Generation of diverse isoquinoline *N*-oxides in Aqueous System

Huanhuan Wang,^a Mengdan Zhu,^b Shengqing Ye^a and Jie Wu^{*,a,c}

^a Department of Chemistry, Fudan University, 220 Handan Road, Shanghai 200433, China ^b Jianping Senior High School, 517 Gushan Road, Shanghai 200135, China ^c State Key Laboratory of Organometallic Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 354 Fenglin Road, Shanghai 200032, China

jie_wu@fudan.edu.cn

Supporting Information

- 1. General experimental methods (S2-S3).
- 2. General experimental procedure and characterization data (S3-S11).
- 3. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **2-4** (S12-S58).

General experimental methods:

All reactions were performed in tubes in air. Unless otherwise stated, all commercial reagents were used as received. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (60-Å pore size, 32–63 μ m, standard grade). Analytical thin–layer chromatography was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Thin layer chromatography plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Organic solutions were concentrated on rotary evaporators at ~20 Torr at 25–35°C. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra are recorded in parts per million from internal tetramethylsilane on the δ scale. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker DRX-400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. All chemical shift values are quoted in ppm and coupling constants quoted in Hz. High resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) spectra were obtained on a micrOTOF II Instrument.

General procedure of generation of 4-bromo-isoquinoline N-oxides or 4-iodo-isoquinoline N-oxides via an electrophilic cyclization of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oximes **1** with halogen generated in situ in water.



2-Alkynylbenzaldoxime 1 (0.30 mmol) was added to a mixture of sodium bromide or sodium iodide (2 equiv, 0.6 mmol) and oxone (1.5 equiv, 0.45 mmol) in water (3.0 mL). The mixture was stirred under 30 °C. After completion of the reaction (12 hours), the mixture was extracted by EtOAc (2 \times 5.0 mL) and dried by anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent followed by purification on silica gel provided the product **2** or **3**.

General procedure of one-pot synthesis of functionalized isoquinoline N-oxides via an electrophilic cyclization of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde oxime **1** followed by the palladium-catalyzed Suzuki coupling in aqueous system.



2-Alkynylbenzaldoxime 1 (0.30 mmol) was added to a mixture of sodium bromide or sodium iodide (2 equiv, 0.6 mmol) and oxone (1.5 equiv, 0.45 mmol) in water (3.0 mL). The mixture was stirred under 30 °C. After 12 hours, Pd(PPh₃)Cl₂ (10 mol %, 0.03 mmol), K₂CO₃ (4.0 equiv, 1.2 mmol), arylboronic acid (1.5 equiv, 0.45 mmol) and DMA (4.0 mL) were added. The mixture was stirred under 70 °C for another 20 hours. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted by saturated brine, extracted by EtOAc (2 × 5.0 mL), and dried by anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent followed by purification on silica gel provided the product **4**.



4-Bromo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2a**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.66-7.71 (m, 3H), 8.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 122.2, 125.1, 127.3, 128.6, 129.1, 129.5, 129.8, 123.0, 123.1 133.5, 136.2, 147.7.

4-Bromo-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**2b**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 3.90 (s, 3H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.67 (m, 3H), 8.08 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 55.3, 102.4, 114.1, 125.1, 128.4, 129.5, 129.7, 130.2, 131.2, 131.7, 132.6, 136.7, 151.0, 160.3.



4-Bromo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2c**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.75 (m, 3H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 115.8 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 22.0 Hz), 122.5, 125.1, 127.4, 128.6, 129.1, 129.2, 130.1, 132.0, 132.1, 136.2, 146.8, 163.2 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 248.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀BrFNO: 317.9924 (M + H⁺), found: 317.9939.



4-Bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**2d**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.67-7.75 (m, 3H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 122.3, 125.1, 127.4, 128.7, 129.0, 129.1, 130.2, 131.4, 131.7, 135.6, 136.3, 146.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀BrClNO: 333.9629 (M + H⁺), found: 333.9640.



4-Bromo-6-fluoro-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2e**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 112.1 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz), 120.6 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 26.0 Hz), 121.2, 125.7, 128.0, 128.1, 128.7, 129.7, 130.7 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 133.2, 136.0, 148.7, 163.1 (d, ${}^{1}J_{CF} = 252.0$ Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀BrFNO: 317.9924 (M + H⁺), found: 317.9937.



4-Bromo-7-fluoro-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2f**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.50-7.56 (m, 3H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 108.5 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 22.0 Hz), 120.0 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz), 122.1, 126.0, 128.7, 129.6, 129.8, 130.3, 130.5 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 8.0 Hz), 133.2, 135.4, 147.4, 162.7 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 252.0 Hz).



4-Bromo-7-chloro-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2g**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.59 (m, 4H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 9,2 Hz, 1H), 8.81 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 122.1, 123.5, 127.3, 128.7, 129.1, 129.3, 129.6, 129.7, 130.6, 133.1, 135.2, 136.2, 148.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀BrClNO: 333.9629 (M + H⁺), found: 333.9616.



4-Bromo-6-methoxy-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2h**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.99 (s, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 55.8, 105.9, 120.7, 123.0, 123.8, 127.2, 128.6, 129.4, 129.7, 131.3, 133.7, 136.3, 147.7, 161.3.



4-Bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-fluoroisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2i**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.82 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 108.7 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 23.0 Hz), 120.3 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz), 122.2, 126.1, 129.0, 129.7, 129.8, 130.5, 130.6, 131.4, 135.6, 135.7, 146.2, 162.8 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 252.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₉BrClFNO: 351.9535 (M + H⁺), found: 351.9545.



4-Bromo-3-cyclopropyl-7-fluoroisoquinoline 2-oxide (**2j**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.13-1.17 (m, 2H), 1.27-1.32 (m, 1H), 2.04-2.22 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.37 (m, 1H), 8.13 (dd, J = 5.2, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.7, 13.6, 108.1 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 28.9$ Hz), 119.8 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 25.0$ Hz), 123.6, 126.3, 128.5 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 10.0$ Hz), 129.8 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 9.0$ Hz), 135.4 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 5.0$ Hz), 147.9, 162.2 (d, ¹ $J_{CF} = 251.0$ Hz). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₀BrFNO: 281.9924 (M + H⁺), found: 281.9915.



4-Iodo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3a**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38(s, 1H), 7.48-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.57 (m, 3H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 101.9, 125.2, 128.5, 128.7, 129.5, 129.6, 129.8, 130.3, 131.7, 132.6, 136.8, 137.3, 151.2.



4-Iodo-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**3b**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.88 (s, 3H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.65 (m, 3H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 55.3, 102.4, 114.1, 125.1, 128.4, 129.6, 129.7, 130.2, 131.2, 131.7, 132.7, 136.7, 151.1, 160.3.



3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-iodoisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3c**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.66 (m, 3H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.83 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 102.1, 115.9 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 22.0 Hz), 125.2, 128.5, 129.9, 130.4, 131.6, 131.9 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 9.0 Hz), 132.6, 133.2, 136.7, 150.2, 163.2 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 248.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀FINO: 365.9786 (M + H⁺), found: 365.9752.



3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-iodoisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3d**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60-7.68 (m, 3H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 101.9, 125.3, 128.5, 129.1, 130.0, 133.5, 131.3, 131.6, 132.6, 135.6, 136.8, 150.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀ClINO: 381.9490 (M + H⁺), found: 381.9466.



6-Fluoro-4-iodo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3e**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.47-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.69-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 2.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 100.4, 117.3 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 24.0$ Hz), 120.3 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 26.0$ Hz), 125.5, 128.3 (d, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 9.0$ Hz), 128.8, 129.5, 129.6, 133.3 (d, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 10.0$ Hz), 136.5, 137.1, 152.0, 163.4 (d, ${}^{1}J_{CF}$ = 252.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀FINO: 365.9786 (M + H⁺), found: 365.9786.



7-Fluoro-4-iodo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3f**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.56 (m, 3H), 8.10 (dd, J = 5.2, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 101.4, 108.4 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 22.0$ Hz), 120.1 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 25.0$ Hz), 128.8, 129.5, 129.6, 135.6, 135.7, 135.8, 135.9, 150.8, 162.6 (d, ¹ $J_{CF} = 252.0$ Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀FINO: 365.9786 (M + H⁺), found: 365.9795.



7-Chloro-4-iodo-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3g**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.65 (m, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.75 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 101.4, 123.5, 128.8, 129.0, 129.5, 129.6, 129.9, 130.8, 134.3, 135.7, 136.0, 137.0, 151.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₀ClINO: 381.9490 (M + H⁺), found: 381.9480.



3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-7-fluoro-4-iodoisoquinoline 2-oxide (**3h**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.77 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 101.3, 108.4 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 23.0 Hz), 120.3 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz), 128.6, 129.1, 129.3 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 131.3, 135.3, 135.7, 135.8, 136.0, 149.6, 161.8 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 253.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₉CIFINO: 399.9396 (M + H⁺), found: 399.9402.



3,4-Diphenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**4a**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.12-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.28 (m, 8H), 7.45-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 124.7, 126.3, 127.7, 127.8, 128.2, 128.3, 128.8, 129.0, 129.1, 130.4, 130.7, 132.1, 132.2, 135.0, 136.0, 137.0, 146.2.



3-Phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**4b**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.31 (s, 3H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (m, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.47-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 9.02 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.3, 125.0, 126.4, 137.8, 128.3, 128.5, 128.9, 129.0, 129.1, 130.3, 130.8, 131.8, 132.1, 132.2, 136.3, 137.2, 137.6, 146.0.



4-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**4c**).^{1 1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.29 (s, 9H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 7.23-7.29 (m, 7H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.3, 124.7, 125.0, 126.5, 127.7, 128.2, 128.6, 130.0, 130.1, 130.8, 131.8, 132.0, 132.1, 132.2, 132.3, 135.9, 150.8.



4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**4d**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.12 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.41-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.59-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 115.4 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 22.0$ Hz), 124.9, 126.0, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 129.0, 129.2, 129.4, 130.7, 131.0 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 7.0$ Hz), 132.2 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 8.0$ Hz), 136.0, 136.3, 146.4, 162.2 (d, ¹ $J_{CF} = 247.0$ Hz).



4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylisoquinoline 2-oxide (**4e**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.27 (m, 6H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.60-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 125.0, 125.9, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 129.2, 129.3, 130.7, 131.8, 132.1, 132.2, 133.4, 134.0, 135.8, 136.5, 146.2.



7-Chloro-3-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**4f**).^{1 1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.3 (s, 3H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 2.0, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.3, 123.1, 127.7, 127.9, 128.2, 128.4, 129.0, 129.3, 129.7, 130.2, 130.7, 131.5, 131.9, 134.9, 135.1, 137.1, 137.9, 146.6.



3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-7-fluoro-4-(*p*-tolyl)isoquinoline 2-oxide (**4g**).¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.37 (dd,

J = 2.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.67 (m, 1H), 8.88 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.3, 108.1 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 23.0$ Hz), 118.9 (d, ² $J_{CF} = 25.0$ Hz), 126.4, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 129.2, 129.4, 130.1, 130.5, 131.4, 132.0, 132.1 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 10.0$ Hz), 135.2 (d, ³ $J_{CF} = 6.0$ Hz), 138.2, 144.5, 162.3 (d, ¹ $J_{CF} = 251.0$ Hz).

Reference:

1. Q. Ding and J. Wu, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2008, 350, 1850.





























































