

## Cu(II)-Mediated C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H Hydroxylation

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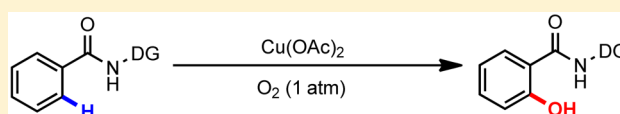
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### Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** A Cu(II)-mediated *ortho*-C–H hydroxylation using a removable directing group has been developed. The reaction exhibits considerable functional group tolerance. The use of O<sub>2</sub> as an oxidant is crucial for the reactivity. Water is also found to significantly improve this reaction.



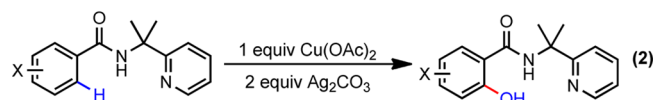
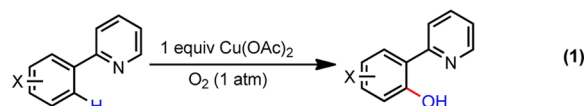
Transition-metal-catalyzed C–H functionalization has recently been recognized as a straightforward and efficient method for the formation of carbon–carbon and carbon–heteroatom bonds.<sup>1</sup> Among them, the direct hydroxylation of C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H bonds<sup>2</sup> has attracted considerable attention from the synthetic community due to the fact that phenols and its derivatives are ubiquitous in organic synthesis, asymmetric catalysis, pharmaceuticals, natural products and molecular materials.<sup>3</sup> In 1990, Fujiwara and co-workers reported a Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed hydroxylation of benzene using molecular oxygen as the sole oxidant. However, this pioneering work retained several limitations such as low efficiency, poor selectivity, and harsh reaction conditions.<sup>4</sup> Subsequently, several groups have explored catalytic direct hydroxylation of arenes using weakly coordinating directing groups.<sup>5,6</sup>

While most reports employed ruthenium<sup>5</sup> and palladium<sup>6</sup> as catalysts, the use of a more economic and inexpensive metal such as copper<sup>7</sup> remained underexplored in C–H hydroxylation reactions. In 2006, our group reported the first Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> mediated *ortho*-hydroxylation of 2-phenylpyridines using O<sub>2</sub> as the oxidant [Scheme 1, eq 1].<sup>8</sup> Afterward, Cu-mediated functionalization of C–H bonds has achieved great progress.<sup>9–11</sup> Recently, another example of *ortho*-C–H hydroxylation was reported by Shi and co-workers that employed a 2-(pyridine-2-yl)isopropyl (PIP) directing group and used 2 equiv of Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> as the oxidant [Scheme 1, eq 2].<sup>12</sup> Herein, we describe an efficient and simple method of Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>-mediated *ortho*-selective hydroxylation of arenes employing molecular oxygen as the sole oxidant [Scheme 1, eq 3].

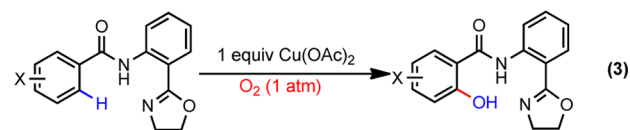
Recently, we reported Cu(II)-mediated *ortho* C–H alkylation of benzamides with terminal alkynes.<sup>11b</sup> In the course of optimizing reaction conditions, we were surprised to find that the hydroxylated product **2a** was formed under an O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in 16% yield (Scheme 2). Encouraged by this result, we further investigated this reaction in detail. In the presence of 1 equiv of Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 2 equiv of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> at 80

### Scheme 1. Cu-Mediated C–H Hydroxylation

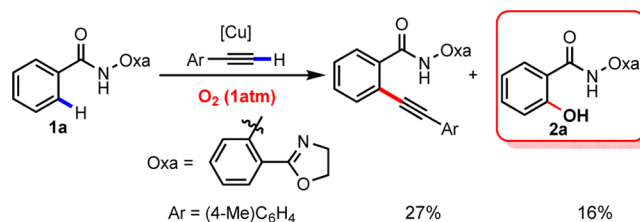
Previous work:



This work:



### Scheme 2. Reaction Discovery



°C, the screening of the reaction atmosphere proved that O<sub>2</sub> was the optimal choice, affording the hydroxylated product **2a** in 41% yield (Table 1, entries 1–3). Subsequently, various copper salts were screened and Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> gave the best yield (see Supporting Information). Furthermore, we found that H<sub>2</sub>O plays an important role in this reaction, which was consistent with our previous work,<sup>8</sup> and 20 equiv of H<sub>2</sub>O

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Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions<sup>a,b</sup>

entry	atmosphere	base	additive (equiv)	yield (%)
1	air	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	–	31
2	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	–	41
3	Ar	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	–	7
4	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (5.0)	60
5	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (10.0)	65
6	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	70
7	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (30.0)	38
8 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	79
9 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Li <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	43
10 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	58
11 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	46
12 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	NaOAc	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	22
13 <sup>c</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	KOAc	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	45
14 <sup>c,d</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	79
15 <sup>c,d,e</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	88
16 <sup>c,d,e,f</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	15
17 <sup>c,d,e,g</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O (20.0)	43

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.1 mmol), base (0.2 mmol), DMSO (1.0 mL), 80 °C, 4 h. <sup>b</sup>Yield determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of crude reaction mixture using CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as an internal standard. <sup>c</sup>6 h. <sup>d</sup>Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol). <sup>e</sup>DMSO (2.0 mL). <sup>f</sup>Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol). <sup>g</sup>Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.05 mmol).

afforded the hydroxylated product **2a** in 70% yield (Table 1, entries 4–7). A small improvement in yield was also obtained by prolonging the reaction time to 6 h (Table 1, entry 8). After a brief screening of bases, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> remained the optimal choice (Table 1, entries 9–13). Decreasing the amount of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> to 1.0 equiv also generated the hydroxylated product **2a** in 79% yield (Table 1, entry 14). Furthermore, when the reaction was run at a lower concentration, the yield was further increased to 88% (Table 1, entry 15). Finally, we have also attempted to reduce the amount of copper; when 20 and 50 mol % Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> were employed under O<sub>2</sub>, only 15% and 43% yields were obtained (Table 1, entries 16, 17). Even when other oxidants such as silver salts, peroxide, BQ, and PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> were employed to replace O<sub>2</sub>, the yields were not further improved (see the Supporting Information).

With the optimized reaction conditions in hand, we then examined the scope of benzamide substrates for this reaction. As shown in Scheme 3, both electron-rich and -deficient substituents such as alkyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, fluoro, and iodo are well-tolerated under the current reaction conditions, thus generating the corresponding hydroxylated products in moderate to excellent yields. Substrates containing both electron-donating and -withdrawing substituents at the *ortho* position reacted without affecting the yields significantly. For *meta*-substituted substrates, the regioselectivity of the reaction favored formation of less sterically demanding products (**2c**, **2h**, **2o**, **2p**). The iodo substituents are also tolerated (**2k**), although a lower yield was observed, thus providing a useful handle for further synthetic manipulations. Hydroxylation of the vinylated arene produced the desired product in 75% yield (**2m**). As expected, a naphthyl derived substrate also reacted to give the

hydroxylated product (**2n**) in 63% yield. Interestingly, bromo and iodo were directly substituted by OH with *o*-bromo or *o*-iodo substrates.

To demonstrate the utility of this hydroxylation reaction, we conducted the reaction on 3 mmol scale, which provided **2a** in 61% yield (see the Supporting Information). Furthermore, the oxazolone directing group was smoothly removed by treating product **2a** with KOH/EtOH at 80 °C and the salicylic acid was obtained in 72% yield (Scheme 4).

To probe the mechanism of this reaction, we performed a series of experiments as shown in Scheme 5. First, significant kinetic isotope effects were observed in inter- and intramolecular competition experiments. Next, it was found that addition of the commonly used radical quencher 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine-*N*-oxyl (TEMPO) has negligible effect on the yield. By combining these results, we can see that the mechanism of this hydroxylation reaction involves a copper-mediated C–H cleavage step rather than an electrophilic aromatic substitution (S<sub>E</sub>Ar) or a radical pathway. Finally, the *o*-acetoxy benzamide **5** afforded the hydroxylated product in 71% yield under standard conditions. Based on these results and previous literature,<sup>8,12</sup> we speculate that the reaction might first undergo a Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed acetoxylation followed by a rapid hydrolysis affording the hydroxylated product.

## CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we have developed a copper(II)-mediated hydroxylation reaction of aryl C–H bonds using a readily removable directing group. The reaction tolerates a wide range of functional groups, and the use of O<sub>2</sub> as the oxidant presents a significant practical advantage.

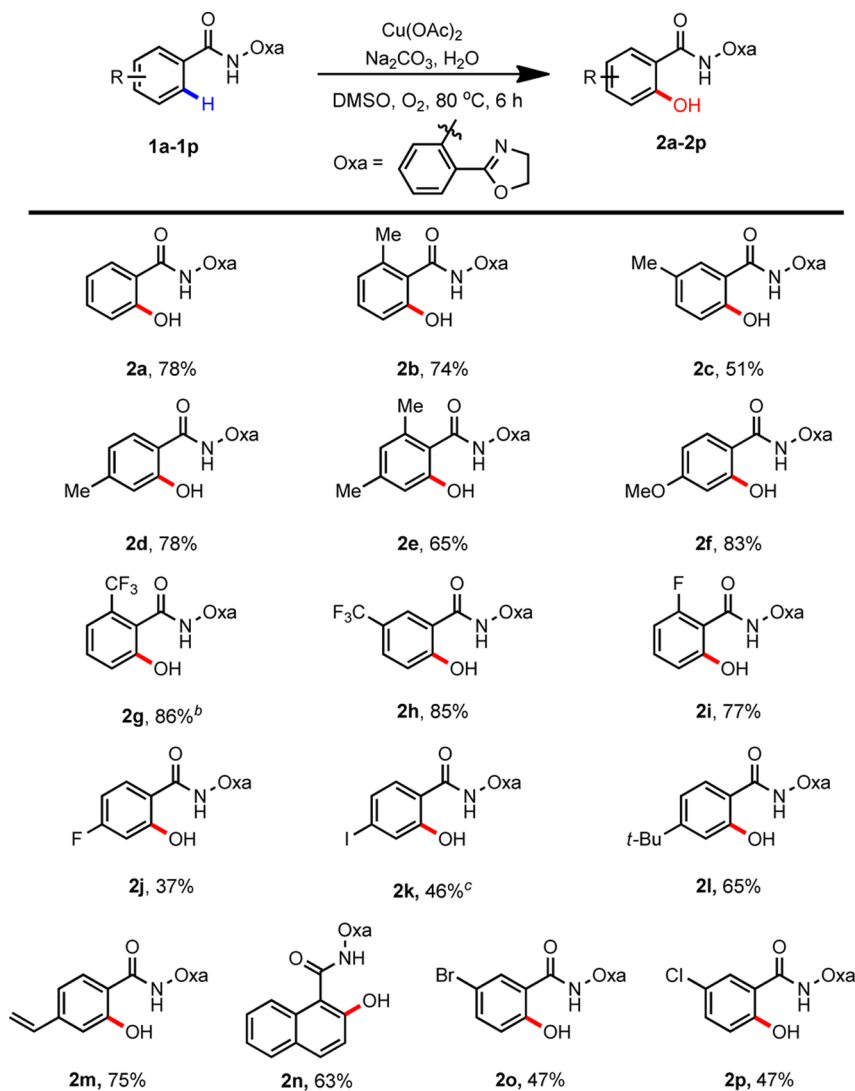
## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Information.** All commercial reagents were used without further purification unless specified. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz spectrometer, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 and 150 MHz, and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 375 MHz. The peaks were internally referenced to a TMS (0.00 ppm) or residual deuterated solvent signal. The following abbreviations were used to explain multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, and br = broad.

**Synthesis of Starting Materials.** Benzamides **1a–1p**<sup>11a,13</sup> were synthesized as reported in literature.

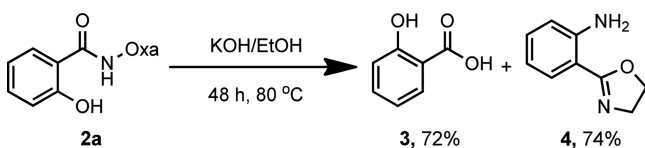
**Preparation of Substrate 5.** The 2-(4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)-aniline (0.81 g, 5 mmol) was dissolved with THF (20 mL) in a 50 mL flask, and then Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.98 mL, 7.5 mmol) was added to the vigorously stirred solution via a syringe. Then a 2-(chlorocarbonyl)phenyl acetate (5 mmol), which was prepared from the corresponding carboxylic acid and oxalyl chloride, was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h and quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (100 mL). The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (150 mL × 3), washed with saturated NaCl (aq), and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Then the solvent was removed in a rotary evaporator to give the crude product which was recrystallized from EtOAc/Hexane to give colorless crystals of the product with the yield 70% (1.13g). Mp 132–133 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.72 (s, 1H), 8.87 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (t, J = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (t, J = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.3, 164.5, 164.4, 148.6, 139.7, 132.4, 131.7, 129.2, 129.0, 125.9, 123.4, 122.5, 119.8, 113.4, 66.1, 54.4, 21.0; IR (film) 1757, 1676, 980, 880, 776, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 325.1188, found 325.1196.

**General Procedure for Cu(II)-Promoted *ortho*-C–H Hydroxylation of Arenes.** To a 25 mL Schlenk-type tube were added

Scheme 3. Scope of Hydroxylation Reaction<sup>a,b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a–1p** (0.1 mmol),  $\text{Cu(OAc)}_2$  (0.1 mmol),  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (0.1 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.0 mmol), DMSO (2.0 mL),  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ , 6 h.  
<sup>b</sup>DMSO (1.0 mL). <sup>c</sup> $60^\circ\text{C}$ , 3 h.

Scheme 4. Removal of the Oxazolamide Directing Group



substrates **1a–1p** (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (36  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2.0 mmol),  $\text{Cu(OAc)}_2$  (18.1 mg, 0.1 mmol),  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (10.6 mg, 0.1 mmol), and DMSO (2 mL). The reaction tube was evacuated and backfilled with  $\text{O}_2$  (6 times). After stirring at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  for 6 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with 25% ammonium hydroxide and then brine. The organic fraction was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated in vacuo. The hydroxylated products were purified by silica gel flash column chromatography with a gradient eluent of hexanes and ethyl acetate to give the hydroxylated products.

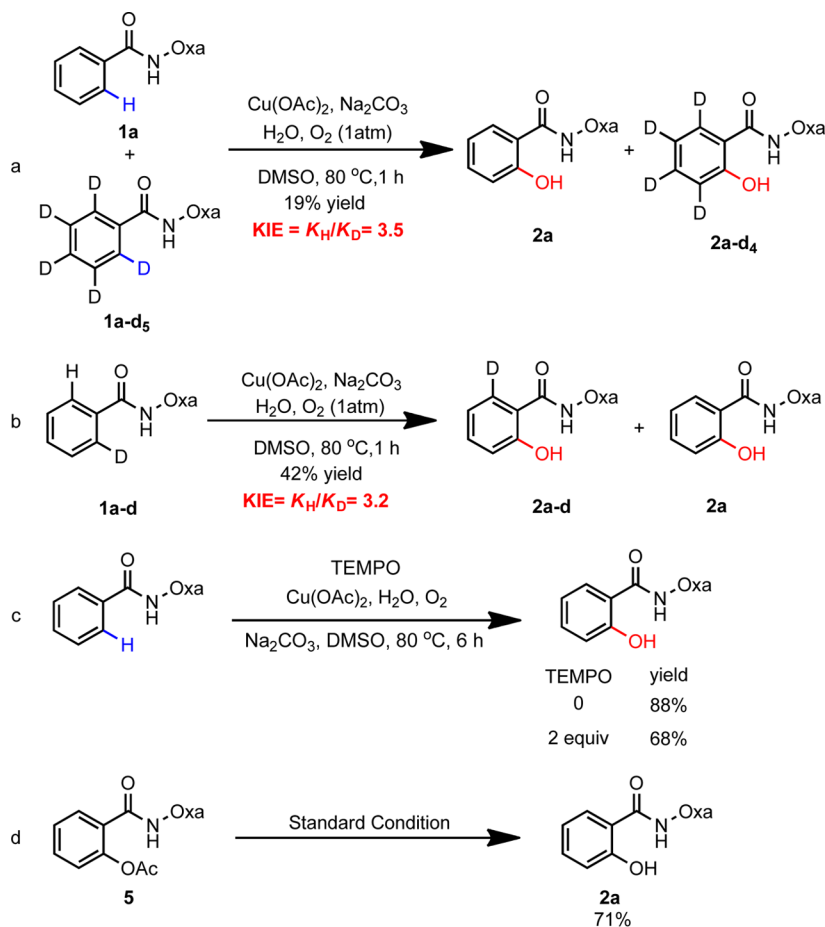
*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxybenzamide (**2a**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 40/1); white solid (22 mg, 78%). Mp  $124\text{--}125^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.23 (s, 1H), 12.45 (s, 1H), 8.81 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.93

(t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.44 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H), 4.23 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.7, 164.9, 162.3, 139.2, 134.2, 132.6, 129.4, 126.8, 123.0, 120.2, 118.8, 118.5, 115.5, 114.0, 66.4, 54.5; IR (film) 2922, 1635, 1441, 1339, 829, 757  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 283.1077, found 283.1082.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-6-methylbenzamide (**2b**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 40/1); white solid (22 mg, 74%). Mp  $116\text{--}117^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  12.64 (s, 1H), 9.90 (s, 1H), 8.75 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.48 (m, 1H), 7.23 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.05 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.2, 164.3, 159.1, 138.8, 136.2, 132.4, 132.1, 129.4, 123.3, 122.8, 120.8, 120.0, 115.1, 114.2, 66.3, 54.5, 21.9; IR (film) 2930, 1636, 1535, 1446, 1317, 889, 735  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 297.1234, found 297.1233.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzamide (**2c**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 80/1); white solid (15 mg, 51%). Mp  $169\text{--}170^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.23 (s, 1H), 12.19 (s, 1H), 8.83 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H),

Scheme 5. Investigation of the Mechanism of the C–H Hydroxylation Reaction



7.52 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.47 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H), 4.26 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.8, 165.0, 160.1, 139.4, 135.1, 132.7, 129.4, 127.7, 127.1, 122.9, 120.1, 118.3, 115.1, 113.9, 66.4, 54.4, 20.8; IR (film) 2918, 1621, 1342, 1197, 1087, 810, 758  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  297.1234, found 297.1235.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-4-methylbenzamide (**2d**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 50/1); white solid (23 mg, 78%). Mp 184–185 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.14 (s, 1H), 12.41 (s, 1H), 8.80 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (td,  $J = 7.6, 0.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (td,  $J = 7.6, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 6.75 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.45 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H), 4.23 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.7, 164.9, 162.3, 145.4, 139.3, 132.6, 129.4, 126.7, 122.8, 120.2, 120.1, 118.6, 113.9, 112.9, 66.4, 54.6, 21.7; IR (film) 2850, 1614, 1446, 1342, 1220, 833, 756  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  297.1234, found 297.1236.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-4,6-dimethylbenzamide (**2e**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 40/1); white solid (20 mg, 65%). Mp 129–131 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  12.53 (s, 1H), 10.15 (s, 1H), 8.70 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 4.36 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.04 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.5, 164.3, 159.6, 142.9, 138.8, 136.1, 132.4, 129.4, 124.0, 123.1, 120.8, 117.0, 115.5, 114.2, 66.3, 54.5, 21.9, 21.4; IR (film) 2923, 1638, 1445, 1309, 1056, 828, 744  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  311.1390, found 311.1394.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzamide (**2f**). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 40/1); white solid (26 mg, 83%). Mp 143–144 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.04 (s, 1H), 12.78 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.86–7.75 (m, 1H), 7.50 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.50–6.48 (m, 2H), 4.44 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.23 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  169.6, 165.0, 164.6, 164.4, 139.5, 132.6, 129.4, 128.2, 122.6, 120.1, 113.8, 108.5, 107.2, 101.4, 66.3, 55.4, 54.6; IR (film) 2970, 1622, 1510, 1343, 1047, 827, 750  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  313.1183, found 313.1188.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-6-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2g**). Purified by Silica gel plate (hexane/ethyl acetate = 20/1); white solid (30 mg, 86%). Mp 188–189 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  12.51 (brs, 1H), 8.67 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.40 (brs, 1H), 7.91 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (td,  $J = 8.0, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.16 (m, 2H), 4.34 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.98 (t,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  166.1, 164.0, 156.2, 138.5, 132.4, 131.3, 129.3, 128.0 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 31.6$  Hz), 127.6 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.2$  Hz), 123.5 ( $J_{\text{C-F}} = 272.0$  Hz), 123.8, 121.1, 121.0, 118.2 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 5.2$  Hz), 114.7, 66.3, 54.4; IR (film) 2962, 1639, 1314, 1123, 920, 799, 756  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (375 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  –57.39 (s, 3F); HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  351.0951, found 351.0956.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**2h**). Purified by Silica gel plate (hexane/ethyl acetate = 20/1); white solid (30 mg, 85%). Mp 167–168 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  13.64 (s, 1H), 12.82 (s, 1H), 8.79 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.46 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.24 (t,  $J = 9.4$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.5, 165.1, 164.7, 138.9, 132.8, 130.7 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 3.3 Hz), 129.4, 124.9 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.1 Hz), 124.1 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 270.1 Hz), 123.4, 121.0 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 32.9 Hz), 119.9, 119.2, 115.2, 113.9, 66.6, 54.0; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -61.89 (s, 3F); IR (film) 2925, 1659, 1635, 1311, 1080, 903, 805, 770 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 351.0951, found 351.0956.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-fluoro-6-hydroxybenzamide (2i). Purified by Silica gel plate (hexane/ethyl acetate = 15/1); white solid (23 mg, 77%). Mp 110–111 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  12.83 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 12.71 (s, 1H), 8.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd,  $J$  = 14.8, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd,  $J$  = 11.8, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 4.15 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 2.2 Hz), 163.7 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 1.9 Hz), 163.5 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.4 Hz), 160.8 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 251.6 Hz), 138.2, 133.9 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 12.4 Hz), 132.0, 129.3, 123.7, 122.0, 115.4, 114.2 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 3.1 Hz), 106.0 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 24.6 Hz), 105.5 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 13.7 Hz), 66.4, 54.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -109.45 to -109.52 (m, 1F); IR (film) 2922, 1605, 1526, 1448, 1275, 1054, 795, 748 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 301.0983, found 301.0985.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-4-fluoro-2-hydroxybenzamide (2j). Purified by Silica gel plate (hexane/ethyl acetate = 10/1); white solid (11 mg, 37%). Mp 156–157 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.20 (s, 1H), 12.78 (s, 1H), 8.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.74–6.59 (m, 2H), 4.46 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.1, 166.2 (d,  $J$  = 251.7 Hz), 165.1, 164.5 (d,  $J$  = 13.7 Hz), 139.1, 132.7, 129.5, 128.8 (d,  $J$  = 11.2 Hz), 123.1, 120.3, 114.0, 112.2 (d,  $J$  = 2.6 Hz), 106.8 (d,  $J$  = 22.7 Hz), 105.1 (d,  $J$  = 23.6 Hz), 66.4, 54.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -103.74 to -103.81 (m, 1F); IR (film) 2911, 1624, 1506, 1346, 1227, 1056, 847, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 301.0983, found 301.0984.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-4-iodobenzamide (2k). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 100/1); white solid (19 mg, 46%). Mp 201–202 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.27 (s, 1H), 12.50 (s, 1H), 8.77 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.3, 165.1, 162.4, 139.0, 132.7, 129.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 123.2, 120.3, 115.1, 114.0, 100.8, 66.5, 54.5; IR (film) 2910, 1622, 1339, 1209, 1053, 839, 803, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>IN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 409.0044, found 409.0048.

4-(*tert*-Butyl)-*N*-(2-(4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxybenzamide (2l). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 80/1); white solid (22 mg, 65%). Mp 149–150 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.16 (s, 1H), 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 1.33 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.6, 164.9, 162.1, 158.4, 139.4, 132.6, 129.4, 126.5, 122.8, 120.2, 116.5, 115.3, 113.9, 112.8, 66.4, 54.6, 35.0, 30.1; IR (film) 2897, 1634, 1581, 1510, 1345, 1158, 828, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 339.1703, found 339.1706.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-4-vinylbenzamide (2m). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 80/1); white solid (23 mg, 75%). Mp 150–151 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.20 (s, 1H), 12.45 (s, 1H), 8.80 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.68 (dd,  $J$  = 17.6, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (d,  $J$  = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (d,  $J$  = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.4, 165.0, 162.5, 143.3, 139.2, 135.9, 132.6, 129.4, 127.1, 122.9, 120.2, 116.9, 116.7, 115.9, 114.7, 113.9, 66.4, 54.6; IR (film) 2919, 1624, 1447, 1344, 1229, 1059,

878, 764 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 309.1234, found 309.1235.

*N*-(2-(4,5-Dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxy-1-naphthamide (2n). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 80/1); white solid (21 mg, 63%). Mp 162–163 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.31 (s, 1H), 11.16 (s, 1H), 8.93 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.13 (m, 2H), 4.29 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.2, 164.0, 159.6, 139.2, 134.1, 132.5, 130.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 126.9, 124.6, 123.2, 120.6, 119.2, 114.1, 111.5, 66.3, 54.1; IR (film) 2956, 1637, 1534, 1363, 1064, 805, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 333.1234, found 333.1236.

5-Bromo-*N*-(2-(4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxybenzamide (2o). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 50/1); white solid (17 mg, 47%). Mp 188–189 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.43 (s, 1H), 12.37 (s, 1H), 8.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (t,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 4.29 (t,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.4, 165.0, 161.2, 139.0, 136.8, 132.7, 129.9, 129.4, 123.2, 120.4, 120.0, 117.0, 113.9, 110.4, 66.6, 54.2; IR (film) 2994, 1625, 1482, 1350, 1213, 944, 761 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 361.0182, found 361.0184.

5-Chloro-*N*-(2-(4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-hydroxybenzamide (2p). Purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 100/1); white solid (15 mg, 47%). Mp 183–184 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.38 (s, 1H), 12.36 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (t,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 4.28 (t,  $J$  = 9.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.5, 165.0, 160.8, 139.0, 134.0, 132.7, 129.4, 126.8, 123.5, 123.2, 120.0, 119.9, 116.4, 113.9, 66.6, 54.2; IR (film) 2991, 1626, 1348, 1213, 1056, 935, 769 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 317.0687, found 317.0688.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### 📄 Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.joc.5b01351.

Experimental procedure and characterization of all new compounds (PDF)

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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