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# A rapid and efficient entry to synthesis of quino and chromenocarbazoles via Ullmann–Goldberg condensation

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#### ARTICLE INFO

#### ABSTRACT

Article history: Received 27 January 2009 Received in revised form 11 May 2009 Accepted 22 May 2009 Available online 28 May 2009 An efficient two-step method for the preparation of quino and chromenocarbazoles via Ullmann–Goldberg condensation of 3-aminocarbazole and 3-hydroxy-9-ethylcarbazole with *o*-halobenzoic acids followed by cyclization with POCl<sub>3</sub> has been described.

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#### 1. Introduction

Aryl and heteroarylcarbazoles are important classes of biologically active compounds that include notable alkaloids of pharmaceutical interest<sup>1</sup> are heteroaryl annulated derivatives of carbazole. It is well established that the pyridocarbazole ring system is an appropriate skeleton to design DNA intercalating drugs.<sup>2</sup> For example, ellipticine<sup>3</sup> and its natural analogues have received a vast amount of attention because of their anticancer properties due to the interaction with DNA. Pyranocarbazole alkaloids<sup>4</sup> such as glycoborinine and euchrestifoline are an important class of compounds and glycoborinine, isolated from *Glycosmis arborea*, applied against fever, liver complaints, and certain other diseases.<sup>5</sup>

As a result of their significant potential as therapeutics, interest has grown in the development of methods for the efficient and rapid synthesis of the derivatives of pyrido and pyranocarbazoles especially because the current methods, which involve multi-step reactions, lower yields, longer reaction times, and high cost of palladium,<sup>1b,3b,i,k</sup> are unsatisfactory. Herein, therefore, we described a simple, economical, and effective two-step procedure for the synthesis of quino and chromenocarbazoles based on C–N and C–O bond formation through Ullmann–Goldberg condensation<sup>6</sup> followed by intramolecular Friedel–Crafts<sup>7</sup> cyclization with POCl<sub>3</sub>. Since the starting materials *o*-halobenzoic acids can be readily prepared by diazotization of anthranilic acid<sup>8</sup> derivatives and the reagents Cul and POCl<sub>3</sub> are relatively cheap, our synthetic methodology for the preparation of quino and chromenocarbazoles is simple and efficient.

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#### 2. Results and discussion

As shown in Scheme 1, we have carried out the condensation of 3-amino-9-ethylcarbazole **1** with various *o*-iodobenzoic acids **2a–e** in presence of CuI (0.1 equiv) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.0 equiv) without any ligand in DMSO at 80 °C. The reaction also works with 3-amino-carbazole and the corresponding product **3a** is obtained in 71% yield. Facile reaction without any ligand is due to the activation of halogens with the *ortho* carboxylic group.<sup>9</sup> In the absence of CuI, no condensation was observed. Outcome of the condensations is presented in Table 1. The structure of **3b** was also confirmed by the single crystal X-ray analysis<sup>10</sup> and Figure 1 shows the ORTEP diagram of **3b**. Due to the activation of the strong electron-with-drawing nitro group, the time required for the formation of **3e** was comparatively reduced to half of the other iodobenzoic acids. Since the order for ease of halogen displacement follows as I>Br>Cl, 2-bromobenzoic acid has required longer reaction time.

Interestingly, diazocarbazole was obtained as a by product (<5%) during the coupling between 3-amino-9-ethylcarbazole and *o*-halobenzoic acids. The structure of diazocarbazole was also confirmed by single crystal X-ray analysis.<sup>10</sup> The aerobic oxidation of Cul produces the active Cu(II) species, which oxidizes the aminocarbazole to the corresponding diazocarbazole.<sup>11</sup>

The products 3a-e were subjected to cyclization with POCl<sub>3</sub> as shown in Scheme 1. At 60 °C, 3a undergoes facile cyclization to give



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Scheme 1. Synthesis of quinocarbazoles.

**Table 1**Synthesis of quinocarbazoles

S. no.	R	R <sub>1</sub>	х	Condensed product	Time (h)	Yield (%)	Cyclized product	Time (h)	Yield (%)
1	Н	Н	Ι	3a	1	73	4a	1	71
							5a	1	73
							6a	1	10
2	Et	Н	Ι	3b	1	73	4b	1	76
							5b	1	78
							6b	1	12
3	Et	Cl	Ι	3c	1	72	4c	1	73
							5c	1	74
							6c	1	14
4	Et	Br	Ι	3d	1	70	4d	1	72
							5d	1	75
							6d	1	13
5	Et	$NO_2$	Ι	3e	0.5	74	4e	1	75
							5e	1	75
							6e	1	12
6	Et	Н	Br	3a	3	64	4a	1	76
							5a	1	78
							6a	1	12

the corresponding product **4a** in good yield. The reaction works well for other substituted *o*-halobenzoic acids (Scheme 1 and Table 1). The structure of **4c** was also confirmed by the single crystal X-ray analysis<sup>10</sup> (see Fig. 2). When the reaction was performed at 120 °C, two regioisomeric quinocarbazoles were formed. Compounds **5a–e** were formed as a major products along with minor



Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of 3b.

products **6a**–**e** (Scheme 1). These two isomers have been identified from <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum. The presence of two singlets at  $\delta$  8.85 and 7.96 ppm differentiate the regioisomer **6c** from the other regioisomer **5c** in which two doublets are present in the same region. The structures of these two isomers were also confirmed by the single crystal X-ray analysis<sup>10</sup> (see Fig. 2).

The same method was successfully extended to 3-hydroxy-9ethylcarbazole. 3-Hydroxy-9-ethylcarbazole **7** condensed with *o*halobenzoic acids to provide the corresponding products **8a–d** in good yield and the results were summarized in Table 2. As shown in Scheme 2, the condensed products **8a–d** underwent cyclization to the corresponding chromenocarbazoles after treating with excess of POCl<sub>3</sub>. In this case, only one regioisomer **9a–d** was formed at 60 °C. The structure of **9a** was also confirmed by single crystal X-ray analysis<sup>10</sup> as shown in Figure 3.

#### 3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have developed a new, fast, and efficient route to the synthesis of quino and chromenocarbazoles via Ullmann– Goldberg condensation followed by intramolecular Friedel–Crafts cyclization with POCl<sub>3</sub>.

#### 4. Experimental

#### 4.1. General

The procedure does not require inert atmosphere. All the products obtained were purified by column chromatography using silica gel (100–200 mesh). Hexane was used as a co-eluent. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were recorded in Brucker 400 and 100 MHz spectrometers, respectively. The chemical shifts are reported in parts per million downfield to TMS ( $\delta$ =0) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and relative to the central CDCl<sub>3</sub> resonance ( $\delta$ =77.0) for <sup>13</sup>C NMR. We have observed that the compounds **5a**– and **6a**– were converting to their corresponding keto compounds **4a**– in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. This may be due to the presence of moisture in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. So, later we have recorded <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of the compounds **4a–e** and **6a**– in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. LC–MS was used for the mass spectral analysis. IR spectra were recorded on a FT-IR spectrometer using KBr pellets. Elemental analysis was carried out in CHN analyzer EA 1112, Thermo Finnigan. Elemental



Figure 2. ORTEP diagrams of 4c, 5c, and 6c.

Table 2	
Synthesis of chromenocarbazoles	

S. no.	R	Х	Condensed product	Time (h)	Yield (%)	Cyclized product	Time (h)	Yiel (%)
1	Н	Ι	8a	8	70	9a	2	73
2	Cl	Ι	8b	8	74	9b	2	75
3	Br	Ι	8c	8	72	9c	2	73
4	$NO_2$	Ι	8d	6	77	9d	2	71
5	Н	Br	8a	10	61	9a	2	73

analysis was carried out at elemental analysis lab in School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad. Melting points were measured in open capillary tubes and are uncorrected.

#### 4.2. Preparation of 2-(9H-carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (3a)

A mixture of 3-amino-9*H*-carbazole (0.20 g, 1.0 mmol), 2-iodobenzoic acid (0.25 g, 1.0 mmol), Cul (19 mg, 0.1 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.276 g, 2 mmol) in DMSO was heated at 80 °C for 1 h. Then the reaction mixture was poured in water and extracted with ethylacetate (3×20 mL). Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude material was purified by column chromatography (15% ethylacetate/hexane). *R*<sub>f</sub> (30% ethylacetate/hexane)



Figure 3. ORTEP diagram of 9a.

0.40. Mp 163–164 °C; IR (KBr): 3387, 1649, 1575, 1493, 1238, 1126, 748 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.86 (1H, s), 8.19 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 8.13 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.01 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.78 (1H, t, *J*=6.0 Hz), 7.64 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.48 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.37 (1H, t,



Scheme 2. Synthesis of chromenocarbazoles.

*J*=8.0 Hz), 7.27–7.24 (2H, m), 7.06 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 6.99 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 168.8, 144.6, 142.9, 141.1, 135.9, 134.3, 132.8, 130.9, 130.2, 129.5, 128.8, 127.5, 123.0, 121.7, 120.8, 119.9, 117.1, 110.2, 109.1; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=303 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.48; H, 4.67; N, 9.27%. Found: C, 75.52; H, 4.61; N, 9.32%.

#### 4.3. 2-(9-Ethyl-9H-carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (3b)

Mp 173–174 °C; IR (KBr): 3343, 2986, 1666, 1580, 1447, 1242, 1159, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.63 (1H, br s), 8.13 (1H, d, *J*=7.6 Hz), 8.04 (1H, s), 7.87 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.62–7.57 (2H, m), 7.43 (1H, t, *J*=7.6 Hz), 7.35–7.27 (2H, m), 7.15 (1H, t, *J*=7.6 Hz), 6.94 (1H, d, *J*=8.4 Hz), 6.66 (1H, t, *J*=7.6 Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.31 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 170.7, 150.2, 140.5, 137.5, 134.7, 132.2, 132.0, 126.3, 123.8, 123.4, 122.4, 121.1, 119.0, 116.7, 116.4, 113.2, 111.4, 110.2, 109.5, 37.5, 14.1; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=331 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode; Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.34; H, 5.49; N, 8.48%. Found: C, 76.18; H, 5.45; N, 8.37%.

#### 4.4. 5-Chloro-2-(9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (3c)

Mp 227–229 °C; IR (KBr): 3341, 2967, 1668, 1572, 1435, 1227, 1140, 816, 717 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 9.27 (1H, s), 7.62 (1H, d, *J*=7.6 Hz), 7.55–7.53 (2H, m), 7.08–7.02 (3H, m), 6.94–6.92 (1H, m), 6.81–6.75 (2H, m), 6.57 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 3.96 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.02 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 172.0, 151.3, 142.6, 139.8, 136.0, 134.4, 133.8, 133.4, 128.3, 126.0, 125.7, 124.6, 122.7, 121.1, 119.0, 117.0, 114.4, 111.6, 111.0, 39.8, 16.1; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=364.5 (M), 366.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.14; H, 4.70; N, 7.68%. Found: C, 69.14; H, 4.72; N, 7.93%.

#### 4.5. 5-Bromo-2-(9-ethyl-9*H*-carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (3d)

Mp 181–183 °C; IR (KBr): 3343, 2920, 1667, 1611, 1568, 1493, 1377, 1229, 814, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 8.09 (1H, s), 7.99 (1H, s), 7.55 (2H, d, *J*=5.2 Hz), 7.42 (2H, s), 7.28 (2H, s), 7.13 (2H, s), 7.01 (2H, s), 4.40 (2H, s, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.29 (3H, m, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 169.9, 149.1, 140.3, 137.6, 133.7, 131.6, 131.2, 125.9, 123.8, 123.5, 122.4, 120.4, 119.9, 118.7, 116.9, 114.6, 112.0, 109.1, 108.6, 37.6, 13.8; LC-MS: *m*/*z*=408 (M), 410 (M+2); Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.63; H, 4.19; N, 6.84%. Found: C, 61.67; H, 4.18; N, 6.82%.

#### 4.6. 5-Nitro-2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (3e)

Mp 177–178 °C; IR (KBr): 3478, 2974, 2924, 1717, 1589, 1522, 1492, 1319, 1231, 1146, 928, 802 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 10.45 (1H, s), 8.77 (1H, s), 7.98–7.94 (4H, m), 7.49 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.30 (2H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.14 (2H, s), 6.89 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 4.36 (2H, q, *J*=6.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.37 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>+DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 169.5, 148.8, 140.1, 137.3, 133.5, 131.4, 130.9, 125.8, 123.5, 123.2, 122.1, 120.2, 119.5, 118.6, 116.5, 114.5, 111.9, 109.1, 108.6, 37.3, 13.6; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=376 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode; Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 67.19; H, 4.56; N, 11.19%. Found: C, 67.21; H, 4.52; N, 11.32%.

#### 4.7. Preparation of 8,13-dihydro-5*H*-indolo[3,2-*a*]acridin-13one (4a) and 13-chloro-8*H*-indolo[3,2-*a*]acridine (5a)

2-(9H-Carbazolylamino)benzoic acid (0.3 g, 1.0 mmol) in POCl<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) was heated for 1 h at 60 °C. Then the reaction mixture was

poured onto the crushed ice and then neutralized with 10% aq NaOH solution. Then it was extracted with dichloromethane (3×10 mL) and the solvent was evaporated and the crude material was purified by column chromatography (30% ethylacetate/hexane) to obtain the pure product **4a**.  $R_f$  (40% ethylacetate/hexane) 0.50. When the reaction was performed at 120 °C, **5a** and **6a** were obtained in major and minor quantities, respectively. Compounds **5a** and **6a** were purified by column chromatography (5% ethylacetate/hexane) 0.43.

#### 4.8. 8,13-Dihydro-5*H*-indolo[3,2-*a*]acridin-13-one (4a)

Mp 296–298 °C; IR (KBr): 3395, 2067, 1747, 1581, 1469, 1261, 1099, 804 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 11.81 (1H, s, NH), 11.71 (1H, s, NH), 9.81 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.38 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.00 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.69–7.63 (2H, m), 7.58–7.51 (2H, m), 7.38 (1H, t, *J*=6.0 Hz), 7.25 (1H, t, *J*=6.0 Hz), 7.15 (1H, t, *J*=6.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 177.7, 140.4, 139.9, 137.9, 135.2, 132.6, 128.6, 126.6, 125.6, 123.6, 121.8, 120.9, 119.6, 118.2, 117.9, 117.2, 117.1, 116.6, 111.1; LC–MS: m/z=285 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 80.27; H, 4.25; N, 9.85%. Found: C, 80.15; H, 4.29; N, 9.96%.

#### 4.9. 8-Ethyl-8,13-dihydro-5*H*-indolo[3,2-*a*]acridin-13-one (4b)

Mp 277–278 °C; IR (KBr): 3266, 2930, 2072, 1738, 1584, 1474, 1150, 804, 557 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 12.15 (1H, s, NH), 9.89 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.38 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.18 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.76 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.69 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.65–7.61 (2H, m), 7.46 (1H, t, *J*=7.3 Hz), 7.26 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.19 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz) 4.56 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.32 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 180.1, 142.6, 142.5, 140.6, 137.4, 135.4, 131.5, 129.1, 128.4, 125.8, 124.3, 123.6, 120.9, 120.4, 120.2, 119.8, 119.6, 119.4, 111.7, 39.9, 17.0; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=313 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 80.75; H, 5.16; N, 8.97%. Found: C, 80.61; H, 5.14; N, 9.00%.

#### 4.10. 2-Chloro-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydro-5*H*-indolo-[3,2-*a*]acridin-13-one (4c)

Mp 315–317 °C; IR (KBr): 3439, 2971, 2928, 1632, 1557, 1474, 1321, 1024, 812 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 12.35 (1H, s, NH), 9.84 (1H, d, *J*=8.4 Hz), 8.30 (1H, s), 8.20 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.76 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.72–7.63 (3H, m), 7.46 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.20 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 4.56 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.31 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 176.4, 140.0, 138.5, 137.9, 135.0, 132.8, 128.8, 126.0, 125.4, 125.3, 124.1, 123.1, 122.4, 119.8, 118.5, 117.9, 117.6, 116.9, 109.2, 37.4, 14.5; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=346.5 (M), 348.5 (M+2); Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O, C, 72.73; H, 4.36; N, 8.08%. Found: C, 72.69; H, 4.40; N, 8.10%.

#### 4.11. 2-Bromo-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydro-5*H*-indolo-[3,2-*a*]acridin-13-one (4d)

Mp 301–302 °C; IR (KBr): 3271, 2967, 2924, 2864, 1628, 1578, 1557, 1022, 812 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 12.35 (1H, s, NH), 9.84 (1H, d, *J*=8.4 Hz), 8.45 (1H, d, *J*=2.4 Hz), 8.19 (1H, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.82–7.75 (2H, m), 7.64–7.61 (2H, m), 7.46 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.20 (1H, t, *J*=7.8 Hz), 4.55 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.31 (3H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 178.9, 142.6, 141.3, 140.5, 137.9, 137.6, 131.3, 131.1, 128.6, 125.6, 125.5, 122.5, 121.1, 120.5, 120.3, 119.6, 119.0, 115.7, 111.8, 39.9, 17.0; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=390 (M), 392 (M+2); Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O: C, 64.46; H, 3.86; N, 7.16%. Found: C, 64.41; H, 3.84; N, 7.20%.

### 4.12. 2-Nitro-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydro-5*H*-indolo[3,2-*a*]-acridin-13-one (4e)

Mp 320–322 °C; IR (KBr): 3418, 2924, 2857, 1616, 1555, 1516, 1460, 1331, 723 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 12.61 (1H, s, NH), 9.79 (1H, d, *J*=12.0 Hz), 9.12 (1H, s), 8.38 (1H, dd, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.24 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.76 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.71–7.66 (2H, m), 7.50 (1H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.23 (1H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz), 4.57 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.33 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 179.8, 145.9, 143.4, 142.9, 140.0, 138.4, 131.2, 129.3, 126.6, 125.4, 122.8, 121.3, 120.8, 120.5, 119.6, 119.0, 117.3, 114.7, 111.9; 40.0, 17.0; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=356 (M–H<sup>+</sup>), negative mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 70.58; H, 4.23; N, 11.76%. Found: C, 7.60; H, 4.21; N, 11.73%.

#### 4.13. 13-Chloro-8H-indolo[3,2-a]acridine (5a)

Mp 207–208 °C; IR (KBr): 2067, 1732, 1604, 1024, 1473, 1375, 1148, 1028, 817, 640, 551 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.90 (1H, s), 8.63 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.45 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 8.15 (2H, d, *J*=13.0 Hz), 8.07 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.59 (2H, dd, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.54–7.53 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.37 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 145.9, 142.3, 137.8, 135.2, 133.7, 131.0, 130.6, 130.0, 128.6, 125.8, 125.6, 123.0, 122.7, 120.8, 120.6, 118.5, 115.5, 111.6, 110.3, LC–MS: *m*/*z*=302.5 (M), 304.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.38; H, 3.66; N, 9.25%. Found: C, 75.45; H, 3.68; N, 9.19%.

#### 4.14. 13-Chloro-8-ethyl-8H-indolo[3,2-a]acridine (5b)

Mp 219–220 °C; IR (KBr): 2924, 1740, 1634, 1584, 1477, 1366, 1150, 1022, 804, 631, 557 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.89 (1H, d, *J*=8.3 Hz), 8.65 (1H, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 8.48–8.44 (2H, m), 8.08 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.88 (1H, t, *J*=7.0 Hz), 7.76 (1H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 7.63 (1H, d, *J*=8.2 Hz), 7.53 (1H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 7.39 (1H, t, *J*=7.8 Hz), 4.62 (2H, q, *J*=6.9 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.56 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 145.4, 143.5, 138.8, 137.5, 130.3, 129.5, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.5, 124.9, 124.6, 123.4, 122.7, 119.7, 118.6, 111.7, 109.4, 107.7; 38.0, 14.6; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=330.5 (M), 332.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.24; H, 4.57; N, 8.47%. Found: C, 76.20; H, 4.55; N, 8.50%.

#### 4.15. 2,13-Dichloro-8-ethyl-8H-indolo[3,2-a]acridine (5c)

Mp 223–224 °C; IR (KBr): 2963, 1707, 1584, 1435, 1337, 1244, 1078, 814, 636, 550 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.87 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.60 (1H, d, *J*=2.0 Hz), 8.20 (2H, dd, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.01 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.72 (1H, dd, *J*=7.2 Hz), 7.61 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.52 (1H, t, *J*=6.8 Hz), 7.39 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 4.60 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.56 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 150.1, 146.5, 141.3, 140.5, 136.9, 135.6, 133.2, 132.7, 131.4, 129.4, 128.0, 126.2, 125.7, 125.6, 122.2, 120.1, 114.2, 111.9, 40.5, 17.2; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=364 (M), 366 (M+2), 368 (M+4). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.05; H, 3.86; N, 7.67%. Found: C, 69.03; H, 3.82; N, 7.70%.

#### 4.16. 2-Bromo-13-chloro-8-ethyl-8*H*-indolo-[3,2-*a*]acridine (5d)

Mp 266–267 °C; IR (KBr): 2965, 1584, 1460, 1323, 1142, 1071, 953, 814, 781, 654 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.85 (1H, d, *J*=8.4 Hz), 8.75 (1H, d, *J*=1.6 Hz), 8.16–8.12 (2H, m), 7.98 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.82 (1H, dd, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.59 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.51 (1H, t, *J*=7.6 Hz), 7.38 (1H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz), 4.56 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.54 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 147.8, 145.2, 143.6, 138.8, 137.9, 132.6, 130.7, 128.9, 126.8, 126.6, 125.9, 124.3, 123.7, 123.0, 121.3, 119.7, 117.6,111.7, 109.4, 37.9, 14.6; LC–MS:

m/z=408.5 (M), 410.5 (M+2), 412.5 (M+4). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.56; H, 3.44; N, 6.84%. Found: C, 60.63; H, 3.10; N, 6.24%.

#### 4.17. 2-Nitro-13-chloro-8-ethyl-8H-indolo[3,2-a]acridine (5e)

Mp 255–257 °C; IR (KBr): 2962, 1708, 1575, 1421, 1337, 1256, 1069, 826, 647, 551 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.44 (1H, s), 8.79 (1H, d, *J*=8.28 Hz), 8.38 (1H, d, *J*=7.6 Hz), 8.24 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.09 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.03 (1H, d, *J*=7.8 Hz), 7.57 (1H, d, *J*=7.3 Hz), 7.50 (1H, t, *J*=7.7 Hz), 7.38 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz) 4.55 (2H, q, *J*=7.1 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (3H, t, *J*=7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 152.3, 149.1, 148.0, 141.4, 140.4, 140.2, 133.5, 131.4, 129.3, 127.2, 126.0, 125.9, 124.9, 124.3, 122.5, 121.8, 114.1, 112.1, 108.3, 40.6, 17.2; LC–MS: *m/z*=375.5 (M), 377.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.12; H, 3.75; N, 11.18%. Found: C, 67.15; H, 3.77; N, 11.15%.

#### 4.18. 13-Chloro-11H-indolo[2,3-b]acridine (6a)

Mp 167–169 °C; IR (KBr): 2057, 1789, 1601, 1452, 1022, 1160, 1022, 806 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.96 (1H, s), 8.72 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.53 (1H, s), 8.28–8.16 (3H, m), 7.67–7.61 (2H, m), 7.40 (2H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 146.0, 142.2, 137.6, 135.4, 133.7, 131.0, 130.5, 129.8, 128.5, 125.7, 125.5, 122.8, 122.5, 120.8, 120.5, 117.5, 115.3, 111.6, 110.2, LC–MS: *m*/*z*=302.5 (M), 304.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.38; H, 3.66; N, 9.25%. Found: C, 75.45; H, 3.62; N, 9.32%.

#### 4.19. 13-Chloro-11-ethyl-11*H*-indolo[2,3-*b*]acridine (6b)

Mp 129–130 °C; IR (KBr): 2926, 1740, 1637, 1564, 1477, 1366, 1148, 1020, 804, 634, 557 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.08 (1H, s), 8.46 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.42 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.23 (1H, s), 8.20 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.86 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.74 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.64 (2H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.32–7.28 (1H, m), 4.54 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.40 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 145.5, 144.3, 139.0, 137.6, 130.4, 129.6, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0, 126.6, 125.0, 124.7, 123.5, 122.8, 119.8, 118.7, 111.8, 109.5, 107.8, 38.1, 14.8; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=330.5 (M), 332.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.24; H, 4.57; N, 8.47%. Found: C, 76.18; H, 4.60; N, 8.58%.

#### 4.20. 2,13-Dichloro-11-ethyl-11H-indolo[2,3-b]acridine (6c)

Mp 140–141 °C; IR (KBr): 2963, 1701, 1584, 1435, 1333, 1240, 1080, 814, 646, 550 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.85 (1H, s), 8.36 (1H, d, *J*=1.9 Hz), 8.25 (1H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz), 8.17 (1H, d, *J*=9.1 Hz), 7.96 (1H, s), 7.64–7.59 (2H, m), 7.35–7.29 (2H, m), 4.38 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (3H, t, *J*=7.1 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 147.4, 146.5, 143.7, 139.2, 135.0, 134.9, 132.6, 132.0, 130.0, 129.4, 126.3, 125.1, 125.0, 124.6, 122.5, 122.3, 120.1, 111.0, 110.0, 40.3, 16.6; LC–MS: *m/z*=364 (M), 366 (M+2), 368 (M+4). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.05; H, 3.86; N, 7.67%. Found: C, 69.12; H, 3.81; N, 7.71%.

#### 4.21. 2-Bromo-13-chloro-11-ethyl-11*H*-indolo-[2,3-*b*]acridine (6d)

Mp 151–152 °C; IR (KBr): 2968, 1576, 1460, 1323, 1139, 1065, 953, 814, 778, 654 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.87 (1H, s), 8.39 (1H, s), 8.25 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.18 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.90 (1H, s), 7.64–7.60 (2H, m), 7.37–7.30 (2H, m), 4.41 (2H, q, *J*=4.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.55 (3H, t, *J*=10.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 147.8, 145.2, 143.6, 138.8, 137.9, 132.6, 130.7, 128.9, 126.8, 126.6, 125.9, 124.3, 123.7, 123.0, 121.3, 119.7, 117.6, 111.7, 109.4, 37.9, 14.6;

LC–MS: *m*/*z*=408.5 (M), 410.5 (M+2), 412.5 (M+4). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrClN<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.56; H, 3.44; N, 6.84%. Found: C, 55.60; H, 3.08; N, 6.35%.

#### 4.22. 2-Nitro-13-chloro-11-ethyl-11*H*-indolo-[2,3-*b*]acridine (6e)

Mp 172–173 °C; IR (KBr): 2962, 1708, 1573, 1419, 1330, 1252, 1069, 826, 644, 551 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.62 (1H, s), 8.87 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.52 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.38 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.22 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.15 (1H, s), 7.66 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.57 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.44 (1H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz) 4.51 (2H, q, *J*=7.6 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.55 (3H, t, *J*=7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 150.0, 147.1, 146.7, 140.1, 139.0, 138.0, 137.9, 131.1, 129.0, 127.0, 125.0, 123.6, 122.5, 121.8, 120.1, 119.4, 116.3, 114.1, 109.7, 38.1, 14.7; LC–MS: *m/z*=375.5 (M), 377.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.12; H, 3.75; N, 11.18%. Found: C, 67.22; H, 3.72; N, 11.25%.

#### 4.23. 2-(9-Ethyl-9H-carbazolyloxy)benzoic acid (8a)

Mp 187–186 °C; IR (KBr): 3445, 2972, 2924, 1736, 1697, 1488, 1321, 1256, 1219, 1149, 789 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.18 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 8.03 (1H, d, *J*=7.8 Hz), 7.87 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.53–7.49 (2H, m), 7.46–7.41 (2H, m), 7.27–7.24 (2H, m), 7.18–7.15 (1H, m), 6.83 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 4.47 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.41 (3H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 172.3, 163.1, 156.6, 153.9, 145.3, 141.5, 138.0, 136.6, 130.9, 128.2, 127.1, 126.9, 125.3, 123.5, 123.4, 122.9, 116.1, 114.2, 113.6, 42.3, 18.6; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=330 (M–H<sup>+</sup>), negative mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 76.12; H, 5.17; N, 4.23%. Found: C, 76.17; H, 5.13; N, 4.19%.

#### 4.24. 5-Chloro-2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazolyloxy)benzoic acid (8b)

Mp 171–172 °C; IR (KBr): 3046, 2972, 2876, 1736, 1626, 1458, 1379, 1256, 1148, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.20 (1H, d, *J*=2.8 Hz), 8.05 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.85 (1H, d, *J*=2.0 Hz), 7.52 (1H, t, *J*=7.6 Hz), 7.45–7.42 (2H, m), 7.35 (2H, dd, *J*=6.4 Hz), 7.27–7.24 (2H, m), 6.77 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 4.39 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.46 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 165.0, 157.5, 146.4, 140.7, 137.7, 134.5, 132.8, 128.2, 126.6, 123.9, 122.2, 120.7, 119.9, 119.2, 118.6, 117.9, 112.5, 109.7, 108.9, 37.8, 13.8; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=365.5 (M), 367.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub>: C, 68.95; H, 4.41; N, 3.83%. Found: C, 68.89; H, 4.47; N, 3.85%.

#### 4.25. 5-Bromo-2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazolyloxy)benzoic acid (8c)

Mp 179–180 °C; IR (KBr): 3039, 2967, 2776, 1726, 1646, 1459, 1369, 1255, 1132, 749 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.23 (1H, s), 8.03 (1H, s), 7.86 (1H, s), 7.52 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.51–7.42 (2H, m), 7.40–7.34 (3H, m), 6.78 (1H, s), 4.41 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.47 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 177.9.0, 155.2, 152.5, 140.7, 135.9, 133.8, 128.5, 126.7, 126.5, 123.4, 122.9, 122.5, 119.0, 118.7, 117.7, 117.4, 115.9, 115.8, 108.1, 37.4, 13.9; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=411 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>: C, 61.48; H, 3.93; N, 3.41%. Found: C, 61.50; H, 3.84; N, 3.29%.

#### 4.26. 5-Nitro-2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazolyloxy)benzoic acid (8d)

Mp 167–168 °C; IR (KBr): 3468, 2969, 2361, 1709, 1613, 1516, 1472, 1379, 1259, 1149, 1070, 922, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.67 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.99 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.68 (1H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 7.35–7.30 (3H, m), 7.07 (2H, d, *J*=4.0 Hz), 6.72 (1H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz), 4.26 (2H, q, *J*=4.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.30 (3H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 165.7, 163.8, 147.0, 141.2,

140.5, 139.6, 137.4, 127.9, 126.3, 123.6, 122.1, 122.0, 120.5, 118.9, 118.8, 116.7, 112.4, 109.6, 108.8, 37.6, 13.7; LC–MS: m/z=376 (M). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: C, 67.02; H, 4.28; N, 7.44%. Found: C, 66.95; H, 4.24; N, 7.42%.

### **4.27.** 8-Ethyl-8,13-dihydrochromeno[2,3-*c*]-carbazol-13-one (9a)

Mp 187–189 °C; IR (KBr): 2963, 2926, 1719, 1645, 1611, 1578, 1443, 1323, 1149, 1022, 891, 748, 619 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.84 (1H, d, *J*=8.4 Hz), 8.48 (1H, dd, *J*=6.8 Hz), 7.79 (1H, d, *J*=8.8 Hz), 7.73–7.68 (1H, m), 7.59–7.34 (6H, m), 4.42 (2H, q, *J*=7.2 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.42 (3H, t, *J*=7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 177.9, 155.2, 152.5, 140.7, 135.9, 133.8, 128.5, 126.7, 126.5, 123.4, 122.9, 122.5, 119.0, 118.7, 117.7, 117.4, 115.9, 115.8, 108.1, 37.4, 13.9; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=314 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 80.49; H, 4.82; N, 4.47%. Found: C, 80.53; H, 4.79; N, 4.45%.

#### 4.28. 2-Chloro-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydrochromeno[2,3-c]carbazol-13-one (9b)

Mp 158–159 °C; IR (KBr): 3414, 2922, 2857, 1713, 1634, 1312, 1020, 806, 741, 621 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.75 (1H, d, *J*=7.4 Hz), 8.39 (1H, s), 7.78 (1H, d, *J*=9.2 Hz), 7.60–7.53 (3H, m), 7.45–7.35 (3H, m), 4.42 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.43 (3H, t, *J*=4.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 176.6, 1553.4, 155.1, 140.7, 135.9, 133.8, 128.5, 126.7, 125.9, 123.2, 122.7, 119.4, 119.0, 118.6, 117.2, 116.1, 115.6, 108.9, 108.1, 37.4, 14.0; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=347.5 (M), 349.5 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.52; H, 4.06; N, 4.03%. Found: C, 72.74; H, 3.93; N, 4.09%.

## 4.29. 2-Bromo-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydrochromeno[2,3-c]-carbazol-13-one (9c)

Mp 177–178 °C; IR (KBr): 3419, 2915, 2868, 1711, 1619, 1322, 1016, 809, 768, 617 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.74 (1H, s), 8.54 (1H, s), 7.73–7.70 (2H, m), 7.57–7.52 (3H, m), 7.35–7.32 (3H, m), 4.40 (2H, q, *J*=8.0 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.48 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 176.4, 155.2, 153.9, 140.8, 137.1, 136.6, 129.0, 128.4, 126.8, 123.1, 121.9, 121.3, 119.4, 119.2, 117.4, 116.5, 115.7, 108.9, 108.2, 37.5, 14.0; LC–MS: *m/z*=393 (M), 395 (M+2). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub>: C, 64.30; H, 3.60; N, 3.57%. Found: C, 64.31; H, 3.67; N, 3.56%.

## **4.30.** 2-Nitro-8-ethyl-8,13-dihydrochromeno[2,3-c]carbazol-13-one (9d)

Mp 167–168 °C; IR (KBr): 3298, 2930, 2863, 1657, 1462, 1343, 1261, 1099, 804, 746 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.64 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 9.13 (1H, s), 8.33 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.88 (1H, d, *J*=8.0 Hz), 7.66–7.57 (2H, m), 7.46–7.44 (2H, m), 7.34 (1H, m), 4.43 (2H, q, *J*=7.6 Hz, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.46 (3H, t, *J*=8.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 176.2, 167.6, 158.3, 150.2, 143.2, 140.5, 135.5, 128.2, 127.8, 127.2, 123.5, 122.3, 121.7, 119.4, 118.8, 116.6, 115.6, 108.3, 106.5, 37.5, 14.0; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=358 (M). Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 70.39; H, 3.94; N, 7.82%. Found: C, 70.54; H, 3.95; N, 8.09%.

#### 4.31. (9-Ethyl-9H-3-carbazolyl)-9-ethyl-9H-azocarbazole

Mp 202–203 °C; IR (KBr): 2984, 2926, 1525, 1522, 1472, 1323, 1231, 1135, 933, 802 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.78 (2H, s), 8.23 (4H, s), 7.51–7.46 (6H, m), 7.32 (2H, s), 4.40 (4H, s, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.49 (6H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, TMS, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 149.1, 143.8, 143.3, 128.7, 126.2, 125.9, 123.4, 123.3, 122.1, 118.6, 111.5, 111.2,

40.4, 16.4; LC–MS: *m*/*z*=417 (M+H<sup>+</sup>), positive mode. Anal. Calcd for molecular formula C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 80.74; H, 5.81; N, 13.45%. Found: C, 80.52; H, 5.88; N, 13.52%.

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#### Supplementary data

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra of all compounds. Mass spectrums and elemental analysis reports of **3b**, **3c**, **4b**, **5d**, **8a**, and **9a**. ORTEP diagrams of **5e**, **6b**, **3d**, and diazocarbazole. Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.tet.2009.05.061.

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