Supporting Information

Rapid and halide compatible synthesis of 2-N-substituted indazolone derivatives via photochemical cyclization in aqueous media

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Table of contents:

1. General information	S3
2. Experimental procedures, characterization data and supplementary figures	S4
3. ¹ H, ¹³ C NMR and ¹⁹ F NMR spectra	.S17

1. General information

Unless otherwise stated, all starting materials, catalysts, and solvents were commercially available and were used as purchased without any pretreatment. Analytical TLC was performed using pre-coated plates (HSGF254) and visualized with UV light or an I₂ chamber. Flash column chromatography was performed using the indicated solvent system on Sinopharm Chemical Reagent silica gel (200–300 mesh). ¹H NMR spectra and proton decoupled ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained on a 400 MHz Bruker, 500 MHz Bruker NMR spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to residual solvent peaks. Multiplicities are given as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), and m (multiplet). Coupling constants (*J*) are given in Hz. For HRMS analysis, samples were analyzed by flow-injection analysis into a Agilent G6520 Q-TOF. LCMS analysis was carried out using a Waters UPLC-MS (ESI) , UPLC: Waters HPLC H-CLASS, MS: Waters SQ Detector 2. Photochemical reactions were carried out in Shanghai Heqi glassware B-002601 40×25mm flat bottom flask. Light sources used were a ZF-7A 16W 365nm UV source. Melting points were determined on a SGWX-4 melting point apparatus.

2. Experimental procedures and compound characterization data

General Procedure (I) for the preparation of Substituted (2-Nitrophenyl)methanols.^[1]



To a solution of the substituted 2-nitrobenzoic acid in dried THF was added drop wise a 2M solution of borane dimethylsulfide complex (1.3 equiv - 5equiv). The resulting solution was then reflux over for 3 h. After allowed to room temperature, 3M aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid was added drop wise into this reaction system until effervescence was no longer observed. The resulting mixture was then extracted with $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$ of ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of Na₂CO₃ followed by brine. The resulting organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatograph on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as the eluent to afford the desired products.

14a

(4-methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14a)^[1]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 4-methoxy-2-nitrobenzoic acid (10.14 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 6.6 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (13.19 mmol, 1.3 equiv). Intermediate 14a was obtained

as yellow solid (1.75 g \rightarrow 94%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.70 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H). The ¹H NMR data are good in agreement with the literature date. ^[1]



(5-bromo-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14b)^[2]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 5-bromo-2-nitrobenzoic acid (8.13 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 5.3 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (10.57 mmol, 1.3 equiv), intermediate 14b as obtained

as yellow solid(1.21 g, 64%).¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.06 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.75 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (d, *J* = 5.6Hz, 2H).

NO₂ 14c

(2-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanol (14c)^[3]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 2-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl) benzoic acid (8.51 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 5.5 mL of BH3-Me2S (10.06 mmol, 1.3 equiv) . Intermediate

14c as obtained as yellow solid (1.73 g, 92%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H).

(3-chloro-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14d)^[4]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 4g of 3-chloro-2-nitrobenzoic acid (19.85 mmol) in 60 mL THF and 12.9 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (25.80 mmol, 1.3 equiv). Intermediate 14d as obtained as yellow solid (3.36 g, 90%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (dt, J = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 4.70 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H).

F NO₂ 14е (5-fluoro-2-nitrophenyl)methanol $(14e)^{[5]}$: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 5-fluoro-2-nitrobenzoic acid (10.80 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 7.02 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (14.04mmol, 1.3 equiv), intermediate **14e** as obtained as

yellow solid(1.73g , 92%) as obtained as yellow solid (1.7 g , 92%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.20 (dd, J = 9.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 11.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H).



(2-fluoro-6-nitrophenyl)methanol $(14f)^{[3]}$: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 2-fluoro-6-nitrobenzoic acid (10.80 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 7.02 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (14.04mmol, 1.3 equiv), intermediate 14f as obtained as yellow solid (1.38 g , 75%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.78 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.53 (m, 2H),

5.41 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.70 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H).



(4-fluoro-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14g)^[6]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 2 g of 4-fluoro-2-nitrobenzoic acid (10.80 mmol) in 40 mL THF and 7.02 mL of BH₃-Me₂S (14.04mmol, 1.3 equiv), intermediate 14g as obtained as

yellow solid (1.79 g , 97%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.97-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.85 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 5.59 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H).

(2-nitro-1, 4-phenylene)dimethanol $(14h)^{[7]}$: The general procedure (I) was followed using 4g of 2-nitroterephthalic acid (18.95 mmol) in 47mL of BH₃-Me₂S (94.75 mmol , 5equiv), intermediate 14h was obtained as white solid (3.5 g , 100%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 4.59 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H).



(4-nitro-1,3-phenylene)dimethanol (14i)^[8]: The general procedure (I) was followed using 1g of 4-nitroisophthalic acid (4.74mol) in 11.85mL of BH₃-Me₂S (23.70 mmol, 5equiv), intermediate 14i was obtained as white solid (0.88 g,

88%) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.55 – 5.46 (m, 2H), 4.81 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 2H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 2H).

General Procedure(II) for 14j and 14k



(4-iodo-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14j): To a suspension of 4-amino-2-nitrozoic (960 mg, 5.27 mmol) in water (40ml) was added Concentrated hydrochloric acid (1.3mL) and cooled to 0°C. A solution of NaNO₂ (437 mg, 6.65 mmol) in water (2mL) was added. After stirring for 10min.A solution of KI (1.05 g, 12.65 mmol) in water (2mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3hr.And excess iodine was destroyed with saturated NaHSO₃ solution. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic phase was washed with saturated sodium chloride solution and dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give crude product ^[9]; The crude product was dissolved in 20mL dried THF followed by dropping 1M borane tetrahydrofuran complex (15.9 mL, 15.9 mmol), the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature over night.an 3M aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid was added drop wise into this reaction system until effervescence was no longer observed. The resulting mixture was then extracted with (3×30 mL) of ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of Na₂CO₃ followed by brine. The resulting organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure .The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as the eluent to afford 14j as a yellow solid (305 mg, two steps 21%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.32 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (t, J = 8.2 (t, J =5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H).



(5-iodo-2-nitrophenyl)methanol (14k)^[10]: Prepared according to the procedure for the preparation of 14j. Intermediate14k was obtained as yellow solid (576mg, two steps 39%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.18 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H).

Procedure for synthesis of 14l



A solution of 4-(bromomethyl)-3-nitrobenzoic acid (2 g, 7.69 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (4.07 g, 38.43 mmol) in water/acetone (1:1 v/v, 60 mL) was heated at reflux temperature. After 5 h, the acetone was evaporated. The resulting aqueous solution was washed with ether (40 mL), acidified with 6M HCl and extracted with EtOAc (3×40mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (40 mL), dried over Na₂SO4 and concentrated in vacuo to yield 1.51 g (100%) of 4-(hydroxymethyl)-3-nitrobenzoic acid as a yellow solid^[11]. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 13.58

(s, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H).

To a solution of 4-(hydroxymethyl)-3-nitrobenzoic acid (1.51g, 7.69mmol), Propylamine (948 ul, 11.53 mmol) and HATU (3.22 g, 8.46 mmol) in dry DMF (25mL) was added N, N-diisopropyl -ethylamine (3.81 mL, 23.07 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction system was quenched with water (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2×60mL).he combined organic layers were washed with brine (3×40mL).The resulting organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure .The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel with dichloromethane/methanol as the eluent to afford 14l as a yellow solid (1.26 g, 69%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.76 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (dd, J = 12.9, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.61 - 1.49 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H)

General Procedure(III) for indazolone synthesis:

A 40×25 mm flat bottom flask was charge with a stir bar, o-nitrobenzyl alcohol (0.75 mmol), amine (0.3 mmol), 1-Butanol (4.5 mL), water (1.5 mL). The reaction mixture was placed under a UV lamp for 3h.The solution was concentrated by rotary evaporation and purified by chromatography on silica gel with dichloromethane/methanol as the eluent to afford the desired products.

2-heptyl-3-oxo-N-propyl-2, 3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (13). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **13** was obtained as a yellow solid (78 mg , 82%). Mp: 145-147 °C ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.44 (s, 1H), 8.59 (t, *J* =5.5Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.75 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.54 (dd,



J = 14.2, 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.34-1.14 (m, 8H), 0.86 (dd, J = 21.2, 14.9 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.99, 159.96, 145.35, 137.69, 122.99, 119.69, 119.09, 111.24, 43.29, 41.28, 31.30, 28.34, 27.91, 26.16, 22.49, 22.17, 14.06, 11.61. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for

C₁₈H₂₆N₃O₂: 316.2031; found: 316.2034.



2-(4-hydroxybutyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (2)^[12]. Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **2** was obtained as a yellow oil (42mg, 68%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H),

7.49 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (dt, J = 14.9, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.43-1.36 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.73, 146.04, 131.36, 123.10, 120.97, 117.57, 112.26, 60.41, 43.18, 29.75, 24.80. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₃N₂O₂: 205.0983; found : 205.098.

2-butyl-1,2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (1)^[13] Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **1**



was obtained as a yellow oil (54 mg \rightarrow 95%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.28 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.25 (dq, J =

14.7, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.70, 146.06, 131.29, 123.06, 120.91, 117.57, 112.24, 42.87, 30.01, 19.47, 13.62. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for $C_{11}H_{13}N_2O:189.1033$; found : 189.1037.



2-cyclopentyl-3-oxo-N-propyl-2, 3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (16a). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16a was obtained as a yellow solid (66 mg, 77%). Mp: 90-92°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.14 (s, 1H), 8.58 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 9.0 Hz,

1H), 4.85 - 4.76 (m, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.1, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.01 - 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.85 - 1.72 (m, 4H), 1.66-1.49 (m, 4H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.98, 160.49, 146.03, 137.78, 122.94, 119.86, 119.51, 111.62, 54.41, 41.29, 29.99, 24.37, 22.48, 11.61. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for $C_{16}H_{20}N_3O_2$: 286.1561; found: 286.1564



3-cyclopentyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16b). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16b was obtained as a brown solid (51 mg , 63%). Mp: 156-158°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.53 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.88 – 4.78 (m,

1H), 2.04 – 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.72 (m, 4H), 1.71-1.55 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.65, 145.21, 131.53 (q, J = 31.6 Hz), 124.63, 124.26 (q, J = 272.7 Hz), 120.34, 117.08(d, J = 2.9Hz), 109.78 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 54.49, 30.05, 24.39. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₃H₁₂F₃N₂O: 269.0907; found: 269.0908.



2-cyclopentyl-5-(hydroxymethyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16c). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16c was obtained as a yellow solid (50 mg, 71%). Mp: 134-136°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.84 - 4.73 (m, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 1.98 - 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.83 - 1.71 (m, 4H), 1.67 – 1.52 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.44, 146.01, 135.75, 130.72, 120.58, 117.87, 112.37, 62.93, 54.28, 29.94, 24.44. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H] Calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}N_2O_2$: 231.1139; found: 231.1142.



2-heptyl-6-methoxy-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16d). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16d was obtained as a yellow solid (44 mg, 56%). Mp: 61-63 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 – 6.60 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.70 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.68 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.17 (m, 8H), 0.83 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 162.64, 160.98, 148.01, 124.17, 110.99, 110.91, 94.58, 55.68, 43.30, 31.37, 28.44, 27.95, 26.24, 22.23, 14.12. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₂₁N₂O₂: 261.1609; found: 261.1611.



2-heptyl-1,2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one(**16e**)^[13]. Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **16e** was obtained as a yellow solid (56 mg ,80%).¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (t, *J*

= 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.74 - 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.28-1.17 (m, 8H), 0.82 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.63, 146.03, 131.26, 123.06, 120.87, 117.55, 112.25, 43.19, 31.36, 28.43, 27.98, 26.24, 22.23, 14.09. LCMS: [M+H]⁺ 233.21.

3-oxo-2-(3-phenylpropyl)-N-propyl-2,



3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (16f). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16f was obtained as a yellow solid (77 mg , 76%). Mp: 153-155 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.47 (s, 1H), 8.60 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, J = 5.5 H

7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.1, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.05 – 1.93 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.49 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 166.01, 160.20, 145.58, 141.40, 137.79, 128.54, 126.08, 123.09, 119.83, 119.17, 111.35, 43.13, 41.32, 32.38, 29.79, 22.53, 11.66. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₀H₂₂N₃O₂: 336.1718; found: 336.1725.



3-(tert-butyl)-3-oxo-N-propyl-2, 3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (16g). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16g was obtained as a yellow solid (45 mg , 55%). Mp: 179-181 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.85 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52

(dd, J = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.1, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.60 – 1.49 (m, 11H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 166.02, 161.93, 146.05, 137.76, 122.76, 121.04, 119.79, 111.79, 57.86, 41.30, 27.37, 22.50, 11.64. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₂₀N₃O₂: 274.1561; found: 274.1569

2-cyclopentyl-6-(hydroxymethyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16h). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **16h** was obtained as a brown

solid (49 mg , 70%). Mp: 165-167 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.82-4.72 (m, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 1.95-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.84 – 1.71 (m, 4H), 1.66-1.55 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.36, 147.07, 146.85, 122.61, 119.73, 116.61, 109.58, 62.96, 54.27, 29.87,

24.38. LCMS M+H 233.18. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): $m/z [M-H]^{-}$ Calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}N_2O_2$: 231.1139; found: 231.1138.



2-benzyl-3-oxo-N-propyl-2, 3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (16i). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **16i** was obtained as a white solid (54 mg , 58%) . Mp: 192-194 °C . ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.46 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H),

7.53 (dd, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.24 (m, 5H), 5.03 (s, 2H), 3.22 (dd, J = 13.2, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.59 – 1.48 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.99, 160.33, 145.60, 138.04, 136.91, 128.76, 127.73, 123.22, 119.82, 118.75, 111.42, 47.05, 41.30, 22.50, 11.64. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₃O₂: 308.1405; found: 308.1411



2-benzyl-6-(hydroxymethyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16j). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16j was obtained as a white solid (42 mg , 55%). Mp: 150-152 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.17 (s,

1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd, J = 6.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (t, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.98 (s, 2H), 4.57 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.10, 147.10, 146.65, 137.16, 128.68, 127.67, 127.61, 122.85, 119.71, 115.88, 109.38, 62.95, 46.97. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂O₂: 253.0983; found: 253.0985.



2-benzyl-5-(hydroxymethyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (16k). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 16k was obtained as a brown oil (33 mg , 43%) . ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.1

Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 4.98 (s, 2H), 4.52 (s, 2H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.19, 145.61, 137.15, 135.70, 130.94, 128.70, 127.74, 127.64, 120.80, 117.15, 112.21, 62.91, 47.00. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂O₂: 253.0983; found: 253.0984.

oxo-2-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)-N-propyl-2,



3-dihydro-1H-indazole-6-carboxamide (16l). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **16l** was obtained as a yellow solid (17 mg , 22%). Mp: 130-132 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.50 (s, 1H), 8.62 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz,

2H), 3.36 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, J = 13.1, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.61 – 1.48 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 165.84, 160.74, 146.59, 138.40, 123.28, 119.89, 118.41, 111.70,

78.45, 75.40, 41.33, 33.52, 22.50, 11.65. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for $C_{14}H_{14}N_3O_2$: 256.1092; found: 256.1091.



2-benzyl-5-chloro-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (**17a**). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **17a** was obtained as a yellow solid (64 mg , 82%). Mp: 219-221 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.57 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m,

4H), 5.00 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.64, 144.35, 136.78, 131.81, 128.79, 127.82, 125.28, 122.50, 118.20, 114.29, 47.04. LCMS: [M+H]⁺ M+1 259.10.



2-benzyl-6-bromo-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (**17b**)**.** Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **17b** was obtained as a white solid (71 mg , 78%). Mp: 190-192 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.60 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (dt, *J* = 17.2, 8.0

Hz, 4H),5.01(s,2H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.42, 144.54, 136.78, 134.31, 128.78, 127.80, 125.53, 118.74, 114.62, 112.77, 47.04. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₄H₁₀BrN₂O: 300.9982; found: 300.9987.



2-benzyl-6-chloro-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17c). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17c was obtained as a brown solid (44 mg , 56%). Mp: 185-187°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.60 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.22 (m, 6H), 7.10 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.85, 146.15, 136.63, 136.33, 128.56, 127.59, 124.84, 121.20, 115.58, 111.77, 46.80. LCMS: [M+H]⁺ 259.13.



6-iodo-2-phenethyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17d). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17d was obtained as a brown solid (103 mg \rightarrow 94%). Mp:176-178°C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.55 (s, 1H),

7.70 (s, 1H), 7.38 (s, 2H), 7.29-7.24(m, 2H), 7.22-7.16(m, 3H), 4.00 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.95, 146.64, 138.43, 129.62, 128.78, 128.58, 126.55, 124.90, 120.71, 116.72, 98.63, 44.55, 33.81. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂IN₂O: 363; found: 362.9997.



6-fluoro-2-phenethyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17e). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17e was obtained as a yllow solid (55 mg , 71%). Mp: 179-181°C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.62 (s, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.16 (m, 5H), 7.14-7.11 (m,

1H),6.94-6.88(m, 1H), 4.01 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 164.80 (d, J = 245.6 Hz), 160.00, 146.71 (d, J = 13.8 Hz), 138.49, 128.80, 128.60, 126.55, 125.50 (d, J = 11.4 Hz), 114.03, 109.61 (d, J = 25.0 Hz), 98.50 (d, J = 26.7 Hz), 44.74, 33.85. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO) δ -108.61. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂FN₂O: 255.0939; found: 255.0945.

4-fluoro-2-phenethyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17f) Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17f was obtained as a yellow solid (52 mg , 68%). Mp: 169-171 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.77 (s, 1H), 7.51 –

7.43 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (dd, J = 10.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.02 - 3.97 (m, 2H), 3.00 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H).¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.05, 157.27 (d, J = 63.4 Hz), 147.62 (d, J = 7.1 Hz), 138.41,133.10 (d, J = 8.8 Hz),128.78, 128.60, 126.57, 112.29,108.27 (d, J = 4.1 Hz), 105.94 (d, J = 18.5 Hz), 44.44,33.75.¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO) δ -119.35. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H] Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂FN₂O: 255.0939; found: 255.0943.

7-chloro-2-cyclopentyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17g) Following general procedure (III) : the substrate $17g\ \text{was}$ obtained as a red solid ($29\ \text{mg}\$, 41%). Mp: 149-151 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.25 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.7Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (p, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.95-1.86 (m, 4H), 1.85 - 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.54 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.79, 143.37, 131.18, 122.43, 122.01, 120.35, 117.28, 55.04, 29.66, 24.30. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂ClN₂O: 235.0644; found: 235.0648.



5-fluoro-2-phenethyl-1,2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17h) Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17h was obtained as a yellow solid (53 mg , 69%). Mp: 162-164°C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.31 (s, 1H), 7.43-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 4.02 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.16 (d, J = 3.7 Hz), 157.52 (d, J = 237.1 Hz), 142.77, 138.47, 128.78, 128.59,

44.72, 33.84. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO) δ -122.38. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂FN₂O: 255.0939; found: 255.0941.



5-iodo-2-phenethyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17i).Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17i was obtained as a yellow solid (75 mg, 69%). Mp: 177-179°C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.60 (s, 1H), 7.89

(d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dd, J = 8.1, 4.4 Hz, 3H), 7.16 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 158.80, 144.68, 139.42, 138.40, 131.42, 128.77, 128.59, 126.56, 119.76, 114.69, 83.67, 44.58, 33.81. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂IN₂O: 363; found: 363.0003.

126.55,120.03 (d, J = 25.7 Hz), 118.11 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 114.22 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 108.11 (d, J = 23.6 Hz),



5-chloro-2-phenethyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17j). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17j was obtained as a brown solid (71 mg , 87%). Mp: 158-160°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.58 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H),

7.30 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 4.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.12, 143.99, 138.20, 131.39, 128.56, 128.38, 126.36, 124.99, 122.16, 118.34, 113.94, 44.45, 33.61. LCMS: [M+H]⁺ 273.16



5-chloro-2-heptyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17k). Following general procedure (III): the substrate 17k was obtained as a yellow solid (79 mg , 99%). Mp: 102-105 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.48 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.7

Hz, 1H), 3.78 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.29 – 1.20 (m, 8H), 0.83 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.30, 144.09, 131.41, 125.10, 122.29, 118.52, 114.06, 43.28, 31.27, 28.32, 27.86, 26.13, 22.16, 14.05. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₄H₁₈ClN₂O: 265.1113; found: 265.112.

2-(tert-butyl)-5-chloro-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (171). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate **171** was obtained as a brown solid (43 mg , 64%). Mp: 178-180°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 9.89 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.12, 144.76, 131.55, 125.26, 122.02, 120.43, 114.55, 57.91, 27.34. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₂ClN₂O: 223.0644; found: 223.0644.



5-chloro-2-cyclopentyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17m). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17m was obtained as a gray solid (43 mg , 61%). Mp: 176-178°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.20 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* =

1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.84 – 4.73 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.71(m, 4H), 1.67-1.53 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.75, 144.74, 131.52, 125.27, 122.21, 118.91, 114.41, 54.39, 29.99, 24.37. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂ClN₂O: 235.0644 ; found: 235.065



5-bromo-2-cyclopentyl-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (17n). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 17n was obtained as a brown solid(61 mg , 72%). Mp: 175-177 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.25 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* =

1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.84 – 4.73 (m, 1H), 1.97 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.84-1.69 (m, 4H), 1.65-1.54(m, 2H) ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.44, 144.85, 134.07,

125.27, 119.43, 114.79, 112.79, 54.41, 30.02, 24.39. HRMS (ESI-ion trap):m/z $[M-H]^-$ Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}BrN_2O$: 279.0138; found: 279.0142



5-chloro-2-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-1, 2-dihydro-3H-indazol-3-one (170). Following general procedure (III) : the substrate 170 was obtained as a yellow solid (38 mg , 44%). Mp: 139-141 $^{\circ}$ C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ

8.12 (s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.89, 128.54, 128.23, 127.63, 126.76, 126.68, 120.25, 115.96, 115.45, 115.20, 110.90, 64.20, 14.92. HRMS (ESI-ion trap): m/z [M-H]⁻ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂ClN₂O₂: 287.0593; found: 287.0594

The product yield of indazolones with different methods ^[13, 18]



Figure S1. The product yield of indazolones with different methods

Proposed reaction mechanism

Previous research reported that o-nitrobenzyl alcohol derivatives generated corresponding aryl-nitroso compounds via photoisomerization, upon UV light-activation (for details, please see references, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 4581; *Chem. Rev.*, 2013, **113**, 119; *Chem. Commun.*, 2011, **47**, 3822).^[14-16]

The photogenerated intermediate is reactive and not very stable for subsequent isolation. We could detect the aryl-nitroso compound (exact mass 220.08) with UPLC-MS analysis as follows:



Figure S2. Photogenerated intermediate aryl-nitroso compound detected on UPLC-MS analysis

This date can support our proposed mechanism that the intermediate aryl-nitroso compound *in situ* generated from o-nitrobenzyl alcohol upon UV light-activation. In the presence of primary amines, the aryl-nitroso compound can rapidly form indazolones via cyclization in suitable reaction conditions, subsequent for dehydration and tautomerization (Ref, *J.Org. Chem.* **2005**, *70*, 1060-1062). We have proposed the reaction mechanism combining this date and previous references. ^[17-18]



Figure S3. Proposed reaction mechanism

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3. 1H , 13C NMR and 19F NMR spectra

























































































