Supporting Information

Nano Fe₃O₄ supported Biimidazole Cu(I) Complex as a retrievable catalyst for the synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]pyridines in aqueous medium

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1. General Information:

The MNP@BiimCu catalyst was characterized by various techniques such as elemental analyzed (CHN), NMR, FT-IR, TG, SEM, TEM, EDS, XRD, AAS, ICP- OES and vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) which revealed the superparamagnetic nature of the particles. All chemicals were purchased and used without any further purification. NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz for proton and at 100 MHz for carbon nuclei in (CDCl₃).

2. Characterizations of Catalyst:

The FT-IR spectra of MNPs (a), MNP@SiO₂ (b), MNP@CPS (c), Bim (d) and MNP@BiimCu (e) were shown in Fig. 1.



Fig 1. FTIR spectra of MNPs (a), MNP@SiO₂ (b), MNP@CPS (c), Bim (d), MNP@BiimCu (e).

XRD pattern: The X-ray diffraction analysis was done in a Philips PW 1830 X-ray diffractometer with CuK α source.



Fig. 2. XRD patterns of MNPs (2a) and MNP@BiimCu (2b)

Thermo gravimetric analysis (TG) results indicate the loading amount of functionalized organic groups on magnetic were 1.4 mmol/g.



Fig. 3. The TGA thermogram of (a) MNP@SiO₂ (b) MNP@BiimCu 10 °C/min under N₂ atmosphere

The morphology of the powders was investigated by scanning electron microscopy (SEM). SEM analysis (Fig. 5) of the Nano-magnetic catalyst showed uniform-sized particles with spherical morphology with an average size range of 20–25 nm. Fig. 6 displays HRTEM image of MNP@BiimCu nanoparticles. As may be seen in the TEM image, the size of particles is around 15 nm and the particles are spherical in shape with some agglomeration, which is obvious because of the magnetic nature of the particles.



Fig. 5. SEM images of synthesized MNP@BiimCu (left) used (right)



Fig. 6. Transmis sion elect ron microscopy (TEM) image of MNP@BiimCu.

Elemental analysis for MNP@SiO₂ MNP@CPS and MNP@BiimCu were carried out and the data were tabulated in Table 1 which is shown to be in good agreement with the result obtained from TGA (Fig. 3). Further to support the above observation, the EDX analysis of magnetic nanocatalyst indicates that CuI was chelated on the surface of MNP@Biim nanoparticles (Fig. 4).

Samples	С%	Н%	N%	Cu%
MNP@SiO2	<mark>0.10</mark>	<mark>0.21</mark>	-	·
MNP@CPS	5.85	1.50	-	-
MNP@BiimCu	14.59	2.17	8.21	7.3 ^a , 7.97 ^b , 7.92 ^b . ^c

Table1. Elemental analysis for MNP@SiO₂, MNP@CPS and MNP@BiimCu

^{a, b} The amount of copper was determined using ^aAAS and ^bICP,

^c Recycled after ten times



Fig. 4. EDS pattern of MNP@Biim Cu

The magnetic hysteresis measurements of both MNP@SiO₂ and MNP@BiimCu nanocrystallites obtained by VSM at 300 K, with the field sweeping from -8000 to +8000 Oe. As shown in Fig. 7 the relatively high saturation magnetization of synthesized nanoparticles is sufficient for magnetic separation with a conventional magnet (Fig. 7c).



Fig. 7. VSM curve of MNP@SiO2 (a) vs. MNP@BiimCu (b),(c) MNP@BiimCu ability to effective recovery at the end of reaction

3. Synthesis of Catalyst:

3.1 General details

Chemical materials were purchased from Merck and Aldrich Chemical Company in high purity. All the solvents were distilled, dried and purified by standard procedures. Melting points were measured on an Electrothermal 9100 apparatus. The samples were analyzed using FT-IR spectroscopy (Bruker Vector 22Perkin Elmer 65 in KBr matrix). The X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) of the catalyst was carried out on a Philips PW 1830 X-ray diffractometer with CuK α source (λ =1.5418 Å) in a range of Bragg's angle (5-80°) at room temperature. Scanning electron microscope (SEM) pictures-EDS analyses were taken using VEGA//TESCAN KYKY-EM3200 microscope (acceleration voltage 26 kV). Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) experiments were conducted on a Philips EM 208 electron microscope. The samples for TEM measurements were suspended in ethanol by sonication and then drop drying on a copper grid (400 mesh) coated with carbon film. ¹H, ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a BRUKER DRX-400 AVANCE spectrometer. Elemental analyses for C, H and N were performed using a Heraeus CHN-O-Rapid analyzer. Mass spectra were recorded on a FINNIGAN-MATT 8430 mass spectrometer operating at an ionization potential of 20 eV.Magnetic measurements were performed using vibration sample magnetometry (VSM, (MDK Co. Kashan, Iran) analysis. A simultaneous ICP-OES (Varian Vista-Pro, Springvale, Australia) coupled to a V-groove nebulizer and equipped with a charge cou-pled device (CCD) was applied for determination of the trace.

3.2. Preparation of 2,2'-biimidazole(Biim)I

To a mixture of ammonium acetate (0.46 mol, 35.4 g) and H₂O (6.5 mL) was added dropwise glyoxal (0.173 mol, 10.0 g) solution (20%) at 40 °C over a period of 3 h then the mixture was allowed to stir for an additional 5h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered and then washed with distilled water (3 ×20 mL) and acetone (3 ×20 mL) to give a crude product. The brown solid was dissolved in 130 ml of hot ethylene glycol, and decolorized with activated carbon. After hot filtration, the product precipitated instantly to provide 3.2 g (42%) of white crystalline I[1].

3.3. Preparation of 3-chloropropyl-functionalized magnetic nanoparticles (MNP@CPS)

A mixture of $FeCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ (2.35 g, 8.7 mmol) and $FeCl_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ (0.86 g, 4.3 mmol) were dissolved in 40 ml deionized water. The resultant solution was left to be stirred for 30 min at 80 °C. Then 5 mL of NH₄OH solution was added with vigorous stirring to produce a black solid and the reaction was continued for another 30 min. The black magnetite nanoparticles were isolated by magnetic decantation, washed several times with deionized water and then dried at 80 °C for 10 h.

0.5 g of dried Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles were suspended in a mixture of 50 mL ethanol and 5 mL of $NH_3 \cdot H_2O$. Then, 0.2 mL of tetraethoxysilane (TEOS) was added to solution and the mixture was ultrasonicated for 2 h. Afterward silica coated MNP (MNP@SiO₂) was magnetically separated, washed three times with ethanol and dried at 80 °C for 10 h.

 $MNP@SiO_2$ (100mg) was dispersed in 15 ml of dry toluene by ultrasonication under nitrogen atmosphere. Next, 3-chloropropyltriethoxysilane (0.2 mL, 0.8mml) was dropwise added into the $MNP@SiO_2$ solution under reflux condition for 48 h[25]. The CPS functionalized magnetic nanoparticles (MNP@CPS) was washed with 30 mL of toluene and ethanol before being dried at 60 °C for 12 h.

3.4. Preparation of MNP@BiimCu catalyst

Sodium hydride 2.4 g (0.06 mol) was suspended in 5 mL of dry DMF under inert atmosphere. To this suspension, 6.7 g of Biimidazole (0.05 mol) was added and stirred for 30 more minutes at room temperature. The MNP@CPS (1.8 gr) was then added to this suspension and mixture was stirred at 65 °C for 2 days. The dark brown precipitate formed was filtered, washed with water and methanol and then soxhlet extraction by hot methanol to remove no reacted specie and dried under vacuum at 70 °C.

A mixture of MNP@Biim (2 g), copper iodide (500 mg) and dry acetonitrile (30 ml) was stirred at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere for 48 h. The resulting solid was then separated by an external magnet and washed with acetonitrile and acetone for several times. The residue was dried for 24 h in air to afford the Nano Fe₃O₄ supported Biimidazole Cu(I) Complex (MNP@BiimCu).



Preparation of MNP@BiimCu a) 50 ml EtOH (50mL), NH₃·H₂O (5 ml), TEOS (0.2 ml) for 2h; b) dry toluene (15 mL), CPTES (0.2 ml), reflux for 48h; c) Bim (6.7 g), NaH (2.4g) in DMF (15 ml) in 65 °C for 48 h, d) CuI (0.5g) and dry CH₃CN (30 ml) under N₂ for 48h

5. General procedure for the synthesis of imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine derivatives

In a 10 mL round bottomed flask, a mixture of 2-aminopyridine (1 mmol) and benzaldehyde (1 mmol) was stirred. After 20 min, phenylacetylene (1.1 mmol), MNP@Bim Cu (0.01 g, 1.4 mol %), 0.005g CTAB and 2mL H₂O were added to the above mixture and the resulting mixture was allowed to stir under reflux conditions for specified period of time. The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). After completion of the reaction the catalyst was magnetically separated. The residue was extracted with EtOAc (2×10 mL) followed by drying with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash chromatography to afford the desired product.



3-Benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 1)^{2,3,4,5 and 6}.

White solid, mp 146°C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.69–7.73 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.19–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (dt, *J* = 6.60 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 144.8(C2)$, 144.1(C4), 137.6(C13), 131.5(C13), 130.1(C18 and 22), 129.6(C10), 129.4(C11 and 15), 129.0(C21 and 19), 127.7(C5), 126.9(C20), 124.1(C12 and 14), 123.4(C6), 117.5(C8), 117.4(C9), 112.2(C7), 29.9(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₂: 318.0925, found: 318.0913.



3-Benzyl-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2, Entry2).^{2,3,4,5 and 6}

White crystalline solid, mp 119-120 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.74 (m, 2H), 7.43 (td, *J* = 6.0 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.19–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (dt, *J* = 6.8 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 144.9(C2), 144.2(C4), 136.8(C17), 134.4(C10), 129.0(C18 , 22), 128.7(C19, 21), 128.2(C11,15), 127.75(C12, 14), 127.73(C13) 126.9(C2), 124.2(C5), 123.4(C6), 117.9(C8), 117.3(C9), 112.2(C7), 29.9(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₆N₂: 284.1315, found: 284.1302.



3-Benzyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2, Entry3).^{5,6}

White crystalline solid; mp 130-132°C.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz) δ = 7.73 (m, 4H), 7.31–7.26 (m, 4H), 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.89 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.3(C13), 145.1(C2), 144.1(C4), 136.8(C17), 129.8(C18, 22), 129.3(C11,15), 128.2(C19, 21), 127.6(C10), 127.2(C5), 124.5(C20), 123.1(C6), 117.6(C8), 117.1(C9), 114.4(C7), 112.2(C12, 14), 54.2(C24), 30.8(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₂O: 315.1491, found: 315.1483.



3-Benzyl-2-(4-bromophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table2, Entry4).^{2,4 and 5}

Yellow crystals: decomposes at 160°-162C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.73–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 144.1(C2)$, 143.2(C17), 136.8(C4), 133.5(C11,15), 131.7(C18, 22), 130.1(C10), 129.3(C19, 21), 127.9(C5), 127.3(C20), 124.8(C12, 14), 123.5(C6), 122.1(C8), 117.7(C13), 117.6(C9), 112.3(C7), 29.7(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₅BrN₂: 363.2543, found: 363.2536.



3-Benzyl-2-p-tolylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 5).^{5,6 and 7}

Light yellow solid; mp 160 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.68 (m, 4 H), 7.31-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.16 - 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.72 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ = 144.9(C2), 144.2(C4), 137.5(C17), 136.8(C13), 131.4(C18, 22), 129.1(C10), 128.9(C19, 21), 128.3(C12, 14), 127.7(C11, 15), 126.9(C5), 124.2(C20), 123.4(C6), 117.7(C8), 117.4(C9), 112.0(C7), 29.9(C16), 21.3. (C23).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₂: 298.1473, found: 298.1466.



4-(3-Benzylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl)benzonitrile (Table 2,Entry 6).^{2,4 and 5}

Light yellow solid; mp 135-136 °C.

1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.82 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.70–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.36–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J*= 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (m, 1H), 4.49 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 145.4(C2), 141.9(C10), 138.7(C17), 136.3(C18, 22), 132.2(C4), 129.2(C12, 14), 128.5(C19, 21), 127.4(C11, 15), 127.1(C5), 125.0(C20), 123.6(C6), 120.1(C8), 118.1(C23), 117.9(C9), 112.8(C7), 112.4(C13), 29.6(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₅N₃: 309.3645, found: 309.3649.



3-Benzyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 7).⁶

White solid; mp 138-141 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.68-7.78 (m, 4 H), 7.24 - 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.49 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 145.6(C2)$, 143.5(C4), 137.6(C10), 136.2(C17), 129.1(C23), 128.3(C18, 22), 127.6(C13), 127.2(C11, 15), 125.8(C19, 21), 125.7(C5), 125.5(C20), 124.8(C12, 14), 124.2(C6), 118.8(C8), 116.7(C9), 112.6(C7), 29.8(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₅F₃N₂: 352.1289, found: 352.1278.



3-Benzyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 8).^{2,4 and 6}

Light yellow oil; mp 82 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.68-7.82 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.15 (m, 4H), 6.74 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz 1H), 4.49 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 162.6$ (d, $J_{C-F} = 245.4$ Hz) (C13), 144.9(C2), 143.3(C4), 138.5(C17), 129.8(C18, 22), 129.5 (d, $J_{C-C-F} = 11.3$ Hz) (C11, 15), 129.1(C10), 127.6(C19, 21), 127.0(C5), 123.9 (d, $J_{C-C-F} = 94.9$ Hz) (C12, 14), 117.6(C6), 115.7(C8), 115.5(C9), 112.3(C7), 29.8(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₅FN₂: 302.3412, found: 302.3414.



3-Benzyl-2-(2-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 9).8

Semisolid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.67–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.53 (m, 4H), 7.19–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.28 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 146.2(C2)$, 144.5(C4), 138.6(C11), 137.3(C17), 134.1(C10), 130.8(C18, 22), 130.2(C13), 128.8(C15), 128.1(C19, 21), 126.7(C12), 125.5(C20, 5), 124.2(C6), 119.1(C14), 117.2(C8, 9), 112.4(C7), 29.8(C16), 21.3(C23).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₉N₂: 299.1549, found: 299.1556.



3-Benzyl-2-(2-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 10).^{5,6}

Brown crystalline solid; mp 116 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.73–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.58–7.54 (m, 1H) 7.56–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.38–7.30 (m, 2H) 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.12 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (s, 2H, CH₂).

13CNMR (CDCl3, 125 MHz) $\delta = 145.3(C2)$, 141.9(C10), 136.5(C4), 133.2(C17), 132.8(C11), 130.1(C18, 22), 129.6(C15), 128.4(C13), 127.6(C12), 126.9(C19, 21), 126.6(C5), 124.1(C20), 122.8(C14), 120.4(C6), 117.6(C8, 9), 112.1(C7), 29.9(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₂: 318.8019, found: 318.8025.



3-Benzyl-2-(3-bromophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2,Entry 11).³

White solid; mp = 154-156 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.03 (t, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.75 (m, 3H), 7.49–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.30–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.21–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 6.80 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (td, *J* = 6.8 Hz, *J* = 6.80 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 144.7(C2), 144.2(C4), 136.4(C17), 136.3(C10), 134.6 (C18, 22), 129.8(C11), 129.4(C14), 128.1(C19, 21), 127.9(C15), 127.3(C13), 126.9(C5), 126.7(C20), 124.2(C6), 123.4(C8), 118.1(C12), 117.6(C9), 112.3(C7), 29.8(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₆BrN₂: 363.1243, found: 363.1237





White solid; mp = 141-142 °C.

¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):** 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.65-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.61- 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.19 - 7.22 (m, 1 H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 6.78 (dt, *J* = 7.2 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.52 (s, 2 H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3): 145.1(C2), 142.5(C17), 136.6(C4), 136.1(C18, 22), 135.1(C10), 129.8(C12), 129.1(C11), 128.4 (C15), 127.6(C19, 21), 127.3(C5), 127.1(C10), 126.2(C20), 125.4(C13), 123.2(C6), 117.8(C8), 117.3(C9), 112.2(C7), 29.8(C16).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₀H₁₅ClN₂: 318.0932, found: 318.0939.



3-Benzyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table2,Entry13).³

White solid; mp = 162-165 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.21 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.14–7.28 (m, 4H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 141.3(C2)$, 138.7(C21), 135.6(C12), 133.8(C26, 22), 132.1(C14), 131.5(C10), 129.1(C25, 23),128.7(C16), 128.1(C16), 127.4(C4), 127.3(C5), 126.2(C19), 125.8(C18), 125.9(C15), 125.3(C13), 124.1(C6), 123.6(C8), 122.5(C9), 117.2(C11), 112.4(C7), 29.7(C20).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₄H₁₉N₂: 335.1558, found: 335.1568.



3-Benzyl-2-(furan-2-yl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table2,Entry14).^{2,5}

Brown crystalline solid; mp= 99-101 °C.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ = 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.22–7.16 (m, 6H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.50–6.54 (m, 1H), 4,34 (s, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) $\delta = 152.3(C2)$, 146.0(C8), 144.1(C10), 136.7(C5), 134.3(C16), 128.8(C17, 21), 128.1(C18, 20), 125.6(C19), 122.3(C14), 121.8(C6), 117.1(C12), 116.5(C11), 112.2(C14), 111.6(C13), 107.5(C3), 29.8(C15).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₁₈H₁₄N₂O: 275.1170, found: 275.1186.



3-Benzyl-2-(propyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table2,Entry15).²

Yellow oil;

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.68 (t, J= 8.20 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.19 (m, 4H), 6.69 (t, J= 7.20 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.38 (t, J= 6.8 Hz, 2H, C¹⁰H), 1.84–1.86 (m, 2H, C¹¹H), 1.8 (t, J= 6.8 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 137.5(C2)$, 128.2(C14), 127.3(C4), 123.4(C15, 19), 123.1(C16, 18), 129.3(C17), 118.7(C6), 117.4(C5), 111.2(C9, 8), 110.5(C7), 29.9(C13), 29.2(C10), 24.3(C11), 14.6(C12).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₂: 250.1489, found: 250.1476.



3-Benzyl-2-(isopropyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table2,Entry16).^{2,4}

Yellow crystals; mp= 82-83 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.65 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 -7.30 (m, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.12 (s, 3H), 6.61 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.19 -3.34 (m, 1H, C¹⁰H), 1.49 (d, J= 6.53 Hz, 6H, 2CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 138.2(C2)$, 129.3(C13), 127.7(C4), 126.9(C14, 18), 126.5(C6), 123.6(C15, 17), 123.1(C16), 117.2(C5), 116.9(C8, 9), 111.6(C7), 29.7(C12), 27.1(C10), 24.2(C11, 19).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₁₇H₁₈N₂: 250.1468, found: 250.1472.



3-Benzyl-(6-methyl-2-phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine(Table 2, Entry 17).^{5,6}

White solid; $mp=207-209^{\circ} C$.

¹H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.78–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.41–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J= 8.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.27 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 144.1(C2)$, 143.4(C4), 136.9(C17), 135.1(C10), 129.3(C18, 22), 128.5(C8), 128.2(C19, 21), 127.6(C7), 127.5(C6), 127.3(C11, 15), 127.1(C12, 14), 120.9(C5), 120.6(C13), 118.3(C20), 117.1(C9), 29.8(C16), 18.7(C23).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₂: 299.1537, found: 299.1539.



3-Benzyl-(8-methyl-2-phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine (Table 2, Entry 18).²

light yellow crystals; mp= 126-127 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.82 (s, 2H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.20 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 2H), 7.25 - 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.10 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.75 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 146.3(C2)$, 144.1(C4), 136.9(C17), 135.4(C10), 129.2(C18, 22), 128.6(C8), 128.4(C9), 127.9(C19, 21),127.5(C11, 15), 127.1(C12,14), 125.4(C5), 124.2(C13), 120.6(C20), 118.4(C6), 113.2(C7), 29.4(C16), 17.6(C23).

HRMS (ESI) [M+H] calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₂: 298.1475, found: 298.1472.

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