Supporting Information for

# Palladium-Catalyzed Coupling of Amides and Cyclopropanols for the Synthesis of γ-Diketones

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## Content

## **General Information**

All reactions were performed in a nitrogen-filled dry box unless otherwise stated. All solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used as received. Toluene (PhMe) were purchased as HPLC-grade from Guoyao. Other commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Reaction temperature was reported corresponding to the oil bath temperature. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck 60 F254 silica gel plates. Flash chromatography was performed using 40-63  $\mu$ m silica gel (Si 60, Merck). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 500 or 400 (stated espeacially) MHz NMR spectrometer in the solvents indicated. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm relative to TMS. HRMS were obtained on a Thermo Fisher Scientific LTQ FT Ultra.

Tertiary cyclopropanols were prepared by Kulinkovich reaction or Simmons-Smith sequence according to the reported procedure.<sup>1</sup> The substrates of amide were prepared according to the reported literature procedures.<sup>2</sup> All the characteristic data are consistent with the data reported before.<sup>3-10</sup>

The amount of ligand PCy<sub>3</sub> is critical for the yield of  $\gamma$ -diketones, excessive ligand will reduce yields of  $\gamma$ -diketones. Otherwise, addition of 1.0 equiv amount of B(OH)<sub>3</sub> can promote the yield of  $\gamma$ -diketones derived from the reaction of **1a** and **2d**, but it seems ineffective for the other reactions sometime.

Additive distortion parameters ( $\Sigma \tau + \chi_N$ ) refer to the literature reported before.<sup>11</sup>

## **Optimization of the Reaction Conditions**

## Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for N-acyl phthalimides

Table S1. Screening of solvent and ligand in the presence of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>

Ph		+ OH OMe -	catalyst (10 mol %) ligand (20 mol %) additive (1.0 equiv) solvent, 90 °C, 16 h	Ph O	OMe
	1aP	2d		3ad	
Entry	catalyst	ligand	additive (1.0 equiv.)	solvent	Yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	1,4-Dioxane	Trace
2	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	MeCN	Trace
3	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	MeOH	ND
4	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	25%
5	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	30%
6	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub> (10 mol %)	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
7	$Pd(OAc)_2$	Dppf (10 mol %)	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
8	$Pd(OAc)_2$	IPr	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	Trace
9	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	28%

Ph N		OH ligano additiv OMe solven	st (10 mol %) d (20 mol %) <u>re (1.0 equiv)</u> t, 90 °C, 16 h	Ph Ph	OMe
1aF	)	2d		3a	b
Entry	catalyst	ligand	additive	solvent	Yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	29%
2	$Pd(OAc)_2$	P <sup>t</sup> Bu <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
3	$Pd(OAc)_2$	Dppm	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	17%
4	$Pd(OAc)_2$	Dcype	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	Trace
5	$Pd(OAc)_2$	X-phos	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	messy
6	$Pd(OAc)_2$	Davephos	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
7	$Pd(OAc)_2$	2,2'-Bipyridine	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
8	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>		PhMe	20%
9	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	KOAc	PhMe	23%
10	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	PhMe	<20%
11	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	KO'Bu	PhMe	ND
12	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	DABCO	PhMe	40%
13	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	HOAc	PhMe	<20%
14	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	B(OH) <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
15	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhCOOH	PhMe	ND

**Table S2.** Screening of ligand and additive in the presence of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>

 catalyst (10 mol %)

Table S3. Screening of catalyst

Ph O		catalyst (10 m ligand (20 m additive (1.0 e solvent, 90 °C, OMe	ol %) ol %) quiv) , 16 h Ph		ОМе
	1aP 2d			3ad	
Entry	catalyst	ligand	additive	solvent	yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	29%
2	Pd(OPiv) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	40%
3	$Pd(CF_3COO)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
4	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	DABCO	PhMe	37%
5	Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> (5 mol %)	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	17%
6	[Pd(allyl)Cl] <sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
7	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> )Cl <sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
8	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (5 mol %)	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	ND
9	NiI <sub>2</sub>	2,2'-Bipyridine	Zn (2.0 equiv)	DMF	ND
10	NiI <sub>2</sub>	2,2'-Bipyridine	Zn (2.0 equiv)	PhMe	ND
11	NiBr <sub>2</sub> (dme)	1,10-Phenanthroline	Zn (2.0 equiv)	MeOH	ND
12	$Ni(cod)_2$	IPr		PhMe	<30%
13	Ru <sub>3</sub> (CO) <sub>12</sub>	Dppp		PhMe	ND
14	Ru <sub>3</sub> (CO) <sub>12</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>		PhMe	ND

15	Pd(OPiv) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	DABCO	PhMe	41%
16	$Pd(OPiv)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	62% <sup>[d]</sup>

## Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for N-glutarimide benzamides



 Table S4. Screening of solvent

Entry	catalyst	ligand	solvent	Yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	56%
2	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	1,4-dioxane	52%
3	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	THF	55%
4	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	MeCN	Trace
5	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	DMF	ND
6	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	DMSO	ND
Table S5. Scre	eening of catalyst			
Entry	catalyst	ligand	solvent	yield <sup>[a][b]</sup>
1	$Pd(OAc)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	56%
2	Pd(OPiv) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	58%
3	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	43%
4	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	60%
5	$Pd_2(dba)_3$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	60%
6	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
7	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	68% <sup>[c]</sup>
Table S6. Scr	eening of ligand			
Entry	catalyst	ligand	solvent	yield <sup>[a][d]</sup>
1	$Pd(acac)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	16%
2	$Pd(acac)_2$	P <sup>t</sup> Bu <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
3	$Pd(acac)_2$	X-phos	PhMe	12%
4	$Pd(acac)_2$	Dcype	PhMe	Trace
5	$Pd(acac)_2$	Xantphos	PhMe	18%
6	$Pd(acac)_2$	Dppf	PhMe	10%
7	$Pd(acac)_2$	Dppm	PhMe	ND



Yield<sup>[b][d]</sup> additive (1.0 equiv) Entry catalyst ligand solvent 1  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> B(OMe)<sub>3</sub> PhMe 55% 2  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> PhCOOH PhMe 61% 3  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> HOAc PhMe 67% 4  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub> PhMe ND 5 CuCl  $Pd(acac)_2$  $PCy_3$ PhMe ND 6  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> PhMe Trace 7 17%  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub>  $K_2CO_3$ PhMe 8 NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu PhMe ND  $Pd(acac)_2$ PCy<sub>3</sub> 9 PhMe 33%  $Pd(acac)_2$  $PCy_3$  $Et_3N$ 

Table S7. Screening of Screening for additive

## Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for certain N-glutarimide amides

Table S8. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for the coupling of 1j and 2d

	+ OH OMe	Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub> , PCy <sub>3</sub> PhMe, T, 16 h		OMe
1j	2d			3jd
Entry	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Т	Yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	5 mol %	10 mol %	80 °C	48%
2	10 mol %	20 mol %	80 °C	62%
3	5 mol %	10 mol %	100 °C	56%
4	10 mol %	20 mol %	100 °C	57%

Table S9. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for the coupling of 1n and 2d

Ph +	OH OMe	Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub> , PCy <sub>3</sub> PhMe, T, 16 h	Ph OMe
1n	2d		3nd

Entry	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Т	Yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	5 mol %	10 mol %	80 °C	30%
2	5 mol %	10 mol %	100 °C	40%
3	10 mol %	20 mol %	100 °C	35%

	OH OMe	Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub> , PCy <sub>3</sub> PhMe, T, 16 h	→ \\	OMe
10	2d			3od
Entry	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Т	Yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	10 mol %	20 mol %	100 °C	56%

Table S10. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for the coupling of 10 and 2d

Table S11. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions for the coupling of 1q and 2d

		Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub> , PCy <sub>3</sub> PhMe, T, 16 h		OMe
1q	2d			3qd
Entry	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Т	Yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	5 mol %	10 mol %	80 °C	<30%
2	10 mol %	20 mol %	80 °C	53%
3	5 mol %	10 mol %	100 °C	39%
4	10 mol %	20 mol %	100 °C	66%

Scheme S1. N-substitutes evaluation of benzamides[a][c]



All reactions were performed on 0.2 mmol scale benzamide with 1.0 equiv of the cyclopropanol under  $N_2$  unless stated in 2 mL toluene;

[a]isolated yields;

<sup>[b]</sup>yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR with 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as the internal standard.

[c]1.25 equiv cyclopropanol was used;

[d]1.5 equiv cyclopropanol was used;

[e]Pd(OPiv)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol %), PCy<sub>3</sub> (20 mol %), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.0 equiv) at 90 °C.

Scheme S2. Substrate scope of *N*-glutarimide amide with 2a as coupling partner



All reactions were performed on 0.2 mmol scale benzamide with 1.25 equiv of the cyclopropanol under  $N_2$  unless stated in 2 mL toluene;

## Typical Procedure for the Synthesis of *γ*-Diketones



**General procedure**: A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), **2d** (0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv, 41mg), Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mol, 0.05 equiv, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.02 mmol, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction

mixture was resolved in PhMe (2 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature then mixture was filtered on celite and concentrated to yield the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether/EtOAc = 5:1 or Petroleum ether/Dichloromethane = 1:2) to give the desired product **3ad**.

#### Characterization data of N-glutarimide amide

5-(5-(2,6-Dioxopiperidine-1-carbonyl)thiazol-2-yl)-2-isobutoxybenzonitrile (1m)



This compound was prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate = 1/1, v/v) afforded **3qd** as a yellow solid (29 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 2.76 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 2.20 (hept, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (p, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.09 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  171.39, 169.15, 164.90, 163.01, 162.65, 132.84, 132.45, 126.26, 125.26, 115.13, 112.70, 103.11, 75.77, 32.38, 28.12, 19.01, 18.21, 17.29.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 410.1180, found 410.1176.

#### 1-(4-Methylpentanoyl)piperidine-2,6-dione (10)



White solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  2.73 – 2.59 (m, 6H), 2.01 (h, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.60 (qd, *J* = 7.4, 6.4, 2.3 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  178.36, 171.56, 171.52, 39.09, 39.07, 32.24, 32.22, 32.03, 27.22, 22.20, 17.29. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> 211.1203, found 211.1197.

## Characterization data of cyclopropanols 1-(4-cyclohexylphenyl)cyclopropan-1-ol (2c)



White solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.26 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 2.52 – 2.45 (m, 1H), 2.01 (br, 1H), 1.91 – 1.81 (m, 4H), 1.78 – 1.71(m, 1H), 1.47 – 1.33 (m, 4H), 1.31 – 1.25 (m, 1H), 1.24 – 1.22 (m, 2H), 1.04 – 1.00 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  146.47, 141.51, 126.83, 124.60, 56.70, 44.17, 34.49, 26.91, 26.16, 17.45. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> 216.1509, found 216.1511.

#### 1-(4-Nitrophenyl)cyclopropan-1-ol (2i)



Yellow solid.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.17 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 2.69 (br, 1H), 1.47 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.20 – 1.15 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 152.87, 146.16, 124.26, 123.55, 56.12, 20.28.

HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for  $C_9H_{10}O_3N$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 180.0654, found 180.0655.

## Characterization data of γ-diketones 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ad/3sa)



White solid (36.7 mg, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$  8.06 – 8.00 (m, 4H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.47 – 3.39 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.85, 197.15, 163.50, 136.81, 133.07, 130.35, 129.86, 128.55, 128.10, 113.70, 55.45, 32.65, 32.21. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>12</sup>

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-(p-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (3bd)



White solid (31.2 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.03 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.95 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.44 – 3.36 (m, 4H), 2.41 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.45, 197.25, 163.45, 143.80, 134.30, 130.32, 129.87, 129.22, 129.20, 128.18, 113.66, 55.41, 32.51, 32.21, 21.59. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>13</sup>

1-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3cd)



White solid (35.7 mg, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.44 - 3,38 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.47, 197.21, 163.43, 156.72, 134.21, 130.30, 129.86, 128.02, 125.45, 113.65, 55.39, 35.04, 32.50, 32.23, 31.03. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> 324.1720, found 324.1712.

#### 1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3dd)



White solid (44.4 mg, 78%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.07 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 8.02 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.95 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.40-3.37 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  197.22, 196.99, 166.70, 164.67, 163.50, 133.24, 133.21, 130.71, 130.64, 130.30, 129.73, 115.67, 115.49, 113.68, 55.40, 32.45, 32.14. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  - 105.36.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>14</sup>

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3ed)



White solid (28.8 mg, 53%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.04 – 7.95 (m, 4H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.44 – 3.37 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 197.69, 196.97, 163.58, 139.51, 135.16, 130.37, 129.76, 129.54, 128.89, 113.74, 55.47, 32.58, 32.19.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.14

#### 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-(o-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (3fd)



White solid (33.5 mg, 59%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.02 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.95 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.41 – 3.37 (m, 2H), 3.34 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  202.81, 197.05, 163.44, 137.95, 137.88, 131.79, 131.18, 130.28, 129.82, 128.53, 125.63, 113.65, 55.40, 35.34, 32.43, 21.19.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>15</sup>

#### 1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3gd)



White solid (20.1 mg, 35%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.89 (td, *J* = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 -7.49 (m, 1H), 7.22 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, *J* = 11.0, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.45-3.37 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  197.16, 197.12, 196.94, 163.46, 163.06, 161.04, 134.51, 134.43, 130.65, 130.63, 130.32, 129.85, 124.37, 124.35, 116.74, 116.55, 113.67, 55.43, 37.47, 37.40, 32.19, 32.17. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  -109.01.

HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{15}O_3F$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 286.1000, found 286.0985.

#### 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-(m-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (3hd)



White solid (40.5 mg, 72%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.85 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.44 – 3.37 (m, 4H), 2.40 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  199.00, 197.17, 163.44, 138.25, 136.79, 133.77, 130.30, 129.83, 128.58, 128.38, 125.25, 113.64, 55.39, 32.65, 32.20, 21.28. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>16</sup>

#### 1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3id)



White solid (25.3 mg, 42%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.98 (m, 3H), 7.91 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.44 – 3.37 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  197.62, 196.83, 163.56, 134.89, 132.97, 130.34, 129.90, 129.71, 128.23, 126.19, 113.72, 55.45, 32.69, 32.16. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>14</sup>

#### 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-(naphthalen-1-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3jd)



White solid (39.2 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.61 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.02 (m, 3H), 7.99 (dt, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  203.03, 197.05, 163.48, 136.02, 133.87, 132.45, 130.33, 130.07, 129.83, 128.29, 127.76, 127.55, 126.32, 125.81, 124.39, 113.69, 55.42, 36.02, 32.63. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>17</sup>

## 1-(Furan-2-yl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3kd)



White solid (34.5 mg, 67%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.00 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 1.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 3.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 3.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.40 – 3.36 (m, 2H), 3.29 – 3.25 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 196.78, 187.98, 163.48, 152.50, 146.27, 130.29, 129.67, 117.04, 113.66, 112.13, 55.40, 32.26, 31.86.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>14</sup>

#### 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-(thiophen-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3ld)



White solid (39 mg, 71%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.02 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.82 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.42 – 3.35 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  196.90, 191.78, 163.52, 143.91, 133.45, 131.98, 130.37, 130.33, 129.71, 128.07, 113.69, 55.43, 33.23, 32.22. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

2-Isobutoxy-5-(5-(4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoyl)-4-methylthiazol-2-yl)benzonitrile (3md)



Light yellow solid (27 mg, 29%) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.02 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 3.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.43 – 3,39 (m, 2H), 3.30 – 3.26 (m, 2H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 1.09 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  196.61, 191.52, 166.53, 163.62, 162.56, 159.79, 132.66, 132.17, 130.64, 130.36, 129.58, 125.85, 115.34, 113.75, 112.62, 103.00, 55.46, 36.82, 32.31, 28.13, 19.02, 18.49.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for  $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_4S [M+H^+]^+ 463.1687$ , found 463.1686.

## (E)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-6-phenylhex-5-ene-1,4-dione (3nd)



White solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.64 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.35 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.14 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.84, 197.16, 163.51, 142.75, 134.51, 130.42, 130.35, 129.82, 128.91, 128.29, 126.19, 113.70, 55.45, 34.51, 32.23.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>17</sup>

#### 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-7-methyloctane-1,4-dione (3od)



Light green solid (29.1 mg, 56%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.97 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 6.94 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.24 – 3.20 (m, 2H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.54 – 2.49 (m, 2H), 1.59

-1.47 (m, 3H), 0.89 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  210.05, 197.15, 163.44, 130.25, 129.76, 113.64, 55.40, 41.03, 36.20, 32.62, 31.98, 27.69, 22.31. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>19</sup>

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-5,5-dimethylhexane-1,4-dione (3pd)



Colorless liquid (3mg, 6%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.02 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.23 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.97 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 214.81, 197.44, 163.43, 130.28, 129.95, 113.66, 55.44, 44.07, 32.03, 30.82, 26.63.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>20</sup>

## 1-Cyclohexyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3qd)



White solid (35.9 mg, 66%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.98 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 6.94 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.24 – 3.19 (m, 2H), 2.87 (m, 2H), 2.46 (tt, *J* = 11.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.95 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.79 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 1.70 – 1.64(m, 1H), 1.43 – 1.15 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 212.80, 197.28, 163.44, 130.27, 129.85, 113.65, 55.43, 50.92, 34.30, 31.94, 28.56, 25.87, 25.67.

HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{22}O_3$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 274.1564, found 274.1560.

#### 1,4-Diphenylbutane-1,4-dione (3aa)



Colorless liquid (37.5 mg, 79%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.06 – 8.02 (m, 4H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 3.46 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.62, 136.72, 133.10, 128.55, 128.07, 32.54.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>21</sup>

#### 1-Phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (3ab)



White solid (31.2 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.06 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.96 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 3.46 - 3.42 (m, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.75, 198.26, 143.87, 136.77, 134.26, 133.07, 129.22, 128.54, 128.19, 128.08, 32.58, 32.44, 21.61.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>12</sup>

1-(4-Cyclohexylphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ac)



White solid (43.3 mg, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.06 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 3.48 – 3.41 (m, 4H), 2.57 (tt, *J* = 11.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.92 – 1.83 (m, 4H), 1.80 - 1.74 (m, 1H), 1.49 – 1.35 (m, 4H), 1.32 – 1.22 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.73, 198.28, 153.74, 136.76, 134.58, 133.04, 128.52, 128.29, 128.06, 127.02, 44.65, 34.06, 32.60, 32.43, 26.68, 25.99. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> 320.1771, found 320.1766.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ae)



White solid (39.8 mg, 77%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.09 – 8.01 (m, 4H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 3.48 – 3.44 (m, 2H), 3.44 – 3.40 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.53, 197.05, 166.77, 164.74, 136.66, 133.19, 133.17, 130.75, 130.68, 128.58, 128.07, 115.73, 115.56, 32.53, 32.41. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  - 105.24.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>22</sup>

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3af)



White solid (28.8 mg, 53%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 3.48 – 3.44 (m, 2H), 3.43 – 3.39 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.43, 197.43, 139.51, 136.61, 135.06, 133.17, 129.50, 128.86, 128.57, 128.06, 32.50, 32.45.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

#### Methyl 4-(4-oxo-4-phenylbutanoyl)benzoate (3ag)



White solid (47.3 mg, 80%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.16 – 8.12 (m, 2H), 8.10 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 8.05 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.45 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.28, 198.13, 166.12, 139.90, 136.54, 133.80, 133.14, 129.74, 128.53, 128.01, 127.94, 32.80, 32.44.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>23</sup>

#### 1-Phenyl-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)butane-1,4-dione (3ah)



White solid (44.9 mg, 73%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 8.05 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 3.52 – 3.44 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.30, 197.81, 139.46, 136.57, 133.30, 128.65, 128.45, 128.11, 125.74, 125.71, 125.68, 125.65, 32.79, 32.55. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  -63.10. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>24</sup>

#### 1-(4-Nitrophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ai/3ua)



Yellow solid (42 mg, 74%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.34 – 8.30 (m, 2H), 8.20 – 8.16 (m, 2H), 8.04 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 3.53 – 3.49 (m, 2H), 3.48 - 3.44 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 198.09, 197.30, 150.30, 141.24, 136.39, 133.35, 129.11, 128.63, 128.06, 123.81, 32.96, 32.56.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>25</sup>

#### 1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3aj)



White solid (27.4 mg, 51%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 3.94 - 3.90 (m, 3H), 3.50 – 3.44 (m, 2H), 3.44 – 3.38 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  200.57, 199.03, 158.78, 136.91, 133.55, 132.95, 130.47, 128.55, 128.50, 128.08, 127.81, 120.61, 111.53, 55.50, 37.91, 32.97.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>16</sup>

#### 1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ak)



White solid (24.6 mg, 48%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.90 (td, J = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.22 (td, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 11.0, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.48 – 3.41 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.40, 196.89, 196.86, 163.07, 161.04, 136.70, 134.56, 134.49, 133.04, 130.63, 130.60, 128.51, 128.04, 125.44, 125.33, 124.37, 124.34, 116.73, 116.54, 37.36, 37.30, 32.51, 32.49. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  -108.95.

HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{16}H_{13}O_2F$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 256.0894, found 256.0876.

#### 1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3al)



White solid (32 mg, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 8.5, 3.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.59, 198.43, 159.76, 138.06, 136.71, 133.08, 129.54, 128.53, 128.05, 120.74, 119.64, 112.22, 55.38, 32.67, 32.54.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

#### 1-(3-Fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3am)



White solid (37.2 mg, 73%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.83 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, J = 9.5, 2.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 3.49 – 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.44 – 3.40 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.38, 197.43, 197.41, 163.81, 161.84, 138.85, 138.80, 136.61, 133.19, 130.27, 130.21, 128.59, 128.07, 123.87, 123.85, 120.19, 120.02, 114.90, 114.73, 32.66, 32.49. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  -111.89. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>26</sup>

#### 1-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3an)



White solid (49.1 mg, 65%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.47 (t, J = 1.0 Hz, 2H), 8.08 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 3.56 – 3.51 (m, 2H), 3.49 – 3.45 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  197.99, 196.03, 138.26, 136.36, 133.41, 132.74, 132.47, 132.20, 131.93, 128.66, 128.49, 128.20, 128.17, 128.14, 128.09, 126.34, 126.31, 126.28, 126.25, 126.22, 126.16, 123.99, 121.82, 119.65, 32.63, 32.54. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  -62.92. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>27</sup>

#### 2-Methyl-1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ao)



White solid (22.1 mg, 44%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.07 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 8.01 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 4.23 – 4.14 (m, 1H), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  203.38, 198.46, 136.64, 136.06, 133.16, 132.95, 128.64, 128.54, 128.49, 128.08, 42.32, 36.26, 17.94.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>22</sup>

#### 2,2-Dimethyl-1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ap)



White solid (37.5 mg, 70%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.96 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 1.46 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 210.00, 197.67, 139.79, 136.85, 133.05, 130.14, 128.48, 127.96, 127.93, 127.90, 127.24, 50.41, 45.39, 26.82.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>28</sup>

#### 2-(1-Benzoylcyclohexyl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3aq)



Colorless liquid (28.9 mg, 47%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.00 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 1.97 – 1.85 (m, 4H), 1.64 – 1.55 (m, 3H), 1.51 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.22 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 211.20, 198.04, 140.59, 137.10, 133.08, 129.69, 128.52, 127.97, 127.83, 127.22, 49.54, 43.93, 33.86, 25.61, 22.20.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 306.1614, found 306.1606.

#### 2-(2-Oxo-2-phenylethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ar)



This mixture compound was prepared according to the typical procedure. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate = 5/1, v/v) afforded **3ar** as a lightyellow liquid (37 mg, 74%). Then the mixture compound was purified by by column chromatography on silica gel (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 10/1, v/v then Petroleum ether / dichloromethane = 1/2).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.01 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (dd, *J* = 17.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.23 – 3.17 (m, 1H), 2.85 (dd, *J* = 17.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  207.89, 197.95, 153.58, 136.51, 136.44, 134.80, 133.33, 128.66, 128.08, 127.41, 126.54, 123.89, 43.19, 40.02, 33.57.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.08 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.00 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.18 (m, 1H), 3.34 – 3.26 (m, 1H), 3.20 (dd, J = 16.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.94 – 2.90 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  199.79, 196.45, 141.68, 135.14, 133.91, 133.62, 131.98, 128.95, 128.85, 128.44, 127.21, 127.19, 42.65, 41.25, 32.63.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{14}O_2$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>]<sup>+</sup> 251.1067, found 251.1061.

#### 2-(2-Oxo-2-phenylethyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (3as)



White solid (32.6 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.04 (dt, J = 8.5, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (dd, J = 17.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.36 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.23 – 3.14 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.33 – 2.27 (m, 1H), 1.99 (qd, J = 13.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.98, 198.51, 144.11, 136.99, 133.33, 133.06, 132.26, 128.74, 128.56, 128.11, 127.44, 126.57, 44.21, 38.99, 29.54, 29.37. The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>30</sup>

#### 1-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3at)



White Solid. (47.6 mg, 83%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.63 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 – 8.04 (m, 3H), 7.99 (dt, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 3.56 – 3.48 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  202.77, 198.54, 136.70, 135.89, 133.85, 133.08, 132.49, 130.05, 128.53, 128.29, 128.05, 127.78, 127.55, 126.33, 125.78, 124.37, 35.87, 32.96.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

#### 1-Phenyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)butane-1,4-dione (3au)



Light yellow solid (15.8 mg. 32%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.48 – 3.44 (m, 2H), 3.43 – 3.38 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.41, 191.58, 143.87, 136.63, 133.53, 133.18, 132.01, 128.58, 128.09, 33.15, 32.59.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

#### 1-(Benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3av/3va)



Yellow solid (35.4 mg, 60%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.89 (ddt, *J* = 18.0, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.43 – 7.39

(m, 1H), 3.52 - 3.46 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.25, 193.12, 143.21, 142.41, 139.10, 136.55, 133.20, 129.20, 128.58, 128.07, 127.34, 125.93, 124.94, 122.92, 33.06, 32.62. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M]<sup>+</sup> 294.0709, found 294.0701.

#### 1-Phenylnonane-1,4-dione (3aw)



Colorless liquid (26 mg, 56%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47 -7.42 (m, 2H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.61 (p, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.37 – 1.24 (m, 5H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  209.73, 198.63, 136.65, 133.06, 128.51, 127.99, 42.93, 36.13, 32.32, 31.37, 23.52, 22.41, 13.88.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>31</sup>

#### 1-Cyclopentyl-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ax)



Colorless liquid (32.8 mg, 71%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.00 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 3.29 – 3.25 (m, 2H), 2.98 (p, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 1.91 – 1.77 (m, 4H), 1.69 – 1.54 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  211.70, 198.74, 136.71, 133.01, 128.49, 127.99, 51.44, 35.28, 32.33, 28.90, 25.97. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]<sup>+</sup> 231.1380, found 231.1374.

#### 2-Methyltridecane-5,8-dione (3ow)



Yellow liquid (19.9 mg, 44%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 2.68 – 2.64 (m, 4H), 2.46 – 2.40 (m, 4H), 1.60 – 1.49 (m, 3H), 1.48 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.22 (m, 4H), 0.89 – 0.85 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 209.87, 209.77, 42.80, 40.86, 35.97, 35.94, 32.59, 31.34, 27.66, 23.49, 22.40, 22.29, 13.86.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{14}H_{26}O_2$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>]<sup>+</sup> 227.2006, found 227.2002.

#### 1-Phenylundecane-3,6-dione (3rw)



Yellow liquid. (24.1 mg, 44%) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 2.92 – 2.88 (m, 2H), 2.82 – 2.77 (m, 2H), 2.70 – 2.64 (m, 4H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (p, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.34 – 1.24 (m, 4H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, 2.44 mz, 2.44 mz,

Chloroform-*d*) δ 209.68, 208.53, 140.98, 128.43, 128.24, 126.03, 44.28, 42.76, 36.14, 35.97, 31.34, 29.69, 23.49, 22.40, 13.88.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{24}O_2$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>]<sup>+</sup> 261.1849, found 261.1842.

#### 1-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ta)



White solid (30.3 mg, 53%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.05 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 2H), 3.46 – 3.42 (m, 2H), 3.40 – 3.36 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  198.74, 196.69, 151.77, 148.14, 136.76, 133.12, 131.64, 128.57, 128.10, 124.38, 107.93, 107.89, 101.80, 32.69, 32.31.

The spectroscopic data matched literature values.<sup>18</sup>

## 2-Clopropyl-1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-dione (3ay)



Colorless liquid (27.3 mg, 50%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.06 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 8.01 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 3.92 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (td, *J* = 9.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (d, *J* = 25.5 Hz, 1H), 0.98 – 0.90 (m, 1H), 0.56 – 0.54 (m, 1H), 0.49 – 0.42 (m, 1H), 0.32 – 0.21 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  202.80, 198.75, 137.70, 136.51, 133.18, 132.79, 128.61, 128.53, 128.12, 45.25, 41.96, 13.85, 4.68, 4.14. HRMS (FI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> 278.1301, found 278.1293.

#### **Mechanistic Studies**

#### Coupling of cyclopropanol and amide in the presence of BHT



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), **2d** (0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv, 41mg),  $Pd(acac)_2$  (0.01 mol, 0.05 equiv, 3.1 mg), and BHT (0.3 mmol, 2.5 equiv, 110.2 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.02 mmol, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in PhMe (2 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature then mixture was filtered on celite and concentrated to yield the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 5/1) to give the desired product **3aa** in 63% of yield. No trapped

intermediate is detected.

#### **Radical clock experiment**



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with 1a (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), 2aa (1.25 equiv, 0.25 mmol, 41mg),  $Pd(acac)_2$  (0.01 mol, 0.05 equiv, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove.  $PCy_3$  (10 mol %, 0.02 mmol, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in PhMe (2 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature then mixture was filtered on celite and concentrated to yield the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 5/1) to give the desired product 3aaa in 50% yields, no cyclopropyl-opening product was observed.

#### NMR spectrum evidence for the release of glutarimide.



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with 1a (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), 2d (0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv, 41mg), Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mol, 0.05 equiv, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.02 mmol, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in Toluene (2 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 16 h. After completion of reaction as monitored by TLC, solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was subjected to perform an NMR test. From the NMR spectrum of the crude, we can clearly see the peak of glutarimide. Then the crude product was recovered, followed by glutarimides (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 22.6 mg) added, then was subjected to NMR test again. We can see the overlap of the peaks of glutarimide. Meanwhile, another same reaction mixture was filtered on celite and concentrated to yield crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 3/1 to Dichloromethane / Methanol = 10/1) to give the pure byproduct glutarimide in 73% (16.8 mg) yields. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.97 (br, 1H), 2.62 – 2.56 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 4H), 2.05 – 1.97 (m, 2H).



Figure S4. NMR spectrum of 3ad crude product after 0.2 mmol glutarimide added

## **Competition experiment**



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), **2d** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 32.8 mg), **2i** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 38.4 mg) and Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mol, 0.05 equiv, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.02 mmol, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in Toluene (2 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 16 h. After completion of reaction as monitored by TLC, solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was subjected to perform an NMR test. NMR spectrum indicates ratio of **3ad** vs **3ai** is 1/1.73.



Figure S5. NMR spectrum of 3ad and 3ai crude product

#### **Control experiments**



Phenylcyclopropane (**2aO**) was obtained as colorless liquid according to the literature reported before.<sup>32</sup> To a 10 mL dry test tube with stir bar was added *N*-glutarimide benzamide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mmol, 5 mol %, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.02 mmol, 10 mol %, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. Phenylcyclopropane (0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv, 29.5 mg) dissolved in 2 mL Toluene was added and stand for 16 h at 80 °C, after completion of reaction, TLC indicated that no desired product was yielded.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

1-Phenylcyclopropyl acetate (**2aA**) was prepared according to the literature before.<sup>33</sup> To a 10 mL dry test tube with stir bar was added *N*-glutarimide benzamide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %, 0.01 mmol, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.02 mmol, 10 mol %, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. 1-phenylcyclopropyl acetate (0.25 mmol, 1.25 equiv, 44 mg) dissolved in 2 mL Toluene was added and stand for 16 h at 80 °C, after completion of reaction, TLC indicated that no desired product was yielded.

Ph 
$$N$$
 +  $OH$   $Pd(acac)_2, PCy_3$   
PhMe, 80 °C, 16 h

To a 10 mL dry test tube with stir bar was added *N*-glutarimide benzamide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 43.4 mg), 1-phenylcyclobutan-1-ol (1.25 equiv, 37 mg) and Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %, 0.01 mmol, 3.1 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.02 mmol, 10 mol %, 5.6 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was dissolved in 2 mL Toluene and stand for 16 h at 80 °C, after cooling to room temperature, TLC indicated that no desired product was yielded.

## **Proposed mechanism**



Figure S6. Proposed mechanistic cycle

## Exploration for the cross-coupling reaction of acid chloride with cyclopropanol

Table S12. Screening for the catalyst and solvent

	+ OH OM	Pd catalyst (5 mol %) ligand (10 mol %) solvent, 80 °C, 12 h		2bd
	20			300
Entry	catalyst	ligand	solvent	yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	$Pd(P^{t}Bu_{3})_{2}$	DPE-Phos	PhMe	15%
2	$Pd_2(dba)_3$	DPE-Phos	PhMe	9%
3	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	DPE-Phos	PhMe	10%
4	$Pd(acac)_2$	DPE-Phos	PhMe	ND
5	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	DPE-Phos	PhMe	10%
6	$Pd(acac)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	ND
7	$Pd(P^{t}Bu_{3})_{2}$	DPE-Phos	MeCN	12%

8	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	DPE-Phos	THF	7%
9	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	DPE-Phos	MeOH	ND

Table S13. Screening for the catalyst and solv	vent
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CI +		Pd catalyst (5 mol %) ligand (10 mol %)		OMe
	OMe	30WCIR, 00 0, 12 II		II O
1bC	2d		31	od
Entry	catalyst	ligand	solvent	yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	X-Phos	PhMe	14%
2	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	Dppbz	PhMe	ND
3	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	BINAP	PhMe	10%
4	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	Dppm	PhMe	15%
5	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	Dppe	PhMe	13%
6	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	Dppf	PhMe	19%
·/	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	12%
8	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	PCy <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	6%

## Table S14. Screening for the additive

	CI +	OMe -	Pd catalyst (5 mol %) ligand (10 mol %) additive (1.0 equiv) Solvent, 80 °C, 12 h	•		OMe
1bC	20	d			3bd	
Entry	catalyst	ligand	additive	solvent	Т	yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>			THF	RT	ND
2	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$			PhMe	80 °C	ND
3	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub>	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	80 °C	30%
4	$Pd(P'Bu_3)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	80 °C	35%
5	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	PPh <sub>3</sub>	KO <sup>t</sup> Bu	PhMe	80 °C	ND
6	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	Dppf	Et <sub>3</sub> N	PhMe	80 °C	40%
7	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	Dppf	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	PhMe	80 °C	36%

8	$Pd(P^tBu_3)_2$	Dppf	KO <sup>t</sup> Bu	PhMe	80 °C	ND
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Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed on 0.2 mmol acid chloride with 1.0 equiv of the cyclopropanol under nitrogen for 12 h.

## Kinetic competition experiment



A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 21.7 mg), **1aB** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 32.1 mg), **2i** (0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv, 53.7 mg), and Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.005 mol, 0.05 equiv, 1.6 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.01 mmol, 2.8 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in toluene (1 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 1 h. The mixture was allowed to room temperature after 1 h, and filtered through celite, then concentrated under vacuum. The crude substrate-product mixture was purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 5/1 then Petroleum ether/ Dichloromethane = 1:2) to give the substrates mixture (**1a** and **1aB**).

Time	Concentratio	n of <b>1a</b>	Concentration of <b>1a</b>	B
0 h	0.1 mol	/L	0.1 mol/L	
1 h	0.06525 m	nol/L	0.08925 mol/L	
Ph N Boc + Boc	Ph N +		Pd(acac) <sub>2</sub> (5 mol %) PCy <sub>3</sub> (10 mol %) Toluene, 80 °C	Ph NO <sub>2</sub>
1aB	1aP	2i	$k_{1aB}/k_{1aP} = 3.4$	3ai

A 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with **1aP** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 25.1 mg), **1aB** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 32.1 mg), **2i** (0.3 mmol, 3.0 equiv, 53.7 mg), and Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (0.005 mol, 0.05 equiv, 1.6 mg). The vessel was capped with a rubber septum and then transferred to the glove. PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %, 0.01 mmol, 2.8 mg) then was added and removed from glove. The reaction mixture was resolved in toluene (1 mL) and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 1 h. The mixture was allowed to room temperature after 1 h, and filtered through celite, then concentrated under vacuum. The crude substrate-product mixture was purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 5/1 then Petroleum ether/ Dichloromethane = 1:2) to give the substrates mixture (**1aB** and **1aP**).

Time	Concentration of <b>1aB</b>	Concentration of <b>1aP</b>
0 h	0.1 mol/L	0.1 mol/L
1 h	0.087 mol/L	0.096 mol/L



Figure S7. Relative reactivity versus the additive parameter of the three amides

#### Reactivity order chemistry set

{(1a, R, P,  $k_{1a}$ -12.9, EC), (1aB, R, P,  $k_{1aB}$ -3.4, EC), (1aP, R, P,  $k_{1aP}$ -1, EC)}, where R = 2i, P = 3ai, EC = Pd(acac)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)/PCy<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %)/Toluene/80 °C/1 h

## Reduction of y-diketones to alkane



According to the literature reported,<sup>34</sup> to a solution of 1, 4 - diketones compound **3rw** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 52 mg) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) and tris (pentafluoro phenyl) borane (5 mol %, 0.01 mmol, 5.1 mg) was slowly added polymethylhydrosiloxane (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv, 134 mg, 133  $\mu$ L) at room temperature. After 20 min, a vigorous effervescence (like foam) was observed. At this point, the reaction mixture was dissolved in hexane and filtered through a silica gel pad using hexane. Evaporation of the solvents afforded the product in crude form (alkane and alkene product presumably). To eliminate alkene product and acquire pure alkane product, we converted alkene product to epoxides according to the literature.<sup>35</sup> To a 10 mL dried test tube was added alkene -

alkane crude product (1.0 equiv, 0.2 mmol), NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1.3 equiv, 0.26 mmol, 21.8 mg) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The test tube was then added *m*-CPBA (1.2 equiv, 0.24 mmol, 41.4 mg) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction was then stirred for an additional 1 h and then allowed to warm to room temperature. After completion of the reaction (TLC monitoring), the reaction mixture is quenched with aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, and the aqueous phase is extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layers are washed successively with a saturated solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane) afforded the corresponding alkane product (**3rwR**) with 31% yields (14.3 mg) as colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.66 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.25 (m, 16H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  142.96, 128.38, 128.19, 125.51, 35.99, 31.92, 31.53, 29.67, 29.63, 29.60, 29.52, 29.35, 22.69, 14.12. The spectroscopic data of product (**3rwR**) matched literature values.<sup>36</sup>



Crude alkane and alkene product was obtained according to the procedure in 0.2 mmol scale, the crude product was mixed with MeOH (2 mL), Pd(OH)<sub>2</sub>/C (15 mg), and Pd/C (15 mg) and the suspension was kept under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 24 h at room temperature. Filtration through a Celite pad followed by evaporation and chromatography on silica gel (eluent: n-hexane) afforded the products (**3rwR**) with 81% yields (37.8 mg) as colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.31 - 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22 - 7.16 (m, 3H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.67 - 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.36 - 1.26 (m, 16H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  142.95, 128.38, 128.19, 125.51, 36.00, 31.92, 31.53, 29.67, 29.64, 29.60, 29.53, 29.35, 22.69, 14.12.



According to the literature reported<sup>37</sup>, Reactions were carried out on 0.2 mmol scale. A 10 mL reaction vessel equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with 12 mg of 5 weight % of Pd/C (3 mol%), 39.4 mg of tetrahydroxydiboron (2.2 equiv), and 52 mg of the diketones **3od** (0.2 mmol) in 2 mL THF, then the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 2 h. The crude mixture was passed through Celite plug rinsing the reaction vial with DCM; the eluent was removed by rotary evaporation, followed by flash column chromatography (Petroleum ether / Ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford the product (**3odR**) with 67% yields (33.1 mg) as colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.10 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (dt, *J* = 19.5, 7.5 Hz, 4H), 1.87 (p, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.56 – 1.47 (m, 1H), 1.47 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.87 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  211.32, 157.79, 133.66, 129.29, 113.72, 55.19, 41.79, 40.84, 34.16, 32.58, 27.66, 25.46, 22.29. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 249.1849, found 249.1842.

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#### NMR spectra






















70 60 50 40 30 20

0 -10

10

230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 f1 (ppm)









--109.012































80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 f1 (span)













--63.105















---111.894



80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 f1 (ppm)
































