

Supporting Information

N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Catalyzed [4+1] Annulation of Phthalaldehyde and Imines

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Table of Contents

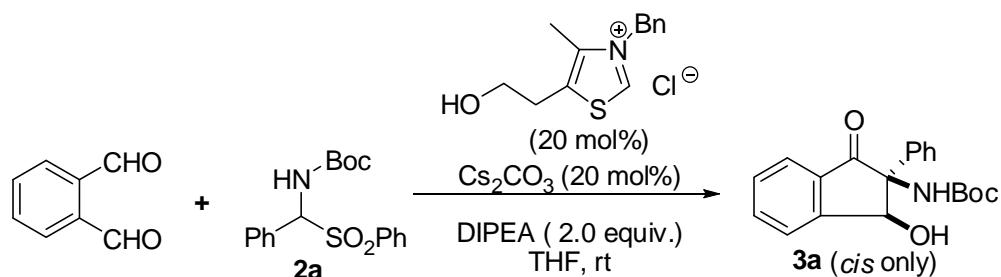
Part I Experimental part	1
General Information	1
1.1 Synthesis of <i>cis</i> -indanones via a Cascade Stetter-Aldol Reaction Catalyzed by NHC 4a ..	1
1.2 Synthesis of isoquinolinone	7
1.3 X-ray Crystal Structure	9
References.....	10
Part II Copy of NMR Spectra.....	11

Part I Experimental part

General Information

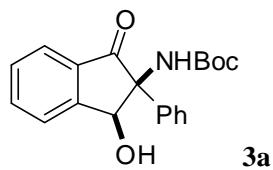
All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. CH_2Cl_2 and CH_3CN were distilled from CaH_2 . Phthalaldehyde was used after recrystallization from petroleum ether. *tert*-Butyl aryl(phenylsulfonyl)methylcarbamate¹ were prepared according to the literatures. Column chromatograph was performed on silica gel 200 ~ 300 mesh. All ¹H NMR (300 MHz), ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 , with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard and reported in parts per million (ppm, δ). ¹H NMR Spectroscopy splitting patterns were designated as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t). Splitting patterns that could not be interpreted or easily visualized were designated as multiplet (m) or broad (br). Infrared spectra were reported as wavenumber (cm^{-1}).

1.1 Synthesis of *cis*-indanones via a Cascade Stetter-Aldol Reaction Catalyzed by NHC 4a



Typical procedure. To an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with thiazolium salt (26.9 mg, 0.1 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (32.6 mg, 0.1 mmol). The tube was closed with a septum, evacuated, and back-filled with argon. To

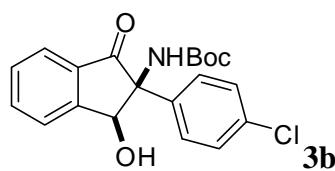
this mixture was added distilled solvent 5 mL, then stirred for 10 min at room temperature. DIPEA (173.9 μ L, 1 mmol), *tert*-butyl phenyl(phenylsulfonyl) methylcarbamate (173.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), and phthalaldehyde (100.5 mg, 0.75 mmol) was added to the tube. The mixture was further stirred for overnight, then diluted with ethyl acetate and passed through a short silica pad. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give the desired product.



3a

***tert*-butyl-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate**

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (76%) of *cis*-**3a** as a white solid, $R_f = 0.17$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 125-127 °C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.82-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.57-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.22 (m, 5H), 5.78 (b, 1H), 5.65 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.94 (b, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.3, 156.8, 152.2, 138.7, 136.1, 133.7, 130.0, 128.6, 127.7, 126.8, 125.5, 124.7, 80.8, 77.6, 70.3, 28.0; IR (KBr) ν 1723, 1696, 1163, 699; EIMS m/z : 339 (10.0), 222 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_4$, 339.1471; found 339.1474.

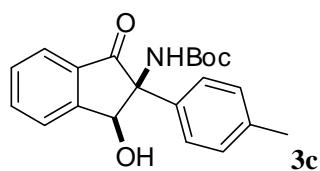


3b

***tert*-butyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate**

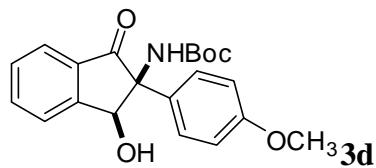
Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (83%) of *cis*-**3a** as

a waxy solid, $R_f = 0.30$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.80-7.75 (m, 3H), 7.57-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 5.81 (b, 1H), 5.64 (d, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (b, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.0, 156.8, 152.3, 137.3, 136.6, 134.0, 133.7, 130.5, 129.0, 127.1, 126.0, 125.2, 81.3, 77.3, 70.2, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1722, 1703, 1165; EIMS m/z : 373 (4.0), 256 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4\text{Cl}$, 373.1081; found 373.1086.



tert-butyl-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate

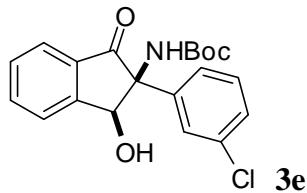
Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (56%) of *cis*-**3a** as a waxy solid, $R_f = 0.23$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.79-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.04 (m, 4H), 5.79 (b, 1H), 5.63 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.96 (b, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.7, 157.2, 152.4, 137.9, 136.3, 135.9, 134.0, 130.3, 129.6, 127.1, 125.6, 124.9, 81.1, 78.0, 70.3, 28.2, 20.9; IR (KBr) ν 1727, 1702, 704; EIMS m/z : 353 (8.0), 226 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4$, 353.1627; found 353.1630.



tert-butyl-1-hydroxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate

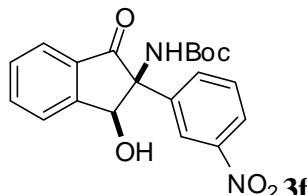
Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (40%) of *cis*-**3a** as

a waxy solid, $R_f = 0.20$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.81-7.72 (m, 3H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.74 (b, 1H), 5.63 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 (b, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.7, 159.3, 157.3, 152.3, 136.3, 134.0, 130.8, 130.3, 127.1, 127.0, 124.9, 114.3, 81.2, 78.0, 70.0, 55.3, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1723, 1701, 1162; EIMS m/z : 369 (50.0), 251 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_5$, 369.1576; found 369.1581.



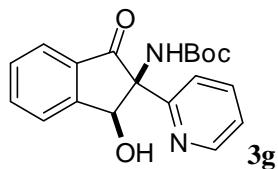
tert-butyl-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (87%) of cis-3a as a white solid, $R_f = 0.24$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 132-134 oC. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.80-7.76 (m, 3H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.05 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.84 (b, 1H), 5.64 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (b, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.9, 156.9, 152.3, 140.8, 136.7, 135.0, 133.7, 130.6, 130.1, 128.3, 127.2, 125.9, 125.2, 123.8, 81.5, 77.3, 70.2, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1720, 1694, 1161, 696; EIMS m/z : 373 (4.0), 256 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4\text{Cl}$, 373.1081; found 373.1084.

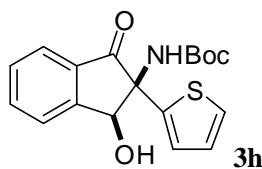


tert-butyl-1-hydroxy-2-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (91%) of *cis*-**3a** as a white solid, $R_f = 0.17$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 99-100 °C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.14-8.09 (m, 2H), 7.91-7.81 (m, 3H), 7.63-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 5.93 (b, 1H), 5.76 (d, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.74 (b, 1H), 1.48 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 199.0, 156.4, 152.1, 148.5, 140.9, 136.9, 133.3, 131.4, 130.7, 129.7, 127.1, 125.4, 122.9, 120.7, 81.7, 77.4, 70.2, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1719, 1703, 1159, 702; EIMS m/z : 384 (4.0), 267 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$, 384.1321; found 384.1326.

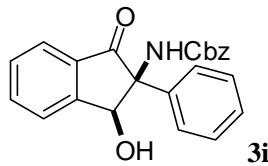


tert-butyl-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-(pyridin-2-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ylcarbamate
Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (87%) of *cis*-**3a** as a waxy solid, $R_f = 0.17$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.52 (d, $J = 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (b, 1H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 1H), 6.84 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.41 (d, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.04 (d, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.7, 158.1, 155.7, 153.7, 148.3, 137.5, 136.4, 134.4, 130.2, 127.3, 124.7, 123.0, 119.8, 81.1, 78.3, 70.4, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1725, 1697, 1165, 701; EIMS m/z : 340 (5.0), 223 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$, 340.1423; found 340.1425.



***tert*-butyl-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-ylcarbamate**

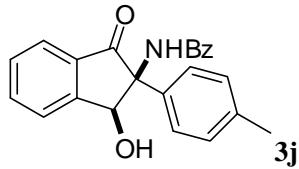
Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (93%) of *cis*-**3a** as a white solid, $R_f = 0.16$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 135-136 °C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.83-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.55 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.73 (m, 2H), 5.89 (b, 1H), 5.73 (d, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.96 (b, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.5, 156.8, 151.7, 142.8, 136.4, 133.1, 130.5, 127.4, 127.2, 125.6, 125.3, 125.1, 81.4, 78.3, 68.4, 28.2; IR (KBr) ν 1727, 1694, 1163, 703; EIMS m/z : 345 (4.0), 228 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$, 345.1035; found 345.1039.



benzyl-1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-ylcarbamate

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (66%) of *cis*-**3a** as a waxy solid, $R_f = 0.19$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.82-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.23 (m, 11H), 6.07 (b, 1H), 5.72 (d, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.66 (d, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.0, 157.4, 152.3, 138.4, 136.5, 135.8, 133.9, 130.5, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.1, 125.6, 125.1, 77.7, 70.6, 67.6; IR (KBr) ν 1718, 1700,

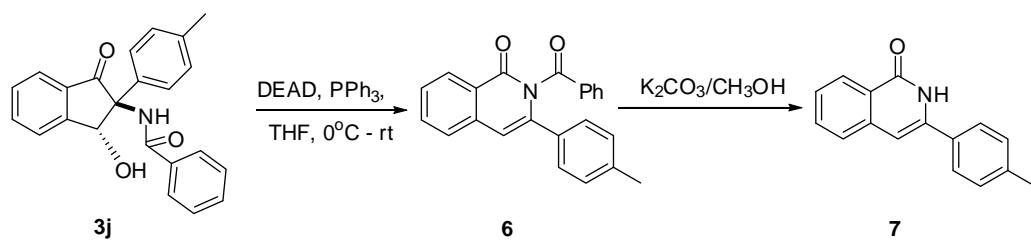
1654, 697; EIMS m/z : 373 (4.0), 108 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}NO_4$, 373.1314; found 373.1318.



N-(1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)benzamide

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1), yielding 78.5 mg (53%) of *cis*-**3a** as a white solid, $R_f = 0.20$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 107-108 °C. 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.92-7.76 (m, 5H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 200.6, 169.1, 152.3, 138.2, 136.5, 135.3, 133.9, 133.1, 132.4, 130.4, 129.8, 128.8, 127.4, 127.2, 125.7, 125.0, 78.0, 71.3, 21.0; IR (KBr) ν 1729, 1700, 1644, 1385, 696; EIMS m/z : 357 (4.0), 105 (100); HRMS-(EI) (m/z): M^+ calcd for $C_{23}H_{19}NO_3$, 357.1365; found 357.1370.

1.2 Synthesis of isoquinolinone **6²**



2-benzoyl-3-p-tolylisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (6**)**

To an oven-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with the indanone (76 mg, 0.213 mmol) and PPh₃ (83.6 mg, 0.319 mmol). The tube was closed with a septum, evacuated, and back-filled with argon. To this mixture was added distilled solvent THF(2 mL), then the mixture was cooled to 0°C. DEAD(55.6 mg, 0.319 mmol) was added to the tube. The mixture was further stirred for 1h at 0°C, then 2h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give the desired product.

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10/1), yielding 59.9 mg (83%) as a waxy solid, R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 8.03-7.91 (m, 5H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.0, 155.6, 149.6, 139.9, 138.8, 135.7, 134.0, 131.1, 130.6, 129.5, 129.1, 128.7, 127.5, 127.2, 126.9, 123.7, 120.6, 115.5, 21.3; IR (KBr) ν 1654, 1364, 613; EIMS *m/z*: 339 (50.0), 235 (100); HRMS-(EI) (*m/z*): M⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₇NO₂, 339.1259; found 339.1264.

3-p-tolylisoquinolin-1(2H)-one (7)

To an 10mL rounded-bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was added isoquinolinone (40mg, 0.118 mmol) and CH₃OH (1mL) .Then, K₂CO₃(32.6 mg, 0.236 mmol) was added to the mixture. The stirring was continuing for 3h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel

(ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give the desired product.

Purified with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (3/1-1/1), yielding 26.4 mg (95%) as a white solid, $R_f = 0.23$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3/1), mp: 239-240°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.06 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.57 (m, 4H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.9, 139.8, 139.5, 138.4, 132.8, 131.5, 129.9, 127.5, 126.5, 126.0, 124.9, 103.8, 21.3; IR (KBr) ν 1739, 1154, 810.

1.3 X-ray Crystal Structure

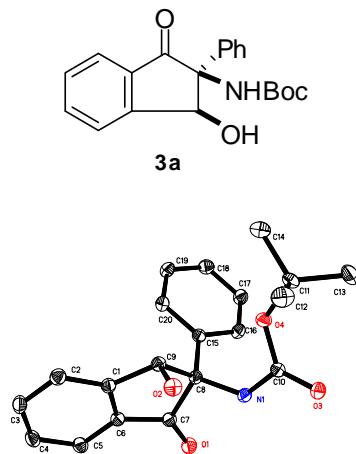


Figure S1. X-Ray crystal structure of *cis*-**3a**

A colorless solution of **3a** in EtOAc was prepared. Crystals suitable for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvents at room temperature.

References

1. (a) C. Rampalakos and W. D. Wulff, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2008, **350**, 1785. (b) M. D. Smith, C. R. Jones, P. G. Dan and A. J. Morrison, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2009, **48**, 7391. (c) T. Ollevier and Z. Li, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2009, **351**, 3251.
2. W.-J. Cho, M.-J. Park, B.-H. Chung and C.-O. Lee, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 1998, **8**, 41-46.

Part II Copy of NMR Spectra

