A Versatile Cyclodehydration Reaction for the Synthesis of Isoquinoline and β-Carboline Derivatives.

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Contents:

General Procedures	S 1
Materials	S 1
Instrumentation	S2
Synthesis of 3,4-Dihydroisoquinoline Derivatives, Figure 1	<u>S3</u>
Synthesis of Isoquinoline Derivatives, Figure 1	S13
Synthesis of 3,4-Dihydro-β-carboline Derivatives, Figure 1	S20
Equation 1	S27
Equation 2	S28
Equation 3	S29
Oxidation of 3,4-Dihydro-β-carbolines and 3,4-Dihydroisoquinolines, Figure 2	S30
Copy of ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR spectra	S34

Supporting Information

General Procedures. All reactions were performed in oven-dried or flame-dried round bottomed flasks, modified Schlenk (Kjeldahl shape) flasks, or glass pressure vessels. The flasks were fitted with rubber septa and reactions were conducted under a positive pressure of argon. Stainless steel syringes or cannulae were used to transfer air- and moisture-sensitive liquids. Flash column chromatography was performed as described by Still et al. using silica gel (60-Å pore size, 32–63 µm, standard grade, Sorbent Technologies) or non-activated alumina gel (80–325 mesh, chromatographic grade, EM Science).¹ Analytical thin–layer chromatography was performed using glass plates precoated with 0.25 mm 230–400 mesh silica gel or neutral alumina gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). Thin layer chromatography plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light and/or by exposure to an ethanolic phosphomolybdic acid (PMA), an acidic solution of *p*-anisaldehyde (anis), an aqueous solution of ceric ammonium molybdate (CAM), an aqueous solution of potassium permanganate (KMnO₄) or an ethanolic solution of ninhydrin followed by heating (<1 min) on a hot plate (~250 °C). Organic solutions were concentrated on Büchi R-200 rotary evaporators at ~10 Torr (house vacuum) at 25–35 °C, then at ~0.5 Torr (vacuum pump) unless otherwise indicated.

Materials. Commercial reagents and solvents were used as received with the following exceptions: Dichloromethane, diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, acetonitrile, and toluene were purchased from J.T.

¹ Still, W. C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. **1978**, 43, 2923–2925.

Baker (CycletainerTM) and were purified by the method of Grubbs et al. under positive argon pressure.² 2-chloropyridine was distilled from calcium hydride and stored sealed under an argon atmosphere. The starting amides were prepared by acylation of the corresponding phenethylamine or tryptamine derivatives³ or via previously reported copper–catalyzed C–N bond–forming reactions.^{4,5}

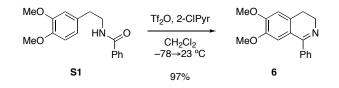
Instrumentation. All reaction conducted at 140 °C were performed in a CEM Discover Lab Mate microwave reactor. Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were recorded with a Varian inverse probe 500 INOVA spectrometer. Chemical shifts are recorded in parts per million on the δ scale and are referenced from the residual protium in the NMR solvent (CHCl₃: δ 7.27, C₆HD₅: δ 7.16). Data is reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), integration, coupling constant(s) in Hertz, assignment]. Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded with a Varian 500 INOVA spectrometer and are recorded in parts per million on the δ scale and are referenced from the carbon resonances of the solvent (CDCl₃: δ 77.2, benzene- d_6 : δ 128.0, DMSO: δ 39.5). Fluorine-19 nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded with a Varian 300 INOVA spectrometer and are recorded in parts per million on the δ scale and are referenced from the fluorine resonances of trifluoroacetic acid (CDCl₃: δ -76.6). Data is reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constant(s) in Hertz, assignment]. Infrared data were obtained with a Perkin-Elmer 2000 FTIR and are reported as follows: [frequency of absorption (cm^{-1}) , intensity of absorption (s = strong, m = medium, m = medium)w = weak, br = broad), assignment]. Chiral HPLC analysis was performed on an Agilent 1100 Series HPLC with a Chiralpak OD-H column. We thank Dr. Li Li at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Chemistry instrumentation facility for obtaining mass spectrometric data.

² Pangborn, A. B.; Giardello, M. A.; Grubbs, R. H.; Rosen, R. K.; Timmers, F. J. Organometallics 1996, 15, 1518–1520.

³ For a general procedure, see: DeRuiter, J.; Swearingen, B. E.; Wandrekar, V.; Mayfield, C. A. *J. Med. Chem.* **1989**, *32*, 1033–1038. ⁴ For the general procedure used for the synthesis of all *N*-vinyl amides, see: Jiang, L.; Job, G. E.; Klapars, A.; Buchwald, S. L. *Org.*

Lett. 2003, 5, 3667–3669. E For related reports asses (a) Wolfa L D: Wagaw S: Marcoux L E: Buchwald S L Acc. Cham. Pag. 1998, 31, 805, 818 (b) E

⁵ For related reports, see: (a) Wolfe, J. P.; Wagaw, S.; Marcoux, J.-F.; Buchwald, S. L. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1998**, *31*, 805–818. (b) Hartwig, J. F. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1998**, *31*, 852–860. (c) Muci, A. R.; Buchwald, S. L. *Top. Curr. Chem.* **2002**, *219*, 131–209. (d) Beletskaya, I. P.; Cheprakov, A. V. *Coordin. Chem. Rev.* **2004**, *248*, 2337–2364. (e) Dehli, J. R.; Legros, J.; Bolm, C. *Chem. Commun.* **2005**, 973–986.

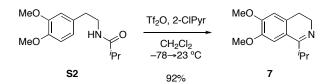


6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (6, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (64 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S1** (100 mg, 0.350 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (36 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.8 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (0.5 mL, 1N) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added to dilute the mixture and the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with brine (2 mL), was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and was filtered. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **6**⁶ as a pale yellow solid (90 mg, 97%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.62–7.59 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.46–7.41 (m, 3H, Ar H), 6.80 (s, 1H, Ar H), 6.79 (s, 1H, Ar H), 3.96 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 3.84–3.80 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.74 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 2.77–2.72 (m, 2H, C H ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	166.8, 151.0, 147.2, 139.4, 132.7, 129.4, 128.9, 128.3, 121.7, 111.6, 110.4, 56.3, 56.2, 47.9, 26.2.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3058 (w), 2999 (w), 2936 (m), 2833 (m), 1605 (m), 1562 (m), 1513 (s), 1464 (m), 1355 (s), 1277 (s), 1116 (s).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₇ H ₁₈ NO ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 268.1332, found: 268.1334.
TLC (10% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.31 (UV).

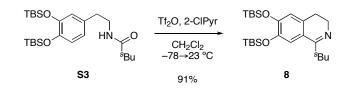
⁶ For a prior report on the synthesis of **6**, see Georgiev, V. S.; Carlson, R. P.; Van Inwegen, R. G.; Khandwala, A. *J. Med. Chem.* **1979**, 22, 348–352.



<u>1-Isopropyl-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (7, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (72 μ L, 0.44 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S2** (100 mg, 0.398 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (45 μ L, 0.48 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in dichloromethane (2.0 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (0.5 mL, 1N) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added to dilute the mixture and the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with brine (2 mL), was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and was filtered. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5→40% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative 7 as a pale yellow oil (85 mg, 92%).

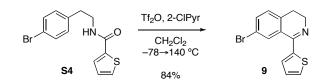
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.04 (s, 1H, Ar H), 6.70 (s, 1H, Ar H), 3.92 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 3.91 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 3.66–3.61 (m, 2H, CH ₂ C H ₂ N), 3.20 (septet, 1H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, C H (CH ₃) ₂), 2.61–2.56 (m, 2H, C H ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.21 (d, 6H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, CH(C H ₃) ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	170.9, 150.6, 147.5, 132.2, 121.8, 110.5, 108.7, 56.4, 56.1, 47.1, 32.0, 26.2, 21.0.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3386 (w), 2963 (s), 2935 (s), 2868 (m), 2835 (m), 2068 (w), 1624 (s), 1605 (s), 1572 (s), 1515 (s), 1465 (s), 1367 (m), 1358 (m), 1279 (s), 1209 (s), 1136 (s).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₄ H ₂₀ NO ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 234.1489, found: 234.1441.
TLC (15% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.28 (UV).



<u>1-sec-Butyl-6,7-bis(tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (8, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (78 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S3** (200 mg, 0.429 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (49 μ L, 0.52 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.4 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **8** as a pale yellow oil (175 mg, 91%).

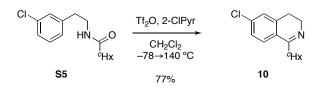
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.02 (s, 1H, ArH), 6.62 (s, 1H, ArH), 3.72–3.64 (m, 1H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.61–3.53 (m, 1H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.91–2.82 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 2.54–2.49 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.83–1.73 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 1.50–1.39 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 1.19 (d, 3H, $J =$ 6.8 Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 1.03–0.99 (m, 18H, OSi(C(CH ₃) ₃)(CH ₃) ₂), 0.93 (t, 3H, $J =$ 7.4 Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 0.24–0.21 (m, 12H, OSi(C(CH ₃) ₃) (CH ₃) ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	170.3, 148.6, 145.2, 132.0, 123.1, 119.9, 118.1, 47.2, 38.9, 28.3, 26.1, 26.0, 26.0, 18.6, 18.6, 18.3, 12.2, -3.9, -3.9, -3.9, -3.9, -3.9.
FTIR (neat) cm ⁻¹ :	2932 (s), 2896 (s), 2859 (s), 1623 (m), 1603 (m), 1560 (s), 1508 (s), 1473 (s), 1463 (s), 1429 (m), 1410 (s), 1322 (s), 1255 (s), 1195 (s), 1138 (s), 1055 (w), 1004 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{25}H_{46}NO_2Si_2 [M+H]^+$: 448.3062, found: 448.3050.
TLC (10% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.45 (UV).



7-Bromo-1-(thiophen-2-yl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (9, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (59 μ L, 0.36 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide S4 (100 mg, 0.322 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (37 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.1 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C for 5 min before the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative 9 as a pale yellow oil (79 mg, 84%).

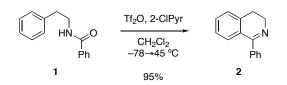
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.83 (d, 1H, $J = 2.0$ Hz, ArH), 7.56 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0$, 2.0 Hz, ArH), 7.46 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz, ArH), 7.37 (d, 1H, $J = 3.6$ Hz, ArH), 7.19 (d, 1H, $J = 8.0$ Hz, ArH), 7.14 (dd, 1H, $J = 5.1$, 3.7 Hz, ArH), 3.82–3.77 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.74–2.70 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	159.9, 142.8, 138.0, 133.7, 130.3, 129.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.6, 127.5, 120.3, 47.3, 26.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3069 (w), 2943 (m), 2893 (w), 2838 (w), 1588 (s), 1552 (s), 1477 (m), 1430 (s), 1299 (s), 1221 (m), 1107 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₃ H ₁₁ BrNS [M+H] ⁺ : 291.9790, found: 291.9779.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.63 (UV).



6-Chloro-1-cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (10, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (68 μ L, 0.41 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S5** (100 mg, 0.376 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (43 μ L, 0.45 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: $0 \rightarrow 5\%$ EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **10** as a pale yellow oil (72 mg, 77%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.44 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz, ArH), 7.28–7.25 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.19–7.18 (m, 1H, ArH), 3.68–3.63 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.88–2.81 (m, 1H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 2.65–2.60 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.90–1.82 (m, 4H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.78–1.72 (m, 1H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.48–1.32 (m, 4H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.32–1.22 (m, 1H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	170.1, 140.4, 135.8, 127.9, 127.3, 127.1, 126.2, 46.7, 42.3, 31.4, 26.7, 26.4, 26.4.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	2930 (s), 2851 (s), 2668 (w), 1623 (s), 1594 (m), 1561 (m), 1482 (w), 1449 (m), 1199 (m), 1017 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₅ H ₁₉ ClN [M+H] ⁺ : 248.1201, found: 248.1201.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.67 (UV).

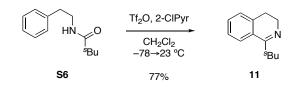


<u>1-Phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (2, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (61 μ L, 0.37 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **1** (75 mg, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (38 μ L, 0.40 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.7 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a preheated oil bath at 45 °C and maintained at that temperature. After 2 h, the mixture was allowed to cool to 23 °C and aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (1 mL, 1N) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added to dilute the mixture and the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with brine (2 mL), was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and was filtered. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 7.5 \rightarrow 70% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **2**⁷ as a pale yellow oil (66 mg, 95%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.64–7.61 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.47–7.39 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.31– 7.25 (m, 3H, Ar H), 3.90–3.85 (m, 2H, CH ₂ C H ₂ N), 2.85–2.80 (m, 2H, C H ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO, 20 °C) δ:	165.7, 138.6, 138.6, 130.7, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 127.1, 126.7, 47.1, 25.6.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3059 (w), 3026 (w), 2939 (m), 2893 (w), 2839 (w), 1956 (w), 1608 (s), 1565 (m), 1445 (m), 1318 (s), 1307 (s), 1020 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₅ H ₁₄ N [M+H] ⁺ : 208.1121, found: 208.1125.
TLC (15% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.37 (UV).

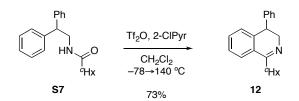
⁷ For a prior report on the synthesis of **2**, see Parham, W. E.; Bradsher, C. K.; Hunt, D. A. J. Org. Chem. **1978**, 43, 1606–1607.



<u>1-sec-Butyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (11, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (88 μ L, 0.54 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S6** (100 mg, 0.487 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (55 μ L, 0.58 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.6 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **11** as a colorless oil (70 mg, 77%).

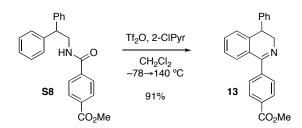
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.54–7.52 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.37–7.29 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.23– 7.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 3.78–3.70 (m, 1H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.64–3.57 (m, 1H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.10–3.02 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 2.68–2.64 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.84–1.75 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 1.53–1.44 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 1.21 (d, 3H, $J = 7.0$ Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 0.92 (t, 3H, $J = 7.5$ Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	171.0, 138.4, 130.2, 129.4, 127.7, 127.0, 124.8, 47.0, 38.6, 28.2, 26.6, 18.5, 12.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3061 (w), 3023 (w), 2962 (s), 2934 (s), 2873 (s), 2845 (m), 1919 (w), 1809 (w), 1624 (s), 1572 (m), 1486 (w), 1453 (s), 1426 (m), 1377 (m), 1236 (m), 1019 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{13}H_{18}N [M+H]^+$: 188.1439, found: 188.1438.
TLC (10% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.80 (UV).



<u>1-Cyclohexyl-4-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (12, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (71 μ L, 0.43 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S7** (120 mg, 0.390 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (44 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added to dilute the mixture. The organic layer was washed with brine (2 mL), was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and was filtered. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **12** as a pale yellow oil (83 mg, 73%).

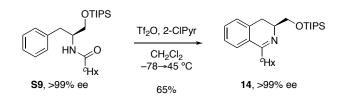
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.62–7.59 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.29– 7.24 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H, Ar H), 6.96–6.93 (m, 1H, Ar H), 4.04–3.81 (m, 3H, C H C H ₂ N), 3.02–2.95 (m, 1H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.01–1.72 (m, 5H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.54–1.35 (m, 4H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.35 (m, 1H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	171.1, 141.6, 141.0, 130.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.2, 127.0, 124.8, 54.0, 42.5, 42.2, 31.5, 31.4, 26.8, 26.7, 26.4.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3061 (w), 3027 (w), 2929 (s), 2851 (s), 1951 (w), 1625 (s), 1602 (w), 1571 (w), 1494 (m), 1450 (m), 1256 (w), 1003(w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₁ H ₂₄ N [M+H] ⁺ : 290.1903, found: 290.1907.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.38 (UV).



Methyl 4-(4-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)benzoate (13, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (51 μ L, 0.31 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S8** (100 mg, 0.278 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (32 μ L, 0.33 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (900 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added to dilute the reaction mixture. The organic layer was washed with brine (2 mL), was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and was filtered. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5 \rightarrow 10% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **13** as a pale yellow oil (86 mg, 91%).

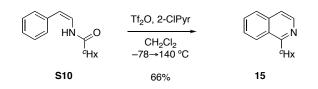
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.14–8.11 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.73–7.70 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.41– 7.35 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.32–7.26 (m, 5H, Ar H), 7.02 (d, 1H, $J = 7.5$ Hz, Ar H), 4.25 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.2$, 5.6 Hz, CHC H ₂ N), 4.17 (dd, 1H, $J = 11.1$, 5.6 Hz, C H CH ₂ N), 4.04 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.2$, 11.1 Hz, CHC H ₂ N), 3.96 (s, 3H, OC H ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	167.1, 167.0, 143.4, 141.6, 140.9, 131.5, 131.0, 129.7, 129.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.3, 127.9, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 54.8, 52.5, 42.5.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3061 (w), 3028 (w), 2950 (w), 2888 (w), 2842 (w), 1942 (w), 1723 (s), 1611 (m), 1569 (w), 1436 (m), 1311 (s), 1278 (s), 1115 (m), 1103 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{23}H_{20}NO_2 [M+H]^+$: 342.1489, found: 342.1495.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.41 (UV).



(S)-1-Cyclohexyl-3-((triisopropylsilyloxy)methyl)-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (14, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (65 μ L, 0.40 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S9** (150 mg, 0.359 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (41 μ L, 0.43 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a preheated oil bath at 45 °C and maintained at that temperature. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0.5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **14** as a colorless oil (94 mg, 65%). The enantiomeric excess of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline **14** was determined to be >99% ee by chiral HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD-H; 0.5 mL/min; 5% 'PrOH in hexanes; *t*_R (minor) = 14.5 min, *t*_R (major) = 17.7 min].

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.50 (d, 1H, $J = 7.2$ Hz, ArH), 7.34–7.30 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.30–7.26 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (d, 1H, $J = 7.3$ Hz, ArH), 4.12–4.06 (m, 1H, CH ₂ CHCH ₂ O), 3.64–3.56 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CHCH ₂ O), 2.94–2.85 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CHCH ₂ O, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 2.59 (dd, 1H, $J = 15.7$, 9.9 Hz, CH ₂ CHCH ₂ O), 1.95–1.70 (m, 5H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.56–1.48 (m, 1H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.44–1.04 (m, 25H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁ , OSi(CH(CH ₃) ₂) ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	170.5, 137.9, 130.2, 129.3, 128.4, 126.8, 124.6, 66.7, 58.3, 42.3, 31.8, 31.1, 29.1, 26.8, 26.7, 26.5, 18.2, 12.2.
FTIR (neat) cm ⁻¹ :	2930 (s), 2865 (s), 1623 (m), 1571 (w), 1463 (m), 1381 (w), 1257 (w), 1124 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₅ H ₄₂ NOSi [M+H] ⁺ : 400.3030, found: 400.3014.
TLC (10% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.83 (UV).

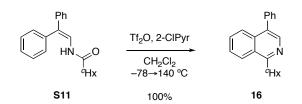


<u>1-Cyclohexylisoquinoline (15, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (30 μ L, 0.18 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S10** (38 mg, 0.17 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (19 μ L, 0.20 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (550 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **15**⁸ as a white solid (23 mg, 66%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.48 (d, 1H, $J = 5.7$ Hz, ArH), 8.23 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz, ArH), 7.82 (d, 1H, $J = 8.1$ Hz, ArH), 7.66 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.0, 6.8, 1.2$ Hz, ArH), 7.59 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.3, 6.9, 1.4$ Hz, ArH), 7.49 (d, 1H, $J = 5.7$ Hz, ArH), 3.57 (tt, 1H, $J = 11.6, 3.2$ Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.04–1.91 (m, 4H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.88–1.75 (m, 3H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.54 (qt, 2H, $J = 12.5, 3.1$ Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.40 (qt, 1H, $J = 12.7, 3.4$ Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	165.9, 142.1, 136.6, 129.7, 127.7, 127.0, 126.5, 124.9, 119.1, 41.7, 32.8, 27.1, 26.4.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3051 (w), 2927 (s), 2852 (m), 1683 (w), 1622 (w), 1586 (w), 1562 (m), 1501 (w), 1449 (m), 1391 (w), 1194 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₅ H ₁₈ N [M+H] ⁺ : 212.1434, found: 212.1438.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.57 (UV).

⁸ For a prior report on the synthesis of **15**, see Minisci, F.; Vismara, E.; Fontana, F. J. Org. Chem. **1989**, 54, 5224–5227.

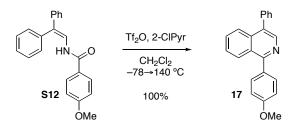


<u>1-Cyclohexyl-4-phenylisoquinoline (16, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (77 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S11** (130 mg, 0.426 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (48 μ L, 0.51 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.4 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **16**⁹ as a pale yellow oil (122 mg, 100%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.44 (s, 1H, Ar H), 8.33–8.29 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.94–7.90 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.63–7.59 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.55–7.49 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.49–7.44 (m, 1H, Ar H), 3.66 (tt, 1H, $J = 11.7$, 3.3 Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.08–2.01 (m, 2H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.01–1.94 (m, 2H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.93–1.82 (m, 3H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.57 (qt, 2H, $J = 12.9$, 3.5 Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.42 (qt, 1H, $J = 12.8$, 3.5 Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	165.2, 141.9, 137.8, 134.9, 131.5, 130.4, 129.8, 128.7, 127.8, 126.8, 126.0, 125.9, 125.1, 41.7, 32.8, 27.1, 26.5.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3059 (w), 3030 (w), 2926 (s), 2851 (m), 1602 (w), 1615 (w), 1554 (m), 1508 (m), 1445 (m), 1393 (m), 1359 (w), 1350 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₁ H ₂₂ N [M+H] ⁺ : 288.1752, found: 288.1755.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.68 (UV).

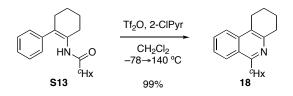
⁹ For a prior report on the synthesis of **16**, see Kobayashi, K.; Hayashi, K.; Miyamoto, K.; Morikawa, O.; Konishi, H. *Synthesis* **2006**, 2934–2938.



<u>1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylisoquinoline (17, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (72 μ L, 0.44 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S12** (130 mg, 0.395 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (45 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **17** as a pale yellow oil (123 mg, 100%).

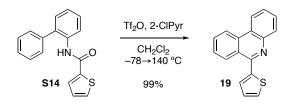
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.55 (s, 1H, Ar H), 8.22 (d, 1H, $J = 8.5$ Hz, Ar H), 7.98 (d, 1H, $J = 8.5$ HZ, Ar H), 7.74–7.70 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.68–7.64 (app. t, 1H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, Ar H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 5H, Ar H), 7.52–7.48 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.12–7.08 (m, 2H, Ar H), 3.93 (s, 3H, OC H ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.2, 160.0, 142.2, 137.4, 135.4, 132.3, 132.2, 131.5, 130.4, 130.2, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0, 126.6, 125.4, 114.0, 55.6.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3002 (w), 3033 (w), 2956 (w), 2933 (w), 2836 (w), 2044 (w), 1609 (s), 1578 (w), 1542 (w), 1514 (s), 1452 (w), 1385 (s), 1301 (w), 1250 (s), 1176 (m), 1032 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₂ H ₁₈ NO [M+H] ⁺ : 312.1388, found: 312.1386.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.38 (UV).



6-Cyclohexyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrophenanthridine (18, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (64 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S13** (100 mg, 0.353 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (40 μ L, 0.42 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **18** as a colorless oil (93 mg, 99%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.20 (d, 1H, $J = 8.5$ Hz, ArH), 7.91 (d, 1H, $J = 8.4$ Hz, ArH), 7.64 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.1$, 6.9, 1.1 Hz, ArH), 7.50 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.1$, 6.8, 1.0 Hz, ArH), 3.51 (tt, 1H, $J =$ 11.5, 3.1 Hz, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 3.08–3.02 (m, 4H, CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂), 1.99–1.78 (m, 11H, CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ , ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.53 (tt, 2H, $J =$ 13.2, 4.1 Hz, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.40 (tt, 1H, $J =$ 12.7, 3.3 Hz, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	162.9, 149.1, 136.0, 129.3, 125.3, 125.3, 124.6, 122.8, 122.2, 41.5, 33.3, 32.7, 27.1, 26.4, 25.0, 23.4, 23.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3069 (w), 2927 (s), 2852 (m), 1616 (w), 1581 (w), 1566 (m), 1505 (w), 1449 (m), 1390 (w), 1335 (w), 1263 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₉ H ₂₄ N [M+H] ⁺ : 266.1903, found: 266.1897.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.68 (UV).

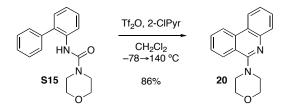


6-(Thiophen-2-yl)phenanthridine (19, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (65 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S14** (100 mg, 0.358 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (41 μ L, 0.43 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the phenanthridine derivative **19**¹⁰ as a pale yellow oil (93 mg, 99%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.71 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz, ArH), 8.59 (dd, 2H, $J = 7.9$, 4.6 Hz, ArH), 8.22 (d, 1H, $J = 8.2$ Hz, ArH), 7.89 (t, 1H, $J = 7.5$ Hz, ArH), 7.78–7.65 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.58 (dd, 1H, $J = 5.1$, 1.0 Hz, ArH), 7.25 (dd, 1H, $J = 5.2$, 3.6 Hz, ArH).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	154.2, 143.9, 142.7, 133.8, 130.8, 130.4, 129.5, 129.1, 128.3, 128.1, 127.6, 127.6, 127.2, 124.9, 123.7, 122.5, 122.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3070 (m), 1956 (w), 1812 (w), 1734 (w), 1610 (m), 1577 (m), 1562 (s), 1519 (m), 1484 (s), 1458 (s), 1430 (s).
HRMS (EI):	calc'd for $C_{17}H_{12}NS [M+H]^+$: 262.0685, found: 262.0683.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.51 (UV, KMnO ₄).

¹⁰ For formation of **19** as the product of a competing pathway in our intermolecular condensation reaction for synthesis of pyridines, see Movassaghi, M.; Hill, M. D.; Ahmad. O. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 10096–10097.

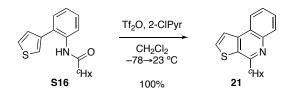


4-(Phenanthridin-6-yl)morpholine (20, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (64 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S15** (100 mg, 0.354 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (40 μ L, 0.43 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the phenanthridine derivative **20**¹¹ as a pale yellow oil (81 mg, 86%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.58 (d, 1H, $J = 8.3$ Hz, ArH), 8.44 (d, 1H, $J = 8.1$ Hz, ArH), 8.22 (d, 1H, $J = 8.2$ Hz, ArH), 7.85 (d, 1H, $J = 8.1$ Hz, ArH), 7.82–7.76 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.68–7.60 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.54–7.48 (m, 1H, ArH), 4.05–4.00 (m, 4H, N(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ O), 3.55–3.49 (m, 4H, N(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ O).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	159.9, 143.7, 135.0, 130.2, 128.8, 128.6, 126.8, 126.4, 125.0, 122.8, 122.7, 121.9, 121.3, 67.1, 51.8.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3070 (w), 2958 (m), 2890 (w), 2849 (m), 1946 (w), 1611 (m), 1582 (s), 1569 (s), 1524 (m), 1485 (m), 1454 (m), 1382 (s), 1363 (s), 1223 (s), 1117 (s), 1021 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₇ H ₁₇ N ₂ O [M+H] ⁺ : 265.1335, found: 265.1326.
TLC (40% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.64 (UV).

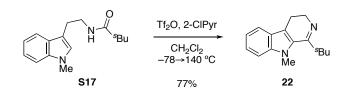
¹¹ For a prior report on the synthesis of **20**, see Mikhailovskii, A. G.; Vakhrin, M. I. *Khim. Geterotsikl. Soedin.*, **1991**, 1361–1364.



4-Cyclohexyl thieno[2,3-c]quinoline (21, Figure 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (57 μ L, 0.35 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S16** (90 mg, 0.32 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (36 μ L, 0.38 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.1 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on neutralized silica gel to give the quinoline derivative **21** as a pale yellow oil (84 mg, 100%).

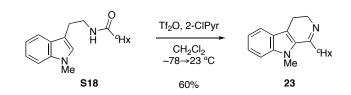
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.25 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.1$, 1.4 Hz, Ar H), 8.19 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.3$, 1.2 Hz, Ar H), 7.99 (d, 1H, $J = 5.3$ Hz, Ar H), 7.79 (d, 1H, $J = 5.3$ Hz, Ar H), 7.68 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.4$, 7.0, 1.5 Hz, Ar H), 7.58 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.1$, 6.9, 1.2 Hz), 3.17 (tt, 1H, $J = 11.6$, 3.5 Hz, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.15–2.08 (m, 2H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 2.04–1.93 (m, 4H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.86–1.80 (m, 1H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$), 1.58–1.39 (m, 3H, ${}^{c}C_{6}H_{11}$).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.9, 145.2, 142.0, 132.7, 130.2, 129.7, 128.0, 126.0, 123.6, 123.3, 122.3, 47.0, 31.7, 26.8, 26.2.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3063 (m), 2927 (s), 2852 (s), 2667 (w), 1615 (w), 1557 (s), 1497 (s), 1464 (w), 1449 (s), 1367 (m), 1341 (m), 1282 (m), 1211 (m), 1160 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{17}H_{18}NS [M+H]^+$: 268.1154, found: 268.1149.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.59 (UV).



<u>N-Methyl-1-sec-butyl-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (22, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (70 μ L, 0.43 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide S17 (100 mg, 0.387 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (44 μ L, 0.46 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative 22 as a pale yellow oil (71 mg, 77%).

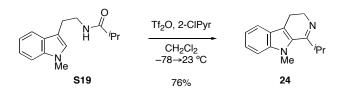
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.60 (app. dt, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 1.0 Hz, Ar H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.15 (ddd, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 6.3, 1.6 Hz, Ar H), 3.92 (s, 3H, NC H ₃), 3.91–3.84 (m, 1H, CH ₂ C H ₂ N), 3.66–3.59 (m, 1H, CH ₂ C H ₂ N), 3.12–3.04 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), 2.83–2.68 (m, 2H, C H ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.88–1.80 (m, 1H, CH(CH ₃)C H ₂ CH ₃), 1.26 (d, 3H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ CH ₃), CH ₂ CH ₃), 0.93 (t, 3H, $J = 7.5$ Hz, CH(CH ₃)CH ₂ C H ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	165.2, 138.9, 131.7, 124.7, 124.3, 120.0, 120.0, 119.1, 110.2, 48.2, 40.0, 32.7, 28.0, 19.9, 17.9, 11.9.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3054 (w), 2962 (s), 2933 (s), 2872 (m), 2832 (m), 1596 (m), 1527 (s), 1460 (s), 1416 (m), 1370 (s), 1253 (m), 1232 (m), 1216 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₆ H ₂₁ N ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 241.1699, found: 241.1690.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.69 (UV).



<u>N-Benzyl-1-cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (23, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (64 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S18** (100 mg, 0.350 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (40 μ L, 0.42 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **23** as a colorless oil (58 mg, 60%).

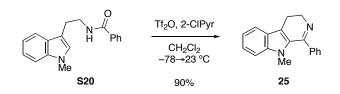
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.60 (ddd, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 0.9, 0.9 Hz, ArH), 7.36–7.30 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.14 (ddd, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 6.3, 1.5 Hz, ArH), 3.92 (s, 3H, NCH ₃), 3.77–3.72 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.91 (tt, 1H, $J = 11.2$, 3.0 Hz, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 2.78–2.73 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.99–1.85 (m, 4H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.79–1.72 (m, 1H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.55–1.45 (m, 2H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁), 1.44–1.25 (m, 3H, ^c C ₆ H ₁₁).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	165.2, 138.9, 131.2, 124.7, 124.3, 120.0, 120.0, 119.2, 110.2, 48.1, 43.8, 32.5, 31.2, 26.8, 26.4, 19.9.
FTIR (neat) cm ⁻¹ :	3054 (w), 2930 (s), 2850 (m), 1596 (w), 1527 (m), 1459 (m), 1416 (w), 1372 (m), 1306 (w), 1246 (w), 1211 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₈ H ₂₃ N ₂ [M+H] ⁺ : 267.1856, found: 267.1847.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.55 (UV).



<u>N-Benzyl-1-iso-butyl-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (24, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (74 μ L, 0.45 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S19** (100 mg, 0.409 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (46 μ L, 0.49 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.4 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **24** as a colorless solid (70 mg, 76%).

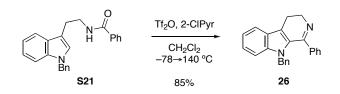
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.61 (d, 1H, $J = 7.9$ Hz, ArH), 7.37–7.31 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.15 (ddd, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 6.3, 1.5 Hz, ArH), 3.94 (s, 3H, NCH ₃), 3.78–3.73 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.29 (septet, 1H, J = 6.7 Hz, CH(CH ₃) ₂), 2.79–2.74 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 1.26 (d, 6H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, CH(CH ₃) ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	165.8, 138.9, 131.2, 124.7, 124.3, 120.1, 120.0, 119.2, 110.2, 48.1, 33.4, 32.6, 20.7, 19.9.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3054 (w), 2965 (s), 2932 (s), 2832 (m), 1596 (m), 1528 (s), 1460 (s), 1417 (w), 1370 (s), 1328 (m), 1236 (m), 1219 (m), 1064 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{15}H_{19}N_2 [M+H]^+$: 227.1543, found: 227.1547.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.54 (UV).



<u>N-Methyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (25, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (69 μ L, 0.42 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S20** (106 mg, 0.381 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (43 μ L, 0.46 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **25** as a pale yellow oil (90 mg, 90%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.68 (app. dt, 1H, $J = 8.0$, 1.0, Hz, Ar H), 7.62–7.58 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.49–7.44 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.37–7.31 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.20, (ddd, 1H, $J = 7.9$, 6.4, 1.5 Hz, Ar H), 3.97–3.93 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.34 (s, 3H, NCH ₃), 2.96–2.91 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.3, 139.5, 139.3, 131.0, 129.7, 128.7, 128.1, 124.8, 124.5, 120.2, 120.2, 119.6, 110.5, 49.0, 33.0, 20.0.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3055 (w), 2940 (w), 2830 (w), 1587 (w), 1527 (s), 1460 (m), 1418 (m), 1374 (s), 1295 (m), 1254 (w), 1175 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{18}H_{17}N_2 [M+H]^+$: 261.1386, found: 261.1380.
TLC (30% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.54 (UV).

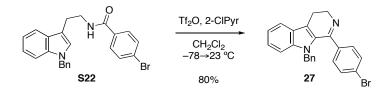


<u>N-Benzyl-1-phenyl-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (26, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (51 μ L, 0.31 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S21** (100 mg, 0.282 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (32 μ L, 0.34 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (940 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 10% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **26** as a colorless oil (81 mg, 85%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.71–7.68 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.48–7.45 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42– 7.37 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.35–7.30 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.29–7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.21–7.18 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.15–7.09 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.60–6.58 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.99 (s, 2H, NCH ₂), 3.96–3.91 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.98–2.93 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.5, 139.3, 139.1, 137.7, 130.6, 129.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.3, 126.1, 125.4, 124.8, 121.0, 120.6, 120.4, 111.5, 48.9, 48.6, 20.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3057 (w), 2939 (w), 2885 (w), 2831 (w), 1588 (w), 1573 (w), 1526 (s), 1495 (w), 1451 (s), 1425 (m), 1373 (m), 1347 (m), 1297 (s), 1204 (w), 1171 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{24}H_{21}N_2 [M+H]^+$: 337.1699, found: 337.1695.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.32 (UV).

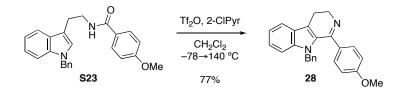
A Versatile Cyclodehydration Reaction for the Synthesis of Isoquinoline and β -Carboline Derivatives. Mohammad Movassaghi and Matthew D. Hill



<u>N-Benzyl-1-(4-bromophenyl)- 3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (27, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (57 μ L, 0.35 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S22** (150 mg, 0.346 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (39 μ L, 0.42 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.2 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **27** as a pale yellow solid (114 mg, 80%).

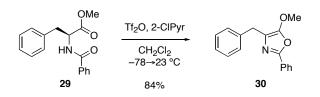
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.70 (d, 1H, $J = 7.9$ Hz, ArH), 7.44 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz, ArH), 7.35–7.31 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.31–7.28 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.23–7.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.18–7.11 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.59 (d, 2H, $J = 7.1$ Hz, ArH), 5.00 (s, 2H, NCH ₂), 3.94–3.88 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 2.97–2.92 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	159.5, 139.4, 138.1, 137.5, 131.7, 130.3, 129.7, 128.6, 127.5, 126.1, 125.3, 125.1, 124.0, 121.3, 120.8, 120.4, 111.5, 49.0, 48.8, 20.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3030 (w), 2940 (w), 2886 (w), 2831 (w), 1589 (m), 1527 (s), 1489 (m), 1451 (s), 1425 (m), 1373 (m), 1347 (m), 1301 (s), 1291 (s), 1172 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{24}H_{20}BrN_2 [M+H]^+$: 415.0804, found: 415.0817.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.45 (UV).



<u>N-Benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydro-β-carboline (28, Figure 1):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (64 μ L, 0.39 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **S23** (150 mg, 0.390 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (44 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.3 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 10% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline derivative **28** as a pale yellow solid (110 mg, 77%).

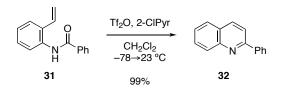
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.71–7.68 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.47–7.43 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.29– 7.27 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.21–7.17 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.15–7.10 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.87–6.83 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.64–6.60 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.05 (s, 2H, NCH ₂), 3.92–3.86 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH ₃), 2.96–2.91 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.9, 160.0, 139.4, 137.7, 131.5, 130.8, 129.6, 128.5, 127.3, 126.2, 125.5, 124.8, 121.2, 120.6, 120.3, 113.9, 111.6, 55.5, 48.7, 48.7, 20.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3059 (w), 3030 (w), 2936 (m), 2835 (m), 2195 (w), 1672 (w), 1608 (s), 1587 (m), 1526 (m), 1512 (s), 1496 (m), 1452 (m), 1372 (m), 1346 (w), 1302 (s), 1251 (s), 1173 (s).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₅ H ₂₃ N ₂ O [M+H] ⁺ : 367.1805, found: 367.1793.
TLC (40% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.55 (UV).



4-Benzyl-2-phenyl-5-methoxyoxazole (30, Equation 1):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (77 μ L, 0.47 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **29** (120 mg, 0.424 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (48 μ L, 0.51 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (1.4 mL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 15 min, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 0 \rightarrow 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the oxazole derivative **30** as a colorless oil (94 mg, 84%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.95–7.91 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.44–7.36 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.35– 7.28 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 1H, Ar H), 3.95 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 3.85 (s, 2H, CC H ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	155.4, 152.3, 139.5, 129.6, 128.7, 128.7, 128.5, 127.9, 126.3, 125.5, 116.6, 61.2, 31.2.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3062 (w), 3028 (w), 2943 (w), 2850 (w), 1743 (w), 1657 (s), 1604 (m), 1553 (w), 1494 (m), 1451 (m), 1363 (m), 1319 (w), 1257 (m), 1118 (w).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{17}H_{16}NO_2 [M+H]^+$: 266.1176, found: 266.1182.
TLC (10% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.50 (UV, KMnO ₄).

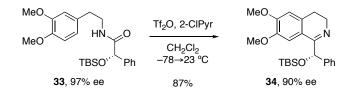


2-Phenylquinoline (32, Equation 2):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (45 μ L, 0.27 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **31** (55 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (28 μ L, 0.30 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (820 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; SiO₂: 15 × 1.5 cm) on silica gel to give the quinoline derivative **32**¹² as a white solid (50 mg, 99%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.25 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.5 Hz, Ar H), 8.21–8.16 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.90 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.5 Hz, Ar H), 7.85 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.2 Hz, Ar H), 7.75 (ddd, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.5, 7.0, 1.5 Hz, Ar H), 7.57– 7.52 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.48 (tt, 1H, <i>J</i> = 7.3, 1.2 Hz, Ar H).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	157.5, 148.4, 139.8, 137.0, 129.9, 129.9, 129.5, 129.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.5, 119.2.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3189 (s), 3055 (w), 2091 (s), 1617 (w), 1597 (s), 1491 (m), 1447 (s).
HRMS (EI):	calc'd for $C_{15}H_{11}N [M]^+$: 205.0886, found: 205.0885.
Analysis	calc'd for C ₁₅ H ₁₁ N: C, 87.77; H, 5.40; N, 6.82, found: C, 87.55; H, 5.37; N, 6.84.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.51 (UV, CAM).

¹² For an alternative condensation approach for the synthesis of **32**, see Movassaghi, M.; Hill, M. D.; Ahmad. O. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 10096–10097.



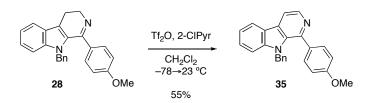
(S)-1-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)(phenyl)methyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (34, Equation 3):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (42 μ L, 0.26 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of amide **33**¹³ (100 mg, 0.233 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-chloropyridine (26 μ L, 0.28 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (800 μ L) at –78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 1 h, triethylamine (75 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivative **34** as a colorless oil (84 mg, 87%). The enantiomeric excess of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline **34** was determined to be 90% ee by chiral HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD-H; 1.0 mL/min; 1% 'PrOH in hexanes; t_{R} (minor) = 9.1 min, t_{R} (major) = 18.5 min].

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	7.58–7.55 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.33–7.29 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.23– 7.19 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.60 (s, 1H, ArH), 5.70 (s, 1H, CH(OTBS)Ph), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH ₃), 3.82–3.70 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 3.68 (s, 3H, OCH ₃), 2.68–2.58 (m, 2H, CH ₂ CH ₂ N), 0.94 (s, 9H, OSi(C(CH ₃) ₃)(CH ₃) ₂), 0.18 (s, 3H, OSi(C(CH ₃) ₃)(CH ₃) ₂), -0.01 (s, 3H, OSi(C(CH ₃) ₃)(CH ₃) ₃) (CH ₃) ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	167.3, 150.3, 146.5, 142.3, 132.4, 128.4, 127.1, 124.9, 119.7, 111.3, 109.8, 80.5, 55.9, 55.8, 47.5, 26.1, 25.8, 18.4, -4.4, -5.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	2952 (s), 2934 (s), 2894 (w), 2856 (m), 1622 (w), 1606 (w), 1571 (m), 1516 (s), 1493 (w), 1464 (m), 1406 (w), 1357 (m), 1321 (m), 1269 (s), 1212 (s), 1156 (m), 1097 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₂₄ H ₃₄ NO ₃ Si [M+H] ⁺ : 412.2302, found: 412.2307.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.53 (UV).

¹³ (*S*)-2-(*Tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxyphenethyl)-2-phenylethanamide (**33**) was prepared by an 1-ethyl-3-(3dimethylaminopropyl) carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) promoted coupling of 2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethanamine with (*S*)-2-(*tert*butyldimethylsilyloxy)-2-phenylethanoic acid (Bremner, J. B.; Perkins, D. F. *Tetrahedron* **2005**, *61*, 2659). The enantiomeric excess of amide **33** was determined to be 97% ee by chiral HPLC analysis [Chiralpak AD-H; 1.0 mL/min; 7% ⁱPrOH in hexanes; *t*_R (minor) = 8.8 min, *t*_R (major) = 22.2 min].

A Versatile Cyclodehydration Reaction for the Synthesis of Isoquinoline and β -Carboline Derivatives. Mohammad Movassaghi and Matthew D. Hill

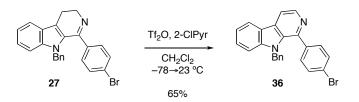


<u>N-Benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-β-carboline (35, Figure 2):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (48 µL, 0.29 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline **28** (96 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2chloropyridine (30 µL, 0.31 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (870 µL) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 µL) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 20% \rightarrow 40% EtOAc and 1% Et₃N in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the β -carboline derivative **35** as a pale yellow solid (53 mg, 55%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.54 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.2 Hz, Ar H), 8.23 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.2 Hz, Ar H), 8.01 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.1 Hz, Ar H), 7.56–7.52 (m, 1H, Ar H), 7.36–7.31 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.18–7.11 (m, 3H, Ar H), 6.85–6.81 (m, 2H, Ar H), 6.64 (d, 2H, <i>J</i> = 6.5 Hz, Ar H), 5.28 (s, 2H, NC H ₂), 3.84 (s, 3H, OC H ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, C ₆ D ₆ , 20 °C) δ:	160.0, 145.1, 143.0, 139.5, 137.6, 135.2, 133.0, 131.1, 130.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 127.0, 125.9, 122.2, 121.7, 120.3, 113.5, 111.1, 54.7, 48.2.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3032 (w), 2932 (w), 2836 (w), 1890 (w), 1620 (m), 1609 (m), 1560 (w), 1513 (s), 1496 (m), 1449 (s), 1418 (m), 1316 (m), 1247 (s), 1203 (m), 1174 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{25}H_{21}N_2O [M+H]^+$: 365.1648, found: 365.1651.
TLC (40% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.55 (UV).

A Versatile Cyclodehydration Reaction for the Synthesis of Isoquinoline and β -Carboline Derivatives. Mohammad Movassaghi and Matthew D. Hill

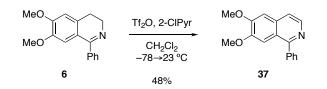


<u>N-Benzyl-1-(4-bromophenyl)-β-carboline (36, Figure 2):</u>

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (51 μ L, 0.31 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of 3,4-dihydro- β -carboline **27** (117 mg, 0.281 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2chloropyridine (32 μ L, 0.34 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (940 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (100 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the β -carboline derivative **36** as a pale yellow solid (75 mg, 65%) and recovered starting material **27** (12 mg, 10%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.54 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.1 Hz, Ar H), 8.24 (ddd, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.1, 1.2, 0.6 Hz, Ar H), 8.05 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.1 Hz, Ar H), 7.57 (ddd, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.3, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, Ar H), 7.43–7.40 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.38–7.34 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.20–7.13 (m, 3H, Ar H), 6.62–6.58 (m, 2H, Ar H), 5.25 (s, 2H, NC H ₂).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	143.4, 142.9, 139.0, 138.7, 136.9, 134.6, 131.3, 131.1, 130.9, 129.0, 128.7, 127.4, 125.7, 122.8, 121.8, 121.6, 120.6, 114.2, 110.7, 48.4.
FTIR (neat) cm ⁻¹ :	3059 (w), 3031 (w), 2921 (w), 2851 (w), 2207 (w), 1896 (w), 1621 (m), 1593 (w), 1559 (m), 1494 (m), 1448 (s), 1414 (s), 1330 (m), 1203 (s), 1128 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{24}H_{18}BrN_2 [M+H]^+$: 413.0648, found: 413.0645.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.35 (UV).

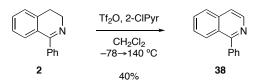
A Versatile Cyclodehydration Reaction for the Synthesis of Isoquinoline and β -Carboline Derivatives. Mohammad Movassaghi and Matthew D. Hill



6,7-Dimethoxy-1-phenylisoquinoline (37, Figure 2):

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (31 μ L, 0.19 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline **6** (45 mg, 0.17 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2chloropyridine (19 μ L, 0.20 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (560 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 2 h, triethylamine (50 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 10% \rightarrow 20% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **37** as a pale yellow solid (25 mg, 48%) and recovered starting material **6** (14 mg, 30%).

¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.50 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.6 Hz, Ar H), 7.74–7.70 (m, 2H, Ar H), 7.57–7.47 (m, 4H, Ar H), 7.39 (s, 1H, Ar H), 7.15 (s, 1H, Ar H), 4.07 (s, 3H, OC H ₃), 3.88 (s, 3H, OC H ₃).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	158.5, 152.8, 150.2, 141.6, 140.2, 133.9, 129.8, 128.6, 128.6, 122.7, 118.9, 105.7, 105.2, 56.3, 56.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3005 (w), 2935 (w), 2835 (w), 1622 (w), 1559 (m), 1507 (s), 1478 (s), 1434 (m), 1419 (s), 1351 (w), 1310 (w), 1265 (s), 1236 (s), 1221 (s), 1163 (m), 1121 (s).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for $C_{17}H_{16}NO_2 [M+H]^+$: 266.1176, found: 266.1174.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.20 (UV).

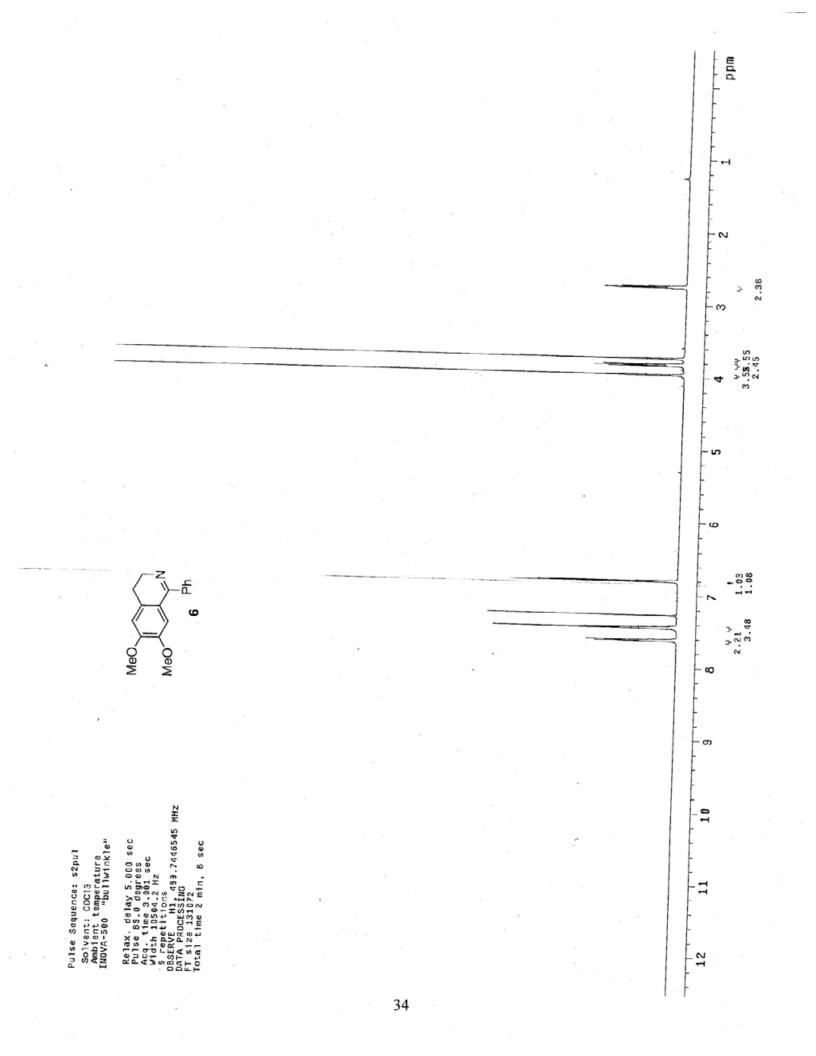


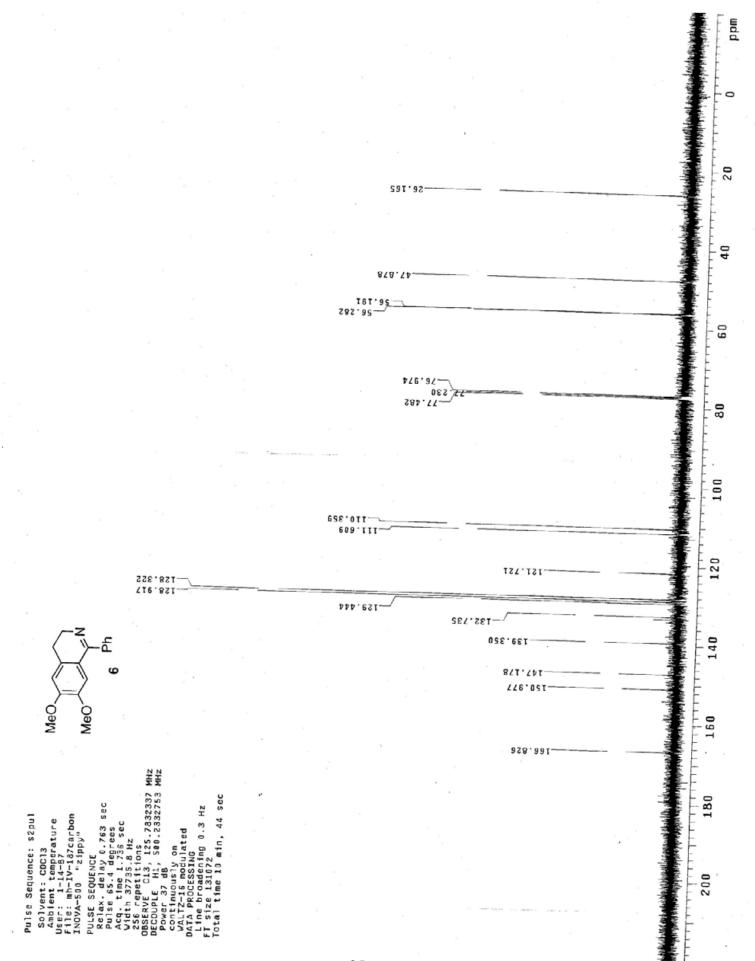
1-Phenylisoquinoline (38, Figure 2):

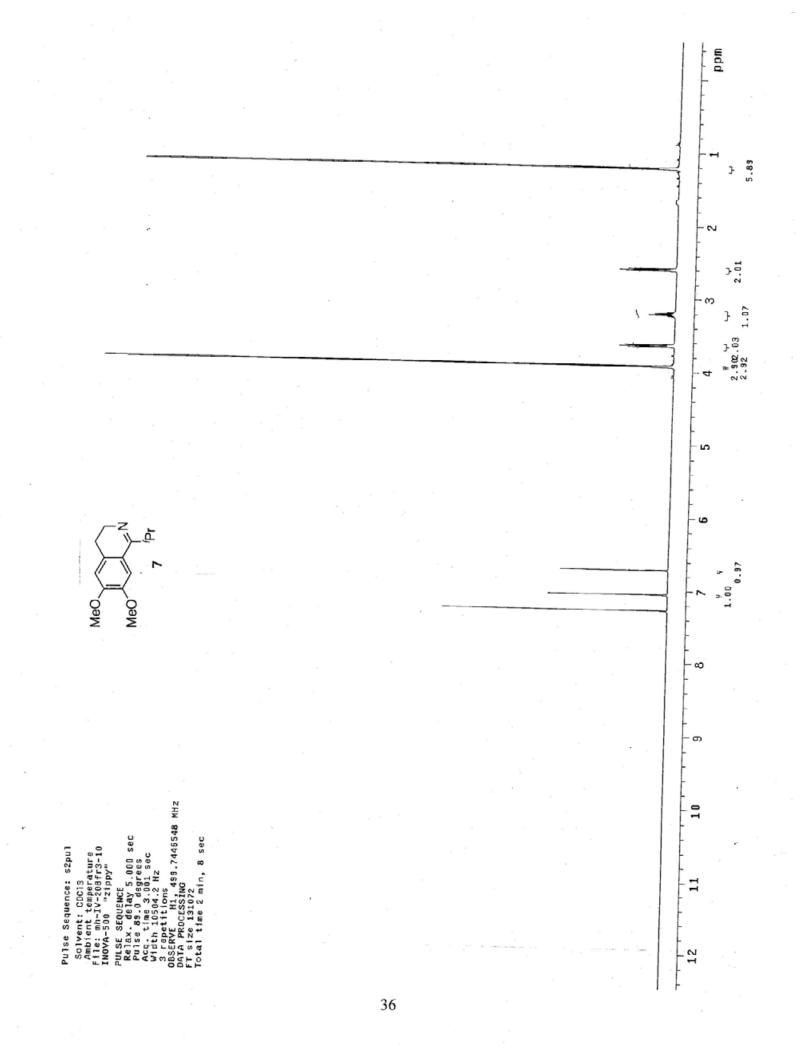
Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (84 μ L, 0.51 mmol, 2.1 equiv) was added via syringe over 1 min to a stirred mixture of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline **2** (50 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2chloropyridine (50 μ L, 0.53 mmol, 2.2 equiv) in dichloromethane (800 μ L) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was placed in an ice-water bath and warmed to 0 °C. After 5 min, the resulting solution was allowed to warm to 23 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was placed into a microwave reactor and heated to 140 °C. After 5 min, the reaction vessel was removed from the microwave reactor and allowed to cool to 23 °C before triethylamine (50 μ L) was introduced to neutralize the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc in hexanes; Al₂O₃: 15 × 1.5 cm) on alumina gel to give the isoquinoline derivative **38**¹⁴ as a pale yellow solid (20 mg, 40%) and recovered starting material **2** (4 mg, 8%).

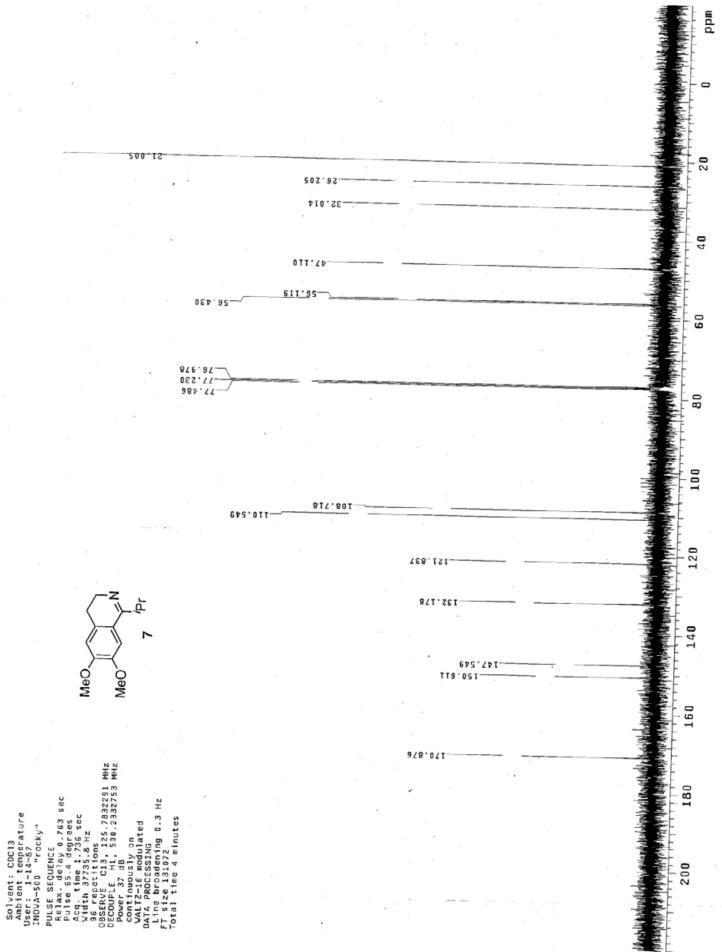
¹ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	8.63 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.6 Hz, Ar H), 8.12 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.5 Hz, Ar H), 7.90 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 8.3 Hz, Ar H), 7.73–7.69 (m, 3H, Ar H), 7.67 (d, 1H, <i>J</i> = 5.7 Hz, Ar H), 7.58–7.49 (m, 4H, Ar H).
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl ₃ , 20 °C) δ:	160.9, 142.4, 139.8, 137.1, 130.2, 130.1, 128.8, 128.6, 127.8, 127.4, 127.2, 126.9, 120.1.
FTIR (neat) cm^{-1} :	3053 (w), 2918 (w), 2849 (w), 1915 (w), 1618 (w), 1582 (w), 1553 (s), 1500 (w), 1491 (w), 1441 (m), 1381 (m), 1353 (m), 1319 (m).
HRMS (ESI):	calc'd for C ₁₅ H ₁₂ N [M+H] ⁺ : 206.0970, found: 206.0959.
TLC (20% EtOAc in hexanes), $R_{\rm f}$:	0.48 (UV).

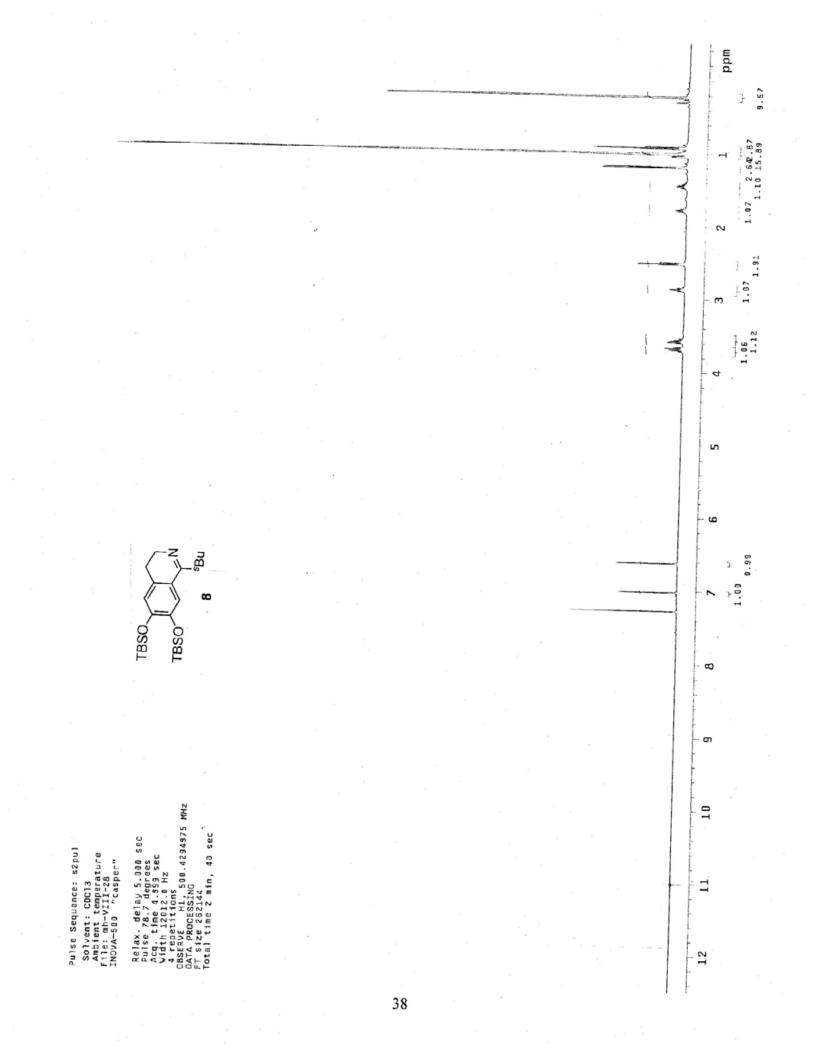
¹⁴ For a prior report on the synthesis of **38**, see the SI in Larivée, A.; Mousseau, J. J.; Charette, A. B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2008**, 130, 52–54.

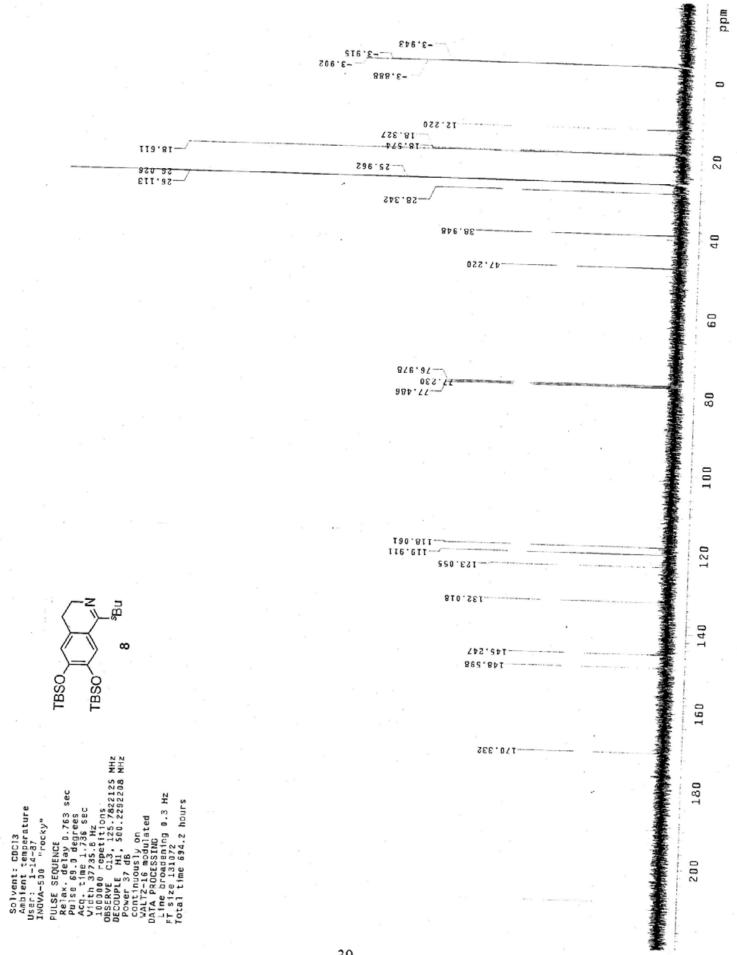


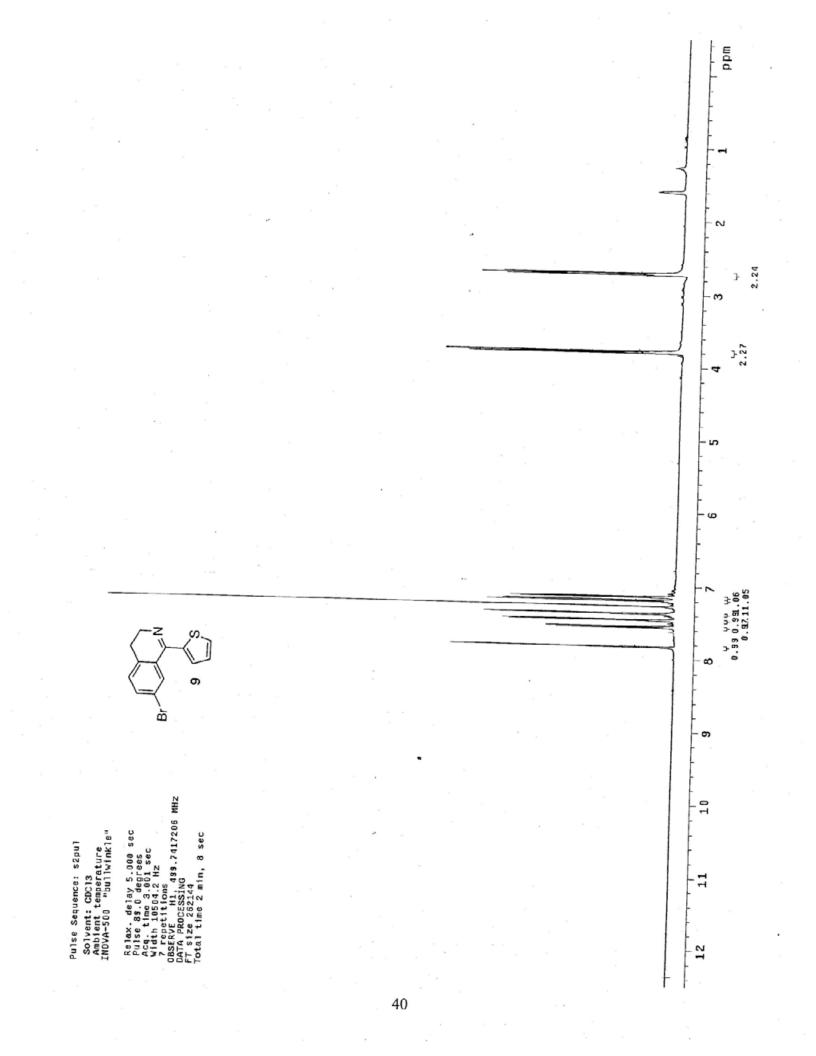


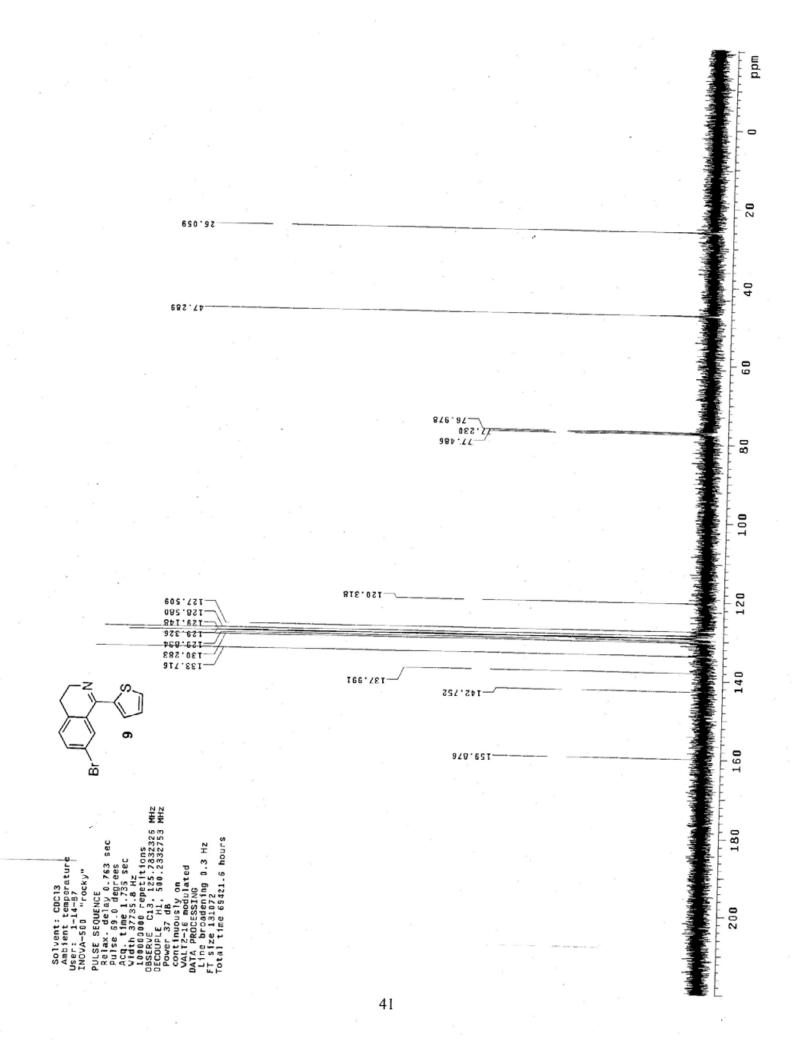


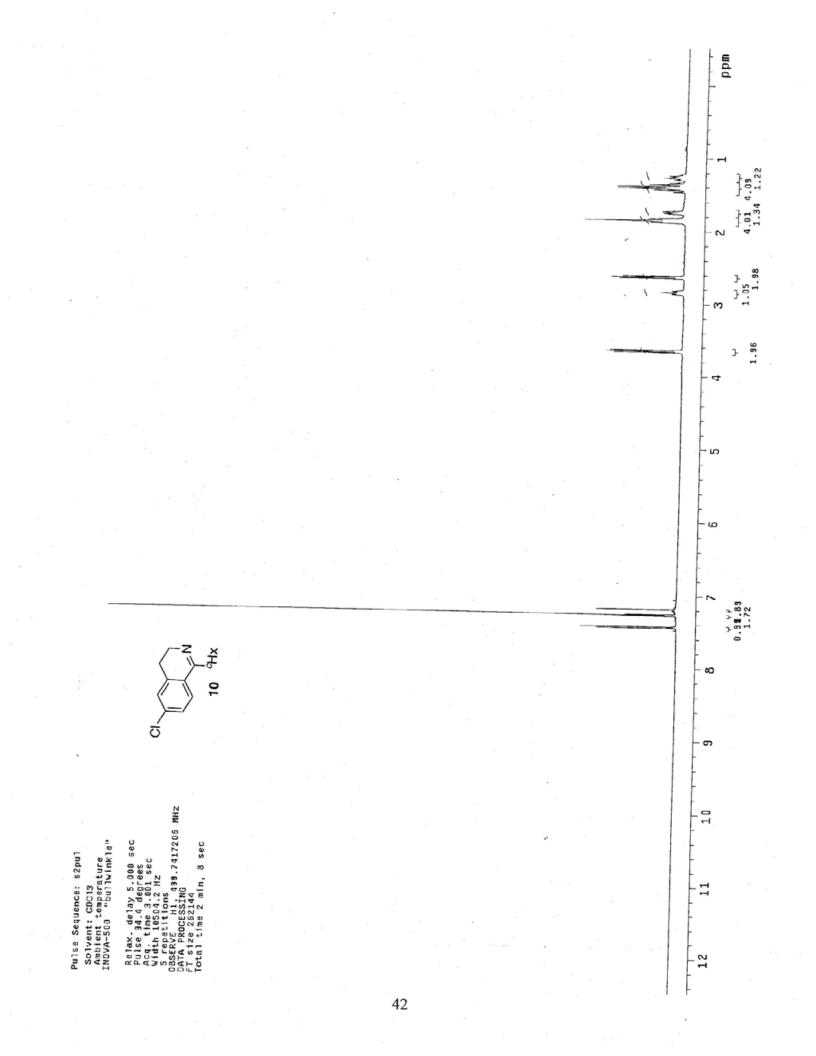


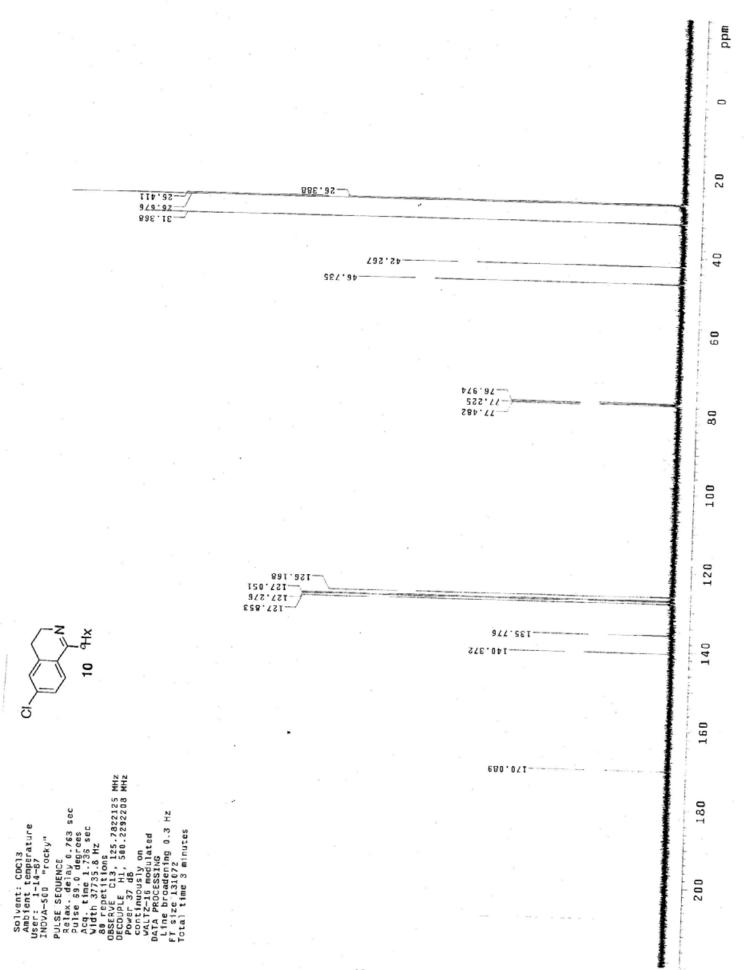


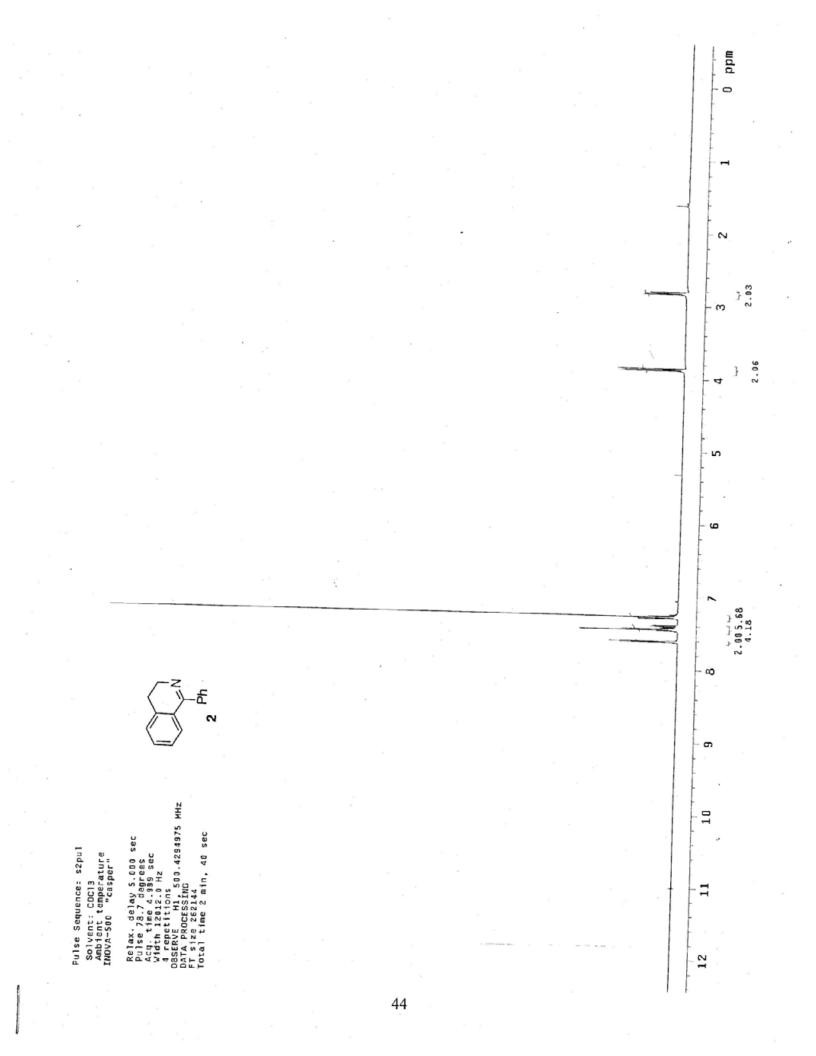


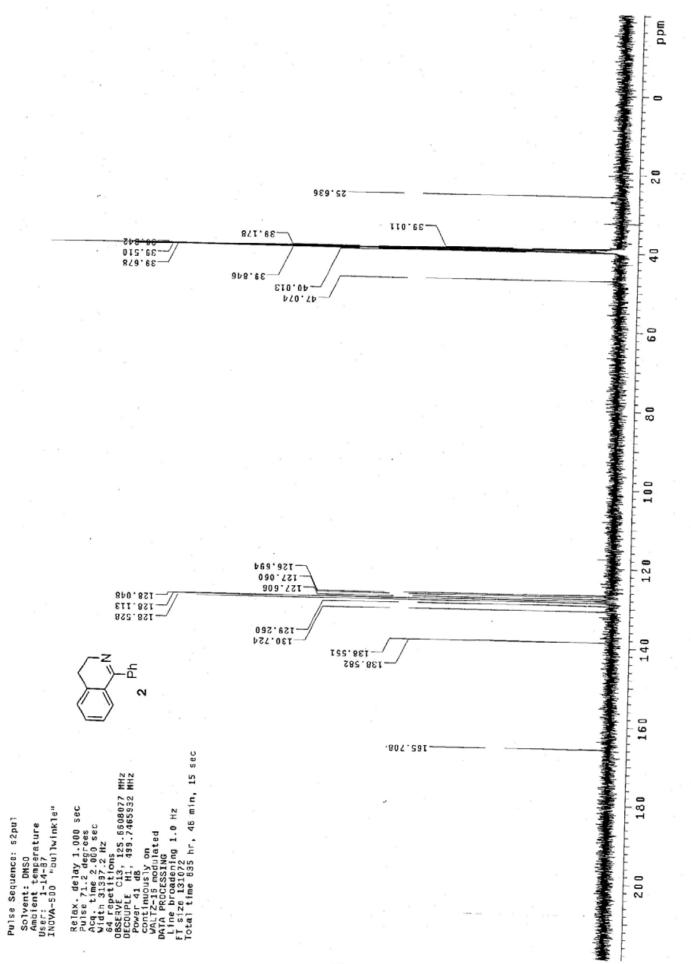


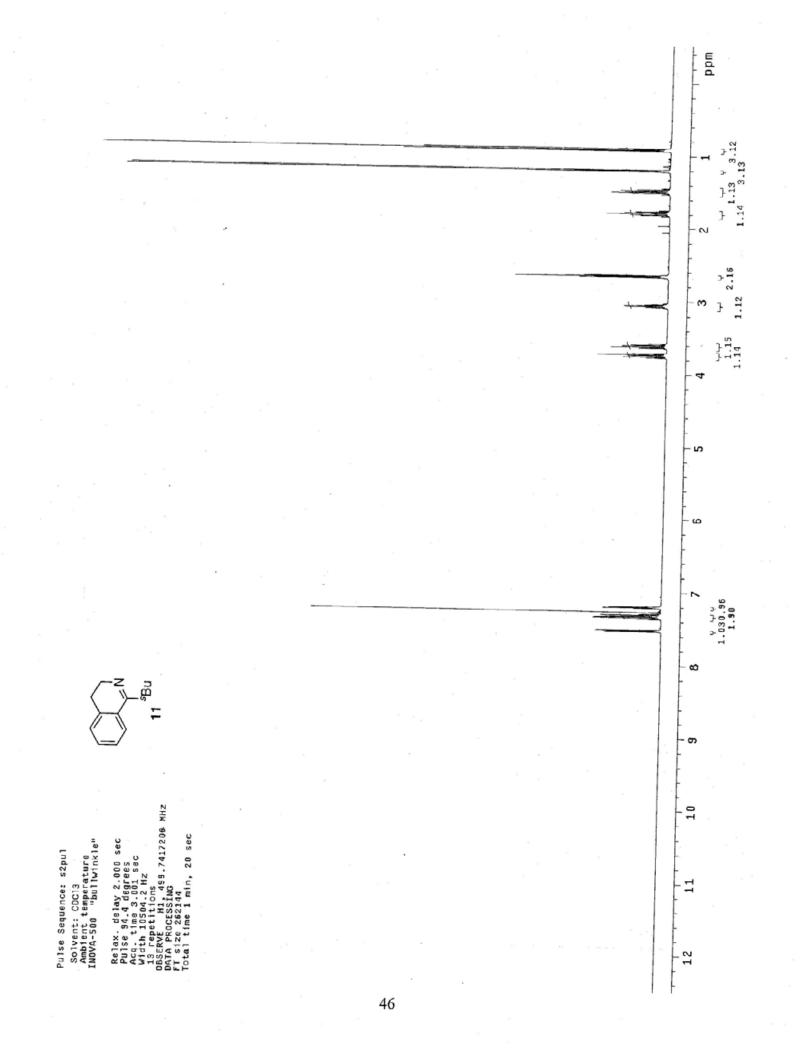












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