takneNi(ClO₄)₂-Catalysed Regio- and Diastereoselctive

[3+2] Cycloadditon of Indoles and Aryl

Oxiranyl-dicarboxylates/Diketones: A Facile Access to

Furo[3,4-b]indoles.

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General information.

Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained using a Bruker tensor 27 infrared spectrometer. ¹H NMR spectra, ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz spectrometer in chloroform-d₃. All signals are reported in ppm with the internal TMS signal at 0 ppm as a standard. The data is being reported as (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, br = broad signal, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen in flame-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. ClCH₂CH₂Cl (DCE) and CH₂Cl₂ were freshly distilled from CaH₂; toluene was freshly distilled from sodium metal prior to use. Solid indoles were used directly. Lewis-acid purchased from Alfa, Acros or Aldrich were used directly. 4 Å molecular sieves purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co.,Ltd were powdered and dried at 300 °C in muffle furnace for 8-10 hours prior to use.

Oxiranes are prepared according to the literature (R. Antonioletti, P. Bovicelli, S. Malancona, *Tetrahedron* **2002**, *58*, 589; E. Hasegawa, K. Ishiyama, T. Horaguchi, T. Shimizu, *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 1631.)

Indoles are prepared according to the procedure of the work reported (M. Amat, S. Hadida, S. Sathyanarayana, and J. Bosch, *Org. Syn.* **1998**, *9*, 417; M. B. Johansen and M. A. Kerr, *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 4965; F. Bellina, F. Benelli, and R. Rossi, *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, *73*, 5529. A. K. Verma, J. Singh, R. C. Larock, *Tetrahedron* **2009**, *65*, 8434.)

Typical procedure for Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O catalyzed [3+2] cycloaddition reaction.

1. Synthesis of 3a.



In an inert atmosphere glovebox, a flame-dried vial was charged with 5 mol % $Ni(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O_5 60.0$ mg of activated 4Å molecular sieves (M.S.), and a magnetic stir

bar. Outside of the glovebox, the vial was placed under an N₂ atmosphere and charged with 1 mL of CH₂Cl₂ followed by the indole **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol). Afterwards, **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol) and 2 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 hour. The reaction mixture was then passed over a short column of silica with 25 mL of Et₂O. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with (hexanes:AcOEt = 10:1) to afford 110 mg (92%) of **3a** (exo:endo = 19:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 168-170oC. IR (neat) 2917, 1765, 1742, 1603, 1082, 1052, 1014, 955, 779 cm-1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3): δ 1.00 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.87 (3H, s), 3.78 (3H, s), 3.92 (3H, s), 4.63 (1H, s), 5.24 (1H, s), 6.61 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 6.72-6.87 (2H, m), 7.09-7.30 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.3, 21.1, 38.6, 52.4, 53.2, 56.6, 87.1, 90.0, 90.3, 109.7, 118.9, 122.8, 126.4, 128.6, 132.7, 133.3, 137.4, 152.4, 168.3, 168.5. MS (EI) m/z(%): 395[M⁺] (4.25), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₅ 395.1733, found 395.1734.

2. Synthesis of 3b.



The reaction of **1b** (83.5 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 2 hours to afford 100.0 mg (79%) of **3b** (exo:endo = 18:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 103-104 °C. IR (neat) 2980, 2862, 2810, 1761, 1739, 1600, 1516, 1486, 1464, 1370, 1279, 1254, 1218, 1152, 1134, 1109, 1076, 1051, 1000, 772, 753 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.00 (3H, s), 1.25 (3H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 1.38 (3H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 2.35 (3H, s), 2.88 (3H, s), 4.10-4.20 (1H, m), 4.25-4.50 (3H, m), 4.65 (1H, s), 5.28 (1H, s), 6.59 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.77 (1H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 6.85

(1H, d, J = 6.4 Hz), 6.95-7.30 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.0, 20.5, 21.1, 38.6, 56.5, 61.6, 62.2, 86.8, 90.0, 90.2, 109.5, 118.8, 122.7, 126.4, 128.48, 128.51, 132.8, 133.5, 137.3, 152.4, 167.8, 168.0. MS (EI) m/z(%): 423[M⁺] (1.49), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₅H₂₉NO₅ 423.2046, found 423.2045.

3. Synthesis of 3c.



The reaction of **1c** (90.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 2 hours to afford 105.9 mg (79%) of **3c** (exo:endo = 20:1), *exo*, colourless oil. IR (neat) 2966, 2256, 1744, 1649, 1607, 1514, 1487, 1452, 1296, 1274, 1252, 1136, 1075, 1051, 991, 753, 730 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.01 (3H, s), 2.35 (3H, s), 2.86 (3H, s), 4.58 (1H, d, J = 13.2 Hz), 4.66 (1H, s), 4.70-4.91 (3H, m), 5.20 (1H, d, J = 10.0 Hz), 5.25-5.39 (3H, m), 5.43 (1H, d, J = 17.2 Hz), 5.79-5.90 (1H, m), 5.90-6.05 (1H, m), 6.59 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.71-6.82 (1H, m), 6.82-6.91 (1H, m), 7.09-7.33 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.4, 21.1, 38.7, 56.6, 66.1, 66.5, 86.9, 90.1, 90.3, 109.6, 118.6, 118.7, 118.8, 122.7, 126.4, 128.5, 128.9, 131.2, 132.7, 133.4, 137.4, 152.4, 167.4, 167.6. MS (EI) m/z(%): 447[M⁺] (1.48), 39(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₇H₂₉NO₅ 447.2046, found 447.2047.

4. Synthesis of 3d.

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The reaction of **1d** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 16 hours to afford 79.4 mg (68%) of **3d** (exo:endo = 14:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 157-159 °C. IR (neat) 2951, 1766, 1739, 1608, 1486, 1433, 1299, 1222, 1137, 1053, 992, 954, 750 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.01 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.88 (3H, s), 3.78 (3H, s), 3.94 (3H, s), 4.65 (1H, s), 5.25 (1H, s), 6.62 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 6.72-6.92 (3H, m), 7.01-7.35 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.3, 21.5, 38.6, 52.4, 53.3, 56.6, 87.1, 90.0, 90.4, 109.7, 118.9, 122.8, 123.6, 127.0, 127.8, 128.6, 132.6, 136.2, 137.5, 152.5, 168.3, 168.4. MS (EI) m/z(%): 395[M⁺] (4.76), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₅ 395.1733, found 395.1735.

5. Synthesis of 3e.



The reaction of **1e** (78.3 mg, 0.29 mmol), **2a** (64.6 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 45 mins to afford 78.6 mg (65%) of **3e** (exo:endo = 18:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 165-167 °C. IR (neat) 2952, 1765, 1742, 1605, 1284, 1097, 1081, 1054, 1035, 1081, 733 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.00 (3H, s), 2.87 (3H, s), 3.78 (3H, s), 3.81 (3H, s), 3.92 (3H, s), 4.64 (1H, s), 5.21 (1H, s), 6.61 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.70-6.87 (2H, m), 6.89 (2H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.15-7.29 (3H, m).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.2, 38.6, 52.4, 53.3, 55.1, 56.6, 87.0, 89.9, 90.3, 109.7, 113.3, 118.9, 122.7, 127.7, 128.3, 128.5, 132.7, 152.4, 159.3, 168.3, 168.4. MS (EI) m/z(%): 411[M⁺] (2.65), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₆ 411.1682, found 411.1680.

6. Synthesis of 3f.



The reaction of **1f** (79.8 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 24 hours to afford 64.9 mg (53%) of **3f** (exo:endo = 10:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 132-133 °C. IR (neat) 2954, 1770, 1746, 1603, 1485, 1462, 1435, 1299, 1280, 1252, 1221, 1140, 1113, 1096, 1079, 1048, 1024, 993, 944, 794, 768 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.03 (3H, s), 2.91 (3H, s), 3.64 (3H, s), 3.68 (3H, s), 3.92 (3H, s), 4.57 (1H, s), 5.86 (1H, s), 6.54 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.72 (1H, t, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 6.82-7.03 (3H, m), 7.15 (1H, t, 7.2 Hz), 7.22-7.35 (1H, m), 7.48 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 22.0, 37.4, 52.4, 53.2, 54.5, 56.7, 84.9, 86.3, 90.0, 108.4, 109.9, 118.0, 120.1, 124.0, 125.6, 128.2, 128.2, 128.7, 133.6, 151.6, 156.3, 168.7, 168.8. MS (EI) m/z(%) 411 [M⁺] (1.97), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₆ 411.1682, found 411.1681.

7. Synthesis of 3g.



The reaction of **1g** (97.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 30 mins to afford 97.4 mg (69%) of **3g** (exo:endo = 21:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 170-172 °C. IR (neat) 2953, 1745, 1591, 1237, 1124, 1075, 1064, 1016, 1000, 957, 754 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.05 (3H, s), 2.88 (3H, s), 3.81 (3H, s), 3.84 (6H, s), 3.86 (3H, s), 3.94 (3H, s), 4.64 (1H, s), 5.20 (1H, s), 6.53 (2H, s), 6.64 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.75-6.85 (1H, m), 6.92 (1H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 7.18-7.25 (1H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 19.9, 38.6, 52.4, 53.2, 56.0, 56.6, 60.7, 87.0, 89.8, 90.2, 103.6, 109.8, 118.6, 122.7, 128.7, 131.8, 132.3, 137.5, 152.5, 152.8, 168.1, 168.2. MS (EI) m/z(%): 471[M⁺] (2.96), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₅H₂₉NO₈ 471.1893, found 471.1891.

8. Synthesis of 3h.



The reaction of **1h** (70.9 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 10 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0. 03 mmol, 11.0 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 38 hours to afford 80.8 mg (71%) of **3h** (exo:endo = 20:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 167-169 °C. IR (neat) 2959, 1765, 1746, 1605, 1485, 1454, 1434, 1297, 1261, 1225, 1137, 1081, 1060, 1021, 758, 706 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.00 (3H, s), 2.88 (3H, s), 3.79 (3H, s), 3.93 (3H, s), 4.65 (1H, s), 5.28 (1H, s), 6.62 (1H, d, *J* = 8 Hz), 6.76-6.90 (2H, m), 7.21 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.28-7.45 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.3, 38.6, 52.5, 53.3, 56.6, 87.0, 90.0, 90.4, 109.7, 118.9, 122.8, 126.5, 127.9, 127.9, 128.6, 132.5, 136.3, 152.4, 168.3, 168.4. MS (ESI) m/z(%): 382[M+H⁺] (100.00). HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₄NO₅ [M+H⁺]382.1649, found 382.1646.

9. Synthesis of 3i.

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The reaction of **1i** (81.2 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 10 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.03 mmol, 11.0 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 48 hours to afford 88.5 mg (71%) of **3i** (exo:endo = 12:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 185-187 °C. IR (neat) 2910, 1766, 1743, 1604, 1485, 1331, 1290, 1253, 1152, 1084, 1053, 1015, 996, 757 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.99 (3H, s), 2.87 (3H, s), 3.80 (3H, s), 3.93 (3H, s), 4.65 (3H, s), 5.24 (1H, s), 5.62 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.75-6.88 (2H, m), 7.18-7.40 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.0, 38.6, 52.5, 53.3, 56.6, 87.0, 89.3, 90.4, 109.9, 119.0, 122.6, 127.8, 128.1, 128.8, 132.1, 133.6, 134.9, 152.4, 168.1, 168.2. MS (EI) m/z(%): 417[M⁺+2] (0.58), 415[M⁺] (1.75), 144(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₂ClNO₅ 415.1187, found 415.1187.

10. Synthesis of 3j.



The reaction of **1j**(99.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 20 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.06 mmol, 22.0 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out in a sealed tube at 60 °C. for 4 days to afford an inseparable mixture 96.5 mg (69%) of **3j** (exo:endo = 10:1), colourless oil. IR (neat) 2954, 1744, 1607, 1487, 1372, 1273, 1250, 1152, 1078, 1023, 995, 955, 910, 751, 730, 682 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.12 (3H, s), 2.91 (3H, s), 2.35 (3H, s), 3.71 (3H, s), 3.91 (3H, s), 4.61 (1H, s), 5.91 (1H, s), 6.55 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 6.73 (1H, t, *J* = 6.4

Hz), 6.99 (1H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.10-7.23 (2H, m), 7.34 (1H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 7.54 (2H, d, J = 5.2 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.4, 37.5, 52.5, 53.3, 57.0, 86.1, 88.0, 89.8, 108.7, 118.5, 122.8, 124.3, 126.8, 128.6, 129.5, 130.0, 132.2, 133.0, 136.1, 151.5, 168.2, 168.4. MS (EI) m/z(%): 461[M⁺+2] (14.49), 459[M⁺] (15.01), 158(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₂BrNO₅ 459.0681, found 459.0682.

11. Synthesis of 3k.



The reaction of **1k** (61.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2a** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 24 hours to afford 53.3 mg (51%) of **3k** and 19.0 mg (18%) of **3k'**. **3k**, *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 137-138 °C IR (neat) 2970, 2868, 1729, 1701, 1607, 1484, 1452, 1348, 1296, 1253, 1206, 1153, 1129, 1081, 1053, 1021, 903, 883, 747, 697 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.87 (3H, s), 2.37 (3H, s), 2.42 (3H, s), 2.72 (3H, s), 4.57 (1H, s), 5.26 (1H, s), 6.66 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.82 (1H, t, *J* = 6.8Hz), 6.87 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.20-7.32 (3H, m), 7.32-7.48 (3H, m). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 18.4, 26.2, 27.5, 38.3, 56.2, 86.0, 90.6, 98.1, 110.2, 119.1, 122.8, 126.2, 128.1, 128.2, 128.8, 132.6, 136.7, 152.3, 201.1, 207.5. MS (EI) m/z(%): 349[M⁺] (22.33), 158(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₃NO₃ 349.1678, found 349.1679.

3k', *endo*, colourless oil. IR (neat) 2961, 2869, 1726, 1707, 1603, 1489, 1454, 1353, 1300, 1200, 1154, 1132, 1068, 1025, 911, 887, 755, 732, 700 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.44 (3H, s), 2.20 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.75 (3H, s), 4.62 (2H, s), 5.58 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.31 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.46 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.02 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.15 (2H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 7.25-7.35 (3H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ 25.4, 25.9, 38.4, 58.9, 81.6, 90.0, 98.1, 108.3, 117.9, 125.4, 126.9, 127.9, 128.3, 128.4, 131.0, 136.4, 152.9, 203.7, 206.4. MS (EI) m/z(%): 349[M⁺] (13.12), 158(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₃NO₃ 349.1678, found 349.1681.

12. Synthesis of 3m.



The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2b** (77.0 mg, 0.33 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 2 hours to afford 110.2 mg (77%) of **3m** (exo:endo = 20:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 137-139 °C. IR (neat) 2951, 1767, 1742, 1605, 1515, 1486, 1453, 1437, 1310, 1294, 1217, 1150, 1085, 1056, 751, 736, 702 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.94 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 3.43 (3H, s), 3.91 (3H, s), 4.32 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 4.64 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 4.91 (1H, s), 5.42 (1H, s), 6.48 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.78 (1H, t, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 6.86 (1H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 7.10 (1H, t, 7.2 Hz), 7.15-7.40 (9H, m). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.3, 21.2, 52.7, 53.3, 55.0, 56.6, 84.5, 90.0, 90.3, 110.4, 119.1, 122.8, 126.5, 126.9, 127.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 133.2, 133.4, 137.5, 138.0, 151.6, 168.4, 168.5. MS (ESI) m/z(%): 472[M+H⁺](100.00). HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₉H₂₉NO₅Na [M+Na⁺] 494.1938, found 494.1939.

13. Synthesis of 3n.

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The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2c** (77.9 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 2 hours to afford 89.7 mg (70%) of **3n** (exo:endo = 20:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 89-90 °C. IR (neat) 2954, 1744, 1604, 1516, 1483, 1436, 1279, 1248, 1224, 1152, 1082, 1055, 1016, 911, 754, 731 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.98 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 3.66-3.73 (1H, m), 3.75 (3H, s), 3.91 (3H, s), 4.01 (1H, d, *J* = 16.4Hz), 4.87 (1H, s), 5.23 (1H, d, *J* = 11.2 Hz), 5.31 (1H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 5.70-5.86 (1H, m), 6.69 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.72-6.81 (1H, m), 6.81-6.87 (1H, m), 7.09-7.30 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 20.5, 21.2, 52.7, 53.0, 53.2, 56.4, 83.6, 90.1, 90.6, 110.4, 118.2, 119.0, 122.8, 126.4, 128.4, 128.6, 132.9, 133.3, 133.4, 137.4, 151.1, 168.4, 168.6. MS (EI) m/z(%): 421[M⁺] (0.55), 139(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₅H₂₇NO₅ 421.1889, found 421.1885.

14. Synthesis of 3o.



The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2d** (59.0 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 24 hours to afford 75.5 mg (66%) of **3o**, pale yellow solid. M.p.: 73-75 °C. IR (neat) 3362, 2953, 1744, 1610, 1516, 1485, 1436, 1279, 1250, 1226, 1136, 1079, 1041, 943, 751 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02

(3H, s), 2.35 (3H, s), 3.84 (3H, s), 3.90 (3H, s), 4.29 (1H, s), 5.10 (1H, d, J = 2.4 Hz), 5.16 (1H, s), 6.67 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.72-6.86 (2H, m), 7.09-7.20 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 18.1, 21.2, 52.8, 53.4, 57.4, 78.9, 89.6, 90.3, 110.2, 119.2, 123.3, 126.3, 128.5, 128.6, 132.0, 133.2, 137.4, 148.8, 168.1, 168.7. MS (ESI) m/z(%): 404[M+Na⁺] (93.00), 382(100.00). HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₂H₂₃NO₅Na [M+Na⁺] 404.1468, found 404.1467.

15. Synthesis of 3p.



The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2e** (77.9 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 2 hours to afford 98.2 mg (81%) of **3p** (exo:endo = 17:1), *exo*, white solid. M.p.: 155-157 °C. IR (neat) 2963, 2919, 1767, 1743, 1607, 1486, 1460, 1440, 1294, 1250, 1221, 1128, 1114, 1084, 1054, 1022, 997, 952, 747, 671 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.60 (3H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 1.07-1.43 (2H, m), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.87 (3H, s), 3.77 (3H, s), 3.92 (3H, s), 4.76 (1H, s), 5.31 (1H, s), 6.59 (1H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.75-6.87 (2H, m), 7.09-7.21 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.4, 21.2, 23.9, 38.5, 52.4, 53.2, 61.4, 82.0, 90.8, 90.9, 109.6, 118.9, 123.0, 126.6, 128.4, 128.6, 130.3, 133.3, 137.4, 153.1, 168.5, 168.6. MS (EI) m/z(%): 409[M⁺] (29.52), 135(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₄H₂₇NO₅ 409.1888, found 409.1889.

16. Synthesis of 3q.

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The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2f** (65.3 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 38 hours to afford 88.8 mg (75%) of **3q**, pale brown solid. M.p.: 77-79 °C. IR (neat) 3375, 3055, 2928, 2852, 1769, 1730, 1610, 1517, 1485, 1466, 1436, 1284, 1245, 1221, 1113, 1076, 1042, 1019, 954, 921, 826, 751, 681 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.71 (3H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 1.10-1.30 (1H, m), 1.30-1.52 (1H, m), 2.34 (3H, s), 3.84 (3H, s), 3.89 (3H, s), 4.25 (1H, d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 5.20 (1H, s), 5.31 (1H, d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 6.67 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 6.70-6.85 (2H, m), 7.00-7.21 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.3, 21.1, 21.8, 52.6, 53.2, 62.2, 73.7, 90.4, 90.6, 110.0, 119.0, 123.3, 126.4, 128.3, 128.4, 129.4, 133.0, 137.3, 149.3, 168.1, 168.7. MS (EI) m/z(%): 395[M⁺] (17.83), 135(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₃H₂₅NO₅ 395.1733, found 395.1735.

17. Synthesis of 3r.



The reaction of **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2g** (70.8 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 24 hours to afford 96.4 mg (79%) of **3r**, white solid. M.p.: 148-149 °C. IR (neat) 2959, 1773, 1738, 1642, 1607, 1253, 1111, 1076, 1017, 926, 755 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.95-2.10 (1H, m), 2.10-2.20 (1H, m), 2.35 (3H, s), 3.83 (3H, s), 3.89 (3H, s), 4.23 (1H, d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 4.91-5.10 (2H, m),

5.22 (1H, s), 5.29 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz), 5.36-5.49 (1H, m), 6.65 (1H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.77 (1H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 6.85 (1H, d, J = 7.2 Hz), 7.09-7.25 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.2, 34.2, 52.6, 53.2, 61.3, 74.3, 90.2, 90.7, 110.2, 118.5, 119.1, 123.5, 126.4, 128.5, 128.6, 129.3, 132.8, 134.3, 137.5, 149.2, 168.0, 168.6. MS (EI) m/z(%): 407[M⁺] (19.61), 135(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₄H₂₅NO₅ 407.1733, found 407.1734.

18. Synthesis of 3s



The reaction of **1a** (50.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), **2h** (61.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), 40.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.01 mmol, 3.7 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 8 hours to afford 61.2 mg (67%) of **3s** (exo:endo > 20:1), white solid. M.p.: 147-148 °C. IR (neat) 2971, 2878, 1743, 1595, 1499, 1480, 1453, 1435, 1271, 1245, 1137, 1088, 1072, 1047, 1021, 964, 765, 702 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.07 (3H, s), 2.37 (3H, s), 3.14 (3H, s), 3.90 (3H, s), 5.51 (1H, s), 5.73 (1H, s), 6.78-6.88 (2H, m), 6.92 (1H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 7.07-7.25 (6H, m), 7.35-7.45 (4H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 19.6, 21.2, 51.9, 53.3, 56.3, 81.8, 89.0, 90.3, 108.9, 119.7, 123.1, 124.3, 126.5, 128.3, 128.6, 129.0, 132.5, 133.5, 137.6, 143.2, 148.4, 167.6, 168.5. MS (EI) m/z(%): 457[M⁺] (39.51), 135(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₈H₂₇NO₅ 457.1889, found 457.1890.

19. Synthesis of 3t.

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The reaction of **1a** (74.7 mg, 0.3 mmol), **2i** (93.2 mg, 0.45 mmol), 60.0 mg of activated 4Å M.S. and 5 mol % Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (0.015 mmol, 5.5 mg) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was carried out at r.t. for 48 hours to afford 52.5 mg (38%) of **3t** (exo : endo = 4:1), white solid. M.p.: 171-173 °C. IR (neat) 3030, 2897, 1752, 1607, 1556, 1493, 1438, 1405, 1372, 1336, 1231, 1219, 1170, 1107, 1022, 935, 808, 752, 703 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.36 (3H, s), 3.53 (3H, s), 3.55 (6H, s), 4.42 (1H, s), 6.01 (1H, s), 7.18 (3H, d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.28-7.45 (9H, m), 7.67 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.1, 31.2, 52.6, 52.7, 75.0, 76.2, 109.3, 119.92, 119.94, 121.0, 123.0, 126.0, 126.4, 126.7, 128.5, 129.2, 130.0, 130.9, 133.9, 136.1, 137.5, 138.0, 166.4, 167.1. MS (EI) m/z(%): 457[M⁺] (65.36), 310(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₈H₂₇NO₅ 457.1889, found 457.1887.

3t', *endo*, 13.6 mg, white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.22 (3H, s), 2.94 (3H, s), 3.74 (3H, s), 3.96 (3H, s), 5.12 (1H, s), 5.71 (1H, s), 6.64 (1H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.88 (1H, td, ⁴J = 0.6 Hz, ³J = 7.4 Hz), 6.94 (2H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.04-7.19 (7H, m), 7.23-7.28 (1H, m), 7.34 (1H, d, J = 7.4 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.1, 37.6, 52.5, 53.5, 65.4, 87.4, 91.5, 92.2, 109.6, 118.6, 126.2, 126.4, 127.1, 127.6, 127.8, 128.2, 128.8, 130.0, 133.2, 137.0, 141.1, 152.3, 168.3, 168.5. MS (EI) m/z(%): 457[M⁺] (10.91), 207(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₈H₂₇NO₅ 457.1889, found 457.1889.



In an inert atmosphere glovebox, a flame-dried vial was charged with 5 mol % $Ni(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O_160.0$ mg of activated 4Å molecular sieves (M.S.), and a magnetic stir bar. Outside of the glovebox, the vial was placed under an N₂ atmosphere and charged with 1 mL of CH₂Cl₂ followed by the indole **2a** (43.8 mg, 0.3 mmol). Afterwards, **1a** (75.0 mg, 0.3 mmol), **1e** (79.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) and 2 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 30 mins until **2a** disappeared monitored by TLC. After standard work-up, this experiment gave the products **3a** and **3e** in 15% and 78% ¹H NMR yield, respectively.

Procedure for competing experiment using 1a versus 1e with 2a

Procedure for demethoxycarboxylatiaon of 3a



The solution of **3a** (79.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) and NaCl (14.7 mg, 0.25 mmol) in DMSO/H₂O (20:1) was heated to 160 °C under N₂. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature after 5 hours, then it was poured into 5 ml water, extracted with ethyl ether (3*5 mL), washed with water (2*5 mL). The solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with (hexanes:AcOEt = 20:1) to afford 32.0 mg (45%) of **5a** (dr = 30:1). **5a**, colourless oil. IR (neat) 2953, 2867, 1759, 1735, 1608, 1486, 1451, 1376, 1301, 1200, 1117, 1087, 1038, 1020, 996, 858, 797, 741 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.98 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.90 (3H, s), 3.88 (4H, s), 4.74 (1H, s), 4.88 (1H, s), 6.56 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.73 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.84 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.10-7.21 (3H, m), 7.24-7.35 (2H, m). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 18.7, 21.2, 34.3, 52.3, 55.6, 81.6, 86.2, 88.5, 107.4, 118.1, 123.0, 126.4, 128.5, 128.6, 132.4, 134.2, 137.2, 150.9, 171.6. MS (EI) m/z(%): 337[M⁺] (28.24), 158(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₁H₂₃NO₃ 337.1678, found 337.1676.

5a', ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02 (3H, s), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.82 (3H, s), 3.78 (3H, s), 4.15(1H, d, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 5.06 (1H, s), 5.11 (1H, d, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 6.60 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.77 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.84 (1H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.12-7.24 (5H, m). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃): δ 19.8, 21.2, 38.2, 51.8, 56.8, 80.4, 84.4, 88.0, 109.4, 118.7, 122.9, 126.5, 128.5, 128.6, 132.4, 134.0, 137.3, 152.5, 171.4. MS (EI) m/z(%): 337[M⁺] (27.67), 158(100.00). HRMS (EI): calcd for C₂₁H₂₃NO₃ 337.1678, found 337.1680.

Procedure for Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O /BOX catalyzed cycloaddition of oxirane 1a with 1,3-dimethyl-1H-indole 2d

In an inert atmosphere, a flame-dried vial was charged with a maganetic stir bar, 60.0 mg of activated 4Å molecular sieves (M.S.), Ni(ClO₄)₂•6H₂O (8.1 mg, 5 mol%), BOX **4** (6.5 mg, 5.5 mol%) and 2.0 mL of DCM. The mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at room temperature. Then, indole **2d** (69.8 mg, 0.52 mmol,) was added, followed by oxirane **1a** (110.5 mg, 0.44 mmol) and 1.0 mL of DCM. The mixture was continued to stir at room temperature for further 5 d. The products were obtained by flash chromatography providing isolated yield of 72%. The enantiomeric excess of product was determined by chiral HPLC. HPLC analysis: Chiralcel AD-H (hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 0.8 mL/min), t_{minor} = 7.66 min, t_{major} = 8.27 min, ee = 19%.

HPLC spectra

Racemic of product of 30



序号	保留时间	峰名称	峰高	峰面积	相对峰面积	样品量	类型
	min		mAU	mAU*min	%		
1	7.73	n.a.	102.975	27.193	50.37	n.a.	BMB
2	8.55	n.a.	96.752	26.793	49.63	n.a.	BMB
总和:			199.728	53.986	100.00	0.000	

Enantioenriched product of 30







NMR spectra



3a



3b









3e



3f

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3f



3g



3h





3j



3k



3k'



3m



3m



3n

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30





30



3p



3q



3r



3s



200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 ppm



3t'





3t'



5a



