Supporting Information

Photocatalyzed alkoxycarbonylmethylation of pyridines with α -diazoesters

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I. General Methods

All reactions were carried out in flame-dried sealed borosilicate glass tubes with magnetic stirring. If a reaction requires heating, an oil bath heating method was employed. PR160L Tuna Blue LED Lights (Kessil PR160L, 30 W, $\lambda_{max} = 456$ nm, spectrum 10,000K to Actinic.) were used to irradiate the reaction mixtures, which were bought from Kessil (https://kessil.com/). Unless otherwise noted, all the photocatalysts and chemical reagents were purchased from Accela, Acros, Aladdin, Adamas, Energy Chemical or TCI. Solvents were treated with 4 Å molecular sieves or sodium and distilled prior to use. Reactions were performed in 10 mL vials with two LEDs in Ar (approximately 5 cm away from the light sources). Purifications of reaction products were carried out by flash chromatography using Qingdao Haiyang Chemical Co. Ltd silica gel (400 - 630 mesh). Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on a Brucker TENSOR 27 FTIR spectrophotometer and are reported as wavelength numbers (cm⁻¹). Infrared spectra were recorded by preparing a KBr pellet containing the title compounds. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard at ambient temperature on a Bruker Avance III 400 MHz or 500 MHz for ¹H NMR and 101 MHz or 126 MHz for ¹³C NMR. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants are reported as Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations are used to describe multiplicities s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q =quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets. High resolution mass spectra (HR-MS, m/z) were recorded on an IF-TOF spectrometer (Micromass).





Light source: Kessil PR160L, $\lambda_{max} = 456$ nm



Photoreaction-setup used in this research

II. Experimental procedure for the optimization studies

Table S-1. Photocatalyst screening^a

	$ \begin{array}{c c} N \\ & N \\ & 1a \end{array}^{N} \\ & H \\ & F \\ & 2a \\ & 1a \\ & H \\ $	$N \rightarrow CO_2 Me$ $N \rightarrow CO_2 Me$ $3a \rightarrow F$
entry	catalyst	yield (%) ^b
1	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ 6H ₂ O	31
2	Eosin Y	35
3	fac-Ir(ppy) ₃	38
4	MesAcr ⁺ ClO ₄ ⁻	40
5	\mathbf{TPT}^{c}	46
6	\mathbf{DPM}^{d}	54
7	CeCl ₃	43

^{*a*}All the reactions were carried out using 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (**1a**) (0.10 mmol) and diazo compound (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) with different photocatalysts (5 mol %) in acetone (2.0 mL) at room temperature for 12 h under blue LEDs radiation (30W, approximately 5 cm away from the reaction mixture, no filter) and air atmosphere in a sealed tube, followed by flash chromatography on SiO₂; ^{*b*}Isolated yield. ^{*c*}TPT refers to 2,4,6-triphenylpyrylium tetrafluoroborate. ^{*d*}DPM refers to diphenylmethanone.

Table S-2. Base screening^{*a*}

	N2 CO2Me DPM (5 mol %) bases (1.0 equiv. blue LEDs, air acetone, r.t, 12 h	$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ &$
entry	bases	yield (%) ^b
1	Cs_2CO_3	37
2	Na ₂ CO ₃	32
3	K ₃ PO ₄	42
4	NaOAc	40
5	K_2CO_3	26
6	KH_2PO_4	42
7	$NaBF_4$	12
6	DIPEA	47
7	Et ₃ N	72
8	DBU	52

^{*a*}All the reactions were carried out using 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (**1a**) (0.10 mmol) and α -diazo compound (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) with DPM (5 mol %) in the presence of base (1.0 eq.) in acetone (2.0 mL) at room temperature for 12 h under blue LEDs radiation (30W, approximately 5 cm away from the reaction mixture, no filter) and air atmosphere in a sealed tube, followed by flash chromatography on SiO₂; ^{*b*}Isolated yield.

Table S-3. Solvent screening^{*a*}

N	N ₂ CO ₂ Me DPM (5 mol %) <u>Et₃N (1.0 equiv.)</u> blue LEDs, air solvent, r.t, 12 h	Sa CO ₂ Me
entry	solvent	yield $(\%)^b$
1	CHCl ₃	27
2	DMF	19
3	DCE	35
4	1,4-dioxane	30
5	<i>i</i> -PrOH	10
6	DMAc	16
7	acetone	72
8	TFE	8
9	DCM	24

^{*a*}All the reactions were carried out using 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (**1a**) (0.10 mmol) and diazo compound (**2a**) (0.20 mmol) with DPM (5 mol %) in the presence of Et₃N (1.0 eq.) in solvents (2.0 mL) at room temperature for 12 h under blue LEDs radiation (30W, approximately 5 cm away from the reaction mixture, no filter) and Air atmosphere in a sealed tube, followed by flash chromatography on SiO₂; ^{*b*} Isolated yield.

III. Experimental procedure

1. Procedure for the photocatalyzed alkoxycarbonylmethylation of pyridines with α -diazo esters.

To a 10 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar, was added pyridines **1** (0.2 mmol), diazo compounds **2** (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), Et_3N (20 mg, 0. 2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), DMP (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %) and acetone (2.0 mL) under air atmosphere conditions. The vial was equipped with a Teflon septum and stirred under blue LED irradiation with Kessil LEDs (30 W, approximately 5 cm away from the reaction mixture) for 12 hours. Organic solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with acetone/petroleum as the eluent to give the corresponding products.

2. Spectroscopic data of carbenoid products



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.38 (m, 4H), 2.04 – 1.92 (m, 4H); ¹³**C** **NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 163.2, 160.7, 156.6, 147.8, 137.1, 134.7(d, J = 12.8 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 32 Hz), 121.0, 115.5, 115.3, 106.5, 53.0, 52.3, 46.7, 25.5. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₈H₁₉FN₂O₂: 315.1503, found: 315.1499.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(6-(piperidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.55 – 3.48 (m, 4H), 1.66 – 1.58 (m, 6H); ¹³**C NMR** (101

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.9, 163.2, 160.8, 158. 9, 147.6, 137.5, 134.5(d, J = 13.2 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 32 Hz), 122.2, 115.6, 115.4, 106.9, 52.9, 52.4, 46.2, 25.5, 24.7. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₉H₂₁FN₂O₂: 329.1660, found: 329.1649.



Methyl-2-(6-(3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(4-fluor ophenyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 7.4, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 - 7.17 (m, 4H), 7.04 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H),

4.92 (s, 1H), 4.72 (s, 2H), 3.86 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.98 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C **NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.9, 163.3, 160.8, 158.0, 147.6, 137.6, 135.3, 134.5(d, J = 12.4 Hz), 134.2, 129.9(d, J = 32 Hz), 128.4, 126.6, 126.5, 126.2, 122.4, 115.6, 115.4, 106.6, 53.0, 52.4, 47.2, 42.6, 29.0. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₂₃H₂₂FN₂O₂: 377.1621, found: 377.1678.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(1-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyri din-5-yl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.99 – 2.93 (m, 5H);

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 163.1, 145.0, 130.9, 129.9, 129.8, 124.0, 122.3, 115.6, 115.4, 53.1, 52.4, 52.3, 32.6, 25.8. **HR-MS(ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₁₇H₁₇FN₂O₂: 301.1347, found: 301.1343.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(6-morpholinopyridin-3-yl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.00 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 3.82 – 3.78 (m, 4H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.52 – 3.45 (m, 4H); ¹³C

NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.8, 163.3, 160.8, 158.8, 147.6, 137.7, 134.3(d, *J* = 13.2 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J* = 32 Hz), 123.8, 115.7, 115. 5, 106.8, 66.7, 52.9, 52.5, 45.5. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₈H₁₉FN₂O₃: 331.1452, found: 331.1444.



Methyl-2-(6-(dimethylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.03 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 6H); ¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 163.2, 160.8, 158.7, 147.5, 137.3, 134.6 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz), 129.9(d, J = 12.8 Hz), 129.9(d, J

32 Hz), 121.4, 115.6, 115.4, 105.4, 52.9, 52.4, 38.1. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for $[M+1]^+$: $C_{16}H_{17}FN_2O_2$: 289.1347, found: 289.1336.



Methyl-2-(6-(dibenzylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 6H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 4.75 (s, 4H), 3.70 (s, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, 101 MHz).

CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 163.3, 160.9, 158.1, 147.7, 138.3, 137.6, 134.5 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 32

Hz), 128.7, 127.2, 127.1, 122.4, 115.7, 115.5, 105.9, 53.1, 52.4, 51.1. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₂₈H₂₅FN₂O₂: 441.1973, found: 441.1963.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(5-methyl-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acet ate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.42 (m, 4H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.04 – 1.96 (m, 4H); ¹³C

NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 156.1, 154.9, 136.9, 134.3 (d, J = 12.8 Hz), 130.2 (d, J = 32 Hz), 118.8, 115.5, 115.3, 103.9, 52.3, 51.6, 46.6, 25.6, 22.7. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₉H₂₂FN₂O₂: 329.1621, found: 329.1663.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methyl-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)a cetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.20 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.41 (m, 4H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.00 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 156.7, 147.4, 146.4, 133.8 (d, J = 12.8 Hz), 130.4 (d, J = 32 Hz), 120.6, 115.5, 115.3, 107.8, 52.4, 50.8, 46.6, 25.6, 19.8. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₁₉H₂₂FN₂O₂: 329.1621, found: 329.1670.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(2-methyl-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)a cetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NM**R (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.02 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.53 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.96 – 1.89 (m, 4H);

¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 158.8, 144.2, 139.3, 130.0 (d, J = 31.6 Hz), 123.7, 119.6, 115.6, 115.4, 52.9, 52.4, 49.7, 25.6, 20.7. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₁₉H₂₂FN₂O₂: 329.1621, found: 329.1666.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(5-methoxy-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl) acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.66 – 3.59 (m, 4H), 1.95 – 1.87 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 163.2, 160.8, 150.3, 144.6, 138.4,

134.5 (d, J = 13.6 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 32 Hz), 122.5, 116.9, 115.5, 115.3, 55.6, 52.9, 52.4, 49.1, 25.4. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₁₉H₂₁FN₂O₃: 345.1609, found: 345.1611.



Methyl-2-(5-chloro-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)ace tate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.67 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 4H), 1.96 – 1.88 (m, 4H); ¹³**C NMR**

(101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 163.3, 160.9, 154.6, 145.0, 138.8, 133.91(d, *J* = 13.2 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 32.4 Hz), 123.9, 116.4, 115.8, 115. 6, 52.5, 52.4, 49.8, 25.7. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₈H₁₈ClFN₂O₂: 349.1114, found: 349.1118.



Methyl-2-(5-bromo-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)ace tate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.70 – 3.65 (m, 4H), 1.95 – 1.90 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 155.6, 145.4, 142.4, 133.9(d, J = 13.2 Hz), 130.0 (d, J

= 32 Hz), 124. 6, 115.8, 115.6, 104.9, 52.6, 52.4, 50.3, 25.8. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: $C_{18}H_{18}BrFN_2O_2$: 393.0608, found: 393.0610.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(5-phenyl-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)ace tate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.25 (m, 9H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.90 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.11 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 4H), 1.78 – 1.70 (m, 4H); ¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.9, 163.0,

161.1, 156.1, 145.8, 140.8, 139.6, 134.4 (d, J = 10.4 Hz), 130.0 (d, J = 26 Hz), 128.9, 127.99, 126.7, 122.7, 122.6, 115.6, 115.4, 53.0, 52.4, 50.0, 25.6. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₂₄H₂₃FN₂O₂: 391.1816, found: 391.1812.



Methyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(5-(phenylethynyl)-6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin -3-yl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.10 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.88 – 3.82 (m, 4H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.00 – 1.94 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 160.8, 157.0, 147. 5,

142.6, 130.8, 130.0 (d, J = 32.4 Hz), 128.4, 128.2, 123.6, 121.6, 115.6 (d, J = 85.6 Hz), 103.0, 100.0, 93.3, 88.6, 52.7, 52.5, 49.3, 25.8. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: C₂₆H₂₃FN₂O₂: 415.1816, found: 415.1821.



Methyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.91 (s, 6H); ¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.5, 162.9, 161.0,

150.0, 135.3, 135.2, 130.2 (d, J = 31.5 Hz), 130.1, 129.1, 126.2, 115.4, 115.2 (d, J = 84.5 Hz), 112.6, 55.3, 52.3, 40.5. **HR-MS** (**ESI**) calcd for $[M+1]^+$: $C_{17}H_{19}FNO_2$: 288.1394, found: 288.1399.



Methyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(p-tolyl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.42 (m, 4H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.05 – 1.98

(m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 156.6, 147.9, 137.3, 136.8, 135.9, 129.3, 128.1, 121.4, 106.5, 53.4, 52.3, 46.7, 25. 6, 21.0.



Methyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(o-tolyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.45 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 2.31 (s,

3H), 2.04 - 1.98 (m, 4H); ¹³**C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.3, 156.6, 147.9, 138.8, 138.3, 137.4, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 125.2, 121.3, 106.5, 53.8, 52.3, 46.7, 25.6, 21.5. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for $[M+1]^+$: $C_{19}H_{22}N_2O_2$: 311.1754, found: 311.1761.



Methyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(m-tolyl)acetate: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 6.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.45 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.04 –

1.95 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.3, 156.6, 147.9, 138.8, 138.3, 137.3, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 125.2, 121.3, 106.5, 53.8, 52.3, 46.7, 25.6, 21.5. **HR-MS (ESI)** calcd for [M+1]⁺: C₁₉H₂₂N₂O₂: 311.1754, found: 311.1759.



Methyl-2-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)aceta te¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, J = 2.1 Hz,

1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.38.8 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.46 – 3.39 (m, 4H), 2.01 – 1.95 (m, 4H), 1.29 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 156.6, 150.0, 147.9, 137.3, 135.8, 127.8, 125.6, 121.4, 106.5, 53.4, 52.3, 46.7, 34.4, 31.3, 25.6.



Methyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 - 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.24 - 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.46 – 3.39 (m, 4H), 2.01 – 1.96

(m, 4H);¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.8, 156.6, 147.8, 137.4, 137.1, 133.1, 129. 7, 128.7, 120.7, 106.6, 53.1, 46.7, 29.7, 25.5.



Methyl-2-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.48 - 3.42 (m, 4H),

2.03 – 1.99 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 156.6, 147.8, 138.0, 137.1, 131.7, 130.0, 121.2, 120.6, 106.6, 53.2, 52.4, 46.7, 25.5.



Methyl-2-(3-bromophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, J = 8.8

Hz, 1H), 5.31 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.48 – 3.40 (m, 4H), 2.00 – 1.95 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) & 172.6, 156.6, 148.5, 138. 3, 137.4, 133.1, 129.8, 128.8, 127.6, 124.9, 119.6, 106. 5, 53.3, 52.5, 46.7, 25.6.



Methyl-2-(2-bromophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 - 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.27 - 7.15 (m, 2H), 6.36 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.45 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 2.04 – 1.98 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR

(101 MHz, CDCl₃) & 172.6, 156.7, 147.9, 141.2, 137.1, 131.3, 130.4, 130.1, 127.0, 122.7, 120.4, 106.7, 53.3, 52.5, 46.7, 25.6.



Methyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.50 - 3.39 (m, 4H), 2.05 - 1.95 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) & 172.9, 156.7, 147.8, 139.1, 137.1, 127.8, 125.9, 122.4, 120.9, 106.5, 77.4,



Methyl(S)-2-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.76 - 6.74 (m, 2H), 6.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 4H), 3.48 - 3.42

(m, 4H), 2.03 - 1.97 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 156.6, 147.9, 147.8, 146.7, 137.1, 132.7, 121.5, 121.2, 108.9, 108.2, 106.5, 101.1, 53.4, 52.3, 46.7, 25.6.



Methyl-4-(2-methoxy-2-oxo-1-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)ethyl) benzoate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.47 – 3.40 (m, 4H), 2.02 – 1.96 (m, 4H); ¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.6, 166.8, 156.7, 147.9, 144.0, 137.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.3, 120.4, 106.6, 53.7, 52.4, 52.1, 46.7, 25.5.



Methyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetat e^{1} : Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.79 (m, 3H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.43 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s,

3H), 3.49 – 3.41 (m, 4H), 2.05 – 1.97 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 156.6, 148.0, 137.5, 136.4, 133.4, 132.5, 128.4, 128.0, 127.6, 126.8, 126.6, 126.2, 126.0, 121.1, 106.6, 53.9, 52.4, 46.7, 25.6.



Methyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)-2-(thiophen-3-yl)acetate¹ : Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.01 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H),

4.92 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.44 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 2.04 – 1.94 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172. 9, 147.74, 139.1, 137.1, 127.8, 125.9, 122.4, 121.0, 106.5, 52.3, 49.4, 46.7, 25.6.



Methyl-2-phenyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹ : Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 1H),

6.32 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.46 – 3.37 (m, 4H), 2.02 – 1.93 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 156.6, 147.9, 138.9, 137.3, 128.6, 128.3, 127.2, 121.2, 106.5, 53.8, 52.3, 46.7, 25.6.



Isopropyl-2-phenyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate¹: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.09 – 5.01 (m, 1H), 4.82 (s, 1H), 3.42 (n, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 2.01 –

1.94 (m, 4H), 1.22 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 156.6, 147.9, 139.2, 137.4, 128.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 126.5, 121.5, 106.5, 68.6, 54.1, 46.7, 25.5, 21.7.



1-(pyridin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-2-one⁵: Light yellow liquid. ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 4.13 (t, 2H), 2.68 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.21 – 2.09 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.0, 151.9, 147.5, 137.5, 119.4, 114.7, 47.4, 33.7,

17.7.

V. Control experiments for mechanism studies

1. The procedure for the preparation of d1-1a' (95% D)^{2,4}



A mixture of 2,5-dibromopyridine (236 mg, 1.0 mmol), pyrrolidine (251 mg, 2.25 mmol) was heated at 120 °C for 2 h in sealed tube. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine and concentrated in *vacuo*. The residue was purified by preparative TLC (silica gel, hexanes/EtOAc) to give

5-bromo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine.

d1-1a

A solution of 5-bromo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (227 mg, 1 mmol) in THF (extra dry, 6 mL) was cooled to -78 °C and *t*-BuLi (1.17 mL, 2 mmol) was added dropwise under nitrogen. After 5 min at -78 °C, D₂O (1.17 mL, 2 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction medium was then allowed to warm to r.t. The aqueous layer was then extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography to give the desired product d1-1a'.

2-(Pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (*d***1-1a**')^{1,3}: ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 5.0 Hz, 0.05H), 6.36 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.49 – 3.42 (m, 4H), 2.05 – 1.96 (m, 4H).



Figure S-1.¹H NMR spectrum for d1-1a'

2. H/D Exchange of 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (1a)



To a screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stir bar were added 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH₃OD (6.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), DPM (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), Et₃N (20 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and acetone (2.0 mL) under air atmosphere conditions. The vial was equipped with a Teflon septum and stirred under blue LED irradiation with Kessil LEDs (30 W) for 12 hours. Organic solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with acetone/petroleum as the eluent to give the d-1a.



3. Radical-trapping experiment with TEMPO



To a screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stir bar were added 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), methyl 2-diazo-2-phenylacetate (105.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), TEMPO (62.5 mg, 0.4 mmol), DPM (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), Et₃N (20 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and acetone (2.0 mL) under air atmosphere. The vial was equipped with a Teflon septum and stirred under blue LED irradiation with Kessil LEDs (30 W) for 12 hours. The reaction solution was concentrated under reduced pressure. Then, the residue was analyzed by HRMS, and the radical intermediates trapped by TEMPO were detected (the data of $[M+H]^+$ is showed in **Figure S-3**). In addition, **3a** was obtained in 22% yield by column chromatography isolation on silica gel.



Figure S-3. HR-MS spectrum of the by-product 5

4. Photocatalyzed regioselective pyridine C-H coupling of 1a with 2a in deuterated solvent system



To a screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stir bar were added 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine (29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), methyl 2-diazo-2-phenylacetate (105.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH₃OD (13.2 mg, 0.4 mmol), DPM (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), Et₃N (20 mg, 0.2 mmol, 5 mol %) and acetone (2.0 mL) under air atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperture for 12 h. Organic solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with acetone/petroleum as the eluent to give the d1-3a.



Figure S-4. ¹H NMR spectrum for d1-3a

5. Photocatalyzed regioselective pyridine C-H coupling of d1-1a' with 2a



To a screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stir bar were added 2-phenyl-2-(6-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridin-3-yl)acetate (d1-1a', 95% D, 29.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH₃OD (2.0 equiv.), DPM (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), Et₃N (20 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and acetone (2.0 mL) under air atmosphere conditions. The vial was equipped with a Teflon septum and stirred under blue LED irradiation with Kessil LEDs (30 W) for 12 h, filtered through a pad of celite and then washed with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel. The product d1-3a' deuterium was observed by ¹H NMR method.



6. Light sources emission spectra

The following spectrum of light source was recorded by OHSP660 spectrum reflectance spectrometer produced by WATTCAS (https://www.hopoocolor.com/product/detail/ reflectance.html).



Figure S-6. Emission spectra of the light source used in this work

7. Absorption spectrum of benzophenone

UV-vis absorption spectra of benzophenone **DPM** was collected on Shimadzu UV-vis spectrophotometer UV-2600 and measured in diluted acetone solution (10^{-3} M) .







Figure S-8. Absorption spectra of DPM and emission of the light source used in this work.

8. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the **1a**- and benzophenone-containing mixture in d_6 -acetone

The ¹H NMR of 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine **1a**, benzophenone, and the mixture of 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridine **1a** and benzophenone using d_6 -acetone as solvent were shown in **Figure S-9**. Compared with the ¹H NMR spectrum from **1a** and benzophenone, it was not found that their chemical shift (δ) derived from aryl Csp²-H of the **1a**– and benzophenone–containing mixture were apparently changed. Based on these facts, the possibility involved the formation of donor-acceptor complex from pyridine substrate and benzophenone did not occur.



Figure S-9. ¹H NMR spectrum of 1a, benzophenone and the mixture of 1a and benzophenone

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Appendix II: Spectral Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR of Compounds

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3a**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3b**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) of **3c**







¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3e**





¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3f**





¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) of **3g**



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¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3h**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3i**



^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of 3i

		$\sim^{147.36}_{146.36}$	∠133.77 ∠133.74 ∠130.42	-120.56 < 115.47 < 115.26		-52,48 -56,88 -6.62		
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¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3k**



^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of 3k

			-141.59 	-122.53		-25.37
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¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of 3l



^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3l**

			16.161	-138.75 <133.91 <123.87 <123.87 <129.98		$ ^{116.36}_{115.77} $	-52, 53 -62, 58 -69, 84		
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¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3m**









¹H NMR spectrum (401 MHz, CDCl₃) of **30**







¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of **3p**









¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) of **4c**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of 4d

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4e**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4f**

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¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) of **4g**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4h**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4i**

 1 H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4j**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4k**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4m**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4n**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **40**

¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of **4r'**

