

Supporting Information for

***Efficient synthesis of 2-aryl-2H-indazoles by base-catalyzed
benzyl C–H deprotonation and cyclization***

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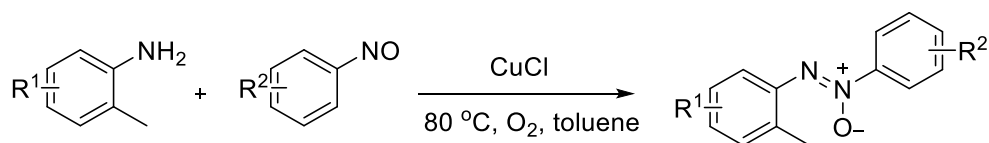
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1. General information

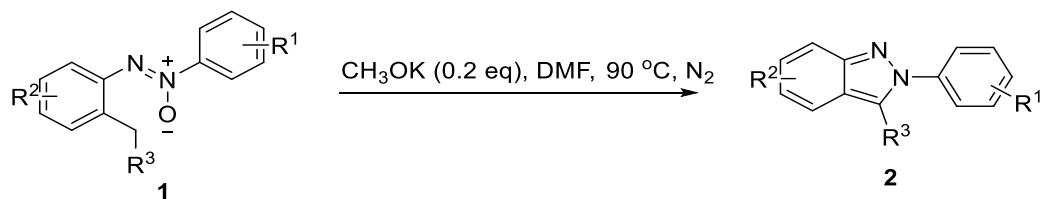
All reagents and solvents were purchased from TCI, Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, Acros and Meryer. All reactions were conducted using standard Schlenk techniques. Column chromatography was performed using EM silica gel 60 (300–400 mesh). ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were measured on Bruker AVANCE spectrometer (400 MHz or 500 MHz for ^1H , 125 MHz for ^{13}C), using DMSO- d_6 or CDCl_3 as the solvent with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard at room temperature. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm. ^1H NMR spectra were referenced to CDCl_3 (7.26 ppm) or DMSO- d_6 (2.50 ppm), and ^{13}C -NMR spectra were referenced to CDCl_3 (77.0 ppm) or DMSO- d_6 (39.5 ppm). Peak multiplicities were designated by the following abbreviations: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet. Chemical shifts are given in δ relative to TMS, the coupling constants J are given in Hz. Analysis of crude reaction mixture was done on the Varian 4000 GC/MS and Agilent 7890A/5975C. High-resolution mass spectra were recorded on a micrOTOF-Q II 10410 mass spectrometer. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents and solvents were obtained commercially and used without further purification.

2. General procedure for the preparation of unsymmetrical azoxybenzenes



A 50 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with substituted o-toluidine (30.0 mmol), nitrosobenzene (32.0 mmol), CuCl (6.0 mmol), pyridine (15.0 mmol) and toluene (30 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at $80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h under O_2 . After the reaction completed, the solvent was then removed under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to provide the unsymmetrical azoxybenzenes.

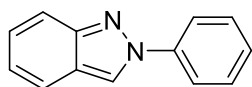
3. General experimental procedure



A 25 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **1** (0.3 mmol), CH_3OK (0.06 mmol) and DMF (2 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 8 h under N_2 . After the reaction completed, water (20.0 mL) was added, and the reaction solution was extracted by 50.0 mL of ethyl acetate in three times, then concentrated with ethyl acetate layer under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to provide the product **2**.

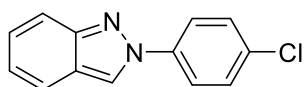
4. Characterization of products in details

2-phenyl-2H-indazole (**2a**)^[1]



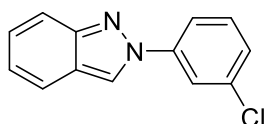
White solid (57 mg, 98% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.33 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 149.8, 140.6, 129.6, 127.9, 126.8, 122.8, 122.5, 121.1, 120.4, 120.3, 118.0.

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2H-indazole (**2b**)^[1]



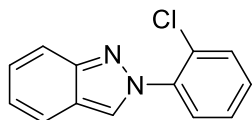
White solid (60 mg, 88% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 149.9, 139.0, 133.5, 129.6, 127.1, 122.9, 122.7, 121.9, 120.4, 120.2, 117.9.

2-(3-chlorophenyl)-2H-indazole (**2c**)^[1]



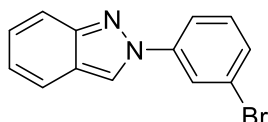
White solid (46 mg, 67% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.40 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.0, 141.5, 135.5, 130.6, 127.9, 127.2, 122.9, 122.8, 121.3, 120.4, 120.3, 118.8, 118.0.

2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2H-indazole (2d)^[1]



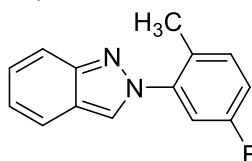
Yellow oil (49 mg, 72% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.4, 138.6, 130.6, 129.9, 128.9, 128.5, 127.6, 126.9, 125.1, 122.4, 122.0, 120.5, 117.9.

2-(3-bromophenyl)-2H-indazole (2e)^[2]



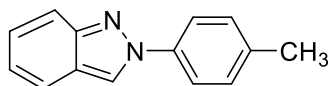
White solid (57 mg, 70% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.09 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.0, 141.5, 130.8, 127.2, 124.1, 123.2, 122.9, 122.8, 120.4, 120.3, 119.2, 118.0.

2-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)-2H-indazole (2f)



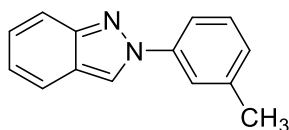
Yellow oil (64 mg, 95% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.80-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.07 (m, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.8 (d, $J = 245.0$), 149.4, 140.9 (d, $J = 8.8\text{Hz}$), 132.4 (d, $J = 8.8\text{Hz}$), 129.4 (d, $J = 3.8\text{Hz}$), 126.7, 124.2, 122.4, 122.1, 120.4, 118.0, 116.1 (d, $J = 21.3\text{Hz}$), 114.0 (d, $J = 23.8$), 17.4. ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -115.7 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{FN}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 249.0804, found 249.0800.

2-(p-tolyl)-2H-indazole (2g)^[3]



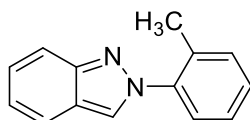
White solid (57 mg, 91% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.80-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.7, 138.3, 137.9, 130.1, 126.7, 122.8, 122.3, 120.8, 120.4, 120.3, 117.9, 21.0.

2-(*m*-tolyl)-2H-indazole (2h)^[2]



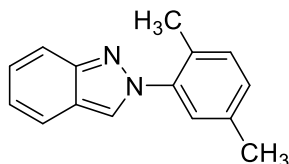
Yellow oil (57 mg, 92% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.80-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.68-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.8, 140.5, 139.7, 129.3, 128.7, 126.8, 122.8, 122.4, 121.8, 120.4, 120.3, 118.0, 117.9, 21.4.

2-(*o*-tolyl)-2H-indazole (2i)^[2]



White solid (59 mg, 94% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.74-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.3, 140.4, 134.0, 131.3, 129.2, 126.6, 126.5, 126.4, 124.3, 122.2, 122.0, 120.3, 117.9, 17.9.

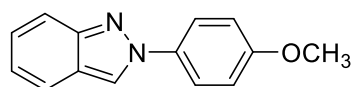
2-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)-2H-indazole (2j)^[4]



White solid (58 mg, 87% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.72-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ

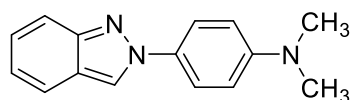
149.3, 140.2, 136.5, 131.1, 130.5, 129.9, 127.2, 126.3, 124.3, 122.1, 122.0, 120.3, 117.9, 20.8, 17.5.

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazole (2k)^[1]



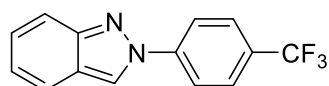
Yellow solid (58 mg, 87% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.69-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.08 (m, 1H), 7.02-7.00 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 149.6, 134.1, 126.6, 122.7, 122.4, 122.2, 120.3, 120.2, 117.8, 114.7, 55.6.

4-(2H-indazol-2-yl)-N,N-dimethylaniline (2l)^[5]



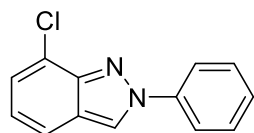
Yellow solid (64 mg, 90% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.67 (m, 3H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.80-6.77 (m, 2H), 2.99 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.1, 149.4, 130.7, 126.1, 122.7, 122.1, 121.9, 120.1, 119.9, 117.6, 112.6, 40.6.

2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2H-indazole (2m)^[3]



White solid (38 mg, 49% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.46 (s, 1H), 8.07-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.72-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.2, 143.0, 129.9, 129.6, 127.5, 126.8 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.9, 123.1, 122.7, 120.8, 120.5, 120.4, 118.1. ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.4 (s, 1F).

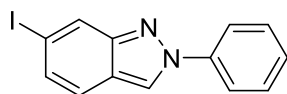
7-chloro-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2n)^[1]



White oil (64 mg, 94% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 2H),

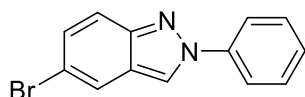
7.00-6.96 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 147.3, 140.2, 129.5, 128.3, 126.1, 124.0, 123.2, 122.7, 121.7, 121.3, 119.3.

6-iodo-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2o)



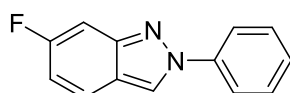
White solid (84 mg, 88% yield); mp 97.3-97.4 °C; EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.86-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.32 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.9, 140.2, 131.2, 129.6, 128.2, 127.2, 121.8, 121.5, 121.0, 120.9, 92.3. HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{IN}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 342.9708, found 342.9734.

5-bromo-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2p)^[1]



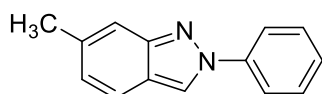
White solid (75 mg, 92% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.86-7.82 (m, 3H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.34 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 148.1, 140.2, 130.5, 129.6, 128.2, 123.9, 122.5, 120.9, 119.8, 119.7, 116.0.

6-fluoro-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2q)^[1]



Yellow solid (60 mg, 95% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.85-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 2H), 6.93-6.88 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.1 (d, J = 242.5Hz), 149.7 (d, J = 12.5Hz), 140.3, 129.6, 128.0, 122.3 (d, J = 10.0Hz), 120.9, 120.8, 120.1, 114.3 (d, J = 28.8Hz), 101.0 (d, J = 23.8Hz). ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -112.9 (s, 1F).

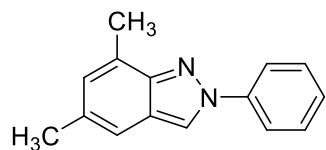
6-methyl-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2r)^[6]



White solid (56 mg, 90% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.30 (m,

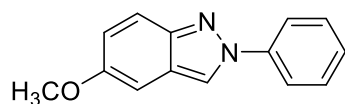
1H), 6.93-6.91 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.5, 140.6, 136.7, 129.5, 127.6, 125.5, 121.3, 120.8, 120.2, 119.9, 116.3, 22.3.

5,7-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2s)^[7]



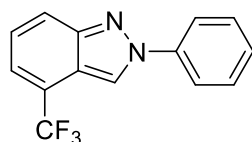
Yellow solid (65 mg, 98% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.86-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.3, 140.9, 132.1, 129.5, 128.8, 127.7, 127.5, 123.0, 121.0, 119.6, 115.8, 21.8, 17.0.

5-methoxy-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2t)^[1]



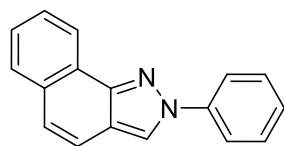
White solid (64 mg, 95% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (s, 1H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.69-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.01 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.83 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.6, 146.8, 140.6, 129.5, 127.5, 122.8, 122.1, 120.5, 119.3, 119.2, 96.4, 55.3.

2-phenyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-indazole (2u)



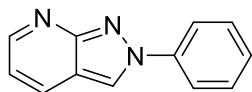
White solid (77 mg, 98% yield); mp 84.1-84.4 °C; EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.97-7.89 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.7, 140.2, 129.6, 128.5, 124.2 (q, J = 270.0Hz), 125.3, 122.5 (q, J = 33.8Hz), 122.2, 121.2, 120.8 (q, J = 3.8Hz), 119.9, 118.1. ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.6 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₄H₉F₃N₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 285.0616, found 285.0622.

2-phenyl-2H-benzo[g]indazole (2v)^[8]



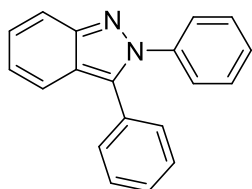
Yellow solid (61 mg, 83% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.71-8.69 (m, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.94-7.92 (m, 2H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.49 (m, 5H), 7.39-7.34 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 147.6, 140.7, 132.8, 129.5, 128.4, 127.3, 127.0, 126.7, 125.8, 124.6, 122.7, 121.1, 120.5, 120.1, 118.3.

2-phenyl-2H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine (2w)^[9]



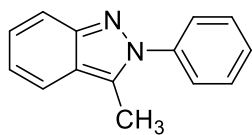
White solid (55 mg, 94% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/2. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.74-8.73 (m, 1H), 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.09-8.06 (m, 1H), 7.98-7.96 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.9, 152.4, 140.2, 129.9, 129.6, 128.4, 120.9, 120.0, 118.5, 115.0.

2,3-diphenyl-2H-indazole (2x)^[10]



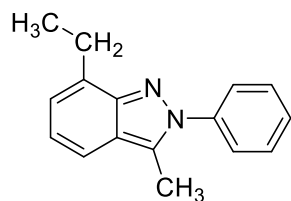
White solid (75 mg, 92% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.81-7.80 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 9H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.1, 140.3, 135.4, 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 126.1, 122.5, 121.8, 120.5, 117.8.

3-methyl-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2y)^[11]



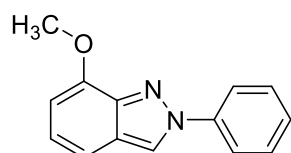
Yellow solid (32 mg, 52% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.73-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.51 (m, 4H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 148.7, 140.0, 131.9, 129.2, 128.6, 126.8, 125.8, 121.7, 120.9, 120.0, 117.6, 11.1.

7-ethyl-3-methyl-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2z)^[7]



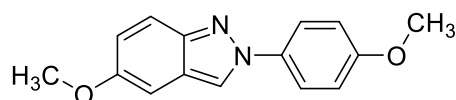
White solid (63 mg, 89% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.57-7.51 (m, 4H), 7.47-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 1H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 1H), 3.09 (q, 2H, $J = 7.6\text{Hz}$), 2.61 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, 3H, $J = 7.6\text{Hz}$); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 148.3, 140.2, 133.7, 132.0, 129.2, 128.5, 126.0, 123.6, 121.6, 121.3, 117.4, 24.3, 13.9, 11.1.

7-methoxy-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (2aa)^[12]



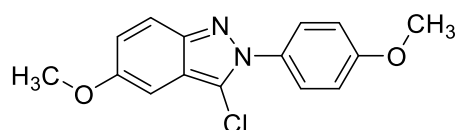
colorless oil (65 mg, 97% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.00-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.55-6.54 (m, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.4, 143.4, 140.4, 129.4, 127.8, 124.4, 123.1, 121.0, 120.3, 112.4, 103.2, 55.5.

5-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazole (2bb)^[13]



White solid (67 mg, 88% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 8.78 (s, 1H), 7.96-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 158.5, 154.6, 145.5, 133.6, 122.4, 121.3, 121.2, 119.9, 118.7, 114.6, 96.9, 55.5, 55.1.

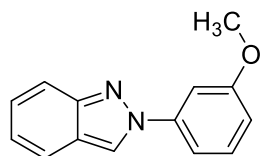
3-chloro-5-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazole (2cc)^[13]



White solid (59 mg, 68% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.60-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.05-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.75-6.74 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR

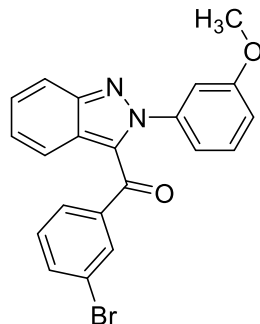
(125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 155.8, 145.2, 131.7, 126.9, 122.7, 119.6, 119.5, 118.1, 114.2, 94.7, 55.6, 55.5.

2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazole (2dd)^[1]



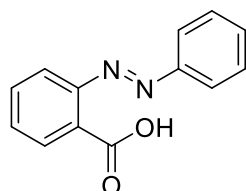
Colorless oil (61 mg, 91% yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 1H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 149.7, 141.7, 130.3, 126.9, 122.8, 122.5, 120.6, 120.5, 117.9, 113.9, 112.9, 106.8, 55.6.

(3-bromophenyl)(2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazol-3-yl)methanone (2ee)



White solid (84 mg, 69% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.02-7.00 (m, 1H), 6.92-6.90 (m, 1H), 3.80 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.4, 160.1, 148.6, 141.3, 139.5, 136.2, 132.5, 131.8, 130.2, 129.8, 128.2, 127.3, 125.6, 124.3, 122.8, 120.4, 118.7, 118.0, 115.3, 111.2, 55.6.

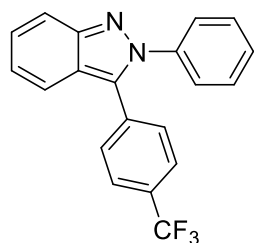
(E) -2-(phenyldiazenyl)benzoic acid (3a)



White solid (7mg, 10% yield); mp 175.6-176.2 °C; EtOAc/PE = 1/2. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 10.66 (s, 1H), 7.94-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.63-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz,

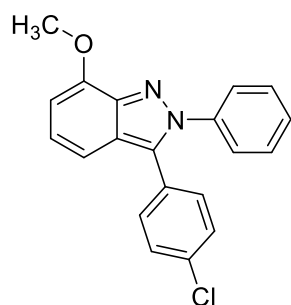
DMSO- d_6) δ 160.2, 146.6, 137.6, 132.5, 129.0, 124.8, 123.4, 121.8, 118.9, 118.1, 112.6. HRMS (ESI): calculated for $C_{13}H_{10}N_2O_2Na$ $[M+Na]^+$ 249.0640, found 249.0646.

2-phenyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2H-indazole (A)^[14]



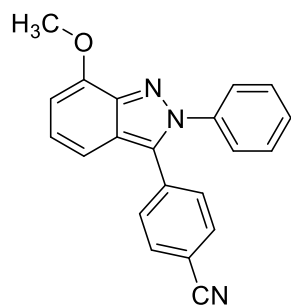
White solid (94 mg, 93% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/15. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.89-7.87 (m, 1H), 7.75-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.70-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 6H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 149.1, 139.9, 133.6, 133.5, 130.1 (q, J = 32.5Hz), 129.9, 129.3, 128.7, 127.2, 126.1, 125.8 (q, J = 3.8Hz), 125.0, 123.3, 122.9, 122.0, 119.9, 118.1.

3-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-methoxy-2-phenyl-2H-indazole (B)^[15]



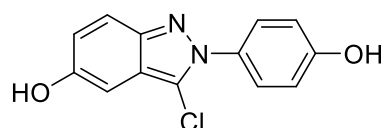
White solid (80 mg, 80% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.41-7.32 (m, 7H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.62-6.60 (m, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 150.5, 142.6, 139.9, 134.3, 134.2, 130.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 126.2, 123.6, 123.3, 111.9, 103.4, 55.5.

4-(7-methoxy-2-phenyl-2H-indazol-3-yl)benzonitrile (C)^[15]



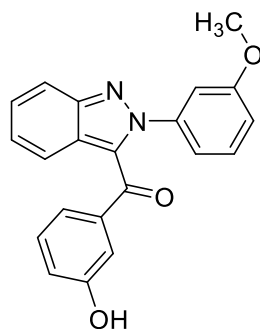
White solid (79 mg, 81% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/10. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.66-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 7H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.66-6.65 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.6, 142.6, 139.6, 134.5, 133.2, 132.4, 130.0, 129.2, 128.8, 126.2, 124.5, 123.4, 118.4, 111.6, 111.4, 103.6, 55.6.

3-chloro-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2H-indazol-5-ol (D)^[13]



White solid (42 mg, 54% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/2. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 10.04 (s, 1H), 9.62 (s, 1H), 7.58-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.95 (m, 3H), 6.73 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 163.2, 158.1, 149.1, 134.9, 132.2, 127.4, 124.7, 124.5, 121.0, 120.7, 102.3.

(3-hydroxyphenyl)(2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2H-indazol-3-yl)methanone (E)^[16]



White solid (59 mg, 57% total yield); EtOAc/PE = 1/3. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 9.90 (s, 1H), 7.91-7.90 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.11-7.03 (m, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 185.5, 159.5,

157.5, 147.7, 141.1, 138.5, 132.2, 129.9, 127.1, 125.0, 123.3, 120.9, 120.5, 120.2, 118.2, 117.7, 115.5, 114.7, 111.1, 55.5.

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5. ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{19}F NMR spectra of products

