Supporting information

AlCl₃-mediated Ring-opening Reactions of Indoline-2-thiones with Acyl Cyclopropanes, Bi-cyclopropanes and Spirocyclic Cyclopropanes

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General Information

All starting materials and solvents were of the highest commercially available grade and used without further purification. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography using silica gel HSGF254 plates. Silica gel column chromatography was performed using the silica gel of particle size 200-300 mesh. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on 600 MHz in CDCl₃ or DMSO-*d*₆ and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on 150 MHz in CDCl₃ or DMSO-*d*₆. ¹H NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ) relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance employed as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ = 7.26 ppm or DMSO-*d*₆, δ = 2.50 ppm). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm from tetramethylsilane (TMS) with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ = 77.16 ppm or DMSO-*d*₆, δ = 39.52 ppm). ESI HRMS spectra were recorded on Bio TOF Q.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Indoline-2-thiones 1^[1]



NaH (1.92 g, 48 mmol) (60% in mineral oil) was added by portion to a solution of indoline-2,3dione derivative (40 mmol) in THF (50 mL) at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. The result reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min under nitrogen atmosphere. Then the alkyl halide (40 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture dropwise. The resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred until the reaction finished. After the completion of reaction (monitoring by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into ice cooled water to get a precipitation of the product. The precipitate was filtered and dried under vacuum desiccator to get the desired *N*-alkylated product. *N*-alkylated indoline-2,3-dione derivative (20 mmol), hydrazine hydrate (30 mL) was added in a 100 mL round-bottom flask. The resulting mixture was refluxed until the reaction finished. The reaction mixture was neutralization with aqueous HCl and extracted with DCM three times. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford the crude product 2-oxindole derivative, which was used in the next step without further purification.

P₂S₅ (18 mmol, 1.8 equiv.), Na₂CO₃ (18 mmol, 1.8 equiv.) and THF (20 mL) was added to a 100 mL round-bottom flask. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min, then 2-oxindole derivative (10 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise and the resulting mixture was stirred at 30 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into stirred ice-cold water and solid precipitated, filtered, dried to get pure indoline-2-thiones **1**.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Acyl Cyclopropanes 2^[2]

ArCHO +
$$R^3$$
 KOH, EtOH Ar R^3 R^3 Ar R^3 R^3

To a solution of aromatic aldehyde (20 mmol) and methyl ketones (20 mmol) in EtOH (30 mL), 5 mL KOH aqueous solution (40% wt) was added dropwise, then the reaction was carried out at room temperature until the disappearance of starting materials. The solution was poured into cold water and the mixture neutralized with 2 M HCl to a pH in the range of 2–3. After the resulting precipitate was collected and washed with water, the precipitate was recrystallized from EtOH to give the chalcones.

To a stirred suspension of NaH (5.85 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in dry DMSO (15 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere, trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (5.5 mmol, 1.21 g) was added in one portion at 0 °C, and the solution stirred at this temperature for 10 min. Then a solution of the appropriate chalcones (5 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (5 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture allowed to stir at room temperature until the disappearance of starting materials. The solution was quenched by saturated NH₄Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20:1) to give acyl cyclopropanes **2**.



(2-(benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)cyclopropyl)(phenyl)methanone (2l): white solid, mp 87.1-87.7 °C, two steps with 40% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.82 – 7.79 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d,

J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.83 (dt, *J* = 8.2, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.93 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.61 – 1.58 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.7, 140.4, 139.3, 137.6, 135.8, 133.1, 128.7, 128.2, 124.7, 124.3, 122.9, 121.9, 121.2, 26.9, 23.6, 17.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₈H₁₅OS⁺, 279.0838; Found, 279.0849.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Spirocyclic Cyclopropanes 4^[3]



8 (20 mmol), pyrrolidine (2 mmol), aromatic aldehyde (20 mmol) were reflux in EtOH (40 mL) for 5-12 h. The resulting mixture was poured into stirred ice-cold water and solid precipitated, filtered, dried to get pure **9**.

To a stirred suspension of NaH (5.85 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in dry DMSO (15 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere, trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (5.5 mmol, 1.21 g) was added in one portion at 0 °C, and the solution stirred at this temperature for 10 min. Then a solution of **9** (5 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (5 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C, and the reaction mixture allowed to stir at room temperature until the disappearance of starting materials. The solution was quenched by saturated NH₄Cl and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 4:1 or 15:1) to give spirocyclic cyclopropanes **4**.



2'-phenyl-2H-spiro[benzofuran-3,1'-cyclopropan]-2-one (4a): light yellow solid, mp 128.6-129.8 °C, two steps with 83% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 6.78 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 177.3, 153.9, 133.8, 129.9, 128.7, 128.1, 127.6, 126.1, 123.5, 121.1, 110.5, 37.7, 31.1, 24.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₂O₂Na⁺, 259.0730; Found, 259.0736.

General Procedure for the AlCl₃ Mediated Ring-opening Reaction of Acyl Cyclopropanes 2



To the mixture of indoline-2-thiones 1 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), acyl cyclopropanes 2 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and AlCl₃ (0.4 mmol, 53.3 mg, 2.0 equiv.), 2 mL DCM was added at room temperature. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. Then the resulting mixture was firstly quenched by brine (10 mL), and extracted with DCM three times (5 mL×3). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, concentrated in vacuo and then column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) to afford the desired compounds **3**.

Experiment Data for the Indolylthio-substituted Ketones 3



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3aa):** white solid, mp 120.6-121.3 °C, 61.0 mg, 79% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.25-7.16 (m, 5H), 7.09 (dt, *J* = 5.4, 3.1 Hz, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 4.05 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.13-3.00 (m, 2H), 2.51 (td, *J* = 14.6, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.46-2.36 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.3, 141.3, 138.4, 136.9, 133.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 127.7, 127.4, 122.6, 120.7, 119.8, 111.4, 109.9, 54.8, 36.5, 29.5, 29.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NOSNa⁺, 408.1393; Found, 408.1404.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)butan-1-one (3ab)**: white solid, mp 147-148 °C, 52.6 mg, 66% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.05 – 3.94 (m, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 2.99 (dd, J = 14.5, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (dd, J = 14.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (dt, J = 14.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.4, 138.4, 138.1, 137.4, 136.9, 133.2, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.1, 127.5, 127.4, 122.5, 120.6, 119.7, 111.2, 109.9, 54.5, 36.5, 29.6, 29.5, 21.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 422.1549; Found, 422.1548.



4-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3ac):** white solid, mp 61-62 °C, 71.5 mg, 86% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m, 2H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.67 – 6.64 (m, 1H), 4.21 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 3.07 (m, 1H), 3.03 – 2.97 (m, 1H), 2.37 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 2.30 – 2.23 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 199.0, 159.2, 142.5, 137.9, 136.4, 133.1, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.7, 122.3, 120.1, 119.6, 119.5, 113.2, 112.7, 110.3, 110.2, 54.8, 53.2, 35.9, 29.4, 29.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NO₂SNa⁺, 438.1498; Found, 438.1498.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenyl-4-(o-tolyl)butan-1-one (3ad):** orange oil, 59.0 mg, 74% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.89 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.09 – 6.98 (m, 3H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 4.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.13 – 3.08 (m, 1H), 3.05 – 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.36 (td, *J* = 14.1, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 199.3, 138.6, 138.0, 136.5, 135.9, 133.2, 130.3, 128.7, 128.2, 127.8, 127.2, 126.6, 126.2, 126.0, 122.3, 120.1, 119.6, 110.8, 110.2, 48.5, 35.8, 29.2, 28.6, 18.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 422.1549; Found, 422.1548.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenyl-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)butan-1-one** (3ae): white solid, mp 119-120 °C, 51.8 mg, 57% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.58 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.13 (m, 4H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 3H), 3.16 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.58 – 2.45 (m, 1H), 2.38 (dt, *J* = 13.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.9, 145.9, 138.0, 136.4, 133.2, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 126.6, 125.3 (q, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J* = 271.8 Hz), 122.4, 120.2, 119.6, 110.5, 110.3, 52.7, 35.8, 29.5, 28.8. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.49. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₂F₃NOSNa⁺, 476.1266; Found, 476.1270.



4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3af):** white solid, mp 115.3-117 °C, 58.3 mg, 72% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.05 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.07 (dd, J = 13.7, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (td, J = 14.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (td, J = 14.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.2, 162.2 (d, J = 247.6 Hz), 138.4, 137.2 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 136.9, 133.3, 129.2 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 127.3, 122.7, 120.7, 119.9, 115.5 (d, J = 22.7 Hz), 111.5, 109.9, 54.0, 36.3, 29.6, 29.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -114.60. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂FNOSNa⁺, 426.1298; Found, 426.1303.



4-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3ag):** white solid, mp 142.7-143.9 °C, 61.6 mg, 73% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.55 (t,

J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 7.11 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.03 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.07 (td, J = 7.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 2.49 (td, J = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.38 – 2.32 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.1, 140.0, 138.4, 137.8, 133.4, 133.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.3, 122.7, 120.7, 119.9, 111.6, 110.0, 54.0, 36.3, 29.6, 29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂ClNOSNa⁺, 442.1003; Found, 442.1002.



4-(4-bromophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3ah):** white solid, mp 143.3-144.2 °C, 65.7 mg, 71% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.91 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.25 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.13 – 3.08 (m, 1H), 3.04 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.31 (td, *J* = 14.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.26 – 2.19 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.9, 140.5, 138.0, 136.4, 133.2, 131.4, 129.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8, 126.6, 122.4, 120.5, 120.2, 119.6, 110.4, 110.3, 52.5, 35.8, 29.5, 28.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂BrNOSNa⁺, 486.0498; Found, 486.0497.



4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3ai):** white solid, mp 81-83 °C, 66.9 mg, 74% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.86 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.68 – 6.58 (m, 1H), 4.27 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 3.14 – 3.08 (m, 1H), 3.06 – 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.32 (td, *J* = 14.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.28 – 2.22 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.8, 142.3, 138.0, 136.4, 133.1, 131.1, 130.5, 129.9, 129.5, 128.6, 127.8, 127.8, 127.8, 126.6, 122.4, 120.2, 119.6, 110.6, 110.2, 52.0, 35.7, 29.5, 28.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₁Cl₂NOSNa⁺, 476.0613; Found, 476.0614.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3aj):** white solid, mp 93.7-94.0 °C, 60.0 mg, 69% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 7.8 Hz, 3H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 3.20 (s, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 1H), 2.45 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 199.2, 138.0, 136.5, 136.3, 133.5, 133.1, 130.8, 128.9, 128.6, 127.9, 127.7, 126.6, 126.4, 125.8, 125.3, 123.8, 123.0, 122.3, 120.1, 119.5, 110.9, 110.1, 47.0, 36.0, 29.1, 28.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₉H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 458.1549; Found, 458.1547.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3ak):** white solid, mp 111.1-111.3 °C, 53.8 mg, 62% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.85 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.41 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.13 – 3.09 (m, 1H), 3.03 – 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.47 – 2.31 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 199.0, 138.4, 138.0, 136.4, 133.2, 132.8, 132.4, 128.7, 128.7, 128.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.7, 126.3, 126.2, 126.1, 125.7, 122.3, 120.1, 119.6, 110.3, 110.2, 53.6, 35.9, 29.5, 29.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₉H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 458.1549; Found, 458.1547.



4-(benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylbutan-1-one (3al):** yellow solid, mp 52-53 °C, 47.4 mg, 54% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.03 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H),

7.98 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.58 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 4.69 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (td, J = 7.0, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.49 – 2.35 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 199.2, 139.7, 138.0, 137.6, 136.5, 135.1, 133.2, 128.7, 127.8, 127.7, 126.7, 124.7, 124.2, 123.8, 123.1, 122.4, 122.2, 120.2, 119.6, 111.2, 110.2, 46.4, 36.0, 29.1, 28.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₇H₂₃NOS₂Na⁺, 464.1113; Found, 464.1123.



5-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-5-phenylpentan-2-one (3am):** brown solid, mp 85.5-88 °C, 44.0 mg, 68% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.51 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 4.10 (dd, J = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.50 – 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.42 – 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.19 – 2.05 (m, 2H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 207.5, 140.9, 137.9, 128.7, 128.5, 127.4, 126.7, 122.2, 120.1, 119.5, 110.2, 53.2, 40.5, 29.8, 29.4, 28.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₀H₂₁NOSNa⁺, 346.1236; Found, 346.1238.



1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3an):** white solid, mp 113.6-114.5 °C, 40.0 mg, 48% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.13 – 6.99 (m, 3H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 4.01 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.32 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 3.08 – 2.87 (m, 2H), 2.46 (td, J = 14.2, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (dt, J = 14.5, 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.9, 163.6, 141.4, 138.4, 130.4, 130.0, 128.9, 128.7, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 122.5, 120.6, 119.7, 113.8, 111.4, 109.9, 55.6, 54.8, 36.1, 29.6, 29.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NO₂SNa⁺, 438.1498; Found, 438.1498.



4-((1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenyl-1-(p-tolyl)butan-1-one (3ao): white solid, mp 127.7-

129.0 °C, 39.0 mg, 49% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.13 (m, 7H), 7.12 – 7.00 (m, 3H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 4.07 – 3.97 (m, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.01 (td, J = 8.5, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (dd, J = 14.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.43 – 2.31 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.0, 144.0, 141.3, 138.4, 134.4, 129.4, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 127.3, 122.5, 120.6, 119.7, 111.4, 109.9, 54.8, 36.3, 29.5, 29.4, 21.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 422.1549; Found, 422.1548.



1-(4-isopropylphenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3ap):** white solid, mp 105.1-105.9 °C, 39.5 mg, 46% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.12 (m, 7H), 7.12 – 6.96 (m, 3H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 4.03 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.08 – 2.96 (m, 2H), 2.96 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.48 (td, J = 14.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (td, J = 14.5, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.22 (dd, J = 16.4, 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.0, 154.7, 141.3, 138.4, 134.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 126.8, 122.5, 120.6, 119.7, 111.4, 109.9, 54.8, 36.4, 34.4, 29.5, 29.4, 23.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₉NOSNa⁺, 450.1862; Found, 450.1868.



1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3aq): white solid, mp 124.1-124.7 °C, 40.6 mg, 44% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 7.95 (d,** *J* **= 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (dd,** *J* **= 16.9, 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (d,** *J* **= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t,** *J* **= 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t,** *J* **= 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 7.10 (dd,** *J* **= 11.2, 7.4 Hz, 3H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 4.08 (t,** *J* **= 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.18 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.54 (td,** *J* **= 14.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (td,** *J* **= 14.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 198.9, 145.9, 141.3, 140.0, 138.4, 135.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4, 127.3, 122.6, 120.7, 119.8, 111.4, 109.9, 54.8, 36.5, 29.5, 29.4. HRMS (ESITOF)** *m/z***: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₃₁H₂₇NOSNa⁺, 484.1706; Found, 484.1715.**



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)butan-1-one (3ar):** white solid, mp 118.6-119.3 °C, 35.3 mg, 39% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 4H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 4.08 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.09 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (td, J = 14.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (td, J = 14.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.0, 145.6, 138.5, 136.8, 133.4, 129.8 (q, J = 33.2 Hz), 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 128.0, 127.3, 125.6 (q, J = 4.5 Hz), 124.2 (q, J = 273.3 Hz), 122.9, 120.8, 120.0, 111.8, 110.0, 54.2, 36.2, 29.6, 29.1. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.49. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₂F₃NOSNa⁺, 476.1266; Found, 476.1270.



4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3as):** yellow solid, mp 116.6-117.3 °C, 45.5 mg, 53% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 – 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.96 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.13 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 4.06 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.51 (td, J = 14.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (dt, J = 14.5, 6.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 150.4, 141.2, 140.9, 138.4, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.6, 127.3, 123.9, 122.7, 120.7, 119.9, 111.4, 109.9, 54.4, 37.0, 29.5, 29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₃SNa⁺, 453.1243; Found, 453.1242.



1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3at):** white solid, mp 129.7-130.6 °C, 50.5 mg, 60% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.97 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 0.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 3.11 – 3.06 (m, 1H), 3.01 – 2.96 (m, 1H), 2.38 – 2.17 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.0, 140.9, 138.0, 137.9, 135.1, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.5, 127.5, 126.7, 122.2, 120.1, 119.5, 110.2, 53.2, 35.9, 29.4, 28.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂ClNOSNa⁺, 442.1003; Found, 442.1002.



1-(3-bromophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3au):** white solid, mp 108-109 °C, 50.0 mg, 54% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 7.07 (dt, *J* = 7.0, 5.9 Hz, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.09 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.48 (td, *J* = 14.4, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (td, *J* = 14.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.9, 141.1, 138.6, 138.4, 136.1, 131.2, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 127.8, 127.6, 127.3, 126.6, 123.1, 122.6, 120.7, 119.8, 111.5, 109.9, 54.6, 36.5, 29.5, 29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂BrNOSNa⁺, 486.0498; Found, 486.0497.



1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-4-phenylbutan-1-one (3av): yellow solid, mp 88.9-89.7 °C, 69.0 mg, 76% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 7.96 (d,** *J* **= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd,** *J* **= 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d,** *J* **= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d,** *J* **= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d,** *J* **= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.66 (d,** *J* **= 0.6 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd,** *J* **= 8.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 3.07 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.97 (m, 1H), 2.36 – 2.18 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 197.2, 140.8, 137.9, 136.5, 135.9, 131.7, 130.9, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 126.6, 122.2, 120.0, 119.5, 110.2, 110.1, 53.1, 36.0, 29.4, 28.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z***: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₁Cl₂NOSNa⁺, 476.0613; Found, 476.0614.**



1,7-bis((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1-phenylheptan-4-one (3aw):** green oil, 48.0 mg, 47% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.10 (m, 4H), 7.06 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.48 – 2.39 (m, 3H), 2.38 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.18 – 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.56 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 209.0, 140.8, 137.9, 130.7, 128.7, 128.5, 127.5, 126.9, 126.6, 122.2, 121.7, 120.1, 119.6, 119.5, 110.2, 110.1, 110.0, 107.1, 53.2, 40.3, 39.7, 34.4, 29.8, 29.4, 28.6, 22.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₃₁H₃₃N₂OS₂⁺, 513.2029; Found,

513.2032.



1,7-bis((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,7-diphenylheptan-4-one (3ax):** brown solid, mp 132.7-134.1 °C, 63.6 mg, 54% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.04 (dt, *J* = 8.8, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.42 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.32 – 2.24 (m, 1H), 2.13 – 1.97 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 208.7, 140.7, 137.9, 128.7, 128.4, 127.4, 126.6, 122.2, 120.1, 119.5, 110.2, 110.1, 53.1, 29.4, 28.5, 28.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₃₇H₃₇N₂OS₂⁺, 589.2342; Found, 589.2346.



4-((1-benzyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3ba):** red liquid, 47.8 mg, 52% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.80 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.15 (m, 8H), 7.12 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.11 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.95 – 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.37 – 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.28 – 2.22 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.8, 140.8, 138.2, 137.5, 136.4, 133.1, 129.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0, 126.2, 122.5, 120.2, 119.8, 110.6, 110.6, 53.4, 45.9, 35.8, 29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₃₁H₂₇NOSNa⁺, 484.1706; Found, 484.1711.



4-((4-bromo-1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3ca):** white solid, mp 119.3-120 °C, 47.5 mg, 51% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 6.98 (m, 4H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 4.10 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.15 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.51 (dt, J = 14.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (dt, J = 14.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.3, 141.1, 138.6, 136.9, 133.3, 130.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 123.3, 122.7, 114.5, 111.2, 109.1, 55.0, 36.4, 30.0, 29.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂BrNOSNa⁺, 486.0498; Found, 486.0497.



4-((5-chloro-1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3da):** white solid, mp 119.3-120.9 °C, 39.5 mg, 47% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.07 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.10 – 3.02 (m, 2H), 2.50 (td, *J* = 14.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 – 2.37 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.2, 141.0, 136.8, 136.7, 133.3, 130.6, 128.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 125.5, 122.8, 119.9, 110.9, 110.6, 54.7, 36.4, 29.7, 29.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂CINOSNa⁺, 442.1003; Found, 442.1002.



4-((5-bromo-1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3ea):** white solid, mp 123.7-124.9 °C, 47.2 mg, 51% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 10.7, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 7.03 (m, 3H), 6.61 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, J = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.08 – 3.04 (m, 2H), 2.50 (td, J = 14.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 – 2.37 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.2, 141.0, 136.9, 136.9, 133.3, 130.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 125.4, 123.0, 113.1, 111.3, 110.5, 54.8, 36.4, 29.7, 29.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂BrNOSNa⁺, 486.0498; Found, 486.0497.



4-((1,5-dimethyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3fa):** white solid, mp 137.3-138.3 °C, 38.2 mg, 48% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 7.15 – 6.98 (m, 4H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.02 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.12 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.55 – 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.42 – 2.33 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.3, 141.4, 136.9, 136.9, 133.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 124.3, 120.2, 110.9, 109.6, 54.8, 36.5, 29.5, 29.3, 21.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 422.1549; Found, 422.1548.



1,4-diphenyl-4-((1,5,7-trimethyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)butan-1-one (3ga):** white solid, mp 134.6-136.7 °C, 47.2 mg, 57% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (dd, J = 6.5, 3.7 Hz, 3H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.15 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.02 (dd, J = 8.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.10 – 3.05 (m, 2H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 2.51 (td, J = 14.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.44 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.4, 141.3, 136.9, 136.0, 133.2, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.7, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 121.1, 118.2, 111.7, 54.8, 36.5, 32.6, 29.3, 21.2, 20.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₇H₂₇NOSNa⁺, 436.1706; Found, 436.1717.



4-((3,3-dimethyl-3*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (3ha):** colorless oil, 56.0 mg, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.95 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27 (dt, *J* = 15.9, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 – 3.09 (m, 1H), 3.01 – 2.96 (m, 1H), 2.65 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.47 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 198.8, 186.9, 153.1, 145.6, 141.0, 136.4, 133.1, 128.7, 128.6, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 124.1, 121.4, 118.3, 54.6, 47.9, 35.9, 30.6, 24.8, 24.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₅NOSNa⁺, 422.1549; Found, 422.1548.

General Procedure for the AlCl₃ Mediated Ring-opening Reaction of Spirocyclic Cyclopropanes 4



To the mixture of indoline-2-thiones **1** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), spirocyclic cyclopropanes **4** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and AlCl₃ (0.4 mmol, 53.3 mg, 2.0 equiv.) 2 mL DCM was added at room temperature. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. Then the resulting mixture

was firstly quenched by brine (10 mL), and extracted with DCM three times (5 mL \times 3). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, concentrated in vacuo and then column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1 or 20:1) to afford the desired compounds **5**.

Experiment Data for the product 5



3-(2-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-2-phenylethyl)benzofuran-2(3***H***)-one (5a): white solid, mp 166.1-166.7 °C, 50.1 mg, 63% yield, 1:1 dr. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 7.53 (d,** *J* **= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd,** *J* **= 12.7, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d,** *J* **= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 4.2H), 7.27 – 7.21 (m, 5.5H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 7.3H), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 1.5H), 7.08 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 4.40 (dd,** *J* **= 9.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (t,** *J* **= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (t,** *J* **= 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.98 – 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.65 – 2.60 (m, 2H), 2.59 – 2.53 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 176.9, 176.4, 153.3, 153.2, 140.4, 139.5, 138.1, 138.0, 128.8, 128.8, 128.6, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.7, 127.5, 127.2, 127.0, 126.6, 126.6, 124.8, 124.5, 124.1, 124.0, 122.5, 122.4, 120.3, 120.2, 119.7, 119.6, 110.7, 110.6, 110.4, 110.3, 110.3, 51.4, 50.9, 41.2, 40.9, 35.2, 35.0, 29.4, 29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m***/***z***: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₁NO₂SNa⁺, 422.1185; Found, 422.1196.**



3-(2-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)-2-phenylethyl)indolin-2-one (5b):** white solid, mp 132.7-133.5 °C, 64.5 mg, 81% yield, 1:0.8 dr. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.50 (s, 0.9H), 10.35 (s, 1H), 7.59 – 7.45 (m, 2.1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 23.7, 8.1 Hz, 3.4H), 7.29 – 7.10 (m, 13.7H), 7.07 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 6.91 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.9H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, 0.8H), 4.65 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.8H), 3.43 – 3.41 (m, 3.8H), 3.37 – 3.24 (m, 3.5H), 2.47 (dt, *J* = 14.5, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 2.42 – 2.31 (m, 1.8H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 178.5, 178.4, 142.6, 142.5, 140.7, 140.2, 138.0, 137.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 127.5, 126.7, 126.6, 124.2, 123.9, 122.3, 121.3,
121.3, 120.2, 119.6, 119.5, 110.7, 110.4, 110.2, 109.4, 109.3, 51.1, 50.9, 43.1, 43.0, 35.8, 35.5, 29.4,
29.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂N₂OSNa⁺, 421.1345; Found, 421.1352.



2-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-((1-methyl-1*H***-indol-2-yl)thio)ethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1***H***-inden-1-one (5c): yellow liquid, 43.6 mg, 51% yield, 1:1 dr. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 7.68 – 7.56 (m, 4H), 7.49 (td,** *J* **= 12.4, 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.43 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.23 – 7.10 (m, 6H), 7.06 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.89 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.83 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 6.66 (dd,** *J* **= 3.9, 0.5 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (t,** *J* **= 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd,** *J* **= 10.5, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.71 – 3.70 (m, 6H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.20 – 3.10 (m, 2H), 2.87 – 2.84 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd,** *J* **= 17.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd,** *J* **= 17.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.49 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.41 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.03 – 1.89 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-***d***₆) \delta 207.4, 207.2, 158.6, 158.5, 153.6, 153.4, 137.9, 137.9, 135.9, 135.8, 134.9, 134.9, 133.3, 132.0, 129.0, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 127.4, 127.4, 126.8, 126.7, 126.7, 126.7, 123.2, 123.1, 122.2, 122.2, 120.1, 119.5, 119.5, 114.0, 113.7, 110.2, 110.2, 110.1, 110.1, 55.1, 52.3, 51.6, 45.5, 45.0, 36.7, 36.6, 32.8, 32.1, 29.5, 29.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z***: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₇H₂₅NO₂SNa⁺, 450.1498; Found, 450.1496.**

General Procedure for the TfOH catalyzed intramolecular cyclization of the ringopening products 3



To the solvent of 4-indolylthiobutan-1-ones **3** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in 2 mL DCM, TfOH (0.04 mmol, 3.5 μ L) was added at room temperature. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The resulting mixture was directly purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) to afford the desired compounds **6**.



10-methyl-2,5-diphenyl-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino**[**2,3-b**]**indole (6a):** white solid, mp 198.1-199.3 °C, 72.7 mg, 99% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 7H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.63 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.1, 140.6, 140.4, 138.2, 134.6, 128.8, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 126.6, 126.3, 126.2, 122.3, 120.7, 119.8, 118.7, 109.8, 68.9, 37.4, 30.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₂NS⁺, 368.1467; Found, 368.1465.



10-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(p-tolyl)-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino[2,3-b]indole (6b):** white solid, mp 139.3-140.2 °C, 75.5 mg, 99% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.91 – 6.83 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (dd, J = 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.57 – 2.53 (m, 1H), 2.48 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 141.0, 139.9, 139.2, 137.8, 136.8, 134.1, 129.1, 128.3, 127.5, 127.3, 126.6, 126.3, 125.4, 121.9, 119.5, 119.5, 117.4, 110.5, 67.2, 36.9, 30.5, 20.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₄NS⁺, 382.1624; Found, 382.1624.



10-methyl-5-phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino[2,3-b]indole** (6c): white solid, mp 205.5-206.5 °C, 82.8 mg, 95% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 11.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (dd, J = 11.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.64 – 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.49 – 2.45 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 148.4, 139.7, 139.5, 137.9, 133.4, 128.4, 128.0 (q, J = 31.7 Hz), 127.7, 127.3, 127.3, 126.3, 125.7 (q, J = 3.0 Hz), 125.4, 124.2 (q, J = 271.8 Hz), 122.1, 119.7, 119.5, 117.7, 110.7, 66.4, 36.5, 30.6. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.51. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₆H₂₁F₃NS⁺, 436.1341; Found, 436.1353.



2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-10-methyl-5-phenyl-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino[2,3-b]indole (6d):** white solid, mp 171.5-172.1 °C, 83.8 mg, 96% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 – 7.28 (m, 8H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.63 – 2.59 (m, 1H), 2.57 – 2.52 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.3, 141.1, 140.1, 138.3, 133.5, 132.7, 131.6, 130.7, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 126.2, 125.9, 125.5, 122.6, 120.8, 120.0, 119.1, 109.9, 67.6, 37.0, 30.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₀Cl₂NS⁺, 436.0688; Found, 436.0692.



10-methyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-5-phenyl-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino**[**2,3-b**]**indole** (**6e**): white solid, mp 164.1-165.1 °C, 78.5 mg, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (s, 5H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.88 – 2.60 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 140.0, 139.0, 139.0, 137.8, 134.1, 133.5, 129.6, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 127.5, 127.3, 127.0, 126.4, 125.9, 125.6, 125.5, 123.8, 123.2, 122.0, 119.5, 117.5, 110.5, 35.4, 30.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₉H₂₄NS⁺, 418.1624; Found, 418.1621.



5-(4-chlorophenyl)-10-methyl-2-phenyl-3,10-dihydro-2*H***-thiepino[2,3-b]indole** (6f): white solid, mp 181.7-182 °C, 78.7 mg, 98% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz,

1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 6H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (dd, J = 11.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.61 – 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.49 – 2.40 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 143.8, 138.7, 138.0, 137.8, 134.2, 132.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 127.6, 127.4, 126.4, 125.3, 122.1, 119.8, 119.4, 116.9, 110.7, 67.2, 36.9, 30.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₁ClNS⁺, 402.1078; Found, 402.1077.

The Procedure for the Transformation to Sulfone 7 and the Experiment Data of 7



To the solution of **3aa** (0.2 mmol, 77.1 mg) in DCM (2 mL), *m*-CPBA (0.44 mmol, 89.3 mg, 85% wt) was added at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was then allowed to warm to ambient temperature. Upon completion (as determined by TLC analysis), the reaction was diluted with CH₂Cl₂, washed with 5% aq. K₂CO₃ and 5% aq. NaHCO₃. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 5:1) to give sulfone **7** with 50% yield.

4-((1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)sulfonyl)-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (7): white solid, mp 154.2-155.3 °C, 41.6 mg, 50% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 7.21 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 4.46 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.09 – 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.95 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 2.60 – 2.53 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.6, 139.3, 136.6, 133.4, 131.5, 131.3, 130.2, 129.5, 128.9, 128.7, 128.0, 125.9, 125.2, 122.9, 121.3, 112.9, 110.6, 77.4, 77.2, 76.9, 71.7, 35.4, 30.4, 22.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]⁺ Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NO₃SNa⁺, 440.1291; Found, 440.1297.

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-90 f1 (ppm) -200 10 -10 -20 -50 -110 -120 -180 -30 -60 -140 -160 0 -40 -70 -80





















































































































































