Supporting Information

Iron-Catalyzed Synthesis of Benzoxazoles by Oxidative Coupling/Cyclization of Phenol Derivatives with Benzoyl Aldehyde Oximes

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1. General Information

All glassware was oven dried at 100 °C for more than 2 hours prior to use. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (200-300 mesh). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained with a Waters-Q-TOF-Premier (ESI). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz and 100 MHz instrument. ¹H NMR spectra are reported relative to Me₄Si (δ 0.0 ppm) and CDCl₃ (δ 7.26 ppm). ¹³C NMR spectra are reported relative to CDCl₃(δ 77.0 ppm). Splitting patterns are designated as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet. Compounds were characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and HRMS. Known products were characterized by comparison of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopic data with those available in the literature. Melting points were determined on a melting point apparatus and uncorrected. GC-MS were obtained with Agilent Technologies 6890-5973N instrument.

2. Materials

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Toluene was dried and distilled from sodium/benzophenone ketyl under nitrogen atmosphere. 7-Methoxy-2-naphthol,¹ 6-methyl-2-naphthol,² ethyl 6-hydroxy-2-naphthoate,³ hydrazone,⁴ oxime ether,⁵ *N*-benzylideneaniline,⁶ *N*-(1-phenylethylidene)aniline,⁷ were prepared according to the literature procedures.

Oxime esters 2 were prepared according to the reported methods.⁸

Method I for the preparation of oxime esters 2:

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^{1} \end{array} \rightarrow NH_{2}OH \bullet HCI \xrightarrow{NaOH} R^{1} \\ \hline MeOH/H_{2}O \\ r.t. \end{array} \xrightarrow{OH} \begin{array}{c} O \\ R^{2} \\ \hline NEt_{3} \\ DCM, r.t. \end{array} \xrightarrow{O} \\ NEt_{3} \\ DCM, r.t. \end{array} \xrightarrow{O} \\ \end{array}$$

Method II for the preparation of oxime esters 2:



Table S1. Methods for the preparation of aldoxime carboxylates 2





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3. Optimizing Reaction Conditions

Table S2. Oxidative cross-coupling/cyclization reaction of 2-naphthol with different compounds containing C=N scaffolds.^{*a*}

N ^{-F} a	₹ ² +	OH oxida FeCI tolue	ant R ¹ - 3 (10 mol%) ne, R.T. 12 h	R^2 $N = 0$ (entry 7)
Entry	R^1	R^2	Oxidant ^b	Product yield (%) ^c
1	NH ₂	Н	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-
2	NH ₂	Me	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
3	ОН	Н	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
4	ОН	Me	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
5	OMe	Н	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-

6	OMe	Me	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
7	OBz	Н	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/27/10/-/35
8	OBz	Me	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
9	Ph	Me	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-
10	Ph	Н	A/ B/ C/ D/ -	-/-/-/-/-

^{*a*}The reaction was performed using naphthol (0.4 mmol), **a** (0.8 mmol), FeCl₃ (10 mol %), and oxidant (0.5 mmol) in 8 mL of toluene in Schlenk tubes at room temperature for 12 h under argon. ^{*b*}Oxidant: A = DDQ (dichlorodicyano benzoquinone), B = DTBP (di-*t*-butyl peroxide), C = TBHP (*tert*-butyl hydroperoxide), D = PIDA (phenyliodine diacetate). ^{*c*}Isolated yields are given for the related cases of using oxidants of A, B, C and D.

4. Procedure for Iron-Catalyzed Synthesis of Benzoxazole Derivatives

FeCl₃ (0.12 mmol) and phenol **1** (0.4 mmol) were added to an oven dried Schlenk tube. The tube was evacuated and filled with oxygen for three times, and then toluene (2 mL) was added. A solution of aldoxime carboxylate **2** (1.4 mmol) in 6 mL of toluene was added by a syringe pump over 3 hours at room temperature. After the addition completed, the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for additional 8 h at room temperature. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL), washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (3 × 15 mL) and water (3 × 15 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 × 15 mL). All organic fractions were combined and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (v/v) as the eluent to afford the desired products.

5. Mass Spectra of the Reaction Mixture



An oven dried Schlenk tube was charged with $FeCl_3$ (0.4 mmol), **2a** (0.8 mmol), and toluene (6 mL). The content of sealed tube was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was directly analyzed by high-resolution mass spectrum measurement.





6. The Spectra Data of Products

2-Phenylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole $3a^9$



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3a** as a white solid; mp = 132–133 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.37–8.32 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.4, 148.1, 137.6, 131.3, 131.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 126.6, 126.0, 125.4, 122.3, 110.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺: 246.0913, found: 246.0912.

8-Methoxy-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3b



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3b** as a white solid; mp = 135–137 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.34–8.32 (m, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.52 (m, 4H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.0, 158.9, 148.6, 137.0, 131.0, 130.2, 128.9, 127.9, 127.6, 127.3, 126.4, 125.8, 118.0, 108.2, 100.8, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 276.1019, found: 276.1017.

7-Methyl-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3c



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3c** as a white solid; mp = 140–141 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.48 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.34–8.29 (m, 2H), 7.73–7.66 (m, 3H), 7.56–7.49 (m, 4H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.2, 147.7, 137.6, 135.0, 131.5, 131.0, 129.1, 128.9, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 125.4, 124.7, 122.1, 110.8, 21.7. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺: 260.1070, found: 260.1065.

7-Methoxy-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole $3d^9$



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3d** as a white solid; mp = 128–129 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.48 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.32–8.30 (m, 2H), 7.70–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.55–7.49 (m, 3H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.3, 157.4, 146.9, 137.9, 132.5, 131.0, 128.9, 127.6, 127.3, 124.7, 123.8, 121.6, 119.1, 111.2, 107.3, 55.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 276.1019, found: 276.1020.

2-Phenylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole-7-carbonitrile 3e



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3e** as a white solid; mp > 250 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.67 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.36–8.33 (m, 3H), 7.89–7.84 (m, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.57 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 163.4, 149.7, 137.8, 134.6, 131.7, 130.1, 129.1, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 126.9, 126.2, 123.8, 119.2, 112.9, 109.0. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₁N₂O [M+H]⁺: 271.0866, found: 271.0867.

Ethyl 2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole-7-carboxylate 3f



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3f** as a white solid; mp = 166–168 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.71$ (s, 1H), 8.59 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.32–8.30 (m, 2H), 8.25 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.52 (m, 3H), 4.46 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 166.7$, 162.8, 149.4, 137.6, 131.5, 131.3, 130.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.4, 127.3, 127.3, 127.2, 126.5, 122.5, 111.7, 61.2, 14.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 318.1125, found: 318.1129.

7-Bromo-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3g



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3g** as a white solid; mp = 172–173 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.45 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.32–8.29 (m, 2H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.53 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.8, 148.1, 137.8, 132.3, 131.3, 130.6, 130.2, 129.0, 127.4, 127.3, 125.0, 124.9, 124.1, 119.3, 112.0. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₁BrNO [M+H]⁺: 324.0019, found: 324.0027.

4-Methoxy-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3h



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3h** as a white solid; mp = 123–124 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.51 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.38–8.35 (m, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 5H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 4.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.5, 143.9, 138.8, 138.3, 131.2, 130.1, 127.8, 126.5, 126.3, 124.9, 123.6, 121.3, 121.2, 103.0, 55.1. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 276.1019, found: 276.1021.

4-Bromo-2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3i



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3i** as a slight yellow solid; mp = 139-140 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.52$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.35-8.32 (m, 2H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.85 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 8.0 Hz 1H), 7.56-7.52 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 162.5$, 145.9, 138.2, 132.2, 131.5, 128.9, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 127.0, 126.2, 125.6, 122.5, 102.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₇H₁₁BrNO [M+H]⁺: 324.0019, found: 324.0025.

Methyl 2-phenylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole-4-carboxylate 3j



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3j** as a white solid; mp = 152-153 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.59$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.39–8.37 (m, 2H), 8.04 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t, J = 8.0 Hz 1H), 7.61–7.55 (m, 4H), 4.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 164.8$, 163.3, 145.7, 139.1, 131.4, 130.2, 129.9, 129.5, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 127.6, 127.2, 126.2, 122.4, 114.9, 52.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 304.0968, found: 304.0973.

2,5-Diphenylnaphtho[1,2-d:4,3-d']bis(oxazole) 3k



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3k** as a white solid; mp > 220 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.67 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 8.40–8.38 (m, 4H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61–7.56 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.2, 137.4, 133.9, 131.3, 129.0, 127.4, 127.1, 126.5, 124.1, 123.1. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₁₅N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 363.1128, found: 363.1130.

5-Methoxy-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole 31



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded **31** as a white solid; mp = 78-79 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.25-8.22$ (m, 2H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 6.95 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 163.8$, 157.4, 145.4, 142.9, 131.5, 128.9, 127.5, 127.3, 113.7, 110.8, 102.8, 55.9. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 226.0863, found: 226.0867.

4,6-Dimethyl-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole 3m



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3m** as a white solid; mp = 130–131 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.26–8.23 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.8, 150.9, 139.3, 135.1, 131.0, 129.8, 128.8, 127.6, 127.4, 126.4, 108.0, 21.8, 16.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺: 224.1070, found :224.1074.

4,6,7-Trimethyl-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole 3n



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3n** as colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.28–8.26 (m, 2H), 7.53–7.50 (m, 3H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.7, 150.2, 138.9, 133.4, 130.9, 128.8, 127.8, 127.4, 126.9, 126.6, 116.3, 19.2, 16.2, 12.1. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₆NO [M+H]⁺: 238.1226, found: 238.1231.

6-Phenyl-[1,3]dioxolo[4',5':4,5]benzo[1,2-*d*]oxazole **30**



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **30** as a white solid; mp = 147–148 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ =8.17–8.14 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.48 (m, 3H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.03 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.6, 146.4, 145.8, 145.7, 136.1, 130.9, 128.9, 127.4, 127.0, 101.7, 99.5, 92.6. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 240.0655, found: 240.0652.

2-Phenylbenzo[d]oxazole 3p



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3p** as white solid; mp = 101–102 °C ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.26$ (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.80–7.78 (m, 1H), 7.60–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.38–7.34 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 163.1$, 150.8, 142.1, 131.5, 128.9, 127.6, 127.2, 125.1, 124.6, 120.0, 110.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₀NO [M+H]⁺: 196.0757, found: 196.0763.

6-Methoxy-2-phenylbenzo[*d*]oxazole **3**q



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded **3q** as colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.21–8.19 (m, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.49 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J*

= 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.3, 158.3, 151.7, 135.9, 131.1, 128.9, 127.4, 127.2, 120.0, 112.8, 95.5, 56.0. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 226.0863, found: 226.0870.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)naphtho[1,2-d]oxazole $3r^9$



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3r** as a white solid; mp = 166–167 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.56$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.31–8.28 (m, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 8.8, 2H), ; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 164.5$ (d, J = 250.5 Hz) 161.5, 148.1, 137.6, 131.3, 129.5 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 128.6, 127.0, 126.5, 126.1, 125.4, 123.8 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 122.2, 116.2 (d, J = 22.1 Hz), 110.8; ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = -108.2$. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₁FNO [M+H]⁺: 264.0819, found: 264.0816.

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)naphtho[1,2-d]oxazole $3s^9$



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3s** as a white solid; mp = 189-190 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃):

δ = 8.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28–8.24 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.50 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.3, 148.1, 137.6, 137.2, 131.2, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 126.5, 126.3, 126.0, 125.5, 122.2, 110.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₁CINO [M+H]⁺: 280.0524, found: 280.0525.

2-(p-Tolyl)naphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3t**⁹



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200/1, v/v) afforded **3t** as a white solid; mp = 167–168 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.60$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dt, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.6$, 146.8, 140.5, 136.6, 130.1, 128.6, 127.5, 126.3, 125.8, 125.5, 124.7, 124.2, 123.7, 121.2, 109.7, 20.6. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺: 260.1070, found: 260.1075.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3u



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3u** as a white solid; mp = 153–154 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.33–8.28 (m, 2H), 7.85–7.83 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 164.5 (d, *J* = 250.5 Hz), 161.1, 158.9, 148.6, 136.9, 130.2, 129.5 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 127.9, 126.4, 125.9, 123.9 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 118.1, 116.2 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz), 108.1, 100.8, 55.6; ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = -108.3. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₃FNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 294.0925, found: 294.0927.

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3v



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3v** as a white solid; mp = 173–174 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.24$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.86–7.84 (m, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.0$, 158.9, 148.7, 137.2, 137.0, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5, 127.9, 126.4, 126.1, 118.1, 108.1, 100.8, 55.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₃CINO₂ [M+H]⁺: 310.0629, found: 310.0622.

2-(4-Bromophenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3w



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3w** as a white solid; mp = 186–187 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.17-8.13$ (m, 2H), 7.84–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.0$, 158.9, 148.6, 136.9, 132.2, 130.2, 128.7, 127.9, 126.5, 126.4, 126.1, 125.6, 118.1, 108.1, 100.8, 55.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₃BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 354.0124, found: 354.0128.

8-Methoxy-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)naphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3x



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3x** as a white solid; mp = 145–146 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.38$ (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.86–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 160.3$, 159.0, 148.8, 136.9, 132.4 (q, J = 32.6 Hz), 130.7, 130.2, 127.9, 127.4, 126.6, 126.4, 125.8 (q, J = 3.7Hz), 123.8 (q, J = 270.7 Hz), 118.1, 108.0, 100.8, 55.6; ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = -62.8$. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₃F₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 344.0893, found: 344.0890.

8-Methoxy-2-(p-tolyl)naphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3**y



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3y** as a white solid; mp = $165-166 \,^{\circ}$ C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.21$ (d, $J = 8.0 \,\text{Hz}$, 2H), 7.87 (d, $J = 2.4 \,\text{Hz}$, 1H), 7.84 (d, $J = 9.2 \,\text{Hz}$, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 8.8 \,\text{Hz}$, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.8 \,\text{Hz}$, 1H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.0 \,\text{Hz}$, 2H), 7.17 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4 \,\text{Hz}$, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 162.3$, 158.8, 148.5, 141.5, 137.0, 130.2, 129.7, 127.9, 127.3, 126.4, 125.6, 124.9, 117.9, 108.1, 100.8, 55.6, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 290.1176, found: 290.1175.

8-Methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)naphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3z



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3z** as a white solid; mp = 109-110 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 8.27-8.23$ (m, 2H), 7.86–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 162.2$, 162.0, 158.7, 148.4, 137.1, 130.2, 129.1, 127.8,

126.4, 125.3, 120.2, 117.9, 114.4, 108.1, 100.8, 55.6, 55.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 306.1125, found: 306.1122.

2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3aa



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3aa** as a white solid; mp = 139–141 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.29 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 160.5, 158.9, 148.7, 136.9, 135.0, 130.9, 130.2, 129.2, 127.9, 127.3, 126.4, 126.3, 125.3, 118.1, 108.1, 100.8, 55.6. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₃ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 310.0629, found: 310.0628.

8-Methoxy-2-(m-tolyl)naphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3ab



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ab** as a white solid; mp = 118–119 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.15 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H),

7.33 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 162.2$, 158.8, 148.6, 138.7, 137.0, 131.9, 130.2, 128.9, 127.9, 127.4, 126.4, 125.8, 124.5, 118.0, 108.2, 100.8, 55.7, 21.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 290.1176, found: 290.1178.

8-Methoxy-2-(*o*-tolyl)naphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3ac**



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ac** as a white solid; mp = 84–85 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.23–8.21 (m, 1H), 7.87–7.84 (m, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 2.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.4, 158.8, 148.2, 138.4, 136.8, 131.8, 130.5, 130.2, 129.8, 128.0, 126.7, 126.1, 125.7, 117.8, 108.2, 100.9, 55.6, 22.2. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₉H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 290.1176, found: 290.1173.

2-(2-Chlorophenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3ad



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ad** as a white solid; mp = 116–117 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.22–8.18 (m, 1H), 7.88–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J*

= 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03(s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.9, 159.0, 148.7, 136.6, 133.3, 131.8, 131.6, 131.3, 130.2, 128.0, 127.0, 126.8, 126.4, 118.1, 108.2, 100.9, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₃ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 310.0629, found: 310.0630.

2-(8-Methoxynaphtho[1,2-d]oxazol-2-yl)phenol 3ae



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ae** as a white solid; mp = 195–196 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 11.58 (br, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.8, Hz, 1H), 7.44 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.03 (td, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.6, 159.0, 158.1, 147.0, 134.8, 133.1, 130.3, 126.9, 126.8, 126.5, 126.2, 119.7, 118.2, 117.3, 111.0, 107.9, 100.7, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 292.0968, found: 292.0961.

2-(3,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3af**



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3af** as a white solid; mp = 161-162 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.87$ (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 161.9$, 161.1, 158.8, 148.6, 136.9, 130.2, 129.2, 127.9, 126.4, 126.0, 118.0, 108.1, 105.0, 104.1, 100.8, 55.7, 55.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₈NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 336.1230, found: 336.1223.

8-Methoxy-2-(naphthalen-2-yl)naphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3ag



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ag** as a white solid; mp = 169–170 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.76 (s, 1H), 8.36 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.88–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.51 (m, 3H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 162.1, 158.9, 148.7, 137.1, 134.5, 133.1, 130.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 127.5, 126.9, 126.4, 125.9, 124.8, 124.0, 118.0, 108.1, 100.8, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 326.1176, found: 326.1175.

8-Methoxy-2-styrylnaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3ah**



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ah** as a white solid; mp = 123–124 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.16 (m, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 161.8, 158.9, 148.3, 138.2, 137.0, 135.4, 130.2, 129.6, 129.0, 127.7, 127.4, 126.3, 126.1, 118.1, 114.1, 107.9, 100.6, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 302.1176, found: 302.1180.

8-Methoxy-2-(thiophen-2-yl)naphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3ai



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded **3ai** as a white solid; mp = $180-181 \,^{\circ}$ C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.93$ (dd, J = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.85–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, $J = 8.8 \,$ Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.16 (m, 2H), 4.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.8$, 158.0, 148.2, 136.8, 130.2, 130.1, 129.5, 129.2, 128.2, 127.7, 126.5, 125.8, 118.1, 107.9, 100.9, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₂S [M+H]⁺: 282.0583, found: 282.0575.

2-(Furan-2-yl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3aj



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded **3aj** as a white solid; mp = 106-107 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.87$ (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63–6.61 (m, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 158.9$, 154.3, 148.0, 145.3, 142.9, 136.5, 130.1, 127.8, 126.5, 126.1, 118.3, 113.3, 112.2, 107.9, 100.8, 55.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 266.0812, found: 266.0806.

8-Methoxy-2-phenethylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3ak



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3ak** as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.25 (m, 4H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.37–3.30 (m, 2H), 3.27–3.22 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 165.0, 158.8, 148.6, 140.3, 135.8, 130.1, 128.7, 128.4, 127.7, 126.5, 126.2, 125.2, 117.9 108.1, 100.5, 55.6, 33.5, 30.9. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 304.1332, found: 304.1329.

8-Methoxy-2-propylnaphtho[1,2-d]oxazole 3al



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3al** as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H) 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.01–1.92 (m, 2H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 165.9, 158.7, 148.5, 135.8, 130.1, 127.6, 126.1, 125.0, 117.8, 108.1, 100.4, 55.6, 30.8, 20.9, 13.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 242.1176, found: 242.1177.

2-(2-Butyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole **3am**



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3am** as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 3.22-3.13 (m, 1H), 2.05–1.94 (m, 1H), 1.86–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.48 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 169.4, 158.7, 148.4, 135.7, 130.1, 127.7, 126.1, 124.9, 117.8, 108.1, 100.5, 55.6, 36.2, 28.4, 18.3, 11.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 256.1332, found: 256.1335.

2-(tert-Butyl)-8-methoxynaphtho[1,2-*d*]oxazole 3an



Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) afforded **3an** as a colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 172.2, 158.6, 148.5, 135.8, 130.1, 127.8, 126.1, 124.9, 117.7, 108.1, 100.7, 55.6, 34.4, 28.8. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 256.1332, found: 256.1331.

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8. ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁹F NMR Spectra


























































































