Ortho Arylation of Acetanilides via Pd(II)-Catalyzed C-H Functionalization

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Supporting Information

General. All the reactions were carried out under air atmosphere. Dioxane was dried by sodium and freshly distilled. Anhydrous Cu(OTf)₂ and AgF were purchased from Alfa Aesar and Acros Chemical and used without further purification (Important! the sources of Cu(OTf)₂ is very critical in this transformation.). Pd(OAc)₂ was purchased from Alfa Aesar Chemical. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) were registered on Varian 300M spectrometers with CDCl₃ as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported in units (ppm) by assigning TMS resonance in the ¹H spectrum as 0.00 ppm and CDCl₃ resonance in the ¹³C spectrum as 77.0 ppm. All coupling constants (*J* values) were reported in Hertz (Hz). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel 200-300 mesh. IR, GC, MS, and HRMS were performed by the State-authorized Analytical Center in Peking University.

General procedures for ortho arylation of acetanilide:

In a 30 mL Schlenck tube, Acetanilide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.01 mmol, 0.05 equiv), anhydrous $Cu(OTf)_2$ (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and anhydrous AgF (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was dissolved in 5.0 mL of dried 1, 4-Dioxane, then (trimethoxyl)phenysilane (80 μ L, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added via syringe. The tube was sealed with a Teflon lined cap, and the reaction mixture was stirred and heated to 110 °C in an oil bath for 48 h. After the reaction was completed, the dark solid was removed by filtration through Celite, and the Celite bed was washed with 3 x 5 mL diethyl ether. In most cases, the combined filtrate was immediately concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a proper eluent. The purified material was dried under oil-pump vacuum.

N-Biphenyl-2-yl-acetamide (**3aa**). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 36 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (70:30 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.031 g (74%) (With Cu(OTf)₂ from different companies, such as Aldrich and Acros, the reaction could take place. However, the starting material **1a** could not completely convert into product **3aa** occasionally and the yield was ranged from 45-70% with the recovered starting material **1a**). H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.33 (m, 6H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H); C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.19, 138.11, 134.62, 132.19, 130.01, 129.16, 129.02, 128.35, 127.90, 124.32, 121.68, 24.52; m/z (EI) 211 (M⁺, 33.3%), 169 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3261, 3031, 1663, 1520, 1445, 1293, 757.

N-(4'-Methoxy-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ac).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol and 10 mol % Pd(OAc)₂ scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (50:50 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.034 g (71%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, J = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.18 (m, 6H), 7.01 (d, J = 9.00 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.25, 159.23, 134.71, 131.94, 130.28, 130.07, 128.79, 127.98, 124.31, 123.97, 121.60, 119.75, 114.38, 55.25, 24.43; m/z (EI) 241 (M⁺, 58.8%), 199 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) ν 3267, 1663, 1517, 1445, 1298, 1246, 1179, 1035, 834, 760.

N-(4'-Methyl-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ad).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (65:35 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.028 g (62%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.25 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 7.37 -7.17 (m, 8H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.21, 137.75, 135.01, 134.67, 132.01, 130.04, 129.75, 129.03, 128.17, 124.24, 121.41, 24.61, 21.18; m/z (EI) 225 (M⁺, 46.9%), 183 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3264, 3024, 1663, 1520, 1445, 1303, 1289, 821, 757.

N-(4'-Fluoro-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ae).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (65:35 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.029 g (63%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.29, 164.06, 160.77, 134.60, 134.05, 131.47, 130.96, 130.86, 130.09, 128.54, 124.55, 122.09, 116.16, 115.88, 115.75, 24.50; m/z (EI) 229 (M⁺, 98.2%), 185 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3259, 3039, 1663, 1515, 1446, 1222, 1159, 838, 759.

N-(4'-Chloro-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3af). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (65:35 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.024 g (46%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (8.16, J = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, J = 6.60 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.35, 136.56, 134.44, 133.99, 131.42, 130.52, 129.95, 129.19, 128.68, 124.69, 122.36, 24.44; m/z (EI) 247 (M⁺, ³⁷Cl, 12.5%), 245 (M⁺, ³⁵Cl, 34.1%), 203 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3248,

3027, 1652, 1524, 1291, 857, 701. Anal. Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{12}NOCl$: C, 68.44; H, 4.92; N, 5.70. Found: C, 68.29; H, 4.99; N, 5.59.

N-(3'-Methoxy-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ag).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (50:50 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.025 g (52%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (d, J = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.17 (m, 3H), 6.97-6.89 (m, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.24, 160.02, 139.43, 134.62, 131.83, 130.08, 129.87, 128.43, 124.20, 121.38, 121.30, 114.71, 113.54, 55.29, 24.65; m/z (EI) 241 (M⁺, 52.7%), 199 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3267, 1664, 1586, 1522, 1442, 1303, 759.

N-Biphenyl-2-yl-benzamide (**3ca**). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (90:10 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.021 g (38%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 7.54 -7.29 (m, 8H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.97, 138.02, 134.87, 134.73, 132.33, 131.69, 129.96, 129.51, 129.32, 129.19, 128.98, 128.71, 128.57, 128.15, 126.77, 124.35, 121.13, 115.33; m/z (EI) 273 (M⁺, 55.4%), 105 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3295, 1664, 1581, 1519, 1489, 1449, 1306, 1073, 1027, 796, 759, 702; Anal. Calcd. For C₁₉H₁₅NO: C, 83.49; H, 5.53; N, 5.12. Found: C, 83.27; H, 5.63; N, 4.95.

N-Biphenyl-2-yl-3-phenyl-propionamide (**3ha**). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (90:10 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.028 g (46%). HNMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.29 (d, J = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.27 - 7.14 (m, 8H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 2.95 (d, J = 7.05 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (d, J = 7.65 Hz, 2H); HNMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.11, 140.50, 137.95, 134.50, 132.05, 129.98, 129.83, 129.16, 129.02, 128.77, 128.54, 128.36, 128.30, 128.14, 127.87, 127.24, 126.28, 124.27, 121.48, 39.54, 31.35; m/z (EI) 301 (M⁺, 98.8%), 167 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3281, 3025, 1662, 1584, 1518, 1494, 1478, 1447, 1278, 1218, 1075, 751, 699; Anal. Calcd. For C₂₁H₁₉NO: C, 83.69; H, 6.35; N, 4.65. Found: C, 83.54; H, 6.46; N, 4.81.

N-(**5-Methoxy-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide** (**3ja**). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (70:30 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.033 g (68%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, J = 5.40 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.35 (m, 5H), 6.97-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 2.40 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.41, 156.41, 138.19, 134.70, 129.11, 129.02, 128.89, 127.92, 127.61, 124.33, 115.35, 113.36, 55.46, 24.19; m/z (EI) 241 (M⁺, 58.8%), 199 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) ν 3285, 1669, 1522, 1442, 1315, 1172, 1126, 1115, 1035, 758; Anal. Calcd. For C₁₅H₁₅NO₂: C, 74.67; H, 6.27; N, 5.81. Found: C, 74.54; H, 6.20; N, 5.68.

Acetic acid 6-acetylamino-biphenyl-3-yl ester (3ka). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (90:10 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.034 g (64%). ¹H

NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.29 (d, J = 8.70 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.38(d, J = 8.10 Hz, 2H), 7.12 -7.01 (m, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.24, 165.17, 149.26, 137.18, 133.62, 133.40, 132.38, 130.11, 129.31, 129.11, 128.54, 128.27, 123.11, 122.80, 17.86, 16.52; m/z (EI) 269 (M⁺, 50.6%) , 167 (100%); HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₅NO₃ 269.10519. Found: 269.10537; IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3280, 1736, 1669, 1518, 1451, 1247, 800, 754, 703.

Benzoic acid 6-acetylamino-biphenyl-3-yl ester (3la). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (90:10 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.042 g (64%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 10.20 Hz, 2H), 7.66 -7.53 (m, 1H), 7.52 -7.38 (m, 6H), 7.23 -7.13 (m, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.24, 165.17, 146.96, 137.18, 133.62, 133.40, 132.38, 130.11, 129.31, 129.11, 128.54, 128.27, 123.11, 122.80, 121.36, 24.52; m/z (EI) 331 (M⁺, 48.3%), 105 (100%); HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₁₇NO₃ 331.12084. Found: 331.12101; IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3280, 1736, 1669, 1518, 1451, 1247, 800, 754, 703.

N-(5-Methyl-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ma).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (70:30 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.032 g (71%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (d, J = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.26, 138.24, 134.07, 132.50, 131.93, 130.56, 129.08, 128.87, 128.81, 127.73, 122.09, 24.36, 20.79; m/z (EI) 225 (M⁺, 40.0%), 183 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3281, 3023, 1655, 1525, 1443, 1298, 1133, 830, 754.

N-(5-Chloro-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3na).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (70:30 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.030 g (61%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, J = 8.70 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.70 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.24, 136.75, 133.58, 133.25, 129.75, 129.49, 129.24, 128.99, 128.46, 128.22, 122.78, 114.44, 24.55; m/z (EI) 247 (M⁺, ³⁷Cl), 245 (M⁺, ³⁵Cl); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3266, 2924, 1666, 1510, 1480, 1442, 1294, 1097, 787, 755.

N-(5-Acetyl-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide(3oa). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained purified by silica gel chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc, 65:35), yield 0.030 g (59%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (q, J = 4.20 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 5.40 Hz, 1H), 7.53 - 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.49 -7.37 (m, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.03, 168.38, 139.10, 136.94, 132.52, 130.24, 129.40, 129.15, 128.55, 128.42, 119.98, 26.48, 24.86; m/z (EI) 253 (M⁺, 50.6%) 196 (100%); HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₅NO₂ 283.11028. Found: 253.11064; IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3311, 2983, 1712, 1514, 1443, 1296, 1235, 1108, 753, 702.

N-(4-Methoxy-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3pa). Following the general procedures, the

reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was S8obtained after silica gel chromatography (50:50 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.025 g (52%). 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, J = 2.70 Hz, 1H), 7.49 - 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 2.70 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.27, 159.48, 137.90, 135.58, 130.68, 129.36, 129.07, 127.61, 124.26, 110.52, 106.21, 55.40, 24.74; m/z (EI) 241 (M $^{+}$, 52.7%), 199 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3262, 2934, 1666, 1583, 1527, 14666, 1303, 1236, 1166, 1049, 764, 701; Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅NO₂: C, 74.67; H, 6.27; N, 5.81. Found: C, 74.57; H, 6.15; N, 5.68.

- *N*-(3-Methoxy-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3qa).³ Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was S8obtained after silica gel chromatography (50:50 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.039 g (80%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.31 (m, 6H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.10 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.99 (d, J = 5.10 Hz, 2H), 1.65 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.62, 154.99, 140.98, 139.37, 128.94, 128.53, 128.34, 127.47, 122.20, 122.29, 110.43, 55.86, 23.10; m/z (EI) 241 (M⁺, 52.7%), 199 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3128, 2974, 1656, 1466, 1260, 1121, 1020, 759, 705.
- *N*-(3, 5-Dimethyl-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3ra).² Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc, 65:35), yield 0.035 g (73%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.58, 139.68, 139.37, 137.21, 136.52, 130.84, 129.87, 128.98, 128.80, 128.58, 128.46, 128.25, 23.03, 20.96, 18.46; m/z (EI) 239 (M⁺, 52.7%), 197 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3248, 3027, 1652, 1524, 1291, 857, 701.
- *N*-(3-Methoxy-5-methyl-biphenyl-2-yl)-acetamide (3sa). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (65:35 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.033 g (65%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 6.90, 2H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.28, 157.31, 138.17, 133.25, 131.63, 129.53, 128.97, 127.43, 123.83, 122.56, 103.85, 55.49, 24.59, 15.70; m/z (EI) 255 (M⁺, 52.7%), 213 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3282, 3003, 1666, 1517, 1398, 1233, 1143, 1050, 753, 702; Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₇NO₂: C, 75.27; H, 6.71; N, 5.49. Found: C, 75.33; H, 6.79; N, 5.53.

Acetic acid 6-acetylamino-4-methoxy-biphenyl-3-yl ester (3ta). Following the general procedures, the reaction was performed on a 0.2 mmol scale at 110 °C for 48 h. A white powder was obtained after silica gel chromatography (50:50 hexanes:EtOAc), yield 0.037 g (62%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.34 (m, 6H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.51, 165.87, 159.83, 139.61, 136.66, 133.58, 129.35, 129.33, 128.15, 122.71, 114.31, 103.56, 56.20, 51.88, 25.02; *m/z* (EI) 299 (M⁺, 52.7%), 226 (100%); IR (KBr plate, CDCl₃) v 3422, 3017, 1719, 1693, 1580, 1464, 1399, 1224, 1090, 1081, 753; Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₄NO₄:

C, 68.21; H, 5.72; N, 4.68; Found: C, 68.00; H, 5.80; N, 4.54.

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