

Rhodium(III)-Catalyzed Alkylation of Primary C(sp³)-H Bonds with α -Diazocarbonyl Compounds

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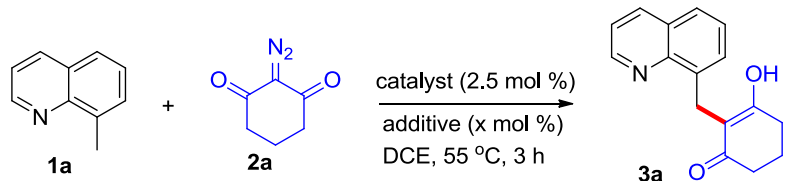
General methods:

All commercially available organic compounds were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Shanghai GeorGene Biotech Co., Ltd and adamas-beta in China. ^1H NMR (400 or 300 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (125, 100 MHz) spectra were determined with CDCl_3 as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from internal TMS (δ). All coupling constants (J values) were reported in hertz (Hz). High-resolution mass spectra were recorded using the ESI method. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography or LC-MS analysis. Column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate) was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh).

Materials:

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification, unless otherwise indicated. $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$,^{S1} $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3][\text{SbF}_6]_2$,^{S2} 8-methyl-quinolines substrates,^{S3} α -diazocarbonyl compounds^{S4} were prepared according to the previously reported synthetic methods.

Table S1. Optimization of Rh(III)-catalyzed coupling of **1a** with **2a** ^[a]

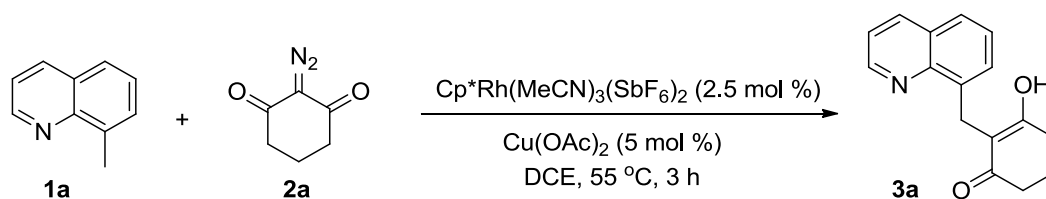
			
entry	catalyst (2.5 mol %)	additive (x mol %)	yield (%)
1	$(\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2)_2$	-	0
2	$(\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2)_2/\text{AgSbF}_6$	-	50
3	$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	-	65
4	$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	CsOAc (50 mol %)	60
5	$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	AcOH (100 mol %)	95
6	$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	CuCl_2 (5 mol %)	30

7	$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %)	99
8	-	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %)	0

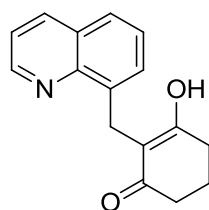
[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (0.3 mmol), catalyst (2.5 mol %), additive (x mol %), DCE (1.0 mL), 55 °C, 3 h. Yields of isolated products.

Experimental Procedures and Characterizations:

a) General procedure for the synthesis of **3** (taking **3a** as an example):

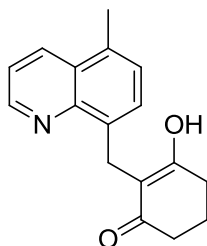


$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (2.5 mol %), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %), 8-methylquinoline **1a** (0.2 mmol), diazo compound **2a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and DCE (2 mL, 0.1 M) were added to a test tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55 °C for 3 h. The solution was filtered through a celite pad and washed with dichloromethane. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/EA to afford the title compound **3a**.

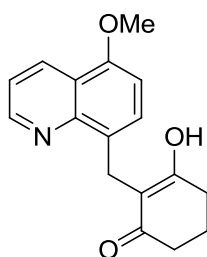


The title compound **3a** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 99%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.95 (s, 1H), 8.84 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 2.42 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.3, 174.3, 147.5, 145.0, 138.9, 138.4, 132.4, 128.7, 127.6, 125.9, 120.8, 114.7, 36.9, 29.9, 25.3, 20.7; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 254.1176,

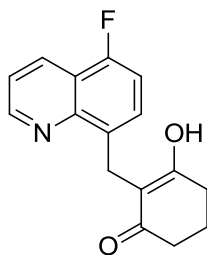
Found: 254.1171.



The title compound **3b** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 95%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.04 (s, 1H), 8.83 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.40 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.3, 174.3, 146.9, 145.2, 136.8, 134.8, 132.6, 132.0, 128.0, 120.4, 114.9, 36.9, 29.9, 25.2, 20.7, 18.4; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 268.1332, Found: 268.1327.

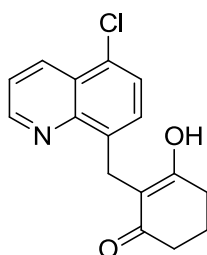


The title compound **3c** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 97%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.95 (s, 1H), 8.82 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 5H), 2.41 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.4, 174.2, 153.5, 147.7, 145.3, 133.2, 132.1, 130.5, 121.3, 119.8, 115.2, 105.0, 55.8, 36.9, 29.9, 24.7, 20.7; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 284.1281, Found: 284.1275.

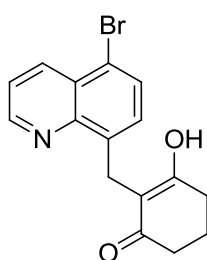


The title compound **3d** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 95%;

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.33 (s, 1H), 8.89 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.79 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 8.00 (dd, $J = 8.0, 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.90 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.4, 174.0, 156.1 (d, $J = 253.7$ Hz), 148.5, 145.1 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz), 134.7 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz), 131.7 (d, $J = 13.7$ Hz), 131.7, 120.8 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 119.4 (d, $J = 17.3$ Hz), 114.7, 110.9 (d, $J = 18.5$ Hz), 36.8, 29.8, 24.7, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{FNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 272.1081, Found: 272.1072.

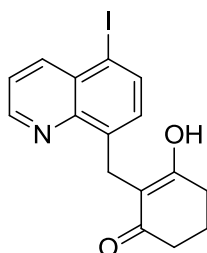


The title compound **3e** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 96%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.34 (s, 1H), 8.89 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.68 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 2.41 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.98 – 1.83 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.3, 174.1, 148.2, 145.6, 138.2, 135.2, 132.1, 129.2, 127.5, 126.6, 121.6, 114.4, 36.8, 29.8, 25.0, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 288.0785, Found: 288.0772.

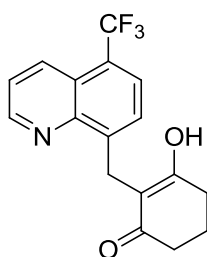


The title compound **3f** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 94%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.30 (s, 1H), 8.86 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.65 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 2H), 1.90 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.2, 174.1, 148.3, 145.8, 138.9, 137.9, 132.6, 131.3, 127.9, 121.9, 119.5, 114.3, 36.8, 29.7, 25.0, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for

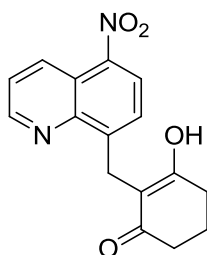
C₁₆H₁₅BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺ 332.0281, Found: 332.0277.



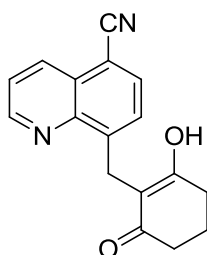
The title compound **3g** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 95%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.34 (s, 1H), 8.82 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.41 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.97 – 1.84 (p, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.2, 174.2, 148.4, 145.7, 142.7, 140.0, 138.7, 133.4, 130.2, 122.4, 114.2, 95.6, 36.8, 29.7, 25.0, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C₁₆H₁₅INO₂ [M+H]⁺ 380.0141, Found: 380.0135.



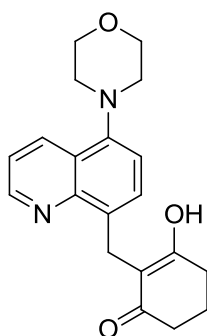
The title compound **3h** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 93%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.27 (s, 1H), 8.95 (dd, *J* = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.74 – 8.57 (m, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 2.43 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (p, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.2, 174.4, 148.3, 145.2, 143.9, 135.0, 130.8, 126.2(q, *J* = 5.7 Hz), 124.8, 124.5, 124.1, 124.0 (q, *J* = 273.5 Hz), 122.1, 113.9, 36.8, 29.8, 25.6, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅F₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 322.1050, Found: 322.1041.



The title compound **3i** was isolated (PE:EA = 2:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 92%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 12.86 (s, 1H), 9.19 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 2.43 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.98 – 1.82 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 174.4, 148.9, 146.9, 144.8, 143.6, 134.6, 130.6, 125.8, 123.7, 121.7, 113.3, 36.8, 29.6, 25.9, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 299.1026, Found: 299.1031.

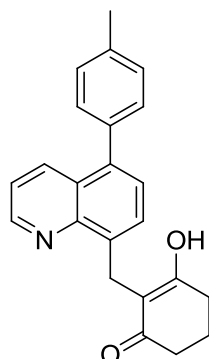


The title compound **3j** was isolated (PE:EA = 2:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 70%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 12.93 (s, 1H), 8.99 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.66 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 2.43 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.2, 174.4, 149.4, 145.4, 144.6, 135.8, 134.0, 131.7, 128.2, 123.1, 116.6, 113.5, 108.3, 36.8, 29.8, 25.6, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 279.1128, Found: 279.1133.

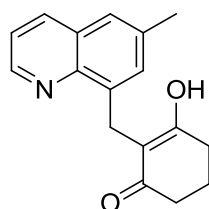


The title compound **3k** was isolated (PE:EA = 2:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 98%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.96 (s, 1H), 8.82 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.98 – 3.89 (m, 4H), 3.11 – 2.96 (m, 4H), 2.41 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 2H), 1.95 – 1.83 (p, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.4,

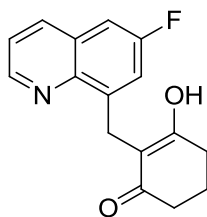
174.3, 147.8, 147.3, 145.8, 134.3, 134.2, 132.2, 124.5, 120.0, 116.4, 114.9, 67.2, 53.6, 36.8, 29.9, 25.0, 20.7; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺ 339.1703, Found: 339.1693.



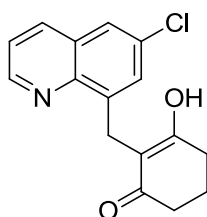
The title compound **3l** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 94%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.06 (s, 1H), 8.84 (dd, *J* = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (s, 4H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 2.45 (s, 5H), 2.32 (s, 2H), 1.93 (p, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.3, 174.4, 147.2, 145.1, 138.7, 138.0, 137.5, 136.9, 136.0, 131.9, 129.9, 129.2, 128.2, 127.2, 120.6, 114.8, 36.9, 29.9, 25.4, 21.2, 20.7; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C₂₃H₂₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 344.1645, Found: 344.1641.



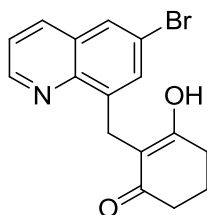
The title compound **3m** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 96%; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.15 (s, 1H), 8.75 (dd, *J* = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 2H), 1.90 (p, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.3, 174.5, 146.5, 143.6, 138.5, 137.8, 137.6, 134.6, 128.8, 124.7, 120.8, 114.7, 36.9, 30.0, 25.2, 21.6, 20.7; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C₁₇H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 268.1332, Found: 268.1321.



The title compound **3n** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 95%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.57 (s, 1H), 8.80 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.82 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 174.3, 160.7 (d, $J = 250.5$ Hz), 146.8, 142.3 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 137.7 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz), 129.5 (d, $J = 10.1$ Hz), 122.5 (d, $J = 25.9$ Hz), 121.6, 114.0, 108.8 (d, $J = 21.9$ Hz), 36.79, 29.84, 25.30, 20.63; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{FNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 272.1081, Found: 272.1077.

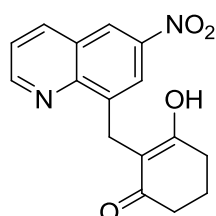


The title compound **3o** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 97%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.47 (s, 1H), 8.82 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.10 – 1.80 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 174.2, 147.7, 143.6, 141.0, 137.4, 133.4, 133.0, 129.2, 124.5, 121.7, 114.0, 36.8, 29.8, 25.1, 20.6. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 288.0785, Found: 288.0773.

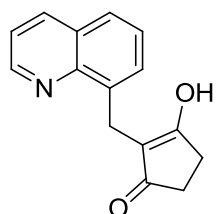


The title compound **3p** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 97%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.46 (s, 1H), 8.84 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.41 –

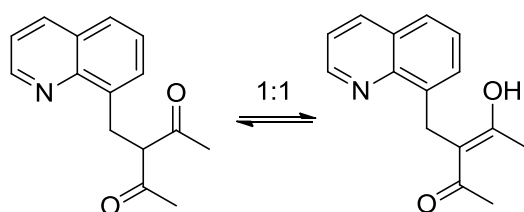
8.06 (m, 2H), 7.85 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.99 – 1.84 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.0, 174.2, 147.9, 143.8, 141.0, 137.3, 135.4, 129.7, 127.9, 121.7, 114.0, 36.8, 29.8, 25.0, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 332.0281, Found: 332.0276.



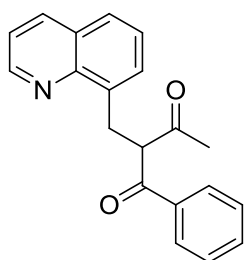
The title compound **3q** was isolated (PE:EA = 2:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 90%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 12.83 (s, 1H), 9.04 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.84 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.66 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.47 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, $J = 8.4, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 2.43 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.92 (p, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 174.0, 151.1, 147.1, 146.0, 141.8, 140.3, 127.6, 125.4, 122.7, 122.3, 113.7, 36.7, 29.7, 25.5, 20.5; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 299.1026, Found: 299.1033.



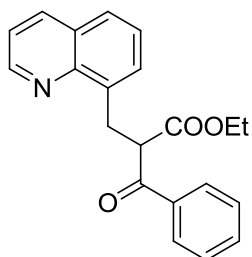
The title compound **3r** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 96%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.89 (dd, $J = 4.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, $J = 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 2.46 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 204.8, 186.9, 148.1, 145.1, 138.7, 138.0, 131.7, 129.0, 127.7, 126.5, 121.0, 116.8, 33.7, 27.1, 24.5; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 240.1020, Found: 240.1017.



The title compound **3s** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 95%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.93 and 4.50 (s, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.97 and 8.91 (a pair of dd, $J = 4.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 and 8.14 (a pair of dd, $J = 8.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 4.33 and 3.75 (s, d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 204.5, 192.3, 149.5, 149.4, 146.7, 146.6, 138.0, 136.8, 136.5, 136.4, 130.3, 128.4, 128.4, 127.4, 126.7, 126.4, 126.4, 126.3, 121.21, 121.1, 107.6, 68.4, 30.6, 29.8, 28.4, 23.1; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 242.1176, Found: 242.1168.

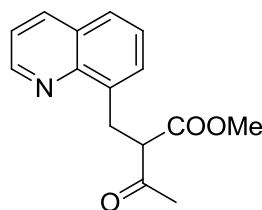


The title compound **3t** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 80%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.96 (dd, $J = 4.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, $J = 5.2, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 5.42 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (qd, $J = 13.2, 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 204.0, 197.0, 149.3, 146.8, 136.9, 136.6, 136.4, 133.4, 130.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 127.0, 126.3, 121.0, 62.8, 31.9, 29.2; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 304.1332, Found: 304.1337.

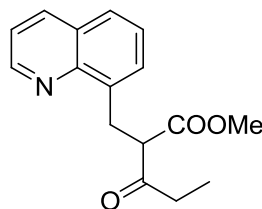


The title compound **3u** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown solid, yield: 60%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.97 (dd, $J = 4.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 – 8.16 (m, 2H), 8.14 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 5.30 (dd, $J = 9.2, 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 3.92 (m, 3H), 3.76 (dd, $J = 13.2,$

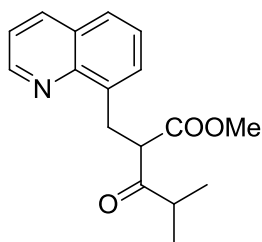
9.2 Hz, 1H), 1.07 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.0, 169.8, 149.3, 146.9, 136.7, 136.4, 136.2, 133.3, 131.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.3, 127.0, 126.3, 121.0, 61.1, 54.9, 32.3, 13.9; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 334.1437, Found: 334.1430.



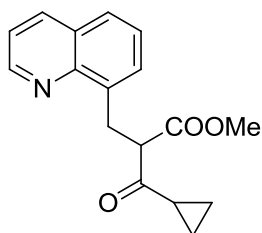
The title compound **3v** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown oil, yield: 77%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.91 (dd, $J = 4.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.6, 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 4.38 (dd, $J = 8.4, 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.87 (dd, $J = 13.6, 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 – 3.58 (m, 4H), 2.22 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 203.3, 170.0, 149.5, 146.7, 136.6, 136.3, 130.4, 128.4, 127.1, 126.2, 121.0, 59.9, 52.2, 30.9, 29.5; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 258.1124, Found: 258.1119.



The title compound **3w** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown oil, yield: 80%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.91 (dd, $J = 4.0, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, $J = 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 4.40 (dd, $J = 8.0, 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 – 3.77 (m, 1H), 3.68 (dd, $J = 13.2, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.58 (dq, $J = 18.4, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.38 (dq, $J = 18.4, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 0.97 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 206.2, 170.1, 149.4, 146.7, 136.6, 136.3, 130.5, 128.3, 127.0, 126.2, 121.0, 58.7, 52.2, 36.0, 31.0, 7.4; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 272.1281, Found: 272.1275.



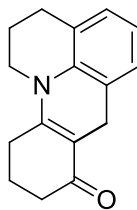
The title compound **3x** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown oil, yield: 95%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.92 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 4.59 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.65 (hept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.79 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 209.5, 170.0, 149.4, 146.7, 136.7, 136.4, 130.8, 128.3, 127.0, 126.2, 121.0, 56.8, 52.1, 41.2, 31.4, 17.8, 17.4; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 268.1438, Found: 268.1430.



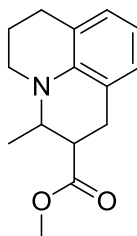
The title compound **3y** was isolated (PE:EA = 5:1) as a light brown oil, yield: 74%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.92 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 4.52 (dd, J = 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (dd, J = 13.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.15 – 2.09 (m, 1H), 1.11 – 1.05 (m, 1H), 1.03 – 0.97 (m, 1H), 0.92 – 0.79 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 205.6, 170.2, 149.4, 146.8, 136.7, 136.3, 130.5, 128.4, 127.0, 126.2, 121.0, 59.8, 52.2, 31.1, 20.3, 11.6, 11.5; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 284.1282, Found: 284.1276.

b) General procedure of hydrogenation of compounds **3a, **3v**:**

A solution of **3a** (24mg, 0.1mmol) and PtO_2 (1mg, 5 mol %) in 1.5mL methanol was stirred at 40°C for 4 hours under a H_2 atmosphere. The mixture was filtered through Celite and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford **3a'**.



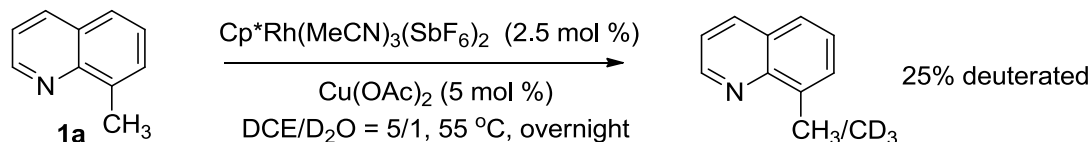
Compound **3a**: 90% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.96 – 6.93 (m, 1H), 6.90 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 3.72 – 3.69 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 2.82 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.60 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 – 2.31 (m, 2H), 2.09 – 1.96 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.1, 155.7, 135.9, 127.3, 127.0, 124.7, 123.8, 122.7, 106.5, 45.7, 35.8, 27.6, 26.3, 24.4, 22.2, 21.6; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 240.1382, sFound: m/z 240.1379.



Compound **3v**: 93% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.87 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.52 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 – 3.68 (m, 4H), 3.39 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.21 – 2.99 (m, 3H), 2.90 – 2.69 (m, 3H), 2.05 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.01 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.7, 140.4, 127.3, 121.7, 118.7, 115.5, 54.0, 51.8, 48.2, 42.1, 27.9, 24.9, 22.0, 11.9; HRMS (ESI): Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 246.1490, Found: m/z 246.1488.

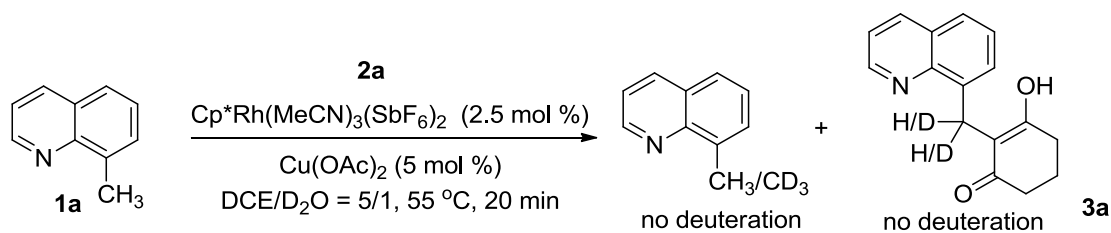
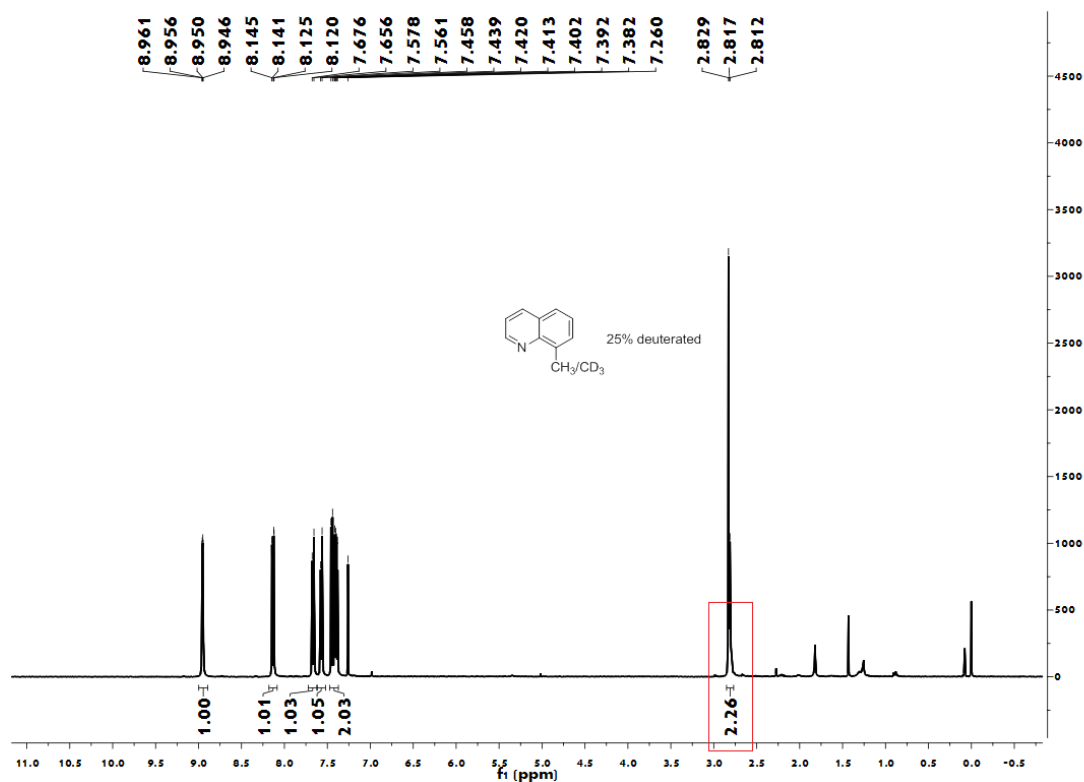
c) Mechanistic study

(1) Hydrogen-deuterium exchange experiment

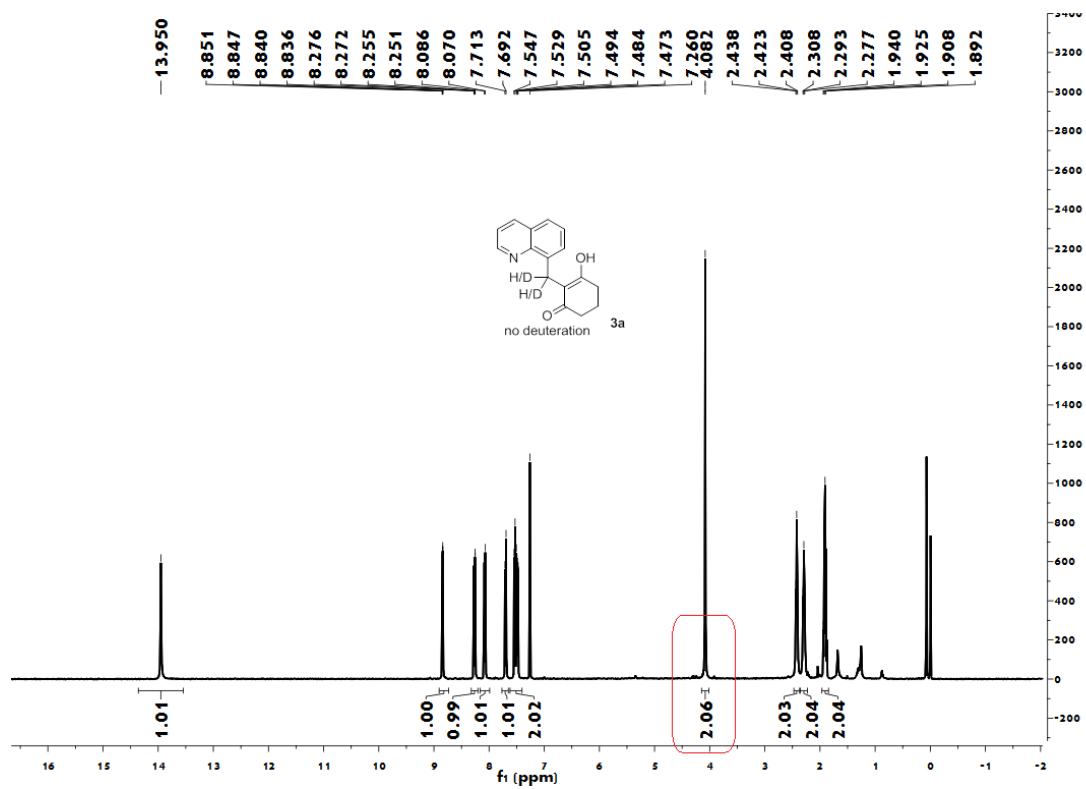
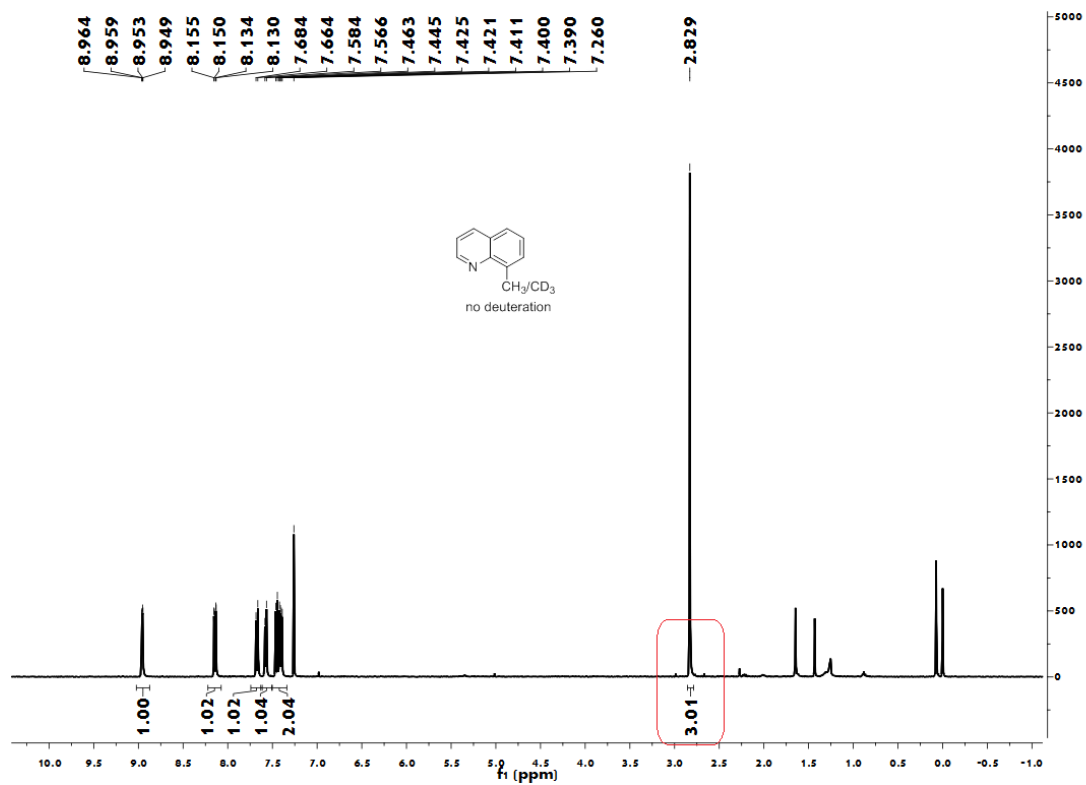


$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (2.5 mol %), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %), 8-methylquinoline **1a** (0.2 mmol) and $\text{DCE}:\text{D}_2\text{O}$ (2 mL, 5:1) were added to a test tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55 °C overnight. The solution was filtered through a celite pad and washed with dichloromethane. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the

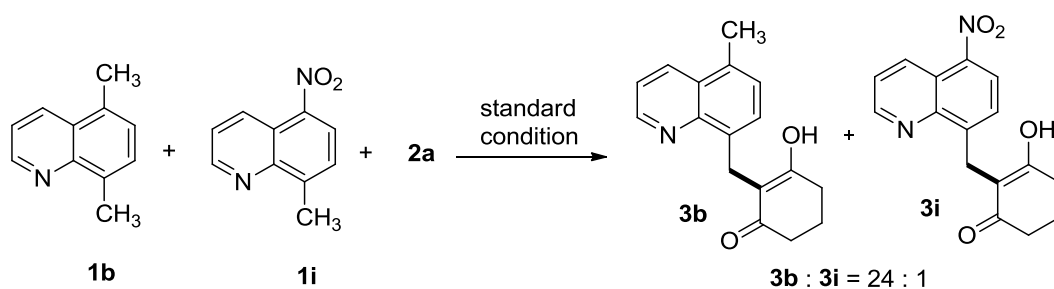
residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/EA to provide **1a-dn**. ^1H NMR analysis showed that 25% hydrogen at the C8-position methyl of quinolone was deuterated.



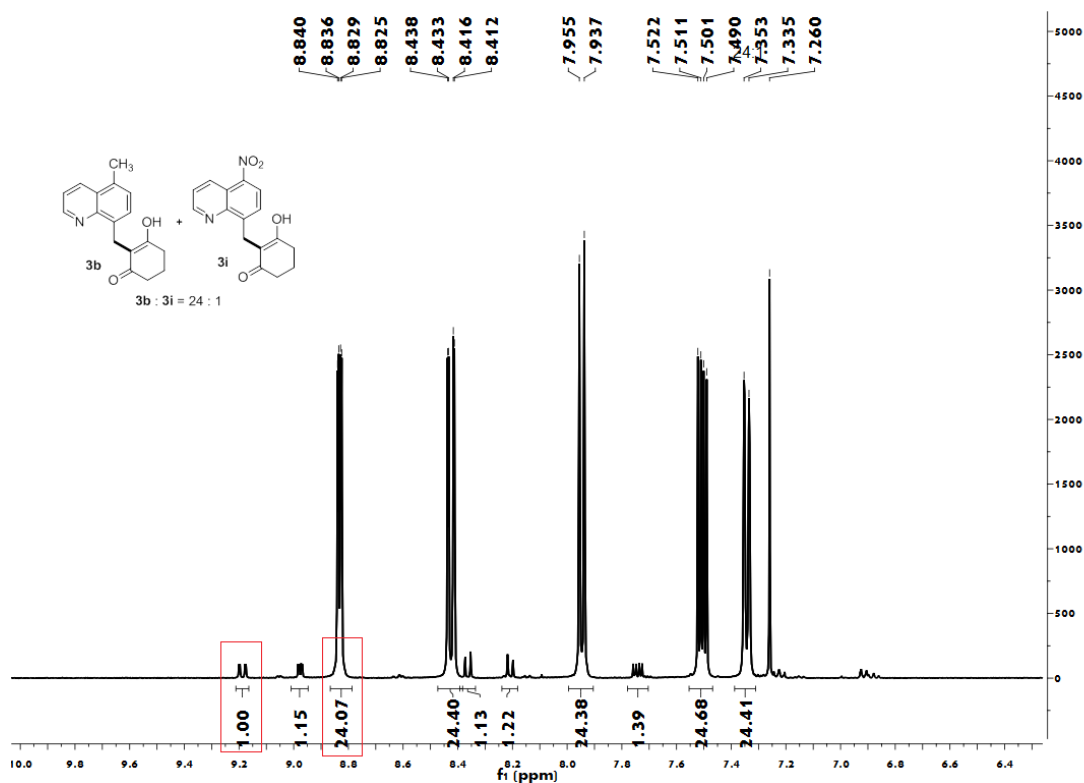
$\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3(\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (2.5 mol %), $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %), 8-methylquinoline **1a** (0.2 mmol), diazo compound **2a** (0.3 mmol) and $\text{DCE}:\text{D}_2\text{O}$ (2 mL, 5:1) were added to a test tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55 °C for 20 min. The solution was filtered through a celite pad and washed with dichloromethane. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/EA to provide **1a-dn** and **3a-dn**. No deuteration was observed at the C8-position methyl of quinolone.



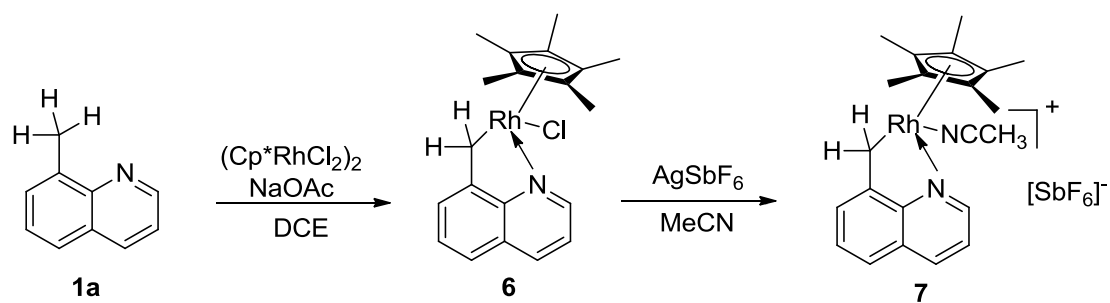
(2) Competitive Reaction



A mixture of **1b** (0.1 mmol), **1i** (0.1 mmol), Cp^{*}Rh(MeCN)₃(SbF₆)₂ (2.5 mol %), Cu(OAc)₂ (5 mol %), diazo compound **2a** (0.1 mmol) and DCE (1 mL) were added to a test tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55 °C for 3 h. The solution was filtered through a celite pad and washed with dichloromethane. Then, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/EA to afford compounds **3b** and **3i** as a mixture, which was characterized by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

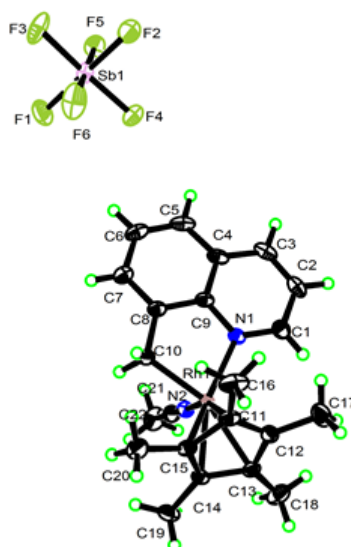


(3) Synthesis of cyclometalated Rh(III) complex



Rh(III) complex **6** was prepared according to the literature procedures.^{S3} A mixture of substituted 8-methyl-quinoline (0.6 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.3 mmol) and MeOH (1 mL) were weighted in a Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C overnight, concentrated under vacuum. The product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1: 2, 20% yield).

To the suspension of Rh(III) complex **6** (0.23 mmol) in dried CH_3CN (1.5 mL), the solution of AgSbF_6 (1 mmol) in dried CH_3CN (2 mL) was added in 2 min. Then the white solid precipitated immediately. The reaction was stirred at rt for another 3 h. Then the solid was removed by filtration on celite and washed with CH_3CN . The filtrate was evaporated in vacuo and then Et_2O was added dropwise and the brown solid precipitated. The solid was collected by filtration, washed with EtOAc and Et_2O , dried in vacuo to afford Rh(III) complex **7** (50% yield). The structure of Rh(III) complex **9** was unambiguously confirmed by X-ray analysis (CCDC 1049041).



Reference:

S1: K. Fujita, Y. Takahashi, M. Owaki, K. Yamamoto, R. Yamaguchi, *Org. Lett.* **2004**, *6*, 2785.

S2: Yang Li, Bi-Jie Li, Wen-Hua Wang, Wei-Ping Huang, Xi-Sha Zhang, Kang Chen, Zhang-Jie Shi, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2011**, *50*, 2115.

S3: Bingxian Liu, Tao Zhou, Bin Li, Shansheng Xu, Haibin Song, and Baiquan Wang, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2014**, *53*, 4191.

S4: (a) M. P. Doyle, M. McKervey, T. Ye, *Modern, Catalytic Methods for Organic Synthesis with Diazo Compounds*, John Wiley & Sons Inc: New York, **1998**, Ch. 1, p.10; (b) Z. M. Jászay, T. S. Pham, K. Gönczi, I. Petneházy, L. Tőke, *Synthetic Communications*, **2010**, *40*, 1574.

^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of Compounds

