## An efficient approach to *H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinolin-2-amines via a silver(I)-catalyzed three-component reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde, sulfonohydrazide, and nitrile

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## **Supporting Information**

- 1. General experimental method (S2)
- 2. Experimental procedure for the synthesis of compounds 4 (S2)
- 3. Characterization data of compounds 4 (S3-S9)
- 4. <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound 4 (S10-S45)

## General Experimental Method:

All reactions were performed in test tubes in the air. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (60-Å pore size, 32–63  $\mu$ m, standard grade). Analytical thin–layer chromatography was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Thin layer chromatography plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Organic solutions were concentrated at ~20 Torr (house vacuum) at 25–35 °C. Solvents were re-distilled prior to use in the reactions. Other commercial reagents were used as received. 2-Alkynylbenzaldehyde **1** was synthesized via Sonogashira coupling according to the literature report. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative solvent signals.

Experimental procedure for the synthesis of H-pyrazolo[5,1-a]isoquinolin-2-amines via AgOTf-catalyzed three-component reaction of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde, sulfonohydrazide, and nitrile.



A mixture of 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde **1** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv), AgOTf (7.7 mg, 10 mol %), and sulfonohydrazide **2** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (1.0 mL) was stirred at 70 °C vigorously for 1 hour. Then nitrile **3** (0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and DABCO (0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were added. After completion of the reaction as indicated by TLC, the reaction mixture was quenched with water (5.0 mL) and diluted with ethyl acetate (5.0 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the desired product **4**.



2-Amino-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4a**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 6.32 (s, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.65-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.91-7.93 (m, 1H), 8.46-8.48 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  69.7, 112.6, 115.9, 120.7, 122.1, 127.7, 127.9, 128.1, 129.2, 129.4, 129.5, 130.1, 133.0, 137.2, 140.4, 159.2; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 285.1140, found: 285.1147.



2-Amino-5-cyclopropyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4b**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 0.90-0.91 (m, 2H), 1.07-1.09 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.50 (m, 1H), 6.34 (s, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 7.59-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.78 (m, 1H), 8.39-8.40 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.4, 11.1, 69.4, 106.5, 116.0, 119.8, 122.0, 127.0, 127.1, 129.2, 130.2, 139.7, 140.2, 159.3; HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 271.0960, found: 271.0977.



2-Amino-5-butyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4c**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 0.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.33-1.38 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.71 (m, 2H), 2.91-2.94 (m, 2H), 6.31 (s, 2H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 7.61-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.79-7.80 (m, 1H), 8.38-8.40 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  13.7, 21.9, 28.3, 30.1, 69.2, 109.7, 116.0, 120.1, 122.0, 127.0, 127.1, 129.3, 130.0, 138.5, 139.7, 159.2; HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 265.1453, found: 265.1464.



2-Amino*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4d**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 6.29 (s, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.89-7.91 (m, 1H), 8.26 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  69.0, 112.2, 115.9, 121.2, 122.2, 126.1, 127.7, 128.1, 129.4, 129.8, 139.3, 159.7; HRMS calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 231.0647, found: 231.0660.



2-Amino-8-fluoro-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4e**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 6.34 (s, 2H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.59 (m, 4H), 7.71-7.76 (m, 3H), 8.46 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  69.7, 111.9, 112.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 22 Hz), 115.8, 116.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 117.7, 125.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 128.1, 129.4, 132.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 132.7, 138.1, 140.2, 159.1, 161.9 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 246 Hz); HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 325.0865, found: 325.0861.



2-Amino-5-butyl-8-fluoro*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4f**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.34-1.43 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.72 (m, 2H), 2.92-2.96 (m, 2H), 6.35 (s, 2H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 8.39-8.42 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  13.7, 21.9, 28.2, 30.1, 69.2, 109.0, 111.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 22 Hz), 115.8, 116.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 117.0, 124.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 132.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 139.5, 139.6, 159.1, 161.9 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 246 Hz); HRMS calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 305.1178, found: 305.1189.



2-Amino-9-fluoro-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4g**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 6.34 (s, 2H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.49-7.55 (m, 4H), 7.75-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.98-8.00 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  69.9, 106.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 112.2, 115.6, 118.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 121.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 127.0, 128.1, 129.2, 129.4, 130.8 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 9 Hz), 132.8, 136.6, 139.5, 159.1, 160.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 245 Hz); HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 303.1046, found: 303.1057.



2-Amino-5-cyclopropyl-9-fluoro*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4h**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 0.90-0.91 (m, 2H), 1.08-1.10 (m, 2H), 2.45-2.50 (m, 1H), 6.42 (s, 2H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.88-7.91 (m, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.4, 11.1, 69.5, 106.3, 106.5(d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 115.8, 118.4(d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 120.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 127.3, 130.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 9 Hz), 138.9, 139.8, 159.3, 160.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 243 Hz); HRMS calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 289.0865, found: 289.0879.



2-Amino-9-methyl-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (**4i**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 2.47 (s, 3H), 6.26 (s, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.75-7.76 (m, 3H), 8.18 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  21.5, 69.4, 112.5, 116.0, 120.7, 121.2, 127.5, 127.9, 128.1, 129.1, 129.4, 131.0, 133.0, 136.3, 137.4, 139.9, 159.0; HRMS calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 299.1297, found: 299.1321.



Ethyl 2-amino-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4j**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.44-4.50 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.56-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.69-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.79 (m, 2H), 9.67-9.70 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.8, 60.6, 93.4, 114.3, 123.2, 127.1, 127.2, 127.7, 128.5, 129.2, 129.6, 129.9, 131.5, 134.1, 137.8, 140.5, 158.5, 164.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 332.1399, found: 332.1396.



Ethyl 2-amino-5-cyclopropyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4k**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.86-0.90 (m, 2H), 1.14-1.19 (m, 2H), 1.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.56-2.63 (m, 1H), 4.44-4.50 (m, 2H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.62 (m, 3H), 9.62-9.64 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.3, 11.5, 14.5, 60.2, 92.9, 108.0, 122.1, 126.0, 126.2, 127.2, 128.6, 131.2, 139.9, 158.3, 164.6; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 296.1399, found: 296.1397.



Ethyl 2-amino-5-butyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.99 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.43-1.53 (m, 2H), 1.78-1.85 (m, 2H), 3.03-3.07 (m, 2H), 4.44-4.49 (m, 2H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 7.50-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.65 (m, 1H), 9.62-9.64 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.3, 14.9, 22.8, 29.2, 31.2, 60.5, 93.1, 111.2, 122.7, 126.3, 126.6, 127.6, 128.9, 131.5, 139.0, 140.0, 158.5, 165.0; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 312.1712, found: 312.1721.



Ethyl 2-amino*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4m**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.48 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 4.44-4.49 (m, 2H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.70 (m, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 9.65-9.68 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.9, 60.7, 93.2, 113.5, 123.9, 125.9, 127.3, 127.5, 128.0, 129.2, 131.3, 139.6, 159.2, 164.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 256.1086, found: 256.1101.



Ethyl 2-amino-8-fluoro-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4n**) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 1.37 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 4.35-4.40 (m, 2H), 6.05 (s, 2H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.45-7.55 (m, 4H), 7.70-7.76 (m, 3H), 9.68-9.72 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  14.3, 59.9, 92.0, 111.4 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 20 Hz), 112.7, 115.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 118.9, 128.1, 129.2, 129.5, 129.8 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 9 Hz), 133.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 10 Hz), 133.4, 137.9, 138.9, 158.3, 161.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 246 Hz), 163.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 350.1305, found: 350.1321.



Ethyl 2-amino-5-butyl-8-fluoro*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**40**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.43-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.83 (m, 2H), 3.01-3.04 (m, 2H), 4.43-4.48 (m, 2H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 7.21-7.25 (m, 2H), 9.70-9.74 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.2, 14.8, 22.8, 29.1, 31.1, 60.6, 93.0, 110.4, 110.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 22 Hz), 115.1 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 23 Hz), 119.4, 130.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 9 Hz), 133.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 9 Hz), 139.9, 140.0, 158.4, 162.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 248 Hz), 164.8; HRMS calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 330.1618, found:

330.1592.



Ethyl 2-amino-9-fluoro-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4p**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 1.38 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 4.35-4.41 (m, 2H), 6.09 (s, 2H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.58 (m, 4H), 7.75-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.98 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 9.45-9.48 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  14.2, 60.0, 92.1, 111.3 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 25 Hz), 113.0, 118.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 119.0, 123.1, 127.7, 128.1, 129.0, 129.6, 130.0, 133.5, 136.4, 158.3, 160.2 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J* <sub>CF</sub> = 232 Hz), 163.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 350.1305, found: 350.1305.



Ethyl 2-amino-5-cyclopropyl-9-fluoro*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4q**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.84-0.85 (m, 2H), 1.03-1.05 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 2.45-2.50 (m, 1H), 4.32-4.34 (m, 2H), 6.09 (s, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 7.38-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.72-7.75 (m, 1H), 9.30-9.33 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.3, 11.3, 14.2, 59.9, 91.9, 107.0, 111.1 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 26$  Hz), 117.4 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 24$  Hz), 122.1 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CF} = 11$  Hz), 127.7, 129.1 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{CF} = 9$  Hz), 137.8, 139.2, 158.4, 159.6 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 240$  Hz), 163.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na): 336.1124, found: 336.1143.



Ethyl 2-amino-9-methyl-5-phenyl*H*-pyrazolo[5,1-*a*]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate (**4r**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 4.46-4.51 (m, 2H), 5.18 (s, 2H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.0Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.79 (m, 2H), 9.46 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.5, 22.0, 60.2, 92.7, 113.9, 122.9, 126.7, 126.8, 128.1, 129.0, 129.1, 129.5, 130.5, 133.9, 136.7, 139.7, 147.0, 158.3, 164.6; HRMS calcd for  $C_{21}H_{19}N_3O_2$  (M<sup>+</sup>+H): 346.1556, found: 346.1558.







































































