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## **Supporting Information**

## Synthesis of Di-, Tri- and Tetracyclopropylhydrazines

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**General Information.** NMR spectroscopic data were recorded with a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer (400.13 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 100.61 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, respectively) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, or DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> and were referenced to the residual solvent proton ( $\delta_{\rm H} = 7.26$ , 7.16 ppm) and carbon ( $\delta_{\rm C} = 77.16$ , 128.06 or 39.52 ppm) signals. DEPT spectra were used for the assignment of carbon atoms signals. IR spectra were registered on Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer. Melting points were determined with a Stuart SMP30 instrument. High-resolution mass spectra were recorded with a Bruker Maxis HRMS-ESI-qTOF spectrometer (electrospray ionization mode). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel Merck 60. TLC monitoring was performed on Alugram SIL G/UV<sub>254</sub> plates (Macherey-Nagel).

N-Nitrosodicyclopropylamine 7. A solution of sodium nitrite (0.35 g, 5.1 mmol) in 2 mL of



water was added dropwise to a solution of dicyclopropylamine hydrochloride (0.67 g, 5.0 mmol) in 5 mL water covered with 5 mL of ether. After that one drop of conc. HCl was added. After stirring at room temperature for 2 hours reaction mixture was extracted with ether (3\*10 mL). Extracts were dried with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and concentrated

under reduced pressure yielding compound 7 (0.51 g, 81 %) as yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.80-1.10 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.04-3.09 (m, 2H, 2 CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  5.2 (2 CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.0 (2 CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.5 (CH), 32.4 (CH); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 127.0866, found 127.0867.

1,1-Dicyclopropylhydrazine 3. A suspension of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (0.28 g, 7.4 mmol) in dry ether (20 mL) was cooled to 4 °C and treated dropwise with the solution of *N*-nitrosodicyclo-propylamine (0.47 g, 3.7 mmol) in dry ether (10 mL). After stirring overnight at room temperature, the excess hydride was destroyed by addition of water (2 mL). The suspension was filtered and the precipitate was washed with ether (3\*3 mL). Combined extracts were dried (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) and ether was evaporated under reduced pressure, thus affording 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine (0.34 g, 82 %) pure according NMR spectra as yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.49-0.51 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.02-2.08 (m, 2H, 2 CH), 3.24 (br s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 5.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 41.4 (CH); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 113.1073, found 113.1069.

*N',N'-Dicyclopropylformic hydrazide* **8.** A mixture of N,N-dicyclopropylhydrazine (300 mg, 2.68 mmol) and methyl formate (1 mL) was stirred for 3 days at r.t. To the residue obtained by evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure hexane (1 mL) was added and left overnight at 4-5 °C. Obtained crystals were filtered and washed with cold hexane (2\*0.5 mL) affording **8** (278 mg, 74 %) which melted at r.t. giving yellow oil. NMR spectra demonstrate the existence of two rotamers in solution in ratio ~5:1, because of restricted rotation about amide C-N bond. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.49-0.59 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.31-2.36 and 2.6-2.7 (m, 1.6H and 0.3H, NCH), 7.07 (br. s, 0.2H, NH) and 7.52 (br. d,  $J\approx 10$  Hz, 0.8H, NH), 7.96 and 7.97 (s and d, J=11 Hz, 1H, CH=O); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz);  $\delta$  6.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.5 (CH), 39.6 (CH), 159.2 (CH=O), 165.8 (CH=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>ONa [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 163.0842, found 163.0846.

N-Benzyl-N',N'-dicyclopropylformic hydrazide 9. A mixture of hydrazide 8 (0.22 g, 1.57 mmol), finely powdered sodium hydroxide (0.22 g, 5.5 mmol), potassium carbonate (0.13 g), and tetra-n-butylammonium hydrogen sulfate (53 mg) in benzene (2 mL) was stirred vigorously at 35-40 °C for 30 min. The resulted slurry was heated to 60°C and a solution of benzyl chloride (0.2 g, 1.58 mmol) in benzene (1 mL) was added dropwise. Stirring was continued for 4 h at 60-70 °C. The mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and the solid was washed with benzene (2 mL). Combined benzene solution was washed with water (2\*2 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel yielding 9 (293 mg, 81 %) as light yellow oil. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum demonstrates broadening of methylene cyclopropyl signal that might be caused by restricted rotation about N-N bond of tetrasubstituted hydrazine what makes methylene groups diastereotopic one. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.42 (br. s 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.29-2.35 (m, 2H, 2 NCH), 4.79 (s, 2H, Ph<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 7.22-7.25 (m, 1H, H<sup>p</sup>), 7.28-7.32 (m, 2H, H<sup>m</sup>), 7.38-7.40 (m, 2H, H<sup>o</sup>), 8.06 (s, 1H, CH=O); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz); δ 7.6 (br, 4CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.7 (2CH), 44.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 127.4 (C<sup>p</sup>) 128.3 (2CH), 128.5 (2CH), 138.1 (C<sup>i</sup>) 165.3 (CH=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 231.1492, found 231.1488.

**1-Benzyl-1,2,2-tricyclopropylhydrazine 10.** A vigorously stirred solution of *N*-benzyl-*N'*,*N'*dicyclopropylformic hydrazide **9** (300 mg, 1.3 mmol) and (i-PrO)<sub>3</sub>TiMe (0.38 g, 1.6 mmol) in anhydrous THF (3 mL) was treated with the solution of ethylmagnesium bromide (prepared by slow addition of EtBr (0.2 mL, 2.7 mmol) in ether (1.5 mL) to Mg (62 mg, 2.6 mmol) in ether (0.5 mL))

within 20 s (the color of the reaction mixture changed to brown-black and the temperature rose to about 45°C), and the resulted mixture was stirred at r.t. overnight. The reaction was then quenched by addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL), stirred until a colorless precipitate had formed (1 h), filtered, and the filter cake was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2\*2 mL). The filtrate was dried over K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane) yielding **10** (186 mg, 59 %) as yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.37-0.45 (m, 12H, 6 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.34-2.41 (m, 2H, 2 NCH), 2.43-2.49 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.99 (s, 2H, Ph<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 7.21-7.29 (m, 5H, Ph), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz);  $\delta$  6.2 (4CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.1 (2CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.1 (CH), 34.6 (2CH) , 59.2 (Ph<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>), 126.5 (C<sup>*p*</sup>), 127.7 (2CH), 129.6 (2CH), 141.0 (C<sup>*i*</sup>). HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 243.1856, found 243.1863

**Tricyclopropylhydrazine 4.** A solution of 1-benzyl-1,2,2-tricyclopropylhydrazine **10** (150 mg, 0.62 mmol) in 5 mL of hexane was hydrogenated over 20 mg of 10% Pd on charcoal at



atmospheric pressure. After reaction completion the mixture was filtered from the catalyst through Celite. The catalyst was washed with 10 mL of hexane and the combined solutions was acidified by addition of ethereal solution of HCl, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in 5 mL

of water, and pH adjusted to 11-12 by slow addition of aqueous 10 % NaOH than extracted with ether (3\*5 mL). Combined extracts were dried (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) and ether was evaporated under reduced pressure (~100 torr) at r.t., thus affording tricyclopropylhydrazine (94 mg, 87 %) as yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.41-0.66 (m, 12H, 6 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.17-2.22 (m, 2H, N-1-CH), 2.53-2.58 (m, 1H, N-2-CH), 2.98 (br.s, 1H, NH), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz);  $\delta$  5.7 (4CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.5 (2CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.5 (CH), 39.0 (2CH); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 153.1386, found 153.1394.

**Tetracyclopropylhydrazine 5.** To a mixture of 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine **3** (1 mmol, 112 mg), acetic acid (20 mmol, 1.2 g) and molecular sieves in 5 mL of methanol cyclopropanone



ethyl trimethylsilyl acetal (6 mmol, 1,04 g) and NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN (9 mmol, 0.57 g) were added. After stirring at 60 °C for 6 hours reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in 10 mL water, acidified with 10 % HCl to pH 1-2 and extracted with ether (2\*5 mL) to

remove byproducts. The pH of aqueous layer was adjusted to 4 by addition of aqueous 10 % NaOH than extracted with ether (3\*5 mL). These extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and ether was evaporated under reduced pressure, thus affording tetracyclopropylhydrazine (98 mg, 51 %) as yellowish oil. The reaction of hydrazine with 12 eq of cyclopropanone ethyl trimethylsilyl acetal and 18 eq of NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN for 10 hours gave the desired product **5** in 17 % yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.43-0.45 (m, 16H, 8 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.45-2.50 (m, 4H, 4 CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  6.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.6 (CH); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 193.1699, found 193.1700.

General procedure for reaction of 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine with aldehydes. A suspension of  $MgSO_4$  (150 mg) in solution of 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine (112 mg, 1 mmol) and aldehyde (1 mmol) in ether (2 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 6 hours. After reaction completion suspension was filtered off and the solid was washed with ether (2 x 4 mL). Combined washings were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EA).

Acetaldehyde dicyclopropylhydrazone 15a: freshly distilled aldehyde was used; yield 105 mg,

N–N.

76 %. Colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.58-0.67 (m, 8H, 4 H<sub>2</sub>), 1.93 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.16-2.21 (m, 2H, NCH), 7.43 (q, *J*=5.2 Hz, 1H, CH=N); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 6.0 (4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.6 (2 NCH), 138.2 (CH=N); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 139.1230, found 139.1227.

Benzaldehyde dicyclopropylhydrazone 15b. yield 168 mg, 84 %. Light yellow oil. IR (neat) v,



(cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3090, 3060, 3014 ( $v_{CH\square}$ ), 2953, 2852, 1591, 1562, 1492, 1447, 1026( $v_{\square}$ ). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.74-0.83 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.45-2.50 (m, 2H, NCH), 7.23 (m, 1H, H<sup>*p*</sup>,Ph), 7.33 (m, 2H, H<sup>*m*</sup>,Ph), 7.60 (m, 2H, H<sup>*o*</sup>,Ph), 7.95 (s, 1H, CH=N); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  6.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.9

(CH), 126.1 (2CH), 127.7 (C<sup>*p*</sup>), 128.6 (2CH), 135.3 (CH=N), 137.0 (C<sup>*i*</sup>); HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{17}N_2$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 201.1386, found 201.1387.

**3,4-Dimethoxybenzaldehyde dicyclopropylhydrazone 15c:** yield 231 mg, 89 %. Colorless crystals; mp 87.5-88.0 °C. IR (KBr pellet) v (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3092, 3013 (v<sub> $\square$ CH</sub>), 2951, 2902, 2839, 1602, 1570, 1514, 1462, 1260 (s, v<sub>C-0</sub>), 1137, 1070, 1022 (v<sub> $\square$ </sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.49-0.54 (m, 4H), 0.74-0.79 (m, 4H), 2.24-2.29 (m, 2H, NCH), 3.40 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.47 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.65 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>,Ph), 7.20 (dd, J=8.2 Hz, J=1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>,Ph), 7.60 (d, J=1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>,Ph), 8.05 (s, 1H, CH=N); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  6.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.3 (NCH), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 109.3 (C-2), 112.0 (C-5), 120.3 (C-6), 131.0 (C-1), 135.8 (CH=N), 150.4 (<u>C<sub>ar</sub>-O)</u>, 150.6 (<u>C<sub>ar</sub>-O</u>); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 261.1598, found 261.1598.

Acetone dicyclopropylhydrazone 15d. 1,1-Dicyclopropylhydrazine (112 mg, 1 mmol) in dry acetone (0.5 mL) was refluxed for 3 hours. After that reaction mixture was concentrated under reduces pressure giving acetone dicyclopropylhydrazone (138 mg, 91 %) as light yellow oil (pure according NMR). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.34-0.44 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.82 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.97 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.27-2.34

(m, 2H, N-CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 4.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 25.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 38.9 (CH), 168.9 (C=N); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 153.1386, found 153.1385.

Acetophenone dicyclopropylhydrazone 15e. To a solution of 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine (112 mg, 1 mmol) and acetophenone (120 mg, 1 mmol) in benzene (3 mL) was added catalytic amount of PTSA and the mixture was refluxed for 6 hours. After reaction completion solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EA), affording acetophenone dicyclopropylhydrazone (154 mg, 72 %) as light yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.46-0.52 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.26 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.47-2.54 (m, 2H, N-CH), 7.37-7.41 (m, 3H, H<sup>m,p</sup>), 7.78-7.80 (m, 2H, H<sup>o</sup>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  4.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 16.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 39.1 (CH), 127.1 (2CH), 128.4 (2CH), 129.7 (C<sup>p</sup>), 139.2 (C<sup>i</sup>), 167.2 (C=N); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 215.1543, found 215.1544.

General procedure for preparation of *N*,*N*-dicyclopropyl-*N*'-acylhydrazines. A solution of acyl chloride (1 mmol) in ether (1 mL) was added dropwise at 4 °C to a mixture of 1,1-dicyclopropylhydrazine (112 mg, 1 mmol) and  $Et_3N$  (101 mg) in ether (7 mL). After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the suspension was filtered and the solid was washed with ether. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography giving acylhydrazines (hexane:EA).

*N',N'-Dicyclopropylacetohydrazide* 16a: yield 125 mg, 81 %, colorless crystals; mp 125.3-126.2 °C. IR (KBr) v (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3241 (s,  $v_{NH}$ ), 3072 ( $v_{\Box CH2}$ ), 3013( $v_{\Box CH}$ ), 2960, 2931, 2835, 1660 (s,  $v_{C=0}$ ), 1552, 1025( $v_{\Box}$ ). NMR spectra demonstrate the existence of two rotamers in solution in ratio ~3:2, because of restricted rotation about amide C-N bond. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.46-0.56 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.91 (s, 3H,

CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.26-2.32 and 2.63-2.69 (m, 1.2H and 0.8H, 2 CH), 6.94 and 7.01 (br. s, 0.6H and 0.4H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  5.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 38.3 (CH), 40.1 (CH), 168.5 (C=O), 174.3 (C=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 155.1179, found 155.1179.

*N',N'*-Dicyclopropylbenzohydrazide 16b: yield 160 mg, 74%, colorless crystals; mp 159.4-159.9 °C. IR (KBr) v (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3221 (s, v<sub>NH</sub>), 3077, 3056, 3007 (v<sub> $\square$ CH</sub>), 2960, 2831, 1651 (s, v<sub>C=0</sub>), 1537, 1026(v<sub> $\square$ </sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.50-0.64 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.87-2.89 (m, 2H, 2 NCH), 7.41 (m, 2H, H<sup>m</sup>), 7.49 (m, 1H, H<sup>p</sup>), 7.56 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.75 (m, 2H, H<sup>o</sup>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  6.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.1 (CH), 127.2 (2CH), 128.7 (2CH), 131.6 (C<sup>p</sup>), 134.3 (C<sup>i</sup>), 166.4 (C=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 217.1335, found 217.1336.

Methyl 2-(2-bromophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyclopropylhydrazino)acrylate 18. Mixture of 1,1-



dicyclopropylhydrazine (112 mg, 1 mmol) and methyl 2-(2-bromophenyl)-3hydroxyacrylate (256 mg, 1 mmol) in 1.5 mL of MeOH was stirred at r.t. for 4 h, the solvent was evaporated and residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EA) affording **18** (304 mg, 87 %) as a mixture of (*Z*:*E*)-isomers =3:1, colorless oil.

(*Z*)-18: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.52-0.58 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.28-2.41 (m, 2H, 2 NCH), 3.66 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.76 (d, *J*=11 Hz, 1H, CH), 7.06-7.10 (m, 1H, H), 7.22-7.24 (m, 2H, H), 7.56-7.58 (m, 1H, H), 9.07 (d, *J*=11 Hz, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 6.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>, br), 40.0 (CH), 50.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 95.3 (C), 127.0 (C), 127.1 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 132.7 (CH), 133.0 (CH), 138.7 (C), 153.9 (CH), 169.5 (C=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 351.0703, found 351.0695. (*E*)-18: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 0.52-0.58 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.16-2.21 (m, 2H, 2 NCH), 3.65 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.35 (d, *J*=11.9 Hz, 1H, NH), 7.16-7.20 (m, 1H, H), 7.23-7.26 (m, 1H, H), 7.32-7.36 (m, 1H, H), 7.58 (d, *J*=11.9 Hz, 1H, CH), 7.65-7.67 (m, 1H, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 6.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.9 (CH), 51.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 98.6 (C), 126.2 (C), 127.9 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 133.1 (CH), 133.3 (CH), 135.7 (C), 148.4 (CH), 168.1 (C=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 351.0703, found 351.0695.

## Methyl 1-(dicyclopropylamino)-1H-indole-3-carboxylate 17. To a solution of 18 (210 mg, 0.6



 $K_3PO_4$  (0.254 g, 1.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated at 85 °C (bath temperature) for 2 h, cooled to r.t., poured into 10 mL of water and extracted with ether (3\*5 mL). Extracts were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, the solvent was evaporated and residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EA)

affording **17** (104 mg, 64 %) as colorless crystal. M.p. 121.2-122.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  0.56-0.62 (m, 8H, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.92-2.97 (m, 2H, 2 CH), 3.93 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.23-7.26 (m, 2H, CH), 7.37-7.40 (m, 1H, CH), 8.13 (s, 1H, CH), 8.13-8.17 (m, 1H, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz, 296 K):  $\delta$  6.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>, br), 39.1 (CH), 51.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 105.9 (C), 110.3 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 124.2 (C), 130.7 (CH), 136.9 (C), 165.6 (C=O); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 271.1441, found 271.1447.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **17** measured at room temperature in CDCl<sub>3</sub> shows a broad signal of cyclopropyl CH<sub>2</sub> groups at  $\delta$  6.7 ppm. It might be caused by restricted rotation of either ester group (around C-C bond) or dicyclopropylamino group (around N-N bond) that should cause the diastereotopicity of methylene groups in each cyclopropyl substituent. It was confirmed by getting spectra of **17** in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> upon heating that led to coalescence of this signal into a sharp singlet at 80 °C (see the corresponding spectra below).





















































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