## Supporting Information

Synthesis of 3-Acylquinolines through Cu-Catalyzed Double C(sp ${ }^{\mathbf{3}}$ )-HBond Functionalization of Saturated Ketones
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## I. General experimental information

Commercial reagents were used without further purification, and solvents were dried before using. Melting points were recorded with a micro melting point apparatus and uncorrected. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz or 600 MHz . The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz or 150 MHz . Chemical shifts were expressed in parts per million ( $\delta$ ) downfield from the internal standard tetramethylsilane, and were reported as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), dt (doublet of triplet), m (multiplet), br s (broad singlet), etc. The coupling constants $J$ were given in Hz . High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained via ESI mode by using a MicrOTOF mass spectrometer. The conversion of starting materials was monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates (silica gel 60 F 2540.25 mm ), and components were visualized by observation under UV light (254 and 365 nm ).

## II. Experimental procedures and spectroscopic sata

## 1. Typical procedure for the synthesis of $\mathbf{3 a}$ and spectroscopic data of $\mathbf{3 a - 3 r}$

To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2 -aminobenzaldehyde ( $\mathbf{1 a}, 60.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5$ $\mathrm{mmol})$, toluene $(3.0 \mathrm{~mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}-$ bipyridine $(15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$, TEMPO ( $156.1 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and propiophenone ( $\mathbf{2 a}, 80 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 14 h . Upon completion, the resulting mixture was diluted with DCM ( 20 mL ), and washed with water $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{3 a}$ ( $90.9 \mathrm{mg}, 78 \%$ ). 3b-3r were obtained in a similar manner.

## Phenyl(quinolin-3-yl)methanone (3a) ${ }^{1}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $90.9 \mathrm{mg}, 78 \%$ ), mp $74-76^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\left(\right.$ (lit. ${ }^{1} 73-75{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.50-7.54(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.59-7.66(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.81-7.83(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.85\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=\right.$ $\left.8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.89(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.53(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.32$ $(\mathrm{d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 126.6,127.6,128.6,129.2,129.5,130.0,131.8,133.1$, 137.0, 138.8, 149.5, 150.3, 194.8. MS: m/z $234[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (6-Chloroquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3b)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $100.1 \mathrm{mg}, 75 \%$ ), mp $121-123{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.54(\mathrm{t}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.67(\mathrm{t}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.76\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right)$, $7.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.89(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.12(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.45(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.29$ $(\mathrm{d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 127.3,127.6,128.7,130.1,130.9,131.1,132.7,133.3$, 133.5, 136.8, 137.6, 147.8, 150.5, 194.5. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{11} \mathrm{ClNO}: 268.0524[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]{ }^{+}$, found: 268.0528 .

## [1,3]Dioxolo[4,5-g]quinolin-7-yl(phenyl)methanone (3c)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid (109.4 mg, 79\%), mp 119-120 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 6.15(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.09(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.41(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.52(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.63(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.83(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.35(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.08(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ $\delta 102.3,103.7,105.9,123.9,128.56,128.59,130.0,132.8,137.2,137.3,148.4,148.6,148.7,152.8,194.9$. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$ : $278.0812[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 278.0820 .
(7-Methoxyquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3d) ${ }^{2}$
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid ( $110.5 \mathrm{mg}, 84 \%$ ), mp $84-85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{2} 79-80{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 3.97(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.25\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.47(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.52(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.63(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.76(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.84(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $8.47(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.25(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 55.7,107.4,120.9$, 121.7, 128.0, 128.6, 129.9, 130.3, 132.8, 137.3, 138.5, 150.9, 151.6, 162.7, 194.8. MS: m/z $264[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.
(6,7-Dimethoxyquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3e) ${ }^{2}$
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1). Yellow solid ( $126.0 \mathrm{mg}, 86 \%$ ), mp $144-145{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{2} 142-$ $\left.143{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 4.02(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 4.07(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.12(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.48(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.51-7.55(\mathrm{~m}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 7.61-7.65(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.84-7.86(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.42(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.13(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 56.1,56.3,106.1,107.9,122.3,128.5,129.9,132.7,136.8,137.5,147.1,148.6$, 150.5, 154.4, 195.1. MS: m/z $294[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.
(4-Bromophenyl)(quinolin-3-yl)methanone (3f) ${ }^{1}$
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid (110.4 mg, 71\%), mp 118-119 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{1} 115-$ $\left.117{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.64(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.67(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.73(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.85(\mathrm{t}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.91(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.51(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$,
$1 \mathrm{H}), 9.29(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 126.5,127.7,128.3,129.2,129.5,129.6$, 131.5, 132.01, 132.04, 135.7, 138.7, 149.6, 150.1, 193.8. MS: m/z $312[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## Quinolin-3-yl(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (3g)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid (108.4 mg, 72\%), mp 116-117 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.65-7.69(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.82(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.86-7.91(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.93(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.97(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.21(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.55(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.33(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 123.6\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=271.2 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 125.7\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 126.5,127.9,129.2$, 129.3, 129.6, 130.2, 132.3, $134.4\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=32.9 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 139.1,140.1,149.7,150.1,193.8$. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{11} \mathrm{~F}_{3} \mathrm{NO}: 302.0787[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 302.0807.

## Quinolin-3-yl(p-tolyl)methanone (3h) ${ }^{3}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid (97.6 mg, 79\%), mp 93-94 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.45(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.30-7.33(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.59-7.63(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.77(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.80-7.84$ $(\mathrm{m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.89(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.17(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.51(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.30(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 1H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 21.7$, 126.6, 127.5, 129.1, 129.3, 129.5, 130.3, 130.4, 131.7, 134.4, 138.5, 144.0, 149.4, 150.4, 194.5. MS: m/z $248[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(quinolin-3-yl)methanone (3i) ${ }^{3}$
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). White solid (109.2 mg, 83\%), mp $132-133{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 3.90(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.01\left(\mathrm{dt}, J_{l}=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.61-7.65(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.81-7.85(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.88\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{I}=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.91(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.19(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.51(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.28(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 55.6,114.0,126.7,127.5,129.0,129.5$, 129.7, 130.8, 131.6, 132.6, 138.2, 149.3, 150.3, 163.7, 193.5. MS: m/z $264[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## Pyridin-3-yl(quinolin-3-yl)methanone (3j)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3:1). Brown yellow solid ( $73.7 \mathrm{mg}, 63 \%$ ), mp $81-82{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.52\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.66(\mathrm{t}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.88\left(\mathrm{td}, J_{l}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$,
$\left.J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.93(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.19-8.21(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.88\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=4.8\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz}, J_{2}=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 9.08(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.34(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta$ 123.7, 126.4, 127.9, 129.1, 129.2, 129.6, 132.3, 132.6, 137.1, 139.0, 149.7, 149.9, 150.8, 153.4, 193.1. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{11} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}: 235.0866[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 235.0878.

## Quinolin-3-yl(thiophen-2-yl)methanone (3k) ${ }^{1}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid ( $89.6 \mathrm{mg}, 75 \%$ ), mp $86-87^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{1} 89-91{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.22\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.63-7.65(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.71\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=\right.$ $\left.4.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=0.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.79\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.83-7.85(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.94\left(\mathrm{td}, J_{1}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\left.J_{2}=0.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.64(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.34(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 126.6,127.7,128.4,129.1,129.5,130.7,131.8,135.08,135.10,137.7,143.2,149.5$, 149.6, 186.2. MS: m/z $240[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## 1-(Quinolin-3-yl)ethanone (3I) ${ }^{1}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid ( $24.8 \mathrm{mg}, 29 \%$ ), mp 95-96 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{1} 98-99{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.74(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.63(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.83-7.85(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.95(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.16(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.70(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.43(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 150 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 26.8,126.8,127.6,129.3,129.4,129.5,132.0,137.4,149.2,149.8,196.8 . \mathrm{MS}: \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 172$ $[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## Cyclohexyl(quinolin-3-yl)methanone (3m) ${ }^{3}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid ( $41.8 \mathrm{mg}, 35 \%$ ), mp $61-62{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.27-1.33(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.41-1.49(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.53-1.60(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.75-1.78(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.86-1.90$ $(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.96(\mathrm{~d}, J=13.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.37\left(\mathrm{tt}, J_{l}=11.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.61(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.81$ $\left(\mathrm{td}, J_{l}=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.94(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.15(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.68(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$,
$1 \mathrm{H}), 9.41(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 25.7,25.9,29.2,46.0,126.9,127.4,128.4$, 129.3, 129.4, 131.8, 137.0, 149.5, 149.7, 202.5. MS: m/z $240[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (2-Methylquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3n) ${ }^{4}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid ( $56.8 \mathrm{mg}, 46 \%$ ), mp $134-136{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{4}$ 131$\left.133{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 2.75(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.49(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.54(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.63(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.76-7.79(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.85(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.09(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.11(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 24.3,125.3,126.7,128.1,128.7,128.8,130.2,131.1,132.2,133.7,136.8$, 137.3, 148.1, 156.7, 196.7. MS: m/z $248[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## Phenyl(2-phenylquinolin-3-yl)methanone (30) ${ }^{5}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $123.6 \mathrm{mg}, 80 \%$ ), mp $138-139{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{5} 135-$ $\left.137{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.23-7.31(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.41-7.45(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.55-7.59(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.63$ $\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{I}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.69-7.71(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.78-7.82(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.24(\mathrm{~d}$, $J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.31(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 125.8,127.3,128.2,128.4,128.9,129.3$, $129.7,130.0,131.2,132.9,133.4,137.1,137.6,139.8,148.4,157.5,196.9 . \mathrm{MS}: \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 310[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## 11H-Indeno[1,2-b]quinolin-11-one (3p) ${ }^{4}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid ( $42.7 \mathrm{mg}, 37 \%$ ), mp $169-171{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{4} 172-$ $\left.174{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.36(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.54-7.59(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.63-7.66(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $7.75(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.06(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.20(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 121.6$, $124.9,126.2,128.5,129.2,129.5,129.9,130.1,131.7,133.7,134.3,136.1,142.6,148.6,154.3,192.3$. MS: m/z $232[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (1,8-Naphthyridin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3q)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1). White solid (101.8 mg, 87\%), mp $102-103{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.56(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.62(\mathrm{q}, J=4.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.68(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.87(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.34\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 8.62(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.24(\mathrm{q}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.51$
(d, $J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 121.4,123.2,128.8,130.0,131.1,133.4,136.6,138.4$, 139.7, 153.6, 155.7, 157.1, 194.1. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{NaO}: 257.0685[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$, found: 257.0692.

## (1,8-Naphthyridin-3-yl)(pyridin-3-yl)methanone (3r)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:2). White solid (96.4 mg, 82\%), mp 97-98 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.56\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.66(\mathrm{q}, J=4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.22\left(\mathrm{dt}, J_{l}=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}\right.$ $=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.37\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 8.66(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.62\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=\right.$ $1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.09(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.28\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 9.54(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 121.4,123.4,123.8,130.2,132.3,137.2,138.5,140.0,150.8,153.2,153.7$, 156.1, 157.3, 192.4. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}: 236.0818[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 236.0819.

## 2. Typical procedure for the synthesis of 5 a and spectroscopic data of 5a-51

To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added (2-aminophenyl)(phenyl)methanone ( $\mathbf{4 a}$, $98.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 mL ), $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}$, ), 2,2'-bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1$ mmol), TEMPO ( $156.1 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and propiophenone ( $2 \mathrm{a}, 80 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 36 h . Upon completion, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\operatorname{DCM}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water ( 10 mL ) and brine ( 10 mL ). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{5 a}$ ( $142.2 \mathrm{mg}, \mathbf{9 2 \%}$ ). $\mathbf{5 b} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{5 1}$ were obtained in a similar manner.

## Phenyl(4-phenylquinolin-3-yl)methanone (5a) ${ }^{1}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid (142.2 mg, 92\%), mp $105-107{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{1} 108-$ $\left.110{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.25-7.28(\mathrm{~m}, 7 \mathrm{H}), 7.41(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.53(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.61(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.79(\mathrm{t}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.24(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.00(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR
$\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 126.5,126.8,127.6,128.3,128.6,129.76,129.85,130.1,130.5,131.9,133.3,135.0$, 137.4, 147.0, 148.6, 148.9, 196.9. MS: m/z $310[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.
(4-Methoxyphenyl)(4-phenylquinolin-3-yl)methanone (5b) ${ }^{6}$
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid (159.4 mg, $94 \%$ ), mp $118-120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{6} 115-$ $\left.116{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 3.79(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 6.77(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.27-7.31(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.53(\mathrm{t}$, $J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.63(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.78(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.23(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.96(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 55.5,113.6,126.6,126.7,127.5,128.2,128.5,129.8,130.0,130.3,132.2$, 132.3, 135.1, 146.6, 148.5, 148.7, 163.8, 195.1. MS: m/z $340[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (4-Phenylquinolin-3-yl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (5c)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid (147.1 mg, 78\%), mp $139-141{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.24-7.29(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.50(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.55(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.66(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.82(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.25(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.04(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta$ $123.5\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=271.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 125.2\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=3.3 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 126.2,126.8,127.8,128.4,128.8,129.7,129.9$, 130.2, 130.9, 131.1, $134.0\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=32.9 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 134.7,140.3,147.4,148.5,149.2,196.1$. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~F}_{3} \mathrm{NNaO}: 400.0920[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$, found: 400.0949.

## (4-Phenylquinolin-3-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methanone (5d) ${ }^{6}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid (141.8 mg, 90\%), mp $123-124{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{6} 128-$ $\left.130{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 6.97\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.28\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=\right.$ $1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.34-7.37(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}), 7.52-7.56(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.60\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.78-7.82(\mathrm{~m}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 8.23\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=0.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 9.04(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 126.5,126.9$, 127.6, 128.1, 128.4, 128.7, 129.8, 130.1, 130.6, 131.9, 134.9, 135.4, 135.6, 144.5, 146.8, 148.1, 148.8, 188.3. MS: m/z $316[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

1-(4-Phenylquinolin-3-yl)ethanone (5e) ${ }^{7}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow solid ( $63.0 \mathrm{mg}, 51 \%$ ), mp $75-76{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{7} 69-71{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 1.97(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.38\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=6.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.52(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.55-7.57(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.70(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.78(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 9.09(\mathrm{~s}$, 1H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 30.6,126.3,127.1,127.5,128.9,129.2,129.69,129.72,130.8,132.2$, 135.8, 146.8, 148.9, 149.0, 202.3. MS: m/z $248[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (6-Chloro-4-phenylquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (5f) ${ }^{6}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $154.4 \mathrm{mg}, 90 \%$ ) , mp $175-177{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (lit. ${ }^{6}$ 181$\left.182{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.26-7.32(\mathrm{~m}, 7 \mathrm{H}), 7.43(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.60(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 7.73\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{1}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.75(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.17(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.98(\mathrm{~s}$, 1H). ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 125.5,127.3,128.3,128.5,128.9,129.7,130.0,131.4,131.5,132.6$, 133.4, 133.6, 134.3, 137.1, 146.1, 147.3, 148.7, 196.4. MS: m/z $344[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (4-Methylquinolin-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (5g) ${ }^{5}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $70.4 \mathrm{mg}, 57 \%$ ), mp $87-89^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{lit} .{ }^{5} 82-86{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right.$ ). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 2.67(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.49(\mathrm{t}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.61-7.68(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.78-7.83(\mathrm{~m}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.84-7.86(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.13\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=0.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 8.17(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.82(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 15.9,124.5,127.3,127.6,128.8,130.1,130.2,130.4,131.9,133.9,137.5$, 143.6, 148.1, 148.6, 197.0. MS: m/z $248[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## (4-Methylquinolin-3-yl)(p-tolyl)methanone (5h)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid ( $73.1 \mathrm{mg}, 56 \%$ ), mp $118-120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $(600$ $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.45(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 2.67(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.30(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.67(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.76(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.81(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.13(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.82(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\left.150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 15.9,21.8,124.4,127.3,127.7,129.6,130.2,130.31,130.34,132.2,135.0$, 143.3, 145.0, 148.0, 148.6, 196.6. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}: 262.1226[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 262.1248.

## (4-Methoxyphenyl)(4-methylquinolin-3-yl)methanone (5i)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). White solid ( $80.4 \mathrm{mg}, 58 \%$ ), mp $91-93{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.65(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 3.88(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 6.95(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.64(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.79(\mathrm{t}, J=$ $7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.82(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.11(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.16(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.81(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (150 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 15.8,55.6,114.1,124.4,127.3,127.7,130.2,130.5,132.4,132.6,142.9$, 147.9, 148.5, 164.3, 195.5. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}_{2}: 278.1176[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 278.1202.

## (4-Chlorophenyl)(4-methylquinolin-3-yl)methanone (5j)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $73.1 \mathrm{mg}, 52 \%$ ), mp $150-152{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.69(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.49(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.69(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.81(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.83(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.15(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.19(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.81(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (150 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 15.9,124.5,127.5,127.6,129.2,130.3,130.6,131.4,131.5,135.9,140.5,143.8,148.2$, 148.4, 195.7. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{ClNO}: 282.0680[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 282.0695 .

## (4-Methylquinolin-3-yl)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanone (5k)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). White solid ( $77.2 \mathrm{mg}, 49 \%$ ), mp $140-142{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 2.69(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.69(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.77(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.82-7.85(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.96(\mathrm{~d}$, $J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.15(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.81(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $(150 \mathrm{MHz}$, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 16.0,123.5\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=271.2 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 124.5,125.9\left(\mathrm{q},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 127.56,127.60,130.3,130.4$, 130.8, 131.0, $135.0\left(\mathrm{q}^{2}{ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{F}}=31.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 140.3,144.3,148.3,148.5,195.9$. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{~F}_{3} \mathrm{NO}$ : $316.0944[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, found: 316.0968 .

## 1-Benzoyl-7H-naphtho[1,2,3-de] quinolin-7-one (51)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Orange solid ( $77.3 \mathrm{mg}, 46 \%$ ), mp $188-189{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 600 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.41-7.45(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.53(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.60(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.85(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.89(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.02(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.46(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.49(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$,
$8.76(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.93(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 123.1,128.7,128.8,129.0,129.1$, $130.1,130.4,130.5,130.8,131.3,132.8,132.9,133.2,133.5,134.6,136.1,136.5,147.6,150.0,182.1$, 197.9. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{NNaO}_{2}: 358.0838[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$, found: 358.0864 .

## 3. Control experiments (I)

3.1. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{4 a}(98.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 $\mathrm{mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}-$ bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), TEMPO ( $156.2 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\mathbf{2 a}(80 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol})$ with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Afterwards, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\mathrm{DCM}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give 1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (C, $7.2 \mathrm{mg}, 9 \%$ ), 3-((2-benzoyl phenyl)amino)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (D, $98.7 \mathrm{mg}, 60 \%$ ), and $\mathbf{5 a}(23.2 \mathrm{mg}, 15 \%)$.


## 1-Phenylprop-2-en-1-one (C) ${ }^{8}$

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (50:1). Colorless liquid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 5.93$ (dd, $J_{l}$ $\left.=10.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 6.44\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=16.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.16\left(\mathrm{dd}, J_{l}=16.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=10.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 7.48\left(\mathrm{td}, J_{l}=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.58\left(\mathrm{tt}, J_{l}=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, J_{2}=1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}\right), 7.94-7.97(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 128.6,128.7,130.2,132.4,133.0,137.3,191.1 . \mathrm{MS}: \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 133[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.

## 3-((2-Benzoylphenyl)amino)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (D)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid, mp $88-89^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta$ $3.38(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.75(\mathrm{q}, J=6.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.54(\mathrm{t}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 6.86(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $7.37-7.51(\mathrm{~m}, 7 \mathrm{H}), 7.53-7.59(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}), 7.97(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.73(\mathrm{br} \mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz ,
$\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 37.8,38.1,111.4,114.0,117.5,128.1,128.7,129.1,130.8,133.4,135.1,135.7,136.7,140.5$, 151.5, 198.2. 199.3. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{19} \mathrm{NNaO}_{2}: 352.1308[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$, found: 352.1326.
3.2. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{4 a}(98.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 $\mathrm{mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}$-bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), TEMPO ( $78.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\mathbf{C}(79.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol})$ with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . Afterwards, the resulting mixture was diluted with DCM ( 20 mL ), and washed with water $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{5 a}$ ( $142.2 \mathrm{mg}, \mathbf{9 2 \%}$ ).

3.3. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{4 a}(98.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 $\mathrm{mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}$-bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\mathbf{C}(79.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol})$ with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 36 h . Afterwards, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\operatorname{DCM}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water ( 10 mL ) and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{D}(154.7 \mathrm{mg}, 94 \%)$.

3.4. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{D}$ ( $164.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), toluene (3 $\mathrm{mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}-$ bipyridine $(15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$ and TEMPO $(78.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5$ mmol ) with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at
$120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . Afterwards, the resulting mixture was diluted with DCM ( 20 mL ), and washed with water ( 10 mL ) and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{5 a}(142.2 \mathrm{mg}, 92 \%)$.

3.5. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{D}(164.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 mL ) , $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 2, $2^{\prime}$-bipyridine $(15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$ with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 36 h . From the resulting mixture, $95 \%$ of $\mathbf{D}$ were recovered.


## 4. Control experiments (II)

4.1. To a 50 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylprop-2-yn-1-one ( $\mathbf{6}, 130.0$ $\mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{DCM}(10 \mathrm{~mL}), 4 \mathrm{a}(394.2 \mathrm{mg}, 2 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(13.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{~mol})$. The mixture was then stirred at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . The resulting mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to afford 3-((2-benzoylphenyl)amino)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (G, $229.0 \mathrm{mg}, 70 \%$ ). ${ }^{3}$


## 3-((2-Benzoylphenyl)amino)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (G)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid, mp 104-105 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta$ $6.14(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.02(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.38-7.48(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.50-7.57(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.79(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8$
$\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.02(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 13.38(\mathrm{~d}, J=12.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(150 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 96.4,115.1$, 121.2, 124.0, 127.8, 128.1, 128.3, 130.3, 131.6, 132.3, 133.7, 133.8, 138.6, 139.1, 142.4, 190.4, 197.1. HRMS calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{NNaO}_{2}: 350.1151[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}$, found: 350.1162 .
4.2. To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{G}(163.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 mL ) , $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 2,2'-bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 10 min . Afterwards, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\operatorname{DCM}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give 5a ( $143.7 \mathrm{mg}, 93 \%$ ).


## 5. Gram scale synthesis of 5a

To a 100 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added $\mathbf{4 a}(985.4 \mathrm{mg}, 5 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), toluene ( 20 $\mathrm{mL}), \mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(90.8 \mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol}), 2,2^{\prime}$-bipyridine ( $156.1 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), TEMPO ( $1.56 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $2 \mathbf{2 a}(0.80 \mathrm{~mL}, 6 \mathrm{mmol})$ with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 40 h . Upon completion, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\mathrm{DCM}(50 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water $(20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and brine $(20 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ and contentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{5 a}(1.313 \mathrm{~g}, 85 \%)$.


## 6. The formation of $\mathbf{5 g}$ ' along with the formation of $\mathbf{5 g}$

The fact that $\mathbf{5 g} \mathbf{- 5 k}$ were obtained only in moderate yields (see Table 3 of the main text) is mainly due to the formation of TEMPO-related side products. Taking $\mathbf{5 g}$ as an example, under the standard reaction conditions, the formation of $\mathbf{5 g}$ is along with the formation of phenyl(4-(((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxy)methyl)quinolin-3-yl)methanone (5g') in a yield of $25 \%$.



To a 15 mL reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-(2-aminophenyl)ethan-1-one (4c, 67.5 $\mathrm{mg}, 0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, toluene ( 3.0 mL ), $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}(9.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), 2,2'-bipyridine ( $15.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), TEMPO ( $156.1 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and propiophenone ( $\mathbf{2 a}, 80 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) with stirring. After being flushed with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, the tube was sealed, and the mixture was stirred at $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 36 h . Upon completion, the resulting mixture was diluted with $\mathrm{DCM}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$, and washed with water ( 10 mL ) and brine ( 10 mL ). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as the eluent to give $\mathbf{5 g}$ ( $70.4 \mathrm{mg}, \mathbf{5 7 \%}$ ) and $\mathbf{5 g}$ ( $50.2 \mathrm{mg}, \mathbf{2 5 \%}$ ).

Phenyl(4-(((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxy)methyl)quinolin-3-yl)methanone (5g'): Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1). Yellow solid, mp 112-114 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta: 0.75$ $(\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 1.02(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 1.23-1.45(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 5.43(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.47(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.59(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, 7.63-7.66(m, 1H), 7.78-7.81(m, 1H), $7.88(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.18(\mathrm{t}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 8.83(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 17.0,20.3,32.7,39.7,60.0,124.7,125.5,127.4,128.5,130.21,130.24,130.3$, 131.4, 133.6, 137.3, 142.3, 148.2, 148.6, 195.8. MS: m/z $403[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$.


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IV. Copies of ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra of 3a-3r





















NO
NO
-
$\xrightarrow{1}$






3f




$3 g$





3h









3 j











$\stackrel{\Gamma}{N}$



















[7] 11

$3 r$


## V. Copies of ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra of $5 \mathrm{a}-51$




5a







5b










5 e








$5 g$









5j



$\qquad$




VI. Copies of ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra of intermediates C, D and G













