Synthesis of 5-(Pyrazol-4-yl) Pentanoic Acids and 4-(Pyrazol-4-yl) Butanoic Acids via a Cascade Annulation/Ring-Opening Reaction between Hydrazone and Dienone

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1. General information and procedures

Unless otherwise stated, all reactions were carried out in a 25 mL round-bottom flask. All the reagents were bought from commercial suppliers and used without additional purification. The crude reaction mixture was purified by silica gel (100-200 mesh) column chromatography using a pet ether-ethyl acetate solvent mixture as the eluent. The isolated compounds were characterized by ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy, Infrared spectroscopy, and High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS).

Melting points of the solid samples were determined using the Stuart melting point apparatus. Other characterizations such as ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃/ DMSO-*d*₆ on Bruker AscendTM 400 MHz spectrometer with tetramethyl silane (TMS; δ H = 0 ppm) as an internal standard and chemical shifts were reported in ppm relative to TMS. The resonance multiplicity is described as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), m (multiplet), dd (doublet of doublets), and q (quartet). Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra using ATR technique on a Bruker Alpha 400 FTIR spectrometer equipped with silicon carbide as an IR source and only intense peaks were reported. HRMS were recorded on a Waters-Xevo G2-XS-QtoF and The ACQUITYTM UPLCTM H-Class PLUS Bio system mass spectrometer using the ESI method with an orbitrap mass analyzer.

1.1 General procedure for the synthesis of hydrazones:



Scheme S1. Synthesis of hydrazone

Phenyl hydrazine (1.08 g, 1 equiv.) in ethanol (10 mL), was stirred in a round bottom flask at room temperature. To the stirring solution, the corresponding aldehyde (1.06 g, 10 mmol) was added (solid aldehyde was added portion-wise and liquid aldehyde dropwise) and stirred the mixture for about 8-20 hours (depending on the electronic nature of aldehydes). The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was poured into ice-cold water. The precipitate formed was filtered off and washed with ice-cold water, followed by a pet ether. The solid mass obtained was dissolved in

dichloromethane and dried using Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated under a vacuum and the obtained product was used for all other reactions.

1.2 General procedure for the synthesis of dienone:

NaOH (2.0 g, 5 equiv.) in 10 mL water was added dropwise to 20 mL of ethanol in a round bottom flask followed by cyclohexanone (981mg, 10 mmol) and the benzaldehyde (2.12 g, 20.0 mmol) (solid aldehyde was added portion-wise and liquid aldehyde dropwise). The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was poured into ice-cold water. The precipitate formed was filtered off and washed with ice-cold water, followed by a pet ether. The solid mass obtained was dissolved in dichloromethane and dried using Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated under a vacuum and the obtained product was used for all other reactions.



Scheme S2. Synthesis of dienone

1.3 Mechanistic Investigations



Scheme S3. Pilot experiment between 1a and 2a

To an oven-dried 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,6-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclohexan-1-one, **2a** (0.5 mmol) and CuCl₂·2H₂O (0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 5 mL of acetonitrile solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC as shown below. After 9h, the reaction predominantly yielded the 7-benzylidene-1,3,4triphenyl-2,3-diazaspiro [4.5] dec-1-en-6-one derivative, **3'aa** as shown below. After 20h, the TLC showed a mixture of both 2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid, **3aa** and the 7-benzylidene-1,3,4-triphenyl-2,3-diazaspiro [4.5] dec-1-en-6-one derivatives, **3'aa**. After 28h, the reaction exclusively offered only the 2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid derivative, **3aa** (Fig 1). The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2) as eluent.





The spiro pyrazoline intermediate (**3'aa**) formed was characterized exclusively by ¹H,¹³C, DEPT-135 NMR analysis, (pages S24, S25, and S26) and mass spectrometry, and the observed chemical shift value of the spiro carbon (δ =66.4 ppm) suggested the formation of an all-carbon-bonded spiro carbon (Figure 2) in contrast to the previously reported spiro pyrazolines with hydrazonoyl chlorides (Figure 3) where one bond of the spiro carbon was a C-N bond with a δ value of 80 ppm. The chemical shift value of the benzylic H close to the spiro centre, δ = 5.5 ppm, also validates the proposed structure. Finally, the structure of **3aa** was confirmed unambiguously by single-crystal X-ray analysis.



Figure 2: ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shift value of spiro compound **3'aa** obtained with hydrazone



Figure 3: ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shift values of the other regio- isomer of the spiropyrazoline reported with hydrazonoyl chloride.^{S3}

The progress of the reaction between **1a** and **2a** under the optimized conditions was followed by live HRMS recording. A portion of the reaction mixture was withdrawn halfway through the reaction, that is, after 14h, and subjected to HRMS analysis, which clearly confirmed that the spiro pyrazoline, **3'aa**, and the ring-opened pyrazolyl pentanoic acid, **3aa**, coexist in the reaction mixture (figures 4,5,6). However, on prolonged heating, after 28h, the reaction afforded only **3aa** exclusively. We also isolated the spiro pyrazoline intermediate via column chromatography and characterized it exclusively using ¹H, ¹³C, DEPT-135, and HRMS spectra. Please refer the spectra session for details.



Figure 4: HRMS Data of reaction mixture between 1a and 2a



Figure 5: HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O 469.2274; found 469.2274.



Figure 6: HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O₂ 485.2224; found 485.2226.

1.4 Single Crystal X-ray Data of the Compound 3ab:

Compound 3ab:



Figure 7: ORTEP diagram of molecule **3ab**. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

Table 1. Sample and crystal data.			
Identification code	3ab		
Chemical formula	$C_{35}H_{32}N_2O_4$		
Formula weight	544.62 g/mol		
Temperature	299(2) К		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal size	0.111 x 0.178 x 0.230 mm		
Crystal habit	white block		
Crystal system	triclinic		
Space group	P -1		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.7430(5) Å	$\alpha=74.888(2)^\circ$	
	b = 11.8023(6) Å	$\beta=83.416(2)^\circ$	
	c = 15.3997(8) Å	$\gamma=74.210(2)^\circ$	
Volume	1474.58(14) ų		

Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.227 g/cm ³
Absorption coefficient	0.080 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	576

Table 2. Data collection and structure refinement.

Theta range for data collection	2.02 to 28.35°		
Index ranges Reflections collected Independent reflections	-11<=h<=11, -15<=k<=15, -20<=l<=20 36504 7347 [R(int) = 0.0616]		
Coverage of independent reflections	99.7%		
Absorption correction	Multi-Scan		
Max. and min. transmission	0.9910 and 0.9820		
Structure solution technique	direct methods		
Structure solution program	XT, VERSION 2018/2		
Refinement method Refinement program Function minimized	Full-matrix least-sc SHELXL-2019/1 (Sh Σ w (F _o ² - F _c ²)²	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2 SHELXL-2019/1 (Sheldrick, 2019) Σ w ($F_o^2 - F_c^2$) ²	
Data/restraints/parameters	7347 / 0 / 375		
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.030		
Final R indices	3367 data; I>2σ(I)	R1 = 0.0700, wR2 = 0.1744	
	all data	R1 = 0.1599, wR2 = 0.2343	
eighting scheme $w=1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0925P)^2 + 0.4470P]$ where $P=(F_o^2+2F_c^2)/3$		925P) ² +0.4470P] /3	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.368 and -0.293 eÅ ⁻³		
R.M.S. deviation from mean	0.038 eÅ ⁻³		

1.5 General procedure for the synthesis of pyrazole acid derivatives:

To an oven-dried 25 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, hydrazones (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), cyclic dienones (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) and $CuCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (0.25

mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added, followed by 5 mL of acetonitrile. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C in an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. After 28 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was extracted with ethyl acetate and concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (100-200 mesh) using petether- ethyl acetate as eluent (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2).

1.6 Characterization data of all the newly synthesized compounds



2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)

pentanoic acid (3aa) : Yield: 184.2 mg, 76%; yellow solid; mp: 126-128 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2951, 2847, 1670, 1494, 1360, 1264, 1155, 758 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.76-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.38-7.32 (m, 5H), 7.29-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.63 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.26-2.22 (m,

2H, CH₂), 1.61-1.52 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.3(C=O), , 150.2, 142.0, 140.1, 138.1, 135.6, 134.1, 133.6, 130.7, 130.3, 129.3, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 127.8, 127.8, 127.5, 125.0, 118.8, 30.2(CH₂), 27.4(CH₂), 23.9(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O₂ 485.2224; found 485.2226.



(E)-7-benzylidene-1,3,4-triphenyl-2,3-

diazaspiro[4.5]dec-1-en-6-one (3'aa) : Yield: 113.2 mg, 48%; yellow solid; mp: 120-122 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2954, 2922, 1670, 1595, 1496, 1255, 1157, 758 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 6H),

7.14 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (s, 1H,HC-N), 2.95-2.81 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.14-2.06 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.34 (m, 1H), 0.87-0.81 (m, 1H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 199.9(C=O), , 150.6, 143.9, 138.1, 135.5, 135.0, 134.8, 130.6, 130.5, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 126.6, 119.6, 114.5, 74.7, 66.4(Spiro Carbon), 27.5(CH₂), 27.2(CH₂), 19.3(CH₂); **DEPT 135** ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ = 138.6, 131.1, 129.8, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 129.0, 128.5,

127.7, 120.1, 115.0, 75.2, 28.(CH₂), 27.7(CH₂), 19.8(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O 469.2274; found 469.2274.



2-benzylidene-5-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1Hpyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid (3ba) : Yield: 212.3 mg, 82%; yellow solid; mp: 168-170 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2953, 2834, 1673, 1612, 1494, 1247, 1024, 761 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 1H, allylic CH), 7.41-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 5H), 7.17-7.14

(m, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.8 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.63-2.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.25-2.21 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.60-1.54 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.3(C=O), 159.3, 150.1, 141.8, 140.1, 138.1, 135.6, 133.6, 130.7, 130.3, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.9, 127.3, 126.5, 124.8, 118.4, 114.4, 55.5(OCH₃), 30.2(CH₂), 27.3(CH₂), 23.8(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₃ 515.2329; found 515.2330.



2-benzylidene-5-(1,5-diphenyl-3-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)pentanoic acid (3ca) : Yield: 199.4 mg, 80%; yellow solid; mp: 132-134 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3055, 2923, 1669, 1495, 1360, 1265, 967, 762 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H, allylic CH), 7.42-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 2H), 2.65-2.62 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.36 (s,

3H, CH₃), 2.26-2.20 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.61-1.53 (m, 2H, CH₂); ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_{6}) δ 169.3(C=O), 150.2, 141.9, 140.1, 138.1, 137.4, 135.6, 133.6, 131.2, 130.7, 130.3, 129.6, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.9, 127.7, 127.4, 124.8, 118.6, 30.2(CH₂), 27.3(CH₂), 23.9(CH₂), 21.3(CH₃); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₂ 499.2380; found 499.2384.



2-benzylidene-5-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1H-

pyrazol-4-yl)pentanoic acid (3da) : Yield: 179.4 mg, 71%; yellow solid; mp: 136-138 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2922, 1667, 1597, 1496, 1262, 1184, 967, 760 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.80-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H, allylic CH), 7.42-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 6H), 7.307.26 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.15 (m, 2H), 2.65-2.61 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.26-2.22 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.59-1.53 (m, 2H, CH₂); ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_{6}) δ 169.3(C=O), 162.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 243.1 Hz), 149.4, 142.1, 140.0, 138.2, 135.6, 130.6, 130.5, 130.3, 129.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 129.3, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.9, 127.5, 124.9, 118.6, 115.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.0 Hz), 30.1(CH₂), 27.3(CH₂), 23.7(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₈FN₂O₂ 503.2129; found 503.2129.



2-benzylidene-5-(3-(4-bromophenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pentanoic acid (3ea) : Yield: 198.1 mg, 66%; yellow solid; mp: 150-152 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2951, 2916, 1672, 1593, 1494, 1359, 1247, 757 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.73-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.47 (s, 1H, allylic CH), 7.42-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 5H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.17-7.15 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.62 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.26-2.22 (m, 2H, CH₂),

1.60-1.52 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 168.2(C=O), 147.9, 141.2, 138.9, 137.1, 134.5, 132.5, 132.2, 130.9, 129.37, 130.9, 129.3, 129.3, 129.3, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 126.5, 123.8, 120.4, 117.7, 29.0(CH₂), 26.2(CH₂), 22.7(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₈BrN₂O₂ 563.1329; found 563.1335.



2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-5-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pentanoic acid (3ab): Yield: 212.6 mg, 78%; white solid; mp: 190-192 °C; IR (ATR): $v_{max} = 2952$, 2954, 1671, 1598, 1495, 1247, 1024, 761 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.3 (s, 1H, OH), 7.75 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.12

(m, 4H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.68-2.64 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.28-2.24 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.60-1.52 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.6(C=O), 159.8, 159.7, 150.1, 141.3, 140.2, 137.8, 134.2, 131.7, 131.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 124.8, 122.6, 118.7, 114.6, 114.4, 55.6(OCH₃), 55.5(OCH₃), 30.1(CH₂), 27.3(CH₂), 23.9(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₅H₃₃N₂O₄ 545.2435; found 545.2438.



5-(1,3-diphenyl-5-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2-(4-

methylbenzylidene)pentanoic acid (3ac): Yield: 182.6 mg, 71%; yellow solid; mp: 158-160 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2953, 2921, 1670, 1595, 1496, 1265, 1157, 758 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 1H, Allylic CH), 7.37-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 8H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 2H), 2.63-2.59 (m, 2H, CH₂),

2.51 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.25-2.21 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.56-1.49 (m, 2H, CH₂); ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.2(C=O), 163.4, 163.7, 161.26, 161.0, 150.2, 141.0, 139.9, 137.5, 137.0, 133.5, 132.7, 132.6, 132.1, 132.1, 131.6, 131.2, 129.6, 129.3, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0, 124.9, 118.8, 116.3, 116.1, 115.9, 115.7, 34.6(CH₂), 29.9(CH₂), 27.1(CH₂), 23.8(CH₃), 21.3(CH₃); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₅H₃₂N₂NaO₂ 535.2356; found 535.2347.



2-(4-fluorobenzylidene)-5-(5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pentanoic acid (3ad): Yield: 178.2 mg, 68%; yellow solid; mp: 173-175 °C; IR (ATR): $v_{max} = 2958, 2917, 1670, 1496, 1279, 1159, 929, 760 \text{ cm}^-$ ¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.49 (s, 1H, OH), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 6H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 2H),

2.64-2.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.25-2.21 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.56-1.50 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 168.7(C=O), 162.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 244.7 Hz), 161.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 245.2 Hz), 149.7, 140.6, 139.4, 136.6, 133.5, 133.0, 132.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.3 Hz), 131.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.2 Hz), 131.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.3 Hz), 128.8, 128.6, 127.8, 127.3, 127.1, 126.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.9 Hz), 124.5, 118.4, 115.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.2 Hz), 115.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.1 Hz), 29.5(CH₂), 26.6(CH₂), 23.3(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₇F₂ N₂O₂ 521.2035; found 521.2062.



2-benzylidene-5-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(4-

methoxyphenyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pentanoic

acid (3fa) : Yield: 160.1 mg, 54%; yellow solid; mp: 162-164 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3057, 2936, 1680, 1612, 1572, 1248, 1293, 830 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.46 (s, 1H, OH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H),

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7.46-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.13 (m, 6H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.62-2.58 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.24-2.20 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.59-1.51 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 168.8(C=O), 158.9, 150.0, 141.4, 138.8, 137.6, 135.1, 133.1, 131.7, 129.9, 129.8, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.4. 126.0, 125.7, 119.5, 118.4, 114.0, 55.0(OCH₃), 29.6(CH₂), 26.8(CH₂), 23.3(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₀BrN₂O₃ 593.1434; found 593.1431.



2-benzylidene-4-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) butanoic acid (5aa): Yield: 169.2 mg, 72%; yellow solid; mp: 168-170 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3063, 2948, 1670, 1494, 1358, 1277, 1232, 759 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.5 (s, 1H, OH), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.38 (m, 7H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 4H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.88-2.84 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.53-2.48 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.3(C=O), 150.4, 142.1, 140.1,

138.8, 135.4, 133.9, 133.0, 130.5, 130.4, 129.2, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.5, 126.5, 125.0, 118.6, 118.3, 28.6(CH₂), 23.4(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: $[M+H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{27}N_2O_2$ 471.2067; found 471.2067.



2-benzylidene-4-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1Hpyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5ba): Yield: 193.0 mg, 77%; yellow solid; mp: 188-190 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2951, 2831, 1675, 1493, 1274, 1183, 758, 698 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.5 (s, 1H, OH), 7.56-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H, Allylic CH), 7.44-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J*

= 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.82-2.79 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.53-2.48 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.3(C=O), 159.3, 150.6, 150.2, 141.9, 140.1, 138.8, 135.4, 133.0, 129.45, 129.42, 129.25, 129.21, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 126.4, 125.0, 118.3, 118.0, 114.3, 55.5(OCH₃), 28.5(CH₂), 23.4(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O₃ 501.2173;



found 501.2333.

2-benzylidene-4-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5ca): Yield: 189.2 mg, 78%; yellow solid; mp: 154-156 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3060, 2926, 1681, 1628, 1448, 1315, 1211, 824 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.5 (s, 1H, OH), 7.70 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 1H, Allylic CH), 7.42-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 5H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.85-2.81 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.51-2.47 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.36 (s, 3H,CH₃); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 168.8(C=O), 149.9, 141.5, 139.6, 138.3, 136.8, 134.9, 132.6, 130.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.1, 127.5, 126.9, 124.5, 117.7, 28.1(CH₂), 22.9(CH₂), 20.8(OCH₃); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₉N₂O₂ 485.2224; found 485.2336.



(Z)-2-benzylidene-4-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1H-

pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5da): Yield: 168.2mg, 69%; yellow solid; mp: 174-176 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3054, 2940, 1678, 1595, 1498, 1444, 1155, 838 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.50 (s, 1H, OH), 7.85-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H, Allylic CH), 7.42-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.34-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 5H), 7.19-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.85-2.81 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.48-2.46 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.3(C=O), 162.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 242.9 Hz), 149.6, 142.1, 140.0, 138.9, 135.4, 132.9, 130.5, 130.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.0 Hz), 130.3, 130.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0Hz), 129.5, 129.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.5, 126.5, 125.0, 118.2, 115.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.1 Hz), 28.9(CH₂), 23.2(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺

calcd for C₃₂H₂₆FN₂O₂ 489.1973; found 489.1974.

2-benzylidene-4-(3-(4-bromophenyl)-1,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5ea): Yield: 184.6 mg, 67%; yellow solid; mp: 204-206 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3053, 2952, 1672, 1594, 1495, 1447, 1157, 830 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.55 (s, 1H, OH), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 1H, Allylic CH), 7.43-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.85-2.81 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.49-2.46 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 168.8(C=O), 148.7, 141.9, 139.5, 139.5, 138.5, 134.9, 132.6, 132.3, 131.3, 130.0, 129.7, 129.6, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.1, 124.6, 121.0, 117.8, 28.0(CH₂), 22.8(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₂H₂₆BrN₂O₂ 549.1172; found 549.1174.



2-benzylidene-4-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-5-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5fa): Yield: 165.1 mg, 58%; yellow solid; mp: 188-190 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3056, 2979, 1680, 1590, 1493, 1412, 1265, 824 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO*d*₆) δ 12.50 (s, 1H, OH), 7.70-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.19-7.11 (m, 4H), 7.02-6.99 (m, 2H), 2.84-2.79 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.48-2.44 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ

169.3(C=O), 150.8, 142.0, 139.3, 138.8, 137.4, 135.4, 133.0, 132.1, 130.8, 130.5, 130.1, 129.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 129.6, 128.0, 126.7, 120.1, 118.6, 28.5(CH₂), 23.4(CH₂), 21.3(CH₃); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₃H₂₈BrN₂O₂ 563.1329; found 563.1461.



4-(1,3-diphenyl-5-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2-(4-

methylbenzylidene)butanoic acid (5ac): Yield: 198.0 mg, 84%; yellow solid; mp: 212-214 °C; IR (ATR): v_{max} = 2956, 2925, 1670, 1495, 1449, 1270, 831, 760 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSOd₆) δ 12.4 (s, 1H, OH), 7.84 (d, *J* = 6.7Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H,), 7.22-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.98-6.91 (m, 4H), 2.84-2.80 (m, 2H, CH₂), 253-

2.51 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.35 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 168.4(C=O), 149.2, 141.1, 139.1, 137.7, 137.2, 137.2, 132.9, 131.4, 131.0, 129.3(2C), 128.7(2C), 128.4(2C), 128.19(2C), 128.16(2C), 127.7(2C), 127.1(2C), 127.0, 126.4, 126.3, 124.0(2C), 117.1, 27.6(CH₂), 22.3(CH₂), 20.3(CH₃), 20.2(CH₃); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₂ 499.2380; found 499.2384.



2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-4-(5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5ab): Yield: 212.0 mg, 80%; yellow solid; mp: 218-220 °C; FT-IR (ATR): v_{max} = 3018, 2947, 1674, 1495, 1419, 1240, 1156, 756 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.41 (s, 1H, OH), 7.86 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 4H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H, CH₃),

3.76 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.85-2.81 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.54-2.52 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz,

DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.2(C=O), 159.2, 159.2, 149.8, 141.6, 139.7, 138.0, 133.5, 131.5, 130.6, 130.1, 128.7, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 126.9, 124.5, 122.0, 117.7, 114.1, 113.9, 55.1(OCH₃), 55.0(OCH₃), 28.3(CH₂), 22.9(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₄ 531.2278; found 531.2292.



2-benzylidene-4-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-3,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)butanoic acid (5fa): Yield: 154.1 mg, 56%; yellow solid; mp: 176-178 °C; IR (ATR): *ν*_{max} = 3064, 1682, 1598, 1554, 1505, 1453, 1156, 839 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.60 (s, 1H, OH), 7.78 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.10- 7.06 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.78 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.47-2.44 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C{¹H} NMR

(100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.1(C=O), 163.7, 161.2, 150.3, 141.2, 139.9, 137.8, 133.8, 132.9, 132.8, 131.3, 131.2, 129.3, 128.9, 128.1, 125.1, 118.4, 116.2, 116.0, 115.9, 115.6, 28.3(CH₂), 23.2(CH₂); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₃₂H₂₆BrN₂O₂ 549.1172; found 549.1174.

1.7. Procedure for control experiments (Scheme 5 in the manuscript)

Reaction 1.



To an oven-dried 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,6-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclohexan-1-one, **2a** (0.5 mmol) and CuCl₂ anhydrous (0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 5 mL of acetonitrile solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. After 28h, the reaction predominantly yielded the spiro pyrazoline derivative, **3'aa** as shown in (scheme 5). The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 9:1) as eluent.

Reaction 2.



To an oven-dried 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1-benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (0.30 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,6-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclohexan-1-one, **2a** (0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and CuCl₂ Anhydrous (0.125 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 2.5 mL of acetonitrile and 0.5 mL H₂O as solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC and the reaction exclusively offered only the 2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid derivative, **3aa**. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2) as eluent.





To an oven-dried 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1-benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,6-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclohexan-1-one, **2a** (0.5 mmol) and CuCl₂·2H₂O (0.25 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 5 mL of acetonitrile solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an Argon atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC, and the reaction exclusively offered only the 2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid derivative, **3aa**. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2) as eluent, and the reaction yield was low (25%) under argon.

1.8 Procedure for Gram-scale synthesis

2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid (3aa):

To an oven-dried 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1-benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (863 mg, 4.44 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,6-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclohexan-1one, **2a** (670 mg, 3.7 mmol, 1 equiv.) and CuCl₂·2H₂O (316 mg, 1.85 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 20 mL of acetonitrile solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC and after 28h, the reaction exclusively offered only the 2-benzylidene-5-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) pentanoic acid, **3aa** (Scheme 4 in the manuscript). The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2) as eluent to afford **3aa** in 56% yield, 1.001 gm.

2-benzylidene-4-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) butanoic acid (5aa):

To an oven-dried 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, 1-benzylidene-2-phenylhydrazine, **1a** (1000 mg, 5.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv.), 2,5-di((E)-benzylidene) cyclopentan-1-one, **4a** (1093.42 mg, 4.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and CuCl₂·2H₂O (375 mg, 2.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv.) were weighed and added followed by 20 mL of acetonitrile solvent. The reaction vessel was stirred in an oil bath at 80 °C under an oxygen atmosphere. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC and after 28h, the reaction exclusively offered only the 2-benzylidene-4-(1,3,5-triphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl) butanoic acid, **5aa** (Scheme 4). The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic layer was concentrated, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using pet ether-ethyl acetate (hexane/EtOAc, 8:2) as eluent. (1.205 gm, Yield= 61%)

1.9 References:

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2.0 ¹H and ¹³C {¹H} NMR spectra of new compounds

¹H NMR of cyclopentanone dienone compound in CDCl₃



¹H NMR of cyclopentanone dienone compound in CDCl₃



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3aa in DMSO-*d*₆



D₂O exchange ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3aa in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3aa in DMSO- d_6



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3'aa in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3'aa in DMSO-d₆



DEPT 135 ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 3'aa in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ba in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ba in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ca in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ca in DMSO-d₆





¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3da in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3da in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ea in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ea in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ab in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ab in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ac in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ac in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3ad in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3ad in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3fa in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 3fa in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5aa in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5aa in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ba in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ba in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ca in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ca in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5da in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5da in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ea in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ea in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 3fa in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} spectrum NMR of compound 5fa in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ga in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ga in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ab in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ab in DMSO-d₆



¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5ac in DMSO-d₆



¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of compound 5ac in DMSO-d₆

