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Supporting Information

Cycloaddition of Huisgen 1,4-dipoles: synthesis and rapid epimerization of functionalized spiropyrido[2,1-b][1,3]oxazine-pyrroles and related products

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1. General information

1.1. General analytical methods:

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III HD spectrometer (at 400, 101 MHz, respectively) at 40 °C (313K) or 30 °C (303K) in CDCl₃, DMSO-*d*₆, C₆D₆ or acetone-*d*₆ using the residual solvent peak (CDCl₃: δ_{H} = 7.26 ppm, δ_{C} = 77.16 ppm; DMSO-*d*₆: δ_{H} = 2.50 ppm; δ_{C} = 39.52 ppm; C₆D₆: δ_{H} = 7.16 ppm, δ_{C} = 128.06 ppm; acetone-*d*₆: δ_{H} = 2.05 ppm) as internal standards. Splitting patterns of apparent multiplets were designated as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), br (broadened).

CDCl₃ was stored over Ag-foil and was protected from light. K₂CO₃-treated-CDCl₃ was prepared by addition of K₂CO₃ to bulk CDCl₃ solution (significant D/H exchange was observed after 1 month). **Note**: for NMR analyses of compounds **5a–c**, **8a–c**, **10a**, **b**, CDCl₃ and K₂CO₃-treated-CDCl₃ were used from the same stock. Spectra of all compounds **3**, **5**, **8**, **10** were recorded right after complete dissolution.

FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer Spectrum Two spectrometer from mulls in mineral oil. Melting points were measured with Mettler Toledo MP70 Melting Point apparatus or Khimlabpribor PTP apparatus. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ plates (Merck); spots were visualized with UV light (254 nm) or iodine vapors.

HPLC analyses were performed on Hitachi Chromaster equipped with PDA detector Hitachi Chromaster 5430. The HPLC-UV conditions were as follows: wavelength 254 nm; solvent A, H₂O; solvent B, acetonitrile; NUCLEODUR C18 Gravity column 3 μ m, 4 × 150 mm; column temperature, 35 °C; flow rate, 1.5 mL·min⁻¹; gradient program: 0–8.0 min, %B = 30–100% gradient, 8.0–9.5 min, %B = 100%, 9.5–11.0 min, %B = 100–30% gradient, 11.0–11.7 min, %B = 30%.

X-ray structural analyses were performed on an Xcalibur Ruby diffractometer using a Mo X-ray source (MoK α 0.71073 Å), by scanning at 295(2) K.

HRMS were recorded on Bruker MicroTOF (ESI+).

1.2. Starting materials:

1*H*-pyrrole-2,3-diones **3** [1–4], *N*-allyl isatine [5], 11*H*-indeno[1,2-*b*]quinoxalin-11-one (**6**) [6] and 2-(1-benzyl-2-oxoindolin-3-ylidene)malononitrile (**9**) [7] were synthesized according to the literature methods. Other reagents were purchased from commercial vendors (Acros, Alfa Aesar, TCI).

1.3. General remarks:

Reactions were carried out in oven-dried (120 °C) glassware, anhydrous solvent was stored under 4Å molecular sieves. All reactions were performed under ambient atmosphere, unless otherwise noted. The term *room temperature* (RT) refers to 23–27 °C, the term *concentrated* refers to solvent evaporation under vacuum on a rotary evaporator (bath temperature 40 °C), *EtOH* refers to 95%-solution of ethyl alcohol.

2. X-ray analysis

Single crystals of **3a** ($C_{27}H_{22}N_2O_6$) and **3f** ($C_{31}H_{28}N_2O_8$) were obtained from EtOH via slow evaporation. Single crystals of **8b** ($C_{30}H_{21}N_3O_5$) were obtained from hexane/dichloromethane mixture via slow evaporation. Single crystals of **8c** ($C_{30}H_{21}N_3O_5$) were obtained from acetonitrile via slow evaporation.

Crystal structure determination

The unit cell parameters and the X-ray diffraction intensities were measured on a Xcalibur Ruby diffractometer (Agilent Technologies). The empirical absorption correction was introduced by multi-scan method using SCALE3 ABSPACK algorithm^[8]. Using OLEX2^[9], the structures were solved with the SHELXS^[10] program using Direct Methods and refined by the full-matrix least-squares minimization in the anisotropic approximation for all non-hydrogen atoms with the SHELXL^[11] program. Hydrogen atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model.



Fig. S1. Structure of compound **3a** showing 30% probability amplitude displacement ellipsoids (CCDC 2119396).

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Empirical formula	C27H22N2O6
Formula weight	470.46
Temperature, K	295.15
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a, Å	9.838(2)
b, Å	10.401(2)
c, Å	12.2553(17)
α, °	102.291(16)
β, °	100.426(16)
γ,°	103.17(2)
Volume, Å ³	1157.9(4)
Z	2
Density (calculated), g⋅cm ⁻³	1.349
Absorption coefficient, mm ⁻¹	0.096
F(000)	492.0
Crystal size, mm ³	0.35 × 0.2 × 0.12
Radiation	Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073)
2Θ range for data collection, °	6.12 to 58.944
Index ranges	$-10 \le h \le 12, -14 \le k \le 11, -13 \le l \le$
	15
Reflections collected	9360
Independent reflections	5376 [$R_{int} = 0.0542$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0838$]
Data/restraints/parameters	5376/0/319
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.067
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0672, wR_2 = 0.1540$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1247, wR_2 = 0.2013$
Largest diff. peak/hole, eÅ ⁻³	0.24/-0.22

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3a.



Fig. S2. Structure of compound 3f showing 30% probability amplitude displacement ellipsoids (CCDC 2119397).

Empirical formula	C31H28N2O8
Formula weight	556.55
Temperature, K	295.15
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a, Å	11.1868(16)
b, Å	11.4255(18)
c, Å	12.2739(16)
α, °	95.263(12)
β, °	107.966(12)
γ, °	103.507(13)
Volume, Å ³	1428.1(4)
Z	2
Density (calculated), g·cm ⁻³	1.294
Absorption coefficient, mm ⁻¹	0.094
F(000)	584.0
Crystal size, mm ³	0.6 × 0.5 × 0.4
Radiation	Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073)
2 Θ range for data collection, °	6.85 to 58.718
Index ranges	-14 ≤ h ≤ 13, -15 ≤ k ≤ 15, -16 ≤ l ≤ 15
Reflections collected	10695
Independent reflections	6592 [Rint = 0.0308, Rsigma = 0.0530]
Data/restraints/parameters	6592/0/375
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.045
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0592, wR_2 = 0.1542$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0870, wR_2 = 0.1804$
Largest diff. peak/hole, eÅ ⁻³	0.24/-0.22

 Table S2. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3f.



Fig. S3. Structure of compound 8b showing 30% probability amplitude displacement ellipsoids (CCDC 2119399).

,	
Empirical formula	C ₃₀ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₅
Formula weight	503.50
Temperature, K	295.15
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a, Å	11.4672(12)
b, Å	14.0604(14)
c, Å	15.6426(15)
α, °	99.666(8)
β, °	96.992(8)
γ, °	94.581(8)
Volume, Å ³	2454.8(4)
Z	4
Density (calculated), g·cm ⁻³	1.362
Absorption coefficient, mm ⁻¹	0.094
F(000)	1048.0
Crystal size, mm ³	0.55 × 0.3 × 0.12
Radiation	Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073)
2Θ range for data collection, °	4.32 to 58.972
Index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 15, -16 ≤ k ≤ 18, -20 ≤ l ≤ 20
Reflections collected	22145
Independent reflections	11448 [$R_{int} = 0.0398$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0583$]
Data/restraints/parameters	11448/0/701
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.020
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0558$, $wR_2 = 0.1314$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0984, wR_2 = 0.1688$
Largest diff. peak/hole, eÅ ⁻³	0.20/-0.24

Table S3. Crystal data and structure refinement for 8b.



Fig. S4. Structure of compound 8c showing 30% probability amplitude displacement ellipsoids (CCDC 2119398).

•	
Empirical formula	C ₃₀ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₅
Formula weight	503.50
Temperature, K	295.15
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P21/n
a, Å	8.7697(18)
b, Å	19.206(5)
c, Å	14.480(3)
α, °	90
β, °	94.70(2)
γ, °	90
Volume, Å ³	2430.7(10)
Z	4
Density (calculated), g⋅cm ⁻³	1.376
Absorption coefficient, mm ⁻¹	0.095
F(000)	1048.0
Crystal size, mm ³	0.5 × 0.25 × 0.12
Radiation	Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073)
2 Θ range for data collection, °	5.644 to 58.886
Index ranges	-11 ≤ h ≤ 8, -24 ≤ k ≤ 26, -18 ≤ l ≤ 15
Reflections collected	16407
Independent reflections	5791 [R _{int} = 0.0548, R _{sigma} = 0.0666]
Data/restraints/parameters	5791/0/346
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.019
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0652, wR_2 = 0.1616$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1360, wR_2 = 0.2173$
Largest diff. peak/hole, eÅ ⁻³	0.21/-0.18

Table S4.	Crystal	data a	and	structure	refinemer	nt for	8c.

3. NMR spectra of products 3a-k

3.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3a







3.2. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3b



3.3. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3c



3.4. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3d



3.5. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3e





3.6. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3f



3.7. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3g



3.8. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3h



3.9. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3i



3.10. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3j



3.11. Copies of NMR spectra for product 3k



4. Synthesis, HPLC and NMR spectra of compounds 5a-c

4.1. Synthesis of product 5a



Dimethyl 1-benzyl-2-oxo-9a'H-spiro[indoline-3,2'-pyrido[2,1-*b***][1,3]oxazine]-3',4'dicarboxylate (5a): The compound was prepared according to the modified (1.2 equiv. of DMAD and pyridine instead of 1.0 equiv.) reported procedure [12]: DMAD (78 \muL, 0.64 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) and pyridine (64 \muL, 0.64 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were added to a solution of** *N***-benzylisatin (126 mg, 0.53 mmol, 1 equiv.) in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME, 10 mL) under Ar atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 1d. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH and hexane, affording a mixture of inseparable diastereomers as a pale-yellow solid (222 mg, 70% yield); R_f = 0.59 (Hex/EA 1:1); m.p. 179–181 °C (decomp.) [lit. not reported].**



NMR spectra of 5a in CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 4.8 : 1 (A : B) (the same dr was observed in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃). <u>**1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI**₃)</u>: δ = 7.43–7.38 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.36–7.13 (m, 5H, A + B), 7.01–6.89 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.76–6.68 (m, 1.83H, A + B), 6.40 (d[A], J = 7.5, 1H, A + B), 6.26 (dd, J = 10.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H, A + B), 6.07 (dd, J = 3.2, 1.3 Hz, 0.17H, B), 5.65 (dd, J = 10.0, 3.3 Hz, 0.83H, A), 5.53 (dd, J = 9.9, 3.3 Hz, 0.17H, B), 5.37–5.28 (m, 1H, A + B), 5.06 (d[A], J = 15.6 Hz, 1H, A + B), 4.80 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 0.17H, B), 4.75 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 0.83H, A), 3.97 (s, 2.48H, A), 3.95 (s, 0.52H, B), 3.33 (s, 0.52H, B), 3.31 (s, 2.48H, A). <u>**13C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI**₃):</u>

 δ (A, major) = 174.2, 163.63, 163.56, 145.6, 144.6, 135.9, 130.2, 128.9 (2C), 128.6, 127.8 (2C), 127.8, 125.4, 124.7, 123.3, 123.1, 116.6, 109.5, 106.2, 101.9, 79.0, 76.9, 53.5, 51.8, 44.1.

NMR spectra of 5a in DMSO-*d*₆: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.2 : 1 (A : B). <u>1H</u> <u>NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: δ = 7.62 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 0.55H, A), 7.43–7.39 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.38– 7.32 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.31–7.22 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.05–6.85 (m, 2.45H, A + B), 6.70–6.58 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.48 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 1.3 Hz, 0.45H, B), 6.41–6.25 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.16 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 1.2 Hz, 0.55H, A), 5.67 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 3.2 Hz, 0.45H, B), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 3.4 Hz, 0.55H, A), 5.50–5.35 (m, 1H, A + B), 5.03–4.73 (m, 2H, A + B), 3.92 (s, 1.36H, B), 3.90 (s, 1.64H, A), 3.29 (s, 1.64H, A), 3.27 (s, 1.36H, B). <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: δ (A + B) = 173.33, 173.31, 163.3, 162.8, 162.6, 162.5, 145.3, 144.4, 144.2, 142.4, 136.02, 136.01, 130.12, 130.08, 128.57 (2C), 128.52 (2C), 128.07, 127.50 (2C), 127.46, 127.42 (4C), 125.9, 125.5, 125.3, 125.1, 124.5, 122.7, 122.6, 122.4, 116.1, 116.0, 109.7, 109.2, 106.8, 105.5, 101.9, 101.3, 78.9, 78.2, 76.8, 76.0, 53.6, 53.5, 51.8, 51.7, 43.2, 42.9.

4.1.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 5a







Dimethyl 1-benzyl-2-oxo-11b'*H*-spiro[indoline-3,2'-[1,3]oxazino[2,3-a]isoquinoline]-3',4'-dicarboxylate (5b): The compound was prepared according to the reported procedure [13]: DMAD (125 μ L, 1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and isoquinoline (120 μ L, 1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were added to a solution of *N*-benzylisatin (237 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv.) in dichloromethane (DCM, 15 mL). The reaction was stirred at RT for 2d. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH and hexane, affording a mixture of inseparable* diastereomers as a pale-yellow solid (436 mg, 86% yield); *R*_f = 0.57 + 0.66 (Hex/EA 1:1); m.p. 217– 219 °C (decomp.) [lit. 235–237 °C].



* inseparable by crystallization, however separation via column chromatography is possible

NMR spectra of 5b in CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 4.8 : 1 (A : B). <u>¹H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCI₃): δ = 7.47–7.40 (m, 2.17H, A + B), 7.38–7.25 (m, 5H, A + B), 7.24–6.99 (m, 4.83H, A + B), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 0.83H, A), 6.79 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.17H, B), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.83H, A), 6.53 (s, 0.17H, B), 6.43 (d[A], *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, A + B), 5.84 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.83H, A), 5.83 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.17H, B), 5.09 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H, A + B), 4.87 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 0.83H, A), 4.78 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 0.17H, B), 4.00 (s, 2.48H, A), 3.98 (s, 0.52H, B), 3.35 (s, 0.52H, B), 3.33 (s, 2.48H, A). <u>¹³C NMR</u> (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (A, major) = 174.8, 163.8, 163.7, 145.6, 144.4, 135.9, 130.2, 129.9, 129.7, 128.9 (2C), 128.7, 128.2, 127.8, 127.7 (2C), 127.3, 126.3, 125.4, 123.5, 123.3, 123.2, 109.4, 105.4, 105.1, 79.7, 77.6, 53.6, 51.8, 44.1.

NMR spectra of 5b in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1:1 (A* : B). <u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ = 7.46–7.40 (m, 2.5H, A + B), 7.39–7.26 (m, 5H, A + B), 7.24– 7.01 (m, 4.5H, A + B), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 0.5H, A), 6.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.5H, B), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.5H, A), 6.53 (s, 0.5H, B), 6.43 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.5H, A), 6.43 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.5H, B), 5.84 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.5H, A), 5.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.5H, B), 5.10 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 0.5H, B), 5.09 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 0.5H, A), 4.87 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 0.5H, B), 4.78 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 0.5H, A), 4.00 (s, 1.5H, A), 3.98 (s, 1.5H, B), 3.35 (s, 1.5H, B), 3.33 (s, 1.5H, A). <u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ (A*, major) = 174.8, 163.78, 163.74, 145.6, 144.4, 135.94, 130.2, 129.9, 129.7, 128.9 (2C), 128.7, 128.2, 127.84, 127.7 (2C), 127.3, 126.3, 125.38, 123.5, 123.3, 123.2, 109.4, 105.4, 105.1, 79.7, 77.6, 53.6, 51.8, 44.1. <u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ (B, minor) = 173.8, 164.0, 163.66, 145.2, 143.2, 135.87, 131.1, 130.4, 130.1, 129.8, 128.8 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.79, 127.1, 126.3, 126.0, 125.37, 124.3, 123.9, 122.8, 109.6, 105.2, 105.0, 80.3, 78.3, 53.6, 52.0, 44.6

* "A" denotes major diastereomer in acidic CDCI3

NMR spectra of 5b in DMSO-*d***s**: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1:1 (A : B). <u>¹H NMR</u> (400 MHz, DMSO-*d***s**): δ = 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.50–7.24 (m, 8.5H, A + B), 7.23–7.16 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.10–6.94 (m, 3H, A + B), 6.93–6.86 (m, 0.5H, A), 6.71 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.69 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.67 (s, 0.5H, A / B), 6.01 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.00 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.09–4.75 (m, 2H, A + B), 3.96 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.93 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.31 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.30 (s, 1.5H, A / B). <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-</u>*d***s**): δ (A + B) = 173.9, 173.0, 163.4, 162.9, 162.7, 162.6, 145.3, 144.5, 144.0, 142.5, 136.1, 136.0, 130.2 (2C), 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.6 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 128.0, 127.7, 127.5, 127.45 (5C), 127.4, 127.35, 127.2, 126.9, 125.5, 125.38, 125.36, 125.1, 124.7, 124.5, 123.9, 122.8, 122.7, 122.6, 109.7, 109.4, 105.8, 104.8, 104.3, 104.2, 79.4, 78.6, 77.7, 76.8, 53.6, 53.5, 51.72, 51.65, 43.3, 42.8.

4.2.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 5b









Dimethyl 1-allyl-2-oxo-4a'*H***-spiro[indoline-3,3'-[1,3]oxazino[3,2-a]quinoline]-1',2'dicarboxylate (5c):** The compound was prepared according to the reported procedure [14]: DMAD (65 μ L, 0.53 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) and quinoline (63 μ L, 0.53 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were added to a solution of *N*-allylisatin (82 mg, 0.44 mmol, 1 equiv.) in toluene (3 mL). The reaction mixture* was heated at 110 °C for 12h. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH and hexane, affording a mixture of inseparable** diastereomers as an off-white solid (156 mg, 77% yield); R_f = 0.57 + 0.61 (Hex/EA 1:1)***; m.p. 185–188 °C (decomp.) [lit. 164–166 °C].

* reaction was performed in a screw capped reaction vial placed in a preheated heating block ** inseparable by crystallization, however separation via column chromatography is possible *** in original report, compound was purified by column chromatography (Hex/EA 90:10), however *R*_f in this system is around zero



NMR spectra of 5c in CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1 : 1 (A : B) (the same dr was observed in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃). <u>**1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI**₃):</u> δ = 7.38–7.17 (m, 3.5H, A + B), 7.07–6.98 (m, 2.5H, A + B), 6.97–6.87 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.86–6.74 (m, 2H, A + B), 6.15 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.99 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.92–5.77 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 5.67 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.41–5.32 (m, 1H, A + B), 5.29–5.19 (m, 1H, A + B), 4.47–4.35 (m, 1H, A + B), 4.31–4.16 (m, 1H, A + B), 3.90 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.88 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.59 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.44 (s, 1.5H, A + B), 5.59 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 5.41–5.32 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 5.29–5.19 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 5.41–5.32 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 5.41–5.39 (s, 1.

1.5H). $\frac{13}{C}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (A + B) = 173.7, 172.2, 164.6, 164.4, 163.8, 163.7, 144.7, 144.6, 143.3, 142.2, 135.8, 135.6, 131.3, 131.2, 130.6, 130.3, 130.0, 129.9 (2C), 129.7, 129.3, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 123.7, 123.2, 123.1, 123.0, 122.7, 122.5, 122.0, 121.9, 121.4, 119.8, 118.7, 118.2, 118.0, 117.8, 115.4, 114.4, 109.6, 109.6, 79.64, 79.62, 78.9, 78.6, 53.4, 53.3, 52.4, 52.3, 43.2, 42.6.

Note: no change in dr was observed after 12d.

NMR spectra of 5c in DMSO-*d*₆: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1 : 1 (A : B). <u>1H NMR</u> (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ = 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.44–7.22 (m, 3H, A + B), 7.15–7.02 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 7.01–6.91 (m, 3H, A + B), 6.87 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.06 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.99 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 4.4 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.92 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 5.89–5.74 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 5.35–5.25 (m, 1H, A + B), 5.24–5.10 (m, 1H, A + B), 4.41–4.12 (m, 2H, A + B), 3.88 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.84 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.54 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.40 (s, 1.5H, A / B). <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: δ (A + B) = 172.6, 171.3, 164.1, 163.4, 163.2, 163.1, 144.2, 143.9, 142.5, 140.8, 135.3, 134.6, 131.4, 131.3, 130.4, 130.3, 130.2, 129.8, 128.84, 128.77, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.5, 124.1, 122.80, 122.75, 122.7, 122.4, 122.3, 122.1, 121.1, 120.9, 119.8, 118.7, 118.5, 117.4, 117.2, 114.4, 114.0, 109.9, 109.4, 78.9, 78.7, 78.3, 77.7, 53.5, 53.3, 52.4, 52.2, 42.1, 41.6.

Additional experiments on acid-catalyzed isomerization.

Compound **5c** (0.05 mmol) was treated with *p*-TSA (20 mol%) or HCl_{conc} (60 mol%) in 1 mL of DCM at RT, after 6h reaction mixtures were analyzed by LC. No significant dr change was observed in either case.

4.3.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 5c





5. Synthesis, HPLC and NMR spectra of compounds 8a-c

5.1. Synthesis of product 8a



Dimethyl 9a'*H*-spiro[indeno[1,2-*b*]quinoxaline-11,2'-pyrido[2,1-*b*][1,3]oxazine]-3',4'dicarboxylate (8a): The compound was prepared according to the modified (1.5 equiv. of DMAD and pyridine instead of 1.0 equiv.) reported procedure [15]: a solution of DMAD (185 µL, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in 2 mL of DCM was added to a solution of **6** (232 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv.) and pyridine (120 µL, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in dichloromethane (DCM, 10 mL) over 15 min (via syringe). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 1d. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH affording a mixture of inseparable diastereomers as a yellow solid (240 mg, 53% yield); R_f = 0.53 (Hex/EA 1:1) [lit. 0.54 (Hex/EA 1:1)]; m.p. 168–170 °C (decomp.) [lit. 167–169 °C]. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₆H₁₉N₃O₅: 454.1397 [*M*+H]⁺; found: 454.1397.



NMR spectra of 8a in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃: (the same dr was observed in CDCI₃) mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 16 : 1 (A : B). <u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ = 8.21–8.10 (m, 2H, A + B), 8.09–8.02 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.78–7.65 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.59–7.46 (m, 3H, A + B), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 1.3 Hz, 0.94H, A), 6.51 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.06H, B), 6.47 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.94H, A), 6.39 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 1.3 Hz, 0.06H, B), 6.24 (dd[A], *J* = 9.9, 6.1 Hz, 1H, A + B), 5.53 (dd[A], *J* = 10.0, 3.3 Hz, 1H, A

+ B), 5.41–5.29 (m, 1H, A + B), 4.00 (s, 2.82H, A), 3.98 (s, 0.18H, B), 3.17 (s, 3H, A + B). $\frac{13C \text{ NMR}}{(101 \text{ MHz, CDCI}_3)}$: (A, major) δ = 164.0, 163.7, 161.9, 154.2, 147.4, 145.6, 142.9, 141.5, 138.6, 132.2, 130.4, 130.0, 130.0, 129.4, 129.0, 125.2, 125.1, 123.9, 122.5, 116.7, 107.6, 101.8, 80.2, 79.6, 53.5, 51.6.

NMR spectra of 8a in DMSO-*d*₆: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 3.2 : 1 (A : B). <u>1H</u> <u>NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: δ = 8.19–8.00 (m, 3.24H, A + B), 7.90–7.73 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.68–7.55 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.42 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 0.76H, A), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 3.4, 1.3 Hz, 0.76H, A), 6.76 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.24H, B), 6.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.76H, A), 6.47 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 0.24H, B), 6.36–6.24 (m, 1H, A + B), 5.66–5.51 (m, 1H, A+ B), 5.51–5.40 (m, 1H, A + B), 3.95 (s, 2.29H, A), 3.92 (s, 0.71H, B), 3.20 (s, 0.71H, B), 3.19 (s, 2.29H, A). <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: (A, major) δ = 162.8, 162.7, 161.3, 153.4, 147.1, 145.3, 142.1, 140.4, 137.7, 132.4, 130.6, 130.5, 129.5, 129.5, 128.9, 125.4, 125.3, 123.3, 122.1, 116.1, 106.7, 101.9, 79.4, 78.8, 53.6, 51.6. <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)</u>: (B, minor) δ = 163.2, 162.7, 162.4, 154.5, 148.0, 144.6, 141.9, 140.8, 136.0, 132.4, 130.6, 130.2, 129.5, 129.3, 128.9, 126.2, 125.6, 125.2, 121.9, 116.2, 108.5, 101.2, 79.2, 79.0, 53.5, 51.6.

5.1.1. Comparison of NMR spectra of 8a and the reported structure





The revised structure (8a)

¹ H NMR					¹³ C NMR			
Repo	orted in [15],	4a	0	bserved, 8a*		Reported in [15], 4a	Observed, 8a**	Difference,
δ, ppm	int., mult.	J, Hz	δ, ppm	int., mult.	<i>J</i> , Hz	δ, ppm	δ, ppm	ppm
3.16	3H, s		3.16	3H, s		51.4	51.4	0
4	3H, s		3.99	3H, s		53.3	53.3	0
5.36	1H, m		5.29–5.40	1H, m		79.4	79.3	-0.1
5.53	1H, m		5.53	1H, dd	10.0, 3.3	80.0	79.9	-0.1
6.24	1H, m		6.24	1H, dd	9.9, 6.1	101.6	101.5	-0.1
6.46	1H, d	7.5	6.47	1H, d	7.6	107.4	107.4	0
7.01	1H, s		7.01	1H, dd	3.3, 1.3	116.5	116.5	0
7 46	54 m		7.45–7.58	3H, m		123.3	122.3	-1
7.40	511, 111		7.65–7.78	2H, m		123.6	123.6	0
8.07	1H, d	7.5	8.01-8.08	1H, m		124.8	124.8	0
8.16	2H, m		8.09-8.21	2H, m		125.0	125.0	0
* first prot	on signal was	s set to 3	3.16 ppm				128.7	
						129.2	129.1	-0.1
						129.8	129.71	-0.09
							129.73	
						130.3	130.2	-0.1
						132.0	131.9	-0.1
						138.4	138.3	-0.1
						142.2	141.2	-1
						142.7	142.7	0
						145.7	145.4	-0.3
						146.5	147.2	0.7
						147.2		
						154.0	153.9	-0.1
						161.7	161.6	-0.1
						163.6	163.5	-0.1
						163.8	163.7	-0.1

** first carbon signal was set to 51.4 ppm

5.1.2. Copies of NMR spectra for product 8a







Dimethyl 11b'H-spiro[indeno[1,2-b]quinoxaline-11,2'-[1,3]oxazino[2,3-a]isoquinoline]-

3',4'-dicarboxylate (8b): The compound was prepared according to the modified (1.5 equiv. of DMAD and pyridine instead of 1.0 equiv.) reported procedure [15]: a solution of DMAD (185 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in 2 mL of dichloromethane (DCM) was added to a solution of 11*H*-indeno[1,2-*b*]quinoxalin-11-one **6** (232 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv.) and isoquinoline (180 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in DCM (10 mL) over 15 min (via syringe). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 1d. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH affording a mixture of inseparable* diastereomers as a bright-yellow solid (414 mg, 82% yield); *R*_f = 0.49 + 0.59 (Hex/EA 1:1) [lit. 0.59 (Hex/EA 1:1)]**; m.p. 214–217 °C (decomp.) [lit. 190–193 °C]. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₃₀H₂₁N₃O₅: 504.1554 [*M*+H]⁺; found: 504.1554.

* inseparable by crystallization, however separation via column chromatography is possible ** in the original work, only one diastereomer was reported, see the manuscript



NMR spectra of 8b in CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 2.6 : 1 \rightarrow 12 : 1 (A : B; in 30–40 min). <u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: (A, major) δ = 8.26–8.22 (m, 2H), 8.14–8.07 (m, 1H), 7.83–7.76 (m, 1H), 7.76–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.45 (m, 4H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 1H), 7.08–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H). <u>¹³C</u> **NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃)**: (A, major) δ = 164.1, 163.8, 162.5, 154.0, 147.7, 145.7, 142.2, 141.6, 138.0, 132.5, 130.6, 130.3, 130.0, 129.9, 129.6, 129.3, 129.0, 128.0, 127.2, 126.6, 125.4, 124.2, 123.6, 122.9, 106.4, 105.3, 81.0, 80.2, 53.6, 51.7.

NMR spectra of 8b in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.1 : 1 (A : B). <u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ = 8.26–8.23 (m, 0.53H, A), 8.19–8.14 (m, 1H, A + B), 8.13–8.07 (m, 1.47H, A + B), 7.84–7.75 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.74–7.67 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.67–7.44 (m, 3.47H, A + B), 7.26–7.18 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.13–6.98 (m, 3H, A + B), 6.84 (s, 0.53H, A), 6.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.47H, B), 5.94–5.75 (m, 1H, A + B), 4.03 (s, 1.47H, B), 4.02 (s, 1.53H, A), 3.19 (s, 1.47H, B), 3.18 (s, 1.53H, A). <u>¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃)</u>: δ (A +B) = 164.13, 164.11, 163.95, 163.87, 162.3, 162.1, 154.8, 154.4, 148.9, 147.5, 145.6, 145.4, 143.0, 142.9, 142.0, 141.5, 138.4, 137.4, 132.2, 131.9, 130.6, 130.5, 130.3, 130.1, 130.05, 130.02, 129.94, 129.89, 129.7, 129.6, 129.4, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.0, 127.6, 127.22, 127.19, 126.6, 126.4, 125.33, 125.29, 125.1, 124.14, 124.10, 123.6, 122.8, 122.5, 106.5, 106.2, 105.24, 105.18, 81.0, 80.8, 80.4, 80.2, 53.6, 53.6, 51.7, 51.6.

NMR spectra of 8c in DMSO-*d***s**: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.3 : 1 (A : B). <u>1</u>**H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-***d***s**): δ = 8.27–8.10 (m, 3H, A + B), 8.08–8.03 (m, 0.43H, B), 7.90 (ddd, J = 8.3, 7.0, 1.6 Hz, 0.57H, A), 7.86–7.80 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.76 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 0.43H, B), 7.72–7.55 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.48–7.39 (m, 0.57H, A), 7.35–7.29 (m, 1.57H, A + B), 7.27–7.22 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.16–7.05 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.98 (s, 0.43H, B), 6.95–6.87 (m, 1H, A + B), 6.81 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.43H, B), 6.78 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.57H, A), 6.05 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.57H, A), 6.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.43H, B), 3.98 (s, 1.7H, A), 3.95 (s, 1.3H, B), 3.21 (s, 1.3H), 3.20 (s, 1.7H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-<u>d</u>**s**): δ (A + B) = 163.4, 163.0, 162.8 (2C), 162.1, 161.7, 154.4, 153.6, 148.1, 146.9, 145.2, 144.6, 142.2, 141.9, 140.8, 140.6, 137.6, 136.1, 132.6, 132.4, 130.7 (2C), 130.5, 130.3, 129.7, 129.60 (2C), 129.58, 129.55, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.1, 126.9, 125.8, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.1, 125.0, 124.1, 123.5, 122.1, 122.0, 107.3, 105.7, 104.8, 104.2, 80.1, 80.0, 79.6, 79.4, 53.7, 53.5, 51.64, 51.58.

5.2.1. Comparison of NMR spectra of 8b and the reported structure





The revised structure (8b)

¹ H NMR						¹³ C NMR			
Rep	eported in [15], 4c Observed, 8b*		Reported in [15], 4c Observed, 8b			k	Reported** in [15], 4c	Observed, 8b***	Difference,
δ, ppm	int., mult.	J, Hz	δ, ppm	int., mult.	<i>J</i> , Hz	δ, ppm	δ, ppm	ppm	
3.19	3H, s		3.19	3H, s		51.50	51.50	0	
4.03	3H, s		4.03	3H, s		53.40	53.50	-0.1	
5.87	1H, d	7.5	5.87	1H, d	7.8	79.90	80.00	-0.1	
6.51	1H, d	7.5	6.51	1H, d	7.8	80.80	80.90	-0.1	
7.02	1H, s		6.97–7.07	2H, m		105.10	105.20	-0.1	
7.11	3H, m		7.08–7.13	1H, m			106.20		
			7.19–7.25	1H, m		122.60	122.80	-0.2	
7.56	6H, m		7.44–7.58	4H, m		123.40	123.50	-0.1	
			7.68–7.76	1H, m		123.90	124.00	-0.1	
			7.76–7.83	1H, m		125.20	125.20	0	
8.17	3H, m		8.06-8.14	1H, m		126.30	126.40	-0.1	
			8.21-8.25	2H, m		127.00	127.10	-0.1	
* first pr	oton signal w	as set to	o 3.19 ppm			127.80	127.80	0	
						128.90	128.80	0.1	
						129.00	129.10	-0.1	
						129.40	129.50	-0.1	
						129.70	129.80	-0.1	
						129.80	129.90	-0.1	
						130.00	130.10	-0.1	
						130.40	130.40	0	
						132.20	132.40	-0.2	
						137.90	137.80	0.1	
						141.30	141.40	-0.1	
						142.20	142.00	0.2	
						145.50	145.50	0	
						147.40	147.50	-0.1	
						153.90	153.80	0.1	
						162.20	162.40	-0.2	
						163.70	163.70	0	
						163.90	163.90	0	

** 29 out of 30 signals were reported *** first carbon signal was set to 51.5 ppm, data from spectra in CDCl₃ (non-treated with K₂CO₃) were used

5.2.2. Copies of NMR spectra for product 8b









Dimethyl 4a'*H*-spiro[indeno[1,2-*b*]quinoxaline-11,3'-[1,3]oxazino[3,2-*a*]quinoline]-1',2'dicarboxylate (8c): The compound was prepared according to the modified (1.5 equiv. of DMAD and pyridine instead of 1.0 equiv.) reported procedure [15]: DMAD (185 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added to a solution of 11*H*-indeno[1,2-*b*]quinoxalin-11-one **6** (232 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv.) and quinoline (180 μ L, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in acetonitrile* (5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 1d. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH affording a mixture of inseparable** diastereomers as a pale-yellow solid (435 mg, 86% yield); $R_f = 0.54 + 0.60$ (Hex/EA 1:1) [lit. not reported]; m.p. 219–220 °C (decomp.) [lit. 216–220 °C]. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₃₀H₂₁N₃O₅: 504.1554 [*M*+H]⁺; found: 504.1555.

* reaction in DCM, which was used in the original method, was slow (not full conversion after 6d) ** inseparable by crystallization, however separation via column chromatography is possible



NMR spectra of 8c in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCl₃: (the same dr was observed in CDCl₃) mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1 : 1 (A : B). <u>¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)</u>: δ = 8.23–8.01 (m, 2.5H, A + B), 7.90 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.79–7.64 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.62–7.55 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 7.52 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 0.5H, A /B), 7.45 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.40–7.30 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 7.25–7.21 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.13–7.02 (m, 2H, A + B), 6.87 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.83

(d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.51 (dd, *J* = 4.3, 1.0 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.00 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.02–5.90 (m, 1H, A + B), 3.92 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.88 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.27 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.24 (s, 1.5H, A / B). 1.5H, A / B). 1.3C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (A + B) = 164.8, 164.6, 164.1, 163.9, 161.4, 160.7, 154.5, 154.2, 147.3, 146.6, 143.8, 143.0, 142.8, 142.3, 142.1, 141.6, 138.4, 137.4, 136.4, 136.0, 132.3, 132.2, 130.7, 130.54, 130.46, 130.05, 129.98, 129.91 (2C), 129.89, 129.8, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1 (2C), 128.83, 128.78, 128.5, 124.8, 124.5, 123.9, 122.7, 122.6 (3C), 122.3, 121.9, 121.4, 118.7, 118.1, 115.5, 114.5, 81.3, 81.2, 80.1, 79.9, 53.4, 53.3, 52.14, 52.13.

NMR spectra of 8c in DMSO-*d***i:** mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1 : 1 (A : B). <u>**1H NMR**</u> (400 MHz, DMSO-*d***6**): δ = 8.21–8.07 (m, 3H, A + B), 7.93–7.79 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.77–7.70 (m, 0.5H, A / B), 7.69–7.53 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.48–7.34 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.15 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.11 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 7.06–6.95 (m, 1.5H, A + B), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.28 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.21 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 0.5H, A / B), 6.10–5.97 (m, 1H, A + B), 3.89 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.84 (s, 1.5H, A / B), 3.26 (s, 3H, A + B). <u>1³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-</u>*d***6**): δ (A + B) = 164.2, 163.6, 163.5, 163.2, 160.8, 160.7, 154.2, 153.3, 146.7, 146.1, 143.3, 142.2, 141.9, 141.2, 140.8, 140.6, 137.5, 136.1, 135.5, 134.9, 132.7, 132.6, 130.9, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 130.2, 129.9, 129.7, 129.54, 129.48, 129.3, 129.0, 128.9 (2C), 128.68, 128.66, 128.4, 125.3, 124.1, 123.3, 122.7, 122.2, 122.1, 121.9, 121.8, 121.2, 121.0, 118.9, 118.5, 114.6, 114.0, 80.7, 80.3, 79.5, 79.0, 53.5, 53.3, 52.2, 52.1.

Additional experiments on acid-catalyzed isomerization.

Compound **8c** (0.1 mmol) was treated with *p*-TSA (20 mol%) or HCl_{conc} (30 mol%) in 1 mL of DCM at RT, after 6h reaction mixtures were analyzed by LC. For conditions employing *p*-TSA, dr changed from ~ 1:1.05 to 1:1.16. Conditions employing HCl_{conc} resulted in dr change from ~1:1.05 to 1:1.37.

5.3.1. Comparison of NMR spectra of 8c and the reported structure



			¹ H NMR			
	Reported	in [15], 4e	Observed, 8c			
δ, ppm		int mult	/ Ц-	8 nnm	int mult	/ Ц-
major	minor	int., mart.	5, 112	0, ррш	ma, mara	0, 112
3.26		3H, s		3.27	3H, s	
	3.24	3H, s		3.24	3H, s	
3.92		3H, s		3.92	3H, s	
	3.89	3H, s		3.88	3H, s	
5.94		1H, m			2⊔ m	
	5.94	1H, m		5.90-0.02	217, 111	
6.5		1H, d	4.3	6.51	1H, dd	4.3, 1.0
	5.99	1H, d	4.3	6.00	1H, d	4.3
6.87		1H, d	9.7	6.87	1H, d	9.7
	6.83	1H, d 9.7		6.83	1H, d	9.7
7.08		2H, m		7 02 7 12	14 m	
	7.08	2H, m		7.02-7.13	40, 10	
				7.20-7.28	2H, m	
				7.30–7.40	3H, m	
				7.45	1H, td	7.5, 1.2
7 7 6 9 7 4	776974	52011 m		7.52	1H, td	7.5, 1.3
7.20-8.24	7.20-8.24	2206, 11		7.55–7.62	3H, m	
				7.64–7.79	4H, m	
				7.90	1H, dd	8.3, 1.5
				8.01-8.23	5H, m	

The ¹³C NMR spectrum from the original work shows inconsistency with our data, at least 6 carbon signals do not match with literature data; for other signals, the difference with literature is 0– 0.6 ppm. No copies of NMR spectra were provided in the original work, which complicated data analysis.

5.3.2. Copies of NMR spectra for product 8c





6. Synthesis, HPLC and NMR spectra of compounds 10a,b

6.1. Synthesis of product 10a



Dimethyl 1-benzyl-1',1'-dicyano-2-oxo-1',9a'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,2'-quinolizine]-3',4'-dicarboxylate (10a): The compound was prepared according to the reported procedure [16]: DMAD (92 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added to a solution of 2-(1-benzyl-2-oxoindolin-3ylidene)malononitrile **9** (143 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and pyridine (61 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in tetrahydrofurane (THF, 12 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 2h. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH. Compound was additionally purified by recrystallization from hexane/DCM, affording a mixture of inseparable diastereomers as a pale-yellow solid (158 mg, 62% yield); *R*_f = 0.63 (Hex/EA 1:1); m.p. 183–185 °C (decomp.) [lit. 222–226 °C].



0.91H, A), 3.96 (s, 3H, A + B), 3.26 (s, 0.27H, B), 3.14 (s, 2.73H, A). ¹³**C NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (A, major)** = 173.5, 163.6, 163.4, 146.8, 143.7, 135.1, 130.7, 129.0 (2C), 128.1, 128.0 (2C), 126.8, 126.5, 125.2, 124.1, 123.7, 114.3, 110.9, 110.3, 110.2, 103.3, 100.4, 57.2, 53.7, 52.0, 51.9, 45.3, 44.9.

NMR spectra of 10a in DMSO-*d*₆**:** mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.5 : 1 (A : B). ¹H **NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-***d*₆**)**: δ = 7.68–7.56 (br. m, 0.6H, A), 7.52–7.25 (br. m, 6.4H, A + B), 7.23– 7.07 (br. m, 2H, A + B), 6.51 (br. s, 1H, A + B), 6.40 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, A + B), 6.13 (br. s, 0.4H, B), 5.78 (br. s, 1H, A + B), 5.70–5.59 (br. m, 0.6H, A), 5.37 (br. s, 1H, A + B), 5.16–4.89 (br. m, 2H, A + B), 3.92 (s, 3H, A + B), 3.26 (br. s, 1.8H, A), 3.08 (br. s, 1.2H, B).

One of the possible reasons for broadening peaks in NMR spectra of **10a** in DMSO- d_6 might be the presence of ring-chain equilibrium (see ref. [17] for related example on partial unsaturated [1,3]oxazine) depicted in **A**, scheme 1. In that case, α –*CH* (shown in red) of the pyridinium fragment should have δ > 8.5 ppm (see **B** on scheme 1 for literature examples). However, no such signal can be seen in ¹H NMR of **10a**, indicating that two sets of signals are likely attributed to diastereomers.



A. The possible ring-chain equilibrium

6.1.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 10a





6.1.2. The NOESY/EXSY of compound 10a



standard Bruker program (NOESYPHSW), mixing time 0.700 sec; Off-diagonal crosspeaks in the same phase (red color) as the diagonal ones indicate chemical exchange between these peaks (protons).

The fragment of the NOESY spectrum (region of 2.85–3.50 ppm); cross-peaks indicate exchange between the methoxy groups.

3.50 3.45 3.40 3.35 3.30 3.25 3.20 3.15 3.10 3.05 3.00 2.95 2.90 2.85



Dimethyl 1-benzyl-1',1'-dicyano-2-oxo-1',11b'-dihydrospiro[indoline-3,2'-pyrido[2,1*a*]isoquinoline]-3',4'-dicarboxylate (10b): The compound was prepared according to the adopted reported procedure [16]: DMAD (92 µL, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added to a solution of 2-(1benzyl-2-oxoindolin-3-ylidene)malononitrile **9** (143 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and isoquinoline (99 µL, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in tetrahydrofuran (THF, 12 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 8h. The reaction mixture was concentrated, the residue was triturated with EtOH, filtered and washed with EtOH. Compound was additionally purified by recrystallization from hexane/DCM, affording a mixture of inseparable* diastereomers as a yellow solid (213 mg, 76% yield); R_f = 0.53 + 0.65 (Hex/EA 1:1); m.p. 180–183 °C (decomp.); HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₃₃H₂₄N₄O₅: 579.1639 [*M*+Na]⁺; found: 579.1652.

* inseparable by crystallization, however separation via column chromatography is possible



NMR spectra of 10b in K₂CO₃-treated-CDCI₃: (the same dr was observed in CDCI₃) mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.4 : 1 (A : B). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCI₃): δ = 7.55–7.45 (m, 3H, A+ B), 7.42–7.26 (m, 6H, A + B), 7.23–7.19 (m, 1H, A + B), 7.17–7.05 (m, 2H, A + B), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.58H, A), 6.89 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.42H, B), 6.64 (s, 0.42H, B), 6.44 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.42H, B),

6.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.58H, A), 5.82 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.58H, A), 5.81 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.42H, B), 5.67 (s, 0.58H, A), 5.24 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 0.42H, B), 5.12 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 0.58H, A), 5.00 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 0.58H, A), 4.87 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 0.42H, B), 3.98 (s, 1.25H, B), 3.97 (s, 1.75H, A), 3.31 (s, 1.75H, A), 3.21 (s, 1.25H, B). ¹³**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCI₃): δ (A + B) = 173.7, 172.3, 163.8, 163.7, 163.6, 163.5, 146.8, 146.4, 144.1, 143.8, 135.2, 135.1, 131.3, 130.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.4, 130.1, 129.3, 129.0 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 128.9, 128.3 (2C), 128.14, 128.09, 128.05 (2C), 128.0, 127.7, 127.5, 126.3, 126.0 (2C), 125.5, 125.3, 124.7, 124.4, 123.7, 123.2, 122.4, 121.7, 111.2, 111.1, 110.8, 110.5, 110.2, 109.6, 107.4, 107.1, 104.3, 103.9, 60.1, 58.1, 54.4, 53.8, 53.7, 53.5, 52.4, 52.0, 46.2, 45.8, 45.4, 45.3.

NMR spectra of 10b in DMSO-*d***s**: mixture of inseparable diastereomers, dr = ~ 1.4 : 1 (A : B). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d***s**): δ = 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 0.6H, A), 7.54–7.41 (m, 3.8H, A + B), 7.41– 7.25 (m, 6H, A + B), 7.23–7.12 (m, 2H, A + B), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.6H, A), 6.68 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.4H, B), 6.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.6H, A), 6.53 (s, 0.4H, B), 6.14 (s, 0.6H, A), 6.01 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.4H, B), 5.96 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.6H, A), 5.20–4.94 (m, 2H, A + B), 3.95 (s, 1.25H, B), 3.94 (s, 1.75H, A), 3.31 (s, 1.75H, A), 3.15 (s, 1.25H, B). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d***s**): δ (A + B) = 172.9, 171.9, 163.3, 162.9, 162.8, 162.7, 146.4, 146.0, 143.4, 143.3, 135.6, 135.3, 131.0, 130.9, 130.7, 130.5, 130.2, 129.7, 129.0, 128.6 (2C), 128.5 (3C), 127.9 (2C), 127.7 (3C), 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 126.9, 126.8, 126.0, 125.9, 125.7, 125.4, 124.6, 123.5, 123.2, 123.2, 121.9, 121.6, 111.0, 110.92, 110.90, 110.6, 110.02, 109.97, 106.7, 106.1, 103.8, 102.7, 59.3, 57.2, 53.9, 53.8, 53.7, 52.6, 52.2, 52.0, 45.9, 45.8, 44.2, 43.9.

6.2.1. Copies of NMR spectra for product 10b





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