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Article

Copper(II)-Catalyzed Three-Component Arylation/Hydroamination Cascade from Allyl Alcohol: Access to 1-Aryl-2-sulfonylaminopropanes

Camilla Loro,* Marta Papis, Francesca Foschi, Gianluigi Broggini, Giovanni Poli, and Julie Oble*



ABSTRACT: A new straightforward approach to 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes using easily accessible substrates has been developed. Simple allyl alcohol is shown to be an ideal synthetic equivalent of the C3 propane-1,2-diylium bis-cation synthon in three-component cascade reactions with arenes and sulfonamide nucleophiles to regioselectively afford 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes. The reaction is catalyzed by $Cu(OTf)_2$ and is expected to involve a Friedel–Crafts-type allylation of the arene, followed by hydroamination.

INTRODUCTION

1-Aryl-2-aminopropanes are widely applied in synthetic chemistry and in the pharmacological field. Also known as amphetamines, they are substances that belong to the psychoanaleptic group, known for their stimulating effects on the sympathetic nervous system as well as for their ability to inhibit various enzymes.¹

Several methods for the synthesis of 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes are reported in the literature, many of which are based on classical reactions of organic chemistry (Scheme 1, eqs 1-3).² Complementary methods reach these compounds by hydroamination of allyl, vinyl, or alkynyl arenes promoted by various catalysts or promoters (Scheme 1, eqs 4-6).³

Being interested in transformations involving the concatenated generation of several bonds in a single synthetic operation,⁴ we have recently developed a new copperpromoted reaction, which allows access to 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes starting from O-allyl N-tosyl carbamates.⁵ This synthetic procedure, although innovative, required the use of a large excess of $Cu(OTf)_2$. For this reason, we decided to pursue our studies to further upgrade this synthetic transformation.

Allyl alcohol derivatives have been used in various protocols as variously substituted electrophilic C3 synthons through the involvement of either the corresponding π -allyl metal complexes (in the presence of catalytic amounts of low-valent transition metals)⁶ or the corresponding allylic cations (in the presence of a protic acid promoter).⁷ Allylic alcohols have also attracted considerable interest in the field of Friedel–Crafts (FC) reactions, enabling the allylation of aromatic or heteroaromatic systems.⁸ A representative example involves the allylation of electron-rich (hetero)arenes with allylic alcohols, in which the carbocationic species is generated by

Scheme 1. Selected Procedures for the Synthesis of 1-Aryl-2-aminopropanes



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Scheme 2. Allylic Alcohols as Variously Substituted C3 Synthons in Friedel–Crafts Reactions



iodoindenes through an intramolecular FC reaction of 3-iodo-3-arylprop-2-en-1-ols in the presence of catalytic amounts of F_3B ·OEt₂ was reported (Scheme 2, eq 2).¹⁰ One year later, Bandini and co-workers obtained 1-vinyl-tetrahydronaphthalenes by the cyclization of 6-arylhex-2-en-1-ol motifs with AgOTf (Scheme 2, eq 3).¹¹ As for our contribution, we envisioned the use of the allyl alcohol motif as a synthetic equivalent of the C3 propane-1,2-diylium bis-cation synthon in cascade reactions with aryl derivatives and nitrogen-based nucleophiles to regioselectively reach 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes (Scheme 2, eq 4a). Such a three-component process could be successfully attained using sulfonamides and electron-rich arenes in the presence of catalytic Cu(OTf)₂ under very mild conditions (Scheme 2, eq 4b).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Our investigation began with the evaluation of the reaction conditions previously adopted with the O-allyl carbamates.⁵ Accordingly, reacting allyl alcohol with 2.0 equiv of tosylamide in the presence of 4.0 equiv. of $Cu(OTf)_2$ in mesitylene as the solvent at 130 °C for 3.0 h gave a mixture of 1,2-arylation/ hydroamination 1a and 1,2-diarylation products 2 in 34 and 23% yields, respectively (Table 1, entry 1). Using chlorobenzene as the solvent and 5 equiv of mesitylene gave selectively the three-component C-C/C-N coupling product 1a in 63% isolated yield (entry 2). Lowering the amount of $Cu(OTf)_2$ to 1.0 equiv was nearly as effective (entry 3), while using 10 mol % $Cu(OTf)_2$ gave a lower yield for 1a (entry 4). To improve this result, this copper-catalyzed reaction was studied in the presence of different ligands,¹² and to our delight, the use of the diphosphine ligand xantphos selectively led to 1a in 78% yield after 24 h at 100 °C (entry 5). By lowering the reaction temperature to 75 °C, the yield of 1a further increased to 81% (entry 6).¹³ However, further lowering the reaction temperature to 50 °C only returned

Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions^a

Ar =	OH + TsNH ₂ mesityl	additive (eq ligand (20 m mesitylene (5 chlorobenze temperature	uiv.) ol%) equiv.) ene , time	Are HN 1a	Me + Ar Me
entry	additive (equiv)	ligand (20 mol %)	time (h)	temp. (°C)	yield ^b (%)
1 ^c	Cu(OTf) ₂ (4.0)		3	130	1a (34) + 2 (23)
2	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (4.0)		4	130	1a (63)
3	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (1.0)		6	130	1a (60)
4	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (0.1)		6	130	1a (49)
5	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (0.1)	xantphos	24	100	la (78)
6 ^{<i>d</i>}	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (0.1)	xantphos	24	75	1a (81)
7	$Cu(OTf)_2$ (0.1)	xantphos	24	50	S.M.
8	TfOH (0.05)		4	130	1a (71) + 2 (12)
9	TfOH (0.2)		24	75	1a (trace) + degr. products

^{*a*}Reaction conditions: allyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), tosylamide (2.0 equiv), mesitylene (5.0 equiv), and chlorobenzene (0.25 M) at 75 $^{\circ}$ C in an oil bath for 24 h. ^{*b*}Isolated yields. ^{*c*}Reaction performed in mesitylene as the solvent (0.25 M). ^{*d*}Reaction performed with 2.0 equiv of mesitylene gave compound 1a with 35% yield.

the starting substrate back (entry 7), while dropping the amount of mesitylene to 2.0 equiv lowered the yield of 1a to 35%. Carrying out the coupling in the presence of 5 mol % TfOH, without $Cu(OTf)_2$, gave 1a and 2 in 71% and 12% isolated yields, respectively, which suggests the *in situ* generation of this acid in the reaction medium (entry 8). Finally, an additional experiment using 20 mol % TfOH at 75 °C afforded only traces of 1a with a lot of degradation (entry 9).

With these optimized conditions in hand, we then proceeded to test this three-component reaction with other sulfonamides (Scheme 3). All of the aryl sulfonamides tested, which incorporated electron-donating and -withdrawing groups on the phenyl ring, gave the expected corresponding products (1b-h) in good to excellent yields.

We then explored the substrate scope by using a series of different electron-rich aromatic hydrocarbons and variously substituted aromatic *N*-sulfonamides (Scheme 4). Gratifyingly, durene, 1,2,3,4,5-pentamethylbenzene, and *p*-xylene gave the expected three-component coupling products $3\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{f}$, $4\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{d}$, and $5\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{c}$ in good to excellent yields, irrespectively of the steric hindrance of the arene and the electron-donating or -with-drawing character of the substituents of the aromatic ring of the sulfonamide partners.

The scope of arene coupling was explored, keeping tosylamide as the nitrogen nucleophile and the promoting system $[Cu(OTf)_2/xantphos]$ in chlorobenzene at 75 °C (Scheme 5). Reacting allyl alcohol and tosylamide with six different arenes bearing electron donor or acceptor heteroatom-based substituents gave the corresponding *N*-tosyl 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes **6**–**11** in good yields. Worthy of note, this approach is complementary to our previously studied one that used *O*-allyl carbamates as the starting bis-cationic C3

Scheme 3. Synthesis of 1-Mesityl-2-sulfonylamino-propanes $1b-h^{a,b}$



"Reaction conditions: allyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), sulfonamide (2.0 equiv), mesitylene (5.0 equiv), $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %), xantphos (20 mol %), and chlorobenzene as the solvent (0.25 M), 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. ^{*b*}Isolated yields.

Scheme 4. Arylation/Hydroamination with Different Hydrocarbons^{*a,b*}



^{*a*}Reaction conditions: allyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), sulfonamide (2.0 equiv), hydrocarbons (5.0 equiv), $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %), xantphos (20 mol %), and chlorobenzene as the solvent (0.25 M), 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. ^{*b*}Isolated yields.

synthetic equivalents.⁵ Indeed, in that case, strongly activated arenes such as 1,4-dimethoxybenzene and 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene selectively led to 1,2-diarylation products rather than the arylation/hydroamination products 6-7, whereas the reaction carried on with anisole gave a mixture of the two possible regioisomers 12a/12b.

Concerning the use of heteroarenes, furan, indole, and *N*-methylindole furnished only a mixture of degradation products. On the other hand, thiophene afforded the two possible

Scheme 5. Arylation/Hydroamination with Different Arenes a,b

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^c**13a** only observed by NMR and not isolated pure. ^d**13b** isolated with 39% yield. ^aReaction conditions: allyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), tosylamide (2.0 equiv), arene (5.0 equiv), $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %), xantphos (20 mol %), and chlorobenzene as the solvent (0.25 M), 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. ^bIsolated yields.

products 1-(2-thienyl)-2-tosylaminopropane 13a and 1-(3-thienyl)-2-tosylaminopropane 13b. Only isomer 13b, substituted at the C3 position of the thiophene, was isolated in pure form, whereas isomer 13a was only observed in the crude NMR spectrum.

For the present coupling reaction, we propose the following mechanism (Scheme 6). First, we postulate that the interaction

Scheme 6. Proposed Mechanism for Arylation/ Hydroamination of Allyl Alcohol



between tosylamide and $Cu(OTf)_2$ in the presence of the bidentate ligand xantphos generates TfOH and the bis-amido Cu(II) complex $CuL_2(NHTs)_2$ (I).¹⁴ The following protonation of allyl alcohol generates allyl carbenium ion II accompanied by water release. Subsequent FC allylation of the arene gives the allylated arene III, and its subsequent

Markovnikov protonation by TfOH generates the new carbenium ion IV. At this stage, ligand exchange between a sulfonylamino ligand of I and triflate anion generates the final product 1a and the monoamido Cu(II) complex V. Finally, the interaction between tosylamide and V regenerates I.¹⁵ In this mechanism, it is possible to distinguish the double TfOH catalytic cycle (arrows in gray) and the interconnected Cu(II) cycle (arrows in blue).

Finally, the three-component coupling has been tested using substituted allylic alcohols (Scheme 7).¹⁶ On the one hand,





"Reaction conditions: allyl alcohol (1.0 equiv), sulfonamide (2.0 equiv), mesitylene (5.0 equiv), $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %), xantphos (20 mol %), and chlorobenzene as the solvent (0.25 M), 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. ^{*b*}Isolated yields.

reacting crotyl alcohol with mesitylene and benzenesulfonamide or 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide under the previously optimized conditions gave a 1:1.4 and 1:1 mixture of 3arylsulfonylamino-4-mesitylbutanes and 2-arylsulfonylamino-4mesitylbutanes 14a/14b or 15a/15b in 66 and 61% isolated yields, respectively. On the other hand, using 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide or 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide as the nitrogen nucleophile gave exclusively the 3-arylsulfonylamino-4-mesitylbutanes 16 and 17 in 63 and 68% yields, respectively. Repeating the same four couplings as above using 3-buten-2-ol instead of crotyl alcohol gave precisely the same results. Thus, the two isomeric allylic alcohols can act in this three-component coupling as butane-1,2-divlium or butane-1,3-diylium C4 synthons. Conversely, treatment of $\alpha_{\gamma}\alpha_{\gamma}$ and $\gamma_{\gamma}\gamma_{\gamma}$ dimethyl-substituted allyl alcohols afforded only diarylated derivatives with indane structures.^{5,17}

The above outcome can be interpreted as follows. Protonation of crotyl alcohol or 3-buten-2-ol generates the common allylic carbenium ion VI that is intercepted by the arene to give a crotylated arene. Further protonation of this latter at position 2 or 3 of the chain generates the transient carbenium ions VII and VIII, which can in turn be trapped by the sulfonamides to give the two regioisomeric final products (Scheme 8).¹⁸





CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, we have shown that simple allylic alcohols are ideal C3 (or higher) bis-cationic alkane-1,2-diylium synthons in [FC allylation/hydroamination] cascades. This coppercatalyzed three-component reaction discloses a novel, straightforward, and general preparation of the pharmacologically relevant class of 1-aryl-2-aminopropanes. Future studies will be addressed to test new nucleophiles and intramolecular variants.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Information. All available chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and were used without any further purification. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using 0.25 mm silica gel precoated plates Si 60-F254 (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) visualized by UV-254 light and cerium ammonium molybdate (CAM) staining. Purification by flash column chromatography (FCC) was conducted by using silica gel Si 60, 230-400 mesh, 0.040-0.063 mm (Merck). Melting points were determined on a Stuart Scientific SMP3 and are corrected. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 (400 and 101 MHz, respectively); chemical shifts are indicated in parts per million downfield from $SiMe_4$, using the residual proton (CHCl₃ = 7.27 ppm) and carbon (CDCl₃ = 77.0 ppm) solvent resonances as an internal reference. Coupling constant values J are given in Hz. Highresolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded using a mass spectrometer MicroTOF from Bruker with an electron spray ion source (ESI) and a TOF detector or using a mass spectrometer from Thermo Fisher Scientific with an electron spray ion source (ESI) and a LTQ Orbitrap as a detector. FTIR spectra were recorded on a Tensor 27 (ATR Diamond) Bruker infrared spectrophotometer and are reported in frequency of absorption (cm^{-1}) .

Safety Note. TfOH is a strong protic acid and corrosive; therefore, it requires careful handling. All reactions should be carried out with safety precautions in a ventilated hood using protective clothing.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Arylated/Hydroaminated Products with Allyl Alcohol. In a sealed tube, after 15 min, the allyl alcohol (1.0 mmol, 58 mg), hydrocarbons (5.0 mmol), and sulfonamide (2.0 mmol) were added to a solution of $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %, 36.2 mg) and xantphos (20 mol %, 11.6 mg) in chlorobenzene (0.25 M). The resulted solution was magnetically stirred and heated at 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. The reaction mixture was washed with brine (3 × 5 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with AcOEt (2 × 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from the aromatic source and appropriate sulfonamide, yield, physical, spectroscopic, and analytical data of compounds 1a-f, 3a-f, 4a-d, 5a-b, and 6-11 are as follows. 1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (1a). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:1). 1a (268.2 mg, 81%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.58 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.19 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 6.74 (s, 2H), 4.43 (d, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz), 3.49–3.42 (m, 1H), 2.79 (dd, 1H, J = 14.0, 7.2 Hz), 2.64 (dd, 1H, J = 14.0, 8.1 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.14 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 143.1, 137.5, 136.6, 135.8, 131.5, 129.5, 129.2, 127.0, 49.9, 36.9, 21.5, 21.4, 20.8, 20.3. The characterization of product 1a is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(p-nosylamino)-propane (**1b**). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); *p*-nosylamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.29. **1b** (329.5 mg, 91%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.12 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz), 7.69 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.64 (s, 2H), 4.49 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 3.62–3.55 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, 1H, J = 14.2, 9.2 Hz), 2.65 (dd, 1H, J = 14.4, 5.8 Hz), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 1.32 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 149.5, 146.0, 136.4, 136.2, 131.1, 129.3, 127.7, 123.8, 50.9, 36.5, 23.1, 20.6, 20.2; IR ν_{max} 2918, 1342, 1158 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): m/z calc. for C₁₈H₂₁N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 361.1228; found: 361.1216.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(4-chlorobenzenesulfonamido)-propane (1c). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide (383.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (3:7), R_f: 0.33. 1c (242.3 mg, 69%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.53 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.30 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 6.71 (s, 2H), 4.49 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 3.53–3.44 (m, 1H), 2.76 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.1, 8.2 Hz), 2.64 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 6.9 Hz), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.23 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 138.8, 138.7, 136.3, 136.1, 131.2, 129.3, 128.9, 128.2, 50.3, 36.6, 22.4, 20.8, 20.3; IR ν_{max} 2923, 1321, 1163 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₈H₂₁ClNO₂S [M – H]⁻: 350.0987; found: 350.0977.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylbenzenesulfonamido)-propane (1d). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenesulfonamide (450.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:9), R_f: 0.31. 1d (277.3 mg, 72%); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.69 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.58 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 6.68 (s, 2H), 4.56 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 3.55–3.48 (m, 1H), 2.75 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 8.6 Hz), 2.65 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 6.6 Hz), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.0 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 143.8, 136.3, 136.1, 133.9 (q, *J*C–F = 33.0 Hz), 131.1, 129.3, 127.2, 125.8 (q, *J*C–F = 3.7 Hz), 124.7 (q, *J*C–F = 253.6 Hz), 50.4, 36.5, 22.6, 20.6, 20.2; IR ν_{max} 2922, 1339, 1125, 1018 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₁F₃NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 384.1251; found: 384.1240.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(2-methylbenzenesulfonamido)propane (1e). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 2-methylbenzenesulfonamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.40. 1e (291.4 mg, 88%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.85 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.33 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.17 (t, 1H, J = 6.6 Hz), 7.10 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.64 (s, 2H), 4.36 (d, 1H, J = 7.1 Hz), 3.36–3.29 (m, 1H), 2.69 (dd, 1H, J = 14.0, 7.4 Hz), 2.56 (dd, 1H, J = 14.0, 8.3 Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 6H), 1.08 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 137.9, 137.2, 136.6, 135.9, 132.6, 132.5, 131.2, 129.6, 129.3, 125.9, 49.7, 36.7, 21.8, 20.8, 20.2, 20.0; IR ν_{max} 2917, 1299, 1157 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 330.1533; found: 330.1532.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(o-nosylamino)-propane (1f). Mesitylene (0.69 mL), o-nosylamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4). If (336.8 mg, 93%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.98 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.68–7.61 (m, 2H), 6.62 (s, 2H), 5.31 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 3.85–3.78 (m, 1H), 2.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 8.0 Hz), 2.72 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 7.5 Hz) 2.19 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 136.5, 136.4, 135.7, 134.8, 132.8, 131.1, 130.4, 129.2, 125.44, 125.43, 51.2, 36.6, 22.4, 20.7, 20.3. The characterization of product 1f is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(2,4, δ -Trimethylphenyl)-2-(3-methoxybenzenesulfonamido)propane (**1g**). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 3-methoxybenzenesulfonamide (374.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.37. **1g** (215.2 mg, 62%); yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.31–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, 1H, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.67 (s, 2H), 4.81 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.46–3.38 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, 1H, J = 13.9, 7.0 Hz), 2.59 (dd, 1H, J = 13.9, 8.3 Hz), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 1.08 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 159.8, 141.6, 136.5, 135.8, 131.3, 129.9, 129.3, 119.2, 118.9, 111.4, 55.5, 50.0, 36.8, 21.6, 20.8, 20.3; IR ν_{max} 2968, 1309, 1155 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): m/z calc. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₃S [M – H]⁻: 346.1482; found: 346.1468.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(benzenesulfonamido)-propane (**1h**). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); benzenesulfonamide (314.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1.5:8.5), R_f: 0.36. **1h** (263.2 mg, 83%); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.68 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.52 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.40 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 6.74 (s, 2H), 4.42 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 3.51–3.44 (m, 1H), 2.79 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.9, 7.3 Hz), 2.64 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.9, 7.9 Hz), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.16 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 140.3, 136.5, 135.9, 132.3, 131.2, 129.3, 128.8, 126.9, 49.9, 36.8, 21.8, 20.8, 20.2; IR ν_{max} 2936, 1326, 1158 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₂S [M – H]⁻ HRMS(ESI): 316.1377; found: 316.1376.

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (**3a**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (4:1). **3a** (286.5 mg, 83%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.49 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.51 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 3.45–3.38 (m, 1H), 2.90 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.8 Hz), 2.77 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.5 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 2.04 (s, 6H), 1.19 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 142.9, 137.2, 134.1, 133.9, 132.5, 130.2, 129.3, 126.9, 50.3, 37.2, 21.9, 21.5, 20.7, 16.1. The characterization of product **3a** is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-(benzenesulfonamido)-propane (**3b**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), benzenesulfonamide (314.4 mg); FCC–DCM/MeOH (9.9:0.1), R₄: 0.35. **3b** (281.5 mg, 85%); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.60 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.37 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.44 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 3.45–3.38 (m, 1H), 2.90 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.8 Hz), 2.77 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.5 Hz), 2.16 (s, 6H), 2.03 (s, 6H), 1.19 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 140.1, 134.0, 133.9, 132.5, 132.2, 130.4, 128.8, 126.9, 50.3, 37.2, 21.9, 20.7, 16.1; IR ν_{max} 2920, 1379, 1135 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₅NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 330.1533; found: 330.1531.

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-(4-chlorobenzenesulfonamido)propane (**3c**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide (383.3 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.34. **3c** (259.2 mg, 71%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.41 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.25 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.32 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.46–3.39 (m, 1H), 2.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 8.9 Hz), 2.75 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 6.2 Hz), 2.15 (s, 6H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 1.29 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 138.6, 138.5, 134.1, 133.8, 132.3, 130.3, 128.8, 128.1, 50.7, 36.9, 22.7, 20.6, 16.1; IR ν_{max} 2917, 1381, 1135 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₃ClNO₂S [M – H]⁻: 364.1144; found: 364.1129.

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-(p-nosylamino)-propane (**3d**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.27. **3d** (346.1 mg, 92%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.08 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 7.59 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H), 4.53 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 3.58–3.49 (m, 1H), 2.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 9.6 Hz), 2.74 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.8, 5.5 Hz), 2.09 (s, 6H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 1.37 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 149.5, 145.8, 134.1, 133.9, 132.2, 130.3, 127.5, 123.6, 51.4, 36.9, 23.3, 20.5, 16.1; IR ν_{max} 2920, 1345, 1160 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 375.1384; found: 375.1368.

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-(2-methylbenzenesulfonamido)-propane (**3e**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), 2-methylbenzenesulfonamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.34. **3e** (255.4 mg, 74%); yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.90 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.40 (t, 1H, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 7.25–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 6.82 (s, 1H), 4.36 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 3.39–3.22 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 8.2 Hz), 2.76 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.3, 7.4 Hz), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 1.97 (s, 6H), 1.24

(d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 137.5, 137.1, 134.1, 133.8, 132.6, 132.5, 132.4, 130.4, 129.7, 125.8, 50.0, 37.1, 22.1, 20.6, 19.8, 16.0; IR ν_{max} 2918, 1315, 1125 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): m/z calc. for C₂₀H₂₆NO₂S [M - H]⁻: 344.1690; found: 344.1686.

1-(2,3,5,6-Tetramethylphenyl)-2-(o-nosylamino)-propane (**3f**). 1,2,4,5-Tetramethylbenzene (671.1 mg), 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (4:1), R_f: 0.37. **3f** (327.2 mg, 87%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.95–7.92 (m, 1H), 7.79–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.64–7.62 (m, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 5.33 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 3.78–3.71 (m, 1H), 2.97 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.6, 8.6 Hz), 2.84 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 6.9 Hz), 2.08 (s, 6H), 2.07 (s, 6H), 1.31 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 146.9, 134.6, 133.9, 133.8, 132.9, 132.6, 132.5, 130.34, 130.32, 125.5, 51.9, 36.9, 22.8, 20.6, 16.2; IR ν_{max} 2920, 1344, 1163 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 375.1384; found: 375.1375.

1-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentamethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (4a). 1,2,3,4,5-Pentamethylbenzene (741.2 mg), tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–DCM, R_f: 0.41. 4a (305.3 mg, 85%); white solid, mp 169–170 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.46 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.12 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 4.29 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 3.41–3.34 (m, 1H), 2.91 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 7.9 Hz), 2.78 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 7.3 Hz), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 2.08 (s, 6H), 1.19 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 142.8, 137.1, 133.3, 132.8, 132.1, 131.2, 129.2, 126.9, 50.5, 37.5, 21.9, 21.5, 17.1, 16.9, 16.8; IR ν_{max} 2919, 1319, 1135 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₂₁H₂₈NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 358.1846; found: 358.1835.

1-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentamethylphenyl)-2-(p-nosylamino)-propane (**4b**). 1,2,3,4,5-Pentamethylbenzene (741.2 mg), 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.35. **4b** (343.3 mg, 88%); orange solid; mp 183–185 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.03 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 7.57 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 4.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 3.55–3.48 (m, 1H), 2.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.8, 9.8 Hz), 2.76 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.9, 5.2 Hz), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 12H), 1.38 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 149.2, 145.8, 133.8, 132.9, 131.7, 131.1, 127.6, 123.4, 51.7, 37.1, 23.4, 17.1, 16.8, 16.7; IR ν_{max} 2920, 1349, 1165 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 389.1541; found: 389.1530.

1-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentamethylphenyl)-2-(2-methylbenzenesulfonamido)-propane (4c). 1,2,3,4,5-Pentamethylbenzene (741.2 mg), 2-methylbenzenesulfonamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.35. 4c (276.6 mg, 77%); brown solid; mp 115–117 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.92 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.42 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.26 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.12 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 4.50 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 3.42–3.32 (m, 1H), 2.92 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 8.2 Hz), 2.81 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.5, 7.3 Hz), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 2.06 (s, 6H), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 137.6, 137.1, 133.4, 132.8, 132.4, 132.2, 132.1, 131.2, 129.7, 125.7, 50.4, 37.4, 22.2, 19.8, 17.0, 16.94, 16.91; IR ν_{max} 2932, 1347, 1126 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₂₁H₂₈NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 358.1846; found: 358.1835.

1-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentamethylphenyl)-2-(o-nosylamino)-propane (**4d**). 1,2,3,4,5-Pentamethylbenzene (741.2 mg), 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.33. **4d** (347.5 mg, 89%); yellow solid; mp 130–132 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.92 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 7.74 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 7.65–7.57 (m, 2H), 5.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 3.77–3.70 (m, 1H), 2.98 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.8, 8.9 Hz), 2.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.8, 6.6 Hz), 2.13 (s, 6H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 6H), 1.33 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 146.7, 134.6, 133.1, 132.7, 132.6, 132.5, 132.1, 131.1, 130.4, 125.3, 52.0, 37.1, 22.9, 17.2, 16.9, 16.8; IR ν_{max} 2922, 1346, 1128 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 389.1541; found: 389.1530.

1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (5a). p-Xylene (0.62 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC-AcOEt/hexane (2:3). 5a (231.5 mg, 73%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.59 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.20 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.94-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 4.72 (d, 1H, J = 6.7 Hz), 3.48-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, 1H, J = 13.7, 6.9 Hz), 2.59 (dd, 1H, J = 13.7, 7.4 Hz), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.15 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H}

NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 143.0, 137.5, 135.4, 135.3, 133.2, 130.9, 130.5, 129.5, 127.5, 126.9, 50.1, 41.1, 21.7, 21.5, 20.9, 18.8. The characterization of product **5a** is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-(p-nosylamino)-propane (**5b**). p-Xylene (0.62 mL); 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC– AcOEt/hexane (1:2), R_f: 031. **5b** (261.1 mg, 75%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.13 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.69 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 6.89–6.84 (m, 2H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 4.49 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 3.58–3.48 (m, 1H), 2.72 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.0, 5.5 Hz), 2.58 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.0, 8.9 Hz), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.31 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 149.6, 149.1, 146.1, 135.6, 135.1, 130.8, 130.6, 127.8 (2CH), 123.9, 51.1, 40.9, 23.0, 20.8, 18.8; IR ν_{max} 2921, 1377, 1161 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₇H₁₉N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 347.1071; found: 347.1055.

1-(2,5-Dimethylphenyl)-2-(4-chlorobenzenesulfonamido)-propane (5c). p-Xylene (0.62 mL); 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide (383.3 mg); FCC–DCM/MeOH (9.9:0.1), R_f: 0.43. 5c (229.2 mg, 68%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.54 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.32 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 6.92 (s, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 4.68 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 3.49–3.42 (m, 1H), 2.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.23 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 138.9, 138.7, 135.5, 135.3, 132.9, 130.8, 130.6, 129.1, 128.2, 127.6, 50.5, 41.0, 22.3, 20.8, 18.8; IR ν_{max} 2924, 1322, 1159 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₇H₁₉ClNO₂S [M – H]⁻: 336.0831; found: 336.0828.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (**6**). 1,3,5-Trimethoxybenzene (890.9 mg); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/ hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.34. **6** (295.7 mg, 78%); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.34 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.00 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 5.93 (s, 2H), 5.09 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.4 Hz), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 6H), 3.32–3.26 (m, 1H), 2.61–2.49 (m, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.30 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H</sup> NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 160.0, 158.4, 141.9, 137.1, 128.9, 126.6, 106.6, 90.4, 55.5, 55.2, 50.8, 29.4, 23.5, 21.4; IR ν_{max} 2920, 1379, 1207, 1160 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₅S [M – H]⁻: 378.1381; found: 378.1359.

1-(2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (**7**). 1,4-Dimethoxybenzene (690.8 mg); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/ hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.32. 7 (251.4 mg, 72%); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.43 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 6.68 (s, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 5.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.4 Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.45–3.36 (m, 1H), 2.73 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 9.0 Hz), 2.49 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 4.9 Hz), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 153.7, 151.3, 142.5, 137.1, 129.2, 127.0, 126.8, 116.7, 112.4, 111.5, 55.9, 55.5, 51.2, 37.5, 22.8, 21.4; IR ν_{max} 2929, 1223, 1155 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₈H₂₂NO₄S [M – H]⁻: 348.1275; found: 348.1273.

1-(5-Methylanisole)-2-tosylamino-propane (**8**). 4-Methylanisole (0.63 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–DCM, R_f: 0.31. **8** (219.9 mg, 66%); yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.42 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 6.66–6.63 (m, 2H), 4.99 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.3 Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.45–3.38 (m, 1H), 2.69 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 8.9 Hz), 2.51 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 4.9 Hz), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 169.4, 142.4, 137.2, 131.8, 130.0, 129.2, 128.2, 126.8, 125.7, 110.4, 55.4, 51.2, 37.3, 27.1, 22.8, 21.4. The characterization of product **8** is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(5-Chloroanisole)-2-tosylamino-propane (9). 4-Chloroanisole (0.63 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3), R_f: 0.33. 9 (243.6 mg, 69%); light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.44 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.11 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.09–7.06 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 6.65 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 4.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.9 Hz), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.45–3.42 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.5, 9.3 Hz), 2.49 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.7, 5.0 Hz), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J* = 5.9 Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 155.7, 144.3, 142.8, 130.7, 129.3, 127.9, 127.5, 126.7, 125.7, 111.6, 55.7, 51.1, 37.1, 22.9, 21.5; IR ν_{max} 2918, 1326, 1157 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₇H₁₉ClNO₃S [M – H]⁻: 352.0780; found: 352.0778.

1-(5-Bromoanisole)-2-tosylamino-propane (**10**). 4-Bromoanisole (0.63 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (2:3). **10** (250.1 mg, 63%); yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.43 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.23–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.95 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 6.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 4.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.47–3.39 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 10.7 Hz), 2.49 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.6, 4.9 Hz), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, 3H, *J* = 3.6 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 156.2, 142.8, 136.9, 133.5, 130.5, 129.4, 128.4, 126.7, 113.1, 112.1, 55.6, 51.2, 37.1, 23.0, 21.5. The characterization of product **10** is consistent with that reported in the literature.⁵

1-(5-Bromoanisole)-2-tosylamino-propane (11). 3-Bromoanisole (0.63 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–AcOEt/hexane (1:4), R_f: 0.29. 11 (281.9 mg, 71%); light brown oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.54 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 6.93 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.67 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.4, 2.6 Hz), 4.39 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.63–3.55 (m, 1H), 2.73 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.21 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 158.9, 142.8, 137.4, 131.6, 129.4, 128.9, 126.9, 124.7, 118.1, 113.5, 55.4, 50.5, 42.3, 22.3, 21.4; IR ν_{max} 2918, 1378, 1199 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₇H₁₉BrNO₃S [M – H]⁻ HRMS(ESI): 396.0275; found: 396.0261.

1-(2-Trimethoxyphenyl)- 2-tosylamino-propane and 1-(4-trimethoxyphenyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (12a + 12b). Anisole (0.53 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC-DCM/MeOH (9.5:0.5). 12a + 12b (236.2 mg, 74%, isomeric ratio after purification: 1.3/1); light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) compound 12a δ 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.16 (t, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.09 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.89 (d, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.79 (t, 1H, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.72 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 4.83 (d, 1H, J = 5.7 Hz), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.45-3.34 (m, 1H), 2.71 (dd, 1H, J = 13.6, 8.6 Hz), 2.63–2.65 (m, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H),1.14 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz); compound 12b δ 7.61 (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.22 (d, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 6.92 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.75 (d, 1H, J = 8.4 Hz), 4.20 (d, 1H, J = 7.0 Hz), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.45–3.34 (m, 1H), 2.63–2.56 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.01 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz). The characterization of product 12a is consistent with that reported in the literature.¹⁹ The characterization of product 12b is consistent with that reported in the literature.

1-(3-Thienyl)-2-tosylamino-propane (13b). Thiophene (0.40 mL); tosylamide (342.4 mg); FCC–DCM/MeOH (9.5:0.5). 13b (115.1 mg, 39%); light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.66 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.26 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.19 (dd, 1H, *J* = 4.9, 3.0 Hz), 6.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 6.76 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 4.25 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 3.57–3.50 (m, 1H), 2.71 (d, 2H, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.09 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz). The characterization of product 13b is consistent with that reported in the literature.²¹

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Arylated/Hydroaminated Products with Different Substituted Alcohols. In a sealed tube, after 15 min, the crotyl alcohol or 1-buten-3-ol (1.0 mmol, 72 mg), hydrocarbons (5.0 mmol), and sulfonamide (2.0 mmol) were added to a solution of $Cu(OTf)_2$ (10 mol %, 36.2 mg) and xantphos (20 mol %, 11.6 mg) in chlorobenzene (0.25 M). The resulted solution was magnetically stirred and heated at 75 °C in an oil bath for 24 h. The reaction mixture was washed with brine (3 × 5 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with AcOEt (2 × 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by FCC. Starting from the aromatic source and appropriate sulfonamide, yield, physical, spectroscopic, and analytical data of compounds 14a-b, 15a-b and 16-17 are as follows.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(benzenesulfonamido)-butane and 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-3-(benzenesulfonamido)-butane (14*a* + 14*b*). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); benzenesulfonamide (314.4 mg); FCC– MeOH/DCM (1:50), R_f: 0.37. 14*a* + 14*b* (218.6 mg, 66%, isomeric ratio after purification: 1/1.4); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) compound 14*a* δ 7.63 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.52–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.36 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.70 (s, 2H), 4.33 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 3.39– 3.33 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.1, 7.8 Hz), 2.68 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.2, 7.6 Hz), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 1.66–1.38 (m, 2H), 0.84 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.3 Hz); compound 14*b* δ 7.92 (d, 2H, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 7.52–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.36 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.80 (s, 2H), 4.38 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 3.50–3.43 (m, 1H), 2.58–2.49 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 6H), 1.66–1.39 (m, 2H), 1.14 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz); ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 141.2, 140.5, 136.5, 135.7, 135.6, 135.2, 134.9, 132.6, 132.1, 131.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 126.9, 126.8, 55.6, 50.7, 36.8, 34.8, 28.2, 25.5, 21.8, 20.77, 20.75, 20.3, 19.6, 10.0; IR ν_{max} 2965, 1322, 1158 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): m/z calc. for C₁₉H₂₄NO₂S [M – H]⁻: 330.1533; found: 330.1531.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(4-chlorobenzenesulfonamido)-butane and 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-3-(4-chlorobenzenesulfonamido)-butane (15a + 15b). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide (383.3 mg); FCC–DCM, R_f: 0.34. 15a + 15b (222.7 mg, 61%, isomeric ratio after purification: 1/1); colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) compound 15a δ 7.73 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.44– 7.44 (m, 2H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 4.31 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 3.41–3.34 (m, 1H), 2.75-2.66 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.67-1.57 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, 3H, J = 7.9 Hz); compound 15b δ 7.84 (d, 2H, J = 8.4Hz), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.81 (s, 2H), 4.37 (d, 1H, J = 8.3 Hz), 3.49-3.42 (m, 1H), 2.53-2.51 (m, 1H), 2.49-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 6H), 1.54–1.40 (m, 2H), 1.16 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz); $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 143.7, 142.1, 140.1, 139.0, 136.3, 136.0, 135.6, 135.3, 134.8, 132.3, 131.3, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.0, 127.7, 55.9, 50.8, 36.8, 34.4, 29.1, 25.5, 22.8, 21.7, 20.8, 20.3, 19.5, 10.1; IR ν_{max} 2919, 1314, 1155 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): m/z calc. for $C_{19}H_{23}CINO_2S [M - H]^-$: 364.1144; found: 364.1128.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(o-nosylamino)-butane (16). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC– AcOEt/PE (1:4), R_f: 0.33. **16** (236.9 mg, 63%) yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.82–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.64–7.54 (m, 2H), 6.54 (s, 2H), 5.26 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 3.80–3.71 (m, 1H), 2.80 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.4, 8.8 Hz), 2.75 (dd, 1H, *J* = 14.4, 6.9 Hz), 2.18 (s, 6H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.72–1.58 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 144.4, 136.5, 135.5, 132.8, 132.4, 131.2, 129.9, 129.1 (2C), 125.3, 56.9, 34.8, 29.3, 20.7, 20.4, 10.3; IR ν_{max} 2916, 1356, 1164 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 375.1384; found: 375.1382.

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)-2-(p-nosylamino)-butane (17). Mesitylene (0.69 mL); 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide (404.4 mg); FCC– AcOEt/PE (1:4), R_f: 0.33. 17 (255.8 mg, 68%); yellow oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) 8.08 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 6.59 (s, 2H), 4.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 3.51–3.49 (m, 1H), 2.68 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 1.73–1.66 (m, 2H), 1.00 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz) δ 150.5, 146.2, 136.3, 136.2, 131.2, 129.2, 127.5, 123.7, 56.6, 34.2, 29.9, 20.6, 20.3, 10.1; IR ν_{max} 2918, 1347, 1155 cm⁻¹. HRMS(ESI): *m/z* calc. for C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₄S [M – H]⁻: 375.1384; found: 375.1379.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Data Availability Statement

The data underlying this study are available in the published article and its online Supporting Materials.

1 Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.joc.3c01536.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds 1a-h, 3a-f, 4a-d, 5a-c, 6-11, 12a-b, 13a-b, 14a-b, 15a-b, 16 and 17 (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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(12) Other mono and bidentate ligands, such as PPh₃, tri(2-furyl)phosphine, BINAP, dppe, phanephos, (S,S)-(-)-2,2'-isopropylidenebis(4-*t*-butyl-2-oxazoline) and (S)-2-benzyl-4-phenyl-2-oxazoline were tested. However, only phosphine ligands could lead to compound **1a**, although in lower yields than xantphos.

(13) A gram-scale synthesis was carried on 5.0 mmol of allyl alcohol, 25.0 mmol of mesitylene and 10.0 mmol of tosyl amide at 75 °C for 48 h. The 1-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)2-tosylamino-propane 2a was obtained with 61% yield (1.01 g).

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(16) The use of more substituted alcohols (such as 2-penten-1-ol) lead to extremely complex mixtures.

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(18) The reason why benzenesulfonamide and 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide afford a nearly random mixture of the regioisomers, while 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide give only one regioisomer is at present not clear. A possible rationalization is as follows: on the one hand benzenesulfonamide and 4-chlorobenzenesulfonamide may rapidly intercept the kinetically and randomly generated carbenium ions VII and VIII, to give a mixture of the two observed regioisomers; on the other hand, cation interception by the less nucleophilic nitrobenzene sulfonamides may take place only after a 1,2-hydride shift mediated carbenium ion equilibration toward the seemingly more stable carbenium ion VIII. However, as in our previous study, a homobenzylic-to-benzylic 1,2-hydride shift is not observed.

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