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Supporting Information

Palladium-Catalyzed Oxidative Cross-Coupling

of Indoles with Azole-4-carboxylates: An approach to the Synthesis

of Pimprinine

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1. General Information

Reagents and Solvents: Pd^{II} catalysts, oxidants and additives were commercially available. azole-4-carboxylate substrates were synthesized from corresponding aldehydes or nitriles by our recently disclosed methods. All other starting materials and solvents were commercially available and were used without further purification unless otherwise stated.

Chromatography: Flash column chromatography was carried out using commercially available 200-300 mesh under pressure unless otherwise indicated. Gradient flash chromatography was conducted eluting with PE/EA or DCM/MeOH, they are listed as volume/volume ratios.

Data collection: Melting point (m.p.) was measured on a microscopic melting point apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were collected on BRUKER AV-300 (300MHz) spectrometer using d₆-DMSO and CDCl₃ as solvent. Chemical shifts of ¹H NMR were recorded in parts per million (ppm, δ) relative to tetramethylsilane ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm) with the solvent resonance as an internal standard (d₆-DMSO: $\delta = 2.5$ ppm; CDCl₃: $\delta = 7.26$ ppm). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm (δ), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz), and integration. Chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR were reported in ppm with the solvent as the internal standard (d₆-DMSO: $\delta = 39.52\pm0.06$ ppm; CDCl₃: $\delta = 77.0$ ppm). Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on a Thermo Scientific iS10 FT/IR spectrometer; absorptions are reported in reciprocal centimeters. High Resolution Mass measurement was performed on Agilent Q-TOF 6520 mass spectrometer with electron spray ionization (ESI) as the ion source. Unless otherwise indicated, all reagents and solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used as received.

2. Optimization of Reaction Conditions

	Me H + COOMe	H N N Me Additive, DMF 2a H Pd(OAc) ₂ , 10 mol% Cu(OAc) ₂ , 2 equiv Ligand Additive, DMF	Me N-Me N COOMe 3a	
Entry	Additive	Ligand	Temp/Time	Yield
	(2 equiv)	(10 mol %)	(°C/h)	(%)
1	Na ₂ HPO ₄	-	135/24	10
2	2-methylpyridine	-	135/24	47
3	2-acetylpyridine	-	135/24	trace
4	4-acetylpyridine	-	135/24	78
5	3,5-Dichloropyridine	-	135/24	39
6	quinoline	-	135/24	53
7	DMAP	-	135/24	35
8	DABCO	-	135/24	trace
9	DBU	-	135/24	22
10	morpholine	-	135/24	11
11	Et ₃ N	-	135/24	trace
12	3-acetylpyridine	DPPB	135/24	74
13	3-acetylpyridine	$P(^{n}Bu)_{3}HBF_{4}$	135/24	80
14	3-acetylpyridine	X-Phos	135/24	81
15	3-acetylpyridine	Xantphos	135/24	81
16	3-acetylpyridine	Boc-lle-OH	135/24	74
17	3-acetylpyridine	2,2'-Bipy	135/24	30
18	3-acetylpyridine	-	135/12	68
19	3-acetylpyridine	-	135/16	73
20	3-acetylpyridine	-	135/20	74

 Table S1. Screening of Reaction Conditions^a

^{*a*}reaction condition: **1a** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv); **2a** (1.0 mmol, 2 equiv); $Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.05 mmol), $Cu(OAc)_2$ (1.0 mmol), additive (1.0 mmol) and ligand (0.05 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) at 135 °C for 24 hours.

3. Palladium-Catalyzed oxidative Cross-Coupling between Indoles and

Azole-4-carboxylates.

3.1 General Procedure

A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with $Pd(OAc)_2$ (10 mol%), $Cu(OAc)_2$ (1.0 mmol), 3-acetylpyridine (1.0 mmol), indoles (1.0 mmol), azole-4-carboxylates (0.5 mmol), and DMF (2 mL) under argon. After stirring at 135 °C for 24 hours, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with CH_2Cl_2 (10-20 mL). The organic extracts were concentrated, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired products.

3.2 Characterization of the heteroarylated Products (3a-3r; 4a-4t) Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3a)



This compound was obtained as a brown solid (221 mg, 82% yield): mp 133-135 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (dt, *J* = 14.5, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.1, 157.8, 154.1, 136.9, 133.6, 125.5, 122.9, 122.5, 121.5, 121.3, 111.0,

101.9, 51.8, 33.5, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3144, 3050, 2938, 1705, 1612, 1578, 1522, 1435, 1395, 1334, 1308, 1216, 1102 ,1079, 915, 780, 742 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₄N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 293.0897, found 293.0898.

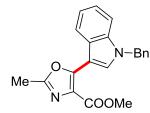
Methyl 5-(1-ethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3b)



This compound was obtained as a grey solid (272 mg, 96% yield): mp 109-109.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 4.31 (quart, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.1, 157.9, 154.1, 135.9, 132.0, 125.7, 122.9,

122.5, 121.5, 111.0, 102.1, 51.8, 41.4, 15.6, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3156, 3144, 2973, 2937, 1705, 1603, 1578, 1522, 1437, 1405, 1305, 1209, 1097, 1083, 1061, 912, 806, 785, 748 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{16}H_{16}N_2NaO_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 307.1053, found 307.1051.

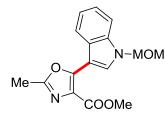
Methyl 5-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3c)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (325 mg, 94% yield): mp 166-167 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 8.73 (s, 1H), 8.16 – 8.04 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 5.58 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.1, 158.2, 153.8, 137.8, 136.3, 133.0, 129.2,

128.1, 127.6, 125.8, 123.3, 122.9, 121.7, 121.5, 111.6, 102.6, 51.9, 50.0, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3126, 3056, 2938, 1699, 1606, 1569, 1434, 1395, 1337, 1304, 1209, 1167, 1099, 1065, 1024, 914, 812, 786, 734, 709, 635 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}N_2NaO_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 369.1210, found 369.1211.

Methyl 5-(1-(*methoxymethyl*)-1*H*-*indol*-3-*yl*)-2-*methyloxazole*-4-*carboxylate* (3*d*)



This compound was obtained as a brown solid (252 mg, 84% yield): mp 129.5-130 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.20 (quint, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 5.64 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.0, 158.4, 153.5, 136.4, 132.9, 126.1,

123.5, 123.4, 122.1, 121.5, 111.6, 103.2, 77.5, 55.9, 51.9, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3138, 2991, 2949, 2920, 1706, 1604, 1580, 1436, 1395, 1340, 1302, 1213, 1186, 1130, 1101, 1071, 913, 750, 668 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂NaO₄ [M+Na]⁺ 323.1002, found 323.1003.

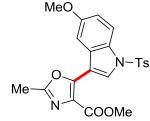
Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3e)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (201 mg, 49% yield): mp 200-201 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.02 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.27 (quint, *J* = 8.0Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.5, 159.3, 151.5, 145.4, 134.8, 134.5, 130.1,

129.6, 127.7, 127.1, 126.2, 125.4, 124.1, 121.8, 113.6, 108.9, 52.2, 21.6, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3150, 3050, 2991, 2955, 1712, 1602, 1591, 1444, 1363, 1218, 1175, 1096, 814, 761, 750, 687, 658, 587, 577, 570, 537 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{21}H_{18}N_2NaO_5S$ [M+Na]⁺ 433.0829, found 433.0825.

Methyl 5-(5-*methoxy*-1-*tosyl*-1*H*-*indol*-3-*yl*)-2-*methyloxazole*-4-*carboxylate* (3*f*)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (238 mg, 54% yield): mp 157-158 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s,

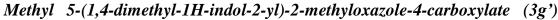
3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.5, 159.1, 156.9, 151.5, 145.3, 134.8, 130.3, 130.0, 129.3, 128.7, 127.0, 126.0, 114.3, 113.7, 108.9, 104.9, 55.7, 52.2, 21.5, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3161, 3014, 2949, 2926, 1709, 1608, 1595, 1469, 1370, 1337, 1137, 1083, 1031, 959, 845, 804, 788, 676, 597, 583, 552, 539 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₂H₂₀N₂NaO₆S [M+Na]⁺ 463.0934, found 463.0932.

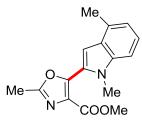
Methyl 5-(1,4-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3g)



This compound was obtained as a white solid (114 mg, 40% yield): mp 139.5-140 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 159.3, 153.0, 137.1, 132.8, 130.7, 126.4, 125.6, 122.7, 122.7, 107.6, 101.1, 51.9, 33.4, 20.6,

14.0; IR (KBr) 3103, 2955, 2921, 2849, 1720, 1626, 1592, 1522, 1441, 1390, 1350, 1267, 1224, 1200, 1177, 1162, 1065, 965, 847, 812, 787, 762, 671 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{16}H_{16}N_2NaO_3$ [M+ Na]⁺ 307.1053, found 307.1055.

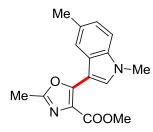




This compound was obtained as a white solid (134 mg, 47% yield): mp 102-103 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.50 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 158.2, 147.3, 136.3, 123.8, 122.8, 122.0, 119.9, 119.4, 119.2, 112.0,

103.9, 13.5; IR (KBr) 3149, 3002, 2943, 2843, 1709, 1605, 1563, 1448, 1352, 1286, 1211, 1188, 1094, 1030, 956, 827, 772, 738, 665 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}N_2O_3$ [M+H]⁺ 285.1234, found 285.1233.

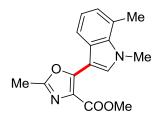
Methyl 5-(1,5-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3h)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (242 mg, 85% yield): mp 141-141.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64 (s, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 157.5, 155.1, 135.3, 133.6, 130.8, 126.0, 124.4, 122.2, 121.1, 109.5, 102.1, 51.8, 33.4, 21.7, 13.9; IR (KBr) 3134, 3038, 2955, 2926,

1696, 1607, 1566, 1526, 1472, 1422, 1396, 1320, 1207, 1148, 1102, 1074, 1055, 853, 801, 785, 665, 618 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 307.1053, found 307.1052.

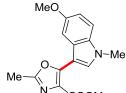
Methyl 5-(1,7-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3i)



This compound was obtained as a light brown solid (242 mg, 85% yield): mp 184.5-185 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.55 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 157.5, 154.8, 135.5, 135.1, 126.9, 125.6, 122.5, 121.7, 121.4, 119.5,

102.2, 51.8, 37.6, 19.7, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3139, 3085, 3018, 2943, 1707, 1611, 1574, 1452, 1434, 1382, 1319, 1309, 1207, 1111, 1089, 1039, 945, 874, 786, 753 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 307.1053, found 307.1054.

Methyl 5-(5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3j)



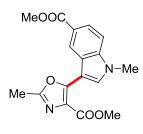
This compound was obtained as a light brown solid (261 mg, 87% yield): mp 179.5-180 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 157.2, 155.3, 155.0,

N⁻ COOMe (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 157.2, 155.3, 155.0, 133.9, 132.1, 126.4, 122.0, 112.2, 110.4, 104.1, 102.1, 55.9, 51.8, 33.5, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3144, 3028, 2957, 2923, 1697, 1618, 1606, 1522, 1440, 1413, 1324, 1225, 1207, 1142, 1126, 1097, 1033, 859, 839, 805, 786 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂NaO₄ [M+Na]⁺ 323.1002, found 323.1001.

Methyl 5-(5-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3k)

 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Cl} & \mbox{This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (246 mg, 81\% yield): mp 196-197 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) & 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.27 - 7.15 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) & 163.3, 157.7, 154.0, 135.1, 134.3, 127.1, 126.5, 123.0, 122.6, 120.9, 110.7, 102.3, 51.9, 33.5, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3138, 3079, 2955, 2938, 1697, 1614, 1573, 1524, 1469, 1395, 1321, 1024, 1082, 922, 805, 786, 662, 618, 591 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₃ClNaN₂O₃ [M+Na]⁺ 327.0507, found 327.0506.$

Methyl 5-(5-(methoxycarbonyl)-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole -4-carboxylate (3l)

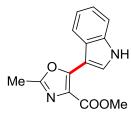


This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (141 mg, 86% yield): mp 169-171 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.81 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 6H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.62 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 162.7, 157.6, 153.3, 138.6, 134.0, 124.7, 124.2, 123.8, 123.5, 122.6, 108.9, 103.3, 51.5, 51.4, 33.0, 13.3; IR (KBr) 3475, 3415, 3233, 2944, 1701,

1638, 1618, 1572, 1397, 1326, 1215, 1099, 1071, 768, 609 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd

for $C_{17}H_{16}N_2NaO_5 [M+Na]^+ 351.0957$, found 351.0963.

Methyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3m)



This compound was obtained as a brown solid (195 mg, 76% yield): mp 251-251.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.93 (s, 1H), 8.65 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.1, 157.9, 154.5, 136.4, 130.0, 125.2, 122.9, 122.6, 121.3, 121.1, 112.7, 102.8,

51.8, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3132, 3091, 3032, 2973, 2914, 2873, 1708, 1610, 1584, 1433, 1285, 1206, 927, 780,7 44 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{14}H_{12}N_2NaO_3$ [M+Na]⁺ 279.0740, found 279.0739.

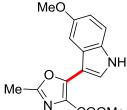
Methyl 2-methyl-5-(5-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3n)



This compound was obtained as a light grey solid (151 mg, 56% yield): mp 260-260.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.79 (s, 1H), 8.58 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.2, 157.8, 154.7, 134.8, 130.1, 130.0, 125.5, 124.5, 122.4, 120.6, 112.4, 102.3, 51.8,

21.9, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3149, 3026, 2949, 2926, 1701, 1610, 1577, 1434, 1288, 1248, 915, 794, 777, 615 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{15}H_{14}N_2NaO_3$ [M + Na]⁺ 293.0897, found 293.0895.

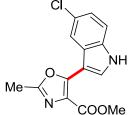
Methyl 5-(5-methoxy-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (30)



This compound was obtained as a brown solid (166 mg, 58% yield): mp 264-265 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.72 (s, 1H), 8.53 (s, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.2, 157.7, 155.1, 154.6, 131.5, 130.5,

^N COOMe 125.8, 122.3, 113.4, 112.6, 103.4, 102.6, 55.8, 51.8, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3257, 3179, 3002, 2949, 2890, 2825, 1713, 1695, 1581, 1480, 1454, 1440, 1369, 1291, 1214, 1200, 1129, 1118, 1100, 1074, 1021, 915, 841, 803, 779, 629 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₄N₂NaO₄ [M+Na]⁺ 309.0846, found 309.0845.

Methyl 5-(5-chloro-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3p)



This compound was obtained as a brown solid (215 mg, 74% yield): mp 259.5-260 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 12.08 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.0, 158.0, 153.7, 134.9, 131.3,

^N COOMe 126.2, 125.9, 122.9, 120.1, 114.2, 102.7, 51.8, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3146, 3020, 2932, 1710, 1608, 1583, 1458, 1438, 1287, 1207, 1145, 1133, 1091, 980, 933, 893, 782, 612, 579 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₄H₁₁ClN₂NaO₃[M+Na]⁺

2, 4-dimethyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)oxazole (3q)

This compound was obtained as yellow oil (25 mg, 22% yield): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 140.0, 138.0, 135.5, 127.8,

127.6, 122.5, 120.8, 120.0, 109.5, 103.5, 31.2, 14.1, 12.4; IR (KBr) 2924, 1578, 1464, 1275, 1262, 1204, 1095, 764, 750 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₄H₁₅N₂O [M+H]⁺ 227.1184, found 227.1191.

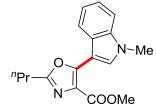
4-(methoxymethyl)-2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)oxazole (3r)

Me Me N CH₂OCH₃

This compound was obtained as yellow soild (58 mg, 45% yield): mp 110-112°C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)

 δ 161.2, 141.6, 138.4, 135.8, 127.4, 126.7, 122.9, 121.1, 120.2, 109.6, 104.8, 65.9, 58.6, 31.2, 14.1; IR (KBr) 3414, 3149, 2926, 1638, 1617, 1584, 1401, 1304, 1257, 1194, 1079, 950, 801, 753 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₆NaN₂O₂ [M+Na]⁺ 279.1109, found 279.1113.

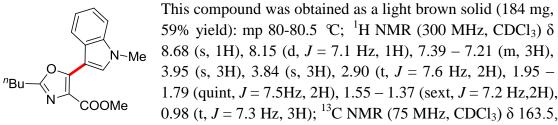
Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4a)



This compound was obtained as a light brown solid (224 mg, 75% yield): mp 84.5-85.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.83 (sext, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 161.0, 154.7, 136.8, 133.5,

125.8, 122.8, 122.4, 121.4, 121.3, 109.8, 102.8, 51.8, 33.4, 30.0, 20.7, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3145, 3044, 2965, 2946, 1697, 1576, 1569, 1442, 1393, 1334, 1224, 1210, 1141, 916, 788, 735, 576 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₇H₁₉N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺ 299.1390, found 299.1389.

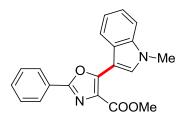
Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-butyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4b)



161.2, 154.7, 136.9, 133.5, 125.9, 122.8, 122.4, 121.4, 121.3, 109.8, 102.8, 51.9, 33.4, 29.2, 27.8, 22.3, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3150, 2961, 2926, 2896, 1691, 1637, 1601, 1475,

1400, 1226, 1097, 1078, 930, 791, 747 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₈H₂₁N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺ 313.1547, found 313.1549.

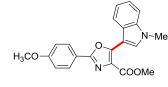
Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4c)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow solid (276 mg, 83% yield): mp 208-209 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.74 (s, 1H), 8.34 – 8.22 (m, 1H), 8.22 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 157.7, 154.9, 136.9, 134.1, 130.5, 128.8, 126.8,

126.5, 125.8, 123.0, 121.60, 121.4, 109.9, 102.7, 52.1, 33.4; IR (KBr) 3132, 3050, 2979, 2943,1701, 1577, 1568, 1445, 1392, 1333, 1221, 1133, 1109, 1073, 1045, 912, 786, 736, 704, 686 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₀H₁₆N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 355.1053, found 355.1054.

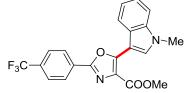
Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylae (4d)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow solid (261 mg, 72% yield): mp 159-160 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.70 (s, 1H), 8.23 (dd, *J* = 5.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR

(75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 161.0, 157.8, 154.7, 136.8, 133.5, 128.2, 125.8, 123.6, 122.9, 122.4, 121.5, 121.3, 114.2, 109.8, 102.8, 51.8, 33.4, 30.0, 20.7, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3138, 2943, 2837, 1701, 1616, 1578, 1503, 1445, 1421, 1248, 1170, 1103, 1087, 1030, 915, 831, 740, 629 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₁H₁₈NaN₂O₄ [M+Na]⁺ 385.1159, found 385.1156.

Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)oxazole-4carboxylate (4e)



This compound was obtained as a white solid (288 mg, 70% yield): mp 215-216 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.78 (s, 1H), 8.26 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 5.8 Hz, 3H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.3,

156.2, 155.5, 136.9, 134.5, 129.9, 126.6, 125.9, 125.9, 125.8, 125.8, 123.1, 121.8, 121.2, 110.1, 102.4, 52.2, 33.5; IR (KBr) 3132, 3014, 2949, 1697, 1617, 1569, 1438, 1336, 1300, 1227, 1175, 1124, 1088, 1069, 1014, 917, 847, 785, 705, 576 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₁H₁₅F₃N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 423.0927, found 423.0926.

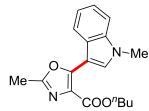
Ethyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4f)



This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (239 mg, 84% yield): mp 115-116 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.0, 157.5, 154.7, 136.8, 133.5, 125.8, 122.8, 121.5, 121.2, 109.8, 102.6, 60.8, 33.3,

14.6, 13.8; IR(KBr) 3144, 3126, 3050, 2976, 2932, 1690, 1617, 1566, 1426, 1331, 1307, 1204, 1101, 1080, 928, 850, 784, 735, 668, 576 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂NaO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 307.1053, found 307.1056.

Butyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4g)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow solid (228 mg, 73% yield): mp 76.5-77 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64 (s, 1H), 8.21 – 8.09 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.37 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.91 – 1.73 (quint, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.55 – 1.38 (sext, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.1,

157.5, 154.7, 136.8, 133.4, 125.9, 122.8, 122.7, 121.5, 121.2, 109.8, 102.7, 64.7, 33.3, 30.9, 19.2, 13.9, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3144, 3038, 2955, 2920, 2867, 1700, 1606, 1525, 1425, 1332, 1216, 1101, 1015, 933, 862, 786, 727, 662 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{18}H_{21}N_2O_3$ [M+H]⁺ 313.1547, found 313.1545.

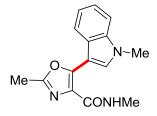
Benzyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4h)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow solid (235 mg, 68% yield): mp 116-117.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.14 (m, 6H), 5.41 (s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.7, 157.6, 154.9, 136.8, 136.3, 133.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 125.9, 122.8, 122.6,

121.5, 121.3, 109.8, 102.6, 66.4, 33.2, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3144, 2955, 1700, 1605, 1577, 1447, 1427, 1332, 1213, 1100, 1078, 1015, 918, 780, 753, 733, 697 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{21}H_{19}N_2O_3$ [M+H]⁺ 369.1210, found 369.1208.

N, 2-dimethyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxamide (4i)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow solid (215 mg, 80% yield): mp 140-140.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.88 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.97 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.1, 156.5, 151.1, 136.8, 133.4, 125.8, 125.2, 122.4, 121.3, 120.8, 109.7, 102.8,

33.2, 25.7, 13.7; IR (KBr) 3419, 3126, 2961, 2926, 1654, 1604, 1508, 1391, 1219, 1207, 1093, 912, 815, 740, 562 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}N_3NaO_2$ [M+Na]⁺ 292.1056, found 292.1054.

Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)thiazole-4-carboxylate (4j)



This compound was obtained as a yellow oil (180 mg, 63% yield); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 11.9, 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.0, 162.0, 141.4, 137.7, 136.8, 131.8, 127.2, 122.5, 120.7, 119.7, 109.8, 104.2, 52.2, 33.2,

19.2; IR (KBr) 3138, 3050, 2989, 2922, 2849, 1707, 1552, 1498, 1477, 1431, 1399, 1381, 1329, 1216, 1198, 1171, 1079, 909, 786, 746, 606 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₅N₂O₂S [M + H]⁺ 287.0849, found 287.0848.

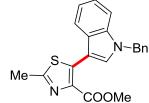
Methyl 5-(1-ethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4k)



This compound was obtained as a white solid (177 mg, 59% yield): mp 110-110.5 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 4.22 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H), 1.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.0, 161.9, 141.5, 137.8, 135.8, 130.3, 127.4,

122.3, 120.6, 119.9, 109.9, 104.3, 52.2, 41.4, 19.2, 15.3; IR (KBr) 3131, 3044, 2997, 2976, 1700, 1546, 1474, 1459, 1397, 1327, 1300, 1208, 1156, 1137, 1094, 993, 903, 839, 777, 740, 727 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{16}H_{17}N_2O_2S$ [M + H]⁺ 301.1005, found 301.1007.

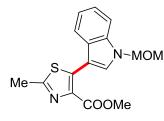
Methyl 5-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4l)



This compound was obtained as a light yellow oil (221 mg, 61% yield); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dt, *J* = 10.6, 5.8 Hz, 4H), 7.22 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.9, 162.2, 141.0, 138.2, 136.7, 136.3, 131.3, 128.9, 127.9, 127.5, 126.9, 122.7, 120.9, 119.9,

110.4, 104.9, 52.2, 50.5, 19.2; IR (KBr) 3005, 2989, 2921, 2850, 1716, 1552, 1495, 1469, 1392, 1301, 1275, 1260, 1204, 1174, 998, 909, 747, 699 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₁H₁₉N₂O₂S [M + H]⁺ 363.1162, found 363.1159.

Methyl 5-(1-(*methoxymethyl*)-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-*methylthiazole-4-carboxylate* (4m)

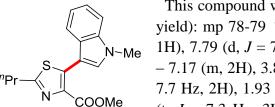


This compound was obtained as a grey soild (199 mg, 63% yield): mp 101-102 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 5.49 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 162.6, 140.4, 138.6, 136.2, 130.9, 127.9, 123.1, 121.4, 119.8,

110.6, 105.6, 77.8, 56.1, 52.2, 19.2; IR(KBr) 3120, 2997, 2943, 2920, 1699, 1548, 1494, 1460, 1389, 1327, 1298, 1192, 1178, 1160, 1134, 1033, 995, 908, 741, 656, 630,

567 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₇N₂O₃S [M + H]⁺ 317.0954, found 317.0952.

Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4n)



This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (179 mg, 57% yield): mp 78-79 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.09 – 2.94 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.93 – 1.79 (sext, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 7.3Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.5,

163.2, 140.9, 137.7, 136.8, 131.8, 127.2, 122.4, 120.6, 119.8, 109.8, 104.4, 52.2, 35.5, 33.2, 23.6, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3143, 3061, 2953, 2926, 2861, 1716, 1602, 1497, 1478, 1458, 1380, 1326, 1303, 1202, 1177, 1132, 1012, 912, 833, 788, 744, 600 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₇H₁₉N₂O₂S [M + H]⁺ 315.1162, found 315.1159.

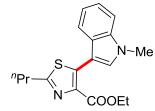
Ethyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)thiazole-4-carboxylate (40)



This compound was obtained as a yellow oil (261 mg, 87% yield); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.30 – 7.23 (dt, 1H), 7.23 – 7.15 (dt, 1H), 4.35 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.6, 162.1, 140.8, 138.8, 136.8, 131.6, 127.3, 122.4, 120.6,

119.8, 109.8, 104.4, 61.1, 33.1, 19.3, 14.3; IR (KBr) 2979, 2921, 2850, 1713, 1632, 1477, 1423, 1380, 1299,1 275, 1260, 1215, 1183, 1080, 906, 764, 749 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₇N₂O₂S [M + H]⁺ 301.1005, found 301.1006.

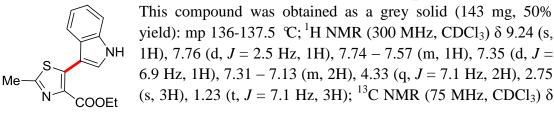
Ethyl 5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4p)



This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (233 mg, 71% yield): mp 59.5-60 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (t, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 4.34 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.10 – 2.93 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.84 (sext, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H);

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.6, 162.8, 140.2, 138.4, 136.8, 131.5, 127.3, 122.4, 120.5, 119.8, 109.7, 104.6, 61.1, 35.5, 33.1, 23.6, 14.3, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3138, 3050, 2959, 2926, 2896, 1712, 1605, 1540, 1496, 1381, 1324, 1196, 1132, 1122, 1081, 912, 780, 737, 641, 428 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{18}H_{21}N_2O_2S$ [M+H]⁺ 329.1318, found 329.1317.

Ethyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4q)



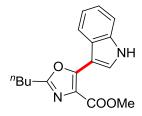
162.8, 162.7, 140.8, 138.9, 135.9, 127.1, 126.6, 122.6, 120.7, 119.5, 111.8, 105.6, 61.3, 19.2, 14.2; IR (KBr) 3203, 3182, 3109, 2978, 2920, 1740, 1716, 1532, 1456, 1320, 1279, 1241, 1197, 1137, 1121, 1095, 1034, 926, 783, 740, 615, 594cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₅N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺ 287.0849, found 287.0847.

Methyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4r)

This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (88 mg, 62% yield): mp 172-174 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.78 (s, 1H), 8.82 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 2.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.84 (sext, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 161.4,

154.9, 136.0, 129.6, 125.2, 123.1, 122.6, 121.4, 121.2, 111.8, 104.0, 51.9, 30.0, 20.6, 13.8; IR (KBr) 3461, 3139, 3098, 2967, 2923, 1708, 1603, 1584, 1372, 1289, 1245, 1209, 1135, 1084, 930, 781, 743 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₆H₁₅N₂O₃ [M-H]⁻² 283.1083, found 283.1090.

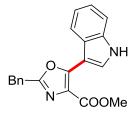
Methyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-butyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4s)



This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (75 mg, 50% yield): mp 144-146 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.32 (s, 1H), 8.81 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.11 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 2.92 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.96 – 1.82 (quint, *J* = 7.6, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.54 – 1.40 (sex, *J* = 7.4, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 161.5, 154.7, 135.9, 129.4, 125.2, 123.1, 122.9, 121.5, 121.2, 111.7, 104.2, 51.9, 29.2, 27.8, 22.3, 13.7; IR (KBr) 2956, 2924, 1708, 1638, 1618, 1460, 1433, 1400, 1374, 1284, 1210, 1136, 1086, 927, 780, 744, 615 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₇H₁₇N₂O₃ [M-H]⁻ 297.1239, found 297.1247.

Methyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl) 2-benzyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4t)



This compound was obtained as a yellow solid (69 mg, 42% yield): mp 192-194 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.47 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dt, *J* = 12.0, 7.4 Hz, 5H), 7.29 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 159.4, 155.3, 135.9, 135.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.9, 127.3, 125.1, 123.1, 122.8, 121.5,

121.2, 111.7, 103.9, 52.0, 34.6; IR (KBr) 3412, 3151, 2949, 1705, 1594, 1562, 1426, 1374, 1277, 1205, 1129, 1080, 1012, 965, 927, 784, 741, 742, 695 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₂₀H₁₅N₂O₃ [M-H]⁻ 331.1083, found 331.1092.

4. General Procedure for Synthesis of Pimprinine and WS-30581 A

To the solution of methyl 5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (256 mg, 1.0 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was added a solution of NaOH (112 mg, 2.0 mmol) in water (1 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C overnight. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo and acidified with 1 M HCl to precipitate the carboxylic acid. Then vacuum filtration and dry to give a pale yellow solid**5a**(240 mg, 99% yield) which was used for the next step without further purification.

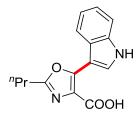
5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylic acid (5a)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (240 mg, 99% yield): mp 210-211 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.86 (s, 1H), 8.63 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 165.2, 157.2, 152.4, 136.5, 130.0, 126.3, 125.4, 122.5, 121.1, 120.8, 112.7, 103.5, 13.9; IR(KBr) 3186,

2973, 1682, 1606, 1583, 1400, 1268, 1215, 1135, 1082, 948, 736, 618 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{13}H_{11}N_2O_3$ [M + H]⁺ 243.0764, found 243.0766.

5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propyloxazole-4-carboxylic acid (5b)

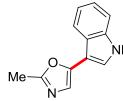


This compound was obtained as a grey solid (265 mg, 98% yield): mp 228-230 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 12.06 (s, 1H), 8.68 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.76 (sex, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 164.3, 160.7, 153.9, 136.4,

130.1, 125.3, 123.4, 122.8, 121.2, 120.9, 112.8, 103.0, 29.5, 20.4, 13.9; IR(KBr) 3554, 3455, 3381, 3157, 2964, 2874, 1664, 1560, 1486, 1459, 1409, 1358, 1329, 1271, 1240, 1116, 1095, 951, 761, 743, 712 cm⁻¹; MS-ES: m/z: 269.1[M-H]⁻; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₅H₁₄N₂O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 293.0902, found 293.0910.

A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with Ag_2CO_3 (20 mol %), PivOH (50 mol %), **5a or 5b** (0.5 mmol), and DMSO (1 mL). After stirring at 120 °C for 12 hours, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with EtOAc (20 mL), filtered through a Celite pad, and wash with EtOAc (10-20 mL). The organic extracts were concentrated, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **6a or 6b**.

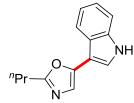
5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole (Pimprinine, 6a)



This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (54 mg, 55% yield): mp 200-201 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 11.50 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.21 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H).; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 158.2, 147.3, 136.3, 123.8, 122.8, 122.0, 119.9, 119.4, 119.2, 112.0, 103.9,

13.5; IR(KBr) 3133, 3109, 2930, 2896, 1638, 1585, 1453, 1360, 1248, 1123, 1027, 771, 735 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for $C_{12}H_{11}N_2O$ [M+H]⁺ 199.0866, found 199.0867.

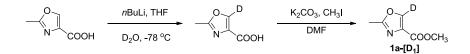
5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-propyloxazole (WS-30581 A, 6b)



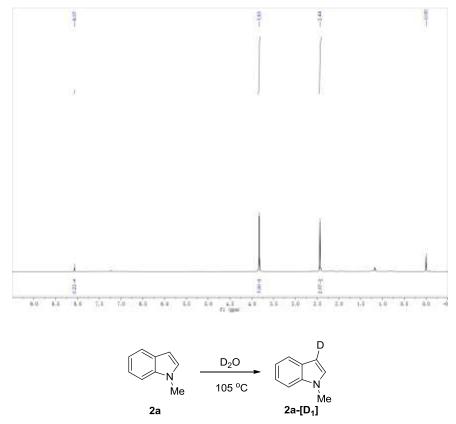
This compound was obtained as a pale yellow solid (59mg, 52% yield): mp 96-98 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.77 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 2.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.88 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.9,

147.7, 136.5, 124.2, 122.9, 122.0, 120.7, 119.9, 119.4, 111.8, 105.6, 77.6, 77.2, 76.7, 30.2, 20.7, 13.8; IR(KBr) 3414, 3129, 2932, 2875, 1636, 1571, 1448, 1251, 1119, 1003, 778, 736, 638 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI⁺): calcd for C₁₄H₁₃N₂O [M-H]⁻ 225.1028, found 225.1034.

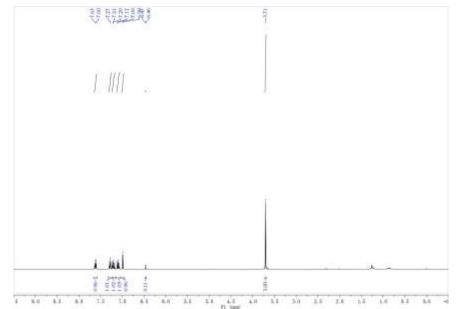
5. KIE experiment

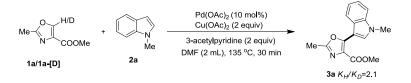


Preparation of 5-deutero-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (1a-[D₁]): A stirred solution of 2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylic acid (5 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) under argon was cooled to -78 °C and 12 mmol *n*BuLi in hexane was added dropwise. The solution was quenched with D₂O (1.0 mL) after 30 minutes. The mixture was concentrated in vacuo and acidified with 1 M HCl to precipitate the carboxylic acid (4 mmol). The 5-deutero-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylic acid was suspended in DMF, K₂CO₃ (8 mmol) and CH₃I (8 mmol) were added for 2 hours. The suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water three times. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product as a white soild in 65% yield. The product was 80% enriched with deuterium in the 3-position, as determined by ¹H NMR.

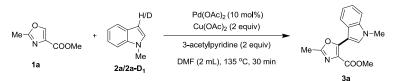


Preparation of 3-deutero-1-methylindole: A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with N-methyl indole (500 mg) and D_2O (1 mL) under argon. After stirring at 105 °C for 12 hours, the reaction mixture was cooled to the room temperature, it is extracted with hexanes, and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent is removed and the final product was purified by distillation from molecular sieves. The product was 90% enriched with deuterium in the 3-position, as determined by ¹H NMR.





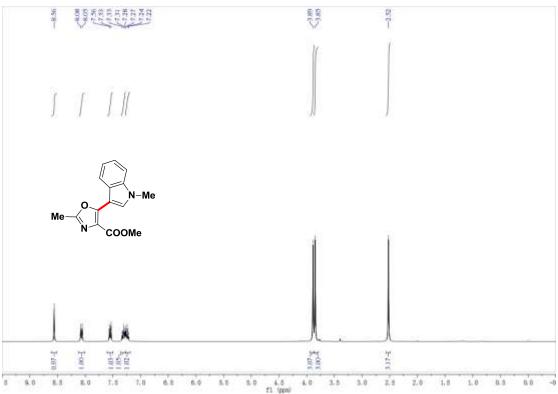
A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with 1-methylindole (0.8 mmol), 2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate **1a** (0.2 mmol) and 5-deutero-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate **1a-[D₁]** (0.2 mmol). After stirring at 135 ^oC for 30 minutes, the reaction mixture was cooled to the room temperature, diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with CH_2Cl_2 (10-20 mL). The organic extracts were concentrated. The yield of **3a** was determined by ¹H NMR.



A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with 2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate **1a** (0.5 mmol), 1-methylindole **2a** (0.5 mmol) and 3-deutero-1-methylindole **2a-[D₁]** (0.5 mmol). After stirring at 135 °C for 30 minutes, the reaction mixture was cooled to the room temperature, diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL), filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with CH_2Cl_2 (10-20 mL). The organic extracts were concentrated. The yield of **3a** was determined by ¹H NMR.

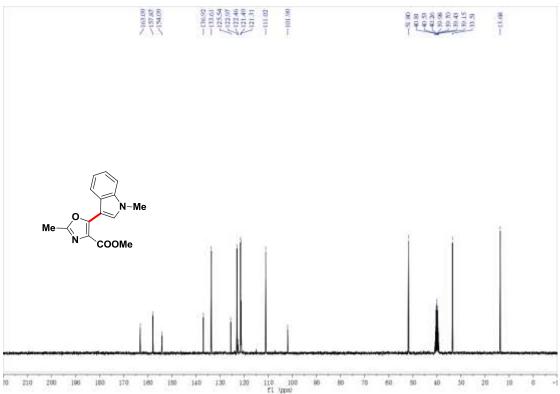
6.¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR Spectra

Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3a)

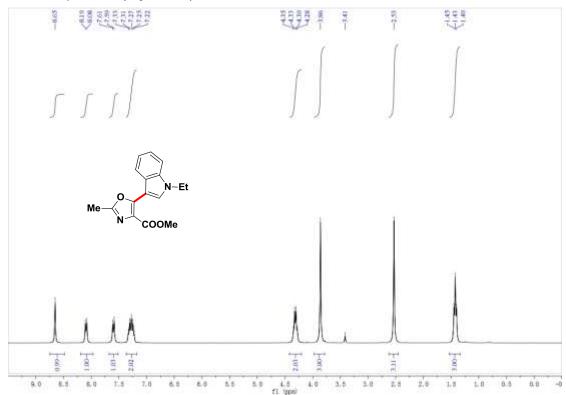


¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)



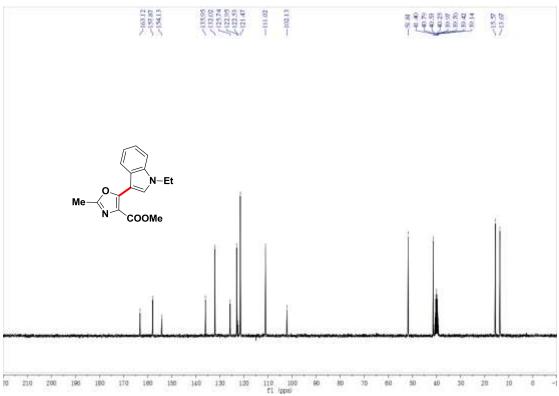


Methyl 5-(1-ethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3b)

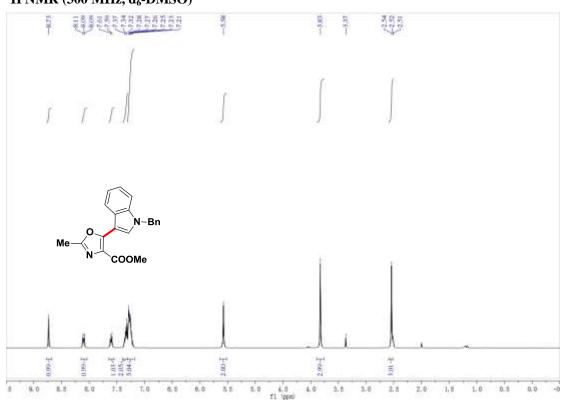


¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

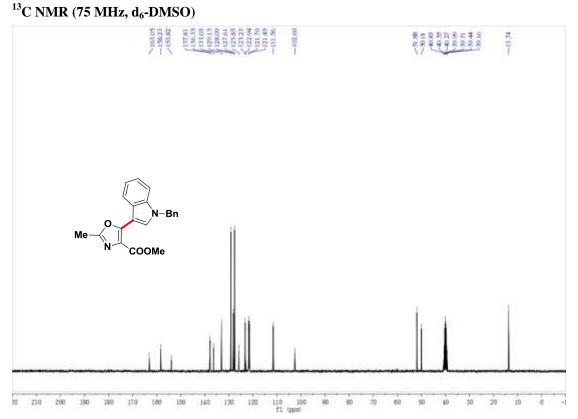
¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

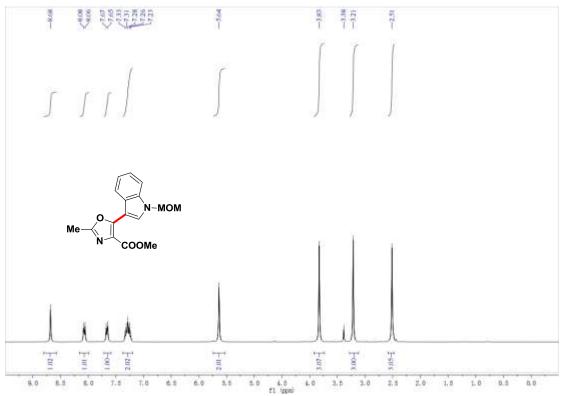


Methyl 5-(1-benzyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3c)



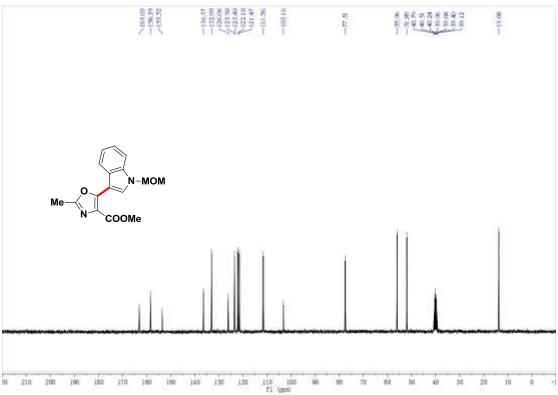




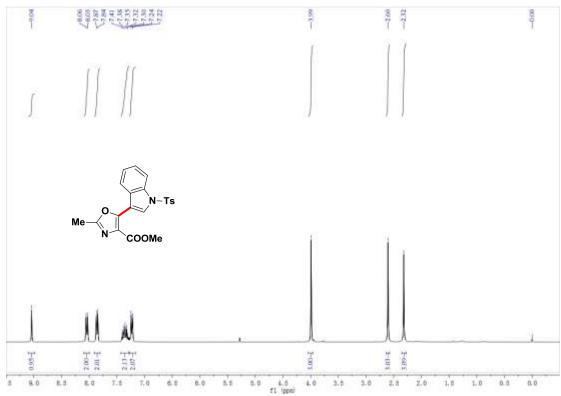




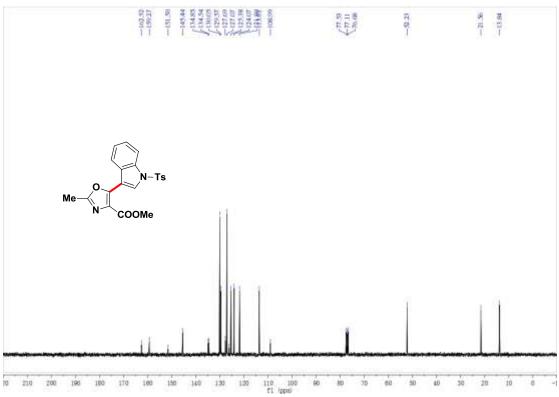


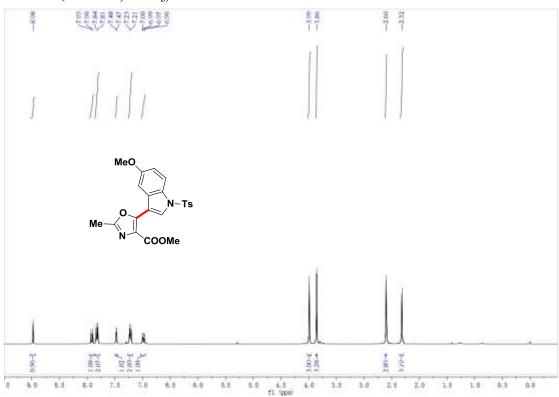


Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-tosyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3e)

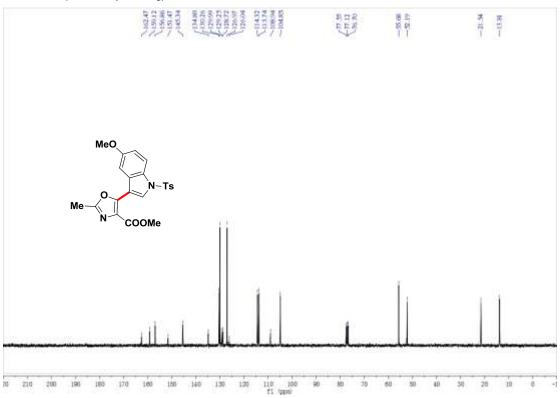


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

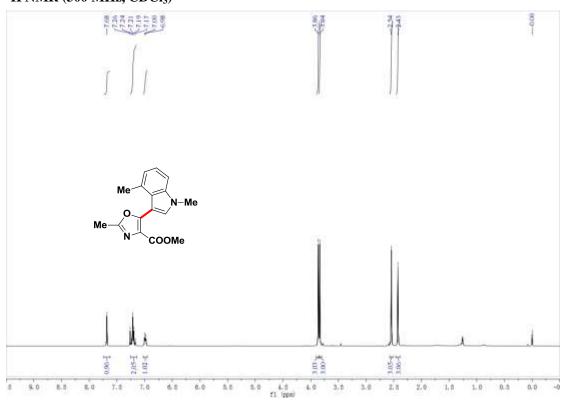




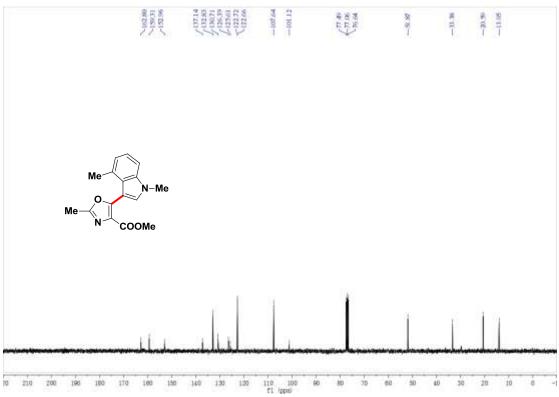


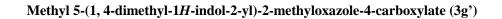


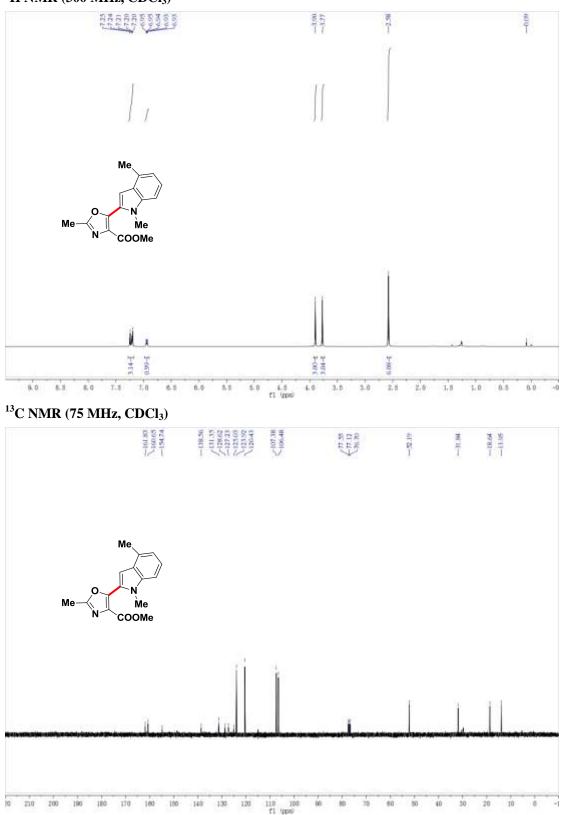
Methyl 5-(1,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3g)





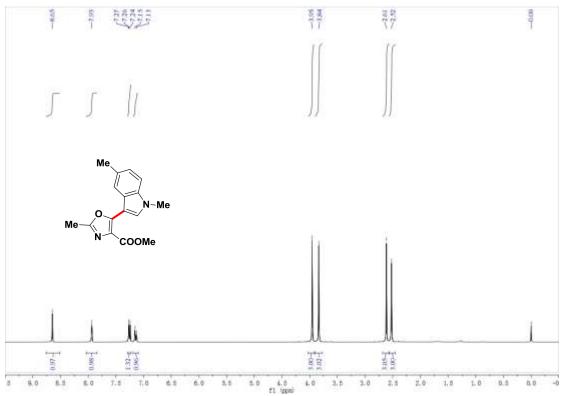




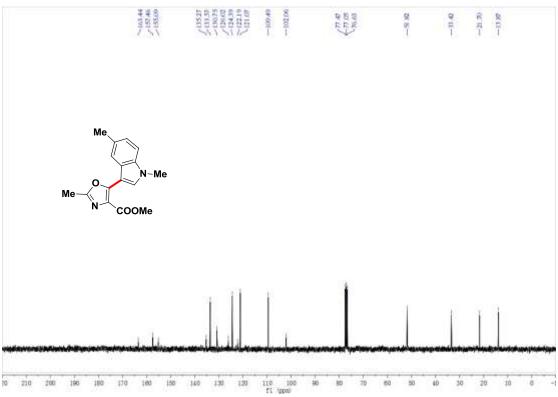


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

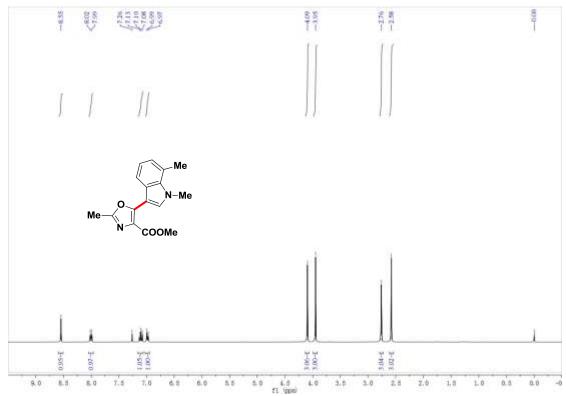
Methyl 5-(1, 5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3h)



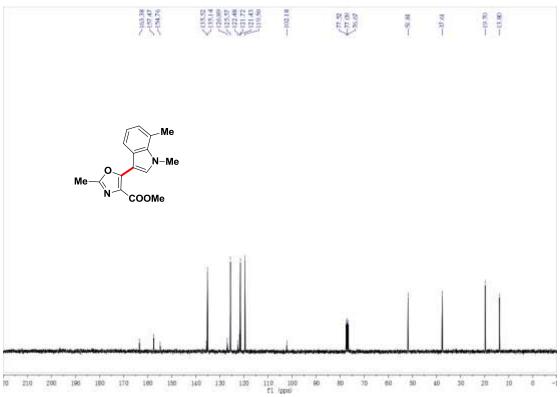
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

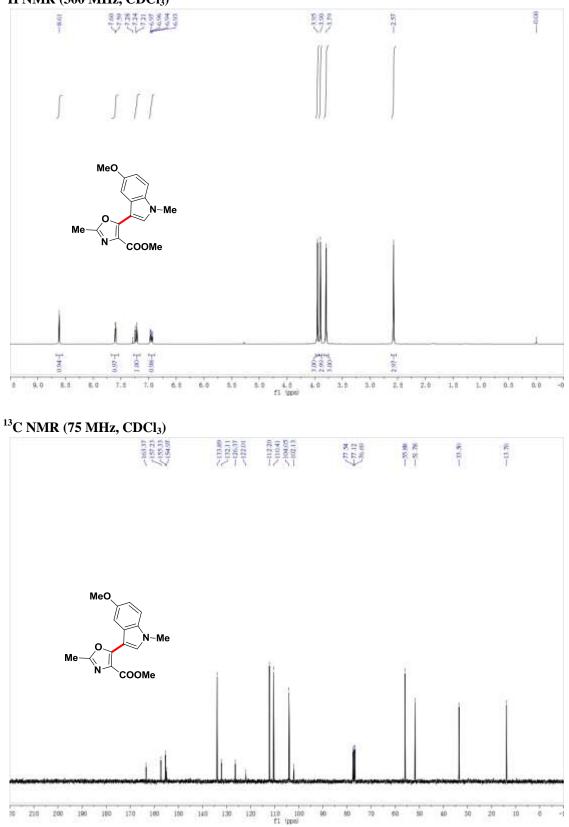


Methyl 5-(1, 7-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3i)

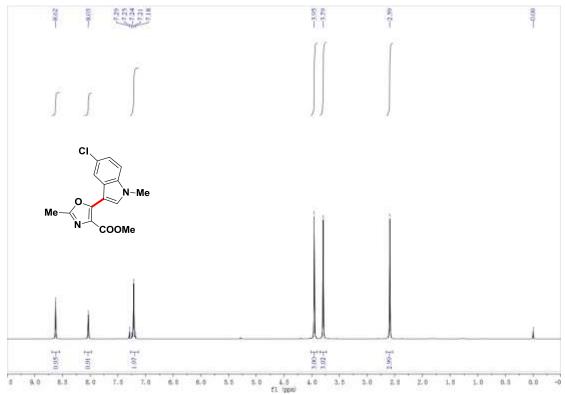


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



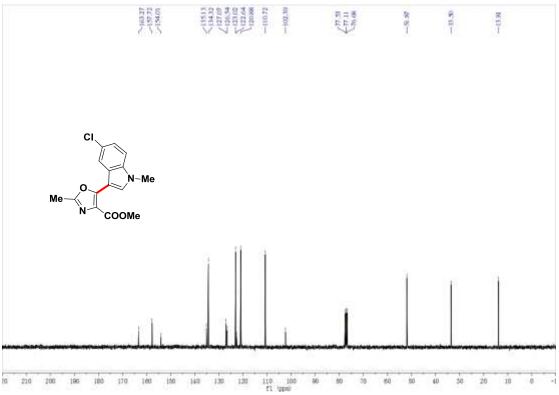


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

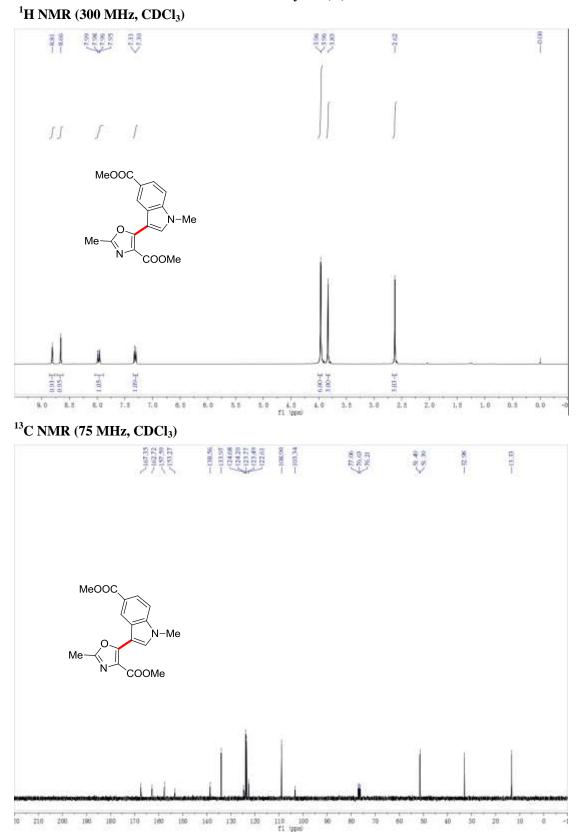


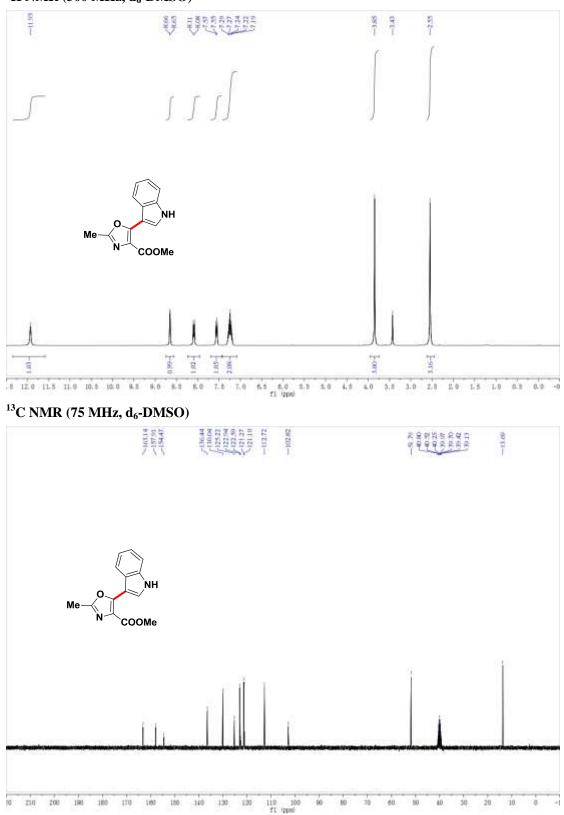
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)





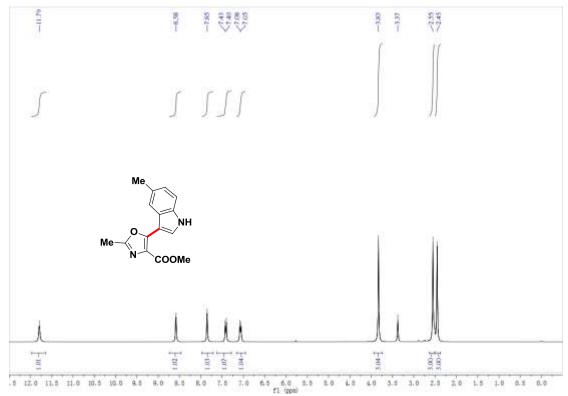
Methyl 5-(5-(methoxycarbonyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole -4-carboxylate (3l)





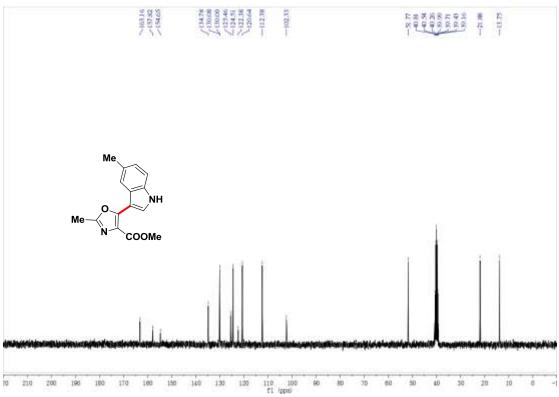
¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

Methyl 2-methyl-5-(5-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (3n)

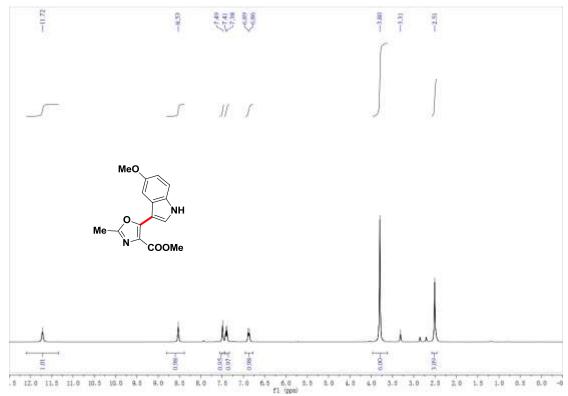


¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)



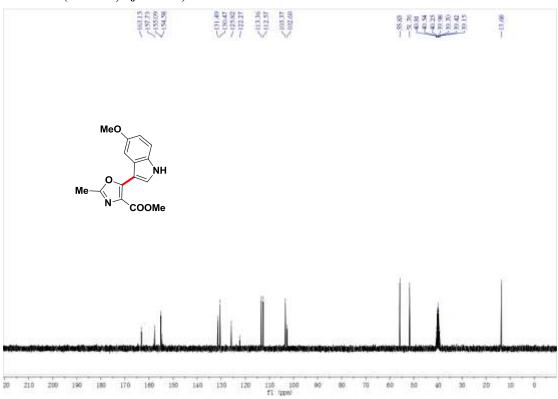


Methyl 5-(5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (30)

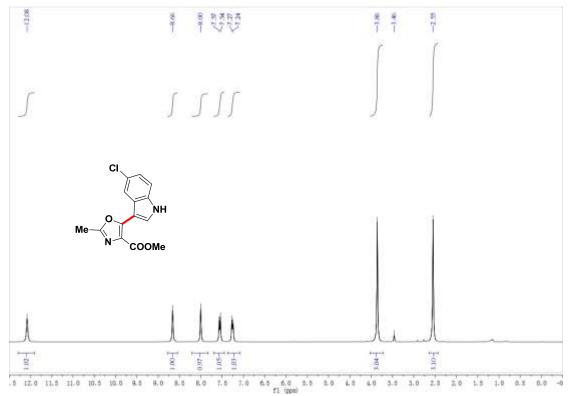


¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

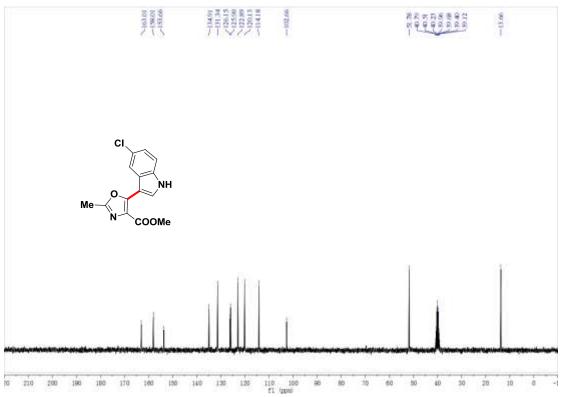


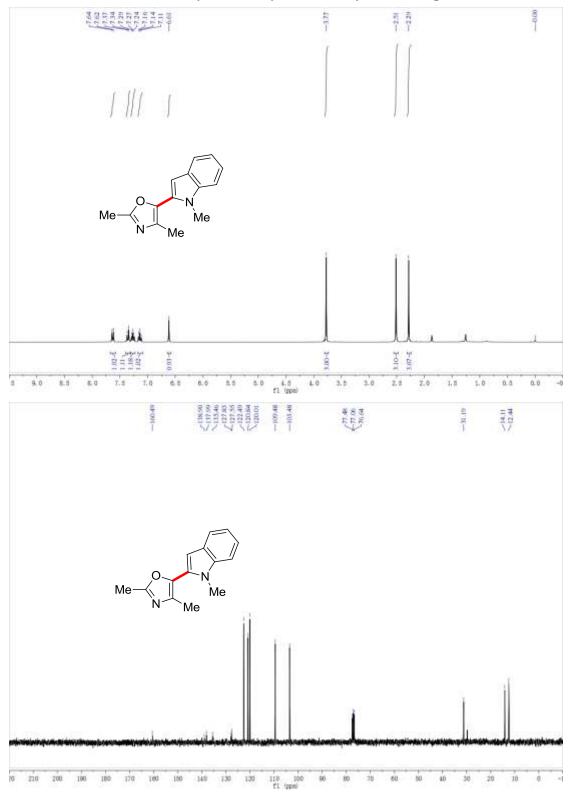
Methyl 5-(5-chloro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole-4-carboxylate (3p)



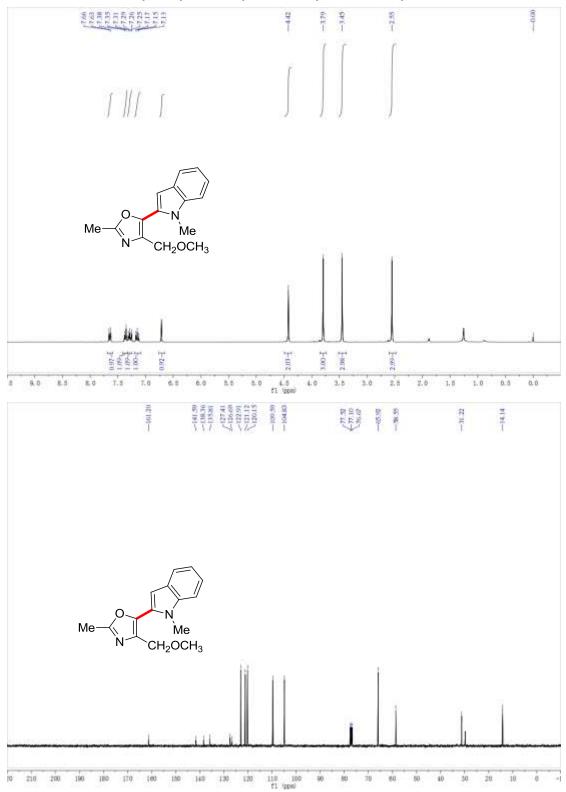
¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

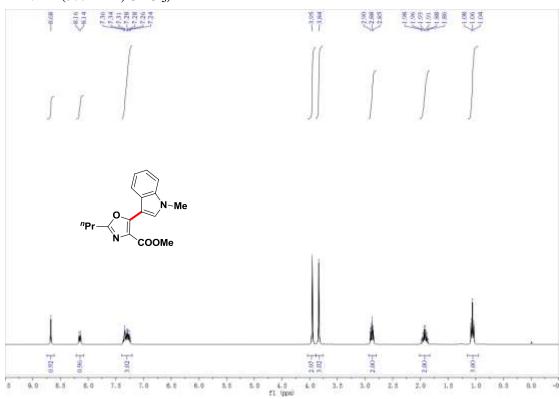


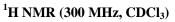


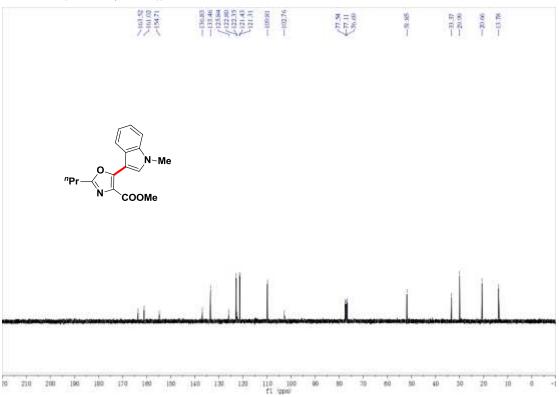
2, 4-dimethyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)oxazole (3q)



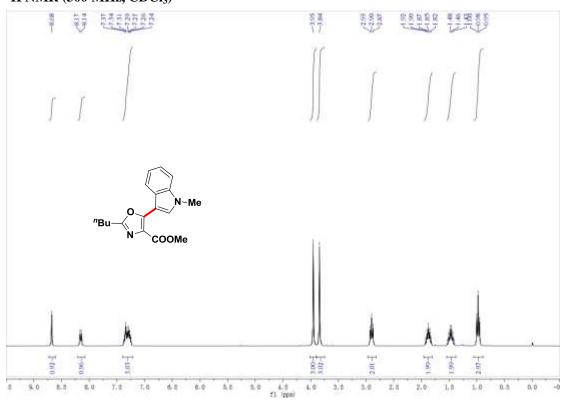
 $\label{eq:constraint} 4-(methoxymethyl)-2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl) oxazole~(3r)$





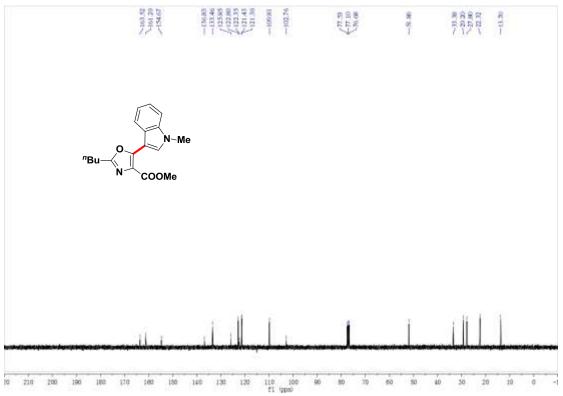


Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-butyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4b)

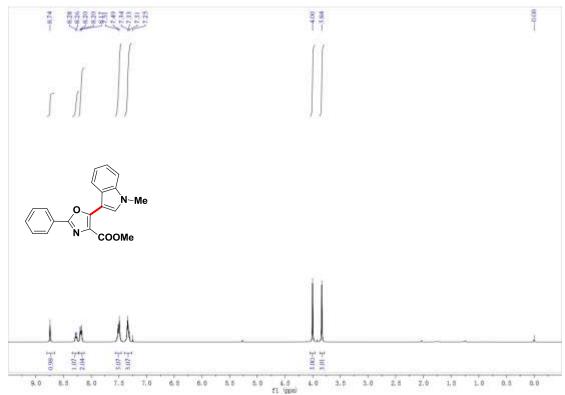


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



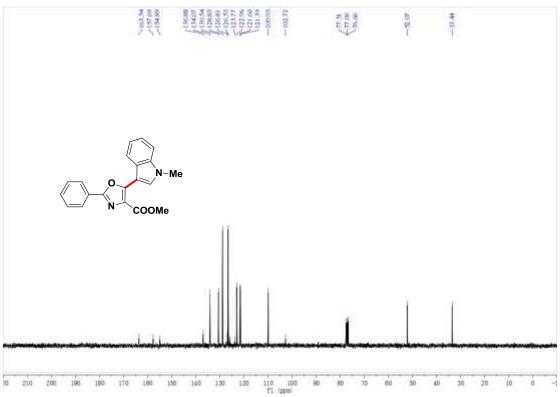


Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4c)

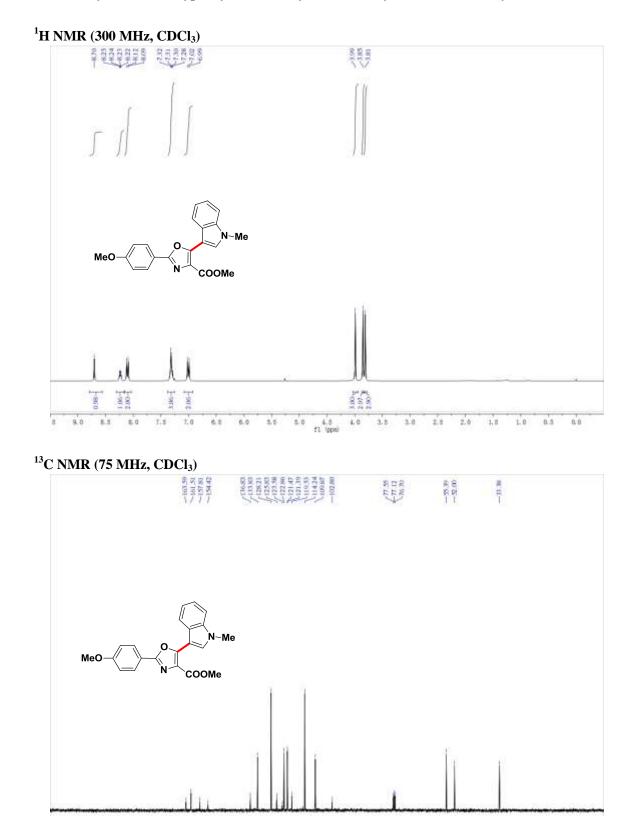


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

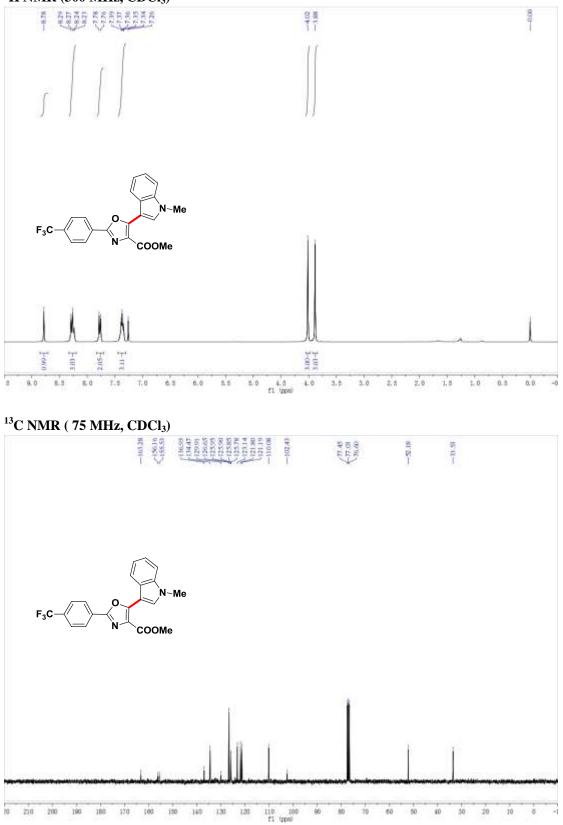




Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4d)

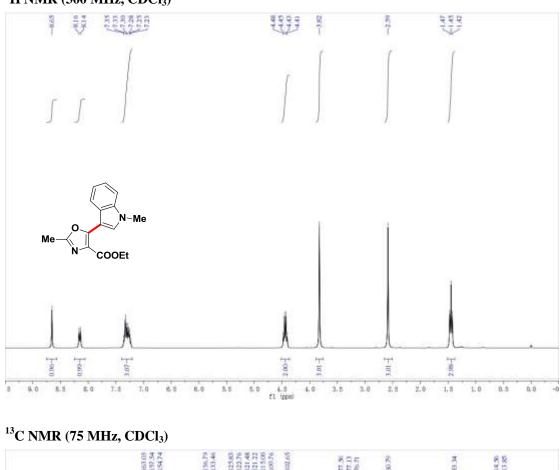


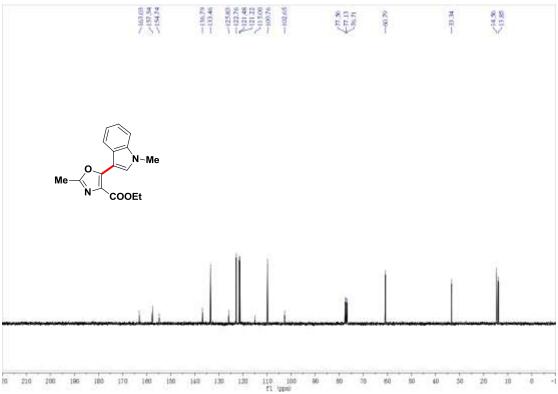




¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

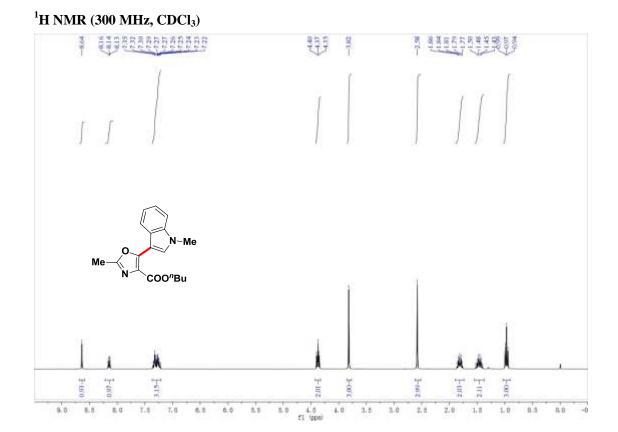
Ethyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4f)

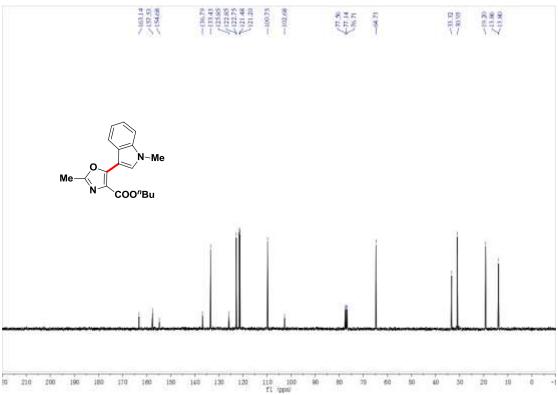




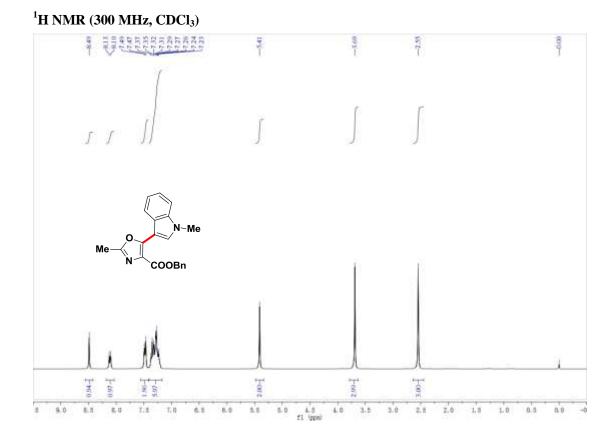
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



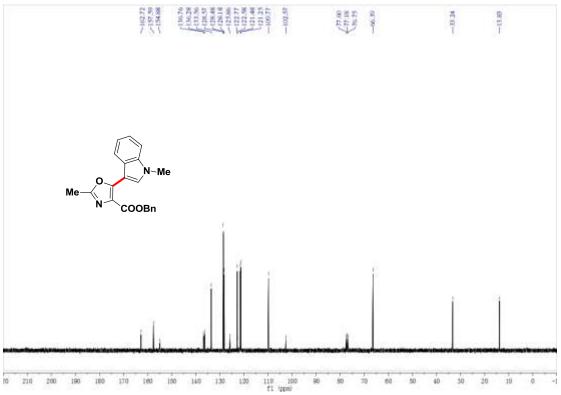




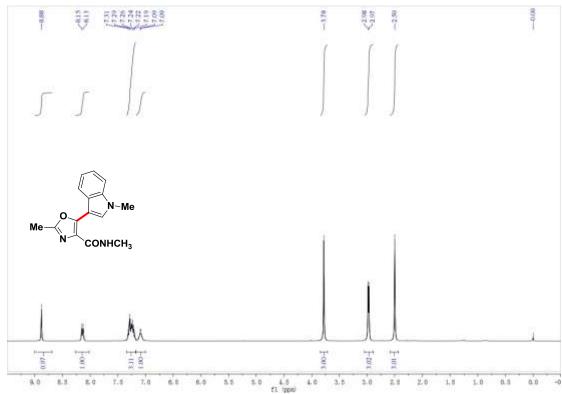
Benzyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxylate (4h)



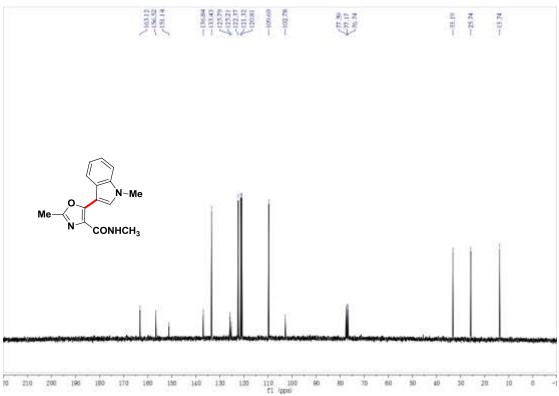




N,2-dimethyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)oxazole-4-carboxamide (4i)

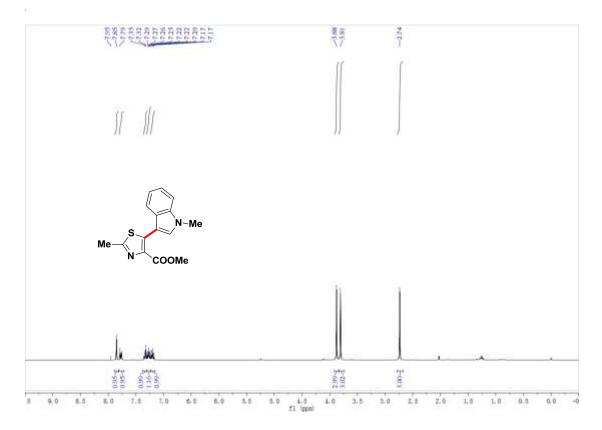


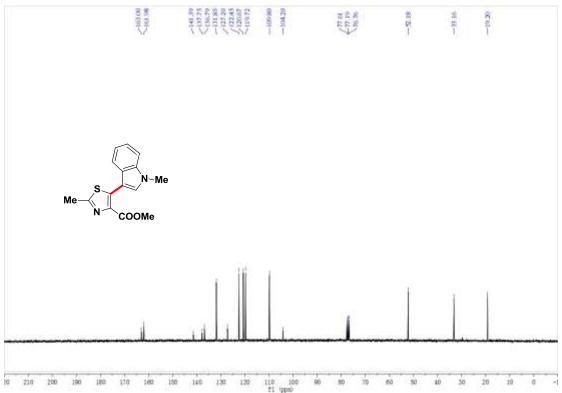
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



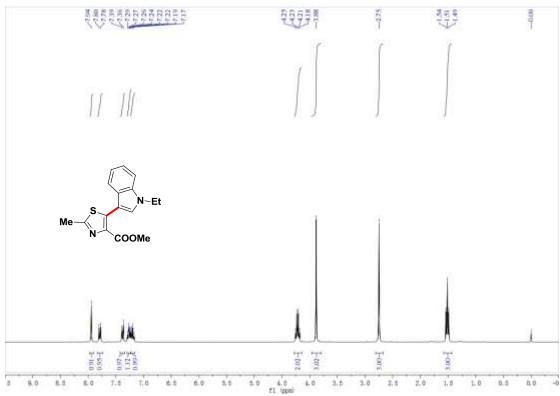
Methyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)thiazole-4-carboxylate (4j)

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

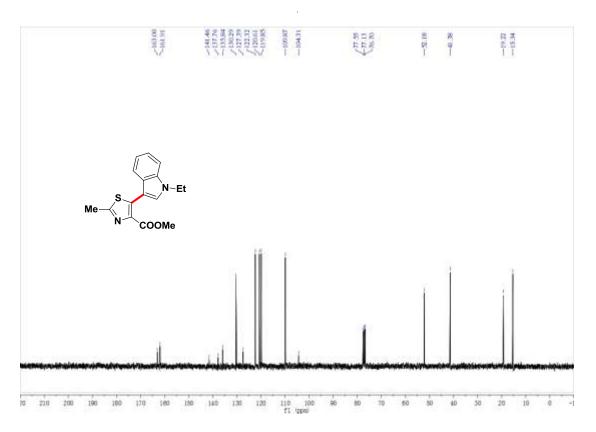




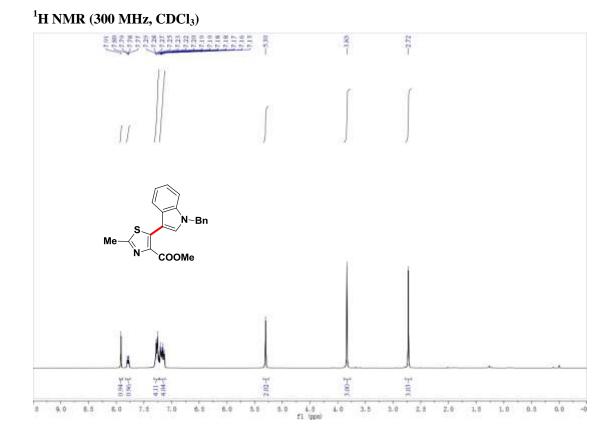
Methyl 5-(1-ethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4k)

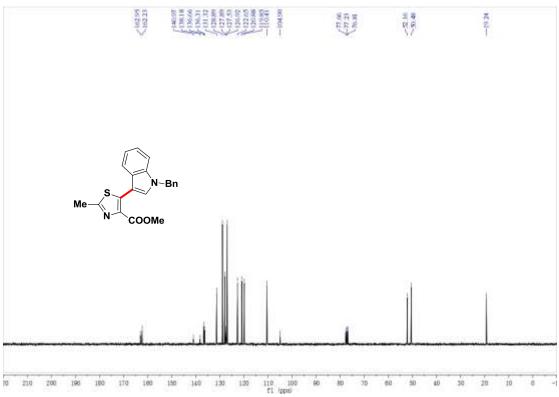


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

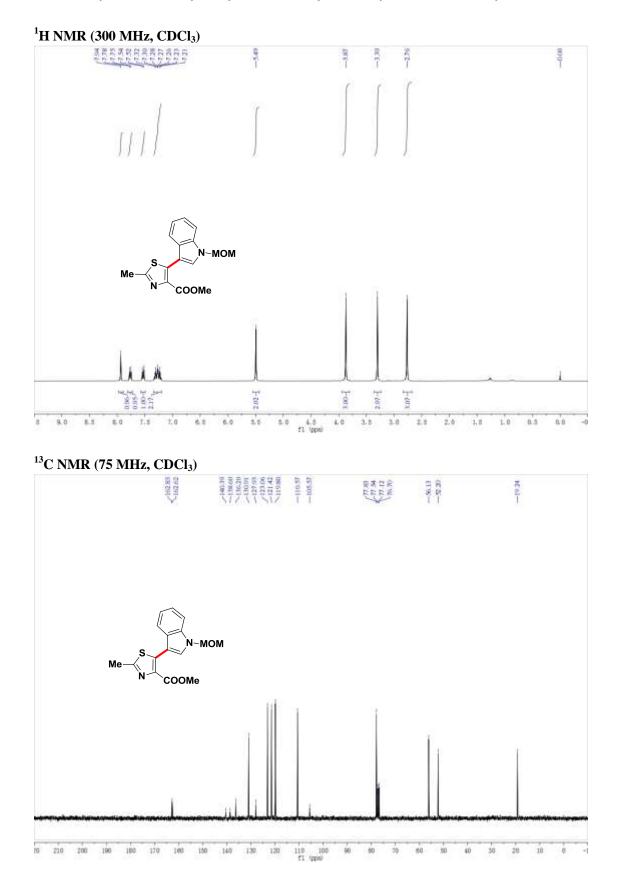


Methyl 5-(1-benzyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4l)

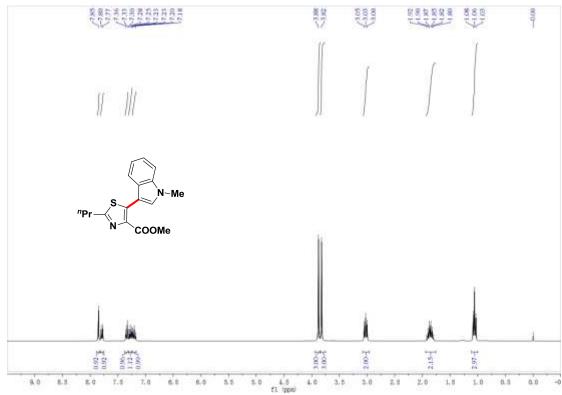




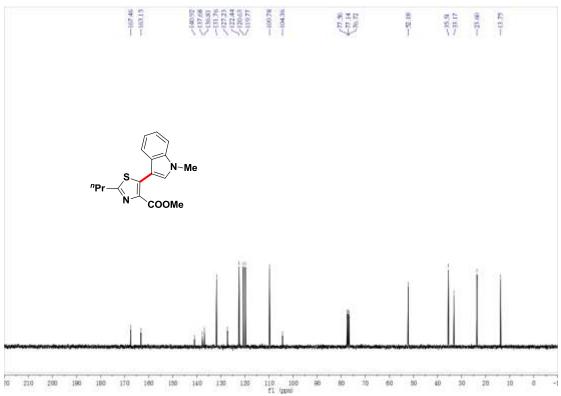
Methyl 5-(1-(methoxymethyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4m)



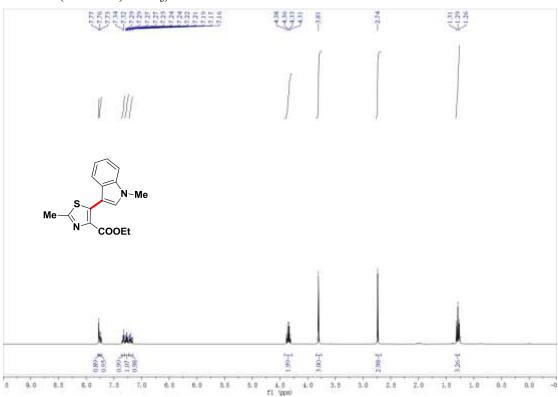
Methyl 5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-propylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4n)



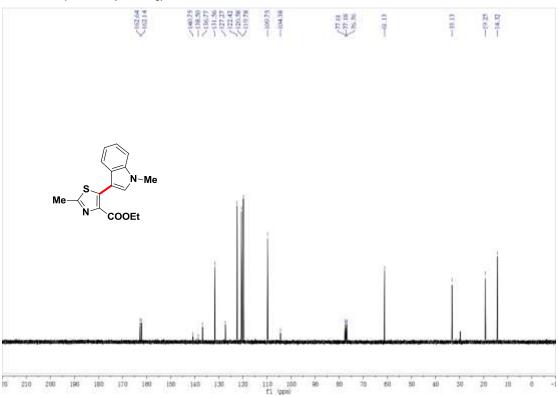
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



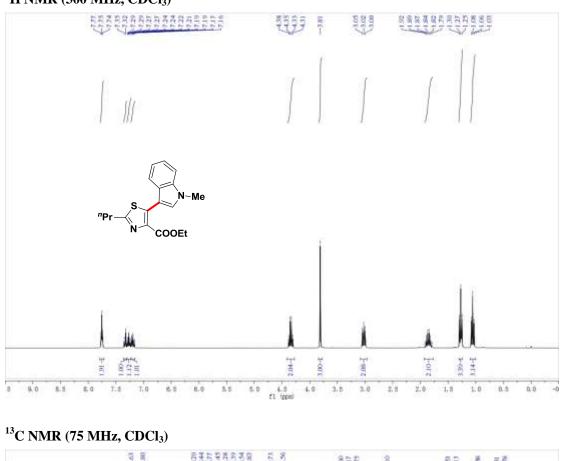
Ethyl 2-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)thiazole-4-carboxylate (40)

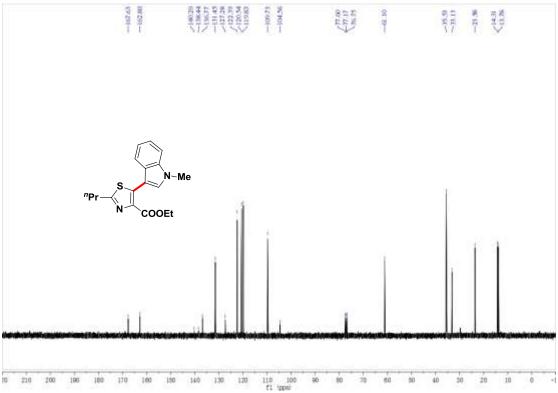


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

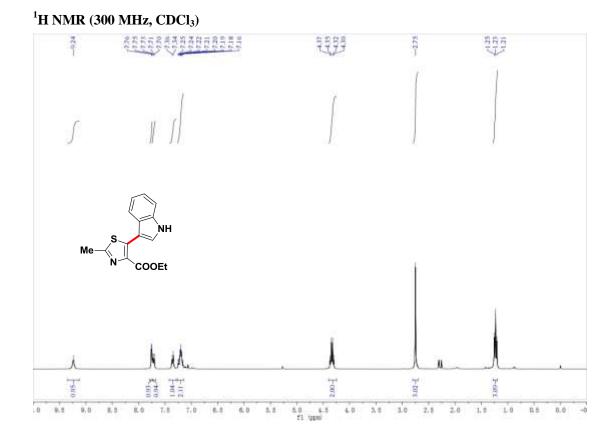


Ethyl 5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-propylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4p)

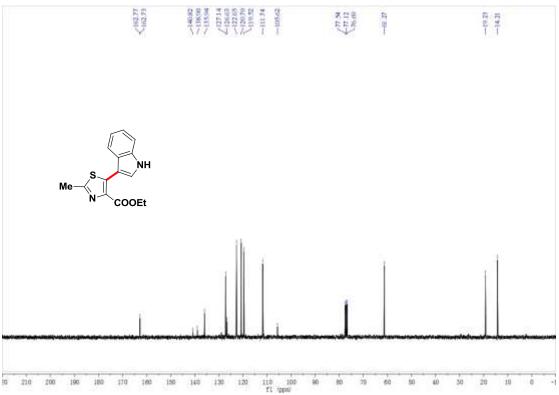


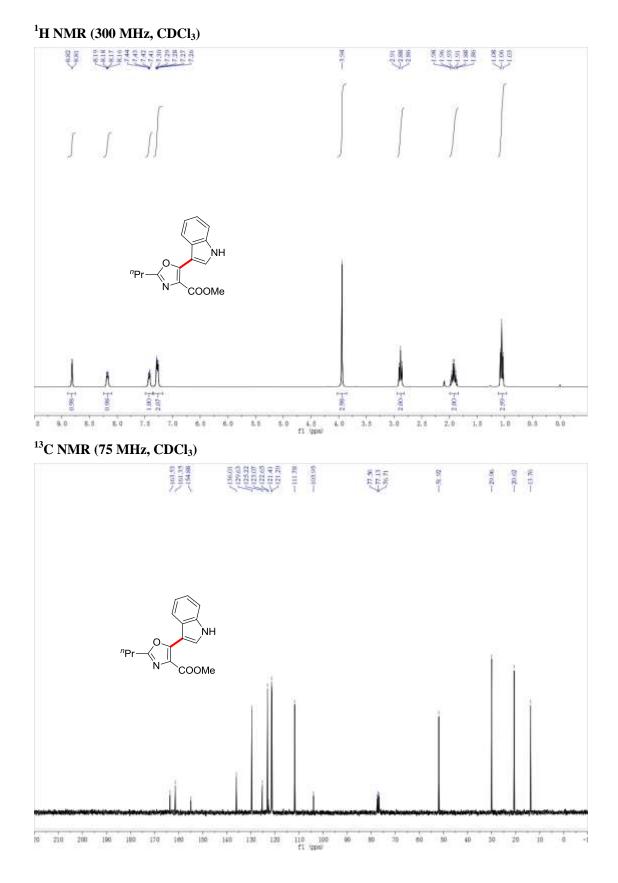


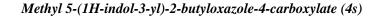
Ethyl 5-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methylthiazole-4-carboxylate (4q)

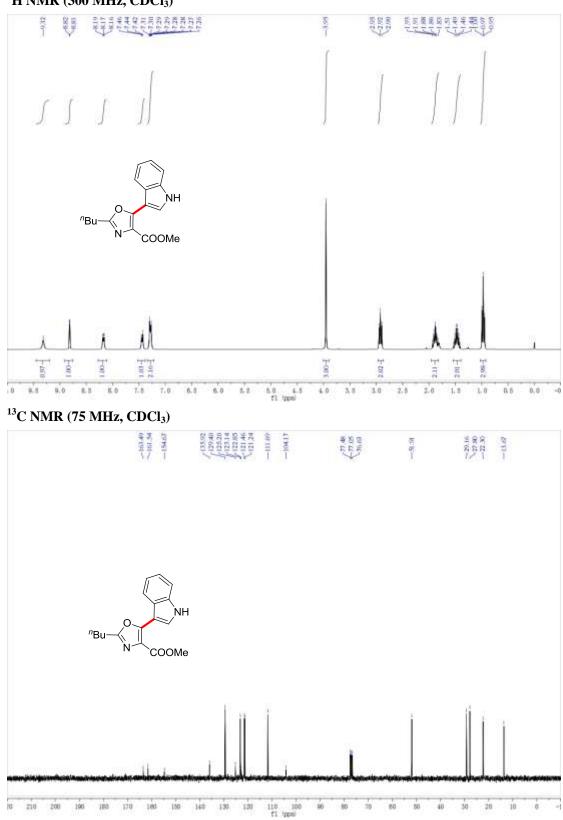


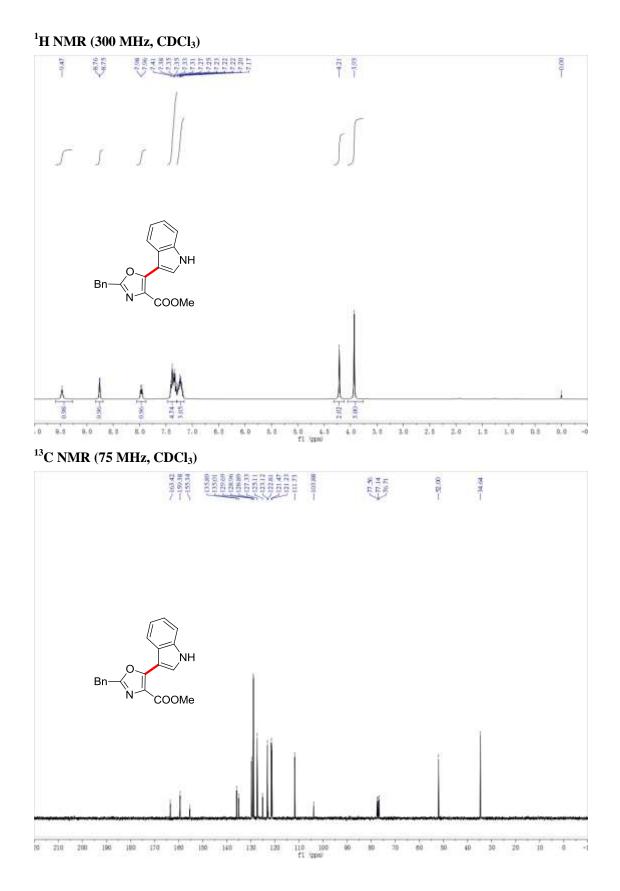




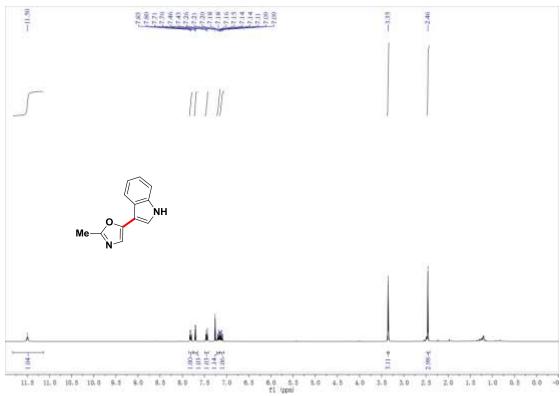








5-(1H-indol-3-yl)-2-methyloxazole (Pimprinine)



¹H NMR (300 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, d₆-DMSO)

