Construction of Azepino[2,3-*b*]indole Core *via* Sulfur Ylide Mediated Annulations

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1. General Information

<u>General Procedures.</u> All reactions were performed in oven-dried reaction vessels. The flasks were fitted with Teflon screw caps and reactions were conducted directly (without the need of an argon atmosphere). Gas-tight syringes with stainless steel needles were used to transfer liquid chemicals. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (40–63 μ m, 230–400 mesh).

Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel 60 F_{254} aluminum plates (Merck) containing a 254 nm fluorescent indicator. TLC plates were visualized by exposure to short wave ultraviolet light (254 nm) and to a solution of KMnO₄ (1 g of KMnO₄, 6 g of K₂CO₃ and 0.1 g of KOH in 100 mL of H₂O) or vanillin (2 g of vanillin and 4 mL of concentrated H₂SO₄ in 100 mL of EtOH) followed by heating.

Organic solutions were concentrated at 30-50 $^{\circ}$ C on rotary evaporators at ~10 torr followed by drying on vacuum pump at ~1 torr. Reaction temperatures are reported as the temperature of the bath surrounding the vessel unless otherwise stated.

<u>Materials.</u> Commercial reagents and solvents were were obtained from Adamas-beta, Aldrich Chemical Co., Alfa Aesar, Macklin and Energy Chemical and used as received with the following exceptions: THF, 1,4-dioxane and toluene were purified by refluxing over Nabenzophenone under positive argon pressure followed by distillation. ^[1] The aza-diene substrates were prepared according to literature procedure. ^[2]

Instrumentation.

- Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were recorded with *J*EOL 600MHz spectrometers. Proton chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ scale), and are referenced using residual protium in the NMR solvent (CDCl₃: δ 7.26 (CHCl₃) or DMSO-*d*⁶: δ 2.54 (DMSO)). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br s = broad singlet), coupling constant(s) (Hz), integration].
- Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) spectra were recorded with *J*EOL 600MHz spectrometers. Carbon chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (δ scale), and are referenced using the carbon resonances of the solvent (δ 77.16 (CHCl₃) or δ 39.52 (DMSO)). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (if not singlet), assignment (C_q = fully substituted carbon)].
- High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Waters SYNAPT G2 using an electrospray (ESI) ionization source.

2. Further Optimization Studies

Br EtO ₂ C	+ Ph N H 2a	=NTs solvent, 2 h	$Ph CO_2Et$ $N H Ts$ $3a$
Entry	Solvent	Base	Yield $(\%)^c$
1	MeCN	K_2CO_3	90
2	MeCN	NaHCO ₃	47
3	MeCN	DBU^b	30
4	MeCN	TABF^b	$\mathbf{N.R.}^{d}$
5	MeCN	TBAB^b	$\mathbf{N.R.}^{d}$
6	MeCN	Cs ₂ CO ₃	96
7	MeCN	TEA^b	92
8	MeCN	NaH ₂ PO ₄	$\mathbf{N.R.}^{d}$
9	MeCN	-	$\mathbf{N.R.}^{d}$
10	Tol	Cs_2CO_3	79
11	CHCl ₃	Cs_2CO_3	82
12	1,4-dioxane	Cs_2CO_3	26
13	DCM	Cs_2CO_3	85
14	CCl_4	Cs_2CO_3	40
15	THF	Cs_2CO_3	87
16	EtOH	Cs_2CO_3	42

Table S1. the Reaction of Iminoindole 1a and Sulfonium Salt 2a^a

^{*a*} Reactions were performed with 0.12 mmol of **1a**, 0.10 mmol of **2a**, and 0.12 mmol of the base in 1.0 mL of solvent for 2 hours. ^{*b*} DBU: 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]-7-Undecene; TEA: triethylamine; TBAF: tetrabutylammoniumfluoride; TBAB: tetrabutylammonium bromide; ^{*c*} Isolated yield. ^{*d*} N.R.: no reaction.

Table S2. O	ptimization	of [3+1+3]	Cascade ^{<i>a</i>}
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Br EtO ₂ C	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	+ NTs - NH 5a	base Lewis acid solvent, rt	Ph CO ₂ Et
Entry	Base	Lewis acid	Solvent	Yield $(\%)^b$
1	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	MeCN	93
2^c	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	MeCN	91
3^d	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	MeCN	57
4	TEA	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	MeCN	84
5	Cs_2CO_3	Sc(OTf) ₃	MeCN	32
6	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	toluene	46
7	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	DCM	89
8	Cs_2CO_3	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	THF	29

^{*a*} Reactions were performed with sulfonium salt **1a** (0.12 mmol), aldehyde **4a** (0.15 mmol), iminoindoline **5a** (0.1 mmol), Lewis acid (0.1 mmol) and base (0.12 mmol) in 1.0 mL of MeCN at room temperature for 4 h. ^{*b*} Isolated yield of **3a**. ^{*c*} BF₃·OEt₂ (0.3 mmol) was used. ^{*d*} BF₃·OEt₂ (0.02 mmol) was used.

Table S3. the Sulfide Catalyzed Cyclization of 2a and 6a^a



Entry	Sulfide S	Base	Solvent	Yield $(\%)^c$	e.r. ^d
1	S2	K ₂ CO ₃	MeCN	86	-
2	S2	NaHCO ₃	MeCN	60	-
3	S2	DBU^b	MeCN	-	-
4	S2	TBAF^b	MeCN	-	-
5	S2	TBAB^b	MeCN	-	-
6	S2	TEA^b	MeCN	70	-
7	S2	NaH ₂ PO ₄	MeCN	-	-
8	S2	Cs_2CO_3	CHCl ₃	47	-
9	S2	Cs_2CO_3	1,4-dioxane	49	-
10	S2	Cs_2CO_3	CCl ₄	68	-
11	S 3	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	71	82:18
12	S4	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	57	77:23
13	S 5	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	41	50:50
14	S6	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	-	-
15	S7	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	46	76:24
16	S8	Cs_2CO_3	MeCN	37	20:80
17	S3	Cs_2CO_3	toluene	-	-
18	S3	Cs_2CO_3	CHCl ₃	47	76:24
19	S3	Cs_2CO_3	1,4-dioxane	49	76:24
20	S 3	Cs_2CO_3	DCM	71	77:33
21	S3	Cs_2CO_3	THF	-	-

^{*a*} Unless otherwise noted, reactions were performed with 0.10 mmol of **2a**, 0.15 mmol of **6a**, 0.02 mmol of sulfide **S** and 0.12 mmol of the base in 0.05 mL of the solvent for 1 hour. ^{*b*} DBU: 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]-7-Undecene; TEA: triethylamine; TBAF: tetrabutylammoniumfluoride; TBAB: tetrabutylammonium bromide. ^{*c*} Isolated yield. ^{*d*} Determined by HPLC using a chiral stationary phase.

3. General Procedure for the Synthesis of Product 3

Proceduer A: the direct annulation of 1 and 2



A glass reaction tube (as the reaction vessel) was charged with sulfonium salt 1 (0.12 mmol), aza-diene 2 (0.10 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (0.12 mmol) in 1 mL MeCN. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate from 10:1 to 4:1 to afford the corresponding product **3**.

Proceduer B: the three-component reaction of 1, 4 and 5



A glass reaction tube (as the reaction vessel) was charged with sulfonium salt 1 (0.12 mmol), aldehyde 4 (0.12 mmol), iminoindoline 5 (0.10 mmol), $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ (0.1 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (0.12 mmol) in 1 mL MeCN. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate from 10:1 to 4:1to afford the corresponding product **3**.

Proceduer C: the sulfide catalyzed cyclization of 6 and 2



A glass reaction tube (as the reaction vessel) was charged with crotonate bromide **6** (0.15 mmol), aza-diene **2** (0.10 mmol), tetrahydrothiophene **S2** or chiral sulfide **S3** (0.02 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (0.12 mmol) in 0.05 mL MeCN (2M). The mixture was stirred at room temperature

for 12 hours (for S2) or 48 hours (for S3). Then the mixture was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1 to afford the corresponding product **3**.

Proceduer D: the sulfide catalyzed three-component reaction of 4, 5 and 6



A glass reaction tube (as the reaction vessel) was charged with crotonate bromide **6a** (0.15 mmol), aldehyde **4a** (0.10 mmol), iminoindole **5a**, tetrahydrothiophene **S2** (0.02 mmol), $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ (0.1 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (0.12 mmol) in 1 mL MeCN. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10:1 to afford the product **3a**.

ethyl 5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3a



White solid; Procedure A: 23.3 mg, 96% yield; Proceduce B: 22.6 mg, 93% yield; Procedure C (with **S2**): 22.4 mg, 92% yield; Procedure D: 10.5 mg, 43% yield; according to Procedure C by using chiral sulfide **S3** as the catalyst, **3a** was obtained in 71% yield, and the enantiomeric ratio was determined to be 82:18 by chiral HPLC analysis on Chiralpak AD column (20% 2-propanol/*n*-hexane, 1 mL/min), UV 220 nm, $t_{minor} = 29.19$ min, $t_{major} = 25.76$ min; m.p. = 107–109 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3a**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 7.07 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.65 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 144.3, 142.9, 140.1, 135.0, 133.1, 132.8, 132.6, 132.3, 129.7, 128.4, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 122.5, 120.0, 118.7, 110.6, 101.9, 61.2, 45.2, 38.3, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{26}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 509.1505, found: 509.1512.

ethyl 5-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3b



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3b** 24.2 mg in 93% yield as white solid; m.p. = 131-135 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3b**:

¹**H NMR** (**600 MHz**, **CDCl**₃) δ (ppm): 9.11 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.11 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.54 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.9, 144.9, 144.3, 139.4, 134.9, 134.3, 133.6, 132.6, 132.2, 129.7, 129.6, 127.3, 127.3, 127.1, 126.7, 125.5, 122.6, 120.1, 118.5, 110.7, 101.2, 61.3, 45.2, 38.0, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}ClN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 543.1116(³⁵Cl), 545.1086(³⁷Cl), found: 543.1119, 545.1101.

ethyl 5-(3-bromophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3c



White solid; Procedure A: 25.9 mg, 92% yield; Procedure B: 22.3 mg, 79% yield; Procedure C (with **S2**): 26.2 mg, 93% yield; m.p. = 117-120 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3c**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.12 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.07 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 7.02 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.68 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.55 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.9, 145.2, 144.3, 139.3, 134.9, 133.6, 132.6, 132.2, 130.2, 129.9, 129.7, 129.7, 127.3, 127.1, 125.9, 122.7, 122.6, 120.1, 118.5, 110.7, 101.2, 61.3, 45.2, 38.0, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}BrN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 587.0611(⁷⁹Br), 589.0590(⁸¹Br); found: 587.0610, 589.0596.

ethyl 5-(m-tolyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3d



White solid; Procedure A: 23.8 mg, 95% yield; Procedure B: 20.5 mg, 82% yield, Procedure C (with S2): 22.0 mg, 88% yield; m.p. = 225-228 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3d**:

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.09 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 4.53 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 144.2, 142.8, 140.1, 138.0, 135.0, 133.0, 132.5, 132.3, 129.7, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 127.3, 127.3, 124.3, 122.4, 119.9, 118.7, 110.6, 101.9, 61.1, 45.2, 38.2, 21.5, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{29}H_{28}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 523.1662, found: 523.1665.

ethyl 5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3e



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3e** 25.0 mg in 97% yield as white solid; m.p. = 161-163 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3e**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.06 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.67 – 6.63 (m, 4H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 159.5, 144.5, 144.2, 139.8, 135.0, 133.2, 132.5, 132.2, 129.6, 129.3, 127.3, 122.4, 119.9, 119.7, 118.7, 113.7, 111.1, 110.6, 101.8, 61.1,

55.0, 45.2, 38.2, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₂₉H₂₈N₂O₅S+Na⁺: 539.1611, found: 539.1616. *ethyl* 5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3f



White solid; Procedure A: 24.4 mg, 94% yield; Procedure B: 22.9 mg, 88% yield; Procedure C (with S2): 23.1 mg, 89% yield; m.p. = 125-128 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3f**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.12 (dd, J = 21.6, 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.06 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 7.00 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.67 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.54 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.0, 144.4, 141.4, 139.5, 134.9, 133.5, 132.5, 132.3, 132.2, 129.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.3, 127.1, 122.6, 120.1, 118.5, 110.7, 101.7, 61.3, 45.3, 37.8, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}ClN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 543.1116(³⁵Cl), 545.1086(³⁷Cl), found: 543.1119, 545.1110

ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3g



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3g** in 26.2 mg 93% yield as white solid; m.p. = 125-127 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3g**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.10 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 4.53 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.0, 144.4, 141.9, 139.4, 134.9, 133.5, 132.5, 132.3, 131.4, 129.7, 129.0, 127.3, 127.1, 122.6, 120.3, 120.1, 118.5, 110.7, 101.6, 61.3, 45.3, 37.9, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}BrN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 587.0611(⁷⁹Br), 589.0590(⁸¹Br); found: 587.0614, 589.0600.

ethyl 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3h



White solid; Procedure A: 23.9 mg, 95% yield; Procedure B: 23.4 mg, 93% yield; m.p. = 104-106 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3h**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.83 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 4.54 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.0, 144.3, 139.8, 138.6, 135.0, 133.3, 132.5, 132.3, 129.7, 128.8, 128.7, 127.4, 127.2, 122.6, 120.1, 118.5, 115.2, 115.1, 110.7, 102.1, 61.2, 45.3, 37.8, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}FN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 527.1411, found: 527.1420.

ethyl 5-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3i



White solid; Procedure A: 24.2 mg, 91% yield; Proceduce B: 19.4 mg, 73% yield; m.p. = 97–101 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3i**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.17 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (s, 1H), 4.56 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.20 – 4.09 (m, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.9, 150.3, 146.5, 144.6, 138.5, 134.9, 134.3, 132.6, 132.3, 129.8, 128.1, 127.3, 126.8, 123.6, 122.9, 120.3, 118.1, 110.9, 101.0, 61.5, 45.3,



White solid; Procedure A: 23.3 mg, 93% yield; Proceduce B: 23.0 mg, 92% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 22.3 mg, 89% yield; m.p. = 113–117 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3j**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.07 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.94 (m, 4H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 144.2, 140.1, 139.9, 136.0, 135.0, 133.0, 132.5, 132.3, 129.6, 129.1, 127.4, 127.3, 127.1, 122.4, 119.9, 118.7, 110.6, 102.1, 61.1, 45.3, 38.0, 21.5, 20.9, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{29}H_{28}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 523.1662, found: 523.1667.

ethyl 5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3k



White solid; Procedure A: 24.8 mg, 96% yield; Proceduce B: 21.2 mg, 82% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 22.5 mg, 87% yield; m.p. = 89-91 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product 3k:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 4.53 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.2, 158.0, 144.2, 140.1, 135.0, 132.9, 132.4, 132.3, 129.6, 128.2, 127.4, 127.3, 127.1, 122.5, 119.9, 118.8, 113.7, 110.6, 102.3, 61.1, 55.1, 45.3, 37.6, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{29}H_{26}N_2O_5S+Na^+$: 539.1611, found: 539.1617.

ethyl 5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 31



White solid; Procedure A: 23.9 mg, 92% yield; Proceduce B: 23.9 mg, 92% yield; m.p. = 135–137 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3I**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.15 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (q, J = 16.8, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H),

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.3, 144.4, 140.0, 139.2, 135.3, 133.2, 132.6, 132.3, 132.1, 130.2, 130.1, 129.8, 128.1, 127.3, 126.7, 126.6, 122.6, 120.0, 118.7, 110.7, 101.8, 60.9, 44.9, 37.5, 21.5, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}CIN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 543.1116(³⁵Cl), 545.1086(³⁷Cl), found: 543.1120, 545.1110.

<u>ethyl 5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate</u> <u>3m</u>



White solid; Procedure A: 23.5 mg, 91% yield; Proceduce B: 18.3 mg, 71% yield; m.p. = 135–137 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3m**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.17 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.69 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 6.23 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.41 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.09 – 4.05 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³**C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 166.6, 156.3, 144.2, 141.5, 135.3, 133.1, 132.1, 130.7, 130.1, 129.7, 128.7, 127.9, 127.3, 122.3, 120.1, 119.8, 118.6, 110.6, 110.5, 100.9, 60.5, 54.8, 44.5, 34.9, 21.5, 14.4.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₂₉H₂₈N₂O₅S+Na⁺: 539.1611, found: 539.1617. <u>ethyl 5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate</u> <u>3n</u>



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3n** 26.0 mg in 94% yield as white solid; m.p. = 130-131 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3n**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.14 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.31 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.07 – 4.00 (m, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 144.5, 138.8, 138.3, 135.2, 133.8, 133.2, 132.7, 132.5, 132.3, 131.0, 129.8, 127.2, 126.8, 126.4, 122.7, 120.2, 118.6, 110.8, 101.8, 61.1, 45.1, 37.1, 21.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{24}Cl_2N_2O_4+Na^+$: 577.0726(³⁵Cl), 579.0697(³⁷Cl), found: 577.0727, 579.0705.

<u>ethyl</u> <u>5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxy-</u> late 30



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3o** 22.9 mg in 84% yield as white solid; m.p. = 171-174 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **30**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.64 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.53 – 6.51 (m, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 4.54 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.07 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.3, 148.7, 147.5, 144.2, 139.9, 135.4, 135.0,

133.0, 132.5, 132.3, 129.6, 127.4, 127.3, 122.5, 119.9, 119.2, 118.7, 110.7, 110.7, 110.6, 102.2, 61.1, 55.7, 45.2, 38.1, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{30}H_{30}N_2O_6S+Na^+$: 569.1717, found: 569.1722.

ethyl 5-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3p



White solid; Procedure A: 23.9 mg, 89% yield; Proceduce B: 22.8 mg, 85% yield; m.p. = 198-200 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3p**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.14 (s, 1H), 7.74 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 6H), 7.29 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.2, 144.3, 140.3, 139.7, 135.0, 133.5, 133.1, 132.6, 132.3, 132.1, 129.7, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 127.3, 126.0, 125.8, 125.6, 125.6, 122.5, 120.0, 118.7, 110.6, 101.9, 61.2, 45.2, 38.5, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{32}H_{28}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 559.1662, found: 559.1667.

ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3q



White solid; Procedure A: 21.7 mg, 91% yield; Proceduce B: 21.0 mg, 88% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 19.3 mg, 81% yield; m.p. = 89-91 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3q**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.96 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.78 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dd, J = 3.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.91 – 5.90 (m, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 4.62 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 4.10 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.2, 154.2, 144.2, 141.8, 136.4, 134.9, 134.8, 132.2, 132.1, 129.6, 127.4, 126.9, 122.5, 119.9, 118.6, 110.6, 110.0, 106.4, 100.6, 61.1, 45.5, 33.6, 21.5, 14.2.



White solid; Procedure A: 22.6 mg, 92% yield; Proceduce B: 20.2 mg, 82% yield; m.p. = 92–93 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3r**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.00 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.09 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (q, J = 5.4, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.72 – 6.69 (m, 1H), 6.66 – 6.65 (m, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 4.60 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.4, 146.7, 144.3, 139.0, 134.9, 133.9, 132.2, 132.1, 129.7, 127.4, 127.0, 126.4, 124.7, 124.0, 122.6, 120.0, 118.6, 110.7, 102.6, 61.2, 45.3, 34.8, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{26}H_{24}N_2O_4S_2+Na^+$: 515.1070, found: 515.1075.

ethyl 5-(pyridin-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3s



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3s** in 20.9 mg 86% yield yield as white solid; m.p. = 146–150 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3s**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.02 (s, 1H), 8.41 – 8.40 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.04 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.76 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.06 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 14.4, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.8, 162.0, 149.8, 144.1, 138.3, 136.4, 135.1, 134.6, 132.6, 132.3, 129.6, 127.4, 127.1, 122.4, 122.3, 121.6, 119.8, 118.3, 110.7, 102.3, 61.0, 45.9, 42.1, 21.5, 14.2.



White solid; Procedure A: 25.6 mg, 92% yield; Proceduce B: 25.9 mg, 93% yield; m.p. = 97–101 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3t**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.01 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 6.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.40 – 6.36 (m, 1H), 6.29 – 6.26 (m, 1H), 5.09 – 5.08 (m, 1H), 4.64 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, J = 15.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H),

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 165.4, 146.7, 144.4, 143.3, 136.8, 135.0, 134.8, 134.1, 132.4, 132.3, 129.7, 127.9, 127.4, 126.9, 123.8, 122.7, 120.2, 118.3, 110.8, 101.0, 61.3, 45.7, 37.4, 29.7, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{30}H_{27}N_3O_6S+Na^+$: 580.1513, found: 580.1519.

ethyl 5-pentyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3u



Colorless semisolid; Procedure A: 21.8 mg, 91% yield; Proceduce B: 21.6 mg, 90% yield. *NMR and HRMS data for the product* **3u**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.81 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.70 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.60 – 4.53 (m, 3H), 4.21 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.09 – 4.05 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.58 – 1.46 (m, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.20 – 1.10 (m, 5H), 0.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.4, 144.1, 139.0, 135.2, 133.3, 132.4, 130.7, 129.5, 127.3, 126.9, 122.3, 119.6, 118.5, 110.7, 106.6, 60.9, 46.2, 37.9, 34.0, 31.8, 27.5, 22.5, 21.5, 14.2, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C₂₇H₃₂N₂O₄S+Na⁺: 503.1975, found: 503.1977. *ethyl 5-cyclopentyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3v*



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford 3v 20.8 mg in 87% yield as white solid; m.p. = 98–100 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3v**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.93 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.64 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (dd, J = 17.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (dd, J = 16.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.12 – 4.06 (m, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.53 – 1.37 (m, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.22 – 1.11 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.9, 144.1, 138.5, 135.4, 132.8, 132.1, 130.1, 129.6, 127.2, 122.1, 119.5, 119.0, 110.6, 107.9, 61.0, 49.4, 46.4, 37.6, 32.4, 30.7, 24.1, 23.8, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{27}H_{30}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 501.1818, found: 501.1823.

ethyl 5-cyclohexyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3w



White solid; Procedure A: 20.2 mg, 82% yield; Proceduce B: 20.4 mg, 83% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 20.2 mg, 82% yield; m.p. = 155-159 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3w**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.00 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 – 4.55 (m, 2H), 4.09 – 4.04 (m, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.53 – 1.42 (m, 6H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.03 – 0.83 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.8, 144.2, 139.2, 135.1, 132.5, 131.9, 130.8, 129.7, 127.9, 127.2, 122.0, 119.5, 119.2, 110.5, 105.4, 60.9, 46.3, 45.9, 39.3, 32.2, 31.0, 26.4, 26.3, 26.1, 21.5, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{32}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 515.1975, found: 515.1979.



Colorless semisolid. Procedure A: 22.3 mg, 93% yield; Proceduce B: 18.2 mg, 76% yield; Procedure C(with **S2**): 20.4 mg, 85% yield.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3x**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.82 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.69 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.62 – 4.53 (m, 2H), 4.31 (dd, J = 9.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, J = 13.8, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.53 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.28 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.4, 144.1, 139.5, 135.2, 133.5, 132.3, 130.8, 129.6, 127.3, 126.7, 122.3, 119.6, 118.2, 110.7, 106.7, 60.9, 48.0, 46.1, 31.6, 26.1, 23.6, 22.0, 21.5, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{27}H_{32}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 489.1818, found: 489.1819.

diethyl 1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4,5-dicarboxylate 3y



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3y** 22.2 mg in 92% yield as colorless semisolid.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3y**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 8.99 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.25 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 4.74 (dd, J = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.08 – 4.02 (m, 4H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.16 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 170.9, 165.1, 144.3, 137.0, 135.0, 133.9, 132.6, 132.0, 129.7, 127.3, 126.9, 122.6, 120.0, 119.0, 110.6, 98.4, 61.7, 61.2, 45.9, 40.7, 21.5, 14.1,

14.0. **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calculated for $C_{25}H_{26}N_2O_6S+Na^+$: 505.1404, found: 505.1410. *ethyl 7-bromo-5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3z*.



White solid; Procedure A: 25.1 mg, 89% yield; Proceduce B: 19.7 mg, 70% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 21.2 mg, 75% yield; m.p. = 198–199 $^{\circ}$ C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3z**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.15 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 4.50 (dd, J = 15.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, J = 15.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.0, 144.5, 142.4, 140.2, 134.8, 133.6, 133.1, 130.8, 129.8, 129.1, 128.5, 127.3, 127.1, 126.6, 125.4, 121.1, 113.3, 112.1, 101.4, 61.3, 45.0, 37.9, 21.6, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}BrN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 587.0611(⁷⁹Br), 589.0590(⁸¹Br); found: 587.0613, 589.0594.

<u>ethyl</u> 7-methoxy-5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3aa



White solid; Procedure A: 21.4 mg, 83% yield; Proceduce B: 19.9 mg, 77% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 20.4 mg, 79% yield; m.p. = 105-110 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3aa**:

¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.98 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.4Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.05 (m, 8H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.64 (m, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 4.51 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm):δ 166.2, 154.3, 144.2, 142.8, 140.2, 135.0, 133.2, 132.9, 129.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.3, 127.2, 127.2, 126.4, 112.1, 111.4, 101.9, 100.8, 61.2, 55.8, 45.2, 38.3, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{29}H_{28}N_2O_5S+Na^+$: 539.1611, found: 539.1611.

ethyl 8-methyl-5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3ab



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3ab** 23.5 mg in 94% yield as white solid; m.p. = 105-110 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3ab**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 8.93 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.19 – 7.06 (m, 9H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.51 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.07 (m, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.2, 144.2, 142.9, 139.9, 135.0, 133.1, 132.7, 132.4, 131.9, 129.6, 128.4, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 125.1, 121.6, 118.5, 110.6, 102.0, 61.1, 45.3, 38.4, 21.7, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{29}H_{28}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 523.1662, found: 523.1667.

ethyl 8-methyl-5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3ac



White solid; Procedure A: 23.4 mg, 90% yield; Proceduce B: 19.0 mg, 73% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 18.2 mg, 70% yield; m.p. = 105-110 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3ac**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 6H), 7.04 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 7.00 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 6.66 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.52 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.1, 144.4, 142.5, 139.8, 134.8, 133.1, 133.0, 132.6, 129.7, 128.5, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 126.6, 125.9, 120.7, 119.6, 110.6, 102.1, 61.2, 45.2, 38.2, 21.5, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{28}H_{25}ClN_2O_4S+Na^+$: 543.1116(³⁵Cl), 545.1086(³⁷Cl), found: 543.1112, 545.1088.

methyl 5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate 3ad



White solid; Procedure A: 22.9 mg, 97% yield; Proceduce B: 21.5 mg, 91% yield; Procedure C(with S2): 22.0 mg, 93% yield; m.p. = 102-105 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3ad**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 5H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 4.51 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm):166.6, 144.3, 142.8, 139.6, 134.9, 133.6, 132.5, 132.3, 129.6, 128.4, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.4, 122.5, 120.0, 118.7, 110.6, 102.0, 52.2, 45.3, 38.4, 21.5.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{27}H_{24}N_2O_4S+Na^+$: 495.1349, found: 495.1353.

<u>2-oxo-2-phenylethyl 5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indole-4-carboxylate</u> <u>3ae</u>



Prepared according to the Procedure A to afford **3ae** in 26.5 mg 92% yield as white solid; m.p. = 178-181 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **3ae**:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.13 (s, 1H), 7.93 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.11 (m, 9H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.31 (q, J = 29.4, 16.2 Hz, 2H), 4.56 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, J = 15.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.3, 165.7, 144.5, 142.6, 139.6, 134.8, 134.6, 134.2, 134.0, 132.5, 132.3, 129.9, 129.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 127.3, 126.5, 122.4,

120.0, 118.6, 110.6, 101.8, 66.5, 45.2, 38.4, 21.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{34}H_{28}N_2O_5S+Na^+$: 599.1611, found: 599.1608.

Large-Scale Reaction:

The large-scale experiments were also conducted according to the relative genneral procedure A, B or C. As shown in the following scheme, all the three reactions proceeded well, affording reasonable yields.



4. Synthetic Transformations of the Product 3a



To a solution of **3a** (0.1 mmol) in 1 mL of THF was added tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF, 0.5 mmol), and the reaction was stirred at 60 $^{\circ}$ C for 12 hour. Then H₂O (5 mL) was added to quench the reaction and the resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL)

 \times 2). The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was purified through column chromatograghy on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 6:1) to afford the desired product **7** as a red solid.

ethyl 1-benzoyl-6,6-dimethyl-4,8-dioxospiro[2.5]octane-1-carboxylate 7



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **7** 15.8 mg in 96% yield as red solid; m.p. = 194-196 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product 7:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 9.31 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 7.08 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 4.38 – 4.32 (m, 2H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 166.5, 151.7, 142.1, 141.7, 138.3, 137.3, 128.3, 127.5, 126.8, 126.7, 126.0, 124.4, 120.3, 119.5, 111.1, 106.2, 62.0, 38.0, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{21}H_{18}N_2O_2+Na^+$: 353.1260, found: 353.1263.



A solution of **3a** (0.1 mmol) in 1 mL of DCM was cooled to 0 °C. then slowly added diisobutyl aluminium hydride (DIBAL-H, 0.25 mmol). The reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 30 minutes. Then H₂O (5 mL) was added to quench the reaction and the resulting mixture was extracted with DCM (5 mL × 2). The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was purified through column chromatograghy on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate =4:1) to afford the product **9** 21.3 mg as a white solid. The second reaction was conducted with **9** (21.3 mg, 0.096 mmol), Pd(OH)₂ (4 mg) in EtOH (1 mL) under H₂ atmosphere (1 atm). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. When the reaction was completed, the mixture was concentrated, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with petroleum

ether/ethyl acetate from 6:1 to 4:1 to afford the product **6**, which was dried under vacuum and further analyzed by ¹H NMR, ¹³C HMR, HRMS, *etc*.

(5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,10-tetrahydroazepino[2,3-b]indol-4-yl)methanol 9



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **9** 21.3 mg in 96% yield as white solid; m.p. = 198-199 °C.

NMR and HRMS data for the product **9**:

¹**H NMR** (**600 MHz**, **CDCl**₃) δ (ppm): 9.03 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 9H), 7.02 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 5.51 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.45 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (dd, J = 15.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 – 3.78 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³**C NMR** (**150 MHz**, **CDCl**₃) δ (ppm): 148.6, 144.3, 143.1, 136.0, 132.6, 132.4, 129.4, 128.5, 127.8, 127.4, 127.2, 126.6, 122.4, 119.8, 119.4, 118.7, 110.6, 103.2, 66.8, 46.2, 41.5, 21.5. **HRMS** (**ESI**) m/z calculated for C₂₆H₂₄N₂O₃+Na⁺: 467.1400, found: 467.1402.

(5-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,3,4,5,10-hexahydroazepino[2,3-b]indol-4-yl)methanol 8



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **8** 20.5 mg in 92% yield as white solid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >19:1 by crude ¹H NMR analysis.

NMR and HRMS data for the product 8:

¹**H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ (ppm): 8.94 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.92 – 6.89 (m, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.28 – 4.23 (m, 1H), 4.07 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 – 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.48 (dd, J = 10.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J = 10.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.06 – 2.01 (m, 1H), 1.95 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.80 – 1.73 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 144.2, 143.3, 136.2, 133.4, 130.0, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 125.4, 127.4, 126.0, 122.2, 119.6, 119.0, 110.6, 107.6, 64.7, 49.6, 44.0, 43.1, 27.9, 21.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_3S+Na^+$: 469.1556, found: 469.1554.

5. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for Representative Product 3p





Identification code	3p
Empirical formula	$C_{32}H_{28}N_2O_4S$
Formula weight	536.62
Temperature/K	180
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	10.0453(6)
b/Å	10.6051(8)
c/Å	15.2624(9)
a/°	85.076(5)
β/°	76.712(5)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	73.509(6)
Volume/Å ³	1516.93(17)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.175
μ/mm^{-1}	1.243
F(000)	564.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.6 imes 0.3 imes 0.1
Radiation	$CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54184)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	8.698 to 145.826
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 12, -13 \le k \le 12, -18 \le l \le 18$
Reflections collected	16717
Independent reflections	5907 [$R_{int} = 0.0531$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0512$]
Data/restraints/parameters	5907/0/354
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.448
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.1122, wR_2 = 0.3352$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1253, wR_2 = 0.3596$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	3.23/-0.58

6. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for 7





Identification code Empirical formula Formula weight Temperature/K Crystal system Space group a/Å b/Å c/Å α/° ß/° $\gamma/^{\circ}$ Volume/Å³ Ζ $\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$ μ/mm^{-1} F(000) Crystal size/mm³ Radiation 2Θ range for data collection/° Index ranges Reflections collected Independent reflections Data/restraints/parameters Goodness-of-fit on \boldsymbol{F}^2 Final R indexes $[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$ Final R indexes [all data] Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å⁻³ 7 $C_{21}H_{18}N_2O_2$ 330.37 295.39(10) monoclinic $P2_1/c$ 10.3152(3) 21.8940(6) 8.1031(2) 90 110.046(3) 90 1719.15(9) 4 1.276 0.664 696.0 $0.6 \times 0.4 \times 0.3$ CuKa ($\lambda = 1.54184$) 8.076 to 145.432 $-12 \le h \le 8, -27 \le k \le 23, -9 \le l \le 9$ 9566 $3354 [R_{int} = 0.0251, R_{sigma} = 0.0218]$ 3354/0/258 1.031 $R_1 = 0.0570, wR_2 = 0.1545$ $R_1 = 0.0638$, $wR_2 = 0.1638$ 0.20/-0.36

7. References and Notes

- [1] (a) Krell, E. Handbook of Laboratory Distillation, Elseriver Publishing Company, Amsterdam-London-New York, 1963. (b) Rosengart, M. J. The Technique of Distillation and Rectification in the Laboratory, VEB Verlag Technik, Berlin, 1954. (c) Stage, F. Angew. Chem. 1947, 19, 175–183.
- [2] Moriyama, K.; Ishida, K.; Togo, H. Chem. Commun. 2015, 51, 2273-2276.

8. NMR and HPLC Spectra of the Products





No.	Ret.Time	Height	Area	Rel.Area
	min	mAU	mAU*min	%
1	25.25	29.409	31.514	50.04
2	28.56	29.196	31.464	49.96
Total:		58.604	62.978	100.00



No.	Ret.Time Height		Area	Rel.Area
	min	mAU	mAU*min	%
1	25.76	130.765	145.805	82.34
2	29.19	30.200	33.444	17.66
Total:		160.965	179.249	100.00







































































































































