

**Synergistic Effect of Self-assembling and Visible-light
Induced the Oxidative C-H Acylation of N-heterocyclic
Aromatic Compounds with Aldehydes**

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1. General Information

All manipulations were carried out by standard schlenk techniques. Unless otherwise noted, analytical grade solvents and commercially available reagents were used to conduct the reactions. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum (boiling point is between 60-90 °C). Gradient flash chromatography was conducted eluting with a continuous gradient using petroleum ether and ethyl acetate. The known compounds were characterized by ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR. GC-MS spectra were recorded on a Varian GC-MS 3900-2100T. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance III 400 MHz NMR spectrometer with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. The chemical shifts (δ) were given in part per million relative to internal tetramethyl silane (TMS, 0 ppm for ^1H), CDCl_3 (77.3 ppm for ^{13}C). The source of the blue LEDs is common LED lights. The power of each light is 3W. There is 3.0 cm distance between the reactor and LEDs. This reaction could be well-performed using a round bottle (25 mL). Below we will add two pictures of our instrument.



2. General Procedures for Oxidative Coupling between N-heterocycles and Aldehydes

In a dried schlenk tube, isoquinoline **1** (0.5 mmol), aldehydes (2.5 mmol), TBHP in decane (1.0 mmol) and TFA (1.5 eq.) were stirred in 1.0 mL ethyl acetate for 24 hours at room temperature under an nitrogen atmosphere irradiated by blue LEDs. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC and GC-MS, the mixture was diluted by ethyl acetate. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.

3. Mechanism Studies

3.1 Radical-inhibiting experiment

In a dried schlenk tube, isoquinoline 1 (0.5 mmol), aldehydes (2.5 mmol), TBHP in decane (1.0 mmol), TFA (1.5 eq.) and 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidinoxy (TEMPO, 0.6 mmol) or BHT (0.6 mmol) were stirred in 1.0 mL ethyl acetate for 24 hours at room temperature under an nitrogen atmosphere irradiated by blue LEDs. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was detected by GC-MS.

3.2 Trapping of Radical Intermediates with Radical Scavenger 1,1-Diphenylethylene

In a dried schlenk tube, isoquinoline 1 (0.5 mmol), aldehydes (2.5 mmol), TBHP in decane (1.0 mmol), TFA (1.5 eq.) and 1,1-Diphenylethylene (0.6 mmol) were stirred in 1.0 mL ethyl acetate for 24 hours at room temperature under an nitrogen atmosphere irradiated by blue LEDs. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was detected by GC-MS.

3.3 . Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) study

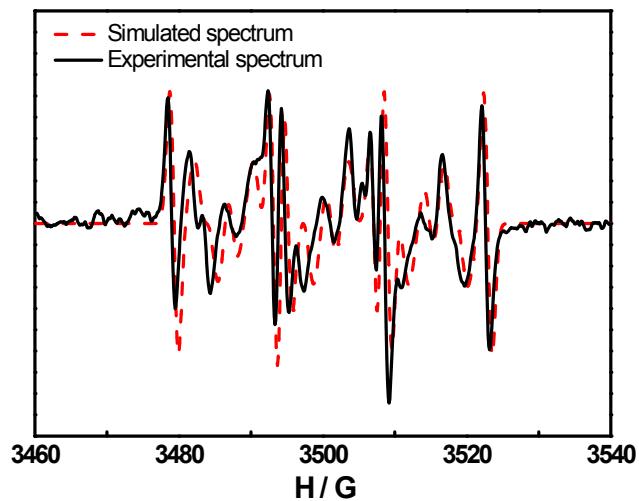


Figure S1. Experimental (full line) and simulated (dashed line) EPR spectrum of the trapped radical intermediates.

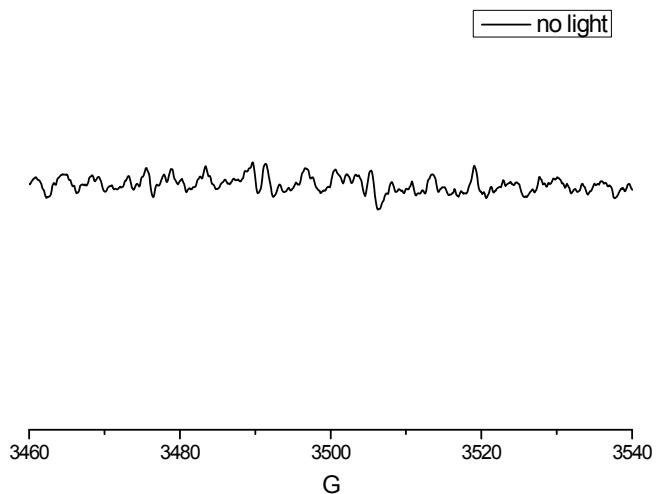


Figure S2. electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) study.

3.4. Controle experiment

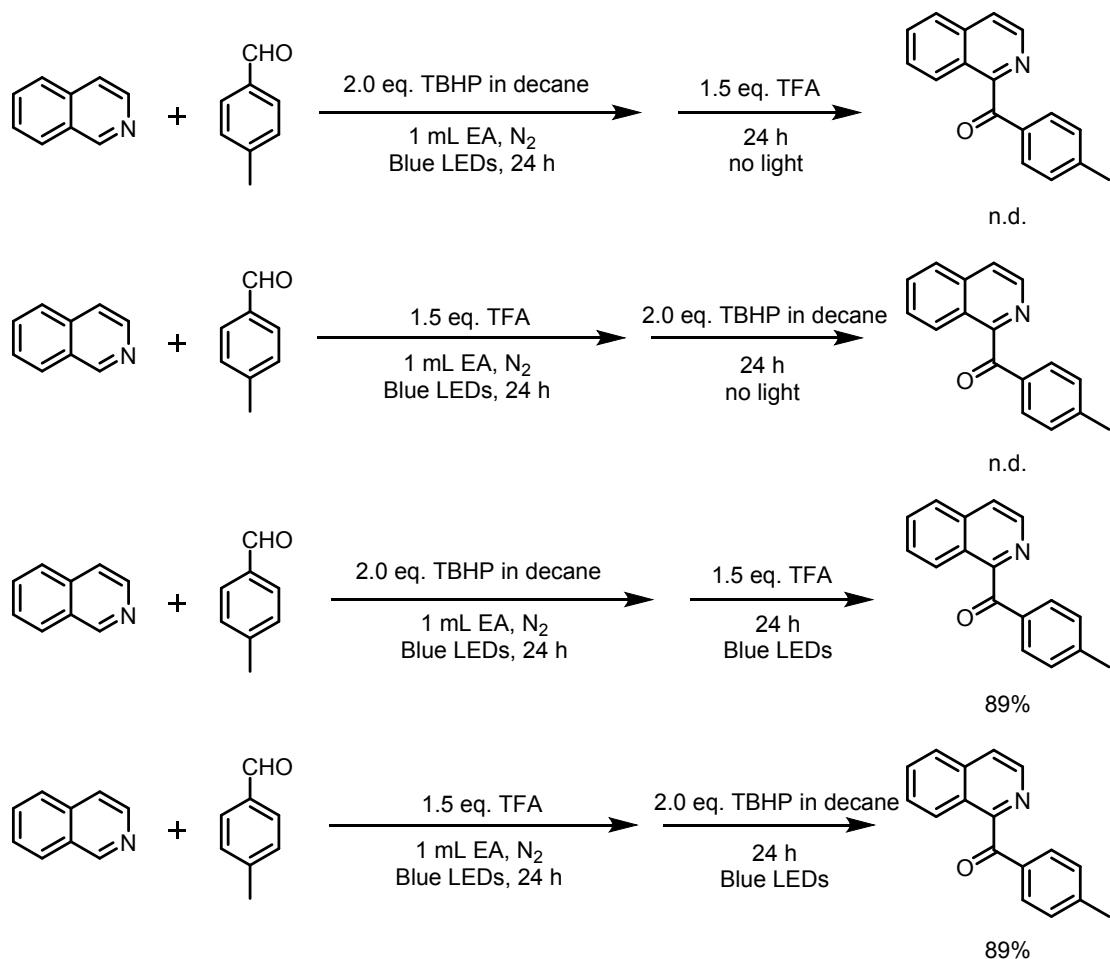


Figure S3. Controlled experiment

3.5. NMR study

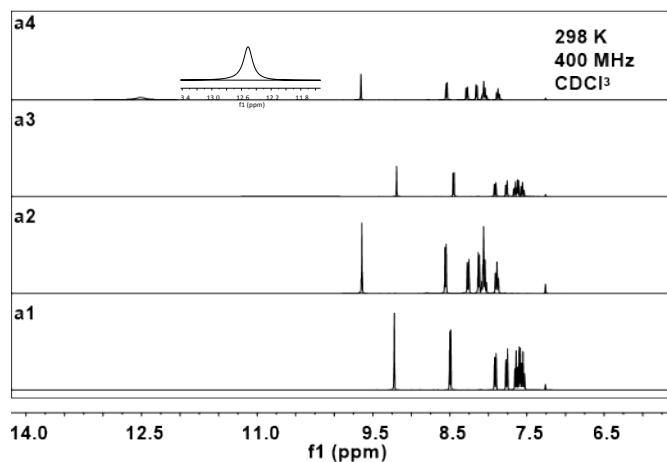


Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectra of (a1) isoquinoline, (a2) isoquinoline /TFA mixture in 1 : 1 ratio, (a3) isoquinoline /TBHP mixture in 1 : 1 ratio, and (a4) isoquinoline /TFA/tBuOOH mixture in 1 : 1 : 1 ratio in CDCl₃.

3.6. UV-Visible study

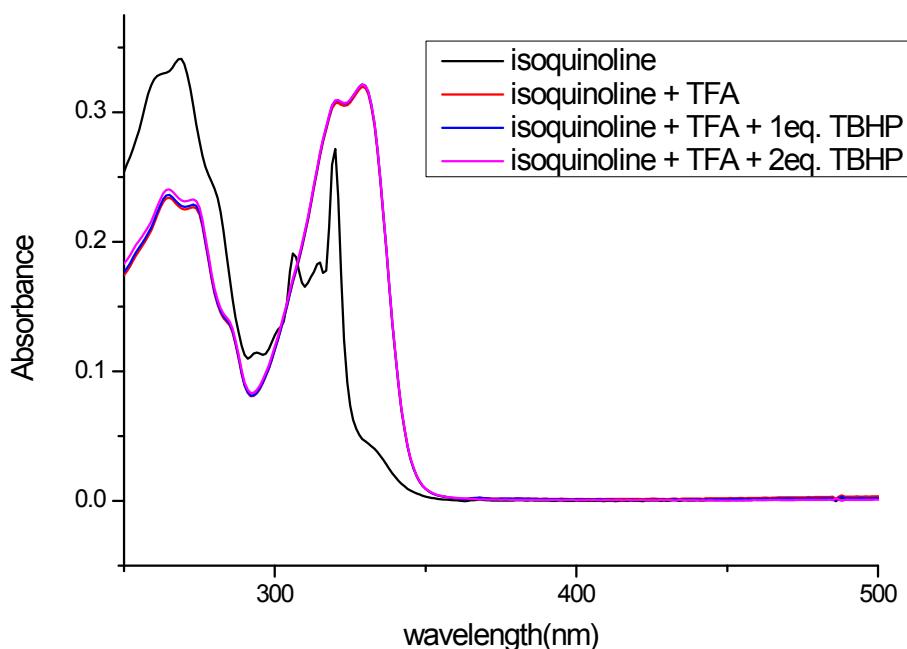
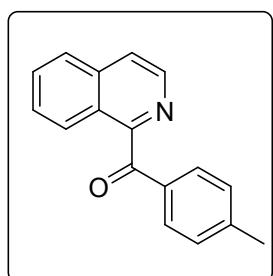
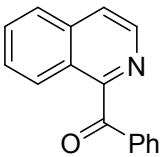


Figure S5. UV-vis absorption spectra.

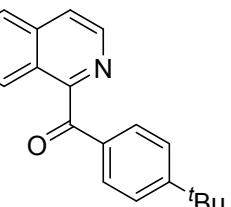
4. Characterization of Products



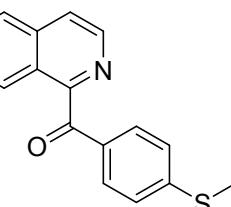
Isoquinolin-1-yl(p-tolyl)methanone [1] (**3a**): 109.9 mg (yield: 89 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.62 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.08 - 8.07 (m, 1H), 8.01 - 7.99 (m, 1H), 7.89 - 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.75 - 7.69 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 194.53, 156.88, 145.26, 141.67, 136.58, 134.05, 131.50, 130.84, 129.82, 129.08, 127.86, 125.84, 125.71, 122.94, 21.79.



Isoquinolin-1-yl(phenyl)methanone [1] (**3b**): 103.7 mg (yield: 89 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.60 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.97 - 7.90 (m, 3H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 - 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.63 - 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.49 - 7.45 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.81, 156.42, 141.17, 136.70, 136.61, 133.74, 130.78, 128.51, 128.37, 127.15, 126.41, 126.14, 122.67.

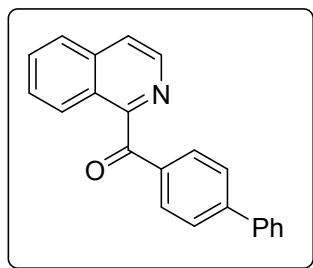


(4-(Tert-butyl)phenyl)(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone (**3c**): 130.1 mg (yield: 90 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.88 (m, 3H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 194.47, 157.59, 156.77, 141.18, 136.70, 133.97, 130.76, 128.27, 127.08, 126.42, 126.28, 125.55, 122.49, 35.26, 31.08. HRMS: calc. for [M+H]⁺ C₂₀H₂₀NO: 290.1539 found: 292.1539.

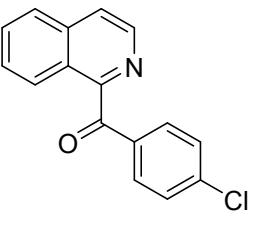


Isoquinolin-1-yl(4-(methylthio)phenyl)methanone (**3d**): 111.6 mg (yield: 80 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 –

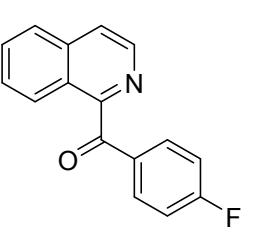
7.86 (m , 3H), 7.79 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.75, 156.58, 147.06, 141.19, 136.70, 132.82, 131.12, 130.73, 128.29, 127.11, 126.39, 126.21, 124.81, 122.53, 14.75. HRMS: calc. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{NOS}$: 280.0791 found: 280.0796.



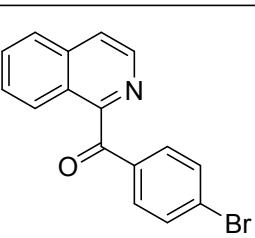
[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone^[1] (**3e**): 108.1 mg (yield: 70 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.61 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.38, 156.44, 146.40, 141.22, 139.95, 136.77, 135.40, 131.43, 130.82, 129.02, 128.44, 128.37, 127.40, 127.23, 127.19, 126.49, 126.24, 122.76.



(4-Chlorophenyl)(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone^[3] (**3f**): 81.4 mg (yield: 61 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.90 (m, 3H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.42, 155.60, 141.08, 140.18, 136.78, 135.01, 132.21, 130.87, 128.81, 128.57, 127.20, 126.46, 126.06, 123.04.

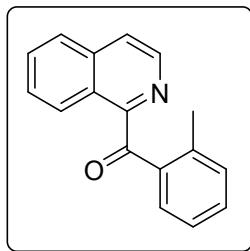


(4-Fluorophenyl)(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone^[1] (**3g**): 61.4 mg (yield: 49 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.04 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.08, 166.12 (d, *J* = 257.0 Hz), 155.95, 141.09, 136.77, 133.56 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 133.00 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 130.83, 128.48, 127.17, 126.43, 126.09, 122.86, 115.69 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz). These data are consistent with reported literature values.^[4]

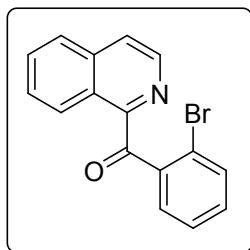


(4-Bromophenyl)(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone^[3] (**3h**): 113.3 mg (yield: 73 %). ¹H

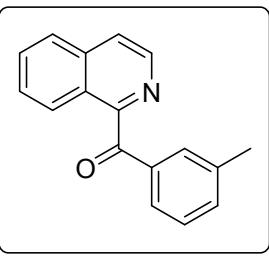
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.60 (d, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.82 (m, 3H), 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.60 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.62, 155.54, 141.09, 136.80, 135.45, 132.27, 131.79, 130.87, 129.04, 128.58, 127.19, 126.48, 126.07, 123.05.



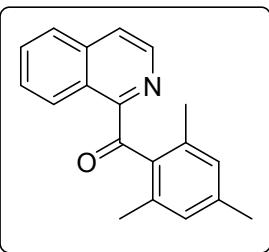
Isoquinolin-1-yl(o-tolyl)methanone ^[1] (**3i**): 104.9 mg (yield: 85 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.55 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.76, 156.97, 141.37, 139.72, 137.31, 136.80, 132.12, 131.90, 131.82, 130.70, 128.60, 127.16, 126.41, 126.25, 125.51, 122.93, 21.37.



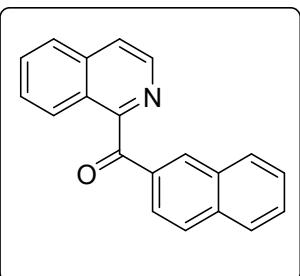
(2-Bromophenyl)(isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone ^[3] (**3j**): 65.2 mg (yield: 42 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.78 – 8.74 (m, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.17 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.93 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 2H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 197.04, 153.15, 141.77, 141.71, 137.06, 133.22, 132.79, 131.43, 131.10, 130.11, 128.13, 128.05, 126.35, 126.05, 125.18, 119.88.



Isoquinolin-1-yl(m-tolyl)methanone^[1] (**3k**): 111.1 mg (yield: 90 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.60 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.81 – 7.71 (m, 4H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.11, 156.69, 141.20, 138.35, 136.68, 136.65, 134.61, 131.07, 130.75, 128.42, 128.32, 128.11, 127.12, 126.38, 126.18, 122.55, 21.37.

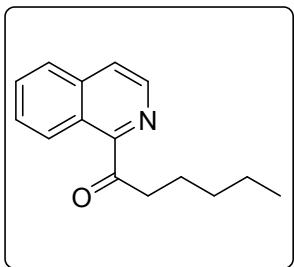


Isoquinolin-1-yl(mesityl)methanone (**3l**): 92.1 mg (yield: 67 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.01 – 9.04 (m, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.72 (m, 3H), 6.89 (s, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.36, 154.24, 141.79, 139.14, 138.43, 137.11, 135.02, 130.51, 129.32, 128.71, 127.27, 126.54, 126.21, 124.29, 21.36, 19.93. HRMS: calc. for [M+Na]⁺ C₁₉H₁₇NNaO: 298.1202 found: 298.1202.

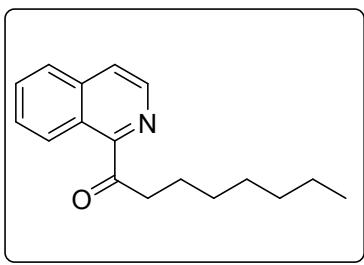


Isoquinolin-1-yl(naphthalen-2-yl)methanone^[1] (**3m**): 86.3 mg (yield: 61 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.22 – 8.24 (m, 1H), 8.16 – 8.13 (m, 1H), 7.93 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 3H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.60 –

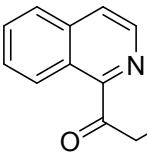
7.54 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.84, 156.72, 141.29, 136.76, 135.94, 134.00, 133.81, 132.38, 130.82, 129.89, 128.93, 128.52, 128.40, 127.84, 127.19, 126.78, 126.52, 126.23, 125.29, 122.68.



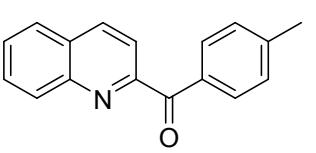
1-(Isoquinolin-1-yl)hexan-1-one (**3n**): 53.3 mg (yield: 47 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.69 – 8.66 (m, 1H), 8.63 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.10 – 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.79 – 7.75 (m, 1H), 3.27 (t, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 2H), 1.71 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.32 (m, 4H), 0.90 – 0.86 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 205.04, 153.61, 141.04, 137.00, 130.34, 128.93, 126.98, 126.72, 125.70, 124.22, 40.37, 31.55, 23.86, 22.59, 14.02. HRMS: calc. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$: 228.1383 found: 228.1384.



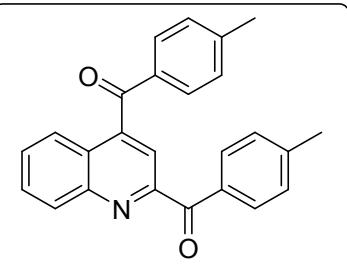
1-(Isoquinolin-1-yl)octan-1-one ^[2] (**3o**): 96.9 mg (yield: 76 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.67 – 8.65 (m, 1H), 8.62 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz 1H), 8.09 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 7.85 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 3.27 – 3.24 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.30 – 1.24 (m, 8H), 0.84 – 0.83 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 205.06, 153.63, 141.05, 137.00, 130.35, 128.93, 126.98, 126.73, 125.70, 124.22, 40.42, 31.77, 29.34, 29.21, 24.19, 22.67, 14.14.



1-(Isoquinolin-1-yl)dodecan-1-one (3p): 139.9 mg (yield: 90 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.68 – 8.66 (m, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.10 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 7.86 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 3.26 (t, J = 21.6 Hz, 2H), 1.70 – 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.22 (m, 16H), 0.85 (t, J = 13.5 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 205.07, 153.64, 141.05, 137.00, 130.35, 128.93, 126.98, 126.73, 125.70, 124.21, 40.43, 31.94, 29.65, 29.55, 29.54, 29.38, 24.19, 22.72, 14.16. HRMS: calc. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}$: 312.2322 found: 213.2323.

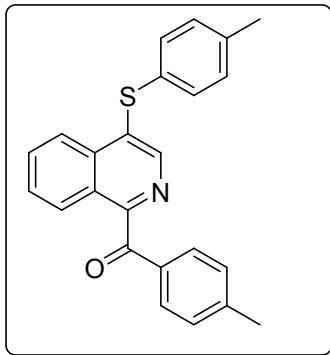


Quinolin-2-yl(p-tolyl)methanone^[2] (3q): 33.3 mg (yield: 27 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 - 7.75 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.56, 155.03, 146.72, 144.06, 137.08, 133.51, 131.63, 130.51, 130.08, 128.96, 128.86, 128.33, 127.67, 120.86, 21.83.

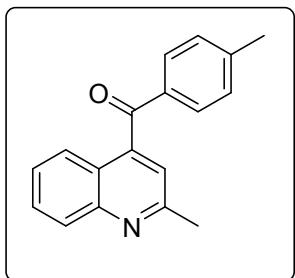


Quinoline-2,4-diylbis(p-tolylmethanone)^[2] (3r): 120.5 mg (yield: 66 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.29 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 3H), 7.65 - 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 2.45 (d,

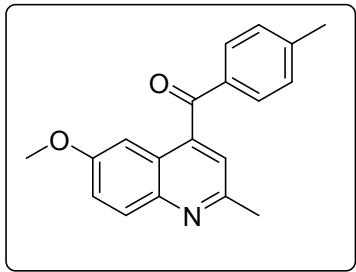
J = 8 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.35, 192.75, 154.21, 147.19, 145.78, 145.65, 144.31, 133.95, 133.23, 131.66, 131.03, 130.57, 129.64, 129.37, 129.04, 125.71, 125.43, 119.37, 21.90, 21.87.



p-Tolyl(4-(p-tolylthio)isoquinolin-1-yl)methanone (**3s**): 110.7 mg (yield: 60 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.38 (s, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 2.24 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.21, 155.36, 144.73, 142.56, 138.30, 135.67, 134.20, 132.12, 131.70, 131.16, 130.91, 130.48, 129.22, 129.18, 128.68, 126.87, 126.36, 124.47, 21.87, 21.21. HRMS: calc. for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaOS}$: 392.1080 found: 392.1084.

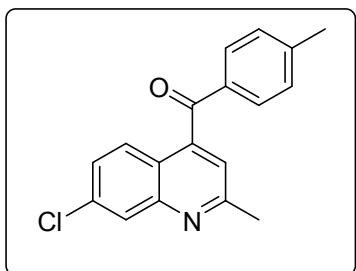


(2-Methylquinolin-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methanone ^[3] (**3t**): 96.6 mg (yield: 74 %). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.69 (m, 4H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.94, 158.28, 148.21, 145.36, 145.12, 134.19, 130.43, 129.97, 129.50, 129.13, 126.60, 125.24, 123.34, 120.27, 25.43, 21.84.

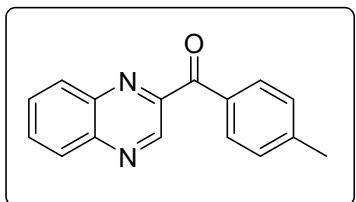


(6-Methoxy-2-methylquinolin-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methanone (**3u**): 116.4 mg (yield: 80 %).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.37, 157.87, 155.35, 145.25, 144.60, 143.24, 134.31, 130.50, 129.48, 124.27, 122.71, 120.96, 102.97, 55.49, 25.06, 21.86. HRMS: calc. for [M+H]⁺ C₁₉H₁₈NO₂: 292.1332 found: 292.1339.



(7-Chloro-2-methylquinolin-4-yl)(p-tolyl)methanone (**3v**): 95.9 mg (yield: 65 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.37, 159.63, 148.72, 145.60, 144.86, 135.85, 133.96, 130.43, 129.58, 128.19, 127.57, 126.57, 121.77, 120.56, 25.47, 21.87. HRMS: calc. for [M+H]⁺ C₁₈H₁₅ClNO: 296.0837 found: 296.0836.



Quinoxalin-2-yl(p-tolyl)methanone^[2] (**3w**): 59.5 mg (yield: 48 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.46 (s, 1H), 8.20 – 8.14 (m, 4H), 7.91 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H),

2.46 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.95, 148.96, 145.34, 144.77, 143.08, 140.42, 132.91, 131.93, 131.42, 130.79, 130.43, 129.38, 129.17, 21.88.

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6. NMR Spectra of Products

