

A Synthesis of Multifunctionalized Indoles from [3+2] Annulation of 2-Bromocyclopropenes with Anilines

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Supporting Information

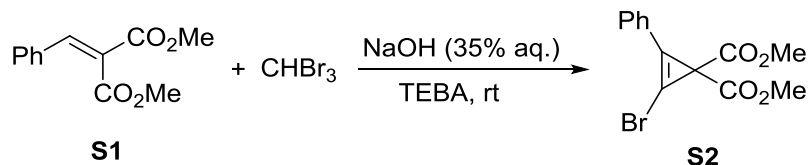
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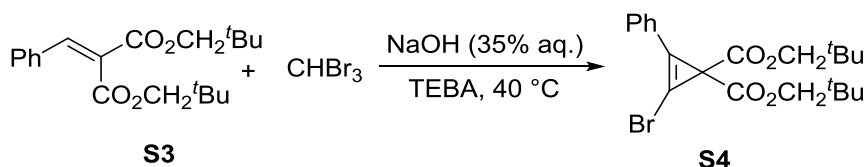
1. General Information

All reactions were carried out under Ar unless otherwise noted. All compounds and solvents were purified according to standard methods unless otherwise noted. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 400 MHz or Agilent Mercury 400 MHz spectrometer (^1H : 400 MHz and ^{13}C : 100 MHz) in chloroform- d or DMSO- d_6 . ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were internally referenced to the proton (^1H) of the internal TMS signal at 0.00 ppm or the solvent residue of DMSO at 2.54 ppm and the residual carbon nuclei (^{13}C) of the solvent at 77.0 or 40.0 ppm, respectively. Data for ^1H NMR were recorded as follows: chemical shift (δ , ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker–Tensor 27; frequencies are given in reciprocal centimeters (cm^{-1}) and only selected absorbance is reported. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on Agilent Technologies 6224 TOF LC/MS (ESI) or Thermo Scientific Q Exactive HF Orbitrap-FTMS (ESI) mass spectrometers. Substrates are commercially available or were prepared according to the literatures¹⁻⁴.

2. Synthesis of Cyclopropenes

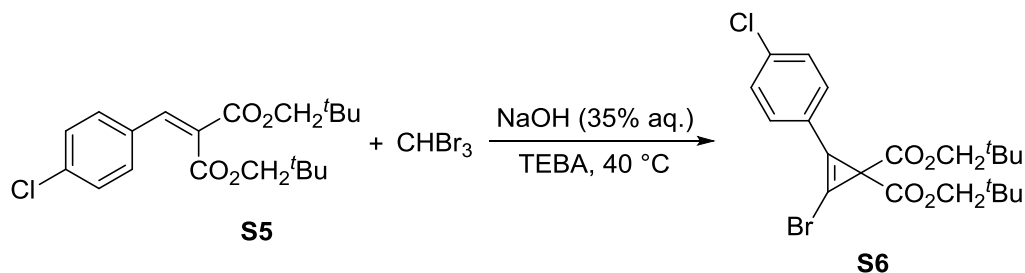


A mixture of **S1** (20.2 g, 91.8 mmol), CHBr_3 (80.2 mL, 918.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (185.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (4.20 g, 18.4 mmol) was stirred at room temperature. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by ^1H NMR, in 4.0 hours), water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S2** (24.3 g, 85% yield) as white solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.62-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 130.5, 129.5, 128.9, 122.9, 112.5, 84.8, 52.6, 39.0; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2957, 1738, 1428, 1057, 758; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 310.9913; Found: 310.9919.

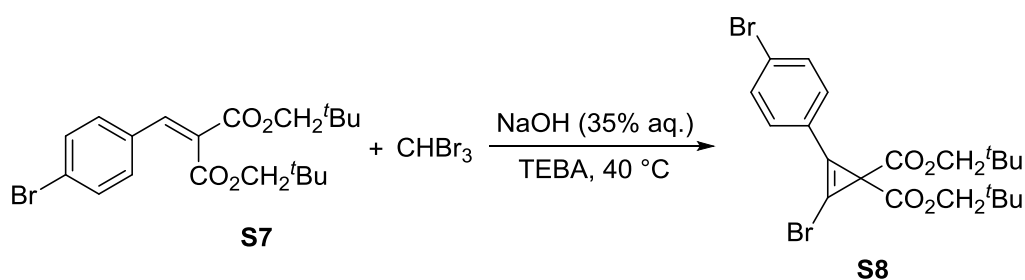


A mixture of **S3** (10.0 g, 30.0 mmol), CHBr_3 (26.2 mL, 300.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (45.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (1.37 g, 6.0 mmol) was stirred at 40 °C. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, in 4.0 hours), water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S4** (10.3 g, 81% yield) as brown oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.63-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 3H), 3.87 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.84 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 0.89 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 130.5, 129.5, 128.9, 123.1, 112.8, 85.1, 74.5, 39.5, 31.4, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2958, 1731, 1241, 1051, 759; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for

$C_{21}H_{28}BrO_4^+$ ($[M+H]^+$): 423.1165; Found: 423.1174.

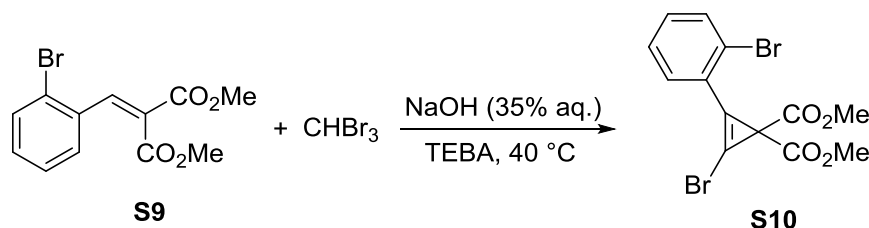


A mixture of **S5** (2.0 g, 5.5 mmol), $CHBr_3$ (4.8 mL, 55.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (12.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (0.25 g, 1.1 mmol) was stirred at 40 °C. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, in 3.5 hours), water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S6** (2.1 g, 83% yield) as white solid. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS) δ 7.57-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 3.88 (ABd, J_{AB} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (ABd, J_{BA} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 0.89 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 168.5, 136.6, 130.6, 129.3, 121.7, 112.0, 86.0, 74.6, 39.4, 31.4, 26.2; IR ν / cm^{-1} 2956, 1730, 1367, 1168, 743; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $C_{21}H_{27}BrClO_4^+$ ($[M+H]^+$): 457.0776; Found: 457.0779.

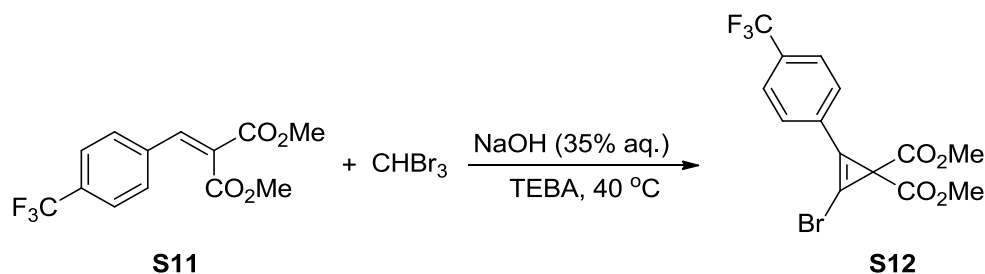


A mixture of **S7** (2.5 g, 6.1 mmol), $CHBr_3$ (5.3 mL, 61.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (15.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (0.28 g, 1.2 mmol) was stirred at 40 °C. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, in 4.0 hours), water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S8** (2.3 g, 76% yield)

as white solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.60-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H), 3.88 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.84 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.89 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.5, 132.2, 130.8, 125.0, 122.1, 112.1, 86.2, 74.6, 39.4, 31.4, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2955, 1729, 1367, 1168, 737; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 501.0271; Found: 501.0272.



A mixture of **S9** (4.4 g, 14.8 mmol), CHBr_3 (13.0 mL, 148.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (34.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (0.68 g, 3.0 mmol) was stirred at 40 °C. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, in 1.5 hours), water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S10** (3.8 g, 65% yield) as white solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.65 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.0, 133.4, 131.9, 131.7, 127.5, 124.8, 124.4, 111.2, 88.9, 52.6, 38.6; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2955, 1720, 1250, 1063, 784, 736; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 388.9019; Found: 388.9025.



A mixture of **S11** (2.0 g, 7.0 mmol), CHBr_3 (6.1 mL, 70.0 mmol), 35% aq. NaOH (16.0 mL) and benzyltriethylammonium chloride (0.32 g, 1.4 mmol) was stirred at 40 °C. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by ^1H NMR, in 1.0 hours), water

was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **S12** (1.5 g, 55% yield) as white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS) δ 7.74-7.69 (m, 4H), 3.79 (s, 6H); ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -63.1 (s, 3F); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.7, 131.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.6 Hz), 129.6, 126.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.2 Hz), 125.8 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 124.9, 123.5 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 270.7 Hz), 111.7, 88.2, 52.6, 39.1; IR ν/ cm⁻¹ 2960, 1730, 1438, 1319, 1246, 1053, 837, 747; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): calcd for C₁₄H₁₀BrF₃NaO₄⁺ ([M+Na]⁺): 400.9607; Found: 400.9605.

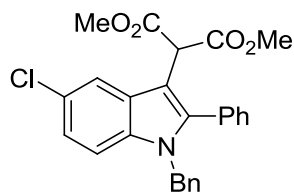
3. General Procedure for the Synthesis of Indoles

For 3a-3r and 5a-5h. A mixture of $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (22.0 mg, 0.06 mmol) and the **L5** (5.2 mg, 0.036 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (2.0 mL), with activated 4Å MS (500.0 mg) was stirred at room temperature for 4.0 h under nitrogen. Then, the cyclopropene **2** (0.3 mmol), the aromatic amine **1** or **4** (0.6 mmol) and 1,2-dichloroethane (1.0 mL) were added to the mixture of catalyst successively. The resulting suspension was allowed to stir at 80 °C. Upon disappearance of **2** as confirmed by thin-layer chromatography, the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with a thin layer (20 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) with CH_2Cl_2 and EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum) to afford the product **3** or **5**.

For 5i. A mixture of $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (11.0 mg, 0.03 mmol) and the **L4** (8.1 mg, 0.036 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (1.0 mL), with activated 4Å MS (500.0 mg) was stirred at room temperature for 5.0 h under nitrogen. Then, the cyclopropene **2b** (152.0 mg, 0.36 mmol), the aromatic amine **4i** (48.4 mg, 0.3 mmol) and 1,2-dichloroethane (2.0 mL) were added to the mixture of catalyst successively. The resulting suspension was allowed to stir at 80 °C. Upon disappearance of **4i** as confirmed by thin-layer chromatography, the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with a thin layer (20 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) with CH_2Cl_2 and EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum) to afford the product **5i**.

For 3s. A mixture of $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.29 g, 0.8 mmol) and the **L4** (0.22 g, 0.96 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (20.0 mL), with activated 4Å MS (13.0 g) was stirred at room temperature for 9.0 h under nitrogen. Then, the cyclopropene **2b** (4.05 g, 9.6 mmol), the aromatic amine **1s** (0.86 g, 8.0 mmol) and 1,2-dichloroethane (20.0 mL) were added to the mixture of catalyst successively. The resulting suspension was allowed to stir at 80 °C. Upon disappearance of **1s** as confirmed by thin-layer chromatography, the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with a thin layer (20 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) with CH_2Cl_2 and EtOAc. The filtrate was

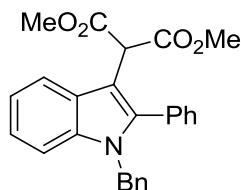
concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum) to afford the product **3s**.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-5-chloro-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3a

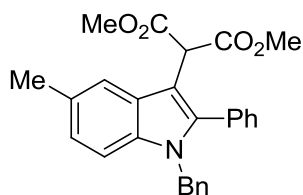
3a, white solid, 94 mg, 70% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.07 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 4.75 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 141.7, 137.3, 135.2, 130.7, 129.9, 129.2, 128.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.1, 126.0, 122.7, 120.4, 111.4, 105.1, 52.7, 49.6, 47.9; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2950, 1727, 1357, 1130, 730; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 448.1310; Found: 448.1309.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3b

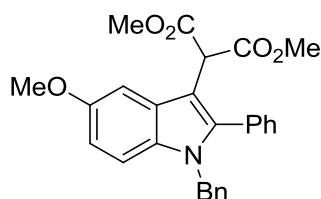
3b, white solid, 81 mg, 65% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.82-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.15 (m, 6H), 6.94 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 140.3, 137.7, 136.7, 130.8, 130.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 126.6, 126.0, 122.3, 120.8, 120.3, 110.4, 105.4, 52.6, 49.8, 47.7; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2949, 1730, 1364, 1145, 725; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 414.1700; Found: 414.1704.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-5-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3c

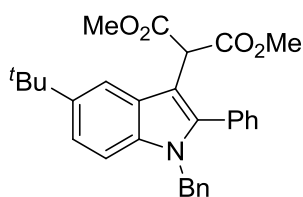
3c, white solid, 84 mg, 66% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.07-6.97 (m, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 6H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 140.4, 137.9, 135.1, 130.7, 130.4, 129.6, 128.8, 128.52, 128.48, 127.0, 126.8, 126.0, 123.9, 120.3, 110.0, 104.8, 52.6, 49.7, 47.7, 21.6; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2950, 1731, 1361, 1174, 729; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 428.1856; Found: 428.1862.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-5-methoxy-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3d

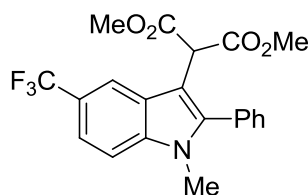
3d, white solid, 102 mg, 77% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.41-7.20 (m, 9H), 7.07-6.81 (m, 4H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 154.4, 140.9, 137.8, 131.9, 130.7, 130.4, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 127.0, 126.0, 112.5, 111.1, 104.9, 102.5, 55.8, 52.6, 49.7, 47.8; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2951, 1732, 1351, 1145, 734; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_5^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 444.1805; Found: 444.1818.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-5-(tert-butyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3e

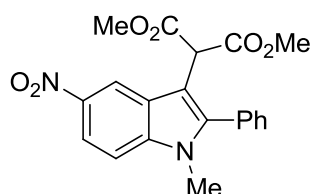
3e, white solid, 99 mg, 70% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 7.35-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 143.0, 140.4, 137.9, 135.0, 130.8, 130.6, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.1, 126.3, 126.2, 120.5, 116.6, 109.8, 105.3, 52.5, 49.8, 47.7, 34.6, 31.9; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2954, 1734, 1362, 1150, 734; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{32}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 470.2326; Found: 470.2330.



dimethyl 2-(1-methyl-2-phenyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3f

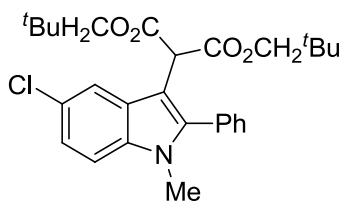
3f, white solid, 49 mg, 40% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.55-7.40 (m, 7H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.61 (s, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -60.2 (s, 3F); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 142.0, 138.4, 130.7, 129.8, 129.2, 128.8, 125.6, 125.3 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 270.0$ Hz), 122.5 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 31.3$ Hz), 118.8 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$ Hz), 118.6 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4.1$ Hz), 109.9, 105.7, 52.7, 49.6, 31.2; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2949, 1747, 1732, 1142, 1105, 846, 701; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 406.1261; Found: 406.1259.



dimethyl 2-(1-methyl-5-nitro-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3g

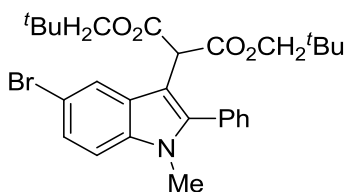
3g, yellow solid, 18 mg, 15% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 8.74 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.46-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 3.65 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.5, 143.4, 142.1, 140.0, 130.6, 129.5, 129.2, 128.9, 125.6, 118.3, 117.7, 109.6, 107.3, 52.9, 49.5, 31.5; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2853, 1734, 1319, 1150, 809, 750; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 383.1238; Found: 383.1234.



dineopentyl 2-(5-chloro-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3h

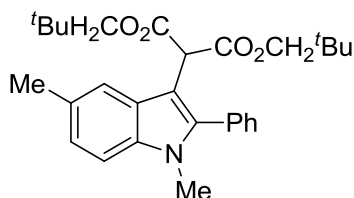
3h, white solid, 88 mg, 61% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.79 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 2H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 3.85 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.82 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.6, 141.4, 135.7, 130.7, 130.1, 129.0, 128.6, 127.1, 125.6, 122.3, 120.8, 110.4, 104.8, 74.9, 50.0, 31.3, 31.1, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2954, 2917, 1752, 1732, 1470, 1143, 706; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{35}\text{ClNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 484.2249; Found: 484.2245.



dineopentyl 2-(5-bromo-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3i

3i, white solid, 99 mg, 62% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.52-7.42 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 3.87-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.5, 141.3, 135.9, 130.7, 130.0, 129.0, 128.6, 127.7, 124.9, 123.8, 113.2, 110.8, 104.7, 74.9, 50.1, 31.2, 31.1, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2959, 1737, 1466, 1148, 702; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{35}\text{BrNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 528.1744; Found: 528.1744.

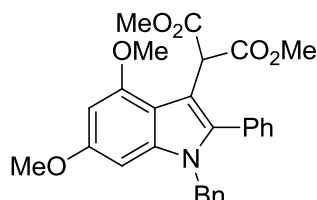


dineopentyl 2-(1,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3j

3j, white solid, 97 mg, 70% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.43 (m, 5H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.76

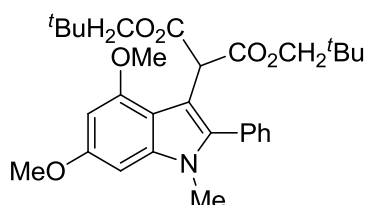
(s, 1H), 3.84 (ABd, J_{AB} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (ABd, J_{BA} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 140.1, 135.7, 130.9, 130.8, 128.9, 128.53, 128.45, 126.4, 123.6, 121.0, 109.0, 104.5, 74.7, 50.1, 31.3, 30.9, 26.3, 21.5; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2957, 1732, 1367, 1147, 701; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{38}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 464.2795; Found: 464.2799.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-4,6-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3k

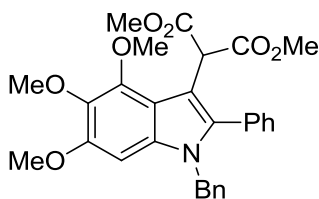
3k, white solid, 81 mg, 57% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.35-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (s, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.5, 157.5, 154.3, 137.9, 137.7, 137.1, 131.1, 130.5, 128.5, 128.0, 126.9, 125.9, 111.9, 105.4, 92.1, 86.3, 55.5, 55.0, 52.1, 50.2, 47.6; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2950, 1734, 1338, 1151, 729; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_6^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 474.1911; Found: 474.1928.



dineopentyl 2-(4,6-dimethoxy-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3l

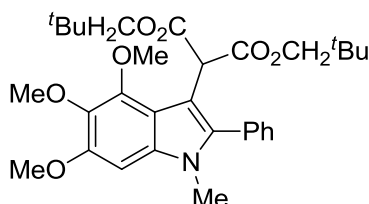
3l, white solid, 107 mg, 70% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.41 (s, 5H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (ABd, J_{AB} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 3.55 (ABd, J_{BA} = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 0.83 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 157.4, 154.3, 138.3, 137.0, 131.1, 131.0, 128.2, 128.1, 111.6, 105.2, 91.8, 85.2, 74.3, 55.6, 54.9, 50.4, 31.1, 31.0, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2957, 1731, 1148, 1042, 704; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{40}\text{NO}_6^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 510.2850; Found: 510.2851.



dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-4,5,6-trimethoxy-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3m

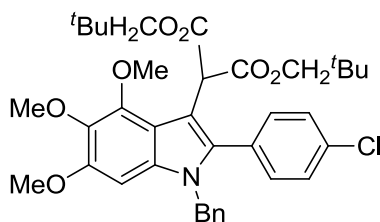
3m, white solid, 111 mg, 74% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.36–7.19 (m, 8H), 6.97 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.6, 151.4, 146.5, 138.2, 137.7, 136.5, 133.3, 131.1, 130.6, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.1, 126.1, 114.3, 105.3, 89.0, 61.0, 60.5, 56.3, 52.3, 50.0, 47.8; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2957, 1741, 1366, 1125, 734; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}_7^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 504.2017; Found: 504.2019.



dineopentyl 2-(4,5,6-trimethoxy-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3n

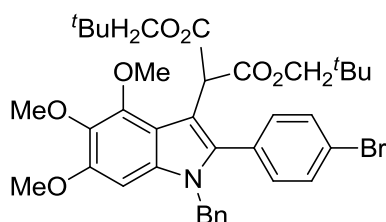
3n, white solid, 131 mg, 81% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.46–7.37 (m, 5H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.80 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.64 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.2, 151.2, 146.5, 138.0, 136.2, 133.7, 131.0, 130.9, 128.3, 128.2, 113.9, 105.0, 88.0, 74.4, 60.9, 60.5, 56.2, 50.0, 31.1, 31.0, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2961, 1731, 1366, 1231, 766; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{42}\text{NO}_7^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 540.2956; Found: 540.2956.



dineopentyl 2-(1-benzyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,5,6-trimethoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)malonate

3o

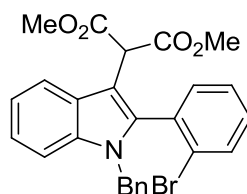
3o, white solid, 147 mg, 76% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.31-7.21 (m, 7H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 5.06 (m, 3H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.77-3.75 (m, 5H), 3.65 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.84 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 151.5, 146.6, 137.6, 136.6, 136.3, 134.7, 133.4, 132.3, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 127.1, 125.8, 114.3, 106.4, 88.5, 74.5, 60.9, 60.5, 56.1, 50.0, 47.5, 31.1, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2956, 1731, 1367, 1122, 723; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{45}\text{ClNO}_7^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 650.2879; Found: 650.2878.



dineopentyl 2-(1-benzyl-2-(4-bromophenyl)-4,5,6-trimethoxy-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3p

3p, white solid, 154 mg, 74% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.46 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 5H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.77-3.75 (m, 5H), 3.64 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 0.84 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 151.5, 146.6, 137.6, 136.6, 136.3, 133.4, 132.6, 131.4, 129.6, 128.6, 127.1, 125.8, 123.0, 114.3, 106.4, 88.5, 74.5, 60.9, 60.5, 56.1, 50.0, 47.5, 31.1, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2956, 1730, 1368, 1122, 721; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{45}\text{BrNO}_7^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 694.2374; Found: 694.2372.

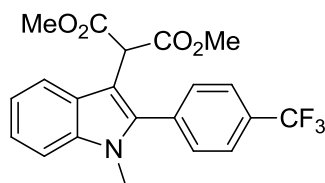


dimethyl 2-(1-benzyl-2-(2-bromophenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3q

3q, white solid, 103 mg, 70% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.82-7.80 (m, 1H), 7.70-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.16 (m, 9H), 6.91-6.88 (m, 2H), 5.25 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 16.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.99 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.0, 168.7, 138.5, 137.2, 136.5, 133.6, 132.8, 131.7, 130.9, 128.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.4, 126.3, 125.9, 122.4, 120.9, 120.2, 110.3, 106.0, 52.6,

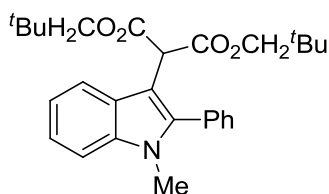
52.5, 49.7, 47.8; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2948, 1742, 1455, 1291, 1134, 741; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 492.0805; Found: 492.0815.



dimethyl 2-(1-methyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3r

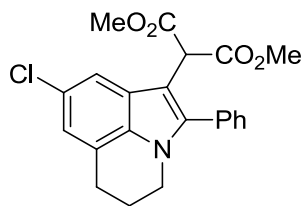
3r, white solid, 64 mg, 52% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.79-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.60-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.75 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 3.58 (s, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -62.6 (s, 3F); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 138.3, 137.3, 134.3, 131.2, 130.7 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 31.6$ Hz), 126.1, 125.5 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.3$ Hz), 123.9 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 270.3$ Hz), 122.6, 120.9, 120.4, 109.6, 105.5, 52.6, 49.6, 31.0; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2955, 1724, 1322, 1162, 1107, 755; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 406.1261; Found: 406.1258.



dineopentyl 2-(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)malonate

3s

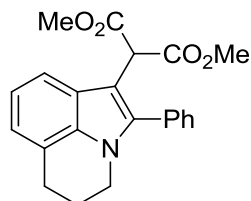
3s, white solid, 2.59 g, 72% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.80 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.44 (m, 5H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 3.84 (ABd, $J_{\text{AB}} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.79 (ABd, $J_{\text{BA}} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 140.1, 137.2, 130.8, 130.6, 128.6, 128.5, 126.2, 122.0, 121.3, 119.8, 109.3, 105.1, 74.6, 50.1, 31.3, 30.9, 26.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2952, 1750, 1401, 1296, 1150, 737; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{36}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 450.2639; Found: 450.2629.



dimethyl 2-(8-chloro-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5a

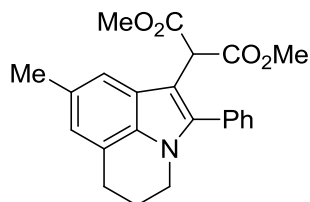
5a, white solid, 98 mg, 82% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.55-7.44 (m, 6H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 3.96 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H), 2.97 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.14 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.0, 139.5, 132.6, 130.3, 129.8, 128.75, 128.68, 125.7, 125.0, 123.1, 119.6, 117.7, 103.7, 52.6, 49.5, 43.0, 24.7, 22.6; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2950, 1732, 1362, 1144, 703; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 398.1154; Found: 398.1159.



dimethyl 2-(2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5b

5b, white solid, 83 mg, 76% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.57-7.43 (m, 6H), 7.07 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.98 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.00 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.3, 138.4, 134.2, 130.4, 130.3, 128.6, 128.5, 124.4, 121.8, 120.1, 119.1, 118.3, 103.9, 52.5, 49.7, 43.1, 25.0, 22.8; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2948, 1734, 1345, 1145, 748; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 364.1543; Found: 364.1549.

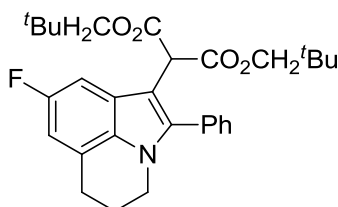


dimethyl 2-(8-methyl-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5c

5c, white solid, 98 mg, 86% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.52-7.42 (m, 5H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 4.82 (s, 1H), 3.96 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 2.96 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.19-2.13 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3)

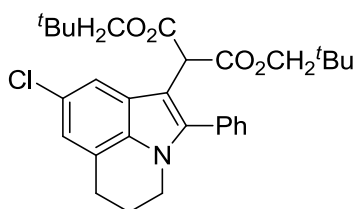
δ 169.4, 138.4, 132.6, 130.5, 130.4, 129.5, 128.5, 128.4, 124.5, 121.4, 120.9, 117.6, 103.4, 52.5, 49.7, 43.1, 24.9, 22.9, 21.9; IR ν / cm^{-1} 2949, 1732, 1362, 1145, 735; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 378.1700; Found: 378.1705.



dineopentyl 2-(8-fluoro-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5d

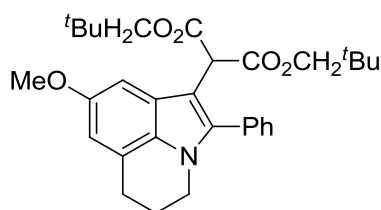
5d, white solid, 95 mg, 64% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.52-7.43 (m, 5H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.73-6.70 (m, 1H), 4.82 (s, 1H), 3.96 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.87 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.82 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.18-2.12 (m, 2H), 0.89 (s, 18H); ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -123.8 (t, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1F); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.7, 158.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 233.0$ Hz), 139.6, 130.8, 130.4, 130.1, 128.6, 124.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 11.3$ Hz), 122.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 9.6$ Hz), 108.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 26.2$ Hz), 104.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 5.3$ Hz), 103.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 24.9$ Hz), 74.8, 49.9, 43.0, 31.3, 26.3, 25.0, 22.7; IR ν / cm^{-1} 2957, 1735, 1369, 1152, 704; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{37}\text{FNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 494.2701; Found: 494.2702.



dineopentyl 2-(8-chloro-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5e

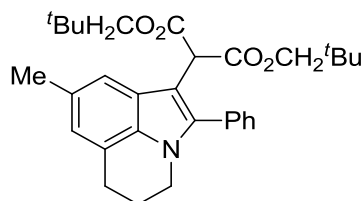
5e, white solid, 96 mg, 63% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.60 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.44 (m, 5H), 6.91 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 3.95 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.87 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.83 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.11 (m, 2H), 0.90 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.7, 139.5, 132.7, 130.4, 129.9, 128.7, 128.6, 125.5, 125.0, 122.9, 119.5, 118.4, 104.1, 74.9, 49.9, 43.0, 31.3, 26.3, 24.8, 22.6; IR ν / cm^{-1} 2958, 1726, 1366, 1006, 727; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{37}\text{ClNO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 510.2406; Found: 510.2398.



dineopentyl 2-(8-methoxy-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5f

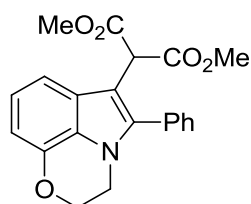
5f, white solid, 101 mg, 67% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.51-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.08 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.95 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.89 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.81 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.16-2.11 (m, 2H), 0.90 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 154.5, 138.5, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 128.5, 128.3, 124.3, 122.5, 110.1, 104.0, 100.2, 74.5, 55.8, 49.9, 43.0, 31.3, 26.3, 24.9, 22.9; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2956, 1739, 1366, 1137, 731; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{40}\text{NO}_5^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 506.2901; Found: 506.2902.



dineopentyl 2-(8-methyl-2-phenyl-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-1-yl)malonate

5g

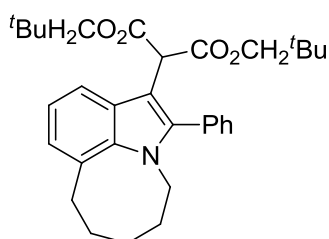
5g, white solid, 101 mg, 69% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.49-7.40 (m, 6H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 3.95 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (ABd, $J_{AB} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.80 (ABd, $J_{BA} = 10.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.18-2.12 (m, 2H), 0.90 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 138.3, 132.8, 130.7, 130.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.2, 124.5, 121.2, 120.8, 118.4, 103.8, 74.7, 50.0, 43.1, 31.3, 26.4, 24.9, 23.0, 21.8; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2959, 1724, 1365, 1145, 703; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{40}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 490.2952; Found: 490.2954.



dimethyl 2-(5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-[1,4]oxazino[2,3,4-*hi*]indol-6-yl)malonate

5h

5h, white solid, 51 mg, 47% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.54-7.45 (m, 5H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 4.49 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.13 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.1, 143.0, 137.8, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 126.3, 125.4, 121.0, 113.7, 105.7, 105.3, 65.4, 52.6, 49.6, 42.9; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2920, 1727, 1445, 1299, 1212, 1141, 732; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_5^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 366.1336; Found: 366.1345.

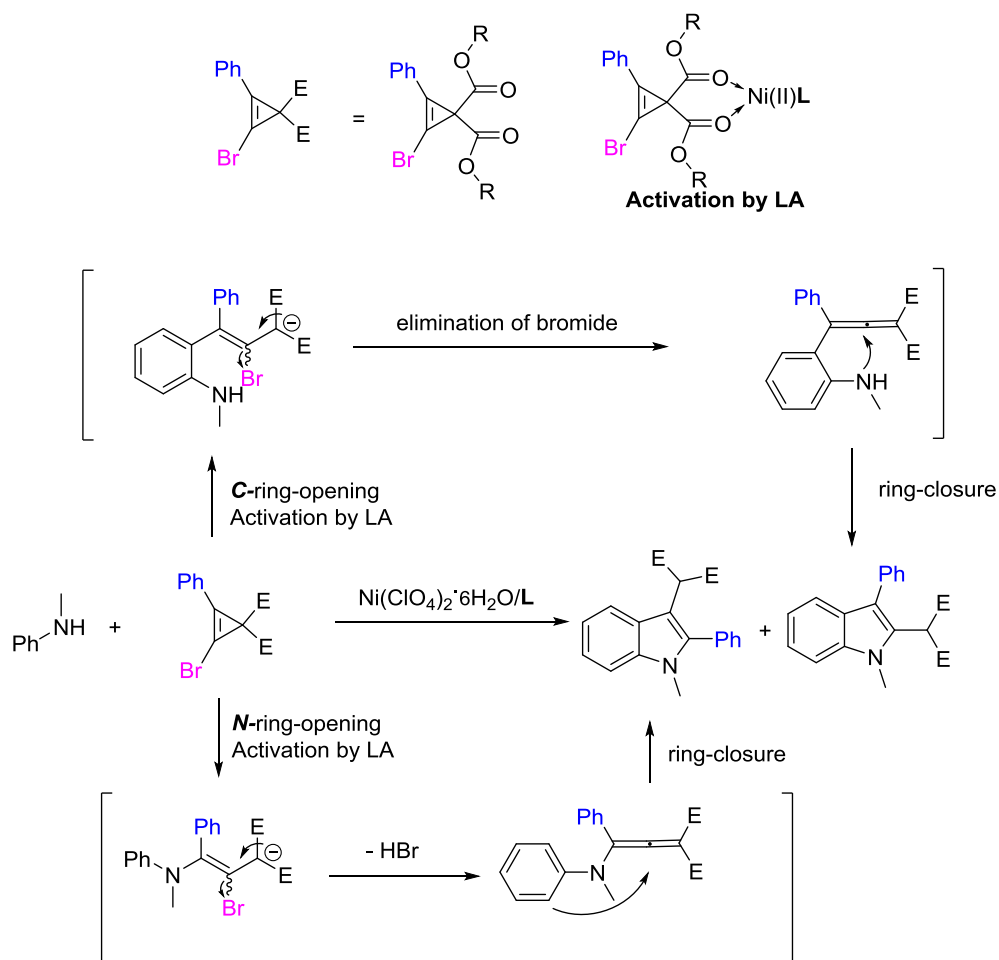


dineopentyl 2-(2-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-azocino[3,2,1-*hi*]indol-1-yl)malonate

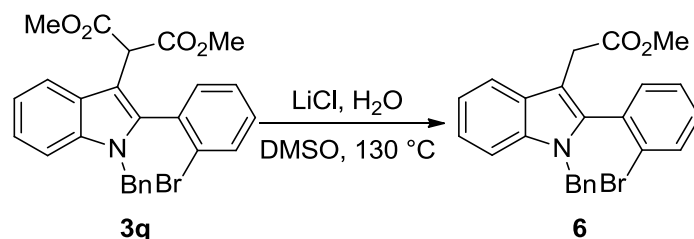
5i

5i, white solid, 48 mg, 32% yield; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS) δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.01 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (s, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 4H), 3.27 (s, 2H), 1.92-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.49-1.48 (m, 2H), 0.82 (s, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.9, 140.0, 137.3, 131.2, 130.9, 128.7, 128.4, 126.1, 124.3, 124.0, 119.9, 119.2, 105.0, 74.5, 50.2, 44.2, 32.5, 31.3, 30.9, 29.7, 26.3, 21.3; IR ν/cm^{-1} 2960, 1752, 1738 1366, 1140, 742; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{42}\text{NO}_4^+$ ($[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$): 504.3108; Found: 504.3104.

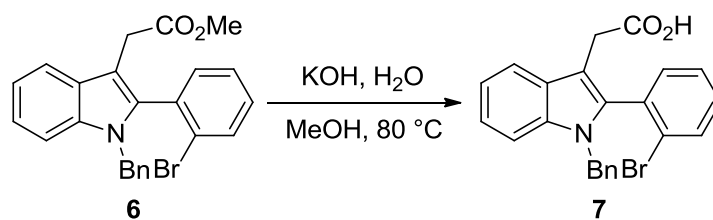
4. Proposed Mechanism



5. Chemical Transformation of the Products

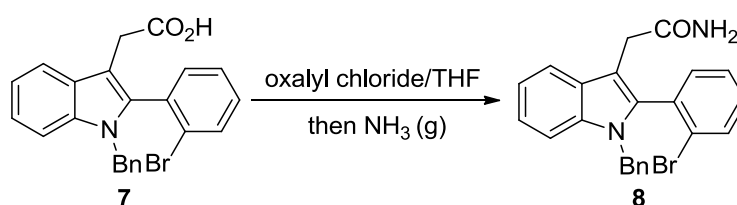


3q (257.3 mg, 0.52 mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (2.0 mL) and water (10.0 uL, 0.56 mmol), and then LiCl (45.0 mg, 1.04 mmol) was added under Ar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 13 h at 130 °C, cooled to rt, quenched by the addition of 2.5 N NaOH, and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **6** (188.4 mg, 84% yield) as white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS) δ 7.70-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.15 (m, 9H), 6.89-6.86 (m, 2H), 5.25 (AB, *J*_{AB} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (AB, *J*_{BA} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (AB, *J*_{AB} = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.53 (AB, *J*_{BA} = 16.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.1, 137.6 (2C), 136.3, 133.6, 132.8, 132.4, 130.5, 128.4, 127.5, 127.2, 127.1, 126.4, 125.8, 122.3, 119.9, 119.3, 110.3, 106.9, 51.8, 47.7, 30.8; IR ν/cm⁻¹ 2920, 1732, 1453, 1186, 1026, 739; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): calcd for C₂₄H₂₄BrN₂O₂⁺ ([M+NH₄]⁺): 451.1016; Found: 451.1025.

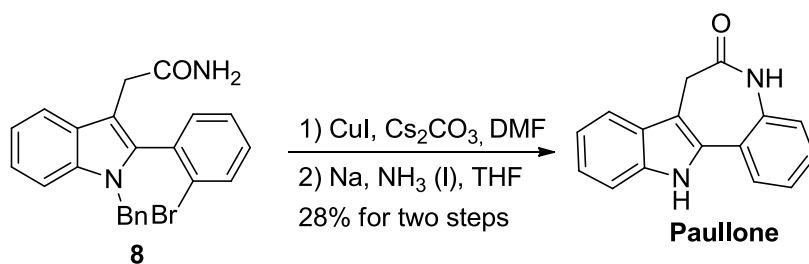


6 (120.0 mg, 0.28 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (2.0 mL) and water (1.0 mL), and then KOH (157.0 mg, 2.8 mmol) was added under Ar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 80 °C, cooled to rt, quenched by the addition of 2.5 N HCl, and extracted with EA. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **7** (107.9 mg, 92% yield) as white solid. ¹H

NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS) δ 7.70-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.16 (m, 9H), 6.89-6.87 (m, 2H), 5.25 (AB, J_{AB} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (AB, J_{BA} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (AB, J_{AB} = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (AB, J_{BA} = 16.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.7, 137.9, 137.5, 136.3, 133.6, 132.8, 132.1, 130.6, 128.4, 127.34, 127.29, 127.1, 126.4, 125.7, 122.4, 120.0, 119.3, 110.4, 106.3, 47.8, 30.7; IR ν / cm⁻¹ 3029, 1704, 1495, 1345, 1184, 1027, 740; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C₂₃H₁₉BrNO₂⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 420.0594; Found: 420.0599.

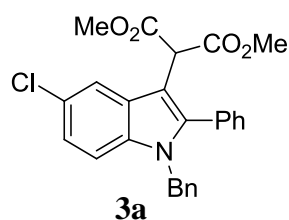
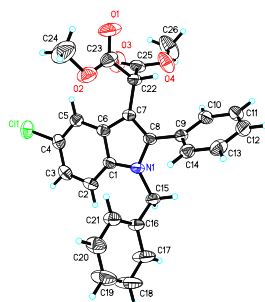


7 (95.0 mg, 0.23 mmol) was dissolved in THF (1.0 mL), and then oxalyl chloride (45.0 mg, 0.35 mmol) was added under Ar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at 50 °C, cooled to rt, and pure NH₃ (g) was bubbled into the mixture for 20 min, and water was added and the mixture was extracted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **8** (80.7 mg, 84% yield) as white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS) δ 7.72-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.16 (m, 9H), 6.87-6.85 (m, 2H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 5.30 (AB, J_{AB} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (AB, J_{BA} = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (AB, J_{AB} = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (AB, J_{BA} = 17.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.9, 138.0, 137.3, 136.5, 133.2, 132.9, 131.9, 130.9, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 127.0, 126.4, 125.6, 122.8, 120.2, 119.1, 110.5, 107.4, 47.8, 32.4; IR ν / cm⁻¹ 3458, 1668, 1457, 1343, 1186, 1026, 741; HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for C₂₃H₂₀BrN₂O⁺ ([M+H]⁺): 419.0754; Found: 419.0759.



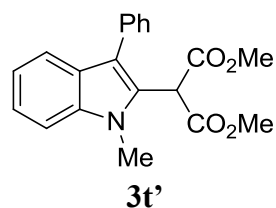
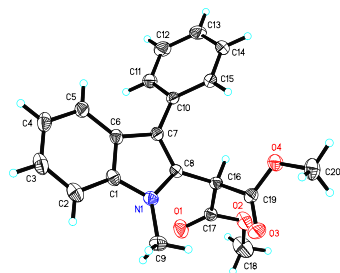
8 (46.5 mg, 0.11 mmol), CuI (11.4 mg, 0.06 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (91.3 mg, 0.28 mmol) was added in a Schlenk tube. The tube was evacuated and backfilled with argon before 0.5 mL DMF was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 48 h. After the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, and water was added and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to yield the corresponding product. Then to the solution of sodium (3.5 mg, 0.15 mmol) in liquid ammonia (1.0 mL) was add the corresponding product in THF (0.5 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction was quenched by adding NH₄Cl after 20 min. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After concentration in vacuo, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to provide the **Paullone** (28% yield for two steps) as pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆, TMS) δ 11.64 (s, 1H), 10.15 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.09 (m, 6H), 3.54 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 172.1, 137.9, 135.9, 133.0, 128.5, 127.4, 127.0, 124.2, 123.4, 122.8, 122.6, 119.6, 118.5, 112.0, 108.1, 32.1; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): calcd for C₁₆H₁₁N₂O⁺ ([M-H]⁺): 247.0877; Found: 247.0878. All the analytical data are consistent with the reported values⁵.

6. X-ray Crystallographic Data



Crystal data and structure refinement for **3a**

Empirical formula	C ₂₆ H ₂₂ Cl N O ₄	
Formula weight	447.89	
Temperature	296(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 2 ₁ /n	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.1236(3) Å	α = 90 °
	b = 13.5248(4) Å	β = 98.4720(10) °
	c = 15.1885(5) Å	γ = 90 °
Volume	2260.09(12) Å ³	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.316 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	0.202 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	936	
Crystal size	0.200 x 0.170 x 0.120 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	2.606 to 24.998 °	
Index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 13, -15 ≤ k ≤ 16, -18 ≤ l ≤ 18	
Reflections collected	23223	
Independent reflections	3944 [R(int) = 0.0774]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242 °	96.5 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7456 and 0.4823	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	3944 / 0 / 292	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.038	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0689, wR2 = 0.1951	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0875, wR2 = 0.2203	
Extinction coefficient	0.039(7)	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.689 and -0.323 e.Å ⁻³	



Crystal data and structure refinement for **3t'**

Empirical formula	C ₂₀ H ₁₉ N O ₄	
Formula weight	337.36	
Temperature	293(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 2 ₁ /n	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.0608(10) Å	α = 90 °
	b = 16.1061(16) Å	β = 101.078(2) °
	c = 19.4870(19) Å	γ = 90 °
Volume	3406.9(6) Å ³	
Z	8	
Density (calculated)	1.315 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	0.092 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	1424	
Crystal size	0.189 x 0.176 x 0.123 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	1.971 to 25.496 °	
Index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 13, -19 ≤ k ≤ 19, -23 ≤ l ≤ 18	
Reflections collected	19593	
Independent reflections	6358 [R(int) = 0.0421]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242 °	100.0 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7456 and 0.6495	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	6358 / 0 / 457	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.038	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0593, wR2 = 0.1554	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0804, wR2 = 0.1721	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.355 and -0.195 e.Å ⁻³	

7. References

- (1) Li, D.; Yang, T.; Su, H.; Yu, W. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, 357, 2529 – 2539.
- (2) Mazik, M.; Buthe, A. C. *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, **2008**, 6, 1558–1568.
- (3) Cho, H.; Iwama, Y.; Sugimoto, K.; Mori, S.; Tokuyama, H. *J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, 75, 627–636.
- (4) Boitsov, V. M.; Kostikov, R. R.; Molchanov, A. P.; Stepakov, A. V.; Baird, M. S. *Russ. J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, Vol. 40, 1760-1763.
- (5) Tobisu, M.; Fujihara, H.; Koh, K.; Chatani, N. *J. Org. Chem.*, **2010**, 75, 4841-4847.

8. Copies of NMR Spectra of Products

