

# Supporting Information

## An Efficient Synthesis of 2,5-Diimino-furans via Pd-Catalyzed Cyclization of Bromoacrylamides and Isocyanides

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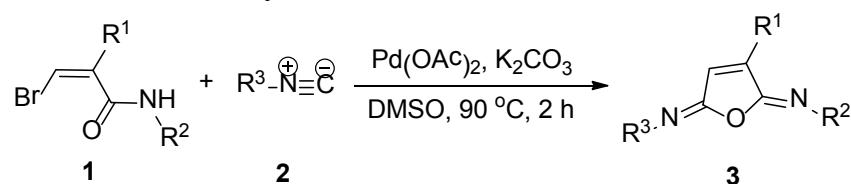
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## General Information

All commercial materials and solvents were used as received without further purification unless otherwise noted. TLC was performed using commercially prepared 200-300 mesh aluminum oxide basic plates and visualization was effected at 254 nm.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  or Acetone- $d_6$  on BRUKER DRX-400 spectrometer at 298 K. The chemical shift of all  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra are referenced to the residual signal of  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta$  7.26 ppm for the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra and  $\delta$  77.0 ppm for the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra) or Acetone- $d_6$  ( $\delta$  2.05 ppm for the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra and  $\delta$  206.0 ppm for the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra). High-resolution mass spectra (ESI) were obtained with a LCMS-IT-TOF mass spectrometer. IR spectra were obtained as potassium bromide pellets or as liquid films between two potassium bromide pellets with a Brucker Vector 22 spectrometer. Melting points were measured with a BÜCHI B-545 melting point instrument and were uncorrected.

## General Procedure for the Synthesis of 2,5-Diimino-furans

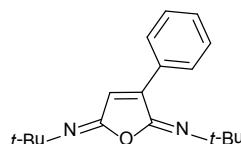


A mixture of bromoacrylamide **1** (0.2 mmol), isocyanide **2** (0.24 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol %),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (0.4 mmol) and  $\text{DMSO}$  (2 mL) were added successively and stirred at  $90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 h in a 10 mL tube. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10\text{ mL}$ ), and the organic layers were combined, dried over anhydrous  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was separated by aluminum oxide basic preparative TLC (hexanes/EtOAc 10:1) to give the pure product **3**.

## General Procedure for Maleamides

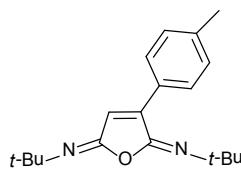
The corresponding 2,5-diimino-furans was stirred with silica gel in methylene dichloride at room temperature overnight. The resulting mixture was filtered and concentrated, and then the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether as eluent to provide the pure target product **4**.

## Analysis Data for Compounds 3a-3x



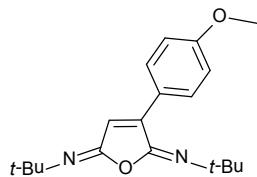
### (E)-2,5-di-(tert-butylimino)-3-phenyl-furan (3a).

Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.99 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 4.4\text{ Hz}$ , 3H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.43 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  152.2, 149.9, 143.3, 130.2, 129.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.4, 55.4, 55.0, 30.3, 30.3; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2969, 1666, 1361, 1216, 1044, 809\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  285.1961, found 285.1959.



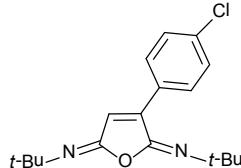
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-*p*-tolyl-furan (3b).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 45–47 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.84 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.43 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  152.0, 150.0, 143.1, 139.8, 129.0, 128.5, 127.4, 126.5, 55.2, 54.8, 30.3, 30.3, 21.3; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max} = 2969, 1667, 1361, 1215, 1074, 818 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  [M + H] $^+$  299.2118, found 299.2123.



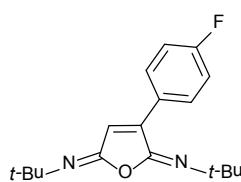
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-furan (3c).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 138–140 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.92 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.8, 152.1, 150.2, 142.5, 130.1, 125.2, 122.8, 113.7, 55.1, 54.7, 30.3, 30.2; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max} = 2966, 2926, 1649, 1360, 1214, 1032, 892 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  [M + H] $^+$  315.2067 , found 315.2072.



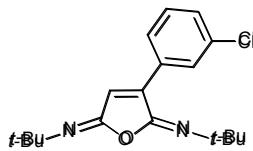
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-furan (3d).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 125–128 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.88 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.41 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  151.5, 149.7, 141.8, 135.7, 129.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.5, 55.3, 55.0, 30.2; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max} = 2969, 1666, 1488, 1361, 1214, 1073, 830 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}$  [M + H] $^+$  319.1572 , found 319.1574.



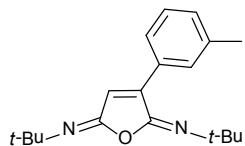
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-furan (3e).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 131–135 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.02 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.41 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.8, 162.3, 151.6, 145.9 (d,  $J=796.4$  Hz), 130.6 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz), 127.0(d,  $J = 1.5$  Hz), 126.3 (d,  $J = 3.4$  Hz), 115.37 (d,  $J=21.5$  Hz), 55.3, 54.9, 30. 3; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max} = 2973, 1667, 1506, 1363, 1237, 836 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{FN}_2\text{O}$  [M + H] $^+$  303.1867 , found 303.1860.



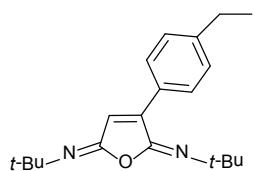
**(E)-2,5-di-(tert-butylimino)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-furan (3f).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 128–131 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.22 (d,  $J = 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.0, 150.8, 141.8, 134.5, 133.1, 130.7, 130.3, 129.9, 129.5, 127.9, 55.8, 55.5, 30.7, 30.6; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2970, 1666, 1361, 1213, 1075, 789 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClN}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  319.1572 , found 319.1574.



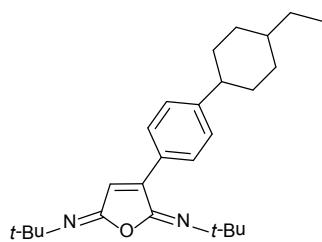
**(E)-2,5-di-(tert-butylimino)-3-m-tolyl-furan (3g).**

Brown solid: m.p. 57–60 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.89 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.4, 151.0, 143.5, 138.4, 131.0, 130.0, 128.8, 128.4, 126.7, 55.6, 55.2, 30.6, 30.5, 21.4; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2969, 1666, 1361, 1239, 1070, 834, 760 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  299.2118, found 299.2116.



**(E)-2,5-di-(tert-butylimino)-3-(4-ethylphenyl)-furan (3h).**

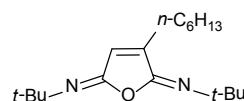
Yellowish solid: m.p. 53–55 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.00 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 2.69 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.23 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.5, 151.1, 146.8, 143.4, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 127.7, 55.6, 55.2, 41.2, 30.7, 30.6, 15.7; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2966, 1664, 1360, 1215, 1076, 877 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  313.2274, found 313.2279.



**(E)-2,5-di-(tert-butylimino)-3-[4-(4-ethylcyclohexyl)-phenyl]-furan (3i).**

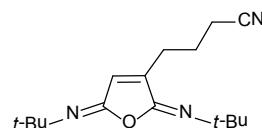
Yellow solid: m.p. 49–50 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.01 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 2.52 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.88 (d,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, 4H), 1.56 – 1.49 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.31 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.12 – 1.03 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.5, 151.2, 150.4, 143.5, 129.6, 128.8, 127.8, 127.5, 55.6, 55.3, 45.2, 39.8, 34.8, 33.8, 30.7, 30.6, 11.7; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2966,$

1666, 1360, 1215, 1073, 893, 830  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 395.3057, found 395.3059.



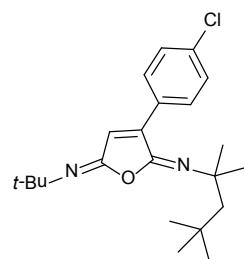
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-hexyl-furan (3j).**

Colorless oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.28 (s, 1H), 2.33 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.62 – 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.36 (s, 9H), 1.32 – 1.22 (m, 6H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  152.8, 152.2, 148.7, 127.2, 54.6, 54.6, 31.5, 30.4, 30.3, 27.2, 25.8, 22.5, 14.0; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2968, 2869, 1666, 1362, 1233, 1013, 914, 874 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 293.2587, found 293.2586.



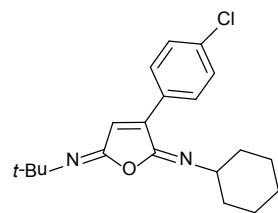
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-butyronitrile-furan (3k).**

Brown solid: m.p. 89–93 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  6.47 (t,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.57 – 2.49 (m, 4H), 2.02 – 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.35 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  152.7, 151.7, 147.0, 129.3, 120.2, 55.1, 55.1, 30.7, 30.6, 25.5, 24.2, 16.8; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2969, 2872, 2247, 1666, 1361, 1216, 1012 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 276.2070, found 276.2067.



**(E)-2-(2,4,4-trimethylpentan-2-ylimino)-5-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-furan (3l).**

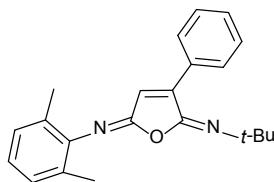
Yellow solid: m.p. 90–93 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.15 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 1.87 (s, 2H), 1.50 (s, 6H), 1.41 (s, 9H), 0.99 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  151.2, 150.1, 142.1, 135.9, 131.2, 129.9, 129.2, 129.1, 59.5, 55.6, 55.3, 32.5, 32.0, 31.2, 30.6; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2966, 1646, 1345, 1293, 1170, 830 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 375.2198, found 375.2199.



**(E)-2-cyclohexylimino-5-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-furan (3m).**

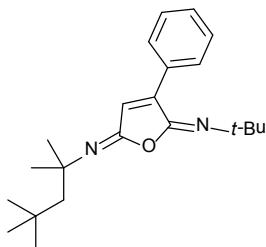
Yellow solid: m.p. 79–81 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.17 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 2.81 (s, 1H), 1.86 – 1.80 (m, 4H), 1.63 – 1.40 (m, 6H), 1.38 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  153.5, 151.3, 141.3, 136.1, 131.1, 129.8, 129.7, 129.3,

58.0, 55.8, 34.5, 30.5, 26.5, 25.0; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2966, 1665, 1359, 1217, 1077, 769 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClN}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  345.1728, found 345.1725.



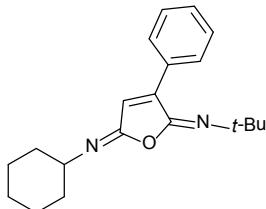
**(E)-2-(tert-butylimino)-5-(2,6-dimethylphenyllimino)-3-phenyl-furan (3n).**

Brown oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.04 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 19.2, 4\text{H}$ ), 6.89 (d,  $J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}$ ), 6.76 (t,  $J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}$ ), 1.95 (s, 6H), 1.06 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  154.3, 150.4, 146.1, 146.1, 131.0, 130.8, 129.8, 129.1, 128.2, 127.72, 126.0, 124.2, 56.3, 30.3, 30.3, 18.3; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2925, 1669, 1383, 1222, 1078, 947, 768 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  333.1961, found 333.1960.



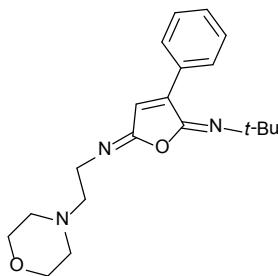
**(E)-2-(tert-butylimino)-5-(2,4,4-trimethylpentan-2-ylimino)-3-phenyl-furan (3p).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 78–82 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.12 – 8.10 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 1.82 (s, 2H), 1.46 (s, 15H), 1.01 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.2, 150.5, 143.4, 131.2, 130.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.7, 59.1, 55.7, 32.6, 32.0, 31.5, 30.7, 29.8; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2962, 1668, 1361, 1217, 1075, 942, 890, 769 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  341.2587, found 341.2585.



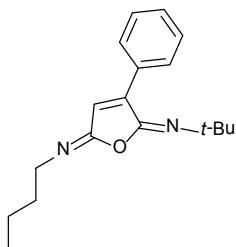
**(E)-2-(tert-butylimino)-5-cyclohexylimino-3-phenyl-furan (3q).**

White solid:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.11 – 8.09 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 3.86 – 3.72 (m, 1H), 1.82 – 1.78 (m, 4H), 1.51 – 1.36 (m, 15H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  153.6, 151.0, 144.4, 131.1, 130.4, 129.4, 128.9, 127.0, 57.8, 55.9, 34.5, 30.4, 26.3, 25.0; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2929, 2856, 1765, 1666, 1378, 1242, 1058, 893 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O} [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  311.2118, found 311.2115.



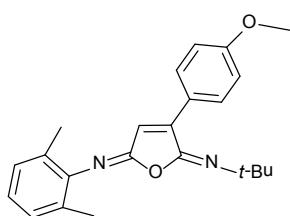
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-[(2-morpholinoethyl)imino]-3-phenyl-furan (3r).**

White solid: m.p. 143–146 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.56 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.37 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.61 (t,  $J$  = 4.4, 4H), 3.40 – 3.36 (m, 2H), 2.49 – 2.43 (m, 6H), 1.44 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  168.1, 165.1, 147.5, 137.5, 129.6, 129.3, 127.3, 121.3, 67.3, 58.3, 54.3, 51.9, 36.8, 28.8; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  = 2991, 1764, 1376, 1242, 1056 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 342.2176, found 342.2168.



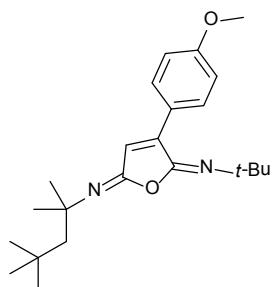
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-butylimino-3-phenyl-furan (3s).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 61–63 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.12–8.01 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t,  $J$  = 3.0, 3H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 3.57 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.66 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.39 (m, 11H), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  155.0, 151.0, 144.7, 131.2, 130.5, 129.5, 129.0, 127.0, 56.0, 49.0, 33.6, 30.4, 21.2, 14.1; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  = 2960, 2930, 2866, 1666, 1359, 1220, 1086, 952, 811 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 285.1961, found 285.1959.



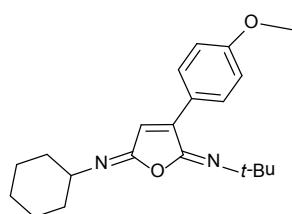
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-(2,6-dimethylphenylimino)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)furan (3t).**

Brown solid: 54–57 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.22 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.03 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 6.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 1.20 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  162.3, 154.4, 150.7, 146.2, 145.5, 131.4, 128.1, 127.7, 124.0, 123.4, 123.2, 114.5, 56.2, 55.6, 30.1, 18.2; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  = 2984, 2828, 1766, 1667, 1380, 1244, 1063 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 385.1886, found 385.1878.



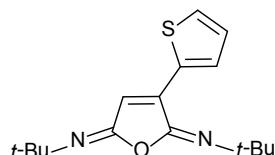
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-(2,4,4-trimethylpentan-2-ylimino)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)furan (3u).**

Yellow solid: m.p. 49–53 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 2H), 1.46 (s, 6H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 0.99 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.8, 151.0, 150.4, 142.4, 130.2, 125.4, 122.9, 113.8, 58.6, 55.3, 55.2, 54.8, 32.0, 31.7, 31.2, 30.4; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2959, 2361, 1667, 1509, 1243, 1059, 832 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  [M + H] $^+$  371.2693, found 371.2691.



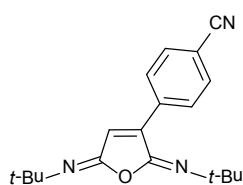
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-cyclohexylimino-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)furan (3v).**

White solid: m.p. 126–128 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.77 – 3.65 (m, 1H), 1.86–1.79 (m, 4H), 1.68 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.49–1.44 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.27–1.24 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.0, 154.4, 150.3, 143.7, 130.2, 123.6, 122.8, 113.8, 57.3, 55.6, 55.3, 34.0, 30.2, 25.7, 24.8; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2928, 2855, 2362, 1663, 1509, 1251, 1179, 831 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  [M + H] $^+$  341.2224, found 341.2225.



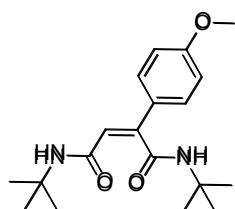
**(E)-2-(*tert*-butylimino)-5-cyclohexylimino-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)furan (3w).**

Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.53–8.52 (m, 1H), 7.68–7.66 (m, 1H), 7.55–7.53 (m, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.39 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  151.58, 150.65, 138.21, 131.51, 128.42, 127.58, 126.30, 126.02, 55.20, 54.96, 30.23, 30.11; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}} = 2967, 2926, 1664, 1361, 1218, 1028, 803 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for.  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{OS}$  [M + H] $^+$  291.1526, found 291.1525.



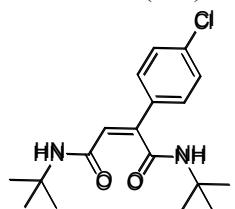
**(E)-2,5-di-(*tert*-butylimino)-3-(4-cyanophenyl)furan (3x).**

White solid: m.p. 116-123 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.38 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  164.42, 150.51, 142.51, 135.45, 133.08, 130.28, 128.22, 119.00, 112.78, 55.83, 52.03, 30.46, 28.78; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  = 3856, 2924, 2369, 1655, 1361, 1220, 1095, 801 cm $^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M + H] $^+$  310.1914, found 310.1910.



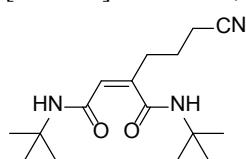
**N<sup>1</sup>-(tert-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(tert-butyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)maleamide (4a).**

White solid: m.p. 162-175 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (s 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 1.37 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.54, 165.52, 160.54, 142.91, 127.94, 127.91, 122.37, 114.30, 55.33, 52.29, 51.56, 28.64, 28.61; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  = 3452, 2362, 2335, 1645, 1454, 1041, 675 cm $^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + Na] $^+$  355.1992, found 355.1990.



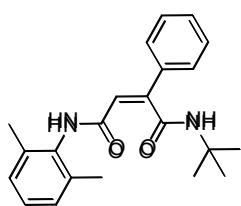
**N<sup>1</sup>-(tert-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(tert-butyl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)maleamide (4b).**

White solid: m.p. 189-200 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36-7.30 (m, 4H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.37 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.66, 165.02, 142.31, 135.35, 134.21, 129.09, 127.80, 124.50, 52.40, 51.75, 28.60, 28.58; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  = 3462, 2967, 2362, 2335, 1644, 1543, 1244, 1047, 675 cm $^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + Na] $^+$  359.1497, found 359.1494.



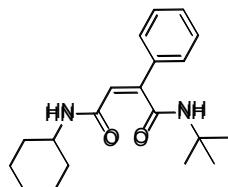
**N<sup>1</sup>-(tert-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(tert-butyl)-2-(butyronitrile)maleamide (4c).**

White solid: m.p. 123-137 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38 (s, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 2.41 – 2.34 (m, 4H), 1.83-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.36 (s, 9H), 1.31 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.89, 165.57, 143.54, 125.53, 119.30, 51.75, 34.31, 28.50, 28.49, 23.55, 16.37; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  = 3318, 2970, 1660, 1538, 1454, 1224 cm $^{-1}$ ; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + Na] $^+$  316.1995, found 316.1994.



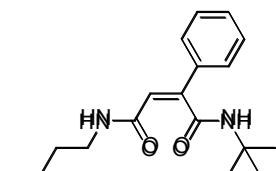
**N<sup>1</sup>-(*tert*-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2-phenylmaleamide (4d).**

White solid: m.p. 197–202 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.74 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.38 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 1.37 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.11, 163.56, 145.47, 136.19, 135.07, 133.81, 129.60, 128.94, 128.10, 127.09, 127.06, 124.38, 52.50, 28.53, 18.66; IR (KBr): ν<sub>max</sub> = 3456, 2361, 1640, 1244, 824 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 351.2067, found 351.2069.



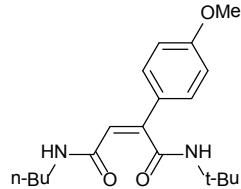
**N<sup>1</sup>-(*tert*-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-cyclohexyl-2-phenylmaleamide (4e).**

White solid: m.p. 181–186 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.84 – 3.77 (m, 1H), 1.93 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.72–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.25 – 1.19 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.13, 165.10, 144.02, 135.64, 129.37, 128.87, 126.57, 123.33, 52.36, 48.64, 32.79, 28.55, 25.49, 24.74; IR (KBr): ν<sub>max</sub> = 3435, 2929, 2360, 1712, 1643, 1244, 883 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 329.2224, found 329.2225.



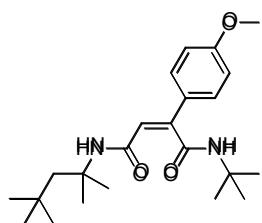
**N<sup>1</sup>-(*tert*-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-butyl-2-phenylmaleamide (4f).**

Brown oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.43–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 3.28–3.23 (m, 2H), 1.53–1.46 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 1.35–1.29 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.12, 165.76, 144.48, 135.37, 129.36, 128.82, 126.50, 122.76, 77.32, 77.00, 76.68, 52.30, 39.49, 31.35, 28.46, 20.10, 13.68; IR (KBr): ν<sub>max</sub> = 3435, 3264, 2959, 1758, 1628, 1240, 1112, 617 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 325.1886, found 325.1884.



**N<sup>1</sup>-(*tert*-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-butyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)maleamide (4g).**

White solid: m.p. 156–158 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.48 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 6.20 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.26 – 3.21 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 1.46 (dd, J = 14.6, 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.40 – 1.34 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 168.5, 165.2, 161.2, 147.0, 129.7, 128.7, 119.2, 114.6, 55.5, 51.8, 39.4, 32.4, 28.8, 20.6, 13.9; IR (KBr): ν<sub>max</sub> = 2931, 1645, 1512, 1251, 832 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 355.1992, found 355.1990.



**N<sup>1</sup>-(*tert*-butyl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)maleamide (4h).**

Brown oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.82 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.79 (s, 2H), 1.42 (s, 6H), 1.40 (s, 9H), 0.99 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.91, 168.45, 165.44, 160.52, 143.07, 128.02, 122.59, 114.26, 55.63, 55.33, 52.30, 51.17, 31.67, 31.43, 29.03, 28.66; IR (KBr): ν<sub>max</sub> = 3462, 2361, 1633, 1513, 1230, 760, 692 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 389.2799, found 389.2798.

NMR Spectra for Compounds 3a-3x, 4a-4h

