# Copper-Catalyzed Annulation of<br/>with 2-Ethynylanilines: The Direct Synthesis of<br/>C2-Functionalized Indoles

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## Supporting Information

#### I General Information

All experiments were reacted under an atmosphere of nitrogen unless otherwise indicated. Flasks were all flamed and cooled before use. All solvents were dried before use. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were reported on a Brucker 400 MHz, 500 MHz spectrometer. Melting points were determined on a SGW X-4B melting point apparatus. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were performed on Agilent G6230A mass spectrometer.

Solid and liquid anilines were purchased from Aladdin, and they were sublimed or distilled before use.

### **II** A) Preparation of the diazoacetates<sup>1</sup>

All  $\alpha$ -diazoacetates were prepared by the same procedure in the literature.

#### **B)** Preparation of the 2-ethynylaniline substrates

The following synthesis procedure is the general procedure used to prepare all substrates.



To a solution of 2-iodoaniline (3.30 g, 15.00 mmol),  $Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl_2$  (210 mg, 0.30 mmol), CuI (114 mg, 0.60 mmol) in diethylamine (10 ml) was added a solution of trimethylsilylacetylene (2.94 g, 30.00 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for about 2 hours. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was quenched with sat.NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> twice. The organic layers were combined, washed with brine once, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified via column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 40: 1) to get the final product as oil (2.30 g, 81.0%).



To a solution of 2-trimethylsilanylethynyl-phenylamine (2.30 g, 12.16 mmol) and potassium carbonate (3.36 g, 24.33 mmol) in MeOH (15 mL) was stirred at room temperature for about 2 hours. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The organic layers were separated, combined, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified via column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20: 1) to give the final compound as oil (1.34 g, 94.1%).



To a mixture of 2-ethynyl-phenylamine (1.34 g, 11.45 mmol), triethylamine (1.75 g, 17.30 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (10 mL) was added acetyl chloride (0.99 g, 12.7 mmol) at room temperature for 1.5 hours. The reaction mixture was washed with water, extracted with ethyl acetate twice. The organic layers were separated, washed with brine twice, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporated in vacuo. The crude product was purified via column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10: 1) to get the final amide as a white solid (1.60 g, 88.0%).

#### Data for the substrates



*N*-(2-Ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide<sup>2</sup>: Yield: 63.5%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H);



*N*-(4-Chloro-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 71.2%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, 1H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 3.55 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  168.3, 138.3, 131.6, 130.3, 128.1, 120.6, 112.0, 85.4, 78.0, 24.9;



*N*-(4-Fluoro-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide<sup>3</sup>: Yield: 50.4%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.38-8.35 (m, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.05 (m, 1H), 3.54 (s, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H).



*N*-(4-Cyano-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 48.3%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.6, 143.1, 135.9, 133.9, 119.4, 117.9, 111.2, 106.8, 100.0, 86.6, 25.0.



*N*-(4-Carboxylic acid methyl ester-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 62.5%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.5, 165.8, 143.2, 133.8, 131.7, 124.9, 118.5, 110.3, 85.2, 78.3, 52.2, 25.0.



N-(4-Methyl-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide<sup>3</sup>: Yield: 51.8%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm)
8.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H).



*N*-(3-Methyl-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 62.0%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.24 (d, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3, 141.2, 139.8, 129.5, 128.6, 124.5, 116.5, 88.4, 78.2, 25.0, 21.0.



*N*-(5-Methyl-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 58%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.3, 140.9, 139.5, 131.9, 124.3, 119.9, 107.6, 83.7, 79.5, 24.9, 22.0.



*N*-(5-Methoxy-2-ethynyl-phenyl)-acetamide: Yield: 60%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.4, 161.1, 141.2, 133.1, 110.2, 104.3, 102.4, 83.2, 79.5, 55.5, 25.0.



*N*-(2-Ethynyl-phenyl)-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide<sup>4</sup>: Yield: 75%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.03-6.99 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H).

# III General Procedure for the CuI catalyzed synthesis of C2-substituted indoles



To a Schlenk tube was added 2-ethynyl-phenylamine (1.0 mmol), CuI (0.05 mmol) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then the diazoacetate (1.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mL) was added into the system and the whole solution was stirred at 60 °C for 4 hours. The completion of the reaction was monitored by TLC analysis. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to give the desired C2-substituted indole product.

#### Data for the product



**Methyl 2-(1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate<sup>1</sup>:** Red oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 50%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.72 (br, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 6H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.4, 137.4, 136.3, 134.5, 128.8, 128.0, 127.8, 121.9, 120.4, 119.9, 111.0, 102.2, 52.7, 50.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 288.1178, found: 288.1175.



Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1H-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: White solid (Flash column chromatography

eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), mp 99-101 °C, yield: 72%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.1, 170.8, 140.4, 136.7, 136.0, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 127.9, 124.2, 123.1, 121.4, 114.2, 112.6, 53.3, 52.4, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 330.1089, found: 330.1097.



Methyl 2-(1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 70%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 6H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.8, 144.9, 138.6, 137.1, 136.6, 135.9, 129.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.0, 126.6, 124.8, 123.6, 121.0, 114.8, 112.9, 52.7, 51.1, 21.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 442.1082, found: 442.1078.



Methyl 2-(1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 54%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.1, 150.9, 139.0, 136.9, 136.6, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 127.8, 124.1, 122.7, 120.5, 115.7, 111.2, 84.5, 52.7, 52.4, 28.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 388.1508, found: 388.1513.



Methyl 2-(5-methyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), yield: 73%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.8, 144.7, 138.5, 136.5, 135.9, 135.3, 133.2, 129.7, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.9, 126.6, 126.1, 120.8, 114.5, 112.7, 52.7, 51.0, 21.5, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 456.1231, found: 456.1237.



**Methyl 2-(5-chloro-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 112-114 °C, yield: 62%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.9, 170.5, 141.9, 136.3, 134.4, 130.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 128.1, 124.2, 120.9, 115.1, 111.8, 53.3, 52.5, 27.5; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 364.0701, found: m/z 364.0705.



**Methyl 2-(5-fluoro-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 122-123 °C, yield: 55%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.58-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 7.03-6.98 (m, 1H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.0, 170.5, 160.2, 158.3, 142.1, 136.4, 132.4, 130.8, 130.7, 129.1, 129.0, 128.0, 115.1, 115.0, 112.3, 111.90, 111.7, 106.9, 106.8, 53.3, 52.5, 27.5; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 348.1005, found: 348.1002.



**Methyl 2-(5-cyano-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1), mp 129-131 °C, yield: 45% ; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.7, 170.6, 142.9, 137.8, 136.0, 129.6, 129.1, 129.0, 128.3, 127.3, 125.9, 119.3, 114.8, 111.8, 106.6, 53.1, 52.6, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 355.1048, found: 355.1052.



Methyl 2-(5-carboxylic acid methyl ester-1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1), mp 143-145 °C, yield: 45%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 5H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.85 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.0, 170.8, 167.0, 141.8, 138.6, 136.3, 129.4, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 125.5, 125.1, 123.5, 113.8, 112.7, 53.2, 52.5, 52.1, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 388.1147, found: 388.1153.



**Methyl 2-(5-methyl-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1), mp 160-161 °C, yield: 79%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.19 (br, 1H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.2, 170.7, 140.4, 136.8, 134.3, 132.7, 129.9, 129.2, 128.9, 127.9, 125.5, 121.3, 113.9, 112.4, 53.4, 52.4, 27.5, 21.0; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 344.1248, found: 344.1255.



**Methyl 2-(4-methyl-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 122-123 °C, yield: 82%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.47-7.36 (m, 6H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.3, 171.0, 139.6, 136.7, 135.9, 130.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 127.9, 124.2, 123.6, 111.7, 110.7, 53.3, 52.4, 27.6, 18.4; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 344.1246, found: 344.1253.



**Methyl 2-(6-methyl-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 108-110 °C, yield: 83%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.43-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.2, 170.9, 139.7, 136.8, 136.5, 134.1, 129.1, 128.8, 127.8, 127.4, 124.4, 120.9, 114.6, 112.4, 53.3, 52.4, 27.7, 22.3; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 344.1247, found: 344.1256.



**Methyl 2-(6-methoxy-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 110-111 °C, yield: 76%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.44-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.3, 170.8, 157.5, 139.2, 137.0, 136.8, 129.1, 128.9, 127.9, 123.7, 121.7, 112.3, 110.3, 100.9, 55.9, 53.3, 52.4, 27.5; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> ([M +

Na]<sup>+</sup>) 360.1198, found: 360.1202.



**Methyl 2-(1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-p-tolylacetate<sup>1</sup>:** Red oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 53%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.71 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.16-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.5, 137.6, 136.3, 134.7, 134.4, 129.5, 128.1, 127.9, 121.9, 120.4, 119.9, 111.0, 102.1, 52.7, 50.3, 21.0; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 302.1335, found: 302.1331.



Methyl 2-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetate<sup>1</sup>: Red oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 58%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 8.71 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.6, 159.1, 136.3, 134.9, 129.5, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 121.9, 120.3, 119.9, 114.2, 111.0, 102.0, 55.3, 52.6, 49.8; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{17}NNaO_3([M + Na]^+)$  318.1286, found: 318.1283.



**Methyl 2-(1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)acetate<sup>1</sup>:** Red oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 61%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.69 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.18-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.0, 136.3, 135.9, 133.9, 133.7, 129.4, 128.9, 128.0, 122.1, 120.4, 120.0, 111.0, 102.4, 52.8, 49.9; HRMS (ESI)

exact mass calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{14}CINNaO_2([M + Na]^+)$  322.0789, found: 322.0785.



**Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1), mp 115-116 °C, yield: 80%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 4H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.8, 170.8, 139.7, 136.0, 135.2, 133.9, 130.5, 129.5, 129.1, 124.4, 123.2, 121.5, 114.2, 112.5, 52.6, 52.5, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 364.0702, found: 364.0709.



**Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1), mp 90-92 °C, yield: 78%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.20 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.4, 170.8, 159.3, 140.8, 136.1, 130.2, 129.7, 128.7, 124.2, 123.1, 121.4, 114.3, 114.2, 112.5, 55.3, 52.5, 52.4, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 360.1199, found: 360.1204.



**Methyl 2-(1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate:** Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 73%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H)

1H), 7.25-7.10 (m, 8H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  171.9, 144.8, 138.8, 137.7, 137.1, 135.9, 133.5, 129.7, 129.5, 129.0, 128.8, 126.6, 124.6, 123.6, 120.9, 114.7, 112.8, 52.6, 50.7, 21.5, 21.1; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 456.1230, found: 456.1235.



**Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 100-102 °C, yield: 82%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29-721 (m, 6H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 3.75(s, 3H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.3, 170.8, 140.6, 137.6, 136.1, 133.6, 129.7, 129.6, 129.0, 124.2, 123.1, 121.4, 114.2, 112.5, 52.9, 52.4, 27.6, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 344.1246, found: 344.1252.



**Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(2-bromophenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 146-147 °C, yield: 82%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.68-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 171.8, 170.7, 138.5, 136.7, 136.1, 133.5, 129.6, 129.6, 129.4, 127.8, 125.5, 124.3, 123.1, 121.4, 114.3, 112.2, 52.9, 52.6, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 408.0206, found: 408.0203.



Methyl 2-(5-methyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate: Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 76%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.09 (m, 7H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 171.9, 144.6, 138.8, 137.6, 135.9, 135.3, 133.6, 133.2, 129.6, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 126.5, 126.0, 120.8, 114.4, 112.7, 52.6, 50.6, 21.5, 21.1; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 470.1392, found: 470.1397.



Methyl 2-(5-chloro-1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate: White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 118-120 °C, yield: 75%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 5H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.1, 170.5, 142.1, 137.8, 134.4, 133.3, 130.9, 129.7, 128.9, 128.8, 124.2, 120.8, 115.1, 111.7, 52.9, 52.4, 27.5, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 378.0855, found: 378.0860.



Methyl 2-(6-methyl-1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)acetate: White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 143-144 °C, yield: 81%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 170.9, 139.0, 136.4, 135.3, 134.3, 133.8, 130.5, 129.0, 127.3, 124.6, 121.0, 114.6, 112.4, 52.6, 52.5, 27.7, 22.3; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 378.0858, found: 378.0862.



**Methyl 2-(6-methyl-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 122-124 °C, yield: 88%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.4, 170.9, 139.9, 137.6, 136.5, 134.0, 133.8, 129.6, 129.0, 127.4, 124.4, 120.9, 114.6, 112.4, 52.9, 52.3, 27.7, 22.3, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 358.1408, found: 358.1411.



**Methyl 2-(6-methyl-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 161-162 °C, yield: 85%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.4, 170.9, 159.2, 140.1, 136.5, 134.0, 130.2, 128.8, 127.4, 124.4, 120.9, 114.6, 114.3, 112.3, 55.3, 52.5, 52.3, 27.7, 22.3; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 374.1350, found: 374.1358.



**Methyl 2-(5-cyano-1-acetyl-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)acetate:** White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 152-153 °C, yield: 55%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 4H), 6.10 (s, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 2.40(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 170.5, 143.1, 138.1, 137.8, 132.9, 129.8, 129.6, 128.9, 127.2, 125.9, 119.3, 114.8, 111.7, 106.6, 52.7, 52.6, 27.6, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 369.1209, found: 369.1211.



**Methyl 2-(1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1***H***-indol-2-yl)-2-benzylacetate:** Yellow oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 67%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.12 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 7H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 4.98 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.34-3.31 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.4, 144.8, 138.7, 138.4, 137.0, 135.8, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.4, 126.6, 126.5, 124.7, 123.7, 120.8, 115.1, 110.6, 52.2, 46.5, 39.7, 21.5; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 456.1235, found: 456.1239.



Methyl 2-(1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-benzylacetate: Yellow oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100/1), yield: 73%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.63 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.19 (m, 7H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 4.73 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.48-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.30-3.25 (m, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.8, 170.5, 139.0, 139.0, 135.7, 129.7, 128.9, 128.3, 126.4, 124.1, 123.1, 121.3, 114.1, 110.5, 52.1, 48.0, 38.1, 27.6; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 344.1250, found: 344.1253.



(*IR*,2*S*,5*R*)-8-menthyl-2-(1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: Colorless oil (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1), yield: 71% (d.r.: 1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.20

(t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 4.71-4.64 (m, 1H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.20-2.17 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.57 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.49 (m, 1H), 1.13-1.28 (m, 2H), 1.18-1.10 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 0.64-0.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 0.54-0.52 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 171.2, 170.7, 140.6, 136.9, 136.1, 129.7, 129.3, 128.6, 127.7, 124.0, 123.0, 121.3, 114.1, 112.3, 75.1, 53.8, 47.0, 40.6, 34.3, 31.5, 27.6, 25.5, 23.2, 22.1, 20.5, 15.9; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 454.2348, found: 454.2351.



(*1R,2S,5R*)-8-Phenylmenthyl-2-(1-acetyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-2-phenylacetate: White solid (Flash column chromatography eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1), mp 114-115 °C, yield: 76% (d.r.: 1:1.5); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 3H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 4.81-4.74 (m, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 2.23 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 1.90-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.48-1.45 (m, 2H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 1.00 (s, 3H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 0.86-0.70 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.8, 170.5, 150.7, 140.2, 136.1, 129.7, 129.6, 128.7, 127.9, 125.7, 125.1, 124.1, 123.0, 121.3, 114.2, 112.3, 53.6, 50.6, 41.2, 40.1, 34.6, 31.4, 29.7, 27.6, 22.9, 21.9; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd. for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) 530.2650, found: 530.2660.

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210 200 190 180	170 160 150	140 130 120 110 f1 (p	100 90 80 70 pm)	60 50 40	30 20 10 0







400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>









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Bn

Ac.

400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>

COOMe





-36000

-34000

-32000

-30000

-28000

-26000

-24000

-22000

-20000

-18000

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-16000













