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# Supporting Information

## Assembly of Robust Two Dimensional Sheet Structures from Crystalline Ring-Fused Malonamides via Cooperative Hydrogen Bonding of Amide Groups

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Experimental procedures	p. S2
Crystal structures	p. S8
References	p. S14

## **Experimental procedures**

#### **General remarks**

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL AL-300 (<sup>1</sup>H/300 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C/75 MHz), Bruker BioSpin · Avance DPX-300 (<sup>1</sup>H/300 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C/75 MHz), Bruker Biospin · AVANCE DPX-400 (<sup>1</sup>H/400 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C/100 MHz) or Bruker Biospin · AVANCE 400M (<sup>1</sup>H/400 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C/100 MHz) spectrometers. The chemical shifts of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR signals are quoted relative to TMS in CDCl<sub>3</sub> unless otherwise indicated. IR spectra were taken on a JASCO model FT/IR-230 and HORIBA FT-710 infrared spectrophotometers. Mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-600H (EI, 70eV), JMS-AX505H (FAB), JMS-SX102A (FD) and JMS-T100GCv (FD) spectrometers. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (Merck, particle size 63-200  $\mu$ m) and aluminum oxide 90 (Merck, 63-200  $\mu$ m), respectively. Melting points were measured on a Yamato MP-21 apparatus. Elemental analyses were taken on a Yanako MT-6 CHN corder at the Center for Instrumental Analysis of Hokkaido University. Solvents were purified prior to use. Reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere unless **3c**.<sup>S3</sup> 1,2-Bis(bromomethyl)-4,5-dimethoxybenzene otherwise indicated. 2,3-bis(bromomethyl)-1,4dimethoxybenzene 3d, <sup>S4</sup> 1,8-bis(bromomethyl)naphthalene 3f, <sup>S5</sup> and 2,2-indanedicarbonitrile  $4a^{S1}$  were prepared following the known procedures.



#### 2,2-Indanedicarbonitrile 4a

To a suspension of NaH (228 mg, 9.5 mmol) in dry DMSO (22 mL) was added malononitrile (275 mg, 4.2 mmol) at 25 °C. After gas evolution ceased, *o*-xylylene dibromide **3a** (1.02 g, 3.86 mmol) was added and the resulting suspension was heated at 50 °C for 2 h. After cooling, the mixture was neutralized with 0.1 M HClaq and extracted with chloroform (× 2). The organic layer was washed with 0.1 M HClaq, water and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The brown solid obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with ether to give **4a** (548 mg, 85%) as a beige solid: The spectral data were identical with those reported in the literature.<sup>S1 1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.31 (s, 4H), 3.74 (s, 4H).

#### 2,2-Indanedicarboxamide 1a

To a solution of dinitrile **4a** (548 mg, 3.26 mmol) in DMSO (3.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (1.2 mL). After cooling to 0 °C, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (200 mg, 1.45 mmol) was added portionwise and stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The resulting suspension was diluted with water and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O to give **1a** (283 mg, 43%) as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from THF: m.p. 258-260 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.18-7.06 (m, 8H), 3.39 (s, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 173.21, 141.03, 126.24, 123.88, 62.00, 39.86; IR (KBr): v/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3447, 3359, 3201, 2958, 2917, 1689, 1655, 1623, 1591, 1404, 1355, 1134, 1099, 942, 863, 784, 670; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 204 (M<sup>+</sup>, 16), 160 (77), 143 (29), 117 (50), 116 (74), 115 (BP); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 204.0899; found: 204.0906; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 64.69; H, 5.92; N, 13.72; found: C, 64.62; H, 5.99; N, 13.67.

#### 1,2-Bis(bromomethyl)-4-iodobenzene 3b

The mixture of 4-iodoxylene (3.48 g, 15.0 mmol), NBS (5.90 g, 33.0 mmol) and benzoyl peroxide (180 mg, 0.75 mmol) in benzene (94 mL) was refluxed for 20 h. After cooling to r.t., the resulting suspension was filtered to remove succinimide and unreacted NBS. The filtrate was washed with 5% Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>aq, water and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The yellow oil obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with hexane to give **3b** (2.95 mg, 50%) as a white solid. The spectral data were identical with those reported in the literature.<sup>S2 1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.72 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.56 (s, 2H).

#### 5-Iodoindane-2,2-dicarbonitrile 4b

To a suspension of NaH (60% in oil, 230 mg, 5.7 mmol) and 1,2-bis(bromomethyl)-4-iodobenzene **4b**<sup>S2</sup> (999 mg, 2.58 mmol) in dry DMF (2.6 mL) was added a solution of malononitrile (193 mg, 2.91 mmol) in DMF (2.6 mL) dropwise at 25 °C over 1 h. After gas evolution ceased, the resulting suspension was stirred for 1 h. The mixture was poured into a separating funnel containing EtOAc and water, and neutralized with 1 M HClaq and extracted with EtOAc (× 2). The organic layer was washed with 1 M HClaq, water and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The red solid obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with EtOAc/hexane (1/19) to give **4b** (263 mg, 35%) as a pale yellow solid: m.p. 140-141 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 138.65, 137.80, 135.97, 133.99, 126.54, 115.83, 93.73, 44.14 (2C), 33.66; IR (KBr): v/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2985, 2938, 2254, 2245, 1476, 1430, 1289, 1268, 1250, 1237, 1172, 1091, 1031, 889, 870, 811, 733; MS (FAB+) *m/z* (%): 293.6 (M<sup>+</sup>).

#### 5-iodoindane-2,2-dicarboxamide 1b

To a solution of dinitrile **4b** (101 mg, 0.34 mmol) in DMSO (1.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (0.3 mL) at 0 °C. To a solution was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (42 mg, 0.30 mmol) and stirred at 25 °C for 30 min. The resulting suspension was diluted with 1 M HClaq and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O to give **1b** (75 mg, 67%) as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from CH<sub>3</sub>CN: m.p. 273-274 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (br.s, 2H), 6.53 (br.s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm: 172.78, 144.19, 140.98, 134.89, 132.54, 126.20, 91.53, 61.90, 40.09-38.84 (overlapped with solv.); IR (KBr): 3360, 3174, 2963, 2916, 1645, 1628, 1595, 1365, 1228, 1178, 1133, 1103, 1069, 877, 813, 781, 721, 656 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (FAB+) *m/z* (%): 330.5 (M<sup>+</sup>).

#### 5,6-Dimethoxyindane-2,2-dicarbonitrile 4c

To a suspension of NaH (101 mg, 4.2 mmol) in dry DMSO (5 mL) was added a solution of 1,2bis(bromomethyl)-4,5-dimethoxybenzene  $3c^{S3}$  (648 mg, 2.0 mmol) and malononitrile (132 mg, 2.0 mmol) in dry DMSO (4 mL) dropwise at 0 °C over 5 min. After stirring the resulting suspension at 25 °C for 2 h, the mixture was poured into a separating funnel containing EtOAc and water, and neutralized with 0.1 M HClaq and extracted with EtOAc (× 2). The organic layer was washed with 0.1 M HClaq, 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub>aq and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The orange solid obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with EtOAc/hexane (4/6) to give 4c (344 mg, 75%) as a white solid: m.p. 119.5-120.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 6.78 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 6H), 3.67 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 149.84, 127.96, 116.44, 107.44, 56.14, 44.76, 33.97; IR (KBr): 2964, 2939, 2835, 2244, 1610, 1504, 1466, 1319, 1278, 1245, 1222, 1097, 989, 859, 722, 570 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 229 (M<sup>+</sup>+1, 26), 228 (M<sup>+</sup>, BP), 213 (45), 158 (34); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 228.0899; found: 204.0898.

#### 5,6-Dimethoxyindane-2,2-dicarboxamide 1c

To a solution of **4c** (237 mg, 1.04 mmol) in dry DMSO (5.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (4.0 mL). After cooling to r.t., K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (250 mg, 1.81 mmol) was added portionwise and stirred at 25 °C for 3 h. The resulting suspension was diluted with water and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with EtOH to give **1c** (115 mg, 42%) as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from CH<sub>3</sub>CN/benzene: m.p. 260-263 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.12 (br.s, 2H), 7.10 (br.s, 2H), 6.77 (s, 2H), 3.70 (s, 6H), 3.32 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm: 173.35, 147.84, 132.43, 108.07, 62.50, 55.60; IR (KBr): 3413, 3366, 3308, 3192, 2928, 2830, 1660, 1624, 1509, 1465, 1324, 1274, 1218, 1094, 994, 850, 837 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 264 (M<sup>+</sup>, 80), 220 (BP), 219 (50), 203 (29); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>:

264.1110; found: 264.1137; Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{13}H_{16}N_2O_4 \cdot 0.5H_2O$ : C, 57.13; H, 6.27; N, 10.25; found: C, 56.89; H, 6.10; N, 10.00.

#### 4,7-Dimethoxyindane-2,2-dicarbonitrile 4d

To a suspension of NaH (101 mg, 4.2 mmol) in dry DMSO (5 mL) was added a suspension of 2,3bis(bromomethyl)-1,4-dimethoxybenzene  $3d^{S4}$  (648 mg, 2.0 mmol) and malononitrile (132 mg, 2.0 mmol) in dry DMSO (4 mL) at 25 °C. After stirring the resulting suspension for 2 h, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water and filtered. The filtrate was washed with 0.1 M HClaq, 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub>aq and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The yellow oil obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with EtOAc/hexane (2/8) to give 4d (92 mg, 20%) as a white solid: m.p. 172-173 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 6.72 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 6H), 3.69 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 149.88, 125.87, 116.52, 110.77, 55.62, 42.51, 33.28; IR (KBr): 2968, 2943, 2839, 2254, 1504, 1440, 1266, 1085, 958, 812, 716, 655 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 229 (M<sup>+</sup>+1, 15), 228 (M<sup>+</sup>, BP), 213 (94); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 228.0899; found: 204.0926.

#### 4,7-Dimethoxyindane-2,2-dicarboxamide 1d

To a suspension of **4c** (53 mg, 0.23 mmol) in dry DMSO (2.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (1.0 mL) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (80 mg, 0.58 mmol) and stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The resulting suspension was diluted with water and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with water to give **1d** as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from THF: m.p. 273-274 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.14 (br.s, 2H), 7.11 (br.s, 2H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 3.70 (s, 6H), 3.33 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ /ppm: 173.24, 149.27, 129.89, 109.07, 61.55, 55.24; IR (KBr): 3413, 3302, 3213, 2999, 2965, 2894, 2832, 1653, 1615, 1492, 1462, 1360, 1252, 1136, 1084, 1054, 960, 809, 653, 600 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (%): 264 (M<sup>+</sup>, 50), 220 (BP), 219 (30), 203 (33), 176 (46), 161 (49); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 264.1110; found: 264.1140; Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 59.08; H, 6.10; N, 10.60; found: C, 58.94; H, 6.13; N, 10.57.



#### 1,3-Dihydrocyclopenta[c]napthalene-2,2-dicarbonitrile 4e

To a suspension of NaH (60% in oil, 135 mg, 3.4 mmol) and 2,3-bis(chloromethyl)naphthalene **3e** (299 mg, 1.33 mmol) in dry DMF (3.0 mL) was added a solution of malononitrile (142 mg, 2.14 mmol) in DMF (2.0 mL) dropwise at 25 °C over 1 h. After gas evolution ceased, the resulting suspension was stirred for 1 h. The mixture was poured into a separating funnel containing EtOAc and water, and neutralized with 1 M HClaq and extracted with EtOAc (× 2). The organic layer was washed with 1 M HClaq, water and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The pale yellow solid obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane (1/1) to give **4e** (139 mg, 42%) as a pale yellow solid: m.p. 216-217 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.82 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (s, 2H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 134.16, 133.40, 127.89, 126.60, 123.85, 116.10, 44.25, 34.32; IR (KBr): v/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3051, 2970, 2923, 2257, 2248, 1500, 1435, 1087, 1023, 907, 872, 766, 483; MS (EI) *m*/*z* (%): 218 (M<sup>+</sup>, bp), 190 (35); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 218.0844; found: 218.0856.

#### 1,3-Dihydrocyclopenta[c]napthalene-2,2-dicarboxamide 2a

To a solution of dinitrile **4e** (110 mg, 0.50 mmol) in DMSO (2.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (0.5 mL) at 0 °C. To a solution was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (36 mg, 0.22 mmol) and stirred at 25 °C for 30 min. The resulting suspension was diluted with 1 M HClaq and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with EtOH to give **2a** (80 mg, 63%) as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from THF: m.p. 270-272 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.79 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (s, 2H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (br.s, 2H), 7.16 (br.s, 2H), 3.53 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 172.94, 140.45,

132.51, 127.27, 124.96, 121.71, 62.45, 40.33-38.67 (overlapped with solv.); IR (KBr): 3450, 3360, 3206, 1690, 1662, 1651, 1352, 1124, 1083 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) m/z (%): 254 (M<sup>+</sup>, 80), 211 (35), 210 (BP), 209 (34), 193 (50), 167 (29), 166 (67), 165 (76); Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·0.2EtOH: C, 70.20; H, 5.81; N, 10.63; found: C, 70.10; H, 5.53; N, 10.38.

#### 1,3-Dihydrophenalene-2,2-dicarbonitrile 4f

To a suspension of NaH (60% in oil, 36 mg, 0.90 mmol) and 1,8-bis(bromomethyl)naphthalene **3f**<sup>S5</sup> (103 mg, 0.33 mmol) in dry DMF (3.0 mL) was added a solution of malononitrile (38 mg, 0.58 mmol) in DMF (2.0 mL) dropwise at 25 °C over 1 h. After gas evolution ceased, the resulting suspension was stirred for 1 h. The mixture was poured into a separating funnel containing EtOAc and water, and neutralized with 1 M HClaq and extracted with EtOAc (× 2). The organic layer was washed with 1 M HClaq, water and brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then filtered. The red solid obtained by evaporation of the solvent was subjected to chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> eluting with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane (1/1) to give **4f** (42 mg, 55%) as a white solid: m.p. 210.0-210.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 133.44, 128.48, 127.50, 126.52, 126.13, 125.91, 115.35, 39.50, 30.61; IR (KBr): v/cm<sup>-1</sup> 2924, 2252, 1597, 1512, 1396, 1088, 825, 779; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 218 (M<sup>+</sup>, BP), 190 (37), 153 (22); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 218.0844; found: 218.0843.

#### 1,3-Dihydrophenalene-2,2-dicarboxamide 2b

To a solution of dinitrile **4f** (69 mg, 0.32 mmol) in DMSO (1.0 mL) was added 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>aq (0.2 mL) at 0 °C. To a solution was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (26 mg, 0.18 mmol) and stirred at 25 °C for 30 min. The resulting suspension was diluted with 1 M HClaq and filtered. The filtered solid was washed with water to give **2b** (47 mg, 57%) as a white solid. Crystals for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by recrystallizing from THF: m.p. 284-285 °C (dec.); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (br.s, 2H), 5.34 (br.s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$ /ppm: 172.43, 134.10, 132.78, 128.64, 125.62, 125.53, 124.25, 53.56, 35.97; IR (KBr): 3440, 3397, 1657, 1646, 1392, 1363, 1221, 1174, 1141, 819, 814, 770 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (EI) *m/z* (%): 254 (M<sup>+</sup>, 34), 210 (91), 193 (22), 167 (22), 166 (25), 165 (BP); HR-MS (EI) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 254.1055; found: 254.1055.

## **Crystal Structure of 1a**



1a







packing manner of indane units

## **Crystal Structure of 1b**













packing manner of indane units













packing manner of indane units

## **Crystal Structure of 1d**















packing manner of indane units

## **Crystal Structure of 2a**







packing manner of naphtahlene units

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