

# Palladium-Catalyzed Insertion of *N*-Tosylhydrazones for the Synthesis of Isoindolines

Ping-Xin Zhou,<sup>a</sup> Jian-Yi Luo,<sup>a</sup> Lian-Biao Zhao,<sup>b</sup>  
Yu-Ying Ye,<sup>a</sup> and Yong-Min Liang<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Applied Organic Chemistry, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou 730000, P. R. China

<sup>b</sup> College of Chemical Engineering, Northwest University for Nationalities, Lanzhou 730030, China

\* Corresponding author: Tel : (+86)-931-891-2593; Fax: (+86)-931-891-2582;

E-mail: [liangym@lzu.edu.cn](mailto:liangym@lzu.edu.cn)

## Table of Contents

1	General remarks	2
2	General procedure for the preparation of <b>1</b> and <b>2</b>	2
3	Spectral data of compound <b>1</b> and <b>2</b>	3
4	The tables for optimizing reaction conditions.	8
5	General procedure for the preparation of the products <b>3</b>	9
6	Spectral data of compound <b>3</b>	9
7	References	18
8	The crystal structure of product <b>31</b>	18
9	<sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra for compound <b>3</b>	19

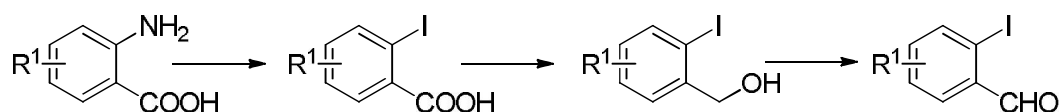
## 1. General remarks.

For product purification by flash column chromatography, silica gel (200~300 mesh).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on 400 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  or  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$  solutions and TMS as internal standard. All products were further characterized by HRMS (high resolution mass spectra). Copies of their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were provided. THF, and toluene, 1,4-dioxane were dried over Na with benzophenone-ketyl intermediate as indicator. MeCN was distilled over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . Commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification.

## 2. General procedure for the preparation of 1 and 2.

### (1) Preparation of 2-iodobenzaldehyde derivatives

General procedure A :



A solution of  $\text{NaNO}_2$  (1.2 eq) in 20 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was added slowly to a solution of 2-aminobenzoic acid derivatives (50 mmol, 1.0 eq) in concentrated  $\text{HCl}$  (10.0 eq) and 80 mL  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  over a period of 30 min. After the resulting solution was stirred at this temperature for 30 min, an ice cold solution of potassium iodide (1.5 eq) in 20 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was then added dropwise over a period of 20 min and stirred for addition 1 h at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The resulting red mixture was heated to  $90^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  was added and extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  ( $2 \times 100$  mL) and the combined organic layers were washed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , brine and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Solvent was removed under reduced pressure and 2-iodobenzoic acid derivatives were obtained by flash chromatography.

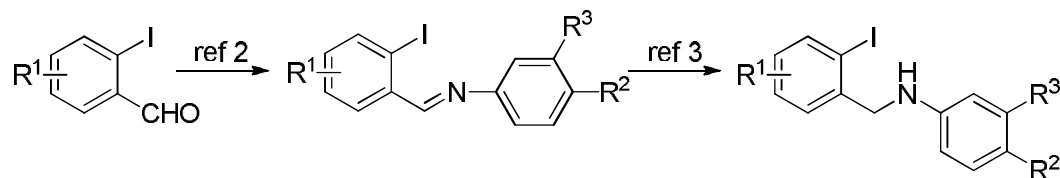
To a solution of the 2-iodobenzoic acid derivatives (20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (2.0 eq) in THF (30 mL) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  was slowly added  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{O} \cdot \text{BF}_3$  (2.0 equiv) over a period of 30 min and then the mixture was vigorously stirred at room temperature. When the reaction was considered complete, as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was cooled to  $0^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was slowly added and then extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $2 \times 50$  mL). The combined organic layers were dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and evaporated in vacuum and the (2-iodophenyl)methanol was used without further purification.

To a solution of (2-iodophenyl)methanol (15 mmol, 1.0 eq) and  $\text{SiO}_2$  (5.0 g) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was slowly added PCC (2.0 eq) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was filtrated, evaporated and 2-iodobenzaldehyde derivatives were obtained by flash chromatography.

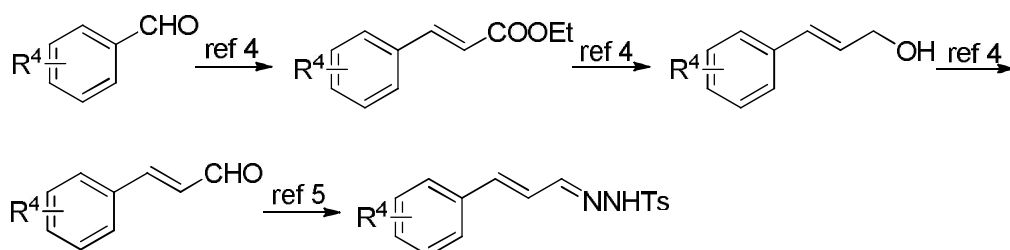
### General procedure B:

2-iodo-4,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde and 2-iodo-5-methoxybenzaldehyde were synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

(2) Compounds **1** were synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>2-3</sup>

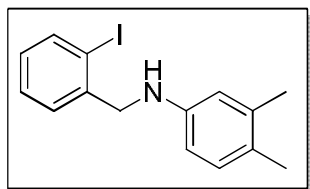


(3) Compounds **2** were synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>4-5</sup>

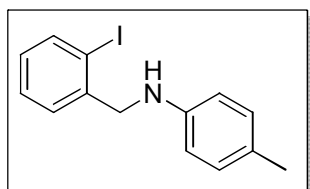


Propenal tosylhydrazone and (E)-2-Butenal tosylhydrazone were synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>6</sup>

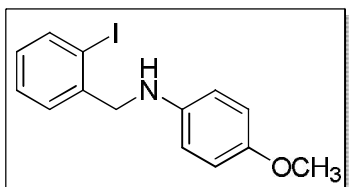
### 3. Spectral data of compound **1** and **2**.



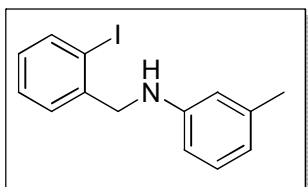
**N-(2-iodobenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.80-7.77(m, 1H), 7.31(d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.19(m, 1H), 6.87(d, *J* = 6.8Hz, 2H), 6.38(s, 1H), 6.29(d, *J* = 7.6Hz, 1H), 4.20(s, 2H), 3.9(s, 1H), 2.14(s, 3H), 2.11(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 145.7, 141.2, 139.2, 137.2, 130.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 125.5, 114.7, 110.1, 98.5, 53.3, 20.0, 18.6.



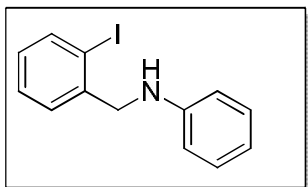
**N-(2-iodobenzyl)-4-methylaniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.82(d, *J* = 8.0Hz, 1H), 7.35(d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.24(m, 1H), 6.98-6.92(m, 3H), 6.50(d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H), 4.27(d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 2H), 4.04(s, 1H), 2.22(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 145.3, 141.1, 139.4, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 126.9, 113.0, 98.5, 53.4, 20.4.



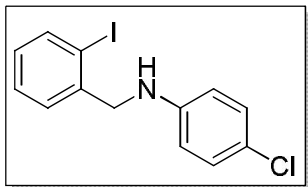
**N-(2-iodobenzyl)-4-methoxyaniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.85-7.83(m, 1H), 7.37(d, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.27(m, 1H), 6.98-6.94(m, 1H), 6.77(dd, *J*=6.8Hz, *J*=2.0Hz, 2H), 6.56(dd, *J*=6.8Hz, *J*=2.4Hz, 2H), 4.27(s, 2H), 3.94(s, 1H), 3.73(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 152.3, 141.8, 141.2, 139.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 114.9, 114.2, 98.6, 55.7, 54.1.



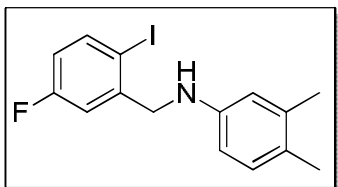
**N-(2-iodobenzyl)-3-methylaniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.83(d, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H), 7.35(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25(m, 1H), 7.07-7.03(m, 1H), 6.97-6.93(m, 1H), 6.54(d, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H), 6.42(s, 1H), 6.39(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 4.28(d, *J*=5.6Hz, 2H), 4.09(s, 1H), 2.25(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 147.6, 141.0, 139.4, 139.0, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 118.7, 113.7, 109.9, 98.5, 53.2, 21.6.



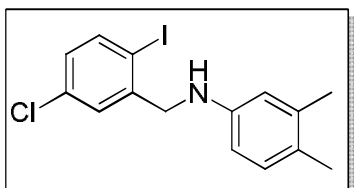
**N-(2-iodobenzyl)aniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.84(d, *J*=8.0Hz, 1H), 7.36(d, *J*=7.6Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.26(m, 1H), 7.18-7.15(m, 2H), 6.98-6.94(m, 1H), 6.74-6.70(m, 1H), 6.59(d, *J*=8.4Hz, 2H), 4.31(d, *J*=4.8Hz, 2H), 4.17(s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 147.6, 140.9, 139.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 117.8, 112.9, 98.5, 53.2.



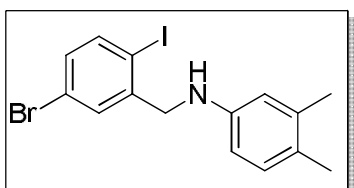
**4-chloro-N-(2-iodobenzyl)aniline:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.85(dd, *J*=7.6Hz, *J*=0.8Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.27(m, 2H), 7.12-7.08(m, 2H), 6.99-6.95(m, 1H), 6.50(dd, *J*=6.8Hz, *J*=2.0Hz, 2H), 4.27(d, *J*=2.4Hz, 2H), 4.21(s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 146.1, 140.4, 139.5, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.4, 122.3, 114.0, 98.5, 53.2.



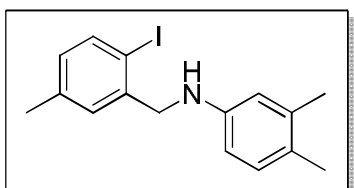
***N*-(5-fluoro-2-iodobenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.79-7.76(m, 1H), 7.15(dd,  $J = 9.6\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 3.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.92(d,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.76-6.71(m, 1H), 6.42(d,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.32(dd,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.25(d,  $J = 5.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 4.08(s, 1H), 2.18(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 164.5, 162.1, 145.3, 143.9, 143.8, 140.2, 140.1, 137.3, 130.3, 125.9, 116.1, 115.9, 115.8, 115.7, 114.7, 110.1, 90.5, 90.4, 53.3, 20.0, 18.6.



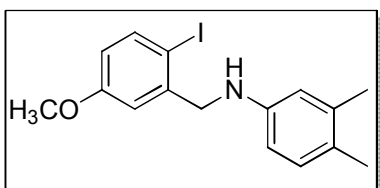
***N*-(5-chloro-2-iodobenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.69(d,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.35(s, 1H), 6.90(d,  $J = 6.8\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.39(s, 1H), 6.29(d,  $J = 7.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.18(s, 2H), 3.96(s, 1H), 2.16(s, 3H), 2.13(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.4, 143.3, 140.2, 137.4, 134.9, 130.3, 128.9, 128.6, 126.0, 114.7, 110.2, 95.1, 53.4, 20.0, 18.7.



***N*-(5-bromo-2-iodobenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.65(d,  $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.51(d,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.09-7.06(m, 1H), 6.92(d,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.41(d,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.31(dd,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.21(s, 2H), 3.98(s, 1H), 2.18(s, 3H), 2.14(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.5, 143.6, 140.5, 137.4, 131.9, 131.5, 130.3, 126.1, 123.0, 114.8, 110.2, 96.1, 53.4, 20.0, 18.7.

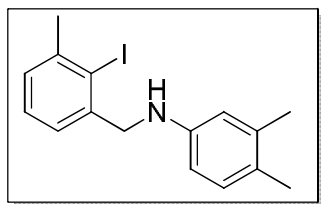


***N*-(2-iodo-5-methylbenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.69(d,  $J = 7.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.22-7.21(m, 1H), 6.92(d,  $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.78(dd,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 1.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.45(d,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.36(dd,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.23(d,  $J = 5.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 3.94(s, 1H), 2.25(s, 3H), 2.18(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 146.0, 141.0, 139.1, 138.4, 137.3, 130.3, 129.9, 129.8, 125.7, 114.8, 110.3, 94.5, 53.5, 21.0, 20.0, 18.7.

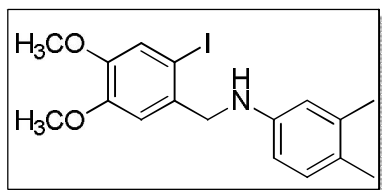


***N*-(2-iodo-5-methoxybenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.68(d,  $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.01(d,  $J = 2.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.92(d,  $J = 8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.58-6.55(m,

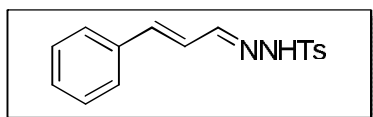
1H), 6.45(d,  $J=2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.38-6.35(m, 1H), 4.23(s, 2H), 3.99(s, 1H), 3.72(s, 3H), 2.18(s, 3H), 2.14(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 160.2, 145.8, 142.5, 139.8, 137.3, 130.3, 125.9, 115.1, 114.9, 114.7, 110.4, 86.7, 55.3, 20.0, 18.7.



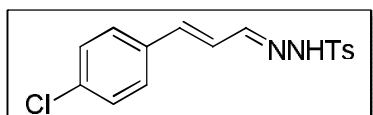
***N*-(2-iodo-3-methylbenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.13-7.08(m, 3H), 6.87(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.39(d,  $J=2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.30(dd,  $J=8.0$ Hz,  $J=2.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.24(d,  $J=4.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.94(s, 1H), 2.45(s, 3H), 2.14(s, 3H), 2.11(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.8, 142.1, 141.7, 137.2, 130.2, 128.4, 127.8, 125.9, 125.4, 114.7, 110.1, 105.7, 54.5, 29.3, 20.0, 18.6.



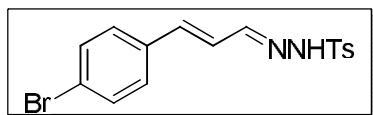
***N*-(2-iodo-4,5-dimethoxybenzyl)-3,4-dimethylaniline:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.23(s, 1H), 6.94(s, 1H), 6.91(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.45(s, 1H), 6.36(dd,  $J=8.0$ Hz,  $J=2.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.18(s, 2H), 3.90(s, 1H), 3.83(s, 3H), 3.76(s, 3H), 2.17(s, 3H), 2.14(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.3, 148.5, 145.9, 137.1, 133.8, 130.1, 125.7, 121.5, 114.9, 111.9, 110.4, 86.2, 56.1, 55.8, 53.3, 19.9, 18.6.



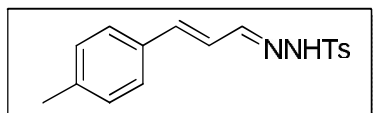
**4-methyl-*N'*-((*E*)-3-phenylallylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.22(d,  $J=5.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.86(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.58(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.38(m, 2H), 7.34-7.28(m, 5H), 6.86-6.74(m, 2H), 2.41(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.8, 144.3, 140.0, 135.6, 135.3, 129.8, 129.1, 128.8, 127.9, 127.0, 124.3, 21.6.



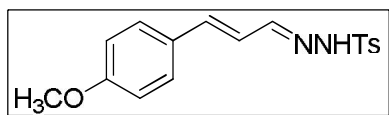
***N'*-((*E*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)allylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.62(d,  $J=16.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.86(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.60(d,  $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.31(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.27(s, 4H), 6.79-6.66(m, 2H), 2.40(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.5, 144.4, 138.4, 135.1, 134.8, 134.0, 129.8, 129.0, 128.1, 127.8, 124.9, 21.6.



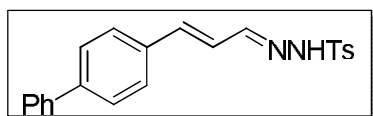
***N'*-((*E*)-3-(4-bromophenyl)allylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.82(s, 1H), 7.87(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.61(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.40(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.30(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.18(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.81-6.72(m, 1H), 6.64(d,  $J=16.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.39(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.5, 144.3, 138.4, 135.1, 134.4, 131.9, 129.7, 128.3, 127.8, 124.9, 123.0, 21.6.



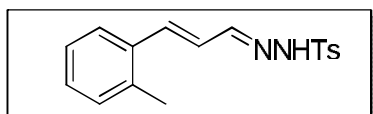
**4-methyl-*N'*-((*E*)-3-(*p*-tolyl)allylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 10.04(s, 1H), 7.82-7.76(m, 3H), 7.41-7.37(m, 4H), 7.16(d,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.86(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.76(dd,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.38(s, 3H), 2.30(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 149.9, 144.3, 139.8, 139.5, 137.3, 133.9, 130.1, 130.0, 128.2, 127.6, 124.5, 21.2, 21.0.



***N'*-((*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)allylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.13(s, 1H), 7.85(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.55(dd,  $J=6.8\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=1.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.34-7.30(m, 4H), 6.85(d,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.70(d,  $J=6.8\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 3.81(s, 3H), 2.41(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 160.4, 150.5, 144.2, 139.8, 135.3, 129.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 122.1, 114.3, 55.3, 21.6.

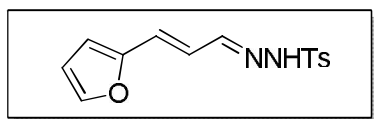


***N'*-((*E*)-3-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)allylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 10.1(s, 1H), 7.81(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 3H), 7.68-7.62(m, 6H), 7.48-7.44(m, 2H), 7.41-7.35(m, 3H), 6.96(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.87(dd,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.40(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 149.8, 144.4, 141.9, 140.8, 139.3, 137.4, 135.9, 130.2, 129.6, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.4, 125.6, 21.2.

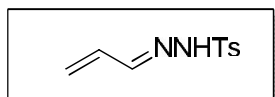


**4-methyl-*N'*-((*E*)-3-(*o*-tolyl)allylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.54(s, 1H), 7.87(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.64(d,  $J=9.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.45-7.43(m, 1H), 7.31(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.20-7.13(m, 3H), 7.02(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.77-6.70(m, 1H), 2.40(s, 3H), 2.32(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 150.2,

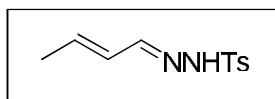
144.3, 137.6, 136.3, 135.2, 134.3, 130.6, 129.7, 128.9, 127.8, 126.3, 125.5, 125.3, 21.6, 19.7.



***N'*-((*E*)-3-(furan-2-yl)allylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonylhydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 10.03(s, 1H), 7.79(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.73(d,  $J=9.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.59(d,  $J=1.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.39(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.75(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.63-6.56(m, 2H), 6.51-6.49(m, 1H), 2.39(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{C}_3\text{D}_6\text{O}$ )  $\delta$ : 152.6, 149.2, 144.5, 144.3, 137.2, 130.1, 128.2, 126.5, 123.4, 112.7, 112.1, 21.2.

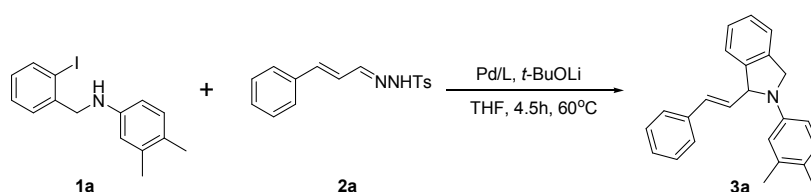


***N'*-allylidene-4-methylbenzenesulfonylhydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.79(s, 1H), 7.81(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.46(d,  $J=9.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.29(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.40-6.30(m, 1H), 5.54(d,  $J=10.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 5.47(d,  $J=17.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.40(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.8, 144.1, 135.1, 133.0, 129.6, 127.7, 125.1, 21.5.



***N'*-((*E*)-but-2-en-1-ylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonylhydrazide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 8.55(s, 1H), 7.82(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.43(d,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.28(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.12-5.94(m, 2H), 2.39(s, 3H), 1.77(m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 150.5, 144.0, 139.0, 135.2, 129.5, 127.7, 21.4, 18.3.

#### 4. The tables for optimizing reaction conditions. <sup>[a]</sup>

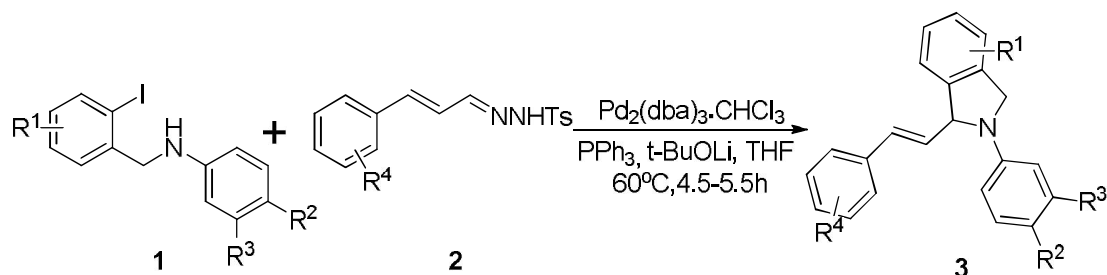


Entry	Catalyst (mol%)	Yield <sup>[b]</sup>
1	$\text{PdCl}_2(\text{MeCN})_2$ (2.5)/ $\text{PPh}_3$ (15)	28
2	$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5)/ $\text{PPh}_3$ (15)	87
3	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ (2.5)/ $\text{PPh}_3$ (15)	76
4	$\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (5)/ $\text{PPh}_3$ (15)	86
5	<b><math>\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3</math> (2.5)/ <math>\text{PPh}_3</math> (15)</b>	<b>88</b>
6	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5)/Xphos (15)	Trace
7	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5)/TFP (15)	72
8	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5)	0
9	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5)/[HPCy <sub>3</sub> ]BF <sub>4</sub> (15)	16

[a]: Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol), **2a** (0.675 mmol, 2.25 equiv), *t*-BuOLi (1.575 mmol, 5.25 equiv), THF (4ml). [b] Yield of isolated product.

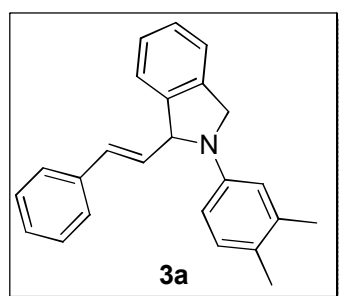


## 5. General procedure for the preparation of the products 3.

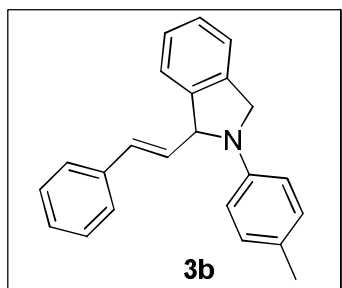


Under a nitrogen atmosphere, to an oven-dried Schlenk tube were added *N*-(2-iodobenzyl) anilines **1** (0.30 mmol, 1.0 eq), *N*-tosylhydrazones **2** (0.675 mmol, 2.25 eq), t-BuOLi (1.575 mmol, 5.25eq), Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>·CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2.5 mmol%), PPh<sub>3</sub> (15 mmol%), THF (4 ml) was introduced by syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60°C. When the reaction was considered complete, as determined by TLC analysis, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered through celite with EtOAc as eluents. The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford pure **3**.

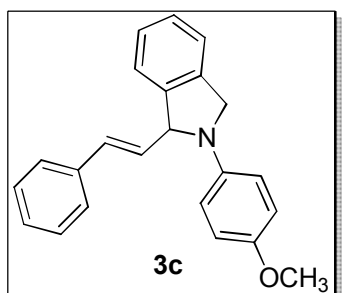
## 6. Spectral data of compound 3.



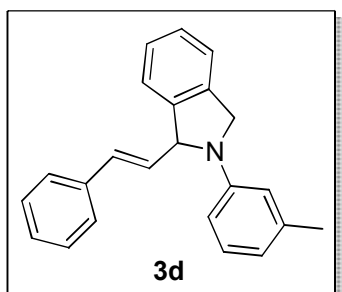
**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-styrylisoindoline 3a**: yellow solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.37-7.32(m, 3H), 7.27(d, *J* =7.6Hz, 5H), 7.21-7.17(m, 1H), 7.01-6.99(m, 1H), 6.82(d, *J* =16.0Hz, 1H), 6.66(s, 1H), 6.62(d, *J* =8.0Hz, 1H), 6.26-6.19(m, 1H), 5.46(d, *J* =7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.86(d, *J* =13.2Hz, 1H), 4.58(d, *J* =13.2Hz, 1H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 145.5, 140.9, 137.1, 136.7, 132.3, 130.6, 130.2, 128.5, 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 126.5, 124.4, 123.4, 122.5, 114.3, 110.2, 67.3, 54.7, 20.4, 18.6; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N: M+H=326.1903; found: 326.1899.



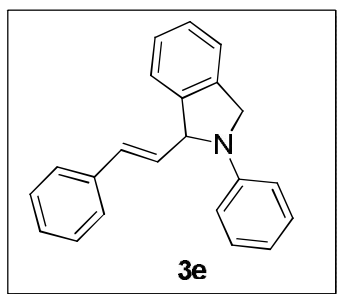
**(E)-1-styryl-2-(p-tolyl)isoindoline 3b:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.36-7.31(m, 3H), 7.27-7.25(m, 5H), 7.20-7.18(m, 1H), 7.05(d,  $J = 6.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.83-6.74(m, 3H), 6.25-6.18(m, 1H), 5.46(s, 1H), 4.85(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.56(d,  $J = 12.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.24(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.0, 140.9, 137.1, 136.6, 132.1, 130.7, 129.7, 128.5, 127.5, 127.2, 126.5, 125.6, 123.4, 122.5, 112.7, 67.4, 54.6, 20.3; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=312.1747$ ; found: 312.1743.



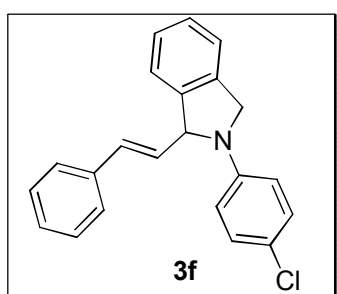
**(E)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-styrylisoindoline 3c:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.37(d,  $J = 5.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.31-7.26(m, 6H), 7.22-7.20(m, 1H), 6.88-6.78(m, 5H), 6.27-6.20(m, 1H), 5.42(s, 1H), 4.84(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.54(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 3.72(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 151.4, 141.9, 140.9, 137.2, 136.6, 132.2, 130.7, 128.5, 127.5, 127.2, 126.5, 123.3, 122.4, 114.9, 113.5, 67.7, 55.8, 55.0; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$ :  $M+H=328.1696$ ; found: 328.1692.



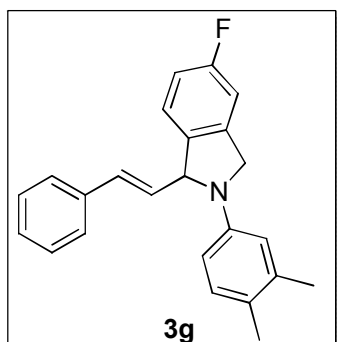
**(E)-1-styryl-2-(m-tolyl)isoindoline 3d:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.37-7.25(m, 8H), 7.21-7.13(m, 2H), 6.83-6.78(m, 1H), 6.66(d,  $J = 6.8\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.57(s, 1H), 6.25-6.17(m, 1H), 5.48(s, 1H), 4.87-4.84(m, 1H), 4.60-4.57(m, 1H), 2.32(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 147.1, 140.7, 138.8, 136.9, 136.6, 132.0, 130.6, 129.0, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 123.3, 122.5, 117.5, 113.4, 110.0, 67.2, 54.4, 21.9; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=312.1747$ ; found: 312.1751.



**(E)-2-phenyl-1-styrylisindoline 3e:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.38-7.31(m, 3H), 7.29-7.26(m, 7H), 7.24-7.19(m, 1H), 6.85-6.81(m, 3H), 6.76-6.71(m, 1H), 6.26-6.19(m, 1H), 5.52-5.50(m, 1H), 4.87(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.62(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 147.1, 140.7, 136.9, 136.6, 131.9, 130.8, 129.2, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 123.4, 122.5, 116.5, 112.7, 67.3, 54.4; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}$ :  $\text{M}+\text{H}=298.1590$ ; found: 298.1593.

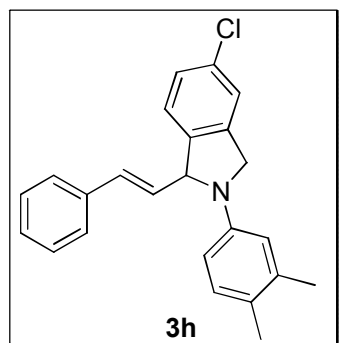


**(E)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-styrylisindoline 3f:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.37-7.34(m, 2H), 7.32(d,  $J = 2.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.30-7.28(m, 3H), 7.26-7.22(m, 2H), 7.21-7.16(m, 3H), 6.79(d,  $J = 15.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.72(d,  $J = 9.2\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.20-6.14(m, 1H), 5.45-5.43(m, 1H), 4.82(dd,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ ,  $J = 3.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.56(d,  $J = 13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.6, 140.5, 136.5, 136.3, 131.2, 131.1, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 126.5, 123.4, 122.5, 121.4, 113.7, 67.4, 54.5; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{NCl}$ :  $\text{M}+\text{H}=332.1201$ ; found: 332.1206.

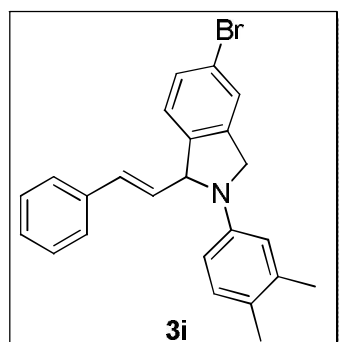


**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5-fluoro-1-styrylisindoline 3g:** yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.36(d,  $J = 7.2\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.29-7.25(m, 2H), 7.21-7.15(m, 2H), 7.01-6.93(m, 3H), 6.79(d,  $J = 15.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.63(s, 1H), 6.59(d,  $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.21-6.14(m, 1H), 5.39(d,  $J = 7.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.82(d,  $J = 13.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.52(d,  $J = 13.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 163.9, 161.5, 145.3,

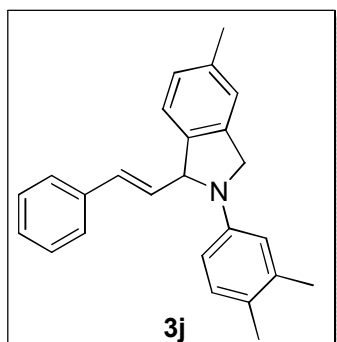
139.1, 139.0, 137.2, 136.6, 136.4, 132.0, 130.8, 130.3, 128.5, 127.6, 126.5, 124.7, 124.6, 124.5, 114.6, 114.3, 114.2, 110.2, 109.7, 109.4, 66.7, 54.5, 54.4, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $C_{24}H_{22}NF$ :  $M+H=344.1809$ ; found: 344.1804.



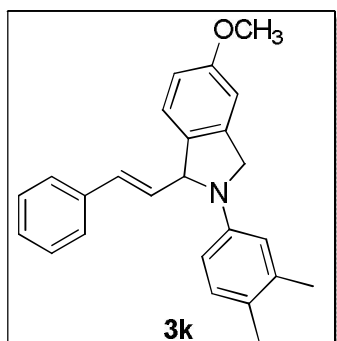
**(E)-5-chloro-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-styrylisoindoline 3h**: yellow solid;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.34(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.24(m, 3H), 7.23-7.19(m, 2H), 7.13(d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.99(d,  $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.78(d,  $J=16.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 6.59-6.56(m, 1H), 6.19-6.13(m, 1H), 5.38(d,  $J=6.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.80(dd,  $J=13.6$ Hz,  $J=3.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.50(d,  $J=13.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.2, 139.5, 139.0, 137.2, 136.5, 133.4, 131.7, 131.0, 130.3, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 126.5, 124.8, 124.5, 122.7, 114.3, 110.3, 66.8, 54.3, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $C_{24}H_{22}NCl$ :  $M+H=360.1514$ ; found: 360.1519.



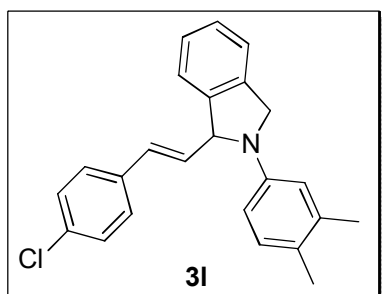
**(E)-5-bromo-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-styrylisoindoline 3i**: yellow solid;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.45(s, 1H), 7.39-7.34(m, 3H), 7.29-7.25(m, 2H), 7.22-7.18(m, 1H), 7.09(d,  $J=8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.99(d,  $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.79(d,  $J=16.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.62(s, 1H), 6.58(d,  $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.19-6.13(m, 1H), 5.37(dd,  $J=7.6$ Hz,  $J=2.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.83-4.79(m, 1H), 4.52(d,  $J=13.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.1, 140.0, 139.4, 137.2, 136.5, 131.6, 131.0, 130.4, 130.3, 128.5, 127.7, 126.5, 125.7, 124.9, 124.8, 121.4, 114.3, 110.3, 66.9, 54.2, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $C_{24}H_{22}NBr$ :  $M+H=404.1008$ ; found: 404.1014.



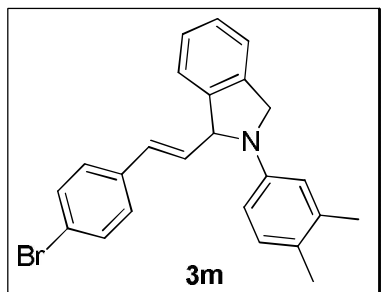
**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5-methyl-1-styrylisindoline 3j:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.34(d,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.24(t,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.17(d,  $J=6.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.11(d,  $J=5.2\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.05(d,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.98(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.78(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.64(s, 1H), 6.60(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.22-6.16(m, 1H), 5.39(d,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.80(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.51(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.35(s, 3H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.5, 138.0, 137.3, 137.2, 137.1, 136.8, 132.5, 130.4, 130.2, 128.4, 128.1, 127.4, 126.5, 124.3, 123.1, 123.0, 114.2, 110.2, 67.0, 54.5, 21.3, 20.4, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=340.2060$ ; found: 340.2055.



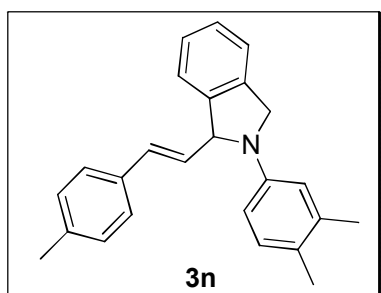
**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5-methoxy-1-styrylisindoline 3k:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.34(d,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.27-7.23(m, 2H), 7.18(d,  $J=6.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 7.12(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.98(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.84(d,  $J=1.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.82-6.76(m, 2H), 6.63(d,  $J=2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.61-6.58(m, 1H), 6.21-6.15(m, 1H), 5.37(dd,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.83-4.79(m, 1H), 4.52(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 3.78(s, 3H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 159.6, 145.5, 138.5, 137.1, 136.8, 133.0, 132.6, 130.3, 130.2, 128.4, 127.4, 126.5, 124.3, 124.1, 114.2, 113.5, 110.2, 107.6, 66.8, 55.4, 54.7, 20.3, 18.5; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}$ :  $M+H=356.2009$ ; found: 356.2004.



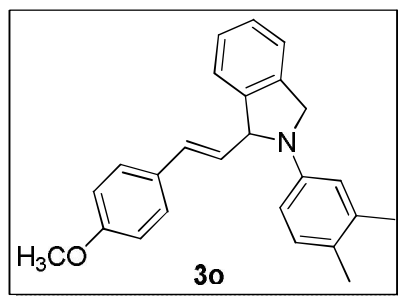
**(E)-1-(4-chlorostyryl)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)isoindoline 3l:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.32-7.20(m, 8H), 7.01(d,  $J=6.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.74(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.63(s, 1H), 6.58(d,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.22-6.16(m, 1H), 5.44(d,  $J=7.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.85(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.57(d,  $J=12.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.4, 140.7, 137.2, 137.1, 135.2, 133.1, 132.8, 130.3, 129.3, 128.6, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 124.5, 123.2, 122.5, 114.3, 110.2, 67.1, 54.6, 20.4, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NCl}$ :  $M+H=360.1514$ ; found: 360.1509.



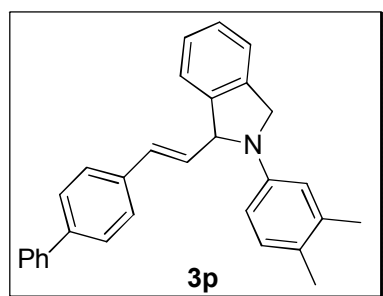
**(E)-1-(4-bromostyryl)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)isoindoline 3m:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.36(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.33-7.25(m, 3H), 7.24-7.18(m, 3H), 7.00(d,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.72(d,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.63(d,  $J=2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.59-6.56(m, 1H), 6.20(dd,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=7.6\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 5.43(dd,  $J=7.2\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=2.4\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.84(dd,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=3.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.56(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.3, 140.6, 137.2, 137.1, 135.6, 133.0, 131.5, 130.2, 129.4, 128.0, 127.6, 127.2, 124.5, 123.2, 122.5, 121.2, 114.2, 110.2, 67.0, 54.6, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NBr}$ :  $M+H=404.1008$ ; found: 404.1013.



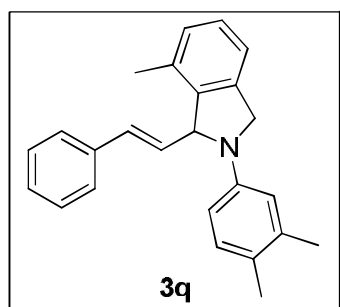
**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-(4-methylstyryl)isoindoline 3n:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.30-7.24(m, 6H), 7.07(d,  $J=2.0\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 7.01-6.98(m, 1H), 6.78(dd,  $J=16.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=3.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 6.66(s, 1H), 6.62(s, 1H), 6.19-6.12(m, 1H), 5.43(s, 1H), 4.84(d,  $J=13.2\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 4.55(d,  $J=12.8\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 2.28(s, 3H), 2.22(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.5, 141.0, 137.2, 137.1, 137.0, 133.9, 131.2, 130.5, 130.2, 129.1, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 124.3, 123.3, 122.4, 114.3, 110.2, 67.3, 54.6, 21.1, 20.3, 18.5; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=340.2060$ ; found: 340.2055.



**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-(4-methoxystyryl)isoindoline 3o:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.33-7.24(m, 6H), 6.99(d,  $J$  =8.4Hz, 1H), 6.80(d,  $J$  =8.8Hz, 2H), 6.74(d,  $J$  =15.6Hz, 1H), 6.65(s, 1H), 6.61(dd,  $J$  =8.4Hz,  $J$  =2.4Hz, 1H), 6.09-6.03(m, 1H), 5.43(dd,  $J$  =7.6Hz,  $J$  =2.4Hz, 1H), 4.84(dd,  $J$  =13.2Hz,  $J$  =3.2Hz, 1H), 4.55(d,  $J$  =13.2Hz, 1H), 3.74(s, 3H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 159.1, 145.5, 141.2, 137.1, 137.0, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 129.5, 127.6, 127.4, 127.2, 124.3, 123.4, 122.4, 114.3, 113.9, 110.3, 67.4, 55.2, 54.6, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}$ :  $M+H=356.2009$ ; found: 356.2004.

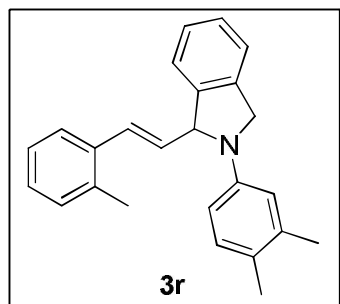


**(E)-1-(2-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)vinyl)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)isoindoline 3p:** yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.55(d,  $J$  =7.6Hz, 2H), 7.51(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 2H), 7.44-7.38(m, 4H), 7.34-7.27(m, 5H), 7.01(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 6.85(d,  $J$  =16.0Hz, 1H), 6.67(s, 1H), 6.63(d,  $J$  =8.4Hz, 1H), 6.26(dd,  $J$  =16.0Hz,  $J$  =7.6Hz, 1H), 5.48(d,  $J$  =6.0Hz, 1H), 4.87(dd,  $J$  =13.2Hz,  $J$  =2.8Hz, 1H), 4.58(d,  $J$  =12.8Hz, 1H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.5, 140.9, 140.7, 140.3, 137.2, 135.8, 132.4, 130.3, 130.1, 128.8, 128.7, 127.5, 127.2, 127.1, 126.9, 126.8, 124.5, 123.4, 122.5, 114.3, 110.2, 67.3, 54.7, 20.4, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=402.2216$ ; found: 402.2221.

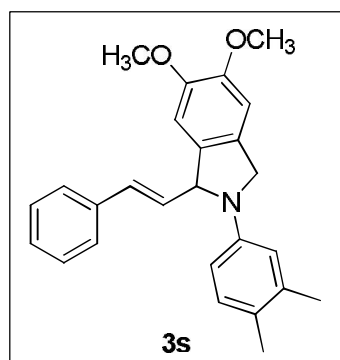


**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-7-methyl-1-styrylisoindoline 3q:** yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.31(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.15(m, 5H), 7.04(d,  $J$  =6.8Hz, 1H), 7.00(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 6.74(d,  $J$  =16.0Hz, 1H), 6.61(s, 1H), 6.57(d,  $J$

=8.4Hz, 1H), 6.06-6.00(m, 1H), 5.58-5.55(m, 1H), 4.83-4.79(m, 1H), 4.62(d,  $J$  =13.2Hz, 1H), 2.34(s, 3H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.15(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 144.5, 139.2, 137.4, 137.1, 136.6, 133.3, 132.3, 130.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 127.8, 127.5, 126.5, 124.0, 120.0, 114.0, 109.9, 65.9, 53.8, 20.4, 18.9, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=340.2060$ ; found: 340.2055.

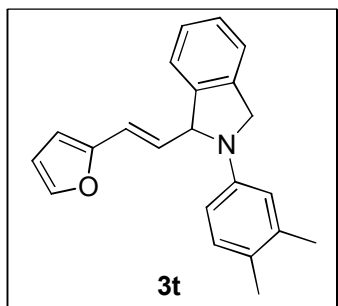


**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-(2-methylstyryl)isoindoline 3r**: yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.34-7.30(m, 2H), 7.29-7.23(m, 3H), 7.12-7.10(m, 2H), 7.08-7.07(m, 2H), 7.03-7.00(m, 1H), 6.69(d,  $J$  =2.4Hz, 1H), 6.62(dd,  $J$  =8.0Hz,  $J$  =2.4Hz, 1H), 6.01(dd,  $J$  =15.6Hz,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 5.49-5.46(m, 1H), 4.84(dd,  $J$  =13.2Hz,  $J$  =3.2Hz, 1H), 4.55(d,  $J$  =12.8Hz, 1H), 2.40(s, 3H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.4, 140.9, 137.2, 137.0, 136.0, 135.2, 133.7, 130.2, 130.1, 128.9, 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 126.0, 124.3, 123.3, 122.5, 114.3, 110.3, 67.6, 54.5, 20.3, 19.9, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=340.2060$ ; found: 340.2055.

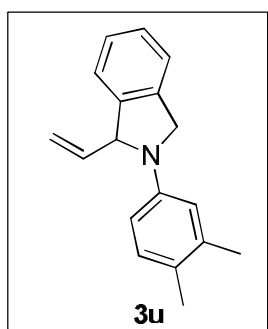


**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-5,6-dimethoxy-1-styrylisoindoline 3s**: yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.37(d,  $J$  =7.6Hz, 2H), 7.27(t,  $J$  =7.6Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.17(m, 1H), 6.99(d,  $J$  =8.4Hz, 1H), 6.80(d,  $J$  =15.6Hz, 2H), 6.71(s, 1H), 6.63(s, 1H), 6.59(d,  $J$  =8.4Hz, 1H), 6.18(dd,  $J$  =16.0Hz,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 5.38(d,  $J$  =5.6Hz, 1H), 4.79(dd,  $J$  =12.4Hz,  $J$  =3.2Hz, 1H), 4.50(d,  $J$  =12.8Hz, 1H), 3.88(s, 3H), 3.83(s, 3H), 2.23(s, 3H), 2.16(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 149.2, 148.9, 145.5, 137.0, 136.7, 132.5, 132.3, 130.6, 130.1, 128.7, 128.4, 127.4, 126.5, 124.2, 114.1, 110.0, 106.1, 105.4, 67.5, 56.1, 56.0, 54.6, 20.3, 18.5; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_2$ :  $M+H=386.2115$ ; found: 386.2121.

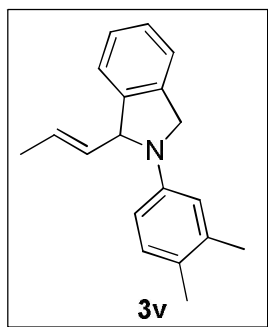




**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-(2-(furan-2-yl)vinyl)-7-methylisoindoline 3t:** yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.36-7.26(m, 5H), 7.01(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 6.62(s, 1H), 6.59-6.55(m, 2H), 6.31(d,  $J$  =1.6Hz, 1H), 6.25-6.20(m, 2H), 5.42(d,  $J$  =6.4Hz, 1H), 4.84(d,  $J$  =13.2Hz, 1H), 4.57(d,  $J$  =12.8Hz, 1H), 2.24(s, 3H), 2.17(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 152.4, 145.3, 141.7, 140.9, 137.1, 137.0, 130.3, 130.2, 127.5, 127.2, 124.4, 123.2, 122.5, 118.8, 114.2, 111.2, 110.2, 107.8, 66.6, 54.6, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$ :  $M+H=316.1696$ ; found: 316.1701.



**2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-vinylisoindoline 3u:** colorless liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.32-7.26(m, 3H), 7.23-7.20(m, 1H), 7.01(d,  $J$  =8.4Hz, 1H), 6.61(d,  $J$  =2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.57-6.55(m, 1H), 5.88-5.79(m, 1H), 5.46(d,  $J$  =17.2Hz, 1H), 5.30(dd,  $J$  =7.2Hz,  $J$  =2.8Hz, 1H), 5.23(d,  $J$  =10.0Hz, 1H), 4.80(dd,  $J$  =13.2Hz,  $J$  =3.2Hz, 1H), 4.54(d,  $J$  =12.8Hz, 1H), 2.25(s, 3H), 2.18(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.4, 140.9, 140.2, 137.1, 137.0, 130.2, 127.4, 127.2, 124.4, 123.1, 122.4, 115.6, 114.3, 110.2, 67.7, 54.6, 20.3, 18.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=250.1590$ ; found: 250.1587.



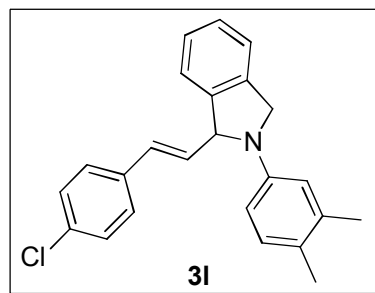
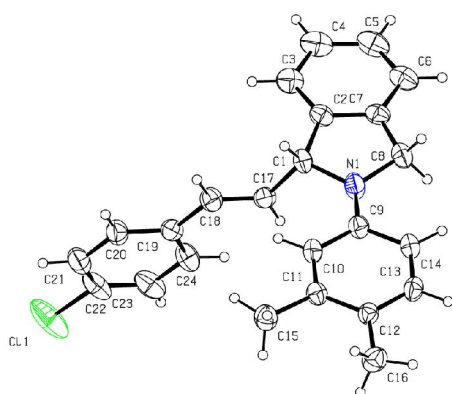
**(E)-2-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1-(prop-1-en-1-yl)isoindoline:** yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.30-7.25(m, 3H), 7.21-7.18(m, 1H), 7.01(d,  $J$  =8.0Hz, 1H), 6.61(s, 1H), 6.57-6.55(m, 1H), 5.94-5.85(m, 1H), 5.48-5.42(m, 1H), 5.27-5.25(m, 1H),

4.80-4.76(m, 1H), 4.51(d,  $J=13.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.25(s, 3H), 2.18(s, 3H), 1.70(dd,  $J=6.4$  Hz,  $J=1.2$ Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 145.4, 141.6, 140.0, 133.1, 130.1, 127.2, 127.0, 126.7, 124.1, 123.1, 122.3, 114.2, 110.2, 66.8, 54.4, 20.3, 18.5, 17.6; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}$ :  $M+H=264.1747$ ; found: 264.1744.

## 7. References.

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## 8. The crystal structure of product 3l.



## Datablock: 31

Bond precision: C-C = 0.0060 Å Wavelength=0.71070  
Cell: a=30.0639(18) b=6.1724(3) c=21.5055(16)  
alpha=90 beta=104.784(6) gamma=90  
Temperature: 290 K

	Calculated	Reported
Volume	3858.6(4)	3858.6(4)
Space group	I 2	I 1 2 1
Hall group	I 2y	I 2y
Moiety formula	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>22</sub> Cl N	2(C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>22</sub> Cl N)
Sum formula	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>22</sub> Cl N	C <sub>48</sub> H <sub>44</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub>
Mr	359.88	719.75
D <sub>x</sub> , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.239	1.239
Z	8	4
Mu (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.205	0.205
F <sub>000</sub>	1520.0	1520.0
F <sub>000</sub> '	1521.67	
h, k, l <sub>max</sub>	40, 8, 28	37, 8, 28
N <sub>ref</sub>	5339[ 9793]	6911
T <sub>min</sub> , T <sub>max</sub>	0.943, 0.970	0.979, 1.000
T <sub>min</sub> '	0.919	

Correction method= MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 1.29/0.71 Theta(max)= 28.520

R(reflections)= 0.0587( 4460) wR2(reflections)= 0.1294( 6911)

S = 1.070 N<sub>par</sub>= 473

### 9. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra for compound 3

