# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Cobalt-Catalyzed, Aminoquinoline-Directed Coupling of sp<sup>2</sup> C-H Bonds with Alkenes

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### **General considerations**

Reactions were performed using standard glassware or were run in 2-dram vials with PTFE/Liner screw caps and 8-dram vials using w/polyseal screw caps. Column chromatography was performed on 60Å silica gel (Dynamic Adsorbents Inc.). <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F-NMR and 2D-NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL EC-400 and JEOL EC-500 spectrometers using residual solvent peak as a reference. HRMS analysis was performed by chemical ionization (CI) using Micromass Autospec Ultima spectrometer at the Mass Spectrometry Facility of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry of University of Texas-Austin. IR- spectra were obtained using a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100 FT-IR spectrometer. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on silica gel IB-F (Baker-flex) by J. T. Baker. All procedures were performed under ambient air unless otherwise noted. Reagents and starting materials were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification unless otherwise noted. Room temperature is

### Substrate synthesis

Amides were synthesized according to literature procedures from 8-aminoquinoline and corresponding acyl chlorides (Procedure **A**, amides: *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, 4-trifluoromethyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, 4-bromo-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, 4-nitro-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, 3-iodo-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, 4-methyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide, *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)furan-2-carboxamide), *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)thiophene-2-carboxamide<sup>1</sup> or carboxylic acids (Procedure **B**, amides: 2-methoxy-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide and *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)cinnamamide), *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)methacrylamide<sup>2</sup>. *N*-(5-Methoxyquinolin-8-yl)benzamide was prepared from 8-amino-5-methoxyquinoline hydrochloride and benzoyl chloride using Procedure **A**.

### **Procedure A:**

### *Synthesis of N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide is representative.*

To a solution of 8-aminoquinoline (3.00 g, 21 mmol) and *N*,*N*-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (80 mg, 0.65 mmol) in anhydrous  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL) under nitrogen  $Et_3N$  (3.3 mL, 24 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and resulting solution was cooled to 0 °C. Benzoyl chloride (2.3 mL, 20 mmol) was added dropwise and reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The mixture was quenched with water (30 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 x 20 mL). Combined organic phase was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Nishino, M.; Hirano, K.; Satoh, T.; Miura, M. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 4457.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tran, L. D.; Popov, I.; Daugulis, O. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 18237.

dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Concentration in vacuum followed by recrystallization from toluene afforded 4.6 g (94%) of N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid.

### N-(Quinolin-8-yl)benzamide



This compound is known.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.76 (s, 1H), 8.95 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.14-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.68 - 7.52 (m, 5H) and 7.48 (dd, J = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H).

### 4-Trifluoromethyl-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide

8-Aminoquinoline (3.00 g, 21 mmol), N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (80 mg, 0.65 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.3 mL, 24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 4trifluoromethylbenzoyl chloride (3.0 mL, 20 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL). F<sub>2</sub>C Recrystallization from hexanes/EtOAc 4:1 afforded 5.50 g (88%) of 4-trifluoromethyl-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.80 (s, 1H), 8.92 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (dd, J = 4.2, 1.21.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 - 8.16 (m, 3H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 - 7.56 (m, 2H) and 7.51 (dd, J = 8.1 Hz, 7.51 (dd, J = 8.18.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H).

### 4-Bromo-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide

8-Aminoquinoline (3.00 g, 21 mmol), N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (80 mg, 0.65 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.3 mL, 24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 4bromobenzoyl chloride (4.39 g, 20 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL). R Recrystallization from toluene afforded 5.84 g (89%) of 4-bromo-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.71 (s, 1H), 8.90 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (dd, J = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 2H) and 7.48 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H).

### 4-Nitro-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide



8-Aminoquinoline (3.00 g, 21 mmol), N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (80 mg, 0.65 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.3 mL, 24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 4nitrobenzoyl chloride (3.71 g, 20 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL). Recrystallization from hexanes/EtOAc 4:1 afforded 5.67 g (97%) of 4-nitro-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a yellow solid. This compound is known.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.83 (s, 1H), 8.91 (dd, J = 6.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.87 (dd, J = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.45 – 8.36 (m, 2H), 8.26-8.22 (m, 3H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 2H) and 7.52 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H).

### 3-Iodo-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide

8-Aminoquinoline (1.50 g, 10.5 mmol), N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (40 mg, 0.33 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.65 mL, 12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 3-iodobenzoyl chloride (2.67 g, 10 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL). Recrystallization from

hexanes/EtOAc 2:1 afforded 3.46 g (93%) of 3-iodo-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.67 (s, 1H), 8.90 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H) and 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H).

### 4-Methyl-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide

e 8-Aminoquinoline (6.00 g, 42 mmol), *N*,*N*-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (160 mg, 1.3 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (6.6 mL, 48 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 4-toluoyl chloride (5.3 mL, 40 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (60 mL). Recrystallization from

toluene afforded 9.0 g (86%) of a mide 4-methyl-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.73 (s, 1H), 8.94 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.02 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H).

### *N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)furan-2-carboxamide



8-Aminoquinoline (1.50 g, 10.5 mmol), *N*,*N*-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (40 mg, 0.33 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.65 mL, 12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 2-furoyl chloride (1.0 mL, 10 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL). Recrystallization from hexanes/EtOAc 4:1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Truong, T.; Klimovica, K.; Daugulis, O. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 9342.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Zaitsev, V. G.; Shabashov, D.; Daugulis, O. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 13154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Suess, A. M.; Ertem, M. Z.; Cramer, C. J.; Stahl, S. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2013**, 135, 9797.

afforded 1.93 g (81%) of N-(quinolin-8-yl)furan-2-carboxamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.77 (s, 1H), 8.96 – 8.80 (m, 2H), 8.16 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 1.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 3.5, 0.7 Hz, 1H) and 6.58 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H).

### N-(Quinolin-8-yl)thiophene-2-carboxamide

8-Aminoquinoline (1.50 g, 10.5 mmol), *N*,*N*-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (40 mg, 0.33 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.65 mL, 12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 2-thiophenecarbonyl chloride (1.1 mL, 10 mmol),  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL). Recrystallization from hexanes/EtOAc 4:1 afforded 2.33 g (92%) of *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)thiophene-2-carboxamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 10.61 (s, 1H), 8.90 – 8.80 (m, 2H), 8.18 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 3.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.54 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H).

### **Procedure B:**

*Synthesis of 2-methoxy-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide is representative.* 

o-Anisic acid (2.28 g, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (4.8 mL, 35 mmol, 3.5 equiv) were dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL), flask was flushed with nitrogen and the resulting mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Ethyl chloroformate (1.4 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added dropwise and solution was stirred at 0 °C for 30 minutes followed by dropwise addition of 8-aminoquinoline (1.44 g, 10 mmol) solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). The resulting suspension was warmed up to room temperature and stirred overnight. After completion, water (30 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered, followed by evaporation of solvent. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) afforded 1.97 g (71%) of 2-methoxy-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid.

### 2-Methoxy-N-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide



This compound is known.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 12.35 (s, 1H), 9.04 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (dd, *J* = 4.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (dd,

*J* = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H) and 4.18 (s, 3H).

### N-(Quinolin-8-yl)cinnamamide



Cinnamic acid (2.22 g, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv),  $Et_3N$  (4.8 mL, 35 mmol, 3.5 equiv), ethyl chloroformate (1.4 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), 8-aminoquinoline (1.44 g, 10 mmol),  $CH_2Cl_2$  (40 mL). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1)

afforded 1.85 g (67%) of N-(quinolin-8-yl)cinnamamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.02 (s, 1H), 8.92 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.38 (m, 3H) and 6.82 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H).

### N-(Quinolin-8-yl)methacrylamide

Methacrylic acid (0.85 mL, 10 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.7 mL, 12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Me N ethyl chloroformate (0.96 mL, 10 mmol, 1 equiv), 8-aminoquinoline (1.44 g, 10 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc 4:1) afforded 1.51 g (71%) of *N*-(quinolin-8-yl)methacrylamide as a colorless oil. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.67 (hexanes/EtOAc 4:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.36 (s, 1H), 8.94 – 8.65 (m, 2H), 8.14 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 5.55 (s, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (s, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 166.4, 148.2, 140.7, 138.6, 136.3, 134.4, 127.9, 127.4, 121.6, 121.5, 120.6, 116.4, 18.7.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 212.0950; found: 212.0946.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 3358, 1717, 1669, 1525, 1485, 1378, 1323.

### N-(5-Methoxyquinolin-8-yl)benzamide



Compound was prepared according to Procedure A from 8-amino-5methoxyquinoline hydrochloride (200 mg, 0.95 mmol), N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine (4.2 mg, 0.035 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.28 mL, 2 mmol, 2.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ano, Y.; Tobisu, M.; Chatani, N. Org. Lett. 2012, 14, 354.

equiv), benzoyl chloride (0.1 mL, 0.9 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 1:1) afforded 210 mg (80%) of *N*-(5-methoxyquinolin-8-yl)benzamide as a white solid. This compound is known.<sup>7</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  10.48 (s, 1H), 8.98 – 8.70 (m, 2H), 8.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H).

## Cobalt-catalyzed sp<sup>2</sup> C-H functionalization

### 1. Optimization of cobalt-catalyzed alkylation/cyclization

### 1.1. Catalyst

### General procedure for catalyst optimization experiments.

2-Dram vial with a screw cap (PTFE/Liner) was charged with 4-methyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (26.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), AgNO<sub>3</sub> (34 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2 equiv), NaOPiv (24.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2 equiv), catalyst (0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), styrene (14  $\mu$ L, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (1 mL). Resulting mixture was heated at 80 °C for 12 h, then cooled to room temperature and analyzed by TLC (hexanes/EtOAc 4:1, hexanes/EtOAc 1:1) and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy.



### Table S1. Catalyst Screening

Entry	Catalyst	Substrate : Product ratio <sup>a</sup>
1 <sup>b</sup>	Co(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	1:2 (16%) <sup>c</sup>
2	CoCl <sub>2</sub>	1:2
3 <sup>b</sup>	Co(acac) <sub>2</sub>	<b>1:20</b> (66%) <sup>c</sup>
4	_	1:0

<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy as H<sup>a</sup>/H<sup>b</sup> integration ratio. <sup>b</sup> 16 h. <sup>c</sup> NMR yield using 1,1,2-trichloroethane as internal standard in parentheses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Allu, S.; Swamy, K. C. K. J. Org. Chem. **2014**, 79, 3963.

### 1.2. Oxidant

### General procedure for oxidant optimization experiments.

2-Dram vial with a screw cap (PTFE/Liner) was charged with 4-methyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (26.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), oxidant (0.05 - 0.2 mmol, 0.5 - 2 equiv), NaOPiv (24.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (5.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), styrene (14  $\mu$ L, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (1 mL). Resulting mixture was heated at 80 °C for 5 – 16 h, cooled to room temperature and analyzed by TLC (hexanes/EtOAc 4:1, hexanes/EtOAc 1:1) and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy.



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Table N2	()yidant	Screening
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Entry	Oxidant	Time, h	Substrate : Product ratio <sup>a</sup>
1	PhI(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2 equiv)	12	5:1
2	Mn(acac) <sub>3</sub> (2 equiv)	12	1:2
3	O <sub>2</sub>	16	5:1
4	Mn(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1 equiv)	16	1:9
5	Mn(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1 equiv)/O <sub>2</sub>	12	1:9
6	Mn(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.5 equiv)	16	1:2 (41%) <sup>b</sup>
7	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (2 equiv)	12	1:>99 (93%) <sup>b</sup>
8	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (2 equiv)	5	1:20
9	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (1.5 equiv)	5	1:20
10	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (1 equiv)	5	1:20
11	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (0.5 equiv)	16	1:20 (90%) <sup>b</sup>
12	-	16	5:1 (15%) <sup>b</sup>
13°	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (0.5 equiv)	16	1:0 (<1%) <sup>b</sup>
14 <sup>d</sup>	Mn(OAc) <sub>3</sub> *2H <sub>2</sub> O (0.5 equiv)/ inert atmosphere	12	4:1

<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy as H<sup>a</sup>/H<sup>b</sup> integration ratio. <sup>b</sup> NMR yield using 1,1,2-trichloroethane as internal standard in parentheses. <sup>c</sup> Reaction was performed without Co(acac)<sub>2</sub>. <sup>d</sup> Deoxygenated CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH was used under inert atmosphere.

#### 1.3. Temperature

### General procedure for temperature optimization experiments.

2-Dram vial with a screw cap (PTFE/Liner) was charged with 4-methyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (26.2 mg, 0.1 mmol),  $Mn(OAc)_3*2H_2O$  (0.05 mmol, 0.5 equiv), NaOPiv (24.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2 equiv), Co(acac)\_2 (5.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 20 mol%), styrene (14 µL, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (1 mL). Resulting mixture was stirred at indicated temperature for 16 h, cooled to room temperature and analyzed by TLC (hexanes/EtOAc 4:1, hexanes/EtOAc 1:1) and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy.



Table S	3. Tei	nperature	Screening
I able D	$\mathbf{v}$ . $\mathbf{v}$	inperature	bereening

Entry	Temperature, °C	Substrate : Product ratio <sup>a</sup>
1	60	1:99
2	40	1:99
3	rt	<b>1:99</b> ( <b>93%</b> ) <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy as H<sup>a</sup>/H<sup>b</sup> integration ratio. <sup>b</sup> NMR yield using 1,1,2-trichloroethane as internal standard in parentheses.

### 2. Cobalt-catalyzed sp<sup>2</sup> C-H alkylation/cyclization and characterization of products

*General procedure for cobalt-catalyzed sp<sup>2</sup> C-H alkylation/cyclization.* 

A 8 dram vial (septum with needle) equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with amide (0.5 mmol), alkyne (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv),  $Co(acac)_2$  (0.1 – 0.25 mmol, 20 - 50 mol%), NaOPiv (1 mmol, 2 equiv),  $Mn(OAc)_3*2H_2O$  (0.25 - 0.5 mmol, 0.5 – 1 equiv), and  $CF_3CH_2OH$  (5 mL). Reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature (or heated at 80 °C) for indicated time, monitored by TLC (after 2 h, 6 h, 12 h, 16 h, and 20 h to determine the completion time). Reaction solvent was evaporated, product was purified using column chromatography on silica gel using appropriate eluent. After purification product was dried under reduced pressure.

### 3-Phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 1)



*N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 12 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from

4:1 to 2:1) 132 mg (75%) of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.43$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 166 – 168 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.96 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.05 (m, 6H), 5.46 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (bs, 1H), 3.23 (bs, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 165.1, 150.4, 144.2, 140.8, 139.1, 136.4, 136.3, 132.1, 130.1, 129.8, 129.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.0, 121.3, 63.1, 36.3.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 350.1419; found: 350.1415.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1644, 1424.

# 3-Phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 2)



4-Trifluoromethyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (158 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 12 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 146 mg (70%)

of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.65$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 160 - 162 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.98 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 5.48 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (bs, 1H), 3.29 (bs, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  163.9, 150.6, 144.0, 140.1 (m), 138.6, 137.4, 136.4, 133.6 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 32.2$  Hz), 132.9, 129.9, 129.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.0, 127.7, 126.8, 126.0, 124.6, 123.9, 123.7 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272.3$  Hz), 121.5, 62.8, 36.1.

<sup>19</sup>F-NMR (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ -62.69.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 418.1293; found: 418.1288.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1643, 1423, 1326.

### 6-Bromo-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 3)



4-Bromo-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (158 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 12 h, RT. After column

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 8.95 (s, 1H), 8.17-8.08 (m, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 5.44 (bs, 1H), 4.24 (bs, 1H), 3.18 (bs, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.4, 150.5, 140.3, 139.6, 138.8, 138.6, 136.4, 130.5, 130.4, 130.2, 130.0, 129.5, 128.8, 128.4, 127.9, 127.6, 126.8, 126.0, 121.4, 119.9, 63.0, 36.0.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>81</sup>Br [M]<sup>+</sup>: 430.0504; found: 430.0505.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1651, 1593, 1471, 1422.

### 6-Nitro-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 4)



4-Nitro-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (147 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 20 h, RT. After column

chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 140 mg (71%) of a yellow solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.45$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 177 – 179 °C (Hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.11 – 8.86 (m, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.31 – 8.14 (m, 2H), 8.07 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 5.54 (bs, 1H), 4.36 (bs, 1H), 3.32 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 163.2, 150.6, 149.8, 143.8, 139.6, 138.3, 136.4, 135.1, 129.8, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.8, 126.6, 126.0, 122.7, 122.0, 121.6, 62.9, 36.2.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 395.1270; found: 395.1271.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1661, 1526, 1494, 1349.

### 7-Iodo-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 5)



3-Iodo-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (187 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 16 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 144 mg (61%) of a white solid

was obtained.  $R_f = 0.63$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 214 – 216 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.95 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.52 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.43 (dd, J = 6.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (bs, 1H), 3.17 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 163.6, 150.5, 140.9, 140.3, 138.7, 137.2, 136.4, 136.1, 131.6, 130.0, 129.5, 128.4, 127.9, 127.5, 126.8, 126.0, 121.4, 91.8, 63.0, 36.0.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OI [M]<sup>+</sup>: 476.0386; found: 476.0379.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) υ 1644, 1494, 1425.

### 6-Methyl-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 6)



4-Methyl-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (131 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (67 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 12 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 146 mg

(80%) of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.43$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 203 – 205 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 8.95 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.19 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.1Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.08 (m, 6H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 5.44 (dd, J = 5.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (bs, 1H), 3.17 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, J = 15.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 165.2, 150.3, 144.2, 142.6, 141.0, 139.2, 136.6, 136.4, 130.2, 129.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.0, 121.3, 63.1, 36.2, 21.6. HRMS calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 364.1576; found: 364.1571. ET IB (next emrs<sup>1</sup>) v 1644, 1502, 1422

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) υ 1644, 1593, 1423.

### 8-Methoxy-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 2, Entry 7)



2-Methoxy-*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (139 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 24 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient

hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1, then EtOAc) 162 mg (85%) of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.13$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 200 – 202 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.01 – 8.87 (m, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (bs, 1H), 4.40 (bs, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.14 (bs, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 163.4, 160.1, 150.2, 144.4, 140.6, 139.8, 139.6, 136.1, 132.7, 130.1, 129.4, 128.1, 127.5, 127.0, 126.8, 125.9, 121.1, 119.9, 118.4, 111.3, 62.5, 56.2, 37.3.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 380.1525; found: 380.1524.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1644, 1593, 1433, 1238.

### 5-Phenyl-6-(quinolin-8-yl)-5,6-dihydrofuro[2,3-c]pyridin-7(4H)-one (Table 2, Entry 8)



*N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)furan-2-carboxamide (119 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 20 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 2:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 154 mg (81%) of a white solid

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.94 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.10 (m, 5H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 5.61 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 158.3, 150.2, 146.3, 144.3, 143.4, 140.8, 137.6, 136.3, 130.8, 129.3, 128.2, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.0, 125.9, 121.2, 110.6, 64.8, 30.1.

HRMS calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{16}N_2O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup>: 340.1212; found: 340.1210.

was obtained.  $R_f = 0.18$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 232 – 234 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1643, 1593, 1433.

### 5-Phenyl-6-(quinolin-8-yl)-5,6-dihydrothieno[2,3-c]pyridin-7(4H)-one (Table 2, Entry 9)



N-(Quinolin-8-yl)thiophene-2-carboxamide (127 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 24 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 2:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 134 mg (75%) of a white solid

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.95 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 6.90 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (bs, 1H), 3.28 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 161.6, 150.3, 144.3, 142.3, 140.9, 138.1, 136.3, 132.0, 131.5, 130.7, 129.4, 128.2, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 125.9, 121.2, 64.6, 33.1.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS [M]<sup>+</sup>: 356.0983; found: 356.0986.

was obtained.  $R_f = 0.35$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 217 – 219 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1664, 1414, 1259, 1141, 1030.

### 4,6-Diphenyl-1-(quinolin-8-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridin-2(1H)-one (4, Scheme 1)



*N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)cinnamamide (137 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 24 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 116 mg (62%) of a yellow oil was

obtained.  $R_f = 0.71$  (EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.99 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 5H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 5.61 (bs, 1H), 3.81 (bs, 1H), 3.17 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  159.2, 149.8, 148.2, 144.0, 141.0, 138.1, 137.7, 136.5, 130.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.6, 128.3, 127.6, 127.5, 127.2, 126.0, 125.9, 121.3, 120.3, 62.6, 35.1. HRMS calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 376.1576; found: 376.1569. FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\upsilon$  1651, 1428, 1244.

### 3-Methyl-6-phenyl-1-(quinolin-8-yl)-5,6-dihydropyridin-2(1H)-one (6, Scheme 1)



*N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)methacrylamide (106 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 30 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 115 mg (73%) of a white solid

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.97 (dd, J = 4.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 5.34 (dd, J = 6.4, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (bs, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 166.2, 150.3, 144.3, 141.4, 138.9, 136.2, 132.5, 131.9, 130.4, 129.4, 128.1, 127.4, 127.3, 125.9, 121.2, 62.7, 32.4, 17.3.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 314.1419; found: 314.1418.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 3062, 1668, 1626, 1556, 1370, 1264, 1137, 1030.

was obtained.  $R_f = 0.23$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 170 – 172 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

### 2-(Quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 3, Entry 1)



*N*-(Quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $Co(acac)_2$  (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv),  $Mn(OAc)_3*2H_2O$  (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and  $CF_3CH_2OH$  (5 mL) were mixed at room temperature. The solution was purged with ethylene gas for 5 minutes. The vial was equipped with ethylene balloon and stirred for 22 h at RT. The

reaction was checked by TLC 3-4 times during the reaction. This is important as oxygen required for the reaction is introduced when the vial is opened to air. After each opening, the reaction mixture was purged with ethylene for 1 minute and the vial was equipped with ethylene balloon. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 98 mg (72%) of a colorless oil was obtained.  $R_f = 0.30$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 8.93 – 8.84 (m, 1H), 8.26 – 8.12 (m, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (bs, 2H), 3.29 (bs, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 165.0, 150.2, 144.0, 140.5, 139.0, 136.3, 131.8, 129.9, 129.6, 128.9, 128.7, 127.7, 127.0, 126.9, 126.4, 121.5, 50.2, 28.7.

HRMS calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{15}N_2O$  [MH]<sup>+</sup>: 275.1184; found: 375.1178.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1650, 1593, 1472, 1419.

### 3-Butyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 3, Entry 2)



*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), 1-hexene (75  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 16 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 146 mg (89%, 10:1 mixture of isomers

inseparable by flash column chromatography, structure of major isomer shown) of a colorless oil was obtained.  $R_f = 0.53$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.90 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.22 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (bs, 1H), 2.97 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 1.73 – 1.53 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.00 (m, 4H), 0.73 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.2, 150.3, 144.3, 138.7, 137.5, 136.2, 131.8, 130.4, 129.8, 129.6, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 126.7, 126.0, 121.3, 59.2, 32.0, 31.6, 28.4, 22.4, 13.8.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>: 330.1732; found: 330.1737.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 2954, 2926, 1647, 1461, 1420, 1244.

### 3-(Hydroxymethyl)-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 3, Entry 3)



*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), allyl alcohol (41  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 30 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 84 mg (55%) of a yellow oil

was obtained.  $R_f = 0.53$  (EtOAc).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.95 – 8.86 (m, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (bs, 1H), 3.91 – 3.63 (m, 2H), 3.57 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 165.0, 150.3, 140.3, 137.7, 137.2, 132.2, 129.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.3, 127.0, 126.9, 121.9, 121.7, 64.5, 62.3, 32.3.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [MH]<sup>+</sup>: 305.1290; found: 305.1287.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 3365, 1636, 1417, 1038.

### 3-Ethoxy-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (Table 3, Entry 4)



*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl vinyl ether (58  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 16 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 143 mg (90%) of a colorless oil was obtained.

### $R_f = 0.43$ (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.90 (dd, J = 4.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J = 8.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td, J = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, J = 4.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.57 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 3.42 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 16.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) 164.3, 150.4, 144.1, 136.5, 136.3, 132.1, 130.3, 129.5, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 126.8, 126.2, 121.4, 119.9, 88.6, 66.1, 33.8, 15.3.

HRMS calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 318.1368; found: 318.1356.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1644, 1471, 1430, 1062.

# (3a*R*\*,9b*R*\*)-4-(Quinolin-8-yl)-2,3,3a,4-tetrahydro-1H-cyclopenta[c]isoquinolin-5(9bH)-one (Table 3, Entry 5)



*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), cyclopentene (66  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 20 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 138 mg (88%) of a white solid was obtained.

 $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.38 (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 157 – 159 °C (Hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.92 – 8.82 (m, 1H), 8.26 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 5.00 (bs, 1H), 3.49 (bs, 1H), 2.37 – 2.18 (m, 1H), 2.19 – 2.02 (m, 1H), 1.97 – 1.81 (m, 1H), 1.81 – 1.56 (m, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.9, 150.3, 144.4, 141.3, 138.0, 136.3, 132.0, 130.6, 129.6, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 126.9, 126.6, 126.1, 121.3, 63.0, 42.4, 32.8, 32.2, 22.1.

HRMS calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{18}N_2O$  [M]<sup>+</sup>: 314.1419; found: 314.1412.

FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v 1645, 1593, 1426.

# (6a*R*\*,12a*R*\*)-6-(Quinolin-8-yl)-6a,7,8,9,10,11,12,12a-octahydrocycloocta[c]isoquinolin-5(6H)one (Table 3, Entry 6)



*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), *cis*-cyclooctene (78  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (26 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 20 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 2:1) 130 mg (73%) of a colorless oil was obtained. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.48 (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.92 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.24 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 4.52 (bs, 1H), 4.05 (bs, 1H), 2.27 – 2.02 (m, 2H), 1.98 – 1.86 (m, 1H), 1.81 – 1.57 (m, 4H), 1.53 – 1.08 (m, 5H).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.9, 150.4, 144.6, 142.6, 138.6, 136.2, 131.9, 130.1, 129.5, 129.4, 128.3, 127.7, 126.4, 126.0, 125.0, 121.3, 60.1, 39.7, 28.7, 28.5, 27.6, 26.1, 24.7, 24.6. HRMS calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [MH]<sup>+</sup>: 357.1967; found: 357.1968. FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) υ 2919, 2851, 1648, 1600, 1472.

### (3S\*,4S\*)-4-(Hydroxymethyl)-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one



### (Table 3, Entry 7)

*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), *trans*-cinnamyl alcohol (77  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (64.3 mg, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 20 h, 80 °C. After column chromatography

(gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 2:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 100 mg (53%) of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.58$  (EtOAc), mp 212 – 214 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

### (Table 3, Entry 8)

*N*-(quinolin-8-yl)benzamide (124 mg, 0.5 mmol), *cis*-cinnamyl alcohol (81 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (64.3 mg, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv),  $Mn(OAc)_3*2H_2O$  (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 24 h, 80 °C. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 2:1 to 1:1, then EtOAc) 98 mg (52%) of a white solid was obtained.

*Cis-cinnamyl alcohol was partially converted to trans-isomer as observed by* <sup>1</sup>*H-NMR spectra of crude reaction mixture.* 

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 9.02 – 8.88 (m, 1H), 8.32 – 8.24 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.21 – 7.10 (m, 6H), 5.39 (bs, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (bs, 1H), 3.27 (bs, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.9, 149.9, 143.1, 140.6, 138.3, 137.3, 136.9, 132.5, 131.8, 129.9, 129.8, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.5, 127.4, 126.7, 126.5, 121.5, 67.7, 65.6, 49.3. HRMS calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [MH]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1603; found: 381.1610. FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) υ 1643, 1593, 1424.

# Determination of (3*S*\*,4*S*\*)-4-(hydroxymethyl)-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one relative configuration

Configuration of 4-nitrobenzoyl derivative was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy based on scalar coupling constant between protons H-3 and H-4 (typically, for *cis*-configuration  $J_{3,4} = 4.2$ – 6.0 Hz, for *trans*-configuration  $J_{3,4} = 0.2$  Hz).<sup>8</sup>



## ((3*S*\*,4*S*\*)-1-Oxo-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-4-yl)methyl 4nitrobenzoate



To a solution of  $(3S^*, 4S^*)$ -4-(hydroxymethyl)-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-3,4dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (50 mg, 0.13 mmol) and *N*,*N*-dimethyl-4aminopyridine (1.6 mg, 0.013 mmol, 10 mol%) in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) under nitrogen Et<sub>3</sub>N (22 µL, 0.16 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added. The resulting solution was cooled to 0 °C. 4-Nitrobenzoyl chloride (24 mg, 0.13 mmol) was added as a solid and reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. The mixture was quenched with water (10 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> a) Wang, L.; Liu, J.; Tian, H.; Qian, C.; Sun, J. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2005**, *347*, 689. b) Chen, W.; Cui, J.; Zhu, Y.; Hu, X.; Mo, W. *J. Org. Chem.*, **2012**, *77*, 1585.

10 mL). Combined organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Concentration in vacuum followed by purification by flash column chromatography (eluent hexanes/EtOAc 2:1) afforded 46 mg (68%) of (( $3S^*, 4S^*$ )-1-oxo-3-phenyl-2-(quinolin-8-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-4-yl)methyl 4-nitrobenzoate as a white solid. R<sub>f</sub> = 0.79 (Hexanes/EtOAc 1:1)), mp 280 – 282 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.82 (dd, J = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.35 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 8.28 – 8.21 (m, 2H), 8.20 – 8.09 (m, 3H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.15 (m, 6H), 5.68 (t, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 4.95 (dd, J = 10.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H). Since coupling between H<sup>3</sup> and H<sup>4</sup> is not observed (<0.5 Hz), we assign trans configuration to the substance.

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 164.6, 164.0, 150.5, 150.2, 144.3, 140.4, 138.5, 136.3, 135.6, 135.2, 132.6, 130.5, 129.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 126.6, 126.2, 123.6, 121.5, 68.6, 64.3, 46.5.

### **Removal of directing group**



### 2-(5-Methoxyquinolin-8-yl)-3-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (8, Scheme 2)



*N*-(5-Methoxyquinolin-8-yl)benzamide (139 mg, 0.5 mmol), styrene (69  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Co(acac)<sub>2</sub> (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), NaOPiv (124 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv), Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>\*2H<sub>2</sub>O (134 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH (5 mL), 16 h, RT. After column chromatography (gradient hexanes/EtOAc from 4:1 to 1:1) 166

mg (87%) of a white solid was obtained.  $R_f = 0.40$  (hexanes/EtOAc 1:1), mp 229 – 231 °C (Et<sub>2</sub>O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  8.95 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.23 – 7.09 (m, 6H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (dd, J = 6.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.19 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 165.3, 154.5, 150.6, 144.6, 141.0, 136.6, 132.0, 131.5, 131.1, 130.0, 129.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.5, 127.3, 126.9, 121.7, 120.4, 103.4, 63.1, 55.7, 36.2. HRMS calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 380.1525; found: 380.1523. FT-IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) υ 1644, 1592, 1433.

### 3-Phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (9, Scheme 2)

To a solution of 2-(5-methoxyquinolin-8-yl)-3-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (100 mg, 0.26 mmol) in MeCN (2.6 mL) at RT was added solution of CAN (570 mg, 1.04 mmol, 4 equiv) in H<sub>2</sub>O (2.6 mL). Resulting solution was stirred at RT for 4 h, H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). Combined organic phase was washed with 10% Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> solution (2 x 15 mL) and brine (15 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, solvent was evaporated. After column chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc from 2:1) 38 mg (66%) of a colorless oil was obtained. This compound is known.<sup>9</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.13 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 4.87 (ddd, *J* = 11.1, 4.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 4.5 Hz, 1H).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Rakshit, S.; Grohmann, C.; Besset, T.; Glorius, F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 2350.

# NMR spectra






































— -62.69

Table 2, Entry 2

<del></del>														<b></b>
-20	-30	-40	-50	-60	-70	-80	-90 f1 (ppm)	-100	-110	-120	-130	-140	-150	-160








































































































