Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2020

Supporting Information

Synthesis and photophysical properties of acridine derivatives

Zi-Long Bian, Xin-Xin Lv, Ya-Lan Li, Wen-Wu Sun,* Ji-Kai Liu, * Bin Wu*

School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, South-Central University for Nationalities, Wuhan 430074, China

Contents of Supporting Information

Page S-1: Title of the paper, author's name, and address along with the contents.

Page S-2: Additional optimization data.

Page S-3: Typical procedure to synthesize 1-phenylisatine substrates.

Page S-10: Typical procedure for products.

Page S-22: X-ray single-crystal analysis data of compounds 9a and 9r.

Page S-25: UV-vis and Fluorescence Spectra.

Page S-41: NMR spectra of compounds.

Experiment Section

General Methods. All Reactions were performed in sealed tube (capacity 10 mL). Fluorescence spectra were recorded on a LS55 spectrofluorometer (PerkinElmer Company). UV-visible absorption spectra were acquired with a Lambda-35 UV-visible Spectrophotometer

(PerkinElmer Company). IR spectra were obtained with a Shimadzu Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer using KBr pellets. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Ascend IIITM 600 MHz NMR spectrometer, for example CDCl₃ solutions. High resolution mass spectra were performed on Q EXACTIVE. X-ray diffraction was obtained by D8 QUEST. TLC analyses were performed on commercial glass plates bearing 0.25 mm layer of Merck Silica gel GF₂₅₄. Silica gel (Wakogel 300 - 400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. Visualization of the developed chromatogram was performed by fluorescence quenching or KMnO₄ staining.

Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. 1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (**7a**), CF₃SO₃H, MeOH and HFIP were purchased from Innochem Co., Ltd. and Shanghai Titan Scientific Co., Ltd. All substituted 1-phenylisatin were synthesized from the corresponding phenylboronic acid with isatin.¹ All reactions were carried out under an air atmosphere.

	O N O MeOH (10.0 equ solvent 100 °C, 36 h	uiv) iv) N	
entry	Acid	solvent	Yield(%)
1	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	MeOH	10
2	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	t-Amyl alcohol	0
3	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	DCE	11
4	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	TCE	13
5	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	DCM	14
6	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	DMF	4
7	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	Toluene	16
8	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	CH ₃ CN	5
9	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	DMSO	1
10	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	THF	3
11	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	HFIP	40
12	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	Toluene	15
13	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O	Toluene/HFIP (1:1)	17

Reaction Optimization

Table S2. Screening of temperature time and acid

Table S1. Screening of solvent.

		Acid (x equiv) MeOH (10.0 equiv) HFIP, Temp Time	O OMe	
entry	Acid	Temp	Time (h)	Yield(%)
1	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O (5.0)	100 °C	36	52
2	BF ₃ ·Et ₂ O (5.0)	100 °C	24	54
3	p-TsOH·H ₂ O (5.0)	100 °C	24	81
4	Al(OTf) ₃ (5.0)	100 °C	24	65
5	$\operatorname{BaCl}_2(5.0)$	100 °C	24	NR
6	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (5.0)	100 °C	24	85
7	Bi(NO ₃) ₃ ·5H ₂ O (5.0)	100 °C	24	0
8	None	100 °C	24	NR
9	p-TsOH·H ₂ O (7.0)	100 °C	36	94
10	<i>p</i> -TsOH·H ₂ O (5.0)	100 °C	36	80
11	p-TsOH·H ₂ O (3.0)	100 °C	36	71
12	<i>p</i> -TsOH·H ₂ O (2.0)	100 °C	36	55
13	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (1.5)	100 °C	24	81
14	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (1.0)	100 °C	24	62
15	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (2.0)	100 °C	12	84
16	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (2.0)	100 °C	8	77
17	CF ₃ SO ₃ H (2.0)	80 °C	24	51

Preparation of substituted isatin

General Procedure for the Preparation of substituted isatin 7b-7x: A mixture of the substrate (1.0 equiv), arylboronic acid (2-3 equiv), anhydrous $Cu(OAc)_2$ (1-2 equiv), triethylamine or pyridine (2-3 equiv) in dichloromethane (10-12 ml/0.5 g of substrate) was stirred at room temperature for 24-72 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. The products were isolated by direct flash clumn chromatography of the crude reaction.



5-Methyl-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7b): Yellow solid, mp 145-147 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.1 and 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.1, 157.4, 149.5, 138.7, 134.2, 133.0, 129.9, 128.6, 125.83, 125.80, 117.5, 111.1, 20.7; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 238.0868, Found 238.0862; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1742, 1724, 1618, 1487, 1188, 745, 689.



5-Methoxy-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7c): Brown solid, mp 36-38 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.7 and 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.2, 157.3, 156.8, 145.6, 133.0, 129.9, 128.6, 125.7, 125.0, 117.9, 112.4, 109.1, 56.0; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 254.0817, Found 254.0811; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1736, 1722, 1626, 1491, 1287, 1188, 1009, 741, 471.



5-Methoxy-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7d): Yellow solid, mp 43-45 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 8.5 and 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) 180.1, 168.2, 158.7, 154.1, 132.8, 129.9, 128.7, 128.2, 126.1, 111.1, 109.0, 98.0, 56.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺: 276.0637, Found 276.0629; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1746, 1714, 1609, 1371, 1240, 1101, 754, 700, 486.



5-Fluoro-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7e): Yellow solid, mp 34-36 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 1H), 6.88 (dd, J = 8.7 and 3.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.4 (d, J = 2.2 Hz), 159.5 (d, J = 246.5 Hz), 157.0 (d, J = 1.3 Hz), 147.7 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 132.6, 130.1, 129.0, 125.9, 124.7 (d, J = 24.2 Hz), 118.0 (d, J = 7.1 Hz), 112.5 (d, J = 7.1 Hz), 112.4 (d, J = 24.2 Hz); ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -119.70; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉FNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 242.0617, Found 242.0611; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1728, 1620, 1481, 1348, 1180, 758, 698.



6-Chloro-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7f): Yellow solid, mp 174-176 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.0 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.4, 157.2, 152.5, 144.8, 132.3, 130.1, 129.2, 126.6, 125.9, 124.6, 115.7, 112.0 ; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 258.0322, Found 258.0317; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1744, 1607, 1366, 1157, 1070, 939, 733.



5-Chloro-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7g): Yellow solid, mp 142-144 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (dd, J = 8.5 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.9, 156.7, 149.9, 137.7, 132.5, 130.09, 130.06, 129.1, 125.9, 125.4, 118.3, 112.6; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 258.0322, Found 258.0316; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1734, 1603, 1468, 1346, 1190, 771.



4-Bromo-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7h): Yellow solid, mp 111-113 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.2, 156.4, 153.2, 138.3, 132.4, 130.1, 129.1, 128.9, 126.2, 121.8, 116.2, 110.0; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 301.9817, Found 301.9811; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1734, 1599, 1441. 1258, 1167, 789, 696.



5-Bromo-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7i): Dark red solid, mp 194-196 °C. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 8.4 and 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 181.6, 157.1, 150.1, 139.7, 133.1, 129.8, 128.6, 126.9, 126.5, 119.5, 115.2, 112.9; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 301.9817, Found 301.9811; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1744, 1609, 1464, 1348, 1287, 1190, 756.



6-Bromo-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7j): Reddish brown solid, mp 195-197 °C ; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.6,

157.1, 152.3, 133.7, 132.3, 130.2, 129.2, 127.6, 126.6, 126.0, 116.1, 114.8; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for $C_{14}H_9BrNO_2[M+H]^+$: 301.9817, Found 301.9810; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1740, 1605, 1364, 1153, 1059, 935, 721.



5-Iodo-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (7k): Brownish red, mp 166-168 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO*d*₆) δ 7.94 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H).¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 181.5, 156.8, 150.5, 145.5, 133.1, 132.3, 129.8, 128.6, 126.4, 119.8, 113.2, 86.5; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉INO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 349.9678, Found 349.9672; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1738, 1603, 1499, 1190, 754, 465.



5-Nitro-1-phenylindoline-2,3-dione (71): Yellow solid, mp 182-184 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.56 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (dd, J = 8.8 and 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.9, 156.9, 155.5, 144.4, 133.5, 131.8, 130.4, 129.8, 126.0, 121.2, 117.0, 111.6; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₄H₉N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 269.0562, Found 269.0556; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1753, 1611, 1493, 1346, 1275, 1074, 768.



Methyl 2,3-dioxo-1-phenylindoline-5-carboxylate (7m): Yellow solid, mp 28-30 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (dd, J = 8.4 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H) 3.94 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.9, 165.3, 157.3, 154.5, 139.8, 132.4, 130.1, 129.3, 127.0, 126.5, 126.0, 117.1, 111.1, 52.5; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 282.0766, Found 282.0761; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1751, 1721, 1620, 1354, 1260, 1121, 762.



1-(O-tolyl)indoline-2,3-dione (7n): Yellow solid, mp 119-121 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃)

$$\begin{split} &\delta \ 183.0, \ 157.2, \ 151.9, \ 138.5, \ 136.3, \ 131.8, \ 131.6, \ 129.7, \ 127.53, \ 127.51, \ 125.5, \ 124.1, \ 117.4, \ 111.2, \ 17.9; \\ &HRMS\ (ESI+)\ Calcd\ for\ C_{15}H_{12}NO_2\ [M+H]^+: \ 238.0868, \ Found\ 238.0862; \ IR\ (KBr)\ v(cm^{-1}): \ 1734, \ 1607, \\ &1466, \ 1362, \ 1186, \ 754. \end{split}$$



1-(4-Isopropylphenyl)indoline-2,3-dione (70): Yellow solid ,mp 92-94 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.05 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 1.28 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.0, 157.4, 151.8, 149.6, 138.3, 130.2, 127.9, 125.7, 125.4, 124.1, 117.3, 111.3, 33.9, 23.8; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 266.1181, Found 266.1175; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1732, 1609, 1466, 1369, 1190, 756.



1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7p): Yellow solid, mp 39-41 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.8, 157.4, 151.5, 141.8, 139.9, 138.4, 131.8, 128.9, 128.6, 127.9, 127.1, 126.2, 125.7, 124.4, 117.5, 111.3; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₀H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 300.1025, Found 300.1018; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1732, 1603, 1466, 1369, 1294, 1180, 764.



1-(4-(Naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)indoline-2,3-dione (7q): Yellow solid, mp 47-49 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (td, *J* = 7.9 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.9, 157.4, 151.6, 141.4, 138.8, 138.4, 133.7, 131.9, 131.5, 131.3, 128.4, 128.2, 127.1, 126.3, 126.0, 125.72, 125.70, 125.6, 125.4, 124.4, 117.5, 111.4; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₄H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 350.1181, Found 350.1174; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1738, 1614, 1466, 1364, 1180, 752.



1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7r): Yellow solid, mp 125-127 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.86 (m, 3H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.49 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.9, 157.5, 151.7, 138.4, 133.5, 132.9, 130.13, 130.05, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 127.0, 125.6, 125.0, 124.4, 123.3, 117.5, 111.3; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 274.0863.1181, Found 274.0864; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1726, 1605, 1470, 1182, 754.



1-(Naphthalen-1-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7s): This compound is known.¹ Yellow solid; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J=7.2Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J=7.2Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.9, 158.0, 152.6, 138.6, 134.8, 130.2, 129.31, 129.27, 128.8, 127.4, 126.9, 125.9, 125.8, 125.5, 124.2, 122.3, 117.4, 111.8; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 274.0868, Found 274.0861; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1736, 1609, 1470, 1304, 1184,1094, 772.



1-(Phenanthren-9-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7t): Yellow solid, mp 199-201°C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.81 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.82 – 7.72 (m, 4H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (td, *J* = 7.9 and 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.9, 158.2, 152.6, 138.6, 131.8, 131.0, 130.8, 129.1, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 125.5, 124.3, 123.5, 123.1, 122.8, 117.4, 111.9; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₂H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 324.1025, Found 324.1025; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1732, 1604, 1466, 1364, 1301, 1179, 758.



1-(4,5A1-dihydropyren-1-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7u): Yellow solid, mp 67-69 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J*=9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J*=9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 7.6 and 0.8 Hz 1H), 7.46 (td, *J* = 7.9 and 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.1, 158.3, 152.8, 138.6, 132.2, 130.9, 130.7, 129.3, 128.8, 127.7, 127.0, 126.7, 126.3, 126.1, 126.0, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 124.34, 124.32, 121.4, 117.6, 111.8; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₄H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 348.1025, Found 348.1018; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1730, 1605, 1466, 1294, 1180, 843,752.



1-(9,9'-Spirobi[fluoren]-4-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7v): Yellow solid, mp 243-245 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 – 6.73 (m, 4H), 6.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.7, 157.1, 151.4, 150.6, 149.1, 147.7, 142.3, 141.7, 140.4, 138.24, 138.22, 131.9, 128.5, 128.00, 127.98., 127.96, 125.9, 125.4, 124.2, 124.1, 123.9, 121.3, 121.2, 120.3, 120.1, 117.3, 111.1, 65.9. HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₃₃H₁₉NO₂Na [M+Na]⁺ : 484.1313, Found 484.1307; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1744, 1614, 1468, 1362, 760, 729.



1-(Dibenzo[b,d]thiophen-4-yl)indoline-2,3-dione (7w): Brown solid, mp 199-203 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.56 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.51 – 8.46 (m, 1H), 8.08 – 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 182.2, 157.3, 150.0, 138.2, 138.1, 137.4, 136.7, 135.0, 128.2, 127.8, 126.5, 126.2, 125.2, 125.0, 124.0, 123.2, 122.9, 122.6, 118.0, 111.5; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₀H₁₂NO₂S [M+H]⁺: 330.0589, Found 330.0582; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1738, 1611, 1464, 1364, 1300, 1159, 758.



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)indoline-2,3-dione (7x): This compound is known.¹ Yellow solid; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.7 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.6 (td, *J* = 7.7 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.5 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.4 (d,

J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.2 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.9 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.4, 157.1, 151.1, 138.4, 134.5, 131.3, 130.2, 127.2, 125.7, 124.5, 117.4, 111.1.

Typical Procedure for the products 9a-w and **9ab-ah:** Substituted isatin 7 (0.1 mmol), CF_3SO_3H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), alcohol or amine (1.0 mmol) and HFIP (1 mL) were added in turn into a 10 mL of glass sealed tube. The tube was tightly capped. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 12h. After cooling down to room temperature, the reaction mixture was then diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with saturated NaHCO₃, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated. Purification by thin layer chromatography afforded the product **9a-w** and **9ab-ah**.



Methyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9a): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7a (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9a (20.1 mg, 84% yield). This compound is known.² Yellowish solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 168.0, 148.6, 136.8, 130.3, 129.9, 127.1, 125.1, 122.3, 53.0.



Methyl 2-methylacridine-9-carboxylate (9b): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7b** (23.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9b** (18.1 mg, 72% yield) and recovery start material **7b** (1.9 mg, 8% yield).

9b: Yellow soild, mp 53-55 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 148.0, 147.6, 137.3, 135.7, 133.3, 129.85, 129.81, 129.5, 127.0, 125.0, 123.0, 122.4, 53.0, 22.2; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 252.1025, Found 252.1016; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1734, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-methoxyacridine-9-carboxylate (9c): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7c** (25.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9c** (21.3 mg, 79% yield). Yellow soild, mp 70-72 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 9.4 and 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.3, 158.1, 146.8, 146.0, 133.9, 131.5, 129.9, 129.1, 127.2, 125.7, 124.6, 123.6, 122.8, 100.1, 55.5, 52.9; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 268.0974, Found 268.0967; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):1732, 1275,



Methyl 3-methoxyacridine-9-carboxylate (9d): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7d (25.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9d (13.2 mg, 49% yield) and recovery start material 7d (2.4 mg, 9% yield).

9d: Yellow soild, mp 100-103 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 9.8 and 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (s, 3H), 4.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.9, 161.3, 150.4, 148.7, 136.7, 130.4, 129.1, 126.3, 126.0, 125.2, 122.7, 121.2, 118.7, 105.3, 55.7, 53.0; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺: 268.0974, Found 268.0967; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1734, 1468, 1207, 1015, 764, 748.



Methyl 2-fluoroacridine-9-carboxylate (9e): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7e** (24.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9e** (20 mg, 78% yield) and recovery start material **7e** (0.7 mg, 3% yield).

9e: This compound is known.^{3 1}H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (dd, *J* = 9.4 and 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.68 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 4.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.5, 160.6 (d, *J*=250.1 Hz), 148.1, 146.1, 135.9, 135.8, 132.8 (d, *J*=9.3 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J*=29.2 Hz), 127.8, 124.8, 122.8 (d, *J*=10.4 Hz), 122.7, 122.3 (d, *J*=28.1 Hz), 107.5 (d, *J*=23.7 Hz), 53.1; ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -110.02.



Methyl 3-chloroacridine-9-carboxylate (9f): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7f** (25.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9f** (19.6 mg, 72% yield) and recovery start material **7f** (2 mg, 8% yield).

9f: Yellow soild, mp 135-137 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 9.2 and 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 149.2, 148.4, 136.9, 136.4, 130.9, 129.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 126.5, 125.2, 122.3, 120.6, 53.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 272.0478; Found 272.0474; IR (KBr) v (cm-1) : 2955, 2924, 1728, 1377, 1263, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-chloroacridine-9-carboxylate (9g):

Route 1:



The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7g (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9g (19.6 mg, 72% yield). Route 2:



The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7x (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9g** (14.4 mg, 53% yield) and recovery start material **7x** (6.7 mg, 26% yield).

9g: Yellow soild, mp 120-123 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.04 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.82 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 9.2 and 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 148.7, 146.8, 135.7, 133.2, 131.7, 131.6, 130.6, 130.0, 127.8, 125.1, 123.6, 122.7, 122.6, 53.2; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 272.0478, Found 272.0472; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹) : 2926, 1732, 1456, 1263, 897, 750.



Methyl 1-bromoacridine-9-carboxylate (9h): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7h** (30.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 48h. The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9h** (25,2 mg, 80% yield).Yellow solid, mp 108-110 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (dd, J = 8.8 and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.3 and 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 4.18 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 149.3, 148.4, 137.9, 132.9, 131.1, 130.6, 129.9, 129.5, 127.8, 125.2, 123.5, 120.8, 117.9, 53.3; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 315.9973,Found 315.9969; IR (KBr) v (cm⁻¹) : 2926, 1736, 1458, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-bromoacridine-9-carboxylate (9i): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7i** (30.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9i** (28.3 mg, 90% yield). Yellow solid, mp 129-131 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 4.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 148.7, 146.9, 135.6, 134.0, 131.5, 130.7, 130.0, 127.8, 127.0, 125.1, 123.1, 122.6, 121.6, 53.2; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrNO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 315.9973, Found 315.9969; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹) :2924, 1728, 1456, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 3-bromoacridine-9-carboxylate (9j): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7j** (30.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9j** (26.5 mg, 84% yield). Yellow solid, mp 143-145 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 9.2 and 1.9 Hz 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H) 4.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.5, 149.1, 148.7, 137.1, 131.9, 131.0, 130.7, 129.9, 127.5, 126.5, 125.2, 124.9, 122.4, 120.9, 53.2; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁BrNO₂[M+H]⁺: 315.9973, Found 315.9969; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2926, 1726, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-iodoacridine-9-carboxylate (9k): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7k** (34.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9k** (29.8 mg, 83% yield). This compound is known.⁴ ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.02 – 7.92 (m, 3H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 148.8, 147.0, 138.9, 135.4, 133.9, 131.3, 130.7, 129.9, 127.7, 125.2, 123.7, 122.5, 93.6, 53.2.



Methyl 2-nitroacridine-9-carboxylate (91): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **71** (26.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **91** (24.2 mg, 86% yield). Yellow soild, mp 142-144 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.04 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.51 (dd, *J* = 9.4 and 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93

(t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.6, 150.8, 149.0, 145.6, 139.8, 132.4, 132.0, 130.2, 128.5, 125.5, 123.2, 123.08, 123.05, 120.5, 53.6. HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁N₂O₄ [M+H]⁺ : 283.0719, Found 283.0712; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2924, 1724, 1261, 895, 764, 750.



Dimethyl acridine-2,9-dicarboxylate (9m): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7m** (28.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF_3SO_3H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9m** (26 mg, 87% yield) and recovery start material **7m** (1.7mg, 6% yield).

9m: Yellow soild, mp 161-163 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.79 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (dd, J = 9.1 and 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.90 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.68 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 4.25 (s, 3H), 4.01 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 166.3, 150.0, 149.4, 138.8, 131.5, 130.2, 130.0, 129.1, 129.0, 128.4, 127.6, 125.4, 122.6, 121.2, 53.3, 52.6; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NO₄ [M+H]⁺: 296.0923, Found 296.0916; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2924, 2305, 1724, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 4-methylacridine-9-carboxylate (9n): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7n (23.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9n (16.5 mg, 66% yield) and recovery start material 7n (5 mg, 21% yield).

9n: Yellow soild, mp 92-94 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.6 and 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 148.1, 147.8, 137.8, 136.7, 130.4, 129.7, 129.5, 127.0, 124.8, 123.0, 122.3, 122.0, 52.9, 18.6; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 252.1025, Found 252.1018; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2926, 1734, 1458, 1231, 1148, 1069, 764, 748.

Methyl 2-isopropylacridine-9-carboxylate (90): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **70** (26.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **90** (21 mg, 75% yield). Brown oily; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 – 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 4.22 (s, 3H), 3.16 – 3.11 (m, 1H), 1.36 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 148.02, 148.01, 147.6, 136.0, 130.7, 129.81, 129.76, 126.9, 124.9, 122.43, 122.41, 120.4, 52.9, 34.5, 23.4; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for

C₁₈H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 280.1338, Found 280.1330; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2955, 2924, 1734, 1458, 1225, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-phenylacridine-9-carboxylate (9p): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7p** (29.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9p** (21.1 mg, 67% yield) and recovery start material **7p** (1.3 mg, 4% yield).

9p: Yellow soild, mp 101-103 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.34 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, J = 9.1 and 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 148.5, 148.0, 140.0, 139.7,136.8, 130.7, 130.30, 130.27, 129.9, 129.0, 128.1, 127.5, 127.3, 125.1, 122.7, 122.5, 122.3, 53.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₁H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 314.1181, Found 314.1165; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2926, 1726, 1462, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl 2-(naphthalen-1-yl)acridine-9-carboxylate (9q): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7q (34.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9q (28.2 mg, 78% yield) and recovery start material 7q (8 mg, 22% yield).

9q: Yellow soild, mp 159-161 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 8.9 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 – 7.92 (m, 3H), 7.87 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.67 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 4.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.9, 148.7, 148.0, 139.7, 139.0, 136.8, 133.8, 133.4, 131.4, 130.3, 129.9, 129.5, 128.45, 128.41, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 126.1, 125.6, 125.42, 125.41, 125.1, 122.6, 122.4, 53.0; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₅H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 364.1338, Found 364.1329; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2924, 1724, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl benzo[a]acridine-12-carboxylate (9r): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7r (27.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product 9r (24.2 mg, 84% yield). Yellow soild, mp 115-117 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 3H), 4.20 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.6, 149.6, 147.3, 135.5, 133.0, 132.4, 130.2, 129.34, 129.28, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.33, 127.26, 125.5, 124.7, 122.7,119.8, 53.3;

HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 288.1025, Found 288.1017; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2972, 1275, 1261, 1049, 881, 750.



Methyl benzo[c]acridine-7-carboxylate (9s): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7s** (27.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9s** (21.5 mg, 75% yield) and recovery start material **7s** (1.6 mg, 6% yield).

9s: Yellow soild, mp 106-107 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.81 – 7.73 (m, 4H), 7.67 – 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 147.4, 147.1, 136.0, 133.3, 131.3, 130.2, 129.8, 129.4, 129.3, 127.9, 127.7, 127.1, 125.3, 124.8, 122.7, 122.2, 121.0, 53.0; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 288.1025, Found 288.1017; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2955, 2924, 1734, 1261, 1219, 764, 750.



Methyl dibenzo[a,c]acridine-14-carboxylate (9t): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7t** (39.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (petroleum ether: dichloromethane =1:2) to afford product **9t** (23.8 mg, 71% yield) and recovery start material **7t** (7.4 mg, 19% yield). **9t**: Yellow soild, mp 142-144 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.50 – 9.45 (m, 1H), 8.58 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 4.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.6, 147.9, 146.7, 135.1, 131.9, 131.1, 130.8, 130.0, 129.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.3, 127.1, 126.8, 126.4, 124.6, 123.8, 123.3, 122.5, 120.0, 53.3; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₃H₁₆NO₂[M+H]⁺: 338.1181, Found 338.1174; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2926, 1732, 1275, 1261, 764, 750.



Methyl phenaleno[1,9-bc]acridine-7-carboxylate (9u): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate 7u (34.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (petroleum ether: dichloromethane =1:2) to afford product 9u (25.8 mg, 71% yield). Yellow soild, mp 197-200 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.85 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.43 – 8.38 (m, 2H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.92 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.83 (q, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.74 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 4.33 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.6, 147.2, 144.0,

135.8, 132.7, 131.6, 131.3, 130.4, 129.7, 129.4, 128.7, 128.2, 127.9, 127.1, 127.0, 126.6, 125.9, 125.4, 124.9, 124.8, 123.9, 122.3, 120.3, 119.8, 53.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for $C_{25}H_{16}NO_2 [M+H]^+$: 362.1181, Found 362.1173; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 3350, 2945, 2831, 1657, 1454, 1115, 1032.



Methyl spiro[fluorene-9,8'-indeno[2,1-c]acridine]-5'-carboxylate (9v): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7v** (46.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate =6:1) to afford product **9v** (29.0 mg, 61% yield). Yellow soild, mp 196-200 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.3, 152.9, 149.5, 149.3, 149.0, 148.0, 141.7, 141.5, 140.0, 136.3, 130.0, 129.9, 129.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.0, 124.9, 124.7, 124.4, 124.2, 122.7, 122.3, 121.5, 120.1, 114.1, 65.2, 53.1. HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₃₄H₂₂NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 476.1651, Found 476.1644; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):3339, 2943, 2832, 1653, 1452, 1115, 1032.



Methyl benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-c]acridine-5-carboxylate (9w): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7w** (32.9 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and MeOH (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9w** (30 mg, 87% yield). Yellow soild, mp 188-191 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 – 8.22 (m, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 4.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 148.0, 145.1, 141.0, 138.9, 137.4, 136.2, 135.2, 130.3, 129.9, 127.1, 126.8, 125.1, 124.7, 123.3, 122.6, 122.00, 121.98, 121.5, 121.4, 53.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₁H₁₄NO₂S [M+H]⁺ : 344.0735, Found 344.0739; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 3350, 2945, 2833, 1651,1452, 1115,1032.



Ethyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9ab): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and EtOH (46.1 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9ab** (15.7 mg, 63% yield) and recovery start material **7a** (3 mg, 13% yield).

9ab: Yellow soild, mp 57-58 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (td, *J* = 7.6 and 0.8 Hz, 2H), 4.71 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.5, 148.6, 137.1, 130.3, 129.8, 127.1, 125.0, 122.3, 62.4, 14.4; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 252.1025, Found 252.1016; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2926, 1724, 1263, 1026, 764, 750.



3-Phenylpropyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9ac): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and 3-phenylpropan-1-ol (135.4 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 4: 1) to afford product **9ac** (23.8 mg, 70% yield). Yellow soild, mp 110-112 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (td, *J* = 8.0 and 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (td, *J* = 7.7 and 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 4.66 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.29 – 2.18 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 148.6, 140.6, 137.1, 130.3, 129.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.1, 126.2, 125.0, 122.3, 65.6, 32.1, 30.2; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₃H₂₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 342.1494, Found 342.1487; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2924, 1726, 1263, 1209, 1013, 764, 750.



Isopropyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9ad): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF_3SO_3H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and propan-2-ol (47.1 mg, 1.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 24h. The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9ad** (10.4 mg, 39% yield) and recovery start material **7a** (5.3 mg, 23% yield).

9ad: Yellow soild, mp 56-61 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.86 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 5.69 – 5.62 (m, 1H), 1.55 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.1, 148.6, 137.5, 130.3, 129.9, 127.0, 125.0, 122.2, 70.5, 22.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 266.1181, Found 266.1174; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2982, 1722, 1516, 1225, 1109, 1001, 750.



N-(4-butylbenzyl) acridine-9-carboxamide (9ae): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), *p*-TsOH·H₂O (133.2 mg, 0.7 mmol) and (4-butylphenyl) methanamine (81.6 mg, 0.5 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9ae** (23.3 mg, 66% yield). Yellow soild, mp 63-67 °C; ¹H NMR (150 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), δ 7.63 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 4.85 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.68 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.8, 148.5, 142.8, 140.6, 134.5, 130.3, 129.6, 129.0, 128.2, 126.8, 125.1, 122.2, 44.2, 35.3, 33.6, 22.3, 13.9; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₅H₂₅N₂O [M+H]⁺ : 369.1967, Found 369.1962; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 3235, 2928, 1659, 1539, 1439, 1252, 756.

(*S*)-N-(2-hydroxypropyl) acridine-9-carboxamide (9af): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg 0.2 mmol) and (*S*)-1-aminopropan-2-ol (75.1 mg 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (dichloromethane: MeOH = 15: 1) to afford product **9af** (17.6 mg, 57% yield). Yellow soild, mp 179-182 °C; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ -39.0 (c 0.86, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.05 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 4.88 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.53 – 3.41 (m, 2H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.3, 148.2, 142.9, 130.9, 129.2, 126.8, 126.0, 122.0, 65.3, 47.0, 21.6; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₇H₁₇N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 281.1290, Found 281.1283 ; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹):3059, 1634, 1539, 1261, 1136, 754.



6-Chlorohexyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9ag): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and 6-chlorohexan-1-ol (32.0 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (DCM as eluent) to afford product **9ag** (22.2 mg, 65% yield). Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 4.65 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.56 – 1.48 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 148.6, 137.1, 130.3, 129.9, 127.1, 125.0, 122.3, 66.2, 44.8, 32.3, 28.5, 26.4, 25.3; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₂₀H₂₁ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 342.1246, Found 342.1254; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 2938, 1726, 1518, 1288, 1209, 1013, 760.

2-Hydroxyethyl acridine-9-carboxylate (9ah): The general procedure described above was followed using substrate **7a** (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CF₃SO₃H (30.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) and ethane-1, 2-diol (62.1 mg, 1.0 mmol). The residue was purified by thin layer chromatography (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 2: 1) to afford product **9ah** (14.1 mg, 53% yield). Yellow soild, mp 165-168 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 4.22 - 4.14 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.2, 147.9,

136.4, 130.2, 129.3, 126.9, 124.9, 121.8, 67.8, 60.8; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for $C_{16}H_{14}NO_3$ [M+H]⁺ : 268.0974, Found 268.0967; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 3188, 1728, 1213, 1088, 1022, 762.



9-(Methoxycarbonyl)-10-methylacridin-10-ium (10): To a stirred solution of methyl acridine-9carboxylate (47.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL) was added CF₃SO₃CH₃ (65.6 mg, 0.4 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 72 h. The product **10** (60.7 mg, 76% yield) is obtained by recrystallizing. Yellow soild, mp 184-188 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.89 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 8.51 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.45 (dd, *J* = 8.6 and 3.9 Hz, 2H), 8.11 – 8.07 (m, 2H), 4.91 (s, 3H), 4.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.1, 148.5, 141.9, 139.1, 129.3, 128.0, 122.3, 119.8, 54.9; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NO₂ [M-CF₃SO₃]⁺ :252.1025, Found 252.1018; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻):1736, 1611, 1557, 1377, 1030, 766, 635.



9-(Methoxycarbonyl) acridine 10-oxide (11): To a stirred solution of methyl acridine-9-carboxylate (23.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CHCl₃ (1 mL) was added 70% *m*-CPBA (17.3 mg, 0.1 mmol) portionwise at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. After complete consumption of starting material was observed by TLC, the reaction mixture was diluted with CHCl₃, and solid K₂CO₃ (4.0 equiv) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for an additional 10 min and then washed with water three times. The organic layer was separated and dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography to afford product **11** (26.1 mg, 100 % yield). Yellow soild, mp 170-173 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.89 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) 167.1, 139.2, 130.7, 128.4, 125.9, 124.7, 124.0, 119.9, 53.1; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺:254.0812, Found 254.0810; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1722, 1572, 1377, 1275, 1227, 1018, 762.



(**T-4)-(Methyl acridine-9-carboxylate) trifluoroboron (12):** To a stirred solution of methyl acridine-9-carboxylate (23.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) in Et₂O (1 mL) was added BF₃·OEt₂ (42.6 mg, 0.3 mmol) portionwise at room temperature. Product **12** (27.5 mg, 90% yield) was obtained after filtration. Yellow soild, mp 184-188 °C; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.1, 144.2, 141.8, 134.3, 128.6, 125.9, 125.2, 121.8, 54.1; ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -148.20; HRMS (ESI+) Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₂ [M+H-BF₃]⁺:238.0868, Found 238.0861; IR (KBr) v(cm⁻¹): 1728, 1630, 1468, 1423, 1238, 1125, 1084, 1026, 843, 754.



9-(Methoxymethyl)-4a, 9, 9a, 10-tetrahydroacridine (13): Methyl acridine-9-carboxylate (47.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (3 ml), LiAlH₄ (1 M in THF, 0.25 ml) was added dropwise under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was slowly heated to 80 °C and maintained at 80 °C for 3 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of 15% aq. NaOH. The resulting precipitate was filtered off. Then the filtrate was diluted with EtOAc, washed with water and saturated aq. NaHCO₃, dried anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Purification the crude product by column chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:4) yielded the alcohol as a pale, yellow solid (41.0 mg, 97 %); This compound is known.^{5 1}H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.8 and 1.3 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 4.09 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.7, 129.1, 127.7, 120.8, 120.3, 113.6, 67.4, 45.3.

X-ray single-crystal analysis data of compound 9a (Summary of Data CCDC 1960437)



Figure . ORTEP view of compound 9a.

Table . Crystal data and structure refinement for compound 9a.

····· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	r · · · · ·	
Chemical formula	$C_{15}H_{11}NO_2$	
Formula weight	237.25 g/mol	
Temperature	273(2) K	
Wavelength	1.54178 Å	
Crystal size	0.170 x 0.220 x 0.250 mm	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	P 1 21 1	
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 3.94040(10) \text{ Å} \alpha = 90^{\circ}$	
	$b = 16.0925(3) \text{ Å} \beta = 90.2540(10)^{\circ}$	
	$c = 9.1575(2) \text{ Å} \qquad \gamma = 90^{\circ}$	
Volume	580.68(2) Å ³	
Ζ	2	
Density (calculated)	1.357 g/cm^3	
Absorption coefficient 0.736 mm ⁻¹		
F(000)	248	
Theta range for data collection	7.33 to 74.48°	
Index ranges	-4<=h<=4, -20<=k<=20, -11<=l<=9	
Reflections collected	7654	
Independent reflections	2313 [R(int) = 0.0259]	
Coverage of independent reflections	98.5%	
Absorption correction	Multi-Scan	
Max. and min. transmission	0.8850 and 0.8370	
Structure solution technique	direct methods	
Structure solution program	SHELXT 2014/5 (Sheldrick, 2014)	
Refinement method	method Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Refinement program	SHELXL-2016/6 (Sheldrick, 2016)	
Function minimized	$\Sigma w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2$	
Data / restraints / parameters	2313 / 1 / 164	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.070	
Final R indices	2261 data; $I > 2\sigma(I)$ R1 = 0.0292, wR2 = 0.0810	
	all data $R1 = 0.0298$, $wR2 = 0.0817$	
Weighting scheme $w=1/[\sigma^2(Fo^2)+(0.0472P)^2+0.0302$		

where $P = (Fo^2 + 2Fc^2)/3$

Absolute structure parameter	0.02(8)	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.107 and -0.099 eÅ ⁻³	
R.M.S. deviation from mean	0.023 eÅ ⁻³	

X-ray single-crystal analysis data of compound 9r (Summary of Data CCDC 1968988)



Figure . ORTEP view of compound **9r**. **Table . Crystal data and structure refinement for compound 9r.**

Chemical formula	C ₁₉ H ₁₃ NO ₂
Formula weight	287.30 g/mol
Temperature	297(2) K
Wavelength	1.54178 Å
Crystal size	0.138 x 0.159 x 0.239 mm
Crystal habit	clear light colourless BLOCK
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	P n a 21
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 18.7602(14) \text{ Å} \alpha = 90^{\circ}$
	$b = 9.1601(6) \text{ Å} \qquad \beta = 90^{\circ}$
	$c = 16.7999(12) \text{ Å} \gamma = 90^{\circ}$
Volume	2887.0(4) Å ³
Z	8
Density (calculated)	1.322 g/cm ³
Absorption coefficient	0.692 mm^{-1}
F(000)	1200
Theta range for data collection	4.71 to 79.28°
Index ranges	-23<=h<=23, -11<=k<=10, -21<=l<=19
Reflections collected	30826
Independent reflections	5919 [R(int) = 0.0544]
Coverage of independent reflections	97.4%
Absorption correction	Multi-Scan
Max. and min. transmission	0.9110 and 0.8520
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-2016/6 (Sheldrick, 2016)
Function minimized	$\Sigma w(Fo^2 - Fc^2)^2$
Data / restraints / parameters	5919 / 1 / 400

Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.010	
Final R indices	5296 data; $I > 2\sigma(I)$ R1 = 0.0454, wR2 =	
	0.1219	
	all data $R1 = 0.0507, wR2 = 0.1266$	
Weighting scheme	$w=1/[\sigma^2(Fo^2)+(0.0715P)^2+0.1732P]$	
	where $P = (Fo^2 + 2Fc^2)/3$	
Absolute structure parameter	0.18(13)	
Extinction coefficient	0.0005(2)	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.182 and -0.128 eÅ ⁻³	
R.M.S. deviation from mean	0.029 eÅ ⁻³	

(1) Rogness, D. C.; Larock, R. C., Synthesis of N-arylisatins by the reaction of arynes with methyl 2-oxo-2-(arylamino)acetates. *J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, *76*, 4980-4986.

(2) Rauhut, M. M.; Sheehan, D.; Clarke, R. A.; Roberts, B. G.; Semse, A. M., Chemiluminescence from the reaction of 9-chlorocarbonyl-10-methylacridinium chloride with aqueous hydrogen peroxide. *J. Org. Chem.* **1965**, *30*, 3587-3592.

(3) Elliott, E. C.; Bowkett, E. R.; Maggs, J. L.; Bacsa, J.; Park, B. K.; Regan, S. L.; O'Neill, P. M.; Stachulski, A. V., Convenient syntheses of benzo-fluorinated dibenz[b,f]azepines: rearrangements of isatins, acridines, and indoles. *Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 5592-5595.

(4) Desbois, N.; Gardette, M.; Papon, J.; Labarre, P.; Maisonial, A.; Auzeloux, P.; Lartigue, C.; Bouchon, B.; Debiton, E.; Blache, Y.; Chavignon, O.; Teulade, J. C.; Maublant, J.; Madelmont, J. C.; Moins, N.; Chezal, J. M., Design, synthesis and preliminary biological evaluation of acridine compounds as potential agents for a combined targeted chemo-radionuclide therapy approach to melanoma. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2008**, *16*, 7671-7690.

(5) Goeth, H.; Cerutti, P.; Schmid, H., Photoreaktionen von acridin und acridinabkömmlingen Sowie von arylketonen mit methanol. *Helvetica. Chimica. Acta.* **1965**, *48*, 1395-1406.





Figure S1. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9a in CHCl₂



Figure S2. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9b in CHCl₂



Figure S3. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9c in CHCl₂



Figure S4. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9d in CHCl₂



Figure S5. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9e in CHCl₂



Figure S6. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9f in CHCl₂



Figure S7. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9g in CHCl₂



Figure S8. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 320 nm) spectra of 9h in CHCl₂



Figure S9. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9i in CHCl₂



Figure S10. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9j in CHCl₂



Figure S11. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 340 nm) spectra of 9k in CHCl₂



Figure S12. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 350 nm) spectra of 91 in CHCl₂



Figure S13. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 350 nm) spectra of 9m in CHCl₂



Wavelength / nm

Figure S14. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9n in CHCl₂



Figure S15. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 90 in CHCl₂



Figure S16. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 9p in CHCl₂



Figure S17. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 9q in CHCl₂



Figure S18. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 9r in CHCl₂



Figure S19. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 9s in CHCl₂



Figure S20. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9t in CHCl₂



Figure S21. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 490 nm) spectra of 9u in CHCl₂



Figure S22. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 9v in CHCl₂



Figure S23. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 301 nm) spectra of 9w in CHCl₂



Figure S24. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ab in CHCl₂


Figure S25. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ac in CHCl₂



Figure S26. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ad in CHCl₂



Figure S27. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ae in CHCl₂



Figure S28. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9af in CHCl₂



Figure S29. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ag in CHCl₂



Figure S30. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 360 nm) spectra of 9ah in CHCl2



Figure S31. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 370 nm) spectra of 10 in CHCl₂



Figure S32. UV-vis absorption, excited and fluorescence (excited at 420 nm) spectra of 11 in CHCl₂



















8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0 f1 (ppm)





II (pp









9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 fl (ppm)











7.0 4.0 f1 (ppm) 7.5 3.5 2.5 8.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 3.0 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0






















































































0 ↓ ↓ BF₃ 12 ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, DMSO-d_d)



