Borane-Catalyzed Cascade Friedel-Crafts Alkylation/[1,5]-Hydride Transfer/Mannich Cyclization to Afford Tetrahy droquinolines

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1. General information

¹**H** and ¹³**C NMR** spectra were recorded on a Bruker (400 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm), and the residual solvent peak was used as an internal reference: proton (chloroform δ 7.26), carbon (chloroform δ 77.0) or tetramethylsilane (TMS δ 0.00) was used as a reference. Multiplicity was indicated as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), dd (doublet of doublet), bs (broad singlet). Coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). All high resolution mass spectra (**HRMS**) were obtained on Agilent 1260-6224 LC-MS TOF using ESI (electrospray ionization). For thin layer chromatography (**TLC**), Merck pre-coated TLC plates (Merck 60 F254) were used, and compounds were visualized with a UV light at 254 nm. Further visualization was achieved by staining with I₂ and KMnO₄.

All reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere. All commercially available reagents were used as received for the reactions without any purification. All solvents were dried on alumina columns using a solvent dispensing system. $B(C_6F_5)_3$ were purchased from TCI. Tertiary anilines **1** were synthesized following the reported procedure¹. Alkynones **2** and **5** were synthesized following the reported procedure^{2,3}.

2. General procedure for syntheses of functionalized 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), tertiary aniline **1** (0.24 mmol), alkynone **2** (0.20 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 24 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford the desired functionalized 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines **3**.



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), *N*,*N*,4-trimethylaniline **1a** (0.24 mmol), trifluoromethyl- α , β -ynones **5** (0.20 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 24 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford the desired functionalized tetrahydroquinolines **6**.

3. Analytical data for products

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo-acet ate (3a):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3a** as a yellow oil, 46.5 mg, 69% yield, >20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H),

6.64 – 6.61 (m, 2H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.80 (td, *J* = 6.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.66, 161.26, 144.53, 143.93, 130.72, 129.11, 128.44, 128.28, 126.68, 123.29, 111.91, 62.30, 49.76, 44.59, 39.68, 20.24, 13.89.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₄NO₃, M+H]⁺: 338.1750; Found: 338.1750.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-ethyl-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoa cetate (3b):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3b** as a yellow solid, 46.3 mg, 66% yield, >20:1 dr. m.p.: 78~79 °C. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 3b 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.24 – 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.82 (td, J = 6.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd, J = 11.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.43 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.74, 161.25, 144.46, 144.11, 133.27, 129.65, 129.13, 128.43, 126.98, 126.68, 123.31, 111.85, 62.30, 49.85, 49.77, 44.75, 39.67, 27.74, 15.78, 13.89.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺:352.1907; Found: 352.1907.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-(tert-butyl)-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3c):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3c** as a yellow solid, 52.2 mg, 69% yield, >20:1 dr. m.p.: 102~104 °C. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 3c 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.21 – 4.13 (m, 2H), 3.81 (td, *J* = 7.0, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.85, 161.28, 144.34, 143.79, 140.03, 129.11, 128.38, 127.27, 126.67, 124.39, 122.89, 111.31, 62.29, 49.89, 49.75, 45.06, 39.54, 33.70, 31.34, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₄H₃₀NO₃, M+H]⁺:380.2220; Found: 380.2222.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-benzyl-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo acetate (3d):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3d** as a yellow oil, 50.6 mg, 61% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 7.10 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 6.94 (dd, *J*

= 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.24 – 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.82 (td, *J* = 6.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.64, 161.22, 144.38, 141.84, 130.81, 129.83, 129.08, 128.63, 128.42, 128.20, 126.70, 125.67, 123.21, 111.91, 62.31, 49.66, 44.63, 40.81, 39.56, 13.88.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₇H₂₈NO₃, M+H]⁺:414.2063; Found: 414.2064.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1-methyl-4,6-diphenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo-acet ate (3e):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3e** as a yellow oil, 48.0 mg, 60% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.44 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.34 – ^{3e} 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, J =1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.18 (m, 2H),

3.87 (td, *J* = 6.6, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.58, 161.18, 145.35, 144.02, 140.93, 130.01, 129.07, 128.76, 128.55, 128.51, 126.84, 126.38, 126.20, 126.00, 123.28, 111.89, 62.39, 49.48, 49.39, 44.84, 39.45, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₆H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺: 400.1907; Found: 400.1908.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-methoxy-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-o xoacetate (3f):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/8, v/v) to afford **3f** as a yellow oil, 36.1 mg, 51% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.32 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.12 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.73 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H),

6.65 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.23 –
4.15 (m, 2H), 3.81 (td, J = 6.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.36 (dd, J = 11.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.52, 161.16, 151.95, 144.26, 140.71, 129.11, 128.48, 126.76, 124.96, 115.89, 113.33, 113.16, 62.36, 55.55, 50.17, 49.89, 44.72, 40.15, 13.91.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₄NO₄, M+H]⁺:354.1699; Found: 354.1698.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-chloro-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo acetate (3g):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/8, v/v) to afford **3g** as a yellow oil, 40.3 mg, 56% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.32 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 3H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d,

J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.79 (td, *J* = 6.4, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.28, 161.07, 144.54, 143.53, 129.75, 129.04, 128.72, 127.66, 127.10, 124.64, 122.11, 112.76, 62.56, 49.37, 49.11, 44.52, 39.56, 13.97.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₁ClNO₃, M+H]⁺:358.1204; Found: 358.1205

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6-bromo-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo acetate (3h):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/8, v/v) to afford **3h** as a yellow solid, 28.1 mg, 35% yield, > 20:1 dr. m.p.: 91~92 °C. Rf = 0.32 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26 –

7.18 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.78 (td, *J* = 6.4, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.17, 161.01, 144.85, 143.44, 132.45, 130.49, 128.95, 128.65, 127.04, 124.94, 113.12, 109.20, 62.49, 49.16, 48.97, 44.38, 39.41, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₁BrNO₃, M+H]⁺:402.0699; Found: 402.0699.

ethyl 2-oxo-2-(*trans*-1,6,7-trimethyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)ace tate (3i):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3i** as a yellow oil, 40.0mg, 57% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.48 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.14– 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.52 (d, J = 6.7 Hz,

2H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.14 (m, 2H), 3.78 (td, *J* = 6.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J*= 11.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 194.75, 161.28, 144.65, 144.16, 135.72, 131.23, 129.09, 128.41, 126.63, 125.56, 120.81, 113.41, 62.28, 49.87, 49.84, 44.30, 39.75, 19.94, 18.57, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺: 352.1907; Found: 352.1907.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-6,7-dimethoxy-1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl) -2-oxoacetate (3j):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/5, v/v) to afford **3j** as a yellow oil, 56.8mg, 74% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.16 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.13– 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 6.32 (s,

1H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.18 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.73 (td, *J* = 6.2, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.48, 161.24, 148.61, 144.75, 141.50, 140.77, 128.97, 128.41, 126.68, 114.61, 114.33, 97.53, 62.32, 56.42, 55.79, 49.93, 49.68, 43.92, 40.26, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₅, M+H]⁺: 384.1805; Found: 384.1805.

ethyl 2-(1,6-dimethyl-2,4-diphenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3k):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) it to afford **3k** as a yellow solid, 45.2 mg, 55% yield. m.p.: $145\sim146$ °C. Rf = 0.53 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.21 (m, 10H), 7.01 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H),

4.55 – 4.45 (m, 2H), 4.40 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.79 – 3.72 (m, 2H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 196.09, 159.66, 144.43, 140.19, 139.78, 129.56, 128.84, 128.71, 128.59, 128.31, 128.04, 127.95, 127.17, 126.25, 126.09, 112.47, 66.56, 61.97, 56.05, 47.65, 37.00, 20.30, 13.61.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₇H₂₈NO₃, M+H]⁺:414.2063; Found: 414.2064.

ethyl 2-(1,6-dimethyl-2,4-diphenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3k'):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3k'** as a yellow solid, 10.0 mg, 12% yield. m.p.: 140~141 °C. Rf = 0.44 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 ${}^{1}\text{Me} \qquad {}^{1}\text{H NMR} (400 \text{ MHz, Chloroform-}d) \delta 7.27 - 7.22 \text{ (m, 5H)}, 7.20 - 3 \text{k'} \\ 7.17 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.02 - 6.95 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.94 - 6.91 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 6.64 \text{ (d, }J = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.41 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 4.94 \text{ (d, }J = 4.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.57 \text{ (dd, }J = 11.7, 4.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.31 - 4.20 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 2.94 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 2.11 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 1.31 \text{ (t, }J = 7.1 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 192.15, 160.75, 143.21, 143.00, 138.39, 130.58, 129.71, 128.42, 128.37, 127.96, 127.23, 126.59, 125.65, 124.22, 110.43, 63.79, 62.50, 54.04, 40.33, 38.56, 20.32, 13.89.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₇H₂₈NO₃, M+H]⁺:414.2063; Found: 414.2063.

ethyl 2-(1,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-2-vinyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoace tate (31):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3l** as a mixture of diastereomers, yellow oil, 51.1 mg, 70% yield, 1.1:1 dr. Rf = 0.53 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

Major diastereomer ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 6.97 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s,

1H), 5.74 – 5.64 (m,1H), 5.21 – 5.15 (m, 2H), 4.30 (d, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.10 – 4.02 (m, 2H), 3.94 (t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

Major diastereomer ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 195.72, 160.67, 144.03, 142.39, 137.90, 130.77, 129.64, 128.69, 128.38, 127.21, 126.42, 125.72, 119.32, 112.45, 63.30, 62.35, 53.53, 40.90, 36.25, 20.35, 13.94.

Minor diastereomer ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 5.74 – 5.64 (m, 1H), 5.15 – 5.13 (m, 1H), 5.01 (dt, J = 17.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, J = 11.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.17 (m, 3H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

Minor diastereomer ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 192.67, 160.44, 143.65, 140.71, 132.24, 129.56, 128.97, 128.48, 128.22, 126.66, 126.18, 124.76, 119.01, 111.70, 63.30, 62.35, 53.53, 40.90, 36.25, 20.35, 13.85.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for $[C_{23}H_{26}NO_3, M+H]^+$: 364.1907; Found: 364.1910.

ethyl 2-(2-ethynyl-1,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoa cetate (3m):

N CO₂Et

Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3m** as a yellow oil, 41.2 mg, 57% yield, 6:1 dr. Rf = 0.41 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{^{H} NMR} \ (400 \ \mathrm{MHz}, \ \mathrm{Chloroform} \ -d) \ \delta \ 7.32 - 7.19 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 5\mathrm{H}), \ 6.98 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \\ \mathbf{^{3m}} \ J = 8.3, \ 1.5 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 6.72 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 8.3 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 6.44 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 4.37 - \\ 4.24 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 4.12 - 4.05 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 3.04 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 2.31 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 2.0 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 2.11 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \\ 1.18 \ (\mathrm{t}, \ J = 7.1 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 3\mathrm{H}). \end{array}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.65, 160.37, 142.99, 140.38, 129.59, 128.98, 128.58, 128.36, 127.60, 127.31, 126.03, 113.46, 80.56, 74.41, 62.44, 54.35, 52.50, 46.50, 36.97, 20.36, 13.79.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₃H₂₄NO₃, M+H]⁺:362.1750; Found: 362.1755.

ethyl 2-(7-methyl-5-phenyl-1,2,3,3a,4,5-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinolin-4-yl)-2oxoacetate (3n):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3n** as a yellow solid, 37.9 mg, 52% yield, > 20:1 dr. m.p.: 108~110 °C. Rf = 0.54 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.96 – 6.90 (m, 1H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s,

1H), 4.22 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 4.07 – 4.00 (m, 2H), 3.74 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (td, *J* = 9.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (td, *J* = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (td, *J* = 8.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.14 – 1.93 (m, 6H), 1.69 – 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 197.96, 160.74, 141.58, 141.07, 129.38, 129.24, 128.58, 128.24, 127.12, 124.40, 124.18, 110.63, 62.30, 60.06, 52.80, 48.99, 47.29, 30.93, 23.64, 20.34, 13.76.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₃H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺: 364.1907; Found: 364.1906.

ethyl 2-(8-methyl-6-phenyl-2,3,4,4a,5,6-hexahydro-1H-pyrido[1,2-a]quinolin-5yl)-2-oxoacetate (30):



 $\begin{array}{cccc} & {}^{1}\mathbf{H} \ \mathbf{NMR} \ (400 \ \mathrm{MHz}, \ \mathrm{Chloroform} \ d) \ \delta \ 7.31 - 7.21 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 7.18 - \\ & {}^{3\mathbf{o}} & 7.16 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 6.95 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \ J = 8.6, \ 2.2 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 6.84 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 8.5 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \\ & 1\mathrm{H}), \ 6.41 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 4.27 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 11.7 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 4.12 - 4.02 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 3.97 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \ J = 12.1, \\ & 3.2 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 3.30 \ (\mathrm{td}, \ J = 10.1, \ 2.8 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 2.74 \ (\mathrm{td}, \ J = 12.2, \ 2.9 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 2.09 \ (\mathrm{s}, \\ & 3\mathrm{H}), \ 1.84 - 1.62 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 4\mathrm{H}), \ 1.45 - 1.36 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 1.15 \ (\mathrm{t}, \ J = 7.1 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 3\mathrm{H}). \end{array}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 197.76, 160.67, 144.06, 141.41, 129.51, 129.33, 128.55, 128.16, 127.03, 126.97, 126.64, 113.42, 62.25, 58.84, 55.08, 48.53, 48.32, 30.77, 25.33, 23.51, 20.18, 13.73.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₄H₂₇NO₃Na, M+Na]⁺: 400.1883; Found: 400.1883.

ethyl 2-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-5,6,6a,7,8,9,10,11-octahydroazepino[1,2-a]quinolin-6 -yl)-2-oxoacetate (3p):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3p** as a mixture of diastereomers, yellow solid, 52.5 mg, 67% yield, 3:1 dr. m.p.: 113~114 °C. Rf = 0.53 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

^{3p} Major diastereomer ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.30 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 6.88 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.18 (m, 3H), 4.03 – 3.97 (m,1H), 3.84 (dt, J = 11.2,

3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.31 – 3.23 (m, 1H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 1.79 – 1.31 (m, 8H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

Major diastereomer ¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 193.90, 160.80, 144.50, 141.08, 131.01, 129.64, 128.31, 128.12, 126.46, 124.76, 122.95, 110.54, 62.41, 58.77, 53.93, 50.30, 40.59, 29.97, 27.05, 25.95, 25.83, 20.25, 13.86.

Minor diastereomer ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.30 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 6.92 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.26 – 4.18 (m, 1H), 4.10 – 4.14 (m, 2H), 3.95 – 3.93 (m, 1H), 3.80 – 3.76 m, 1H), 3.59 (ddd, J = 14.9, 6.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (ddd, J = 15.2, 9.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.79 – 1.31 (m, 8H), 1.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

Minor diastereomer ¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 197.54, 161.07, 144.10, 141.50, 129.39, 129.20, 128.57, 128.23, 126.98, 125.30, 112.68, 62.28, 60.07, 53.11, 49.27, 47.93, 33.13, 28.91, 28.86, 24.22, 13.80.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₅H₃₀NO₃, M+H]⁺:392.2220; Found: 392.2220.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(o-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo-ace tate (3q):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) TCO_2Et to afford **3q** as a yellow oil, 43.4 mg, 62% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.55 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.19 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.94 (dd, ³q J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.3Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.77 (td, J = 6.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, J = 11.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s,

3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.96, 161.35, 143.99, 142.33, 136.04, 130.48, 130.27, 129.93, 128.11, 126.81, 126.59, 126.05, 123.74, 111.80, 62.28, 49.90, 47.88, 40.95, 39.66, 20.25, 19.51, 13.88.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺:352.1907; Found: 352.1906.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl) -2-oxoacetate (3r):



^{3r} J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.75 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.68
(s, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, J = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 4.29 – 4.21 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.67 (q, J = 4.3, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (dd, J = 12.0, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, J = 11.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.62, 161.76, 156.50, 144.39, 133.34, 131.12, 130.76, 128.01, 127.62, 126.82, 122.72, 120.24, 111.80, 110.08, 62.05, 55.28, 49.10, 47.56, 39.61, 37.57, 20.25, 13.94.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₄, M+H]⁺:368.1856; Found: 368.1859.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2 -oxoacetate (3s):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3s** as a yellow oil, 53.4 mg, 72% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.52 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\stackrel{^{}}{^{}}\text{Me}$ $\stackrel{^{}}{^{}}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta 7.40 - 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.19 - 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 7.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.65 - 6.62 (m, 2H), 5.00 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 4.32 - 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.68 (q, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (ddd, J = 12.1, 4.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (dd, J = 12.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H),$

2.89 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 193.64, 161.45, 144.17, 142.56, 133.42,

131.96, 130.85, 129.52, 128.49, 127.87, 127.19, 126.65, 121.65, 112.04, 62.27, 48.57, 47.52, 40.31, 39.59, 20.23, 13.95.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₂ClNO₃Na, M+Na]⁺:394.1180; Found: 394.1180.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(m-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoace tate (3t):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3t** as a yellow oil, 46.6 mg, 66% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.55 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H),

6.63 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.80 (td, *J* = 6.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.74, 161.27, 144.48, 143.92, 138.02, 130.74, 129.73, 128.30, 128.21, 127.45, 126.67, 126.27, 123.43, 111.85, 62.28, 49.83, 49.78, 44.54, 39.70, 21.39, 20.26, 13.89.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺:352.1907; Found: 352.1907.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(3-bromophenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3u):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3u** as a yellow oil, 57.2 mg, 69% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.51 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\overset{l}{\text{Me}} \overset{l}{\text{Br}} \overset{1}{\text{H}} \textbf{NMR} (400 \text{ MHz, Chloroform-}d) \delta 7.36 (ddd, J = 7.9, 2.0, 1.1$ 3u Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dt, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 4.48 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.28 - 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.76 (td, J = 6.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, J = 11.8, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J = 11.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.09, 161.11, 147.10, 143.87, 131.95, 130.69, 130.03, 129.90, 128.57, 127.89, 126.94, 122.59, 122.45, 112.10, 62.48, 49.75, 49.71, 44.08, 39.68, 20.26, 13.91.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₃BrNO₃, M+H]⁺:416.0855; Found: 416.0855.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxo-ace tate (3v):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3v** as a yellow oil, 42.9 mg, 61% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.54 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{\tiny Me} \end{array} \quad \label{eq:Me} \mbox{\tiny I} \mathbf{H} \ \mathbf{NMR} \ (400 \ \mathrm{MHz}, \ \mathrm{Chloroform} \ -d) \ \delta7.09 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 7.9 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \\ \mathbf{3v} \qquad \qquad 7.00 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 8.1 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 6.94 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \ J = 8.3, \ 2.1 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 6.62 \ - \\ 6.60 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 4.45 \ (\mathrm{d}, \ J = 6.4 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 4.24 \ - \ 4.16 \ (\mathrm{m}, \ 2\mathrm{H}), \ 3.77 \ (\mathrm{td}, \ J = 6.6, \ 3.3 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 3.41 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \ J = 11.7, \ 6.8 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 3.32 \ (\mathrm{dd}, \ J = 11.7, \ 3.4 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 1\mathrm{H}), \ 2.91 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 2.32 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 2.12 \ (\mathrm{s}, \ 3\mathrm{H}), \ 1.27 \ (\mathrm{t}, \ J = 7.1 \ \mathrm{Hz}, \ 3\mathrm{H}). \end{array}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.76, 161.28, 143.91, 141.50, 136.23, 130.67, 129.12, 128.98, 128.19, 126.64, 123.48, 111.84, 62.26, 49.81, 49.75, 44.18, 39.68, 20.96, 20.24, 13.87.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺:352.1907; Found: 352.1907.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3 -yl)-2-oxoacetate (3w):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3w** as a yellow oil, 47.3 mg, 60% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.59 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d, J =

8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.75 (td, J = 6.2, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd, J = 11.3, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J = 11.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.84, 161.33, 149.38, 143.90, 141.46, 130.75, 128.66, 128.21, 126.62, 125.29, 123.25, 111.81, 62.23, 49.70, 49.51, 44.01, 39.67, 34.37, 31.32, 20.27, 13.93.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₅H₃₂NO₃, M+H]⁺:394.2376; Found: 394.2376.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3yl)-2-oxoacetate (3x):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3x** as a yellow oil, 50.5 mg, 61% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.49 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.43 m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* =

8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 - 6.64 (m, 2H), 4.57 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27 - 4.19 (m, 2H), 3.86 (td, J = 6.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (dd, J = 11.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.61, 161.26, 143.93, 143.64, 140.66, 139.53, 130.73, 129.52, 128.73, 128.34, 127.20, 127.12, 126.93, 126.75, 123.18, 111.95, 62.33, 49.76, 44.22, 39.68, 20.26, 13.89.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₇H₂₈NO₃, M+H]⁺:414.2063; Found: 414.2062.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl) -2-oxoacetate (3y):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3y** as a yellow oil, 41.0 mg, 56% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.46 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 6.63 – 6.58 (m,

2H), 4.42 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.81 – 3.77 (m, 4H), 3.40 (dd, J = 11.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 194.92, 161.22, 158.32, 143.86, 136.33, 130.59, 130.09, 128.19, 126.61, 123.78, 113.80, 111.85, 62.31, 55.19, 49.99, 49.78, 44.01, 39.69, 20.27, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₆NO₄, M+H]⁺:368.1856; Found: 368.1857

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2 -oxoacetate (3z):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3z** as a yellow oil, 46.2 mg, 65% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.50 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\stackrel{^{}}{\text{Me}}$ $\stackrel{^{}}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{^{}}{\text{NMR}}$ $\stackrel{^{}}{\text{(400 MHz, Chloroform-d) \delta 7.11 - 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.00 - }{3z}$ $\stackrel{^{}}{\text{6.93 (m, 3H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 4.47 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 - 4.18 (m, 2H), 3.79 (td, J = 7.0, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, J = 11.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J = 11.7, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.49, 161.64 (d, J = 245.9 Hz),161.14, 143.85, 140.13 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 130.59, 130.58 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 128.41, 126.77, 123.25, 115.3 (d, J = 21.6 Hz), 112.00, 62.43, 49.94, 49.80, 43.93, 39.70, 20.25, 13.90.
¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -116.11.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₃FNO₃, M+H]⁺:356.1656; Found: 356.1652.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3aa):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3aa** as a yellow oil, 54.3 mg, 73% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz,

1H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.19 (m, 2H), 3.78 (td, *J* = 6.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.42 – 3.36 (m, 1H), 3.32 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.25, 161.07, 143.85, 143.03, 132.49, 130.58, 130.45, 128.60, 128.46, 126.81, 122.86, 112.02, 62.46, 49.85, 49.70, 43.91, 39.67, 20.23, 13.88.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₃ClNO₃, M+H]⁺:372.1361; Found: 372.1361.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-4-(4-bromophenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3ab):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3ab** as a yellow oil, 57.1 mg, 68% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.02 – ^{3ab} 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 4.46 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.19 (m, 2H), 3.77 (td, J = 6.8, 3.4

Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H),3.31 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.22, 161.07, 143.86, 143.59, 131.56, 130.85, 130.60, 128.48, 126.85, 122.78, 120.63, 112.04, 62.48, 49.86, 49.67, 43.97, 39.69, 20.25, 13.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₃BrNO₃, M+H]⁺:416.0855; Found: 416.0856.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3ac):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3ac** as a yellow oil, 54.1 mg, 70% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.43 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.84 (dt, *J* = 13.8, 5.1 Hz, 3H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.7 Hz,

1H), 7.00 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14– 3.98 (m, 3H), 3.49 – 3.38 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.76, 161.10, 144.02, 141.53, 133.20, 132.37, 130.76, 128.36, 128.34, 128.30, 127.75, 127.53, 126.79, 126.70, 126.07, 125.74, 123.46, 111.96, 62.28, 50.24, 49.48, 45.15, 39.73, 20.22, 13.68.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₅H₂₆NO₃, M+H]⁺:388.1907; Found: 388.1907.

ethyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2oxoacetate (3ad):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3ad** as a yellow oil, 40.4 mg, 59% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.53 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

 $\stackrel{\text{'He}}{\text{Me}} \stackrel{\text{'H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } {\delta} 7.19 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}),$ 6.96 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (ddd, J = 5.1, 3.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.32- 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.80 - 3.76 m, 1H), 3.49 (dd, J = 11.9, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.45 - 3.38 (m, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 193.79, 161.23, 148.70, 143.22, 130.77, 128.63, 126.79, 126.56, 126.23, 124.43, 122.68, 112.06, 62.37, 50.37, 49.52, 39.58, 39.08, 20.28, 13.95.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₁₉H₂₂NO₃S, M+H]⁺:344.1314; Found: 344.1314.

methyl 2-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2-oxoace -tate (3ae):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **3ae** as a yellow oil, 45.3 mg, 70% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.42 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H),

6.66 – 6.59 (m, 2H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (td, *J* = 6.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.41 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 194.16, 161.55, 144.55, 143.93, 130.73, 129.11, 128.44, 128.29, 126.77, 126.69, 123.25, 111.95, 52.80, 49.87, 49.73, 44.45, 39.72, 20.25.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₂NO₃, M+H]⁺:324.1594; Found: 324.1594.

Synthesis of 4a



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), tertiary aniline **1a** (0.24 mmol), alkynone **2a** (0.20 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 60 °C for 24 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford **4a** in 28% yield.

ethyl 4-(2-(dimethylamino)-5-methylphenyl)-2-oxo-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (4a):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **4a** as a red solid. m.p.: $132\sim133$ °C. Rf = 0.52 (1:5 EtOAc/Hexanes).

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m,

2H), 4.01 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 6H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.57, 162.74, 156.06, 149.12, 140.35, 132.65, 130.69, 130.08, 129.72, 128.34, 128.16, 121.94, 118.28, 61.81, 42.85, 20.44, 13.88. HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₁H₂₄NO₃, M+H]⁺: 338.1750; Found: 338.1750.

1-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroeth an-1-one (6a):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6a** as a yellow oil, 53.5 mg, 80% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

Me
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.34 - 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.13 6a 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H),
6.61 (s, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (td, J = 7.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.43 - 3.36 (m, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H).

¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 191.38 (q, J = 34.9 Hz), 143.80, 143.66, 130.72, 128.96, 128.62, 128.43, 127.03, 126.98, 123.11, 115.49 (q, J = 293.8 Hz), 112.00, 50.38, 49.18, 44.62, 39.67, 20.26.

¹⁹**F NMR** (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.90.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₁₉H₁₉F₃NO, M+H]⁺:334.1413; Found: 334.1413.

1-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(m-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroe than-1-one (6b):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6b** as a yellow oil, 43.8mg, 63% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.47 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07

(d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.89
(d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 4.49 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (td, J = 7.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.43 - 3.34 (m, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 191.43 (q, J = 34.8 Hz), 143.78, 143.63, 138.25, 130.75, 129.54, 128.46, 128.36, 126.97, 127.78, 126.10, 123.21, 115.48 (q, J = 294.0 Hz), 111.94, 50.35, 49.15, 44.49, 39.68, 21.38, 20.28.

¹⁹**F NMR** (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.81.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₁F₃NO, M+H]⁺ :348.1570; Found: 348.1570.

1-(*trans*-4-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2, 2,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (6c):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6c** as a yellow oil, 60.1 mg, 77% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.45 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

^hMe ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, ^{6c} 2H), 7.01 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.68 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 4.51 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.51 (m, 1H), 3.41 – 3.37 (m, 2H), 2.95 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.32 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 9H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 191.36 (q, J = 34.7 Hz), 149.79, 143.66, 140.97, 130.82, 128.50, 128.38, 126.92, 125.45, 122.89, 115.57 (q, J = 294.0 Hz), 111.89, 49.76, 49.15, 43.77, 39.60, 34.41, 31.30, 20.28.

¹⁹**F NMR** (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.41.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₃H₂₇F₃NO, M+H]⁺:390.2039; Found: 390.2039.

1-(*trans*-4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2,2 ,2-trifluoroethan-1-one (6d):



6d

Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6d** as a yellow oil, 64.8 mg, 79% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.37 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.63 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 1H),

7.20 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.71 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (td, *J* = 7.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.45 – 3.40 (m, 2H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 191.31 (q, J = 34.8 Hz), 143.67, 142.96, 140.56, 139.85, 130.76, 129.35, 128.75, 128.50, 127.29, 127.04, 126.98, 122.93, 120.27 - 115.53 (q, J = 294.0 Hz), 112.03, 50.22, 49.15, 44.14, 39.65, 20.27.
¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.61.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₅H₂₃F₃NO, M+H]⁺:410.1726; Found: 410.1726.

2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(*trans*-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquin olin-3-yl)ethan-1-one (6e):



Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6e** as a yellow oil, 48mg, 66% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.35 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

 $\stackrel{|}{\text{Me}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{MR}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{MR}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{MR}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{MR}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{MR}}$ $\stackrel{1}{\text{H}}$ $\stackrel{1}$

Hz, 1H), 3.43 – 3.34(m, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H).

¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 191.55 (q, J = 34.8 Hz), 158.54, 143.58, 135.63, 130.62, 129.92, 128.33, 126.90, 123.57, 115.47 (q, J = 294.0 Hz), 113.96, 111.96, 55.15, 50.61, 49.21, 43.99, 39.66, 20.25.

¹⁹**F NMR** (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.99.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₁F₃NO₂, M+H]⁺:364.1518; Found: 364.1519.

1-(*trans*-1,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trif luoroethan-1-one (6f):

Me

Flash column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc/Hexanes = 1/10, v/v) to afford **6f** as a yellow oil, 33.7mg, 50% yield, > 20:1 dr. Rf = 0.40 (1:1:20 triethylamine/acetone/Hexanes).

 $\stackrel{\text{Me}}{\qquad} \stackrel{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } {\delta} 7.23 (d, J = 5.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.00}{\\ \text{6f}} (d, J = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.96 - 6.94 (m, 1\text{H}), 6.86 (s, 1\text{H}), 6.81 (d, J = 3.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.65 (d, J = 8.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.83 (d, J = 5.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.64 - 3.60 (m, 1\text{H}), 3.52 - 3.42 (m, 2\text{H}), 2.95 (s, 3\text{H}), 2.21 (s, 3\text{H}).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 190.74 (q, J = 34.7 Hz), 147.70, 143.03, 130.70, 128.81, 127.01, 126.64, 126.51, 124.75, 122.43, 121.07 – 115.57 (q, J = 294.0 Hz), 112.09, 49.79, 49.75, 39.49, 39.19, 20.28.

¹⁹**F NMR** (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -77.08.

HRMS (ESI): m/z Calcd. for [C₁₇H₁₇F₃NOS, M+H]⁺:340.0977; Found: 340.0977.

4. Mechanistic studies

4.1 Deuterium-labelling experiment



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), **1a-[D6]** (0.24 mmol), alkynone **2a** (0.20 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 24 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford **3a-[D6]** in 56% yield.



¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.24 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

4.2 Crossover experiment



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), **1a-[D6]** (0.12 mmol), **1e** (0.12 mmol), alkynone **2a** (0.20 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 24 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl ace-tate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford **3a-[D6]** and **3e** in 63 and 62% yields, respectively.





4.3 Kinetic isotope effect



To a Schlenk tube equipped with a dried stir bar was added $B(C_6F_5)_3$ (0.02 mmol), **4a** (0.10 mmol), **4a-[D6]** (0.10 mmol), TMSOTf (0.02 mmol) and toluene (1.0 mL) in the glovebox. The Schlenk tube was sealed with a Teflon screw cap. The reaction mixture was taken outside the glovebox and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 0.5 hours. The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The conversion of **4a** and **4a-[D6]** were determined by ¹H NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as the internal standard. Then the mixture was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate:hexanes = 1:10) to afford **3a** in 13% yield. For the hydrogen on the α carbon of amino moiety and the hydrogen on the benzyl carbon, the ratio of H to D were 75:25.

 $\begin{array}{c} -2.2\\$



4.4 Role of TMSOTf

Additive TMSOTf was found to be able to improve the reaction efficiency. We have tried to use other acid as catalyst or additive, such as Lambert salt or Brookhart's acid. However, they produced no desired product when used alone. When they were used in combination with $B(C_6F_5)_3$, diminished yields of **3a** and **4a** were observed.



We surmised that TMSOTf could coordinate with $B(C_6F_5)_3$ to increase the Lewis acidity (Int S1). However, ¹⁹F NMR measurement of 1:1 ratio of TMSOTf and $B(C_6F_5)_3$ showed no obvious change in chemical shift and implied this hypothesis is likely not operative. Alternatively, we hypothesized that TMSOTf may coordinate with substrate 2a (e.g., through the ester moiety) to further increase its electrophilicity (Int S2).

a) ¹⁹**F NMR** of TMSOTf, $B(C_6F_5)_3$ and both



b) Two hypothesis of the effect of TMSOTf (Lewis acid activation of Lewis acid or substrate)



5. X-Ray crystallography data



Thermal ellipsoids are drawn on 50% probability level

The single-crystal diffraction data were collected on a Rigaku XtaLAB synergy four-circle diffractometer with Cu-K α radiation (λ =1.54184Å), with the CrysAlisPro software (version 1.171.39.34b) for data reduction and analysis. The crystal was kept at 100 K during data collection. Using Olex2, the structure was solved with the ShelXT structure solution program using Intrinsic Phasing and refined with the ShelXL refinement package using Least Squares minimisation. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. All hydrogen atoms were generated geometrically.

Empirical formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₉ NO ₃
Formula weight	379.48
Temperature / K	100.01(10)
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
<i>a</i> / Å	32.9756(4)
b / Å	9.21260(10)
c / Å	13.7861(2)
α / $^{\circ}$	90
β / $°$	101.2320(10)
γ / °	90
$V/ Å^3$	4107.88(9)
Ζ	8
<i>F</i> (000)	1632.0
$D_c./ {\rm g \ cm^{-3}}$	1.227
μ / mm^{-1}	0.635
S	30

 Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3c (CCDC 2114097)

Reflns coll.	11622
Independent reflections	4002
R _{int}	0.0196
${}^{a}R_{I}[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0335
$^{b}wR_{2}$ (all data)	0.0884
GOF	1.035



Thermal ellipsoids are drawn on 50% probability level

The single-crystal diffraction data were collected on a Rigaku XtaLAB synergy four-circle diffractometer with Cu-K α radiation (λ =1.54184Å), with the CrysAlisPro software (version 1.171.39.34b) for data reduction and analysis. The crystal was kept at 100 K during data collection. Using Olex2, the structure was solved with the ShelXT structure solution program using Intrinsic Phasing and refined with the ShelXL refinement package using Least Squares minimisation. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. All hydrogen atoms were generated geometrically.

Tab	le S2.	Crystal	data and	structure	refinement	for .	3k ((CC)	CDC	211	411	.0)
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Empirical formula	C ₂₇ H ₂₇ NO ₃
Formula weight	413.49
Temperature / K	293(2)
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	Cc
<i>a</i> / Å	5.76260(10)
b / Å	21.7654(3)
c / Å	36.0320(5)
α / $^{\circ}$	90
S	31

β / $^{\circ}$	91.8450(10)
γ / °	90
$V/\text{\AA}^3$	4516.98(12)
Ζ	8
<i>F</i> (000)	1760.0
$D_c./ \mathrm{g \ cm}^{-3}$	1.216
μ / mm^{-1}	0.625
Reflns coll.	52460
Independent reflections	8780
R _{int}	0.0630
${}^{a}R_{I}[I\geq 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0460
$^{b}wR_{2}$ (all data)	0.1271
GOF	1.034

6. References

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7. NMR spectra of products

¹H-NMR of **3a** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

 $\begin{array}{c} -1.23\\ -1$



¹**H-NMR** of **3b** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3c** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)


¹**H-NMR** of **3d** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3e** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of **3f** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3g** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3h** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3i** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)





¹H-NMR of 3k (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3k**' (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹**H-NMR** of **3l** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of 3m (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

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¹**H-NMR** of **3n** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H,¹H-NOESY of 3n (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of **30** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)







¹H-NMR of **3p** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)













$^1\text{H-NMR}$ of $3u~(400~\text{MHz},~\text{CDCl}_3)$









$^1\text{H-NMR}$ of $3x~(400~\text{MHz},~\text{CDCl}_3)$







1 H-NMR of 3y (400 MHz, CDCl₃)











¹H-NMR of 3aa (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

 $\begin{array}{c} -2.5 \\ -2$



¹H-NMR of 3ab (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of 3ac (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of 3ad (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H-NMR of 3ae (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹³C-NMR of 3ae (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

	-161.55	144.55 143.93 130.73 130.73 123.11 128.29 123.25 123.25	-111.95 $\overbrace{77.00}^{77.32}$ $\overbrace{76.68}^{77.00}$	~52.80 ~49.87 ~49.73 ~44.45 ~39.72	-20.25
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210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 fl (ppm)



¹H-NMR of 6a (400 MHz, CDCl₃)







10 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -22 fl (ppm)



「1137」 1133 1135 11 -2.16 $<^{1.32}_{1.32}$



$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ of 6c (101 MHz, CDCl₃)












