

Copper-Catalyzed Carbonylative Transformations of Indoles with Hexaketocyclohexane

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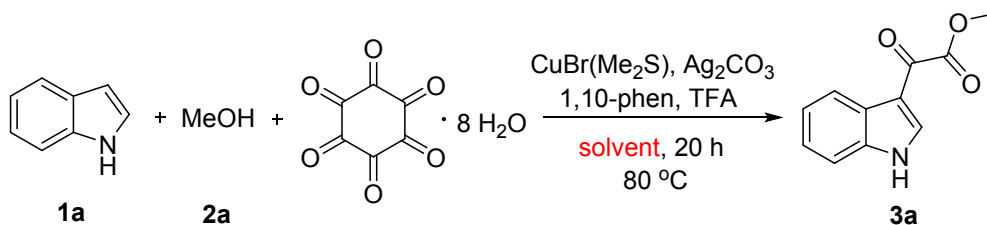
1. General experiment

All commercially available reagents and solvent were obtained from the commercial providers and used without further purification. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300 and Bruker ARX 400 spectrometers. All ¹H NMR experiments were reported in δ units, parts per million (ppm), and were measured relative to residual chloroform (7.26 ppm) or DMSO (2.5 ppm) in the deuterated solvent. All ¹³C NMR spectra were reported in ppm relative to DMSO-d₆ (39.9 ppm), CD₃OD (48.0 ppm) and all were obtained with ¹H decoupling. Data for ¹H NMR are recorded as follows: chemical shift (δ, ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet or unresolved, br = broad singlet, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). Data for ¹³C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift (δ, ppm). Electron impact (EI) mass spectra were recorded on AMD 402 mass spectrometer (70 eV). High resolution mass spectra (HR-MS) were recorded on Agilent 6210. The data were given as mass units per charge (m/z). Gas chromatography analysis

was performed on an Agilent HP-5890 instrument with a FID detector and HP-5 capillary column (polydimethylsiloxane with 5 % phenyl groups, 30 m, 0.32 mm i.d., 0.25 μ m film thickness) using argon as carrier gas. The products were isolated from the reaction mixture by column chromatography on silica gel 60, 0.063-0.2 mm, 70-230 mesh (Merck). To detect CO gas we used Micro III CO sensor device (0-500 ppm) which was produce by GFG company. 300 mL autoclave of the 4560 series from Parr Instruments®.

3. Optimization of reaction conditions

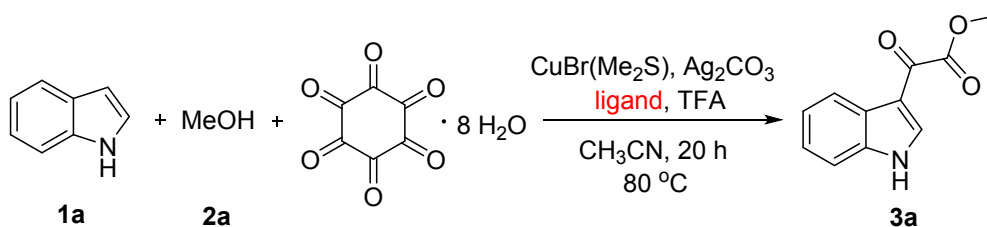
Table 1S. Optimization of solvents.^a



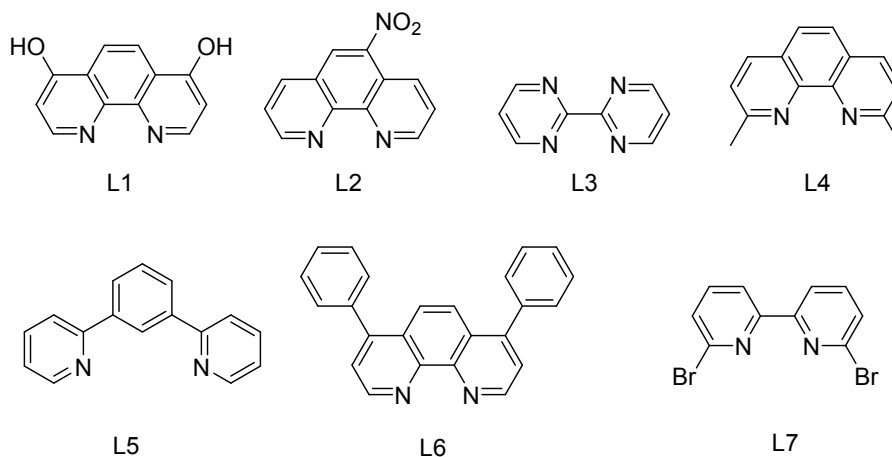
Solvent	Yield [%] ^b
DCE	38
HFIP	0
H ₂ O	0
HOAc	0
DMSO	0
DMF	21
1,4-dioxane	43
Toluene	0
THF	51
CH₃CN	69 (67)

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), $\text{C}_6\text{O}_6 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), $\text{CuBr}(\text{Me}_2\text{S})$ (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag_2CO_3 (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in solvent (1 mL) for 20 h at 80 °C in sealed tubes under air. [b] Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard. Isolated yield is in parenthesis.

Table 2S. Optimization of ligands.^a

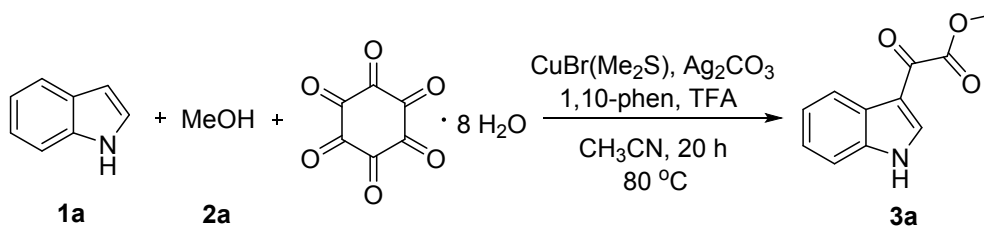


Ligand	Yield [%] ^b
L1	60
L2	55
L3	58
L4	48
L5	50
L6	trace
L7	43
1,10-phen	69 (67)
Xantphos	51
PPh ₃	48
PCy ₃	52
DPPE	51
DPPF	43
1,10-phen (20 mol%)	61



^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), ligand (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) for 20 h at 80 °C in sealed tubes under air. [b] Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard. Isolated yield is in parenthesis.

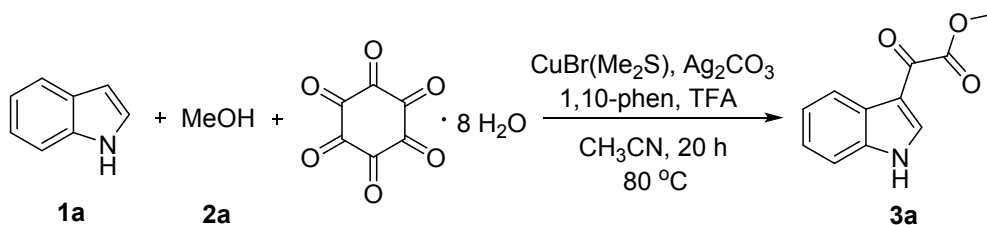
Table 3S. Screening the amount of MeOH.^a



MeOH	Yield [%] ^b
5 equiv.	trace
10 equiv.	58
20 equiv.	58
30 equiv.	69 (67)
40 equiv.	62
1 mL	45

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a**, C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) for 20 h at 80 °C in sealed tubes under air. [b] Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard. Isolated yield is in parenthesis.

Table 4S. Screening the amount of C₆O₆·8H₂O.^a



C ₆ O ₆ ·8H ₂ O	Yield [%] ^b
0.5 equiv.	35
1.0 equiv.	69 (67)
1.5 equiv.	trace
2.0 equiv.	0

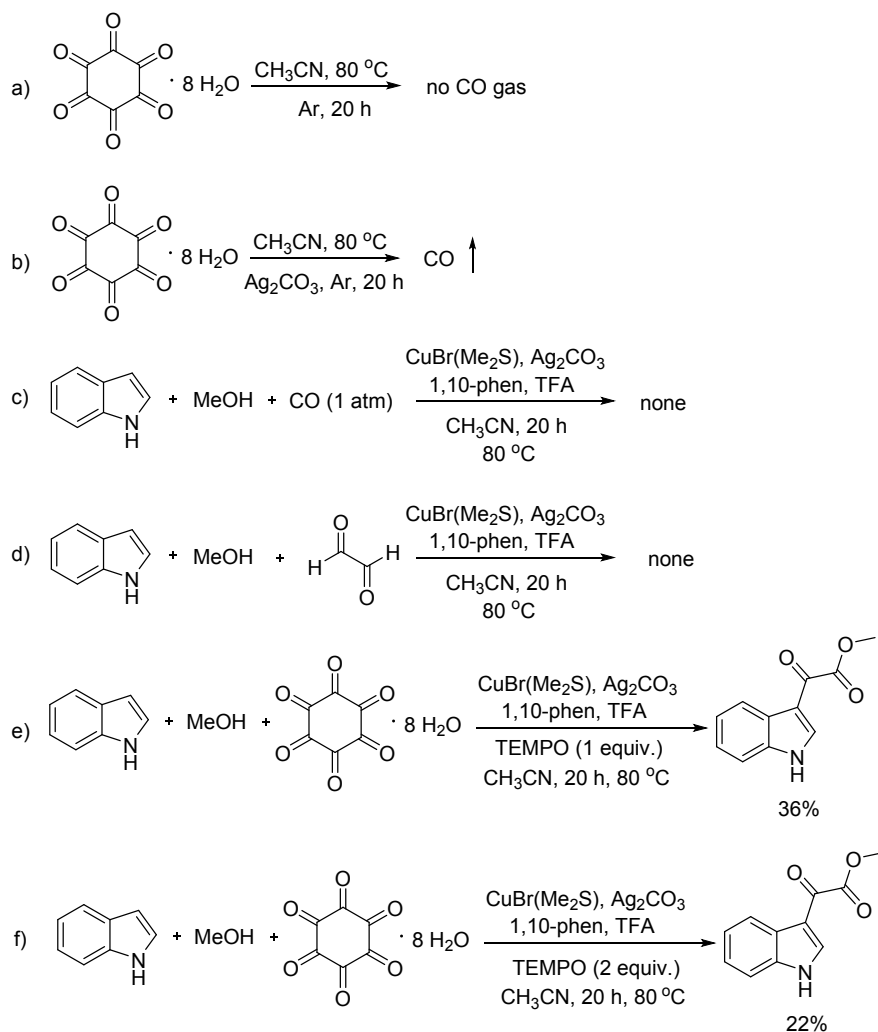
^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O, CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) for 20 h at 80 °C in sealed tubes under air. [b] Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard. Isolated yield is in parenthesis.

4. General procedure for copper-catalyzed double carbonylation (3-4).

In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of indoles **1** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), alcohols **2** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under air. After 20 h, the

mixture was cooled to room temperature. The residue was diluted with H₂O solution (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The solvent was then evaporated under vacuum. The crude products were purified by using column chromatography on silica gel (pentane/ethyl acetate) to give the pure products.

5. Control Experiments.



a) In a 25 mL sealed tube, C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under argon. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. Then we use CO sensor device to detect CO gas.

b) In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under argon. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. Then we use CO sensor device to detect CO gas.

c) A mixture of indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was transferred into a vial (5 mL reaction volume) equipped with a septum, a small cannula and a stirring

bar. Then, the vial was placed in an alloy plate, which was transferred into a 300 mL autoclave of the 4560 series from Parr Instruments® under air atmosphere. After flushing the autoclave three times with CO, a pressure of 1 bar was adjusted and the reaction was performed for 20 h at 80 °C. After the reaction, the autoclave was cooled down to room temperature and the pressure was released carefully. Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard.

d) In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), glyoxal (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under air. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard.

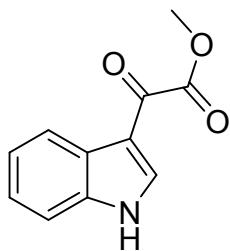
e) In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), TEMPO (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under air. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard.

f) In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of indole **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), TEMPO (0.4 mmol, 2 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in CH₃CN (1 mL) was stirred at 80 °C under air. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. Yields were determined by GC using n-hexadecane as the internal standard.

6. General procedure for monocarbonylation

In a 25 mL sealed tube, a mixture of 2-methyl-1*H*-indole (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), methanol **2a** (6 mmol, 30 equiv.), C₆O₆·8H₂O (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), CuBr(Me₂S) (0.03 mmol, 15 mol %), Ag₂CO₃ (1 mmol, 5 equiv.), 1,10-phen (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), and TFA (0.8 mmol, 4 equiv.) in PhCl (1 mL) was stirred at 130 °C under air. After 20 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The residue was diluted with H₂O solution (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The solvent was then evaporated under vacuum. The crude products were purified by using column chromatography on silica gel (pentane/ethyl acetate) to give the pure product **5a** in 46% yield.

7. Spectroscopic and analytical data of carbonylation products.

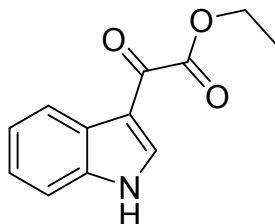


Methyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate^[1] (3a) : Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.30 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.16, 164.43, 138.86, 137.16, 125.92, 124.31, 123.32, 121.59, 113.20, 112.87, 52.99.

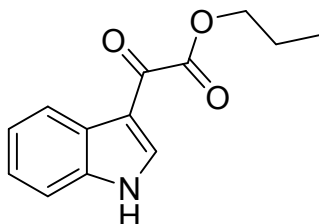
GC-MS (EI, 70ev): *m/z* (%) = 203 (*M*⁺, 25), 144 (100), 116 (25), 89 (20), 44 (50).



Ethyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate^[2] (3b): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.32 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.55, 164.05, 138.67, 137.16, 125.92, 124.29, 123.30, 121.59, 113.19, 112.85, 62.08, 14.41.



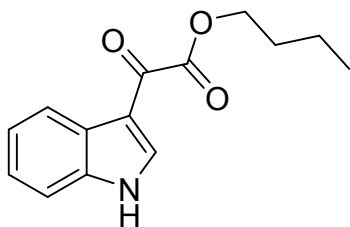
Propyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3c): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.51 – 12.30 (m, 1H), 8.50 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 8.27 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.73 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 4.28 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.78 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.56, 164.16, 138.62, 137.16, 125.90, 124.31, 123.31, 121.57, 113.20, 112.86, 67.37, 21.86, 10.70.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): *m/z* (%) = 231 (*M*⁺, 10), 207 (72), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (20), 44 (64).

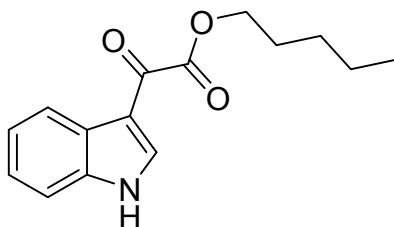
HR-MS (EI) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃NO₃ [*M*+H]⁺: 231.08899; found: 231.08922.



Butyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate^[3] (3d): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.74 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.39 (dt, *J* = 14.7, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.55, 164.15, 138.58, 137.17, 125.92, 124.30, 123.30, 121.58, 113.20, 112.88, 65.66, 30.45, 19.09, 14.00.



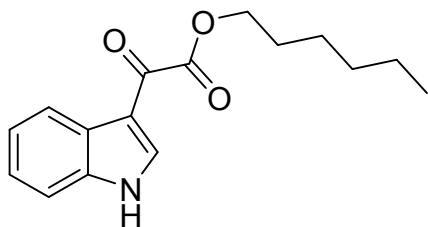
Pentyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3e): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.30 – 8.06 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 4.32 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.80 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 1.31 (m, 4H), 0.92 – 0.86 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.55, 164.14, 138.59, 137.16, 125.91, 124.30, 123.30, 121.57, 113.20, 112.87, 65.94, 28.10, 28.00, 22.22, 14.31.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): *m/z* (%) = 259 (*M*⁺, 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₇NO₃ [*M*+*H*]⁺: 259.12029; found: 259.12030.



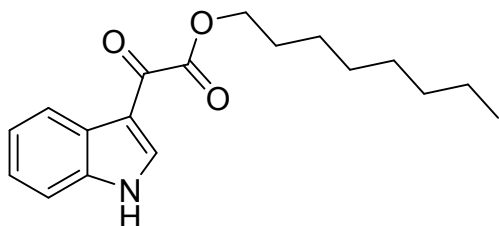
Hexyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3f): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.30 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 4.32 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.83 – 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.31 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (q, J = 3.1, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 0.91 – 0.79 (m, 5H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.54, 164.14, 138.57, 137.17, 125.92, 124.29, 123.29, 121.58, 113.19, 112.88, 65.94, 31.30, 28.37, 25.48, 22.46, 14.33.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 273 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (15), 44 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 273.13594; found: 273.13597.



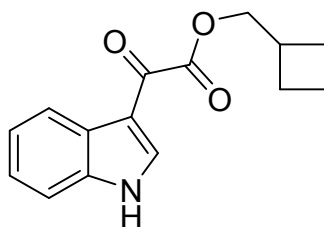
Octyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3g): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 4.31 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.76 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.37 – 1.21 (m, 10H), 0.88 – 0.83 (m, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.55, 164.14, 138.60, 137.15, 125.90, 124.31, 123.31, 121.56, 113.20, 112.85, 65.95, 31.66, 29.05 (2C), 28.39, 25.82, 22.53, 14.41.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 301 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (10), 89 (10), 44 (36).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 301.16725; found: 301.16757.



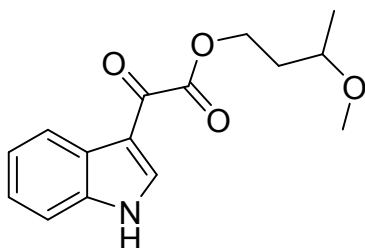
Cyclobutylmethyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3h): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.44 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.25 – 8.18 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 4.36 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.82 – 2.72 (m, 1H), 2.15 – 2.06 (m, 2H), 1.94 – 1.84 (m, 4H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.56, 164.22, 138.55, 137.16, 125.90, 124.32, 123.32, 121.56, 113.20, 112.89, 69.37, 33.81, 24.68, 18.37.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 257 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (15), 89 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 257.10464; found: 257.10480.



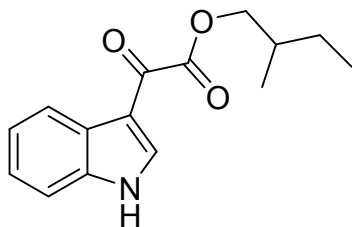
3-Methoxybutyl 2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3i): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.41 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.19 – 8.15 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 4.38 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.49 – 3.39 (m, 1H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 1.89 – 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.13 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.43, 164.05, 138.70, 137.15, 125.91, 124.31, 123.32, 121.57, 113.20, 112.85, 73.51, 63.05, 55.86, 35.17, 19.33.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 275 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (16), 44 (20).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_4$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 275.11521; found: 275.11540.



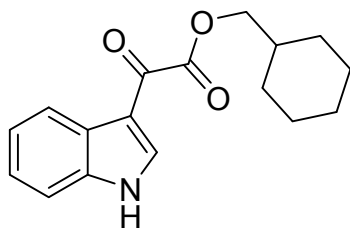
2-Methylbutyl 2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3j): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.55 – 12.26 (m, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.09 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 4.28 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 1.89 – 1.76 (m, 1H), 1.54 – 1.38 (m, 1H), 1.22 (dt, J = 13.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 0.97 – 0.87 (m, 6H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.55, 164.20, 138.55, 137.16, 125.89, 124.32, 123.32, 121.56, 113.21, 112.86, 70.13, 33.99, 25.88, 16.57, 11.51.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 259 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (15), 89 (10), 44 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₇NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 259.12029; found: 259.12067.



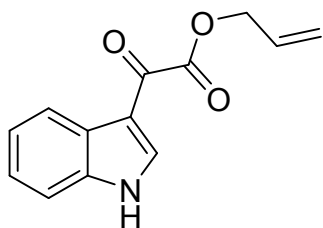
Cyclohexylmethyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3k): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.40 (s, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.22 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 4.15 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 3.96 – 3.88 (m, 1H), 1.74 – 1.64 (m, 5H), 1.28 – 1.17 (m, 3H), 1.07 – 0.98 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 179.55, 164.18, 138.55, 137.16, 125.90, 124.31, 123.31, 121.56, 113.20, 112.87, 70.55, 36.92, 29.45, 26.29, 25.57.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 285 (M⁺, 10), 144 (100), 116 (10), 89 (10), 44 (15).

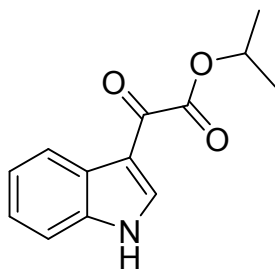
HR-MS (EI) calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 285.13594; found: 285.13573.



Allyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate^[4] (3l): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.30 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 6.07 (ddt, J = 17.2, 10.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.52 – 5.27 (m, 2H), 4.85 (dt, J = 5.7, 1.4 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 179.13, 163.62, 138.75, 137.17, 132.40, 125.90, 124.35, 123.35, 121.59, 119.44, 113.23, 112.84, 66.29.



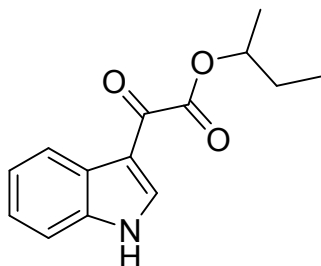
Isopropyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3m): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.37 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.28 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 5.18 (h, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 6H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.90, 163.68, 138.44, 137.15, 125.91, 124.28, 123.29, 121.56, 113.20, 112.79, 70.12, 21.93.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 231 (M^+ , 20), 191 (10), 144 (100), 129 (10), 116 (18), 89 (15), 44 (45).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 231.08899; found: 231.08937.



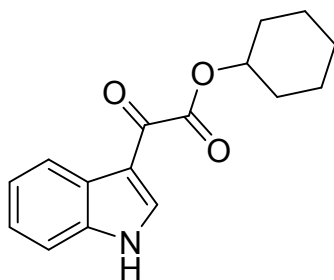
sec-Butyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3n): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.37 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.20 – 8.12 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 5.04 (h, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.72 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.33 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.91, 163.87, 138.35, 137.15, 125.88, 124.30, 123.30, 121.55, 113.21, 112.79, 74.41, 28.57, 19.55, 9.95.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 245 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (15), 89 (12), 44 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 245.10464; found: 245.10510.



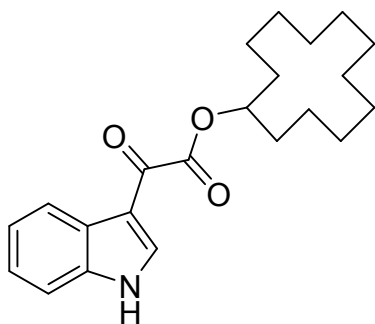
Cyclohexyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3o): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.38 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (ddt, J = 5.9, 2.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 4.97 (tt, J = 9.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.01 – 1.89 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.57 – 1.51 (m, 2H), 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.28 (m, 2H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.92, 163.59, 138.41, 137.15, 125.88, 124.29, 123.29, 121.54, 113.20, 112.80, 74.60, 31.35, 25.19, 23.65.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 271 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (15), 89 (15), 55 (12).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 271.12029; found: 271.12023.



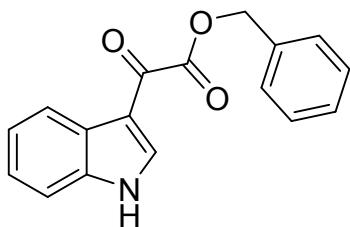
Cyclododecyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3p): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.36 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.18 – 8.13 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 5.20 (ddd, J = 7.2, 4.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.62 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.2 Hz, 2H), 1.42 – 1.31 (m, 18H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.78, 163.87, 138.35, 137.15, 125.90, 124.30, 123.30, 121.54, 113.21, 112.80, 74.08, 29.03, 24.04, 23.40, 23.19, 20.93.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 355 (M^+ , 10), 253 (10), 144 (100), 116 (10), 89 (10), 55 (16).

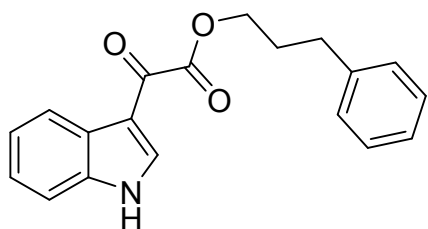
HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 355.21420; found: 355.21414.



Benzyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate^[4] (3q): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.48 – 8.38 (m, 1H), 8.20 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 5.40 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.14, 163.77, 138.70, 137.15, 135.74, 129.05, 128.98, 128.93, 125.90, 124.36, 123.37, 121.58, 113.22, 112.88, 67.43.



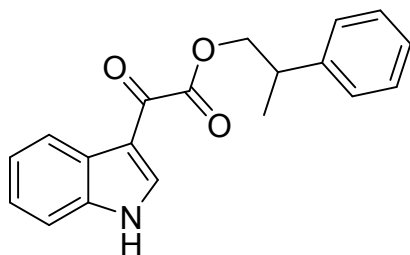
3-Phenylpropyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3r): Yellow solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 12.41 (s, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 8.21 – 8.16 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.17 (m, 7H), 4.32 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.08 – 1.99 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*⁶) δ 179.43, 164.08, 141.42, 138.71, 137.16, 128.85, 128.78, 126.42, 125.92, 124.32, 123.33, 121.58, 113.21, 112.86, 65.32, 31.81, 30.03.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): *m/z* (%) = 307 (*M*⁺, 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 91 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇NO₃ [*M*+*H*]⁺: 307.12029; found: 307.12110.



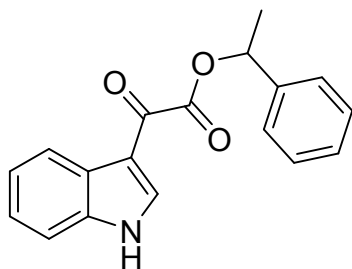
2-Phenylpropyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3s): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.35 (s, 1H), 8.18 – 8.12 (m, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 4.54 – 4.40 (m, 2H), 3.29 – 3.21 (m, 1H), 1.31 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.34, 163.89, 143.44, 138.41, 137.14, 128.96, 127.82, 127.18, 125.83, 124.34, 123.33, 121.57, 113.18, 112.81, 70.34, 38.68, 18.52.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 307 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 307.12029; found: 307.12098.



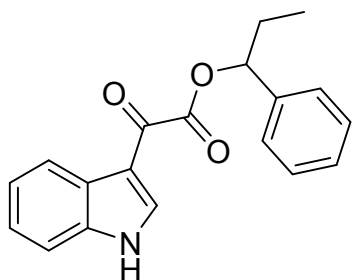
1-Phenylethyl 2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3t): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.39 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.21 – 8.09 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 6.10 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.66 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.38, 163.28, 141.25, 138.43, 137.15, 129.05, 128.61, 126.58, 125.89, 124.35, 123.36, 121.56, 113.23, 112.79, 74.30, 22.30.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 293 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 293.10538; found: 293.10566.



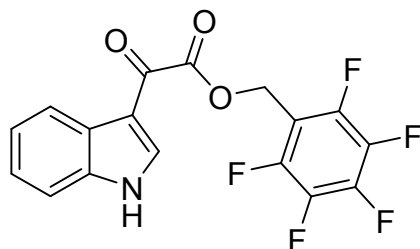
1-Phenylpropyl 2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3u): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.39 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.18 – 8.13 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 5.93 – 5.87 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.37, 163.46, 140.01, 138.27, 137.16, 128.99, 128.60, 126.93, 125.86, 124.37, 123.37, 121.54, 113.24, 112.79, 79.07, 29.08, 10.20.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 307 (M^+ , 10), 144 (100), 116 (20), 91 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 307.12029; found: 307.12092.



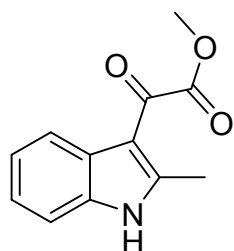
(Perfluorophenyl)methyl 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (3v): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.45 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.29 (tdd, J = 8.7, 4.7, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (s, 2H).

^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 141.51–142.40 (dd, J = 22.4, 2F), -152.94 (t, J = 22.4 Hz, 1F), 162.26 (ddd, J = 46.2, 23.2, 7.8 Hz, 2F).

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 369 (M^+ , 10), 181 (18), 144 (100), 116 (20), 89 (18).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3\text{F}_5$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 369.04250; found: 369.04281.



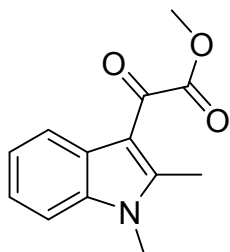
Methyl 2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4a): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.39 (s, 1H), 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 181.56, 166.96, 148.44, 135.59, 126.78, 123.48, 122.98, 120.11, 112.29, 108.83, 53.01, 13.94.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 217 (M^+ , 20), 158 (100), 130 (20), 103 (18), 77 (18).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}NO_3$ $[M+H]^+$: 217.07334; found: 217.07357.



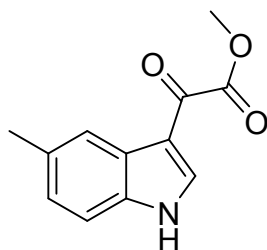
Methyl 2-(1,2-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4b): Red solid.

1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.92 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.68 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 181.39, 166.58, 147.77, 136.92, 126.04, 123.11, 123.06, 120.18, 109.66, 109.54, 52.55, 29.83, 12.32.

GC-MS (EI, 70eV): m/z (%) = 231(M^+ , 12), 172 (100), 143 (10), 115 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $C_{13}H_{13}NO_3$ $[M+H]^+$: 231.08899; found: 231.08930.



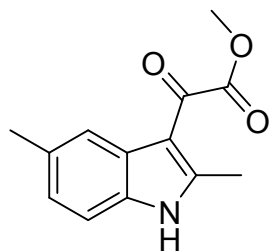
Methyl 2-(5-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4c): Yellow solid.

1H NMR (300 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$) δ 12.31 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dp, J = 1.6, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (ddd, J = 8.3, 0.8, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 8.3, 1.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$) δ 179.09, 164.54, 138.76, 135.45, 132.37, 126.20, 125.73, 121.36, 112.82, 112.52, 52.94, 21.74.

GC-MS (EI, 70eV): m/z (%) = 217 (M^+ , 18), 158 (100), 130 (15), 103 (12), 77 (12), 44 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}NO_3$ $[M+H]^+$: 217.07334; found: 217.07355.



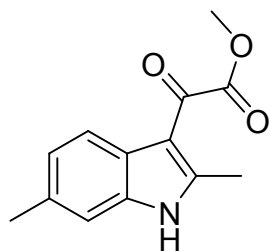
Methyl 2-(2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4d): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.28 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (ddd, J = 8.2, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (ddd, J = 8.2, 1.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 181.46, 167.01, 148.22, 133.84, 131.91, 127.11, 124.82, 120.08, 111.93, 108.55, 52.97, 21.82, 13.90.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 231 (M^+ , 15), 191 (10), 172 (100), 143 (10), 115 (10), 73 (10), 44 (63).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 231.08899; found: 231.08920.



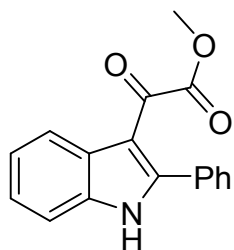
Methyl 2-(2,6-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4e): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.24 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dt, J = 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (ddd, J = 8.1, 1.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 181.40, 167.01, 147.96, 135.99, 132.83, 124.53, 124.47, 119.86, 112.12, 108.78, 52.98, 21.63, 13.90.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 231 (M^+ , 15), 172 (100), 143 (10), 115 (12), 44 (25).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 231.08899; found: 231.08914.



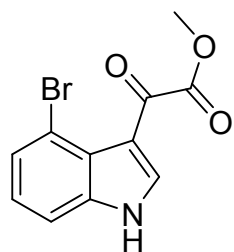
Methyl 2-oxo-2-(2-phenyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)acetate (4f): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.57 (s, 1H), 8.19 – 7.98 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.41 (m, 6H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 182.67, 165.42, 149.37, 136.24, 130.96, 130.37, 130.16, 128.89, 127.30, 124.44, 123.44, 121.43, 112.73, 109.57, 52.04.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 279 (M^+ , 10), 220 (100), 191 (10), 165 (16), 44 (10).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 279.08899; found: 279.08910.



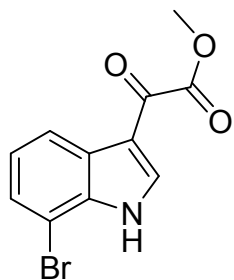
Methyl 2-(4-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4g): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.68 (s, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.28, 165.47, 140.00, 139.35, 127.85, 125.41, 124.95, 113.78, 113.27, 112.78, 53.12.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 281 (M^+ , 26), 269 (32), 178 (20), 144 (35), 115 (48), 89 (20), 44 (68).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{79}\text{Br}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 280.96821; found: 280.96921; calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{81}\text{Br}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 282.96616; found: 282.96721.



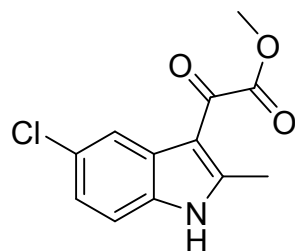
Methyl 2-(7-bromo-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4h): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.69 (s, 1H), 8.47 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (ddd, J = 7.9, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.21, 163.88, 139.34, 135.61, 127.66, 127.04, 124.86, 121.04, 113.72, 105.59, 53.18.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 281 (M^+ , 25), 224 (100), 193 (20), 143 (25), 115 (25), 88 (16), 44 (75).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{79}\text{Br}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 280.96821; found: 280.96925; calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{81}\text{Br}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 282.96616; found: 282.96725.



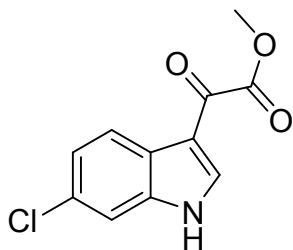
Methyl 2-(5-chloro-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4i): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.58 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 8.6, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 181.41, 166.55, 149.72, 134.18, 128.11, 127.66, 123.56, 119.62, 113.92, 108.65, 53.16, 13.88.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 251 (M^+ , 10), 192 (100), 164 (10), 128 (10), 101 (10), 44 (25).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}_3^{35}\text{Cl}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 251.01872; found: 251.01835; calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}_3^{37}\text{Cl}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 253.01577; found: 253.01589.



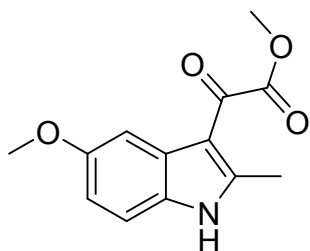
Methyl 2-(6-chloro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4j): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.49 (s, 1H), 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.15 (dd, J = 8.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 1.9, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 179.02, 164.00, 139.77, 137.66, 128.78, 124.75, 123.59, 122.90, 113.00, 112.81, 53.09.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 237 (M^+ , 18), 178 (100), 150 (15), 123 (15).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{35}\text{Cl}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 237.01872; found: 237.01837; calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3^{37}\text{Cl}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 239.01577; found: 239.01591.



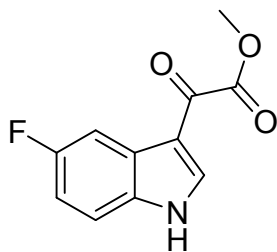
Methyl 2-(5-methoxy-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4k): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.27 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 8.8, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 181.37, 167.00, 156.31, 148.23, 130.29, 127.80, 113.02, 112.57, 108.87, 102.87, 55.75, 52.99, 13.89.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 247 (M^+ , 18), 188 (100), 173 (15), 145 (10), 117 (10), 44 (35).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 247.08391; found: 247.08391.



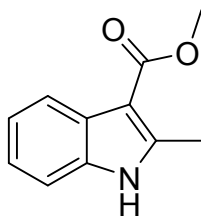
Methyl 2-(5-fluoro-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-oxoacetate (4l): Yellow solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.52 (s, 1H), 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.84 (ddd, J = 9.6, 2.7, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (ddd, J = 8.9, 4.6, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dddd, J = 9.3, 8.9, 2.7, 0.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 178.89, 164.06, 140.14, 133.73, 126.72 (d, J = 11.0 Hz), 114.69, 114.56, 112.94, 112.45 (d, J = 26.0 Hz), 106.63 (d, J = 25.0 Hz), 53.07.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 221 (M^+ , 15), 162 (100), 134 (23), 107 (20).

HR-MS (EI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3\text{F}$ [$M+H$] $^+$: 221.04827; found: 221.04771.



Methyl 2-methyl-1H-indole-3-carboxylate^[5] (5a) : White solid.

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 11.83 (s, 1H), 8.05 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 165.96, 145.09, 135.22, 127.20, 122.09, 121.35, 120.77, 111.64, 103.01, 50.88, 14.18.

GC-MS (EI, 70ev): m/z (%) = 189 (M^+ , 75), 158(100), 130 (20), 103 (10), 77 (20), 44 (25).

8. Reference

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