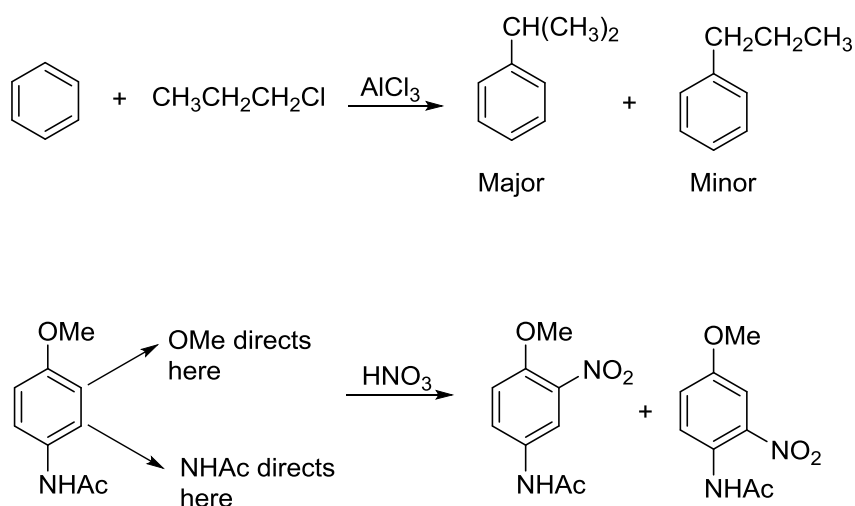


## Chapter II

### **Base-mediated [3+3] benzannulation reactions of bis-sulfonyl propenes and Morita-Baylis-Hillman (MBH) bromides for the synthesis of highly substituted arenes**

#### **2.1. Introduction**

Substituted arene units are widely prevalent in organic chemistry and are routinely found as the core unit of many natural products and synthetic molecules.<sup>1</sup> The arene scaffold constitute an excellent building block as it can be conveniently transformed into various desired target molecules. Organic chemists strive continuously to develop methods to synthesize arenes. Generally, substituted arenes are constructed by stepwise introduction of functional group via electrophilic aromatic substitution reactions.<sup>2</sup> Friedel-Crafts reaction is a well established and one of the oldest among such methods.<sup>3</sup> This reaction has wide application for synthesis of mono-substituted arenes while regioselective synthesis of di-, tri- and tetra-substituted arenes often becomes challenging via aromatic substitution reactions. The directing effect of groups present on aryl ring decides the regiochemical outcome of the reaction and may prevent the formation of a desired regioisomer. The structural rearrangement of electrophile (carbocation) generated during the course of electrophilic substitution reaction can lead to the formation of unwanted side-products. Electron withdrawing groups on the arene ring deactivate them and bulky substituents repel the approach of electrophiles thereby making such electrophilic substitutions problematic. Some examples of above mentioned problems complicate the outcomes of aromatic electrophilic substitutions are depicted in scheme 1.



**Scheme 1:** Regiochemical control challenges in electrophilic aromatic substitution

Modern synthetic methods such as transition metal mediated cross-coupling reactions<sup>4</sup> and directed metallation reactions<sup>5</sup> address these issues significantly. These methods, however, employ arenes preinstalled with groups which become involved in coupling reaction. Most of the reactive groups on such pre-functionalised arene are introduced via aromatic substitution reaction. Their synthesis, especially when a poly-substituted arene is required, again faces the same issues described above.

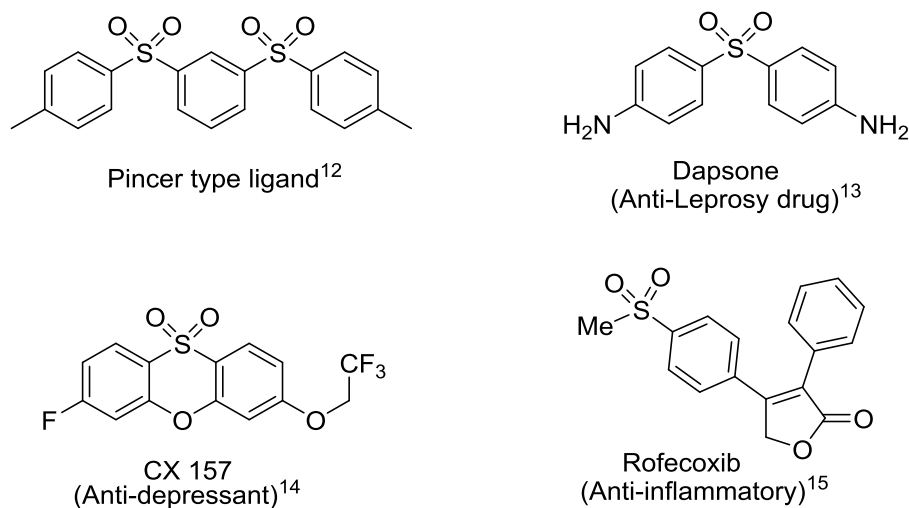
An alternative approach of arene construction is highly desirable to overcome these issues. *Benzannulation reactions*, where the union of two acyclic precursors affords an arene product address above-mentioned aspects to some extent. This method has become a powerful tool for the synthesis of arenes due to its many favorable virtues. Dotz reaction<sup>6</sup> and Danheiser benzannulation<sup>7</sup> are important and well known transformations that demonstrate the potential of this strategy in organic synthesis. In a benzannulation reaction the acyclic precursor can be of various sizes and type, the assembly of two or more components may be catalyzed or mediated by metal

complexes, acids, bases or light. The combination of two, three or more acyclic building blocks may result in an efficient synthesis of arenes. Different varieties of benzannulation reactions are developed and can be classified into various categories depending on the number of carbon atoms contributed by each of acyclic building block to final product, such as [3+3], [4+2], [5+1], [2+2+2], *etc.* Benzannulation reactions of the [3+3] class are more pertinent to work presented in this chapter.<sup>8</sup> Elegant applications of this strategy in the total synthesis of arene containing natural products reveal the power of this method.<sup>9</sup> A detailed discussion on benzannulation reactions may be found in chapter 1.

In the following passages, a novel [3+3] benzannulation reaction of Morita-Baylis-Hillman bromides and unsaturated sulfones that affords tetra-substituted bis-sulfonylarenes is described. To present the results in context, a brief overview of arylsulfones is presented in following sections.

## 2.2. Aryl sulfones

Arylsulfones are important synthetic targets owing to their synthetic utility and favorable properties.<sup>10</sup> A number of aryl sulfones exhibit biological activities such as inhibitory activities against various enzymes.<sup>11</sup> In addition, some arylsulfones shows excellent coordinating properties,<sup>12</sup> which enhances their demand. The anti-leprosy drug dapsone and the anti- ischemic agent cariporide are important aryl sulfones in pharmacology. Some important aryl sulfones are depicted in figure 1.



**Figure 1:** Some important biological active aryl sulfones

As a consequence, a number of methods have been developed for their synthesis and a few selected methods are presented below.

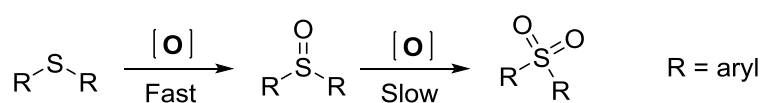
### 2.3. Synthesis of aryl sulfones

Commonly used methods for synthesis of aryl sulfones are, (i) oxidation of aryl sulfides,<sup>16</sup> (ii) sulfonylation of arenes<sup>17</sup> and (iii) coupling of sulfinates with aryl halides or tosylates.<sup>18</sup>

Each of these three methods are described with examples in the following sections.

#### 2.3.1. Oxidation of aryl sulfides

A general route for synthesis of aryl sulfones involves oxidation of corresponding aryl sulfides. Peroxyacids and peroxides are the common oxidants used for oxidation of sulfides and sulfoxide into sulfones. A general approach for oxidation of sulfides is described in scheme 2.

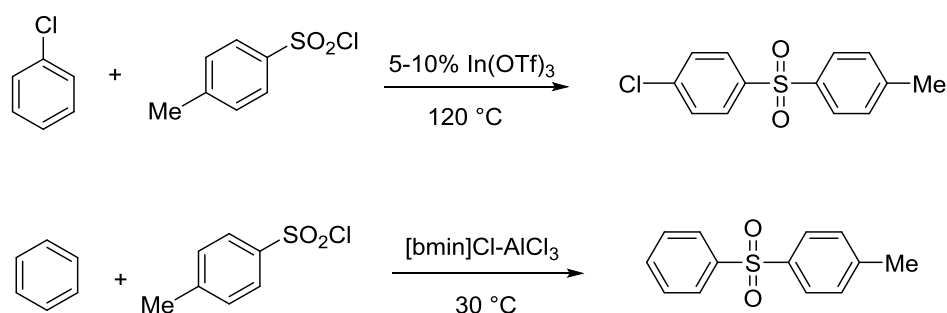


**Scheme 2:** General method for oxidation of sulfides into sulfones

Initially, sulfides are oxidized to sulfoxides which can be further oxidized to sulfones. Some other reagents such as potassium permanganate, osmium tetroxide and HOF.CH<sub>3</sub>CN complex are also effective in oxidation of sulfides into sulfones.

### 2.3.2. Sulfonylation of arenes by sulfonyl chlorides

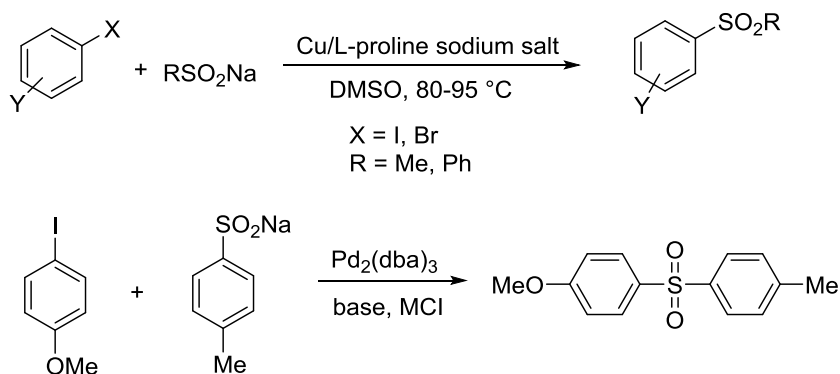
Arenes undergo sulfonylation by sulfonyl chloride in presence of Lewis acids. Both activated and deactivated arenes are reactive towards sulfonylation reaction and generate the corresponding aryl sulfones. Two examples of Lewis acid-mediated sulfonylation reactions of arenes with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride are depicted in scheme 3.



**Scheme 3:** Synthesis of aryl sulfones *via* sulfonylation

### 2.3.3. Coupling of sulfinates with aryl halides

Metal mediated coupling of aryl halides with sodium salt of sulfinic acids affords aryl sulfones in good yields (scheme 4). Symmetrical and unsymmetrical aryl sulfones can be synthesized *via* this coupling reaction.

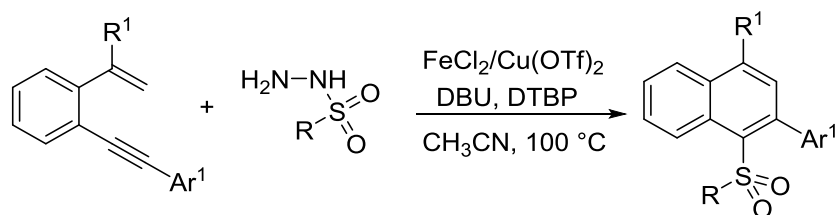


**Scheme 4:** Synthesis of aryl sulfones *via* coupling of sodium sulfinic acid salt with aryl halides

It is notable that in all of the above mentioned methods, pre-functionalised arenes are used for sulfonylation that affords a number of simple aryl sulfones, however, synthesis of more substituted aryl sulfones would be difficult by using these methods. For such substituted sulfones, the di-, tri-, and tetra-substituted arene building blocks are not readily available. In addition, the already present functionalities on arene building blocks may interfere with regiochemistry and reactivity of sulfonylation reaction. *Benzannulation approach* for synthesis of aryl sulfones may address some of these challenges. This approach, however, has been applied only rarely and the available examples are presented below.

#### 2.4. Synthesis of aryl sulfones via benzannulation reactions

An acyclic sulfone moiety can be converted into arene *via* annulation reaction with another suitable precursor. The acyclic sulfone precursor may be prepared by nucleophilic displacement reaction of leaving group by aryl sodium sulfinate salt. Unlike other methods, in benzannulation strategy the sulfone group is introduced on the arene ring as it is formed. The innate simplicity and versatility of this approach make it a promising strategy for synthesis of aryl sulfones. For example, Fe-Cu co-catalyzed oxidative benzannulation of enynes and sulfonyl hydrazides afforded sulfonyl naphthalene derivatives (Scheme 5) <sup>19</sup>

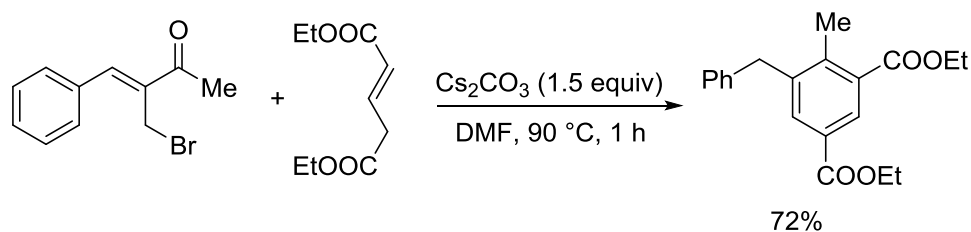


**Scheme 5:** Synthesis of aryl sulfones via benzannulation reaction of enynes and sulfonyl hydrazides

## 2.5. Statement of the problem

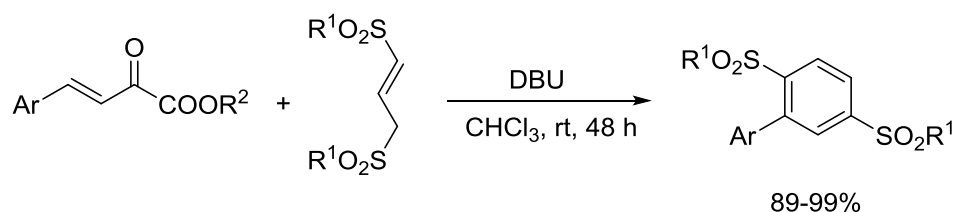
It is worth noting that a highly substituted arene with deactivating groups can be readily synthesized via benzannulation method, however, the introduction of more than one electron withdrawing group is much difficult via electrophilic substitution reaction. Additionally, the regiochemical outcome in electrophilic substitution reactions is determined by the group present on arene ring. As consequences of above discussion, a benzannulation approach for synthesis of highly functionalized sulfonyl arenes appears highly attractive. Our investigations towards this end, led to the development of a convenient and regioselective method for the rapid synthesis of biarylmethanes from simple precursors.

Kim and co-workers in 2013 described a base mediated [3+3] benzannulation reaction of Morita-Baylis-Hillman (MBH) adducts and glutacnoates to afford poly-substituted arene derivatives bearing 1,3-dicarboxylates group (Scheme 6).<sup>20</sup> The MBH adduct contains three electrophilic centers, and the reaction is initiated by displacement of allylic bromide in MBH adduct by nucleophilic end of the 1,3-dicarboxylate anion.



**Scheme 6:** [3+3] benzannulation of MBH bromide and glutacnoates

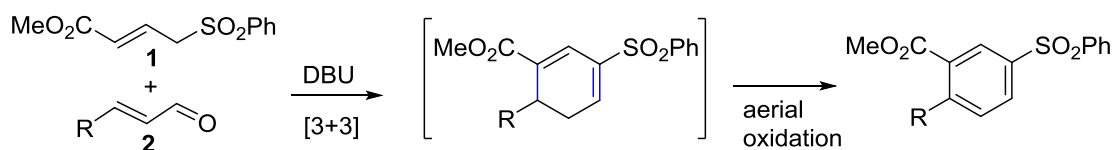
In 2018 Zhang, Yan and co-workers reported a facile synthesis of aryl sulfones via a base mediated [3+3] benzannulation reaction of 1,3-bis(sulfonyl)propene and  $\beta,\gamma$ -unsaturated  $\alpha$ -ketoester (Scheme 7).<sup>21</sup>



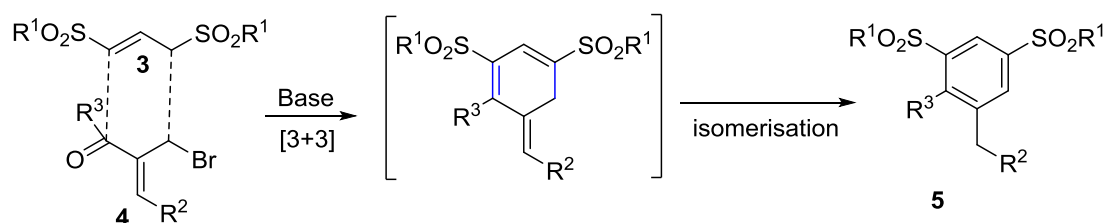
**Scheme 7:** [3+3] benzannulation of  $\beta,\gamma$ -unsaturated  $\alpha$ -ketoesters and 1,3-bis(sulfonyl)propene

Recently, our group developed an aerial oxidative, [3+3] benzannulation reaction mediated by base that afforded aryl sulfones from 4-sulfonyl crotonates **1** (a bis-nucleophile) and  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated aldehydes and ketones **2** (a 1,3-bis-electrophile) (Scheme 8a).<sup>19a</sup> We surmised that the benzannulation reaction of sulfone bearing symmetric 1,3-bis-nucleophile and a suitable electrophile partner could potentially afford substituted bis-sulfonylarenes (Scheme 8b). For this, we selected Morita-Baylis-Hillman adduct-derived bromide **4** as 3-atom bis-electrophilic building block and 1,3-bis-sulfonylpropene **3** as the bis-nucleophile.

a) Our previous work (ref. 19a)



b) This work



**Scheme 8:** (a) Benzannulation of enals and bis-sulfonylpropene (b) the present work

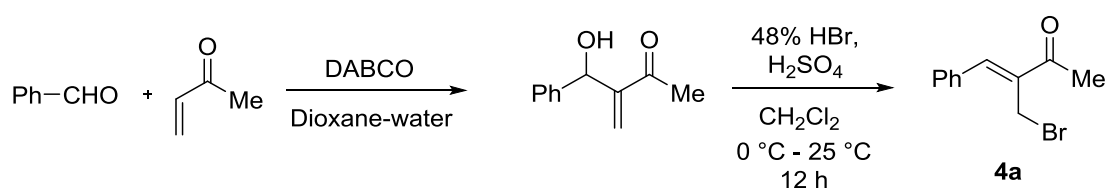
Indeed, the MBH bromide **4** incorporates three different electrophilic centers and it was interesting to test its reactivity and regiochemical preferences in a reaction with bis-



nucleophiles **3**. Additional impetus for the exploration came from the easy availability of both the 3-carbon building blocks.

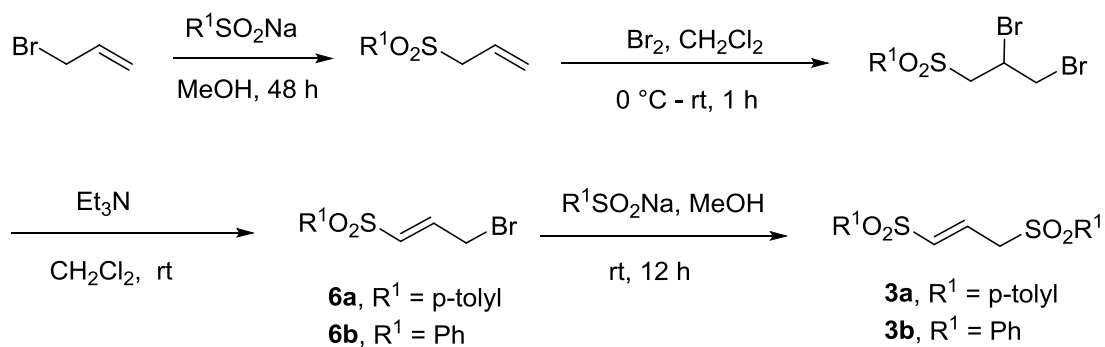
## 2.6. Results and discussion

In order to test the feasibility of the proposed benzannulation reaction, the required MBH bromide **4a** was prepared from the reaction of benzaldehyde with methyl vinyl ketone in presence of DABCO and followed by bromination with HBr as reported earlier (Scheme 9).<sup>22</sup>



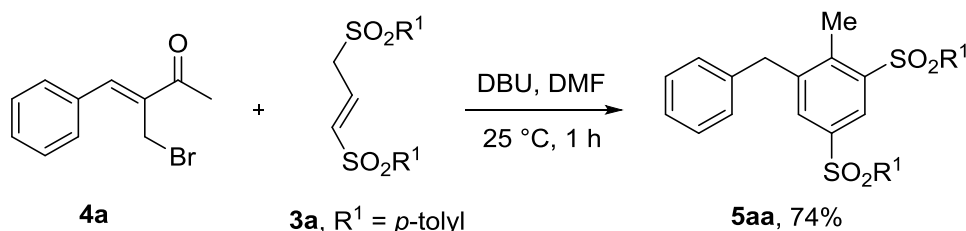
**Scheme 9:** Preparation of MBH bromide **4a**

The nucleophilic partners, 1,3-bistoluenesulfonylpropene **3a** and 1,3-bisphenylsulfonylpropene **3b** were easily prepared via a nucleophilic displacement reaction from the corresponding known bromides **6a**, **6b**.<sup>23</sup> These, in turn were assembled from allyl bromide via substitution-bromination-elimination sequence (Scheme 10).



**Scheme 10:** Preparation of 1,3-bis-arylsulfonylpropenes **6a-b** from allyl bromide

Once both the reaction partners **4a** and **3a** were at hand, we started our investigations by their union in a benzannulation reaction. Initially, **4a** and **3a** were treated under the conditions of our previously reported benzannulation protocol.<sup>19a</sup> Pleasingly, an aromatic product incorporating both the arenesulfonyl groups was obtained which was assigned the structure **5aa** (Scheme 10). The structure of benzannulated product was assigned on the basis of spectroscopic analysis. The product was isolated as a white crystalline product. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5aa** exhibited a singlet at  $\delta$  3.99 (2H) indicating the presence of a methylene group incorporated between two benzene rings. Another singlet at  $\delta$  2.35 corresponding to three protons was assigned to methyl group, attached to arene product. Two different doublets at  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H) and  $\delta$  7.87 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H) was assigned to two mutually coupled protons on newly formed arene. Other aliphatic and aromatic hydrogen signals indicated the attachment of tosyl group to benzannulated product. In <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum signals at  $\delta$  39.7 and  $\delta$  16.3 confirmed the presence of benzylic methylene and methyl groups in product **5aa**, respectively. All other peaks and other characterization data were also in agreement with the assigned structure (Scheme 11).

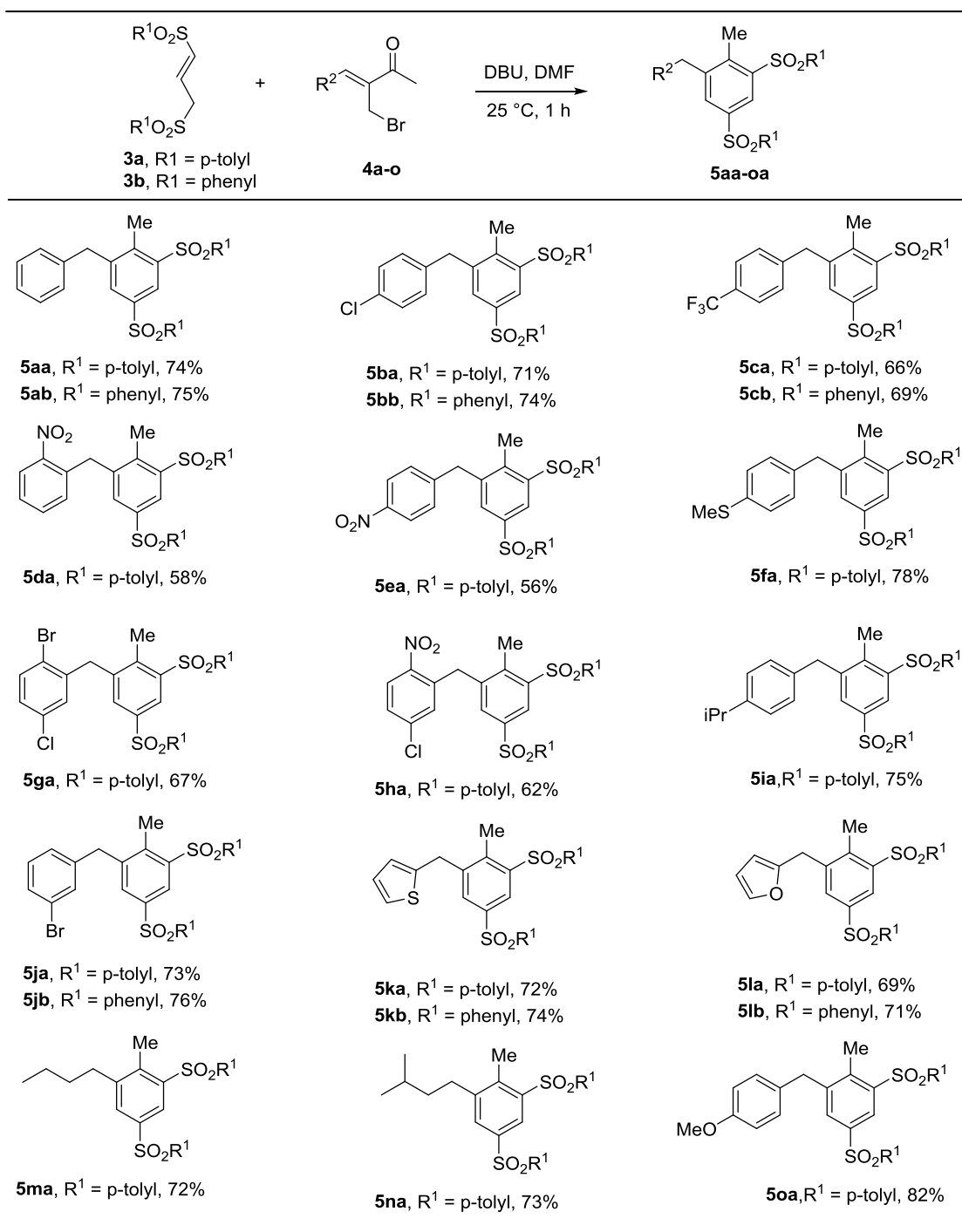


**Scheme 11:** Benzannulation reaction of **4a** and **3a**

The facile formation of a tetra-substituted arene from two acyclic precursors prompted us to explore the generality and scope of the benzannulation reaction. For further investigations towards this end, a number of MBH bromides were prepared by

following same method as described in Scheme 8. All of these MBH bromides were then treated with 1,3-bis-arylsulfonyl propene **3a** and **3b** under the optimal conditions of benzannulation reaction. The results are presented in table 1.

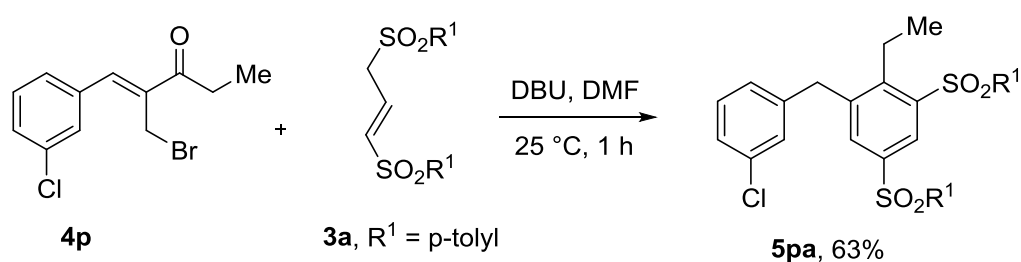
**Table 1:** Substrate scope of benzannulation reaction<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>reaction conditions: **4** (0.3mmol), **3** (0.33mmol), DBU (0.45mmol), DMF (5ml), 1 h, 25 °C

A variety of MBH adducts **4a-4o** derived from different substituted aldehydes were employed in study reacted smoothly and afforded corresponding tetra-substituted bis-sulfonylarenes **5aa-5oa**. It may be noted that, different groups such as nitro, trifluoromethyl, chloro, thiomethyl and bromo can be easily incorporated in biarylmethane products. Electron rich MBH bromide such as *p*-methoxyphenyl ring was also tolerated in the benzannulation reaction. Heteroaryl rings such as thiophene- and furan-bearing biarylmethane products (**5ka**, **5kb**, **5la** and **5lb**) may also be synthesized *via* this method. It is worth noting that the reaction is not limited to aryl substrates, alkyl group bearing MBH bromide reacted smoothly to generate corresponding arene **5ma** and **5na**. We tested the scalability of the reaction with 1 g of MBH bromide **4j** and pleasingly, the desired product **5ja** was isolated in 71% yield.

The benzannulation reaction was then tested with an MBH bromide **4p** derived from ethyl vinyl ketone. The treatment of **4p** with **3a** under the conditions of benzannulation reaction afforded ethyl-substituted bis-sulfonylarene **5pa** (Scheme 12).

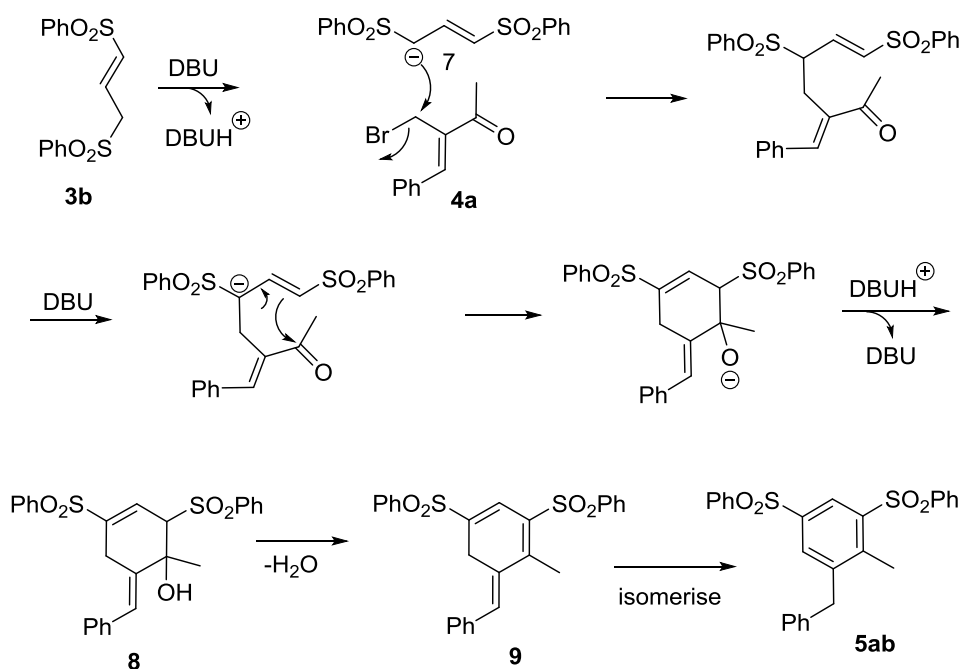


**Scheme 12:** Benzannulation reaction with MBH bromide derived from ethyl vinyl ketone

It is noteworthy that all the bis-sulfonylarene products are novel molecules. Their synthesis by conventional methods would not be trivial. Additionally, the bis-sulfonylarene products **5aa-5pa** may assume special importance in view of utility as pincer-type ligands.<sup>12</sup>

## 2.7. Plausible mechanism for benzannulation reaction

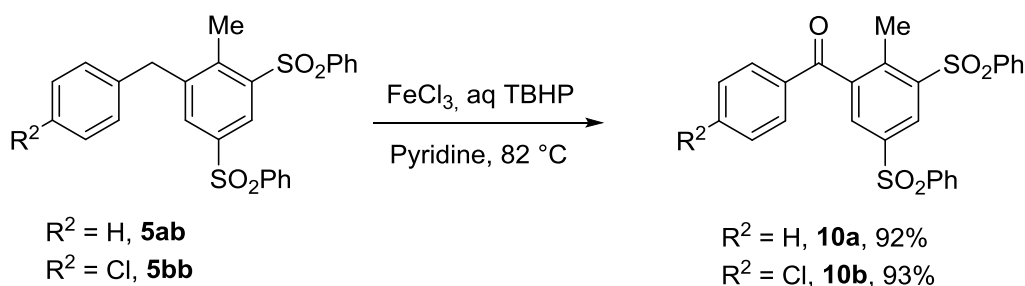
A mechanistic proposal depicted in scheme 12 may be advanced to explain the formation of arene products **5**. Initially, DBU deprotonates 1,3-bisphenylsulfonylpropene **3b** to afford a stabilized carbanion **7**. This carbanion may interact with MBH bromide **4a** at three different electrophilic sites. These are: (i) 1,2- addition at carbonyl group (ii) 1,4-addition conjugate to the carbonyl group or, (iii) displacement of allylic bromide. It is presumable that the bromine containing carbon is least hindered electrophilic site in MBH bromide **4a** and carbanion **7** displaces bromide in **4a**. It is also noteworthy that the allylic bromide is considered as an activated electrophile in nucleophilic substitution reactions. Further deprotonation and intramolecular cyclisation forms cyclohexenol derivative **8**. It is presumable that intramolecular 1,2-addition of the carbanion to enone moiety is favored over Michael addition due to high steric demands. Dehydration of carbinol **8** then produces cyclohexadiene derivative **9**. The cyclohexadiene readily undergoes isomerisation via [1,3]-H shift to furnish the aromatic product **5ab** (Scheme 13).



**Scheme 13:** Plausible mechanism of benzannulation reaction

## 2.8. Synthetic modification of biarylmethane derivatives

The biarylmethane products are amenable to further synthetic modifications. Benzylic oxidation<sup>24</sup> of biarymethanes by *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (TBHP) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> afforded corresponding benzophenone derivatives in excellent yields (Scheme 14). It is important to note that oxidation proceeds selectively at methylene group and methyl group present on phenyl ring was unaffected. Importantly, similar substituted benzophenones are highly sought-after targets for applications in medicinal chemistry, UV-blocking agents and photocatalysis.



**Scheme 14:** Benzophenone synthesis via site-selective oxidation of biarylmethanes

## 2.9. Conclusion

In conclusion, a [3+3] benzannulation reaction of two readily available, acyclic precursors viz., 1,3-bissulfonyl propenes and MBH-bromides to afford highly substituted bis-sulfonyl arenes has been developed. The newly formed phenyl ring contains two arenesulfonyl groups which are difficult to introduce by other methods. The benzannulation reaction developed here is metal free, mediated by base (DBU) and proceeds at room temperature to generate a highly substituted product. The biarylmethane derivatives can be readily converted into corresponding benzophenone derivatives *via* site-selective oxidation by TBHP and FeCl<sub>3</sub>. It is presumable that the present benzannulation reaction may find application as a valuable and powerful synthetic tool for the construction of highly substituted arenes.

## 2.10. Experimental section

### General information

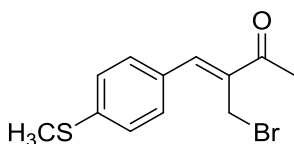
All  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz) spectra were recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solvent at ambient temperature, chemical shift  $\delta$  are given in ppm on a scale downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS), and the coupling constant  $J$  are in Hz. The signal patterns are indicated as follows: s, Singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; dd, doublet of doublet; m, multiplet; brs = broad). FTIR spectra were recorded as neat. Melting points were recorded on an electrothermal apparatus and are uncorrected. All solvents and reagents were used without further purification unless specified otherwise. Technical grade petroleum ether and ethyl acetate used for column chromatography were distilled prior to use. Column chromatography was carried out using silica gel (60-120 mesh and 100-200 mesh) packed in glass columns. All reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. TLC analysis was performed on 60  $\text{F}_{254}$  silica gel plates. Visualization of spots on TLC plate was accomplished with UV light (254 nm) and staining by  $\text{KMnO}_4$ . High-resolution mass spectra were recorded with q-TOF electrospray mass spectrometer. All purchased chemicals were used as received.

### Preparation of MBH adduct

In a RB flask a solution of aldehyde (5.0 mmol) and methyl vinyl ketone or ethyl vinyl ketone (7.5 mmol) in 20 ml of 1,4-dioxane-water (1:1, v/v) was stirred at room temperature in presence of DABCO (2 mmol). The reaction progress was monitored by TLC. Upon completion the reaction, mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ether (3×20 ml). The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and solvent was evaporated by using rotavapour. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate-petroleum ether as eluent to give desired MBH adduct.

**Preparation of MBH bromides 4a-4p<sup>22</sup>**

In a RB flask a solution of MBH adduct in DCM (3ml/mmol) kept at 0 °C, to this 48% HBr solution (0.4ml/mmol of MBH adduct) was added dropwise. Then, conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0.3ml/mmol of MBH adduct) was added and stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with water and extracted with DCM (3×10ml). The combined organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and solvent was evaporated by using rotavapour. The pure product MBH bromide was isolated after column chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate-petroleum ether as eluent.

**Spectroscopic data for novel MBH bromides****4f, (Z)-3-(bromomethyl)-4-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)but-3-en-2-one**

Colorless crystal, 558 mg, 87% (from 500 mg of MBH adduct)

**R<sub>f</sub>** = 0.8 (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

**Melting point:** 93-94 °C

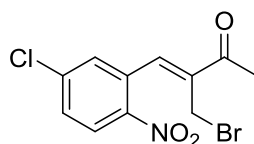
**IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ :** 2922, 2852, 1657, 1614, 1587, 1489, cm<sup>-1</sup>

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 (s, 1H), 7.55(d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H), 7.32(d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H), 4.38(s, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.50(s, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.1, 142.6, 142.5, 142.0, 136.3, 130.4, 125.8, 25.9, 25.4, 15.0

**HRMS** calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrOS (M+H) 284.9949; found 284.9949.





**4h, (Z)-3-(bromomethyl)-4-(5-chloro-2-nitrophenyl)but-3-en-2-one**

Pale yellow solid, 553 mg, 89% (from 500 mg of MBH adduct)

$R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

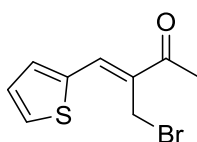
**Melting point:** 108-109 °C

**IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$ :** 1676, 1599, 1560, 1523, 1464, 1427, 1338, 906, 813, 679, 526  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.21(d,  $J = 8.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.88(s, 1H), 7.75(d,  $J = 2.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.57 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 2.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.06(s, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.4, 145.3, 140.9, 138.6, 138.2, 132.2, 130.3, 129.9, 127.0, 26.2, 23.6

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{BrClNO}_3$  (M+H) 317.9533; found 317.9544



**4k, (Z)-3-(bromomethyl)-4-(thiophen-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one**

Yellow solid, 531 mg, 79% (from 500 mg of MBH adduct)

$R_f = 0.7$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

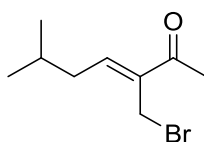
**Melting point:** 129-131 °C

**IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$ :** 2922, 1659, 1603, 1414, 1203, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.75 (s, 1H), 7.68 (dd,  $J = 5.2, 0.4\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.51 (dd,  $J = 3.6, 0.4\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 5.2, 3.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.6, 137.1, 135.5, 134.1, 133.6, 132.6, 128.3, 25.8, 25.0

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{BrOS}$  (M+H) 244.9636; found 244.9636.



**4n, (Z)-3-(bromomethyl)-6-methylhept-3-en-2-one**

Pale Yellow oil, 505 mg, 72% (from 500 mg of MBH adduct)

$R_f = 0.7$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

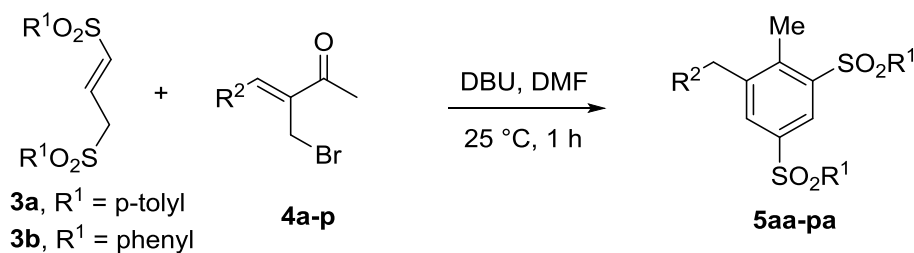
**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2957, 1670, 1462, 412  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.81 (t,  $J = 7.5\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.25–2.21 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.79 (m, 1H), 0.96 (d,  $J = 6.7\text{Hz}$ , 6H)

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.7, 147.7, 139.0, 38.3, 28.3, 25.6, 22.8, 22.7

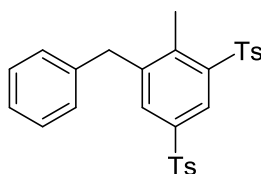
**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{BrO}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) 219.0385; found 219.0379.

**General procedure for the DBU-mediated benzannulation reaction**



DBU (0.45 mmol) was added to a solution of MBH bromide **4a-p** (0.30 mmol) and 1,3-bissulfonylpropene **3a-b** (0.33 mmol) in DMF (5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1h. After completion of the reaction, 10 mL deionized water was added and the solution was extracted with ethylacetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and the solvent was evaporated off on a rotavapor under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether-ethyl acetate as eluent to afford analytically pure sample of the product.

## Spectroscopic data for the products 5aa-5pa

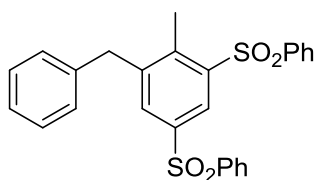
**5aa, 4,4'-(5-benzyl-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 110 mg, 75%

 $R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)**Melting point:** 189-191 °C**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3082, 2926, 1591, 1492, 1442, 1319, 1294, 1147, 540  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ 

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.27–7.20 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.43 (s, 6H), 2.35 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.8, 143.7, 142.3, 141.9, 140.3, 137.9, 137.7, 137.4, 133.2, 130.2, 130.0, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.9, 126.9, 39.7, 21.7, 16.3

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{27}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) 491.1351; found 491.1346.**5ab, (5-benzyl-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)dibenzene**

White solid, 108 mg, 75%

 $R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

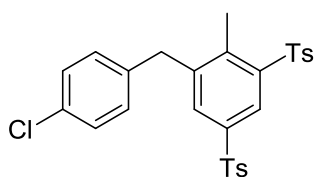
**Melting point:** 160-162 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3086, 3059, 1583, 1496, 1446, 1315, 1147, 835, 567  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H), 7.82 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t,  $J = 7.2$ , 2H), 7.65–7.48 (m, 4H), 7.28–7.17 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  143.9, 142.7, 141.6, 140.9, 140.3, 140.0, 137.6, 133.8, 133.5, 129.6, 129.4, 129.0, 128.5, 127.9, 127.1, 126.9, 39.7, 16.4.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 463.1038; found 463.1049.



**5ba, 4,4'-[5-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 112 mg, 71%

$R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

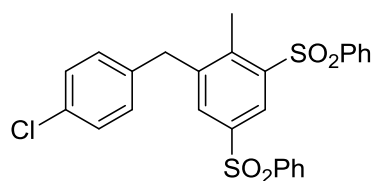
**Melting point:** 192-194 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3066, 2920, 1595, 1492, 1435, 1404, 1303, 1143, 817, 711, 667  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.62 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.4$ , 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 8.4$ , 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.9 (2), 143.1, 142.2, 142.1, 140.5, 137.8, 137.3, 136.3, 133.1, 132.7, 130.3, 130.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.0, 39.0, 21.74, 16.3.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{ClO}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 525.0961; found 525.0978.



**5bb, (5-(4-chlorobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)dibenzene**

White solid, 112 mg, 74%

$R_f = 0.4$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

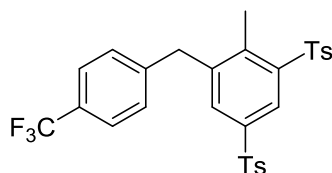
**Melting point:** 147-149 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3082, 1581, 1489, 1442, 1315, 1149, 559  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.64–7.59 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.3, 142.5, 141.8, 140.7, 140.2, 136.1, 133.8, 133.4, 132.8, 129.9, 129.7, 129.4, 129.1, 127.9, 127.3, 39.0, 16.4.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClO}_4\text{S}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) 497.0648; found 497.0631.



**5ca, 4,4'-{4-methyl-5-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl}**

**bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 110 mg, 66%

$R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

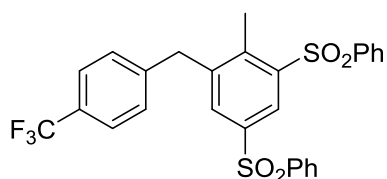
**Melting point:** 187-189 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3082, 2925, 1593, 1419, 1323, 1149, 1112, 812, 709, 659  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.64 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.4$ , 2H), 7.49 (d,  $J = 8.1$ , 2H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.1$ , 2H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.9, 144.8, 142.4, 142.1 (2), 140.5, 137.6, 137.1, 133.1, 130.2, 129.9, 128.7, 127.9, 127.8, 127.1, 125.7(q,  $J = 3.8\text{Hz}$ ), 39.3, 21.6 (2), 16.3

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{26}\text{F}_3\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 559.1225; found 559.1206.



**5cb, {4-methyl-5-[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl}dibenzene**

White solid, 110 mg, 69%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

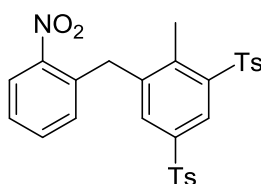
**Melting point:** 156-157 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3066, 1583, 1448, 1325, 1298, 1142, 1112, 1070, 690, 549  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.69 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd,  $J = 8.0$ , 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd,  $J = 8.8$ , 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.63–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 6H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  142.6, 142.4, 141.9, 141.7, 140.5, 140.2, 140.0, 133.8, 133.7, 133.4, 129.6, 129.3, 128.7, 127.8 (2), 127.3, 125.8 (q,  $J = 3.6$  Hz), 39.3, 16.3

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_3\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 531.0912; found 531.0930.



**5da, 4,4'-[4-methyl-5-(2-nitrobenzyl)-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 93 mg, 58%

$R_f = 0.4$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

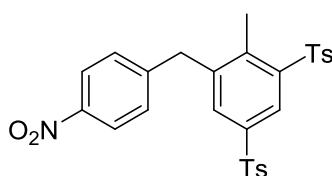
**Melting point:** 170-172 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3059, 2922, 1593, 1523, 1435, 1348, 1315, 1143, 837, 659  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.01 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 4H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  149.0, 144.9, 142.1(2), 141.8, 140.6, 137.7, 137.2, 133.8, 132.8, 132.3, 131.6, 130.2, 130.0, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 125.5, 36.6, 21.8, 16.3.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_6\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 536.1202; found 536.1243.



**5ea, 4,4'-[4-methyl-5-(4-nitrobenzyl)-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 90 mg, 56%

$R_f = 0.4$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

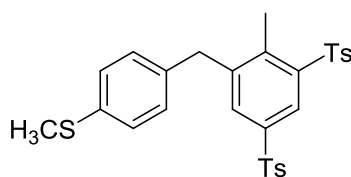
**Melting point:** 122-124 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3072, 2924, 1597, 1519, 1492, 1438, 1348, 1309, 1145, 837, 812, 705, 661  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.65 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.31 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.9, 145.5, 145.1(2), 142.4, 142.2, 141.8, 140.8, 137.6, 137.0, 133.2, 130.4, 130.1, 129.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 124.1, 39.5, 21.8, 16.4

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_6\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 536.1202; found 536.1225.



**5fa, 4,4'-[4-methyl-5-(4-methylthiobenzyl)-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 126 mg, 78%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

**Melting point:** 145–147 °C

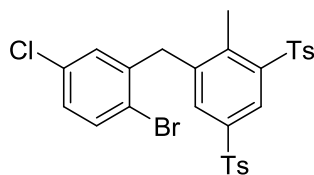
**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3062, 2924, 1593, 1492, 1436, 1319, 1147, 1085, 707, 671, 545  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.62 (d,  $J = 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.7, 143.4, 142.1, 141.8, 140.2, 137.7, 137.2, 136.8, 134.4, 133.0, 130.1, 129.9, 129.8, 128.9, 127.8, 126.9, 39.0, 21.6, 16.2, 15.8

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_4\text{S}_3$  (M+H) 537.1228; found 537.1247.





**5ga, 4,4'-[5-(2-bromo-5-chlorobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 121 mg, 67%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

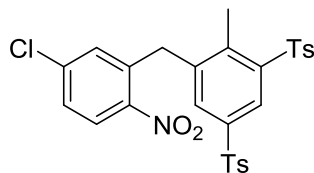
**Melting point:** 189-191 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3062, 2924, 1593, 1448, 1317, 1143, 1087, 812, 711, 549  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.67 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.5$ , 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.11 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.9, 142.2, 142.0, 141.5, 140.6, 139.0, 137.7, 137.2, 134.3, 134.2, 134.0, 132.7, 130.3(2), 130.1, 130.0, 129.0, 127.9, 127.1, 122.7, 39.7, 21.8, 21.73, 16.3.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{25}\text{BrClO}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 603.0066; found 603.0076.



**5ha, 4,4'-[5-(5-chloro-2-nitrobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

**bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 106 mg, 62%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

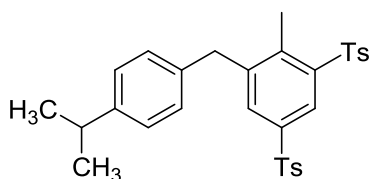
**Melting point:** 182-184 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3067, 2927, 1525, 1440, 1313, 1296, 1145, 813, 549  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.66 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d,  $J = 1.6$ , 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.0$ , 4H), 6.81 (d,  $J = 2.0$ , 1H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  147.3, 145.0(2), 142.3, 142.0, 140.8(2), 140.3, 137.6, 137.2, 135.0, 132.3, 131.4, 130.3, 130.1, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 127.0, 36.5, 21.7, 16.3.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClNO}_6\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 570.0812; found 570.0832.



**5ia, 4,4'-[5-(4-isopropylbenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 120 mg, 75%

$R_f = 0.7$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

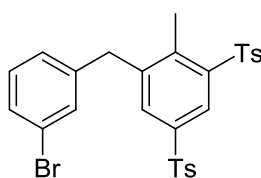
**Melting point:** 167-168 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3078, 2964, 1593, 1425, 1319, 1139, 1083, 808, 705, 671, 565  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.61 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.09 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.89-2.80 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.21 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  147.5, 144.8(2), 144.0, 142.3, 141.8, 140.2, 138.0, 137.4, 135.0, 133.2, 130.2, 130.0, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 126.9, 126.8, 39.2, 33.7, 24.0, 21.74, 21.72, 16.4

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 533.1820; found 533.1829.



**5ja, 4,4'-[5-(3-bromobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 125 mg, 73%

$R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

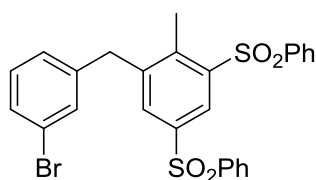
**Melting point:** 204-206 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3072, 2924, 1591, 1566, 1446, 1294, 1141, 840, 812, 709, 661, 545  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.65 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.14–7.10 (m, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.8, 144.7, 142.6, 142.1, 141.9, 140.4, 139.9, 137.6, 137.1, 133.0, 131.4, 130.3, 130.2, 129.9, 127.8, 127.8, 127.1, 126.9, 122.8, 39.2, 21.6 (2), 16.2

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{BrO}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 569.0456; found 569.0444.



**5jb, [5-(3-bromobenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl]dibenzene**

White solid, 124 mg, 76%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

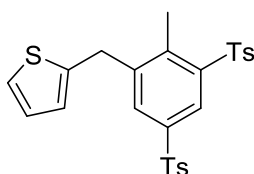
**Melting point:** 156-157 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3064, 1568, 1446, 1309, 1143, 1978, 684, 567  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.68 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62–7.60 (m, 2H), 7.56–7.50 (m, 4H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14–7.01 (m, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.0, 142.6, 141.8, 140.7, 140.2, 139.9, 133.9, 133.8, 133.5, 131.5, 130.5, 130.2, 129.7, 129.5, 127.9, 127.3, 127.2, 123.0, 39.2, 16.4.

**HRMS** calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (M+H) 541.0143; found 541.0122.



**5ka, 2-(2-methyl-3,5-ditosylbenzyl)thiophene**

White solid, 107 mg, 72%

**R<sub>f</sub>** = 0.6 (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

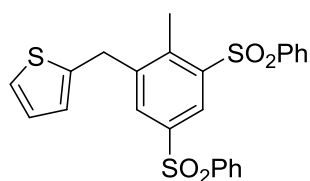
**Melting point:** 199–201 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 2924, 1591, 1498, 1436, 1315, 1294, 1143, 1083, 812, 542 cm<sup>-1</sup>

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.63 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.40 (s, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.9, 143.2, 142.0, 141.9, 140.5, 140.4, 137.9, 137.3, 132.8, 130.2, 130.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.2, 125.9, 124.8, 124.7, 34.0, 21.8, 16.2.

**HRMS** calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M+H) 497.0915; found 497.0933.



**5kb, 2-[2-methyl-3,5bis(phenylsulfonyl)benzyl]thiophene**

White solid, 104 mg, 74%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

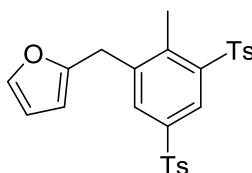
**Melting point:** 187-189 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3082, 2362, 1581, 1444, 1311, 1147, 1089, 725, 686, 570  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.69 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 1.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.83 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 1.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.62–7.60 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 4H), 7.14 (dd,  $J = 5.2, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd,  $J = 5.2, 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd,  $J = 3.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  143.4, 142.3, 141.7, 140.8, 140.3, 140.2(2), 133.8, 133.1, 129.7, 126.4, 127.9, 127.4, 127.2, 126.0, 124.8, 34.0, 16.2.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_4\text{S}_3$  (M+H) 469.0602; found 469.0590.



**5la, 2-(2-methyl-3,5-ditosylbenzyl)furan**

White solid, 100 mg, 70%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

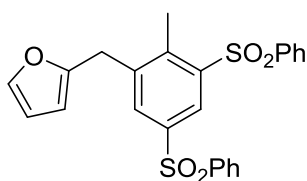
**Melting point:** 203-204 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2926, 1593, 1498, 1440, 1315, 1294, 1143, 1083, 810, 707, 553  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.63 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.30 (m, 4H), 7.28 (dd,  $J = 1.9, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.25 (dd,  $J = 3.1, 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.87 (dd,  $J = 3.1, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 9H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  151.2, 144.8, 142.1, 142.0, 141.8, 141.2, 140.4, 137.9, 137.3, 133.0, 130.3, 130.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.2, 110.6, 110.5, 107.5, 107.4, 32.5, 21.7, 16.1.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 481.1143; found 481.1166.



**5Ib, 2-[2-methyl-3,5bis(phenylsulfonyl)benzyl]furan**

White solid, 97 mg, 71%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

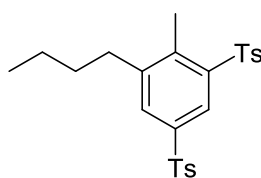
**Melting point:** 175-177  $^{\circ}\text{C}$

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2922, 2855, 2306, 1585, 1444, 1307, 1145, 725, 535  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.67 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.97–7.88 (m, 3H), 7.83 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.64–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.56–7.48 (m, 4H), 7.28 (dd,  $J = 2.0, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.26 (dd,  $J = 3.2, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.88 (dd,  $J = 3.2, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  151.1, 141.6, 141.4, 140.3, 140.1, 133.8, 133.3, 129.6, 129.4, 127.9, 110.6(2), 107.5(2), 32.5, 16.2.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 453.0830; found 453.0840.

**5ma, 4, 4'-(5-butyl-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 99 mg, 72%

$R_f = 0.7$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

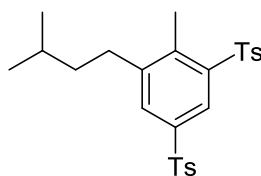
**Melting point:** 146-148 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3068, 2953, 2924, 2864, 1593, 1442, 1309, 1296, 1145, 1085, 813, 565, 549  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.56 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 4H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.48-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.35-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  145.8, 144.8, 144.7, 141.5, 141.4, 140.0, 138.1, 137.5, 132.2, 130.2, 130.0, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 33.5, 31.9, 22.6, 21.7, 15.8, 13.9.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) 457.1507; found 457.1499.

**5na, 4, 4'-(5-isopentyl-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 103 mg, 73%

$R_f = 0.7$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

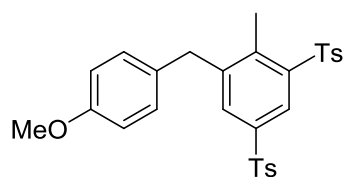
**Melting point:** 165-167 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3072, 2958, 2908, 1593, 1442, 1313, 1296, 1145, 1083, 812, 549  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.56 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 4H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.59–1.56 (m, 1H), 1.38–1.32 (m, 2H), 0.91 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 6H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.0, 144.7(2), 141.5, 141.3, 140.1, 138.1, 137.5, 132.1, 130.2, 130.0, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 39.0, 31.7, 28.3, 22.4, 21.7, 15.7.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{31}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 471.1664; found 471.1657.



**5oa, 4,4'-(5-(4-methoxybenzyl)-4-methyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 128 mg, 82%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

**Melting point:** 167-169 °C

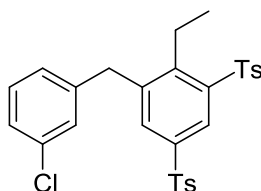
**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2926, 1591, 1510, 1444, 1315, 1246, 1150, 567, 545  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.61 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 5.9$  Hz, 4H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  158.4, 144.8, 144.7, 144.2, 142.2, 141.8, 140.2, 137.9, 137.4, 133.0, 130.2, 129.9, 129.6, 128.0, 127.9, 126.7, 114.3, 55.3, 38.8, 21.7, 16.2

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 521.1457; found 521.1479.





**5pa, 4,4'-(5-(3-chlorobenzyl)-4-ethyl-1,3-phenylenedisulfonyl)bis(methylbenzene)**

White solid, 102 mg, 63 %

$R_f$  = 0.6 (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

**Melting point:** 146-148 °C

**IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$ :** 2976, 1591, 1475, 1429, 1317, 1294, 1147, 669, 559  $cm^{-1}$

**$^1H$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.59 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.69 (m, 5H), 7.31 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 2.0Hz, 4H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 2H), 6.89(s, 1H), 6.84 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 1.6Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.89 (q,  $J$  = 7.4Hz 2H), 2.41(s, 6H), 0.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.4Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}C$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  147.7, 144.9, 144.8, 142.7, 141.9, 140.5, 140.4, 137.9, 137.7, 134.8, 133.7, 130.3, 130.2, 130.1, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 127.3, 127.2, 126.9, 37.6, 22.9, 21.7, 14.1.

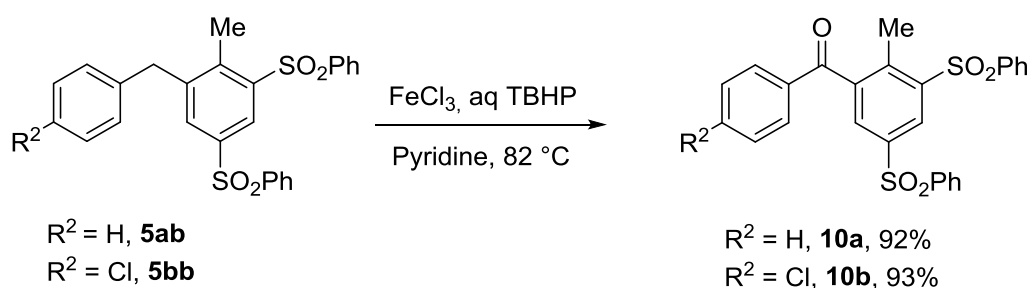
**HRMS** calcd for  $C_{29}H_{27}ClO_4S_2$  (M+H) 539.1118; found 539.1121.

**Procedure for gram scale benzannulation reaction**

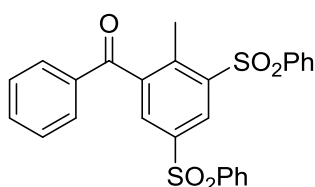
DBU (0.88ml, 5.88 mmol) was added to a solution of MBH bromide **4j** (1g, 3.92 mmol) and 1,3-bissulfonylpropene **3a-b** (1.51g, 4.31 mmol) in DMF (15 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1h. After completion of the reaction, 50 mL deionized water was added and the solution was extracted with ethylacetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate and the solvent was evaporated off on a rotavapor under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether-ethyl acetate

as eluent to afford analytically pure sample of the product. A white solid (1.58g, 71%) which was identical to the product **5ja** obtained in the low-scale reaction.

### General procedure for FeCl<sub>3</sub>-TBHP mediated benzylic oxidation



To a solution of FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (2.2 mg, 0.008 mmol) in pyridine (0.5 mL), the bis-sulfonyl arene **5ab** or **5bb** (0.22 mmol) was added. To this, tert-butyl hydroperoxide (0.05 mL, 0.33 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture heated at 82 °C for 24 h. Then the reaction mixture was poured into a separating funnel containing 10 mL 1N HCl. The solution was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with anhydrous sodium sulphate, filtered and the solvent was evaporated off on a rotavapor under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether-ethyl acetate as eluent to afford the benzophenones **10a-b** in analytically pure form.



### **10a**, [2-methyl-3,5-bis(phenylsulfonyl)phenyl](phenyl)methanone

White solid, 96 mg, 92%

$R_f = 0.5$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

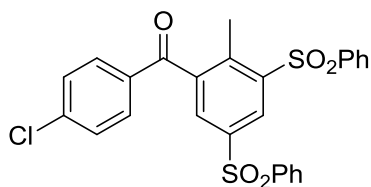
**Melting point:** 168-170 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3066, 1664, 1583, 1442, 1296, 1145, 1078, 727, 684, 559  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.88 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.67–7.63 (m, 5H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 4H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.3, 143.4, 142.3, 141.6, 140.5, 140.3, 139.6, 135.7, 134.8, 134.1, 130.8, 130.2, 129.8, 129.6, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 17.4.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_5\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 477.0830; found 477.0852.



**10b, (4-chlorophenyl)[2-methyl-3,5-bis(phenylsulfonyl)phenyl]methanone**

White solid, 102 mg, 91%

$R_f = 0.6$  (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes)

**Melting point:** 153-155 °C

**IR (KBr)**  $\nu_{\max}$ : 3068, 2974, 1672, 1585, 1444, 1317, 1143, 1085, 723, 688, 559  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.87 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.67–7.53 (m, 8H), 7.43 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  194.1, 142.8, 142.5, 141.6, 141.5, 140.7, 140.3, 139.6, 134.2, 134.1, 131.5, 130.7, 129.8, 129.6, 128.2, 128.0, 17.4.

**HRMS** calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{20}\text{ClO}_5\text{S}_2$  (M+H) 511.0441; found 511.0461.

## 2.11. References

1. Kotha, S.; Misra, S.; Halder, S. *Tetrahedron* **2008**, *64*, 10775.
2. (a) Snieckus, V. *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, *7*, 1215 and references cited therein. (b) Bunnett, J.F. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1978**, *11*, 413. (c) Smith, M. B.; March, J. Aromatic Substitution, Nucleophilic and Organometallic. *March's Advanced Organic Chemistry, 6th ed.*; John Wiley & Sons: Hoboken, NJ, **2007**; pp 853.
3. Calloway, N.O. *Chemical Reviews* **1935**, *17*, 327. (b) Olah, G. A. Friedel–Craftes chemistry; Wiley & Sons: New York, **1973**. (c) Rueping, M.; Nachtsheim, B. J. *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, *6*, No. 6.
4. (a) Miyaura, N.; Suzuki, A. *Chem. Rev.* **1995**, *95*, 2457. (b) Stille, J. K. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1986**, *25*, 508. (c) Heravi, M. M.; Kheilkordi, Z.; Zadsirjan, V.; Heydari, M.; Malmir, M. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **2018**, *861*, 17.
5. Snieckus, V. *Chem. Rev.* **1990**, *90*, 879. (b) Kuhl, N.; Hopkinson, M.N.; Delord, J. W.; Glorius, F. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 2. (c) Lyons, T. W.; Sanford, M. S. *Chem. Rev.* **2010**, *110*, 1147.
6. (a) Dötz, K. H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1975**, *14*, 644. (b) Waters, M. L.; Wulff, W. D. *Org. React.* **2008**, *70*, 121.
7. (a) Danheiser R. L.; Gee, S.K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 1672. (b) Danheiser, R. L.; Brisbois, R. G.; Kowalczyk, J. J.; Miller, R. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 3093.
8. (a) Katritzky, A. R.; Lie, Xie, L. *Tetrahedron*, **1999**, *55*, 8263. (b) Feng, J.; Liu, B. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2015**, *56*, 1474. (c) Diallo, A.; Zhao, Y. L.; Wang, H.; Li, S. S.; Ren, C. Q.; Liu, Q. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 5776. (d) Li, L.; Zhao, Y. L.; Wang, H.; Li, Y. J.; Xu, X.; Liu, Q. *Chem. Commun.* **2014**, *50*, 6458. (e) Gopi, E.; Namboothiri, I. *J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, *79*, 7468. (f) Satham, L.; Namboothiri, I. *J. Org. Chem.* **2018**, *83*, 9471. (g) Xie, P.; Huang, Y.; Chen, R. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 7362.

9. Li, H.; Chen, Q.; Lu, Z.; Li, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 15555. (b) Yang, P.; Yao, M.; Li, J.; Li, Y.; Li, A. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 6964. (c) Mak, X. Y.; Crombie, A. L.; Danheiser, R. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, *76*, 1852. (d) Finkbeiner, P.; Murai, K.; Röpke, M.; Sarpong, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 11349.
10. (a) Alba, A.-R.; Companyó, X.; Rios, R. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2010**, *39*, 2018. (b) Nenajdenko, V. G.; Krasovskiy, A. L.; Balenkova E. S. *Tetrahedron* **2007**, *63*, 12481.
11. (a) Dinsmore, C. J.; Williams, T. M.; O'Neill, T. J.; Liu, D.; Rands, E.; Culberson, J. C.; Lobell, R. B.; Koblan, K. S.; Kohl, N. E.; Gibbs, J. B. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **1999**, *9*, 3301. (b) Neamati, N.; Mazumder, A.; Zhao, H.; Sunder, S.; Burke, T. R., Jr.; Schultz, R. J.; Pommier, Y. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* **1997**, *41*, 385. (c) Harguindey, S.; Arranz, J. L.; Orozco, J. D. P.; Rauch, C.; Fais, S.; Cardone, R. A.; Reshkin, S. J. *J. Transl. Med.* **2013**, *11*, 282.
12. Ezzi, M. L.; Lenk, R.; Madec, D.; Sotiropoulos, J.-M.; Mallet- Ladeira, S.; Castel, A. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2015**, *127*, 819.
13. Zhu, Y. I.; Stiller, M. J. *J. Am. Acad. Dermatol.* **2001**, *45*, 420.
14. Fowler, J. S.; Logan, J.; Azzaro, A. J.; Fielding, R. M.; Zhu, W.; Poshusta, A. K.; Burch, D.; Brand, B.; Free, J.; Asgharnejad M.; , Wang, G. J.; Telang, F.; Hubbard, B.; Jayne, M.; King, P.; Carter, P.; Carter, S.; Xu, Y.; Colleen Shea, C.; Muench, L.; Alexoff, D.; Shumay, E.; Schueller, M.; Donald Warner, D.; Apelskog-Torres, K. *Neuropsychopharmacology* **2010**, *35*, 623
15. Madhava, G.; Ramana, K. V.; Sudhana, S. M.; Rao, D. S.; Kumar, K. H.; Lokanatha, V.; Rani, A. U.; Raju, C. N. *Medicinal Chemistry* **2017**, *13*, 484.
16. Ward, R. S.; Diaper, R. L. *Sulfur Rep.* **2001**, *22*, 251.
17. Frost, C. G.; Hartley, J. P.; Whittle, A. J. *Synlett* **2001**, 830.
18. (a) Zhu, W.; Ma, D. *J. Org. Chem.* **2005**, *70*, 2696. (b) Cacchi, S.; Fabrizi, G.; Goggiamani, A.; Parisi, L. M.; Bernini, R. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 5608.

19. (a) Joshi, P.R.; Undeela, S.; Reddy, D.D.; Singarapu. K.K.; Menon.. R. S. *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 1449. (b) Fu, R.; Hao, W. J.; Wu, Y. N.; Wang, N. N.; Tu, S. J.; Li, G.; Jiang, B. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2016**, *3*, 1452.
20. Lim, J. W.; Kim, S, H.; Yu, J.; Kim, N. J. *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *34*, 3503.
21. Tang, X. Z.; Tong, L.; Liang, H.; Liang, J.; Zou, Y.; Zhang, X.; Yan, M.; Chan, A. S. C. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2018**, *16*, 3560.
22. (a) Buchholz, R.; Hoffman, H. M. R. *Helv. Chim. Acta.* **1991**, *74*, 1213. (b). Basavaiah, D.; Hyma, R. S.; Padmaja, K.; Krishna macharyulu, M. *Tetrahedron* **1999**, *55*, 6971.
23. Gallagher, E. T.; Grayson, D. H. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2003**, *1*, 1374. (b) (b) Padwa, A.; Gareau, Y.; Harrison, B.; Brian, N.; Bryan, H. J. *Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 2713
24. Nakanishi, M.; Bolm, C. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2007**, *349*, 861-864.

## 2.12. NMR spectra of new compounds [ $^1\text{H}$ NMR (400 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3$ )]

