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### Supporting Information

### Selective Access to Dipyrazolo-Fused Pyridines via Formal [3+2+1] Heteroannulation of Methyl Ketones with Pyrazol-5-Amines

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Table of Contents	page
1. General	S2
2. General procedure for the synthesis of <b>3</b>	S2
3. Characterization data for compounds <b>3</b>	S2-S10
4. Crystallographic data and molecular structure of <b>3a</b>	S10
5. <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compounds <b>3</b>	

#### 1. General

All substrates and reagents were commercially available and used without further purification. TLC analysis was performed using pre-coated glass plates. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (200–300 mesh). IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer PE-983 infrared spectrometer as KBr pellets with absorption in cm<sup>-1</sup>.<sup>1</sup>H spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/ DMSO- $d_6$  on 600 MHz NMR spectrometers and resonances ( $\delta$ ) are given in parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. <sup>13</sup>C spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/ DMSO- $d_6$  on 150 MHz NMR spectrometers and resonances ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm. HRMS were obtained on a Bruker 7-tesla FT-ICR MS equipped with an electrospray source. The X-ray crystal-structure determinations of **3a** were obtained on a Bruker SMART APEX CCD system. Melting points were determined using XT-4 apparatus and not corrected.

#### 2. General procedure for the synthesis of 3 (3a as an example)

A mixture of acetophenone **1a** (0.5 mmol), 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-amine **2a** (1.0 mmol), iodine (0.75 mmol), and Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (0.25 mmol) in DMSO (2 mL) was stirred at 120 °C. After disappearance of the reactant (monitored by TLC), and added 50 mL water to the mixture, then extracted with EtOAc 3 times ( $3 \times 50$  mL). The extract was washed with 10% Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution (w/w), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporation. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/EtOAc) to afford the product **3a** as a yellow solid (164 mg, 74% yield).

#### 3. Characterization data for compounds 3



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4vl)(phenyl)methanone (3a):

Yield 74% (164 mg); yellow solid; mp 212–214 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1670, 1595, 1497, 1377, 1226, 750, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.70 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 7H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 193.5, 150.1, 142.9, 138.8, 137.4, 137.0, 135.9, 135.8, 129.8, 129.3, 125.7, 120.1, 111.0, 13.9; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>5</sub>NaO: 466.1638; found: 466.1635.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(*p*-tolyl)methanone (3b):

Yield 65% (148.6 mg); yellow solid; mp 230–<u>233</u> °C; IR (KBr): 3447, 1670, 1598, 1575, 1496, 1376, 1233, 750, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.39 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 193.4, 150.5, 146.5, 143.4, 139.4, 137.2, 134.1, 130.0, 129.0, 125.4, 120.4, 120.3, 111.4, 22.0, 14.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 458.1975; found: 458.1966.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone (3c):

Yield 77% (182.3 mg); yellow solid; mp 203–205 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1658, 1593, 1499, 1267, 1235, 1167, 754, 620 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.0, 165.0, 150.6, 143.4, 139.4, 137.3, 129.7, 129.0, 125.4, 120.4, 120.3 (x 2), 111.4, 55.7, 14.2; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 474.1925; found: 474.1921.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(4-ethoxyphenyl)methanone (3d):

Yield 53% (129.2 mg); yellow solid; mp 214–217 °C; IR (KBr): 3451, 1663, 1599, 1575, 1500, 1259, 1234, 752, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 6H), 1.46 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.0, 164.5, 150.6, 143.5, 139.4, 137.4, 129.5, 129.0, 125.4, 120.4, 120.3, 111.4, 64.1, 14.6, 14.2; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 488.2081; found: 488.2088.



#### (2,3-dihydrobenzo[*b*][1,4]dioxin-6-yl)(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (3e):

Yield 60% (150.4 mg); yellow solid; mp 255–257 °C; IR (KBr): 3452, 1660, 1598, 1501, 1433, 1293, 1064, 750, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.38 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 3H), 4.35 (s, 2H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.1, 150.5, 149.8, 143.4, 139.4, 137.2, 130.4, 129.0, 125.4, 120.4, 111.3, 64.8, 64.0, 14.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: 502.1874; found: 502.1870.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(3-nitrophenyl)methanone (3f):

Yield 79% (193 mg); yellow solid; mp 244–246 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1687, 1596, 1499, 1382, 751, 685 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.56 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.58–7.54 (m, 5H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.29 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 191.9, 150.5, 148.9, 142.5, 139.1, 137.7, 134.6, 130.8, 129.1, 125.7, 120.5, 111.1, 14.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: 489.1670; found: 489.1666.



(4-chlorophenyl)(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (3g):

Yield 75% (179.2 mg); yellow solid; mp 218–221 °C; IR (KBr): 3445, 1675, 1583, 1502, 1230, 750, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.38 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 5H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 6H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 3H), 2.31 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.6,

150.5, 143.0, 141.9, 139.3, 136.0, 134.8, 129.0, 125.6, 120.4, 120.4, 120.4, 111.2, 14.3; HRMS (ESI):  $m/z [M + H]^+$  calcd for  $C_{28}H_{21}CIN_5O$ : 478.1429; found: 478.1425.



(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (3h):

Yield 70% (179.2 mg); yellow solid; mp 246–248 °C; IR (KBr): 3447, 1671, 1595, 1574, 1493, 1377, 1214, 754, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.38 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.56 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 3H), 2.32 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 191.7, 150.5, 142.8, 140.1, 139.2, 135.9, 135.1, 131.5, 129.2, 129.0, 125.6, 120.9, 120.4, 111.1, 14.4; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 512.1039; found: 512.1052.



(4-bromophenyl)(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (3i):

Yield 67% (175 mg); yellow solid; mp 209–211 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1680, 1580, 1498, 1378, 1225, 753, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.37 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.57–7.53 (m, 6H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.30 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.9, 150.5, 143.0, 139.3, 136.0, 135.2, 132.8, 130.9, 129.0, 129.0, 125.6, 120.4, 111.2, 14.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrN<sub>5</sub>NaO: 544.0743; found: 544.0739.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(naphthalen-2-yl)methanone (3j):

Yield 80% (197.4 mg); yellow solid; mp 246–248 °C; IR (KBr): 3449, 1662, 1575, 1496, 1434, 1380, 1328, 1104, 759, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.42 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.69–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.53 (m, 6H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 193.8, 150.6, 143.4, 139.4, 137.0, 136.4, 134.0, 132.3, 130.0, 129.8, 129.5, 129.0, 128.0, 127.4, 125.5, 120.4, 111.5, 14.4; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 494.1975; found: 494.1979.



### (3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(naphthalen-1-yl)methanone (3k):

Yield 81% (199.8 mg); yellow solid; mp 295–297 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1667, 1594, 1495, 1435, 1377, 1330, 1233, 751, 685 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 9.53 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 2H), 2.28 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 195.4, 150.7, 143.5, 139.4, 138.3, 136.4, 135.9, 134.1, 132.1, 130.5, 130.0, 129.0, 127.3, 126.0, 125.4, 124.5, 120.4, 111.5, 14.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 494.1975; found: 494.1967.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methanone (3l):

Yield 78% (175.3 mg); brown solid; mp 207–209 °C; IR (KBr): 3450, 1653, 1583, 1498, 1409, 1328, 1235, 752, 684 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.37 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.57–7.50 (m, 5H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.39 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 185.3, 150.5, 143.7, 143.2, 139.3, 137.3, 135.8, 129.0, 125.4, 120.3, 111.1, 14.2; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>5</sub>NaOS: 472.1203; found: 472.1193.



(3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(thiophen-3-yl)methanone (3m):

Yield 46% (103.4 mg); brown solid; mp 197–199 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1667, 1595, 1499, 1460, 1429, 1377, 1328, 1235, 897, 752, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.57–7.53 (m, 5H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.36 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 187.0, 150.6, 143.2, 142.3, 139.3, 136.9, 129.0, 128.0, 126.7, 126.6, 125.5, 120.3, 111.0, 14.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>5</sub>NaOS: 472.1203; found: 472.1202.



### (3,5-dimethyl-1,7-diphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)(furan-2-yl)methanone (3n):

Yield 82% (177.4 mg); yellow solid; mp 225–228 °C; IR (KBr): 3447, 1655, 1597, 1501, 1456, 1378, 1328, 776, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.37 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 5H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 5H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 3H), 2.39 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 180.1, 152.2, 150.5, 149.2, 143.1, 139.3, 134.9, 129.0, 125.4, 120.4, 120.3, 113.3, 111.3, 14.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 434.1612; found: 434.1594.



## phenyl(1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (30):

Yield 47% (75 mg); yellow solid; mp 175–177 °C; IR (KBr): 3445, 2922, 1666, 1593, 1452, 1320, 1229, 1038, 741, 674, 605 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.66 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 4.10 (s, 6H), 2.19 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 194.5, 151.9, 141.0, 136.5, 136.2, 134.8, 129.1, 109.4, 33.5, 14.1; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 320.1506; found: 320.1500.



## phenyl(1,3,5,7-tetraphenyl-1,7-dihydrodipyrazolo[3,4-*b*:4',3'-*e*]pyridin-4-yl)methanone (3p):

Yield 32% (90.8 mg); yellow solid; mp 259–262 °C; IR (KBr): 3445, 1672, 1595, 1423, 1345, 1117, 754, 689 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.51 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.41–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.17–7.11 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.7, 150.5, 147.1, 139.3, 137.7, 136.7, 133.9, 131.8, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 128.0, 126.0, 120.9, 111.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O: 568.2132; found: 568.2136.



#### (3,5-dimethyldiisoxazolo[5,4-b:4',5'-e]pyridin-4-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3q):

Yield 30% (44 mg); yellow solid; mp 165–168 °C; IR (KBr): 3448, 1669, 1593, 1431, 1357, 1286, 1241, 848, 680 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.81–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 2.22 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 190.7, 170.1, 155.4, 140.1, 136.0, 135.4, 129.7, 109.0, 12.0; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: 294.0873; found: 294.0875.



### 5-benzoyl-1,9-dimethylpyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d*']dipyrimidine-2,4,6,8(1*H*,3*H*,7*H*,9*H*)-tetraone (3r):

Yield 58% (109.9 mg); white solid; mp >300 °C; IR (KBr): 3444, 1568, 1123, 615 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 11.72 (s, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47–7.44 (m, 2H), 3.55 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 193.1, 159.8, 155.3, 153.8, 150.9, 136.7, 133.3, 128.9, 128.3, 105.0, 29.6; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 402.0809; found: 402.0799.



# 5-benzoyl-1,3,7,9-tetramethylpyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d*']dipyrimidine-2,4,6,8(1*H*,3*H*,7*H*,9*H*)-tetraone (3s):

Yield 72% (146.6 mg); white solid; mp >300 °C; IR (KBr): 3433, 1714, 1668, 1577, 1427, 1378, 750, 684 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.82 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.43 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.33 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 193.1, 158.8, 155.8, 153.6, 150.6, 136.0, 133.2, 128.7, 127.6, 104.6, 30.4, 28.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 408.1302; found: 408.1300.



# 1,3,7,9-tetramethyl-5-(thiophene-2-carbonyl)pyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d*']dipyrimidine-2,4,6,8(1*H*,3*H*,7*H*,9*H*)-tetraone (3t):

Yield 61% (126.1 mg); green solid; mp >300 °C; IR (KBr): 3435, 1714, 1680, 1569, 1422, 1372, 1274, 1061, 753 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.10 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.36 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 183.5, 158.5, 154.1, 153.6, 150.6, 150.5, 141.5, 132.3, 126.2, 104.2, 30.4, 28.6; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: 414.0867; found: 414.0851.



# 1,3,7,9-tetramethyl-5-(3-methylbenzoyl)pyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d*']dipyrimidine-2,4,6,8(1*H*,3*H*,7*H*,9*H*)-tetraone (3u):

Yield 71% (149.6 mg); white solid; mp >300 °C; IR (KBr): 3441, 1718, 1671, 1567, 1457, 1424, 1374, 1265, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.71 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.32 (s, 6H), 2.39 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 192.8, 158.8, 156.2, 153.6, 150.7, 144.1, 133.8, 129.5, 127.7, 104.6, 30.4, 28.6, 21.8; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 422.1459; found: 422.1465.



# 5-(3-methoxybenzoyl)-1,3,7,9-tetramethylpyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d*']dipyrimidine-2,4,6,8(1*H*,3*H*,7*H*,9*H*)-tetraone (3v):

Yield 75% (164 mg); white solid; mp >300 °C; IR (KBr): 3440, 1721, 1672, 1569, 1456, 1424, 1376, 1260, 1145, 715 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.78 (br, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.33 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 191.8, 163.5, 158.7, 156.1, 153.6, 150.7, 129.8, 129.4, 114.1, 104.5, 55.4, 30.4, 28.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: 438.1408; found: 438.1412.



#### 4. Crvstallographic data and molecular structure of compounds 3a

Figure S1. X-ray crystal structure of 3a

Crystal Data for Compound **3a**:  $C_{28}H_{21}N_5O$ , MW = 443.50, Triclinic, a = 7.483(2) Å, b = 12.280(4) Å, c = 13.156(4) Å,  $\alpha$ = 73.055(4)°,  $\beta$ = 75.131(5)°,  $\gamma$  = 76.779(5)°, V = 1102.2(6) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 296(2) K, space group P-1, Z = 2, m(Mo–Ka) = 0.084 mm<sup>-1</sup>, 10907 Reflections collected, 5863 unique [R(int) = 0.0993] which were used in all calculations. The final wR2 (F2) was 0.1352. CCDC 1498632 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.

#### 5. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compounds 3



















600 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>

































10 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 110 100 













110 100 (