SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1,4-Palladium Shift/C(sp³)-H Activation Strategy for the Remote Construction of 5-Membered Rings

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1- General information:

Techniques

All reactions involving air-sensitive material were carried out in pre-dried glassware under an argon atmosphere by using Schlenk techniques employing double-line argon-vacuum lines and working in an argon-filled glove box. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using pre-coated *Merck silica gel 60 F254* plates (0.25 mm). Visualization of the developed chromatogram was performed by UV absorbance (254 nm) or TLC stains (KMnO4 and Phosphomolybdic acid). Flash chromatography was performed using *Silicycle SiliaFlash P60* (230-400 mesh) with the indicated solvent system, using gradients of increasing polarity in most cases.

Chemicals

Anhydrous THF, DME, DMF, toluene were purchased from Acros Organics or Sigma-Aldrich. The solvents were degassed by three cycles of freeze-pump-thaw and storing in single-necked flasks equipped with a J-Young PTFE valve when necessary. Pd(PCy₃)₂ was purchased from Strem. All other chemical reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Acros Organics, Fisher, and Fluorochem and used as received without further purification unless otherwise stated.

Instrumentation

Preparative HPLC was performed using a preparative Shimadzu HPLC system with a Gemini $10 \ \mu m NX-C18$, LC Column $150 \times 30 mm$.

Melting points were obtained on a Büchi B-565, and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on an ATR Varian Scimitar 800 and are reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm-1).

Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance 400 (400 MHz), on

a Bruker Advance 500 (500 MHz) or a Bruker Advance 600 (600 MHz) in deuterated chloroform S4 (residual peaks 1H δ 7.26 ppm, 13C δ 77.16 ppm) unless otherwise noted. 19F NMR spectra were referenced to external CFC13. 31P NMR spectra were referenced to external 85% phosphoric acid. Data are reported in parts per million (ppm) as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, quint = quintuplet, sept = septuplet, m = multiplet and brs = broad singlet), coupling constant in Hz and integration. High resolution

mass spectra were recorded by Dr. H. Nadig (Department of Chemistry, University of Basel) on a Bruker maXis 4G QTOF ESI mass spectrometer. X-ray crystallographic analysis was performed by Dr. M. Neuburger of the University of Basel.

2- General procedures:

General procedure for Knoevenagel condensations:

In a round bottom flask was stirred the *ortho*-bromobenzaldehyde derivatives (1 equiv), malonic acid (1.1 equiv), piperidine (1.1 equiv) in pyridine (2.5 M) at 90 °C for 15h. Pyridine was removed under vacuum, the crude mixture was acidified with HCl (2 M) and extracted with AcOEt (3 times). The crude mixture was dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The acid was purified by precipitated in Et_2O or used without further purifications for next step.

General procedure for aldolisation reaction:

Aldehyde (1 equiv) and ketone (1 equiv) were dissolved in EtOH (1 M), followed by addition of NaOH (1 equiv) in water (1 M). The reaction was stirred at 45°C until completion and evaporated under vacuum. The crude was dissolved in dichloromethane and the organic phase was washed with water. The crude was dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The desired chalcones were purified by chromatography on silica gel using cyclohexane/AcOEt as solvent.

General procedure for amide synthesis:

The carboxylic acid (1 equiv) was suspended in dichloromethane (0.05 M) with DMF (0.01 equiv). Oxalyl chloride (1.5 equiv) was carefully added to the resulting mixture, which was then stirred for 2h. The solvent and excess of oxalyl chloride were removed under vacuum, and the crude was dissolved in dichloromethane (0.05 M). Then, a solution of amine (1 equiv) and Et_3N (2 equiv) in dichloromethane (0.05 M) was carefully added. The reaction was followed by TLC (cyclohexane/AcOEt). After completion, the solvent was removed and the crude was purified by chromatography on silica gel, using cyclohexane/AcOEt as solvent.

General procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation:

In a 10 mL screw cap charged with amide (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was weighted in a glovebox $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (0.01 mmol, 10 mol %), PCy_3 (when mentioned) (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (0.03 mmol, 30 mol %) and Rb_2CO_3 (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The vial was charged with mesitylene (4 mL) and stirred under argon in a previously heated heating block at 160 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature, filtered over celite, and evaporated under vacuum. The crude was purified by preparative HPLC using gradient of solvent (H₂O:

MeCN) [90:10] to [10:90]. The collected fractions were evaporated under vacuum to afford the desired product.

3- <u>Table S1: 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation reaction optimization:</u>



Pd source	Additive (30 mol%)	Base	Solvent	NMR yield (Isolated)
Pd(Pt-Bu ₃) ₂ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.05M]	0%
Pd(PPh ₃) ₄ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.05M]	8%
$[Pd(\eta^{3}-$ allyl)Cl ₂]/PPh ₃ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.05M]	0%
Pd ₂ dba ₃ /PCy ₃ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.05M]	31%
Pd(PCy ₃) ₂ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.05M]	65%
Pd(PCy ₃) ₂ (10 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.025M]	100% (94%)
Pd(PCy ₃) ₂ (5 mol%)	PivOH	Rb ₂ CO ₃ (1.5 equiv.)	Mesitylene [0.025M]	51%

4- Amines:

<u>N-(2,4,6-Trimethoxybenzyl)propan-2-amine Sa:</u>

N

Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₂₁NO₃ Exact Mass: 239.1521

N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)propan-2-amine was obtained according to a known procedure.

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.¹

<u>N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)ethanamine Sb:</u>

OMe MeO OMe

Chemical Formula: C₁₂H₁₉NO₃ Exact Mass: 225.1365

N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)ethanamine_was obtained according to a known procedure.

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.¹

2-Methyl-*N*-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)propan-2-amine Sc:

OMe н MeO OMe Chemical Formula: C14H23NO3 Exact Mass: 253.1678

2-Methyl-N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)propan-2-amine was obtained according to a known procedure.

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.¹

<u>*N*-(Cyclopentylmethyl)propan-2-amine S_i:</u>

N

Chemical Formula: C₉H₁₉N Exact Mass: 141.1517

N-(Cyclopentylmethyl)propan-2-amine was obtained according to a known procedure.

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.¹

5- Synthesis of reaction substrates:

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1a:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₆BrNO₄ Exact Mass: 447.1045

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (411 mg, 1.81 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.26 mL, 2.72 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (433 mg, 1.81 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.51 mL, 3.62 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1a** was obtained as a white solid (720 mg, 1.6 mmol, 89 %).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.18 - 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.10 (s, 2H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.14 - 4.05 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 1.17 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).}$

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ</u> = 166.7, 161.2, 159.7, 138.1, 136.6, 133.4, 130.0, 127.6, 127.5, 125.0, 124.9, 106.4, 90.5, 55.6, 55.4, 49.1, 39.7, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₆BrNaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 470.0943; found: 470.0937

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1596, 1467 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 86 - 88°C





(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)methanamine hydrochloride (500 mg, 2.14 mmol, 1 equiv) was exchanged with methanol-D₄ (10 mL) by stirring at room temperature overnight. After evaporation of the volatiles, the free amine was reacted with acetone- D₆ (2.4 mL, 32 mmol, 15 equiv) in dry benzene (20 mL) and refluxed in a Dean-Stark apparatus overnight. The volatiles were removed under vacuum, and the imine was then dissolved in diglyme (15 mL) and cooled to 0°C with an ice batch. NaBD₄ (4.28 mmol, 179 mg, 2 equiv) was carefully added to the solution, which was slowly warmed to room temperature. After completion, the reaction was quenched with 2M NaOH (20 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The desired amine was obtained without further purification. (508 mg, 2.12 mmol, 99%).

Malonic acid-D₄ (3 g, 27.8 mmol, 1 equiv), 2-Bromobenzaldehyde (5.14 g, 27.8 mmol, 1 equiv), piperidine (2 drops) were refluxed in pyridine (50 mL) for 3h. Solvent were removed, and the reaction was quenched with 2M HCl (50 mL) and extracted with DCM (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum to afford the deuterated cinnamic acid derivative (6.26 g, 27.45 mmol, 99%).

The deuterated cinnamic acid derivative (274 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.17 mL, 1.8 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the deuterated amine (294 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.33 mL, 2.4 mmol, 2

equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1a-d**⁷ was obtained as a white solid (412 mg, 0.9 mmol, 75 %).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ</u> = 7.91 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.12 – 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.7, 161.1, 159.7, 138.0, 136.6, 133.4, 129.9, 127.6, 127.5, 124.9, 106.4, 90.5, 55.5, 55.4, 49.0, 39.7.

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(propan-2-yl-1,1,1,3,3,3-d6)-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1a-d₆:



Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (182 mg, 0.8 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.11 mL, 1.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the deuterated amine (195 mg, 0.8 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.22 mL, 1.6 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1a-d**₆ was obtained as a white solid (302 mg, 0.66 mmol, 83 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.27 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.21 \text{ (d, J} = 15.4 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 7.17 - 7.11 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.19 - 7.54 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.30 - 4.03 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.80 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.77 \text{ (s, 6H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.8, 161.1, 159.7, 138.0, 136.6, 133.4, 129.9, 127.6, 127.5, 124.9, 124.9, 106.4, 90.6, 55.5, 55.4, 39.7.

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide-2-d 1a-d₁:



The deuterated cinnamic acid derivative (251 mg, 1.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.15 mL, 1.65 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (261 mg, 1.1 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.31 mL, 2.2 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1a-d**₁ was obtained as a white solid (451 mg, 1.0 mmol, 91 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 1H), 7.17 - 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.10 (s, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.08 (sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.7, 161.1, 159.7, 138.0, 136.5, 133.4, 129.9, 127.6, 127.5, 124.9, 106.4, 90.5, 55.5, 55.4, 49.1, 39.6, 19.9.

(E)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide <u>1a':</u>



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₆CINO₄ Exact Mass: 403.1550

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-chlorocinnamic acid (139 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 1.14 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (182 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.21 mL, 1.52 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, 1a' was obtained as a white solid (210 mg, 0.52 mmol, 68 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } {\delta}}{7.93 (d, J = 15.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})}, 7.61 - 7.56 (m, 1\text{H}), 7.41 - 7.37 (m, 1\text{H}), 7.30 - 7.20 (m, 3\text{H}), 6.10 (s, 2\text{H}), 4.59 (s, 2\text{H}), 4.08 (sept, J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.80 (s, 3\text{H}), 3.77 (s, 6\text{H}), 1.17 (d, J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}, 6\text{H}).$

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 166.8, 161.1, 159.7, 135.6, 134.8, 134.5, 130.1, 129.7, 127.5, 126.9, 124.8, 106.4, 90.5, 55.5, 55.4, 49.1, 39.7, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₆ClNaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 426.1448; found: 426.1451

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1592, 1463 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 67 - 69°C

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-ethyl-N-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1b:



Chemical Formula: C₂₁H₂₄BrNO₄ Exact Mass: 433.0889

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (300 mg, 1.32 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.17 mL, 1.98 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_b (297mg, 1.32 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.37 mL, 2.64 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1b** was obtained as a yellowish oil (487 mg, 1.12 mmol, 85 %).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 18H), 7.20 - 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 0.2H), 6.15 - 6.09 (m, 2H), 4.78 (s, 0.4H), 4.61 (s, 1.6H), 3.83 - 3.76 (m, 9H), 3.38 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 1.6H), 3.27 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 0.4H), 1.07 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.8, 161.2, 159.8, 138.8, 136.4, 133.3, 129.9, 127.5, 127.4, 124.9, 123.3, 105.5, 90.3, 55.5, 55.3, 39.6, 12.6.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₁H₂₅BrNO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 434.0967; found: 434.0961

IR (neat) : v = 1597, 1468 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(tert-butyl)-N-(2,4,6

trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1c:

Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₈BrNO₄ Exact Mass: 461.1202

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (1 g, 4.4 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.62 mL, 6.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The

acid chloride was then reacted with $S_c(1.11 \text{ g}, 4.4 \text{ mmol}, 1 \text{ equiv})$ and Et_3N (1.24 mL, 8.8 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1c** was obtained as a colorless oil (1.45 g, 3.13 mmol, 72 %).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.26 - 7.22 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.14 - 7.09 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.08 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.70 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 3.79 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.76 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 1.37 \text{ (s, 9H)}.}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 169.3, 160.7, 159.3, 136.6, 136.6, 133.2, 129.8, 128.0, 127.6, 127.5, 124.7, 107.5, 90.6, 57.5, 55.4, 55.4, 40.5, 28.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₈BrNNaO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 484.1099; found: 484.1094

IR (neat) : v = 1605, 1465, 1402, 1128 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-cyclopropyl-N-(2,4,6-

trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1d:



In a 250 mL round bottom flask equipped with stirring bar, cyclopropanamine (0.22 mL, 3.16 mmol, 1.2 equiv), 2,4,6-trimethoxybenzaldehyde (496 mg, 2.53 mmol, 1 equiv) and AcOH (0.29 mL, 5.06 mmol, 2 equiv) were stirred for 2 h in 1,2-dichloroethane (50 mL) at room temperature. Then, NaBH(OAc)₃ (1.07 g, 5.06 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the mixture which was stirred overnight. The crude was quenched with NaOH (2 M, 50 mL) and the crude was extracted with DCM (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The intermediate amine (592 mg, 2.50 mmol, 99 %) was obtained as a clear oil and directly used for next step.

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (143 mg, 0.632 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.09 mL, 0.948 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with *N*-protected cyclopropanamine intermediate (150 mg, 0.632 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.180 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in

dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1d** was obtained as a yellowish oil (236 mg, 0.529 mmol, 84 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.26 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.18 - 7.10 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 6.11 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.72 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 3.80 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.78 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 2.35 - 2.25 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 0.81 - 0.64 \text{ (m, 4H)}.}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 167.7, 160.8, 160.0, 139.2, 136.2, 133.4, 130.2, 127.8, 127.5, 125.0, 123.7, 105.9, 90.3, 55.8, 55.4, 38.4, 28.0, 9.2.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₅BrNO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 446.0967; found: 446.0961

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1646, 1132 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-phenylacrylamide 1e:



Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₁₈BrNO Exact Mass: 343.0572

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (143 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 0.95 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with *N*-isopropylaniline (86 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.18 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1e** was obtained as a white solid (151 mg, 0.44 mmol, 69 %).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ </u> = 7.97 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.04 (m, 5H), 6.04 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (sept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.13 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H).

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ</u> = 165.0, 140.0, 138.4, 135.6, 133.3, 130.7, 130.3, 129.4, 128.5, 127.8, 127.4, 125.1, 122.9, 46.7, 21.1.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₈H₁₈BrNaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 366.0469; found: 366.0464

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1650 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 80 - 82°C

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methyl-3,4-dihydroquinolin-1(2H)-yl)prop-2en-1-one 1f:



Chemical Formula: C₁₉H₁₈BrNO Exact Mass: 355.0572

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (568 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.35 mL, 3.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 2-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (368 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.69 mL, 5 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1f** was obtained as a white solid (720 mg, 2.02 mmol, 81 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{7.34 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.07 (m, 6H), 6.66 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 - 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.38 - 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.07 (m, 6H), 6.66 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 4.95 - 4.86 (m, 1H), 2.68 (dt, J = 14.9, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 - 2.54 (m, 1H), 2.45 - 2.36 (m, 1H), 1.48 - 1.38 (m, 1H), 1.22 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H).$

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 165.1, 140.2, 137.2, 135.7, 133.5, 130.5, 127.8, 127.8, 127.6, 126.5, 126.4, 125.9, 125.2, 123.3, 49.2, 32.7, 26.2, 20.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₉H₁₈BrNNaO ([M+Na]⁺): 378.0469; found: 378.0464

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1650, 1354 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 97 - 99°C

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N,N-diisopropylacrylamide 1g:

Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₂₀BrNO Exact Mass: 309.0728

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (1.5 g, 6.61 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.94 mL, 9.92 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with diisopropylamine (0.94 mL, 6.61 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (1.9 mL, 13.2 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1g** was obtained as a colorless oil (1.76 g, 5.68 mmol, 86 %).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ </u> = 7.83 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (br s, 1H), 3.83 (br s, 1H), 1.47 – 1.23 (m, 12H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.9, 139.0, 136.1, 133.5, 130.3, 127.7, 127.6, 125.0, 124.2. HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₅H₂₀BrNaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 332.0626; found: 332.0621

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1598 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N,N-diethylacrylamide 1h:

Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₁₆BrNO Exact Mass: 281.0415

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (232 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.15 mL, 1.53 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with diethylamine (0.1 mL, 1.02 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.29 mL, 2.04 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1h** was obtained as a yellowish oil (187 mg, 0.663 mmol, 65 %).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ </u> = 7.99 (d, *J* = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 3.56 – 3.40 (m, 4H), 1.29 – 1.16 (m, 6H).

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 165.4, 140.8, 135.9, 133.5, 130.5, 127.9, 127.6, 125.1, 121.3, 42.5, 41.2, 15.2, 13.3.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C13H17BrNO ([M+H]+): 282.0494; found: 282.0488

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1649 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(3-phenylpropyl)acrylamide 1i:



Chemical Formula: C₂₁H₂₄BrNO Exact Mass: 385.1041

In a 250 mL round bottom flask equipped with stirring bar, hydrocinnamaldehyde (0.72 mL, 5.43 mmol, 1 equiv), isopropylamine (0.93 mL, 10.9 mmol, 2 equiv) and AcOH (0.62 mL, 10.9 mmol, 2 equiv) were stirred for 2 h in 1,2-dichloroethane (30 mL) at room temperature. Then, NaBH(OAc)₃ (2.3 g, 10.9 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the mixture which was stirred overnight. The crude was quenched with NaOH (2 M, 30 mL) and the crude was extracted with DCM (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The intermediate amine (956 mg, 10.8 mmol, 99 %) was obtained as a clear oil and directly used for next step.

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (136 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.08 mL, 0.9 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the intermediate amine (106 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.17 mL, 1.2 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1i** was obtained as a colorless oil (187 mg, 0.484 mmol, 81 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 3H), 7.25 - 7.15 (m, 5H), 6.84 - 6.78 (m, 0.4H), 6.50 - 6.44 (m, 0.6H), 4.86 - 4.75 (m, 0.6H), 4.31 - 4.22 (m, 0.4H), 3.36 - 3.22 (m, 2H), 2.68 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.04 - 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.23 - 1.15 (m, 6H).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.2, 165.6, 141.8, 140.9, 140.8, 140.1, 135.7, 133.5, 130.4, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 126.4, 126.0, 125.2, 122.1, 121.7, 49.0, 45.9, 42.4, 41.4, 33.9, 33.4, 33.3, 31.1, 21.7, 20.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₁H₂₄BrNaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 408.0939; found: 408.0933

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1647, 1420 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(cyclopentylmethyl)-N-isopropylacrylamide 1j:

Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₂₄BrNO Exact Mass: 349.1041

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (82 mg, 0.363 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.047 mL, 0.543 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_j (51 mg, 0.363 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.1 mL, 0.72 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1j** was obtained as a colorless oil (74 mg, 0.211 mmol, 58 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{1\text{H}} = 7.99 - 7.86 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.63 - 7.49 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.33 - 7.28 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.20 - 7.14 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.88 - 6.77 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.44 - 4.20 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.35 - 3.28 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.33 - 2.11 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.84 - 1.71 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.68 - 1.63 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.60 - 1.53 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.31 - 1.21 \text{ (m, 8H)}.$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 180.4, 166.1, 145.1, 140.1, 139.8, 135.9, 133.4, 130.2, 127.7, 127.5, 124.9, 122.7, 49.8, 49.1, 48.9, 46.1, 43.5, 41.7, 40.1, 35.6, 31.0, 30.8, 30.0, 27.0, 25.8, 24.9, 23.7, 21.9, 20.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₈H₂₄BrNaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 372.0939; found: 372.0931

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1648, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(3-methoxypropyl)acrylamide 1k:



In a 250 mL round bottom flask equipped with stirring bar, 3-methyloxypropylamine (0.92 mL, 9.05 mmol, 1 equiv), acetone (2.7 mL, 36.2 mmol, 4 equiv) and AcOH (1.0 mL, 18.1 mmol, 2 equiv) were stirred for 2 h in 1,2-dichloroethane (50 mL) at room temperature. Then, NaBH(OAc)₃ (3.8 g, 18.1 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the mixture which was stirred overnight.

The crude was quenched with NaOH (2 M, 50 mL) and the crude was extracted with DCM (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The intermediate amine (976 mg, 8.33 mmol, 92 %) was obtained as a clear oil and directly used for next step.

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (227 mg, 1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.13 mL, 1 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the intermediate amine (117 mg, 1 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.28 mL, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1k** was obtained as a colorless oil (267 mg, 0.82 mmol, 81 %).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.66 - 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.32 - 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.20 - 7.17 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 0.4H), 6.83 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 0.4H), 4.85 - 4.75 (m, 0.6H), 4.34 - 4.25 (m, 0.4H), 3.50 - 3.37 (m, 4H), 3.37 - 3.32 (m, 3H), 1.96 - 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.29 - 1.19 (m, 6H).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.2, 165.9, 140.8, 140.0, 135.9, 133.5, 130.4, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 125.2, 125.0, 122.2, 122.1, 71.1, 69.8, 58.9, 58.7, 49.1, 46.0, 40.4, 39.2, 32.3, 29.7, 21.6, 20.6.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₆H₂₂BrNaNO₂ ([M+Na]⁺): 362.0732; found: 362.0726

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1642 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-(2-cyanoethyl)-N-isopropylacrylamide 11:



In a 25 mL double-neck flask charged with isopropylamine (1.1 mL, 12.6 mmol, 2 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL) and cooled to 0°C was added via dropping funnel, a solution of acrylonitrile (0.41 mL, 6.32 mmol, 1 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL). The reaction was allowed to reach room temperature, and the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The desired amine was pure enough to react in next step (454 mg, 4.04 mmol, 64%).

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (143 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 0.95 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the intermediate amine (70 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.18 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1** was obtained as a yellowish oil (134 mg, 0.42 mmol, 66 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 - 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.35 - 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 4.37 - 4.27 (m, 1H), 3.57 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 167.0, 141.5, 135.4, 133.6, 130.9, 127.8, 127.7, 125.2, 120.8, 118.5, 49.1, 37.8, 21.7, 17.2.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₅H₁₇BrNaN₂O₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 343.0422; found: 343.0416

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1646, 1418 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(3 (phenylsulfonyl)propyl)acrylamide 1m:



In a 25 mL double-neck flask charged with isopropylamine (1.1 mL, 12.6 mmol, 2 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL) and cooled to 0°C was added via dropping funnel, a solution of phenyl vinyl sulfone (1.06 g, 6.32 mmol, 1 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL). The reaction was allowed to reach room temperature, and the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The desired amine was pure enough to react in next step (1.4 g, 6.31 mmol, 99%).

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (143 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 0.95 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the intermediate amine (144 mg, 0.63 mmol,

1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.18 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1m** was obtained as a colorless oil (202 mg, 0.46 mmol, 73 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } {\delta} = 8.00 - 7.82 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.70 - 7.64 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.63 - 7.43 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 7.31 - 7.27 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.22 - 7.12 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.78 - 6.57 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.91 - 4.66 \text{ (m, 0.3H)}, 4.33 - 4.21 \text{ (m, 0.7H)}, 3.81 - 3.71 \text{ (m, 0.7H)}, 3.68 - 3.43 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 3.40 - 3.26 \text{ (m, 0.4H)}, 1.25 \text{ (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 5H)}, 1.17 - 1.06 \text{ (m, 1H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{127.8, 127.7, 125.1, 120.6, 54.5, 49.3, 35.6, 29.8, 21.4, 20.4.}$ **HRMS** (ESI): Calculated for C₂₁H₂₄BrNaNO₃S ([M+Na]⁺): 458.0401; found: 458.0396

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 904 cm⁻¹

ethyl (E)-3-(3-(2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropylacrylamido)propanoate 1n:



In a 25 mL double-neck flask charged with isopropylamine (1.1 mL, 12.6 mmol, 2 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL) and cooled to 0°C was added via dropping funnel, a solution of ethyl acrylate (633 mg, 6.32 mmol, 1 equiv) in EtOH (6 mL). The reaction was allowed to reach room temperature, and the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The desired amine was pure enough to react in next step (876 mg, 5.5 mmol, 87%).

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (143 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 0.95 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with the intermediate amine (101 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.18 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1n** was obtained as a yellowish oil (152 mg, 0.41 mmol, 65 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 1\text{H}), 7.22 - 7.14 (m, 1\text{H}), 6.80 (d, J = 15.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.88 - 4.74 (m, 0.4\text{H}), 4.33 - 4.23 (m, 0.6\text{H}), 4.15 (q, J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 3.70 - 3.55 (m, 2\text{H}), 2.75 - 2.58 (m, 2\text{H}), 1.31 - 1.13 (m, 10\text{H}).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta}{127.8, 127.7, 125.0, 121.6, 121.3, 61.1, 60.6, 49.1, 46.0, 38.7, 37.3, 36.8, 34.1, 21.5, 20.5, 14.3.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₂₂BrNaNO₃ ([M+Na]⁺): 390.0681; found: 390.0677

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1624, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromo-5-fluorophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 10:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₅BrFNO₄ Exact Mass: 465.0951

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-Bromo-5-fluorocinnamic acid (186 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 1.14 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (182 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.22 mL, 1.52 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **10** was obtained as a white solid (302 mg, 0.65 mmol, 85 %).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.80 (d, *J* = 15.4, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 4.15 – 4.07 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H).</u>

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)} \delta}{125.9, 118.9 (d, J = 3.9 Hz), 117.0 (d, J = 22.1 Hz), 114.1 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 106.2, 90.5, 55.4, 55.3, 49.3, 39.6, 19.8.$

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -114.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for $C_{22}H_{26}BrFNO_4$ ([M+H]⁺): 466.1029; found: 466.1026

IR (neat) : v = 2360, 1597, 1464 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 92 - 94°C

(E)-3-(2-bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1p:



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₅BrF₃NO₄ Exact Mass: 515.0919

Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 2-bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (500 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (227 mg, 2.18 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (0.22 mL, 2.18 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (584 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.28 mL, 2.97 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (474 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.55 mL, 3.96 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1p** was obtained as a colorless oil (896 mg, 1.73 mmol, 88 %).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.88 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.76 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.15 (sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.1, 161.3, 159.7, 137.6, 136.7, 134.0, 130.1 (q, J = 32.6 Hz), 128.5, 126.6, 126.1, 124.3 (q, J = 2.9 Hz), 123.9 (q, J = 271.9 Hz), 106.4, 90.6, 55.5, 55.4, 49.4, 39.7, 19.9.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₅BrF₃NaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 538.0817; found: 538.0812

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1648 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromo-5-methoxyphenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1q:



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₈BrNO₅ Exact Mass: 477.1151

Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 2-bromo-5methoxybenzaldehyde (2 g, 9.02 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (1.03 g, 9.92 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (0.98 mL, 9.92 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (195 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.1 mL, 1.14 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (182 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.214 mL, 1.52 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, 1q was obtained as a white solid (284 mg, 0.594 mmol, 78 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{J = 15.4 \text{ Hz}, 11\text{H}, 7.49 - 7.42 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.18 \text{ (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H)}, 7.12 - 7.07 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.76 - 7.70 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.10 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.58 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.09 \text{ (sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H)}, 3.80 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.80 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 3.77 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 1.16 \text{ (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{115.6, 113.2, 106.4, 90.5, 55.6, 55.6, 55.4, 49.1, 39.7, 19.9.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₈BrNaNO₅ ([M+Na]⁺): 500.1049; found: 500.1043

IR (neat) : $v = 2364 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

m.p.: 104 - 106°C

(E)-3-(5-(benzyloxy)-2-bromophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1r:



Chemical Formula: C₂₉H₃₂BrNO₅ Exact Mass: 553.1464

In a 100 mL flask charged with 2-bromo-5-hydroxybenzaldehyde (500 mg, 2.48 mmol, 1 equiv) and K_2CO_3 (1.02 g, 7.44 mmol, 3 equiv) in DMF (10 mL) was added benzyl bromide (0.45 mL, 3.72 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The reaction was stirred to room temperature and monitored by TLC using Cyclohexane/AcOEt as solvent. After completion, the reaction was quenched with water (10 mL) and extracted with AcOEt (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with 10% LiCl solution (3 x 10 mL) and the crude was dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The crude was used in next step without further purification (720 mg, 2.48 mmol, 99 %).

Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 5-(benzyloxy)-2bromobenzaldehyde (720 mg, 2.48 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (284 mg, 2.73 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (0.25 mL, 2.73 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (333 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.14 mL, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (239 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.28 mL, 2 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1r** was obtained as a yellowish solid (387 mg, 0.7 mmol, 70 %). $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{5\text{H}} = 7.85 - 7.79 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.48 - 7.45 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.42 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 5H)}, 7.18 - 7.11 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 6.82 - 6.78 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.11 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 5.05 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.58 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.16 - 4.07 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.79 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.76 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 1.17 \text{ (d, J} = 6.9 \text{ Hz, 6H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{128.3, 127.6, 125.1, 116.6, 115.8, 114.2, 106.4, 90.6, 70.5, 55.4, 49.1, 39.6, 19.9.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₉H₃₃BrNO₅ ([M+H]⁺): 554.1542; found: 554.1537

IR (neat) : v = 1594, 1464, 905 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 115 - 117°C

(E)-3-(6-bromobenzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1s:



Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 6-Bromopiperonal (2.29 g, 10 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (1.15 g, 11 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (1.1 mL, 11 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (148 mg, 0.547 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.07 mL, 0.821 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (131 mg, 0.547 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.154 mL, 1.09 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1s** was obtained as a yellowish solid (202 mg, 0.41 mmol, 75 %).

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) $\delta =$ </u> 7.83 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 – 6.99 (m, 3H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 5.99 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 4.09 (sept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 1.17 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.9, 161.2, 159.7, 149.0, 147.8, 138.0, 129.8, 123.1, 116.8, 113.2, 106.5, 102.1, 90.6, 55.6, 55.4, 49.3, 39.7, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₆BrNaNO₆ ([M+Na]⁺): 514.0841; found: 514.0836

m.p.: 115- 117°C

(E)-3-(2-bromo-4-fluorophenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1t:



Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 2-bromo-4-fluorobenzaldehyde (812 mg, 4 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (458 mg, 4.4 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (0.44 mL, 4.4 mmol,1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (155 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.08 mL, 0.95 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (151 mg, 0.63 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.18 mL, 1.26 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1t** was obtained as a yellowish solid (236 mg, 0.506 mmol, 80 %).

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ =</u> 7.82 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.10 (s, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.08 (sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{128.6 (d, J = 8.2 \text{ Hz}), 125.0, 124.9, 124.8, 120.4 (d, J = 24.7 \text{ Hz}), 114.9 (d, J = 21.2 \text{ Hz}), 106.4, 55.6, 55.4, 49.2, 39.7, 19.9.$

 $\frac{19 \text{F NMR} (376 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{\delta} = -111.1$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₆BrFNO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 466.1029; found: 466.1024

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 159, 1460 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 95 - 97°C

(E)-3-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)-N-isopropyl-N-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)acrylamide 1u:

Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₈BrNO₄ Exact Mass: 461.1202

Following the general procedure for Knoevenagel condensation, 2-bromo-4methylbenzaldehyde (500 mg, 2.51 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with malonic acid (287 mg, 2.76 mmol, 1.1 equiv), piperidine (0.27 mL, 2.76 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in pyridine at 90 °C for 15h. After evaporation and purification, the intermediate carboxylic acid (605 mg, 2.51 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.35 mL, 3.76 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with S_a (601 mg, 2.51 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.70 mL, 5.0 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1u** was obtained as a white solid (812 mg, 1.75 mmol, 70 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 1H), 7.23 - 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.11 - 7.07 (m, 1H), 6.10 (s, 2H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.08 (sept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.9, 161.1, 159.7, 140.5, 138.0, 133.8, 133.6, 128.5, 127.3, 124.8, 123.9, 106.5, 90.6, 55.6, 55.4, 49.1, 39.7, 21.0, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₉BrNO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 462.1280; found: 462.1274

IR (neat) : v = 1598, 1458, 1130 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 94 - 96°C

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methylpyrrolidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one 1v:



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₆BrNO Exact Mass: 293.0415

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (330 mg, 1.45 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.20 mL, 2.18 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 2-methylpyrrolidine (0.14 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.41 mL, 2.90 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1v** was obtained as a yellowish solid (369 mg, 1.25 mmol, 86 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1 \text{H}} = 8.06 - 7.95 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.62 - 7.52 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.32 - 7.26 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.19 - 7.12 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.72 - 6.61 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.39 - 4.14 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.74 - 3.51 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.13 - 1.87 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.76 - 1.59 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.28 - 1.23 \text{ (m, 3H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.1, 164.0, 140.3, 140.2, 135.9, 135.8, 133.5, 133.5, 130.5, 127.9, 127.9, 127.6, 125.2, 125.1, 122.7, 122.2, 53.4, 53.1, 47.1, 46.1, 33.4, 32.1, 24.1, 22.3, 22.0, 19.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₆BrNNaO ([M+Na]⁺): 316.0313; found: 316.0307

IR (neat) : v = 1649, 1603, 1407 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 78 - 80°C

(S,E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methylpyrrolidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (S)-<u>1v:</u>



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₆BrNO Exact Mass: 293.0415

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (2.65 g, 11.7 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (1.66 mL, 17.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with (S)-2-methylpyrrolidine (1 g, 11.7 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N

(3.25 mL, 23.4 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, (S)-1v was obtained as a yellowish oil (3.44 g, 11.7 mmol, 100 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1 \text{ m}} = 8.04 - 7.95 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.61 - 7.50 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.33 - 7.27 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.21 - 7.13 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.73 - 6.62 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.38 - 4.15 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.73 - 3.54 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.15 - 1.90 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.77 - 1.58 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.29 - 1.23 \text{ (m, 3H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.1, 164.0, 140.3, 140.1, 135.9, 135.8, 133.5, 133.5, 130.5, 127.9, 127.9, 127.9, 125.2, 125.1, 122.7, 122.2, 53.4, 53.1, 47.1, 46.1, 33.4, 32.1, 24.1, 22.3, 22.0, 19.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₆BrNNaO ([M+Na]⁺): 316.0313; found: 316.0306

IR (neat) : v = 1649, 1407 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methylpiperidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one 1w:



Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₈BrNO Exact Mass: 307.0572

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (232 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.14 mL, 1.53 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 2-methylpiperidine (0.12 mL, 1.02 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.28 mL, 2.04 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1w** was obtained as a yellowish oil (292 mg, 0.95 mmol, 93 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{2 \text{H}} = 7.88 \text{ (d, J} = 15.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.58 \text{ (ddd, J} = 8.9, 7.9, 1.5 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.32 - 7.28 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.19 - 7.15 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.80 \text{ (d, J} = 15.5 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.47 \text{ (br s, 1H)}, 3.25 - 2.74 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.76 - 1.54 \text{ (m, 6H)}, 1.54 - 1.42 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.30 - 1.18 \text{ (m, 3H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.2, 140.0, 135.9, 133.3, 130.2, 127.6, 127.5, 124.8, 121.8, 18.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₅H₁₉BrNO ([M+H]⁺): 308.0650; found: 308.0645

IR (neat) : $v = 2362, 2157, 1644 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methylazepan-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one 1x:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₂₀BrNO Exact Mass: 321.0728

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (300 mg, 1.32 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.17 mL, 1.98 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 2-methylazepane hydrochloride (198 mg, 1.32 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.37 mL, 2.64 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1x** was obtained as a colorless oil (205 mg, 0.64 mmol, 48 %).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1\text{H}} = 8.06 - 7.94 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.62 - 7.58 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.57 - 7.53 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.33 - 7.28 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.20 - 7.14 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.86 - 6.79 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.68 - 4.56 \text{ (m, 0.6H)}, 4.23 - 4.15 \text{ (m, 0.4H)}, 4.10 - 3.97 \text{ (m, 0.4H)}, 3.78 - 3.67 \text{ (m, 0.6H)}, 3.14 - 3.04 \text{ (m, 0.5H)}, 2.79 - 2.67 \text{ (m, 0.5H)}, 2.14 - 2.02 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.94 - 1.72 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.71 - 1.62 \text{ (m, 0.5H)}, 1.57 - 1.49 \text{ (m, 0.5H)}, 1.47 - 1.36 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.34 - 1.23 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.21 \text{ (d, J} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}, 1.5\text{H)}, 1.12 \text{ (d, J} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}, 1.5\text{H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.7, 165.6, 140.8, 140.4, 135.9, 135.9, 133.4, 133.4, 130.3, 130.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 125.0, 124.9, 121.6, 121.5, 53.0, 50.1, 41.7, 40.4, 36.4, 35.6, 30.7, 29.9, 29.4, 28.3, 25.2, 25.0, 21.2, 19.4.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₆H₂₁BrNO ([M+H]⁺): 322.0807; found: 322.0801

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1623 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2-methyl-1,3-oxazinan-3-yl)prop-2-en-1-one 1y:



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₆BrNO₂ Exact Mass: 309.0364

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (350 mg, 1.54 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.20 mL, 2.31 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in

dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 2-methyl-1,3-oxazinane (156 mg, 1.54 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.43 mL, 3.08 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1y** was obtained as a yellowish oil (361 mg, 1.16 mmol, 76 %).

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 164.6, 141.1, 135.4, 133.4, 130.6, 127.7, 127.6, 124.9, 120.7, 79.5, 59.7, 25.7, 16.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for $C_{14}H_{17}BrNO_2$ ([M+H]⁺): 310.0443; found: 310.0437

IR (neat) : v = 1625, 1424, 1107 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(3-methylmorpholino)prop-2-en-1-one 1z:



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₆BrNO₂ Exact Mass: 309.0364

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (568 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.35 mL, 3.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with 3-methylmorpholine (253 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et_3N (0.69 mL, 5 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1z** was obtained as a colorless oil (580 mg, 1.87 mmol, 75 %).

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.96 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 4.80 – 4.00 (m, 2H), 3.97 – 3.91 (m, 1H), 3.76 – 3.70 (m, 1H), 3.67 – 3.61 (m, 1H), 3.52 – 3.46 (m, 1H), 3.30 (br. s, 1H), 1.37 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).</u>

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.3, 141.4, 135.6, 133.5, 130.7, 127.8, 127.7, 125.0, 120.4, 71.0, 67.1.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₇BrNO₂ ([M+H]⁺): 310.0443; found: 310.0438

IR (neat) : v = 1625, 1425, 1106 cm⁻¹

tert-butyl (E)-4-(3-(2-bromophenyl)acryloyl)-3-methylpiperazine-1carboxylate 1aa:



(R)-2-methylpiperazine (600 mg, 6 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (80 mL) and cooled to 0°C. A solution of the Boc₂O (1.31 g, 6 mmol, 1 equiv) in 20 mL of dry dichloromethanewas added dropwise in 30 min and then pyridine (0.73 mL, 9 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was allowed to reach room temperature and was stirred overnight. The crude was quenched with NaOH (1M, 60 mL) and the aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The *N*-Boc protected piperazine was then used without further purification for next step.

Following the general procedure for amide synthesis, 2-bromocinnamic acid (568 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with oxalyl chloride (0.35 mL, 3.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv) with DMF (1 drop) in dichloromethane. The acid chloride was then reacted with *N*-Boc protected piperazine (500 mg, 2.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and Et₃N (0.69 mL, 5 mmol, 2 equiv) in dichloromethane. After evaporation and purification, **1aa** was obtained as a yellowish oil (684 mg, 1.67 mmol, 67 %).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta =}{7.28 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.22 - 7.16 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.75 \text{ (d, J} = 15.5 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 7.62 - 7.54 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.33 - 7.28 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.22 - 7.16 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.75 \text{ (d, J} = 15.5 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 4.98 - 3.74 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 3.46 - 2.79 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.48 \text{ (s, 9H)}, 1.26 \text{ (d, J} = 7.1 \text{ Hz, 3H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 165.4, 155.1, 141.4, 135.6, 133.5, 130.7, 127.8, 127.7, 125.1, 120.7, 80.4, 28.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C19H25BrNaN2O3 ([M+Na]⁺): 431.0946; found: 431.0941

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1690, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(o-tolyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3a:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₃BrO Exact Mass: 300.0150

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (1.11 g, 6 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(o-tolyl)ethan-1-one (805 mg, 6 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (240 mg, 6 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3a** as a yellowish solid (1.8 g, 6 mmol, 100%).

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.²

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ =</u> 7.84 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 196.2, 144.4, 138.7, 137.3, 134.9, 133.6, 131.5, 130.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 125.9, 125.6, 20.5.

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3b:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₅BrO Exact Mass: 314.0306

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (1.11 g, 6 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)ethan-1-one (889 mg, 6 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (240 mg, 6 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3b** as a colorless oil (1.89 g, 6 mmol, 99%).
<u>**H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)** δ </u> = 7.68 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 201.2, 145.9, 139.6, 134.7, 134.2, 133.5, 131.8, 130.7, 129.0, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 125.8, 19.6, 19.6.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₆BrO ([M+H]⁺): 315.0385; found: 315.0379

IR (neat) : v = 1650, 1462 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(4-methoxy-2-methylphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3c:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₅BrO₂ Exact Mass: 330.0255

A solution of 1-(4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)ethan-1-one (1.0 g, 6.66 mmol, 1 equiv), K_2CO_3 (1.2 g, 8.66 mmol, 1.3 equiv) and iodomethane (0.62 ml, 10 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in acetone (25 ml) was heated to 70 °C for 6 h. After cooling to room temperature, the crude was evaporated under vacuum, dissolved in DCM (30 mL) and washed with water (3 x 10 mL). The organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The desired product was used without further purification (6.65 mmol, 1.09 g, 99%).

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (555 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(4-methoxy-2-methylphenyl)ethan-1-one (493 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (120 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3c** as a yellowish oil (992 mg, 3 mmol, 99%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) $\delta =$ </u> 7.89 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.82 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H).

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{129.1, 128.0, 127.8, 125.8, 117.3, 110.7, 55.5, 21.5.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₆BrO₂ ([M+H]⁺): 331.0334; found: 331.0330

IR (neat) : v = 1652, 1465 cm⁻¹

(E)-1-(4-(benzyloxy)-2-methylphenyl)-3-(2-bromophenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3d:



1-(4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)ethan-1-one (1.0 g, 6.66 mmol, 1 equiv) and K_2CO_3 (1.2 g, 8.66 mmol, 1.3 equiv) were stirred in DMF (25 mL). Benzyl bromide (0.96 mL, 8 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the mixture was stirred at 70°C for 6 h . After cooling to room temperature, the crude was quenched with water (25 mL) and extracted with Et2O (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were then washed with LiCl (10 %, 50 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated under vacuum. The crude was used in the next step without further purification (1.6 g, 6.66 mmol, 100%).

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (1.23 g, 6.66 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(4-benzyl-2-methylphenyl)ethan-1-one (1.6 g, 6.66 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (270 mg, 6.66 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3d** as a yellowish oil (2.7 g, 6.65 mmol, 99%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.38 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 7.37 - 7.31 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.25 - 7.21 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.14 \text{ (d, J} = 15.9 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 6.91 - 6.84 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 5.13 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 2.53 \text{ (s, 3H)}.}$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{131.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 125.9, 118.2, 111.5, 70.1, 21.5.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₀BrO₂ ([M+H]⁺): 407.0647; found: 407.0641 **IR** (neat) : v = 1620, 1455 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3e:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₅BrO Exact Mass: 314.0306

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (555 g, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethan-1-one (445 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (120 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3e** as a yellowish oil (941 mg, 2.99 mmol, 99%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.60 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.50 - 7.47 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.36 - 7.32 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.25 - 7.21 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.11 - 7.05 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 2.47 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 2.38 \text{ (s, 3H)}.}$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 195.5, 143.7, 141.4, 138.0, 135.8, 135.1, 133.6, 132.5, 131.4, 129.4, 129.1, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 125.9, 21.6, 20.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₆BrO ([M+H]⁺): 315.0385; found: 315.0378

IR (neat) : v = 1650, 1464 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3f:

Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₂BrFO Exact Mass: 318.0056

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (555 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), 1-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)ethan-1-one (457 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (120 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3f** as a colorless oil (812 mg, 2.54 mmol, 85%).

<u>¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) $\delta =$ 7.84 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H).</u>

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{134.8, 133.7, 131.6, 131.0 (d, J = 8.9 \text{ Hz}), 129.1, 128.0 (d, J = 6.1 \text{ Hz}), 126.0, 118.4 (d, J = 22.4 \text{ Hz}), 112.6 (d, J = 21.6 \text{ Hz}), 20.8 (d, J = 1.3 \text{ Hz}).$

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -109.1.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₆H₁₂BrNaFO ([M+Na]⁺): 340.9953; found: 340.9948

IR (neat) : v = 1625, 1456 cm⁻¹

(E)-1-(4-amino-2-methylphenyl)-3-(2-bromophenyl)prop-2-en-1-one 3g:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₄BrNO Exact Mass: 315.0259

Following the general procedure for aldolisation reaction, 2-bromobenzaldehyde (555 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), *N*-(4-acetyl-3-methylphenyl)acetamide (574 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv), and NaOH (120 mg, 3 mmol, 1 equiv) were reacted in EtOH/water at 45 °C. After completion, the crude was extracted and purified by chromatography on silica gel to afford **3g** as a yellowish oil (178 mg, 0.56 mmol, 19%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ </u> = 7.91 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.55 – 6.45 (m, 2H), 4.01 (br. s, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 192.4, 149.7, 142.2, 141.8, 135.6, 133.6, 132.5, 131.0, 129.0, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 125.7, 117.8, 111.2, 22.0.

IR (neat) : v = 1652, 1449 cm⁻¹

6- Scheme S1: Experiments with deuterated substrates:



The deuteration experiments were run in standard conditions. Starting from **1a-d**₇, no deuterium incorporation was observed on the aromatic ring. Proton incorporation on the γ -lactam brings evidence for the reversibility of the C(sp³)-H activation step, This H/D exchange can be assigned to an external proton source (presumably from mesitylene or traces of water) exchanging with the deuterium atom on the Pd-bound pivalate, consistent with previous observations.³ Similar H/D exchanges were observed from partially deuterated substrates **1a-d**₆ and **1a-d**₁.

7- <u>1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation products:</u>

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2a:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₅NO₄ Exact Mass: 367.1784

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1a** (45 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2a** was obtained as a yellowish oil (36.5 mg, 0.099 mmol, 100%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{100 \text{ J}} = 7.49 - 7.42 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.42 - 7.33 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.33 - 7.23 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.12 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 5.12 \text{ (d, J} = 14.1, 1\text{H)}, 4.28 \text{ (d, J} = 14.2, 1\text{H)}, 3.81 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.79 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 3.48 - 3.39 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.08 \text{ (dd, J} = 17.0 \text{ Hz}, 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H)}, 2.58 - 2.47 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.20 \text{ (d, J} = 6.3, 3\text{H)}.$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.1, 161.1, 160.1, 136.5, 132.1, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 128.1, 104.7, 90.5, 55.9, 55.4, 50.2, 33.7, 33.3, 20.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₅NaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 390.1681; found: 390.1676

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1682, 1607, 1417 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2aa:



<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ</u> = 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.12 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79

(s, 6H), 3.46 – 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.12 – 3.02 (m, 0.59H), 2.57 – 2.50 (m, 0.58H), 1.22 – 1.15 (m, 1.63H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.2, 161.2, 160.2, 136.5, 129.5, 128.7, 128.1, 104.7, 90.5, 55.9, 55.5, 33.3, 26.5.

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2a-

<u>d:</u>



61%

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.12 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 4.30 – 4.25 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.47 – 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.11 – 3.03 (m, 0.51H), 2.57 – 2.49 (m, 0.50H), 1.22 – 1.18 (m, 1.59H).</u>

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 168.2, 161.2, 160.2, 136.5, 129.5, 128.7, 128.1, 104.7, 90.5, 55.9, 55.5, 33.3, 26.5.

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2a-

<u>d:</u>



 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.12 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.50 - 3.40 (m, 1H), 3.08 (ddd, J = 17.4, 8.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.57 - 2.51 (m, 1H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H).$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.2, 161.2, 160.2, 136.5, 132.1, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.1, 104.7, 90.5, 55.9, 55.5, 50.2, 33.7, 33.3, 21.0.

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2b:



Chemical Formula: C₂₁H₂₃NO₄ Exact Mass: 353.1627

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1b** (43.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2b** was obtained as a yellow oil (16 mg, 0.045 mmol, 45%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(100 \text{ } \text{ } \delta)} = 7.47 - 7.44 \text{ } (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 7.39 - 7.34 \text{ } (\text{m}, 3\text{H}), 7.30 - 7.28 \text{ } (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), 6.13 \text{ } (\text{s}, 2\text{H}), 4.66 \text{ } (\text{s}, 2\text{H}), 3.82 \text{ } (\text{s}, 3\text{H}), 3.81 \text{ } (\text{s}, 6\text{H}), 3.26 \text{ } (\text{dd}, \text{J} = 7.1, 5.9 \text{ } \text{Hz}, 2\text{H}), 2.92 \text{ } (\text{ddd}, \text{J} = 8.9, 5.9, 2.9 \text{ } \text{Hz}, 2\text{H}).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.4, 161.2, 160.0, 136.3, 132.2, 129.4, 129.0, 128.6, 128.0, 104.4, 90.3, 55.8, 55.3, 43.5, 35.3, 24.3.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₁H₂₃NaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 376.1525; found: 376.1519

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1604 cm⁻¹

(E) - 3 - benzy lidene - 5, 5 - dimethyl - 1 - (2, 4, 6 - trimethoxy benzyl) pyrrolidin - 2 - one benzyl benzyl

<u>2c:</u>



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₇NO₄ Exact Mass: 381.1940

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1c** (46.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2c** was obtained as a colorless oil (19.5 mg, 0.051 mmol, 51%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1 \text{H}} = 7.47 - 7.43 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.42 - 7.36 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.31 - 7.27 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.10 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 4.71 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 3.81 \text{ (s, 9H)}, 2.80 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 1.13 \text{ (s, 6H)}.$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.3, 161.0, 159.8, 136.6, 131.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.1, 107.0, 90.5, 59.3, 55.9, 55.4, 42.5, 32.3, 27.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₈NO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 382.2018; found: 382.2013

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 912 cm⁻¹

(E)-4-benzylidene-2-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexan-3one 2d:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₃NO₄ Exact Mass: 365.1627

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/ $C(sp^3)$ -H activation, **1d** (44.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%)

and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2d** was obtained as a colorless oil (25.5 mg, 0.070 mmol, 70%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.04 (s, 2H), 4.54 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.01 – 2.92 (m, 1H), 2.22 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 0.93 (dt, *J* = 8.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 0.49 – 0.44 (m, 1H).</u>

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta}{128.5, 128.3, 104.9, 90.4, 55.9, 55.5, 35.2, 35.2, 20.4, 13.1.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₃NaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 388.1525; found: 388.1519

IR (neat) : v = 1681, 1612, 1419 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-isopropylindolin-2-one 2e:



Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₁₇NO Exact Mass: 263.1310

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1e** (34.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2e** was obtained as a yellow oil (12.5 mg, 0.048 mmol, 48%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) $\delta =$ 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.49 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.02 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.87 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 4.72 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H).</u>

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 168.0, 142.9, 136.9, 135.1, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 127.5, 122.9, 121.7, 121.2, 109.8, 43.8, 19.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for $C_{18}H_{17}NaNO$ ([M+Na]⁺): 286.1208; found: 286.1202

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1701, 1463 cm⁻¹

(E)-1-benzylidene-4-methyl-5,6-dihydro-4H-pyrrolo[3,2,1-ij]quinolin-2(1H)-one 2f:



Chemical Formula: C₁₉H₁₇NO Exact Mass: 275.1310

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1f** (36 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2f** was obtained as a yellow oil (24 mg, 0.088 mmol, 88%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.05 - 6.99 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.82 - 6.76 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.56 - 4.47 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.91 - 2.80 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.71 \text{ (dt, J}} = 16.6, 3.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 1.98 - 1.92 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.34 \text{ (d, J} = 6.7 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).}$

<u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 167.3, 139.9, 137.0, 135.3, 129.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.7, 128.5, 121.2, 120.8, 120.0, 119.9, 44.2, 27.0, 20.8, 18.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₉H₁₇NaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 298.1208; found: 298.1202

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1701, 1460 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-isopropyl-5-methylpyrrolidin-2-one 2g:

Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₉NO Exact Mass: 229.1467

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1g** (31 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2g** was obtained as a colorless oil (21 mg, 0.097 mmol, 97%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{100 \text{ J}} = 7.47 - 7.43 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.41 - 7.36 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.34 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.23 \text{ (sept, J} = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.95 - 3.86 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.23 \text{ (ddd, J} = 17.4, 8.1, 3.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.62 - 2.59 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.35 \text{ (t, J} = 8.1 \text{ Hz}, 6\text{H}), 1.31 \text{ (d, J} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{23.8, 21.8, 19.6} = 168.8, 136.2, 131.6, 129.6, 129.6, 128.7, 128.3, 50.9, 45.2, 34.4, 23.8, 21.8, 19.6.$ **HRMS** (ESI): Calculated for C₁₅H₁₉NaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 252.1364; found:252.1360

IR (neat) : v = 2363, 1682, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-ethylpyrrolidin-2-one 2h:

Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₁₅NO Exact Mass: 201.1154

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1h** (28.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2h** was obtained as a yellow oil (6.3 mg, 0.031 mmol, 31%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 3.55 – 3.47 (m, 4H), 3.10 – 3.02 (m, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H).</u>

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{12.7.} = 168.9, 136.1, 131.5, 129.8, 129.6, 128.8, 128.4, 44.1, 37.9, 24.5, 12.7.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for $C_{13}H_{15}NaNO$ ([M+Na]⁺): 224.1051; found: 224.1046

IR (neat) : v = 2364, 1679, 1608, 1419 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(3-phenylpropyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2i:

Chemical Formula: C₂₁H₂₃NO Exact Mass: 305.1780

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1i** (39 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 %), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2i** was obtained as a yellowish oil (25 mg, 0.082 mmol, 82%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(\text{m}, 3\text{H}), 7.23 - 7.15 (\text{m}, 3\text{H}), 3.86 - 3.74 (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 3.26 - 3.11 (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 2.67 (\text{t}, \text{J} = 7.8 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 2.61 - 2.57 (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), 2.02 - 1.81 (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 1.24 (\text{d}, \text{J} = 6.3 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 169.1, 141.6, 136.1, 131.0, 130.0, 129.6, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 126.1, 51.1, 40.6, 33.8, 33.5, 29.2, 20.9.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₁H₂₄NO ([M+H]⁺): 306.1858; found: 306.1852

IR (neat) : v = 1679, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-(cyclopentylmethyl)-5-methylpyrrolidin-2-one 2j:



Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₂₃NO Exact Mass: 269.1780

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1j** (35 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 %), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2j** was obtained as a colorless oil (18 mg, 0.067 mmol, 67%).

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.81 (m, 1H), 3.76 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 7.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.63 – 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.29 – 2.18 (m, 1H), 1.83 – 1.73 (m, 1H), 1.71 – 1.62 (m, 3H), 1.57 – 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.24 (m, 5H).</u>

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{33.9, 31.0, 30.4, 25.4, 25.1, 20.8.} = 169.2, 136.2, 131.2, 129.9, 129.6, 128.8, 128.4, 51.1, 45.3, 38.1, 33.9, 31.0, 30.4, 25.4, 25.1, 20.8.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₈H₂₄NO ([M+H]⁺): 270.1858; found: 270.1852

IR (neat) : v = 1685, 1419 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-1-(3-methoxypropyl)-5-methylpyrrolidin-2-one 2k:

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Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₉NO₂ Exact Mass: 245.1416

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1k** (34 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2k** was obtained as a yellowish oil (15.5 mg, 0.060 mmol, 60%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{2\text{H}} = 7.49 - 7.44 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.43 - 7.39 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.36 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 3.87 - 3.72 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 3.44 \text{ (t, J} = 6.3 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 3.34 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.31 - 3.20 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.64 - 2.59 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.99 - 1.77 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.29 \text{ (d, J} = 6.3 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

 $\frac{^{13}C \text{ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)} \delta}{38.2, 33.7, 27.8, 20.9.} = 169.1, 136.0, 130.9, 129.7, 129.5, 128.6, 128.3, 70.4, 58.7, 51.3, 38.2, 33.7, 27.8, 20.9.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C15H19NaNO2 ([M+Na]⁺): 282.1470; found: 282.1465

IR (neat) : v = 1681, 1421, 1115 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(3-benzylidene-5-methyl-2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)propanenitrile 21:

Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₆N₂O Exact Mass: 240.1263

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **11** (32 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **21** was obtained as a colorless oil (12 mg, 0.051 mmol, 51%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{2\text{H}} = 7.49 - 7.45 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.44 - 7.41 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.40 - 7.33 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 4.03 - 3.94 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.88 \text{ (dt, J} = 13.9, 6.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.54 - 3.45 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.34 \text{ (ddd, J} = 17.5, 7.9, 2.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.85 - 2.76 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.74 - 2.64 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.36 \text{ (d, J} = 6.3 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{20.9, 16.6} = 169.6, 135.5, 131.1, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 118.1, 52.0, 37.4, 33.8, 20.9, 16.6.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₅H₁₆NaN₂O ([M+Na]⁺): 263.1160; found: 263.1155

IR (neat) : v = 2362, 1682, 1615 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-benzylidene-5-methyl-1-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2m:

SO₂Ph

Chemical Formula: C₂₀H₂₁NO₃S Exact Mass: 355.1242

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1m** (43.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2m** was obtained as a colorless oil (14.5 mg, 0.040 mmol, 40%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 2H), 7.45 - 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.35 - 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.29 - 7.27 (m, 1H), 4.01 - 3.92 (m, 1H), 3.92 - 3.83 (m, 1H), 3.68 - 3.56 (m, 2H), 3.42 - 3.31 (m, 1H), 3.23 - 3.13 (m, 1H), 2.63 - 2.59 (m, 1H), 1.28 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta}{128.8, 128.0, 53.3, 52.0, 35.5, 33.8, 21.0.} = 169.5, 139.2, 135.7, 134.1, 130.8, 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.8, 128.0, 53.3, 52.0, 35.5, 33.8, 21.0.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₀H₂₁NaNO₃S ([M+Na]⁺): 378.1140; found: 378.1137

IR (neat) : v = 1681, 1614, 1419 cm⁻¹

ethyl (E)-3-(3-benzylidene-5-methyl-2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)propanoate 2n:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₂₁NO₃ Exact Mass: 287.1521

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1n** (37 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2n** was obtained as a yellowish oil (18 mg, 0.062 mmol, 62%).

¹<u>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.15 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.00 – 3.91 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.81 (m, 1H), 3.47 (dt, J = 14.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddd, J = 17.4, 7.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (dt, J = 16.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.66 – 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.30 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).</u>

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta}{51.6, 36.8, 33.7, 32.8, 20.9, 14.2.} = 171.8, 169.1, 135.8, 130.4, 130.1, 129.5, 128.7, 128.4, 60.8, 51.6, 36.8, 33.7, 32.8, 20.9, 14.2.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₂₁NaNO₃ ([M+Na]⁺): 310.1419; found: 310.1414

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1978, 1732, 1419 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(3-fluorobenzylidene)-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 20:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₄FNO₄ Exact Mass: 385.1689

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **10** (46.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **20** was obtained as a colorless oil (19.5 mg, 0.051 mmol, 51%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{100 \text{ m}} = 7.37 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.24 - 7.20 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.16 - 7.11 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.01 - 6.95 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.12 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 5.11 \text{ (d, J = 14.2, 1H)}, 4.28 \text{ (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H)}, 3.81 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.79 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 3.49 - 3.42 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.10 - 3.00 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.54 - 2.48 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.21 \text{ (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{127.7 \text{ Hz}} = 167.7, 162.9 \text{ (d, J} = 245.5 \text{ Hz}), 161.2, 160.1, 138.6 \text{ (d, J} = 27.7 \text{ Hz}), 133.5, 130.1 \text{ (d, J} = 8.4 \text{ Hz}), 128.2 \text{ (d, J} = 2.6 \text{ Hz}), 125.5 \text{ (d, J} = 2.9 \text{ Hz}), 115.7 \text{ (d, J} = 21.7 \text{ Hz}), 115.0 \text{ (d, J} = 21.4 \text{ Hz}), 104.5, 90.4, 55.9, 55.4, 50.2, 33.6, 33.3, 20.9.}$

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -113.01.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₄FNaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 408.1587; found: 408.1582 **IR** (neat) : v = 1679, 1608, 1419 cm⁻¹

(E)-5-methyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)-1-(2,4,6-

trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2p:



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₄F₃NO₄ Exact Mass: 435.1657

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1p** (51.6 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2p** was obtained as a colorless oil (33.5 mg, 0.077 mmol, 77%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{7.40 - 7.38 (m, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.12 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 6H), 3.53 - 3.44 (m, 1H), 3.09 (ddd, J = 17.4, 8.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.56 - 2.48 (m, 1H), 1.23 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H).$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 167.6, 161.2, 160.1, 137.2, 134.2, 132.7, 131.3, 131.0, 129.2, 127.8, 125.6 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 124.6 (q, J = 3.1 Hz), 124.3 (q, J = 271.3 Hz), 104.5, 90.5, 55.9, 55.5, 50.2, 33.6, 33.4, 20.9.

<u>19F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ</u> = -62.8.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₅F₃NO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 436.1736; found: 436.1730

IR (neat) : v = 1681, 1609, 1329, 1132 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(3-methoxybenzylidene)-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2q:



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₇NO₅ Exact Mass: 397.1889

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, 1q (47.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, 2q was obtained as a yellowish oil (40 mg, 0.039 mmol, 100%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 1H), 7.00 - 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.87 - 6.81 (m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 5.11 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 3.49 - 3.38 (m, 1H), 3.07 (ddd, J = 17.4, 8.2, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.56 - 2.47 (m, 1H), 1.20 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) } \delta}{115.0, 113.6, 104.6, 90.4, 55.9, 55.4, 55.4, 55.4, 50.2, 33.6, 33.3, 20.9.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₇NaNO₅ ([M+Na]⁺): 420.1787; found: 420.1781

IR (neat) : v = 1690, 1423 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(3-(benzyloxy)benzylidene)-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-

trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2r:



Chemical Formula: C₂₉H₃₁NO₅ Exact Mass: 473.2202

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1r** (55 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2r** was obtained as a yellowish oil (34.5 mg, 0.073 mmol, 73%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{3\text{H}} = 7.45 - 7.41 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.39 - 7.36 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.35 - 7.26 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.08 - 7.03 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 6.95 - 6.90 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.12 \text{ (s, 2H)}, 5.13 - 5.06 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 4.27 \text{ (d, J} = 14.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.81 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 3.79 \text{ (s, 6H)}, 3.46 - 3.37 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.00 \text{ (ddd, J} = 17.4, 8.1, 3.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.51 - 2.40 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 1.18 \text{ (d, J} = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{128.6, 128.0, 127.4, 122.4, 115.7, 114.6, 104.6, 90.3, 70.1, 55.8, 55.7, 50.1, 33.5, 33.2, 20.8.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₉BrNaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 496.2100; found: 496.2094

IR (neat) : v = 1681, 1596, 1416 cm⁻¹

(E)-3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethylene)-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2s:



Exact Mass: 411.1682

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1s** (49 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2s** was obtained as a yellowish solid (29 mg, 0.071 mmol, 71%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{1\text{H}} = 7.29 - 7.27 \text{ (m, 1H), } 6.98 - 6.93 \text{ (m, 2H), } 6.84 - 6.80 \text{ (m, 1H), } 6.11 \text{ (s, 2H), } 5.97 \text{ (s, 2H), } 5.10 \text{ (d, J} = 14.2 \text{ Hz, 1H), } 4.26 \text{ (d, J} = 14.1 \text{ Hz, 1H), } 3.81 \text{ (s, 3H), } 3.79 \text{ (s, 6H), } 3.48 - 3.38 \text{ (m, 1H), } 3.02 \text{ (ddd, J} = 17.2, 8.2, 3.0 \text{ Hz, 1H), } 2.52 - 2.42 \text{ (m, 1H), } 1.20 \text{ (d, J} = 6.2 \text{ Hz, 3H).}$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{109.0, 108.7, 104.8, 101.4, 90.5, 55.9, 55.4, 50.2, 33.6, 33.3, 21.0.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₅NaNO₆ ([M+Na]⁺): 434.1580; found: 434.1574 **IR** (neat) : v = 1679, 1608, 1416 cm⁻¹

m.p. : 58 – 60 °C

(E)-3-(4-fluorobenzylidene)-5-methyl-1-(2,4,6-trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2t:



Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₄FNO₄ Exact Mass: 385.1689

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1t** (47 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2t** was obtained as a yellowish oil (25 mg, 0.064 mmol, 64%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.11 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.50 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 3.04 (ddd, *J* = 17.3, 8.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.55 – 2.45 (m, 1H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H).</u>

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)} \delta}{131.2 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 128.2, 115.7 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 104.6, 90.4, 55.9, 55.5, 50.2, 33.5, 33.3, 21.0.$

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.8.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₂H₂₄FNaNO₄ ([M+Na]⁺): 408.1587; found: 408.1583

IR (neat) : v = 1677, 1608, 1422 cm⁻¹

(E)-5-methyl-3-(4-methylbenzylidene)-1-(2,4,6trimethoxybenzyl)pyrrolidin-2-one 2u:

Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₂₇NO₄ Exact Mass: 381.1940

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1u** (46 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 %), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2u** was obtained as a colorless oil (25 mg, 0.076 mmol, 76%).

<u>**H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-***d***)** δ = 7.36 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 5.11 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.44 (ddt, *J* = 8.3, 6.2, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (ddd, *J* = 17.2, 8.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.56 – 2.48 (m, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H).</u>

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{104.7, 90.3, 55.8, 55.3, 50.1, 33.6, 33.1, 21.3, 20.8.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₂₈NO₄ ([M+H]⁺): 382.2018; found: 382.2013

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1680, 1608, 1416 cm⁻¹

(E)-2-benzylidenehexahydro-3H-pyrrolizin-3-one 2v:

Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₅NO Exact Mass: 213.1154

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, 1v (29.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic

acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2v** was obtained as a yellowish oil (11 mg, 0.051 mmol, 51%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{2 \text{H}} = 7.49 - 7.45 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.43 - 7.37 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.34 - 7.29 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 3.89 - 3.86 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.75 \text{ (dt, J} = 12.0, 8.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 3.34 - 3.22 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 2.86 - 2.78 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.22 - 2.00 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.33 - 1.19 \text{ (m, 1H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)} \delta}{31.4, 26.3} = 170.4, 136.0, 133.9, 130.5, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 59.3, 42.2, 32.4, 31.4, 26.3.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for $C_{14}H_{15}NaNO$ ([M+Na]⁺): 236.1051; found: 236.1046 **IR** (neat) : v = 2361, 1681, 1419 cm⁻¹

(R,E)-2-benzylidenehexahydro-3H-pyrrolizin-3-one (R)-2v:



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₅NO Exact Mass: 213.1154

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, (S) - 1v (29.4 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, (R)-2v was obtained as a yellowish oil (10.5 mg, 0.050 mmol, 50%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 2H), 3.91 - 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.79 - 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.34 - 3.22 (m, 2H), 2.82 (dt, J = 17.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.21 - 1.97 (m, 3H), 1.33 - 1.21 (m, 1H).}$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 170.4, 136.0, 133.9, 130.6, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 59.3, 42.2, 32.4, 31.5, 26.3.

(E)-2-benzylidenehexahydroindolizin-3(2H)-one 2w:



Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₇NO Exact Mass: 227.1310

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1w** (30.8 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2w** was obtained as a colorless oil (22.2 mg, 0.098 mmol, 98%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{1\text{H}} = 7.49 - 7.44 \text{ (m, 2H), }7.42 - 7.37 \text{ (m, 2H), }7.36 - 7.34 \text{ (m, 1H), }7.33 - 7.28 \text{ (m, 1H), }4.35 - 4.28 \text{ (m, 1H), }3.58 - 3.51 \text{ (m, 1H), }3.24 \text{ (ddd, J} = 17.5, }7.8, \\2.7 \text{ Hz, 1H), }2.81 - 2.77 \text{ (m, 1H), }2.66 - 2.58 \text{ (m, 1H), }2.01 - 1.86 \text{ (m, 2H), }1.77 - 1.70 \text{ (m, 1H), }1.57 - 1.36 \text{ (m, 2H), }1.27 - 1.13 \text{ (m, 1H).}$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{32.3, 24.8, 24.1.} = 167.7, 136.2, 131.0, 129.9, 129.6, 128.8, 128.4, 55.2, 40.9, 34.1, 32.3, 24.8, 24.1.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C15H17NaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 250.1208; found: 250.1202

IR (neat) : v = 2937, 1632, 1444 cm⁻¹

(E)-2-benzylideneoctahydro-3H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]azepin-3-one 2x:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₉NO Exact Mass: 241.1467

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, 1x (32.2 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, 2x was obtained as a yellowish oil (9.5 mg, 0.039 mmol, 40%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 2\text{H}), 3.94 - 3.81 (m, 2\text{H}), 3.29 - 3.15 (m, 2\text{H}), 2.64 - 2.57 (m, 1\text{H}), 1.98 - 1.89 (m, 1\text{H}), 1.85 - 1.75 (m, 1\text{H}), 1.75 - 1.62 (m, 4\text{H}), 1.60 - 1.51 (m, 2\text{H}).}$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{33.6, 29.6, 27.4, 25.3} = 169.4, 136.2, 131.8, 129.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 57.0, 43.5, 36.8, 33.6, 29.6, 27.4, 25.3.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₆H₁₉NaNO ([M+Na]⁺): 264.1364; found: 264.1359

IR (neat) : v = 1650, 1421 cm⁻¹

(E)-7-benzylidenetetrahydro-2H-pyrrolo[2,1-b][1,3]oxazin-6(7H)-one 2y:

Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₅NO₂ Exact Mass: 229.1103

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1y** (31 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2y** was obtained as a colorless oil (20.5 mg, 0.090 mmol, 90%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 1H), 5.06 (dd, J = 6.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (ddt, J = 13.3, 5.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (ddt, J = 11.6, 4.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (ddd, J = 12.6, 11.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddd, J = 17.9, 6.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.17 - 3.08 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dt, J = 17.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.93 - 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.58 - 1.51 (m, 1H).$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{32.7, 24.8} = 167.6, 135.6, 131.4, 129.7, 128.8, 128.4, 127.9, 85.4, 67.2, 39.0, 32.7, 24.8.$

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₆NO₂ ([M+H]⁺): 230.1181; found: 230.1178

IR (neat) : v = 2364, 1685, 1449 cm⁻¹

(E)-7-benzylidenehexahydro-6H-pyrrolo[2,1-c][1,4]oxazin-6-one 2z:

Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₅NO₂ Exact Mass: 229.1103

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, 1z (31 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, 2z was obtained as a colorless oil (16 mg, 0.069 mmol, 69%).

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1 \text{ H}} = 7.51 - 7.48 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.45 - 7.41 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.38 - 7.34 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.18 \text{ (dd, J = 13.3, 3.0 Hz, 1H)}, 4.08 \text{ (dd, J = 11.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H)}, 4.00 - 3.96 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.91 - 3.84 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.48 - 3.42 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 3.24 - 3.12 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 2.60 - 2.52 \text{ (m, 1H)}.$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3)}\delta}{41.1, 27.5} = 167.6, 135.7, 131.1, 129.7, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 72.6, 66.5, 53.2, 41.1, 27.5.$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₄H₁₆NO₂ ([M+H]⁺): 230.1181; found: 230.1176

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1682, 1447 cm⁻¹

<u>tert-butyl</u> (E)-7-benzylidene-6-oxohexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-2(1H)carboxylate 2aa:

Chemical Formula: C₁₉H₂₄N₂O₃ Exact Mass: 328.1787

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **1aa** (41 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **2aa** was obtained as a colorless oil (17 mg, 0.052 mmol, 52%).

 $\frac{1\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) }\delta}{(m, 1H), 4.35 (br. s, 1H), 4.25 - 4.19 (m, 1H), 4.15 (br. s, 1H), 3.72 - 3.65 (m, 1H), 3.22 (ddd, J = 17.7, 7.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.99 - 2.93 (m, 1H), 2.77 (br. s, 1H), 2.64 - 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.47 (br. s, 1H), 1.49 (s, 9H).$

<u>¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =</u> 167.7, 154.5, 135.7, 131.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 127.9, 80.8, 53.4, 40.3, 28.8, 28.5.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₉H₂₄NaN₂O₃ ([M+Na]⁺): 351.1685; found: 351.1679

IR (neat) : v = 2361, 1688, 1422 cm⁻¹

(E)-2-benzylidene-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4a:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₂O Exact Mass: 220.0888

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3a** (30 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4a** was obtained as a white solid (14.5 mg, 0.066 mmol, 66%).

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.⁴

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.94 – 7.91 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 4.06 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 2H).</u>

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 194.5, 149.8, 138.2, 135.6, 134.9, 134.8, 134.1, 130.9, 129.8, 129.1, 127.8, 126.3, 124.6, 32.6.

(E)-2-benzylidene-7-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4b:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₄O Exact Mass: 234.1045

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3b** (31.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4b** was obtained as a white solid (16.5 mg, 0.070 mmol, 70%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ </u> = 7.69 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 4.01 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 195.4, 150.4, 139.7, 135.7, 135.6, 135.4, 134.1, 133.1, 130.8, 129.7, 129.8, 129.0, 123.6, 32.3, 18.7.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O ([M+H]⁺): 235.1123; found: 235.1118

IR (neat) : v = 1693, 1629 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 230 - 232°C (decomp.)

(E)-2-benzylidene-5-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4c:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₄O₂ Exact Mass: 250.0994

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3c** (33 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy₃ (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4c** was obtained as a white solid (20 mg, 0.081 mmol, 81%).

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.⁵

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{1 \text{H}} = 7.88 - 7.85 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.68 - 7.66 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.63 - 7.61 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.48 - 7.44 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.41 - 7.37 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.01 - 6.99 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 6.98 - 6.95 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.02 \text{ (d, J} = 1.7 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 3.92 \text{ (s, 3H)}.$

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 192.9, 165.4, 152.7, 135.8, 135.4, 132.8, 131.6, 130.7, 129.5, 129.0, 126.4, 115.4, 109.9, 55.9, 32.7.

(E)-2-benzylidene-5-(benzyloxy)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4d:



Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₁₈O₂ Exact Mass: 326.1307

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3d** (41 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4d** was obtained as a white solid (26 mg, 0.080 mmol, 80%).

 $\frac{^{1}\text{H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{100 \text{ (m}, 247 - 7.42 \text{ (m}, 441), 7.42 - 7.35 \text{ (m}, 241), 7.67 - 7.65 \text{ (m}, 241), 7.63 - 7.61 \text{ (m}, 241), 7.47 - 7.42 \text{ (m}, 441), 7.42 - 7.35 \text{ (m}, 441), 7.07 - 7.03 \text{ (m}, 241), 5.18 \text{ (s}, 241), 4.00 \text{ (d}, J = 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 241).}$

 $\frac{{}^{13}\text{C NMR} (126 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta}{129.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.6, 126.4, 116.1, 110.9, 70.6, 32.7.}$ HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₂₃H₁₉O₂ ([M+H]⁺): 327.1385; found: 327.1380

IR (neat) : $v = 1682 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

m.p.: 256 - 258°C (decomp.)

(E)-2-benzylidene-5-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4e:



Chemical Formula: C₁₇H₁₄O Exact Mass: 234.1045

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3e** (31.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with Pd(PCy₃)₂ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb₂CO₃ (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4e** was obtained as a white solid (11.5 mg, 0.050 mmol, 50%).

<u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ = 7.81 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.63 (m, 3H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H).</u>

<u>¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ</u> = 193.9, 150.1, 145.9, 135.8, 135.5, 135.2, 133.4, 130.6, 129.5, 128.9, 128.9, 126.5, 124.3, 32.3, 22.3.

HRMS (ESI): Calculated for C₁₇H₁₅O ([M+H]⁺): 235.1123; found: 235.1117

IR (neat) : v = 1692, 1631, 1273 cm⁻¹

m.p.: 222 - 224°C (decomp.)

(E)-2-benzylidene-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4f:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₁FO Exact Mass: 238.0794

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3f** (32 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4f** was obtained as a white solid (21 mg, 0.089 mmol, 89%).

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature. ⁶

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{3 \text{H}} = 7.94 - 7.90 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.69 - 7.64 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.50 - 7.38 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 7.24 - 7.20 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.16 - 7.10 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 4.05 \text{ (s, 2H)}.$

 $\frac{^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)} \delta}{^{134.6} \delta} = 192.7, 167.2 \text{ (d, } J = 256.2 \text{ Hz}), 152.5 \text{ (d, } J = 10.1 \text{ Hz}), 135.3, 134.6 \text{ (d, } J = 1.9 \text{ Hz}), 134.4, 134.2, 130.8, 129.9, 129.1, 126.9 \text{ (d, } J = 10.2 \text{ Hz}), 116.1 \text{ (d, } J = 23.8 \text{ Hz}), 113.1 \text{ (d, } J = 22.9 \text{ Hz}), 32.6 \text{ (d, } J = 2.2 \text{ Hz}).$

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -102.5.

(E)-5-amino-2-benzylidene-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one 4g:



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₃NO Exact Mass: 235.0997

Following the general procedure for the 1,4-Pd shift/C(sp³)-H activation, **3g** (31.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was reacted with $Pd(PCy_3)_2$ (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), PCy_3 (2.8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol%), pivalic acid (3.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 30 mol%) and Rb_2CO_3 (35 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in mesitylene (4 mL) at 160°C for 16h. After purification, **4g** was obtained as a white solid (14 mg, 0.060 mmol, 60%).

The physical and spectroscopic properties matched those described in the literature.⁷

 $\frac{1 \text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta}{(m, 1\text{H}), 7.47 - 7.41 (m, 2\text{H}), 7.39 - 7.34 (m, 1\text{H}), 6.70 - 6.68 (m, 1\text{H}), 6.67 - 6.63 (m, 1\text{H}), 4.30 (br. s, 2\text{H}), 3.91 (d, J = 2.1 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}).}$

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 192.3, 152.9, 152.8, 135.9, 135.9, 131.7, 130.4, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 126.6, 114.9, 109.5, 32.3.

8- <u>Checkcif for compound 2y:</u>

checkCIF/PLATON report

Structure factors have been supplied for datablock(s) RR2369_130K_0m

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No syntax errors found. CIF dictionary Interpreting this report

Datablock: RR2369_130K_0m

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0020 A	Wavelength=1.54178			
Cell:	a=11.7451(8) alpha=90	b=9.8812(7) beta=95.463(3)	c=19.5125(14) gamma=90		
Temperature:	130 K				
	Calculated	Reported			
Volume	2254.3(3)	2254.2(3)		
Space group	C 2/c	C = 1 - 2/c = 1			
Hall group	-C 2vc	-C 2vc	-		
Moiety formula	C14 H15 N O2	C14 H15	N 02		
Sum formula	C14 H15 N O2	C14 H15 N O2			
Mr	229.27	229.28			
Dx,g cm-3	1.351	1.351			
Z	8	8			
Mu (mm-1)	0.727	0.727			
F000	976.0	979.1			
F000′	978.92				
h,k,lmax	14,12,23	14,11,23			
Nref	2152	2084			
Tmin,Tmax	0.890,0.971	0.860,0.	970		
Tmin'	0.890				
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.860 Tmax=0.970 AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN					
Data completeness= 0.968		Theta(max) = 70.240			
R(reflections)=	0.0400(1939)	wR2(reflections)	= 0.1016(2084)		
S = 1.054	Npar=	154			

The following ALERTS were generated. Each ALERT has the format test-name_ALERT_alert-type_alert-level. Click on the hyperlinks for more details of the test.

Alert level C					
PLAT029 ALERT 3 C diffrn measured fraction theta full value Low .	0.968 Wh				
PLAT094 ALERT 2 C Ratio of Maximum / Minimum Residual Density	2.14 Rej				
PLAT906 ALERT 3 C Large K Value in the Analysis of Variance	2.341 Ch				
PLAT911 ALERT 3 C Missing FCF Refl Between Thmin & STh/L= 0.600	6 Rej				
Alert level G					
PLAT068 ALERT 1 G Reported F000 Differs from Calcd (or Missing)	Please Ch				
PLAT073 ALERT 1 G H-atoms ref, but _hydrogen_treatment Reported as	constr Ch				
PLAT398_ALERT_2_G Deviating C-O-C Angle From 120 for O1	109.5 De				
PLAT793 ALERT 4 G Model has Chirality at C8 (Centro SPGR)	R Ve:				
PLAT912_ALERT_4_G Missing # of FCF Reflections Above STh/L= 0.600	60 No				
PLAT960 ALERT 3 G Number of Intensities with I < - 2*sig(I)	1 Ch				
PLAT978 ALERT 2 G Number C-C Bonds with Positive Residual Density.	8 In:				
PLAT982_ALERT_1_G The C-f'= 0.019 Deviates from IT-value =	0.018 C				
PLAT982 ALERT 1 G The N-f'= 0.033 Deviates from IT-value =	0.031 C				
PLAT982_ALERT_1_G The O-f'= 0.052 Deviates from IT-value =	0.049 C				
0 ALERT level A = Most likely a serious problem - resolve or exp	lain				
0 ALERT level B = A potentially serious problem, consider carefu	11y				
4 ALERT level C = Check. Ensure it is not caused by an omission	or oversight				
10 ALERT level G = General information/check it is not something	unexpected				
E MERT type 1 CTP construction/cumtar error inconsistent or mi	coing data				
S ALERT Lype 1 CIF construction/syntax error, inconsistent or missing data					
A ALERT type 2 Indicator that the structure guality may be low					
A ADDATE type 5 indicator that the structure quarty may be row					
0 ALERT type 5 Informative message check					
• ABARI Cype 5 Informative message, check					

Validation response form

Please find below a validation response form (VRF) that can be filled in and pasted into your CIF.

<pre># start Validation Reply Form _vrf_PLAT029_RR2369_130K_0m ;</pre>		
PROBLEM: _diffrn_measured_fraction_theta_full value Low . RESPONSE:	0.968	Why?
; _vrf_PLAT094_RR2369_130K_0m		
, PROBLEM: Ratio of Maximum / Minimum Residual Density RESPONSE:	2.14	Report
; _vrf_PLAT906_RR2369_130K_0m		
; PROBLEM: Large K Value in the Analysis of Variance RESPONSE:	2.341	Check
; _vrf_PLAT911_RR2369_130K_0m		
; PROBLEM: Missing FCF Refl Between Thmin & STh/L= 0.600 RESPONSE:	6	Report

It is advisable to attempt to resolve as many as possible of the alerts in all categories. Often the minor alerts point to easily fixed oversights, errors and omissions in your CIF or refinement strategy, so attention to these fine details can be worthwhile. In order to resolve some of the more serious problems it may be necessary to carry out additional measurements or structure refinements. However, the purpose of your study may justify the reported deviations and the more serious of these should normally be commented upon in the discussion or experimental section of a paper or in the "special_details" fields of the CIF. checkCIF was carefully designed to identify outliers and unusual parameters, but every test has its limitations and alerts that are not important in a particular case may appear. Conversely, the absence of alerts does not guarantee there are no aspects of the results needing attention. It is up to the individual to critically assess their own results and, if necessary, seek expert advice.

Publication of your CIF in IUCr journals

A basic structural check has been run on your CIF. These basic checks will be run on all CIFs submitted for publication in IUCr journals (*Acta Crystallographica, Journal of Applied Crystallography, Journal of Synchrotron Radiation*); however, if you intend to submit to *Acta Crystallographica Section C* or *E* or *IUCrData*, you should make sure that full publication checks are run on the final version of your CIF prior to submission.

Publication of your CIF in other journals

Please refer to the *Notes for Authors* of the relevant journal for any special instructions relating to CIF submission.

PLATON version of 19/10/2018; check.def file version of 15/10/2018



9- <u>NMR Spectras:</u>
















































































































































































































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