Supporting Information

Intramolecular-Dehydrogenative-Coupling (IDC) of sp² C-H and sp³ C-H Bonds: An Expeditious Route to 2-Oxindoles

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Table of Contents

Materials and Methods	S 2
General procedure for substrate preparation	S2-S3
Spectral analysis of 3a-3e	S4-S5
Spectral analysis of 6a-6h	S5-S9
Table 1	S 9
Spectral analysis of 4a	S 10
Figure 1	S11
Spectral analysis of 4b-4s	S11-S18
Figure 2	S18
Spectral analysis of 7a-7p , 8a-c , and 9a-c	S19-S29
Scheme 2	S29
Synthesis of compound 10 and 11	S30-S31
Scheme 3	S31
Synthesis of compound 12 and 13	S31-S32
Scheme 4 and spectral analysis of 15a	S33
Procedure for homodimerization and spectral analysis of 16a-b	S33-S34
Homodimerization/IDC procedure and spectral analysis of 17a-b	S35-S36
Synthesis and spectral analysis of 5a	S36-S37
Reaction using t-BuOI, NIS, and ICl	S37-S39
Scheme 6 and IDC in presence of Mn(OAc) ₃	S40-S42
Scheme 7	S43
General procedure for Tsuji-Trost reaction and spectral analysis	S44-S46
Scanned copies of NMR and Mass spectrum	S47-S189

Materials and Methods

Unless otherwise stated, reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware fitted with rubber septa under a nitrogen atmosphere and were stirred with Teflon-coated magnetic stirring bars. Liquid reagents and solvents were transferred via syringe using standard Schlenk techniques. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) and diethyl ether (Et₂O) were distilled over sodium/benzophenone ketyl. Dichloromethane (CH₂Cl₂), toluene, and benzene were distilled over calcium hydride. All other solvents such as DMSO, DMF, dioxane and reagents such as alkyl halides, *N*-methylaniline, *p*-anisidine etc. were used as received, unless otherwise noted.

Thin layer chromatography was performed using Merck Silicagel 60 F-254 precoated plates (0.25 mm) and visualized by UV irradiation, anisaldehyde stain and other stains. Silicagel from Merck (particle size 100-200 mesh) was used for flash chromatography. Melting points were recorded on a digital melting point apparatus from Jyoti Scientific (AN ISO 9001:2000) and are uncorrected. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 400, 500 MHz spectrometers with ¹³C operating frequencies of 100, 125 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to the residual solvent signal (δ = 7.26 for ¹H NMR and δ = 77.0 for ¹³C NMR). Data for ¹H NMR spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift (multiplicity, coupling constants, number of hydrogens). Abbreviations are as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), br (broad). IR spectra were recorded on a FT-IR system (Spectrum BX) from PerkinElmer spectrometer and are reported in frequency of absorption (cm⁻¹). Only selected IR absorbencies are reported. High resolution mass spectral data were obtained from the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF) at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal.

General procedure for the synthesis of the β -*N*-arylamido esters:



Scheme: Synthesis of β -*N*-arylamido esters.

Step 1:

A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with Meldrum's acid [1.0 equiv. (generally in 10 g scale)] and required alcohol (1.5-10.0 equiv. case to case). The reaction mixture was heated under refluxed at 110 °C for indicated time. Upon completion of the reaction (as judged by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Most of the volatile components were evaporated under reduced pressure, without work up. The crude malonic acid monoesters were directly used for coupling reaction without purification.

Step 2:

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, crude malonic acid monoester (1.0 mmol) was taken in dichloromethane (5 mL/mmol) and cooled to 0 °C on an ice-bath. To this reaction mixture was added triethylamine (3 mmol) via a syringe. After 5 minutes of stirring at same temperature, a THF solution of *N*-methylaniline derivatives (1.0 mmol) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture and slowly allowed to warm to rt (over 10 minutes). The stirring was continued till TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (approx. 40 mL for 5 mmol scale of a reaction) and then successively washed with water (20 mL), 2(*N*)-HCl (20 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (20 mL) and finally with brine (20 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford β -*N*-arylamido esters.



Methyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (3a): 72% yield (30 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.41$ (50% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.25 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.14, 165.93, 143.48, 129.97, 128.33, 127.24, 52.28, 41.32, 37.47; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2953, 1747, 1651, 1596, 1496, 1435, 1386, 1253, 1160, 1122, 927, 849, 776, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 230.0800 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₁H₁₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 230.0788].



Ethyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (**3b**): 69% yield (20 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.40$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.26 (m, 2H), 4.14 (q, J = 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 2H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.16 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.74, 166.06, 143.52, 129.93, 128.27, 127.28, 61.25, 41.57, 37.46, 14.07; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2983, 1739, 1661, 1596, 1497, 1423, 1385, 1308, 1248, 1158, 1122, 1030, 927, 776, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 222.1148 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₂H₁₆NO₃]⁺: 222.1125].



tert-Butyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (3c): 75% yield (25 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.24 (m, 2H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 2H), 1.41 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.99, 166.42, 143.67, 129.83, 128.14, 127.27, 81.51, 42.70, 37.37, 27.96; IR (film) ν_{max} 2979, 2933, 2360, 1735, 1664, 1596, 1497, 1369, 1328, 1257, 1152, 1121, 960,

853, 765, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 250.1458 $[(M+H)^+; \text{ calculated for } [C_{14}H_{20}NO_3]^+: 250.1438].$



Methyl 3-((4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (**3d**): 61% yield (15 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.12 (d, J = 8.96 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.96 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.22, 166.28, 159.22, 136.19, 128.32, 115.01, 55.49, 52.22, 41.23, 37.57; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2954, 2841, 1746, 1660, 1514, 1436, 1386, 1301, 1249, 1171, 1123, 1028, 842 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 238.1080 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₂H₁₆NO₄]⁺: 238.1074].



2-Cyano-N-methyl-N-phenylacetamide (**3e**): 65% yield (20 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless solid, $R_f = 0.62$ (40% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.16 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.77, 142.40, 130.49, 129.04, 127.08, 114.24, 37.91, 25.47; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2956, 2927, 2258, 1661, 1595, 1497, 1430, 1393, 1309, 1261, 925, 773, 703 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 175.0879 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₀H₁₁N₂O]⁺: 175.0866]; **MP** 82–84 °C.



Allyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6a): 60% yield (25 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.50$ (40% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.25 (m, 2H), 5.82-5.92 (m, 1H), 5.32 (dd, J = 17.20, 1.44

Hz, 1H), 5.22 (dd, J = 10.40, 1.16 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 5.72 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.38, 165.86, 143.47, 131.68, 129.96, 128.31, 127.27, 118.59, 65.83, 41.45, 37.46; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2940, 1744, 1667, 1596, 1496, 1423, 1385, 1309, 1240, 1156, 1122, 992, 930, 775, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 234.1135 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₃H₁₆NO₃]⁺: 234.1125].



Allyl 3-((4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6b): 67% yield (20 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.50$ (40% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (d, J = 8.88 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.88 Hz, 2H), 5.83-5.91 (m, 1H), 5.32 (dd, J = 18.60, 1.40 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (dd, J = 10.44, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 5.76 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.47, 166.22, 159.22, 136.22, 131.72, 128.39, 118.56, 115.00, 65.80, 55.51, 41.40, 37.60; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2941, 1749, 1666, 1595, 1497, 1383, 1310, 1242, 1159, 1122, 975, 775, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 264.1241 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₈NO₄]⁺: 264.1230].



3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6c): 56% yield (10 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.46$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.25 (m, 2H), 5.30 (m, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 7.24 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 2H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.74, 166.01, 143.52, 139.40, 129.90, 128.24, 127.29, 118.18, 62.13, 41.57, 37.46, 25.74, 18.01; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2935, 1738, 1667, 1596, 1496, 1423, 1383, 1310, 1240, 1158, 1122, 975, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 284.1274 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₁₉NO₃ + Na]⁺: 284.1257].



3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-((**4-methoxyphenyl**)(**methyl**)**amino**)-**3-oxopropanoate** (**6d**): 52% yield (20 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.52$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.11 (d, J = 8.84 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.84 Hz, 2H), 5.26 (t, J = 7.24 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 7.24 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.85, 166.37, 159.19, 139.37, 136.30, 128.41, 118.21, 114.95, 62.12, 55.50, 41.54, 37.61, 25.75, 18.02; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2936, 1738, 1661, 1513, 1445, 1383, 1299, 1248, 1170, 1122, 1030, 978, 840 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 314.1371 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₆H₂₁NO₄ + Na]⁺: 314.1363].



2-Methylallyl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6e): 61% yield (15 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.32$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.27 (m, 2H), 4.96 (s, 1H), 4.93 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 2H), 1.74 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.43, 165.88, 143.53, 139.47, 129.96, 128.31, 127.28, 113.35, 68.42, 41.40, 37.48, 19.46; **IR** (film) ν_{max} 2943, 1744, 1666, 1596, 1496, 1424, 1385, 1309, 1238, 1157, 1121, 1001, 908, 774, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 270.1100 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₇NO₃ + Na]⁺: 270.1101].



2-Methylallyl 3-((4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6f): 54% yield (10 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.42$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.13 (d, J = 8.68 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.68 Hz, 2H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.48, 166.23, 159.21, 139.45, 136.21, 128.35, 114.99, 113.28, 68.33, 55.48, 41.32, 37.57, 19.41; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2939, 1744, 1660, 1513, 1445, 1385, 1301, 1249, 1170, 1030, 908, 841 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 278.1393 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₂₀NO₄]⁺: 278.1387].



3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-((**3**,**5-dimethoxyphenyl**)(**methyl**)**amino**)-**3-oxopropanoate** (**6**g): 57% yield (10 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.39$ (40% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.44 (t, J = 2.24 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 5.29-5.34 (m, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 7.24 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 2H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.93, 165.88, 161.54, 145.18, 139.41, 118.20, 105.39, 100.16, 62.17, 55.50, 41.38, 37.23, 25.73, 18.00; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2940, 1738, 1665, 1606, 1462, 1428, 1384, 1351, 1252, 1206, 1157, 1116, 1063, 1044, 981, 847, 703 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 344.1479 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₂₃NO₅ + Na]⁺: 344.1468].



(*E*)-3,7-Dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl 3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (6h): 58% yield (20 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.61$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.25 (m, 2H), 5.30 (dt, J = 7.12, 1.08 Hz, 1H), 5.06-5.10 (m, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 2H), 2.10 (m, 2H), 2.04 (m, 2H), 1.69 (s, 6H), 1.61 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.74, 166.01, 143.54, 142.59, 131.85, 129.90, 128.25, 127.30, 123.70, 117.87, 62.16, 41.57, 39.52, 37.47, 26.28, 25.67, 17.68, 16.47; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2926, 1739, 1667, 1596, 1496, 1424, 1383, 1310,

1239, 1156, 1121, 979, 774, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 352.1884 $[(M + Na)^+; calculated for [C₂₀H₂₇NO₃ + Na]^+: 352.1883].$

base (1.2 equiv.), Mel (1.1 equiv), solvent, rt then base (1.2 equiv), oxidant, 110 °C								Me O OMe	
	2	±(3a)					N	/ie ±(4a)	
	entry	solvent	base	alkylations	oxidants	equiv	time	yield ^{a,b}	
	1.	DMF	K ^t OBu	20 min	I_2	1.5 equiv	6 h	65%	
	2.	DMF	K ^t OBu	20 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	3 h	62%	
	3.	THF	K ^t OBu	30 min	l ₂	1.2 equiv	3 h	85%	
	4.	xylene	K ^t OBu	45 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	60 min	49% ^c	
	5.	dioxane	K ^t OBu	20 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	2 h	88%	
	6.	benzene	K ^t OBu	50 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	2 h	43% ^c	
	7.	toluene	K ^t OBu	45 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	60 min	45% ^c	
	8.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	20 min	I_2	1.5 equiv	30 min	90%	
	9.	DMSO	NaH	20 min	I_2	1.5 equiv	30 min	33% ^d	
	10.	DMSO	NaOMe	120 min	I ₂	1.5 equiv	30 min	d	
	11.	DMSO	K ₂ CO ₃	60 min ^e					
	12.	DMSO	Cs_2CO_3	120 min	I_2	1.5 equiv	30 min	26% ^f	
	13.	DMSO	Na ^t OBu	30 min	I_2	1.5 equiv	30 min	f	
	14.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	15 min	I_2	1.2 equiv	30 min	88%	
	15.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	15 min	l ₂	0.6 equiv	60 min	54%	
	16.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	15 min	I_2	0.3 equiv	60 min	29%	
	17.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	15 min	PIDA	1.2 equiv	30 min	82%	
	18.	DMSO	K ^t OBu	15 min		1.2 equiv	30 min	16% ^f	

Table 1: Optimization of intramolecular-dehydrogenative-coupling (IDC).

^aReactions were carried out on a 0.25 mmol of **3a** with 0.275 mmol of methyl iodide in the presence of 0.30 mmol of base in 1 mL of solvent at 25 °C for specified time for alkylations and 0.30 mmol of oxidant in presence of 0.30 mmol of base under heating at 110 °C for oxidative coupling steps, unless noted otherwise. ^bIsolated yields of **3a** after column chromatography. ^cMixture of products were observed for rest of the mass balance. ^dC-Methylation as major product. ^eStarting material was recovered (92%). ^fDecompositions of starting materials. ^gDBDMH (1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethyl-hydantoin) as oxidant.

General procedure for one-step alkylations followed by intramolecular oxidative coupling (IDC):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester **3** or **6** (0.25 mmol; 1 equiv) was taken in DMSO (0.75 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added K'OBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv) in one portion. After 1-2 minutes of stirring at same temperature, alkyl halide (0.275 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added and stirring was continued for 5-10 minutes (TLC showed almost complete consumption of starting materials). K'OBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv) and 1.2 equiv (0.30 mmol) of iodine were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. Immediately afterwards, the reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 30-40 minutes. Upon completion of the oxidative coupling, it was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The reaction mixture was extracted with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate (5 mL X 3 times) and then successively washed with water (5 mL), and brine (5 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (hexane and EtOAc as eluents) to afford 2-oxindole derivatives.



(±)-Methyl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (**4a**): 88% yield, Colorless solid, $R_f = 0.42$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, J = 7.70, 1.05 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.10 (dt, J = 7.60, 0.70 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.80, 1.05 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.15, 170.30, 143.59, 130.03, 129.06, 123.09, 122.94, 108.47, 54.92, 53.04, 26.58, 20.23; **IR** (film) υ_{max} 2954, 1743, 1716, 1651, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1376, 1349, 1242, 1147, 1119,1063, 1031, 975, 910 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 220.0975 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₂H₁₄NO₃]⁺: 220.0968]; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 242.0768 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₂H₁₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 242.0788]; **MP** 83-85 °C.



Figure 1: Substrates scope of 'transition metal-free' IDC.



(±)-Ethyl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4b): 78% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.47$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.34 (t, *J*= 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.16 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.28 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.10-4.18 (m, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 6.96 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 175.2, 169.7, 143.6, 130.2, 129.0, 123.0, 122.8, 108.4, 62.0, 55.1, 26.5, 20.1, 13.9; IR (film) v_{max} 2984, 2936, 1741, 1721, 1651, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1375, 1349, 1244, 1146, 1106, 1063, 1030, 975, 752 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 234.1138 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₃H₁₆NO₃]⁺: 234.1125].



(±)-Ethyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4c): 70% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.56$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dd, J = 7.40, 0.76 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 7.60, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 7.00-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.59 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (m, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.12 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.50, 169.25, 144.06, 134.44, 129.95, 128.97, 127.53, 127.45, 126.70, 123.85, 122.45, 108.11, 62.04, 60.89, 40.04, 26.11, 13.97; IR (film) v_{max} 2933, 1738, 1715, 1611, 1490, 1471, 1370, 1354, 1233, 1090, 750 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 310.1424 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₂₀NO₃]⁺: 310.1438].



(±)-*tert*-Butyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4d): 72% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.58$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.02-7.09 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, J = 6.32 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.64 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (m, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.75, 168.15, 144.13, 134.80, 129.94, 128.74, 128.09, 127.51, 126.58, 123.58, 122.29, 107.98, 82.49, 61.79, 39.71, 27.78, 26.02; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2980, 2933, 1740, 1720, 1654, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1370, 1351, 1252, 1153, 1022, 751 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 360.1592 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₁H₂₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 360.1570.



(±)-Methyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4e): 69% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.50$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dd, J = 7.40, 0.76 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.00-7.11 (m, 4H), 6.85-6.87 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.45, 169.78, 144.01, 134.30, 129.95, 129.09, 127.56, 127.27, 126.76, 123.94, 122.53, 108.18, 60.75, 53.09, 40.07, 26.14; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2953, 1741, 1715, 1610, 1494, 1471, 1373, 1353, 1244, 1156, 1128, 1089, 1001, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 296.1292 [(M+nH)⁺; calculated for [C₁₈H₁₇NO₃ + nH]⁺: 296.1281.



(±)-Methyl 3-benzyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4f): 68% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.54$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.02-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, J = 2.52 Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.90 (m, 2H), 6.76 (dd, J = 8.52, 2.60 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, J = 8.48 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.11, 169.76, 155.88, 133.56, 134.34, 129.97, 128.43, 127.61, 126.78, 113.59, 11.18, 108.55, 61.09, 55.89, 53.11, 40.10, 26.23; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2101, 1740, 1645, 1498, 1363, 1222, 1032, 758 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 326.1397 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₁₉NO₄]⁺: 326.1387.



(±)-1,3-Dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carbonitrile (4g): 90% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.42$ (25% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.65 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 7.85 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.00, 142.58, 130.34, 126.85, 123.88, 123.78, 117.65, 109.17, 42.12, 27.01, 23.40; IR (film) v_{max} 2937, 2241, 1731, 1651, 1612, 1494, 1472, 1369, 1347, 1239, 1128, 1026, 933, 754 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 187.0884 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₁H₁₁N₂O]⁺: 187.0866; MP 78-80 °C.



(±)-3-Benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carbonitrile (4h): 72% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.49$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, J = 4.25 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.25 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 7.85 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (d, J = 13.20 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (d, J = 13.20 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.96, 143.00, 132.65, 130.32, 130.30, 128.12, 127.93, 124.97, 124.32, 123.29, 116.92, 108.88, 47.84, 42.77, 26.72; **IR** (film) υ_{max} 2926, 2362, 1728, 1611, 1494, 1472, 1371, 1261, 1156, 753, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 263.1189 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₁₅N₂O]⁺: 263.1179; **MP** 127-129 °C.



(±)-1-Methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carbonitrile (4i): 54% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.14 (dt, J = 7.64, 1.00 Hz, 1H); 6.90 (dd, J = 7.88, 0.56 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (m, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.94 (dd, J = 13.96, 7.16 Hz, 1H); 2.73 (dd, J = 14.00, 8.44 Hz, 1H); 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.36, 142.97, 139.07, 130.16, 125.27, 124.39, 123.45, 116.98, 114.90, 108.90, 46.56, 35.81, 26.88, 25.89, 18.19; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2921, 1731, 1612, 1493, 1472, 1371, 1349, 1253, 1129, 753, 696 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 241.1349 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₁₇N₂O]⁺: 241.1335.



(±)-*tert*-Butyl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4j): 82% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.49$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dt, J = 7.48, 0.88 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.51, 168.66, 143.70, 130.68, 129.30, 128.73, 122.70, 108.24, 82.18, 55.98, 27.90, 26.40, 19.68; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2980, 2934, 1738, 1721, 1656, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1369, 1347, 1255, 1158, 1119, 1029, 843, 751 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 262.1433 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₂₀NO₃]⁺: 262.1438.



tert-Butyl 1-methyl-2-oxo-3-phenethylindoline-3-carboxylate (4k): 67% yield, Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.41$ (50% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ :7.34-7.38 (td, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H),7.32 (dd, J = 7.48, 0.72 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.13 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.55-2.63 (m, 1H), 2.38-2.46 (m, 2H), 2.30-2.37 (m, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ :174.2, 168.1, 144.3, 141.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 126.0, 123.1, 122.8, 108.2, 82.4, 60.3, 35.7, 30.2, 27.7, 26.4; IR (film) ν_{max} 3423, 2978, 1736, 1716, 1610, 1493, 1472, 1346, 1248, 1155, 1091, cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 374.1743 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₂H₂₅NO₃ + Na]⁺: 374.1727].



(±)-Methyl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4l): 70% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.49$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (t, J = 7.72 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.08 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.56 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (m, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 17.00 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (d, J = 10.12 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.93-3.05 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.62, 169.56, 144.08, 130.92, 129.11, 127.48, 123.67, 122.80, 119.82, 108.32, 59.11, 53.01, 38.41, 26.44; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 2852, 1744, 1720, 1651, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1371, 1237, 1124, 923, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 268.0959 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₅NO₃ + Na]⁺: 268.0944.



(±)-Methyl 3-allyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4m): 69% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.89 (d, J = 2.44 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.44, 2.56 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 5.33-5.43 (m, 1H), 5.05 (dq, J = 16.96, 1.28 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.92-3.03 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.29, 169.53, 156.11, 137.57, 130.91, 128.69, 119.85, 113.43, 111.00, 108.65, 59.48, 55.84, 53.03, 38.46, 26.52; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2954, 2359,

1746, 1715, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1435, 1373, 1351, 1237, 1123, 1082, 1001, 926, 798, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 298.1048 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for $[C_{15}H_{17}NO_4 + Na]^+$: 298.1050.



(±)-Ethyl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4n): 61% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (t, J = 7.64 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 6.16 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.44 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 7.72 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (m, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 17.00 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (d, J = 10.04 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.92-3.04 (m, 2H), 1.81 (t, J = 7.00 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.68, 169.00, 144.12, 131.06, 128.99, 127.67, 123.60, 122.72, 119.70, 108.25, 61.95, 59.25, 38.39, 26.41, 13.93; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 1740, 1706, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1373, 1350, 1230, 1123, 1020, 925, 751 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 260.1299 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₁₈NO₃]⁺: 260.1281.



(±)-Ethyl 1-methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (40): 65% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.48$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dt, J =7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.92 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (m, 1H), 4.11-4.17 (m, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.94 (d, J = 7.36 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.12 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.08, 169.33, 144.15, 136.19, 128.82, 128.16, 123.60, 122.57, 116.43, 108.08, 61.82, 59.32, 33.02, 26.39, 25.78, 18.05, 13.94; IR (film) v_{max} 2929, 1740, 1720, 1611, 1493, 1471, 1374, 1348, 1230, 1128, 1020, 752 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 310.1415 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₂₁NO₃ + Na]⁺: 310.1414.



(±)-Methyl 1-methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4p): 69% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.42$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (t, J = 7.68 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.20 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.52 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (t, J = 6.92 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.94 (d, J = 7.32 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.02, 169.87, 144.12, 136.35, 128.94, 12797, 123.68, 122.65, 116.27, 108.14, 59.18, 52.92, 33.07, 26.42, 25.78, 18.05; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2924, 1743, 1715, 1611, 1493, 1471, 1374, 1348, 1306, 1236, 1128, 1087, 1019, 1001, 792, 753 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 296.1267 (M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₆H₁₉NO₃ + Na]⁺: 296.1257.



(±)-Methyl 5-methoxy-1-methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4q): 70% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.43$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.90 (d, J = 2.52 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.60, 2.52 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.44 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (m, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.94 (d, J = 7.32 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.70, 169.85, 156.00, 137.63, 136.32, 129.16, 116.30, 113.45, 110.91, 108.48, 59.51, 55.83, 52.95, 33.10, 26.51, 25.79, 18.08; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2962, 2925, 1742, 1715, 1602, 1496, 1435, 1365, 1232, 1162, 1105, 1033, 802 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 304.1561 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₂₂NO₄]⁺: 304.1543.



(±)-*tert*-Butyl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4r): 64% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.54$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.48 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 7.68 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.03 (d, J = 17.00 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (d, J = 10.08 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.93 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.92, 167.88, 144.18, 131.41, 128.78, 128.12, 123.34, 122.55, 119.38, 108.10, 82.38, 60.11, 38.14, 27.96, 26.30; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2980, 2929, 1738, 1721, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1370, 1350, 1251, 1157, 993, 842, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 310.1431 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₂₁NO₃ + Na]⁺: 310.1414].



(±)-*tert*-Butyl 1-methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (4s): 65% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.25-2.27 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dt, J = 7.60, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (m, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.87-2.91 (m, 2H), 1.53 (s, 6H), 1.37 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.33, 168.23, 144.20, 135.75, 128.61, 128.57, 123.34, 122.41, 116.79, 107.94, 82.16, 60.18, 32.74, 27.73, 26.29, 25.76, 18.05; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2978, 2931, 1738, 1721, 1611, 1493, 1471, 1370, 1347, 1250, 1156, 845, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 338.1739 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₂₅NO₃ + Na]⁺: 338.1727].



Figure 2: Substrates scope for 'transition metal-free' IDC.



(±)-Allyl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7a): 87% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.48$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, J = 7.76, 1.28 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.09 (dt, J = 7.60, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.74-5.84 (m, 1H), 5.16 (m, 1H), 5.14 (m, 1H), 4.58 (dq, J = 5.68, 1.52 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.07, 169.40, 143.65, 131.38, 130.06, 129.05, 123.05, 122.89, 117.93, 108.46, 65.99, 55.05, 26.55, 20.07; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2984, 2936, 1742, 1731, 1651, 1612, 1494, 1471, 1422, 1349, 1225, 1144, 1119, 1030, 974, 932, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 268.0942 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₅NO₃ + Na]⁺: 268.0944; **MP** 49-51 °C.



(±)-Allyl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7b): 64% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.43$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.20 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dt, J = 7.52, 0.92 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (m, 1H), 5.37 (m, 1H), 5.17 (dq, J = 5.72, 1.52 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (t, J = 1.44 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (dq, J = 17.00, 1.68 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (m, 1H), 4.60 (dt, J = 5.40, 1.48 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.02 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.54, 168.68, 144.15, 131.36, 130.96, 129.09, 127.52, 123.66, 122.75, 119.81, 118.07, 108.30, 66.06, 59.23, 38.31, 26.44; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2922, 1690, 1643, 1495, 1384, 1266, 1116, 1040, 785, 712 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 272.1297 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₆H₁₈NO₃]⁺: 272.1281].



(±)-Allyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7c): 67% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.41 (10\% \text{ EtOAc} in hexane)$. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dd, J = 7.40, 0.72 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dt, J = 6.48, 1.28 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dt, J = 7.44, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 7.00-7.05 (m, 3H), 6.86-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.60 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 5.78-5.88 (m, 1H), 5.22 (m, 1H), 5.17 (m, 1H), 4.64 (dt, J = 5.36, 1.44 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.36, 168.93, 144.08, 134.34, 131.39, 129.97. 129.07, 127.56, 127.29, 126.75, 123.92, 122.49, 118.17, 108.18, 66.15, 60.87, 39.97, 26.14; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 2360, 1742, 1713, 1604, 1498, 1469, 1436, 1364, 1223, 1161, 1033 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 322.1455 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₀H₂₀NO₃]⁺: 322.1438].



(±)-Allyl 3-benzyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7d): 63% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.52$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.02-7.10 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, J = 2.48 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 6.77 (dd, J = 8.48, 2.56 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.48 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 5.17-5.24 (m, 2H), 4.65 (dd, J = 5.28, 0.96 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.01, 168.89, 155.84, 137.65, 134.38, 131.40, 129.99, 128.44, 127.61, 126.77, 118.22, 113.64, 111.13, 108.54, 66.20, 61.21, 55.91, 40.02, 26.23; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2934, 1361, 1743, 1713, 1603, 1498, 1469, 1437, 1364, 1289, 1224, 1165, 1032, 810, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 374.1361 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₁H₂₁NO₄ + Na]⁺: 374.1363]; **MP** 103-105 °C.



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7e): 65% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.43$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.08 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.96 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.33-5.43 (m, 1H), 5.22 (m, 1H), 5.02-5.07 (m, 1H), 4.92 (m, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.99 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.66, 168.96, 144.13, 139.32, 131.10, 128.95, 127.66, 123.67, 122.67, 119.67, 118.00, 108.22, 62.91, 59.33, 38.42, 26.42, 25.66, 18.03; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2963, 2928, 1744, 1716, 1611, 1493, 1471, 1374, 1348, 1260, 1222, 1088, 934, 799, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 322.1431 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₈H₂₁NO₃ + Na]⁺: 322.1414].



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-allyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7f): 69% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.43$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.86 (d, J = 2.40 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J = 8.44, 2.48 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (m, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, J = 15.92 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (d, J = 10.08 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 6.96 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 2.88-2.98 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.30, 168.91, 156.02, 139.30, 137.65, 131.07, 128.85, 119.68, 118.00, 113.35, 110.97, 108.52, 62.93, 59.68, 55.85, 38.47, 26.50, 25.66, 18.04; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2935, 1740, 1714, 1602, 1496, 1470, 1362, 1289, 1221, 1167, 1032, 927, 809, 765 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 352.1534 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₂₃NO₄ + Na]⁺: 352.1519].



(±)-2-Methylallyl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7g): 72% yield, colorless gel, R_f = 0.58 (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, *J* = 7.72, 1.20 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dt, *J* = 7.44, 0.88 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dt, *J* = 18.44, 1.40 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (m, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.06, 169.34, 143.69, 139.26, 130.08, 129.06, 123.01, 122.85, 112.60, 108.44, 68.47, 55.08, 26.52, 19.82, 19.08; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2977, 2936, 1740, 1714, 1651, 1613, 1494, 1470, 1349, 1220, 1108, 1032, 909, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 260.1291 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₁₈NO₃]⁺: 260.1281].



(±)-2-Methylallyl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7h): 63% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.49$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (d, J = 7.40 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.72 Hz, 1H), 7.01-7.06 (m, 4H), 6.87 (d, J = 7.28 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (d, J = 10.04 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (AB quartet, J = 33.8, 13.28, 7.24 Hz, 2H), 3.58 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.40, 168.89, 144.12, 139.26, 134.39, 129.97, 129.08, 127.57, 127.32, 126.74, 123.90, 122.46, 112.82, 108.17, 68.63, 60.93, 39.76, 26.13, 19.18; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2928, 1740, 1714, 1610, 1494, 1470, 1372, 1353, 1262, 1219, 1128, 1089, 1033, 914, 809, 749 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 336.1599 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₁H₂₂NO₃]⁺: 336.1594].



(±)-2-Methylallyl 3-benzyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7i): 69% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.46$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.02-7.10 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, J = 2.52 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 7.40, 1.44 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (dd, J = 8.48, 2.56 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.48 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, J = 7.28 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (br, s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.56 (d, J = 1.20 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.04, 168.86, 155.82, 139.25, 137.70, 134.43, 130.00, 128.46, 127.62, 126.75, 113.73, 112.84, 111.06, 108.54, 68.66, 61.26, 55.92, 39.82, 26.22, 19.21; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2924, 2855, 1742, 1713, 1604, 1495, 1469, 1366, 1289, 1216, 1166, 1033, 893, 811, 759 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 366.1716 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₂H₂₄NO₄]⁺: 366.1700].



(±)-3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7j): 72% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.46$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.06 (dt, J = 7.56, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (m, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.18, 169.68, 143.62, 139.24, 130.21, 128.91, 123.02, 122.79, 118.01, 108.39, 62.85, 55.12, 26.52, 25.64, 20.15, 18.00; IR (film) ν_{max} 2978, 2934, 1740, 1723, 1652, 1612, 1494, 1472, 1376, 1348, 1226, 1106, 1030, 942, 751, 703 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 296.1272 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₆H₁₉NO₃ + Na]⁺: 296.1257].



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 1-methyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7k): 70% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.50$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.20 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 5.96 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.88 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (m, 1H), 4.73 (m, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 7.00 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (AB quartet, J = 21.4, 7.12, 7.16), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.94 (d, J = 7.36 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.05, 169.28, 144.16, 139.12, 136.15, 128.78, 128.14, 123.68, 122.52, 118.12, 116.47, 108.05, 62.80, 59.38, 33.07, 29.70, 26.39, 25.78, 18.05, 18.03; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2922, 2359, 1741, 1714, 1612, 1494, 1470, 1374, 1217, 1034, 807, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 328.1910 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₀H₂₆NO₃]⁺: 328.1907].



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7l): 68% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.41$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dt, J = 7.76, 1.20 Hz, 1H), 7.00-7.09 (m, 4H), 6.85-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (m, 1H), 4.64 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.46, 169.18, 144.05, 139.36, 134.49, 130.02, 129.96, 128.93, 127.52, 126.69, 123.94, 122.40, 118.05, 108.09, 62.99, 60.96, 40.08, 26.11, 25.69, 18.06; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2928, 1737, 1715, 1498, 1365, 1225, 1163, 1032, 701 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 372.1574 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₂H₂₃NO₃ + Na]⁺: 372.1570].



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-benzyl-5-methoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7m): 63% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.41$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98-7.05 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d, J = 2.48 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (m, 2H), 6.72-6.74 (dd, J = 8.48, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, J = 8.44 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (m, 1H), 4.60 (d, J = 7.00 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.90 (s, 2H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.13, 169.15, 155.79, 139.39, 137.62, 134.50, 129.98, 128.58, 127.58, 126.73, 118.04, 113.52, 111.12, 108.47, 63.04, 61.29, 55.91, 40.12, 26.23, 25.72, 18.10; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 2851, 1738, 1715, 1609, 1496, 1469, 1371, 1225, 1032, 807, 754 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 402.1680 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₃H₂₅NO₄ + Na]⁺: 402.1676]; **MP** 109-111 °C.



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 4,6-dimethoxy-1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7n): 70% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.45$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.17 (d, J = 1.92 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (d, J = 1.96 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (m, 1H), 4.57 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.84, 169.30, 161.97, 156.23, 145.62, 138.49, 118.52, 109.26, 92.44, 88.55, 62.53, 55.63,

55.44, 54.21, 26.78, 25.68, 18.33, 17.99; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2935, 1742, 1716, 1611, 1511, 1456, 1377, 1336, 1258, 1217, 1155, 1106, 1067, 1036, 936, 814, 637 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 334.166 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₈H₂₄NO₅]⁺: 334.1649].



(±)-3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-benzyl-4,6-dimethoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (70): 68% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.68$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.99-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.85 (dd, J = 6.92, 1.72 Hz, 2H), 6.15 (d, J = 1.92 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d, J = 1.92 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (m, 1H), 4.60 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.64 (dd, J = 1.92 Hz, 1H), 3.53-3.67 (m, 2H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.25, 168.89, 162.02, 156.25, 145.95, 138.60, 135.60, 129.56, 127.44, 126.36, 118.52, 106.38, 92.20, 88.15, 62.63, 60.16, 55.50, 55.45, 37.21, 26.32, 25.70, 18.02; IR (film) υ_{max} 2937, 1744, 1715, 1613, 1511, 1455, 1376, 1336, 1257, 1215, 1153, 1070, 937, 814, 702 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 410.1991 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₄H₂₈NO5]⁺: 410.1962].



(±)-3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-allyl-4,6-dimethoxy-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (7p): 72% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.17 (d, J = 1.96 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d, J = 1.96 Hz, 1H), 5.18-5.24 (m, 2H), 5.02 (m, 1H), 4.84 (m, 1H), 4.56 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.15 (m, 1H), 2.98 (m, 1H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.43, 168.70, 162.07, 156.34, 146.19, 138.58, 131.99, 118.67, 118.46, 106.45, 92.33, 88.40, 62.56, 58.67, 55.56, 55.44, 35.77, 26.62, 25.67, 17.99; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2932, 2852, 1745, 1714, 1511, 1455, 1377, 1339, 1260, 1208, 1156, 1060, 935, 804, 701 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 382.1625 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₀H₂₅NO₅ + Na]⁺: 382.1625].



±(*E*)-3-(3,7-dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carbonitrile (8a): 56% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.47$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 6.64 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 6.92 Hz, 1H), 5.03-5.11 (m, 2H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.85-1.94 (m, 1H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.38, 143.01, 142.70, 131.84, 130.15, 125.24, 124.43, 123.75, 123.43, 116.97, 114.74, 108.84, 46.56, 39.77, 35.67, 26.85, 26.50, 25.70, 17.69, 16.57; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2923, 2856, 1731, 1613, 1493, 1472, 1372, 1257, 1130 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 309.1960 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₀H₂₅N₂O]⁺: 309.1961].



±(*E*)-Methyl 3-(3,7-dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (8b): 57% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.53$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.96 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (m, 1H), 4.92 (m, 1H), 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.96-3.00 (m, 2H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.59 (m, 1H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H), 1.51-1.54 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.02, 169.87, 144.14, 140.15, 131.36, 128.94, 127.96, 123.96, 123.70, 122.63, 116.17, 108.09, 59.28, 52.91, 39.74, 32.96, 26.72, 26.38, 25.66, 17.60, 16.42; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 2852, 1744, 1721,

1612, 1494, 1470, 1374, 1348, 1235, 1128, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 342.2080 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for $[C_{21}H_{28}NO_3]^+$: 342.2064].



±(*E*)-Allyl 3-(3,7-dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (8c): 54% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.61$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, J = 6.08 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (m, 1H), 5.81 (m, 1H), 5.14-5.19 (m, 2H), 4.91 (br, 1H), 4.74 (d, J = 5.88 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (m, 2H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.97-3.00 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.82 (m, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.50-1.64 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.94, 169.00, 144.19, 140.10, 131.36, 131.35, 128.94, 127.96, 123.97, 123.67, 122.60, 117.97, 116.22, 108.10, 65.95, 59.40, 39.75, 32.85, 26.72, 26.38, 25.67, 17.61, 16.44; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2962, 2926, 2856, 1747, 1731, 1612, 1494, 1471, 1373, 1349, 1223, 1128, 1087, 994, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 390.2059 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₃H₂₉NO₃ + Na]⁺: 390.2040].



 \pm (*E*)-3,7-Dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl 1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (9a): 64% yield, colorless gel, R_f = 0.52 (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dt, *J* = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.08 (dt, *J* = 7.56, 0.96 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (m, 1H), 5.07 (m, 1H), 4.55-4.61 (m, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.12 (m, 1H), 1.99-2.07 (m, 2H), 1.98 (m, 1H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.20, 169.66, 143.64, 142.62, 131.75, 130.24, 128.90, 123.72, 122.79, 117.74, 99.99, 62.81, 59.42, 55.14, 39.42, 26.39,

25.67, 20.12, 17.69, 16.41; **IR** (film) υ_{max} 2925, 1738, 1728, 1612, 1494, 1471, 1375, 1347, 1225, 1105, 1030, 942, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 364.1901 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₁H₂₇NO₃ + Na]⁺: 364.1883].



±(*E*)-3,7-Dimethylocta-2,6-dien-1-yl 3-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (9b): 57% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.52$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.01-7.04 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 6.56, 1.12 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 6.20 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (dt, *J* = 5.56, 0.84 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (m, 1H), 4.62-4.71 (m, 2H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 2.07-2.14 (m, 2H), 1.99-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.47, 169.16, 144.06, 142.72, 134.49, 131.80, 129.96, 128.94, 128.14, 127.54, 126.70, 123.92, 123.73, 122.41, 117.77, 108.10, 62.95, 60.96, 40.03, 39.46, 26.28, 26.12, 25.70, 17.71, 16.48; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 1740, 1721, 1658, 1611, 1494, 1471, 1454, 1375, 1351, 1223, 1106, 998, 749 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 440.2208 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₇H₃₁NO₃ + Na]⁺: 440.2196].



±(**E**)-**3**,7-**Dimethylocta-2**,6-**dien-1-yl 3-allyl-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate** (**9c**): 52% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.51$ (10% EtOAc in hexane). ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.24 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.08 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.96 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 5.38-5.44 (m, 1H), 5.20-5.24 (m, 1H), 5.06 (m, 1H), 5.03 (m, 1H), 4.92-4.95 (m, 1H), 4.56-4.66 (m, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.94-3.05 (m, 2H), 2.02-2.06 (m, 2H), 1.97-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.65, 168.92, 144.13, 142.69, 131.77, 131.11, 128.96, 127.67, 123.71, 123.66, 122.66, 119.66, 117.73, 108.21, 62.84, 59.33,

39.42, 38.38, 26.41, 26.26, 25.67, 17.68, 16.43; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2960, 2924, 2856, 1739, 1722, 1611, 1493, 1471, 1374, 1350, 1225, 1123, 992, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 390.2043 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₃H₂₉NO₃ + Na]⁺: 390.2040].



Scheme 2: Oxidative coupling of compound $\pm(10)$.

Synthesis of compound 10a:

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, 3,4-dimethoxyphenylacetic acid (1.0 equiv.) was taken in tetrahydrofuran (5 mL/mmol) and cooled to 0 °C on an ice-bath. To this reaction mixture was added triethylamine (3.0 equiv.) via a syringe. After 5 minutes of stirring at same temperature, a THF solution (2 mL/mmol) of *N*-methylaniline (1.0 equiv.) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture and slowly allowed to warm to rt (over 10 minutes). The stirring was continued overnight. Upon completion of the reaction (TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials), the reaction mixture was diluted with 10% EtOAc in hexane (15 mL/mmol) and stirred vigorously for 5 minutes. Then the reaction was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated under vacuum to dryness. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford β -*N*-arylamido esters.



2-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-*N***-methyl-***N***-phenylacetamide** (**10a**): 60% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.35$ (50% EtOAc in hexane). ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.07 (br, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 3.20 (s, 3H); ¹³**C** NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.20, 148.67, 147.72, 143.97, 129.63, 127.89, 127.67, 121.04, 112.33, 111.04, 55.84, 55.71, 40.48, 37.58; HRMS (ESI) m/z 286.1456 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₇H₁₉NO₃]⁺: 286.1365].

Synthesis of compound (±)-10:

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, amide **10a** (1 g, 3.51 mmol; 1.0 equiv.) was taken in toluene (5 mL/mmol) and cooled to 0 °C in an ice-bath. To this reaction mixture was added NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil) (421 mg, 10.52 mmol; 3.0 equiv.) portionwise. After 5 minutes of stirring at same temperature, dimethylcarbonate (1.18 mL, 14.03 mmol; 4.0 equiv.) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture and slowly allowed to warm to rt (over 20 minutes of period). The reaction mixture was then placed in an oil-bath maintaining the temperature at 100 °C and heating was continued for overnight. Upon completion of the reaction (TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials), the reaction was cooled to 0 °C and 3 mL glacial acetic acid was added drop wise to the reaction mixture and stirring was continued for 1 h. Then, the reaction was filtered through celite-bed and the filtrate was evaporated under vacuum to dryness. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (2:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford compound (\pm)-**10** in 78% yields.



Methyl 2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (±)-10: 76% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.61$ (50% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.07 (br, s, 2H), 6.70-6.73 (m, 2H), 6.56 (dd, J = 8.24, 1.88 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.58, 168.02, 148.74, 148.70, 143.31, 129.78, 128.33, 127.91, 125.83, 121.80, 112.55, 110.78, 55.83, 55.81, 55.16, 52.63, 37.78; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2998, 2953, 2838, 1755, 1660, 1594, 1516, 1496, 1464, 1422, 1380, 1302, 1264, 1156, 1027, 774, 702 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 344.1449 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₂₂NO₅]⁺: 344.1492].



(±)-Methyl 3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-2-oxoindoline-3-carboxylate (±)-11: 85% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.62$ (50% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, J = 7.45 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.75 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.55 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 1.70 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.85 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.82 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.02, 169.86, 149.18, 148.95, 144.30, 129.69, 127.94, 126.93, 125.95, 122.88, 120.08, 111.53, 110.71, 108.78, 63.23, 55.99, 55.86, 53.37, 26.75; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2935, 2838, 1745, 1716, 1651, 1609, 1516, 1494, 1469, 1371, 1347, 1259, 1240, 1146, 1131, 1088, 1025, 785, 757 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 342.1353 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₉H₂₀NO₅]⁺: 342.1336]; **MP** 125-127 °C.



Scheme 3: Spirocyclic products, related to horsfilline (14b) through IDC.



N,1-Dimethyl-2-oxo-N-phenylpyrrolidine-3-carboxamide (±)-12: 51% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.32 (75\% \text{ EtOAc in hexane})$. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.33-7.37 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.48 (m, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.21-3.26 (m, 1H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.43-2.50 (m, 1H), 1.97-2.04 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.31, 170.45, 143.68, 129.71, 127.91, 127.74, 47.98, 45.38, 37.79, 29.87, 23.10; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2929, 1682, 1651, 1594, 1496, 1454, 1423, 1388, 1303, 1273, 1120, 1045, 776, 703 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 233.1282 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₃H₁₇N₂O₂]⁺: 233.1285]; **MP** 120-122 °C.



(±)-1,1'-Dimethylspiro[indoline-3,3'-pyrrolidine]-2,2'-dione (±)-13: 86% yield, colorless solid, $R_f = 0.46$ (5% MeOH in dichloromethane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.16 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 6.72 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dt, J = 7.56, 0.60 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 3.74-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.54-3.60 (m, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.63-2.70 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.41 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.71, 170.48, 144.54, 129.95, 129.00, 123.03, 122.79, 108.54, 57.79, 47.20, 30.56, 29.52, 26.58; IR (film) v_{max} 2919, 2852, 1645, 1261, 1146, 753 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) m/z 253.0950 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₃H₁₄N₂O₂ + Na]⁺: 253.0947]; MP 172-174 °C.



X-ray structure of (\pm) -17b Scheme 4: Substrates scope under IDC.



3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (15a): 66% yield, (7 mmol scale of a reaction), Colorless gel, $R_f = 0.45$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 9.09 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.96 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.96 Hz, 2H), 5.34 (m, 1H), 4.65 (d, J = 7.32 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 2H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 170.0, 162.8, 156.5, 140.4, 130.7, 121.9, 117.6, 114.1, 62.6, 55.5, 41.4, 25.8, 18.1; **IR** (film) υ_{max} , 3320, 2928, 2851, 1738, 1717, 1661, 1540, 1512, 1442, 1244, 1172, 1034, 830 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 300.1223 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₁₉NO₄+Na]⁺: 300.1206].

General procedure for the homodimerization of the β -N-arylamido esters in presence of iodine:

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester (1.0 mmol; 1.0 equiv.) was taken in dry THF (5 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added K^tOBu (1.2 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) in one portion. After 2 minutes of stirring at same temperature, Iodine (1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added and stirring was continued for 5 minutes (TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials). The reaction mixture wastreated with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate aqueous solution at room temperature and then diluted with 7 mL of EtOAc. The whole reaction mixture was taken in a separatory funnel and extracted with ethylacetate (7 mL x 2). The organic filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. Finally, the crude products were purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford ±(16a-b).



(±)-Dimethyl 2,3-bis(methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl)succinate ±(16a): 93% yield, dr = >20 :1, R_f = 0.41 (30% EtOAc in hexane), colourless solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.39 (m, 1H), 4.37 (s, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 1H);¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.7, 166.6, 143.2, 129.6, 128.2, 128.0, 52.4, 49.9, 38.2; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2954, 1741, 1661, 1596, 1496, 1435, 1385, 1296, 1162, 1119, 1024, 775, 701 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 435.1544 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₂H₂₄N₂O₆+Na]⁺: 435.1527]; **MP** 137–139 °C.



(±)-Diethyl 2,3-bis(methyl(phenyl)carbamoyl)succinate (±)-16b: 91% yield, dr = 9:1, $R_f = 0.42$ (30% EtOAc in hexane), colorless solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.37 (m, 1H), 4.39 (s, 1H), 3.97(m, 2H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.12, 3H), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 168.3, 166.8, 143.4, 129.5, 128.1, 128.0, 61.5, 49.9, 38.2, 13.8; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2984, 1738, 1660, 1596, 1496, 1384, 1296, 1174, 1117, 1027, 775, 701 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 441.2031 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₄H₂₈N₂O₆ + H]⁺: 441.2020]; **MP** 102–105 °C.

General procedure for one-step dimerization followed by intramolecular oxidativecoupling (IDC):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester **3** (1.0 mmol; 1 equiv.) was taken in dry THF (5 mL). To this reaction mixture was added K'OBu (1.2 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) at room temperature in one portion. After 2 minutes of stirring at same temperature, Iodine (1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added and stirring was continued for 5 minutes (TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials), by which time the dimerization reaction was completed. Then, K'OBu (1.2 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) was added again to the reaction mixture and immediately afterward Iodine (1.2 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) was added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. Then the reaction mixture was placed in an oil bath pre-heated at 80 °C and stirring was continued for about 1.5 h. Upon completion of the oxidative coupling (TLC showed formation of dimerized 2-oxindole product), it was cooled to room temperature and was treated with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate aqueous solution. Then the reaction mixture was diluted with 7 mL of EtOAc. The whole reaction mixture was taken in a separatory funnel and extracted with ethylacetate (7 mL x 2). The organic filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The crude products were purified by flash chromatography (2:1 - 1:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford (±)-17a-b up to 45% yield.


(±)-Dimethyl 1,1'-dimethyl-2,2'-dioxo-[3,3'-biindoline]-3,3'-dicarboxylate, (±)-17a: 45% yield, dr = (1.2: 1.0), $R_f = 0.35$ (60% EtOAc in hexane), white solid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.19 (td, J = 1.16, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (td, J = 1.06, 7.74 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.8 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 170.1, 167.8, 144.5, 130.1, 125.9, 123.5, 122.2, 108.1, 61.7, 53.4, 26.5; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (minor diastereomer, *meso*-product) 7.35 (m, 1H), 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (minor diastereomer, *meso*-product) 169.1, 166.8, 143.9, 129.8, 125.7, 123.0, 122.2, 107.8, 61.6, 53.3, 26.4; **IR** (film) $v_{max}2927, 1734, 1608, 1492, 1472, 1371, 1349, 1244, 1029, 756 cm⁻¹;$ **HRMS**(ESI) m/z 409.1382 [(M + H)⁺; calculated for [C₂₂H₂₀N₂O₆ + H]⁺: 409.1394];**MP**222-224 °C.



(±)-Diethyl 1,1'-dimethyl-2,2'-dioxo-[3,3'-biindoline]-3,3'-dicarboxylate, (±)-17b: 41% yield, dr = 2:1, $R_f = 0.39$ (60% EtOAc in hexane), white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.19 (td, J = 7.72, 1.20 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (td, J = 7.64, 1.00 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.64 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (m, 2H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.12, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (major diastereomer, *trans*-product) 170.4, 166.4, 144.0, 129.6, 125.9, 123.8, 121.9, 107.7, 62.3, 61.8, 26.4, 13.8; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (minor

diastereomer, *meso*-product) 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 6.98 (m, 1H), 6.77 (d, J=7.76 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (m, 2H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J=7.12 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : (minor diastereomer, *meso*-product) 170.5, 167.1, 144.7, 129.7, 126.1, 123.4, 122.0, 108.0, 62.4, 61.9, 26.5, 13.9; **IR** (film) v_{max} 1734, 1609, 1492, 1472, 1372, 1349, 1238, 1028, 754 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 459.1525 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₂₄H₂₄N₂O₆ + Na]⁺: 459.1527]; **MP** 134–137 °C.

Preparation of C-methylated compound (±)-5a:

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester **3a** (2.0 mmol; 1 equiv.) was taken in DMSO (7 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added MeI (2.2 mmol; 1.1 equiv.) via a syringe and stirred at room temperature for 15-20 mins. Upon completion of the reaction (TLC showed complete conversion of starting material) the reaction mixture was quench with aqueous NH₄Cl solution at room temperature and then diluted with 9 mL of EtOAc. The whole reaction mixture was taken in a separatory funnel and extracted with ethylacetate (9 mL X 2). The organic filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. Finally, the crude products were purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford (±)-5a (95% yield).



(±)-Methyl 2-methyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (±)-5a: 95% yield, $R_f = 0.40$ (20% EtOAc in hexane), colorless oil, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.23 (m, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.39 (q, J = 7.04 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 1.27 (d, J = 7.04 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 171.2, 170.1, 143.6, 130.0, 128.3, 127.5, 52.3, 43.5, 37.7, 14.2; IR (film) v_{max} 2953, 1742, 1716, 1651, 1613, 1497, 1472, 1376, 1347, 1241, 1147, 1118,1063, 1030, 972, 909 cm⁻¹, HRMS (ESI) m/z 244.0959 [(M + Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₂H₁₅NO₃ + Na]⁺: 244.0944].

Preparation of C-methylated compound (\pm) -19: The experimental procedure is similar as shown for (\pm) -5a.



3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl 2-methyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoate (±)-19: 89% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.45$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 5.26 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (m, 1H), 4.47 (m, 1H), 3.37 (q, J = 7.04 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.27 (d, J = 7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 170.8, 170.1, 143.6, 139.0, 129.9, 128.2, 127.6, 118.4, 62.1, 43.6, 37.7, 25.7, 18.1, 14.2; **IR** (film) ν_{max} 3443, 2360, 1740, 1734, 1662, 1596, 1496, 1456, 1385, 1187, 775cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 298.1420 [(M+Na)⁺; calculated for [C₁₆H₂₁NO₃+Na]⁺: 298.1414].

Procedure for the oxidative coupling using *t*-BuOI as a radical generating source (in absence of KO^tBu):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, C-methylated- β -amidoester (±)-**5a** (0.5 mmol; 1 equiv) was taken in DMSO (2 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added freshly prepared *t*-BuOI (0.6 mmol; 1.2 equiv. in 0.5 mL in benzene) via a syringe. Then, the reaction was placed on a pre-heated oil-bath maintaining the temperature at 100 °C for 45 min. TLC showed incomplete conversion of starting material (most starting material was showed in TLC along with some decomposition). However, the reaction mixture was then treated with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate aqueous solution at room temperature and then diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The whole reaction mixture was taken in a separatory funnel and extracted with ethylacetate (5 mL x 2). The organic filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. Finally, the crude products were purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford (±)-**5a** (59% yield recovered starting material).

(Preparation of *t*-BuOI: A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with 0.6 mmol of *t*-BuONa in 0.5 mL of benzene. To this solution was added 0.6 mmol of I_2 at room temperature.

For reference, see; Montoro, R.; Wirth, T. *Org. Lett.* **2003**, *5*, 4729. This solution was directly used for the oxidative coupling.)

The oxidative coupling of 5a was also conducted with the *t*-BuOI prepared in the following procedure (in absence of KO^tBu):

(Preparation of *t*-BuOI: A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with 0.6 mmol of *t*-BuONa in 0.5 mL of benzene. To this solution was added 1.8 mmol of I_2 at room temperature. For reference, see; Akhtar, M.; Barton, D. H. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, *86*, 1528. This solution was directly used for the oxidative coupling.)

Result of Oxidative coupling: When the oxidative coupling was carried out in presence of *t*-BuOI prepared from above procedure, it was observed that 56% of starting material along with decomposition of the rest of the mass balance.

Procedure for the oxidative coupling using *t*-BuOI as a radical generating source (in presence of 1.2 equiv of KO^tBu):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, C-methylated- β -amidoester (±)-**5a** (0.5 mmol; 1 equiv) was taken in DMSO (2 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added KO'Bu (0.6 mmol; 1.2 equiv) in one portion followed by freshly prepared *t*-BuOI (0.6 mmol; 1.2 equiv in 0.5 mL in benzene) via a syringe. Then, the reaction was placed on a pre-heated oil-bath maintaining the temperature at 100 °C for 50 min. TLC showed complete conversion of starting material to product. Then, the reaction mixture was cooled to rt and treated with 5 mL saturated aqueous sodium thiosulfate solution at room temperature and then diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The whole reaction mixture was taken in a separatory funnel and extracted with ethylacetate (5 mL x 2). The organic filtrate was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. Finally, the crude products were purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford oxidative coupling product (±)-4a in 62% yield.

(Preparation of *t*-BuOI: A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with 0.6 mmol of *t*-BuOK in 0.5 mL of benzene. To this solution was added 0.6 mmol of I_2 at room temperature. For reference, see; Montoro, R.; Wirth, T. *Org. Lett.* **2003**, *5*, 4729. This solution was directly used for the oxidative coupling.)

The oxidative coupling of 5a was also conducted with the *t*-BuOI prepared in the following procedure (in presence of 1.2 equiv of KO^tBu):

(Preparation of *t*-BuOI: A flame-dried round-bottom flask was charged with 0.6 mmol of *t*-BuOK in 0.5 mL of benzene. To this solution was added 1.8 mmol of I_2 at room temperature. For reference, see; Akhtar, M.; Barton, D. H. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1964**, *86*, 1528. This solution was directly used for the oxidative coupling.)

Result of Oxidative coupling: When the oxidative coupling was carried out in presence of *t*-BuOI prepared from above procedure, the reaction afforded 68% yield of oxidative coupling product (±)-4a.



Scheme 6: Intramolecular-dehydrogenative-coupling (IDC) of 3a.

C-Methylation followed by treatment with NIS and ICl (at 110 °C):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester **3a** (0.25 mmol; 1 equiv.) was taken in DMSO (0.75 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added K^tOBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) in one portion. After 1-2 minutes of stirring at same temperature, MeI (0.275 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added and stirring was continued for 10-15 minutes (TLC showed complete

consumption of starting materials). Once methylation is over, K^tOBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) and 1.2 equiv. (0.30 mmol) of NIS/ICl were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. Immediately afterwards, the reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 30-45 mins. Upon full conversion of the starting material (TLC showed no starting material left), it was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The reaction mixture was extracted with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate (5 mL X 3 times) and then successively washed with water (5 mL), and brine (5 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (hexane and EtOAc as eluents) to afford 2-oxindole derivatives. (NIS: 72% yield of (±)-4a; ICl: 69% yield of (±)-4a).

C-Methylation followed by treatment with NIS and ICl (at room temperature):

Once methylation is over, K'OBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv) and 1.2 equiv (0.30 mmol) of NIS/ICl were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After this time, (TLC showed almost 1:1 mixture of starting material and product) the reaction mixture was diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The reaction mixture was extracted with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate (5 mL X 3 times) and then successively washed with water (5 mL), and brine (5 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (hexane and EtOAc as eluents) to afford 2-oxindole derivatives and unreacted starting material. However, no iodinated product was observed. (NIS: 45% yield of (±)-4a + 36% of starting material; ICl: 36% yield of (±)-4a + 47% of starting material).

C-Iodination of compound (\pm)-**5***a* was also carried out in presence of K'OBu and NIS or ICl following above procedure, but the reaction led to the formation of (\pm)-**4***a* as major product (see, Scheme below) along with recovered starting material.



Scheme: Intramolecular-dehydrogenative coupling (IDC) of (±)-5a.

Procedure for one-step alkylations followed by intramolecular oxidative coupling (IDC) using Mn(OAc)₃ (Scheme 6):

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask, β -amidoester 3a (0.25 mmol; 1 equiv.) was taken in DMSO (0.75 mL) at room temperature. To this reaction mixture was added K'OBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) in one portion. After 1-2 minutes of stirring at same temperature, methyl iodide (0.275 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added and stirring was continued for 5-10 minutes (TLC showed complete consumption of starting materials). K'OBu (0.30 mmol; 1.2 equiv.) and 1.1 equiv. (0.275 mmol) of Mn(OAc)₃ were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. Immediately afterwards, the reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 12 h. Upon completion of the oxidative coupling (TLC showed complete consumption of the starting materials), it was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 5 mL of EtOAc. The reaction mixture was extracted with 5 mL saturated sodium thiosulfate (5 mL X 3 times) and then successively washed with water (5 mL), and brine (5 mL). The organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (hexane and EtOAc as eluents) to afford 2-oxindole derivatives.



Scheme 7: Synthetic elaboration using Tsuji-Trost reactions.

General procedure for Tsuji-Trost decarboxylative allylation reaction:

In a flame dried sealed tube, 3-alkyl-3-allylester of 2-oxindoles (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) was taken in tetrahydrofuran (3 mL of THF) and the reaction vessel was degassed with continuous flow of nitrogen (5 min). To this reaction mixture was added 5 mol% of Pd(PPh₃)₄ or Pd₂(dba)₃ and it was heated to 75 °C for indicated time. Upon completion of the reaction (TLC showed complete conversion of starting material to product), the reaction mixture was concentrated in a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The crude materials were purified by flash chromatography (10:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to afford products (up to 99% yield).



(±)-3-Allyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one (±)-20a: 99% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.61$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25 (dt, J = 7.20, 0.88 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.20 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.52 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 7.72 Hz, 1H), 5.38-5.47 (m, 1H), 4.96 (d, J = 17.00 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (d, J = 10.80 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.49-2.51 (m, 2H), 1.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.2, 143.2, 133.6, 132.6, 127.8, 122.9, 122.3, 118.6, 107.9, 48.3, 42.5, 26.1, 22.7; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2928, 1722, 1659, 1613, 1595, 1515, 1495, 1469, 1377, 1349, 1263, 1157, 1026, 920, 753 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 202.1228 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₃H₁₆NO]⁺: 202.1226].



(±)-3-Allyl-5-methoxy-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one (±)-20b: 92% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.52$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.79-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.28 Hz, 1H), 5.42-5.53 (m, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 17.00 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, J = 10.08 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.47-2.57 (m, 2H), 1.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.8, 155.9, 136.8, 135.1, 132.5, 118.7, 111.6, 110.7, 108.1, 55.8, 48.7, 42.4, 26.2, 22.8; **IR** (film) ν_{max} 2932, 2856, 1740, 1715, 1612, 1494, 1471, 1376, 1348, 1258, 1226, 1105, 1029, 939, 752 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 232.1341 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₈NO₂]⁺: 232.1332].



(±)-1,3-Dimethyl-3-(2-methylallyl)indolin-2-one (±)-20c: 85% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.54$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 (d, J = 7.56 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 7.24 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.48 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (s, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.75 (d, J = 13.48 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 13.44 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.4, 143.3, 141.2, 133.7, 127.7, 123.1, 122.2, 114.2, 107.9, 48.7, 45.7, 26.1, 24.7, 23.6; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2925, 2856, 1739, 1721, 1609, 1495, 1471, 1376, 1121, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 216.1397 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₄H₁₈NO]⁺: 216.1383].



(±)-5-Methoxy-1,3-dimethyl-3-(2-methylallyl)indolin-2-one (±)-20d: 88% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.53$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.83 (d, J = 2.20 Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.81 (m, 1H), 6.74 (m, 1H), 4.59 (m, 1H), 4.52 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.74 (d, J = 13.04 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (d, J = 13.12 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.0, 155.9, 141.2, 136.9, 135.1, 114.2, 110.9, 108.1, 55.8, 49.0, 45.6, 29.7, 26.2, 24.8, 23.6; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2926, 1715, 1651, 1614, 1494, 1470, 1377, 1350, 1257, 1143, 1123, 1040, 897, 753 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 246.1487 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₂₀NO₂]⁺: 246.1489].



(±)-1,3-Dimethyl-3-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)indolin-2-one (±)-21a: 64% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.72$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (dt, J = 7.72, 1.12 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.28 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dt, J = 8.16, 0.72 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 7.76 Hz, 1H), 4.79-4.83 (m, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.44 (d, J = 7.48 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.7, 143.2, 135.1, 134.1, 127.6, 122.9, 122.2, 118.2, 107.8, 48.4, 36.7, 26.1, 25.8, 22.4, 18.0; **IR** (film) v_{max} 2966, 2926, 1715, 1613, 1493, 1470, 1453, 1377, 1348, 1312, 1252, 1124, 1095, 1062, 1033, 930, 751 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 230.1353 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₂₀NO]⁺: 230.1359].



(±)-1,3-Dimethyl-3-(2-methylbut-3-en-2-yl)indolin-2-one (±)-21b: 32% yield, colorless gel, $R_f = 0.81$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.52 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 7.72 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd, *J* = 17.44, 10.80 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (dd, *J* = 10.80, 1.04 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (dd, *J* = 17.44, 0.92 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H); **IR** (film) v_{max} 2969, 2927, 1709, 1652, 1614, 1610, 1494, 1462, 1375, 1341, 1188, 1101, 982, 765, 750 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z 230.1544 [(M+H)⁺; calculated for [C₁₅H₂₀NO]⁺: 230.1539].



Scanned Copies of Selected ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, and Mass Spectra



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 3a



S49



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 3b





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 3c





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 3d











Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6a





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6b





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6c





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6d







Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6e











Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6g





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 6h




Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4a



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound $\pm(4a)$





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4b





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4c



Lost Bw . (4d) n n.a **Display Report** Analysis Info Acquisition Date 4/13/2012 2:14:26 PM Analysis Name D/Data/user data/April 2012/13 apr/Dr. A. Bisai- SB4-347R_1-A.2_01_1763.d Method HRLCMS-20 Sept.m Operator Meena Sharma Dr. A. Bisai- SB4-347R Sample Name Instrument micrOTOF-Q II 10330 Comment Acquisition Parameter ESI Source Type Ion Polarity Positive Set Nebulizer 1.2 Bar Set Capillary Set End Plate Offset 4500 V -500 V Set Dry Heater Set Dry Gas Focus Active 200 °C Scen Begin Scen End 50 m/z 7.0 l/min 3000 m/z Set Collision Cell RF 130.0 Vpp Set Divert Valve Waste Intens.1 x10⁶ 1.5-1.0 0.5 0.0 2 ŝ \$ 4 Ġ. ÷ 8 9 Time (min) TIC +AI MS -- UV Chromatogram, 200-400 nm 200 220 240 260 280 300 320 340 360 Wavelength [nm] Intens. UV, 1.7-1.9min #(1903-2180). MALIT 500 Intens +MS, 1.7-1.9min #(99-111) 300.1250 360.1592 x105 1 697.3271 108.0814 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 800 700 m/z Intens. x10⁵ +MS, 1.7-1.9min #(99-111) 300.1250 1.25 360.1592 1.00 0.75 282.1137 0.50 378.1691 264.1024 322.1047 338.1755 0.25 236.1065 0.00 C21H23NO3, M+nNa ,360.16 360.1570 2000 1500 1000 500 220 240 260 280 300 320 340 380 380 400 m/z Bruker Compass DataAnalysis 4.0 printed: 4/13/2012 2:31:35 PM Page 1 of 1

Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4d





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4e





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4f







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Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4i





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4j





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4k





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-41





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4m





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4n





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (\pm) -40



S103



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4p





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4q





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4r




Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-4s





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7a





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7b





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7c



S117



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7d







Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7e





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7f



S123



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7g





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7h



S127



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7i



NUG dime Ð me **Display Report** Analysis Info 4/16/2012 4:09:26 PM Acquisition Date Analysis Name D:\Data\user data\April 2012\16 apr\Dr. A. Bisai- SG4- 340_1-A,5_01_1795.d Method HRLCMS-20 Sept.m Meen a Sharma Operator Sample Name Dr. A. Bisai- SG4- 340 Instrument micrOTOF-Q II 10330 Comment Acquisition Parameter Source Type Focus Positive 4500 V -500 V Ion Polarity ESI Set Nebulizer 1.2 Bar Set Capillary Set End Plate Offset Set Dry Heater Set Dry Gas 200 °C 7.0 l/min Active Scan Begin Scan End 50 m/z 3000 m/z 130.0 Vpp Set Collision Cell RF Set Divert Valve Waste Intens. ×10⁶ 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 2 3 5 ģ Time (min) 4 ė TIC +AI IMS UV Chromatogram, 200-400 nm 200 2210 240 260 280 300 320 340 360 Wavelength (nm) Intens. [mAU] UV, 1.5-2.0min #(1766-2306). 200 100 +MS, 1.5-2.0min #(91-117) Intens 160.0770 206.0623 ×10⁵ 296.1272 1 569.2640 108.0821 0 100 400 500 600 2:00 300 m/z Intiena. x10⁴ +MS, 1.5-2.0min #(91-117) 296.1272 1.25 1.00 0.75 0.50 0.25 297.1288 298.1332 0.00 C16H19NO3, M+nNa .296.13 295.1257 2000 1500 1000

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 Page 1 of 1

 Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7j

297.15

298.1324

298.5

299.0

299.5

m/z

298.0

297.1291

297.0

500

0

296.0

295.5

296.0

296.5

S130



S131









S134



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7m



S136



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7n





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S140



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-7p



S142



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 8a






Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 8b.







Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 8c









S150



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 9b



S152



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 9c





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 10a





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 10











Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 12



S162



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound 13





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-15a



 13 C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound ±(16a)



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Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound ±(16b)





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound ±(17a)





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound $\pm(17b)$



S174



Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound $\pm(5a)$





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound (±)-19



¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound (**20a**)



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Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound ±(20b)





Scanned copy of mass spectrum of compound ±(20c)



¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound (**20d**)









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