Direct Arylations On Water: Synthesis of 2,5-Disubstituted Oxazoles Balsoxin and Texaline

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Part A: Experimental Procedures

General

NMR spectra were obtained from a Brüker AC250 (250MHz) instrument and calibrated to residual solvent peaks: ¹H - CDCl₃, 7.26 ppm and ¹³C – CDCl₃, 77.0 ppm. The ¹H-NMR data is presented as follows: chemical shift (in ppm on the δ scale), integration, multiplicity (s= singlet, d= doublet, t= triplet, q= quartet, m= multiplet), coupling constant (J in Hz) and structural assignment. The ¹³C-NMR data is reported as ppm on the δ scale, followed by the structural assignment. High resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the EPSRC National Mass Spectrometry Service Centre, Swansea, using Finnigan MAT 95XP and Finnigan MAT 900XLT instruments ES analysis. The data is presented as the ionisation method, followed by the calculated and measured masses. TLC was preformed on Merck 60 F254 silica plates and visualised by UV light and/or KMnO₄ stain. Compound purification was carried out by wet flash column chromatography using Merck Kieselgel 60 (particle size 35-70). Eluent constitution is quoted as ratios or percentages. All solvents were dried before use unless otherwise stated. Anhydrous solvents were obtained from a solvent purification system supplied by www.glasscontoursolventsystems.com or a PureSolv solvent purification system supplied by Innovative Technologies Inc. All other chemicals were purchased from a chemical supplier and used as received. General procedure for Negishi reactions: 2-p-Tolyl-oxazole (6c)



Oxazole (0.30 g, 4.41 mmol, 1.4 equiv) was dissolved in THF (20 mL) under N₂ atmosphere at -78 °C, treated with n-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane, 3.35 ml, 5.35 mmol, 1.2 equiv based on oxazole) maintaining an internal temperature below -60 °C. After stirring for 10 min, solid ZnCl₂ (1.20 g, 9.45mmol, 3.0 equiv) is added portion wise to avoid clumping, the cooling bath is removed, contents warmed to room temperature. Once at ambient temperature, the catalyst Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.079g, 0.22 mmol, 5 mol%) and the *p*-methyl iodobenzene (**4c**, 0.686 g, 3.15 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added and the contents heated to 60 °C and stirred for four hours. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the contents were partitioned between NH₄Cl and EtOAc. Extraction and washing with NH₄Cl (followed by filtration of MgSO₄) as well as column chromatography in 100% DCM afforded product **6c** as a colorless oil (0.376 g, 75 % yield). ¹**H NMR** (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82-7.78 (2H, d, *J*= 6.5 Hz), 7.53 (1H, s), 7.12-7.06 (3H, m) 2.24 (3H, s); ¹³C **NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (quat), 140.5 (quat), 138.2 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 124.8 (quat), 21.4 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₀H₉NO 159.0679, found 159.0676.

2-Phenyl-oxazole (6a)

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a colorless oil (0.458 g, 83 % yield), with identical spectral data to that previously reported.¹

2-(4-Methoxy-pheny)-oxazole (6b)

N Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave **6b** as a colorless oil (0.474 g, 86 % yield) with identical spectral data to that previously reported.²

3-Oxazol-2-yl-pyridine (6d)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a colorless oil (0.359g, 78 % yield), ¹H NMR (250 MHz,

¹ Hiemstra, H.; Houwing, H.; Possel, O.; Van Leusen, A. Can. J. Chem., **1979**, 57, 3168.

² Reeder, M.; Gleaves, H.; Hoover, S.; Imbordino, R.; Pangborn, J. J. Org. Proc. Res. Dev. 2003, 7, 696.

CDCl₃) δ 9.40 (1 H, d, *J*= 1.5 Hz), 8.83 (1 H, dd, *J*= 4.9 Hz, 1.6 Hz), 8.46 (1 H, dt, *J*= 10.1 Hz, 2.0 Hz), 7.94 (1 H, d, *J*= 0.8 Hz), 7.50 (1 H, m), 7.41 (1 H, d, *J*= 0.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.4 (quat), 150.9 (CH), 147.5 (CH), 139.3 (CH), 133.8 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 123.8 (quat), 123.7 (CH); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₈H₆N₂O 146.0475, found 146.0472.

Direct Arylations. Compounds **8a**, **b** and **c**, **13a**, **b** and **c**, **14a**, **b** and **c**, **15a** and **c**, **17a** have been previously reported in the literature.^{3,4}

Representative procedure: 2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-phenyl-oxazole (8b)



Ag₂CO₃ (317 mg, 1.15 mmol, 2 equiv), PPh₃ (15.2 mg, 0.058mmol, 10 mol %), Pd(dppf)Cl₂ DCM (0.024 g, 5 % mol) were put into a carousel tube and mixed well. The aryl iodide (0.078 ml, 0.692 mmol, 1.2 equiv) followed by *p*-methoxyphenyl-2-oxazole (0.101 g, 0.577 mmol, 1 equiv) were added via pipette. Lastly 4-7 ml of distilled water was added via washbottle and the tube was heated to 60°C and stirred 24 hrs. The dark mixture/melt was filtered through celite using DCM and acetone to wash several times. TLC analysis showed a bright blue spot (UV 254 nm) with R_f = 0.20 (DCM, 100%). Purification by chromatography (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂ 100%) gave the pure product (120 mg, 83%) with identical spectral data to that previously reported.

2-Phenyl-5-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (9a)

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (113 mg, 83 % yield, mp. 62-63 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04-8.00 (2H, m), 7.54-7.51 (2H, m), 7.40-7.37 (3H, m), 7.31 (1H, s), 7.18-7.15 (2H, m), 2.30 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.7 (quat), 150.7 (quat), 134.8 (quat), 131.2 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 127.4 (quat), 127.2 (quat), 126.7 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 21.9 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₃NO 235.0992, found 235.0993.

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-o-tolyl-oxazole (9b)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM/acetone 99:1) gave the coupled product as a

³ Pulici, M.; Quartieri, F.; Felder, E. J. Comb. Chem., 2005, 7, 463.
⁴ Keni, M.; Tepe, J. J. Org. Chem., 2005, 70, 4211.

white solid (150 mg, 98 % yield, mp. 71-73 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22-8.18 (2H, m), 7.92 (1H, m), 7.45 (1H, s), 7.46-7.41 (3H, m), 7.17-7.13 (2H, m), 4.02 (3H, s), 2.68 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2 (quat), 160.7 (quat), 150.0 (quat), 134.5 (quat), 131.0 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 127.3 (quat), 126.4 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 125.9 (CH), 120.1 (quat), 114.1 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 21.8 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO₂ 265.1097, found 265.1094.

5-*o*-Tolyl-2-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (9c)

2-Phenyl-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-oxazole (10a)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (134 mg, 80 % yield, mp. 97-99 °C). ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.13-8.09

(2H, m), 7.79 (2H, d, J= 8.2 Hz), 7.67 (2H, d, J= 8.2 Hz), 7.52-7.47 (4H, m); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9 (quat), 149.7 (quat), 131.2 (quat), 130.7 (quat), 128.8 (CH), 127.0 (quat), 126.4 (CH), 125.2 (CH), 124.1 (CH)-(not all peaks assigned); **HRMS** (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₆H₁₀F₃NO 289.0709, found 289.0708.

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-oxazole (10b)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (178 mg, 97 % yield, mp. 132-133 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 8.07-8.03 (2H, m), 7.79 (2H, d, *J*= 8.2 Hz), 7.68 (2H, d, *J*= 8.7 Hz), 7.50 (1H, s), 7.02-6.98 (2H, m), 3.88 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (quat), 161.7 (quat), 149.3 (quat), 131.4 (quat), 128.2 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 119.8 (quat), 114.3 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃)-(not all peaks assigned); **HRMS** (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₂F₃NO₂ 319.0815, found 319.0812.

2-p-Tolyl-5-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-oxazole (10c)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (144 mg, 82 % yield, mp. 98-100 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

8.02-7.99 (2H, m), 7.80 (2H, d, J= 7.5 Hz), 7.67 (2H, d, J= 7.5 Hz), 7.53 (1H, s), 7.32-7.28 (2H, m), 2.35 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2 (quat), 149.5 (quat), 141.1 (quat), 131.3 (quat), 129.6 (CH), 126.4 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 124.3 (quat), 124.1 (CH), 21.6 (CH₃)- (not all peaks assigned); **HRMS** (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₇H₁₂F₃NO 303.0866, found 303.0867.

5-(3-Nitro-phenyl)-2-phenyl-oxazole (11a)

NO₂ Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave **11a** as a pale yellow solid (129 mg, 84 % yield, mp. 145-147 °C). ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (1H, t, *J*= 1.9Hz), 8.19-8.10 (3H, m), 8.00 (1H, m), 7.63 (1H, m), 7.59 (1H, s), 7.52-7.49 (3H, m); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (quat), 148.9 (quat), 148.8 (quat), 130.9 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 129.6 (quat), 129.5 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 126.8 (quat), 126.5 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 118.8 (CH); HRMS (EI) *m*/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₀N₂O₃ 266.0686, found 266.0687.

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-(3-nitro-phenyl)-oxazole (11b)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a yellow solid (145 mg, 85 % yield, mp. 196-198 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 8.53 (1H, t, *J*= 1.8 Hz), 8.17 (1H, m), 8.09-8.06 (2H, m), 8.00 (1H, m), 7.62 (1H, t, *J*= 7.5 Hz), 7.56 (1H, s), 7.04-7.00 (2H, m), 3.89 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.8 (quat), 148.8 (quat), 148.4 (quat), 130.0 (CH), 129.8 (quat), 129.4 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (quat), 125.3 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 119.6 (quat), 118.7 (CH), 114.4 (CH), 55.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₂N₂O₄ 296.0792, found 296.0790.

5-(3-Nitro-phenyl)-2-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (11c)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a pale yellow solid (129 mg, 80 % yield, 157-159 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 8.55 (1H, t, *J*= 2.0 Hz), 8.15 (1H, m), 8.02-7.97 (3H, m), 7.61 (1H, t, *J*= 8.3 Hz), 7.56 (1H, s), 7.32-7.26 (2H, m), 2.43 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.4 (quat), 148.7 (quat), 148.5 (quat), 141.3 (quat),

130.0 (CH), 129.7 (quat), 129.6 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 126.5 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 124.1 (quat), 122.6 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 21.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₂N₂O₃ 280.0842, found 280.0843.

2-Phenyl-5-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (12a)

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (102 mg, 75 % yield, mp. 74-75 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04-8.00 (2H, m), 7.55-7.51 (2H, m), 7.40-7.37 (3H, m), 7.31 (1H, s), 7.18-7.15 (2H, m), 2.30 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.8 (quat), 151.5 (quat), 138.5 (quat), 130.2 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 127.5 (quat), 126.2 (CH), 125.3 (quat), 124.1 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 21.3 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₃NO 235.0992, found 235.0994.

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (12b)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (149 mg, 97 % yield, mp. 102-104 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.98-7.94 (2H, m,), 7.53-7.50 (2H, m, 7.27 (1H, s), 7.18-7.14 (2H, m), 6.93-6.89 (2H, m), 3.79 (3H, s), 2.31 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.3 (quat), 160.9 (quat), 150.9 (quat), 138.2 (quat), 129.5 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 125.4 (quat), 124.0 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 120.3 (quat), 114.2 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃), 21.3 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO₂ 265.1097, found 265.1096.

2,5-Di-p-tolyl-oxazole (12c)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (140 mg, 97 % yield, mp. 106-107 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (2H, d, *J*= 8.3Hz), 7.80 (2H, d, *J*= 7.8Hz), 7.57 (1H, s), 7.45-7.41

(4H, m), 2.60 (3H, s), 2.58 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.0 (quat), 151.1 (quat), 140.4 (quat), 138.3 (quat), 129.5 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 125.3 (quat), 124.8 (quat), 124.0 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 21.4 (CH₃), 21.3 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO 249.1148, found 249.1147.

5-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-oxazole (15b)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white

solid (158 mg, 83 % yield, mp. 137-139 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03-7.99 (2H, m), 7.53 (4H, s), 7.38 (1H, s), 6.99-6.96 (2H, m), 3.85 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.4 (quat), 149.6 (quat), 132.0 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 127.0 (quat), 125.4 (CH), 123.7 (CH and quat), 121.9 (quat), 119.9 (quat), 114.2 (CH); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₂BrNO₂ (Br⁷⁹) 329.0046, found 329.0060, calcd for C₁₆H₁₂BrNO₂ (Br⁸¹) 331.0026, found 331.0009.

1-[4-(2-Phenyl-oxazol-5-5-yl)-phenyl]-ethanone (16a)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (131 mg, 86 % yield, mp. 105-106 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11-8.07 (2H, m), 8.01-7.98 (2H, m), 7.77-7.73 (2H, m), 7.53 (1H, s), 7.48-

7.45 (3H, m), 2.59 (3H, s); ¹³**C NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.9 (quat), 161.9 (quat), 150.1 (quat), 136.3 (quat), 131.9 (quat), 130.62 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 127.0 (quat), 126.4 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 26.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₃NO₂ 263.0941, found 263.0950.

1-{4-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)oxazol-5-yl]-pheny}-ethanone (16b)

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a off white solid (151 mg, 89 % yield, mp. 148-150 °C); ¹H NMR (250

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04-7.80 (4H, m), 7.76-7.72 (2H, m), 7.51 (1H, s), 6.99-6.96 (2H, m), 3.86 (3H, s), 2.60 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.1 (quat), 162.1 (quat), 161.6 (quat), 149.6 (quat), 136.2 (quat), 132.1 (quat), 129.0 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 123.7 (CH), 119.8 (quat), 114.3 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃), 26.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₃ 293.1046, found 293.1044.

1-[4-(2-p-Tolyl-oxazol-5-yl)-phenyl]-ethanone (16c)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (149 mg, 93 % yield, mp. 132-134 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87-7.82 (4H, m), 7.62-7.59 (2H, d, *J*= 8.5 Hz), 7.38 (1H, s),

7.13 (2H, d, *J*= 8.0 Hz), 2.45 (3H, s), 2.26 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.0 (quat), 162.2 (quat), 149.8 (quat), 141.1 (quat), 136.2 (quat), 132.1 (quat), 129.5 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 126.4 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 124.3 (quat), 123.8 (CH), 26.5 (CH₃), 21.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂ 277.1097, found 277.1095.

2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-5-naphthalen-1-yl-oxazole (17b)

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (132 mg, 76 % yield, 72-74 °C); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (1H, m), 8.12-8.08 (2H, m), 7.92-7.81 (3H, m), 7.59-7.51 (4H, m), 7.04-7.00 (2H, m), 3.89 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.6 (quat), 161.4 (quat), 149.9 (quat), 133.9 (quat), 130.1 (quat), 129.3 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 126.5 (CH), 126.2 (2x CH), 125.5 (quat), 125.3 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 120.2 (quat), 114.3 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₅NO₂ 301.1097, found 301.1092.

5-Naphthalen-1-yl-2-*p*-tolyl-oxazole (17c)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (133 mg, 81 % yield, mp. 114-116 °C). ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (1H, m), 8.09-8.05 (2H, m), 7.94-7.82 (3H, m), 7.63-7.52 (4H, m), 7.34-7.30

(2H, m); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.7 (quat), 150.1 (quat), 140.6 (quat), 133.9 (quat), 130.1 (quat), 129.5 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 126.3 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 125.4 (quat), 125.3 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 124.8 (quat), 21.5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₅NO 285.1148, found 285.1144.

Balsoxin (18)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (136 mg, 84 % yield) with identical spectral data to that previously reported:

¹**H NMR** (250 MHz, CHCl₃) δ 8.11-8.07 (2H, m), 7.50-7.44 (3H, m), 7.33 (1H, s), 7.30 (1H, dd, J= 2.00Hz, 8.4Hz), 7.19 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz), 6.93 (1H, d, J= 8.4Hz), 3.90 (3H, CH₃), 3.85 (3H, CH₃); ¹³**C NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5 (quat), 151.2 (quat), 149.4 (quat), 149.3 (quat), 130.1 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 127.5 (quat), 126.1 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 121.0 (quat), 117.2 (CH), 111.4 (CH), 107.4 (CH), 56.0 (CH₃), 55.9 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₁₅NO₃ 281.1046, found 281.1046.

Texaline (19)



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (114 mg, 74 % yield) with identical spectral data and melting point to that

previously reported.

¹**H NMR** (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.29 (1H, d, J= 1.5Hz), 8.66 (1H, dd, J= 1.7, 4.9Hz), 8.30 (1H, m), 7.38 (1H, dd, J= 4.9, 8.0Hz), 7.31 (1H, s), 7.21 (1H, dd, J= 1.8, 8.0Hz), 7.14 (1H, d, J= 1.7Hz), 6.90 (1H, d, J= 8.3Hz), 6.00 (2H, s); ¹³**C NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.12 (quat), 151.83 (quat), 150.75, 148.23 (quat), 148.14 (quat), 147.40 (CH), 133.12 (CH), 123.63 (quat), 123.49 (CH), 122.47 (CH), 121.68 (quat), 118.53 (CH), 108.85 (CH), 104.82 (CH), 101.42 (CH₂); **HRMS** (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₅H₁₀N₂O₃ 266.0685, found 266.0684.

3-(2-Phenyl-oxazol-5-yl)-pyridine

Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, EtOAc 100%) gave the coupled product as a white solid (42 mg, 36 % yield); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.99 (1H, dd, *J*= 0.77, 2.3 Hz), 8.57 (1H, dd, *J*= 1.6,

4.8 Hz), 8.12-8.08 (2H, m), 7.98 (1H, ddd, J= 1.7, 2.2, 8.0 Hz), 7.52-7.47 (4H, m), 7.35 (1H, ddd, J= 0.8, 4.9, 8.0 Hz); ¹³**C NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9 (quat), 149.3 (CH), 148.4 (quat), 145.6 (CH), 131.1 (CH), 130.6 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 127.0 (quat), 126.4 (CH), 124.7 (CH), 124.3 (quat), 123.6 (CH); **HRMS** (EI) m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₀N₂O 222.0793, found 222.0791.

3-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-oxazol-5-yl]-pyridine



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, 1:1 hexane/ethyl acetate) gave the coupled product as a white solid (44 mg, 30 % yield); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (1H, s),

8.57-8.55 (2H, m), 8.08-8.03 (2H, m), 7.96 (1H, m), 7.49 (1H, s) 7.39-7.34 (1H, m), 7.02-6.98 (2H, m), 3.88 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1 (quat.), 161.6 (CH), 149.0 (quat.), 147.8 (quat.), 145.4 (CH), 131.0 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 123.6 (quat.), 119.8 (quat.), 114.3 (CH), 55.4 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₂O₂ 252.0895, found 252.0895.

3-(2-p-Tolyl-oxazol-5-yl)-pyridine



Prepared according to the general procedure. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, 1:1 hexane/ethyl acetate) gave the coupled product as a white solid (45 mg, 33 % yield); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (1H, s),

8.57 (1H, s), 8.01-7.95 (3H, m), 7.51 (1H, s), 7.37-7.26 (2H, m), 2.42 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2 (quat.), 149.1 (CH), 148.1 (quat.), 145.5 (CH), 141.1 (quat.), 131.1 (CH), 129.6 (CH), 126.4 (CH), 124.6 (CH), 124.4 (quat.), 123.6 (quat.), 21,5 (CH₃); **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₂O 236.0950, found 236.0950.

2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-5-phenyloxazole



Prepared according to the general procedure for the direct arylation on the 5position. Purification by flash chromatography (silica, DCM 100%) gave the coupled product as an off white solid (105 mg, 71 % yield) with identical spectral

data to that previously reported.⁵ ¹**H NMR** (250 MHz, CDCl₃) 8.04-8.01 (2H, m), 7.72-7.69 (2H, m), 7.48-7.41 (6H, m); ¹³**C NMR** (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1 (quat), 151.5 (quat), 136.3 (quat), 129.1 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 127.8 (quat), 127.5 (CH), 125.9 (quat), 124.2 (CH), 123.5 (CH).

⁵ Clark, A. D. *Tetrahedron* **1999**, *55*, 3637-3648.





















S20

















S28



























S41





















