Concise synthesis of tricyclic isoindolinones via one-pot cascade multicomponent sequences

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General informations: Unless otherwise noted, all starting materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without purification. Petroleum ether was distilled under Argon. Toluene was used without distillation. All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of dry argon. Solutions were evaporated under reduced pressure with a rotary evaporator and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using an ethyl acetate-petroleum ether mixture as the eluent unless specified otherwise. NMR spectra were recorded on a 300 MHz and 200 MHz Brucker spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm relative to the residual solvent peak (7.26 ppm for CHCl₃) for ¹H spectra and (77.00 ppm for CDCl₃) for ¹³C spectra. Melting points were measured on a Büchi Melting-Point B-545 and were uncorrected. High Resolution Mass spectroscopy data were recorded on a Autospec Ultima (Waters/Micromass) device with a resolution of 5000 RP at 5%. Impact electronic and chemical ionisation spectroscopies were recorded on a HP5989 B device of Hewlett-Packard ; for electrospray mass spectroscopy an add-on 59 987 A was used ; Branford source-type ; 4 μ L/min. Infrared spectra were recorded on a FT IR spectrometer Nicolet Impact 400 D of Nicolet Instruments in KBr for liquid and solid compounds. TLC was carried out on Silica Gel 60 F₂₅₄ (0.5 mm thickness).

General procedure for tricyclic lactams synthesis:

In a round bottom flask, were stirred 1 eq of 5-amino-2-furaldehyde **1**, 1 eq of amino alcohol **2** and 2 eq of diethyl maleate **3** in 8 mL of toluene in Dean–Stark conditions. After 96 hours, the reaction was allowed to cool down at RT and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude was purified by silica gel chromatography using Petroleum ether: EtOAc as eluent.



(3*R*, 9bS)-ethyl 2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-7-morpholino-5-oxo-3-phenyloxazolo[2,3*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4a: Following the general procedure of the one-pot process 250 mg of 1a (1.37 mmol), 188 mg of (*R*)-phenylglycinol 2a (1.37 mmol) and 445 μ L (2.74 mmol) of 3 led to 220 mg of colorless crystals (40%) after silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 7:3). [α]²⁵_D = – 98° (c = 0.185, CH₂Cl₂). Mp

165.1–167.5 °C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1729, 1610, 1498, 1393, 1284, 1236, 1149, 1114, 1061. ¹H NMR

(CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.40 (t, ³*J* = 7.1, 3H, CO₂CH₂C*H*₃), 3.02–3.13 (m, 4H, NC*H*₂), 3.78–4.11 (m, 4H, OC*H*₂), 4.1 (dd, *J* = 8.9 and 7.5, 1H, NCHPhC*H*HO), 4.40–4.52 (m, 2H, CO₂C*H*₂CH₃), 4.80 (dd, *J* = 8.9 and 7.5, 1H, NCHPhCHHO), 5.16 (t, ³*J* = 7.5, 1H, NC*H*Ph), 5.99 (s, 1H, OC*H*N), 7.29–7.36 (m, 6H, Ph + C*H*=CHCCHON), 7.62 (d, ³*J* = 8.1, 1H, CH=C*H*CCHON); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 53.3 (2C, NCH₂), 58.2 (NCHPh), 61.9 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 67.1 (2C, OCH₂), 77.9 (CHPhCH₂O), 91.2 (NCHO), 124.8 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 126.0 (3C, CH, Ph), 127.7 (CH), 128.8 (2C, CH, Ph), 131.2 (C), 136.9 (C), 139.4 (C), 152.0 (C), 166.5 (CO₂), 171.7 (CON). ESI-MS *m*/*z* (rel int): 431.2 (100, M + Na⁺), 839.4 (40, 2M + Na⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for [(C₂₃H₂₄N₂O₅) + H⁺] 409.1763; found 409.1752.

Compounds 4b - 4g and 5 were obtained, unless otherwise noted, following the general procedure of the one-pot process, as described for 4a with various amino alcohols.



(3*R*, 9bS)-ethyl 3-benzyl-2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-7-morpholino-5-oxooxazolo[2,3*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4b : 100 mg 1a (0.55 mmol), 83 mg (0.55 mmol) of (S)phenylalaninol 2b and 178 μ L (1.1 mmol) of 3. Yellow solid 65% yield (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 75:25). [α]²⁵_D = - 12° (c = 0.139, CH₂Cl₂). Mp 150.8 °C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻)

¹): 1719, 1607, 1453, 1378, 1311, 1236, 1161, 1110, 1064, 1022. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.35 (t, ³*J* = 7.1, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 2.85–3.13 (m, 6H, NCH₂ + PhCH₂), 3.66–3.80 (m, 4H, OCH₂), 3.87–3.92 (m, 1H, BnCHCHHOCHN), 4.18–4.24 (m, 1H, BnCHCHHOCHN), 4.30–4.43 (m, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + BnCH), 5.60 (s, 1H, OCHN), 7.19–7.27 (m, 6H, Ph + CH=CHCCHON), 7.47 (d, ³*J* = 8.1, 1H, CH=CHCCHON); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 39.6 (PhCH₂CH), 53.0 (2C, NCH₂), 55.5 (PhCH₂CH), 61.9 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 67.1 (2C, OCH₂), 74.9 (CHPhCH₂O), 90.3 (OCHN), 124.8 (CH), 125.6 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 127.8 (C), 128.6 (2C, CH), 129.5 (2C, CH), 131.2 (C), 136.6 (C), 137.3 (C), 151.9 (C), 166.6 (CO₂), 171.5 (CON). ESI-MS *m*/*z* (rel int): 445.3 (100, M + Na⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for [(C₂₄H₂₆N₂O₅) + H⁺] 423.1920; found 423.1910.

(3S, 9bR)-ethyl 2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-3-methyl-7-morpholino-5-oxooxazolo[2,3*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4c: 100 mg of 1a (0.55 mmol), 43 µL (0.55 mmol) of (S)alaninol 2c and 178 μ L (1.1 mmol) of 3. Yellow solid 35% yield (Petroleum ether: CO₂Et

Me

EtOAc 65:35). $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -5^{\circ}$ (c = 0.149, CH₂Cl₂). Mp 146.8 °C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1729, 1699, 1614, 1405, 1285, 1232, 1113, 1022. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.37 (m, 6H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + NCHCH₃), 3.02–3.09 (m, 4H, NCH₂), 3.77–3.81 (m, 5H, OCH₂ + NCHCH₃CHHO), 4.21 (q, ${}^{3}J = 6.75$, 1H, NCHCH₃), 4.43–4.48 (m, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + NCHCH₃CHHO), 5.83 (s, 1H, OCHN), 7.31 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.1$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON), 7.57 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.1$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON); ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 19.5 (CHCH₃), 50.7 (CHCH₃), 53.1 (2C, NCH₂), 61.8 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 67.2 (2C, OCH₂), 77.1 (CHCH₃CH₂O), 89.9 (OCHN), 124.7 (CH=CHCCHON), 125.6 (CH=CHCCHON), 127.9 (C), 131.5 (C), 137.1 (C), 152.0 (C), 166.6 (CO₂), 171.5 (CON). ESI-MS m/z (rel int): 369.2 (100, M + Na⁺), 715.4 (90, 2M + Na⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for $[(C_{18}H_{22}N_2O_5) + Na^+]$ 369.1426; found 369.1418.



300 MHz): δ 0.96 (d, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$, 3H, NCHCH₃), 1.43 (t, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 3.01–3.13 (m, 4H, NCH₂), 3.78–3.81 (m, 4H, OCH₂), 4.49 (q, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$, 2H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 4.64 (q, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$, 1H, NCHCH₃), 5.05 (d, ³J = 5.2, 1H, OCHPh), 6.24 (s, 1H, OCHN), 7.29–7.37 (m, 6H, CH=CHCCHON + Ph), 7.68 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.1$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON); ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 14.7 (CHCH₃CHPh), 53.0 (2C, NCH₂), 55.5 (CHCH₃CHPh), 61.9 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 67.1 (2C, OCH₂), 83.8 (CHCH₃CHPhO), 89.2 (OCHN), 125.1 (CH, CH=CHCCHON), 125.9 (2C, CH, Ph), 127.3 (C), 127.9 (CH, CH=CHCCHON), 128.3 (3C, CH, Ph), 130.8 (C), 136.7 (C), 139.1 (C), 151.8 (C), 166.7 (CO₂), 171.6 (CON). HR-MS m/z calcd for $[(C_{24}H_{26}N_2O_5) + H^+]$ 423.1920; found 423.1908.



(3*S*, 9b*R*)-ethyl 7-(*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylamino)-2,3,5,9btetrahydro-5-oxo-3-phenyloxazolo[2,3-*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4e: 150 mg of 1b (0.64 mmol) and 88 mg of (*S*)-phenylglycinol 2e (0.64 mmol) and 198 µL (1.28 mmol) 3. brown crystals 34% yield (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 8:2). $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +93^{\circ}$ (c = 0.155, CH₂Cl₂). Mp 139-142° C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹):

1720, 1605, 1510, 1485, 1386, 1284, 1243, 1138, 1029. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.16 (t, ³*J* = 7.1, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 3.25 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.05–4.18 (m, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + CHPhC*H*HO), 4.79–4.85 (dd, *J* = 8.9 and 7.5, 1H, CHPhCHHO), 5.15–5.20 (t, ³*J* = 7.5, 1H, NC*H*Ph), 6.01 (s, 1H, OC*H*N), 6.78–6.86 (m, 4H, NCH₃PhOCH₃), 7.27–7.37 (m, 6H, C*H*=CHCCHON + Ph), 7.61 (d, ³*J* = 9, 1H, CH=C*H*CCHON); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 13.8 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 42.0 (NCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃), 58.3 (NCHPh), 61.7 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 77.9 (CHPhCH₂O), 91.2 (OCHN), 114.5 (2C, CH), 121.4 (2C, CH), 125.9 (CH), 126.1 (3C, CH, Ph), 127.7 (CH), 128.8 (2C, CH, Ph), 129.0 (C), 131.7 (C), 136.8 (C), 139.6 (C), 143.1 (C), 149.9 (C), 154.8 (C), 166.0 (CO₂), 171.7 (CON). ESI-MS *m*/*z* (rel int): 481.2 (100, M + Na⁺), 939.7 (50, 2M + Na⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for [(C₂₇H₂₆N₂O₅) + Na⁺] 481.1739; found 481.1742.



(3*S*, 9b*R*)-ethyl 7-(*N*-allyl-*N*-methylamino)-2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-5-oxo-3phenyloxazolo[2,3-*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4f: Following the general procedure of the one-pot process 100 mg of 1c (0.665 mmol), 100 mg of 2b (0.665 mmol) and 197 μ L (1.21 mmol) 3. Yellow oil 33% yield (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 9:1). [α]²⁵_D = - 169° (c = 0.10, CH₂Cl₂). IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1732, 1608, 1483, 1451, 1388, 1298, 1279,

1233, 1136, 1114, 1065, 1028, 1013. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.44 (t, ³*J* = 7.1, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.99–3.05 (m, 1H, PhCH₂CH), 3.18–3.30 (m, 1H, PhCH₂CH), 3.79 (d, ³*J* = 5.4, 2H, NCH₂CHCH₂), 3.98–4.01 (m, 1H, CHCH₂OCHN), 4.30–4.33 (m, 1H,

CHCH₂OCHN), 4.48–4.53 (m, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + PhCH₂CH), 5.20–5.27 (m, 2H, NCH₂CHCH₂), 5.28 (s, 1H, OCHN), 5.67–5.90 (m, 1H, NCH₂CHCH₂), 7.19 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.5$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON), 7.30–7.35 (m, 5H, Ph), 7.47 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 8.3, 1H, CH=CHCCHON); ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.0 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 39.6 (CHCH₂Ph), 40.0 (NCH₃), 55.4 (CHCH₂Ph), 58.9 (NCH₂CH=CH₂), 61.9 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 74.8 (CHCH₂PhCH₂O), 90.2 (OCHN), 117.2 (NCH₂CH=CH₂), 122.5 (C), 123.1 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 128.5 (2C, CH, Ph), 129.5 (2C, CH, Ph), 131.0 (C), 133.8 (NCH₂CH=CH₂), 134.0 (C), 136.7 (C), 151.2 (C), 167.4 (CO₂), 172.1 (CON). ESI-MS *m*/*z* (rel int): 429.3 (100, M + Na⁺), 445.3 (70, M + K⁺), 835.4 (15, 2M + Na⁺), 851.4 (18, 2M + K⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for $[(C_{24}H_{26}N_2O_4) + C_{24}N_2O_4]$ H⁺] 407.1971; found 407.1985.

Me

ethyl 2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-3,3-dimethyl-7-morpholino-5-oxooxazolo[2,3*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 4g: 250 mg of 1a (1.37 mmol), 122 mg (1.37 mmol) of 2-Ме amino-2-methylpropanol 2g and 450 µL (2.74 mmol) of 3. Yellow solid 35% yield CO₂Et (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 6:4). Mp 92.5–94 °C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1730, 1710, 1602, 1450, 1386, 1280, 1227, 1119, 1062, 1027. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.38–1.62

(m, 9H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + NCHCH₃CH₃), 3.00–3.16 (m, 4H, NCH₂), 3.78–3.81 (m, 4H, OCH₂), 4.10 (d, ²J $= 8.5, 1H, OCH_2CCH_3CH_3), 4.11 (d, {}^{2}J = 8.5, 1H, OCH_2CCH_3CH_3), 4.40-4.51 (m, 2H, CO_2CH_2CH_3),$ 5.86 (s, 1H, OCHN), 7.35 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.3$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON), 7.56 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.1$, 1H, CH=CHCCHON); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 23.3 (CCH₃CH₃), 26.6 (CCH₃CH₃), 53.2 (2C, NCH₂), 59.5 (C, CCH₃CH₃), 61.8 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 67.1 (2C, OCH₂), 84.6 (CCH₃CH₃CH₂O), 91.3 (OCHN), 124.5 (CH, CH=CHCCHON), 125.2 (CH, CH=CHCCHON), 127.8 (C), 133.1 (C), 136.5 (C), 151.6 (C), 166.8 (CO₂), 167.5 (CON). ESI-MS m/z (rel int): 383.3 (90, M + Na⁺), 399.2 (15, M + K⁺), 743.4 (100, 2M + Na⁺), 759.5 (18, 2M + K⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for $[(C_{19}H_{24}N_2O_5) + H^+]$ 361.1763; found 361.1751.



ethyl 2,3,5,9b-tetrahydro-7-morpholino-5-oxothiazolo[2,3-*a*]isoindole-6-carboxylate 5 : 100 mg 1a (0.55 mmol), 62 mg (0.55 mmol) of 2-aminoethanethiol hydrochloride, 73 mg K₂CO₃ (0.55 mmol), and 178 μ L (1.1 mmol) 3. Yellow oil, 58% yield (Petroleum ether: EtOAc 75:25 to 7:3). IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 2955, 2924, 2853, 1730, 1709, 1610,

1483, 1450, 1372, 1291, 1266, 1234, 1135, 1114, 1021. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 1.41 (t, ³*J* = 7.1, 3H, CO₂CH₂CH₃), 3.03–3.12 (m, 4H, NCH₂), 3.34–3.39 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂S), 3.78– 3.81 (m, 4H, OCH₂), 4.39–4.51 (m, 4H, CO₂CH₂CH₃ + NCH₂CH₂S), 5.82 (s, 1H, SCHN), 7.40 (d, ³*J* = 8.3, 1H, CH=CHCCHSN), 7.47 (d, ³*J* = 8.3, 1H, CH=CHCCHSN); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 14.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 36.5 (NCH₂CH₂S), 44.6 (NCH₂CH₂S), 53.2 (2C, NCH₂), 61.9 (CO₂CH₂CH₃), 65.5 (SCHN), 67.2 (2C, OCH₂), 124.9 (2C, CH=CHCCHSN + CH=CHCCHSN), 128.1 (C), 129.2 (C), 140.2 (C), 150.8 (C), 166.7 (CO₂), 168.9 (CON). ESI-MS *m*/*z* (rel int): 371.4 (100, M + Na⁺), 719.3 (13, 2M + Na⁺). HR-MS m/z calcd for [(C₁₇H₂₀N₂O₄S) + Na⁺] 371.1041; found 371.1040. C_{23} H₂₄ N₂ O₅, M_w = 408.44, orthorhombic, space group P2₁2₁2₁; dimensions: a = 8.7153(7) Å, b = 9.8625(9) Å, c = 24.055(2) Å, V = 2067.7(3) Å³; Z = 4; μ = 1.312 mm⁻¹; 36210 reflections measured at 100 K; independent reflections: 3404 [2497 Fo > 4 σ (Fo)]; data were collected up to a 2 Θ max value of 60.10° (99.2 % coverage). Number of variables: 297; R₁ = 0.0399, wR₂ = 0.1060, S = 1.072; highest residual electron density 0.214 e.Å⁻³ (all data R₁ = 0.0702, wR₂ = 0.1295). CCDC 717782.





























