

Aerobic oxidative synthesis of *o*-phenylenediamines from cyclohexanones

Yichen Sun,^{†,a} Shuyuan Tang,^{†,a} Binzhi Zhao,^{†,a} and Ning Jiao^{*,a,b}

^a State Key Laboratory of Natural and Biomimetic Drugs, New Cornerstone Science Laboratory, Chemical Biology Center, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University, Beijing 100191, China.

^b Shanghai Key Laboratory of Green Chemistry and Chemical Processes, East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China

[†] These three authors contributed equally to this work.

E-mail: jiaoning@pku.edu.cn; Fax: (+86)10-8280-5297

Supporting Information

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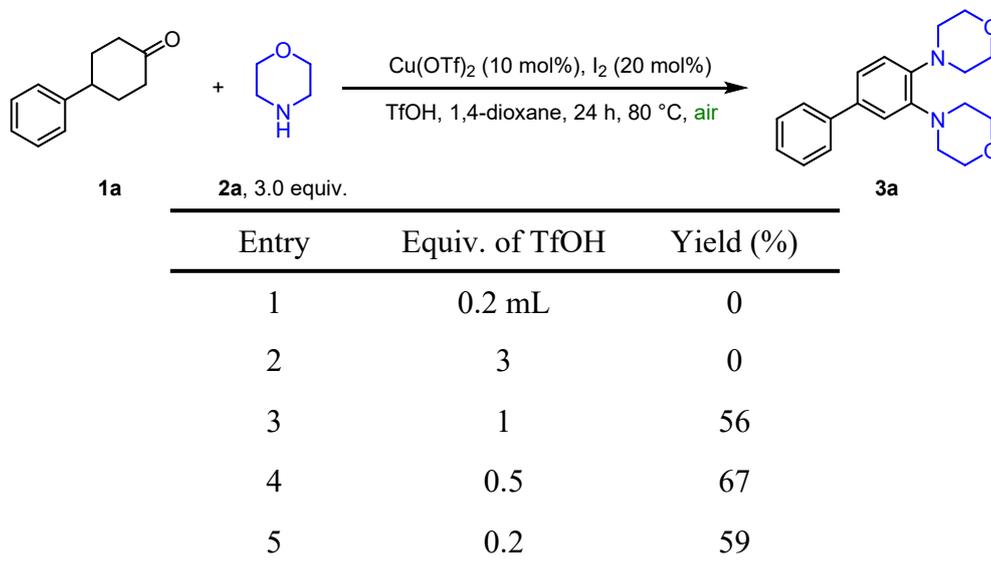
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1. General remarks

All commercially available compounds were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, J&K Chemicals, Bide Pharmatech, Shanghai Macklin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd., etc. Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. Products were purified by flash chromatography on silica gel. ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVANCE III-400 spectrometers. Chemical shifts (in ppm) were referenced with TMS in CDCl₃ (0 ppm). ¹³C-NMR spectra were obtained by using the same NMR spectrometers and were calibrated with CDCl₃ (δ = 77.00 ppm). High resolution mass spectra were obtained with a Bruker APEX IV Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometer.

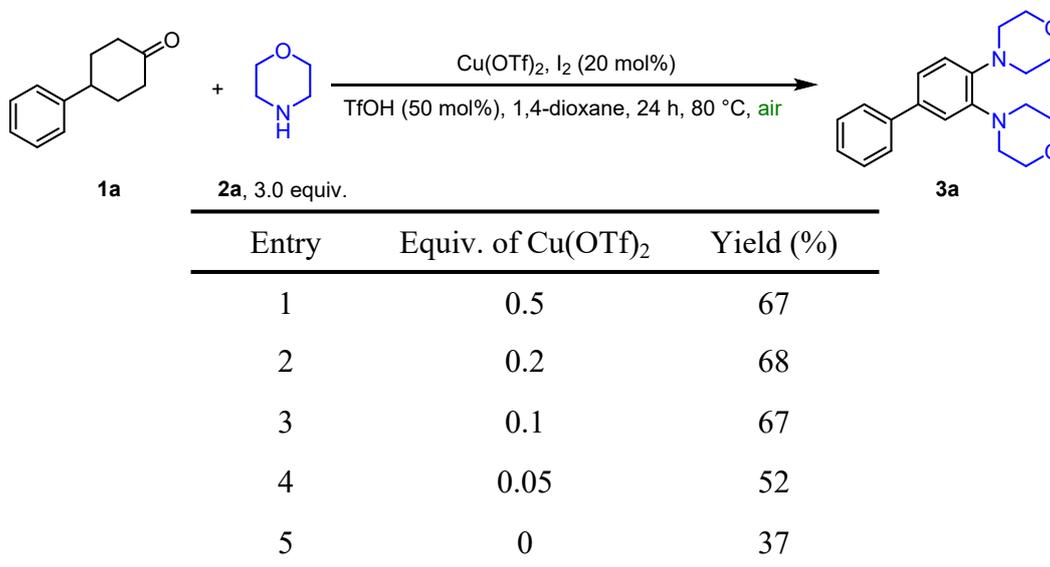
2. Condition Optimization

Table S1. Optimization details for effect of Bronsted acid on the transformation of oxidative aromatization ^a



^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), **2a** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (10 mol%), I₂ (20 mol%), TfOH, 1,4-dioxane (1.5 ml), under air, 80 °C, 24h. The yield was determined by ¹H NMR using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as the internal standard.

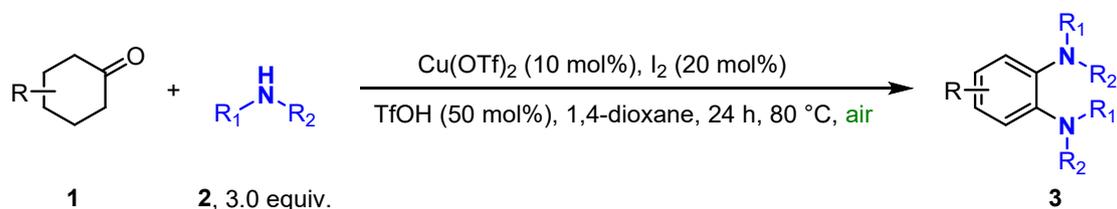
Table S2. Optimization details for effect of Lewis acid on the transformation of oxidative aromatization ^a



^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), **2a** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂, I₂ (20 mol%), TfOH (50 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (1.5 ml), under air, 80 °C, 24h. The yield was determined by ¹H NMR using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as the internal standard.

3. Experimental Procedure and Characterization Data of Products

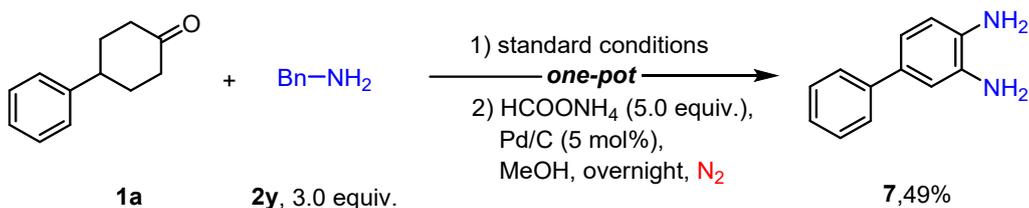
3.1 Experimental Procedure



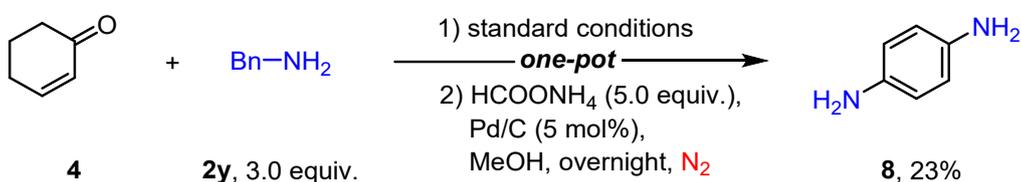
General procedure A: Cyclohexanone **1** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), copper(II) trifluoromethanesulfonate (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), iodine (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (37.5 mg, 22 μ L, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%) were dissolved in 2.5 mL of 1,4-dioxane in a Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar. After the solvent was heated to 80 $^{\circ}$ C, amine **2** (1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added respectively with syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 $^{\circ}$ C under air for 24 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford the *o*-phenylenediamine.

Procedure B: 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (1.74 g, 10 mmol, 1 equiv.), copper(II) trifluoromethanesulfonate (180.9 mg, 1.0 mmol, 10 mol%), iodine (507.6 mg, 2.0 mmol, 20 mol%), trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (750.5 mg, 442 μ L, 5.0 mmol, 50 mol%) were dissolved in 50 mL of 1,4-dioxane in a three-neck flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar and a gas pump. After the solvent was heated to 80 $^{\circ}$ C, morpholine **2a** (2.61 g, 2.62 mL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added respectively with syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 $^{\circ}$ C with continuously air bubbling for 24 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford the 4,4'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)dimorpholine (**3a**).

Figure S1. Apparatus for large-scale preparation experiments.



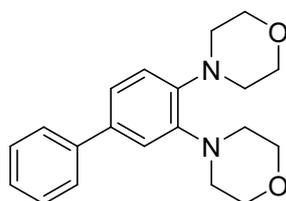
Procedure C: 4-Phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), iodine (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (37.5 mg, 22 μ l, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%) were dissolved in 2.5 mL of 1,4-dioxane in a Schlenk tube. After the solvent was heated to 80 °C, benzylamine **2y** (164 μ l, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added respectively with syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was directly concentrated under vacuum to evaporate all the solvent. Ammonium formate (157.6 mg, 2.5 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and 10% Pd/C (26.6 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol%) were added to the same Schlenk tube, then the tube was evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Methanol (2.5 mL) was added with syringe under N₂. The mixture was stirred at reflux temperature under N₂ overnight. After completion of the reaction, the catalyst was removed by filtration through a celite pad, which was then washed with 5 ml of methanol. The combined organic filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the [1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diamine.¹



Procedure D: Cyclohex-2-en-1-one **4** (48.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), iodine (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), trifluoromethanesulfonic acid (37.5 mg, 22 μ l, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%) were dissolved in 2.5 mL of 1,4-dioxane in a Schlenk tube. After the solvent was heated to 80 °C, benzylamine **2y** (164 μ l, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) was added respectively with syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was directly concentrated under vacuum to evaporate all the solvent. Ammonium formate (157.6 mg, 2.5 mmol, 5.0 equiv.)

and 10% Pd/C (26.6 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol%) were added to the same Schlenk tube, then the tube was evacuated and backfilled with N₂ for 3 times. Methanol (2.5 mL) was added with syringe under N₂. The mixture was stirred at reflux temperature under N₂ overnight. After completion of the reaction, the catalyst was removed by filtration through a celite pad, which was then washed with 5 ml of methanol. The combined organic filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the *p*-phenylenediamine.

3.2 Characterization Data of Products



3a

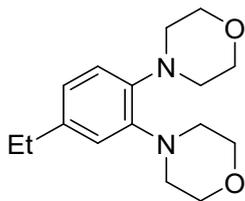
4,4'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)dimorpholine (3a): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3a** as a white solid (108.1 mg, 67%).

Following the procedure B, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (1.74 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (180.9 mg, 1.0 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (507.6 mg, 2.0 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (750.5 mg, 442 μL, 5.0 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (2.61 g, 2.62 mL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (50 mL) at 80 °C with continuously air bubbling for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3a** as a white solid (2.07 g, 64%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 8H), 3.27 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.61, 143.73, 141.12, 136.17, 128.71, 126.87, 121.75, 118.74, 117.45, 67.55, 50.08, 50.05.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 325.1911, found: 325.1910



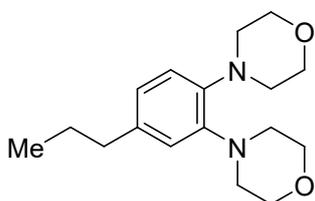
3b

4,4'-(4-ethyl-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3b): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-ethylcyclohexanone **1b** (63.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3b** as a white solid (90.1 mg, 65%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.85 (br-s, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 8H), 3.20 (s, 4H), 3.15 (s, 4H), 2.59 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.51, 142.35, 139.29, 122.25, 118.46, 118.24, 67.74, 50.36, 50.24, 28.52, 15.76.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₆H₂₅N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 277.1911, found: 277.1909



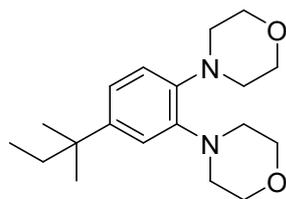
3c

4,4'-(4-propyl-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3c): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-propylcyclohexanone **1c** (70.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3c** as a white solid (88.6 mg, 61%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.83 (br-s, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 3.83 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 8H), 3.26 – 3.11 (m, 8H), 2.52 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 1.75 – 1.47 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.40, 142.33, 137.80, 122.91, 118.76, 118.33, 67.74, 50.36, 50.25, 37.82, 24.82, 14.14.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₇H₂₇N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 291.2067, found: 291.2060



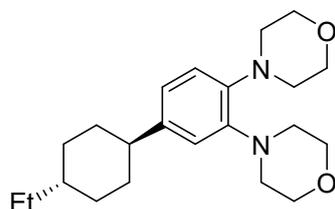
3d

4,4'-(4-(tert-pentyl)-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3d): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-tert-pentylcyclohexanone **1d** (77.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3d** as a white solid (111.8 mg, 70%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.96 – 6.94 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 8H), 3.19 (s, 8H), 1.61 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (s, 6H), 0.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.43, 143.88, 141.86, 120.57, 117.74, 116.28, 67.73, 50.24, 37.71, 37.01, 28.55, 9.33.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₉H₃₁N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 319.2380, found: 319.2377



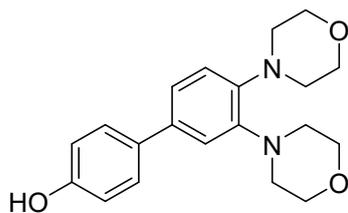
3e

4,4'-(4-((1r,4r)-4-ethylcyclohexyl)-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3e): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-((1r,4r)-4-ethylcyclohexyl)-cyclohexanone **1e** (104.3 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3e** as a white solid (118.3 mg, 66%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.85 (br-s, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 3.84 – 3.80 (m, 8H), 3.121 – 3.11 (m, 8H), 2.45 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 1.93 – 1.83 (m, 4H), 1.48 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.30 – 1.16 (m, 3H), 1.08 – 0.98 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.36, 142.97, 142.37, 121.03, 118.31, 117.31, 67.74, 50.32, 50.25, 44.33, 39.23, 34.56, 33.35, 30.13, 11.69.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₂H₃₅N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 359.2693, found: 359.2695



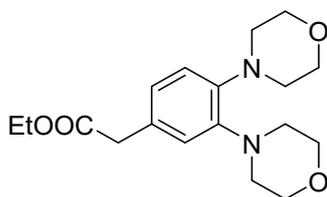
3f

3',4'-dimorpholino-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (3f): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)cyclohexan-1-one **1f** (95.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3f** as a white solid (86.8 mg, 51%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.95 – 5.20 (br-s, 1H), 3.89 (br-s, 8H), 3.26 (br-s, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 155.02, 144.60, 143.24, 135.90, 133.76, 128.08, 121.32, 118.77, 117.07, 115.63, 67.58, 50.11.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₃⁺ (M+H)⁺: 340.1860, found: 340.1864



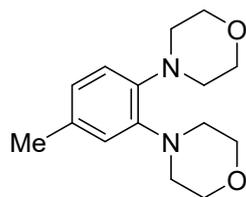
3g

Ethyl 2-(3,4-dimorpholinophenyl)acetate (3g): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with ethyl 2-(4-oxocyclohexyl)acetate **1g** (92.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3g** as a white solid (103.5 mg, 62%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 4.15 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 8H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 3.17 (s, 8H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 171.98, 144.50, 143.44, 128.94, 123.89, 119.53, 118.58, 67.63, 60.91, 50.13, 50.08, 40.99, 14.34.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₇N₂O₄⁺ (M+H)⁺: 335.1965, found: 335.1960



3h

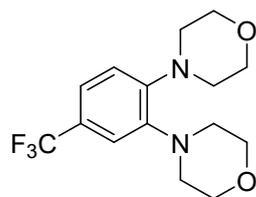
4,4'-(4-methyl-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3h): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-methylcyclohexanone **1h** (56.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3h** as a white solid (78.8 mg, 60%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 3-methylcyclohexanone **1h'** (56.0 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3h** as a white solid (68.1 mg, 52%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.82 (br-s, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 3.83 (br-s, 8H), 3.21 – 3.11 (m, 8H), 2.29 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) 144.50, 142.21, 132.89, 123.62, 119.41, 118.47, 67.75, 67.72, 50.39, 50.25, 21.07.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₂₃N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 263.1754, found: 263.1756



3i

4,4'-(4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-phenylene)dimorpholine (3i): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-trifluoromethylcyclohexanone **1i** (83.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3i** as a white solid (111.1 mg, 70%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 3-trifluoromethylcyclohexanone **1i'** (83.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and

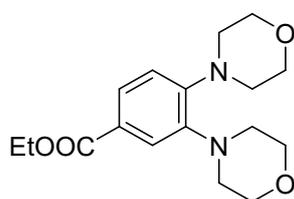
morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3i** as a white solid (93.3 mg, 59%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 8H), 3.26 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 4H), 3.22 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 4H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 147.25, 144.39, 125.02 (q, J = 32.1 Hz), 124.61 (q, J = 269.9 Hz), 120.37 (q, J = 4.0 Hz), 115.48 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 67.44, 67.42, 49.81, 49.67.

¹⁹F NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -61.79

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₂₀F₃N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 317.1471, found: 317.1471



3j

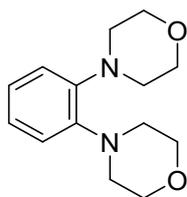
Ethyl 3,4-dimorpholinobenzoate (3j): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with ethyl 4-oxocyclohexane-1-carboxylate **1j** (85.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μ L, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3j** as a white solid (100.3 mg, 63%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with ethyl 3-oxocyclohexane-1-carboxylate **1j'** (85.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μ L, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3j** as a white solid (83.3 mg, 52%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.70 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 8H), 3.28 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 4H), 3.18 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 4H), 1.37 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 166.79, 148.49, 143.75, 125.41, 124.78, 119.95, 117.80, 67.51, 67.41, 60.83, 49.95, 49.57, 14.56.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₂₅N₂O₄⁺ (M+H)⁺: 321.1809, found: 321.1810



3k

1,2-dimorpholinobenzene (3k): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with cyclohexanone **1ka** (49.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (74.0 mg, 60%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-hydroxycyclohexan-1-one **1kb** (57.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (69.5 mg, 56%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-methoxycyclohexan-1-one **1kc** (64.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (99.5 mg, 80%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with *N*-(4-oxocyclohexyl)acetamide **1kd** (77.6 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (51.1 mg, 41%).

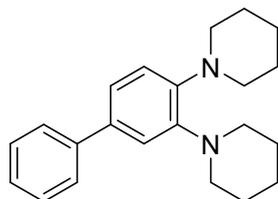
Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 2-(4-oxocyclohexyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione **1ke** (121.6 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (87.0 mg, 70%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-(cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)morpholine **9** (83.7 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (43.6 mg, 44 μL, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3k** as a white solid (68.5 mg, 55%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.03 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 8H), 3.82 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.62, 123.36, 118.56, 67.70, 50.16.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₄H₂₁N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 249.1598, found: 249.1600



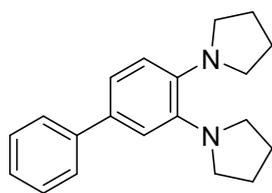
3m

1,1'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)dipiperidine (3m): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μ L, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and piperidine **2m** (127.7 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3m** as a white solid (94.5 mg, 59%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (br-s, 8H), 1.78 – 1.68 (m, 8H), 1.62 – 1.55 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 146.40, 145.65, 141.65, 134.99, 128.56, 126.84, 126.43, 120.78, 118.83, 117.67, 50.99, 50.92, 26.88, 26.85, 24.69.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₂H₂₉N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 321.2325, found: 321.2323



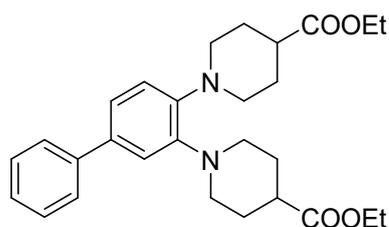
3n

1,1'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)dipyrrolidine (3n): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μ L, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and pyrrolidine **2n** (106.8 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 12 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3n** as a white solid (66.0 mg, 45%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.58 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.18 – 3.10 (m, 8H), 1.95 – 1.89 (m, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 142.28, 141.99, 141.85, 133.36, 128.67, 126.88, 126.31, 119.41, 116.79, 115.71, 49.21, 24.49, 24.38.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₀H₂₅N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 293.2012, found: 293.2012



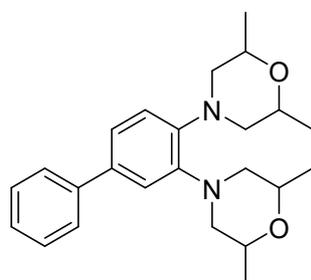
3o

diethyl 1,1'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)bis(piperidine-4-carboxylate) (3o): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and ethyl piperidine-4-carboxylate **2o** (235.8 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3o** as a white solid (141.2 mg, 61%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 4H), 2.65 (q, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 4H), 2.43 (t, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 4H), 1.89 (q, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 4H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 175.38, 145.69, 144.86, 141.41, 135.69, 126.93, 126.75, 121.38, 119.12, 117.89, 60.49, 49.67, 49.63, 41.42, 29.26, 29.24, 14.36.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₈H₃₇N₂O₄⁺ (M+H)⁺: 465.2748, found: 465.2745



3p

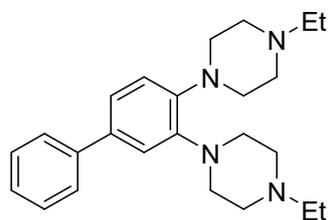
4,4'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)bis(2,6-dimethylmorpholine) (3p): Following the general

procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and 2,6-dimethylmorpholine **2p** (173.0 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3p** as a white solid (114.1 mg, 60%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.57 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 – 3.75 (m, 4H), 3.71 – 3.67 (m, 2H), 3.67 – 3.62 (m, 2H), 2.38 (m, 4H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 12H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.22, 143.37, 141.30, 135.97, 128.79, 126.95, 126.89, 121.59, 118.83, 117.50, 72.57, 72.54, 55.45, 55.43, 19.24.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₄H₃₃N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 381.2537, found: 381.2532



3q

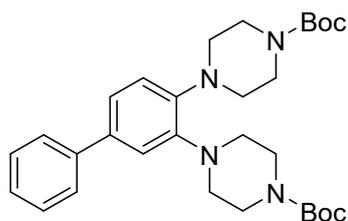
1,1'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)dipiperidine (3q): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-Phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (52.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (17.2 mg, 0.06 mmol, 20 mol%), Cu(OTf)₂ (10.8 mg, 0.03 mmol, 10 mol%), TfOH (22.5 mg, 13 μL, 0.15 mmol, 50 mol%), and amantadine **2v** (136.2 mg, 0.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (1.5 mL)

4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and 2,6-dimethylmorpholine **2q** (171.3 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3q** as a white solid (77.6 mg, 41%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.63 – 3.05 (m, 8H), 2.73 – 2.55 (m, 8H), 2.51 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 144.71, 143.89, 141.38, 135.62, 128.65, 126.87, 126.66, 121.30, 118.69, 117.36, 53.68, 52.57, 49.25, 12.16.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₄H₃₅N₄⁺ (M+H)⁺: 379.2856, found: 379.2864



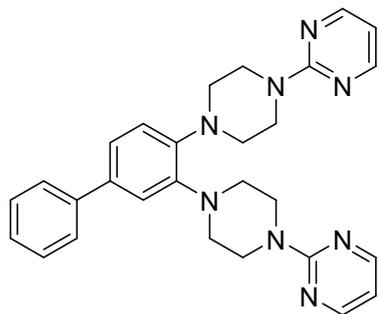
3r

di-tert-butyl 4,4'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)bis(piperazine-1-carboxylate) (3r): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and tert-Butyl 1-piperazinecarboxylate **2r** (279.3 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3r** as a white solid (73.1 mg, 28%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.62 – 3.54 (m, 8H), 3.20 – 3.11 (m, 8H), 1.50 (s, 18H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 154.98, 154.95, 145.08, 144.18, 141.08, 136.40, 128.79, 126.97, 126.90, 122.00, 119.25, 117.96, 79.87, 77.48, 77.16, 76.84, 67.45, 67.39, 49.84, 49.80, 28.54.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₃₀H₄₃N₄O₄⁺ (M+H)⁺: 523.3279, found: 523.3281



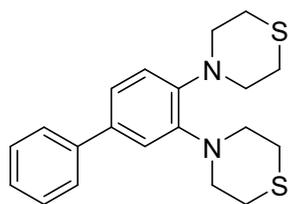
3s

2,2'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)bis(piperazine-4,1-diyl)dipyrimidine (3s): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and 2-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine **2s** (328.4 mg, 2.0 mmol, 4.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3s** as a white solid (95.7 mg, 40%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.39 – 8.35 (m, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 8H), 3.45 – 3.20 (m, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 161.97, 161.95, 157.76, 145.15, 144.28, 141.15, 136.22, 128.71, 126.87, 126.84, 121.84, 119.13, 117.84, 110.13, 77.37, 77.05, 76.73, 49.77, 49.75, 44.57, 44.53.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₈H₃₁N₈⁺ (M+H)⁺: 479.2666, found: 479.2662



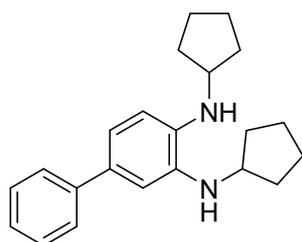
3t

4,4'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diyl)bis(thiomorpholine) (3t): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and thiomorpholine **2t** (154.7 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3t** as a white solid (73.1 mg, 41%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.54 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (br-s, 8H), 2.83 (s, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 147.11, 146.19, 141.11, 136.76, 128.85, 127.05, 126.98, 122.36, 120.40, 119.13, 53.13, 53.08, 29.00, 28.97.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₅N₈S₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 357.1454, found: 357.1453



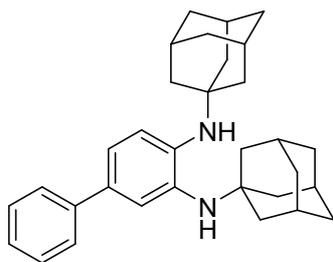
3u

***N,N'*-dicyclopentyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diamine (3u):** Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-Phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and cyclopentylamine **2u** (127.7 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3u** as a white solid (71.7 mg, 45%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (dt, *J* = 14.4, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (br-s, 2H), 2.18 – 2.04 (m, 4H), 1.87 – 1.75 (m, 4H), 1.73 – 1.65 (m, 4H), 1.65 – 1.54 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 142.31, 137.25, 136.83, 131.80, 128.57, 126.74, 126.05, 117.61, 112.52, 111.62, 54.87, 33.82, 24.46, 24.43.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₂H₂₉N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 321.2325, found: 321.2328



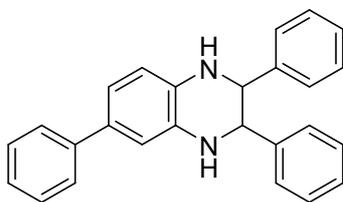
3v

***N*³,*N*⁴-di((3*S*,5*S*,7*S*)-adamantan-1-yl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diamine (3v):** Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-Phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (52.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (17.2 mg, 0.06 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (22.5 mg, 13 μL, 0.15 mmol, 50 mol%), and amantadine **2v** (136.2 mg, 0.9 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) under air at 120 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3v** as a white solid (69.1 mg, 51%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.10 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (br-s, 2H), 2.12 (br-s, 6H), 1.96 – 1.87 (m, 12H), 1.73 – 1.60 (m, 12H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 141.83, 139.22, 136.69, 132.09, 128.69, 126.57, 126.20, 122.17, 120.21, 120.11, 53.07, 52.50, 43.64, 43.41, 36.71, 36.68, 29.90.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₃₂H₄₁N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 453.3264, found: 453.3265



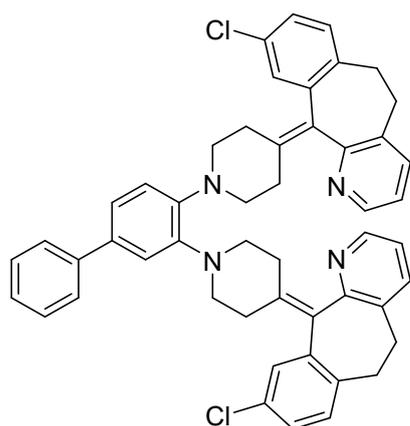
3w

2,3,6-triphenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3w): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and 1,2-diphenylethane-1,2-diamine **2w** (318.5 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3w** as a white solid (136.1 mg, 75%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.21 (m, 7H), 7.16 – 7.07 (m, 4H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (s, 2H), 4.20 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 141.65, 139.97, 133.79, 133.25, 131.81, 128.62, 128.24, 127.98, 127.92, 126.53, 126.16, 117.60, 114.09, 112.50, 62.21, 62.09.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₆H₂₃N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 363.1856, found: 363.1855



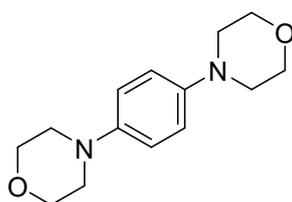
3x

11,11'-([1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diylbis(piperidin-1-yl-4-ylidene))bis(9-chloro-6,11-dihydro-5H-benzo[5,6]cyclohepta[1,2-b]pyridine) (3x): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and 2-(piperidin-4-yl)pyrimidine desloratadine **2x** (466.2 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **3x** as a white solid (150.5 mg, 39%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.52 – 8.47 (s, 2H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.18 (m, 8H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (m, 4H), 3.46 (m, 4H), 2.96 – 2.48 (m, 16H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 157.56, 146.83, 146.77, 145.58, 145.55, 144.76, 141.29, 139.75, 139.70, 138.83, 138.79, 138.75, 138.06, 137.99, 137.45, 135.57, 133.51, 133.46, 133.11, 133.07, 132.79, 132.77, 131.04, 130.89, 128.99, 128.68, 126.81, 126.69, 126.18, 126.13, 122.23, 122.18, 121.32, 119.22, 118.05, 51.89, 51.77, 51.52, 51.47, 51.40, 51.34, 51.14, 51.02, 32.07, 31.90, 31.86, 31.64, 31.61.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₆H₂₃N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 771.3016, found: 771.3018



6

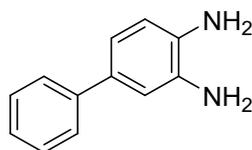
1,4-dimorpholinobenzene (6): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with cyclohex-2-en-1-one **4** (48.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **6** as a white solid (88.0 mg, 71%).

Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 1,4-cyclohexanedione **5** (56.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), Cu(OTf)₂ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and morpholine **2a** (130.7 mg, 131 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **6** as a white solid (100.6 mg, 81%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.92 (s, 4H), 3.98 – 3.83 (m, 8H), 3.16 – 3.01 (m, 8H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 145.49, 117.37, 67.02, 50.46.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₄H₂₁N₂O₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 249.1598, found: 249.1596



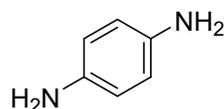
7

[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,4-diamine (7): Following the procedure C, the reaction was performed with 4-phenylcyclohexanone **1a** (87.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and benzylamine **2y** (164 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours, then ammonium formate (157.6 mg, 2.5 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and 10% Pd-C (26.6 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol%) and 2.5 mL of MeOH under N₂ at reflux temperature for overnight. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **7** as a brown solid (45.6 mg, 49%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.55 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.02 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m, 1H), 3.47 (br-s, 4H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 141.35, 134.92, 134.32, 133.54, 128.60, 126.60, 126.37, 119.11, 116.96, 115.50.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₂H₂₃N₂⁺ (M+H)⁺: 185.1079, found: 185.1083



8

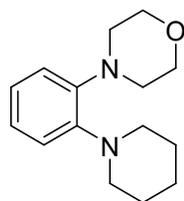
Benzene-1,4-diamine (7): Following the procedure D, the reaction was performed with cyclohex-2-en-1-one **4** (48.1 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), I₂ (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL, 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and benzylamine **2y** (164 μL, 1.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 °C for 24 hours, then ammonium formate (157.6 mg, 2.5 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and 10% Pd-C (26.6 mg, 0.025 mmol, 5 mol%) and 2.5 mL of MeOH under N₂ at reflux temperature for overnight. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **8** as a brown solid

(12.1 mg, 22%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.59 (s, 4H), 3.35 (br-s, 4H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 138.60, 116.74, 77.37, 77.05, 76.73.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_9\text{N}_2^+$ (M+H) $^+$: 109.0766, found: 109.0761



10

4-(2-(piperidin-1-yl)phenyl)morpholine (10): Following the general procedure A, the reaction was performed with 4-(cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)morpholine **9** (83.7 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (18.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol%), I_2 (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 20 mol%), TfOH (37.5 mg, 22 μL , 0.25 mmol, 50 mol%), and piperidine **2m** (42.6 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) under air at 80 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 hours. The mixture was purified by column chromatography to obtain **10** as a white solid (49.0 mg, 40%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.08 – 6.84 (m, 4H), 3.89 (t, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 4H), 3.22 (t, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 4H), 3.09 (t, $J = 5.3$ Hz, 4H), 1.74 – 1.67 (m, 4H), 1.63 – 1.56 (m, 2H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 146.14, 144.66, 122.86, 122.55, 118.97, 117.97, 67.74, 51.06, 49.86, 26.77, 24.56.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_9\text{N}_2^+$ (M+H) $^+$: 247.1810, found: 247.18

4. References

(1)(a) Ram, S.; Spicer, L. D. *Synthetic Communications*, 1987, **17**, 415-418. (b) Anwer, M. K.; Spatola, A. F. *Tetrahedron Letters*, 1981, **22**, 4369-4372.

5. NMR Spectral Data

