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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

One-pot preparation of pyrazole "turn on" and "turn off" fluorescent sensors for Zn²⁺ and Cd²⁺ directly from chalcones via *in situ* aromatisation

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General Experimental

Chemicals, solvents and reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. PE refers to petroleum ether, bp 40-60 °C. Spectroscopy was performed with CHROMASOLV[®] gradient grade acetonitrile for HPLC, \geq 99.9%, from Sigma-Aldrich.

The metal complexes used in this study were: LiCl, NaCl, KCl, CaCl₂, MgCl₂, CuCl₂, CuSO₄, Cu(OAC)₂, NiCl₂, ZnCl₂, CdCl₂, RuCl₃, CoCl₂, MnCl₂, PbCl₂, ZnCl₂, FeSO₄ and FeCl₃.

TLCs were carried out on Merck Aluminium backed TLC plates Silica Gel 60 F254 and viewed using UV light of wavelength 254 nm. Merck Silica Gel (0.040-0.063 mm) was used for column chromatography. Compounds were loaded as an oil, CH_2Cl_2 solution or dry loaded by adsorption onto silica.

NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker Avance III (400 MHz) spectrometer and processed via TopSpin[®] software. The chemical shifts are recorded in parts per million (ppm) with reference to tetramethylsilane. The coupling constants J are quoted to the nearest 0.5 Hz and are not corrected.

High resolution Mass spectroscopy was performed on Bruker Quadrupole Time-of-Flight (qToF) mass spectrometer.

UV/Vis spectroscopy was performed on an Agilent Cary5000 in quartz cuvettes with a 1 cm pathlength using HPLC grade MeCN, 250-500 nm range with 0.2 sec dwell time. Detector switchover occurred at 350 nm.

FTIR spectroscopy was performed on a Bruker VERTEX 70 spectrometer.

Fluorescence spectroscopy was performed on an Edinburgh Instruments FLS1000 with a xenon excitation source, 2 nm bandwidths for both excitation and emission monochromator, scan speed of 1 nm and dwell time of 0.2 sec. Fluorescence quartz cuvettes with a 1 cm pathlength were used throughout with HPLC grade MeCN.

An Agilent LC-MS 1260 system with 40% MeOH, 60% H_2O (with 1% Formic acid) isocratic flow rate of 1mL/min on a 250 mm C₁₈ ZORBAX column with detection at 254 nm. Mass spectrometer was in MM-APCI mode with a scan of 50 -400 m/z.

A 100 Watt 365 nm Analytikjena High intensity UV lamp or 254 nm 6 Watt Analytikjena TLC lamp was used for images of samples in cuvettes.

All figures were plotted using SigmaPlot[®] 14.5 software.

General Synthesis

Synthesis of (E)-3-phenyl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C1)



Using the methods previously reported (*Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2012, **10**, 8753) 2-acetylpyridine (20 mmol) was added to a solution of benzaldehyde (20 mmol) in 100 mL water. 10 mL of a 10% NaOH solution was added, the mixture shaken for several minutes and then left at 4°C for 24 hours. After 24 hours the solid precipitate was filtered, washed with cold water and dried to afford **C1** (3.31 g, 79%).

Synthesis of C2-C9



The following general method was adapted from the literature (*RSC Adv.*, 2015, **5**, 21445). 2acetylpyridine (5 mmol) was added to a solution of the required substituted aldehyde (6 mmol) in 50 mL MeOH at room temperature. NaOH (5 mmol) was added and stirring continued at room temperature for 6 hrs after which the solution was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was resuspended in cold H_2O and filtered to afford the required chalcone which was further purified by recrystallization from diethyl ether.

Synthesis of P1-P9



Methylhydrazine (2 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of required chalcone (1 mmol) in 50 mL MeOH followed by the addition of $CuCl_2$ (1 mmol) and heated at 60°C for 24 hrs. After 24 hrs the solution was removed under reduced pressure, the residue resuspended in 100 mL of a saturated EDTA solution and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL). The ethyl acetate layers were combined, and solvent removed under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by column chromatography using petroleum ether: ethyl acetate (80:20) to afford the required pyrazole.

Synthesis of (E)-3-phenyl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C1)



Yield 3.31g (79%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1677, 1316 and 753;

¹**H NMR** $\delta_{\rm H}$ (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.43-7.49 (3 H, m, CH), 7.50-7.52 (1 H, m, CH), 7.74-7.76 (2 H, m, CH), 7.87-7.90 (1 H, m, CH), 7.90 (2 H, d, *J* = 16 Hz, CH), 8.20-8.22 (1 H, m, CH), 8.22 (1 H, d, J = 16 Hz, CH) and 8.76-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 120.9, 122.9, 127.0, 128.4, 128.9, 130.6, 135.2, 137.0, 144.8, 148.9, 154.2 and 189.5;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 210.2576 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₁NO requires 210.2560.

Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C2)



Yield 0.780g (68%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1697, 1597, 1215 and 762;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.11-7.15 (2 H, m, CH), 7.50-7.53 (1 H, m, CH), 7.73-7.76 (2 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.94 (2 H, m, CH), 8.20-8.28 (2 H, m, CH) and 8.75-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 115.9, 116.1, 120.6, 123.0, 127.0, 130.1, 131.4, 137.1, 143.4, 148.9, 154.1 and 189.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 228.2413 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₀FNO requires 228.2464.

In agreement with H. M. Faidallah, M. M. Al-Mohammadi, K. A. Alamry and K. A. Khan, J. Enzyme Inhib. Med. Chem., 2016, **31**, 157–163 Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C3)



Yield 0.84g (69%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1697, 1580, 1230 and 762;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.40-7.50 (2 H, m, CH), 7.51-7.54 (1 H, m, CH), 7.67-7.70 (2 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.92 (2 H, m, CH), 8.20-8.22 (1 H, m, CH), 8.28-8.33 (1 H, d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, CH) and 8.76-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 121.3, 123.0, 127.0, 129.1, 130.0, 133.7, 136.4, 137.1, 143.2, 148.9, 154.1, 189.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 244.7029 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₀ClNO requires 244.6980.

In agreement with J. Majeed, M. Shaharyar, J. Enzyme Inhib. Med. Chem. 2011, 26, 819.

Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-bromophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C4)



Yield 1.33g (92%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1695, 1509 and 742;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.50-7.54 (1 H, m, CH), 7.58-7.63 (4 H, m, CH), 7.86-7.92 (2 H, m, CH), 8.20-8.22 (1 H, m, CH), 8.32 (1 H, d, *J* = 16 Hz, CH) and 8.76-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 121.5, 123.0, 124.9, 127.0, 130.2, 132.1, 134.1, 137.1, 143.2, 148.9, 154.1 and 189.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 289.1585 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₀BrNO requires 289.1520.

In agreement with Y.J. Ren, Z.C. Wang, X. Zhang, H.Y. Qiu, P.F. Wang, H.B. Gong, A.Q. Jiang, H.L. Zhu, *RSC Adv.*, 2015, **5**, 21445-21454.

Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-iodophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C5)



Yield 0.96g (57%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1672, 1642 and 714;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.46-7.51 (2 H, m, CH), 7.53-7.54 (1 H, m, CH), 7.78-7.79 (2 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.90 (2 H, m, CH), 8.20-8.22 (1 H, m, CH), 8.33 (1 H, d, *J* = 16 Hz, CH), 8.76-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 121.5, 123.0, 127.0, 130.0, 134.7, 137.1, 138.1, 143.4, 148.9, 154.0 and 191.4;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 336.1466 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₀INO requires 336.1525.

Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C6)



Yield 0.80g (67%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1642, 1511, 1215 and 1027;

¹H NMR δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.95 (3 H, s, CH₃), 7.47-7.51 (1 H, m, CH), 7.70-7.72 (2 H, m, CH), 7.87-7.96 (2 H, m, CH), 8.18-8.22 (2 H, m, CH) and 8.75-8.77 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 55.4, 114.3, 118.5, 122.9, 126.7, 128.0, 131.0, 132.0, 137.0, 144.7, 148.9, 154.5, 161.8 and 189.4;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 240.2812 (M+H⁺). C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ requires 240.2820.

Synthesis of (E)-4-(3-oxo-3-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-1-en-1-yl)benzonitrile (C7)



Yield 0.45g (38%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1642, 1521 and 1203;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.53-7.56 (1 H, m, CH), 7.72-7.74 (2 H, m, CH), 7.82-7.84 (2 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.93 (2 H, m, CH), 8.21-8.23 (1 H, m, CH), 8.40 (1 H, d, *J* = 16 Hz, CH) and 8.77-8.78 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 113.4, 118.5, 123.1, 124.1, 127.3, 129.0, 132.6, 117.3, 139.5, 141.9, 149.0, 153.7 and 189.0;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 235.2704 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₀N₂O requires 235.2660.

Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C8)



Yield 0.87g (69%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1596, 1511, 1217 and 748;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.54-7.52 (1 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.97 (4 H, m, CH), 8.22-8.24 (1 H, m, CH), 8.29-8.31 (2 H, m, CH), 8.45 (1 H, d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, CH), 8.77-8.79 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 123.1, 124.1, 124.9, 127.4, 129.3, 137.2, 141.2, 141.3, 148.6, 149.0, 153.6, 188.6;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 255.2456 (M+H⁺). C₁₄H₁₀N₂O₃ requires 255.2530.

Synthesis of (E)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (C9)



Yield 0.52g (38%);

Vmax (Solid)/cm⁻¹1581, 1448, 1026 and 791;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.96 (3 H, s, CH₃), 4.00 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.91-6.94 (2 H, m, CH), 7.28-7.34 (2 H, m, CH), 7.50-7.53 (1 H, m, CH), 7.88-7.96 (2 H, m, CH), 8.15-8.23 (2 H, m, CH), 8.77-8.78 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 56.0, 56.1, 110.2, 111.0, 118.6, 123.0, 124.0, 126.8, 128.2, 137.1, 145.1, 148.8, 149.2, 151.6, 154.5 and 189.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 270.3051 (M+H⁺). C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ requires 270.3080.

Synthesis of 2-(1-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P1)



Yield 0.137g (57%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1691, 1671, 1581, 1326 and 743;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.29 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.90 (1 H, s, CH), 7.27-7.28 (1 H, m, CH), 7.30-7.32 (1 H, m, CH), 7.33-7.42 (2 H, m, CH), 7.44-7.45 (1 H, m, CH), 7.65-7.67 (1 H, m, CH), 7.77-7.88 (2 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 39.5, 103.5, 122.5, 128.9, 125.6, 127.6, 128.6, 133.3, 136.8, 142.7, 149.3, 149.9, 150.0;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 236.2958 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₃N₃ requires 236.2980.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P2)



Yield 0.194g (77%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1630, 1480, 1282 and 1042;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.29 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.84 (1 H, s, CH), 7.08-7.14 (2 H, m, CH), 7.26-7.29 (1 H, m, CH), 7.43-7.47 (1 H, m, CH), 7.64-7.66 (1 H, m, CH), 7.80-7.84 (3 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.4, 103.0, 115.4, 115.6, 122.5, 122.8, 127.1, 127.2, 129.0, 130.0, 136.8, 142.9, 149.3, 149.8, 161.3 and 163.8;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 254.2954 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₂FN₃ requires 254.2884.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P3)



Yield 0.149g (61%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1629, 1479, 1282 and 1010;

¹H NMR δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.28 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.87 (1 H, s, CH), 7.28-7.31 (1 H, m, CH), 7.31-7.41 (2 H, m, CH), 7.64-7.66 (1 H, m, CH), 7.78-7.81 (3 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.5, 103.5, 120.5, 122.6, 122.8, 126.8, 128.8, 131.8, 133.3, 136.8, 143.0, 149.0 and 149.7;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 270.7455 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₂ClN₃ requires 270.7400.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-bromophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P4)



Yield 0.125g (40%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1630, 1536, 1282 and 1020;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.27 (3 H, s, CH3), 6.87 (1 H, s, CH), 7.25-7.31 (2 H, m, CH), 7.49-7.51 (1 H, m, CH), 7.54-7.56 (2 H, m, CH), 7.62-7.63 (1 H, m, CH), 7.64-7.77 (2 H, m, CH), 7.79-7.81 (1 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.72 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 39.5, 103.5, 121.5, 122.6, 122.9, 127.1, 128.6, 131.6, 131.2, 132.3, 136.8, 142.9 and 149.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 315.2010 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₂BrN₃ requires 315.1940.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-iodophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P5)



Yield 0.117g (32%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1628, 1576, 1282 and 1007;

¹H NMR δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.28 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.87 (1 H, s, CH), 7.60-7.65 (3 H, m, CH), 7.72-7.80 (4 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 13 C NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.5, 103.5, 122.6, 122.9, 127.2, 129.4, 130.3, 132.9, 136.8, 137.6, 137.7, 137.8, 142.9 and 149.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 362.1996 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₂IN₃ requires 362.1945.

Synthesis of 4-(1-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)benzonitrile (P6)



Yield 0.148g (57%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1630, 1479, 1226 and 1001;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 4.30 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.94 (1 H, s, CH), 7.30-7.33 (1 H, m, CH), 7.64-7.67 (1 H, m, CH), 7.69-7.72 (2 H, m, CH), 7.80-7.83 (1 H, m, CH), 7.94-7.97 (2 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.8, 104.1, 110.8, 119.1, 122.8, 122.9, 125.8, 128.1, 129.2, 132.6, 136.9, 137.7, 143.3 and 148.0;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 261.3015 (M+H⁺). C₁₆H₁₂N₄ requires 261.3080.

Synthesis of 2-(1-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P7)



Yield 0.131g (47%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1625, 1432, 1223 and 1012;

¹H NMR δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.98 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.53-6.57 (1 H, m, CH), 6.63-6.67 (1 H, m, CH), 6.73 (1 H, s, CH), 7.42-7.50 (1 H, m, CH), 7.70-7.73 (2 H, m, CH) and 8.28-8.33 3 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 58.9, 101.5, 112.7, 113.0, 116.0, 117.6, 118.7, 121.1, 123.4, 124.7, 126.3, 138.7 and 140.3

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 281.2916 (M+H⁺). C₁₅H₁₂N₄O₂ requires 281.2950.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P8)



Yield 0.128g (48%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1628, 1536, 1226 and 1053;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.87 (3 H, s, CH₃), 4.27 (3 H, s, CH₃), 6.82 (1 H, s, CH), 6.96-6.98 (2 H, m, CH2), 7.27-7.29 (1 H, m, CH), 7.64-7.77 (1 H, m, CH), 7.77-7.81 (3 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.72 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.3, 55.3, 103.0, 114.0, 119.2, 122.4, 122.9, 125.5, 126.2, 126.7, 136.7, 149.3, 150.0 and 159.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 266.3191 (M+H⁺). C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ requires 266.3240.

Synthesis of 2-(5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P9)



Yield 0.119g (38%);

Vmax (Film)/cm⁻¹1630, 1536, 1282 and 1001;

¹**H NMR** δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.94, (3 H, s, CH3), 4.01 (3 H, s, CH3), 4.28 (3 H, s, CH3), 6.84 (1 H, s, CH), 6.93-6.45 (1 H, m, CH), 7.27-7.30 (2 H, m, CH), 7.36-7.38 (1 H, m, CH), 7.46-7.46 (1 H, m, CH), 7.65-7.67 (1 H, m, CH), 7.77-7.82 (1 H, m, CH) and 8.71-8.73 (1 H, m, CH);

 $^{13}\textbf{C}$ NMR δ_c (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 39.4, 39.5, 103.2, 108.7, 111.2, 111.4, 118.1, 121.7, 122.4, 126.4, 126.8, 128.5, 129.2, 136.7, 148.8, 149.2 and 168.3;

HRMS m/z (qToF) Found 296.3423 (M+H⁺). C₁₇H₁₇N₃O₂ requires 296.3500.

NMR Spectra

Synthesis of (E)-3-phenyl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C1)

















Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-iodophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C5)



Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C6)



Chalcone CN





Synthesis of (E)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (C8)



Synthesis of (E)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (C9)

3,4 OMe Chalcone



Synthesis of 2-(1-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P1)

4-H Pyrazole



Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P2)



Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P3)



Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-bromophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P4)



Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-iodophenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P5)



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Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P8)



Synthesis of 4-(1-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)benzonitrile (P6)



Synthesis of 2-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P7)



Synthesis of 2-(5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)pyridine (P9)

Reaction Screening ¹H NMR Studies

Solvent Screen: MeOH



Solvent Screen: EtOH



Solvent Screen: EtOH



Solvent Screen: MeCN





Solvent Screen: CH₂Cl₂



Solvent Screen: CHCl₃



Solvent Screen: Hexane



Solvent Screen: 40°C Temperature



Solvent Screen: 60°C Temperature



Eq. Screen: 1.5 eq. H₂NNHMe



Eq. Screen: 4.0 eq. H₂NNHMe



Eq. Screen: 16.0 eq. H₂NNHMe



Oxidant Screen: MNO₂



Oxidant Screen: FeCl₃



Oxidant Screen: CoCl₂



Oxidant Screen: NiCl₂



Oxidant Screen: CuCl₂



Oxidant Screen: ZnCl₂



Copper Salts: CuSO4



Copper Salts: Cu(OAc)₂



Copper Salts: 0.5 eq CuCl₂



Copper Salts: 0.25eq. CuCl₂



UV/Vis Assays



LC-MS Studies







Limit of Detection (LoD) Assays

The method reported by Lee et al was used to calculate limit of detection (LoD) for **P2** in MeCN using the indicated cation with the average from three replicates used.



B. P. Joshi, J. Park, W. I. Lee and K.-H. Lee, *Talanta*, 2009, **78**, 90.