

*Article*



# **A Novel Method to Construct 2-Aminobenzofurans via [4 + 1] Cycloaddition Reaction of In Situ Generated** *Ortho***-Quinone Methides with Isocyanides**

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Abstract: A new approach for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans has been described via Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> mediated formal cycloaddition of isocyanides with the in situ generated *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) from *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol. Notably, as a class of readily available and highly active intermediates, *o*-QMs were first used in the construction of benzofurans. This [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction provides a straightforward and efficient methodology for the construction of 2-aminobenzofurans scaffold in good yield (up to 93% yield) under mild conditions.

**Keywords:** 2-aminobenzofurans; isocyanides; *ortho*-quinone methides; [4 + 1] cycloaddition

## **1. Introduction**

Benzofuran core, an important class of structural fragments, is widely distributed in natural products and biologically active compounds  $[1-4]$  $[1-4]$ . The benzofuran subunit is also present in a host of medicines, such as amiodarone, methoxypsoralen, dronedarone, etc [\[5\]](#page-11-2). Therefore, various methods for the preparation of benzofurans have been developed. As a special kind of functionalized benzofurans, 2-aminobenzofurans are of considerable interest and feature profound bioactivities, such as antifungal, P-glycoprotein inhibitors, anticancer activities, and tubulin polymerization inhibitors  $[6-9]$  $[6-9]$ .

Although such structures are important, only limited methods have been reported for accessing 2-aminobenzofurans and the structural diversity of the products is insufficient. For example, in 2005, Ishikawa's group reported the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans from 1-aryl-2-nitroethylenes and cyclohexane-1,3-diones via a one-pot multistep strategy, but only moderate yield can be obtained. Moreover, unsymmetrical cyclohexane-1,3-diones have poor regiochemistry (Scheme [1a](#page-1-0), Equation (1)) [\[10\]](#page-11-5). Soon after, Ohe and co-workers provided a new method to obtain 2-aminobenzofurans through palladium-catalyzed intramolecular cycloisomerization of 2-(cyanomethyl) phenyl ester; however, the substrate range is relatively limited (Scheme [1a](#page-1-0), Equation (2)) [\[11\]](#page-11-6). In addition, Maurya's group also demonstrated the synthesis of very similar products (3-acyl-2-aminobenzofurans) via visible light-triggered intramolecular cyclization of α-azidochalcones (Scheme [1a](#page-1-0), Equation (3)) [\[12\]](#page-11-7). In 2013, Cao's group developed a method for the synthesis of 3-alkyl- or 3-allenyl-2-amidobenzofurans by carbocation-induced electrophilic cyclization of *o*-anisolesubstituted ynamides (Scheme [1a](#page-1-0), Equation (4)) [\[13\]](#page-11-8). In this method, the substituent on the benzene ring is fixed at the 5 position, and at least one electron withdrawing substituent is required on nitrogen. Finally, Kumar et al. reported strong base (*t*BuOK) mediated synthesis of 3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amines (one example) (Scheme [1a](#page-1-0), Equation (5)) [\[14\]](#page-11-9). While those methods allow 2-aminobenzofurans to be obtained in an efficient way, new methods that can access a variety of structural skeletons under mild reaction conditions and from simple starting materials are still highly desired (Scheme [1b](#page-1-0)).



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<span id="page-1-0"></span>a) The developed methods for the synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans

b) This work:  $Sc(OTf)_{3}$ -mediated synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans

$$
R_{1}\underbrace{A_{r}}_{OH}OH + CN-R_{2}\xrightarrow{\text{toluene, }0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}} R_{1}\underbrace{A_{r}}_{H}\underbrace{A_{r}}_{O}NHR_{2}
$$

**Scheme 1.** Strategies for the diversified synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans. **Scheme 1.** Strategies for the diversified synthesis of 2-aminobenzofurans.

In recent years, *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) [\[15](#page-11-10)[–22](#page-11-11)], a versatile class of building In recent years, *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) [15–22], a versatile class of building blocks, have been widely used in organic synthesis. *o*-QMs could be generated from *o*-blocks, have been widely used in organic synthesis. *o*-QMs could be generated from *o*hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol derivatives and directly participate in various [4 + *n*] (*n* = 2, hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol derivatives and directly participate in various [4 + *n*] (*n* = 2, 3) 3) cycloadditio[ns \[](#page-11-12)[23–](#page-12-0)27]. The [4 + 1] cycloadditions involved in *o*-QMs, however, are only cycloadditions [23–27]. The [4 + 1] cycloadditions involved in *o*-QMs, however, are only developed for the construction of 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran skeletons and have never been developed for the construction of 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran skeletons and have never been used to synthesize benzofurans [\[28](#page-12-1)[–34](#page-12-2)], let alone 2-aminobenzofurans. used to synthesize benzofurans [28–34], let alone 2-aminobenzofurans.

### **2. Results 2. Results**

Our continuous interest in cycloaddition [35–40] led us to envision that the reaction Our continuous interest in cycloaddition [\[35–](#page-12-3)[40\]](#page-12-4) led us to envision that the reaction of *o*-QMs with isocyanides [\[41](#page-12-5)[–46\]](#page-12-6) would achieve the benzofuran motifs via an intermolecular formal [4 + 1] cycloaddition. To test the feasibility of our hypothesis, we chose hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol **1a** and *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** as the model substrates *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol **1a** and *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** as the model substrates to optimize the reaction conditions (Tabl[e 1](#page-2-0)). to optimize the reaction conditions (Table 1).

The initial experiment was conducted in  $CH_2Cl_2$  in the presence of various Brønsted acids, such as benzoic acid, TsOH and TfOH, at room temperature. It was observed that, except for benzoic acid, which only offered a trace amount of the desired product, both TsOH and TfOH provided the cycloaddition product **3a** in roughly the same yield, even though the yield was relatively low (entries 1–3). Considering that isocyanide could be hydrolyzed under fairly strong acidic conditions [\[47\]](#page-12-7), we replaced Brønsted acids with Lewis acids to further optimize reaction conditions. A range of Lewis acids, such as  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$ , InCl<sub>3</sub>, and Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>, were then screened (entries 4–6). Among them, the desired

cycloaddition product **3a** could be obtained with 53% isolated yield when 0.5 equiv. of  $Sc(OTF)$ <sub>3</sub> was employed. To further improve the yield, different solvents, including THF, *MeCN, and toluene, were also examined (entries 7–10).* Toluene proved to be the best solvent for this transformation.

<span id="page-2-0"></span>Table 1. Optimization of reaction conditions <sup>a</sup>.





<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), promoter (0.05 mmol), dry solvent (1 mL), at room temperature the riv<sub>2</sub>, for so film. It isolated yield. Se(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 filmol). Se(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.12 filmol). The reaction was performed at −10 °C. <sup>8</sup> 4 Å MS (50 mg) was employed. a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), promoter (0.05 mmol), dry solvent (1 mL), at under N<sub>2</sub>, for 30 min. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup> Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol). <sup>d</sup> Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.12 mmol). <sup>e</sup> The reaction was performed

 $r = 11/d$  is  $\frac{1}{2}$  (0.12 min. b Isolated yield. compared yield. compared yield. compared yield. compared yield.  $\frac{1}{2}$ Encouraged by these results, we investigated the effect of the loading of Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>. It was found that, when we increased the loading of  $Sc(OTf)_3$  from 0.5 equiv. to 1.0 equiv., used, the yield was reduced slightly (entry 12). It is noteworthy that the cycloaddition product **3a** could be improved to 81% yield (entry 13) when the reaction was performed at 0 °C, but further cooling the temperature to −10 °C led to the yield's reduction to 69% (entry 14). Lastly, the addition a small number of 4 A MS could increase the yield of **3a** to  $t$  though the yield was relatively low (entry 15). the yield of **3a** was improved to 75% (entry 11). However, when 1.2 equiv. of  $Sc(OTf)_{3}$  was 87% (entry 15).

With the optimized conditions in hand, a number of 2-aminobenzofurans were successfully obtained in moderate to excellent yields within 30 min through the formal  $[4 + 1]$ BF3·Et2O, InCl3, and Sc(OTf)3, were then screened (entries 4–6). Among them, the desired cycloaddition of *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol (**1a**–**1s**) and *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** (Scheme [2\)](#page-3-0). As shown in Scheme [2,](#page-3-0) both electron-donating substituents (**3ba–3fa**) and electron-deficient substituents (**3ga–3ia**) on the phenol were well tolerated in this formal<br>Literature in this formal [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction and afforded the desired products in 70% to 84% yields. Obvi-<br>
⊥ desired to be the best of the best ously, the position of the substituents on phenol moiety had little influence on the reaction<br>(2)  $\overline{a}$ (**3ba** and **3ca**). The structure of products was unambiguously confirmed by single-crystal  $\chi$  and  $\sigma$  and  $\chi$  (close are Coural products was  $\chi$ ). Need, different substitutions on the benzyl phenol moiety were examined. We found that methyl substitution at the benzyl phenol moiety were examined. We found that methyl substitution at the ort the senzyl phenor molety were examined. We found that meanyl substitution at the ortho-, *meta*- and *para*- of benzyl alcohol moiety can afford the corresponding products (3ja, **3ka**, and **3la**) good to excellent yields. Strong electron-donating substituent (methoxy) in  $\alpha$  different position was else converted emocibly into the decised 2 eminehence function  $\alpha$ a different position was also converted smoothly into the desired 2-aminobenzofurans X-ray analysis of **3ia** (please see Supplementary Materials). Next, different substitutions

(**3na** and **3oa**). Notably, the benzyl alcohol with high steric hindrance substitutions at *ortho*-position also efficiently underwent the formal [4 + 1] addition to provide corresponding products (**3ma** and **3pa**) in 73% and 58% yields, respectively. Electron-withdrawing substituents, including F, Cl, and CF<sub>3</sub>, were also suitable for this transformation, providing  $\mathbf{r}$ the 2-aminobenzofurans with good results (**3qa**–**3sa**). From the above results, it can be mation, providing the 2-aminobenzofurans with good results (**3qa**–**3sa**). From the above concluded that both strong electron-donating substituents and electron-withdrawing sub-<br>results, it can be concluded that both strong electron-donating substituents and electron-withdrawing substituents at the benzyl alcohol slightly reduce the yield; the yield of the product decreases<br>with drawing substitutents at the wide of the yield of the product decreases slightly when high steric hindrance substitutions at *ortho-*position of the benzyl alcohol<br>. take place. (methody) in a different position was also converted smoothly into the desired  $\alpha$ **3na** and **30a**). Notably, the benzyl alcohol with high steric hindrance substitutions at

<span id="page-3-0"></span>

Scheme 2. Scope of o-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols. Standard reaction conditions: 1 (0.1 mmol), 2a (0.2 mmol), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol), 4 Å MS (50 mg), dry toluene (1 mL), at 0 °C, 30 min. <sup>b</sup> 20 min.

We further evaluated the substrate scope of isocyanides (Scheme [3\)](#page-4-0). A series of phenylisocyanides, with electron-withdrawing substituents at *para*- and *meta*-positions of the benzene ring, were smoothly converted to the corresponding products (**4ab**–**4ad**). However, for methyl substituted phenyl isocyanides, the yield decreased (**4ae**). Therefore, it can be inferred that electron-withdrawing substituents on phenyl isocyanides are beneficial to the formation of the product. *β*-Naphthyl isocyanide were employed in the transformation, offering the corresponding 2-aminobenzofurans in 83% yield (**4af**). Notably, alkyl isocyanides, including ethyl isocyanoacetate and *tert*-butyl isocyanide, could also smoothly

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

transform to the desired cycloaddition products in 46% and 85% yields, respectively (**4ag** and **4ah**), which enriched the diversity of structural skeletons. alkyl isocyanides, including ethyl isocyanoacetate and *tert*-butyl isocyanide, could also  $\frac{1}{100}$  and  $\frac{1}{100}$  transformation products in 46% and 85% yields, respectively  $\frac{1}{100}$ 

can be inferred that electron-withdrawing substituents on phenyl isocyanides are benefi-

Scheme 3. Scope of isocyanides. Standard reaction conditions: 1a (0.1 mmol), 2 (0.2 mmol), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol), 4 Å MS (50 mg), dry toluene (1 mL), at 0  $^{\circ}$ C, 20 min. <sup>b</sup> Reaction time is 3 min. <sup>c</sup> Reaction  $\lim_{x \to 0}$  is 10 min.

According to previous reports on Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>-triggered transformation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxybenzhydryl alcohol [48–[51\]](#page-12-8)[, a p](#page-12-9)lausible mechanism for the [4 + 1] cycloaddition was proposed (Scheme 4), [th](#page-4-1)e nucleophilic addition of the isocyanides to  $o$ -QMs (I) generated in situ from *o*-hydroxybenzyl alcohol **1a**, which formed intermediate II. Subsequently, II undergoes intramolecular cyclization producing the intermediate III, which isomerised to the desired 2-aminobenzofurans **3**. to the desired 2-aminobenzofurans **3**. to the desired 2-aminobenzofurans **3**.

<span id="page-4-1"></span>

**Scheme 4.** Plausible reaction mechanism. **Scheme 4.** Plausible reaction mechanism. **Scheme 4.** Plausible reaction mechanism.

Given that 2-aminobenzofurans have been proven to have a variety of biological activities, we decide to conduct in silico researches of the synthesized 2-aminobenzofurans to evaluate their drug-likeness, which were carried out using the SwissADME platform [\[52\]](#page-13-0). Satisfyingly, except for compounds **3ea**, **3ma**, **3pa**, and **4ab**–**4af**, other compounds were found to have good obedience (100%) with two drug-likeness filters (Lipinski [\[53\]](#page-13-1) and Veber [\[54\]](#page-13-2)) (Table [2\)](#page-5-0). In addition, some substituted (Cl, F, Br, CH3, OCH3) 2-aminobenzofurans' pharmacokinetic properties were predicted through admetSAR [\[55\]](#page-13-3), and it was found that

these products showed a great range of average ADMET score [\[56](#page-13-4)[,57\]](#page-13-5) (0.68–0.74) with regard to human intestinal absorption, blood–brain barrier penetration, Caco-2 permeability, Ames mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, and acute oral toxicity class (Table [3\)](#page-5-1). Finally, taking **4ae** as an example, we predicted its possible molecular targets using SwissTargetPrediction [\[58](#page-13-6)[,59\]](#page-13-7). The results show that it can act on multiple targets, such as nuclear receptor, family A-G protein-coupled receptor, etc., and the probability of prediction is around 10%**.**

Compound Name	MW	nHetero <b>Atoms</b>	Rotatable <b>Bonds</b>	H-Bond Acceptor	H-Bond Donor	<b>TPSA</b> $(\AA$ sqr)	<b>MlogP</b>
3 <sub>aa</sub>	330.34	5	$\overline{4}$	3	$\mathbf{1}$	70.99	4.03
3ba	344.37	5	$\overline{4}$	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ca	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3da	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ea	386.45	5	5	3	1	70.99	4.90 *
3fa	360.37	6	5	$\overline{4}$	1	80.22	3.71
3ga	348.33	6	4	$\overline{4}$	1	70.99	3.60
3ha	364.79	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.71
3ia	409.24	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.82
3ja	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3ka	344.37	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.44
3la	358.40	5	4	3	1	70.99	3.66
3 <sub>ma</sub>	372.42	5	5	3	1	70.99	$4.69*$
3na	360.37	6	5	$\overline{4}$	1	80.22	3.71
3oa	360.37	6	5	4	1	80.22	3.71
3pa	380.40	5	4	3	1	70.99	$4.73*$
3qa	348.33	6	4	4	1	70.99	3.60
3ra	364.79	6	4	3	1	70.99	3.71
3sa	398.34	8	5	6	1	70.99	4.04
4ab	319.79	3	3	$\mathbf{1}$	1	25.17	$4.79*$
4ac	364.24	3	3	1	1	25.17	$4.90*$
4ad	319.79	3	3	1	1	25.17	$4.79*$
4ae	299.37	$\overline{2}$	3	$\mathbf{1}$	1	25.17	$4.52*$
4af	335.31	$\overline{2}$	3	1	1	25.17	$4.99*$
4ag	295.34	4	6	3	1	51.47	2.80
4ah	265.36	$\overline{2}$	3	1	1	25.17	3.79

<span id="page-5-0"></span>**Table 2.** Physiochemical properties of the compounds predicted using SwissADME.

(Lipinski: MW  $\leq$  500, MlogP  $\leq$  4.15, N or O  $\leq$  10, NH or OH  $\leq$  5; Veber: Rotatable bonds  $\leq$  10, TPSA  $\leq$  140). \* The asterisk indicates that it is outside the standard range.

<span id="page-5-1"></span>**Table 3.** ADMET score for human intestinal absorption, Caco-2 permeability, blood–brain barrier, carcinogenicity, Ames mutagenesis and acute oral toxicity, as predicted using admetSAR.



In summary, we have developed a novel and efficient method for the acquisition of 2-aminobenzofuran derivatives via  $Sc(OTf)_{3}$ -promoted  $[4 + 1]$  cycloaddition reaction of isocyanides with the in situ generated *ortho*-quinone methides (*o*-QMs) under mild conditions. In addition, *o*-QMs were first successfully used in this transformation and its advantage of this transformation is the simplicity of the reaction and the increased variety of 2-aminobenzofurans. Further exploration of the construction of other heterocyclics from *o*-QMs and applications of this product is in progress.

#### **3. Experimental**

#### *3.1. General Procedures*

Unless otherwise noted, reagents were commercially available and were used without further purification. A 4 Å molecular sieve was pre-dried in an oven at 200  $\degree$ C for 3 h Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using silica gel GF254 precoated plates (0.20 mm thickness). Visualization on TLC was achieved by UV light (254 nm). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel 90, 200–300 mesh. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer  $(^1H: 400 \text{ MHz}$  and  $^{13}C$ : 101 MHz). <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm ( $\delta$ ) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance employed as the internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  7.26 ppm; DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  2.5 ppm). <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts were determined relative to the signal of the solvent: CDCl<sub>3</sub> at  $\delta$  77.00 ppm, DMSO- $d_6$  at  $\delta$  39.5 ppm. Data for 1H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were recorded as follows: chemical shift (δ, ppm), multiplicity ( $s =$  singlet,  $d =$  doublet,  $t =$  triplet,  $m =$  multiplet,  $q =$  quartet,  $dd =$  doublet of doublets,  $dt =$  doublet of triplets,  $td =$  triplet of doublets), coupling constants (Hz), and integration. ESI-HRMS spectra were recorded on a BioTOF Q instrument. Infrared (IR) spectra are obtained by the use of Spectrum One and expressed in wave number (cm−<sup>1</sup> ). *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols **1a**–**1s** [\[60\]](#page-13-8) and isocyanides **2a**–**2f** [\[51\]](#page-12-9) were synthesized according to the previously reported.

#### *3.2. Typical Procedure for Synthesis of 3aa*

To a solution of *p*-nitrophenyl isocyanide **2a** (0.2 mmol, 30 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL), we immediately added the *o*-hydroxybenzhydryl alcohols **1a** (0.1 mmol, 20 mg), Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol, 49 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL) under  $N_2$  in a Schlenck tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at  $0^{\circ}$ C for 30 min. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with water, and then extracted with EtOAc and washed with brine. The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$  and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was purified using flash chromatography column eluting with (petroleum ether:ethyl acetate = 15:1) to obtain the product **3aa**.

Detailed physicochemical properties of novel 2-aminobenzofuran derivatives:

*N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3aa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.5, yield: 87%, red solid, mp 123 ◦C.IR: 3309, 1639, 1589, 1494, 1393, 1311, 1242, 1190, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.37 (dt, *J* = 13.6, 6.9 Hz, 3H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.2, 148.3, 145.3, 141.0, 131.2, 129.6, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.0, 124.3, 123.6, 119.5, 114.6, 111.1, 108.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{20}H_{15}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 331.1077, found: 331.1075.

*5-Methyl-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ba**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate  $= 10:1$ , Rf  $= 0.6$ , yield: 84%, red solid, mp 108 °C. IR: 3368, 2922, 1586, 1492, 1323, 1239, 1192, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.58–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.12 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.8Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 149.6, 148.3, 145.3, 141.1, 133.1, 131.4, 129.2, 128.2, 128.0, 127.6, 126.0, 125.4, 119.4, 114.5, 110.6, 108.0, 21.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{21}H_{17}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1239.

*6-Methyl-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ca**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate  $= 10:1$ , Rf = 0.6, yield: 86%, red solid, mp 109 °C. IR: 3360, 2920, 1596, 1496, 1322, 1304, 1248, 1188, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.91 (m, 2H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.7, 148.7, 144.4, 141.0, 134.8, 131.4, 129.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.0, 125.3, 124.8, 119.2, 114.4, 111.4, 109.0, 21.7. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{17}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1234.

*7-Methyl-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3da**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate  $= 10:1$ , Rf = 0.6, yield: 79%, red solid, mp 141 °C. IR: 3364, 2923, 1591, 1501, 1385, 1325, 1248, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.19–8.11 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.51 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.2, 148.4, 144.9, 141.0, 131.4, 129.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.5, 126.0, 125.4, 123.6, 121.4, 117.1, 114.5, 108.6, 15.0. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{17}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1255.

*5-(tert-butyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ea**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.7, yield: 80%, red solid, mp 97 ◦C. IR: 3356, 2960, 1591, 1503, 1340, 1285, 1186, 1111. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 1.41 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.5, 148.5, 146.8, 145.3, 141.0, 131.4, 129.3, 128.3, 127.6, 126.0, 122.2, 115.7, 114.5, 110.5, 108.7, 34.9, 31.9. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{24}H_{23}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1703, found: 387.1704.

*5-Methoxy-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3fa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate  $= 10:1$ , Rf  $= 0.4$ , yield: 75%, red solid, mp 165 °C. IR: 3371, 2931, 1586, 1479, 1322, 1296, 1225, 1191, 1152, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.6, 148.1, 146.0, 146.0, 141.1, 131.3, 129.3, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 126.0, 114.6, 112.3, 111.6, 107.9, 102.5, 56.0. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{17}N_2O_4$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1183, found: 361.1187.

*5-Fluoro-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ga**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 70%, red solid, mp 141 ◦C. IR: 3343, 1586, 1502, 1476, 1325, 1311, 1242, 1195, 1140, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 5.9 Hz, 3H), 7.53–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, *J* = 9.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ159.6 (d, *J* = 232.3 Hz), 150.0, 148.1, 147.3, 140.1, 131.0, 129.5, 129.3, 128.4, 127.9, 126.2, 115.1, 112.7, 118.0 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 108.3, 105.6, 105.3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ −119.35. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{20}H_{14}FN_{2}O_{3}$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0983, found: 349.0992.

*5-Chloro-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ha**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 198 ◦C. IR: 3366, 1588, 1500, 1384, 1325, 1234, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (td, *J* = 6.3, 5.5, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 149.9, 149.6, 147.9, 140.1, 130.8, 129.9, 129.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.0, 126.2, 124.4, 118.9, 115.1, 113.2, 107.6. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{20}H_{14}CIN_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 365.0687, found: 365.0678.

*5-Bromo-N-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**3ia**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 80%, red solid, mp 210 ◦C. IR: 3367, 1585, 1504, 1468, 1324, 1232, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* =1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.54–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 149.9, 149.9, 147.7, 140.1, 130.8, 130.5, 129.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.2, 121.8, 116.4, 115.1, 113.6, 107.4. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 431.0002, found: 430.9998.

*N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-(o-tolyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3ja**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 93%, red solid, mp 145 ◦C. IR: 3347, 2925, 1593, 1503, 1327, 1248, 1169, 1112. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.17–8.11 (m, 2H), 7.54–7.49 (m, 1H), 7.37–7.27 (m, 7H), 7.08–7.02 (m, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.0, 147.6, 145.8, 141.1, 137.6, 130.9, 130.5, 129.8, 129.1, 128.4, 126.4, 125.9, 123.8, 123.4, 119.6, 114.7, 110.9, 106.2, 20.2. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{17}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1234, found: 345.1234.

*N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-(p-tolyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3ka**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 91%, red solid, mp 138 ◦C. IR: 3359, 2920, 1591, 1524, 1384, 1248, 1175, 1109. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.72–7.64 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.2, 148.4, 145.0, 141.0, 137.5, 130.0, 128.1, 128.1, 128.1, 126.0, 124.2, 123.5, 119.6, 114.5, 111.1, 108.3, 21.3. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{21}H_{16}N_2NaO_3$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 367.1053, found: 367.1054.

*3-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3la**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 12:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 89%, red solid, mp 92 ◦C. IR: 3342, 2922, 1592, 1502, 1384, 1326, 1182, 1111. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dt, *J* = 6.6, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (s, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 2.37 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.1, 148.2, 145.3, 141.0, 138.9, 131.0, 129.4, 128.2, 126.0, 124.0, 123.5, 119.6, 114.7, 111.0, 107.7, 21.5. ESI-HRMS: *m/z* calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1210, found: 381.1206.

*3-(2-Isopropylphenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3ma**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 12:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 73%, red solid, mp 170 ◦C. IR: 3319, 2961, 1642, 1592, 1499, 1384, 1323, 1306, 1237, 1186, 1112. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 3.02 (hept, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.9, 148.9, 147.9, 146.0, 141.1, 130.9, 129.8, 129.0, 128.3, 126.3, 126.3, 125.9, 123.8, 123.5, 119.3, 114.6, 110.9, 106.3, 30.1, 24.5, 24.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{23}H_{21}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 373.1547, found: 373.1547.

*3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3na**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.4, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 177 ◦C. IR: 3358, 2950, 1594, 1502, 1307, 1231, 1152, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.70–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.37–7.28 (m, 2H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 8.9 Hz, 4H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.1, 151.2, 148.5, 144.7, 141.0, 129.4, 128.2, 126.0, 124.3, 123.4, 123.3, 119.6, 114.7, 114.4, 111.1, 108.4, 55.4. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M  $+ H$ ]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1183, found: 361.1183.

*3-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3oa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.4, yield: 77%, red solid, mp 107 ◦C. IR: 3315, 2920, 1591, 1501, 1325, 1309, 1239, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 160.2, 151.1, 148.1, 145.4, 141.1, 132.5, 130.4, 128.0, 126.0, 124.2, 123.6, 120.5, 119.5, 114.7, 114.0, 112.8, 111.1, 107.5, 55.3. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{16}N_2NaO_4$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 383.1002, found: 383.1004.

*3-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3pa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 58%, red solid, mp 194 ◦C. IR: 3309, 2920, 1637, 1587, 1498, 1322, 1305, 1242, 1183, 1110. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.99–7.91 (m, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.61 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.0, 147.4, 146.8, 141.1, 134.1, 131.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 126.7, 126.4, 125.8, 125.8, 125.4, 123.7, 123.6, 119.7, 114.9, 110.9, 104.1. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{24}H_{17}N_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 381.1234, found: 381.1225.

*3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3qa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate  $= 10:1$ , Rf = 0.6, yield: 81%, red solid, mp 126 °C. IR: 3332, 2920, 1587, 1500, 1472, 1325, 1108. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 9.93 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72–7.58 (m, 4H), 7.40–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 161.7

(d, *J* = 252.5 Hz), 151.2, 150.5, 146.3, 139.9, 130.5, 130.4, 128.0, 127.8, 126.3, 124.8, 124.0, 119.7, 116.4 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 114.8, 111.6, 108.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ -114.37. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{20}H_{14}FN_2O_3$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 349.0983, found: 349.0977.

*3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3ra**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 70%, red solid, mp 177 ◦C. IR: 3312, 2920, 1638, 1588, 1491, 1390, 1308, 1241, 1114. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.47 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.2, 148.0, 145.3, 141.3, 133.5, 129.7, 129.5, 129.5, 127.7, 126.0, 124.5, 123.7, 119.3, 114.6, 111.2, 107.3. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  $[M + H]^{+}$ : 365.0687, found: 365.0687.

*N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**3sa**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 74%, red solid, mp 226 °C. IR: 3311, 2967, 1590, 1311, 1307, 1272, 1239, 1112, 1066. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (s, 4H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 151.1, 149.9, 147.5, 140.1, 136.0, 129.1, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 126.3, 126.3, 126.1, 124.8, 124.2, 123.4, 119.5, 115.2, 111.7, 106.5. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ −60.99. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{21}H_{13}F_3N_2NaO_3$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>: 421.0770, found: 421.0766.

*N-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**4ab**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 83%, white solid, mp 102 °C. IR: 3371, 1636, 1594, 1479, 1384, 1238, 1183. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.62–7.67 (m, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.00–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.13 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 150.9, 147.9, 140.8, 132.0, 129.3, 129.2, 128.6, 128.1, 127.1, 126.1, 123.3, 123.2, 118.8, 117.3, 110.8, 104.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for  $C_{20}H_{15}CINO [M + H]^{+}$ : 320.0837, found: 320.0822.

*N-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**4ac**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1,  $Rf = 0.6$ , yield: 74%, white solid, mp 137 °C. IR: 3360, 1636, 1590, 1489, 1379, 1241, 1174. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.65 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.12 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 150.9, 147.7, 141.3, 132.2, 132.0, 129.12, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 123.3, 123.2, 118.8, 117.7, 113.3, 110.8, 104.7. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 364.0332, found: 364.0323.

*N-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**4ad**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 81%, white solid, mp 134 ◦C. IR: 3359, 1637, 1593, 1492, 1378, 1242, 1173. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.68 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.86 (m, 2H), 6.15 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 151.0, 147.3, 143.6, 135.1, 131.9, 130.4, 129.2, 128.4, 128.2, 127.2, 123.4, 123.3, 121.1, 119.0, 115.9, 114.1, 110.9, 105.5. ESI-HRMS: *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClNO [M − H]<sup>−</sup>: 318.0680, found: 318.0685.

*3-Phenyl-N-(p-tolyl)benzofuran-2-amine* (**4ae**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 56%, white solid, mp 92 °C. IR: 3380, 2925, 1608, 1517, 1384, 1196, 1071. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.69–7.56 (m, 3H), 7.52–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.8, 149.2, 139.5, 132.5, 129.9, 129.2, 128.9, 128.1, 126.8, 123.1, 122.6, 118.4, 116.7, 110.7, 102.6, 20.7. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{18}NO [M + H]$ <sup>+</sup>: 300.1383, found: 300.1380.

*N-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine* (**4af**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 15:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 73%, White solid, mp 124 ℃. IR: 3377, 1629, 1600, 1454, 1381, 1220, 1184. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*6) δ 9.19 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.68–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.60 (m, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H). ESI-HRMS: *m*/z calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO [M − H]<sup>−</sup>: 334.1226, found: 334.1239.

*Ethyl-(3-phenylbenzofuran-2-yl) glycinate* (**4ag**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 6:1, Rf = 0.5, yield: 46%, White solid, mp 96 ℃. IR: 3349, 2927, 1734, 1612, 1463, 1393, 1206, 1122. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45–7.55 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.06 (m, 1H), 5.05 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 170.7, 153.7, 150.0, 133.2, 130.2, 129.2, 127.6, 126.0, 123.1, 120.6, 117.1, 109.9, 93.9, 61.6, 45.4, 14.2. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}NO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 296.1281$ , found: 296.1281.

*N-(tert-butyl)-3-phenylbenzofuran-2-amine*(**4ah**): Petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1, Rf = 0.6, yield: 85%, White solid, mp 108 °C. IR: 3367, 2967, 1606, 1458, 1379, 1210, 1015. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.51 –7.45 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* =7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.2, 150.4, 133.7, 129.6, 129.2, 127.8, 125.9, 122.8, 120.6, 117.0, 110.0 97.0, 53.5, 30.6. ESI-HRMS:  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 266.1539, found: 266.1537.

#### *3.3. X-ray Crystallographic Data of 3ia*

The crystal of **3ia** for XRD analysis was prepared by recrystallization from the DMSO (see the supporting information for details). CCDC 1914402 containing the supplementary crystallographic data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif) (accessed on 5 July 2019). (remarks: The unit cell contains several **3ia** and DMSO, which are weakly clustered together, but this does not affect the structural characterization of compound **3ia**.)

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: [https:](https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/molecules27238538/s1) [//www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/molecules27238538/s1,](https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/molecules27238538/s1) Figure S1: X-ray molecular structure of **3ia**; Table S1: Crystal data and structure refinement for **3ia**; Figures S2–S56: NMR spectra of the products (**3aa**–**3sa**, **4ab**–**4ah**).

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