

An efficient three-component synthesis of highly functionalized tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives catalyzed by L-proline

Juan-Juan Zhang · Xian Feng · Xue-Cheng Liu · Zhi-Bin Huang · Da-Qing Shi

Received: 16 April 2014 / Accepted: 12 August 2014 / Published online: 24 August 2014
© Springer International Publishing Switzerland 2014

Abstract An efficient and diastereoselective synthetic procedure for highly functionalized tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives was successfully developed by the three-component reaction of acenaphthequinone, enaminones, and barbituric acid in the presence of a catalytic amount of L-proline. This method has the advantages of convenient operation, excellent yields, mild reaction conditions, and environmental friendliness.

Keywords Tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone · Multicomponent reactions (MCRs) · Proline catalyst

Introduction

The development of a simple and highly efficient protocol for the synthesis of structurally complex, biologically active organic molecules from readily available starting materials is an attractive area of research in both academia and the pharmaceutical industry. One of the most promising approaches to this type of efficient synthesis relies on the use of multicomponent reactions (MCRs). MCRs have been widely used in organic synthesis and combinatorial chemistry due to their atom economy, excellent yields, easy execution, and productivity [1,2]. In the past decade, new MCRs (three- and four-component reactions) have been developed and used for the construction of important complex molecules [3–8].

Nitrogen-containing heterocycles remain part of many useful scaffolds holding pharmacophoric features that can act as potent and selective drugs for several diseases [9,10].

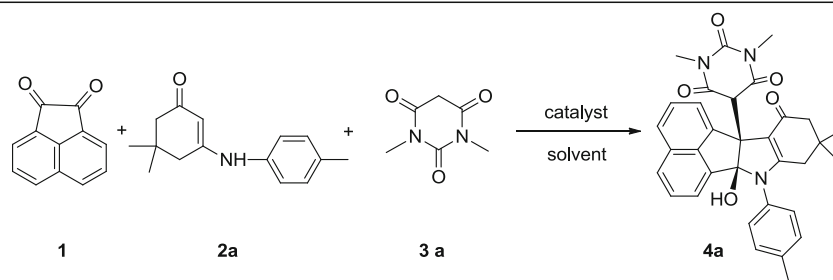
Among these heterocycles, the indole unit is one of the most important and abundant nitrogen-containing heterocycles in medicinal agents and natural products. Compounds containing an indole moiety display a broad range of biological activities including antitumor, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory activity [11–15]. The indole unit is also an important skeleton in organic and medicinal chemistry [16–18]. Some synthetic methodologies have been used for the construction of these important derivatives [19–22]. Recently, MCRs have been also used in the synthesis of several functionalized indole derivatives [23–25].

In recent years, L-proline has been widely used as a catalyst in organic synthesis because it is commercially available and has good solubility in organic solvents and water. L-Proline has been found to be as an efficient catalyst in organic reactions, such as asymmetric aldol condensation [26,27], Mannich reaction [28], Diels–Alder reaction [29], Michael addition [30], and several multicomponent reactions [31–34]. As part of our program to develop new methods for the construction of important heterocycles using L-proline as catalyst [35–38], we report herein an efficient method for the construction of pyrimidyl-fused tetrahydro-acenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives in the presence of a catalytic amount of L-proline.

Results and discussion

The three-component reaction of acenaphthylene-1,2-dione (**1**), 5,5-dimethyl-3-(*p*-tolylamino) cyclohex-2-enone (**2a**), and 1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*, 3*H*, 5*H*)-trione (**3a**) was initially selected as a model reaction to optimize the reaction conditions. The reaction, which consisted of a 1:1:1 molar mixture of **1**, **2a** and **3a**, was conducted under a variety of different conditions (Table 1). We assessed that

J.-J. Zhang · X. Feng · X.-C. Liu · Z.-B. Huang · D.-Q. Shi (✉)
Key Laboratory of Organic Synthesis of Jiangsu Province,
College of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science,
Soochow University, Suzhou 215123, People's Republic of China
e-mail: dqshi@suda.edu.cn

Table 1 Optimization study for the synthesis of **4a**

Entry	Solvent	Catalyst (mol%)	Temperature (°C)	Yield ^a (%)
1	Water	No	80	10
2	Water	L-proline (10)	80	22
3	CHCl ₃	L-proline (10)	Reflux	13
4	1,4-Dioxane	L-proline (10)	Reflux	20
5	THF	L-proline (10)	Reflux	24
6	DMF	L-proline (10)	80	67
7	Toluene	L-proline (10)	80	28
8	Ethanol	L-proline (10)	Reflux	91
9	Ethanol	<i>p</i> -TSA (10)	Reflux	51
10	Ethanol	Piperidine (10)	Reflux	Trace
11	Ethanol	L-proline (5)	Reflux	46
12	Ethanol	L-proline (15)	Reflux	78
13	Ethanol	L-proline (20)	Reflux	53
14	Ethanol	L-proline (10)	r.t.	Trace
15	Ethanol	L-proline (10)	40	18
16	Ethanol	L-proline (10)	60	58

Reaction conditions: **1** (1 mmol), **2a** (1 mmol), **3a** (1 mmol), solvent (5 mL), 2h
^a Isolated yield

this reaction could not proceed when carried out in water under catalyst-free conditions at 80 °C (Table 1, entry 1). Pleasingly, the desired compound **4a** was obtained in 22 % yield when a catalytic amount of L-proline (10 mol%) was added (Table 1, entry 2). Various solvents were evaluated to determine their impact on the outcome of the reaction (Table 1, entries 3–8). The results of these screening experiments revealed that ethanol provided the best results from all the solvents tested. Other catalysts such as *p*-TSA and piperidine were evaluated; however, their catalytic efficiency was lower compared to L-proline (Table 1, entries 9–10).

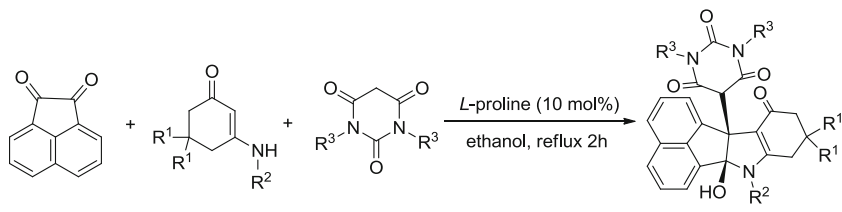
Having identified L-proline as the best catalyst for this transformation, we proceeded to evaluate the amount of L-proline required to achieve optimum conversion. The results of these screening experiments showed that a 10 mol% loading of L-proline was sufficient to drive the reaction forward and provide the highest yield (Table 1, entries 8 and 11–13). The reaction was then conducted at a variety of different temperatures, including r.t., 40, 60 °C and refluxing temperature, to determine the optimum temperature for the transformation. The results indicated that when the reaction proceeded at reflux temperature, highest yields were obtained (Table 1,

entries 8 and 14–16). Based on all our results, the optimum reaction conditions were determined to be 10 mol% L-proline in ethanol at reflux temperature.

To further explore the scope of this protocol, we examined the impact of substrate diversity on this three-component reaction using two barbituric acids and 17 enaminones. As shown in Table 2, electronic effects on the substrate had no significant influence on product yields. *n*-Butyl and phenyl groups bearing either electron-donating groups (e.g., methyl, ethyl, methoxy, and ethoxy groups) or electron-withdrawing groups (e.g., fluoro, chloro, bromo, and nitro groups), on the enaminone ring were tolerated under the reaction conditions, leading to the final products in good yields (81–93 %). Moreover, products were obtained in high purity by simply washing the crude products with cold ethanol, avoiding traditional purification via recrystallization or chromatography. This synthesis was confirmed to follow the group-assisted purification chemistry (GAP chemistry) process [39–41].

The structure of **4** was established by IR, ¹H NMR, and ¹³C NMR spectroscopy, HRMS analysis, and it was further confirmed by X-ray diffraction analysis. The molecular structure of **4d** shown in Fig. 1 indicates that the hydroxy group at 2-position and the barbituric acid ring at 3-position all exist

Table 2 Synthesis of functionalized tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives **4** via three-component reaction



Entry	Product	R ¹	R ²	R ³	Isolated yield (%)
1	4a	CH ₃	4-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	91
2	4b	CH ₃	2-C ₂ H ₅ C ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	83
3	4c	CH ₃	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	89
4	4d	CH ₃	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	90
5	4e	CH ₃	2-ClC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	82
6	4f	CH ₃	4-FC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	91
7	4g	CH ₃	4-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	86
8	4h	CH ₃	3-Cl-4-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₃	CH ₃	88
9	4i	CH ₃	3-Cl-4-FC ₆ H ₃	CH ₃	89
10	4j	CH ₃	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉	CH ₃	90
11	4k	H	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₃	82
12	4l	H	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	84
13	4m	H	4-C ₂ H ₅ OC ₆ H ₄	CH ₃	80
14	4n	CH ₃	4-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	H	83
15	4o	CH ₃	C ₆ H ₅	H	81
16	4p	CH ₃	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	H	84
17	4q	CH ₃	3-ClC ₆ H ₄	H	84
18	4r	CH ₃	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	H	84
19	4s	CH ₃	4-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄	H	85
20	4t	CH ₃	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉	H	90
21	4u	H	3,5-(CH ₃) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	H	92
22	4v	H	2,4-(CH ₃) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	H	91
23	4w	H	4-C ₂ H ₅ OC ₆ H ₄	H	92
24	4x	H	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	H	93

in *cis*-orientation justifying the high diastereoselectivity this three-component domino reaction exhibits.

Based on experimental observations, we have proposed a mechanism for this multicomponent domino reaction (Scheme 1). The initial reversible reaction of the acenaphthylene-1,2-dione **1** with L-proline would give iminium ion **5**. The intermediate **7** was formed by the Knoevenagel condensation of iminium ion **5** with barbituric acid **3**, and elimination of L-proline. Then the Michael addition of intermediate **7** with enaminones **2** would give the intermediate **8**, which would undergo intramolecular cyclization to give **4**.

In summary, we have developed an efficient and diastereoselective procedure for the construction of functionalized tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives via the three-component domino reaction of acenaphthequinone, enaminones, and barbituric acid in the presence of a catalytic amount of L-proline (10 mol%). This method has the

advantages of readily available starting materials, mild reaction conditions, and operational simplicity not requiring a product purification process.

Experimental section

General

All reagents and solvents were commercially available with analytical grade and used as received. All evaporations of organic solvents were carried out with a rotary evaporator in conjunction with a water aspirator. Melting points were determined on an electrothermal XT-5 apparatus and uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Varian F-1000 spectrometer in KBr with absorption in cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR was recorded on a Varian Inova-400 MHz spectrometer and ¹³C NMR

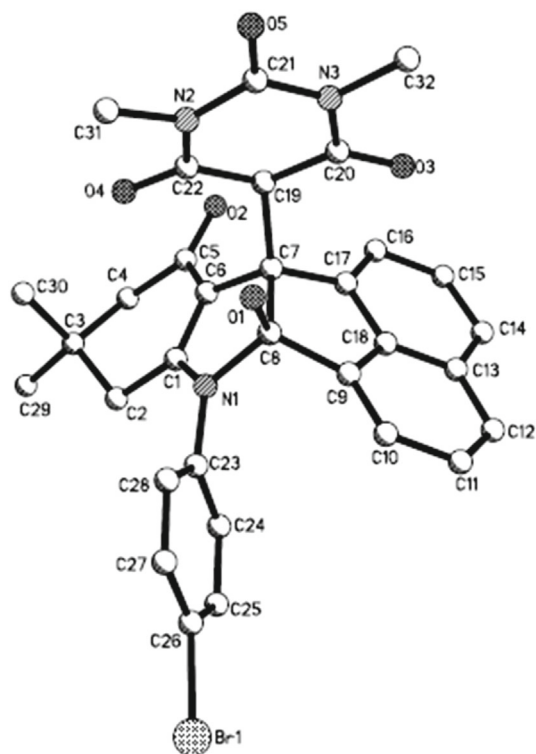


Fig. 1 Crystal structure of compound **4d**

was recorded on a Varian Inova-300 MHz spectrometer in CDCl_3 or $\text{DMSO}-d_6$. J values are in Hz. Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm downfield from internal standard TMS. The abbreviations used for NMR signals are: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, and m = multiplet. HRMS analyses

were carried out using TOF-MS or GCT-TOF instrument. X-ray data were collected on a Bruker P4 diffractometer. Acenaphthylene-1,2-dione was obtained from HWRK company. 1,3-Dimethylbarbituric acid and barbituric acid were obtained from Alfa Aesar.

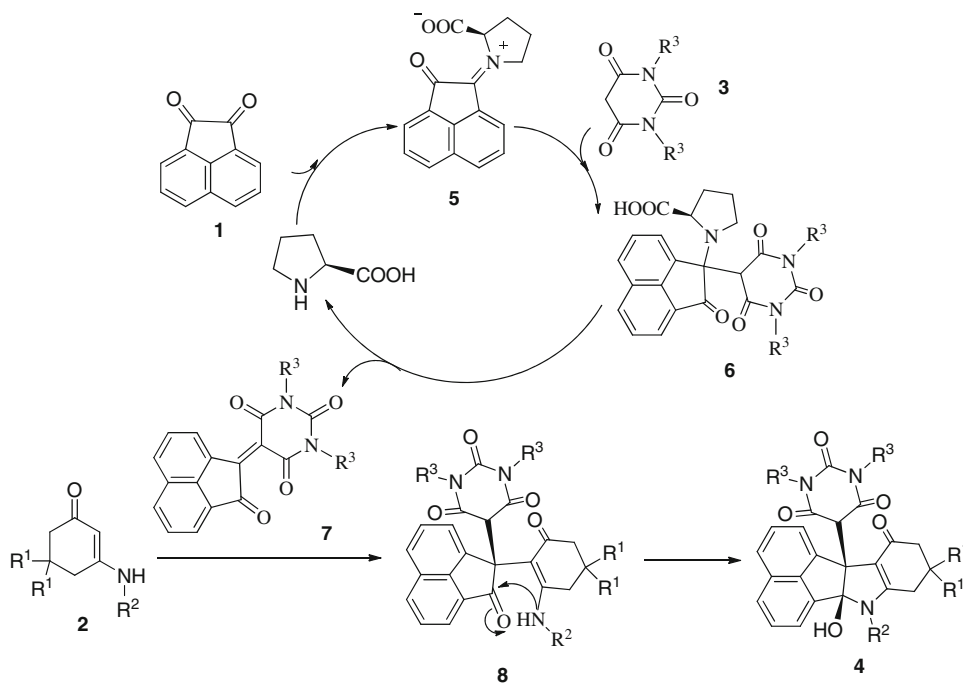
General procedure for the synthesis functionalized tetrahydroacenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indolone derivatives

A mixture of acenaphthylene-1,2-dione **1** (1 mmol), enamine **2** (1 mmol), barbituric acid derivatives **3** (1 mmol), L-proline (0.1 mmol), and ethanol (2 mL) was refluxed for 2 h. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature. The precipitate was collected by Büchner filtration and washed with a small portion of cold ethanol to give pure products **4a–4x** for analysis.

*5-(6b-Hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7-(p-tolyl)-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-*b*]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (4a)*

White solid, yield: 91 %. m.p. 249–251 °C. IR (KBr): 3458, 2927, 1680, 1564, 1511, 1446, 1370, 1227, 1211, 1145, 1108, 1040, 1022, 984, 787, 737 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ (ppm): 7.71–7.63 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.31–7.23 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.92 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.46 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H, CH), 5.09 (s, 1H, OH), 3.15 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 2.18–1.94 (m, 3H, CH_2), 1.69 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH_2), 1.08 (s, 3H, CH_3), 0.80 (s, 3H,

Scheme 1 Proposed mechanism for the synthesis of **4**



CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.4, 170.6, 167.1, 164.9, 151.5, 129.7, 128.0, 127.1, 125.5, 124.0, 122.7, 119.8, 109.2, 107.1, 66.8, 50.8, 50.5, 37.5, 33.5, 29.6, 29.0, 28.8, 28.6, 27.3, 21.2. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₃H₃₀N₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 548.2185. Found: 548.2191.

5-(7-(2-Ethylphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4b**)

Light pink solid, yield 83 %. m.p. 236–239 °C. IR (KBr): 3629, 3102, 2957, 1680, 1560, 1489, 1434, 1368, 1323, 1276, 1181, 1167, 1142, 1040, 1122, 979, 798, 757, 699 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.75–7.41 (m, 9H, ArH), 7.04 (m, 2H, ArH + CH), 6.04 (s, 1H, OH), 3.42 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.23 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.03 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.91 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.14–2.00 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.72 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.43 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.09 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.80 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 199.8, 166.0, 165.8, 150.9, 142.1, 135.4, 132.6, 132.1, 131.7, 130.6, 130.4, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 126.1, 125.8, 122.7, 122.0, 121.9, 58.7, 52.8, 50.8, 36.3, 28.8, 28.7, 23.17, 22.0. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₄H₃₂N₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 562.2342. Found: 562.2341.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-7-(4-methoxyphenyl)-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4c**)

White solid, yield 89 %. m.p. 210–212 °C. IR (KBr): 3416, 3100, 2955, 1693, 1609, 1561, 1511, 1448, 1383, 1248, 1143, 1023, 786, 755, 665 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.72–7.63 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.32 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.98 (s, 4H, ArH), 6.48 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.09 (s, 1H, OH), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.15 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.12 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.99 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.69 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.09 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.79 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.1, 170.6, 167.4, 165.0, 160.0, 151.4, 140.8, 138.6, 135.8, 131.1, 127.9, 127.1, 125.5, 123.9, 122.7, 119.5, 114.2, 109.2, 107.0, 66.6, 55.4, 50.8, 50.4, 37.4, 33.4, 29.5, 29.0, 28.5, 27.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₃H₃₀N₃O₆ ([M–H][−]): 564.2135. Found: 564.2138.

5-(7-(4-Bromophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4d**)

White solid, yield 90 %. m.p. 244–247 °C. IR (KBr): 3471, 3077, 2923, 1677, 1555, 1503, 1447, 1360, 1287, 1146, 1041, 1037, 789, 750, 681 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.88–7.02 (m, 10H, ArH), 6.49 (s, 1H, CH), 5.15 (s,

1H, OH), 3.16 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.86 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.24–1.72 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.12 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.82 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.8, 170.5, 167.0, 164.1, 151.4, 132.4, 131.5, 131.2, 128.1, 127.2, 125.8, 119.6, 109.9, 107.1, 66.9, 50.7, 50.5, 37.6, 33.6, 29.7, 29.1, 28.6, 27.2. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₇BrN₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 612.1134. Found: 612.1144.

5-(7-(2-Chlorophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4e**)

Light pink solid, yield 82 %. m.p. 248–250 °C. IR (KBr): 3450, 3080, 2929, 1688, 1563, 1501, 1449, 1371, 1299, 1041, 1023, 788, 745, 669 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.83–7.26 (m, 10H, ArH), 6.37 (s, 1H, CH), 5.09 (s, 1H, OH), 3.15 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.11–1.67 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.04 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.73 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.0, 170.9, 166.8, 165.2, 151.4, 135.1, 133.4, 131.0, 130.3, 130.0, 128.0, 127.7, 127.3, 125.6, 124.1, 122.5, 118.8, 66.9, 50.7, 50.6, 36.9, 33.7, 29.0, 28.9, 28.6, 28.1. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₇ClN₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 568.1639. Found: 568.1630.

5-(7-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4f**)

White solid, yield 91 %. m.p. 236–239 °C. IR (KBr): 3459, 3069, 2956, 2829, 1693, 1675, 1603, 1561, 1510, 1442, 1371, 1222, 1146, 1040, 1022, 982, 809, 781, 698 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.78–7.73 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.33–7.27 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.07 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.44 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 5.09 (s, 1H, OH), 3.15 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.85 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.19 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.01 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.70 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.11 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.81 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.6, 170.4, 167.0, 164.3, 162.3 (d, *J*_{CF} = 239.3 Hz), 151.3, 140.7, 138.6, 135.6, 131.8 (d, *J*_{CF} = 8.3 Hz), 131.5, 131.2, 128.1, 127.0, 125.6, 124.1, 122.8, 119.6, 116.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 22.5 Hz), 109.5, 107.1, 66.8, 50.7, 50.4, 37.5, 33.6, 29.6, 29.1, 28.6, 27.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₇FN₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 552.1935. Found: 552.1940.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-7-(4-nitrophenyl)-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4g**)

Yellow solid, yield 86 %. m.p. 256–259 °C. IR (KBr): 3458, 3067, 2929, 1695, 1672, 1601, 1573, 1493, 1439, 1417, 1372, 1351, 1278, 1143, 1017, 982, 798, 724 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400

MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 8.28 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.19 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.72–7.63 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.51–7.42 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.26 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.50 (s, 1H, ArH), 5.19 (s, 1H, OH), 3.16 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.85 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.45 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.13–2.01 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.80 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.15 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.88 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.4, 170.4, 166.8, 162.8, 151.3, 146.9, 142.3, 138.4, 131.2, 129.8, 128.2, 127.2, 126.0, 124.5, 123.3, 122.9, 119.2, 111.5, 107.6, 50.4, 38.0, 33.9, 29.9, 29.1, 28.6, 26.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₇N₄O₇ ([M–H][−]): 579.1880, Found: 579.1866.

5-(7-(3-Chloro-4-methylphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4h)

White solid, yield 88 %. m.p. 236–237 °C. IR (KBr): 3448, 2952, 1692, 1673, 1571, 1493, 1438, 1420, 1370, 1276, 1142, 1043, 1017, 984, 790, 757, 731 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 7.86–7.24 (m, 8H, ArH), 6.83 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.49 (s, 1H, CH), 5.13 (s, 1H, OH), 3.16 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.86 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.38 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.25 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.01 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.73 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.12 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.82 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.7, 170.5, 167.0, 164.3, 151.4, 131.1, 128.0, 127.2, 125.7, 124.1, 122.8, 119.7, 109.7, 107.1, 66.8, 50.7, 50.4, 37.6, 33.6, 29.7, 29.1, 28.6, 27.2, 19.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₃H₃₀ClN₃O₅ ([M]⁺): 583.1874, Found: 583.1864.

5-(7-(3-Chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4i)

White solid, yield 89 %. m.p. 228–232 °C. IR (KBr): 3485, 2957, 1707, 1690, 1553, 1496, 1442, 1406, 1256, 1222, 1145, 1060, 1017, 983, 780, 753, 712 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 7.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.74–7.64 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.51–7.31 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.99 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.48 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 1H, CH), 5.14 (s, 1H, OH), 3.16 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.85 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.29 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.02 (s, 2H, CH₂), 1.74 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.13 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.84 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 190.9, 170.4, 166.9, 163.8, 157.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 252.0$ Hz), 151.3, 140.3, 138.5, 135.7, 132.2, 131.1, 129.9 (d, $J_{CF} = 5.3$ Hz), 128.1, 127.1, 125.8, 124.1, 122.8, 119.5, 116.8 (d, $J_{CF} = 21.0$ Hz), 110.0, 107.1, 66.8, 50.6, 50.4, 37.5, 33.6, 29.6, 29.0, 28.6, 27.2. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₇ClFN₃O₅ ([M]⁺): 587.1623, Found: 587.1624.

5-(7-Butyl-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4j)

White solid, yield 90 %. m.p. 216–217 °C. IR (KBr): 3450, 2958, 2872, 1742, 1681, 1549, 1480, 1428, 1368, 1276, 1180, 1139, 1025, 939, 806, 787, 756 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 7.78–7.46 (m, 7H, ArH + CH), 4.90 (s, 1H, OH), 3.43 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.09 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.91 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.27–2.11 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.00–1.87 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.51–1.12 (m, 7H, 2 × CH₂ + CH₃), 0.89 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.78 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 189.1, 170.7, 166.8, 165.0, 151.5, 131.2, 128.2, 127.2, 125.8, 123.9, 122.7, 118.7, 108.0, 106.6, 66.2, 50.8, 50.1, 41.9, 36.8, 33.4, 33.1, 29.5, 28.9, 28.5, 27.7, 20.3, 13.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₃₃N₃O₅ ([M]⁺): 515.2420, Found: 515.2416.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-11-oxo-7-phenyl-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4k)

White solid, yield 82 %. m.p. 241–242 °C. IR (KBr): 3424, 2955, 1682, 1566, 1493, 1456, 1419, 1372, 1320, 1189, 1150, 1019, 981, 828, 791, 781, 695 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 7.76–7.63 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.52–7.43 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.11 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.42 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, CH), 5.06 (s, 1H, OH), 3.17 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.88 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.28–1.75 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.0, 170.4, 167.0, 165.8, 151.3, 131.0, 129.8, 128.9, 128.5, 127.8, 127.0, 125.5, 110.1, 106.7, 66.8, 51.0, 36.2, 28.7, 28.4, 24.0, 21.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₄N₃O₅ ([M–H][−]): 506.1716, Found: 506.1753.

5-(7-(4-Bromophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4l)

Light gray solid, yield 84 %. m.p. 181–184 °C. IR (KBr): 3394, 2948, 2880, 1681, 1601, 1578, 1561, 1491, 1420, 1362, 1326, 1190, 1139, 1069, 1011, 844, 786, 755 cm^{−1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): 7.87–7.50 (m, 7H, ArH), 7.32 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.07 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.48 (s, 1H, CH), 5.08 (s, 1H, OH), 3.16 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.25–1.76 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.3, 170.3, 167.0, 165.3, 151.2, 132.2, 131.4, 131.0, 128.0, 127.1, 125.7, 124.0, 123.0, 122.6, 119.5, 106.7, 66.9, 58.1, 50.9, 36.2, 28.8, 28.4, 24.0, 21.9, 18.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₄BrN₃O₅ ([M]⁺): 585.0899, Found: 585.0859.

5-(7-(4-Ethoxyphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4m**)

Light yellow solid, yield 80 %. m.p. 219–221 °C. IR (KBr): 3428, 2954, 1701, 1686, 1560, 1509, 1453, 1432, 1380, 1247, 1141, 1021, 923, 788, 757 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 7.73–7.63 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.51 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.33 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.98 (s, 4H, ArH), 6.50 (s, 1H, CH), 5.04 (s, 1H, OH), 4.05 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.17 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.90 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.14–1.72 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 1.36 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 191.0, 170.6, 167.2, 166.4, 159.0, 151.5, 139.0, 136.1, 131.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.1, 125.6, 124.0, 123.1, 119.9, 114.8, 106.8, 66.9, 63.7, 51.2, 36.3, 28.8, 28.5, 24.0, 22.0, 14.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₂H₂₈N₃O₆ ([M–H]⁻): 550.1978, Found: 550.1975.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7-(*p*-tolyl)-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4n**)

Light yellow solid, yield 83 %. m.p. 242–247 °C. IR (KBr): 3467, 3000, 2026, 1631, 1557, 1511, 1480, 1404, 1385, 1120, 1032, 845, 774, 722, 672 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.92 (s, 1H, NH), 10.56 (s, 1H, NH), 7.95 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.74–7.58 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.46 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (s, 3H, ArH), 6.92 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.44 (s, 1H, CH), 4.95 (s, 1H, OH), 2.35 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.18 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.08–1.93 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.64 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.13 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.82 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.0, 168.6, 168.5, 159.9, 151.3, 146.7, 141.4, 137.4, 136.2, 134.2, 131.1, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 126.7, 124.9, 122.2, 119.5, 119.2, 112.0, 104.9, 66.4, 50.9, 47.9, 37.2, 34.0, 30.2, 27.8, 21.2. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₁H₂₈N₃O₅ ([M+H]⁺): 522.2029, Found: 522.2037.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7-phenyl-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4o**)

Light pink solid, yield 81 %. m.p. 228–233 °C. IR (KBr): 3527, 3197, 3056, 2962, 2843, 1741, 1721, 1686, 1608, 1561, 1496, 1421, 1402, 1355, 1180, 925, 795, 780, 724 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.93 (s, 1H, NH), 10.56 (s, 1H, NH), 8.00 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.74–7.59 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.45 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H, ArH), 7.22 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.04 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.39 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.97 (s, 1H, OH), 2.23 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.08–1.95 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.66 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.14 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.83 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 189.9, 168.2, 159.4, 150.8, 146.3, 141.0, 136.7, 135.6, 130.7, 129.3, 128.4, 127.6, 126.4, 124.4, 121.8, 119.3, 118.8, 112.1, 104.8, 66.2, 56.2, 50.6, 47.6, 37.0, 33.8, 30.00,

27.4, 18.7. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₄N₃O₅ ([M–H]⁻): 506.1716, Found: 506.1729.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-7-(4-methoxyphenyl)-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4p**)

Yellow solid, yield 84 %. m.p. 214–217 °C. IR (KBr): 3422, 2897, 1715, 1644, 1511, 1442, 1371, 1164, 1112, 1060, 1033, 896, 664 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.92 (s, 1H, NH), 10.55 (s, 1H, NH), 7.89 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.40–7.59 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.97 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H, ArH), 6.46 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.95 (s, 1H, OH), 3.79 (s, 1H, CH₃), 2.13 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.05–1.93 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.64 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.13 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.81 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 189.9, 168.6, 160.3, 158.9, 151.5, 147.1, 141.8, 136.3, 131.4, 129.2, 128.4, 126.9, 124.9, 122.1, 119.5, 114.5, 112.3, 104.9, 66.3, 56.2, 51.4, 47.6, 36.8, 34.0, 31.2, 30.3, 27.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₁H₂₈N₃O₆ ([M+H]⁺): 538.1978, Found: 538.1994.

5-(7-(3-Chlorophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4q**)

White solid, yield 84 %. m.p. 243–245 °C. IR (KBr): 3416, 3239, 3098, 2956, 2869, 1702, 1562, 1478, 1420, 1404, 1346, 1119, 1026, 823, 792, 779, 731 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.97 (s, 1H, NH), 10.60 (s, 1H, NH), 8.16 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.73–7.60 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.50–7.40 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.27 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.45 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 4.98 (s, 1H, OH), 2.32 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 2.12–1.96 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.68 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.16 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.86 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.4, 168.3, 168.1, 158.8, 151.0, 146.1, 140.8, 138.3, 135.8, 133.2, 130.9, 130.6, 128.9, 128.4, 127.9, 127.6, 126.4, 124.9, 122.0, 119.3, 118.6, 112.7, 104.9, 66.2, 50.7, 47.6, 36.8, 33.9, 30.1, 27.2. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₆N₃O₅ ([M+H]⁺): 508.1872, Found: 508.1906.

5-(7-(4-Bromophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (**4r**)

Light gray solid, yield 84 %. m.p. 237–241 °C. IR (KBr): 3530, 3209, 3103, 2957, 2868, 1714, 1575, 1561, 1491, 1429, 1397, 1342, 1282, 1012, 823, 790, 776 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.96 (s, 1H, NH), 10.60 (s, 1H, NH), 8.16 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.73–7.60 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.50–7.40 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.68 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.98 (s, 1H,

OH), 2.32 (d, $J = 16.8$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.12–1.96 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.68 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.14 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.84 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.3, 168.2, 159.0, 150.8, 146.2, 140.9, 136.1, 132.2, 131.3, 130.9, 128.5, 126.5, 124.6, 122.1, 120.5, 119.3, 118.6, 112.6, 104.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₃BrN₃O₅ ([M–H][–]): 584.0821, Found: 584.0812.

5-(6b-Hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-7-(4-nitrophenyl)-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4s)

Yellow solid, yield 85 %. m.p. 232–235 °C. IR (KBr): 3442, 3020, 2989, 1761, 1716, 1695, 1579, 1523, 1495, 1421, 1395, 1348, 1284, 1114, 1022, 828, 788 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.97 (s, 1H, NH), 10.63 (s, 1H, NH), 8.43 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.26 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.71–7.60 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.49–7.40 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.23 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.47 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H, CH), 5.01 (s, 1H, OH), 2.14–1.72 (m, 2H, 2 × CH₂), 1.16 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.89 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 191.2, 168.6, 167.7, 157.8, 151.1, 146.0, 145.42, 143.6, 140.6, 135.6, 131.0, 129.0, 126.6, 124.3, 122.2, 119.3, 118.6, 114.3, 105.4, 66.3, 50.7, 47.7, 37.1, 34.2, 30.3, 27.0. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₃N₄O₇ ([M–H][–]): 551.1567, Found: 551.1571.

5-(7-Butyl-6b-hydroxy-9,9-dimethyl-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4t)

Light gray solid, yield 90 %. m.p. 238–241 °C. IR (KBr): 3215, 3109, 2958, 2871, 1731, 1545, 1487, 1434, 1340, 1280, 1135, 1114, 1020, 881, 794, 779 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.80 (s, 1H, NH), 10.50 (s, 1H, NH), 7.81–7.44 (m, 7H, ArH + CH), 4.83 (s, 1H, OH), 2.16 (d, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.93 (d, $J = 16.8$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.59–0.84 (m, 15H, 3 × CH₂ + 3 × CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 188.1, 168.2, 160.9, 151.2, 146.5, 142.2, 136.9, 130.9, 128.6, 126.9, 124.7, 121.9, 119.3, 118.3, 109.8, 103.8, 65.9, 50.5, 47.5, 35.8, 33.5, 32.6, 29.4, 28.1, 19.8, 13.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₂₈H₂₉N₃O₅ ([M]⁺): 487.2107, Found: 487.2092.

5-(7-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4u)

Light gray solid, yield 92 %. m.p. 229–230 °C. IR (KBr): 3217, 3096, 3002, 2943, 2899, 1710, 1555, 1453, 1407, 1328, 1192, 1025, 827, 784 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.89 (s, 1H, NH), 10.56 (s, 1H, NH), 7.95 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.77–7.46 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.25 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.01 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.72 (s, 2H, ArH), 6.46 (d, $J =$

6.0 Hz, 1H, CH), 4.91 (s, 1H, OH), 2.25 (s, 6H, 2 × CH₃), 2.14–1.74 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.7, 168.4, 168.1, 160.5, 151.1, 140.8, 138.1, 136.6, 136.0, 130.8, 129.0, 128.3, 126.4, 124.8, 121.9, 119.7, 119.0, 112.9, 104.5, 66.7, 47.2, 36.7, 23.8, 22.1, 20.9. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₄N₃O₅ ([M–H][–]): 506.1716, Found: 506.1740.

5-(7-(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4v)

Gray solid, yield 91 %. m.p. 232–235 °C. IR (KBr): 3218, 3086, 2925, 2876, 1710, 1550, 1459, 1400, 1328, 1025, 833, 789 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.90 (s, 1H, NH), 10.57 (s, 1H, NH), 7.91–6.97 (m, 9H, ArH), 6.43 (s, 1H, CH), 4.97 (s, 1H, OH), 2.32–0.87 (m, 12H, 2 × CH₃ + 3 × CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.4, 168.3, 168.1, 161.6, 151.1, 146.3, 140.4, 137.9, 137.2, 136.3, 132.0, 131.3, 130.7, 128.6, 127.4, 126.5, 124.7, 122.0, 119.4, 118.7, 112.0, 104.4, 66.6, 47.2, 36.6, 23.2, 21.8, 20.9, 16.3. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₆N₃O₅ ([M+H]⁺): 508.1872, Found: 508.1906.

5-(7-(4-Ethoxyphenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4w)

Light gray solid, yield 92 %. m.p. 258–261 °C. IR (KBr): 3226, 3086, 2944, 2879, 1764, 1740, 1717, 1698, 1606, 1581, 1547, 1509, 1439, 1404, 1357, 1245, 1195, 1146, 1022, 826, 781 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.90 (s, 1H, NH), 10.56 (s, 1H, NH), 7.88–7.46 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.96 (s, 4H, ArH), 6.49 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H, CH), 4.91 (s, 1H, OH), 4.08–4.03 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 2.20–1.72 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 1.35 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 190.4, 168.1, 161.1, 158.0, 151.1, 141.0, 136.0, 130.8, 130.7, 128.9, 128.3, 126.5, 124.7, 121.8, 119.8, 119.1, 114.6, 112.4, 104.3, 66.5, 63.4, 47.1, 36.6, 23.5, 21.9, 14.8. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for C₃₀H₂₄N₃O₆ ([M–H][–]): 522.1665, Found: 522.1679.

5-(7-(4-Bromophenyl)-6b-hydroxy-11-oxo-7,8,9,10,11,11b-hexahydro-6bH-acenaphtho[1,2-b]indol-11b-yl)pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione (4x)

Light gray solid, yield 93 %. m.p. >300 °C. IR (KBr): 3213, 3093, 1716, 1698, 1554, 1491, 1434, 1406, 1344, 1189, 1141, 1113, 1021, 1012, 824, 786, 776 cm^{–1}. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 10.93 (s, 1H, NH), 10.60 (s, 1H, NH), 7.79 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.70–7.09 (m, 9H, ArH), 6.49 (s, 1H, CH), 4.94 (s, 1H, OH), 2.28–1.76 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂). ¹³C (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 191.1, 168.2, 160.0, 151.0, 145.7,

140.7, 136.3, 135.9, 132.1, 131.0, 128.4, 126.5, 125.0, 122.0, 121.0, 119.8, 118.8, 113.6, 104.6, 66.7, 47.2, 36.7, 23.6, 22.0. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. for $C_{28}H_{20}BrN_3O_5$ ($[M]^+$): 557.0586, Found: 557.0564.

Supporting information

1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra for all compounds. The detailed experiments are available.

Acknowledgments This work was financially supported by the Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province (No. BK20131160), A Project Funded by the Priority Academic Program Development of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions and the Natural Science Foundation of the Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions (No. 11KJB150014).

References

- Dömling A, Wang W, Wang K (2012) Chemistry and biology of multicomponent reaction. *Chem Rev* 112:3083–3135. doi:10.1021/cr100233r
- Tietze LF, Brasche G, Gericke K (2006) Domino reactions in organic synthesis. Wiley-VCH, Weinheim
- Tietze LF (1996) Domino reactions in organic synthesis. *Chem Rev* 96:115–136. doi:10.1021/cr950027e
- Dömling A (2006) Recent developments in isocyanide based multicomponent reactions in applied chemistry. *Chem Rev* 106:17–89. doi:10.1021/cr0505728
- Ramón DJ, Yus M (2005) Asymmetric multicomponent reactions (AMCRs): the new frontier. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 44:1602–1634. doi:10.1002/anie.200460548
- Dömling A, Ugi I (2000) Multicomponent reactions with isocyanides. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 39:3168–3210. doi:10.1002/1521-3773(10000915)39:18<3168:AID-ANIE3168>3.0.CO;2-U
- Li M, Li T, Zhao K, Wang M, Wen R (2013) Application of functionalized *N,S*-ketene acetals-microwave-assisted three-component domino reaction for rapid direct access to imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridines. *Chin J Chem* 31:1033–1038. doi:10.1002/cjoc.201300252
- Liu Z, Zhang L, Sun J, Yang C (2014) Diastereoselective synthesis of functionalized tetrahydropyrimidin-2-thiones via $ZnCl_2$ promoted one-pot reactions. *Chin J Chem* 32:172–178. doi:10.1002/cjoc.201300577
- Gamage SA, Tepsiri N, Wilairat P, Wojcik SJ, Figgitt DP, Ralph RK, Denny WA (1994) Synthesis and in vitro evaluation of 9-anilino-3,6-diaminoacridines active against a multidrug-resistant strain of the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*. *J Med Chem* 37:1486–1494. doi:10.1021/jm00036a014
- Eren G, Unlu S, Nunez MT, Labeaga L, Ledo F, Entrena A, Lu EB, Costantino G, Sahin MF (2010) Synthesis, biological evaluation, and docking studies of novel heterocyclic diaryl compounds as selective COX-2 inhibitors. *Bioorg Med Chem* 18:6367–6376. doi:10.1016/j.bmc.2010.07.009
- Michaudel Q, Thevenet D, Baran PS (2012) Intermolecular Ritter-type C–H amination of unactivated sp^3 carbons. *J Am Chem Soc* 134:2547–2550. doi:10.1021/ja212020b
- Iglesias A, Alvarez R, Lea AR, Muniz K (2012) Palladium-catalyzed intermolecular $C(sp^3)$ -H amidation. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 51:2225–2228. doi:10.1002/anie.201108351
- Fan R, Li W, Pu D, Zhang L (2009) Transition-metal-free intermolecular amination of sp^3 C–H bonds with sulfonamides. *Org Lett* 11:1425–1428. doi:10.1021/ol90009of
- Davies HML, Long MS (2005) Recent advances in catalytic intramolecular C–H aminations. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 44:3518–3520. doi:10.1002/anie.200500554
- Davies HML (2006) Recent advances in catalytic enantioselective intermolecular C–H functionalization. *Angew Chem Int Ed* 45:6422–6425. doi:10.1022/anie.200601814
- Fuchs JR, Funk RL (2005) Indol-2-one intermediates: mechanistic evidence and synthetic utility. Total syntheses of (\pm)-Flustramines A and C. *Org Lett* 7:677–680. doi:10.1021/ol047532v
- Chen WL, Cai YF, Fu X, Liu XH, Liu LL, Feng XM (2011) Enantioselective one-pot synthesis of 2-amino-4-(indol-3-yl)-4*H*-chromenes. *Org Lett* 13:4910–4913. doi:10.1021/ol2019949
- Thirumurugan P, Perumal PT (2009) $InCl_3$ mediated one-pot synthesis of indol-3-yl pyridine and 2,2'-bipyridine derivatives through multi-component reaction. *Tetrahedron* 65:7620–7629. doi:10.1016/j.tet.2009.06.097
- Shi F, Xing GJ, Zhu RY, Tan W, Tu SJ (2013) A catalytic asymmetric isatin-involved Povarov reaction: diastereo- and enantioselective construction of spiro[indolin-3,2'-quinoline] scaffold. *Org Lett* 15:128–131. doi:10.1021/ol303154k
- Li C, Guo F, Xu K, Zhang S, Hu Y, Zha Z, Wang Z (2014) Copper-catalyzed enantioselective Friedel–Crafts allylation of pyrrole with isatins. *Org Lett* 16:3192–3195. doi:10.1021/ol501086q
- Zi Y, Cai ZJ, Wang SY, Ji SJ (2014) Synthesis of isatins by I_2 /TBHP mediated oxidation of indoles. *Org Lett* 16:3094–3097. doi:10.1021/ol501203q
- Hao WJ, Wang SY, Ji SJ (2013) Iodine-catalyzed cascade formal [3+3] cycloaddition reaction of indolyl alcohol derivatives with enamines: construction of functionalized spirodihydrocarbolines. *ACS Catal* 3:2501–2504. doi:10.1021/cs400703u
- Jiang B, Li QY, Zhang H, Tu SJ, Pindi S, Li G (2012) Efficient domino approaches to multifunctionalized fused pyrroles and dibenzo[b, e][1,4]diazepin-1-ones. *Org Lett* 14:700–703. doi:10.1021/ol203166c
- Jiang B, Li QY, Tu SJ, Li G (2012) Three-component domino reactions for selective formation of indeno[1,2-*b*]indole derivatives. *Org Lett* 14:5210–5213. doi:10.1021/ol3023038
- Fu LP, Shi QQ, Shi F, Jiang B, Tu SJ (2013) Three-component domino reactions for regioselective formation of bis-indole derivatives. *ACS Comb Sci* 15:135–140. doi:10.1021/co3001428
- List B, Lerner RA, Barbas CF III (2000) Proline-catalyzed direct asymmetric Aldol reactions. *J Am Chem Soc* 122:2395–2396. doi:10.1021/ja994280y
- List B (2004) Enamine catalyzed is a powerful strategy for the catalytic generation and use of carbanion equivalents. *Acc Chem Res* 37:548–557. doi:10.1021/ar0300571
- Mukherjee S, Yang JW, Hoffmann S, List B (2007) Asymmetric enamine catalysis. *Chem Rev* 107:5471–5569. doi:10.1021/cr0684016
- Ramachary DB, Chowdari NS, Barbas CF III (2003) Organocatalytic asymmetric Domino Knoevenagel/Diels–Alder reactions: a bioorganic approach to the diastereoselective and enantioselective construction of highly substituted spiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-triones. *Angew Chem* 115:4365–4369. doi:10.1002/ange.200351916
- Notz W, Tanaka F, Barbas CF III (2004) Enamine-based organocatalysis with proline and diamines: the developments of direct catalytic asymmetric Aldol, Mannich, Michael, and Diels–Alder reactions. *Acc Chem Res* 37:580–591. doi:10.1021/ar0300468
- Jiang H, Mai R, Cao H, Zhu Q, Liu X (2009) L-Proline-catalyzed synthesis of highly functionalized multisubstituted 1,4-

- dihydropyridines. *Org Biomol Chem* 7:4943–4953. doi:[10.1039/B914659H](https://doi.org/10.1039/B914659H)
32. Rajesh SM, Bala BD, Perumal S, Menéndez JC (2011) L-Proline-catalyzed sequential four-component “on water” protocol for the synthesis of structurally complex heterocyclic ortho-quinones. *Green Chem* 13:3248–3254. doi:[10.1039/C1GC15794A](https://doi.org/10.1039/C1GC15794A)
33. Abdolmohammadi S, Balalaie S (2007) Novel and efficient catalysts for the one-pot synthesis of 3,4-dihydropyrano[c]chromane derivatives in aqueous media. *Tetrahedron Lett* 48:3299–3303. doi:[10.1016/j.tetlet.2007.02.135](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tetlet.2007.02.135)
34. Kumar A, Maurya RA (2007) Synthesis of polyhydroquinoline derivatives through unsymmetric Hantzsch reaction using organocatalysts. *Tetrahedron* 63:1946–1952. doi:[10.1016/j.tet.2006.12.074](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tet.2006.12.074)
35. Shi CL, Shi DQ, Kim SH, Huang ZB, Ji SJ, Ji M (2008) A novel and efficient one-pot synthesis of furo[3',4':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*c*]pyrazole derivatives using organocatalysts. *Tetrahedron* 64:2425–2432. doi:[10.1016/j.tet.2007.12.053](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tet.2007.12.053)
36. Shi CL, Chen H, Li Y, Shi DQ, Ji M (2008) A three-component synthesis of *N*-substituted quinoline-3-carbonitrile derivatives catalyzed by L-proline. *J Chem Res* 32:534–537. doi:[10.3184/030823408X347567](https://doi.org/10.3184/030823408X347567)
37. Shi CL, Shi DQ (2011) Green synthesis of chromen-2-one derivatives catalyzed by L-proline. *J Chem Res* 35:585–586. doi:[10.3184/174751911X13173059031452](https://doi.org/10.3184/174751911X13173059031452)
38. Wang HY, Li LL, Lin W, Huang ZB, Shi DQ (2013) Progress in application of L-proline in catalyzing the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds. *Chin J Org Chem* 33:1616–1627. doi:[10.6023/cjoc201210033](https://doi.org/10.6023/cjoc201210033)
39. Kaur P, Pindi S, Wever W, Rajale T, Li G (2010) Asymmetric catalytic Strecker reaction of *N*-phosphonyl imines with Et₂AlCN using amino alcohols and BINOLs as catalyst. *Chem Commun* 46:4330–4332. doi:[10.1039/C0CC00287A](https://doi.org/10.1039/C0CC00287A)
40. Kaur P, Pindi S, Wever W, Rajale T, Li G (2010) Asymmetric catalytic *N*-phosphonyl imine chemistry: the use of primary free amino acids and Et₂AlCN for asymmetric Strecker reaction. *J Org Chem* 75:5244–5250. doi:[10.1021/jo100865q](https://doi.org/10.1021/jo100865q)
41. Kaur P, Wever W, Pindi S, Milles R, Gu P, Shi M, Li G (2011) The GAP chemistry for chiral *N*-phosphonyl imine-based Strecker reaction. *Green Chem* 13:1288–1292. doi:[10.1039/C1GC15029D](https://doi.org/10.1039/C1GC15029D)