Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

A visible-light mediated three-component radical process using dithiocarbamate anion catalysis

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A. General Information

The NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and 500 MHz for ¹H and 100 or 125 MHz for ¹³C. The chemical shift (δ) for ¹H and ¹³C are given in ppm relative to residual signals of the solvents (CHCl₃ @ 7.26 ppm ¹H NMR and 77.16 ppm ¹³C NMR, and tetramethylsilane @ 0 ppm). Coupling constants are given in Hertz. The following abbreviations are used to indicate the multiplicity: s, singlet; d, doublet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; bs, broad signal; app, apparent. Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained using a Bruker Alpha FT-IR spectrometer.

High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained from the ICIQ HRMS unit on MicroTOF Focus and Maxis Impact (Bruker Daltonics) with electrospray ionization. (ESI). X-ray data were obtained from the ICIQ X-Ray unit using a Brucker-Nonius diffractometer equipped with an APPEX 2 4K CCD area detector.

Isolated yields refer to materials of >95% purity as determined by ¹H NMR.

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General Procedures. All reactions were set up under an argon atmosphere in oven-dried glassware using standard Schlenk techniques, unless otherwise stated. Synthesis grade solvents were used as purchased; anhydrous solvents were taken from a commercial SPS solvent dispenser. Chromatographic purification of products was accomplished using forced-flow chromatography (FC) on silica gel (35-70 mesh). For thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis throughout this work, Merck pre-coated TLC plates (silica gel 60 GF₂₅₄, 0.25 mm) were employed, using UV light as the visualizing agent and an acidic mixture of vanillin or basic aqueous potassium permanganate (KMnO₄) stain solutions, and heat as developing agents. Organic solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure on a Büchi rotatory evaporator.

Materials. Most of the starting materials used in this study are commercially available and were purchased in the highest purity available from Sigma-Aldrich, Fluka, Alfa Aesar, Fluorochem, and used as received, without further purifications. The synthesis of the DTC catalyst \mathbf{A} is described in our previous work.¹

B. Experimental Procedure



B.1. Set-up: Temperature-controlled photoreactor and specifications of the light source

Figure S1. (a) Photoreactor used in this study. (b) Teflon adaptors used to accommodate Schlenk tubes in the photoreactor. (c) Fully assembled photoreactor in operation. (d) Emission spectrum of the 465 nm *blue LED strip* used in this study.

The photoreactor consisted of a 12.5 cm diameter jar, fitted with 4 standard 29 sized ground glass joints arranged in a square and a central 29 sized joint. A commercial 1 meter LED strip was wrapped around the jar, followed by a layer of aluminium foil and cotton for insulation (Figure S1, a). Each of the joints could be used to fit a standard 16 mm or 25 mm diameter Schlenk tube with a Teflon adaptor (Figure S1, b). An inlet and an outlet allow the circulation of liquid from a Huber Minichiller 300 inside the jar. This setup allows to perform reactions at temperatures ranging from -20 °C to 80 °C with accurate control of the reaction temperature (\pm 1°C) (Figure S1, c). To maintain a consistent illumination during different experiments, only the four external positions were used to perform reactions while the central one was used to monitor the temperature inside a Schlenk tube identical to those used to perform reactions.

The light source used in this study consisted of a 1 m strip, 14.4W 'LEDXON MODULAR 9009083 LED, SINGLE 5050' purchased from Farnell, catalog number 9009083. The emission spectrum of these LEDs was recorded (Figure S1, d).

B.2. General Procedure for the Three-Component Radical Process



In an oven dried Schlenk tube, the DTC catalyst **A** (31.0 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) was dissolved in dichloroethane (0.5 mL), then the alkyl chloride **1** (0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added while stirring, followed by 2,6-lutidine (70 μ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), maleimide **2** (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and pyrrole **3** (5.0 mmol, 10.0 equiv.). An additional volume of dichloroethane (0.5 mL) was added to the reaction vessel, washing the sides from residual solids. The resulting mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup (see section B1, Figure S1), maintained at a temperature of 60 °C (60-61°C measured in the central well), and the reaction was stirred for 20 hours under continuous irradiation. After cooling to ambient temperature, the solvent was evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography to afford the corresponding product **4** in the stated yield with >95% purity according to ¹H NMR analysis. The exact conditions for chromatography are reported for each compound.

B.3. Characterization of Products



2-((1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (4a): Synthesized according to the general procedure using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide 1a (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product 4a was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 20% to 35% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 100 mg yellow solid, 57% yield. Crystallization from MeOH afforded crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis (CCDC 1894404, see section E), which revealed a *trans* relative stereochemistry. Product **4a** can be synthesized up to a 5 mmol scale using the same photochemical set-up (see Section B.4. for details).

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (dd, J = 5.4, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 6.36 (dd, J = 2.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.07-4.02 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.61-3.58 (m, 1H), 2.99 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.7, 175.4, 168.5, 134.4, 131.9, 125.3, 124.0, 123.6, 107.3, 106.8, 45.2, 43.7, 38.1, 34.4, 25.5.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2950, 1773, 1694, 1433, 1395, 1379, 1361, 1304, 1271, 1089, 715 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for C₁₉H₁₇N₃NaO₄⁺ (M+Na⁺): 374.1111, found 374.1114.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.14$.



3-((1*H***-benzo[***d***][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1***H***pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4b): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 1-(chloromethyl)-1***H***-benzotriazole 1b (126 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.),** *N***-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and** *N***-methylpyrrole 3a (445 \muL, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product 4b was purified by column chromatography (gradient**

from 20% to 35% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 91 mg, white foam, 56% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02-8.00 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 2.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.64-3.60 (m, 1H), 2.85 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 175.2, 146.1, 133.7, 128.4, 125.6, 124.8, 124.4, 120.4, 110.0, 107.6, 106.7, 48.0, 45.5, 41.4, 34.7, 25.6.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2924, 1698, 1493, 1434, 1383, 1289, 1274, 1162, 1126, 724 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for C₁₇H₁₇N₅NaO₂⁺ (M+Na⁺): 346.1274, found 346.1282.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.1$.



3-((3,5-dimethyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrazol-1-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4c): Synthesized by a two-step procedure. First, the alkyl chloride 1c was synthesized via a variation of a reported procedure:² in a round bottom flask, (3,5dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)methanol (126 mg, 1 mmol, 1 equiv.) was dissolved in dry chloroform (5 mL) and cooled at 0 °C. Thionyl chloride (88 μ L, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise and the reaction was

left stirring at ambient temperature for 30 min. Solvent was removed under vacuum at 25 °C, diethyl ether (5 mL) was added and dried (this was repeated twice) to obtain the crude 1-(chloromethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrazole hydrochloride 1c as a white solid, which was used directly without further purification. The crude product 1c was dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane giving a stock solution 0.75 M. 1-(chloromethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole hydrochloride 1c (0.75 M, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added in an oven dried Schlenk tube, then the DTC catalyst A (31.0 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) was added followed by 2,6-lutidine (70 μ L, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), N-methylmaleimide 2a (57.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), and N-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μL, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The resulting yellow mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pumpthaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup at a temperature of 60 °C and irradiated for 20 hours. After cooling to ambient temperature, the solvent was evaporated. Multiple purification by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 40% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent) resulted in poor separation from several unidentified byproducts, but an analytical amount of the pure major diastereomer was isolated for characterization. The yield (40%) of 4cand the distereomeric ration (20:1) were inferred by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture using trichloroethylene as the internal standard.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.60 (dd, J = 2.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 4.54 (dd, J = 14.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (dd, J = 14.4, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.34 (m), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.7, 176.1, 148.4, 140.0, 126.7, 123.7, 107.3, 106.2, 105.6, 48.5, 45.6, 41.1, 34.4, 25.3, 13.6, 11.0.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for C₁₆H₂₀N₄NaO₂⁺ (M+Na⁺): 323.1478, found 323.1472.

<u>TLC</u>: 40:60 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.25$.



3-((3,5-dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1Hpyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4d): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-(chloromethyl)-3,5-dimethylisoxazole 2d (109 mg, 93 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product 4d was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 96.3 mg pale yellow solid, 64% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.61 (dd, J = 2.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.58 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (app q, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.86 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.5, 175.3, 166.6, 159.6, 125.3, 124.2, 109.5, 107.4, 106.6, 46.5, 43.2, 34.3, 25.2, 21.9, 11.2, 10.2.

IR (thin film) v 2924, 1779, 1701, 1429, 1377, 1268, 1110, 980, 698 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{16}H_{20}N_3O_3^+$ (M⁺): 302.1496, found 302.1499

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.27$.



3-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4e): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 2-(chloromethyl)-1,3-benzothiazole **1e** (138 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product **4e** was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 10% to 30% EtOAc in hexanes as eluent, two consecutive purifications): 75.9 mg of a pink oil. The isolated material consisted of a mixture containing **4e** an inseparable byproduct in a proportion 6.3:1 (see Figure S2 below), arising from a polar Friedel-Crafts type alkylation of pyrrole with maleimide. Corrected yield of product **4e**: 38%.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.56 (dd, J = 16.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (app q, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.4, 176.1, 166.2, 153.1, 135.4, 126.6, 126.3, 125.4, 123.9, 123.1, 121.7, 107.4, 106.5, 46.6, 42.8, 34.5, 32.4, 25.4.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2924, 1776, 1695, 1491, 1432, 1381, 1279, 1108, 760, 709 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{18}H_{18}N_3O_2S^+$ (M⁺): 340.1114, found 340.1113.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes $R_f = 0.23$.



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of the mixture of product **4e** and byproduct (red dots) arising from a polar Friedel-Crafts type alkylation path.

1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(thiazol-4-ylmethyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4f): Synthesized according to a modification of the general procedure: in an oven dried Schlenk tube, 4-(chloromethyl)thiazole hydrochloride **1f** (128 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL, 0.5 M). Then 2,6-lutidine (157 μ L, 1.35 mmol, 2.7 equiv.) was added followed by the DTC catalyst **A** (31

mg, 0.2 equiv., 20 mol%), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The resulting yellow mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup set at a temperature of 60 °C and irradiated for 20 hours. After cooling to ambient temperature, the solvent was evaporated. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product **4f** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 20% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 58.6 mg of a pale yellow solid, 41% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.69 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (dd, J = 3.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.47 – 3.39 (m, 2H), 3.36 – 3.27 (m, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 176.3, 153.0, 152.9, 127.0, 123.6, 115.8, 107.3, 106.4, 47.4, 42.6, 34.4, 30.0, 25.2.

IR (thin film) v 3078, 2921, 1691, 1433, 1290, 1067, 993, 731 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{14}H_{15}N_3NaO_2S^+$ (M+Na⁺): 312.0777, found 312.0773.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.13$.

. Ме 4f

F₃C O Me

1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-((5-

(trifluoromethyl)furan-2-yl)methyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4g): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 2-(bromomethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)furan 1g (172 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

Product **4g** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 0% to 2% acetone in toluene as eluent; two consecutive purifications): 85.0 mg of a brown oil, 50% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.66 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.36 (app q, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (s, 3H).

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR}}{^{12}\text{C NMR}} (100 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta 177.0, 175.4, 154.3 \text{ (d, J} = 1.5 \text{ Hz}), 141.4 \text{ (q, J} = 42.8 \text{ Hz}), 125.9, 124.0, 119.0 \text{ (q, J} = 266.8 \text{ Hz}), 112.6 \text{ (q, J} = 2.9 \text{ Hz}), 109.0, 107.3, 106.4, 46.4, 43.2, 34.2, 27.9, 25.2.$

 19 F NMR decoupled 1 H (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -64.34

IR (thin film) v 2950, 1779, 1698, 1616, 1560, 1434, 1382, 1321, 1173, 1122, 1103, 712 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{16}H_{16}F_3N_2O_3^+$ (M⁺): 341.1108, found 341.1105.

<u>TLC</u>: 2:98 acetone/toluene, $R_f = 0.35$.



1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(thiophen-3-ylmethyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4h): Synthesized by a two-step procedure. First, the alkyl chloride was synthesized: in an oven dried Schlenk tube, 3-thiophenemethanol (115 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (5 mL) and cooled at 0 °C. Thionyl chloride (88 μ L, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise and the reaction was left stirring at ambient temperature for 30 min. Solvent was removed

under vacuum at 25 °C, diethyl ether (5 mL) was added and dried (this was repeated twice) to obtain the crude 3-(chloromethyl)thiophene **1h** as a colorless oil in quantitative yield, which was used without further purification. The crude adduct **1h** was dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane giving a stock solution 0.75 M. 3-(chloromethyl)thiophene **1h** (0.75 M, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added in an oven dried Schlenk tube, then the DTC catalyst **A** (31 mg, 0.2 equiv.) was added followed by 2,6-lutidine (157 μ L, 1.35 mmol, 2.7 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The resulting yellow mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup at a temperature of 60 °C and irradiated for 20 hours. After cooling to ambient temperature, the solvent was evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography (two consecutive purification: gradient from 0% to 2% acetone in toluene as eluent): 100.3 mg of **4h** isolated as a brown oil, 66% yield. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.86 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 2.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (ddd, *J* = 3.7, 1.8, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 3.37 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 3.29 (ddd, *J* = 14.5, 6.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.1, 176.0, 136.8, 128.4, 126.6, 126.5, 123.7, 123.0, 107.3, 106.5, 47.9, 42.5, 34.2, 29.5, 25.1.

IR (thin film) v 2925, 1776, 1695, 1491, 1432, 1380, 1286, 1119, 1090, 752, 711 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{15}H_{17}N_2O_2S^+$ (M+H⁺):289.1005, found 289.1016.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.38$.



3-benzyl-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1*H***-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione** (**4i):** Synthesized according to the general procedure using benzyl bromide (89 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereomeric ratio (7.6:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by comparison of the resonances at δ 5.95 (minor diastereomer) and δ 5.87 (major diastereomer). Product **4i**

purified by column chromatography (gradient from 15% to 25% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 69 mg of a brown oil, 49% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.55 (dd, J = 2.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.37 (app q, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (dd, J = 14.1, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (dd, J = 14.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.2, 176.0, 136.7, 129.5, 128.9, 127.3, 126.6, 123.6, 107.3, 106.5, 48.4, 42.3, 35.1, 34.2, 25.1.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2926, 1776, 1695, 1494, 1432, 1382, 1287, 1122, 992, 703 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{17}H_{19}N_2O_2^+$ (M+H⁺): 283.1441, found 283.1437.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.19$.



3-(4-fluorobenzyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4j): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-fluorobenzyl bromide (142 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereomeric ratio (5.3:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by comparison of the resonances at δ 5.92 (major

diastereomer) and δ 5.95 (minor diastereomer). Product **4j** purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 20% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 82.2 mg of a brown oil, 55% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.00 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 3.37 (app q, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 175.8, 162.1 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz), 132.4 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 131.0 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 126.3, 123.9, 115.8 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 107.3, 106.7, 48.3, 42.4, 34.3, 34.2, 25.2. ¹⁹<u>F NMR decoupled</u> ¹<u>H</u> (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : -115.32

IR (thin film) v 2925, 1696, 1508, 1432, 1381, 1286, 1221, 1120, 711 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{17}H_{18}FN_2O_2^+$ (M⁺): 301.1347, found 301.1359.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.15$.



(3*S*,4*R*)-3-(4-chlorobenzyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4k): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-chlorobenzyl bromide (154 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereomeric ratio (6.3:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by comparison of the resonances at δ 5.82

(major diastereomer) and δ 5.77 (minor diastereomer). Product **4k** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 15% to 25% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 65 mg of a brown oil,

41% yield. DMSO-d₆ was used as a co-solvent in the 13 C NMR spectra to prevent overlap of aliphatic peaks.

 $\frac{1}{\text{H NMR}} (500 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta 7.23 \text{ (d, } J = 8.5 \text{ Hz, 2H)}, 7.06 \text{ (d, } J = 8.4 \text{ Hz, 2H)}, 6.58 \text{ (dd, } J = 2.6, 1.8 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 6.04 \text{ (d, } J = 3.6, 2.9 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 5.91 \text{ (dd, } J = 3.6, 1.6 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 3.65 \text{ (d, } J = 5.8 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 3.51 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.36 \text{ (app q, } J = 5.9 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 3.20 \text{ (dd, } J = 14.3, 6.4 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 3.05 \text{ (dd, } J = 14.2, 5.6 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 2.94 \text{ (s, 3H)}.$

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃ + DMSO-d₆) δ 177.0, 175.2, 135.7, 131.5, 130.4, 128.0, 126.1, 122.7, 106.4, 106.1, 47.4, 42.2, 33.8, 33.4, 24.4.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2945, 1776, 1697, 1491, 1433, 1382, 1286, 1092, 1015, 716 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{17}H_{18}ClN_2O_2^+$ (M⁺): 317.1051, found 317.1054.

<u>TLC</u>: 25:75 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.26$.



(3*S*,4*R*)-3-(4-bromobenzyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4l): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-bromobenzyl bromide (187 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). Product 4l was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 15% to 25% AcOEt in

hexanes as eluent): 104 mg browm oil, 57% yield. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.37 (app q, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dd, J = 14.3, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd, J = 14.3, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.7, 175.6, 135.7, 131.9, 131.1, 126.1, 123.8, 121.2, 107.3, 106.6, 47.9, 42.3, 34.3, 34.2, 25.1.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2945, 1776, 1694, 1488, 1431, 1381, 1284, 1121, 1090, 714 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for C₁₇H₁₇BrN₂NaO₂⁺ (M+Na⁺): 383.0366, found 383.0360.

<u>TLC</u>: 25:75 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.26$.



3-(4-iodobenzyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4m): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-iodobenzyl bromide (223 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), N-methyl maleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and N-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). Product **4m** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 15% to 25% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 128 mg of a pale yellow sticky oil, 63% yield. A single

diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60-7.55 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.87 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.9 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.8 Hz; 1H), 3.64 (d, J = 5.8 Hz; 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.35 (d, J = 5.9 Hz; 1H), 3.17 (dd, J = 14.7, 6.2 Hz; 1H), 3.01 (dd, J = 14.7, 5.5 Hz; 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 175.9, 138.2 (x2), 136.6, 131.7 (x2), 126.3, 124.2, 107.6, 106.9, 93.0, 48.2, 42.6, 34.6, 25.4.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2924, 1775, 1694, 1484, 1430, 1380, 1285, 1120, 1089, 1006, 711 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for C₁₇H₁₇IN₂O₂⁺ (M+H⁺): 409.0708, found 409.0387



1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(4-

(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4n): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl bromide (180 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereometic ratio (4.2:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by

comparison of the resonances at δ 5.92 (major diastereomer) and δ 5.95 (minor diastereomer). Product **4n** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 20% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 72.4 mg of a brown oil, 41% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (dd, *J* = 2.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.42 (app q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H).

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR}}{(q, J = 3.8 \text{ Hz}), 124.1 (q, J = 272.0 \text{ Hz}), 124.0, 107.4, 106.8, 47.9, 42.6, 34.8, 34.3, 25.2.}$

¹⁹F NMR decoupled ¹H (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: -62.67

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2925, 1778, 1698, 1433, 1382, 1322, 1287, 1162, 1110, 1066, 712 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{18}H_{17}F_3N_2NaO_2^+$ (M+Na⁺): 373.1134, found 373.1119.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.23$.



1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (40): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzyl bromide (223 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μL, 5 mmol, 10

equiv.). Product **40** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 39.3 mg pale brown oil, 28% yield. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 3.40 (app q, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 14.1, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 12H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.1, 176.0, 139.8, 135.4, 129.0, 126.5, 123.8, 107.3, 106.5, 84.0, 48.2, 42.1, 35.0, 34.3, 25.2, 25.0.

¹¹B NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.76.

IR (thin film) v 3399, 2978, 1696, 1612, 1433, 1359, 1289, 1142, 1090, 1022, 658 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for C₂₃H₂₉N₂NaO₄¹¹B⁺ (M+Na⁺): 431.2113, found 431.2122.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.31$.



2-(5-(4-((1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-2,5dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)thiophen-2-yl)acetonitrile (4p): Synthesized according to the general procedure using (4-(bromomethyl)phenyl)(piperidin-1-yl)methanone (212 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and N-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μL, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). Product **4p** was purified by column chromatography (two

consecutive purifications. First purification: gradient from 40% to 60% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent. Second purification: 90:10 tol:acetone): 140.3 mg of a pale yellow solid, 71% yield. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_{3})}}{^{1}\text{H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_{3})}} \delta 7.34 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.19 - 7.15 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 6.56 \text{ (dd, J = 2.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H)}, 6.03 \text{ (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H)}, 5.91 \text{ (ddd, J = 3.8, 1.8, 0.6 Hz, 1H)}, 3.69 \text{ (d+bs, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H+2H)}, 3.52 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.41 \text{ (app q, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H)}, 3.28 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 3.24 \text{ (dd, J = 14.2, 6.5 Hz, 1H)}, 3.14 \text{ (dd, J = 14.2, 5.4 Hz, 1H)}, 2.96 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 1.67 \text{ (bs, 4H)}, 1.50 \text{ (bs, 2H)}.$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.7, 175.5, 169.8, 138.0, 135.4, 129.4 (x2), 127.3 (x2), 125.9, 123.7, 107.1, 106.5, 48.8 (broad), 47.1, 43.2 (broad), 42.3, 34.5, 34.2, 26. (broad), 25.5 (broad), 25.0, 24.5.

<u>HRMS:</u> calculated for C₂₃H₂₈N₃O₃⁺ (M+H⁺): 394.2125, found 394.2131.

IR (thin film) v 2932, 2854, 1776, 1696, 1619, 1430, 1274, 1109, 706 cm⁻¹.

<u>TLC</u>: 60:40 EtOAc/hexanes, Rf = 0.16.



3-(4-(hydroxymethyl)benzyl)-1-methyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4q): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 4-hydroxymethylbenzyl bromide (150 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), N-methyl maleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and N-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). Product **4q** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 40% to 60% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 77 mg of a yellowish sticky oil,

49% yield. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.56 (dd, J = 2.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (dd, J = 3.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.9 (dd, J = 3.4, 1.9 Hz; 1H), 4.62 (br s, 2H); 3.68 (d, J = 5.5 Hz; 1H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.36 (q, J = 5.7 Hz; 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 14.1, 6.1 Hz; 1H), 3.05 (dd, J = 14.1, 5.4 Hz; 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H); 1.89 (br s, 1H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.4; 176.2; 140.2; 136.2; 129.9 (x2); 127.7 (x2); 126.6; 124.0; 107.5; 106.8; 65.2; 48.5; 42.5; 34.8; 34.5; 25.4.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 3455, 2924, 1693, 1434, 1382, 1288, 1122, 717cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS:</u> calculated for $C_{18}H_{20}N_2NaO_3^+$ (M+Na⁺): 335.1366, found 335.1365.

<u>TLC</u>: 50:50 EtOAc/hexanes, Rf = 0.25.



1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(3,4,5trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4r): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 5-(chloromethyl)-1,2,3trimethoxybenzene (162 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

Purification by column chromatography (gradient from 20% to 35% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent) resulted in poor separation, but a clean amount (50 mg) of pure **4r** was isolated for

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.5, 176.3, 153.7, 137.3, 132.7, 126.9, 124.0, 107.7, 106.8, 106.5, 61.2, 56.4, 48.4, 42.8, 35.6, 34.5, 25.5.

IR (thin film) v 2939, 2839, 1697, 1589, 1507, 1458, 1431, 1382,1123, 1006 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{20}H_{24}N_2NaO_5^+$ (M+Na⁺): 395.1577, found 395.1581.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.11$.



3-((6-chlorobenzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-4-(1methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4s): Synthesized according to the general procedure 6-chloropiperonyl chloride (154 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide 2a (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product 4s was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 133 mg of a white foam, 72% yield.

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR}}{^{3}\text{MR}} (500 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_{3}) \delta 6.8 (s, 1\text{H}), 6.7 (s, 1\text{H}), 6.6 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.0 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 5.9 (s, 2\text{H}), 5.9 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.8 (d, J = 5.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.6 (s, 3\text{H}), 3.4 (m, 1\text{H}), 3.3 (dd, J = 14.1, 5.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.1 (dd, J = 14.2, 7.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.0 (s, 3\text{H}).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 175.9, 147.5, 147.1, 127.7, 126.4, 126.0, 123.7, 110.4, 109.9, 107.1, 106.2, 101.9, 47.5, 42.6, 34.2, 32.7, 25.2

IR (thin film) v 2900, 1776, 1696, 1478, 1433, 1381, 1286, 1232, 1118, 1035, 749, 712 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for C₁₈H₁₇ClN₂NaO₄⁺ (M+Na⁺): 383.0769, found 383.0770.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.33$



1-methyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-4-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4t): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 1-chloro-3-methylbut-2-ene chloride (170 μ L, 1.50 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereomeric ratio (2.9:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by comparison of the resonances at δ 5.10 (minor

diastereomer) and δ 4.87 (major diastereomer). Product **4t** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 15% to 20% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 62 mg of a brown oil, 47% yield.

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR}}{^{(400 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3)}} & 6.62 \text{ (dd, } J = 2.6, 1.9 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 6.07 \text{ (dd, } J = 3.6, 2.9 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 5.93 \text{ (dd, } J = 3.6, 1.6 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 5.05 \text{-} 5.00 \text{ (m, 1H} \text{), } 3.73 \text{ (d, } J = 5.3 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 3.67 \text{ (s, 3H} \text{), } 3.11 \text{ (app q, } J = 5.5 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 2.99 \text{ (s, 3H} \text{), } 2.57 \text{-} 2.52 \text{ (m, 2H} \text{), } 1.69 \text{ (d, } J = 0.9 \text{ Hz, 1H} \text{), } 1.62 \text{ (s, 3H} \text{).}$

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.5, 176.4, 136.6, 126.9, 123.8, 118.5, 107.3, 106.7, 47.2, 43.0, 34.4, 28.2, 26.0, 25.1, 18.1.

IR (thin film) v 2918, 1776, 1696, 1492, 1432, 1380, 1285, 1095, 995, 713 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{15}H_{20}N_2NaO_2^+$ (M+Na⁺): 283.1417, found 283.1415.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.28$.



2-((4-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (4u): Synthesized according to the general procedure using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide chloride 1a (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), unprotected maleimide 2b (48 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The diastereomeric ratio (1.9:1) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture by comparison of

the resonances at δ 5.96 (minor diastereomer) and δ 5.72 (major diastereomer). Purification by column chromatography (gradient from 40% to 55% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent) resulted in very poor separation, but an analytical amount of the major diastereomer was isolated for characterization. NMR yield of the mixture of diastereoisomers (1.9:1) is 77%. DMSO-d₆ was used either as a solvent or co-solvent in the NMR spectra to promote solubility; in the case of ¹³C NMR, chloroform was required in order to prevent overlap of aromatic peaks.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.30 (s, 1H), 7.77 (s, 4H), 6.48 (app t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (dd, J = 3.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 14.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (dd, J = 14.1, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.52-3.48 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃ + DMSO-d₆) δ 176.2, 175.9, 168.4, 134.3, 131.9, 125.4, 123.8, 123.5, 107.2, 106.8, 46.2, 45.0, 38.0, 34.3.

IR (thin film) v 3415, 2924, 2255, 1715, 1399, 1364, 1024, 1003, 823, 722 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for C₁₈H₁₅N₃NaO₄⁺ (M+Na⁺): 360.0955, found 360.0958.

<u>TLC</u>: 50:50 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.31$.



2-((1-(*tert***-butyl)-4-(1-methyl-1***H***-pyrrol-2-yl)-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (4v):** Synthesized according to the general procedure using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide chloride **1a** (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N-tert*-butylmaleimide **2c** (76 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product **4v** was purified by column chromatography

(gradient from 15% to 25% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 127 mg of an orange foam, 64% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 2H), 6.32 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (dd, J = 14.0, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.47-3.42 (m, 1H), 1.55 (s, 9H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.7, 176.2, 168.5, 134.3, 132.0, 126.1, 123.8, 123.5, 107.3, 106.4, 59.2, 45.0, 43.9, 38.4, 34.3, 28.7.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2976, 1774, 1697, 1436, 1396, 1330, 1263, 1158, 1106, 714 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{22}H_{24}N_3O_4^+$ (M+H⁺): 394.1761, found 394.1765.

<u>TLC</u>: 20:80 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.14$.



3-((1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1-yl)methyl)-1-benzyl-4-(1-methyl-1Hpyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (4w): Synthesized according to the general procedure using 1-(chloromethyl)-1*H*-benzotriazole 1b (126 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-benzylmaleimide 2d (94 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and *N*-methylpyrrole 3a (445 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product 4w was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 112.1 mg of a white foam, 56% yield.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.4, 174.5, 145.9, 135.0, 133.4, 128.7 (2C), 128.2, 128.1 (2C), 128.0, 125.4, 124.5, 124.2, 120.1, 109.9, 107.4, 106.6, 47.9, 45.3, 42.9, 41.1, 34.6.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{23}H_{22}N_5O_2^+$ (M+H⁺): 400.1778, found 400.1768.

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.13$.



2-((1-methyl-2,5-dioxo-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (4x): Synthesized according to the general procedure using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide chloride **1a** (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*-methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and thiophene **3b** (400 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product **4x** was purified by column chromatography (gradient

from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 64.6 mg pale brown solid, 36% yield.

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (dd, J = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.08 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 14.1, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 14.1, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.66 – 3.56 (m, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.0, 175.0, 168.2, 136.9, 134.4, 131.8, 127.1, 126.3, 125.7, 123.6, 47.7, 46.3, 37.9, 25.6.

IR (thin film) v 2924, 1766, 1693, 1435, 1401, 1365, 1298, 1190, 1107, 1067, 692 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for C₁₈H₁₄N₂NaO₄S⁺ (M+Na⁺): 377.0566, found 377.0558

<u>TLC</u>: 30:70 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.22$.



2-(5-(4-((1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-2,5dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)thiophen-2-yl)acetonitrile (4y): Synthesized according to the general procedure using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide **1a** (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), *N*methylmaleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and thiophene-2acetonitrile **3sj** (615 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). Product **4y** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 40 mg of a pale yellow solid, 20% yield. A single

diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR}}{^{2}} (400 \text{ MHz, DMSO-} d_{6}) \delta 7.83 - 7.80 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 6.82 \text{ (dd, } J = 3.6, 0.9 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 6.75 \text{ (dt, } J = 3.6, 1.1 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 4.27 \text{ (d, } J = 6.9 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 4.14 \text{ (dd, } J = 14.1, 6.4 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 4.10 \text{ (d, } J = 1.0 \text{ Hz, 2H)}, 4.04 \text{ (dd, } J = 14.1, 8.3 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 3.54 \text{ (dt, } J = 8.2, 6.6 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 2.85 \text{ (s, 3H)}.$

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.2, 175.0, 167.8 (x2), 137.7, 134.5 (x2), 132.0, 131.3, 126.7, 125.9, 123.1 (CN), 123.1(x2), 118.2, 46.2, 45.6, 36.9, 24.9, 17.4.

IR (thin film) v 2913, 1767, 1693, 1440, 1399, 1363, 1299, 1019, 724 cm⁻¹.

HRMS: calculated for $C_{20}H_{15}N_3NaO_4S^+$ (M+Na+): 416.0669, found 416.0675.

<u>TLC</u>: 50:50 EtOAc/hexanes, Rf = 0.43.

B.4.5 mmol Scale Reaction



The model photoinduced multicomponent reaction can be scaled-up up to 5 mmol scale by using the same experimental set-up described in Figure S1. In an oven dried Schlenk tube (length x diameter = 22 x 2 cm), the DTC catalyst **A** (310 mg, 1 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) was dissolved in dichloroethane (5 mL), then the *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide **1a** (1.5 g, 7.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added, with stirring, followed by 2,6-lutidine (700 μ L, 6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), *N*methylmaleimide **2a** (556 mg, 5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (4.4 mL, 50 mmol, 10.0 equiv.). An additional volume of dichloroethane (5 mL) was added to the reaction tube, washing the sides from residual solids. The resulting mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup, maintained at a temperature of 60 °C (60-61°C measured in the central well), and the reaction was stirred for 30 hours under continuous irradiation.

After cooling to ambient temperature, the solvent was evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 30% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent). Peroduct 4a was isolated as a mixture containing about 14% of an inseparable byproduct, arising from a polar Friedel-Crafts type alkylation of pyrrole **3a** with maleimide **2a**: 1.05 g (containing 14% of byproduct). Corrected yield of product **4a**: 52% (906 mg). The NMR yield of the observed single diastereomer was measured as 62%, using 1,1,2-trichloroethene as the internal standard.

C. Product Modifications

C.1. Assembly Line Synthesis of Difunctionalized Pyrroles



Figure S3. Sequential C2 and C5-functionalization of *N*-methyl pyrrole 3a

<u>C2-functionalization</u>. In an oven dried Schlenk tube, the DTC catalyst **A** (15.5 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) and sodium acetate (49 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were suspended in 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL), then chloroacetonitrile **5** (32 μ L, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added followed by *N*-methylpyrrole **3a** (444 μ L, 5 mmol, 10 equiv.). The resulting yellow mixture was degassed via three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw. The Schlenk tube was then placed in the irradiation setup (see Figure S1) set at a temperature of 60 °C (60-61°C measured in the central well) and irradiated for 24 hours. After cooling to ambient temperature, the volatiles were evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography on silica gel (toluene as eluent): 55 mg, 92% yield; spectral data matched those reported in the literature.¹

<u>C5-functionalization</u>. Substrate **7** was synthesized according to the general procedure for the radial MCR reaction using *N*-(chloromethyl)phthalimide **1a** (147 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), maleimide **2a** (56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and the C2-functionalized pyrrole **6** (600 mg, 5.0 mmol, 10.0 equiv.). Irradiation time: 24 hours. A single diastereomer was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. Product **7** was purified by column chromatography (gradient from 10% to 40% AcOEt in hexanes as eluent): 61.8 mg of a pale brown solid, 32% yield.



 $\label{eq:2.1} 4-((1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)methyl)-1-methyl-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetonitrile~(7):$

¹<u>H NMR</u> (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.12 – 4.01 (m, 2H), 3.61 (ddd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.49 (dd, *J* = 5.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H).

¹³<u>C NMR</u> (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.0, 174.7, 168.3, 134.4, 131.5, 126.9, 123.5, 121.6, 116.2, 108.3, 106.0, 44.7, 43.9, 37.8, 31.0, 25.3, 16.4.

<u>IR (thin film)</u> v 2936, 1778, 1765, 1697, 1498, 1400, 1274, 1094, 725 cm⁻¹.

<u>HRMS</u>: calculated for $C_{21}H_{18}N_4NaO_4^+$ (M+Na⁺): 413.1220, found 413.1215.

<u>TLC</u>: 40:60 EtOAc/hexanes, $R_f = 0.23$.

C.2. Synthesis of Pyrrolidine 8



Figure S4. Reduction of the succinimide core of the MCR product 4w.

A solution of the MCR adduct **4w** (80 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) in dry THF (0.5 mL) was added dropwise to a cooled suspension of LiAlH₄ (31 mg, 0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in dry THF (0.5 mL) at 0 °C. After completion of the addition, the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. Complete conversion of **4w** was observed after 6 h, as judged by TLC analysis of the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was then diluted with Et_2O (1 mL), and quenched successively with water (1 mL) and NaOH (1M, 0.5 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted three times with Et_2O , and the collected organic phase was washed successively with brine, water and dried over magnesium sulfate. The volatiles were evaporated and the residue purified by column chromatography on silica gel (98:2, DCM:MeOH): 68 mg, 92% yield, white solid.



1-(((3R,4R)-1-benzyl-4-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3yl)methyl)-1H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazole (8)

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl}_3)}{8.00} \delta 8.00 (dt, J = 8.3, 1.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.38 (ddd, J) = 8.4, 6.7, 1.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.34 - 7.19 (m, 8\text{H}), 6.47 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.01 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 5.98 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.71 (s, 1\text{H}), 4.70 (d, J = 1.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.64 (d, J = 12.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.55 (d, J = 12.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.24 - 3.13 (m, 2\text{H}), 3.06 - 2.96 (m, 1\text{H}), 2.76 (dd, J = 9.7, 4.7 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$

1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (td, *J* = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.0, 138.8, 133.7, 133.3, 128.8 (x2C), 128.4 (x2C), 127.4, 127.2, 123.9, 122.3, 120.1, 109.3, 107.0, 105.0, 61.0, 60.1, 56.9, 51.1, 45.1, 39.2, 33.9.

<u>TLC</u>: 2:98 MeOH/DCM, $R_f = 0.15$.

D. Unsuccessful Substrate Combinations

The optimised conditions of the model MCR reaction were evaluated with a variety of substrates. Those shown in Figure S5 failed to deliver yields higher than the catalyst loading or any product at all.



Figure S5. Substrates that failed to provide synthetically useful yields of MCR products. Unless otherwise noted, yields were determined by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude mixture using trichloroethylene as the internal standard.

E. Cyclic Voltammetry Measurements

Substrates **1a**, **1b**, **1d**, **1e**, **1f**, **1g**, **1k**, **1n**, **1o**, **1r** and **1s** were electrochemically characterized. The measured reduction potential values are compiled in Figure S6. The cyclic voltammograms are shown in Figures S7-S17.



Figure S6. Reduction potentials (E^{red}) measured vs. Ag/AgCl (KCl, 3.5 M). *Reported in literature and referenced to Ag/AgCl (KCl saturated), according to reference 6.



Figure S7. Cyclic voltammogram for *N*-(chloromethyl)phtalamide chloride **1a** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 100 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{\text{red}}(\mathbf{1a/1a^{-}}) = -1.48 \text{ V}, E_p^{C}$ refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1a**.



Figure S8. Cyclic voltammogram for 1-(chloromethyl)-1H-benzotriazole **1b** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 100 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. First irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{red}(\mathbf{1b/1b^{-}}) = -2.15$ V, E_p^{C} refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1b**.



Figure S9. Cyclic voltammogram for 4-(chloromethyl)3,5-dimehtylisoxazole chloride **1d** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 50 mV/s. Glassy carbon electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Reduction of substrate **1d** was not observed in the registered potential window (from 0 to -2.70 V).



Figure S10. Cyclic voltammogram for 2-(chloromethyl)-1,3-benzothiazole chloride **1e** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 50 mV/s. Glassy carbon electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{\text{C}} = E^{\text{red}}(1e/1e^-) = -2.18 \text{ V}, E_p^{\text{C}}$ refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1e**.



Figure S11. Cyclic voltammogram for 4-(chloromethyl)thiazole **1f** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 500 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Reduction of substrate **1f** was not observed in the registered potential window (from 0 to -2.70 V).



Figure S12. Cyclic voltammogram for 2-(bromomethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)furan bromide **1g** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 50 mV/s. Glassy carbon electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{\text{red}}(\mathbf{1g/1g^{-}}) = -2.19 \text{ V}$, E_p^{C} refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1g**.



Figure S13. Cyclic voltammogram for 4-chlorobenzyl bromide **1k** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 500 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{\text{red}}(\mathbf{1k/1k^{-}}) = -2.42$ V, E_p^{C} refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1k**.



Figure S14. Cyclic voltammogram for 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl bromide **1n** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 500 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{red}(\mathbf{1n/1n^{-}}) = -2.33 \text{ V}, E_p^{C}$ refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **1n**.



Figure S15. Cyclic voltammogram for 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzyl bromide **10** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 500 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Irreversible reduction, $E_p^{C} = E^{\text{red}}(10/10^{-1}) = -2.27 \text{ V}$, E_p^{C} refers to the cathodic peak potential, while the E^{red} value describes the electrochemical properties of **10**.



Figure S16. Cyclic voltammogram for 5-(chloromethyl)-1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene **1r** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 100 mV/s. Pt electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Reduction of substrate **1r** was not observed in the registered potential window (from 0 to -2.70 V).



Figure S17. Cyclic voltammogram for 6-chloropiperonyl chloride **1s** [0.02M] in [0.1 M] TBAPF₆ in CH₃CN. Sweep rate: 50 mV/s. Glassy carbon electrode working electrode, Ag/AgCl (KCl 3.5 M) reference electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode. Reduction of substrate **1s** was not observed in the registered potential window (from 0 to -2.70 V).

The reduction potential of substrates 1i, 1j, 1l, 1t are reported in literature^{3,4,5}. The literature values were referenced to Ag/AgCl. KCl saturated⁶, and are the following:

 $E^{\text{red}}(1i/1i^{-}) = -1.80 \text{ V} \text{ (vs. Ag/AgCl, KCl saturated)}$ $E^{\text{red}}(1j/1j^{-}) = -1.59 \text{ V} \text{ (vs. Ag/AgCl, KCl saturated)}$ $E^{\text{red}}(11/1i^{-}) = -1.51 \text{ V} \text{ (vs. Ag/AgCl, KCl saturated)}$ $E^{\text{red}}(1t/1t^{-}) = -2.50 \text{ V} \text{ (vs. Ag/AgCl, KCl saturated)}$

F. X-ray Crystallographic Data

Single Crystal X-ray Diffraction Data for Compound 4a

Crystals of the compound **4a** were obtained by slow evaporation of a methanol solution. *Data Collection*. Measurements were made on a Bruker-Nonius diffractometer equipped with an APPEX 2 4K CCD area detector, a FR591 rotating anode with MoK α radiation, Montel mirrors and a Cryostream Plus low temperature device (T = 100K). Full-sphere data collection was used with ω and φ scans.



Table S1. Crystal data	and structure refineme	ent for 4a . Co	CDC 1894404
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Empirical formula	C19 H17 N3 O4
Formula weight	351.35
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	Orthorhombic
Space group	Pbca
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 10.5086(4)$ Å $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$.
b = 12.0160(4)Å	$\beta = 90^{\circ}.$
c = 27.2839(11)Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$.
Volume	3445.2(2) Å ³
Z	8
Density (calculated)	1.355 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	0.097 mm^{-1}
F(000)	1472
Crystal size	0.20 x 0.10 x 0.10 mm ³
Theta range for data collection	2.446 to 27.116°.
Index ranges	-8<=h<=13,-15<=k<=13,-35<=l<=35
Reflections collected	27430
Independent reflections	3774[R(int) = 0.0358]
Completeness to theta = 27.116°	99.0%
Absorption correction	Multi-scan
Max. and min. transmission	0.990 and 0.898
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	3774/461/365
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.078
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0422, wR2 = 0.1126
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0564, wR2 = 0.1208
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.179 and -0.205 e.Å ⁻³

G. References

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H. ¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra









Current Data Parameters sch998-3FC-final
PROCNO 1 F2 - Acquisition Parameters Date_ 20181004 Time 1.34 INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PATBO BB- PULPROG zgpg30 TD 65536 SOLVENT CDC13 NS 2000 DS 4 4
SNH 30303.031 Hz FIDRES 0.462388 Hz AQ 1.0813440 sec RG 11500 DW 16.500 usec DE 10.00 usec
TE 299.7 K D1 1.0000000 sec D11 0.0300000 sec TD0 1
====== CHANNEL f1 ====== NUC1 13C 13C P1 9.50 usec 9.50 usec PL1 0 dB 0
PL1W 63.80191422 W SF01 125.7703648 MHz
CHANNEL f2 f2 CPDPRG[2 walt216 NUC2 1H PCPD2 80.00 UL2 -2.00 DL12 13.62 PL13 13.62 PL12W 1.09144032 PL13W 1.09144032 SFO2 500.1320005
F2 - Processing parameters SI 32768 SF 125.7577730 MHz WDW EM
SSB 0 LB 1.00 Hz GB 0 PC 1.40
~~ 1.40









S35



F ₃ C O	Me Me	Me						Current NAME EXEND FROCINO F2 - ACC DATE TIME PROBHO PULPROG TD SOLVENT NS DS SMH FIDRES AQ RG DW DS TE TE TE TE DI TD DI TD DI TD DI TD	Data Parameters sch1040-rgst-F 10 putsttoin Parameters 2019201 19.04 spect 5 mm PABBC Ba 2023 75187.969 Hz 0.8716288 sec 2048 6.650 usec 7.14 usec 2048 6.650 usec 7.14 usec 0.0300000 sec 0.0300000 sec
								NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01	CHANNEL f1 19F 12.00 usec -3.00 dB 376.4607040 MHz
								CEDERG[2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL12 PL13 PL2W PL12W PL12W PL13W SF02	CHANNEL f2
-20	-40	-60	-80 -10	0 -120	-140	-160	-180 pp	F2 - Pro SI SF WDW SSB LB	cessing parameters 65536 376.4984036 MHz EM 0 1.00 Hz
S O N M 4h	e					2.10 2.10 6		Current NAME EXPNO PROCNO FROCNO FROCNO FROCNO FROCNO FULPROG D SOLVENT NS SWH FIDRES AQ RG RG RG RG RC DI TDO TDO TDO TDO TDO TDO TDO FIL PLIW SFOI F2 - ProC SI SSB LB GB	Data Parameters sch1042-rgst 10 1 uisition Parameters 20190130 5 mm PABBO BB- zg30 32768 CDC13 5 mm PABBO BB- zg30 0.146157 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 3.420735 Hz 104.00 usec 286.0 K 1.00000000 sec 1 1 CHANNEL f1 H 14.50 usec -2.00 dB 23.88643074 W 400.1300077 MHz CHANNEL f1 EM 20 0 0.30 Hz
10 9	8	1.07 1.08 1.00 1.00 2.94 2.00 1.00 2.94 2.94 2.94 2.94 2.94 2.94 2.94 2.94	6 <u>6</u> 5	4 301 100 301	1.15 1.17 3.22 8.22 8.22 8.22 8.22 8.22 8.22 8.22	2 1	p	pm	

















































S57





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