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One-pot regioselective C–H activation iodination–cyanation of 2,4-diarylquinazolines using malononitrile as a cyano source†

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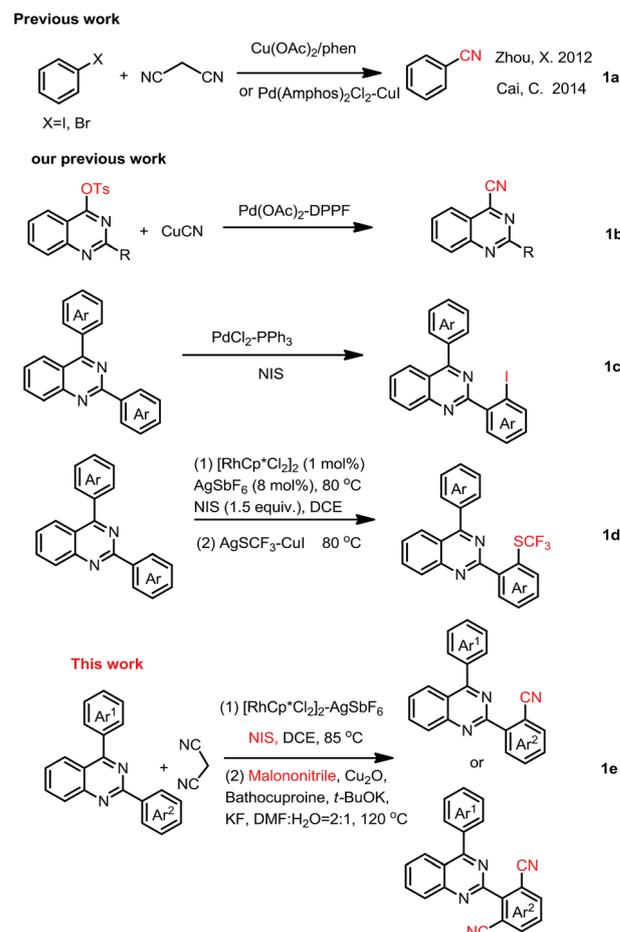
A one-pot cyanation of 2,4-arylquinazoline with NIS and malononitrile has been developed. The one-pot reaction includes two steps. The Rh-catalyzed selective C–H activation/iodization of 2,4-diarylquinazoline with NIS, and then Cu-catalyzed cyanation of the corresponding iodinated intermediate with malononitrile to selectively give 2-(2-cyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines or 2-(2,6-dicyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines in good to excellent yields.

Introduction

Aromatic nitriles have broad applications in agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and materials science. The nitrile moiety also serves as a pivotal precursor for a multitude of conversions into a great number of other functional groups, such as hydrolysis into carboxyl or amide, reduction into aldehydes or amines, cycloaddition into heterocycles, *etc.*¹ Consequently, a number of methods have been developed to introduce a cyanogen group to an aromatic ring. Various catalytic systems and cyanating agents have been established. Of these transformations, transition-metal-catalyzed cyanation of aryl halides^{2a} or aryl nitriles^{2b} Cu(CN)₂,³ Zn(CN)₂,⁴ NaCN and KCN,⁵ CuSCN,⁶ cyanogen halides,⁷ TMSCN,⁸ NaN₃,⁹ and K₄[Fe(CN)₆]¹⁰ have been used as cyanation agents to introduce CN into organic molecules. Organic cyanide sources and their combined cyano-groups, such as CH₃NO₂,¹¹ acetone cyanohydrin,¹² *N*-cyano-*N*-phenyl-*p*-toluenesulfonamide (NCTS),¹³ aryl(cyano)iodonium triflates,¹⁴ amine/DMSO,¹⁵ DMF,¹⁶ formamide,^{16f,16g} ethyl cyanoacetate,¹⁷ ethyl(ethoxymethylene)cyanoacetate,¹⁸ benzyl cyanide,¹⁹ *tert*-butyl nitrite (TBN),²⁰ isocyanides,²¹ and acetonitrile²² have been used in cyanation for more solubility in organic solvents.

Recent, malononitrile, being more inexpensive, readily industry available, less toxic, stable and easy-to-handle, had been used as an alternative organic cyano-group source.²³

Although attempts have been made to utilize malononitrile as the cyano-group source in several aryl halogens cyanation reactions (Scheme 1a),²³ there is no report about utilizing it as



Scheme 1 Some previous works and this work.

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adding 50 v% of water in DMF can improve the yield to 84% (entries 19–21) and short the reaction time from 18 h to 3 h. Finally, when NBS (*N*-bromosuccinimide) was used as the reactant instead of NIS under the standard reaction conditions, only trace amount of the desired product was detected.

We then started to investigate the scope and the generality of this reaction under optimized conditions [NIS (1.5 eq.), [RhCp*Cl₂]₂ (1.0%), AgSbF₆ (8.0 mol%), malononitrile (2.0 eq.), Cu₂O (10 mol%), Bathocuproine (20 mol%), *t*-BuOK (2.0 eq.), KF (2.0 eq.) in the solvent of DMF : H₂O = 2 : 1, at 120 °C for 3.5 hours]. The results are listed in Table 2.

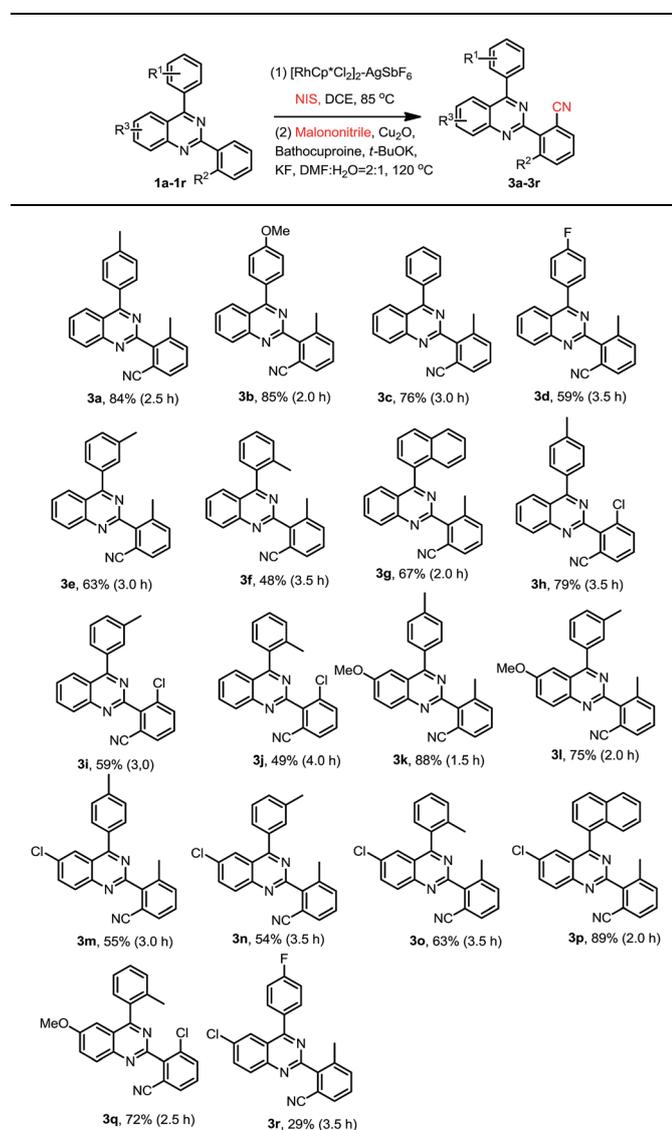
As shown in Table 2, a variety of 2-(*o*-canyophenyl)-4-arylquinazolines were generated under the standard experimental conditions. In general, the electron-donating R¹, R², R³

group substituent fascinated the reactions, and gave higher yields than that of electron-withdrawing ones. For examples, when R² is a methyl, and R¹ is *p*-methyl or *p*-methoxyl, the corresponding products **3a** and **3b** were obtained in excellent of yields of 84% and 85%. The reaction of electron-withdrawing fluorinated substrate **1d** gave good yield of 59%. The substituent group at the *meta* or *ortho* position of 4-phenyl, due to the steric hindrance, finished the corresponding products **3e**, **3f** and **3g** in a yield of 63%, 48% and 67%, respectively. When R² is chloro, the reactions gave the corresponding products **3h–3j** in good yields 79–49%.

Subsequently, the effects of substituent on the phenyl moiety of quinazoline mother ring were then examined. Pleasingly, methoxy and chloro functionalities were all tolerated, providing the desired products **3k–3q** in good to excellent yields. **3r** was obtained in a low yield due to double electron-withdrawing substituent effect.

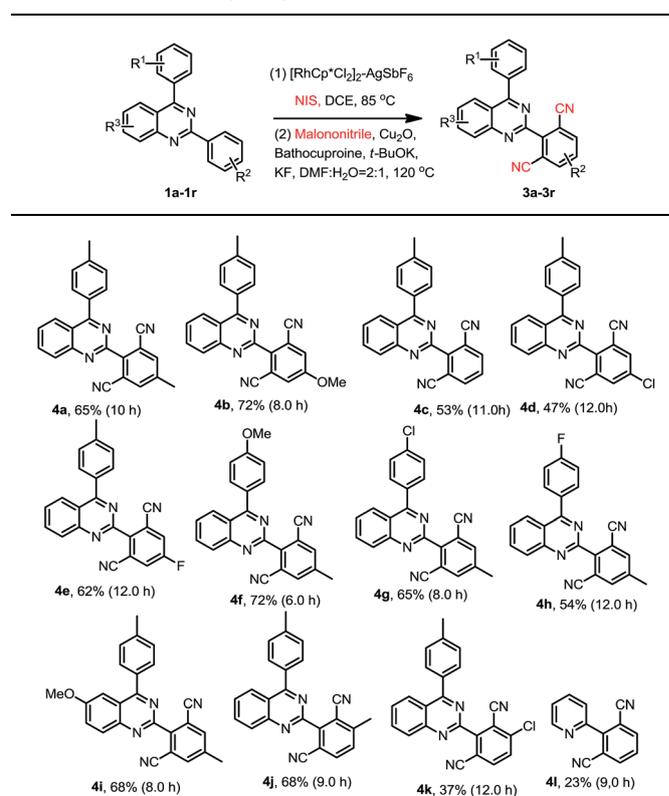
As we seen, when R² is H, the reaction may produce mono-cyanation and bis-cyanation selectivity. In our previous work, exclusively generate mono-iodination on the 2-aryl group was obtained catalyzed by PbCl₂-PPh₃, and then cyanation of the corresponding 2-(2-iodoaryl)quinazolines using conventional procedure^{4e} could selective giving 2-(2-mono-nitrile)quinazolines. Thus, here we focus our attention on selective to produce bis-cyanation quinazolines in one-pot reaction. The results are listed in Table 3.

Table 2 Substrate scope exploration^{a,b}



^a Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), NIS (1.5 eq.), [RhCp*Cl₂]₂ (1.0 mol%), AgSbF₆ (8.0 mol%), DEC 2.0 mL, malononitrile (2.0 eq.), Cu₂O (10 mol%), Bathocuproine (20 mol%), *t*-BuOK (2.0 eq.), KF (2.0 eq.), DMF : H₂O = 2 : 1 (3.0 mL). ^b Isolated yield.

Table 3 Substrate scope exploration^{a,b}



^a Reaction conditions: (0.2 mmol), NIS (3.0 eq.), [RhCp*Cl₂]₂ (2.0 mol%), AgSbF₆ (16 mol%), DEC (2.0 mL); malononitrile (4.0 eq.), Cu₂O (20 mol%), Bathocuproine (40 mol%), *t*-BuOK (4.0 eq.), KF (4.0 eq.), DMF : H₂O = 2 : 1 (3.0 mL). ^b Isolated yield.



When 2,4-di-(*p*-methyl)phenylquinazoline **1a** was selected as the model substrate, and the corresponding reagents were adding double of the standard protocol above, the corresponding bis-cyanation product **3a** was obtained in a yield of 65% (Table 3). The electron-donating R¹, R², R³ group substituent also fascinating the reactions, and gave higher yields (**4a**, **4b**, **4f** and **4i**) than that of electron-withdrawing ones (**4d**, **4e**, **4g** and **4h**). Interestingly, dicyano-compounds were obtained in reasonable yields (**4j** and **4k**) when *m*-substituted of 2,4-diarylquinazolines were used.

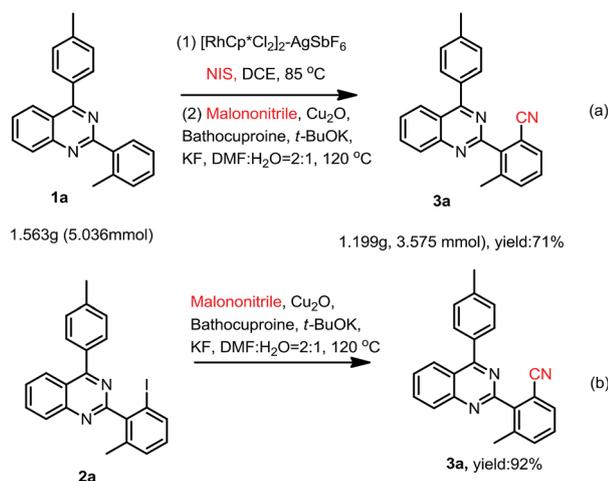
In order to further explore the substrate scope, 2-phenylpyridine was then investigated under the standard conditions, however, the corresponding product **4l** was obtained in 23% yield. This result again disclosed that the directing properties of diazine in quinazoline are distinctive from that of pyridine.

To demonstrate the potential synthetic utility of this transformation, a gram-scale reaction of 2-(*o*-methyl)phenyl-4-(*p*-methyl)phenylquinazoline (**1a**) was carried out. As shown in Scheme 2a, the cyanation product (**3a**) was isolated in an 71% yield.

To further understand the reaction mechanism, a controlled experiment was conducted. When 2-(2-iodo-6-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-methyl)phenylquinazoline (**2a**) was used as the reactant under the standard reaction conditions in Scheme 2b, the cyanation product (**3a**) was isolated in an 92% yield.

In view of the above results, a plausible mechanism was disclosed in Scheme 3. The one-pot iodination/cyanation reaction include two catalytic cycles. In the first catalytic cycle I, the reaction of [Cp*RhCl₂]₂ and AgSbF₆ forms [Cp*Rh(SbF₆)₂]₂, which reacted with **1** through C–H activation to give five-membered rhodacycle **A**, and then was oxidation addition with NIS to provide the Rh(IV) intermediate **B**, followed reductive eliminated to give iodide intermediate product **2** along with the Rh(III) **C**, which was acidized to regenerate catalyst [Cp*Rh(SbF₆)₂]₂ and finish catalytic cycle I.

In the second catalytic cycle II, the ligand was incorporated with Cu^IX to form the catalyst LCuX, and then incorporate with malononitrile to provide the complex **D**, which was reacted with *t*-BuOK to give intermediate **E**, and then undergoes



Scheme 2 A gram-scale reaction and controlled experiment.

transmetalation to generate the active species LCu^ICN. The LCu^ICN subjected to oxidative addition with **2** to form five-membered cyclic Cu(III) **G**, and followed reductive eliminated to give product **3**, and release the LCu^IX catalyst and finish the catalytic cycle.

In summary, we here have developed methods for one-pot process for selective the synthesis of 2-(2-cyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines or 2-(2,6-dicyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines. The one-pot reaction include two steps, the Rh-catalyzed selective C–H activation iodization of 2,4-diarylquinazoline with NIS, and then Cu-catalyzed cyanation of the corresponding iodide intermediate with malononitrile to give 2-(*o*-cyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines or 2-(2,6-dicyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazolines in good to excellent yields.

Experimental section

Unless otherwise noted, commercial reagents were purchased from Aldrich, Alfa, or other commercial suppliers. All solvents were dried and distilled according to standard procedures before use. Reactions were conducted in standard techniques on vacuum line. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (60 Å pore size, 32–63 μm, standard grade). Organic solutions were concentrated on rotary evaporators at ~20 torr (house vacuum) at 25–35 °C. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra are recorded in parts per million (ppm) from internal standard tetramethylsilane (TMS) on the δ scale.

General procedure for preparation of 2-(*o*-cyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazoline **3** (**3a** as an example)

A mixture of 2,4-phenylquinazolines **1a** (0.2 mmol), NIS (0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), [RhCp*Cl₂]₂ (1.0 mol%), AgSbF₆ (8.0 mol%) in DCE (2.0 mL) was stirred at 85 °C, until **1a** was completed consumed (detected by TLC). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. A mixture of malononitrile (2.0 eq.), Cu₂O (10 mol%), Bathocuproin (20 mol%), *t*-BuOK (2.0 eq.), KF (2.0 eq.) and DMF and water (3.0 mL 2 : 1) was added and stirred at 120 °C for 3 h. After completion of the reaction as indicated by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The solvent was evaporated, residue was diluted with EtOAc (10 mL), washed with H₂O (10 mL), dried by anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent followed purification by column chromatograph over silica gel provided the corresponding product **3a**.

General procedure for preparation of 2-(*o*-dicyanoaryl)-4-arylquinazoline **4** (**4a** as an example)

A mixture of 2,4-phenylquinazolines **1a** (0.2 mmol), NIS (0.6 mmol, 3.0 eq.), [RhCp*Cl₂]₂ (2.0 mol%), AgSbF₆ (16 mol%) and in DCE (2.0 mL) was stirred at 85 °C for 0.5 h, until **1a** was completed consumed. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. A mixture of malononitrile (4.0 eq.), Cu₂O (20 mol%), Bathocuproin (40 mol%), *t*-BuOK (4.0 eq.), KF (4.0 eq.) in DMF



8.05 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.01–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.7–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.67–7.63 (m, 3H), 7.58–7.51 (m, 3H), 7.45–7.40 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.8, 160.6, 151.0, 142.5, 138.1, 135.0, 134.7, 134.2, 133.7, 131.5, 130.9, 130.1, 129.1, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 127.0, 126.4, 125.8, 125.1, 123.3, 118.4, 113.0, 20.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3$: 372.1495, found: 372.1501.

2-(2-Cyano-6-chlorophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (3h). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 79%; mp 121–124 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.26 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (td, $J = 8.46.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.75 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 7.2, 0.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.2, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.1, 158.3, 151.4, 141.9, 140.6, 134.6, 134.5, 134.2, 134.0, 131.7, 130.3, 129.9, 129.5, 129.2, 128.6, 127.4, 122.0, 117.0, 114.9, 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 406.1106, found: 406.1102.

2-(2-Cyano-6-chlorophenyl)-4-(3-methylphenyl)quinazoline (3i). Compound was obtained as a yellow oil: yield 59%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.25 (dd, $J = 8.4, 0.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.6, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.78–7.66 (m, 5H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.3, 158.3, 151.3, 141.9, 138.7, 136.7, 134.6, 134.5, 134.3, 131.7, 131.1, 130.7, 130.0, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 127.5, 127.4, 122.0, 117.0, 114.9, 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3$: 356.0949, found: 356.0955.

2-(2-Cyano-6-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-methylphenyl)quinazoline (3j). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 49%; mp 101–103 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.23 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dt, $J = 8.0, 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.34 (m, 4H), 2.23 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.9, 158.5, 150.9, 142.0, 136.4, 136.0, 134.7, 134.5, 134.3, 131.5, 130.7, 130.1, 129.6, 129.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.3, 125.8, 123.0, 116.8, 114.7, 20.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3$: 356.0949, found: 356.0951.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)-6-methoxyl quinazoline (3k). Compound was obtained as a colorless oil: yield 88%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.08 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.0, 159.0, 158.3, 147.6, 142.6, 140.2, 138.3, 135.0, 134.5, 131.1, 130.6, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 126.8, 122.6, 113.2, 104.5, 55.8, 21.5, 20.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: 366.1601, found: 366.1606.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(3-methylphenyl)-6-methoxylquinazoline (3l). Compound was obtained as a colorless oil: yield 75%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.09 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.37 (m, 4H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.2, 159.0, 158.3, 147.6, 142.6, 138.7, 138.3, 137.3, 135.0, 131.1, 130.8, 130.6, 130.5, 128.7, 128.5, 126.93, 126.9, 122.6, 118.6, 113.2, 104.5, 55.8, 21.6, 20.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: 366.1601, found: 366.1606.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)-6-chloro-quinazoline (3m). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 55%; mp 106–108 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.22 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46–7.41 (m, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.0, 160.4, 149.9, 142.0, 140.9, 138.3, 135.1, 135.1, 134.1, 133.6, 131.2, 130.8, 130.2, 129.7, 129.0, 126.1, 122.2, 118.5, 113.2, 21.5, 20.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_3$: 370.1106, found: 370.1111.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(3-methylphenyl)-6-chloro-quinazoline (3n). Compound was obtained as a yellow oil: yield 54%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.20 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, $J = 9.6, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.70–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.55 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.40 (m, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.3, 160.4, 149.9, 142.1, 138.9, 138.3, 136.4, 135.2, 135.1, 134.1, 131.3, 131.2, 130.8, 130.6, 129.1, 128.7, 127.3, 126.1, 122.2, 118.5, 113.2, 21.6, 20.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_3$: 370.1106, found: 370.1111.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(2-methylphenyl)-6-chloro-quinazoline (3o). Compound was obtained as a yellow oil: yield 63%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.48–7.38 (m, 5H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.9, 160.7, 149.4, 142.2, 138.0, 136.2, 135.6, 135.5, 135.0, 134.3, 130.9, 130.9, 130.8, 129.8, 129.3, 129.1, 126.0, 125.9, 123.2, 118.2, 113.0, 20.2, 20.1. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_3$: 370.1106, found: 370.1113.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-6-chloro-quinazoline (3p). Compound was obtained as a yellow oil: yield 89%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.20 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, $J = 7.2, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.72–7.63 (m, 3H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.57–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.41 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.04, 160.8, 149.6, 142.1, 138.1, 135.7, 135.0, 134.30, 133.8, 133.5, 131.4, 131.0, 130.80, 130.4, 129.1, 128.5, 128.1, 127.2, 126.6, 126.2, 125.5, 125.1, 123.9, 118.3, 113.0, 20.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_3$: 406.1106, found: 406.1102.

2-(2-Cyano-6-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-methylphenyl)-6-methoxyl quinazoline (3q). Compound was obtained as a yellow oil: yield 72%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.12 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (ddd, $J = 9.2, 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 9.6, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.34 (m, 5H), 6.96 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 159.3, 156.4, 147.1, 142.1, 136.3, 136.3, 134.6, 134.3, 131.4, 130.8, 130.6, 129.9, 129.5, 129.2, 127.5, 125.9, 124.0, 116.9, 114.8, 104.2, 55.8, 20.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}$: 386.1055, found: 386.1057.

2-(2-Cyano-6-methylphenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-chloro-2-quinazoline (3r). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 29%; mp: 126–128 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.17 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.95–7.91 (m, 3H), 7.69 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz,



1H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.8, 164.4 (d, $^1J = 238.0$ Hz), 163.0, 150.0, 141.8, 138.3, 135.3 (d, $^3J = 11.0$ Hz) 134.4, 132.5 ($^4J = 3.0$ Hz), 123.4, 132.3, 131.3, 131.0, 129.2, 125.7, 122.0, 118.6, 116.2 (d, $^2J = 21.0$ Hz), 113.2, 20.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClFN}_3$: 374.0855, found: 374.0860.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4a). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 65%; mp 158–160 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.26 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 (s, 2H), 7.71 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 156.3, 151.4, 142.4, 140.8, 140.6, 138.3, 134.4, 133.9, 130.5, 129.5, 129.3, 128.9, 127.4, 122.0, 117.3, 114.5, 21.5, 20.8. HRMS calcd. For $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4$: 361.1448, found: 361.1452.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4b). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 72%; mp 194–196 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.29 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, $J = 9.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 2H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.1, 159.7, 156.1, 151.5, 140.8, 137.3, 134.3, 134.0, 130.5, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 127.4, 123.4, 122.0, 117.1, 115.7, 56.4, 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4\text{O}$: 377.1397, found: 377.1402.

2-(2,6-Dicyanophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4c). Compound was obtained as a colorless oil: yield 53%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.31 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 8.01 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.76–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.43 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.3, 156.2, 151.4, 145.2, 140.9, 137.7, 134.6, 133.9, 130.5, 129.7, 129.6, 129.4, 129.1, 127.5, 122.1, 117.1, 114.7, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_4$: 347.1291, found: 347.1294.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-chlorophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4d). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 47%; mp: 172–175 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.31 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.04–8.00 (m, 3H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.4, 155.4, 151.4, 143.3, 141.0, 137.5, 136.0, 134.6, 133.7, 130.5, 129.6, 129.4, 129.2, 127.5, 122.1, 116.1, 116.0, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_4$: 381.0902, found: 381.0907.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-fluorophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4e). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 62%; mp: 170–173 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (dd, $J = 8.4, 0.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.73 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.4, 161.4 (d, $^1J = 254.0$ Hz), 155.4, 151.4, 141.7 (d, $^3J = 4.0$ Hz), 141.0, 134.6, 133.8, 130.5, 129.5, 129.3, 129.1, 127.5, 125.1 (d, $^2J = 24.0$ Hz), 122.1, 116.5 (d, $^3J = 10.0$ Hz), 116.0 (d, $^4J = 2.0$ Hz), 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{FN}_4$: 365.1197, found: 365.1121.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methylphenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)quinazoline (4f). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 72%; mp 149–

153 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.31 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.98 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 2H), 7.71 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.6, 161.7, 156.2, 151.5, 142.5, 140.6, 138.3, 134.3, 132.3, 129.4, 129.3, 128.8, 127.4, 122.0, 117.3, 114.5, 114.3, 55.5, 20.8; HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4\text{O}$: 377.1397, found: 377.1404.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methylphenyl)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)quinazoline (4g). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 65%; mp: 187–190 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.28 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.73 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.8, 156.2, 151.5, 142.1, 140.8, 138.3, 136.9, 135.1, 134.6, 131.9, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 126.8, 121.8, 117.2, 114.5, 20.8. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_4$: 381.0902, found: 381.0907.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methylphenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)quinazoline (4h). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 54%; mp 209–212 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.28 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.06–8.0 (m, 3H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.74 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.7 (d, $^1J = 243.0$ Hz), 156.2, 151.5, 142.2, 140.8, 138.3, 134.6, 132.8 (d, $^4J = 3.0$ Hz), 132.7 (d, $^3J = 9.0$ Hz), 129.5, 129.1, 127.0, 121.9, 117.2, 116.1, 116.0 (d, $^2J = 22.0$ Hz), 114.5, 20.8; HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{FN}_4$: 365.1197, found: 365.1121.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-4-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)-6-methoxyquinazoline (4i). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 68%; mp 156–159 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.16 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.2, 159.5, 154.4, 147.6, 142.6, 140.5, 140.2, 138.2, 134.3, 130.8, 130.1, 129.5, 127.1, 123.1, 117.3, 114.4, 104.6, 55.8, 21.5, 20.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_4\text{O}$: 391.1553, found: 391.1558.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-3-methylphenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4j). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 68%; mp 128–130 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.22 (dd, $J = 8.4, 3.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.94–7.89 (m, 3H), 7.75 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 158.5, 151.7, 143.4, 141.3, 140.6, 134.9, 134.3, 134.0, 131.3, 130.7, 130.6, 129.4, 129.2, 128.0, 127.3, 121.8, 119.7, 109.4, 21.9, 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_4$: 361.1448, found: 361.1452.

2-(2,6-Dicyano-3-chlorophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)quinazoline (4k). Compound was obtained as a yellow solid: yield 37%; mp: 157–160 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.31 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (ddd, $J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.77–7.73 (m, 2H), 7.43 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.4, 155.8, 151.4, 147.5, 142.9, 141.0, 137.5, 134.6, 133.7, 130.6, 130.5, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 127.5, 122.3, 116.3, 115.6, 113.9, 112.9, 21.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_4$: 381.0902, found: 381.0907.

2-(2,6-Dicyanophenyl)pyridine (4l). Compound was obtained as a white solid: yield 23%; mp 140–142 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz,



CDCl₃) δ 8.78 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86–7.78 (m, 3H), 7.72–7.68 (m, 1H), 7.51 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 7.6, 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.3, 150.0, 143.5, 134.1, 132.8, 131.0, 130.0, 128.7, 123.3, 123.2. HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₂H₉N₂: 181.0760, found: 181.0769.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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