

### **Supporting Information**

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# Efficient Synthesis of 2-Substituted Indoles Based on Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/t-Bu<sub>3</sub>P-Catalyzed Alkynylation/Amination of 1,2-Dihalobenzenes

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#### **Supporting Information**

#### General:

NMR spectra were recorded on Varian 200 MHz or 600 MHz spectrometers. All yields reported refer to isolated yields (average of two runs) unless otherwise indicated, and the product purity was estimated to be greater than 95% as determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

THF were dried with sodium/benzophenone. Cu(I)I, DPEPhos, Xantphos, and Buchwald's phosphines, PCy<sub>3</sub>, sec-Bu<sub>3</sub>P, and 1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)imidazolium chloride were purchased from Strem and used directly. t-Bu<sub>3</sub>P was obtained as a gift from Combiphos Catalysts, Inc., and palladium(II) acetate was obtained as a gift from Frontier Scientific, Inc and used directly. Other chemical reagents were purchase from Aldrich or Alfa Aesar and used directly.

## General Procedures for $Pd(OAc)_2/t$ - $Bu_3P$ -Catalyzed Indole Synthesis from o-alkynylchlorobenzene:

**Method A:** Under  $N_2$  atmosphere, to a mixture of o-alkynylchlorobenzene (1 mmol), t-BuOK (3 mmol),  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.03 mmol) and t-Bu<sub>3</sub>P (0.06 mmol) were added an amine (1.2 mmol) and toluene (2 ml). The resulting mixture was heated to 110-120°C for 14 hours. After quenching with water, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was washed with brine. Rota-evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate = 5 : 95 to 15 : 85) gave 2-substituted indoles as the product.

**Method B:** Under  $N_2$  atmosphere, to a mixture of o-alkynylchlorobenzene (1 mmol),  $K_3PO_4$  (3 mmol),  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.03 mmol) and t-Bu<sub>3</sub>P (0.06 mmol) were added an amine (1.2 mmol) and dimethylacetamide (2 ml). The resulting mixture was heated to  $130^{\circ}C$  for 14 hours. After quenching with water, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was washed with brine. Rota-evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate = 5 : 95 to 15 : 85) gave 2-substituted indoles as the product.

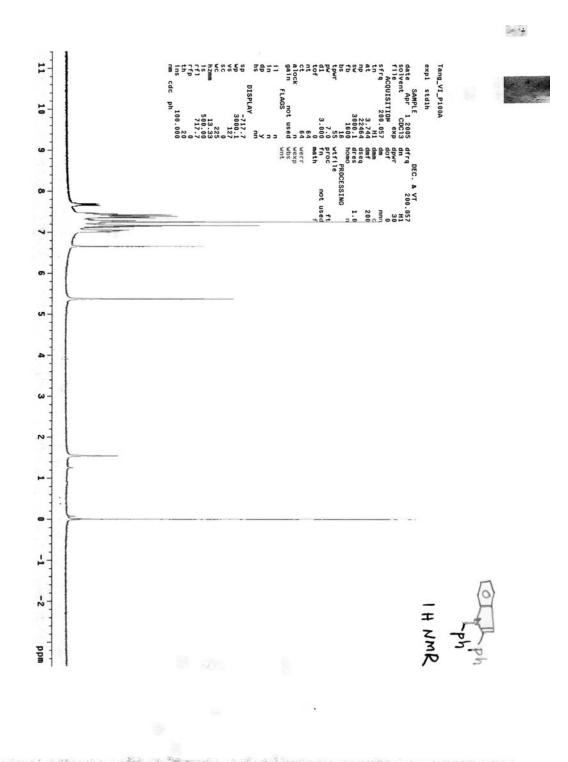
#### General procedure for one-pot, sequential preparation of 2-substituted indoles

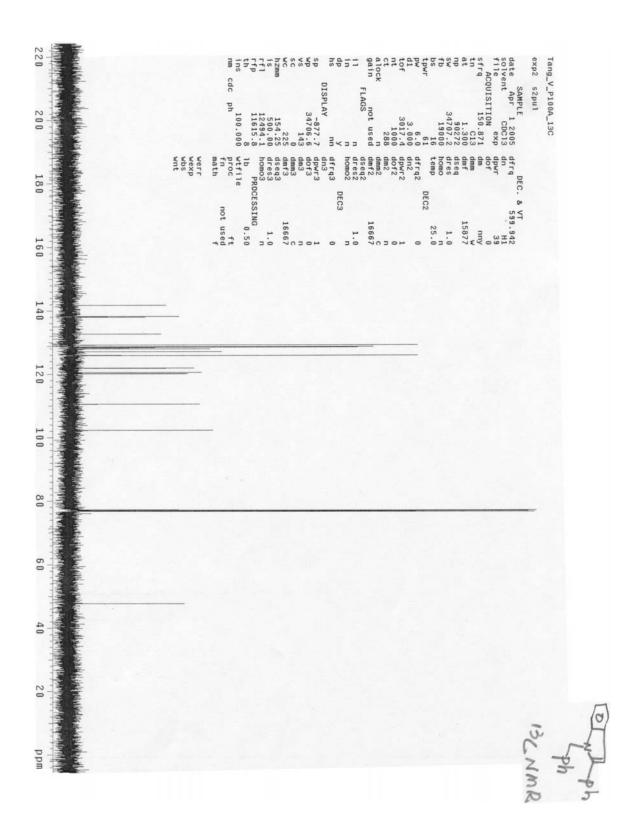
Under  $N_2$  atmosphere, to a mixture of 1-iodo-2-chlorobenze (1 mmol),  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.03 mmol), CuI (0.1 mmol), t-BuOK (3 mmol), and t-Bu<sub>3</sub>P (0.06 mmol) were added an alkyne (1.2 mmol) and toluene (2 ml). After the resulting mixture was heated to  $110^{\circ}C$  for 1 hour, an amine (1.2 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated at  $110^{\circ}C$  for

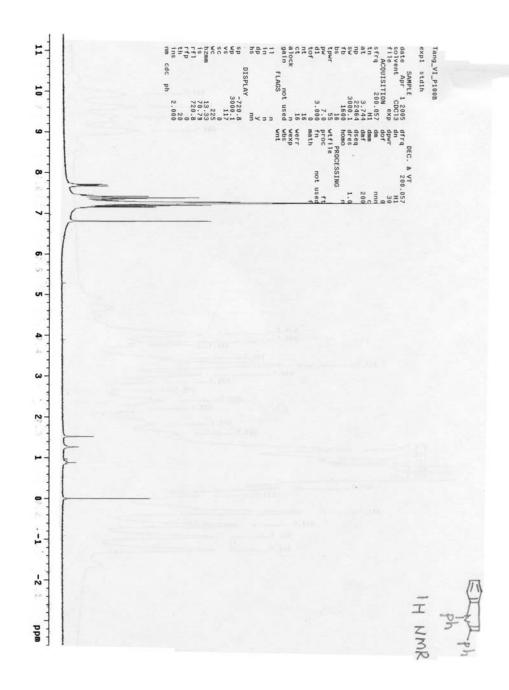
- another 12 hrs. After quenching with water, the reaction was extracted with ethyl acetate and the organic layer was washed with brine. Rota-evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane: ethyl acetate = 5 : 95 to 15 : 85) gave 2-substituted indoles as the product.
- **1-Benzyl-2-phenylindole:** Following general procedure Method A or B, 270 mg (yield: 95%) was obtained as white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.698~7.649 (m, 1H), 7.740~7.351 (m, 6H), 7.283~7.116 (m, 6H), 7.054~7.006 (m, 2H), 6.656 (s, 1H), 5.732 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 141.788, 138.179, 137.958, 132.674, 129.185, 128.704, 128.514, 128.290, 127.995, 127.121, 125.934, 121.876, 120.524, 120.138, 110.538,102.308, 47.704.
- **1,2-Diphenylindole:** Following the general procedure Method B, 262 mg (yield: 97%) was obtained as white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.709~7.664 (m, 1H), 7.414~7.149 (m, 13H), 6.805 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 140.679, 138.965, 138.474, 132.495, 129.199, 128.855, 128.230, 128.104, 127.991, 127.233, 127.131, 122.301, 120.668, 120.496, 110.579, 103.673.
- **1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylindole:** Following the general procedure Method B, 258 mg (yield: 95%) was obtained as white solid.  $^1H$  NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.695~7.561 (m, 1H), 7.289~7.131(m, 10H), 6.916 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.780 (s, 1H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  158.523, 140.851, 139.341, 132.590, 131.298, 129.132, 128.876, 128.125, 128.065, 127.198, 122.150, 120.458, 114.430, 110.624, 103.105, 55.420.
- **1-Octyl-2-phenylindole:** Following the general procedure Method A, 308 mg (yield: 99%) was obtained as colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.630 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.465~7.353 (m, 6H), 7.257~7.083(m, 2H), 6.509 (s, 1H), 4.122 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.677 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.151(m, 9H), 0.847 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.324, 137.326, 133.317, 129.417, 128.416, 128.814, 127.840, 121.416, 120.521, 119.675, 110.021, 101.995, 43.923, 31.699, 29.881, 29.052, 28.993, 26.721, 22.579, 14.059.
- **1-Benzyl-2-hexylindole:** Following the general procedure Method A in half mmol scale, 147 mg (yield: 99%) was obtained as colorless oil.  $^1H$  NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.588~7.543 (m, 1H), 7.277~7.042(m, 6H), 6.948~6.903 (m, 2H), 6.335 (s, 1H), 5.277 (s, 2H), 2.641 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.669 (m, 2H), 1.430~1.216 (m, 6H), 0.861 (t, J = 6.5 Hz,3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.391, 137.968, 137.108, 128.662, 128.142, 127.142, 125.864, 120.710, 119.752, 119.432, 109.238, 99.327, 46.310, 31.598, 29.038, 28.371, 26.683, 22.540, 14.048.
- **2-Hexyl -1-octylindole:** Following the general procedure Method A in half mmol scale, 115 mg (yield: 74%) was obtained as colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.524 (d, J=9 Hz, 1H), 7.280~6.997 (m, 3H), 6.235 (s, 1H), 4.024 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.700 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.819~1.670 (m, 4H), 1.476~1.261 (m, 16H), 0.941~0.841 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.054, 136.490, 128.061, 120.247, 119.696, 118.994,

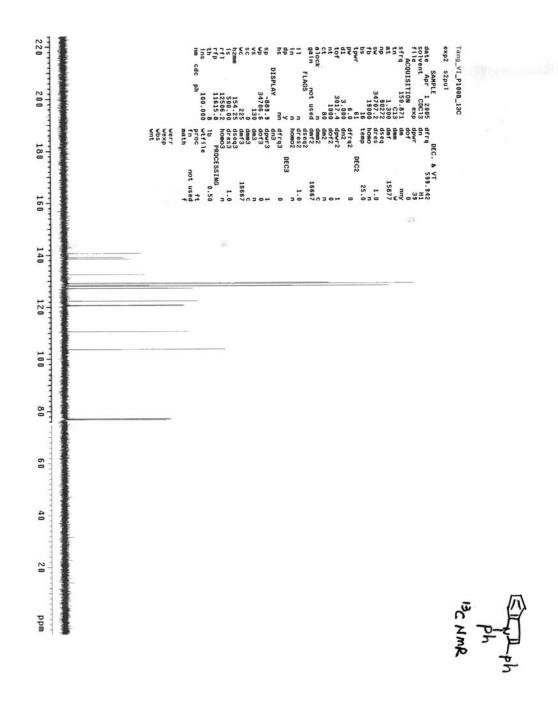
109.003, 98.520, 43.137, 31.787, 31.717, 30.183, 29.319, 29.228, 29.186, 28.536, 27.108, 26.714, 22.614, 14.083, 14.059.

- **2-Butyl -1-octylindole:** Following the general procedure Method A in half mmol scale, 128 mg (yield: 90%) was obtained as colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.521 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.234 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.164~6.994 (m, 2H), 6.234 (s, 1H), 4.017 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.702 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.770~1.656 (m, 4H), 1.522~1.262 (m, 12H), 1.011~0.844(m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  140.963, 136.494, 128.061, 120.247, 119.689, 118.994, 108.992, 98.537, 43.112, 31.780, 30.681, 30.172, 29.312, 29.175, 27.093, 26.384, 22.610, 22.593, 14.052, 13.939.
- **1-Benzyl-2-butylindole:** Following the general procedure Method A, 224 mg (yield: 85%) was obtained as colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.592 ~7.529 (m, 1H), 7.258~7.049 (m, 6H), 6.970~6.930 (m, 2H), 6.342 (s, 1H), 5.318 (s, 2H), 2.666 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.671 (m, 2H), 1.398 (m, 2H), 0.901 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (150.871 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.316, 137.928, 137.065, 128.632, 128.095, 127.112, 125.827, 120.677, 119.712, 119.396, 109.205, 99.291, 46.281, 30.480, 26.344, 22.399, 13.808.
- **1-Hexyldecyl-2-phenyl indole**: Following "General procedure for one-pot, sequential preparation of 2-substituted indoles", 196mg (yield: 47%) was obtained as colorless oil. 
  <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.611 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.482~7.327 (m, 5H), 7.237~7.068(m, 3H), 6.496(s, 1H), 4.089 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.648 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.256~1.129 (m, 26H), 0.876(t, J = 6 Hz, 3H). 
  <sup>13</sup>C NMR (50.310 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 141.695, 137.767, 133.740, 129.812, 128.819, 128.637, 128.219, 121.842, 120.962, 120.105, 110.429, 102.451, 44.293, 32.371, 30.286, 30.119, 30.051, 29.945, 29.823, 29.459, 27.131, 23.135, 14.565.

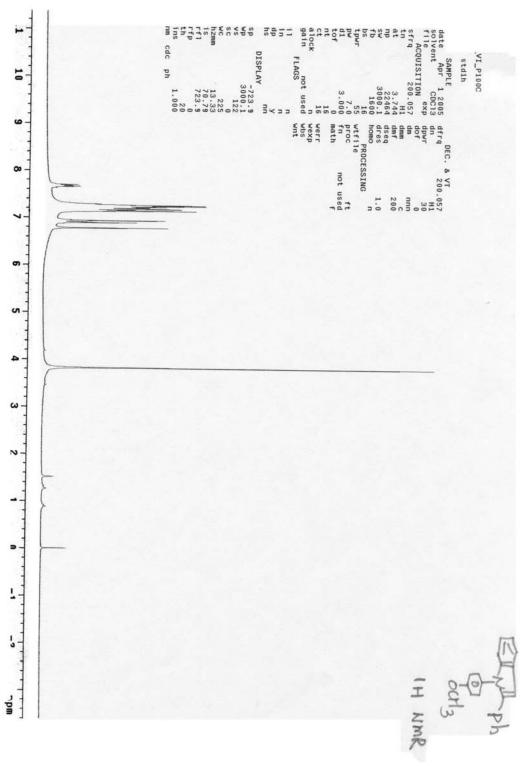












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