Azide Trapping of Metallocarbenes: Generation of Reactive C-Acylimines and Domino Trapping with Nucleophiles

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Supporting Information: Experimental procedures, physical data and NMR spectra for compounds

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General Information

Reactions were carried out in oven (130 °C) or flame-dried glassware under a positive argon atmosphere unless otherwise stated. Transfer of anhydrous reagents was accomplished with oven-dried syringes or cannulae. Solvents were distilled before use: acetonitrile (CH₃CN), dichloromethane (DCM) and dichloroethane (DCE) from calcium hydride, toluene (PhMe) from sodium metal, diethyl ether (Et₂O) and tetrahydrofuran (THF) from sodium metal/benzophenone ketyl. Microwave heating was carried out in a Biotage Initiator microwave reactor, using 2-5 mL microwave vials. Reaction temperature was determined through measurement of the vial surface temperature using an infrared sensor, then correction of internal temperature by the unit's processor using a proprietary algorithm. Thin layer chromatography was performed on glass plates pre-coated with 0.25 mm silica gel with fluorescent indicator UV_{254} (Rose Scientific). Flash chromatography columns were packed with 230-400 mesh silica gel (Silacycle). Proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (¹H NMR) were recorded at 300 MHz, 400 MHz, or 500 MHz and coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hertz (Hz). Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (¹³C NMR) were recorded at 100 MHz or 125 MHz. The chemical shifts are reported on the δ scale (ppm) and referenced to the residual solvent peaks: CDCl₃ (7.26 ppm, ¹H; 77.06 ppm, ¹³C), d_6 -DMSO (2.49 ppm, ¹H; 39.5 ppm, ¹³C) as internal standards.

Important safety precaution: While we did not observe any detonation during the preparation of **6a-e** and their subsequent reactions with the catalyst and nucleophiles, and **6b-e** are amenable to gram-scale reactions, both azides and diazo groups are potentially explosive and must be handled with care, especially when the (C+O)/N ratio of the molecular formula is less than 3. In particular, for compound **6a** we recommend limiting the scale of its preparation to ≤ 250 mg, although the procedure given is at a larger scale. Compounds **6a-e** should be stored under argon at ≤ -20 °C and protected from exposure to light when not in use.

Compound 6a:



Dichloromethane (35 mL) was added to a reaction flask containing 2-azidobenzoic acid (1.35 g, 8.3 mmol) and the suspension was cooled to 0 °C. Addition of 2,6-lutidine (1.4 mL, 16 mmol) resulted in a homogeneous reaction mixture that was subsequently treated with oxalyl chloride (1.9 mL, 16.4 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir at 0 °C, with gradual warming to room temperature overnight. Removal of the solvent provided a deep red solid that was immediately dissolved in Et₂O and cooled to -78 °C. Once cooled, the acid chloride solution was transferred via cannula into an ethereal solution of diazomethane (~5 equivalents, prepared from Diazald®) at -78 °C. The reaction was allowed to warm from -78 °C to room temperature overnight. Excess diazomethane was quenched by drop-wise addition of glacial acetic acid. The solution was subsequently washed with an equal volume of water (2x), 1 M NaOH (3x) and brine. The combined organic layers were then dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to provide yellow oil. Purification by flash chromatography, using a 9:1 mixture of hexanes:EtOAc, gave **6a** in 74 % yield. To prevent decomposition the product was stored under Ar in the freezer in a foil wrapped flask. Under these conditions the compound was stable over several months. *Inexperienced users should carry out this reaction at ~ ¼ scale*.

6a: bright yellow crystalline solid; (m.p. = 66-67 °C), $R_f = 0.5$ (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3138, 2199, 2119, 1603, 1590, 1567, 1479, 1445, 1347, 1313, 1286 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (br d, J = 6.3 Hz , 1H); 7.50 (ddd, J = 1.4, 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.18 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.9, 137.9, 132.8, 130.2, 129.3, 125.0, 118.9, 58.0; HRMS calc'd for C₈H₅N₅ONa [M + Na]⁺ 210.0386, found 210.0385.

General Procedure for the reaction of diazo-azide substrate 6a with external nucleophiles.

A solution of diazo-azide **6a** in toluene (0.04 M) was added via syringe pump over 1h to a solution of the nucleophile **8** (2 equiv, 0.04 M in toluene) and Cu(hfacac)₂ (10 mol %) at room temperature. These reactions were carried out using 50–70 mg (0.27–0.37 mmol) of **6a**. The reaction mixture turned dark brown over the course of the addition. Once the addition was complete, the reaction was monitored by TLC for consumption of the diazo-azide starting material. The reaction was typically complete within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the syringe pump addition. In most cases, the reaction mixture was washed with an equivalent volume of 0.5 M aqueous solution of K₂CO₃ and brine. The combined organic layers were then dried over MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography. One exception, for the formation of **7f** using Danishefsky's diene (**8g**) as the nucleophile, gave better results by evaporating the crude reaction mixture followed by direct column chromatography.

Compound 7a



Isolated as bright red needles in 78 % yield; m.p. = 219-221 °C; $R_f = 0.36$ (orange spot, 4:1 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (KBr pellet) 3302, 2924, 1715, 1683, 1638, 1615, 1573, 1465 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.21 (br s, 1H), 7.67-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 1.4, 7.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dt, J = 0.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98-6.96 (m, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 203.4, 197.6, 188.6, 152.9, 140.2, 137.7, 125.6, 122.6, 119.4, 116.8, 112.2, 32.3, 28.9; HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₁NO₃ [M]⁺ 229.0739, found 229.0714.

Compound 7b:



Isolated as orange/red needles in 96 % yield; m.p. = 183-185 °C; $R_f = 0.51$ (orange spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3362, 3057, 2997, 1720, 1662, 1606, 1468, 1309, 1209 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.85 (br s, 1H), 7.69 (br d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (app dt, J = 1.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (app dt, J = 0.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 186.8, 169.2, 152.8, 145.2, 137.4, 125.5, 121.6, 120.3, 111.6, 92.6, 51.8; HRMS calc'd for C₁₁H₉NO₃ [M]⁺ 203.0582, found 203.0609. Anal. cal'd for C₁₁H₉NO₃: C: 65.02, H: 4.46, N: 6.89, found C: 65.04, H: 4.63 N: 6.62. Spectral data were consistent with previously reported values (Okuma, K.; Matsunaga, N.; Nagahora, N.; Shioji, K.; Yokomuri, Y. *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, 5822–5824; note that these authors reported an X-ray crystal structure for **7b** that confirmed the Z-geometry).

Compound 7c:



Isolated as a yellow oil in 93 % yield; $R_f = 0.24$ (yellow spot, 4:1 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3364, 2980, 2951, 1726, 1692, 1620, 1489, 1471 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.82 (m, 1H), 4.95 (br s, 1H), 4.04 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.4, 176.9, 161.1, 137.0, 124.3, 122.6, 119.1, 112.5, 67.7, 52.3, 46.3, 20.9, 19.6; HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₃ [M]⁺ 233.1052, found 233.1045

Compound 7d:



Isolated as red/orange needles in 83 % yield; m.p. = 118-120°C; $R_f = 0.50$ (orange spot, 3:7 EtOAc:hexanes); IR (cast film) 3379, 2982, 2935, 1730, 1688, 1690, 1609, 1482, 1283, 1195,

1145, 754 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.17 (br s, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (app t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (app t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.6, 166.1, 164.7, 152.2, 142.4, 137.5, 125.6, 122.1, 119.9, 111.8, 102.2, 62.0, 61.7, 14.1, 13.9; HRMS calc'd for [C₁₅H₁₅NO₅ + Na]⁺ 312.0842, found 312.0837.

Compound 7e:



Isolated as purple solid with blue luster in 53 % yield; m.p. = 225-226 °C; $R_f = 0.52$ (purple spot, 3:7 EtOAc:hexanes); IR(cast film) 3051, 2924, 1719, 1610, 1558, 1457, 1368, 1291, 1157, 1141, 871, 771 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61 (m, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 0.8, 7.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.1, 163.7, 158.2, 137.6, 137.0, 136.2, 127.1, 126.1, 124.5, 123.8, 123.5, 122.9, 122.5, 121.1, 109.8, 106.8, 33.6; HRMS calc'd for [C₁₇H₁₂N₂O + H]⁺ 261.1022, found 261.1023.

Bis(indole) adduct:



Upon extended stirring with N-methylindole **8f**, minor amounts of a 2:1 adduct was observed as an insoluble precipitate: isolated as light green crystals; m.p. > 250 °C (dec.), $R_f = N.D.$ (3:7 EtOAc:hexanes; insoluble in variety of solvents, minimal solubility in cold DMSO); IR (microscope) 3420, 3048, 2941, 1696, 1619, 1547, 1537, 1332, 746 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.08 (br s (buried in m), 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (ddd, J = 1.0, 7.5, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (ddd, J = 0.5, 6.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) δ 201.5, 161.0, 138.0, 137.8, 128.7, 126.4, 125.0, 121.7, 121.1, 119.0, 118.1, 117.6, 113.5, 112.4, 110.3, 67.8, 32.8; HRMS cal'd for $[C_{26}H_{21}N_3O + Na]^+$ 414.1582, found 414.1575.

Compound 7f:



Isolated as a bright orange powder in 75 % yield; m.p. = 213-214 °C; $R_f = 0.18$ (red spot, 9:1 EtOAc:MeOH); IR (KBr pellet) 3116, 3064, 1710, 1669, 1644, 1607, 1595, 1554, 1493, 1470, 1329, 1310 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (app br d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (app dt, J = 1.3, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dt, J = 0.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 2.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.9, 180.6, 147.1, 139.4, 137.2, 130.5, 126.4, 126.2, 123.2, 118.9, 116.3, 110.4. HRMS calc'd for C₁₂H₇NO₂ [M]⁺ 197.0477, found 197.0470.

Compound 9a:



Dichloromethane (10 ml) was added to a conical flask containing 2-azidobenzoic acid (350 mg, 2.2 mmol) and the suspension was cooled to 0 °C before addition of methyl acetate (175 μ L, 2.2 mmol) and trichloroacetyl chloride (290 μ L, 2.6 mmol). This solution was slowly transferred *via* cannula to a suspension of NaH (60 % dispersion in oil, 105 mg, 2.6 mmol) in DCM (3 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 15 min the solution was cooled to -45 °C before the addition of 1-methylimidazole (205 μ L, 2.6 mmol). The solution was stirred for an additional 10 minutes at -45 °C before slowly adding TiCl₄ (825 μ L, 7.5 mmol) followed by NBu₃ (2 mL, 8.4 mmol). The dark red/brown solution was kept at -45 °C for 30 minutes before being warmed to 0 °C and subsequently quenched with water (10 mL). The organic layer was separated and the aqueous washed 3x with equal portions of Et₂O. The combined organic layers were washed with an equivalent volume of water and brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under

reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 1:4 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 322 mg (68 %) of **9a** as a pale yellow oil: $R_f = 0.60$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2953, 2128, 1746, 1680, 1650, 1627, 1480, 1449, 1289, 1254, 1203 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) *as a 4:1 mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ (keto) 7.84 (ddd, J = 0.5, 1.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (ddd, J = 1.7, 7.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 2H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H); δ (enol) 7.78 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (ddd, J = 1.6, 7.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 2H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H) *enol proton not detected*; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) *as a mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ 192.9, 173.4, 168.7, 168.1, 139.1, 137.9, 133.9, 131.6, 131.1, 129.9, 129.4, 125.7, 125.0, 124.8, 119.2, 119.1 92.6, 52.3, 51.6, 49.6; HRMS calc'd for C₁₀H₀N₃O₃Na [M + Na]⁺ 242.0536, found 242.0536.

Compound 9b:



Compound **9b** was prepared analogously to the procedure described for Compound **9a**, using 2azido-4-chlorobenzoic acid as the starting material in place of 2-azidobenzoic acid. Isolated as a yellow oil in 76 % yield: $R_f = 0.70$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2953, 2115, 1745, 1680, 1589, 1249, 807 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) *as a 5:2 mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ (keto) 7.66 (dd, J = 0.4, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H); δ (enol) 7.60(dd, J = 0.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 2H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H) *enol proton not detected*; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) *as a mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ 191.4, 173.2, 167.8, 167.0, 140.4, 139.8, 139.0, 137.2, 132.4, 130.9, 127.4, 125.3, 125.0, 123.7, 119.1(2x), 92.7, 52.2, 51.5, 49.3; HRMS calc'd for C₁₀H₈³⁵ClN₃O₃Na [M + Na]⁺ 276.0146, found 276.0144.

Compound 9c:



Compound **9c** was prepared analogously to the procedure described for Compound **9a**, using 2azido-3-methylbenzoic acid as the starting material in place of 2-azidobenzoic acid. Isolated as a light yellow oil in 56 % yield: $R_f = 0.63$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2955, 2110, 1740, 1680, 1601, 1251, 807 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) *3:1 mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ (keto) 7.53 (br d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.14 (app t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.37 (br s, 3H); δ (enol) 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.22 (br d, J = 7.6 Hz 1H), 7.09 (app t, J= 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H) *enol proton not detected*; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) *as a mixture of keto:enol tautomers* δ 193.7, 173.0, 170.9, 167.7, 137.2, 135.9, 135.3, 133.7, 133.1, 132.9, 131.6, 128.7, 128.0, 127.7, 125.4, 92.2, 52.9, 52.4, 51.5, 48.4, 40.5, 18.1; HRMS calc'd for C₁₁H₁₁N₃O₃Na [M + Na]⁺ 256.0693, found: 256.0695

Compound 6b:



Triethylamine (715 μ L, 5.1 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of ketoester **9a** (1.02 g, 4.65 mmol) in CH₃CN (19 ml). Tosyl azide (916 mg, 4.65 mmol) in CH₃CN (9 mL) was transferred *via* cannula into the flask and the reaction was left to stir overnight. Concentration under reduced pressure followed by purified *via* flash chromatography (silica gel, 17:3 hexanes:EtOAc) resulted in a quantitative yield of **6b** (1.14 g) as a pale yellow solid. To prevent decomposition the product was stored under Ar in the freezer in a foil wrapped flask. Under these conditions the compound was stable over several months.

6b: m.p. = 76-78 °C; $R_f = 0.54$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2956, 2132, 1729, 1700, 1633, 1597, 1486, 1446, 1438, 1334, 1316, 1287 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 1.5, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.7, 160.9, 137.7, 137.5, 131.9, 130.3, 128.4, 124.8, 118.3, 52.3; HRMS calc'd for $C_{10}H_7N_5O_3$ [M]⁺ 245.0549, found 245.0549.

Compound 6d:



Compound **6d** was prepared analogously to the procedure described for Compound **6b**, using compound **9b** as the starting material in place of Compound **9a**. Isolated as a light orange oil in 94 % yield: $R_f = 0.65$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2956, 2113, 1729, 1633, 1591, 1318, 907 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.15 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.6, 160.7, 139.2, 137.8, 129.7, 128.7, 125.1, 118.6, 52.4 (diazoketone ¹³C signal was not detected due to broadening); HRMS calc'd for C₁₀H₆³⁵ClN₅O₃Na [M + Na]⁺ 302.0051, found: 302.0054.

Compound 6e:



Compound **6e** was prepared analogously to the procedure described for Compound **6b**, using compound **9c** as the starting material in place of Compound **9a**. Isolated as yellow oil in 88 % yield: $R_f = 0.59$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2956, 2122, 1725, 1630, 1455, 1306, 1200, 1126, 750 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 160.8, 135.5, 133.7, 132.5, 132.4, 126.1, 125.4, 52.4, 17.9 (diazoketone ¹³C signal was not detected due to broadening); HRMS calc'd for C₁₁H₉N₅O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 282.0598, found: 282.0598.

Preparation of Compound 6c:



Dichloromethane (10 ml/ 350 mg acid) was added to a conical flask containing 2-azido benzoic acid (1.0-1.2 g, 6.3-7.5 mmol) and the suspension was cooled to 0 °C before addition of allyl acetate (1.0 equiv) and trichloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). This solution was slowly transferred via cannula to a suspension of NaH (1.2 equiv) in DCM (3 mL/350 mg acid) at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 15 min the solution was cooled to -45 °C before the addition of 1methylimidazole (1.2 equiv). The solution was stirred for an additional 10 minutes at -45 °C before slowly adding TiCl₄ (3.4 equiv) followed by NBu₃ (4.0 equiv). The dark red/brown solution was kept at -45 °C for 30 minutes before being warmed to 0 °C and subsequently quenched with water (10 mL/ 350 mg acid). The organic layer was separated and the aqueous washed 3x with equal portions of DCM. The combined organic layers were washed with an equivalent volume of water and brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was partially purified by flash chromatography to afford orange oil whose R_f was about 0.7 (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc). The orange oil was concentrated and added to a stirred solution of triethylamine (1.2 equiv) in CH₃CN (20 mL/1.2 equiv). Tosyl azide (1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (9 mL/1.0 equiv) was transferred via cannula into the flask and the reaction was left to stir overnight. Concentration under reduced pressure followed by purification via flash chromatography (silica gel, 8:2 hexanes: EtOAc \rightarrow 7:3 hexanes: EtOAc slowly added in gradient) furnished **6c** as a yellow oil in 46 % yield (from starting 2-azidobenzoic acid). **6c**: $R_f = 0.59$ (7:3 hexanes: EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2956, 2122, 1725, 1630, 1455, 1306, 1200,

6C: $K_f = 0.39$ (7.5 nexales: EtoAc); iK (cast 1111) 2936, 2122, 1723, 1650, 1433, 1506, 1200, 1126, 750 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (ddd, J = 1.7, 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (ddd, J = 0.6, 1.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 2H), 5.80 (app tdd, J = 5.8, 10.4, 17.2 Hz 1H), 5.22 (app tdd, J = 1.5, 1.5, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (app tdd, J = 1.3, 1.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.62-4.60 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.6, 160.2, 137.7, 131.9, 131.3, 130.4, 128.5, 124.7, 119.0, 118.3, 65.9 (diazoketone ¹³C signal was not observed due to broadening); HRMS calc'd for C₁₂H₉N₅O₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 294.0598, found: 294.0594.

Representative procedure for reaction of 6b-e with nucleophiles: Compound 7g:



A solution of diazo-azide **6b** in toluene (0.04 N) was added to a solution of 1-methoxy-1trimethoxysiloxyethene **8a** (2 equiv, 0.04 N in toluene) and Cu(hfacac)₂ (10 mol %) at reflux *via* syringe pump over 1h. The reaction mixture turned dark brown over the course of the addition. Once the addition was complete, the reaction was monitored by TLC for consumption of the diazo-azide starting material. Upon consumption of **6b**, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and then washed with an equivalent volume of 0.5 M aqueous solution of K₂CO₃ and brine. The combined organic layers were then dried over MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to yield 89 % of **7g** as a yellow oil: $R_f = 0.3$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3377, 2955, 1743, 1617, 1488, 1469, 1214 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (br d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 0.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.88 (m, 1H), 5.61 (br s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.55 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.0, 171.5, 167.8, 161.8, 138.0, 125.4, 120.3, 119.2, 113.3, 71.5, 53.6, 52.2, 39.6; HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₃NO₅ [M]⁺ 263.0794, found: 263.0794.

Similar procedures were followed in the preparation of **7h-p**. These reactions were carried out using 250 mg (0.92 mmol) of **6b**. Reactions with **6c-e** were run at a similar scale.

Compound 7h:



Isolated as a yellow oil in 48 % yield: $R_f = 0.38$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3373, 2994, 2954, 1743, 1617, 1488, 1471, 1281, 1252, 1196, 1149 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (br d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (ddd, J = 1.3, 7.1, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (br d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dt, J = 0.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.8, 176.5, 168.4, 160.9, 137.6, 124.9, 121.3, 119.9, 112.8, 75.4, 53.3, 52.4, 49.6, 21.0, 20.1; HRMS calc'd for C₁₅H₁₇NO₅ [M]⁺ 291.1107, found 291.1106.

Compound 7i:



Isolated as a yellow solid in 72 % yield: m.p. = 80–81 °C; $R_f = 0.31$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3366, 3051, 1744, 1702, 1616, 1485, 1293, 742 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (app dt, J = 1.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.26 (app dt, J = 0.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (app dt, J = 0.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (app t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (br s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 195.2, 169.1, 161.0, 137.9, 137.4, 128.0 126.0, 125.4, 122.3, 120.4, 120.0, 119.9, 119.5, 113.6, 109.8, 109.8, 72.4, 53.8, 32.9; HRMS calc'd for C₁₉H₁₇N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺ 321.1234, found: 321.1233.

Compound 7j:



Isolated as a yellow oil in 71 % yield: $R_f = 0.48$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3379, 2953, 2919, 1745, 1702, 1619, 1487, 1221, 753 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.67-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (app t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (br s, 1H), 4.37 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.22 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 197.7, 195.0, 168.1, 162.0, 138.1, 135.8, 133.9, 128.8, 128.3, 125.4, 120.1 119.1, 113.2, 71.9, 53.6, 44.8; HRMS calc'd for C₁₈H₁₆NO₄ [M + H]⁺ 310.1074, found: 310.1074

Compound 7k:



Isolated as yellow powder in 63% yield: m.p. 92 °C (dec.); $R_f = 0.43$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3371, 3051, 2919, 1742, 1703, 1615, 1485, 1225, 743 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.72 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (ddd, J = 1.3, 7.1, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26 (ddd, J = 1.1, 7.0, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 1.1, 7.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (app t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (app tdd, J = 5.6, 10.5, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (br s, 1H), 5.29 (app tdd, J = 1.5, 1.5, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (app tdd, J = 1.2, 1.2, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (app tdd, J = 1.5, 5.5, 13.5 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (app tdd, J = 1.5, 5.5, 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 194.7, 168.3, 161.0, 137.8, 137.4, 131.2, 128.1, 126.0, 125.4, 122.2, 120.2, 119.9(2x), 119.8, 119.1, 113.5, 109.8, 109.7, 72.5, 67.1, 32.9; HRMS calc'd for C₂₁H₁₉N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺ 347.1390, found: 347.1393.

Compound 71:



Isolated as yellow oil in 52 % yield: $R_f = 0.55$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3379, 2918, 1744, 1702, 1619, 1487, 1220, 753 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.01-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.66 (br d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (m, 1H) 7.53-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (app t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (app tdd, J = 5.5, 10.5, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (buried br s, 1H), 5.28 (app tdd, J = 1.5, 1.5, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (app tdd, J = 1.3, 1.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (app tdd, J = 1.0, 5.5, 13.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (app tdd, J = 1.0, 5.5, 13.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (app tdd, J = 1.0, 5.5, 13.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (app tdd, J = 1.0, 5.5, 13.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, J = 18.2 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (d, J = 18.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.6, 195.0, 167.3, 162.0, 138.0, 135.9, 133.9, 131.3, 128.8, 128.2, 125.4, 120.0, 119.1, 118.6, 113.2, 72.0, 66.9, 44.8; HRMS calc'd for C₂₀H₁₈NO₄ [M + H]⁺ 336.1230, found: 336.1230.

Compound 7m:



Isolated as a light yellow oil in 73 % yield: $R_f = 0.40$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3368, 2955, 1746, 1716, 1612, 1438, 1214, 922 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 1.6, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (br s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.58 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.6, 171.4, 167.5, 161.9, 144.7, 126.4, 121.2, 117.7, 113.1, 71.9, 53.8, 52.3, 39.5; HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₃³⁵CINO₅ [M + H]⁺ 298.0477, found: 298.0474

Compound 7n:



Isolated as bright yellow crystals in 76 % yield: m.p. = 194-195°C; $R_f = 0.35$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3364, 3052, 2952, 1746, 1711, 1610, 1242, 741 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.61 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (ddd, J = 1.0, 1.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (ddd, J = 1.1, 1.8, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.10 (ddd, J = 1.1, 7.0, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, J = 0.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.3 Hz, 1H) 5.80 (br s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.3, 168.6, 161.1, 144.5, 137.3, 128.0, 126.4, 125.8, 122.3, 121.1, 120.1, 119.3, 118.1, 113.3, 109.8, 109.3, 72.7, 53.9, 32.9; HRMS calc'd for C₁₉H₁₆³⁵ClN₂O₃ [M + H]⁺ 355.0844, found: 355.0846

Compound 7o:



Isolated as light yellow oil in 76 % yield: $R_f = 0.43$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3394, 2955, 1747, 1709, 1612, 1221, 787 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.00 (dd, J = 1.0, 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (app dt, J = 1.3, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 0.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.00 (dd, J = 0.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (br s, 1H), 4.37 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.22 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 197.5, 193.5, 167.7, 162.1, 144.7, 135.7, 134.0, 128.8, 128.3, 126.3, 120.9, 117.5, 113.0, 72.3, 53.7, 44.6; HRMS calc'd for C₁₈H₁₅³⁵CINO₄ [M + H]⁺ 344.0684, found: 344.0686$

Compound 7p:



Isolated as yellow powder in 68 % yield: m.p. = 170-171 °C; $R_f = 0.35$ (yellow spot, 7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR(cast film) 3359, 3055, 2950, 1746, 1705, 1608, 1460, 1241, 743 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.07 (app t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (app t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (br s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.2, 169.2, 160.2, 137.9, 137.4, 128.1, 126.1, 122.8, 122.7, 122.2, 120.5, 119.9, 119.5, 119.5, 110.0, 109.8, 72.5, 53.8, 32.9, 15.8; HRMS calc'd for C₂₀H₁₉N₂O₃ [M + H]⁺ 335.1396, found: 335.1388

Compound 10:



Isolated as a yellow oil; $R_f = 0.33$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 3373, 2990, 2952, 1710, 1619, 1487, 1472 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (br s, 1H), 4.91 (br s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 200.2, 177.9, 160.3, 138.0, 125.1, 120.0, 119.9, 112.4, 89.4, 52.7, 47.6, 21.1, 18.8; HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₄ [M]⁺ 249.1001, found 249.1000.

Compound 11:



Isolated as a yellow oil; $R_f = 0.64$ (7:3 hexanes:EtOAc); IR (cast film) 2993, 2953, 1766, 1644, 1608, 1475, 1465 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (br d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.78 (m,

1H), 7.61 (br d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 162.8, 159.3, 146.1, 136.4, 128.6, 128.4, 127.2, 117.0, 52.8, 49.3, 23.5 (x2); HRMS calc'd for C₁₃H₁₃NO₄ [M]⁺ 247.0845, found 247.0844.

Tryptanthrin 13:



Anthranilic acid (2.0 equiv) in toluene (20 mL) solution was added with thionyl chloride (2.0 equiv) and the solution was heated at reflux for 2 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt then a toluene solution of $Cu(hfacac)_2(0.1 \text{ equiv})$ was added and stirred for 30 mins. The solution was then allowed to warm to 40 - 50 °C before a toluene solution of **6a** (49 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1.0 equiv, 0.04 M) was added via syringe pump over 1 h and then stirred for an additional 6 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool and was washed with equivalent volume of 1.0 M aq K₂CO₃ and brine. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford black crude material. The mixture was dissolved in small amount of DCM and purified by column chromatography using (silica gel; $20\% \rightarrow 30 \rightarrow 40\%$ EtOAc in hexane gradient elution to furnish 40 mg (62 %) of 13 as a fibrous yellow solid (minimal solubility in CHCl₃ and DMSO): m.p. 262-264 °C; $R_f = 0.72$ (yellow spot, 1:1 EtOAc:hexanes); IR(cast film) 2920, 1735, 1694, 1468, 1316, 775, 757 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$ δ 8.65 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.94 (m, 3H), 7.69 (app t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H) 7.44 (app t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$ δ 182.6, 158.2, 146.7, 146.4, 144.4, 138.3, 135.2, 130.8, 130.3, 127.6, 127.2, 125.4, 123.8, 122.0, 118.0; HRMS calc'd for $C_{15}H_8O_2N_2$ [M]⁺ 248.0586, found 248.0585.











Pulse Sequence: s2pul



S-22



Chloro diazo azide CDCl3 1H

Pulse Sequence: s2pul





Pulse Sequence: s2pul

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Bren+Jordan, BA_03-43_Methy1_diazo_azide





Compound 7a







S-30

DEBM TRAP

Pulse Sequence: PRESAT





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7d





Pulse Sequence: PRESAT



N-methylindoletrap 13C_CDC13

Pulse Sequence: s2pul
















0E-S







Compound 7h









Pulse Sequence: s2pul

BA

E





S-51



BA ALL1H

Pulse Sequence: s2pul



Pulse Sequence: s2pul

ALL1



Pulse Sequence: PRESAT









S-58













Mixture of compounds 9 and 9'



Mixture of Compounds 9 and 9'





n



S-68







Compound 10






Tryptanthrin 13C CDC13

