Electronic Supplementary Information

Enantio- and diastereoselective palladium catalysed arylative and vinylative allene carbocyclisation cascades

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1. General experimental

All reactions were performed without special precautions to avoid the presence of moisture unless otherwise stated. For reactions conducted under anhydrous conditions glassware was dried in an oven at 100 °C and carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere.

Bulk solutions were evaporated under reduced pressure using a Büchi rotary evaporator. Solvents used were dry solvents. Petroleum ether refers to distilled light petroleum of fraction 30 - 40 °C. Dimethyl sulfoxide was dried over molecular sieves. THF was distilled over sodium using benzophenone as an indicator of dryness. Toluene was distilled over CaH₂. All other solvents were used as supplied without any further purification.

Commercial reagents were used as supplied without any further purification. Aminol alcohols were prepared according to literature procedures.^[1] (*E*)-(2-iodovinyl)benzene,^[2] (*Z*)-1-chloro-4-(2-iodovinyl)benzene,^[3] (*Z*)-1-(2-iodovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene,^[3] (*Z*)-methyl 4-(2-iodovinyl)benzoate,^[3] (*Z*)-1-(2-iodovinyl)-3-nitrobenzene,^[3] (*Z*)-2-(2-iodovinyl)furan,^[3] (*Z*)-2-(2-iodovinyl)thiophene^[3] were prepared according to the corresponding literature procedures.

Column chromatography was carried out using Merck Kieselgel 60 silica gel (230-400 mesh). All reactions were followed by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) where practical, using Merck Kieselgel 60 F_{254} (230-400 mesh) fluorescent treated silica which were visualised under UV light (254 nm) or by staining with aqueous basic potassium permanganate solutions as appropriate.

All ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker 500 MHz and Bruker 400 MHz spectrometers with residual protic solvents used as the internal standard. Unless otherwise stated all experiments were carried out using CDCl₃ and d_6 -DMSO as the solvent. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz (Hz). The ¹H NMR spectra are reported as follows: δ /ppm (multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, qu = quintet, m = multiplet), number of protons, coupling constants J/Hz (where appropriate)). The NMR spectra are reported as how the spectra are observed and do not take into account the theoretical NMR splitting. DEPT 135, and two-dimensional (COSY, HMQC, HMBC) NMR spectroscopy was used where appropriate to assist the assignment of signals in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. IR spectra were recorded on an ATI Mattson: Genesis Series FT-IR spectrometer or a Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer, from a thin film deposited on a sodium chloride plate. Only selected maximum absorbances are reported. Low resolution mass spectrometry (ESI) was recorded on a Fissions VG Trio 2000 quadrupole mass spectrometer or a Waters LCT premier XE mass spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra (accurate mass) were recorded on a Thermo Finnigan Mat 95XP mass spectrometer or a Bruker MicroTof mass spectrometer (electrospray technique). Melting points were recorded on a Leica Galen III apparatus, at ambient pressure and are uncorrected. Enantiomeric excesses were determined using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) performed on a Hewlett-Packard Series 1050 series system (column and

eluent conditions are given with the compounds). Optical rotations were recorded using a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter; Specific rotation (SR) ($[\alpha]_D$) are reported in 10⁻¹ deg cm² g⁻¹; concentrations (*c*) are quoted in g/100 mL; *D* refers to the D-line of sodium (589 nm); temperatures (*T*) are given in degrees Celsius (°C).

2. Synthesis of aminoallenes 10



General procedure for the synthesis of Boc-protected amines 8

Amine **7a-d** (2.0 equiv) and sodium iodide (2.5 mol%) were added to a solution of but-3-yn-1-yl 4methylbenzenesulfonate (1.0 equiv) in DMSO. After being stirred for 40 h at 45 °C, the reaction mixture was poured into 2 % aq. NaOH and extracted with Et_2O (×3). The organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂. Di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (2.0 equiv), Et_3N (2.0 equiv) and DMAP (3.0 mol%) were added at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 16 h and was then poured into water. The reaction mixture was seperated, and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (×2). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The resulting residue was subjected to column chromatography (PE/Et₂O) to afford the desired Bocprotected amine **8a-d**.^[4]

General procedure for the synthesis of Boc-protected allenes 9

A solution of compound **8a-d** (1.0 equiv), cuprous bromide (0.5 equiv), paraformaldehyde (2.5 equiv) and DIPEA (2.0 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (0.67 mmol/mL) was heated at reflux for 12 h. The reaction mixture cooled to room temperature, diluted with water and Et₂O and then acidified with aqueous 1.0 N HCl until the mixture became clear. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was further extracted with Et₂O (×2). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/Et₂O) to afford the desired Boc-protected allene **9a-d**.^[5]

General procedure for the synthesis of amino allenes 10

Boc-protected allene **9a-d** was stirred with TFA in CH_2Cl_2 (1:1, v/v) and monitored by TLC. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was basified with saturated aqueous K_2CO_3 to pH 8. The mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (×3). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford the desired crude amino allene **10a-d**. The crude amino allenes **10** were used in the next step without further purification.^[5]

3. Synthesis of bis(oxazoline) ligands 3



Bis(oxazoline) ligands **3c**, **3d**, **3e**, and **3f** are commercially available and were used as supplied. Bis(oxazoline) ligands **3g**, **3h** and **3i** were synthesised using the following procedures.

General procedure for the synthesis of aminols 11

In a dry flask under nitrogen, LiAlH₄ (5.44 equiv) was suspended in THF (1.7 mL/mmol amino acid). The suspension was cooled to 0 °C and the amino acid (1.00 equiv) was added in small portions. Once all the amino acid was added, the suspension was stirred at 0 °C for 15 minutes and then allowed to warm to room temperature for 1 h. The flask was then mounted with a condenser and the mixture was refluxed for 16 h. The resulting suspension was then allowed to cool to room temperature and diluted with Et₂O (1.5 mL/mmol of starting amino acid). The excess LiAlH₄ was quenched by slow addition of sodium sulfate decahydrate (100 mg/mmol of amino acid) and then the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The suspension was filtered through a pad of silica gel (which was eluted with EtOAc) and the filtrate was concentrated to afford the desired crude aminols **11**. The aminols **11** were used in the next step without further purification.^[1,6]

General procedure for the synthesis of bis(amides) 13

To an ice-cooled solution of aminols **11** (2.25 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL/mmol **12**) was added Et_3N (5.00 equiv) and a solution of malonyl dichloride **12** (1.00 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL/mmol **12**) dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature, stirred for 2 h and then diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL/mmol **12**). The organic layer was separated and then washed with aqueous 1.0 N HCl, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution and brine. The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford the desired crude (*S*,*S*)-bis(amides) **13**. The (*S*,*S*)-bis(amides) **13** were used in the next step without further purification.^[1,6]

General procedure for the synthesis of bis(oxazolines) 3

To an ice-cooled solution of the (S,S)-bis(amides) **13** (1.0 equiv) and DMAP (0.1 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.8 mL/mmol **13**) was added Et₃N (6.0 equiv) and a solution of *p*-TsCl (2.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL/mmol **13**). The cooling bath was then removed and the reaction was monitored by TLC analysis. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by the addition of saturated aqueous NH₄Cl solution. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was further extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (×3). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. Purification

by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc) afforded the desired (*S*,*S*)-bis(oxazolines) $\mathbf{3}$.^[1,6]

Synthesis and characterisation of (4*S*,4'*S*)-2,2'-pentane-3,3-diylbis[4-(propan-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1,3-oxazole] 3g



Synthesised on a 1.6 mmol scale of diethylmalonyl dichloride (314 mg). Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 20:1 to 10:1) afforded **3g** (282 mg, 60% over two steps) as a colourless oil. $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -108.0 \ (c \ 1.75, CHCl_3); {}^{1}\mathbf{H} \ \mathbf{NMR} \ (400 \ \text{MHz}, CDCl_3) \ \delta_{\text{H}} \ 4.11-4.19 \ (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 3.89-3.98 \ (\text{m}, 4\text{H}), 1.89-2.08 \ (\text{m}, 4\text{H}), 1.76-1.87 \ (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 0.91 \ (\text{d}, 6\text{H}, J) = 6.8 \ \text{Hz}), 0.80-0.88 \ (\text{m}, 12\text{H}); {}^{13}\mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{NMR} \ (100 \ \text{MHz}, CDCl_3) \ \delta_{\text{C}} \ 167.7 \ (2\text{C}),$

71.9 (2C), 69.5 (2C), 46.6, 32.3 (2C), 25.2 (2C), 18.7, 17.6, 8.3 (2C). The data was in agreement with that previously reported in the literature.^[6]

Synthesis and characterisation of (4*S*,4'*S*)-2,2'-pentane-3,3-diylbis(4-*tert*-butyl-4,5-dihydro-1,3-oxazole) 3h



Synthesised on a 0.80 mmol scale of diethylmalonyl dichloride (157 mg). Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 20:1 to 10:1) afforded **3h** (122 mg, 50% over two steps) as a colourless solid.

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = -128.0 \text{ (c } 1.75, \text{ CHCl}_3\text{); } \mathbf{Mp } 36 - 37 \text{ °C; }^{1}\mathbf{H} \mathbf{NMR} \text{ (400 MHz, CDCl}_3\text{)}$ $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 4.13 \text{ (dd, } 2\mathrm{H}, J = 10.1 \text{ Hz}, J = 8.7 \text{ Hz}\text{), } 4.03 \text{ (t, } 2\mathrm{H}, J = 8.4 \text{ Hz}\text{), } 3.87 \text{ (dd,}$ $2\mathrm{H}, J = 10.1 \text{ Hz}, J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}\text{), } 2.02\text{-}2.11 \text{ (m, } 2\mathrm{H}\text{), } 1.88\text{-}1.97 \text{ (m, } 2\mathrm{H}\text{), } 0.83\text{-}0.88$

(m, 24H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 167.2 (2C), 75.5 (2C), 68.4 (2C), 47.5, 33.8 (2C), 30.9 (2C), 25.8 (6C), 8.4 (2C). The data was in agreeement with that previously reported in the literature.^[6]

Synthesis and characterisation of (4*S*,4'*S*)-2,2'-propane-2,2-diylbis{4-[(2*S*)-butan-2-yl]-4,5-dihydro-1,3-oxazole} 3i



Synthesised on a 2.0 mmol scale of dimethylmalonyl dichloride (338 mg). Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 20:1 to 10:1) afforded **3i** (282 mg, 41% over two steps) as a colourless oil.

 $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -120.0 \ (c \ 1.00, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^1\mathbf{H} \ \mathbf{NMR} \ (400 \ \text{MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \ \delta_{\text{H}} 4.17 \ (t, 2\text{H}, J = 7.6 \ \text{Hz}), 4.06 \ 4.11 \ (m, 2\text{H}), 3.98 \ (t, 2\text{H}, J = 7.2 \ \text{Hz}), 1.63 \ -1.69 \ (m, 2\text{H}), 1.63 \ -1.69 \ -1.$

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 168.7 (2C), 70.0 (2C), 69.3 (2C), 38.5 (2C), 26.0 (2C), 24.4, 13.6 (2C), 11.7 (2C); FT-IR $\nu_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2950 (C-H), 1660 (C=N); MS (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 317.24 (M+Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₁₇H₃₀N₂NaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 317.2205, found 317.2206.

4. Synthesis of starting materials 1



The starting materials **1a-k** were prepared from the corresponding esters **14a-g** (1.0 equiv) and secondary amines **10a-d** (1.5 equiv) in toluene at reflux until the reaction was complete by TLC analysis. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc) to afford the desired products **1a-k**.^[5]

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1a



Synthesised from ethyl methyl 1-0x0-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-indene-2carboxylate **14a** (950 mg, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1a** was obtained as a yellow oil (1.49 g, 90%) after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.59-7.73 (m, both, 6H), 7.39-7.47 (m, both, 4H), 7.32-7.36 (m, both, 4H), 7.23-7.27 (m, both, 4H), 5.24 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.12 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.03 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 4.85 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.73-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.41 (dd, major, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 3.9 Hz), 4.37 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 4.30 (dd, minor, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 3.6 Hz), 3.83 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.3 Hz, J = 7.7 Hz), 3.43-3.47 (m, minor, 1H), 3.37-3.40 (m, major, 3H), 3.28-3.37 (m, minor, 2H), 3.15-3.24 (m, minor, 1H), 2.28-2.34 (m, major, 2H), 2.07-2.21 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 203.0 (both, 2C), 170.2 (minor), 169.9 (major), 155.8 (major), 155.5 (minor), 138.6 (major), 138.4 (minor), 136.2 (major), 136.1 (minor), 129.5 (both, 2C), 127.6 (both, 2C), 128.5 (both, 2C), 127.8 (both, 2C), 127.7 (both, 2C), 127.6 (both, 2C), 124.4 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 51.8 (minor), 50.9 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 46.0 (minor), 47.6 (major), 31.9 (both, 2C), 28.1 (major), 26.6 (minor); FT-IR $v_{max}(\text{NaCl})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 2927 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1710 (C=O), 1641 (NC=O); MS (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 354.17 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₁NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 354.1470, found 354.1462.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-6-methyl-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1b



Synthesised from compound **14b** (1.02 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1b** was obtained (1.60 g, 93%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2).

Two rotamers in a 1.5:1 ratio, ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ_H 7.25-7.52 (m, both, 16H), 5.24 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.12 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.02 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 4.84 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.71-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.34-4.40 (m, major, 2H), 4.27 (dd, minor, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 3.6 Hz), 3.83 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.3 Hz, J = 7.7 Hz), 3.41-3.49 (m, minor, 1H), 3.27-3.40 (m, both, 4H), 3.14-3.25 (m, minor, 2H), 2.37 (s, major, 3H), 2.36 (s, minor, 3H), 2.28-2.32 (m, major, 2H), 2.11-2.18 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 203.2 (major), 203.0 (minor), 170.2 (minor), 170.0 (major), 153.2 (major), 152.9 (minor), 138.7 (both, 2C), 138.0 (both, 2C), 137.3 (major), 137.2 (minor), 136.4 (minor), 136.3 (major), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.2 (both, 2C), 127.9 (both, 2C), 127.8 (both, 2C), 127.3 (both, 2C), 124.2 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 51.8 (minor), 51.2 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 47.6 (major), 46.0 (minor), 31.5 (both, 2C), 28.1 (major), 26.6 (minor), 21.4 (both, 2C); FT-IR $v_{max}(NaCl)/cm^{-1}$ 2924 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1708 (C=O), 1642 (NC=O); MS (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 368.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₃NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 368.1621, found 368.1614.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-6-methoxy-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1c



Synthesised from compound **14c** (1.02 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1c** was obtained (1.51 g, 84%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.50-7.52 (m, both, 2H), 7.40-7.42 (m, both, 2H), 7.25-7.35 (m, both, 10H), 7.10-7.13 (m, both, 2H), 5.24 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.12 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.01 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 4.85 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.73-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.42 (dd, major, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz, J = 3.7 Hz), 4.37 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.30 (dd, minor, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 3.4 Hz), 3.84-3.86 (m, major, 1H), 3.81 (s, major, 3H), 3.80 (s, minor, 3H), 3.41-3.48 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 203.0 (major), 202.8 (minor), 170.2 (minor), 170.0 (major), 160.0 (both, 2C), 148.4 (major), 148.1 (minor), 138.7 (major), 128.3 (minor), 137.4 (minor), 137.3 (major), 127.9 (minor), 127.8 (minor), 127.7 (major), 124.9 (major), 124.7 (minor), 106.1 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major),

76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 56.4 (both, 2C), 51.8 (minor), 51.6 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 47.6 (major), 46.0 (minor), 31.2 (both, 2C), 28.1 (major), 26.6 (minor); **FT-IR** $v_{max}(NaCl)/cm^{-1}$ 2930 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1708 (C=O), 1641 (NC=O); **MS** (ESI+) *m*/*z* (rel. intensity %) 384.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₃NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 384.1570, found 384.1566.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl) indane-2-carboxamide 1d



Synthesised from compound **14d** (1.29 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1d** was obtained (1.59 g, 80%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.08 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.94-7.99 (m, both, 2H), 7.69 (dd, both, 2H, J = 14.4 Hz, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.41 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.34 (dd, both, 4H, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 5.1 Hz), 7.26 (d, both, 4H, J = 6.9Hz), 5.24 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.11 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.03 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0Hz), 4.85 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.72-4.78 (m, both, 5H), 4.54-4.56 (m, major, 1H), 4.43 (dd, minor, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 3.6 Hz), 4.38 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 3.83 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.3 Hz, J = 7.7 Hz), 3.36-3.51 (m, both, 6H), 3.16-3.23 (m, minor, 1H), 2.32-2.36 (m, major, 2H), 2.13-2.16 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 201.9 (major), 201.7 (minor), 169.5 (minor), 169.2 (major), 152.4 (major), 152.2 (minor), 138.5 (major), 138.2 (minor), 137.8 (minor), 137.7 (major), 132.9 (major), 132.8 (minor), 129.7 (both, 2C), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.3 (both, 2C), 128.8 (both, 2C), 128.3 (both, 2C), 127.9 (both, 2C), 127.8 (both, 2C), 127.7 (both, 2C), 127.5 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.3 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 51.8 (minor), 50.7 (both, 2C), 48.8 (major), 47.7 (major), 46.1 (minor), 30.9 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.6 (minor); FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2935 (C-H), 1956 (C=C=C), 1722 (C=O), 1644 (C=O); MS (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 422.15 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for $C_{23}H_{20}F_3NNaO_2 [M + Na]^+ 422.1338$, found 422.1335.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-5-fluoro-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1e



Synthesised from compound **14e** (1.04 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1e** was obtained (1.48 g, 85%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): $\delta_{\rm H}$

7.70-7.76 (m, both, 2H), 7.45-7.51 (m, both, 2H), 7.40-7.42 (m, both, 2H), 7.25-7.35 (m, both, 10H), 5.24 (qu, major, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 5.11 (qu, minor, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 5.02 (d, minor, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 4.85 (d, major, 1H, *J* = 15.4 Hz), 4.72-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.45 (dd, major, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 3.8 Hz),

4.36 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 4.32-4.34 (m, minor, 1H), 3.82 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.3 Hz, J = 7.8 Hz), 3.26-3.47 (m, both, 6H), 3.14-3.21 (m, minor, 1H), 2.30-2.32 (m, major, 2H), 2.09-2.18 (m, 2H, minor); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 201.5 (major), 201.2 (minor), 169.9 (minor), 169.7 (major), 159.0 (major), 158.8 (minor), 138.6 (both, 2C), 132.8 (both, 2C), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.3 (both, 2C), 128.3 (both, 2C), 127.9 (both, 2C), 127.8 (both, 2C), 127.2 (major), 127.1 (both, 2C), 127.0 (minor), 116.8 (major), 116.6 (minor), 114.4 (major), 114.2 (minor), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 51.8 (both, 2C), 51.2 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 47.6 (major), 46.0 (minor), 31.9 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.6 (minor); FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2929 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1714 (C=O), 1642 (NC=O); MS (ES+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 372.16 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₀FNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 372.1370, found 372.1357.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-5-bromo-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1f



Synthesised from compound **14f** (1.33 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1f** was obtained (1.75 g, 86%) after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.91 (d, both, 2H, J = 13.5 Hz), 7.61 (td, both, 4H, J =

18.1 Hz, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.41 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.31-7.34 (m, both, 4H), 7.25 (dd, both, 4H, J = 4.9 Hz, J = 2.9 Hz), 5.23 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.11 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.01 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 4.83 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 4.72-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.43 (dd, major, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz, J = 3.9 Hz), 4.37 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.31 (dd, minor, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 3.6 Hz), 3.80 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 7.7 Hz), 3.25-3.49 (m, major, 6H), 3.14-3.21 (m, minor, 1H), 2.29-2.32 (m, major, 2H), 2.09-2.17 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 202.2 (major), 202.0 (minor), 169.8 (minor), 169.6 (major), 157.8 (major), 157.5 (minor), 138.6 (major), 138.3 (minor), 135.3 (minor), 135.2 (major), 131.8 (both, 2C), 130.8 (major), 130.7 (minor), 130.5 (both, 2C), 130.4 (both, 2C), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.3 (both, 2C), 127.9 (both, 2C), 127.8 (both, 2C), 126.1 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.3 (major), 76.4 (both, 2C), 51.8 (minor), 51.0 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 47.6 (major), 46.0 (minor), 31.7 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.6 (minor); **FT-IR** ν_{max} (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2926 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1714 (C=O), 1641 (NC=O); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 432.08, 434.07 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₀BrNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 432.0570, 434.0550, found 432.0570, 434.0556.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-benzyl-5-chloro-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1g



Synthesised from compound **14g** (1.12 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10a** (1.30 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1g** was obtained (1.55 g, 85%) after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.6:1 ratio, ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.75 (d, both, 2H, J = 13.5 Hz), 7.67 (t, both, 2H, J = 9.2 Hz),

7.50 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.41 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.31-7.3 (m, both, 4H), 7.25 (d, both, 4H, J = 6.5 Hz), 5.23 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.11 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.01 (d, minor, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 4.84 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.4 Hz), 4.72-4.77 (m, major, 5H), 4.45 (dd, major, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz, J = 3.9 Hz), 4.37 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.5 Hz), 4.32-4.34 (m, minor, 1H), 3.81 (td, major, 1H, J = 15.2 Hz, J = 7.7 Hz), 3.25-3.49 (m, both, 6H), 3.14-3.21 (m, minor, 1H), 2.30-2.32 (m, major, 2H), 2.07-2.17 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 202.0 (major), 201.8 (minor), 169.9 (minor), 169.6 (major), 157.6 (major), 157.4 (minor), 141.1 (major), 141.0 (minor), 138.6 (major), 138.3 (minor), 135.0 (minor), 134.9 (major), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.3 (both, 2C), 129.0 (both, 2C), 128.3 (both, 2C), 127.9 (both, 2C), 127.7 (both, 2C), 126.1 (both, 2C), 126.0 (both, 2C), 87.7 (minor), 87.3 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 51.8 (minor), 51.1 (both, 2C), 48.7 (major), 47.6 (major), 46.0 (minor), 31.7 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.6 (minor); FT-IR $v_{max}(NaCl)/cm^{-1}$ 2928 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1714 (C=O), 1643 (NC=O); MS (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 388.13 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for $C_{22}H_{20}CINNaO_2$ [M + Na]⁺ 388.1075, found 388.1075.

Synthesis and characterisation of 1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)-*N*-propylindane-2-carboxamide 1h



Synthesised from compound **14a** (950 mg, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10b** (937 mg, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1h** was obtained (1.10 g, 78%) after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.2:1 ratio, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.70 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.63 (t, both, 4H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.44 (t, both, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz), 5.25 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.15 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.75-4.79 (m, both, 4H), 4.24-4.28(m, both, 2H), 3.79 (td, minor, 1H, J = 15.1 Hz, J = 7.6 Hz), 3.58-3.68 (m, major, 1H), 3.22-3.67 (m, both, 9H), 3.06-3.13 (m, minor, 1H), 2.26-2.37 (m, minor, 2H), 2.10-2.19 (m, major, 2H), 1.56-1.72 (m, major, 2H), 1.41-1.54 (m, minor, 2H), 0.89 (t, major, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 0.81 (t, minor, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 209.2 (major), 209.1 (minor), 203.2 (both, 2C), 169.6 (major), 169.3 (minor), 155.7 (minor), 155.6 (major), 136.3 (minor), 136.1 (major), 128.4 (both, 2C), 127.6 (both, 2C), 124.4 (both, 2C), 124.3 (both, 2C), 87.8 (major), 87.5 (minor), 76.3 (minor), 76.2 (major), 50.9 (major), 50.7 (minor), 50.3 (major), 47.9 (minor), 47.8 (minor), 46.1 (major); FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2932 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1711 (C=O), 1637 (NC=O); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 306.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₁₈H₂₁NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 306.1465, found 306.1474.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-isopropyl-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1i



Synthesised from compound **14a** (950 mg, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10c** (937 mg, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1i** was obtained (707 mg, 50%) as a yellow solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Mp 44 - 46 °C; two rotamers in a 1.5:1 ratio, ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ_H 7.70 (t, both, 2H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.62 (t, both, 4H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.44 (t, both, 2H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 5.27 (qu, minor, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 5.17 (qu, major, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 4.75-4.81 (m, both, 4H), 4.39-4.51 (m, both, 2H), 4.36 (dd, major, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 4.15 (t, minor, 1H, *J* = 5.7 Hz), 3.62-3.70 (m, major, 1H), 3.11-3.48 (m, both, 7H), 2.30-2.32 (m, minor, 2H), 2.07-2.16 (m, major, 2H), 1.30 (d, major, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 1.18 (d, major, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 1.11-1.14 (m, minor, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ_C 209.0 (minor), 208.9 (major), 203.4 (minor), 203.0 (major), 168.7 (both, 2C), 155.8 (minor), 155.5 (major), 136.2 (major), 136.1 (minor), 136.0 (both, 2C), 128.4 (both, 2C), 127.6 (both, 2C), 124.4 (both, 2C), 88.1 (major), 87.5 (minor), 76.5 (minor), 31.7 (major), 30.4 (minor), 28.2 (major), 46.8 (minor), 43.6 (major), 41.1 (minor), 20.9 (minor); **FT-IR** v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2974 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1713 (C=O), 1637 (NC=O); **MS** (ESI+) *m*/*z* (rel. intensity %) 306.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₁₈H₂₁NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 306.1465, found 306.1471.

Synthesis and characterisation of *N*-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1j



Synthesised from compound **14a** (950 mg, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10d** (1.52 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1j** was obtained (1.57 g, 87%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Two rotamers in a 1.5:1 ratio, ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.60-7.73 (m, both, 6H), 7.45 (dd, both, 2H, J = 12.6 Hz, J = 7.1 Hz), 7.29 (d, minor, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.19 (d, major, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.96 (d, minor, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.89 (d, major, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.23 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.11 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.92 (d, minor, 1H, J = 16.6 Hz), 4.74-4.79 (m, both, 5H), 4.67 (d, minor, 1H, J = 16.6 Hz), 4.37 (dd, major, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz, J = 3.9 Hz), 4.33-4.35 (m, minor, 1H), 4.30 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.0 Hz), 3.70-3.82 (m, major, 1H), 3.75 (s, minor, 3H), 3.73 (s, major, 3H), 3.26-3.43 (m, both, 6H), 3.14-3.21 (m, minor, 1H), 2.26-2.31 (m, major, 2H), 2.06-2.18 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 203.3 (major), 203.1 (minor), 170.0 (minor), 169.9 (major), 159.5 (minor), 159.2 (major), 155.8 (major), 155.5 (minor), 136.2 (both, 2C),

136.1 (both, 2C), 130.5 (both, 2C), 130.0 (both, 2C), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.2 (both, 2C), 128.5 (both, 2C), 127.7 (major), 127.6 (minor), 124.5 (major), 124.4 (minor), 114.9 (minor), 114.7 (major), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 55.9 (minor), 55.8 (major), 51.3 (minor), 50.9 (both, 2C), 48.0 (major), 45.7 (minor), 47.3 (major), 31.9 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.6 (minor); **FT-IR** $v_{max}(NaCl)/cm^{-1}$ 2930 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1709 (C=O), 1639 (NC=O); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 384.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₃NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 384.1570, found 384.1563.

Synthesis and characterisation of 5-bromo-*N*-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1-oxo-*N*-(penta-3,4-dien-1-yl)indane-2-carboxamide 1k



Synthesised from compound **14f** (1.33 g, 5.00 mmol) and amine **10d** (1.52 g, 7.50 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **1k** was obtained (1.76 g, 81%) as a yellow solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1).

Mp 70 - 73 °C; two rotamers in a 1.5:1 ratio, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.90 (d, both, 2H, J = 10.3 Hz), 7.64 (t, both, 2H, J = 6.4 Hz), 7.58 (dd, both, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz, J = 5.2 Hz), 7.27 (d, both, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.17 (d, both, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.95 (d, both, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.88 (d, both, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.22 (qu, major, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.10 (qu, minor, 1H, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.89 (d, minor, 1H, J = 16.6 Hz), 4.72-4.77 (m, both, 5H), 4.65 (d, minor, 1H, J =16.6 Hz), 4.33-4.39 (m, both, 2H), 4.29 (d, major, 1H, J = 15.0 Hz), 3.75 (s, minor, 3H), 3.73 (s, major, 3H), 3.67-3.77 (m, both, 2H), 3.28-3.37 (m, both, 5H), 3.13-3.20 (m, minor, 1H), 2.27-2.29 (m, major, 2H), 2.10-2.12 (m, minor, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ_C 209.1 (major), 209.0 (minor), 202.3 (major), 202.1 (minor), 169.7 (minor), 169.6 (major), 159.5 (minor), 159.2 (major), 157.8 (major), 157.5 (minor), 135.3 (minor), 135.2 (major), 131.8 (both, 2C), 130.8 (both, 2C), 130.5 (both, 2C), 130.4 (both, 2C), 129.9 (both, 2C), 129.5 (both, 2C), 129.2 (both, 2C), 126.1 (both, 2C), 114.9 (minor), 114.7 (major), 87.7 (minor), 87.4 (major), 76.4 (major), 76.3 (minor), 55.9 (both, 2C), 51.2 (minor), 51.0 (both, 2C), 48.1 (major), 47.3 (major), 45.7 (minor), 31.7 (both, 2C), 28.0 (major), 26.5 (minor); FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2928 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1714 (C=O), 1639 (NC=O); MS (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 462.09, 464.08 (M + Na⁺, 80); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₂BrNNaO₃ $[M + Na]^+$ 462.0675, 464.0656, found 462.0670, 464.0651.

The *N*-tosylated γ -lactam-derived pro-nucleophile **11** was synthesised using a previously reported procedure.^[5]

5. Synthesis of spirolactams 2 and 4

General procedure for the synthesis of spirolactams 2a-q and 4a-m

 $Pd(OAc)_2$ (10 mol%) and bis(oxazoline) **3i** (20 mol%) were stirred for 1 h in DCE (4 mL) at room temperature. Then the corresponding allene **1a-k** (0.20 mmol), aromatic/vinyl iodide (0.30 mmol) and Ag₃PO₄ (0.10 mmol) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred in a sealed tube at 70 °C and monitored by TLC analysis. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of silica gel, eluting with Et₂O several times. The combined organic washings were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc) to afford the desired products **2a-q** and **4a-m**.

Racemic samples were synthesised in an analogous manner to the general procedure without ligand **3i** and by replacing Ag₃PO₄, Pd(OAc)₂ and DCE with K₂CO₃, PdCl₂(dppf) and DMF respectively.

Synthesis and characterisation of methyl 4-{1-[(2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-1,2'-dioxo-1,3-dihydrospiro [indene-2,3'-piperidin]-4-yl]vinyl}benzoate 2a



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and methyl 4-iodobenzoate (79 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2a** was obtained (single diastereomer, 78 mg, 84%) as a colourless oil after flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a >99:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 8.16 min, minor t_R = 11.14 min (85% *ee*). $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -4.8$ (*c* 1.3, CH₂Cl₂).

^{Bn} ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.67 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.49-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.39 (m, 6H), 7.14-7.22 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.28 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 4.59 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.71 (dd, 1H, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz), 3.49-3.58 (m, 2H), 3.38-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.33 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.35 (ddd, 1H, J = 13.1 Hz, J = 6.9 Hz, J =4.0 Hz), 1.91 (dtd, 1H, J = 13.7 Hz, J = 10.4 Hz, J = 5.2 Hz); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.8, 170.4, 166.7, 153.9, 148.3, 145.4, 136.7, 136.4, 134.9 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 127.3, 126.9 (2C), 125.8, 124.2, 117.2, 60.0, 52.1, 50.6, 45.7, 43.9, 36.5, 24.9; **FT-IR** v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2928 (C-H), 1718 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1595 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 488.21 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₇NNaO₄ [M + Na]⁺ 488.1832, found 488.1833.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-(1-phenylvinyl)-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2b



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and iodobenzene (61 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2b** was obtained (single diastereomer, 67 mg, 82%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 3:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 45:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 5.53 min, minor t_R = 14.41 min (87% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -16.6$ (*c* 1.34, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.49-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.39 (m, 7H), 7.18 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.08-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.00-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.88 (m, 2H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 5.05 (s, 1H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 3.68 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.1 Hz, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 3.58 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 3.49-3.54 (m, 1H), 3.39-3.44 (m, 1H), 3.36 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 2.39-2.45 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.92 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.9, 170.5, 154.1, 149.0, 140.8, 136.8, 136.3, 134.7, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.5, 127.4, 127.1, 126.9 (2C), 125.8, 124.3, 115.6, 60.0, 50.7, 45.7, 44.1, 36.7, 24.6; **FT-IR** ν_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2926 (C-H), 1717 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 430.19 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₅NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 430.1778, found 430.1777.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2c



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-4methoxybenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2c** was obtained (single diastereomer, 74 mg, 85%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 56:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 6.30 min, minor t_R = 8.70 min (87% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +1.4$ (*c* 1.0, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.48-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.37 (m, 7H), 7.17 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 6.78 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.2 Hz, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 6.53-6.55 (m, 2H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 4.63 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.65 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.2 Hz, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 3.49-3.56 (m, 2H), 3.39-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 2.38 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 12.9 Hz, *J* = 7.4 Hz, *J* = 4.3 Hz), 1.87 (dtd, 1H, *J* = 15.1 Hz, *J* = 10.1 Hz, *J* = 5.2 Hz); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.1, 170.7, 159.0, 154.2, 148.5, 136.8, 136.4, 134.6, 133.1, 128.7 (2C), 128.2 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 126.9, 125.7 124.2, 114.4, 113.1 (2C), 60.1, 55.2, 50.7, 45.8, 44.3, 36.6, 24.7; **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2928 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1607 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 460.21 (M + Na⁺, 70); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₉H₂₇NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 460.1883, found 460.1881.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2d



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2d** was obtained (single diastereomer, 66 mg, 76%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 39:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.34 min, minor

 $t_{\rm R} = 14.92 \min (89\% ee); [\alpha]_D^{25} = -9.8 (c \ 1.84, CH_2Cl_2).$

Mp 106 - 109 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.50-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.39 (m, 7H), 7.20 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.45 (s, 2H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.71 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 4.58 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.63 (dd, 1H, J = 9.9 Hz, J = 2.5 Hz), 3.57 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 3.49-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.38-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.34 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.38-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.11 (s, 6H), 1.85 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.0, 170.6, 154.2, 149.3, 140.8, 137.1 (2C), 136.9, 136.3, 134.4, 129.1, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 127.0, 125.8, 125.1 (2C), 124.2, 114.9, 60.0, 50.7, 45.6, 44.5, 36.8, 24.5, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2920 (C-H), 1718 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 458.23 (M + Na⁺, 80); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₉NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 458.2091, found 458.2087.

Synthesis and characterisation of methyl 3-{1-[(2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-1,2'-dioxo-1,3-dihydrospiro [indene-2,3'-piperidin]-4'-yl]vinyl}benzoate 2e



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and methyl 3iodobenzoate (79 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2e** was obtained (single diastereomer, 80 mg, 86%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 41:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 6.31 min, minor t_R = 17.26 min (86% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -0.32$ (*c* 2.5, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.75 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.30-7.40 (m, 7H), 7.20 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.06-7.15 (m, 3H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.69-3.72 (m, 1H), 3.50-3.59 (m, 2H), 3.39-3.44 (m, 1H), 3.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 2.36 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 13.0 Hz, *J* = 6.9 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 1.91 (ddt, 1H, *J* = 15.6 Hz, *J* = 10.5 Hz, *J* = 5.2 Hz); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.9, 170.5, 166.6, 153.9, 148.3, 141.1, 136.8, 136.4, 134.7, 131.4, 129.5, 128.7 (2C), 128.6, 128.5, 128.1 (2C), 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 125.9, 124.1, 116.7, 59.9, 52.0, 50.6, 45.7, 44.2, 36.5, 24.8; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2918 (C-H), 1719 (C=O), 1631

(NC=O), 1589 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 488.21 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₇NNaO₄ [M + Na]⁺ 488.1832, found 488.1826.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(4-bromophenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2f



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-bromo-4-iodobenzene (85 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2f** was obtained (single diastereomer, 76 mg, 79%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 25:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 5.88 min, minor t_R = 8.62 min (86% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +24.8$ (*c* 2.68, CH₂Cl₂).

Mp 58 - 62 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.49-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.39 (m, 7H), 7.21 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz). 7.10 (dd, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 2.1 Hz), 6.68 (dd, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz, J = 2.1 Hz), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 4.68 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.65 (dd, 1H, J = 10.8 Hz, J = 1.5 Hz), 3.48-3.57 (m, 2H), 3.39 (td, 1H, J = 12.3 Hz, J = 4.5 Hz), 3.31 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.32 (ddd, 1H, J = 13.2 Hz, J = 6.9 Hz, J = 4.0 Hz), 1.90 (dtd, 1H, J = 13.5 Hz, J = 10.6 Hz, J = 5.2 Hz); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.1, 170.6, 154.0, 148.1, 139.5, 136.7, 136.5, 134.8, 130.7 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.6 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 127.1, 125.8, 124.3, 121.6, 116.3, 60.0, 50.6, 45.8, 44.1, 36.5, 24.9; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2924 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1588 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 508.10, 510.11 (M + Na⁺, 80); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₄BrNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 508.0883, 510.0864, found 508.0877, 510.0863.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2g



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-chloro-4-iodobenzene (71 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2g** was obtained (single diastereomer, 74 mg, 84%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 33:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 5.72 min, minor t_R = 8.47 min (87% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +14.8$ (*c* 3.1, CH₂Cl₂).

Mp 58 - 60 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.52 (dd, 1H, J = 10.8 Hz, J = 3.9 Hz), 7.27-7.39 (m, 7H), 7.20 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.95 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.74 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 4.68 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.66 (dd, 1H, J = 10.6 Hz, J = 1.5 Hz), 3.49-3.57 (m, 2H), 3.39 (td, 1H, J = 12.3 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.32 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.32 (ddd, 1H, J = 12.3 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.32 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.32 (ddd, 1H, J = 12.3 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.39 (td, 1H, J = 12.3 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.49-

13.1 Hz, J = 6.8 Hz, J = 3.8 Hz), 1.85-1.95 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.0, 170.6, 154.0, 148.1, 139.1, 136.5, 134.8 (2C), 133.4, 128.7 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.5, 127.1, 125.8, 124.3, 116.2, 60.0, 50.6, 45.8, 44.1, 36.5, 24.9; FT-IR $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2925 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1589 (C=C); MS (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 464.15 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₄ClNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 464.1388, found 464.1384.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3-nitrophenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2h



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3nitrobenzene (75 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2h** was obtained (single diastereomer, 69 mg, 77%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 35:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 7.34 min, 86% *ca*): $[x]^{25} = -8.2$ (*c* 1.34 CH/CL)

minor $t_R = 19.96 \text{ min } (86\% \ ee); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.2 \ (c \ 1.34, CH_2Cl_2).$

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.89-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 8.2 Hz, *J* = 5.8 Hz, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 7.24-7.42 (m, 9H), 7.08-7.12 (m, 2H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 5.23 (d, 1H, *J* = 0.7 Hz), 4.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.57 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.73-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.59 (dt, 1H, *J* = 11.8 Hz, *J* = 4.3 Hz), 3.48 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 3.42 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 12.3 Hz, *J* = 5.1 Hz, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 3.33 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 2.26-2.31 (m, 1H), 1.94-2.04 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.0, 170.4, 153.8, 147.4, 147.3, 142.3, 136.6, 136.5, 135.2, 132.9, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 127.2, 126.0, 123.9, 122.5 (2C), 122.3, 118.2, 59.9, 50.6, 45.9, 44.2, 36.3, 25.2; **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2927 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1630 (NC=O), 1592 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 475.18 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₄N₂NaO₄ [M + Na]⁺ 475.1628, found 475.1630.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*R*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(2-thienyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2i



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 2-iodothiophene (63 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2i** was obtained (single diastereomer, 58 mg, 70%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 40:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 6.47 min, minor t_R = 16.80 min (75% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -42.8$ (*c* 1.96, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.53 (ddd, 2H, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 5.9 Hz, J = 2.0 Hz), 7.23-7.40 (m, 7H), 7.01 (dd, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz, J = 1.6 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, J = 4.5 Hz), 6.82-6.84 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.

= 14.6 Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, J = 14.7 Hz), 3.73 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 3.56 (dd, 1H, J = 8.2 Hz, J = 3.3 Hz), 3.38-3.51 (m, 2H), 3.32 (d, 1H, J = 17.1 Hz), 2.59-2.66 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.92 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.9, 169.9, 154.3, 143.8, 141.3, 136.8, 135.6, 134.9, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 125.9, 124.9, 124.6, 124.5, 114.0, 60.1, 50.8, 45.2, 44.4, 37.2, 24.1; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2926 (C-H), 1714 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 436.15 (M + Na⁺, 75); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₆H₂₃NNaO₂S [M + Na]⁺ 436.1342, found 436.1345.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-((*E*)-4-phenylbuta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2j



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*E*)-(2-iodovinyl)benzene (69 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2j** was obtained (single diastereomer, 53 mg, 61%) as a yellow oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 21:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 6.13 min, minor t_R = 8.74 min (53% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -10.1$ (*c* 0.68, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.65 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.53 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.21-7.42 (m, 12H), 6.36-6.49 (m, 2H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.66 (dd, 2H, *J* = 14.6 Hz, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 3.72 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.1 Hz), 3.35-3.50 (m, 3H), 3.26 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.1 Hz), 2.56-2.63 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.90 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.3, 170.0, 154.3, 145.3, 136.9, 136.7, 135.9, 135.0, 129.7, 129.3 128.7 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 126.5 (2C), 126.1, 124.6, 115.9, 59.9, 50.7, 45.3, 41.7, 37.1, 23.8; **FT-IR** ν_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2926 (C-H), 1712 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1589 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 456.23 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₇NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 456.1934, found 456.1925.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-((*Z*)-4-phenylbuta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro [indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2k



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-(2-iodovinyl)benzene (69 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2k** was obtained (single diastereomer, 63 mg, 72%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 23:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 220$ nm, major t_R = 6.14 min,

minor $t_R = 10.20 \text{ min } (77\% \ ee); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.0 \ (c \ 0.20, \ CH_2Cl_2).$

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.51-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.42 (m, 12H), 6.18 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.15 (s, 1H), 4.97 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.52 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 3.34-3.42 (m, 2H), 3.22-3.27 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.19 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.95 (m, 1H); ¹³C **NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.2, 170.6, 154.1, 143.6, 136.8, 136.7, 134.9, 131.0, 130.2, 128.7, 128.6 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 128.0, 127.9 (2C), 127.5, 127.4, 126.9, 126.5, 126.3, 124.5, 117.4, 60.1, 50.4, 45.8, 44.8, 36.5, 24.6; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2925 (C-H), 1714 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 456.23 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₇NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 456.1934, found 456.1927.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-((*Z*)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 2l



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-1-(2-iodovinyl)-4-methoxybenzene (78 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2l** was obtained (single diastereomer, 62 mg, 67%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 20:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD propagal 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 220$ nm, major to = 7.59 min, minor to = 14.06

column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 220$ nm, major t_R = 7.59 min, minor t_R = 14.06 min (65% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -10.7$ (*c* 1.23, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.64 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.51-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.41 (m, 7H), 7.17 (dd, 2H, *J* = 9.3 Hz, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 6.79-6.81 (m, 2H), 6.32 (br s, 2H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 4.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.71 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.1 Hz), 3.36-3.44 (m, 3H), 3.26 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.1 Hz), 2.56-2.62 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.87 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.4, 170.2, 159.3, 154.3, 145.4, 136.9, 135.9, 134.9, 129.5, 128.8, 128.6 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.6, 127.4, 127.2, 126.0, 124.6, 114.9, 113.9 (2C), 59.9, 55.2, 50.7, 45.3, 41.7, 37.1, 23.8; **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2923 (C-H), 1718 (C=O), 1633 (NC=O), 1589 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 486.23 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₂₉NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 486.2040, found 486.2030.

CL

Synthesis and characterisation of (2R,4'S)-1'-benzyl-4'-((Z)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3H)-dione 2m



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-1chloro-4-(2-iodovinyl)benzene (79 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2m** was obtained (single diastereomer, 73 mg, 78%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 18:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 70:30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 8.33 min, minor t_R = 20.44 min (76% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -13.4$ (*c* 0.53, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.76 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.54 (dt, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 7.27-7.41 (m, 7H), 6.99-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.81-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.09 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.70 (dd, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz, *J* = 0.8 Hz), 5.14 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.42 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.49 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.1 Hz), 3.33-3.43 (m, 3H), 3.24 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.6 Hz, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 2.09-2.15 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.97 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.2, 170.6, 153.9, 143.2, 136.8, 136.7, 135.2, 134.9, 132.5, 130.9, 129.6, 129.5 (2C), 128.7, 128.6, 128.1 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 127.6, 127.5, 126.3, 124.5, 117.7, 60.1, 50.4, 45.8, 44.8, 36.4, 24.7; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2931 (C-H), 1713 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1596 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m*/*z* (rel. intensity %) 490.15 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₆ClNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 490.1544, found 490.1540.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2R,4'S)-1'-benzyl-4'-((Z)-4-(3-nitrophenyl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3H)-dione 2n



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-1-(2-iodovinyl)-3-nitrobenzene (82 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2n** was obtained (single diastereomer, 74 mg, 77%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 16:1 dr.

Bn The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 10.62 min, minor t_R = 21.64 min (73% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -11.9$ (*c* 0.87, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.02 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 7.92-7.95 (m, 1H), 7.72 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.19-7.46 (m, 10H), 6.12 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 4.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.40 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.37-3.51 (m, 4H), 3.30 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.7 Hz, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 2.14-2.19 (m, 1H), 1.93-2.05 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.3, 170.5, 153.7, 147.8, 143.2, 138.0, 136.8, 136.6, 134.8, 134.7, 133.5, 128.9, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (3C), 127.6, 127.5, 126.4, 124.4, 122.7, 121.7, 118.0, 60.0, 50.4, 45.9, 44.8, 36.4, 24.7; **FT-IR** ν_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2919 (C-

H), 1716 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1589 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 501.20 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₆N₂NaO₄ [M + Na]⁺ 501.1785, found 501.1787.

Synthesis and characterisation of methyl 4-((*Z*)-3-((2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-1,2'-dioxo-1,3-dihydrospiro[indene-2,3'-piperidin]-4'-yl)buta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzoate 20



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)methyl 4-(2-iodovinyl)benzoate (86 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2o** was obtained (single diastereomer, 67 mg, 68%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 17:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 70:30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 12.16 min, minor t_R = 25.43 min (82% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -7.9$ (*c* 2.36, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.71-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.52-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.42 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.26-7.34 (m, 6H), 6.95 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 6.17 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.4 Hz), 5.11 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 4.75 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.43 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.49 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 3.33-3.39 (m, 3H), 3.24 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.6 Hz, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 2.09-2.14 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.97 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.2, 170.6, 166.8, 153.9, 143.1, 141.6, 136.8, 136.7, 135.0, 132.2, 129.9, 129.3 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.3, 128.2 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 127.7, 127.5, 126.3, 124.5, 118.0, 60.1, 52.0, 50.4, 45.9, 44.8, 36.3, 24.7; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2950 (C-H), 1717 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1608 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 492.24 (M + H⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₂H₃₀NO₄ [M + H]⁺ 492.2169, found 492.2168.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2R,4'S)-1'-benzyl-4'-((Z)-4-(furan-2-yl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3H)-dione 2p



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-2-(2-iodovinyl)furan (66 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2p** was obtained (single diastereomer, 59 mg, 70%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 19:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 70:30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 6.47 min,

minor $t_R = 9.42 \min (71\% ee); [\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.2 (c \ 0.60, CH_2Cl_2).$

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.67 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.29-7.38 (m, 6H), 7.20 (dd, 2H, *J* = 15.3 Hz, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.04 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.8 Hz), 6.14 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.3 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz) 6.08 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 5.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 5.51 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.6 Hz), 5.34 (s, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 4.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.45 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.35-3.50 (m, 4H), 3.31 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.2 Hz, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 2.21-

2.27 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.95 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.9, 170.8, 154.1, 151.4, 143.8, 141.2, 136.8, 136.7, 134.3, 128.6 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7, 127.4, 127.1, 126.1, 124.1, 118.4, 116.6, 110.9, 110.5 60.1, 50.5, 45.9, 45.1, 36.5, 24.4; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2925 (C-H), 1713 (C=O), 1629 (NC=O), 1593 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 446.20 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₅NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 446.1727, found 446.1730.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2R,4'S)-1'-benzyl-4'-((Z)-4-(thiophen-2-yl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3H)-dione 2q



Synthesised from substrate **1a** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-2-(2-iodovinyl)thiophene (71 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **2q** was obtained (single diastereomer, 57 mg, 65%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 18:1 dr.

Bn The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 8.17 min, minor t_R = 11.25 min (75% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -14.3$ (*c* 0.50, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.28-7.36 (m, 6H), 7.22 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.0 Hz, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 7.16 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.01 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 6.77 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 6.67 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 6.15 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 5.51 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 5.48 (s, 1H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 4.76 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.45 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.37-3.48 (m, 4H), 3.30 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.9 Hz, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 2.27-2.32 (m, 1H), 1.92-2.00 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.8, 170.6, 153.9, 144.1, 138.6, 136.8, 134.4, 129.9, 128.6 (2C), 128.2, 128.1 (2C), 128.0, 127.4, 127.1, 126.3, 126.0, 125.1, 124.1, 123.9, 117.8, 60.1, 50.5, 45.9, 45.1, 36.7, 24.5; **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2924 (C-H), 1714 (C=O), 1630 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 440.20 (M + H⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₆NO₂S [M + H]⁺ 440.1679, found 440.1674.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-6-methyl-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4a



Synthesised from substrate **1b** (69 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4a** was obtained (single diastereomer, 75 mg, 84%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 26:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.21 min,

minor $t_R = 6.47 \text{ min} (86\% \ ee); [\alpha]_D^{25} = -23.4 \ (c \ 2.1, \ CH_2Cl_2).$

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.26-7.39 (m, 7H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 4.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.56 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.62 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.9 Hz, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 3.48-3.54 (m, 2H), 3.40 (td, 1H, *J* = 12.2 Hz, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 3.29 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 2.40 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 12.8 Hz, *J* = 7.7 Hz, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 1.79-1.89 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.0, 170.6, 151.5, 149.3, 141.0, 137.1 (2C), 136.9 136.7, 136.6, 135.8, 128.9, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 125.5, 125.1 (2C), 124.1, 114.9, 60.4, 50.6, 45.6, 44.5, 36.4, 24.6, 21.1 (2C), 20.9; **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2920 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1600 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 472.24 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₃₁NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 472.2247, found 472.2244.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-6-methoxy-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4b



Synthesized from substrate 1c (72 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4b was obtained (single diastereomer, 76 mg, 82%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 42:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, Bn hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.54 min, minor t_R = 6.35 min (89% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -31.0$ (*c* 2.8, CH₂Cl₂).

Mp 55 - 57 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.30-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.26 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.13 (dd, 1H, J = 8.3 Hz, J = 2.5 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, 1H, J = 2.3 Hz), 6.42 (br s, 2H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.76 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 4.54 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.63-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.52 (m, 1H), 3.44 (d, 1H, J = 16.8 Hz), 3.37-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.25 (d, 1H, J = 16.6 Hz), 2.32-2.36 (m, 1H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 1.87 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.9, 170.7, 159.0, 149.3, 147.1, 140.9, 137.8, 137.1 (2C), 136.9, 129.0, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 126.5, 125.1 (2C), 124.1, 115.1, 105.2, 60.9, 55.4, 50.6, 45.8, 44.5, 36.0, 24.9, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2929 (C-H), 1715 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1600 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 488.24 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₃₁NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 488.2196, found 488.2198.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4c



Synthesised from substrate 1d (79 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4c was obtained (single diastereomer, 80 mg, 80%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 28:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.10 min, minor

 $t_{\rm R} = 10.68 \min (86\% ee); [\alpha]_D^{25} = -2.7 (c 2.88, CH_2Cl_2).$

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.74 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.30-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.23-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 6.37 (s, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.60 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.75 (d, 1H, *J* = 11.1 Hz), 3.58-3.62 (m, 1H), 3.55 (d, 2H, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 3.39-3.44 (m, 1H), 2.29 (dd, 1H, *J* = 13.4 Hz, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 2.06 (s, 6H), 1.89-2.01 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.4, 170.4, 151.7, 149.1, 140.2, 137.9, 137.0 (2C), 136.6, 130.6, 130.5, 129.2, 128.8 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 125.4 (2C), 125.2, 115.5, 59.9, 50.7, 46.0, 44.6, 35.4, 25.2), 21.0 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2920 (C-H), 1726 (C=O), 1633 (NC=O), 1596 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 526.21 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₂₈F₃NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 526.1964, found 526.1968.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-5-fluoro-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4d



Synthesised from substrate 1e (70 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4d was obtained (single diastereomer, 72 mg, 80%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 21:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.70 min,

minor $t_R = 12.89 \text{ min } (87\% \ ee); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = -15.3 \ (c \ 2.8, \ CH_2Cl_2).$

Mp 122 - 126 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.04 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 0.9 Hz), 6.88 (dt, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.58 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.66 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.1 Hz, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 3.49-3.56 (m, 2H), 3.38-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.31 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.2 Hz), 2.35-2.41 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 12.8 Hz, *J* = 7.2 Hz, *J* = 4.2 Hz), 2.13 (s, 6H), 1.85 (dtd, 1H, *J* = 15.1 Hz, *J* = 10.1 Hz, *J* = 5.1 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 203.1, 170.4, 165.8, 157.2, 149.2, 140.6, 137.2 (2C), 136.8, 132.9, 129.2, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 126.4, 125.1 (2C), 115.3, 115.1, 112.4, 60.4, 50.7, 45.7, 44.4, 36.5, 24.7 19.4 (2C); FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2921 (C-H), 1719 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1594 (C=C); MS (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity

%) 476.21 (M + Na⁺, 85); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for $C_{30}H_{28}FNNaO_2 [M + Na]^+$ 476.1996, found 476.2000.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-5-bromo-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4e



Synthesised from substrate **1f** (81 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4e** was obtained (single diastereomer, 60 mg, 58%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 32:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, n hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 5.23 min,

minor $t_R = 13.95 \text{ min } (86\% \ ee); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = +37.7 \ (c \ 0.98, \ CH_2Cl_2).$

Mp 131 - 135 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.10 (d, 1H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.43 (s, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, J =14.6 Hz), 4.57 (d, 1H, J = 14.6 Hz), 3.66 (dd, 1H, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 1.5 Hz), 3.52-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.48 (d, 1H, J = 17.3 Hz), 3.40 (td, 1H, J = 12.2 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz), 3.30 (d, 1H, J = 17.2 Hz), 2.31-2.37 (m, 1H) 2.12 (s, 6H), 1.86 (ddt, 1H, J = 15.6 Hz, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 5.1 Hz); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.0, 170.4, 155.8, 149.2, 140.4, 137.2 (2C), 136.7, 135.4, 130.5, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.5, 125.3 (2C), 125.1, 115.2, 60.2, 50.7, 45.8, 44.5, 36.3, 24.9, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2921 (C-H), 1720 (C=O), 1633 (NC=O), 1597 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 536.14, 538.13 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₈BrNNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 536.1196, 538.1177, found 536.1201, 538.1175.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-5-chloro-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl) vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4f



Synthesised from substrate **1g** (73 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4f** was obtained (single diastereomer, 75 mg, 80%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 53:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 4.95 min,

minor $t_R = 13.48 \text{ min } (84\% \ ee); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = +32.0 \ (c \ 3.35, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2).$

Mp 170 - 174 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.36-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 4.70 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.58 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.67 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.6 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz), 3.52-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.48 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.2 Hz), 3.36-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.31 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.2 Hz), 2.32-2.38 (m, 1H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 1.82-1.91 (m, 1H); ¹³C **NMR**

(100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 203.7, 170.4, 155.7, 149.2, 140.9, 140.5, 137.2 (2C), 136.7, 135.0, 129.2, 128.7 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7, 127.5, 125.9, 125.3 (2C), 125.1, 115.2, 60.3, 50.7, 45.8, 44.5, 36.4, 24.8, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $\nu_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2920 (C-H), 1719 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1600 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 492.19 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₀H₂₈ClNNaO₂ [M + Na⁺ 492.1701, found 492.1700.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-1'-propyl-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4g



Synthesised from substrate **1h** (57 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4g** was obtained (single diastereomer, 56 mg, 72%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 40:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 3.81 min, minor

 $t_{\rm R} = 11.82 \min (89\% \ ee), \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = -3.2 \ (c \ 2.4, \ {\rm CH}_2{\rm Cl}_2).$

Mp 106 - 109 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.47-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.29 (t, 1H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.17 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 3.57-3.63 (m, 2H), 3.43-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.33-3.39 (m, 2H), 3.29 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.43-2.49 (m, 1H), 2.11 (s, 6H), 1.83-1.93 (m, 1H), 1.63 (qt, 2H, J = 14.2 Hz, J = 7.0 Hz), 0.93 (t, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.1, 170.0, 154.3, 149.4, 140.9, 137.1 (2C), 136.3, 134.3, 129.1, 126.8, 125.7, 125.1 (2C), 124.1, 114.8, 59.9, 49.4, 46.3, 44.5, 36.7, 24.6, 21.1 (2C), 20.2, 11.3; FT-IR $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2929 (C-H), 1718 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1588 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 410.23 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₆H₂₉NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 410.2091, found 410.2088.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-1'-isopropyl-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4h



Synthesised from substrate **1i** (57 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4h** was obtained (single diastereomer, 65 mg, 84%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 2:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 29:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, *i*Pr hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 3.74 min, minor t_R = 5.52 min (86% *ee*); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = +0.4$ (*c* 3.9, CH₂Cl₂). ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.46-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.28 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.15 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.45 (s, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 1H), 4.83 (sept., 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 3.58 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.0 Hz, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 3.41-3.49 (m, 3H), 3.28 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 2.42-2.49 (m, 1H), 2.10 (s, 6H), 1.78-1.88 (m, 1H), 1.21 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 1.14 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.8 Hz); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.2, 169.7, 154.3, 149.6, 140.9, 137.1 (2C), 136.4, 134.3, 129.1, 126.8, 125.7, 125.1 (2C), 124.1, 114.7, 60.2, 44.8, 44.2, 39.3, 36.9, 24.8, 21.1 (2C), 19.3, 19.0; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2923 (C-H), 1718 (C=O), 1624 (NC=O), 1586 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 410.24 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₂₆H₂₉NNaO₂ [M + Na]⁺ 410.2091, found 410.2097.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4i



Synthesised from substrate **1j** (72 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4i** was obtained (single diastereomer, 67 mg, 72%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 41:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, λ = 230 nm, major t_R = 5.02 min,

minor $t_R = 16.60 \text{ min } (88\% ee); [\alpha]_D^{25} = -13.2 (c 2.26, CH_2Cl_2).$ **Mp** 135 - 139 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_H 7.52 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.38 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.33 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.25-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.19 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.90 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 2H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 4.64 (d, 1H, J = 14.4 Hz), 4.51 (d, 1H, J = 14.4 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.62 (dd, 1H, J = 10.0 Hz, J = 2.5 Hz), 3.55 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 3.46-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.37-3.42 (m, 1H), 3.32 (d, 1H, J = 17.0 Hz), 2.37-2.43 (m, 1H), 2.11 (s, 6H), 1.78-1.88 (m, 1H); ¹³C **NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ_C 205.0, 170.4, 159.0, 154.2, 149.3, 140.8, 137.1 (2C), 136.3, 134.4, 129.5 (2C), 129.1, 129.0, 126.9, 125.8, 125.1 (2C), 124.2, 114.9, 114.0 (2C), 60.0, 55.3, 50.1, 45.4, 44.4, 36.8, 24.6, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{max}(\text{NaCl})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 2930 (C-H), 1955 (C=C=C), 1717 (C=O), 1630 (C=O); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 488.24 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₃₁NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 488.2196, found 488.2191.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-5-bromo-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl) vinyl]-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4j



Synthesised from substrate 1k (88 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4j was obtained (single diastereomer, 78 mg, 72%) as a colourless solid after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 41:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, PMB hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 7.05 min,

minor $t_R = 15.30 \text{ min } (81\% \text{ ee}); \ [\alpha]_D^{25} = -33.5 \text{ (c } 1.68, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2).$

Mp 124 - 127 °C; ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.24-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, 1H, J = 8.1 Hz), 6.90 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.43 (s, 2H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.63 (d, 1H, J = 14.4 Hz), 4.49 (d, 1H, J = 14.4 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.63-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.50-3.55 (m, 1H), 3.46 (d, 1H, J = 16.4 Hz), 3.36-3.45 (m, 1H), 3.28 (d, 1H, J = 17.2 Hz), 2.30-2.35 (m, 1H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 1.79-1.89 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.0, 170.2, 159.1, 155.9, 149.3, 144.4, 137.2, 135.4, 130.5 (2C), 129.7, 129.5 (2C), 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 125.3 (2C), 125.1, 115.1, 114.1 (2C), 60.2, 55.3, 50.1, 45.6, 44.5, 36.3, 24.9, 21.1 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2920 (C-H), 1719 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1597 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) m/z (rel. intensity %) 566.15, 568.15 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₃₀BrNNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 566.1301, 568.1283, found 566.1297, 568.1284.

Synthesis and characterisation of methyl 4-((*Z*)-3-((2*R*,4'*S*)-1'-benzyl-6-methoxy-1,2'-dioxo-1,3-dihydrospiro[indene-2,3'-piperidin]-4'-yl)buta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzoate 4k



Synthesised from substrate 1c (73 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-methyl 4-(2-iodovinyl)benzoate (86 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4k was obtained (single diastereomer, 59 mg, 81%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 18:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 70:30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 11.80 min, minor t_R = 20.80 min (76% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -13.9$ (*c* 0.54, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.72-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.36 (m, 6H), 7.18 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 7.10-7.13 (m, 1H), 6.99-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.19 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.12 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.77 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 4.40 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.28-3.39 (m, 4H), 3.25 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.6 Hz, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 2.06-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.96 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 205.1, 170.6, 166.7, 159.6, 146.8, 143.2, 141.6, 138.0, 136.7, 132.3, 129.8, 129.7, 129.3 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.4, 128.2, 128.1 (2C), 127.4, 127.0, 124.5, 117.9, 105.5, 60.8, 55.6, 52.0 50.4, 45.9, 44.7, 35.7, 29.7; **FT-IR** v_{max} (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2924 (C-H), 1715 (C=O), 1632 (NC=O), 1590 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 544.23 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for $C_{33}H_{31}NNaO_5$ [M + Na]⁺ 544.2094, found 544.2094.

Synthesis and characterisation of (2R,4'S)-5-bromo-4'-((Z)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)-1'-(4-methoxybenzyl)spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3H)-dione 4l



Synthesised from substrate **1k** (88 mg, 0.20 mmol) and (*Z*)-1chloro-4-(2-iodovinyl)benzene (79 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound **4l** was obtained (single diastereomer, 91 mg, 79%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:1). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 16:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 70:30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 11.43 min, minor t_R = 16.76 min (71% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -18.8$ (*c* 0.90, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.58 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.50 (d, 1H, *J* = 0.8 Hz), 7.43-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.20 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.05-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.92 (m, 4H), 6.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.67 (d, 1H, *J* = 12.5 Hz), 5.19 (s, 1H), 5.03 (s, 1H), 4.67 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.4 Hz), 4.33 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.4 Hz) 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.20-3.42 (m, 5H), 2.08-2.13 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.92 (m, 1H); ¹³C **NMR** (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 204.1, 170.1, 159.1, 155.4, 143.4, 135.7, 134.9, 132.9, 131.2, 130.9, 130.4, 129.8, 129.6 (3C), 129.5 (2C), 128.7, 128.2 (2C), 125.5, 117.7, 114.0 (2C), 60.2, 55.3, 49.8, 45.6, 44.7, 36.0, 24.6; **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}$ (NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2931 (C-H), 1717 (C=O), 1631 (NC=O), 1596 (C=C); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 598.10, 600.11 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₂₇BrClNNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 598.0755, 600.0735 found 598.0745, 600.0718.

Synthesis and characterisation of (5*S*,10*S*)-7-benzyl-10-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]-2,7-diazaspiro[4.5]decane-1,6-dione 4m



Synthesised from substrate 11 (88 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 1-iodo-3,5dimethylbenzene (70 mg, 0.30 mmol) according to the general procedure. Compound 4m was obtained (single diastereomer, 65 mg, 60%) as a colourless oil after purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 1:2). Analysis of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture showed a 33:1 dr.

The *ee* was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel AD column, hexane/isopropanol 60:40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 230$ nm, major t_R = 5.72 min, minor t_R

= 8.07 min (83% *ee*); $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ = -23.4 (*c* 1.80, CH₂Cl₂).

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.89 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.26-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.07-7.09 (m, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 2H), 5.36 (s, 1H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 4.68 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.7 Hz), 4.31 (d, 1H, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 4.05 (q, 1H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 3.91 (dt, 1H, *J* = 8.9 Hz, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 3.43 (t, 1H, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 3.27-3.34 (m, 1H), 3.17-3.23 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 2.18 (td, 1H, *J* = 13.3 Hz, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 1.48-1.56 (m, 1H); ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_{\rm C}$ 172.9, 168.5, 147.3, 144.9, 141.0, 138.1 (2C), 136.4, 134.6, 129.8, 129.5 (2C), 128.6 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.4, 124.5 (2C), 114.6, 55.8, 50.5, 45.8, 44.2, 44.1, 28.5, 22.6, 21.7, 21.3 (2C); **FT-IR** $v_{\rm max}({\rm NaCl})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2950 (C-H), 1720 (NC=O), 1638 (NC=O), 1359 (SO₂), 1112 (SO₂); **MS** (ESI+) *m/z* (rel. intensity %) 565.24 (M + Na⁺, 100); **HRMS** (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₂H₃₄N₂NaO₄S [M + Na]⁺ 565.2137, found 565.2138.

6. Synthesis of diastereomer 4b'

Synthesis and characterisation of *rac-*(2*R*,4'*R*)-1'-benzyl-4'-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)vinyl]-6methoxy-2'*H*-spiro[indene-2,3'-piperidine]-1,2'(3*H*)-dione 4b'

MeO O N Bn

To a solution of **1c** (42 mg, 0.160 mmol) in dioxane (0.30 mL) was added LiHMDS (1.0 M in cyclohexanes, 0.14 mL, 0.140 mmol) at room temperature. After 20 minutes a solution of 1-iodo-3,5-dimethylbenzene (40 mg, 0.170 mmol) and Pd(dppf)Cl₂ (10 mg, 0.012 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (0.30 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 16 h. The reacton mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated. The crude residue (dr 3:1 **4b**:**4b**') was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EtOAc 4:1 to 1:1) to afford **4b**'

(10 mg, 19%) as a yellow oil. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -8.0 (c \ 0.30, CHCl_3)$; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_H 7.34-7.41 (m, 4H)$, 7.27-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.90-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.34 (br s, 2H), 4.92-5.03 (m, 3H), 4.38 (d, 1H, J = 14.8 Hz), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.71 (d, 1H, J = 16.7 Hz), 3.47-3.54 (m, 2H), 3.32 (dd, 1H, J = 13.4 Hz, J = 2.4 Hz), 3.07-3.20 (m, 1H, J = 11.2 Hz, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.56 (d, 1H, J = 16.7 Hz), 2.19 (s, 6H), 1.81-1.89 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta_C 204.7$, 169.4, 159.3, 148.6, 148.1, 143.5, 137.4, 137.1 (2C), 136.9, 129.0, 128.7 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.3, 126.7, 124.4 (2C), 124.0 (2C), 116.4, 104.9, 61.7, 55.6, 50.8, 46.8 (2C), 38.0, 24.7, 21.2; FT-IR v_{max}(NaCl)/cm⁻¹ 2956 (C-H), 1713 (C=O), 1628 (NC=O); MS (ESI+) *m*/*z* (rel. intensity %) 466.30 (M + H⁺, 90), 488.29 (M + Na⁺, 100); HRMS (ESI+) calcd. for C₃₁H₃₁NNaO₃ [M + Na]⁺ 488.2196, found 488.2183.

7. References

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¹H NMR spectrum of **1a**



35




¹H NMR spectrum of **1c**



¹H NMR spectrum of **1d**





¹H NMR spectrum of **1e**



¹³C NMR spectrum of **1e**



 1 H NMR spectrum of **1**f



¹H NMR spectrum of **1g**



1 H NMR spectrum of **1h**



¹H NMR spectrum of **1i**



¹H NMR spectrum of **1**j



¹H NMR spectrum of **1k**



¹H NMR spectrum of **3i**



¹³C NMR spectrum of **3i**



¹H NMR spectrum of **2a**



2a HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2a HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched



¹H NMR spectrum of **2b**



2b HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2b HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





Area Percent Report

Sort	ted By		:	Sig	nal	
Multiplier			:	1.0000		
Dilution			:	1.0000		
Use	Multiplier	&	Dilution	Factor	with	ISTDs

Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=230 nm

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Туре	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	5.532	BV	0.2489	3409.95728	202.02847	93.7336
2	14.409	BB	0.4820	227.96500	5.54135	6.2664
Totals :				3637.92227	207.56982	

¹H NMR spectrum of 2c



^{13}C NMR spectrum of 2c



2c HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2c HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched



¹H NMR spectrum of **2d**



2d HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2d HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **2e**



2e HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2e HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





1 H NMR spectrum of **2**f



2f HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2f HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min









2g HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic: Mixture of 2 diastereomers



2g HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched: Major diastereomer







2h HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic: Mixture of 2 diastereomers



2h HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched: Major diastereomers



¹H NMR spectrum of **2i**



2i HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min




2i HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min







2j HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2j HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched







¹³C NMR spectra of **2**k



2k HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2k HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min







HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





21 HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched





2m HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min





2m HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min









2n HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2n HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched





 13 C NMR spectra of **20**



20 HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic



20 HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched





2p HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic



2p HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min







2q HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





2q HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4a**



¹³C NMR spectrum of **4a**



4a HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic: Mixture of 2 diastereomers



4a HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4b**



4b HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4b HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4c**



4c HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4c HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4d**



4d HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min




4d HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4e**



4e HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic: Mixture of 2 diastereomers



4e HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4**f



4f HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic: Mixture of 2 diastereomers



4f HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4g**



4g HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4g HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4h**



¹³C NMR spectrum of **4h**



4h HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4h HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4i**



4i HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4i HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched



¹H NMR spectrum of **4**j



4j HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4j HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched









4k HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min





4k HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min







4I HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min

Racemic



4I HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 70:30; 1.0 mL/min

Enantioenriched



¹H NMR spectrum of 4m



4m HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





4m HPLC: Chiralcel AD; hexane/isopropanol 60:40; 1.0 mL/min





¹H NMR spectrum of **4b'**



220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 ppm (t1)

9. Relative stereochemistry assignment of 4b and 4b' using NOESY analysis

NOSEY of 4b (500 MHz, CDCl₃)





NOESY of **4b'** (500 MHz, CDCl₃)



NOESY of 4b' (500 MHz, CDCl₃)



10. Determination of the Absolute Configuration of 4b using Vibrational Circular Dichroism.

Experimental Details

Infrared and VCD spectra of the compound under study was obtained using a BioTools Chiral*IR*-2X dual PEM spectrometer, as installed at the European Centre for Chriality.^[1] A 0.16M solution of the sample dissolved in CDCl₃ was used in combination with a 100 micron liquid cell equipped with BaF_2 windows. Baseline corrections were obtained by using the spectra of a pure solvent. For the solution and the pure solvent, 60000 scans were recorded at 4 cm⁻¹ resolution and averaged.

Computational details

The experimental spectra obtained were compared with predicted spectra derived for the (2R,4'S) stereoisomer. Conformational analyses were performed using the MMFF94S, MMFF and SYBYL force fields. The geometries derived from the molecular mechanics simulations were optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G*, using a SCRF model to account for solvent polarization. Gaussian09^[2] was used for all DFT calculations. Boltzmann weighted IR and VCD spectra were obtained by assuming Lorentzian band profiles with a FWHH of 10 cm⁻¹. The Boltzmann populations used were based on the standard enthalpies obtained. The number of unique conformations used to calculate the Boltzmann weighted IR and VCD spectra was 31. The two most abundant conformations, with a predicted relative population of 27.5 and 12.7%, are:



Absolute Configuration

The experimental IR and VCD spectra and the predicted spectra of the (2R,4'S) stereoisomer obtained for **4b** are shown. The calculated data, based upon a uniform scaling factor of 0.968 for the frequencies, neatly reproduces the characteristic patterns in IR and VCD. The agreement between experiment and theory confirms the proposed (2R,4'S) stereochemistry.



Numerical data confirming the assignment of the absolute configuration as (2R,4'S) was obtained using the CompareVOA algorithm as described in ref.^[3] The IR similarity index, based upon a scaling factor of the calculated frequencies of 0.968, was determined to be 95.2%. The corresponding values for the VCD spectra obtained for the (2R,4'S) and (2S,4'R) diastereoisomers were 62.2% and 8.2%,

respectively, and lead to a enantiomeric similarity index Δ equal to 54%. The localization of the current assignment with respect to the database of correct and incorrect assignments supporting the compareVOA algorithm is shown below. The confidence level for the assignment is 99%.



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