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Dual-function Pd/NHC catalysis: tandem allylationisomerization-conjugate addition that allows access to pyrroles, thiophenes and furans

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General information

General: All the reactions were carried out in a flame or oven dried glassware with freshly distilled dry solvents under anhydrous conditions unless otherwise indicated. Organic solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure by rotary evaporation with a water bath (temperature below 40 °C). Reactions were magnetically stirred and monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on 0.25 mm E. Merck silica gel plates (60-F254) using UV light at 254 nm as a visualizing agent and a KMnO₄ solution as stain. Product purification by flash column chromatography was accomplished using silica gel 60 (0.010-0.063 nm). Technical grade solvents were used for chromatography and were distilled prior to use. Optical rotations were measured in $CHCl_3$ or MeOH on a Schmidt + Haensdch polarimeter with a 1 cm cell (c given in g/100 mL). IR spectra were recorded using FTIR Restige-21 (Shimadzu). NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on 400 MHz Bruker AVIII 400. The residual solvent signals were taken as the reference (7.26 ppm for 1H NMR spectra and 77.0 ppm for ${}^{13}C$ NMR spectra in CDCl₃). Sometimes the TMS signal at 0.0 ppm was used an internal standard for ¹H NMR spectra. Chemical shift (δ) is reported in ppm, coupling constants (J) are given in Hz. The following abbreviations classify the multiplicity: s = singlet, d =doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, br = broad signal. HR-MS (ESI) spectra were recorded on a Waters Q-Tof premierTM mass spectrometer.

Material: <u>Dimethyl sulfoxide</u> (DMSO) and triethylamine (Et ₃N) were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. NHC catalysts, tetrakistriphenylphosphine palladium(0), Allyl acetate (**1a**), pyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2a**), 6methylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2b**), 6-methoxylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2c**), 6bromopyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2d**), 6-(2-Thienyl)pyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2f**), 5bromopyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2h**), 2-quinolinecarboxaldehyde (**2j**) were purchased from commercial suppliers. 6-phenylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2e**),¹ 6hydroxymethylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2f**),² 5-phenylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (**2i**),¹ 1-isoqunoline-carboxaldehyde³ (**2k**) and 3-isoquinolinecarboxaldehyde⁴ (**2l**) were prepared by reported methods.

Experimental procedure

General experimental procedure of direct coupling by dual catalysis: To a solution of mmol), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 **1a** (0.4)mmol), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, (oazaaryl)carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump within a 2-hour period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the product.



2-methyl-1,4-di(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3a) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, pyridine-2carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 76 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a brown solid (85 mg, 83%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.34-1.36 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.49-3.54 (dd, J = 4.4, 18.8 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.99 (dd, J = 9.7, 18.8 Hz, 1H), 4.64-4.70 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.99 (m, 2H), 8.08-8.10 (m, 2H), 8.69-8.74 (m, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.4, 35.1, 41.9, 121.7, 122.5, 126.9, 127.1, 136.8, 136.9, 148.9, 149.0, 152.8, 153.1, 200.2, 204.4; IR (neat) 3055, 2972, 2933, 2358, 2330, 1693, 1680, 1583, 1435, 1348, 1219, 955, 746, 619 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}N_2O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 255.1134, found 255.1138.



2-methyl-1,4-bis(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3b) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6methylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 96 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a dark brown solid (91 mg, 80%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.30-1.32 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.61 (s, 6H), 3.45-3.51 (dd, J = 4.9, 18.7 Hz, 1H), 3.83-3.90 (dd, J = 9.2, 18.7 Hz, 1H), 4.62–4.71 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.85-7.87 (m, 1H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.5, 24.4, 24.5, 35.2, 41.7, 118.7, 119.4, 126.4, 126.6, 136.7, 136.8, 152.3, 152.8, 157.9, 157.9, 200.7, 204.8; IR (neat) 3020, 2358, 2341, 1693, 1591, 1456, 1344, 1215, 975, 756, 667 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{17}H_{19}N_2O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 283.1447, found 283.1443



1,4-bis(6-methoxypyridin-2-yl)-2-methylbutane-1,4-dione (3c) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6-methoxylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 109 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a white solid (77 mg, 61%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.33-1.35 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.37–3.43 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 18.6 Hz, 1H), 3.79–3.86 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 18.6 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 4.54–4.63 (m, 1H), 6.91-6.94 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.70 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.3, 35.5, 41.7, 53.4, 53.5, 114.9, 115.1, 115.2, 115.7, 139.0, 139.1, 150.1, 150.7, 163.2, 163.3, 200.1, 204.0;

IR (neat) 2976, 2953, 1693, 1591, 1573, 1433, 1338, 1274, 1230, 1035, 812 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{17}H_{19}N_2O_4$ [M+H]⁺: 315.1345, found 315.1339



1,4-bis(6-bromopyridin-2-yl)-2-methylbutane-1,4-dione (3d) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium (0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6bromopyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 149 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 2:1) to afford the product as a yellow solid (126 mg, 77%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.32-1.34 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.43–3.49 (dd, J = 4.2, 19.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81–3.88 (dd, J =9.9, 19.1 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.56 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.89-7.91 (m, 1H), 8.00-8.03 (m, 1H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.4, 35.3, 41.8, 120.6, 121.3, 131.7, 131.9, 139.1, 139.2, 141.4, 153.4, 153.8, 198.7, 202.7; IR (neat) 2929, 1697, 1556, 1431, 1396, 1338, 1273, 1217, 985, 754 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{15}H_{13}N_2O_2Br_2$ [M+H]⁺: 410.9344, found 410.9349



2-methyl-1,4-bis(6-phenylpyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3e) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 μ L), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6-phenylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 146 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a yellow solid (137 mg, 84%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.44-1.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.66–3.72 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 18.5 Hz, 1H), 4.00–4.07 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 18.5 Hz, 1H), 4.83–4.92 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.53 (m, 6H), 7.82-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.87-7.94 S6

(m, 4H), 8.00-8.02 (m, 1H), 8.10-8.11 (m, 4H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.6, 35.6, 41.9, 119.9, 120.7, 123.2, 123.6, 126.9, 126.9, 128.8, 128.8, 129.3, 129.4, 137.6, 137.7, 138.4, 138.5, 152.5, 153.0, 156.2, 156.4, 200.7, 204.7; IR (neat) 3064, 2972, 1693, 1579, 1448, 1392, 1348, 1217, 1028, 985, 754 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₇H₂₃N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 407.1760, found 407.1756



2-methyl-1,4-bis(6-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3f) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 μL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6-(2-Thienyl)pyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 151 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a pale yellow solid (132 mg, 79%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.41-1.43 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.59–3.65 (dd, J = 5.2, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.93–4.00 (dd, J = 8.7, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 4.79-4.84 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.85 (m, 7H), 7.96-7.99 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.5, 35.7, 41.7, 119.6, 120.3, 123.0, 123.3, 124.1, 124.2, 126.2, 126.3, 126.5, 137.5, 137.6, 141.5, 141.6, 152.4, 152.5, 152.6, 153.0, 200.5, 204.5; IR (neat) 3018, 2972, 1693, 1587, 1465, 1392, 1342, 1215, 989, 756 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N₂O₂S₂ [M+H]⁺: 419.0888, found 419.0883



4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)pyridin-2-yl)-1-(6-(hydroxymethyl)pyridin-2-yl)-2-methyl-

butane-1,4-dione (3g) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 μ L), tetrakis-(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6-hydroxymethylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 110 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 1:2) to afford the product as a white solid (29 mg, 23%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.32-1.34 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.37–3.43 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 18.2 Hz, 1H), 3.78-3.82 (m, 2H), 3.91–3.98 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 18.2 Hz, 1H), 4.67–4.72 (m, 1H), 4.84 (s, 4H), 7.42-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.91 (m, 3H), 7.99-8.01 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.2, 35.4, 42.0, 63.9, 64.0, 120.6, 121.4, 124.0, 124.1, 137.6, 137.7, 151.4, 151.9, 158.55, 158.5, 199.6, 203.5; IR (neat) 3012, 2931, 2854, 1942, 1681, 1589, 1446, 1373, 1338, 1219, 995, 753 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₉N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 315.1345, found 315.1354



3h

1,4-bis(5-bromopyridin-2-yl)-2-methylbutane-1,4-dione (3h) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 5bromopyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 149 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 2:1) to afford the product as a white solid (124 mg, 76%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.31-1.33 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.42–3.48 (dd, J = 4.3, 18.9 Hz, 1H), 3.84-3.91 (dd, J = 4.3, 18.9 Hz, 18 9.8, 18.9 Hz, 1H), 4.53-4.62 (m, 1H), 7.84-7.86 (m, 1H), 7.94-8.01 (m, 3H), 8.74-8.79 (m, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.3, 35.1, 41.8, 123.0, 123.8, 125.1, 125.4, 139.6, 139.6, 150.1, 150.1, 150.9, 151.3, 199.3, 203.3; IR (neat) 3093, 2088, 1953, 1693, 1566, 1454, 1317, 1209, 981, 756 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂O₂Br₂ [M+H]⁺: 410.9344, found 410.9342



2-methyl-1,4-bis(5-phenylpyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3i) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 μ L), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 5-phenylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 146 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at S8

room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as a yellow solid (115 mg, 71%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.39 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.53–3.59 (dd, *J* = 4.4, 18.8 Hz, 1H), 3.97-4.04 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 18.7 Hz, 1H), 4.68–4.77 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.53 (m, 6H), 7.60-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.96-8.06 (m, 3H), 8.16-8.18 (m, 1H), 8.91-8.92 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.5, 35.2, 42.1, 121.9, 122.6, 127.3, 127.3, 128.7, 128.8, 129.2, 129.2, 135.0, 135.1, 136.9, 137.1, 139.6, 139.9, 147.4, 147.5, 151.4, 151.8, 199.9, 204.0; IR (neat) 3018, 2399, 1689, 1587, 1471, 1379, 1340, 1215, 927, 756 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₇H₂₃N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 407.1760, found 407.1763



2-methyl-1,4-di(quinolin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3j) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, quinoline-2carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 126 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 6:1) to afford the product as a brown solid (110 mg, 78%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.45-1.47 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.77-3.82 (dd, J = 5.0, 18.6 Hz, 1H), 4.08-4.15 (dd, J = 9.1, 18.6 Hz, 1H), 4.95-5.00 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.83-7.87 (m, 2H), 8.04-8.06 (m, 1H), 8.16-8.28 (m, 5H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.6, 35.3, 41.7, 118.1, 118.8, 127.5, 127.6, 128.3, 128.5, 129.6, 129.6, 129.9, 130.6, 130.8, 136.8, 136.8, 147.2, 147.3, 152.4, 152.8, 200.8, 204.9; IR (neat) 3018, 2974, 1693, 1593, 1456, 1375, 1215, 987, 835, 710 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}N_2O_2$ [M+H]⁺: 355.1447, found 355.1448



1,4-di(isoquinolin-1-yl)-2-methylbutane-1,4-dione (3k) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 μ L), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-

Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 μ L) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, isoquinoline-1-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 126 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 6:1) to afford the product as a dark brown solid (88 mg, 62%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.41-1.43 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.65–3.71 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.99-4.06 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 18.4 Hz, 1H), 4.69–4.74 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.73 (m, 4H), 7.79-7.88 (m, 4H), 8.57-8.62 (m, 2H), 8.77-8.82 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.3, 38.5, 44.2, 124.0, 124.5, 125.7, 126.3, 126.8, 126.9, 126.9, 128.7, 128.9, 130.2, 130.3, 137.0, 137.0, 141.0, 141.2, 152.8, 153.4, 202.8, 206.6; IR (neat) 2958, 2852, 1732, 1683, 1456, 1361, 1215, 1091, 943, 755 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 355.1447, found 355.1450



1,4-di(isoquinolin-3-yl)-2-methylbutane-1,4-dione (3l) To a solution of 1a (0.4 mmol, 44 μL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, isoquinoline-3-carboxaldehyde (0.8 mmol, 126 mg) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 6:1) to afford the product as a yellow solid (102 mg, 72%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.41-1.43 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.61–3.67 (dd, J = 4.6, 18.7 Hz, 1H), 4.07-4.14 (dd, J = 9.5, 18.6 Hz, 1H), 4.79-4.88 (m, 1H), 7.70-7.78 (m, 4H), 7.93-8.00 (m, 2H), 8.04-8.07 (m, 2H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.54 (s, 1H), 9.30-9.34 (m, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.5, 35.8, 42.8, 120.3, 121.0, 127.5, 127.5, 128.6, 128.6, 129.2, 129.3, 130.1, 130.2, 130.7, 130.9, 135.5, 135.7, 147.0, 147.4, 151.8, 151.9, 200.4, 204.6; IR (neat) 3018, 1685, 1624, 1492, 1388, 1215, 1170, 1128, 933, 904, 810 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 355.1447, found 355.1443



2-methyl-1-(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-4-(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (**3ab**) & 2methyl-4-(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3ba) To a solution of **1a** (0.4 mmol, 44 µL), tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.02 mmol, 23 mg), 5-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3,4-dimethylthiazolium iodide (0.04 mmol, 12 mg) and triethylamine (1.2 mmol, 165 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (1.2 mL) under argon at room temperature, 6methylpyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.4 mmol, 48 mg) and pyridine-2-carboxaldehyde (0.4 mmol, 47.5 µL) in dimethyl sulfoxide (0.8 mL) was added by a syringe pump with a 2 hours period. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for another 1 hour. Then the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL), filtered, washed with water (20 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was evaporated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 6:1) to afford the product as a yellow solid (102 mg, 72%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.29-1.31 (m, 3H), 2.58-2.59 (m, 3H), 3.41-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.85-3.93 (m, 1H), 4.64-4.65 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.72-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.96-8.06 (m, 1H), 8.65-8.71 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 17.4, 17.5, 24.4, 24.5, 35.1, 35.1, 41.7, 41.9, 118.7, 119.5, 121.7, 122.4, 126.5, 126.7, 126.8, 127.1, 136.8, 136.8, 136.8, 148.9, 148.9, 152.2, 152.2, 152.8, 153.2, 157.9, 157.9, 200.2, 200.6, 204.5, 204.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₇N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 269.1290, found 269.1289



2,2'-(3-methylfuran-2,5-diyl)dipyridine (4a) A solution of 2-methyl-1,4-di(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (**3a**) (51mg, 0.2mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (8mg, 0.04mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was heated to reflux for 5 hours under nitrogen. Then the solvent was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 6:1) to afford the product as white solid (36 mg, 76%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.55 (s, 3H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 7.11-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.83 (m, 2H), 8.59-8.64 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 12.1, 114.6, 118.7, 119.7, 121.1, 122.0, 123.6, 136.2, 136.5, 148.4, 149.1, 149.3, 149.7, 151.0, 152.1; IR (neat) 2926, 2852, 1620, 1589, 1556, 1471, 1429, 1273, 1151, 937, 752 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂O [M+H]⁺: 237.1028, found 237.1031



2,2'-(3-methyl-1H-pyrrole-2,5-diyl)dipyridine (4b) A solution of 2-methyl-1,4-di(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (**3a**) (51 mg, 0.2mmol) and ammonium acetate (770 mg, 10 mmol) in acetic acid (8 mL) was heated to 100 °C under nitrogen for 12 hours. Then EA (20 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was washed with water (20 mL) and saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent of organic layer was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 1:1) to afford the product as pale yellow solid (43 mg, 92%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.44 (s, 3H), 6.60-6.61 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 7.02-7.07 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.68 (m, 2H), 8.51-8.57 (m, 2H), 10.48 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.1, 111.6, 118.3, 119.1, 120.1, 120.4, 120.6, 129.1, 131.1, 136.2, 136.2, 149.2, 149.3, 150.1, 150.8; IR (neat) 3001, 1642, 1566, 1473, 1288, 1269, 1511, 1072, 948, 756 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₄N₃ [M+H]⁺: 236.1188, found 236.1185



2,2'-(3-methylthiophene-2,5-diyl)dipyridine (4c) A solution of 2-methyl-1,4-di(pyridin-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (**3a**) (51mg, 0.2mmol) and Lawesson's Reagent (89 mg, 0.22 mmol) in dichloromethane (3 mL) was stirred at 40 °C under nitrogen for 6 hours. Then EA (20 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was washed with water (10 mL) and saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (10 mL) and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent of organic layer was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography (Hexane:EA = 4:1) to afford the product as yellow solid (32 mg, 64%).¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.55 (s, 3H), 7.13-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.60-7.74 (m, 4H), 8.57-8.59 (m, 1H), 8.63-8.65 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 16.4, 188.9, 121.4, 121.5, 121.9, 136.4, 136.6, 139.7, 143.4, 149.6, 149.6, 152.4, 153.5; IR (neat) 2960, 1747, 1681, 1581, 1471, 1259, 1153, 1004, 781 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂S [M+H]⁺: 252.0799, found 252.0799

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Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra





140 130 220 210 200 190 180 170







0

S18

3) (1773







01-067-020, 1H, 400MHZ, CDC13



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90



01-067-016; 1H; CDC13



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100



S25





































220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100















