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## Supporting Information

# Facile Synthesis of 2-Amino-3-Bromoquinolines by Palladium-Catalyzed Isocyanide Insertion and Cyclization of *gem*-Dibromovinylanilines

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#### 1. General Considerations

All reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. For flash column chromatography, silica gel (200-300 mesh) was applied. Reactions were monitored using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on commercial silica gel plates (GF 254). Visualization of the developed plates was performed under UV lights (GF 254 nm). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 or 500 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were reported in ppm referenced to an internal tetramethylsilane standard ( $\delta$  0.00) or the CDCl<sub>3</sub>-d1 residual peak ( $\delta$  7.26) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Chemical shifts of <sup>13</sup>C NMR were reported relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  77.0). The following abbreviations were used to describe peak splitting patterns when appropriate: br s = broad singlet, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. Coupling constant, J, was reported in Hertz unit (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an ESI-LC-MS/MS spectrometer.

#### 2. Preparation of Substrates 1

2-(gem-dibromovinyl)aniline 1 were prepared and characterized in our previous work<sup>1</sup>.

#### 3. General Procedures and Characterization Data

#### 1) Typical synthetic procedure of 2-amino-3-bromoquinolines 2a

A mixture of 2-(gem-dibromovinyl)aniline **1a** (0.2 mmol), Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (7.3 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5.0 mol %),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (131 mg, 0.4 mmol), and t-butyl isocyanide (0.034mL, 0.3 mmol) in 1,4-Dioxane (2.0 mL) was stirred under air at 100°C for 3h in sealed tube. After complete consumption of **1a** as monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, extracted twice with Et<sub>2</sub>O, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to afford the desired product **2a**.

#### 2) Typical synthetic procedure of 3-substituted-2-aminoquinolines

A mixture of 2-(gem-dibromovinyl)aniline **1a** (0.2 mmol), Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mol %), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.4 mmol), and t-butyl isocyanide (0.034mL, 0.3 mmol) in 1,4-Dioxane (2.0 mL) was stirred under air at 100°C for 3h in sealed tube. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted twice with ethyl acetate, dried and concentrated. Then **3**(**4**/**5**) (0.3 mmol), Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mol %), K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (0.4 mmol), and toluene (2.0 mL) were added to the residue under N<sub>2</sub> and heated at 120°C for further 12h. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted twice with ethyl acetate, dried and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to afford the desired product **6**(7/**8**).

#### 3) Product Characterization



**2a:** Yellow solid, 48 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 19.4, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 1.50 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.70, 146.80, 138.34, 132.25, 132.16, 129.46, 128.54, 128.42, 126.71, 126.38, 123.86, 122.41, 108.96, 52.31, 29.03. MS(ESI, m/z): 279.0[M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 279.0491, found 279.0495.



**2b:** Yellow solid, 55 mg, 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.24 (s, 1H), 8.15-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.88, 152.86, 149.30, 139.01, 129.48, 129.43, 126.51, 123.91, 122.72, 109.60, 52.55, 51.84, 28.80. MS(ESI, m/z):337.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 337.0546, found 337.0552.



**2c**: Yellow solid, 58 mg, 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.38 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.12, 152.08, 146.15, 137.85, 131.03, 128.96, 126.37, 126.24, 122.13, 111.25, 52.38, 51.94, 28.80. MS(ESI, m/z): 337.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 337.0546, found 337.0554.



**2d**: Yellow solid, 55 mg, 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.85 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 2H), 5.09 (s, 1H), 1.55 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.89, 150.36, 144.55, 137.22, 118.92, 106.14, 104.32, 102.21, 101.16, 51.94, 28.96. MS(ESI, m/z): 323.0 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 323.0390, found 323.0398.



**2e**: Yellow solid, 53 mg, 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.91 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.20, 150.95, 146.57, 143.20, 136.82, 117.86, 106.51, 106.12, 105.03, 55.95, 55.93, 51.94, 29.00. MS (ESI, m/z): 339.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 339.0703, found 339.0711.



**2f**: Yellow oil, 51 mg, 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.98, 151.99, 148.28, 137.82, 127.37, 118.46, 114.41, 105.87, 55.34, 52.08, 28.92. MS(ESI, m/z): 309.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 309.0597, found 309.0603.



**2g** : Yellow oil, 49 mg, 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.23, 150.50, 142.39, 137.31, 128.03, 124.06, 120.94, 109.37, 105.67, 55.54, 52.02, 28.98. MS(ESI, m/z): 309.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 309.0597, found 309.0603.



**2h**: Yellow solid, 54 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.99 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 1.56 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.18, 147.29, 137.84, 127.31, 125.73, 123.05, 108.95, 52.34, 28.81. MS(ESI, m/z): 313.0 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrClN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 313.0102, found 313.0108.



**2i:** Yellow solid, 52 mg, 84% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 1.57 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.62, 145.10, 137.21, 129.98, 128.07, 127.37, 124.98, 124.03, 110.00, 52.25, 28.77. MS(ESI, m/z): 313.0[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrClN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 313.0102, found

313.0108.



**2j:** Yellow solid, 49 mg, 83% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 1.57 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.01, 157.08, 151.08, 143.57, 137.49, 137.45, 128.52, 128.45, 123.54, 123.47, 118.91, 118.71, 110.17, 109.79, 109.62, 52.13, 28.80. MS(ESI, m/z): 297.0[M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrFN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 297.0397, found 297.0403.



**2k:** Yellow solid, 50 mg, 84% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.99 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 5.36 (s, 1H), 1.57 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.57, 152.11, 147.78, 137.90, 128.09, 128.01, 120.46, 112.01, 111.81, 110.74, 110.58, 107.93, 107.91, 52.27, 28.78. MS(ESI, m/z): 297.0[M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrFN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 297.0397, found 297.0403.



**21:** Yellow solid, 56 mg, 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.09 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 1.71 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.73, 144.50, 138.50, 134.16, 130.73, 127.66, 127.53, 126.11, 124.65, 124.36, 123.18, 120.12, 107.60, 52.16, 28.82. MS(ESI, m/z): 329.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 329.0648, found 329.0656.



**6:** Yellow oil, 36.8 mg, 66% yield. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.66 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.39 (m, 7H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H); 13C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 153.30, 146.55, 137.11, 135.30, 132.99, 132.79, 128.89, 128.65, 128.53, 128.40, 128.35, 128.28, 127.80, 127.12, 125.70, 125.44, 122.46, 121.42, 50.92, 28.51. MS(ESI, m/z):

277.1[M+H]+, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C19H21N2 [M+H]+ 277.1699, found 277.1705.



7: Yellow oil, 30.6 mg, 51% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.00 (s, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 3H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 1.64 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  154.70, 147.46, 139.11, 131.50, 129.83, 128.70, 128.52, 128.39, 127.10, 126.76, 122.84, 122.15, 122.08, 107.56, 95.85, 85.21, 51.82, 29.13. MS(ESI, m/z): 301.2 [M+H]<sup>+</sup> HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 301.1699, found 301.1705



8: Yellow oil, 27.9 mg, 43% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 (s, 1H), 7.59 (m, 4H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 1H), 1.59 (s, 9H), 1.56 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.76, 153.71, 148.58, 138.46, 135.38, 130.01, 127.68, 126.78, 124.00, 122.86, 122.36, 119.55, 80.93, 52.29, 29.40, 28.32. MS(ESI, m/z): 327.1[M+H]<sup>+</sup>, HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 327.2067, found 327.2071.

#### 4. References

Baishan Jiang, Kemei Tao, Wang Shen, Jiancun Zhang, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 2010, *Volume 51, Issue 48, 6342-6344.* 

5. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of Compounds

2a











2d



**2e** 



**2f** 





2h







2k





6



7



8