Efficient Access to Azaindoles and Indoles

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General considerations: Screening reactions were conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere in 8 mL vials equipped with magnetic stir-bars and septa. Larger scale preparative reactions were conducted in standard RB-flasks under a nitrogen atmosphere. HPLC grade solvents were used with no additional purification/drying. NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer; ¹H NMR recorded at 400 MHz and ¹³C recorded at 100 MHz. TLC was performed using 2.5 cm × 7.5 cm EMD glass-backed plates (silica gel 60, F₂₅₄, 250 μm thickness). Flash column chromatography was performed using EMD silica gel 60, 230-400 mesh. HPLC was performed on an Agilent 1100 Series machine using an Agilent Zorbax (Eclipse XDB C8) column (4.6 mm × 150 mm), 0.65 mL/min flowrate, 205 nm detection, 30 °C column temperature; mobile phase MeCN/0.1% aq. H₃PO₄ 10/90 for 3 min then ramp to 60/40 over 10 min then ramp to 95/5 over 2 min then 95/5 for a further 4 min.

General procedure A

Reductive alkylation of arylamines: To a RB-flask equipped with magnetic stir-bar and temperature probe was charged the arylamine (100 mol%) and the carbonyl compound (110 mol%) followed by *i*-PrOAc (12 mL/g of arylamine) and trifluoroacetic acid (200 mol%). Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (120 mol%) was added as a solid over 1 min, normally accompanied by an increase in temperature to ~ 40 °C. After 10 min agitation, the mixture was usually homogeneous and LC analysis indicated complete consumption of the arylamine. A solution of 10 wt% aqueous NaOH was added to the mixture until pH 8-9. The phases were allowed to separate and the organic phase washed with brine then dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford the crude product. The crude product was normally used directly in the subsequent Sonogashira-indolization procedure. Analytical and isolated yield data given below refer to material purified by silica chromatography using an appropriate hexane: EtOAc gradient.

$$N$$
 CI
 NCO_2Et
3a

4-(2-Chloropyridin-3-ylamino)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (3a): Following the general reductive alkylation procedure, **3a** was obtained as an off-white solid (92%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 1.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.36-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.89 (m, 2H), 2.81-2.99 (m, 2H), 3.46-3.59 (m, 1H), 3.88-4.10 (m, 4H), 5.13 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 15.0, 31.3, 42.9, 49.1, 61.0, 118.8, 124.2, 135.8, 136.4, 140.2, 155.0. HRMS calcd. for $C_{13}H_{18}CIN_3O_2$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 284.11603, found 284.11692.

(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)-(4-methoxybenzyl)amine (3b): Following general procedure A, **3b** was obtained as an off-white solid (97%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.77 (s, 3H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 4.81 (br s, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (dd, J = 4.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.8, 55.2, 114.2, 117.8, 123.3, 128.4, 129.6, 136.3, 136.9, 140.5, 159.0. HRMS calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃ClN₂O [M+H]⁺ 249.0795, found 249.0794.

(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)-(4-fluorobenzyl)amine (3c): Following general procedure A, 3a was obtained as an off-white solid (90%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 4.40 (s, 2H), 6.43 (br s, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 45.2, 115.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 20.1$ Hz), 118.4, 124.0, 129.1 (d, $J_{CF} = 10.1$ Hz), 135.4, 135.8, 136.3, 140.9, 161.6 (d, $J_{CF} = 240$ Hz). HRMS calcd. for $C_{12}H_{10}CIFN_{2}$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 237.05893, found 237.06003.

Benzyl-(2-chloropyridin-3-yl)amine (3d)¹: Following the general reductive alkylation procedure, 3d was obtained as an off-white solid (94%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 4.34 (s, 2H), 6.40 (br s, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.57 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 46.0, 118.4, 124.0, 127.2 (2C), 128.8, 135.7, 136.3, 139.3, 141.1. HRMS calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ClN₂ [M+H]⁺ 219.06835, found 219.06897.

(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)-cyclohexylmethylamine (3e): Following general procedure A, 3e was obtained as an oil (89%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.92-1.05 (m, 2H), 1.10-1.32 (m, 3H), 1.52-1.85 (m, 7H), 2.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz,

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¹ Fuwa, H.; Kobayashi, T.; Tokitoh, T.; Torii, Y.; Natsugari, H. Tetrahedron 2005, 61, 4297-4312.

CDCl₃) δ 25.8, 26.3, 31.1, 37.1, 49.7, 117.1, 123.3, 135.7, 136.8, 140.9. HRMS calcd. for $C_{12}H_{17}ClN_2 \left[M+H\right]^+$ 225.11530, found 225.11519.

(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)cyclopentylamine (3f): Following general procedure A, 3f was obtained as a pale yellow oil (88%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.43-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.56-1.67 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.95-2.05 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.76 (m, 1H), 4.44 (br, 1H), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 23.9, 33.2, 54.0, 117.9, 123.2, 135.6, 136.8, 140.4. HRMS calcd. for $C_{10}H_{13}ClN_{2}$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 197.08400, found 197.08296.

(2-Chloropyridin-3-yl)cyclohexylamine (3g)²: Following general procedure A, 3g was obtained as an oil (91%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.11-1.35 (m, 5H), 1.51-1.60 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.73 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.96 (m, 2H), 3.13-3.20 (m, 1H), 4.18 (br, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.5, 25.5, 32.6, 51.0, 117.5, 123.2, 135.4, 136.7, 139.7. HRMS calcd. for $C_{11}H_{15}ClN_{2}$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 211.09965, found 211.10019.

² Kuethe, J. T.; Wong, A.; Davies, I. W. J. Org. Chem. **2004**, 69, 7752-7754.

(2-Chlorophenyl)-(4-methoxybenzyl)amine (3h): Following general procedure A, 3h was obtained as an off-white solid (94%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.86 (s, 3H), 4.37 (s, 2H), 4.74 (br s, 1H), 6.71 (dt, J = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dt, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.38 (m, 3H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 47.3, 55.2, 111.5, 114.1, 117.3, 119.1 127.8, 128.6, 129.1, 130.7, 143.9, 159.0. HRMS calcd. for $C_{14}H_{14}CINO[M+H]^{+}$ 248.0842, found 248.0845.

Benzyl-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)amine (**3i**): Following general procedure A, **3i** was obtained as an off-white solid (85%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.44 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 4.71 (br s, 1H), 6.64 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dt, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.49 (m, 4H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 48.3, 111.7 (d, $J_{CF} = 10.1$ Hz), 114.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 20.1$ Hz), 116.5 (d, $J_{CF} = 30.2$ Hz), 119.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 10.1$ Hz), 127.3, 127.5, 128.8, 138.6, 140.7, 155.5 (d, $J_{CF} = 241$ Hz). HRMS calcd. for C₁₃H₁₁ClFN [M+H]⁺ 236.06423, found 236.06428.

(2-Chloro-4-methylphenyl)-(4-methoxybenzyl)amine (3j): Following general procedure A, 3j was obtained as an oil (84%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.26 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.33 (s, 2H), 4.55 (br, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.89-6.97 (m, 3H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.1,

47.5, 55.2, 111.6, 114.0, 118.9, 126.8, 128.2, 128.5, 129.5, 130.9, 141.6, 158.8. HRMS calcd. for $C_{15}H_{16}CINO [M+H]^+ 262.0999$, found 262.0997.

Benzyl-(2-chloro-5-nitrophenyl)amine (**3k**): Following general procedure A, **3k** was obtained as a yellow solid (84%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.50 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.83-6.90 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.2, 105.2, 111.1, 124.8, 127.1, 127.3, 128.9, 130.2, 139.0, 145.1, 147.7. HRMS calcd. for C₁₃H₁₁ClN₂O₂ [M+H]⁺ 263.0587, found 263.0588.

$$O_2N$$
 C_1
 C_1

Benzyl-(2-chloro-4-nitrophenyl)amine (**3l**): Following general procedure A, **3l** was obtained as a yellow solid (72%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.55 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.07-8.16 (m, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.1, 110.3, 117.2, 125.1, 125.5, 127.1, 127.4, 128.9, 136.3, 138.6, 149.8. HRMS calcd. for $C_{13}H_{11}CIN_2O_2$ [M+H] ${}^{+}$ 263.0587, found 263.0586.

General procedure B

Azaindole synthesis with dppb: To a vial equipped with a stir-bar and septum was charged Pd(OAc)₂ (2 mol%), dppb (4 mol%), K₂CO₃ (300 mol%) and the chloropyridine

substrate (100 mol%). MeCN (< 50 ppm H₂O, 10 mL/g substrate) was added and the system was purged with N₂ for 10 min. The mixture was aged for a further 20 min before the alkyne (110 mol%) was added neat via syringe. The mixture was then heated at 80 °C using an aluminum reaction block. After 16 h, LC and TLC analysis confirmed complete conversion of the chloropyridine. The mixture was allowed to cool to rt and treated with 1M *t*-BuOK in THF (50 mol%), causing the mixture to become deep red in color. After 30 min, TLC and LC analysis confirmed complete indolization. Water and *i*-PrOAc were added and the separated organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The azaindole/indole product was isolated following silica chromatography using an appropriate hexane: EtOAc gradient elution.

General procedure C

Azaindole synthesis with X-Phos: To a vial equipped with a stir-bar and septum was charged PdCl₂(MeCN)₂ (1 mol%), X-Phos (3 mol%), K₂CO₃ (300 mol%) and the chloropyridine substrate (100 mol%). MeCN (< 50 ppm H₂O, 10 mL/g substrate) was added and the system was purged with N₂ for 10 min. The mixture was aged for a further 20 min before the alkyne (105 mol%) was added neat via syringe. The mixture was then heated at 60 °C using an aluminum reaction block. After 16 h, LC and TLC analysis confirmed complete conversion of the chloropyridine. The mixture was allowed to cool to rt and treated with 1M *t*-BuOK in THF (50 mol%), causing the mixture to become deep red in color. After 30 min, TLC and LC analysis confirmed complete indolization. Water and *i*-PrOAc were added and the separated organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The azaindole/indole product was isolated following silica chromatography using an appropriate hexane: EtOAc gradient elution.

General procedure D

Indole synthesis with X-Phos: To a vial equipped with a stir-bar and septum was charged $PdCl_2(MeCN)_2$ (1 mol%), X-Phos (3 mol%), K_2CO_3 (300 mol%) and the chloropyridine substrate (100 mol%). MeCN (< 50 ppm H_2O , 10 mL/g substrate) was added and the system was purged with N_2 for 10 min. The mixture was aged for a further 20 min before the alkyne (110 mol%) was added neat via syringe. The mixture was then

heated at 80 °C using an aluminum reaction block. After 16 h, LC and TLC analysis confirmed complete conversion of the chloropyridine. The mixture was allowed to cool to rt and treated with 1M *t*-BuOK in THF (50 mol%), causing the mixture to become deep red in color. After 30 min, TLC and LC analysis confirmed complete indolization. Water and *i*-PrOAc were added and the separated organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The azaindole/indole product was isolated following silica chromatography using an appropriate hexane: EtOAc gradient elution.

4-(2-Phenylpyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-1-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (4a):

Following general procedure B, azaindole **4a** was obtained as a solid (88%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.28 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.81-2.50 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.50 (m, 2H), 2.65-2.77 (m, 2H), 4.17 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.24-4.42 (m, 3H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4, 1H), 7.40-7.52 (m, 5H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.6, 30.7, 43.5, 54.5, 61.5, 103.8, 115.8, 119.0, 128.6, 128.7 (2C), 129.3, 132.4, 143.3, 144.5, 147.0, 155.3. HRMS calcd. for $C_{21}H_{23}N_{2}O_{2}$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 350.18630, found 350.18748.

1-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (**4b**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4b** was obtained as a solid (90%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.76 (s, 3H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 6.77-6.86 (m, 3H), 6.88-6.93 (m, 2H), 7.01-7.07 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.51 (m, 6H), 8.48 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 47.1, 55.1, 103.3, 114.1, 116.5, 117.5, 127.1, 128.6 (2C), 129.2, 129.3, 130.8, 131.9, 143.7, 145.0, 146.7, 158.8. HRMS calcd. for C₂₁H₁₈N₂O [M+H]⁺ 315.1497, found 315.1494.

1-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (4c): Following general procedure B, azaindole 4c was obtained as a solid (89%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.29 (s, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.86-6.95 (m, 4H), 7.01 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.45 (m, 6H), 8.47 (4.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H } NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 46.9, 103.5, 115.7 (d, $J_{CF} = 21.6$ Hz), 116.6, 117.4, 127.5, 127.6, 128.7, 129.1, 130.7, 131.6, 133.0, 143.8, 144.9, 146.7, 162.0 (d, $J_{CF} = 246.0$ Hz). HRMS calcd. for C₂₀H₁₅FN₂ [M+H]⁺ 303.12920, found 303.13130.

1-Benzyl-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (**4d**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4d** was obtained as a solid (87%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.31 (s, 2H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.92-7.00 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.47 (2H),

8.47 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 47.6, 103.3, 116.6, 117.5, 125.8, 127.4, 128.6 (2C), 128.8, 129.2, 130.9, 131.7, 137.4, 143.7, 145.0, 146.7. HRMS calcd. for $C_{20}H_{16}N_2$ [M+H]⁺ 285.13862, found 285.13861.

1-Cyclohexylmethyl-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (4e): Following general procedure B, azaindole 4e was obtained as a solid (86%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.58-0.75 (m, 2H), 0.90-1.05 (m, 3H), 1.24-1.35 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.66 (m, 4H), 4.01 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.50 (m, 5H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.5, 26.0, 30.6, 38.4, 50.0, 103.1, 116.0, 117.3, 128.3, 128.5, 129.4, 130.7, 132.6, 143.2, 145.0, 146.4. HRMS calcd. for $C_{20}H_{22}N_2$ [M+H] ⁺ 291.18558, found 291.18645.

1-Cyclopentyl-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (**4f**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4f** was obtained as a solid (83%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.63-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.94-2.11 (m, 4H), 2.20-2.35 (m, 2H), 4.75-4.87 (m, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.54 (m, 5H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.1, 30.5, 57.1, 102.9, 115.5, 118.6, 127.9, 128.4, 128.5, 129.4, 132.7, 143.0, 145.3, 147.2. HRMS calcd. for C₁₈H₁₈N₂ [M+H] $^{+}$ 263.15482, found 263.15493.

1-Cyclohexyl-2-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (**4g**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4g** was obtained as a solid (88%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.14-1.32 (m, 3H), 1.66-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.94 (m, 4H), 2.12-2.29 (m, 2H), 4.14-4.25 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 7.03 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.48 (m, 5H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.3, 26.0, 31.8, 56.4, 103.2, 115.5, 119.4, 128.4, 128.5, 128.7, 129.3, 132.8, 142.9, 144.7, 147.0. HRMS calcd. for $C_{19}H_{20}N_2$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 277.16993, found 277.17098.

1-Benzyl-2-butyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (4**m**): Following general procedure B, azaindole 4**m** was obtained as a solid (91%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.80 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.23-1.33 (m, 2H), 1.51-1.66 (m, 2H), 2.54 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.75-6.81 (m, 3H), 7.03-7.12 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.7, 22.2, 26.3, 30.1, 46.1, 100.5, 115.4, 115.8, 125.6, 127.3, 128.6, 129.9, 137.1, 142.7, 145.2, 146.7. HRMS calcd. for $C_{18}H_{20}N_2$ [M+H] $^{+}$ 265.16993, found 265.17031.

1-Benzyl-2-cyclohex-1-enyl-1*H***-pyrrolo**[3,2-*b*]**pyridine** (**4n**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4n** was obtained as a solid (90%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.56-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.75 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.17 (m, 2H), 2.25-2.32 (m, 2H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 5.85-5.89 (m, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 21.7, 22.6, 25.5, 29.5, 47.6, 101.2, 116.0, 117.0, 125.9, 127.2, 128.7, 129.3, 130.3, 130.6, 137.7, 143.3, 146.7, 146.9. HRMS calcd. for C₂₀H₂₀N₂ [M+H]⁺ 289.16993, found 289.17125.

1-Benzyl-2-(4-chlorobutyl)-1*H***-pyrrolo[3,2-***b***]pyridine** (**4o**): Following general procedure B, azaindole **4o** was obtained as a solid (86%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.71-1.82 (m, 4H), 2.60-2.68 (m, 2H), 3.38-3.45 (m, 2H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (dd, J = 4.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.2, 25.9, 31.8, 44.5, 46.2, 100.8, 115.7, 116.0, 125.7, 127.5, 128.8, 130.1, 137.0, 142.9, 144.2, 146.6. HRMS calcd. for C₁₈H₁₉ClN₂ [M+H]⁺ 299.13095, found 299.13164.

1-Benzyl-5-fluoro-2-phenyl-1*H***-indole (4i):** Following general procedure D, indole **4i** was obtained as a solid (84%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.46 (s, 2H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 7.03 (dt, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dd, J = 9.2, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.45-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.56-7.61 (m, 2H); ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 47.9, 102.4, 105.4 (d, $J_{CF} = 30.2$ Hz), 110.3 (d, $J_{CF} = 30.2$ Hz), 111.3 (d, $J_{CF} = 10.1$ Hz), 126.0, 127.4, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 128.9, 129.2, 132.5, 134.6, 138.0, 143.5, 158.1 (d, $J_{CF} = 231$ Hz). HRMS calcd. for C₂₁H₁₆FN [M+H]⁺ 302.13450, found 350.13482.

$$O_2N$$
 N
 $4k$

1-Benzyl-6-nitro-2-phenyl-1*H***-indole** (**4k**): Following general procedure D, indole **4k** was obtained as a solid (78%): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.46 (s, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.48 (m, 5H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0, 1H), 8.17-8.19 (m, 1H); 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 47.4, 103.8, 108.1, 115.6, 120.9, 126.2, 127.7, 129.1, 129.3, 129.4, 129.5, 131.3, 133.1, 136.5, 137.9, 142.6, 147.7. HRMS calcd. for C₂₁H₁₆N₂O₂ [M+H] ${}^{+}$ 329.1290, found 329.1285.

$$O_2N$$
 AI

1-Benzyl-5-nitro-2-phenyl-1*H***-indole** (**4l**): Following general procedure D, indole **4l** was obtained as a solid (72%): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.43 (s, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.48 (m, 5H), 8.06 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C { ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 48.0, 104.3, 110.4, 117.4, 117.5, 125.8, 127.4, 127.6, 128.7, 128.9, 129.0, 129.2, 131.3, 136.8, 140.5, 142.0, 145.0. HRMS calcd. for C₂₁H₁₆N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺ 329.1290, found 329.128.



































































































