### CHEM 110L, Experiment 3 – Synthesis & Bromination of Phenacetin



#### Part A. Synthesis of Phenacetin



Identify the **nucleophile**, **electrophile**, and **base** in the synthesis of phenacetin. Propose a **mechanism** for this transformation.

Draw a diagram of the <u>reaction setup</u>. What are the **safety concerns**? In which experiments have you used similar setups?

Draw a **flow chart with diagrams** of the <u>reaction work up</u> – label each layer with contents. In which experiments have you used similar reaction work ups?

What are the **safety concerns** for the <u>reaction work up</u> and what can you get ready ahead of time to allow the work up run smoothly?

**<u>Phenacetin Analysis</u>**: What forms of analysis will you perform in Parts B? What are the **expected results** for each?

Predict the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for both compounds below – <u>chemical shifts, integration, & splitting</u>.



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Phenacetin

Describe each coupling pattern. Which of these are found in the spectra of acetaminophen and phenacetin?

Geminal

Vicinal

Long-Range

### Part C. Bromination of Phenacetin: Substitution Puzzle

# Electrophilic Aromatic Substitution (EArS) Reaction

- Identify both substituents as EDG or EWG. Is each weak or strong?
- To what position does each substituent direct the reaction?







N-acetyl-2-bromo-4-ethoxyaniline mp 96-97 °C



**Potential Mechanisms** 



Phenacetin



"2-bromo"





Br-Br

Phenacetin

"3-bromo"

## How will you know which product is made, based on only one <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum?

- Electron donating groups \_\_\_\_\_\_ chemical shifts in the \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_ positions
- Electron withdrawing groups \_\_\_\_\_\_ chemical shifts in the \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_ positions
- Predict the splitting patterns for the aromatic signals in each

Br 0

N-acetyl-2-bromo-4-ethoxyaniline mp 96-97 °C

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N-acetyl-3-bromo-4-ethoxyaniline mp 112-114 °C