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# **Supporting Information**

# Perylenequinonoid-catalyzed Photoredox Activation for the Direct Arylation of (Het)Arenes with Sunlight

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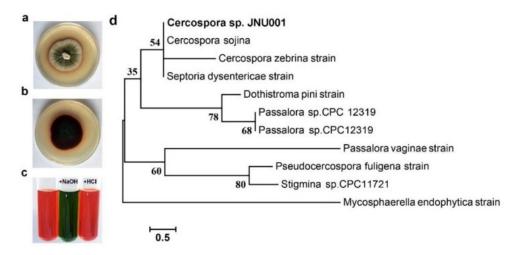
#### 1. Materials and Methods

Cercosporin was biosynthesized by a new cercosporin producing strain in our laboratory. Hypocrellin A and hypocrellin B were commercially available and used without further purification. The aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates 2 were synthesized according to a previously described method. All other commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification. Thin-layer chromatography was performed using silica gel plates F254. Visualization was accomplished with short wavelength UV light (254 nm) and near UV light (366 nm) sources. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AV400 (400 MHz) spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solutions with internal solvent signals (for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C) as reference (7.26 and 77.2, 2.50 and 39.5 for CDCl<sub>3</sub> and DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, respectively). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, br. s. = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quint = quintet, sext = sextet, hept = heptet, dd = doublet of doublets, ddd = doublet of doublets of doublets, td = triplet of doublets, qd = quartet of doublets, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz), and numbers of protons. Data for <sup>13</sup>C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift and no special nomenclature is used for equivalent carbons. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Waters Xevo G2 Q-TOF instrument. Gas chromatography (GC) and gas chromatography coupled to low-resolution mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis were performed through a capillary column (length: 30 m; diam.: 0.25 mm; film: 0.25 µM) using He gas as carrier. GC (TRACE 1300) was equipped with an FID detector. GC-MS (TSQ 8000) was performed on triple quadruple detector. UV-Vis and fluorescence measurements were performed with Shimadzu UV-3600plus spectrophotometer and F-2700 spectrofluorometer. The lifetime was measured on Edinburgh FLS920 fluorescence spectrometer. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) was performed using an CHI600E electrochemical workstation: Au wire ( $\phi = 1.6$  mm) sealed in a Teflon jacket as working electrode, Pt wire as the counter electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl, 3 M) electrode as the reference electrode, and ferrocenium/ferrocene (Fc<sup>+</sup>/Fc) as the internal standard. Scan rate: 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup> (in the range -1 to +2.2 V). Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (0.1 M in MeCN) was used as the supporting electrolyte.

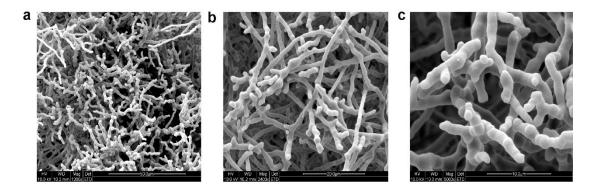
# 2. Biosynthesis of Cercosporin

#### 2.1 Isolation of a new cercosporin producing strain Cercospora sp. JNU001

Endophytic fungus Cercospora sp. JNU001 strain used in this article was isolated from the barks of Taxus chinensis in Zhejiang Province, China. To isolate endophytic fungi, bark pieces (2.5×2.5cm) from Taxus chinensis were thoroughly washed using sterile distilled water, surface-sterilized by immersing in 70% aqueous ethyl alcohol (v/v) for 3 min to kill epiphytic microorganisms, rinsed 4-5 times in sterile distilled water and cut into small pieces (1×1cm). Using a flame-sterilized sharp blade to remove the outer layer of the surface-sterilized bark pieces. Small pieces of inner bark were placed on the surface of potato dextrose agar (PDA) plates with 50 mg/L streptomycin and 50 mg/L ampicillin to eliminate bacterial growth and incubate at 25 °C for 14-20 days. After fungal emergence in the plates, some fungal hyphal tips of the various fungi were transferred to new fresh PDA plates and this was repeated several times for fungus purity. Entophytic fungus were obtained from the bark of Taxus chinensis and only one colony (Figure S1) was found to produce cercosporin. The bottom of the plate has red pigment (Figure S1). It was designated as Cercospora sp. JNU001 based on the 18S rDNA nucleotide sequences. The Cercospora sp. JNU001 strain has been deposited to China Center for Type Culture Collection (CCTCCNo. M2017842). As shown in Figure S1, the pigments were red in acid solution, and turned green in alkaline solution. A light microscope and a scanning electronic microscope (SEM) (Figure S2) characterized the morphology of this strain.



**Figure S1**. Characterization of Cercosporin-producing *Cercospora sp. JNU001* strain. (a) The bottom view of *Cercospora sp. JNU001* strain colony (7 days at 25 °C); (b) the top view of (a); (c) Cercosporin extractions at alkaline and acidic solution; (d) A neighbor-joining phylogenetic tree analysis of *Cercospora sp. JNU001* strain. Confidence values above 35% obtained from 1000-replicate bootstrap are indicated at the branch nodes. The scale bar indicates the number of base substitutions per site.



**Figure S2.** The morphological structure of *Cercospora sp. JNU001*. (A) SEM of pycnidium releasing conidia (1200×), (B) SEM of pycnidium on the mycelium (2400×); (C) SEM of pycnidium releasing conidia (5000×).

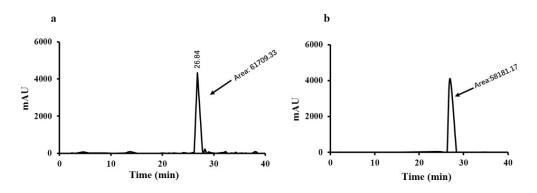
#### 2.2 18S rDNA gene sequence analysis

The 18S rDNA sequence of *Cercospora sp. JNU001* was amplified using PCR with primer pairs: NS1 (5'-GTAGTCATATGCTTGTCTC-3') and NS4 (5'- CTTCCGTCAATTCCTTTAAG -3') and PCR products were sequenced. Its sequence was submitted to GenBank (MK077719). After homology searching against the GenBank, the 18S rDNA sequence of *Cercospora sp. JNU001* belongs to *Cercospora*, which was relatively close to *Cercospora sojina*. A phylogenetic relationship was

established through the alignment and cladistics analysis of homologous nucleotide sequence among these fungal species.

#### 2.3 Liquid fermentation of cercosporin

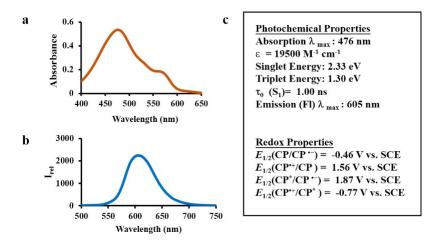
Cercosporin was produced by liquid fermentation, extracted by dichloromethane, further purified by a sephadex LH-20 column and identified by HPLC (Figure S3), LC-MS, <sup>1</sup>HNMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR. When *Cercospora sp. JNU001* was cultivated in continuous light with S-7 culture medium (pH = 8.5), a maximum of cercosporin production was obtained (128.2 mg/l).



**Figure S3.** High-performance liquid chromatogram analysis of cercosporin. (a) crude cercosporin (b) purified cercosporin

Cercosporin identification:  ${}^{1}H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  ppm 14.82 (s, 2H, ArH), 7.06 (s, 2H, ArH), 5.57 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.20 (s, 6H, 2OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.62-3.57 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.42-3.37 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.93-2.88 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.63 (d, 6H, J = 8 Hz, 2CH<sub>3</sub>);  ${}^{1}S$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  207.0, 181.8, 167.4, 163.4, 152.8, 135.4, 130.6, 127.9, 112.9, 109.3, 108.2, 92.6, 68.1, 61.2, 42.2, 23.3; HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for  $C_{29}H_{25}O_{10}$  [M - H] 533.1448, found 533.1468.

#### 3. Photochemical and Electrochemical Characterization.

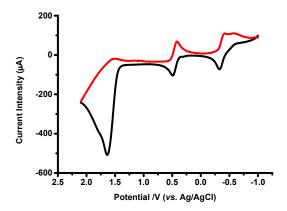


**Figure S4.** Absorption spectra (a), fluorescence spectra (b) of cercosporin (2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L) in DMSO at room temperature; and photochemical and redox properties of cercosporin (c).

3.1 
$$E_{0,0}^{S1}$$
 and  $E_{0,0}^{T1}$ 

The calculated vertical first singlet and triplet excited energies are 2.33 eV (532 nm) and 1.30 eV (953 nm), respectively. The density functional theory (DFT) calculations and time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT) calculations are performed using the Gaussian 09 package.<sup>2</sup> The geometry of cercosporin was optimized without imposing symmetry constraints at the B3LYP density functional level<sup>3,4</sup> using the 6-31+g(d,p) basis set. The minima were confirmed with all real frequencies.

#### 3.2 Cyclic voltammogram of cercosporin



**Figure S5.** Cyclic voltammogram of cercosporin in CH<sub>3</sub>CN with 0.1M TBAF (Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>) as the supporting electrolyte and ferrocenium/ferrocene (Fc<sup>+</sup>/Fc) as the internal standard with a scan rate of 50 mV/s.

$$\begin{split} E^{red}_{1/2} &(\text{CP/CP}^{-}) = \text{-0.46 V vs SCE} \\ E^{ox}_{1/2} &(\text{CP+/CP}) = \text{1.56 V vs SCE} \\ E^{*}_{red} &(\text{CP+/CP}^{-}) = E^{red}_{1/2} &(\text{CP/CP}^{-}) + E^{S1}_{0,0} = \text{1.87 V vs SCE} \\ E^{*}_{ox} &(\text{CP+/CP*}) = E^{ox}_{1/2} &(\text{CP+/CP}) - E^{S1}_{0,0} = \text{-0.77 V vs SCE} \end{split}$$

#### 4. General Procedures

#### 4.1 General procedure for the preparation of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates 2

The appropriate aniline (10 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 4 mL of distilled water and 3.4 mL of 50% hydrofluoroboric acid. After cooling the reaction mixture to 0°C using ice bath, the sodium nitrite

(0.69 g in 1.5 mL) was added dropwise in 5 min interval of time. The resulting mixture was stirred for 40 min and the precipitate was collected by filtration and re-dissolved in minimum amount of acetone. The product diazonium tetrafluoroborate was recrystallized and then washed several times with diethyl ether and dried under vacuum.

#### 4.2 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with (hetero)arenes

The reaction equipment is very simple (Figure S6). Three CD light disks are placed around the reaction tubes and then irradiated with sunlight at room temperature. (The light disks are for maximizing the amount of sunlight available to the reactions.)



Figure S6. Photograph of the photochemical reaction set up

#### 4.2.1 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with Arenes

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (1 equiv) and arene 1 (10 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 16 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 3.

Ethyl [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (3aa)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (1a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1)

yielded **3aa** (26 mg, 58%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.11 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.67-7.62 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.49-7.45 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H, ArH), 4.43-4.38 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.42 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-carbonitrile (3ab)<sup>6</sup>

3ab

The representative procedure was followed using 4-cyanophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2i**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3ab** (19 mg, 55%) as a white oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.74-7.67 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.59 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.50-7.42 (m, 3H, ArH).

1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl) ethan-1-one  $(3ac)^7$ 

Зас

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3ac** (24 mg, 60%) as a white solid. M.p. = 116.9-118.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.04 (d, 2H, J= 8 Hz, ArH), 7.69 (d, 2H, J= 8 Hz, ArH), 7.63 (d, 2H, J= 8 Hz, ArH), 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.64 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

4-Chloro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ad)<sup>5</sup>

3ad

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3ad** (20 mg, 53%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.56-7.48 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.46-7.34 (m, 5H, ArH).

4-Nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ae)<sup>5</sup>

$$O_2N$$

3ae

The representative procedure was followed using 4-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (21) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (1a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded 3ae

(22 mg, 57%) as a yellow solid. M.p. =  $107.1-110.0 \,^{\circ}$ C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.30 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.63 (d, 2H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.52-7.43 (m, 3H, ArH). 4-Methoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (**3af**)<sup>6</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3af** (19 mg, 51%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.56-7.52 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.43-7.39 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.32-7.30 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.68 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>). 3-Nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (**3ag**)<sup>8</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2j**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3ag** (22 mg, 56%) as a yellow solid. M.p. = 58.2-60.3 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.46 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.22-8.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.92 (d, 1H, J=8 Hz, ArH), 7.64-7.59 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.53-7.41 (m, 3H, ArH).

2-Nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ah)9

The representative procedure was followed using 2-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2k**) (0.20 mmol) and benzene (**1a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded **3ah** (19 mg, 48%) as a brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.87-7.85 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.64-7.60 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.50-7.40 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.34-7.31 (m, 2H, ArH).

1,1':2',1"-Terphenyl (3ai)10

3ai

The representative procedure was followed using 2-phenyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (20) (0.20

mmol) and benzene (1a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded 3ai (22 mg, 50%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.50-7.45 (m, 6H, ArH), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.27-7.23 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.01-6.96 (m, 3H, ArH).

Ethyl 2',4',6'-trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (3aj)<sup>11</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3aj** (38 mg, 71%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.10 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.22 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.94 (s, 2H, ArH), 4.43-4.38 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.33 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.98 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.42 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2,4,6-Trimethyl-4'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ak)<sup>11</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2l**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3ak** (33 mg, 68%) as a yellow solid. M.p. = 85.4-90.4 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3): 8.29 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.33 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.96 (s, 1H, ArH), 2.34 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.98 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>). 1-(2',4',6'-trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl) ethan-1-one (**3al**)<sup>12</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3al** (30 mg, 62%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 95.0-96.0 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.02 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.25 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.95 (s, 2H, ArH), 2.65 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.33 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.99 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

4'-Chloro-2,4,6-trimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3am)<sup>11</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3am** (27 mg, 60%) as a white oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.38 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.07 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.93 (s, 2H, ArH), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.99 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

2,4,4',6-Tetramethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3an)11

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3an** (24 mg, 57%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.21 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.02 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.93 (s, 2H, ArH), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.00 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>). 4'-Methoxy-2,4,6-trimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**3ao**)<sup>11</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2e) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (1b) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 3ao (24 mg, 54%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.06-7.03 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.96-6.93 (m, 4H, ArH), 3.85 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.01 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

2,4,6-Trimethyl-3'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3ap)<sup>11</sup>

Зар

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2j**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3ap** (29 mg, 60%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 8.22-8.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 8.05-8.04 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.62-7.58 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.50-7.48 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.97 (s, 2H, ArH), 2.34 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>),

1.99 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

2,4,6-Trimethyl-2'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3aq)11

The representative procedure was followed using 2-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2k**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3aq** (24 mg, 50%) as a yellow oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.00 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.66-7.63 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.92 (s, 2H, ArH). 2',4'-Dimethoxy-2,4,6-trimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**3ar**) $^{13}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 2,4-dimethoxydiazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2q**) (0.20 mmol) and mesitylene (**1b**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **3ar** (27 mg, 52%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 6.92-6.90 (m, 3H, ArH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.71 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.98 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

Ethyl 2',5'-dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (3as)<sup>11</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.20 mmol) and p-xylene (1c) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded 3as (34 mg, 67%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.08 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.39 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.17 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.11-7.08 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.04 (s, 1H, ArH), 4.43-4.38 (m, 2H, ArH), 2.35 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.42 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). 4'-Chloro-2,5-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3at)<sup>14</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2g) (0.20 mmol) and p-xylene (1c) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded 3at

(27 mg, 62%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.36 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.24 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.15 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.08-7.07 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.01 (s, 1H, ArH), 2.34 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

4'-Methoxy-2,5-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3au)<sup>6</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2e) (0.20 mmol) and p-xylene (1c) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded 3au (21 mg, 49%) as a white oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.22 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.15-7.13 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.08-7.04 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.94 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.34 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2,5-Dimethyl-3'-nitro-1,1'-biphenyl (3av)<sup>13</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitro phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate ( $2\mathbf{k}$ ) (0.20 mmol) and p-xylene ( $1\mathbf{c}$ ) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 100/1) yielded  $3\mathbf{av}$  (30 mg, 65%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.21-8.19 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.67-7.64 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.59-7.55 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.20-7.18 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.05 (s, 1H, ArH), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### 4.2.2 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with furan

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (1 equiv) and furan 4a (10 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 8 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 5a.

Ethyl 4-(furan-2-yl) benzoate (5aa)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.20 mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 5aa (31 mg, 72%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 60.1-62.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.05 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.72 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.52 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.78 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.51-6.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 4.41-4.35 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.40 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

1-(4-(Furan-2-yl) phenyl) ethan-1-one (**5ab**)<sup>12</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5ab** (26 mg, 69%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 77.1-78.3 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.98 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.65 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.53 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.81 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.53-6.51 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.61 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(4-Nitrophenyl) furan (5ac)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**21**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5ac** (28 mg, 75%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 77.6-78.3 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.25 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.80 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.59-7.58 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.89 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.56-6.55 (m, 1H, ArH).

4-(Furan-2-yl) benzonitrile (5ad)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-cyanophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2i) (0.20 mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 5ad (23

mg, 67%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 54.2-55.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.65 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.54 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.82 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.54-6.52 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(4-Fluorophenyl) furan (5ae)<sup>15</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-fluorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2f**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5ae** (19 mg, 60%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 69.7-72.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.65-7.62 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.45-7.44 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.09-7.05 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.59-6.58 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.47-6.46 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(4-Chlorophenyl) furan (5af)16

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5af** (23 mg, 62%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 65.5-68.1 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.59 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.46 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.34 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.64 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.47-6.46 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(4-Bromophenyl) furan (5ag)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-bromophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2h**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5ag** (28 mg, 63%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 72.5-74.4 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.54-7.46 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.65 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.47-6.46 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-Phenylfuran (5ah)12

The representative procedure was followed using phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2n**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5ah** (22 mg, 78%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.68-7.67 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.49-7.48 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.66 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.48-6.47 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(p-Tolyl) furan (5ai)16

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5ai** (19 mg, 61%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.57 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.45-7.44 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.19 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.60-6.58 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.46-6.45 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl) furan (5aj)<sup>16</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5aj** (23 mg, 67%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 48.3-49.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.60 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.42 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.92 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.51 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.45-6.43 (m, 1H, ArH), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(m-Tolyl) furan  $(5ak)^5$ 

5ak

The representative procedure was followed using 3-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2p) (0.20

mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 5ak (24 mg, 78%) as red oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.50-7.46 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.29-7.23 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.08-7.07 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.64 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.47-6.46 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.39 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). 2-(3-Nitrophenyl) furan (5al)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2j) (0.20 mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded 5al (25 mg, 66%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 72.6-74.1 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.49 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.10-8.07 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.96 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.57-7.53 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.82 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.54-6.52 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(o-Tolyl) furan (5am)17

The representative procedure was followed using 2-methyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2c) (0.20 mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 5am (22 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.69 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.51-7.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.23-7.19 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.54-6.53 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.51-6.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.50 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(2-Nitrophenyl) furan (5an)<sup>18</sup>

5an

The representative procedure was followed using 2-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2k) (0.20 mmol) and furan (4a) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 5an (24 mg, 64%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 73.3-77.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.72-7.66 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.59-7.55 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.51-7.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.43-7.38 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.68 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.50-6.49 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl) furan (5ao)<sup>19</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 3,5-dimethyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2d**) (0.20 mmol) and furan (**4a**) (2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5ao** (25 mg, 73%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.45 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.35 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.62 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 6.46-6.45 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.34 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### 4.2.3 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with thiophene

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (1 equiv) and thiophene 4b (8 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 8 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 5b.

Ethyl 4-(thiophen-2-yl) benzoate (5ba)<sup>16</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5ba** (29 mg, 63%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 66.8-70.2 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.04 (d, 2H, J = 12 Hz, ArH), 7.67 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.42 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.36 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.12-7.10 (m, 1H, ArH), 4.41-4.36 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.41 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

1-(4-(Thiophen-2-yl) phenyl) ethan-1-one (5bb)<sup>12</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded

**5bb** (25 mg, 62%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 118.4-121.0 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.97 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.70 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.44 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.38 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.13-7.11 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.62 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(4-Nitrophenyl) thiophene (5bc)<sup>16</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2l**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bc** (25 mg, 61%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 134.1-137.3 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.25 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.75 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.49-7.44 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.17-7.14 (m, 1H, ArH). 4-(Thiophen-2-yl) benzonitrile (**5bd**) $^{16}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 4-cyanophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2i**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bd** (27 mg, 75%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.58-7.55 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.27-7.23 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.09-7.05 (m, 3H, ArH).

2-(4-Fluorophenyl) thiophene (5be)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-fluorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2f**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5be** (20 mg, 57%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 50.1-52.2 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.71-7.64 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.43-7.40 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(4-Chlorophenyl) thiophene (5bf)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5bf** (23 mg, 60%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 79.6-81.2 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.53 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.34 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.29-7.28 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.09-7.06 (m, 1H, ArH). 2-(4-Bromophenyl) thiophene (**5bg**) $^{16}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 4-bromophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2h**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bg** (33 mg, 69%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 82.1-84.4 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.51-7.46 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.30 (d, 2H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.09-7.07 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-Phenylthiophene (5bh)<sup>20</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2n**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bh** (22 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.63-7.59 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.46-7.43 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.40-7.35 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.09-7.07 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(p-Tolyl) thiophene (**5bi**) $^{16}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bi** (22 mg, 62%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.51 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.27-7.24 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.18 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.37 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl) thiophene (**5bj**)<sup>5</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bj** (24 mg, 63%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 105.9-107.6 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.54 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.22-7.19 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.06-7.04 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.91 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(m-Tolyl) thiophene  $(5bk)^{21}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 3-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2p**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **5bk** (23 mg, 65%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.42 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.31-7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.16-7.06 (m, 2H, ArH), 2.39 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). 2-(3-Nitrophenyl) thiophene (**5bl**) $^{16}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2j**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5bl** (24 mg, 58%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.44 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.13-8.10 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.91 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.59-7.53 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.44-7.43 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.39-7.38 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.15-7.13 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(o-Tolyl) thiophene (5bm)<sup>22</sup>

5bm

The representative procedure was followed using 2-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2c**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded

**5bm** (26 mg, 75%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.42-7.40 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.34 (d, 1H, *J* = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.28-7.27 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.11-7.06 (m, 2H, ArH), 2.43 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(2-Nitrophenyl) thiophene (5bn)<sup>16</sup>

5bn

The representative procedure was followed using 2-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2k**) (0.20 mmol) and thiophen (**4b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 20/1) yielded **5bn** (27 mg, 67%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.75 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.60-7.54 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.49-7.41 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.10-7.07 (m, 2H, ArH).

# 4.2.4 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with N-Boc pyrrole

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (1 equiv) **2** and *N*-Boc pyrrole **4c** (8 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 8 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product **5c**.

tert-Butyl 2-(4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5ca)<sup>23</sup>

5ca

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (4c) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5ca** (40 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.03 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.41 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.38-7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.25-6.23 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.41-4.36 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.42-1.38 (m, 12H, 4CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(4-acetylphenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5cb)<sup>24</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cb** (31 mg, 55%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.95 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.39-7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.28-6.24 (m, 2H, ArH), 2.62 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.40 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(4-cyanophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5cc)<sup>25</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-cyanophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2i**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cc** (34 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.47 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.35-7.34 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 1.40 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

*tert*-Butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5cd**)<sup>26</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-fluorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2f**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cd** (67 mg, 67%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.35-7.29 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.06-7.01 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.22-6.21 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.16-6.15 (m, 1H, ArH), 1.38 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>). *tert*-Butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5ce**)<sup>25</sup>

5ce

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1)

yielded **5ce** (33 mg, 60%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.35-7.29 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.23-6.22 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.18-6.17 (m, 1H, ArH), 1.39 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5cf)<sup>24</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-bromophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2h**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cf** (37 mg, 58%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.95 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.39-7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.28-6.24 (m, 2H, ArH), 1.40 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>). *tert*-Butyl 2-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5cg**)<sup>26</sup>

5cg

The representative procedure was followed using phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2n**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cg** (29 mg, 59%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.36-7.32 (m, 6H, ArH), 6.25-6.22 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.19-6.18 (m, 1H, ArH), 1.35 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5ch**)<sup>27</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and *N*-Boc pyrrole (**4c**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5ch** (31 mg, 61%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.33-7.31 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.24 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.15 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.22-6.20 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.16-6.15 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.37 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.38 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5ci**)<sup>12</sup>

5ci

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2e) (0.20 mmol) and N-Boc pyrrole (4c) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5ci** (38 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil. Ratio:  $\alpha$ :  $\beta$  = 15: 2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.32-7.31 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.27 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.89 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 6.21-6.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.14-6.12 (m, 1H, ArH), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.38 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(3-nitrophenyl)-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (**5cj**)<sup>25</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 3-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2j) (0.20 mmol) and N-Boc pyrrole (4c) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cj** (39 mg, 67%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 8.23 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.16 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.69 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.41-7.40 (m, 1H, ArH),6.30-6.26 (m, 2H, ArH), 1.40 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5ck)<sup>25</sup>

5ck

The representative procedure was followed using 2-nitrophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2k) (0.20 mmol) and N-Boc pyrrole (4c) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5ck** (41 mg, 72%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 77.4-80.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 8.09 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.63-7.60 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.51-7.41 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.27-6.26 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.20-6.18 (m, 1H, ArH), 1.32 (s, 9H, 3CH<sub>3</sub>).

tert-Butyl 2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (5cl)

The representative procedure was followed using 3,5-dimethyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2d) (0.20 mmol) and N-Boc pyrrole (4c) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **5cl** (34 mg, 60%) as a colorless oil. Ratio:  $\alpha$ :  $\beta$  = 15: 2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.35-7.34 (m, 0.11H, ArH,  $\beta$ ), 7.32-7.31 (m, 0.83H, ArH,  $\alpha$ ), 7.06 (s, 0.2H, ArH), 6.97-6.94 (m, 2.5H, ArH), 6.94 (s, 0.2H, ArH), 6.23-6.21 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.16-6.15 (m, 0.8H, ArH).  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 151.8, 138.8, 136.8, 128.7, 127.0, 122.5, 114.0, 110.4, 82.3, 28.2, 21.3. HRMS (ESI-QTOF) exact mass calcd for  $C_{17}H_{22}NO_2$  [M + H]  $^+$  272.1650 found 272.1673.

#### 4.2.5 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with pyridines

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (1 equiv) and pyridine 6a (or 2-chloropyridine 6aa) (6 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 16 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 7a.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl) pyridine (7aa)<sup>28</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-fluorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2f**) (0.20 mmol) and pyridine (**6a**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7aa** (23 mg, 67%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.68 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 8.00-7.96 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.78-7.74 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.69 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.18-7.14 (m, 2H, ArH).

2-(4-Chlorophenyl) pyridine (7ab)<sup>29</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and pyridine (**6a**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ab** (22 mg, 58%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.69 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.94 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.76-7.69 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.24 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH).

2-(4-Bromophenyl) pyridine (7ac)<sup>29</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-bromophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2h**) (0.20 mmol) and pyridine (**6a**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ac** (26 mg, 57%) as a colorless solid. M.p. = 54.8-57.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.69 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.87 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.78-7.69 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.60 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.25-7.24 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-Phenylpyridine (7ad)<sup>30</sup>

7ad

The representative procedure was followed using phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2n**) (0.20 mmol) and pyridine (**6a**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ad** (16 mg, 53%) as a white solid. M.p. = 148.1-149.0 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.71 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.99 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.78-7.73 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.24-7.22 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(p-Tolyl) pyridine (7ae) $^{31}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and pyridine (**6a**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ae** (24 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.68 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.89 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.75-7.69 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.29 (d, 2H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.22-7.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-Chloro-6-(*p*-tolyl) pyridine (**7af**)<sup>32</sup>

7af

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2b) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyridine (6aa) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded 7af (28 mg, 69%) as a yellow oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.90 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.69-7.61 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.27 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.23-7.22 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

1-(4-(6-Chloropyridin-2-yl) phenyl) ethan-1-one (7ag)

The representative procedure was followed using 4-acetylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2m**) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyridine (**6aa**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ag** (25 mg, 58%) as a yellow oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.12-8.05 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.78-7.70 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.34-7.31 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.65 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 197.7, 156.7, 151.7, 141.8, 139.4, 137.7, 128.8, 127.2, 123.5, 119.2, 26.8. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClNO [M + H] + 232.0529, found 232.0545.

#### 2-Chloro-6-(4-chlorophenyl) pyridine (7ah)

7ah

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyridine (**6aa**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ah** (26 mg, 60%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.95 (d, 2H, J = 12 Hz, ArH), 7.73-7.69 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.27 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 156.9, 151.6, 139.4, 136.1, 135.8, 129.0, 128.3, 122.8, 122.7, 118.4. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 224.0034, found 224.0051. 2-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-2-yl)-6-chloropyridine (**7ai**)

The representative procedure was followed using 2-phenyl phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (20) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyridine (6aa) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1)

yielded **7ai** (25 mg, 48%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 7.81-7.80 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.73-7.70 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.59-7.57 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.52-7.45 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.43-7.36 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.04 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 155.0, 149.8, 147.5, 140.7, 139.0, 136.3, 130.9, 130.7, 129.4, 129.0, 128.3, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 123.6, 116.5, 115.9. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN [M + H] + 266.0736, found 266.0752.

#### 4.2.6 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with pyrimidine

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 1 (1 equiv) and pyrimidine 6b (6 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 16 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 7b.

2-Chloro-4-(4-methylphenyl) pyrimidine (7ba)<sup>33</sup>

7ba

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyrimidine (**6b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **7ba** (26 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.60 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 8.00 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.62 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 7.32 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 2.43 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-Chloro-4-(3-nitrophenyl) pyrimidine (7bb)<sup>34</sup>

7bb

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2e**) (0.20 mmol) and 2-chloropyrimidine (**6b**) (1.6 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 50/1) yielded **7bb** (23 mg, 51%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.93 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.77 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 8.49-8.47 (m, 1H, ArH), 8.43-8.41 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.76-7.72 (m, 2H, ArH).

# 4.2.7 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with benzothiazole

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate **2** (1 equiv) and benzothiazole **6c** (6 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 8 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product **7c**.

2-(4-Chlorophenyl) benzo[d]thiazole (7ca)<sup>35</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and benzothiazole (**6c**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7ca** (29 mg, 60%) as a yellow solid. M.p. = 112.4-114.1 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.06 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 8.03-8.01 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.99 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.53-7.45 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.41-7.37 (m, 1H, ArH).

2-(p-Tolyl) benzo[d]thiazole  $(7cb)^{35}$ 

The representative procedure was followed using 4-methylphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2b**) (0.20 mmol) and benzothiazole (**6c**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7cb** (29 mg, 61%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.05 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.98 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.88 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.50-7.45 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.29 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 2.42 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### 4.2.8 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with benzoxazloe

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (1 equiv) and benzoxazole 6d (6 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the

resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 16 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product 7d.

Ethyl 4-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl) benzoate (7da)<sup>36</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) and benzoxazole (**6d**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7da** (32 mg, 59%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.34 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 8.20 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.82-7.80 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.46-4.40 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.44 (t, 3H, J = 8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>).

2-(4-Chlorophenyl) benzo[d]oxazole (7**db**)<sup>37</sup>

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) and benzoxazole (**6d**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 30/1) yielded **7db** (19 mg, 43%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.15 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.91 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.60-7.57 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.55-7.45 (m, 4H, ArH).

#### 4.2.9 General procedure for the reaction of aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborates with quinoline

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the Cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate **2** (1 equiv) and substituted quinoline **6e** (6 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for 16 hours. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired product **7e**.

5-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methylquinoline (7ea)

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) (0.20 mmol) and 2-methyl quinoline (**6ea**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 10/1) yielded **7ea** (30 mg, 60%) as a red oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.07 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.78-7.76 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.72 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.69-7.67 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.30 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 2.68 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 158.9, 145.2, 138.6, 137.9, 136.4, 133.2, 132.3, 130.1, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 125.4, 122.0, 25.7. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN [M + H] + 254.0737, found 254.0751.

4-Chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methylquinoline (7eb)

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) (0.20 mmol) and 2-methyl-4-chloroquinoline (**6eb**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 10/1) yielded **7eb** (30 mg, 53%) as a red oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 8.22 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.73 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.67 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.64-7.60 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.42 (s, 1H, ArH), 2.66 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 158.6, 146.2, 142.5, 139.1, 137.7, 133.4, 132.3, 131.0, 128.0, 126.3, 125.2, 123.9, 121.9, 25.5. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for  $C_{16}H_{12}Cl_2N$  [M + H]  $^+$  288.0347, found 288.0324.

The representative procedure was followed using 4-chlorophenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2g**) (0.20 mmol) (0.20 mmol) and 4-methylquinoline (**6ec**) (1.2 mmol). Isolation by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 10/1) yielded **7fc**-2-arylated (24 mg, 48%) and **7fc**-5-arylated (5 mg, 10%) as yellow oil in ratio 5:1.

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-methylquinoline (7ec)<sup>38</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 8.15 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 8.11 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 8.00 (d, 1H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.75-7.70 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.68 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.58-7.52 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 2.78 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

5-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methylquinoline (7ec)

7ec-5-arylated

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 8.80 (d, 1H, J = 4 Hz, ArH), 8.05-8.02 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.70-7.68 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.63-7.59 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8 Hz, ArH), 7.26-7.24 (m, 1H, ArH), 2.75 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 150.0, 145.6, 144.3, 140.2, 138.4, 133.4, 132.0, 130.0, 128.7, 128.1, 125.9, 123.8, 122.0, 19.1. HRMS (ESI-Q-TOF) exact mass calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>CIN [M + H] + 254.0737, found 254.0746.

#### 4.3 General procedure for the gram-scale synthesis with fermentation supernatant

To an oven-dried 200 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added the cercosporin fermentation supernatant (2 mg/mL, 80 mL), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate 2 (5 mmol), arene or hetarene (10 equiv) and DMSO (10 mL) under N<sub>2</sub>. Then, the reaction mixture was placed under 5 W blue LED. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired products.

### 5. Radical Capturing Experiments

#### 5.1 The experimental procedure for capturing radicals with TEMPO

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate **2g** (1 equiv) and TEMPO (2 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight. After 2 h of irradiation, a TEMPO trapped compound **8** was detected by mass spectra.

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), aryl diazonium tetrafluoroborate **2g** (1 equiv), thiophene (10 equiv) and TEMPO (2 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (0.23 mmol/mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight. After 2 h of irradiation, a TEMPO trapped compound **9** was detected by mass spectra.

#### 5.2 Mass spectra of radical trapped compounds with TEMPO

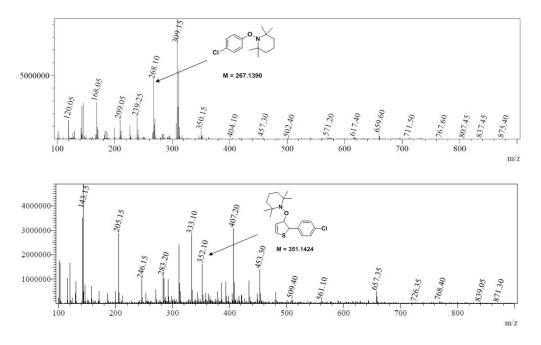


Figure S7. Mass spectra of radical trapped compounds with TEMPO

# 6. Intermolecular Competition Experiments

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.2 mmol), 4-methoxyphenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2e) (0.2 mmol), benzene 1a (10 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight for the 16h. When the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the product 3aa (20 mg, 35%) and 3ag (4 mg, 22%).

### 7. Intermolecular Kinetic Isotope Effect Experiment

In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.2 mmol), benzene 1a (5 equiv), benzene (1a)  $-d_6$  (5 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under sunlight. 8 Hours later, the reaction mixture was washed with brine. The aqueous phase was re-extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the product  $3aa/[D]_5$ -3aa (18 mg, 40%).

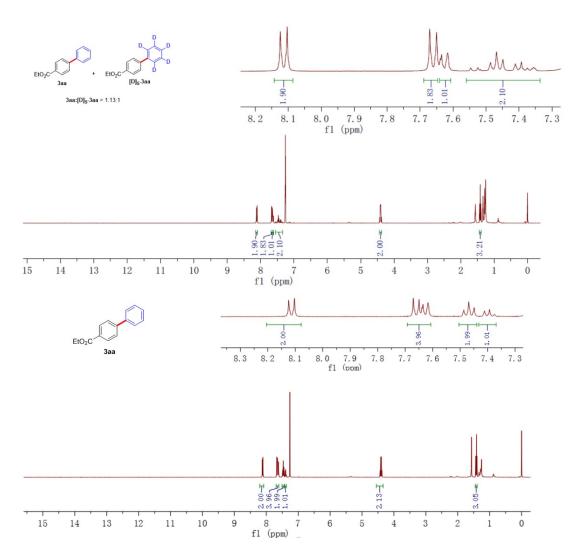
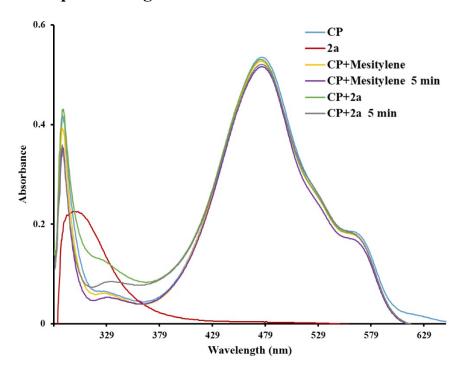
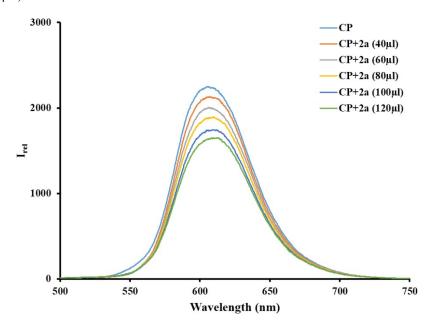


Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 3aa and 3aa+[D]<sub>5</sub>-3aa

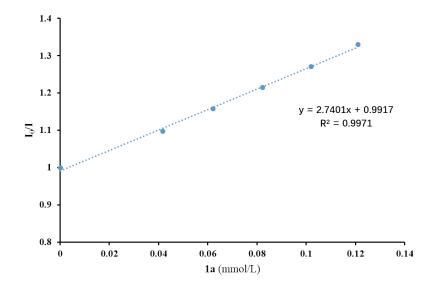
## 8. Spectroscopic Investigation of the Mechanism



**Figure S9.** Absorption spectra of cercosporin (**CP**, 2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL), 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**, 2.65\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL), cercosporin (2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL) + mesitylene **1b** (2.75\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 40 μL), cercosporin (2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL) + mesitylene **1b** (2.75\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 40 μL) with 5 minutes blue LED irradiation, cercosporin (2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL) +**2a** (2.65\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 40 μL) and cercosporin (2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 2.5 mL) +**2a** (2.65\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO, 40 μL) with 5 minutes blue LED irradiation.



**Figure S10.** Fluorescence response of cercosporin (**CP**, 2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO) upon titration with 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**, 2.65\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO).



**Figure S11.** Stern–Volmer plots for the quenching of cercosporin (**CP**, 2.75\*10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L in DMSO) with with 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (**2a**, 2.65\*10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L in DMSO).

## 9. Light On/Off Experiments

Considering the time intervals, the light on/off experiments were irradiated with blue LED. In a 10 mL schlenk tube with magnetic stirring bar the cercosporin (0.01 equiv), 4-(ethoxycarbonyl) phenyl diazonium tetrafluoroborate (2a) (0.2 mmol), benzene (1a) (10 equiv) were dissolved in dry DMSO (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was degassed by "pump-freeze-thaw" cycles. Then, the reaction mixtures were placed under blue LED at given time intervals. The yield was detected by GC using diphenyl as internal standard.

Light On/Off	Time (h)	Yield of 3aa
0	0	0
1 hour on	1	8
1 hour off	2	10
1 hour on	3	19
1 hour off	4	22

1 hour on	5	30
1 hour off	6	32
1 hour on	7	41
1 hour off	8	44
1 hour on	9	52
1 hour off	10	55

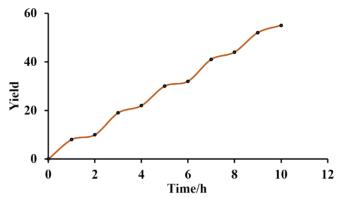


Figure S12. Light on/off experiment

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## 11. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C Spectra

