Supporting Information

Iminyl-Radicals by Electrochemical Decarboxylation of *a*-Imino-oxy Acids: Construction of Indole-fused Polycyclics

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1. General Information

Commercial solvents and reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise noted.

Electrolysis reactions were conducted using a Model QJ3005T (32V) DC power supply purchased from Ningbo Jiuyuan Electronic Co., Ltd., China.

Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) plates and the silica gel (200 - 300 mesh) for column chromatography were phased from Qingdao Haiyang Chemical and Special Silica Gel Co, Ltd.

Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR), carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) and fluorine nuclear magnetic resonance (¹⁹F NMR) spectroscopy were performed on Bruker Advance III-400 spectrometers (400 MHz for ¹H NMR, 101 MHz for ¹³C NMR, 377 MHz for ¹⁹F NMR) and Bruker AscendTM 500 spectrometers (500 MHz for ¹H NMR, 126 MHz for ¹³C NMR, 471 MHz for ¹⁹F NMR). Chemical shifts of ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were reported as in units of parts per million (ppm) downfield from TMS (δ 0.0 ppm) and relative to the signal of CDCl₃ (δ 7.26 ppm for ¹H NMR and δ 77.2 ppm for ¹³C NMR) and DMSO-*d*₆ (δ 2.50 ppm for ¹H NMR and δ 39.5 ppm for ¹³C NMR). Multiplicities were given as: s (singlet); br s (broad singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); m (multiplets), etc. The number of protons (n) for a given resonance was indicated by nH.

Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on a Brucker TENSOR 27 FTIR spectrophotometer and are reported as wavelength numbers (cm⁻¹). Infrared spectra were recorded by preparing a KBr pellet containing the title compounds.

HR-MS was carried out on a high-resolution mass spectrometer (LCMS-IT-TOF and LCMS-Q Exactive).

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) analysis was performed on Ingsens IGS-1030 electrochemical workstation (Ingsens Instruments (Guangzhou) Co., Ltd., China) with a conventional three electrode cell, using a glassy carbon electrode (GCE) (d = 3 mm) as working electrode, a Pt wire as counter electrode and saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as a reference electrode. Cyclic voltammograms were recorded at 100 mV/s scan rate.

2. Optimization of Reaction Conditions.

Table 1. Optimization of reaction conditions^a



| entry | Deviation from standard conditions | Yield (%) ^b |
|-------|--|---------------------------|
| 1 | None | 82 |
| 2 | HFIP as solvent | 58 |
| 3 | TFE as solvent | 36 |
| 4 | HFIP/TFE (1:1) as solvent | 59 |
| 5 | HFIP/TFE (2:3) as solvent | 47 |
| 6 | HFIP/MeOH (4:1) as solvent | 64 |
| 7 | HFIP/MeCN (4:1) as solvent | 39 |
| 8 | No <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 41 |
| 9 | <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr (0.5 equiv.) | 58 |
| 10 | <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr (1.0 equiv.) | 71 |
| 11 | 0.2M <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr without <i>n</i> -Bu ₄ NBF ₄ | 63 |
| 12 | K ₂ CO ₃ instead of Cs ₂ CO ₃ | 64 |
| 13 | Na ₂ CO ₃ instead of Cs ₂ CO ₃ | 69 |
| 14 | Graphite rod as anode | 25 |
| 15 | Pt plate as anode | 18 |
| 16 | Without current | n.d. |

^{*a*}Reaction conditions: undivided cell, RVC anode, Pt cathode, **1a** (0.25 mmol), *n*Bu₄NBr (0.7 equiv.), *n*Bu₄NBF₄ (0.2 M), Cs₂CO₃ (0.5 equiv.), HFIP (4 mL), TFE (1 mL), I = 3 mA, 6.5 h (2.9 Fmol⁻¹), RT. ^{*b*}Yield determined by ¹H-NMR analysis using nitromethane as the internal standard.

Table S2. Screening of mediator.^[a]



| entry | Deviation from standard conditions | Yield $(\%)^b$ |
|-------|---|----------------|
| 1 | None | 82 |
| 2 | NaBr instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 54 |
| 3 | KBr instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 59 |
| 4 | <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NI instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 8 |
| 5 | NaI instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 41 |
| 6 | KI instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 47 |
| 7 | TEMPO instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 0 |
| 8 | Cp ₂ Fe instead of <i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr | 0 |

^{*a*}standard conditions: undivided cell, RVC anode (100 PPI, 1.0 cm x 1.0 cm x 0.5 cm), Pt cathode (1 cm x 1.5 cm), substrate (0.25 mmol), nBu_4NBr (0.7 equiv.), nBu_4NBF_4 (0.2 M), Cs_2CO_3 (0.5 equiv.), HFIP (4 mL), TFE (1 mL), I = 3 mA, 6.5 h (2.9 Fmol⁻¹), RT. ^{*b*}Yield determined by ¹H-NMR analysis using nitromethane as the internal standard.

3. Synthesis and Characterization of Starting Substrates



The various 2-phenyl-1H-indoles **S1** were prepared according to reported method^[1]: Appropriate amounts of substituted acetophenone **2** and phenyl hydrazine **1** (1 equiv.) were mixed in ethanol, and a few drops of glacial acetic acid was added. The solution was heated under reflux at 80 °C for 1–2 h. The solvent was evaporated in vacuum to give a solid that was added to polyphosphoric acid, and the mixture was slowly heated to 120 °C and kept at this temperature for a few hours until the reaction was complete (TLC monitoring). The mixture was allowed to cool and then poured into cold water. The acidic solution was neutralized by the slow addition of NaOH (1 M), and the solid precipitate of the crude product was collected. Purification by column chromatography gave the intermediates **S1**.

1-(2-aryl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-ones **S2** were prepared according to reported method^[2]: *N*,*N*-Dimethyl acetamide (DMA,10 equiv.) was cooled to 0 °C. Then, POCl₃ (5 equiv.) and the intermediates **S1** (1 equiv.) in DMA were added via syringe. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 2 h. The cooled solution was then poured onto water and washed with ethyl acetate. The aqueous phase was treated with NaOH (2 M) to precipitate the product. The solids were isolated through vacuum filtration. The redidual solvent and moisture in the solid were furter removed under reduced pr-

essure to give the intermediates S2.

The different *N*-protected 1-(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-ones **S3** were prepared according to reported method;^[4-6] and 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride **S4** were prepared according to previous report.^[7]

The starting substrates **1a-1p**, **1s** and **1ya-1yc** were synthesized according to the following procedures: ^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give desired products **1a-1p**, **1s** and **1ya-1yc**.



(E)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-l)ethylidene)amino)oxy)p-ropanoic acid (1a): Yield = 75% (S3-1a); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.63 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 7.40 – 7.30 (m, 7H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 175.4, 150.9, 146.0, 139.2, 136.2, 134.8, 131.9, 131.2, 130.5, 129.8, 128.6, 128.1, 127.0, 126.0, 124.9, 121.9, 120.7, 115.6, 81.3, 24.4, 21.5, 15.2.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-(p-tolyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoicacid (1b): Yield = 81% (S3-1b); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 8H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.2, 153.8, 144.9, 139.5, 139.4, 136.6, 135.5, 131.8, 129.5, 129.1, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.0, 125.3, 124.4, 121.0, 120.0, 115.6, 81.4, 24.2, 21.5, 15.5.



2-(((1-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1c): Yield = 77% (**S3-1c**); White solid; E:Z = 6.5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 – 8.29 (m, 1H), 7.74 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 6H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 2.6H, *E*-isomer), 3.84 (s, 0.4H, *Z*-isomer), 2.25 (s, 2.6H, *E*-isomer), 2.23 (s, 0.4H, *Z*- isomers), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.0, 178.8, 160.5, 160.4, 153.5, 151.5, 144.8, 144.5, 139.2, 137.6, 137.5, 136.6, 135.5, 134.5, 133.3, 129.4, 129.1, 129.0, 128.4, 126.9, 126.8, 125.3, 125.0, 124.5, 124.4, 123.0, 122.9, 121.0, 120.30, 120.26, 120.1, 117.0, 115.6, 113.2, 113.0, 81.3, 80.8, 55.32, 55.25, 24.2, 23.9, 21.53, 21.45, 19.9, 15.5.



2-(((1-(2-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1d): Yield = 79% (**S3-1d**); White solid; *E*:*Z* = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.58 (s, 1H), 8.22 – 8.12 (m, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 2.30 (s, 2.5H, *E*isomer), 2.25 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.60 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.52 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.38 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.36 (s, 9H), 1.12 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.0, 153.4, 152.5, 152.4, 144.7, 144.5, 139.3, 137.9, 137.5, 136.7, 135.6, 134.5, 131.7, 130.4, 129.4, 129.1, 128.3, 127.7, 127.1, 126.8, 125.2, 125.1, 124.6, 124.4, 124.3, 121.0, 120.3, 120.0, 116.9, 115.5, 81.3, 80.9, 34.8, 31.4, 24.2, 23.9, 21.54, 21.47, 20.0, 15.5.



2-methyl-2-(((1-(1-tosyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidenee)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1e): Yield = 80% (S3-1e); White solid; E:Z = 5:1; Data of the mixture of E- and Z-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.34 – 8.30 (m, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.19 (m, 8H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 2.5H, E-isomer), 2.24 (s, 0.5H, Z-isomer), 1.74 (s, 2.5H, E-isomer), 1.68 (s, 0.5H, Z-isomer), 1.50 (s, 5H, E-isomer), 1.31 (s, 1H, Z-isomer); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -57.6, -



2-methyl-2-(((1-(1-tosyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidenee)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1f): Yield = 71% (S3-1f); White solid; *E*:*Z* = 14:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 2.8H, *E*-isomer), 2.24 (s, 0.2H, *Z*-isomer), 1.72 (s, 2.8H, *E*-isomer), 1.64 (s, 0.2H, *Z*-isomer), 1.49 (s, 6H); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.6, -62.6.



2-(((1-(2-(4-cyanophenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1g): Yield = 68% (**S3-1g**); yellow solid; E:Z=4:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.67 (m, 3H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 2.4H, *E*-isomer), 2.24 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer), 1.75 (s, 2.4H, *E*-isomer), 1.66 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer), 1.51 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.4, 151.6, 149.8, 145.4, 145.0, 137.9, 136.8, 136.2, 136.0, 135.5, 135.0, 134.9, 133.9, 132.5, 131.2, 129.7, 129.3, 128.7, 128.4, 126.8, 126.6, 126.1, 125.0, 124.7, 123.0, 121.9, 121.2, 120.5, 118.5, 117.0, 115.7, 112.9, 112.5, 81.4, 80.9, 24.1, 21.6, 21.5, 20.0, 15.9.



2-(((1-(2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1h): Yield = 61% (**S3-1h**); White solid; E:Z=2.8:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.6H), 7.43 – 7.29 (m, 6H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.4H), 7.13 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 2.31 (s, 2.2 H, *E*-isomer), 2.28 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomer), 1.74 (s, 2.2 H, *E*-isomer), 1.70 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomer), 1.56 (s, 4.4 H, *E*-isomer), 1.31 (s, 1.6 H, *Z*-isomer); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.1, -111.3.



2-(((1-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1i): Yield = 66% (**S3-1i**); White solid; E:Z = 2.7:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.26 (m, 8H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 2.2 H, *E*-isomer), 2.28 (s, 0.8 H, *Z*-isomer), 1.75 (s, 2.2 H, *E*-isomer), 1.71 (s, 0.8 H, *Z*-isomer), 1.56 (s, 4.4 H, *E*-isomer), 1.31 (s, 1.6 H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.1, 153.0, 151.1, 145.2, 144.8, 137.60, 137.56, 136.7, 136.1, 135.7, 135.5, 135.3, 133.1, 129.6, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.2, 126.9, 126.7, 125.7, 125.6, 124.7, 124.5, 121.3, 121.0, 120.7, 120.3, 117.0, 115.6, 81.4, 81.0, 24.2, 23.8, 21.6, 21.5, 20.0, 15.8.



2-(((1-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylp-ropanoic acid (1j): Yield = 64% (**S3-1j**); White solid; E:Z = 2.7:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 – 8.33 (m, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 2.2H, *E*-isomer), 2.28 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomer), 1.76 (s, 2.2H, *E*-isomer), 1.71 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomer), 1.55 (s, 4.4H, *E*-isomer), 1.29 (s, 1.6H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.5, 153.1, 151.3, 145.2, 144.8, 137.6, 136.7, 135.3, 133.4, 131.0, 130.8, 129.8, 129.6, 129.2, 128.6, 128.2, 126.9, 126.7, 125.7, 125.6, 124.7, 124.6, 124.0, 123.8, 121.0, 120.6, 120.2, 119.9, 117.0, 115.6, 81.5, 81.0, 24.2, 24.0, 21.6, 21.5, 20.0, 15.9.



2-methyl-2-(((**1-(2-(o-tolyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1k): Yield = 64% (S3-1k**); White solid; *E*:*Z* = 1:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H), 1.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.6, 153.2, 145.0, 144.8, 140.0, 139.6, 138.2, 136.4, 135.9, 131.9, 130.6, 129.74, 129.70, 129.5, 128.3, 128.0, 127.2, 126.9, 125.3, 125.1, 124.8, 124.2, 121.3, 120.9, 119.4, 115.1, 81.3, 81.0, 24.2, 24.1, 24.0, 23.8, 21.6, 21.5, 20.2, 14.8.



2-(((1-(2-(2-bromophenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (11): Yield = 68% (**S3-11**); White solid; E:Z=1:1; Data of the mixture of E- and Z-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J =7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.8, 152.6, 145.2, 144.9, 136.6, 136.1, 135.7, 135.4, 135.1, 133.9, 132.9, 132.63, 132.56, 132.4, 130.9, 129.7, 129.4, 127.7, 127.2,126.9, 126.6, 126.5, 125.6, 125.4, 124.2, 124.0, 121.5, 120.0, 115.0, 81.4, 81.0, 24.2, 24.14, 24.07, 23.7, 21.6, 21.6, 14.9.



2-(((1-(2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1m): Yield = 72% (**S3-1m**); White solid; E:Z = 4:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.03 – 6.98 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer), 3.77 (s, 2.4H, *E*-isomer), 2.27 (s, 2.4H, *E*-isomer), 2.24 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer), 1.70 (s, 2.4H, *E*-isomer), 1.67 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer), 1.53 (s, 4.8H, *E*-isomer), 1.28 (s, 1.2H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.7, 178.6, 158.8, 158.6, 153.2, 151.3, 144.9, 144.6, 140.6, 138.8, 137.6, 137.4, 136.7, 135.5, 134.4, 132.02, 131.95, 129.5, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 127.0, 126.8, 126.5, 125.4, 125.3, 124.54, 124.50, 124.4, 121.1, 120.9, 120.5, 120.1, 117.3, 117.0, 115.5, 115.4, 81.3, 80.9, 55.32, 55.29, 24.2, 23.9, 21.54, 21.47, 19.9, 15.4.



2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1n): Yield = 75% (S3-1n); White solid; E:Z = 2:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.91 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.00 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 2H, *E*-isomer), 2.24 (s, 1H, Z-isomer), 1.63 (s, 2H, *E*-isomer), 1.61 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer), 1.50 (s, 4H, *E*-isomer), 1.33 (s, 2H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.1, 153.5, 151.5, 145.0, 144.7, 139.1, 137.7, 137.4, 136.7, 135.4, 134.4, 133.5, 133.4, 132.6, 132.3, 131.3, 129.5, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.50, 128.45, 128.4, 128.3, 127.89, 127.85, 127.1, 127.01, 126.98, 126.9, 126.8, 126.5, 126.4, 125.5, 125.4, 124.6, 124.5, 121.2, 120.7, 120.4, 117.0, 115.6, 81.4, 81.0, 24.2, 23.9, 21.6, 21.5, 19.9, 15.7.



2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (10): Yield = 75% (S3-10); White solid; E:Z = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz,1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.12 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.08 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.27 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 2.26 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.77 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.73 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.55 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.29 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.2, 178.8, 153.0, 150.9, 145.0, 144.7, 137.5, 136.9, 135.5, 134.6, 132.8, 131.3, 130.9, 130.6, 130.3, 130.1, 129.6, 129.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 127.8, 127.0, 126.8, 126.8, 126.6, 125.8, 125.6, 124.5, 124.4, 122.3, 121.9, 121.3, 120.7, 116.7, 81.4, 81.0, 24.2, 23.9, 21.6, 21.5, 19.9, 14.9.



2-(((1-(2-(benzofuran-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylp-ropanoic acid (1p): Yield = 64% (**S3-1p**); White solid; *E*:*Z* = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.67 (s, 1H), 8.21 – 8.13(m, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 2.31 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.84 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.75 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.43 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.16 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.3, 155.4, 155.2, 152.3, 145.5, 145.2, 145.0, 144.8, 137.3, 136.8, 135.4, 134.9, 129.7, 129.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 127.1, 126.6, 126.4, 126.3, 125.5, 125.4, 124.4, 123.8, 123.2, 122.2, 121.71, 121.65, 121.2, 116.1, 115.1, 112.1, 111.51,111.45, 110.4, 81.5, 81.1, 24.2, 23.9, 21.61, 21.56, 20.6, 15.2.



The intermediates **P1** were prepared according to the reported method^[3]: Appropriate amounts of compounds **3** and phenyl hydrazine **1** (1 equiv.) were mixed in ethanol, and a few drops of glacial acetic acid was added. The solution was heated under reflux at 80 °C for 1–2 h. The solvent was evaporated in vacuo, to give a solid that was then added to CHCl₃ (0.3M), and the resulting mixture was added CF₃SO₃H (12 equiv.) and stirred at RT for 12 h. Ac₂O (2 equiv.) was then added to the above mixture and stirred at RT for 8h. The reaction was quenched with H₂O and extracted with CHCl₃. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give intermediates **P1**

The intermediates **P2** were prepared according to the reported method^[4]. The starting substrates **1q-1r** were synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, the cooled reaction solution was poured into water to precipitate the product. The solids were isolated through vacuum filtration. The redidual solvent and moisture in the solid were furter removed under reduced pressure to give the products **1q -1r**.



(E)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (**1q**): Yield 83% (**P2-1**a): White = solid: Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 12.61 (br s, 1H), 8.75 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 - 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.45 - 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 - 7.30 (m, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 175.3, 150.9, 150.6, 149.3, 146.0, 138.3, 136.5, 135.5, 134.5, 130.5, 128.2, 127.8, 127.5, 126.3, 125.0, 124.6, 122.7, 120.6, 115.1, 81.4, 24.4, 21.5, 15.1.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(2-(pyridin-4-yl)-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1r): Yield = 85% (P2-1r); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.70 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 5H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 175.3, 149.9, 149.4, 146.3, 139.4, 136.3, 135.9, 134.2, 130.7, 128.6, 127.0, 126.6, 126.4, 125.2, 122.04, 121.96, 115.6, 81.5, 24.4, 21.5, 15.7.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1s): Yield = 79% (S3-1s); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.5, 153.3, 144.9, 139.2, 135.4, 134.8, 134.1, 131.8, 131.0, 129.5, 129.3, 128.6, 127.5, 126.9, 126.8, 120.9, 120.2, 115.3, 81.5, 24.3, 21.6, 21.4, 15.6.



The intermediates **B2** were prepared according to the reported method^[9]: 5substituted indoles **B1** (1.0 equiv.), phenyl boronic acid (1.5 equiv.) and Pd(OAc)₂ (0.05 equiv.) were added to a three-necked flask. After AcOH was added by syringe, the resulting solution was degassed twice and refilled with O₂ (1.0 atm.). The mixture was stirred for 8 h at room temperature. AcOH was distilled under reduced pressure, and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (aq. Sat.). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give intermediates **B2** The intermediates **B3** and **B4** were prepared according to the reported method.^[2, 4] The starting substrates **1t–1x** were synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4–6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give products **1t–1x**.



2-(((1-(5-methoxy-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methy -lpropanoic acid (1t): Yield = 63% (**B4-1t**); white solid; E:Z = 6.5 :1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 0.8H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 0.2H), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 0.8H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.19 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1.7H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.3H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 – 6.77 (m, 0.2H), 3.78 (s, 0.4H, *Z*-isomers), 3.76 (s, 2.6H, *E*-isomers), 2.28 (s, 2.6H, *E*-isomers); 2.25 (s, 0.4H, *Z*-isomers), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 5.2H, *E*-isomers), 1.28 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomers); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.1, 178.8, 157.2, 157.1, 153.6, 151.1, 144.9, 144.5, 140.0, 138.4, 135.4, 134.2, 131.9, 131.14, 131.08, 130.9, 130.2, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 126.8, 121.3, 120.2, 117.9, 116.6, 114.8, 114.3, 103.2, 102.7, 81.2, 80.8, 55.6, 24.2, 23.9, 21.6, 21.5, 19.7, 15.3.



2-(((1-(5-fluoro-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2- methylp -ropanoic acid (1u): Yield = 59% (**B4-1u**); white solid; E:Z=9:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.71 (s, 1H), 8.26 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 4.6 Hz, 0.9H), 8.18 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 4.5 Hz, 0.1H), 7.60 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 2.31 (s, 2.7H, *E*-isomer), 2.27 (s, 0.3H, *Z*-isomer), 1.57 (s, 0.3H, *Z*-isomer), 1.50 (s, 2.7H, *E*-isomer), 1.44 (s, 5.4H, *E*-isomer), 1.18 (s, 0.6H, *Z*-isomer); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ -117.7, -117.8; ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 175.3, 160.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 239.4 Hz), 150.8, 148.3, 146.2, 145.7, 141.1, 139.4, 134.6, 133.7, 133.5, 132.6, 131.9, 130.84, 130.75, 130.6, 130.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 11.3 Hz), 130.1, 129.9, 129.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 11.3 Hz), 128.1, 127.0, 126.7, 121.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.8 Hz), 120.2 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.8$ Hz), 118.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.8$ Hz), 117.2 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.8$ Hz), 113.8 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.2$ Hz), 113.5 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.2$ Hz), 107.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.2$ Hz), 106.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.2$ Hz), 81.4, 80.8, 24.4, 24.1, 21.5, 21.4, 19.8, 14.9.



2-(((1-(5-chloro-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2- methylpropanoic acid (1v): Yield = 68% (**B4-1v**); white solid; E:Z = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.47 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 0.8H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 0.2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 2.27 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.58 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.51 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.45 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.19 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 175.3, 175.2, 150.8, 148.1, 146.3, 145.8, 140.8, 139.1, 135.5, 134.7, 134.6, 133.8, 131.9, 130.7, 130.6, 130.2, 130.1, 129.8, 129.6, 128.1, 127.0, 126.7, 126.0, 125.7, 121.5, 120.8, 120.4, 119.7, 118.0, 117.1, 81.4, 80.8, 24.4, 24.1, 21.5, 21.4, 19.9, 15.0.



2-(((1-(5-bromo-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2- methylpropanoic acid (1w): Yield = 62% (**B4-1w**); white solid; E:Z = 3.3 :1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.62 (s, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 0.8H), 8.12 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 0.2H), 8.01 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 2.5H), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2.5H), 2.31 (s, 2.3H, *E*-isomer), 2.27 (s, 0.7H, *Z*-isomer), 1.57 (s, 0.7H, *Z*-isomer), 1.50 (s, 2.3H, *E*-isomer), 1.44 (s, 4.6H, *E*-isomer), 1.18 (s, 1.4H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 175.3, 175.2, 150.8, 148.1, 146.3, 145.9, 140.6, 138.9, 135.8, 135.0, 134.6, 133.8, 131.9, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.2, 130.23, 130.18, 129.9, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.0, 126.7, 124.5, 123.9, 120.2, 119.6, 118.3, 117.72, 117.66, 117.5, 81.4, 80.8, 24.4, 24.1, 21.5, 21.4, 19.9, 15.0.



2-(((1-(5-cyano-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylp-ropanoic acid (1x): Yield = 68% (**B4-1x**); white solid; E:Z = 3 :1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.45 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 0.75H), 8.41 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 0.25H), 8.21 (s, 0.75H), 7.75 (s, 0.25H), 7.63 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1.5H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 0.5H), 2.34 (s, 2.3H, *E*-isomer), 2.30 (s, 0.7H, *Z*-isomer), 1.63 (s, 0.7H, *Z*-isomer), 1.61 (s, 2.3H, *E*-isomer), 1.55 (s, 4.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.31 (s, 1.5H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.4, 177.9, 151.8, 149.3, 145.7, 145.4, 140.9, 139.6, 139.2, 138.3, 135.2, 134.4, 131.9, 129.9, 129.83, 129.75, 129.5, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.1, 126.9, 126.8, 125.7, 119.6, 119.5, 119.2, 117.3, 116.2, 107.8, 107.7, 81.5, 81.1, 24.2, 23.9, 21.6, 21.5, 19.8, 15.1.



(*E*)-2-(((1-(1-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1ya): Yield = 75% (S3-1ya); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.75 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 1.83 (s, 3H), 1.55 – 1.54 (m, 6H), 1.22 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.9, 138.1, 136.4, 133.9, 130.0, 129.2, 128.3, 128.0, 127.6, 125.0, 123.5, 120.5, 117.9, 115.1, 83.8, 81.3, 27.4, 24.3, 15.9.



(*E*)-2-(((1-(1-benzyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (1yb): Yield = 65% (S3-1yb); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 – 7.96 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 6H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 5.18 (s, 2H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.56 – 1.54 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.1, 137.4, 136.7, 131.7, 130.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.4, 126.1, 123.0, 121.6, 121.2, 110.6, 81.3, 47.6, 24.5, 16.1.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1yc): Yield = 77% (S3-1yc); White solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.0, 155.7, 140.9, 137.1, 132.0, 130.7, 129.0, 128.7, 125.9, 122.8, 121.3, 121.1, 110.8, 109.7, 81.2, 30.8, 24.5, 16.1.



The intermediate **D2** was prepared according to the reported method^[11]: Into a three-necked flask, benzofuran-2-boronic acid (1 equiv.), iodobenzene (1 equiv.), $Pd(OAc)_2$ (0.1 equiv.) and Na_2CO_3 (2 equiv.) were placed under Argon, and acetone and water were added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until full consumption of the starting material was indicated by TLC (8 h). The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtrated and concentrated to dryness in vacuo. The crude compound was purified by flash chromatography to afford 2-phenylbenzofuran **D2**.

The intermediate **D3** was prepared according to the reported method^[12]: SnCl₄ (0.697 g, 2.67 mmol) was added drop-wisely to a mixture of **D2** (0.5 g, 2.57 mmol) and the acetyl chloride (0.26 g, 3.34 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (50 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched with ice and stirred for 1 h. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over sodium sulfate. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give intermediate **D3**.

The starting substrate **1yd** was synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give product **1yd**.



2-methyl-2-(((**1-(2-phenylbenzofuran-3-yl)ethylidene**)**amino**)**oxy**)**propanoic** acid (**1yd**): Yield = 62% (**D3-1yd**); yellow oil; E:Z = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*- isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.46 (br s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 2.15 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.66 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.42 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ 179.9, 154.1, 153.9, 152.1, 130.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.9, 125.0, 124.7, 123.4, 123.0, 121.4, 121.3, 114.1, 111.1, 81.5, 81.3, 24.3, 24.0, 20.6, 16.1.



The intermediate **E2** was prepared according to the reported method^[13]: Phenyliodide (10.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added under N₂ at RT to a solution of (Ph₃P)₄Pd (0.5 mmol, 0.05 eq.) in 1,4-dioxane (80 mL) and stirred for 20 min. NaHCO3 (aq. Sat., 14 mL) and 1-benzothiophene-2-boronic acid (11.0 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were added and the resulting reaction mixture was refluxed for 1 h. The reaction mixture was then allowe d to cool to r.t. and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×80 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with NaOH (aq. 1 M, 40 mL) and then with brine, dried over MgSO₄ an d concentrated in vacuo to give a brown crystalline solid that was purified by flash chr omatography to give the intermediates **E2**.

The intermediate **E3** was prepared according to the reported method^[14]: Benzothiophene **E2** (0.011 mol) and acetyl chloride (1.29 g, 0.016 mol) were dissolved in dry benzene (100 mL) and the mixture was cooled to 5 °C. Then a solution of SnCl₄ (4.17 g, 0.016 mol) in dry benzene (30 mL) was added drop wisely for 30 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h and acidified with cold 10% aqueous HCl (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give intermediate **E3**.

The starting substrate **1ye** was synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone **E3** (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give product **1ye**.



2-methyl-2-(((**1-(2-phenylbenzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1ye):** Yield = 66% (**E3-1ye**); yellow oil; E:Z = 5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.52 (br s, 1H), 7.76 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 2.15 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.66 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.42 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.0, 154.1, 153.9, 152.1, 130.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.9, 125.0, 124.7, 123.4, 123.0, 121.4, 121.3, 114.1, 111.1, 81.5, 81.3, 24.3, 24.0, 20.6, 16.1.



The intermediates **F2** and **F3** were prepared according to the reported method^[15]: 1-Phenyloct-2-yn-1-one (10.0 mmol) and propargylamine (1.2 mmol) in MeOH (25 mL) were stirred for 6 h at 60°C. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was workedup with ethyl acetate and a saturated NaCl solution. The organic phase was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄ filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give intermediates **F2**.

A single neck flask, equipped with a magnetic stirrer, was charged with F2 (2 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (4 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (30 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min under argon at room temperature. Eethyl acetate was added and the resulting mixture was washed with a 0.1 N HCl solution and subsequently with a saturated NaCl solution. The organic phase was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography to give the intermediate F3.

The intermediate **F4** was prepared according to the reported method.^[4] The starting substrate **1yf** was synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4–6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give product **1yf**.



2-methyl-2-(((**1-(4-methyl-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy**) **propanoic acid (1yf):** Yield = 66% (**F4-1yf**); yellow oil; E:Z = 6.5:1; Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.07 (m, 4H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 2.6H, *E*-isomer), 1.97 (s, 0.4H, *Z*-isomer), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.44 (s, 5.2H, *E*-isomer), 1.34 (s, 0.8H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.9, 178.7, 153.9, 152.0, 144.8, 144.5, 135.6, 133.4, 132.1, 131.8, 131.0, 130.4, 130.1, 129.5, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.0, 125.4, 125.2, 122.2, 121.03, 120.95, 120.2, 81.1, 80.7, 24.1, 23.9, 21.6, 21.5, 20.8, 15.8, 11.8, 10.9.



The intermediates C2 and C3 were prepared according to the reported method^[10]: A three-necked flask was charged with the indole C1 (1 equiv.), KOH (3 equiv.), 2bromopyridine (2 equiv.), and dry DMSO (0.1 M) under argon atmosphere. The resulting mixture was heated in an oil bath at 120 °C until the end of the reaction. The mixture was quenched with a saturated solution of NH₄Cl and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, followed by evaporation under reduced pressure to remove the solvent. The product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford 1-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-indole C2.

A three-necked flask charged with $Pd(OAc)_2$ (5.0 mol %), 70% TBHP aqueous solution (200 mol %), 1-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-indole **C2** (1 equiv.) and aldehydes (2 equiv.), toluene was added under Ar atmosphere. The reaction mixture was then allowed to stir at 100 °C for 11 h. The corresponding reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite, washed with dichloromethane and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the intermediates **C3**.

The starting substrates **1za-1zb** were synthesized according to the following procedures:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the corresponding ketone (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give products **1za-1zb**.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(1-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-indol-2-yl)propylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1za): Yield = 72% (C3-1za); yellow solid; Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.53 (br s, 1H), 8.60 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.12 (m, 5H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 2.77 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.29 – 1.23 (m, 9H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.6, 155.0, 152.5, 149.3, 139.9, 138.5, 133.9, 127.5, 124.3, 122.6, 122.3, 121.2, 121.1, 110.9, 108.1, 81.3, 24.0, 21.6, 11.5.



(*E*)-2-methyl-2-(((1-(1-(pyridin-2-yl)-1H-indol-2-yl)butylidene)amino)oxy)propanoic acid (1zb): Yield = 64% (C3-1zb); yellow solid. Only one set of peaks was observed in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.67 (br s, 1H), 8.55 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.07 (m, 5H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 1.72 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.19 (s, 6H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.8, 153.6, 152.6, 149.2, 139.9, 138.5, 134.3, 127.5, 124.3, 122.6, 122.4, 121.14, 121.10, 110.9, 108.1, 81.2, 29.9, 24.0, 20.5, 14.4.



The intermediate **H2** was prepared according to the reported method^[16]: o-Bromobenzaldehyde (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), arylboronic acid (6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (3 mol %) and K₂CO₃ (10 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were dissolved in a mixture of toluene/EtOH/H2O (4:4:1, 27 mL). The resulting mixture was deoxygenated with a stream of argon for 10 min, then heated to reflux until complete consumption of the starting aldehyde (monitored by GS-MS). The reaction was cooled down to room temperature and quenched with saturated NH₄Cl (10 mL). The reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic solution was washed with H₂O, saturated NaCl, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO4, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the intermediates **H2**.

The starting substrate **3a** was synthesized according to the following procedure:^[8] 2-(aminooxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid hydrochloride (1.2 equiv.) and NaOAc (2.4 equiv.) were added to a stirred solution of the ketone **H2** (1.0 equiv.) in EtOH (0.2 M). The mixture was then heated to reflux until complete by TLC analysis (4 – 6 hours). The reaction was cooled to room temperature, quenched with H₂O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were then washed with H₂O and brine, then dried over MgSO₄. After the removal of the solvent. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give product **3a**.



2-(((1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)ethylidene)amino)oxy)-2-methylpropanoic acid (3a): Yield = 79% (**H2-3a**); White solid. E:Z = 5:1. Data of the mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50 – 7.29 (m, 9H), 1.94 (s, 0.5H, *Z*-isomer), 1.80 (s, 2.5H, *E*-isomer), 1.52 (s, 5H, *E*-isomer), 1.33 (s, 1H, *Z*-isomer); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.9, 160.1, 157.3, 140.9, 140.7, 140.6, 139.5, 136.5, 134.4, 130.3, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.49, 128.46, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 127.37, 127.36, 127.1, 81.2, 77.4, 77.1, 76.8, 24.3, 23.9, 22.0, 16.9.

4. General Procedure and Characterization of the Electrolysis Products

Into a round bottom flask, nBu_4NBr (0.175 mmol), the substrate (0.25 mmol) and HFIP/TFE (4.0 mL/1.0 mL) with nBu_4NBF_4 (0.2 M) as an electrolyte was added. And then Cs₂CO₃ (0.125 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The flask was equipped with a reticulated vitreous carbon anode (100 PPI, 1.0 cm x 1.0 cm x 0.5 cm) and a platinum plate (1 cm x 1.5 cm) cathode. The constant current (3 mA) electrolysis was carried out at room temperature until complete consumption of the substrate (monitored by TLC). Water (10 mL) was added to the reaction solution and HFIP/TFE was then removed under reduced pressure. The resulting suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic solution was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether to give the desired product.

The gram scale electrolysis of compound **1a** (1.55 g, 3.06 mmol) was conducted in a 100 mL beaker-type cell for 50 h using a RVC plate (100PPI, 4.0 cm x 2.0 cm x 0.5 cm) as anode, a Pt plate cathode (3.0 cm x 2.0 cm) and a constant current of 3 mA. The RVC was fixed on a sharpened graphite rod ($\varphi = 5$ mm). Into the beaker-type cell, *n*Bu₄NBr (2.14 mmol), the substrate **1a** (3.06 mmol) and HFIP/TFE (40 mL/10 mL) with *n*Bu₄NBF₄ (0.2 M) as an electrolyte was added. And then Cs₂CO₃ (1.53 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The constant current (3 mA) electrolysis was carried out at room temperature for 50 h. Water (50 mL) was added to the reaction solution and HFIP/TFE was then removed under reduced pressure. The resulting suspension was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic solution was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed through silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether to give the desired product (73% yield).



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2a**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2a** as yellow solid (79.3 mg, 82%); **M.P.**: 141-142 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.7, 147.5, 145.0, 142.8, 141.2, 132.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 127.7, 127.0, 126.82, 126.76, 125.9, 125.7, 121.8, 121.5, 119.6, 119.2, 25.0, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for

 $C_{23}H_{19}N_2O_2S$ [M+H]⁺: 387.1162; found: 387.1170. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3059, 2923, 2856, 1562, 1504, 1439, 1373, 1181.



3,6-dimethyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***]quinoline (2b)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2b** as yellow solid (90.1 mg, 90%); **M.P.**: 195-196 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.84 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.5, 147.7, 144.8, 142.7, 140.9, 139.4, 132.5, 128.9, 127.9, 127.7, 126.64, 126.62, 126.4, 125.7, 121.6, 120.7, 118.9, 117.3, 24.9, 21.7, 21.4; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺:401.1318; found: 401.1325; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3037, 2921, 2857, 1627, 1505, 1445, 1373, 1180.



3-methoxy-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2c): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2c** as yellow solid (66.8mg, 64%); **M.P.**: 209-210 °C;¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.89 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 9.4, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 154.1, 149.6, 144.9, 143.3, 141.0, 132.6, 129.1, 128.1, 128.0, 126.9, 126.6, 125.9, 121.6, 119.9, 119.2, 118.3, 114.3, 107.5, 55.7, 25.0, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 417.1267; found: 417.1282; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3057, 2931, 2837, 1620, 1561, 1452, 1364, 1179.



3-(tert-butyl)-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***]quinoline** (**2d**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2d** as colorless oil (71.7 mg, 65%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.89 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.5, 152.5, 147.8, 144.9, 142.8, 141.0, 132.7, 129.1, 127.8, 126.79, 126.76, 126.4, 125.8, 124.6, 124.3, 121.7, 120.9, 119.0, 117.4, 35.2, 31.3, 25.0, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₇H₂₇N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 443.1788; found: 443.1797; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3055, 2961, 2869, 1620, 1552,



6-methyl-11-tosyl-3-(trifluoromethoxy)-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***]quinoline** (2e): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2e** as white solid (89.2 mg, 76%); **M.P.**: 169-171 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.04 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -57.5; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.2, 149.3 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 148.0, 145.1, 142.5, 141.1, 132.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.7, 126.0, 120.6 (q, *J* = 259.2 Hz), 121.8, 121.6, 119.2, 119.0, 118.6, 117.8, 25.0, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₁₈F₃N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 471.0985; found: 471.0995; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3053, 2926, 2857, 1624, 1562, 1448, 1376, 1259, 1177.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2f): The crudeproduct was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 2f as colorless oil (49.4 mg, 43%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.11 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz,1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.6; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.4, 146.5, 145.4, 142.2, 141.4, 132.5, 130.8, 130.5, 129.3, 128.1, 127.8, 127.2, 126.8, 126.7 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 4.0 Hz), 126.2, 124.2 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.7 Hz), 122.9, 122.2, 121.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 6.1 Hz), 119.1, 25.1, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₁₈F₃N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 455.1036; found: 455.1054; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3058, 2928, 2862, 1590, 1508, 1447, 1334, 1177.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c*]**quinoline-3-carbonitrile** (**2g**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2g** as yellow solid (63.3 mg, 62%); **M.P.**: 224-225 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.09 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0, 146.2, 145.5,

141.9, 141.6, 134.6, 132.4, 129.3, 128.4, 128.1, 126.9, 126.8, 126.4, 126.3, 123.4, 122.3,121.9, 119.1, 118.8, 112.2, 25.2, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for $C_{24}H_{18}N_{3}O_{2}S$ [M+H]⁺: 412.1114; found: 412.1117; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3053, 2925, 2856, 1547, 1498, 1445, 1371, 1179.



3-fluoro-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2h**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2h** as colorless oil (70.8 mg, 70%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.00 – 8.96 (m, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -110.4; ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 251.5 Hz), 155.1, 148.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 12.1 Hz), 145.2, 142.9, 141.0, 132.4, 129.2, 129.1, 127.6, 127.1, 126.8, 126.0, 121.8, 121.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.0 Hz), 119.1, 116.5, 115.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 24.2 Hz), 112.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 20.2 Hz), 25.0, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₃H₁₈FN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 405.1068; found: 405.1083; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3057, 2960, 2860, 1626, 1566, 1446, 1374, 1180.



3-chloro-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2i**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2i** as colorless oil (66.2 mg, 63%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.93 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.0, 148.0, 145.2, 142.6, 141.2, 135.1, 132.5, 129.2, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 127.3, 126.8, 126.6, 126.1, 121.9, 121.6, 119.1, 118.0, 25.1, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₃H₁₈ClN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 421.0772; found: 421.0782; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3058, 2926, 2856, 1601, 1551, 1447, 1374, 1180.



3-bromo-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2j**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2j** as colorless oil (63.2 mg, 54%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.85 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.0, 148.1, 145.2, 142.6, 141.2, 132.4,

131.2, 129.2, 129.1, 128.2, 127.4, 127.3, 126.8, 126.1, 123.4, 121.9, 121.7, 119.1, 118.2, 25.1, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for $C_{23}H_{18}BrN_2O_2S$ [M+H]⁺: 465.0267; found: 465.0276; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3056, 2923, 2855, 1600, 1549, 1448, 1374, 1180.



1,6-dimethyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2k): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2k** as yellow solid (53.4 mg, 53%); **M.P.**: 188-190 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.7, 148.5, 144.7, 144.0, 141.8, 136.7, 130.2, 129.18, 129.16, 128.6, 128.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.5, 126.0, 123.6, 121.9, 121.0, 120.0, 24.4, 22.5, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 401.1318; found: 401.1327; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3059, 2926, 2857, 1564, 1501, 1439, 1370, 1175.



1-bromo-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c*]quinoline (2l): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 2l as yellow solid (42.5 mg, 37%); **M.P.**: 225-227 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.0, 148.5, 144.8, 142.7, 141.9, 132.1, 131.2, 129.4, 128.5, 128.1, 128.1, 127.4, 127.0, 126.3, 124.3, 122.1, 121.1, 119.8, 119.5, 24.5, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₃H₁₈BrN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 465.0267; found: 465.0270; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3060, 2926, 2860, 1541, 1496, 1437, 1374, 1172.



4-methoxy-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2m**) & **2-methoxy-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo**[**3**,**2**-*c*]**quinoline** (**2m**'): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2m** & **2m**' (1:1.1, 71.8 mg, 69%); **2m**: White solid; **M.P.**: 208-209 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.56 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ 154.6, 152.6, 144.8, 143.1, 141.5, 138.9, 132.1, 128.8, 127.9, 127.0, 126.7, 125.9, 125.6, 122.3, 121.9, 120.6, 119.5, 118.8, 107.6, 56.2, 25.3, 21.4; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 417.1267; found: 417.1271; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3058, 2927,2842, 1568, 1507, 1475, 1371, 1179. **2m**': colorless oil; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.3

Hz, 2H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2, 150.8, 144.9, 143.4, 142.2, 141.3, 132.3, 130.1, 128.9, 128.0, 126.9, 126.7, 125.9, 121.9, 121.8, 121.5, 120.4, 119.3, 105.2, 55.8, 24.6, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 417.1267; found: 417.1281; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3053, 2933, 2837, 1563, 1508, 1443, 1364, 1180.



8-methyl-13-tosyl-13H-benzo[h]indolo[3,2-*c***]quinoline (2n**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2n** as yellow solid (71.3 mg, 65%); **M.P.**: 190-192 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.41 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.89 (m, 3H), 7.76 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.0, 145.3, 144.9, 143.6, 141.6, 133.4, 132.2, 131.3, 129.1, 129.1, 129.0, 128.2, 127.8, 127.1, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1, 125.2, 124.0, 122.5, 122.0, 119.5, 117.3, 25.0, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₇H₂₁N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 437.1318; found: 437.1322; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3054, 2925, 2857, 1563, 1508, 1444, 1372, 1180.



5-methyl-10-tosyl-10H-thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrido[4,3-*b*]indole (20): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 20 as yellow oil (63.6 mg, 65%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.65 (m, 3H), 7.57 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 151.5, 145.5, 139.8, 138.2, 134.7, 131.2, 130.0, 127.14, 127.07, 125.9, 125.5, 125.0, 122.2, 117.9, 117.0, 116.0, 24.9, 21.7; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₁H₁₇N₂O₂S₂ [M+H]⁺: 393.0726; found: 393.0735; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3052, 2924, 2856, 1541, 1503, 1448, 1366, 1180.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-benzofuro[**2'**,**3'**:**5**,**6**]**pyrido**[**4**,**3**-*b*]**indole** (**2p**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2p** as pale-yellow solid (36.6 mg, 34%); **M.P.**: 241-243 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.58 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 - 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.51 - 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.0, 149.7, 145.5, 141.8, 138.8, 135.6, 135.5, 130.0, 128.7, 128.1, 127.6, 127.4, 125.5, 124.7, 123.79, 123.75, 122.4, 121.0, 119.8, 115.3, 112.4, 24.7, 21.7; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₅H₁₉N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 427.1111; found: 427.1121; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3059, 2949, 1553, 1446, 1379, 1180.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***][1,5]naphthyridine (2q)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2q** as white solid (54.5 mg, 56%); **M.P.**: 220-221 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.74 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.72 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.68 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.5, 147.4, 144.5, 141.9, 141.0, 139.8, 138.6, 136.4, 133.7, 129.2, 128.0, 127.7, 124.5, 124.4, 123.5, 122.1, 120.6, 116.8, 25.5, 21.8; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₂H₁₈N₃O₂S [M+H]⁺: 388.1114; found: 388.1129; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3055, 2924, 2855, 1590, 1498, 1441, 1362, 1178.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***][1,7]naphthyridine (2r)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2r** as white solid (46.8 mg, 48%); **M.P.**: 192-193 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.52 (s, 1H), 8.86 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.9, 153.5, 145.5, 143.5, 142.0, 141.4, 140.2, 133.1, 129.5, 128.2, 126.7, 126.4, 126.0, 123.9, 122.8, 122.5, 118.6, 118.5, 25.4, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₂H₁₈N₃O₂S [M+H]⁺: 388.1114; found: 388.1123; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3036, 2923, 2854, 1597, 1491, 1445, 1372, 1180.



6,8-dimethyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c***]quinoline (2s)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2s** as white solid (71.9 mg,

72%); **M.P.**: 199-201 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.8, 147.4, 144.8, 143.0, 139.2, 135.7, 132.5, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.9, 126.8, 125.7, 122.1, 121.5, 119.7, 118.8, 25.1, 21.8, 21.6; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 401.1318; found: 401.1330; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3060, 2922, 2859, 1559, 1505, 1444, 1371, 1178.



8-methoxy-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2t): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2t** as yellow solid (78 mg, 75%); **M.P.**: 196-198 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.30 – 8.28 (m, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.08 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.0, 153.5, 147.4, 144.8, 143.6, 135.2, 132.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 126.73, 126.72, 125.6, 121.6, 120.0, 119.7, 113.7, 106.1, 55.8, 24.8, 21.4; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for Chemical Formula: C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₃S [M+H]⁺: 417.1267; found: 417.1266; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 2994, 2950, 1477, 1372, 1324, 1180.



8-fluoro-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2u): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 2u as white oil (69.7 mg, 67%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.38 – 8.36 (m, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (td, J = 8.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -115.5. ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 244.4$ Hz), 153.4, 147.6, 145.1, 143.9, 137.2, 132.1, 129.5, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 126.8, 126.7, 125.8, 120.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.8$ Hz), 120.4 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.8$ Hz), 119.4, 114.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 23.9$ Hz), 108.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 25.2$ Hz), 24.7, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₁₈FN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 405.1068; found: 405.1064; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 2921, 2861, 1594, 1473, 1375, 1325, 1175.



8-chloro-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (2v): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2v** as white solid (66.4 mg, 63%); **M.P.**: 200-202 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (d, J = 8.5, 1H), 8.34 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.66 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.4, 147.7, 145.2, 143.4, 139.4, 132.3, 131.7, 129.5, 129.2, 128.92, 128.86, 126.9, 126.71, 126.65, 125.9, 121.6, 120.3, 120.0, 119.2, 24.9, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₁₈ClN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 421.0772; found: 421.0769; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 2989, 2925, 1503, 1436, 1375, 1314, 1182.



8-bromo-6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline (**2w**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2w** as yellow solid (67.8 mg, 58%); **M.P.**: 226-227 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.77 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.4, 147.6, 145.2, 143.2, 139.8, 132.4, 129.7, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 126.7, 126.6, 125.9, 124.5, 120.4, 120.1, 119.4, 119.2, 24.9, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₁₈BrN₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 465.0267; found: 465.0266; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3022, 2925, 1509, 1427, 1373, 1313, 1179.



6-methyl-11-tosyl-11H-indolo[3,2-c]quinoline-8-carbonitrile (2x): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 2x as white solid (66.3 mg, 64%); **M.P.**: 203-205 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.3, 147.9, 145.7, 143.5, 143.2,

132.6, 129.90, 129.88, 129.5, 129.1, 127.7, 126.6, 126.1, 126.0, 119.5, 119.2, 118.8, 118.7, 109.4, 24.9, 21.5; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for Chemical Formula: $C_{24}H_{18}N_3O_2S$ [M+H]⁺: 412.1114; found:412.1111; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 2925, 1559, 1508, 1377, 1176.



tert-butyl 6-methyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c*]**quinoline-11-carboxylate (2ya)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2ya** as yellow oil (48.8 mg, 59%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 151.2, 147.0, 140.3, 139.8, 129.5, 128.5, 126.8, 124.8, 124.74, 124.66, 123.9, 122.0, 118.1, 117.7, 114.9, 85.7, 28.2, 25.3; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₁H₂₁N₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 333.1598; found: 333.1603; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3059, 2980, 2930, 1740, 1565, 1442, 1360, 1293, 1147.



11-benzyl-6-methyl-11H-indolo[3,2-*c*]**quinoline** (2yb): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give 2yb as yellow oil (34.8 mg, 43%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.00 (s, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.0, 146.4, 140.9, 140.1, 136.5, 129.7, 129.3, 128.0, 127.9, 126.0, 125.6, 125.2, 122.7, 122.2, 121.8, 121.7, 116.9, 114.5, 109.8, 49.5, 25.2; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₃H₁₉N₂ [M+H]⁺: 323.1543; found: 323.1554; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3059, 2922, 2851, 1559, 1507, 1443, 1237, 1164.



6,11-dimethyl-11H-indolo[**3**,2-*c*]**quinoline** (**2yc**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2yc** as yellow oil (25.3 mg, 41%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.64 – 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 4.42 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.7, 146.3, 140.2, 139.7, 129.6, 127.6, 124.9, 124.6, 122.1, 121.8, 121.7, 120.9, 117.2, 113.7, 109.1, 33.2, 24.9; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₇H₁₅N₂ [M+H]⁺: 247.1230; found: 247.1238; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3055, 2923, 1559, 1512, 1436, 1328, 1294.



6-methylbenzofuro[3,2-c]quinoline (2yd): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2yd** as yellow solid (23.1 mg, 40%); **M.P.**: 132-134 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.75 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.54 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4, 155.9, 154.8, 146.9, 129.4, 128.9, 126.8, 126.1, 124.0, 123.4, 121.8, 120.7, 116.2, 115.4, 112.1, 24.2; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺: 234.0913; found: 234.0910; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 2917, 1559, 1508, 1363, 1156.



6-methylbenzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-c]quinoline (2ye): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2ye** as yellow oil (19.2 mg, 31%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4, 155.9, 154.8, 146.9, 129.4, 128.9, 126.8, 126.1, 124.0, 123.5, 121.8, 120.7, 116.2, 115.4, 112.1, 24.2; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₂NS [M+H]⁺: 250.0685; found: 250.0680; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 2919, 1560, 1509, 1363,1155.



3,4-dimethyl-1-tosyl-1H-pyrrolo[**3,2-c**]**quinoline** (**2yf**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2yf** as yellow oil (58.8 mg, 67%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.96 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 145.6, 145.3, 135.9, 135.2, 130.0, 129.3, 127.6, 127.1, 126.8, 125.7, 124.2, 123.5, 117.7, 117.5, 24.5, 21.5, 13.4; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₂₀H₁₉N₂O₂S [M+H]⁺: 351.1162; found: 351.1158; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 2966, 2929, 1499, 1362, 1171.



6-ethylpyrido[**3**',**2**':**5**,**6**]**pyrazino**[**1**,**2**-*a*]**indole** (**2za**): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2za** as yellow oil (23.5 mg, 38%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.38 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d,*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 3.15 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.51 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.0, 146.6, 143.1, 136.2, 133.1, 130.6, 130.2, 128.7, 124.9, 123.6, 121.9, 120.0, 118.0, 100.9, 29.0, 12.2; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₄N₃ [M+H]⁺: 248.1182; found: 248.1186; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): *V* = 3054, 2928, 2862, 1528, 1456, 1413.



6-propylpyrido[3',2':5,6]pyrazino[1,2-*a***]indole (2zb)**: The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **2zb** as yellow oil (26.7 mg, 41%); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.36 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.9, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 3.08 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.04 – 1.96 (m, 2H), 1.12 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 146.6, 143.1, 136.1, 133.1, 130.6, 130.5, 128.6, 124.9, 123.6, 121.9, 120.0, 118.0, 101.1, 37.9, 21.7, 14.4; HRMS (m/z) calcd. for C₁₇H₁₆N₃ [M+H]⁺: 262.1339; found: 262.1344; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): V = 3051, 2958, 2877, 1576, 1528, 1457, 1410.



6-methylphenanthridine (4a): The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **4a** as white solid (41.6 mg, 86%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 3.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 143.8, 132.7, 130.6, 129.5, 128.8, 127.4, 126.7, 126.4, 126.0, 123.9, 122.4, 122.1, 23.5.^[17]

5. Cyclic Voltammetry Studies



Figure S1. Cyclic voltammograms of 0.2 M nBu_4NBF_4 solution in a mixed solvent of HFIP/TFE (4:1) at room temperature. (A) None; (B) **1a** (5 mM); (C) nBu_4NBr (5 mM); (D) nBu_4NBr (5 mM) and **1a** (5 mM). The voltammogram was obtained with Pt wire as an auxiliary electrode and a saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as a reference electrode. The scan rate was 0.1 V s⁻¹ on a glassy carbon electrode (GCE) (d = 3 mm).

6. Single Crystal Structure and Data of Compound 2a



CCDC 2081008

Figure S2. The single crystal structure of **2a**. **Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for mo_d8v21277_0m

| Identification code | mo_d8v21277_0m | |
|--|---|--|
| Empirical formula | $C_{23}H_{18}N_2O_2S$ | |
| Formula weight | 386.45 | |
| Temperature | 213(2) K | |
| Wavelength | 0.71073 Å | |
| Crystal system | Monoclinic | |
| Space group | P 21/c | |
| Unit cell dimensions | $a = 8.5865(2)$ Å $a = 90^{\circ}$. $b = 14.3767(4)$ Å $b = 98.9730(10)^{\circ}$. $c = 15.4328(3)$ Å $g = 90^{\circ}$. | |
| Volume | 1881.79(8) Å ³ | |
| Z | 4 | |
| Density (calculated) | 1.364 Mg/m ³ | |
| Absorption coefficient | 0.194 mm ⁻¹ | |
| F(000) | 808 | |
| Crystal size | 0.200 x 0.150 x 0.130 mm ³ | |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.788 to 25.996°. | |
| Index ranges | -9<=h<=10, -17<=k<=17, -19<=l<=19 | |
| Reflections collected | 18815 | |
| Independent reflections | 3683 [R(int) = 0.0252] | |
| Completeness to theta = 25.242° | 99.5 % | |
| Absorption correction | Semi-empirical from equivalents | |
| Max. and min. transmission | 0.7456 and 0.6630 | |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F ² | |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 3683 / 0 / 255 | |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.040 | |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | R1 = 0.0360, wR2 = 0.0893 | |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.0430, wR2 = 0.0954 | |
| Extinction coefficient | n/a | |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.264 and -0.313 e.Å ⁻³ | |

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8. NMR Spectra for products



Compound 2b



Compound 2c



Compound 2d



Compound 2e





Compound 2f



-0.5

-3. 2E+08 -3. 0E+08 -2. 8E+08 -2. 6E+08 -2. 4E+08 -2. 4E+08 -2. 2E+08

-2.0E+08

-1.8E+08

-1.6E+08 -1.4E+08 -1.2E+08 -1.2E+08 -1.0E+08 -8.0E+07 -6.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -2.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+07 -1.0E+08 -1.0E+





Compound 2g



Compound 2h





Compound 2i



Compound 2j



Compound 2k



Compound 21



Compound 2m



Compound 2m'



Compound 2n



Compound 2o



Compound 2p



Compound 2q



Compound 2r



Compound 2s





Compound 2u







S63

90 80 70 60 50 40

30

20

10 0

110 100 fl (ppm)

200 190

170 160

180

140 130 120

150





Compound 2x



Compound 2ya -8.2089 -8.1806 -8.1639 -7.7014 -7.6871 -7.6871 -7.6871 -7.5538 -7.5538 -7.5538 -7.4826 -7.4826 -7.4826 -7.46722 -7.4672 -7.4722 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4672 -7.4722 -7.7222 -7.72 -3.1788 8.3058 8.2890 8.2256 -1.7411 -6.5E+08 -6.0E+08 -5. 5E+08 -5.0E+08 -4.5E+08 -4.0E+08 Ъос -3.5E+08 ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) -3.0E+08 -2.5E+08 -2.0E+08 -1.5E+08 -1.0E+08 -5.0E+07 i li -0.0E+00 3.07 ⊭ 9.07 -2.05 03 -5. 0E+07 5.0 4.5 fl (ppm) 10.0 9.5 9.0 7.5 3. 0 2.5 2. 0 1.5 0.5 0.0 -0.5 8.5 8.0 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 4.0 3.5 1.0 $\begin{array}{c} -154.22 \\ -151.17 \\ -147.00 \\ -147.00 \\ -139.78 \\ -129.49 \\ -124.81 \\ -124.81 \\ -124.81 \\ -124.81 \\ -124.81 \\ -121.99 \\ -111.80 \\ -1118.05 \\ -118.05 \\ -118.05 \\ -118.05 \\ -118.05 \\ -118.05 \\ -118.05 \\$ -28.23 -85.69 -7.5E+08 -7.0E+08 -6. 5E+08 -6.0E+08 -5.5E+08 -5.0E+08 -4.5E+08 boc ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) -4.0E+08 -3.5E+08 -3.0E+08 -2.5E+08 -2.0E+08 -1.5E+08 -1.0E+08 -5.0E+07 -0.0E+00 110 100 fl (ppm) 120 200 190 150 130 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 ò 180 170 160 140

Compound 2yb



Compound 2yc



Compound 2yd





Compound 2yf


Compound 2za



Compound 2zb



