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Supporting Information for PEG-400 as carbon synthon: highly selective synthesis of quinolines and methylquinolines under metal-free conditions

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(1)General Information:

All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used directly without further purification. Substituted substrates **1** were obtained according to the literature reports. Reactions were monitored by analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC). ¹H NMR spectra were measured at 400 or 500 MHz and ¹³C NMR spectra were run in the same instrument at 101 or 126 MHz. Unless otherwise stated, deuterochloroform (CDCl₃) was used as a solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Mass spectra were measured using the STA-FTIR- GC/MS at Shandong University. High-resolution mass spectra were measured on a time-of-flight(Q-TOF) instrument in positive-ion mode with an ESI ion source.

(2) Mechanistic studies:



Fig 1: GC-MS for reaction without starting material under 130 °C.



Fig 2: GC-MS for reaction without starting material under 90 °C.



Fig 3: LC-MS for PEG-400.



Fig 4: LC-MS for reaction without starting material under 130 °C(reaction time: 0.5 h).

(3) Experimental Procedures:

3.1: General Experimental Procedure for the Synthesis of 2-(1-substituted vinyl) anilines.



Substrates **1a-1u** were synthesized according to Method A:¹

A mixture of anilines (9.0 mmol), phenylacetylenes (9.0 mmol), and 0.9 g of montmorillonite KSF were added to a round-bottomed flask. Then xylene (9 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred in an oil bath preheated to 140 °C, under a reflux condenser (running cold water as the coolant). After 5 hours, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed in vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain 2-(1-phenylvinyl) aniline derivative.

3.2: General Experimental Procedure for the Synthesis of 2-(1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl) anilines.



Substrates 1a-1u were synthesized according to Method B:²

2-nitroaniline (10 mmol) and 2,5-dimethoxytetrahydrofuran (10 mmol) and acetic acid (50 mL) were taken in an oven-dried reaction tube. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 2 h with vigorous stirring and then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to afford a residue. The residue was added to iron powder (40.0 mmol), NH₄Cl (5.0 mmol) in H₂O (10 mL) and heated to 100 °C for 4h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to afford a residue. The residue was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to afford a residue. The residue was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to afford a residue. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

3.3: General Experimental Procedure for the Synthesis of 2-methylquinolines.



A 25 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with 2-styrylaniline 1 (0.03 mmol), PEG-400 (1.2ml), and TfOH (0.03 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 110°C until the completion of reaction (1 ~ 3 h) by TLC. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 20mL of water. The water layer was extracted with (3X20mL) of ethyl acetate and the combined ethyl acetate layer was given brine wash (1X20mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated under

vacuum to get the crude compound. the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

3.4: General Experimental Procedure for the Synthesis of quinolines.



A 25 mL two-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with 2-styrylaniline 1 (0.03 mmol), PEG-400 (1.2ml), and TfOH (0.03 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 90°C under an oxygen balloon until the completion of reaction by TLC. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 20mL of water. The water layer was extracted with (3X20mL) of ethyl acetate and the combined ethyl acetate layer was given brine wash (1X20mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated under vacuum to get the crude compound. the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

(4) The Application of the Reaction:

(A)Synthesis of MCH-1R receptor modulator



4.1: Synthesis of 6a

A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with **4a** (2 mmol) and CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml), 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (m-CPBA) (345 mg, 2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was dropped into the round-bottom flask at 0 $^{\circ}$ C. After the addition is complete, the reaction mixture was allowed up to stir at room temperature overnight. An aqueous saturated NaHCO₃ solution was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3X20mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated under vacuum to get the crude compound. the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

A 25 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was sequentially charged with N-oxide (0.25 mmol, 55.3 mg), PPh₃ (0.5 mmol, 131.2 mg), Cl₃CCN (0.5 mmol, 72.2 mg) and toluene (1 mL). The Schlenk tube was capped and placed in a preheated oil bath at 140 °C for 4 h. Once the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature. Then diluted with ethyl acetate and filter out the solids. The Schlenk tube and solid was wished with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum, the crude was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain desired product **6a**.

4.2: Synthesis of 6c

A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with **4c** (2 mmol) and CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml), 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (m-CPBA) (345 mg, 2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was dropped into the round-bottom flask at 0 $^{\circ}$ C. After the addition is complete, the reaction mixture was allowed up to stir at room temperature overnight. An aqueous saturated NaHCO₃ solution was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3X20mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated under vacuum to get the crude compound. the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

Tosyl chloride(0.375 mmol) was added at room temperature to a solution of quinoline N-oxide (0.3 mmol)in a 10 % K_2CO_3 solution (0.75 ml)and DCM (0.75ml) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for one night. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into water (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure to afford a residue. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel) with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to obtain the desired product.

(5) Characterization Data:

2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline (2a)³



white solid in 72% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.50, 148.58, 148.38, 138.17, 129.50, 129.33, 129.00, 128.53, 128.33, 125.75, 125.65, 125.11, 122.23, 25.33. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₃N (M+H)⁺220.1118; found: 220.1123.

2,6-dimethyl-4-phenylquinoline(2b)³



white solid in 81% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 6H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.41, 148.06, 146.76, 138.34, 135.63, 131.61, 129.49, 128.60, 128.54, 128.26, 125.03, 124.45, 122.31, 25.14, 21.73. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1281.

2,8-dimethyl-4-phenylquinoline(**2c**)⁴



Yellow solid in 78% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.45 (m, 6H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.28, 148.56, 147.49, 138.76, 136.82, 129.60, 129.44, 128.44, 128.14, 125.23, 124.97, 123.68, 121.97, 25.69, 18.52. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1279.

2,7-dimethyl-4-phenylquinoline(2d)



Yellow solid in 43% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.27 (dd, J = 8.4, 2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.37, 148.52, 148.41, 139.71, 138.27, 129.48, 128.52, 128.32, 128.02, 127.96, 125.34, 123.07, 121.47, 25.23, 21.76. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1256.

2,5-dimethyl-4-phenylquinoline(2e)



Yellow solid in 73% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.05, 149.42, 149.07, 142.55, 135.51, 129.09, 128.97, 128.73, 127.90, 127.86, 127.69, 124.58, 124.42, 24.83, 24.48. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1289.

6-chloro-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2f)⁵



Yellow solid in 74% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.80, 148.04, 146.57, 137.40, 131.73, 130.49, 130.32, 129.38, 128.78, 125.87, 124.53, 123.03, 25.20. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂ClN (M+H)⁺254.0728; found: 254.0742.

7-fluoro-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2g)



Yellow solid in 52% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (dd, J = 9.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, J = 10.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 2.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.32, 161.84, 159.79, 149.3 (d, J = 12.1 Hz), 148.90, 137.82, 129.41, 128.66, 128.60, 128.0 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 122.18, 121.6 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 116.0 (d, J = 24.2 Hz), 112.5 (d, J = 20.2 Hz), 25.24. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂FN (M+H)⁺238.1024; found: 238.1036.

6-bromo-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2h)⁵



Yellow solid in 69% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 2.76 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.98, 147.88, 146.86, 137.39, 132.84, 130.70, 129.39, 128.79, 128.70, 127.81, 126.39, 123.01, 119.86, 25.29. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂BrN (M+H)⁺298.0223; found: 298.0241.

6-fluoro-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline (2i)⁵



Yellow solid in 84% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (dd, J = 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.43 (m, 7H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.23 (d, J = 246.41 Hz), 157.80 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 148.17 (d, J = 5.1 Hz), 145.38, 137.67, 131.30 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 129.30, 128.74, 128.61, 125.82 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 122.83, 119.40 (d, J = 25.3 Hz), 109.11 (d, J = 23.2 Hz), 25.15. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂FN (M+H)⁺238.1024; found: 238.1012.

6-methoxy-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2j)³



Yellow solid in 82% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.36 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.34, 155.82, 147.55, 144.15, 138.41, 130.25, 129.29, 128.65, 128.33, 125.89, 122.58, 121.53, 103.91, 55.44, 24.88. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅NO (M+H)⁺250.1224; found: 250.1206.

6-ethyl-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2k)



Yellow solid in 71% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.46 (m, 6H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 2.76 – 2.71 (m, 5H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).^{:13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.46, 148.21, 146.96, 141.92, 138.36,

130.46, 129.50, 128.75, 128.54, 128.27, 125.03, 123.28, 122.30, 29.05, 25.14, 15.63. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for $C_{18}H_{17}N$ (M+H)⁺248.1431; found: 248.1446.

6-isopropyl-2-methyl-4-phenylquinoline(2l)



Yellow solid in 69% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H) 7.62 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 3.00 – 3.04 (m, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 1.26 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H);¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.50, 148.34, 147.09, 146.41, 138.36, 129.50, 128.87, 128.79, 128.54, 128.29, 124.95, 122.29, 121.95, 34.28, 25.13, 23.93. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₉H₁₉N (M+H)⁺262.1587; found: 262.1596.

3-methyl-1-phenylbenzo[f]quinoline (2m)⁶



White solid in 68% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.85 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.39 (m, 6H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.11 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.07, 157.07, 149.31, 148.70, 142.80, 132.65, 131.39, 129.80, 129.18, 128.59, 128.32, 128.28, 128.07, 127.87, 126.22, 125.48, 124.94, 121.88, 24.59. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₂₀H₁₅N (M+H)⁺270.1274; found: 270.1291.

2-methyl-4,6-diphenylquinoline(2n)⁴



Yellow solid in 77% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.8Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.47 (m, 7H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 2.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.50, 148.80, 147.75, 140.72, 138.57, 138.12, 129.53, 129.46, 129.08, 128.89, 128.68, 128.45, 127.50, 127.44, 125.25, 123.50, 122.72, 25.36. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₇N (M+H)⁺296.1431; found: 296.1438.

2-methyl-4-(o-tolyl)quinoline(20)⁴



White solid in 71% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.60, 148.69, 147.98, 137.63, 136.06, 130.15, 129.54, 129.43, 128.88, 128.35, 125.81, 125.77, 125.62, 122.33, 25.41, 20.01. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1259.

2-methyl-4-(m-tolyl)quinoline(2p)⁴



Yellow oil in 58% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.88(d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.25, 138.36, 137.85, 130.13, 129.70, 129.25, 128.46, 128.38, 126.61, 125.99, 125.85, 125.20, 122.25, 24.94, 21.50. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1262.

2-methyl-4-(p-tolyl)quinoline (2q)³



Yellow solid in 82% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.48, 148.70, 148.30, 138.29, 135.18, 129.44, 129.34, 129.27, 128.91, 125.75, 125.70, 125.20, 122.22, 25.34, 21.34. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₅N (M+H)⁺234.1274; found: 234.1292.

4-(4-ethylphenyl)-2-methylquinoline(2r)⁴



Yellow solid in 79% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.44 (m, 5H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 2.78 – 2.73 (m, 5H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.48, 148.68, 148.38, 144.57, 135.42, 129.52, 129.29, 128.96, 128.06, 125.79, 125.66, 125.21, 122.22, 28.70, 25.35, 15.57. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₇N (M+H)⁺248.1431; found: 248.1450.

4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methylquinoline(2s)⁶



White solid in 71% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.9(d, *J* = 248.5 Hz), 158.5, 148.3, 147.6, 134.1 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 131.2 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 129.5, 129.0, 125.7 (d, *J* = 56.6 Hz, 1H), 125.1, 122.3, 115.6 (d, *J* = 22.2 Hz), 25.3. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂FN (M+H)⁺238.1024; found: 238.1011.

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methylquinoline(2t)⁶



White solid in 69% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.41 (m, 5H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.49, 148.28, 147.35, 136.52, 134.58, 130.81, 129.55, 129.07, 128.83, 126.02, 125.29, 124.84, 122.17, 25.31. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂ClN (M+H)⁺254.0728; found: 254.0729.

4-(4-bromophenyl)-2-methylquinoline(2u)⁶



Yellow solid in 69% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.65 (m, 3H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 2.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.47, 148.16, 147.47, 136.96, 131.80, 131.10, 129.63, 128.98, 126.09, 125.29, 124.78, 122.79, 122.11, 25.25. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂BrN (M+H)⁺298.0223; found: 298.0239.

4-methylpyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(3a)⁷



Yellow solid in 68% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.63, 135.59, 129.08, 127.27, 127.04, 126.22, 125.22, 114.48, 113.68, 113.66, 106.87, 21.86. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₀N₂ (M+H)⁺183.0914; found: 183.0923.

7-fluoro-4-methylpyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(3b)⁷



Yellow solid in 69% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.80 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (td, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 – 6.85 (m, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.83 (d, J = 244.4 Hz), 154.89, 136.87, 136.70, 125.97, 123.91, 114.89 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 114.64 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 114.34, 113.81, 107.30, 21.86. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₉FN₂ (M+H)⁺201.0820; found: 201.0831.

8-fluoro-4-methylpyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(3c)⁷



Yellow solid in 76% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (td, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.86 (m, 2H), 2.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.05 (d, J = 247.5 Hz), 152.76, 132.31, 130.88 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 127.89 (d, J = 11.1 Hz), 125.95, 114.53,

114.07, 112.97 (d, J = 23.2 Hz), 106.94, 100.49 (d, J = 27.3 Hz), 21.74. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₉FN₂ (M+H)⁺201.0820; found: 201.0839.

4,6-dimethylpyrrolo[1,2-a]quinoxaline(3d)



Yellow solid in 75% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.19, 137.73, 127.14, 126.29, 126.21, 114.20, 113.42, 111.46, 105.99, 22.24, 18.32. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₂N₂ (M+H)⁺197.1070; found: 197.1085.

6-methylpyrido[3,2-e]pyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine(3e)



Yellow solid in 68% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.37 – 8.36 (m, 1H), 8.20 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 – 6.88 (m, 1H), 2.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.72, 146.24, 139.43, 136.32, 130.47, 127.58, 121.50, 115.81, 114.14, 108.40, 21.74. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₉N₃ (M+H)⁺184.0866; found: 184.0879.

6-methylindolo[1,2-a]quinoxaline(3f)^{2a}



Yellow solid in 72% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 – 8.37 (m, 2H), 7.94 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.22, 135.62, 132.88, 130.19, 129.66, 129.44, 128.96, 127.78, 124.21, 123.99, 122.63, 122.55, 100.08, 22.28. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₂N₂ (M+H)⁺233.1070; found: 233.1056.

2,6-dimethylindolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(3g)



Yellow solid in 68% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.92 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.09, 138.13, 133.66, 132.86, 130.06, 129.84, 129.15, 129.04, 125.05, 123.98, 122.56, 122.48, 114.91, 114.66, 114.64, 99.75, 22.22, 22.12. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₄N₂ (M+H)⁺247.1227; found: 247.1210. **2-chloro-6-methylindolo[1,2-***a***]quinoxaline(3h)**



Yellow solid in 74% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.23 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.35, 134.21, 133.03, 132.71, 130.56, 130.30, 129.27, 129.02, 124.64, 124.13, 122.94, 122.75, 114.60, 114.22, 100.66, 22.24. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₁ClN₂ (M+H)⁺267.0681; found: 267.0699.

4-phenylquinoline(4a)⁸



Yellow oil in 61% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.95 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 6H), 7.35 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.84, 148.72, 148.51, 137.96, 129.73, 129.57, 129.45, 128.61, 128.50, 126.80, 126.72, 125.92, 121.36. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₁N (M+H)⁺206.0961; found: 206.0954. **6-fluoro-4-phenylquinoline(4b)**⁸



White solid in 49% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.92 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 7H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.95, 159.48, 149.12 (d, *J* = 1.01 Hz), 148.26(d, *J* = 6.1 Hz), 145.63, 137.50, 132.23 (d, *J* = 9.09 Hz), 129.36, 128.82, 128.75, 127.64 (d, *J* = 9.09 Hz), 121.88, 119. 74 (d, *J* = 25.3 Hz), 109. 28 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz) **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₀FN (M+H)⁺224.0867; found: 224.0856.

6-chloro-4-phenylquinoline(4c)⁸



White solid in 50% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.93 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.36 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.82, 148.24, 146.68, 137.21, 132.84, 131.23, 130.54, 129.44, 128.87, 127.54, 124.75, 122.11. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₀ClN (M+H)⁺240.0572; found: 240.0558.

6-methoxy-4-phenylquinoline(4d)⁸



White solid in 67% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.80 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.39 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.92, 147.43, 147.26, 144.67, 138.32, 131.19, 129.33, 128.71, 128.42, 127.73, 121.88, 121.72, 103.68, 55.46. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₃NO (M+H)⁺236.1067; found: 236.1082.

6-isopropyl-4-phenylquinoline(4e)



White solid in 55% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.88 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.49 (m, 5H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.06 – 3.00 (m, 1H), 1.27 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.10, 148.16, 147.52, 147.35, 138.24, 129.71, 129.56, 128.93, 128.60, 128.38, 126.67, 122.09, 121.43, 34.39, 23.91. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₇N (M+H)⁺248.1431; found: 248.1435.

4-(m-tolyl)quinoline(4f)



Yellow solid in 52% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.94 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.75 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.91, 148.81, 148.57, 138.34, 137.93, 130.21, 129.76, 129.36,

129.20, 128.48, 126.85, 126.68, 126.62, 126.02, 121.31, 21.53. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for $C_{16}H_{13}N$ (M+H)⁺220.1118; found: 220.1132. **6-bromo-4-(3-chlorophenyl)quinoline(4g)**



White solid in 54% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.96 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.36 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.95, 159.48, 149.12, 148.29, 148.23, 145.63, 137.50, 132.27, 132.18, 129.35, 128.82, 128.75, 127.68, 127.59, 121.88, 119.86, 119.61, 109.39, 109.16. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₉BrClN (M+H)⁺317.9677; found: 317.9692.

pyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(5a)^{2b}



Yellow solid in 46% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.79 (s, 1H), 7.94 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 2.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.84 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.72, 135.70, 130.03, 127.80, 125.17, 114.25, 114.10, 113.79, 107.39. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₈N₂ (M+H)⁺169.0757; found: 169.0739.

9-chloropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(5b)



Yellow solid in 46% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.90 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.88, 134.55, 131.37, 128.83, 128.50, 126.30, 121.11, 117.00, 114.73, 114.62, 108.16. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₇ClN₂ (M+H)⁺203.0368; found: 203.0382.

7-chloropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(5c)⁷



Yellow solid in 44% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.91 (s, 1H), 8.50 – 8.49 (m, 1H), 8.31 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 4.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 147.01, 135.94, 129.73, 128.39, 128.14, 126.94, 126.09, 117.85, 117.43,

115.39, 109.84. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for $C_{11}H_7ClN_2$ (M+H)⁺203.0368; found: 203.0362.

6-fluoropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinoxaline(5d)^{2b}



Yellow solid in 59% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.81 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 4.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 4.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.00, 158.58, 146.68, 136.85 (d, J = 12.1 Hz), 126.22, 124.67 (d, J = 2.02 Hz), 115.6 (d, J = 25.3 Hz), 115.33 (d, J = 22.2 Hz), 115. 03 (d, J = 15.2 Hz), 114.63, 114.30, 108.06. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₇FN₂ (M+H)⁺187.0663; found: 187.0669.

8-bromopyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoxaline(5e)



Yellow solid in 48% yield, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.90 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.88, 134.55, 131.37, 128.83, 128.50, 126.30, 121.11, 117.00, 114.73, 114.62, 108.16. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₇BrN₂ (M+H)⁺246.9863; found: 246.9871.

2-chloro-4-phenylquinoline(6a)^{1b}



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.49 (m, 6H), 7.35 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.76, 150.34, 148.34, 136.77, 130.51, 129.42, 128.99, 128.95, 128.76, 127.01, 126.00, 125.66, 122.15. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{10}ClN$ (M+H)⁺240.0572; found: 240.0582.

6-chloro-4-phenylquinolin-2(1H)-one(6c)^{1b}



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.06 (s, 1H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 161.53, 150.86, 138.53, 136.48, 130.98, 129.51, 129.33, 129.08, 126.25, 125.42, 122.90, 120.09, 118.23. **HRMS** (ESI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₀ClNO (M+H)⁺256.0521; found: 256.0529.

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90 80 f1 (ppm) ò























f1 (ppm) Ó

























