# **Supporting Information**

# Installation of Minimal Tetrazines Through Silver-mediated Liebeskind-Srogl Coupling with Arylboronic Acids

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#### **General Considerations**

All cross-coupling reactions were conducted in flame dried schlenk flasks or 4 mL sealed vials. All other reactions were conducted in flame dried round-bottom flasks. Additionally, all reactions were run under N<sub>2</sub> unless otherwise noted. Silica gel chromatography was performed on Silicycle Siliaflash P60 silica gel (40-63 µm, 60Å) or on Yamazen reversephase prepacked Universal Column C18-silica gel (40-60 µm, 120Å). Automated column chromatography was performed on a Teledyne Isco Combiflash Rf. Commercially available chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Combi-Blocks, Acros Organics, Alfa Aesar, Oakwood Chemical, TCI Chemicals, and Frontier Scientific. Solvents were purchased from Thermo Fisher Chemical, Acros Organics, Decon Laboratories Inc., Mediatech, Inc., and Sigma-Aldrich. Human brain vascular pericytes and pericyte growth supplement were purchased from ScienCell Research Laboratories. Anhydrous dichloromethane was freshly prepared by an alumina column solvent purification system. Anhydrous tetrahydrofuran was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope. A Bruker AV400 was used to record NMR spectra (1H: 400 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 101 MHz, <sup>19</sup>F: 376 MHz). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm and all spectra are referenced to their residual non-deuterated solvent peaks as follows: CDCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 7.26 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 77.16 ppm), Methanol-*d*4 (<sup>1</sup>H: 3.31 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 49.00 ppm), DMSO-*d*6 (<sup>1</sup>H: 2.50 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C: 39.52 ppm). Coupling constants (/) are reported to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Multiplicities are reported as follow: singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), pentet (pent), sextet (sext), heptet (hept), multiplet (m), 'broad' (br), and 'apparent' (app). <sup>13</sup>C NMR resonances are proton decoupled and an APT pulse sequence was used to determine type of carbon as follows: quaternary and methylene (C or CH<sub>2</sub>) carbons appear 'up' and methine and methyl (CH or CH<sub>3</sub>) carbons appear 'down'. Gas chromatography was carried out on a Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus with a Shimadzu AOC-20i auto-injector. Low resolution mass spectra were taken on a Water SQ detector 2 which was attached to a Waters Acquity H-Class UPLC. High resolution mass spectra were obtained using a Waters GCT Premier. Infrared spectra were taken on a Nicolet Magna IR 560 spectrometer. Stopped-flow kinetics were obtained using an Applied Photophysics Ltd. SX 18MV-R stopped-flow spectrophotometer. Differential Scanning Calorimetry was assayed with a Mettler-Toledo Differential Scanning Calorimeter 3+. Optical rotations were measures on a Jasco P-2000 polarimeter equipped with a tungsten-halogen lamp and a 589 nm filter. For fluorescence imagining, gels were scanned with a Typhoon FLA 9500 Biomolecular Imager (GE Healthcare) with the TAMRA channel with 532 nm excitation and a 575 nm long pass emission filter. To measure total protein loading, the gels were scanned with an Odyssey Imager (Li-COR) at the 700 nm channel.

#### **Optimization Studies – Silver(I) Conditions**

Table S-1 shows optimization conditions for the palladium catalyzed, silver(I) mediated cross-coupling of tetrazine **1a** and phenylboronic acid. Only the Pd/ligand combinations and silver(I) sources having the best results are shown. All other ligands and silver additives that were screened are listed on Table S-2. Yields were determined by GC using dodecane as an internal standard.



Standard Conditions	Yield %	Conversion %
-	96	100
Alteration From Standard	Yield %	Conversion %
No PdCl <sub>2</sub> (dppf)	0	39
CyJohnPhos (0.4eq) / $Pd_2dba_3$ (0.15eq)	34	64
N-Xantphos (0.4eq) / $Pd_2dba_3$ (0.15eq)	26	46
Pd CyjohnPhos G4 (0.15eq)	37	38
No Ag <sub>2</sub> O	0	43
Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	88	93
CuTC	2	92
CuMeSal	4	77
Cu <sub>2</sub> O	3	63
+ Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	0	100
PhB-Pinacol Ester	4	68
PhBF₃K	5	74
DMSO	92	100
THF	14	44
ACN	65	77
Acetone	34	56
Toluene	2	55
Dichloroethane	7	9

**Table S-1:** Summarized optimization of select palladium/ligand sources, Cu/Ag (I) sources,basic conditions, boron nucleophiles, and solvents

Buchwald Ligands	Bidentate Ligands	Pd Precatalysts	Silver (I) Sources
CyJohnPhos*	XantPhos	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (dppf)*	Ag <sub>2</sub> O*
PhDavePhos	N-XantPhos*	Pd CyJohnPhos G4*	Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> *
DavePhos	Dppe	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	Ag(OAc)
RuPhos	Dppp	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Ag(trifluoroacetate)
Aphos	Dppb	PEPPSI Ipr	Ag(OTf)
Sphos	Dpppe	PEPPSI SIPr	Ag <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>
MePhos	Dppf	SingaCycle A1	AgPF <sub>6</sub>
Xphos	BINAP		AgBF <sub>4</sub>
TrixiePhos	Tol-BINAP		Ag-Salicylate
BrettPhoss	DPEPhos		Ag-Lactate
Me4tBuXPhos	(+)-DIOP		Ag-2,4-Pentanedionate
CAS 857356-94-6	CAS 65038-36-0		Ag-Cyclohexanebutyrate
CAS 1000171-05-0	CAS 121954-50-5		

\*best of the group, see Table S-1

Table S-2: Listing of ligands, precatalysts, and silver (I) sources that were screened

#### **Optimization Studies – Copper(I) Conditions (Arylstannane nucleophile)**

Table S-3 shows optimization conditions for the palladium catalyzed, copper(I) mediated cross-coupling of tetrazine **1b** and tributylphenylstannane. Figure S-4 shows screening of tetrazines **1a**, **1b**, and **1g**. Figure S-5 shows ligand screening using Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> as a catalyst. Yields were determined by GC using dodecane as an internal standard (<sup>a</sup>isolated yield).



Standard Conditions	Yield %
-	58(56ª)
Alteration From Standard	Yield %
BrettPhos Pd G3 (20 mol%)	43
Pd(PhCN) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (20 mol%)	35
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (20 mol%)	Trace
Pd(MeCN) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> (20 mol%)	43
Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (20 mol%)	45
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%)	49
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%), P(2-furyl) <sub>3</sub> (40 mol%), DMF	22
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%), AsPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF	42
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%), PPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF	11
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%), AsPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF, no CuTC	trace
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%), AsPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF, Cul	trace
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%) , AsPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF, CuMeSal	12
Pd <sub>2</sub> dba <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%) , AsPh <sub>3</sub> (60 mol%), DMF, Cu(I)Ph <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>2</sub>	10

Table S-3: Optimization of copper(I) cross-coupling with tributylphenylstannane



Figure S-4: Tetrazine screening for copper(I) cross-coupling with tributylphenylstannane



**Figure S-5**: Ligand screening for copper(I) cross-coupling with tributylphenylstannane and Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> (10 mol%)

# **Optimization Studies - Copper(I) Conditions (Arylboronic acid nucleophile)**

Table S-6 shows optimization conditions for the palladium catalyzed, copper(I) mediated cross-coupling of tetrazine **3** and phenylboronic acid. These conditions required a base. All other ligands that were screened are listed on Table S-7. Optimized conditions were then used on *S*-benzylic tetrazines **1a** and **1b** as shown on figure S-8. Yields were determined by GC using dodecane as an internal standard.



Standard Conditions	Yield %
_	80
Alteration From Standard	Yield %
Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (20 mol%)	59
[Pd(allyl)Cl] <sub>2</sub> (10 mol%)	64
CuMeSal, Toluene	52
CuTC, Toluene	26
THF	68
DMF	Trace
ACN	11
Et <sub>3</sub> N	32
CsF	58
LiOtBu	48
K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	61
K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	22
KHMDS	26

Table S-6: Optimization of copper(I) cross-coupling with phenylboronic acid

Phosphine Ligands	Buchwald Ligands
PPh <sub>3</sub>	CyJohnPhos
AsPh <sub>3</sub>	sPhos
PCy <sub>3</sub>	DavePhos
P(n-Bu) <sub>3</sub>	JohnPhos
P(t-Bu) <sub>3</sub>	XPhos
PPh <sub>2</sub> (2-pyridyl)	BrettPhos
Tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine	RuPhos
Tri( <i>o</i> -tolyl)phosphine	PhDavePhos
	Me <sub>4</sub> -t-Bu-XPhos
	CAS 1000171-05-0

Table S-7: Listing of ligands that were screened



Figure S-8: S-benzylic tetrazine screening for copper(I) cross-coupling with phenylboronic acid

#### **Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)**

DSC data (Figures S-9 through S-18) was obtained on a Mettler-Toledo Differential Scanning Calorimeter 3+. Samples were loaded into a goldplated high-pressure pan, held at 30°C for 10 minutes, then a gradient of 30°C to 400/500°C at 5°C/min.



**Figure S-9:** Thiocarbohydrazide (5.511 mg). As a precaution, all experiments involving thiocarbohydrazide were carried out below 72 °C (100 °C below the DSC transition onset)



Figure S-10: ([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)thiocarbohydrazide bromide (3.173 mg)



Figure S-11: Compound 1a (2.883 mg)



Figure S-12: Compound 1b (4.289 mg)



Figure S-13: Compound 1c (3.383 mg)



Figure S-14: Compound 1d (2.987 mg)



Figure S-15: Compound 1e (3.085 mg)



Figure S-16: Compound 1f (4.798 mg)



Figure S-17: Compound 1g (3.550 mg)



Figure S-18: Compound 3 (3.828 mg)

#### **Synthesis**

#### ([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)thiocarbohydrazide bromide



Thiocarbohydrazide (21.20 g, 200 mmol, 1.0 eq) and 4-bromomethyl biphenyl (49.40 g, 200 mmol, 1.0 eq) were suspended in ethanol (300 mL, 0.66 M) in a round bottom flask. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and heated to 60°C for 20h. A thick white slurry forms during the reaction. The reaction was brought to room temperature and the slurry was broken up with 300 mL diethyl ether. The white solids were isolated by vacuum filtration, washed 5x250 mL diethyl ether, and then dried under rotary evaporation to give ([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)-thiocarbohydrazide bromide as a white powder (65.55 g, 93%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d<sub>4</sub>) δ 7.66 – 7.60 (m, 4H), 7.49 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.43 (app t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (app tt, *J* = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (s, 2H)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3440, 2067, 1637, 533 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 273.1168; found 273.1173

# 3-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethylthio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (b-Tz, 1a)



([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)-thiocarbohydrazide bromide (65.55 g, 186 mmol, 1.0 eq), Pyridine (33 mL, 371 mmol, 2.0 eq), and DMF (186 mL, 1.0M) were stirred under nitrogen at 50°C. Triethylorthoacetate (70 mL, 371 mmol, 2.0 eq) was added dropwise over 1h and the reaction was stirred an additional 22h. The reaction was then cooled to r.t. and opened to air. DMF (149 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (37 mL) (9:1 org/aq, 0.5M) were added followed by Cu(II)(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (3.38 g, 18.6 mmol, 0.1 eq). Air was then bubbled into the reaction and the solution was stirred <u>vigorously</u> for 24h, after which complete oxidation of tetrazine was observed (monitored by TLC, iodine on silica visualization). Bubbling of air was stopped and 250 mL additional H<sub>2</sub>O was added to precipitate tetrazine. The heterogeneous mixture was then filtered and the solids were washed 5x100 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. Any remaining solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The solids were then dissolved in a minimal amount of hot DCM and loaded on to a plug of silica gel (2 in. diameter, 4 in. deep). Tetrazine was eluted with 3:2 DCM/hexanes and then concentrated by rotary evaporation resulting in 3-([1,1'biphenyl]-4-ylmethylthio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (b-Tz) as a bright coral red crystalline solid (27.45 g, 93 mmol, 50%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 – 7.53 (m, 6H), 7.45 – 7.41 (app t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (app tt, *J* = 7.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7 (C), 165.5 (C), 140.9 (C), 140.6 (C), 134.8 (C), 129.8 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 34.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3452, 1635, 1370, 740, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 295.1017; found 295.1015

# General procedure for the synthesis of tetrazines 1b-1g

# Note: the following procedures **1b-1g** are unoptimized. For an optimized procedure please refer to tetrazine **1a**.

Thiocarbohydrazide (*see below*, 1.0 eq.) and a benzylic bromide reactant (*see below*, 1.0 eq.) were suspended in ethanol (0.2 M) in a round bottom flask. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and heated to 70°C for 2h. The reaction was then brought to room temperature and the solids were isolated by vacuum filtration, washed with diethyl ether, and then dried under rotary evaporation.

The resulting solids (1.0 eq) were dissolved in DMF (0.2 M) under nitrogen and triethylorthoacetate (1.3 eq.) was added. The reaction was stirred at 70°C for 2h and then cooled to 0°C. (Diacetoxyiodo)benzene (1.0 eq.) was added portionwise over 5 min and then the reaction was brought to r.t. and stirred 1h. The reaction was diluted in DCM and washed 4x H<sub>2</sub>O, 1x brine, and then dried on MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The tetrazine products were purified by silica gel chromatography as described below.

## 3-(benzylthio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1b)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (4.06 g, 38.3 mmol) and benzyl bromide (4.6 mL, 38.3 mmol). Benzylthiocarbohydrazide bromide was precipitated from the reaction solution with 150 mL hexanes. Silica gel chromatography (25% DCM/hexanes) yielded 3-(benzylthio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a red oil (789 mg, 3.6 mmol, 9%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7 (C), 165.4 (C), 135.8 (C), 129.4 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 34.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 3086, 3063, 3030, 2932, 2296, 1495, 1453, 1383, 1316, 1162, 1069, 883, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 219.0704; found 219.0709

# 3-((3,5-dimethoxybenzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1c)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (1.15 g, 10.8 mmol) and 3,5-Dimethoxybenzyl bromide (2.49 g, 10.8 mmol). Silica gel chromatography (0-20% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) yielded 3-((3,5-dimethoxybenzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a pink crystalline solid (305 mg, 1.1 mmol, 10%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.61 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.34 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 6H), 2.97 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.8 (C), 165.4 (C), 161.1 (C), 137.9 (C), 107.3 (CH), 100.0 (CH), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3459, 3003, 2962, 2838, 2105, 1610, 1316, 1206, 1158, 1066 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 279.0916; found 279.0922

# 4-(((6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)thio)methyl)benzonitrile (1d)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (530 mg, 5.0 mmol) and 4-(Bromomethyl)benzonitrile (980 mg, 5.0 mmol). Silica gel chromatography (25% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) yielded 4-(((6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)thio)methyl)benzonitrile as a pink crystalline solid (350 mg, 1.4 mmol, 29%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 4H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.9 (C), 165.8 (C), 141.7 (C), 132.6 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 118.6 (C), 111.8 (C), 34.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3428, 3086, 3051, 2996, 2229, 1636, 1606, 1384, 1316, 1160, 883cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+)  $[M+H]^+$  Calculated for  $C_{11}H_{10}N_5S^+$  244.0657; found 244.0661

# 3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1e)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (1.95 g, 18.4 mmol) and 4-Methoxybenzyl bromide (3.70 g, 18.4 mmol). Silica gel chromatography (0-20% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) yielded 3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a pink crystalline solid (144 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.37 (app d, *J* = 8,9 Hz, 2H), 6.88 – 6.84 (app d, *J* = 8,9 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.8 (C), 165.3 (C), 159.3 (C), 130.6 (CH), 127.6 (C), 114.2 (CH), 55.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 34.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3427, 3034, 3001, 2956, 2934, 2908, 2835, 1610, 1512, 1383, 1316, 1244, 1164, 1032, 884, 833 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ON<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 249.0810; found 249.0814

# 3-(([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylmethyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1f)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (1.07 g, 10.1 mmol) and 3-Phenylbenzyl bromide (2.49 g, 10.1 mmol). Silica gel chromatography (25-50% DCM/hexanes) yielded 3-(([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ylmethyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a pink crystalline solid (708 mg, 2.4 mmol, 24%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.70 – 7.69 (app t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.52 (app dt, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7 (C), 165.5 (C), 141.9 (C), 140.7 (C), 136.3 (C), 129.3 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 34.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3456, 3060, 3033, 2932, 1636, 1599, 1479, 1383, 1316, 1160, 1068, 884, 761, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 295.1017; found 295.1024

# 3-((4-(*tert*-butyl)benzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1g)



Prepared using Thiocarbohydrazide (1.01 g, 9.5 mmol) and 4-*tert*-Butylbenzyl bromide (1.7 mL, 9.5 mmol). ([1-*tert*-butyl-4-ylmethyl)thiocarbohydrazide bromide was precipitated from the reaction solution with 50 mL hexanes. Silica gel chromatography (40% DCM/hexanes) yielded 3-((4-(*tert*-butyl)benzyl)thio)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a red oil (727 mg, 2.7 mmol, 28%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.9 (C), 165.4 (C), 151.0 (C), 132.6 (C), 129.1 (CH), 125.8 (CH), 34.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3428, 3055, 3027, 2963, 2906, 2868, 1383, 1316, 1162, 1068, 885cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 275.1330; found 275.1336

# **General Procedure for Methyl Tetrazine Cross-coupling**



b-Tz **1a** (110 mg, 375 µmol, 1 eq.) boronic acid (713 µmol, 1.9 eq. *or* 1125 µmol, 3.0 eq., *see below*), [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (41 mg, 56 µmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (218 mg, 938 µmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (3.75 mL, 0.1M) and the flask was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 19-21h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel. Elution systems are described below. Each reaction was run in duplicate to obtain an average yield.

## 3-methyl-6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2a)



Prepared using phenylboronic acid (87 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (75% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 90% as a purple crystalline solid (run 1: 58 mg, 91%; run 2: 57 mg, 88%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.61 – 8.58 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.4 (C), 164.2 (C), 132.7 (CH), 131.9 (C), 129.4 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 3072, 2918, 2849, 1660, 1402, 1362, 890, 759, 692, 564 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 172.0827; found 173.0827

# 3-(4-butylphenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2b)



Prepared using 4-Butylphenylboronic acid (127 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (60% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 92% as a purple crystalline solid (run 1: 79 mg, 93%; run 2: 78 mg, 91%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.49 (app d, *J* = 8.3 Hz 2H), 7.40 (app d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 2.72 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.67 (app pent, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (app sext, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.1 (C), 164.3 (C), 148.3 (C), 129.5 (CH), 129.3 (C), 128.0 (CH), 35.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3455, 2950, 2927, 2862, 1962, 1606, 1403, 1361, 1088, 889, 570 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 229.1453; found 229.1456

# 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2c)



Prepared using 4-Chlorophenylboronic acid (111 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (60% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 91% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 70 mg, 91%; run 2: 70 mg, 91%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.55 (app d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (app d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.6 (C), 163.6 (C), 139.3 (C), 130.4 (C), 129.8 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3460, 3090, 2075, 1949, 1636, 1396, 1108, 1098, 889, 854, 800, 563 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 207.0437; found 207.0439

# 3-methyl-6-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2d)



Prepared using 4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenylboronic acid (136 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel plug (50% DCM/hexanes) then reverse phase C<sub>18</sub> silica gel chromatography (50-80% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) yielded an average of 61% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 56 mg, 62%; run 2: 54 mg, 60%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.14 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.0 (C), 163.4 (C), 135.2 (C, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 1.0 Hz), 134.2 (C, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.9 Hz), 128.4 (CH), 126.3 (CH, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.7 Hz), 123.8 (CF<sub>3</sub>, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 273.6 Hz), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3444, 2066, 1636, 1404, 1331, 1162, 1122, 550 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 241.0701; found 241.0698

## tert-butyl 4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)benzylcarbamate (2e)



Prepared using 4-(N-Boc-aminomethyl)phenylboronic acid (179 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel plug (0.75% acetone/DCM) then reverse phase C<sub>18</sub> silica gel chromatography (50-80% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) yielded an average of 94% as a pink powdery solid (run 1: 110 mg, 97%; run 2: 103 mg, 91%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.55 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.00 (NH, br s, 1H), 4.44 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 1.48 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.3 (C), 164.0 (C), 156.1 (C), 144.1 (C), 130.9 (C), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 80.0 (C), 44.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3349, 3004, 2977, 2931, 2248, 1696, 1612, 1521, 1405, 1365, 1272, 1250, 1167, 1089, 891, 796, 732, 562 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 302.1617; found 302.1616

# tert-butyl (3-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)carbamate (2f)



Prepared using 3-(N-Boc-amino)phenylboronic acid (169 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (0.5% acetone, 0.75% ethanol, 98.75% chloroform) yielded an average of 92% as a pink powdery solid (run 1: 98 mg, 91%; run 2: 100 mg, 93%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 9.71 (NH, s, 1H), 8.71 (app s, 1H), 8.07 (app d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (app d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 167.2 (C), 163.3 (C), 153.8 (C), 140.6 (C), 132.4 (C), 129.8 (CH), 121.8 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 116.6 (CH), 79.5 (C), 28.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3299, 3066, 2979, 2931, 1718, 1541, 1392, 1367, 1235, 1156, 688cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 288.1460; found 288.1459

# (4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)methanol (2g)



Prepared using 4-(Hydroxymethyl)phenylboronic acid (171 mg, 1125 μmol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (3% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 68% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 49 mg, 65%; run 2: 53 mg, 70%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.59 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 1.85 (br s, 1H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.4 (C), 164.1 (C), 145.7 (C), 131.1 (C), 128.3 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 64.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 2069, 1636, 1403, 1362, 1038, 562 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 203.0933; found 203.0934

#### 3-methyl-6-(o-tolyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2h)



Prepared using *o*-Tolylboronic acid (97 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (90% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 50% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 36 mg, 51%; run 2: 35 mg, 49%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 (app d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (app td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.3, 166.4, 138.6, 132.0, 131.8, 131.5, 131.0, 126.6, 21.5, 21.4

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3436, 3079, 2966, 2929, 1602, 1450, 1436, 1398, 1364, 1086, 1041, 1020, 886, 757, 722, 573, 466 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 187.0984; found 187.0986

## 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2i)



Prepared using 4-Methoxyphenylboronic acid (108 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (90% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 86% as a dark pink crystalline solid (run 1: 62 mg, 81%; run 2: 68 mg, 90%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.50 (app d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (app d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7 (C), 163.9 (C), 163.4 (C), 129.9 (CH), 124.3 (C), 114.8 (CH), 55.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 2042, 1636, 1609, 1405, 1248, 1022, 890, 843, 801, 683, 562 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 203.0933; found 203.0934

# 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2j)



Prepared using 3-Methoxyphenylboronic acid (108 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (90% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 88% as a dark pink crystalline solid (run 1: 69 mg, 91%; run 2: 65 mg, 85%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.20 (app dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 2.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.5 (C), 164.1 (C), 160.4 (C), 133.1 (C), 130.5 (CH), 120.6 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 112.2 (CH), 55.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 2958, 2041, 1636, 1597, 1220, 1022, 900, 871, 793, 691, 626, 492 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 203.0933; found 203.0934

# 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2k)



Prepared using 2-Methoxyphenylboronic acid (108 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 19% as a dark pink oil (run 1: 13 mg, 18%; run 2: 14 mg, 19%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.91 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (app td, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.11 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.3 (C), 166.0 (C), 158.3 (C), 133.2 (CH), 131.9 (CH), 122.2 (C), 121.2 (CH), 112.2 (CH), 56.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3488, 3078, 3007, 2932, 2838, 1602, 1498, 1467, 1436, 1399, 1363, 1289, 1264, 1239, 1021, 885, 756 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 203.0933; found 203.0932

# 3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2l)



Prepared using 3,4-(Methylenedioxy)phenylboronic acid (118 mg, 713 μmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (90% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 79% as a salmon colored crystalline solid (run 1: 66 mg, 81%; run 2: 63 mg, 77%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (s, 2H), 3.06 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.9 (C), 163.8 (C), 151.7 (C), 148.8 (C), 125.9 (C), 123.6 (CH), 109.2 (CH), 107.8 (CH), 102.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3456, 2361, 2337, 1659, 1395, 1247, 901, 798, 668, 629, 502 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 217.0726; found 217.0728

# 3-methyl-6-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2m)



Prepared using 3-Nitrophenylboronic acid (119 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (0.5% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 48% as a pink crystalline solid (run 1: 39 mg, 48%; run 2: 39 mg, 48%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.74 (app t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.96 – 8.93 (m, 1H), 8.49 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3 (C), 162.8 (C), 149.2 (C), 133.8 (C), 133.5 (CH), 130.6 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 123.0 (CH), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3090, 1621, 1588, 1525, 1482, 1402, 1349, 1107, 1082, 870, 826, 805, 757, 738, 683, 574 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (LIFDI) m/z Calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub> 217.0600; found 217.0593

# 3-methyl-6-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2n)



Prepared using 4-(Methanesulfonyl)phenylboronic acid (143 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% Acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 69% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 60 mg, 64%; run 2: 69 mg, 73%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.83 – 8.80 (m, 2H), 8.19 – 8.16 (m, 2H). 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.14 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.2 (C), 163.1 (C), 144.0 (C), 136.9 (C), 128.9 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 44.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3098, 3008, 2918, 1402, 1365, 1303, 1149, 1085, 968, 891, 778, 572, 545 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (LIFDI) m/z Calculated for  $C_{10}H_{10}O_2N_4S$  250.0524; found 250.0529

# 3-(3-(benzylthio)phenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (20)



Prepared using (3-(Benzylthio)phenyl)boronic acid (275 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Due to difficult separation of the resulting product **20** and unreacted b-Tz, additional reactants were added as follows to consume the remaining b-Tz: 4-Methoxyphenylboronic acid (57 mg, 375  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 eq), [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (27 mg, 38  $\mu$ mol, 0.1 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (87 mg, 375  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 eq.) stirred at 60°C for 6h. Silica gel chromatography (75% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 76% as a dark red crystalline solid (run 1: 84 mg, 77%; run 2: 83 mg, 75%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.49 – 8.48 (m, 1H), 8.34 – 8.32 (m, 1H), 7.63 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (app td, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H) 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.36 (s, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 168.53 (C), 164.30 (C), 139.29 (C), 138.17 (C), 133.97 (C), 133.10 (CH), 130.65 (CH), 129.81 (CH). 129.29 (CH), 128.06 (CH), 128.05 (CH), 125.83 (CH), 38.21 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.21 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 3077, 3028, 2919, 2850, 2361, 2337, 1455, 1394, 1359, 1302, 1076, 1067, 1031, 898, 875, 780, 714, 698, 687, 599, 470 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 295.1017; found 295.1008

# 3-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)benzonitrile (2p)



Prepared using 3-Cyanophenylboronic acid (105 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (100% DCM) yielded an average of 47% as a bright pink powdery solid (run 1: 34 mg, 46%; run 2: 35 mg, 47%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.93 (app t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (app dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (app dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.2 (C), 162.8 (C), 135.7 (CH), 133.3 (C), 131.9 (CH), 131.5 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 118.1 (C), 113.9 (C), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3445, 2228, 2066, 1636, 1400, 887, 797, 687, 521 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 198.0780; found 198.0781

# 4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)benzaldehyde (2q)



Prepared using 4-formylphenylboronic acid (169 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (0.5% acetone, 0.75% ethanol, 98.75% chloroform) yielded an average of 69% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 51 mg, 68%; run 2: 52 mg, 69%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.16 (s, 1H), 8.79 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.11 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H). Minor peaks attributable to an impurity were detected at 10.09, 8.00 and 7.81 ppm

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ191.8 (CH), 167.9 (C), 163.6 (C), 139.0 (C), 137.1 (C), 130.5 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 2855, 2073, 1684, 1636, 1396, 887, 853, 801, 566 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>9</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 201.0776; found 201.0778

# methyl 4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)benzoate (2r)



Prepared using 4-Methoxycarbonylphenylboronic acid (203 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (15% EtOAc/hexanes) yielded an average of 66% as a bright pink crystalline solid (run 1: 61 mg, 70%; run 2: 53 mg, 62%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.68 (app d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.25 (app d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.13 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.8 (C), 166.5 (C), 163.7 (C), 135.8 (C), 133.7 (C), 130.5 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 52.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3457, 2996, 2951, 2917, 2849, 1722, 1653, 1406, 1276, 1258, 1109, 768, 696, 563 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 231.0882; found 231.0884

# (4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)(phenyl)methanone (2s)



Prepared using (4-benzoylphenyl)boronic acid (254 mg, 1125 µmol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% EtOAc/DCM) yielded an average of 66% as a bright pink crystalline solid (run 1: 68 mg, 66%; run 2: 68 mg, 66%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.73 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.00 (app d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.88 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.64 (app tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.2 (C), 167.8 (C), 163.7 (C), 141.0 (C), 137.1 (C), 135.2 (C), 133.1 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3447, 2070, 1654, 1403, 894, 867, 789, 742, 700, 585, 551 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 277.1089; found 277.1093

4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)-*N*,*N*-diphenylaniline (2t)



Prepared using 4-(diphenylamino)phenyl boronic acid (325 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (70% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 46% as a reddish orange powdery solid (run 1: 61 mg, 48%; run 2: 56 mg, 44%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.40 (app d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 3.04 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.4 (C), 163.9 (C), 152.0 (C), 146.7 (C), 129.8 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 124.7 (CH), 123.8 (C), 121.1 (CH), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3462, 2065, 1636, 1591, 1488, 1403, 1364, 1331, 1283, 1177, 1086, 891, 801, 756, 697, 622, 563, 515 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 340.1562; found 340.1566

# 3-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)quinoline (2u)



Prepared using 3-Quinolineboronic acid (123 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (2% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 63% as a magenta hairy solid (run 1: 54 mg, 64%; run 2: 51 mg, 61%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.04 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 9.42 (d, *J* = 2.4, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 7.88 (app t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (app t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.9 (C), 163.4 (C), 149.9 (C), 148.7 (CH), 136.4 (CH), 132.0 (CH), 129.7 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 127.5 (C), 124.8 (C), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3454, 3058, 2922, 2362, 2337, 1615, 1598, 1497, 1401, 1320, 808, 787, 758, 650, 562, 475 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 224.0936; found 224.0938

#### 5-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)-1H-indole (2v)



Prepared using 5-Indoleboronic acid (115 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (2% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 61% as an orange hairy solid (run 1: 45 mg, 57%; run 2: 51 mg, 65%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  11.57 (NH, br s, 1H), 8.59–8.58 (m, 1H), 8.13 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (app t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.58 – 6.56 (m, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 166.4 (C), 164.3 (C), 136.1 (C), 131.0 (C), 129.2 (CH), 124.2 (C), 121.0 (CH), 117.9 (CH), 111.3 (CH), 101.8 (CH), 20.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3448, 2071, 1636, 1401, 1360, 512 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 212.0936; found 212.0938

# 4-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)morpholine (2w)



Prepared using 4-Morpholinophenylboronic Acid (233 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (3% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 58% as a dark red crystalline solid (run 1: 58 mg, 60%; run 2: 53 mg, 55%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.49 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (app t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H) 3.35 (app t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 3.04 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.3 (C), 163.9 (C), 154.1 (C), 129.5 (CH), 122.1 (C), 114.7 (CH), 66.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 47.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3428, 2988, 2953, 2926, 2868, 2853, 2361, 1923, 1611, 1415, 1267, 1118, 890, 799, 562 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ON<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 258.1355; found 258.1359

## 3-(4-(2H-1,2,3-triazol-2-yl)phenyl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2x)



Prepared using 4-(triazol-2-yl)phenylboronic acid (213 mg, 1125 µmol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% EtOAc/DCM) yielded an average of 94% as a dark pink powdery solid (run 1: 84 mg, 94%; run 2: 83 mg, 93%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.74 (app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.33 (app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.5 (C), 163.6 (C), 142.8 (C), 136.5 (CH), 130.8 (C), 129.3 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3435, 2921, 2361, 2356, 2044, 1653, 1635, 1604, 1405, 890, 856, 824, 802, 668, 566 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 240.0998; found 240.0999

# 3-methyl-6-(4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2y)



Prepared using 4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenylboronic acid (*see page S37 for synthesis*, 227 mg, 1125 µmol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel plug (2% EtOH/DCM) then reverse phase C<sub>18</sub> silica gel chromatography (20-60% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) yielded an average of 39% as a bright pink crystalline solid (run 1: 36 mg, 38%; run 2: 42 mg, 40%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.70 (app d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (app d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.5 (C), 163.9 (C), 146.7 (C), 134.4 (C), 131.8 (C), 129.3 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 35.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3445, 2989, 2949, 2066, 1636, 1477, 1407, 1277, 897, 860, 801, 710, 576 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> 253.1202; found 253.1201

# 3-(6-fluoropyridin-3-yl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2z)



Prepared using 6-Fluoro-3-pyridinylboronic acid (101 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 46% as a bright pink crystalline solid (run 1: 35 mg, 49%; run 2: 31 mg, 43%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.46 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.97 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 7.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.2 (C), 166.1 (CF, d, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 246.6 Hz), 162.4 (C), 148.5 (CH, d, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 16.4 Hz), 140.6 (CH, d, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 8.9 Hz), 126.3 (C, d, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 4.6 Hz), 110.5 (CH, d, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 37.8 Hz), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3438, 2073, 1635, 1589, 1493, 1412, 1368, 1259, 1126, 1016, 887, 848, 506, 750, 692, 635, 575 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>FN<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 192.0685; found 192.0686

## (E)-3-methyl-6-styryl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2aa)



Prepared using *trans*-2-Phenylvinylboronic acid (106 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (90% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 39% as a salmon colored crystalline solid (run 1: 27 mg, 37%; run 2: 30 mg, 41%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 3.06 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.5 (C), 164.9 (C), 141.1 (CH), 135.2 (C), 130.4 (CH), 129.2 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 120.7 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3447, 3052, 3027, 2918, 1631, 1449, 1402, 1362, 1004, 748, 687, 470 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 199.0984; found 199.0985

## 3-(furan-3-yl)-6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2ab)



Prepared using 3-Furanylboronic acid (140 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (70% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 53% as a hot pink crystalline solid (run 1: 33 mg, 55%; run 2: 31 mg, 51%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.50 (s, 1H), 7.61 (app t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz 1H), 3.05 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.1 (C), 161.8 (C), 145.8 (CH), 145.0 (CH), 121.1 (C), 108.8 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3176, 3153, 3127, 2920, 2850, 1589, 1517, 1423, 1381, 1360, 1157, 1085, 1000, 870, 801, 753, 648, 601, 515 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 163.0620; found 163.0620

# 3-methyl-6-(thiophen-3-yl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2ac)



Prepared using 3-Thienylboronic acid (144 mg, 1125 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (60% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 52% as a bright pink crystalline solid (run 1: 36 mg, 55%; run 2: 32 mg, 49%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.58 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.9 (C), 161.9 (C), 134.9 (C), 130.0 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3118, 3093, 2921, 2851, 1535, 1433, 1339, 892, 789, 662, 507 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>SN<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 179.0391; found 179.0391

#### 3-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)-9-phenyl-9H-carbazole (2ad)



Prepared using N-phenyl-9H-carbazol-3-boronic acid (323 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (80% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 39% as a salmon colored powdery solid (run 1: 51 mg, 40%; run 2: 47 mg, 37%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.43 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (app d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.35 (m, 9H), 3.09 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7 (C), 164.8 (C), 143.6 (C), 141.8 (C), 137.1 (C), 130.2 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 126.9 (CH), 125.9 (CH), 124.2 (C), 123.5 (C), 123.5 (C), 121.1 (CH), 120.0 (CH), 120.9 (CH), 110.6 (CH), 110.4 (CH), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3448, 2072, 1626, 1597, 1502, 1397, 1365, 745, 698, 625 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 338.1406; found 338.1409

*tert*-butyl 2-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)propanoate (2ae)



b-Tz **1a** (44 mg, 150 μmol, 1.0 eq.), (4-(3-(*tert*-butoxy)-2-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3oxopropyl)phenyl)boronic acid<sup>[1]</sup> (104 mg, 285 μmol, 1.9 eq), [1,1'-

bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (17 mg, 23 µmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (87 mg, 375 µmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried 4 mL glass vial equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (1.5 mL, 0.1M) and the vial was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 20h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel (90-100% DCM/hexanes, then 0-2% acetone/DCM) yielding an average of 96% as a magenta wax (run 1: 61 mg, 98%; run 2: 58 mg, 94%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, NH), 4.37 (app td, *J* = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 1.37 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.65 (C), 168.25 (C), 164.66 (C), 156.15 (C), 143.50 (C), 131.60 (C), 131.21 (CH), 128.29 (CH), 81.79 (C), 79.26 (C), 56.39 (CH), 38.34 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.49 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 28.10 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.17 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

 $[\alpha]^{24}D = +49.0^{\circ} (c = 0.11, CH_2Cl_2)$ 

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3368, 2978, 2932, 1715, 1611, 1498, 1456, 1405, 1366, 1250, 1154, 1089, 1056, 1018, 890, 846, 799, 568 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 416.2298; found 416.2287

3-methyl-6-(3-((5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-yl)oxy)phenyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2af)



Prepared using 3-([5-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-yl]oxy)phenylboronic acid (202 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (95% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 84% as a magenta oil (run 1: 105 mg, 84%; run 2: 103 mg, 83%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.52 (app dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.44 – 8.43 (m, 1H), 8.40 (app t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 2.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7 (C), 165.5 (C, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 1.1 Hz), 163.6 (C), 154.1 (C), 145.5 (CH, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 4.3 Hz), 137.1 (CH, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.2 Hz), 133.7 (C), 130.8 (CH), 125.9 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 123.7 (CF<sub>3</sub>, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 272.6 Hz), 122.1 (C, q, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 33.4 Hz), 121.1 (CH), 111.9 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3449, 3078, 2925, 2853, 2088, 1613, 1588, 1488, 1398, 1363, 1327, 1284, 1282, 1161, 1125, 1077, 1012, 919, 891, 838, 794, 689, 679 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>OF<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 334.0916; found 334.0918

(8R,9S,13S,14S)-13-methyl-3-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16octahydro-6H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17(14H)-one (2ag)



b-Tz **1a** (59 mg, 200 µmol, 1.0 eq.), estrone-boronic acid<sup>[2]</sup> (113 mg, 380 µmol, 1.9 eq), [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (22 mg, 30 µmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (116 mg, 500 µmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried 4 mL glass vial equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (2.0 mL, 0.1M) and the vial was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 20h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel (0.5% acetone, 0.75% EtOH, 98.75% chloroform) and then on reverse phase C<sub>18</sub> silica (50-90% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) yielding **2ag** as a magenta crystalline solid (42 mg, 61%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.36 – 8.33 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.11 – 3.03 (m, 5H), 2.57 – 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.44 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.22 – 1.99 (m, 4H), 1.73 – 1.47 (m, 6H), 0.94 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 220.8 (C), 167.2 (C), 164.2 (C), 145.0 (C), 137.8 (C), 129.3 (C), 128.5 (CH), 126.5 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 50.6 (CH), 48.0 (C), 44.8 (CH), 38.0 (CH), 36.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3442, 2935, 2877, 2857, 2077, 1733, 1635, 1397, 1356, 890, 805, 735, 712, 632, 590 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 349.2028; found 349.2027
#### (4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)boronic acid



To a stirred mixture of 1,4-phenylenediboronic acid (69.5 g, 0.42 mol, 1.1 eq.), 2-bromo-1methyl-1H-imidazole (61.4 g, 0.39 mol, 1.0 eq.) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (4.64 g, 4.1 mmol, 1.1 mol%) in 800 mL of toluene and 700 mL of methanol was added aq. Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (10% solution in water, 48.6 g, 0.46 mol, 1.2 eq.) at rt in one portion under nitrogen atmosphere. After the addition, the mixture was heated to reflux for 8 h. TLC (DCM/MeOH = 5:1) indicated the complete consumption of the starting material. The mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure; the residue was taken up with 1 L of MeOH, the mixture was filtered to remove inorganic salt, and the filtrate was concentrated. The crude product was re-crystallized from methanol, and then further purification by prep-HPLC in basic condition to afford (4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)boronic acid (2.6 g) as an off-purple solid and by prep-HPLC in acid condition to afford (4-(1-methyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)boronic acid (20.6 g) as a white solid, the total yield was 29%.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.40 (br s, 2H), 8.03 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H, 7.81 – 7.79 (m, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 143.9, 138.2 134.6, 128.4, 124.9, 123.8, 119.2, 35.7

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3218, 1618, 1597, 1503, 1399, 1332, 1267, 1122, 1010, 709, 683, 641 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BO<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 203.0986; found 203.0980

# 3-(methylthio)-6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (3)



Step 1: Thiocarbohydrazide (5.30 g, 50.0 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in ethanol (75 mL, 0.66 M) in a round bottom flask. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and heated to 60°C. Iodomethane (3.11 mL, 50.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added and the reaction was stirred for 22h. The flask was then cooled to r.t. and 100 mL hexanes was slowly added to precipitate a white solid. The heterogeneous solution was then filtered, and the solids were washed 3x75 mL hexanes and subsequently dried under vacuum to afford methylthiocarbohydrazide iodide as a white solid (9.89 g, 80%)

Step 2: The methylthiocarbohydrazide iodide powder (9.89 g, 39.9 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and pyridine (7.1 mL, 79.8 mmol, 2.0 eq.) were dissolved in DMF (40 mL, 1.0M) and stirred under nitrogen at 50°C. Triethyl orthobenzoate (18.0 mL, 79.8 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added dropwise over 1 h. The reaction was stirred for 24 h at 50°C to give a mixture of 1,4-dihydrotetrazine and tetrazine products.

Step 3: The tetrazine was reduced *in situ* with tributylphosphine (10.0 mL, 39.9 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and deionized water (717  $\mu$ L, 1.0 eq.) stirred for 30 minutes. The reaction was then diluted in in 500 mL DCM and washed 1x100 mL aq. sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 5x100 mL water and 1x100 mL brine. The crude 1,4-dihydrotetrazine was then preabsorbed on to silica gel, dried by rotary evaporation, and chromatographed (80% DCM/hexanes to elute triethyl orthobenzoate, then 3% MeOH/DCM to elute 1,4-dihydrotetrazine).

Step 4: The 1,4-dihydrotetrazine was dissolved in DCM (200 mL) and cooled to 0°C. (Diacetoxyiodo)benzene (12.84 g, 39.9 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added slowly and then the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude mixture was chromatographed directly (35% DCM/hexanes) yielding 3-(methylthio)-6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine as a red crystalline solid (4.65 g, 57% steps 2-4 ----- 46% over 4 steps).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.55 – 8.52 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.56 (m, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.4 (C), 162.4 (C), 132.5 (CH), 131.7 (C), 129.4 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 13.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3449, 2937, 2067, 1636, 1355, 1196, 897, 760, 694, 561 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 205.0548; found 205.0552





Tetrazine thioether **3** (77 mg, 375 µmol, 1 eq.), boronic acid (713 µmol, 1.9 eq. *or* 1125 µmol, 3.0 eq., *see below*), [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (41 mg, 56 µmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (218 mg, 938 µmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (3.75 mL, 0.1M) and the flask was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 19-21h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel. Elution systems are described below. Each reaction was run in duplicate to obtain an average yield.

# 3,6-diphenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (4a)



Prepared using phenylboronic acid (87 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (40% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 99% as a magenta crystalline solid (run 1: 87 mg, 99%; run 2: 86 mg, 98%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.68 – 8.65 (m, 4H), 7.68 – 7.60 (m, 6H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.1 (C), 132.9 (CH), 131.9 (C), 129.5 (CH), 128.1 (CH)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3440, 1635, 1456, 1393, 919, 774, 767, 689, 589 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 235.0984; found 235.0984

# 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (4b)



Prepared using 4-Chlorophenylboronic acid (111 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (40% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 91% as a magenta hairy solid (run 1: 90 mg, 89%; run 2: 93 mg, 92%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.68 – 8.64 (m, 2H), 8.63 – 8.60 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.59 (m, 5H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.5 (C), 163.5 (C), 139.4 (C), 133.0 (CH), 131.7 (C), 130.4 (C), 129.8 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 128.2 (CH)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3444, 2087, 1635, 1395, 915, 813, 756, 687, 586 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 269.0594; found 269.0598

# (4-(6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)methanol (4c)



Prepared using 4-(Hydroxymethyl)phenylboronic acid (108 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (2% acetone, 0.75% EtOH, 97.25% chloroform) yielded an average of 89% as a magenta hairy solid (run 1: 84 mg, 85%; run 2: 91 mg, 92%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.56 – 8.50 (m, 4H), 7.75 – 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.63 (app d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.45 (OH, t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 163.3 (C), 163.3 (C), 147.7 (C), 132.6 (CH), 132.0 (C), 130.2 (C), 129.5 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 62.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3439, 2072, 1636, 1394, 588 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ON<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 265.1089; found 265.1091

# *tert*-butyl (3-(6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)carbamate (4d)



Prepared using 3-(N-Boc-amino)phenylboronic acid (169 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (0.5% EtOAc, 0..75% EtOH, 98.75% chloroform) yielded an average of 92% as a pink powdery solid (run 1: 121 mg, 92%; run 2: 119 mg, 91%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.76 (NH, s, 1H), 8.80 (app s, 1H), 8.56 – 8.53 (m, 2H), 8.15 (app dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 4H), 7.57 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.52 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 163.4 (C), 163.3 (C), 152.8 (C), 140.7 (C), 132.7 (CH), 132.3 (C), 131.9 (C), 129.9 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 116.8 (CH), 79.5 (C), 28.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3445, 3343, 2987, 1697, 1639, 1593, 1532, 1388, 763, 686, 619, 551 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 350.1617; found 350.1610

# methyl 4-(6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)benzoate (4e)



Prepared using 4-Methoxycarbonylphenylboronic acid (203 mg, 1125  $\mu$ mol, 3.0 eq). Silica gel chromatography (85% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 76% as a purple crystalline solid (run 1: 86 mg, 78%; run 2: 81 mg, 74%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.76 – 8.73 (m, 2H), 8.69 – 8.66 (m, 2H), 8.30 – 8.27 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.61 (m, 3H), 3.99 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.5 (C), 164.2 (C), 163.6 (C), 135.8 (C), 133.7 (C), 133.2 (CH), 131.6 (C), 130.6 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 52.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3444, 2077, 1704, 1636, 1396, 1280, 774, 688, 686, 591 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 293.1039; found 293.1038

## 5-(6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)-1H-indole (4f)



Prepared using 5-Indoleboronic acid (123 mg, 713  $\mu$ mol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (1% acetone/DCM) yielded an average of 49% as an orange powdery solid (run 1: 46 mg, 45%; run 2: 54 mg, 52%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.65 (NH, br s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.54 – 8.52 (m, 2H), 8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.60 – 6.59 (m, 1H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 164.4 (C), 162.9 (C), 136.1 (C), 132.3 (CH), 132.1 (C), 131.3 (C), 129.5 (CH), 127.3 (2 x CH), 124.1 (C), 121.1 (CH), 118.1 (CH), 111.6 (CH), 101.9 (CH)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3439, 2072, 1636, 1393, 568 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 274.1093; found 274.1093

# 3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-6-phenyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (4g)



Prepared using 3,4-(Methylenedioxy)phenylboronic acid (118 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq). Silica gel chromatography (50% DCM/hexanes) yielded an average of 88% as a dark salmon colored hairy solid (run 1: 90 mg, 86%; run 2: 94 mg, 90%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.65 – 8.61 (m, 2H), 8.29 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.7 (C), 163.6 (C), 151.8 (C), 148.9 (C), 132.6 (CH), 132.0 (C), 129.4 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 125.9 (C), 123.8 (CH), 109.3 (CH), 107.8 (CH), 102.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3446, 2074, 1636, 1388, 1110, 922, 877, 818, 688, 633, 561 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 279.0882; found 279.0885

### 3-BODIPY-6-methyltetrazine (6) synthesis (2 steps)



# 10-(4-boronophenyl)-5,5-difluoro-1,3,7,9-tetramethyl-5H-dipyrrolo[1,2-c:2',1'f][1,3,2]diazaborinin-4-ium-5-uide (5)

4-Formylphenylboronic acid (1.95 g, 13.0 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and 2,4-dimethyl-pyrole (2.81 mL, 27.3 mmol, 2.10 eq.) were dissolved in THF (120 mL) and stirred under nitrogen at room temperature. Trifluoroacetic acid (0.40 mL, 5.20 mmol, 0.40 eq.) was added dropwise and the reaction was stirred until the aldehyde was fully consumed by TLC (1 h). 2,3-Dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (2.95 g, 13.0 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was added to the reaction and stirred for 16 h. Boron trifluoride diethyl etherate (16.0 mL, 130 mmol, 10.0 eq.) and N,N-Diisopropylethylamine (15.8 mL, 91.0 mmol, 7 eq.) were then added and the reaction was stirred a further 6 h. The organics were washed with 3x250 mL water and 2x25 mL brine. The organic phase was then dried on MgSO4, filtered, and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude material was then dissolved in a minimal amount of hot 10% MeOH/DCM (~30 mL) after which hexanes (~500 mL) were slowly added to precipitate red/black impurities. The mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated by rotary evaporation. Silica gel chromatography (80% DCM, 19% EtOAc, 1% MeOH) yielded **5** as a dark orange crystalline solid (574 mg, 12%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.41 (app d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 2.58 (s, 6H), 1.40 (s, 6H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.9 (C), 143.1 (C), 141.2 (C), 139.9 (C), 136.5 (CH), 131.2 (C), 130.6 (C), 128.0 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 14.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3738, 3564, 2957, 2925, 1543, 1508, 1469, 1398, 1306, 1194, 1157, 979, 836, 719, 478 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> 369.1757; found 369.1754

# 5,5-difluoro-1,3,7,9-tetramethyl-10-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-5Hdipyrrolo[1,2-c:2',1'-f][1,3,2]diazaborinin-4-ium-5-uide (6)

b-Tz **1a** (run 1: 110.3 mg, 375 µmol, 1.0 eq.; run 2: 75.7 mg, 257 µmol, 1.0 eq.), **5** (run 1: 262 mg, 713 µmol, 1.9 eq.; run 2: 180 mg, 489 µmol, 1.9 eq.), [1,1'bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (run 1: 41 mg, 56 µmol, 0.15 eq.; run 2: 28 mg, 39 µmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (run 1: 218 mg, 938 µmol, 2.5 eq.; run 2: 149 mg, 643 µmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried 4 mL glass vial equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (0.1M) and the vial was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 20h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel (90% DCM/hexanes) yielding an average of 78% as a red/orange iridescent solid (run 1: 123 mg, 79%; run 2: 81 mg, 76%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.75 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 6H), 1.45 (s, 6H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.7 (C), 163.8 (C), 156.2 (C), 143.0 (C), 140.3 (C), 139.6 (C), 132.7 (C), 131.1 (C), 129.4 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 121.7 (CH), 21.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.8 (4 x CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3431, 2963, 2926, 2855, 1546, 1512, 1403, 1308, 1194, 1157, 1084, 982, 711, 477 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BF<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> 419.1967; found 419.1962

*tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate



To a sealed tube was added Pd(dppf)Cl<sub>2</sub> (486 mg, 0.665 mmol, 0.3 eq.), Bis(pinacolato)diboron (1120 mg, 4.43 mmol, 2.0 eq.), potassium acetate (652 mg, 6.65 mmol, 3.0 eq.)), and *tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1carboxylate<sup>[3]</sup> (900 mg, 2.22mmol, 1.0 eq.)) and degassed 1,4-dioxane (10 mL ) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 25 °C. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 100 °C for 18 h. The mixture was cooled to r.t. and diluted with EtOAc (150 mL). Then the mixture was washed with 1x100 mL water and 1x100 mL brine. The organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatograph (40 g silica gel column, petroleum ether/ EtOAc with EtOAc from 0-30%) to afford the crude product which was triturated with n-hextane (0°C, 30 mL) to afford the *tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(4,4,5,5tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate as pale yellow solid (530 mg, 53%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.88 – 7.85 (m, 3H), 7.66 (app d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (app d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 2H), 2.96 – 2.85 (m, 3H), 1.99 (app d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 1.36 (s, 12H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 158.5, 155.0, 142.3, 136.2, 127.5, 117.8, 105.2, 84.1, 79.5, 44.0, 36.0, 32.1, 28.6, 25.0 --- Carbon directly attached to boron not observed

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 2976, 2932, 1685, 1607, 1356, 1232, 1165, 1143, 1092, 946, 858, 733, 653 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>37</sub>BO<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> 454.2872; found 454.2857

(4-(3-(1-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)piperidin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)boronic acid (7)



*tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (297 mg, 0.66 mmol, 1.00 eq.), ammonium acetate (303 mg, 3.93 mmol, 6.00 eq.) and sodium periodate (842 mg, 3.93 mmol, 6.00 eq.) was stirred in a mixture of 5:2 acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (33 mL) at room temperature for 66 h. The acetone was removed by rotary evaporation and the aqueous phase was extracted with 3x25 mL DCM and washed with 1x25 mL aq. sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and 1x25 mL brine. The organics were dried on MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. Silica gel chromatography (3% MeOH/DCM) yielded (4-(3-(1-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)piperidin-4-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)boronic acid as a flakey white solid (214 mg, 88%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d<sub>4</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.61 (m, 4H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 3.28 – 3.26 (m, 2H), 2.89 (tt, *J* = 11.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (app dd, *J* = 14.0, 3.6 Hz, 2H), 1.67 – 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H) --- B(OH)<sub>2</sub> not observed due to solvent exchange

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> + D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 157.9 (C), 154.3 (C), 141.2 (C), 135.7 (CH), 131.3 (weak, CB), 128.5 (CH), 117.0 (CH), 105.8 (CH), 79.0 (C), 44.2 (br, CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.2 (br, CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.2 (CH), 31.7 (br, 2 x CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3426, 2979, 2940, 2858, 2079, 1658, 1606, 1367, 1165, 737, 645, 544 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>BO<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> 372.2095; found 372.2088

*tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (8)



b-Tz **1a** (29 mg, 100 μmol, 1.0 eq.) (4-(3-(1-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)piperidin-4-yl)-1Hpyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)boronic acid **7** (71 mg, 190 μmol, 1.9 eq), [1,1'bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) (11 mg, 15.0 μmol, 0.15 eq.) and silver(I) oxide (58 mg, 250 μmol, 2.5 eq.) were added to a vacuum dried 4 mL glass vial equipped with a stir bar. The solids were dissolved/suspended as a heterogeneous slurry with N,N-Dimethylformamide (1.0 mL, 0.1M) and the vial was flushed with nitrogen and sealed. The reaction was stirred at 60°C for 20h, then brought to room temperature and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed directly on silica gel (5% acetone/DCM) yielding *tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate as a bright pink powder (32 mg, 77%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 – 8.67 (app d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.89 (app d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24-4.16 (m, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.99 – 2.87 (m, 3H), 2.05-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.48 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.3 (C), 163.6 (C), 159.2 (C), 155.0 (C), 143.3 (C), 129.4 (CH), 129.1 (C), 127.5 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 106.1 (CH), 79.6 (C), 44.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.0 (CH), 31.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3470, 1326, 3109, 3005, 2977, 2937, 2850, 2246, 1676, 1605, 1533, 1408, 1366, 1181, 768, 722, 568 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 422.2304; found 422.2305

# 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-yl 4-(1-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (9)



Step 1: *tert*-butyl 4-(1-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate **8** (30 mg, 71.6  $\mu$ mol, 1.0 eq.) and trifluoroacetic acid (82  $\mu$ L, 1.07 mmol, 15.0 eq.) were stirred in dichloromethane (1.4 mL) for 2h at room temperature. The solvent and *tert*-butanol biproduct was then removed by rotary evaporation leaving the Boc-deprotected reagent.

Step 2: Separately, triphosgene (21 mg, 71.6 μmol, 1.0 eq.) and dichloromethane (630 μL) were stirred at 0°C under a nitrogen line equipped with an in-line column filled with powdered potassium hydroxide. A solution of 1,1,1,3',3',3'-hexafluoro-propanol (23 μL, 215 μmol, 3.0 eq.) and N,N-Diisopropylethylamine (149 μL, 859 μmol, 12.0 eq.) in dichloromethane (315 μL) was then dropwise added to the triphosgene solution. The reaction was stirred for 30min at 0°C, then 2h at room temperature. The solution turns a golden yellow color. The Boc-deprotected reagent was redissolved in dichloromethane (490 μL) and added to the triphosgene reaction which was then stirred for 16h. The reaction was diluted in 30 mL dichloromethane and washed with 2x10 mL H<sub>2</sub>O and 1x10 mL brine. The remaining solution was dried on MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude solids were chromatographed on silica gel (2% acetone/DCM) yielding 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-yl 4-(1-(4-(6-methyl-1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate as a light pink powder. (29 mg, 78%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.70 (app d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (app d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (hept, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.30 – 4.22 (m, 2H), 3.22 – 3.01 (m, 6H), 2.16 – 2.11 (m, 2H), 1.89 – 1.75 (m, 2H)

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -73.62 (d, *J*<sub>*F*-*H*</sub> = 6.0 Hz)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.3 (C), 163.6 (C), 158.1 (C), 151.6 (C), 143.2 (C), 129.4 (CH), 129.3 (C), 120.9 (CF<sub>3</sub>, q, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 283.7 Hz), 119.0 (CH), 106.0 (CH), 68.2 (CH, hept, *J*<sub>*C*-*F*</sub> = 34.5 Hz), 45.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 44.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.5 (CH), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>)

FTIR (KBr, thin film) 3435, 2968, 2926, 2854, 1726, 1657, 1606, 1534, 1438, 1409, 1388, 1280, 1250, 1190, 1106, 892, 801, 755, 688, 564 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### HRMS (ESI+) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calculated for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 516.1583; found 516.1601

## Effect of Unprotected Heteroatoms on Cross-coupling Yields

Using standard cross-coupling conditions for the synthesis of **2i**, the following additives were included to test the effect of unprotected heteroatoms on overall yield: ethylene glycol (63  $\mu$ L, 3.0 eq.), ethanolamine (68  $\mu$ L, 3.0 eq.), or mercaptoethanol (79  $\mu$ L, 3.0 eq.). Alcohol has little effect on overall yield. Decomposition of b-Tz was observed with ethanolamine. Conversely, mercaptoethanol does not decompose b-Tz, but likely poisons the Pd-catalyst and/or Ag-mediator.





Stopped-flow Kinetics of Compound 9 Versus 10



0.1 mM solutions (10 mL) in methanol were prepared from stock solutions of **9** (16.3 mg in 632  $\mu$ L DMF, 50 mM) and **10** (10.0 mg in 422  $\mu$ L MeOH, 100 mM). A 1.0 mM solution (25 mL) in methanol of axial 5-hydroxy-*trans*-cyclooctene **11** was also prepared from a stock solution (29.0 mg in 460  $\mu$ L MeOH, 500 mM). The reaction between tetrazine and a *trans*-cyclooctene was measured under pseudo-first order conditions using a SX 18MV-R stopped-flow spectrophotometer (Applied Photophysics Ltd.). The 0.1 mM solution of tetrazines **9** or **10** and the 1.0 mM solution of *trans*-cyclooctene **11** were injected as equal volumes via syringe into the stopped-flow instrument which was held at 25°C, resulting

in a final concentration of the tetrazine of 0.05 mM and a final concentration of the transcyclooctene of 0.5 mM. The reaction was monitored by the absorbance decay of tetrazine measured at 290 nm. Data points were collected every 0.1 second for 400 seconds and reaction was repeated in triplicate. Prism software was used to obtain the observed rate of each reaction,  $k_{obs}$ , which was determined by nonlinear regression analysis resulting in average rate constants of 0.01033 s<sup>-1</sup> for **9** and 0.00975 s<sup>-1</sup> for **10**. The relative rate,  $k_{rel}$ , of **9** versus **10** was thus determined to be 1.06.



#### **Relative Rates of Methyl Tetrazines 9 and 10**

**Figure S-20:** Psuedo-first order stopped-flow kinetics of the tetrazine ligation between axial 5-hydroxy-*trans*-cyclooctene **11** and tetrazines **9** or **10**. Three trials were run for each tetrazine and the average was computed with Prism software (blue and green curves). The best fit curve was also computed (red curve)

#### MAGL Protein Assay Using Compound 9

**Materials.** Tetrazine amine was purchased from Click Chemistry Tools. TCO-TAMRA were synthesized according to literature protocol<sup>[4]</sup>. Human brain vascular pericytes and pericyte growth supplement were purchased from ScienCell Research Laboratories. Phosphate-based saline (PBS) was purchased from Mediatech, Inc.. Media and other supplements for cell culture were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific unless otherwise noted. For cell treatments, all reagents were prepared as 1000x stock solutions in DMSO and stored at -80°C.

Cell culture and probe treatment. Human brain vascular pericytes were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium/Nutrient Mixture F-12 (DMEM/F-12) GlutaMAX media supplemented with 5% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (HI FBS), 1x pericyte growth supplement (PGS), and 1x penicillin-streptomycin at 37 °C with 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in a humidified environment. Probe treatment was performed in duplicates. Cells were plated in 6-well plates and cultured overnight in growth media. Live cells were then treated with 300 nM KML29 as a competitor compound (or DMSO as a control) at 37 °C for 1 h. Cells were subsequently treated with probe 9 (0.3 nM – 3.2  $\mu$ M) at 37 °C for 1 h (cells pre-treated with KML29 were treated with 32 nM of probe 9), after which the cells were washed with fresh growth media. The media were then placed with fresh media containing 2 µM of TCO-TAMRA, and the cells were incubated at 37 °C for 30 min. To quench the reaction, the media were replaced with PBS containing 100 µM tetrazine amine, and the cells were washed with cold PBS and harvested with a scrapper. The suspensions were centrifuged at 10,000xg for 1 min at 37 °C, and the cell pellets were lysed in PBS containing 0.25% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) with sonication. The protein concentration was measured with a bicinchoninic acid (BCA) assay kit (Thermo Scientific) and normalized.

**In-gel fluorescence and data analysis.** The proteomes were analyzed with 1.0 mm thick 4-12% bis-tris 15-well protein gels in 2-(*N*-morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid (MES) buffer. The gels were scanned with a Typhoon FLA 9500 Biomolecular Imager (GE Healthcare) with the TAMRA channel with 532 nm excitation and a 575 nm long pass emission filter. To measure the total protein loading, the gels were treated with ClearPage Instant Blue (CBS Scientific) overnight, and after brief destaining with water, scanned with an Odyssey Imager (Li-COR) at the 700 nm channel. The in-gel fluorescence images were processed with ImageJ software (v1.47, NIH), and the intensities were quantified with Image Studio (v5.2, Li-COR) with background subtraction. The coomassie images were processed and quantified with the Image Studio software with background subtraction. For analysis of the cellular potency, the in-gel fluorescence intensities of the two MAGL bands were averaged, normalized with the total coomassie intensity of the corresponding sample, and fitted with a dose-response equation with Prism v7.02 (GraphPad).



Figure S-21: Coomassie staining of total proteins for gels shown in Figure 7C.



TCO-TAMRA



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S69










S74



S75

































S91









S95



































































































S145

















S153













![](_page_159_Figure_0.jpeg)

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S163

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![](_page_164_Figure_0.jpeg)