Support Information

A Trans Diacyloxylation of Indoles

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General Considerations

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk techniques. Unless otherwise stated, analytical grade solvents and commercially available reagents were used as received. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum ether (bp. 30-60 °C). Gradient flash chromatography was conducted eluting with a continuous gradient from petroleum ether to the ethyl acetate, which were listed below as volume/volume ratios. All new compounds were characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and HRMS. The known compounds were characterized by ¹H NMR. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 300 MHz NMR spectrometer. The characterization data of 1q and 4q were reported by us previously. [1] The chemical shifts (δ) were given in part per million relative to internal tetramethylsilane (TMS, 0 ppm for ¹H) and CDCl₃ (77.3 ppm for ¹³C). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured with a Waters Micromass GCT instrument and accurate masses were reported for the molecular ion (M⁺). X-ray crystallographic analysis was manipulated on a Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer. All the structures were analyzed at 298 K using graphite monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073\text{Å}$) and solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 program.

Experimental Procedures

General procedure for the synthesis of *tert*-butyl 1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate from substituted indoles with di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (5 mmol scale). A 50 mL flask equipped with a stir-bar was charged with substituted indole (5 mmol) and *N*, *N*-dimethylpyridin-4-amine (DMAP) (5.0 mmol). 10 mL of THF was added to the flask and the solution was stirred under room temperature. To the mixture (*tert*-butyl carbonic) 3, 3-dimethylbutanoic anhydride (10 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature and monitored by TLC. After reaction the mixture was then quenched by water (20 mL) and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL). Combined organic phase were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture eluent of petroleum ether, ethyl acetate. After concentrating the fractions containing the product, the residue was dried under reduced pressure.

General procedure for the synthesis of 1-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone from substituted indoles with acetic anhydride (5 mmol scale). A 25 mL flask equipped with a stir-bar was charged with substituted indole (5 mmol) and *N*, *N*-dimethylpyridin-4-amine (DMAP) (0.4 mmol). 4 mL of

acetic anhydride was added to the flask and the solution was stirred under room temperature. To the mixture 1.3 mL of triethylamine was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight and then quenched by saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL). Combined organic phase were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture eluent of petroleum ether, ethyl acetate. After concentrating the fractions containing the product, the residue was dried under reduced pressure.

Synthesis of 1-(5-(benzyloxy)-1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone 1f from 5-(benzyloxy)-1*H*-indole with acetic anhydride (3 mmol scale) was reference to the literature method.^[2]

Synthesis of (5-methyl-1H-indol-1-yl)(phenyl)methanone 1m from 5-methyl-1H-indole with benzoyl chloride (5 mmol scale) was reference to the literature method. $^{[2]}$

Synthesis of 1-tosyl-1*H*-indole 1n from 1*H*-indole with 4-methylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride (5 mmol scale) was reference to the literature method.^[3]

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ &$$

General procedure for the diacetoxylation reaction of *N*-protected indole derivatives 1 with (diacetoxyiodo)benzene 2 (0.5 mmol scale). A 10 ml Schlenk tube equipped with a stir-bar was charged with substrate (0.5 mmol), (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (1 mmol). The reaction tube was purged with nitrogen. 2 mL of acetic acid was then added to the reaction tube via a syringe. The Schlenk tube was placed in an oil-bath and heated to 70 °C and monitored by TLC. After reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and then quenched by sodium bisulphite solution (10 mL) and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). Combined organic phase were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture eluent of petroleum ether, ethyl acetate. After concentrating the fractions containing the product, the residue was dried under reduced pressure.

General procedure for the diacyloxylation reaction of 1-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone 1a with (diacetoxyiodo)benzene 2 (0.5 mmol scale). A 10 ml Schlenk tube equipped with a stir-bar was charged with substrate (0.5 mmol), (diacetoxyiodo)benzene (1 mmol). The reaction tube was purged with nitrogen. 2 mL of carboxylic acid was then added to the reaction tube via a syringe. The Schlenk tube was placed in an oil-bath and heated to 70 °C for 48 h. After reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and then quenched by sodium bisulphite solution (10 mL) and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). Combined organic phase were washed with saturated sodium carbonate solution (3 x 10 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture eluent of petroleum ether, ethyl acetate. After concentrating the fractions containing the product, the residue was dried under reduced pressure.

Procedure for synthesis of *tert*-butyl 3-acetoxy-5-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate 4g from 1-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-5-methoxyindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate 3g (0.5 mmol scale). A 10 ml Schlenk tube equipped with a stir-bar was charged with substrate (0.5 mmol). The reaction tube was purged with nitrogen. 2 mL of acetic acid was then added to the reaction tube via a syringe. The Schlenk tube was placed in an oil-bath and heated to 70 °C for 13 h. After reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). Combined organic phase were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture eluent of petroleum ether, ethyl acetate (PE/EA=1:70). After concentrating the fractions containing the

product, the residue was dried under reduced pressure.

Table S1. The optimization for the diacetoxylation reaction of $1a^a$

| | 1a | MeCN/HO/ | MeCN/HOAc, 70°C, 1h | |
|----|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| _ | Ia | Ph | I(OAc) ₂ 2 | 3a |
| .= | Entry | HOAc/MeCN ^b | Conversion (%) ^c | Yield (%) ^c |
| | 1 | 1 : 156 | 28 | N.D. |
| | 2 | 1:78 | 26 | N.D. |
| | 3 | 1:39 | 26 | N.D. |
| | 4 | 1:5 | 28 | N.D. |
| | 5 | 1:3 | 16 | 16 |
| | 6 | 1:1 | 39 | 24 |
| | 7 | 3:1 | 65 | 51 |
| | 8 | 5:1 | 90 | 70 |
| | 9 ^d | HOAc | 100 | 78 |

^a Reaction conditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (1 mmol) in 2 mL of MeCN and HOAc mixture at 70 °C. ^b Volume ratio of HOAc to MeCN; ^c Conversion and yield were determined by GC. ^d **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (1 mmol) in 2 mL of HOAc without MeCN at 70 °C

Figure S1. X-Ray crystal structures of 3a and 3b

Characterization of Products and Reactants

OAC I-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)indoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3c): 1c (51 uL, 0.25 BOC mmol), 2 (162.3 mg, 0.50 mmol), HOAc (2 mL), 70 °C, 1 hour. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:50) 70.3 mg (84%) of a light yellow liquid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 7.86 (br, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 1.56 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.2, 169.3, 151.1, 143.5, 131.3, 127.3, 126.6, 123.7, 115.4, 86.8, 82.8, 76.1, 28.6, 21.2, 21.1. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{17}H_{21}NO_6Na$ (M⁺):358.1267; found: 358.1263.

¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.3, 169.4, 155.4, 151.0, 137.0, 128.8, 128.3, 127.8, 118.0, 116.1, 113.6, 86.9, 82.5, 76.2, 70.8, 28.5, 21.2. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₂₄H₂₇NO₇ (M⁺): 441.1788; found: 441.1782.

1-acetyl-5-(benzyloxy)indoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3f): 1f (54.3 mg, 0.2 mmol), **2** (129.1 mg, 0.4 mmol), HOAc (2 mL), 70 °C, 2.5 hours.

After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:20) 58.3 mg (76%) of a white

solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 4.96 (s, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.2, 168.5, 156.2, 137.8, 136.9, 128.9, 128.4, 127.9, 118.5, 117.9, 113.4, 88.1, 76.4, 70.8, 23.3, 21.2. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₂₁H₂₁NO₆ (M⁺):383.1369; found: 383.1367.

1-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-5-methylindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3b): 1b

(55 uL, 0.25 mmol), **2** (162.3 mg, 0.50 mmol), HOAc (2 mL), 70 $^{\rm o}{\rm C},~1$

hour. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 71.8 mg (82%) of a

light yellow solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.66 (br, 1H), 7.19 (br, 1H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.02-2.00 (m, 6H), 1.48 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.2, 169.3, 151.0, 141.2, 133.3, 131.8, 127.7, 126.5, 115.0, 86.9, 82.5, 76.1, 28.5, 21.2, 21.1. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO₆Na (M⁺): 372.1423; found: 372.1421.

1-acetyl-5-methylindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3d): 1d (87.5 mg, 0.50 mmol), 2 (326.1 mg, 1.0 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 1 hour.

After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 125.0 mg (86%) of a

white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.99 (br, 1H), 7.22 (br, 1H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.8, 169.5, 168.4, 141.3, 134.4, 131.6, 127.3, 126.5, 116.9, 87.6, 76.0, 23.1, 20.9. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₅H₁₇NO₅ (M⁺): 291.1107; found: 291.1106.

1-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-5-methoxyindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3g):

1g (62.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), **2** (160.7 mg, 0.50mmol), HOAc (2 mL), 70 °C, 1 hour. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 87.7 mg (96%)

of a white solid was obtained. 1 H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (br, 1H), 7.01 (br, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 9H); 13 C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.3, 169.4, 156.4, 151.2, 137.2, 127.4, 117.1, 116.1, 112.5, 87.1, 82.6, 76.2,56.1, 28.6, 21.3, 21.2. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{18}H_{23}NO_7Na$ (M^+): 388.1373; found: 388.1369.

1-acetyl-5-methoxyindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3h): 1h (97.4 mg, 0.50 mmol), **2** (324.7 mg, 1.0 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 1 hour. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 100.8 mg (66%) of a

white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12-8.09 (m, 1H), 7.02 (br, 1H), 6.95-6.92 (m, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H);

 13 C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.2, 170.0, 168.6, 157.2, 137.6, 128.1, 118.5, 117.0, 112.3, 88.1, 76.4, 56.0, 23.3, 21.2. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{15}H_{17}NO_6Na$ (M⁺): 330.0954; found: 330.0948.

21.2, 21.1. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}BrNO_6$ (M⁺): 413.0474; found: 413.0477.

3 1-Benzyl-5-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl acetate (3j): 1j (239.6 mg, 1.0 mmol), 2 (644.6 mg, 2.0 mmol), HOAc (8 mL), 70 °C, 23 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 263.8 mg (74%) of a white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.09 (br, 1H), 7.65-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.49 (m, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.20-2.10 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.7, 169.5, 168.6, 142.6, 133.9, 130.0, 128.7, 118.7, 117.0, 87.4, 75.4, 23.1, 20.8. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₄BrNO₅ (M⁺): 355.0055; found: 355.0052.

After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 83.2 mg (90%) of a light yellow liquid was obtained.
¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.76 (br, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.7, 168.6, 150.9, 145.2, 132.7, 132.2, 123.9, 113.8, 86.4, 83.3, 74.4, 28.5, 21.1, 21.0. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}NO_6CINa$ (M^+): 392.0877; found: 392.0871.

OAC

1-benzoyl-5-methylindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3m): 1m (118.5 mg ,0.5 mmol), 2 (322.6 mg, 1 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 7 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 125.9 mg (71%) of a white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.73 (br, 1H), 7.56-7.42 (m, 5H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.7, 169.0, 168.8, 141.1, 135.1, 134.7, 131.3, 130.8, 128.5, 127.6, 126.7, 116.9, 105.4, 88.2, 75.5, 20.8, 20.5. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₂₀H₁₉NO₅ (M⁺): 353.1263; found: 353.1260.

OAc 1-benzoyl-5-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl acetate (4m): 1m (118.5 mg ,0.5 mmol), 2 (322.6 mg, 1 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 7 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 23.4 mg (16%) of a white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.8, 168.2, 134.6, 134.3, 134.1, 132.2, 132.0, 129.4, 128.9, 127.7, 124.5, 117.7, 116.6, 116.1, 21.8, 21.3. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₅NO₃ (M⁺): 293.1052; found: 293.1055.

OAC

1-tosylindoline-2, 3-diyl diacetate (3n): 1n (271.4 mg, 1.0 mmol), 2 (644.6 mg, 2 mmol), HOAc (6 mL), 70 °C, 19 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:5) 287.8 mg (74%) of a white solid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 5.69 (s, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.4, 169.0, 144.5, 142.4, 135.2, 131.2, 129.6, 127.5, 127.3, 124.7, 115.2, 88.4, 76.0, 21.5, 20.8, 20.5. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₉H₁₉NO₆S (M⁺): 389.0933; found: 389.0938.

Diethyl 1-acetylindoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (3r) 1a (80.2 mg, 0.5 mmol),

2 (323.0 mg, 1 mmol), EtCOOH (4 mL), 70 °C, 40 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:50) 95.6 mg (63%) of a light yellow liquid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.5

Hz, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 2.41-2.31 (m, 4H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.06-1.00 (m, 6H); 13 C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.7, 172.5, 168.9, 143.3, 130.8, 126.9, 124.3, 116.1, 86.9, 75.3, 26.5, 23.0, 8.7, 8.5. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{16}H_{19}NO_5$ (M⁺): 305.1263; found: 305.1261.

Diheptyl 1-acetylindoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (3s) 1a (80.2 mg, 0.5 mmol), 2 (322.2 mg, 1 mmol), $C_7H_{15}COOH$ (4 mL), 70 °C, 40 hours.

After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:50) 110.4 mg (50%) of a light yellow liquid was obtained. 1 H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 2.39-2.30 (m, 4H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.54 (br, 4H), 1.22 (br, 16H), 0.85-0.81 (m, 6H); 13 C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.0, 168.8, 130.8, 126.8, 124.3, 116.1, 87.0, 75.2, 33.1, 31.0, 28.1, 24.2, 24.0, 21.9, 13.8. HRMS (APCI) calculated for $C_{26}H_{35}NO_{5}$ (M $^{+}$): 445.2828; found: 445.2829.

2 (323.1 mg, 1 mmol), PivOH (4 mL), 70 °C, 40 hours. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:50) 63.4 mg (35%) of a light yellow liquid was obtained. ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 18H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.5, 176.2, 169.0, 143.2, 130.8, 126.6, 126.4, 124.3, 116.1, 87.9, 75.8, 26.5, 26.4, 22.9. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₇NO₅ (M[†]): 361.1889; found: 361.1892.

Diheptyl 1-acetylindoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (3t) 1a (80.2 mg, 0.5 mmol),

(M⁺): 289.1314; found: 289.1310.

OAC *tert*-butyl 3-acetoxy-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (4o): 1o (115.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), 2a (324.6 mg, 1.0 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 1 hour. After column chromatography (PE/EA=1:50) 118.7 mg (82%) of a white solid was obtained.

¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H). 1.59 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.3, 150.8, 134.0, 131.9, 126.9, 124.4, 123.5, 123.1, 116.8, 116.1, 84.3, 28.6, 20.9, 12.9. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₉NO₄

MeO Neo (174.8 MeO) Neo (174.8 mg, 0.48 mmol), HOAc (4 mL), 70 °C, 13 hours. After column box chromatography (PE/EA=1:70) 90.6 mg (62%) of a white solid was obtained with 27% of substrate recovery. H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.04 (br, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 6.97-6.92 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 9H); HOAC (184.0, 56.0, 28.5, 21.3. HRMS (APCI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₉NO₅Na (M⁺): 328.1161; found: 328.1159.

tert-butyl 1H-indole-1-carboxylate (1c) 1 H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.15 (d, Boc J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 3 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (s, 9H). [4]

tert-butyl 5-methyl-1H-indole-1-carboxylate (1b) 1 H NMR (300MHz, Boc CDCl₃): δ 7.91 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.7

Hz, 1H), 6.37-6.36 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 9H). [2]

MeO tert-butyl 5-methoxy-1H-indole-1-carboxylate (1g)
1
H NMR (300MHz, Boc CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 9H). $^{[2]}$

BnO tert-butyl 5-(benzyloxy)-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (1e)
1
H NMR Boc (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.01-7.00 (m, 1H), 6.92 (dd, JI = 9.0 Hz, $J2$ = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (s, 2H), 1.58 (s, 9H). [5]

Br tert-butyl 5-bromo-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (1i) ¹H NMR (300MHz, Boc CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 7.92 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.39-6.38 (m, 1H), 1.56 (s, 9H). ^[6]

CI tert-butyl 4-chloro-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (1k) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta 7.97 \text{ (t, } J = 4.2 \text{ Hz, } 1\text{H), } 7.53 \text{ (d, } J = 3.3 \text{ Hz, } 1\text{H), } 7.12 \text{ (d, } J = 4.5 \text{ Hz, } 2\text{H), } 6.59$$

$$\text{(d, } J = 3.6 \text{ Hz, } 1\text{H), } 1.58 \text{ (s, } 9\text{H).}^{[7]}$$

tert-butyl 3-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (1o)
1
H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):

Boc 8.17 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 9H). $^{[4]}$

tert-butyl 2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (1p) ¹H NMR (300MHz, Boc CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 8.04 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.14 (m, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 9H). ^[8]

1-(5-methyl-1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone (1d) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 8.20 Ac (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (s, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.45-6.44 (m, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ^[2]

1-(5-bromo-1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone (**1j**) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 8.23 Ac (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 2H), 6.48-6.47(m, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H). ^[2]

1-(4-chloro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone (1l) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 8.26 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 4.2 Ac

BnO **1-(5-(benzyloxy)-1*H*-indol-1-yl)ethanone (1f)** ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): Ac
$$\delta$$
 8.24 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.25 (m, 6H), 6.99-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). [12]

(5-methyl-1*H*-indol-1-yl)(phenyl)methanone (1m) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 8.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.14-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.42 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ^[2]

1-tosyl-1*H*-indole (1n) ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃):
$$\delta$$
 7.99 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), Ts 7.76 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 5H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ^[9]

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X-Ray Crystallographic data

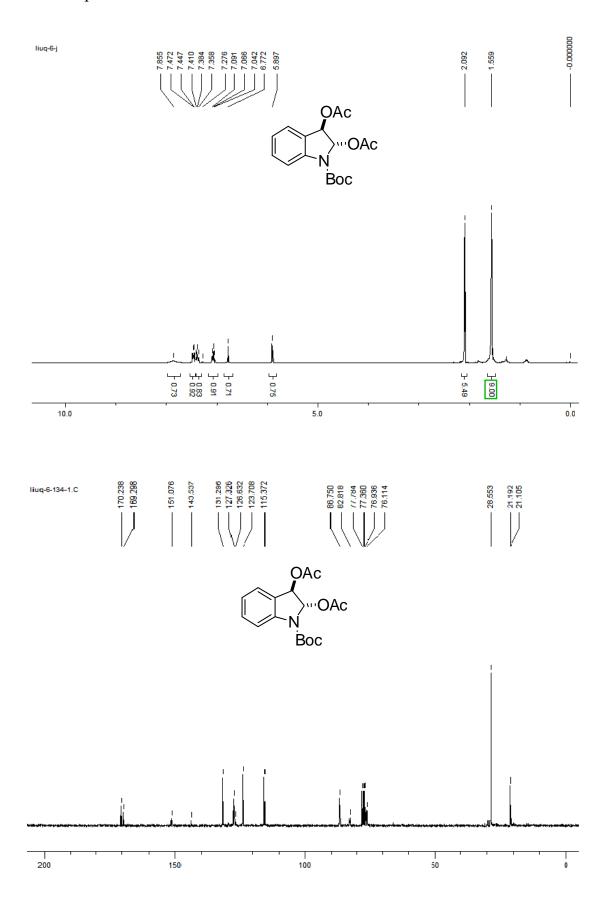
Single crystals of product $\bf 3a$ suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis were obtained via slow evaporation of CH₂Cl₂-CH₃OH solution. Crystal data of $\bf 3a$ (C14 H15 N1 O5): Mw = 277.27, Space group P21/c, Z=4, Bond precision: C-C = 0.0035 A, Wavelength=0.71073; Cell: a=8.8633(10) b=18.912(2) c=8.4229(9); alpha=90, beta=94.108(2), gamma=90, V=1408.2, R(reflections)= 0.0595(2132) wR2(reflections)= 0.1555(2529).

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Centre with deposition No. CCDC 822882. Copy of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ UK (Email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Single crystals of product **3b** suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis were obtained via slow evaporation of CH_2Cl_2 – CH_3OH solution. Crystal data of **3b** (C18 H23 N1 O6): Mw = 349.37, Space group P-1, Z=4, Bond precision: C-C = 0.0052 A, Wavelength= 0.71073; Cell: a=9.1850(7) b=13.9246(11) c=16.2335(13); alpha=75.704(2) beta=87.418(2) gamma=72.161(2), V=1914.1, R(reflections)= 0.0638(3393) wR2(reflections)= 0.1515(7448).

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Centre with deposition No. CCDC 822881. Copy of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ UK (Email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

NMR Spectra of Products and Reactants



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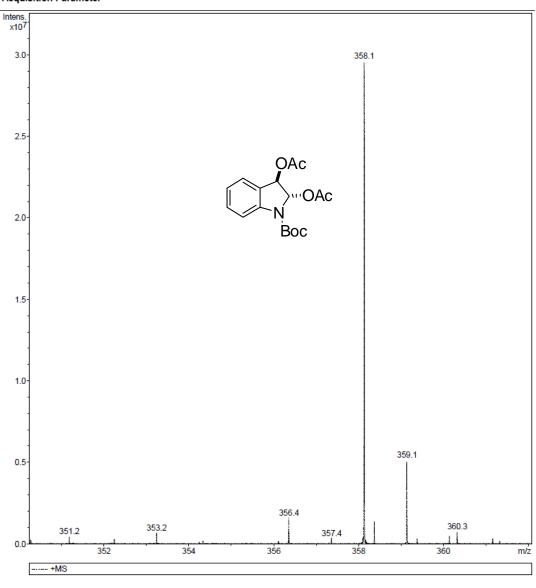
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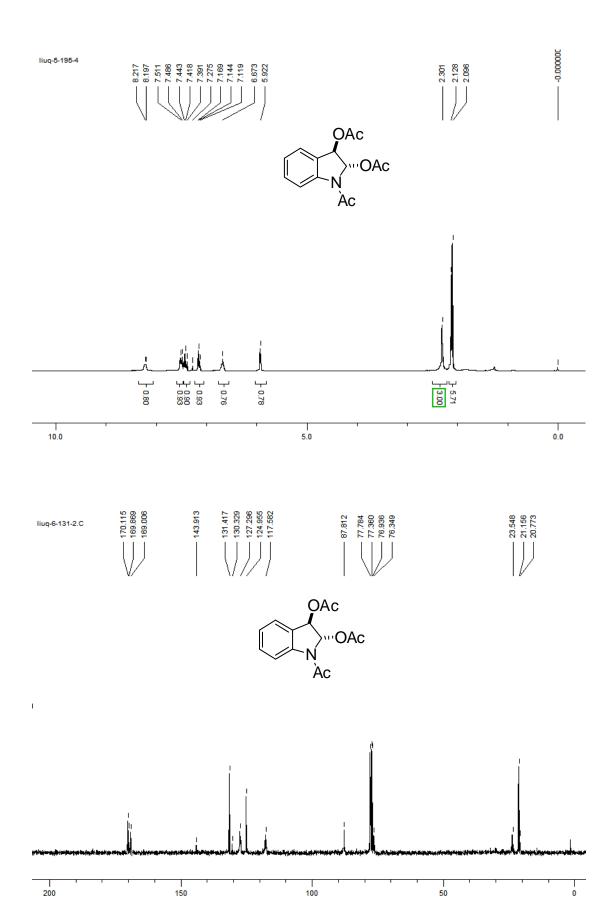
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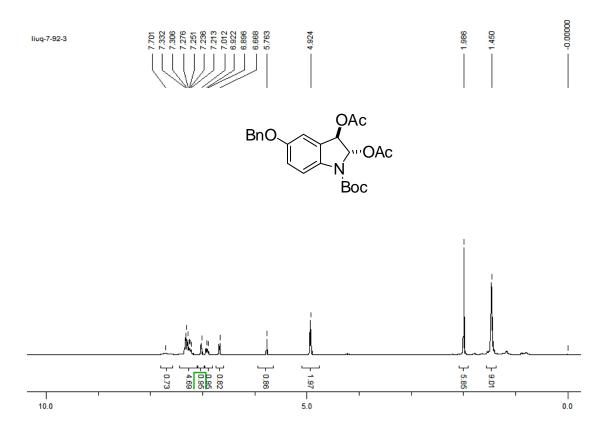
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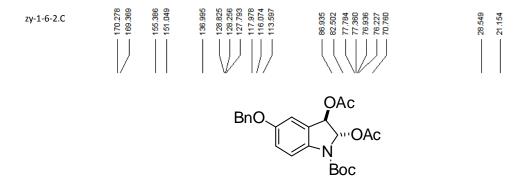
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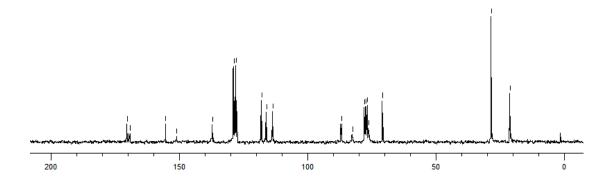
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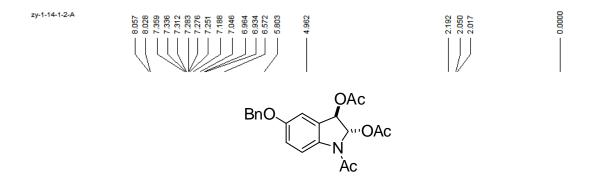
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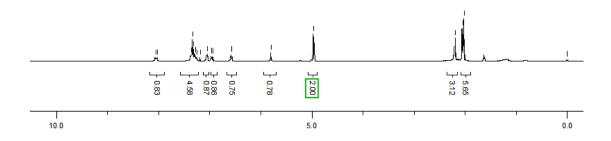
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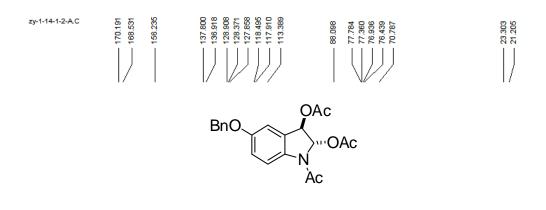


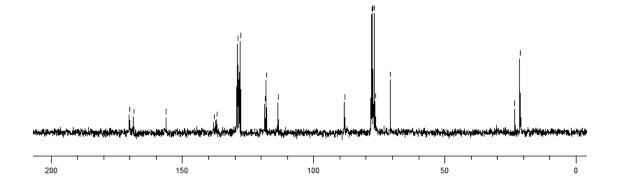


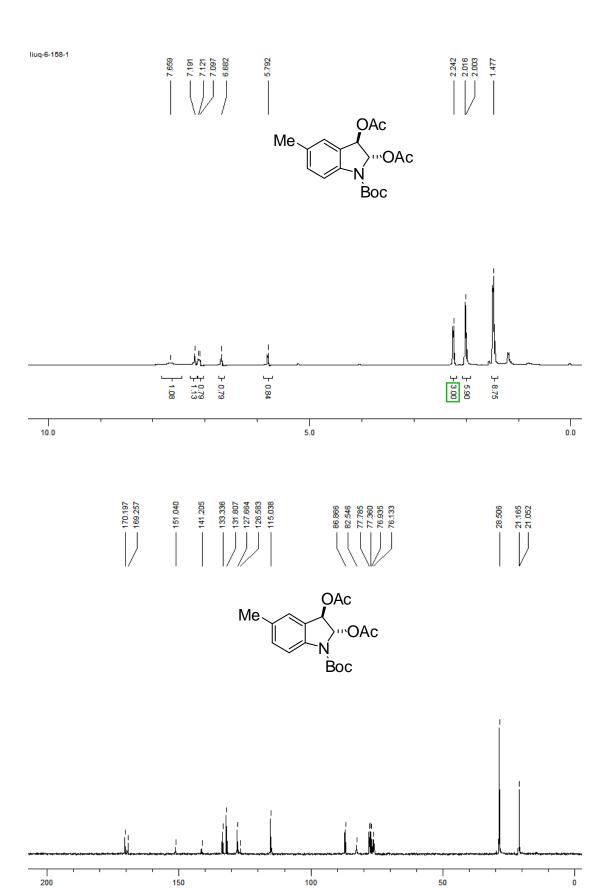












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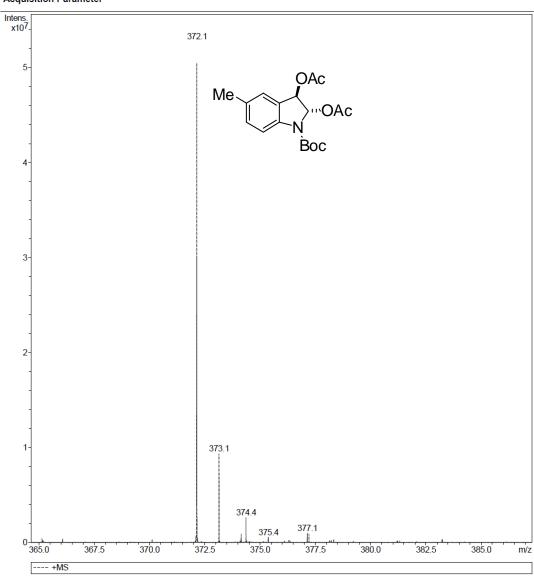
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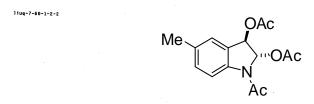


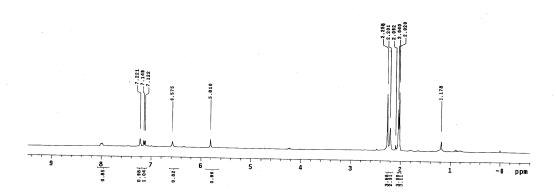
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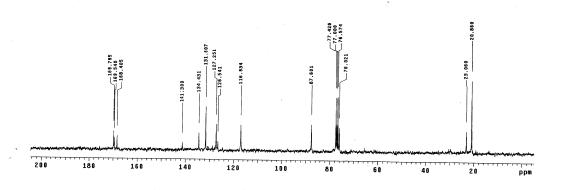
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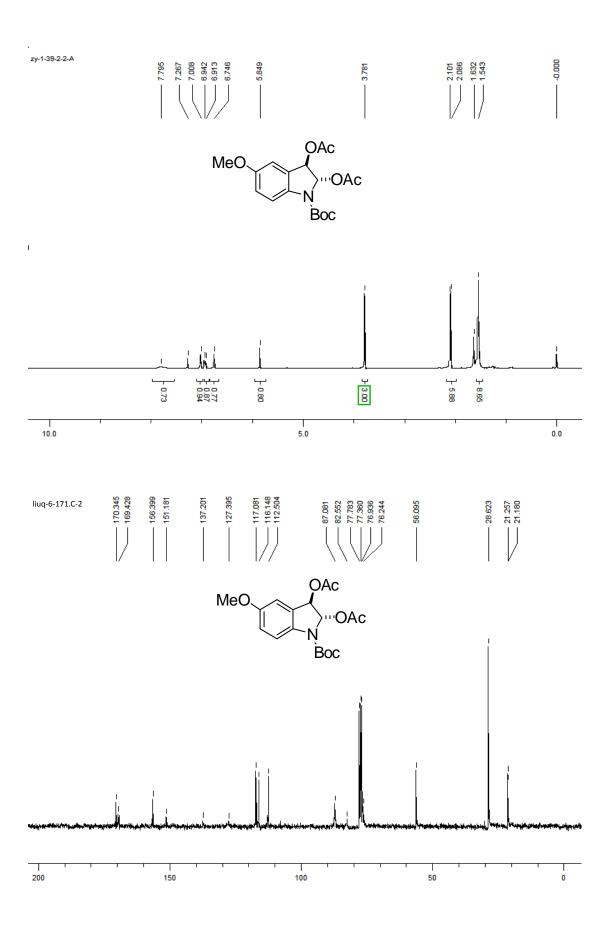
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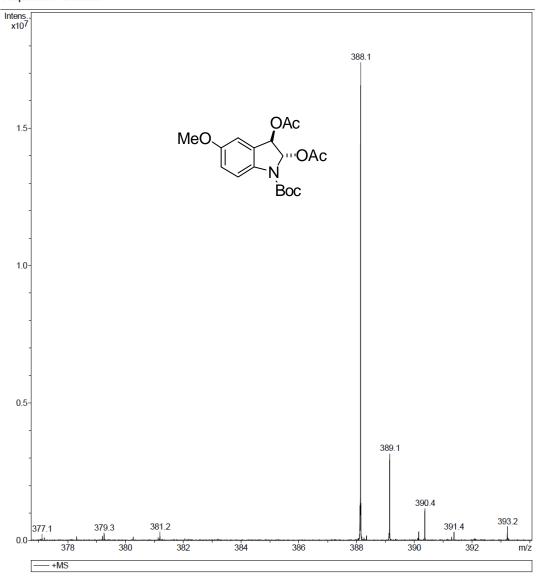
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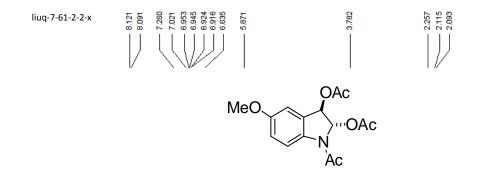
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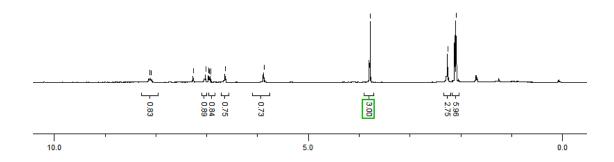
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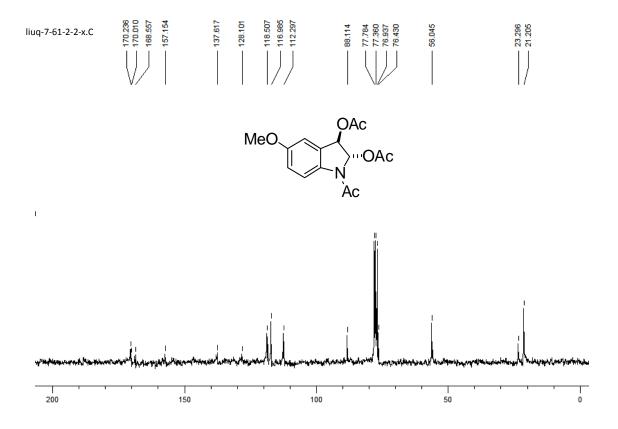
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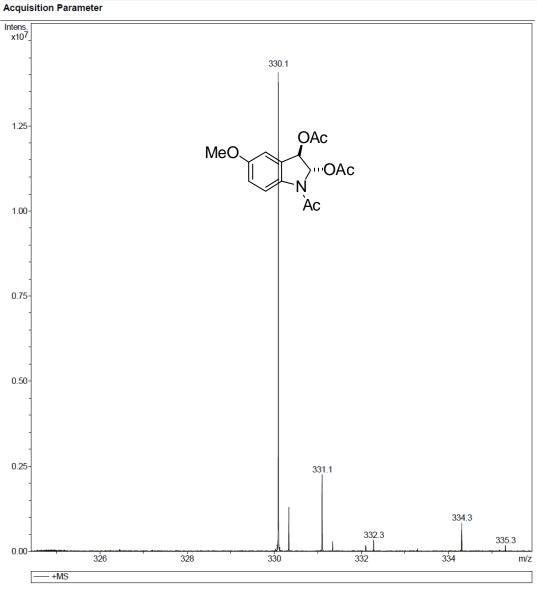


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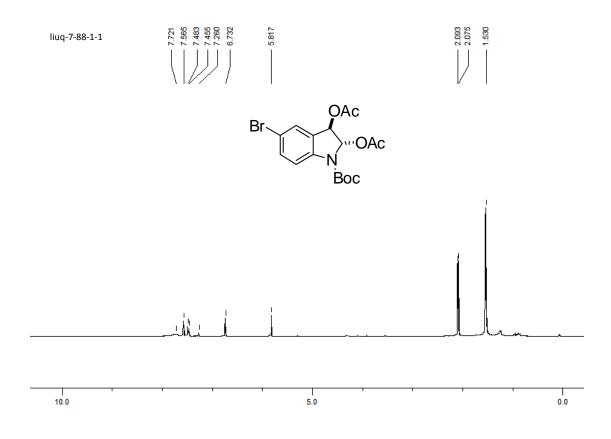
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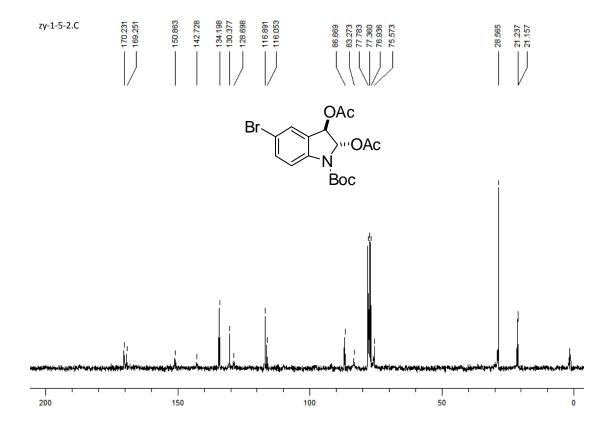
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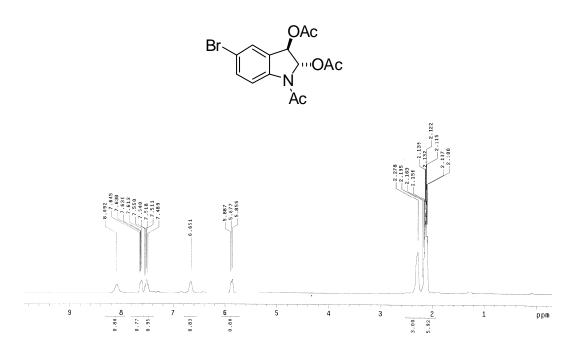


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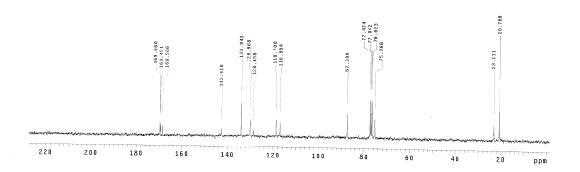
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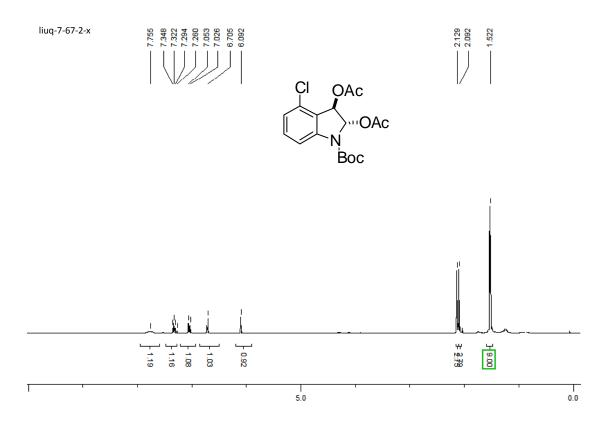


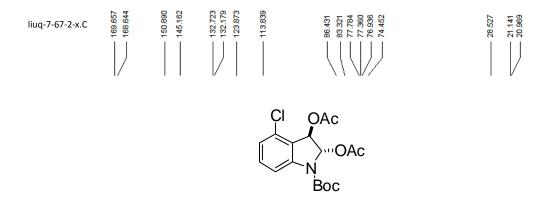
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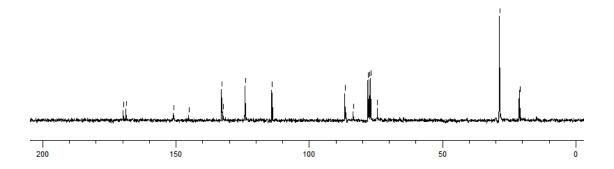
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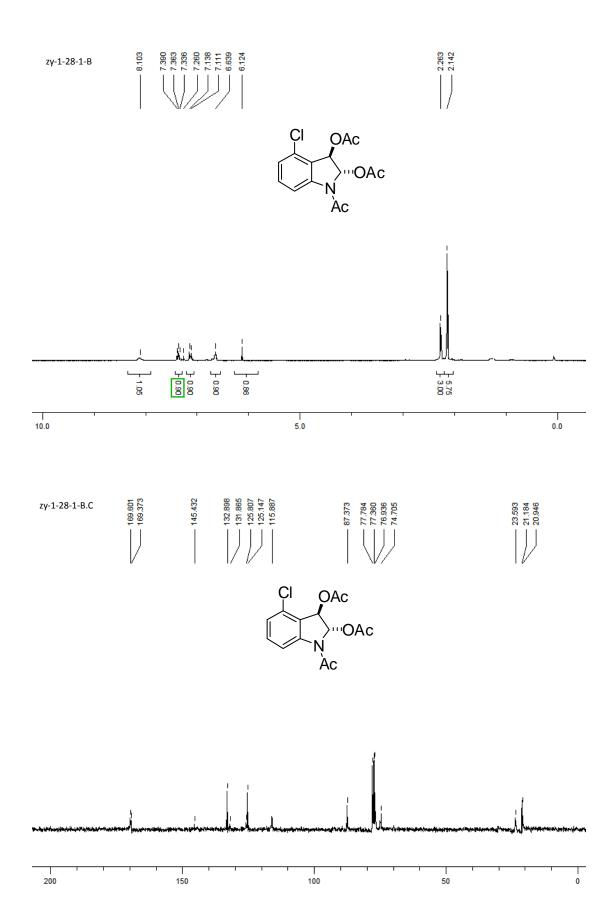
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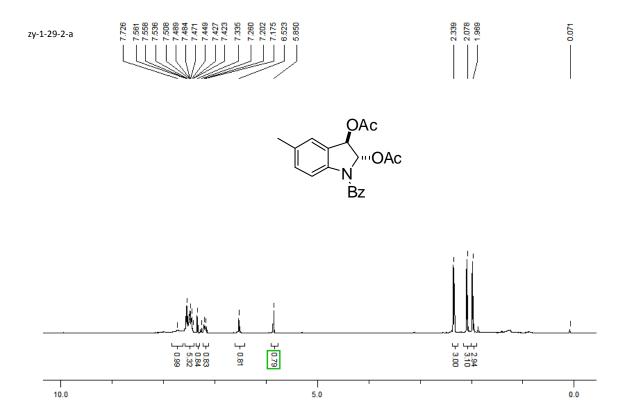




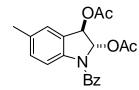


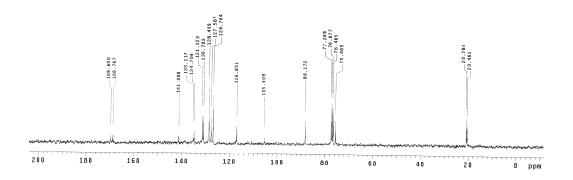


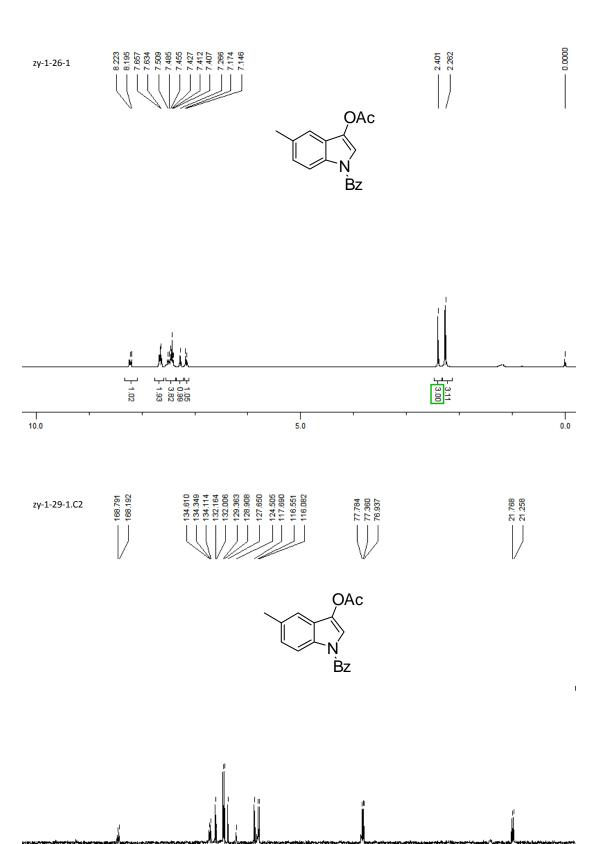




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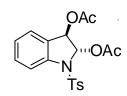


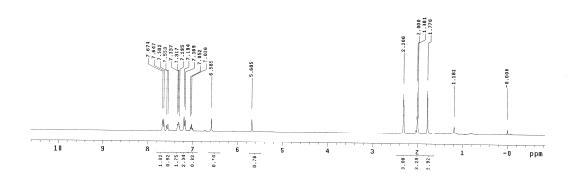
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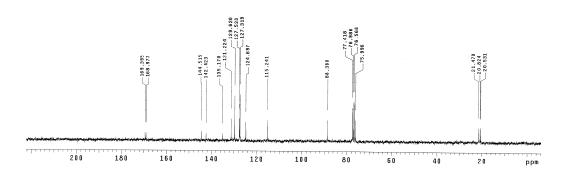


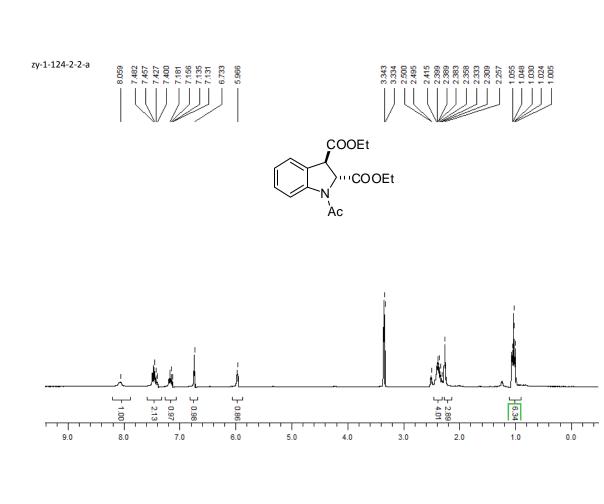


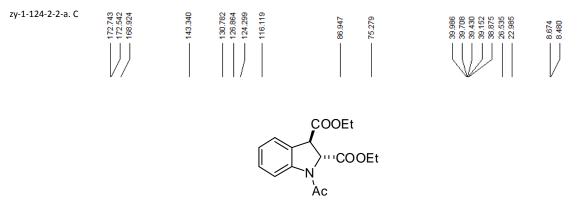
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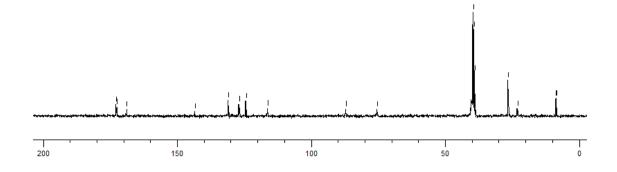
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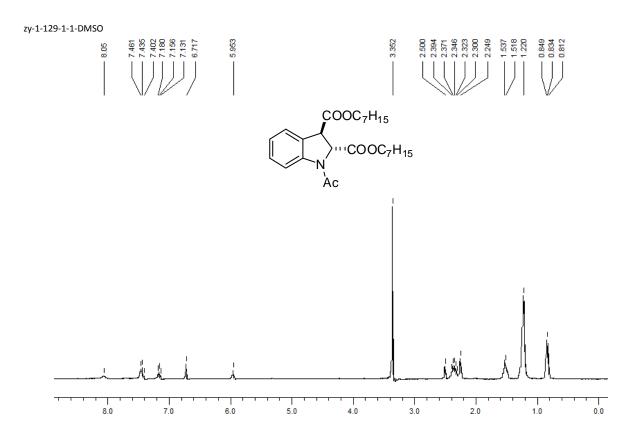
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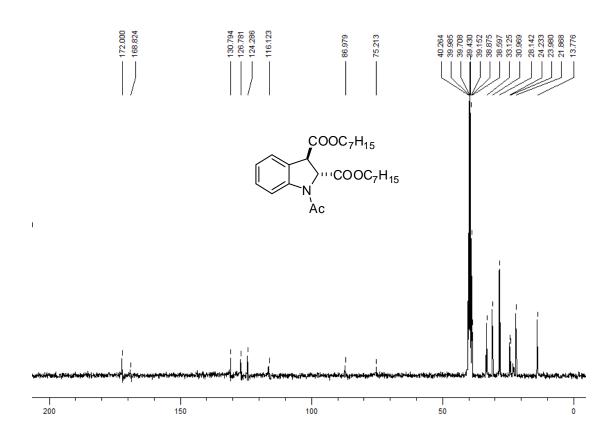


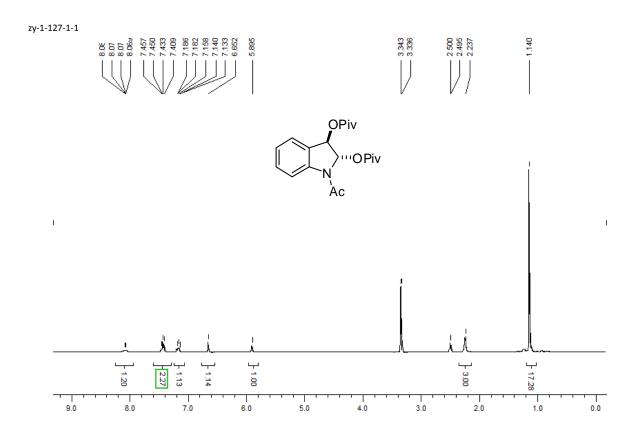


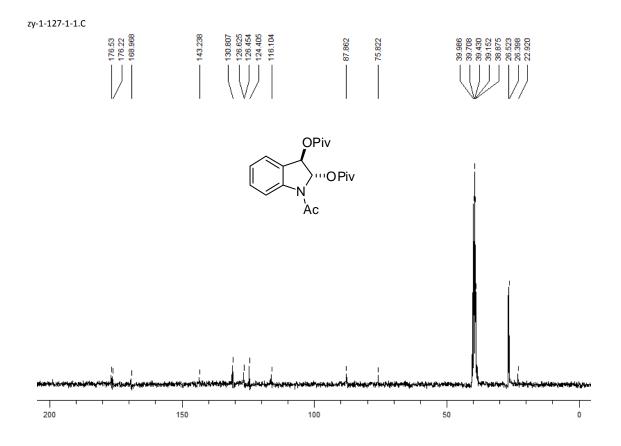


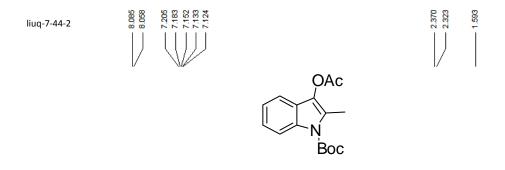


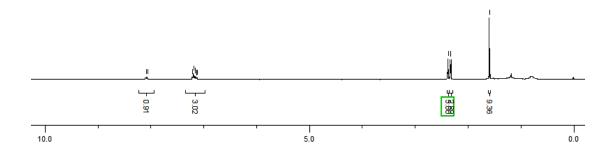


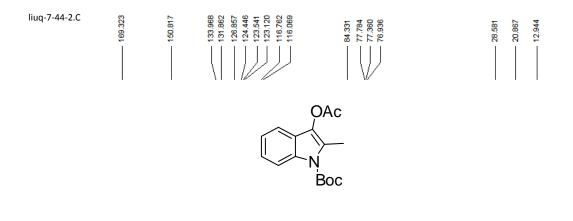


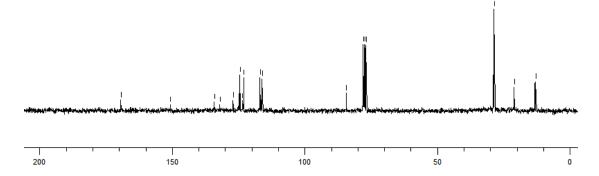


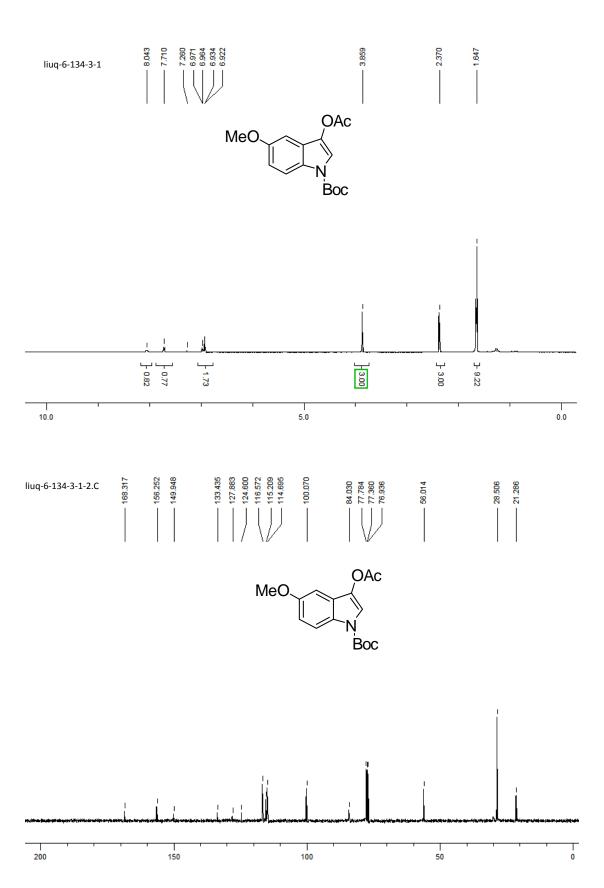












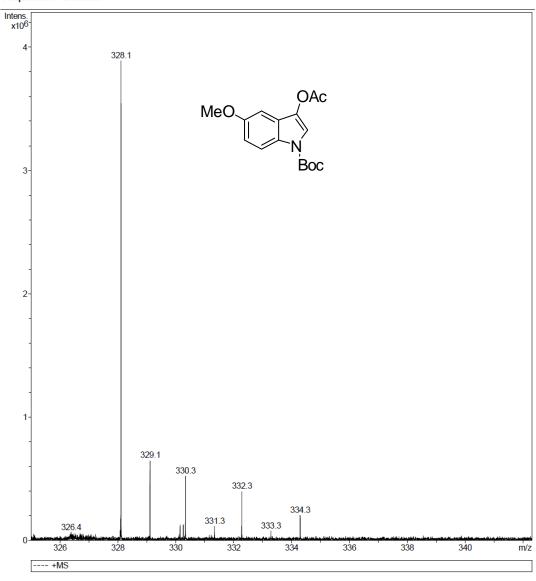
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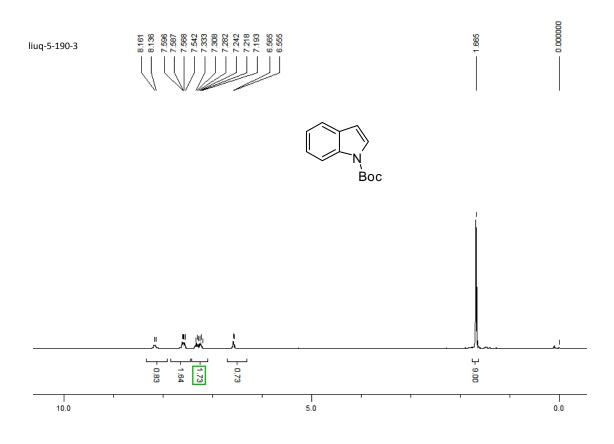
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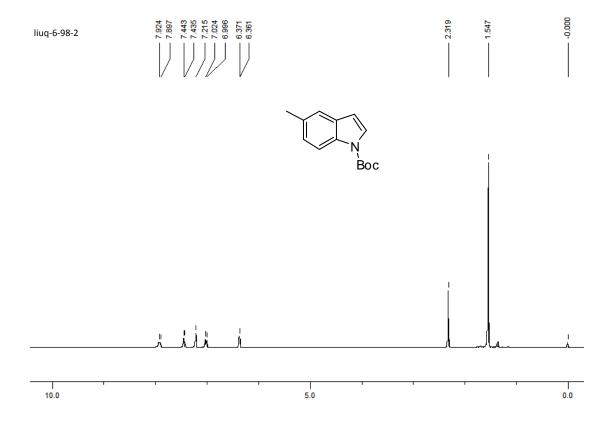
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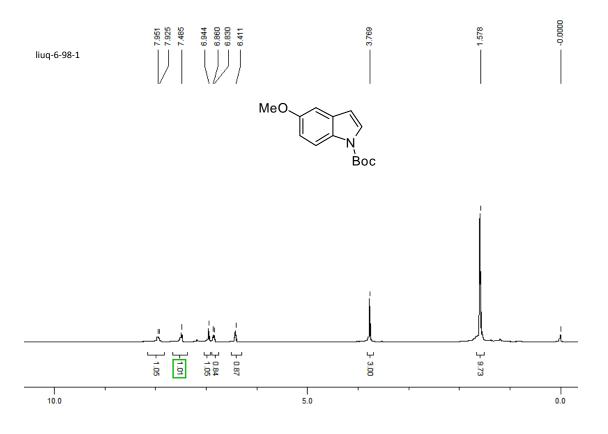
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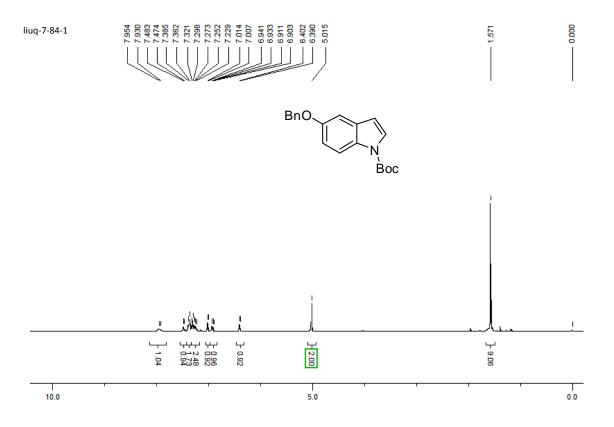


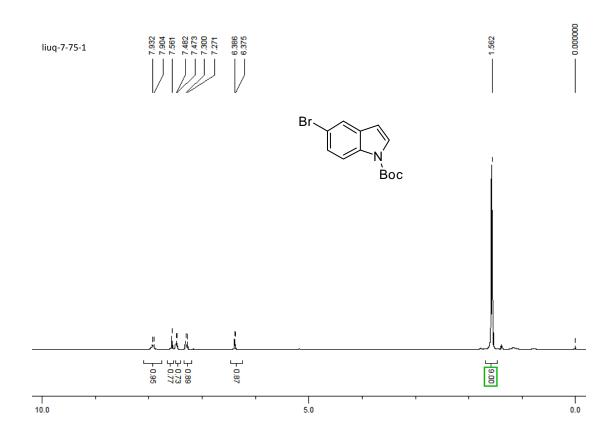
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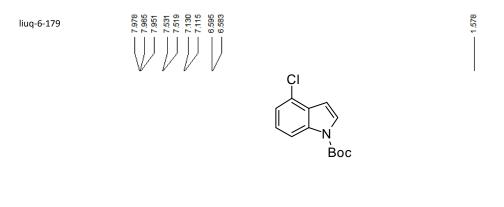


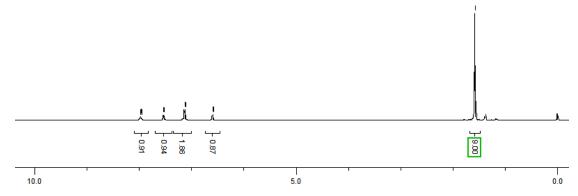


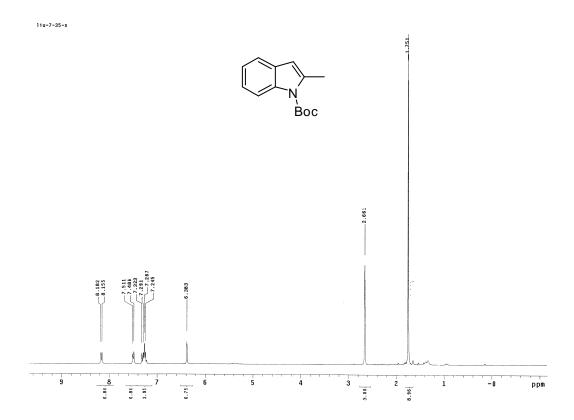


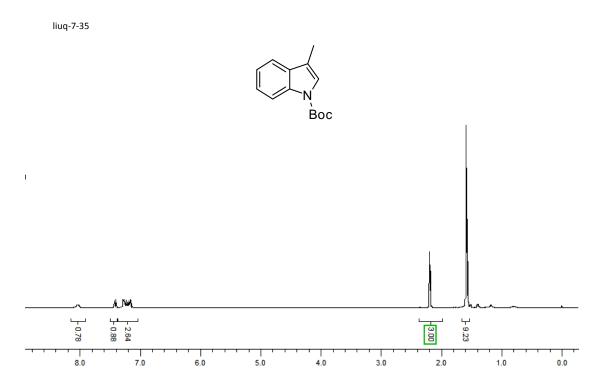


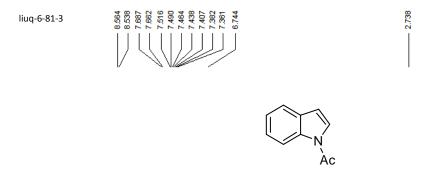




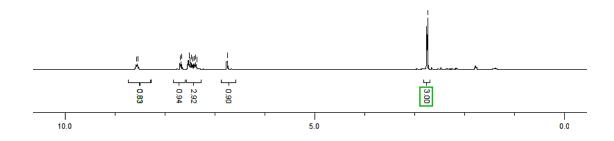


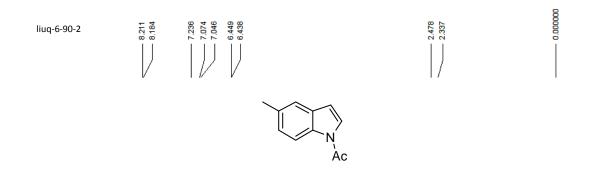


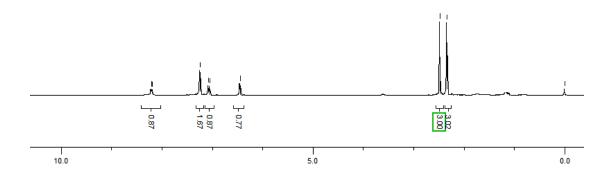


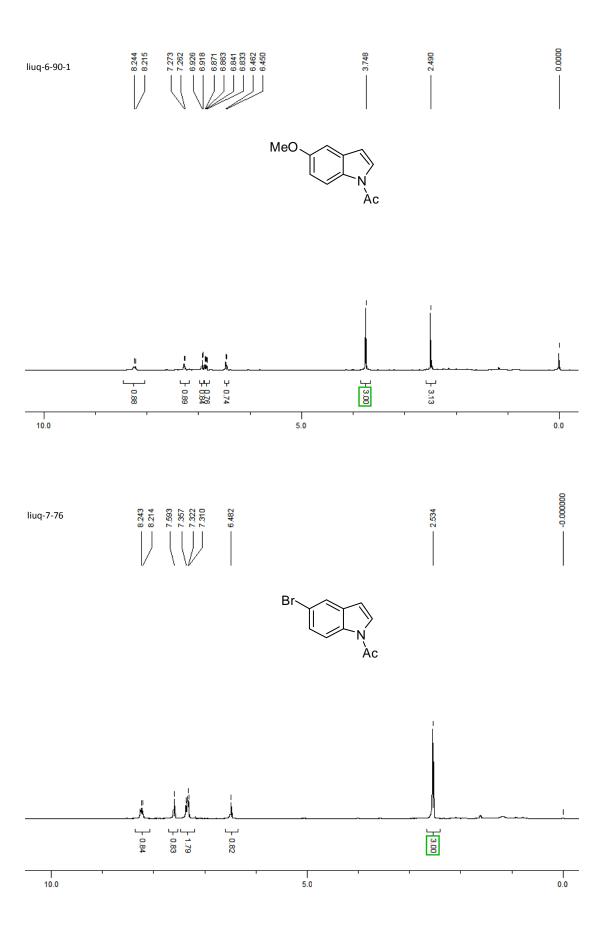


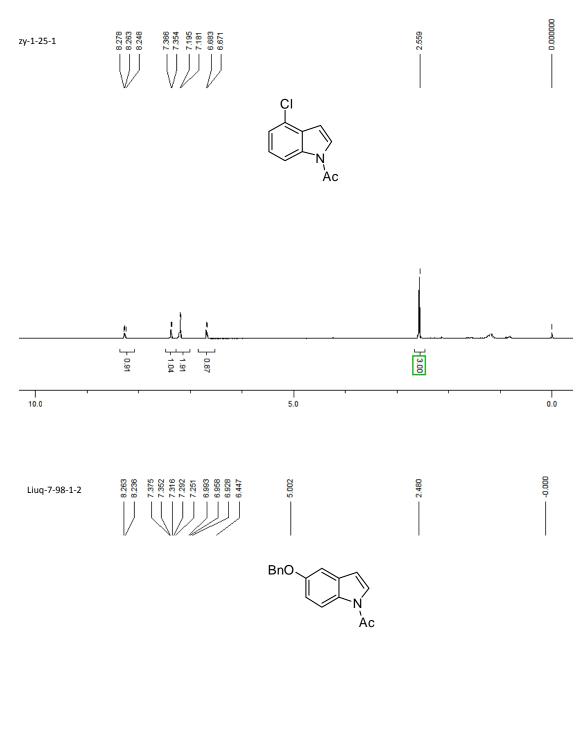
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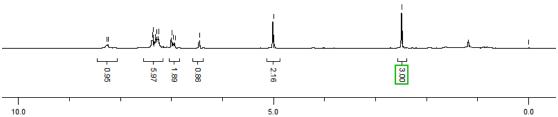


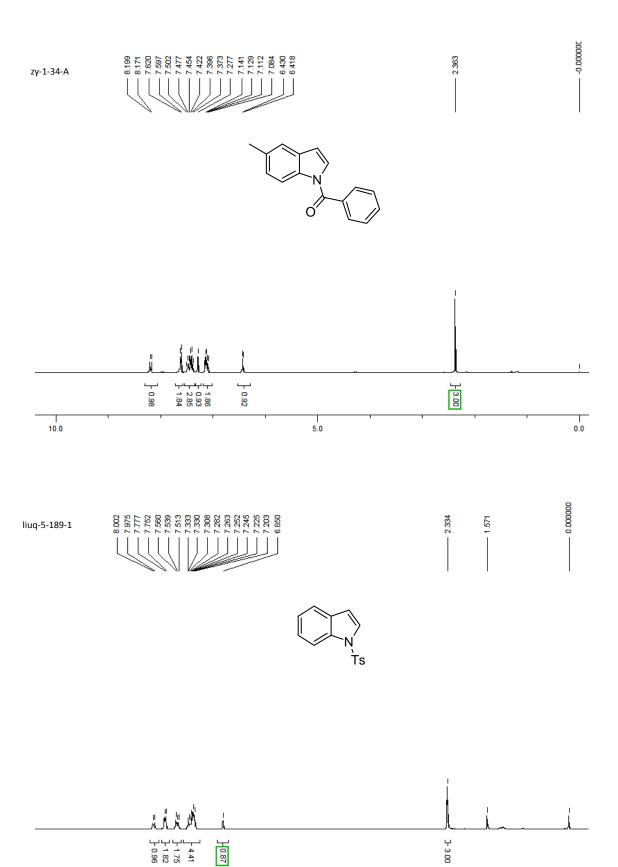












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0.87

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