

Cobalt(III)-catalyzed synthesis of isoquinolines from oximes and alkynes in deep eutectic solvents

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General Experimental

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers (Aladdin) and used without further purification. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature on a Bruker AVANCE III 300 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in δ units, parts per million (ppm), and were referenced to CDCl_3 . The coupling constants J are given in Hz. Column chromatography was performed using EM Silica gel 60 (300-400 mesh). Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (LCMS) was performed on a Shimadzu LCMS-2020 instrument with an ESI source. Melting points (m.p.) are determined with an Optimelt MPA 100 apparatus and are not corrected.

Experimental procedures, spectral and analytical data

*General procedure for the synthesis of **3a-h**, **5a,b**, **7a,b***

DES betaine/HFIP (1:2, mol/mol, HFIP is $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$) was prepared by mixing the corresponding components and heating at 80 °C until a clear solution was formed. Then, oxime **1** or **4** (0.2 mmol), alkyne **2** or diyne **6** (0.24 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (10 mol%) and AcONa (20 mol%) were added to this system (1 ml). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under magnetic stirring for 12 h. Once the reaction was finished, it was quenched with water (3.0 ml) and extracted with EtOAc (3×5 ml). The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO_4 . The organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure to leave the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography using light petroleum/ethyl acetate (8:1, v/v) as the eluent to afford products **3a-h**, **5a,b**, **7a,b**.

Recovery procedure

Once the reaction was finished, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and EtOAc (3×5 ml) was added to the reaction vessel. The biphasic mixture was stirred for 10 min. The organic layer was separated by decantation. The betaine/HFIP DES was dried under vacuum. A new batch of fresh oxime, alkyne and NaOAc were then added in the recovered DES, without the addition of any more Co catalyst.

Characterization data

1-Methyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3a).^{S1} Yellow solid (55 mg, 93%); m.p. 155–157 °C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.23 – 8.18 (m, 1H), 7.68 (dt, $J = 6.9, 3.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 3.09 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.7, 149.4, 141.1,

137.6, 136.0, 131.4, 130.3, 129.9, 129.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.1, 126.9, 126.5, 126.2, 126.1, 125.5, 22.8; MS (ESI) m/z 296.1 [M + H]⁺.

1,6-Dimethyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3b).^{S1} Yellow solid (56 mg, 91%); m.p. 164-167 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.24 – 7.13 (m, 5H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4, 149.6, 141.2, 140.2, 137.8, 136.2, 131.5, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 127.0, 126.8, 125.5, 125.1, 124.6, 22.7, 22.2; MS (ESI) m/z 310.2 [M + H]⁺.

6-Methoxy-1-methyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3c).^{S1} Yellow solid (57 mg, 88%); m.p. 173-175 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 157.0, 150.2, 141.2, 138.1, 137.9, 131.3, 130.3, 128.6, 128.3, 127.6, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 121.9, 118.7, 104.5, 55.2, 22.7; MS (ESI) m/z 326.3 [M + H]⁺.

6-Chloro-1-methyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3d).^{S1} Yellow solid (56 mg, 85%); m.p. 178-180 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 5H), 2.96 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7, 150.7, 140.7, 137.2, 136.9, 136.4, 131.3, 130.2, 128.5 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 125.2, 124.4, 22.8; MS (ESI) m/z 330.8 [M + H]⁺.

1-Methyl-6-nitro-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3e).^{S2} Yellow solid (53 mg, 78%); m.p. 174-176 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.29 – 8.18 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.23 (m, 5H), 7.19 – 7.06 (m, 5H), 3.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.1, 151.6, 148.3, 140.0, 136.0, 135.8, 131.2, 130.5, 130.2, 128.8, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7 (2C), 127.6, 122.7, 119.9, 23.0; MS (ESI) m/z 341.3 [M + H]⁺.

1,8-Dimethyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3f).^{S3} Yellow solid (53 mg, 86%); mp. 121-122 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7, 148.6, 140.8, 138.3, 138.1, 136.0, 131.5, 130.2, 130.1, 129.5, 129.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.1, 126.9, 125.1, 30.0, 26.0; MS (ESI) m/z 310.2 [M + H]⁺.

1-Ethyl-3,4-diphenylisoquinoline (3g).^{S4} Yellow solid (54 mg, 87%); m.p. 111-113 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 – 8.16 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.10 (m, 5H), 3.43 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.3, 149.3, 141.2, 137.8, 136.4, 131.5, 130.4, 129.8, 129.0, 128.3, 127.6, 127.2, 127.0, 126.5, 126.4, 125.4, 125.2, 28.9, 14.0; MS (ESI) m/z 310.2 [M + H]⁺.

1,3,4-Triphenylisoquinoline (3h).^{S2} Yellow solid (64 mg, 89%); m.p. 172-174 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 – 8.02 (m, 1H), 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.00 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 149.7, 141.0, 139.9, 137.7, 137.1, 131.5, 130.6, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4, 127.1, 126.7, 126.1, 125.5; MS (ESI) m/z 358.2 [M + H]⁺.

1-Methyl-3,4-diphenylbenzo[*h*]isoquinoline (5a).^{S4} Yellow solid (58 mg, 84%); m.p. 146-148 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.87 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 3.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.5, 151.0, 140.7, 138.1, 137.3, 133.0, 131.8, 131.2, 130.3, 130.2, 129.7, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.7, 124.3, 124.0, 30.6; MS (ESI) m/z 346.2 [M + H]⁺.

7-Methyl-4,5-diphenylthieno[2,3-*c*]pyridine (5b).^{S3} Yellow solid (45 mg, 75%); m.p. 141-143 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 6H),

2.90 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.4, 151.0, 145.7, 140.5, 138.3, 134.3, 131.0, 130.6, 130.4, 128.3, 127.8, 127.2, 127.1, 124.3, 23.7; MS (ESI) m/z 302.1 [M + H]⁺.

1-Methyl-4-phenyl-3-(phenylethynyl)isoquinoline (7a).⁵⁵ Brown oil (43 mg, 68%). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.43 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (ddd, J = 8.1, 4.8, 1.0 Hz, 3H), 7.72 (ddd, J = 8.3, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 8.2, 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.27 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.1, 153.4, 140.3, 136.6, 131.4, 130.8, 130.0, 128.4 (2C), 127.9, 127.3, 126.3, 125.9, 125.6, 123.4, 111.0, 98.5, 86.2, 22.7; MS (ESI) m/z 320.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-[(4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl]-1-methylisoquinoline (7b).⁵⁶ Brown oil (48 mg, 64%). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.48 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.19 – 8.08 (m, 3H), 7.77 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.8, 159.7, 157.5, 152.5, 136.7, 133.0, 132.8, 131.3, 130.6, 126.9, 126.3, 125.8, 125.4, 115.7, 114.1, 113.3, 110.5, 98.5, 85.1, 55.4, 55.3, 22.8; MS (ESI) m/z 380.2 [M + H]⁺.

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Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra























