Supporting Information

Enantioselective [3 + 2] Annulation of Isatin-Derived MBH-Carbonates and 3-Nitroindoles Enabled by a Bifunctional DMAP-Thiourea

Ming-Shun Mei,^{†,#} Yu-Hui Wang,^{†,#} Qing Hu,[‡] Qing-Hua Li,[†] Da-Yu Shi,[†] Dingding Gao,^{*,†} Guangbo Ge,^{*,‡} Guo-Qiang Lin,^{†,§} and Ping Tian^{*,†,§}

> [†]The Research Center of Chiral Drugs, Innovation Research Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 1200 Cailun Road, Shanghai 201203, China

[‡]Institute of Interdisciplinary Integrative Medicine Research, Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 1200 Cailun Road, Shanghai 201203, China

[§]CAS Key Laboratory of Synthetic Chemistry of Natural Substances, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 345 Lingling Road, Shanghai 200032, China

[#]Ming-Shun Mei and Yu-Hui Wang contributed equally.

*Email: gaodingding@shutcm.edu.cn. *Email: geguangbo@shutcm.edu.cn or geguangbo@dicp.ac.cn. *Email: tianping@shutcm.edu.cn or tianping@sioc.ac.cn.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	General information	S 3
2.	Substrate preparation	S 3
3.	Optimization conditions of enantioseletive [3 + 2] annulations	S 6
4.	General procedure for enantioseletive [3 + 2] annulations	S 8
5.	More studies on the reaction partners with isatin-derived MBH carbonate S	\$24
6.	Gram-scale experiment	\$25
7.	Transformations of product	\$26
8.	Preliminary mechanistic study	\$28
9.	<i>In vitro</i> PL inhibition assay	\$31
10.	X-ray crystal data of compound 3ej (CCDC-1963946)	\$32
11.	¹ H NMR, ¹³ C NMR and ¹⁹ F NMR dataS	335
12.	References	579

1. General information

Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography using UV light to visualize the course of reaction. Purification of reaction products was carried out by flash chromatography on silica gel (300-400 mesh). Chemical yields referred to pure isolated substances. ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were obtained using a Bruker 600 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts for ¹H, ¹³C NMR spectra were reported in ppm from CDCl₃, DMSO-d₆ with the solvent resonance as the internal standard. The following abbreviations were used to designate chemical shift multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, br = broad. High resolution mass spectra were acquired by Agilent 6545 Accurate-Mass Q-TOF LC/MS System. Optical rotations were measured on Rudolph Research Analytical AUTOPOL IV Automatic Polarimeter. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrophotometer IRAffinity-1. Melting points were determined on a digital melting point apparatus and temperatures were uncorrected. Enantiomeric ratio was determined by chiral HPLC analysis on Agilent 1260 Infinity II LC System. X-ray structure was determined on a Bruker D8 Venture X-ray Diffraction meter.

Unless otherwise indicated, all starting materials purchased from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. All solvents were dried before use following the standard procedures. Unless otherwise noted, experiments involving moisture and/or air sensitive components were performed in nitrogen. Morita–Baylis–Hillman carbonates^[1] and 3-nitro-1H-indoles **2a-h** were prepared according to the literature procedure^[2]. Chiral DMAP-thiourea Catalyst **C2-C5** was prepared following the literature procedure.^[3]

2. Substrate preparation

General Procedures for the Preparation of Substrates 2i, 2j, 2k, 2m, 2n 2p, 2s.



To a stirred mixture of MeCN (50 mL) and NBS (1.78 g, 10 mmol) at 80 °C was added AgNO₃ (1.70 g, 10 mmol). The substituted indole (10 mmol) was then added portionwise to the mixture. After 3 h, the mixture was filtered to remove AgBr. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 and washed with aqueous 4% NaHCO₃. The organic phase was separated, washed with brine, dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. The residue was subjected to column chromatography over silica gel using petroleum ether (PE)/EtOAc (4:1, v/v) as eluent to give product.

To a solution of above product (1.0 equiv) in THF (50 mL) was added TEA (1.0 mL, 7.5 mmol), followed by the dropwise addition of arylacyl chloride (6.0 mmol) under ice bath. Then the reaction was warmed to room temperature. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), it was quenched with water. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (30 mL x 3). The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. Then the residue was recrystallized from anhydrous ether to afford the desired product **2**.

(4-Methoxyphenyl)(3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2i)



Yellow solid, 51% yield; Mp: 149–150 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.31 (ddd, J = 25.4, 6.2, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.6, 164.2, 135.4, 132.8, 132.5, 129.4, 127.0, 126.3, 124.0, 121.8, 120.8, 116.2, 114.7, 55.9; **IR** (KBr): 3138, 1701, 1602, 1504, 1276, 1190, 756, 646; **MS** (**EI**): 296 (M⁺), 135, 107, 92, 88, 77, 64, 50; **HRMS** (**EI**): Exact mass calcd for C₁₆H₁₂N₂O₄ [M]⁺:

296.0792, Found: 296.0801.

(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)(3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2j)



White solid, 36% yield; Mp: 154–155 °C; ¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.42–8.37 (m, 1H), 8.36–8.29 (m, 2H), 7.73 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 7.64–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.57–7.49 (m, 2H), 1.40 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.3, 157.8, 135.3, 133.0, 129.9, 129.5, 129.2, 127.2, 126.5, 126.4, 121.8, 120.9, 116.5, 35.5, 31.2; **IR** (KBr): 3151, 2960, 1699, 1492, 1300, 1012, 777, 545; **MS** (**EI**): 322 (M⁺), 161 146, 131, 118, 91, 57, 41; **HRMS** (**EI**): Exact mass calcd for C₁₉H₁₈N₂O₃ [M]⁺: und: 322 1315

322.1312, Found: 322.1315.

(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)(3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2k)



White solid, 14% yield; Mp: 178–179 °C; ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.41–8.35 (m, 1H), 8.35–8.31 (m, 1H), 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.57–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 3H), 2.43 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.8, 139.3, 135.3, 135.3, 133.0, 132.2, 129.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.4, 121.8, 120.8, 116.5, 21.4; **IR** (KBr): 3138, 1705, 1602, 1502, 1276, 1004, 825, 773; **MS** (**EI**): 294 (M⁺), 133, 105, 88, 78, 77, 63, 51; **HRMS** (**EI**): Exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₁₄N₂O₃ [M]⁺: 294.0999, Found: 294.1006.

Naphthalen-1-yl(3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2m)



White solid, 23% yield; Mp: 152–153 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.61–8.50 (m, 1H), 8.37–8.28 (m, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.01–8.00 (m, 2H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66–7.52 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.6, 135.1, 133.8, 133.5, 132.9, 130.3, 130.1, 129.1, 129.1, 128.5, 127.6, 127.6, 127.5, 126.8, 124.8, 124.4, 122.1, 121.0, 116.9; **IR** (KBr): 3157, 1712, 1552, 1475, 1298, 1138, 785, 516; **MS** (**EI**): 316 (M⁺), 155, 127, 103,101, 77, 63, 51;

HRMS (EI): Exact mass calcd for $C_{19}H_{12}N_2O_3$ [M]⁺: 316.0842, Found: 316.0850.

(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)(5-methyl-3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2n)



White solid, 42% yield; Mp: 149–150 °C; ¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.3, 157.7, 136.6, 133.6, 132.8, 129.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.6, 126.3, 122.0, 120.5, 116.1, 35.5, 31.2, 21.8; **IR** (KBr): 3138, 2964, 1701, 1550, 1292, 1193, 705, 594; **MS (EI)**: 336 (M⁺), 161, 146, 118, 91, 89, 77, 57; **HRMS (EI)**: Exact mass

calcd for C₂₀H₂₀N₂O₃ [M]⁺: 336.1468, Found: 336.1473.

(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)(5-fluoro-3-nitro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)methanone (2p)



White solid, 49% yield; Mp: 160–161 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.38–8.35 (m, 2H), 7.97–7.96 (m, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 1.41 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.0, 161.2 (d, J = 244.5 Hz, 1C) 158.0, 132.6, 131.6, 130.5, 129.9, 128.8, 126.4, 122.9 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 1C), 118.0 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 115.4 (d, J = 25.3 Hz, 1C), 106.8 (d, J = 26.7 Hz, 1C), 35.5, 31.2; ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –114.1; IR (KBr): 3151, 1699,

1606, 1300, 1219, 1012, 879, 705; **MS (EI)**: 340 (M⁺), 161, 146, 118, 91, 78, 57, 41; **HRMS (EI)**: Exact mass calcd for C₁₉H₁₇FN₂O₃ [M]⁺: 340.1218, Found: 340.1216.

(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)(3-nitro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridin-1-yl)methanone (2s)



White solid, 57% yield; Mp: 135–136 °C; ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.64 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (s, 1H), 8.51 (dd, *J* = 4.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.49–7.41 (m, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.5, 158.7, 147.1, 146.6, 131.0, 130.4, 129.9, 129.0, 128.8, 126.0, 121.5, 115.0, 35.1, 31.1; **IR** (KBr): 3138, 1699, 1544, 1398, 1004, 850, 773, 704; **MS** (**EI**): 323 (M⁺), 161, 146, 118, 105, 91, 63, 41; **HRMS** (**EI**): Exact mass calcd for

C₁₈H₁₇N₃O₃ [M]⁺: 323.1264, Found: 323.1258.

3. Optimization conditions of enantioselective [3 + 2] annulations

We began our study with the reaction of isatin-derived MBH carbonate **1a** and 3-nitroindole **2a** in the presence of catalyst **C2** at room temperature in dioxane. To our delight, the desired product **3aa** was afforded in >20:1 dr, albeit with only 65% yield and 65% ee (Table S1, entry 1). Other solvents, including CH₂Cl₂, toluene, EtOAc, THF, acetone, CH₃CN, DCE, and CHCl₃, was subsequently screened (Table S1, entries 2–9). DCE turned out to be the best solvent, and up to 86% yield and 81% ee of product **3aa** was achieved (Table S1, entry 8). Lowering the reaction temperature to 0 °C resulted in an improvement of both yield and ee value (Table S1, entry 10), however, further lowering the temperature to -20 °C made the reaction very sluggish albeit in a slightly higher ee value (Table S1, entry 11). Pleasingly, with the aid of molecular sieve (4 Å) additives at 0 °C, the ee value was maintained in an equal level (Table S1, entry 12).

NO₂ CO₂Me C2 (10 mol%) solvent temp (°C) time (h) Me 3aa 1a 2a entry solvent temp (°C) time (h) yield (%)^c ee (%)^d 48 1 dioxane 65 65 rt 2 CH_2Cl_2 20 88 76 rt 3 toluene rt 20 62 69 4 **EtOAc** rt 20 69 59 5 THF 20 70 rt 71 20 6 acetone rt 74 69 7 77 CH₃CN 20 40 rt 8 DCE 20 86 81 rt 9 CHCl₃ 20 85 69 rt DCE 0 10 46 97 83 11 DCE -20108 88 85 12^{e} DCE 0 46 97 85

Table S1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions^{*a,b*}

^{*a*}Reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.12 mmol), cat. **C2** (10 mol%), and solvent (1.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. ^{*b*}All dr > 20:1. ^{*c*}Yield of isolated product. ^{*d*}Determined by HPLC analysis. ^{*e*}Molecular sieve (4 Å, 20 mg) was added. THF = tetrahydrofuran, DCE = 1,2-dichloroethane.

Table S2. Screening of Catalysts ^{a,b}



2	C3	48	91	-22
3	C4	60	89	86
4	C5	60	80	62

^{*a*}Reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.1 mmol), **2a** (0.12 mmol), cat. **C2** (10 mol%), molecular sieve (4 Å, 20 mg) and solvent (1.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. ^{*b*}All dr> 20:1. ^{*c*}Yield of isolated product. ^{*d*}Determined by HPLC analysis.

4. General procedure for enantioselective [3 + 2] annulations

An oven-dried 10.0 mL vial was charged with DMAP-thiourea C2 (0.02 mmol), Morita-Baylis-Hillman carbonate 1 (0.2 mmol), 3-nitro-1H-indole 2 (0.24 mmol), 4 Å molecular sieves (20 mg) and dry DCE (2.0 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 50 h. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC, EtOAc / PE), the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (EtOAc / PE = 5:1 to 3:1, v/v) to give pure products **3**.

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-4-tosyl-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta [*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3aa)

White solid, 97% yield; Mp: 258–261 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +40.5$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 85% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.74–7.70 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 16.9, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.3, 161.6, 145.2, 144.5, 141.2, 140.5, 136.9, 133.9, 133.0, 130.7, 130.1, 129.4, 127.5, 126.6, 124.0,

122.9, 122.8, 122.6, 115.4, 108.9, 104.4, 72.7, 63.8, 52.5, 27.2, 21.7; **IR** (KBr): 2924, 1720, 1612, 1556, 1238, 1170, 756, 667; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{28}H_{23}N_3O_7S$ [M+Na]⁺: 568.1149, Found: 568.1149; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), 'PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 6.52 min (major), 7.42 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-4-((4-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4 *H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ac)

White solid, 40% yield; Mp: 158–160 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +74.8$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 76% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.25 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.21–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.47 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.0, 161.4, 150.9, 144.5, 142.4, 140.2, 139.4, 137.6, 133.4, 130.9, 129.8, 128.8, 126.2,

124.9, 124.6, 123.3, 122.9, 122.4, 115.3, 109.1, 104.1, 72.8, 63.4, 52.6, 27.3; **IR** (KBr): 3103, 2953, 1716, 1610, 1556, 1375, 756, 732; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{27}H_{20}N_4O_9S$ [M+Na]⁺: 599.0843, Found: 599.0853; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 16.84 min (major), 12.59 min (minor).

4-Benzyl-2-methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclope nta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2,4-dicarboxylate (3ad)

White solid, 97% yield; Mp: 217–219 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D}$ = +164.4 (c = 0.7, CHCl₃) for 66% ee; due to the distinct presence of rotameric isomers, the ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR seemed complex, so we did not designate the data, but attached the spectrum behind; **IR** (KBr): 2953, 1740, 1610, 1558, 1481, 1338, 912, 754; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for C₂₉H₂₃N₃O₇ [M+Na]⁺: 548.1428, Found: 548.1433; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ⁱPrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm; Retention time: 7.12 min (ma-

jor), 9.34 min (minor).

4-(tert-Butyl) 2-methyl (1S,3aR,8bR)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4H-spiro[cycl

openta[b]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2,4-dicarboxylate (3ae)

White solid, 81% yield; Mp: 221–222 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_D = +101.0$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 70% ee; due to the distinct presence of rotameric isomers, the ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR seemed complex, so we did not designate the data, but attached the spectrum behind; **IR** (KBr): 3161, 2976, 1718, 1647, 1552, 1377, 839, 754; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for C₂₆H₂₅N₃O₇ [M+Na]⁺: 514.1585, Found: 514.1587; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.63 min (major), (minor)

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-benzoyl-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopen ta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3af)

White solid, 97% yield; Mp: 134–136 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +143.6$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 90% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.74–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.20 (s, br, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 1H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00–6.95 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.5, 161.6, 144.5, 141.7, 139.5, 137.7, 135.4, 132.2, 131.5, 130.7, 129.4, 129.3, 127.5, 126.5, 123.7, 122.9, 122.7, 115.9, 108.9, 103.2, 71.6, 63.8, 52.4, 27.2; **IR** (KBr): 2924, 1718,

1664, 1550, 1465, 1087, 860, 727; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{28}H_{21}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 518.1323, Found: 518.1325; **HPLC**: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 8.72 min (major), 6.27 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)-3a,8b-dihydr o-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ag)

White solid, 95% yield; Mp: 210–211 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +114.17$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 92% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (s, 2H), 7.73 (s, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.13 (s, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (s, br, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.3, 167.0, 161.5, 144.5, 141.3, 138.8, 138.0, 133.3 (q, *J* = 32.8 Hz, 1C), 132.4, 130.8, 129.6, 128.0, 126.4, 124.1, 123.6 (q, *J* = 264.9 Hz, 1C), 123.0, 122.7, 115.7, 112.4, 109.0, 103.1, 71.7, 63.9, 52.5, 27.3; ¹⁹F

NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -62.9; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1718, 1653, 1477, 1377, 1064, 852, 750; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for C₂₉H₂₀F₃N₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 586.1196, Found: 586.1200; **HPLC**: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 10.81 min (major), 7.93 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-methyl-4-(4-methylbenzoyl)-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spir o[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ah)

White solid, 95% yield; Mp: 230–231 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +153.1 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 94% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (s, 2H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.7, 144.5, 142.0, 141.9, 139.7, 137.5, 132.5, 132.2, 130.6, 129.9, 129.4, 127.6, 126.5, 123.5, 122.9, 122.8, 122.7,

116.0, 108.9, 103.2, 71.7, 63.8, 52.4, 27.2, 21.8; **IR** (KBr): 3086, 2951, 1732, 1608, 1490, 1373, 752, 692; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{29}H_{23}N_3O_6[M+H]^+$: 510.1660, Found: 510.1662; **HPLC**: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 10.75 min (major), 8.12 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spi ro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ai)

3aj

White solid, 97% yield; Mp: 188–189 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +130.4$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 93% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17 (s, br, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04–7.00 (m, 4H), 6.93 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.3, 162.2, 161.7, 144.5, 142.0, 139.8, 137.5, 132.1, 130.6, 129.8, 129.4, 127.3, 126.5, 123.3, 122.9, 122.8, 122.7, 115.9, 114.4, 108.9, 103.2, 71.8, 63.8, 55.6,

52.4, 27.2; **IR** (KBr): 2926, 1734, 1608, 1508, 1375, 840, 752, 418; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{29}H_{23}N_3O_7 [M+Na]^+$: 548.1428, Found: 548.1443; **HPLC**: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 12.99 min (major), 9.82 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3aj)

White solid, 93% yield; Mp: 121–123 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +191.7 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 95% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 4H), 7.38–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 2H), 7.04–7.01 (m, 1H), 6.99–6.93 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H)c; ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.7, 155.1, 144.5, 141.9, 139.7, 137.5, 132.4, 132.2, 130.6, 129.4, 127.4, 126.5, 126.2, 123.5, 122.9, 122.8, 122.7, 116.3, 108.9, 103.3,

71.7, 63.8, 52.4, 35.2, 31.3, 27.2; **IR** (KBr): 2960, 1728, 1610, 1552, 1261, 1091, 846, 754; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{29}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 574.1949, Found: 574.1959; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 8.99 min (major), 11.86 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-s piro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ak)

White solid, 92% yield; Mp: 195–197 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +89.4$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 90% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.17 (m, 5H), 7.08–7.06 (m, 1H), 7.04–6.99 (m, 2H), 6.94 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 2H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.9, 161.7, 144.4, 141.6, 139.6, 139.1, 137.4, 135.3, 133.0, 132.1, 130.6, 129.4, 126.5, 124.9, 123.5, 122.9, 122.7, 115.8, 108.9, 103.1, 71.4, 63.8, 52.4, 27.2, 21.4; **IR** (KBr): 2951, 1717,

1649, 1556, 1477, 1344, 858, 746; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass **calcd for C30H25N3O6 [M+Na]+: 546.1636, Found: 546.1651; HPLC: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm),** ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 7.93 min (major), 5.70 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(1-naphthoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyc lopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3am)

White solid, 92% yield; Mp: 158–161 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +53.7$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 77% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d₆, 100 °C): δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 22.9, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dt, *J* = 27.8, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.01 (m, 4H), 6.97–6.95 (m, 1H), 6.74 (s, 2H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d₆, 100 °C): 171.3, 166.7, 160.6, 143.9, 140.8, 139.1, 136.4, 132.9, 132.8, 131.6, 130.0,

129.8, 128.44, 128.35, 128.2, 127.1, 126.4, 125.7, 125.1, 124.5, 123.5, 123.0, 122.8, 122.3, 121.9, 114.9, 108.4, 103.0, 70.6, 63.0, 51.6, 26.3; **IR** (KBr): 2961, 1716, 1647, 1550, 1428, 1228, 810, 744; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{23}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 568.1479, Found: 568.1491; **HPLC**: Chiralpak AD-H (150 mm), 'PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 10.91 min (major), 9.06 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-5'-methoxy-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-d ihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3bj)

3cj

White solid, 94% yield; Mp: 228–229 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +101.3$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 95% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 4H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.02 (m, 2H), 6.88–6.87 (m, 1H), 6.85–6.83 (m, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.1, 168.7, 161.6, 155.9, 155.1, 141.8, 139.7, 137.9, 137.5, 132.4, 132.2, 129.4, 127.7, 127.4, 126.2, 123.5, 122.8, 116.0, 114.3, 110.6, 109.2, 103.3, 71.6, 64.2, 55.9, 52.4,

35.2, 31.3, 27.3; **IR** (KBr): 2960, 1726, 1664, 1496, 1428, 1375, 1099, 792; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_7$ [M+Na]⁺: 604.2054, Found: 604.2054; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.94 min (major), 6.89 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1',5'-dimethyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3cj)

White solid, 78% yield; Mp: 113–115 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +102.2$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 90% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 4H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.22–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83–6.79 (m, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.7, 155.2, 142.1, 139.6, 137.6, 132.5, 132.1, 131.0, 129.5, 127.5, 126.5, 126.2, 124.7, 124.2, 123.5, 123.0, 120.7, 115.9, 112.5, 108.6, 71.6, 63.9, 52.4, 35.2, 31.3, 27.3, 21.2; **IR** (KBr):

2953, 1728, 1662, 1575, 1477, 1099, 1086, 763; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 588.2105, Found: 588.2108; **HPLC:** Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.82 min (major), 5.24 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-5'-fluoro-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[b]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3dj)

White solid, 88% yield; Mp: 147–150 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +96.7$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 93% ee; ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56–7.54 (m, 5H), 7.26 (s, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 3H), 6.88–6.85 (m, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.75–6.74 (m, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.2, 168.7, 161.6, 159.0 (d, J = 242.6 Hz, 1C), 155.2, 141.9, 140.6, 140.2, 137.2, 132.3, 129.2, 127.9 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1C), 127.4, 126.2, 123.6, 122.5, 117.0 (d, J

= 22.5 Hz, 1C), 116.1, 111.2 (d, J = 25.5 Hz, 1C), 109.5 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1C), 103.2, 71.7, 64.1, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.4; ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -119.3; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1720, 1651, 1548, 1375, 1109, 800, 756; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for C₃₂H₂₈FN₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 592.1854, Found: 592.1848; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.90 min (major), 5.55 min (minor).

Methyl (1S,3aR,8bR)-4-(4-(tert-butyl)benzoyl)-5'-chloro-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4H-spiro[cyclopenta[b]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ej)

White solid, 99% yield; Mp: 147–149 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = +106.53$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 91% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54 (s, 5H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.0, 168.7, 161.6, 155.2, 143.1, 141.9, 140.2, 137.1, 132.4, 132.2, 130.6, 129.3, 128.2, 127.4, 126.2, 123.5, 123.2, 122.5, 116.1, 109.8, 103.2, 71.6, 63.8, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.4; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1732, 1608,

1476, 1377, 1099, 810, 754; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{28}{}^{35}ClN_3O_6$ [M+H]⁺: 586.1739, Found: 586.1741; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.98 min (major), 5.49 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-5'-bromo-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3fj)

3g

White solid, 85% yield; Mp: 134–136 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +143.5$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 93% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54–7.53 (m, 5H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.14–6.98 (m, 3H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.9, 168.7, 161.5, 155.2, 143.6, 141.9, 140.1, 137.1, 133.5, 132.3, 132.2, 130.1, 129.2, 128.5, 127.4, 126.2, 125.8, 123.5, 122.5, 115.3, 110.3,

103.2, 71.6, 63.7, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.3; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1732, 1608, 11479, 1234, 1097, 810, 750; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{28}^{79}BrN_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 652.1054, Found: 652.1060; **HPLC:** Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.10 min (major), 5.60 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-6'-bromo-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3gj)

White solid, 80% yield; Mp: 250–251 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +94.9$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 92% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53 (s, 5H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (s, 3H), 6.91–6.82 (m, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.2, 168.7, 161.6, 155.2, 145.7, 141.9, 140.1, 137.1, 132.32, 132.25, 129.3, 127.4, 126.2, 125.7, 125.5, 124.5, 123.9, 123.6, 122.5, 116.0, 112.5, 103.1, 71.6, 63.6, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.3; **IR** (KBr): 2953, 1728, 1602, 1552, 1373,

977, 750, 509; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{28}^{79}BrN_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 652.1054, Found: 652.1043; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.62 min (major), 6.47 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1',7'-dimethyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3hj)

White solid, 96% yield; Mp: 226–228 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +84.0 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 93% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 4H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 6.89 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.2, 168.7, 161.7, 155.1, 142.3, 139.4, 137.8, 134.5, 132.4, 132.2, 129.4, 127.4, 127.0, 126.2, 125.6, 123.5, 122.9, 122.7, 120.6, 120.5, 116.7, 104.1, 71.6, 63.4, 52.4, 35.2, 31.4, 30.6, 19.3; IR (KBr):

2960, 1716, 1653, 1508, 1458, 1112, 848, 765; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 588.2105, Found: 588.2108; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), 'PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.16 min (major), 5.71 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-7'-fluoro-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ij)

White solid, 86% yield; Mp: 259–260 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = +87.5$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) 95% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55–7.53 (m, 5H), 7.24 (s, 2H), 7.16–7.03 (m, 3H), 6.98–6.94 (m, 1H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 3.59 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.1, 168.7, 161.6, 155.2, 147.8 (d, *J* = 245.2 Hz, 1C), 141.9, 140.0, 137.4, 132.3, 131.3 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1C), 130.2, 129.3, 127.4, 126.2, 125.6, 123.6, 123.5 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1C),

 1 122.6, 118.7 (d, J = 19.6 Hz, 1C), 118.5 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 116.2, 103.3, 122.6, 118.7 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1C); 118.5 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 116.2, 103.3, 71.6, 63.9, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 29.7 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1C); 19 F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -135.1; IR (KBr): 2962, 1728, 1653, 1344, 1114, 1060, 833, 767; HRMS (ESI): Exact mass calcd for C₃₂H₂₈FN₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 592.1854, Found: 592.1861; HPLC: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.91 min (major), 5.63 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-7'-bromo-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dih ydro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3jj)

ÅΙΙνΙ

3kj

White solid, 93% yield; Mp: 118–120 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +108.0$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 94% ee; ¹**H** NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53–7.48 (m, 5H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.16 (m, 3H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89–6.85 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.0, 168.7, 161.6, 157.6, 155.2, 142.0, 140.0, 137.4, 136.3, 132.3, 130.2, 129.5, 129.3, 127.5, 126.2, 125.6, 123.9, 123.6, 122.6, 121.7, 116.3, 103.2, 71.6, 63.6, 52.6, 35.2, 31.3, 30.9; **IR** (KBr): 2954, 1732, 1604,

1479, 1294, 999, 759, 686; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{28}^{79}BrN_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 652.1054, Found: 652.1055; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.39 min (major), 6.59 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-allyl-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spi ro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3kj)

White solid, 92% yield; Mp: 188–190 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +131.3$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 94% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.57–7.54 (m, 5H), 7.34–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.06 (m, 2H), 7.03–7.00 (m, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.02–5.96 (m, 1H), 5.53 (d, J = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.1, 168.7, 161.6, 155.1, 143.7, 141.9, 139.8, 137.5, 132.4, 132.2, 131.2,

130.5, 130.1, 129.4, 127.4, 126.4, 126.2, 125.5, 123.5, 122.8, 122.7, 117.6, 109.8, 103.4, 71.6, 63.8, 52.4, 43.0, 35.2, 31.3; **IR** (KBr): 2955, 2368, 1718, 1647, 1554, 1361, 810, 752; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{34}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 600.2105, Found: 600.2120; **HPLC:** Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.11 min (major), 5.83 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-1'-benzyl-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-s piro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3mj)

Boc

3ni

White solid, 95% yield; Mp: 189–191 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +62.7$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 91% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54–7.51 (m, 7H), 7.42–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.03–6.99 (m, 3H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.7, 155.2, 143.8, 139.9, 137.5, 135.6, 132.4, 132.2, 130.6, 129.5, 129.0, 127.8, 127.5, 127.3, 126.4, 126.2, 123.6, 122.9, 122.8,

116.1, 110.0, 103.6, 71.6, 63.8, 52.4, 44.7, 35.2, 31.4; **IR** (KBr): 2963, 1716, 1556, 1377, 1222, 1014, 752, 696; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{38}H_{33}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 650.2262, Found: 650.2278; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 6.02 min (major), 6.76 min (minor).

1'-(*tert*-Butyl) 2-methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydr o-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-1',2-dicarboxylate (3nj)

White solid, 88% yield; Mp: 158–160 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = +63.2$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 86% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 4H), 7.40 (td, J = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.12 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06–6.84 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 9H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.8, 168.7, 161.6, 155.3, 148.9, 142.4, 140.5, 140.1, 137.3, 132.3, 130.9, 129.4, 127.5, 126.2, 125.1, 124.7, 123.7, 122.9, 122.6, 115.6, 104.1,

84.9, 71.6, 64.9, 52.6, 35.3, 31.4, 28.3; **IR** (KBr): 2966, 2256, 1732, 1556, 1340, 1149, 842, 729; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{36}H_{35}N_3O_8$ [M+Na]⁺: 660.2316, Found: 660.2318; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.74 min (major), 5.59 min (minor).

Ethyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spi ro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3pj)

3qj

White solid, 98% yield; Mp: 196–197 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +135.4$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 95% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.59–7.54 (m, 5H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 1H), 7.03–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 3.99-3.95 (m, 2H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.08 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.1, 155.1, 144.4, 139.6, 137.8, 132.4, 132.1, 130.6, 129.3, 127.4, 126.6, 126.1, 123.4, 122.8, 122.7, 116.0, 108.7, 103.4, 71.6, 63.8, 61.5, 35.2, 31.3,

27.1, 13.9; **IR** (KBr): 2964, 1718, 1647, 1473, 1220, 893, 748, 542; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+H]⁺: 566.2286, Found: 566.2294; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.12 min (major), 6.08 min (minor).

(1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-spiro[cyc lopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carbonitrile (3qj)

1558, 1471, 1217, 756, 680, 561; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{31}H_{26}N_4O_4$ [M+Na]⁺: 541.1846, Found: 541.1846; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), 'PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 6.62 min (major), 8.75 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1',7-dimethyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4 *H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3an)

White solid, 88% yield; Mp: 197–199 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +104.4$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 94% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.52 (s, 4H), 7.39–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.00–7.02 (m, 3H), 6.93 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.3, 168.4, 161.7, 154.9, 144.4, 139.8, 137.5, 133.3, 133.0, 132.4, 130.6, 130.1, 129.4, 127.4, 126.5, 126.1, 125.5, 122.8, 122.6, 115.9, 108.8, 103.3, 71.7, 63.7, 52.3, 35.2, 31.3, 27.2, 21.1; **IR** (KBr): 2954, 1728, 1532,

1489, 1238, 1114, 765, 540; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 588.2105, Found: 588.2098; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.07 min (major), 6.11 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-7-fluoro-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihy dro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ap)

White solid, 96% yield; Mp: 264–265 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +125.8$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 92% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55 (s, 4H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.1, 168.4, 161.5, 158.5 (d, *J* = 244.1 Hz, 1C), 155.2, 144.4, 139.4, 137.6, 132.2, 130.8, 130.1, 127.3, 126.3, 126.0, 125.5, 124.2, 122.9, 122.7, 119.5 (d, *J* = 23.9 Hz, 1C), 116.2 (d, *J* = 25.8 Hz, 1C), 109.0, 102.9, 72.1, 63.8,

52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.2; ¹⁹**F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -117.6; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1732, 1558, 1340, 1234, 941, 846, 752; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for C₃₂H₂₈FN₃O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 592.1854, Found: 592.1843; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.39 min (major), 6.41 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-7-chloro-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihy dro-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3aq)

White solid, 92% yield; Mp: 152–154 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +80.2 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 90% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54–7.53 (m, 5H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.1, 168.5, 161.5, 155.4, 144.4, 140.7, 139.3, 137.7, 132.3, 130.8, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 127.4, 126.2, 126.0, 125.4, 124.2, 122.9, 122.7, 109.0, 102.7, 72.0, 63.9, 52.4, 35.2, 31.3, 27.2; **IR** (KBr):

2956, 1724, 1653, 1473, 1371, 1114, 916, 732; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for $C_{32}H_{28}^{35}ClN_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 608.1559, Found: 608.1556; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ⁱPrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.47 min (major), 6.35 min (minor).

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1',6-dimethyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4 *H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3ar)

White solid, 85% yield; Mp: 240–241 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +108.6$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 96% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55–7.54 (m, 4H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, br, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.01 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, br, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.7, 161.7, 155.0, 144.5, 143.0, 142.0, 139.8, 137.5, 132.6, 130.6, 128.9, 127.3, 126.6, 126.1, 124.7, 122.8, 122.7, 120.1, 116.8, 108.9, 103.7,

71.9, 63.6, 52.4, 35.2, 31.4, 27.2, 22.0; **IR** (KBr): 2958, 1732, 1610, 1496, 1261, 1111, 798, 732; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_3O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 588.2105, Found: 588.2099; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.04 min (major), 6.18 min (minor).

Methyl (4b*R*,5*S*,7a*R*)-8-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-4b-nitro-2'-oxo-4b,7a-dihydro-8*H*-s piro[cyclopenta[4,5]pyrrolo[2,3-*b*]pyridine-5,3'-indoline]-6-carboxylate (3as)

White solid, 76% yield; Mp: 214–215 °C; dr > 20:1; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +47.1$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 48% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.05 (m, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J = 7.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.5, 168.8, 161.7, 155.3, 153.8, 151.6, 144.3, 139.9, 138.6, 137.8, 131.7, 130.8, 129.1,

126.1, 124.9, 123.2, 123.1, 118.7, 116.5, 109.0, 100.8, 70.0, 63.9, 52.5, 35.2, 31.3, 27.2; **IR** (KBr): 2926, 1718, 1647, 1508, 1255, 1174, 840, 752; **HRMS** (**ESI**): Exact mass calcd for $C_{31}H_{28}N_4O_6$ [M+Na]⁺: 575.1901, Found: 575.1915; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.88 min (major), 7.31 min (minor).

5. More studies on the reaction partners with isatin-derived MBH-carbonate

When we tried to expand the scope of 3-nitroindole **2**, we found that replacing the nitro group with ester and cyano-group or using 3-nitropyrrole led to no annulation product, which indicated that both nitro and indole were necessary to success of this annulation reaction (Fig. S1).

Figure S1. More Studies on Reaction Partners with Isatin-Derived MBH-Carbonates

6. Gram-scale experiment

According to general procedure, a dried Schlenk flask was charged with DMAP-thiourea C2 (197 mg, 0.3 mmol, 0.1 equiv), MBH carbonate **1a** (1.04 g, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-nitro-1H-indole **2j** (1.06 g, 3.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and 4 Å molecular sieves (300 mg) and dry DCE (20.0 mL). Then the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 50 h. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC, EtOAc / petroleum ether (PE)), the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (EtOAc / PE = 4:1, v/v) to give pure products **3aj**.

Methyl (1*S*,3a*R*,8b*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-8b-nitro-2'-oxo-3a,8b-dihydro-4*H*-s piro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (3aj)

White solid, 1.39 g, 84% yield. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +140.0$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 92% ee. **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.95 min (major), 5.54 min (minor).

After a single recrystallization:

White solid, 50% yield. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +171.2$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 99% ee. **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.71 min (major), 7.50 min (minor).

7. Transformations of product

Methyl (*R*)-4-(4-(*tert*-butyl)benzoyl)-1'-methyl-2'-oxo-4*H*-spiro[cyclopenta[*b*]indole-1,3'-indo line]-2-carboxylate (4aj)

To a solution of **3aj** (55.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL), DBU (30.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 2 equiv) was added at room temperature. The solution was stirred for 1 h. After the reaction was completed, product **4aj** was obtained by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 5:1, v/v). White solid, 87% yield; Mp: 262–263 °C; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -8.6$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 97% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87–6.86 (m, 2H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.4, 168.2, 162.5, 156.8, 145.3, 144.3, 141.5, 140.7, 137.2, 133.5, 131.8, 129.22, 129.17, 126.1, 125.8, 124.4, 124.1, 123.0, 122.9, 118.5, 117.2, 108.9, 59.9, 51.8, 35.4, 31.3, 27.5; **IR** (KBr): 2956, 1718, 1608, 1490, 1303, 1107, 831, 731; **HRMS (ESI**): Exact mass calcd for C₃₂H₂₈N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 505.2122, Found: 505.2114; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ^{*i*}PrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 4.97 min (major), 5.56 min (minor).

Methyl(R)-1'-methyl-2'-oxo-4H-spiro[cyclopenta[b]indole-1,3'-indoline]-2-carboxylate (5aj)

To a solution of **3aj** (55.1 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) in EtOH (2.0 mL), DBU (75 μ L, 0.5 mmol, 5 equiv) was added at 80 °C. Then the resulting mixture was refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was quenched and washed with NH₄Cl. Saturated NaCl solution was added to the

resulting solution and the organic layer was extracted with AcOEt three times, and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration, the solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and the resulting crude mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 1:1, v/v) to afford compound **5aj** as a light yellow solid. Yellow solid, 96% yield; Mp: 262–263 °C; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -262.3$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for 98% ee; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.03 (s, 1H), 7.80–7.79 (m, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.86–6.82 (m, 4H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.2, 163.1, 145.2, 143.4, 141.7, 140.1, 136.5, 128.7, 127.5, 127.3, 123.2, 123.1, 123.0, 121.6, 120.6, 117.7, 112.8, 108.8, 59.8, 51.8, 27.5; **IR** (KBr): 2953, 1701, 1654, 1560, 1307, 1190, 746, 542; **HRMS (ESI)**: Exact mass calcd for C₂₁H₁₆N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 345.1234, Found: 345.1235; **HPLC**: Chiralcel OD-H (150 mm), ⁱPrOH/hexane = 40/60, 0.5 mL/min, detected at 254 nm; Retention time: 5.23 min (major), 7.42 min (minor).

8. Preliminary mechanistic study

1) ESI-HRMS experiment

To gain an insight regarding the role of the chiral DMAP-Thiourea C2, we performed ESI-HRMS experiment and captured a peak at m/z 885.4884, which corresponded to IM^+ generated from nucleophilic attack of catalyst C2 to substrate 1a (Fig. S2).

Figure S2. ESI-HRMS Experiment

2) NMR analysis

NMR analysis was straightforward to investigate the H-bonding interaction between C2 and 3-nitroindole. In our previous report^[3], the ¹H NMR spectrum of C2 was recorded in acetone- d_6 , where the double peak at 7.64 ppm (7.67 ppm as corresponding rotamer) was identified as N-H, although we cannot determined which one of the three (N)H atoms of C2 this signal represented. When mixing 2j with C2 in a 1:1 ratio in the same solvent, this peak shifted to a higher field (overlapped with the signal from 7.48 to 7.19 ppm), suggesting the N-H of C2 was interacted with substrate 2j via H-bonding interaction (Fig. S3).

8.6 8.5 8.4 8.3 8.2 8.1 8.0 7.9 7.8 7.7 7.6 7.5 7.4 7.3 7.2 7.1 7.0 6.9 6.8 6.7 6.6 6.5 6.4 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.0 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 fl (pom)

Figure S3. NMR Analysis

3) 3D model

The nucleophilic attack of substrate **1a** with catalyst **C2** could generate **IM**⁺ (as shown in Fig. S2). After **IM**⁺ was deprotonated by the leaving 'BuO⁻, zwitterionic ylide was thus obtained. Meanwhile, catalyst **C2** formed hydrogen bonds with **1a** because of the affinity of thiourea unit with the nitro group. In this way, two reactants were organized close to each other in the transition state. Then, the chiral diaminocyclohexane scaffold forced the ylide to attack the activated 3-nitroindole from the *Re*-face to afford the nitronate (Fig. S4a). Such transition state was shown as 3D model in Fig. S4b. (Gaussview 6.0 was used to draw the 3D structure diagram of the TS.)

Figure S4. 3D Model for the Transition State of the [3 + 2] Reaction

9. In vitro PL inhibition assay

The inhibitory activities of our synthetic compounds against porcine pancreatic lipase (PL, type II, Lot.SLBN9099V; EC 3.1.1.3) were measured in a fluorescence-based assay using PL probe substrate 4-MUO (J&K chemical, China). In brief, the incubation mixture with a total volume of 200 μ L contained lipase solution (10 μ g/mL, final concentration), 0.1M McIlvane buffer (0.1M citrate-Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.4) and diverse inhibitors. After the reaction mixtures were incubated at 37 °C for 3 min, the enzyme reaction was initiated by adding of 4-MUO (10 μ M, final concentration). Then, the fluorescence signal at 340 nm (excitation)/460 nm (emission) of the hydrolytic product (4-MU) was determined with a multi-mode microplate reader (SpectraMax iD3, Molecular Devices, Austria). The following formula was used to determine the residual activities of PL: the residual activity (%) = (the fluorescence intensity of 4-MU in the presence of inhibitor)/the fluorescence intensity of 4-MU in negative control (DMSO only) × 100%. All measurements were conducted in triplicates. The IC₅₀ values were calculated by nonlinear regression using GraphPad Prism software (San Diego, CA, USA).

Figure S5. Residual Activity of [3+2] Annulation Product

Figure S6. Inhibition Activities on PL

10.X-ray crystal data of compound 3ej (CCDC-1963946)

Sample preparation:

A solution of the substance (20.4 mg) is prepared using DCM (200 μ L) and placed in test tube. A second solvent, *n*-hexane, is placed in a closed beaker. The test tube containing DCM is then placed in the beaker and the beaker is sealed. Slow diffusion of DCM into test tube and *n*-hexane out of test tube will cause crystals to form.

Crystal measurement for compounds **3ej**:

The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-f rame algorithm. The integration of the data using an orthorhombic unit cell yielded a total of 41842 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 75.74° (0.80 Å resolution), of which 11973 were independent (average redundancy 3.495, completeness = 98.6%, $R_{\text{int}} = 4.44\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 4.53\%$) and 11149 (93.12%) were greater than $2\sigma(F2)$. The final cell constants of a = 10. 4684(19) Å, b = 12.280(2) Å, c = 45.879(8) Å, V = 5897.8(19) Å³, are based upon the r efinement of the XYZ-centroids of 9381 reflections above 20 $\sigma(I)$ with 7.452° < 2 θ < 150. 3°.

The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group P 21 21 21, with Z = 4 for the formula unit, $C_{66}H_{56}Cl_2N_6O_{10}$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F² with 767 variables converged at $R_1 = 4.27\%$, for the observed data and $wR_2 = 11.43\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.023. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.525 \text{ e}^2/\text{Å}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.702 \text{ e}^2/\text{Å}^3$ with an RMS deviation of 0.045 e⁻/\text{Å}^3. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.311 g/cm³ and F(000), 2432 e⁻.

Table 1. Sample and crystal data for 3ej.

Identification code	20191030MMS0365			
Chemical formula	$C_{66}H_{56}Cl_2N_6O_{10}\\$			
Formula weight	1164.06 g/mol			
Temperature	262(2) K			
Wavelength	1.54178 Å			
Crystal size	0.030 x 0.100 x 0.180 mm			
Crystal habit	Clear light colourless block			
Crystal system	Orthorhombic			
Space group	P 21 21 21			
Unit cell dimensions	a = 10.4684(19) Å		$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$	
	b = 12.280(2) Å		$\beta = 90$ °	
	c = 45.879(8) Å		$\gamma = 90$ °	
Volume	5897.8(19) Å ³			
Z	4			
Density (calculated)	1.311 g/cm ³			
Absorption coefficient	1.528 mm ⁻¹			
F(000)	2432			
Diffractometer	d8 venture			
Theta range for data collection	1.93 to 75.74 $^\circ$			
Index ranges	-13<=h<=12,	-15<=k<=15,		
	-56<=l<=57			
Reflections collected	41842			
Independent reflections	11973 [<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0444]			
Coverage of independent reflections	98.6%			
Absorption correction	Multi-Scan			
Max. and min. transmission	0.9560 and 0.7710			
Structure solution technique	direct methods			

Structure solution program	SHELXT 2014/5 (Sheldrick, 2014)		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²		
Refinement program	SHELXL-2018/3 (Sheldrick, 2018)		
Function minimized	$\Sigma \mathrm{w}(\mathrm{F_o}^2 - \mathrm{F_c}^2)^2$		
Data / restraints / parameters	11973 / 0 / 767		
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.023		
Δ/σ_{max}	0.027		
Final R indices	11149 data; I>2σ(I)	$R_1 = 0.0427,$	
		$wR_2 = 0.1105$	
	all data	$R_1 = 0.0459,$	
		$wR_2 = 0.1143$	
Weighting scheme	$w=1/[\sigma^2 (F_o^2)+(0.0543P)^2+2.0265P]$		
	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$		
Absolute structure parameter	0.034(6)		
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.525 and -0.702 eÅ ⁻³		
R.M.S. deviation from mean	0.045 eÅ ⁻³		

11.¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹⁹F NMR data





ó fl (ppm)





F-MMS-03-93.12.fid



10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)









fl (ppm)







-1 f1 (ppm)

F-MMS-03-27A.12.fid



----62.89













fl (ppm)







90 f1 (ppm)

MMS-03-63-ASY.11.fid



10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)





f1 (ppm)





f1 (ppm) -1



fl (ppm)

MMS-03-60-A2.22.fid



10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -200 -210 f1 (ppm)







f1 (ppm)











90 f1 (ppm)
f-mms-04-05.12.fid





S73







S76





12.References

[1] (a) Y. M. Chung, Y. J. Im and J. N. Kim, *B. Kor. Chem. Soc.*, 2002, **23**, 1651–1654. (b) K. K. Wang, P. Wang, Q. Ouyang, W. Du and Y. C. Chen, *Chem. Commun.*, 2016, **52**, 11104–11107. (c) X. Fan, H. Yang and M. Shi, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2017, **359**, 49–57.

[2] (a) Q. Cheng, F. Zhang, Y. Cai, Y. L. Guo and S. L. You, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2018, **57**, 2134–2138. (b) A. Shoberu, C. K. Li, Z. K. Tao, G. Y. Zhang and J. P. Zou, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2019, **361**, 2255–2261.

[3] Q.-H. Li, G.-S. Zhang, Y.-H. Wang, M.-S. Mei, X. Wang, Q. Liu, X.-D. Yang, P. Tian and G.-Q. Lin, *Org. Chem. Front.*, 2019, **6**, 2624–2629.