Supporting Information – Table of Contents

Materials and Methods	
Complete Reference 4r from manuscript	S2
Experimental Procedures	S3
¹ H and ² H NMR Spectra	S13
¹³ C NMR Spectra	S35

Materials and Methods. Unless stated otherwise, reactions were conducted in flamedried glassware under an atmosphere of nitrogen using anhydrous solvents (either freshly distilled or passed through activated alumina columns). All commercially available reagents were used as received unless otherwise specified. Mn(OAc)₃ (dried in vacuo over P_2O_3) and LiAlD₄ were obtained from Acros. AgOTf and CuBr₂ were obtained from Strem. Bathophenanthroline was obtained from Alfa Aesar. 2-Iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX)¹ and Dess-Martin periodinane² were prepared from known literature procedures. 1,4dioxane was distilled from Na/benzophenone and stored in a Schlenk tube prior to use. Unless stated otherwise, reactions were performed at room temperature (RT, approximately 23 °C). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was conducted with EMD gel 60 F254 pre-coated plates (0.25 mm) and visualized using a combination of UV, anisaldehyde, iodine, and potassium permanganate staining. Silicycle silica gel 60 (particle size 0.040–0.063 mm) was used for flash column chromatography. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker spectrometers (500 MHz). Data for ¹H spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift (δ ppm), multiplicity, coupling constant (Hz), integration and are referenced to the residual solvent peak 7.26 ppm for CDCl₃, 5.32 ppm for CD₂Cl₂, 4.79 ppm for D₂O, and 1.94 ppm for CD₃CN. Data for ²H NMR spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift (δ ppm, at 77 MHz), multiplicity, coupling constant, integration and are referenced to the residual solvent peak 7.26 ppm for CDCl₂. ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in terms of chemical shift (at 125 MHz) and are referenced to the residual solvent peak 118.26 ppm for CD₃CN, 77.16 ppm for CDCl₃, and 53.84 for CD₂Cl₂. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 100 spectrometer and are reported in terms of frequency absorption (cm⁻¹). Optical rotations were measured with a Rudolph Autopol III Automatic Polarimeter. Uncorrected melting points were measured using a Mel-Temp II melting point apparatus with a Fluke 50S thermocouple and a Digimelt MPA160 melting point apparatus. High resolution mass spectra were obtained from the UC Irvine Mass Spectrometry Facility.

Complete Reference 4r from manuscript:

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¹ M. Frigerio, M. Santagostino, S. Sputore, J. Org. Chem. **1999**, 64, 4537–4538.

² C. Niu, T. Pettersson, M. J. Miller, J. Org. Chem. **1996**, 61, 1014–1022.

Experimental Procedures.



Oxindole 8. To a solution of indole 6^3 (200 mg, 0.457 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂(9.2 mL) at 0 °C was added NBS (82.0 mg, 0.462 mmol, 1.01 equiv) in one portion. The reaction vial was flushed with N₂, and allowed to stir at 0 °C. After 15 min, solid NaHCO₂ (200 mg, 100 wt %) was added in one portion. The reaction was removed from the 0 °C bath and allowed to stir at room temperature for 5 min. The resulting suspension was evaporated under reduced pressure. Absolute ethanol (9.2 mL) and concentrated aqueous HCl (9.2 mL) were added. After heating to 80 °C for 17 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and transferred to a separatory funnel with H₂O (15 mL) and EtOAc (15 mL). To the funnel was added solid NaHCO₃ until gas evolution was no longer observed. The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL) and the organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (1:1:1 hexanes:CH₂Cl₂:Et₂O) to afford oxindole 8 (130 mg, 83% yield) as a brown solid. Oxindole 8: mp: 203.2 °C; R_f 0.23 (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.22 (dd, J = 7.8, 7.7, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 7.7, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 7.8, 1H), 5.56 (dd, J = 17.5, 110.9, 1H, 5.22 (d, J = 10.9, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 17.5, 1H), 4.22 (ddd, J = 12.2, 5.6, 2.8, 1H), 10.93.73 (s, 1H), 3.32 (d, J = 1.4, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.59 (dd, J = 14.9, 5.6, 1H) 2.53 (d, J = 14.9, 8.2, 1H), 2.07 (ddd, J = 14.9, 12.2, 8.2, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.58 (d, J = 2.8, 1H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 0.68 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 20 of 21 observed): δ 208.3, 174.9, 144.8, 142.0, 130.7, 128.5, 127.2, 125.2, 116.6, 107.2, 68.4, 68.2, 62.2, 53.5, 50.1, 40.2, 30.0, 26.4, 26.3, 22.6; IR (film): 1703, 1687, 1611, 1588, 1461 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₂₅NO₃Na, 362.1732; found 362.1737; $[\alpha]^{25.2}_{D}$ +6.60° (c = 1.000, CHCl₃).

³ A. D. Huters, K. W. Quasdorf, E. D. Styduhar, N. K. Garg, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 15797–15799.



Silvl ether 9. To a solution of oxindole 8 (609 mg, 1.80 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (18.0 mL) was added imidazole (611 mg, 8.97 mmol, 5.0 equiv), DMAP (219 mg, 1.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and tetrabutylammonium iodide (663 mg, 1.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, and then TBSCI (809 mg, 5.37 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added in one portion. The flask was fitted with a reflux condenser, flushed with N₂, and then heated to 100 °C. After 25 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (50 mL), H_2O (20 mL), and a solution of saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (20 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with H₂O (3 x 50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford silvl ether 9 (746 mg, 92% yield) as a white solid. Silvl ether 9: mp: 184.5 °C; $R_f 0.64$ (2:1 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.21 (dd, J =7.9, 7.7, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 7.7, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 7.9, 1H), 5.40 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.8, 1H), 5.15-5.00 (m, 2H), 4.17 (dd, J = 11.6, 5.5, 1H), 3.62 (s, 1H), 3.26 (s, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H),2.47 (d, J = 8.2, 1H), 2.40 (dd, J = 15.1, 5.5, 1H), 2.10 (ddd, J = 15.1, 11.6, 8.2, 1H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 0.82 (s, 9H), 0.67 (s, 3H), 0.04 (s, 3H), -0.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125) MHz, CDCl₃, 24 of 25 observed): δ 208.6, 175.0, 144.6, 143.6, 131.2, 128.4, 127.4, 124.9, 114.6, 107.1, 70.0, 69.2, 62.5, 53.7, 50.3, 40.1, 32.0, 26.4, 25.8, 22.4, 18.1, 16.1, -3.8, -4.4; IR (film): 1707, 1689, 1609, 1590, 1465 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{27}H_{39}NO_3SiNa$, 476.2597; found 476.2600; $[\alpha]^{26.1}_{D}$ +12.60° (c = 1.000, CHCl₃).



Carbamate 5. To a solution of silyl ether **9** (178 mg, 0.393 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (13.0 mL) at -78 °C was added a solution of LiAlD₄ (1.0 M in THF, 1.18 mL, 1.18 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in a dropwise manner. After stirring at -78 °C for 20 min, the solution was then allowed to warm to 0 °C. After 20 min, the reaction was quenched at 0 °C with slow addition of a saturated aqueous solution of Rochelle's salt (10 mL), and then allowed to warm to 23 °C. The resulting biphasic mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (25 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 25 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried

over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was used in the subsequent step without further purification.

To a flask containing the crude residue from the previous step was added CH_2Cl_2 (7.85 mL), cooled to 0 °C, followed by addition of trichloroacetyl isocyanate (58 μ L, 0.490 mmol, 1.25 equiv) in a dropwise manner. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at 0 °C for 5 min, and then at room temperature for 20 min. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. To the resulting residue was added MeOH (7.85 mL) followed by solid K₂CO₃ (298 mg, 2.16 mmol, 5.5 equiv) in one portion. The reaction was flushed with N₂ and left to stir at room temperature for 80 min. The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (7 mL), and the resulting biphasic mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (25 mL) and H₂O (20 mL). After extracting with EtOAc $(3 \times 25 \text{ mL})$, the organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (2:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford carbamate 5 (203 mg, quant. yield, over two steps) as a white solid. Carbamate 5: mp: 106.1 °C; R_f 0.47 (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.15 (ddd, J = 7.8, 7.7, 0.7, 1H), 6.70 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.7, 1H), 6.63 (d, J = 7.8, 100) 1H), 5.23 (dd, J = 17.4, 10.7, 1H), 5.03 (dd, J = 17.4, 1.3, 1H), 4.93 (dd, J = 10.7, 1.3, 1H), 4.34 (s, 2H), 4.03 (dd, J = 12.5, 5.1, 1H), 3.60 (s, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.83 (s, 1H) 2.30 (ddd, J = 15.0, 5.1, 1.9, 1H), 2.25 (d, J = 6.1, 1H), 1.98 (ddd, J = 15.0, 12.5, 6.1, 11H), 1.58 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H), 0.82 (s, 9H), 0.03 (s, 3H), -0.12 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.51 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.8, 156.1, 146.3, 144.6, 138.1, 128.6, 127.4, 125.3, 113.7, 106.3, 74.5 (t, $J_{C-D} = 22.1$), 70.9, 56.8, 55.9, 49.0, 48.9, 37.3, 32.4, 29.2, 26.3, 25.9, 24.3, 18.1, 17.1, -3.8, -4.3; IR (film): 2956, 2923, 2857, 1728, 1701, 1607, 1596, 1463 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{28}H_{41}N_2O_4SiDNa$, 522.2874; found 522.2872; $[\alpha]^{26.5}_{D}$ +11.40° (c = 1.000, CHCl₃).



Oxazolidinone 10. A 1-dram vial containing CH₃CN, a second 1-dram vial charged with bathophenanthroline (10.6 mg, 0.0319 mmol, 0.5 equiv), and a third 1-dram vial containing carbamate **5** (33.0 mg, 0.0660 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and PhI(OAc)₂ (42.5 mg, 0.132 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were transferred into the glovebox. AgOTf (8.5 mg, 0.033 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and CH₃CN (950 μ L) were added to the vial containing the bathophenanthroline, and the resulting suspension was allowed to stir at room temperature for 20 min. Next, CH₃CN (950 μ L) was added to the vial containing the carbamate, and the AgOTf/bathophenanthroline suspension was also added to this vial. The vial was then sealed, removed from the glovebox, and the resulting mixture was heated to 82 °C. After 24 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and filtered by passage over a plug of silica gel (EtOAc eluent, 10 mL). The filtrate was evaporated

under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (2:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford oxazolidinone **10** (23 mg, 70% yield) as a yellow solid and recovered silyl ether **9** (2 mg, 7% yield) as a white solid. Oxazolidinone **10**: mp: 288.0 °C (decomp.); R_f 0.50 (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.21 (app t, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 6.77–6.73 (m, 2H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 5.19–5.09 (m, 3H), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 5.2, 1H), 3.47 (s, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.44 (d, *J* = 6.7, 1H), 2.31 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 5.2, 1H), 2.01 (ddd, *J* = 15.2, 11.7, 6.7, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H), 0.80 (s, 9H), 0.00 (s, 3H), -0.16 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.97 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 of 26 observed): δ 174.8, 159.1, 144.1, 144.0, 137.6, 128.0, 125.9, 124.7, 116.3, 107.4, 72.2, 69.9, 55.2, 49.9, 46.8, 37.7, 32.3, 28.0, 26.4, 25.8, 22.8, 18.1, 12.9, -3.8, -4.4; IR (film): 1758, 1708, 1691, 1607, 1590, 1461 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₃₉N₂O₄SiDNa, 520.2718; found 520.2719; [α]^{27.0} +1.40° (*c* = 1.000, CHCl₃).



Ketone 4. A flask was charged with oxazolidinone **10** (576 mg, 1.16 mmol, 1.0 equiv), absolute ethanol (23.0 mL), and concentrated aqueous HCl (23.0 mL). After stirring at 23 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h, the reaction mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel with H₂O (50 mL) and EtOAc (50 mL). To the funnel was added solid NaHCO₃ until no more gas evolution was observed. The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL) and the organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was used in the subsequent step without further purification.

To a flask containing the crude product from the previous step was added solid NaHCO₃ (487 mg, 5.80 mmol, 5.0 equiv) in one portion. The reaction vessel was flushed with N₂, and then CH₂Cl₂(11.6 mL) was added. To the resulting suspension was added the Dess-Martin periodinane reagent (645 mg, 1.52 mmol, 1.3 equiv) in one portion. The flask was flushed with N₂, and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature. After 1 h, the reaction mixture was diluted with a 1:1 mixture of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and saturated aqueous Na₂S₂O₃ (10.0 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was vigorously stirred until both layers appeared clear. The mixture was then transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (30 mL) and H₂O (30 mL), and then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 hexanes: EtOAc) to afford ketone 4 (454 mg, quant. yield, over two steps) as a yellow solid. Ketone 4: mp: 293.5 °C; $R_f 0.42$ (1:3 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.20 (app t, J = 8.0, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.77–6.73 (m, 2H), 5.34 (dd, J = 17.6, 10.9, 1H), 5.22-5.16 (m, 2H), 3.34 (s, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.17-3.06 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 3.12H), 2.86–2.82 (m, 1H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.45 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 of 22 observed): δ 209.8,

174.3, 159.3, 144.5, 137.9, 136.0, 128.5, 124.3, 123.4, 116.8, 108.0, 70.8, 57.4, 51.9, 48.2, 40.2, 38.4, 27.3, 26.5, 22.5, 19.8; IR (film): 1760, 1752, 1689, 1611, 1590 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₂₃N₂O₄DNa, 404.1696; found 404.1700; $[\alpha]_{D}^{27.3} - 26.67^{\circ}$ (*c* = 0.870, CHCl₃).



Bromoketone 11. A 1-dram vial was charged with ketone 4 (50.0 mg, 0.131 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and transferred into the glovebox. CuBr₂ (59.0 mg, 0.264 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was then added and the vial was removed from the glovebox. THF (2.1 mL) was added and the reaction vial was sealed and left to stir at room temperature. After 19 h, the reaction mixture was filtered by passage over a plug of celite (THF eluent, 10 mL). The filtrate was collected in a test tube, diluted with H_2O (5 mL), and then extracted with $CHCl_3$ (3 x 5 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was adsorbed onto silica gel (2 mL) and purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexanes: acetone) to afford bromoketone 11 (42.5 mg, 71%yield) as a white solid. Bromoketone 11: mp: 273.0 °C (decomp.); R_f 0.62 (1:3) hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 7.32 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.6, 0.8, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 6.89–6.84 (m, 2H), 5.27–5.19 (m, 1H), 5.12–5.03 (m, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 2H), 1.87 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 0.81 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.87 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (21 of 22 observed, 125 MHz, CD₃CN): § 204.9, 173.3, 157.4, 144.7, 138.3, 136.2, 128.4, 123.7, 122.8, 115.8, 108.0, 70.5, 58.2, 56.0, 50.4, 46.8, 38.7, 25.84, 25.75, 23.3, 21.5; IR (film): 1762, 1702, 1607, 1464 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{22}H_{22}O_4DN_2BrNa$, 484.0784; found 484.0809; $[\alpha]^{25.8}D_{+}+179.20^{\circ}$ (c = 1.000, $CHCl_3$).



Cyclobutane 13. To a solution of bromoketone **11** (4.0 mg, 0.0087 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (870 μ L) was added NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil, 1.7 mg, 0.043 mmol, 5.0 equiv) in one portion. The reaction vial was then opened to air for 10 seconds, sealed and left to stir at room temperature. After 2 h, the reaction mixture was filtered by passage over a plug of silica gel (EtOAc eluent, 6 mL). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography (2:1

hexanes:EtOAc) to afford cyclobutane **13** (3.3 mg, 97% yield) as a white solid. Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction studies (CCDC 960226) were obtained by concentration of **13** from a mixture of CHCl₃ and pentane. Cyclobutane **13**: mp: 284.0 °C; R_f 0.51 (1:3 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.27 (app t, J = 8.0, 7.8, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 7.8, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 5.09–5.02 (m, 2H), 4.90 (dd, J = 17.7, 10.8, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 7.4, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 3.09 (d, J = 7.4, 1H), 1.49 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 0.68 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.33 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 206.7, 172.3, 159.2, 142.9, 137.2, 135.5, 128.9, 124.6, 120.3, 117.4, 108.5, 80.4 (t, $J_{C-D} = 21.6$), 69.3, 61.1, 57.4, 46.0, 45.3, 41.6, 26.7, 26.1, 21.1, 18.7; IR (film): 1758, 1710, 1607, 1469 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₂₁O₄DN₂Na, 402.1540; found 402.1540; [α]^{27.3} – 94.00° (c = 0.500, CHCl₃).



General Procedure for Acetoxyoxindole 14 + Ether 3 From Table 1. A 1-dram vial charged with bromoketone 11 (5.0 mg, 0.011 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was transferred into the glovebox. $Mn(OAc)_3$ was added and the vial was removed from the glovebox. AcOH (1.1 mL) was then added and the reaction vial was sealed and left to stir at the indicated temperature. For entries 1-2, after stirring for 24 h the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, transferred to a test tube with $CHCl_3$ (2 mL) and aqueous 2M HCl (1 mL), and then extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 2 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (2 x 2 mL), H₂O (2 x 2 mL), and then dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (1:1 CHCl₃:EtOAc) to afford acetoxyoxindole 14 and/or ether 3 as white solids. For entry 3, after stirring for 24 h the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. To the resulting residue was added a 1:1 mixture of MeOH:H₂O (1.1 mL) and solid K₂CO₃ (3.8 mg, 0.272 mmol, 25.0 equiv) in one portion. The reaction vial was flushed with N2, sealed and allowed to stir at 70 °C. After 19 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with H_2O (2 mL) and transferred to a test tube with $CHCl_3$ (2 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 2 mL). The organic layers were

combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (1:1 CHCl₃:EtOAc) to afford ether 3 (2.4 mg, 56% yield) as a white solid. Acetoxyoxindole 14: mp: 283.0 °C (decomp.); $R_{f} 0.65$ (1:3 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.31 (app t, J = 8.0, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.80–6.76 (m, 2H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 5.31 (d, J = 17.0, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 10.7, 1H, 5.01 (dd, J = 17.0, 10.7, 1 H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 1H), 1.91 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.87 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (23 of 24 observed, 125 MHz, CDCl₂): δ 203.1, 171.4, 168.9, 158.4, 145.9, 137.3, 136.5, 131.0, 124.7, 122.6, 118.0, 108.2, 84.3, 70.4, 58.2, 56.3, 48.9, 41.2, 27.1, 25.3, 22.7, 22.6, 21.4; IR (film): 1762, 1732, 1712, 1611, 1597, 1463 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) $[M + Na]^+$ calcd for $C_{24}H_{24}O_6DN_2BrNa$, 540.0856; found 540.0858; $[\alpha]^{26.9}_{D}$ -18.40° (c = 1.000, CHCl₃). Ether **3**: mp: 317.0 °C (decomp.); $R_f 0.53$ (1:3 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$: δ 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.25 (app t, J = 7.9, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.64, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.64, 1H), 5.22 (dd, J = 17.2, 10.7, 1H), 4.96-4.89 (m, 2H), 4.78 (d, J = 17.2, 10.7, 1H)10.7, 1H), 3.30 (d, J = 7.5, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.02 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.69 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 205.2, 171.9, 158.7, 142.8, 137.6, 136.3, 130.4, 126.6, 122.3, 116.4, 108.6, 88.8, 83.3, 81.4 (t, $J_{C-D} =$ 22.6), 70.2, 59.4, 51.4, 48.9, 26.9, 25.4, 21.2, 19.6; IR (film): 1774, 1724, 1710, 1605 cm⁻ ¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₂₁O₅DN₂Na, 418.1489; found 418.1476; $[\alpha]^{21.3}_{D} - 157.20^{\circ} (c = 1.000, \text{CHCl}_3).$



Ether 3. To a solution of ketone 4 (30 mg, 0.079 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (7.9 mL) was added Bu₄NF (1.0 M in THF, 236 μ L, 0.236 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in a dropwise manner. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 min, then opened to air for 30 seconds. The reaction vessel was sealed and left to stir at room temperature. After 2 h, the reaction was quenched with a solution of saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (5 mL). The resulting mixture was transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (10 mL) and H₂O (10 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford ether 3 (22 mg, 71% yield) as a white solid.



Alcohol 15. To a solution of ether 3 (9.4 mg, 0.024 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (2.3 mL) at -78 °C was added LiAlH₄ (1.0 M in THF, 24 μ L, 0.024 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in a dropwise manner. After 5 min, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0 °C. After 20 min, the reaction was guenched at 0 °C with slow addition of a saturated aqueous solution of Rochelle's salt (3.0 mL) and then allowed to warm to 23 °C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, and then transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (10 mL) and H₂O (10 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (1:2 CHCl₃:EtOAc) to afford alcohol 15 (8.7 mg, 92% yield) as a white solid. Alcohol **15**: mp: 263.0 °C; $R_f 0.15$ (1:3 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.19 (app t, J = 7.9, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.9, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 7.9, 1H), 5.21 (dd, J = 7.9, 17.4, 10.8, 1 H), 5.09-5.03 (m, 2H), 4.94 (d, J = 10.8, 1H), 3.72 (dd, J = 11.1, 2.0, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.02 (d, J = 7.5, 1H), 2.02 (d, J = 11.1, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H); ²H NMR (77 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.79 (br. s, 1D); ¹³C NMR (21 of 22 observed, 125 MHz, CDCl₂); § 173.0, 159.4, 142.4, 139.0, 136.4, 130.2, 126.9, 122.4, 117.9, 108.2, 87.3, 82.0, 76.1, 70.9, 49.2, 48.7, 48.3, 26.8, 25.6, 21.3, 19.6; IR (film): 1752, 1722, 1603, 1462 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₂₃O₅DN₂Na, 420.1646; found 420.1631; $[\alpha]^{24.1}$ –49.20° (c = 1.000, CHCl₃).



SI-1. A Schlenk tube was charged with alcohol **15** (7.30 mg, 0.0184 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Ba(OH)₂·8H₂O (46.3 mg, 0.147 mmol, 8.0 equiv). The reaction vessel was then evacuated and backfilled with N₂ three times. A 2:1 mixture of 1,4-dioxane:H₂O (634 μ L) that had been taken through six freeze-pump-thaw cycles prior to use was then added to the Schlenk tube. The vessel was then sealed and allowed to stir at 110 °C. After 21 h, the contents of the Schlenk tube were transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (5 mL) and H₂O (5 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 5 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (3:1 CHCl₃:MeOH) to afford **SI-1** (5.4 mg, 79% yield) as a white solid. **SI-1**: R_f 0.12 (9:1 CHCl₃:MeOH); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O, 22 of 25 observed): δ 7.37 (app t, *J* = 8.3, 1H),

7.18 (d, J = 8.3, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.2, 1H), 5.50 (dd, J = 17.6, 11.0, 1H), 4.96 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.8, 1 H), 4.92 (d, J = 17.6, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 1.8, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.83 (d, J = 7.3, 1H), 1.91 (s, 2H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.85 (s, 3H).



Aminodiketone 16. To a solution of SI-1 (5.4 mg, 0.014 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMSO $(500 \ \mu\text{L})$ was added TFA (1.2 μL , 0.016 mmol, 1.10 equiv). The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 5 min, IBX (20.4 mg, 0.0728 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added in one portion and the vial was flushed with N₂. After stirring at room temperature for 20 h, the reaction mixture transferred to a separatory funnel with a solution of aqueous $K_2CO_3(5)$ mL, concentration of 50 mg/mL) and EtOAc (5 mL). The resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 5 mL) and the organic layers were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (9:1 CHCl₃:MeOH) to afford aminodiketone 16 (4.5 mg, 84% yield) as a white solid. Aminodiketone 16: mp: 190-191 °C; R_f 0.73 (9:1 CH₃Cl:MeOH); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35 (dd, J = 8.2, 7.6, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J =8.2, 1.0, 1H), 6.80 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.0, 1H), 5.64 (dd, J = 17.4, 10.7, 1H), 5.40 (d, J = 10.7, 1 H), 5.21 (d, J = 17.4, 1H), 4.93 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 3.49 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.04 (br. s, 2H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 0.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (21 of 22 observed, 125 MHz, CDCl₂): 8 204.9, 204.4, 170.2, 143.6, 134.8, 134.8, 130.3, 125.8, 124.2, 118.9, 108.9, 86.5, 79.4, 69.4, 62.5, 62.1, 52.4, 26.9, 25.3, 20.0, 17.6; IR (film): 1718, 1609, 1582, 1459, 1366 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₂₂O₄DN₂Na, 389.1477; found 389.1469; $[\alpha]^{22.9}_{D}$ +29.20° (*c* = 1.000, CHCl₃).



(+)-N-Methylwelwitindolinone D Isonitrile (2). A 1-dram vial was charged with 96% formic acid (0.100 mL) and acetic anhydride (0.100 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 1 h. The reaction vessel was cooled to room temperature and 39 μ L of the 96% formic acid/acetic anhydride mixture was added to a solution of aminodiketone 16 (4.2 mg, 0.010 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (765 μ L) at 0 °C. The reaction was then warmed to room temperature. After 2 h, the reaction mixture was transferred to a test tube with EtOAc (2 mL) and a solution of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (1 mL). The

resulting biphasic mixture was extracted with EtOAc (4 x 2 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried over $MgSO_4$, and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was used directly in the subsequent reaction.

To a vial containing the crude product from the previous step was added THF (600 μ L) and benzene (600 μ L), followed by Burgess reagent (3.5 mg, 0.011 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The vial was flushed with N_2 and allowed to stir at room temperature for 40 min. An additional amount of Burgess reagent (3.5 mg, 0.015 mol, 1.0 equiv) was then added, and the reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature for 10 min. The reaction was then filtered by passage over a plug of silica gel (EtOAc eluent, 10 mL). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford (+)-2 (3.3 mg, 77% yield, 2 steps) as a white solid. Spectral data for ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and IR for synthetic **2** was consistent with literature reports.⁴ (+)-N-Methylwelwitindolinone D isonitrile (2): mp: 156 °C; R_{f} 0.50 (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 7.45 (dd, J = 8.3, 7.9, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 8.3, 0.7, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.7, 1H), 5.48 (dd, J = 16.3, 10.6, 101H), 5.43 (dd, J = 10.6, 1.5, 1H), 5.35 (dd, J = 16.3, 1.5, 1H), 4.92 (d, J = 7.5, 1H), 3.57 $(d, J = 7.5, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 0.80 (s, 3H); {}^{13}C NMR (125)$ MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 201.3, 192.8, 169.9, 165.5, 144.4, 133.0, 131.4, 126.8, 125.8, 124.0, 120.6, 110.5, 86.7, 81.1, 79.7, 62.0, 61.7, 53.6, 27.1, 25.0, 20.1, 19.8; IR (film): 2980, 2940, 2139, 1730, 1609, 1592, 1463, 1366, 1344 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M + Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{22}H_{20}N_2O_4Na$, 399.1321; found 399.1322; $[\alpha]^{22.3}_{D}$ +4.30° (c = 0.37, CH₂Cl₂). Note: This specific rotation differs from that reported for the natural product ($[\alpha]_D - 30^\circ$, c =0.37, CH₂Cl₂). This is most likely due to a tabulation error in the isolation report as: (a) the synthesis begins with (S)-carvone >96% + ee, (b) the specific rotation of bicycle 6 in this synthesis is consistent with that of material used in previous syntheses of welwitindolinones,^{3,5c} and (c) our specific rotation data has given consistent results across a range of samples and concentrations. Although the sign of rotation differs, the compound we have prepared is assumed to be the natural occurring enantiomer due to its biosynthetic relationship to the N-methylweltindolinone C series of natural products, whose absolute configuration have previously been established.^{3,5}

⁴ J. L. Jimenez, U. Huber, R. E. Moore, G. M. L. Patterson, *J. Nat. Prod.* **1999**, *62*, 569–572.

⁵ a) V. Bhat, K. M. Allan, V. H. Rawal, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 5798–5801; b) K. W. Allan, K. Kobayashi, V. H. Rawal, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 1392–1395; c) K. W. Quasdorf, A. D. Huters, M. W. Lodewyk, D. J. Tantillo, N. K. Garg, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 1396–1399.

¹H and ²H NMR Spectra:















Styduhar et al.: N-Methylwelwitindolinone D Isonitrile Supporting Information – S20





















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¹³C NMR Spectra:

















Styduhar et al.: N-Methylwelwitindolinone D Isonitrile Supporting Information – S44







