# Carbon Atom Insertion into Pyrroles and Indoles Promoted by Chlorodiazirines

## **Experimental Details and Spectra**

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#### I. Material and Methods

Unless noted otherwise, all reactions were performed in oven-dried or flame-dried glassware under an atmosphere of dry N<sub>2</sub>. CH<sub>3</sub>CN, THF, Et<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, toluene, and Et<sub>3</sub>N were dried by passing these previously degassed solvents through a PPT Solvent Purification System, and all other solvents were dried over molecular sieves (4A) and degassed prior to use or purchased an- hydrous and sealed under N<sub>2</sub> (e.g. VWR Dri-solv or equivalent). Reaction temperatures were reported as the temperatures of the bath surrounding the flasks or vials. Sensitive reagents and solvents were transferred under nitrogen into a nitrogen-filled glovebox with standard techniques. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were used as received. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using 0.2 mm commercial silica gel plates (silica gel 60, F254) and visualized by UV irradiation or staining as indicated.

High resolution mass spectra were recorded on either an Agilent 6224 TOF High Resolution Accurate MS with electrospray ionization or an Agilent 7200B QTOF High Resolution Accurate Mass GCMS using an Agilent HP-5MS column with a temperature gradient of 50 °C to 200 °C over 15 minutes and electron impact ionization. All mass spectra were processed with an Agilent MassHunter Operating System. X-Ray crystallographic analysis data were collected using a Bruker D8 VENTURE with PHOTON 100 CMOS detector system. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR and <sup>19</sup>F-NMR) were recorded with Bruker spectrometers operating at 400 or 500 MHz for 1H. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$ ), downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS,  $\delta$ =0.00 ppm) and are referenced to residual solvent (CDCl3,  $\delta$ =7.26 ppm (1H) and 77.160 ppm (13C)). Coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). Data for 1H-NMR spectra were reported as follows: chem- ical shift (ppm, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quin = quintet, dd = doublet of doublets, td = triplet of doublets, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets, m = multiplet, coupling constant (Hz), and integration).

**CAUTION!** Diazirines are reactive compounds that release gaseous byproducts. Though they are typically less reactive than the isomeric diazos and we have not encountered any stability issues with arylchlorocarbenes to date, lower molecular weight diazirines (e.g. methylchlorodiazirine) have been reported to detonate. Operations should be conducted behind a blast shield and scales should be limited whenever possible.

**II.** General Procedure for synthesis of 3-substituted quinolines (3) and pyridines (5) from indoles (2) and pyrroles (4)



Oven dried 1-dram screw cap vial equipped with a stir bar and PTFE/white silicone septum was added indole 2 /pyrrole 4 (0.2 mmol.) and dry CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mL), followed by diazirine 1 (0.6 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.6 mmol). The vial then sealed with electric tape. The mixture was then allowed to stir at 50 °C for 12 h and then allowed to cool to 25 °C. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (1 mL), and the two phases were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×3 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was purified by flash column chromatography to afford 3-substituted quinoline 3/pyridine 5.

## 2-methyl-3-phenylquinoline (3a):



Following the general procedure II, product **3a** was isolated in 64% yield as a colorless liquid. **3a**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (dt, J = 8.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 2.68 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in

agreement with those in the literature.<sup>1</sup>

#### 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylquinoline (3b):



Following the general procedure II, product **3b** was isolated in 83% yield as a pale yellow liquid. **3b**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.06 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic

data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

## 2-methyl-3-(p-tolyl)quinoline (3c):



Following the general procedure II, product **3c** was isolated in 62% yield as a yellow viscous liquid. **3c**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 – 8.03 (m, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, 101 MHz).

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.7, 147.1, 137.5, 137.1, 136.2, 135.9, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 128.5, 127.6, 127.1, 126.1, 24.8, 21.4; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 234.1277, found 234.1284.

## 2-methyl-3-(4-nitrophenyl)quinoline (3d):



Following the general procedure II, product **3d** was isolated in 59% yield as a yellow liquid along with 9% recovered starting material. **3d**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.36 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.08 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (ddd,

J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.2, 147.7, 147.5, 146.9, 136.5, 133.6, 130.4, 130.3, 128.7, 127.7, 126.7, 126.6, 123.9, 24.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 265.0972, found 265.0975.

## 3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-methylquinoline (3e):



Following the general procedure II, product **3e** was isolated in 67% yield as a yellow solid. **3e**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 – 8.02 (m, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.52 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, 101 MHz)

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.1, 147.3, 139.0, 136.2, 134.6, 131.8, 131.0, 129.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.9, 126.4, 122.1, 24.7; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 298.0226, found 298.0235.

## 2-methyl-3-(pyridin-2-yl)quinoline (3f):



Following the general procedure II,\* product **3f** was isolated in 53% yield as a yellow solid along with 16% recovered starting material. **3f**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.77 (ddd, J = 4.8, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 8.07 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.72 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (ddd, J = 7.6, 4.9, 1.1 Hz,

1H), 2.78 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.4, 157.3, 149.7, 147.5, 136.9, 136.7, 134.5, 130.0, 128.6, 127.9, 126.8, 126.3, 124.4, 122.5, 24.7; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{13}N_{2^+}$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 221.1073, found 221.1081.

\* 5 equivalents of corresponding halo diazirine was used.

## 2-ethyl-3-(*m*-tolyl)quinoline (3g):



Following the general procedure II, product 3g was isolated in 70% yield as a colorless liquid. **3g**:  $R_f = 0.6$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H),

7.36 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 - 7.15 (m, 3H), 2.97 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.3, 147.4, 140.1, 138.2, 136.5, 135.7, 130.1, 129.3, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 126.8, 126.5, 126.1, 29.9, 21.6, 13.9; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}N^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 248.1434, found 248.1437.

## 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-ethylquinoline (3h):



Following the general procedure II, product **3h** was isolated in 83% yield as a CL yellow solid. **3h**:  $R_f = 0.5$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> $\delta$  8.10 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.95 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 - 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.37 - 7.30 (m, 2H), 2.95 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H);  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ 

**NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.9, 147.5, 138.6, 136.6, 134.4, 133.9, 130.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 127.6, 126.7, 126.3, 29.9, 13.9; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 268.0888, found 268.0894.

## 2-ethyl-3-(3-nitrophenyl)quinoline (3i):



Following the general procedure II, product 3i was isolated in 83% yield as a yellow viscous liquid. **3i**:  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.30 (pd, J = 2.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8.15 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (ddd, J = 8.6, 6.8, 1.4

Hz, 2H), 7.67 (dd, J = 8.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.1, 148.4, 147.8, 141.8, 136.9, 135.5, 133.0, 130.1, 129.6, 128.9, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 124.3, 122.7, 29.9, 13.7; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+ [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 279.1128, found 279.1124.

#### 2,6-dimethyl-3-phenylquinoline (3j):



Following the general procedure II, product **3j** was isolated in 74% yield colorless oil. **3j**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,)  $\delta$  7.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.57 – 7.36 (m, 8H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>3</sup>

## 3-(2-fluorophenyl)-2,6-dimethylquinoline (3k):



Following the general procedure II, product **3k** was isolated in 62% yield as a yellow viscous liquid. **3k**:  $R_f = 0.5$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.98 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.32 (td, J = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 1 H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 9.6, 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H);

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.93 (d, *J* = 246.5 Hz), 156.9, 146.0, 136.6, 136.1, 132.1, 131.70 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 130.02 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 129.8, 128.3, 127.6 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 126.7, 126.5, 124.5, 115.92 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz), 23.9, 21.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –114.20; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 252.1183, found 252.1189.

## 2,4-dimethyl-3-phenylquinoline (31):



(s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>4</sup>

## **3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2,4-dimethylquinoline (3m):**



Following the general procedure II, product **3m** was isolated in 65% yield as an off white solid. **3m**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.08 – 8.03 (m, 1H), 8.00 (ddd, J = 8.4, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.23 (td, J = 1.7, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (ddd, J = 6.4, 2.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.2, 146.9, 141.5, 134.8, 133.6, 130.2,

129.6, 129.4, 129.3, 127.84, 127.79, 126.7, 126.1, 124.2, 25.5, 16.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}ClN^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 268.0888, found 268.0895.

#### 2,4-dimethyl-3-(pyridin-4-yl)quinoline (3n):



156.1, 150.5, 148.1, 147.0, 141.2, 132.4, 129.6, 129.4, 126.5, 126.3, 124.8, 124.2, 25.4, 16.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{15}N_2^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 235.1230, found 235.1238.

\* 5 equivalents of corresponding halo diazirine was used.

## 2,3-diphenylquinoline (30):



Following the general procedure II, product **30** was isolated in 68% yield as a colorless viscous liquid. **30**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.24 – 8.16 (m, 2H), 7.88 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.21 (m, 8 H).

Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>5</sup>

## **3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-phenylquinoline (3p):**



Following the general procedure II, product **3p** was isolated in 82% yield as a yellow solid. **3p**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.88 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (td, *J* = 7.5, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.49

-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.30 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 7.26 -7.20 (m, 1H), 7.04 -6.87 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.7 (d, J = 246.2 Hz), 158.3, 147.6, 142.4 (d, J = 7.7 Hz), 140.2, 137.8, 133.4 (d, J = 2.1 Hz), 130.1, 129.9, 129.8, 129.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.7, 127.2, 127.1, 125.8 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 116.8 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 114.3 (d, J = 20.9 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.07; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 300.1183, found 300.1171.

## 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylquinoline (3q):



Following the general procedure II, product **3q** was isolated in 73% yield as a yellow viscous liquid. **3q**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (ddd, J = 8.0, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 6.76 (dd, J

= 2.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.4, 158.5, 147.4, 141.4, 140.6, 137.6, 134.5, 130.0, 129.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.1, 128.1, 127.6, 127.3, 126.9, 122.4, 115.3, 113.3, 55.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 312.1383, found 312.1390.

## 6-methoxy-2-methyl-3-phenylquinoline (3r):



Following the general procedure II, product **3r** was isolated in 81% yield as a yellow solid. **3r**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.96 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.35 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H);

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.6, 154.8, 143.3, 140.2, 136.1, 135.2, 130.0, 129.3, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 122.1, 105.1, 55.7, 24.4; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 250.1226, found 250.1232.

## 6-methoxy-2-methyl-3-(pyrazin-2-yl)quinoline (3s):



Following the general procedure II,\* product **3s** was isolated in 48% yield as a pale yellow liquid along with 29% of recovered starting material. **3s**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.84 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.73 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H),

7.11 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.2, 157.9, 154.4, 145.2, 144.2, 144.0, 143.4, 136.4, 131.1, 130.1, 127.5, 123.3, 105.4, 55.7, 24.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 252.1131, found 252.1141.

\* 5 equivalents of corresponding halo diazirine was used.

#### 2-(adamantan-1-yl)-3-(3-bromophenyl)quinoline (3t):



Following the general procedure II, product **3t** was isolated in 63% yield as a white solid. **3t**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.08 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.57 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 2.13 – 1.92 (m, 8 H), 1.74 – 1.44 (m, 7H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.0, 146.7, 145.1, 139.1, 134.1, 133.2, 130.4, 129.45, 129.36, 129.1, 129.0, 127.0, 126.5, 125.4, 121.7, 43.2, 42.1, 36.9, 29.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)

calcd for  $C_{25}H_{25}BrN^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 418.1165, found 418.1173.

#### 7-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-phenyl-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-g]quinoline (3u):



Following the general procedure II, product **3u** was isolated in 72% yield as a yellow solid. **3u**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95 (s, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3 H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.13 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>))  $\delta$  162.2 (d, *J* =

246.6 Hz), 156.1, 151.1, 148.3, 145.8, 140.5, 136.6, 136.3, 131.8, 131.5 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 130.1, 128.2, 128.0, 124.3, 115.3 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 106.0, 102.5, 101.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –115.38; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 344.1081, found 344.1092.

## 5,7-dicyclopropyl-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylquinoline (3v):



Following the general procedure II, product **3v** was isolated in 64% yield as a pale yellow viscous liquid. **3v**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.41 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dt, *J* = 6.8, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 2.25 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 8.5, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.03 (tt, *J* = 8.3, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 1.04 (dddd, *J* = 12.7, 8.5, 6.4, 4.4 Hz,

4H), 0.86 (dt, J = 6.8, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 0.81 – 0.72 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.6, 156.8, 147.7, 145.7, 142.0, 139.3, 134.2, 133.0, 129.6, 125.3, 123.5, 122.0, 121.4, 115.5, 112.8, 55.5, 24.4, 16.1, 12.7, 10.0, 6.8; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 330.1852, found 330.1862.

## 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-4*H*,6*H*-pyrano[3,4,5-de]quinoline (3w):



Following the general procedure II, product **3w** was isolated in 54% yield as a yellow viscous liquid. **3w**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.08 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.24 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 7.10 – 6.89 (m, 4H), 5.06 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 2H), 4.86 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR** (101 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3 (d, J = 247.6 Hz), 158.9, 146.7, 140.5, 140.4, 132.9, 132.8, 131.9 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 130.0, 129.6, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0 (2C), 121.1, 120.8, 115.6 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 68.7, 67.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -114.02; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FNO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 342.1289, found 342.1294.

## methyl (S)-2-acetamido-3-(3-(3-nitrophenyl)quinolin-4-yl)propanoate (3x):



Following the general procedure II,\* product **3x** was isolated in 41% yield as a pale yellow solid. **3x**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 50% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 (s, 1H), 8.40 – 8.30 (m, 2H), 8.25 (p, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H),

3.63 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.46 (m, 4H), 1.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.6, 169.7, 150.6, 148.5, 148.1, 140.0, 139.7, 136.1, 133.2, 130.7, 130.1, 130.0, 128.0, 127.0, 124.8, 124.2, 123.2, 52.8, 52.6, 31.8, 23.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5<sup>+</sup></sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 394.1397, found 394.1405.

\* Reaction was continued for 48 h.

## 1<sup>3</sup>-phenyl-1(2,4)-quinolinacycloundecaphane (3y):



Following the general procedure II, product **3y** was isolated in 52% yield as a colorless viscous liquid. **3y**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.17 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.84 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.69 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 6.88 (dt, J = 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dt, J = 13.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.80 (m, 1H), 2.78 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 2.04 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.89 (dq, J = 10.8,

6.3, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 1.83 - 1.69 (m, 1H), 1.65 (s, 1H), 1.55 - 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.32 (dddd, J = 20.2, 17.1, 7.9, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 1.23 - 1.04 (m, 2H), 1.04 - 0.83 (m, 2H), 0.60 (ttd, J = 24.1, 11.7, 11.0, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 0.25 - 0.03 (m, 2H);  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.9, 139.6, 135.8, 131.1, 131.1, 129.6, 128.9, 128.7, 127.9, 127.3, 126.3, 125.6, 124.8, 36.7, 29.8, 28.2, 28.1, 27.9, 26.9, 26.9, 26.3, 26.2, 26.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 344.2373, found 344.2381.

#### 1<sup>3</sup>-(4-fluorophenyl)-1(2,4)-quinolinacycloundecaphane (3z):



Following the general procedure II, product **3z** was isolated in 64% yield as an off white solid. **3z**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.75 (ddd, J = 8.1, 5.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.07 (td, J = 8.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (ddd, J = 8.1, 5.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dt, J = 13.8, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dt,

J = 13.3, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.77 – 2.56 (m, 2H), 1.98 (dp, J = 14.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.93 – 1.82 (m, 2H), 1.75 (ddq, J = 14.9, 11.4, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (dtd, J = 13.9, 10.8, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.37 – 1.19 (m, 4H), 1.11 (dddd, J = 26.1, 12.3, 6.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 0.97 (ttd, J = 16.8, 10.2, 8.8, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 0.59 (dddd, J = 27.5, 13.5, 10.7, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 0.21 – -0.05 (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.2 (d, J = 247.1 Hz), 162.0, 147.2, 145.9, 135.5, 134.8, 133.0 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 132.6 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 129.7, 129.1, 126.3, 125.9, 124.9, 115.8 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 115.0 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 36.8, 29.9, 28.3 (2C), 28.0, 27.0, 26.9, 26.4 (2C), 26.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –115.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>29</sub>FN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 362.2279, found 362.2283.

## 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine (5a):



Following the general procedure II, product **5a** was isolated in 73% yield as a viscous brown liquid. **5a**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (q, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 6.2, 2.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.8 Hz,

1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.3, 155.0, 142.1, 137.6, 134.4, 132.8, 129.8, 129.3, 127.6, 127.5, 120.7, 24.4, 23.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 218.0731, found 218.0731.

## 2-methyl-3-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[*h*]quinoline (5b):



Following the general procedure II, product **5b** was isolated in 69% yield as a yellow iol. **5b**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.38 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (ddt, J = 7.8, 5.0, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (dtd, J = 7.9, 4.5, 2.0 Hz, 5H), 7.31 (td, J = 7.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.4

Hz, 1H), 2.95 (q, J = 2.4 Hz, 4H), 2.57 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>6</sup>

## 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-5,6-diphenylpyridine (5c):



Following the general procedure II, product **5c** was isolated in 63% yield as a off white solid. **5c**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.49 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.18 (td, *J* = 3.5, 1.8 Hz, 6H), 7.14 – 6.99 (m, 4H), 2.53 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.4 (d, *J* = 247.0 Hz), 155.5, 154.5, 140.1, 139.9, 139.8, 135.7 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 134.6, 133.6,

130.9 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 130.1, 129.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.2, 115.6 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 23.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -114.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 340.1496, found 340.1502.

#### ethyl 2,6-dimethyl-5-phenylnicotinate (5d):



(101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8, 158.7, 158.1, 139.6, 139.2, 134.4, 129.2, 128.6, 127.8, 123.1, 61.3, 24.6, 23.7, 14.4; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 256.1332, found 256.1339.

## 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-5-pentylpyridine (5e):



Following the general procedure II, product **5e** was isolated in 46% yield as a white solid. **5e**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.94 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.67 – 2.58 (m, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.52 (p, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (dtd, *J* = 7.2, 4.8, 4.1, 2.1 Hz, 4H), 0.87 – 0.78 (m, 3H);

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.4 (d, J = 246.6 Hz), 159.6, 157.2, 152.6, 138.7, 134.7, 133.1, 130.9, 130.8, 129.4, 121.5, 115.6, 115.4, 114.5, 113.9, 55.5, 32.0, 31.7, 30.9, 23.2, 22.5, 14.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -115.08; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FNO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 364.2071, found 364.2080.

#### 2-methyl-3,6-diphenylpyridine (5f) and 6-methyl-2,3-diphenylpyridine (5f'):



Following the general procedure II, products 5f and 5f' were obtained in 90% yield in 1.9:1 ratio as a pale yellow solid and yellow viscous liquid respectively. 5f:  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.35 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.66

-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.52 - 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.42 - 7.37 (m, 4H), 2.60 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>7</sup>

**5f**':  $R_{\rm f} = 0.3$  (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 6.8, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.10 (m, 9H), 2.66 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>8</sup>

#### 6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-3-phenylpyridine (5g) and phenylpyridine (5g'):



## 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-3-

Following the general procedure II, products 5g and 5g' were obtained in 79% yield in 1.5:1 ratio as a white solid and pale yellow viscous liquid respectively. **5g**:  $R_{\rm f}$  = 0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in

hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.56 (s, 2H), 7.50 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.06 - 6.96 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H);  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.5, 155.6, 155.4, 140.3, 138.0, 134.8, 132.2, 129.2, 128.5, 128.3, 127.4, 117.2, 114.2, 55.5, 23.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 276.1383, found 276.1382.

**5g'**:  $R_f = 0.35$  (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dtd, J = 8.3, 6.1, 2.7 Hz, 5H), 7.21 - 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.65 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.3, 157.1, 156.2, 140.5, 139.0, 133.1, 132.9, 131.4, 129.7, 128.4, 126.9, 121.4, 113.5, 55.4, 24.6; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 276.1383, found 276.1378.

4-(6-methyl-5-phenylpyridin-2-yl)benzonitrile (5h) 4-(6-methyl-3-phenylpyridin-2and vl)benzonitrile (5h'):



Following the general procedure II, products 5h and 5h' were obtained in 73% yield in 2.1:1 ratio as a colorless solid and white solid respectively. 5h:  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.4 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR

 $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 8.17 - 8.04 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.79 - 7.66 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.60 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H)}, 7.57 \text{ (d, } J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H})$ 

Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 2.53 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.5, 153.4, 143.7, 139.6, 138.3, 136.9, 132.7, 129.1, 128.7, 127.8, 127.5, 119.1, 118.4, 112.3, 23.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 271.1230, found 271.1234.

**5h':**  $R_f$ =0.35 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.65 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.11 (dt, *J* = 5.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.8, 154.4, 145.2, 139.3, 139.2, 133.7, 131.9, 130.8, 129.7, 128.7, 127.6, 122.8, 119.1, 111.4, 24.5; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 271.1230, found 271.1241.

## **3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-6-phenylpyridine** (5i) and **3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-2**phenylpyridine (5i'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5i** and **5i**' were obtained in 61% yield in 2:1 ratio as a white solid and colorless viscous liquid respectively. **5i**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc

in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.10 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.6, 155.9, 155.8, 141.5, 139.6, 138.0, 135.4, 129.6, 128.9, 128.9, 127.1, 121.7, 117.9, 115.0, 112.9, 55.5, 23.9; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 276.1383, found 276.1389.

**5i':**  $R_f = 0.55$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 6.79 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 6.66 (dd, J = 2.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.66 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.4, 157.3, 156.7, 141.5, 140.6, 138.7, 133.1, 130.0, 129.3, 128.1, 127.7, 122.2, 121.8, 115.2, 113.0, 55.3, 24.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 276.1383, found 276.1391.

# 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-6-phenylpyridine phenylpyridine (5j'):



#### (5j) and 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-6-methyl-2-

Following the general procedure II, products **5j** and **5j**' were obtained in 85% yield in 1.3:1 ratio as a colorless viscous liquid and white solid respectively. **5j:**  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H

**NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.08 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR

(101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.3, 155.7, 141.9, 139.4, 138.0, 134.4, 134.1, 129.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 118.0, 23.8; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 280.0888, found 280.0897. **5j':**  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.45 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 6H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.96 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.8, 156.7, 142.1, 140.1, 138.7, 134.2, 131.9, 130.0, 129.6, 129.5, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.2, 121.9, 24.6; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 280.0888, found 280.0883.

# 2-methyl-3-(3-nitrophenyl)-6-phenylpyridine (5k) and 6-methyl-3-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (5k'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5k** and **5k'** were obtained in 68% yield in 1.2:1 ratio as a pale yellow solid and yellow viscous liquid respectively. **5k:**  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in

hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.27 (pd, J = 2.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8.10 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.73 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.9, 155.6, 148.5, 141.8, 139.1, 138.1, 135.3, 133.0, 129.6, 129.3, 129.0, 127.2, 124.2, 122.6, 118.2, 23.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 291.1128, found 291.1137.

**5k':**  $R_f$ =0.25 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.10 (dd, J = 6.1, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 2.69 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.6, 156.9, 148.4, 142.0, 139.6, 138.7, 136.0, 130.9, 130.0, 129.2, 128.4, 128.3, 124.4, 122.2, 122.1, 24.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+ [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 291.1128, found 291.1141.

## 2-methyl-5-phenylpyridine (51) and 2-methyl-3-phenylpyridine (51'):



Following the general procedure II, products **51** and **51'** were obtained in 34% yield in 2.4:1 ratio respectively as a pale-yellow liquid. **51**:  $R_{\rm f} = 0.4$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 (dd, J = 2.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.4 Hz,

1H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45 7.20 (m, 4H), 2.59 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>9</sup>

**51**':  $R_f = 0.35$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.49 (s, dd, J = 5.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.15 (m, 7H), 2.50 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>10</sup>

## 2-ethyl-3,6-diphenylpyridine (5m) and 6-ethyl-2,3-diphenylpyridine (5m'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5m** and **5m'** were obtained in 64% yield in 1.1:1 ratio respectively as a white solid. **5m:**  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.5 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* =

8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.33 (m, 8H), 2.86 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.4, 155.7, 140.2, 139.7, 138.2, 135.1, 129.3, 128.8, 128.8, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0, 117.5, 29.0, 14.0; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 260.1434, found 260.1440. **5m**<sup>2</sup>:  $R_f$ =0.45 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.64 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (ddd, J = 6.6, 3.1, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 7H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 2.94 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.4, 156.5, 140.7, 140.3, 139.0, 133.4, 130.1, 129.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 127.0, 120.4, 31.4, 14.2; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 260.1434, found 260.1439.

## 2-isopropyl-3,6-diphenylpyridine (5n) and 6-isopropyl-2,3-diphenylpyridine (5n'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5n** and **5n'** were obtained in 60% yield in 1:2.6 ratio respectively as a white solid. **5n:**  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.39 – 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53

(d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.38 (m, 6H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 3.26 (p, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>11</sup>

**5n':**  $R_f$ =0.55 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.23 (td, *J* = 5.2, 4.4, 2.2 Hz, 7H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (h, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.2, 156.0, 140.7, 140.5, 139.0, 133.4, 130.2, 129.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 127.0, 118.7, 36.4, 22.9; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 274.1590, found 274.1594. **3**-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-isobutyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine (50) and **3**-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isobutyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine (50'):



Following the general procedure II, products **50** and **50'** were obtained in 59% yield in 1:1 ratio as a yellow solid and pale yellow solid respectively. **50**:  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.45 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60 (dd, J = 3.7,

1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 2.65 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (dp, J = 13.7, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3 (d, J = 246.6 Hz), 158.8, 151.0, 145.6, 138.1, 136.2 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 134.7, 131.1 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 128.1, 127.5, 124.3, 115.7, 115.4 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 43.9, 28.6, 22.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -115.17; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FNS<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 312.1217, found 312.1225.

**50':**  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (dp, J = 13.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.6 (d, J = 246.9 Hz), 160.5, 149.5, 145.1, 138.9, 136.4 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 131.2 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 130.9, 127.6 (d, J = 23.9 Hz), 127.5, 121.4, 115.9, 115.7, 47.2, 28.9, 22.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -114.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FNS<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 312.1217, found 312.1225.

# *N*-(2-(5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-3-methylbutyl)benzamide (5p) and tert-butyl benzoyl(2-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-3-methylbutyl)carbamate (5p'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5p** and **5p**' were obtained in 59% yield in 1:3 ratio respectively as a white solid. **5p**:  $R_f$ =0.25 (silica gel, 40% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.25 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 –

7.70 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.10 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (ddd, J = 13.3, 7.2, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 2.59 (ddd, J = 9.1, 5.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.18 (dp, J = 9.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.72 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.2, 162.4 (d, J = 246.9 Hz), 162.1, 155.1, 137.9, 135.8 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 135.2, 134.1, 131.3, 130.8 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 128.6, 127.1, 121.6, 115.6 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 52.4, 41.4, 30.0, 23.8, 21.7, 20.7; <sup>19</sup>F

**NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  -114.8; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>26</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 377.2024, found 377.2034.

**5p':**  $R_f = 0.3$  (silica gel, 40% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.72 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 4.18 (ddd, J = 13.5, 7.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dt, J = 13.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (ddd, J = 10.2, 4.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 2.29 (dp, J = 10.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.54 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 162.3 (d, J = 247.0 Hz), 160.4, 156.7, 138.3, 135.5 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 135.0, 134.2, 131.2, 131.0 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 128.4, 127.0, 120.8, 115.5 (d, J = 21.3 Hz), 46.5, 41.4, 30.0, 24.5, 21.3, 20.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -114.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>26</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 377.2024, found 377.2031.

*tert*-butyl benzoyl(2-(5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-3-methylbutyl)carbamate (5q) III-191) and *tert*-butyl benzoyl(2-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-3-methylbutyl)carbamate (5q'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5q** and **5q**' were obtained in 58% yield in 9:1 ratio as a pale yellow viscous liquid and pale yellow solid respectively. **5q:**  $R_f$ =0.45 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 – 7.02

(m, 7H), 4.52 (dd, J = 13.4, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, J = 13.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.08 (dt, J = 16.4, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (s, 9H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.6, 162.2 (d, J = 247.0 Hz), 160.6, 155.1, 153.5, 137.9, 137.1, 136.2, 133.6, 131.0, 130.7 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 121.4, 115.3 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 115.2, 82.4, 53.9, 48.4, 31.8, 29.8, 27.5, 23.2, 21.2, 20.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -115.35; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>34</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 477.2548, found 477.2548.

**5q**':  $R_f = 0.5$  (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 5H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.09 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (dd, J = 13.2, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (dd, J = 13.2, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (ddd, J = 9.7, 8.2, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.09 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.02 (s, 9H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.65 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.4, 162.3 (d, J = 246.7 Hz), 158.7, 157.3, 153.7, 137.9, 137.7, 136.3, 134.8, 131.5 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 130.9, 127.9, 127.5, 120.3, 115.2 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 82.4, 48.8, 48.3, 32.4, 27.4, 24.2, 21.2, 20.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -115.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>34</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 477.2548, found 477.2547.

#### 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-5-(3-nitrophenyl)-N,3-diphenylisonicotinamide (5r):



Following the general procedure II,\* product **5r** was isolated in 43% yield as a white solid, while 24% of starting material **4r** was recovered. **5r**:  $R_f$ =0.45 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.31 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 2.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.25 (s, 4H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.03 – 6.98 (m,

1H), 6.95 - 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.73 - 6.65 (m, 3H), 2.95 (hept, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 1.26 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.0, 163.9, 162.8 (d, J = 248.2 Hz), 156.4, 148.1, 145.6, 138.6, 136.8, 136.0, 136.0, 135.9 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 132.1 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 130.0, 129.6, 129.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.2, 125.6, 124.4, 123.2, 121.2, 114.9 (d, J = 21.6 Hz), 32.5, 22.6, 22.5; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -113.60; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 532.2031, found 532.2045. \* *Reaction was continued for 48 h.* 

#### 4-ethyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-6-(morpholinomethyl)-7,8-dihydroquinolin-5(6H)-one (5s):



Following the general procedure II, product **5s** was isolated in 34% yield as a brown solid. **5s**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.21 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 3.70 (br. s, 5H), 3.19 (tq, *J* = 15.5, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.93 – 2.74 (m, 2H), 2.69 (dq, *J* = 11.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.58 – 2.34 (m, 5H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.02 –

1.90 (m, 1H), 1.76 – 1.56 (m, 1H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.2, 162.6, 162.2 (d, J = 247.0 Hz), 160.2, 154.1, 135.4, 134.0, 130.9 (d, J = 8.4 Hz), 130.8, 124.7, 115.8 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 115.78 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 67.0, 58.4, 54.0, 46.5, 32.2, 24.7, 24.0, 14.8; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -114.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 383.2129, found 383.2129.

#### 6-(tert-butyl)-2,3-diphenylpyridine (5t) and 2-(tert-butyl)-4,6-diphenylpyridine (5t'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5t** and **5t'** were obtained in 58% yield in 10.4:1 ratio respectively as a white solid. **5t:**  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.3 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m,

2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.10 (dd, J = 7.4, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.9, 155.1, 140.9, 140.7, 138.8, 132.8, 130.4, 129.7, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 127.0, 117.4, 37.6, 30.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 288.1747, found 288.1753. **5t':**  $R_f = 0.6$  (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.20 – 8.10 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.35 (m, 7 H), 1.48 (s, 9H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>12</sup>

## 2,6-di-tert-butyl-3-phenylpyridine (5u):

Following the general procedure II, product **5u** was isolated in 33% yield as a yellow viscous liquid, while 25% of starting material was recovered. **5u**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.20 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.0, 162.9, 143.3, 139.9, 133.1, 130.0, 127.6, 126.9, 114.8, 40.4, 37.7, 31.7, 30.3; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 268.2060, found 268.2058.

#### 3,4-dimethyl-5-phenylpyridine (5v) and 4,5-dimethyl-2-phenylpyridine (5v'):



Following the general procedure II, products **5v** and **5v'** were obtained in 58% yield in 1.9:1 ratio respectively as a brown solid. **5v:**  $R_{\rm f}$ =0.3 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.33 (s, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.44 (ddt, *J* = 8.1, 6.5,

 $1.2 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.41 - 7.35 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.31 - 7.27 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.31 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 2.18 \text{ (s, 3H)}; {}^{13}\text{C}\{{}^{1}\text{H}\} \text{ NMR} (101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \\ \delta 149.0, 148.0, 143.3, 138.5, 137.6, 132.3, 129.6, 128.5, 127.6, 17.2, 16.5; \text{HRMS} (\text{ESI-TOF}) \text{ calcd} \text{ for } C_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}^{+} \text{ [M+H]}^{+} 184.1121, \text{ found } 184.1120.$ 

**5v'**:  $R_f = 0.7$  (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.41 (s, 1H), 8.00 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>13</sup>

#### Ethyl 4-ethyl-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,5-dimethylpicolinate (5w):



Following the general procedure II, product **5w** was isolated in 43% yield as a viscous yellow liquid. **5w**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.16 – 7.06 (m, 4H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.5, 162.4 (d, *J* =

246.7 Hz), 155.7, 146.9, 144.5, 138.3, 134.0 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 133.8, 131.1 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 115.3 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 61.4, 22.9, 22.8, 16.4, 13.9, 12.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -114.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 302.1551, found 302.1559.

#### **III.** Synthesis of Starting Materials

IIIA. General procedure for synthesis of chloro diazirine 1



Diazerenes were prepared according to literature procedure with slight variation.<sup>15</sup> A solution of LiCl (5.30 g, 0.125 mol) in DMSO (87 mL) was rapidly stirred within a 1-L Erlenmeyer flask bearing a ground joint. Meanwhile, NaCl (31.7 g, 0.542 mol) was dissolved in cold 0.56 M NaOCl (296 mL, 0.166 mol) in another 1-L Erlenmeyer flask. The salty chlorine bleach solution was transferred to a 500-mL dropping funnel equipped with an equilibrating sidearm and ground joints. Amidine hydrochloride hydrate (23.7 mmol) was added to the 1-L Erlenmeyer reaction flask, and then pentane (50 mL) was poured in. The reaction flask was submerged into an ice bath, and rapid stirring was continued. The NaOCl/NaCl solution was dripped in within 15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 30 min in the ice bath. The pentane layer was collected using a 1-L separatory funnel. Next, the aqueous DMSO layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 × 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (2 × 20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then carefully rotary-evaporated. The residual oil was chromatographed using pentane (or diethyl ether/pentane) as eluant followed by careful rotary evaporation (ca. 30 min) to afford pure diazerene in 20 – 60% yield.

## CAUTION! Perform behind a safety shield under dim lighting.

#### 3-chloro-3-phenyl-3*H*-diazirine (1a):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1a** was isolated in 64% yield as a colorless liquid. **1a:**  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.07 (m, 2H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>15</sup>

## 2-(3-chloro-3*H*-diazirin-3-yl)pyridine (1b):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1b** was isolated in 36% yield as a colorless liquid. **1b**:  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.53 (ddd, J = 4.8, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (td, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ddd, J = 7.6, 4.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the

literature.16

## 3-chloro-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-3H-diazirine (1c):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product 1c was isolated in 14% yield as a pale yellow solid. **1c:**  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.26 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2 H), 7.30 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2 H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>15</sup>

## 3-chloro-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1d):



157.9693.

Following the general procedure IIIA, product 1d was isolated in 61% yield as a pale-yellow liquid. 1d:  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 - 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.16 (td, J = 1.9, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95(ddd, J = 7.7, 1.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  137.8, 135.0, 129.9, 129.7, 126.6, 124.2, 46.3; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 157.9685, found

#### 3-chloro-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-3H-diazirine (1e):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product 1e was isolated in 63% yield as a colorless liquid. **1e:**  $R_f = 0.4$  (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.14 – 7.04 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.29 (d, J = 250.1 Hz), 131.6, 127.95 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 115.67 (d, J = 22.3 Hz), 46.6; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –111.45; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>ClF<sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 141.9980, found 141.9995.

#### 3-chloro-3-(*m*-tolyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1f):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product 1f was isolated in 58% yield as a colorless liquid. **1f**:  $R_f = 0.6$  (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dt, J = 4.0, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H);<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.6, 135.8, 130.2, 128.6, 126.7, 123.3, 47.3, 21.5; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Cl<sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup> 139.0309, found 139.0315.

#### 3-(3-bromophenyl)-3-chloro-3*H*-diazirine (1g):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product 1g was isolated in 55% yield as a pale yellow liquid. 1g:  $R_f = 0.5$  (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.53 (ddd, J = 8.0, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 - 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.00 (ddd, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (ddd, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (ddd, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.018.0, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 137.9, 132.6, 130.1, 129.4, 124.7, 123.0, 46.2; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrCl<sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> 201.9185, found 201.9190.

## 2-(3-chloro-3*H*-diazirin-3-yl)pyrazine (1h):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1h** was isolated in 23% yield as a pale yellow solid. **1h**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.02 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.61 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.7, 144.4 (2C), 143.4, 45.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for

 $C_5H_3ClN_4Na^+$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 176.9938, found 176.9938.

## 3-chloro-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-3H-diazirine (1i):



1i

Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1i** was isolated in 61% yield as a colorless CI liquid. **1i**:  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.18 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (ddd, J = 10.8, 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.57 (d, J = 254.0 Hz), 132.10

(d, J = 8.2 Hz), 129.12, 124.60 (d, J = 3.9 Hz), 122.75 (d, J = 11.4 Hz), 116.77 (d, J = 20.6 Hz), 43.06; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –113.40; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C7H5ClF<sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup> 143.0058, found 143.0063.

## 3-chloro-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1j):

N=NFollowing the general procedure IIIA, product 1j was isolated in 64% yield as a pale yellowIquid. 1j:  $R_f = 0.5$  (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29(t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (ddd, J = 8.3, 2.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (ddd,OMeJ = 7.8, 1.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.8, 137.4,1j129.7, 118.3, 115.1, 112.0, 55.5, 47.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M]<sup>+</sup>

182.0241, found 182.0245.

#### 3-chloro-3-(3-nitrophenyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1k):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1k** was isolated in 51% yield as a colorless liquid. **1k:**  $R_f$ =0.4 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.27 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 7.9, 2.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.5, 138.0, 131.6, 129.9, 124.3, 121.5, 46.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M-N<sub>2</sub>+H]<sup>+</sup> 170.0003, found

170.0012.

## 4-chloro-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-3H-diazirine (11):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **11** was isolated in 62% yield as a colorless liquid. **11**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>15</sup>

## 3-chloro-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1m):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1m** was isolated in 61% yield as a colorless liquid. **1m**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 (td, J = 8.1, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (tdd, J = 8.3, 2.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dt, J = 9.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (ddd, J = 7.9, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.8 (d, J = 247.9 Hz), 138.3 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 130.3 (d, J = 8.4 Hz), 121.6 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 116.6 (d, J = 21.2

Hz), 113.9 (d, J = 24.7 Hz), 46.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -111.54; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>ClFN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M]<sup>+</sup> 170.0047, found 170.0019.

## 3-chloro-3-(p-tolyl)-3*H*-diazirine (1n):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1n** was isolated in 56% yield as a colorless liquid. **1n**:  $R_f$ =0.6 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.22 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>17</sup>

## 4-(3-chloro-3*H*-diazirin-3-yl)pyridine (10):



10

Following the general procedure IIIA, product **10** was isolated in 24% yield as a colorless | liquid. **10:**  $R_f$ =0.35 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 8.77 – 8.51 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.95 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.1, 144.5, 120.5, 45.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 153.0094, found 153.0099.

## 3-(4-bromophenyl)-3-chloro-3*H*-diazirine (1p):



Following the general procedure IIIA, product **1p** was isolated in 59% yield as a colorless liquid. **1p**:  $R_f$ =0.5 (silica gel, 5% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 6.90 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  134.9, 131.9, 127.7, 124.0, 46.7; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>BrCl<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>

201.9179, found 201.9193.

#### IIIB. Synthesis of indoles and pyrroles

#### 4,6-dicyclopropyl-2-methyl-1*H*-indole (2v):



To a degassed suspension of 4,6-dichloro-2-methyl-1*H*-indole (100 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv), cyclopropylboronic acid (171 mg, 2.0 mmol, 4.0 equiv),  $K_3PO_4$  (690 mg, 3.0 mmol, 6.0 equiv ), tricyclohexyl phosphine (28 mg, 0.10 mmol), and water (0.5 mL) in toluene (5.0 mL) was added palladium (II) acetate (11 mg, 50 µmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 36 h. The reaction mixture

was allowed to cool to 23 °C and filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the obtained residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 2% EtOAc in hexanes) to afford pure **2v** (74 mg, 0.35 mmol, 70% yield) as a brown amorphous solid. **2v**:  $R_f$ =0.60 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes). **2v**: <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  8.86 (s, 1H), 6.78 (t, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dt, *J* = 2.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 3H), 2.11 – 2.03 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.81 (m, 1H), 0.93 – 0.88 (m, 2 H), 0.88 – 0.83 (m, 2 H), 0.75 – 0.67 (m, 2H), 0.64 – 0.56 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR** (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  137.4, 135.4, 134.8, 127.8, 118.0, 113.6, 105.4, 98.6, 16.3, 13.7, 13.5, 9.3, 8.0; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 212.1434, found 212.1444.



#### 2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-3-pentyl-1H-pyrrole (4e)<sup>18</sup>:



To a round-bottom flask (10 mL) equipped with a condenser and stirring bar were added 1-(3-methoxyphenyl)heptan-1-ol (**S-1**) (100 mg, 0.45 mmol), 2-aminopropan-1-ol (**S-2**) (36 mg, 0.5 mmol), NaO-*t*-Bu (48 mg, 0.5 mmol), benzophenone (495 mg, 2.7 mmol) in dry toluene (6 mL). The reaction mixture was purged with argon and refluxed (110 °C, oil bath) overnight (~18 h). After

the reaction mixture had been cooled to room temperature, it was added directly to a silica column to afford pyrrole **4e** (31 mg, 27%, 0.12 mmol) as a yellow oil. **4e**:  $R_f$ =0.3 (silica gel, 10% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 2.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.83 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 1.94 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 1.76 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.23 (m, 4H), 0.86 – 0.84 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} **NMR** (101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  160.5, 136.3, 129.8, 127.2, 126.8, 122.6, 119.5, 113.0, 111.2, 109.3, 54.8, 32.3, 31.6, 27.2, 23.1, 14.4, 13.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 258.1852, found 258.1844.

4-(5-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)benzonitrile (4h)<sup>19</sup>:



*Step I*- A 25 mL round-bottom flask was charged with allylhydroxylamine hydrochloride salt (225 mg, 2.07 mmol, 1 equiv), NaOAc (170 mg, 2.07 mmol, 1 equiv) and MeOH (5 mL). The resulting slurry was allowed to stir at 25 °C for 30 min. At this time, 4-cyanoacetophenone **S-3** (300 mg, 2.07 mmol, 1 equiv), was dissolved in 2 mL of MeOH and added dropwise to the reaction slurry. The reaction mixture was then allowed to stir at 60 °C for 6 h. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC, reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, 10 mL of water was added to the flask and extracted using EtOAc ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The organic layers were then combined, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to afford **S-4** (400 mg, 2 mmol) as white solid which was used for next step without purification.

Step II- In a glove box, a 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with [(cod)IrCl]<sub>2</sub> (57 mg, 85  $\mu$ mol, 0.05 equiv), AgOTf (43 mg, 0.17 mmol, 0.1 equiv), NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.17 mmol, 0.1 equiv), and 3 mL of THF. This mixture was then allowed to stir at 25 °C for 20 min. O-Allyl oxime S-4 (340 mg, 1.7 mmol, 1 equiv) was mixed with 2 mL of THF in a small vial. The oxime solution was then transferred to the scintillation vial containing the 5 mol % iridium mixture and allowed to stir at 25 °C for 24 h. Then the reaction mixture was transferred to 10 mL Teflon-sealed reaction flasks, charged with ~15 4 Å molecular sieves, and heated to 75 °C for 15 h. The reaction mixture was then transferred to scintillation vials and dry-loaded on ~3 mL of silica gel. The product was then purified by flash chromatography to afford pyrrole 4h (120 mg, 0.66 mmol) as a brown solid. 4h:  $R_f$ =0.45 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 



8.28 (s, 1H), 7.66 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 6.56 (t, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (ddd, J = 3.6, 2.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  136.9, 132.9, 131.7, 128.9, 123.1, 119.5, 109.5, 109.2, 108.1, 13.4; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 183.0917, found

183.0916.

#### 2-isobutyl-5-(thiophen-2-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole (40):



*Step I-* To a magnetically stirred solution of aldehyde **S-5** (240 mg, 1.35 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at 0 °C was added isopropylmagnesium chloride solution (2 mL 1.3 M solution in THF, 2.7 mmol). The reaction mixture was slowly warmed to 23 °C and stirred for additional 1 h. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and quenched with saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and organic layer was extracted in EtOAc ( $3 \times 10$  mL). Combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated in vacuo to afford crude alcohol **S-6** as a pale-yellow oil which was used in next step without purification.

Step II- To a stirred solution of the so-obtained crude residue S-6 in THF (5 mL) at 0 °C was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (86 mg, 2.26 mmol). After 5 min, the reaction mixture was heated to reflux. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC, reaction mixture cooled to 0 °C and quenched by slow addition of EtOAc (2 mL) and then water (3 mL), and allowed to warm to 25 °C. The two phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was automated silica gel column chromatography to afford pure pyrrole **40** (43 mg, 194 µmol, 14% yield for two steps) as pale-yellow oil.



**4o**:  $R_f = 0.6$  (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.94 (br. s, 1H), 7.10 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.32 (t, J =3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.99 – 5.83 (m, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.88 (dh, J = 13.7, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 

136.9, 133.0, 127.7, 125.2, 122.0, 120.1, 108.0, 107.0, 37.4, 29.4, 22.6; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NS<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 206.0998, found 206.0990.



(rac)-2-methyl-5-(3-methyl-1-nitrobutan-2-yl)-1H-pyrrole (S-9): To a magnetically stirred solution of



2-methyl pyrrole **S-7** (200 mg, 2.47 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL) was added (*E*)-3methyl-1-nitrobut-1-ene **S-8** (567 mg, 4.94 mmol) followed by (±)-proline (56 mg, 0.49 mmol) at 23 °C and the reaction mixture stirred for 12 h. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC, reaction was quenched by sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) and water (3 mL). The two phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted

with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $3 \times 10 \text{ mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was automated silica gel column chromatography to afford pyrrole **S-9** (358 mg, 1.82 mmol, 74% yield) as pale-yellow oil. **S-9**:  $R_f$ =0.35 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.66 (br s, 1H), 5.82 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.81 – 5.77 (m, 1H), 4.64 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (dt, *J* = 9.0, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.93 (h, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.96 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  127.2, 127.1, 106.4, 106.4, 78.5, 44.2, 30.8, 20.7, 19.6, 13.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 197.1285, found 197.1290.

#### (rac)-N-(3-methyl-2-(5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)butyl)benzamide (4p):



*Step1:* Pyrrole **S-9** (200 mg, 1.02 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (5 mL), followed by the addition of Ni(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O (254 mg, 1.02 mmol) in one portion. Sodium borohydride (97 mg, 2.55 mmol) was added to the solution in three portions over 15 min at 0 °C. The reaction mixture turned black. After 2 h, the

starting material was consumed as based on TLC. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, and the residue was redissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (15 mL) with the subsequent addition of concentrated ammonium hydroxide (15 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1.5 h, and two layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with MgSO4. The filtration of the drying agent, followed by concentration via rotary evaporation, afforded a crude residue which was used directly for next step.

*Step 2:* To a magnetically stirred solution of so obtained crude amine in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL) was added triethyl amine (212 µL, 1.53 mmol) followed by dropwise addition of benzoyl chloride (124 µL, 1.07 mmol) at 0 °C and the reaction mixture stirred for additional 2 h at same temperature. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC, reaction was quenched by sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) and water (3 mL). The two phases were

separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $3 \times 10$  mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was automated silica gel column chromatography to afford pyrrole **4p** (174 mg, 0.64 mmol, 63% yield) as pale-yellow viscous liquid. **4p**:  $R_f$ =0.45 (silica gel, 30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.99 (br. s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.2, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 6.15 (br. s, 1H), 5.86 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.83 – 5.77 (m, 1H), 3.95 (ddd, J = 13.2, 7.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (ddd, J = 13.2, 10.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (ddd, J = 10.6, 7.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.87 (h, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7, 134.8, 131.5, 130.2, 128.6, 127.0, 126.9, 106.4, 105.9, 46.1, 42.2, 31.6, 20.9, 20.5, 13.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 271.1805, found 271.1811.

#### (rac)-tert-butyl benzoyl(3-methyl-2-(5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)butyl)carbamate (4q):



To a magnetically stirred solution of pyrrole **4p** (42 mg, 150  $\mu$ mol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was added di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (98 mg, 0.45 mmol) followed by 4-dimethylaminopyridine (9 mg, 75  $\mu$ mol) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for additional 30 at same temperature. After completion of reaction, indicated by TLC, reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, quenched by sat.

NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) and water (3 mL). The two phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was automated silica gel column chromatography to afford pyrrole **4q** (51 mg, 137 µmol, 89% yield) as yellow solid. **4q**:  $R_f$ =0.35 (silica gel, 20% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95 (br. s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.12 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.75 (t, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dt, *J* = 3.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 11.5 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (dt, *J* = 11.9, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.88 – 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.03 (s, 9H), 1.00 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.87 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.0, 154.0, 138.4, 130.8, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 126.3, 108.4, 105.6, 83.0, 47.1, 43.9, 31.9, 27.4, 21.2, 20.0, 13.1; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sup>22</sup>H<sup>31</sup>N<sup>2</sup>O<sup>3+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 371.2329, found 371.2333.

## **IV. Limitations**



**Fig. S2.** Limitations of diazirines (A) electron rich aromatic halo diazirine were converted to corresponding aldehyde. (B) Aliphatic diazirines bearing  $\alpha$ -hydrogens were isomerized to chloro-olefins (C) Aliphatic *tert*-alkyl diazirines underwent competitive dimerization.



#### V. Comparison with Ciamician-Denstedt Reaction

#### i) Under standard conditions:



Following the general procedure II, product **3p** was isolated in 82% yield as a yellow solid from 2-phenyl indole **20** and diazirine **1m**. **3p**: <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (td, J = 7.5, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.49 - 7.40(m, 2H), 7.30 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.04 – 6.87 (m, 3H).

#### ii) Under Ciamician-Denstedt followed by Suzuki coupling conditions:



#### **Overall yield: 22%**



Step I- The reaction was performed according to reported literature procedure.<sup>20</sup> NaOH (104 mg, 2.6 mmol) in water (0.5 mL) was added to a vigorously stirred solution of 2phynylindole 20 (50 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1 eq) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (10 mg, 26 µmol, 10 mol%) in chloroform (3 mL) under ice-cooling bath. The reaction

mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h and left overnight at room temperature. The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with chloroform  $(3 \times 5 \text{ mL})$ . The organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and evaporation, the crude was purified by flash chromatography (10 % EtOAc/Hexanes) affording 3-chloro-2-phenyl quinoline S-10 as a brown oil (28 mg, 116 µmol, 45%) and 18% of starting material 20 was recovered.  $R_{\rm f} = 0.61$  (20% Ethyl acetate/Hexanes). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.19 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dq, J = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.74 - 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.64 (ddd, J = 8.5, 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 3H). Spectroscopic data are in agreement with those in the literature.<sup>21</sup>



Step II- To an oven dried 1 dram screw cap vial equipped with a stir bar and PTFE/white silicone septum was added quinoline **S-10** (28 mg, 0.116 mmol), 3-fluoroboronic acid (32.6 mg, 0.23 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (6.7 mg, 5.8  $\mu$ mol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (48 mg, 0.348 mmol). The vial was evacuated/backfilled with nitrogen twice, and then toluene (0.9 mL) and water (0.1 mL) (sparged with nitrogen for

15 min) were added via syringe. The vial was stirred vigorously (1000 rpm) at 100 °C. After 30 h, vial was cooled to room temperature, reaction was quenched by sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (2 mL) and water (2 mL). The two phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc ( $3 \times 3$  mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was automated silica gel column chromatography to afford quinoline **3p** (16.8 mg, 56 µmol, 48% yield) as yellow solid, while 21% of starting material (6 mg, 25 µmol) was recovered back.

#### **VI.** Mechanistic Experiments

#### VIA. Effect of tetrabutyl ammonium chloride



Without Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl, yield of **3a** is 64%

Oven dried 1-dram screw capped vial was degassed and charged with 2-methylindole **2a** (10.0 mg, 76.2  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 equiv), diazirine **1a** (35.0 mg, 229  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (24.0 mg, 229  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl (63.0 mg, 229  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv) and 1 mL of dry acetonitrile. This mixture was then allowed to stir at 50 °C for 12 h and then allowed to cool to 25 °C. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (1 mL), and the two phases were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×3 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude NMR showed the presence of quinoline **3a** (21%), starting material **2a** (69%) and benzal chloride **S-11** 11% (*w.r.t.* 3 equiv. of diazirine **1a**).



Oven dried 1-dram screw capped vial was degassed and charged with 5-bromoindole **S-11** (10.0 mg, 47  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 equiv), diazirine **1a** (22.0 mg, 143  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (15.0 mg, 143  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl (39.7 mg, 143  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv) and 1 mL of dry acetonitrile. This mixture was then allowed to stir at 50 °C for 12 h and then allowed to cool to 25 °C. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (1 mL), and the two phases were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×3 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude NMR showed the presence of **S-13** (67%), quinoline **S-12** (<3%), and benzal chloride **S-11**, 34% (*w.r.t.* 3 equiv. of diazirine **1a**). Purification of crude material on automated column chromatography afforded **S-13** (6.0 mg, 13  $\mu$ mol, 52%) as a yellow viscous liquid.



**1,1'-(phenylmethylene)bis(5-bromo-1***H***-indole) (S-13) BD1-153):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 – 7.01 (m, 4H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 0.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  135.7, 134.7, 131.0, 129.9, 129.5, 127.3, 126.8, 125.5, 124.0, 114.1, 111.1, 102.9, 69.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF)

calcd for  $C_{15}H_{11}BrN^+$  [M-C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>5</sub>BrN]<sup>+</sup> 284.0069, found 284.0069.

## VIB. Effect of addition of quinoline



Without quinoline, yield of 3o is 68%

Oven dried 1-dram screw capped vial was degassed and charged with 2-phenylindole **2a** (10.0 mg, 52  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 equiv), diazirine **1a** (24 mg, 155  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (16 mg, 155  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv), quinoline (20.0 mg, 155  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 equiv) and 1 mL of dry acetonitrile. This mixture was then allowed to stir at 50 °C for 12 h and then allowed to cool to 25 °C. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (1 mL), and the two phases were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3×3 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Crude NMR showed the presence of 2,3-diphenylquinoline **3o** (15%) and starting material **2o** (38%).

## VII. X-Ray-derived ORTEP of 3z



## **ORTEP drawing of 3z**

Cystallographic data is available free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (https://summary.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/structure-summary-form under deposition number xxxxx).

# Datablock: mo\_0896\_levin\_0m

Bond precision:	nd precision: C-C = 0.0023 A Wavelength=0.71073		=0.71073		
Cell:	a=9.2870(4) alpha=90	b=14.2383(6) beta=91.126(1)	c=14.6599(7) gamma=90		
Temperature:	100 K				
	Calculated	Reported			
Volume	1938.12(15)	1938.12(15)			
Space group	P 21/n	P 1 21/n 1			
Hall group	-P 2yn	-P 2yn	-P 2yn		
Moiety formula	C25 H28 F N	C25 H28 F	C25 H28 F N		
Sum formula	C25 H28 F N	C25 H28 F	C25 H28 F N		
Mr	361.48	361.48	361.48		
Dx,g cm-3	1.239	1.239			
Z	4	4			
Mu (mm-1)	0.078	0.078			
F000	776.0	776.0			
F000'	776.31				
h,k,lmax	12,18,19	12,18,19			
Nref	4693	4202			
Tmin,Tmax	0.979,0.992	79,0.992 0.698,0.746			
Tmin'	0.966				
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.698 Tmax=0.746					
ADSCOTT - MULTI-SCAN					
Data completeness= 0.895 Theta(max)= 28.040					
R(reflections) = 0.0549( 2988) wR2(reflections) = 0.1305( 4202)					
S = 1.034 Npar= 281					
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20. The reaction was performed using literature reported procedure as follow: Rousseaux, S.; Davi, M.; Sofack-Kreutzer, J.; Pierre, C.; Kefalidis, C. E.; Clot, E.; Fagnou, K.; Baudoin O. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 10706–10716.

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S1-40











S1-44

















40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)















10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)

















40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)







40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)



1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5c, 500 MHz, benzene-d6



S1-68














1D NOE NMR spectrum of **5h**, 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>







1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5i, 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>







1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5j, 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>







1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5k, 500 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>















40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)









40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 fl (ppm)









40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 fl (ppm)





40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -50 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)



1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5q', 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>







40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)



S1-106



1D NOE NMR spectrum of 5t, 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>




1D NOE NMR spectrum of  $\mathbf{5v}$ , 500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>









S1-112





S1-114







S1-117











40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 -220 -230 -240 -250 -260 -270 -280 -290 f1 (ppm)





S1-124



S1-125















