# Palladium-Catalyzed C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H Pyridocarbonylation of *N*-Aryl-2-aminopyridines: Dual Function of the Pyridyl Moiety

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# **1. General Information**

Substrates **1** were synthesized according to the literature method.<sup>1</sup> 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 (254 nm). Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh). <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 or the DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> residual peak ( $\delta$  2.50) 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) or DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> ( $\delta$  39.5). 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). IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer using a diamond comb. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an ESI-LC-MS/MS spectrometer.

# 2. General Procedure and Product Characterization

# 2.1 General procedure

In an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar,  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (2.3 mg, 5.0 mol %),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (162 mg, 3.0 equiv ) and *N*-aryl-2-aminopyridines (0.2 mmol) were combined. A balloon filled with CO was connected to the Schlenk tube by the side tube and purged three times. Then, TFA (1.0 mL) was added to the tube through a syringe. The Schlenk tube was heated at 70 °C for 1.5-8 h under balloon pressure of CO. The reaction was cooled down to room temperature after complete consumption of **1** as monitored by TLC analysis. EtOAc (20 mL) and saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) were added to the reaction mixture successively. The organic phase was separated, and the aqueous phase was further extracted with EtOAc (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to give the desired product **2**.

# 2.2. Product Characterization

11H-pyrido[2,1-b]quinazolin-11-one (2a)<sup>2,3</sup>



Yellow solid, 34 mg, 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.87 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 3H), 6.88-6.84 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.0, 148.5, 147.7, 135.0, 134.1, 127.3, 126.9, 126.7, 126.3, 125.2, 116.3, 112.4; IR (KBr): 3412, 3111, 2924, 1974, 1700, 1641, 1569, 1545, 1455, 1384, 1302, 1150 764, 685 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 196.0709, found 196.0710.

#### 6-methyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2b)<sup>4</sup>



Yellow solid, 36 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.81 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 5.2 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.5, 148.3, 147.6, 134.7, 134.5, 132.2, 127.5, 127.2, 125.1, 124.8, 116.1, 112.1, 18.6; IR (KBr): 3551, 3478, 3413, 2978, 2917, 1702, 1640, 1608, 1556, 1529, 1457, 1164, 1137, 1072, 765, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.0866, found 211.0865.

#### 6-chloro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2c)



Pale yellow solid, 31 mg, 67% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.84 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.86 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.0, 147.8, 144.4, 135.3, 133.0, 130.4, 127.8, 127.3, 126.1, 126.0, 116.2, 111.0; IR (KBr): 3474, 3453, 3347, 3098, 2925, 1834, 1701, 1633, 1605, 1544, 1523, 1470, 1455, 1248, 1152, 897, 771, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.0320, found 231.0321.

#### 7-methyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2d)<sup>2</sup>



Pale yellow solid, 32 mg, 76% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.78 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 6.70 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  167.9, 150.7, 142.5, 135.9, 134.6, 134.1, 130.4, 129.6, 128.6, 127.6, 110.5, 107.7, 37.1; IR (KBr): 3530, 3369, 3277, 3065, 2919, 1727, 1695, 1649, 1606, 1528, 1457, 1238, 776, 693 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.0866, found 211.0868.

#### 7-phenyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2e)



Yellow solid, 25 mg, 46% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.92 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.54-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.0, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.9, 149.0, 148.0, 146.0, 136.4, 135.1, 129.9, 129.3, 127.3, 126.9, 126.82, 126.80, 125.0, 121.9, 116.2, 112.3; IR (KBr): 3551, 3414, 3050, 2923, 1690, 1648, 1530, 1453, 1261, 1160, 1147, 941, 755, 690 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 273.1022, found 273.1022.

#### 8-fluoro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2f)



Pale yellow solid, 34 mg, 79% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.76 (dd, J = 5.2

Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.43 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.4 (d, J = 1.8 Hz), 152.3 (d, J = 241.9 Hz), 148.1, 145.7, 135.0, 128.3 (d, J = 3.9 Hz), 127.7 (d, J = 27.1 Hz), 127.10, 127.08, 125.9, 115.6, 112.1 (d, J = 41.5 Hz); IR (KBr): 3412, 3069, 3052, 2923, 1972, 1690, 1608, 1568, 1550, 1531, 1311, 1472, 1457, 1345, 769, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215.0615, found 215.0617.

#### 8-(trifluoromethyl)-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2g)



Yellow solid, 40 mg, 76% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.18 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.86 (m, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.51 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.6, 148.2, 146.6, 135.8, 128.9 (q, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 127.7, 127.5, 127.3, 126.6 (q, *J* = 6.1 Hz), 126.3, 122.9 (q, *J* = 269.8 Hz), 116.5, 116.3; IR (KBr): 3551, 3468, 3413, 3103, 3047, 1809, 1712, 1662, 1610, 1580, 1556, 1462, 1335, 1262, 1116, 1058, 769, 675 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 265.0583, found 265.0584.

#### 6H-pyrimido[2,1-b]quinazolin-6-one (2h)<sup>5</sup>



Yellow solid, 16 mg, 40% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.12 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.91 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.52 (m, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  161.5, 159.3, 149.0, 147.3, 135.8, 135.7, 128.0, 127.3, 126.2, 116.2, 108.9; IR (KBr): 3413, 2962, 2922, 2851, 1696, 1638, 1570, 1547, 1458, 1402, 1228, 1145, 775, 690 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 198.0662, found 198.0661.

#### 2-methyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2i)<sup>3</sup>



Yellow solid, 32 mg, 76% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.86 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.71-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 2H), 6.85-6.81 (m, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.9, 147.2, 146.7, 136.9, 135.4, 133.5, 126.7, 126.6, 126.3, 126.2, 116.1, 112.3, 21.4; IR (KBr): 3413, 3052, 2920, 1697, 1642, 1545, 1526, 1481, 1257, 1140, 826, 765, 696, 569 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.0866, found 211.0867.

#### 2-methoxy-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2j)<sup>3,5</sup>



Pray white solid, 28 mg, 62% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.87 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.43 (m, 3H), 6.88-6.84 (m, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.7, 157.4, 146.1, 143.7, 132.8, 128.7, 126.8, 126.41, 126.39, 116.9, 112.6, 105.1, 55.8; IR (KBr): 3478, 3037, 2923, 1731, 1692, 1599, 1546, 1432, 1375, 1142, 1022, 763 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 227.0815, found 227.0817.

#### 2-tert-butyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2k)



Pale yellow solid, 39 mg, 77% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.87 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 1H), 1.42 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.1, 148.7, 147.3, 146.6, 133.6, 126.7, 126.6, 126.3, 122.5, 115.7, 112.4, 35.0, 31.2; IR (KBr): 3033, 3961, 2867, 2636, 1684, 1644, 1547, 1525, 1483, 1265, 1150, 1225, 834, 766, 601 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O[M+H]<sup>+</sup> 253.1335, found 253.1338.

#### 2-fluoro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2l)



White solid, 30 mg, 70% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.85 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.51 (m, 2H), 6.91-6.87 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.7 (d, J = 246.1 Hz), 158.4 (d, J = 4.1 Hz), 147.1, 145.4, 133.9, 129.5, (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 126.5, 126.4, 124.5(d, J = 25 Hz), 117.0 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 112.9, 111.2 (d, J = 23.3 Hz); IR (KBr): 3550, 3476, 3413, 3234, 1694, 1649, 1546, 1549, 1482, 1440, 1364, 1133, 839, 796, 760 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215.0615, found 215.0614.

#### 2-chloro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2m)



Yellow solid, 35 mg, 77% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.85 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.49 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.1, 147.8, 147.1, 135.6, 134.4, 130.7, 128.7, 126.7, 126.4, 126.3, 117.0, 113.0; IR (KBr): 3114, 3038, 1690, 1643, 1547, 1524, 1466, 1153, 1014, 886, 762, 732, 692 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.0320, found 231.0321.

4-methyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2n)



Pale yellow solid, 34 mg, 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.86 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 9.2Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.83 (m, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  159.4, 147.5, 146.7, 135.4, 135.1, 133.4, 126.9, 126.6, 124.9, 124.8, 116.2, 112.4, 17.7; IR (KBr): 3474, 3453, 3423, 2946, 1692, 1640, 1605, 1578, 1544, 1476, 1302, 1242, 1136, 761, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O

 $[M+H]^+$  211.0866, found 211.0866.

#### 4-methoxy-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (20)



Pale yellow solid, 30 mg, 66% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.87 (m, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.8, 154.1, 147.2, 140.0, 133.7, 127.0, 126.6, 125.2, 118.5, 117.2, 113.4, 112.9, 56.3; IR (KBr): 3474, 3453, 3449, 3240, 2922, 2839, 1709, 1639, 1576, 1528, 1486, 1384, 1266, 1253, 1144, 1078, 757, 705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 227.0815, found 227.0816.

#### 4-fluoro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2p)



Brown solid, 33 mg, 77% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz 1H), 8.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 9.2Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.37 (m, 1H), 6.95-6.91 (m, 1H), 7.30; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.2 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 156.7 (d, J = 253.6 Hz), 148.1, 138.8 (d, J = 12.1 Hz), 134.7, 126.8, 126.7, 124.7 (d, J = 7.5 Hz), 122.9 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 119.5 (d, J = 18.4 Hz), 118.1, 113.1; IR (KBr): 3551, 3474, 3414, 3043, 2924, 1689, 1644, 1617, 1545, 1531, 1251, 1099, 755, 675 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215.0615, found 215.0616.

#### 3-methyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2q)



Gray white powder, 25 mg, 59% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.49-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.4

Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.8, 148.7, 147.9, 146.2, 134.0, 127.2, 127.1, 126.7, 126.3, 114.0, 112.3, 22.2; IR (KBr): 3411, 3076, 2917, 1709, 1680, 1644, 1616, 1545, 1459, 1348, 1210, 1225, 761, 654 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 211.0866, found 211.0866.

#### 3-phenyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2r)



Pale yellow solid, 41 mg, 75% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.72 (m, 3H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.88-6.85 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.8, 148.9, 148.1, 147.7, 139.7, 134.2, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 127.5, 126.8, 126.3, 124.63, 124.57, 115.0, 112.4; IR (KBr): 3551, 3413, 3114, 3030, 1692, 1642, 1614, 1546, 1530, 1464, 1210, 1160, 878, 768, 757, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 273.1022, found 273.1023.

#### 1,3-dimethyl-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2s)



Yellow solid, 32 mg, 72% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.81-6.77 (m, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.9, 150.3, 147.8, 145.2, 141.2, 134.0, 129.5, 126.6, 126.0, 124.6, 112.9, 112.0, 23.5, 21.9; IR (KBr): 3551, 3479, 3413, 3109, 1732, 1689, 1641, 1616, 1548, 1529, 1293, 857, 621 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 225.1022, found 225.1021.

### 3-chloro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2t)<sup>3</sup>



Gray white powder, 20 mg, 43% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.85 (d, J = 7.2

Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.8, 149.9, 149.0, 141.8, 135.0, 129.2, 127.2, 126.8, 126.6, 126.3, 115.1, 113.1; IR (KBr): 3412, 3064, 3033, 2924, 1990, 1690, 1642, 1598, 1544, 1526, 1453, 1147, 768, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.0320, found 231.0321.

#### 1-chloro-11*H*-pyrido[2,1-*b*]quinazolin-11-one (2t')



Pale yellow solid, 12 mg, 27% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.89 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H), 6.91-6.88 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.9, 150.9, 148.1, 135.0, 134.4, 134.1, 127.6, 126.8, 126.2, 126.0, 113.5, 112.8; IR (KBr): 3779, 3574, 3216, 2957, 2924, 2854, 1698, 1643, 1597, 1560, 1517, 1462, 1378, 1279, 813, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.0320, found 231.0318.

# 3. Diversification of 2a

#### (2-(pyridin-2-ylamino)phenyl)methanol (3)



A solution of **2a** (196 mg, 1 mmol) in dry THF (2 mL) was added slowly to an ice-cold suspension of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (152 mg, 4 mmol) in dry THF (5 mL). Then the solution was refluxed for 4 h, during which the conversion was complete. The reaction was then carefully quenched by ice. The citric acid (1g) in H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and 1 M of HCl (10 mL) was added, and then extracted by EtOAc. 10% of NaOH was added to adjust the PH to 8. The aqueous phase was extracted by EtOAc again. The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to give the desired product **3** (98 mg) in 49% yield as a yellow liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.11 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (br s, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 2H), 3.97 (br s 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.0, 147.7, 139.8, 137.9, 131.5, 129.5, 128.7, 122.9, 120.6, 114.9, 109.0, 63.6.

#### 3-(2-(pyridin-2-ylamino)phenyl)pentan-3-ol (4)



A solution of **2a** (392 mg, 2 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) was cooled to 0 °C, after a dropwise addition of EtMgBr (1.0 M in THF, 4 mL) to this stirring solution, the resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 25 °C. The reaction was quenched by H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), EtOAc (20 mL) was added. The aqueous phase was extracted by EtOAc (20 mL) again. The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to give the desired product **4** (344 mg) in 67% yield as yellow liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.03 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (br s, 1H), 1.96 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.5, 147.8, 140.4, 137.6, 133.7, 127.8, 127.3, 122.0, 121.7, 114.4, 108.6,79.4, 32.2, 8.3.

#### benzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-ylmethanol (5)



To a solution of **3** (0.20 mmol, 1 equiv) in HFIP (1.5 mL) was added  $PhI(OAc)_2$  (0.22 mmol, 1.1 equiv) at 25 °C under air. The resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1.5 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the starting material was completely consumed. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (10 mL) and washed with

brine (10 mL). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give **5** in 69% yield . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  9.04 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (br s, 1H), 5.05 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  147.8, 141.8, 133.5, 130.3, 128.5, 127.4, 122.5, 120.8, 117.4, 110.7, 110.4, 59.5; IR (KBr): 3408, 2925, 1636, 1503, 1428, 1356, 1018, 757; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 199.0871, found 199.0864.

3-(benzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl)pentan-3-ol (6)



To a solution of **3** (0.20 mmol, 1 equiv) in HFIP (1.5 mL) was added PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.22 mmol, 1.1 equiv) at 25 °C under air. The resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1.5 h. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the starting material was completely consumed. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (10 mL) and washed with brine (10 mL). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give the **6** in 88% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.43 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (br s, 1H), 6.85 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.13-1.96 (m, 4H), 0.85 (t, 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  146.7, 143.0, 136.6, 129.4, 128.7, 125.1, 122.4, 120.9, 117.9, 110.4, 108.4, 79.5, 34.7, 8.3; IR (KBr): 3301, 2961, 1639, 1509, 1415, 1359, 1288, 965, 760; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 255.1497, found 255.1494.

# 4. Mechanistic studies

# **4.1 Isotop Labeling Experiments**

Synthesis and characterization of deuterated substrate 1a-D<sub>5</sub>

N-pencadeuteriumphenylpyridin-2-amine (1a-D<sub>5</sub>)

Following the literature method for the synthesis of substrate **1**, 2-bromopyridine and pentadeuteriumaniline were used. **1a-D**<sub>5</sub> was obtained in 85% yield as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.21 (dd, J = 4.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.75-6.71 (m, 1H), 6.60 (br s, 1H).

#### H/D Exchange experiment



A mixture of  $1a-D_5$  (35 mg, 0.2 mmol, the deuterium rate is over 95%), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.3 mg, 5 mol %), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (162 mg, 3 equiv) in TFA was stirred at 70 °C under balloon pressure of CO for 2 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (20 mL), washed saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography to recover  $1a-D_5$  (D% was about 87%) in 15% yield.

#### Intermolecular competition reaction of a mixture of 1a and 1a-D<sub>5</sub>



A mixture of **1a** (17 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv), **1a-D**<sub>5</sub> (19.5 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.3 mg, 5 mol %), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (162 mg, 3 equiv) in TFA (1 mL) was stirred at 70 °C under balloon pressure of CO for 0.5 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (20 mL), washed Saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography to give a mixture of **2a** and **2a-D**<sub>4</sub> in a total yield of 38% in a ratio of 1.9:1 as determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

#### Parallel competition reactions of 1a and 1a-D<sub>5</sub> in separate tubes<sup>6</sup>



Five identical reactions were set side-by-side. Each reaction tube was charged with **1a** (17 mg, 0.1 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (1.2 mg, 5 mol%), K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (81 mg, 3 equiv) in TFA (0.5 mL) was stirred at 70 °C under balloon pressure of CO. The reactions were stopped in 6, 12, 18, 24 and 30 min, respectively. In a parallel experiment, the same five reactions were performed using **1a-D**<sub>5</sub> (19.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) as a substrate under otherwise identical conditions. Each of the reaction was worked up following procedures mentioned above. The crude reaction mixture was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using 4-iodoanisole as an internal standard. The yields of **2a** and **2a-D**<sub>4</sub> of the 10 reactions were plotted against reaction time. The ratio of product formation was determined to be 2.5 by comparing the slopes.



# 4.2 Evidence of oxidation state of the palladium intermediate



In an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stirring bar,  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (45 mg, 1 equiv) and *N*-aryl-2-aminopyridines **1a** (35 mg, 0.2 mmol) were combined. A balloon filled with CO was connected to the Schlenk tube by the side tube and purged three times. Then, TFA (1.0 mL) was added to the tube through a syringe. The Schlenk tube was

heated at 70 °C for 4 h under balloon pressure of CO. The reaction was cooled down to room temperature. EtOAc (20 mL) and saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) were added to the reaction mixture successively. The organic phase was separated, and the aqueous phase was further extracted with EtOAc (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent to give **2a** in 48% yield. 45% of **1a** was recovered. The result indicates that Pd(II) intermediate maybe involve in the course of reaction, instead of Pd(IV) (K<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> often used as an oxidant to oxidize the Pd(II) intermediate to Pd(IV).

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# 6. Copies of NMR Spectra





LDD1314





LDD6472

























LDD6487









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LDD6474





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