## **Supporting Information**

## Regioselective C-H bond functionalizations of acridines

# using organozinc reagents

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### **I.** General Information

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMN-270, JEOL ECS-400 or JEOL ECP-400 spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm ( $\delta$ ), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, sept = septet, br = broad and m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz), integration, and interpretation. Peak assignments were made with the aid of DEPT and COSY method. Infrared spectra (IR) were obtained on a Horiba FT-720 spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP 5000 or GCMS-QP 2010 instrument with ionization voltages of 70 eV. Melting points were determined on a Yamato melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Elemental analyses and high resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were performed by the Elemental Analysis Section of Osaka University. Flash column chromatography was performed with SiO<sub>2</sub> (Silicycle Silica Flash F60 (230-400 mesh)). All catalytic reactions were carried out in 10 mL sample vials with a Teflon-sealed screw cap in a glovebox filled with N<sub>2</sub>.

#### **II. Materials**

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used as received. Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub> was purchased from Strem Chemicals. Toluene, Ph<sub>2</sub>Zn (**2**), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub>, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, K<sub>3</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>], and ZnCl<sub>2</sub> were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical Industries. Acridine was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used after recrystallization. PCy<sub>3</sub>, FeCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>Zn (1M toluene solution), and Grignard reagents used in this study were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. InCl<sub>3</sub>, P'Bu<sub>3</sub>, P<sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>3</sub>, PMe<sub>3</sub>, IMes·HCl, IPr·HCl, SIPr·HCl, and NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu were purchased from Tokyo Kasei Kogyo Co., Ltd. KOH was purchased from Nacalai Tesque. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was purchased from Kishida Chemical Co.,Ltd. (2-Tolyl)<sub>2</sub>Zn was prepared by a Charette's method.<sup>1</sup>

### **III. Synthesis of Starting Materials**

A general procedure for the preparation of 2,7-diarylacridine. To a oven-dried three-necked 100 mL flask, 2,6-dibromoacridine<sup>2</sup> (505.5 mg, 1.5 mmol), arylboronic acid (4.0 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (115.6 mg, 0.067 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (635.9 mg, 6.0 mmol) were added. DME (40 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) were then added, and the mixture was refluxed for 15-20 h. The solution was diluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (100 mL). The separated organic layer was washed with water (100 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant reddish-brown solid was purified by chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10:1 to 5:1) to furnish 2,7-diarylacridine as a yellow solid (70-90%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A. Cote', A. B. Charette, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 2771.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> M. Vlassa, I. A. Silberg, R. Custelceanu, M. Culea, Synth. Commun. 1995, 3493.

**2,7-Diphenylacridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc= 5:1). Pale yellow solid (mp = 184-185 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.40-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.77-7.79 (m, 4H), 8.06-8.09 (m, 2H), 8.17 (s, 2H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.82 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  125.32, 127.00, 127.35, 127.84, 129.00, 129.85, 130.52, 136.30, 138.30, 140.12, 148.42; IR (neat) 3433 w, 3051 w, 1564 w, 1498 w, 1477 w, 1450 m, 1408 w, 1157 w, 1076 w, 1036 w, 922 m, 833 s, 752 s, 694 s, 621 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 332 (28), 331 (100), 330 (16), 166 (15). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N: 331.1360; Found: 331.1361.



**2,7-Bis(4-butylphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Greenish solid (mp = 169-170 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  0.95 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H), 1.34-1.44 (m, 4H), 1.60-1.68 (m, 4H), 2.65 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.97-8.03 (m, 4H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.63 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  13.94, 22.36, 33.54, 35.26, 124.68, 126.92, 127.06, 128.98, 129.65, 130.23, 135.83, 137.28, 137.96, 142.62, 148.18; IR (KBr) 3026 w, 2958 s, 2922 s, 2854 m, 1558 w, 1513 m, 1485 w, 1412 w, 1375 w, 1157 w, 920 m, 820 s, 775 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 444 (36), 443 (100), 401 (14), 400 (42), 357 (20), 179 (18). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N: 443.2613; Found: 443.2610.



**2,7-Bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow solid (mp = 169-170 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.43 (s, 12H), 7.06 (s, 2H), 7.39 (s, 4H), 8.05 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.79 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.44, 125.14, 125.26, 126.99, 129.47, 129.56, 130.69, 136.18, 138.49, 138.52, 140.10, 148.26; IR (neat) 3016 m, 2914 s, 2858 m, 2185 w, 1631 w, 1599 s, 1570 s, 1508 m, 1442 s, 1375 m, 1345 m, 1155 m, 1038 m, 922 s, 854 m, 827 s, 800 m, 752 s, 696 s, 663 m, 640 s; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 388 (31), 387 (100). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N: 387.1987; Found: 387.1985.



**2,7-Bis(3-isopropoxyphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.26 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 132-133 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.41 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 12H), 4.68 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.80 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  22.10, 69.98, 114.98, 115.17, 119.62, 125.34, 126.95, 129.76, 129.99, 130.50, 136.29, 138.19, 141.62, 148.47, 158.38; IR (KBr) 3055 w, 2973 s, 2927 m, 1934 w, 1749 w, 1603 s, 1572 s, 1489 m, 1450 s, 1404 m, 1377 m, 1335 m, 1282 s, 1196 s, 1115 s, 1038 w, 997 m, 974 m, 926 m, 876 m, 833 s, 777 s, 696 m, 652 m, 617 w; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 448 (20), 447 (59), 364 (27), 363 (100), 334 (15), 182 (19). HRMS Calcd for C16H16: 447.2198; Found: 447.2207.



**2,7-Bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.29 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Greenish solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 8.07 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.88 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  125.96, 125.98 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 126.17, 126.87, 127.66, 129.91 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz), 130.24, 130.38, 136.83, 137.06, 143.54, 148.83; IR (neat) 3076 w, 1929 w, 1614 w, 1566 w, 1487 w, 1435 w, 1412 w, 1389 w, 1331 s, 1277 w, 1194 m, 1176 m, 1138 s, 1074 s, 1013 m, 920 w, 860 w, 825 s, 781 w, 741 w, 708 w, 644 w, 625 w; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 468 (29), 467 (100), 466 (10), 233 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>15</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N: 467.1109; Found: 467.1106.



**Isopropyl 3,3'-(acridine-2,7-diyl)dibenzoate.** Rf 0.09 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1) Yellow solid (mp = 129-130 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.43 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H), 5.33 (sept, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 8.09-8.13 (m, 4H), 8.26 (s, 2H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 8.46 (s, 2H), 8.91 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.99, 68.70, 125.74, 126.96, 128.38, 128.85, 129.03, 130.13, 130.35, 131.49, 131.70, 136.59, 137.45, 140.29, 148.62, 165.93; IR (neat) 2976 s, 2935w, 1709 s, 1604 w, 1570 w, 1512 w, 1473 w, 1448 m, 1427 m, 1373 m, 1352 m, 1282 s, 1234 s, 1178 m, 1169 m, 1105 s, 1036 m, 916 m, 870 w, 839 m, 821 m, 781 w, 756 s, 688 w, 621 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 504 (36), 503 (100), 461 (12), 444 (11), 420 (15), 419 (50), 328 (10). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: 503.2097; Found: 503.2100.



**2,7-Bis(3,5-difluorophenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow solid. (mp = 196-197 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  6.85-6.91 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.33 (m, 4H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.87 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  103.20 (t, *J* = 25.8 Hz), 110.237 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz), 110.243 (d, *J* = 25.8 Hz), 126.4 (d, *J* = 77.6 Hz), 130.69 (d, *J* = 50.8 Hz), 136.25, 136.93, 143.32 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 148.93, 162.22 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 164.69 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz); IR (neat) 3068 m, 2962 w, 1621 s, 1591 s, 1508 m, 1466 m, 1435 s, 1402 m, 1333 s, 1282 m, 1261 m, 1184 m, 1119 s, 1059 m, 1026 s, 987 s, 914 m, 845 s, 822 s, 805 s, 765 m, 744 s, 679 m, 638 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 404 (27), 403 (100), 402 (15), 202 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N: 403.0984; Found: 403.0982.



**2,7-Dimorpholinoacridine.** To an oven-dried 10 mL vial, 2,7-dibromoacridine<sup>1</sup> (337 mg, 1.0 mmol), morpholine (261)mg, 3.0 mmol),  $Pd(dba)_2$ (57.5)mg, 0.10 mmol), 2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2',4',6'-triisopropylbiphenyl (100 mg, 2.1 mmol), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (488.7 mg, 1.5 mmol) and <sup>t</sup>BuOH (5 mL) were added under N<sub>2</sub>. The reaction was stirred at 120  $^{\circ}$ C for 20 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was then filtered thrugh a Celite pad, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a reddish-brown oil. Chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ EtOAc = 5:1 to 1:1) furnished 2,7-dimorpholylacridine as a greenish solid (227 mg, 65%). Rf 0.09 (hexane: EtOAc= 5:1). Dark-red solid (mp = 130-131 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ 3.29-3.32 (m, 8H), 3.91-3.94 (m, 8H), 7.03-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.54 (m, 2H), 8.07 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ 49.37, 66.78, 107.05, 123.57, 128.13, 129.98, 131.05, 144.14, 148.30; IR (KBr) 2960 m, 2854 m, 2825 m, 1612 s, 1576 m, 1493 w, 1452 m, 1377 m, 1265 m, 1220 s, 1119 s, 1068 w, 1045 m, 970 w, 908 m, 823 m, 754 w, 638 w; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 350 (24), 349 (100), 291 (22), 233 (29), 177 (14), 116 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 349.1790; Found: 349.1793.



General procedure for the preparation of 9-arylacridines. To an oven-dried three-necked 100 mL flask, 9-chloroacridine (641.0 mg, 3.0 mmol), arylboronic acid (4.0 mmol),  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (28 mg, 0.125 mmol),  $PCy_3$  (70 mg, 0.25 mmol),  $K_3PO_4$  (1.3 g, 6.0 mmol) were added. Toluene (40 mL) and  $H_2O$  (10 mL) were then added, and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 15-20 h. The solution was dissolved in 100 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The separated organic layer was washed water (100 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant solid was purified by chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ EtOAc = 20:1 to 10:1) to furnish 9-diarylacridine (90->99%).

**9-Phenylacridine (3).** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc= 5:1). White solid (mp = 160-161 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.39-7.44 (m 4H), 7.55-7.62 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.74-7.79 (m, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  125.07, 125.56, 126.82, 128.31, 128.39, 129.46, 129.97, 130.38, 135.86, 147.25, 148.65; IR (KBr) 3055 m, 1623 m, 1606 m, 1554 m, 1539 m, 1510 s, 1476 m, 1437 m, 1412 s, 1356 m, 1174 m, 1155 m, 1134 m, 1070 m, 1011 m, 856 m, 758 s, 706 s, 648 m, 607 s; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 256 (20), 255 (100), 254 (72), 253 (13), 127 (12), 126 (10). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N: 255.1048; Found: 255.1046.



**9-(4-Butylphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow solid (mp = 139-140 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.01 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.42-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.78 (m, 2H), 2.77 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.74-7.78 (m, 4H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  14.01, 22.46, 33.58, 33.51, 125.23, 125.44, 126.99, 128.39, 129.32, 129.99, 130.30, 132.88, 143.14, 147.74, 148.56; IR (neat) 3033 m, 2956 m, 2923 s, 2848 m, 1625 w, 1608 w, 1554 m, 1540 m, 1512 m, 1458 m, 1435 m, 1412 m, 1358 w, 1182 w, 1112 w, 1014 m, 866 m, 823 m, 756 s, 655 m, 611 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 312 (25), 311 (100), 269 (12), 268 (51), 267 (19), 266 (15), 254 (15). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N: 311.1674; Found: 311.1677.



**9-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.34 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 182-183 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.42 (s, 6H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.39-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.77 (m, 4H), 8.30 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.31, 125.10, 125.40, 127.05, 128.05, 129.18, 129.86, 130.02, 135.62, 137.89, 148.04, 148.42; IR (KBr) 3051 m, 3001 m, 2943 m, 2914 m, 2857 m, 1929 w, 1815 w, 1716 w, 1626 w, 1601 m, 1556 m, 1541 m, 1512 m, 1481 m, 1460 m, 1433 m, 1412 m, 1365 m, 1259 m, 1132 m, 1038 m, 1009 m, 870 m, 839 m, 752 s, 706 s, 638 m, 617 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 284 (23), 283 (100), 282 (15), 268 (44), 267 (14), 266 (13), 134 (20). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N: 283.1361; Found: 283.1363.



**9-(Naphthalen-2-yl)acridine.** Rf 0.26 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.40 (m, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.82 (m, 4H), 7.91-7.95 (m, 2H), 8.01-8.03 (m, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  125.28, 125.79, 126.80, 126.84, 126.95 (two overlapping peaks), 127.92, 128.14 (three overlapping peaks), 129.21, 129.67, 130.31, 133.02, 133.24, 147.66, 148.34; IR (KBr)3055 w, 1603 w, 1543 m, 1512 m, 1483 w, 1460 w, 1435 m, 1414 m, 1350 w, 1159 m, 1120 m, 897 w, 868 m, 822 m, 754 s, 667 w, 644 w, 602 w; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 306 (24), 305 (100), 304 (70), 303(16), 302 (12), 153 (13), 152 (21), 151 (14). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N: 305.1204; Found: 305.1200.



**9-(4-Methoxyphenyl)acridine** Rf 0.17 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). White solid (mp = 186-187 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ 3.96 (s, 3H), 7.13-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.75-7.79 (m, 4H), 8.26-8.28 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ 55.40, 113.90, 125.46 (two overlapping peaks), 126.94, 127.90, 129.55, 129.92, 131.71, 147.19, 148.80, 159.65; IR (KBr)3053 w, 3024 w, 2960 w, 2931 w, 2904 w, 2835 w, 1604 m, 1564 w, 1541 w, 1512 s, 1460 m, 1438 m, 1414 m, 1356 w, 1288

m, 1246 s, 1173 m, 1140 w, 1103 m, 1022 m, 822 m, 760 s, 725 w, 661 w, 606 m; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 286 (22), 285 (100), 242 (16), 241(33), 240 (19). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO: 285.1154; Found: 285.1155.



**9-(3-Methoxyphenyl)acridine.** Rf 0.17 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 183-184 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.85 (s, 3H), 6.98-7.03 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.79 (m, 4H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  55.31, 113.89, 115.86, 122.79, 124.99, 125.58, 126.86, 129.43, 129.50, 129.99, 137.21, 147.07, 148.61, 159.48; IR (KBr) 3047 m, 3006 m, 2958 m, 2931 m, 2906 m, 2883 m, 1936 w, 1747 w, 1626 w, 1593 s, 1554 m, 1541 m, 1514 m, 1458 s, 1423 s, 1356 m, 1321 m, 1282 m, 1254 s, 1174 m, 1153 m, 1136 m, 1082 w, 1036 s, 10121 m, 966 s, 899 m, 864 m, 788 s, 754 s, 704 s, 650 m; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 286 (22), 285 (100), 270 (20), 254 (19), 242 (14), 241 (29), 240 (19), 121 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO: 285.1154; Found: 285.1152.



**4**-(**Acridin-9-yl**)-*N*,*N*-**dimethylaniline.** Rf 0.14 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale orange solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.11 (s, 6H), 6.92-6.96 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  40.45, 111.86, 122.95, 125.23, 125.62, 127.36, 129.16, 130.03, 131.60, 148.57 (2C), 150.33; IR (KBr) 2367 s, 1774 m, 1714 m, 1701 m, 1682 m, 1651 m, 1608 s, 1558 m, 1541 s, 1523 m, 1456 m, 1415 m, 1360 m, 1317 m, 1234 m, 1206 m, 1182 m, 1068 m, 813 m, 760 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 299 (23), 298 (100), 297 (33), 149 (12). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 298.1470; Found: 298.1473.



**3**-(**Acridin-9-yl**)-*N*,*N*-**dimethylaniline.** Rf 0.14 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale orange solid (mp = 152-153 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.97 (s, 6H), 6.76-6.78 (m, 2H), 6.90 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.73-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  40.41, 112.01, 114.21, 118.57, 125.12, 125.31, 127.21, 128.97, 129.20, 129.95, 136.56, 148.53, 148.58, 150.16.; IR (KBr) 3054 m, 2971 m, 2879 m, 2844 m, 2796 m, 1599 s, 1568 s, 1487 s, 1458 m, 1432 s, 1414 s, 1360 s, 1338 s, 1288 m, 1222 s, 1176 m, 1149 m, 1124 m, 1062 m, 1002 s, 931 m, 890 m, 864 m, 852 m, 775 s, 750 s, 703 s, 650 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 299 (23), 298 (100), 297 (46), 254(26), 253 (12). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 298.1470; Found: 298.1471.



**9-Butylacridine.**<sup>3</sup> To a oven-dried three-necked 100 mL flask, acridine (1.0 g, 5.6 mmol) was dissolved in THF (10 mL), and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. To the solution, <sup>*n*</sup>BuLi (1.6 M in hexane, 4.0 mL, 6.4 mmol) was added dropwise at 0 °C, then allowed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. The reaction was quenched with MeOH (5 mL) and then the reaction was filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a yellow oil. The yellow oil was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (9 mL). K<sub>3</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>] (5.1 g, 16 mmol) and KOH (2.5 g, 45 mmol) were then added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h. Chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ EtOAc = 10:1 to 5:1) furnished 9-butylacridine as a yellow solid (745 mg, 57%)

Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1) Greenish yellow solid (mp = 143-144 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  0.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.50-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.79 (m, 2H), 3.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.75 (m, 2H), 8.18-8.23 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  13.87,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> E. Hayashi, S. Ohsumi and T. Maeda, *Yakugaku Zasshi*, **1959**, **7**, 969.

23.24, 27.27, 33.35, 124.23, 124.72, 125.32, 129.57, 130.19, 147.05, 148.50; IR (KBr)3053 m, 2956 s, 2923 s, 2861 s, 1944 w, 1915 w, 1801 w, 1712 w, 1622 m, 1606 m, 1550 m, 1514 s, 1489 m, 1458 s, 1437 m, 1410 m, 1379 m, 1342 m, 1298 w, 1143 m, 1097 m, 1011 w, 951 w, 862 w, 839 w, 744 s, 642 m; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 236 (17), 235 (88), 193 (28), 192 (100), 191 (21). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N: 2351361; Found: 235.1362.



#### **IV. Typical Procedures**

**Typical procedure for the C-9 arylation reaction of acridines (Table 2).** To an oven-dried 10 mL vial,  $[RhCl(cod)]_2$  (12.4 mg, 0.025 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (14.0 mg, 0.05 mmol), acridine (1, 44.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), Ph<sub>2</sub>Zn (2, 219.6 mg, 1.0 mmol), toluene (2.0 mL) were added in a glove-box. The reaction was stirred at 160 °C for 20 h. After removing the volatiles *in vacuo*, chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10:1 to 5:1) furnished 9-phenylacridine (3, 51.5 mg, 81%) as a white solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.39-7.44 (m 4H), 7.55-7.62 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.74-7.79 (m, 2H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  125.07, 125.56, 126.82, 128.31, 128.39, 129.46, 129.97, 130.38, 135.86, 147.25, 148.65. HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N: 255.1048; Found: 255.1046.

**2,7,9-Triphenylacridine.** Rf 0.26 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.34-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.59-7.64 (m, 7H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8,06 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  124.08, 125.52, 127.36, 127.65, 128.53, 128.61, 128.88, 130.05, 130.18, 130.47, 135.73, 138.19, 140.41, 147.51, 148.10; IR (KBr) 3051 m, 3030 m, 1597 w, 1537 m, 1477 m, 1448 m,1332 w, 1167 w, 1147 w, 1074 w, 1030 w, 962 w, 887 w, 833 m, 760 s, 702 s, 619 m; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 408 (33), 407 (100), 406 (18), 330 (10). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N: 467.1674; Found: 407.1675.



2,7-Bis(4-butylphenyl)-9-phenylacridine. Rf 0.20 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp =

145-146 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  0.93 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.32-1.41 (m, 4H), 1.57-1.65 (m 4H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.22-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.49-7.51 (m, 6H), 7.55-7.64 (m, 3H), 7.85 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (dd, J = 2.0, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  13.93, 22.34, 33.55, 35.24, 123.61, 125.55, 127.17, 128.40, 128.54, 128.94, 129.95, 130.06, 130.49, 135.87, 137.73, 138.06, 142.56, 147.11, 147.98; IR (KBr) 3053 w, 3022 w, 2952 s, 2925 s, 2858 m, 1907 w, 1608 w, 1539 w, 1512 m, 1481 w, 1446 m, 1373 w, 1332 w, 1184 w, 1145 w, 1116 w, 1072 w, 1020 w, 962 w, 887 w, 823 s, 788 m, 761 w, 609 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 520 (43), 519 (100), 477 (12), 476(31), 433 (14), 217 (34). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N: 519.2926; Found: 519.2927



**2,7-Bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-9-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.36 (s, 12H), 7.00 (s, 2H), 7.20 (s, 4H), 7.51-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.59-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 8.03 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.39, 123.95, 125.34, 125.49, 128.43, 128.56, 129.29, 129.89, 130.41, 130.54, 135.85, 138.41, 138.49, 140.61, 147.26, 148.08; IR (KBr) 3055 w, 3024 w, 2916 m, 2857 w, 1599 m, 1537 m, 1444 m, 1377 w, 1335 w, 1147 w, 1074 w, 1036 w, 999 w, 852 w, 831 s, 793 w, 756 m, 702 m, 679 w, 621 w, 602 m; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 463 (100). 462 (10) 358 (5) 232 (6). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N: 463.2300; Found: 463.2303.



**2,7-Bis(3-isopropoxyphenyl)-9-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.17 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 117-118 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.35 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 12H), 4.58 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.87-6.89 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  22.01, 69.91, 114.75, 115.12, 119.66, 124.13, 128.51, 128.60, 129.86, 130.01, 130.18, 130.48, 131.37, 135.69, 138.12, 141.97, 147.47, 148.19, 158.22; IR (KBr) 3058 m, 2976 m, 2927 m, 1677 w, 1651 m, 1576 s, 1541 m, 1506 m, 1481 s, 1455 m, 1379 m,

1335 m, 1290 s, 1205 s, 1119 s, 999 w, 974 m, 950 m, 879 m, 835 m, 758 m, 700 s, 621 m; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 524 (41), 523 (100), 440 (23), 439(68), 438 (15), 220 (19). HRMS Calcd for  $C_{37}H_{33}NO_2$ : 523.2511; Found: 523.2508.



**4,4'-(9-Phenylacridine-2,7-diyl)dimorpholine.** Rf 0.09 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Dark orange solid (mp = >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.11-3.13 (m, 8H), 3.82-3.84 (m, 8H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.64 (m, 5H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  49.06, 66.71, 105.74, 123.09, 126.51, 128.09, 128.70, 130.07, 130.18, 136.74, 141.91, 143.64, 148.14; IR (KBr) 2960 m, 2889 m, 2852 m, 2821 m, 2821 m, 1606 s, 1493 m, 1468 s, 1444 s, 1371 m, 1344 m, 1301 m, 1269 m, 1221 s, 1165 m, 1119 s, 1068 m, 1045 m, 999 m, 964 w, 912 s, 872 w, 825 s, 776 w, 717 m, 629 m; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 425 (21), 350 (24), 303 (100), 291 (24), 233 (31), 117 (16), 116 (15). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 425.2103; Found: 425.2101.



**9-(2-Tolyl)acridine.**  $(2\text{-Tolyl})_2$ Zn prepapred from 2-TolMgBr and Zn(OMe)<sub>2</sub> was used in place of Ph<sub>2</sub>Zn.<sup>1</sup> Thus, to an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube, Zn(OMe)<sub>2</sub> (308.7 mg, 2.5 mmol) and Et<sub>2</sub>O were added, and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. To the mixture, 2-tolylMgBr (2.0 M Et<sub>2</sub>O solution, 2.44 mL, 4.88 mmol) was added dropwise at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. The resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for extra 15 h. The mixture was filtrated through a Celite pad under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo, affording (2-tolyl)<sub>2</sub>Zn as a white solid.

To an oven-dried 10 mL vial,  $[RhCl(cod)]_2$  (7.4 mg, 0.015 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (8.4 mg, 0.03 mmol), acridine (26.9 mg, 0.15 mmol), (2-Tolyl)<sub>2</sub>Zn (148.6 mg, 0.6 mmol), toluene (1.5 mL) were added in a glove-box. The reaction was stirred at 160 °C for 20 h. After removing the volatiles *in vacuo*, chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10:1 to 5:1) furnished 9-(2-tolyl)acridine (22.0 mg, 54%) as a pale yellow solid. Rf 0.34 (hexane: EtOAc= 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 157-158)

°C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.88 (s, 3H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.51 (m, 6H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.80 (m, 2H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150.83 MHz)  $\delta$  19.73, 125.10, 125.72, 125.83, 126.57, 1228.60, 129.66, 130.06, 130.19, 130.20, 135.48, 136.92, 147.02, 148.82; IR (KBr) 3045 w, 2910 w, 1649 w, 1614 w, 1554 m, 1541 m, 1512 s, 1479 m, 1458 m, 1435 m, 1412 m, 1313 w, 1132 w, 1110 w, 1014 w, 862 w, 820 m, 754 s, 723 m, 648 w, 606 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 270 (21), 269 (100), 268 (63), 267 (24), 266 (13), 254 (18), 134 (15). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N: 269.1204; Found: 269.1201.



**Typical procedure for the formal C-9 alkylation of acridine (Table 3)**. To an oven-dried 10 mL vial, acridine (44.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), <sup>*i*</sup>Pr<sub>2</sub>Zn (**4**, 1.0 M in toluene, 0.5 mL, 0.5 mmol), toluene (0.5 mL) were added in a glove-box. The reaction was stirred at 70  $^{\circ}$ C for 20 h under N<sub>2</sub>. The reaction was quenched by adding MeOH (1 mL), and the resulting solution was then filtered through a silica gel pad using EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to afford crude 9-isopropyl-9,10-dihydroacridine (**5**). The crude mixture was dissolved in toluene (or CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 5 mL), and K<sub>3</sub>[Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub>] (231 mg, 0.7 mmol), KOH (115.5 mg, 2.1 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (0.4 mL) were added, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 20 h under air. After MgSO<sub>4</sub> was added, and the reaction mixture was filtered using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. After removing the volatiles *in vacuo*, chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 10:1 to 5:1) furnished 9-isopropylacridine (**11**) as a yellow oil (53.1 mg, 96%).

**9-Isopropyl-9,10-dihydroacridine.** (5) Rf 0.66 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). White solid (mp = 143-144 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  0.77 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.83 (septet, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.87-6.91 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.20 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  19.27, 37.37, 48.84, 113.26, 120.23, 122.79, 126.74, 129.58, 140.30; IR (KBr) 3379 s, 3041 w, 2956 s, 2921 m, 2870 m, 1604 m, 1579 m, 1483 s, 1456 s, 1417 m, 1381 m, 1365 m, 1306 s, 1296 s, 1159 w, 1130 m, 1034 w, 928 w, 867 m, 858 w, 752 s, 717 m, 677 w, 638 w. This compound was easily oxidized to 9-isopropylacridine under the conditions to measure GC/MS and HRMS. MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 223 (4), 181 (14), 180 (100). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N: 225.1517; Found: 223.1357.



**2,7-Bis(4-butylphenyl)-9-isopropylacridine (6).** Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Orange solid (mp = 121-122 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  0.96 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.36-1.45 (m, 4H), 1.60-1.70 (m 4H), 1.82 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 2.68 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 4.62 (sept, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.58 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  13.96, 22.37, 22.92, 28.44, 33.60, 35.29, 122.04, 124.88, 127.26, 129.07, 129.61, 130.96, 137.59, 138.17, 142.61, 148.00, 151.86; IR (KBr) 2960 m, 2927 s, 2854 m, 1606 w, 1543 w, 1512 m, 1483 m, 1454 m, 1406 w, 1375 w, 1331 w, 1184 w, 1159 w, 1095 w, 1016 w, 991 w, 955 w, 822 s, 788 m, 679 w, 619 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 486 (38), 485 (100), 470 (15), 200 (21). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N: 485.3083; Found: 485.3085.



**9-Isopropyl-2,7-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acridine** (**7**). Rf 0.14 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp >200 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.85 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 4.64 (sept, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.64 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  23.11, 28.57, 122.85, 123.23, 124.79, 125.56, 125.99 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 127.77, 129.34, 129.80 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz), 131.76, 136.49, 144.37, 148.75, 152.80; IR (KBr) 2968 w, 2935 w, 1614 m, 1541 w, 1518 w, 1460 w, 1398 w, 1325 s, 1271 w, 1165 s, 1120 s, 1166 s, 1012 m, 953 w, 852 m, 829 s, 794 w, 609 w; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 510 (33), 509 (100), 495 (23), 494 (71), 492 (12), 348 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N: 509.1578; Found: 509.1576.



**Isopropyl 3,3'-(9-isopropylacridine-2,7-diyl)dibenzoate (8).** Rf 0.11 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow solid (mp = 121-122 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.43 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 12H), 1.87 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 4.66 (septet, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (septet, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.61 (t, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.61

2H),7.95-7.97 (m, 2H), 8.06-8.12 (m, 4H), 8.36 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.47 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.66 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.95, 23.03, 28.49, 68.66, 122.80, 124.82, 128.50, 128.68, 129.02, 129.47, 131.44, 131.59, 131.67, 136.87, 141.07, 148.45, 152.52, 165.91; IR (neat)2979 m, 2933 m, 2875 w, 1712 s, 1648 m, 1577 w, 1510 m, 1460 m, 1423 m, 1373 m, 1294 s, 1242 s, 1174 m, 1109 s, 1047 w, 924 w, 837 m, 818 m, 756 m, 696 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 546 (39), 545 (100), 446 (19). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: 545.2566; Found: 545.2561.



**2,7-Bis(3-isopropoxyphenyl)-9-isopropylacridine** (**9**). Rf 0.11 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Orange solid (mp= 87-88 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 599.85 MHz)  $\delta$  1.41 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 12H), 1.84 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 4.60-4.70 (m, 3H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.61 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150.83 MHz)  $\delta$  22.06, 22.97, 28.43, 69.95, 114.58, 115.41, 119.71, 122.17, 124.79, 129.63, 129.98, 131.06, 137.55, 142.41, 148.27, 152.18, 158.34; IR (KBr) 3062 m, 2974 s, 2929 m, 2873 m, 1600 s, 1576 s, 1541 m, 1479 m, 1454 s, 1377 m, 1329 m, 1286 s, 1200 s, 1115 s, 997 m, 966 m, 945 m, 872 m, 833 s, 779 s, 754 m, 698 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 490 (37), 489 (100), 405 (15), 203 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: 489.2668; Found: 489.2664.



**2,7-Bis(3,5-difluorophenyl)-9-isopropylacridine (10).** Rf 0.20 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.86 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 6H), 4.62 (sept, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.90 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.7.30 (m, 4H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 8.59 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150.85 MHz)  $\delta$  23.17, 28.58, 103.07 (t, *J* = 25.5 Hz), 110.33 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 20.5 Hz), 122.45, 124.70, 129.04, 131.84, 135.67, 144.15 (t, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 148.85, 153.00, 163.46 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 248.60 Hz); IR (neat) 3014 m, 2958 m, 2927 m, 2871 m, 1747 w, 1622 s, 1591 s, 1541 m, 1506 m, 1468 m, 1446 s, 1402 m, 1326 m, 1267 w, 1242 w, 1188 m, 1119 s, 1061 w, 989 s, 924 w, 877 m, 825 s, 785 w, 667 m, 613 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 446 (30), 445 (100), 431 (22), 430 (73), 428 (15), 316 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N: 445.1454; Found: 445.1457.



**9-Isopropylacridine** (**11**). Rf 0.31 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.73 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 4.50 (septet, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.75 (m, 2H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53MHz)  $\delta$  22.68, 28.33, 124.44, 124.95 (two overlapping peaks), 129.38, 130.54, 148.76, 152.09; IR (neat) 3045 w, 2989 m, 2964 m, 2931 m, 2875 w, 1623 w, 1608 w, 1550 m, 1518 m, 1458 m, 1406 w, 1367 w, 1340 w, 1211 w, 1184 w, 1145 w, 1092 w, 1014 w, 989 w, 922 w, 866 w, 847 w, 758 s, 652 m, 614 w; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 222 (13), 221 (77), 207 (16), 296 (100), 205 (17), 204 (46), 102 (22). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N: 221.1204; Found: 221.1206.



**9-(But-3-en-2-yl)acridine (12).** Rf 0.29 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Orange solid (mp = 164-165 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.79 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 5.00-5.07 (m, 1H), 5.24-5.29 (m, 2H), 6.38-6.45 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.77 (m, 2H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  19.27, 36.10, 114.26, 124.61, 125.01, 125.21, 129.59, 130.46, 142.27, 148.85, 149.16; IR (neat) 3566 w, 3082 w, 3047 w, 2970 m, 2927 m, 2854 w, 2368 w, 1680 w, 1631 m, 1547 m, 1520 m, 1458 m, 1408 w, 1373 w, 1147 w, 1105 w, 1038 w, 1012 w, 914 w, 756 s, 646 w, 604 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 234 (12), 233 (63), 232 (16), 219 (18), 218 (100), 217 (88), 216 (27), 204 (20), 109 (21). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N: 233.1204; Found: 233.1202.



**9-Cyclopentylacridine** (**13**). Rf 0.29 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Brown solid (mp = 179-180 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ 1.95-2.05 (m, 2H), 2.19-2.42 (m, 6H), 4.50-4.60 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.76 (m, 2H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H),; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz) δ 27.84, 34.31, 39.47, 124.68, 124.86, 124.96, 129.63, 130.33, 148.34, 151.02; IR

(KBr) 3095 m, 2989 m, 1866 w, 1752 m, 1700 w, 1633 s, 1599 s, 1556 s, 1529 s, 1473 s, 1344 m, 1261 m, 1182 m, 1159 m, 1024 m, 935 m, 818 m, 754 s, 707 w, 673 m, 629 w; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 248 (14), 247 (70), 246 (19), 218 (24), 217 (30), 216 (14), 204 (30), 180 (26), 179 (100). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N: 247.1361; Found: 247.1358.



Typical procedure for the C-4 arylation reaction of acridines (Table 5). To an oven-dried 10 mL vial, Ni(cod)<sub>2</sub> (13.6 mg, 0.050 mmol), SIPr·HCl (42.7 mg, 0.10 mmol), NaO'Bu (48.1 mg, 0.50 mmol), and toluene (1 mL) were added, and the solution was then stirred for a few minutes until the color of the catalyst mixture changed to orange-dark brown. 9-Phenylacridine (63.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), Ph<sub>2</sub>Zn (219.6 mg, 1.0 mmol), toluene (1.0 mL) were then added. All operations were conducted in a glove-box. The reaction was stirred at 160 °C for 20 h. After removing the volatiles *in vacuo*, chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 50:1) furnished 4,9-diphenylacridine as a white solid (56.3 mg, 68%).

**4,9-Diphenylacridine** (**15**). Rf 0.69 (hexane). White solid (mp = 173-174 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.38-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.71 (m, 8H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  124.78, 125.31, 125.45, 125.75, 126.55, 126.57, 127.27, 127.83, 128.23, 128.43, 129.34, 130.29, 130.48, 130.58, 131.13, 136.39, 139.80, 140.55, 146.68, 146.87, 148.44; IR (KBr) 3057 m, 3032 m, 1743 m, 1684 m, 1648 m, 1624 m, 1599 m, 1560 m, 1541 m, 1522 m, 1458 m, 1419 m, 1068 w, 1028 w, 864 w, 825 w, 758 s, 698 s, 669 w, 611 m.; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 332 (15), 331 (57), 330 (100), 329 (10), 328 (29), 165 (11), 164 (12). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N: 331.1361; Found: 331.1360.



**9-(4-Butylphenyl)-4-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.66 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp = 157-158 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz) δ 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.43-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.79 (m, 2H),

2.78 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.46 (m, 7H), 7.51-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.77 (m, 4H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  14.04, 22.50, 33.62, 35.54, 124.91, 125.14, 125.58 (two overlapping peaks), 126.70 (two overlapping peaks), 133.43, 127.21, 127.79, 128.39, 129.28, 130.24, 130.38, 130.50, 131.11, 139.86, 140.46, 142.98, 146.67, 147.17, 148.44; IR (KBr) 3057 w, 3030 w, 2956 m, 2925 m, 2854 m, 1619 w, 1599 w, 1518 m, 1458 m, 1417 m, 1379 w, 1354 w, 1179 w, 1132 w, 1117 w, 1064 w, 1018 w, 869 w, 829 w, 754 s, 694 m, 671 w, 642 w, 613 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 388 (19), 387 (72), 386 (100), 343 (25), 341 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N: 387.1987; Found: 387.1981.



**9-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-4-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.63 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Pale yellow solid (mp = 128-129 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.44 (s, 6H), 7.07 (s, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 0.9, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.92 (m, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  21.42, 124.85, 125.15, 125.53, 125.59, 126.82, 126.83, 127.26, 127.84, 128.24, 129.31, 129.80, 130.28, 130.54, 131.16, 136.26, 137.95, 139.88, 140.47, 146.69, 147.45, 148.47; IR (KBr) 3059 w, 3032 w, 3006 m, 2918 w, 2858 w, 1599 m, 1541 w, 1522 m, 1483 w, 1456 m, 1410 m, 1219 m, 1200 w, 1180 w, 1134 w, q032 w, 1016 w, 858 w, 841 w, 754 s, 700 s, 665 m, 631 m; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 360 (14), 359 (62), 358 (100), 171(11), 164 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N: 359.1674; Found: 359.1680.



9-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-4-phenylacridine. Rf 0.60 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow solid (mp =

188-189 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  7.36-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.63 (m, 5H), 7.68-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.80 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.96 (m, 4H), 8.01-8.03 (m, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.23-8.25 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150.85 MHz)  $\delta$  124.93, 125.41, 125.61, 125.84, 126.61, 126.63, 126.68, 126.76, 127.29, 127.84, 127.93, 128.08, 128.16, 128.35, 129.37, 129.69, 130.31, 130.63, 131.14, 132.98, 133.08, 133.86, 139.78, 140.59, 146.70, 146.74, 148.46; IR (neat) 3055 w, 2374 w, 2314 w, 1600 w, 1541 w, 1522 w, 1485 w, 1458 w, 1417 w, 1213 w, 1180 w, 1140 w, 901 w, 864 w, 823 w, 756 s, 698 m, 669 w, 640 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 382 (18), 381 (70), 380 (100), 379 (14), 378 (32), 190 (15), 189 (19), 188 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N: 381.1517; Found: 381.1521.



**9-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.57 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). White solid (mp = 159-160 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.93 (s, 3H), 7.11-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.78 (m, 4H), 7.89-7.91 (m, 2H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  55.38, 113.87, 125.08, 125.17, 125.62, 125.77, 126.62, 126.64, 127.22, 127.79, 128.33, 129.259, 130.23, 130.55, 131.11, 131.73, 139.83, 140.50, 146.69, 146.78, 148.46, 159.56; IR (KBr) 1604 m, 1540 w, 1513 m, 1458 m, 1419 m, 1288 w, 1245 m, 1174 m, 1103 w, 1028 m, 868 w, 831 m, 759 s, 700 m, 67 w.; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 362 (15), 361 (67), 360 (100), 316 (24), 315 (13), 158 (12). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO: 361.1467; Found: 361.1478.



**9-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.54 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). White solid (mp = 128-129 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.85 (s, 3H), 7.00-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.55 (m, 6H), 7.66-7.79 (m, 4H), 7.89-7.91 (m, 2H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  55.33, 113.87, 115.92, 122.89, 124.65, 125.31 (two overlapping peaks), 125.75, 126.54, 126.57, 127.24, 127.80, 129.32, 129.50, 130.27, 130.53, 131.10, 137.73, 139.78, 140.50, 146.64 (two overlapping peaks), 148.40, 159.53; IR (KBr) 3060 w, 2958 w, 2931 w, 2831 w, 1591 m, 1541 m, 1519 m, 1458 m, 1421 m, 1355 w, 1313 w, 1267 w, 1242 m, 1174 w, 1134 w, 1039 m, 910 w, 885 w, 862 w, 754 s, 700 s, 667 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 362 (16), 361 (68), 360 (100), 344 (18), 316 (15), 315 (14), 158 (11). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO: 361.1467; Found: 361.1466.



*N,N*-Dimethyl-4-(4-phenylacridin-9-yl)aniline. Rf 0.49 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Greenish solid (mp = 196-197 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  3.09 (s, 6H), 6.92-6.95 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 1.2. 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  40.47, 111.89, 123.57, 124.86, 125.29, 125.31, 125.98, 127.02 (two overlapping peaks), 127.14, 127.78, 129.16, 130.18, 130.51, 131.12, 131.58, 139.99, 140.40, 146.77, 147.78, 148.57, 150.21; IR (KBr) 2889 w, 2804 w, 1608 s, 1523 s, 1479 m, 1456 m, 1419 m, 1356 m, 1227 w, 1205 w, 1171 m, 1065 m, 818 m, 760 s, 731 m, 698 m, 671 w, 634 m, 611 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 375 (18), 374 (72), 373 (100), 357 (29), 328 (13), 187 (11), 186 (24), 164 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 374.1783; Found: 374.1779.



*N*,*N*-Dimethyl-3-(4-phenylacridin-9-yl)aniline. Rf 0.46 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,270.05 MHz)  $\delta$  2.99 (s, 6H), 6.79-6.82 (m, 2H), 6.92 (dd, J = 2.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.52-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.66-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.83 (m, 3H), 7.90-7.92 (m, 2H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  40.50, 111.96, 114.40, 118.74, 124.83, 125.05, 125.49 (two overlapping peaks), 126.97 (two overlapping peaks), 127.20, 127.80, 129.01, 129.29, 130.26, 130.41, 131.11, 137.14, 139.90, 140.38, 146.64, 148.07, 148.43, 150.25; IR (neat) 3057 w, 3030 w, 2850 w, 2802 w, 1682 w, 1599 s, 1574 m, 1541 m, 1522 m, 1491 m, 1458 m, 1427 m, 1362 m, 1342 w, 1228 w, 1178 w, 1134 w, 1061 w, 1005 m, 908 w, 874 w, 854 w, 760 s, 733 m, 700 s, 671 w, 644 w, 617 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 375 (19), 374 (73), 373 (100), 357 (26), 328 (17), 187 (10), 186 (23), 164 (13). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 374.1783; Found: 374.1778.



**9-Butyl-4-phenylacridine.** Rf 0.60 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow-green oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  1.03 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.58-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.87 (m, 2H), 3.63 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 0.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.87 (m, 2H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  14.01, 23.41, 27.63, 33.51, 123.95, 124.07, 124.47, 125.15, 125.18, 125.63, 127.15, 127.73, 129.04, 130.06, 131.12, 131.38, 139.98, 141.23, 146.57, 146.60, 148.31; IR (KBr) 3059 w, 3030 w, 2954 m, 2925 m, 2862 m, 2362 w, 2339 w, 1620 w, 1601 w, 1549 w, 1523 m, 1491 m, 1460 m, 1418 w, 1292 w, 1180 w, 1140 w, 1103 w, 1072 w, 1020 w, 958 w, 904 w, 754 s, 698 m, 642 w, 600 w; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 312 (16), 311 (66), 310 (100), 268 (30), 267 (44), 266 (12), 65 (10), 256 (21), 254 (12). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N: 311.1674; Found: 311.1667.



**9-Phenyl-4-(2-tolyl)acridine.** Rf 0.57 (hexane: EtOAc = 5:1). Yellow-green oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 399.78 MHz)  $\delta$  2.14 (s, 3H), 7.34-7.42 (m, 5H), 7.45-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.58-7.67 (m, 6H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100.53 MHz)  $\delta$  20.80, 124.76, 125.13, 125.16, 125.31, 125.65, 126.52, 126.56, 127.35, 128.23, 128.41, 129.26, 129.59, 130.53 (two overlapping peaks), 130.60, 130.66, 136.38, 137.68, 140.48, 141.61, 146.82, 147.14, 148.52; IR (KBr) 3059 w, 3020 w, 2954 w, 2929 w, 1622 w, 1601 w, 1562 w, 1541 w, 1522 m, 1458 m, 1419 m, 1257 w, 1176 w, 1138 w, 1093 w, 1072 w, 1053 w, 1030 w, 908 m, 868 w, 827 w, 756 s, 733 s, 702 s, 671 w, 646 w, 615 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 346 (20), 345 (82), 344 (100), 343 (13), 342 (13), 341 (11), 331 (17), 330 (61), 328 (19), 171 (11), 165 (15), 164 (18). HRMS Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N: 345.1517; Found: 345.1519.



#### **V. Mechanistic Studies**

As shown in the paper, in the arylation of acridines, 9- or 4-arylated acridines were obtained as products, while in the alkylation 9-alkyl-9,10-dihydroacridines, not the aromatized product, were obtained. To collect information regarding these contrasting results, the following investigations were conducted.

**S1** (64.3 mg, 0.25 mmol) or **S2** (55.8 mg, 0.25 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) were treated with 2 equivalents of **2** (109.8 mg, 0.5 mmol) in the absence of the catalyst, and each reaction vessels were stirred at 130  $^{\circ}$ C for 20 h. As a result, **S1** was aromatized to afford 9-phenylacridine in 87% yield,<sup>4</sup> while **S2** was recovered quantitatively

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Similar aromatization induced by Ph<sub>2</sub>Zn was observed with 2-aryl-1,2-dihydroquinolines: M. Tobisu, I. Hyodo, N. Chatani, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 12070.



This result shows that those contrasting results were due to the stability of S2 toward aromatization induced by organozinc reagents.


























































6.00












































































































