# Platinum-catalyzed cross-dehydrogenative coupling reaction

# in the absence of oxidant

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# **Table of Contents**

1. General Remarks	<b>S2</b>
2. Typical procedure for the preparation of 1a-1i	S2-S4
3. Characterization data of 1a-1i	S4-S7
4. General produce for the platinum catalyzed synthesis of 3a-3i, 4a-4d, 6a-6d, 8a and 8b	<b>S7-S8</b>
5. Characterization data of products 3a-3i, 4a-4d, 6a-6d, 8a and 8b	S8-S15
6. H <sub>2</sub> Detection Experiment	<b>S15</b>
7. <sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra for compounds 1a-1i	S16-S26
8. <sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra for compounds 3a-3i, 4a-4d, 6a-6d,	S26-S52
8a and 8b	

# **General Remarks:**

Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel. Unless noted <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on 300 (400) MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on 75(100) MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub> using TMS as internal standard. IR spectra were recorded on a FT-IR spectrometer and only major peaks are reported in cm<sup>-1</sup>. Melting points were determined on a microscopic apparatus and were uncorrected. Diastereomeric ratio (dr) was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR or HPLC (OD-H), hexane: iPrOH = 80:20, flow rate = 1.0mL/min. The existence of H<sub>2</sub> was detected by Inficon Transpector 2. All new compounds were further characterized by HRMS(high resolution mass spectra); copies of their <sup>1</sup>H NMR are provided for known compounds and <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra for new compounds. Diastereomeric ratio was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification.

General procedure for 2-aryl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinolines 1a-1e and 1i.



Copper(I) iodide (200 mg, 1.0mmol) and potassium phosphate (4.25 g, 20.0 mmol) were put into a 50 mL three-neck flask. The three-neck flask was evacuated and back filled with argon. 2-Propanol (10.0 mL), ethylene glycol (1.11 mL, 20.0 mmol), 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline (2.0 mL, 15 mmol) and iodobenzene (1.12 mL, 10.0 mmol) were added successively by syringe at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated at 85-90 °C and kept for 24 h and then allowed to cool to room temperature. Diethyl ether (20 mL) and water (20 mL) were then added to the reaction mixture. The organic layer was extracted with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate= 20:1), and the fraction with Rf = 0.7 was

collected to give the desired product **1a-1e** and **1i** with 60-80 % isolated yields. General procedure for cyclic amines **1f** and **1h**.



Aniline (5 mmol) was suspended in water (20mL). To this was added SDS (20 mg) followed by NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (0.92 g, 11.0 mmol) and bromoalkanes (11 mmol). Complete conversion was observed after heating the reaction mixture at 80 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was cooled and the product filtered and recrystallised from a mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane to yield the pure product in nearly quantitative yield.

# General Procedure for 1-(2-benzylphenyl)piperidine 1g.



(i) To a stired solution of potassium carbonate (3.0 g, 22.0 mmol) in 20 mL of DMF was added 2-fluorobenzaldehyde (2.5 g, 20 mmol) and piperidine (1.9 g, 22.0 mmol). After heating the reaction mixture at reflux for 8 h, it was cooled and diluted with diethyl ether. The organic layer was extracted with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.<sup>3</sup>

(ii) To a stirring solution of 2-(piperidin-1-yl)benzaldehyde (1 equiv) in THF (1.0M) was added phenylmagnesium bromide (1.0 M in THF, 2 equiv) at room

temperature. After heating the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (40 mL) and extracted with ethyl ether ( $2 \times 40$  mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography to obtain the pure product.

(iii) A mixture of phenyl(2-(piperidin-1-yl)phenyl)methanol (0.5 g, 2.7 mmol). NaBH<sub>4</sub> (0.5 g, 13.2 mmol), and anhydrous AlCl<sub>3</sub> (1.0 g, 7.4 mmol) in THF (25 mL) was heated under reflux for 2 h. The mixture was then cooled. H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added to give two clear phases, and the whole mixture was extracted with EtOAc (4×50 ml). The extract was dried over sodium sulfate and distilled under reduced pressure to give 1-(2-benzylphenyl)piperidine.<sup>4</sup>

References:

- For the preparation of 2-Aryl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinolines, see:
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  (b) F. Y. Kwong, A. Klapars, S. L. Buchwald, *Org. Lett.* 2002, **4**, 581.
- 2. C. B. Singh, V. Kavala, A. K. Samal, B. K. Patel, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2007, 1369.
- W. H. N. Nijhuis, W. Verboom, A. A. El-Fadl, S. Harkema, D. N. Reinhoudt, J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 199.
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## Characterization data of Starting Materials 1a-1i.

1a

**1a**: Known compound **1a** was prepared according to the above method as a solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.30-7.26 (m, 2 H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 4 H), 6.98-6.96 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.84-6.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.40 (s, 2 H), 3.56-3.53 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2 H), 2,98-2.96 (t, J= 6 Hz, 2 H).



**1b**: Known compound **1b** was prepared according to the above method as a solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.16-7.09 (m, 4 H), 6.97-6.94 (m, 2 H), 6.87-6.84 (m, 2 H), 4.27 (s, 2 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.43-3.40 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.97-2.94 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2 H).



1c: Known compound 1c was prepared according to the above method as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.10-7.02 (m, 6 H), 6.84-6.81 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.25 (s, 2 H), 3.39-3.36 (t, J = 6 Hz, 2 H), 2.87-2.84 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.22 (s, 1 H).



1d: Known compound 1d was prepared according to the above method as a solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.35-7.33 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.24-7.14 (m, 4 H), 6.83-6.81 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.36 (s, 2 H), 3.53-3.50 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.98-2.95 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2 H).



**1e**: Known compound **1e** was prepared according to the above method as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.16-7.08 (m, 4 H), 7.03-7.0 (m, 2 H), 6.93-6.88 (m, 2 H), 4.29 (s, 2 H), 3.88 (s, 3 H), 3.42-3.39 (t, *J* =6.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.99-2.96 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2 H).

**1f**: Known compound **1f** was prepared according to the above method as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.5-7.21 (m, 2 H), 6.94-6.92 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2 H), 6.82-6.79 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.15-3.12 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 4 H), 1.72-1.67 (m, 4 H), 1.59-1.53 (m, 2 H).



**1g**: Compound **1g** was prepared according to the above method as a solid; mp: 30-32°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.27-6.99 (m, 8 H), 6.97-6.95 (m, 1 H), 4.06 (s, 2 H), 2.81-2.78 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 4 H), 1.69-1.64 (m, 4 H), 1.56-1.48 (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 153.0, 142.0, 136.6, 130.7, 129.0, 128.2, 126.9, 125.6, 123.4, 120.3, 54.2, 36.6, 26.6, 24.4; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3060, 3026, 2934, 2851, 2794, 1598, 1490, 1449, 1379, 1323, 1224, 1116, 1030, 928.



**1h**: Known compound **1h** was prepared according to the above method as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.98-6.96 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1 H), 6.40 (s, 1 H), 6.35-6.33 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.25-3.22 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4 H), 2.23 (s, 3 H), 2.16 (s, 3 H), 1.98-1.95 (m, 4 H).



**1i**: Known compound **1i** was prepared according to the above method as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24-7.20 (m, 2 H), 6.72-6.68 (m, 3 H), 3.86-3.82 (m, 1

H), 3.64-3.63 (m, 2 H), 3.52-3.47 (m, 1 H), 3.17-3.11 (m, 1 H), 2.07-1.95 (m, 4 H), 1.74 (s, 1 H).

#### General procedure for platinum-catalyzed synthesis of 3a-3e.

To a test tube, 2-aryl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline **1a-1e** (0.20 mmol), PtCl<sub>2</sub> (5.3 mg, 10 mol %) and powdered 5Å molecular sieve (50 mg) were added. The test tube was purged under vacuum and then refilled with argon 3 times. CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O=10/1 (1.0 mL) was then injected, and the mixture was allowed to stir at 85 °C. When the reaction was considered complete as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was then filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on alkalescence silica gel to afford corresponding products.

# General procedure for platinum-catalyzed synthesis of 4a-4d.

To a test tube, 2-aryl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline **1a-1d** (0.20 mmol), PtCl<sub>2</sub> (5.3 mg, 10 mol %) and powdered 5Å molecular sieve (50 mg) were added. The test tube then refilled with purged under vacuum and argon 3 times. was CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O=10/1 (1.0 mL) was then injected, and the mixture was allowed to stir at 85 °C. When the reaction was considered complete as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was then filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on alkalescence silica gel to afford corresponding products.

#### General procedure for platinum-catalyzed synthesis of 3f-3i.

To a test tube, cyclic amines **1f-1i** (0.20 mmol),  $PtCl_2$  (5.3 mg, 10 mol %) and powdered 5Å molecular sieve (50 mg) were added. The test tube was purged under vacuum and then refilled with argon 3 times.  $CH_3NO_2/H_2O=5/1$  (1.0 mL) was then injected, and the mixture was allowed to stir at 80 °C. When the reaction was considered complete as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was then filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on alkalescence silica gel to afford corresponding products.

#### General procedure for platinum-catalyzed synthesis of 6a-6d.

To a test tube, amine **1a** (0.20 mmol), PtCl<sub>2</sub> (8.0 mg, 15 mol %) and powdered 5Å molecular sieve (50 mg) were added. The test tube was purged under vacuum and then refilled with argon 3 times. Activated methylene compounds **5** (0.40 mmol) in DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O=1/1 (1.0 mL) was then injected, and the mixture was allowed to stir at 60 °C. When the reaction was considered complete as determined by TLC analysis, ethyl acetate (50 mL) was added, then washed with water (20 mL  $\times$  2), brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on alkalescence silica gel to afford corresponding products.

## General procedure for platinum-catalyzed synthesis of 8a and 8b.

To a test tube, amine **1a** (0.20 mmol), PtCl<sub>2</sub> (5.3 mg, 10 mol %), L-proline (4.6mg, 20 mol %) and powdered 5Å molecular sieve (50 mg) were added. The test tube was purged under vacuum and then refilled with argon 3 times. Ketones **7** (0.40 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O=1/2 (1.0 mL) was then injected, and the mixture was allowed to stir at 85 °C. When the reaction was considered complete as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was then filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on alkalescence silica gel to afford corresponding products.

## Characterization data of products 3a-3i, 4a-4d, 6a-6d.



**3a** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 43.0 mg (80 %) of the indicated compound as a solid after 10 h; mp: 84-86  $^{\circ}$ C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.22-7.03 (m, 6 H), 6.91-6.88 (m, 2 H),

6.79-6.74 (m, 1 H), 5.49-5.44 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.81-4.75 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.50-4.44 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.61-3.52 (m, 2 H), 3.05-2.95 (m, 1 H), 2.75-2.66 (m, 1H).

4a (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 45.2 mg (80 %) of the indicated diastereoisomers (2:1) as an oil after 24 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 2:1 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.30-6.79 (m, 9 H), 5.27-4.86 (m, 2 H), 3.89-3.55 (m, 2 H), 3.11-2.83 (m, 2 H), [1.72-1.69 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 1.55-1.53 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 3 H].



**3b** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 42.3 mg (71 %) of the indicated compound as a solid after 15 h; mp: 102-104 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.23-7.04 (m, 4 H), 6.90-6.87 (m, 2 H), 6.79-6.76 (m, 2 H), 5.38-5.33 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.83-4.76 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 12.3 Hz, 1 H), 4.55-4.49 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.55-3.52 (m, 2 H), 3.04-2.93 (m, 1 H), 2.70-2.62 (m, 1 H).



**4b** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 46.2 mg (74 %) of the indicated diastereoisomers (3:1) as an oil after 15 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 3:1 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.26-7.01 (m, 4 H), 6.94-6.89 (m, 2 H), 6.84-6.75 (m, 2 H), 5.07-4.83 (m, 2 H), 3.82-3.45 (m, 5 H), 3.03-2.75 (m, 2 H), [1.68-1.66 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 1.53-1.52 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz), 3 H].



**3c** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 48.0 mg (85 %) of the indicated compound as a solid after 24 h; mp: 94-96 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.27-7.09 (m, 6 H), 6.93-6.90 (m, 2 H), 5.55-5.50 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.89-4.83 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 10.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.60-4.54 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.69-3.59 (m, 2 H), 3.13-3.03 (m, 1 H), 2.81-2.73 (m, 1 H), 2.29 (s, 3 H).



4c (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 50.3 mg (85 %) of the indicated diastereoisomers (3:2) as an oil after 16 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 3:2 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.29-7.03 (m, 6 H), 6.95-6.86 (m, 2 H), 5.23-4.87 (m, 2 H), 3.87-3.53 (m, 2 H), 3.09-2.80 (m, 2 H), [2.29 (s), 2.27 (s), 3 H], [1.56 (s), 1.54 (s), 3 H].



**3d** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 58.3 mg (84 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 48 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.35-7.12 (m, 6 H), 6.87-6.83 (m, 2 H), 5.52-5.46 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 4.87-4.79 (m, 1 H), 4.59-4.52 (m, 1 H), 3.63-3.59 (m, 2 H), 3.12-3.02 (m, 1 H), 2.83-2.74 (m, 1 H).



4d (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 39.0 mg (54 %) of the indicated diastereoisomers (3:1) as an oil after 18 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 3:1 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.36-7.00 (m, 6 H),

6.86-6.83 (m, 2 H), 5.21-4.87 (m, 2 H), 3.85-3.49 (m, 2 H), 3.09-2.89 (m, 2 H), [1.68-1.65 (m), 1.56-1.53 (m), 3 H].



**3e** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 46.5 mg (78 %) of the indicated compound as a solid after 15 h; mp: 103-104°C ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.22-7.11 (m, 4 H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 1 H), 6.89-6.78 (m, 3 H), 5.50-5.46 (dd, J = 4.5, 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.82-4.75 (dd, J = 8.1, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.53-4.47 (dd, J = 4.5, 11.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.62-3.41 (m, 2 H), 3.01-2.90 (m, 1 H), 2.72-2.64 (m, 1 H).



**3f**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 32.1 mg (73 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 10 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.31-7.26 (m, 2 H), 6.99-6.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 6.92-6.88 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.62-4.55 (m, 2 H), 4.47-4.41 (m, 1 H), 3.44-3.40 (m, 1 H), 2.93-2.86 (m, 1 H), 1.96-1.57 (m, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  149.3, 129.5, 120.4, 116.8, 73.2, 54.9, 44.5, 26.4, 25.0, 19.0; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3061, 3032, 2940, 2861, 1597, 1549, 1498, 1455, 1380, 1350, 1250, 1229, 1169, 1136, 1084, 1031; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: M+H=221.1285; found: 221.1282.



**3j**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 52.7 mg (85 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 24 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.32-7.09 (m, 9 H), 4.17-3.95 (m, 3 H), 3.92-3.64 (m, 2 H), 2.89-2.87 (m, 1 H), 2.64-2.58 (m, 1 H), 1.86-1.49 (m, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>COCD<sub>3</sub>): δ 150.8, 143.1, 140.5, 132.6, 130.6, 129.6, 128.9, 127.2, 127.0, 124.6, 78.9, 59.2, 56.0,

38.4, 31.0, 27.4, 24.0; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3060, 3026, 2936, 2854, 2802, 1598, 1550, 1490, 1449, 1380, 1347,8,1350, 1274, 1241, 1214, 1166, 1106, 1058, 1030; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: M+H=311.1754; found: 311.1748.



**3h**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 20:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 35.1 mg (75 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 16 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.04-7.02 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H), 6.51-6.44 (m, 2 H), 4.63-4.59 (m, 1 H), 4.38-4.35 (m, 1 H), 4.18-4.13 (m, 1 H), 3.48-3.44 (m, 1 H), 3.19-3.13 (m, 1 H), 2.25 (s, 3 H), 2.18 (s, 3 H), 2.09-2.06 (m, 4 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  144.1, 137.8, 130.6, 125.3, 113.5, 109.4, 76.0, 57.5, 48.2, 29.2, 22.8, 20.3, 18.5; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2968, 2920, 2858, 1616, 1547, 1511, 1456, 1426, 1360, 1342, 1288, 1243, 1208, 1179, 1122, 1028; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: M+H=235.1441; found: 235.1438.



**3i**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 3:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 45.3 mg (96 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 30 h; dr=1.7:1, diastereomeric ratio (dr) was determined by HPLC (OD-H), hexane: iPrOH = 80:20, flow rate = 1.0mL/min, major isomer tr = 9.65, minor isomer tr = 10.96; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 1.7 : 1 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.29-7.24 (m, 2 H), 6.83-6.75 (m, 3 H), 4.67-4.03 (m, 3 H), 3.98-3.93 (m, 1 H), 3.82-3.52 (m, 2 H), 2.17-1.95 (m, 5 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 1.7:1 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  146.4, 143.3, 129.8, 129.6, 118.4, 117.8, 113.9, 112.7, 77.9, 74.5, 62.4, 61.8, 61.7, 59.9, 58.6, 57.1, 28.6, 27.2, 26.3, 26.0; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3541, 3392, 2951, 2925, 2881, 1598, 1546, 1501, 1357, 1214, 1159; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: M+H= 237.1234; found: 237.1235.



**6a** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 57.6 mg (85 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 11 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.24-7.08 (m, 6 H), 6.98-6.96 (m, 2 H), 6.77-6.74 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.72-5.69 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.95-3.93 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.75-3.59 (m, 5 H), 3.54 (s, 3 H), 3.10-3.02 (m, 1 H), 2.90-2.83 (m, 1 H).



**6b** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 51.4 mg (70 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 24 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.25-7.08 (m, 6 H), 6.98-6.96 (m, 2 H), 6.76-6.72 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.73-5.71 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.15-3.93 (m, 4 H), 3.90-3.88 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.74-3.60 (m, 2 H), 3.10-2.84 (m, 2 H), 1.18-1.14 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.10-1.06 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).



**6c** (known): The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 36.4 mg (54%) of the indicated diastereoisomers (3:2) as an oil after 24 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 3:2 mixture of diastereoisomers):  $\delta$  7.31-7.05 (m, 6 H), 6.96-6.94 (m, 2 H), [6.83-6.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz), 6.75-6.71 (t, J = 7.2 Hz), 1 H], [5.77-5.75 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 5.63-5.61 (d, J = 9.2 Hz), 1 H], 4.21-3.92 (m, 3 H), 3.73-3.56 (m, 2 H), 3.07-3.64 (m, 2 H), [2.15 (s), 2.11 (s), 3 H], [1.17-1.14 (t, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.07-1.03 (t, J = 7.2 Hz), 3 H].



6d: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 10:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 23.0 mg (42 %) of the indicated compound as an oil after 56 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.27-7.22 (m, 4 H), 7.17-7.11 (m, 2 H), 6.87-6.80 (m, 3 H), 4.35-4.29 (m, 1 H), 3.84-3.81 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.68-3.59 (m, 2 H), 3.44-3.39 (m, 1 H), 3.06-2.99 (dd, *J*=17.2, 5.2 Hz, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  145.2, 131.5, 129.5, 129.4, 128.6, 128.1, 127.7, 127.5, 120.1, 115.4, 114.6, 114.2, 55.4, 38.8, 37.7, 33.6; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: M+H=274.1339; found: 274.1344.



**8a**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 30:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 32.0 mg (55%) of the indicated diastereoisomers (4:1) as an oil after 48 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.35-6.68 (m, 9 H), [ 5.60 (s), 5.25-5.24 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 1 H], 3.71-3.48 (m, 2 H), 3.05-2.71 (m, 3 H), 2.31-1.54 (m, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  220.4, 219.6, 149.1, 148.5, 139.4, 135.6, 135.4, 134.7, 129.4, 129.3, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 126.9, 126.7, 126.5, 126.4, 126.3, 117.8, 117.3, 113.7, 113.6, 58.6, 57.5, 56.4, 54.5, 43.0, 42.5, 38.5, 37.7, 29.7, 28.8, 27.5, 27.2, 25.9, 20.6; IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3389, 3059, 2922, 2852, 1730, 1703, 1598, 1502, 1457, 1398, 1323, 1266, 1247, 1150; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: M+H=292.1696; found: 296.1692.



**8b**: The reaction mixture was chromatographed using 30:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford 34.7 mg (53 %) of the indicated compound as a solid after 48 h; mp: 105-107°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.84-7.82 (m, 2 H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 1 H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2 H), 7.24-7.08 (m, 6 H), 6.97-6.95 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2 H), 6.75-6.72 (m, 1 H), 5.67-5.64 (m,

1 H), 3.67-3.35 (m, 4 H), 3.13-3.06 (m, 1 H), 2.94-2.87 (m, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  198.6, 148.8, 138.5, 137.3, 134.5, 133.0, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 126.8, 126.2, 117.9, 114.4, 55.0, 45.3, 42.1, 27.6; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3346, 3060, 2918, 2848, 1679, 1597, 1501, 1449, 1393, 1346, 1279, 1206, 1156; HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: M+H=328.1696; found: 328.1701.

# H<sub>2</sub> Detection Experiment:

The reaction was carried out by using tetrahydroisoquinoline **1a** (0.5 mmol),  $PtCl_2$  (10 % mol) and 5 Å MS (100 mg) in CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O or CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/D<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL) under argon in the sealed tube. When the mixture was stirred at 85 °C for 6h, the gas (2 mL) upon the solution was injected into the Hydrogen Detector Inficon Transpector 2. The detection result was shown in the following:



S-Figure 1. Results of the H<sub>2</sub> detection by using Inficon Transpector 2. H is the fragment of H<sub>2</sub> and HD during the detection. (a) Spectra was obtained when CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O (10/1) was used. (b) Spectra was obtained when CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>/D<sub>2</sub>O (10/1) was used.

















































































































