Electronic Supplementary Information

Copper(II)-Catalyzed Cross Dehydrogenative Coupling Reaction

of N-Hydroxyphthalimide with Alkanes and Ethers Via

Unactivated C(sp³)-H Activation at Room Temperature

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General Experimental Details

General Information:

Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without purifications. Melting points are uncorrected. ¹H (400 MHz) NMR and ¹³C (101 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian spectrometer in CDCl₃ using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standards. Chemical shifts (δ) are expressed in ppm and coupling constants *J* are given in Hz. Mass spectra were measured with a HRMS-APCI instrument or a low-resolution MS instrument using ESI or EI ionization.

Typical experimental procedure for the synthesis of 2-(cyclohexyloxy)isoindoline-1,3dione 2a



A flame-dried flask was charged with NHPI (1 mmol, 1 equiv, 0.163 g), cyclohexane (2 mL), F-TEDA-BF₄ (2.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv, 0.885 g), Cu(OAc)₂·H₂O (5 mol %, 0.01 g), CH₃CN (10 mL) were added and the resulting mixture being stirred at room temperature for 1h. Then aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture, the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 10 mL), and the combined organic extracts were successively washed with water (20 mL). The mixture was dried over Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate 20/1) to afford the corresponding product .

Experimental characterization data for compounds

2-(cyclohexyloxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2a).

60%, 147 mg, white solid, mp 117-118 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 2H), 4.26-4.19 (m, 1H), 2.04-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.52 (m, 3H), 1.34-1.26 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.6, 133.8, 128.6, 123.0, 85.6, 31.1, 25.7, 24.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{14}H_{15}NNaO_3^+$: M + Na = 268.0944; found: 268.0941.

2-(cyclooctyloxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2b).

58%, 158 mg, white solid, mp 105-108 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.82-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 2H), 4.43-4.37 (m, 1H), 2.04-1.88 (m, 4H), 1.85-1.77 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.43 (m, 8H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 164.2, 134.2, 128.9, 123.2, 88.7, 30.1, 27.2, 25.4, 23.0.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{16}H_{19}NNaO_3^+$: M + Na = 296.1257; found: 296.1266.

2-(cyclopentyloxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2c).

42%, 97 mg, white solid, mp 81-85 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.72 (m, 2H), 4.93–4.91 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.90 (m, 4H), 1.81-1.72 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.58 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 164.0, 134.2, 128.9, 123.2, 90.3, 31.6, 23.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{13}H_{13}NNaO_3^+$: M + Na = 254.0788; found: 254.0799.

2-(cyclododecyloxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2d).

50%, 165 mg, white solid, mp 111-112 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.81-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.66 (m, 2H), 4.40–4.34 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.46-1.25 (m, 16H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.6, 133.8, 128.6, 122.9, 86.3, 28.9, 24.7, 24.1, 23.9, 23.8, 21.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{20}H_{27}NNaO_3^+$: M + Na =352.1883; found: 352.1889.

2-((1r,3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-2-yloxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2e).

37%, 110 mg, white solid, mp 175-177 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.81-7.78 (m, 2H),7.74-7.70 (m, 2H), 4.33 (s, 1H), 2.44 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 1.91-1.84 (m, 4H), 1.75 (s, 2H), 1.67 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 2H), 1.61-1.57 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.5, 133.8, 128.6, 122.9, 90.2, 37.6, 36.9, 31.9, 31.7, 27.7, 27.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C₁₈H₁₉NNaO₃⁺: M + Na =320.1257; found: 320.1249.

2-((tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2f).

89%, 207 mg, white solid, mp 133–134 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.82-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 2H), 5.77 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.37-4.31 (m, 1H), 4.03-4.00 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.90 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.6, 134.1, 128.9, 123.2, 108.7, 69.1, 30.9, 22.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =256.0580; found: 256.0581.

2-((5-methyltetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2g).

70%, 173 mg, white solid, mp 125-126 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.81-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.70 (m, 2H), 5.75 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 4.74-4.66 (m, 1H), 2.29-2.22 (m, 3H), 1.55-1.47 (m, 1H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.4, 134.0, 129.0, 123.2, 108.8, 76.5, 30.7, 30.3, 20.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C₁₃H₁₃NNaO₄⁺: M + Na =270.0737; found: 270.0736.

2-((tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2h).

71%, 175 mg, white solid, mp 122-124 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.81-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.71 (m, 2H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 4.54-4.48 (m, 1H), 3.65 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.11 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.01-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.69 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.5, 134.1, 129.0, 123.2, 102.9, 62.24, 27.8, 24.9, 17.7.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{13}H_{13}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =270.0737; found: 270.0749.

2-((1,4-dioxan-2-yl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2i).

78%, 194 mg, white solid, mp 186-188 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.84-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.73 (m, 2H), 5.23 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.87-4.41 (m, 1H), 4.15 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.87(m, 1H), 3.83-3.79 (m, 2H), 3.54 (dd, $J_1 = 2$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.6$ Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.2, 134.3, 128.9, 123.4, 99.4, 66.1, 65.9, 60.9.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}NNaO_5^+$: M + Na =272.0529; found: 272.0538.

2-(1-ethoxyethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2j).

58%, 136 mg, white oil, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.78-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.68 (m, 2H), 5.26 (q, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.18-4.11 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.76 (m, 1H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.2Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.2, 133.7, 128.5, 122.7, 106.0, 63.5, 19.3, 15.3.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =258.0737; found: 258.0749.

2-(2-chloro-1-(2-chloroethoxy)ethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2k).

70%, 212 mg, white solid, mp 84-85 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 2H), 5.23 (dd, J_1 = 3.2 Hz, J_2 = 8 Hz, 1H), 4.49-4.32 (m, 1H), 4.16-4.10 (m, 1H), 3.92(dd, J_1 = 2.8 Hz, J_2 = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (dd, J_1 = 7.6 Hz, J_2 = 11.6 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.2, 134.1, 128.4, 123.3, 107.8, 70.1, 42.8, 42.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}Cl_2NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =325.9957; found: 325.9950.

2-(2-bromo-1-(2-bromoethoxy)ethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2l).

76%, 296 mg, white solid, mp 110-112 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.86-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.76 (m, 2H), 5.26 (dd, $J_1 = 2.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.55-4.49 (m, 1H), 4.21-4.15 (m, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, $J_1 = 2.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 10.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.59-3.53 (m, 2H), 3.50 (dd, $J_1 = 8.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.2$ Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.2, 134.1, 128.4, 123.3, 107.8, 70.0, 29.9, 29.8.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}Br_2NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =413.8947; found: 413.8927.

2-(1-butoxybutoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2m).

45%, 131 mg, white oil , ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.82-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.73 (m, 2H), 5.10 (dd, $J_1 = 4.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.55-4.49 (m, 1H), 4.09-4.03 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.73 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.47 (m, 4H), 1.43-1.34 (m, 1H), 0.99-0.90 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.9, 133.5, 128.4, 122.5, 109.4, 68.0, 34.8, 31.8, 19.3, 18.1, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{16}H_{21}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =314.1363; found: 314.1372.

2-((cyclopentyloxy)methoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2n).

40%, 104 mg, white solid, mp 72-73 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.75-

7.70 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.78-4.70 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.65 (m, 4H), 1.62-1.54 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.8, 133.8, 128.6, 123.0, 97.6, 80.2, 32.5, 23.8.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{14}H_{15}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =284.0893, found: 284.0881.

2-(tert-butoxymethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 20).

61%, 152 mg, white solid, mp 95-96 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.70 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 162.9, 133.7, 128.6, 122.9, 94.8, 77.1, 28.7.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}NNaO_4^+$: M + Na =272.0893; found: 272.0898.

2-(1-(tert-butoxy)ethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2p).

30%, 79 mg, white solid, mp 68-70 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.34 (m, 2H), 5.54 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.46 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 164.2, 134.2, 129.0, 123.2, 101.0, 76.3, 28.4, 21.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C₁₄H₁₇NNaO₄⁺: M + Na =286.1050; found: 286.1057.

2-((2-methoxyethoxy)methoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2q).

29%, 72 mg, white solid, mp 80-82 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.78-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.68 (m, 2H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 4.10 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 3.59 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 3.36 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 162.7, 133.8, 128.6, 123.0, 99.8, 71.5, 69.1, 59.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}NNaO_5^+$: M + Na =274.0686; found: 274.0697.

2-(1,2-dimethoxyethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2r).

31%, 78 mg, white solid, mp 65-66 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.79-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.69 (m, 2H), 5.10 (dd, J_1 = 4.0 Hz, J_2 = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dd, J_1 = 4.0 Hz, J_2 = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.58 (dd, J_1 = 6.0 Hz, J_2 = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.1, 133.9, 128.6, 123.1, 108.1, 71.8, 59.6, 57.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}NNaO_5^+$: M + Na =274.0686; found: 274.0684.

2-((tetrahydrothiophen-2-yl)oxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2s).

88%, 219 mg, white solid, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.84-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 2H), 6.10 (d, J = 4 Hz, 1H), 3.17-3.12 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.59 (dd, $J_1 = 5.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.41-2.35 (m, 1H), 2.27-2.20 (m, 1H), 2.04-1.94 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 163.1, 133.9, 128.4, 123.1, 97.1, 37.4, 32.9, 27.6.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C₁₂H₁₁NNaO₃S⁺: M + Na =272.0352; found: 272.0344.

2-(1-(butylthio)butoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (Table 2, 2t).

70%, 215 mg, white solid, mp 31-32 °C, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.83-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.23 (m, 2H), 5.36 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.92-2.86 (m, 1H), 2.78-2.71 (m, 1H), 2.14-2.05 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.51 (m, 4H), 1.45-1.36 (m, 2H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 162.6, 133.5, 128.2, 122.5, 93.2, 35.6, 31.7, 28.6, 22.2, 19.6, 13.8.

HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for $C_{16}H_{21}NNaO_3S^+$: M + Na =330.1134; found: 330.1119.

NMR spectra of product



















S15











S20





S22









Electrospray ionization (ESI) spectra of 1-(cyclohexyloxy)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine

1-(cyclohexyloxy)-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine Chemical Formula: $C_{15}H_{29}NO$ Exact Mass: 239.22 (ESI) m/z: M + H =240.3

