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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# A Concise Approach to 2-Pyrrolin-5-one Scaffold From $\alpha$ -Halohydroxamates and $\beta$ -Keto Compounds

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#### 1. Experimental Section

All solvents were purified and dried according to standard methods prior to use. Flash column chromatography was performed using Qingdao Haiyang flash silica gel (100–200 mesh). The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were obtained in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using a Bruker-BioSpin AVANCE III HD NMR spectrometer at 500, 125 and 470 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ävalue) calibrated against the residual solvent peak. The infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker VERTEX 70 IR spectrometer as KBr pellets, with absorption reported in cm<sup>-1</sup>. Mass spectra were obtained on Bruker APEX II FT-ICRMS mass spectrometer. Melting points were determined on a Stuard SMP3 melting point apparatus.

Br, M, OBn H 1	+ $ph$ CN 2	Base Solvent NC	F-OBnCHCl <sub>3</sub>	NC Ph 3
Entry	Base	Solvent	Time (h)	Yield(%) <sup>b</sup>
1	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	24	36
2	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	24	trace
3	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	24	46
4	MeONa	THF	24	65
5	EtONa	THF	48	54
6	<sup>t</sup> BuONa	THF	48	15
7	NaOH	THF	48	n.d <sup>c</sup>
8	KOH	THF	24	n.d
9	Et <sub>3</sub> N	THF	24	n.d
10	LDA	THF	24	n.d
11	MeONa	HFIP	24	n.d
12	MeONa	EtOH	24	55
13	MeONa	$Et_2O$	24	52
14	MeONa	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	72	51
15	MeONa	$CH_2Cl_2$	72	48
16	MeONa	Toluene	72	43
17	MeONa	MeCN	48	50
18	MeONa	DMF	48	61
19	MeONa	Dioxane	48	46
20	MeONa	Acetone	48	59

Table S1. The screening for the [3+2] annulation/elimination<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were performed using **1a** (0.3mmol, 1.5 equiv.), **2a**(0.2 mmol, 1.0equiv.) and different bases(0.4mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in different solvents at room temperature under  $N_2$  atmosphere, the reaction process was monitored by TLC; <sup>b</sup> The isolated yield; <sup>c</sup> not detected the desired product.

	$Br \xrightarrow{N} H OBn + H$	O CN	1) base, solvent 2) <i>p</i> -TSOH, CHCl <sub>3</sub>	NC N-OBn	
	<b>1</b> a	2a		3aa	
Entry	The ratio				
Linu y	( <b>1a</b> : <b>2a</b> : CH <sub>3</sub> ONa)	Additives	Temp.	Time (h)	Yield(%)
1	1.5 : 1 : 2	4Å MS	rt	24	66
2	1.5 : 1 : 2	NaI	rt	24	85
3	1.5 : 1 : 1.5	NaI	rt	24	57
4	1.5 : 1 : 3	NaI	rt	24	92
5	1.5 : 1 : 3	-	rt	48	72
6	1.5 : 1 : 4	NaI	rt	24	90
7	1.5 : 1 : 3	NaI	0	48	85
8	1.5 : 1 : 3	NaI	40	24	86
9	1:1.5:3	NaI	rt	24	62

Table S2. The screening for the amount of the base and the additives

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were performed in THF(2mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere using **2a** (0.2mmol), the other reagents were added according to the corresponding ratios shown in Table S2.

Table S3. The optimization for the different  $\alpha$ -halohydroxamates

X $Y^1$ $Y^2$ $Y^2$ $Y^2$ $Y^2$ $Y^2$	OBn +	O CN 2a	1) CH <sub>3</sub> ONa 2) p-TSO	a, NaI, THF → H, CHCl <sub>3</sub>	$Y^1$ O $Y^2$ N-OE NC Ph 3	3n
Entry	Х	$\mathbf{Y}^{1}$ .	$Y^2$	Temp.	Time (h)	Yield(%) <sup>b</sup>
1	Cl	Н	Н	rt	48	75
2	Br	$CH_3$	Η	rt~40	72	_
3	Br	$CH_3$	$CH_3$	rt~40	72	_
4	Cl	Н	Η	40	24	73

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were performed in THF(2 mL) under  $N_2$  atmosphere using 1 (0.3 mmol), 2a (0.2 mmol), CH<sub>3</sub>ONa (0.6 mmol) and NaI (0.04 mmol), then p-TSOH(0.1mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub>(2.0 mL); <sup>b</sup> The isolated yield of product 3.

**Table S4.** The optimization for the reaction of  $\beta$ -keto ester with  $\alpha$ -bromohydroxamates

Br Ia	N <sup>OBn</sup> + H <sub>3</sub> C	0 COOC <sub>2</sub> H 2n	1) Base, Na 2) TsOH, C	HCl <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub> C	$\overset{O}{\swarrow}_{CH_{3}}^{N-OBn}$
Entry	Base	Solvent	Temp.	Time (h)	Yield(%) <sup>b</sup>
1	CH <sub>3</sub> ONa	THF	rt	24	37
2	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ONa	THF	rt	24	34
3	<sup>t</sup> BuOK	THF	rt	24	-
4	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	rt	24	82
5	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	THF	rt	24	60
6	$Cs_2CO_3$	THF	rt	24	38
7	$K_2CO_3$	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	rt	48	51
8	$K_2CO_3$	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH	rt	48	-
9	$K_2CO_3$	HFIP	rt	48	-
10	$K_2CO_3$	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	rt	48	25
11	$K_2CO_3$	DMF	rt	48	36

<sup>a</sup>All reactions were performed in THF under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere using **1a**(0.3 mmol), **2a** (0.2mmol), base (0.6 mmol) and NaI(0.04mmol); <sup>b</sup>The isolated yield of product **3**.

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#### 2. General procedure for the optimal conditions:

**General procedure A:** To a Schlenk tube were added compound **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), **2a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), MeONa (32 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 eq.), NaI (6 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%) and THF (2.0 mL) under N<sub>2</sub>, the mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was completed(monitored by TLC). The reactant was filtered through celite plate, and the solvent was removed under vacuum, subsequently a solution of *p*-TsOH (19 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL), was added and stirred at 40°C for 1h. After removing the solvent, the residue was purified by a flash column chromatography (Petroleum ether/ EtOAc =  $5:1\sim3:1$ , V/V) to afford the product **3aa**.

**General procedure B:** To a Schlenk tube were added compound **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq), **2n** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq),  $K_2CO_3$  (82.8 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 eq.), NaI (6 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol%) and THF (2.0 mL) under N<sub>2</sub>, the mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC). The reactant was filtered through celite plate, the solvent was removed under vacuum, and a solution of *p*-TsOH (19 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) was added and stirred at 40°C for 1h. After removing the solvent, the residue was purified by a flash column chromatography (Petroleum ether/ EtOAc = 5:1~3:1, V/V) to afford the product **3an**.

## 3. Data for the products

## 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3aa)

Following the **General procedure A**, **3aa** (53.3 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 92% yield, Mp: 137–139 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.01 (m, 2H), **4.89** (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.1, 156.6, 132.4,

131.5, 130.0, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 125.6, 115.5, 79.5, 78.8, 35.3; HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{14}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 313.0947, Found: 313.0948. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(p-methyl phenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ab)



Following the **General procedure A**, **3ab** (48.6 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 80% yield, Mp: 114–116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 3.36 (s, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.23, 156.61, 142.19, 132.54, 130.03, 129.50, 129.42, 128.51, 128.46, 122.79, 115.73, 78.77, 77.20, 35.25, 21.61. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 327.1104, Found: 327.1103. IR

(KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(p-methoxy phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ac)



Following the General procedure A, **3ac** (48.5 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 76% yield, Mp: 104–107 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.99–6.94 (m, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.3, 162.1, 156.2, 132.6, 130.4, 130.1, 129.5, 128.5, 118.0, 116.0, 114.2, 78.8, 77.8, 55.5, 35.2. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 343.1053, Found:

343.1055. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(p-fluorophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ad)



Following the General procedure A, **3ad** (44.3 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 72% yield. Mp: 136–138 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.53–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.05–7.01 (m, 2H), 4.91 (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.0, 164.3 (d, J = 253.8 Hz), 155.7, 132.4, 131.0 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 130.1, 129.60, 128.6, 121.8 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 116.0 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 115.4, 79.4, 78.9, 35.3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -106.58. HRMS ESI Calcd

for  $C_{18}H_{13}FN_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 331.0853, Found: 331.0854. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## 1-(4-bromobenzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ae)



Following the General procedure A, **3ae** (53.8 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 73% yield. Mp: 134–136 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.60–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.07 –7.00 (m, 2H), 4.92 (s, 2H), 3.36 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 155.6, 132.3,

132.0, 130.1, 130.0, 129.6, 128.6, 126.2, 124.5, 115.2, 79.7, 78.9, 35.3. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{13}BrN_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 391.0053, Found: 391.0052. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Methyl 4-(1-(benzyloxy)-3-cyano--5-oxo-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)benzoate



Following the General procedure A, **3af** (48.7 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 70% yield. Mp: 121–123 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (s, 1H), 3.98 (s, 2H), 3.40 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.92, 166.03, 155.74, 132.57, 132.32, 130.17, 129.76, 129.67, 129.65, 128.71, 128.63, 115.01, 80.77, 78.91, 52.55, 35.48. HRMS ESI

Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{16}N_2NaO_4 [M+Na]^+$ : 371.1002, Found: 371.1000. IR (KBr): 2956, 2209, 1725, 1436, 1410, 1379, 1354, 1315, 1279, 1231, 1188, 1166, 1110, 772, 753, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(m-methoxyphenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3ag** (54.4 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 85% yield. Mp: 86–88 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.04 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 2H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.1, 159.5, 156.4, 132.5, 130.1, 129.8, 129.4, 128.5, 126.6, 120.9, 117.9, 115.4, 113.4, 79.6, 78.9, 55.8,

35.3. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}N_2NaO_3$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 343.1053, Found: 343.1054. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(m-chlorophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



3ah

Following the General procedure A, **3ah** (46.0 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 71% yield. Mp: 94–96 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.48 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.04–6.99 (m, 2H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 155.3, 134.7, 132.3, 131.4, 130.2, 129.9, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 127.2, 126.8, 114.9, 80.3, 78.9, 35.4. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 347.0558, Found:

347.0558. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(o-methoxyphenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile

[.	N-OBn
NC	₹OM€
3ai	

Following the **General procedure A**, **3ai** (41.6 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 65% yield. Mp: 102–104 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.49 (ddd, J = 8.8, 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23–7.17 (m, 3H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 4H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.3, 157.4, 154.9, 133.1, 132.9, 130.9, 129.7, 129.1, 128.5, 120.6, 115.1,

115.0, 111.4, 81.9, 78.8, 55.6, 35.6. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}N_2NaO_3$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 343.1053, Found: 343.1057. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(2-furyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3aj** (43.6 mg) was isolated as a slightly yellow solid in 78% yield. Mp: 115–118 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.69 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.15 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 3.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 146.0, 144.3, 140.9, 132.7, 129.9, 129.6, 128.7, 115.9, 115.6, 112.6, 79.3, 75.5, 35.3. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 303.0740, Found:

303.0739. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2-(2-thiophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3ak** (39.1 mg) was isolated as a slightly yellow solid in 66% yield. Mp: 138–140 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (qd, *J* = 8.3, 7.7, 4.6 Hz, 5H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.8, 149.1, 132.4, 131.9, 131.4, 130.1, 129.6, 128.6, 127.9, 125.7, 116.2, 79.3, 76.1, 35.2. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S

[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 319.0512, Found: 319.0512. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-2-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3al** (36.9 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 81% yield. Mp: 90-92 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 3.21 (q, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 1.87 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.5, 157.0, 133.4, 130.1, 129.8, 128.9, 114.8, 79.2, 79.1, 34.8, 11.9. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 251.0791, Found: 251.0791.

IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzyloxy)-2-isopropyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3am** (39.4 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 77% yield. Mp: 218.5–219.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 (s, 5H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.21 (s, 2H), 2.74 (hept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.22 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.6, 165.1, 133.2, 129.9, 129.6, 128.8, 115.1, 78.8, 76.8, 35.3, 26.9, 19.8. HRMS ESI Calcd for

 $C_{15}H_{16}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 279.1104, Found: 279.1104. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Ethyl 1-(benzyloxy)-2-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate



Following the General procedure B, **3an** (45.1 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 82% yield. Mp: 44–46 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.48–7.35 (m, 5H), 5.10 (s, 2H), 4.18 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (q, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 2.14 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.9, 163.7, 153.2, 133.7, 130.0, 129.5, 128.7, 99.6,

78.9, 59.9, 34.5, 14.3, 11.0. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{17}NNaO_4$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 298.1050, Found: 298.1057. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Ethyl 1-(benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate



Following the General procedure B, **3ao** (32.4 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 45% yield. Mp: 69–71 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43–7.36 (m, 4H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.18 (m, 2H), 6.96–6.92 (m, 2H), 4.79 (s, 2H), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.7, 162.8,

152.9, 133.0, 130.1, 129.9, 129.8, 129.1, 128.4, 127.6, 127.2, 101.4, 78.7, 60.1, 35.1, 14.0. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{19}NNaO_4$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 360.1206, Found: 360.1201. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 4-acetyl 1-(benzyloxy)-5-methyl-1, 3-dihydro-2H-pyrrol-2-one

Following the General procedure B, 3ap (35.3 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 72% yield. Mp: 106–108 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45–7.36 (m, 5H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 3.29 (q, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.16 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  192.3, 170.4, 152.6, 133.6, 130.0, 129.6, 128.8, 108.4, 79.0, 34.9, 29.0, 11.6. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 268.0944, Found: 268.0945. IR (KBr): 3027, 2923, 2852, 1745, 1598, 1494, 1454, 1341, 1165, 1091, 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 2-amino-1-(benzyloxy)-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure B, Compound 1 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq), malononitrile (0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and  $K_2CO_3$  (82.8 mg, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 eq), NaI (0.04mmol) and THF (2 mL), the crude product was purified by a flash column chromatography (Petroleum/ EtOAc = 3: 1) to obtain **3aq** (38.4mg) as a white solid in 84% yield. Mp: 110–112 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ 

7.53 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (m, 5H), 5.02 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  169.10, 155.52, 134.22, 130.49, 129.59, 128.79, 119.29, 79.05, 43.83, 32.35. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 230.0924, Found: 230.0925. IR (KBr): 3336, 3223, 2187, 1731, 1658, 1597, 1454, 1335, 1208, 1059, 909,732, 698, 670 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(o-methylbenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3ba** (52.3 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 86% yield. Mp: 120–122 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, J = 17.2, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 3.37 (s, 2H), 2.05 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 

169.07, 156.87, 138.76, 131.35, 131.24, 130.71, 130.52, 129.86, 128.62, 128.46, 125.85, 125.57, 115.41, 79.45, 76.42, 35.32, 18.34. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 327.1104, found: 327.1101. IR (KBr): 2952, 2903, 2207, 1735, 1446, 1377, 1355, 1321, 1228, 1186, 1165, 1057, 919, 762, 748, 693cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(o-chlorobenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, 3ca (51.5 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 79% yield. Mp: 108-110  $^{\circ}$ C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.48 –

7.43 (m, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.22–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.07–7.00 (m, 1H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.11, 156.79, 135.21, 132.34, 131.24, 130.87, 130.69, 129.56, 128.59, 128.44, 126.90, 125.41, 115.49, 79.42, 75.18, 35.37. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 347.0558, found: 347.0558. IR (KBr): 3062, 2922, 2208, 1742, 1620, 1596, 1477, 1447, 1321, 1275, 1229, 1187, 1056, 910, 763, 695, 652, 606, 495, 408.cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(o-bromobenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, 3da (64.9 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 88% yield. Mp: 118–120 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.14–7.04 (m, 3H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.08, 156.75, 132.83, 132.46, 132.28, 131.19, 130.91, 128.60, 128.44, 127.49, 125.42, 125.21, 115.44, 79.49, 77.48, 35.37. HRMS ESI Calcd for

 $C_{18}H_{13}BrN_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 391.0053, found: 391.0053. IR (KBr): 2956, 2917, 2207, 1735, 1446, 1379, 1354, 1321, 1228, 1186, 1165, 1058, 1030, 755, 734, 693cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(m-flurobenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3ea** (41.9 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 68% yield. Mp: 108–110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.55 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.7 Hz, 3H), 7.49 (dd, J = 8.0, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 1H), 7.00 (tdd, J = 8.5, 2.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (ddd, J = 9.2, 2.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 3.40 (s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 169.11, 163.48, 161.51, 156.42, 134.84, 134.77, 131.67, 130.11, 130.04, 128.81, 128.57, 125.51, 125.49, 125.46, 116.83, 116.66, 116.56, 116.39, 115.31, 79.75, 77.99, 35.31. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl3) δ -112.26. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{13}FN_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 331.0853, found: 331.0853. IR (KBr): 3060, 2920, 2209, 1741, 1592, 1489, 1448, 1379, 1275, 1260, 1231, 1167, 1143, 1061, 792, 750.cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(m-methoxybenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3fa** (51.8 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 81% yield. Mp:110–112 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58–7.48 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.09 (m, 1H), 6.83 (ddd, J = 8.3, 2.6, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.56–6.48 (m, 1H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR

(125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.09, 159.52, 156.64, 133.79, 131.39, 129.46, 128.62, 128.57, 125.66, 122.22, 115.42, 115.02, 79.44, 78.65, 55.04, 35.28. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 343.1053, found: 343.1058. IR (KBr): 3055, 2950, 2830, 2207, 1735, 1597, 1491, 1447, 1378, 1355, 1267, 1229, 1187, 1052, 918, 790, 762, 693, 673, 652.cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(p-trifluoromethylbenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, 3**ga** (48 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 67% yield. Mp:106–108 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.54 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45

(t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 3.41 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.08, 156.24, 136.34, 131.60, 130.02, 128.80, 128.49, 125.47, 125.42, 125.39, 125.36, 125.34, 124.75, 115.20, 79.90, 77.91, 35.29. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.88. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 381.0821, found: 381.0821. IR (KBr):3007, 2990, 2210, 1738, 1321, 1275, 1260, 1229, 1162, 1112, 1019, 852, 827, 749, 694, 651, 910 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(p-methoxylbenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



Following the General procedure A, **3ha** (60.2 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 94% yield. Mp: 108–110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 7.48–7.42 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H),

3.37 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.13, 160.44, 156.73, 131.69, 131.41, 128.59, 125.72, 124.55, 115.53, 113.82, 79.26, 78.41, 55.21, 35.28. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 343.1053, found: 343.1055. IR (KBr): 3005, 2989, 2208, 1740, 1611, 1514, 1447, 1356, 1275, 1260, 1175, 1030, 826, 759, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(2,4-dichlorobenzyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ia)



Following the General procedure A, **3ia** (50 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 70% yield. Mp: 108-110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47 (dt, *J* = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.07, 156.63, 136.35, 135.89,

133.08, 131.40, 129.46, 129.39, 128.62, 128.43, 127.31, 125.42, 115.40, 79.68, 74.56, 35.40. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{12}Cl_2N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 381.0168, found: 381.0169. IR (KBr): 3070, 2915, 2208, 1739, 1589, 1475, 1447, 1382, 1256, 1275, 1228, 1186, 1104, 909, 869, 818, 694, 651 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(2-naphthyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ja)



Following the General procedure A, **3ja** (46.9 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 69% yield. Mp: 132–134 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.81 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 4.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.41 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 

169.19, 156.71, 133.52, 132.83, 131.45, 129.95, 129.88, 128.62, 128.58, 128.29, 128.08, 127.63, 126.92, 126.87, 126.41, 125.63, 115.42, 79.45, 79.03, 35.34. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{16}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 363.1104, found: 363.1105. IR (KBr): 3056, 2952, 2208, 1802, 1740, 1574, 1509, 1494, 1447, 1356, 1322, 1231, 1167, 1061, 949, 898, 857, 819, 762. cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-methoxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ka)



Following the General procedure A, **3ka** (36 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 84% yield. Mp: 45–47 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62–7.49 (m, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.26, 155.68, 131.79, 129.00, 128.31, 125.40, 115.39, 80.12, 64.67, 35.35. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{12}H_{10}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 237.0634, found: 237.0634. IR (KBr): 2937, 2209, 1738, 1620, 1447, 1362, 1325, 1232, 1166, 958, 942, 764, 693, 667, 653, 618 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-ethoxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3la)



Following the General procedure A, **3la** (37 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 81% yield; white solid, Mp: 81–83 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84–7.66 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.48 (m, 3H), 3.94 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (s, 2H), 1.13 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.29, 156.11, 131.73, 128.91, 128.41, 125.62, 115.51, 79.86, 73.31,

35.34, 13.08. IR: v 3005, 2989, 2207, 1738, 1447, 1357, 1324, 1275, 1261, 1232, 1166, 1065, 1015, 749, 697. HRMS Calcd. For  $C_{13}H_{12}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>:251.0791, found: 251.0791.

#### 1-tert-butyloxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ma)



Following the General procedure A, **3ma** (37.9 mg) was isolated as a colorless oil in 74% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.71–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 3.41 (s, 2H), 1.06 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.28, 158.54, 131.23, 128.98, 128.64, 127.20, 115.58, 87.82, 80.52, 35.17, 27.14. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 279.1104, found:

279.1104. IR (KBr): 2937, 2209, 1738, 1620, 1447, 1362, 1325, 1232, 1166, 958, 942, 764, 693, 667, 653, 618 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-allyloxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3na)



Following the General procedure A, **3na** (34.6 mg) was isolated as a colorless oil in 72% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.65 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 5.58 (ddt, J = 17.0, 10.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (t, J = 14.2 Hz, 2H), 4.29 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.26, 155.68, 131.79, 129.00, 128.31, 125.40, 115.39,

80.12, 64.67, 35.35. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{14}H_{12}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 263.0791, found: 263.0792. IR (KBr): 2208, 1737, 1447, 1356, 1275, 1260, 1231, 1167, 1061, 942, 749, 696, 652. cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(benzhydryloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3oa)



Following the General procedure A, **30a** (44.7 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 63% yield. Mp: 141–143 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 3.31 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 168.88, 157.26, 136.66, 131.19,

128.76, 128.51, 128.29, 128.22, 128.18, 126.08, 115.47, 88.42, 79.11, 35.22. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{24}H_{18}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 389.1260, found: 389.1262. IR (KBr): 3005, 2989, 2208, 1735, 1495, 1448, 1365, 1334, 1285, 1260, 1232, 1167, 912, 749, 696, 605 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-cyclohexyloxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3pa)



Following the General procedure A, **3pa** (47.9 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 85% yield.

Mp: 92–94 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 11 7.62–7.49 (m, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.26, 155.68, 131.79, 129.00, 128.31, 125.40, 115.39, 80.12, 64.67, 35.35. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 237.0634, found: 237.0634. IR (KBr): 2937, 2209, 1738, 1620, 1447, 1362, 1325, 1232, 1166, 958, 942, 764, 693, 667, 653, 618 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(cyclododecyloxy)- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3qa)



Following the General procedure A, **3qa** (53.4 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 73% yield. Mp: 88–90 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (dt, J = 14.4, 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.95 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (s, 2H), 1.37 (dt, J = 13.6, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (dd, J = 11.5, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.21–1.08 (m, 15H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.45, 157.21, 131.45, 128.77, 128.65, 126.11,

115.50, 85.50, 79.87, 35.29, 27.90, 24.05, 23.39, 23.25, 23.06, 20.74.HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{30}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 389.2199, found: 389.2199. IR (KBr): 3005, 2989, 2932, 2861, 2209, 1742, 1470, 1361, 1275, 1260, 1231, 1165, 896, 749, 418 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-dodecyloxy- 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4, 5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3ra)



Following the General procedure A, **3ra** (57.4 mg) was isolated as a white solid in 78% yield. Mp: 68–70 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.47 (m, 3H), 3.85 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.38 (s, 2H), 1.53–1.44 (m, 2H), 1.33–1.05 (m, 19H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.19, 156.23, 131.69, 128.86, 128.49, 125.57, 115.50, 79.83, 77.58, 35.36, 31.85, 29.55, 29.42, 29.29, 29.28,

29.02, 27.64, 25.41, 22.63, 14.07. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{23}H_{32}N_2NaO_2$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 391.2356, found: 391.2357. IR (KBr): 2922, 2852, 2209, 1743, 1466, 1447, 1360, 1324, 1275, 1260, 1231, 1185, 1165, 1064, 763, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-(3,7-dimethyloct-8-en-1-yl)oxy-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (3sa)



Following the General procedure A, **3sa** (50.7mg) was isolated as a colorless oil in 75% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (dt, *J* = 14.5, 7.0 Hz, 3H), 5.00 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.98–3.82 (m, 2H), 3.39 (s, 2H), 1.93–1.76 (m, 2H),

1.67 (s, 3H), 1.62–1.49 (m, 4H), 1.41 (dt, J = 13.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (dt, J = 14.0, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.17 (ddd, J = 15.4, 12.7, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 1.04 (dt, J = 14.1, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 0.70 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  169.16, 156.18, 131.69, 131.28, 128.86, 128.43, 125.56, 124.31, 115.46, 79.84, 75.95, 36.77, 35.34, 34.51, 28.94, 25.62, 25.17, 19.00, 17.56. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 361.1886, found: 361.1886. IR (KBr): 3005, 2963, 2915, 2208, 1740, 1447, 1379, 1359, 1275, 1260, 1229, 1164, 1063, 943, 749, 694, 652 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Gram-scale reaction and further transformations

**Gram-scale reaction:** To a round-bottom flask were added compound **1a** (15 mmol, 1.5 eq.), **2a** (10 mmol, 1.0 eq.), MeONa (160 mg, 3.0 mmol, 3.0 eq.), NaI (30 mg, 0.2 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL) under  $N_2$ , the mixture was stirred for 24h at room temperature. The reactant was filtered through celite plate, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, subsequently a solution

of *p*-TsOH (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL) was added and stirred at 40°C for 1h. After removing the solvent, the residue was purified by a flash column chromatography (Petroleum ether/ EtOAc = 5:1, V/V) to afford the product **3aa**(2.65g, 91% yield).

#### 1-benzyloxy-2-phenyl-5-(triisopropylsilyl)oxy-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (4)



To a solution of **3aa**(0.1g, 0.345mmol) in dichloromethane(5mL) was added TIPSOTf (0.158g, 0.51mmol) by syringe slowly under nitrogen. The mixture was stirred for 2h. A saturated solution of brine was added, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5mL×3). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and finally silica gel flash column chromatographed to give

product **4** (132 mg, 86% yield) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H), 1.35 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.30, 132.59, 129.89, 129.31, 129.26, 128.45, 128.36, 128.16, 127.91, 117.51, 88.91, 83.57, 80.58, 17.64, 12.18. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 447.2462, Found: 447.2464. IR (KBr): 2945, 2866, 2218, 1582, 1574, 1530, 1485, 1462, 1362, 1173, 996, 908, 845, 779, 737 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 1-benzyloxy-4-cyano-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl trifluoromethanesulfonate



At 0°C, to a solution of **3aa**(58mg, 0.2mmol) and DIPEA(51.6mg, 0.4mmol) in dichloromethane(5mL) was added (CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O (84.6mg, 0.3mmol) by syringe slowly under nitrogen. The mixture was stirred at rt for 2h. A saturated solution of brine was added, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>(5mL×3), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and finally silica gel flash column chromatographed to give

product **5** (61mg, 72% yield) as a light yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73–7.63 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.45 (m, 3H), 7.35 (dd, J = 10.9, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  133.40, 131.18, 130.30, 130.05, 129.90, 129.53, 128.99, 128.67, 128.47, 126.08, 122.41, 119.85, 117.29, 115.20, 114.73, 98.00, 85.76, 82.13. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -72.21. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 423.0621, Found: 423.0622. IR (KBr): 2959, 2227, 1569, 1524, 1434, 1371, 1246, 1216, 1131, 1115, 904, 869, 842, 792, 764 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 4-benzylidene-1-benzyloxy-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile



3aa(0.145g, 0.5mmol.) and piperydine (4.25mg, 0.05mmol) were added to a solution of benzaldehyde (63.6mg,0.6mmol) in ethanol (5 mL), and the mixture was stirred at reflux for 10 h. The mixture was concentrated under vacue, and the residue was poured into H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL), then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10mL×3), and the combined organic layers were washed with brine,

dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (Ethyl acetate/Petroleum ether= 1:4) to obtain the product (161mg, 85% yield) as a yellow solid. Mp: 124-126 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.35 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.37 (s, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.97 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  160.60, 150.30, 142.85, 133.19, 132.67, 132.45, 132.08, 131.47, 130.12, 129.36, 128.85, 128.74, 128.67, 128.47, 125.76, 123.60, 114.23,

84.04, 78.90. HRMS ESI Calcd for  $C_{25}H_{19}N_2O_2$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 379.1441, Found: 379.1442. IR (KBr): 3065, 3027, 2211, 1712, 1614, 1594, 1571, 1491, 1447, 1389, 1155, 1067, 1037, 999 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## Ethyl 3-amino-7-(benzyloxy)-2,5-dicyano-4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)-6-phenyl-4,7-Dihydro-pyrano[2,3-b]pyrrole-4-carboxylate



A solution of **3aa** (87mg. 0.3mmol), diethyl but-2-ynedioate (51mg, 0.3mmol) and malononitrile (19.8mg, 0.3mmol) in ethanol(5mL) was stirred at 50°C for 1h. After removing the solvent, H<sub>2</sub>O(10mL) was added, and extracted with EtOAc (5mL×3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (Ethyl

acetate/Petroleum ether= 1:1) to obtain the product (112mg, 71%yield) as a yellow solid. Mp: 154-156 °C.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.46–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.09–6.99 (m, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 4.84 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 2H), 4.36–4.26 (m, 2H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 40.3, 16.2 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.33, 169.13, 159.49, 133.90, 132.30, 131.82, 130.17, 129.81, 129.21, 128.70, 128.49, 128.39, 126.33, 117.62, 115.04, 94.91, 82.95, 81.81, 62.72, 61.31, 60.51, 44.89, 39.87, 14.03, 13.99. HRMS ESI Calcd. For C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 549.1745, found: 549.1746. IR (KBr): 3326, 2220, 2196, 1730, 1651, 1581, 1492, 1475, 1445, 1395, 1220, 1177, 1111, 1023, 914, 858, 749, 732, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Ethyl 1-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-4-formyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate



To pyrrolinone **3an** (55mg, 0.20 mmol) and DMF ((29.2 mg, 0.4mmol) was added POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mL, 2.2mmol)) in a dropwise manner. The mixture was heated overnight at 100 °C and then poured on ice (8 mL). After 2 h stirring the suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL×3). The organic phase was washed with brine and finally dried with sodium sulfate. The

solvents were evaporated in vacuo and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) to furnish the product **8** (44 mg, 68% yield) as brownish powder.Mp: 66-68 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.40 (s, 1H), 7.49–7.39 (m, 5H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  186.95, 163.66, 133.79, 132.26, 130.04, 129.99, 128.96, 117.94, 115.60, 108.23, 81.59, 60.54, 14.34, 10.32. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 344.0660, Found: 344.0659. IR (KBr): 2981, 2923, 1701, 1674, 1550, 1488, 1455, 1434, 1382, 1353, 1338, 1274, 1123, 1044, 1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Ethyl 2-methyl-5-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate



Under  $N_2$  atmosphere Compound **3an** (55mg, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in THF (3 mL) and then SmI<sub>2</sub> (0.1M, 6mL) was added dropwise by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12h at room temperature. After filtration through a plug of Celite, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography on silica gel

(Petroleum/EtOAc,1:1, V/V) to afford the product 9 as a pale white powder (29.5 mg, 88% yield).

Mp: 80-82 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.63 (s, 1H), 4.20 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.17, 164.12, 151.49, 104.47, 59.85, 37.50, 14.40, 13.43. HRMS ESI Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 170.0812, Found: 170.0812. IR: v 3171, 2987, 2921, 1711, 1690, 1639, 1452, 1372, 1313, 1201, 1121, 1073, 997, 755, 715 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



4. <sup>1</sup>HNMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR Spectrum for the Products



































































































































































## 5. The crystal structure data of 3aa

 Table S5. Crystal data and structure refinement for(3aa)(CCDC 2235249)

Empirical formula	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>		
Formula weight	290.31		
Temperature / K	114.85(10)		
Crystal system	monoclinic		
Space group	Cc		
a / Å, b / Å, c / Å	11.5249(9), 11.4884(10), 22.947(3)		
$\alpha/^{\circ}, \beta/^{\circ}, \gamma/^{\circ}$	90.00, 98.346(8), 90.00		
Volume / Å3	3006.1(5)		
Z	8		
$ ho_{calc}$ / mg mm <sup>-3</sup>	1.283		
$\mu / mm^{-1}$	0.085		
F(000)	1216		
Crystal size / mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.23 \times 0.23 \times 0.14$		
$2\Theta$ range for data collection	5.88 ° to 51.98 °		
	12 ch c 12 12 ch c 14 28 ch		
Index ranges	-13 2 II 2 13, -13 2 K 2 14, -20 2 I		
index ranges	< 25		
	<u> </u>		
Reflections collected	6580		
Independent reflections	4406[R(int) = 0.0462 (inf-0.9Å)]		
Data/restraints/parameters	4406/2/397		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.023		
Final R indexes [I> $2\sigma$ (I) i.e. $F_o$ > $4\sigma$ ( $F_o$ )]	$R_1 = 0.0551 \ wR_2 = 0.1118$		
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0710, wR_2 = 0.1253$		
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.205/-0.259		
Completeness	0.9968		





## 6. The crystal structure data of 7

Table S6. Crystal data and structure refinement for(7)(CCDC 2267290)			
Empirical formula	$C_{29}H_{26}N_4O_6$		
Formula weight	526.54		
Temperature / K	118.25(10)		
Crystal system	triclinic		
Space group	P-1		
a / Å, b / Å, c / Å	8.3944(5), 10.9479(8), 15.5175(9)		
$\alpha/^{\circ},  \beta/^{\circ},  \gamma/^{\circ}$	76.896(6), 86.581(5), 70.851(6)		
Volume / Å3	1311.91(14)		
Z	2		
$ ho_{calc}$ / mg mm <sup>-3</sup>	1.333		
$\mu / mm^{-1}$	0.095		
F(000)	552		
Crystal size / mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.35 \times 0.33 \times 0.11$		
$2\Theta$ range for data collection	5.84 ° to 52 °		
Index ranges	$-7 \le h \le 10, -9 \le k \le 13, -19 \le l \le 19$		
Reflections collected	9361		
Independent reflections	5020[R(int) = 0.0534]		
Data/restraints/parameters	5020/2/354		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.021		
Final R indexes [I> $2\sigma$ (I) i.e. $F_o$ > $4\sigma$ ( $F_o$ )]	$R_1 = 0.0764, wR_2 = 0.1665$		
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1261, wR_2 = 0.2052$		
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.699/-0.334		
Completeness	0.9981		



