

## Supporting Information

# **I<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed oxidative cyclization synthesis indolizines from aromatic/aliphatic olefins and $\alpha$ -picoline derivatives via C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H bond activation**

Likui Xiang, Fuming Zhang, Baohua Chen, Xiaobo Pang, Xiaodong Yang, Guosheng Huang, Rulong Yan\*

*State Key Laboratory of Applied Organic Chemistry, Key laboratory of Nonferrous Metal Chemistry and Resources Utilization of Gansu Province, Department of Chemistry, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou, P. R. China*  
*E-mail: yanrl@lzu.edu.cn, Fax: +86 931 8912596; Tel: +86 931 8912586*

### Table of Contents

Experimental Section	S 2-19
NMR spectra	S 20-87

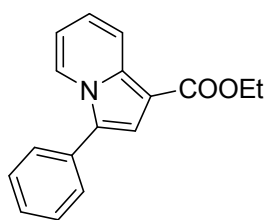
## General remark

$^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on 400MHz and 100MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . All chemical shifts are given as  $\delta$  value (ppm) with reference to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. All compounds were further characterized by HRMS; copies of their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra are provided. Products were purified by flash chromatography on 100–200 mesh silica gels. All melting points were determined without correction. Unless otherwise noted, commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification.

## Experimental section

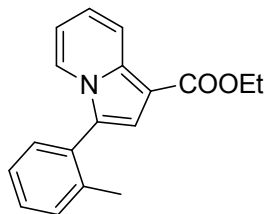
The styrene (**1a/4a**, 2.0 mmol), ethyl 2-(pyridin-2-yl)acetate (**2a**, 1.0 mmol),  $\text{I}_2$  (0.05 mmol), TMEDA (0.2 mmol) and TBHP (3.0 mmol) were mixed in NMP (5 mL) and this mixture was at 120 °C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to rt and then extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (15 ml $\times$ 3). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The solvent was evaporated in vacuo and the crude product was purified by column chromatography, eluting with petroleum ether/EtOAc (40:1) to afford the desired indolizines (**3aa/5aa**).

### Characterization data of products 3 and 5.



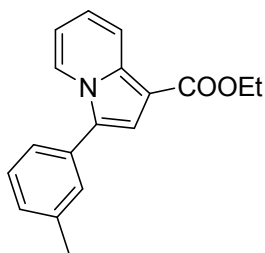
### ethyl 3-phenylindolizine-1-carboxylate (**3aa**).

White solid, melting point: 61-62 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22-8.18 (m, 2 H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1 H), 7.23 (s, 1 H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 1 H), 6.64-6.60 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.0, 136.4, 131.3, 129.1, 128.6, 128.0, 126.4, 123.4, 122.2, 120.2, 116.1, 112.6, 104.3, 59.5, 14.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 266.1176, found :266.1172.



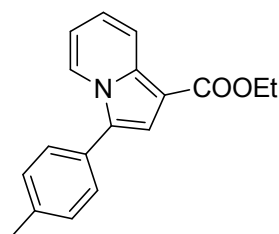
**ethyl 3-(o-tolyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ba).**

Brown oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.20-8.17 (d, *J* = 12 Hz, 1 H), 7.53-7.51 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H), 7.32-7.17 (m, 4 H), 7.14 (s, 1 H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1 H), 6.59-6.56 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.03 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 138.5, 135.6, 131.5, 130.5, 130.4, 129.1, 126.2, 125.5, 123.7, 121.9, 120.0, 116.2, 112.4, 103.7, 59.5, 19.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 280.1332, found : 280.1330.



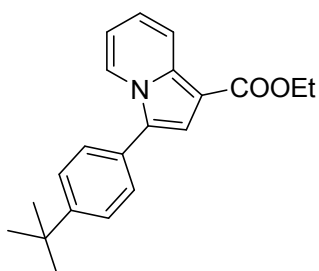
**ethyl 3-(m-tolyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ca).**

Brown oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.23-8.17 (m, 2 H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 3 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 1 H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 1 H), 6.64-6.60 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 138.9, 136.3, 131.2, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 126.6, 125.6, 123.5, 122.1, 120.2, 116.0, 112.5, 104.2, 59.5, 21.5, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 280.1332, found : 280.1335.



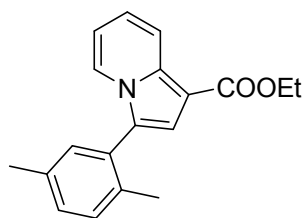
**ethyl 3-(p-tolyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3da).**

Green oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.20-8.17 (m, 2 H), 7.37-7.35 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 3 H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1 H), 6.63-6.59 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$ , 2 H), 2.36 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 138.0, 136.2, 129.8, 128.6, 128.3, 126.5, 123.4, 122.0, 120.1, 115.8, 112.4, 104.1, 59.5, 21.3, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 280.1332, found : 280.1330.



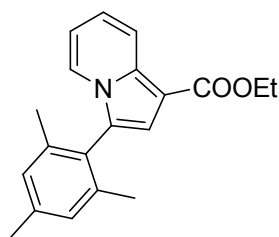
**ethyl 3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ea).**

White solid, melting point: 118-124 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.24-8.17 (m, 2 H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.21 (s, 1 H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1 H), 6.63-6.59 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.31 (s, 9 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.1, 151.1, 136.2, 128.3, 126.5, 126.0, 123.5, 122.1, 120.1, 115.8, 112.4, 104.1, 59.5, 34.7, 31.3, 14.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 322.1802, found : 322.1805.



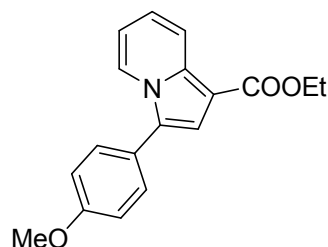
**ethyl 3-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3fa).**

Green oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.19 -8.17 (m, 1 H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.07 (m, 4 H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 1 H), 6.60-6.56 (m, 1 H), 4.35-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.28 (s, 3 H), 1.98 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 135.7, 135.6, 135.2, 132.0, 130.4, 130.2, 129.8, 125.8, 123.8, 121.8, 119.9, 116.1, 112.3, 103.6, 59.5, 20.8, 19.1, 14.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 294.1489, found : 294.1493.



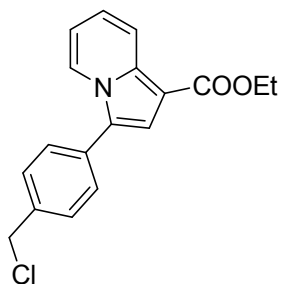
**ethyl 3-mesitylindolizine-1-carboxylate (3ga).**

Colourless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.19 -8.16 (m, 1 H), 7.32-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1 H), 7.01-6.94 (m, 3 H), 6.58-6.54 (m, 1 H), 4.35-4.30 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 2.29 (s, 3 H), 1.88 (s, 6 H), 1.38-1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.3, 139.4, 139.0, 135.4, 128.5, 126.8, 124.0, 123.3, 121.7, 119.9, 116.2, 112.3, 103.6, 59.5, 21.2, 19.8, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 308.1645, found : 308.1643.



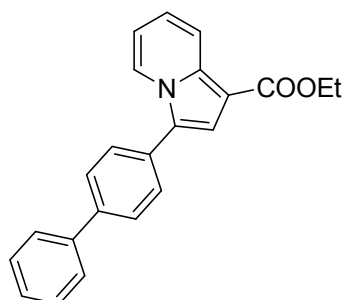
**ethyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ha).**

Brown solid, melting point: 96-98 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.18-8.12 (m, 2 H), 7.39-7.37 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1 H), 7.00-6.94 (m, 3 H), 6.63-6.59 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 159.5, 136.1, 130.2, 126.2, 123.6, 123.3, 122.0, 120.1, 115.6, 114.5, 112.4, 104.0, 59.5, 55.4, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 296.1281, found : 296.1280.



**ethyl 3-(4-(chloromethyl)phenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ia).**

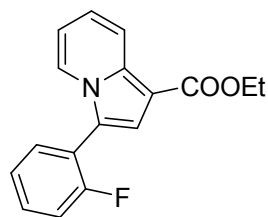
Green oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.23-8.19 (m, 2 H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 4 H), 7.24 (s, 1 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.63 (m, 1 H), 4.59 (s, 2 H), 4.35-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.37-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.0, 137.1, 136.5, 131.5, 129.4, 128.8, 125.7, 123.3, 122.4, 120.3, 116.4, 112.8, 104.5, 59.6, 45.9, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClNO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 314.0943, found : 314.0940.



**ethyl 3-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ja).**

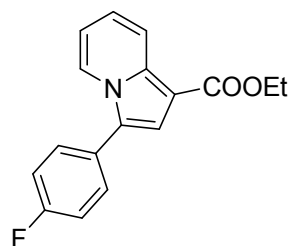
Green solid, melting point: 183-185°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.31-8.29 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 8.22-8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.67-7.60 (m, 2 H), 7.58-7.55 (m, 4 H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 2 H), 7.34-7.29 (m, 1 H), 7.19 (s, 1 H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 1 H), 6.68-6.65 (m, 1 H), 4.36-4.30 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.38-1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 140.8, 140.4, 136.5, 130.2, 128.9, 128.88, 127.8, 127.6, 127.1, 126.1, 123.5, 122.3, 120.3, 116.2, 112.7, 104.4, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$

calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 342.1489, found : 342.1489.



**ethyl 3-(2-fluorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ka).**

Green oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22-8.20 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 1 H), 7.44-7.33 (m, 2 H), 7.28 (s, 1 H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 2 H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 1 H), 6.68-6.64 (m, 1 H), 4.35-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.9, 161.4, 158.9, 136.5, 131.98-131.95 (d, *J* = 3 Hz, 1C), 130.3-130.2 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 1C), 124.8-124.7 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 1C), 124.33-124.29 (d, *J* = 4 Hz, 1C), 122.4, 120.5, 119.9, 119.0-118.9 (d, *J* = 10 Hz, 1C), 117.5, 116.3-116.1 (d, *J* = 20 Hz, 1C), 112.5, 104.4, 59.6, 14.6. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 284.1081, found : 284.1079.

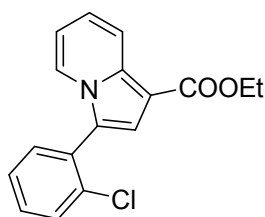


**ethyl 3-(4-fluorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3la).**

White oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.21-8.18 (m, 1 H), 8.12-8.10 (m, 1 H), 7.45-7.42 (m, 2 H), 7.20 (s, 1 H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 2 H), 7.02-6.98 (m, 1 H), 6.66-6.62 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.0, 163.7, 161.2,

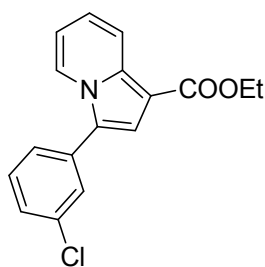


136.3, 130.6-130.5 (d,  $J = 10$  Hz, 2 C), 127.4-127.3 (d,  $J = 10$  Hz, 1 C), 125.3, 123.1, 122.2, 120.2, 116.3-116.1 (m, 1 C), 112.7, 104.3, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}FNO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 284.1082, found : 284.1085.



**ethyl 3-(2-chlorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3ma).**

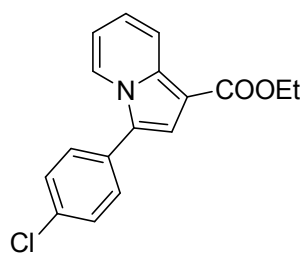
Colourless oil.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.22-8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.62-7.60 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.34 (m, 4 H), 7.33 (s, 1 H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.63 (m, 1 H), 4.35-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  165.0, 136.0, 135.0, 133.2, 130.17, 130.12, 130.05, 129.4, 128.8, 127.2, 124.3, 123.4, 122.4, 119.9, 117.2, 112.3, 104.0, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{15}ClNO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 300.0786, found : 300.0788.



**ethyl 3-(3-chlorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3na).**

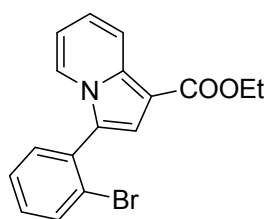
Yellow solid, melting point: 96-98 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.20-8.18 (m, 2 H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz, 1 H), 7.36-7.27 (m, 3 H), 7.24 (s, 1 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.64 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.28 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2

H), 1.36-1.32 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.9, 136.6, 135.0, 133.1, 130.4, 128.4, 128.0, 126.5, 124.8, 123.2, 122.5, 120.3, 116.7, 112.9, 104.6, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 300.0786, found : 300.0785.



**ethyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (30a).**

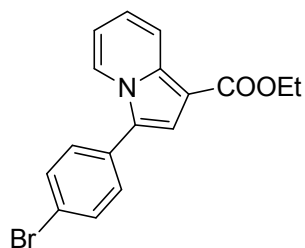
Green solid, melting point: 58-60 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.21-8.14 (m, 2 H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.63 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.9, 136.5, 133.8, 129.8, 129.7, 129.4, 125.1, 123.1, 122.4, 120.3, 116.4, 112.9, 104.5, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 300.0786, found : 300.0783.



**ethyl 3-(2-bromophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3pa).**

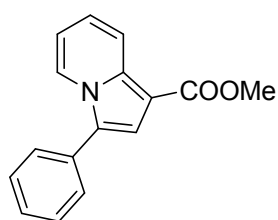
colourless oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.22-8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.67-7.65 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.58-7.57 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 1 H), 7.36-7.35 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 2 H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 2 H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 1 H), 6.66-6.62 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.32 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR

(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.0, 135.8, 133.5, 133.3, 132.2, 130.4, 127.8, 125.4, 124.8, 124.3, 122.4, 119.9, 117.0, 112.3, 103.8, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 344.0281, found : 344.0282.



**ethyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3qa).**

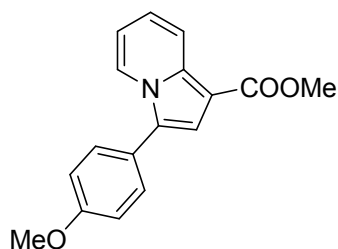
Yellow solid, melting point: 91-93 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.20-8.14 (m, 2 H), 7.56-7.54 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 2 H), 7.35-7.33 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 2 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.63 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.9, 136.5, 132.3, 130.2, 130.0, 125.1, 123.1, 122.4, 121.9, 120.3, 116.4, 112.9, 104.5, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 344.0281, found : 344.0279.



**methyl 3-phenylindolizine-1-carboxylate (3ab).**

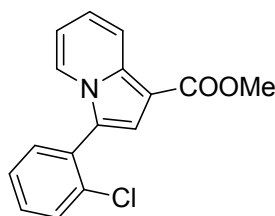
Yellow solid, melting point: 87-88 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.23-8.18 (m, 2 H), 7.48-7.41 (m, 4 H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 6.66-6.62 (m, 1 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.4, 136.4, 131.3, 129.1, 128.7, 128.0, 126.5, 123.4,

122.3, 120.2, 116.0, 112.6, 103.9, 50.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{16}H_{14}NO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 252.1019, found : 252.1014.



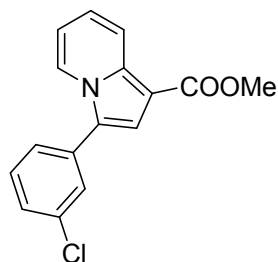
**methyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3hb).**

Yellow oil, melting point: 117.3-118.4 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.19-8.13 (m, 2 H), 7.39-7.37 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2 H), 7.19 (s, 1 H), 7.01-6.94 (m, 3 H), 6.64-6.61 (m, 1 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  165.5, 159.5, 136.1, 130.2, 126.3, 123.5, 123.4, 122.1, 120.1, 115.5, 114.5, 112.5, 103.6, 55.4, 50.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{17}H_{16}NO_3$   $[M+H]^+$  : 282.1125, found : 282.1129.



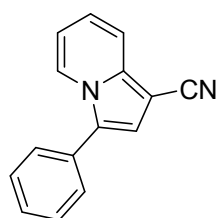
**methyl 3-(2-chlorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3mb).**

Green oil.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.22-8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.62-7.61 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 1 H), 7.49-7.47 (m, 1 H), 7.39-7.29 (m, 3 H) 7.23 (s, 1 H), 7.07-7.03 (m, 1 H), 6.67-6.64 (m, 1 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  165.4, 136.1, 135.0, 133.2, 130.2-130.0(m, 1C), 127.2, 124.3, 123.4, 122.6, 119.9, 117.1, 112.4, 103.6, 51.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{16}H_{13}ClNO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 286.0630, found : 286.0629.



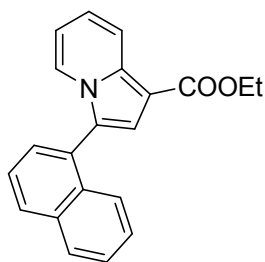
**methyl 3-(3-chlorophenyl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (3nb).**

Green oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.21-8.19 (m, 2 H), 7.47 (s, 1 H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 3 H), 7.23 (s, 1 H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 1 H), 6.70-6.66 (m, 1 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.2, 136.7, 135.0, 133.0, 130.4, 128.4, 128.1, 126.6, 124.9, 123.2, 122.7, 120.2, 116.6, 113.0, 104.2, 51.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 286.0630, found : 286.0626.



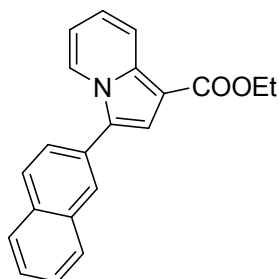
**3-phenylindolizine-1-carbonitrile (3ca).**

Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.22-8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.63-7.61 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 5 H), 7.03-6.98 (m, 2 H), 6.99-6.65 (m, 1 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.4, 130.2, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 127.0, 123.8, 122.3, 118.3, 116.9, 116.3, 113.1, 82.3. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 219.0917, found : 219.0912.



**ethyl 3-(naphthalen-1-yl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (5aa).**

Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.25 -8.23 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.90-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.50 (m, 3 H), 7.49-7.39 (m, 1 H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 3 H), 7.02-6.98 (m, 1 H), 6.52-6.48 (m, 1 H), 4.37-4.31 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.37-1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.2, 136.0, 133.9, 132.3, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 126.9, 126.3, 125.7, 125.4, 124.3, 124.2, 122.2, 120.0, 117.5, 112.3, 104.0, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 316.1332, found : 316.1335.

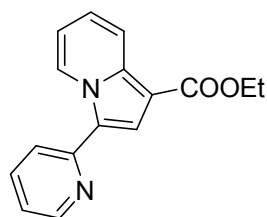


**ethyl 3-(naphthalen-2-yl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (5ba).**

Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.39-8.38 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 1 H), 8.31-8.29 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.97-7.94 (d,  $J = 12$  Hz, 1 H), 7.90-7.86 (m, 2 H), 7.66-7.63 (m, 1 H), 7.56-7.51 (m, 2 H), 7.41 (s, 1 H), 7.12-7.08 (m, 1 H), 6.75-6.71 (m, 1 H), 4.43-4.38 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.45-1.42 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 136.5, 133.6, 132.8, 128.8, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 126.7, 126.5,

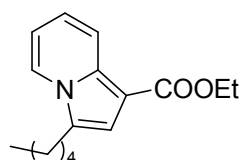
126.4, 123.4, 122.4, 120.3, 116.5, 112.8, 104.5, 59.6, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)

$m/z$  calcd for  $C_{21}H_{18}NO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 316.1332, found : 316.1330.



**ethyl 3-(pyridin-2-yl)indolizine-1-carboxylate (5ca).**

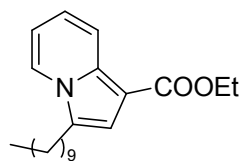
colourless oil.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  10.01-9.99 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 8.57-8.56 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 1 H), 8.24-8.22 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.70 (s, 1 H), 7.66-7.65 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 2 H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 2 H), 6.82-6.78 (m, 1 H), 4.36-4.31 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.39-1.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  164.9, 151.9, 148.3, 137.9, 136.6, 127.9, 123.7, 123.6, 121.2, 120.7, 119.4, 117.9, 113.1, 104.6, 59.7, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $C_{16}H_{15}N_2O_2$   $[M+H]^+$  : 267.1128, found : 267.1127.



**ethyl 3-pentylindolizine-1-carboxylate (5da).**

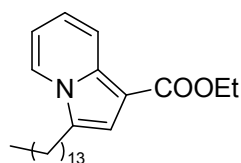
Green oil.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.13-8.11 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.78-7.76 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 6.97-6.94 (m, 2 H), 6.70-6.66 (m, 1 H), 4.32-4.27 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 2.72-2.68 (m, 2 H), 1.75-1.67 (m, 2 H), 1.38-1.29 (m, 7 H), 0.87-0.84 (m, 3 H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  165.2, 135.6, 125.8, 122.7, 121.1, 120.0, 113.6, 112.1, 102.8, 59.4, 31.7, 26.6, 25.7, 22.5, 14.7, 14.0. HRMS calcd for  $C_{16}H_{22}NO_2$   $[M+H]^+$  :

260.1645; found: 260.1642.



**ethyl 3-decylindolizine-1-carboxylate (5ea).**

Yellow solid, melting point: 36-37 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 -8.11 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H), 7.77-7.76 (d, *J* = 4 Hz, 1 H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 2 H), 6.69-6.65 (m, 1 H), 4.32-4.26 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.71-2.67 (m, 2 H), 1.73-1.63 (m, 2 H), 1.38-1.20 (m, 17 H), 0.83-0.79 (m, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 135.6, 125.8, 122.7, 121.1, 120.0, 113.6, 112.1, 102.8, 59.4, 31.9, 29.61, 29.56, 29.50, 29.45, 29.3, 26.9, 25.7, 22.7, 14.7, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 330.2428, found : 330.2429.

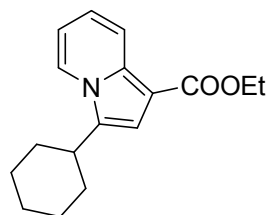


**ethyl 3-tetradecylindolizine-1-carboxylate (5fa).**

Yellow solid, melting point: 38-40°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13-8.11 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H), 7.77-7.76 (d, *J* = 4 Hz, 1 H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 2 H), 6.69-6.65 (m, 1 H), 4.32-4.26 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.71-2.67 (m, 2 H), 1.73-1.66 (m, 2 H), 1.35-1.19 (m, 25 H), 0.82-0.79 (m, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.2, 135.6, 125.8, 122.7, 121.1, 120.0, 113.6, 112.1, 102.8, 59.4, 31.9, 29.70, 29.66, 29.6, 29.51, 29.46, 29.4, 26.9, 25.7, 22.7, 14.7, 14.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>40</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> :

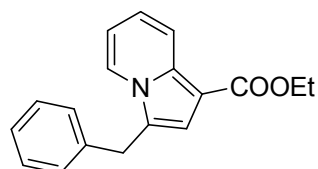


386.3054, found : 386.3051.



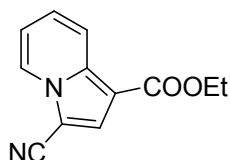
**ethyl 3-cyclohexylindolizine-1-carboxylate (5ga).**

Colourless solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.14 -8.11 (d,  $J = 12$  Hz, 1 H), 7.84-7.82 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 6.96-6.92 (m, 2 H), 6.67-6.64 (m, 1 H), 4.32-4.26 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 2.74-2.69 (m, 2 H), 2.03-2.01 (m, 2 H), 1.83-1.72 (m, 3 H), 1.43-1.27 (m, 8 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.3, 135.6, 131.2, 122.8, 121.1, 120.2, 112.0, 111.7, 102.9, 59.4, 35.0, 26.5, 26.3, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 272.1645, found : 272.1645.



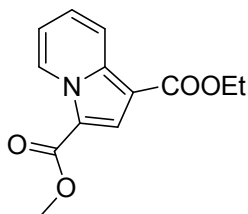
**ethyl 3-benzylindolizine-1-carboxylate (5ha).**

Red oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.16-8.13 (d,  $J = 12$  Hz 1 H), 7.66-7.64 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz 1 H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 4 H), 7.11-7.09 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz 2 H), 7.02 (s, 1 H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 1 H), 6.61-6.56 (m, 1 H), 4.32-4.27 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 1.35-1.32 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  165.1, 136.9, 136.1, 128.8, 128.4, 126.8, 123.5, 123.1, 121.5, 120.0, 116.0, 112.3, 103.0, 59.5, 32.4, 14.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 280.1332, found : 280.1334.



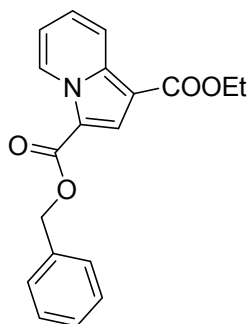
**ethyl 3-cyanoindolizine-1-carboxylate (5ja).**

Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.28 -8.25 (m, 2 H), 7.73 (s, 1 H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.95 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.29 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.32 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  163.3, 137.8, 126.0, 125.7, 125.2, 120.5, 115.0, 112.7, 106.0, 96.6, 60.3, 14.5. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 215.0815, found : 215.0817.



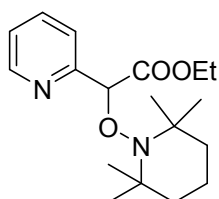
**1-ethyl 3-methyl indolizine-1,3-dicarboxylate (5ka).**

White solid, melting point: 92-94 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.46-9.44 (m, 1 H), 8.28-8.26 (m, 1 H), 7.92 (s, 1 H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 1 H), 6.94-6.90 (m, 1 H), 4.34-4.28 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 3.85 (s, 3 H), 1.36-1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.2, 161.6, 139.1, 127.9, 125.7, 124.4, 119.6, 114.4, 105.3, 59.9, 51.4, 14.6. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_4$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 248.0917, found : 248.0916.



**3-benzyl 1-ethyl indolizine-1,3-dicarboxylate (5la).**

Green oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.47 -9.46 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 1 H), 8.28-8.26 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.96 (s, 1 H), 7.41-7.19 (m, 6 H), 6.93-6.90 (m, 1 H), 5.31 (s, 2 H), 4.33-4.28 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2 H), 1.36-1.32 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.2, 160.9, 139.2, 136.2, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 125.8, 124.6, 119.6, 114.5, 114.3, 105.4, 65.9, 60.0, 14.6. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_4$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 324.1231, found : 324.1229.



**Ethyl 2-(pyridin-2-yl)-2-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl)oxy)acetate (A).** Green oil .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.49-8.48 ( m, 1 H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 1 H), 7.54-7.52 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1 H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1 H), 5.33 (s, 1 H), 4.17-4.03 (m, 2 H), 1.49-1.47 (m, 2 H), 1.42-1.40 (m, 2 H), 1.37-1.14 (m, 8 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H ), 1.04 (s, 3 H), 0.63 (s, 3 H ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.2, 158.0, 149.0, 136.7, 122.8, 121.7, 89.7, 61.0, 60.0, 40.1, 33.2, 32.9, 20.2, 17.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{K}$   $[\text{M}+\text{K}]^+$  : 359.1732, found : 359.1731.

