Supporting Information

Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Enamides with Sterically Hindered α-Bromocarbonyls

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1. General information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on Bruker Advance 400M NMR spectrometers (CDCl₃ as solvent). Chemical shifts for ¹H NMR spectra are reported as δ in units of parts per million (ppm) downfield from SiMe₄ (δ 0.0) and relative to the signal of SiMe₄ (δ 0.00 singlet). Multiplicities were given as: s (singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); dd (doublet of doublets); dt (doublet of triplets); m (multiplets) and *etc.* Coupling constants are reported as a J value in Hz. ¹³C NMR spectra are reported as δ in units of parts per million (ppm) downfield from SiMe₄ (δ 0.0) and relative to the signal of chloroform-d (δ 77.00 triplet). High resolution mass spectral analysis (HRMS) was performed on WaterXEVOG2 Q-TOF (Waters Corporation). IR spectra were recorded on a commercial FT/IR spectrometer. Flash chromatography was performed using 200-300 mesh silica gel with the indicated solvent system.

2. Procedure for the synthesis of compound 3a – 3t, 4a – 4g.

A dry 25-mL Schlenk tube containing a magnetic stirring bar was charged with 1 (0.3 mmol), 2 (2.0 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5 mol%, 17.3 mg, 0.015 mmol), (4-MeOPh)₃P (20 mol%, 21.12 mg, 0.06 mmol), AgOAc (1.5 eq, 75 mg, 0.45 mmol) and DCM (1.0 mL). Then the mixture was charged with argon and heated at 80 °C oil bath. After finishing, the reaction mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator and the residue was directly subjected to flash column chromatography on silica gel with (50% EtOAc/Petroleum ether) as eluate to furnish the desired product.

3. Optimization of reaction conditions:

Table 1.



^a At 60 °C; ^b At 100 °C; ^c Isolated yield

Table 2.

NHAC + Br		OEt	Pd(PPh ₃) ₄ 5 mol% (4-MeOPh) ₃ P 20 mol ⁴ AgOAc 1.5 equiv solvent, 80 °C				
	entry	solvent	T (°C)	time (h)	yield ^a		
	1	$PhCF_3$	80	12	63%		
	2	dioxane	80	12	70%		
	3	CH ₃ CN	80	12	64%		
	4	DMF	80	12	52%		
	5	toluene	80	12	60%		
	a: isolat	ed yield					

Table 3.







4. Mechanistic study of coupling reaction between enamide and α -Bromocarbonyls:



Ethyl 2-methyl-2-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxy)propanoate

¹H NMR (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.54 – 1.34 (m, 11H), 1.28 (m, 4H), 1.14 (s, 6H), 0.99 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 176.22, 81.24, 60.72, 59.68, 40.76, 33.59, 24.62, 20.61, 17.22, 14.30. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calcd for C₁₅H₂₉NO₃[M+H]⁺ 272.2226, found: 272.2218.



Ethyl 2,2-dimethyl-4,4-diphenylbut-3-enoate

¹H NMR (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 3.73 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (s, 6H), 1.13 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 176.49, 143.48, 141.62, 139.43, 134.29, 130.24, 128.17, 127.96, 127.37, 127.35, 127.24, 60.55, 44.18, 27.90, 14.08. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₂₀H₂₂O₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 317.1517, found: 317.1519





Ethyl 2-bromo-2-cyclopropylpropanoate

¹H NMR (400 MHz, chloroform-d) δ 4.25 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.64 (tt, J = 8.2, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.76 – 0.53 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 171.17, 63.29, 62.19, 25.13, 21.58, 14.06, 5.57, 4.55.





(E)-ethyl 5-bromo-2-methylpent-2-enoate

¹H NMR (400 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 6.76 – 6.65 (m, 1H), 4.20 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (dddd, J = 8.1, 7.1, 6.1, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 1.86 (q, J = 1.1 Hz, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ 167.84, 137.68, 130.61, 60.83, 32.09, 30.76, 14.40, 12.84.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_8H_{13}BrO_2Na [M+Na]^+ 242.9997$, found: 242.9991.



5. Unsuccessful substrates in coupling reaction between enamides and α-bromocarbonyls.



6. Procedure for the synthesis of compound 5a – 5j.



3a (0.3 mmol, 86.4 mg) dissolved in EtOH (2.0 mL) was added 48% aqueous solution of HBr (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 10 hours. After finishing, then the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After filtration, the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. Then the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (with 5% EtOAc/Petroleum ether) to afford the desired compound **5a** (61.9 mg, yield = 84%).



3j (0.3 mmol, 82.8 mg) dissolved in EtOH (2.0 mL) was added 48% aqueous solution of HBr (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 10 hours. then the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After filtration, the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. Then the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (with 5% EtOAc/Petroleum ether) to afford the desired compound **5b**. Yield (61.3 mg, 87%).



3a (0.1 g) and Pd/C catalyst (10%, 0.01 g) were added to the MeOH (25 mL) solution in a two-neck round-bottom flask under hydrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 6 hours and was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a white solid of **5e** without further purification. Yield (0.093 g, 93%).



3j (0.2 g) and Pd/C catalyst (10%, 0.02 g) were added to the MeOH (25 mL) solution in a two-neck round-bottom flask under hydrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 6 hours and was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a white solid of **5f** without further purification. Yield (0.183 g, 91%).



4e (0.2075 g) and Pd/C catalyst (10%, 0.02 g) were added to the MeOH (25 mL) solution in a two-neck round-bottom flask under hydrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 6 hours and was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, then the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (with 0% - 8% MeOH/CHCl₃) to give a white solid of **5c**. Yield (0.1309 g, 85%).



4f (0.0668 g) and Pd/C catalyst (10%, 0.01 g) were added to the MeOH (25 mL) solution in a two-neck round-bottom flask under hydrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 6 hours and was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, then the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (with 0% - 8% MeOH/CHCl₃) to give a white solid of **5d**. Yield (0.04 g, 81%).



Aqueous lithium hydroxide (1 M, 2 mL) was added to the solution of **5e** (0.0893 g, 0.308 mmol) in THF (2 mL). The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 10 hours. After finishing, the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL). After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted twice with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (with 20% - 60% EtOAc/Petroleum ether) to afford the desired compound **5i**. Yield (0.061 g, 92%).



Aqueous lithium hydroxide (1 M, 3 mL) was added to the solution of **5f** (0.148 g, 0.53 mmol) in THF (3 mL). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 10 hours. After finishing, the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL). After separation, the aqueous

phase was extracted twice with ethyl acetate ($3 \times 10 \text{ mL}$). The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (with 20% - 60% EtOAc/Petroleum ether) to afford the desired compound **5g**. Yield (0.0808 g, 81%).



Diisobutylaluminum hydride solution (1.0 M in hexane, 0.9 mL, 0.9 mmol) was added dropwise to the solution of **5e** (0.058 g, 0.2 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) at -78 °C. After stirring for 10 minutes at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0 °C and stirred for an additional 30 minutes. The methanol (1 mL) and hydrochloric acid (3 M, 3 mL) were successively added. The reaction mixture was partitioned by dichloromethane, and then the aqueous phase was extracted twice with dichloromethane (3×10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give **5j** (0.025 g , 51%)



Diisobutylaluminum hydride solution (1.0 M in hexane, 0.9 mL, 0.9 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of **5f** (0.0576 g, 0.208 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) at -78 °C. After stirring for 10 minutes at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0 °C and stirred for an additional 30 minutes. The methanol (1mL) and hydrochloric acid (3 M, 3 mL) were successively added. The reaction mixture was partitioned by dichloromethane, and then the aqueous phase was extracted twice with dichloromethane (3×10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give **5h** (0.020 g , 43%)

7. NMR data and spectra of the products:

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3a)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.00 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.54 – 3.44 (m, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 6H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.35, 169.65, 144.10, 144.06, 140.92, 133.55, 126.74, 125.38, 124.33, 119.79, 61.26, 44.12, 37.58, 26.34, 23.44, 14.82.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{21}NO_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 310.1419, found: 310.1416.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-5-methyl-1H-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3b)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.95 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.04 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 3H), 1.45 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 6H), 1.19 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.35, 169.62, 144.35, 144.31, 138.02, 135.72, 133.50, 126.16, 124.04, 120.21, 61.22, 44.15, 37.18, 26.31, 23.45, 22.08, 14.81. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 324.1576, found: 324.1573.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-6-chloro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3c)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.16,

169.71, 144.81, 143.06, 142.96, 132.95, 130.14, 126.84, 124.55, 121.19, 61.33, 44.16, 37.57, 26.26, 23.41, 14.80.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}NClO_3 [M+Na]^+344.1029$, found: 344.1014.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-5-fluoro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3d)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (ddd, *J* = 9.9, 8.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.16, 169.78, 162.44 (*J* = 242 Hz), 146.74, 146.31 (*J* = 9 Hz), 136.62, 133.12, 125.57 (*J* = 9 Hz), 111.98 (*J* = 23 Hz), 106.79 (*J* = 24 Hz), 61.33, 44.24, 37.09, 26.28, 23.43, 14.80.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}NFO_3 [M+Na]^+ 328.1325$, found: 328.1318.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-6-bromo-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3e)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 6H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.13, 169.71, 144.83, 143.45, 143.33, 133.02, 129.63, 127.36, 121.64, 118.50, 61.33, 44.14, 37.59, 26.25, 23.40, 14.80.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}NBrO_3 [M+Na]^+ 388.0524$, found: 388.0527.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-5-methoxy-1H-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3f)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.97 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.41 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 3H), 1.45 (s, 6H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.31, 169.67, 159.27, 145.61, 145.56, 133.45, 132.95, 124.87, 111.34, 105.46, 61.25, 56.14, 44.21, 36.81, 26.29, 23.46, 14.81. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO₄ [M+Na]⁺ 340.1525, found: 340.1526.

Ethyl 2-(3-acetamido-7-acetoxy-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3g)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.01 (s, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 12.6, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 6H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.15, 169.76, 169.60, 146.90, 146.36, 144.53, 133.40, 132.12, 128.47, 119.13, 117.80, 61.32, 44.09, 35.03, 26.28, 23.40, 21.66, 14.78.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{19}H_{23}NO_5[M+Na]^+$ 368.1474, found: 368.1472.

Ethyl 2-(4-acetamido-2H-chromen-3-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3h)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.70 (s, 1H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H), 4.09 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 6H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.23, 170.33, 154.48, 133.93, 129.79, 126.21, 124.18, 123.61, 122.07, 116.02, 66.26, 61.37, 45.44, 24.88, 23.33, 14.83.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4[M+Na]^+$ 326.1368, found: 326.1360.

Ethyl 2-(2-acetamidoacenaphthylen-1-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (3i)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 9.47 (s, 1H), 8.00 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 21.2 Hz, 4H), 4.11 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 6H), 1.11 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.97, 170.35, 138.02, 137.79, 137.26, 134.65, 128.53, 128.46, 128.34, 128.06, 127.82, 126.67, 124.27, 123.35, 61.39, 44.89, 26.74, 23.71, 14.80.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{20}H_{21}NO_3[M+Na]^+$ 346.1419, found: 346.1415.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (3j)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.84 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 5.98 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.62, 169.73, 139.30, 134.89, 131.90, 129.09, 128.41, 126.14, 61.12, 43.55, 27.10, 23.45, 14.86.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{16}H_{21}NO_3 [M+Na]^+$ 298.1419, found: 298.1413.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-(o-tolyl)but-3-enoate (3k)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 5.27 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.73, 168.93, 140.78, 136.18, 134.98, 132.74, 130.90, 129.59, 127.97, 126.12, 61.15, 43.42, 26.99, 23.43, 20.97, 14.81. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₇H₂₃NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 312.1576, found: 312.1578.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-(m-tolyl)but-3-enoate (31)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.80 (s, 1H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.62, 169.69, 139.34, 138.08, 134.93, 131.74, 129.08, 128.97, 126.70, 123.38, 61.10, 43.52, 27.13, 23.46, 22.01, 14.86.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₇H₂₃NO₃ [M+Na]⁺312.1576, found: 312.1576.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (3m)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 8.62 (s, 1H), 7.28 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 5.75 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.75, 169.24, 157.47, 133.67, 132.84, 130.33, 129.47, 128.91, 121.11, 112.74, 61.09, 56.59, 43.57, 27.08, 23.48, 14.88.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{23}NO_4 [M+Na]^+$ 328.1525, found: 328.1520.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut- 3-enoate (3n)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (s, 0H), 5.86 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO)

δ 176.71, 169.66, 159.77, 134.50, 131.74, 129.96, 127.40, 114.45, 61.07, 56.05, 43.47, 27.19, 23.47, 14.87.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{17}H_{23}NO_4 [M+Na]^+$ 328.1525, found: 328.1523.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (30)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.56, 169.74, 162.58 (*J* = 242 Hz), 135.83, 135.80, 134.01, 131.78, 128.14 (*J* = 8 Hz), 115.85 (*J* = 22 Hz), 61.14, 43.54, 27.09, 23.44, 14.85.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{16}H_{20}FNO_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 316.1325, found: 316.1326.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (3p)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.88 (s, 1H), 7.41 (s, 4H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.49, 169.77, 138.25, 133.97, 132.88, 132.50, 129.06, 127.93, 61.17, 43.58, 27.05, 23.43, 14.84.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{16}H_{20}CINO_3 [M+Na]^+ 332.1029$, found: 332.1032

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (3q)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.89 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8Hz, 2H), 6.01 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H),

1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.48, 169.77, 138.65, 134.06, 132.51, 131.97, 128.27, 121.43, 61.17, 43.59, 27.04, 23.42, 14.84. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₆H₂₀BrNO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 376.0524, found: 376.0526.

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-4-(furan-2-yl)-2,2-dimethylbut-3-enoate (3r)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.83 (s, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.93 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.30, 170.07, 152.72, 143.59, 129.90, 126.48, 112.46, 107.73, 61.22, 43.14, 26.95, 23.42, 14.84.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₄H₁₉NO₄ [M+Na]⁺ 288.1212, found: 288.1207

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)but-3-enoate (3s)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.93 (s, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.95 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 6H), 1.17 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.28, 169.85, 144.36, 130.99, 129.93, 128.46, 125.91, 124.64, 61.22, 43.49, 26.97, 23.39, 14.86. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₄H₁₉NSO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 304.0983, found: 304.0982

Ethyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-(naphthalen-2-yl)but-3-enoate (3t)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.96 (s, 1H), 7.98 – 7.85 (m, 4H), 7.67 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 4.09 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s,

6H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.64, 169.88, 136.75, 134.91, 133.77, 133.34, 132.62, 128.99, 128.55, 128.29, 127.21, 126.88, 124.77, 124.62, 61.18, 43.68, 27.19, 23.54, 14.88.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{20}H_{23}NO_3 [M+Na]^+$ 348.1576, found: 348.1577.

Diethyl 2-(3-acetamido-1*H*-inden-2-yl)malonate (4a)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 4.19 (tq, *J* = 7.1, 3.0 Hz, 4H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 169.34, 168.35, 142.37, 142.00, 137.05, 127.39, 126.86, 126.28, 124.63, 120.47, 62.20, 52.53, 37.80, 23.82, 14.85. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₈H₂₁NO₃ [M+Na]⁺354.1317, found: 354.1318.

N-(2-(2-methyl-3-oxobutan-2-yl)-1*H*-inden-3-yl)acetamide (4b)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.02 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (ddd, *J* = 15.7, 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 210.51, 169.98, 144.58, 143.98, 141.31, 134.19, 126.75, 125.43, 124.38, 119.81, 50.12, 37.77, 26.33, 25.15, 23.34.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{16}H_{19}NO_2[M+Na]^+$ 280.1313, found: 280.1316.

Methyl 2-(3-acetamido-1*H*-inden-2-yl)propanoate (4c)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 9.50 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 3.85 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.47 (d, J = 22.9 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (d, J = 22.9 Hz,

22.9 Hz, 1H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.38 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 174.73, 169.38, 143.01, 141.83, 136.65, 134.45, 126.77, 125.57, 124.51, 120.12, 52.66, 38.94, 36.39, 23.71, 17.74.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₅H₁₇NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 282.1106, found: 280.1110.

Tert-butyl 2-(3-acetamido-1H-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (4d)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.00 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (td, J = 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 3.46 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 6H), 1.42 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 175.43, 169.62, 144.21, 143.67, 140.95, 133.45, 126.68, 125.30, 124.28, 119.88, 80.71, 45.16, 37.96, 28.39, 26.42, 23.67.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{19}H_{25}NO_3 [M+Na]^+ 338.1732$, found: 338.1735.

Benzyl 2-(3-acetamido-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (4e)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.34 (m, 6H), 7.26 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 3.49 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.09, 169.81, 144.09, 143.97, 140.93, 137.23, 133.70, 129.28, 128.77, 128.59, 126.77, 125.45, 124.33, 119.73, 66.71, 44.28, 37.63, 26.23, 23.46.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{22}H_{23}NO_3 [M+Na]^+ 372.1576$, found: 372.1578.

Benzyl (Z)-4-acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-phenylbut-3-enoate (4f)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.91 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.32 (m, 10H), 6.09 – 5.97 (m, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 1.98 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 176.39, 169.90, 139.23, 137.41, 135.07, 131.81, 129.29, 129.11, 128.74, 128.53, 128.48, 126.15, 66.59, 43.68, 27.02, 23.49.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{21}H_{23}NO_3[M+Na]^+$ 360.1576, found: 360.1579.

(Z)-N-(3,3-dimethyl-4-oxo-1-phenylpent-1-en-1-yl) acetamide (4g)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.91 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 210.78, 170.00, 139.30, 135.78, 132.31, 129.10, 128.50, 126.23, 49.48, 26.50, 26.12, 23.30.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{15}H_{19}NO_2[M+Na]^+$ 268.1313, found: 268.1314.

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(1-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl) propanoate (5a)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.72 (ddd, J = 7.6, 1.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (td, J = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (qd, J = 7.2, 0.7 Hz, 2H), 3.34 – 3.22 (m, 1H), 3.04 (dd, J = 8.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd, J = 17.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 206.36, 176.77, 152.90, 137.68, 134.71, 127.51, 126.41, 123.82, 60.89, 53.73, 44.83, 30.42, 23.45, 22.66, 14.15.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{15}H_{18}O_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 269.1154, found: 269.1154.

Ethyl 2,2-dimethyl-4-oxo-4-phenylbutanoate (5b)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.96 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 4.13 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.28 (s, 2H), 1.32 (s, 6H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.77, 177.42, 137.24, 133.15, 128.66, 128.04, 60.63, 48.58, 40.21, 25.89, 14.22.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{14}H_{18}O_3$ [M+Na]⁺257.1154, found: 257.1153

2-(1-acetamido-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoic acid (5c)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.29 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 6.37 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (dd, J = 10.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd, J = 16.0, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dt, J = 9.5, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.85, 170.33, 143.01, 142.60, 128.44, 127.16, 125.00, 124.75, 54.59, 51.93, 42.74, 32.85, 25.94, 25.65, 23.10. HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₅H₁₉NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 284.1263, found: 284.1269

4-Acetamido-2,2-dimethyl-4-phenylbutanoic acid (5d)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 4H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (ddd, *J* = 11.1, 8.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.77 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.85, 170.33, 142.96, 128.77, 127.48, 126.40, , 50.66, 46.45, 41.24, 28.46, 23.17, 23.07.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{14}H_{19}NO_3 [M+Na]^+ 272.1263$, found: 272.1269

Ethyl 2-(1-acetamido-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)-2-methylpropanoate (5e)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.19 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (dd, J = 9.9, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.18 – 4.02 (m, 2H), 3.46 (dd, J = 15.9, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, J = 15.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dt, J = 9.7, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.30 – 1.24 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3) δ 178.68, 169.08, 143.69, 142.45, 128.23, 127.08, 124.95, 124.68, 60.80, 54.39, 51.95, 42.90, 33.03, 26.45, 25.47, 23.59, 14.26.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₇H₂₃NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 312.1576, found: 312.1574.

Ethyl 4-acetamido-2, 2-dimethyl-4-phenylbutanoate (5f)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.36 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 6.00 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (ddd, *J* = 10.9, 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.12 – 4.01 (m, 2H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.75 (dd, *J* = 14.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.29 – 1.24 (m, 6H), 1.23 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.87, 169.01, 143.18, 128.72, 127.39, 126.44, 60.92, 50.78, 45.94, 41.31, 28.36, 23.45, 23.39, 14.27.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{16}H_{23}O_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 300.1576, found: 300.1575

N-(2-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-yl)acetamide (5g)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 5.45 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (dd, J = 15.5, 11.4 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 15.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (dt, J = 11.4, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

169.40, 144.61, 142.62, 128.08, 127.08, 125.32, 124.69, 70.89, 54.88, 50.93, 36.86, 32.01, 24.79, 24.74, 23.92, 23.76.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{15}H_{21}O_2[M+Na]^+270.1470$, found: 270.1476

N-(4-hydroxy-3,3-dimethyl-1-phenylbutyl)acetamide (5h)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.36 – 7.21 (m, 6H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 4.91 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 2H), 1.98 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (q, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.72 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.76 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.82, 143.69, 128.89, 127.52, 126.84, 70.40, 51.43, 44.52, 35.44, 27.03, 23.99, 23.41.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for C₁₄H₂₁NO₂ [M+Na]⁺ 258.1470, found: 258.1475

3, 3-Dimethyl-3, 3a, 4, 8b-tetrahydroindeno[1,2-b]pyrrol-2(1H)-one (5i)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.34 – 7.15 (m, 4H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.90 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.06 – 2.88 (m, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.11 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.15, 143.97, 141.47, 128.77, 127.06, 125.01, 124.78, 60.04, 51.25, 43.09, 33.13, 26.81, 20.69.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{13}H_{15}O[M+Na]^+ 224.1051$, found: 224.1051.

3,3-Dimethyl-5-phenylpyrrolidin-2-one (5j)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.40 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 4.69 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.85 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 1.26

(s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.92, 142.44, 129.03, 128.03, 125.89, 54.88, 47.50, 41.05, 25.23, 24.65.

HRMS (ESI, m/z): calculated for $C_{12}H_{15}NO [M+Na]^+ 212.1051$, found: 212.1050

NMR spectra















































