

**Access to the Pyrroloindoline Core via [3+2] Annulation as well as the
Application in the Synthetic Approach to (±)-Minfiensine**

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Supporting Information

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I. General Information

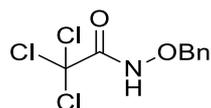
All reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring, unless otherwise specified. Hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) and 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol were purchased from Beijing Ouhe Technology Co. Commercial available substituted indoles are purchased from J&K Co. without further purification and other indoles was prepared according to known procedures.

¹H NMR spectra were obtained on a 400 MHz spectrometer, chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to residual protiated solvent as internal standard. ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained at 100.6 MHz on a 400 MHz instrument, chemical shifts were recorded relative to the solvent resonance. Both ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are reported in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane. Chromatographic purifications were performed by flash chromatography using silica gel (200-400 mesh). The yields of the products included refer to isolated yields.

II Synthesis of α -haloamides

α -haloamides were prepared according to the literature procedure^[1] except these:

N-(benzyloxy)-2,2,2-trichloroacetamide



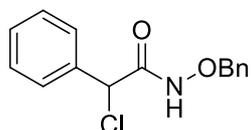
To a suspension of the O-benzyloxyamine hydrochloride(1.59g. 10 mmol) and triethylamine(1.53 mL. 12 mmol) in DCM (50 mL) was added dropwise the trichloroacetyl chloride(1.11 mL. 10 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 hours. Then the mixture was warmed to room temperature and quenched with water. The organic phase was washed with water (50.0 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to afford the product as white solid (1.70g, 64% yield)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.18 (s, 1H), 7.44 - 7.26 (m, 5H), 5.00 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.50, 133.85, 129.65, 129.33, 128.79, 90.20, 78.51.

HRMS: m/z calculated for C₉H₉Cl₃NO₂ (M + H)⁺: 267.9699, found:267.9695.

N-(benzyloxy)-2-chloro-2-phenylacetamide



To a suspension of the O-benzyloxyamine hydrochloride (790 mg, 5.0 mmol) and triethylamine(770 μ L, 6.0 mmol) in DCM (25.0 mL) was added dropwise the 2-chloro-2-phenylacetyl chloride (710 μ L, 5.0 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred for 3 hours. Then the mixture was warmed to room temperature and quenched with water. The organic phase was washed with water (25.0 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and evaporated. The residue

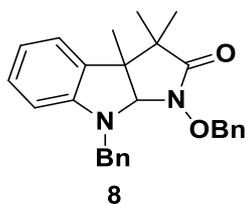
was purified flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to give the product as white solid (976mg, 71% yield)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.38 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 10H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.04, 135.90, 134.48, 129.40, 129.23, 128.92, 128.83, 128.58, 127.77, 78.23, 58.96. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 276.0791, found:276.0791.

III. General procedure for the (3+2)-cycloaddition of indoles with halo amides:

Indole (0.20mmol) was dissolved in mixture solvent (2.0 mL HFIP and 0.20 mL DCM) and then α -haloamide (1.5eq, 0.30 mmol) and potassium carbonate (2.0 equiv, 0.40 mmol) were added. The mixture were stirred at room temperature until complete consumption of the indole (monitored by TLC). Then the mixture was filtered through the short pad of celite and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified via flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10 :1 to 1:1) to provide the desired product.

(\pm)-8-benzyl-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,3a-trimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (8)

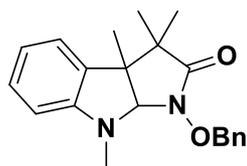


Yield (79mg, 96%) as white solid via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 7H), 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.06 (td, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (td, J = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (s, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.22 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 6H), 1.10 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.73, 149.68, 137.91, 134.72, 131.90, 129.73, 128.99, 128.61, 128.51, 127.21, 127.13, 124.16, 118.34, 107.56, 86.10, 76.97, 51.61,

51.50, 43.81, 24.30, 21.81, 21.74. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{27}H_{29}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 413.2224, found: 413.2227

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10a)



10a

Yield (64mg, 95%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.14 (td, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, $J = 7.4, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.72 (td, $J = 7.4, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.17 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (s, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 6H), 1.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.56, 150.46, 134.94, 131.93, 129.70, 128.95, 128.49, 128.43, 123.88, 118.20, 107.11, 88.23, 76.97, 51.31, 43.65, 34.61, 24.25, 21.93, 21.50. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{21}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 337.1911, found: 337.1912.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,3a-trimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10b)



10b

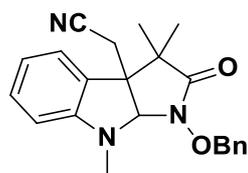
Yield (42mg, 95%) as white solid via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (m, 5H), 7.11 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.75 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.12 (d, $J = 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.98 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 4.33 (s, 1H), 1.22 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 6H), 1.20 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.10, 147.51, 135.65, 132.24, 129.56, 129.04, 128.71, 128.31, 125.35, 119.43, 110.55, 80.60, 77.39, 53.03, 43.94, 23.40, 22.47, 20.63.

HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 323.1754, found:323.1761.

(\pm)-2-(1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,8-trimethyl-2-oxo-1,2,3,3a,8,8a-hexahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-3a-yl)acetonitrile (10c)

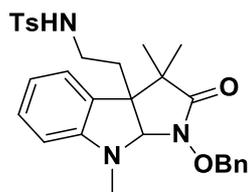


10c

Yield (60mg, 83%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.21 (td, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.81 – 6.74 (m, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.68 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.00 (s, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.70, 150.18, 134.73, 130.01, 129.82, 129.34, 128.72, 127.21, 124.83, 118.83, 116.74, 107.87, 85.28, 77.15, 52.69, 43.68, 34.23, 24.02, 22.20. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$:362.1869, found: 362.1861

(\pm)-N-(2-(1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,8-trimethyl-2-oxo-1,2,3,3a,8,8a-hexahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-3a-yl)ethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (10d)



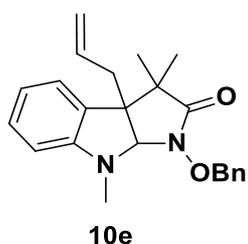
10d

Yield (88mg, 85%) as white solid via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (s, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.43 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.90-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.76 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.44, 150.04, 143.38, 136.59, 134.90, 129.77, 129.58, 129.12, 128.61, 128.07, 126.92, 125.18, 118.48, 107.53, 84.02, 77.20, 54.38, 44.17, 39.82, 33.69, 33.64, 23.09, 22.85, 21.46. HRMS: *m/z* calculated for C₂₉H₃₄N₃O₄S (M + H)⁺: 520.2270, found:520.2266.

(±)-3a-allyl-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,8-trimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-1-2(1H)-one (10e)

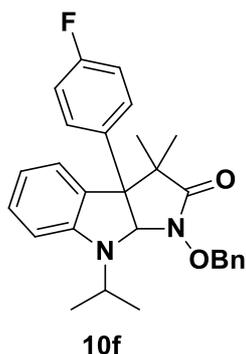


Yield (64mg, 88%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.13 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (td, *J* = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.31 – 5.21 (m, 1H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 4.89 (ddd, *J* = 18.0, 13.5, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.60 (ddt, *J* = 14.0, 5.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.36, 151.55, 135.09, 134.11, 129.61, 129.34, 128.91, 128.57, 128.54, 124.44, 118.69, 118.14, 107.21, 85.16, 77.02, 54.96, 44.00, 38.80, 34.80, 25.13, 21.28. HRMS: *m/z* calculated for C₂₃H₂₇N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺: 363.2073, found:363.2065.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3a-(4-fluorophenyl)-8-isopropyl-3,3-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10f)

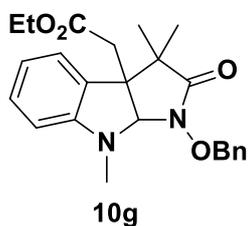


Yield (67mg, 75%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.16 (td, $J = 7.9, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.79 (td, $J = 7.5, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 5.18 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.99 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.82 (dt, $J = 13.5, 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.37 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.20 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.58, 161.60(d, $J = 248$ Hz), 148.17, 135.66(d, $J = 3$ Hz), 134.57, 130.81, 129.60, 128.90(d, $J = 13$ Hz), 128.56, 128.24(d, $J = 8$ Hz), 127.61, 118.17, 115.29(d, $J = 21$ Hz), 110.16, 81.33, 77.26, 60.74, 48.85, 45.26, 25.07, 23.75, 20.96, 20.68. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{30}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 445.2291, found: 445.2282

(±)-ethyl-2-(1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,8-trimethyl-2-oxo-1,2,3,3a,8,8a-hexahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-3a-yl)acetate (10g)

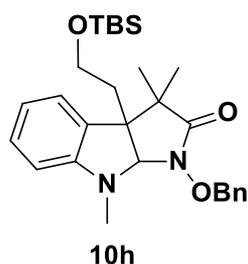


Yield (71mg, 87%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.78 (d, $J = 15.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (d, $J = 15.1$ Hz, 1H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H),

0.98 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.77, 170.24, 151.41, 134.94, 129.73, 128.97, 128.96, 128.53, 124.50, 117.91, 107.21, 85.79, 77.03, 60.46, 53.21, 44.08, 39.36, 35.06, 25.13, 21.88, 13.82. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 409.2127, found:409.2125.

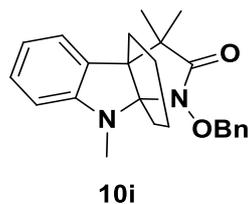
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3a-(2-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)ethyl)-3,3,8-trimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10h)



Yield (81mg, 84%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48 -7.46 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.99 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 3.27 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 1.95 (dd, $J = 13.3, 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.79 (dt, $J = 14.1, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 3H), 0.81 (s, 9H), -0.09 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.10, 150.94, 135.07, 129.63, 128.95, 128.90, 128.67, 128.56, 124.86, 117.86, 106.96, 84.92, 76.87, 59.97, 54.29, 44.20, 36.41, 34.33, 25.91, 24.17, 22.47, 18.20, -5.47. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{41}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Si}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 481.2886, found:481.2881.

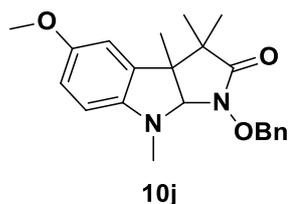
(±)-10-(benzyloxy)-9,12,12-trimethyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-8a,4b-(epiminoethano)carbazol-11-one (10i)



Yield (65mg, 87%) as white solid via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.51-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.72 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.18 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.19 (ddd, $J = 14.2, 6.3, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.99 (dt, $J = 13.8, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.84 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.64 – 1.52 (m, 1H), 1.45 – 1.24 (m, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 176.23, 151.28, 135.10, 129.76, 129.31, 128.73, 128.50, 123.24, 117.78, 105.98, 87.74, 78.24, 53.44, 44.44, 29.96, 28.42, 25.97, 25.28, 20.59, 20.56, 18.92. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 377.2229, found:377.2219.

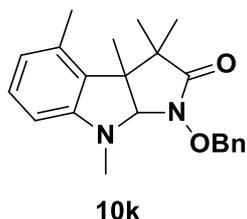
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-5-methoxy-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10j)



Yield (62mg, 85%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 6.69 (dd, $J = 8.5, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.36 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.17 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, $J = 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 1.18 (t, $J = 10.6$ Hz, 6H), 0.99 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.50, 153.18, 145.26, 135.17, 133.49, 129.73, 128.94, 128.52, 112.58, 111.68, 107.72, 89.30, 77.10, 56.00, 51.39, 43.71, 35.85, 24.48, 22.15, 21.16. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 367.2022, found:367.2018.

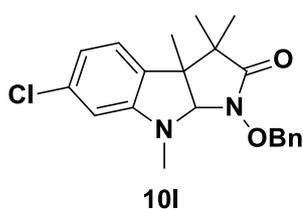
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,3a,4,8-pentamethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10k)



Yield (63mg, 90%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.18 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.15 (s, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.32 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 6H), 0.86 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.85, 152.34, 135.11, 134.18, 129.79, 129.26, 128.98, 128.53, 128.37, 121.50, 105.20, 90.00, 77.17, 51.57, 44.08, 35.64, 25.26, 22.83, 21.21, 19.58. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 351.2073, found: 351.2073.

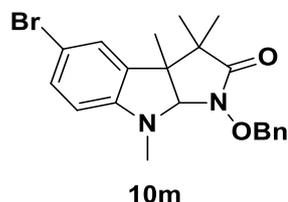
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-6-chloro-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10l)



Yield (61mg, 83%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 6.83 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, $J = 7.9, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.36 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.16 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (s, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.26, 151.48, 134.99, 134.31, 130.71, 129.77, 129.05, 128.57, 124.74, 117.83, 107.30, 88.02, 77.03, 51.09, 43.57, 34.13, 24.17, 21.82. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 371.1526, found: 371.1526.

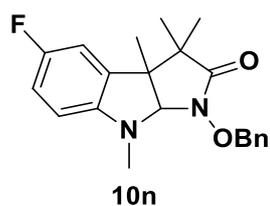
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-5-bromo-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10m)



Yield (71mg, 86%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.21 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (s, 1H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.19, 149.54, 135.01, 134.33, 131.19, 129.77, 129.06, 128.57, 126.97, 109.90, 108.46, 88.15, 77.05, 51.38, 43.59, 34.48, 24.29, 21.91, 21.61. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 415.1021, found: 415.1017.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-5-fluoro-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10n)

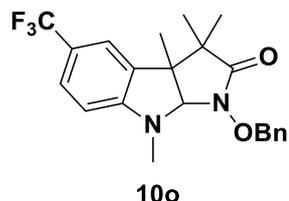


Yield (60mg, 85%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 6.81 (td, J = 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dd, J = 8.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (s, 1H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.22, 156.64(d, J = 237 Hz), 146.81, 135.06, 133.47(d, J = 7 Hz), 129.74, 129.00, 128.54, 114.41(d, J = 23 Hz), 111.61(d, J = 25 Hz), 107.41(d, J = 8 Hz), 88.75, 77.04, 51.34(d, (d, J = 2 Hz) ,

43.61, 35.21, 24.17, 21.87, 21.47. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{21}H_{24}FN_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 355.1822, found: 355.1819.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3,3a,8-tetramethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10o)

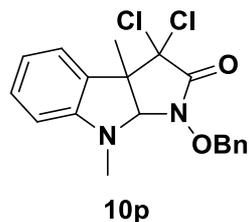


Yield (59mg, 73%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (s, 1H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.40, 152.67, 134.78, 132.37, 129.88, 129.24, 128.66, 126.14, 123.45, 123.84(q, J = 275 Hz), 119.99(q, J = 32 Hz), 87.70, 77.10, 51.26, 43.61, 33.82, 24.06, 21.98, 21.71. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{22}H_{24}F_3N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 405.1790, found: 405.1790.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3-dichloro-3a,8-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10p)

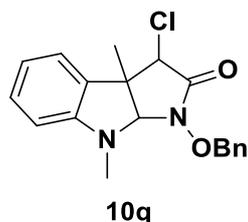


Yield (63mg, 83%) as yellow solid via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.20 (td, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (td, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (d, J = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (s, 1H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.04, 148.24, 134.19, 130.01, 129.85, 129.42, 128.92, 128.70, 126.53, 118.84, 107.50, 86.50, 85.16, 76.95, 58.68, 33.28,

20.71. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{19}H_{19}ClN_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 377.0824,
found:377.0821.

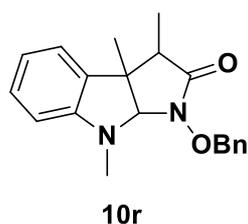
(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3-chloro-3a,8-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10q)



Yield (48mg, 71%) as yellow oil via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50-7.48 (m, , 2H), 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.75 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.97 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.40, 148.10, 134.72, 131.80, 130.17, 129.81, 129.34, 128.73, 122.75, 118.95, 107.48, 86.29, 76.85, 60.43, 49.97, 33.27, 21.08. HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{19}H_{20}ClN_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 343.1213, found:343.1212

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3,3a,8-trimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indol-2(1H)-one (10r)



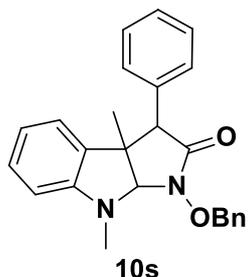
Yield (56mg, 87%) as colorless oil via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.12 (td, $J = 7.7, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.99 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.64 (q, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.25 (m, 3H), 1.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

172.08, 149.27, 135.31, 135.16, 129.78, 129.02, 128.62, 128.57, 121.86, 118.47,
107.14, 88.36, 77.11, 47.27, 43.30, 34.17, 19.76, 11.55.

HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{20}H_{23}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 323.1760, found:323.1757.

(±)-1-(benzyloxy)-3a,8-dimethyl-3-phenyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2(1H)-one (10s)

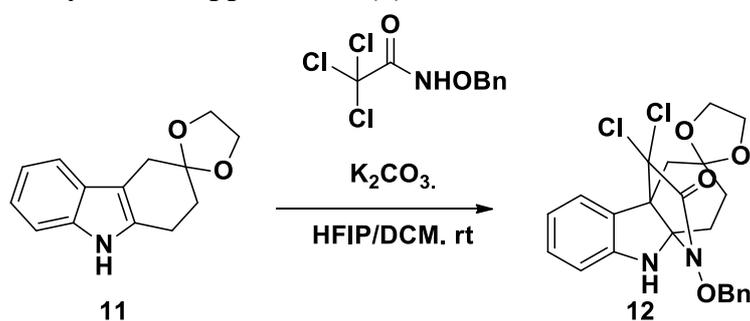


Yield (49mg, 64%) as white solid via general procedure.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.04 (m, 3H), 6.41 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.34 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.68 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, $J = 10.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d, $J = 10.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.52, 149.16, 135.46, 134.83, 130.30, 129.92, 129.77, 129.02, 128.59, 128.46, 128.38, 128.04, 127.47, 125.38, 117.54, 106.60, 87.11, 77.17, 56.63, 50.09, 33.86, 27.53.

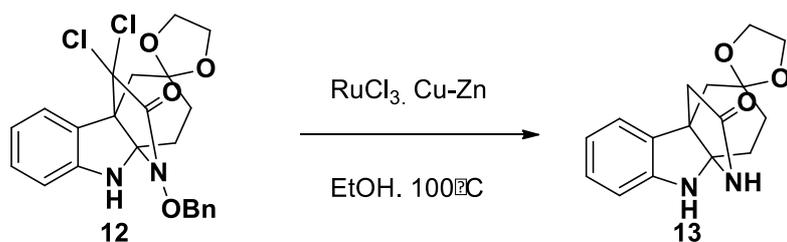
HRMS: m/z calculated for $C_{25}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺: 385.1916, found:385.1913.

IV Synthetic Approach to (±)-Minfiensine

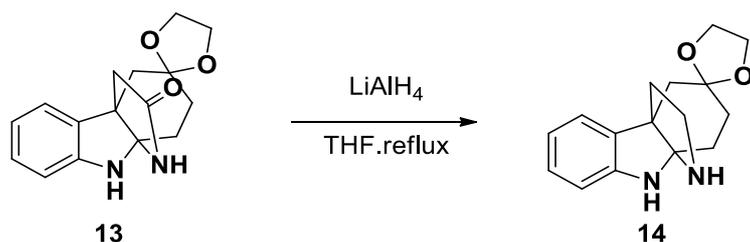


Indole **11** (2.30g, 10 mmol) and α -haloamide (4.02g, 15 mmol) and potassium carbonate (2.76g, 20mmol) were added in 250mL flask. Then 50.0 mL HFIP together with 5.00 mL DCM were added to the mixed solution. The mixture were stirred at

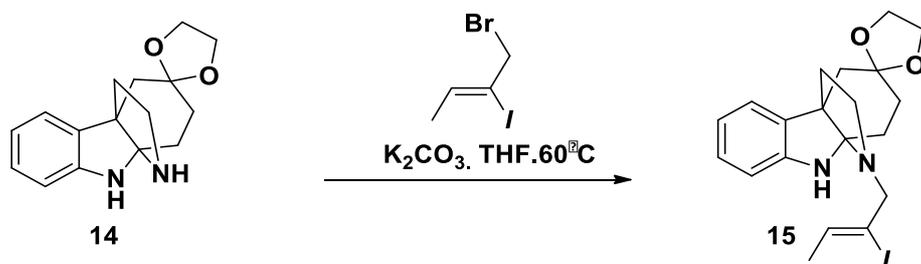
room temperature for 4 hours. Then filtered through celite and wash with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified via flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to give product **12** (3.30g, 72% yield) as light red solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.51-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.39 (m, , 3H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.21 – 5.13 (m, 2H), 3.97-3.91 (m, 2H), 3.87 – 3.73 (m, 3H), 2.44 – 2.31 (m, 2H), 2.27 – 2.15 (m, 1H), 2.04 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.75 – 1.59 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.94, 148.95, 134.74, 129.88, 129.25, 128.67, 127.55, 125.53, 119.75, 109.78, 107.17, 87.38, 84.12, 78.07, 64.28, 64.04, 60.30, 38.62, 29.91, 29.62. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 461.1035, found:461.1032



In glove box, indoline **12** (922mg, 2mmol), ruthenium trichloride (41mg, 0.2mmol) and zinc-copper couple(384mg, 6mmol) were added into sealed tube with 20 mL anhydrous ethanol. The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 8 hours. The mixture was then filtered through celite and washed with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified via flash column chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol = 30/1) to afford product **13** (543mg, 95% yield) as white solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.80 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 3.95 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.92 – 3.80 (m, 2H), 2.84 (d, $J = 16.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.24 – 2.09 (m, 1H), 2.04 (d, $J = 14.1$ Hz, 1H), 1.93 (t, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.79 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.42 (d, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 174.04, 148.08, 137.25, 128.34, 123.09, 118.58, 109.94, 107.30, 81.44, 64.39, 63.72, 55.39, 50.82, 41.04, 32.17, 30.57. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 287.1396, found:287.1390.

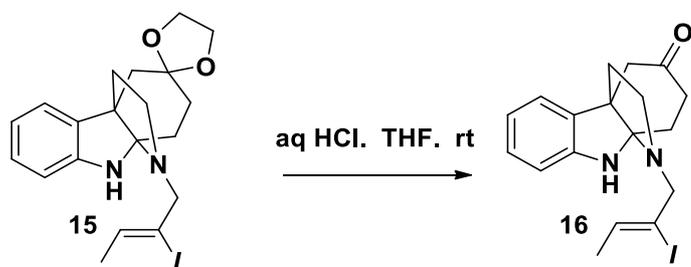


Lithium aluminium hydride (190 mg, 5.0 mmol) was added to flask with 10 mL THF. Then amide **13** was dissolved in 2.0 mL THF. The resulting solution was added dropwise at room temperature and reflux for 12 hours. The mixture was cooled down to room temperature and then quenched by adding 200 mL of water slowly at 0 °C. Then 200 mL 15% NaOH aqueous solution was added and then stirred for another 15 mins. After that, 600 mL water was added at room temperature and stirred for 1 hour. The mixture was filtered through celite and washed with THF. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the crude product was purified via flash column chromatography (dichloromethane: methanol = 20:1) to give **14** (147mg, 54% yield) as colorless solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.08 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.71 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.00 – 3.78 (m, 4H), 3.07 – 2.93 (m, 1H), 2.74 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.32 – 2.18 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 2.01 (m, 2H), 1.96 (dt, $J = 14.6, 5.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.87 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.82 – 1.65 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 149.89, 137.26, 128.55, 123.82, 119.49, 110.05, 109.53, 87.64, 64.97, 64.75, 55.77, 44.96, 42.21, 40.50, 32.18, 31.90. HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 273.1603, found: 273.1605.



^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 149.89, 137.26, 128.55, 123.82, 119.49, 110.05, 109.53, 87.64, 64.97, 64.75, 55.77, 44.96, 42.21, 40.50, 32.18, 31.90.

To a solution of amine **14** (544 mg, 2.00 mmol), (*Z*)-1-bromo-2-iodobut-2-ene (780 mg, 3.00 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added potassium carbonate (552 mg, 4.00 mmol). The resulting solution was then stirred at 60 °C for 4 hours. The solid was filtered off. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified via flash column chromatography (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give product **15** (841mg, 85% yield) as white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.02-6.97 (m, 2H), 6.71 (td, *J* = 7.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (q, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.61 – 3.51 (m, 1H), 3.26 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 2.95 – 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.33 (ddd, *J* = 9.8, 8.7, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.21 – 2.11 (m, 2H), 2.09 (s, 2H), 2.04 – 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.87 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 6.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 1.77 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 1.3 Hz, 3H), 1.74 – 1.61 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.26, 136.05, 130.51, 127.53, 122.78, 118.64, 111.09, 109.09, 108.83, 63.96, 63.60, 60.67, 55.07, 48.94, 41.61, 37.41, 31.09, 29.93, 21.69. HRMS: *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₂₆IN₂O₂ (M + H)⁺: 453.1039, found:453.1032.



The compound **15** (452 mg, 1.00 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of THF(10.0 mL) and 1.0 M HCl(5.0 mL) and stirred at room temperature for 20 hours. And then 1.0 M NaOH (5.0 mL) was added. Then extracted with ethyl acetate (10.0 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated brines (20.0 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated in vacuum. The resulting crude compound was purified via flash column chromatography (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10 : 1) to give product **16** (338mg, 83% yield) as white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.03 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (td, *J* = 7.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* =

7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.91 – 5.79 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 1H), 3.62 – 3.53 (m, 1H), 3.28 (d, $J = 13.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.87 – 2.70 (m, 4H), 2.35 – 2.19 (m, 3H), 2.04 – 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.84 (dd, $J = 11.9, 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 1.78 (dd, $J = 6.3, 1.5$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 211.33, 149.57, 134.15, 131.35, 128.29, 123.22, 119.12, 110.12, 108.48, 86.66, 60.17, 56.17, 49.77, 48.05, 38.96, 35.46, 30.27, 21.73.

HRMS: m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{22}\text{IN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: 409.0777, found:409.0775.

V. References:

[1] Jeffrey, C. S.; Barnes, K. L.; Eickhoff, J. A.; Carson, C. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 7688.

VI. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra

