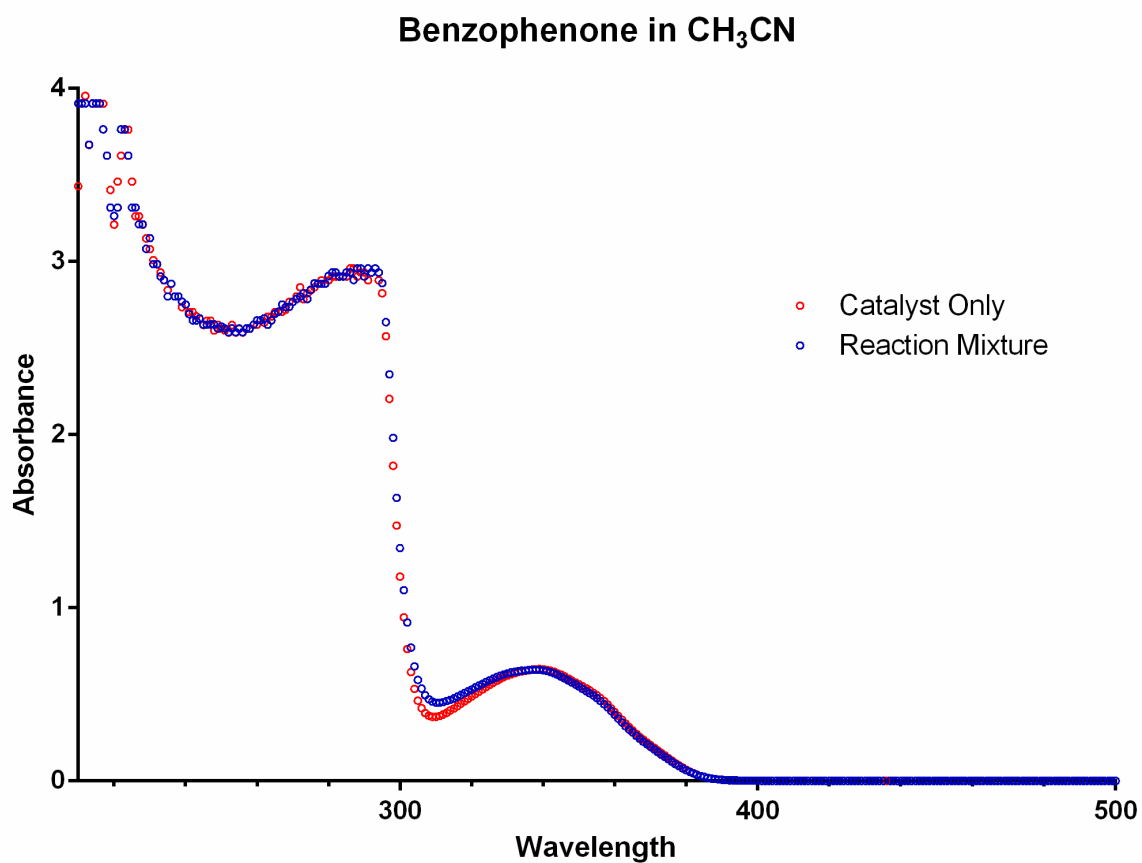


# Visible Light-Promoted Metal-Free C–H Activation: Diarylketone-Catalyzed Selective Benzylic Mono- and Difluorination

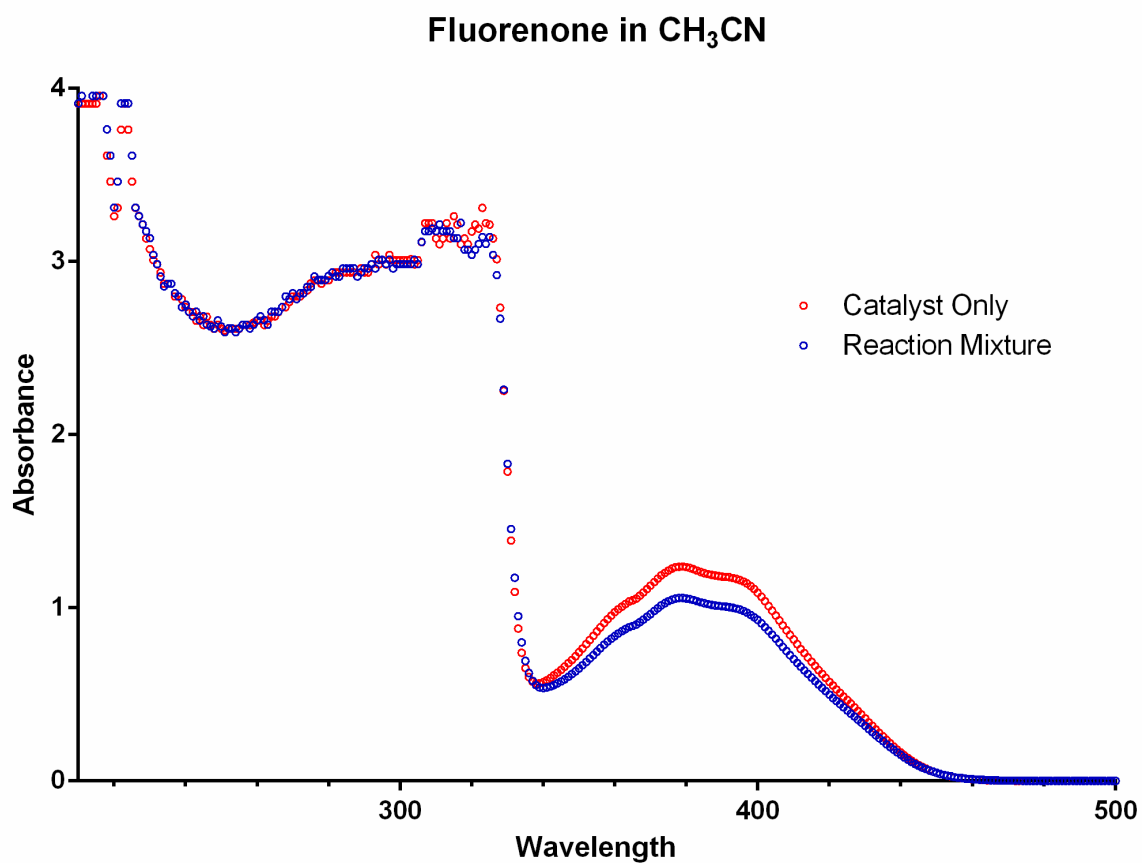
Ji-Bao Xia, Chen Zhu, and Chuo Chen\*

## Supporting Information

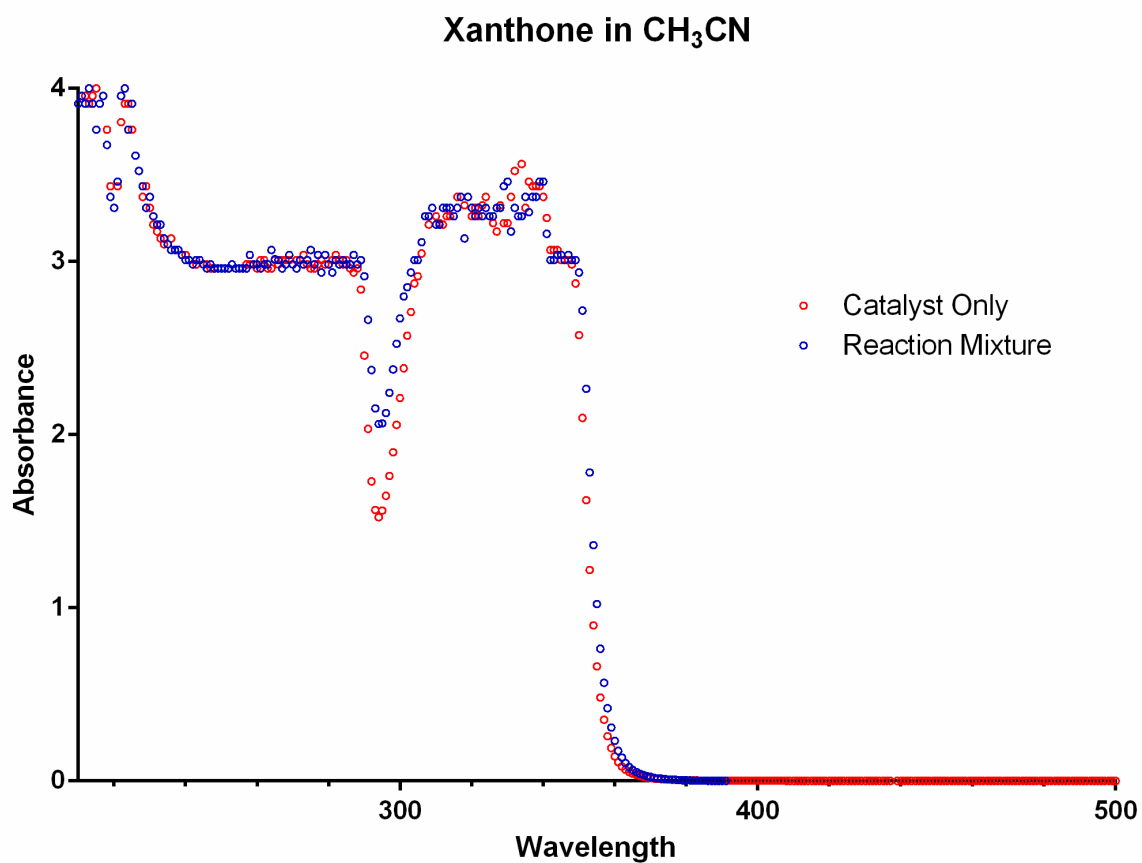
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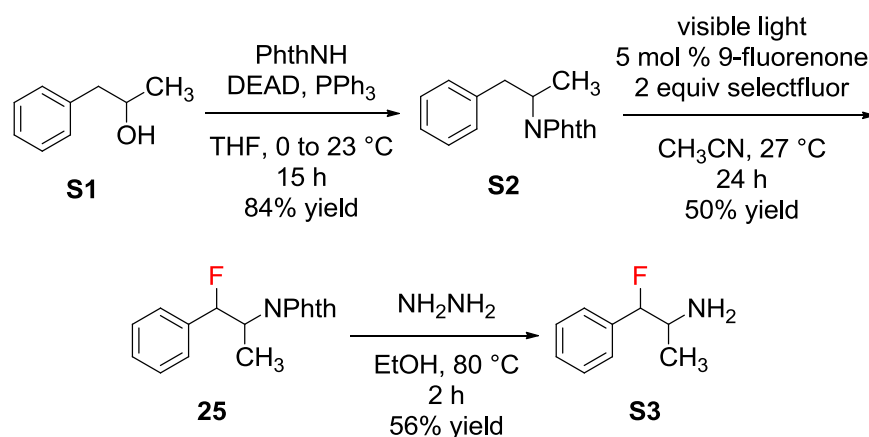
**Figure S1.** The UV-vis spectrum of 5 mol % benzophenone catalyst in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (4 mM) (red), and of the reaction mixture (5 mol% benzophenone, 1.0 equiv ethylbenzene, 2.0 equiv Selectfluor) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (blue).



**Figure S2.** The UV-vis spectrum of 5 mol % 9-fluorenone catalyst in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (4 mM) (red), and of the reaction mixture (5 mol% 9-fluorenone, 1.0 equiv ethylbenzene, 2.0 equiv Selectfluor) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (blue).



**Figure S3.** The UV-vis spectrum of 5 mol % xanthone catalyst in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2 mM) (red), and of the reaction mixture (5 mol% xanthone, 1.0 equiv ethylbenzene, 3.0 equiv Selectfluor II) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (blue).



**Figure S4. Synthesis of  $\beta$ -fluoroamphetamine (**S3**).** A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with triphenylphosphine (1.31 g, 5 mmol, 1.25 equiv) and phthalimide (PhthNH) (976.2 mg, 5 mmol, 1.25 equiv). After evacuating with vacuum and backfilling with argon for three times, anhydrous THF (40 mL) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. 1-Phenyl-2-propanol (**S1**) (545.0 mg, 4 mmol) followed by diethyl diazenedicarboxylate (DEAD) (870.8 mg, 5 mmol, 1.25 equiv) were then added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature overnight. After **S1** was consumed (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was concentrated and purified by flash column chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **S2** (895.0 mg, 84% yield) as a white solid<sup>1</sup>:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (dd,  $J$  = 5.4, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (dd,  $J$  = 5.4, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11-7.26 (m, 5H), 4.61-4.68 (m, 1H), 3.32 (dd,  $J$  = 13.7, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (dd,  $J$  = 13.7, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H); MS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 266.1, found 266.1.

To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (141.7 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added anhydrous acetonitrile (2.1 mL), 9-fluorenone (0.01 mmol, 1.8 mg in 0.4 mL acetonitrile), and **S2** (53.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in a glovebox. The vial was then taken out of the glovebox and irradiated with a 19 W CFL 2–5 cm away from the reaction at room temperature. The temperature of the reaction mixture increased slightly to 27 $\pm$ 2 °C. The reaction was monitored by NMR using fluorobenzene (18.75  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol) as an external standard. The reaction mixture was then poured into diethyl ether (20 mL), filtrated, concentrated and purified by flash column chromatography (3% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **25** (28.5 mg, 50% yield) as a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (3% ethyl acetate/hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (dd,  $J$  = 5.4, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.50 (m, 5H), 5.94 (dd,  $J$  = 47.8, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 4.68-4.78 (m, 1H), 1.27 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H); 7.71 (dd,  $J$  = 5.6, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (dd,  $J$  = 5.3, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.25 (m, 3H), 5.93 (dd,  $J$  = 47.2, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (ddq,  $J$  = 11.7, 9.2, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  168.3, 167.6, 136.9 (d,  $J$  = 19.3 Hz), 136.6 (d,  $J$  = 18.9 Hz), 134.0, 133.9, 131.9, 131.4, 129.4 (d,  $J$  = 2.3 Hz), 129.1 (d,  $J$  = 2.3 Hz), 128.7, 128.4, 127.0 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz), 126.6 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz), 123.3, 123.2, 93.9 (d,  $J$  = 173.9 Hz), 93.2 (d,  $J$  = 175.9 Hz), 51.2 (d,  $J$  = 22.9 Hz), 50.5 (d,  $J$  = 35.7 Hz), 15.2, 14.4 (d,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -172.84 (dd,  $J$  = 47.8, 9.2 Hz, 1F); -175.74 (dd,  $J$  = 47.2, 11.7 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 284.1, found 284.1; HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 284.1087, found 284.1084.

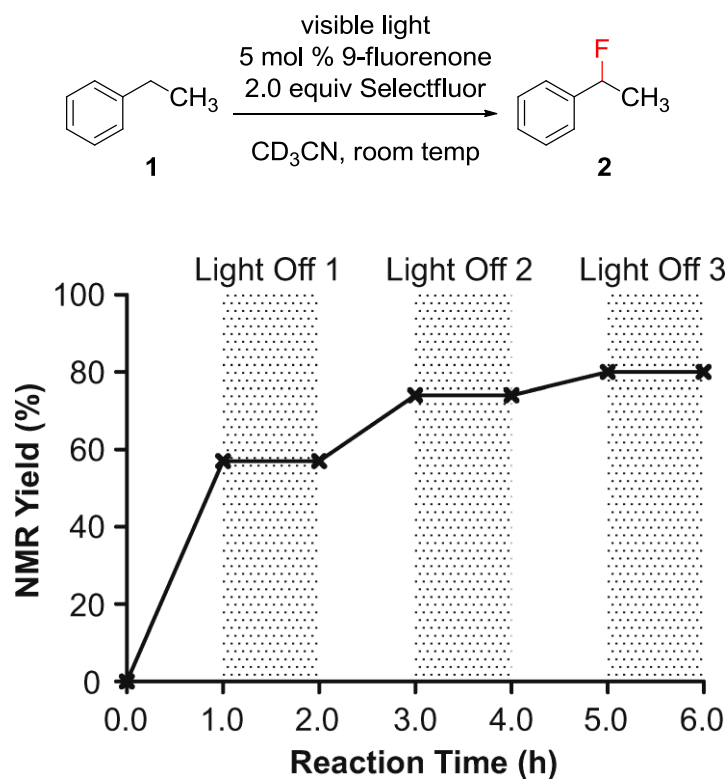
To a 4 mL clear vial charged with **25** (10 mg, 0.035 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added ethanol (0.5 mL) and hydrazine hydrate (0.022 mL, 0.35 mmol). After stirring at 80 °C for 2 h, the reaction mixture was

<sup>1</sup> Suau, R.; García-Segura, R.; Sánchez-Sánchez, C.; Pérez-Inestrosa, E.; Pedraza, A. M. *Tetrahedron*, **2003**, 59, 2913.

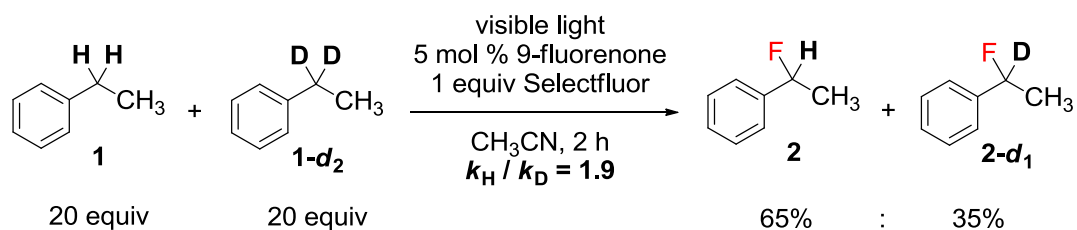
cooled to room temperature, filtrated, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography (1% dichloromethane/methanol) to give  $\beta$ -fluoroamphetamine (**S3**) (2.7 mg, 56% yield) as a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers<sup>2</sup>:  $R_f = 0.3$  (1% dichloromethane/methanol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.31-7.41 (m, 5H), 5.19 (dd,  $J = 41.8, 5.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dd,  $J = 43.1, 5.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.19-3.32 (m, 1H), 3.19-3.32 (m, 1H), 1.50 (brs, 4H), 1.13 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -183.40 (dd,  $J = 47.6, 15.9$  Hz, 1F); -184.12 (dd,  $J = 47.6, 14.2$  Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN (M)<sup>+</sup> 153.1, found 153.1.

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<sup>2</sup> Hamman, S.; Beguin, C.G. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **1987**, 37, 191.

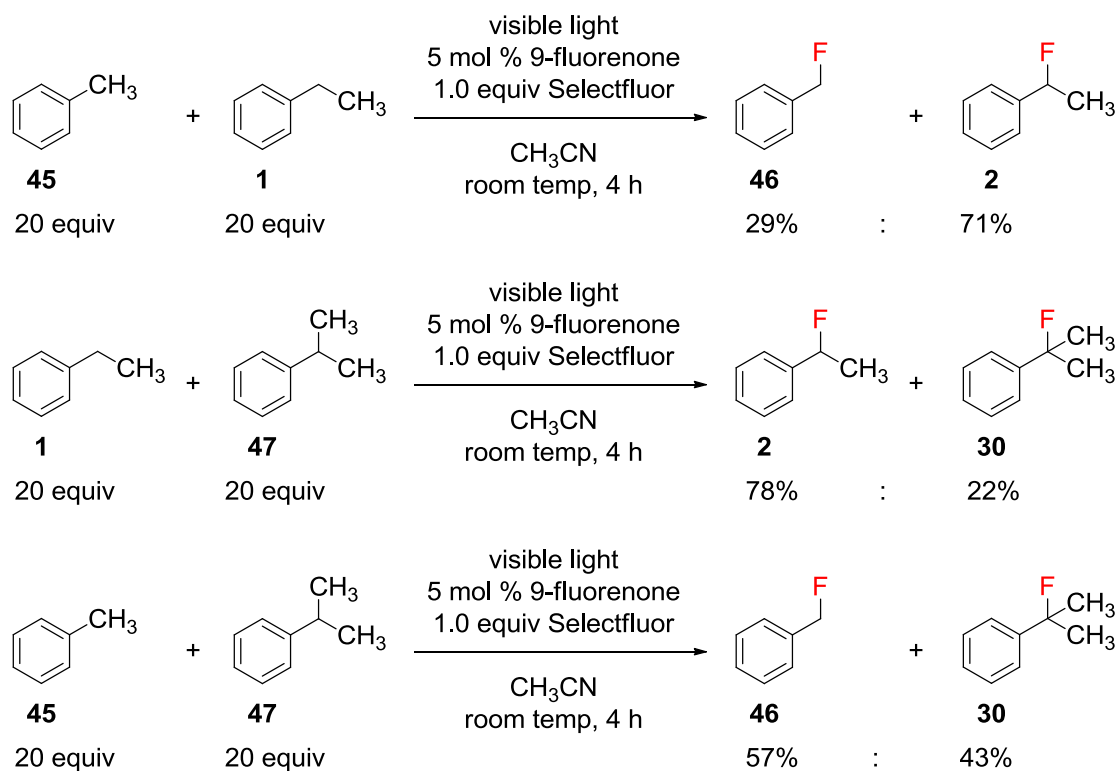


**Figure S5. The light-dark cycle experiment:** no reaction occurred in the dark period. To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (35.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub> (0.525 mL, redistilled from calcium hydride and degassed three times by *freeze-pump-thaw* cycles), 9-fluorenone (0.0025 mmol, 0.45 mg in 0.1 mL acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub>), and ethylbenzene **1** (5.3 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in a glovebox. The reaction solution was transfer to a NMR tube (Wilmad-LabGlass, 527PP, 5mm OD), taken out from the glovebox, and irradiated with a 19 W CFL at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by NMR on a Varian Inova-400 NMR instrument.

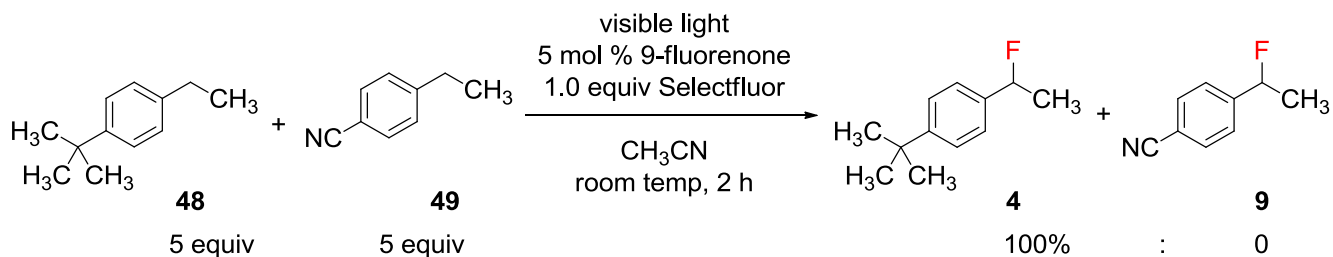


**Figure S6. The intermolecular kinetic isotope effect study.** To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (17.7 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 9-fluorenone (0.5 mg, 0.0025 mmol) was added acetonitrile- $d_3$  (0.5 mL), ethylbenzene **1** (106.2 mg, 1.0 mmol, 20.0 equiv), and (ethyl-1,1- $d_2$ )benzene **1- $d_2$**  (108.2 mg, 1.0 mmol, 20.0 equiv). The vial was then degassed three times by *freeze-pump-thaw* cycles and irradiated with a 19 W CFL at room temperature for 2 h. The ratio of **2**:**2- $d_1$**  was determined by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR on a Varian Inova-400 NMR instrument to be 65:35.

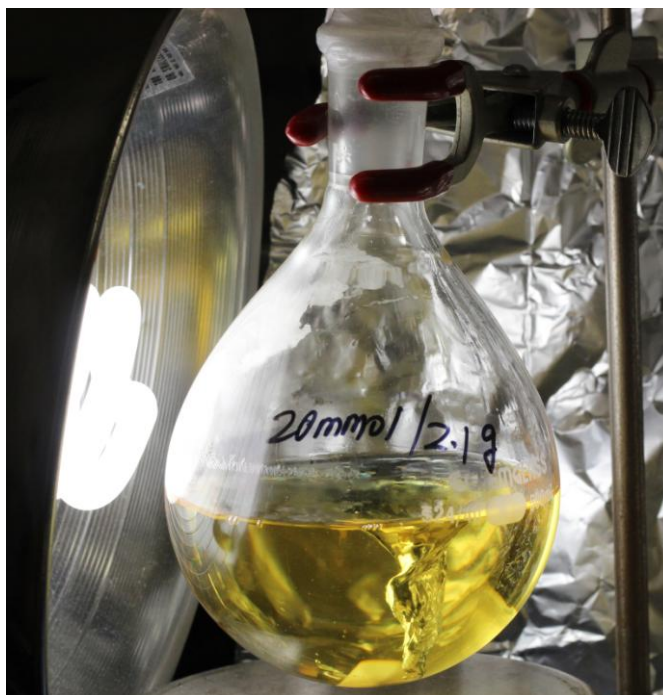
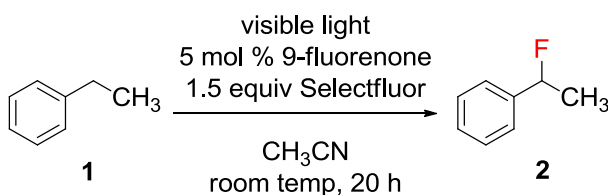




**Figure S7. Site-selectivity studies.** To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (70.9 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 9-fluorenone (1.8 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added anhydrous acetonitrile (2.0 mL), and the reaction substrates (4.0 mmol, 20.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was then degassed three times by *freeze-pump-thaw* cycles and irradiated with a 19 W CFL at room temperature for 4 h. The ratio of the products was determined by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR on a Varian Inova-400 NMR instrument.



**Figure S8. The electronic effect study.** To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (14.2 mg, 0.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 9-fluorenone (0.4 mg, 0.002 mmol) was added anhydrous acetonitrile (0.5 mL), 1-(*tert*-butyl)-4-ethylbenzene **48** (32.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 5.0 equiv), and 4-ethylbenzonitrile **49** (26.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 5.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was then degassed three times by *freeze-pump-thaw* cycles and irradiated with a 19 W CFL at room temperature for 2 h. The crude  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra indicated that 1-(*tert*-butyl)-3-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene **4** was the only product.



**Figure S9. Gram-scale synthesis of (1-fluoroethyl)benzene.** A 500 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Selectfluor (10.63 g, 30 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and 9-fluorenone (180.0 mg, 1 mmol). After evacuating with vacuum and backfilling with argon for three times, anhydrous acetonitrile (225 mL) was added, followed by ethylbenzene (**1**) (2.12 g, 20 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was degassed three times by *freeze-pump-thaw* cycles, and irradiated with a 19 W CFL at room temperature for 20 h. The temperature of the reaction mixture increased slightly from 22 °C to 27±2 °C during the reaction. Ethyl trifluoroacetate (2.38 mL, 20 mmol) was added as an external standard to determine the NMR yield. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum indicated that (1-fluoroethyl)benzene was formed in 90% yield. Diethyl ether (100 mL) was then added to crush out the remaining Selectfluor and its byproduct. After filtration, the solvent was removed by distillation. The residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using pentane as the eluent and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 200 mmHg to give **2** (2.11 g, 85% yield) as a colorless oil<sup>3</sup>: *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.5 (1% diethyl ether/pentane). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31-7.40 (m, 5H), 5.63 (dq, *J* = 47.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (dd, *J* = 23.9, 6.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>) δ 142.2 (d, *J* = 19.6 Hz), 128.7, 128.3 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 125.4 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 90.8 (d, *J* = 169.0 Hz), 23.1 (d, *J* = 25.4 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -167.07 (dq, *J* = 47.8, 23.9 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F (M)<sup>+</sup> 124.1, found 124.1.

<sup>3</sup> Cazorla, C.; Metay, E.; Andrioletti, B.; Lemaire, M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, 50, 3936.

## Materials and Methods

**General Information.** All reactions were performed in glassware under argon. Organic solutions were concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 30 mmHg unless otherwise noted. Flash column chromatography was performed as described by Still<sup>4</sup>, employing EMD silica gel 60 (230–400 mesh ASTM). TLC analyses were performed on EMD 250  $\mu$ m Silica Gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates and visualized by quenching of UV fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  = 254 nm), or by staining ceric ammonium molybdate. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Inova-500 or Inova-400. Chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are reported in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C signals in the solvent (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: 7.26, 77.00 ppm; C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>:  $\delta$  7.16, 128.06 ppm; CD<sub>3</sub>CN:  $\delta$  1.94, 1.32 ppm) and the multiplicities are presented as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, hept = heptet, m = multiplet. Crude <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on an Inova-400 in CD<sub>3</sub>CN using fluorobenzene (<sup>19</sup>F NMR  $\delta$  -114.930) as an external standard. Mass spectra were acquired on an Agilent 6120 Single Quadrupole LC/MS, Agilent 7820A GC/5975 MSD, or VG 70-VSE. Data collection on 70-VSE (purchased in part with a grant from the Division of Research Resources, National Institutes of Health RR 04648) was serviced by the Mass Spectrometry Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. UV-vis spectra were collected on Shimadzu UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (UV-1601).

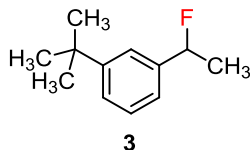
**Materials.** Acetonitrile (anhydrous, 99.8%), 9-fluorenone (98%), xanthone (97%) and Selectfluor II were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Selectfluor (98+%) and benzophenone (99%) were purchased from Alfa Aesar. Fluorobenzene ( $\geq 99.5\%$ ) was purchased from Fluka. Acetonitrile-*d*<sub>3</sub> (D, 99.8%) was purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc. An EcoSmart 19 W Daylight CFL Bulb, an 11 W IKEA E26 CFL Bulb, or a Philips 10.5-watt A19 LED Bright White Bulb was used for the photoreaction.

**General procedure for the photolytic benzylic monofluorination reaction.** To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor (141.7 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added anhydrous acetonitrile (2.1 mL), 9-fluorenone (0.01 mmol, 1.8 mg in 0.4 mL acetonitrile), and the reaction substrate (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) under nitrogen. For convenience, the reactions were typically setup in a batch in a glovebox, but can also be performed on the bench. The reaction mixture was irradiated with an 11 W or a 19 W CFL 2–5 cm away from the reaction at room temperature (27 $\pm$ 2 °C). The crude yield was determined by NMR using fluorobenzene (18.75  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol) as an external standard. The reaction mixture was then poured into diethyl ether (20 mL), filtrated, concentrated and purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using diethyl ether/pentane as the eluent.

**General procedure for the photolytic benzylic difluorination reaction.** To a 4 mL clear vial charged with Selectfluor II (95.9 mg, 0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and xanthone (1.0 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added anhydrous acetonitrile (2.5 mL), and the reaction substrate (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was degassed three times by *Freeze-Pump-Thaw* cycles and irradiated with an 11 W or a 19 W CFL 2–5 cm away from the reaction at room temperature (27 $\pm$ 2 °C). The crude yield was determined by NMR using fluorobenzene (9.38  $\mu$ L, 0.1 mmol) as an external standard. The reaction mixture was then poured into diethyl ether (20 mL), filtrated, concentrated and purified by silica gel flash column chromatography using diethyl ether/pentane as the eluent.

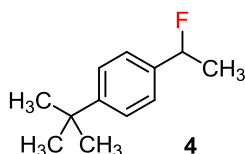
<sup>4</sup> Still, W. C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1978**, *43*, 2923.

## Characterization Data

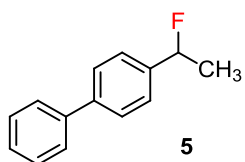


**1-(*tert*-Butyl)-3-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (3).** Prepared from 1-(*tert*-butyl)-3-ethylbenzene (32.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (6 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (1% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **3** (30.7 mg, 85% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).

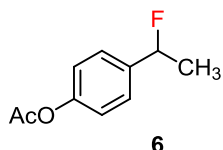
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.18 (m, 1H), 5.62 (dq,  $J$  = 47.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (dd,  $J$  = 23.9, 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.33 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  151.5, 142.0 (d,  $J$  = 19.5 Hz), 128.6, 125.4 (d,  $J$  = 1.9 Hz), 122.7 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz), 122.4 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz), 91.2 (d,  $J$  = 168.7 Hz), 34.7, 31.4, 23.3 (d,  $J$  = 25.5 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -165.93 (dq,  $J$  = 47.8, 23.9 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  180.1, found 180.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  180.1314, found 180.1315.



**1-(*tert*-Butyl)-4-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (4).**<sup>5</sup> Prepared from 1-(*tert*-butyl)-4-ethylbenzene (32.5 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (6 h) and purified by preparative TLC (2% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **4** (29.6 mg, 82% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (2.5% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.25 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.37 (dq,  $J$  = 47.7, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (dd,  $J$  = 23.4, 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  151.1 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 139.2 (d,  $J$  = 19.7 Hz), 125.6, 125.4 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz), 90.8 (d,  $J$  = 168.2 Hz), 34.6, 31.4, 23.1 (d,  $J$  = 25.7 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -166.33 (dq,  $J$  = 47.7, 23.4 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  180.1, found 180.2.



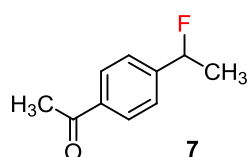
**4-(1-Fluoroethyl)biphenyl (5).**<sup>6</sup> Prepared from 4-ethylbiphenyl (36.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (3 h) and purified by preparative TLC (2.5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **5** (35.4 mg, 88% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (2.5% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.24 (m, 5H), 5.36 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (dd,  $J$  = 23.4, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  141.5 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 141.2, 141.0 (d,  $J$  = 19.7 Hz), 129.1, 127.6, 127.5, 127.5, 126.0 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz), 90.6 (d,  $J$  = 168.9 Hz), 23.1 (d,  $J$  = 25.5 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -167.57 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 23.4 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  200.1, found 200.1.



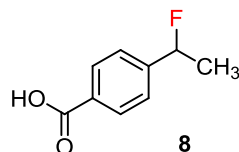
**4-(1-Fluoroethyl)phenyl acetate (6).**<sup>6</sup> Prepared from 4-ethylphenyl acetate (32.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by preparative TLC (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **6** (17.8 mg, 49% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.2 (5% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.23 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.27 (dd,  $J$  = 23.5, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  168.4, 151.1 (d,  $J$  = 2.3 Hz), 139.4 (d,  $J$  = 19.8 Hz), 126.5 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz), 121.9, 90.3 (d,  $J$  = 169.0 Hz), 22.9 (d,  $J$  = 25.2 Hz), 20.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -166.89 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 23.5 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{FO}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  182.1, found 182.1.

<sup>5</sup> Olah, G. A.; Kuhn, S. J.; Barnes, D. G. *J. Org. Chem.* **1964**, 29, 2685.

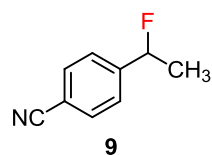
<sup>6</sup> Liu, W.; Groves, J. T. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 6024.



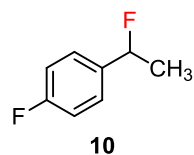
**1-(4-(1-Fluoroethyl)phenyl)ethanone (7).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared from 1-(4-ethylphenyl)ethanone (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (5% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **7** (25.1 mg, 76% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (5% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.68 (dq,  $J$  = 47.6, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 1.65 (dd,  $J$  = 24.0, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  197.5, 146.6 (d,  $J$  = 19.5 Hz), 136.7 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz), 128.5, 125.0 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz), 90.2 (d,  $J$  = 170.2 Hz), 26.5, 22.9 (d,  $J$  = 24.7 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -171.39 (dq,  $J$  = 47.6, 24.0 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 167.1, found 167.1.



**4-(1-Fluoroethyl)benzoic acid (8).** Prepared from 4-ethylbenzoic acid (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (30% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **8** (25.6 mg, 76% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (dq,  $J$  = 47.5, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.19 (dd,  $J$  = 23.8, 6.5 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  172.6, 147.9 (d,  $J$  = 19.7 Hz), 130.8, 129.3 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz), 125.2 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 90.1 (d,  $J$  = 170.9 Hz), 22.9 (d,  $J$  = 24.6 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -172.17 (dq,  $J$  = 47.5, 23.8 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{FO}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 168.1, found 168.0; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{FO}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 168.0587, found 168.0584.



**4-(1-Fluoroethyl)benzonitrile (9).**<sup>8</sup> Prepared from 4-ethylbenzonitrile (26.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (96 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (3% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **9** (19.5 mg, 65% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (3% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.67 (dq,  $J$  = 47.6, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (dd,  $J$  = 24.0, 6.5 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  146.3 (d,  $J$  = 20.0 Hz), 132.2, 125.4 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 118.6, 112.4 (d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz), 89.7 (d,  $J$  = 171.6 Hz), 22.7 (d,  $J$  = 24.6 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -172.71 (dq,  $J$  = 47.6, 24.0 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{FN}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 150.1, found 150.2.

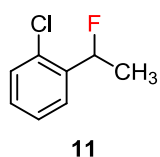


**1-Fluoro-4-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (10).**<sup>9</sup> Prepared from 1-ethyl-4-fluorobenzene (24.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% diethyl ether/pentane) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 200 mmHg to give **10** (20.2 mg, 71% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  6.88-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.71-6.76 (m, 2H), 5.16 (dq,  $J$  = 46.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (dd,  $J$  = 23.2, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  162.9 (dd,  $J$  = 245.8, 2.2 Hz), 137.8 (dd,  $J$  = 20.2, 3.1 Hz), 127.3 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 6.5 Hz), 115.5 (d,  $J$  = 21.5 Hz), 90.0 (d,  $J$  = 168.9 Hz), 22.9 (d,  $J$  = 25.3 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -114.14 (m, 1F), -165.83 (dq,  $J$  = 46.8, 23.2 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 142.1, found 142.1.

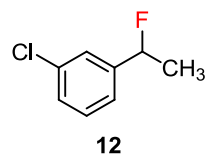
<sup>7</sup> Lee, S. M.; Roseman, J. M.; Zartman, C. B.; Morrison, E. P.; Harrison, S. J.; Stankiewicz, C. A.; Middleton, S. W. *J. J. Fluorine Chem.* **1996**, 77, 65.

<sup>8</sup> Fritz-Langhals, E. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1994**, 35, 1851.

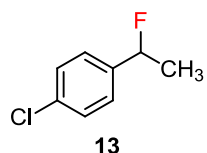
<sup>9</sup> Douvris, C.; Stoyanov, E. S.; Tham, F. S.; Reed, C. A. *Chem. Commun.* **2007**, 43, 1145.



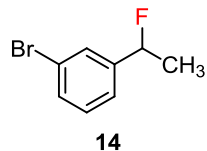
**1-Chloro-2-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (11).** Prepared from 1-chloro-2-ethylbenzene (28.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 150 mmHg to give **11** (22.8 mg, 72% yield):  $R_f$  = 0.6 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) as a colorless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.42 (dd,  $J$  = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd,  $J$  = 7.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.9, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dq,  $J$  = 47.2, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (dd,  $J$  = 23.8, 6.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  140.1 (d,  $J$  = 21.3 Hz), 131.0 (d,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz), 129.5 (d,  $J$  = 0.7 Hz), 129.2 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz), 127.4 (d,  $J$  = 0.6 Hz), 126.4 (d,  $J$  = 10.1 Hz), 88.0 (d,  $J$  = 170.4 Hz), 22.0 (d,  $J$  = 25.4 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -175.38 (dq,  $J$  = 47.2, 23.8 Hz); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  158.0, found 158.0; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  158.0299, found 158.0295.



**1-Chloro-3-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (12).** Prepared from 1-chloro-3-ethylbenzene (28.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 150 mmHg to give **12** (15.0 mg, 46% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.16 (s, 1H), 7.08-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (dd,  $J$  = 7.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (dd,  $J$  = 23.6, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  143.8 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz), 134.3, 129.6, 127.9, 125.2 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 122.9 (d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 89.4 (d,  $J$  = 170.6 Hz), 22.4 (d,  $J$  = 24.9 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -169.86 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 23.6 Hz); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  158.0, found 158.0; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  158.0299, found 158.0296.

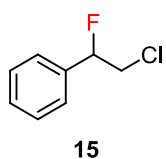


**1-Chloro-4-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (13).**<sup>6</sup> Prepared from 1-chloro-4-ethylbenzene (28.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 150 mmHg to give **11** (11.4 mg, 36% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 5.10 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.19 (dd,  $J$  = 23.5, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  140.5 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz), 134.1 (d,  $J$  = 2.3 Hz), 128.8, 126.8 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 90.0 (d,  $J$  = 169.6 Hz), 22.8 (d,  $J$  = 25.1 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -168.31 (dq,  $J$  = 47.4, 23.5 Hz); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  158.0, found 158.0.

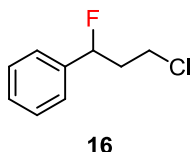


**1-Bromo-3-(1-fluoroethyl)benzene (14).** Prepared from 1-bromo-3-ethylbenzene (37.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 150 mmHg to give **14** (19.1 mg, 47% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.32 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.85 (m, 1H), 6.69 (dd,  $J$  = 7.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (dq,  $J$  = 47.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (dd,  $J$  = 23.6, 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  144.4 (d,  $J$  = 20.0 Hz), 131.3 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 130.3, 128.6 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz), 123.8 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 122.9, 89.8 (d,  $J$  = 170.7 Hz), 22.8 (d,  $J$  = 24.9 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -169.75 (dq,  $J$  = 47.5, 23.6 Hz); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{BrF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  202.0, found 201.9; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{BrF}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  201.9793, found 201.9790.

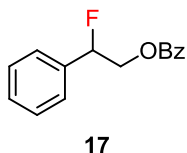




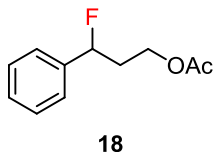
**(2-Chloro-1-fluoroethyl)benzene (15).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared from (2-chloroethyl)benzene (28.1 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (1% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **15** (11.0 mg, 35% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  6.99-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.92-6.95 (m, 2H), 5.16 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.2, 7.7, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (ddd,  $J$  = 16.2, 12.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (ddd,  $J$  = 25.5, 12.2, 3.7 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  137.1 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz), 129.1 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 128.7, 126.0 (d,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz), 93.0 (d,  $J$  = 178.9 Hz), 46.9 (d,  $J$  = 27.7 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -179.04 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.2, 25.5, 16.2 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 158.0, found 158.0.



**(3-Chloro-1-fluoropropyl)benzene (16).** Prepared from (3-chloropropyl)benzene (30.9 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **16** (21.8 mg, 63% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.4 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.03-7.09 (m, 5H), 5.42 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.9, 9.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (ddd,  $J$  = 11.1, 8.5, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd,  $J$  = 11.1, 5.9, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 1.92-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.80 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  139.7 (d,  $J$  = 19.5 Hz), 128.8, 128.6 (d,  $J$  = 1.9 Hz), 125.7 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 91.3 (d,  $J$  = 172.0 Hz), 40.4 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz), 40.3 (d,  $J$  = 24.4 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -179.53 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.9, 31.0, 13.7 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 172.0, found 172.0; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{ClF}$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 172.0455, found 172.0458.



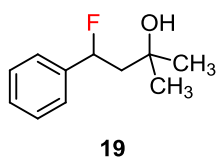
**2-Fluoro-2-phenylethyl benzoate (17).** Prepared from phenethyl benzoate (45.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **17** (29.5 mg, 60% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.14-8.17 (m, 2H), 7.01-7.14 (m, 8H), 5.48 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.6, 7.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41-4.48 (m, 1H), 4.37-4.39 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  166.0, 136.6 (d,  $J$  = 19.8 Hz), 133.2, 130.4, 130.1, 129.0 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 128.8, 128.6, 126.1 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 91.9 (d,  $J$  = 176.6 Hz), 67.4 (d,  $J$  = 24.4 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -184.52 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.6, 26.7, 21.8 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}_2\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 267.1, found 267.1; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}_2\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 267.0797, found 267.0797.



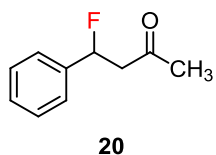
**3-Fluoro-3-phenylpropyl acetate (18).**<sup>11</sup> Prepared from 3-phenylpropyl acetate (35.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **18** (29.5 mg, 75% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.04-7.12 (m, 5H), 5.34 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.8, 8.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (ddd,  $J$  = 11.3, 7.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (ddd,  $J$  = 11.3, 6.0, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (dddd,  $J$  = 14.8, 8.8, 8.8, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.73-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.63 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  169.9, 140.2 (d,  $J$  = 19.6 Hz), 128.7, 128.6 (d,  $J$  = 1.9 Hz), 125.8 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 91.5 (d,  $J$  = 171.7 Hz), 60.4 (d,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz), 36.6 (d,  $J$  = 24.0 Hz), 20.4;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -177.55 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.8, 30.0, 14.8 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}_2\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 219.1, found 219.1.

<sup>10</sup> Yoshino, H.; Matsumoto, K.; Hagiwara, R.; Ito, Y.; Oshima, K.; Matsubara, S. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2006**, 127, 29.

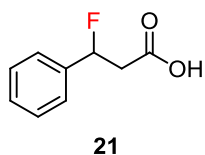
<sup>11</sup> Bloom, S.; Pitts, C. R.; Woltornist, R.; Griswold, A.; Holl, M. G.; Lectka, T. *Org. Lett.* **2013**, 15, 1722.



**4-Fluoro-2-methyl-4-phenylbutan-2-ol (19).** Prepared from 2-methyl-4-phenylbutan-2-ol (32.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **19** (26.8 mg, 74% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.05-7.14 (m, 3H), 5.70 (ddd,  $J$  = 49.0, 9.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (ddd,  $J$  = 17.4, 15.2, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (ddd,  $J$  = 39.6, 15.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  141.7 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz), 128.7, 128.3, 125.8 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz), 92.4 (d,  $J$  = 169.2 Hz), 69.6, 50.9 (d,  $J$  = 22.0 Hz), 30.2, 29.2;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -173.11 (ddd,  $J$  = 49.0, 39.6, 17.4 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  182.1, found 182.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  182.1107, found 182.1106.



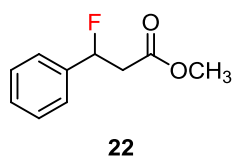
**4-Fluoro-4-phenylbutan-2-one (20).**<sup>11</sup> Prepared from 4-phenylbutan-2-one (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) to give crude reaction mixture. A 3:1 mixture of **20** and *trans*-4-phenyl-3-buten-2-one (elimination product) was obtained when purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes):  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes). The crude product **20** was reduced by  $\text{NaBH}_4$  to give 4-fluoro-4-phenylbutan-2-ol **20s** (27.5 mg, 82% yield, two steps) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes). **20**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.02-7.16 (m, 5H), 5.90 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.7, 8.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (ddd,  $J$  = 16.8, 14.9, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (ddd,  $J$  = 31.0, 16.8, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 1.59 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  202.8 (d,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz), 140.0 (d,  $J$  = 19.8 Hz), 128.7, 128.6 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 125.9 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz), 90.3 (d,  $J$  = 170.7 Hz), 50.4 (d,  $J$  = 25.9 Hz), 30.1;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -174.39 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.7, 31.0, 14.9 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  166.1, found 166.1; **20s**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.21-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.03-7.14 (m, 6H), 5.73 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.6, 10.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.0, 7.9, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (dq,  $J$  = 9.3, 6.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (dq,  $J$  = 12.4, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (dddd,  $J$  = 14.0, 14.0, 7.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.75-1.88 (m, 1H), 1.75 (s, 2H), 1.49-1.68 (m, 2H), 0.96 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  141.3 (d,  $J$  = 19.7 Hz), 140.6 (d,  $J$  = 19.7 Hz), 128.7, 128.5 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz), 126.1 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz), 125.7 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz), 93.5 (d,  $J$  = 168.4 Hz), 91.7 (d,  $J$  = 169.8 Hz), 65.2 (d,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz), 64.0 (d,  $J$  = 2.2 Hz), 47.2 (d,  $J$  = 22.9 Hz), 46.4 (d,  $J$  = 22.5 Hz), 24.2, 23.6;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -173.98 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.0, 27.4, 13.5 Hz, 1F), -178.99 (ddd,  $J$  = 48.6, 38.5, 14.9 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  168.1, found 168.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  168.0950, found 168.0952.



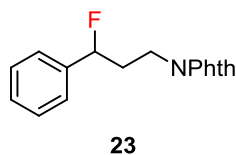
**3-Fluoro-3-phenylpropanoic acid (21).**<sup>12</sup> Prepared from 3-phenylpropanoic acid (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (72 h) and purified by preparative TLC (30% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **21** (27.1 mg, 81% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.2 (30% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  6.99-7.05 (m, 5H), 5.77 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.9, 9.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (ddd,  $J$  = 16.4, 13.2, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (ddd,  $J$  = 33.0, 16.4, 3.9 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  176.7 (d,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz), 138.8 (d,  $J$  = 19.6 Hz), 129.0 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 128.8, 126.0 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz), 90.4 (d,  $J$  = 172.9 Hz), 42.2 (d,  $J$  = 27.2 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -172.80 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.9, 33.0, 13.2 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{FO}_2$  ( $\text{M-H}$ ) $^-$  167.1, found 167.0.

<sup>12</sup> Watanabe, S.; Fujita, T.; Sakamoto, M.; Endo, H.; Kitazume, T. *J. Am. Oil Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *64*, 874.

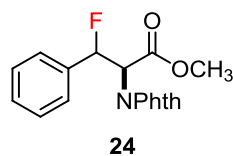




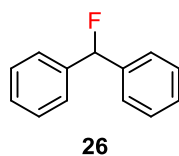
**Methyl 3-fluoro-3-phenylpropanoate (22).**<sup>11</sup> Prepared from methyl 3-phenylpropanoate (32.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (72 h) and purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **22** (27.2 mg, 75% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.01-7.10 (m, 5H), 5.89 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.7, 9.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.81 (ddd,  $J$  = 16.0, 13.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (ddd,  $J$  = 32.4, 16.0, 4.2 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  169.7 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz), 139.3 (d,  $J$  = 19.6 Hz), 128.8 (d,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz), 128.8, 125.9 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz), 90.9 (d,  $J$  = 172.4 Hz), 51.4, 42.3 (d,  $J$  = 27.1 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -173.08 (ddd,  $J$  = 46.7, 32.4, 13.4 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{FO}_2\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 205.1, found 205.0.



**N-Phthaloyl 3-fluoro-3-phenylpropylamine (23).**<sup>6</sup> Prepared from 2-(3-phenylpropyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (53.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (48 h) and purified by preparative TLC (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **23** (46.2 mg, 82% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.4 (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.43-7.46 (m, 2H), 6.99-7.11 (m, 5H), 6.88-6.91 (m, 2H), 5.28 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.8, 8.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.61-3.76 (m, 2H), 2.12-2.25 (m, 1H), 1.86-2.02 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  167.8, 140.0 (d,  $J$  = 19.6 Hz), 133.5, 132.6, 128.6, 128.4 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 125.9 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 123.0, 92.6 (d,  $J$  = 172.0 Hz), 36.0 (d,  $J$  = 23.6 Hz), 34.7 (d,  $J$  = 4.5 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -176.12 (ddd,  $J$  = 47.8, 30.8, 16.2 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{FNO}_2\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 306.1, found 306.1.



**(2R)-N-Phthaloyl-3-fluorophenylalanine methyl ester (24).**<sup>13</sup> Prepared from methyl (*S*)-*N*-phthaloylphenylalanine methyl ester<sup>14</sup> (61.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (84 h) to give **24** (34.1 mg, 52% yield) as a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.42-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00-7.07 (m, 3H), 6.82-6.89 (m, 3H), 6.80 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (dd,  $J$  = 46.6, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (dd,  $J$  = 46.9, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.52-5.59 (m, 1H), 5.52-5.59 (m, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.11 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  167.6, 167.3, 166.7, 166.6 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz), 137.4 (d,  $J$  = 19.5 Hz), 136.1 (d,  $J$  = 19.4 Hz), 134.0, 133.9, 132.0, 131.5, 129.5 (d,  $J$  = 2.2 Hz), 129.3 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz), 128.7, 128.6, 127.7 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz), 127.4 (d,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz), 123.6, 123.4, 91.18 (d,  $J$  = 177.6 Hz), 90.19 (d,  $J$  = 178.6 Hz), 56.1 (d,  $J$  = 24.7 Hz), 55.3 (d,  $J$  = 36.6 Hz), 52.6, 52.3;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -169.58 (dd,  $J$  = 46.7, 15.5 Hz, 1F), -177.24 (dd,  $J$  = 47.0, 11.0 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{FNO}_4\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 350.1, found 350.1.

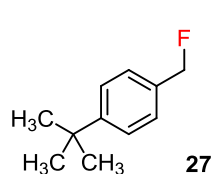


**(Fluoromethylene)dibenzene (26).**<sup>15</sup> Prepared from diphenylmethane (33.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) to give **26** (74% NMR yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.22 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.01-7.13 (m, 6H), 6.24 (d,  $J$  = 47.5 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -166.87 (d,  $J$  = 47.5 Hz, 1F).

<sup>13</sup> Bergmann, E. D.; Cohen, A. M. *Isr. J. Chem.* **1970**, 8, 925.

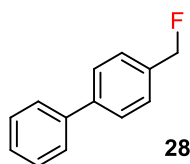
<sup>14</sup> Ito, M.; Sakaguchi, A.; Kobayashi, C.; Ikariya, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 129, 290.

<sup>15</sup> Bellavance, G.; Dubé, P.; Nguyen, B. *Synlett* **2012**, 569.



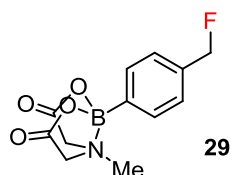
**27**

**1-(*tert*-Butyl)-4-(fluoromethyl)benzene (27).**<sup>16</sup> Prepared from 1-(*tert*-butyl)-4-methylbenzene (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (6 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **27** (28.6 mg, 86% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.21 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.12-7.15 (m, 2H), 5.02 (d,  $J$  = 48.2 Hz, 2H), 1.18 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  151.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 134.0 (d,  $J$  = 17.3 Hz), 127.9, 125.7 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz), 84.3 (d,  $J$  = 166.5 Hz), 34.6, 31.4;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -205.10 (t,  $J$  = 48.2 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 166.1, found 166.1.



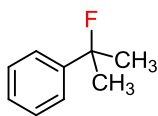
**28**

**4-(Fluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (28).**<sup>17</sup> Prepared from 4-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (33.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (6 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (1% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **28** (33.7 mg, 93% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.59-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.44-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.38 (m, 1H), 5.43 (d,  $J$  = 47.9 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.4 Hz), 140.5, 135.1 (d,  $J$  = 17.1 Hz), 128.8, 128.0 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz), 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 84.4 (d,  $J$  = 166.0 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -206.23 (t,  $J$  = 47.9 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 186.1, found 186.1.



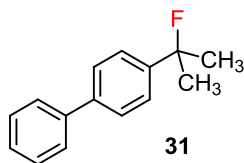
**29**

**(4-(Fluoromethyl)phenyl)boronic *N*-methyliminodiacetate (29).** Prepared from 4-tolylboronic *N*-methyliminodiacetate (49.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (12 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (95% ethyl acetate/hexane) to give **29** (45.0 mg, 84% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (95% ethyl acetate/hexane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  7.55 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd,  $J$  = 7.7, 1.8, 2H), 5.41 (d,  $J$  = 47.8 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (d,  $J$  = 17.1, 2H), 3.90 (d,  $J$  = 17.1, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  169.5, 138.4 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz), 133.8 (d,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz), 133.5, 128.2 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz), 85.6 (d,  $J$  = 162.2 Hz), 62.8, 48.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -206.91 (t,  $J$  = 47.8 Hz, 1F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{BFNO}_4$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 266.1, found 266.1; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{BFNO}_4$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 266.1000, found 266.0998.



**30**

**(2-Fluoropropan-2-yl)benzene (30).**<sup>18</sup> Prepared from cumene (24.0 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (12 h) to give **30** (72% NMR yield).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -136.82 (hept,  $J$  = 22.3 Hz, 1F).



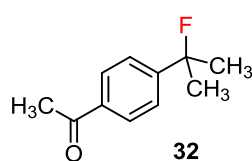
**31**

**4-(2-Fluoropropan-2-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl (31).** Prepared from 4-isopropyl-1,1'-biphenyl (39.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (6 h) give **31** (64% NMR yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.43-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.16 (m, 1H), 1.51 (d,  $J$  = 21.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -137.88 (hept,  $J$  = 21.6 Hz, 1F).

<sup>16</sup> Yokoyama, T.; Wiley, G. R.; Miller, S. I. *J. Org. Chem.* **1969**, *34*, 1859.

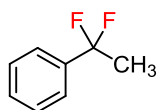
<sup>17</sup> Blessley, G.; Holden, P.; Walker, M.; Brown, J. M.; Gouverneur, V. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, *14*, 2754.

<sup>18</sup> Lai, C.; Kim, Y. I.; Wang, C. M.; Mallouk, T. E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 1393.



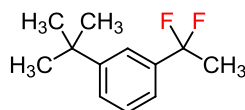
**32**

**1-(4-(2-Fluoropropan-2-yl)phenyl)ethanone (32).** Prepared from 1-(4-isopropylphenyl)ethanone (32.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (5% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **32** (29.7 mg, 83% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (5% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 1.70 (d,  $J$  = 21.6 Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  197.6, 151.0 (d,  $J$  = 21.8 Hz), 136.1 (d,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 128.4 (d,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz), 124.0 (d,  $J$  = 9.3 Hz), 95.4 (d,  $J$  = 170.8 Hz), 29.1 (d,  $J$  = 25.5 Hz), 26.6;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -139.03 (hept,  $J$  = 21.6 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 180.1, found 180.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 180.0950, found 180.0947.



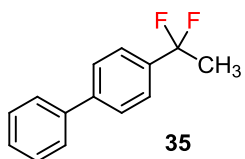
**33**

**(1,1-Difluoroethyl)benzene (33).**<sup>19</sup> Prepared from ethylbenzene (10.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24h) to give **33** (83% NMR yield).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -87.16 (q,  $J$  = 18.6 Hz, 2F).



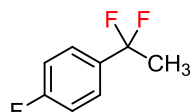
**34**

**1-(tert-Butyl)-3-(1,1-difluoroethyl)benzene (34).** Prepared from 1-(tert-butyl)-3-ethylbenzene (16.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% diethyl ether/pentane) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 200 mgHg to give **34** (6.5 mg, 33% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.9 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.68 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd,  $J$  = 7.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (t,  $J$  = 18.1 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  151.7, 138.6 (t,  $J$  = 26.1 Hz), 128.6, 127.0 (t,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 122.5 (t,  $J$  = 238.9 Hz), 122.3 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz), 121.6 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz), 34.8, 31.2, 26.0 (t,  $J$  = 30.1 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -86.97 (d,  $J$  = 18.1 Hz, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 198.1, found 198.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 198.1220, found 198.1218.



**35**

**4-(1,1-Difluoroethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (35).** Prepared from 4-ethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (18.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure using 3.0 equiv Selectfluor and 5 mol% 9-fluorenone (20 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (1% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **35** (19.8 mg, 91% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.65 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.61 (m, 4H), 7.47 (dd,  $J$  = 7.3, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.97 (t,  $J$  = 18.1 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  143.0 (t,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 140.7, 137.5 (t,  $J$  = 26.8 Hz), 129.1, 128.0, 127.5, 127.5, 125.5 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz), 122.2 (t,  $J$  = 238.7 Hz), 25.7 (t,  $J$  = 30.0 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -87.29 (q,  $J$  = 18.1 Hz, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 218.1, found 218.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ) 218.0907, found 218.0903.

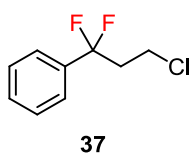


**36**

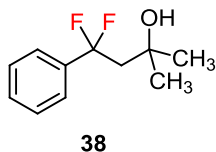
**1-(1,1-Difluoroethyl)-4-fluorobenzene (36).**<sup>20</sup> Prepared from 1-ethyl-4-fluorobenzene (12.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) to give **36** (>95% NMR yield).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -86.08 (q,  $J$  = 19.0 Hz, 2F), -113.17 (m, 1F).

<sup>19</sup> Rozen, S.; Zamir, D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, 56, 4695.

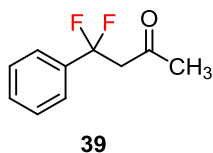
<sup>20</sup> Volz, H.; Streicher, H.-J. *Tetrahedron*, **1977**, 33, 3133.



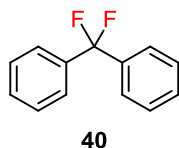
**(3-Chloro-1,1-difluoropropyl)benzene (37).** Prepared from (3-chloropropyl)benzene (15.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (pentane) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 200 mmHg to give **37** (12.2 mg, 64% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.6 (pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.15-7.17 (m, 2H), 6.96-7.03 (m, 3H), 3.21 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (tt,  $J$  = 15.7, 7.8 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  136.6 (t,  $J$  = 26.1 Hz), 130.1 (t,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 128.7, 125.0 (t,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz), 121.6 (t,  $J$  = 243.4 Hz), 42.4 (t,  $J$  = 27.9 Hz), 37.0 (t,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -95.63 (t,  $J$  = 15.7 Hz, 1F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{ClF}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  190.0, found 190.0; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{ClF}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  190.0361, found 190.0364.



**4,4-Difluoro-2-methyl-4-phenylbutan-2-ol (38).** Prepared from 2-methyl-4-phenylbutan-2-ol (16.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **38** (8.2 mg, 40% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (10% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.65-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.44 (m, 3H), 2.39 (t,  $J$  = 18.5 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  138.0 (t,  $J$  = 26.3 Hz), 129.8 (t,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz), 128.5, 124.7 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz), 123.2 (t,  $J$  = 243.5 Hz), 67.0, 50.7 (t,  $J$  = 25.2 Hz), 30.2;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -93.58 (t,  $J$  = 18.5 Hz, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  200.1, found 200.1; HRMS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  200.1013, found 200.1017.

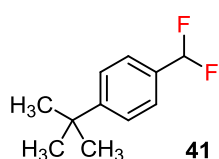


**4,4-Difluoro-4-phenylbutan-2-one (39).** Prepared from 4-phenylbutan-2-one (14.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) to give crude product **39**. The crude product **39** was reduced by  $\text{NaBH}_4$  to give 4,4-difluoro-4-phenylbutan-2-ol **39s** (10.1 mg, 54% yield, two steps) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (25% ethyl acetate/hexanes). **39**:  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) -91.33 (t,  $J$  = 16.1 Hz, 2F). **39s**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.31-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.03-7.04 (m, 3H), 3.89-3.96 (m, 1H), 2.17 (tdd,  $J$  = 16.6, 15.0, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (tdd,  $J$  = 17.5, 15.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 1H), 0.96 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  137.8 (t,  $J$  = 26.3 Hz), 129.8 (t,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz), 128.6, 125.2 (t,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz), 123.1 (d,  $J$  = 242.4 Hz), 63.1 (t,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 48.1 (t,  $J$  = 25.6 Hz), 23.9;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -93.58 (t,  $J$  = 17.0 Hz, 2F); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{ONa}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$  209.1, found 209.1; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{ONa}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$  209.0754, found 209.0756.



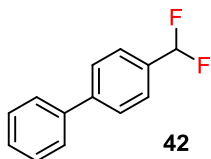
**Difluorodiphenylmethane (40).**<sup>21</sup> Prepared from diphenylmethane (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes) to give **40** (10.5 mg, 51% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.5 (1% ethyl acetate/hexanes).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.43-7.48 (m, 4H), 6.98-7.03 (m, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  138.3 (t,  $J$  = 28.3 Hz), 130.0 (t,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz), 128.6, 126.2 (t,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz), 121.3 (t,  $J$  = 241.5 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -88.23 (s, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ ) $^+$  204.1, found 204.1.

<sup>21</sup> Hara, S.; Monoi, M.; Umemura, R.; Fuse, C. *Tetrahedron*, **2012**, 68, 10145.



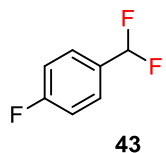
**41**

**1-(*tert*-Butyl)-4-(difluoromethyl)benzene (41).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared from 1-(*tert*-butyl)-4-methylbenzene (14.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (16 h) and purified by preparative TLC (1% diethyl ether/pentane) and concentrated by rotary evaporator at ca. 200 mmHg to give **41** (13.3 mg, 72% yield) as a colorless oil:  $R_f$  = 0.8 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (t,  $J$  = 56.5 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  153.8 (t,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 132.2 (t,  $J$  = 22.5 Hz), 125.8, 125.7 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz), 115.4 (t,  $J$  = 237.6 Hz), 34.7, 31.2;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  -109.12 (d,  $J$  = 56.5 Hz, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 184.1, found 184.1.



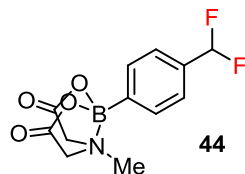
**42**

**4-(Difluoromethyl)-1,1'-biphenyl (42).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared from 4-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (16.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure using 4.0 equiv Selectfluor and 5 mol% 9-fluorenone (20 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (1% diethyl ether/pentane) to give **42** (19.0 mg, 93% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (1% diethyl ether/pentane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.62 (m, 4H), 7.45-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.70 (t,  $J$  = 56.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ )  $\delta$  143.9 (t,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz), 140.5, 133.6 (t,  $J$  = 22.4 Hz), 129.1, 127.6, 127.5, 126.3 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz), 115.3 (t,  $J$  = 237.6 Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -110.42 (d,  $J$  = 56.6 Hz, 2F); MS(EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2$  ( $\text{M}$ )<sup>+</sup> 204.1, found 204.1.



**43**

**1-(Difluoromethyl)-4-fluorobenzene (43).**<sup>23</sup> Prepared from 1-fluoro-4-methylbenzene (11.0 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure (24h) to give **43** (74% NMR yield).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -110.23 (d,  $J$  = 56.1 Hz, 2F), -111.42 (m, 1F).



**44**

**(4-(Difluoromethyl)phenyl)boronic *N*-methyliminodiacetate (44).** Prepared from 4-tolylboronic *N*-methyliminodiacetate (24.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) according to the general procedure using 4.0 equiv Selectfluor and 5 mol% 9-fluorenone (96 h) and purified by flash column chromatography (95% ethyl acetate/hexane) to give **44** (22.6 mg, 80% yield) as a white solid:  $R_f$  = 0.3 (95% ethyl acetate/hexane).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  7.63 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (t,  $J$  = 56.2 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d,  $J$  = 17.0 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (d,  $J$  = 17.0 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  170.1, 136.8 (t,  $J$  = 22.0 Hz), 136.0, 134.6, 126.6 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz), 116.8 (t,  $J$  = 236.0 Hz), 63.5, 49.2;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ )  $\delta$  -111.31 (d,  $J$  = 56.2 Hz); MS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{BF}_2\text{NO}_4$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 284.1, found 284.1; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{BF}_2\text{NO}_4$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 284.0906, found 284.0907.

<sup>22</sup> Fier, P. S.; Hartwig, J. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 5524.

<sup>23</sup> Ilayaraja, N.; Manivel, A.; Velayutham, D.; Noel, M. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **2008**, *129*, 185.



