Electronic Supporting Information

Carbon Nitride as a Heterogeneous Visible-Light Photocatalyst for the Minisci Reaction and Coupling to H₂ Production

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General information

Reagents used throughout this study were of the highest available purity purchased from commercial suppliers and used directly without any further purification, unless mentioned otherwise. Pristine and cyanamide functionalised carbon nitride were synthesised according to a previously reported procedure.^[1,2] Amorphous carbon dots and graphitic nitrogen doped carbon dots were prepared as previously described.^[3] All photocatalytic experiments were performed with LEDXON MODULAR 14.4 W blue LEDs (470 nm wavelength). Products were purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm mesh) from Material Harvest. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on aluminium Merck Kieselgel 60 F254 sheets, visualised by ultraviolet irradiation (254 and 365). The amount of H₂ was quantified against CH₄ as the internal standard with a Shimadzu Tracera GC-2010 Plus gas chromatograph equipped with Hayesep D (2m * 1/8" OD * 2mm ID, 80/100 mesh, Analytical Columns) precolumn and a RT-Molsieve 5A (30m * 0.53 mm ID, Restek) main column. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy were recorded on Bruker DPX 400 spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical shifts (δ) of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra are given in ppm and the peaks were internally referenced against the residual solvent peak (note: CDCl₃ referenced δ 7.26 ppm for ¹H and 77.16 ppm for ¹³C). NMR data were reported in the following form: Chemical shift, multiplicity, coupling constant and integration. Attenuated total reflection Fourier transform infrared (ATR-IR) spectra were recorded on a Nicolet iS50 spectrometer and reported in terms of frequency of absorption (cm⁻¹). Mass spectra were recorded on a Waters LCT premier Time of Flight mass spectrometer or Micromass Quadrupole-Time of Flight mass spectrometer. Reported mass values are within the error limits of 5 ppm.

Experimental Procedures

General procedure for photocatalytic reactions

In a 10 mL borosilicate photoreactor charged with a magnetic stir bar carbon nitride (10 mg), heteroarenes (0.5 mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were dissolved in solvent/substrate (3 mL). The reaction mixture was then stirred rapidly and irradiated with 470 nm blue LEDs open to air (a fan was used for cooling). The reaction was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 M NaOH (2.5 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic extract was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure on a rotavapor. To the crude product, 1,3,5-trimethoxy benzene (0.1 mmol) was added as an internal standard for NMR analysis. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography.

General procedure for hydrogen production experiment

In a 10 mL borosilicate photoreactor charged with a magnetic stir bar carbon nitride (5 mg), isoquinoline (50 μ mol), trifluoroacetic acid (75 μ mol, 1.5 equiv.) and 15 μ L of a Pt nanoparticle dispersion (1000 ppm in H₂O) were dissolved in an aqueous phosphate solution (pH 4.5, 2.7 mL, 0.1 M) and THF or DMA as a substrate (0.3 mL). The reaction vessel was then tightly sealed with a rubber septum and purged with N₂ containing 2% CH₄ as the internal gas chromatography standard. The reaction mixture was stirred rapidly and irradiated with 470 nm

blue LEDs. Periodically, the amount of accumulated H_2 was quantified via headspace injections into a gas chromatograph. After 10 h, the reaction was quenched with 1 M NaOH (0.5 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic extract was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure on a rotavapor. To the crude product, 1,3,5trimethoxy benzene (0.1 mmol) was added as an internal standard for NMR analysis. Note: only up to 20 µmol of compounds were trackable in the NMR analysis.



Table S1. List of unsuccessful substrates



Table S2. List of substrates with slower kinetics. Note: These substrates have less than 15% conversion in 48h. The solvent was found to be mostly evaporated in 48h since reactions are performed in open atmosphere.

Supporting Scheme



Scheme S1. Photocatalysed Minisci coupling

Supporting Figures



Figure S1. Structure of cyanamide functionalised graphitic carbon nitride used in this study.



Figure S2. Experimental set-up.



Figure S3. Optimization of carbon nitride loading. Reaction condition: Isoquinoline (0.5 mmol), carbon nitride (mg given in legend) in THF (3 mL), TFA (2 equiv.), unless otherwise noted. Conversion yield were obtained from ¹H NMR.



Figure S4. Screening of solvents. Isoquinoline (0.5 mmol), THF (2 mL), solvent (1 mL), TFA (2 equiv.), carbon nitride (10 mg) irradiated for 12 h, unless otherwise noted. Product yields were obtained from ¹H NMR spectroscopy using 1,3,5 trimethoxybenzene (0.1mmol) as an internal standard. ACN= acetonitrile, DMSO= dimethyl sulfoxide, DCE= dichloroethane, EtOAc= ethyl acetate.



Figure S5. Investigation of various acids. Isoquinoline (0.5 mmol), THF (3 mL), acids (2 equiv.), carbon nitride (10 mg) irradiated for 12 h, unless otherwise noted. Product yields were obtained from ¹H NMR spectroscopy using 1,3,5 trimethoxybenzene (0.1 mmol) as an internal standard. PhCOOH= benzoic acid and TsOH= p-toluenesulfonic acid.



Figure S6 Reusability of carbon nitride. Reaction condition: isoquinoline (0.5 mmol), THF (3 mL), TFA (1.5 equiv.) and carbon nitride (10 mg) irradiated for 10 h, unless otherwise noted. Product yields were obtained from ¹H NMR spectroscopy.



Figure S7. ATR-IR spectra of carbon nitride before (blue) and after (red) five-times recycling



Figure S8. Iodine test. A solution of KI (0.1 M,0.5 mL) and CH₃COOH (0.1 M, 0.5 mL) in samples 1 to 4 along with (1) water (10 μ L), (2) H₂O₂ (30 wt.%, 1 μ L), (3) photocatalytic reaction mixture (10 μ L) after 10h irradiation (4) THF (10 μ L), (5) photocatalytic reaction mixture (10 μ L) after 10h irradiation in water (1 mL).

Product Characterisation

1-(Tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline (1a)

The reaction was completed in 10 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 78 mg, 78% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.42 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.06 (m, 1H), 3.99 – 3.89 (m, 1H), 2.49-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.33-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.13 – 1.93 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.62, 141.57, 136.53, 129.83, 127.32, 127.11, 126.61, 125.29, 120.52, 79.13, 69.00, 30.79, 26.16. ATR-IR (neat) 2970, 2868, 1622, 1563, 1082, 823 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₃NaO⁺ [(M+Na)⁺] 222.0889, found 222.0890.



4-Methyl-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)quinoline (1b)

The reaction was completed in 12 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 71 mg, 67% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (17% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 5.13 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (q, *J* = 7.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.54 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 1.94 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.15, 147.41, 144.97, 129.63, 129.17, 127.52, 125.87, 123.75, 118.66, 82.15, 69.31, 33.37, 26.04, 18.95. ATR-IR (neat) 2963, 2868, 1600, 1507, 1446, 1063, 880, 755 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₆NO⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 214.1226, found 214.1225.



2-Methyl-4-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)quinoline (1c)

The reaction was completed in 40 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 88 mg, 83% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (25% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 5.54 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.22 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.04 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H), 2.63 – 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.85 – 1.76 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.13, 149.33, 147.97, 129.44, 128.98, 125.52, 123.92, 123.05, 117.24, 76.83, 69.02, 33.93, 26.04, 25.59. ATR-IR (neat) 2975, 2867, 1600, 1509, 1442, 1076, 884, 757 cm¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₆NO⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 214.1226, found 214.1225.



4-Bromo-1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline (1d)

The reaction was completed in 10 hours and the desired product (yellow oil, 80 mg, 58% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (14% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 4.07 (m, 1H), 4.03 – 3.97 (m, 1H), 2.53 – 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.40 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.20 – 2.02 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.24, 143.26, 135.12, 131.13, 128.08, 127.94, 126.67, 125.75, 119.35, 78.80, 69.10, 30.62, 26.15. ATR-IR (neat) 2948, 2869, 1615, 1563, 1447, 1047, 920, 757, 664 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₂BrNNaO⁺ [(M+Na)⁺] 299.9994, found 300.0006.



3-Methyl-1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline (1e)

The reaction was completed in 6 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 70 mg, 66% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (13% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*): δ 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 5.67 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.22 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.04 –3.99 (m, 1H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.63 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.43 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.26 – 2.03 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.88, 150.21, 137.46, 129.67, 126.76, 126.04, 125.36, 124.78, 118.48,

79.84, 68.96, 30.72, 26.15, 24.44. ATR-IR (neat) 2951, 2870, 1622, 1591,1440, 1052, 876, 748 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{14}H_{16}NO^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 214.1226, found 214.1226.



6-Bromo-1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline (1f)

The reaction was completed in 10 hours and the desired product (yellow oil, 62 mg, 52% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (14% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.51 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.60 – 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.44 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 2.24 – 2.04 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.96, 142.69, 137.81, 130.66, 129.43, 127.38, 125.19, 124.69, 119.54, 79.32, 69.10, 30.62, 26.20. ATR-IR (neat) 2969, 2867, 1610, 1557, 1451, 1049, 822, 774, 665 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₃BrNO⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 278.0175, found 278.0178.



5-Bromo-1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline (1g)

The reaction was completed in 4 hours and the desired product (white powder, 68 mg, 50% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (14% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.58 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.94 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.69 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.16 – 3.99 (m, 1H), 4.07 – 3.94 (m, 1H), 2.59 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.44 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.23 – 1.96 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.08, 143.01, 135.72, 133.70, 127.91, 127.47, 125.23, 122.36, 119.44, 79.11, 69.13, 30.69, 26.20. ATR-IR (neat) 2964, 2881, 1609, 1575, 1487, 1055, 836, 748, 663 cm⁻¹ HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₂BrNNaO⁺ [(M+Na)⁺] 299.9994, found 300.0013.



Methyl 1-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)isoquinoline-3-carboxylate (1h)

The reaction was completed in 7 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 68 mg, 60% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (14% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.53 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 8.05 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.85 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 5.70 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.09 – 4.03 (m, 4H), 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.20

(m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.63, 160.13, 140.15, 136.51, 130.63, 129.43, 128.89, 128.30, 126.13, 124.27, 80.55, 69.10, 52.82, 30.37, 26.22. ATR-IR (neat) 2946, 2873, 1713, 1568, 1450, 1052, 909, 750 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₆NO₃⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 258.1125, found 258.1130.



Methyl 6-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)nicotinate (1i)

The reaction was completed in 5.5 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 77 mg, 75% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (14% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 9.12 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (m, 1H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 4.01 – 3.95 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.50 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.84, 165.92, 150.44, 137.85, 124.52, 119.35, 81.26, 69.33, 52.41, 33.24, 25.83. ATR-IR (neat) 2952, 2873, 1722, 1596, 1435, 1284, 1066, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₁₃NO₃Na⁺ [(M+Na)⁺] 230.0788, found 230.0786.



Ethyl -6-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)nicotinate (1j)

The reaction was completed in 7 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 66 mg, 60% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 9.09 (dd, J = 2.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dt, J = 8.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (dd, J = 7.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.10 – 4.02 (m, 1H), 3.98 – 3.92 (m, 1H), 2.47 – 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.88 (m, 3H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.65, 165.36, 150.36, 137.72, 124.76, 119.22, 81.20, 69.25, 61.31, 33.18, 25.76, 14.33. ATR-IR (neat) 2980, 2873, 1717, 1596, 1267, 1067, 737 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₆NO₃⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 222.1125, found 222.1122.



2-Methyl-6-(tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)nicotinonitrile (1k)

The reaction completed in 6 hours and the desired product (white powder, 66 mg, 70% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (td, *J* = 8.4, 8.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (dt, *J* = 8.2, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.42 (dddt, *J* = 9.1, 6.2, 4.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.00 – 1.85 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.24, 160.98, 140.65, 117.27, 116.89, 107.20, 81.08, 69.35, 33.18, 25.71, 23.66. ATR–IR (neat) 2984, 2918, 2230, 1587, 1565, 1451, 1072, 847 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₁₃N₂O⁺ [(M+H)+] 189.1022, found 189.1024.



1-(6-(Tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)pyridin-3-yl)ethan-1-one (11)

The reaction completed in 5 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 65 mg, 69% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (30% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 9.06 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (dd, J = 7.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.04 (m, 1H), 4.03 – 3.93 (m, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.50 – 2.39 (m, 1H), 2.01 – 1.90 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.65, 167.97, 149.54, 136.33, 131.01, 119.66, 81.24, 69.34, 33.22, 26.81, 25.83. ATR–IR (neat) 2977, 2872, 1684, 1590, 1266, 1065, 847 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₁₄NO₂⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 192.1019, found 192.1022.



1-(Tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)Isoquinoline^[4] (2a)

The reaction was completed in 48 hours and the desired product (yellow oil, 54 mg, 50% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (ddt, *J* = 11.5, 4.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (td, *J* = 11.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.17 – 2.01 (m, 2H), 1.97 (dq, *J* = 12.8, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 1.89 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.61 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.68, 141.80, 136.65, 129.74, 127.37, 126.98, 126.07, 125.25, 120.51, 79.32, 69.43, 31.07, 25.92, 23.90. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₅NNaO⁺ [(M+Na)⁺] 236.1046, found 236.1045.



1-(1,4-Dioxan-2-yl)isoquinoline^[4] (2b)

The reaction was completed in 48 hours and the desired product (yellow oil, 64 mg, 60% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.52 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 5.46 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.20 – 4.04 (m, 4H), 3.94 – 3.81 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.09, 141.96, 136.58, 130.13, 127.58, 126.61, 124.80, 121.16, 75.96, 70.40, 67.69, 66.63. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₄NO₂⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 216.1019, found 216.1025.

1-(1,3-Dioxolan-2-yl)isoquinoline^[4] (2c)

The reaction was completed in 14 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 73 mg, 64% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (25% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.53 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 - 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.60 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 4.38 - 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.23 – 4.14 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.74, 141.63, 136.86, 130.17, 127.47, 127.34, 126.46, 125.32, 122.06, 103.62, 65.63. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₂NO₂⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 202.0863, found 202.0860.



1-(1,3-Dioxolan-4-yl)isoquinoline^[4] (2c')

The reaction was completed in 14 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 24 mg, 19% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (15% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 5.80 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 4.59 (dd, J = 8.1, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) § 156.48, 141.64, 136.78, 130.29, 127.70, 127.61, 127.06, 125.14, 121.38, 96.19, 76.36, 68.60. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{12}H_{12}NO_2^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 202.0863, found 202.0861.



The reaction was completed in 14 hours and the desired product (white solid, 19 mg, 25% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 5.05 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) & 157.55, 140.53, 135.99, 130.59, 127.66, 127.49, 123.29, 120.43, 61.54. ATR-IR (neat) 3139, 2925, 2847, 1622, 1588, 1346, 1022, 829, 746 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{10}H_{10}NO^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 160.0757, found 160.0758.



The reaction was completed in 28 hours and the desired product (white powder, 43 mg, 50% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 5.59 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 1.60 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.30, 140.56, 136.58, 130.37, 127.66, 127.45, 124.72, 124.31, 120.60, 66.09, 25.53. ATR-IR (neat) 3147, 2974, 2876, 1622, 1591, 1442, 1069, 874, 748 cm⁻¹.HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₁₂NO⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 174.0914, found 174.0914.



OH 1-(Isoquinolin-1-yl)propan-1-ol (3c)

The reaction was completed in 36 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 50 mg, 53% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (20% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.44 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 5.42 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (dqd, *J* = 14.8, 7.4, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (dp, *J* = 14.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.36, 140.44, 136.51, 130.32, 127.62, 127.35, 124.97, 124.27, 120.50, 70.76, 32.10, 9.81. ATR-IR(neat) 3392, 2963, 2874, 1623, 1564, 1376, 1050, 823, 743 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₄NO⁺ [(M+H)+] 188.1070, found 188.1070.



1-(Isoquinolin-1-yl)butan-1-ol (3d)

The reaction was completed in 48 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 53 mg, 53% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (25% ethyl acetate/hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.44 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 7.98 (m, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 5.54 – 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 1.99 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.64 (dtdd, *J* = 20.4, 10.0, 6.4, 4.5 Hz, 2H), 1.55 – 1.45 (m, 1H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.69, 140.51, 136.54, 130.32, 127.65, 127.39, 124.91, 124.25, 120.49, 69.56, 41.57, 18.96, 14.14. ATR-IR(neat) 3395, 2957, 2870, 1623, 1564, 1377, 1011, 822, 744 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₆NO⁺ [(M+H)⁺] 202.1226, found 202.1227.

Note: A mixture of isomers were observed for the Minisci-type coupling of amides with *N*-heteroarenes and thus NMR spectra are not analysed but the spectra are reported in the next section.



N-(Isoquinolin-1-ylmethyl)-N-methylacetamide^[5] (4a)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 11 hours and the desired product (white solid, 101 mg, 95% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR (neat) 3447, 2929, 1623, 1583, 1402, 1008, 747 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{13}H_{15}N_2O^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 215.1179, found 215.1179.



N-((4-Bromoisoquinolin-1-yl)methyl)-N-methylacetamide (4b)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 15 hours and the desired product (yellow solid, 140 mg, 96% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (10% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR (neat) 3404, 2952, 1628, 1613, 1412, 1016, 748 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{13}H_{13}BrNO_2Na^+$ [(M+Na)⁺] 293.0284, found 293.0282.



N-Methyl-N-((4-methylquinolin-2-yl)methyl)acetamide (4c)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 12 hours and the desired product (yellow solid, 82 mg, 72% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR (neat) 3453, 2930, 1628, 1613, 1398, 1030, 758 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{14}H_{17}NO_2^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 229.1335, found 229.1334.



N-(Isoquinolin-1-ylmethyl)-N-methylformamide (4d)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 12 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 140 mg, 75% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR (neat) 3317, 2924, 1664, 1600, 1397, 1063, 854, 771 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{12}H_{13}N_2O^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 201.1022, found 201.1022.



N-((4-Bromoisoquinolin-1-yl)methyl)-N-methylformamide (4e)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 16 hours and the desired product (yellow solid, 129 mg, 93% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR(neat) 2924, 1653, 1560, 1393, 1087, 898, 756 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{12}H_{11}NONa^+$ [(M+Na)⁺] 300.9947, found 300.9944.



N-Methyl-N-((4-methylquinolin-2-yl)methyl)formamide (4f)

(a mixture of anti and syn isomers) The reaction was completed in 19 hours and the desired product (white solid, 75 mg, 71% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR(neat) 3450, 2923, 1659, 1585, 1387, 1081, 826, 748 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{13}H_{14}NO_2Na^+$ [(M+Na)⁺] 237.0998, found 237.0995.



1-[(Isoquinolin-1'-yl)methyl]pyrrolidin-2-one and 5-(Isoquinolin-1'-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one (4g)

(a mixture of isomers) The reaction was completed in 20 hours and the desired product (colourless oil, 109 mg, 97% yield) was obtained by flash chromatography (5% MeOH/ethyl acetate). ATR-IR(neat) 3455, 2925, 1667,1623, 1394, 1112, 826, 749 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{14}H_{15}N_2O^+$ [(M+H)⁺] 227.1179, found 227.1177.

Spectral Data for Products









S19







f1 (ppm)























S32









S36





Supporting References

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End of Supporting Information