

## Electronic supplementary information

### Hydrolysis of 1-(X-substituted-benzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ions: Effect of substituent X on reactivity and reaction mechanism

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**Table S1** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-dimethylaminobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2a** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>4</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
24.2	3.21
43.4	4.38
58.9	5.12
71.7	5.73
82.4	6.34
103	7.33

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 0.00518 \pm 0.0001 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_{\text{o}} = 0.000204 \pm 0.000008 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9990$$

**Table S2** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2b** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
9.81	5.23
18.7	6.22
26.9	7.20
34.3	8.03
41.2	8.87

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 0.116 \pm 0.001 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_{\text{o}} = 0.000408 \pm 0.000020 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9999$$

**Table S3** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-methylbenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2c** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
9.81	11.5
18.7	13.9
26.9	16.3
34.3	18.3
41.2	20.0

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 0.273 \pm 0.004 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_{\text{o}} = 0.00884 \pm 0.00010 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9996$$

**Table S4** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(3-methylbenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2d** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
9.81	17.8
18.7	22.0
26.9	25.9
34.3	29.1
41.2	32.3

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 0.461 \pm 0.005 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.0134 \pm 0.0001 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9998$$

**Table S5** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-benzoyl-4-aminopyridinium ion **2e** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
4.08	19.8
8.00	22.1
15.4	26.1
22.3	30.5
28.7	33.8
34.7	37.7

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 0.581 \pm 0.008 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.0174 \pm 0.0002 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9996$$

**Table S6** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2f** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> k <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
4.04	42.1
7.92	46.4
11.7	50.4
15.3	54.0
18.7	58.0

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 1.07 \pm 0.01 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.0378 \pm 0.0002 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9997$$

**Table S7** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(3-chlorobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2g** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	10 <sup>3</sup> <i>k</i> <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
2.29	69.3
4.06	72.6
7.96	82.3
11.7	91.3
15.3	98.9
18.8	106

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 2.26 \pm 0.04 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.0640 \pm 0.0008 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9993$$

**Table S8** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-cyanobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2h** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	<i>k</i> <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
1.03	0.143
1.63	0.148
2.44	0.154
2.84	0.157
3.24	0.160
4.04	0.166

$$k_{\text{cat}} = 7.60 \pm 0.07 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.135 \pm 0.0002 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$R^2 = 0.9998$$

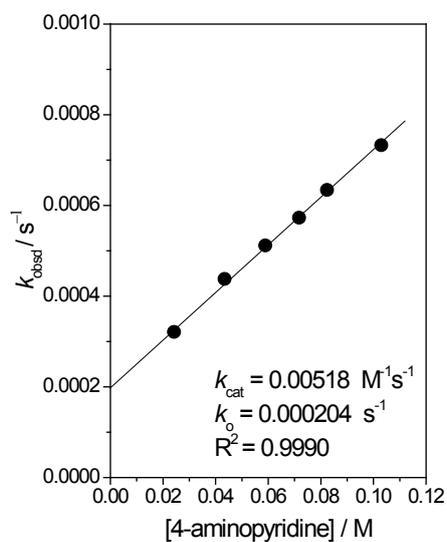
**Table S9** Kinetic data for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-chloro-3-nitrobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2i** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C

[4-aminopyridine] / mM	<i>k</i> <sub>obsd</sub> / s <sup>-1</sup>
10.2	0.406
20.4	0.505
30.6	0.614
40.8	0.705
51.0	0.798

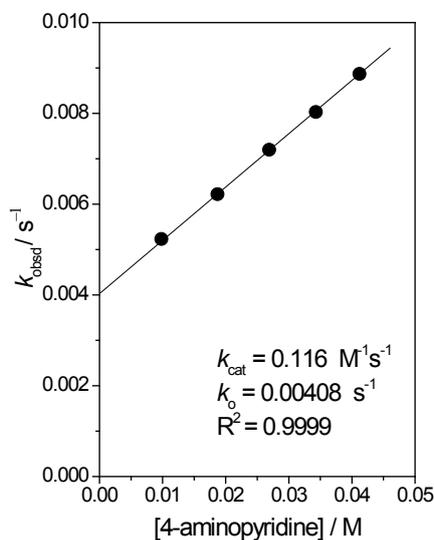
$$k_{\text{cat}} = 9.65 \pm 0.18 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_0 = 0.310 \pm 0.006 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

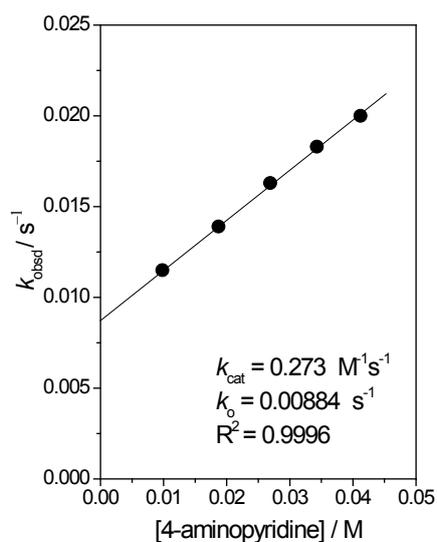
$$R^2 = 0.9994$$



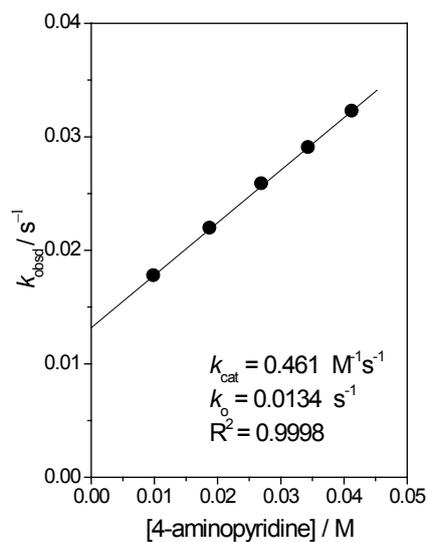
**Fig. S1** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-dimethylaminobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2a** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



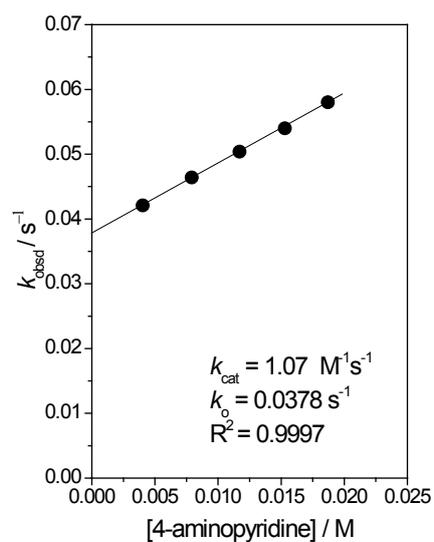
**Fig. S2** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2b** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



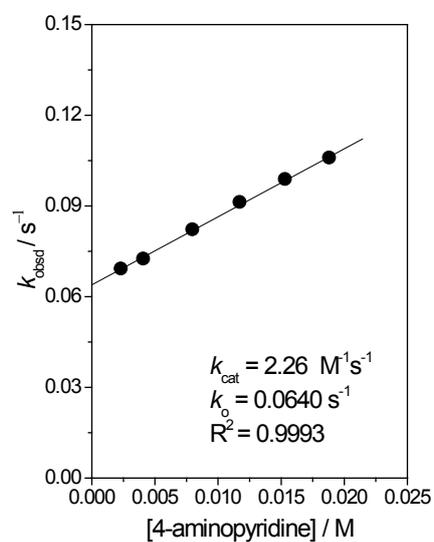
**Fig. S3** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-methylbenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2c** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



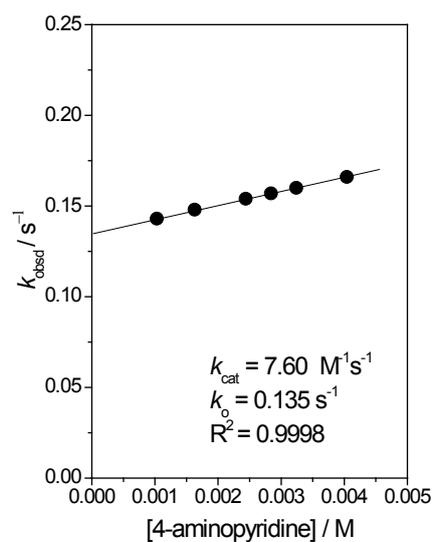
**Fig. S4** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(3-methylbenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2d** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



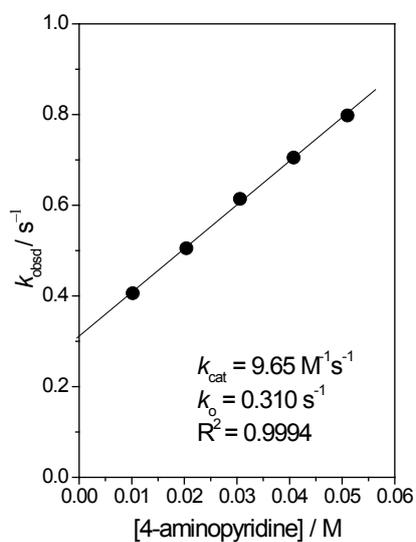
**Fig. S5** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2f** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



**Fig. S6** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(3-chlorobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2g** in 80 mol % H<sub>2</sub>O/20 mol % DMSO at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C.



**Fig. S7** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-cyanobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2h** in 80 mol %  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /20 mol % DMSO at  $25.0 \pm 0.1$  °C.



**Fig. S8** Plot of  $k_{\text{obsd}}$  vs. [4-aminopyridine] for the hydrolysis of 1-(4-chloro-3-nitrobenzoyl)-4-aminopyridinium ion **2i** in 80 mol %  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /20 mol % DMSO at  $25.0 \pm 0.1$ .

