

# Condensation of Anthranilic Acids with Pyridines to Pyridoquinazolones via Pyridines Dearomatization

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## General Comments

All reactions were carried out under dry O<sub>2</sub> or dry air with dry solvents under anhydrous conditions unless otherwise noted. 4-Aminobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid,<sup>1</sup> 2-amino-4-benzyloxy -5-methoxybenzoic acid,<sup>1</sup> substituted carboline<sup>2</sup> and substituted 3,4-dihydro-β-carboline<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to the reported procedures. All other reagents used for experiments were purchased from Alfa Aesar, TCI, Sigma-Aldrich Co. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> under nitrogen and stored under nitrogen. NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AVANCE 400 (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR; 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C NMR; 377 MHz for <sup>19</sup>F NMR) spectrometer. HRMS were obtained on an Agilent Technologies 6224 TOF LC/MS equipped with an ESI source or HEXIN 10000 TOF-MS equipped with an API source.

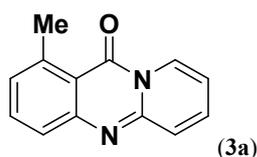
## General Experimental Procedure

For compounds 3a-n and 4a-u: A 25 mL of Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with 2-amino-6-methyl-benzoic acid (60.5 mg, 0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol, 2.0 equiv), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol, 9.0 equiv), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL), was added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes, Then, the tube was evacuated and refilled with O<sub>2</sub> for three times. Finally, the septum was replaced with a Teflon screwcap under O<sub>2</sub> flow. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to provide the corresponding product.

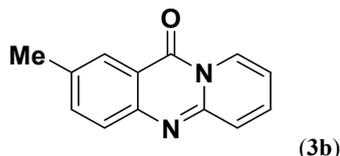
For compounds 5a-r: A 25 mL of Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (70.9 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-6-methoxy-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (60.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml) was added in turn to the Schlenk tube through the rubber septum using syringes. Then, the tube was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the

reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure., The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to provide the corresponding product.

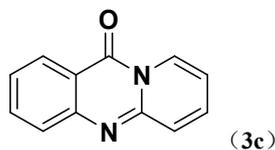
## The Characterization of Products



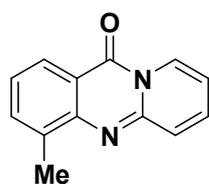
**1-Methyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3a):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (73.9 mg, 88% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.90, 150.00, 147.54, 141.53, 134.10, 134.04, 127.45, 126.52, 125.98, 125.00, 115.03, 112.11, 23.63; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.08659, found 211.08626.



**2-Methyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3b):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (77.3 mg, 92% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : δ 8.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.72-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : δ 158.89, 147.12, 146.68, 136.92, 135.38, 133.51, 126.72, 126.63, 126.32, 126.22, 116.04, 112.31, 21.37; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.08659, found 211.08620.

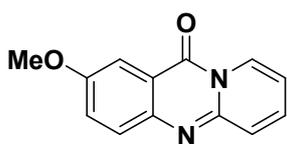


**11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3c):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (54.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (55.7 mg, 71% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 2H), 6.88-6.86 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.99, 148.57, 147.69, 135.05, 134.07, 127.29, 126.89, 126.69, 126.34, 125.20, 116.28, 112.47; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 197.07094, found 197.07043.



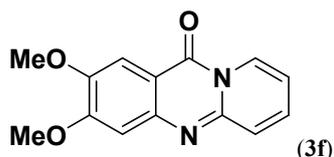
(3d)

**4-Methyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3d):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-3-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (50.4 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.83 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.2 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.30, 147.3, 146.64, 135.35, 135.03, 133.35, 126.88, 125.50, 124.89, 124.74, 116.19, 112.35, 17.66; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.08659, found 211.08624.

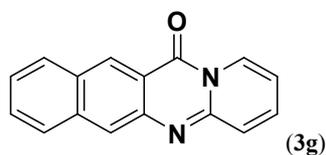


(3e)

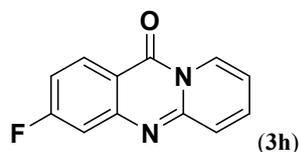
**2-Methoxy-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3e):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-3-methoxybenzoic acid (66.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (65.1 mg, 72% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 3H), 6.83-6.79 (m, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.57, 157.29, 145.98, 143.63, 132.74, 128.62, 126.70, 126.35, 126.33, 116.80, 112.50, 105.07, 55.80; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 227.08150, found 227.08104.



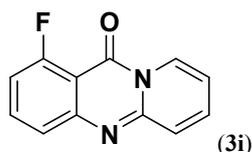
**2,3-Dimethoxy-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3f):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethylbenzoic acid (78.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (82.9 mg, 81% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.91(d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.48 (s, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.89-6.86 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 157.82, 156.24, 148.60, 146.86, 145.54, 133.19, 126.58, 125.87, 112.35, 109.81, 106.46, 105.16, 56.34, 56.31; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 257.09207, found: 257.09161.



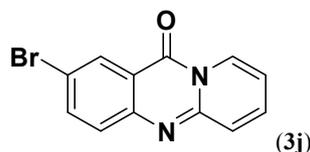
**12H-Benzo[g]pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-12-one (3g):** Following the general procedure with 3-amino-2-naphthoic acid (74.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (73.8 mg, 75% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.11 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.01(d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.42 (m, 2H), 6.73 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.86, 147.13, 143.49, 137.34, 133.65, 130.62, 129.37, 129.00, 128.59, 127.77, 126.52, 126.34, 125.64, 123.89, 116.28, 111.32; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 247.08659, found 247.08618.



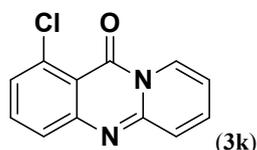
**3-Fluoro-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3h):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4-fluorobenzoic acid (62.0 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (40.2 mg, 47% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.47 (m, 3H), 6.90-6.86 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 160.89, 158.36, 147.03, 145.40, 133.83, 129.48, 126.39, 124.53, 124.29, 116.98, 112.82, 111.29, 111.06; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub> N<sub>2</sub>OF [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215. 06152, found 215.06108.



**1-Fluoro-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3i):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-fluorobenzoic acid (62.0 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (59.9 mg, 70% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.96, 160.31, 150.41, 148.41, 135.19, 135.09, 126.58, 126.11, 122.75, 112.79, 110.87, 110.67; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215.06152, found 215.06111.

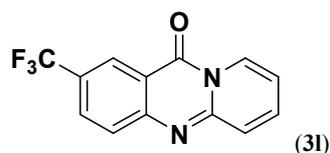


**2-Bromo-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3j):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-bromobenzoic acid (86.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (60.3 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.49 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.89 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 157.82, 147.79, 147.26, 138.17, 134.47, 129.45, 128.74, 126.70, 126.36, 118.25, 117.34, 112.96; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OBr [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 274.98145, found 274.98114.

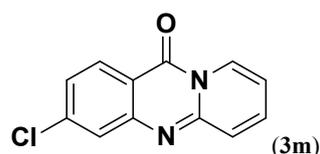


**1-Chloro-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3k):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-chlorobenzoic acid (68.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (55.2 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.90 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 156.87, 150.82, 148.10, 135.03, 134.39, 134.10, 127.51, 126.47, 126.20, 126.02, 113.41, 112.86; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OCl

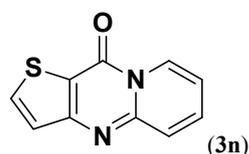
[M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.03197, found: 231.03163.



**2-Trifluoromethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (31):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-trifluoromethylbenzoic acid (82.0 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (52.8 mg, 50% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04-8.03 (m, 3H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01(d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 157.90, 157.61, 153.69, 148.79, 132.74, 132.72, 128.01, 126.42, 126.39, 124.98, 124.95, 117.57, 106.83; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 265.05832, found 265.05780.

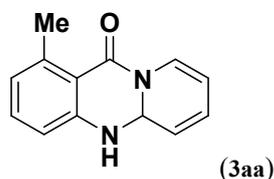


**3-Chloro-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (3m):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4-chlorobenzoic acid (68.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (40.5 mg, 44% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 8.78 (dd, *J* = 4.0 and 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.37, 149.10, 148.58, 141.51 135.11, 128.73, 126.71, 125.99, 125.85, 114.40, 113.04; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OCl [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.03197, found: 231.03171.

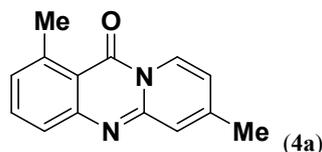


**10-Oxo-10H-pyrido[1,2-a]thieno[3,2-d]pyrimidine (3n):** Following the general procedure with 3-Amino-2-thiopheneacetic acid (57.2 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (34.8 mg, 43% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.5 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.7.98 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz,

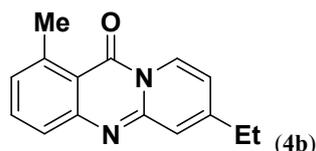
1H), 7.43(d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.06(d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  157.90, 154.43, 149.09, 136.62, 134.29, 126.39, 126.11, 124.89, 115.49, 113.66; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd.for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{N}_2\text{OS}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  203.02736, found: 203.02678.



**1-methyl-5H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11(5aH)-one (3aa):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridine (0.29 mL, 3.6 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under argon gas. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ =100:20) to afford a yellow solid (61.9 mg, 73% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(500MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.25-7.21(m, 2H), 7.15(d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.71(d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.63(d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.10-6.06(m, 1H), 6.56-6.51(m, 2H), 6.30-6.27(m, 1H), 2.54(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(125MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  161.40, 148.07, 141.87, 133.87, 123.66, 123.46, 122.42, 119.04, 114.02, 113.82, 103.66, 66.19, 22.67; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd.for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  213.10224, found 213.10167.

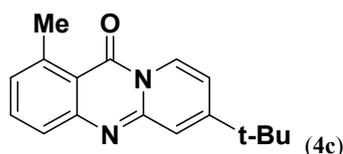


**1,7-Dimethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4a):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-methylpyridine (111.6 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm  $\text{O}_2$ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane:  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 = 100:10$ ) to afford a yellow solid (65.4 mg, 73% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 6.61 (dd,  $J = 4.0$  and 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  158.98, 150.37, 147.68, 145.79, 141.53, 134.08, 127.01, 125.79, 124.82, 123.34, 115.21, 114.77, 23.66, 21.35; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd.for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  225.10224, found 225.10188.

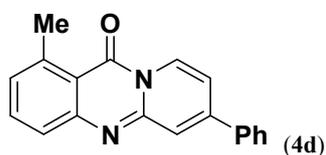


**1-Methyl-7-ethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4b):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-ethylpyridine (128.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm  $\text{O}_2$ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$

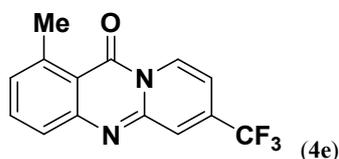
(20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (68.5 mg, 72% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (dd, *J* = 4.0 and 8.0Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.67(q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.01, 151.25, 150.46, 147.91, 141.50, 134.01, 126.96, 125.88, 124.85, 121.77, 114.81, 114.25, 28.17, 23.60, 12.87; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 239.11789, found 239.11739.



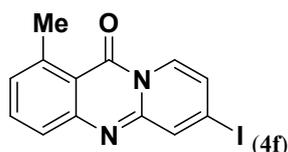
**1-Methyl-7-tert-Butyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4c):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-tert-butylpyridine (0.2 mL, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (60.6 mg, 57% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.75 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.8 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.95, 158.02, 150.52, 148.04, 141.50, 134.04, 126.99, 125.89, 124.78, 119.80, 114.8, 111.94, 35.11, 29.66, 29.45, 23.72, 23.54; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 267.14919, found 267.14862.



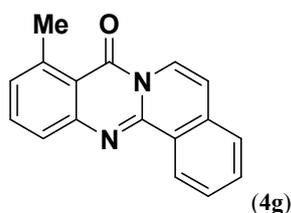
**1-Methyl-7-phenyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4d):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-phenylpyridine (186.3 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (62.9 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.89 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.66-7.61 (m, 3H), 7.52-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.95, 150.53, 147.91, 146.04, 141.68, 136.42, 134.25, 129.83, 129.28, 127.40, 126.84 126.78, 125.01, 121.68, 115.03, 111.98, 23.65; HRMS(ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 287.11789, found 287.11728.



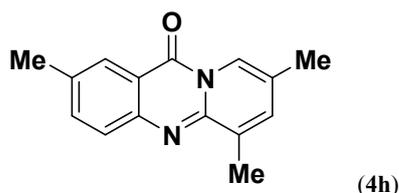
**1-Methyl-7-trifluoromethyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (4e):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-trifluoromethylpyridine (0.2 mL, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (55.6 mg, 50% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.34, 149.56, 145.87, 141.84, 134.60, 128.84, 128.46, 125.53, 124.69, 124.64, 115.63, 106.86, 106.83, 23.52; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 279.07397, found 279.07339.



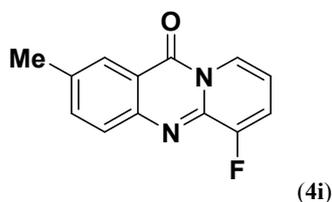
**1-Methyl-7-iodo-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (4f):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-iodopyridine (164.0 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (84.7 mg, 63% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.70, 149.78, 146.76, 141.82, 134.68, 134.53, 128.06, 126.47, 125.28, 120.93, 115.24, 102.64, 23.55; HRMS(ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OI [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 336.98323, found 336.98248.



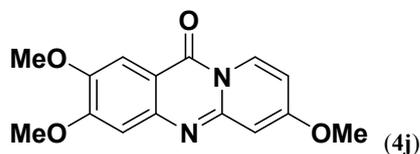
**1-Methyl-8*H*-isoquinolino[1,2-*b*]quinazolin-8-one (4g):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), isoquinoline (103.2 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>=100:10) to afford a yellow solid (57.2 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.54 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.49, 148.92, 145.80, 141.48, 133.80, 132.87, 131.94, 128.22, 128.13, 127.28, 127.01, 126.22, 125.71, 121.72, 116.37, 112.69, 23.56; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 261.10224, found 261.10190.



**2,6,8-Trimethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4h):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 3,5-dimethylpyridine (128.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (67.6 mg, 71% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.60 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.20, 146.30, 146.23, 136.32, 135.17, 134.92, 133.73, 127.19, 126.04, 121.69, 121.51, 115.79, 21.36, 18.41, 18.32; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 239.11789 C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O, found 239.11736.

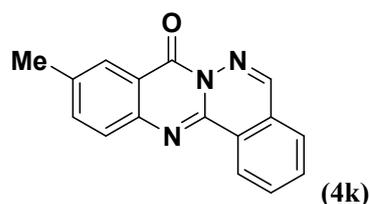


**2-Methyl-6-fluoro-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4i):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 3-fluoropyridine (349.2 mg, 3.6 mmol), and EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (50.2 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.73 (m, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.36, 155.31, 152.75, 145.60, 137.19, 136.49, 126.92, 126.32, 122.77, 116.40, 114.40, 109.85, 21.41; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 229.07717, found: 229.07687.

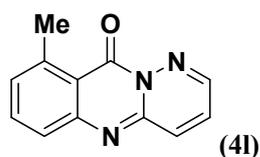


**2,3,7-Trimethoxy-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4j):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (78.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-methoxypyridine (87.2 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (52.6 mg, 46% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.58 (m, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H);

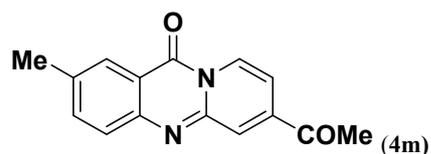
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  163.11, 157.89, 156.31, 148.87, 147.78, 146.36, 126.79, 108.78, 108.72, 105.92, 105.35, 100.01, 56.26, 56.26, 56.01; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  287.10263, found 287.10205.



**9-methyl-8H-phthalazino[1,2-b]quinazolin-8-one (4q):** Following the general procedure with 2-amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), phthalazine (104.0mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm  $\text{O}_2$ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate=100:40) to afford a yellow solid (55.3 mg, 53% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  8.92 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.88 (t,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.83 (t,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  159.08, 145.31, 144.59, 142.57, 136.77, 136.51, 133.34, 132.74, 129.13, 127.30, 127.12, 127.07, 126.01, 124.96, 120.00, 21.41; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  262.09804, found 262.09598.

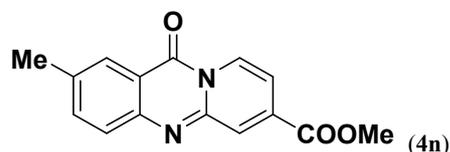


**9-methyl-10H-pyridazino[6,1-b]quinazolin-10-one (4r):** Following the general procedure with 2-amino-6-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), pyridazine (64.0 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm  $\text{O}_2$ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate=100:40) to afford a yellow solid (38.8 mg, 46% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  8.45 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.72(s, 3H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  158.61, 145.37, 144.44, 143.55, 137.13, 137.00, 135.30, 127.11, 127.01, 124.80, 119.32, 21.48; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_3\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  212.08184, found 212.08124.

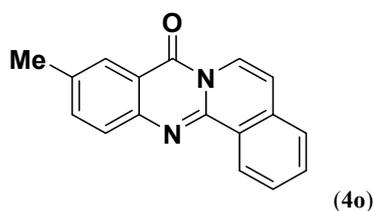


**7-acetyl-2-methyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4t):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), 4-acetylpyridine (96.8 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm  $\text{O}_2$ . After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (20 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced

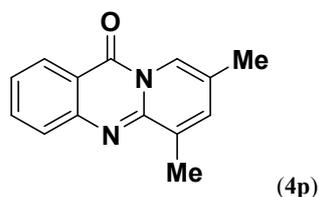
pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (48.4 mg, 48% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.88-8.86 (m, 1H), 8.29-8.28 (m, 1H), 8.03-8.02 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.28 (m, 1H), 2.69-2.68 (m, 3H), 2.58(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 196.43, 158.55, 146.72, 146.52, 140.01, 137.25, 137.07, 129.13, 127.31, 127.26, 126.55, 116.94, 108.71, 29.73, 21.56; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 253.09715 C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, found 253.09636.



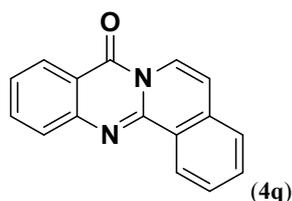
**methyl 2-methyl-11-oxo-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazoline-7-carboxylate (4u):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), Methyl isonicotinate (109.6 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (45.0 mg, 42% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.85 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.27-8.26 (s, 1H), 8.17-8.16 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 164.39, 158.59, 146.55, 146.36, 137.16, 136.84, 134.52, 129.83, 127.35, 127.20, 126.41, 116.77, 110.28, 53.07, 21.54; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 269.09207 C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, found 269.09128.



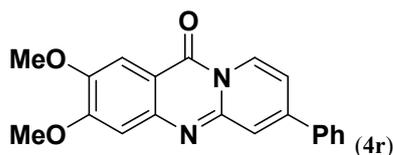
**2-Methyl-8H-isoquinolino[1,2-b]quinazolin-8-one (4j):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methylbenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), isoquinoline (103.2 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (62.4 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.38, 145.55, 145.46, 136.48, 135.91, 132.68, 131.90, 128.37, 127.53, 127.31, 127.02, 126.37, 121.96, 117.46, 112.98, 21.39; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd.for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 261.10224, found 261.10178.



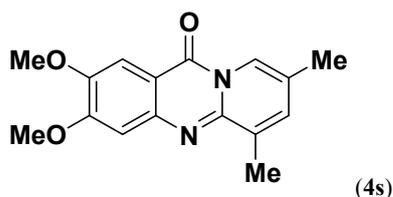
**6,8-Dimethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one** (4k): Following the general procedure with 2-Aminobenzoic acid (54.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), 3,5-dimethylpyridine (128.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (60.9 mg, 68% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.61 (s, 1H), 8.43(d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.28, 148.14, 146.74, 135.38, 133.78, 133.32, 127.34, 127.10, 123.40, 121.72, 121.69, 116.02, 18.41, 18.31; HRMS(ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 225.10224, found 225.10176.



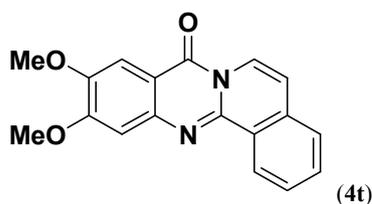
**8H-isoquinolino[1,2-b]quinazolin-8-one** (4l): Following the general procedure with 2-Aminobenzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), isoquinoline (103.2 mg, 2.0 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (59.0 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.66 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.0Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 159.43, 147.49, 146.10, 134.75, 132.82, 132.12, 128.43, 127.49, 127.41, 127.23, 127.18, 126.40, 125.71, 121.87, 117.72, 113.12; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 247.08659, found 247.08607.



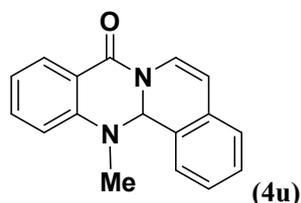
**2,3-Dimethoxy-7-phenyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one** (4m): Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (78.8, 0.4 mmol), 4-phenylpyridine (124.0 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (110.2 mg, 83% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.67 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 2H), 4.04 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 157.70, 156.28, 148.52, 147.14, 145.98, 145.16, 136.53, 129.35, 129.35, 129.33, 126.81, 126.77, 126.77, 112.15, 109.70, 106.42, 105.25, 56.33, 56.33; HRMS(ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 333.12337, found 333.12259.



**2,3-Dimethoxy-6,8-dimethyl-11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (4n):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (78.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), 3,5-dimethylpyridine (128.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (79.5 mg, 70% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.62 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.14, 155.82, 148.38, 145.95, 145.11, 134.95, 133.24, 121.72, 121.53, 109.64, 106.85, 105.04, 56.32, 56.27, 18.38, 18.32; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 285.12337, found 285.12277.



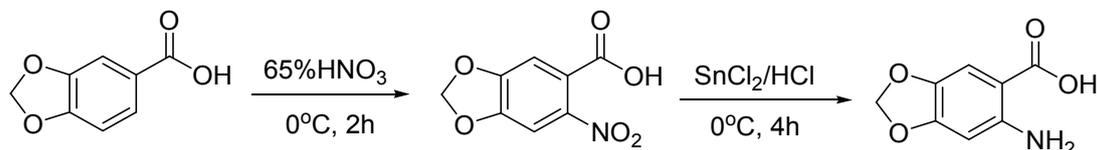
**2,3-Dimethoxy-8H-isoquinolino[1,2-b]quinazolin-8-one (4p):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (78.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), isoquinoline (103.2 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate=100:50) to afford a yellow solid (79.6 mg, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.62 (m, 4H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.45, 155.78, 148.75, 145.16, 144.22, 132.56, 131.74, 128.32, 127.38, 126.93, 126.70, 126.41, 121.97, 112.91, 111.15, 107.36, 105.55, 56.34, 56.32; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 307.10772, found 307.10712.



**13,13a-dihydro-13-methylisoquinolino[1,2-b]quinazolin-8-one (4s):** Following the general procedure with 2-(*N*-methylamino)benzoic acid (60.4 mg, 0.4 mmol), isoquinoline (103.2 mg, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (153.4 mg, 0.8 mmol), and DMF (2.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under 1 atm O<sub>2</sub>. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate=100:40) to

afford a yellow solid (67.1 mg, 64% yield).  $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  8.09 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.54(t,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 5.72 (d,  $J = 10.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (125MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) :  $\delta$  162.09, 150.59, 134.34, 131.76, 129.36, 129.33, 127.92, 127.39, 126.84, 125.84, 124.20, 123.44, 122.96, 106.09, 72.24, 36.80; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  263.11844, found 263.11652.

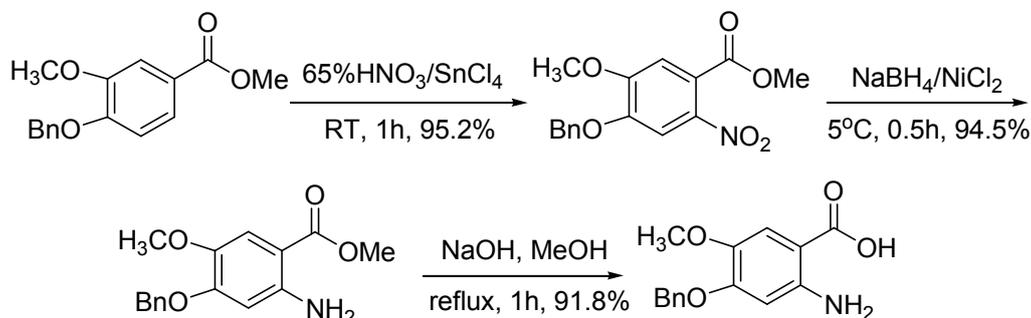
#### The synthesis of substituted anthranilic Acids:



#### 4-Aminobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid

To a solution of 65%  $\text{HNO}_3$  (10 mL, 102 mmol) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  (ice-salt bath) was added benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid (1.0 g, 6.0 mmol). After the resulting mixture was kept at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 h, then the solution was generally raised to room temperature for 1 h. Ice water (50g) was added to the solution. The solid was filtered, washed by water, and dried to afford a yellow solid (1.136g, 89.7%).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (500MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.31 (s, 2H), 6.27 (s, 2H).

To a solution of concentration HCl (10 mL, 140 mmol) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  (ice-salt bath) was added 4-nitrobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid (1.0 g, 4.7 mmol) and  $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3.17, 14.1 mmol). After the resulting mixture was kept at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 h, then ice water (50g) was added to the solution. The solution was adjusted to  $\text{pH}=5$  with NaOH, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was re-dissolved in methanol (100 ml). The solid was filtered, washed by methanol. The filtrate was dried and concentrated to afford a brown solid (619 mg, 72.8%).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  7.17 (s, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.86 (s, 2H).



#### 2-Amino-4-(benzyloxy)-5-methoxybenzoic acid

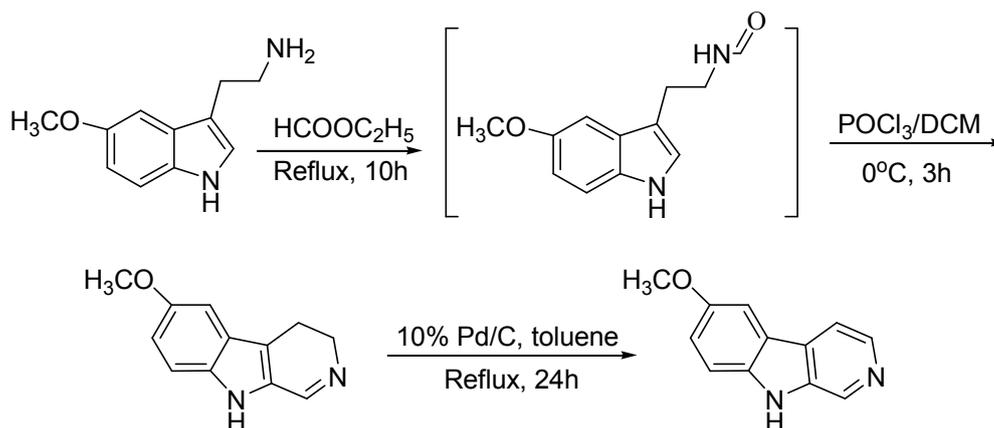
To a solution of methyl 4-(benzyloxy)-3-methoxybenzoate (8.76 g, 32.17 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  was added a fresh prepared mixture consisting of tin (IV) chloride (40 ml of 1M in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 40 mmol) and fuming nitric acid (2.14 ml, 51 mmol) in 10 min. The mixture was kept at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  for 50 min, Water (100 ml) was added to the reaction and separated. The aqueous phase was extracted by ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 60$  mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried under sodium sulfate. Concentration under vacuum then gave a residue that was triturated with methanol to generate a product (9.72 g, 95.2%).

To a solution of methyl 4-(benzyloxy)-5-methoxy-2-nitrobenzoate (6.34 g, 19.98 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 ml) and MeOH (50 ml) was added nickel (II) chloride hexahydrate (1.5 g, 6.3 mmol). Sodium borohydride (2.5 g, 66 mmol) was then added in portions to the reaction at  $0-5^\circ\text{C}$  in 30 min. The solvents were evaporated under vacuum and to the resulting residue was added cold 2N HCl (100 ml). The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 60$  mL). After washing with brine and drying, the organic layer was evaporated under vacuum. Recrystallization of

the residue gave a product (5.43 g, 94.5%).

A solution of methyl 2-amino-4-(benzyloxy)-5-methoxybenzoate (4.88 g, 16.98 mmol) in 2N NaOH (60 ml) and methanol (60 ml) was heated at reflux for 1h. Methanol was removed by a rotary evaporator and the aqueous residue was acidified to PH 2 with cold concentrated HCl. Filtration and washing with water then gave the target compound (4.26, 91.8%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.43-7.34 (m, 5H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 5.42 (s, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H).

#### The synthesis of substituted carboline:

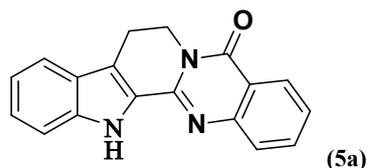


#### 4,9-dihydro-6-methoxy-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole

A solution of 5-methoxytryptamine (1.90 g, 10 mmol) in 10 mL ethyl formate was heated at reflux for 10 h. Evaporation under vacuum gave a product (2.18 g, 100% yield). To the cooled solution of *N*-formyltryptamine (0.96 g, 5 mmol) in 3 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was added POCl<sub>3</sub> (1.25 mL) drop wise at 0~5 °C. After the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred at r.t. for another 2 hrs. Then it was concentrated in *vacuo* to remove unconsumed POCl<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The dark solid residue was suspended in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and extracted with 10% AcOH/water (4 × 30 mL). The combined AcOH extracts were basified with conc. aqueous ammonia until pH 9. The precipitated solid was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 mL) to give the product as yellow foam (793 mg, 92.8%). ESI-MS: 201.1061[M+H].

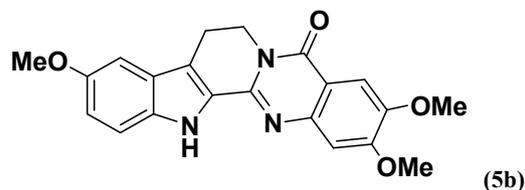
#### 6-methoxy-9H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole

A solution of 4,9-dihydro-6-methoxy-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (0.40 g, 2 mmol) and 10% palladium on carbon (100 mg) in 20 mL toluene was heated at reflux for 24 h. The reaction was cooled, filtrated through celite, washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford a yellow solid (0.25 g, 64%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.38 (s, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.27(d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.07(d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.17 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H).

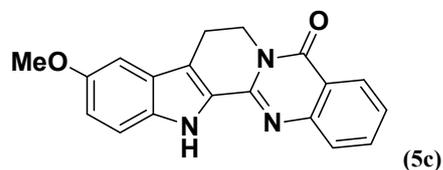


**Rutacarpine (5a):** Following the general procedure with 2-Aminobenzoic acid (1.13 g, 8.23 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (1.40g, 8.23 mmol), EDCI (2.20 g, 11.5 mmol), and DMF (20 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The

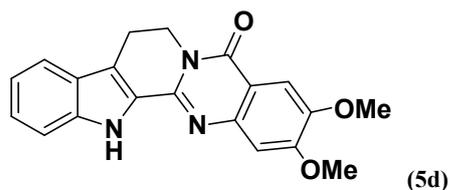
residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (2.0 g, 85% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.41 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 4.59 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.62, 147.49, 145.07, 138.35, 134.36, 127.27, 127.16, 126.57, 126.23, 125.63, 125.60, 121.18, 120.63, 120.09, 118.43, 112.12, 41.16, 19.68; HRMS (API) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 288.1123, found 288.1131.



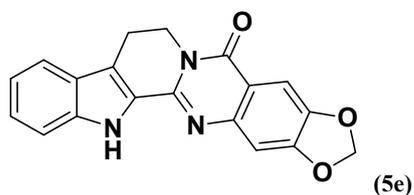
**Euxylophoricine D (5b):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (70.9 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-6-methoxy-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (60.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (61.2 mg, 54% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.61 (s, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.13 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 159.94, 154.56, 153.78, 148.15, 144.17, 143.39, 133.79, 127.70, 125.21, 116.55, 115.61, 113.63, 113.36, 107.06, 105.87, 100.43, 55.83, 55.78, 55.36, 40.83, 19.09; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 378.14483, found 378.14331.



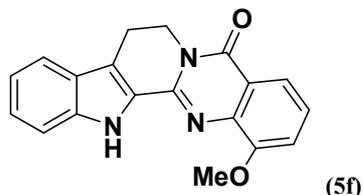
**Hortiacine (5c):** Following the general procedure with 2-Aminobenzoic acid (49.3 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-6-methoxy-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (60.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (75.4 mg, 79% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.14 (s, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.01 (s, 2H), 4.58 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.20 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.65, 154.68, 147.57, 144.92, 134.34, 133.50, 127.67, 127.22, 126.61, 126.14, 125.88, 121.09, 117.83, 116.72, 112.95, 100.61, 55.78, 41.12, 19.73; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 318.12370, found 318.12216.



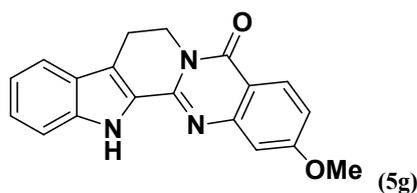
**Euxylophoricine A (5d):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (70.9 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (90.8 mg, 87% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.72 (s, 1H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.11 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 159.93, 154.57, 148.22, 144.13, 143.34, 138.54, 127.38, 125.04, 124.52, 119.88, 119.74, 116.96, 113.72, 112.53, 107.11, 105.88, 55.85, 55.79, 40.80, 19.03; HRMS (API) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 348.1348, found 348.1343.



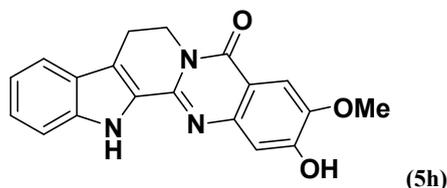
**Euxylophoricine C (5e):** Following the general procedure with 6-aminobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid (65.2 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (41.8 mg, 42% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (s, 2H), 4.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 159.90, 153.17, 146.76, 145.07, 144.27, 138.62, 127.16, 124.98, 124.61, 119.93, 119.77, 117.27, 115.39, 112.60, 104.66, 103.28, 102.53, 40.86, 19.01; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 332.10297, found 332.10165



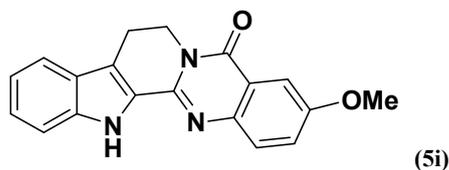
**1-Methoxyrutaecarpine (5f):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-3-methoxybenzoic acid (60.1 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (45.8 mg, 48% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>+CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.95 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.57 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.21 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>+CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 161.40, 153.96, 144.44, 138.33, 138.16, 127.30, 126.36, 125.48, 125.46, 122.18, 120.49, 120.01, 118.75, 118.12, 114.07, 112.18, 56.20, 41.23, 19.65; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd.for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 318.12370, found 318.12268.



**2-Methoxyrutaecarpine (5g):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4-methoxybenzoic acid (60.1 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (61.1 mg, 64% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.85 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.13-7.09 (m, 3H), 4.45 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 5H); 3.20 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 164.05, 160.27, 149.53, 145.95, 138.71, 128.39, 127.18, 124.97, 124.87, 120.08, 119.86, 118.01, 115.40, 114.27, 112.64, 107.65, 55.67, 40.68, 19.04; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 318.12370, found 318.12274.

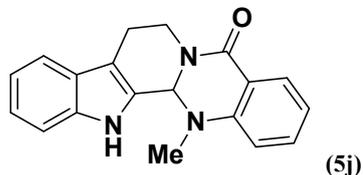


**Euxylophoricine F (5h):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4-benzyloxy-5-methoxybenzoic acid (98.3 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in methanol (5 ml). After addition of 10% palladium on carbon (10 mg) and ammonium formate (0.3 g), the mixture was heated to reflux for 1 hour. The reaction was cooled, filtrated through celite, washed with methanol, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (31.1 mg, 31% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.0Hz, 1H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 4.56 (t, *J* = 8Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.22 (t, *J* = 8Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 161.19, 153.12, 147.81, 144.37, 143.24, 138.41, 126.55, 125.37, 125.17, 120.36, 119.84, 118.22, 113.42, 112.17, 109.70, 106.37, 56.10, 41.19, 19.55; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 334.11862, found 334.11771.

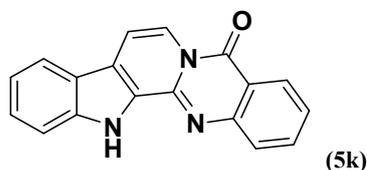


**3-Methoxyrutaecarpine (5i):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methoxybenzoic acid (60.1 mg, 0.36 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (54.4 mg, 57% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.81 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz,

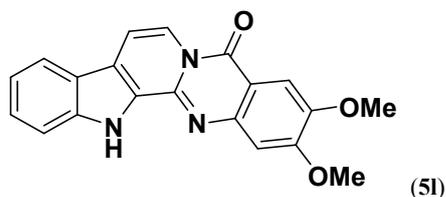
2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.24 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.43 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.16 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(125MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.73, 149.22, 136.92, 133.95, 131.09, 128.46, 126.42, 122.34, 120.75, 119.69, 119.37, 118.70, 117.92, 112.13, 111.96, 70.23, 41.36, 36.91, 19.95; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  318.12370, found 318.12225.



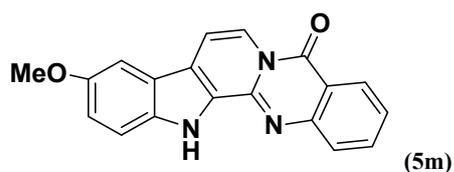
**Evodiamine (5j):** Following the general procedure with 2-Methylaminobenzoic acid (49.2 mg, 0.33 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (51 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , filtered through a pad of silica gel, followed by washing the pad of the silica gel with the same solvent (40 mL). The filtrate was extracted three times with 30 mL of water. The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (75.4 mg, 83% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.22 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.13 (m, 4H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 4.89-4.85 (m, 1H), 3.33-3.26 (m, 1H), 2.98 (s, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  164.73, 149.22, 136.92, 133.95, 131.10, 128.46, 126.42, 122.34, 120.75, 119.69, 119.37, 118.70, 117.92, 112.13, 111.96, 70.22, 41.36, 36.91, 19.95. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  304.14444, found 304.14343.



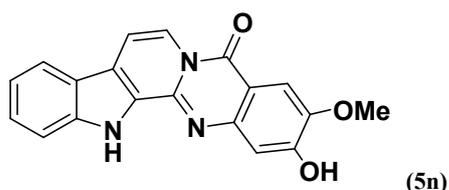
**7,8-Dehydrorutaecarpine (5k):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-benzoic acid (49.3 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9H-pyrido[3,4-b]indole (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , filtered through a pad of silica gel, followed by washing the pad of the silica gel with the same solvent (40 mL). The filtrate was extracted three times with 30 mL of water. The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : MeOH=100:1) to afford a white solid (57.5 mg, 67% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.23 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.51 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(125MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  159.38, 147.81, 140.33, 139.44, 134.92, 129.48, 127.78, 127.25, 126.19, 124.81, 122.57, 121.21, 120.90, 118.73, 116.57, 112.24, 107.67; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  286.09749, found 286.09665.



**Euxylophoricine B** (5l): Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4,5-dimethoxybenzoic acid (70.9 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (89.0 mg, 86% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 162.28, 160.14, 158.31, 152.19, 148.24, 143.60, 131.04, 126.10, 124.88, 124.55, 122.99, 122.13, 117.46, 116.24, 113.45, 111.69, 109.55, 109.17, 60.10. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 346.11862, found 346.11746.

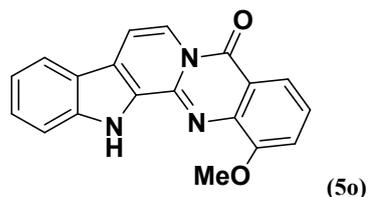


**Euxylophoricine E** (5m): Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-benzoic acid (49.3 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9*H*-6-methoxy-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (59.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a pad of silica gel, followed by washing the pad of the silica gel with the same solvent (40 mL). The filtrate was extracted three times with 30 mL of water. The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (84.4 mg, 89% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.54 (s, 1H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 159.13, 154.74, 148.07, 140.65, 135.51, 135.33, 130.05, 127.55, 126.66, 124.98, 122.62, 120.11, 118.05, 117.61, 116.42, 114.10, 108.74, 102.22, 55.97; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 316.10805, found 316.10706.

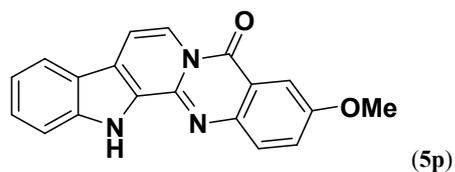


**2-Hydroxy-3-Methoxy-7,8-Dehydrorutaecarpine** (5n): Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-4-benzyloxy-5-methoxybenzoic acid (98.3 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in methanol (5 ml). after addition of 10% palladium on carbon (10 mg) and ammonium formate (0.3 g), the mixture was heated to reflux for 1 hour. The reaction was cooled, filtrated through celite, washed with methanol, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (45.8 mg, 46% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.55 (s, 1H), 8.58 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 157.92, 154.93, 148.03, 144.83, 140.21, 139.50, 129.91, 126.83, 122.39, 121.25, 120.89, 119.51, 118.07, 113.14, 109.98, 109.00, 107.94, 106.31, 56.24; HRMS

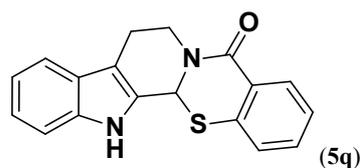
(ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{19}H_{14}N_3O_3$   $[M+H]^+$  332.10297, found 332.10129.



**1-Methoxy-7,8-dehydrorutaecarpine (5o):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-3-methoxybenzoic acid (60.1 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 10 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ , filtered through a pad of silica gel, followed by washing the pad of the silica gel with the same solvent (40 mL). The filtrate was extracted three times with 30 mL of water. The organic phase was dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel ( $CH_2Cl_2$ : MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (51.2 mg, 54% yield).  $^1H$  NMR (400MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.53 (s, 1H), 8.62 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (125MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  158.94, 154.36, 140.46, 139.55, 139.24, 130.12, 127.08, 125.20, 122.27, 121.29, 121.04, 120.25, 118.44, 118.15, 117.27, 114.69, 113.49, 108.83, 56.34; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{19}H_{14}N_3O_2$   $[M+H]^+$  316.10805, found 316.10696.

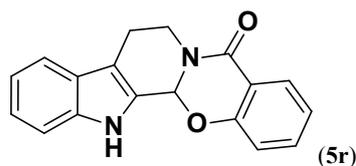


**3-Methoxy-7,8-dehydrorutaecarpine (5p):** Following the general procedure with 2-Amino-5-methoxybenzoic acid (60.1 mg, 0.36 mmol), 9*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (50.4 mg, 0.3 mmol), EDCI (80.5 mg, 0.42 mmol), and DMF (3.0 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C under dry air. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with 30 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ . Then it was washed with saturated aqueous  $NaHCO_3$  (20 mL),  $H_2O$  (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel ( $CH_2Cl_2$ : MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (82.2 mg, 87% yield).  $^1H$  NMR (400MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.62 (s, 1H), 8.59 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100MHz,  $DMSO-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  158.66, 156.84, 142.96, 140.25, 139.04, 130.02, 128.55, 126.84, 126.21, 122.39, 121.20, 120.93, 119.46, 117.99, 116.95, 113.18, 108.59, 106.12, 56.10. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $C_{19}H_{14}N_3O_2$   $[M+H]^+$  316.10805, found 316.10706.



**7,8,13*b*-Tetrahydro-5*H*-benzo[5',6']-[1,3]thiazino[3',2':1,2]-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indol-5-one (5q):** Following the general procedure with 2-Mercaptobenzoic acid (184.8 mg, 1.2 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (170.0 mg, 1.0 mmol), EDCI (268.4 mg, 1.4 mmol), and  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3.0 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room

temperature. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (198.9 mg, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 4.85-4.82 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.47 (m, 1H), 3.04 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 164.83, 137.25, 136.07, 132.58, 131.12, 129.42, 128.25, 127.57, 126.86, 126.04, 122.70, 119.59, 118.96, 112.11, 110.57, 56.82, 40.43, 20.58. HRMS (API) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 307.0900, found 307.0910.



**7,8,13,13*b*-Tetrahydro-5*H*-benzo[5',6']-[1,3]oxazino[3',2':1,2]-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indol-5-one (5r):** Following the general procedure with 2-Hydroxybenzoic acid (164.4 mg, 1.2 mmol), 4,9-dihydro-3*H*-pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole (170.0 mg, 1.0 mmol), EDCI (268.4 mg, 1.4 mmol), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.0 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 4 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with 30 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Then it was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH=100:1) to afford a yellow solid (168.2 mg, 58% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 4.90-4.87 (m, 1H), 3.31-3.26 (m, 1H), 3.06-2.94 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> and CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 167.51, 160.90, 141.28, 138.30, 132.39, 130.80, 129.55, 127.12, 126.84, 123.58, 122.96, 122.27, 120.31, 116.68, 115.64, 85.21, 43.26, 24.06. HRMS (API) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 291.1128, found 291.1123.

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