

# N-ALKYLATED SULFAMIDES AS NEUTRAL SOLUBILITY IMPROVING GROUPS FOR KINASE INHIBITORS

Karatas, M.<sup>1,2</sup>; Chaikuad, A.<sup>3,4</sup>; Preu, L.<sup>1</sup>; Totzke, F.<sup>5</sup>; Kubbutat, M. H. G.<sup>5</sup>; Knapp, S.<sup>3,4</sup>; Kunick, C.<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institut für Medizinische und Pharmazeutische Chemie, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Beethovenstraße 55, 38106 Braunschweig, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Zentrum für Pharmaverfahrenstechnik (PVZ), Technische Universität Braunschweig, Franz-Liszt-Straße 35A, 38106 Braunschweig, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, Structural Genomics Consortium, University of Oxford, Old Road Campus Research Building, Roosevelt Drive, Oxford OX3 7DQ, United Kingdom

<sup>4</sup> Institut für pharmazeutische Chemie und Buchmann Institut für Molekulare Lebenswissenschaften, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Max-von-Laue-Straße 15, 60438 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

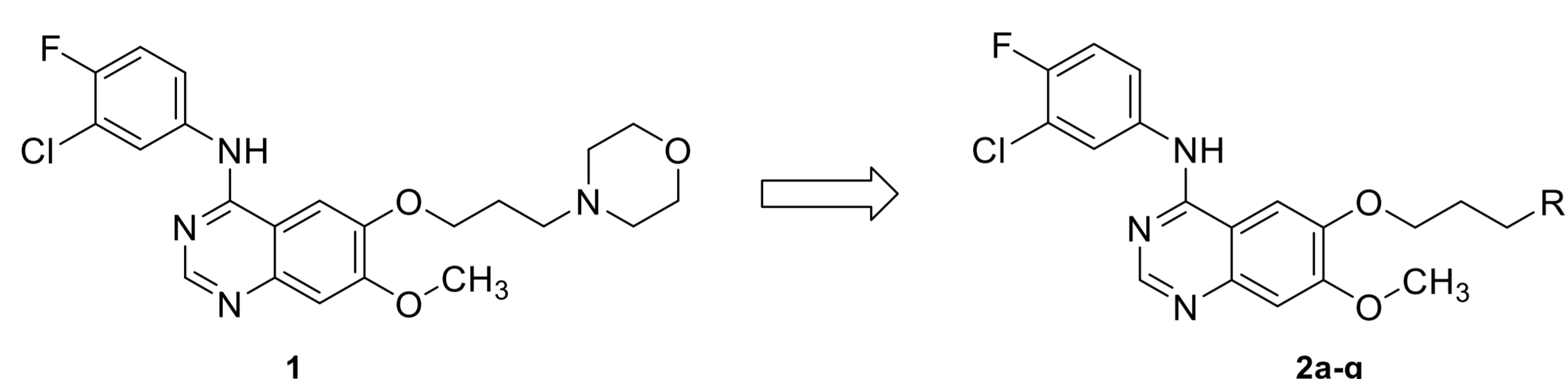
<sup>5</sup> ProQinase GmbH, Engesserstraße 4, 79108 Freiburg, Germany

## INTRODUCTION

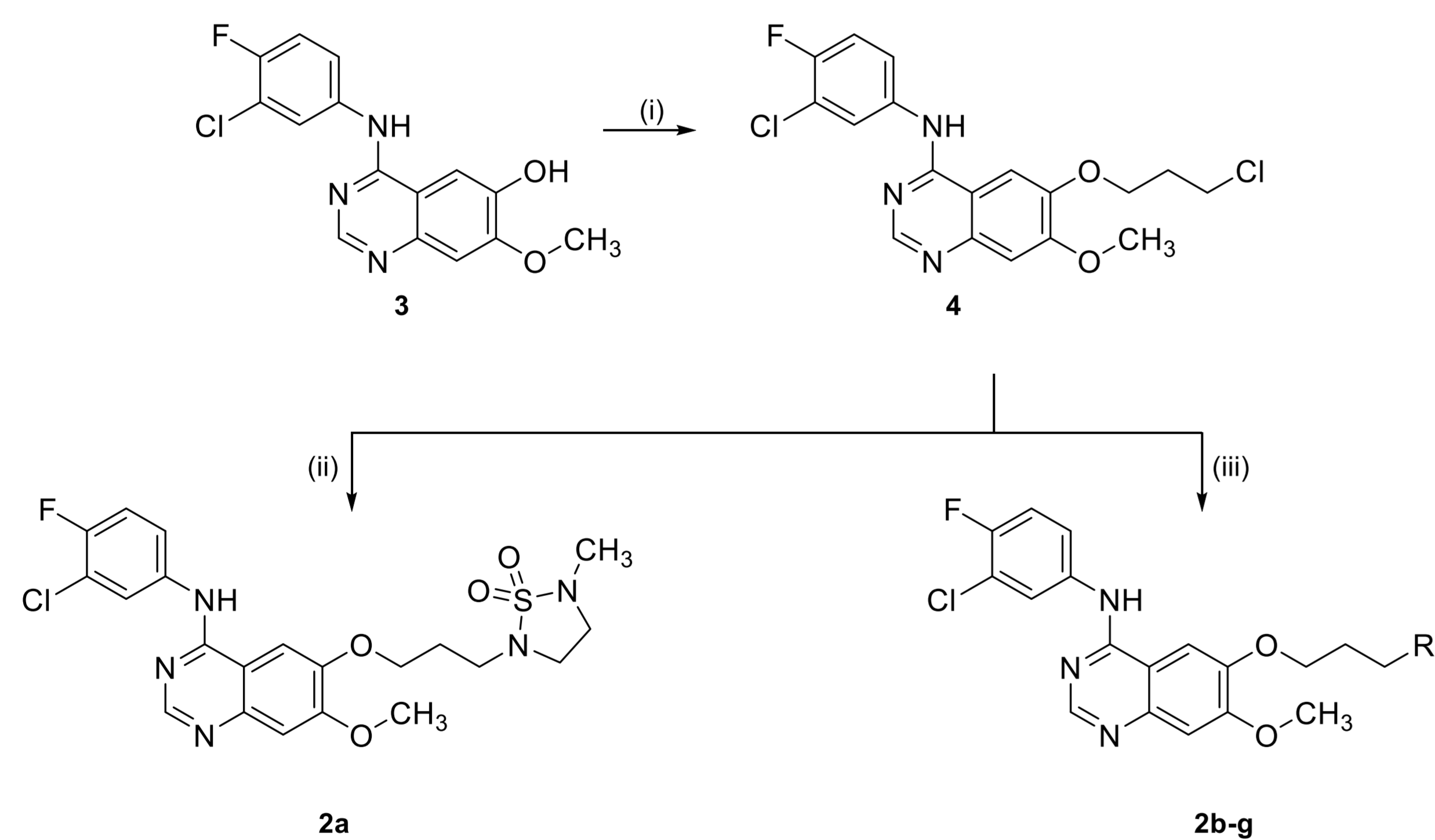
Because hyperactivity of protein kinases is associated with hyperproliferation, various kinase inhibitors are used to treat cancer or inflammatory diseases [1]. One of the problems frequently encountered with protein kinase inhibitors is poor solubility.

Basic centers in drug molecules not only increase solubility, but also the liability for hERG channel blockade [2]. *N*-Alkylated sulfamides are neutral solubility improving groups (NeuSIGs) which although raising molecular mass and complexity do not increase lipophilicity and thus are feasible alternatives for basic amino groups in drug molecules.

The basic morpholino element of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) kinase inhibitor gefitinib (**1**) was exchanged for NeuSIGs. The resulting new anilinoquinazolines **2a-g** were evaluated for inhibition of the EGF receptor kinase and three unrelated kinases.



## SYNTHESES



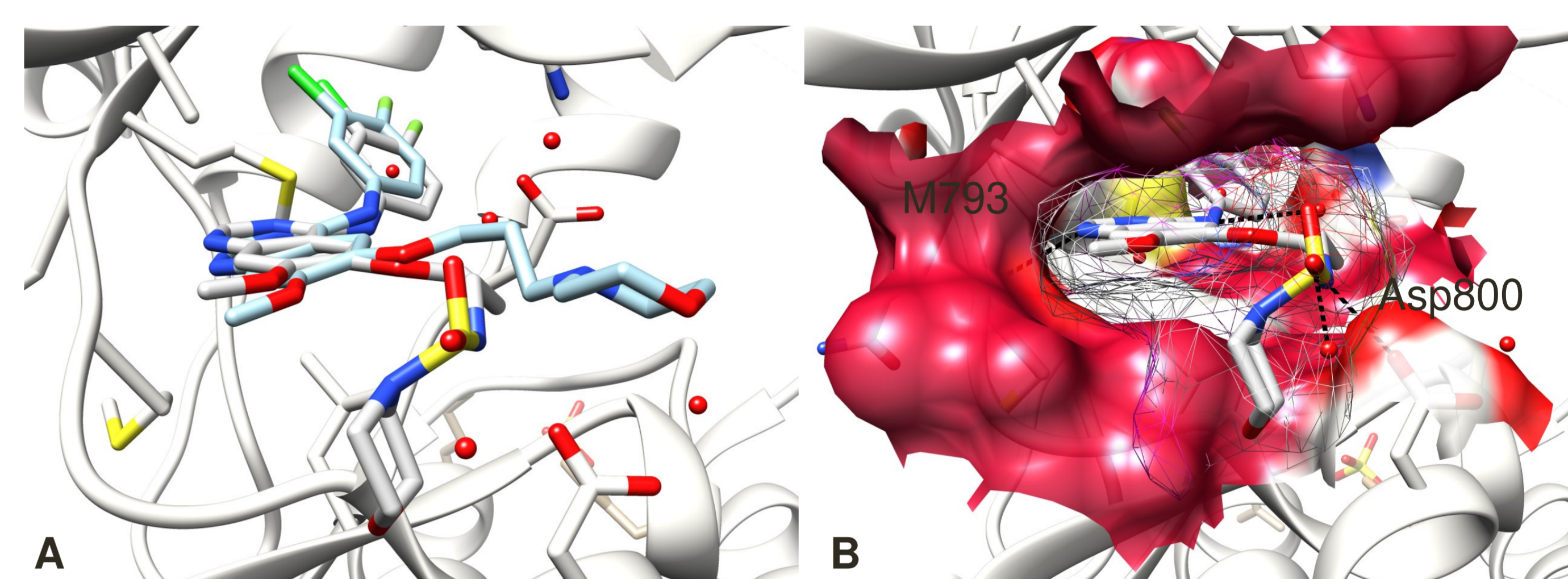
**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of anilinoquinazolines **2a-2g**: (i) 1-bromo-3-chloropropane, Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, ACN, reflux, 3-5 h, 36%; (ii) 2-methyl-1,2,5-thiadiazolidine 1,1-dioxide, NaH, DMF, 0 °C → rt, 48 h, 20%; (iii) sulfamide derivatives, NaH, DMF, 0 °C → 100 °C, 5-12h, 20-45%.

## BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY<sup>a</sup>

	ABL1 wt	CDK8/CycC	EGF-R	VEGF-R2
<b>1</b>	1.92*10 <sup>-5</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.58*10 <sup>-5</sup>
<b>2a</b>	6.37*10 <sup>-5</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	9.68*10 <sup>-6</sup>
<b>2b</b>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>
<b>2c</b>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	3.94*10 <sup>-5</sup>
<b>2d</b>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	8.34*10 <sup>-5</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	6.84*10 <sup>-5</sup>
<b>2e</b>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	3.29*10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.69*10 <sup>-5</sup>
<b>2f</b>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	>10 <sup>-4</sup>	<3*10 <sup>-9</sup>	3.08*10 <sup>-5</sup>
<b>2g</b>	6.80*10 <sup>-5</sup>	9.46*10 <sup>-5</sup>	7.85*10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.79*10 <sup>-5</sup>

**Table 2.** Protein kinase inhibition profile of gefitinib (**1**) and **2a-g** (IC<sub>50</sub>, M).  
<sup>a</sup> Results from a radiometric protein kinase assay (<sup>33</sup>PanQinase® Activity Assay).

## DOCKING



**Figure 1.** Docking studies of **2f** (grey) in the ATP binding pocket of EGFR (PDB: 4l22) [3] verify that the introduction of an *N*-alkylated sulfamide maintains the general orientation of the anilinoquinazoline scaffold of **1** (cyan). The propylmorpholino group of **1** and the propylmorpholino-4-sulfamide group of **2f** point towards the solvent exposed entrance of the binding pocket (A). **2f** displays an additional H-bond between the sulfamide oxygen and Asp800 (B). [4-6]

## PHYSICO-CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

	R	m.p. [°C]	log P <sup>a</sup>	log S <sup>b</sup>	log S (ESOL) <sup>[8]</sup>	S <sub>0, exp., kinetic</sub> [μM] <sup>c</sup>	log S <sub>0, exp., kinetic</sub>
<b>1</b>	-	178	4.31	-5.34	-5.05	56.2-61.1 (58.6)	-4.23
<b>2a</b>		203	2.38	-3.66	-4.89	25.1-28.3 (26.7)	-4.57
<b>2b</b>		221	2.56	-4.02	-4.88	46.1-49.1 (47.6)	-4.32
<b>2c</b>		209	2.79	-4.13	-5.18	39.9-44.9 (42.4)	-4.37
<b>2d</b>		222	3.03	-4.50	-5.48	23.7-25.3 (24.5)	-4.61
<b>2e</b>		199	3.46	-4.70	-5.88	18.0-21.3 (19.6)	-4.71
<b>2f</b>		222	2.40	-3.87	-4.72	40.2-47.9 (44.1)	-4.36
<b>2g</b>		190	2.44	-3.59	-5.74	16.3-23.9 (19.4)	-4.71

**Table 1.** Experimentally determined and predicted physicochemical properties.

<sup>a</sup> calculated with SILICOS-IT.

<sup>b</sup> calculated according to the general solubility equation: log S = 0.5 - log P - 0.01\*(m.p.-25).<sup>[7]</sup>

<sup>c</sup> determined by nephelometry in phosphate buffer pH 7.4.

## CONCLUSION

Exchange of the morpholino partial structure of gefitinib for sulfamide groups as NeuSIGs produced derivatives **2a-g** which exhibited similar EGFR inhibitory activity and maintained selectivity versus other protein kinases. The kinetic aqueous solubility of **2a-g** was comparable to gefitinib.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Neul, C., et al.: *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* **2016**, *37*, 904-932. [2] Gleeson, M.P.: *J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, *51*, 817-837. [3] Gajiwala, K. S., et al.: *Structure* **2013**, *21*, 209-219. [4] Jones, G., et al.: *J. Mol. Biol.* **1997**, *267*, 727-748. [5] *Molecular Operating Environment (MOE)*, 2013.08; Chemical Computing Group Inc., **2015**. [6] Pettersen, E. F., et al.: *J. Comput. Chem.* **2004**, *25*, 1605-1612. [7] Jain, N.; Yalkowsky, S. H.: *J. Pharm. Sci.* **2001**, *90*, 234-252. [8] Delaney, J. S.: *J. Chem. Inf. Model.* **2004**, *44*, 1000-1005.