Supplementary Information

Molybdenum-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction for

heterocycle syntheses

Yuan-Qing Dong,[†]a Xiao-Nan Shi,[†]a Li-Ya Cao,[†]a Jin Bai,^a and Chun-Xiang Zhuo*^{a,b}

^aState Key Laboratory of Physical Chemistry of Solid Surfaces, Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology of Fujian Province, and College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University, Xiamen 361005, P. R. China

^bShenzhen Research Institute of Xiamen University, Shenzhen 518057, P. R. China

*Email: cxzhuo@xmu.edu.cn

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I. Experimental details and characterization data.

General information. Unless stated otherwise, all reactions were carried out in oven-dried (oven temperature ≥ 110 °C) glassware using anhydrous solvents under argon or N₂ atmosphere. The solvents were purified by distillation over the following drying agents and were transferred under argon or N₂ atmosphere: THF, toluene (Na); anhydrous 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene (mesitylene), CH₂Cl₂ and DMF were purchased from Energy Chemical and kept in a sealed bottle containing 4 Å molecular sieve under argon. General-Reagent silica gel (300-400 mesh) was used for the flash column chromatography. Unless stated otherwise, all commercially available compounds (Energy Chemical, Bidepharmatech, TCI, J&K Chemical, and Strem Chemicals) were used as received. The substituted anilines **S1** were synthesized according to a reported procedure.^[1]

NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AV-400 MHz, Quantum-IPlus 400 MHz or Bruker AV-500 MHz spectrometers in the solvents indicated; chemical shifts (δ =) are given in ppm, coupling constants (*J*) in Hz. The solvent signals were used as references (CDCl₃: δ_{c} = 77.0 ppm; residual CHCl₃ in CDCl₃: δ_{H} = 7.26 ppm; C₃D₆O: δ_{C} = 206.26, 29.84 ppm; residual C₃D₅HO: δ_{H} = 2.05 ppm; dimethyl sulfoxide-D₆: δ_{C} = 39.52 ppm; residual dimethyl sulfoxide-D₅H: δ_{H} = 2.50 ppm). Infrared (IR) spectra were measured on a Nicolet AVATER FTIR330 spectrometer. Highresolution mass spectra (ESI) were recorded on a Micromass QTOF2 Quadruple/Time-of-Flight Tandem mass spectrometer.

1. Representative procedure for the syntheses of substrates 1 (RP1).^[2]



Preparation of compound 1a. Benzoyl chloride (984.0 mg, 0.81 mL, 7.0 mmol, 1.4 equiv) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of 2-aminophenyl-(phenyl)methanone **S1-1** (986.0 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Et₃N (708.3 mg, 0.97 mL, 7.0 mmol, 1.4 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at room temperature. Stirring was continued at this temperature until the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was quenched with H₂O, and extracted with DCM (20 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) gave **1a**^[3] as a white solid (1.35 g, 90%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.98 (s, 1H), 8.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.10 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.45 (m, 8H), 7.15 – 7.08 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.2, 165.7, 141.0, 138.7, 134.54, 134.45, 133.9, 132.3, 131.9, 129.7, 128.7, 128.2, 127.3, 123.0, 122.1, 121.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3285, 3062, 1682, 1615, 1582, 1449, 1267, 941, 700, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₅NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 324.1000. Found: 324.0990.

The following substrates **1b–1z** & **1ak-1an** were prepared analogously.



1b.^[3] White solid, 1.43 g, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.94 (s, 1H), 8.91 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.57 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.08 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.3, 165.8, 142.5, 141.3, 138.8, 134.6, 134.0, 132.3, 131.7, 129.7, 129.4, 128.3, 127.4, 123.0, 121.9, 121.3, 21.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3305, 2919, 1679, 1529, 1447, 1267, 752, 700, 642; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1152. Found: 338.1152.



1c.^[3] White solid, 1.65 g, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.92 (s, 1H), 8.89 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.2, 165.2, 162.5, 141.3, 138.7, 134.5, 134.0, 132.2, 129.7, 129.2, 128.2, 126.7, 122.8, 121.7, 121.2, 113.9, 55.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3307, 2918, 1677, 1507, 1255, 1175, 700, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 354.1101. Found: 354.1100.



1d.^[3] White solid, 1.61 g, 96% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.01 (s, 1H), 8.87 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.57 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 7.13 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.4, 164.6, 141.0, 138.6, 138.3, 134.7, 134.1, 132.9, 132.4, 129.8, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 122.9, 122.3, 121.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3284, 1683, 1584, 1267, 1111, 753, 710, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄ClNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 358.0605. Found: 358.0610.



1e. Yellow solid, 1.39 g, 94% yield, mp 81.1-81.5 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.11 (s, 1H), 8.88 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.4, 164.3, 140.7, 138.5, 137.8, 134.7, 134.1, 133.5 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz), 132.5, 129.8, 128.3, 127.8, 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 123.6 (q, *J* = 271.0 Hz), 123.0, 122.5, 121.3. ¹⁹F NMR (376

MHz, CDCl₃): δ = -62.99. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3278, 1686, 1604, 1531, 1327, 1296, 1128, 941, 768, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₄F₃NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 392.0869. Found: 392.0874.



1f. Yellow solid, 1.66 g, 92% yield, mp 143.4-143.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.05 (s, 1H), 8.86 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.20 – 8.08 (m, 4H), 7.74 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.2, 166.1, 164.7, 140.7, 138.5, 138.3, 134.6, 134.0, 133.0, 132.4, 129.9, 129.7, 128.3, 127.3, 123.0, 122.4, 121.3, 52.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3288, 2920, 1725, 1603, 1529, 1268, 1108, 723, 704, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₇NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 382.1050. Found: 382.1052.



1g.^[3] White solid, 1.35 g, 96% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.15 (s, 1H), 8.96 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.61 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 8.02 (m, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.3, 165.9, 141.2, 138.8, 135.0, 134.6, 134.1, 132.7, 132.4, 131.8, 129.8, 129.4, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 126.7, 123.6, 123.1, 122.2, 121.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3059, 2921, 1679, 1598, 1526, 1448, 1259, 1198, 773, 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 374.1152. Found: 374.1151.



1h. White solid, 1.27 g, 87% yield, mp 116.2-116.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.87 (s, 1H), 8.82 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 4H), 7.53 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.57 – 6.54 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃):

δ = 199.6, 156.6, 147.9, 144.8, 140.2, 138.5, 134.2, 133.7, 132.3, 129.7, 128.2, 123.2, 122.1, 121.3, 115.3, 112.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3298, 2918, 1682, 1637, 1525, 1449, 1274, 923, 753, 713, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₃NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 314.0788. Found: 314.0785.



1i. Yellow solid, 1.40 g, 91% yield, mp 141.9-143.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.99 (s, 1H), 8.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.1, 160.2, 140.8, 139.8, 138.5, 134.5, 133.9, 132.2, 131.2, 129.6, 128.6, 128.1, 127.8, 122.4, 121.9, 120.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3298, 2918, 1670, 1603, 1530, 1447, 1269, 939, 752, 711, 642; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₃NNaO₂S [M+Na]⁺: 330.0559. Found: 330.0560.



1*j*. White solid, 1.32 g, 89% yield, mp 124.6-125.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.23 (s, 1H), 8.71 – 8.66 (m, 1H), 7.74 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.18 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.9, 160.2, 154.8, 138.5, 138.2, 134.2, 133.5, 132.6, 129.9, 128.2, 124.1, 123.5, 121.3, 63.5, 13.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3274, 2985, 1715, 1600, 1523, 1263, 1178, 946, 711, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 320.0893. Found: 320.0892.



1k. White solid, 0.65 g, 81% yield, mp 117.5-118.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.80 (s, 1H), 8.87 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.5, 165.7, 165.3 (d, J = 253.1 Hz), 140.9, 134.8 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 134.6, 134.5, 133.5, 132.5 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 132.0, 128.8, 127.3, 123.1, 122.2, 121.6, 115.5 (d, J = 21.8 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (376

MHz, CDCl₃): δ = -105.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3305, 3066, 1682, 1598, 1449, 1267, 1156, 933, 759, 703; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄FNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 342.0901. Found: 342.0899.



1.^[4] White solid, 0.78 g, 93% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.85 (s, 1H), 8.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.08 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.63 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.45 (m, 6H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.8, 165.8, 141.1, 138.9, 137.0, 134.8, 134.5, 133.6, 132.1, 131.2, 128.8, 128.7, 127.4, 122.9, 122.2, 121.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3301, 2918, 1682, 1604, 1528, 1448, 1294, 932, 758, 702; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄ClNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 358.0611. Found: 358.0608.



1m. White solid, 0.87 g, 92% yield, mp 88.0-89.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.90 (s, 1H), 8.88 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 4H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (td, *J* = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.8, 165.7, 143.3, 140.8, 135.9, 134.5, 134.2, 133.7, 131.9, 130.0, 128.9, 128.7, 127.3, 123.4, 122.0, 121.3, 21.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3280, 3063, 1682, 1582, 1495, 1268, 1183, 933, 782, 704; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1152. Found: 338.1150.



1n.^[5] White solid, 0.82 g, 82% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.73 (s, 1H), 8.83 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.3, 165.5, 163.2, 140.3, 134.4, 133.7, 133.2, 132.4, 131.8, 130.8, 128.6, 127.2, 123.8, 122.0, 121.4, 113.5, 55.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3319, 2917,1678, 1598, 1581, 1257, 1176, 933, 760, 703; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 354.1101. Found: 354.1099.



10.^[3] Yellow solid, 0.22 g, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.41 (s, 1H), 8.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.88 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.10 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 190.2, 165.5, 143.8, 139.8, 135.6, 134.7, 134.4, 133.9, 132.0, 131.9, 128.7, 128.0, 127.2, 124.1, 122.4, 121.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3319, 1678, 1599, 1581, 1409, 1270, 758, 703, 651; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₃NNaO₂S [M+Na]⁺: 330.0559. Found: 330.0565.



1p.^[6] White solid, 1.09 g, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.70 (s, 1H), 8.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.10 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.95 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 203.1, 165.9, 141.3, 135.2, 134.7, 131.8, 131.7, 128.7, 127.3, 122.3, 121.8, 120.6, 28.4.



1q. Yellow solid, 0.32 g, 60% yield, mp 92.8-93.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.74 (s, 1H), 8.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.11 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.50 (m, 4H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 3.04 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.85 – 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 205.3, 166.0, 141.3, 134.9, 134.8, 131.8, 130.9, 128.7, 127.4, 122.4, 121.8, 120.9, 41.9, 18.1, 13.8. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2692, 1680, 1607, 1584, 1450, 1303, 753, 703; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 290.1152. Found: 290.1156.



1r. Yellow solid, 1.09 g, 81% yield, mp 120.4-121.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.74 (s, 1H), 8.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.11 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.44 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 1.96 – 1.82 (m, 4H), 1.80 – 1.71 (m, 1H), 1.61 – 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.36 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.23 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 208.8, 166.0, 141.7, 134.9, 134.8, 131.8, 130.6, 128.7, 127.4, 122.4, 121.2, 121.1, 46.7, 29.8, 25.8, 25.76. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2962, 2854, 1679, 1583, 1526, 1450, 1306, 972, 753, 704; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₁NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 330.1464. Found: 330.1472.



1s. White solid, 0.55 g, 44% yield, mp 115.0-117.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.82 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.08 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.3, 165.6, 138.8, 138.6, 135.3, 134.6, 134.0, 132.3, 131.9, 131.7, 129.7, 128.7, 128.3, 127.3, 123.2, 121.4, 20.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3291, 2922, 1679, 1590, 1522, 1297, 1270, 964, 701, 674; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1152. Found: 338.1149.



1t. Yellow solid, 0.28 g, 85% yield, mp 94.5-94.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.53 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 7.23 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.7, 165.5, 154.1, 138.4, 134.6, 134.2, 132.6, 131.8, 129.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.2, 124.6, 123.1, 119.6, 118.8, 55.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2923, 1675, 1593, 1522, 1284, 1217, 960, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 354.1101. Found: 354.1100.



1u. White solid, 0.76 g, 80% yield, mp 134.5-135.7 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.16 (s, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.46 (m, 7H), 6.95 – 6.90 (m, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.1, 165.8, 146.2, 141.4, 139.1, 134.6, 134.3, 132.1, 131.9, 129.6, 128.8, 128.2, 127.4, 123.0, 121.6, 120.5, 22.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3280, 3061, 2926, 1682, 1599, 1530, 1293, 1270, 935, 798, 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1152. Found: 338.1158.



1v.^[7] White solid, 0.40 g, 40% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.68 (s, 1H), 8.66 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.13 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.43 (m, 7H), 6.58 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.3, 166.0, 164.7, 144.3, 139.4, 136.4, 134.4, 131.9, 131.5, 129.1, 128.7, 128.1, 127.3, 115.4, 109.2, 104.5, 55.5.



1w. White solid, 0.49 g, 86% yield, mp 85.3-86.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 9.71 (s, 1H), 7.93 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.40 (m, 7H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.1, 165.4, 137.6, 136.5, 135.8, 134.8, 134.1, 133.0, 132.4, 131.8, 130.4, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 127.4, 125.1, 19.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3303, 1664, 1509, 1486, 1317, 778, 741, 706, 668; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1150. Found: 338.1147.



1x. Yellow solid, 0.61 g, 60% yield, mp 119.0-121.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.78 (s, 1H), 8.88 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.75 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.47 (m, 8H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.0, 165.7, 139.5, 138.0, 134.2, 134.1, 133.0, 132.8, 132.2, 129.8, 128.8, 128.5, 127.3, 127.2, 124.3, 122.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3303, 3062, 1684, 1637, 1512, 1396, 1288, 1244, 951, 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄ClNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 358.0605. Found: 358.0610.



1y. Yellow solid, 1.06 g, 70% yield, mp 117.4-118.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.78 (s, 1H), 8.84 – 8.80 (m, 1H), 8.06 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.76 – 7.70 (m, 4H), 7.66 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.9, 165.7, 140.0, 138.0, 137.1, 135.9, 134.2, 132.9, 132.2, 129.8, 128.8, 128.5, 127.3, 124.7, 123.2, 114.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3299, 2917, 2926, 1683, 1577, 1511, 1492, 1287, 1259, 948, 833, 699; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄BrNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 404.0080. Found: 404.0083.



1z. White solid, 0.28 g, 73% yield, mp 158.0-160.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.71 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.35 (m, 6H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 194.8, 165.4, 136.5, 135.6, 135.3, 134.0, 133.6, 133.0, 132.0, 130.3, 129.3, 128.5, 128.2, 127.3, 126.2, 120.8. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3291, 3062, 1667, 1597, 1509, 1485, 1316, 1283, 751, 703, 655; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄BrNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 404.0081. Found: 404.0083.



The corresponding substituted benzoyl chloride was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[8–9] **1ak**. Yellow solid, 295.2 mg, 87% yield, mp 114.9-116.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.89 (s, 1H), 8.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 3.08 – 2.94 (m, 2H), 2.56 – 2.42 (m, 2H), 2.40 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 2.18 – 2.13 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 2.04 (m, 2H), 2.02 – 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.70 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.45 (m, 4H), 0.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃):

δ = 220.4, 200.1, 165.8, 144.1, 141.1, 138.7, 137.1, 134.5, 133.9, 132.2, 131.9, 129.7, 128.2, 125.7, 124.3, 122.9, 121.9, 121.3, 50.4, 47.8, 44.4, 37.7, 35.7, 31.4, 29.3, 26.2, 25.5, 21.5, 13.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3289, 2925, 1738, 1526, 1447, 1261, 715, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₂H₃₁NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 500.2202. Found: 500.2195.



The corresponding substituted benzoyl chloride was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[9] **1a**l. Yellow solid, 0.32 g, 54% yield, mp 146.0-148.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 12.16$ (s, 1H), 8.98 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.14 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.09 – 7.99 (m, 3H), 7.82 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.59 (m, 4H), 7.57 – 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.21 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 6H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 200.2$, 165.7, 158.8, 141.2, 141.0, 138.8, 138.75, 135.4, 134.6, 134.0, 132.4, 132.2, 131.4, 131.1, 129.7, 129.6, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 126.4, 125.8, 125.6, 124.5, 123.8, 122.9, 122.0, 121.4, 112.0, 55.0, 40.5, 37.1, 37.0, 29.0. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3303, 2904, 2849, 1679, 1602, 1582, 1448, 1238, 700, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₁H₃₇NNaO₃ [M+Na]⁺: 614.2671. Found: 614.2668.



The corresponding substituted benzoyl chloride was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[9–10] **1am**. White solid, 0.58 g, 60% yield, mp 105.7-107.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.08 (s, 1H), 8.88 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (s, 1H), 8.24 – 8.22 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.14 (td, *J* = 7.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.98 (td, *J* = 10.8, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.16 – 2.13 (m, 1H), 2.06 – 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.74 – 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.51 (m, 2H), 1.21 – 1.05 (m, 2H), 0.95 – 0.87 (m, 7H), 0.80 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.1, 165.1, 164.8, 140.8, 138.6, 134.9, 134.5, 133.9, 132.8, 132.3,

131.6, 131.1, 129.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 123.1, 122.3, 121.3, 75.2, 47.0, 40.8, 34.2, 31.4, 26.3, 23.4, 22.0, 20.7, 16.3. IR (thin film): ν_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3287, 2956, 2927, 1717, 1584, 1449, 1262, 705, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₁H₃₃NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 506.2307. Found: 506.2309.



The corresponding substituted benzoyl chloride was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[9] **1an**. Yellow solid, 412.0 mg, 94% yield, mp 89.0-90.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.95$ (s, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 4H), 1.33 (s, 6H), 1.30 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 164.8$, 149.0, 144.8, 144.4, 142.4, 139.2, 138.0, 133.7, 132.7, 131.5, 131.4, 129.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 127.1, 127.0, 123.5, 122.3, 119.1, 116.6, 112.2, 97.0, 84.6, 35.22, 35.20, 34.0, 33.9, 31.9, 31.88, 19.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3319, 2958, 2924, 1683, 1583, 1448, 1294, 700, 643; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₇H₃₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 550.2722. Found: 550.2721.



The corresponding acid chloride was prepared according to the literature procedure.^[9] **1ao**. White solid, 1.2 g, 91% yield, mp 127.0-128.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.19 (s, 1H), 8.71 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.09 (td, *J* = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (ddd, *J* = 9.3, 6.5, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 5.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.78 – 1.72 (m, 1H), 1.39 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 199.7, 171.0, 140.6, 140.2, 138.5, 134.3, 133.5, 132.4, 129.8, 128.4, 128.2, 126.3, 126.0, 122.8, 121.8, 121.3, 28.1, 26.1, 16.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3312, 3061, 1690, 1521, 1448, 1262, 955, 754, 642; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 364.1308. Found: 364.1365.

2. Procedure for the synthesis of substrate 1aa.^[11]



To an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added compound **1y** (380.0 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), B₂pin₂ (508.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv), Pd₂dba₃ (46.0 mg, 0.05 mmol, 5 mol%), tricyclohexylphosphine (28.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 10 mol%), potassium acetate (197.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and 1,4-dioxane (10 mL). Then the mixture was heated to reflux and stirred for 20 h under argon. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, filtered through a short pad of silica gel, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) gave **1aa** as a white solid (0.25 g, 58% yield, mp 170.4-171.1 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.04 (s, 1H), 8.92 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 1.31 (s, 12H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 200.4, 165.8, 143.3, 141.0, 140.3, 138.8, 134.5, 132.5, 132.1, 130.0, 128.8, 128.4, 127.4, 122.5, 120.3, 84.0, 24.8. ¹¹B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 31.4 (s). IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2978, 2927, 1685, 1582, 1362, 1294, 1144, 703, 649; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₆BNNaO₄ [M+Na]*: 450.1852. Found: 450.1848.

3. Procedure for the synthesis of substrate 1ab.^[12]



Step 1: To a solution of 2-aminophenyl-(phenyl)methanone (986.0 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and K₂CO₃ (691.1 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (10 mL) was added allyl bromide (726.0 mg, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv) at rt. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the crude reaction mixture was filtrated through a short pad of silica gel, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) gave product **S2** as yellow oil (0.95 g, 80% yield), which was directly used for the next step.

Step 2: compound **1ab** was prepared according to **RP1** (page S-3).



1ab. White solid, 0.91 g, 66% yield, mp 105.5-106.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ = 7.81 – 6.96 (m, 14H), 6.08 – 5.90 (m, 1H), 5.19 – 5.01 (m, 2H), 4.76 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 4.20 – 3.75 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ = 194.5, 168.5, 142.1, 136.2, 135.5, 135.0, 133.7, 133.3, 131.9, 130.3, 129.6, 129.58, 128.5, 128.4, 127.6, 126.7, 117.6, 52.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3061, 2920, 1663, 1595, 1340, 1265, 927, 702, 636; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 364.1308. Found: 364.1308.

4. Procedure for the synthesis of substrate 1ac.^[13]



Step 1: To a solution of 2-aminophenyl-(phenyl)methanone (986.0 mg, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in methanol (10 mL), acetic acid (1.21 g, 1.1 mL, 20.0 mmol, 4.0 equiv) was added dropwise at 0 °C. NaBH₃CN (628.4 mg, 10.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added subsequently and stirred for 5 min at this temperature. Then cinnamaldehyde (1.59 g, 12.0 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture, which was then allowed to stir for 22 h at rt. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the crude reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water, extracted with ethyl acetate (20 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 80:1) afforded the product **S3** as yellow solid (0.95 g, 61% yield), which was directly used for the next step.

Step 2: compound **1ac** was prepared according to **RP1** (page S-3).



1ac. White solid, 0.70 g, 84% yield, mp 57.2-59.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.52 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 6.99 (m, 18H), 6.54 – 6.13 (m, 2H), 5.18 – 5.04 (m, 1H), 4.42 – 4.07 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 194.6, 169.8, 142.8, 136.6, 136.5, 135.6, 133.1, 133.0, 131.4, 130.5, 130.4, 130.1, 129.5, 129.0, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 126.4, 125.0, 53.4. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3059, 2923, 1663, 1647, 1313, 1265, 967, 763, 702; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₉H₂₃NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 440.1621. Found: 440.1620.

5. Procedure for the synthesis of substrate 1ad.^[14]



To a solution of NaH (80.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in DCM (3 mL) at 0 °C, 1a (301.0 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at this temperature before iodomethane (283.9 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added. Then the reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 10 h. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the crude reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM (10 mL x 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1) afforded the desired product 1ad as colorless oil (283.5mg, 90% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.51 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.08 (m, 10H), 7.00 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 3.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 194.5, 169.8, 144.2, 136.3, 135.7, 135.2, 132.9, 131.7, 130.3, 129.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.0, 127.4, 126.2, 39.0. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3060, 2925, 1663, 1596, 1486, 1367, 765, 703, 654; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 338.1152. Found: 338.1149.

6. Representative procedure for the synthesis of substrates 1ae-1ai.



Preparation of compound 1ae. To a solution of (2-hydroxyphenyl)(phenyl)methanone **S4**

(1.98 g, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (20 mL) was added Et₃N (2.09 mL, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and benzoyl chloride (13.5 mmol, 1.56 mL, 1.35 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC). Then, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30:1) to afford compound **1ae**^[15] as a colorless oil (1.89 g, 63% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.84 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.80 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 194.8, 164.6, 148.8, 137.6, 133.5, 132.9, 132.2, 131.9, 130.4, 130.0, 129.7, 128.8, 128.31, 128.27, 125.8, 123.3.

The following substrates **1af–1aj** were prepared analogously.



1af. Yellow solid, 373 mg, 66% yield, mp 99.4-99.7 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.72 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.17– 7.13 (m, 4H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 194.5, 164.6, 148.8, 144.3, 143.8, 135.0, 132.2, 131.8, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 128.99, 128.95, 126.2, 125.6, 123.3, 21.7, 21.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2920, 1732, 1659, 1603, 1446, 1297, 1262, 1197, 1176, 1100, 1061, 1017, 929; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₈O₃Na [M+Na]⁺: 353.1148. Found: 353.1146.



1ag. Yellow solid, 946 mg, 95% yield, mp 73.0-74.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.17 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.72 (m, 5H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 193.1, 192.6, 164.3, 151.3, 135.7, 134.4, 133.7, 131.9, 131.1, 130.0, 129.9, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 127.1, 126.6, 124.0. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2921, 2851, 1742,

1663, 1599, 1449, 1247, 1192, 1177, 1104, 1047, 1019, 702, 633; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₄O₄Na [M+Na]⁺: 353.0784. Found: 353.0779.



1ah. White solid, 251 mg, 41% yield, mp 130.0-130.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.12 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.65 (m, 5H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.4, 191.2, 163.5, 150.9, 141.4, 140.5, 135.9, 131.3, 131.2, 130.2, 129.0, 128.6, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 123.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2920, 2850, 1634, 1470, 1384, 1092, 1015; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₂Cl₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺: 421.0005. Found: 421.0006.



1ai. White solid, 250 mg, 21% yield, mp 113.6-114.2 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.12 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.56 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 5H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.4, 191.4, 163.7, 150.9, 135.9, 132.1, 131.7, 131.33, 131.3, 131.2, 130.6, 130.3, 129.2, 127.1, 127.0, 126.9, 123.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2921, 2851, 1741, 1654, 1586, 1398, 1255, 1195, 1132, 1072, 1052, 1009, 748, 632; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₂Br₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺: 510.8974. Found: 510.8984.



1aj. Colorless oil, 50 mg, 16% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.90 – 7.76 (m, 4H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 196.2, 189.2, 144.0, 137.5, 137.0, 136.3, 133.6, 133.3, 130.6, 130.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 127.5, 125.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2961, 2924, 2853, 1668, 1596, 1447, 1262, 1023, 801; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₄O₂SNa [M+Na]⁺: 341.0607. Found: 341.0607.

7. Procedure for the syntheses of substrates 5m-5n.



The compounds **5m** and **5n** were prepared according to the known procedure.^[16] To a solution of anhydrous magnesium dichloride (1.9 g, 20 mmol) and solid paraformaldehyde (0.9 g, 30 mmol) in dry THF (30 mL), triethylamine (2.8 mL, 20 mmol) was added dropwise by syringe under N₂ atmosphere and the mixture is stirred for 10 min. Mecarbinate (2.3 g, 10 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and quenched with 1N HCl and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) to afford product **5m**.^[16] Product **5n** was obtained when the eluent was switched to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1.

5m.^[16] Pale yellow solid, 1.23 g, 47% yield, mp 146.1-147.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 12.56 (s, 1H), 10.94 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 198.3, 166.2, 160.6, 145.7, 130.6, 125.5, 118.3, 112.5, 111.4, 105.0, 60.1, 29.9, 14.3, 12.7.

5n. Pale yellow solid, 1.23 g, 47% yield, mp 174.8-175.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 10.73 (s, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 4.39 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 195.2, 165.1, 156.3, 151.3, 133.6, 131.0, 116.4, 114.4, 107.0, 104.1, 59.6, 29.7, 14.5, 12.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2960, 2930, 2859, 1728, 1689, 1634, 1469, 1382, 1277, 1188, 1099, 756; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₅NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 284.0893. Found: 284.0898.

8. Procedure for the synthesis of substrate S6.



Step 1: Ethyl 2-oxo-2-(p-tolyl)acetate (780 mg, 4.06 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. NBS (801 mg, 4.5 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and AIBN (66 mg, 0.4 mmol, 0.1 equiv) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1.5 h at 90°C to give a yellow solution. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound **S5** as a white solid (897 mg, 82%).

Step 2: To a Young Schlenk tube were added compound **S5** (1.2 g, 4.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), N-methylbenzylamine (0.7 mL, 5.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Et₃N (0.75 mL, 5.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and toluene (10 mL). The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the title compound **S6** as a pale yellow oil (1.26 g, 90%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.00 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.59 (s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 186.1, 163.9, 147.6, 138.8, 131.3, 130.1, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 127.1, 62.2, 62.0, 61.3, 42.3, 14.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2927, 2790, 1737, 1683, 1606, 1454, 1369, 1316, 1200, 1172, 1015, 982, 876, 741, 699; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₉H₂₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 312.1594. Found: 312.1594.

9. Representative procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction for the syntheses of indoles 2.



Preparation of compound 2a. To an oven-dried Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added $Mo(CO)_6$ (2.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), and mesitylene (0.5 mL) under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound **1a** (30.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and DPPB (85.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added to the reaction

mixture under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and passed through a short pad of silica gel (DCM/EtOAc = 1:1). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/*tert*-butyl methyl ether = 80:1 to 40:1) to afford the title compound **2a**^[17] as a white solid (25.3 mg, 94% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.8, 135.0, 134.0, 132.6, 130.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.6, 126.2, 122.6, 120.4, 119.6, 114.9, 110.9.

The following compounds **2b–2ad** were prepared analogously.



2b.^[18] Colorless oil, 26.0 mg, 92% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.5, 135.8, 135.2, 134.2, 130.1, 129.7, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.0, 126.1, 122.5, 120.3, 119.5, 114.6, 110.8, 21.2.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (2.0 mL, 0.4 mmol scale) at 160 °C. **2c.**^[19] White solid, 101.7 mg, 85% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.25 (m, 7H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.92 – 6.88 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.2, 135.7, 135.2, 134.1, 130.1, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 126.0, 125.2, 122.3, 120.3, 119.4, 114.1, 110.8, 55.2.



2d.^[18] White solid, 24.5 mg, 81% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 5H), 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ = 136.0, 134.7, 133.6, 132.8, 131.1, 130.1, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 126.5, 123.0, 120.6, 119.8, 115.6, 110.9.



2e.^[20] White solid, 29.0 mg, 86% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.29 (m, 7H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 136.2, 134.5, 132.2, 130.1, 129.3 (q, J = 32.5 Hz), 128.74, 128.7, 128.1, 126.7, 125.6 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 124.1 (q, J = 270.3 Hz), 123.4, 120.7, 120.0, 116.6, 111.1. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = – 62.5.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene/dioxane (3/2, 1.25 mL, 0.2 mmol scale) at 160 °C. **2f.**^[21] White solid, 45.8 mg, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.44 (s, 1H), 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 166.8, 137.1, 136.2, 134.6, 132.7, 130.1, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.67, 127.8, 126.6, 123.4, 120.7, 120.0, 116.7, 111.0, 52.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3346, 2921, 1721, 1699, 1607, 1281, 1111, 771, 744, 702; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₇NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 350.1157. Found: 350.1152.



2g.^[22] White solid, 29.1 mg, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.33 (s, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.84 – 7.72 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 6H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 136.1, 135.0, 134.0, 133.4, 132.6, 130.3, 130.2, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.7, 126.6, 126.4, 126.3, 126.26, 122.8, 120.5, 119.7, 115.5, 110.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3410, 3055, 1602, 1496, 1453, 1330, 773, 749, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₁₇NNa [M+Na]⁺: 342.1259. Found: 342.1254.

2h.^[18] Yellow oil, 22.1 mg, 85% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.64 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.63 (m, 3H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.31 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 7.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 – 6.41 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 147.1, 141.3, 135.4, 134.6, 130.2, 128.7, 128.6, 126.9, 125.1, 122.9, 120.4, 119.5, 114.4, 111.8, 110.8, 106.8.

2i.^[18] Brown oil, 22.3 mg, 81% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 3.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.7, 134.4, 130.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.2, 127.4, 126.8, 125.3, 125.25, 123.0, 120.5, 119.6, 115.7, 110.7.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (2.0 mL, 0.4 mmol scale) at 160 °C. **2j**.^[17] White solid, 88.0 mg, 83% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 9.32 (s, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.18 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.2, 135.8, 133.5, 130.6, 127.9, 127.7, 127.1, 125.7, 124.2, 122.8, 121.7, 120.8, 111.7, 60.9, 14.0.



2k.^[20] White solid, 25.0 mg, 87% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 5H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.10 – 7.03 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.6 (d, *J* = 243.5 Hz), 135.8, 134.1, 132.4, 131.6 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 128.7, 128.66, 128.1, 127.8, 122.7, 120.5, 119.4, 115.4 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), 113.9, 110.9. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = – 116.3.



2I.^[20] White solid, 27.0 mg, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 10H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.8, 134.3, 133.6, 132.3, 131.9, 131.3, 128.73, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 122.8, 120.6, 119.3, 113.7, 111.0.



2m.^[23] White solid, 24.1 mg, 85% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.9 , 135.7, 133.8, 132.8, 132.0, 130.0, 129.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.5, 122.6, 120.3, 119.7, 115.0, 110.9, 21.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3407, 2920, 1602, 1515, 1456, 1329, 1250, 836, 759, 696; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N [M+H]⁺: 284.1434. Found: 284.1433.



2n.^[20] White solid, 24.8 mg, 83% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 10.57$ (s, 1H), 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.36 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 7.00 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 158.4$, 136.6, 133.9, 133.2, 131.1, 129.0, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.3, 122.1, 119.7, 119.0, 114.1, 114.0, 111.3, 54.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3419, 2923, 1603, 1513, 1244, 1178, 1026, 771, 696; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}NO$ [M+H]⁺: 300.1388. Found: 300.1384.



20.^[23] White solid, 22.6 mg, 82% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 136.4, 135.6, 135.2, 132.2, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.2, 126.2, 124.5, 122.9, 120.6, 119.8, 110.9, 107.9.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (1.0 mL, 0.2 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2p.**^[24] White solid, 36.0 mg, 87% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.8, 134.0, 133.3, 130.0, 128.8, 127.7, 127.3, 122.3, 119.5, 119.0, 110.7, 108.7, 9.6.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (2.0 mL, 0.4 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2q.**^[24] Yellow oil, 60.2 mg, 64% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, $C_{3}D_{6}O$): $\delta = 10.22$ (s, 1H), 7.71 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 2.96 – 2.89 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $C_{3}D_{6}O$): $\delta = 137.4$, 135.0, 134.6, 130.3, 129.5, 128.7, 128.0, 122.5, 119.71, 119.7, 113.7, 111.9, 27.5, 25.0, 14.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3409, 3057, 2958, 1539, 1457, 1306, 757, 741, 696; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{17}H_{18}N$ [M+H]⁺: 236.1439. Found: 236.1434.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (1.0 mL, 0.2 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2r**. White solid, 28.2 mg, 51% yield, mp 149.8-151.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₃D₆O): δ = 10.14 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.19 – 2.07 (m, 2H), 1.89 – 1.73 (m, 5H), 1.45 – 1.34 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C₃D₆O): δ = 137.8, 134.8, 134.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 128.3, 122.0, 121.6, 119.3, 118.6, 112.2, 37.4, 34.0, 27.9, 27.0. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3399, 2922, 2852, 1455, 1447, 1309, 761, 743, 696; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₂N [M+H]⁺: 276.1747. Found: 276.1749.



2s.^[25] Yellow oil, 26.3 mg, 93% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_3D_6O): δ = 10.51 (s, 1H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 6H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_3D_6O): δ = 136.8, 135.9, 135.2, 134.0, 131.0, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.2, 126.9, 124.7, 119.4, 114.7, 111.9, 21.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3416, 2923, 2851, 1464, 1432, 764, 698; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}N$ [M+H]⁺: 284.1439. Found: 284.1435.



2t.^[24] White solid, 25.5 mg, 85% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 10.47$ (s, 1H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 7.09 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 155.6$, 136.8, 135.8, 133.9, 132.6, 130.9, 129.9, 129.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.2, 126.9, 115.0, 113.4, 112.9, 101.4, 55.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3409, 2923, 1621, 1506, 1488, 1160, 1033, 761, 699; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{21}H_{17}NNaO$ [M+Na]⁺: 322.1208. Found: 322.1203.



2u.^[25] Colorless oil, 24.9 mg, 88% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.06 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 136.3, 135.2, 133.4, 132.8,

132.6, 130.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.4, 126.6, 126.1, 122.2, 119.3, 114.9, 110.8, 21.7.



2v.^[26] White solid, 23.4 mg, 78% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₃D₆O): δ = 10.45 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C₃D₆O): δ = 157.9, 138.3, 136.8, 134.0, 133.8, 130.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.8, 128.0, 126.9, 124.0, 120.5, 115.0, 111.0, 95.2, 55.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3331, 2923, 2852, 1601, 1457, 1197, 1029, 814, 763, 697; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₈NO [M+H]⁺: 300.1388. Found: 300.1383.



2w.^[17] White solid, 25.2 mg, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.35 (m, 6H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 2.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.4, 135.2, 133.9, 132.8, 130.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.6, 126.1, 123.2, 120.7, 120.0, 117.4, 115.6, 16.6.



2x.^[18] Yellow oil, 27.2mg, 90% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 6H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 135.4, 134.3, 134.1, 132.1, 130.0, 129.8, 128.69, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 126.5, 126.1, 122.9, 119.0, 114.7, 111.9.

2y.^[25] Yellow oil, 28.5 mg, 82% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 10.85$ (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 136.7$, 136.0, 135.8, 133.2, 131.3, 130.9, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 127.3, 125.7, 122.1, 114.6, 114.1, 113.6. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3407, 2918, 1601, 1507, 1449, 1307, 1071, 762, 698; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{20}H_{15}BrN$ [M+H]⁺: 348.0388. Found: 348.0386.



2z. White solid, 28.5 mg, 82% yield, mp 109.0-110.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.42 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.32 (m, 11H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 134.7, 134.6, 134.5, 132.1, 130.1, 129.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 126.5, 124.8, 121.5, 118.9, 116.0, 104.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3429, 3059, 2921, 1602, 1505, 1449, 1305, 783, 723, 607; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₅BrN [M+H]⁺: 348.0382. Found: 348.0384.



2aa. White solid, 30.5 mg, 77% yield, mp 210.1-213.2 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 10.76$ (s, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.41 (m, 7H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 1.32 (s, 12H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, C_3D_6O): $\delta = 139.4$, 136.5, 135.2, 133.6, 131.1, 129.5, 129.43, 129.4, 129.0, 128.4, 127.6, 127.2, 115.6, 111.5, 84.0, 25.2. ¹¹B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 31.1$ (s). IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3309, 2925, 2853, 1602, 1430, 1353, 1144, 1070, 858, 699; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{26}H_{27}BNO_2$ [M+H]⁺: 396.2134. Found: 396.2132.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (1.0 mL, 0.2 mmol scale) at 160 °C. **2ab.**^[27] White solid, 51.6 mg, 83% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 8H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 6.12 – 5.99 (m, 1H), 5.29 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.81 – 4.72 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.5, 136.8, 135.1, 133.7, 131.8, 131.0, 129.8, 128.3, 128.12, 128.1, 127.2, 125.5, 122.2, 120.3, 119.7, 116.6, 115.4, 110.3, 46.4. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3058, 2921, 1602, 1461, 1363, 1215, 743 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₉NNa [M+Na]⁺: 332.1415. Found: 332.1412.



2ac. White solid, 32.7 mg, 85% yield, mp 76.2-76.5 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ = 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 7H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 7H), 7.32 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.6, 136.9, 136.4, 135.1, 131.9, 131.6, 131.1, 129.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.3, 126.4, 125.5, 125.3, 122.3, 120.4, 119.7, 115.5, 110.3, 46.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3058, 2924, 2853, 1602, 1461, 1362, 1264, 966, 741, 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₉H₂₃NNa [M+Na]⁺: 408.1723. Found: 408.1728.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of $Mo(CO)_6$ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (1.0 mL, 0.2 mmol scale) at 160 °C. **2ad.**^[28] White solid, 46.4 mg, 82% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.92 – 7.89 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.33 (m, 11H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 137.7, 137.3, 135.2, 131.9, 131.1, 129.8, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0, 125.5, 122.2, 120.2, 119.6, 115.1, 109.5, 30.9.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of $Mo(CO)_6$ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone in mesitylene (1.0 mL, 0.05 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2ak**. White solid, 20.1 mg, 90% yield, mp 145.4-147.3 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 2.88 – 2.87 (m, 2H), 2.57 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.42 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.23 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 2.13 – 1.95 (m, 3H), 1.73 – 1.45 (m, 6H), 0.95 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 220.7, 139.3, 136.8, 135.8, 135.2, 134.0, 130.2, 130.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.2, 126.1, 125.6, 125.57, 122.5, 120.3, 119.5, 114.7, 110.8, 50.5, 47.9, 44.4, 38.0, 35.8, 31.5, 29.3, 26.4, 25.6, 21.5, 13.8. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3354, 2926, 2855, 1732, 1456, 1250, 742, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₂H₃₂NO [M+H]⁺: 446.2484. Found: 446.2471.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone, PCy₃ (2.4 equiv) in mesitylene/dioxane (1/1, 1.0 mL, 0.05 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2al**. White solid, 26.3 mg, 94% yield, mp 260.0-263.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 2H), 7.83 – 7.73 (m, 4H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 6H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 158.6, 139.4, 138.9, 136.1, 135.0, 134.2, 133.0, 132.9, 132.2, 130.2, 129.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 128.25, 126.7, 126.3, 125.9, 125.5, 124.8, 122.8, 120.5, 119.7, 115.4, 112.1, 110.9, 55.1, 40.6, 37.2, 37.1, 29.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3407, 2904, 2850, 1603, 1489, 1238, 1029, 742, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₄₁H₃₈NO [M+H]⁺: 560.2953. Found: 560.2936.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 30 mol% of Mo(CO)₆ and 30 mol% of *o*-quinone, PCy₃ (2.4 equiv) in mesitylene/dioxane (1/1, 1.0 mL, 0.05 mmol scale) at 180 °C. **2am**. White solid, 22.0 mg, 98% yield, mp 126.1-128.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.19 – 8.15 (m, 1H), 7.96 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.24 (m, 8H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (td, *J* = 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.10 – 2.07 (m, 1H), 1.94 – 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.75 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.45 (m, 2H), 1.18 – 1.01 (m, 2H), 0.98 – 0.88 (m, 7H), 0.78 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 165.8, 136.0, 134.8, 132.9, 132.88, 132.5, 131.4, 130.2, 128.7, 128.67, 128.63, 128.61, 128.56, 126.5, 123.0, 120.5, 119.8, 115.8, 111.0, 75.1, 47.1, 40.9, 34.3, 31.4, 26.4, 23.5, 22.0, 20.8, 16.4. IR (thin film): v_{max}

(cm⁻¹) = 3345, 2956, 2925, 1714, 1694, 1289, 1275, 742; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₁H₃₃NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 474.2409. Found: 474.2408.



2an. White solid, 40.2 mg, 81% yield, mp 134.0-134.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 4H), 1.35 (s, 6H), 1.31 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 149.2, 144.1, 142.2, 140.2, 138.4, 135.9, 135.1, 133.8, 132.8, 131.6, 130.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 126.9, 126.2, 122.7, 120.4, 119.7, 115.2, 114.9, 110.8, 35.23, 35.22, 34.0, 33.9, 31.9, 31.89, 19.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3411, 2957, 2925, 1602, 1456, 849, 773, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₇H₃₈N [M+H]⁺: 496.3004. Found: 496.2984.

10. Procedure for the gram-scale reaction of substrate 1a.



To a Young Schlenk tube (100 mL) was added Mo(CO)₆ (132.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (110.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 10 mol%), and mesitylene (20 mL) under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to rt, compound **1a** (1.51 g, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and PPh₃ (3.15 g, 12.0 mmol, 2.4 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C for 84 h (*Caution*: a protective shield should be installed around the Young Schlenk tube when the reaction was carried out in big scale because of the risk of explosion due to CO release). After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the mixture was cooled to rt, and passed through a short pad of silica gel (DCM/EtOAc = 1:1). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/*tert*-butyl methyl ether = 80:1 to 40:1) to afford the compound **2a** as a white solid (1.21 g, 90% yield).

11. Representative procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction for the syntheses of benzofurans **2**.



Preparation of compound 2ae. In a glovebox, Mo(CO)₆ (5.3 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%) and toluene (1.0 mL) were added to a Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) equipped with a stirring bar. The tube was sealed and transferred out of the glovebox and the mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, the tube was transferred to the glovebox and compound **1ae** (60.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DPPB (102.2 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and toluene (1.0 mL) were added to the reaction mixture. Then, the tube was sealed and transferred out of the glovebox and the mixture was sealed and transferred out of the glovebox and the mixture was cooled to rt, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) to give compound **2ae**^[29] as a white solid (52.4 mg, 97% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.73 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 5H), 7.47 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 154.0, 150.5, 132.8, 130.6, 130.2, 129.8, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 127.0, 124.7, 122.9, 120.0, 117.5, 111.1.

The following compounds **2af–2aj** were prepared analogously.



2af.^[29] Colorless oil, 55.0 mg, 92% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 153.9, 150.6, 138.2, 137.2, 130.4, 129.9, 129.63, 129.6, 129.1, 128.0, 126.9, 124.4, 122.7, 119.9, 116.7, 111.0, 21.3.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 2.4 equiv of PPh₃ instead of DPPB in toluene at 160 °C. **2ag.**^[30] Yellow solid, 44.5 mg, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.24 (m, 7H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 192.4, 157.7, 153.8, 137.8, 133.1, 129.8, 129.7, 129.4, 128.44, 128.44, 128.38, 125.3, 123.8, 121.5, 116.1, 111.2.



2ag'.^[31] Minor isomer. Yellow solid, 7.0 mg, 11% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.33 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.24 (m, 11H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 177.3, 161.5, 156.1, 133.7, 133.3, 132.8, 131.2, 130.1, 129.6, 128.3, 128.1, 127.6, 126.4, 125.1, 123.5, 123.0, 118.0.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 2.4 equiv of PPh₃ in toluene at 160 °C. **2ah**. White solid, 31.6 mg, 67% yield, mp 158.0-158.7 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.83 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 190.7, 156.3, 153.8, 139.9, 136.1, 136.0, 131.2, 129.5, 128.92, 128.85, 128.1, 127.7, 125.7, 124.1, 121.4, 116.2, 111.3. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2920, 2850, 1747, 1671, 1587, 1488, 1453, 1402, 1255, 1193, 1173, 1091, 1054, 1013, 751; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₂Cl₂O₂Na [M+Na]⁺: 389.0107. Found: 389.0108.



In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed with 2.4 equiv of PPh₃ in toluene at 160 °C. **2ai.**^[32] White solid, 56.0 mg, 62% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.57 (m, 3H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m,

1H), 7.29 - 7.24 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 190.9, 156.3, 153.8, 136.4, 131.9, 131.8, 131.3, 129.7, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 125.8, 124.5, 124.1, 121.4, 116.2, 111.4.

In lieu of the standard conditions, the reaction was performed on 0.1 mmol scale. **2aj.**^[33] White solid, 21.0 mg, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.96 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.67 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.33 (m, 9H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 140.9, 139.6, 138.9, 135.6, 134.3, 133.3, 130.5, 129.6, 128.6, 128.3, 127.7, 127.4, 124.5, 124.4, 123.4, 122.1. **12. Procedure for the gram-scale reaction of substrate 1ae.**



In a glovebox, Mo(CO)₆ (87.1 mg, 0.33 mmol, 10 mol %), 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (72.6 mg, 0.33 mmol, 10 mol %) and mesitylene (10 mL) were added to a Young Schlenk tube (100 mL) equipped with a stirring bar. The tube was sealed and transferred out of the glovebox and the mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, the tube was transferred to the glovebox and compound **1ae** (1.0 g, 3.31 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DPPB (1.7 g, 3.98 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and mesitylene (15 mL) were added to the reaction mixture. Then, the tube was sealed and transferred out of the glovebox and the mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 2 days and at 167 °C for another 2 days (*Caution*: a protective shield should be installed around the Young Schlenk tube when the reaction was carried out in big scale because of the risk of explosion due to CO release). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) to give compound **2ae** as a white solid (831 mg, 93% yield).

13. Procedure for the syntheses of compounds 2b, P2 and P3.



To an oven-dried Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added $Mo(CO)_6$ (2.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), and mesitylene (0.5 mL) under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound **1b** (31.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and DPPB (85.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under argon. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C for 12 h. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude residue, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/*tert*-butyl methyl ether = 60:1 to 40:1) to afford the title compounds **2b** as a colorless oil (26.1 mg, 92% yield). Diphosphine monoxide **P3** was obtained as a white solid (26.5 mg, 60% yield) when the eluent was switched to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1:1. Diphosphine oxide **P2** was obtained as a white solid (28.0 mg, 61% yield) when the eluent was switched to petroleum ether/ethyl acetate/methanol = 2:2:1.

P2.^[34] White solid, 28.0 mg, 61% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.72 – 7.62 (m, 8H), 7.51 – 7.34 (m, 12H), 2.35 – 2.14 (m, 4H), 1.78 – 1.60 (m, 4H). ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 31.9.

P3.^[35] White solid, 26.5 mg, 60% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.89 – 7.18 (m, 20H), 2.28 – 2.18 (m, 2H), 2.06 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.78 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.58 – 1.46 (m, 2H). ³¹P NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 31.7, –16.8.

14. Representative procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction for the syntheses of coumarin derivatives 7.



To a Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added Mo(CO)₆ (5.3 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), and toluene (1.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound **5** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), compound **6** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and PPh₃ (125.9 mg, 0.48 mmol, 2.4 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the coumarin derivatives **7**.



7a.^[36] White solid, 31.2 mg, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.30 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.5, 153.5, 139.8, 134.7, 131.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.44, 128.36, 127.9, 124.5, 119.7, 116.4.



7b.^[36] White solid, 47.9 mg, 88% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.69 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 7.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.41 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.6, 153.2, 135.7, 135.1, 132.7, 130.4, 129.14, 129.10, 128.9, 128.59, 128.55, 128.2, 127.3, 126.0, 121.4, 116.7, 113.8.


7c.^[37] Yellow solid, 54.4 mg, 95% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.63 (m, 3H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.6, 152.9, 138.8, 134.9, 132.4, 132.1, 130.2, 129.2, 129.0, 128.4, 128.0, 127.0, 125.9, 121.4, 116.6, 113.7, 21.3.



7d.^[37] Yellow solid, 58.6 mg, 97% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.65 (td, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 6.52 (m, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.7, 160.1, 152.6, 134.1, 132.1, 130.2, 129.8, 128.9, 128.0, 127.3, 126.6, 125.9, 121.3, 116.5, 113.9, 113.7, 55.3.



7e. Yellow solid, 36.0 mg, 62% yield, mp 174.8-176.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.58 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (td, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.13 (td, *J* = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.7 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz), 160.2, 153.3, 137.0 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 136.1, 133.1, 130.0 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 130.0, 129.1, 129.0, 128.3, 126.1, 125.8 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 124.2 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz), 121.3, 116.6, 115.73 (d, *J* = 21.1 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 113.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -113.4. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2928, 1724, 1581, 1444, 1267, 1072, 746; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₉H₁₁FNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 313.0635. Found: 313.0635.



7f. Yellow solid, 100.2 mg, 89% yield, mp 206.0-207.2 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.38 – 8.23 (m, 2H), 8.02 – 7.84 (m, 6H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.60 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H),

2.24 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.85 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.6, 158.6, 153.0, 139.6, 138.8, 135.5, 133.6, 132.7, 132.5, 131.9, 130.2, 129.0, 128.99, 128.8, 128.12, 128.1, 127.8, 126.8, 126.1, 126.0, 125.9, 125.7, 125.5, 124.5, 121.5, 116.5, 113.8, 112.1, 55.1, 40.6, 37.2, 37.1, 29.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2903, 2848, 1724, 1569, 1493, 1463, 1237, 1101, 1029, 811, 734; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{40}H_{34}NaO_3$ [M+Na]⁺: 585.2400. Found: 585.2395.



7g.^[37] Pale yellow solid, 39.7 mg, 71% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.75 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94 – 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.72 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.4, 152.3, 136.5, 132.5, 131.3, 130.4, 129.1, 128.9, 128.2, 127.7, 127.1, 126.1, 121.4, 120.8, 116.6, 113.6.



7h. Yellow solid, 45.6 mg, 82% yield, mp 207.0-208.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.33 – 8.16 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.1, 152.4, 134.8, 132.9, 132.4, 130.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.1, 126.2, 126.0, 125.8, 121.6, 121.3, 116.6, 113.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2926, 1717, 1465, 1273, 1124, 1072, 798, 744; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₀NaO₂S [M+Na]⁺: 301.0294. Found: 301.0291.



7i.^[38] Yellow solid, 23.4 mg, 42% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (td, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (td, *J* = 7.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.94 – 2.82 (m, 1H), 2.06 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 2H), 1.92 – 1.80 (m, 3H), 1.53 – 1.38 (m, 4H), 1.37 – 1.28 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.6, 152.0, 134.0, 131.9, 131.6, 130.3, 128.9, 127.8, 125.7, 121.4, 116.7, 113.5, 38.6, 32.2, 26.5, 26.2.



7j.^[39] White solid, 46.6 mg, 86% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.63 – 8.57 (m, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.92 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.81 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.40 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.6, 150.6, 140.5, 134.8, 134.6, 128.8, 128.53, 128.49, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 127.2, 124.5, 123.7, 122.9, 122.3, 115.1.

7k. Pale yellow solid, 48.4 mg, 89% yield, mp 200.3-202.0 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.98 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.1, 152.8, 150.0, 145.5, 134.6, 134.5, 133.9, 129.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 124.3, 122.5, 120.2, 113.5. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2927, 1728, 1601, 1468, 1282, 830, 812, 745, 702; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₁NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 296.0682. Found: 296.0685.



7I.^[40] Pale yellow solid, 25.4 mg, 47% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 9.00 (s, 1H), 8.48 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 - 7.38 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.4, 155.9, 149.0, 148.9, 137.6, 134.1, 131.7, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 122.0, 117.6, 111.4.



7m. Pale yellow solid, 58.1 mg, 80% yield, mp 177.4-178.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ =
9.60 (s, 1H), 7.87 - 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.49 - 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.40 - 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100

MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 165.6, 160.8, 151.1, 145.6, 140.8, 135.7, 133.0, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 124.8, 122.1, 112.7, 112.3, 111.4, 106.3, 60.3, 30.1, 14.4, 13.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3087, 2932, 1709, 1588, 1440, 1376, 1287, 1184, 1149, 1098, 960, 787, 704, 619; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 384.1206. Found: 384.1200.



7n. Pale yellow solid, 44.8 mg, 62% yield, mp 215.9-217.4 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 4.38 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H), 1.46 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 165.3, 161.2, 149.6, 149.1, 140.5, 135.0, 133.8, 129.2, 128.3, 125.6, 115.0, 107.6, 107.1, 104.4, 59.7, 29.9, 14.5, 12.1. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2929, 1715, 1630, 1467, 1418, 1178, 1094, 967, 784, 695; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 384.1206. Found: 384.1208.



70. Pale yellow solid, 39.5 mg, 57% yield, mp 190.9-192.1 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 5.98 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.6, 153.1, 153.0, 148.9, 141.3, 137.7, 132.3, 130.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.0, 125.8, 125.0, 121.5, 116.8, 116.3, 113.6, 110.3, 101.5, 95.5, 56.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2933, 2787, 1718, 1617, 1572, 1508, 1452, 1386, 1282, 1236, 1199, 1150, 1009, 737, 700; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₁H₁₄NaO₅ [M+Na]⁺: 369.0733. Found: 369.0729.



7p.^[41] Viscous yellow oil, 64.5 mg, 78% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.69 - 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 - 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35 - 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27 - 7.23 (m, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.0, 152.6, 149.4, 146.4, 139.7, 139.6, 139.1, 133.7, 128.9, 128.2, 127.0, 125.0, 112.3, 107.9, 99.6, 61.8, 61.4, 56.4, 56.3, 42.2. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2918, 1714, 1578, 1491, 1439, 1370, 1266, 1195, 1042, 1012, 928, 814, 736; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 438.1676. Found: 438.1673.

15. Procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction for the synthesis of 2-pyrone 10.



To a Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added $Mo(CO)_6$ (5.3 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5di-tert-butyl-o-benzoquinone (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), and mesitylene (1.0 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound 8 (44.8 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), compound 9 (53.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and DPPB (102.4 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and passed through a short pad of silica gel (DCM/EtOAc = 1:1). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 60:1 to 30:1) to afford the title compound 10^[42] as a yellow solid (37.6 mg, 58% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.00 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.16 (m, 10H), 6.87 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.6, 158.2, 152.6, 137.7, 133.7, 131.3, 130.8, 130.7, 128.9, 128.64, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6, 125.5, 123.0, 104.9. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2922, 2852, 1708, 1627, 1532, 1449, 1350, 766, 701; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₁₆NaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 347.1043. Found: 347.1067.

II. Investigation of other quinones and transition-metal carbonyl complexes.

Table S1. Investigation of other quinones.^a

	O Mo(CO) ₆ (Ph quinone ($10 \text{ mol\%}) \\ 10 \text{ mol\%}) \\ equiv) \\ 80 ^{\circ}\text{C}, 12 \text{ h} \\ 23 \\ 72 \\ 72 \\ 72 \\ 72 \\ 72 \\ 72 \\ 72$		
	NH DPPB (2 mesitylene, 1			
		Za		
entry	quinone	yield ^b (%)	conv. ^b (%)	
1	<i>o</i> -quinone	>95	>95	
2	Q1	trace	22	
3	Q2	54	57	
4	Q3	15	16	

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: the reaction was performed with Mo(CO)₆/quinone, DPPB (2 equiv) on 0.1 mmol scale in mesitylene (0.5 mL) at 180 °C. ^{*b*} Yield and conversion were determined by ¹H NMR using CH₂Br₂ as internal standard.



Table S2. Investigation of other transition-metal carbonyl complexes.^a

Ph	metal (x mol%) <i>o</i> -quinone (10 mol%)	Ph	
NH O Ph	DPPB (2 equiv) mesitylene, 160 ^o C, 22 h	N H	^t Bu O
1a		2a	o-quinone
entry	metal	x (mol%)	yield ^b (%)
1	Cr(CO) ₆	10	n.r. ^c
2	W(CO) ₆	10	n.r. ^c
3	Fe ₂ (CO) ₉	5	n.r. ^c
4	Ru ₃ (CO) ₁₂	3.3	n.r. ^{<i>c</i>}
5	Mn ₂ (CO) ₁₂	5	n.r. ^c

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: the reaction was performed with metal/*o*-quinone, DPPB (2 equiv) on 0.1 mmol scale in mesitylene (0.5 mL) at 160 °C. ^{*b*} Yield was determined by ¹H NMR using CH₂Br₂ as internal standard. ^{*c*} No reaction.

III. Mechanistic studies.

1. General procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction of

compound 1a in the presence of radical scavengers.



To a Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added Mo(CO)₆ (2.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), 3,5di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (2.2 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), and mesitylene (0.5 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound **1a** (30.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), the corresponding additive (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and DPPB (85.3 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and passed through a short pad of silica gel (DCM/EtOAc = 1:1). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/*tert*-butyl methyl ether = 80:1 to 40:1) to afford the title compound **2a** as a white solid.

2. Procedure for the Mo-catalyzed carbonyl-carbonyl olefination reaction of compound 1ao.



To a Young Schlenk tube (10 mL) were added Mo(CO)₆ (7.9 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%), 3,5di-*tert*-butyl-*o*-benzoquinone (6.6 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%), and mesitylene (2.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 160 °C for 15 min. After cooling to ambient temperature, compound **1ao** (34.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PCy₃ (67.3 mg, 0.24 mmol, 2.4 equiv) were added to the reaction mixture under N₂ atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 180 °C. After the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and passed through a short pad of silica gel (DCM/EtOAc = 1:1). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude mixture, which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate= 80:1 to 30:1) to afford the title compound **2ao** as a white solid (25.1 mg, 81% yield, mp 114.9-115.5 °C). The relative configuration of product **2ao** was determined by 2D-NMR analysis. For details, see the NMR spectra in Page S-228 to S-235. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.58 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.28 (dt, *J* = 9.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (dt, *J* = 8.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.44 (dt, *J* = 8.9, 5.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.2, 135.0, 134.9, 134.87, 129.6, 128.4, 128.37, 127.9, 126.0, 125.8, 125.77, 121.9, 120.2, 118.9, 115.5, 110.5, 26.0, 20.3, 16.7. IR (thin film): v_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 3419, 2925, 1603, 1460, 1075, 772, 697; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₃H₂₀N [M+H]⁺: 310.1590. Found: 310.1587.

IV. A proposed reaction pathway for the formation of coumarins.



Preliminary mechanistic experiments were performed to gain some insights to the reaction mechanism of the coumarin forming reaction. First, the the reaction of ethyl 2-oxo-2-phenylacetate **S7** with O-methyl protected substrate **S8** was performed to probe whether the transesterification or carbonyl-carbonyl olefination occurred first (eq 2). Under the Mocatalytic conditions, no reaction was occurred while 58% yield of product **7b** could be detected when the 2-hydroxy-1-naphthaldehyde **5b** was used as the substrate (eq 1). In contrast, reaction of transesterification product **S9** which was considered as one of the possible reaction intermediates, proceeded and afforded product **3g** in 18% yield (eq 3). The low yield of this reaction might be due to the low stability of substrate **S9** under the reaction conditions. These experimental results suggested that the coumarin forming reaction might be initiated via the transesterification and followed by the intramolecular carbonyl-carbonyl olefination. Accordingly, a possible reaction pathway was proposed (Scheme S1).



Scheme S1. Plausible reaction mechanism.

V. References.

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VI. Copies of NMR spectra.





















































































































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