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**S** Supporting Information



mild catalytic system succeeded in cleaving the carbon−nitrogen bond in nitromethane. This methodology uses commercially available, inexpensive catalysts and oxidants and has a wide substrate scope and operational simplicity.

# ■ INTRODUCTION

Transition-metal-catalyzed C−N cleavage is a synthetically significant process and has been extensively studied. A variety of transition metals, including Pd,<sup>1a−e</sup> Ru,<sup>1f−i</sup> Rh,<sup>1j</sup> Cu,<sup>1k-m</sup> Fe,<sup>1n,o</sup> Co,<sup>1p</sup> Ni,<sup>1q,r</sup> Nb,<sup>1s</sup> T<sub>a</sub>,<sup>1t</sup> Zr,<sup>1u</sup> and Mo,<sup>1v</sup> have been shown to catalyze this process. N[otably](#page-5-0), K[ak](#page-5-0)i[u](#page-5-0)chi<sup>1[g,h](#page-5-0)</sup> an[d co](#page-5-0)wo[rker](#page-5-0)s re[po](#page-5-0)rte[d th](#page-5-0)e fi[rst](#page-5-0) cat[al](#page-5-0)ytic[ally](#page-5-0) unreacti[ve](#page-5-0) aryl C−N cleavage for C−C bond formation on a ruthenium [cen](#page-5-0)ter. It is worth pointing out that the use of transition metals has some inherent drawbacks, such as cost and toxicity, though it is a powerful means of effecting organic reactions.

C−N bonds have also been cleaved under transition-metalfree conditions, such as photochemistry, $2a-c$  acids, $2d$  bases, $2e-g$ strong oxidants,<sup>2h−j</sup> reducing reagents,<sup>2i,k</sup> and other agents ( $\text{CsF}^{2l}$ ). Recently, Tian developed a series of sul[fony](#page-5-0)l-activ[ate](#page-5-0)d ben[zy](#page-5-0)li[c](#page-5-0) C−N cleavage[s wi](#page-5-0)th stoichiometric [age](#page-5-0)nts, such as  $LDA<sup>2e</sup>$  [an](#page-5-0)d  $n$ -BuLi.<sup>2f</sup> Unfortunately, stoichiometric bond-breaking agents are usually required in most cases. Therefore, a mild, transition[-m](#page-5-0)etalfree ca[tal](#page-5-0)ytic system to break C−N bonds is highly desirable.

Nitrosation chemistry has drawn continuing interest from mechanistic organic and biological chemists.<sup>3</sup> It has found many applications in synthetic chemistry.<sup>4</sup> The most general reagent for the nitrosation of amines is nitrous aci[d](#page-5-0), generated in situ from sodium nitrite and a stron[g](#page-5-0) acid.<sup>5</sup> In addition, alkyl nitrites, $\frac{6}{3}$  nitrogen oxides, $\frac{7}{3}$  Fremy's salt, $\frac{8}{3}$  trichloronitromethane, $9 \text{ nitrogen}$  introsonium tetrafluoroborate, $10 \text{ oxygen}$  $10 \text{ oxygen}$  $10 \text{ oxygen}$  by  $\mu$  and  $\mu$ bis(trip[h](#page-5-0)enylphosphine)nit[ro](#page-5-0)gen(1+) nitri[te](#page-5-0)<sup>12</sup> have also been devel[op](#page-5-0)ed as efficient nitrosating agen[ts.](#page-5-0) Recently, Hou [and](#page-5-0) coworkers reported the synthesis of N-n[itr](#page-5-0)osamines using nitromethane as the source of the nitroso group.<sup>2j</sup> Unfortunately, some shortcomings in this method were revealed, as it required the expensive o-iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX) as an [o](#page-5-0)xidant, and the substrates were limited to aromatic amines. Continuing our recent studies in TBAI (tetrabutylammonium iodide)-catalyzed chemical transformation, $13a-f$  we have developed an iodide-catalyzed process to synthesize N-nitrosamines using TBHP, which has the advantages [of](#page-5-0) [us](#page-5-0)ing a green oxidant, a wide substrate scope, and mild reaction conditions.

## ■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the beginning, we explored an iodide-catalyzed process to synthesize N-nitrosamines with secondary aliphatic amines. A mixture of dihexylamine 1a, KI (5 mol %), and TBHP (1.5 equiv, 70% aqueous) in nitromethane at 80 °C for 6 h gave the desired product 2a in 85% yield (Table 1, entry 1). When other oxidants were used, no 2a was detected (Table 1, entries 2−5). Replacing KI with either KBr or KCl [ha](#page-1-0)lted the formation of N-nitrosamines (entries 6 and 7). No reaction [o](#page-1-0)ccurred in the absence of KI or TBHP (entries 8 and 9). A comparable yield was achieved when TBAI was used as the catalyst (entry 12). It is worth noting that a longer time did not improve the yield of the reaction (entry 13). This reaction was also carried out in water, leading to the desired product in low  $(20%)$  yield (entry 14).<sup>13x,w</sup>

Encouraged by these results, we applied this methodology to a series of secondary aliphatic amines as shown in Tab[le 2.](#page-6-0)

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<span id="page-1-0"></span>Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions for Secondary Aliphatic Amines<sup>a</sup>

1a	$(n$ -hexyl) <sub>2</sub> NH + CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	catalyst, oxidant 80 °C, 6h	$(n$ -hexyl) <sub>2</sub> NNO 2a
entry	catalyst	oxidant	yield $(\%)$
1	KI	<b>TBHP</b>	85
$\overline{2}$	KI	$H_2O_2$	trace
3	KI	oxone	N.D. <sup>b</sup>
4	KI	$m$ -CPBA	N.D.
5	KI	O <sub>2</sub>	N.D.
6	KBr	TBHP	N.D.
7	KCl	TBHP	N.D.
8		TBHP	N.D.
9	KI		N.D.
10	LiI	TBHP	83
11	I <sub>2</sub>	TBHP	76
12	$Bu_4NI$	TBHP	84
13	KI	TBHP	84 <sup>c</sup>
14	KI	TBHP	20 <sup>d</sup>

a Conditions (unless stated otherwise): 0.5 mmol of dihexylamine 1a, 5 mol % of catalyst, 1.5 equiv of oxidant in 2.0 mL of nitromethane at 80  $^{\circ}$ C for 6 h.  $^{\circ}$ Not detected.  $^{\circ}$ 8 h.  $^{\circ}$ Conditions: 0.5 mmol of dihexylamine 1a, 5 mol % of KI, 1.5 equiv of TBHP, 2.0 equiv of nitromethane in 2.0 mL of  $H_2O$  at 80 °C for 6 h.

Both chain and cyclic amines are suitable reaction partners for this transformation. This protocol exhibits a high level of functional group tolerance, including hydroxyl, halide, methoxyl, benzyl, allyl, phenyl, pyridyl, Boc, ester, and amide. Unfortunately, some secondary aliphatic amines such as 1r provided poor results. Next, the effects of reaction time on yield were examined, however, 12 h led to similar results.

To further explore the potential of the methodology, selected secondary aromatic amines have also been tested. Unfortunately, low yields were obtained under the optimized conditions. Considering catalytic and phase-transfer activity of TBAI, it was chosen as the catalyst. To our delight, good yields could be achieved when 30 mol % of TBAI and 2.3 equiv of TBHP were used. Table 3 showed that aromatic amines bearing

electron-donating groups afforded better yields in comparison to those with electron-withdrawing groups.

The N-dealkylation of tertiary amines under oxidative conditions is an important P-450 specific reaction.<sup>14</sup> The transition-metalcatalyzed dealkylation of tertiary amines<sup>15</sup> has become a wellestablished procedure since the pionee[ring](#page-6-0) work of Murahashi et al.<sup>15a</sup> During the curr[en](#page-6-0)t study, it was envisaged that secondary amines could be generated in situ via the dealkylation of tertiary ami[nes](#page-6-0) and subsequently reacted with  $MeNO<sub>2</sub>$  to form the desired N-nitrosamines. After screening of reaction conditions, we found tertiary amines reacted smoothly under slightly modified conditions, leading to the corresponding products in moderate to good yields as shown in Table 4 (more oxidants were required for C−N cleavage of tertiary amines).

Further control e[xp](#page-2-0)eriments were conducted to gain insight into the reaction mechanism. The in situ generation of hypoiodite<sup>13g</sup> results in the desired product 2a in 52% yield (Scheme 1a). The reaction did not proceed smoothly in the presence [of](#page-5-0) iodine or KOH alone (Scheme 1b,c). When  $PhI(OAc)_2$  or IBX was used as catalyst, no 2a was detected (Scheme 1d,e). Consequently, we have d[ed](#page-3-0)uced that hypoiodite is the active oxidant in this reaction. As shown in Scheme 1f, [th](#page-3-0)e formation of compound 4 suggests that tertiary amines can be converted to secondary amines under the oxidativ[e](#page-3-0) conditions. Notably, compounds 5 could also be detected, indicating that  $NO<sup>+</sup>$  is likely to be the key nitrating reagent (Scheme 1f). However, we failed to trap  $NO<sup>+</sup>$  by pentane-1-thiol due to its lability under the oxidative conditions. When [w](#page-3-0)e uses 4-bromo-N,N-dimethylaniline as substrate, a trace amount of the corresponding byproducts, bearing both <sup>79</sup>Br and <sup>81</sup>Br, could be detected by LC-MS.

On the basis of these observations and the literature, a plausible mechanism has been proposed as shown in Scheme 2. First, iodide is oxidized to hypoiodite  $B^{13g}$  by TBHP (Scheme 2a), followed by the formation of iodo(nitro)methane C (Scheme 2b).<sup>16[,17](#page-3-0)</sup> This rearranges to form 2-oxo-1,2-ox[azir](#page-5-0)idin-2-ium D and [th](#page-3-0)en decomposes into formaldehyde and  $NO^+$  (Scheme 2[c\).](#page-6-0)<sup>[18](#page-6-0)</sup> Finally, nucleophilic attack of the amine on  $NO<sup>+</sup>$  generates the





a<br>Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol of amines 1, 5 mol % of KI, 1.5 equiv of TBHP (70% aqueous solution) in 2.0 mL of nitromethane at 80 °C for 6 h.  $b$  12 h.

## <span id="page-2-0"></span>Table 3. TBAI-Catalyzed N-Nitrosation of Secondary Aromatic Amines<sup>a</sup>



a<br>Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol of amines 1, 30 mol % of TBAI, 2.3 equiv of TBHP (70% aqueous solution) in 2.0 mL of nitromethane at 80  $^{\circ} \text{C}$ for 6 h.

Table 4. TBAI -Catalyzed N-Nitrosation of Tertiary Amines

$R^1R^2N$ - $R^3$ 3	$CH_3NO_2$ $\begin{array}{c} + \end{array}$	cat. TBAI TBHP 80 °C, 6h	$R^1R^2NNO$ $\mathbf 2$
entry		substrates	products
1 <sup>a</sup>		N 3a	<b>NO</b> 2s, 61 %
$2^{\rm a}$	Br	N 3 <sub>b</sub>	Br 2w, 64 %
$3^{\rm b}$		$(n$ -butyl $)$ <sub>3</sub> N $3\mathrm{c}$	$(n$ -butyl $)_2$ NNO 2b, 63 %
$4^{\rm b}$		$(n$ -octyl $)$ <sub>3</sub> N 3d	$(n\text{-}octyl)2NNO$ 2x, 76 %
$5^{\rm b}$	OH 3e	<b>JOH</b> N OH	<b>JOH</b> OH. Ν <b>NO</b> 2d, 59 %

a<br>Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol of amines 3, 20 mol % of TBAI, 3.0 equiv of TBHP (70% aqueous solution) in 2.0 mL of nitromethane at 80 °C for 6 h. <sup>b</sup> Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol of amines 3, 30 mol % of TBAI, 3.7 equiv of TBHP (70% aqueous solution) in 2.0 mL of nitromethane at 80 °C for 6 h.

desired product (Scheme 2d). At present, another mechanism, proposed by Challis, could not be excluded.<sup>16</sup>

As shown in Scheme [2](#page-3-0)c, formaldehyde is generated as a byproduct in the proposed mechanism, whi[ch](#page-6-0) was verified by treatment with 1-(pyridin-[2](#page-3-0)-yl)piperazine (1m) leading to the Mannich product 6 (eq 1). When the reaction was completed, the



mixture was brown due to the formation of iodine. Therefore, we could not detect HCHO by the Nash test on the basis of a change in color. Fortunately, a trace amount of the adduct from HCHO and Nash reagent could be observed by LC-MS.

#### ■ **CONCLUSIONS**

To summarize, we have successfully developed the synthesis of N-nitrosamines using nitromethane as the source of the nitroso group under catalytic conditions via C−N cleavage. No expensive oxidant was involved in this transformation. The advantages of this mild catalytic system include a wide range of substrates, high practical convenience, and commercially available materials. We believe that this method provides a promising alternative to previous methodologies.

## **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

General Procedures for Amines 1a−r. KI (0.025 mmol) and amine (0.5 mmol) were placed in a test tube.  $CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>$  (2.0 mL) and

<span id="page-3-0"></span>



Scheme 2. Proposed Catalytic Cycle



TBHP (0.75 mmol, 0.1 mL, 70% solution in water) were added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 6 h. It was then quenched (consumption of residual TBHP) with saturated  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>$ solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was combined and dried with  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ . Removal of solvent followed by flash column chromatography using a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate afforded the desired product.

General Procedures for Amines 1s−v. TBAI (0.15 mmol) and amine (0.5 mmol) were placed in a test tube.  $CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>$  (2.0 mL) and TBHP (1.15 mmol, 0.15 mL, 70% solution in water) were added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 6 h. It was then quenched (consumption of residual TBHP) with saturated  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>$ solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was combined and dried with  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ . Removal of solvent followed by flash column chromatography using a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate afforded the desired product.

General Procedures for Amines 3a,b. TBAI (0.1 mmol) and amine (0.5 mmol) were placed in a test tube.  $CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>$  (2.0 mL) and TBHP (1.5 mmol, 0.2 mL, 70% solution in water) were added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80  $^{\circ}\textrm{C}$  for 6 h. It was then quenched (consumption of residual TBHP) with saturated  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>$ solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was combined and dried with  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ . Removal of solvent followed by flash column chromatography using a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate afforded the desired product.

General Procedures for Amines 3c−e. TBAI (0.15 mmol) and amine (0.5 mmol) were placed in a test tube.  $CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>$  (2.0 mL) and TBHP (1.85 mmol, 0.25 mL, 70% solution in water) were added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 6 h. It was then quenched (consumption of residual TBHP) with saturated  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>$ solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was combined and dried with  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ . Removal of solvent followed by

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flash column chromatography using a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate afforded the desired product.

N,N-Dihexylnitrous amide  $(2a)$ : pale yellow liquid  $(91 \text{ mg}, 85\%)$ yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.07 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.53  $(t, J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 1.82−1.65 (m, 2H), 1.54−1.42 (m, 2H), 1.30− 1.24 (m, 12H), 0.95−0.85 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 52.2, 43.6, 31.21, 31.17, 28.2, 26.7, 26.1, 25.9, 22.4, 13.9; MS (ESIquadrupole) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{27}N_2O$  215, found 215  $(M + H^+);$  IR (KBr, cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> ) ν 1627, 1575, 1458.

N,N-Dibutylnitrous amide (2b): pale yellow liquid (73 mg, 92% yield for 1b; 49 mg, 63% for 3c); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.08  $(t, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 2H)$ , 3.54  $(t, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 2H)$ , 1.80–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.53– 1.23 (m, 6H), 1.02–0.87 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 51.7, 43.2, 30.1, 27.9, 20.2, 19.5, 13.3; MS (EI-ion trap) calcd for

 $C_8H_{18}N_2O$  158, found 158 (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1640, 1571, 1458. N-Butyl-N-methylnitrous amide (2c): pale yellow liquid (42 mg, 72% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1.62H), 3.75 (s, 0.57H), 3.59 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.38H), 3.05 (s, 2.43H), 1.76−1.69 (m, 1.62H), 1.53−1.44 (m, 0.38H), 1.42−1.34 (m, 1.62H), 1.32−1.25 (m, 0.38H), 0.97 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2.43H), 0.92 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.57H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 53.3, 44.5, 38.9, 31.2, 29.8, 27.6, 20.1, 19.4, 13.5, 13.4; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_5H_{13}N_2O$ 117, found 117 ( $M + H^{+}$ ); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1648, 1571, 1414.

N,N-Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)nitrous amide (2d): pale yellow liquid (45 mg, 67% yield for 1d; 40 mg, 59% for 3e); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO) δ 4.01–3.96 (m, 1H), 3.95–3.89 (m, 1H), 3.27–3.19 (m, 2H), 2.82−2.74 (m, 2H), 2.74−2.68 (m, 2H); 13C NMR (100 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO)  $\delta$  58.8, 56.9, 55.2, 46.6; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_4H_{11}N_2O_3$  135, found 135 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  3442, 1638, 1571, 1419.

 $N$ ,  $N$ -Bis(2-methoxyethyl)nitrous amide (2e): pale yellow liquid (61 mg, 75% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.37 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.45 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 70.4, 68.5, 58.5, 52.6, 44.2; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_6H_1sN_2O_3$ 163, found 163 ( $M + H^{+}$ ); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1638, 1571, 1452.

N-Benzyl-N-methylnitrous amide (2f): pale yellow liquid (58 mg, 77% yield); <sup>1</sup> H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.42−7.10 (m, 5H), 5.29  $(s, 1.55H)$ , 4.79  $(s, 0.45H)$ , 3.67  $(s, 0.68H)$ , 2.92  $(s, 2.32H)$ ; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl3) δ 134.3, 133.6, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 57.2, 47.4, 38.2, 30.7; HRMS (EI-TOF) calcd for  $\rm C_8H_{10}N_2O$  150.0793, found 150.0772 (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1620, 1572, 1449.

N,N-Diallylnitrous amide  $(2g)$ : pale yellow liquid  $(44 \text{ mg}, 70\%)$ yield); <sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 5.96−5.86 (m, 1H), 5.67−5.58 (m, 1H), 5.39−5.27 (m, 2H), 5.21−5.18 (m, 1H), 5.13−5.08 (m, 1H),  $4.74-4.69$  (m, 2H),  $4.22-4.13$  (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 131.8, 129.1, 120.1, 119.1, 54.1, 45.1; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_6H_{11}N_2O$  127, found 127 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1637, 1572, 1420.

1-Nitrosopiperidine (2h): pale yellow liquid (47 mg, 83% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.19 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.87−1.70 (m, 4H), 1.59−1.52 (m, 2H); 13C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ 50.6, 39.5, 26.2, 24.5, 23.9; MS (ESIquadrupole) calcd for  $C_5H_{11}N_2O$  115, found 115  $(M + H^+);$  IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1}) \nu$  1638, 1571, 1419.

4-Nitrosomorpholine (2i): pale yellow liquid (45 mg, 78% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.35–4.26 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 3.95– 3.82 (m, 4H), 3.66 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 67.2, 65.8, 49.9, 40.3; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_4H_0N_2O_2$  117, found 117 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1672, 1561, 1431.

1-Nitrosopiperidin-4-ol  $(2j)$ : pale yellow liquid  $(53 \text{ mg}, 81\% \text{ yield})$ ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.48-4.38 (m, 1H), 4.20-4.08 (m, 2H), 4.03−3.92 (m, 1H), 3.86−3.74 (m, 1H), 3.45 (s, 1H), 2.10−2.00 (m, 1H), 1.91−1.74 (m, 2H), 1.68−1.53 (m, 1H); 13C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 65.1, 46.6, 35.7, 33.6, 32.0; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_5H_{11}N_2O_2$  131, found 131 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$ 3411, 1638, 1560, 1421.

1-Nitrosopyrrolidine (2k): pale yellow liquid (37 mg, 74% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.28 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.59

 $(t, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H})$ , 2.12–1.98 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  49.8, 45.2, 23.9, 22.6; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 101, found 101 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1638, 1559, 1408.

1-Nitroso-4-phenylpiperazine (2l): yellow solid (57 mg, 60% yield); mp 65−66 °C. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.34−7.26 (m, 2H), 6.99−6.90 (m, 3H), 4.40 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.39 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.17 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $(75 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$   $\delta$  150.2, 129.3, 121.0, 117.1, 50.2, 49.3, 48.6, 39.5; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_{10}H_{14}N_3O$  192, found 192 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> ) ν 1647, 1570, 1409.

1-Nitroso-4-(pyridin-2-yl)piperazine (2m): yellow solid (58 mg, 61% yield); mp 85−86 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.20 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59−7.48 (m, 1H), 6.76−6.66 (m, 2H), 4.36 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.0, 147.8, 137.6, 114.0, 107.2, 48.7, 45.6, 43.5, 39.6; MS (EI-ion trap) calcd for  $C_9H_{12}N_4O$  192, found 192 (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1637, 1566, 1409.

 $2-\tilde{N}$ itroso-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (2n): pale yellow liquid (57 mg, 70% yield); <sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 7.34−7.09 (m, 4H), 5.40 (s, 0.60H), 4.84 (s, 1.40H), 4.55 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1.40H), 3.89  $(t, J = 8.0$  Hz, 0.60H), 3.11 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1.40H), 2.97 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 0.60H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  133.7, 129.8, 128.5, 127.9, 127.8, 127.1, 127.0, 126.0, 51.1, 47.5, 44.3, 40.6, 29.6, 27.2; MS (ESIquadrupole) calcd for  $C_9H_{11}N_2O$  163, found 163 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1627, 1575, 1428.

tert-Butyl 4-nitrosopiperazine-1-carboxylate (20): pale yellow liquid (66 mg, 61% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.26 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.81 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.68 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.46 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.49 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 154.0, 80.4, 49.0, 43.7, 42.0, 39.4, 28.0; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_9H_{18}N_3O_3$  216, found 216 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1697, 1570, 1418.

(S)-Methyl 1-nitrosopyrrolidine-2-carboxylate  $(2p)$ : pale yellow liquid (43 mg, 55% yield);<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.33–5.28 (m, 1H), 4.58−4.35 (m, 5.12H), 3.81 (s, 3.22H), 3.73 (s, 3.64H), 3.72−3.61 (m, 1.83H), 2.45−2.18 (m, 3.89H),2.28−2.18 (m, 1.70H), 2.15−1.99 (m, 5.72H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.7, 168.9, 61.7, 57.7, 52.6, 52.3, 49.7, 45.4, 28.7, 27.5, 23.0, 20.9; MS (EI-ion trap) calcd for  $C_6H_{10}N_2O_3$  158, found 158 (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$ 1648, 1560, 1409.

(S)-1-Nitrosopyrrolidine-2-carboxamide (2q): yellow solid (40 mg, 56% yield); mp 165−166 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ 7.75  $(s, 1H)$ , 7.48  $(s, 1.20H)$ , 7.33  $(s, 1H)$ , 7.03  $(s, 1.20H)$ , 5.07  $(t, J =$ 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.41−4.33 (m, 2.40H), 4.22 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1.20H), 3.53− 3.38 (m, 2H), 2.38–1.73 (m, 8.80H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO) δ 172.0, 170.2, 62.4, 59.2, 50.1, 46.0, 29.1, 28.2, 22.7, 20.9; MS (ESIquadrupole) calcd for  $C_5H_{10}N_3O_2$  144, found 144 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1681, 1613, 1403.

N,N-Dicyclohexylnitrous amide (2r): yellow solid (30 mg, 29% yield); mp 104−105 °C. <sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 4.93−4.82  $(m, 1H)$ , 3.79–3.66 (m, 1H), 2.01–1.09 (m, 20H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $(75 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$   $\delta$  58.3, 52.0, 34.2, 29.2, 25.9, 25.3, 25.2; MS (EI-ion trap) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{22}N_2O$  210, found 210 (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$ 1638, 1561, 1446.

N-Methyl-N-phenylnitrous amide (2s): pale yellow liquid (38 mg, 56% yield for 1s; 41 mg, 61% for 3a). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.60−7.31(m, 5H), 3.46 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 142.2, 129.4, 127.3, 119.1, 31.4; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_7H_9N_2O$  137, found 137 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1631, 1515, 1468.

N-Ethyl-N-phenylnitrous amide  $(2t)$ : pale yellow liquid  $(48 \text{ mg},$ 64% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.50– 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 1.16 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.2, 129.3, 127.2, 119.4, 39.0, 11.6. MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_8H_{11}N_2O$ 151, found 151 ( $M + H^{+}$ ); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1598, 1496, 1473.

N-Methyl-N-(p-tolyl)nitrous amide (2u): yellow solid (61 mg, 81% yield); mp 50−51 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.7, 137.1, 129.8, 119.1, 31.5, 20.8; <span id="page-5-0"></span>MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_8H_{11}N_2O$  151, found 151  $(M + H^+);$ IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1630, 1514, 1454.

N-Methyl-N-(4-nitrophenyl)nitrous amide (2v): yellow solid (37 mg, 41% yield); mp 99−100 °C; <sup>1</sup> H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.36 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.51 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.9, 145.7, 125.1, 117.8, 30.0; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_7H_8N_3O_3$  182, found 182 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR  $(KBr, cm^{-1}) \nu$  1630, 1492, 1459.

N-(4-Bromophenyl)-N-methylnitrous amide (2w): yellow solid (68 mg, 64% yield); mp 69–70 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.41 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.9, 132.08, 120.1, 120.0, 30.7; MS (ESI-quadrupole) calcd for  $C_7H_8^{79}BrN_2O$  215, found 215 (M + H<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1631, 1492, 1460.

N,N-Dioctylnitrous amide  $(2x)$ : pale yellow liquid  $(103 \text{ mg}, 76\%)$ yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.06 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.52  $(t, J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 1.78–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.53–1.43 (m, 2H), 1.39– 1.19 (m, 20H), 0.93–0.83 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 52.1, 43.5, 31.6, 29.0, 28.2, 27.1, 26.4, 25.9, 22.4, 13.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{34}N_2NaO$  293.2569, found 293.2569 (M + Na<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr, cm<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> ) ν 1610, 1552, 1462.

1-(2-Nitroethyl)-4-(pyridin-2-yl)piperazine (6): yellow solid (24 mg, 20% yield); <sup>1</sup> H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.20−8.17 (m, 1H), 7.51−7.45 (m, 1H), 6.70−6.55 (m, 2H), 4.53 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 4H), 3.05 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.3, 147.9, 137.5, 113.4, 107.0, 73.1, 54.7, 52.7, 45.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 237.1352, found 237.1355 ( $M + H^{+}$ ); IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\nu$  1625, 1451, 1400.

### ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **S** Supporting Information

 $H<sup>1</sup>H NMR$  and  $H<sup>13</sup>C NMR$  spectra for all products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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### Notes

The authors decla[re no competing](mailto:wanxb@suda.edu.cn) financial interest.

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