An Efficient Approach to 1,2,3-Trisubstituted Indole Via Rhodium

Catalyzed Carbene C_{sp3}-H Bond Insertion

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General information and materials

¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker AV-400 / AV-500 spectrometers in CDCl₃. The data are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm from internal tetramethylsilane on the δ scale, multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. High-resolution mass spectral analysis (HRMS) data were recorded by ElectroSpray Ionization (ESI). The parent ions [M + H]⁺, [M + Na]⁺ or [M + K]⁺ are quoted. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on 0.25 mm extra hard silica gel plates with UV254 fluorescent indicator and/or by exposure to phosphormolybdic acid/cerium (IV) sulfate/ ninhydrine followed by brief heating with a heat gun. Liquid chromatography (flash chromatography) was performed on 60Å (40 – 60 µm) mesh silica gel (SiO₂). All reactions were carried out with anhydrous solvents in oven-dried glassware, unless otherwise noted. All reagents were commercially obtained and, where appropriate, purified prior to use.

I. Preparation of Triazole Substrates

A. Alkyne Synthesis



Alkyne S3. To a solution of S1 (2.19 g, 10 mmol) in dry MeCN was added bromo alkyne (1.3 g, 11 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (1.6 g, 12 mmol) under nitrogen. The resulting mixture was heated to reflux overnight. The mixture was cooled to rt before quenched with H₂O (5 ml). The resulting two phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (8 ml) for three times. The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. Filtration and evaporation led to a residue. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography on silica gel using PE/EA as the eluent provided the desired product S2: 2.7 g, colorless oil, 90%.¹

To a solution of the above prepared **S2** (2.7 g, 9 mmol) in Et₃N (20 ml) under nitrogen were added TMS-acetylene (1 g, 11 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄Cl₂ (315 mg, 0.45 mmol) and CuI (171mg, 0.9mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. Et₂O (20 ml) and 1 N aqueous HCl (15 ml) were added, then the organic layer was separated, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, then evaporated. The residue was dissolved in MeOH (25 mL). KF (2.8 g, 30 mmol) was then added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 12 h, the organic layer was separated, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated followed by a silica gel column chromatography to afford terminal alkyne **S3**: 1.59 g, 90%, yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.22-6.87 (m, 3H), 5.86 (m, 2H), 5.20(d, J = 15.5 Hz, 2H), 5.17 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 4H), 3.37 (s, 1H). The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.²



Alkyne S6 was prepared from S4, which were prepared following the method reported by Nakamura and co-workers³, by Sonogashira coupling followed by allylation with similar procedures as S3.



Alkyne S9 was prepared from S8, which were prepared following the method reported by Swamy and co-workers⁴, by allylation with similar procedures as S3.



Alkyne S13 was prepared from S11, which was prepared following the method reported by Roman and co-workers⁵, by Sonogashira coupling followed by allylation with similar procedures as S3.



Alkynes S16 were prepared from S15, which were prepared following the method reported by Zhu and co-workers⁶, by Sonogashira coupling with similar procedures as S3.



Alkynes S20 were also prepared by reductive amination⁵ and Sonogashira coupling² following the similar methods reported in literatures.



Alkyne S24 was prepared by aromatic substitution⁷ and Ohira-Bestmann homologation⁸ following the methods reported in literatures.

B. Typical Procedure for Triazoles



CuTc (95.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) and TsN₃ (1.09 g, 5.5 mmol) were successively added to a solution of N-allyl-N-benzyl-2-ethynylaniline **S12** (1.23 g, 5.0 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) in a 50 mL flask equipped with a stirrer bar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The resulting mixture was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl aq solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using PE/EA (7:1) as the eluent to give triazole **3d** as a white solid (1.95 g, 88%), mp = 140-143°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.18-7.10 (m, 4H), 5.84 – 5.66 (m, 1H), 5.15 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 5.11(d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 3.41 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.6, 147.2, 144.7, 137.3, 133.7, 133.4, 130.5, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 127.3, 125.2, 124.5, 123.6, 122.1, 118.8, 56.8, 55.9, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₅N₄O₂S⁺([M+H]⁺): 445.1693. Found: 445.1698.

C. Triazoles

The following triazoles were prepared from the above corresponding alkynes following the typical procedure.





3b: 91%, white solid, mp = 79-82°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.14 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 5.75 (m, 1H), 5.18-5.13 (m, 2H), 3.42 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.2, 144.7,

134.5, 133.4, 130.4, 129.5, 129.2, 128.6, 124.3, 124.1, 122.1, 121.2, 118.3, 59.7, 41.1, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₉H₂₁N₄O₂S⁺([M+H]⁺): 369.1380. Found: 369.1382.



3c: 91%; white solid, mp = 120-123°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.87 (s, 1H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 7.9,1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz 1H), 5.41 (m, 1H), 4.89-4.82 (m, 2H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.3, 144.3, 143.8, 136.5, 135.2, 133.4, 131.3, 131.3, 130.5, 129.8, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 123.1, 120.2, 54.9, 21.8, 21.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₅N₄O₄S₂+([M + H]⁺): 509.1312. Found: 509.1315.



3e: red oil, 40%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 7H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.07 (m, 4H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.7, 147.2, 144.8, 137.0, 133.5, 130.5, 129.4, 129.3, 128.6, 128.3, 127.4, 127.1, 124.9, 124.4, 124.0, 122.1, 56.8, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₉H₂₇N₄O₂S⁺([M + H]⁺): 495.1849. Found: 495.1843.



3f: red oil, 30%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 6H), 7.02-6.95 (m, 5H), 6.81 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 4H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.1, 146.1, 144.8, 137.1, 134.0, 133. 5, 130.4, 129.9, 129.6, 129.3, 128.5, 128.3, 127.3, 124.7, 123.9, 122.1, 57.1, 21.9, 20.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₃₀H₂₉N₄O₂S⁺([M + H]⁺): 509.2006. Found: 509.2007



3g: red oil, 28%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.92 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.10 (m, 10H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.87 – 6.79 (m, 1H), 3.99 (s, 4H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.5, 147.1, 144.4, 141.5, 137.1, 133.5, 130.4, 129.4, 128. 6, 128.2, 127.3, 126.6, 125.6, 122.5, 115.7, 112.6, 57.9, 55.6, 21.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₃₀H₂₉N₄O₃S⁺([M + H]⁺): 525.1955. Found: 525.1957.



3h: red oil, 29%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.17-7.07 (m, 5H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 4H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.3, 147.0, 143.6, 136.6, 133.3, 130.5, 129.9, 129.2, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6, 126.7, 125.5, 122.5, 57.0, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₉H₂₆N₄O₂SCl⁺([M + H]⁺): 529.1460. Found: 529.1458.



3i: red oil, 26%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.93 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.95 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 6H), 7.10 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 6.97 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 3.99 (s, 4H), 2.44 (s, 3H).¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.84, 158.42, 147.35, 144.31, 143.55, 136.66, 133.33, 130.52, 129.38, 128.61, 128.36, 126.0 (d, *J*_{CF} = 8.51 Hz), 125.96, 122.61, 115.8 (d, *J*_{CF} = 22.2 Hz), 115.4 (d, *J*_{CF} = 24.3 Hz), 57.55, 21.87. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₉H₂₆N₄O₂SF⁺([M + H]⁺): 513.1755. Found: 513.1759.



3j: 88%, white solid, mp = 91-94°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 6H), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.9, 147.2, 144.7, 137.6, 133.4, 130.5, 129.7, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.4, 124.4, 124.2, 122.2, 121.6, 60.6, 41.8, 21.9.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{23}H_{23}N_4O_2S^+$ ([M +H]⁺): 419.1536. Found: 419.1540.



3k: 89%, white solid, mp = 116-119°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.0, 147.2, 144.7, 136.9, 134.5, 133.5, 130.5, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.5, 124.4, 124.2, 122.2, 121.7, 60.3, 41.7, 21.9, 21.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₄H₂₅N₄O₂S⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 433.1693. Found: 433.1685.



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31: 92%, white solid, mp = 120-122°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.16 (m,3H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.5, 147.1, 144.4, 141.5, 137.1, 133.5, 130.4, 129.4, 128.6, 128.3, 127.3, 126.6, 125.6, 122.5, 115.7, 112.6, 57.9, 55.6, 41.6, 21.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₄H₂₅N₄O₃S⁺ ([M + H]⁺): 449.1642. Found: 449.1645.



3m: 91%, white solid, mp = 130-132°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.74 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.4, 147.3, 144.6, 135.9, 133.3, 133.1, 130.5, 130.2, 129.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 124.4, 122.0, 121.6, 59.9, 41.8, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₃H₂₂ClN₄O₂S⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 453.1147. Found: 453.1136.



3m: 71%, white solid, mp = 110-112°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.9, 147.4, 144.5, 143.0, 133.1, 132.2, 130.5, 129.8, 129.5, 129.3, 128.6, 124.6, 124.4, 121.9, 121. 5, 118.8, 111.2, 60.2, 42.2, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₂N₅O₂S⁺ ([M+H]⁺):444.1489.Found: 444.1491.



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3o: 65%, white solid, mp = 97-99°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.17 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 7.88 (m, 4H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.11 (m, 4H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.9, 150.3, 147.3, 144.5, 142.8, 133.3, 130.5, 129.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 124.4, 124.4, 121.9, 121.5, 60.3, 52.3, 42.1, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₅N₄O₄S⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 447.1591. Found: 447.1590.



3р

3p: 45%, white solid, mp = 111-113°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.50 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.26 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.4, 146.9, 144.5,134.1, 133.6, 133.2, 132.1, 130.2, 129.9, 129.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 126.3, 125.9, 125.3, 124.4, 124.3, 124.2, 122.4, 121.0, 57.9, 42.9, 21.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₇H₂₅N₄O₂S⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 469.1693. Found: 469.1690.



3q

3q: yellow oil, 25%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.58 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.19 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.5, 144.8, 134.6, 134.0, 130.1, 129.2, 129.2, 126.7, 126.1, 125.9, 124.4, 124.2, 121.9, 120.8, 55.1, 50.1, 42.6, 29.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₈H₁₉N₄O₂S⁺([M+H]⁺): 355.1223. Found: 355.1226.

II. Syntesis of Tricyclic Aldehyde 7a



CuTc (95.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) and TsN₃ (1.09 g, 5.5 mmol) were successively added to a solution of N,N-diallyl-2-ethynylaniline S3 (985 mg, 5.0 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) in a 50 mL flask equipped with a stirrer bar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. Then Rh₂(OAc)₄ (28 mg, 2 mol%) were added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 80 °C under nitrogen. Then it was cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with methanol (4 mL), then K₂CO₃ (2.72 g, 20mmol) was added to the mixture. The new reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. Then the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using PE/EA as the eluent to give aldehyde 7a: 630 mg, 60%, amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.79 (s, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.78 (m, 1H), 6.70 (d, J =8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (m, 1H), 5.27–5.21 (m, 1H), 5.20-5.19 (m, 1H), 4.00–3.89 (m, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.36-3.24 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.41 (m, 1H), 1.83 (dd, J = 8.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H),1.76 (dd, J = 6.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.3, 143.1, 133.2, 127.8, 127.3, 121.6, 118.0, 117. 7, 112.6, 53.5, 45.2, 32.1, 31.7, 19.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z for $C_{14}H_{16}NO^+$ ([M + H]⁺): 214.1226. Found: 214.1227.

III. Synthesis of 3-Formyl Indole and Benzofuran from Triazoles A. Typical Procedure



Triazole **3d**(177 mg, 0.4 mmol) and Rh₂(OAc)₄ (3 mg, 2 mol%) were added to a 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a stirrer bar, then 4 mL of toluene was added to the flask. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 85 °C under nitrogen. Then it was cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with methanol (4 mL), then K₂CO₃ (220 mg, 1.6 mmol) was added to the mixture. The new reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. Then the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using PE/EA as the eluent to give aldehyde **4d**: 49 mg, 47%, white solid, mp = 133-135°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.49 – 8.40 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.02 – 5.86 (m, 1H), 5.24 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.74 – 4.54 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.7, 151.7, 136.8, 132.4, 130.8, 130.1, 128.7, 128.5, 125.3, 124.2, 123.4, 122.3, 117.6, 116.0, 110.6, 46.6. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.

B. 3-Formyl Indoles 4e-4n and Benzofuran 4o



4e: 65%, white solid, mp = 155-157°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 5H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.00 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.29 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.8, 152.0, 136.9, 136.4, 130.8, 130.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 126.0, 125.5, 124.3, 123.5, 122.3, 116.2 110.9, 47.8. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.⁶



4f: yellow oil, 72%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.54 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.11-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.97-6.95 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.8, 152.0, 136.5, 135.3, 133.4, 130.8, 130.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.0, 125.8, 125.7, 122.1, 115.8, 110.5, 47.9, 21.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₃H₂₀NO⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 326.1539. Found: 326.1544.



4g: yellow oil, 74%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.75 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.40 (m, 5H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.9, 157.0, 151.6, 136.5, 131.7, 130.8, 129.9, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.3, 126.0, 116.1, 114.6, 111.7, 103.5, 55.9, 47.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₃H₂₀NO₂⁺ ([M + H]⁺):342.1489.Found:342.1484.



4h

4h: yellow oil, 55%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.99 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 5.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.5, 152.4, 136.0, 135.3, 130.7, 130.3, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 127.9, 126.5, 125.9, 124.6, 121.8, 115.6, 111.9, 47.9. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.⁶



4i: yellow oil, 52%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.73 (s, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 9.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.13 (dd, J = 8.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 – 6.94 (m, 3H), 5.27 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.6, 161.3, 158.9, 152.7, 136.1, 133.4, 130.7, 130. 3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 125.9, 116.2(d, $J_{CF} = 2.4$ Hz), 112.5(d, $J_{CF} = 26.1$ Hz), 111.7(d, $J_{CF} = 9.6$ Hz), 107.7(d, $J_{CF} = 24.7$ Hz), 48.2. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.⁶



4j: 38%, white solid, mp = 112-115°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.44-8.42 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.6, 151.7, 137.4, 130.9, 129.9, 128.7, 128.6, 125.2, 124.1, 123.4, 122.2, 115.7, 109.9, 31.1. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.¹⁰



4k: 47%, white solid, mp = 130-132°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.49 – 8.35 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.29 (m, 7H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.7, 151.9, 140.1, 137.4, 130.8, 129.4, 125.6, 125.3, 123.9, 123.3, 122.1, 115.6, 109.8, 31.0, 21.5. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.¹¹



4I: 55%, white solid, mp = 127-129°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.48 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.6, 160.9, 151.8, 137.4, 132.3, 125.3, 123.9, 123.2, 122.0, 120.5, 115.6, 114.2, 109.9, 55.5, 31.0. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.¹¹



4m: 33%, white solid, mp = 142-144°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.47 – 8.36 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 3.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.1, 149.9, 137.4, 136.4, 132.2, 129.1, 127.1, 125.1, 124.3, 123.5, 122.2, 115.9, 109.9, 31.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₆H₁₃ClNO⁺([M+H]⁺): 270.0680. Found: 270.0681.



4n: 32%, white solid, mp = 122-124°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.7, 148.1, 137.6, 133.4, 132.4, 131.7, 125.1, 124.8, 123.8, 122.4, 118.0, 116.2, 113.9, 110.0, 31.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₇H₁₃N₂O⁺([M+H]⁺): 261.1022. Found: 261.1019.



4o: 25%, white solid, mp = 108-110°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.74 (s, 1H), 8.50 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 8.28 – 8.17 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.2, 166.3, 149.7, 137.5, 133.2, 131.4, 131.0, 129.8, 125.1, 124.4, 123.6, 122.3, 116.1, 109.9, 52.6, 31.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₁₈H₁₆NO₃⁺([M+H]⁺): 294.1125. Found: 294.1126.



4p: 63%, white solid, mp = 118-120°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.60 (s, 1H), 8.57 – 8.44 (m, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.50 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 3.50 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.5, 150.2, 137.5, 133.5, 132.8, 130.6, 130.2, 128.7, 127.6, 126.8, 126.2, 125.4, 125.3, 125.1, 124.1, 123.4, 122.3, 117.0, 109.9, 31.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z for C₂₀H₁₆NO⁺([M+H]⁺): 286.1226. Found: 286.1225.





4q: 61%, white solid, mp = 120-123°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.51 (s, 1H), 8.53 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.96-7.93 (m, 1H), 7.46–7.27 (m, 6H), 4.31–4.14 (m, 2H), 3.17 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.6, 143.1, 135.8, 135.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 127.1, 126. 7, 124.0, 123.3, 122.4, 113.4, 109.2, 40.1, 29.2. The ¹H NMR matches the reported literature.¹²

IV Monitoring the reaction of triazole 3p via proton NMR.

Triazole **3p** (30 mg, 0.04 mmol) and $Rh_2(OAc)_4$ (0.6 mg, 2 mol%) were added to a NMR tube, then 0.4ml of CDCl₃ was added to the tube. The tube was capped with a

small plug and the solution was bubbled with nitrogen for 20 minutes. Then the NMR tube was heated at 80 °C for 2 hours and then subjected to NMR experiment at room temperature; after that, the reaction was heated to 80 °C for 3 hours before a second NMR experiment. The resulting residue was directly purified by a short silica gel using PE/EA (4:1) as the eluent to give the semi-purified product **6p** (20mg). These NMR spectra were shown below.



11.5 11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 5.5 5.0 4.0 3.5 2.5 1.0 0.5 6.0 f1 (ppm) 4.5 3.0

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VII. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds





























































150. 4 128. 4 5 128.









100 90 80 70 f1 (ppm)

20 10





сно 4f



































200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0









200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 f1 (ppm)















