

Expedient Metal-Free Preparation of Aryl Aziridines via Thermal Cycloaddition Reactions

Filip Sebest, Lalita Radtanajiravong, Siim Kaukver, Andrew J. P. White and
Silvia Díez-González*

*Imperial College London, Department of Chemistry, MSRH, White City Campus, 82 Wood
Lane, London W12 0BZ (UK)*

Electronic Supporting Information

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1. General Considerations

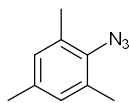
All reactions were carried out in air using technical solvents without any particular precautions to exclude moisture or oxygen. All chemicals were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Column chromatography and TLC were performed on silica gel (Kieselgel 60), using UV light and a phosphomolybdic acid dip to visualize the products. Basified silica was prepared by submerging silica gel into petroleum ether containing 2% v/v NEt_3 overnight. Melting points were determined on an Electrothermal Gallenham apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded using a Perkin Elmer 100 series FT-IR spectrometer, equipped with a beam-condensing accessory (samples were sandwiched between diamond compressor cells). NMR spectra were measured on Bruker AVANCE 400 spectrometers (^1H : 400 MHz, ^{13}C : 101 MHz, ^{19}F : 377 MHz) at 20 °C. The chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relatively to a tetramethylsilane (0.00 ppm), 1-fluorobenzene (–113.15 ppm), or solvents residual peaks. The multiplicity is given as br, s, d, t, q, sept, and m for broad, singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet, septet, and multiplet. Assignments of some ^1H and ^{13}C NMR signals rely on COSY, HSQC, HMBC and/or DEPT-135 experiments. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Micromass Autospec Premier, Micromass LCT Premier or a VG Platform II spectrometer using EI, CI or ESI techniques at the Mass Spectrometry Service of Imperial College London.

2. Synthesis of Azides

All aryl azides used in this work are thermally stable at the reported reaction temperatures and they can be stores for extended periods of time (i.e. months or even years) at room temperature with no particular precautions.

General procedure for the preparation of aryl azides: Following a modified literature procedure,¹ the chosen aniline was added to HCl (1 mL per 1 mmol of aniline; 12 M) in water (1 mL per 1 mmol of aniline) at 0 °C. A solution of NaNO_2 (1.2 equiv.) in water (1 mL per 1 mmol of aniline) was added portion-wise and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h. A solution of NaN_3 (1.5 equiv.) in water (0.5 mL per 1 mmol of aniline) was added dropwise at 0 °C (CAUTION: vigorous release of N_2) and the reaction was stirred for 2 h and allowed to warm to room temperature. The aqueous layer was extracted twice with diethyl ether and the combined organic layers were washed with water, sodium bicarbonate, brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to yield the corresponding pure aryl azide.

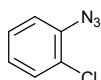
Mesityl azide (1a)



Following the general procedure from mesidine (10.0 g, 74.0 mmol), the title compound was obtained as an orange oil (9.3 g, 78%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.²

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.86 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 6H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ^{13}C { ^1H } NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 135.3, 134.4, 131.9, 129.5, 20.7, 18.1.

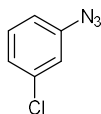
1-Azido-2-chlorobenzene (1b)



Following the general procedure from 2-chloroaniline (4.12 mL, 39.2 mmol), the title compound was obtained as an orange oil (4.99 g, 83%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.³

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.14 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.04 (m, 1H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz): δ 137.2, 130.7, 127.9, 125.6, 125.0, 119.7.

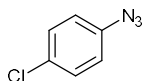
1-Azido-3-chlorobenzene (1c)



Following the general procedure from 3-chloroaniline (3.45 mL, 32.6 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a dark orange oil (3.55 g, 71%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.⁴

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.07 (m, 1H), 7.01–6.98 (m, 1H), 6.92–6.88 (m, 1H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz): δ 141.4, 135.4, 130.6, 125.1, 119.3, 117.2.

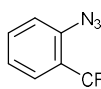
1-Azido-4-chlorobenzene (1d)



Following the general procedure from 4-chloroaniline (10.0 g, 78.4 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a dark orange oil (8.0 g, 66%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.⁵

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz): δ 138.7, 130.2, 129.8, 120.3.

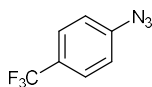
1-Azido-2-trifluoromethylbenzene (1e)



Following the general procedure from 2-trifluoromethylaniline (5.00 mL, 39.8 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a pale orange solid (6.95 g, 93%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.⁶

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.19 (m, 2H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz): δ 138.5, 133.1, 127.4 (q, *J* = 5 Hz), 124.5, 123.0 (q, *J* = 272 Hz), 121.1 (q, *J* = 32 Hz), 119.5; ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –61.9 (s).

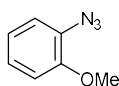
1-Azido-4-trifluoromethylbenzene (1f)



Following the general procedure from 4-trifluoromethylaniline (15.00 mL, 119.5 mmol), the title compound was obtained as an orange oil (21.23 g, 95%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.⁷

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃, 101 MHz): δ 143.7, 127.1 (q, *J* = 33 Hz), 127.0 (q, *J* = 3 Hz), 124.0 (q, *J* = 272 Hz), 119.2; ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –62.2 (s).

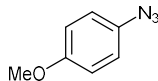
2-Azidoanisole (1g)



Following the general procedure from 2-methoxyaniline (10.00 mL, 88.7 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a yellow oil (10.56 g, 80%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.⁵

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.11 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.96–6.88 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 151.8, 128.3, 125.7, 121.2, 120.2, 112.1, 55.8.

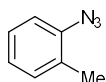
1-Azido-4-methoxybenzene (1h)



Following the general procedure from 4-methoxyaniline (9.65 g, 78.4 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a brown solid (10.90 g, 93%). Spectroscopic data for the title compound are in accordance with the literature.⁸

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.95 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.0, 132.3, 120.0, 115.1, 55.5.

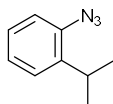
1-Azido-2-methylbenzene (1i)



Following the general procedure from 2-methylaniline (6.43 g, 60 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a brown solid (2.70 g, 34%) after purification by column chromatography (petroleum ether). Spectroscopic data for the title compound are in accordance with the literature.⁹

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.26–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.08 (m, 2H), 7.07–7.00 (m, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 130.7, 129.1, 126.8, 124.4, 117.7, 17.2.

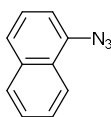
1-Azido-2-isopropylbenzene (1j)



Following the general procedure from 2-isopropylaniline (8.49 mL, 60.0 mmol), the title compound was obtained as an orange oil (7.36 g, 80%). Spectroscopic data for the title compound are in accordance with the literature.¹⁰

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.08 (m, 2H), 3.21 (sept, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.20 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 140.0, 137.1, 126.9, 126.6, 124.9, 118.0, 27.9, 22.8.

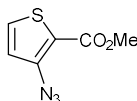
1-Azidonaphthalene (1k)



I-BuONO (1.8 mL, 15 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of 1-naphthylamine (1.43 g, 10 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 mL) at 0 °C, followed by TMSN_3 (1.6 mL, 12 mmol) also dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography to obtain the title compound as a light brown solid (1.21 g, 71%). Spectroscopic data for the title compound are in accordance with the literature.¹¹

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.13–8.05 (m, 1H), 7.85–7.77 (m, 1H), 7.59 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.29–7.18 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 136.6, 134.4, 127.7, 127.0, 126.4, 126.3, 125.5, 124.7, 122.7, 113.9.

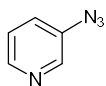
Methyl 3-azidothiophene-2-carboxylate (1l)



Following the general procedure from methyl 3-aminothiophene-2-carboxylate (7.5 g, 47.7 mmol), the title compound was obtained as a yellow solid (8.0 g, 91%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.¹²

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 161.3, 142.2, 131.2, 122.1, 117.1, 52.1.

3-Azidopyridine (1m)

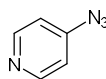


Following the general procedure for preparing aryl azides from 3-aminopyridine (5.00 g, 53.1 mmol), the title compound was obtained as an orange oil (3.75 g, 59%).

Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.¹³

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.41–8.36 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 146.0, 141.3, 137.1, 125.9, 124.1.

4-Azidopyridine (1n)



Following a reported procedure,¹⁴ a solution of 4-chloropyridine hydrochloride (7.15 g, 47.7 mmol) in water (20 mL) was neutralised with aqueous solution of NaOH (1 M) to pH 7 before adding MeOH (40 mL). Then, a solution of NaN_3 (6.20 g, 95.3 mmol) in water (20 mL) was added and the mixture was refluxed overnight, cooled to room temperature, concentrated under reduced pressure and treated with saturated aqueous solution of K_2CO_3 . The aqueous layer was extracted twice with Et_2O and the combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to yield the title compound as a red oil (4.65 g, 75%). Spectroscopic data for this compound is in accordance with the literature.¹⁵

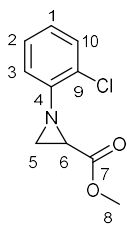
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.55–8.51 (m, 2H), 6.97–6.93 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 151.1, 148.7, 114.1.

3. Synthesis of Aryl Aziridines

General procedure: Azide (1.0 equiv.) and alkene (2.0 equiv.) were stirred in technical toluene (0.5 M) at the given temperature on a heating block for 16–24 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled down to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was then purified by column chromatography (the reaction crude was dry-loaded onto the stationary phase), unless stated otherwise.

Methyl 1-(2-chlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carboxylate (4ba)

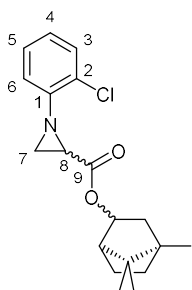
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and methyl acrylate (1.17 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 0→20% gradient) as a yellow oil (1.15 g, 83%).



R_f = 0.24 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.33 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^{10}), 7.18 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.98 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^3), 3.82 (s, 3H, H^8), 2.84 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.78 (dd, J = 3.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.44 (dd, J = 6.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.1 (C^7), 147.9 (C^4), 129.9 (C^{10}), 127.3 (C^2), 127.1 (C^9), 124.1 (C^1), 121.1 (C^3), 52.6 (C^8), 38.5 (C^6), 34.4 (C^5); IR:

ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 2953, 1743 (s, C=O), 1590, 1476, 1440, 1398, 1294, 1264, 1203, 1179, 1152, 1081, 1052, 1036, 919, 841, 825, 791, 753, 727; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$: 212.0478, found: 212.0487 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

4,7,7-Trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-yl 1-(2-chlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carboxylate(4bb)

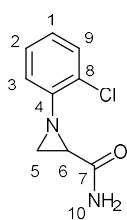


Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1b** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and isobornyl acrylate (0.85 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a yellow oil (0.60 g, 90%) by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 90:10) as a 55:45 mixture of diastereoisomers.

R_f = 0.60 (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.31 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 7.16 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.96 (td, J = 7.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^6), 6.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 4.84 (dd, J = 7.5; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^{IBA}), 4.75 (dd, J = 7.5; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^{IBA}), 2.78 (dd, J = 8.0; 3.5 Hz, 2H, H^8), 2.73 (dd, J = 3.5; 1.5 Hz, 2H, H^7), 2.43–2.40 (m, 2H, H^7), 1.88–1.67 (m, 8H, H^{IBA}), 1.61–1.53 (m, 2H, H^{IBA}), 1.22–1.06 (m, 4H, H^{IBA}), 1.03 (s, 3H, H^{IBA}), 1.00 (s, 3H, H^{IBA}), 0.92 (s, 3H, H^{IBA}), 0.88 (s, 3H, H^{IBA}), 0.85 (s, 6H, H^{IBA}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.1 (C^9), 148.2 (C^3), 129.8 (C^5), 127.3 (C^1), 123.9 (C^6), 120.9 (C^2), 82.2 (CH^{IBA}), 81.9 (CH^{IBA}), 48.9 (C^{IBA}), 48.7 (C^{IBA}), 47.0 (C^{IBA}), 46.9 (C^{IBA}), 45.0 (CH^{IBA}), 44.9 (CH^{IBA}), 38.9 (CH^{IBA}), 38.7 (C^8), 38.6 (CH^{IBA}), 38.5 (CH^{IBA}), 34.0 (C^7), 33.7 (CH^{IBA}), 33.6 (CH^{IBA}), 27.0 (CH^{IBA}), 20.08 (CH^{IBA}), 20.06 (CH^{IBA}), 19.89 (CH^{IBA}), 19.86 (CH^{IBA}), 11.5 (CH^{IBA}), 11.4 (CH^{IBA}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3063, 2950, 2873, 1729 (s, C=O), 1635, 1587, 1051, 1285, 1195, 1178, 1051, 1017, 749, 725; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 334.1574; Found 334.1581.

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carboxamide (4bc)

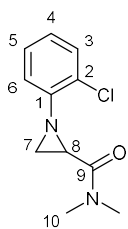
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and acrylamide (0.93 g, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (0.71 g, 55%) after washing the reaction crude with water and triturating the precipitate with Et_2O /EtOAc (9:1).



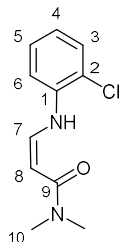
Mp 159.0–160.2 °C; R_f = 0.11 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 50:50); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.35 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.20 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 7.02 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 6.55 (br s, 1H, H^{10}), 5.70 (br s, 1H, H^{10}), 2.73 (ddd, J = 7.0; 3.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.61 (dd, J = 3.0; 0.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.46 (dd, J = 7.0; 0.5 Hz, 1H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 172.2 (C^7), 147.6 (C^4), 130.1 (C^9), 127.5 (C^2), 127.4 (C^8), 124.5 (C^1), 121.0 (C^3), 40.1 (C^6), 35.3 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3324 (br m, N–H), 3180 (br m, N–H), 1669 (s, C=O), 1590, 1475, 1460, 1440, 1331, 1284, 1184, 1115, 1052, 1037, 937, 831, 748, 727, 718, 695; HRMS (ES+) calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}^{35}\text{Cl}$: 197.0482, found: 197.0481 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (4bd)

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1b** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30 gradient) as a pale yellow oil (0.60 g, 90%). From this reaction, (*Z*)-3-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethylacrylamide **7bd** was also isolated as a yellow oil (0.03 g, 7%).



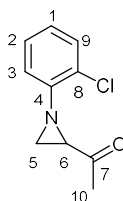
4bd: $R_f = 0.54$ (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.31 (br d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, H^3), 7.17 (br t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, H^5), 6.95 (br t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, H^4 and H^6), 3.24 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.07–2.99 (m containing a singlet at 3.04, 4H, H^8 and $\text{H}^{10'}$), 2.79 (dd, $J = 3.5$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^7), 3.39 (dd, $J = 6.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^7); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 167.8 (C^9), 148.9 (C^1), 129.8 (C^3), 127.3 (C^5), 127.0 (C^2), 123.7 (C^4), 121.2 (C^6), 37.1 (C^8), 36.9 (C^{10}), 36.2 ($\text{C}^{10'}$), 34.2 (C^7); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3058, 2984, 2931, 1643 (s, C=O), 1586, 1472, 1352, 1190, 1142, 1049, 751, 722, 664; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 225.0795; Found 225.0794.



7bd: $R_f = 0.33$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 11.35 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz, 1H, NH), 7.34 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^3), 7.20 (dd, $J = 11.0$; 8.5 Hz, 1H, H^7), 7.16 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, H^6), 7.05 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 6.86 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, H^4), 5.15 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H, H^8), 3.04 (s, 6H, H^{10}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3336 (br s, NH), 2922, 1625 (s, C=O), 1587, 1483, 1367, 1282, 1140, 1051, 741; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 225.0795; Found 225.0801.

1-[1-(2-Chlorophenyl)aziridin-2-yl]ethan-1-one (4be)

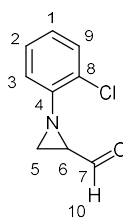
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and methyl vinyl ketone (1.06 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→20% gradient) as a yellow oil (1.09 g, 86%).



$R_f = 0.30$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.33 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.18 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.99 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.91 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 2.76 (dd, $J = 6.5$; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.69 (dd, $J = 3.0$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.47 (dd, $J = 6.5$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.23 (s, 3H, H^{10}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 205.9 (C^7), 148.0 (C^4), 129.9 (C^9), 127.5 (C^2), 127.2 (C^8), 124.2 (C^1), 120.8 (C^3), 45.6 (C^6), 34.2 (C^5), 25.1 (C^{10}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3067, 2995, 2921, 1704 (s, C=O), 1645, 1588, 1569, 1475 (s), 1444, 1421, 1356 (m), 1294 (m), 1247 (s), 1197, 1170, 1131, 1106, 1077, 1050 (m), 1035, 936, 920 (m), 881, 749 (s), 720, 678 (m); HRMS (ES+) calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}^{35}\text{Cl}$: 196.0529, found: 196.0524 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carbaldehyde (4bf)

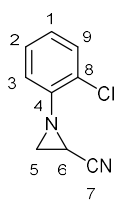
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1b** (1.50 g, 9.8 mmol) and acrolein (1.30 mL, 19.6 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→20% gradient) as a yellow oil (0.91 g, 51%).



$R_f = 0.31$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.19 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H, H^{10}), 7.34 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.19 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 7.01 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.94 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 2.80 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.78 (ddd, $J = 6.5$; 6.0; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.57 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 198.4 (C^7), 147.3 (C^4), 130.0 (C^9), 127.5 (C^2), 127.2 (C^8), 124.4 (C^1), 121.0 (C^3), 45.0 (C^6), 32.3 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3065, 2991, 1719 (s, C=O), 1588, 1475, 1443, 1287, 1158, 1051, 1034, 931, 867, 752, 721, 671; HRMS (ES+) calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{NO}^{35}\text{Cl}$: 182.0373, found: 182.0380 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carbonitrile (4bg)

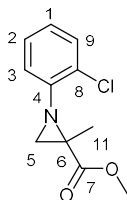
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and acrylonitrile (0.86 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→20% gradient) as a yellow solid (1.16 g, 99%).



Mp 64.4–65.9 °C; R_f = 0.29 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.39 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.22 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 7.06 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 2.84 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.83–2.77 (m, 1H, H^6), 2.57 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H, H^5); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 146.4 (C^4), 130.3 (C^9), 127.6 (C^2), 127.4 (C^8), 125.1 (C^1), 120.9 (C^3), 117.3 (C^7), 34.3 (C^6), 25.4 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3092, 3059, 2246 (m, $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$), 1589, 1476, 1445, 1368, 1293, 1253, 1183, 1095, 1050, 1039, 1011, 944, 753, 741, 715, 681; HRMS (EI⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_7\text{N}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$: 178.0298, found: 178.0304 ($[\text{M}]^+$).

Methyl 1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methylaziridine-2-carboxylate (4bi)

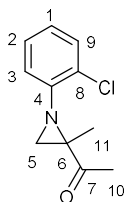
Following the general procedure at 90 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and methyl methacrylate (1.40 mL, 13.1 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→10% gradient) as an orange oil (0.88 g, 60%).



R_f = 0.45 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.31 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.18 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.95 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 3.70 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 2.83 (s, 1H, H^5), 2.33 (s, 1H, H^5), 1.46 (s, 3H, H^{11}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.1 (C^7), 145.4 (C^4), 129.6 (C^9), 127.4 (C^8), 127.3 (C^2), 123.6 (C^1), 120.9 (C^3), 52.6 (C^{10}), 42.4 (C^6), 39.2 (C^5), 16.3 (C^{11}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3067, 2987, 2951, 1728 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 1589, 1474, 1443, 1321, 1301, 1267, 1238, 1195, 1156, 1114, 1057, 1036, 752, 724, 664; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$: 226.0635, found: 226.0633 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

1-[1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-methylaziridin-2-yl]ethan-1-one (4bj)

Following the general procedure at 90 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and 3-methyl-3-buten-2-one (1.29 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→10% gradient) as a yellow oil (0.99 g, 72%).



R_f = 0.42 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.35 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.20 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.99 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 2.74 (s, 1H, H^5), 2.30 (s, 1H, H^5), 2.24 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 1.20 (s, 3H, H^{11}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 207.7 (C^7), 145.0 (C^4), 129.9 (C^9), 128.1 (C^8), 127.5 (C^2), 123.9 (C^1), 120.8 (C^3), 48.7 (C^6), 38.0 (C^5), 24.1 (C^{10}), 13.4 (C^{11}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3067, 2981, 1702 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 1588, 1473, 1442, 1360, 1347, 1230, 1135, 1059, 872, 756, 725, 683; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}^{35}\text{Cl}$: 210.0686, found: 210.0690 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

Cyclohexyl 1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methylaziridine-2-carboxylate (4bk)

Following the general procedure at 110 °C for 24 h from **1b** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and cyclohexyl methacrylate (0.70 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a pale yellow oil (0.41 g, 70%).

$R_f = 0.60$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.29 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, 2H, H^3), 7.17 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 2H, H^5), 6.93 (td, $J = 7.5$; 1.5 Hz, 2H, H^4), 6.88 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, 2H, H^6), 4.73–4.68 (m, 1H, H^{Cy}), 2.80 (s, 1H, H^7), 2.35 (s, 1H, H^7), 1.73–1.18 (m, 13H, H^{Cy}), 1.55 (s, 3H, H^9); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.7 (C^{10}), 146.0 (C^1), 129.4 (C^3), 127.22 (C^2), 127.18 (C^5), 123.2 (C^4), 121.0 (C^6), 73.5 (CH^{Cy}), 42.7 (C^8), 39.2 (C^7), 31.0 (CH_2^{Cy}), 25.2 (CH_2^{Cy}), 23.4 (C^9), 17.3 (CH_2^{Cy}). IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3064, 2981, 2933, 2857, 1718 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 1587, 1473, 1442, 1294, 1167, 1150, 1058, 1035, 1012, 747; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 294.1261; Found 294.1264.

7-(2-Chlorophenyl)-3-oxa-7-azabicyclo[4.1.0]heptan-2-one (4bl)

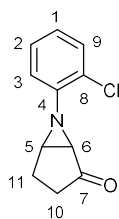
Following the general procedure at 90 °C for 24 h from **1b** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and 5,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-one (0.34 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→20% gradient) as a yellow oil (0.18 g, 40%). From this reaction, 4-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]-5,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-one **7bl** was also isolated from the column and was further purified by trituration twice with diethyl ether to be isolated as a pale brown solid (0.03 g, 6%).

4bl: $R_f = 0.15$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 7.20 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 7.02 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^6), 7.01 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^4), 4.69 (ddd, $J = 13.0$; 11.0; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^{10}), 4.27 (dd, $J = 11.0$; 5.5 Hz, 1H, H^{10}), 3.08 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H, H^8), 3.03 (ddd, $J = 6.0$; 1.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.51 (ddd, $J = 14.5$; 3.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^{11}), 2.19 (dddd, $J = 14.5$; 13.0; 5.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^{11}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 167.5 (C^9), 146.9 (C^1), 130.1 (C^3), 127.6 (C^5), 126.8 (C^2), 124.4 (C^4), 121.2 (C^6), 64.7 (C^{10}), 40.6 (C^8), 40.0 (C^7), 23.1 (C^{11}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3072, 2971, 2921, 1733 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 1651, 1588, 1475, 1445, 1389, 1339, 1274, 1250, 1223, 1188, 1160, 1133, 1109, 1070, 1036, 949, 913, 896, 850, 825, 753, 723, 664; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 224.0478; Found 224.0482.

7bl: Mp 183.2–187.3 °C; $R_f = 0.64$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 7.44 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.0 Hz, 2H, H^3 and H^5), 7.30 (dd, $J = 7.5$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 7.14 (td, $J = 7.5$; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^4), 6.23 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.27 (s, 1H, H^{11}), 4.41 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H, H^9), 2.66 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, H^8); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz): δ 167.6 (C^{10}), 155.6 (C^7), 134.7 (C^1), 130.1 (C^3), 127.6 (C^2), 127.4 (C^6), 126.4 (C^4), 124.9 (C^5), 87.9 (C^{11}), 64.1 (C^9), 28.2 (C^8); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3228 (br s, NH), 3035, 2898, 1648 (s, $\text{C}=\text{O}$), 1601, 1576, 1531, 1477, 1464, 1302, 1216, 1086, 1056, 797, 732; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 224.0478; Found 224.0482.

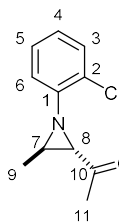
6-(2-Chlorophenyl)-6-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexan-2-one (4bm)

Following the general procedure at 90 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and 2-cyclopenten-1-one (1.09 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→5% gradient) as a yellow oil (0.52 g, 39%).



$R_f = 0.38$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.16 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.97 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.94 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 3.37–3.34 (m, 1H, H^5), 3.00 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.55–2.44 (m, 1H, H^{10}), 2.28–2.08 (m, 3H, H^{10} and H^{11}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 210.3 (C^7), 146.4 (C^4), 130.2 (C^9), 127.5 (C^2), 126.8 (C^8), 123.9 (C^1), 121.0 (C^3), 47.4 (C^6), 46.4 (C^5), 32.7 (C^{10}), 23.3 (C^{11}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3059, 2939, 1740 (s, C=O), 1588, 1473, 1444, 1236, 1156, 1058, 1033, 885, 756, 679; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}^{35}\text{Cl}$: 208.0529, found: 208.0533 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

***trans*-1-[1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-3-methylaziridin-2-yl]ethan-1-one (4bn)**

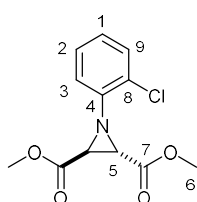


Following the general procedure at 90 °C for 24 h from **1b** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and 3-penten-2-one (0.56 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a pale yellow oil (0.16 g, 36%). $R_f = 0.43$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ 7.34 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, H^3), 7.23 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H, H^5), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, H^6), 7.00 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, H^4), 3.04 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H, H^8), 2.92 (qd, $J = 5.5$; 2.5 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.20 (s, 3H, H^{11}), 1.29 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 3H, H^9); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ 203.7 (C^{10}), 146.2 (C^1), 130.3 (C^3), 128.3 (C^5), 126.8 (C^2), 123.9 (C^4), 122.6 (C^6), 50.7 (C^{11}), 43.0 (C^8), 27.4 (C^7), 15.7 (C^9); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3061, 2998, 2969, 2926, 1700 (s, C=O), 1586, 1474, 1441, 1354, 1243, 1174, 1058, 1033, 751; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 210.0686; Found 210.0691.

Dimethyl *trans*-1-(2-chlorophenyl)aziridine-2,3-dicarboxylate (*trans*-4bo)

Following the general procedure at 100 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and dimethyl fumarate (1.88 g, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (1.20 g, 68%) after column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→10% gradient) and trituration with pentane at -18 °C. From this reaction, trimethyl 5-{1-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]-2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl}- Δ^2 -pyrazoline-3,4,5-tricarboxylate **6bo** was also isolated as a white solid (0.15 g, 5%) after column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→75% gradient) and trituration with Et_2O .

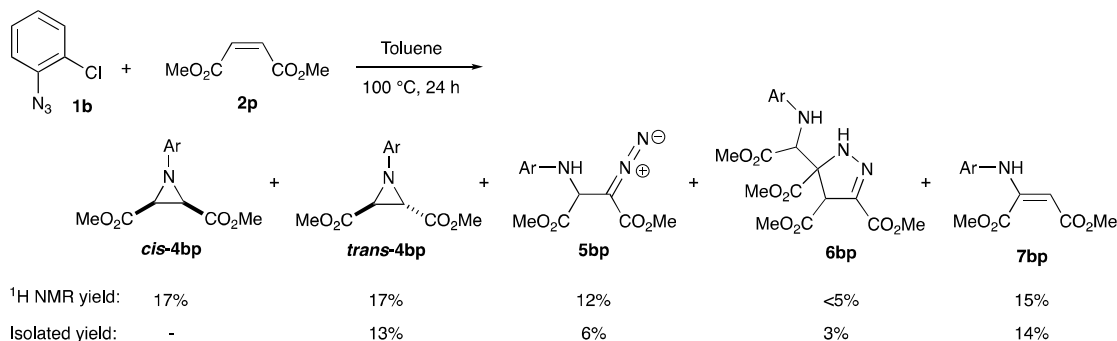
4bo: Single crystals for X-ray diffraction were grown from Et_2O ; Mp 89.7–91.4 °C; $R_f = 0.26$ (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.29 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^9), 7.20 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.99 (td, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.95 (dd, $J = 8.0$; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 3.76 (s, 6H, H^6), 3.55 (s, 2H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.4 (C^7), 143.2 (C^4), 129.7 (C^9), 127.3 (C^2), 125.7 (C^8), 124.2 (C^1), 121.0 (C^3), 52.9 (C^6), 42.6 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3078, 3011, 1750 (s, C=O), 1735 (s, C=O), 1477, 1435, 1342, 1303, 1279, 1204, 1172, 1134, 1016, 905, 800, 780, 753, 715, 678; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4^{35}\text{Cl}$: 270.0533, found: 270.0536 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).



6bo: Mp 171.7–173.9 °C; R_f = 0.38 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 50:50); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.31 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^{18}), 7.17 (br s, 1H, H^{20}), 7.15 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.74 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.72 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^3), 5.74 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, H^{19}), 4.44 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 4.38 (s, 1H, H^7), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.81 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.73 (s, 6H, H^{10} and OCH_3); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.2 (C=O), 170.2 (C=O), 168.3 (C=O), 161.3 (C=O), 142.2 (C^8), 139.7 (C^4), 129.7 (C^{18}), 127.8 (C^2), 120.3 (C^{17}), 119.2 (C^1), 111.4 (C^3), 78.4 (C^6), 62.2 (C^5), 57.5 (C^7), 53.7 (OCH_3), 53.2 (OCH_3), 53.0 (OCH_3), 52.6 (OCH_3); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3398 (w, N–H), 3354 (m, N–H), 1742 (s, C=O), 1714 (s, C=O), 1598, 1514, 1442, 1306, 1246, 1202, 1172, 1135, 1107, 1082, 1069, 1032, 941, 746, 702, 686; HRMS (ES+) calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_8^{35}\text{Cl}$: 442.1017, found: 442.1015 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

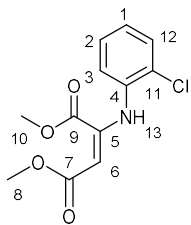
Dimethyl *trans*-1-(2-chlorophenyl)aziridine-2,3-dicarboxylate (*trans*-4bp)

The reaction of **1b** and dimethyl maleate led to the formation of at least five different products, including both *cis*- and *trans*-4bp and diazo compound **5bp** that could be isolated by column chromatography and fully characterised (Scheme S1). Unfortunately, *cis*-4bp could not be isolated pure, but the observed differences between both isomers (singlet at 3.21 ppm for the heterocyclic protons in *cis*-4bp compared to 3.55 ppm for *trans*-4bp) were analogous to documented pairs of *cis*- and *trans*-disubstituted aziridines.¹⁶

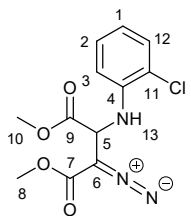


Scheme S1. Reaction of **1b** and dimethyl maleate

Following the general procedure at 100 °C for 24 h from **1b** (1.00 g, 6.5 mmol) and dimethyl maleate (1.63 mL, 13.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (0.23 g, 13%) after column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→20% gradient) and trituration with pentane at -18 °C. From this reaction, dimethyl 2-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]fumarate **7bp** (yellow solid, 0.25 g, 14%), dimethyl 2-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]-3-diazosuccinate **5bp** (yellow oil, 0.11 g, 6%) and trimethyl 5-{1-[(2-chlorophenyl)amino]-2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl}- Δ^2 -pyrazoline-3,4,5-tricarboxylate **6bp** (white solid, 0.10 g, 3%) were also isolated after column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc 0→75% gradient). Purification of compound **6bp** required trituration with Et_2O after column chromatography. Spectroscopic data for compounds *trans*-4bp and **6bp** is in accordance with previously reported values in this manuscript (see compounds *trans*-4bo and **6bo** above).

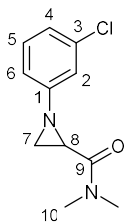


7bp: Mp 63.1–65.0 °C; R_f = 0.50 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.78 (br s, 1H, H^{13}), 7.39 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^{12}), 7.15 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 7.01 (td, J = 8.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.78 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^3), 5.55 (s, 1H, H^6), 3.77 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.72 (s, 3H, H^8); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.6 (C^9), 164.4 (C^7), 146.5 (C^4), 137.4 (C^5), 129.9 (C^{12}), 127.1 (C^2), 125.6 (C^{11}), 124.6 (C^1), 120.8 (C^3), 95.9 (C^6), 52.9 (C^{10}), 51.4 (C^8); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3269 (br w, N–H), 3021, 2999, 1736 (s, C=O), 1669, 1610, 1590, 1501, 1458, 1436, 1271, 1239, 1215, 118, 1157, 1146, 1124, 1052, 1033, 990, 821, 778, 761, 755, 740, 722, 671; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4^{35}\text{Cl}$: 270.0533, found: 270.0528 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).



5bp: R_f = 0.40 (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 80:20); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.29 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^{12}), 7.16 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 6.75 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^1), 6.66 (dd, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^3), 5.36 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H^{13}), 5.06 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 3.87 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.84 (s, 3H, H^8); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.0 (C^9), 165.7 (C^7), 140.8 (C^4), 129.5 (C^{12}), 128.0 (C^2), 120.3 (C^{11}), 119.3 (C^1), 112.4 (C^3), 58.6 (C^6), 53.4 (C^{10}), 52.3 (C^8), 51.8 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3398 (br w, N–H), 2955, 2094 (s, diazo), 1742 (s, C=O), 1690 (s, C=O), 1596, 1504, 1435, 1352, 1324, 1283, 1240, 1209, 1164, 1147, 1092, 1036, 743; HRMS (ES⁺) calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4^{35}\text{Cl}$: 298.0595, found: 298.0591 ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$).

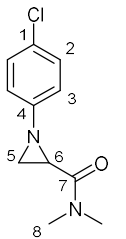
1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (4cd)



Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1c** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) as a yellow oil (0.40 g, 89%).

R_f = 0.33 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.16 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H^5), 6.99–6.95 (m, 2H, H^2 and H^4), 6.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, H^6), 3.24 (s, 1H, H^{10}), 3.03 (s, 1H, $\text{H}^{10'}$), 2.98 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^8), 2.65 (dd, J = 3.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.31 (dd, J = 6.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^7); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.7 (C^9), 154.5 (C^1), 134.4 (C^3), 130.1 (C^5), 123.1 (C^4), 120.9 (C^2), 119.0 (C^6), 37.0 (C^8), 37.0 (C^{10}), 36.1 ($\text{C}^{10'}$), 33.46 (C^7); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3056, 2985, 2931, 1641 (s, C=O), 1589, 1472, 1419, 1354, 1259, 1138, 1069, 995, 775, 685; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}^{35}\text{Cl}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 225.0795; Found 225.0793.

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (4dd)



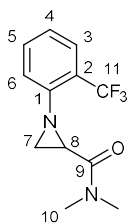
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1d** (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) as a yellow solid (0.42 g, 95%).

Mp = 120.3–121.9 °C; R_f = 0.23 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.19 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.93 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 3.25 (s, 3H, H^8), 3.03 (s, 3H, H^8), 2.95 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.66 (dd, J = 3.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.28 (dd, J = 6.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.8 (C^7), 151.8 (C^4), 129.1 (C^2), 128.1

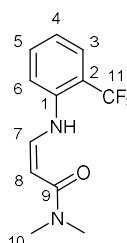
(C¹), 122.0 (C³), 37.2 (C⁶), 37.0 (C⁸), 36.2 (C^{8'}), 33.6 (C⁵); IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 3067, 3049, 3031, 2932, 1638 (s, C=O), 1586, 1486, 1429, 1472, 1354, 1166, 1137, 1107, 1081, 1000, 840, 821, 722, 591; HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd for C₁₁H₁₄N₂O³⁵Cl [M+H]⁺ 225.0795; Found 225.0792.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-1-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]aziridine-2-carboxamide (4ed)**

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1e** (0.37 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) as a yellow solid (0.34 g, 66%). From this reaction, (*Z*)-*N,N*-dimethyl-3-[(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-amino]acrylamide **7ed** was also isolated as a white solid (0.05 g, 10%).

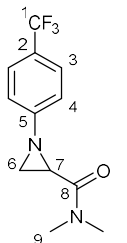


4ed: R_f = 0.23 (EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H³), 7.42 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H⁵), 7.09 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H⁴), 7.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H⁶), 3.20 (br s, 4H, H⁸ and H¹⁰), 3.03 (s, 3H, H^{10'}), 2.76-2.72 (m, 1H, H⁷), 2.45 (br d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H⁷); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5 (C⁹), 149.8 (C¹), 132.6 (C⁵), 127.0 (q, J = 5 Hz, C³), 124.1 (q, J = 274 Hz, C¹¹), 122.6 (C⁴), 122.3 (q, J = 31 Hz, C²), 121.3 (C⁶), 37.1 (C⁸), 36.8 (C¹⁰), 36.2 (C^{10'}), 33.6 (C⁷); ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -60.5; IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 2991, 2935, 1645 (s, C=O), 1603, 1578, 1488, 1451, 1313, 1107, 1053, 1034, 1007, 959, 902, 756, 645; HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₂OF₃ [M+H]⁺ 259.1058; Found 259.1062.



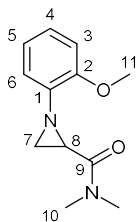
7ed: Mp = 78.1-79.3 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 4:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 11.51 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H, NH), 7.55 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H³), 7.45 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H⁵), 7.16 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H, H⁷), 7.13 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H⁶), 7.00 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H⁴), 5.18 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H, H⁸), 3.03 (s, 1H, 6H, H¹⁰); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.0 (C⁹), 140.0 (C⁵), 139.7 (C¹), 133.1 (C⁷), 127.0 (q, J = 5 Hz, C³), 121.9 (q, J = 196 Hz, C¹¹), 120.9 (C⁴), 117.3 (q, J = 30 Hz, C²), 115.0 (C⁶), 89.6 (C⁸), 37.5 (C¹⁰), 35.3 (C¹⁰); ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -62.1; IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 3200 (br s, NH), 2929, 1632 (s, C=O), 1575, 1476, 1457, 1371, 1263, 1106, 1089, 1032, 761, 701, 684, 643; HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₂OF₃ [M+H]⁺ 259.1058; Found 259.1062.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]aziridine-2-carboxamide (4fd)**



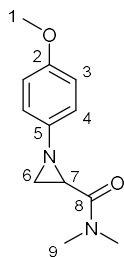
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1f** (0.37 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.42 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a yellow solid (0.36 g, 70%) after column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) and trituration (petroleum ether/Et₂O, 80:20) at -18 °C.

Mp = 104.8-106.3 °C; R_f = 0.36 (EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.50 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 7.07 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 3.26 (s, 3H, H⁹), 3.05 (s, 3H, H^{9'}), 3.02 (dd, J = 7.0; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H⁷), 2.72 (dd, J = 3.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H⁶), 2.35 (dd, J = 7.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H⁶); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5 (C⁸), 156.2 (C⁵), 126.3 (q, J = 4 Hz, C³), 124.9 (q, J = 32 Hz, C²), 124.3 (q, J = 272 Hz, C¹), 120.7 (C⁴), 36.94 (C⁷), 36.91 (C⁹), 36.1 (C^{9'}), 33.3 (C⁶); ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -61.9; IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 2933, 1646 (s, C=O), 1610, 1515, 1506, 1319, 1367, 1286, 1159, 1106, 1092, 1064, 1021, 840, 730, 592, 521, 506, 404; HRMS (ESI) m/z: Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₂OF₃ [M+H]⁺ 259.1058; Found 259.1063.

1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (4gd)

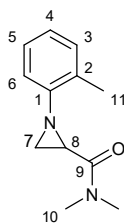
Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1g** (0.30 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) as a yellow oil (0.40 g, 90%).

R_f = 0.23 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.98 (td, J = 7.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^{Ar}), 6.91-6.82 (m, 3H, H^{Ar}), 3.84 (s, 3H, H^{11}), 3.25 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.03 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{10'}$), 2.91 (dd, J = 5.0; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^8), 2.72 (dd, J = 3.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.24 (dd, J = 5.0; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^7); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.5 (C^9), 152.1 (C^2), 141.7 (C^1), 123.3 (C^4), 120.7 (C^5), 120.3 (C^6), 111.1 (C^3), 55.5 (C^{11}), 36.9 (C^{10}), 36.3 ($\text{C}^{10'}$), 36.1 (C^8), 33.8 (C^7); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 2983, 2933, 2832, 1635 (s, C=O), 1589, 1494, 1453, 1436, 1353, 1231, 1177, 1114, 1045, 1021, 744, 614, 478; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 221.1290; Found 221.1296.

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (4hd)

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1h** (1.49 g, 10.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (2.06 mL, 20.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 70:30) as a brown oil (1.94 g, 88%).

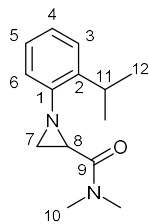
R_f = 0.33 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.94 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.79 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 3.76 (s, 3H, H^1), 3.25 (s, 3H, H^9), 3.03 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{9'}$), 2.89 (dd, J = 6.0; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.62 (br s, 1H, H^6), 2.24 (dd, J = 6.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^6); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.3 (C^8), 155.5 (C^2), 146.5 (C^5), 121.4 (C^4), 114.2 (C^3), 55.4 (C^1), 37.3 (C^7), 36.9 (C^9), 36.0 ($\text{C}^{9'}$), 33.5 (C^6); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 2987, 2936, 2832, 1641 (s, C=O), 1502, 1364, 1237, 1187, 1028, 830, 664; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 221.1290; Found 221.1297.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-1-(*o*-tolyl)aziridine-2-carboxamide (4id)**

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1i** (0.27 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 70:30) as a brown oil (0.30 g, 74%).

R_f = 0.33 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.11 (td, J = 8.0; 1.0 Hz, 2H, H^3 and H^5), 6.95 (td, J = 7.5; 1.0 Hz, 1H, H^4), 6.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 3.22 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.05 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{10'}$), 2.88 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^8), 2.67 (dd, J = 3.0; 2.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.32 (s, 3H, H^{11}), 2.28 (dd, J = 6.5; 2.0 Hz, 1H, H^7); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.4 (C^9), 150.7 (C^1), 130.7 (C^2), 130.6 (C^3), 126.4 (C^5), 123.0 (C^4), 118.8 (C^6), 36.9 (C^8), 36.9 (C^{10}), 36.1 ($\text{C}^{10'}$), 33.8 (C^7), 17.9 (C^{11}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3021, 2981, 2944, 1643 (s, C=O), 1487, 1355, 1296, 1144, 1107, 908, 767, 723; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 205.1391; Found 205.1392.

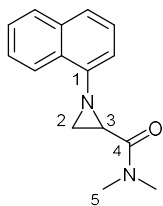
1-(2-Isopropylphenyl)-*N,N*-dimethylaziridine-2-carboxamide (**4jd**)



Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1j** (0.35 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 100:0→75:25) as a yellow oil (0.33 g, 71%).

R_f = 0.43 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.25 (dd, J = 7.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^{Ar}), 7.11-7.01 (m, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.83 (dd, J = 7.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^{Ar}), 3.47 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H, H^{11}), 3.21 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.05 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 2.91 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^8), 2.66 (dd, J = 3.0; 2.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.29 (dd, J = 6.5; 2.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 1.25 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H, H^{12}); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.5 (C^9), 149.3 (C^1), 141.7 (C^2), 126.1 (C^3), 126.1 (C^5), 123.5 (C^4), 119.1 (C^6), 37.3 (C^8), 37.0 (C^{10}), 36.2 (C^{10}), 33.9 (C^7), 26.8 (C^{11}), 23.6 (C^{12}); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3058, 2959, 2929, 2866, 1645 (s, C=O), 1483, 1447, 1353, 1185, 1136, 747; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 233.1654; Found 233.1657.

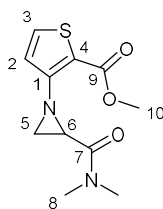
N,N-Dimethyl-1-(naphthalen-1-yl)aziridine-2-carboxamide (**4kd**)



Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1k** (0.34 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 70:30) as a brown solid (0.45 g, 94%).

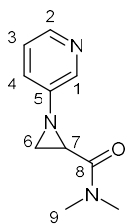
Mp = 139.1-143.3 °C; R_f = 0.36 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.33-8.31 (m, 1H, H^{Np}), 7.86-7.83 (m, 1H, H^{Np}), 7.57-7.49 (m, 3H, H^{Np}), 7.36 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H^{Np}), 6.96 (dd, J = 7.5; 0.5 Hz, 1H, H^{Np}), 3.2 (s, 3H, H^5), 3.12 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{5'}$), 2.97 (dd, J = 6.5; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 2.85 (dd, J = 3.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 2.51 (dd, J = 6.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^2); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.3 (C^4), 148.6 (C^1), 134.1 (C^{Np}), 128.2 (CH^{Np}), 128.2 (C^{Np}), 126.2 (CH^{Np}), 125.8 (CH^{Np}), 125.5 (CH^{Np}), 123.6 (CH^{Np}), 122.9 (CH^{Np}), 114.0 (CH^{Np}), 37.83 (C^3), 36.97 (C^5), 36.16 ($\text{C}^{5'}$), 33.59 (C^2); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3043, 2984, 2937, 1635 (s, C=O), 1573, 1396, 1358, 1293, 802, 775; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 241.1341; Found 241.1343.

Methyl 3-[2-(dimethylcarbamoyl)aziridin-1-yl]thiophene-2-carboxylate (**4ld**)

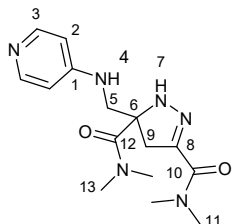


Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1l** (0.37 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→70:30) as a brown oil (0.50 g, 98%).

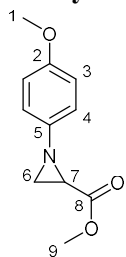
R_f = 0.36 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.34 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H, H^3), 6.77 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H, H^2), 3.81 (s, 3H, H^{10}), 3.23 (s, 3H, H^8), 3.21 (dd, J = 6.0; 3.5 Hz, 1H, H^6), 3.05 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{8'}$), 2.77 (dd, J = 3.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5), 2.42 (dd, J = 6.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^5); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.8 (C^9), 162.1 (C^9), 157.4 (C^1), 130.6 (C^3), 124.0 (C^2), 115.3 (C^4), 51.6 (C^{10}), 38.2 (C^6), 37.1 (C^8), 36.2 ($\text{C}^{8'}$), 35.4 (C^5); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3070, 2985, 2946, 1699 (s, C=O), 1645 (s, C=O), 1527, 1438, 1395, 1234, 1148, 1073, 741, 662; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 255.0803; Found 255.0799.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-1-(pyridin-3-yl)aziridine-2-carboxamide (4md)**

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1m** (0.24 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (EtOAc/MeOH, 95:5→90:10) as a brown oil (0.32 g, 83%). R_f = 0.21 (EtOAc/MeOH, 90:10). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 8.33 (br s, 1H, H^1), 8.23 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, H^2), 7.31 (d, J = Hz, 1H, H^4), 7.21–7.15 (m, 1H, H^3), 3.26 (s, 3H, H^9), 3.11–3.04 (m, 1H, H^7), 3.02 (s, 3H, H^9), 2.69 (br s, 1H, H^6), 2.34 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H, H^6); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.1 (C^8), 148.8 (C^5), 143.8 (C^2), 142.7 (C^1), 127.5 (C^4), 123.2 (C^3), 36.6 (C^9), 36.3 (C^9), 35.7 (C^7), 32.7 (C^6); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3027, 2937, 1640 (s, C=O), 1580, 1476, 1297, 1185, 902, 813, 808; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 192.1137; Found 192.1130.

***N*³,*N*³,*N*⁵,*N*⁵-Tetramethyl-5-[(pyridin-4-ylamino)methyl]-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrazole-3,5-dicarboxamide (6nd)**

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1n** (0.24 g, 2.0 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated as a white solid (0.30 g, 48%) by trituration (petroleum ether/ Et_2O , 80:20→50:50) at room temperature. Mp = 177–182 °C; R_f = 0.70 (MeOH); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.19 (dd, J = 4.5; 1.5 Hz, 2H, H^2), 6.94 (br s, 1H, H^7), 6.44 (dd, J = 4.5; 1.5 Hz, 2H H^3), 4.87 (dd, J = 7.5; 4.5 Hz, 1H, H^4), 3.48–3.39 (m, 2H, H^5), 3.36 (s, 3H, H^{13}), 3.34 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H, H^9), 3.16 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H, H^9), 3.07 (s, 6H, H^{11}), 3.00 (s, 3H, $\text{H}^{13'}$); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.9 (C^{12}), 162.2 (C^{10}), 153.5 (C^1), 150.2 (C^2), 147.0 (C^6), 107.7 (C^3), 69.3 (C^8), 47.9 (C^5), 41.8 (C^9), 38.7 (C^{13}), 38.1 (C^{11}), 37.3 ($\text{C}^{11'}$), 36.5 ($\text{C}^{13'}$); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3332 (s, NH), 3035, 2929, 2825, 1612 (s, C=O), 1512, 1505, 1416, 1398, 1261, 1083, 1049, 985, 820, 620, 533, 490; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 319.1882; Found 319.1872.

Methyl 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)aziridine-2-carboxylate (4ha)

Following the general procedure at 80 °C for 16 h from **1h** (0.75 g, 5.0 mmol) and methyl acrylate (0.90 mL, 10.0 mmol), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ EtOAc , 90:10→80:20) as a yellow solid (0.72 g, 90%). Mp = 54.9–56.5 °C; R_f = 0.63 (EtOAc); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.95 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.79 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 3.81 (s, 3H, H^1), 3.76 (s, 3H, H^9), 2.74 (dd, J = 5.5; 3.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 2.63 (dd, J = 3.0; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.27 (dd, J = 5.5; 1.5 Hz, 1H, H^6); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.7 (C^8), 155.8 (C^2), 145.7 (C^5), 121.4 (C^4), 114.3 (C^3), 55.5 (C^1), 52.5 (C^9), 37.8 (C^7), 34.1 (C^6); IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3034, 2993, 2951, 2832, 1742 (s, C=O), 1504 (s, C=O), 1436, 1457, 1277, 1237, 1200, 1109, 1073, 1029, 909, 829, 769, 547, 520; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$ 208.0974; Found 208.0973.

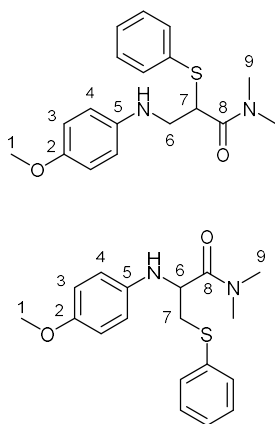
4. Reactivity of Aryl Aziridines

General procedure for the reactions with nucleophiles: Aziridine **4hd** and the chosen nucleophile were stirred neat at room temperature for 18 h, unless stated otherwise. The obtained mixture was then purified by column chromatography (the reaction crude was dry-loaded onto stationary phase).

3-[(4-Methoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-(phenylthio)propenamide (**8A**) & 2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethyl-3-(phenylthio)propanamide (**9A**)

Following the general procedure from **4hd** (0.44 g, 2.0 mmol) and thiophenol (14.40 mL, 14.0 mmol), the title compounds were isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 70:30→0:100) as a white solid (0.65 g, 99%) as a 80:20 mixture of regioisomers.

R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 1:1); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.6 (**9A**-C⁸), 169.4 (**8A**-C⁸), 152.9 (**9A**-C²), 152.2 (**8A**-C²), 141.2 (**8A**-C⁵), 140.1 (**9A**-C⁵), 135.4, 133.9, 131.9, 129.7, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 126.5, 115.8, 114.8, 114.3, 55.7 (**8A**-C¹), 55.6 (**9A**-C¹), 54.2 (**9A**-C⁶), 46.4 (**8A**-C⁷), 45.8 (**8A**-C⁶), 37.4 (**8A**-C⁹), 37.2 (**9A**-C⁹), 36.0 (**8A**-C⁹), 35.8 (**9A**-C⁹). IR: ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) 3332 (br s, NH), 2981, 2929, 2847, 2821, 1621 (s, C=O), 1505, 1345, 1230, 1177, 1080, 1036, 820, 741, 618; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 331.1480; Found 331.1472.

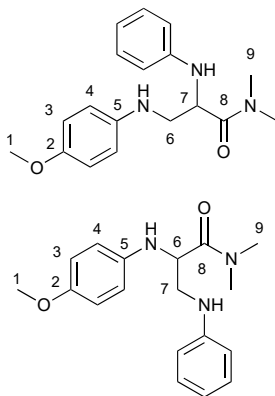


8A: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.48–7.46 (m, 2H, H^{Ar}), 7.35–7.29 (m, 3H, H^{Ar}), 6.75–6.70 (m, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.47 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 4.05 (dd, J = 9.0; 5.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 3.94 (br s, 1H, NH), 3.73 (s, 3H, H^1), 3.67 (dd, J = 14.0, 9.0 Hz, 1H, H^7), 3.43 (dd, J = 14.0; 5.0 Hz, 1H, H^6), 2.95 (s, 3H, H^9), 2.93 (s, 3H, H^9).

9A: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.41–7.37 (m, 3H, H^{Ar}), 7.25–7.21 (m, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.75–6.70 (m, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.54 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 4.45–4.37 (br m, 1H, H^6), 4.22–4.16 (br, 1H, NH), 3.74 (s, 3H, H^1), 3.25 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, H^7), 2.96 (s, 3H, H^9), 2.88 (s, 3H, H^9).

3-[(4-Methoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-(phenylamino)propenamide (**8B**) & 2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)propanamide (**9B**)

Following the general procedure neat at room temperature for 48 h from **4hd** (0.22 g, 1.0 mmol), in basified silica (500 mg, 2% w/w aniline) the title compounds were isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→50:50) as a light brown oil (0.23 g, 75%).

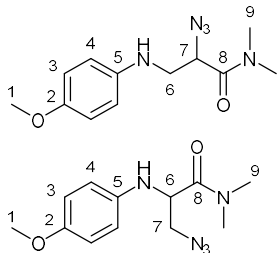


R_f = 0.23 (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 1:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.18–7.14 (m, H^{Ar}), 6.79–6.73 (m, H^{Ar}), 6.65–6.59 (m, H^{Ar}), 4.57 (br t, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H, **8B**- H^7), 4.47 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H, **9B**- H^6), 3.73 (s, 3H, **8B**- H^1), 3.72 (s, 3H, **9B**- H^1), 3.51–3.47 (m, 1H, **9B**- H^7), 3.46 (dd, J = 12.5; 5.3 Hz, 1H, **8B**- H^6), 3.28–3.22 (m, **8B**- H^6 + **9B**- H^7), 3.03 (s, 3H, **8B**- H^9), 3.01 (s, 3H, **9B**- H^9), 2.94 (s, 3H, **8B**- H^9), 2.93 (s, 3H, **9B**- H^9); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.9 (C⁸), 171.7 (**9B**-C⁸), 153.0 (**9B**-C²), 152.3 (**8B**-C²), 147.1 (**8B**-C⁵), 147.7 (**9B**-C⁵),

141.7, 141.0, 129.3, 129.2, 118.5, 117.8, 116.1, 114.8, 114.6, 114.0, 113.1, 55.6 (**8B**-C¹), 55.5 (**9B**-C¹), 54.7 (**9B**-C⁶), 53.2 (**8B**-C⁷), 46.9 (**8B**-C⁶), 45.8 (**9B**-C⁷), 36.9 (C⁹), 35.7 (C⁹); IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 3343 (br s, NH), 2996, 2929, 2829, 1632 (s, C=O), 1599, 1505, 1397, 1312, 1230, 1114, 1032, 820, 745, 693, 506; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calcd for C₁₈H₂₄N₃O₂ [M + H]⁺ 314.1869; Found 314.1859.

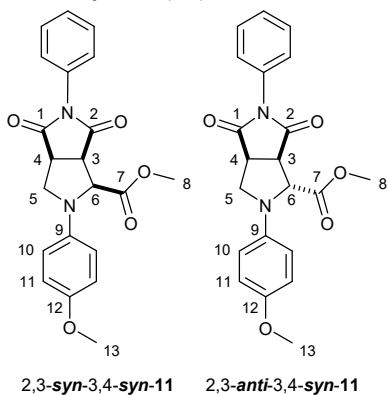
2-Azido-3-[(4-methoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethylpropanamide (8C) & 3-azido-2-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)amino]-*N,N*-dimethylpropanamide (9C)

Following the general procedure at reflux for 18 h from **4hd** (0.44 g, 2.0 mmol) and trimethylsilyl azide (0.53 g, 4.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in MeCN (4.0 mL), the title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 70:30) as a 82:18 mixture of regioisomers as a light brown oil (0.20 g, 37%).



*R*_f = 0.13 (EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.78 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, H^{Ar}), 6.66 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, **9C**-H^{Ar}), 6.61 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, **8C**-H^{Ar}), δ 4.40 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H, **9C**-H⁶), 4.13 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H, **8C**-H⁷), 3.74 (s, H¹), 3.70–3.61 (m, **8C**-H⁶ + **9C**-H⁷), 3.55–3.47 (m, **8C**-H⁶ + **9C**-H⁷), 3.09 (s, 3H, **9C**-H⁹), 2.99 (s, 9H, **8C**-H⁹ + **9C**-H⁹); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.6 (**9C**-C⁸), 168.2 (**8C**-C⁸), 153.0 (**9C**-C²), 152.5 (C²), 140.9 (**8C**-C⁵), 140.0 (**9C**-C⁵), 114.9 (C³), 114.3 (C⁴), 56.7 (**8C**-C⁷), 55.65 (**8C**-C¹), 55.60 (**9C**-C¹), 54.8 (**9C**-C⁷), 52.5 (**9C**-C⁶), 45.6 (**8C**-C⁶), 37.0 (C⁹), 35.9 (**9C**-C⁹), 35.8 (**8C**-C⁹); IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 3473 (br w, NH), 2986, 2929, 2832, 2094 (s, N=N=N), 1640 (s, C=O), 1502, 1359, 1423, 1274, 1237, 1185, 1136, 1110, 1028, 831, 745, 656, 536; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calcd for C₁₂H₁₇N₂O₂ [M–N₃]⁺ 221.1290; Found 221.1289.

Methyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4,6-dioxo-5-phenyloctahydropyrrolo[3,4-*c*]pyrrole-1-carboxylate (10)



1-Azido-4-methoxybenzene **1h** (0.30 g, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and methyl acrylate (0.36 g, 4.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) were stirred in technical toluene (4.0 mL) at 80 °C in microwave vial for 16 h. The solution was then heated to 145 °C before adding *N*-phenylmaleimide (1.16 g, 6.6 mmol, 3.3 equiv.) and stirred for 24 h. The crude mixture was then cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The title compound was isolated as a brown oil (0.54 g, 71%) by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→60:40; the reaction crude was dry loaded onto the stationary phase) as a 53:47 mixture of diastereoisomers.

*R*_f = 0.46 (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 1:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49–7.20 (m, H^{Ar}), 7.40–7.32 (m, H^{Ar}), 7.29–7.22 (m, H^{Ar}), 6.82 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.68 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 4.94 (s, 1H, *as*-H⁶), 4.54 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H, *ss*-H⁶), 4.04 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, *as*-H³), 3.96 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H, *ss*-H³), 3.87–3.83 (m, H⁴), 3.71 (s, H¹³), 3.66 (s, H⁸), 3.62–3.54 (m, H⁵); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 177.3 (CO), 176.6 (CO), 175.8 (CO), 174.8 (CO), 171.3 (CO), 171.0 (CO), 153.6 (C^{Ar}), 153.2 (C^{Ar}), 140.0 (C^{Ar}), 139.5 (C^{Ar}), 131.7 (C^{Ar}), 131.6 (C^{Ar}),

129.19 (CH^{Ar}), 129.15 (CH^{Ar}), 128.8 (CH^{Ar}), 126.5 (CH^{Ar}), 126.3 (CH^{Ar}), 116.4 (CH^{Ar}), 115.7 (CH^{Ar}), 114.82 (CH^{Ar}), 114.78 (CH^{Ar}), 64.2, (C⁶), 63.5 (C^{6'}), 55.54 (C¹³), 55.52 (C^{13'}), 52.5, 52.2, 50.9, 49.0, 47.7, 44.2, 43.6. IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 2996, 2948, 2832, 1707 (s, C=O), 1509, 1382, 1241, 1155, 1032, 905, 820, 752, 726, 689, 648; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calcd for C₂₁H₂₁N₂O₅ [M + H]⁺ 381.1450; Found 381.1443.

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxazolidone-5-carboxamide (**11**)

Azide **1h** (0.30 g, 2 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylacrylamide (0.41 mL, 4 mmol) were stirred in technical toluene (4 mL) at 80 °C for 18 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled down to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was introduced in a round bottomed flask fitted with a condenser together with methyl chloroformate (0.23 mL, 3 mmol) and technical acetonitrile (7 mL). The solution was refluxed for 18 h, cooled down to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The title compound was isolated by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20→50:50) as a white solid (0.47 g, 88%).

Mp = 104.0–105.0 °C; *R*_f = 0.26 (EtOAc); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.45 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 6.91 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ar}), 5.21 (dd, *J* = 9.0; 6.5 Hz, 1H, H⁷), 4.70 (dd, *J* = 9.0; 6.5 Hz, 1H, H⁸), 4.00 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H, H⁸), 3.80 (s, 3H, H¹), 3.20 (s, 3H, H¹⁰), 3.03 (s, 3H, H¹⁰); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.7 (C⁹), 156.5 (C²), 153.6 (C⁶), 130.8 (C⁵), 120.6 (C³), 114.2 (C⁴), 69.0 (C⁷), 55.4 (C¹), 46.9 (C⁸), 37.1 (C¹⁰), 36.2 (C¹⁰);

IR: $\nu_{\max}$ (cm⁻¹) 3067, 2952, 2832, 1748 (s, C=O), 1647 (s, C=O), 1513, 1401, 1315, 1155, 1121, 1028, 965, 834, 745, 682, 525; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₂O₄: [M + H]⁺ 265.1188; Found 265.1200.

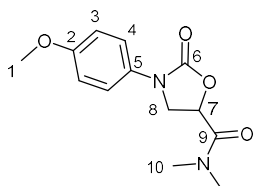


Table S1. Synthesis of 2-oxazolidine **12** from **4hd**.

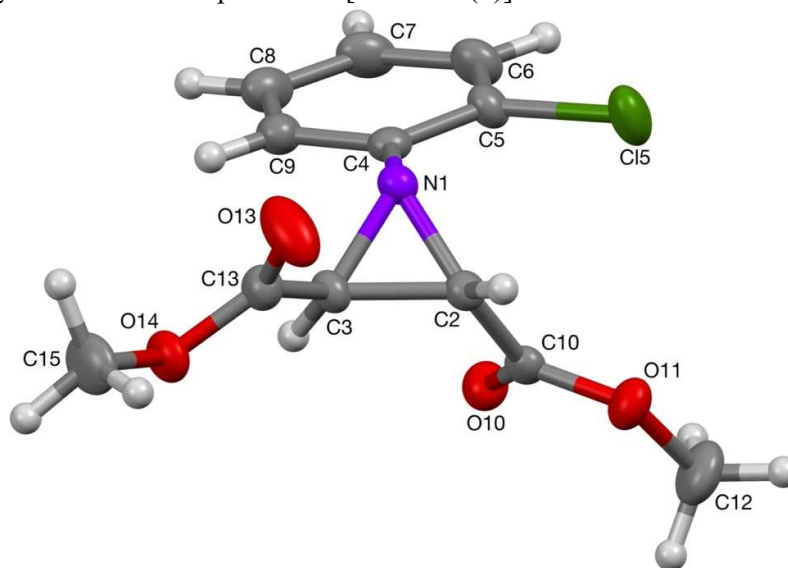
Entry	Conditions	12 (%) ^a	13 (%) ^a
1	Toluene, 80 °C, 18 h	<5	92
2	Toluene, 110 °C, 18 h	15	86
3	MeCN, reflux, 18 h	>95	-

^a ¹H NMR yields were calculated using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard and are the average of at least two independent experiments.

5. Crystallographic Data

trans-4bo: C₁₂H₁₂ClNO₄, *M* = 269.68, monoclinic, *Cc* (no. 9), *a* = 9.0510(5), *b* = 13.7353(8), *c* = 10.1333(5) Å, β = 98.133(5)°, *V* = 1247.08(11) Å³, *Z* = 4, *D*_c = 1.436 g cm⁻³, μ (Mo-K α) = 0.312 mm⁻¹, *T* = 173 K, colourless blocks, Agilent Xcalibur 3 E diffractometer; 1620

independent measured reflections ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0179$), F^2 refinement,^{17,18} $R_1(\text{obs}) = 0.0295$, $wR_2(\text{all}) = 0.0725$, 1548 independent observed absorption-corrected reflections [$|F_o| > 4\sigma(|F_o|)$], completeness to $\theta_{\text{full}}(25.2^\circ) = 99.3\%$, 165 parameters. The absolute structure of **trans-4bo** was determined by use of the Flack parameter [$x = -0.05(6)$]. CCDC 2129406.



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