# Supporting Information

# One-pot synthesis of benzofused heteroaryl azoles via tandem C-heteroatom coupling/C-H activation of azoles

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#### I. General Remarks

NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AMX-400 or a Bruker AMX-600. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz or 600 MHz) chemical shifts were measured relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal reference (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  = 7.26 ppm). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz or 150 MHz) chemical shifts were given using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  = 77.16 ppm). The following abbreviations were used to designate the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, bs = broad signal, m = multiplet. High-resolution mass spectra (HR-MS) were obtained with a Waters-Q-TOF-Premier (ESI). Melting points were determined with XRC-1 and are uncorrected.

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. 2-gem-dibromovinylphenols,<sup>1</sup> 2-gem-dibromovinylthiophenols,<sup>1,2</sup> n-benzylictheophylline,<sup>4</sup> n-butyl theophylline, and 1-methylbenzimidazole<sup>5</sup> were prepared according to the literature procedures. Solvents were dried over CaH<sub>2</sub> (NMP, DMF or DMSO) or sodium (dioxane or toluene), and freshly distilled prior to use. Unless otherwise indicated, all syntheses and manipulations were carried out under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.

#### II. General procedure for one-pot synthesis of benzofused heteroaryl azoles

A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with CuI (9.5 mg, 0.05 mmol), 1,10-phenanthroline (9.0 mg, 0.05 mmol), *t*-BuOLi (120 mg, 1.5 mmol), azole (0.25 mmol), *gem*-dihaloolefin (0.5 mmol), and dioxane (1.0 mL) under N<sub>2</sub>. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with 20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a celite pad, and washed with 10-20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the desired product.

#### III. Experimental data for the described substances



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-benzothiazole (3a)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (83%). mp: 222-224 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 107.7, 112.0, 121.8, 122.3, 123.6, 123.9, 125.8, 126.6, 126.8, 128.3, 134.8, 149.9, 154.0, 155.6, 157.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NOS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 252.0483, found 252.0486.

#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-4,5-dimethylthiazole (3b)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (77%). mp: 118-120 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.38 (s, 6H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 11.6, 15.0, 104.0, 111.7, 121.7, 123.6, 125.5, 127.6, 128.6, 150.1, 150.4, 153.3, 155.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NOS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 230.0640, found 230.0636.



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-benzoxazole (3c)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (68%). mp: 168-170 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, J

= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.82 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 110.4, 110.9, 112.2, 120.6, 122.4, 124.1, 125.2, 126.0, 127.1, 127.7, 141.8, 143.8, 150.6, 155.5, 156.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 236.0712, found 236.0709.



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-5-phenyloxazole (3d)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (92%). mp: 87-89 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 107.5, 112.0, 122.0, 123.7, 123.8, 124.5, 126.3, 127.5, 127.9, 128.9, 129.1, 144.1, 151.8, 154.0, 155.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 262.0868, found 262.0863.



### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-oxazole (3e)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (91%). mp: 116-118 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69-7.71 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 107.6, 112.0, 116.2, 116.4, 122.0, 123.4, 123.8, 123.88, 123.90, 126.37, 126.40, 126.5, 127.9, 144.0, 151.0, 154.0, 155.5, 162.2, 163.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 280.0774, found 280.0781.



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-oxazole (3f)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether /EtOAc = 4/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (72%). mp: 188-190 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 108.9, 112.1, 112.3, 124.1, 124.7, 124.9, 126.9, 127.2, 127.7, 133.3, 143.5, 147.5, 149.6, 155.5, 155.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 307.0719, found 307.0711.



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-1-methylbenzoimidazole (3g)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (68%). mp: 132-134 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 4.06 (s, 3H), 7.23-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.82 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 31.9, 108.7, 109.6, 111.8, 120.2, 122.0, 123.1, 123.6, 123.8, 125.9, 128.0, 136.5, 143.1, 144.3, 147.1, 155.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 249.1028, found 249.1033.



#### 8-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-1,3,7-trimethylxanthine (3h)<sup>6</sup>

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room

temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 2/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (86%). mp: 230-233 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 4.38 (s, 3H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 28.2, 30.0, 34.1, 108.7, 109.8, 111.9, 122.1, 124.1, 126.5, 127.6, 142.8, 145.6, 148.5, 151.7, 155.4, 155.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 311.1144, found 311.1140.



#### 8-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-7-benzyl-1,3-dimethylxanthine (3i)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (91%). mp: >250 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.44 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 6.09 (s, 2H), 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 28.3, 30.0, 49.9, 108.3, 110.3, 111.8, 122.2, 124.1, 126.6, 127.2, 127.6, 128.2, 129.0, 136.6, 142.6, 145.5, 148.9, 151.8, 155.2, 155.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 387.1457, found 387.1460.



#### 8-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-7-butyl-1,3-dimethylxanthine (3j)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 5/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (78%). mp: 155-157 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.44-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.96 (m, 2H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 4.79 (t, *J* =

7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 13.8$ , 19.9, 28.2, 29.9, 33.4, 46.9, 108.3, 109.9, 111.7, 122.1, 124.1, 126.4, 127.6, 142.1, 145.8, 148.6, 151.7, 155.1, 155.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 353.1614, found 353.1605.



#### 8-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-7-butylpurine (3k)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc/acetone= 4/1/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (77%). mp: 92-95 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.41-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.89-2.03 (m, 2H), 4.72 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 9.12 (s, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 13.8, 20.1, 32.3, 44.1, 100.1, 110.8, 111.9, 122.4, 124.2, 126.9, 127.6, 146.1, 152.6, 152.8, 155.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 293.1402, found 293.1403.



#### 2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)-5-phenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (3l)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 15/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (73%). mp: 170-172 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 110.3, 112.3, 122.5, 123.5, 124.2, 127.2, 127.3, 127.4, 129.3, 132.2, 140.8, 155.9, 158.0, 164.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 263.0821, found 263.0812.

#### 2-(Naphtho[2,1-b]furan-2-yl)-benzothiazole (4a)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 25/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (80%). mp: 172-174 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 106.8, 112.5, 121.8, 123.5, 123.6, 124.1, 125.4, 125.6, 126.8, 127.2, 127.8, 127.9, 129.1, 130.7, 134.7, 149.4, 153.7, 154.0, 157.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NOS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 302.0640, found 302.0638.



#### 2-(5-Chlorobenzofuran-2-yl)-benzothiazole (4b)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (84%). mp: 203-205 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 106.9, 112.4, 113.0, 121.7, 121.9, 123.8, 126.1, 126.8, 127.0, 129.6, 134.9, 151.3, 153.9, 154.0, 157.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>ClNOS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 286.0093, found 286.0100.



#### 2-(5-Chlorobenzofuran-2-yl)-1-methylbenzoimidazole (4c)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a

white solid (64%). mp: 108-110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 4.13 (s, 3H), 7.31-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (ds, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 31.9, 108.0, 109.7, 112.8, 120.3, 121.4, 123.3, 123.9, 126.2, 129.3, 129.5, 136.5, 143.1, 143.7, 148.5, 153.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 283.0638, found 283.0644.



#### 8-(5-Chlorobenzofuran-2-yl)-1,3,7-trimethylxanthine (4d)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc/acetone = 6/1/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (56%). mp: >250 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.42 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 4.36 (s, 3H), 7.34-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 28.2, 30.0, 34.1, 108.8, 109.0, 112.8, 121.5, 126.7, 128.9, 129.8, 142.1, 147.0, 148.4, 151.6, 153.7, 155.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 345.0754, found 345.0747.



#### 2-(6-Methoxybenzofuran-2-yl)-1-methylbenzoimidazole (4e)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (66%). mp: 136-138 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.89 (s, 3H), 4.12 (s, 3H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.29-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.84 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 31.9, 55.9, 96.0, 108.7, 109.5, 113.3, 120.1, 121.3, 122.1, 123.0, 123.4, 136.5, 143.2, 144.6, 146.3, 156.5, 159.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 279.1134, found 279.1138.

### 2-(6-Methoxybenzofuran-2-yl)-benzothiazole (4f)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (81%). mp: 145-147 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.89 (s, 3H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.9, 96.0, 107.9, 112.4, 113.6, 121.6, 121.7, 122.5, 123.4, 125.5, 126.7, 134.6, 149.2, 154.0, 156.9, 159.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 282.0589, found 282.0587.

#### 2-(5-Methylbenzofuran-2-yl)-benzoxazole (4g)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether /EtOAc = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a white solid (74%). mp: 117-119 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.47 (s, 3H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.80-7.82 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 21.4, 110.2, 110.8, 111.7, 120.5, 122.0, 125.2, 125.9, 127.8, 128.5, 133.6, 141.8, 143.8, 150.5, 154.5, 155.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 250.0868, found 250.0870.



#### 2-(5-(*tert*-Butyl)benzofuran-2-yl)-1-methylbenzoimidazole (4h)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a

white solid (65%). mp: 119-121 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.41 (s, 9H), 4.15 (s, 3H), 7.32-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 31.89, 31.92, 34.9, 109.1, 109.6, 111.1, 118.0, 120.0, 123.1, 123.5, 124.2, 127.7, 136.4, 142.9, 144.4, 146.9, 147.0, 153.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 305.1654, found 305.1656.



#### 8-(Benzothiophen-2-yl)-1,3,7-trimethylxanthine (4i)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 2/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (63%). mp: 293-295 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.44 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 4.30 (s, 3H), 7.43-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.86-7.89 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 28.2, 30.0, 34.0, 122.4, 124.8, 125.29, 125.33, 126.3, 130.8, 139.6, 140.7, 148.3, 151.8, 155.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 327.0916, found 327.0922.



#### 2-(Benzothiophen-2-yl)-5-phenyloxazole (4j)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc = 20/2/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (80%). mp: 101-103 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.37-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.97 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 122.7, 123.8, 124.3, 124.4, 124.7, 125.1, 126.0, 127.8, 128.8, 129.1, 129.7, 139.7, 140.6, 151.7, 157.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NOS [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 278.0640, found 278.0631.



#### 2-(Benzothiophen-2-yl)-5-phenyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole (4k)

Following the general procedure, the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for 30 h. Purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether /CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc = 20/2/1, v/v) afforded the desired product as a yellow solid (62%). mp: 144-146 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.43-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 122.8, 123.7, 125.1, 125.4, 126.7, 126.8, 127.2, 129.3, 132.1, 139.2, 141.1, 161.2, 164.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS[M+H]<sup>+</sup> 279.0592, found 279.0592.

#### IV. Procedure for one-pot synthesis of 2-(indol-2-yl)-benzothiazole 4l<sup>7</sup>



A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.8 mg, 0.0125 mmol), CuI (4.8 mg, 0.025 mmol), S-phos (10.2 mg, 0.05 t-BuOLi(120 1.5 benzothiazole mmol), mg, mmol), (0.25)mmol), 2-gem-dibromovinylaniline (0.5 mmol), and toluene (1.0 mL) under N<sub>2</sub>. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 120 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with 20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a celite pad, and washed with 10-20 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ $CH_2Cl_2 = 1/1$ , v/v) on silica gel to afforded the desired product as a white solid (52%). mp: 144-146 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.15 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H)Hz, 1H), 9.52 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 105.8$ , 111.7, 121.0,

121.80, 121.84, 122.8, 124.9, 125.5, 126.7, 128.5, 137.2, 153.5, 166.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{15}H_{11}N_2S [M+H]^+$  251.0643, found 251.0643.

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# VI. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra









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