## **Supporting Information**

# Bismuth(III)-catalyzed regioselective alkylation of tetrahydroquinolines and indolines towards the synthesis of bioactive core-biaryl oxindoles and CYP19 inhibitors

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#### 1. Optimization details:

For the optimization of reaction conditions, reactions are performed according to the general procedure (given below) on 0.06 mmol scale.

**Procedure:** Isatin derivative **1** (1 equiv, 0.3 mmol) was dissolved in DCE (0.25 M) solvent under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere which was taken in an oven-dried sealed tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar at room temperature. A catalytic amount of Bi(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %) was added to the reaction mixture followed by addition of tetrahydroquinoline derivative **2** (2.5 equiv, 0.6 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir at 80 °C in a pre-heated aluminum block until the reaction completed. The reaction mixture was quenched with and diluted with EtOAc after completion of reaction (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was then passed through celite and evaporated. The evaporation residue was purified by column chromatography (200-400 mesh silica, basified by 5% Et<sub>3</sub>N) to give the pure product **3**.



	Lewis acid Solvent Temp. Time	
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3aa

1a	
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2a

Sl no.	Methoxy isatin (equiv)	Tetrahydro quinoline (equiv)	Lewis Acid	Solvent (0.25 M)	Тетр	Time	Yield of 3aa (%) <sup>a,b</sup>
			Solvent Varia	ation			
1.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	1,4- Dioxane	80 °C	6 h	59(55)
2.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	MeOH	80 °C	6 h	67
3.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DMSO	80 °C	6 h	NR
4.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DMF	80 °C	6 h	56
5.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCM	80 °C	6 h	64
6.	1	2.5	In(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	79

Lewis Acid Variation							
7.	1	2.5	$In(OTf)_3(0.1 equiv)$	DCE	80 °C	6 h	79
8.	1	2.5	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	58
9.	1	2.5	AlCl <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	39
10.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	83 (75) <sup>b</sup>
		L	Temp Varia	tion	1	1	1
11.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	rt	6 h	11
12.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	40 °C	6 h	49
13.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	60 °C	6 h	79 (73) <sup>b</sup>
14.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	83 (75) <sup>b</sup>
15.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	100 °C	6 h	48
16.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	120 °C	6 h	29
17.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	140 °C	6 h	NR
	Time Variation						
18.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	4 h	47
19.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	6 h	83 (75) <sup>b</sup>
20.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	96 (92) <sup>b</sup>
21.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	10 h	82 (81) <sup>b</sup>
Coupling Partner Equiv Variation							
22.	1	2	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	68
23.	1	2.2	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	73
24.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	96 (92) <sup>b</sup>
25.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.05 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	55
26.	1	2.8	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	75

27.	1	3	$\operatorname{Bi(OTf)}_{3}(0.1 \text{ equiv})$	DCE	80 °C	8 h	72
	Mechanistic Study						
28.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	96
29.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv) BHT (1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	96
30.	1	2.5	Bi(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.1 equiv) TEMPO (1 equiv)	DCE	80 °C	8 h	78

<sup>a</sup>Yield by NMR with 1,3,5-trimethoxy benzene as internal reference; <sup>b</sup>Isolated yield of 3aa

#### 2. Intermediate trapping:



To a pre-dried sealed tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar under N<sub>2</sub>, isatin **1b** (1 equiv, 0.01 mmol), tetrahydroquinoline **2a** (2.5 equiv, 0.03 mmol) were taken followed by addition of DCE (0.25 M) solvent. Then catalytic amount of Bi(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction was allowed to stir at 80 °C in a pre-heated aluminum block for 30 minutes. After 30 min the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and quenched with EtOAc:Methanol (50:50) solvents. Then it is passed through a short celite pad and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude was submitted for HRMS in methanol.



Intermediate HRMS: HRMS (ESI) m/z: M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{14}BiNaN_2O^{4+}$ :494.0802, Found: 494.0750

3. CYP-19 inhibitor reaction and its HRMS data:



Tetrahydropyrroloquinolinone (**8h**, 24 mg, 0.14 mmol) was dissolved in DCE (0.25 M) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in an oven-dried sealed tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar at room temperature. pyridin-4-yl(m-tolyl)methyl 2,2,2-trichloroacetimidate **5c** (1.5 equiv, 0.21 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture followed by addition of catalytic amount of Bi(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (10 mol %). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 80 °C in a pre-heated aluminum block for 8-24h. Then the reaction mixture was quenched and diluted with EtOAc and it was passed through celite and evaporated. The crude mixture was submitted for HRMS in methanol from which formation of 9**hc** was detected and it is formed in trace amount.







4. Copies of NMR spectra of the products and post-functionalized adducts:

















S**15 |** 















S**22 |** 













S**28 |** 



S**29 |** 





























![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### S**45 |**

![](_page_45_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

S**49 |** 

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

S**50 |** 

![](_page_50_Figure_0.jpeg)

### 5. X-ray data:

(a) X-ray data of 5-methoxy-3,3-bis(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-6-yl)indolin-2-one (3aa):

![](_page_51_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Table S2**. Crystal data and structure refinement for 5-methoxy-3,3-bis(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-6-yl)indolin-2-one (**3aa**):

la-299
$2(C_{27}H_{27}N_{3}O_{2})$
<u>351.03</u>
<u>Friclinic, P</u>
100
1 2 3: <u>7</u>

<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	<u>9.8262 (2)</u> , <u>10.2492 (2)</u> , <u>14.6317 (3)</u>
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ (°)	<u>95.916 (2)</u> , <u>102.954 (2)</u> , <u>111.833 (2)</u>
$V(Å^3)$	<u>1304.44 (5)</u>
Ζ	<u>1</u>
Radiation type	<u>Cu Kα</u>
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.55
Crystal size (mm)	$\underline{0.13} \times \underline{0.12} \times \underline{0.1}$
Data collection	
Diffractometer	SuperNova, Dual, Cu at home/near, Pilatus 200K
Absorption correction	<u>Multi-scan</u> <u>CrysAlis PRO 1.171.40.63a (Rigaku Oxford Diffraction, 2019)</u> Empirical absorption correction using spherical harmonics, implemented in SCALE3 ABSPACK scaling algorithm.
$T_{\min}, T_{\max}$	<u>0.892, 1.000</u>
No. of measured, independent and observed [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] reflections	<u>19586, 4776, 4531</u>
R <sub>int</sub>	0.025
$(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{max} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$	0.602
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$ $wR(F^2), S$	<u>0.036, 0.091, 1.03</u>
No. of reflections	<u>4776</u>
No. of parameters	<u>290</u>
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
$\Delta \rho_{max}, \Delta \rho_{min} (e \text{ Å}^{-3})$	<u>0.25, -0.21</u>

## (b) X-ray data of 5-benzhydryl-1-(methylsulfonyl)indoline (6ga):

![](_page_52_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for 5-benzhydryl-1-<br/>(methylsulfonyl)indoline (6ga):

	pcr-np-231
Crystal data	
Chemical formula	$2(C_{22}H_{21}NO_2S)$
$M_{ m r}$	<u>827.98</u>
Crystal system, space group	<u>Triclinic</u> , <u>P</u>
Temperature (K)	<u>100</u>
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	<u>11.5475 (3)</u> , <u>11.5869 (3)</u> , <u>16.7480 (3)</u>
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ (°)	<u>86.787 (2)</u> , <u>70.290 (2)</u> , <u>89.647 (2)</u>
$V(\text{\AA}^3)$	<u>2106.08 (9)</u>
Ζ	2
Radiation type	<u>Cu Kα</u>
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	<u>1.60</u>
Crystal size (mm)	$\underline{0.13} \times \underline{0.12} \times \underline{0.1}$
Data collection	
Diffractometer	SuperNova, Dual, Cu at home/near, Pilatus 200K

Absorption correction	<u>Multi-scan</u> <u>CrysAlis PRO 1.171.40.63a (Rigaku Oxford Diffraction, 2019)</u> Empirical absorption correction using spherical harmonics, implemented in SCALE3 ABSPACK scaling algorithm.
$T_{\min}, T_{\max}$	<u>0.403, 1.000</u>
No. of measured, independent and observed [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] reflections	<u>28843, 7581, 6925</u>
R <sub>int</sub>	<u>0.114</u>
$(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{max} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$	0.602
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)],$ $wR(F^2), S$	<u>0.100, 0.269, 1.03</u>
No. of reflections	7581
No. of parameters	<u>471</u>
No. of restraints	<u>36</u>
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
$\Delta \rho_{max}, \Delta \rho_{min} (e \text{ Å}^{-3})$	<u>0.93, -0.82</u>