Supporting Information

Streptocyanine as an activation mode of amine catalysis for the conversion of pyridine rings to benzene rings

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1. General

3-Pyridylaldehyde, 4'-cyanoacetophenone, 4'-bromoacetophenone, piperonyl acetone, piperidine, acetic acid, dihydro-β-ionone, 4'-fluoroacetophenone, 3-(2-nitroethenyl)pyridine, NaOH, MeOH, toluene, and Et₂O were commercially available and were used without further purification. 4-Bromophenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone,¹ phenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone,² 4-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone,¹ 3-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone, ³ 2-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone, ³ 4-methoxyphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone, ⁴ 3styrylpyridine, ⁵ 3-[2-(4-methylphenyl)ethenyl]pyridine, ⁶ 3-[2-(4-bromophenyl)ethenyl]pyridine, ⁷ 3-[2-(4methoxyphenyl)ethenyl]pyridine, 3-[2-(ethoxycarbonyl)ethenyl]pyridine, 3-[2-(toluenesulfonyl)ethenyl]pyridine, ¹⁰ 3-(2-cyanoethenyl)pyridine, ¹¹ 3-(3-pyridinyl)-2-cyclohexen-1-one, ¹² 5phenylnicotinaldehyde, ¹³ 4-phenylnicotinaldehyde, ¹⁴ and O-methylated pregnenolone ¹⁵ were synthesized according to the reported literatures. Super dehydrated THF was used for solvent. Flash chromatography was carried out on a silica gel (Kanto Chem. Co., Silica Gel N, spherical, neutral, 40-100 µm). Preparative gel permeation chromatography (GPC) was carried out on Japan Analytical Industry LC-918 equipped with JAIGEL-1H and 2H using CHCl₃ as an eluent. All NMR spectra were measured on Resonance ECZ 400S (JEOL, 400 MHz for ¹H, 100 MHz for ¹³C) or AVANCE III HD Nano Bay (Bruker Co., 400 MHz for ¹H, 100 MHz for ¹³C) at 22 °C using CDCl₃ as a solvent unless otherwise noted. Tetramethylsilane (TMS) ($\delta = 0$), CHCl₃ ($\delta = 7.26$), or DMSO ($\delta = 2.50$) served as an internal standard for ¹H NMR spectra, and CDCl₃ (δ = 77.16) or DMSO-*d*₆ (δ = 39.52) was used as an internal standard for ¹³C NMR spectra. MicrOTOF (Bruker Co., TOF type analyzer) was used for ESI-HRMS measurements.

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2. Synthesis of pyridines

A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. NaOH (0.42 g, 11 mmol), MeOH (2 mL), H₂O (10 mL) were added to the flask. 3-Pyridylaldehyde (1.9 mL, 20 mmol) and 4'-cyanoacetophenone (1.5 g, 10 mmol) were added to the mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 17 hours. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and washed with cold water. The solid was dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give 4-cyanophenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (**S1g**) as white solid (1.7 g, 74%).

O N CN	4-cyanophenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (S1g)
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.66 (d, J = 4.8 Hz,1H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz,
	2H), 7.96 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.78 (m, 3H), 7.54 (d, <i>J</i> = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.35 (m,
	1H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 188.6, 151.8, 150.3, 142.8, 141.0, 134.9, 132.7,
S1g	130.3, 129.0, 124.0, 123.0, 118.0, 116.4; HRMS (ESI, positive) <i>m/z</i> calcd for C ₁₅ H ₁₁ N ₂ O
	[M+H]+: 235.0866, found: 235.0874; m.p. 155-158 °C.

A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. NaOH (1.1 g, 26 mmol), and MeOH (20 mL) were added to the flask. 3-Pyridylaldehyde (1.1 g, 10 mmol) and 1-acetyladamantane (1.8 g, 10 mmol) were added to the mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and washed with cold water. The solid was dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give 1-adamantyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (**S1p**) as yellow solid (1.4 g, 53%).



A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. NaOH (98 mg, 2.5 mmol), MeOH (10 mL), 5-phenylnicotinaldehyde (0.19 g, 1.1 mmol), and 4'-bromoacetophenone (0.20 g, 1.0 mmol) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was neutralized by HCl *aq*. (0.5 M). H₂O (20 mL) was added to the flask. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and washed with cold water. The solid was dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give compound **S1r** as white solid (0.32 g, 88%).



Compound S1r

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.87 (s, 1H), 8.83 (s, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ

188.8, 150.0, 148.7, 141.6, 137.2, 136.6, 133.1, 132.2, 130.5, 130.2, 129.4, 128.7,
128.5, 127.4, 123.6 (One peak is missing due to overlapping); HRMS (ESI, positive)
<i>m</i> / <i>z</i> calcd for C ₂₀ H ₁₅ BrNO [M+H] ⁺ : 364.0332, found: 364.0334; m.p. 209-211 °C.

A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. NaOH (0.18 g, 4.6 mmol), MeOH (10 mL), 4-phenylnicotinaldehyde (0.19 g, 1.1 mmol), and 4'-bromoacetophenone (0.22 g, 1.1 mmol) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was neutralized by HCl *aq*. (0.5 M). H₂O (20 mL) was added to the flask. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and washed with cold water. Synthesized pyridines were dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give compound **S1s** as white solid (0.26 g, 66%).



Compound S1s

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.76 (m, 3H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 188.5, 150.5, 150.0, 148.8, 141.2, 137.3, 136.4, 132.0, 130.1, 129.3, 129.04, 129.01, 128.9, 128.3, 124.6, 124.0; HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₅BrNO [M+H]⁺: 364.0332, found: 364.0324; m.p. 150-153 °C.

A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and Dean-Stark apparatus was purged with argon gas. 3-Pyridylaldehyde (0.54 g, 5.0 mmol), piperonyl acetone (0.96 g, 5.0 mmol), piperidine (0.43 g, 5.0 mmol), acetic acid (0.30 g, 5.0 mmol), and benzene (30 mL) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hours and was cooled to room temperature. NaHCO₃ *sat. aq.* (10 mL) was added to the mixture, and organic compounds were extracted with EtOAc (20 mL \times 3). The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvents gave a crude material, which was purified by flash chromatography (Hex/EtOAc = 3/1) to give compound **S1t** as orange oil (0.68 g, 48%).



A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and Dean-Stark apparatus was purged with argon gas. 3-Pyridylaldehyde (0.53 g, 5.0 mmol), dihydro- β -ionone (0.73 g, 5.0 mmol), piperidine (0.43 g, 5.0 mmol), acetic acid (0.20 g, 3.3 mmol), and benzene (30 mL) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hours and was cooled to room temperature. NaHCO₃ *sat. aq.* (10 mL) was added to the mixture, and organic compounds were extracted with EtOAc (20 mL × 3). The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the

solvents gave a crude material, which was purified by flash chromatography (Hex/EtOAc = 3/1) to give compound **S1u** as orange oil (0.62 g, 44%).

	Compound S1u
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 8.76 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H),
0	7.86 (dt, <i>J</i> = 7.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, <i>J</i> = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, <i>J</i> = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H),
	6.78 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.78-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.40-2.31 (m, 2H), 1.92 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H),
	1.63-1.52 (m, 5H), 1.48-1.41 (m 2H), 1.01 (s, 6H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 199.8,
S1u	151.0, 149.9, 138.4, 136.1, 134.5, 130.5, 128.1, 128.0, 123.9, 42.0, 39.8, 35.1, 32.8, 28.6,
	22.6, 19.9, 19.5; HRMS (ESI, positive) <i>m/z</i> calcd for C ₁₉ H ₂₆ NO [M+H] ⁺ : 284.2009, found:
	284.2003.

A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. *O*-methylated pregnenolone (0.38 g, 1.1 mmol), MeOH (10 mL), KOH (0.13 g, 2.3 mmol), and 3-pyridylaldehyde (0.15, 1.4 mmol) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. After the reaction, the flask was cooled to 0 °The resulting solid was collected by filtration and wash with cold water. The solid was dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give compound **S1v** as white solid (0.30 g, 63%).

	Compound S1v
Q	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.60 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz,
	1H), 7.53 (d, <i>J</i> = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, <i>J</i> = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.39-5.31 (m,
N H	1H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.13-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.88-2.75 (m, 1H), 2.44-2.30 (m, 2H), 2.20-2.12 (m,
"'H	1H), 2.08-1.82 (m, 4H), 1.79-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.22 (m, 9H), 1.11-0.97 (m, 4H), 0.64 (s,
	3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 200.0, 151.1, 150.0, 141.0, 137.8, 134.6, 130.8, 128.6,
OMe	123.9, 121.4, 80.4, 62.5, 57.3, 55.8, 50.2, 45.3, 39.3, 38.8, 37.3, 37.1, 32.1, 32.0, 28.1, 24.8,
S1v	22.8, 21.2, 19.5, 13.6; HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C ₂₈ H ₃₈ NO ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 420.2897,
	found: 420.2883; m.p. 103-106 °C.

A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was purged with argon gas. NaOH (0.42 g, 11 mmol), MeOH (2 mL), H₂O (10 mL) were added to the flask. 3-Pyridylaldehyde (1.9 mL, 20 mmol) and 4'-fluoroacetophenone (1.4 g, 9.8 mmol) were added to the mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 17 hours. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and wash with cold water. The solid was dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give 4-cyanophenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (5) as white solid (2.2 g, 97%).



4-fluorophenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (5)¹⁶

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.62 (d, *J* = 4.4, 1H), 8.05 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 188.2, 165.9 (d, *J* =

¹⁶ M. Shekarchi, M. Pirali-Hamedani, L. Navidpour, N. Adib and A. Shafiee, J. Iran. Chem. Soc., 2008, 5, 150-158.

253.6 Hz), 151.3, 150.1, 141.3, 134.7, 134.2 (d, <i>J</i> = 2.9 Hz), 131.3 (d, <i>J</i> = 9.3 Hz), 130.7,
123.9, 123.5, 116.0 (d, $J = 21.7$ Hz); ¹⁹ F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ –104. 75 – -104. 85
(m).

3. Synthesis of pyridiniums

A 100 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was dried under vacuum with heating. After cooling the flask to room temperature, it was purged with argon gas. Alkenylpyridine, toluene, and 2,4-dinitrophenyltosylate were added to the flask. The mixture was refluxed for 20 hours. The resulting mixture was opened to air and solvents were evaporated under vacuum to give a crude material. The resulting solid was collected by filtration, washed with Et_2O , and dried over P_2O_5 under vacuum overnight to give the title compounds.



Compound 1c

Reaction of 4-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (1.2 g, 5.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (2.5 g, 7.5 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) gave compound **1c** (2.8 g, 97%, pale yellow solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.41 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.02 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 187.8, 149.2, 146.9, 145.9, 145.8, 145.7, 144.7, 142.8, 138.5, 137.6, 135.3, 135.0, 134.2, 132.0, 130.3, 129.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.0, 127.8, 125.4, 121.5, 21.3, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₁₆N₃O₅ [M-C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 390.1084, found: 390.1070; m.p.: 259-262 °C.

Compound 1d

Reaction of 3-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (1.1 g, 5.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (2.5 g, 7.5 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) gave compound **1d** (2.4 g, 84%, pale yellow solid).



NO₂

1c

Ň٥

OTs

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.46-9.37 (m, 2H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.01 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (brs, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 188.5, 149.2, 146.9, 146.1, 145.7, 142.8, 138.6, 137.6, 136.7, 135.6, 134.9, 134.6, 132.0, 130.4, 130.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.0, 127.8, 126.1, 125.5, 121.7, 121.5, 20.9, 20.8 (One peak is missing due to overlapping.); HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₁₆N₃O₅ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 390.1084, found: 390.1079; m.p.: 198-201 °C.

Compound 1e

Reaction of 2-methylphenyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (1.2 g, 5.2 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (2.5 g, 7.5 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) gave compound **1e** (2.7 g, 90%, brown solid).



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.86 (s, 1H), 9.40 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 9.12 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 193.4, 149.2, 146.8, 146.0, 145.9, 145.7, 142.8, 138.5, 137.6, 137.42, 137.35, 136.1, 134.7, 132.3, 132.0, 131.7, 131.6, 130.3, 129.1, 128.0, 127.8, 125.9, 125.4, 121.5, 20.8, 20.3; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₁H₁₆N₃O₅ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺:



Compound 1i

NO₂

1i

NO₂

1j

NO₂

⁻OTs

1k

NO2

OMe

NO2

OTs

νo

Reaction of 3-[2-(4-methylphenyl)ethenyl]pyridine (0.20 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1i** (0.48 g, 91%, yellow solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.61 (s, 1H), 9.20 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H), 9.08-8.97 (m, 2H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 149.2, 145.8, 144.3, 143.4, 143.3, 143.0, 139.5, 138.7, 137.7, 137.6, 136.4, 132.6, 131.9, 130.3, 129.8, 128.1, 127.8, 127.3, 125.5, 121.6, 120.0, 21.0, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₆N₃O₄ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 362.1135, found: 362.1138; m.p.: 250-252 °C.

Compound 1j

Reaction of 3-[2-(4-bromophenyl)ethenyl]pyridine (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.50 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1j** (0.58 g, 97%, pale yellow solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.65 (s, 1H), 9.25 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.13 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.06 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 149.2, 145.7, 144.6, 143.8, 143.7, 142.9, 138.7, 137.6, 137.2, 135.1, 134.6, 132.1, 131.9, 130.3, 129.2, 128.0, 127.8, 125.5, 122.8, 121.9, 121.5, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₃BrN₃O₄ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 426.0084, found: 426.0082; m.p.: 240-242 °C.

Compound 1k

Reaction of 3-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl]pyridine (0.21 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1k** (0.50 g, 92%, yellow solid).



	Compound 11
	Reaction of 3-[2-(ethoxycarbonyl)ethenyl]pyridine (0.18 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4-
	dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound 11 (0.37
0	g, 72%, yellow solid).
OEt	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.79 (s, 1H), 9.38 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 9.24 (d, $J =$
N ² NO ₂	8.0 Hz, 1H), 9.13 (s, 1H), 9.00 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d,
	J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.0
NO ₂ OTs	Hz, 3H), 4.24 (q, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H); ¹³ C NMR
11	(100 MHz, DMSO-d ₆): δ 165.0, 149.3, 146.7, 146.0, 145.8, 145.7, 142.8, 138.4,
	137.6, 136.6, 134.2, 132.0, 130.3, 128.1, 127.9, 125.7, 125.5, 121.5, 60.9, 20.8, 14.1;
	HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C ₁₆ H ₁₄ N ₃ O ₆ [M–C ₇ H ₇ O ₃ S] ⁺ : 344.0877, found:
	344.0876; m.p.: 195-197 °C.
	Compound 1m
	Reaction of 3-[2-(toluenesulfonyl)ethenyl]pyridine (0.26 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4-
	dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound 1m (0.55
	g, 93%, white solid).
Ts	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.73 (s, 1H), 9.40 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 9.19 (d, $J =$
	8.4 Hz, 1H), 9.12 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (dd, J =
	8.2, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.80 (m,
ľ NO₂ ¯OTs	3H), 7.51 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.42
1m	(s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆): δ 149.3, 147.4, 146.4, 146.3,
	145.8, 145.2, 142.7, 138.3, 137.5, 136.2, 135.5, 133.9, 132.6, 131.9, 130.4, 130.3,
	128.0, 127.7, 125.5, 121.5, 21.1, 20.8 (One peak is missing due to overlapping.);
	HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C ₂₀ H ₁₆ N ₃ O ₆ S [M–C ₇ H ₇ O ₃ S] ⁺ : 426.0754, found:
	426.0750; m.p.: 268-270 °C.
	Compound 1n
	Reaction of 3-(2-nitroethenyl)pyridine (0.26 g, 1.5 mmol) with 2,4-
	dinitrophenyltosylate (0.76 g, 2.3 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound 1n (0.42
NO ₂	g, 58%, brown solid).
NO ₂	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.83 (s, 1H), 9.48 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 9.29 (d, $J =$
	8.4 Hz, 1H), 9.14 (d, <i>J</i> = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.01 (dd, <i>J</i> = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (dd, <i>J</i> = 8.2,
NO ₂ OTs	6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.51-8.42 (m, 2H), 8.30 (d, <i>J</i> = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 2H),
1n	7.10 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 149.3,
	147.8, 147.2, 146.6, 145.7, 143.0, 142.7, 138.3, 137.6, 131.9, 131.6, 130.8, 130.4,
	128.04, 127.98, 125.5, 121.6, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C ₁₃ H ₉ N ₄ O ₆
	[M–C ₇ H ₇ O ₃ S] ⁺ : 317.0517, found: 317.0517; m.p.: 160-162 °C.

Compound 1o

NO₂

10

.NO₂

OTs

1p

NO₂

1q

OTs

νo2

ŃΟэ

OTs

Reaction of 3-(2-cyanoethenyl)pyridine (0.13 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound 10 (0.39 g, 82%, white solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.67 (s, 1H), 9.42 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.17-9.10 (m, 2H), 9.00 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.51 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 149.3, 146.7, 146.0, 145.7, 145.4, 143.2, 142.8, 138.4, 137.6, 133.5, 131.9, 130.3, 128.0, 127.9, 125.5, 121.5, 117.2, 104.8, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₉N₄O₄ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 297.0618, found: 297.0606; m.p.: 201-203 °C.

Compound 1p

Reaction of 1-adamantyl 2-(3-pyridyl)vinyl ketone (0.27 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) gave compound **10** (0.36 g, 59%, white solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 9.37 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.01 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.52-8.42 (m, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.09-2.02 (m, 3H), 1.89-1.82 (m, 6H), 1.79-1.65 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 202.4, 149.2, 146.9, 145.80, 145.75, 145.6, 142.8, 138.5, 137.5, 134.9, 134.2, 132.0, 130.3, 128.02, 127.98, 127.8, 125.5, 121.5, 45.2, 36.7, 35.9, 27.2, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₄N₃O₅ [M-C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 434.1710, found: 434.1702; m.p.: 220-223 °C.

Compound 1q

Reaction of 3-(3-pyridinyl)-2-cyclohexen-1-one (0.17 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound 1q (0.47 g, 92%, pale yellow solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 9.39 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.19 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 2.93-2.70 (m, 2H), 2.49-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.11 (quint, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 198.5, 151.9, 149.3, 145.9, 145.8, 145.4, 144.3, 142.9, 138.5, 137.8, 137.6, 132.2, 130.2, 128.6, 128.0, 127.7, 125.5, 121.3, 36.6, 26.5, 21.9, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₄N₃O₅ [M-C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 340.0928, found: 340.0927; m.p.: 216-218 °C.

Compound 1r

Reaction of **S1q** (0.36 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4-dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1r** (0.56 g, 81%, brown solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.86 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 9.73 (s, 1H), 9.17 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.05 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.72-7.63 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 187.7, 149.3, 145.7, 144.1, 143.8, 142.7, 139.3, 138.5, 137.6, 136.2, 135.7, 134.8, 132.4, 132.2, 132.1, 130.81, 130.77, 130.3, 129.6, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 125.5, 121.5, 20.8 (One peak is missing due to overlapping.); HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₁₇BrN₃O₅ [M-C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 530.0346, found: 530.0352; m.p.: 267-269 °C.

Compound 1s

Reaction of **S1r** (0.20 g, 0.54 mmol) with 2,4-dinitrophenyltosylate (0.29 g, 0.85 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1s** (0.36 g, 94%, white solid).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.07 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 9.46 (dd, J = 6.4, 1.2



NO₂

1r

OTs

ΝO2



Hz, 1H), 9.19 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 9.05 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.78-7.72 (m, 5H), 7.63 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 187.6, 158.5, 149.3, 145.8, 145.5, 144.9, 142.9, 138.3, 137.5, 135.6, 135.4, 133.9, 132.3, 132.1, 131.7, 130.7, 130.4, 130.0, 129.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 125.5, 121.5, 20.8 (One peak is overlapping due to overlapping.); HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C₂₆H₁₇BrN₃O₅ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 530.0346, found: 530.0341; m.p.: 273-276 °C.

Compound 1t

Reaction of **S1t** (0.29 g, 1.0 mmol) with 2,4-dinitrophenyltosylate (0.51 g, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) gave compound **1t** (0.45 g, 72%, orange solid).



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.78 (s, 1H), 9.38 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 9.11 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.52-8.39 (m, 2H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 198.8, 149.2, 147.2, 146.7, 145.9, 145.7, 145.5, 145.4, 142.8, 138.5, 137.6, 134.8, 134.7, 134.2, 132.5, 131.9, 130.3, 128.05, 127.95, 125.5, 121.5, 121.1, 108.8, 108.1, 100.7, 42.2, 28.9, 20.8; HRMS (ESI, positive) *m/z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₈N₃O₇ [M–C₇H₇O₃S]⁺: 448.1139,



	128.0, 125.5, 121.5, 116.2 (d, $J = 22.9$ Hz), 20.8; ¹⁹ F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ
	-104.5 (s, 1F); HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for C ₂₀ H ₁₃ FN ₃ O ₅ [M-C ₇ H ₇ O ₃ S] ⁺ :
	394.0834, found: 394.0834; m.p.: 292-294 °C.

4. Procedure of benzene ring formation via amine-catalyzed activation of pyridine rings

General procedure

A 40 mL pressure tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum was dried under vacuum with heating. After the tube was cooled to room temperature, it was purged with argon gas. Pyridinium 1 (1 equiv.), THF solution (30 mL/1 mmol of 1) of piperidine (20 mol%), K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv.), and H₂O (100 equiv.) were added to the tube, and it was sealed by Teflon cap. The tube was heated at 120 °C with magnetic stirring for 42 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the tube was opened to air. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the crude product was purified with flash chromatography or GPC to obtain the desired product 2.

	3-(4-bromobenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2a) ¹⁷
	Reaction of 1a (63 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (22 mg, 77%, white
	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
Br	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 8.13 (dd, <i>J</i> = 7.6, 1.2
20	Hz, 1H), 8.05 (dd, $J = 7.8$, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.65 (m, 5H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz,
28	CDCl ₃): δ 194.6, 191.4, 138.2, 136.5, 135.6, 135.4, 133.2, 132.1, 131.6, 131.2,
	129.5, 128.4.
	3-benzoylbenzaldehyde (2b) ¹⁸
	Reaction of 1b (55 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (17 mg, 79%, yellow
0	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,
2h	1H), 8.09 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.72-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.52 (t,
20	$J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 195.6, 191.6, 138.6, 137.0, 136.5,
	135.6, 133.1, 132.8, 131.5, 130.2, 129.4, 128.7.
	3-(4-methylbenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2c) ¹⁹
	Reaction of 1c (56 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (18 mg, 82%, yellow
	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
2c	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,

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¹⁹ Z. Zhang, M. G. Lindale and L. S. Liebeskind, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2011, 133, 6403-6410.

	1H), 8.06 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.8 Hz, 1H),
	7.31 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 195.4, 191.6,
	144.1, 139.0, 136.4, 135.5, 134.3, 132.6, 131.4, 130.4, 129.4, 129.3, 21.9.
	3-(3-methylbenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2d)
	Reaction of 1d (57 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (19 mg, 83%, yellow
	solid).
0	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,
	1H), 8.07 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, J =
24	7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.36 (m, 2H). 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ
20	195.9, 191.6, 138.8, 138.7, 137.0, 136.5, 135.6, 133.9, 132.7, 131.5, 130.5, 129.4,
	128.5, 127.5, 21.5; HRMS (ESI, positive) m/z calcd for $C_{15}H_{13}O_2$ [M+H] ⁺ :
	225.0910, found: 225.0904; m.p.: 47-50 °C.
	3-(2-methylbenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2e)
	Reaction of 1e (60 mg, 0.11 mmol) gave the title compound (18 mg, 76%, yellow
	solid).
0	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.06 (s, 1H), 8.26 (t, <i>J</i> = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.14-8.05
	(m, 2H), 7.65 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dt, <i>J</i> = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.23 (m, 3H),
	2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 197.4, 191.6, 138.9, 137.7, 137.3,
Ze	136.7, 135.6, 133.3, 131.7, 131.5, 131.0, 129.5, 128.9, 125.6, 20.2; HRMS (ESI,
	positive) <i>m/z</i> calcd for C ₁₅ H ₁₃ O ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 225.0910, found: 225.0904; m.p.: 115-
	117 °C.
	3-(4-methoxylbenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2f) ²⁰
	Reaction of 1f (58 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (18 mg, 76%, yellow
	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
MeO	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,
26	1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H),
21	$6.99 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H); {}^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): \delta 194.3, 191.7,$
	163.8, 139.3, 136.4, 135.3, 132.7, 132.4, 131.2, 129.5, 129.3, 114.0, 55.7.
	3-(4-cyanobenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2g)
	Reaction of 1g (58 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (23 mg, 95%, yellow
	solid).
NC	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
2g	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,

²⁰ A. M. Echavarren and J. K. Stille, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1988, **110**, 1557-1565.

	1H), 8.07 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H),
	7.72 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 194.0, 191.2, 140.5, 137.3,
	136.7, 135.4, 133.9, 132.6, 131.1, 130.3, 129.8, 117.9, 116.4; HRMS (ESI,
	positive) <i>m/z</i> calcd for C ₁₅ H ₁₀ NO ₂ [M-C ₇ H ₇ O ₃ S] ⁺ : 236.0706, found: 236.0711;
	m.p.: 168-171 °C.
	3-phenylbenzaldehyde (2h) ²¹
	Reaction of 1h (54 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (16 mg, 82%, yellow
0	oil).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.11 (t, <i>J</i> = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, <i>J</i>
	= 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.71-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.37 (m, 1H); ¹³ C
2h	NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 192.5, 142.3, 139.8, 137.1, 133.2, 129.6, 129.1, 128.8,
	128.3, 128.2, 127.3.
	3-(4-methylphenyl)benzaldehyde (2i) ²²
	Reaction of 1i (56 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (15 mg, 69%, white
0	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.85 (t, <i>J</i> = 5.4 Hz, 2H),
	7.60 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s,
2i	3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 192.6, 142.2, 138.1, 137.0, 136.9, 133.0,
	129.9, 129.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 21.3.
	3-(4-bromophenyl)benzaldehyde (2j) ²³
	Reaction of 1j (61 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (17 mg, 63%, yellow
	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,
Br	1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.50 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ¹³ C
2j	NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 192.3, 141.1, 138.7, 137.1, 132.9, 132.3, 129.8, 129.3,
	128.9, 127.9, 122.6.
	3-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzaldehyde (2k) ²⁴
	Reaction of 1k (56 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (14 mg, 62%, yellow
	solid).
OMe	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
2k	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃); δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.84-7.78 (m, 2H),

 ²¹ B. Tao and D. W. Boykin, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2004, **69**, 4330-4335.
²² B. Karimi, D. Elhamifar, J. H. Clark and A. J. Hunt, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2010, **16**, 8047-8053.
²³ H. Bonin, D. Delbrayelle, P. Demonchaux and E. Gras, *Chem. Commun.*, 2010, **46**, 2677.
²⁴ C. A. Hunter, M. C. Misuraca and S. M. Turega, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2011, **133**, 582-594.

	7.62-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz,
	CDCl ₃): δ 192.6, 159.8, 141.9, 137.0, 132.7, 132.3, 129.6, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8,
	114.6, 55.5.
	3-(ethoxycarbonyl)benzaldehyde (21) ²⁵
	Reaction of 11 (106 mg, 0.21 mmol) gave the title compound (22 mg, 60%, yellow
	oil).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
EtOOO	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.07 (s, 1H), 8.52 (t, <i>J</i> = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (dt, <i>J</i>
21	= 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (q,
	$J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.42 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 191.6,
	165.6, 136.6, 135.3, 133.1, 131.7, 131.3, 129.3, 61.6, 14.4.
	3-(toluenesulfonyl)benzaldehyde (2m)
	Reaction of 1m (62 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (18 mg, 66%, yellow
	solid).
	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 7.6 Hz,
Ts	1H), 8.06 (d, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (t, <i>J</i> = 7.6 Hz, 1H),
2m	7.33 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 190.4, 145.0,
	143.7, 137.9, 137.2, 133.4, 132.9, 130.33, 130.31, 128.9, 128.0, 21.7; HRMS (ESI,
	positive) <i>m/z</i> calcd for C ₁₄ H ₁₃ O ₃ S [M+H] ⁺ : 261.0580, found: 261.0580; m.p.: 109-
	111 °C.
	3-nitrobenzaldehyde (2n) ²⁶
	Reaction of 1n (97 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave the title compound (15 mg, 51%, yellow
0	solid).
NO ₂	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
2n	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.12 (s, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 7.2 Hz,
	1H), 8.23 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H); ¹³ C NMR (100 MHz,
	CDCl ₃): δ 189.9, 148.9, 137.5, 134.8, 130.5, 128.7, 124.6.
	3-cyanobenzaldehyde (20) ²⁷
	Reaction of 10 (94 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave the title compound (12 mg, 47%, yellow
0	solid).
CN	Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = $100/0$ to $4/1$
	¹ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 8.13 (dt, $J = 8.0, 1.4$
20	Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dt, $J = 7.6$, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ¹³ C NMR (100
	MHz, CDCl ₃): δ 190.1, 137.4, 137.0, 133.4, 133.3, 130.2, 117.7, 113.9.

Y. Lin, L. Zhu, Y. Lan and Y. Rao, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2015, **21**, 14937-14942.
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B. T. Gregg, K. C. Golden and J. F. Quinn, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2007, **72**, 5890-5893.



²⁸ Y. Lin, L. Zhu, Y. Lan and Y. Rao, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2015, **21**, 14937.

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3-(4-fluorobenzoyl)benzaldehyde (2w)⁷

Reaction of 1w (57 mg, 0.10 mmol) gave the title compound (21 mg, 90%, yellow solid).

Column solvent: Hexane/EtOAc = 100/0 to 4/1

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 194.1, 191.5, 165.8 (d, *J* = 253.7 Hz), 138.5, 136.5, 135.4, 133.2 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 133.0, 132.8 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 131.1, 129.5, 116.0 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz); ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –104.7 (s, 1F).

5. Unsuccessful substrates

These pyridiniums could not be synthesized because N-arylation did not occur.



These pyridiniums did not afford the desired benzene derivatives under the optimized reaction conditions.



5. NMR and HRMS spectra



Figure S1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1g in CDCl₃.



Figure S2. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1g in CDCl₃.



Figure S3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1p in CDCl₃.



Figure S4. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1p in CDCl₃.



Figure S5. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1r in CDCl₃.



Figure S6. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1r in CDCl₃.



Figure S7. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1s in CDCl₃.



Figure S8. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1s in CDCl₃.



78.559 7.8.15 7.8.15 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.315 7.7.456 7.7.458 7.7.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.275 7.2.276 7.2.276 7.2.276 7.2.275 7.2.275 6.5.727 6.5.721 6.6.631 6.6.721 6.6.631 6.6.631 6.6.631 6.6.631 6.6.631 6.6.631 7.2.2950 7



Figure S9. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1t in CDCl₃.



Figure S10. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1t in CDCl₃.



Figure S11. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1u in CDCl₃.



Figure S12. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1u in CDCl₃.







Figure S13. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of S1v in CDCl₃.



Figure S14. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of S1v in CDCl₃.



Figure S15. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 5 in CDCl₃.



Figure S16. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 5 in CDCl₃.


Figure S17. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz) spectrum of 5 in CDCl₃.





Figure S18. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1a in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S19. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1a in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S20. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1b in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S21. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1b in DMSO- d_6 .





Figure S22. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1c in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S23. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1c in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S24. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1d in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S25. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1d in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S26. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1e in DMSO-*d*₆.

Ö



Figure S27. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1e in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S28. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1f in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S29. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1f in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S30. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1g in DMSO-*d*₆.

0



Figure S31. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1g in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure S32. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1h in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S33. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1h in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S34. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1i in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S35. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1i in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S36. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1j in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S37. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1j in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S38. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1k in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S39. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1k in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure S40. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 11 in DMSO-*d*₆.

O ↓ OEt



Figure S41. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 11 in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S42. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1m in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S43. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1m in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure S44. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1n in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S45. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1n in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S46. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 10 in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S47. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 10 in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S48. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1p in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S49. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1p in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S50. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1q in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S51. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1q in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S52. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1r in DMSO-*d*₆.


Figure S53. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1r in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S54. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1s in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S55. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1s in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S56. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1t in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S57. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1t in DMSO-d₆.



Figure S58. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1u in DMSO-*d*₆.

0



Figure S59. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1u in DMSO- d_6 .



7,444 7,338 7,338 7,338 7,338 7,338 7,338 7,339 7,331 7,311 7,302 7,302 7,2020 8.419 8.469 8.453 8.440 .637 .464 .687 .647 -67 9.378 9.363 9.245 9.245 9.145 9.145 9.015 8.999 8.993 8.490 8.474 8.469 8.453 9.754 H_2O DMSO M 9.5 8.5 ppm 9.0 1.97 ទ 8 66. 5 4 10 8 ż 6 5 3 2 Ó ppm 9 1 0.97 3.03 **5.03** 2.99 2.97 0.98 1.97 <u>9</u>8 8 16.97

Figure S60. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1v in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S61. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1v in DMSO-d₆.





Figure S62. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1w in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S63. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 1w in DMSO-*d*₆.



Figure S64. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz) spectrum of 1w in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure S65. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2a in CDCl₃.



Figure S66. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2a in CDCl₃.



Figure S67. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2b in CDCl₃.



Figure S68. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2b in CDCl₃.



Figure S69. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2c in CDCl₃.



Figure S70. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2c in CDCl₃.



Figure S71. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2d in CDCl₃.



Figure S72. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2d in CDCl₃.



Figure S73. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2en CDCl₃.



Figure S74. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2e CDCl₃.



Figure S75. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2f CDCl₃.



Figure S76. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2f CDCl₃.



Figure S77. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2g in CDCl₃.



Figure S78. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2g in CDCl₃.



Figure S79. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2h in CDCl₃.



Figure S80. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2h in CDCl₃.



Figure S81. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2i in CDCl₃.



Figure S82. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2i in CDCl₃.



Figure S83. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2j in CDCl₃.



Figure S84. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2j in CDCl₃.



Figure S85. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2k in CDCl₃.



Figure S86. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2k in CDCl₃.



Figure S87. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2l in CDCl₃.



Figure S88. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2l in CDCl₃.


Figure S89. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2m in CDCl₃.



Figure S90. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2m in CDCl₃.



Figure S91. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2n in CDCl₃.



Figure S92. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2n in CDCl₃.



Figure S93. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 20 in CDCl₃.



Figure S94. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 20 in CDCl₃.



Figure S95. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2p in CDCl₃.



Figure S96. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2p in CDCl₃.



Figure S97. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2q in CDCl₃.



Figure S98. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2q in CDCl₃.



8.196 8.192 7.7737 7.7737 7.7737 7.7735 7.7715 7.7715 7.7715 7.7715 7.7715 7.7715 7.7715 7.661 7.665 7.675 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.665 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.765 7.775 7.775 7.775 7.745 7.775 7.7457 7.7457 7.7477 7.74



Figure S99. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2r in CDCl₃.



Figure S100. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2r in CDCl₃.



Figure S101. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2s in CDCl₃.



Figure 102. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2s in CDCl₃.



Figure S103. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2t in CDCl₃.



Figure S104. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2t in CDCl₃.



Figure S105. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2u in CDCl₃.



Figure S106. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2u in CDCl₃.





Figure S107. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2v in CDCl₃.





Figure S108. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2v in CDCl₃.



Figure S109. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2w in CDCl₃.



Figure S110. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of 2w in CDCl₃.



Figure S111. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz) spectrum of **2w** in CDCl₃.



Figure S112. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of the reaction mixture of *N*-arylpyridinium **6** with 0.5 equiv. of piperidine. DMSO- d_6 was used. The peaks with proton numbers in red were assigned to **6**. The peaks with proton numbers in blue were assigned to **7**. The peaks with proton numbers in green were assigned to 2,4-dinitroaniline.





Figure S113. HRMS spectrum of 9.



 \times unidentified peak



Figure S114. HRMS spectrum of 10.