Supporting information

### The "Cesium Effect" Magnified: Exceptional Chemoselectivity in Cesium Ion Mediated Nucleophilic Reactions

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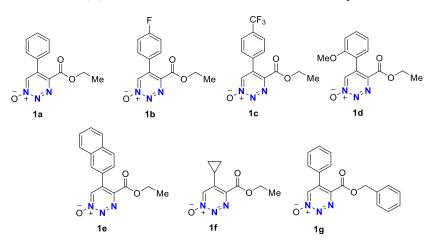
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#### 1. General conditions

All reactions, unless noted, were performed in oven-dried (150 °C) glassware with magnetic stirring under an atmosphere of air. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using EM Science silica gel 60 F254 plates; visualization was accomplished with UV light (254 nm). Column chromatography was performed on CombiFlash® Rf200 and Rf+ purification systems using normal phase disposable columns. NMR spectra were recorded on a on a Bruker spectrometer (500 MHz and 300 MHz) and calibrated using the resonance signal of the residual undeuterated solvent for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR [ $\delta_{\rm H}$  = 7.26 ppm (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)] and deuterated solvent for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR  $[\delta_{\rm C} = 77.16 \text{ (CDCl}_3)]$  as an internal reference at 298 K. Spectra were reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity (Mi), coupling constants (Hz), integration and assignment. The peak information was described as: br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd =doublet of doublet, m = multiplet, and comp = composite of magnetically non-equivalent protons. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were collected on Bruker instruments (126 MHz and 75 MHz) with complete proton decoupling. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were performed on a Bruker MicroTOFESI mass spectrometer with an ESI resource using CsI or LTQ ESI positive ion calibration solution as the standard. Tetrahydrofuran, dichloromethane, chloroform were purified using a JC-Meyer solvent purification system.

**Materials:** All  $\beta$ -keto-esters, DBU (1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene), DABCO (1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane), DMAP (4-dimethylaminopyridine), Et<sub>3</sub>N (triethylamine), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, CsOH, CsOAc, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, TCI, and Alfa Aesar, and they were used without further purification. 1,2,3-Triazine-1-oxides were prepared by the reported literature procedure. <sup>1,2</sup>

#### 1,2,3-Triazine 1-oxides used in the study

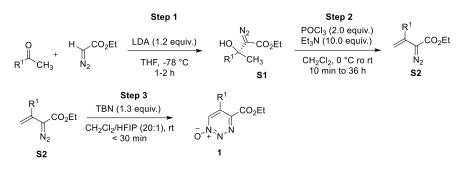


## 2. Table S1. Optimization for the reaction conditions for the formation of pyridone compounds 0

	CO <sub>2</sub> Et O + CO <sub>2</sub> Me -	Conditions Ph	Et Ph	CO <sub>2</sub> Me
	$ \overset{\odot}{}_{\oplus}\overset{\breve{N}}{N} \overset{\breve{N}}{}_{\times} \overset{\bullet}{}_{\times} \overset{\bullet}{}_{\bullet} \overset{\bullet}{}$	EtO <sub>2</sub> C	H $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$ $H$	Et
	10 20			
Entry	Conditions	Base	Yield of <b>4a</b> $(\%)^a$	Yield of <b>3a</b> $(\%)^a$
1	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 4 h, rt	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	(%)	14
2	$CHCl_{3}$ , 12 h, rt	$K_2CO_3$	-	81
3	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 72 h, rt	$Na_2CO_3$	-	42
4	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 72 h, 60 °C	$Na_2CO_3$	_	64
9b	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 24 h, rt	Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	_	_
6	THF, 6 h, rt	$Cs_2CO_3$	53	35
7	DCM, 6 h, rt	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	70	20
8	ACN, 6 h, rt	$Cs_2CO_3$	62	12
9 <sup>c</sup>	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 4 h, rt	$Cs_2CO_3$	64	18
$10^d$	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 4 h, rt	$Cs_2CO_3$	75	15
$11^e$	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 18-crown-6, 6 h, rt	$Cs_2CO_3$	-	72
12	HFIP, rt, 24 h	$Cs_2CO_3$	-	84
13	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 0 °C, 6 h	$Cs_2CO_3$	64	18
14 <sup>f</sup>	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 60 °C, 2 h	$Cs_2CO_3$	86	<5
15 <sup>g</sup>	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 60 °C, 1.5 h	$Cs_2CO_3$	93 (91)	trace
$16^{h}$	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	CsF	NR	-
$17^{i}$	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	CsOAc	NR	-
18	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , 1 h	CsOH	70	trace
19	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , rt, 24 h	Et <sub>3</sub> N	-	13
20	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , rt, 24 h	DMAP	-	95
21	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , rt, 24 h	DABCO	-	93
22	CHCl <sub>3</sub> , rt, 10 min	DBU	-	97

Reaction conditions: 1 mL solution of triazine 1-oxide 1a (0.1 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of ketoester 2a (0.15 mmol) and base (0.2 mmol) over 30 minutes. <sup>a</sup>NMR yields. Isolated yield in parenthesis. <sup>b</sup> 92% of 1a was detected. <sup>c</sup>0.5 equiv. of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>d</sup>1.0 equiv. of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. <sup>e</sup>2.0 equiv. of 18-crown-6 was used. <sup>f</sup>triazine 1-oxide 1a was added at rt and then temperature was increased to 60 °C. g triazine 1-oxide 1a was added to a preheated solution of ketoester 2a (0.15 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> at 60 °C. <sup>h</sup>94% of 1a was detected. <sup>i</sup>93% of 1a was detected.

#### 3. General procedure for the synthesis of 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide compounds 1a-1g

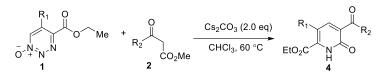


**Step 1**: Following the reported procedure.<sup>1</sup> To a solution of ketone (10.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv.) and ethyl diazoacetate (10.0 mmol, 1.00 equiv.) in 20 mL of dry THF at -78 °C, was slowly added a solution of freshly prepared LDA (12.0 mmol, 1.20 equiv. 1.0 M in THF) over 30 minutes using a syringe pump. The resulting solution was quenched with water after stirring at -78 °C for 1-2 h. The reaction solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 15 mL), and the combined organic layer was washed with brine and then dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was evaporated, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (% hexanes in ethyl acetate = 2%-10%) to give the  $\beta$ -hydroxy diazo **S1** compounds in 45%-83% yield. These compounds are stable at 0 °C and could be stored for months.

**Step 2**: Following the reported procedure.<sup>1</sup> To a solution of the **S1** compound (1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.4 mL, 10 mmol, 10 equiv.) in 10 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 0 °C was slowly added a solution of POCl<sub>3</sub> (300 mg, 2.0 mmol, 2 equiv.) in 4 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> over 5 min. The reaction solution was warmed to room temperature, and the progress of the reaction was followed by TLC until consumption of the  $\beta$ -hydroxy diazo compound was complete. The reaction solution was quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was evaporated, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (% ethyl acetate in hexanes = 2%-5%) to give the vinyl diazo S2 compound in 50%-90% yield. These compounds are not stable, slowly undergoing intramolecular cycloaddition to pyrazoles, and were used immediately following their preparation.

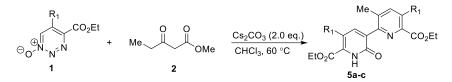
**Step 3**: Following the reported procedure,<sup>2</sup> <sup>*t*</sup>BuONO (1.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv.) was added to 10 mL solution containing 20:1 v/v DCM:HFIPA (HFIPA = hexafluoroisopropyl alcohol), and the vinyl diazo compound **S2** (1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv., 0.10 M in DCM) was added dropwise to the solution over 5 minutes. The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature under air for 1 h. After the solvent was evaporated, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (% ethyl acetate in hexanes = 20%-50%) to give the 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide **1** in 80%-99% yields. These compounds are bench stable and could be stored for months.

#### 4. General procedures for synthesis of pyridone and pyridylpyridone compounds Synthesis of pyridone compounds from 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxides and β-ketoesters.



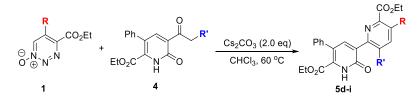
A chloroform solution (1.0 mL) of 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide derivative **1** (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added dropwise over 30 minutes to a 1.0 mL solution of CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing  $\beta$ -keto ester **2** (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and a Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mmol, 65.2 mg) at 60 °C. The reaction was continued for 30-90 minutes at same temperature. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, then diluted with 5.0 mL of dichloromethane. The organic layer was washed with saturated ammonium chloride solution (5.0 mL) followed by water and brine solution, then dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The product mixture was purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate in hexanes = 20-60%) to give the pyridone compound **4** with yields of 80-94%.

#### Synthesis of symmetrical pyridylpyridones compounds from 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxides and βketoesters.



A chloroform solution (1.0 mL) of 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide derivative **1** (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added dropwise over 30 minutes to a 0.5 mL solution of CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing  $\beta$ -keto ester **2** (0.05 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) and a Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol, 32.5 mg) at 60 °C. The reaction was continued for 4-6 h at same temperature. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, then diluted with 5.0 mL of dichloromethane. The organic layer was washed with saturated ammonium chloride solution (5.0 mL) followed by water and brine solution, then dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The product mixture was purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate in hexanes = 30-70%) to give 2-pyridyl-3-pyridones **9a-c** with yields of 86-90%.

# Synthesis of unsymmetrical pyridylpyridones compounds from 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxides and pyridones.



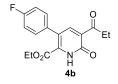
1,2,3-Triazine 1-oxide derivative 1 (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added all at once to a 1.0 mL solution of CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing pyridone 4 (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and  $Cs_2CO_3$  (0.2 mmol, 65.2 mg) at 60 °C. The reaction was continued for 4-12 h at same temperature. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, then diluted with 5.0 mL of dichloromethane. The organic layer was washed with saturated ammonium chloride

solution (5.0 mL) followed by water and brine solution, then dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The product mixture was purified by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate in hexanes = 30-70%) to give 2-pyridyl-3-pyridones **9d-i** with yields of 72-90%.

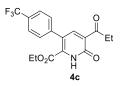
#### 5. Analytical and spectral characterization data for products



**Ethyl 6-Oxo-3-phenyl-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4a:** White solid (27.2 mg, 91% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 108-110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.02 (br s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.37 (comp, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.2, 162.1, 160.6, 146.2, 137.5, 136.7, 129.0, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 125.4, 62.9, 35.6, 13.59, 8.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 300.1230; Found: 300.1229.



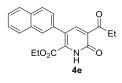
**Ethyl 3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6-oxo-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4b:** White solid (26.9 mg, 85% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 142-144 °C. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.95 (br s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.0, 162.8 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 240$  Hz), 161.9, 160.4, 146.1, 132.7, 132.6, 130.8, 130.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 8$  Hz), 124.3, 115.4 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 21$  Hz), 63.1, 35.8, 13.7, 8.0. <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.5. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO4 318.1136; Found: 318.1134.



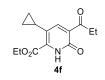
**Ethyl 6-Oxo-5-propionyl-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4c;** White solid (30.8 mg, 84% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 165-167 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 10.31 (br s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  200.8, 161.5, 160.5, 145.7, 140.5, 130.5 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 32$  Hz), 129.4, 125.4 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 3$  Hz), 125.2, 123.7, 123.4 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 289$  Hz), 123.0, 63.2, 35.8, 13.5, 8.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 368.1104; Found: 368.1102.



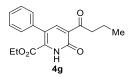
**Ethyl 3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4d**; White solid (29.6 mg, 90% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 140-142 °C. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.27 (br s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (comp, 1H), 6.89-6.78 (comp, 2H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.20 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.3, 162.2, 160.7, 159.6, 146.0, 145.9, 137.9, 129.5, 129.4, 125.2, 121.3, 114.6, 113.7, 62.9, 55.5, 35.6, 13.6, 8.0. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 330.1336; Found: 330.1334.



**Ethyl 3-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-6-oxo-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4e**; White solid (32.1 mg, 92% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 155-157 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.41 (br s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.83 (comp, 3H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.55-7.51 (comp, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.2, 162.0, 160.6, 146.4, 134.1, 133.1, 132.9, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.9, 127.8, 127.0, 126.9, 126.7, 125.3, 63.0, 35.8, 13.6, 8.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 350.1387; Found: 350.1385.

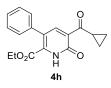


**Ethyl 3-Cyclopropyl-6-oxo-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate**, **4f**; White solid (21.0 mg, 80% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 98-100 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.93 (br s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (tt, *J* = 8.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.08- 0.97 (comp, 2H), 0.72-0.70 (comp, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  200.7, 161.4, 159.6, 142.8, 127.9, 126.8, 126.5, 63.2, 36.2, 14.3, 11.2, 8.1, 7.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 264.1230; Found: 264.1227.

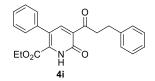


**Ethyl 5-Butyryl-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4g**; White solid (29.4 mg, 94% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl

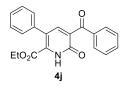
acetate = 2:1. Mp 128-130 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.46 (br s, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.33 (comp, 3H), 7.28 (dd, J = 6.7, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.16 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.77-1.73 (comp, 2H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  200.8, 162.2, 160.7, 146.1, 136.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 125.4, 62.9, 44.0, 17.4, 13.9, 13.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 314.1387; Found: 314.1385.



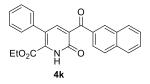
**Ethyl 5-(Cyclopropanecarbonyl)-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4h**; White solid (27.7 mg, 89% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 136-138 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.74 (br s, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.43-7.40 (comp, 3H), 7.34-7.24 (comp, 2H), 4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.26-3.23 (m, 1H), 1.30-1.28 (comp, 2H), 1.15-1.12 (comp, 2H), 1.05 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.0, 162.3, 161.1, 145.7, 145.6, 136.7, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 125.5, 62.8, 19.6, 13.7, 13.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 312.1230; Found: 312.1229.



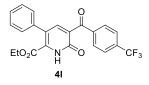
**Ethyl 6-Oxo-3-phenyl-5-(3-phenylpropanoyl)-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate**, **4i**; White solid (34.9 mg, 93% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 148-150 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.10 (br s, 1H), 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.38 (comp, 3H), 7.32 – 7.23 (comp, 6H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.06 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  199.3, 161.7, 160.2, 146.6, 141.0, 136.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 126.0, 125.0, 62.9, 43.9, 29.9, 13.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 376.1543; Found: 376.1542.



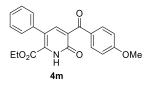
**Ethyl 5-Benzoyl-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4j**; White solid (32.7 mg, 94% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 140-142 °C. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.81 (br s, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.40 (comp, 3H), 7.34 – 7.25 (comp, 2H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.9, 161.6, 160.0, 145.4, 136.6, 136.4, 135.4, 133.7, 132.5, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 124.9, 62.9, 13.6. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 348.1230; Found: 348.1228.



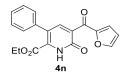
**Ethyl 5-(2-Naphthoyl)-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4k**; White solid (34.1 mg, 86% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 163-165 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.61 (br s, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 7.87 (comp, 4H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (comp, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (comp, 3H), 7.35 – 7.25 (comp, 2H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.7, 161.5, 160.0, 145.4, 136.5, 136.0, 135.0, 133.8, 133.2, 132.5, 132.1, 129.8, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 126.9, 124.8, 62.9, 13.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 398.1387; Found: 398.1387.



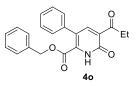
**Ethyl 6-Oxo-3-phenyl-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4l**; White solid (37.3 mg, 90% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 176-178 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.68 (br s, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.41 (comp, 3H), 7.32 – 7.26 (comp, 2H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.01 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.7, 161.3, 159.6, 146.7, 139.4, 136.3, 135.0, 138.8, 134.6 132.5, 129.9, 128.9, 128.5, 125.6 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz), 124.7, 123.5 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 260$  Hz), 63.1, 13.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 416.1104; Found: 416.1102.



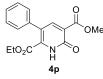
**Ethyl 5-(4-Methoxybenzoyl)-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4m**; White solid (34.3, 91% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 168-170 °C. <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.40 (br s, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (comp, 3H), 7.34 – 7.26 (comp, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.17 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.04 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.0, 164.3, 161.6, 159.7, 144.9, 136.7, 134.2, 133.6, 132.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 125.0, 114.0, 77.4, 62.9, 55.7, 13.6. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 378.1336; Found: 378.1334.



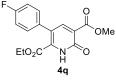
**Ethyl 5-(furan-2-carbonyl)-6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 4n**; White solid (27.3 mg, 81% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction,. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 102-104 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.19 (br s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.41-7.31 (comp, 4H), 7.29-7.27 (comp, 2H), 6.60 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.03 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 179.8, 161.9, 159.8, 152.1, 147.9, 145.5, 136.7, 131.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.5, 125.3, 121.3, 112.9, 63.0, 13.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 338.1023; Found: 338.1022.



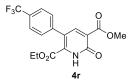
**Benzyl 6-oxo-3-phenyl-5-propionyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2-carboxylate, 40;** White solid (31.4 mg, 87% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. Mp 158-160 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.82 (br s, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.25 (comp, 6H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 5.14 (s, 2H), 3.17 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.2, 162.2, 160.8, 146.1, 146.0, 136.5, 133.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 125.5, 68.6, 35.6, 8.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 362.1387; Found: 362.1387.



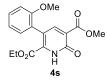
**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 6-oxo-3-phenyl-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5-dicarboxylate, 4p;** White solid, (25.3 mg, 84% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction,. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 103-105 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.77 (br s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.38 (comp, 3H), 7.32-7.29 (comp, 2H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.9, 163.6, 161.3, 145.3, 136.6, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 127.0, 62.6, 53.1, 13.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 302.1023; Found: 302.1021.



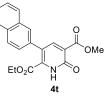
**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5-dicarboxylate**, **4q**; White solid, (25.8 mg, 81% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction, Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 145-147 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.73 (br s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.27-7.29 (comp, 2H), 7.14-7.12 (comp, 2H), 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ . 166.9, 163.4, 162.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 220 Hz), 161.3, 145.0, 132.6, 132.5, 130.5, 130.4, (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 4 Hz), 126.0, 115.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21 Hz), 62.6, 53.1, 13.7. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -113.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>FNO<sub>5</sub> 320.0929; Found: 320.0928.



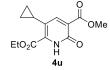
**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 6-oxo-3-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5dicarboxylate, 4r;** White solid, (29.5 mg, 80% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction,. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 162-164 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.84 (br s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8, 163.2, 161.6, 144.7, 131.0, 130.4 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 37 Hz), 129.1, 125.4 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 135.4, 123.5 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 123.0 (q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 272 Hz), 120.7, 62.7, 53.2, 13.6. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -63.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 370.0897; Found: 370.0895.



**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5-dicarboxylate, 4s**; White solid, (28.1 mg, 85% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction, following procedure 2. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 94-96 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.54 (br s, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.5, 162.8, 160.5, 156.4, 147.3, 132.3, 130.0, 129.9, 125.8, 122.2, 120.8, 120.3, 110.5, 62.4, 55.4, 53.0, 13.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> 332.1129; Found: 332.1130.

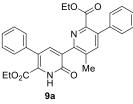


**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 3-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5-dicarboxylate, 4t**; White solid, (28.8 mg, 82% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction, Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 156-158 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.71 (br s, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.43 (comp, 4H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.59 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.1, 162.2, 160.4, 147.2, 134.3, 133.4, 131.9, 128.7, 128.7, 128.7, 128.4, 126.8, 126.6, 126.1, 125.1, 124.8, 123.9, 62.4, 52.9, 13.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 352.1179; Found: 352.1177.

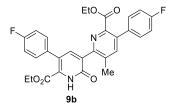


**2-Ethyl 5-methyl 3-cyclopropyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridine-2,5-dicarboxylate, 4u;** White solid, (19.6 mg, 74% yield), 0.1 mmol scale reaction,. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:1. mp 130-132 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.29 (br s, 1H), 7.86

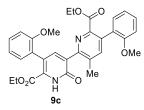
(s, 1H), 4.45 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.47-2.45 (m, 1H), 1.42 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (comp, 2H), 0.67 (comp, 2H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.5, 162.7, 159.7, 142.8, 142.0, 142.0, 127.5, 62.8, 53.0, 14.3, 11.2, 8.1, 8.0. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 266.1023; Found: 266.1021.



**Diethyl 3-methyl-2'-oxo-5,5'-diphenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9a;** White solid (26.8 mg, 90% yield) 0.05 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 142-144 °C <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  10.01 (br s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.35 (comp, 8H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.0, 161.3, 159.3, 151.9, 146.7, 145.4, 140.2, 138.2, 137.0, 136.8, 136.5, 135.4, 130.3, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 129.9, 125.5, 62.7, 61.5, 19.0, 13.6, 13.4. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O5 483.1914; Found: 483.1918.

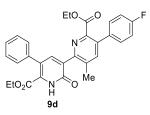


**Diethyl 5,5'-bis(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-2'-oxo-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'dicarboxylate, 9b;** White solid (22.3 mg, 86% yield) 0.05 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 162-164 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.06 (br s, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.29 (comp, 4H), 7.15-7.09 (comp, 4H), 4.24 – 4.14 (comp, 4H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.10-1.04 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.8, 162.7 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 252 Hz), 162.6 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 250 Hz), 161.1, 159.3, 152.0, 146.6, 145.2, 140.3, 136.5, 135.9, 135.6, 134.2 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4 Hz), 132.9 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4 Hz), 130.8 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 8 Hz), 130.6, 130.0 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 8 Hz), 124.3, 115.4 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 22 Hz), 115.0 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 22 Hz), 62.8, 61.6, 19.0, 13.7, 13.5. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.8, -114.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 519.1726; Found: 519.1728.

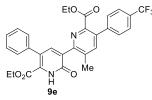


**Diethyl** 5,5'-bis(2-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-2'-oxo-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'dicarboxylate, 9c; White solid (23.9 mg, 88% yield) 0.05 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 149-151 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.03 (br s, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.39-7.34 (comp, 2H), 7.28 – 7.23 (comp, 2H), 7.08-6.99 (comp, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.19-4.10 (comp, 4H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s,

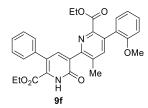
3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.09-1.04 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.4, 161.7, 159.5, 156.4, 156.1, 151.8, 146.9, 146.0, 141.2, 136.2, 135.7, 133.8, 131.7, 130.3, 130.2, 130.00, 129.5, 129.4, 127.9, 126.1, 120.8, 120.4, 110.3, 110.1, 62.3, 61.0, 55.4, 55.1, 19.1, 13.7, 13.5. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> 543.2126; Found: 543.2132.



**Diethyl 5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-methyl-2'-oxo-5'-phenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9d;** White solid (43.5 mg, 87% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 154-156 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.95 (br s, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.42-7.39 (comp, 3H), 7.35-7.31 (comp, 4H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (comp, 4H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.05 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.8, 162.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 252$  Hz), 161.4, 159.3, 152.2, 146.6, 145.4, 140.2, 137.0, 136.4, 135.8, 135.5, 134.2 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz), 130.4, 130.0 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 9$  Hz), 129.0, 128.0, 128.0, 125.4, 115.4 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 25$  Hz), 62.7, 61.6, 19.0, 13.7, 13.4. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -114.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>25</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 501.1820; Found: 501.1823.

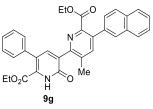


**Diethyl 3-Methyl-2'-oxo-5'-phenyl-5-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9e;** White solid (49.5 mg, 90% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 168-170 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.99 (br s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.39 (comp, 3H), 7.34-7.31 (comp, 2H), 4.23 – 4.13 (comp, 4H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.07 – 0.99 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.3, 161.3, 159.2, 152.8, 146.2, 145.4, 142.1, 140.2, 136.6, 136.2, 135.9, 135.8, 130.5, 130.2 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 32$  Hz), 129.0, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 125.5, 125.3 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz), 124.1 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 272$  Hz), 62.7, 61.7, 19.1, 13.6, 13.4. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>25</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 551.1788; Found: 551.1793.

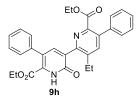


**Diethyl 5-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-2'-oxo-5'-phenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9f;** White solid (45.6 mg, 89% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 150-152 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.01 (br s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.42-7.36 (comp, 4H), 7.35 – 7.31 (comp, 2H), 7.28-7.26 (comp, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz,

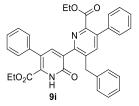
2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.06-1.01 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.3, 161.5, 159.4, 156.1, 151.5, 146.9, 145.3, 141.3, 137.1, 136.6, 135.7, 134.0, 130.4, 130.0, 129.5, 129.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 125.6, 120.8, 110.1, 62.6, 61.1, 55.1, 19.1, 13.7, 13.5. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 513.2020; Found: 513.2022.



**Diethyl 3-Methyl-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2'-oxo-5'-phenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9g;** White solid (45.8 mg, 86% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 172-174 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.87 (br s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.46 (comp, 2H), 7.45 – 7.37 (comp, 4H), 7.35-7.32 (comp, 3H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.53 (t, *J* = 7.1Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.0, 161.4, 159.3, 152.6, 147.1, 145.6, 141.7, 137.0, 136.6, 136.4, 136.0, 135.8, 133.3, 131.8, 130.4, 129.0, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 126.4, 126.3, 126.0, 125.5, 125.1, 62.7, 61.1, 19.1, 13.4, 13.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 533.2071; Found: 533.2076.



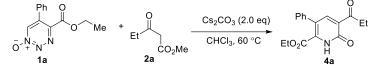
**Diethyl 3-Ethyl-2'-oxo-5,5'-diphenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9h;** White solid (38.7 mg, 78% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 145-147 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.86 (br s, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.36 (comp, 8H), 7.34-7.30 (comp, 2H), 4.20 (q, *J* = 7.1, 2H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.1, 2H), 2.83 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.0, 161.3, 159.6, 151.6, 146.7, 145.3, 140.9, 138.4, 138.3, 137.1, 137.0, 136.7, 136.7, 130.1, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 125.5, 62.7, 61.5, 25.1, 14.1, 13.6, 13.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 497.2071; Found: 497.2070.



**Diethyl 3-Benzyl-2'-oxo-5,5'-diphenyl-1',2'-dihydro-[2,3'-bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarboxylate, 9i;** White solid (40.2 mg, 72% yield) 0.1 mmol scale reaction. Flash column chromatography conditions: hexane:ethyl acetate = 1:2. Mp 160-162 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.85 (br s, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.31 (comp, 8H), 7.26 – 7.12 (comp, 5H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 4.19-4.15 (comp, 4H), 1.04-0.98 (comp, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.0, 161.3, 159.6, 152.1, 147.2, 145.5, 139.9, 139.2, 138.7, 138.0, 136.9, 136.7, 136.5, 130.1,

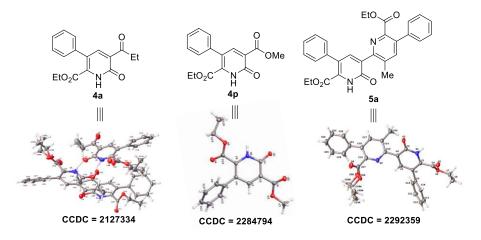
129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 126.4, 125.4, 62.7, 61.6, 38.6, 13.6, 13.4. **HRMS** (ESI) m/z:  $[M + H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{35}H_{30}N_2O_5$  559.2227; Found: 559.2231.

## 6. 1 mmol scale reaction: Procedure for the synthesis of pyridineone compound 4a from 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide and ketoester



A chloroform solution (10.0 mL) of 1,2,3-triazine 1-oxide derivative **1a** (1.0 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added dropwise over 30 minutes to a 10.0 mL solution of CHCl<sub>3</sub> containing  $\beta$ -keto ester **2a** (1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) and a Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (20 mmol, 652 mg) at 60 °C. The reaction was continued for 1 h at same temperature. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 50.0 mL of dichloromethane. The organic layer was washed with saturated ammonium chloride solution (50.0 mL) followed by water and brine solution, then dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Pure pyridone compound **4a** was obtained from DCM/hexane solvent (5:1) mixture by crystallization in 92% yield (275 mg).

#### 7. Crystallographic data



Single crystals of  $C_{17}H_{17}NO_4$  (4a) were prepared by slow evaporation of a dichloromethane:hexane (1:10) solution. A suitable colorless plate-like crystal, with dimensions of 0.140 mm × 0.088 mm × 0.074 mm, was mounted in paratone oil onto a nylon loop. Single crystals of  $C_{16}H_{15}NO_5$  (4p) were prepared by slow evaporation of a ethyl acetate:hexane (10:1) solution. A suitable colorless plate-like crystal of 4p, with dimensions of 0.152 mm × 0.112 mm × 0.096 mm, was mounted in paratone oil onto a nylon loop. Single crystals of  $C_{29}H_{26}N_2O_5$  (9a) were prepared by slow evaporation of a dichloromethane:hexane (1:10) solution. A suitable colorless plate-like crystal of 0.152 mm × 0.112 mm × 0.096 mm, was mounted in paratone oil onto a nylon loop. Single crystals of  $C_{29}H_{26}N_2O_5$  (9a) were prepared by slow evaporation of a dichloromethane:hexane (1:10) solution. A suitable colorless plate-like crystal, with dimensions of 0.152 mm × 0.096 mm, was mounted in paratone oil onto a nylon loop. Single crystals of C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (9a) were prepared by slow evaporation of a dichloromethane:hexane (1:10) solution. A suitable colorless plate-like crystal, with dimensions of 0.152 mm × 0.096 mm, was mounted in paratone oil onto a nylon loop. All data were collected at 298(1) K and 298(1) K for compounds

**4a, 4p** and **9a** respectively, using a XtaLAB Synergy/ Dualflex, HyPix fitted with CuK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54184$  Å). Data collection and unit cell refinement were performed using *CrysAlisPro* software.<sup>[1]</sup> The total number of data were measured in the 6.2° < 2 $\theta$  < 153.2°, 6.6° < 2 $\theta$  < 153.0° and 9° < 2 $\theta$  < 152.2° for compounds **4a**, **4p** and **9a** respectively, using  $\omega$  scans. Data processing and absorption correction, giving minimum and maximum transmission factors (0.653, 1.000 for compound (**4a**)/ 0.621, 1.00 for compound (**4p**)/ 0.487, 1.00 for compound (**9a**)) were accomplished with *CrysAlisPro<sup>3</sup>* and *SCALE3 ABSPACK<sup>4</sup>*, respectively. The structure, using Olex2<sup>5</sup>, was solved with the ShelXT<sup>6</sup> structure solution program using direct methods and refined (on *F*<sup>2</sup>) with the ShelXL<sup>7</sup> refinement package using full-matrix, least-squares techniques. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. All hydrogen atom positions were determined by geometry and refined by a riding model.

Compound number	4a	4p	9a
Identification code	Hpd462(1)	Hpd614(2)	Hpd750
Empirical formula	$C_{17}H_{17}NO_4$	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>15</sub> NO <sub>5</sub>	$C_{29}H_{26}N_2O_5$
Formula weight	299.31	301.29	482.52
Crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P-1	$P2_{l}/n$	$P2_{l}/c$
<i>a</i> (Å)	12.5967(2)	15.6843(2)	13.83436(15)
<i>b</i> (Å)	12.8747(2)	6.33089(7)	11.10289(10)
c (Å)	15.6198(3)	15.8937(2)	20.5729(2)
α (°)	72.566(2)	90	90
β (°)	69.811(1)	114.758(2)	109.0934(12)
γ (°)	75.602(1)	90	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2238.30(7)	1433.11(3)	2986.18(6)
Z	6	4	4
ρ (calc.)	1.332	1.396	1.073
λ	1.54184	1.54184	1.54184
Temp. (K)	100.0(1)	298(1)	100(1)

F(000)	948	632	1016
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.785	0.877	0.601
T <sub>min</sub> , T <sub>max</sub>	0.653, 1.000	0.621, 1.000	0.487, 1.000
2θ <sub>range</sub> (°)	6.2 to 153.2	6.6, 153.0	6.76 to 152.8
Reflections collected	42637	30584	29239
Independent	9064	2921	5984
reflections	[R(int) = 0.0360]	[R(int) = 0.0329]	[R(int) = 0.0315]
Completeness	99.8%	99.9%	99.9%
Data / restraints / parameters	9064 / 44 / 624	2921 / 0 / 204	5384 / 0 / 359
Observed data $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	8008	2657	5338
$wR(F^2 \text{ all data})$	0.1031	0.0943	0.1291
R(F  obsd data)	0.0430	0.0351	0.0443
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	0.89	1.06	1.05
largest diff. peak and hole (e $Å^{-3}$ )	0.38 / -0.46	0.20 / -0.21	0.20 / -0.32

$$wR_2 = \{ \Sigma [w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_0^2)^2] \}^{1/2}$$

 $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_{\rm O}| - |F_{\rm C}|| / \Sigma |F_{\rm O}|$ 

#### 8. Computational data

#### Software

Quantum chemical calculations were performed using the Lonestar6 supercomputer at the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) hosted by the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, and Bridges-2 supercomputer hosted by the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) and supported by Advanced Cyberinfrastructure Coordination Ecosystem: Services & Support (ACCESS) program. DFT geometry optimization, vibrational frequency, and IRC calculations were conducted using Gaussian 16 (rA.03).<sup>8</sup> The CREST utility of the xTB software suite<sup>9</sup> was used to locate initial starting geometries for optimization via DFT. Final images of minima and transition state structure geometries were rendered using CYLview (v1.0.600)<sup>10</sup> and VMD (v1.9.4a53).<sup>11</sup> Routine visualization and monitoring of calculations was performed with Chemcraft (v1.8-622b).<sup>12</sup>

#### **Details of Computational Methods**

#### **Gaussian 16 DFT calculations**

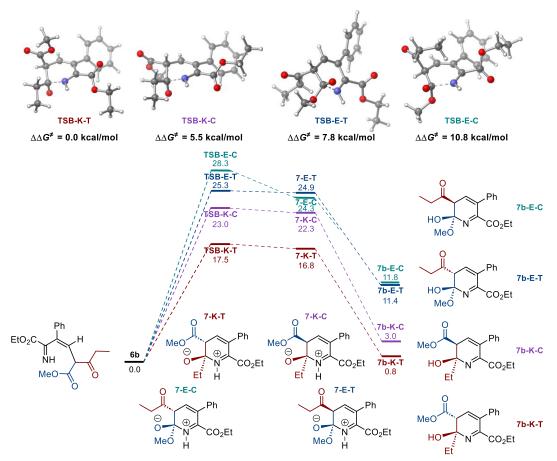
Geometries of ground state minima and transition state structures were optimized without constraints using MN15 density functional approximation and the def2-TZVP basis set in dichloromethane solvent using the SMD solvation model. Calculations were set to "tight" convergence criteria with an ultrafine grid. Frequency calculations at the same level of theory were used to confirm the nature of the isolated stationary points. Geometries with zero imaginary frequencies were deemed minima whereas those with exactly one imaginary frequency along the chemical path of interest were deemed transition state structures. Intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC) calculations were performed to further corroborate that the located transition state structures connected reactants to products. The quasi-harmonic approximation at 1M concentration was applied via GoodVibes<sup>13</sup> to all structures to correct for potential errors associated with low magnitude vibrational frequencies using a cut-off frequency of 50 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Single point corrections of the above geometries were calculated using PW6B95-D3(BJ) in dichloromethane solvent under the SMD solvation model. The def2-TZVPPD basis set was used by appending diffuse functions obtained from the EMSL BSE<sup>14</sup> to the G16-available def2-TZVPP basis set. This level of theory provided the final electronic component to the reported free energies.

#### **Boltzmann Ensemble Averaging**

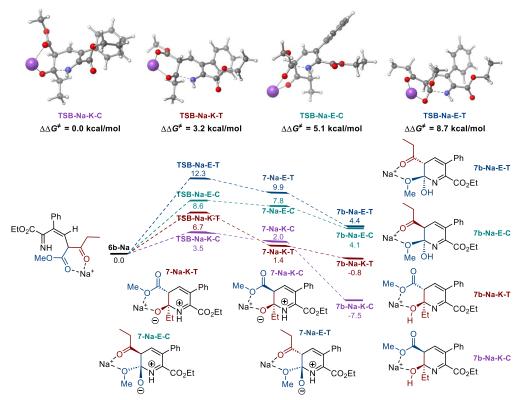
To improve the accuracy of the DFT computational analysis of the reaction pathway, ensemble averaging was applied across the obtained structurally distinct conformers of each structure, as previously described.<sup>15</sup>

#### **Diastereomeric Energy Diagrams**

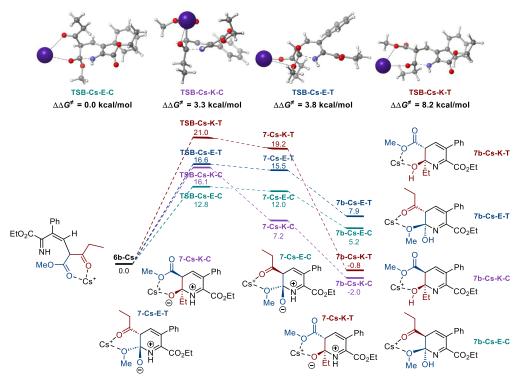
Cyclization transition state **TSB** resulted in cis and trans diastereomeric reaction pathways for structures **TSB**, **7**, and **7b**, with the pathways recombining at the final products, **8-E** and **8-K**. The metal-free pathway shows kinetic preference for trans configuration in the addition of the imine nitrogen to both the keto and the ester groups. The sodium- and cesium-mediated pathways show kinetic preference for cis configuration in the addition of the imine nitrogen to both the keto and ester groups. Energy difference between the most favorable and second most favorable transition states for each pathway (metal-free,  $\Delta\Delta G^{\neq} = 5.5$  kcal/mol; sodium-mediated,  $\Delta\Delta G^{\neq} = 3.2$  kcal/mol; cesium mediated,  $\Delta\Delta G^{\neq} = 3.3$  kcal/mol) suggest substantial kinetic preference for the lowest energy transition state over all other diastereomeric pathways.



Scheme S1. Computed Gibbs free energy profile of metal ion-free cyclization pathways,  $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol.



Scheme S2. Computed Gibbs free energy profile of the sodium-mediated cyclization pathways,  $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol.



Scheme S3. Computed Gibbs free energy profile of the cesium-mediated cyclization pathways,  $\Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

#### **Distortion/Interaction-Activation Strain Analysis of TSB**

A distortion/interaction-activation strain analysis<sup>16</sup> was performed as described previously<sup>15</sup> on each metalfree and metal-coordinated variant of **TSB** optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory. Ensemble averaging was applied for the calculated distortion and interaction values for each fragment to improve accuracy. Radical fragment definitions were created for **TSB**, with the red fragment representing the imine portion of the molecule (Fragment **F1**) and the green fragment representing the remaining structure, including both sites of cyclization (Fragment **F2**), as previously described for the analysis of intramolecular processes.<sup>17</sup> For metal coordinated species, the metal cation was removed from each geometry, and all single point calculations were performed on the net neutral system.

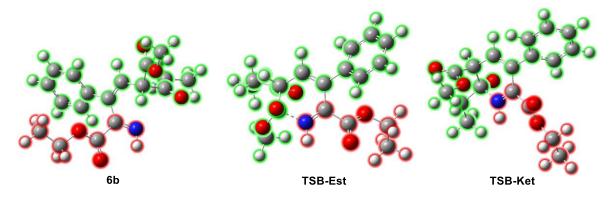
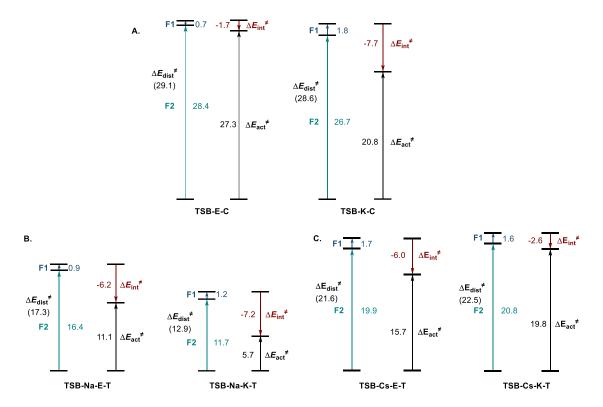


Figure S1. Division of 6b and TSB into fragments for distortion/interaction-activation strain analysis.



**Figure S2**. Distortion/Interaction analysis of the disfavored diastereomeric cyclization transition states. A. The cyclization process in the absence of metal ions (cis pathway). **B**. The sodium-mediated trans pathway. **C**. The cesium-mediated trans pathway.  $\Delta E$ , kcal/mol.

# Conformational Analysis and Tables of Thermodynamic Values by Structure – PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM)

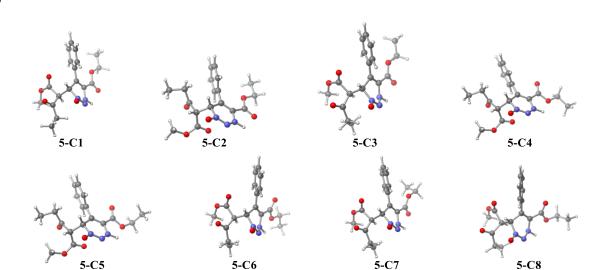


Figure S3. Conformers of addition intermediate 5.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
5-C1	-1316.242973	-1315.833191	-1315.918831	-1315.915303	0.00
5-C2	-1316.242367	-1315.832843	-1315.917799	-1315.914949	0.22
5-C3	-1316.240997	-1315.831176	-1315.916271	-1315.912885	1.52
5-C4	-1316.240446	-1315.83067	-1315.915392	-1315.912628	1.68
5-C5	-1316.23976	-1315.829803	-1315.914298	-1315.911359	2.47
5-C6	-1316.239083	-1315.829015	-1315.914742	-1315.911135	2.62
5-C7	-1316.240261	-1315.830115	-1315.914123	-1315.9111	2.64
5-C8	-1316.238423	-1315.828428	-1315.914413	-1315.910414	3.07

Table S2. Energies of conformers of addition intermediate 5.<sup>a</sup>

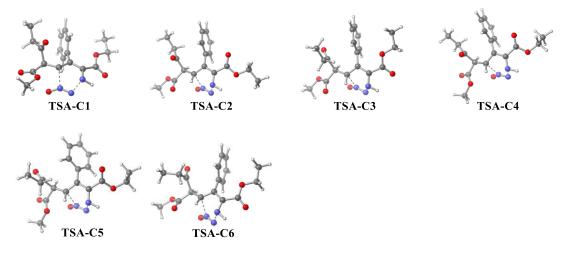


Figure S4. Conformers of N<sub>2</sub>O extrusion transition state TSA.

Table S3. Energies of conformers of N<sub>2</sub>O extrusion transition state TSA.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
TSA-C1	-1316.199217	-1315.794156	-1315.880713	-1315.878142	0.00
TSA-C2	-1316.198488	-1315.793513	-1315.880669	-1315.877761	0.24
TSA-C3	-1316.19751	-1315.792557	-1315.88	-1315.876821	0.83
TSA-C4	-1316.196803	-1315.791721	-1315.879333	-1315.875928	1.39
TSA-C5	-1316.194997	-1315.789916	-1315.876806	-1315.873672	2.80
TSA-C6	-1316.194386	-1315.789174	-1315.876952	-1315.873606	2.85

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

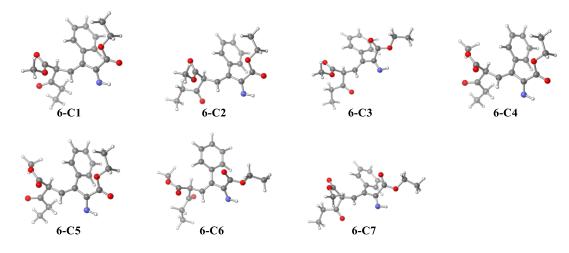


Figure S5. Conformers of extrusion intermediate 6.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
6-C1	-1131.318146	-1130.927426	-1131.012624	-1131.008106	0.00
6-C2	-1131.316676	-1130.92589	-1131.011364	-1131.006838	0.80
6-C3	-1131.315077	-1130.924267	-1131.009997	-1131.005449	1.67
6-C4	-1131.310984	-1130.920123	-1131.004303	-1130.999982	5.10
6-C5	-1131.309155	-1130.918342	-1131.002077	-1130.998225	6.20
6-C6	-1131.306818	-1130.915871	-1130.999743	-1130.995827	7.71
6-C7	-1131.30445	-1130.913581	-1130.997096	-1130.993318	9.28

Table S4. Energies of conformers of extrusion intermediate 6.<sup>*a*</sup>

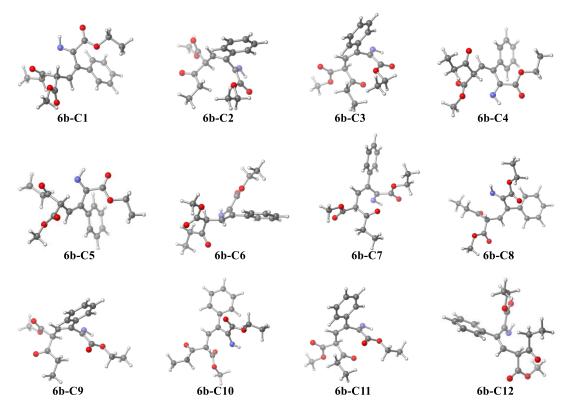
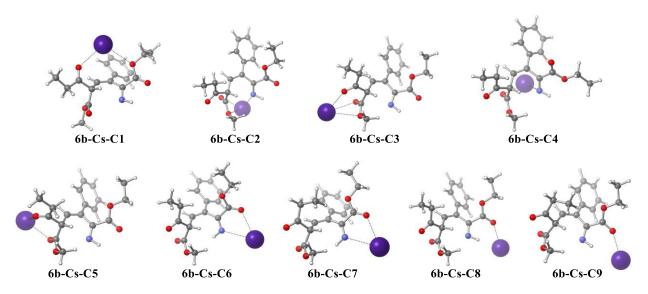


Figure S6. Conformers of isomerized intermediate 6b.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	Δ <i>G</i> (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
6b-C1	-1131.318958	-1130.928391	-1131.012545	-1131.0086	0.00
6b-C2	-1131.319154	-1130.928385	-1131.011964	-1131.008373	0.14
6b-C3	-1131.318089	-1130.927608	-1131.011613	-1131.007463	0.71
6b-C4	-1131.318157	-1130.927512	-1131.01067	-1131.007352	0.78
6b-C5	-1131.317976	-1130.927188	-1131.010913	-1131.0072	0.88
6b-C6	-1131.317632	-1130.926819	-1131.010577	-1131.006855	1.10
6b-C7	-1131.31655	-1130.926088	-1131.010651	-1131.006476	1.33
6b-C8	-1131.316878	-1130.926017	-1131.010281	-1131.00635	1.41
6b-C9	-1131.316688	-1130.925877	-1131.00989	-1131.006274	1.46
6b-C10	-1131.316339	-1130.925536	-1131.010182	-1131.006098	1.57
6b-C11	-1131.315391	-1130.924678	-1131.008922	-1131.004985	2.27
6b-C12	-1131.311704	-1130.9208	-1131.00364	-1131.000063	5.36

 Table S5. Energies of conformers of isomerized intermediate 6b. <sup>a</sup>



6b-Cs

Figure S7. Conformers of cesium-coordinated isomerized intermediate 6b-Cs.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
6b-Cs-C1	-1151.417318	-1151.023362	-1151.112575	-1151.108624	0.00
6b-Cs-C2	-1151.413913	-1151.019832	-1151.109166	-1151.10531	2.08
6b-Cs-C3	-1151.413084	-1151.019122	-1151.10913	-1151.104901	2.34
6b-Cs-C4	-1151.412111	-1151.018228	-1151.108677	-1151.104181	2.79
6b-Cs-C5	-1151.41269	-1151.018355	-1151.108971	-1151.104054	2.87
6b-Cs-C6	-1151.409636	-1151.015048	-1151.105093	-1151.100573	5.05
6b-Cs-C7	-1151.408912	-1151.01428	-1151.10385	-1151.099553	5.69
6b-Cs-C8	-1151.406531	-1151.012377	-1151.102211	-1151.097999	6.67
6b-Cs-C9	-1151.405714	-1151.011444	-1151.102591	-1151.097247	7.14

Table S6. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated isomerized intermediate 6b-Cs.<sup>a</sup>

6b-Na

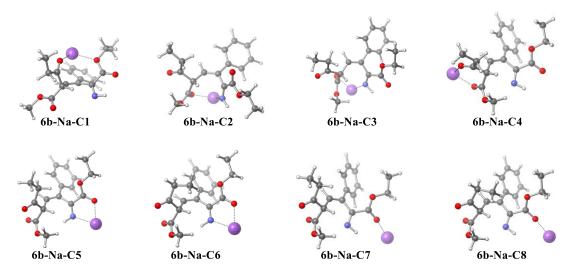


Figure S8. Conformers of sodium-coordinated isomerized intermediate 6b-Na.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
6b-Na-C1	-1293.708364	-1293.31402	-1293.399133	-1293.396588	0.00
6b-Na-C2	-1293.704391	-1293.309956	-1293.397078	-1293.393529	1.92
6b-Na-C3	-1293.703664	-1293.309525	-1293.396133	-1293.392842	2.35
6b-Na-C4	-1293.70428	-1293.309604	-1293.395373	-1293.392165	2.78
6b-Na-C5	-1293.702677	-1293.307711	-1293.394156	-1293.390357	3.91
6b-Na-C6	-1293.702336	-1293.30707	-1293.392202	-1293.389118	4.69
6b-Na-C7	-1293.686625	-1293.292733	-1293.381195	-1293.377066	12.25
6b-Na-C8	-1293.686112	-1293.291793	-1293.379874	-1293.375435	13.27

Table S7. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated isomerized intermediate 6b-Na.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

TSB-E-T

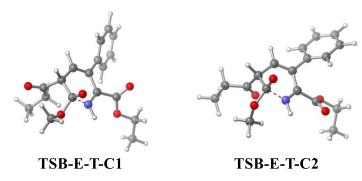


Figure S9. Conformers of ester cyclization trans transition state TSB-E-T.

Table S8. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization trans transition state TSB-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-E-T-C1	-1131.279933	-1130.891491	-1130.972814	-1130.969288	0.00
TSB-E-T-C2	-1131.276121	-1130.887405	-1130.965681	-1130.962761	4.10

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

TSB-E-C

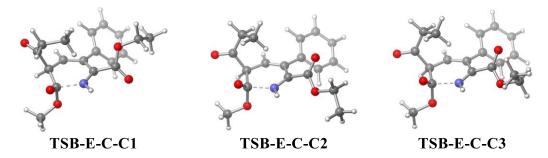


Figure S10. Conformers of ester cyclization cis transition state TSB-E-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-E-C-C1	-1131.273262	-1130.884655	-1130.96559	-1130.961959	0.00
TSB-E-C-C2	-1131.273182	-1130.884249	-1130.964461	-1130.961458	0.31
TSB-E-C-C3	-1131.272725	-1130.883765	-1130.963504	-1130.960582	0.86

Table S9. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization cis transition state TSB-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

TSB-K-T

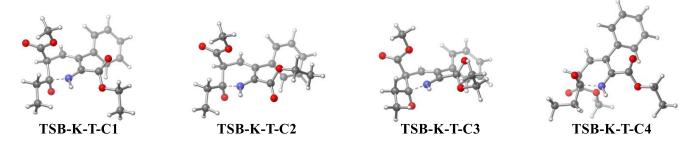


Figure S11. Conformers of ketone cyclization trans transition state TSB-K-T.

Table S10. Energies of conformers	of ketone cyclization trans	s transition state <b>TSB-K-T</b> . <sup><i>a</i></sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-K-T-C1	-1131.292553	-1130.903029	-1130.981893	-1130.979408	0.00
TSB-K-T-C2	-1131.292844	-1130.903409	-1130.981448	-1130.979066	0.21
TSB-K-T-C3	-1131.292053	-1130.90243	-1130.98105	-1130.978576	0.52
TSB-K-T-C4	-1131.290316	-1130.900729	-1130.979539	-1130.976878	1.59

TSB-K-C



Figure S12. Conformers of ketone cyclization cis transition state TSB-K-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-K-C-C1	-1131.286239	-1130.897009	-1130.975863	-1130.973218	0.00
TSB-K-C-C2	-1131.285099	-1130.895775	-1130.974477	-1130.971894	0.83
TSB-K-C-C3	-1131.2855	-1130.896156	-1130.974216	-1130.971655	0.98
TSB-K-C-C4	-1131.280099	-1130.890806	-1130.968652	-1130.966269	4.36
TSB-K-C-C5	-1131.279246	-1130.889622	-1130.967568	-1130.9651	5.09

Table S11. Energies of conformers of ketone cyclization cis transition state TSB-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

#### TSB-Cs-E-T

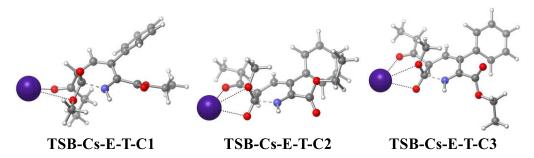


Figure S13. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans transition state TSB-Cs-E-T.

**Table S12.** Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans transition state **TSB-Cs-E-T**. <sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Cs-E-T-C1	-1151.387739	-1150.995819	-1151.081755	-1151.078507	0.00

TSB-Cs-E-T-C2	-1151.385208	-1150.993566	-1151.078861	-1151.075213	2.07
TSB-Cs-E-T-C3	-1151.384459	-1150.992772	-1151.077911	-1151.074508	2.51

TSB-Cs-E-C

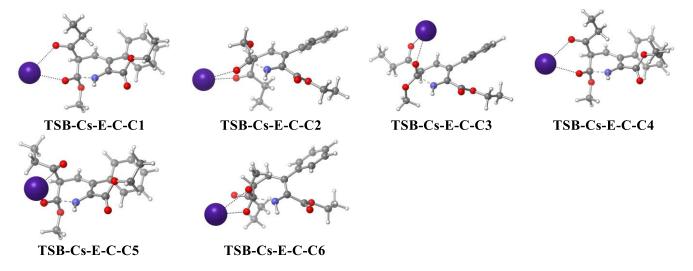


Figure S14. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis transition state TSB-Cs-E-C.

**Table S13**. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis transition state **TSB-Cs-E**- $\mathbf{C}$ .<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Cs-E-C-C1	-1151.391698	-1151.000171	-1151.088019	-1151.083789	0.00
TSB-Cs-E-C-C2	-1151.391724	-1151.000243	-1151.086938	-1151.083121	0.42
TSB-Cs-E-C-C3	-1151.392381	-1151.000711	-1151.086222	-1151.082758	0.65
TSB-Cs-E-C-C4	-1151.39051	-1150.99878	-1151.086447	-1151.082228	0.98
TSB-Cs-E-C-C5	-1151.389591	-1150.997665	-1151.084742	-1151.081116	1.68
TSB-Cs-E-C-C6	-1151.387921	-1150.99624	-1151.084619	-1151.079629	2.61

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

TSB-Cs-K-T

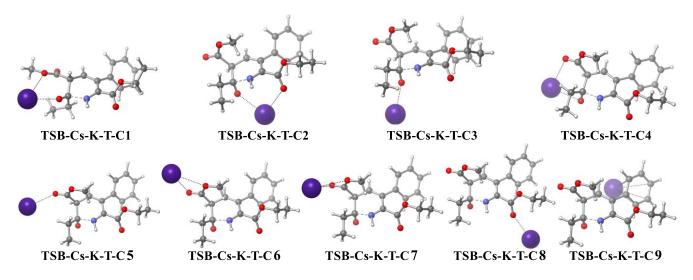


Figure S15. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans transition state TSB-Cs-K-T.

Table S14. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans transition state TSB-
<b>Cs-K-T</b> . <sup><i>a</i></sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Cs-K-T-C1	-1151.398956	-1151.00674	-1151.09289	-1151.089481	0.00
TSB-Cs-K-T-C2	-1151.382226	-1150.98941	-1151.074884	-1151.071333	11.39
TSB-Cs-K-T-C3	-1151.381473	-1150.988697	-1151.075356	-1151.071226	11.46
TSB-Cs-K-T-C4	-1151.379695	-1150.986665	-1151.072798	-1151.069043	12.83
TSB-Cs-K-T-C5	-1151.376443	-1150.983668	-1151.070114	-1151.066033	14.71
TSB-Cs-K-T-C6	-1151.375989	-1150.983253	-1151.069218	-1151.065563	15.01
TSB-Cs-K-T-C7	-1151.376068	-1150.983208	-1151.067824	-1151.064618	15.60
TSB-Cs-K-T-C8	-1151.373221	-1150.980386	-1151.0651	-1151.061769	17.39
TSB-Cs-K-T-C9	-1151.373216	-1150.980227	-1151.063851	-1151.06134	17.66



Figure S16. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis transition state TSB-Cs-K-C.

**Table S15**. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis transition state **TSB-Cs-K-C**.<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Cs-K-C-C1	-1151.3932	-1151.000009	-1151.083425	-1151.080735	0.00
TSB-Cs-K-C-C2	-1151.385587	-1150.99305	-1151.078693	-1151.075312	3.40
TSB-Cs-K-C-C3	-1151.385812	-1150.992722	-1151.076855	-1151.074354	4.00

TSB-Na-E-T



Figure S17. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans transition state TSB-Na-E-T.

**Table S16**. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans transition state **TSB-Na-E-T**.<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure <b>AE</b>	ΔН	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
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TSB-Na-E-T-C1	-1293.68462	-1293.292346	-1293.374027	-1293.371183	0.000
TSB-Na-E-T-C2	-1293.684077	-1293.291849	-1293.373488	-1293.370828	0.222
TSB-Na-E-T-C3	-1293.676163	-1293.284265	-1293.367953	-1293.364818	3.994

#### TSB-Na-E-C

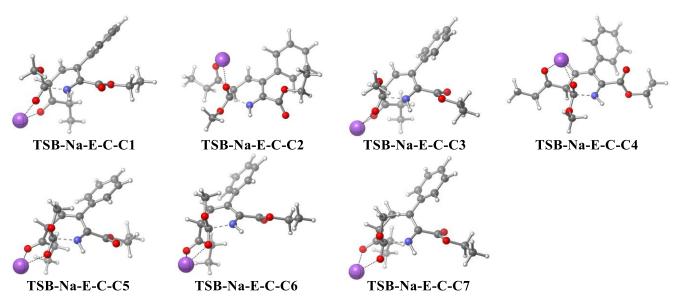


Figure S18. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis transition state TSB-Na-E-C.

Table S17. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis transition state TSB-Na-E-

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Na-E-C-C1	-1293.690002	-1293.29828	-1293.382565	-1293.378835	0.00
TSB-Na-E-C-C2	-1293.688877	-1293.296999	-1293.38188	-1293.378059	0.49
TSB-Na-E-C-C3	-1293.688891	-1293.296945	-1293.381539	-1293.378026	0.51
TSB-Na-E-C-C4	-1293.688349	-1293.296011	-1293.379802	-1293.376652	1.37
TSB-Na-E-C-C5	-1293.683539	-1293.29155	-1293.37443	-1293.371119	4.84

TSB-Na-E-C-C6	-1293.682551	-1293.29057	-1293.374349	-1293.37067	5.12
TSB-Na-E-C-C7	-1293.682682	-1293.290246	-1293.372822	-1293.36958	5.81

TSB-Na-K-T

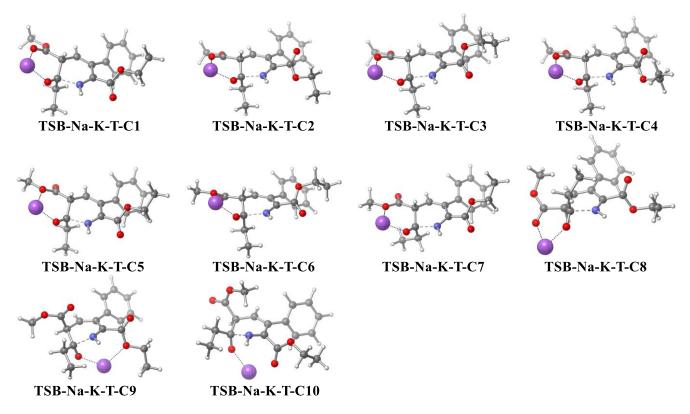


Figure S19. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans transition state TSB-Na-K-T.

**Table S18**. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans transition state **TSB-Na-K-T**.<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Na-K-T-C1	-1293.700428	-1293.307574	-1293.390604	-1293.38811	0.00
TSB-Na-K-T-C2	-1293.699101	-1293.306369	-1293.39101	-1293.387474	0.40
TSB-Na-K-T-C3	-1293.699767	-1293.306802	-1293.389036	-1293.386596	0.95
TSB-Na-K-T-C4	-1293.698636	-1293.305451	-1293.388818	-1293.38578	1.46

TSB-Na-K-T-C5	-1293.69505	-1293.302329	-1293.385406	-1293.382821	3.32
TSB-Na-K-T-C6	-1293.694404	-1293.301477	-1293.383684	-1293.38136	4.24
TSB-Na-K-T-C7	-1293.693882	-1293.301042	-1293.383172	-1293.380893	4.53
TSB-Na-K-T-C8	-1293.675437	-1293.282229	-1293.363737	-1293.361179	16.90
TSB-Na-K-T-C9	-1293.675612	-1293.282179	-1293.362555	-1293.361088	16.96
TSB-Na-K-T-C10	-1293.674443	-1293.281039	-1293.363346	-1293.360422	17.37

TSB-Na-K-C

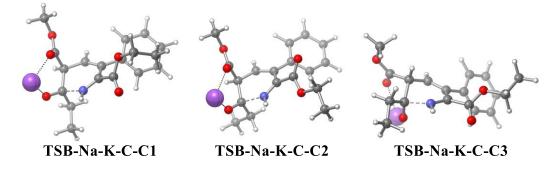


Figure S20. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis transition state TSB-Na-K-C

**Table S19**. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis transition state **TSB-Na-K-C**.<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
TSB-Na-K-C-C1	-1293.696895	-1293.303979	-1293.388198	-1293.384486	0.00
TSB-Na-K-C-C2	-1293.695116	-1293.302311	-1293.387276	-1293.383284	0.75
TSB-Na-K-C-C3	-1293.69421	-1293.301267	-1293.38352	-1293.380796	2.32

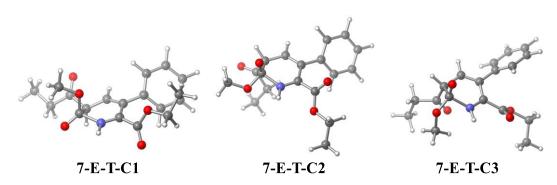


Figure S21. Conformers of the ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-E-T

Table S20. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-E-T<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-E-T-C1	-1131.27941	-1130.890415	-1130.971763	-1130.968923	0.00
7-E-T-C2	-1131.280776	-1130.890868	-1130.971201	-1130.968187	0.46
7-E-T-C3	-1131.276098	-1130.886372	-1130.966041	-1130.963103	3.65

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7-E-C

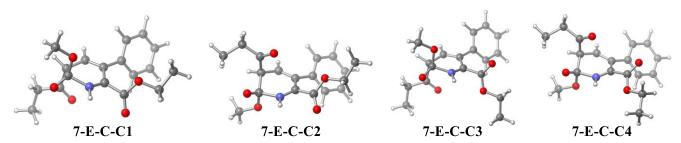


Figure S22. Conformers of the ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-E-C

Table S21. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-E-C<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-E-C-C1	-1131.280029	-1130.890687	-1130.97235	-1130.968938	0.00

7-E-C-C2	-1131.279698	-1130.889941	-1130.971489	-1130.968166	0.48
7-E-C-C3	-1131.279599	-1130.889997	-1130.97129	-1130.968049	0.56
7-E-C-C4	-1131.278432	-1130.888163	-1130.967698	-1130.965334	2.26

7-K-T

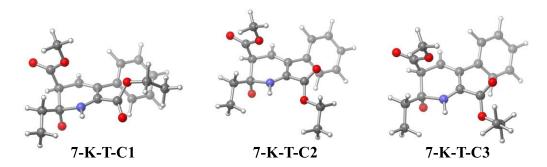


Figure S23. Conformers of the ketone cyclization trans zwitterion 7-K-T

Table S22.	Energies	of conformers	of ketone	cvclization	trans zwitterion 7-K	$-\mathbf{T}^{a}$
						. –

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-K-T-C1	-1131.292882	-1130.902452	-1130.983396	-1130.979933	0.00
7-K-T-C2	-1131.292506	-1130.901975	-1130.98232	-1130.979719	0.13
7-K-T-C3	-1131.292007	-1130.901402	-1130.981582	-1130.978962	0.61

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7-K-C

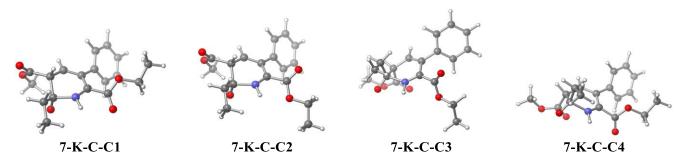


Figure S24. Conformers of the ketone cyclization cis zwitterion 7-K-C

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-K-C-C1	-1131.286255	-1130.895797	-1130.974614	-1130.9723	0.00
7-K-C-C2	-1131.284978	-1130.894603	-1130.974559	-1130.971751	0.34
7-K-C-C3	-1131.282596	-1130.892263	-1130.972633	-1130.969883	1.52
7-K-C-C4	-1131.282558	-1130.892213	-1130.971671	-1130.969331	1.86

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7-Cs-E-T

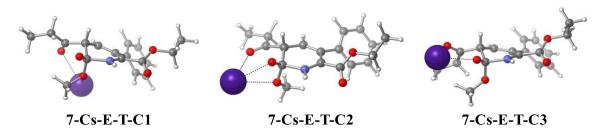


Figure S25. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Cs-E-T

Table S24. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Cs-E-T<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Cs-E-T-C1	-1151.387009	-1150.994511	-1151.083205	-1151.078839	0.00

7-Cs-E-T-C2	-1151.387394	-1150.994779	-1151.081461	-1151.077577	0.79
7-Cs-E-T-C3	-1151.387523	-1150.994716	-1151.081012	-1151.077543	0.81

7-Cs-E-C

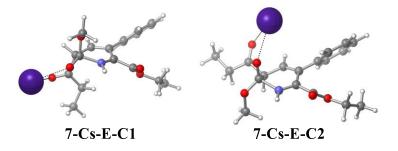


Figure S26. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Cs-E-C

Table S25. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Cs-E-C<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Cs-E-C-C1	-1151.3915	-1150.998894	-1151.088153	-1151.083507	0.00
7-Cs-E-C-C2	-1151.392287	-1150.999742	-1151.087399	-1151.083429	0.05

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7-Cs-K-T



Figure S27. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Cs-K-T

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔН	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Cs-K-T-C1	-1151.38841	-1150.993995	-1151.077868	-1151.075694	0.00
7-Cs-K-T-C2	-1151.384137	-1150.9897	-1151.0764	-1151.072137	2.23
7-Cs-K-T-C3	-1151.38519	-1150.990722	-1151.074451	-1151.072063	2.28
7-Cs-K-T-C4	-1151.383714	-1150.989291	-1151.073753	-1151.070826	3.05
7-Cs-K-T-C5	-1151.381412	-1150.98702	-1151.071301	-1151.068553	4.48

Table S26. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Cs-K-T<sup>a</sup>

7-Cs-K-C

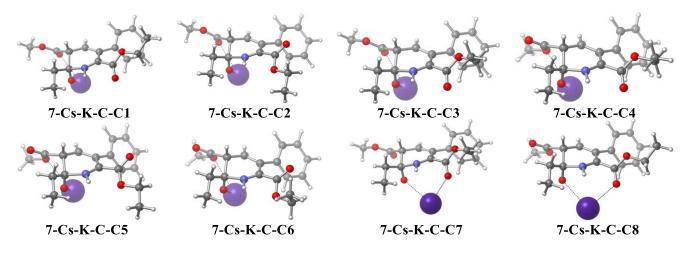


Figure S28. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Cs-K-C

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Cs-K-C-C1	-1151.405361	-1151.011357	-1151.098298	-1151.094438	0.00
7-Cs-K-C-C2	-1151.403936	-1151.009852	-1151.097115	-1151.093215	0.77
7-Cs-K-C-C3	-1151.404194	-1151.010077	-1151.097222	-1151.093118	0.83
7-Cs-K-C-C4	-1151.401705	-1151.007492	-1151.094033	-1151.090405	2.53
7-Cs-K-C-C5	-1151.4011	-1151.007184	-1151.092999	-1151.090201	2.66
7-Cs-K-C-C6	-1151.400965	-1151.006688	-1151.092327	-1151.089188	3.29
7-Cs-K-C-C7	-1151.39901	-1151.005086	-1151.09353	-1151.08904	3.39

Table S27. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Cs-K-C<sup>a</sup>

7-Cs-K-C-C8 -	1151.399391	-1151.00554	-1151.092655	-1151.088706	3.60
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7-Na-E-T

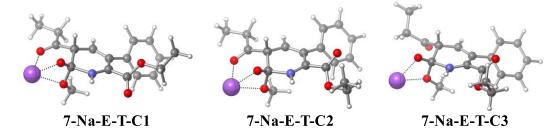


Figure S29. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Na-E-T

Table S28. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Na-E-T<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Na-E-T-C1	-1293.690763	-1293.297521	-1293.380594	-1293.377208	0.00
7-Na-E-T-C2	-1293.688945	-1293.295473	-1293.37647	-1293.374172	1.90
7-Na-E-T-C3	-1293.67976	-1293.286083	-1293.370204	-1293.366713	6.59

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7-Na-E-C

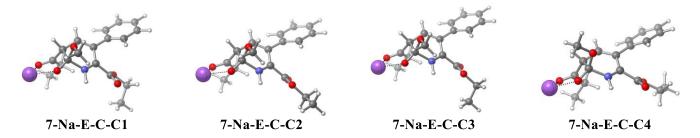


Figure S30. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Na-E-C

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Na-E-C-C1	-1293.689303	-1293.296063	-1293.379956	-1293.376738	0.00
7-Na-E-C-C2	-1293.689222	-1293.296017	-1293.379457	-1293.376619	0.07
7-Na-E-C-C3	-1293.688758	-1293.295534	-1293.378991	-1293.376066	0.42
7-Na-E-C-C4	-1293.687808	-1293.294649	-1293.378254	-1293.375061	1.05

Table S29. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Na-E-C<sup>a</sup>

7-Na-K-T

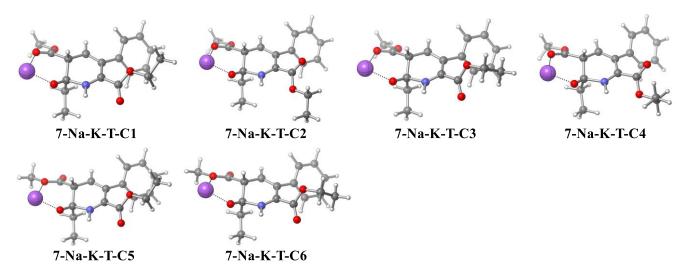


Figure S31. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Na-K-T

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔН	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Na-K-T-C1	-1293.702579	-1293.308272	-1293.392141	-1293.389103	0.00
7-Na-K-T-C2	-1293.701098	-1293.306942	-1293.391318	-1293.388068	0.65
7-Na-K-T-C3	-1293.701874	-1293.30756	-1293.390868	-1293.388011	0.69
7-Na-K-T-C4	-1293.70072	-1293.306273	-1293.389534	-1293.386776	1.46
7-Na-K-T-C5	-1293.697157	-1293.302892	-1293.386388	-1293.383571	3.47

Table S30. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans zwitterion 7-Na-K-T<sup>a</sup>

7-Na-K-T-C6	-1293.696394	-1293.302099	-1293.384749	-1293.382255	4.30
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7-Na-K-C

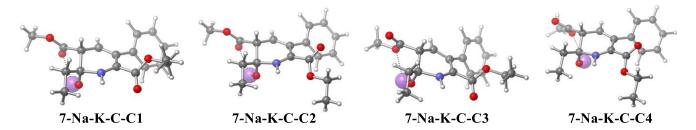


Figure S32. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Na-K-C

Table S31. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis zwitterion 7-Na-K-C<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7-Na-K-C-C1	-1293.702982	-1293.308205	-1293.391529	-1293.388466	0.00
7-Na-K-C-C2	-1293.702844	-1293.307994	-1293.390561	-1293.387995	0.30
7-Na-K-C-C3	-1293.696666	-1293.302098	-1293.384951	-1293.382424	3.79
7-Na-K-C-C4	-1293.696511	-1293.301949	-1293.384419	-1293.382145	3.97

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7b-E-T

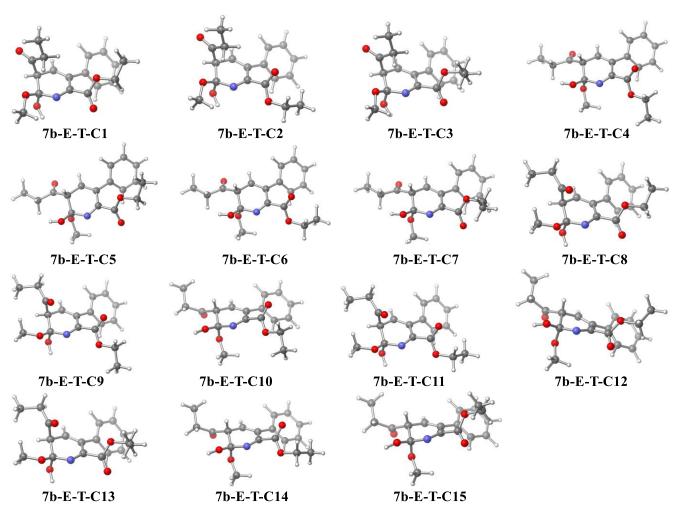


Figure S33. Conformers of ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-E-T.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-E-T-C1	-1131.307293	-1130.916683	-1130.996557	-1130.993753	0.00
7b-E-T-C2	-1131.306542	-1130.915885	-1130.995522	-1130.992876	0.55
7b-E-T-C3	-1131.30617	-1130.915425	-1130.995073	-1130.99241	0.84
7b-E-T-C4	-1131.302129	-1130.911645	-1130.992008	-1130.989077	2.93
7b-E-T-C5	-1131.302403	-1130.911847	-1130.991695	-1130.988891	3.05
7b-E-T-C6	-1131.301914	-1130.911358	-1130.990935	-1130.988308	3.42
7b-E-T-C7	-1131.301228	-1130.910491	-1130.990297	-1130.987478	3.94

 Table S32. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

7b-E-T-C8	-1131.301607	-1130.910899	-1130.989902	-1130.98733	4.03
7b-E-T-C9	-1131.301051	-1130.910474	-1130.989755	-1130.98728	4.06
7b-E-T-C10	-1131.29982	-1130.909024	-1130.989393	-1130.986583	4.50
7b-E-T-C11	-1131.3008	-1130.910074	-1130.988384	-1130.98628	4.69
7b-E-T-C12	-1131.300078	-1130.909299	-1130.988727	-1130.986248	4.71
7b-E-T-C13	-1131.300399	-1130.909594	-1130.988441	-1130.985939	4.90
7b-E-T-C14	-1131.299619	-1130.908811	-1130.988076	-1130.985675	5.07
7b-E-T-C15	-1131.29884	-1130.908034	-1130.988451	-1130.985277	5.32

7**b-E-C** 

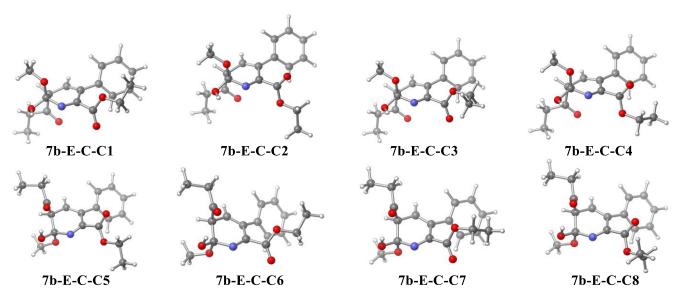


Figure S34. Conformers of ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-E-C.

	Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
	7b-E-C-C1	-1131.30287	-1130.912383	-1130.992676	-1130.989573	0.00
Γ	7b-E-C-C2	-1131.302691	-1130.911955	-1130.991872	-1130.988916	0.41

Table S33. Energies of conformers of ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

7b-E-C-C3	-1131.301856	-1130.911192	-1130.991422	-1130.988345	0.77
7b-E-C-C4	-1131.302487	-1130.911712	-1130.99088	-1130.98817	0.88
7b-E-C-C5	-1131.300679	-1130.909622	-1130.989712	-1130.986772	1.76
7b-E-C-C6	-1131.300834	-1130.909761	-1130.989626	-1130.986527	1.91
7b-E-C-C7	-1131.300525	-1130.909562	-1130.988869	-1130.985894	2.31
7b-E-C-C8	-1131.300079	-1130.908941	-1130.988878	-1130.985821	2.35

7b-K-T

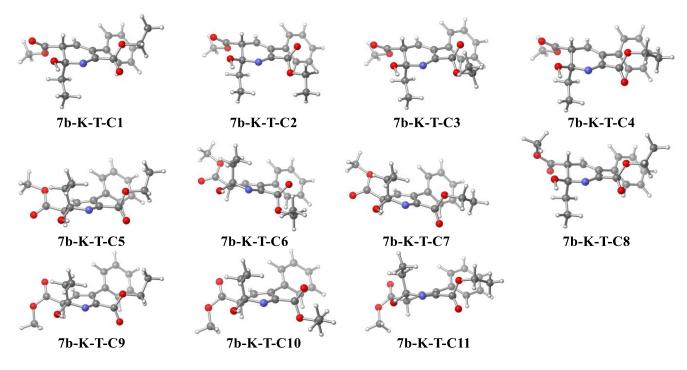


Figure S35. Conformers of ketone cyclization trans intermediate 7b-K-T.

Table S34. Energies of conformers of ketone cyclization trans intermediate 7b-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	Δ <i>G</i> (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
7b-K-T-C1	-1131.324063	-1130.932801	-1131.012585	-1131.010013	0.00
7b-K-T-C2	-1131.323542	-1130.9323	-1131.012369	-1131.0097	0.20

7b-K-T-C3	-1131.322876	-1130.931579	-1131.011849	-1131.008929	0.68
7b-K-T-C4	-1131.323612	-1130.932264	-1131.011088	-1131.008926	0.68
7b-K-T-C5	-1131.320677	-1130.929699	-1131.010148	-1131.007291	1.71
7b-K-T-C6	-1131.319884	-1130.928558	-1131.008495	-1131.005735	2.68
7b-K-T-C7	-1131.320005	-1130.928734	-1131.008239	-1131.00559	2.78
7b-K-T-C8	-1131.317387	-1130.926038	-1131.004712	-1131.002681	4.60
7b-K-T-C9	-1131.31374	-1130.922602	-1131.002495	-1130.999853	6.38
7b-K-T-C10	-1131.312726	-1130.9214	-1131.002179	-1130.998984	6.92
7b-K-T-C11	-1131.313067	-1130.921708	-1131.001315	-1130.998545	7.20

7b-K-C

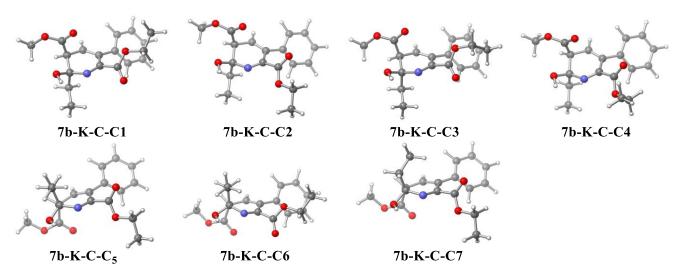


Figure S36. Conformers of ketone cyclization cis intermediate 7b-K-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔН	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-K-C-C1	-1131.318139	-1130.926748	-1131.006283	-1131.003659	0.00
7b-K-C-C2	-1131.317236	-1130.925845	-1131.005333	-1131.002849	0.51

 Table S35. Energies of conformers of ketone cyclization cis intermediate 7b-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

7b-K-C-C3	-1131.317632	-1130.926213	-1131.005063	-1131.00276	0.56
7b-K-C-C4	-1131.316644	-1130.925136	-1131.004291	-1131.001865	1.13
7b-K-C-C5	-1131.314503	-1130.923161	-1131.00325	-1131.000344	2.08
7b-K-C-C6	-1131.314515	-1130.923328	-1131.002632	-1131.000216	2.16
7b-K-C-C7	-1131.314822	-1130.923425	-1131.002202	-1130.999593	2.55

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7b-Cs-E-T

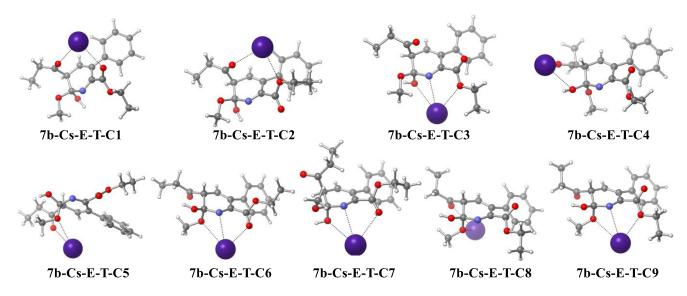


Figure S37. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Cs-E-T.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Cs-E-T-C1	-1151.408106	-1151.014243	-1151.101014	-1151.097741	0.00
7b-Cs-E-T-C2	-1151.405469	-1151.011552	-1151.096958	-1151.094135	2.26
7b-Cs-E-T-C3	-1151.404135	-1151.010165	-1151.095909	-1151.092836	3.08
7b-Cs-E-T-C4	-1151.400011	-1151.005953	-1151.093706	-1151.089887	4.93
7b-Cs-E-T-C5	-1151.399802	-1151.006218	-1151.090792	-1151.087885	6.18

Table S36. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Cs-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

7b-Cs-E-T-C6	-1151.398933	-1151.005312	-1151.090542	-1151.087701	6.30
7b-Cs-E-T-C7	-1151.399249	-1151.006569	-1151.089864	-1151.087603	6.36
7b-Cs-E-T-C8	-1151.397494	-1151.003751	-1151.090256	-1151.086766	6.89
7b-Cs-E-T-C9	-1151.39588	-1151.001861	-1151.086728	-1151.084545	8.28

7b-Cs-E-C

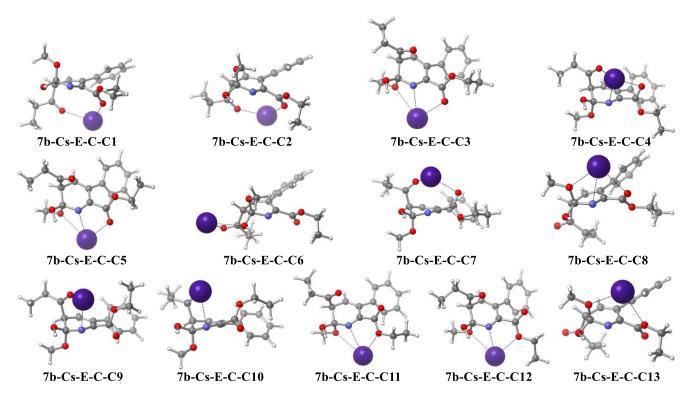


Figure S38. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Cs-E-C.

Table S37. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Cs-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Cs-E-C-C1	-1151.410611	-1151.016717	-1151.103733	-1151.099996	0.00
7b-Cs-E-C-C2	-1151.40865	-1151.014482	-1151.102141	-1151.098273	1.08
7b-Cs-E-C-C3	-1151.406214	-1151.011933	-1151.097577	-1151.094794	3.26

7b-Cs-E-C-C4	-1151.405165	-1151.011058	-1151.098361	-1151.094493	3.45
7b-Cs-E-C-C5	-1151.40533	-1151.011152	-1151.097165	-1151.094162	3.66
7b-Cs-E-C-C6	-1151.404505	-1151.010382	-1151.097517	-1151.093956	3.79
7b-Cs-E-C-C7	-1151.405399	-1151.010938	-1151.097472	-1151.093778	3.90
7b-Cs-E-C-C8	-1151.40516	-1151.010764	-1151.09678	-1151.093666	3.97
7b-Cs-E-C-C9	-1151.404489	-1151.010328	-1151.096346	-1151.093289	4.21
7b-Cs-E-C-C10	-1151.405261	-1151.010858	-1151.095715	-1151.093046	4.36
7b-Cs-E-C-C11	-1151.403552	-1151.009252	-1151.095432	-1151.092217	4.88
7b-Cs-E-C-C12	-1151.403297	-1151.009092	-1151.094906	-1151.092135	4.93
7b-Cs-E-C-C13	-1151.402292	-1151.00806	-1151.094983	-1151.091417	5.38

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

## 7b-Cs-K-T

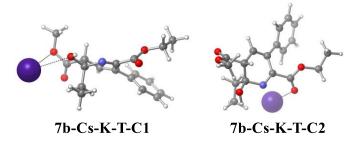


Figure S39. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Cs-K-T.

**Table S38**. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans intermediate **7b-Cs-K-T**.<sup>*a*</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Cs-K-T-C1	-1151.416007	-1151.021834	-1151.109092	-1151.105355	0.00
7b-Cs-K-T-C2	-1151.41427	-1151.019559	-1151.105332	-1151.102053	2.07

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

# 7b-Cs-K-C

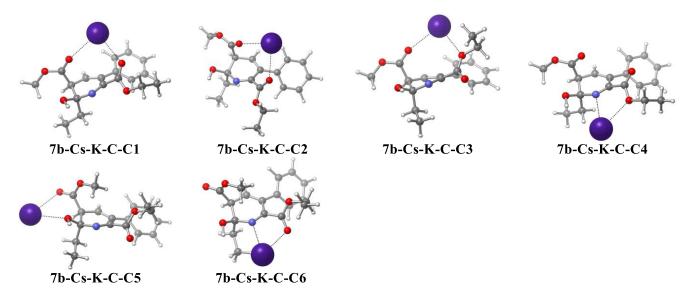


Figure S40. Conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Cs-K-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Cs-K-C-C1	-1151.423624	-1151.028927	-1151.114179	-1151.111496	0.00
7b-Cs-K-C-C2	-1151.423408	-1151.028722	-1151.114443	-1151.11142	0.05
7b-Cs-K-C-C3	-1151.420259	-1151.025543	-1151.110093	-1151.107469	2.53
7b-Cs-K-C-C4	-1151.414741	-1151.019973	-1151.105694	-1151.102788	5.46
7b-Cs-K-C-C5	-1151.413019	-1151.018234	-1151.104039	-1151.100872	6.67
7b-Cs-K-C-C6	-1151.412621	-1151.017725	-1151.102629	-1151.099637	7.44

**Table S39**. Energies of conformers of cesium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis intermediate **7b-Cs-K-**C.<sup>*a*</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

# 7b-Na-E-T

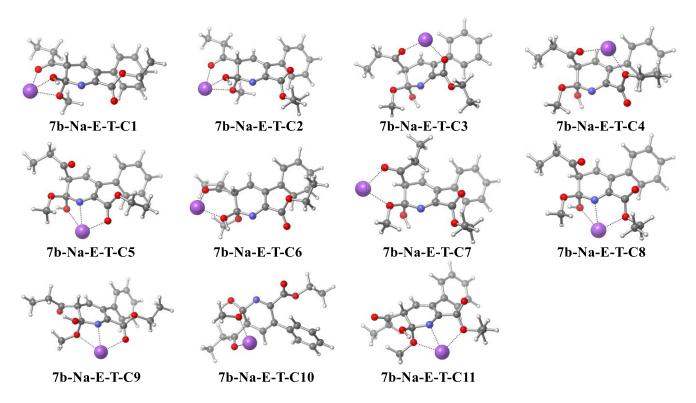


Figure S41. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Na-E-T.

Table S40. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Na-E	-
<b>T</b> . <sup><i>a</i></sup>	

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Na-E-T-C1	-1293.704301	-1293.310743	-1293.392234	-1293.3899	0.00
7b-Na-E-T-C2	-1293.703559	-1293.309746	-1293.391551	-1293.388892	0.63
7b-Na-E-T-C3	-1293.700853	-1293.306582	-1293.390343	-1293.387541	1.48
7b-Na-E-T-C4	-1293.695294	-1293.301481	-1293.383779	-1293.38172	5.13
7b-Na-E-T-C5	-1293.695113	-1293.300898	-1293.383297	-1293.381276	5.41
7b-Na-E-T-C6	-1293.694318	-1293.300526	-1293.38244	-1293.380374	5.98
7b-Na-E-T-C7	-1293.693394	-1293.299145	-1293.383041	-1293.38026	6.05
7b-Na-E-T-C8	-1293.690765	-1293.29675	-1293.380648	-1293.377966	7.49
7b-Na-E-T-C9	-1293.690821	-1293.296856	-1293.379276	-1293.377038	8.07
7b-Na-E-T-C10	-1293.689561	-1293.295775	-1293.37766	-1293.375597	8.98

7b-Na-E-T-C11	-1293.688103	-1293.294384	-1293.377299	-1293.374812	9.47

7b-Na-E-C

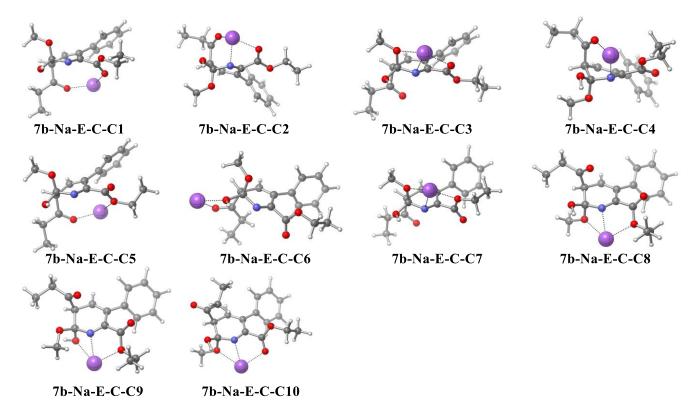


Figure S42. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Na-E-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Na-E-C-C1	-1293.704417	-1293.310235	-1293.393168	-1293.390573	0.00
7b-Na-E-C-C2	-1293.702937	-1293.308389	-1293.391014	-1293.388526	1.28
7b-Na-E-C-C3	-1293.699282	-1293.305349	-1293.388848	-1293.386264	2.70
7b-Na-E-C-C4	-1293.700302	-1293.305633	-1293.387141	-1293.384931	3.54
7b-Na-E-C-C5	-1293.698217	-1293.30441	-1293.387178	-1293.384565	3.77
7b-Na-E-C-C6	-1293.691847	-1293.298136	-1293.381742	-1293.378702	7.45

Table S41. Energies of conformers of sodium-coordinated ester cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Na-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

7b-Na-E-C-C7	-1293.691442	-1293.297529	-1293.381299	-1293.378389	7.65
7b-Na-E-C-C8	-1293.691639	-1293.29746	-1293.380819	-1293.378351	7.67
7b-Na-E-C-C9	-1293.696171	-1293.300418	-1293.379064	-1293.377694	8.08
7b-Na-E-C-C10	-1293.683815	-1293.289548	-1293.373034	-1293.370215	12.78

## 7b-Na-K-T

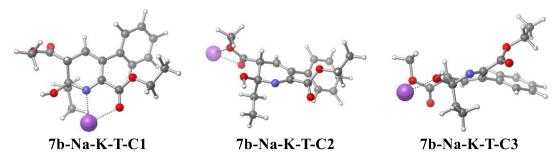


Figure S43. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Na-K-T.

Table S42. Energies of conformers sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization trans intermediate 7b-Na-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔH	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Na-K-T-C1	-1293.710722	-1293.315948	-1293.399878	-1293.396803	0.00
7b-Na-K-T-C2	-1293.700964	-1293.306366	-1293.390166	-1293.387645	5.75
7b-Na-K-T-C3	-1293.698312	-1293.303819	-1293.387019	-1293.384412	7.78

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

7b-Na-K-C

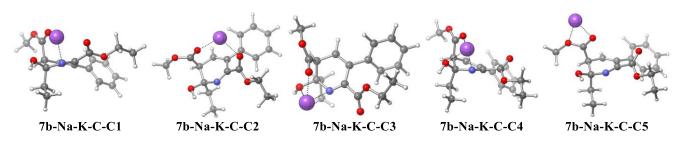


Figure S44. Conformers of sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Na-K-C.

Structure	ΔΕ	ΔΗ	ΔG	ΔG (GV50)	ΔΔG
7b-Na-K-C-C1	-1293.719304	-1293.324572	-1293.408179	-1293.405272	0.00
7b-Na-K-C-C2	-1293.717835	-1293.322756	-1293.404913	-1293.402775	1.57
7b-Na-K-C-C3	-1293.717533	-1293.322484	-1293.40504	-1293.402618	1.67
7b-Na-K-C-C4	-1293.717183	-1293.322023	-1293.404056	-1293.401724	2.23
7b-Na-K-C-C5	-1293.70273	-1293.307912	-1293.392152	-1293.389087	10.16

Table S43. Energies of conformers sodium-coordinated ketone cyclization cis intermediate 7b-Na-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

8-E

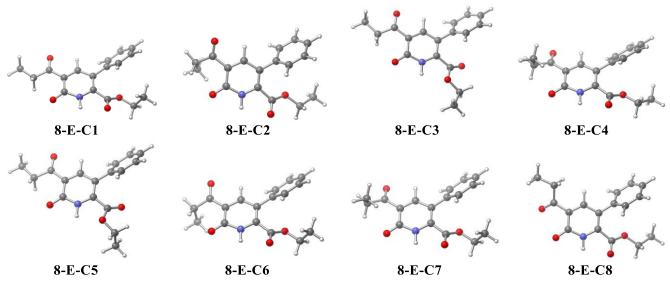


Figure S45. Conformers of pyridone product 8-E.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
8-E-C1	-1015.439527	-1015.106237	-1015.178984	-1015.176366	0.00
8-E-C2	-1015.438641	-1015.105285	-1015.178905	-1015.175911	0.29
8-E-C3	-1015.438417	-1015.105192	-1015.178854	-1015.175872	0.31
8-E-C4	-1015.438703	-1015.10526	-1015.17859	-1015.175789	0.36
8-E-C5	-1015.437812	-1015.104461	-1015.177084	-1015.174549	1.14
8-E-C6	-1015.437904	-1015.104371	-1015.176596	-1015.174302	1.30
8-E-C7	-1015.437945	-1015.104363	-1015.17649	-1015.174217	1.35
8-E-C8	-1015.435252	-1015.101952	-1015.175419	-1015.172856	2.20

Table S44. Energies of conformers of pyridone product 8-E.<sup>a</sup>

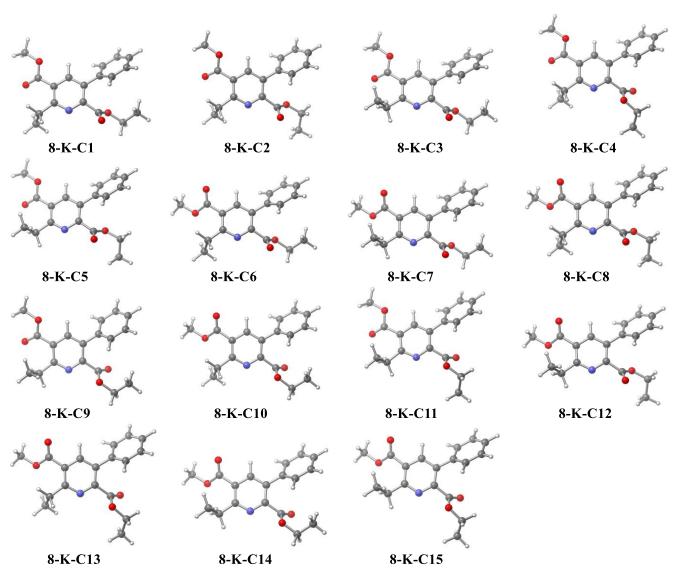


Figure S46. Conformers of pyridine product 8-K.

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	ΔG (GV50)	$\Delta\Delta G$
8-K-C1	-1054.809355	-1054.445911	-1054.521945	-1054.519291	0.00
8-K-C2	-1054.808921	-1054.445435	-1054.521905	-1054.519148	0.09
8-K-C3	-1054.808898	-1054.445482	-1054.522044	-1054.518983	0.19
8-K-C4	-1054.808631	-1054.445091	-1054.521331	-1054.518709	0.37
8-K-C5	-1054.808457	-1054.444926	-1054.521898	-1054.518679	0.38

Table S45. Energies of conformers of pyridine product 8-K.<sup>a</sup>

8-K-C6	-1054.808693	-1054.445217	-1054.521092	-1054.518479	0.51
8-K-C7	-1054.808474	-1054.445058	-1054.520796	-1054.518423	0.54
8-K-C8	-1054.808207	-1054.44468	-1054.521064	-1054.518371	0.58
8-K-C9	-1054.808431	-1054.444952	-1054.520964	-1054.51833	0.60
8-K-C10	-1054.808195	-1054.44473	-1054.520783	-1054.518274	0.64
8-K-C11	-1054.808143	-1054.444595	-1054.521143	-1054.518243	0.66
8-K-C12	-1054.80804	-1054.444531	-1054.520725	-1054.51817	0.70
8-K-C13	-1054.807908	-1054.444377	-1054.521045	-1054.518153	0.71
8-K-C14	-1054.807987	-1054.444587	-1054.520528	-1054.518118	0.74
8-K-C15	-1054.807679	-1054.444196	-1054.520725	-1054.51797	0.83

 Table S46. Energies of other structures.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	$\Delta G (GV50)$
N <sub>2</sub> O	-184.9544308	-184.9393862	-184.9642602	-184.9642602
H <sub>2</sub> O	-76.55366451	-76.52870578	-76.55079278	-76.55079278
MeOH	-115.9109426	-115.8554341	-115.8826501	-115.8826511
$Cs^+$	-20.08973125	-20.08737107	-20.10664507	-20.10664507
Na <sup>+</sup>	-162.3547732	-162.3524127	-162.3692017	-162.3692017

<sup>*a*</sup> Energies were obtained as single points at the PW6B95(D3BJ) / def2-TZVPPD / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory.  $\Delta E$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta G$ , and  $\Delta G$  (GV50), hartree;  $\Delta \Delta G$ , kcal/mol.

# Distortion/Interaction-Activation Strain Fragments and Electronic Energy by Structure – MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM)

6b Fragment F1

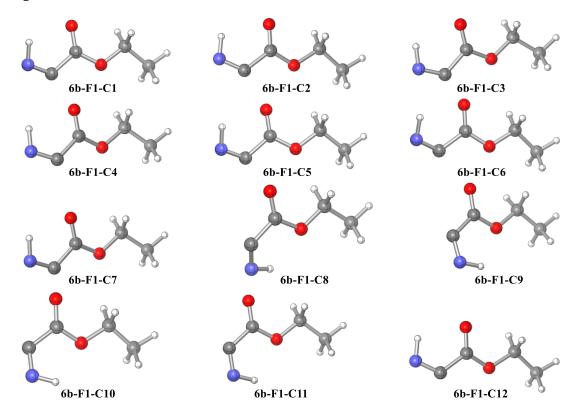


Figure S47. Conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b.

Table S47. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b. <sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-C3	-360.890759
6b-C2	-360.8901045
6b-C12	-360.8900083
6b-C7	-360.8898753
6b-C5	-360.8895681
6b-C1	-360.8895596
6b-C6	-360.8892895
6b-C4	-360.8892737
6b-C11	-360.8886553

6b-C9	-360.888134
6b-C8	-360.8879095
6b-C10	-360.8878114

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

6b Fragment F2

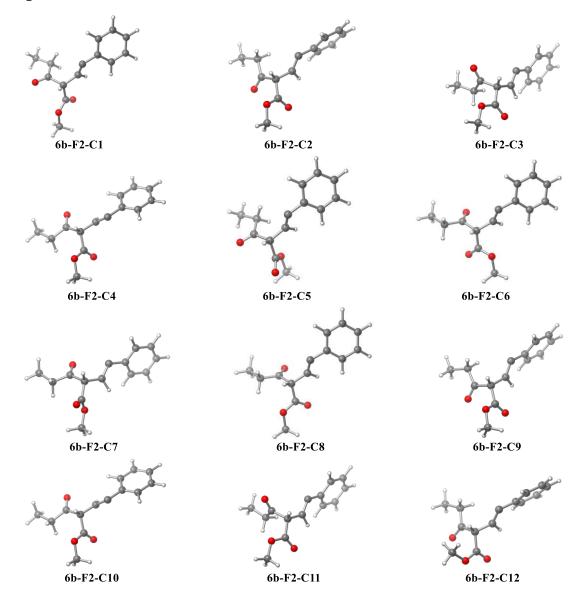


Figure S48. Conformers of fragment F2 for intermediate 6b.

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-C2	-767.5050699
6b-C9	-767.5047208
6b-C11	-767.5040672
6b-C3	-767.5038929
6b-C8	-767.5023681
6b-C4	-767.5023488
6b-C10	-767.5023311
6b-C1	-767.5021559
6b-C6	-767.501702
6b-C7	-767.501279
6b-C5	-767.5010874
6b-C12	-767.4973661

Table S48. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for intermediate 6b.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

## 6b-Cs Fragment F1

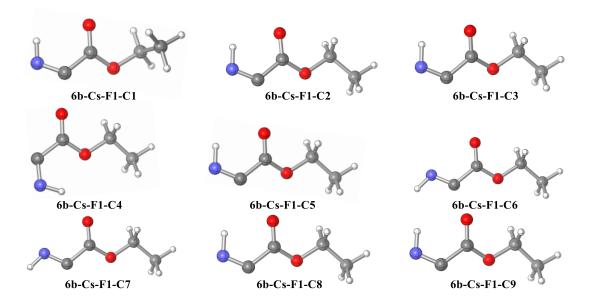


Figure S49. Conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b-Cs.

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-Cs-C6	-360.8949175
6b-Cs-C7	-360.8943334
6b-Cs-C1	-360.88957
6b-Cs-C5	-360.8894261
6b-Cs-C9	-360.8893931
6b-Cs-C8	-360.8892505
6b-Cs-C3	-360.8892505
6b-Cs-C2	-360.888974
6b-Cs-C4	-360.8882698

Table S49. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b-Cs.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

# 6b-Cs Fragment F2

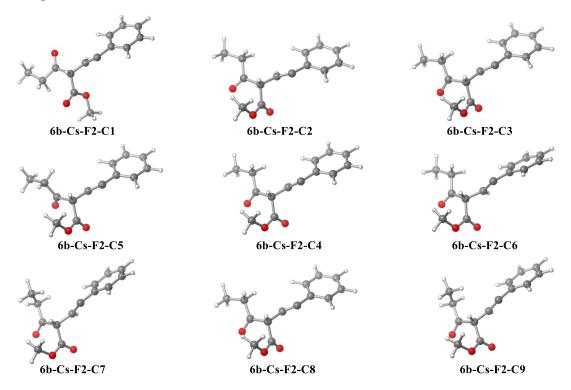


Figure S50. Conformers of fragment F2 for intermediate 6b-Cs.

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-Cs-C1	-767.5017852
6b-Cs-C6	-767.4974734
6b-Cs-C7	-767.495785
6b-Cs-C4	-767.495432
6b-Cs-C9	-767.4949094
6b-Cs-C2	-767.4943543
6b-Cs-C8	-767.4935853
6b-Cs-C3	-767.4935853
6b-Cs-C5	-767.4919119

Table S50. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for intermediate 6b-Cs.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

## 6b-Na Fragment F1

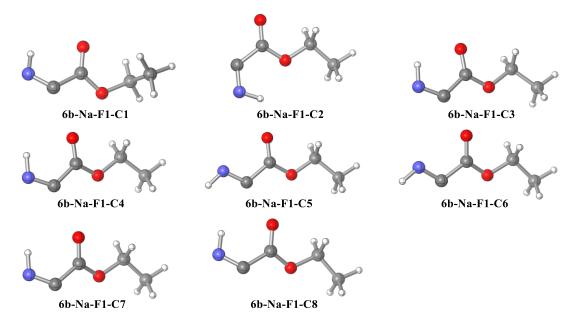


Figure S51. Conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b-Na.

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-Na-C5	-360.8931161
6b-Na-C6	-360.8929365
6b-Na-C4	-360.8898244
6b-Na-C8	-360.889313
6b-Na-C1	-360.8891442
6b-Na-C7	-360.8887943
6b-Na-C2	-360.8885236
6b-Na-C3	-360.8883351

Table S51. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for intermediate 6b-Na.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

## 6b-Na Fragment F2

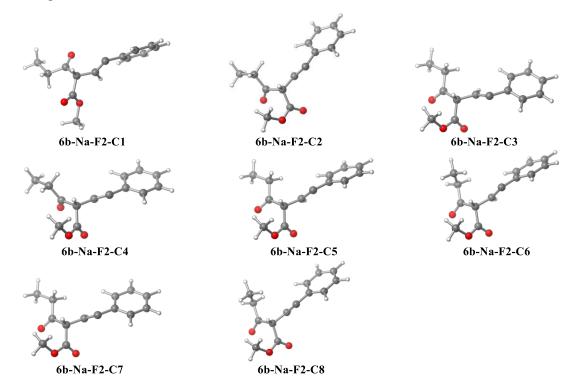


Figure S52. Conformers of fragment F2 for intermediate 6b-Na.

Structure	$\Delta E$
6b-Na-C1	-767.5020854
6b-Na-C5	-767.4974223
6b-Na-C6	-767.4959084
6b-Na-C2	-767.4951958
6b-Na-C8	-767.4948013
6b-Na-C7	-767.4941417
6b-Na-C3	-767.4929534
6b-Na-C4	-767.4896099

Table S52. Energies of conformers fragment F2 for intermediate 6b-Na.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.



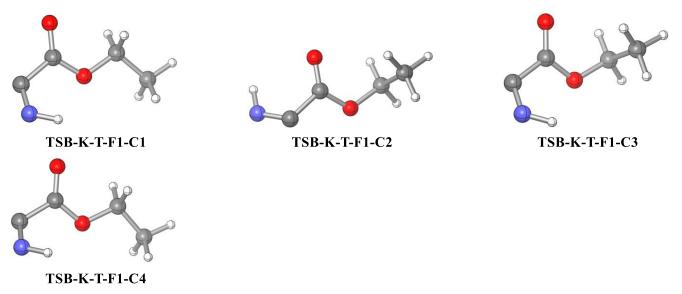


Figure S53. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-K-T.

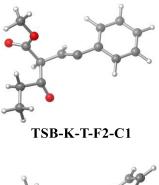
Table S53. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

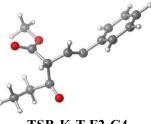
Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-K-T-C2	-360.8870855
TSB-K-T-C1	-360.8853292

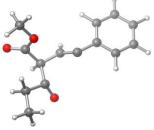
TSB-K-T-C4	-360.8852605
ТЅВ-К-Т-СЗ	-360.8850094

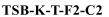
<sup>a</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

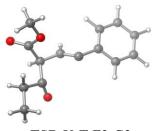
# **TSB-K-T Fragment F2**











TSB-K-T-F2-C3

TSB-K-T-F2-C4

Figure S54. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-K-T.

Table S54. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-K-T-C4	-767.4693553
TSB-K-T-C3	-767.4692234
TSB-K-T-C1	-767.4690992
TSB-K-T-C2	-767.468291

TSB-K-C Fragment F1

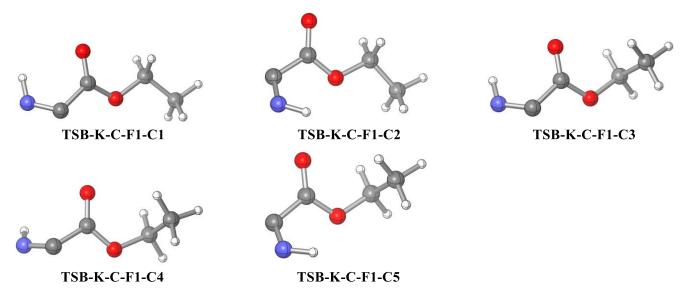


Figure S55. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-K-C.

Table S55. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-K-C-C4	-360.888161
TSB-K-C-C3	-360.8866489
TSB-K-C-C1	-360.8861748
TSB-K-C-C5	-360.8858119
TSB-K-C-C2	-360.8849229

TSB-K-C Fragment F2

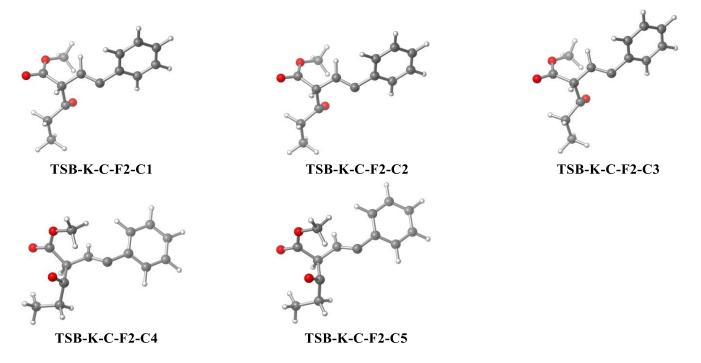


Figure S56. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-K-C.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-K-C-C5	-767.4609139
TSB-K-C-C4	-767.46032
TSB-K-C-C1	-767.4594254
TSB-K-C-C3	-767.4592898
TSB-K-C-C2	-767.4588573

Table S56. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

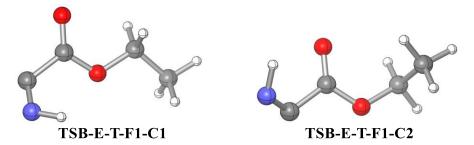


Figure S57. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-E-T.

Table S57. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-E-T-C1	-360.8866259
TSB-E-T-C2	-360.8863391

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

### **TSB-E-T** Fragment F2

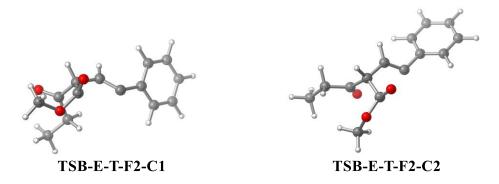


Figure S58. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-E-T.

Table S58. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-E-T-C1	-767.4618329
TSB-E-T-C2	-767.4522743

**TSB-E-C** Fragment F1

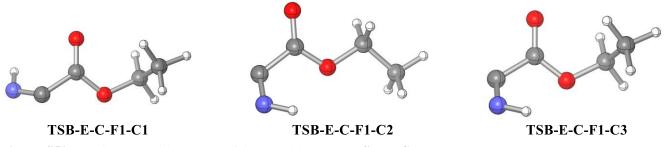


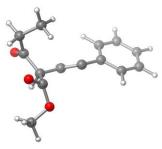
Figure S59. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-E-C.

Table S59. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

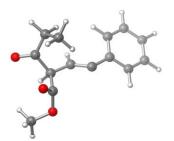
Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-E-C-C1	-360.8894664
TSB-E-C-C2	-360.8876299
TSB-E-C-C3	-360.8873482

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

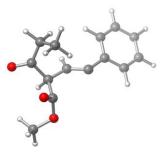
### **TSB-E-C** Fragment F2



TSB-E-C-F2-C1



TSB-E-C-F2-C2



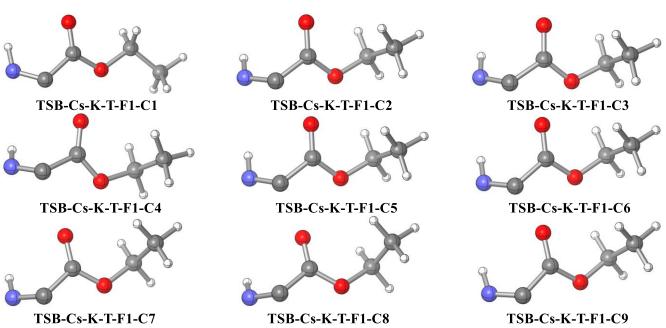
TSB-E-F2-C3

Figure S60. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-E-C.

Table S60. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-E-C-C3	-767.457268
TSB-E-C-C2	-767.4572525
TSB-E-C-C1	-767.4569468

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.



TSB-Cs-K-T Fragment F1

Figure S61. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-T.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-K-T-C1	-360.8890472
TSB-Cs-K-T-C4	-360.8884158
TSB-Cs-K-T-C3	-360.8882955
TSB-Cs-K-T-C5	-360.8876659
TSB-Cs-K-T-C2	-360.8876348
TSB-Cs-K-T-C9	-360.8875916
TSB-Cs-K-T-C6	-360.887549
TSB-Cs-K-T-C7	-360.8870643
TSB-Cs-K-T-C8	-360.8866972

Table S61. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

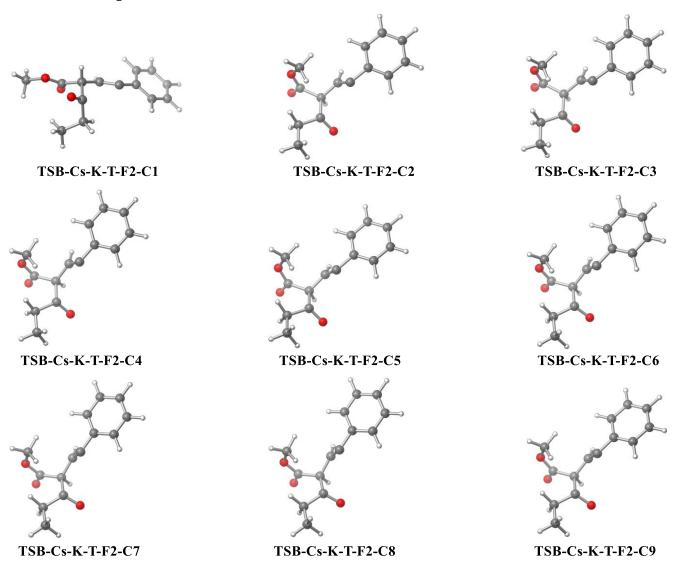


Figure S62. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-T.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-K-T-C1	-767.4793681
TSB-Cs-K-T-C3	-767.4641035
TSB-Cs-K-T-C2	-767.4625831
TSB-Cs-K-T-C4	-767.4610787
TSB-Cs-K-T-C5	-767.459925

Table S62. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

TSB-Cs-K-T-C7	-767.4593369
TSB-Cs-K-T-C6	-767.4590215
TSB-Cs-K-T-C8	-767.457707
TSB-Cs-K-T-C9	-767.4565832

#### TSB-Cs-K-C Fragment F1

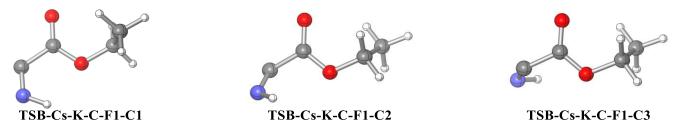


Figure S63. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-C.

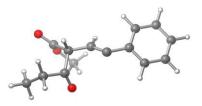
Table S63. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

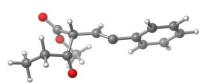
Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-K-C-C2	-360.8858021
TSB-Cs-K-C-C1	-360.8854029
TSB-Cs-K-C-C3	-360.8853893

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

#### TSB-Cs-K-C Fragment F2







TSB-Cs-K-C-F2-C2

Figure S64. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-C.

Table S64. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

TSB-Cs-K-C-F2-C3

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-K-C-C1	-767.4654485
TSB-Cs-K-C-C2	-767.4651693
TSB-Cs-K-C-C3	-767.4621897

#### **TSB-Cs-E-T Fragment F1**



Figure S65. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-T.

Table S65. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-E-T-C2	-360.8881578
TSB-Cs-E-T-C1	-360.8878187
TSB-Cs-E-T-C3	-360.8868463

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

#### **TSB-Cs-E-T Fragment F2**

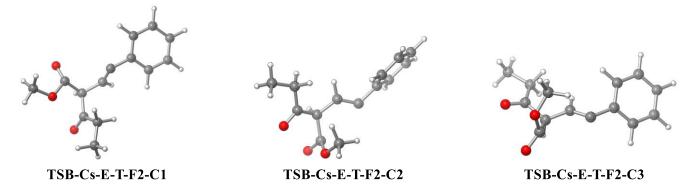


Figure S66. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-T.

Table S66. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-E-T-C1	-767.4677878
TSB-Cs-E-T-C3	-767.4618319
TSB-Cs-E-T-C2	-767.4615093

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

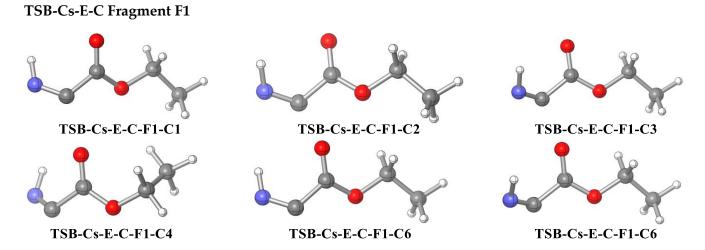


Figure S67. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-C.

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Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-E-C-C6	-360.8885666
TSB-Cs-E-C-C1	-360.8878381
TSB-Cs-E-C-C4	-360.8877311
TSB-Cs-E-C-C5	-360.8877224
TSB-Cs-E-C-C2	-360.8875087

Table S67. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-C.<sup>a</sup>



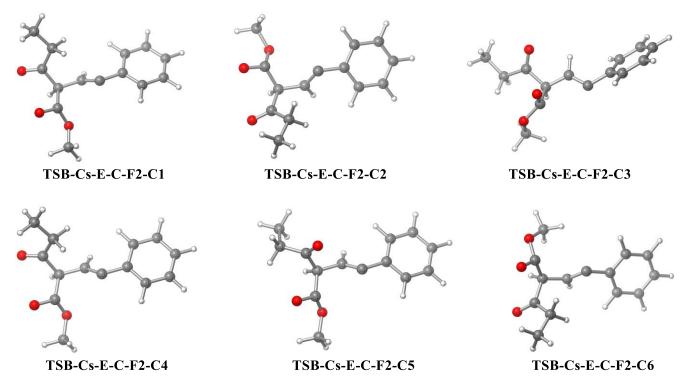


Figure S68. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-C.

Table S68. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Cs-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Cs-E-C-C6	-767.466413
TSB-Cs-E-C-C5	-767.4637485

TSB-Cs-E-C-C4	-767.4635251
TSB-Cs-E-C-C1	-767.4628295
TSB-Cs-E-C-C2	-767.4626709

#### TSB-Na-K-T Fragment F1

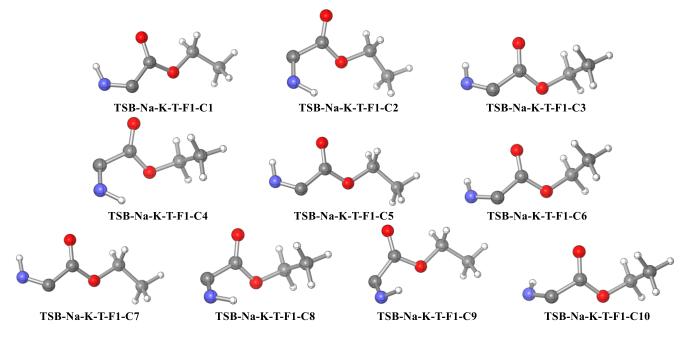


Figure S69. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-K-T.

Table S69. Energ	gies of conformers	of fragment F1 f	for transition state	TSB-Na-K-T. <sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-K-T-C3	-360.8898057
TSB-Na-K-T-C6	-360.8897817
TSB-Na-K-T-C7	-360.889501
TSB-Na-K-T-C5	-360.8892917
TSB-Na-K-T-C1	-360.8892682
TSB-Na-K-T-C2	-360.8876763
TSB-Na-K-T-C4	-360.8874357
TSB-Na-K-T-C8	-360.8867019

TSB-Na-K-T-C9	-360.8858274
TSB-Na-K-T-C10	-360.885262

#### TSB-Na-K-T Fragment F2

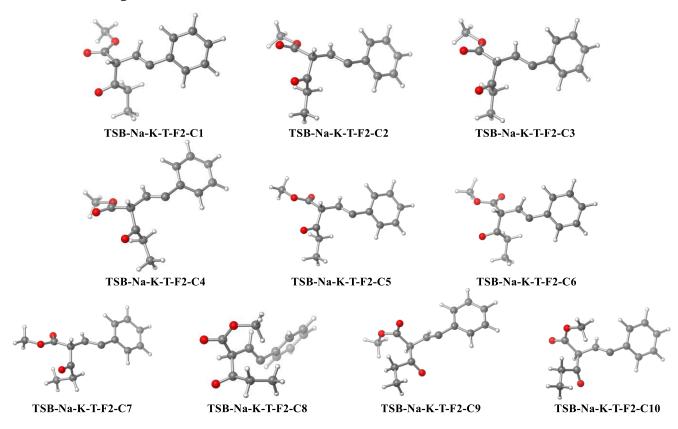


Figure S70. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-K-T.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-K-T-C7	-767.483619
TSB-Na-K-T-C6	-767.4829992
TSB-Na-K-T-C5	-767.4825825
TSB-Na-K-T-C3	-767.4807686
TSB-Na-K-T-C4	-767.4804792
TSB-Na-K-T-C2	-767.4800816

Table S70. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-K-T.<sup>a</sup>

TSB-Na-K-T-C1	-767.4800435
TSB-Na-K-T-C9	-767.4712748
TSB-Na-K-T-C10	-767.4634094
TSB-Na-K-T-C8	-767.4605217

#### TSB-Na-K-C Fragment F1

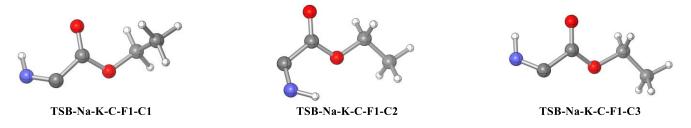


Figure S71. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-K-C.

Table S71. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

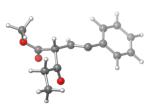
Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-K-C-C1	-360.8893736
TSB-Na-K-C-C3	-360.8885053
TSB-Na-K-C-C2	-360.8879021

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

#### TSB-Na-K-C Fragment F2







TSB-Na-K-C-F2-C3

Figure S72. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-K-C.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-K-C-C2	-767.4757391
TSB-Na-K-C-C1	-767.4755163
TSB-Na-K-C-C3	-767.4701713

Table S72. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-K-C.<sup>a</sup>

#### **TSB-Na-E-T Fragment F1**

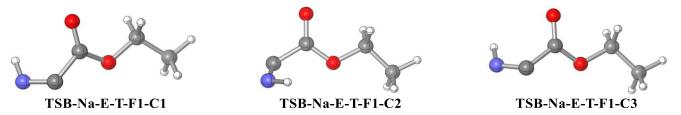


Figure S73. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-E-T.

 Table S73. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-E-T-C1	-360.8888639
TSB-Na-E-T-C3	-360.8886144
TSB-Na-E-T-C2	-360.8882133

<sup>*a*</sup>Energies were obtained as single points at the MN15 / def2-TZVP / SMD (DCM) level of theory based on structures optimized at the same level of theory.  $\Delta E$ , hartree.

#### **TSB-Na-E-T Fragment F2**

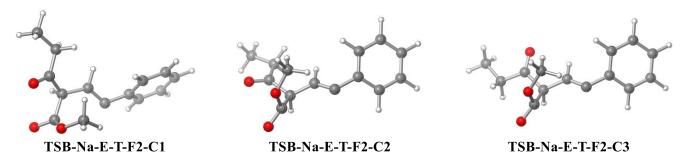
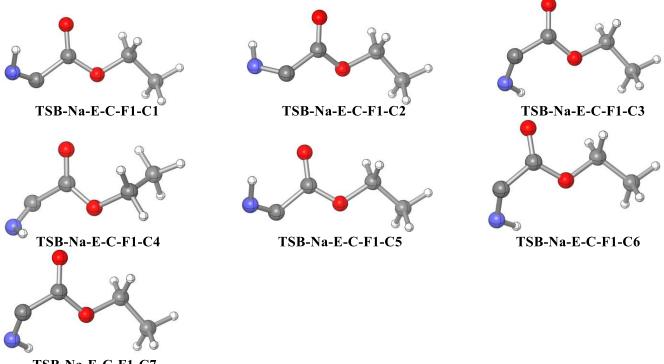


Figure S74. Conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-E-T.

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-E-T-C3	-767.4717853
TSB-Na-E-T-C2	-767.4678667
TSB-Na-E-T-C1	-767.4676947

Table S74. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-E-T.<sup>a</sup>

#### **TSB-Na-E-C Fragment F1**



TSB-Na-E-C-F1-C7

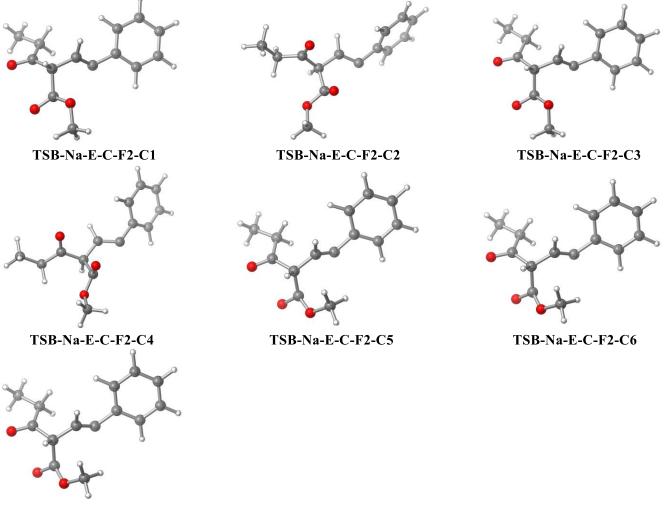
Figure S75. Conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-E-C.

Table S75. Energies of conformers of fragment F1 for transition state TSB-Na-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-E-C5	-360.8893635
TSB-Na-E-C1	-360.8881534

TSB-Na-E-C2	-360.8879725
TSB-Na-E-C7	-360.8878785
TSB-Na-E-C6	-360.8876561
TSB-Na-E-C3	-360.8869037
TSB-Na-E-C4	-360.8864558

#### TSB-Na-E-C Fragment F2



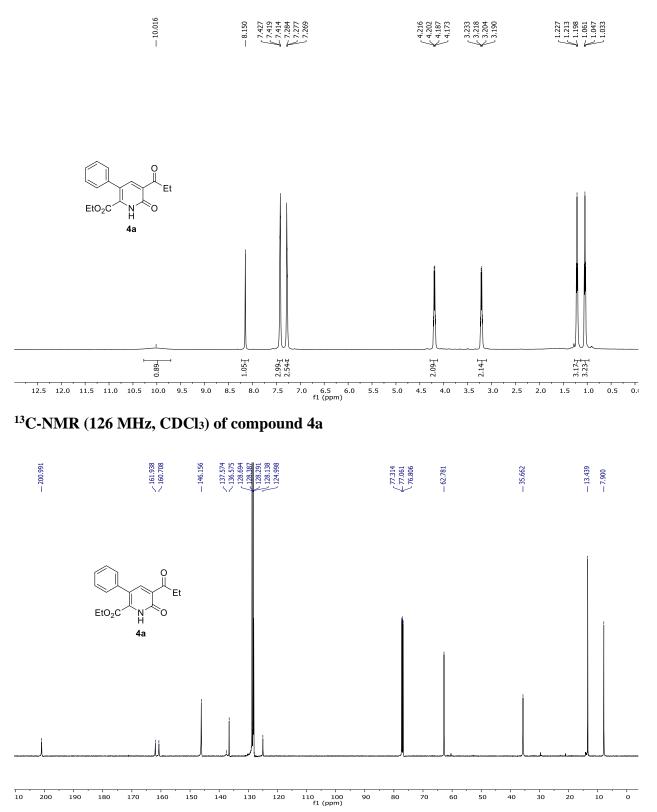
TSB-Na-E-C-F2-C7

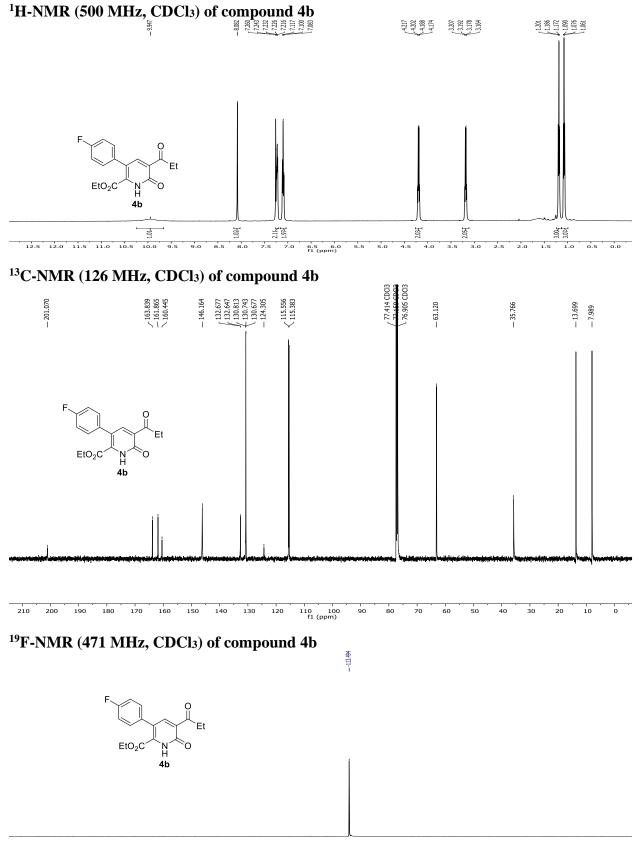


Structure	$\Delta E$
TSB-Na-E-C4	-767.4713784
TSB-Na-E-C2	-767.4710121
TSB-Na-E-C1	-767.4682315
TSB-Na-E-C3	-767.4678666
TSB-Na-E-C6	-767.4673483
TSB-Na-E-C7	-767.4672787
TSB-Na-E-C5	-767.4669896

Table S76. Energies of conformers of fragment F2 for transition state TSB-Na-E-C.<sup>a</sup>

## 9. NMR spectra <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4a





-65 -70 -75 -80 -85 -90 -95 -100 -105 -110 -115 -120 -125 -130 -135 -140 -145 -150 -15 f1 (ppm)

#### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4c

-61

-62

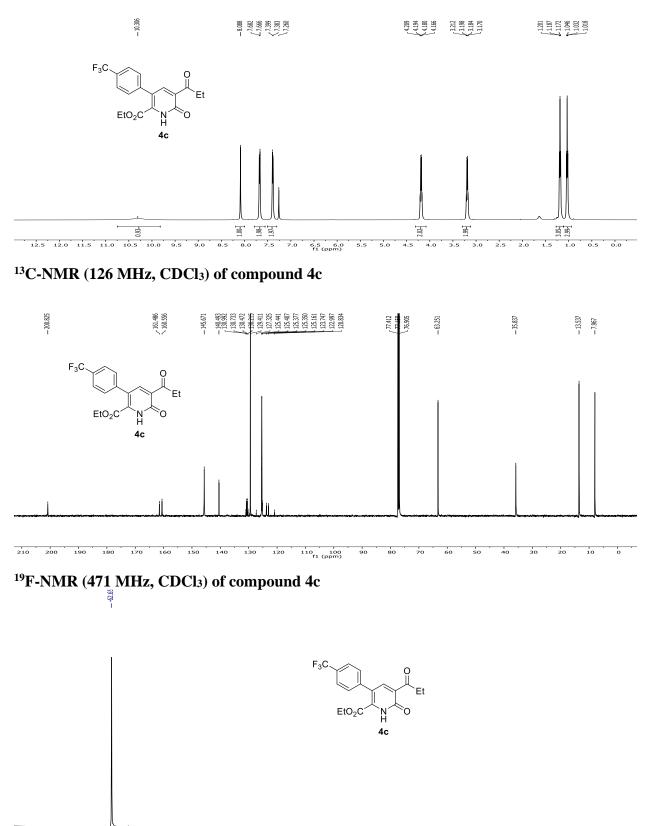
-63

-64

-65

-66

-67



S87

-68 f1 (ppm) -69

-70

-71

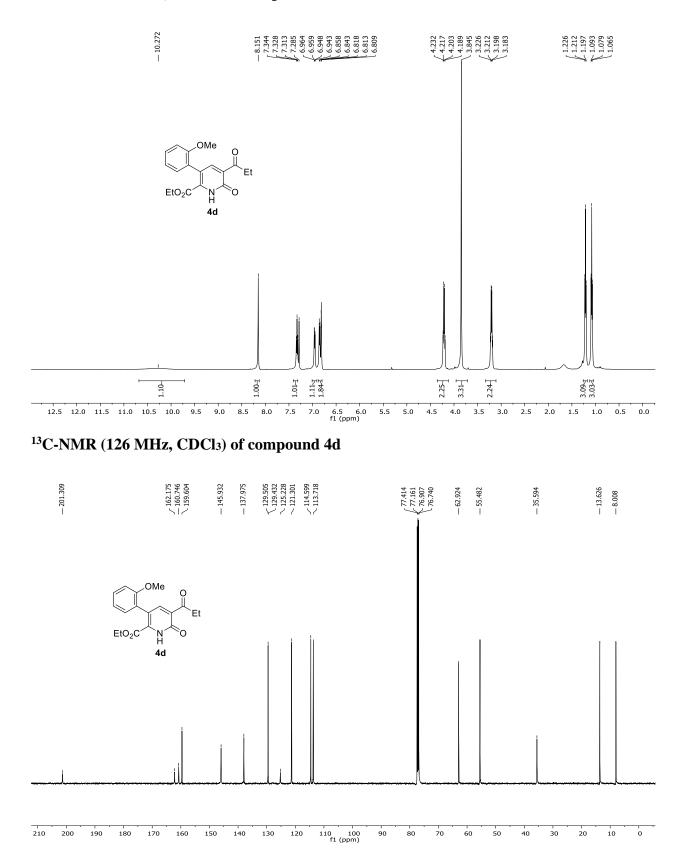
-72

-73

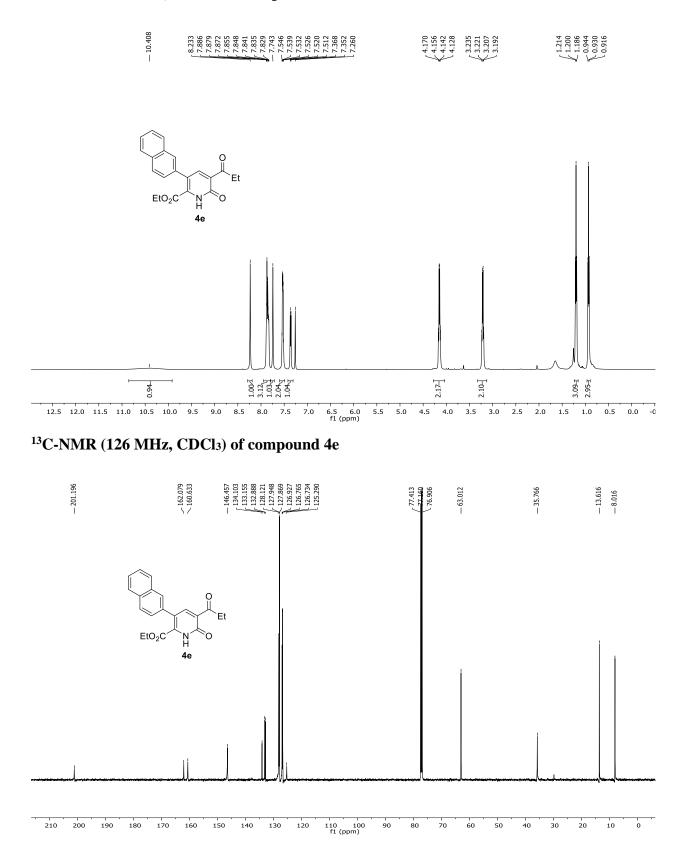
-74

-75

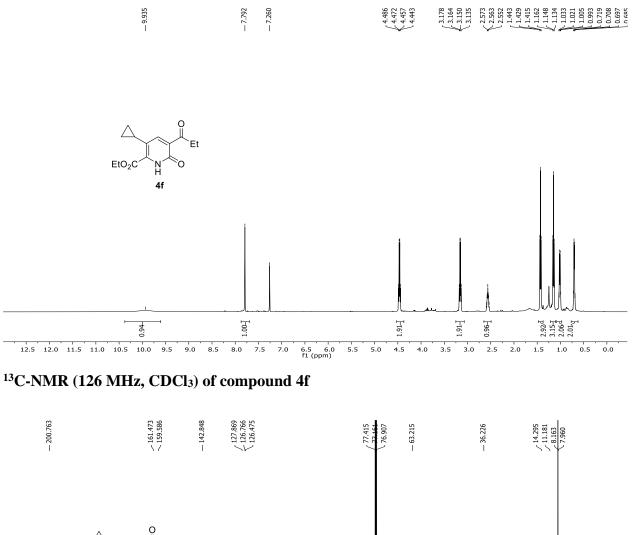
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4d

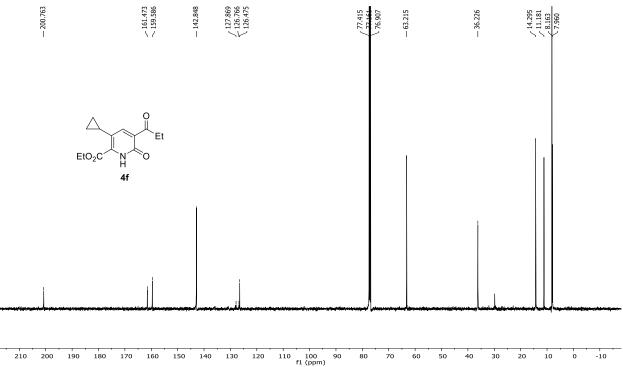


## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4e

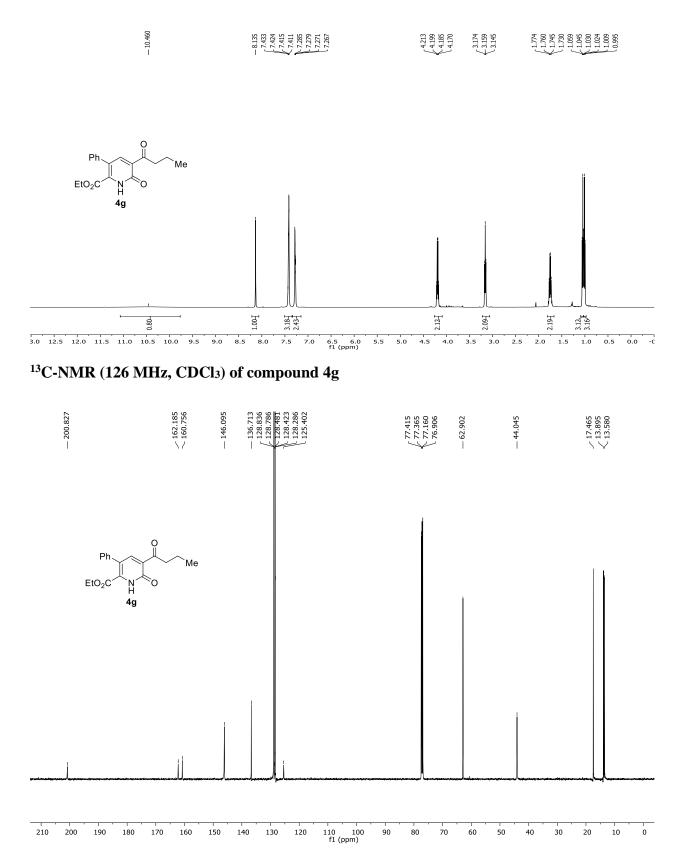


## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4f

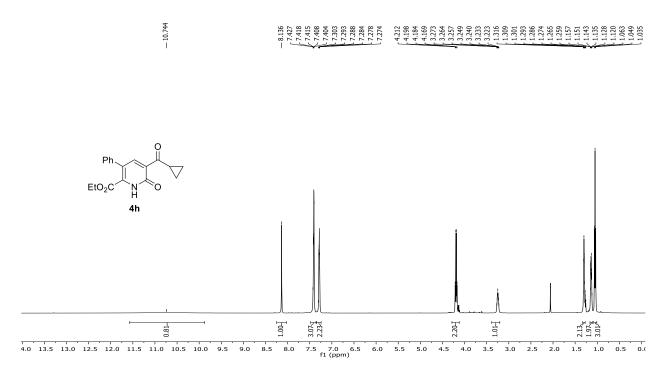




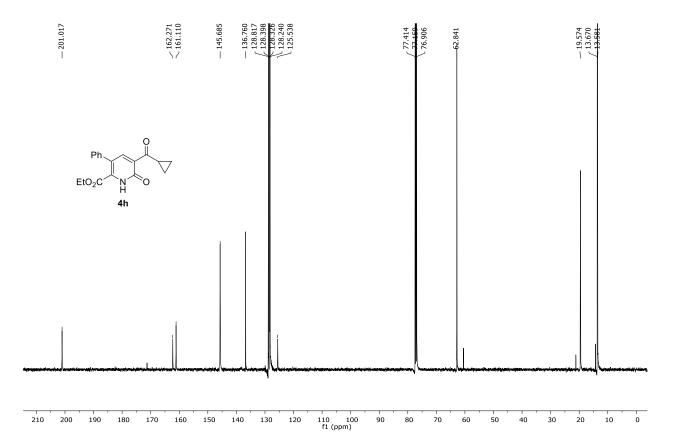
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4g



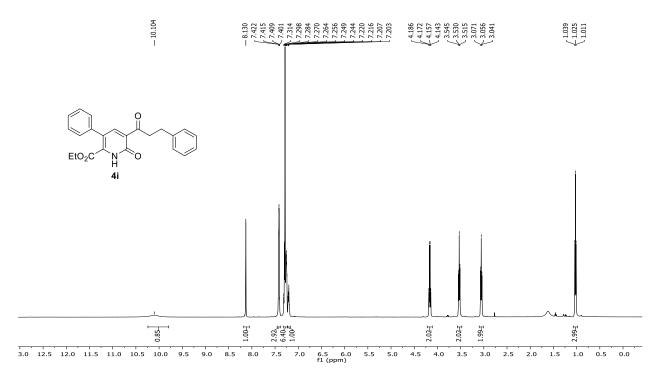
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4h



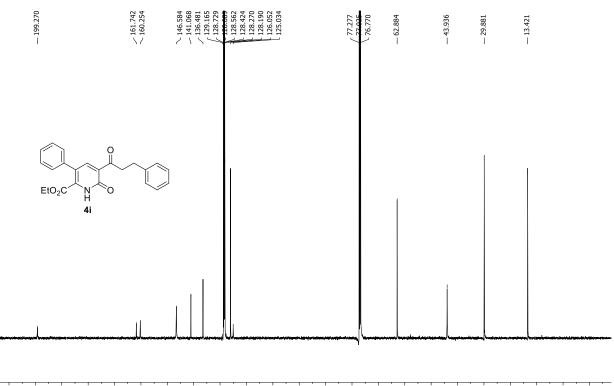
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4h



## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4i

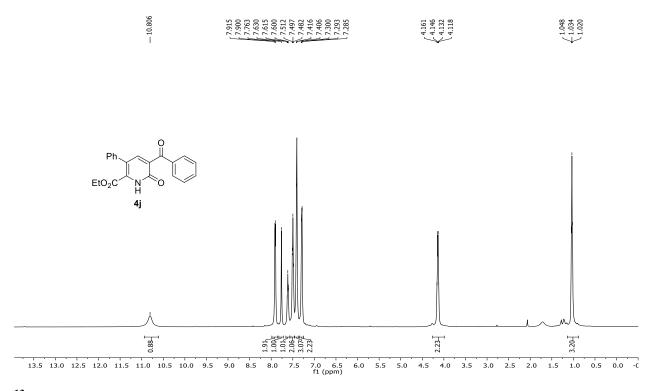


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4i

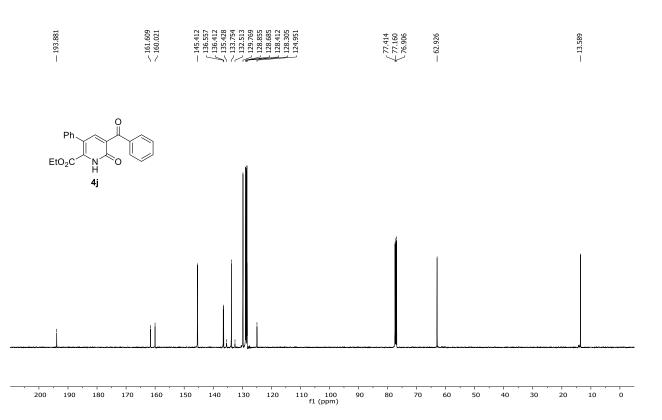


110 100 f1 (ppm) -10

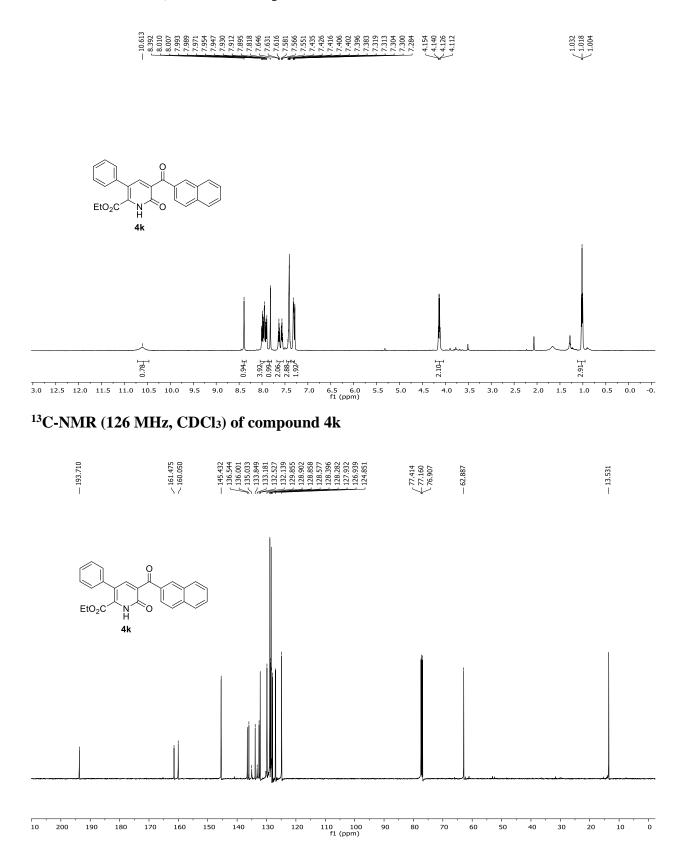
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4j

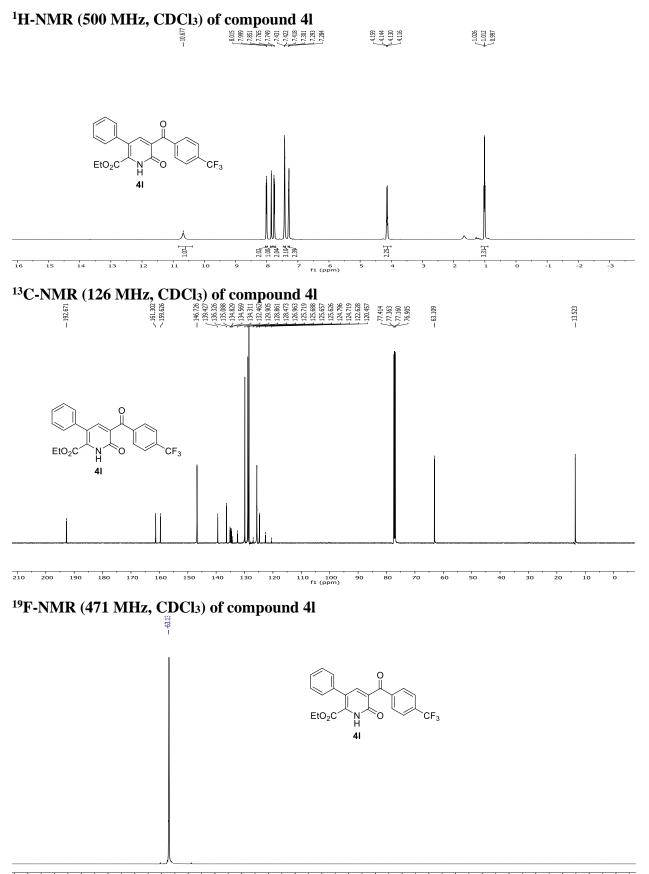


## <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4j



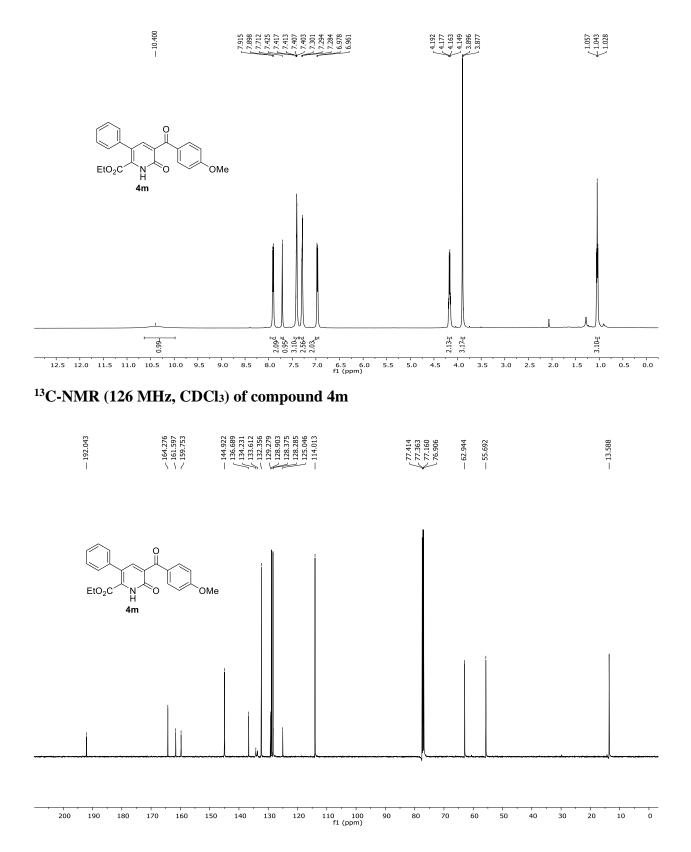
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4k

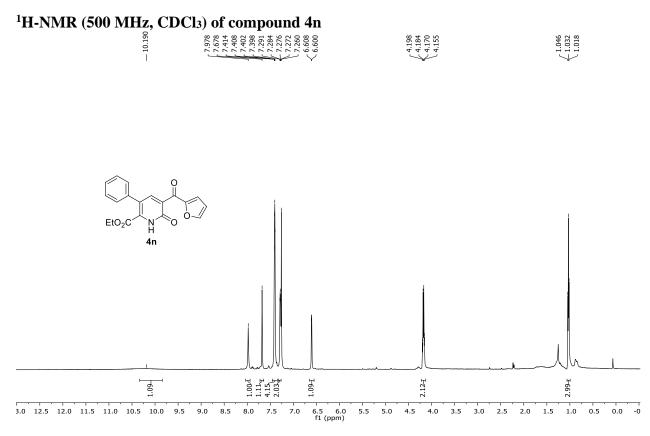




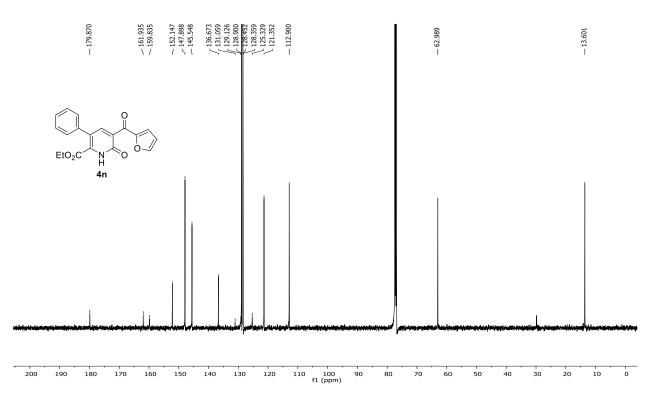
-60.5 -61.0 -61.5 -62.0 -62.5 -63.0 -63.5 -64.0 -64.5 -65.0 -65.5 -66.0 -66.5 -67.0 -67.5 -68.0 -68.5 -69.0 -69.5 -70.0 -70.5 -71.0 -71.5 fl (ppm)

## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4m

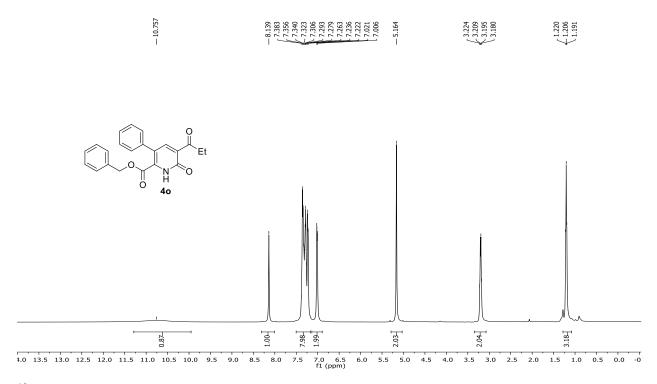




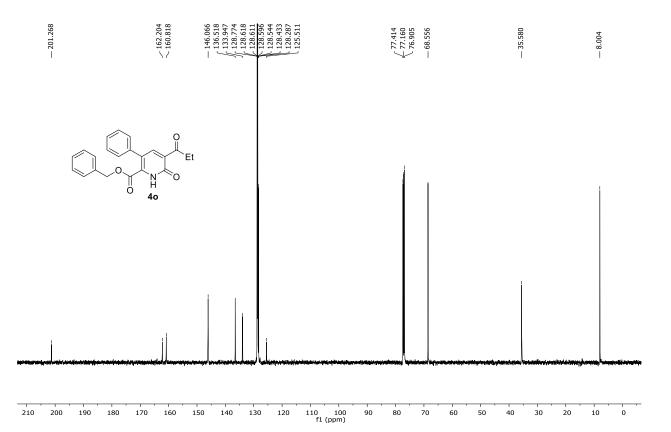
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4n



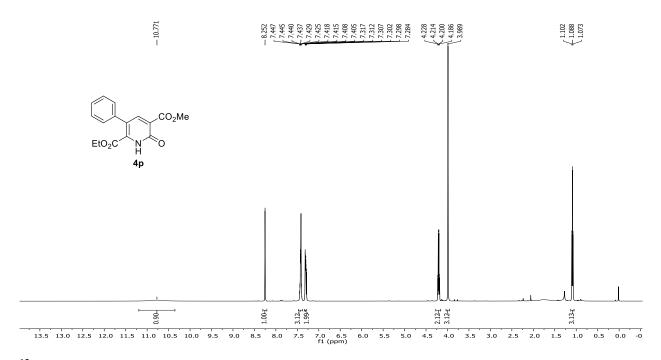
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 40



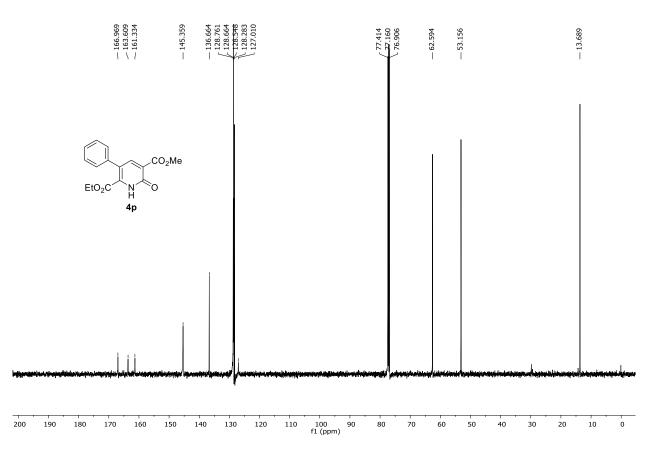
# <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 40



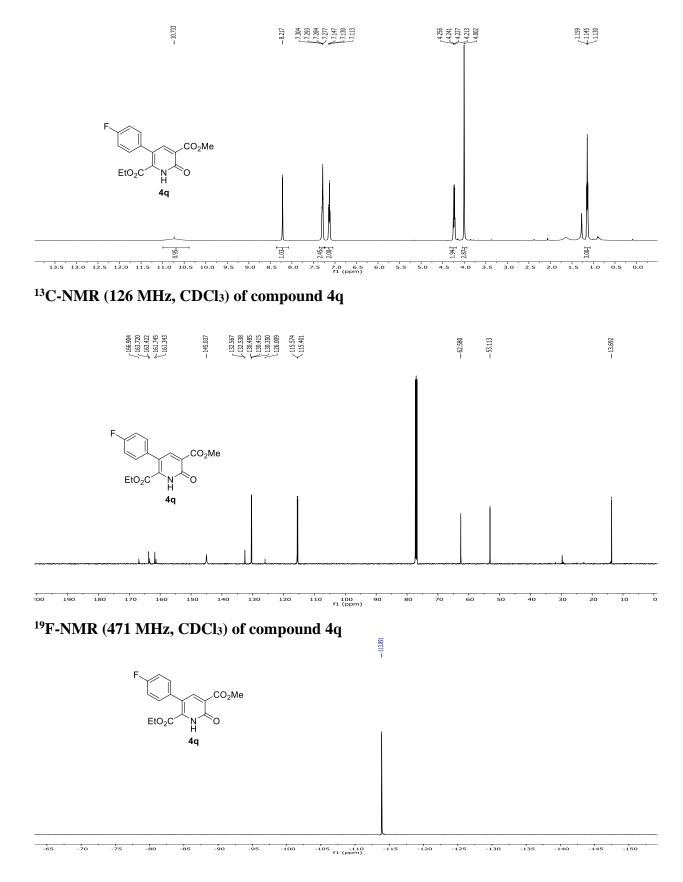
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4p

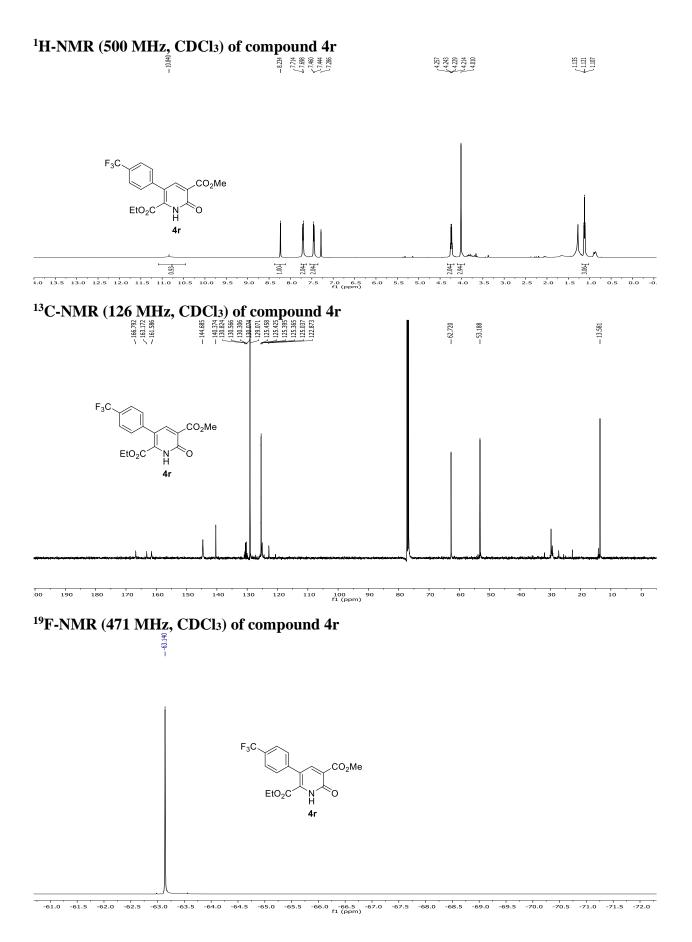


## <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4p

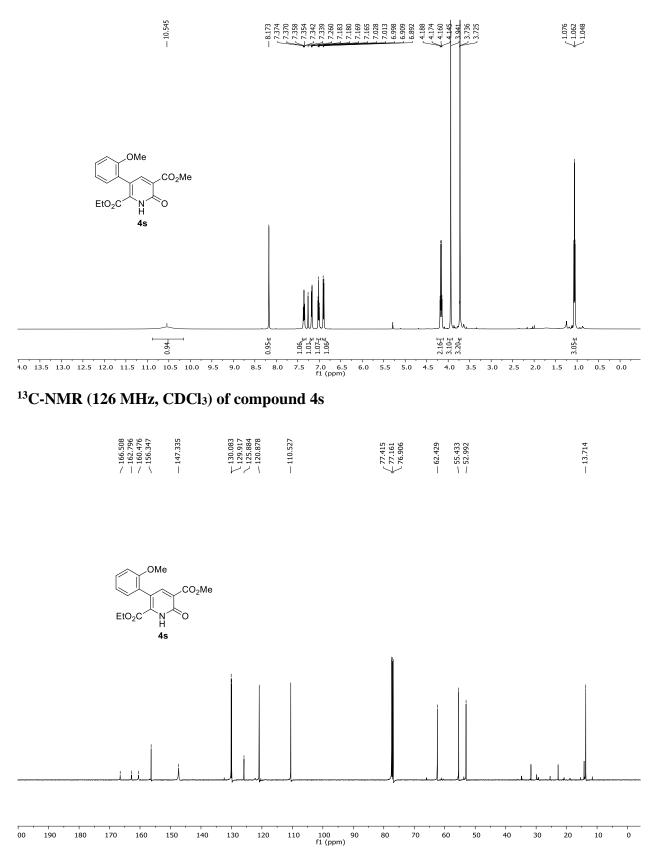


#### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4q

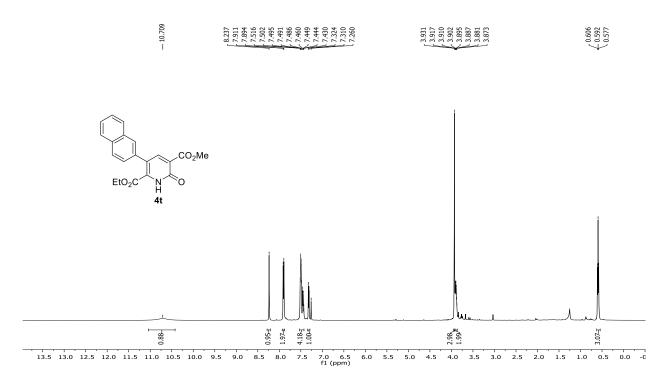




## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4s

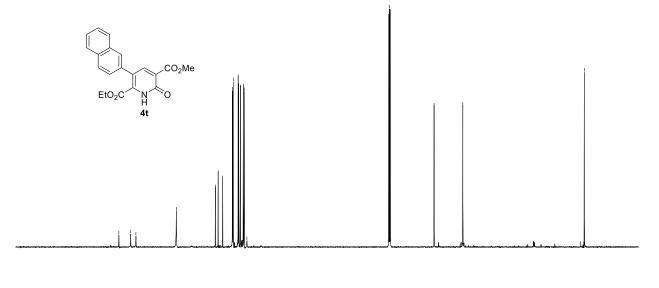


## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4t



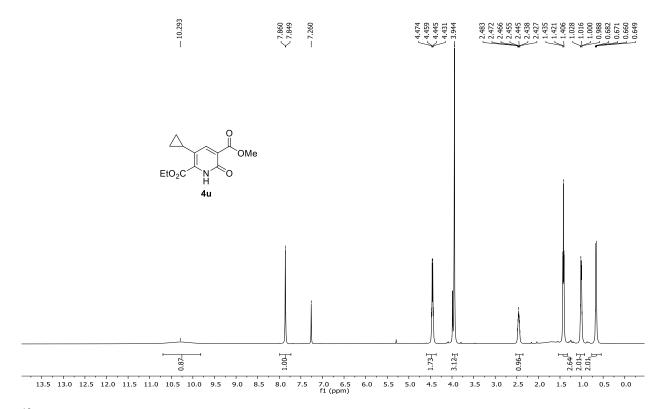
## <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4t

166.090 162.197 160.484	147.193 134.339 133.421 133.932 128.707 128.707 128.699 128.699 128.649 128.649 128.649 125.649 125.153 125.153 125.153 125.153 124.515 124.515 124.515 123.970	77.307 77.054 76.801	62.388	52.942	12.977
151		$\checkmark$	1	1	1

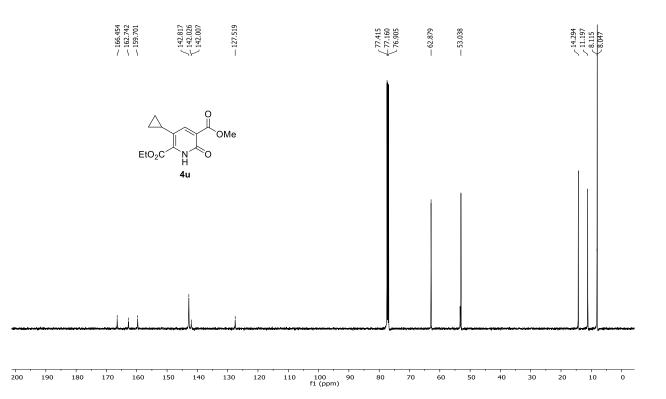


100 90 f1 (ppm) 

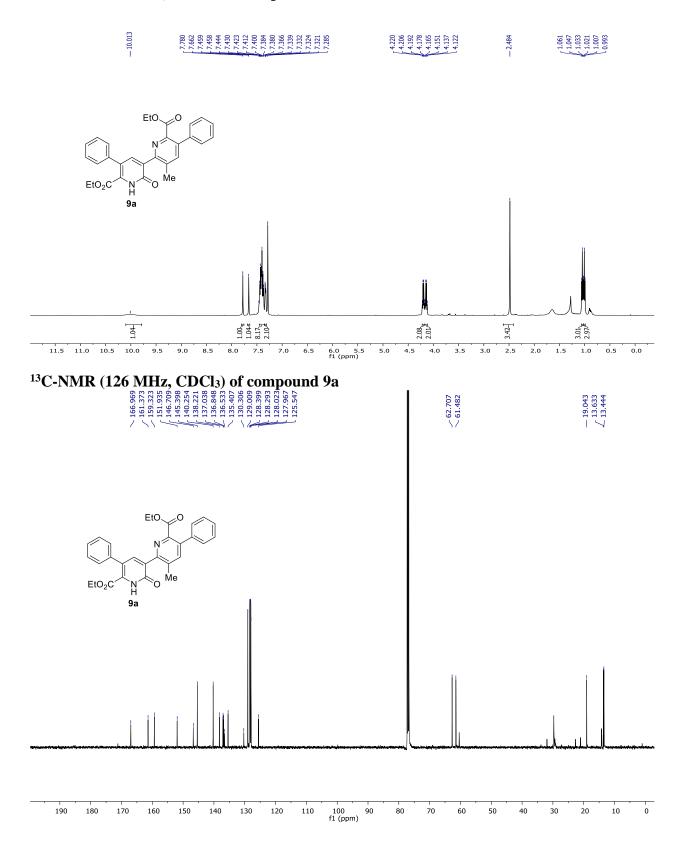
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4u

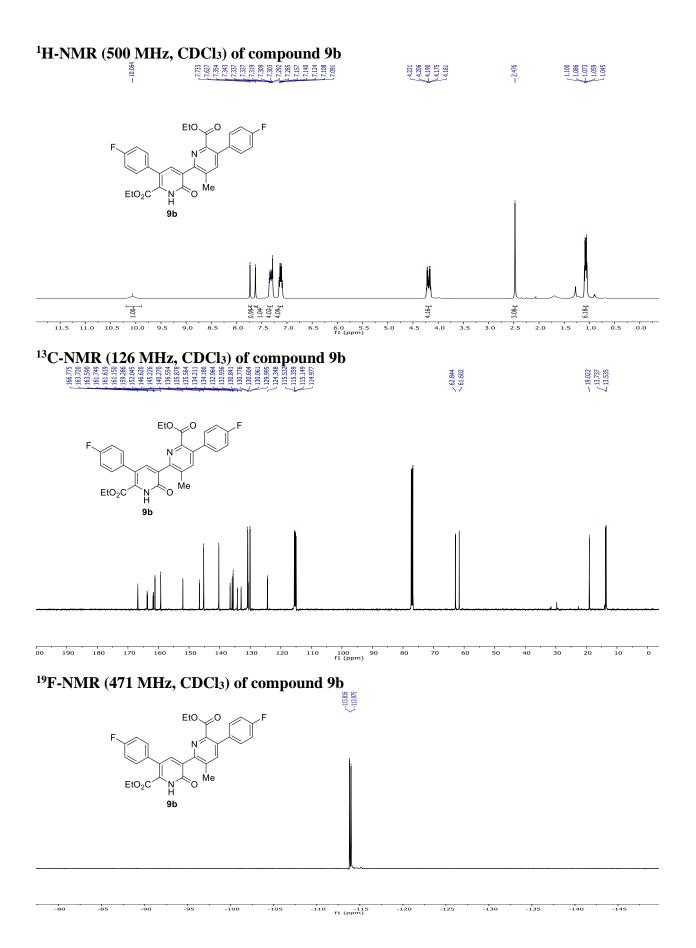


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 4u

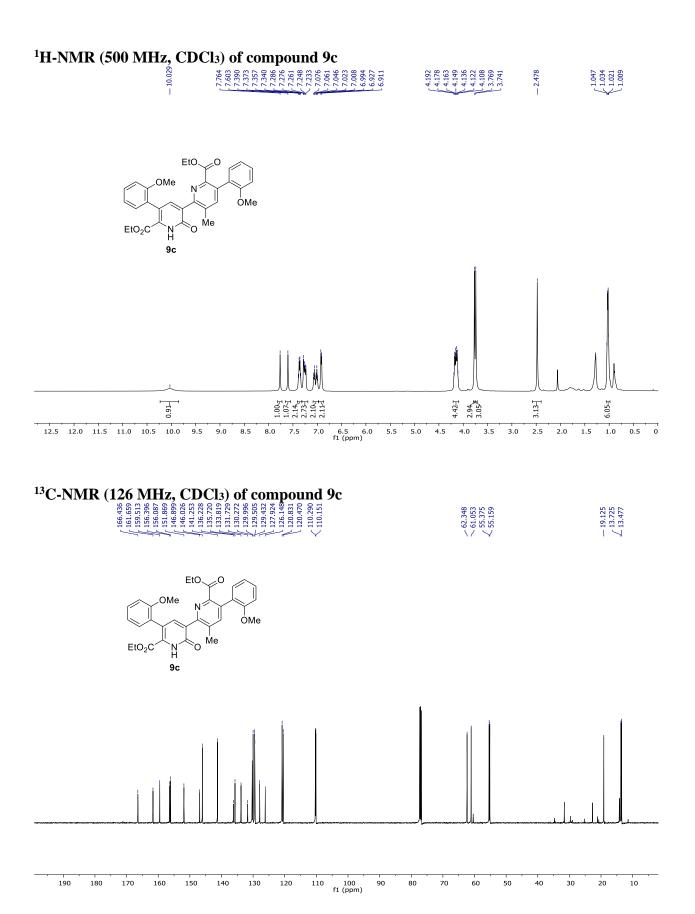


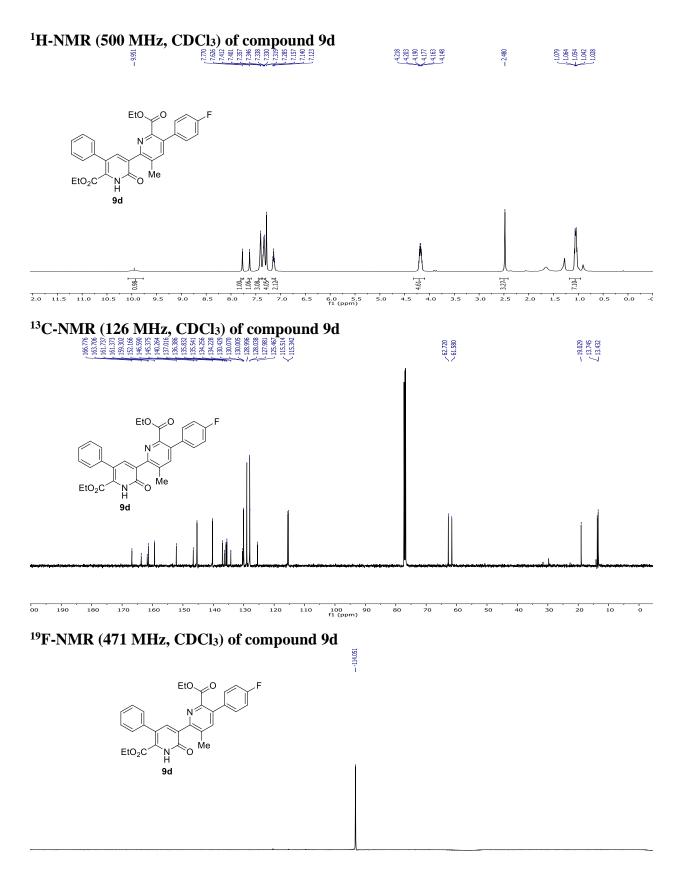
#### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9a



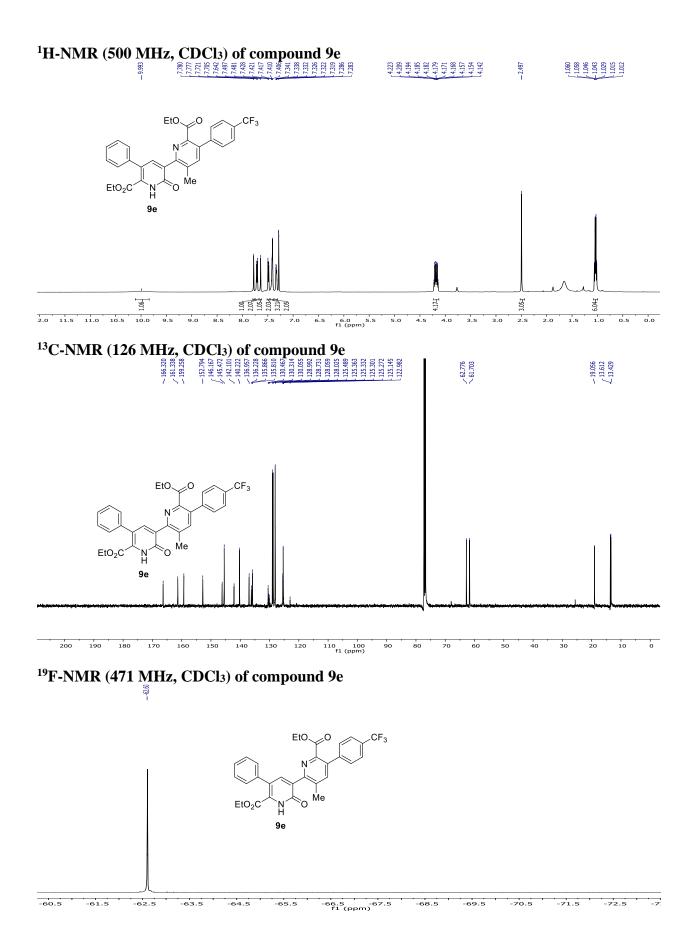


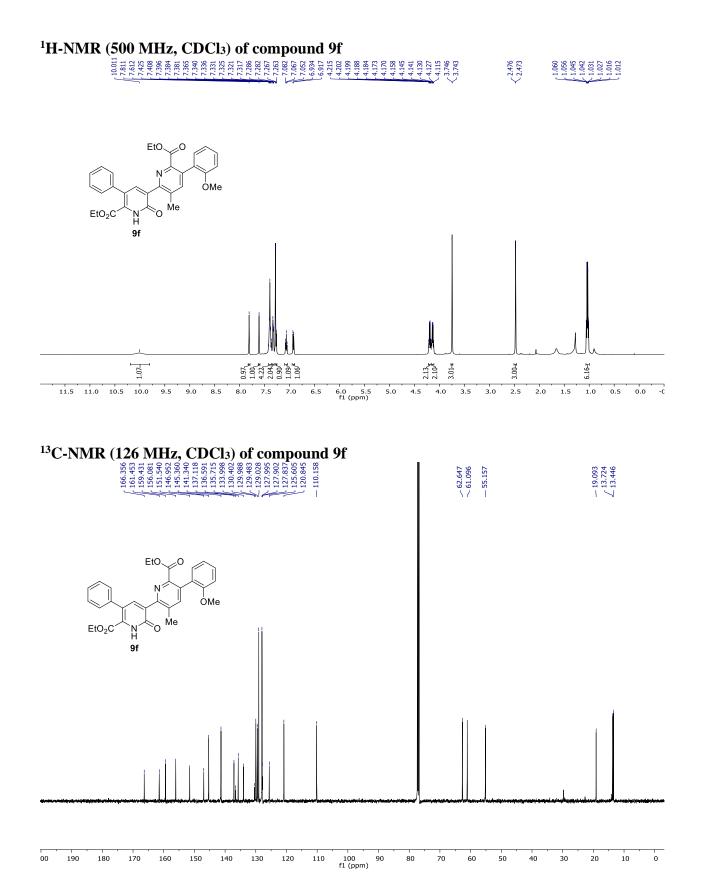
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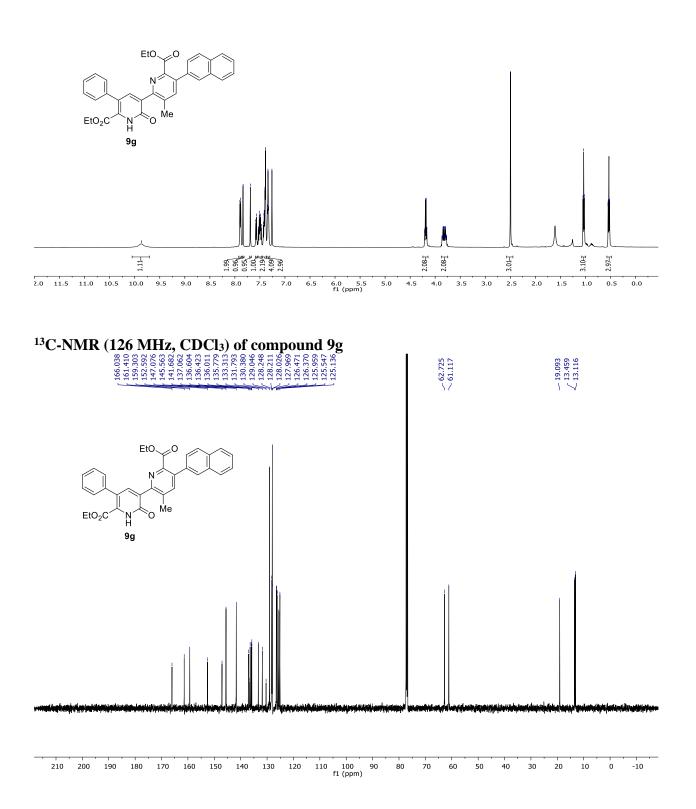


-82 -84 -86 -88 -90 -92 -94 -96 -98 -100 -102 -104 -106 -108 -110 -112 -114 -116 -118 -120 -122 -124 -126 -128 -130 -132 -134 -136 -138 -140 -142 fi (ppm)

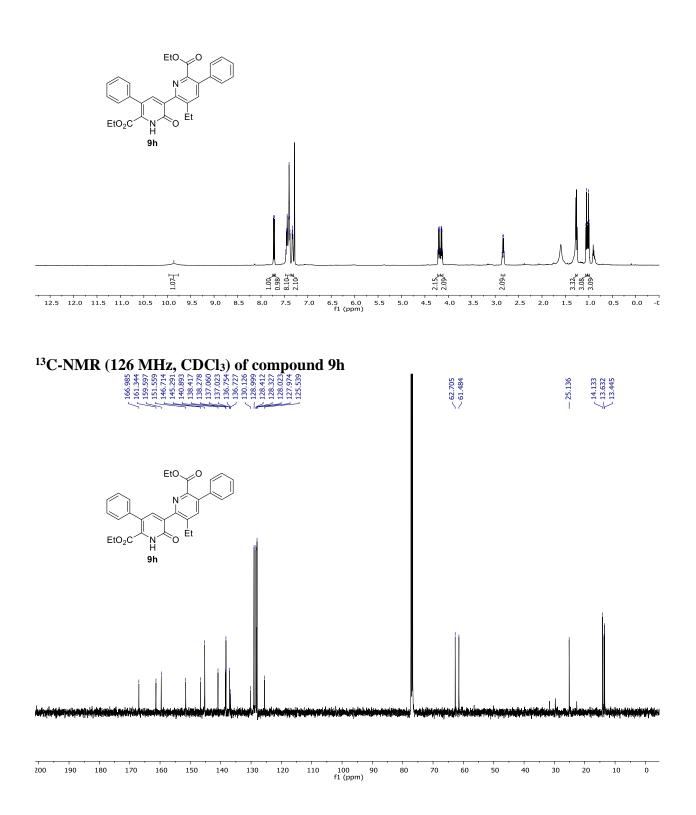


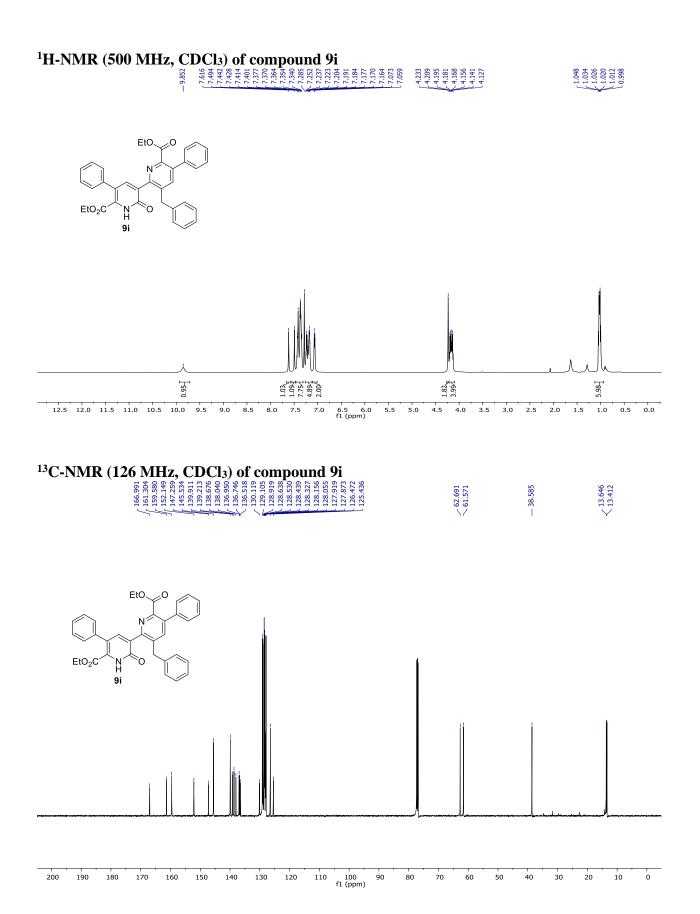


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9g <sup>8900</sup> <sup>8000</sup> <sup>8</sup>



#### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9h <sup>8886</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9h <sup>8886</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9h <sup>8887</sup> <sup>8877</sup> <sup>8777</sup> <sup>8</sup>





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