#### **Supporting Information**

# Palladium-Catalyzed Direct 2-Alkylation of Indoles by Norbornene-Mediated Regioselective Cascade C-H Activation

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#### 1. General Information

Air and moisture sensitive reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware sealed with rubber septa under a positive pressure of dry argon. Similarly, sensitive liquids and solutions were transferred via syringe. Reactions were stirred using Teflon-coated magnetic stir bars. Elevated temperatures were maintained using Thermostat-controlled silicone oil baths. Organic solutions were concentrated using a rotary evaporator with a diaphragm vacuum pump. Analytical TLC was performed on Merck silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates. The TLC plates were visualized by either ultraviolet light or treatment with a ceric ammonium molybdate (CAM) or potassium permanganate (KMnO<sub>4</sub>) stain followed by gentle heating. Purification of products was accomplished by flash column chromatography on silica gel (Merck silica gel 60, 230-400 mesh).

NMR spectra were measured on Bruker AV250 (<sup>1</sup>H at 250 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C at 62.9 MHz), Bruker AV360 (<sup>1</sup>H at 360 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C at 90.6 MHz), and Bruker AV500 (<sup>1</sup>H at 500 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C at 125 MHz) nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were calibrated against the peak of tetramethylsilane (TMS, 0 ppm) and the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were calibrated against the peak of CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.16 ppm<sup>1</sup>). Data for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), peak shape (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets), coupling constant (Hz), and integration. Data for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR were reported in terms of chemical shift (ppm). Infrared spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-4100 spectrometer. Mass spectra and high-resolution mass spectra were performed on a Finnigan MAT 8200 or a Thermo Scientific DFS mass spectrometer.

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<sup>1.</sup> Gottlieb, H. E.; Kotlyar, V.; Nudelman, A. J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 7512.

#### 2. Experimental Procedures and Characterization Data

#### 2.1 Source of Chemical Reagents

**Solvents.** Acetonitrile and DMF were purchased from Acros as anhydrous solvents sealed in AcroSeal bottles. Reagent grade DMA was purchased from Aldrich. "Newly distilled" DMA was distilled from the reagent grade material under reduced pressure (b.p. 50 °C/8 mbar). DMA with indicated concentration of water was made by adding a certain amount of deionized water to the newly distilled DMA and was stored in tightly sealed bottles.

Organic reagents. Indole and substituted indoles 7a-j, norbornene, butyl bromide, and alkyl bromides 5a-c, 5g-k, 5m were purchased from commercial sources and were used without further purification. Alkyl bromides 5d,<sup>2</sup> 5e,<sup>3</sup> and 5f<sup>4</sup> were synthesized following the published procedures. The synthesis of alkyl bromide 5l was described in section 2.3.

**Palladium(II) complexes.** Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and PdCl<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub> were purchased from Aldrich and Pd(OCOCF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was purchased from Acros. The palladium(II) complexes were used as received.

**Bases.** K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, KHCO<sub>3</sub>, and KOAc was purchased from Acros. Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was purchased from Alfa-Aesar. K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> (anhydrous) was purchased from Aldrich.

#### 2.2 Screen of Reaction Conditions (Table 1)

**Procedure for the screening reactions.** An oven dried Schlenk vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a rubber stopper was charged with indole (0.2 mmol), norbornene (0.4 mmol), the base (as indicated, 0.4 mmol), the Pd(II) complex (as indicated, 0.02 mmol), and the solvent (as indicated, 1 mL). The vial was briefly evacuated and backfilled with argon, which was repeated three times. Butyl bromide (0.8 or 0.4 mmol, as indicated) was added via syringe. The reaction vial was placed in a preheated parallel reactor (50 or 70 °C, as indicated) and the reaction was stirred under a balloon pressure of argon for the indicated period of time. After the reaction, the reaction vial was cooled to rt and 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (ca. 6 mg, weighted on a precise electronic balance for microanalysis) was transferred into the reaction vial by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the internal standard. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, washed with water (twice) and brine (once), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The residue was directly submitted to <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and the conversion and yields of the products were calculated according to the integration of corresponding peaks relative to the characteristic peak of the internal standard (singlet at 6.09 ppm, ArH).

#### 2.3 Synthesis of Alkyl Bromide 5l

To a stirred solution of *N*-methyl tosylamide (926 mg, 5.00 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.62 g, 10.0 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL) was added 2-bromoethanol (1.25 g, 10.0 mmol) and then diisopropyl azodicarboxy-

Cai, Z. R.; Jabri, S. Y.; Jin, H.; Lansdown, R. A.; Metobo, S. E.; Mish, M. L.; Pastor, R. PCT Int. Appl. WO 2007/136714 A2, 2007.

<sup>3.</sup> Gant, T. G.; Sarshar, S. Patent US Pat. Appl. US 2010/0069356 A1, 2010.

<sup>4.</sup> Brawn, R. A.; Welzel, M.; Lowe, J. T.; Panek, J. S. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 336.

late (340 mg, 1.99 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C. The mixture was then allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 6 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and filtered through a pad of silica gel (eluted with pentane/ether 2:1). The filtrate was concentrated and the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 4:1 to 2:1). The eluent was concentrated and then colorless crystals formed. The crystalline product was washed with pentane/ether 5:1 and collected by filtration to afford alkyl bromide 51 as a colorless crystalline solid (634 mg, 43% yield).

M.p. 71-72 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.55$  (pentane/ether 1:1) [KMnO<sub>4</sub>].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 3.38-3.40 (m, 2H), 3.46-3.49 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.69 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 21.7, 29.1, 36.2, 52.0, 127.5, 130.0, 134.7, 143.9.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 2923, 1597, 1492, 1454, 1338, 1156, 1090, 946.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 293 (2) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>81</sup>Br], 291 (2) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>79</sup>Br], 198 (100) [(M – CH<sub>2</sub>Br)<sup>+</sup>], 155 (56), 91 (64).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_9H_{12}NO_2S^+$  [ $(M - CH_2Br)^+$ ]: 198.0583; found: 198.0581.

## 2.4 General Procedure for the Pd(II)-Catalyzed Norbornene-Mediated 2-Alkylation Reaction of Free N-H Indoles and Product Characterization Data (Table 2 and Schemes 3–5)

General procedure for 2-alkylation of free *N*-H indoles. A Schlenk flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a rubber stopper was charged with indole substrate (1 equiv. or 2 equiv., as indicated), norbornene (2 equiv.), the base (2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>, or 3 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, as indicated), and PdCl<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol %). A solution of water in DMA (0.5 M) was added via syringe as the solvent to prepare a 0.2 M solution of the substrate. Then either of the following two procedures could be used: 1. the resulting solution was briefly evacuated and then backfilled with argon (3 times), and then the alkyl bromide (2 equiv. or 1 equiv., as indicated) was added via syringe; 2. the alkyl bromide (2 equiv. or 1 equiv., as indicated) was added via syringe and the resulting solution was degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles using liquid nitrogen under high vacuum. The reaction mixture was then placed in a preheated oil bath at 70 °C (or 90 °C, as indicated). Vigorous stirring was applied and the mixture was reacted under a balloon pressure of argon. The reaction was monitored by TLC. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with ether, and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in a water bath (60 °C, 8-10 mbar) to remove ether and most of DMA. The residue was directly submitted to flash column chromatography (by dry loading) to afford the 2-alkylindole product.

#### 2-Butyl-1*H*-indole (1)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (119 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (310 mg, 2.27 mmol, 2.23 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column

chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **1** as a colorless oil (119 mg, 67% yield) and 2,3-disubstituted indole **2** as a colorless oil (25.4 mg, 11% yield).

 $R_{\rm f} = 0.52$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.39 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.66 (app. quintet, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.21-6.22 (m, 1H), 7.05 (app. dt, J = 1.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.0, 22.5, 28.0, 31.4, 99.5, 110.4, 119.7, 119.8, 121.0, 129.0, 135.9, 140.1.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>5</sup>

#### 2,3-Dibutyl-1*H*-indole (2)

Pale-yellow oil. TLC:  $R_f = 0.63$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.381 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.384 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.61 (app. sextet, J = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 2.68 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (app. dt, J = 1.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (app. dt, J = 1.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.1, 14.2, 22.7, 22.9, 24.1, 26.0, 32.2, 33.4, 110.3, 112.3, 118.5, 119.0, 120.9, 129.0, 135.3, 135.4.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3406, 2955, 2929, 2870, 1634, 1526, 1460, 1378, 1338, 1199.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (32) [M<sup>+</sup>], 186 (100) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 144 (52).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{23}N^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 229.1825; found: 229.1824.

#### 2-Tetradecyl-1H-indole (6a)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (118 mg, 1.01 mmol, 1 equiv.) and 1-bromotetradecane (551 mg, 1.99 mmol, 1.97 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6a** as a white solid (213 mg, 67% yield) and 2,3-disubstituted indole **6a** as a pale-yellow oil (47.1 mg, 9% yield).

<sup>5.</sup> Ambrogio, I.; Cacchi, S.; Fabrizi, G.; Prastaro, A. Tetrahedron 2009, 65, 8916.

M.p. 58-60 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.64$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.88 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.23-1.34 (m, 20H), 1.35-1.42 (m, 2H), 1.71 (app. quintet, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (br s, 1H), 7.06 (app. dt, J = 0.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 0.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.3, 22.8, 28.5, 29.3, 29.49, 29.52, 29.6, 29.7, 29.81, 29.85, 32.1, 99.6, 110.4, 119.7, 119.9, 121.1, 129.0, 136.0, 140.2.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3413, 2916, 2847, 1616, 1584, 1551, 1457, 1408, 1290, 1231, 1011.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 313 (45) [M<sup>+</sup>], 144 (45) [(M – C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 130 (100) [(M – C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>27</sub>)<sup>+</sup>].

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{35}N^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 313.2764; found: 313.2759.

#### 2-Isobutyl-1*H*-indole (6b)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (118 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and isobutyl bromide (277 mg, 2.02 mmol, 2.02 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 90 °C; reaction time: 61 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6b** as a pale-yellow oil (103 mg, 59% yield) and 2,3-disubstituted indole **6b**' as a colorless oil (9.9 mg, 4% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.89$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.97 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 1.96 (app. nonet, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.7, 29.1, 37.9, 100.6, 110.4, 119.7, 119.9, 121.0, 129.1, 136.0, 139.0.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>6</sup>

#### 2,3-Diisobutyl-1*H*-indole (6b')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.63$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.93 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 0.96 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 1.96 (app. nonet, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (app. nonet, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (app. dt, J

<sup>6.</sup> Zhao, D.; Hughes, D. L.; Bender, D. R.; DeMarco, A. M.; Reider, P. J. J. Org. Chem. 1991, 56, 3001

= 1.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.8, 23.0, 29.4, 29.9, 33.8, 35.7, 110.2, 112.3, 118.8, 118.9, 120.9, 129.3, 135.1, 135.4.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3412, 2952, 2866, 1586, 1461, 1304, 1167, 1011.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (22) [M<sup>+</sup>], 186 (100) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 144 (21).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{23}N^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 229.1825; found: 229.1823.

#### 2-Cyclopropylmethyl-1*H*-indole (6c)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (118 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and cyclopropylmethyl bromide (280 mg, 2.07 mmol, 2.07 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6c** as a pale-yellow oil (102 mg, 59% yield) and 2,3-disubstituted indole **6c**' as a colorless oil (24 mg, 11% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.42$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.22-0.25 (m, 2H), 0.56-0.60 (m, 2H), 0.99-1.07 (m, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 4.7, 10.2, 33.1, 99.7, 110.5, 119.7, 119.9, 121.1, 128.9, 136.0, 139.5.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3392, 3073, 3001, 2890, 1683, 1616, 1548, 1486, 1457, 1413, 1293, 1010.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 171 (66) [M<sup>+</sup>], 143 (25) [(M – C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 130 (100) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 117 (12), 103 (7).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{13}N^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 171.1043; found: 171.1043.

#### 2,3-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)-1*H*-indole (6c')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.47$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.17-0.20 (m, 2H), 0.26-0.29 (m, 2H), 0.42-0.45 (m, 2H), 0.59-0.62 (m, 2H), 0.96-1.05 (m, 2H), 2.66 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 4.8, 5.0, 10.5, 12.2, 28.7, 30.9, 110.4, 111.3, 118.8, 119.2, 121.1, 129.1, 135.0, 135.4.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3407, 3074, 3001, 2911, 1619, 1460, 1338, 1291, 1013.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 225 (86) [M<sup>+</sup>], 184 (100) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 170 (91) [(M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 143 (42), 130 (44).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{19}N^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 225.1512; found: 225.1513.

#### 2-(2-tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxyethyl)-1H-indole (6d)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (116 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5d** (484 mg, 2.03 mmol, 2.05 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 40:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6d** as a pale-yellow solid (225 mg, 82% yield). Another run using bromide **5d** (231 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (234 mg, 2.00 mmol, 2.07 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6d** (189 mg) in 71% yield.

M.p. 64-65 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.57$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.12 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 9H), 3.00 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 0.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (app. dt, J = 0.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.66 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = -5.3, 18.4, 26.1, 31.3, 63.2, 99.8, 110.5, 119.6, 119.9, 121.1, 128.5, 136.1, 138.4.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>7</sup>

#### 2-(2-(Tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yloxy)ethyl)-1*H*-indole (6e)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (117 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5e** (404 mg, 1.93 mmol, 1.93 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 5:1 to 3:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6e** as a colorless oil (179 mg, 73% yield). Another run using bromide **5e** (40.5 mg, 0.194 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (48.1 mg, 0.410 mmol, 2.16 equiv.) under identical conditions, except that 10 mol % of Pd(OCOCF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was used as the catalyst, produced 2-alkylindole **6e** (36.2 mg) in 76% yield.

<sup>7.</sup> Bennani, Y. L.; Campbell, M. G; Dastrup, D.; Porter Huck, E. Patent PCT Int. Appl. WO 2007/047775 A1, 2007.

TLC:  $R_f = 0.49$  (pentane/ether 3:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.52-1.69 (m, 4H), 1.75-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.90 (m, 1H), 3.04, (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.48-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.71 (dt, J = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (ddd, J = 3.0, 7.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dt, J = 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (dd, J = 3.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 7.04-7.07 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 20.0, 25.5, 28.8, 31.0, 62.8, 67.4, 99.5, 100.1, 110.6, 119.6, 120.0, 121.1, 128.6, 136.2, 137.9.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3333, 2938, 2867, 1685, 1617, 1457, 1323, 1200, 1119, 1072, 1022.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 245 (31) [M<sup>+</sup>], 161 (82) [(M - C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 144 (31) [(M - C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 130 (88), 86 (93), 85 (100).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{19}NO_2^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 245.1410; found: 245.1407.

#### 2-(3-tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxypropyl)-1H-indole (6f)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (48.6 mg, 0.415 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5f** (208 mg, 0.821 mmol, 2.00 equiv.), except that Pd(OCOCF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol %) was used as the catalyst. Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 30:1 to 20:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6f** as a pale-yellow solid (43.0 mg, 36% yield). Another run using bromide **5f** (111 mg, 0.438 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (96.3 mg, 0.822 mmol, 1.86 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6f** (50.6 mg) in 40% yield.

M.p. 63-64°C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.36$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.10 (s, 6H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 1.92 (app. quintet, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = -5.1, 18.5, 25.1, 26.2, 32.0, 62.7, 99.6, 110.4, 119.6, 119.9, 121.0, 129.0, 136.1, 139.7.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8.</sup> Wender, P. A.; Cooper, C. B. Tetrahedron 1986, 42, 2985.

#### 2-(2,2-Dimethoxyethyl)-1*H*-indole (6g)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (117 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5g** (351 mg, 2.07 mmol, 2.07 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 90 °C; reaction time: 20 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 5:1 to 3:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6g** as a pale-brown oil (133 mg, 65% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.36$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.06 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 3.41 (s, 6H), 4.56 (t, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 7.05 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 32.4, 53.9, 101.3, 104.5, 110.7, 119.6, 120.0, 121.3, 128.5, 134.5, 136.3.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>9</sup>

#### 2-[2-(1,3-Dioxylan-2-yl)ethyl]-1*H*-indole (6h)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (116 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5h** (359 mg, 1.99 mmol, 2.01 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 3:1 to 2:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6h** as a pale-yellow solid (155 mg, 72% yield). Another run using bromide **5h** (178 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (233 mg, 1.98 mmol, 2.02 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6h** (115 mg) in 54% yield.

M.p. 107-108 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.15$  (pentane/ether 3:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.10 (dt, J = 4.5, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.88-3.94 (m, 2H), 4.00-4.06 (m, 2H), 4.98 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (app. t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.3, 33.0, 65.2, 99.8, 103.8, 110.5, 119.7, 119.9, 121.1, 128.9, 136.1, 139.1.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3315, 2923, 2853, 1584, 1551, 1457, 1413, 1287, 1124, 1072, 1024.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 217 (36) [M<sup>+</sup>], 144 (20) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 130 (100) [(M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 117 (11), 73 (15) [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>].

<sup>9.</sup> Kraus, G. A.; Frazier, K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1978, 35, 3195.

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{15}NO_2^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 217.1097; found: 217.1094.

#### Methyl 4-(1H-indol-2-yl)butanoate (6i)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (118 mg, 1.01 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5i** (355 mg, 1.96 mmol, 1.94 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: evacuation/backfill with argon; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 4:1 to 2:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6i** as a white solid (134 mg, 61% yield) and 2,3-dialkyl indole **6i** as a yellow oil (37.7 mg, 12% yield). Another run using bromide **5i** (191 mg, 1.06 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (233 mg, 1.99 mmol, 1.88 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6i** (120 mg) in 52% yield, together with intramolecular cyclization byproduct **6i**" as a yellow oil (20.5 mg, 10% yield).

M.p. 60-62 °C (lit. m.p. 69-71 °C<sup>10</sup>). TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.09 (app. quintet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.83 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 6.30-6.31 (m, 1H), 7.14 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 24.6, 27.5, 33.3, 51.7, 100.0, 110.5, 119.7, 119.9, 121.2, 128.8, 136.1, 138.5, 174.1.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature. <sup>10</sup>

#### Methyl 4-(1H-indol-2-yl)butanoate (6i')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.16$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.93-2.01 (m, 4H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 7.07 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.5, 25.1, 25.2, 26.0, 33.2, 33.7, 51.5, 51.8, 110.5, 111.4, 118.4, 119.2, 121.3, 128.5, 134.4, 135.5, 174.1, 174.3.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3382, 2951, 2850, 1716, 1620, 1460, 1436, 1199, 1156, 1011.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 317 (20) [M<sup>+</sup>], 285 (17), 230 (37), 198 (18), 170 (39), 101 (46), 84 (100).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{23}NO_4^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 317.1622; found: 317.1619.

10. Bunce, R. A.; Nammalwar, B. J. Heterocyclic Chem. 2009, 46, 172.

#### 8,9-Dihydropyrido[1,2-a]indo[-6(7H)-one (6i'')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.50$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.09 (app. quintet, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.79 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (dt, J = 1.2, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 6.32-6.33 (m, 1H), 7.24 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (app. dt, J = 1.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 21.6, 23.9, 34.6, 105.0, 116.5, 119.8, 124.0, 124.2, 129.9, 135.0, 138.2, 169.5.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature. <sup>10</sup>

#### Ethyl 5-(1H-indol-2-yl)pentanoate (6j)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (118 mg, 1.01 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5j** (404 mg, 1.93 mmol, 1.91 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 3:1 to 2:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **6j** as a pale-yellow solid (160 mg, 66% yield) and 2,3-dialkyl indole **6j** as a yellow oil (39.9 mg, 11% yield). Another run using bromide **5j** (202 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (236 mg, 2.02 mmol, 2.08 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6j** (163 mg) in 69% yield and 2,3-dialkyl indole **6j** (22.4 mg) in 12% yield.

M.p. 87-88 °C (lit. m.p. 93-95 °C<sup>11</sup>). TLC:  $R_f = 0.45$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.69-1.80 (m, 4H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.4, 24.6, 28.0, 28.7, 34.1, 60.5, 99.8, 110.5, 119.7, 119.9, 121.1, 129.0, 136.0, 139.4, 173.8.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum is consistent with that reported in the literature. <sup>11</sup>

11. Bailey, A. S.; Seager, J. F. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1974, 7, 763.

#### Ethyl 5-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)pentanoate (6j')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.62-1.72 (m, 8H), 2.30-2.35 (m, 4H), 2.68-2.75 (m, 4H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.4, 24.0, 24.6, 25.2, 25.8, 29.3, 30.6, 34.1, 34.5, 60.3, 60.5, 110.5, 111.8, 118.4, 119.1, 121.0, 128.7, 134.8, 135.5, 173.8, 173.9.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3380, 2935, 2863, 1730, 1714, 1461, 1372, 1179, 1026.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 373 (52) [M<sup>+</sup>], 328 (17) [(M – C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 258 (100) [(M – CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOEt)<sup>+</sup>], 184 (35), 144 (54), 130 (82).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{31}NO_4^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 373.2248; found: 373.2245.

#### 4-(1*H*-Indol-2-yl)butyronitrile (6k)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (115 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5k** (291 mg, 1.97 mmol, 2.01 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 2:1 to 1:2) to afford 2-alkylindole **6k** as a pale-red oil (101 mg, 56% yield) and 2,3-dialkyl indole **6k**' as a pale-red oil (46.8 mg, 19% yield). Another run using bromide **5k** (144 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1 equiv.) and indole (233 mg, 1.99 mmol, 2.03 equiv.) under identical conditions produced 2-alkylindole **6k** (114 mg) in 64% yield.

TLC:  $R_f = 0.26$  (pentane/ether 1:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.97 (app. quintet, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (s, 1H), 7.08 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (app. dt, J = 1.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 16.4, 25.0, 26.9, 100.3, 110.7, 119.5, 119.9, 120.0, 121.5, 128.7, 136.1, 136.8.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature. <sup>12</sup>

12. Miyazaki, Y.; Kobayashi, S. J. Comb. Chem. 2008, 10, 355.

#### 2,3-Bis(3-cyanopropyl)-1*H*-indole (6k')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.22$  (pentane/ether 1:2) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.97-2.03 (m, 4H), 2.30 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (app. dt, J = 1.3, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 16.6, 22.8, 24.8, 25.7, 26.2, 110.4, 110.8, 118.3, 119.5, 119.7, 120.0, 121.9, 128.1, 133.2, 135.7.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3362, 2935, 2866, 2361, 2246, 1732, 1620, 1565, 1490, 1460, 1335, 1309, 1240.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 251 (26) [M<sup>+</sup>], 197 (92) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N)<sup>+</sup>], 149 (26), 84 (100).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{17}N_3^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 251.1417; found: 251.1411.

#### N-(2-(1H-Indol-2-vl)ethyl)-N-methyl-4-toluenesulfonamide (6l)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (55.0 mg, 0.469 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide 51 (257 mg, 0.880 mmol, 1.87 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 90 °C; reaction time: 68 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 5:1 to 1:1) to afford 2-alkylindole 61 as an off-white solid (65.7 mg, 43% yield) and recovered indole (27.4 mg, 50%). The yield of 61 based on recovered starting material was 85%.

M.p. 98-99 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.26$  (pentane/ether 1:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 3.04 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 7.06 (app. t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (app. t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.66 (m, 2H), 8.30 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 21.6, 27.5, 35.5, 50.2, 100.5, 110.9, 119.7, 119.9, 121.4, 127.5, 128.6, 129.9, 134.2, 135.8, 136.2, 143.7.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3392, 2977, 2921, 1597, 1547, 1457, 1418, 1339, 1293, 1158, 1119, 1084.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 328 (39) [M<sup>+</sup>], 198 (100), 155 (84), 149 (23), 130 (56), 91 (73).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}N_2O_2S^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 328.1240; found: 328.1233.

#### 7-Methyl-2-(2-tert-butyldimethylsilyloxyethyl)-1H-indole (8a)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7a** (131 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5d** (474 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1.98 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 18 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8a** as a pale-yellow oil (196 mg, 68% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.65$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.10 (s, 6H), 0.97 (s, 9H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.98 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (app. t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.70 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = -5.3, 16.9, 18.3, 26.1, 31.2, 63.3, 100.3, 117.7, 119.68, 119.70, 121.7, 127.9, 135.7, 138.3.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3437, 2954, 2927, 2856, 1614, 1559, 1496, 1461, 1329, 1254, 1086, 1054.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 289 (21) [M<sup>+</sup>], 232 (100) [(M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 158 (26) [(M – TBSO)<sup>+</sup>], 109 (36).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{27}NOSi^{+}[M^{+}]$ : 289.1856; found: 289.1856.

#### 2-(2-(1,3-Dioxolan-2-yl)ethyl)-5-methoxy-1*H*-indole (8b)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7b** (143 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5h** (353 mg, 1.95 mmol, 2.01 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 3:1 to 1:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8b** as a colorless oil (150 mg, 62% yield) and recovered indole **7b** as a pale-yellow oil (32.5 mg, 23% recovered). The yield of product **8b** based on recovered starting material was 78%.

TLC:  $R_f = 0.15$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.08 (dt, J = 4.4, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.88-3.91 (m, 2H), 4.00-4.04 (m, 2H), 4.96 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (br s, 1H), 6.77 (dd, J = 2.4, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.4, 33.0, 56.0, 65.1, 99.5, 102.1, 103.7, 110.9, 111.2, 129.2, 131.2, 139.9, 154.1.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3389, 2919, 2885, 2847, 1621, 1586, 1482, 1451, 1407, 1222, 1131, 1024.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 247 (3) [M<sup>+</sup>], 220 (2), 205 (9), 161 (9), 121 (10), 84 (100), 73 (27).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{14}H_{17}NO_3^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 247.1203; found: 247.1196.

#### 2-Butyl-6-fluoro-1H-indole (8c)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole 7c (134 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (280 mg, 2.05 mmol, 2.07 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 20 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 30:1 to 20:1) to afford 2-alkylindole 8c as a pale-yellow oil (111 mg, 59% yield) and 2,3-dialkylindole 8c as a pale-yellow oil (34.0 mg, 14% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.50$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (app. quintet, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.18-6.19 (m, 1H), 6.82 (ddd, J = 2.3, 8.6, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, J = 2.0, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 5.4, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 14.0, 22.5, 28.0, 31.3, 96.9 (d, J = 26.1 Hz), 99.4, 108.1 (d, J = 24.2 Hz), 120.3 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 125.4, 135.8 (d, J = 12.2 Hz), 140.5 (d, J = 3.7 Hz), 159.4 (d, J = 236.0 Hz).

This is a known compound, but no spectroscopic data were given.<sup>13</sup>

#### 2,3-Dibutyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole (8c')

TLC:  $R_f = 0.59$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.33-1.43 (m, 4H), 1.54-1.65 (m, 4H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (ddd, J = 2.3, 8.7, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 2.3, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 5.4, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (br s, 1H).

 $^{13}$ C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 14.0, 14.2, 22.7, 22.9, 24.0, 26.0, 32.2, 33.4, 96.8 (d, J = 26.0 Hz), 107.4 (d, J = 24.1 Hz), 112.3, 119.0 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 125.5, 135.2 (d, J = 12.3 Hz), 135.5 (d, J = 3.7 Hz), 159.5 (d, J = 235.8 Hz).

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3415, 2955, 2858, 1626, 1592, 1526, 1495, 1465, 1329, 1229, 1134.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 247 (45) [M<sup>+</sup>], 204 (100) [(M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)<sup>+</sup>], 162 (64), 148 (10), 133 (5).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{22}FN^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 247.1731; found: 247.1723.

<sup>13.</sup> Sanz, R.; Guilarte, V.; Castroviejo, M. P. Synlett 2008, 3006.

#### 6-Chloro-2-(2-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yloxy)ethyl)-1*H*-indole (8d)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7d** (151 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5e** (404 mg, 1.93 mmol, 1.95 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv.  $K_2CO_3$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 4:1 to 2:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8d** as a pale-yellow oil (212 mg, 76% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.29$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.53-1.68 (m, 4H), 1.75-1.81 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.89 (m, 1H), 3.02 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 3.48-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.71 (dt, J = 9.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.81-3.85 (m, 1H), 4.05 (dt, J = 9.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (dd, J = 2.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.21-6.22 (m, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 1.9, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 20.1, 25.4, 28.7, 31.0, 63.0, 67.3, 99.7, 100.1, 110.6, 120.2, 120.7, 126.9, 127.1, 136.5, 138.8.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3256, 2950, 2878, 1616, 1580, 1541, 1457, 1293, 1201, 1143, 1118, 1059, 1023.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 281 (11) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>37</sup>Cl], 279 (25) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>35</sup>Cl], 232 (6), 195 (73), 177 (31), 164 (100), 85 (61).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{18}^{35}CINO_2^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 279.1021; found: 279.1017.

#### 6-Bromo-2-butyl-1*H*-indole (8e)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole 7e (194 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (278 mg, 2.03 mmol, 2.05 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 15 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 40:1 to 30:1) to afford 2-alkylindole 8e as a white solid (185 mg, 74% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.45$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (app. quintet, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.19-6.20 (m, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.78 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.0, 22.5, 28.0, 31.2, 99.7, 113.3, 114.3, 121.0, 122.9, 127.9, 136.7, 141.0.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3402, 2954, 2856, 1605, 1577, 1542, 1455, 1398, 1340, 1287, 1050. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 253 (41) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>81</sup>Br], 251 (41) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>79</sup>Br], 210 (100), 208 (96), 129 (30). HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{14}BrN^{+}$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 251.0304; found: 251.0300.

#### 2-Butyl-5-chloro-1H-indole (8f)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7f** (152 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (268 mg, 1.96 mmol, 1.96 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ethyl acetate 40:1 to 20:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8f** as a pale-yellow oil (176 mg, 85% yield).

TLC:  $R_f = 0.30$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (app. sextet, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (app. quintet, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 2.0, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.0, 22.5, 28.1, 31.3, 99.4, 111.3, 119.3, 121.2, 125.3, 130.1, 134.3, 141.7.

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature. <sup>14</sup>

#### Methyl 2-(5-ethoxy-5-oxopentyl)-1*H*-indole-5-carboxylate (8g)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7g** (176 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5j** (426 mg, 2.04 mmol, 2.04 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 3:1 to 1:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8g** as a white solid (266 mg, 87% yield).

M.p. 91-92 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.30$  (pentane/ether 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.69-1.80 (m, 4H), 2.35 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.31 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J

14. Lai, R.-Y.; Surekha, K.; Hayashi, A.; Ozawa, F.; Liu, Y.-H.; Peng, S.-M.; Liu, S.-T. Organometallics 2007, 26, 1062.

= 1.7, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (m, 1H), 8.52 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.3, 24.5, 27.9, 28.5, 34.0, 51.9, 60.5, 100.9, 110.2, 121.7, 122.7, 122.8, 128.5, 138.8, 141.0, 168.6, 173.8.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3336, 2932, 2861, 1712, 1695, 1614, 1556, 1439, 1325, 1292, 1238, 1179, 1086.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 303 (56) [M<sup>+</sup>], 257 (34), 201 (100), 188 (68), 170 (26), 129 (21).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 303.1465; found: 303.1456.

#### Methyl 2-(2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)ethyl)-6-methoxy-1H-indole-6-carboxylate (8h)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7h** (175 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5h** (350 mg, 1.94 mmol, 1.94 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 1:1 to 1:1.5) to afford 2-alkylindole **8h** as a pale-yellow solid (236 mg, 86% yield).

M.p. 89-91 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.18$  (pentane/ether 1:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.13 (dt, J = 4.3, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.91-3.96 (m, 2H), 4.01-4.06 (m, 2H), 4.99 (t, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 1.5, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (m, 1H), 8.82 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.3, 32.6, 52.0, 65.2, 100.3, 103.6, 112.9, 119.3, 120.9, 122.6, 132.7, 135.4, 143.2, 168.6.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3336, 2948, 2873, 1693, 1621, 1574, 1539, 1435, 1304, 1215, 1126.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 275 (6) [M<sup>+</sup>], 217 (16), 189 (16), 101 (27), 99 (56), 73 (100).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{17}NO_4^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 275.1152; found: 275.1148.

#### 2-Butyl-5-nitro-1*H*-indole (8i)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7i** (160 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (298 mg, 2.18 mmol, 2.20 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv.  $K_2HPO_4$ ; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 17 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 3:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8i** as a light-yellow solid (194 mg, 90% yield).

M.p. 99-100 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.33$  (pentane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.43 (app. sextet, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (app. quintet, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.79 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.39-6.40 (m, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 2.2, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (br s, 1H), 8.47 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 13.9, 22.5, 28.0, 31.1, 101.8, 110.3, 116.9, 117.0, 128.4, 139.2, 141.9, 143.7.

This is a known compound, but no spectroscopic data were given. 13

#### 2-Butyl-5-iodo-1H-indole (8j)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole 7**j** (242 mg, 0.996 mmol, 1 equiv.) and butyl bromide (554 mg, 4.04 mmol, 4.06 equiv.). Base: 4 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 14 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with hexane/ether 40:1 to 2:1) to afford 2-butyl-5-iodoindole 8**j** as a pale-yellow solid (194 mg, 65% yield) and 2,5'-bisindole byproduct 8**j**' as a dark-yellow solid (16.1 mg, 8% yield).

M.p. 50-52 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.50$  (hexane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.40 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (app. quintet, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.14-6.15 (m, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 1.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.86 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.0, 22.5, 28.0, 31.3, 83.1, 99.0, 112.3, 128.6, 129.3, 131.6, 135.0, 141.1.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3410, 2953, 2926, 2857, 1572, 1457, 1407, 1302.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) =299 (76) [M<sup>+</sup>], 257 (100), 256 (90), 129 (35), 102 (10).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{14}^{127}IN^{+}[M^{+}]$ : 299.0166; found: 299.0162.

#### 2'-Butyl-5-iodo-1*H*,1'*H*-2,5'-bisindole (8j')

M.p. 150-152 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.17$  (hexane/ether 2:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0. 96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.43 (app. sextet, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (app.

quintet, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.27-6.28 (m, 1H), 6.66 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 1.7, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.92-7.93 (m, 2H), 8.34 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.0, 22.5, 28.1, 31.3, 83.5, 97.8, 100.0, 111.1, 112.7, 116.7, 119.3, 123.8, 129.0, 129.5, 129.8, 132.4, 135.8, 135.9, 140.9, 141.5.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3400, 2958, 2923, 2857, 1760, 1601, 1571, 1444, 1396, 1306.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 414 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 370 (31), 288 (16), 244 (16), 185 (12), 167 (10), 111 (23).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{20}H_{19}^{127}IN_2^+$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 414.0588; found: 414.0582.

#### 5-Chloro-2-(4-methylpent-3-enyl)-1*H*-indole (8k)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole **7f** (151 mg, 0.99 mmol, 1 equiv.) and bromide **5m** (321 mg, 1.97 mmol, 1.99 equiv.). Base: 3 equiv. KHCO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw using liquid N<sub>2</sub>; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 38 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with pentane/ether 20:1 to 10:1) to afford 2-alkylindole **8j** as a pale-yellow solid (130 mg, 56% yield), and the recovered indole **7f** as a pale-yellow solid (36.5 mg, 24%). The yield based on recovered starting material was 74%.

M.p. 50-52 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.54$  (pentane/ether 4:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.58-1.59 (m, 3H), 1.70-1.71 (m, 3H), 2.37 (app. q, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 5.19 (app. tseptet, J = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.16-6.17 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 2.0, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (br s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 17.9, 25.8, 27.7, 28.5, 99.5, 111.3, 119.3, 121.2, 123.3, 125.3, 130.0, 133.3, 134.3, 141.5.

IR (ATR):  $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3397, 2972,2910, 1575, 1543, 1466, 1442, 1409.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 235 (4) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>37</sup>Cl], 233 (12) [M<sup>+</sup> with <sup>35</sup>Cl], 164 (100), 149 (4), 128 (5).

HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for  $C_{14}H_{16}^{35}ClN^{+}[M^{+}]$ : 233.0966; found: 233.0968.

#### 2-Phenyl-1*H*-indole (9)

Synthesized according to the general procedure using indole (25.0 mg, 0.213 mmol, 1 equiv.) and iodobenzene (83.2 mg, 0.408 mmol, 1.91 equiv.). Base: 2 equiv. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>; degassing method: freeze-pump-thaw

using liquid  $N_2$ ; reaction temperature: 70 °C; reaction time: 16 h. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (eluted with hexane/ethyl acetate 15:1) to afford 2-phenylindole (9) as an off-white solid (35.7 mg, 86% yield).

M.p. 166-167 °C. TLC:  $R_f = 0.35$  (hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1) [CAM].

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 6.81 (m, 1H), 7.11 (app. dt, J = 1.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (app. dt, J = 1.2, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (app. tt, J = 1.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.63 (m, 3H), 8.26 (br s, 1H).

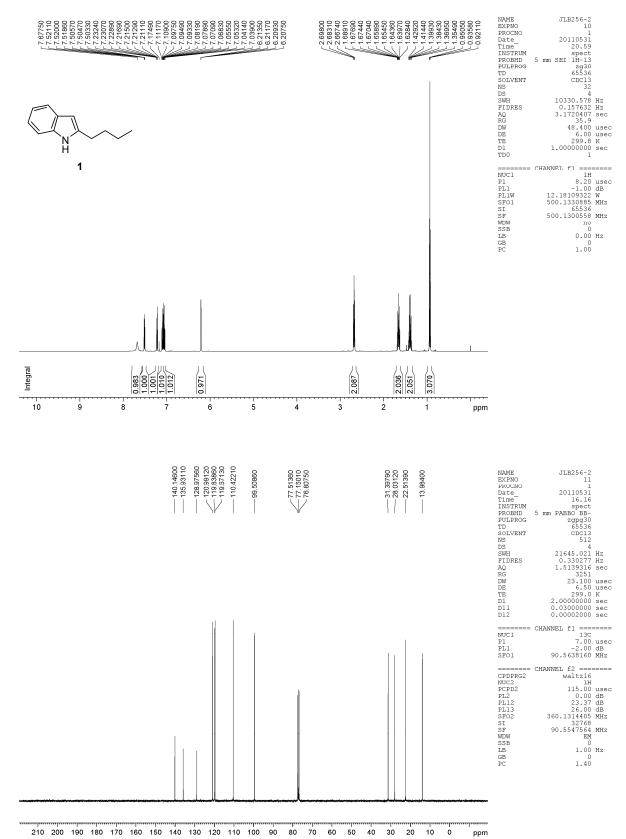
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (90.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 100.1, 111.0, 120.5, 120.8, 122.5, 125.3, 127.8, 129.1, 129.4, 132.5, 137.0, 138.0.

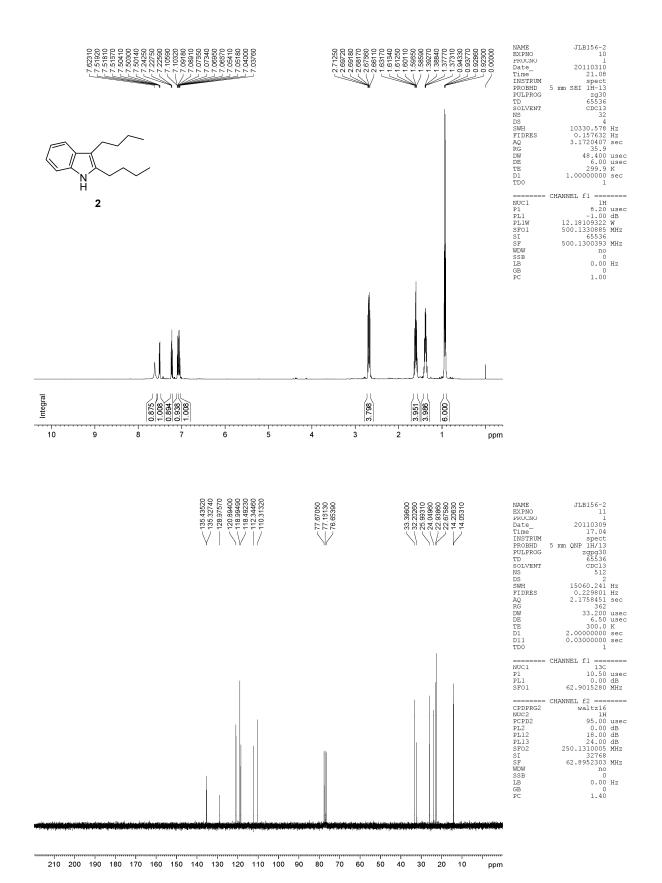
The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature. <sup>15</sup>

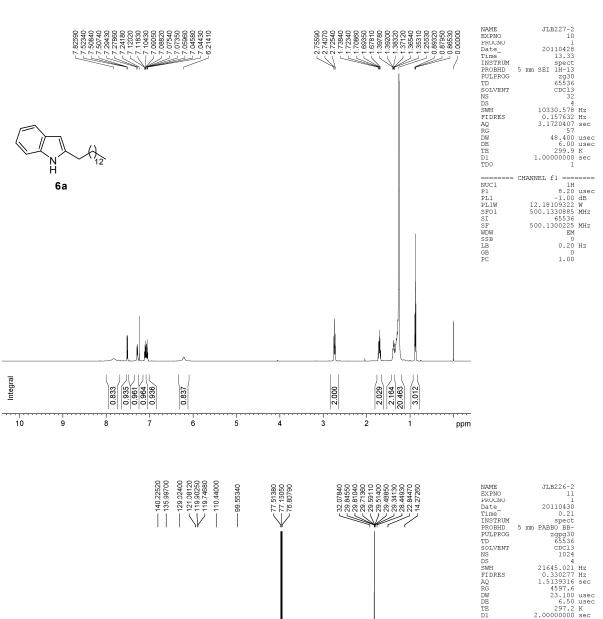
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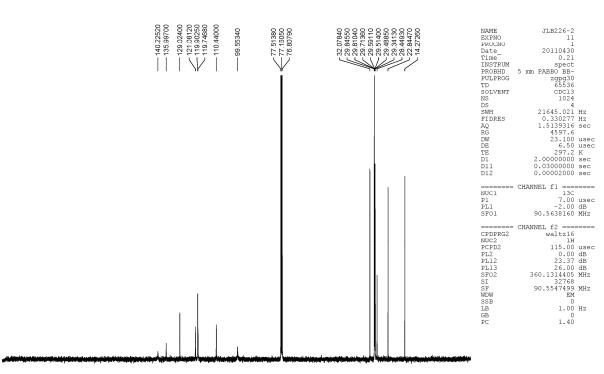
<sup>15.</sup> Maizuru, N.; Inami, T.; Kurahashi, T.; Matsubara, S. Org. Lett. 2011, 13, 1206.

### 3. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra for Synthesized Compounds

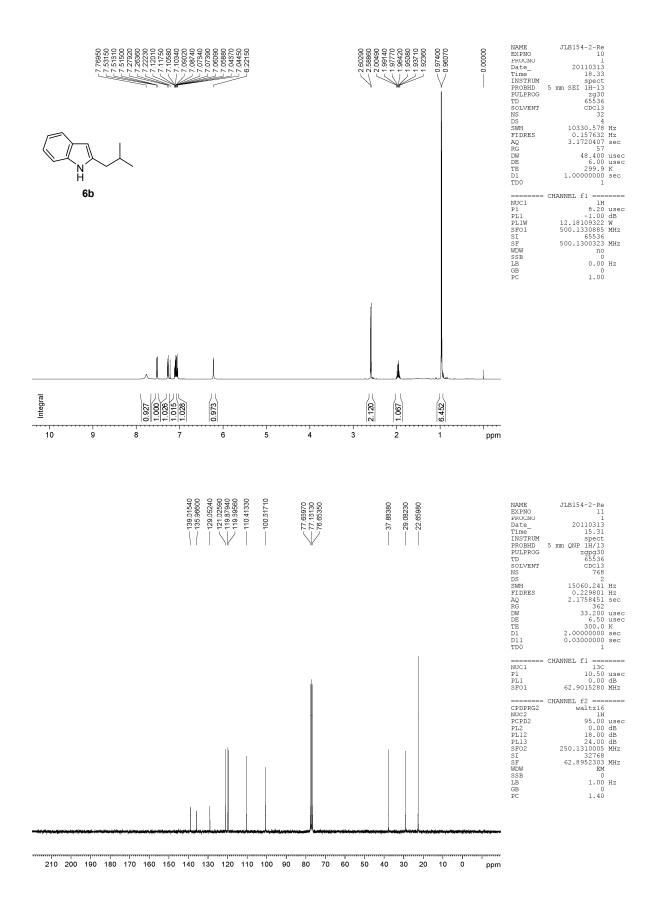


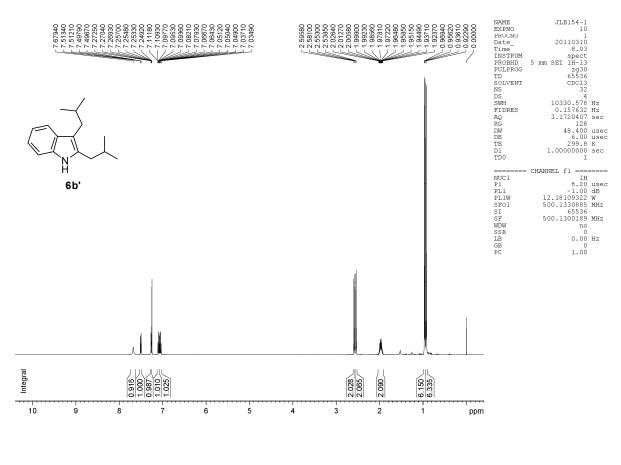


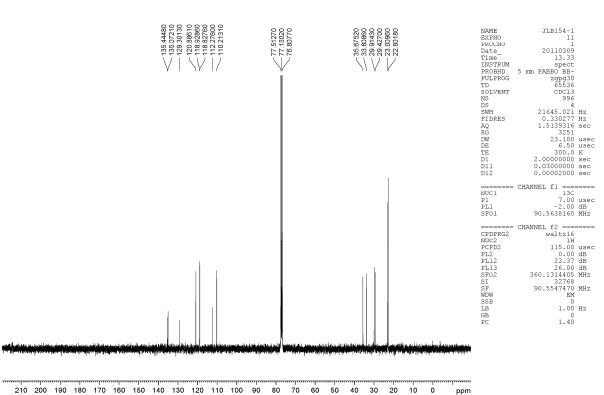


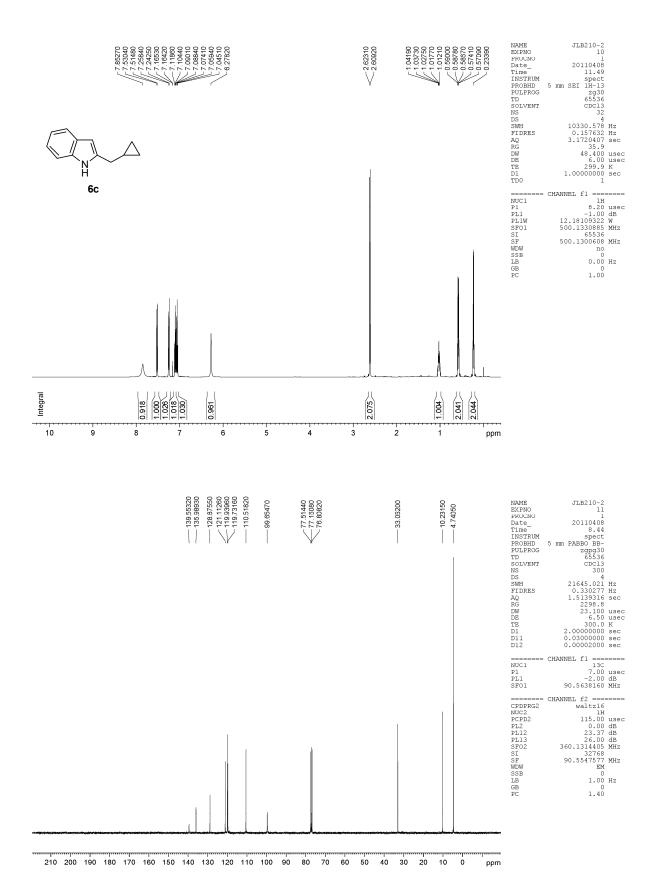


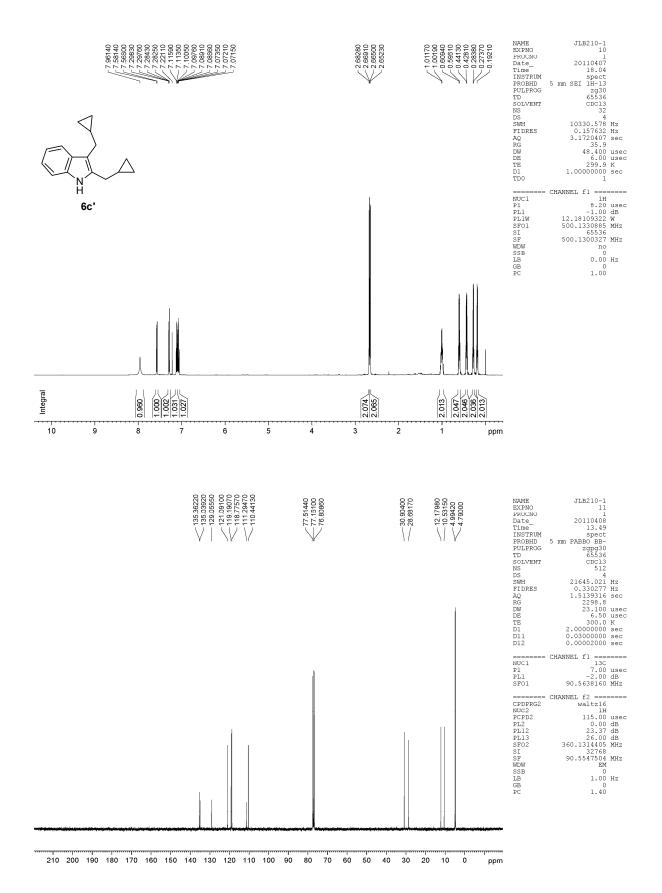
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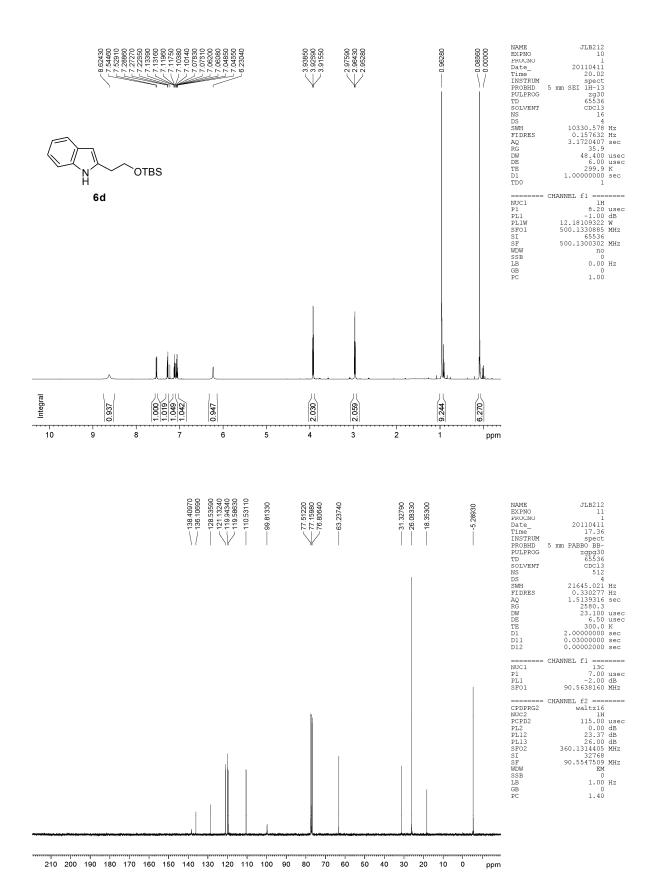


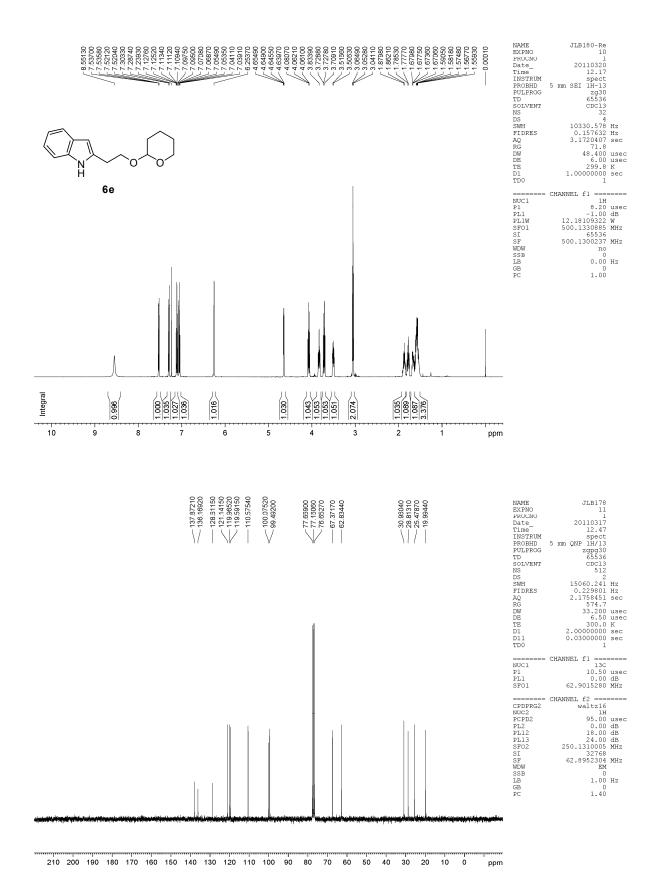


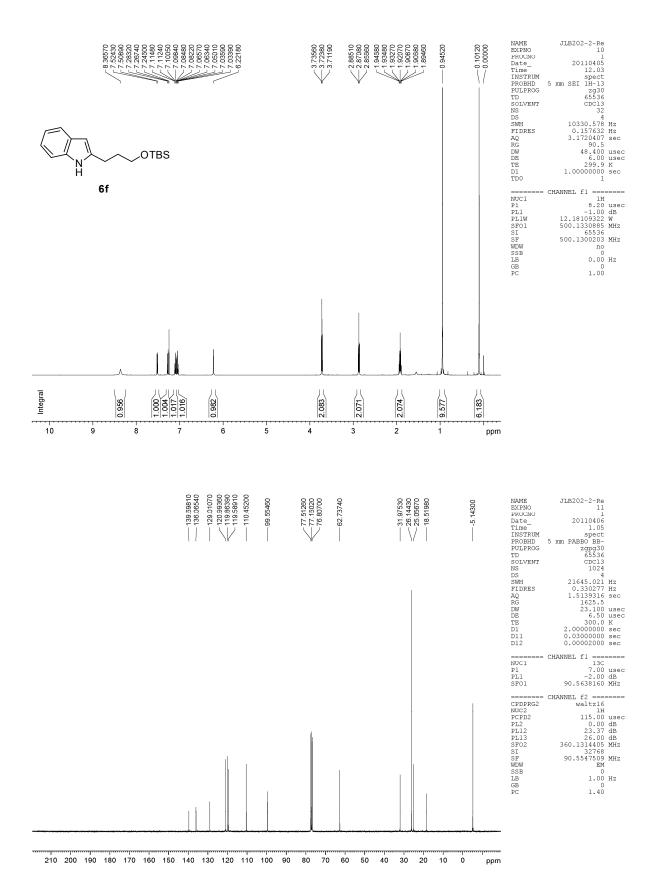


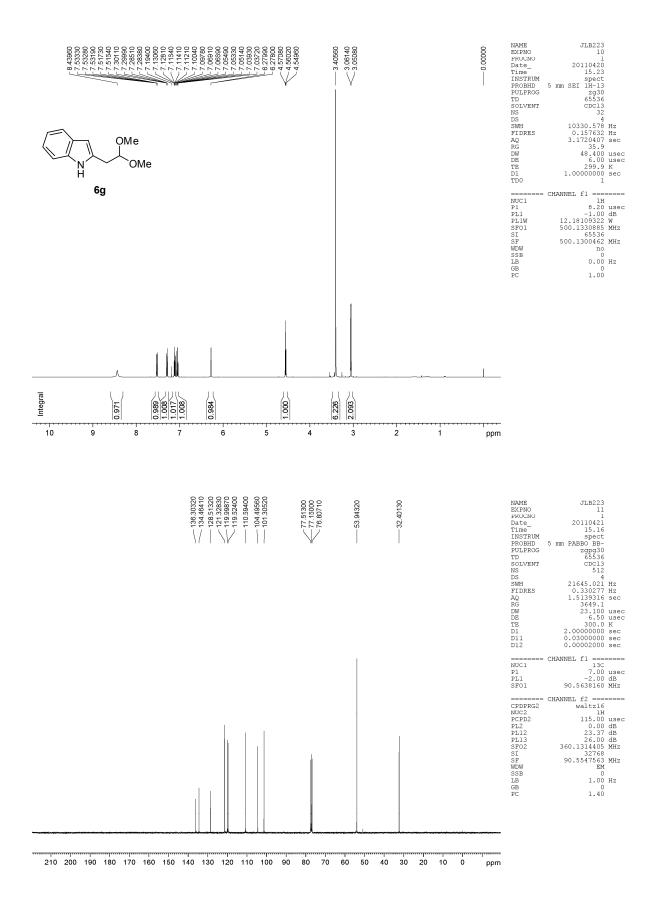


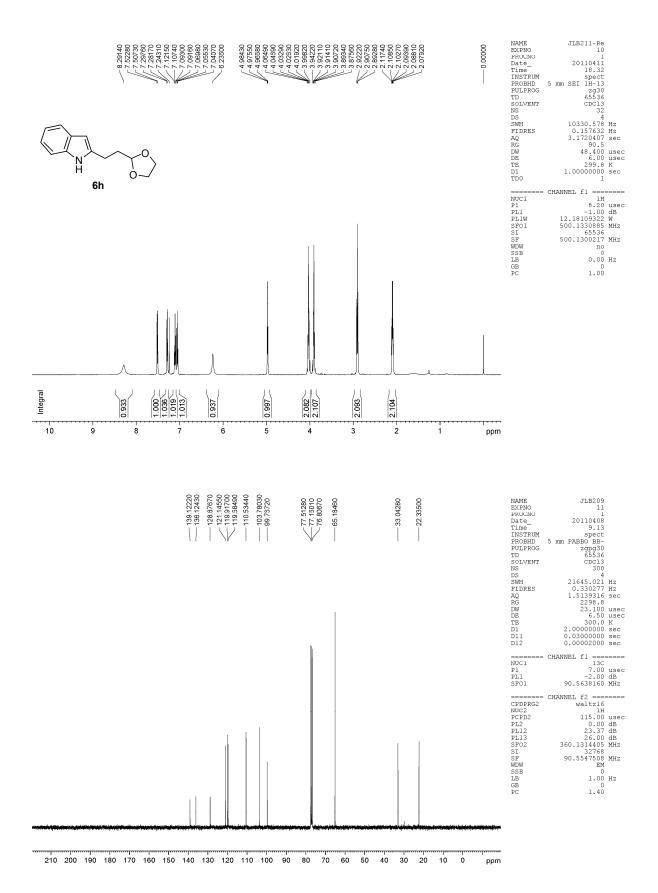


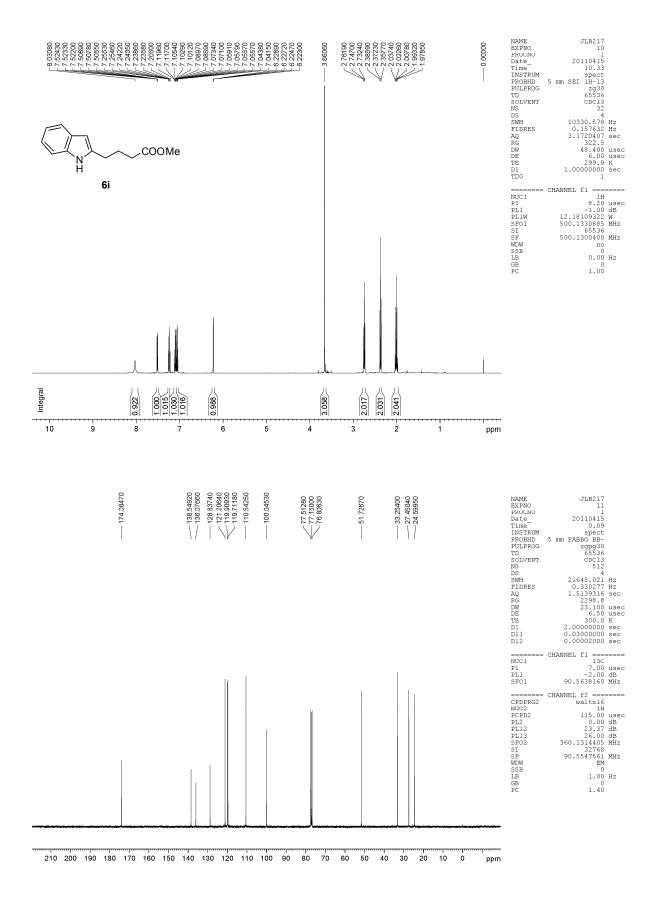


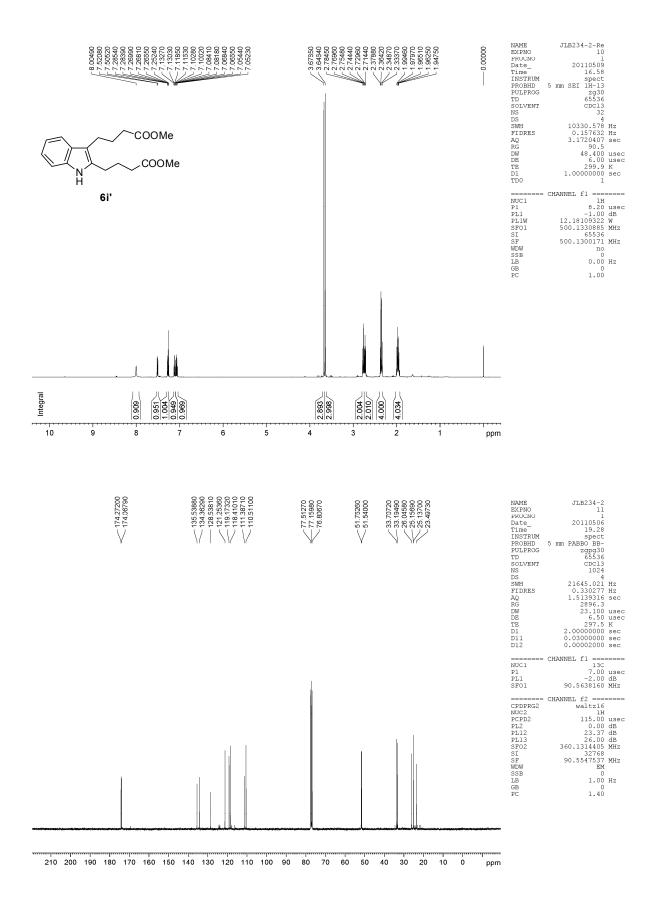


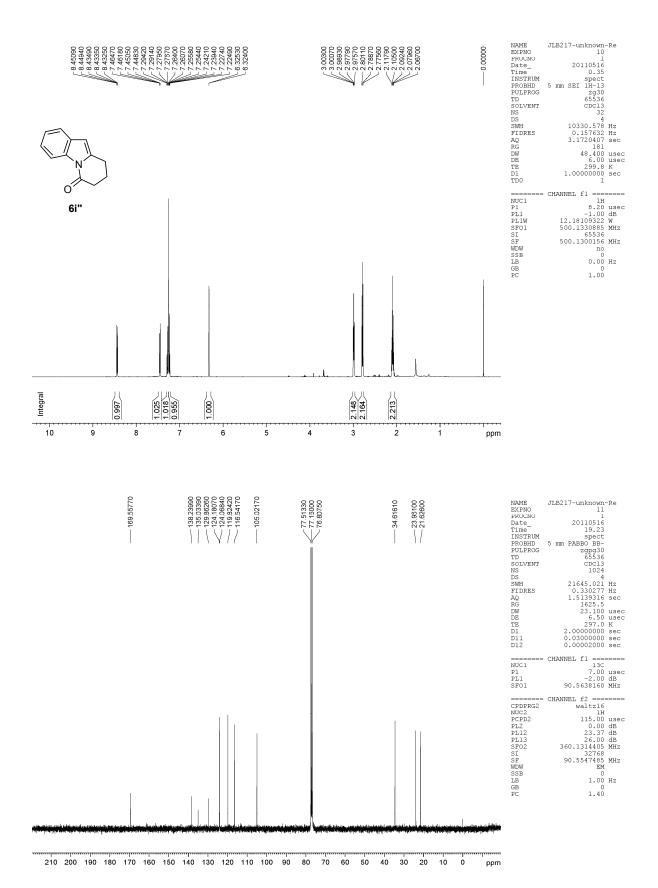


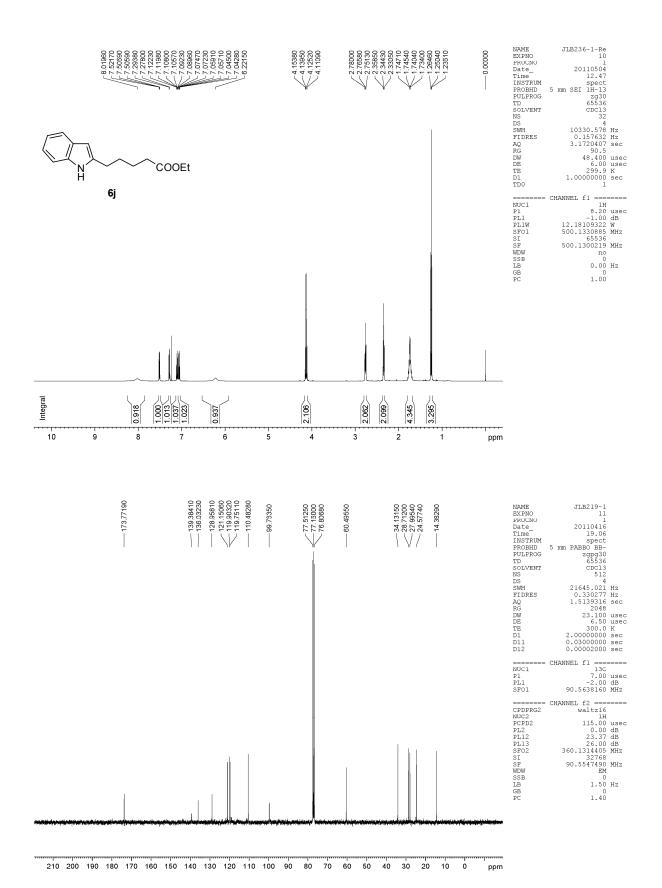


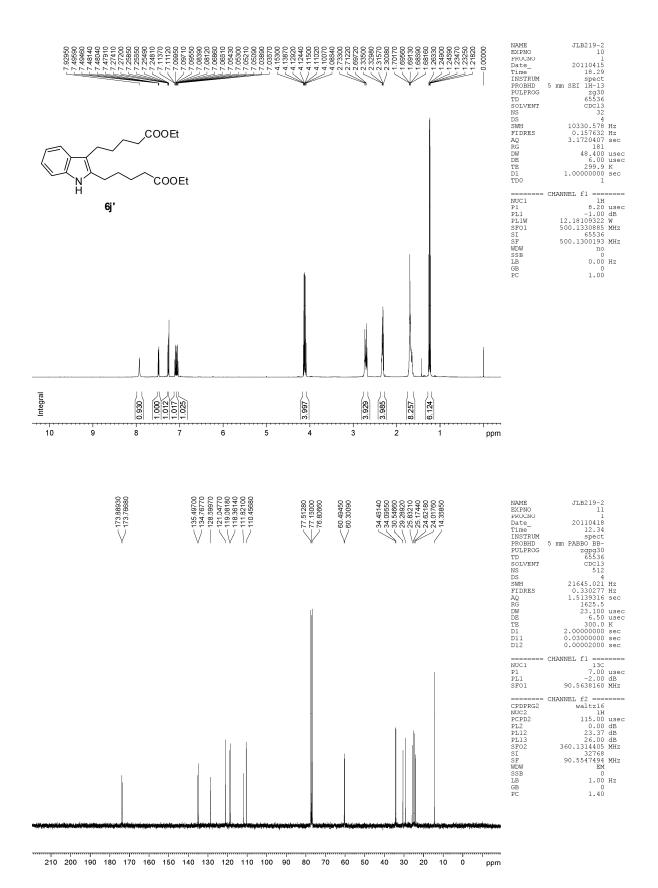


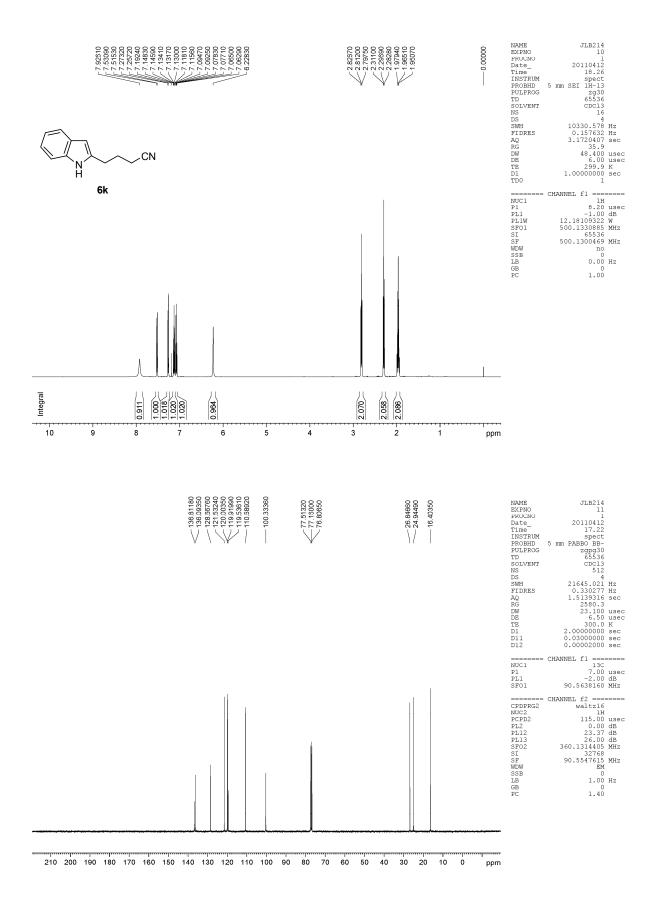


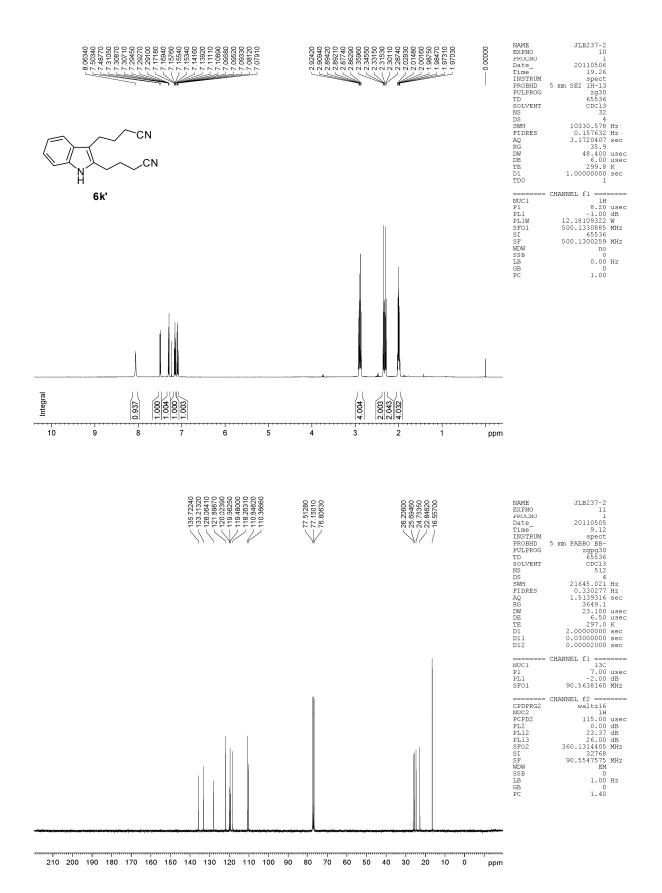


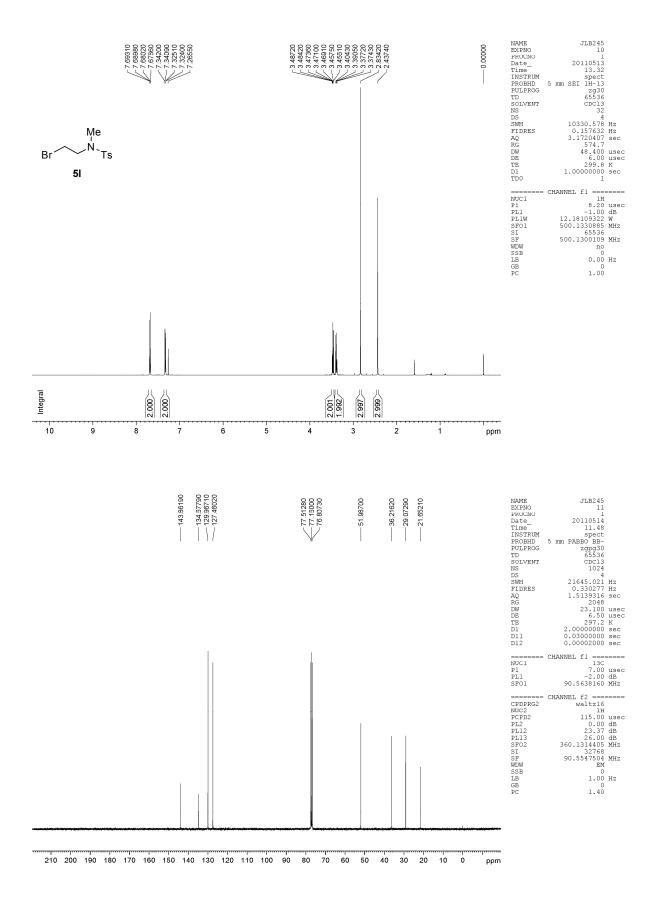


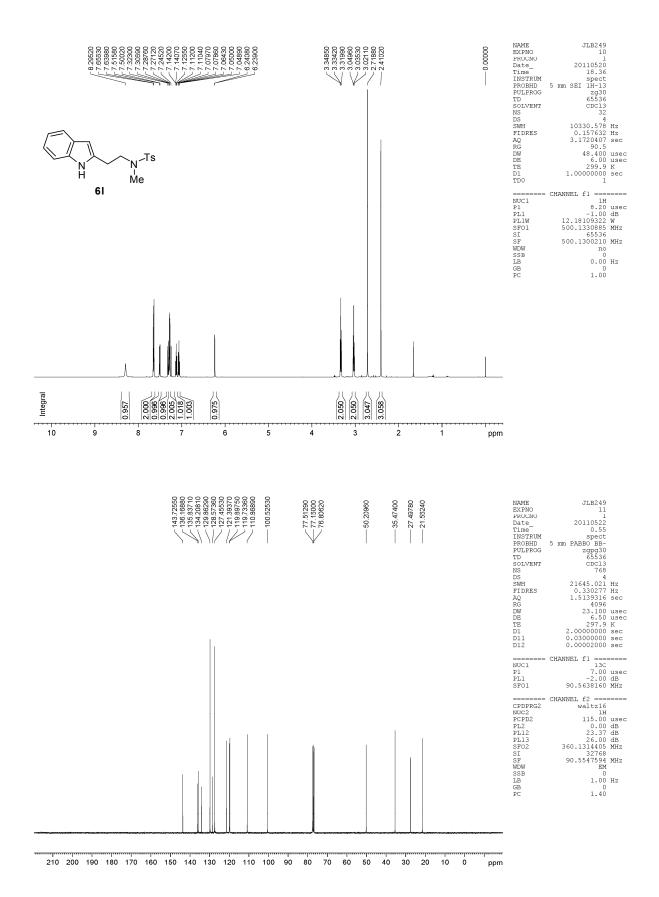


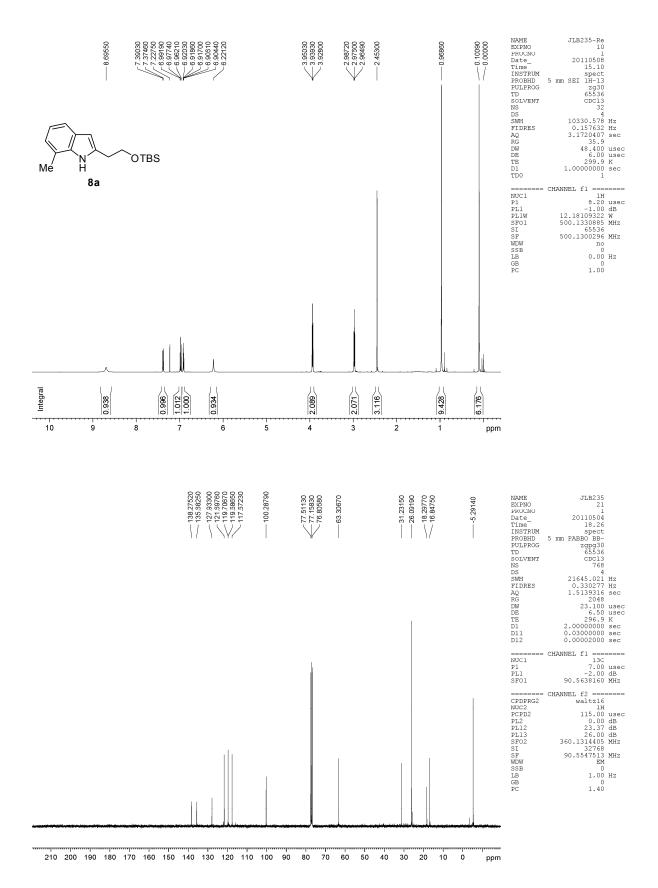


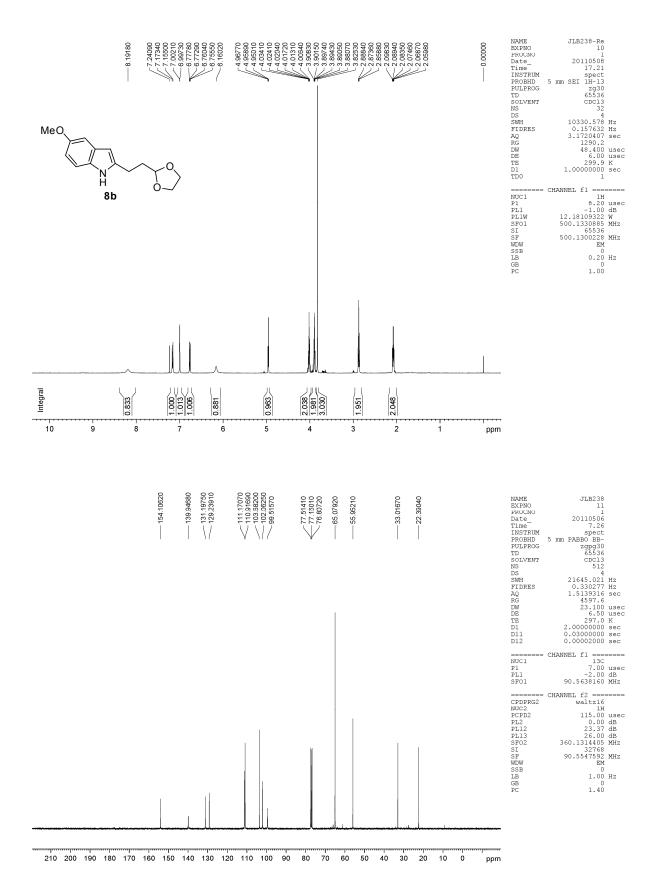


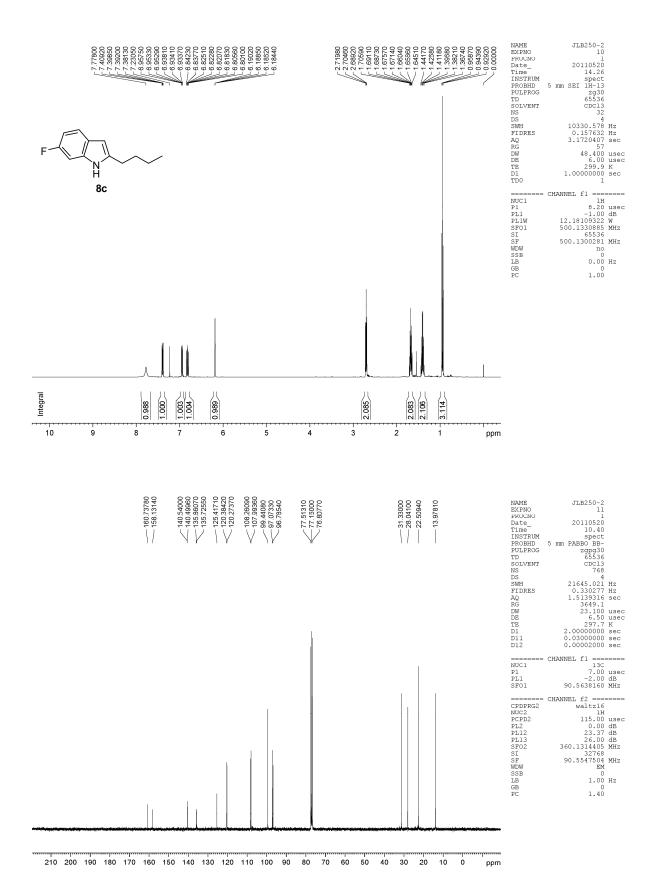


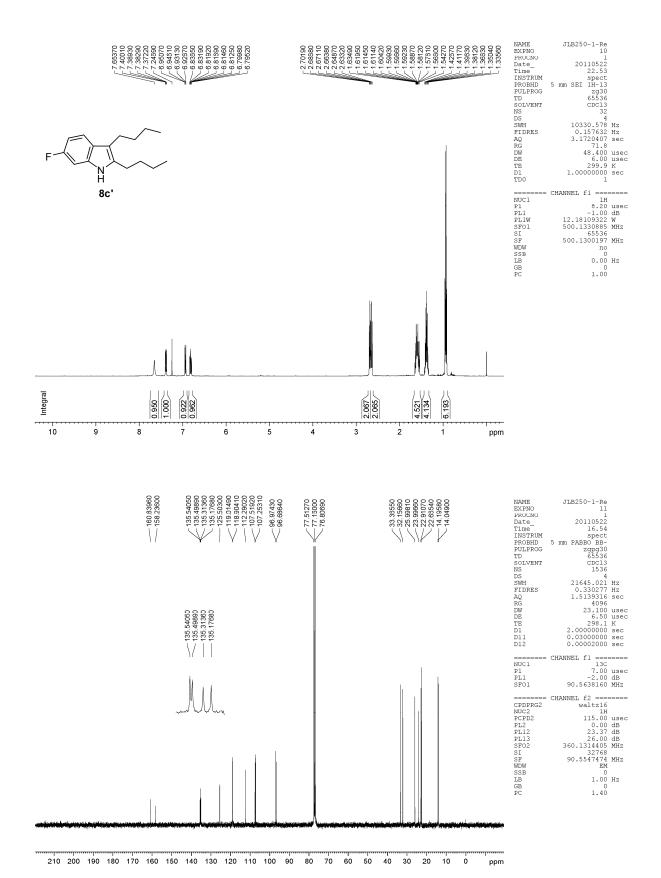


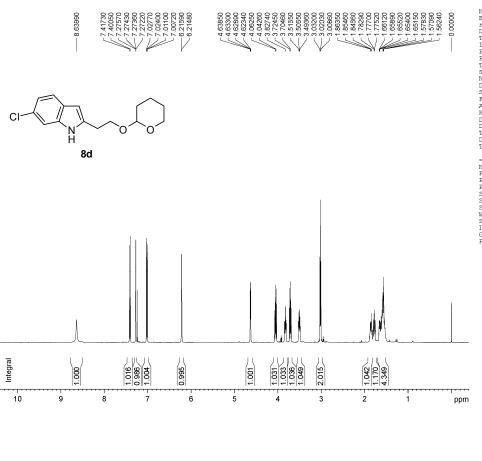


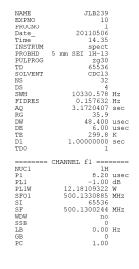


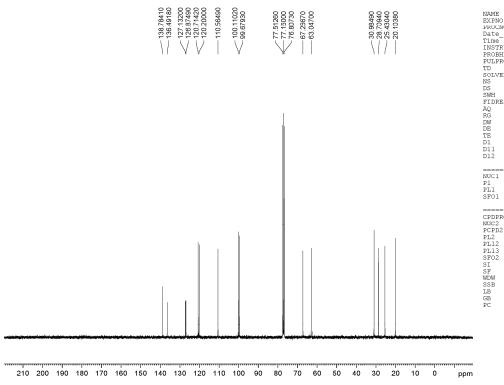




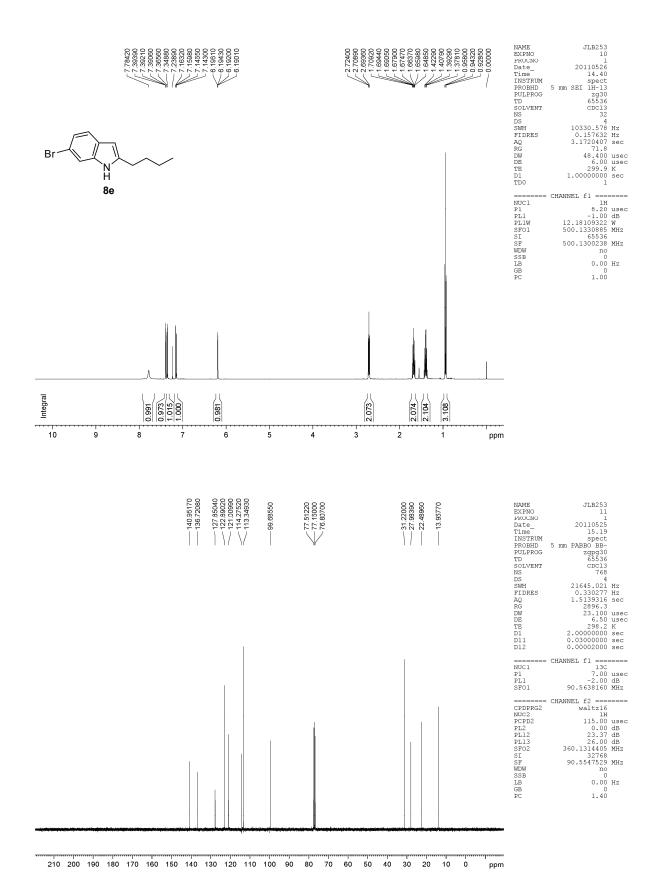


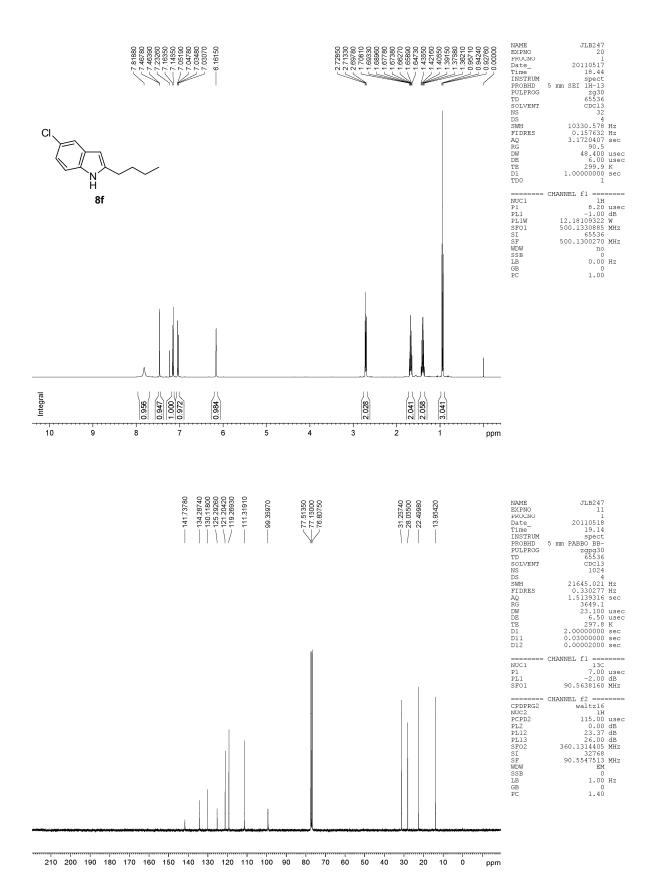


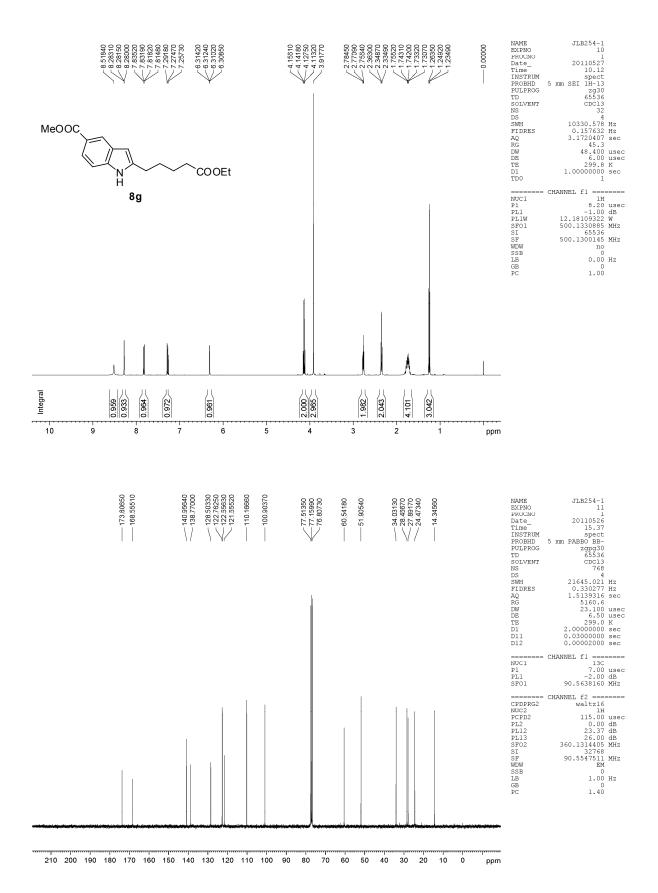


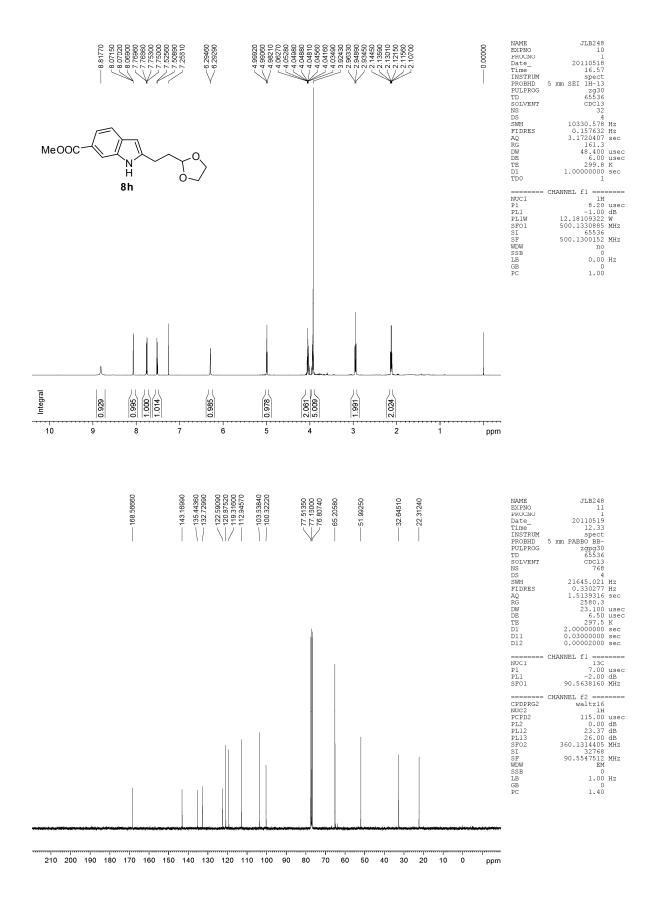


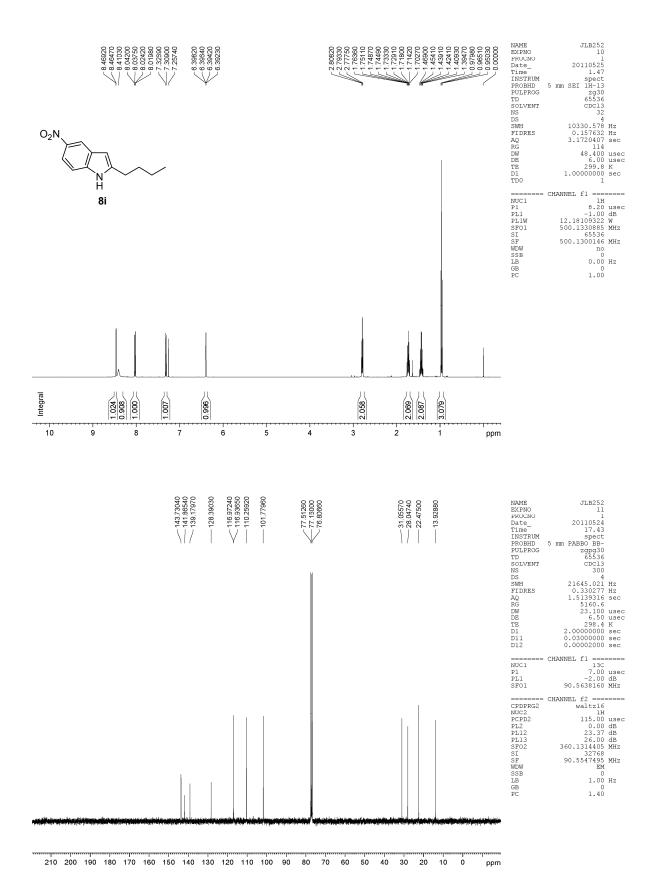
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RG	2298.8	
DW	23.100	usec
DE	6.50	
TE	298.3	K
D1	2.00000000	
D11	0.03000000	sec
D12	0.00002000	sec
	CHANNEL f1 ====	
NUC1	CHANNEL fl ====	
NUC1 P1	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00	usec
NUC1 P1 PL1	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13c 7.00 -2.00	usec dB
NUC1 P1	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00	usec dB
NUC1 P1 PL1 SFO1	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160	usec dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SFO1	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ====	usec dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SFO1 ====== CPDPRG2	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13c 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ==== waltz16	usec dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SFO1 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ==== waltz16 1H	usec dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13C 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ==== waltz16 1H 115.00	usec dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13c 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ==== waltz16 11 115.00 0.00	usec dB MHz  usec dB
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2 PL12	CHANNEL f1 === 13c 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 === waltz16 1H 115.00 0.00 23.37	usec dB MHz  usec dB dB
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2 PL12 PL12 PL13	CHANNEL fl ===- 13C 7.00 7.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 1H 115.00 0.00 23.37 26.00	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2 PL12 PL13 SF02	CHANNEL f1 ===- 13c 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160 CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 115.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 360.1314405	usec dB MHz  usec dB dB
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ======= CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL12 PL12 PL12 PL12 SF02 SI	CHANNEL f1 ===- 13C 7.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 15.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 360.1314405	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ======= CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2 PL12 PL13 SF02 SI SF	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13c	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB
NUC1 P1 P11 SF01 ======= CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL12 PL12 PL13 SF02 SI SF02 SF WDW	CHANNEL f1 ===- 13C 7.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 15.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 360.1314405	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB dB MHz
NUC1 P1 PL1 SF01 ======= CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL2 PL12 PL13 SF02 SI SF	CHANNEL f1 ===- 13c -2.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 1H 115.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 360.1314405 90.5547504 EM	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB dB MHz
NUC1 P1 P1 SF01 ======= CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL12 PL13 SF02 SI SF WDW SSB BLB	CHANNEL f1 ==== 13c 7.00 -2.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 === waltz16 115.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 32768 90.5547504 60	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB MHz MHz
NUC1 P1 P1 SF01 ====== CPDPRG2 NUC2 PCPD2 PL12 PL13 SF02 SI SF WDW SSB	CHANNEL f1 ===- 13c -2.00 90.5638160  CHANNEL f2 ===- waltz16 1H 115.00 0.00 23.37 26.00 360.1314405 90.5547504 EM 0 0.00	usec dB MHz usec dB dB dB MHz MHz

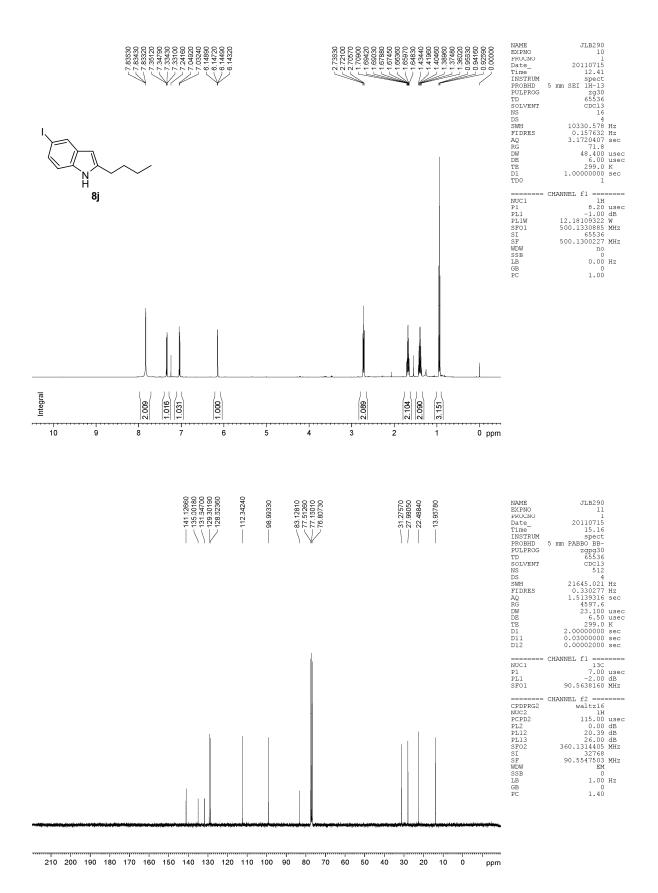


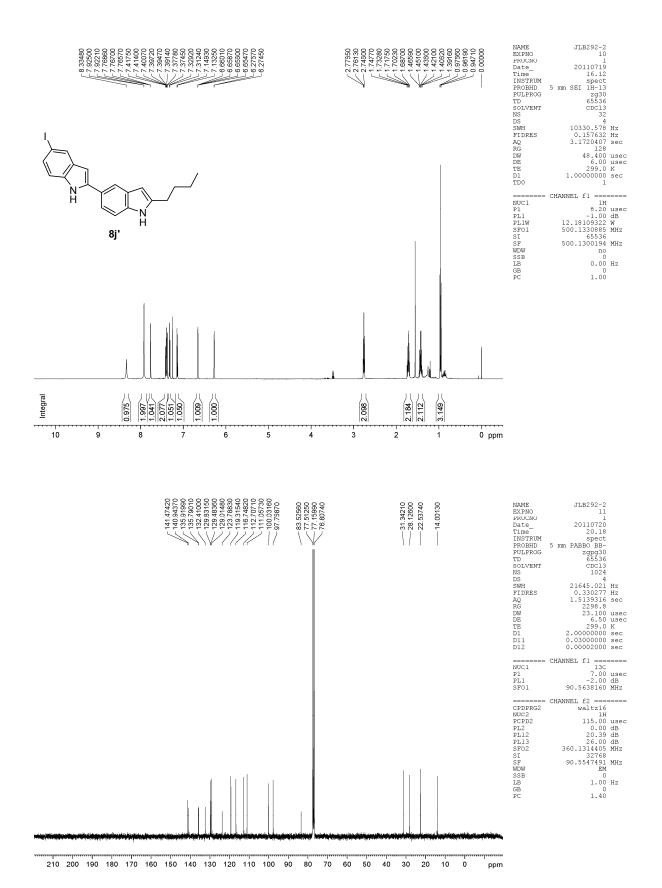




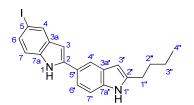








### COSY spectrum of 8j'(partial)

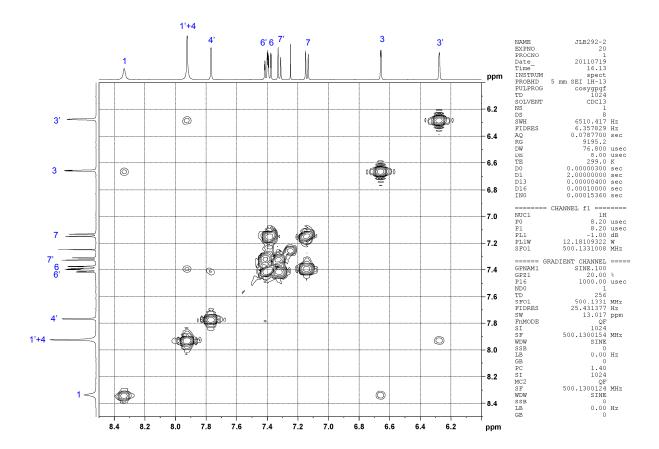


Key Correlations

Three-bond correlations:
H(6)-H(7), H(6')-H(7'), H(1")-H(2")
H(2")-H(3"), H(3")-H(4")

Four-bond correlations:
H(4)-H(6), H(3)-H(1), H(4')-H(6'),

H(3')-H(1')

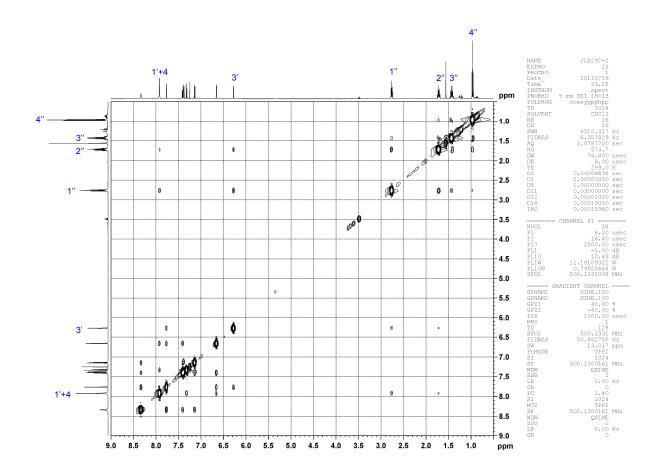


## NOESY spectrum of 8j'

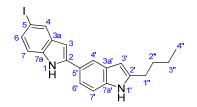


#### Key Correlations

H(1")-H(3"), H(1")-H(1"), H(3")-H(4"), H(4")-H(1), H(4")-H(3), H(6")-H(1), H(6")-H(3), H(7")-H(1"), H(1)-H(7), H(3)-H(4), H(7)-H(1)

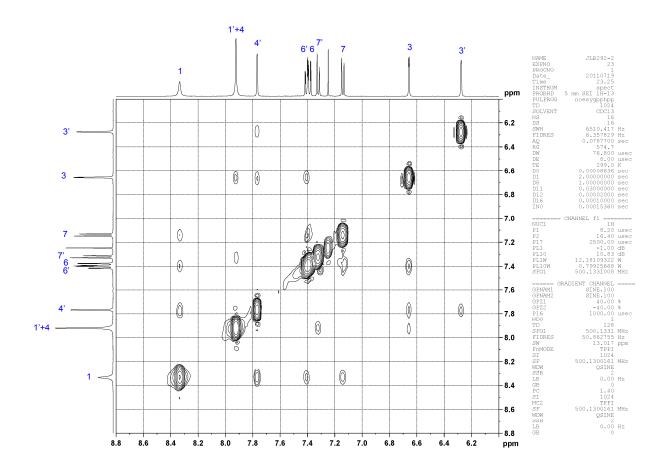


# NOESY spectrum of 8j' (partial)



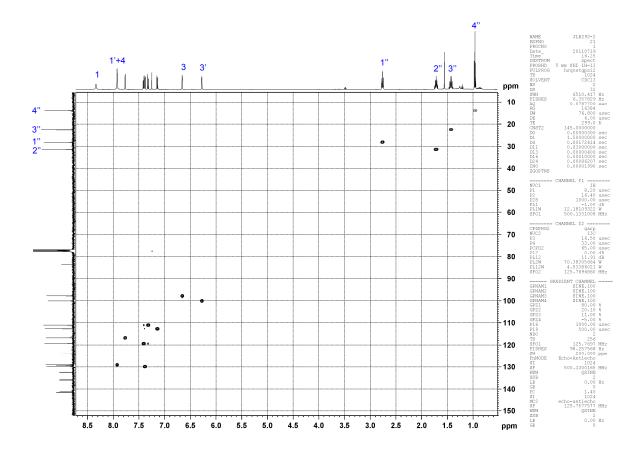
### Key Correlations

H(1")-H(3"), H(1")-H(1"), H(3")-H(4'), H(4')-H(1), H(4')-H(3), H(6')-H(1), H(6')-H(3), H(7')-H(1'), H(1)-H(7), H(3)-H(4), H(7)-H(1)



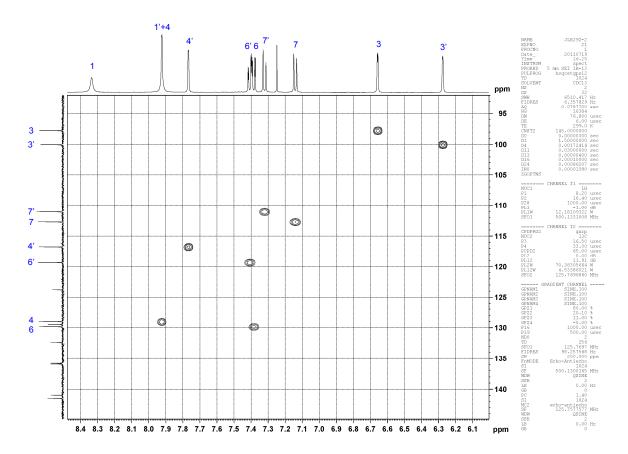
# HSQC spectrum of 8j'



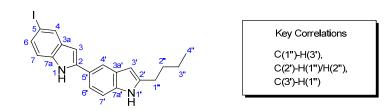


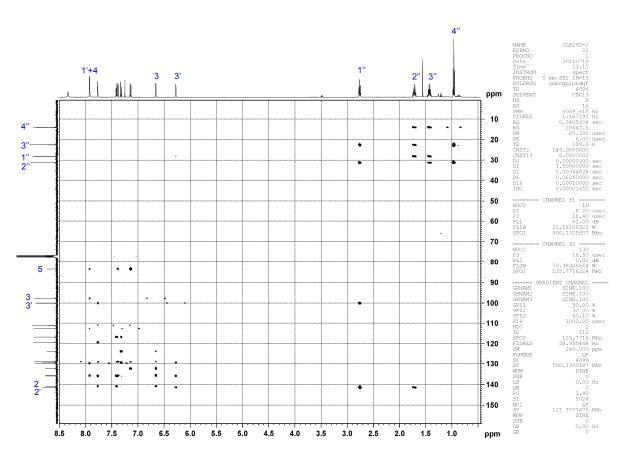
# HSQC spectrum of 8j' (partial)



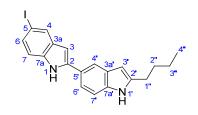


## HMBC spectrum of 8j'





### HMBC spectrum of 8j' (partial)



#### Key Correlations

C(2')-H(3'), C(3')-H(4'), C(3a')-H(7')/H(3'), C(4')-H(6')/H(7'), C(5')-H(3)/H(6')/H(7'), C(6')-H(4'), C(7')-H(4'), C(7a')-H(3')/H(4')/H(6'), C(2)-H(3)/H(4')/H(6'), C(3)-H(4), C(4)-H(6)/H(7), C(5)-H(4)/H(6)/H(7), C(6)-H(4), C(7)-H(4), C(7a)-H(3)/H(4)/H(6)

