Water-Mediated C-H Activation of Arenes with Secure

Carbene Precursors: the Reaction and its Application

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1.General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out in reaction vessels in sealed tubes. Reactions were carried out without any precautions to extrude moisture or air unless otherwise noted. Solvents used were of analytical purity. All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and were visualized using UV light. Product purification was done using silica gel column chromatography. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) characterization was performed with precoated silica gel GF254 (0.2mm), while column chromatography characterization was performed with silica gel (100-200mesh). ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded with tetramethylsilane (TMS, $\delta = 0.00$ ppm) as the internal standard. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 or 600 MHz (Varian), ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 or 150 MHz (Varian) and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded at 376 MHz (Varian). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from CDCl₃ (δ = 7.26 ppm) or DMSO-*d*₆ (δ = 2.54 ppm) for ¹H NMR and chemical shifts for ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in ppm relative to the central CDCl₃ $(\delta = 77.0 \text{ ppm})$ or DMSO- d_6 ($\delta = 39.6 \text{ ppm}$). Coupling constants were given in Hz. HRMS spectra were recorded on a Waters Q-TOF Premier. Melting points were measured with YRT-3 melting point apparatus (Shantou Keyi Instrument & Equipment Co., Ltd., Shantou, China). Commercial reagents were from Best-reagent (Homepage: http://www.best-reagent.com) or Astatech Chemical Technology Co, Ltd. (Homepage:http://www.astabio-chem.com). All reagents were used without further purification.

2. Preparation of sulfoxonium ylides^[1]

To a stirred solution of potassium tert-butoxide (1.0 g, 9.1 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (1.5 g, 6.9 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 h. Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, followed by addition of acylchlorides (2.3 mmol) in THF (2 mL). The reaction was allowed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After the solvent was evaporated, water (20 mL) and ethyl acetate (20 mL) were added to the residual crude product. The aqueous layer was separated and washed with ethylacetate (3×20 mL) and the organic layers were combined. The organic solution was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the sulfoxonium ylide.

3. Optimization of the reaction conditions (Table S1)

Table S1. Reaction optimization^[a]



Entry	Catalyst	Solvent ^[b]	Yield ^[c] (%)
1	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	[BMIM]BF ₄	49%
2	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	[BMIM]NTf ₂	53%
3	$[Cp*RhCl_2]_2/AgSbF_6$	[BTMG]PF ₆	62%

4	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	PEG400	61%
5	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	Tween-80	trace
6	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	ChCl-EG	trace
7	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	ChCl-H ₂ O	trace
8	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂ /AgSbF ₆	H ₂ O	82%

[a] Unless otherwise noted, all the reactions were carried out using: 2-phenylpyridine **1a** (0.2 mmol), dimethyloxosulfonium benzoylmethylide **2a** (0.4 mmol), Rh cat. (5 mol%), AgSbF₆ (20 mol%), solvent(1.5 ml), under air. [b] [BMIM] = 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium; [BTMG] = N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-N''-butylhydrazine; PEG = polyethylene glycol; ChCl = choline chloride; EG = ethylene glycol. [c] Isolated yields.

4. General procedures for the acylmethylation (3a as an example)



A mixture of 2-phenylpyridines **1a** (0.2 mmol), dimethyloxosulfonium benzoylmethylide **2a** (0.4mmol), $[Cp*Rh(OAc)_2]$ (0.05 mmol) were weighted in a Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar. Water (1.5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 6 h under air. After completion, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (eluent: PE/EA = 50/1) and product **3a** was obtained with a 86% yield.

5. General procedure for C-H activation/annulation of sulfoximines

and sulfoxonium ylides (5c as an example)



A mixture of the S-phenyl-S-methylsulfoximines **4c** (0.2 mmol), dimethyloxosulfonium tertbutylmethylide **2c** (0.4mmol), $[Cp*Rh(OAc)_2]$ (0.05 mmol) were weighted in a Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar. Water (1.5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 24 h under air. After completion, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (eluent: PE/EA = 50/1) and product **5c** was obtained with a 91% yield.

6. General procedure for C-H activation/annulation of benzylamines

and sulfoxonium ylides (7a as an example)



A mixture of benzylamine **6a** (0.2 mmol), dimethyloxosulfonium 2,6-dimethoxyl-1benzoylmethylide **2b** (0.4 mmol), [Cp*Rh(OAc)₂] (0.05 mmol) were weighted in a Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar. Water (1.5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 24 h under air. After completion, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (eluent: PE/EA = 20/1) and product **7a** was obtained with a 81% yield.

7. A large scale of the reactions (7a as an example)



A mixture of benzylamine **6a** (5 mmol), dimethyloxosulfonium 2,6-dimethoxyl-1-benzoylmethylide **2b** (10 mmol), $[Cp*Rh(OAc)_2]$ (0.15 mmol) were weighted in a Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar. Water (25 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 24 h under air. After completion, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column (eluent: PE/EA = 20/1) and product **7a** was obtained with a 75% yield.

8. The synthesis of natural products



Synthesis of decumbenine B

(1) To a 75 ml tube was added benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethanamine **B** (907.2 mg, 6 mmol), sulfonium ylide **C** (721 mg, 3 mmol), [Cp*Rh(OAc)₂] 5 mol% (100 mg, 5 mol%) in H₂O (15 mL). The tube was sealed and stirred at 100 °C for 24 h. Afterwards, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. After extraction and evaporation of the solvents under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc) to get yellow solid (compound **A**) in 30% yield. (264 mg).

(2) To a 75 ml oven-dried tube was added ZnBr₂ (0.045 mmol, 10 mg), RuCl₃·xH2O (0.09 mmol, 22.8 mg), THF (5.0 mL), compound A (0.9 mmol, 264 mg), paraformaldehyde (4.5 mmol,135.5 mg) and ZnMe₂ (3.2 mmol, 1.0 M in toluene, 3.2 mL) sequentially under argon. The tube was sealed and stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. After completion, the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated. aq. NH₄Cl (30 mL) and extracted with ethylacetate (3 x 30 mL). Then the oganic layer was dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, concentrated in vacuo and purified by silica gel column chromatography (5:1 PE/DCM to 200:1 DCM/MeOH) to provide decumbenine B (198 mg, 68%).

Synthesis of Palmatine



Synthesis of Palmatine

(3) To a 75 ml tube was added (2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)methanamine (1 g, 6 mmol), sulfonium ylide E (768.9 mg, 3 mmol), [Cp*Rh(OAc)₂] 5 mol% (100 mg, 5 mol%) in H₂O (15 mL). The tube was sealed and stirred at 100 °C for 24 h. Afterwards, the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. After extraction and evaporation of the solvents under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc) to get yellow solid (compound F) in 37% yield.

(4) A mixture of compound F (361 mg, 1.1mmol), 5-Diazo-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (224.6mg, 1.32 mmol) and $[Cp*IrCl_2]_2$ (43.8 mg, 5 mol %) was added in one-pot and stirred in MeOH (5 mL) at 100 °C for 2 h, The mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a pad of Celite, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by flash column chromatography to give compound **G** in 42% yield.

(5) Under Ar, compound **G** (183.6 mg) was suspended in dry THF. LiAlH₄ (2eq) in THF was added to the mixture dropwise at 0 °C. the mixture was stirred for half an hour and then diluted with EtOAc, and quenched with water. aq. NaOH (4M) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for half an hour and then filtered through a plug of celite. After extraction and evaporation of the solvents under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to get yellow solid.

(6) Then this yellow solid was dissolved in $SOCl_2$ and stirred at room temperature for 1h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and water was added. After extraction with EtOAc for 4 times, the oil layer was discarded and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM. Then the combined oganic layer was dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated in vacuo to provide Palmatine (129.2 mg).

9. Mechanistic study

On the basis of the previously reported examples of the rhodium-catalyzed C-H activation with sulfoxonium ylides, the mechanism of acylmethylation and 1,2-benzothiazines formation was widely recognized.^[1,2] However, benzylamines as C-H activation substrates had two possible paths according to previous related studies.^[3,4] In order to gain the insight into the reaction mechanism, some experiments for the mechanistic study was conducted. First, using α -phenylbenzenemethanimine **9** with sulfoxonium ylide **2b** under the standard reaction conditions was carried out (Scheme S1). α -Phenylbenzenemethanimine **9** was hydrolyzed completely, only affording diphenylmethanone **10** with a 85% yield (Schem S2, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.77 (m, 4H), 7.59 (td, *J* = 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.43 (m, 4H)). This result indicated that aryl imine is extremely sensitive in water, and aryl amine is more likely as a directing group rather than imine.



Scheme S1. The reaction of α -phenylbenzenemethanimine



Scheme S2. The ¹H NMR Spectra of diphenylmethanone

Then, we used **6m** with $[Cp*Rh(OAc)_2]$ to obtained the intermediate **I** (Scheme S3). Unfortunately, we failed to isolated the intermediate **I** after trying our best. Therefore, the ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture was confirmed (Scheme S4). The characteristic peaks showed that the intermediate **I** is possibly a amine complex, which stability is inferior to the imine complex.



Scheme S3. The intermediate I formation



Scheme S4. In situ ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture

The mixture was then recovered for the next reaction with sulfoxonium ylide **2b**. The reaction still performed well affording the desired product **7m** successfully (Scheme S5).



Scheme S5. The reaction of intermediate I with sulfoxonium ylide 2b

To further probe the pathway of this protocol, the reaction of benzylamine **6a** and dimethyloxosulfonium 2,6-dimethoxyl-1-benzoylmethylide **2b** was carried out under Ar (Scheme S6).



Scheme S6. The key experiment for the mechanistic study

The reaction proceeded successfully affording the desired product **7a** with a 80% yield. This result indicated that benzylamine **6a** may occur C-H activation directly without an amine oxidation to imine. According to the relevant research,^[3b] the extrusion of H₂ was also detected by phosphomolybdic acid/PdCl₂ testing paper (Scheme S7). Based on the results above, the possible mechanism for this protocol was more likely to be as shown in Scheme S8.



Schem S7. The test paper changing as the reaction proceeding



Scheme S8. The possible mechanism

10. Reference

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11. Characterization data for the products

1-phenyl-2-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (3a)

 Yield 88% (48.0 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 95-96 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.39 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (td, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.36 (m, 7H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.8, 159.4, 148.6, 139.9, 137.1, 136.7, 133.4, 132.7, 131.9, 129.8, 128.6, 128.5 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 127.3, 123.8,

121.8, 43.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₉H₁₅NOH⁺:274.1226, found: 274.1224.

2-(3-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3b)



Yield 76% (43.7 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 99-100 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (td, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.1, 159.1, 149.4, 140.3, 136.7, 136.4, 136.2,

133.2, 132.9, 129.0, 128.5 (2C), 128.3, 128.2 (2C), 128.1, 125.3, 122.0, 43.4, 20.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₂₀H₁₇NOH⁺:288.1383, found: 288.1381.

2-(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3c)



Yield 80% (46.0 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.42 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.21 (s, 2H), 7.14 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.2, 159.5, 148.6, 139.7, 137.1, 136.9, 136.7, 132.7, 131.6, 130.6, 130.2, 129.4, 128.4 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 123.9, 121.8, 43.1,

21.1. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₁₇NOH⁺:288.1383, found: 288.1381.

1-phenyl-2-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (3d)



Yield 79% (53.9 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 74-75 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.48 – 8.38 (m, 1H), 7.92 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.75 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.21 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.3, 159.3, 153.6 (d, 1C), 137.4, 137.1, 132.8, 132.5, 130.4 (q, 1C), 128.4,

128.4 (2C), 128.2 (2C), 127.9, 125.3, 123.8, 121.9, 115.4, 114.2, 42.7. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₁₄F₃NOH⁺:342.1100, found: 342.1102.

2-(5-methoxy-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3e)



Yield 85% (51.6 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (q, J = 8.4, 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.12 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.8, 159.7, 148.4, 137.1, 136.7, 134.9, 132.7, 131.1, 130.0, 128.4 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 123.6, 121.3, 117.3, 112.7, 55.3, 43.9. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₂₀H₁₇NO₂H⁺:304.1332, found: 304.1334.

2-(5-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3f)



Yield 86% (49.4 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ 198.0, 159.4, 148.4, 138.4, 137.2, 136.9, 136.6, 133.1, 132.6, 129.7, 128.4 (2C), 128.3, 128.2 (2C), 128.0, 123.7, 121.5, 43.5, 21.2. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₁₇NOH⁺:288.1383, found: 288.1381.

2-(5-chloro-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3g)



Yield 86% (52.9 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 55-56 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (td, J = 7.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.14 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.0, 158.0, 148.3, 137.2, 136.8, 135.3, 132.9, 131.9, 131.0, 130.1, 128.5 (2C), 128.4, 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 123.9, 122.2, 43.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₉H₁₄ClNOH⁺:308.0837, found: 308.0835.

2-(5-nitro-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3h)



Yield 56% (35.7 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 111-112 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 8.31 – 8.15 (m, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.24 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 4.65 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.4, 157.3, 148.9, 147.6, 146.0, 137.1, 136.6, 135.6, 133.2, 130.7, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.2, 124.0, 122.9, 122.3, 43.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₉H₁₄N₂O₃H⁺:319.1077, found: 319.1075.

1-phenyl-2-(3-(pyridin-2-yl)naphthalen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (3i)



Yield 94% (60.8 mg). Brown solid, m.p. 98-99 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.42 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.86 (m, 3H), 7.86 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.74 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 4.72 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.9, 159.5, 148.4, 138.1, 137.1, 137.0, 133.3, 132.7, 132.5, 131.3, 130.8, 129.4, 128.5 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 128.0, 127.4, 126.6, 126.1, 124.2, 121.9, 43.9. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for

C₂₃H₁₇NOH⁺:324.1388, found: 324.1387.

1-phenyl-2-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)thiophen-3-yl)ethan-1-one (3j)



Yield 77% (43.0 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.45 (q, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 153.1, 149.1, 138.1, 137.1, 136.9, 133.4, 132.9, 131.7, 128.6 (2C),

128.5 (2C), 125.3, 122.1, 121.6, 39.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₃NOSH⁺:280.0791, found: 280.0792.

1-phenyl-2-(5-(pyridin-2-yl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-4-yl)ethan-1-one (3k)



381.1123.

1-phenyl-2-(1-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-indol-2-yl)ethan-1-one (3l)



Yield 54% (33.7 mg). Amorphous light yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.1, 151.4, 149.2, 138.4, 136.9, 136.7, 133.9, 133.0, 128.7, 128.5 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 122.3, 121.6, 120.9, 120.5, 120.2, 110.3, 106.0,

Yield 77% (48.9 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 100-101 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 3H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.6, 158.6, 148.2, 147.6, 137.0, 136.9,

133.3, 132.7, 130.1, 128.4 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 123.6, 123.5, 121.5, 115.6, 107.1, 101.3, 37.1. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₁₅NO₃H⁺:381.1125, found:

38.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₂₁H₁₆N₂OH⁺:313.1335, found: 313.1332.

1-phenyl-2-(2-(pyrimidin-2-yl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (3m)



Yield 78% (42.8 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 115-116 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 8.30 – 8.22 (m, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.04 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.7, 156.5, 137.7, 136.6, 135.0, 133.4, 132.9, 132.4, 130.9, 130.2, 130.1, 128.5 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 118.6, 45.1. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for

C₁₈H₁₄N₂OH⁺:275.1179, found: 275.1182.

2-(2-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3n)



Yield 55% (28.9 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 72-73 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 6H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 4.40 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.1, 140.6, 140.0, 136.6, 133.1, 132.1, 131.0, 130.9, 128.6 (2C), 128.5, 128.3 (2C), 128.0, 126.0, 106.5, 41.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for found: 263 1182

 $C_{17}H_{14}N_2OH^+$:263.1179, found: 263.1182.

2-(2-(isoquinolin-3-yl)phenyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (30)



Yield 52% (33.6mg). Yellow wax. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.11 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.82 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.59 (td, *J* = 4.3, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 4.55 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.1, 153.1, 151.4, 137.1, 136.5, 133.6, 133.3, 132.6, 131.7, 130.6, 130.3, 130.1, 128.4, 128.4, 128.4 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 127.5, 127.2, 126.8, 120.3, 43.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₃H₁₇NOH⁺:324.1383, found: 324.1382.

3,3-dimethyl-1-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)butan-2-one (3p)



Yield 31% (15.2 mg). Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.62 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (td, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m,

2H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 1.04 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 212.0, 159.1, 147.5, 139.5, 135.6, 132.3, 130.6, 128.7, 127.3, 126.0, 123.2, 120.7, 43.2, 40.5, 25.6 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₉NOH⁺:254.1539, found: 254.1542.

1-((3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-1-yl)-2-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (3q)



Yield 85% (56.3 mg). Colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (ddd, J = 4.9, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.22 (ddd, J = 7.5, 4.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.72 – 1.67 (m, 9H), 1.66 – 1.60 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 212.7, 160.0, 148.5, 140.4, 136.7, 133.4, 131.7, 129.8, 128.4, 126.9, 124.3, 121.8, 41.2, 38.7, 38.4 (3C), 36.5

(3C), 28.0 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₃H₂₅NOH⁺:332.2009, found: 332.2011.

1-methyl-3-phenylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5a)



Yield 35% (17.9 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 94-95 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.1, 138.5, 136.7, 132.6, 128.9, 128.3 (2C), 127.2 (2C), 126.5, 126.3, 123.4, 118.7, 98.2, 45.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for

C₁₅H₁₃NOSH⁺:256.0791, found: 256.0795.

3-isopropyl-1-methylbenzo[*e*][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5b)



Yield 90% (39.8 mg). White solid, m.p. 85-86 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 2.60 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5, 136.9, 132.4, 126.4, 125.6, 123.3, 117.9, 96.2, 45.1, 36.3, 21.3 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for

C₁₂H₁₅NOSH⁺:222.0947, found: 222.0949.

3-(tert-butyl)-1-methylbenzo[*e*][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5c)



Yield 91% (42.4 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 137.0, 132.3, 126.8, 125.7, 123.2, 117.7, 95.2, 45.1, 37.3, 28.9 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₃H₁₇NOSH⁺:236.1104, found: 236.1108.

3-(tert-butyl)-1,6-dimethylbenzo[*e*][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5d)



Yield 91% (45.4 mg). White solid, m.p. 98-99 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 142.8, 137.2, 127.1, 126.4, 123.2, 115.3, 94.9, 45.2, 37.2, 28.9(3C), 21.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₄H₁₉NOSH⁺:250.1260,

found: 250.1262.

3-(tert-butyl)-6-methoxy-1-methylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5e)



Yield 89% (47.2 mg). White solid, m.p. 109-110 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d,

J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.6, 160.7, 139.8, 125.5, 115.2, 110.9, 107.6, 95.0, 55.6, 45.9, 37.4, 29.0 (3C). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₄H₁₉NO₂SH⁺:266.1209, found: 266.1206.

3-(tert-butyl)-6-fluoro-1-methylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5f)



Yield 70% (35.5 mg). Light yellow solid, m.p. 95-96 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (td, *J* = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.0, 163.4, 161.5, 140.2, 140.0, 126.4, 126.3, 114.3, 114.1, 113.9, 113.9, 111.6, 111.4, 94.9, 94.9, 45.5, 37.4, 28.8 (3C).

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -105.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₃H₁₆FNOSH⁺:254.1009, found: 254.1011.

3-(tert-butyl)-8-methoxy-1-methylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5g)



Yield 85% (45.1 mg). White solid, m.p. 155-156 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 155.7, 139.1, 132.8, 119.5, 107.9, 106.2, 94.8, 56.2, 48.2, 37.2, 29.0(3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₄H₁₉NO₂SH⁺:266.1209, found:

266.1206.

3-(tert-butyl)-1-isopropylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5h)



Yield 30% (15.8 mg). Light Yellow solid, m.p. 60-61 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.71 (hept, *J* = 7.1, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 1.47 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H), 1.07 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1, 139.3, 132.5, 126.5, 125.3, 124.3, 113.5, 93.8, 58.0, 37.7, 29.0(3C), 17.1,13.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₅H₂₁NOSH⁺:264.1417, found: 264.1414.

3-(tert-butyl)-1-phenylbenzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5i)



Yield 91% (54.1 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 87 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.41 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 8.1, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 1.34 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 141.1, 136.7, 133.1, 131.7, 129.1 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 125.7, 124.8, 118.7, 95.0, 37.6, 29.0 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₉NOSH⁺:298.1260, found: 298.1264.

1-benzyl-3-(tert-butyl) benzo[e][1,2]thiazine 1-oxide (5j)



Yield 62% (38.6 mg). Amorphous yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 4.76 – 4.50 (m, 2H), 1.21 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 139.1, 132.7, 131.2 (2C), 128.5, 128.4, 128.2 (2C), 126.4, 125.2, 124.9, 114.3, 94.2, 64.1, 37.5, 29.0 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₉H₂₁NOSH⁺: 312.1417, found: 312.1414.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)isoquinoline (7a)

Yield 81% (43.0 mg). White solid, m.p. 148 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCL₃)

δ 9.39 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.67 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3 (2C), 150.8, 146.4, 135.2, 129.0, 128.6, 126.5, 126.4, 125.9, 125.7, 121.4, 117.9, 103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₅NO₂H⁺: 266.1176, found: 266.1171.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-8-methylisoquinoline (7b)



Yield 80% (44.7 mg). White solid, m.p.:158-160 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.59 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H), 2.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.3 (2C), 148.8, 147.3, 136.6, 135.3, 129.9, 129.6, 127.6, 126.4, 125.1, 122.8, 119.1, 104.21 (2C), 56.0 (2C), 18.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₂H⁺: 280.1332, found: 280.1336.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-8-fluoroisoquinoline (7c)



Yield 40% (22.7 mg). Light yellow solid, m.p. 68-69 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCL₃) δ 9.65 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.30(d, *J* = 256.9 Hz), 157.2 (2C), 147.6, 144.6 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 136.6 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 129.4 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 128.8, 121.6 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 120.8 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 117.6, 116.9 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz), 109.6 (d, *J* = 19.1

Hz), 103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -123.3. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₄FNO₂H⁺: 284.1081, found: 284.1062.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-8-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinoline (7d)



Yield 89% (59.3 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 101-102 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.46 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (2C), 150.8, 148.1, 134.2, 130.6 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz), 129.0, 127.7, 127.0, 124.2, 123.6 (q, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 122.0, 121.5 (q, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 117.3, 103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.90.

HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₄FNO₂H⁺: 334.1049, found: 334.1046.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-7-methylisoquinoline (7e)



Yield 67% (37.4 mg). Light yellow solid, m.p. 98-99 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.29 (s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.3 (2C), 151.2, 146.7, 136.7, 134.6, 132.3, 129.5, 127.6, 126.5, 126.2, 122.1,

119.2, 104.2 (2C), 56.0 (2C), 21.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₂H⁺: 280.1332, found: 280.1334.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-7-methylisoquinoline (7f)



Yield 56% (31.3 mg). Brown oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.31 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H), 2.54 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3 (2C), 150.3, 146.3, 139.4, 135.6, 128.5, 128.2, 126.3, 124.8, 124.6, 120.9, 118.0, 103.1 (2C),

54.9 (2C), 21.1. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₂H⁺: 280.1332, found: 280.1333.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-methoxyisoquinoline (7g)



Yield 43% (25.4 mg). Amorphous yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.25 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9 (2C), 157.3, 156.3, 149.7, 146.5, 137.3, 128.6, 128.3,

122.2, 120.8, 119.2, 103.2, 103.1 (2C), 55.0 (2C), 54.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₃H⁺: 296.1281, found: 296.1277.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-fluoroisoquinoline (7h)



Yield 30% (17.0 mg). Amorphous yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.38 (s, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.3 (d, J = 253.0 Hz), 157.2 (2C), 150.3, 147.0, 136.8 (d, J = 10.7 Hz), 129.7 (d, J = 9.9 Hz),

128.9, 123.6, 121.2 (d, J = 5.4 Hz), 117.2, 116.6 (d, J = 25.9 Hz), 109.0 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.8. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₄FNO₂H⁺: 284.1081, found: 284.1067.

6-chloro-3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)isoquinoline (7i)



Yield 40% (24.0 mg). Light yellow solid, m.p.: 97-98 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.34 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.52 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (2C), 150.5, 147.6, 135.9, 135.2, 128.8, 128.2, 127.0, 124.5, 120.5,

117.5, 103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₄ClNO₂H⁺: 300.0786, found: 300.0788.

6- bromo-3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)isoquinoline (7j)



Yield 71% (48.9 mg). White solid, m.p. 68-69 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.34 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.2 (2C), 151.7, 148.7, 137.3, 130.5, 129.9 129.2, 128.9, 125.7, 124.9, 121.5,

118.5, 104.2 (2C), 56.0 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₄BrNO₂H⁺: 344.0281, found: 344.0279.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)isoquinoline (7k)



Yield 89% (24.0 mg). White solid, m.p. 98-99 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.73 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2 (2C), 147.6, 147.3 (q, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 135.8, 130.6, 129.6, 129.0, 127.3, 125.57 (q,

J = 31.6 Hz), 124.3 (q, J = 6.1 Hz), 121.8, 121.7, 117.2, 103.1 (2C),54.9 (2C). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -58.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₄F₃NO₂H⁺: 334.1049, found: 344.1052.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-methoxyisoquinoline (7l)



Yield 74% (43.7 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 138-139 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.33 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3 (2C), 157.2, 149.2, 144.3, 131.0, 128.5, 127.5, 127.2, 122.4, 121.3, 117.8, 103.6,

103.1 (2C), 54.9 (2C), 54.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₃H⁺: 296.1281, found: 296.1279.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)benzo[h]isoquinoline (7m)



Yield 73% (46.0 mg). White solid, m.p. 202-203 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.16 (s, 1H), 8.81 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.3 (2C), 148.6, 145.1, 135.2, 131.1, 130.3, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 126.7, 126.1, 124.2, 122.6, 122.3, 121.0, 117.8, 103.2 (2C), 55.0 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for

 $C_{21}H_{17}NO_2H^+$: 316.1332, found: 316.1331.

5-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)thieno[2,3-c]pyridine (7n)



Yield 30% (43.7 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 170-171 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.28 (s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.2, 147.5, 145.4, 144.0, 134.8, 131.8, 129.6, 123.2, 120.1, 118.9, 104.1 (2C), 56.0 (2C). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₅H₁₃NO₂SH⁺: 272.0740, found:

272.0742.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methylisoquinoline (70)



Yield 95% (53.1 mg). White solid, m.p. 196-197 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.13 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.4 (2C), 158.0, 146.5, 136.4, 129.6, 129.4, 127.4, 126.6, 126.3, 125.6, 120.9, 119.5, 104.4 (2C), 56.0 (2C), 22.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NO₂H⁺:

280.1332, found: 280.1335.

3-(2,6-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-phenylisoquinoline (7p)



Yield 95% (64.9 mg). White solid, m.p. 142-143 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0 (2C), 158.5, 146.9, 139.9, 137.3, 130.3 (2C), 129.6, 129.5, 128.3, 128.2 (2C), 127.5, 127.2, 126.8, 125.6, 121.8, 104.5 (2C), 56.1 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₃H₁₉NO₂H⁺:342.1489, found: 342.1487.

1-methyl-3-phenylisoquinoline (8a)



Yield 56% (24.6 mg). Yellow wax. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H),

7.57 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5, 148.9, 138.7, 135.7, 129.0, 127.7 (2C), 127.3, 126.6, 126.0 (2C), 125.8, 125.5, 124.6, 114.3, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₆H₁₃NH⁺:220.1121, found: 220,1122.

1-methyl-3-(o-tolyl)isoquinoline (8b)



Yield 68% (24.6 mg). Yellow wax. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.0, 152.5, 140.8, 136.4, 136.2, 130.8, 130.1, 130.0, 128.0, 127.4, 126.9, 126.1, 125.9, 125.7, 118.8, 22.5, 20.5. HRMS

(ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₅NH⁺:234.1283, found: 234.1282.

3-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methylisoquinoline(8c)



Yield 66% (33.5 mg). Yellow wax. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4, 148.0, 138.5, 134.9, 131.5, 130.9, 129.1, 129.1, 128.1, 126.6, 126.2, 125.9, 125.4, 124.6, 118.9, 21.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for

C₁₆H₁₂ClNH⁺:254.0731, found: 254.0729.

3-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-methylisoquinoline (8d)



Yield 52% (26.4 mg). Yellow wax. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 – 8.08 (m, 2H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.8, 148.3, 141.5, 136.6, 134.8, 130.3, 129.9, 128.3, 127.7, 127.2, 127.1, 126.8, 125.7, 125.0, 115.6,

29.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₆H₁₂ClNH⁺:254.0731, found: 254.0733.

3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1-methylisoquinoline (8e)



Yield 57% (28.4 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 66-67 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J = 17.4, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 157.5, 148.7,

140.3, 135.7, 129.0, 128.6, 126.6, 125.8, 125.6, 124.6, 118.7, 114.4, 113.2, 111.3, 54.3, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₅NOH⁺:250.1226, found: 250.1228.

1-methyl-3-(p-tolyl)isoquinoline (8f)



Yield 49% (22.9 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4, 149.0, 137.1, 136.0, 135.8, 128.9, 128.4 (2C), 126.5, 125.8 (2C), 125.5, 125.4,

124.6, 113.7, 21.6, 20.2. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₅NH⁺:234.1277, found: 234.1279.

3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1-methylisoquinoline (8g)



Yield 46% (22.8 mg). White solid, m.p. 92-93 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.13 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (s, 2H), 7.67 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.4, 150.3, 139.6, 138.2 (2C), 136.8, 130.0, 130.0, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 125.6, 124.8 (2C), 115.3, 29.7, 21.5 (2C). HRMS

(ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₇NH⁺:248.1434, found: 248.1432.

1-methyl-3-(naphthalen-2-yl)isoquinoline(8h)



Yield 75% (40.4 mg). Brown solid, m.p. 98-99 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.98 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 7.94 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7, 148.6, 135.8, 135.8, 132.7,

132.4, 129.2, 127.7, 127.3, 126.7, 126.6, 125.9, 125.6, 125.2, 125.2, 125.1, 124.7, 123.8, 114.6, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₂₀H₁₅NH⁺:270.1277, found: 270.1278.

3-(furan-2-yl)-1-methylisoquinoline (8i)



Yield 33% (13.8 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 3.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.9, 153.2, 141.9, 141.1, 135.5, 129.3, 126.6, 125.7, 125.6, 124.7, 112.0, 110.9, 107.1, 21.5.

HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₄H₁₁NOH⁺:210.0913, found: 210.0915.

3-(tert-butyl)isoquinoline (8j)



Yield 32% (11.9 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 1.47 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.8, 150.4, 135.5, 129.1, 126.3, 125.8, 125.5, 125.4, 113.2, 36.0, 29.2 (3C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z*

calculated for $C_{13}H_{15}NH^+$:186.1277, found: 186.1272.

3-((3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-1-yl)isoquinoline (8k)



Yield 46% (24.2 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 63-64 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.17 – 2.13 (m, 3H), 2.09 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 6H), 1.82 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.7,

150.5, 135.6, 129.0, 126.3, 125.9, 125.6, 125.3, 113.4, 40.9 (3C), 37.2, 35.9 (3C), 27.8 (3C). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₉H₂₁NH⁺:264.1747, found: 264.1751.

8-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-f]isoquinoline (A)



Total yield 21% (12.3 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 160-162 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.27 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.81 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 2H), 6.10 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150

MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 153.1, 149.7, 148.4, 148.4, 147.4, 140.3, 133.4, 124.0, 123.4, 122.2, 121.2, 111.9, 108.9, 107.2, 107.0, 102.9, 101.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₇H₁₁NO₄H⁺:294.0761, found:

294.0763.

Decumbenine B



Total yield 68% (44.0 mg). White solid, m.p. 224-225 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.29 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.32 (s, 2H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.54 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 152.1,

151.1, 147.2, 147.1, 146.6, 139.9, 134.5, 124.0, 123.2, 121.6, 121.3, 112.0, 111.1, 111.1, 107.6, 102.6, 101.3, 55.2. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{18}H_{13}NO_5Na^+$:346.0686; found: 346.0688.

3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-7,8-dimethoxyisoquinoline (F)



Yield 37% (24.1 mg). Yellow solid, m.p. 122-123 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.60 (s, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.5, 149.3, 149.1, 148.6, 147.0, 144.0, 132.7, 132.4, 122.9, 122.9, 120.5, 119.1, 115.2, 111.3,

109.9, 61.8, 57.1, 56.0, 56.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₁₉H₁₉NO₄H⁺: 326.1387, found: 326.1372.

methyl 2-(2-(7,8-dimethoxyisoquinolin-3-yl)-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl)acetate (G)



Yield 35% (27.8 mg). Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.37 (s, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.76 (s, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 3.99 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 6H), 3.82 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 6H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 3.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 172.3, 151.0, 149.0, 148.8, 148.1, 145.8, 143.2, 133.0, 132.1, 125.7, 123.5, 122.3, 121.3, 119.3, 115.8, 114.0, 61.7, 57.3, 56.2, 56.2, 51.8, 38.9. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C₂₂H₂₃NO₆H⁺: 398.1598, found: 398.1599.

Palmatine



Yellow solid, m.p. 173-174 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 8.73 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.24 – 5.15 (m, 2H), 4.25 (s, 3H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.1, 150.3, 149.4, 146.0, 144.6, 137.8, 133.7, 128.1, 125.9, 123.8, 121.9, 120.3, 118.9, 110.7, 108.7, 62.6, 57.2, 57.0, 56.3, 29.8, 27.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z

calculated for C₂₁H₂₂NO₄⁺ [M-Cl⁻]:352.1543, found: 352.1540.







100 90 f1 (ppm) 200 190 150 140 130 120 ò







--62.493



















































































































