# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Iron Catalyzed Reactions of 2-Pyridone Derivatives:

1,6-Addition and Formal Ring Opening/Cross Coupling

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## SUPPORTING CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



Sigure S-1. Structure of pyridone 16 in the solid state; hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 16**:  $C_{12} H_{11} N O_3 S$ ,  $Mr = 249.28 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless prism, crystal size 0.08 x 0.08 x 0.06 mm<sup>3</sup>, triclinic, space group *P*1, *a* = 6.6271(10) Å, *b* = 7.6892(18) Å, *c* = 11.836(4) Å,  $\alpha = 87.57(2)^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 82.410(17)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 67.975(17)^\circ$ ,  $V = 554.2(3) Å^3$ , T = 100(2) K, Z = 2,  $D_{calc} = 1.494 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.287 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.98$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.99$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 3.333 <  $\Theta$  < 33.047°, 18368 measured reflections, 4182 independent reflections, 2916 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0642$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.053 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.117$ , 155 parameters. The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.037, residual electron density 0.6 (0.70 Å from C11)/ -0.4 (0.57 Å from S1) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917191**.



Figure S-2. Structure of pyrone 12 in the solid state; hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 12**:  $C_7 H_8 O_2$ ,  $Mr = 124.13 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless block, crystal size 0.32 x 0.14 x 0.12 mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$ , a = 7.3014(7) Å, b = 11.8309(10) Å, c = 7.4752(5) Å,  $\beta = 91.565(7)^\circ$ , V = 645.48(9) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 160(2) K, Z = 4,  $D_{calc} = 1.277 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.093 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.98$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.99$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 3.280 <  $\Theta$  < 33.035°, 9708 measured reflections, 2417 independent reflections, 2037 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0319$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.046 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.144$ , 84 parameters, absolute structure parameter = 0.44(6).

The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.128, residual electron density 0.4 (0.72 Å from C5)/ -0.3 (0.80 Å from C3) e  $\cdot$  Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917198**.



**Figure S-3.** Structure of compound **11a** in the solid state; all hydrogen atoms except the –OH involved in hydrogen bonding as well as CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> contained in the unit cell are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 11a**:  $C_{26} H_{22} Cl_3 N O_2$ ,  $Mr = 486.79 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless needle, crystal size 0.158 x 0.032 x 0.031 mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$ , a = 6.8389(11) Å, b = 19.279(3) Å, c = 17.827(3) Å,  $\beta = 100.843(3)^\circ$ , V = 2308.5(7) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 4,  $D_{calc} = 1.401 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.421 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.95$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.99$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer,  $2.326 < \Theta < 33.984^\circ$ , 71776 measured reflections, 9283 independent reflections, 6581 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0600$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.047 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.129$ , 293 parameters, absolute structure parameter = 0.44(6).

The H atom at O2 was found and refined, all other H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.035, residual electron density 0.7 (0.74 Å from Cl2)/ -0.9 (0.79 Å from Cl2) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917196**.



Figure S-4. Structure of compound 17 in the solid state; H-atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 17**:  $C_{18} H_{17} N O_3 S$ ,  $Mr = 327.38 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless block, crystal size 0.35 x 0.28 x 0.15 mm<sup>3</sup>, orthorhombic, space group  $Pna2_1$ , a = 11.818(3) Å, b = 16.341(4) Å, c = 8.1630(10) Å, V = 1576.4(5) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 4,  $D_{calc} = 1.379 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.220 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.94$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.97$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 2.789 <  $\Theta$  < 33.010°, 29492 measured reflections, 5883 independent reflections, 5698 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0283$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.026 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.068$ , 209 parameters, absolute structure parameter = 0.045(11).

The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.077, residual electron density 0.3 (0.76 Å from O2)/ -0.2 (0.57 Å from S1) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917193**.



Figure S-5. Structure of compound 18a in the solid state; H-atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 18a**:  $C_{18} H_{17} N O_3 S$ ,  $Mr = 327.38 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless plate, crystal size 0.173 x 0.171 x 0.031 mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/n$ , a = 5.9691(7) Å, b = 9.9398(11) Å, c = 27.354(3) Å,  $\beta = 91.067(2)^\circ$ , V = 1622.7(3) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 4,  $D_{calc} = 1.340 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.214 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.98$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.99$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 2.533 <  $\Theta$  < 31.064°, 47162 measured reflections, 5194 independent reflections, 7804 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0310$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.042$  [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ],  $wR_2 = 0.113$ , 213 parameters. The H atom at N1 was found and refined, all other H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.077, residual electron density 0.5 (0.67 Å from C16)/ -0.3 (0.38 Å from S1) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917194**.



**Figure S-6**. Structure of dienoic acid **27** in the solid state showing two independent molecules in the unit cell; all but the acidic hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Compound 27.**  $C_{11} H_{10} O_2$ ,  $Mr = 174.19 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , colorless needle, crystal size 0.35 x 0.28 x 0.15 mm<sup>3</sup>, orthorhombic, space group  $Pca2_1$ , a = 22.5169(14) Å, b = 5.5867(4) Å, c = 14.4515(9) Å, V = 1817.9(2) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 8,  $D_{calc} = 1.273 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å,  $\mu(Cu-K\alpha) = 0.706 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.90$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.97$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer,  $3.926 < \Theta < 63.626^\circ$ , 26900 measured reflections, 2894 independent reflections, 2807 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0355$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.023$  [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ],  $wR_2 = 0.058$ , 244 parameters, absolute structure parameter = -0.10(6), extinction coefficient = 0.0008(2).

The H atoms at O1 and O11 were found and refined, all other H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.057, residual electron density 0.1 (0.78 Å from C7)/ -0.1 (0.71 Å from H25) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917195**.



**Figure S-7.** Structure of the homoleptic iron complex **22** in the solid state; the additional molecule of pyrone 12 contained in the unit cell, which is not coordinated to the iron center, is disordered over two positions



**Figure S-8**. Structure of the Lewis acid/Lewis base adduct **22** in an orientation that reveals the peculiar organization of the pyrone units; the  $BF_4^-$  counterions as well as an additional cocrystallized but unbound molecule of **12** are not shown for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Complex 22**:  $C_{56} H_{64} B_2 F_8 Fe O_{16}$ ,  $Mr = 1222.54 \text{ g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , yellow prism, crystal size 0.165 x 0.083 x 0.050 mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/n$ , a = 7.1049(10) Å, b = 28.244(4) Å, c = 14.292(2) Å,  $\beta = 96.654(3)^\circ$ , V = 2848.6(7) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 2,  $D_{calc} = 1.425 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^3$ ,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 0.359 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , Gaussian absorption correction ( $T_{min} = 0.88$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.95$ ), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 2.034 <  $\Theta$  < 33.142°, 82422 measured reflections, 10847 independent reflections, 7804 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0.0847$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.051 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.152$ , 431 parameters. The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 0.959, residual electron density 0.8 (0.89 Å from Fe1)/ -0.9 (0.55 Å from Fe1)  $e \cdot Å^{-3}$ . **CCDC- 1917197**.



**Figure S-9**. Structure of the pyrone tricarbonyliron complex **23** in the solid state; hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Complex 23**:  $C_{10}H_8$  Fe O<sub>5</sub>, Mr = 519.9(2) g · mol<sup>-1</sup>, yellow plate, crystal size 0.07 x 0.05 x 0.05 mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1$ , a = 6.9641(14) Å, b = 10.957(2) Å, c = 7.5654(15) Å,  $\beta = 115.76(3)^\circ$ , V = 1622.7(3) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 100(2) K, Z = 2,  $D_{calc} = 1.686$  g · cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\mu(Mo-K\alpha) = 1.451$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, Gaussian absorption correction (T<sub>min</sub> = 0.98, T<sub>max</sub> = 0.99), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 2.990 <  $\Theta$  < 30.079°, 1586 measured reflections, 1586 independent reflections, 1389 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $R_{int} = 0$ .

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.040 [l > 2\sigma(l)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.068$ , 148 parameters, absolute structure parameter = 0.44(6).

The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.143, residual electron density 0.4 (0.82 Å from C9)/ -0.6 (0.78 Å from Fe1) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917190**.



**Figure S-10**. Structure of the pyridone tricarbonyliron complex **24** in the solid state; hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity

**X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of Complex 24**: C<sub>15</sub> H<sub>11</sub> Fe N O<sub>6</sub> S, *Mr* = 389.16 g · mol<sup>-1</sup>, yellow needle, crystal size 0.40 x 0.36 x 0.19 mm<sup>3</sup>, triclinic, space group *P*1, *a* = 6.3777(5) Å, *b* = 6.9416(3) Å, *c* = 18.0314(19) Å, *α* = 96.474(7)°, *β* = 93.427(8)°, *γ* = 107.045(5)°, *V* = 754.72(11) Å<sup>3</sup>, *T* = 100(2) K, *Z* = 2, *D<sub>calc</sub>* = 1.712 g · cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å,  $\mu$ (*Mo-Kα*) = 1.170 mm<sup>-1</sup>, Gaussian absorption correction (T<sub>min</sub> = 0.86, T<sub>max</sub> = 0.97), Bruker-AXS Kappa Mach3 APEX-II diffractometer, 3.098 <  $\Theta$  < 33.036°, 14110 measured reflections, 5672 independent reflections, 4717 reflections with *I* > 2*σ*(*I*), *R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.0387.

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  to  $R_1 = 0.040 [I > 2\sigma(I)]$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.099$ , 218 parameters. The H atoms were refined using a riding model, S = 1.058, residual electron density 0.6 (0.80 Å from Fe1)/ -1.0 (0.72 Å from Fe1) e · Å<sup>-3</sup>. **CCDC- 1917192**.

General. Unless stated otherwise, all reactions were carried out in flame-dried glassware using anhydrous solvents under argon. The solvents were purified by distillation over the following drying agents and were transferred under argon: THF, Et<sub>2</sub>O, *n*-Bu<sub>2</sub>O, DME (Mg/anthracene), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, toluene (Na/K); DMF, Et<sub>3</sub>N and pyridine were dried by an adsorption solvent purification system based on molecular sieves. Thin layer chromatography (TLC): Macherey-Nagel precoated plates (POLYGRAM<sup>®</sup>SIL/UV254). Flash chromatography: Merck silica gel 60 (40–63 μm) or Macherey-Nagel fine silica gel 60 (15-40 μm) with predistilled or HPLC grade solvents; NMR: Spectra were recorded on Bruker DPX 300 or AV 400 spectrometers in the solvents indicated; chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, coupling constants (J) in Hz. The solvent signals were used as references and the chemical shifts converted to the TMS scale (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta_{C}$  = 77.16 ppm; residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta_{H}$  = 7.26 ppm). IR: Spectrum One (Perkin-Elmer) spectrometer, wavenumbers ( $\tilde{\nu}$ ) in cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): Finnigan MAT 8200 (70 eV), ESI-MS: ESQ3000 (Bruker), accurate mass determinations: Bruker APEX III FTMS (7 T magnet) or Mat 95 (Finnigan).

Unless stated otherwise, all commercially available compounds (ABCR, Acros, Alfa Aesar, Aldrich, TCI, Strem Chemicals) were used as received.

#### Substrates

#### Representative Procedure for the Synthesis of 1-Substituted Pyridin-2(1H)-ones. 1-Benzylpyridin-

N O Bn **2(1***H***)-one (1)**. A mixture of 2-pyridin-2(1*H*)-one (2.00 g, 21 mmol), benzyl bromide (5.14 g, 30 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (5.80 g mg, 47 mmol) in DME (40 mL) was stirred for 16 h at 70 °C. After reaching ambient temperature, the reaction was quenched with water and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with

brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc, 1/1 to 1/7) to afford the title compound as a white solid (3.14 g, 96%). m.p. = 74.0-74.4 <sup>o</sup>C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 – 7.20 (m, 7H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (td, *J* = 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.8, 139.5, 137.3, 136.5, 129.0, 128.3, 128.1, 121.4, 106.3, 52.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3061, 3033, 2928, 1655, 1575, 1422, 1168, 1022, 949, 867, 727, 560. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 185.08351, found: 185.08364.

The following compounds were prepared analogously:

**Compound S1**. Using MeI instead of BnBr as the alkylating agent; colorless oil (1.27 g, 86%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32 (ddd, J = 9.0, 6.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (td, J = 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.3, 139.6, 138.4, 120.9, 106.0, 37.8. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3080, 3031, 2916, 1650, 1575, 1537, 1412, 1317, 1153,

1051, 875, 843, 761, 728, 528, 459. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 109.05221, found: 109.05228.

**Compound S2**. White solid (1.00 g, 98%); m.p. = 85.5-86.4 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35 – 7.23 (m,



4H), 7.06 - 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (td, J = 6.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.9, 162.6 (d, *J* = 246.7 Hz), 139.6, 137.2, 132.4 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 130.1 (d, J = 8.4 Hz), 121.6, 115.9 (d, J = 21.6 Hz), 106.5, 51.5. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –114.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3086, 3066, 3029, 2997, 2957, 1652, 1579, 1505, 1434, 1351, 1221, 1147, 1086, 940, 831, 757, 573, 472. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NOF [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 203.07409, found: 203.07448.

**Compound S3**. White solid (1.04 g, 97%); m.p. = 61.4-62.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31 (ddd, J =



9.0, 6.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 - 7.23 (m, 2H), 6.92 - 6.80 (m, 3H), 6.61 (ddd, J = 9.0, 1.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (td, J = 6.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.8, 160.1, 139.5, 138.0, 137.3, 130.1, 121.4, 120.5, 113.9, 113.6, 106.3, 55.4, 51.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3070, 3054, 3029, 3001, 2970, 2929, 2843, 1652, 1584, 1538, 1490, 1439, 1422, 1341, 1287, 1261, 1136, 1048, 871, 845, 765, 691, 571, 522.

HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 215.09408, found: 215.09427.

**Compound S4**. White solid (7.21 g, 95%); m.p. = 90.2-90.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.27 (m, Br Bn

7H), 6.53 (dd, J = 9.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.2, 142.6, 137.1, 135.8, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4, 122.6, 98.2, 52.2. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3064, 3043, 2995, 1654, 1579, 1525, 1492, 1433, 1349, 1241, 1150, 1067, 826, 742, 692, 642, 573, 514. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NOBr [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 262.99404, found: 262.99423.

1-Benzyl-5-methylpyridin-2(1H)-one (S5).<sup>1</sup> Under Ar atmosphere, a mixture of 1-benzyl-5-bromopyridin-2(1H)-one **S4** (792 mg, 3.0 mmol), potassium methyltrifluoroborate (476 mg, 3.9 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (33.7 mg, 0.15 mmol), RuPhos (140 mg, 0.30 mmol, 10 mol%) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.24 g, Ν΄ Bn 9 mmol) in toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O (v/v = 4/1, 5 mL) was stirred for 5 h at 90 °C (bath temperature)

until the reaction was completed. The mixture was cooled to ambient temperature before the reaction was guenched with water and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO4, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc, 2/1 to 1/2) to afford the title compound as a white solid (420 mg, 70%). m.p. = 76.2-78.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.17 (dd, J = 9.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 2.02 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 162.1, 142.2, 136.8, 134.7, 129.0, 128.2, 128.0, 121.0, 115.4, 51.8, 17.3. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3035, 2952, 2925, 1664, 1584, 1537, 1495, 1430, 1265, 1144, 1073, 916, 828, 715, 697, 522, 481. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 199.09916, found: 199.09931.



Compound S6. Prepared analogously using potassium phenyltrifluoroborate as the reagent; white solid (684 mg, 87%); m.p. = 73.6-75.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41 - 7.29 (m, 10H), 6.73 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.4, 139.4, 136.5, 136.4, 134.7, 134.1, 129.2, 129.1, 128.3, 127.5, 125.9, 121.3, 120.7, 52.4. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3054, 3029, 2947, 1656, 1584, 1532, 1495, 1423, 1365, 1299, 1151, 1076, 893, 833, 764, 694, 597, 490. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO [ $M^+$ ]: 261.11481, found: 261.11516.

Compound S7. Prepared analogously using potassium cyclopropyltrifluoroborate as the reagent; pale

N Bn

yellow oil (651 mg, 97%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.09 (dd, J = 9.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 1.61 (tt, J = 8.4, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 0.80 (ddd, J = 8.4, 6.2, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 0.47 (dt, J = 6.2, 4.8 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.2, 139.3, 136.7, 134.1, 129.0, 128.2, 128.0, 121.4, 121.1,

52.0, 12.0, 6.7. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3080, 3065, 3031, 3004, 2930, 2851, 1662, 1592, 1535, 1454, 1368, 1260, 1155, 878, 830, 731, 699, 559. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 225.11481, found: 225.11500.

**1-Phenyl-pyridin-2(1***H***)-one (S8).<sup>2</sup>** A mixture of 2-pyridone (1.00 g, 10.5 mmol), Cul (0.2 g, 1.06 mmol, 10 mol%), iodobenzene (2.35 mL, 21 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (1.47 g, 10.5 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) was stirred for 12 h at 150 °C under Ar. The mixture was allowed to cool before the reaction was quenched with water and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 at 0.65%) mmol and  $K_2CO_3$  (1.47 g, 10.5 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) mmol are specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) for the specified b) for the specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) for the specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) for the specified b) for the specified b) for the specified by flash chromatography to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.52 b) for the specified b) for the spe

g, 85%). m.p. = 128.0-129.3 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.33 (ddd, *J* = 6.9, 2.1, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (td, *J* = 6.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.5, 141.1, 139.9, 138.1, 129.5, 128.6, 126.7, 122.1, 106.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3052, 3041, 3014, 2913, 1656, 1578, 1526, 1488, 1272, 1252, 1126, 983, 839, 756, 692, 582, 453. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 171.06786, found: 171.06795.

1-Tosyl-pyridin-2(1H)-one (16). A mixture of 2-pyridone (2.00 g, 21 mmol), tosyl chloride (4.41 g, 23

mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (4.26 g, 42 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was stirred at ambient temperature for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with water and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc, 4/1 to 1/1) to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.15 g, 21%). m.p. = 141.3-142.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 2.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.02 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.41 (dt, *J* = 9.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 6.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.3, 146.4, 141.3, 133.4, 131.8, 130.1, 129.6, 123.6, 106.4, 22.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3354, 3260, 3121, 3106, 1673, 1601, 1530, 1359, 1245, 1163, 1123, 1086, 1020, 819, 770, 686, 646, 544, 512. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SNa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 272.03519, found: 272.03505. **Compound S9**. Prepared analogously using potassium *p*-methoxyphenylsulfonyl chloride as the reagent;



white solid (1.05 g, 19%); m.p. = 120.4-122.3 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 – 8.01 (m, 3H), 7.30 (ddd, *J* = 9.3, 6.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dt, *J* = 9.2, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 6.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.8, 160.3, 141.2, 132.6, 131.8, 127.4, 123.6, 114.2, 106.2, 55.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3118, 3103, 3023, 2988, 2954, 2851, 1673, 1592, 1536, 1497, 1359, 1271, 1251, 1167, 1127, 1089, 1016, 829, 801, 765, 684, 569, 550. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S [*M*+*H*<sup>+</sup>]: 266.04816, found:266.04823.

**Compound S10**. Prepared analogously using potassium *p*-fluorophenylsulfonyl chloride as the reagent;



white solid (327 mg, 45%); m.p. = 172.0-173.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.22 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 8.07 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 6.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.43 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 6.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.5 (d, *J* = 258.6 Hz), 160.2, 141.5, 133.2 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 132.3 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 131.6, 123.6, 116.4 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz), 106.6. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –100.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3116, 3097, 3065, 3042, 1675, 1583, 1534, 1488, 1362, 1233, 1181, 1127, 1084, 1009, 819, 759, 692, 543, 503. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>SNa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 276.01011, found: 26.01000.

**Compound S11**. Prepared analogously using potassium thiophene-2-sulfonyl chloride as the reagent;



white solid (2.49 g, 62%); m.p. = 134.1-134.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 2.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 6.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 6.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.3, 141.3, 138.0, 136.5, 135.7, 131.5, 127.5, 123.5, 106.6. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3110, 3097, 1679, 1600, 1530, 1376, 1340, 1246, 1227, 1170, 1128, 1011, 824, 747, 682, 562, 511. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SNa [*M*+Na<sup>+</sup>]:

263.97596, found: 263.97607.

#### **Iron Catalyzed Reactions**

Representative Procedure for the Iron Catalyzed Pyridone 1,6-Addition Reaction. 1-Benzyl-6-phenyl-



**3,6-dihydropyridin-2(1***H***)-one (2a).** A solution of PhMgBr (3 M in THF, 0.15 mL, 0.45 mmol) was added drowpise to a rapidly stirred solution of compound **1** (55.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub> (5.3 mg, 0.015 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at -45 °C. The mixture was stirred for 50 min at this temperature before the reaction was quenched with sat. aq.

NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL), the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc = 10/1, 6/1, 4/1, 2/1) to afford the title compound as a pale yellow solid (76.1 mg, 96%). m.p. = 117.2-118.4 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.26 (m, 6H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 4H), 5.81 – 5.72 (m, 1H), 5.72 – 5.65 (m, 1H), 5.61 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (qd, *J* = 3.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H),

3.42 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.33 – 3.14 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7, 140.2, 136.9, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 127.2, 126.5, 120.6, 61.8, 46.4, 32.3. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3086, 3057, 3022, 3006, 2925, 2891, 1638, 1449, 1402, 1316, 1262, 1147, 1027, 940, 841, 767, 700, 481. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO [ $M^+$ ]: 263.13046, found: 263.13065.

The following compounds were prepared analogously on 0.2 mmol scale:

Compound 2b. The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr; pale yellow solid (36.8 mg, 72%).

Ph N O Ph

m.p. = 95.4-96.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 – 7.15 (m, 6H), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.97 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 5.95 – 5.85 (m, 2H), 5.26 (q, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.42 – 3.32 (m, 1H), 3.30 – 3.21 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.4, 141.1, 140.0, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 127.4, 126.4, 121.2, 67.2, 32.8. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3083, 3059, 3030, 3006,

2931, 2880, 1643, 1431, 1403, 1288, 1141, 1074, 759, 693, 559. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 249.11481, found: 249.11503.

**Compound 2c.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -20 °C; white solid (17.9 mg,

Ph NO

46%). m.p. = 63.3-64.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 5.80 – 5.67 (m, 2H), 4.87 (dd, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.21 – 3.03 (m, 2H), 2.82 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7, 140.3, 129.2, 128.3, 126.9, 126.2, 120.9, 65.7, 32.8,

32.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3082, 3055, 3026, 2907, 2797, 1630, 1487, 1448, 1398, 1311, 1242, 1060, 836, 759, 695, 437. HRMS (EI): *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 187.09916, found: 187.09931.

Compound 3a. The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -20 °C; pale yellow oil (37.6 mg,

MeO NO Bn

62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 5.78 – 5.63 (m, 2H), 5.59 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (ddd, J = 8.4, 2.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.43 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.31 – 3.13 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.6, 159.6, 136.9,

132.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.5, 126.7, 120.3, 114.5, 61.1, 55.4, 46.2, 32.2. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3031, 3001, 2932, 2836, 1639, 1509, 1450, 1407, 1241, 1173, 1030, 909, 829, 725, 684, 496. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 293.14103, found: 293.14099.

**Compound 3b.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -20 °C; pale yellow oil (48.5 mg,



82%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 5.81 – 5.57 (m, 3H), 4.79 (ddd, *J* = 3.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.32 – 3.13 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.5, 138.7, 136.6, 134.1, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.6, 126.0, 121.1, 61.1, 46.4, 32.2.

IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3087, 3062, 3029, 2927, 2852, 1642, 1450, 1404, 1246, 1089, 1014, 821, 729, 698, 495. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NOCI [ $M^{+}$ ]: 297.09149, found: 297.09163. **Compound 4a.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -45 °C to RT; pale yellow oil (50.6

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{mg, 91\%}. \ ^{1}\text{H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_{3}) } \delta \ 7.32 - 7.17 \ (\text{m, 6H}), \ 7.15 - 7.08 \ (\text{m, 4H}), \ 5.47 \ (\text{d}, J) \\ = 15.0 \ \text{Hz}, \ 1\text{H}), \ 5.41 \ (\text{ddp}, J = 4.0, \ 2.6, \ 1.3 \ \text{Hz}, \ 1\text{H}), \ 4.40 \ (\text{t}, J = 3.2 \ \text{Hz}, \ 1\text{H}), \ 3.29 \ (\text{d}, J = 15.0 \ \text{Hz}, \ 1\text{H}), \ 3.26 \ - \ 3.04 \ (\text{m, 2H}), \ 1.43 \ - \ 1.36 \ (\text{m, 3H}). \ ^{13}\text{C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_{3}) } \delta \ 167.7, \\ 140.0, \ 136.9, \ 132.5, \ 129.0, \ 128.7, \ 128.4, \ 128.3, \ 127.7, \ 127.5, \ 117.0, \ 65.6, \ 46.4, \ 32.5, \end{array}$ 

20.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3085, 3062, 3028, 2917, 2851, 1643, 1449, 1247, 1065, 846, 806, 698, 498. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 277.14611, found: 277.14637.

**Compound 4b.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -20 °C; pale yellow oil (70.0 mg,

96%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31 – 7.12 (m, 8H), 7.11 – 7.06 (m, 3H), 7.02 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (dd, J = 6.6, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 5.90 (dd, J = 4.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.43 – 3.26 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C

NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.9, 139.3, 138.3, 138.2, 136.8, 128.92, 128.88, 128.5, 128.2, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 126.7, 119.8, 63.5, 46.7, 33.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3085, 3061, 3028, 2923, 1641, 1451, 1253, 1072, 908, 727, 695. HRMS (ESI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NONa [ $M+Na^+$ ]: 362.15153, found: 362.15143.

**Compound 5.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr; pale yellow oil (52.1 mg, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H

138.1, 136.9, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 127.4, 114.2, 65.5, 46.4, 32.3, 13.9, 6.1, 5.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3084, 3063, 3028, 3005, 2920, 2874, 1643, 1450, 1409, 1248, 1077, 1021, 848, 729, 699, 493. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO [ $M^+$ ]: 303.16176, found: 303.16186.

**Compound 6.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr at -20 °C; pale yellow oil (60.6 mg,



Ph

Ph

91%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44 - 7.29 (m, 6H), 7.26 - 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.22 - 7.17 (m, 2H), 6.13 (dd, J = 4.2, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (t, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.42 - 3.21 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.8, 138.0, 136.2, 129.14, 129.10, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 124.2, 118.7, 66.7, 46.8, 34.3. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3085, 3062,

3029, 2920, 2850, 1645, 1449, 1405, 1243, 1072, 840, 729, 696, 496. HRMS (EI): m/z: calcd for  $C_{18}H_{16}NOBr [M^+]$ : 341.04099, found: 341.04096.

**Compound 7.** The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of allylmagnesium bromide at -20 °C to RT; pale



yellow oil (27.7 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.28 – 7.13 (m, 5H), 5.75 (dtd, *J* = 10.0, 3.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.68 – 5.55 (m, 2H), 5.45 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 5.06 – 4.97 (m, 2H), 3.91 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.86 – 3.80 (m, 1H), 2.98 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.42 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.25 (dddd, *J* = 12.8, 6.5, 3.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.6,

137.0, 132.1, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 125.8, 123.1, 119.4, 56.5, 46.5, 37.5, 32.7. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3074, 3030,

2978, 2925, 1637, 1451, 1408, 1322, 1253, 1149, 1071, 996, 917, 703, 497. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NONa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 250.12023, found: 250.12026.

Compound 8. The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of benyzlmagnesium bromide; white solid (50.1

mg, 91%). m.p. = 99.2-100.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.11 (m, 6H), 7.02 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 5.63 (ddd, *J* = 10.0, 4.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.60 – 5.52 (m, 2H), 4.02 – 3.95 (m, 1H), 3.92 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.80 – 2.65 (m, 2H), 2.17 – 2.06 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 137.1, 135.9, 130.1, 128.8, 128.3, 127.9, 127.5, 126.8, 125.5, 124.0, 57.7, 46.8, 39.3, 32.4. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3051, 3028, 2955, 2925, 2895, 1626, 1454, 1405, 1261, 1163, 1081, 1029, 967, 724, 693, 494. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NONa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 300.13588, found: 300.13582.

**Compound 9**. Yellow oil (54.8 mg, 96%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.15 (m,



3H), 6.86 - 6.71 (m, 3H), 5.79 - 5.65 (m, 2H), 5.59 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (dd, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.39 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.32 - 3.12 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.6, 159.9, 140.1, 138.4, 129.7, 129.2, 128.3, 127.1, 126.5, 120.6, 120.6, 113.9, 112.9, 61.8, 55.3, 46.3, 32.2. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3047, 3029, 3000, 2935, 2835, 1643, 1449, 1260, 1145, 1044, 838, 695, 485. HRMS

(EI): *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 293.14103, found: 293.14129.

Compound 12. The reaction was performed using 3 equiv of ArMgBr; pale yellow solid (48.8 mg, 88%).



m.p. = 130.6-131.1°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.78 – 5.64 (m, 2H), 5.50 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (dq, *J* = 3.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddt, *J* = 22.3, 4.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dtd, *J* = 22.3, 3.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7, 162.3 (d, *J* = 245.5 Hz), 140.0, 132.7 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 129.2, 128.4, 127.1, 126.4, 120.6, 115.5 (d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), 61.9, 45.8, 32.2. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 

-115.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3070, 3053, 3029, 3004, 2931, 2891, 1638, 1508, 1450, 1402, 1264, 1215, 1156, 1027, 920, 842, 806, 768, 699, 461. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NOF [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 281.12104, found: 281.12128.

**Compound 17.** The reaction was performed in the presence of PPh<sub>3</sub> (10 mol%) to give the product as a

white solid (20.4 mg, 62%). m.p. =  $192.4-193.2^{\circ}$ C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.03 – 5.93 (m, 2H), 5.73 (dt, *J* = 9.5, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dt, *J* = 3.8, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.8, 144.6, 139.8, 135.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 127.4, 127.1, 119.5, 62.0, 34.2,

21.6. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3086, 3063, 3027, 2962, 2921, 1687, 1595, 1451, 1353, 1243, 1162, 1085, 811, 701, 684, 537. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 350.08214, found: 350.08245. Single crystals

suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slow evaporation of a solution of this product in  $CH_2Cl_2$ /pentane.

**Representative Procedure for the Iron Catalyzed Three Component Reaction.** (*Z*)-1-Benzyl-3-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methylene)-6-phenyl-3,6-dihydropyridin-2(1H)-one (11a). A solution of PhMgBr



(1.18 M in THF, 0.51 mL, 0.60 mmol) was slowly added to a rapidly stirred solution of compound **1** (37.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), methyl 4-chlorobenzoate (68.2 mg, 0.4 mmol) and Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub> (3.5 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol%) in THF (2 mL) at -45 °C. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at this temperature before the reaction was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography

(hexane/EtOAc = 50/1, 20/1, 10/1, 6/1) to afford the title compound as a pale yellow solid (39.7 mg, 87%). m.p. = 91.7-92.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 15.18 (s, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.23 (m, 12H), 6.29 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (dd, *J* = 4.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.6, 167.4, 140.5, 136.4, 136.1, 133.2, 130.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 127.8, 127.1, 121.0, 119.5, 98.8, 62.7, 46.4. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3085, 3059, 3028, 2977, 2950, 2925, 1724, 1654, 1594, 1469, 1450, 1341, 1264, 1089, 1014, 906, 836, 728, 523. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>CINO<sub>2</sub> [*M*+*H*<sup>+</sup>]: 402.12553, found: 402.12548. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slow evaporation of a solution of this product in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pentane.

Compound 11b. Prepared analogously using methyl 3-phenylpropanoate as the electrophilic coupling



partner; pale yellow oil (76.6 mg, 93%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.94 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.07 (m, 15H), 6.09 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.70 – 2.52 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.7, 169.3, 141.0, 140.8, 136.6, 133.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3,

119.8, 118.1, 98.1, 62.6, 46.1, 33.4, 33.1. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3085, 3061, 3027, 2930, 2863, 1736, 1654, 1596, 1469, 1451, 1358, 1256, 1211, 1028, 912, 747, 723, 696, 510. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [*M*+*H*<sup>+</sup>]: 396.19580, found: 396.19585.

Representative Procedure for the Iron Catalyzed Formal Ring-opening/Cross Coupling of 2-Pyridone



**Deravitives.** (2*Z*,4*E*)-5-Phenyl-N-tosylpenta-2,4-dienamide (18a). A solution of PhMgBr (1  $\bowtie$  in THF, 0.6 mL, 0.6 mmol) was added dropwise to a rapidly stirred solution of compound **16** (49.9 mg, 0.2 mmol), Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub> (3.5 mg, 0.01

mmol, 5 mol%) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (5.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL) at -30 °C. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at this temperature before DMF (4 mL) was introduced and the temperature raised to -10 °C

over the course of 2 h. The reaction was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/ethyl acetate = 4/1, 2/1, 1/1) to afford the title compound as a pale yellow solid (38.3 mg, 60%, 2*Z*/2*E* = 15/1). m.p. = 139.1-141.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8,71 (s, 1H), 8.10 (ddd, *J* = 15.7, 11.5, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (t, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.0, 147.5, 145.2, 143.8, 136.03, 136.00, 129.8, 129.6, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 124.8, 115.8, 21.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3253, 3074, 3057, 3025, 2922, 2873, 1697, 1615, 1592, 1435, 1329, 1235, 1122, 1083, 984, 878, 657, 542. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SNa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 350.08214, found: 350.08242. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slow evaporation of a solution of this product in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pentane.

The following compounds were prepared analogously:

**Compound 18b.** Pale yellow oil (47.5 mg, 70%, 2Z/2E = 15/1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.10 (s, 1H),



8.16 – 8.03 (m, 3H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.03 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (t, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.0, 163.4, 147.2, 143.5, 136.0, 130.7, 130.2, 129.5, 128.8, 127.9, 124.8,

116.2, 114.4, 55.8. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3239, 3077, 3064, 2929, 2841, 1688, 1590, 1497, 1433, 1335, 1261, 1163, 1124, 1080, 1023, 864, 832, 803, 729, 665, 576, 553. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SNa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 366.07705, found: 366.07737.

**Compound 18c**. Pale yellow solid (32.4 mg, 47%, 2Z/2E = 18/1). m.p. = 69.0-71.4 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,



CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.01 (s, 1H), 8.20 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 8.09 (ddd, *J* = 15.7, 11.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (t, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.0 (d, *J* = 256.8 Hz), 163.2, 147.8,

144.1, 135.9, 134.8, 131.5 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 129.7, 128.9, 127.9, 124.7, 116.5 (d, *J* = 22.8 Hz), 115.7. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –102.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3245, 3106, 3074, 2859, 1692, 1612, 1586, 1431, 1338, 1122, 1079, 868, 838, 754, 665, 576, 544. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>S [*M*<sup>-</sup>]: 330.06057, found: 330.06064.

**Compound 19a**. Pale yellow solid (55.0 mg, 74%, 2Z/2E = 8/1). m.p. = 162.8-163.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,



OMe CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.57 (s, 1H), 8.09 – 7.94 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (t, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.0, 163.3, 160.9, 147.8, 143.6, 130.8, 130.5, 129.5, 129.1,

128.9, 122.9, 114.7, 114.4, 55.8, 55.5. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3270, 3064, 2984, 2933, 2910, 2872, 1687, 1589, 1500, 1417, 1252, 1162, 1114, 1080, 1018, 993, 834, 799, 668, 556. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S [*M*<sup>-</sup>]: 372.09112, found: 372.09120.

Compound 19b. Pale yellow solid (45.1 mg, 61%, 2Z/2E = 13/1). m.p. = 160.3-161.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,



OMe CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.61 (s, 1H), 8.13 – 7.99 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.79 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 5.62 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.1, 163.0, 146.9, 142.0, 135.3, 134.6, 130.8, 130.2, 129.1, 129.0, 125.3, 116.5, 114.4, 55.9. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>):

3272, 3064, 3039, 2978, 2946, 2841, 1691, 1591, 1498, 1409, 1264, 1161, 1079, 994, 830, 797, 666, 556. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>CINO<sub>4</sub>S [*M*-*H*]: 376.04158, found: 376.04179.

**Compound 20**. Pale yellow solid (52.4 mg, 69%, 2Z/2E = 23/1). m.p. = 215.4-217.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,



CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.14 (s, 1H), 8.14 – 8.00 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 6.93 (m, 4H), 6.76 – 6.61 (m, 3H), 5.72 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.1, 163.2 (dd, *J* = 248.6, 12.9 Hz), 163.1, 145.8, 140.4 (t, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 139.4 (t, *J* = 9.5 Hz), 130.8, 130.0, 127.1, 118.1, 114.4, 110.3 (dd, *J* = 25.7, 6.9 Hz), 104.5 (t, *J* = 25.6 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –109.7. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>):

3228, 3086, 2983, 2871, 2845, 1733, 1706, 1593, 1431, 1334, 1259, 1165, 1115, 1079, 980, 851, 830, 663, 553. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S [*M*-*H*]: 378.06171, found: 378.06186.

Compound 21. Pale yellow solid (34.1 mg, 55%, 2Z/2E = 18/1). m.p. = 134.1-134.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 (ddd, *J* = 15.7, 11.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (t, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (dt, *J* 

= 11.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.0, 147.8, 144.1, 139.3, 136.0, 135.2, 134.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.0, 127.6, 124.8, 115.7. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3245, 3098, 3026, 2873, 1685, 1612, 1585, 1433, 1340, 1178, 1123, 1090, 1019, 876, 809, 726, 591, 567. HRMS (ESI): m/z: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Na [ $M+Na^+$ ]: 342.02291, found: 342.02329.

**Compound 27.** A solution of PhMgBr (3  $\bowtie$  in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0.1 mL, 0.3 mmol) was slowly added to a rapidly stirred solution of 2-pyrone (19.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) and Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub> (3.5 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol%) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL) at -30 °C. After stirring for 20 min at this temperature, the

Ph O OH reaction was quenched with sat. aq.  $NH_4Cl$  and the pH of the aqueous layer adjusted to  $\approx$  2-3 upon addition of HCl (1 M). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (5 x 20 mL), the

combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc = 10/1, 4/1, 2/1) to afford the title

compound as a pale yellow solid material (15.5 mg, 44%). m.p. = 130.2-130.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.20 (s, 1H), 8.11 (ddd, *J* = 15.3, 11.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 6.93 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 5.77 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.4, 147.2, 142.6, 136.3, 129.4, 128.9, 127.8, 125.0, 116.5. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3033, 2953, 2922, 2825, 2745, 2565, 1685, 1608, 1585, 1434, 1246, 1227, 958, 821, 744, 698. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [*M*-*H*]: 173.06081, found: 173.06071. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slow evaporation of a solution of this product in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/pentane.

## **Control Experiments**

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Compound 14. Triethylamine (0.6 mL, 4.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), HOBt (0.43 g, 3.15 mmol) and EDC·HCI (0.83

g, 4.3 mmol) were added to a solution of benzylamine (0.34 mL, 3.15 mmol) and acid **13** (0.4 g, 2.9 mmol)<sup>3</sup> in DMF (1.5 mL) and  $CH_2CI_2$  (20 mL). The mixture was stirred for 4 h before the solvent was evaporated. The residue was suspended in water (30 mL) and extracted from the aqueous phase with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The

combined organic layers were washed with aq. citric acid solution (0.5 M), sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 6/1, 4/1, 2/1, 1/1) to give the title compound as a pale orange oil (0.61 g, 92%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.73 (td, *J* = 1.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 1.89 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.7 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 1.60 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.6, 146.1, 138.7, 138.6, 128.8, 128.0, 127.6, 123.7, 122.3, 43.8, 26.0, 25.5, 19.7. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3306, 3064, 3031, 2975, 2929, 2874, 1724, 1646, 1525, 1454, 1376, 1265, 1075, 1029, 733, 697. HRMS (EI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO [*M*<sup>+</sup>]: 229.14611, found: 229.14612.

Compound 15. LiHMDS (40.7 mg, 0.24 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added to a stirred solution of amide 14



(47.2 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv) in DMF (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 3 h. After reaching ambient temperature, the reaction was quenched with sat. aq.  $NH_4CI$  and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO_4$ , filtered and concentrated, and

the residue was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/EtOAc, 5:1 to 1/1) to afford the title compound as a white solid material (31.8 mg, 67%). m.p. = 77.7-78.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 5.86 (t, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 2.24 (t, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 2H), 1.89 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.9, 148.4, 140.3, 128.4, 127.1, 126.6, 120.1, 56.6, 44.6, 44.1, 26.8, 23.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3061, 3031, 2980, 2930, 1668, 1605, 1433, 1409, 1350, 1192, 1029, 885, 847, 718, 693. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NONa [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 252.13588, found: 252.13574.

#### **Iron Complexes**

Preparation of Adduct [22-(4,6-dimethyl-2H-pyran-2.one]. AgBF<sub>4</sub> (227 mg, 1.2 mmol) was added to a



solution of FeCl<sub>2</sub>(THF)<sub>1.5</sub> (143 mg, 0.61 mmol) in THF (3 mL), causing the formation of a white precipitate. The suspension was stirred for 2 h before the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite under Ar, which was thoroughly washed with THF (8 mL). 4,6-Dimethyl-2-pyrone **12** (455 mg, 3.7 mmol) was added to the combined filtrates, resulting in the appearance of a yellow color. The mixture was stirred for 5 h before all volatile materials were evaporated. The remaining yellow solid was rinsed with

pentane and  $Et_2O$  and then dried in vacuo to give the title complex as a brown crystalline material (528 mg, 79%) which is an adduct of complex 22 with unbound 4,6-dimethyl-2*H*-pyran-2.one, see Figure S-7. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of a solution of this complex in  $CH_2Cl_2$ .

(Tricarbonyl)Iron Pyrone Complex 23. A Schlenk flask was charged with Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub> (293 mg, 0.81 mmol)



and 2-pyrone **12** (200 mg, 1.61 mmol) under Ar. Degassed anhydrous *n*-Bu<sub>2</sub>O/THF (v/v 5/1, 24 mL) was added and the solution was stirred at 65 °C for 0.5 h while argon was slowly bubbled through the mixture. Two further portions of Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub> (291 mg, 0.81 mmol each) were added at 0.5 h intervals. After stirring for another 2 h, the mixture

was allowed to reach ambient temperature before the solvent was evaporated. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 10/1 to 4/1) yielded the title compound as a yellow solid material (92.6 mg, 19%). m. p. (decomp.) = 100.4-101.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.43 (s, 1H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  208.0, 170.7, 105.8, 100.9, 78.0, 53.1, 22.6, 20.4. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3065, 2992, 2961, 2927, 2895, 2055, 1973, 1715, 1439, 1356, 1264, 1167, 1052, 1001, 860, 754, 606, 568. HRMS (ESI): *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FeO<sub>5</sub>Na [*M*+*Na*<sup>+</sup>]: 286.96133, found: 286.96122. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slowly lowering the temperature of a saturated solution of this product in EtOAc/pentane from +20 °C to -30 °C.

(Tricarbonyl)iron Pyridone Complex 24. Prepared analogously as a yellow solid material (177 mg, 21%).



m. p. (decomp.) = 183.4-184.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  7.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.20 – 6.10 (m, 1H), 5.76 – 5.68 (m, 1H), 5.22 (dt, *J* = 5.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  207.7, 170.3, 145.9, 135.5, 130.1, 128.6, 90.3, 77.1, 66.3, 53.8, 22.0. IR (film, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3079, 2922, 2064, 1992, 1698, 1594, 1347, 1158, 1084, 608, 546. HRMS (Exactive): m/z: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FeNO<sub>6</sub>SNa [ $M+Na^+$ ]: 411.95487, found: 411.95461. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slowly lowering the temperature of a saturated solution of this product in EtOAc/pentane from 20 °C to -30 °C.

# References

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![](_page_59_Figure_0.jpeg)

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