Palladium-Catalyzed Domino C,N-Coupling/Carbonylation/Suzuki Coupling Reaction: An efficient synthesis of 2-Aroyl/Heteroaroyl-Indoles

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General Remarks:

CH₂Cl₂ was dried over P₂O₅, toluene over CaH₂ and dioxane over Na/benzophenone. 2-*gem*dibromovinylanilines **1a-1g** were prepared in a two-step sequence (Ramirez olefination, reduction using SnCl₂.2H₂O) from *o*-nitrobenzaldehyde derivatives according to Fang and Lautens.¹ All others commercial reagents and solvents were used as received without additional purification. NMR spectra were recorded with a BRUCKER ACP 300 spectrometer at 300 MHz for ¹H NMR and 75 MHz for ¹³C NMR spectroscopy. Chemical shifts are given as δ values in ppm relative to the residual solvent peak (CHCl₃) as the internal reference, coupling constants are given in Hertz. All ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with complete proton decoupling. Peak assignment was unambiguously performed using HMQC, HMBC and NOESY technics. IR spectra were measured with FT-IR Perkin-Elmer spectrometer. Melting points were determined by the capillary method using an Electrothermal 9200 apparatus and are uncorrected. Mass spectra were recorded with a WATERS ZQ 2000 (ESI). High-resolution mass spectra were obtained on a Jeol 700 (DCI) or on a Waters LCT (ESI). Reactions were followed with Merck TLC silica gel 60 F₂₅₄. Flash chromatographies were carried out on Merck silica gel (320-400 mesh).

CAUTION: CO is a highly toxic odorless and colorless gas. Reactions involving Carbone Monoxide must be performed in a well ventilated hood with a Carbon Monoxide detector nearby.

¹ Fang, Y. –Q.; Lautens, M. J. Org. Chem. **2008**, 73, 538.

Synthetic Procedures

I) Synthesis of anilines

All anilines were prepared from *o*-nitrobenzaldehyde derivatives by a two-step reaction, following the procedure describe by Fang and Lautens.¹ Anilines **1c-1f** showed identical spectroscopic properties to those previously reported.¹

2-(2,2-dibromovinyl)-3-chlorobenzenamine (1b)

Aniline **1b** was obtained from 2-chloro-6-nitrobenzaldehyde as an orange oil (82 % over the 2 steps): IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3426, 3395, 1067, 1047, 1009, 2925, 1616, 1569, 1471, 1448, 1305, 1292; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.07 (td, J = 8.0, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (brs, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.8, 133.6, 133.0, 130.0, 120.5, 118.9, 113.7, 96.3; MS (ES⁺) m/z 310 (45 %), 312 (100 %), 314 (70 %), 315 (15%) [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₈H₇N³⁵Cl⁷⁹Br⁸¹Br [M+H]⁺ 311.8613, found 311.8628.

2-(2,2-dibromovinyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxyaniline (1g)

Aniline **1g** was obtained from 2,3,4-trimethoxy-6-nitrobenzaldehyde² as a brown oil (55 % over the 2 steps): IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3620, 3483, 3399, 3012, 2974, 2939, 1615, 1498, 1458, 1411, 1233, 1217, 1125 ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (s, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.65 (brs, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.4, 151.4, 139.8, 134.2, 132.4, 108.8, 95.1, 94.3, 61.2, 61.1, 55.7; MS (ES⁺) m/z 388 (55 %), 389 (100 %), 392 (45 %) [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₁H₁₄NO₃⁷⁹Br⁸¹Br [M+H]⁺ 367.9320, found 367.9319.

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² Cherkaoui, M. Z.; Scherowsky, G. New. J. Chem. **1997**, 21, 1203.

General procedure for the domino C,N-coupling/carbonylation/Suzuki coupling reaction.

The autoclave and the magnetic stirring bar were dried in an oven and then cold to room temperature under an argon atmosphere. Boronic acid (1.1 mmol), K₂CO₃ (5 mmol, flamed dried prior to use) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.05 mmol) were introduced then the autoclave was flushed with argon for 5 minutes. A degassed solution (argon bulbbing for 10 min) of aniline (1 mmol) in dry dioxane (10 mL) was added and the autoclave was flushed three times with CO and pressurized to 12 bar.

After heating for the appropriate time and temperature in an oil bath, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and then cautionary discharged of the gas excess. Reaction mixture was diluted in ethyl acetate (10 mL) and washed with water (10 mL), saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The aqueous layers were combined, saturated with NaCl, acidified (by adding HCl 1M until pH = 2) and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 20 mL). Organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduce pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography and recrystallized in the indicated solvents to give aroylindoles **2a-2t**.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2a)³

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 60 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100 %) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2a** as beige crystals (154 mg, 70%): mp 149-150 °C (lit. 147-148 °C); IR (CHCl₃, cm⁻¹) 3444, 3064, 1630, 1524, 1340, 1125; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.32 (brs, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7,72 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7,63 (tt, J = 7.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (tt, J = 6.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (td, J = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.3 138.0, 137.7, 134.4, 132.4, 129.3, 128.5, 127.7, 126.5, 123.2, 121.0, 112.9, 112.3; MS (ES⁺) m/z 244 [M+Na]⁺.

(4-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2b)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1b** (311 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane)

³ Abbiati, G.; Casoni, A.; Canevari, V.; Nava, D.; Rossi, E. *Org. Lett.* **2006**, *8*, 4839.

to afford **2b** as yellow crystals (174 mg, 68%): mp 191-192 °C; IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3437, 3053, 1633, 1566, 1518, 1336, 1247, 1131; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.66 (brs, 1H), 8.02 (dd, J = 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (td, J = 7.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.5, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.1, 138.0, 137.5, 134.5, 132.7, 129.2, 128.6, 128.4, 126.9, 120.7, 110.9, 110.7; MS (ES⁺) m/z 256 [M+H]⁺, 258 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N³⁵Cl [M+H]⁺ 256.0529, found 256.0518.

Methyl-2-(phenylcarbonyl)-1*H*-indole-5-carboxylate (2c)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1c** (335 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2c** as white crystals (140 mg, 50%): mp 201-202 °C; IR (CHCl₃,cm⁻¹) 3346, 2925, 1713, 1633, 1620, 1531, 1336, 1257; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.55 (brs, 1H), 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.1, 167.5, 139.7, 137.6, 135.5, 132.7, 129.2, 128.6, 127.3 (2C), 126.5, 123.3, 113.7, 112.0, 52.1; MS (ES⁺) m/z 280 [M+H]⁺;HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 280.0974, found 280.0974.

(5H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-f]indol-6-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2d)⁴

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1d** (321 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2d** as yellow crystals (148 mg, 56%): mp 200-201 °C (lit. 200 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3442, 3062, 2978, 2888, 1621, 1528, 1498, 1471, 1279, 1245, 1177, 1122, 1040; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.35 (brs, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 7.4, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 5.99 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.1, 149.0, 144.4, 138.3, 134.3, 133.7, 132.0, 129.1, 128.4, 122.1, 113.5, 101.2, 100.0, 92.0; MS (ES⁺) m/z 266 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 266.0817, found 266.0808.

⁴ Mali, R. S.; Tilve, S. G.; Desai, V. G. J. Chem. Res. M. P. **2000**, 150.

(5,6-dimethoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2e)⁴

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1e** (337 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 85/15) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2e** as yellow needles (155 mg, 55%): mp 181-182 °C (lit. 180 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂,cm⁻¹) 3444, 3061, 3007, 2960, 2835, 1621, 1522, 1498, 1279, 1251, 1218, 1203, 1123; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.43 (brs, 1H), 7.98 (dt, J = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (ttd, J = 7.3, 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (tt, J = 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.1, 151.2, 146.5, 138.4, 133.5, 133.4, 132.0, 129.1, 128.4, 120.9, 113.2, 102.7, 93.7, 56.1, 56.0; MS (ES⁺) m/z 282.1 [M+H]⁺ 304 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 282.1130, found 282.1139.

(5-(benzyloxy)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2f)⁵

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1f** (383 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2f** as yellow powder (240 mg, 73%): mp 190-191 °C (lit.: 187-188 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3444, 3035, 1629, 1522, 1244, 1233, 1167, 1122; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.32 (brs, 1H), 7.98 (dt, J = 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (tt, J = 7.3, 1.5, 1H), 7.53 (tt, J = 6.9, 7.3, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.07 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.0, 154.0, 138.0, 137.2, 134.8, 133.2, 132.3, 129.2, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.5, 119.0, 113.1, 112.3, 104.5, 70.7; MS (ES⁺) m/z 328 [M+H]⁺.

(4,5,6-trimethoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (2g)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1g** (367 mg, 1 mmol) and phenyl boronic acid (134 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 85 °C for 24 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 8/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2g** as yellow needles (202 mg, 65%): mp 172-173 °C; IR (CHCl₃, cm⁻¹) 3444, 3057, 2937, 2832, 1622, 1573, 1510, 1504, 1272, 1143; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.42 (brs, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.2, 155.2, 147.1, 138.2, 136.3, 135.3, 133.1, 132.1, 129.1,

⁵ Mahboobi, S.; Pongratz, H.; Hufsky, H.; Hockemeyer, J.; Frieser, M. et al. J. Med. Chem. 2001, 44, 4535.

128.4, 116.2, 111.3, 88.9, 61.5, 61.0, 56.2; MS (ES⁺) m/z 312 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for $C_{18}H_{18}NO_4$ [M+H]⁺ 312.1236, found 312.1223.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone (2h)⁶

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline 1a (277 mg, 1 mmol) and 4-methoxyphenyl boronic acid **3h** (167 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 97/3) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2h** as yellow needles (154 mg, 65%): mp 189-190 °C (lit. 190-191 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 3054, 2841, 1626, 1604, 1524, 1508, 1340, 1310, 1270, 1250, 1170, 1124, 1031; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.52 (brs, 1H), 8.05 (dt, J = 8.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (td, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, J = 7.9, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.03 (dt, J = 8.8, 1.9, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.8, 163.2, 137.3, 134.5, 131.6, 130.6, 127.8, 126.2, 123.1, 121.0, 113.8, 112.2, 111.8, 55.5; MS (ES⁺) m/z 274 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺ 252.1025, found 252.1014.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)methanone (2i)⁵

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl boronic acid **3i** (233 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 95/5) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2i** as beige needles (196 mg, 63%): mp 153-154 °C (lit. 148-150 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3442, 2941, 2839, 1625, 1582, 1522, 1503, 1464, 1413, 1340, 1328, 1220, 1129; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.22 (brs, 1H), 7.74 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.18 (td, J = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 2.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 6H);); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.1, 153.1, 142.0, 137.4, 134.2, 133.1, 127.7, 126.5, 123.2, 121.1, 112.1, 106.8, 61.0, 56.4; MS (ES⁺) m/z 312 [M+H]⁺, 334 [M+Na]⁺.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(2-methoxyphenyl)methanone (2j)⁶

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and (2-methoxy)phenyl boronic acid **3j** (167 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 95/5) and

⁶ Katritzky, A. R.; Akutagawa, K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1985, 26, 5935

recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2j** as yellow crystals (100 mg, 40%): mp 133-134 °C (lit. 129-130 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3444, 3063, 3047, 2944, 2839, 1637, 1525, 1488, 1339, 1311, 1268, 1252, 1128, 1106; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.25 (brs, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 2.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.1, 157.4, 137.7, 135.8, 132.0, 129.7, 128.1, 127.6, 126.5, 123.3, 120.9, 120.1, 113.1, 112.2, 111.6, 55.8; MS (ES⁺) m/z 252 [M+H]⁺.

(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(1*H*-indol-2-yl)methanone (2l)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and (4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl boronic acid **3l** (209 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100%) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2l** as pale yellow needles (211 mg, 73%): mp 188-189 °C; IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3442, 1635, 1524, 1408, 1325, 1270, 1244, 1172, 1126, 1066; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.39 (brs, 1H), 8.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, J = 8.4, 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.9, 141.0, 137.8, 133.9, 133.7 (32 Hz), 129.4, 127.7, 127.1, 125.5 (3.5 Hz), 123.4, 121.4, 119.9 (296 Hz), 113.4, 112.2; MS (ES⁻) m/z 288 [M-H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₉NOF₃ [M+H]⁺ 288.0636, found 288.0639.

(4-chlorophenyl)(1H-indol-2-yl)methanone $(2m)^7$

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and 4-chlorophenyl boronic acid **3m** (172 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100%) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2m** as bright yellow needles (179 mg, 70%): mp 196-197 °C (lit. 196-197 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 1630, 1591, 1523, 1340, 1312, 1264, 1250, 1124; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.28 (brs, 1H), 7.95 (dt, J = 8.7, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dt, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.8, 138.9, 137.6, 136.3, 134.0, 130.6, 128.8, 127.7, 126.8, 123.3, 121.2, 112.7,

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⁷ Takeda, Y.; Kikuchi, A.; Terashima, M. *Heterocycles*, **1993**, *35*, 573.

112.2; MS (ES⁺) m/z 278 (³⁵Cl) [M+Na]⁺ 280 (³⁷Cl) [M+Na⁺]; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₁NO³⁵Cl [M+H]⁺ 256.0529, found 256.0531.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(4-(N-methylaminocarbonyl)phenyl)methanone (2n)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and 4-(N-methylaminocarbonyl)phenyl boronic acid **3n** (197 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 1/1) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2n** as white powder (80 mg, 29%): mp 232-234 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3318, 2932, 1623, 1548, 1409, 1384, 1345, 1321, 1263, 1012; 1 H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.28 (brs, 1H), 8.0 (dt, J = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (dt, J = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 2.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (brs, 1H), 3.07 (d, 4.9 Hz, 3H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.2, 167.3, 140.3, 137.9, 137.6, 134.0, 129.4, 127.7, 127.0, 126.9, 123.4, 121.3, 113.1, 112.1, 27.0; MS (ES⁺) m/z 279 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₅N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺ 279.1134, found 279.1121.

(*E*)-1-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (20)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and (*E*)-phenylvinyl boronic acid **3o** (163 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100%) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2o** as bright yellow needles (166 mg, 67%): mp 219-220 °C; IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 3054, 1651, 1596, 1523, 1268, 1166, 1142; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.29 (brs, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.1, 143.3, 137.6, 136.5, 134.8, 130.6, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 126.5, 123.2, 121.5, 121.1, 112.2, 109.4; MS (ES⁺) m/z 248 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ 248.1075, found 248.1075.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(thiophen-3-yl)methanone (2p)³

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and thiophene-3-boronic acid **3p** (140 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2p** as beige needles (152 mg, 67%): mp 153-154 °C (lit. 140-143 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 3112, 3063, 1621, 1525, 1417, 1339, 1309, 1247; ¹H

NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.38 (brs, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 2.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 5.0, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H);); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.3, 141.0, 137.4, 134.8, 132.0, 128.1, 127.8, 126.4, 123.2, 121.1, 112.1, 111.2; MS (ES⁺) m/z 228 [M+H].

(benzofuran-2-yl)(1*H*-indol-2-yl)methanone (2q)⁸

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and benzofuran-2-boronic acid **3q** (149 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 98/2) and recrystallization (ethyl acetate) to afford **2q** as a bright yellow powder (152 mg, 58%): mp 240-241 °C (lit. 242 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3442, 3063, 1722, 1620, 1558, 1518, 1340, 1312, 1218, 1173, 1143; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.39 (brs, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dq, J = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (ddd, J = 7.9, 1.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dq, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.4, 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dq, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.0, 155.9, 152.9, 137.5, 133.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.1, 126.9, 124.0, 123.5, 123.2, 121.2, 114.2, 112.4, 112.3, 112.1; MS (ES⁻) m/z 260 [M-H]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₁NO₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 284.0687, found 284.0690.

(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(dibenzofuran-4-yl)methanone (2r)

Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and dibenzofuran-4-boronic acid **3r** (233 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100%) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2r** as a white powder (221 mg, 71%): mp 180-181 °C; IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 3065, 3046, 1638, 1620, 1522, 1415, 1340, 1312, 1270, 1264, 1189, 1137; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.55 (brs, 1H), 8.18 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (ddd, J = 7.6, 1.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (td, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dq, J = 8.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dt, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dq, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.5, 156.4, 153.7, 137.9, 135.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 126.8, 125.8, 124.1, 123.4, 123.3,

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⁸ Mahboobi, S.; Uecker, A.; Cenac, C.; Sellmer, A.; Eichhorn, E.; Elz, S.; Böhmer, F.-D.; Dove, S. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2007**, *15*, 2187.

123.2, 122.4, 121.1, 120.7, 113.5, 112.3, 112.1; MS (ES⁺) m/z 312 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd for $C_{21}H_{13}NO_2Na$ [M+Na]⁺ 334.0844, found 334.0837.

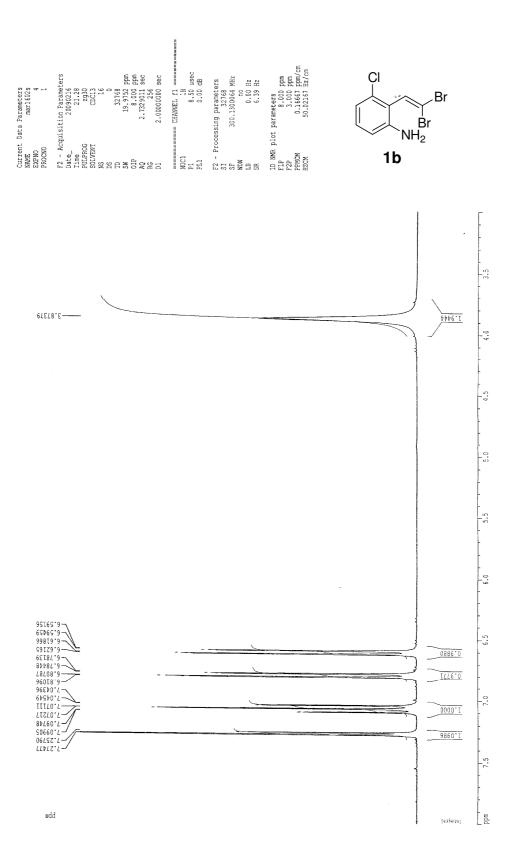
(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(isoquinolin-4-yl)methanone (2s)

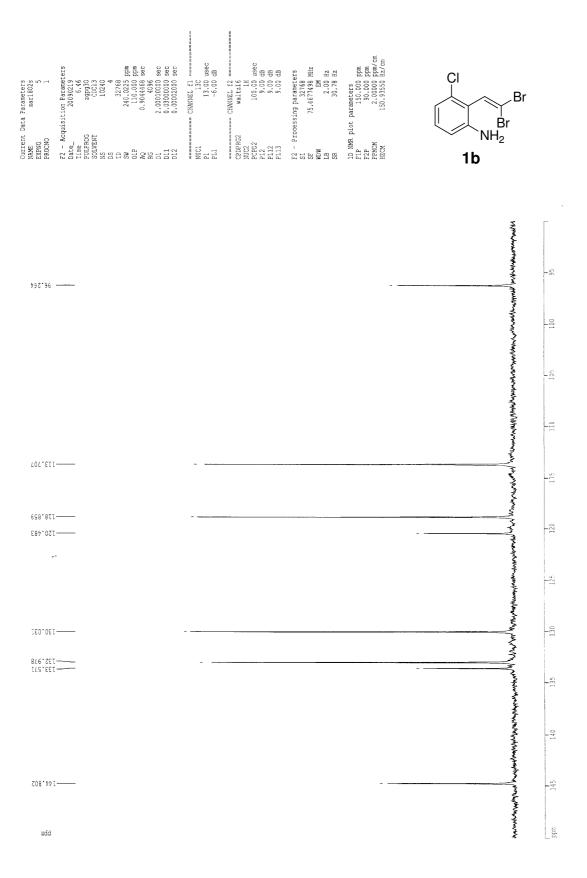
Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline 1a (277 mg, 1 mmol) and isoquinolin-3boronic acid 3s (190 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified chromatography (toluene/ethyl acetate 9/1) and recrystallization by flash (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford 2s as a yellow powder (57 mg, 21%): mp 226-227 °C; IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3442, 3045, 1632, 1523, 1340, 1270, 1261, 1136; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.42 (brs, 2H), 8.96 (s, 1H), 8.32 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.10, (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (ddd, J = 8.4, 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41(ddd, J = 8.4, 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 2.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H)1H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.4, 155.4, 143.9, 138.1, 135.6, 133.5, 131.9, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 127.2, 124.6, 123.6, 121.3, 114.2, 112.2; MS (ES⁺) m/z $273[M+H]^{+}$; HRMS calcd for $C_{18}H_{13}N_{2}O[M+H]^{+}$ 273.1028, found 273.1021.

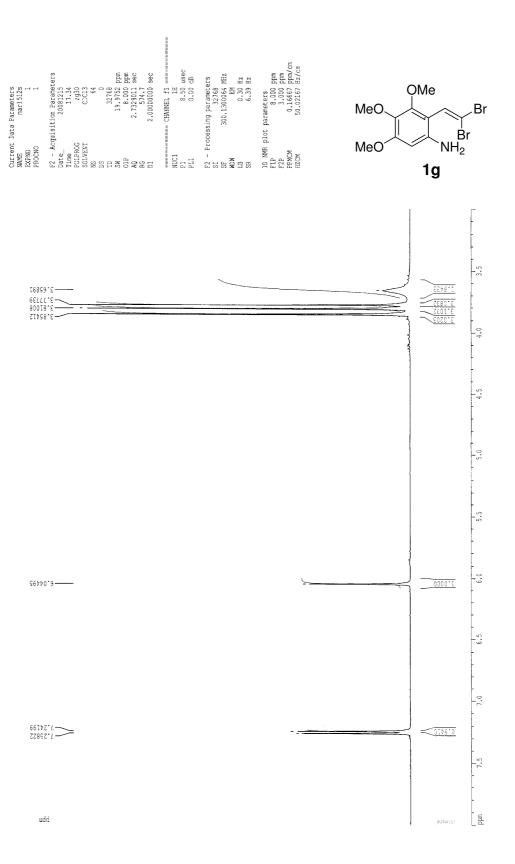
(1*H*-indol-2-yl)(naphthalen-3-yl)methanone (2t)⁹

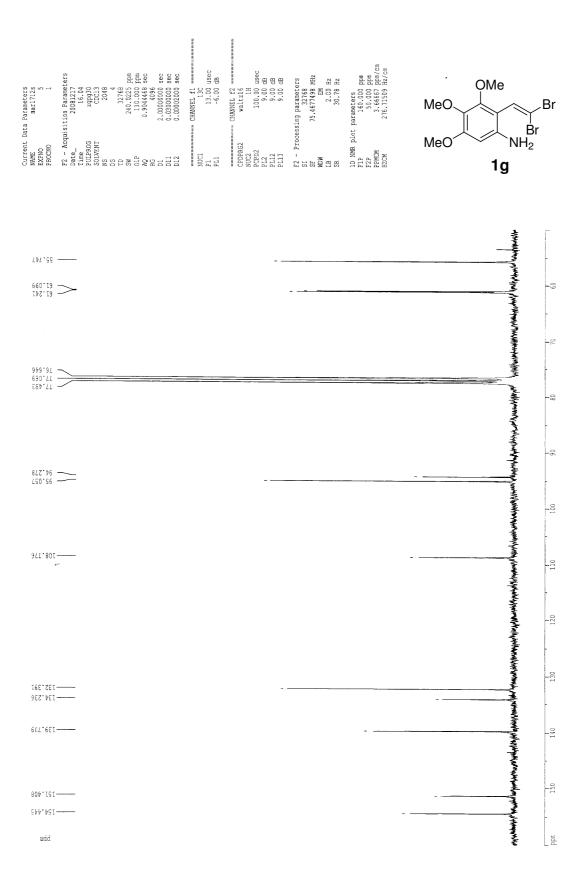
Following general procedure, a mixture of aniline **1a** (277 mg, 1 mmol) and 2-naphtalene boronic acid **3t** (209 mg, 1.1 mmol) was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (toluene 100%) and recrystallization (dichloromethane/hexane) to afford **2t** as pale yellow needles (190 mg, 70%): mp 174-175 °C (lit. 165 °C); IR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹) 3443, 3061, 1621, 1523, 1339, 1310, 1263, 1228, 1181, 1132; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.41 (brs, 1H),8.55 (s, 1H), 8.05 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.00-7.92 (m, 3H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.51 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (ddd, J = 8.3, 8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 8.1, 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.1, 137.5, 135.3, 134.5, 132.4, 130.6, 129.4, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 126.9, 126.6, 125.3, 123.3, 121.1, 112.8, 112.2; MS (ES⁺) m/z 272 [M+H]⁺, 310 [M+K]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ 272.1075, found 272.1074.

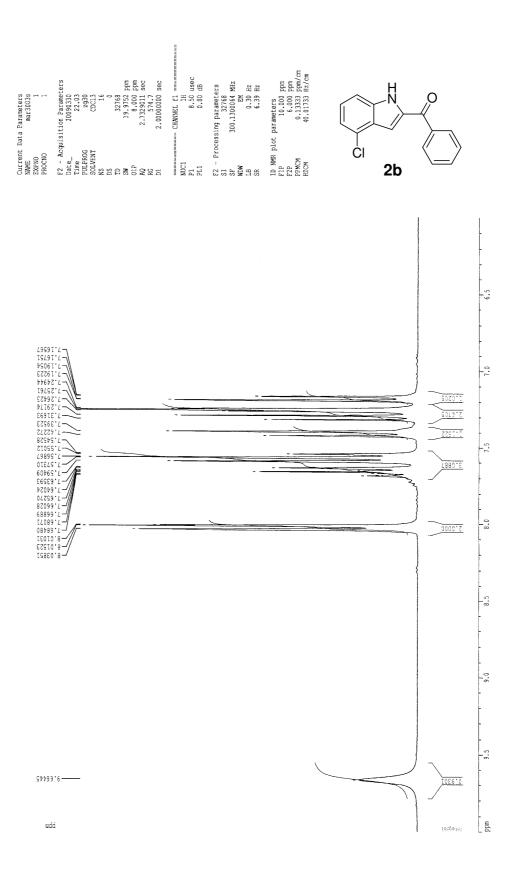
⁹ Kar, S.; Lahiri, S. J. Indian. Chem. Soc. **1999**, 76, 607.

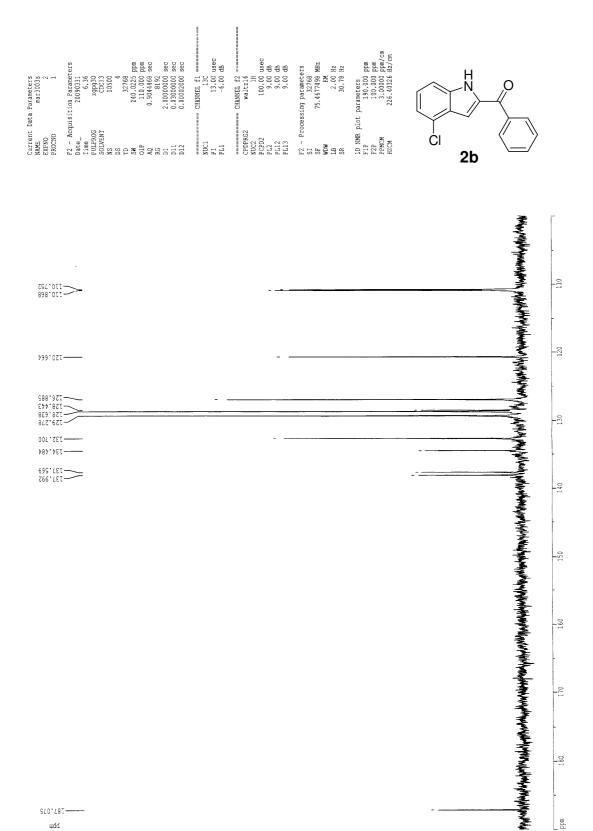












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