Construction of Hydrodibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan Frameworks from Morita–Baylis–Hillman Carbonates of Isatins and *o*-Hydroxy Enones via Palladium and Brønsted Base Relay Catalysis

Ze-Liang He,[†] Peng Chen,[†] Zhi-Chao Chen,^{*†} Wei Du,[†] and Ying-Chun Chen^{*†,‡}

[†]Key Laboratory of Drug-Targeting and Drug Delivery System of the Education Ministry and Sichuan Province, and Sichuan Research Center for Drug Precision Industrial Technology, West China School of Pharmacy, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610041, China

[‡]College of Pharmacy, Third Military Medical University, Shapingba, Chongqing 400038, China

Email: chenzhichao@scu.edu.cn; ycchen@scu.edu.cn

Supporting Information

1. General methods	S1
2. Preparation and characterization of substrates	S1
3. General procedure for synthesis of 4	S3
4. Procedure for synthesis of racemic 6 and 7	S19
5. Detailed screening conditions of asymmetric cascade reaction and control experiments	S20
6. Transformation of product 4a	S24
7. Unsuccessful exploration of more substrates	S25
8. Crystal data and structural refinement	S26
9. NMR, HRMS spectra and HPLC chromatograms	S34

1. General methods

Unless otherwise noted, the reactions were carried out under ambient atmosphere; when the reactions required heating, the heat source was oil bath. ¹H NMR (400 or 600 MHz), ¹³C NMR (100 or 150 MHz) and ¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz) spectra were recorded on Varian INOVA-400/54, Agilent DD2-600/54 or Bruker AscendTM 400 instruments (Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from tetramethylsilane with the solvent resonance as the internal standard in CDCl₃ solution, unless otherwise noted). The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = double doublet, m = multiplet and coupling constants (J) are reported in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Waters SYNAPT G2 or Agilent G1969-85000 using a time-of-flight mass spectrometer equipped with electrospray ionization (ESI) source. X-ray diffraction experiments were carried out on an Agilent Gemini or Burker D8 Venture and the data obtained were deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. In each case, diastereomeric ratio was determined by ¹H NMR analysis and enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC (Agilent Technologies: 1220 Infinity II, 1200 Series, 1260 Infinity) analysis on a chiral column in comparison with authentic racemate, using a Daicel Chiralpak AD-H Column (250 × 4.6 mm). UV detection was monitored at 220 nm or 254 nm. Optical rotation was measured in CHCl₃ solution at 25 °C. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh) eluting with EtOAc and petroleum ether. TLC was performed on glass-backed silica plates. UV light, I₂, and solution of potassium permanganate were used to visualize products or starting materials. All chemicals were used without purification as commercially available unless otherwise noted. Petroleum ether and EtOAc were distilled. Experiments involving moisture and/or air sensitive components were performed under a positive pressure of argon in oven-dried glassware equipped with a rubber septum inlet. Toluene was freshly distilled from CaH₂ under an atmosphere of dry argon. Dried solvents reagents were transferred by oven-dried syringe.

2. Preparation and characterization of substrates

The Morita–Baylis–Hillman (MBH) carbonates 1,¹ enones 2^2 and (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(2-(3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)benzenesulfon-amide 5^3 were prepared according to the literature procedures. Compounds 1a-n,¹ 2a-g, 2i, 2l,^{2a} 2k,^{2b} 2m,^{2c} and 5^3 are known compounds and the spectroscopic data were consistent with the literature report.

2.1 Procedure for preparation of substrate 2h



To a flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a reflux condenser were added 3-hydroxypicolinaldehyde (0.247 g, 2.01 mmol), 1-triphenylphosphoranylidene-2-propanone (0.770 g, 2.42 mmol), and CHCl₃ (5.0 mL), and the resultant mixture was heated at 60 °C for 12 h. After completion (monitored by TLC, ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 1/3), the mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/2) to give the substrate **2h**: 0.231 g (1.42 mmol), as a yellow solid, 71% yield; mp 152–154 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 10.64 (s, 1H), 8.17–8.10 (m, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 198.7, 153.8, 141.4, 140.1, 136.9, 129.1, 126.5, 124.1, 28.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₉H₁₀NO₂⁺ 164.0706; Found 164.0704.

2.2 Procedure for preparation of substrate 2j



To a stirred solution of salicylaldehyde (1.12 g, 10.0 mmol), acetic acid (0.90 g, 15.0 mmol), and piperidine (0.85 g, 10.0 mmol) in dry toluene (10 mL) was added dropwise a solution of trifluoroacetone (4.49 g, 40.1 mmol) in dry toluene (10 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h, and then stirred at room temperature for another 24 h. The reaction was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride aqueous solution. The organic layer was separated, washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After concentration, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/12) to give the substrate **2j**: 0.735 g (3.39 mmol), as a colourless oil, 34% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.33–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.08–6.99 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 149.7, 130.7, 129.7, 127.5, 122.6, 121.8 (q, *J* = 283.6 Hz), 118.3, 116.6, 115.2, 93.63 (q, *J* = 34.1 Hz); ¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) –84.97; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₀H₈F₃O₂⁺ 217.0471; Found 217.0462.

- (1) Fan, X.; Yang, H.; Shi, M. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2017, 359, 49-57.
- (2) (a) Song, X.; Yan, R.-J.; Du, W.; Chen, Y.-C. Org. Lett. 2020, 22, 7617–7621. (b) Gao, Y.-Q.; Hou,
- Y.; Chen, J.; Zhen, Y.; Xu, D.; Zhang, H.; Wei, H.; Xie, W. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2021, 19, 348-354.
- (c) Ackrill, T. D.; Sparkes, H. A.; Willis, C. L. Org. Lett. 2015, 17, 3884–3887.
- (3) Kim, S.; Kang, K.-T.; Kim, S.-G. Tetrahedron 2014, 70, 5114–5121.

3. General procedure for synthesis of products 4



General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added MBH carbonate **1** (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv), enone **2** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol, 20 mol %) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol, 5 mol %). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether) to give the product.



Synthesis of 3a: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl) but-3-en-2-one **2a** (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then

degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **3a**: 28.6 mg (0.0731 mmol), as a white solid, 73% yield; mp 124–126 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.86 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H),

5.77 (s, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 199.0, 166.9, 156.6, 143.8, 138.3, 131.9, 131.0, 128.0, 127.7, 125.7, 123.6, 123.0, 122.6, 121.6, 119.4, 112.6, 108.5, 64.5, 52.9, 27.4, 26.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NO₅Na⁺ 414.1312; Found 414.1317.



Synthesis of 4a: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2a** (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **4a**: 32.9 mg (0.0841 mmol), as a white solid, 84% yield; mp 161–163 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.46–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.13 (m, 3H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89–6.84 (m, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 4.45 (s, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.88 (s, 2H), 0.94 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.5, 168.9, 155.7, 146.9, 144.2, 129.4, 127.7, 126.8, 125.3, 124.2, 123.3, 122.6, 119.1, 113.0, 111.6, 108.4, 73.4, 57.9, 52.0, 46.0, 32.2, 26.4, 25.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NO₅Na⁺ 414.1312; Found 414.1316.



Synthesis of 4b: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1,5-dimethyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1b (43.4 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol).

The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product

4b: 30.8 mg (0.0760 mmol), as a white solid, 76% yield; mp 166–168 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.57–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.59 (s, 1H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.02–2.91 (m, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.5, 168.9, 155.7, 146.9, 141.7, 133.0, 129.7, 127.8, 126.8, 125.9, 124.2, 122.5, 119.2, 113.0, 111.6, 108.1, 73.4, 57.8, 52.0, 45.9, 32.1, 26.4, 24.9, 21.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 428.1468; Found 428.1466.



Synthesis of 4c: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1c (45.3 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050

mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4c**: 32.5 mg (0.0771 mmol), as a white solid, 77% yield; mp 146–148 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.55–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.21 (m, 2H), 6.85–6.78 (m, 2H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 4.58 (s, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.323 (s, 3H), 3.316 (s, 3H), 3.02–2.90 (m, 2H), 1.03 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.1, 168.9, 156.3, 155.7, 146.7, 137.6, 128.2, 127.7, 124.2, 122.5, 119.1, 113.5, 112.9, 112.8, 111.6, 108.6, 73.4, 58.1, 55.8, 52.1, 45.8, 32.0, 26.5, 24.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₆Na⁺ 444.1418; Found 444.1420.



Synthesis of 4d: **General procedure**: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1,7-dimethyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1d** (43.4 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2a** (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC

(EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **4d**: 28.4 mg (0.0700 mmol), as a white solid, 70% yield; mp 144–146 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.54–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.86–6.78 (m, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.65 (s, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.02–2.89 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H).¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 179.3, 169.0, 155.6, 146.9, 141.8, 133.1, 127.7, 127.3, 124.2, 123.15, 123.11, 122.5, 120.0, 119.1, 113.0, 111.5, 73.4, 57.1, 52.0, 46.2, 32.0, 29.9, 24.9, 19.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 428.1468; Found 428.1466.



Synthesis of 4e: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1,5,7-trimethyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1e (45.1 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol).

The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8) to give the product **4e**: 34.4 mg (0.0820 mmol), as a white solid, 82% yield; mp 151–153 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.24 (m, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.70 (s, 2H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.01–2.85 (m, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 179.3, 169.0, 155.7, 147.0, 139.4, 133.7, 132.7, 127.8, 127.5, 124.1, 123.7, 122.5, 119.6, 119.2, 113.0, 111.6, 73.5, 57.1, 52.0, 46.1, 32.0, 29.9, 25.0, 20.9, 19.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₅NO₅Na⁺ 442.1625; Found 442.1628.



Synthesis of 4f: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(5-bromo-3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1f (51.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.100 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4f**: 31.5 mg (0.0670 mmol), as a white solid, 67% yield; mp 167–169 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.00–2.91 (m, 2H), 1.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.0, 168.8, 155.7, 146.4, 143.4, 132.4, 129.1, 128.2, 127.6, 124.4, 122.7, 119.3, 116.0, 112.8, 111.6, 109.8, 73.4, 58.1, 52.2, 46.1, 32.1, 26.5, 24.9; HRMS (ESITOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀⁷⁹BrNO₅Na⁺ 492.0417; Found 492.0411; C₂₃H₂₀⁸¹BrNO₅Na⁺ 494.0397; Found 494.0396.



Synthesis of 4g: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-7-fluoro-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1g (45.5 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8) to give the product **4g**: 33.7 mg (0.0823 mmol), as a white solid, 82% yield; mp 156–158 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.57–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.09–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.94–6.84 (m, 2H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 4.45 (s, 1H), 3.55 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 3H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 2H), 1.05 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.2, 168.8, 155.7, 147.8 (d, ¹*J*_{FC} = 242.8 Hz), 146.6, 130.9 (d, ²*J*_{FC} = 8.3 Hz), 129.8

 $(d, {}^{4}J_{FC} = 2.8 \text{ Hz}), 127.6, 124.3, 123.8 (d, {}^{3}J_{FC} = 6.4 \text{ Hz}), 122.6, 121.1 (d, {}^{3}J_{FC} = 3.2 \text{ Hz}), 119.1, 117.4 (d, {}^{2}J_{FC} = 19.0 \text{ Hz}), 112.9, 111.6, 73.5, 58.1, 52.1, 46.1, 32.1, 29.0 (d, {}^{4}J_{FC} = 6.1 \text{ Hz}), 24.9; {}^{19}\text{F} \text{ NMR}$ (375 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) –135.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀FNO₅Na⁺ 432.1218; Found 432.1216.



Synthesis of 4h: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-7-chloro-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1h (45.8 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4h**: 30.7 mg (0.0721 mmol), as a white solid, 72% yield; mp 130–132 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.02–6.96 (m, 1H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 4.48 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.00–2.87 (m, 2H), 1.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.9, 168.7, 155.6, 146.5, 140.0, 131.8, 129.6, 127.5, 124.4, 124.0, 123.7, 122.6, 119.1, 115.9, 112.9, 111.6, 73.5, 57.5, 52.2, 46.1, 32.0, 30.0, 24.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀³⁵CINO₅Na⁺ 448.0922; Found 448.0918; C₂₃H₂₀³⁷CINO₅Na⁺ 450.0893; Found 450.0895.



Synthesis of 4i: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-2-oxo-1-phenylindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1i** (49.1 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2a** (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue

was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/10) to give the product **4i**: 37.3 mg (0.0823 mmol), as a white solid, 82% yield; mp 137–139 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.63–7.57 (m, 2H), 7.56–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.51–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.11–2.92 (m, 2H), 1.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.2, 169.0, 155.7, 146.7, 144.2, 133.8, 129.9, 129.3, 128.8, 127.7, 126.6, 126.4, 125.5, 124.3, 123.7, 122.6, 119.1, 113.1, 111.6, 109.7, 73.7, 57.8, 52.2, 46.2, 32.2, 24.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 476.1468; Found 476.1465.



Synthesis of 4j: **General procedure**: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-isopropyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1j** (45.1 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-but-3-en-2-one **2a** (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/12) to give the product **4j**: 31.1 mg (0.0741 mmol), as a white solid, 74% yield; mp 138–140 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.54–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.77–4.68 (m, 2H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 2H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.1, 168.9, 155.6, 146.9, 142.8, 129.1, 127.7, 127.1, 125.6, 124.2, 122.7, 122.5, 119.1, 113.0, 111.6, 109.9, 73.5, 57.1, 51.9, 45.8, 44.5, 32.1, 24.7, 19.3, 19.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₅NO₅Na⁺ 442.1625; Found 442.1627.



Synthesis of 4k: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(1-benzyl-3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1k (50.8 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped,

evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/10). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/15) to give the product **4k**: 33.3 mg (0.0712 mmol), as a white solid, 71% yield; mp 134–136 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.56–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.21 (m, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 2H), 1.05 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 168.9, 155.6, 146.9, 143.3, 135.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.0, 127.6, 126.8, 125.5, 124.2, 123.3, 122.6, 119.1, 112.9, 111.6, 109.4, 73.7, 57.7, 51.9, 45.9, 44.4, 32.1, 25.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₉H₂₅NO₅Na⁺ 490.1625; Found 490.1622.



Synthesis of 41: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added ethyl 2-(3-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-5-fluoro-1-methyl-2-oxo-indolin-3-yl)acrylate 11 (45.5 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E* $)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh_3)_4 (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The$

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **41**: 30.9 mg (0.0730 mmol), as a white solid, 73% yield; mp 110–112 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.57–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.06–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.88–6.80 (m, 2H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.47 (s, 1H), 3.93–3.73 (m, 2H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 2H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 0.85 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.2, 168.2, 159.4 (d, ¹*J*_{FC} = 240.7 Hz), 155.7, 146.6, 140.3 (d, ⁴*J*_{FC} = 2.0 Hz), 128.5 (d, ³*J*_{FC} = 8.3 Hz), 127.6, 124.4, 122.7, 119.2, 115.7 (d, ²*J*_{FC} = 23.4 Hz), 113.7 (d, ²*J*_{FC} = 25.3 Hz), 112.8, 111.6, 108.9 (d, ³*J*_{FC} = 8.2 Hz), 73.4, 61.1, 58.1, 45.7, 32.0, 26.6, 24.9, 13.7; ¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) –119.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₂FNO₅Na⁺ 446.1374; Found 446.1371.



Synthesis of 4m: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added ethyl 2-(6-bromo-3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1m (52.8 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube

was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8) to give the product **4m**: 34.4 mg (0.0710 mmol), as a white solid, 71% yield; mp 165–167 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.34 (s, 1H), 3.84 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.00–2.81 (m, 2H), 1.02 (s, 3H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.3, 168.2, 155.7, 146.7, 145.6, 127.5, 126.7, 126.0, 125.8, 124.3, 123.1, 122.6, 119.1, 112.8, 111.9, 111.6, 73.4, 61.2, 57.6, 45.6, 32.1, 26.5, 24.8, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₂⁷⁹BrNO₅Na⁺ 506.0574; Found506.0568; C₂₄H₂₂⁸¹BrNO₅Na⁺ 508.0553; Found 508.0553.



Synthesis of 4n: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)acrylate 1n (41.8 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2a (16.2 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg,

0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/10) to give the product **4n**: 27.1 mg (0.0691 mmol), as a white solid, 69% yield; mp 177–179 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 8.24–8.21 (m, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35–7.26 (m, 3H), 6.89–6.84 (m, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.09–2.80 (m, 2H), 1.07 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.3, 168.7, 157.4, 155.7, 148.3, 146.3, 132.9, 127.4,

124.5, 122.7, 121.5, 119.1, 118.7, 112.8, 111.7, 73.4, 57.6, 52.2, 45.7, 32.3, 25.6, 25.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₂₀N₂O₅Na⁺ 415.1264; Found 415.1267.



Synthesis of 40: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2b** (17.6 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **40**: 35.7 mg (0.0881 mmol), as a white solid, 88% yield; mp 150–152 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.35–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11–7.05 (m, 2H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 168.9, 154.7, 146.4, 144.1, 129.3, 127.1, 126.8, 125.4, 125.2, 123.2, 122.6, 121.7, 116.5, 113.1, 108.4, 73.37, 57.9, 51.9, 46.1, 32.2, 26.4, 24.9, 15.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 428.1468; Found 428.1470.



Synthesis of 4p: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2c (19.2 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050

mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4p**: 32.0 mg (0.0759 mmol), as a white solid, 76% yield; mp 141–143 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92–6.86 (m, 2H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.52 (brs, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s,

3H), 2.92 (s, 2H), 1.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 169.1, 158.0, 156.6, 145.6, 144.1, 129.4, 126.8, 125.4, 123.3, 121.1, 119.2, 112.8, 111.5, 108.4, 96.5, 73.4, 57.8, 55.8, 52.0, 46.0, 32.2, 26.4, 25.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₆Na⁺ 444.1418; Found 444.1416.



Synthesis of 4q: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2d** (17.6 mg, 0.999

^N 4q mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4q**: 34.9 mg (0.0861 mmol), as a white solid, 86% yield; mp 170–172 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 169.0, 154.1, 146.8, 144.1, 132.0, 129.4, 127.8, 126.8, 125.4, 125.3, 123.3, 119.0, 112.7, 111.1, 108.4, 73.4, 57.9, 52.0, 46.0, 32.2, 26.4, 25.0, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 428.1468; Found 428.1472.



Synthesis of 4r: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxy-5-methoxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2e (19.2 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product

4r: 27.4 mg (0.0650 mmol), as a white solid, 65% yield; mp 158–160 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.40 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.92–6.87 (m, 2H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 2H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.5, 169.0, 155.9, 150.6, 147.6, 144.1, 129.4, 128.2, 126.8, 125.3, 123.3, 113.1, 112.7, 112.0, 108.5, 102.0, 73.4, 57.8, 56.0, 52.0, 46.1, 32.2, 26.4, 25.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₆Na⁺ 444.1418; Found 444.1413.

Me HO CO₂Me 4s Synthesis of 4s: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E* $)-4-(4-chloro-2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one 2f (19.7 mg, 0.100 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh_3)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The$

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **4s**: 36.2 mg (0.0850 mmol), as a white solid, 85% yield; mp 150–152 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.52 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.05–7.01 (m, 1H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 2H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.4, 168.7, 155.7, 147.8, 144.1, 130.1, 129.5, 126.6, 126.4, 125.2, 123.3, 123.3, 119.6, 113.0, 112.2, 108.5, 73.4, 57.7, 52.1, 46.0, 32.0, 26.5, 24.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀³⁵ClNO₅Na⁺ 448.0922; Found 448.0922; C₂₃H₂₀³⁷ClNO₅Na⁺ 450.0893; Found 450.0898.



Synthesis of 4t: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(5-fluoro-2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2g** (18.0 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0

mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4t**: 29.2 mg (0.0714 mmol), as a white solid, 71% yield; mp 190–192 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.46–7.41 (m, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.14 (m, 1H), 7.07–6.95 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 2.98–2.85 (m, 2H), 1.03 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.4, 168.7, 159.2 (d, ¹*J*_{FC} = 236.8 Hz), 151.8, 148.8, 144.1, 129.5, 128.5 (d, ³*J*_{FC} = 10.4 Hz), 126.6, 125.2, 123.4, 113.3 (d, ⁴*J*_{FC} = 3.9 Hz), 112.2 (d, ³*J*_{FC} = 9.6 Hz), 111.8 (d, ²*J*_{FC} = 26.2 Hz), 108.5, 104.9 (d, ²*J*_{FC} = 24.9 Hz), 73.3, 57.7, 52.1, 46.0, 32.1, 26.5, 24.9; ¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) –121.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀FNO₅Na⁺ 432.1218; Found 432.1213.



Synthesis of 4u: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E* $)-4-(3-hydroxypyridin-2-yl)but-3-en-2-one 2h (16.3 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh_3)_4 (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was$

capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/3). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/3) to give the product **4u**: 27.9 mg (0.0711 mmol), as a white solid, 71% yield; mp 161–163 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 8.56–8.53 (m, 1H), 7.80–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.21–3.01 (m, 2H), 1.05 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.3, 168.5, 151.5, 148.9, 147.0, 145.5, 144.1, 129.6, 126.5, 125.2, 123.4, 118.9, 118.3, 114.2, 108.5, 73.4, 57.8, 52.2, 46.2, 31.1, 26.5, 24.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₂₀N₂O₅Na⁺ 415.1264; Found 415.1263.



Synthesis of 4v: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-1-(2-chloro-6-hydroxyphenyl)pent-1-en-3-one **2i** (21.0 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube

was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **4v**: 35.6 mg (0.0809 mmol), as a white solid, 81% yield; mp 176–178 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.44–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 1H), 4.18 (s, 1H), 3.47 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H), 1.43–1.29 (m, 1H), 1.14–1.01 (m, 1H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 168.6, 156.1, 147.8, 144.1, 129.3, 126.6, 126.1, 126.0, 125.4, 124.7, 123.3, 123.2, 112.8, 110.2, 108.4, 75.6, 57.9, 52.0, 46.3, 29.7, 29.5, 26.4, 6.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₂³⁵CINO₅Na⁺ 462.1079; Found 462.1071; C₂₄H₂₂³⁷CINO₅Na⁺ 464.1049; Found 464.1049.



Synthesis of 4w: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-1,1,1-trifluoro-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2j** (21.6 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol).

The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/10) to give the product **4w**: 26.8 mg (0.0602 mmol), as a white solid, 60% yield; mp 221–223 °C; H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.57–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.31–3.28 (m, 1H), 3.27–3.19 (m, 4H), 1.58 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 77.1, 167.6, 155.7, 145.6,

143.6, 130.0, 127.2, 125.7, 124.8, 124.3, 123.2 (q, ${}^{1}J_{FC} = 218$ Hz), 123.4, 123.0, 119.1, 111.7, 110.6, 108.9, 52.6, 52.3, 47.5, 26.7, 26.0; ${}^{19}F$ NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) –76.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₃H₁₈F₃NO₅Na⁺ 468.1029; Found 468.1037.



Synthesis of 4x: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), methyl (E)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-2-oxobut-3-enoate 2k (20.6 mg, 0.999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product **4x**: 28.8 mg (0.0661 mmol), as a white solid, 66% yield; mp 186–188 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.56–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 3.63–3.56 (m, 1H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 6H), 3.19 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 177.2, 171.2, 168.2, 155.7, 145.9, 143.9, 129.8, 127.5, 125.8, 124.9, 124.5, 123.2, 122.7, 119.1, 111.7, 111.6, 108.3, 78.2, 55.1, 52.7, 52.1, 46.3, 28.1, 26.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₁NO₇Na⁺ 458.1210; Found 458.1215.



Synthesis of 4y: General procedure: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate 1a (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-3-methylbut-3-en-2-one 2l (17.6 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The

tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8) to give the product **4y**: 25.6 mg (0.0631 mmol), as a white solid, 63% yield; mp 149–151 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ (ppm) 7.64 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.19 (m, 3H), 6.95 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90–6.80 (m, 2H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 3.19–3.13 (m, 1H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 0.93 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.8, 169.0, 155.7, 146.3, 144.1, 129.3, 127.3, 126.6, 125.8, 123.9, 123.2, 122.4, 120.8, 116.9, 111.8, 108.4, 75.2, 58.5, 52.0, 45.8, 35.8, 26.4, 21.5, 12.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₄H₂₃NO₅Na⁺ 428.1468; Found 428.1468.



To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate**1a**(41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)acrylaldehyde**2m**(14.8 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/3). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6 to 1/2) to give the products**4z**and**4z'**as separable diastereomers.

4z: 19.3 mg (0.0511 mmol), as a white solid, 51% yield; mp 215–217 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.56–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00–6.91 (m, 2H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.55 (s, 1H), 4.06 (s, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.14–3.02 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.6, 168.8, 155.6, 146.3, 143.9, 129.6, 127.8, 125.9, 125.8, 124.4, 123.2, 122.6, 119.2, 112.0, 111.6, 108.6, 69.2, 54.3, 52.1, 43.7, 26.7, 25.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NO₅Na⁺ 400.1155; Found 400.1157.

4z': 14.5 mg (0.0384 mmol), as a white solid, 38% yield; mp 114–116 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm)7.56–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 1H), 4.55–4.46 (m, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.24–3.17 (m, 1H), 2.97–2.87 (m, 1H), 2.28 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 177.5, 168.1, 156.0, 147.0, 145.1, 129.5, 127.1, 125.9, 124.7, 124.6, 122.8, 122.7, 119.2, 113.1, 111.7, 108.2, 71.4, 56.8, 52.0, 47.0, 26.7, 26.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NO₅Na⁺

400.1155; Found 400.1155.

Procedure for synthesis of 4a on a 1.0 mmol scale: To an oven-dried 50 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (416.8 mg, 1.199 mmol), (*E*)-4-(2-hydroxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-one **2a** (162.2 mg, 1.000 mmol), DBU (30.4 mg, 0.200 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (57.8 mg, 0.0500 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (10.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 36 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/5). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/7) to give the product **4a**: 321.1 mg (0.8203 mmol), as a white solid, 82% yield.

4. Procedure for synthesis of racemic 6 and 7



To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(2-(3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)benzenesulfon-amide **5** (31.5 mg, 0.0999 mmol), DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 1 day, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/4). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/4) to give the product **6**: 43.6 mg (0.0801 mmol), as a yellow solid, 80% yield; mp 74–76 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.16 (m, 4H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.84 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.13–4.06 (m, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.00–2.86 (m, 1H), 2.74–2.66 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 206.8, 166.82, 166.76, 144.3, 143.8, 140.9, 140.5, 136.0, 134.7, 130.8, 129.8, 127.9, 127.2,

125.7, 125.0, 124.2, 123.0, 122.5, 119.6, 116.2, 108.4, 61.4, 52.4, 44.3, 39.8, 30.4, 26.1, 21.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: $[M + Na]^+$ Calcd for C₃₀H₂₈N₂O₆SNa⁺ 567.1560; Found 567.1559. wr



To a solution of **6** (54.4 mg, 0.0999 mmol) in toluene (1.0 mL) was added DBU (3.0 mg, 0.020 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 7 days, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the product 7: 35.5 mg (0.0652 mmol), as a white solid, 65% yield; mp 242–244 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02–6.86 (m, 3H), 4.97 (s, 1H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.06–2.82 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 178.9, 170.0, 144.5, 144.2, 137.5, 134.7, 130.8, 130.1, 129.6, 129.3, 126.9, 126.6, 125.8, 125.0, 123.8, 122.9, 119.5, 118.7, 115.5, 108.4, 72.7, 57.5, 51.7, 48.0, 32.3, 26.5, 24.9, 21.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₃₀H₂₈N₂O₆SNa⁺ 567.1560; Found 567.1565.

5. Detailed screening conditions of asymmetric cascade reaction and control experiments

Table S4.1. Detailed screening conditions for asymmetric synthesis of 4a



As summarized in Table S4.1, a number of chiral amines and phase transfer agents were screened, but poor enantiocontrol (<15% ee) was generally observed in the construction of benzo[*b*]furan framework **4a**.



Table S4.2. Detailed screening conditions for asymmetric synthesis of 6

Asymmetric synthesis of 6: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl) acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(2-(3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)benzene sulfonamide **5** (31.5 mg, 0.0999 mmol) , **C1** (5.9 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 1 day, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/4). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/4) to give the product **6**: 45.8 mg (0.0841 mmol), as a yellow solid, 84% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -93.8$ (c = 0.43 in CHCl₃); 69% ee, determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel chiralpak AD-H, *i*-PrOH/*n*-hexane = 40/60, flow rate = 1.0

mL/min, 1 = 254 nm) $t_R = 13.91 min$ (minor), $t_R = 18.21 min$ (major).



Asymmetric synthesis of 7: To a solution of 6 (54.4 mg, 0.0999 mmol) in toluene (1.0 mL) was added C1 (5.9 mg, 0.020 mmol). The mixture was stirred at at 80 °C for 7 days, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the chiral product 7: 38.7 mg (0.0711 mmol), as a white solid, 71% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +124.9$ (c = 0.37 in CHCl₃); 52% ee, determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel chiralpak AD-H, *i*-PrOH/*n*-hexane = 40/60, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min, 1 = 254 nm) t_R = 18.28 min (major), t_R = 24.87 min (minor).



Asymmetric synthesis of 7 in one pot: To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were added methyl 2-(3-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)oxy)-1-methyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)acrylate **1a** (41.6 mg, 0.120 mmol), (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(2-(3-oxobut-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)benzene sulfonamide **5** (31.5 mg, 0.0999 mmol) , **C1** (5.9 mg, 0.020 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5.8 mg, 0.0050 mmol). The tube was capped, evacuated and back-filled with argon for five times. Then degassed dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 8 days, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/6) to give the chiral product 7: 32.7 mg (0.0600 mmol), as a white solid, 60% yield; 48% ee, determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel chiralpak AD-H, *i*-PrOH/*n*-hexane = 40/60, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min, 1 = 254 nm) t_R = 17.94 min (major), t_R = 24.51 min (minor).



In order to gain some insight into the reaction process, more experiments were conducted. As outlined above, treating enantioenriched product **6** (69% ee) with chiral **C1** at 80 °C delivered the indole 7 with a diminished ee value (52% ee), but using DBU provided product 7 with poor enantioselectivity and with the opposite configuration (-7% ee). Moreover, treating racemic substance **6** with **C1** afforded chiral product 7 with similar poor enantioselectivity and opposite configuration (-6% ee). These results implied that a racemization process would be involved in the cascade process of enantioenriched **6** via Brønsted base catalysis, and different Brønsted base resulted in apparent different extent of enantiopurity decrease.

6. Transformation of product 4a

6.1 Lactonization of product 4a



To a solution of **4a** (49.8 mg, 0.127 mmol) in toluene (1.3 mL) was added concentrated sulfuric acid (12.5 mg, 0.127 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 12 h, and monitored by TLC (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8). After completion, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1/8) to give the product **8**: 37.9 mg (0.106 mmol), as a white solid, 83% yield; mp 238–240 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.57–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.29 (m, 3H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.20–3.08 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 174.6, 170.1, 155.7, 146.3, 144.9, 130.2, 126.4, 125.0, 124.9, 123.5, 123.2,

121.8, 119.2, 113.2, 112.1, 108.7, 86.7, 58.0, 47.7, 33.3, 26.4, 19.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₁₇NO₄Na⁺ 382.1050; Found 382.1052.

6.2 Attempts for dehydration reaction of product 4a



As mentioned above, the lactone product **8** was obtained by treating **4a** with concentrated H_2SO_4 . We also tested the possible dehydration process with **4a** under diverse conditions. Unfortunately, no desired alkene product was formed, as summarized in the above scheme. Product **4a** was relatively stable under milder acidic conditions, and the attempts of mesylation of **4a** and subsequent elimination reaction also failed, probably due to steric hindrance.

7. Unsuccessful exploration of more substrates

7.1 Exploration of more MBH carbonates



7.2 Exploration of more enones



To further expand the substrate scope, more activated MBH carbonates were tested. Unfortunately, they generally showed low reactivity, and no obvious conversions were observed. Meanwhile, the outlined enones either gave complex reaction profiles or kept inert in the reaction.

8. Crystal data and structural refinement

Procedure for the recrystallization of 4a: To a 10 mL tube containing **4a** (35 mg) were added *n*-hexane (0.3 mL) and EtOAc (1.5 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD to determine the relative configuration of racemic **4a**. The data were collected by an Agilent Gemini equipped with a Cu radiation source (K α = 1.54184 Å) at 291.76 K. CCDC 2119385 (**4a**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



(ellipsoid contour probability 50%)

Identification code	4a
Empirical formula	$C_{23}H_{21}NO_5$
Formula weight	391.41
Temperature/K	291.76(18)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	8.5908(4)
b/Å	10.6286(4)
c/Å	10.7126(4)
α/°	92.567(3)
β/°	101.413(4)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	96.618(4)
Volume/Å ³	950.11(7)

Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.368
μ/mm^{-1}	0.795
F(000)	412.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.7 imes 0.65 imes 0.55
Radiation	$CuK\alpha$ ($\lambda = 1.54184$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	8.396 to 143.028
Index ranges	$-10 \le h \le 10, -13 \le k \le 13, -13 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	14453
Independent reflections	3571 [$R_{int} = 0.0652, R_{sigma} = 0.0325$]
Data/restraints/parameters	3571/0/266
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.069
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0659, \mathrm{wR}_2 = 0.1657$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0695, \mathrm{wR}_2 = 0.1718$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.40/-0.66

Procedure for the recrystallization of 4y: To a 10 mL tube containing **4y** (40 mg) were added *n*-hexane (0.1 mL) and EtOAc (1.5 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD to determine the relative configuration of racemic **4y**. The data were collected by an Agilent Gemini equipped with a Mo radiation source (K α = 0.71073 Å) at 150.0 K. CCDC 2119395 (**4y**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



Empirical formula C₂₄H₂₃NO₅

Formula weight	405.43
Temperature/K	150.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	9.8700(4)
b/Å	9.9973(4)
c/Å	10.1792(5)
α/°	93.621(2)
β/°	93.760(2)
$\gamma^{ m o}$	96.427(2)
Volume/Å ³	993.43(7)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.355
μ/mm^{-1}	0.095
F(000)	428.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.35 \times 0.32 \times 0.21$
Radiation	MoKα ($\lambda = 0.71073$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	4.02 to 55.056
Index ranges	$-12 \le h \le 12, -12 \le k \le 12, -13 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	42813
Independent reflections	4571 [$R_{int} = 0.0545, R_{sigma} = 0.0288$]
Data/restraints/parameters	4571/0/277
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.043
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0359, wR_2 = 0.0845$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0524, \mathrm{w}R_2 = 0.0910$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.26/-0.19

Procedure for the recrystallization of 4z: To a 10 mL tube containing **4z** (30 mg) were added *n*-hexane (0.5 mL) and EtOAc (2 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD to determine the relative configuration of racemic **4z**. The data were collected by a Burker D8 Venture equipped with a Mo radiation source (K α = 0.71073 Å) at 290.0 K. CCDC 2119386 (**4z**)

contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



(ellipsoid contour probability 50%)

Identification code	4z
Empirical formula	C ₂₂ H ₁₉ NO ₅
Formula weight	377.38
Temperature/K	290.0
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/c$
a/Å	8.2628(3)
b/Å	14.8800(5)
c/Å	14.9882(4)
α/°	90
β/°	104.5800(10)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	1783.46(10)
Z	4
$ ho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.405
µ/mm ⁻¹	0.100
F(000)	792.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.3 imes 0.3 imes 0.2
Radiation	MoKa ($\lambda = 0.71073$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	3.922 to 55.02
Index ranges	$-10 \le h \le 10, -19 \le k \le 19, -18 \le l \le 19$
Reflections collected	40344
Independent reflections	$4092 \ [R_{int} = 0.0928, R_{sigma} = 0.0502]$
Data/restraints/parameters	4092/0/256

Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.025
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0440, wR_2 = 0.1094$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0601, wR_2 = 0.1189$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.27/-0.25

Procedure for the recrystallization of 4z': To a 10 mL tube containing 4z' (42 mg) were added nhexane (0.8 mL) and EtOAc (2.5 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD to determine the relative configuration of racemic 4z'. The data were collected by a Burker D8 Venture equipped with a Mo radiation source (K α = 0.71073 Å) at 290.0 K. CCDC 2119387 (4z') contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data request/cif.



(ellipsoid contour probability 50%)

Identification code	4z'
Empirical formula	$C_{22}H_{19}NO_5$
Formula weight	377.38
Temperature/K	290.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	7.6460(3)
b/Å	9.0047(3)
c/Å	14.7060(5)
α/°	105.4244(10)
β/°	102.5959(11)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	95.9250(10)
Volume/Å ³	938.46(6)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.336

μ/mm^{-1}	0.095
F(000)	396.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.40 \times 0.20 \times 0.10$
Radiation	MoKa ($\lambda = 0.71073$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	4.764 to 55.054
Index ranges	$\textbf{-9} \le h \le 9, \textbf{-11} \le k \le 11, \textbf{-19} \le \textbf{1} \le \textbf{19}$
Reflections collected	43793
Independent reflections	4291 [$R_{int} = 0.0757, R_{sigma} = 0.0350$]
Data/restraints/parameters	4291/0/256
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.037
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0451, \mathrm{wR}_2 = 0.1084$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0672, wR_2 = 0.1223$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.24/-0.24

Procedure for the recrystallization of 6: To a 10 mL tube containing **6** (53 mg) were added *n*-hexane (1.0 mL) and EtOAc (4.0 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD with to determine the relative configuration of racemic **6**. The data were collected by an Agilent Gemini equipped with a Cu radiation source (K α = 1.54184 Å) at 295.4 K. CCDC 2119388 (**6**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



(ellipsoid contour probability 50%)Identification code6Empirical formulaC30H28N2O6SFormula weight544.60Temperature/K295.4(4)

Crystal system orthorhombic

Space group	Pbca
a/Å	8.3076(4)
b/Å	15.7413(11)
c/Å	40.773(2)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90
β/°	90
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	5332.0(5)
Z	8
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.357
μ/mm^{-1}	1.479
F(000)	2288.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.4 \times 0.15 \times 0.1$
Radiation	$CuK\alpha$ ($\lambda = 1.54184$)
2Θ range for data collection/°	8.674 to 142.802
Index ranges	$-10 \le h \le 5, -18 \le k \le 18, -49 \le l \le 45$
Reflections collected	14781
Independent reflections	4968 [$R_{int} = 0.0995$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0813$]
Data/restraints/parameters	4968/0/356
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.059
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.1104, \mathrm{w}R_2 = 0.2981$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1454, \mathrm{wR}_2 = 0.3390$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.63/-0.71

Procedure for the recrystallization of 8: To a 10 mL tube containing **8** (28 mg) were added *n*-hexane (1.0 mL) and EtOAc (2 mL). The mixture was heated until a clear solution was formed, which was kept aside at room temperature to obtain crystals. The crystals were subjected for single crystal XRD to determine the relative configuration of racemic **8**. The data were collected by an Agilent Gemini equipped with a Cu radiation source (K α = 1.54178 Å) at 150.0 K. CCDC 2119389 (**8**) contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



(ellipsoid contour probability 50%)	
Identification code	8
Empirical formula	$C_{22}H_{17}NO_4$
Formula weight	359.36
Temperature/K	150.0
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	Cc
a/Å	18.7745(9)
b/Å	18.5044(8)
c/Å	10.6237(5)
α/°	90
β/°	107.614(3)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	3517.8(3)
Ζ	8
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.357
μ/mm-1	0.768
F(000)	1504.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.38\times0.09\times0.08$
Radiation	$CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54178)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	6.872 to 137.018
Index ranges	-22 \leq h \leq 22, -19 \leq k \leq 22, -10 \leq l \leq 12
Reflections collected	15382
Independent reflections	5249 [$R_{int} = 0.0667, R_{sigma} = 0.0506$]
Data/restraints/parameters	5249/2/491
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.076
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0407, wR_2 = 0.1044$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0458, \mathrm{wR}_2 = 0.1065$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.31/-0.24

9. NMR, HRMS spectra and HPLC chromatograms



110 100 f1 (ppm) -10 -2




10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)











Counts vs. Mass-to-Charge (m/z)



















9.5

9.0



S48











¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃)

-30 -40

-50 -60

-70 -80

10

0 -10 -20



-90 -100 -110 f1 (ppm) -120 -130 -140 -150 -160

-180 -190 -200 -210

-170

$$-0.000 \qquad -0.000 \qquad -$$



























¹⁹F NMR (375 MHz, CDCl₃)



---119.084



























S70






427.65 427.7 427.75 427.8 427.85 427.9 427.95 428 428.05 428.1 428.15 428.2 428.25 428.3 428.35 428.4 428.45 428.55 428.55 428.6 428.65 Counts vs. Mass-to-Charge (m/z)





443.94 443.96 443.98 444 444.02 444.02 444.04 444.06 444.08 444.1 444.12 444.16 444.18 444.2 444.22 444.24 444.26 444.28 444.28 444.32 444.32 444.32 444.34 444.36 Counts vs. Mass-to-Charge (m/z)



S76







100 90 f1 (ppm) -10





---120.962















S84



Counts vs. Mass-to-Charge (m/z)















400.1 400.102 400.104 400.106 400.106 400.111 400.112 400.114 400.116 400.12 400.124 400.124 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.125 400.134 400.136 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.126 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.136 400.126 4







000[.]0----









Ret Time [min]	Peak Type	Width [min]	Height [mAU]	Area [mAU*s]	Area [%]
13.906	BBA	0.40	478.2876	12183.7861	15.5854
18.212	BB	0.58	1755.5355	65990.7109	84.4146
			Totals:	78174.4971	100.0000

8.018 7.557 7.557 7.557 7.557 7.557 7.557 7.5538 7.5538 7.5539 7.5539 7.5539 7.5539 7.5539 7.5539 7.5539 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5339 7.5289 7.5289 6.5982 6.5983 6.5936 6.5936 6.5936 6.5936 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959 6.5959







Ret Time [min]	Peak Type	Width [min]	Height [mAU]	Area [mAU*s]	Area [%]
18.564	BBA	0.68	433.2407	18918.8027	50.3947
25.201	BBA	0.92	315.8053	18622.4238	49.6053
			Totals:	37541.2266	100.0000





Ret Time [min]	Peak Type	Width [min]	Height [mAU]	Area [mAU*s]	Area [%]
17.941	BB	0.66	1212.3540	51276.4766	73.7829
24.507	BBA	0.89	320.8142	18219.9473	26.2171
			Totals:	69496.4238	100.0000



