## Supporting Information

# Synthesis of 4-Substituted-Pyridine-2,6-Dicarboxylic Acid Derivatives From Pyruvates and Aldehydes in One Pot 

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## 1. General

For thin layer chromatography (TLC), Merck Silica gel 60 F254 aluminum sheets were used. Flash column chromatography was performed using Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400. Proton chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane or from the residual solvent as internal standard in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}(\delta 7.26 \mathrm{ppm})$ and in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}(\delta 3.31 \mathrm{ppm})$. Carbon chemical shifts were internally referenced to the deuterated solvent signals in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}(\delta 77.0 \mathrm{ppm})$ and in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}(\delta$ 49.0 ppm ). High-resolution mass spectra were recorded on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap ESI ion trap mass spectrometer.

## 2. Synthesis of 4-Substituted Pyridine-2,6-Dicarboxylic Acid Esters 1

## Procedure for the Synthesis of Dihydropyran Derivative 2a (Table 1, entry 7)

To a solution of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde ( $75.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.50 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and ethyl pyruvate ( $166.7 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 1.50$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(0.50 \mathrm{~mL})$, acetic acid ( $28.6 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.50 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and pyrrolidine ( $16.5 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.20$ $\mathrm{mmol})$ were added at room temperature $\left(25{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$. The mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 24 h . The mixture was poured into saturated $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$ solution ( 4 mL ) and extracted with EtOAc ( $15 \mathrm{~mL} x \mathrm{3}$ ). Organic layers were combined, dried over $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ) to afford $\mathbf{2 a}^{1}$ ( $111.4 \mathrm{mg}, 61 \%$ ).

## General Procedure for the Synthesis of 4-Substituted Pyridine-2,6-Dicarboxylic Acid Esters 1 from Aldehyde and Pyruvate in One Pot (Table 3)

To a solution of aldehyde ( 1.0 mmol ) and ethyl pyravate ( 3.0 mmol ) in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(1.0 \mathrm{~mL})$, acetic acid ( 1.0 mmol ) and pyrrolidine $(0.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ were added at room temperature $\left(25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature. After $30 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{OAc}(3.0 \mathrm{mmol})$ and acetic acid ( 1.0 mmol ) was added to the mixture and the resulting mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 24 h . The mixture was poured into saturated aqueous $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$ solution (5.0 mL ) and extracted with EtOAc ( $30 \mathrm{~mL} x \mathrm{3}$ ). Organic layers were combined, dried over $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc) to afford 1.

Compounds $\mathbf{1 a}, \mathbf{1 b}, \mathbf{1 c}, \mathbf{1 i}$, and $\mathbf{1 k}$ were previously reported. ${ }^{1}$

## Diethyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl) pyridine-2, 6-dicarboxylate (1d)



Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ); colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.46(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.75$ (dd, $J=$ $8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 5.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.23(\mathrm{t}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}) 4.52(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 1.48(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta$ $164.8,164.0\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=249 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 149.9,149.4,132.5\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=3 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$,), $129.1\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=9 \mathrm{~Hz},\right), 125.3,116.5\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=22 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 62.5,14.3$. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{NO}_{4} \mathrm{~F}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right)$318.1136, found 318.1138.

## Diethyl 4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1e)



Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ); colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.49(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.85(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $8.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.79(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.52(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H})$, $1.46(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 164.6$, $149.6,149.5,140.0,132.0\left(\mathrm{q}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=33 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $) 127.6,126.3\left(\mathrm{q}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=\right.$ 4 Hz, ), 125.6, $123.7\left(\mathrm{q}, J_{\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{F}}=271 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 62.5,14.2$. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{NO}_{4} \mathrm{~F}_{3}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 368.1104$, found 368.1090.

## Diethyl 4-(4-cyanophenyl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1f)



Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ); pale yellow solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.49(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $7.87-7.83(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.53(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.48(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 164.4,149.7,148.9$, $140.8,133.1,127.9,125.4,118.0,113.8,62.6,14.2$. ESIHRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{17} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right)$325.1183, found 325.1186.

Diethyl 4-(4-ethynylphenyl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1g)
Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ); colorless
 solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.49(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.73(\mathrm{~d}, J$ $=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.65(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.52(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 3.22(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.48(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 $\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 164.7,149.9,149.4,136.6,133.0,127.1,125.3$, 124.0, 82.7, 79.4, 62.5, 14.2. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{19} \mathrm{H}_{18} \mathrm{NO}_{4}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{\dagger}\right) 324.1230$, found 324.1234 .

Diethyl 4-(naphthalen-1-yl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1h)


Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ); pale yellow gum. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.42(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, 7.98-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.73 (dd, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 0.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$ ), $7.60-7.46$ $(\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 4.52(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2, \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.47(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2, \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H})$. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 164.7,151.4,148.9,135.6$, 133.7, 130.4, 129.7, 128.9, 128.7, 127.3, 127.2, 126.4, 125.3, 124.5, 62.4, 14.2. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{NO}_{4}$ $\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 350.1387$, found 350.1388 .

## Diethyl 4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1j)



Flash column chromatography (hexane $/ \mathrm{EtOAc}=7: 3$ ); colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.42(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.68(\mathrm{dd}, J$ $=3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.50(\mathrm{dd}, J=5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.18$ (dd, $J=5.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.51(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.48(\mathrm{t}$, $J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 164.7$, 149.3, 144.0, 139.4, 128.8, 128.7, 126.8, 123.5, 62.4, 14.2. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}_{4} \mathrm{~S}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 306.0795$, found 306.0797.

## Diethyl 4-cyclopentylpyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (11)

Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ); colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.13(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.47(\mathrm{q}, J$ $=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 3.17-3.08(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 2.19-2.12(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 1.92-1.81$ (m, 2H), 1.81-1.59 (m, 4H), $1.45(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 165.0,158.6,148.5,126.7,62.2$, 45.2, 34.0, 25.5, 14.2. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{NO}_{4}$ $\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 292.1543$, found 292.1545

## Diethyl 4-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-yl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1m)



Compound $\mathbf{1 m}$ was synthesized using 5 -norbornene-2carboxaldehyde (isomers mixture). Flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ); $\mathrm{dr}=1: 0.4$; colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.16(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=0.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $2 \mathrm{H} \mathrm{x} 0.4 / 1.4$ ), $8.02(\mathrm{~d}, J=0.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4), 6.33(\mathrm{dd}, J=$ $5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 1.0 / 1.4), 6.26(\mathrm{dd}, J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 6.22(\mathrm{dd}, J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4)$, $5.72(\mathrm{dd}, J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{Hx} 1.0 / 1.4), 4.48(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 4.46(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4), 3.50(\mathrm{dt}, J=9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4), 3.20-3.16(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 1.0 / 1.4)$, 3.06-3.00 (m, 1H x 1.0/1.4 + 2H x 0.4/1.4), $2.81(\mathrm{dd}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 5.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 2.26$ (ddd, $J=11.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4$ ), $1.80-1.37$ (m, $3 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4+4 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4$ ), $1.45(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 1.44(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): ~ \delta 165.13,165.10,158.5,157.3,148.6,148.1,138.4,138.0,136.7,131.9,127.6,127.1$, $62.3,62.2,50.3,48.5,47.8,45.8,43.7,43.5,43.2,42.5,33.6,32.5,14.2$. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{NO}_{4}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right)$316.1543, found 316.1548 .

## Diethyl 4-(dimethoxymethyl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (1n) ${ }^{1}$

During the synthesis of $\mathbf{1 n}$ ( $\operatorname{Rf} 0.33$, hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ), formation of diethyl 4-(dimethoxymethyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate ( $\operatorname{Rf} 0.67$, hexane/EtOAc $=7: 3$ ) was observed. The dihydropyridine derivative was easily air-oxidized by usual handling under air. When the dihydropyridine derivative was isolated by flash column chromatography and concentrated, the fractions were completely converted to $\mathbf{1 n}$ after 1day.

## A 5 mmol-Scale Reaction to Afford $\mathbf{1 g}$

To a solution of 4-ethynylbenzaldehyde ( $650.7 \mathrm{mg}, 5.00 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and ethyl pyravate ( 1.66 mL , 15.0 mmol ) in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN}(5.0 \mathrm{~mL})$, acetic acid ( $286 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 5.00 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and pyrrolidine ( $164.5 \mu \mathrm{~L}$, $2.00 \mathrm{mmol})$ were added at room temperature $\left(25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature. After $30 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{OAc}(1.16 \mathrm{~g}, 15.0 \mathrm{mmol})$ and acetic acid ( $286 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 5.00 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) were added to the mixture and the resulting mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 24 h. The mixture was poured into saturated aqueous $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$ solution and extracted with EtOAc ( $100 \mathrm{~mL} x$ 3). Organic layers were combined, dried over $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, filtered, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ) to give $\mathbf{1 g}$ ( $726.7 \mathrm{mg}, 45 \%$ ).

## 3. Transformation of 1 to 4-Substituted Pyridine-2,6-Dicarboxylic Acids 3

## General Procedure for the Hydrolysis of 1 to Afford 3 (Scheme 3)

A mixture of compound $\mathbf{1}(0.5 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 3 M KOH solution in $\mathrm{EtOH}(6.25 \mathrm{~mL})$ was refluxed for 2 h under nitrogen. ${ }^{2}$ After being cooled to room temperature, EtOH was partly evaporated under vacuum. The mixture was diluted with water and washed with $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(10 \mathrm{~mL} \times 2)$. The aqueous phase was adjusted to be pH 2.0-2.5 with aqueous HCl solution and concentrated under vacuum until solid was started to generate. The mixture was stored at $5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 14 h and generated solid was collected by filtration to give 3 .

## 4-Cyclohexylpyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid (3k)

Colorless solid. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}$ ): $\delta 8.18$ (s, 2H),
 2.83-2.74 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.86 (m, 4H), 1.83-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.60$1.43(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.41-1.28(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , $\left.\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right): \delta 167.9,162.8,149.6,126.9,45.3,34.5,27.5,26.9$. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{13} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}_{4}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 250.1074$, found 250.1075.

4-Bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-yl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid (3m)


Colorless solid, $\mathrm{dr}=1: 0.4 .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right) \delta$ 8.25 ( $\mathrm{s}, 2 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4$ ), 8.11 ( $\mathrm{s}, 2 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4$ ), 6.36 (dd, $J=5.6$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 1.0 / 1.4), 6.31$ (dd, $J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{Hx}$ $0.4 / 1.4$ ), 6.24 (dd, $J=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 0.4 / 1.4$ ), 5.74 (dd, $J$ $=5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 1.0 / 1.4), 3.62(\mathrm{dt}, J=9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$ x 1.0/1.4), $3.21-3.17(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4), 3.06-3.00(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times$ $1.0 / 1.4+2 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 2.89(\mathrm{t}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 0.4 / 1.4), 2.32$ (ddd, $J=12.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} x 1.0 / 1.4$ ), $1.80-1.76$ (m, 2H x 0.4/1.4) 1.60-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.40 (ddd, $J=12.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} \times 1.0 / 1.4) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}\right): \delta$ $167.5,167.4,161.4,160.3,148.8,148.2,139.6,138.9,137.9,132.9,128.6,128.1,51.3,49.9$, 46.6, 44.8, 44.6, 43.8, 34.7, 33.4. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{NO}_{4}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right)$260.0917, found 260.0924 .

## 4. Transformation of 1 g to 4 and 5

## Tansformation of 1 g to 4

To a solution of $\mathbf{1 g}(210.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol})$ in EtOH ( 4.0 mL ), $\mathrm{NaBH}_{4}(29.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.78 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for $2 \mathrm{~h} .^{3}$ The mixture was neutralized with 1 N HCl , and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was partitioned between saturated aqueous $\mathrm{NaHCO}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. The aqueous layer was further extracted with $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. Organic layers were combined, washed with water and brine, dried over $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=2: 3$ ) to give $4(110.0 \mathrm{mg}, 60 \%)$ as colorless solid. Starting material $1 \mathrm{~g}(60.0 \mathrm{mg}, 29 \%)$ was
recovered.

Ethyl 4-(4-ethynylphenyl)-6-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-carboxylate (4)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 8.22(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.72(\mathrm{~d}$,
 $J=1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.66(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.61(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $2 \mathrm{H}), 4.92(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.49(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.20(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.45(\mathrm{t}$, $J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 165.1,161.0$, $149.4,148.2,137.5,132.9,127.0,123.6,121.7,121.3,82.9,79.1$, 64.7, 62.1, 14.3. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{16} \mathrm{NO}_{3}\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right)$ 282.1125, found 282.1127 .

## Transformation of 4 to 5

A mixture of $4(76.9 \mathrm{mg}, 0.27 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{MnO}_{2}(235.0 \mathrm{mg}, 2.70 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(1.0 \mathrm{~mL})$ was stirred under nitrogen at room temperature $\left(25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ for 15 h . The mixture was filtered through celite and washed with $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc $=4: 1$ ) to give $5(49.0 \mathrm{mg}, 65 \%)$ as colorless solid.

## Ethyl 4-(4-ethynylphenyl)-6-formylpyridine-2-carboxylate (5)

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 10.24(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.54(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8$
 $\mathrm{Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 8.33(\mathrm{~d}, J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.72(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4, \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $7.65(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 4.56(\mathrm{q}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 3.22(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H})$, $1.49(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ): $\delta 192.7$, 164.4, 153.5, 150.1, 149.7, 136.4, 133.1, 127.1, 126.4, 124.3, 121.5, 82.7, 79.5, 62.5, 14.3. ESI-HRMS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{17} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$ $\left([\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\right) 280.0968$, found 280.0973 .

## 5. References

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