Supporting Information for

N-Arylations of Sulfoximines with 2-Arylpyridines by Copper-Mediated Dual N-H/C-H Activation

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General information

All reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Acros or Alfa Aesar and were used without further purification. The substituted 2-phenylpyridines were prepared by following the literature procedure for the Suzuki coupling of the corresponding aryl boronic acid with 2-bromopyridine.^[S1] Sulfoximines were prepared according to literature procedures by treating sulfoxides with sodium azide and concentrated sulfuric acid.^[S2]

All product mixtures were analyzed by thin layer chromatography using aluminum foil backed silica TLC plates with a fluorescent indicator from Merck. UV-active compounds were detected with a UV lamp ($\lambda = 254$ nm). For flash column chromatography, silica gel was used as the stationary phase. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded either on a Varian V-NMRS 600, Varian V-NMRS 400 in deuterated chloroform at 25 °C. Chemical shifts (d) are reported in ppm, and spin-spin coupling constants (*J*) are given in Hz, while multiplicities are abbreviated by br s (broad singlet), s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet) and m (multiplet). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL spectrometer [electrospray ionisation (ESI) in positive ion mode]. Analytical high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) measurements for the determination of enantiomers were performed with an Agilent 1100-series system and a chiral stationary phase (Chiralcel AD-H: 250 mm × 4.6 mm) from Chiral Technologies Inc. Melting points (M.P.) were determined in open-end capillary tubes on a Büchi B-540 melting point apparatus.

Specific Experimental:

Table S1. Reaction condition screening for oxidative coupling between 2-phenylpyridine and sulfoximine

		+ HN=S-F Me	Ph		N N Me ^o Ph	
	48	58			68	
Entry ^a	Metal (Equiv)	Oxidant	Solvent	Temp. (°C)	Additive (Equiv)	Yield (%)
1	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	CH ₃ CN	130	-	26
2	$CuBr_{2}(1.0)$	air	CH ₃ CN	130	-	-
3	CuCl ₂ (1.0)	air	CH ₃ CN	130	-	trace
4	Pd(OAc) ₂ (0.10)	air	CH ₃ CN	130	-	-
5	Pd(OAc) ₂ (0.10)	$K_2S_2O_8$	DCE	130	-	-
6	CuBr (0.10)	t-BuO-Ot-Bu	PhMe	120	-	-
7	CuBr (0.10)	t-BuO-Ot-Bu	neat	130	-	-
8	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	DMF	130	-	trace
9	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	DMSO	130	-	trace
10	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	1,4-dioxane	130	-	trace
11	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	PhMe	130	-	trace
12	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	xylene	145	-	trace
13	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	air	anisole	160	-	trace
14	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	O_2	CH ₃ CN	130	-	38
15	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	O_2	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	150	-	55
16	$Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(1.0)$	O_2	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	150	pyridine (1.0)	-
17	Cu(OAc) ₂ •H ₂ O (1.0)	O_2	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	150	AcOH (0.5)	80
18	Cu(OAc) ₂ •H ₂ O (1.0)	O_2	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	150	2-nitrobenzoic acid (0.5)	74
19	Cu(OAc) ₂ •H ₂ O (0.20)	O_2	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	150	AcOH (0.5)	22

a Reactions were performed on a 0.5 mmol scale.

MS analysis of the reaction mixture prior to work-up:



General Procedure A: To a 20 mL sealable reaction tube with a magnetic stirring bar was added Cu(OAc)₂•H₂O (100 mg, 0.50 mmol) and the reaction tube was back filled with molecular oxygen. To this reaction vessel was then added a solution containing the substituted 2-aryl pyridine (0.50 mmol), the sulfoximine (1.0 mmol), glacial acetic acid (15 mg, 0.25 mmol) and propanenitrile (1 mL). The tube was sealed and heated to 150 °C for 24 h. After this time, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with CH2Cl2 (15 mL) The organic phase was washed with Na2S (10 mL, saturated aqueous solution) and separated. The aqueous phase was then extracted with additional CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were filtered over a short pad of celite, and the solvent then concentrated under vacuum. Purification by silica gel column chromatography afforded the arylated sulfoximine 6.

General Procedure B: As General Procedure A, but with the use of 2-nitrobenzoic acid (42 mg, 0.25 mmol) instead of glacial acetic acid.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6a)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 123 mg (80%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.72$ (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.78 - 7.70(m, 3H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.25 - 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.6, 149.1, 142.3, 139.4, 135.1, 133.1, 130.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.4, 125.5, 123.3, 122.4, 121.3, 45.0 ppm; ESI-HRMS (m/z) [C₁₈H₁₆N₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 309.1056, Found 309.1064.

Following General Procedure A with enantiopure (S)-5a afforded optically active $6a_{,}[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = -149.4$ (sample of 10.0 mg in 2 mL CHCl₃)} in a comparable yield to that reported for the reaction of racemic 5a. HPLC: $t_r = 12.6$ min (minor), $t_r = 14.9$ min (major); Chiralcel AD-H, 0.8 mL/min, *n*-heptane/isopropanol = 85/15, $\lambda = 254$ nm, 20 °C; e.r. = >99.5:0.5

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-*S*-ethyl-*S*-phenylsulfoximine (6b)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 116 mg (72%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.73$ (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 - 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.60 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (tt, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (td, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (q, J = 7.2 Hz,

2H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 158.6$, 149.1, 142.5, 137.1, 134.9, 134.7, 133.1, 130.6, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 125.7, 122.8, 122.0, 121.2, 51.8, 7.8 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) $[C_{19}H_{18}N_2OS + H]^+$ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1223.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-*S*,*S*-diphenylsulfoximine (6c)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 127 mg (69%), white solid, m.p. 120 – 121 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.82 - 8.78$ (m, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.78 (td, J= 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (tt, J = 7.6Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J = 7.6Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (td, J = 7.6 Hz, J

= 1.2 Hz, 1H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.9, 149.2, 142.1, 140.8, 135.2, 135.1, 132.5, 130.5, 129.1, 128.5, 125.9, 123.2, 122.2, 121.4 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) [C₂₃H₁₈N₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 371.1213, Found 371.1222.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-S-methyl-S-(4-methylphenyl)sulfoximine (6d)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 124 mg (77%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.73 – 8.70 (m, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (td, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.15 (m, 4H), 7.13 (td, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (td, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.6, 149.1, 144.0, 142.5, 136.3, 135.0, 134.9, 130.6, 129.9, 129.1, 128.4, 125.6, 123.3, 122.3, 121.3, 45.2, 21.5 ppm;

ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[C_{19}H_{18}N_2OS + H]^+$ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1222.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-*S*-methyl-*S*-(4-chlorophenyl)sulfoximine (6e)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 140 mg (82%), pale yellow viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.73 – 8.70 (m, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (td, *J* = 7.8 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 7.8 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.05 (td, *J* = 7.8 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.6, 149.1, 141.9, 139.9, 137.9, 135.2, 135.1, 130.7, 129.9, 129.6, 129.2, 125.4, 123.3,

122.7, 121.4, 45.1 ppm; ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[C_{18}H_{15}N_2CIOS + H]^+$ Calcd. 343.0666, Found 343.0678.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-S-methyl-S-(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfoximine (6f)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 103 mg (61%), pale yellow viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.73$ (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (td, J =7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, J =1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.11(m,3H), 7.03 (td, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 163.3$, 158.6, 149.1, 142.6, 135.1, 134.9, 130.6, 130.5, 129.1,

125.5, 123.3, 122.3, 121.3, 114.5, 55.6, 45.4 ppm; ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[C_{19}H_{18}N_2O_2S + H]^+$ Calcd. 339.1162, Found 339.1169.

N-(2-Pyridinylphenyl)-*S*,*S*-dimethylsulfoximine (6g)



General procedure B was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 68 mg (55%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.64 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 2.96 (s, 6H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.4, 149.0, 142.2, 135.4, 135.2, 130.8, 129.3, 125.1, 124.3, 123.1, 121.3, 41.8 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m*/*z*) [C₁₃H₁₄N₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 247.0900, Found 247.0905.

N-(2-Pyridinyl-5-methylphenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6h)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 119 mg (74%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.71$ (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ = 158.6, 149.0, 142.0, 139.5, 139.2, 135.1, 133.1, 132.2, 130.5, 129.2, 128.3, 125.5, 124.1, 123.5, 121.1, 44.8, 21.2 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) [C₁₉H₁₈N₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1226.

N-(2-Pyridinyl-5-methoxyphenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6i)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 108 mg (64%), pale yellow viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.69$ (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.70 (td, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.77 (d,

J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 160.1$, 158.2, 149.0, 143.4, 139.3, 135.0, 133.1, 131.6, 129.3, 128.3, 127.9, 125.3, 120.8, 108.6, 108.5, 55.2, 45.0 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m*/*z*) [C₁₉H₁₈N₂O₂S + H]⁺ Calcd. 339.1162, Found 339.1169.

N-(2-Pyridinyl-5-chlorophenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6j)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 139 mg (81%), pale yellow viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.72$ (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C

NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 157.5, 149.2, 143.6, 138.9, 135.3, 134.4, 133.4, 133.3, 131.6, 129.5, 128.3, 125.4, 122.8, 122.4, 121.6, 45.3 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) [C₁₈H₁₅ClN₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 343.0666, Found 343.0677.

N-(2-Pyridinyl-5-fluorophenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6k)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 138 mg (85%), pale yellow viscous oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.71$ (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J= 10.8 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (td, J = 8.4 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 164.1$, 161.6, 157.7, 149.1, 144.0, 143.9, 138.9, 135.2, 133.4, 131.9, 131.8, 131.1, 131.0, 129.4, 128.3, 125.4, 121.3, 109.8, 109.6, 109.3, 109.0, 45.4 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) [C₁₈H₁₅FN₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 327.0962, Found 327.0972.

N-(2-Pyridinyl-3-methylphenyl)-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (61)



General procedure B was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 92 mg (57%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.79 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.0, 148.1, 143.0, 139.6, 137.1, 133.0, 129.2,

128.9, 128.4, 126.3, 124.1, 121.6, 120.4, 44.1, 20.2 ppm; ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[C_{19}H_{18}N_2OS + H]^+$ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1226.

N-[2-(4-Methylpyridinyl)phenyl]-S-methyl-S-phenylsulfoximine (6m)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 116 mg (72%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.59 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.8 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 158.3, 148.7, 146.2, 142.2, 139.5, 135.1, 133.1, 130.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.4, 126.4, 123.4, 122.5, 122.4, 44.6, 21.2;

ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[C_{19}H_{18}N_2OS + H]^+$ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1225.

N-[2-(5-Methylpyridinyl)phenyl]-*S*-methyl-*S*-phenylsulfoximine (6n)



General procedure A was followed using ethyl acetate/pentane (1:1) as eluent; yield: 121 mg (75%), colorless viscous oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.56$ (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (td, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (td, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 1.2

Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.41(s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6, 149.3, 142.3, 139.4, 135.9, 133.1, 130.7, 130.6, 129.3, 129.0, 128.4, 124.9, 123.2, 122.4, 45.1, 18.3 ppm; ESI-HRMS (*m/z*) [C₁₉H₁₈N₂OS + H]⁺ Calcd. 323.1213, Found 323.1222.

References:

[S1] Littke, A. F.; Dai, C.; Fu, G. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 4020.

[S2] Eis, K.; Prien, O.; Luecking, U.; Guenther, J.; Zopf, D.; Brohm, D.; Vöhringer, V.; Woltering, E.; Beck, H.; Lobell, M.; Li, V. M.-J.; Greschat, S. *WO 2008/141843 A1* (Bayer Schering Pharma AG).

NMR Spectra:



90 80 f1 (pom)





S10





















