 (s, 2H), 6.99 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.17–7.30 (m, 6H), 7.35–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.6, 115.9, 124.6, 126.3, 127.3, 127.4, 127.8, 127.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5, 129.8, 131.5, 136.0, 136.9, 154.4 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3070, 1745, 1597, 1382, 1245, 1053  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 333 ( $M^+$ , 10), 275 (1), 242 (29), 214 (2), 176 (2); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$  ( $M^+$ ) 333.0823, found 333.0822.

**Compound 18.** 77% yield (64 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.70 (s, 2H), 6.85–6.95 (m, 1H), 7.02–7.11 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.37 (m, 9H), 7.39–7.51 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 118.4, 124.3, 126.7, 127.3, 127.3, 127.7, 127.8, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 135.3, 136.2, 154.8 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3065, 1744, 1600, 1382, 1242, 1053  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 333 ( $M^+$ , 6), 242 (12), 214 (2), 171 (3); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$  ( $M^+$ ) 333.0823, found 333.0820.

**Compound 19.** 71% yield (63 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.53 (s, 2H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 7.07–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.42 (m, 11H), 7.55–7.65 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.8, 122.4, 122.5, 124.4, 126.1, 127.5, 127.6, 127.7, 127.8, 128.4, 128.5, 129.0, 129.1, 135.4, 135.5, 136.0, 136.3, 154.9 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3060, 3031, 1747, 1600, 1348  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 353 ( $M^+$ , 38), 262 (30), 219 (24), 191 (59), 156 (14); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 353.1416, found 353.1421.

**Compound 20.** 81% yield (69 mg); white solid: mp 147–149  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  3.91 (s, 2H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 4H), 7.27–7.42 (m, 9H), 7.48–7.60 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  29.3, 45.4, 120.7, 125.0, 126.9, 127.3, 127.6, 127.8, 127.9, 128.1, 128.8, 129.2, 135.4, 136.0, 136.2, 155.4 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3061, 2925, 1758, 1494, 1396  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 341 ( $M^+$ , 4), 250 (1), 207 (2), 178 (2), 144 (3); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 341.1416, found 341.1414.

**Compound 21.** 84% yield (72 mg); white solid: mp 112–114  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  2.28 (s, 3H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 7.01 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.15–7.30 (m, 7H), 7.39–7.51 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  21.1, 45.6, 122.5, 124.3, 124.9, 127.1, 127.5, 127.7, 128.5, 129.0, 129.1, 129.8, 130.6, 134.7, 136.1, 137.6, 154.9 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3061, 1751, 1517, 1346, 1056  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 341 ( $M^+$ , 6), 250 (19), 234 (7), 173 (13); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 341.1416, found 341.1416.

**Compound 22.** 93% yield (80 mg); white solid: mp 80–82  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.67 (s, 2H), 6.89 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.95–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.17–7.25 (m, 7H), 7.38–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.60 (m, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 282 MHz)  $\delta$  –112.8;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR

( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 115.5 (d,  $J$  = 21.2 Hz), 122.9, 124.0 (d,  $J$  = 2.9 Hz), 126.2 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 126.8, 127.5, 127.8, 128.5, 129.3, 130.1, 130.6, 133.8, 136.0, 154.7 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 163.2 (d,  $J$  = 247.0 Hz); IR (KBr) 3050, 1754, 1606, 1514  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 345 ( $M^+$ , 2), 297 (1), 254 (2), 226 (4), 183 (4); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{FNO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 345.1165, found 345.1166.

**Compound 23.** 83% yield (75 mg); yellow solid: mp 156–158  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.67 (s, 2H), 6.90–7.02 (m, 2H), 7.17 (s, 4H), 7.19–7.25 (m, 5H), 7.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.60–7.70 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 123.8, 125.4, 126.2, 126.7, 127.5, 127.8, 128.5, 128.7, 129.4, 130.2, 130.5, 133.3, 133.6, 135.9, 154.6 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3087, 3062, 1757, 1666, 1499, 1350  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 363 (3), 361 ( $M^+$ , 10), 272 (3), 270 (9), 165 (2); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClNO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 361.0870, found 361.0864.

**Compound 24.** 71% yield (72 mg); yellow solid: mp 130–132  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.67 (s, 2H), 6.81–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.99–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.25 (m, 5H), 7.27–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.61 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 121.5, 123.9, 125.7, 126.6, 126.7, 127.5, 127.8, 128.5, 129.4, 130.2, 130.4, 131.6, 133.6, 135.9, 154.6 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3086, 3062, 1758, 1496, 1350, 1070  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 407 (11), 405 ( $M^+$ , 14), 316 (9), 314 (11), 235 (12); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 405.0364, found 405.0361.

**Compound 25.** 68% yield (69 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.67 (s, 2H), 6.91–7.05 (m, 3H), 7.09–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.35 (m, 6H), 7.40–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.51–7.59 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 122.6, 124.5, 126.5, 127.1, 127.5, 127.8, 128.5, 129.4, 129.6, 129.9, 130.3, 130.4, 133.0, 135.8, 154.5 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3086, 3055, 1758, 1496, 1347  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 407 (17), 405 ( $M^+$ , 21), 316 (19), 314 (24), 235 (35); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 405.0364, found 405.0368.

**Compound 26.** 95% yield (85 mg); yellow solid: mp 156–158  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  3.74 (s, 3H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 6.69–6.80 (m, 2H), 6.97–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.25 (m, 7H), 7.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48–7.51 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.5, 55.1, 113.8, 120.3, 121.5, 125.8, 127.1, 127.6, 128.4, 129.1, 129.8, 130.6, 134.6, 136.1, 154.9 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 159.0; IR (KBr) 3054, 1754, 1606, 1514  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 357 ( $M^+$ , 3), 327 (10), 266 (2), 135 (100); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3$  ( $M^+$ ) 357.1365, found 357.1360.

**Compound 27.** 90% yield (87 mg); yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  3.57 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.73–6.80 (m, 1H), 6.86–6.90 (m, 1H), 6.98–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.25 (m, 5H), 7.37–7.50 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.6, 55.3, 55.7, 107.4, 110.9, 117.0, 120.5, 121.7, 127.2, 127.4, 127.6, 128.4, 129.1, 129.8, 130.7, 134.5, 136.0, 148.5, 148.6, 154.8 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3072, 3015, 1757, 1589, 1612, 1447  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_4$  ( $M^+$ ) 387.1471, found 387.1465.

**Compound 28.** 85% yield (80 mg); white solid: mp 129–131  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.72 (s, 2H), 6.96–7.07 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.38–7.62 (m, 6H), 7.66–7.75 (m, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  45.7, 121.9, 123.4, 123.7, 125.0, 126.2, 126.4, 127.0, 127.5, 127.7, 128.0, 128.1, 128.5, 129.2, 130.1, 130.7, 132.4, 133.0, 134.6, 136.0, 154.8 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3061, 1751, 1624, 1384, 1048  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 377 ( $M^+$ , 2), 286 (1), 215 (4), 155 (100), 127 (43); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 377.1416, found 377.1412.

**Compound 29.** 92% yield (72 mg); white solid: mp 191–193  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.09–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.41 (m, 13H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  123.5, 125.0, 126.8, 127.0, 127.5, 127.8, 128.0, 128.4, 128.9, 129.5, 130.2, 133.5, 135.0, 153.5 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 1750, 1594, 1374, 1267  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 313 ( $M^+$ , 13), 254 (1), 236 (2), 180 (100), 165 (28).

**Compound 30.** 85% yield (74 mg); white solid: mp 218–220  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  7.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.32 (m, 7H), 7.34–7.43 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  123.1, 125.0, 126.7, 127.3, 128.0, 128.2, 128.5, 129.2, 129.7, 130.2, 132.1, 133.6, 135.3, 153.3 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ); IR (KBr) 3476, 1746, 1594, 1493, 1374  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 349 (5), 347 ( $M^+$ , 15), 270 (1), 216 (32), 214

(100); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{14}ClNO_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 347.0713, found 347.0710.

**Compound 31.** 61% yield (49 mg); yellow solid; mp 151–153 °C;  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.05–1.19 (m, 3H), 1.50–1.60 (m, 1H), 1.69–1.81 (m, 4H), 2.10–2.22 (m, 2H), 3.25–3.38 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.22 (m, 5H), 7.28–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.61 (m, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  24.7, 25.6, 29.7, 54.4, 123.6, 124.1, 127.3, 127.7, 128.0, 128.3, 129.5, 130.1, 130.7, 134.0, 153.6 ( $C=O$ ); IR (KBr) 3050, 2926, 2855, 1760, 1588, 1158  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 319 ( $M^+$ , 4), 237 (83), 180 (12); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{21}NO_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 319.1572, found 319.1570.

**Compound 32.** 72% yield (93 mg); yellow oil;  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.09 (s, 9H), 2.83 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.05–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.22–7.35 (m, 6H), 7.36–7.50 (m, 6H), 7.60–7.72 (m, 4H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  19.3, 26.9, 28.6, 61.2, 125.0, 126.4, 126.6, 127.4, 127.8, 128.5, 128.6, 129.0, 129.1, 129.8, 133.4, 134.3, 135.3, 135.5, 154.3 ( $C=O$ ); IR (KBr) 3070, 2930, 2857, 1762, 1598, 1381  $cm^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{33}H_{33}NO_2Si$  ( $M^+$ ) 519.2230, found 519.2227.

**Compound 33.** 71% yield (62 mg); yellow oil;  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  0.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.20–1.40 (m, 10H), 1.61–1.72 (m, 2H), 2.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.97–7.08 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.20 (m, 2H) 7.22–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.40 (m, 5H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  14.0, 22.6, 24.8, 27.5, 28.9, 29.0, 29.1, 31.7, 123.0, 126.2, 126.9, 127.2, 128.4, 128.5, 128.8, 129.0, 134.2, 138.3, 154.3 ( $C=O$ ); IR (KBr) 3061, 2926, 2855, 1766, 1598, 1158  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 349 ( $M^+$ , 20), 276 (1), 250 (100), 204 (5), 180 (21); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{23}H_{27}NO_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 349.2042, found 349.2040.

**Compound 34.** It was prepared from 7 according to the method described in the literature<sup>27</sup> in 61% yield (55 mg); white solid; mp 255–257 °C;  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  5.55 (s, 2H), 7.28–7.54 (m, 6H), 7.61–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.75–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  47.9, 119.0, 120.3, 120.5, 121.5, 122.4, 123.3, 123.9, 126.2, 126.3, 126.6, 127.7, 128.1, 128.4, 129.2, 129.8, 131.9, 135.5, 135.6, 156.0 ( $C=O$ ); IR (KBr) 3085, 1754, 1522, 1355, 1052  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 361 (1), 359 ( $M^+$ , 3), 268 (25), 177 (100); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{14}ClNO_2$  ( $M^+$ ), 359.0713, found 359.0720.

**Compound 35.** 60% yield (53 mg); white solid; mp 148–150 °C;  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  4.89 (s, 2H), 6.60 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.01–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41–7.57 (m, 3H), 7.60–7.71 (m, 1H), 7.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  46.9, 118.6, 119.4, 124.2, 125.3, 125.7, 126.3, 126.3, 127.2, 127.3, 128.0, 128.1, 128.2, 128.3, 129.3, 129.7, 135.3, 136.8, 137.3, 156.1 ( $C=O$ ); IR (KBr) 3077, 1753, 1518, 1355, 1052  $cm^{-1}$ ; MS (EI,  $m/z$ ) 352 (5), 351 ( $M^+$ , 18), 260 (56), 232 (64), 203 (100); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{24}H_{17}NO_2$  ( $M^+$ ) 351.1259, found 351.1267. Crystal data for 35 ( $C_{24}H_{17}NO_2$ , 351.39): monoclinic, space group P2(1)/c,  $a$  = 6.9736(2) Å,  $b$  = 17.1873(6) Å,  $c$  = 15.2945(5) Å, volume = 1819.13(10) Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z$  = 4, specimen 0.52 × 0.32 × 0.12 mm<sup>3</sup>,  $T$  = 296(2) K, SIEMENS P4 diffractometer, absorption coefficient 0.082 mm<sup>-1</sup>, reflections collected 28522, independent reflections 4165 [ $R(int)$  = 0.0328], refinement by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$ , data/restraints/parameters 4165/0/245, goodness-of-fit on  $F^2$  = 1.026, final  $R$  indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]  $R1$  = 0.0396,  $wR2$  = 0.0987,  $R$  indices (all data)  $R1$  = 0.0639,  $wR2$  = 0.1127, largest diff peak and hole 0.149 and –0.133 eÅ<sup>-3</sup>. Crystallographic data for compound 35 have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC 896692.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

Spectroscopic data of products 4–35 and crystal data (CIF) for 10 and 35. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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