Supporting Information

Transition-metal-free selective pyrimidines and pyridines formation from aromatic ketones, aldehydes and ammonium salts

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1. General information

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of oxygen unless otherwise noted. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (200-300 mesh). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker-AV (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) instrument internally referenced to tetramethylsilane (TMS) or chloroform. Mass spectra was measured on Agilent 5975 GC-MS instrument (EI). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) was conducted using electrospraying ionization (ESI) and was performed on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL at Keecloud (Shanghai) Biotechnology co. LTD. The structure of known compounds were further corroborated by comparing their ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR data and MS data with those of literature. All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification unless otherwise noted.

2. General procedure for the synthesis of pyrimidines

A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with aromatic ketones (0.2 mmol), aromatic aldehydes (0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (0.08 mmol), DMSO (0.1 mmol) and chlorobenzene (0.8 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with oxygen for three times and stirred at 130 $^{\circ}$ C for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

3. General procedure for the synthesis of pyridines

A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with aromatic ketones (0.6 mmol), aromatic aldehydes (0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (0.4 mmol), DMSO (0.6 mmol) and chlorobenzene (0.8 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with oxygen for three times and stirred at 130 °C for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

4. Characterization of products

2,4-Diphenyl-6-(*p*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3aa, CAS: 71103-76-9)^[1]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO

(7.1 µL, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3aa** as white solid; yield: 50.2 mg (78%), mp 143-146 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.57-7.51(m, 6H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.6, 164.5, 164.4, 141.1, 138.2, 137.6, 134.6, 130.7, 130.5, 129.6, 128.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 127.1, 109.9, 21.5.

2,4,6-Tri-*p*-tolylpyrimidine (3ab)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-methylbenzaldehyde (71.0 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ab** as white solid; yield: 56.6 mg (81%), mp 238-240 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 6H), 2.45 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.4, 164.4, 140.9, 140.6, 135.6, 134.9, 129.6, 129.1, 128.4, 127.1, 109.3, 21.5, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 351.1856, found 351.1855.

2,4-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3ac)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-methylbenzaldehyde (72.9 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column

chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ac** as white solid; yield: 53.5 mg (70%), mp 157-159 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 3.91 (s, 6H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.2, 164.0, 163.9, 161.7, 161.6, 140.9, 134.9, 131.1, 130.1, 130.0, 129.5, 128.7, 127.1, 114.1, 113.6, 108.4, 55.4, 55.3, 21.6; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 383.1754, found 383.1752.

2,4-Bis(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-6-(*p*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3ad)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-(*tert*-butyl)benzaldehyde (100.3 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ad** as white solid; yield: 53.5 mg (70%), mp 175-178 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.63 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (t, J = 8.9 Hz, 4H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 4H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 18H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.4, 164.4, 164.3, 154.0, 153.7, 140.9, 135.6, 134.9, 134.8, 129.5, 128.2, 127.1, 127.0, 125.8, 125.3, 109.4, 34.8, 34.8, 31.3, 31.2, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₁H₃₅N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 435.2795, found 435.2798.

2,4-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(*p*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3ae)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-fluorobenzaldehyde (64.4 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2

mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ae** as white solid; yield: 54.4 mg (76%), mp 193-196 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.70 (dd, J = 8.8, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 8.26 (dd, J = 8.8, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 4H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.9, 164.8 (d, J = 248.7 Hz), 164.6 (d, J = 249.4 Hz), 163.6, 141.32, 134.60, 134.37, 133.72, 130.6 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 129.7, 129.3 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 127.2, 115.9 (d, J = 21.6 Hz), 115.3 (d, J = 21.5 Hz), 109.4, 21.4; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{23}H_{17}F_2N_2^+$ [M+H]⁺ 359.1354, found 359.1358.

2,4-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3af)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (84.3 mg, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3af** as white solid; yield: 49.6 mg (64%), mp 146-148 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.63 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.0, 163.5, 163.4, 141.5, 137.0, 136.9, 136.5, 135.9, 134.3, 129.8, 129.7, 129.2, 128.7, 128.5, 127.2, 109.8, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₇Cl₂N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 391.0763, found 391.0768.

4-(*p*-Tolyl)-2,6-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyrimidine (3ag)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (81.9 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ag** as white solid; yield: 45.3 mg (49%), mp 211-213 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.2, 163.2, 141.8, 141.1, 140.5, 133.9, 132.5 (q, *J* = 32.4 Hz), 132.3 (q, *J* = 32.1 Hz), 129.8, 128.7, 127.5, 127.2, 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 125.3 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J* = 270.6 Hz), 123.9 (q, *J* = 270.7 Hz), 110.7, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₁₇F₆N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 459.1290, found 459.1296.

4-(*p*-Tolyl)-2,6-bis(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)pyrimidine (3ah)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzaldehyde (85.7 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ah** as white solid; yield: 41.2 mg (42%), mp 98-100 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 6H), 2.47 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.9, 163.3, 163.2, 151.2, 151.2, 141.6, 136.5, 135.9, 134.2, 130.1, 129.7, 128.8, 127.1, 121.0, 120.5, 120.5 (q, *J* = 257.2 Hz), 120.4 (q, *J* = 256.4 Hz), 109.8, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₁₇F₆N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 491.1189, found 491.1186.

2,4-Di-*m*-tolyl-6-(*p*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3ai)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3-methylbenzaldehyde (70.7 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ai** as white solid; yield: 51.5 mg (74%), mp 168-170 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.52 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.10-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 4H), 2.51 (s, 6H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.8, 164.5, 141.1, 138.6, 138.2, 138.0, 137.6, 134.7, 131.4, 131.3, 129.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 127.9, 127.2, 125.7, 124.4, 110.0, 21.6, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 351.1856, found 351.1855.

2,4-Bis(3-methoxyphenyl)-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3aj)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3-methoxybenzaldehyde (73.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) to give **3aj** as white solid; yield: 47.9 mg (63%), mp 132-135 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.6, 164.3, 164.1, 160.1, 159.8, 141.2, 139.6, 139.0, 134.6, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 127.2, 121.0, 119.6, 116.4, 116.2, 113.5, 112.7, 110.2, 55.4, 55.4, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 383.1754, found 383.1752.

2,4-Bis(3-chlorophenyl)-6-(*p*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3ak)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3-chlorobenzaldehyde (68.0 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ak** as white solid; yield: 46.8 mg (60%), mp 107-109 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.58 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.13 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 163.0, 141.5, 139.7, 139.0, 135.0, 134.5, 133.9, 130.7, 130.6, 130.1, 129.6, 128.4, 127.2, 127.1, 126.5, 125.3, 110.1, 21.49; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₃H₁₇Cl₂N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 391.0763, found 391.0768.

2,4-Di-o-tolyl-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3al)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 2-methylbenzaldehyde (69.4 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3al** as white solid; yield: 31.6 mg (45%), mp 123-125 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 8H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 167.8, 167.1, 163.7, 141.2, 138.7, 138.6, 137.5, 136.1, 134.4, 131.2, 131.1, 130.8, 129.7, 129.6, 129.2, 127.2, 126.1, 125.8, 113.4, 21.7, 21.4, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 351.1856, found 351.1855.

2,4-Bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3am)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 3,4-dimethylbenzaldehyde (79.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3am** as white solid; yield: 30.9 mg (41%), mp 196-198 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.36 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.6, 164.5, 164.3, 140.8, 139.6, 139.3, 137.1, 136.5, 136.0, 135.3, 135.0, 130.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.3, 127.1, 126.0, 124.7, 109.4, 21.5, 20.0, 20.0, 19.9, 19.8; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₇N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 379.2169, found 379.2168.

2,4-Di(naphthalen-2-yl)-6-(p-tolyl)pyrimidine (3an)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), 2-naphthaldehyde (93.7 mg, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3an** as white solid; yield: 57.4 mg (68%), mp 219-222 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 9.27 (s, 1H), 8.86 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.13 (s, 1H), 8.10-8.00 (m, 4H), 7.94-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.53 (m, 4H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ

164.8, 164.6, 164.5, 141.2, 135.7, 135.0, 134.7, 134.6, 133.4, 133.3, 129.7, 129.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 126.9, 126.6, 126.1, 125.6, 125.2, 124.3, 110.3, 21.5; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₃N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 423.1856, found 423.1853.

2,4,6-Triphenylpyrimidine (3ba, CAS: 1666-86-0)^[1]



The reaction was conducted with acetophenone (23.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ba** as white solid; yield: 45.7 mg (74%), mp 190-191 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.74 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 4H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.4, 138.1, 137.4, 130.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.9, 128.4, 127.3, 110.3.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ca, CAS: 67073-24-9)^[2]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ca** as white solid; yield: 37.4 mg (55%), mp 139-140 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 6H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.4, 164.3, 164.2, 161.9, 138.3, 137.7, 130.6, 130.5, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 114.2, 109.4, 55.4.

4-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3da)^[2]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (36.6 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3da** as white solid; yield: 41.7 mg (57%), mp 132-134 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.73 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.23 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.56 (q, J = 9.2 Hz, 8H), 1.40 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.5, 164.4, 154.2, 138.2, 137.6, 134.7, 130.7, 130.5, 128.9, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 127.0, 125.9, 110.0, 34.9, 31.2.

4-(4-Isobutylphenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ea)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-isobutylphenyl)ethan-1-one (37.0 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ea** as white solid; yield: 47.3 mg (65%), mp 88-91 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.73 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.99-1.89 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.4, 164.3, 144.9, 138.2, 137.5, 134.9, 130.6, 130.5, 129.6, 128.8, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 127.0, 109.9, 45.2, 30.2, 22.3; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₆H₂₅N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 365.2012, found 365.2012.

4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3fa)^[1]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (24.2 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3fa** as white solid; yield: 51.0 mg (78%), mp 166-167 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.71 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.40-8.17 (m, 4H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.66-7.47 (m, 6H), 7.29-7.19 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.6 (d, *J* = 249.6 Hz),164.4, 163.30, 138.0, 137.4, 133.6, 130.8 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz), 129.3 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.7 Hz), 109.8.

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ga)^[2]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (25.9 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ga** as white solid; yield: 56.9 mg (83%), mp 165-166 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.71 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.24 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.59-7.49 (m, 8H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.4, 163.3, 137.9, 137.2, 136.9, 135.8, 130.8, 130.7, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.5, 127.2, 109.8.

4-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ha, CAS: 58536-46-2)^[3]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-bromophenyl)ethan-1-one (39.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ha** as white solid; yield: 62.3 mg (81%), mp 169-171 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.71 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.60-7.50 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.9, 164.5, 163.5, 137.9, 137.2, 136.3, 132.1, 130.9, 130.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 125.4, 109.9.

4-(2,6-Diphenylpyrimidin-4-yl)benzonitrile (3ia)



The reaction was conducted with 4-acetylbenzonitrile (29.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **3ia** as white solid; yield: 41.3 mg (62%), mp 181-183 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.70 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61-7.52 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.2, 164.6, 162.4, 141.5, 137.5, 136.9, 132.6, 131.1, 131.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.2, 118.5, 114.0, 110.4; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₆N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺ 334.1339, found 334.1338.

4-(4-Nitrophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ja, CAS: 13573-34-7)^[4]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one (33.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5:1) to give **3ja** as yellow solid; yield: 30.3 mg (43%), mp 216-218 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 8.51-8.39 (m, 4H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.5, 164.9, 162.3, 149.2, 143.4, 137.5, 136.9, 131.2, 131.1, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 127.3, 124.1, 110.8.

4-(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ka)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (39.7 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give **3ka** as yellow solid; yield: 28.1 mg (36%), mp 201-203 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 8.47 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 6H), 3.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.4, 164.8, 162.7, 142.7, 142.0, 137.6, 136.9, 131.2, 131.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.3, 110.8, 44.5; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N₂O₂S⁺ [M+H]⁺ 387.1162, found 387.1161.

2,4-Diphenyl-6-(*m*-tolyl)pyrimidine (3la)^[5]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*m*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (27.2 µL, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 µL, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 µL, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3la** as white solid; yield: 41.5 mg (64%), mp 127-129 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.58-7.52 (m, 6H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.5, 164.4, 138.5, 138.1, 137.5, 137.4, 131.5, 130.7, 130.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.4, 127.8, 127.2, 124.4, 110.3, 21.6.

4-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ma)^[3]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(3-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (26.0 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ma** as white solid; yield: 59.3 mg (87%), mp 152-154 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.72 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.53 (s, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.54 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.1, 164.6, 163.1, 138.3, 137.7, 137.1, 131.0, 130.9, 130.4, 129.4, 128.9, 128.5, 128.5, 127.3, 127.2, 124.0, 124.0, 110.2.

2,4-Diphenyl-6-(o-tolyl)pyrimidine (3na)^[5]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*o*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (26.2 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3na** as yellow liquid; yield: 25.2 mg (39%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (s,

1H), 7.62-7.50 (m, 7H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 168.1, 164.1, 164.0, 138.6, 138.1, 137.3, 136.5, 131.2, 130.8, 130.6, 129.6, 129.4, 128.9, 128.4, 127.2, 126.1, 114.3, 20.7.

4-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (30a)^[3]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(2-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (30.9 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **30a** as white solid; yield: 36.6 mg (53%), mp 124-126 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 5.7 Hz, 7H), 7.48-7.41 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.6, 164.6, 163.8, 137.9, 137.5, 137.2, 132.4, 131.7, 130.9, 130.7, 130.6, 130.4, 128.9, 128.4, 127.3, 127.2, 115.1.

4-(2-Bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3pa)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(2-bromophenyl)ethan-1-one (27.0 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3pa** as white solid; yield: 31.8 mg (41%), mp 140-143 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.68 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.47 (m, 7H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.0, 164.5, 163.8, 139.5, 137.9, 137.2, 133.7, 131.6, 130.9, 130.7, 130.7, 128.9, 128.5, 128.5, 127.7, 127.3, 121.6, 115.0; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₂H₁₆BrN₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 387.0491, found 387.0490.

4-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3qa)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethan-1-one (36.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give **3qa** as yellow solid; yield: 37.0 mg (50%), mp 104-107 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.71 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (s, 2H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.98 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.3, 164.2, 164.1, 151.4, 149.2, 138.1, 137.5, 130.6, 130.5, 130.1, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.2, 120.2, 110.9, 109.9, 109.5, 56.0, 55.9; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 369.1598, found 369.1597.

4-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3ra)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (37.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ra** as white solid; yield: 55.0 mg (73%), mp 134-136 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.69 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.1, 164.6, 162.2, 137.6, 137.3, 137.0, 134.9, 133.3, 131.0, 130.9, 130.8, 129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.3, 126.2, 109.9; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₁₅Cl₂N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 377.0607, found 377.0606.

4-(2,5-Dichlorophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3sa)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(2,5-dichlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (28.8 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3sa** as white solid; yield: 42.2 mg (56%), mp 115-118 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 6H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.1, 163.3, 138.8, 137.6, 137.0, 133.2, 131.6, 131.5, 131.0, 130.9, 130.7, 130.6, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.4, 114.9; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₁₅Cl₂N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 377.0607, found 377.0606.

2,4-Diphenyl-6-(pyridin-4-yl)pyrimidine (3ta)^[2]



The reaction was conducted with 4-acetylpyridine (22.1 μ L, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5:1) to give **3ta** as yellow solid; yield: 36.9 mg (60%), mp 214-216 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.84 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 8.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 5.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.3, 164.8, 162.2, 150.6, 144.7, 137.5, 136.8, 131.1, 131.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 121.1, 110.4.

2,4-Diphenyl-6-(thiophen-3-yl)pyrimidine (3ua)^[2]



The reaction was conducted with 3-acetylthiophene (25.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3ua** as white solid; yield: 38.7 mg (62%), mp 169-171 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.70 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 6H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.5, 160.4, 140.8, 138.0, 137.4, 130.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 126.7, 126.6, 126.2, 110.1.

4-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (3va)^[6]



The reaction was conducted with 2-acetylnaphthalene (34.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (61.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), ammonium acetate (46.2 mg, 0.6 mmol), NaIO₄ (17.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DMSO (7.1 μ L, 0.1 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **3va** as white solid; yield: 46.2 mg (65%), mp 157-159 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.78 (s, 2H), 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 8.03 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (q, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 8H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.6, 164.5, 138.2, 137.5, 134.8, 134.6, 133.3, 130.8, 130.7, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 127.8, 127.4, 127.3, 126.6, 124.2, 110.5.

2,4,6-Tri-*p*-tolylpyridine (4ab, CAS: 16112-42-8)^[7]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 4-methylbenzaldehyde (23.7 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ab** as white solid; yield: 52.5 mg (75%), mp 180-183 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.83 (s, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.3, 149.8, 138.9, 138.9, 136.9, 136.2, 129.8, 129.4, 127.0, 116.3, 21.3, 21.2.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,6-di-p-tolylpyridine (4ac, CAS: 75573-10-3)^[8]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (24.3 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel

(petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **4ac** as white solid; yield: 56.9 mg (78%), mp 156-159 $^{\circ}$ C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.80 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 6H);¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 160.3, 157.2, 149.3, 138.8, 136.9, 131.3, 129.3, 128.2, 126.9, 115.9, 114.4, 55.3, 21.3.

4-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-2,6-di-*p*-tolylpyridine (4ad)^[9]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 4-(*tert*-butyl)benzaldehyde (33.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ad** as white solid; yield: 63.5 mg (81%), mp 137-140 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 2.43 (s, 6H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.2, 152.1, 149.8, 138.8, 136.9, 136.2, 129.4, 126.9, 126.8, 126.0, 116.4, 34.7, 31.3, 21.3.

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,6-di-*p*-tolylpyridine (4af)^[10]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (28.1 mg, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel

(petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4af** as white solid; yield: 47.9 mg (65%), mp 185-188 C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.09 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.79 (s, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.5, 148.7, 139.1, 137.6, 136.6, 135.0, 129.4, 129.2, 128.4, 126.9, 116.1, 21.3.

4-(*m*-Tolyl)-2,6-di-*p*-tolylpyridine (4ai)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 3-methylbenzaldehyde (23.6 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ai** as yellow solid; yield: 51.9 mg (74%), mp 106-108 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.83 (s, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H). 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.2, 150.1, 139.2, 138.9, 138.7, 136.9, 129.6, 129.3, 128.9, 127.8, 126.9, 124.2, 116.5, 21.5, 21.3; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₄N⁺ [M+H]⁺ 350.1903, found 350.1901.

4-(o-Tolyl)-2,6-di-p-tolylpyridine (4al)



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 μ L, 0.6 mmol), 2-methylbenzaldehyde (23.1 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4al** as white solid; yield: 50.1 mg (72%), mp 122-125 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.61 (s, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 8H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 156.6, 151.1, 139.9, 138.9, 136.7, 135.1, 130.6, 129.4, 129.2, 128.2, 126.9, 126.0, 118.7, 21.3, 20.4; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₄N⁺ [M+H]⁺ 350.1903, found 350.1901.

4-Phenyl-2,6-di-*p*-tolylpyridine (4aa, CAS: 16112-41-7)^[11]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*p*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (80.1 µL, 0.6 mmol), benzaldehyde (20.4 µL, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 µL, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4aa** as yellow solid; yield: 51.3 mg (77%), mp 146-149 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.3, 149.9, 139.2, 138.9, 136.8, 129.4, 129.0, 128.8, 127.1, 126.9, 116.5, 21.3.

2,4,6-Triphenylpyridine (4ba, CAS: 580-35-8)^[11]



The reaction was conducted with acetophenone (70.2 μ L, 0.6 mmol), benzaldehyde (20.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ba** as white solid; yield: 50.4 mg (82%), mp 140-141 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.90 (s, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.43 (m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.4, 150.1, 139.5, 139.0, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 127.1, 127.1, 117.1.

2,6-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (4ga, CAS:72666-43-4)^[12]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (77.7 μ L, 0.6 mmol), benzaldehyde (20.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ga** as white solid; yield: 71.3 mg (95%), mp 186-188 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 4H), 7.86 (s, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.26 (m, 7H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 156.3, 150.5, 138.6, 137.7, 135.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 127.1, 117.1.

4-Phenyl-2,6-di-*m*-tolylpyridine (4la)^[13]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(*m*-tolyl)ethan-1-one (81.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol), benzaldehyde (20.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4la** as white solid; yield: 58.9 mg (88%), mp 153-156 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.01 (s, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 3H), 2.48 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 157.7, 150.0, 139.6, 139.0, 138.3, 129.8, 129.0, 128.9, 128.6, 127.8, 127.1, 124.3, 117.2, 21.6.

2,6-Bis(3-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (4ma)^[11]



The reaction was conducted with 1-(3-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (78.0 μ L, 0.6 mmol), benzaldehyde (20.4 μ L, 0.2 mmol), ammonium iodide (58.0 mg, 0.4 mmol) and DMSO (42.6 μ L, 0.6 mmol). The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **4ma** as white solid; yield: 68.5 mg (91%), mp 175-178 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.18 (s, 2H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.57-7.42 (m, 7H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 156.1, 150.6, 141.0, 138.4, 134.8, 130.0, 129.2, 129.2, 129.1, 127.2, 127.1, 125.2, 117.6.

4-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (5a)



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (0.2 mmol, 77.2 mg), phenylboronic acid (0.26 mmol, 31.7 mg), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.01 mmol, 11.6 mg), Na₂CO₃ (1.4 mmol, 148.4 mg), toluene (0.8 mL), H₂O (0.8 mL) and ethanol (0.2 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with argon for three times and stirred at 110 °C for 18 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1) to give **5a** as white solid; yield: 56.3 mg (73%), mp 177-179 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.75 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.48 (m, 8H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.7, 164.5, 164.3, 143.6, 140.3, 138.1, 137.5, 136.3, 130.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.5, 128. 5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 110.1; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₈H₂₁N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 385.1699, found 385.1694.

2,4-diphenyl-6-(4-(phenylethynyl)phenyl)pyrimidine (5b)



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (0.2 mmol, 77.2 mg), phenylacetylene (0.3 mmol, 33.0 μ L), PdCl₂ (0.01 mmol, 1.8 mg), CuI (0.01 mmol, 2.0 mg), PPh₃ (0.03 mmol, 7.9 mg) and Et₃N (1.0 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with argon for three times and stirred at 80 °C for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **5b** as white solid; yield: 77.0 mg (94%), mp 162-164 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.73 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.49 (m, 8H), 7.43-7.30 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 164.8, 164.5, 163.7, 138.0, 137.4, 137.0, 132.0, 131.7, 130.8, 130.7, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 127.3, 127.1, 125.7, 122.9, 110.1, 91.5, 89.1 HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₂₁N₂⁺ [M+H]⁺ 409.1699, found 409.1695.

9-(4-(2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-yl)phenyl)-9H-carbazole (5c)



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (0.2 mmol, 77.2 mg), carbazole (0.3 mmol, 50.2 mg), $Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.02 mmol, 4.6 mg), $P(t-Bu)_3HBF_4$ (0.04 mmol, 11.6 mg), K_2CO_3 (0.6 mmol, 83 mg) and *o*-xylene (0.8 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with argon for three times and stirred at 140 °C for 16 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **5c** as white solid; yield: 81.4 mg (86%), mp 214-217 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.52 (m, 8H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.0, 164.7, 163.9, 140.5, 140.1, 138.0, 137.4, 136.4, 130.9, 130.8, 129.0, 128. 9, 128.5, 128.5, 127.3, 127.2, 126.1, 123.7, 120.4, 120.3, 110.3, 109.8; HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₃₄H₂₄N₃⁺ [M+H]⁺ 474.1965, found 474.1956.

10-(4-(2,6-diphenylpyrimidin-4-yl)phenyl)-10H-phenothiazine (5d)



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was charged with 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyrimidine (0.2 mmol, 77.2 mg), phenothiazine (0.2 mmol, 39.8 mg), $Pd_2(dba)_3$ (0.004 mmol, 3.6 mg), $P(t-Bu)_3HBF_4$ (0.012 mmol, 3.4 mg), *t*-BuOK (0.26 mmol, 29.2 mg) and toluene (2.0 mL). The reaction vessel was purged with argon for three times and stirred at 110 °C for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give **5d** as yellow solid; yield: 90.2 mg (89%), mp 216-219 °C

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6 , ppm) δ 8.73-8.64 (m, 4H), 8.60 (s, 1H), 8.52 (dd, J = 6.6, 2.9 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 6H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.57 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6 , ppm) δ 164.4, 163.5, 163.5, 144.1, 142.9, 137.5, 136.6, 135.0, 131.3, 131.1, 130.0, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 127.5, 127.3, 123.8, 122.5, 118.6, 110.6; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₄H₂₄N₃S⁺ [M+H]⁺ 506.1685, found 506.1678.

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6. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra of all products











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