

# Regiodivergent Construction of Medium-Sized Heterocycles from Vinylethylene Carbonates and Allylidenemalonitrils

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## Supporting Information

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## 1. General Information

### General Procedures

- All reactions were performed in oven-dried or flame-dried reaction vessels, modified Schlenk flasks, or round-bottom flasks. The flasks were fitted with Teflon screw caps and reactions were conducted under an atmosphere of argon if needed. Gas-tight syringes with stainless steel needles were used to transfer air- and moisture-sensitive liquids. All moisture and/or air sensitive solid compounds were manipulated inside normal desiccators. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (40–63  $\mu\text{m}$ , 230–400 mesh).
- Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> aluminum plates (Merck) containing a 254 nm fluorescent indicator. TLC plates were visualized by exposure to short wave ultraviolet light (254 nm) and I<sub>2</sub>.
- Organic solutions were concentrated at 30–50 °C on rotary evaporators at ~10 torr followed by drying on vacuum pump at ~1 torr. Reaction temperatures are reported as the temperature of the bath surrounding the vessel unless otherwise stated.

### Materials

- Commercial reagents and solvents were purchased from Adamas-beta, Aldrich Chemical Co., Alfa Aesar, Macklin and Energy Chemical and used as received with the following exceptions: THF, Et<sub>2</sub>O and toluene were purified by refluxing over Na-benzophenone under positive argon pressure followed by distillation.<sup>1</sup> The allylidene malononitriles **1**<sup>2</sup>, vinyl ethylene carbonates **2**<sup>3</sup>, and oxazolidinone **9**<sup>4</sup> were prepared according to literature procedure.

### Instrumentation

- Proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectra were recorded with JEOL-600M. Proton chemical shifts are reported in parts per million ( $\delta$  scale), and are referenced using residual protium in the NMR solvent (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  7.26 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br s = broad singlet), coupling constant(s) (Hz), integration].
- Carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) spectra were recorded with JEOL 150 MHz spectrometers. Carbon chemical shifts are reported in parts per million ( $\delta$  scale), and are referenced using the carbon resonances of the solvent ( $\delta$  77.0 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift [multiplicity (if not singlet), assignment (C<sub>q</sub> = fully substituted carbon)].
- High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Waters SYNAPT G2 using an electrospray (ESI) ionization source.
- Melting points were recorded on WRX-X-4A melting point apparatus.
- The reaction temperature of 20 °C and 10 °C were controlled with a DHJF-8002 Zhengzhou Changsheng cryogenic thermostatic reaction bath.

## 2. Further Optimization Studies

**Table S1.** Further screening of ligands and additives <sup>a</sup>

| entry           | catalyst  | ligand     | additive                        | yield (%) <sup>b</sup> | 3a:4a <sup>c</sup> |
|-----------------|---|------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1               | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | –          | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 2 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L8</b>  | –                               | <5                     | /                  |
| 3 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L9</b>  | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 4 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L10</b> | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 5 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L11</b> | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 6 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L12</b> | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 7 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L13</b> | –                               | <5                     | /                  |
| 8 <sup>d</sup>  | Pd <sub>2</sub> (dba) <sub>3</sub> ·CHCl <sub>3</sub> | <b>L14</b> | –                               | /                      | /                  |
| 9               | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>            | <5                     | /                  |
| 10              | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | Al(OTf) <sub>3</sub>            | 81                     | 2.0:1              |
| 11              | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | Ti(O <i>i</i> Pr) <sub>4</sub>  | 75                     | 9.6:1              |
| 12              | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | Mg(O <i>t</i> Bu) <sub>2</sub>  | 89                     | 2.8:1              |
| 13              | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | PhB(OH) <sub>2</sub>            | 86                     | 1.3:1              |
| 14 <sup>e</sup> | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> | 89                     | 2.2:1              |
| 15 <sup>e</sup> | Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>                    | –          | TMSCl                           | <5                     | /                  |

<sup>a</sup> Unless noted otherwise, the reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.10 mmol), **2a** (0.15 mmol), Pd catalyst (5 mol %) and additive (0.02 mmol) in solvent (1.0 mL) for 12 h. <sup>b</sup> Yield was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis with CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as the internal standard. <sup>c</sup> The ratio of **3a**:**4a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. <sup>d</sup> The Pd/ligand complex was pre-prepared with Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>·CHCl<sub>3</sub> and ligand in THF at rt for 1 h. <sup>e</sup> The reactions were carried out with additive (0.12 mmol).

**Table S2.** Further screening of solvents and temperature <sup>a</sup>

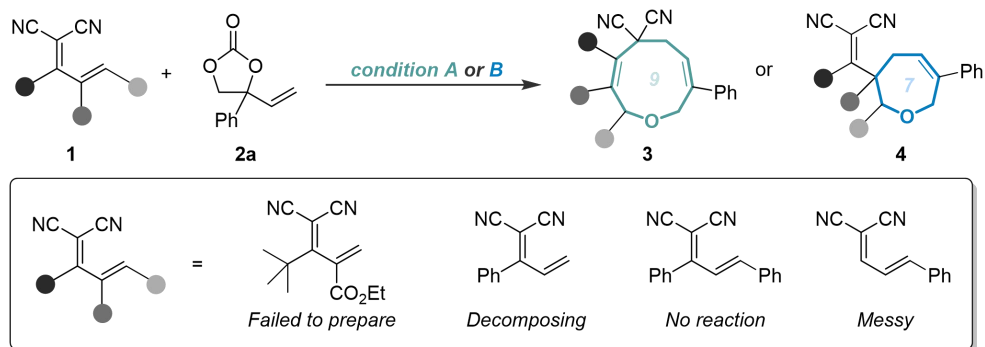
Reaction scheme showing the reaction of **1a** and **2a** to form **3a** and **4a**. The reaction conditions are  $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %), solvent, T °C, t h.

| entry | solvent       | T (°C) | t (h) | yield (%) <sup>b</sup> | <b>3a:4a</b> <sup>c</sup> |
|-------|---------------|--------|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | acetone       | 20     | 24    | 30                     | >20:1                     |
| 2     | ethyl acetate | 20     | 24    | 84                     | 3.1:1                     |
| 3     | DMSO          | 20     | 24    | <5                     | /                         |
| 4     | acetone       | 60     | 12    | 64                     | 12.8:1                    |
| 5     | ethyl acetate | 60     | 12    | 77                     | 1.8:1                     |
| 6     | DMSO          | 60     | 12    | 83                     | >20:1                     |
| 7     | DME           | 60     | 12    | 72                     | >20:1                     |
| 8     | MTBE          | 60     | 12    | 65                     | 2.9:1                     |

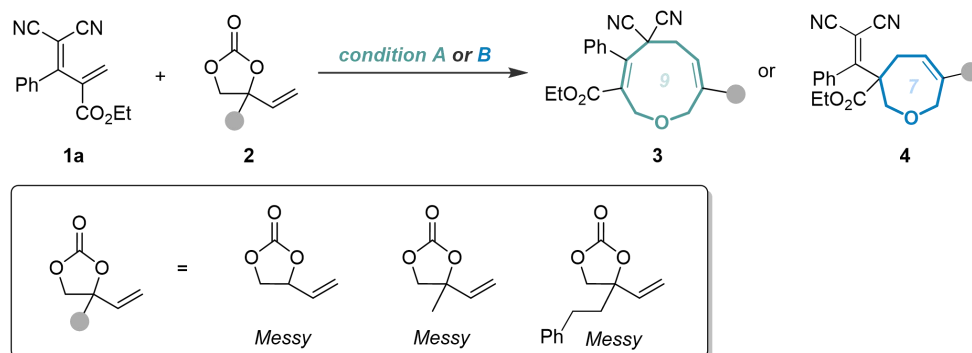
<sup>a</sup> Unless noted otherwise, the reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.10 mmol), **2a** (0.15 mmol), and  $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %) in solvent (1.0 mL). <sup>b</sup> Yield was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard. <sup>c</sup> The ratio of **3a:4a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.



### 3. Further Substrate Scope Investigation



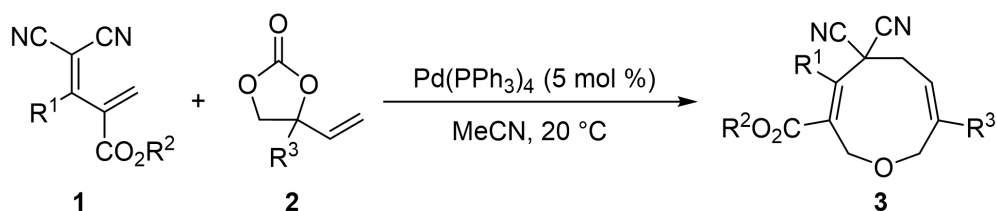
**Scheme S1.** Further substrate scope investigation of allylidene malononitriles



**Scheme S2.** Further substrate scope investigation of VECs

#### 4. General Procedure for the Preparation of Nine-Membered Products 3

General procedure for the synthesis of nine-membered products 3

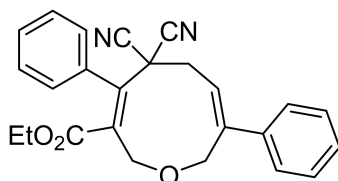


To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of dried allylidene malononitriles **1** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonates **2** (0.15 mmol) in dry MeCN (1.0 mL) was added *via* syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 24 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1, then petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford the corresponding **3** in 51–96% yields, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

##### Gram-scale synthesis of the nine-membered product **3a**

To an over-dried 100 mL Schlenk flask, was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.20 mmol, 0.23 g), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of dried allylidene malononitrile **1a** (4.00 mmol, 1.01 g) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** (6.00 mmol, 1.14 g) in dry MeCN (40 mL) was added *via* syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 24 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1, then petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford **3a** (1.08 g) as white solid in 68% yields.

##### ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-4,8-diphenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate **3a**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3a** (35.8 mg, m. p. = 131 – 135 °C) in

90% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

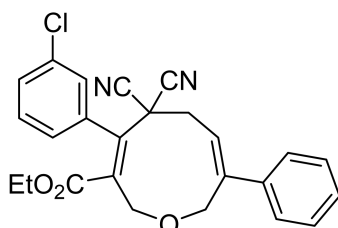
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3a:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.55 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.25 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.63 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.6, 143.8, 139.4, 138.9, 137.4, 135.9, 129.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 126.6, 122.2, 114.2, 66.6, 63.4, 61.5, 40.2, 39.0, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 421.1523, found: 421.1530.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-4-(3-chlorophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3b**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3b** (29.9 mg, m. p. = 142 – 145 °C) in 69% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

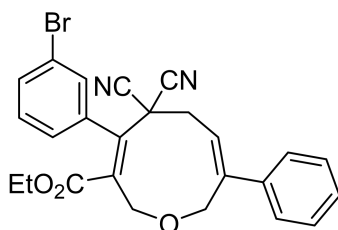
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3b:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.54 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.33 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.24 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.91 (q,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.62 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.2, 143.9, 139.2, 138.8, 137.5, 136.8, 134.6, 130.0, 129.8, 128.74, 128.68, 128.3, 126.6, 126.4, 122.0, 114.0, 66.8, 63.4, 61.7, 39.9, 39.1, 13.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 455.1133, found: 455.1131; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 457.1103, found: 457.1114.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-4-(3-bromophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3c**



Prepared according to the general procedure for 48 h to afford **3c** (25.3 mg) in 53% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

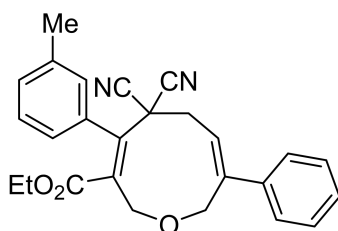
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3c:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.56 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.2, 143.9, 139.2, 139.1, 137.7, 136.8, 132.7, 131.1, 130.1, 128.7, 128.8, 126.9, 126.5, 122.5, 122.0, 114.0, 66.8, 63.4, 61.7, 39.9, 39.1, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0629; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0607.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-4-(*m*-tolyl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3d**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3d** (33.8 mg) in 82% yield as colorless semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3d:*

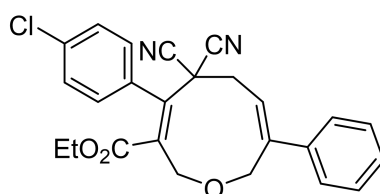
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.56 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.27 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59

(s, 2H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 3.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.87 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.61 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 0.81 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.7, 143.5, 139.4, 139.3, 138.4, 137.3, 135.5, 130.4, 128.7, 128.65, 128.58, 128.5, 126.6, 125.1, 122.4, 114.2, 66.2, 63.1, 61.4, 40.2, 39.0, 21.3, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 435.1679, found: 435.1677.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3e**



Prepared according to the general procedure for 48 h to afford **3e** (31.2 mg, m. p. = 86 – 89 °C) in 72% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

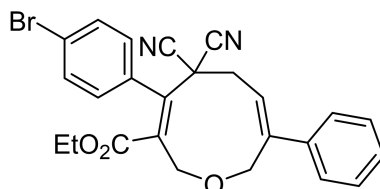
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3e:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.54 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (brs, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.24 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.91 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.62 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.2, 143.9, 139.2, 138.8, 136.8, 134.6, 129.8, 128.74, 128.68, 128.3, 126.6, 126.4, 122.0, 114.0, 66.8, 63.4, 61.7, 39.9, 39.1, 13.5.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 455.1133, found: 455.1128; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 457.1103, found: 457.1107.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-4-(4-bromophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3f**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3f** (24.3 mg, m. p. = 121 – 125 °C) in 51% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3f:*

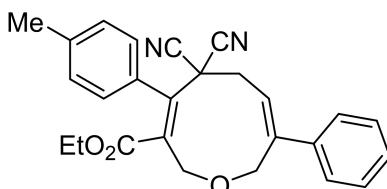
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.19 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.90 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.3, 144.3, 139.3, 137.7, 136.7, 136.2, 131.8, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 126.6, 124.1, 121.9, 114.1, 67.2, 63.8, 61.7, 39.9, 39.2, 13.5.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0626; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0608.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate**

**3g**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3g** (31.7 mg, m. p. = 129 – 132 °C) in 77% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3g:*

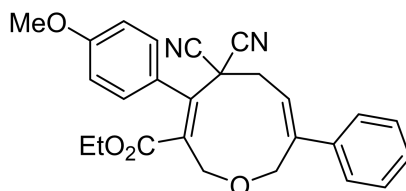
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.87 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.7, 143.6, 139.7, 139.4, 139.1, 135.6, 134.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.0, 126.6, 122.4, 114.3, 66.3, 63.3, 61.5, 40.3, 38.9, 21.4, 13.5.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 435.1679, found:

435.1680.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3h**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure by using 0.30 mmol of the corresponding vinyl ethylene carbonates **2** to afford **3h** (37.7 mg) in 88% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

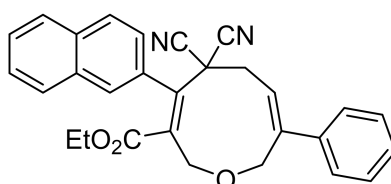
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3h:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.89 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.8, 160.4, 143.7, 139.4, 138.7, 135.9, 129.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 126.6, 122.3, 114.3, 113.9, 66.5, 63.4, 61.5, 55.3, 40.4, 39.0, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 451.1628, found: 451.1631.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-4-(naphthalen-2-yl)-8-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3i**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3i** (31.9 mg, m. p. = 165 – 168 °C) in 71% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3i:*

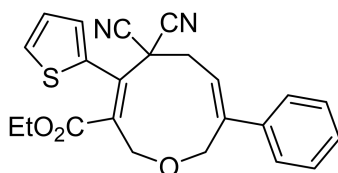
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m,

3H), 7.34 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.28 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.83 – 4.52 (m, 4H), 3.85 – 3.69 (m, 3H), 3.69 – 3.58 (m, 1H), 0.60 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.7, 143.9, 139.4, 139.1, 136.3, 134.8, 133.3, 132.6, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 127.2, 126.9, 126.6, 125.2, 122.3, 114.3, 114.2, 66.8, 63.5, 61.5, 40.2, 39.2, 13.3.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 471.1679, found: 471.1680.

**ethyl-(3Z,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-phenyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3j**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3j** (38.8 mg) in 96% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

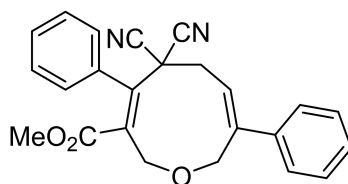
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3j:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.54 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd,  $J = 6.6, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.23 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.96 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.58 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.2, 143.9, 139.3, 139.2, 136.3, 131.8, 129.4, 128.65, 128.55, 127.9, 127.0, 126.6, 122.2, 114.0, 67.1, 63.7, 61.7, 40.7, 38.8, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}^+$ : 427.1087, found: 427.1086.

**methyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-4,8-diphenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3k**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3k** (33.4 mg) in 87% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.



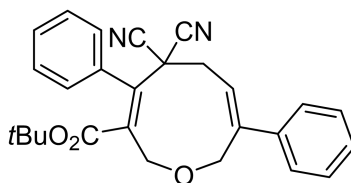
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3k:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 6H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.29 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 168.0, 143.5, 139.5, 139.3, 137.3, 135.6, 129.7, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 126.6, 122.4, 114.1, 66.2, 63.0, 52.3, 40.2, 38.9.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 407.1366, found: 407.1362.

**tert-butyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-4,8-diphenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3l**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure by using 0.30 mmol of the corresponding vinyl ethylene carbonate **2** to afford **3l** (35.0 mg, m. p. = 125 – 129 °C) in 82% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

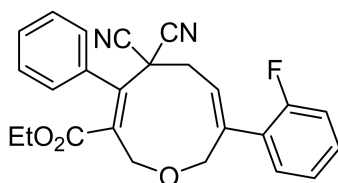
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3l:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 1.07 (s, 9H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 166.7, 143.8, 139.5, 137.5, 137.3, 136.7, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 126.6, 125.5, 122.2, 114.3, 82.7, 66.7, 63.7, 40.1, 39.0, 27.3.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 449.1836, found: 449.1836.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-8-(2-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3m**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3m** (35.4 mg, m. p. = 109 – 111 °C) in 85% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3m:*

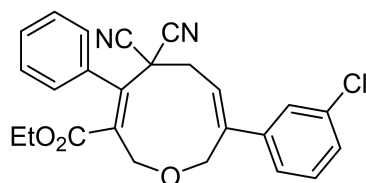
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.36 – 7.30 (1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (s, 2H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.84 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.5, 159.6 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 247.1 Hz), 140.2, 138.6, 137.4, 135.9, 130.2 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 2.9 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 8.7 Hz), 129.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.4 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 12.9 Hz), 125.8, 124.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 116.0 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.5 Hz), 114.2, 67.4, 64.1, 61.5, 40.1, 38.7, 13.4.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): -115.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup> 439.1428, found: 439.1427.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-8-(3-chlorophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3n**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3n** (37.7 mg, m. p. = 89 – 92 °C) in 87% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

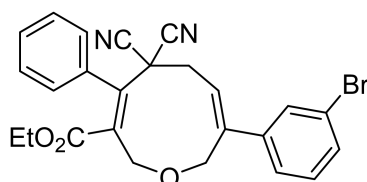
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3n:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.27 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.86 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 167.5, 142.6, 141.2, 138.8, 137.2, 135.8, 134.7, 130.0, 129.7, 128.6, 128.1, 126.8, 124.8, 123.5, 114.1, 66.4, 63.4, 61.6, 40.0, 38.9, 13.4.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>35</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 455.1133, found: 455.1135; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 457.1103, found: 457.1115.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-8-(3-bromophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3o**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3o** (44.4 mg, m. p. = 104 – 106 °C) in 93% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

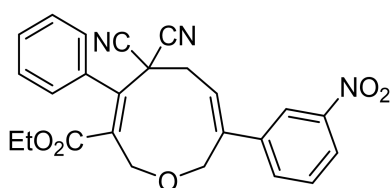
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3o:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.26 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.86 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 167.5, 142.5, 141.5, 138.8, 137.2, 135.8, 131.6, 130.2, 129.73, 129.69, 128.6, 128.1, 125.2, 123.5, 122.8, 114.1, 66.4, 63.5, 61.6, 40.0, 38.9, 13.4.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0628; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0599.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-8-(3-nitrophenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3p**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3p** (42.1 mg, m. p. = 145 – 148 °C) in 95% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3p:*

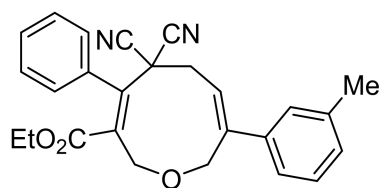
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.39 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.87 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.4, 148.5, 141.6, 141.1, 138.8, 137.0, 135.8, 132.6, 129.83, 129.81, 128.7, 128.0, 125.0, 123.3, 121.5, 113.9, 66.0, 63.4, 61.7, 39.9, 38.8, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 466.1373, found: 466.1374.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-8-(*m*-tolyl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate**

**3q**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure by using 0.30 mmol of the corresponding vinyl ethylene carbonates **2** to afford **3q** (37.5 mg) in 91% yield as colorless semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

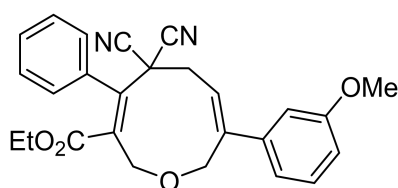
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3q:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 6.26 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.86 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (q, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.6, 143.7, 139.4, 139.0, 138.3, 137.4, 135.8, 129.6, 129.3, 128.6, 128.1, 127.3, 123.7, 122.1, 114.2, 66.4, 63.2, 61.5, 40.2, 39.0, 21.5, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 435.1679, found: 435.1674.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3r**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3r** (34.7 mg, m. p. = 101 – 106 °C) in 81% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

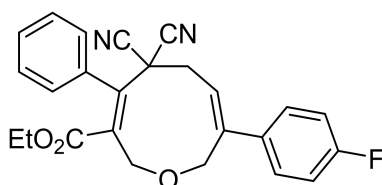
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3r:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.6, 159.8, 143.8, 140.9, 138.9, 137.4, 135.9, 129.7, 129.6, 128.6, 128.1, 122.4, 119.0, 114.2, 114.0, 112.4, 66.7, 63.5, 61.5, 55.3, 40.2, 39.0, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 451.1628, found: 451.1631.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3s**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3s** (35.8 mg, m. p. = 115 – 117 °C) in 86% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3s:*

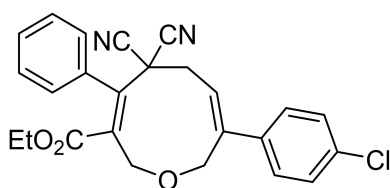
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.20 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.6, 163.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 247.1$  Hz), 142.8, 138.9, 137.3, 135.8, 135.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.9$  Hz), 129.7, 128.6, 128.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.7$  Hz), 128.1, 122.3, 115.6 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.6$  Hz), 114.1, 66.5, 63.4, 61.5, 40.2, 39.0, 13.4.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): -112.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 439.1428, found: 439.1427.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-8-(4-chlorophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3t**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3t** (35.1 mg) in 81% yield as colorless semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

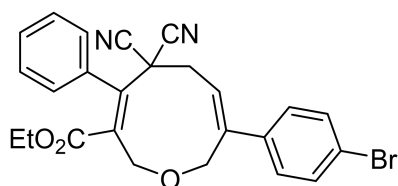
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3t:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.49 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.24 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.61 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.6, 142.7, 138.9, 137.8, 137.3, 135.8, 134.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.9, 122.8, 114.1, 66.4, 63.4, 61.6, 40.1, 39.0, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 455.1133, found: 455.1135; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 457.1103, found: 457.1112.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-8-(4-bromophenyl)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3u**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3u** (36.7 mg, m. p. = 149 – 152 °C) in 77% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$

NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3u:*

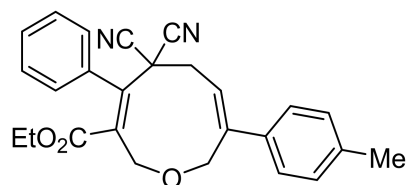
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.52 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 167.6, 142.7, 138.9, 138.3, 137.2, 135.8, 131.8, 129.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 122.84, 122.81, 114.1, 66.3, 63.4, 61.6, 40.0, 39.0, 13.4.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0632; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0609.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-8-(*p*-tolyl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate**

**3v**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3v** (33.8 mg, m. p. = 110 – 115 °C) in 82% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

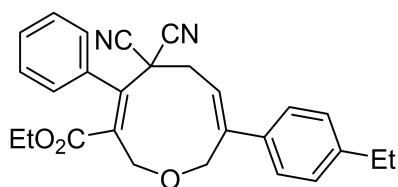
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3v:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 6.24 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 167.6, 143.4, 139.0, 138.6, 137.4, 136.4, 135.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.6, 128.1, 126.5, 121.5, 114.2, 66.3, 63.2, 61.5, 40.2, 39.0, 21.2, 13.4.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 435.1679, found: 435.1682.

**ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-8-(4-ethylphenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3w**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3w** (38.9 mg, m. p. = 94 – 97 °C) in 91% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

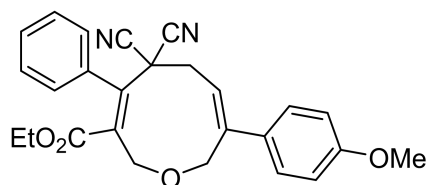
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3w:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 6.25 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (q, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 3H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.6, 144.9, 143.4, 139.0, 137.4, 136.7, 135.8, 129.6, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 126.6, 121.5, 114.2, 66.3, 63.2, 61.5, 40.3, 39.0, 28.5, 15.4, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 449.1836, found: 449.1836.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3x**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3x** (34.7 mg) in 81% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3x:*

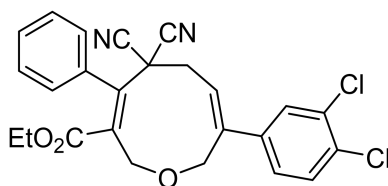
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.51 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.59 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.7, 159.9, 142.8, 139.0, 137.4, 135.8, 131.7, 129.6, 128.6, 128.1, 127.9, 120.7, 114.2, 114.0, 66.2, 63.1, 61.5, 55.3, 40.3, 39.1, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 451.1628, found: 451.1629.



**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3y**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3y** (36.4 mg, m. p. = 118 – 121 °C) in 78% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

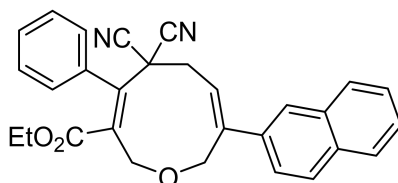
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3y:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.66 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 6.27 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 3.86 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 167.5, 141.6, 139.4, 138.8, 137.1, 135.8, 132.9, 132.8, 130.6, 129.8, 128.65, 128.59, 128.1, 125.9, 123.8, 114.0, 66.1, 63.4, 61.6, 40.0, 38.9, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub><sup>35</sup>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 489.0743, found: 489.0740; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub><sup>35</sup>Cl<sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 491.0714, found: 491.0717; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub><sup>37</sup>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 493.0684, found: 493.0689.

**ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5,5-dicyano-8-(naphthalen-2-yl)-4-phenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate 3z**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3z** (40.9 mg, m. p. = 116 – 118 °C) in 91% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3z:*

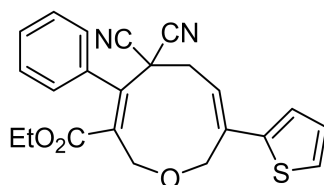
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.92 – 7.82 (m, 3H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz,

1H), 4.68 (s, 2H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 3.86 (q,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.68 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.6, 143.4, 138.9, 137.4, 136.5, 135.9, 133.3, 133.1, 129.7, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5, 126.0, 124.2, 122.7, 114.2, 66.4, 63.4, 61.5, 40.2, 39.2, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 471.1679, found: 471.1680.

**ethyl-(3E,7E)-5,5-dicyano-4-phenyl-8-(thiophen-2-yl)-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxnine-3-carboxylate 3aa**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **3aa** (25.5 mg, m. p. = 146 – 150 °C) in 63% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 3aa:*

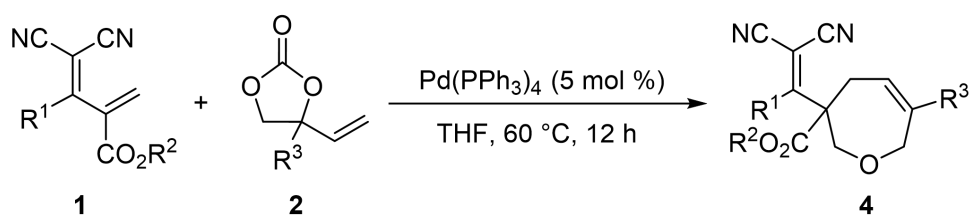
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd,  $J = 4.8, 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (t,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 3.83 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.60 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 0.77 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 167.5, 142.1, 139.2, 137.3, 137.2, 135.7, 129.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.9, 125.9, 125.7, 120.0, 114.1, 65.8, 63.4, 61.5, 40.2, 39.0, 13.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}^+$ : 427.1087, found: 427.1089.

## 5. General Procedure for the Preparation of Seven-Membered Products 4

General procedure for the synthesis of seven-membered products 4

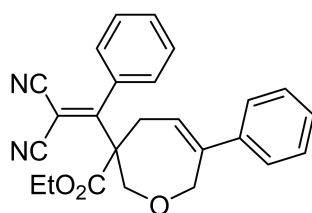


To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of dried allylidene malononitriles **1** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonates **2** (0.15 mmol) in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1, then petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford the corresponding **4** in 71–94% yields, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

### Gram-scale synthesis of the seven-membered product **4a**

To an over-dried 100 mL Schlenk flask, was added  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (0.20 mmol, 231 mg), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of dried allylidene malononitrile **1a** (4.00 mmol, 1.01 g) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** (6.00 mmol, 1.14 g) in dry THF (40 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1, then petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford **4a** (1.16 g) as pale yellow solid in 73% yields.

### ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate **4a**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4a** (33.4 mg, m. p. = 104 – 108 °C) in

84% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

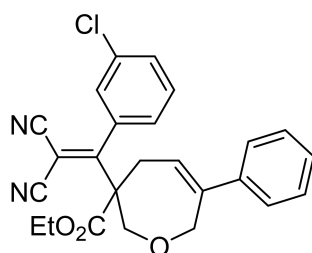
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4a:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.55 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 7.09 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.39 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.18 (d,  $J$  = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd,  $J$  = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd,  $J$  = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.7, 170.5, 141.4, 139.1, 135.5, 130.4, 128.8, 128.5, 127.7, 126.7, 125.6, 122.2, 111.8, 111.3, 90.2, 75.0, 74.3, 62.7, 60.9, 32.5, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 421.1523, found: 421.1521.

**ethyl-3-(1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanovinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4b**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4b** (35.5 mg) in 82% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

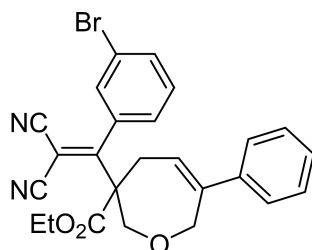
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4b:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 7.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.53 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.34 – 4.22 (m, 2H), 4.17 (d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (dd,  $J$  = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd,  $J$  = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 179.7, 170.2, 142.0, 139.1, 136.8, 133.9, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 126.6, 125.6, 122.2, 111.6, 111.1, 90.7, 74.9, 74.7, 62.7, 60.5, 32.7, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 455.1133, found: 455.1131; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 457.1103, found: 457.1108.

**ethyl-3-(1-(3-bromophenyl)-2,2-dicyanovinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4c**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4c** (33.9 mg, m. p. = 106 – 111 °C) in 71% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

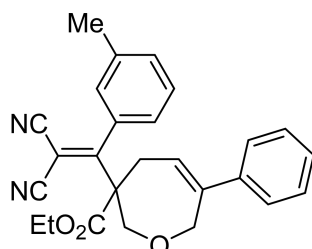
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4c:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (brs, 1H), 4.66 (brs, 2H), 4.49 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.39 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 4.22 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 179.0, 170.2, 142.1, 139.0, 137.3, 133.4, 130.3, 129.6, 128.6, 127.9, 125.7, 125.5, 122.8, 122.1, 111.4, 111.0, 91.0, 74.9, 74.7, 62.9, 60.4, 32.7, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0633; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0607.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-(*m*-tolyl)vinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4d**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4d** (26.0 mg) in 63% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

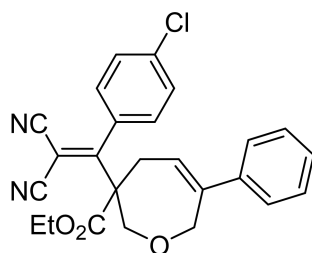
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4d:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.05 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 5.46 (brs, 1H), 4.71 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.04 – 2.89 (m, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 181.0, 170.6, 141.2, 139.1, 138.7, 135.5, 131.1, 128.7, 128.5, 127.7, 127.2, 125.6, 123.7, 122.3, 111.8, 111.4, 89.9, 75.0, 74.2, 62.7, 61.0, 32.4, 21.4, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 435.1679, found: 435.1677.

**ethyl-3-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2-dicyanovinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4e**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4e** (23.4 mg) in 54% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

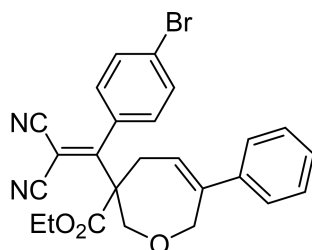
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4e:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.59 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 4.22 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 179.7, 170.2, 141.9, 139.0, 136.8, 133.9, 129.2, 128.6, 128.3, 127.9, 125.6, 122.2, 111.6, 111.1, 90.7, 74.9, 74.7, 62.9, 60.5, 32.7, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>35</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 455.1133, found: 455.1130; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 457.1103, found: 457.1107.

**ethyl-3-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2-dicyanovinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4f**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 100 °C to afford **4f** (20.0 mg) in 42% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4f:*

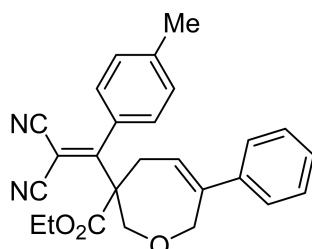
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.06 (m, 4H), 5.59 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 4.22 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 179.7, 170.2, 142.0, 139.0, 134.4, 132.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 125.6, 125.0, 122.2, 111.6, 111.1, 90.7, 74.9, 74.7, 62.9, 60.5, 32.7, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0622; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0607.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-(*p*-tolyl)vinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate**

**4g**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4g** (30.1 mg, m. p. = 104 – 107 °C) in 73% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

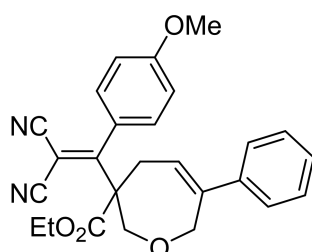
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4g:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.55 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 181.0, 170.6, 141.3, 140.7, 139.1, 132.6, 129.5, 128.5, 127.7, 126.7, 125.6, 122.3, 112.0, 111.4, 89.8, 75.0, 74.2, 62.7, 61.0, 32.4, 21.4, 14.0.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 435.1679, found: 435.1677.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4h**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4h** (38.9 mg) in 91% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4h:*

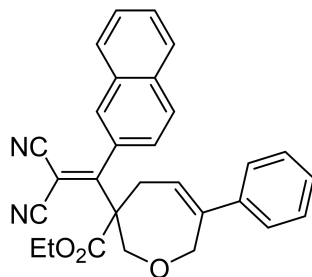
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.56 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.8, 170.6, 161.1, 141.3, 139.1, 128.6, 128.5, 127.7, 127.6, 125.6, 122.4, 114.2, 112.2, 111.6, 89.7, 75.0, 74.3, 62.7, 61.2, 55.4, 32.4, 14.0.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 451.1628, found: 451.1624.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)vinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4i**





The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4i** (31.0 mg) in 69% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

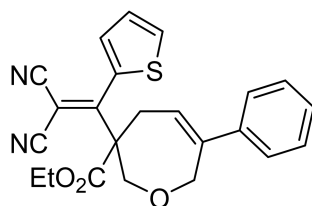
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4i:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.96 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.65 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (brs, 3H), 7.00 (brs, 2H), 5.46 (brs, 1H), 4.70 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.42 – 4.30 (m, 2H), 4.26 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (brs, 1H), 2.99 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.8, 170.6, 141.4, 139.0, 133.6, 132.9, 132.4, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.9, 125.5, 123.4, 122.2, 111.9, 111.4, 90.3, 75.0, 74.4, 62.8, 61.1, 32.5, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 471.1679, found: 471.1679.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-(thiophen-2-yl)vinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4j**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4j** (35.1 mg) in 87% yield as dark yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4j:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.62 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 5.68 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 4.48 (d, *J* =

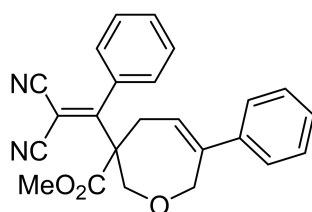
12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.24 (d,  $J = 13.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 172.8, 170.3, 141.7, 139.2, 134.2, 130.4, 130.1, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 125.7, 122.2, 112.1, 111.3, 90.9, 75.0, 74.2, 62.8, 61.5, 32.5, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}^+$ : 427.1087, found: 427.1084.

**methyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate**

**4k**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4k** (30.0 mg, m. p. = 83 – 87 °C) in 78% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4k:*

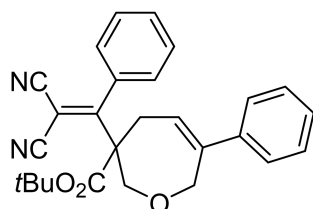
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.54 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.47 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.70 (d,  $J = 18.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.99 (dd,  $J = 15.0, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.94 (q,  $J = 15.6, 7.2$  Hz, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.4, 171.2, 141.4, 139.0, 135.4, 130.4, 128.8, 128.5, 127.8, 126.7, 125.6, 122.0, 111.7, 111.2, 90.3, 75.1, 74.1, 61.0, 53.5, 32.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 407.1366, found: 407.1363.

**tert-butyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate**

**e 4l**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4l** (40.1 mg, m. p. = 87 – 90 °C) in 94% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

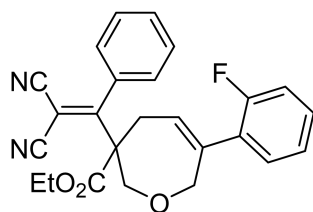
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4l:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.54 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.51 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (q, *J* = 15.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 181.6, 169.1, 141.4, 139.2, 135.9, 130.3, 128.7, 128.5, 127.7, 126.7, 125.5, 122.5, 111.9, 111.6, 89.8, 84.0, 74.9, 74.8, 61.4, 32.7, 27.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 449.1836, found: 449.1832.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(2-fluorophenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4m**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 100 °C to afford **4m** (23.3 mg) in 56% yield as pale yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4m:*

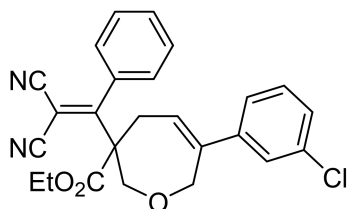
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.04 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 5.41 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (brs, 2H), 4.52 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.29 (m, 2H), 4.27 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.6, 170.4, 159.5 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 245.6 Hz), 138.4, 135.5, 130.4, 129.6 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.4 Hz), 129.4 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 8.7 Hz), 128.8, 127.3 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 14.4 Hz), 126.8, 125.6, 124.2 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 2.9 Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 21.6 Hz), 111.8, 111.3, 90.3, 74.9 (d,  $J_{C-F}$  = 5.7 Hz), 74.6, 62.8, 60.6, 32.9, 14.0.

**<sup>19</sup>F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): -114.5.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 439.1428, found: 439.1433.

**ethyl-6-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4n**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4n** (35.1 mg, m. p. = 96 – 101 °C) in 81% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

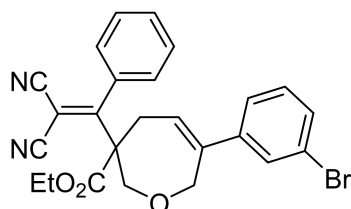
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4n:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.62 – 4.52 (m, 2H), 4.37 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.17 (d,  $J$  = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd,  $J$  = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd,  $J$  = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.4, 170.4, 140.9, 140.2, 135.5, 134.4, 130.5, 129.7, 128.9, 127.8, 126.7, 125.9, 123.7, 123.5, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 74.8, 74.3, 62.8, 60.9, 32.4, 14.0.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>35</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 455.1133, found: 455.1135; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>37</sup>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 457.1103, found: 457.1112.

**ethyl-6-(3-bromophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4o**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4o** (41.0 mg, m. p. = 130 – 132 °C) in 86% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

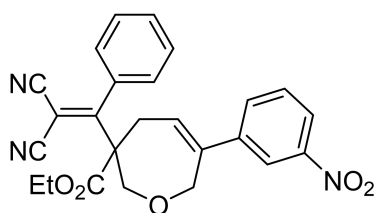
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4o:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.57 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.17 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.4, 170.4, 141.1, 140.1, 135.5, 130.7, 130.5, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 126.7, 124.1, 123.6, 122.6, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 74.7, 74.3, 62.8, 60.9, 32.4, 14.0.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0622; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0607.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(3-nitrophenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4p**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4p** (40.3 mg) in 91% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4p:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.60 – 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.55 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 –

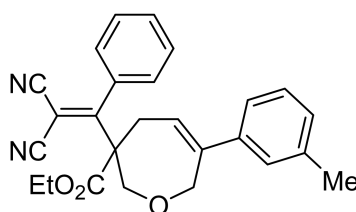
4.28 (m, 2H), 4.21 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.36 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.0, 170.3, 148.3, 140.7, 139.4, 135.4, 131.4, 130.7, 129.5, 129.0, 126.7, 125.2, 122.5, 120.6, 111.6, 111.2, 90.3, 74.6, 74.5, 62.9, 60.9, 32.5, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{Na}^+$ : 466.1373, found: 466.1363.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(m-tolyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate**

**4q**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4q** (36.7 mg, m. p. = 126 – 129 °C) in 89% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

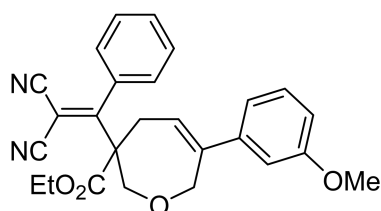
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4q:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.56 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 5.48 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J = 16.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.17 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.36 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.7, 170.5, 141.5, 139.1, 138.0, 135.6, 130.3, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 126.7, 126.4, 122.6, 121.9, 111.8, 111.3, 90.1, 75.0, 74.2, 62.7, 60.9, 32.4, 21.4, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 435.1679, found: 435.1677.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4r**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4r** (34.7 mg, m. p. = 149 – 152 °C) in 81% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

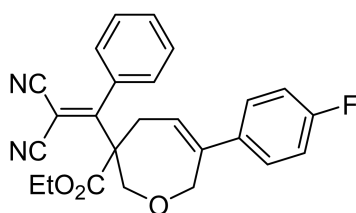
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4r:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.54 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 5.50 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 180.7, 170.5, 159.6, 141.3, 140.6, 135.5, 130.4, 129.5, 128.8, 126.7, 122.3, 118.0, 112.8, 111.8, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 75.0, 74.3, 62.7, 60.9, 55.2, 32.5, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 451.1628, found: 451.1628.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4s**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4s** (29.5 mg, m. p. = 107 – 112 °C) in 71% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4s:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.53 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.44 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.59

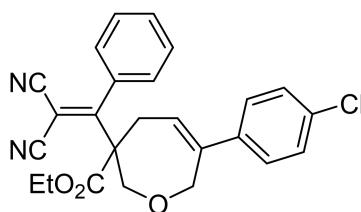
(d,  $J = 17.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.35 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.17 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd,  $J = 15.0, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.6, 170.4, 162.3 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 245.6$  Hz), 140.6, 135.5, 135.2 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.9$  Hz), 130.4, 128.8, 127.3 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.2$  Hz), 126.7, 122.3, 115.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.5$  Hz), 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 75.0, 74.4, 62.8, 60.9, 32.4, 14.1.

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (564 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): -114.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 439.1428, found: 439.1434.

**ethyl-6-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4t**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4t** (37.7 mg, m. p. = 103 – 107 °C) in 87% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4t:*

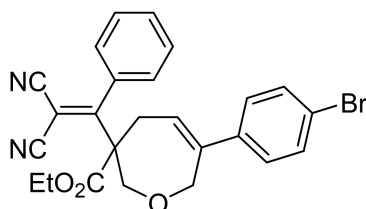
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.53 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.49 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.35 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.19 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.5, 170.4, 140.4, 137.5, 135.5, 133.6, 130.4, 128.8, 128.6, 126.9, 126.7, 122.9, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 74.8, 74.4, 62.8, 60.8, 32.5, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{35}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 455.1133, found: 455.1124; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 457.1103, found: 457.1106.

**ethyl-6-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4u**





Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4u** (42.0 mg, m. p. = 128 – 132 °C) in 88% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4u:*

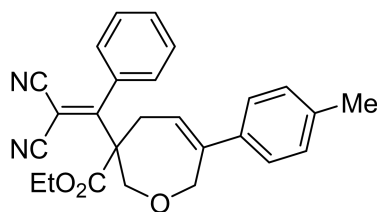
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.55 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.49 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.19 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 180.5, 170.4, 140.5, 137.9, 135.5, 131.6, 130.4, 128.8, 127.2, 126.7, 122.9, 121.7, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 74.7, 74.4, 62.8, 60.8, 32.5, 14.0.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0619; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0603.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(p-tolyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate**

**4v**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4v** (34.2 mg, m. p. = 78 – 83 °C) in 83% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4v:*

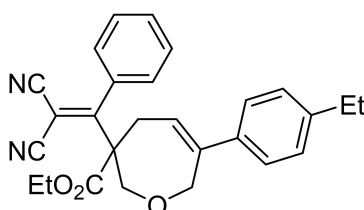
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 7.55 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H),

2.99 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.8, 170.5, 141.2, 137.6, 136.2, 135.6, 130.4, 129.1, 128.8, 126.7, 125.4, 121.4, 111.8, 111.3, 90.1, 75.0, 74.3, 62.7, 61.0, 32.4, 21.1, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 435.1679, found: 435.1682.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(4-ethylphenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4w**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4w** (31.6 mg) in 74% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

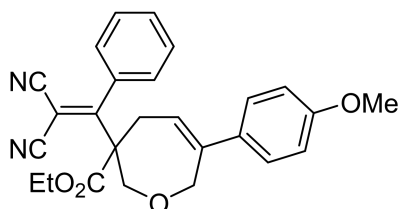
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4w:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.55 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.48 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d,  $J = 17.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.16 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 15.0, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.62 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.8, 170.5, 143.9, 141.2, 136.4, 135.6, 130.4, 128.8, 127.9, 126.7, 125.5, 121.4, 111.8, 111.3, 90.1, 75.0, 74.2, 62.7, 61.0, 32.4, 28.4, 15.5, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 449.1836, found: 449.1839.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4x**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4x** (32.5 mg) in 76% yield as yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

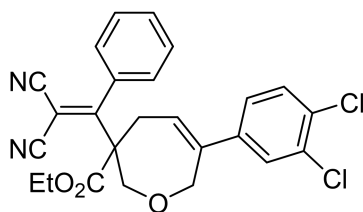
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4x:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.55 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.42 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.15 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.99 (dd,  $J = 15.0, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.8, 170.5, 159.2, 140.8, 135.6, 131.5, 130.3, 128.8, 126.7, 120.6, 113.8, 111.8, 111.3, 90.1, 75.0, 74.2, 62.7, 61.0, 55.3, 32.4, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}^+$ : 451.1628, found: 451.1628.

**ethyl-6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4y**



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure at 80 °C to afford **4y** (36.9 mg, m. p. = 125 – 129 °C) in 79% yield as pale yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4y:*

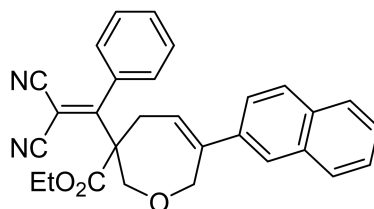
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.48 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.18 (d,  $J =$

13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.2, 170.3, 139.4, 139.0, 135.4, 132.6, 131.8, 130.5, 130.4, 128.9, 127.6, 126.7, 124.8, 124.1, 111.7, 111.2, 90.3, 74.6, 74.4, 62.9, 60.9, 32.5, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{35}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 489.0743, found: 489.0734; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{35}\text{Cl}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 491.0714, found: 491.0714; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{37}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 493.0684, found: 493.0681.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4z**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4z** (36.8 mg, m. p. = 131 – 133 °C) in 82% yield as yellow solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

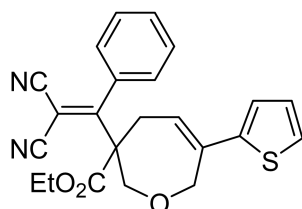
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4z:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 3H), 7.57 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 7.30 – 7.19 (m, 3H), 5.63 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.81 (d,  $J = 17.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.76 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.39 – 4.28 (m, 2H), 4.22 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.36 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.7, 170.5, 141.2, 136.3, 135.6, 133.1, 132.7, 130.4, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 126.8, 126.4, 126.2, 124.2, 123.8, 122.8, 111.8, 111.3, 90.2, 75.0, 74.4, 62.8, 61.0, 32.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 471.1679, found: 471.1680.

**ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate 4aa**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **4aa** (36.0 mg) in 89% yield as dark yellow semisolid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 4aa:*

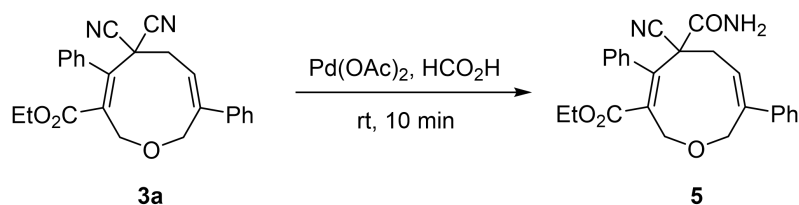
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.54 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.22 (brs, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 5.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd,  $J = 5.4, 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.55 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.70 (d,  $J = 18.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J = 18.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.26 (m, 2H), 4.10 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 180.6, 170.5, 141.6, 135.4, 134.6, 130.4, 128.9, 127.5, 126.7, 124.3, 122.6, 120.7, 111.7, 111.3, 90.2, 74.5, 74.0, 62.8, 61.4, 32.1, 14.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}^+$ : 427.1087, found: 427.1096.

## 6. Synthetic Transformation of 3a and 4a

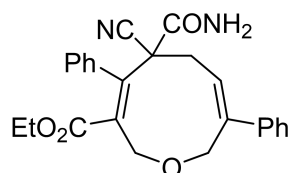
### 6.1 Procedure for the hydrolysis of cyano group on 3a



A mixture of nine-membered product **3a** (39.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) and Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (1.1 mg, 0.005 mmol) in HCOOH (1.0 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 10 min and then diluted with water. The mixture was saturated with sodium carbonate until the pH = 7 – 8, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with saturated brine (3 × 5 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 6/1 to 2/1) to afford **5** (33.7 mg) as colorless semisolid in 81% yields, which was dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

### ethyl-(3E,7Z)-5-carbamoyl-5-cyano-4,8-diphenyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydrooxonine-3-carboxylate

#### 5



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **5** (33.7 mg) in 81% yield as colorless semisolid.

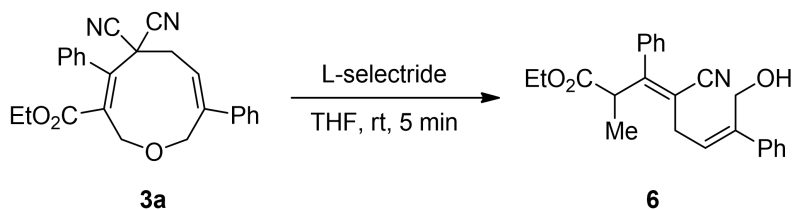
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 5:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.26 (m, 6H), 7.10 (brs, 2H), 6.21 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (d, *J* = 127.2 Hz, 2H), 4.77 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 – 3.63 (m, 2H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 0.69 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 168.9, 166.6, 142.2, 141.5, 138.7, 137.7, 137.0, 129.4, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 127.6, 126.3, 126.1, 119.7, 68.5, 66.1, 61.0, 54.7, 36.6, 13.3.

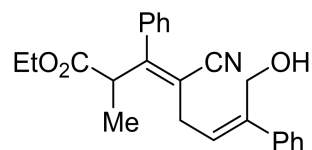
HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 439.1628, found: 439.1634.

## 6.2 Procedure for the reductive ring-opening reaction of **3a**



Nine-membered product **3a** (39.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) was dissolved in THF (1.0 mL) and stirred at room temperature. To this solution was slowly added L-Selectride (0.15 mL, 1.0 M in THF). The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min at the same temperature, diluted with brine (5 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 10/1 to 3/1) to afford **6** (17.6 mg) as pale yellow oil in 47% yields, which was dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

### ethyl-(3Z,6Z)-4-cyano-8-hydroxy-2-methyl-3,7-diphenylocta-3,6-dienoate **6**



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **6** (17.6 mg) in 47% yield as pale yellow oil.

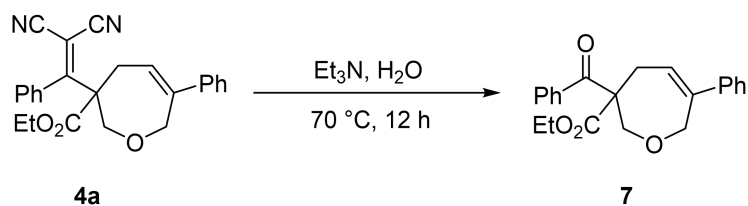
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 6:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.49 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 5.92 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.21 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 3.94 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.88 (brs, 1H), 1.26 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 171.7, 156.7, 142.5, 140.3, 137.6, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.7, 126.5, 124.9, 118.8, 113.5, 61.6, 59.9, 43.0, 29.7, 15.3, 14.0.

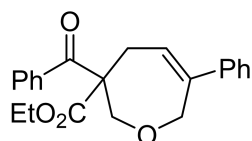
HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 398.1727, found: 398.1731.

### 6.3 Procedure for the retro-Knoevenagel reaction of seven-membered product **4a**



A glass tube was charged with seven-membered product **4a** (39.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), triethylamine (50  $\mu$ L) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 12 hour. Then the mixture was added with water (5 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL  $\times$  3). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1) to afford **7** (18.2 mg) as pale yellow oil in 52% yields, which was dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

#### ethyl-3-benzoyl-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate **7**



Purification of the crude product *via* column chromatography delivered **7** (18.2 mg) in 52% yield as pale yellow oil.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 7:*

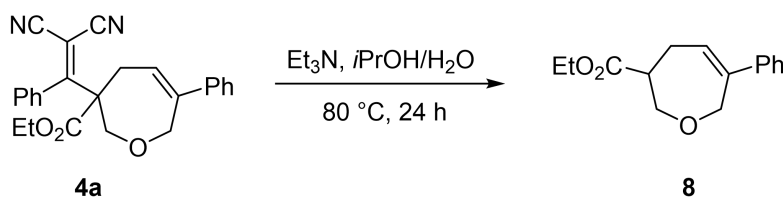
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.80 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.88 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J$  = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d,  $J$  = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d,  $J$  = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.22 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.14 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.10 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  (ppm): 195.3, 172.1, 140.6, 139.5, 135.6, 133.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 127.4, 125.9, 122.9, 74.9, 72.3, 65.8, 61.8, 29.7, 13.9.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)**  $m/z$ : [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 373.1410, found: 373.1411.

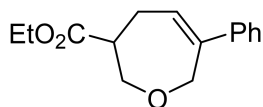


#### 6.4 Procedure for the removal of benzylidene malononitrile of **4a**



A glass tube was charged with seven-membered product **4a** (39.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), triethylamine (100  $\mu\text{L}$ ) in *i*-PrOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL, 3:1 (*v/v*)). The mixture was stirred at 80  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 hour. Then the mixture was added with water (5 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL  $\times$  3). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1) to afford **8** (22.9 mg) as pale yellow oil in 93% yields, which was dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

#### ethyl-6-phenyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydrooxepine-3-carboxylate **8**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **8** (22.9 mg) in 93% yield as pale yellow oil.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 8:*

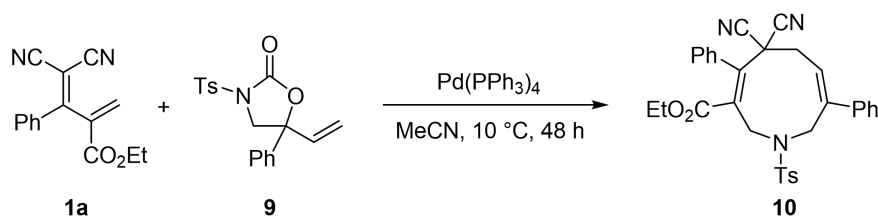
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.05 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (t, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 4.59 – 4.55 (m, 1H), 4.21 – 4.07 (m, 4H), 3.05 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.82 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.72 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 173.1, 142.3, 140.8, 128.3, 127.2, 127.0, 125.9, 72.8, 72.5, 60.7, 45.3, 27.9, 14.2.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 269.1148, found: 269.1147.

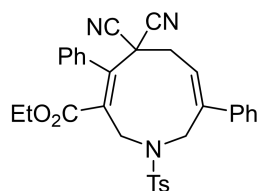
## 7. Procedure for the Synthesis of Medium-Sized Azacycles

### 7.1 Procedure for the synthesis of nine-membered product **10**



To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and oxazolidinone **9**<sup>4</sup> (0.15 mmol) in dry  $\text{MeCN}$  (1.0 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at  $10\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 48 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 20/1 to 6/1) to afford the corresponding **10** (33.7 mg) as white solid in 61% yield, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

### ethyl-(3*E*,7*Z*)-5,5-dicyano-4,8-diphenyl-1-tosyl-2,5,6,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-azonine-3-carboxylate **10**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **10** (33.7 mg, m. p. =  $152 - 154\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) in 61% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be  $>20:1$  by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

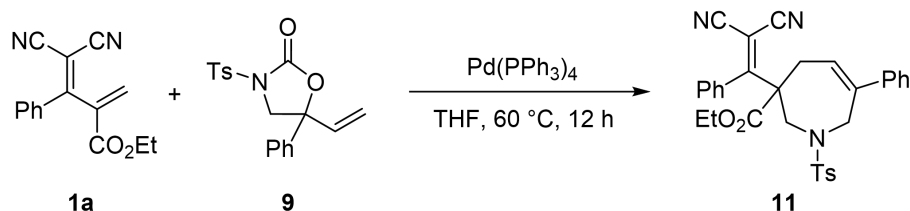
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 10:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $55\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 7H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 5.4\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.4\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 6.05 (t,  $J = 9.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 4.32 (brs, 4H), 3.84 (q,  $J = 7.8\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 3.57 (brs, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 0.85 (t,  $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$ , 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $55\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 166.4, 143.6, 143.3, 140.0, 137.1, 136.7, 135.8, 135.6, 129.73, 129.70, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.2, 126.8, 123.7, 114.1, 61.7, 46.8, 45.2, 40.1, 38.8, 21.4, 13.4.

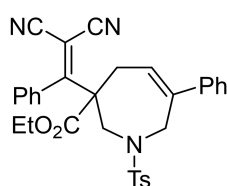
**HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:**  $[M + Na]^+$  calculated for  $C_{32}H_{29}N_3O_4SNa^+$ : 574.1771, found: 574.1769.

### 7.2 Procedure for the synthesis of seven-membered product **11**



To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and oxazolidinone **9** (0.15 mmol) in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at  $60\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane = 3/1 to 1/1, then petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1 to 6/1) to afford the corresponding **11** (46.9 mg) as white solid in 85% yield, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1H$  NMR,  $^{13}C$  NMR, HRMS, *etc.*

### ethyl-3-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylvinyl)-6-phenyl-1-tosyl-2,3,4,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepine-3-carboxylate **11**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **11** (46.9 mg, m. p. =  $101 - 105\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) in 85% yield as white solid. The regioisomeric ratio was determined to be  $>20:1$  by crude  $^1H$  NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product **11**:*

$^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.78 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.52 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d,  $J = 16.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.45 – 4.33 (m, 3H), 4.23 (d,  $J = 15.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d,  $J = 16.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.45 (dd,  $J = 14.4, 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.41 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz,

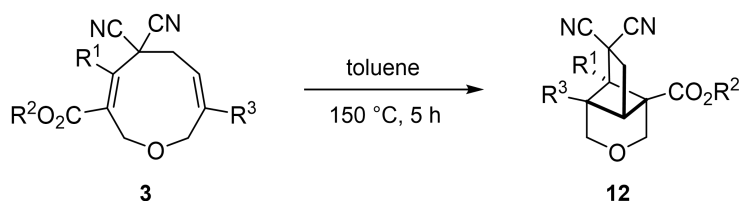
3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 181.3, 170.1, 144.2, 140.0, 139.9, 135.2, 134.8, 130.3, 130.1, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 127.1, 126.8, 125.9, 122.2, 111.7, 111.4, 90.4, 63.1, 58.2, 54.3, 53.6, 33.6, 21.5, 14.1.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>SNa<sup>+</sup>: 574.1771, found: 574.1772.

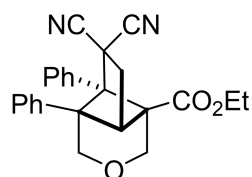
## 8. General Procedure and Mechanism Studies for the [2+2] Cycloaddition

### 8.1 General procedure for the transannular [2+2] cycloaddition



To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added the nine-membered products **3** (0.10 mmol), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, dry toluene (1.0 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 5 hours. Then the mixture was cooled to room temperature and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 20/1 to 10/1 to afford the corresponding **12** in 64–86% yields.

#### ethyl-9,9-dicyano-1,6-diphenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate **12a**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12a** (30.2 mg, m. p. = 158 – 160 °C) in 76% yield as white solid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product **12a**:*

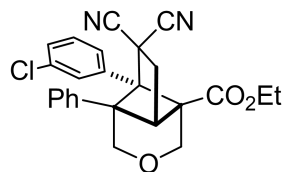
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.46 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.10 (brs, 1H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 – 4.26 (m, 1H), 4.24 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (s, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 169.1, 135.1, 131.9, 130.0, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 127.4, 115.5, 114.9, 71.1, 70.8, 66.5, 62.4, 58.2, 57.8, 46.3, 38.3, 37.8, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 421.1523, found: 420.1524.

#### ethyl-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-9,9-dicyano-6-phenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxyl

## ate 12b



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12b** (33.3 mg, m. p. = 187 – 192 °C) in 77% yield as white solid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

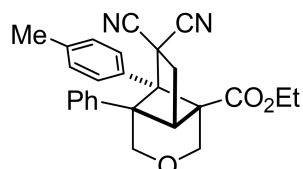
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12b:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.09 – 7.99 (m, 1H), 7.65 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.10 (brs, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.34 – 4.21 (m, 2H), 4.13 (t, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (s, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 168.9, 135.0, 134.7, 134.1, 130.1, 129.4, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 127.5, 126.6, 115.1, 114.6, 70.8, 70.5, 66.5, 62.7, 58.3, 58.1, 46.6, 38.3, 37.8, 13.6.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** m/z: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>35</sup>CIN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 455.1133, found: 455.1129; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>37</sup>CIN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 457.1103, found: 457.1110.

## ethyl-9,9-dicyano-6-(p-tolyl)-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12c



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12c** (30.1 mg, m. p. = 161 – 165 °C) in 73% yield as white solid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

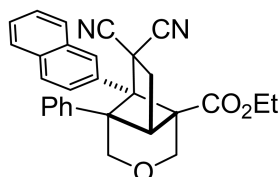
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12c:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (brs, 1H), 7.44 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.08 (brs, 1H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.33 – 4.26 (m, 1H), 4.24 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (s, 1H), 3.00 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 169.2, 139.0, 135.2, 129.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.4, 115.6, 115.0, 71.1, 70.8, 66.5, 62.3, 58.1, 57.7, 46.2, 38.3, 37.7, 21.2, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 435.1679, found: 435.1685.

**ethyl-9,9-dicyano-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-6-phenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12d**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12d** (36.8 mg, m. p. = 205 – 206 °C) in 82% yield as white solid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

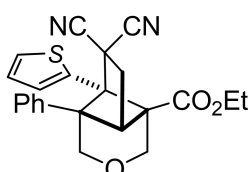
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12d:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.48 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.14 (brs, 1H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.37 – 4.29 (m, 1H), 4.28 – 4.21 (m, 1H), 4.24 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.36 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.33 (s, 1H), 3.07 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 169.2, 135.1, 133.11, 133.08, 130.1, 129.4, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.6, 127.2, 126.7, 125.4, 115.6, 115.0, 71.3, 70.9, 66.6, 62.5, 58.4, 58.0, 46.4, 38.4, 37.9, 13.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 471.1679, found: 471.1684.

**ethyl-9,9-dicyano-6-phenyl-1-(thiophen-2-yl)-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12e**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12e** (29.9 mg, m. p. = 171 – 175 °C) in 74% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

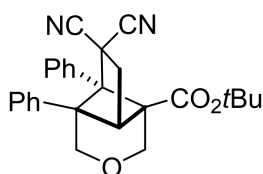
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12e:*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.80 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.16 – 4.08 (m, 1H), 4.13 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 1H), 3.32 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 168.7, 134.5, 132.7, 129.4, 128.91, 128.86, 127.6, 127.3, 126.8, 115.4, 114.5, 70.0, 68.0, 65.7, 62.2, 58.6, 58.0, 45.2, 38.6, 37.3, 13.5.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>SNa<sup>+</sup>: 427.1087, found: 427.1092.

**tert-butyl-9,9-dicyano-1,6-diphenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12f**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12f** (29.9 mg) in 70% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12f:*

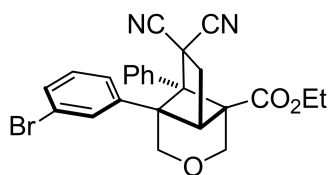
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (brs, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.11 (brs, 1H), 4.40 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 168.2, 135.4, 132.1, 130.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.79, 128.76, 127.6, 115.6, 115.1, 84.3, 71.2, 70.8, 67.0, 58.8, 57.7, 46.0, 38.6, 37.9, 27.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [**M** + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 449.1836, found: 449.1838.



**ethyl-6-(3-bromophenyl)-9,9-dicyano-1-phenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12g**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12g** (41.0 mg, m. p. = 160 – 162 °C) in 86% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

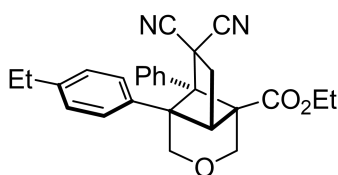
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12g:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.26 (brs, 2H), 4.55 – 4.40 (m, 1H), 4.34 – 4.27 (m, 1H), 4.24 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.17 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (s, 1H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 168.9, 137.5, 131.9, 131.5, 130.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.6, 125.6, 122.9, 115.3, 114.9, 71.2, 70.6, 66.4, 62.5, 58.1, 57.6, 46.3, 38.2, 37.7, 13.6.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 499.0628, found: 499.0622; calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub><sup>81</sup>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na<sup>+</sup>: 501.0607, found: 501.0606.

**ethyl-9,9-dicyano-6-(4-ethylphenyl)-1-phenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12h**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12h** (31.6 mg, m. p. = 168 – 169 °C) in 74% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12h:*

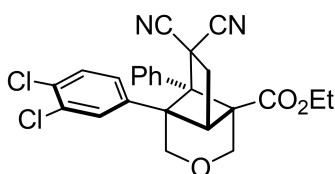
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (brs, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (brs, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.34 – 4.27 (m, 1H), 4.25 – 4.18 (m, 1H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz,

1H), 3.83 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.28 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 1H), 3.02 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.65 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 169.2, 144.9, 132.11, 132.06, 130.0, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 115.6, 114.9, 71.2, 70.9, 66.5, 62.3, 58.2, 57.7, 46.4, 38.3, 37.8, 28.4, 15.2, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 449.1836, found: 449.1839.

**ethyl-9,9-dicyano-6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12i**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12i** (39.2 mg, m. p. = 189 – 193 °C) in 84% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis.

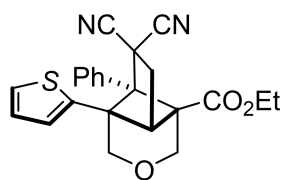
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12i:*

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.09 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.74 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.20 – 6.89 (m, 1H), 4.45 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.34 – 4.27 (m, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.12 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.82 (d,  $J = 11.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.35 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 1H), 2.92 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.30 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 168.8, 135.4, 133.2, 131.4, 131.0, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 126.7, 115.1, 115.0, 71.2, 70.5, 66.4, 62.6, 58.2, 57.3, 46.3, 38.2, 37.7, 13.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{35}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 489.0743, found: 489.0750; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{35}\text{Cl}^{37}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 491.0714, found: 491.0726; calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}^{37}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}^+$ : 493.0684, found: 493.0688.

**ethyl-9,9-dicyano-1-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-4-oxatricyclo[4.3.0.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonane-2-carboxylate 12j**



Prepared according to the general procedure to afford **12j** (25.9 mg, m. p. = 198 – 199 °C) in 64% yield as colorless semisolid. The diastereomeric ratio was determined to be >20:1 by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis.

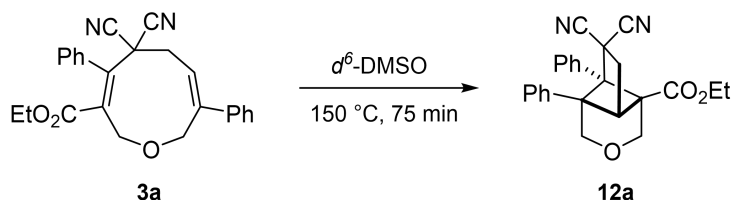
*NMR and HRMS data for the product 12j:*

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.45 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.36 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.33 – 4.25 (m, 1H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 2H), 3.28 (s, 1H), 1.40 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ (ppm): 169.1, 137.8, 131.3, 129.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.1, 127.2, 127.0, 114.9, 114.2, 73.0, 70.7, 66.1, 62.7, 58.3, 54.9, 46.8, 39.1, 38.1, 13.8.

**HRMS (ESI-TOF)** *m/z*: [**M** + **Na**]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>SNa<sup>+</sup>: 427.1087, found: 427.1087.

### 8.2 Mechanism studies for the transannular [2+2] cycloaddition



To an over-dried NMR tube was added the nine-membered products **3** (20 mg). Subsequently, dry *d*<sup>6</sup>-DMSO (0.6 mL) was added via syringe and the reaction mixture was probed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR at 150 °C for 75 min and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra results were collected every 15 minutes.

From the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra results, it is clear that the peaks of the product are increasing and the peaks of the substrate material are decreasing. When zooming in on the spectrum at 6.29 ppm, we could still observe a new small triplet peak overlapping in the substrate's triplet peak, which might support an isomerization of the styryl moiety (*E* to *Z*).

## 9. Preliminary Evaluation of Biological Activity for Compounds **12**

### 9.1 Cell culture and cellular proliferation assay

The A549, PC12, SH-SY5Y, A375 and MDA-MB231 cell line were obtained from the Type Culture Collection of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China. A549 and PC12 cells were grown in RPMI 1640 (Hyclone, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Gibco, USA), while SH-SY5Y, A375 and MDA-MB231 cells were grown in DMEM (Hyclone, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Gibco, USA). All the cells were maintained at 37 °C in a humidified incubator containing 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. A 20 μM chemical stock solution was prepared by dissolving in DMSO before cell viability assays. Cell viability was determined by MTT (Sigma-Aldrich) assays. All the five cell lines were seeded in 96-well plates 24 h earlier before treated by the chemicals for 24 h. Chemical treatment concentration set to 20 μM and paclitaxel was prepared as a positive control (5 μM, 24 h). After the treatment, 200 μL fresh medium containing 20 μL MTT (5 mg/mL) was added to each pore to replace the chemical containing medium and incubated for 4 h. Then discarded the medium and added 150 μL DMSO to dissolve purple crystals. The absorbance value at 570 nm was determined. The mean percentage of cell survival rates was determined from data of three individual experiments.

### 9.2 The Mean Inhibitory Ratio of Compounds **12** against A Panel of Cancer Cell Lines

MTT assay was applied to determine the cell viability after 24 h treatment of tested compounds. All the typical cancer cell lines were obtained from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, USA). PTX is FDA approved to be used for AIDS-related Kaposi sarcoma, breast cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, and ovarian cancer. Results exerted that PTX showed a significant inhibitory effect on most type of cancer, except triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) MDA-MB-231 at the concentration of 5 μM. Interestingly, compound **12a** had a more critical effect on MDA-MB-231 than other compounds at the concentration of 20 μM, suggesting a promising application for TNBC therapy after further exploration. However, its effect on lung cancer A-549 was least effective compare to other compounds. Compounds **12c**, **12j** and **12i** could suppress A-549 proliferation significantly, while compounds **12e** and **12f** displayed a moderate inhibitory effect. PC12 is a rat pheochromocytoma cell line. Compounds **12c** and **12h** could block the growth of PC12 slightly, while compounds **12i** and **12j** manifested

a dramatic inhibitory effect. SH-SY-5Y is a neuroblastoma cell line. Most of synthesized compounds could interfere with the proliferative ability of SH-SY-5Y, except compound **12j**. A375 cells are human melanoma cancer cells containing the endogenous B-Raf mutation V600E. The ratio of inhibited A375 cells for all the tested compounds were above 50%.

**Table S3.** The mean inhibitory ratio.<sup>a</sup>

| Compounds  | Inhibitory Ratio (%) |       |         |       |           |
|------------|----------------------|-------|---------|-------|-----------|
|            | A549                 | PC12  | SH-SY5Y | A375  | MDA-MB231 |
| <b>12a</b> | 6.82                 | 25.41 | 68.31   | 64.36 | 46.33     |
| <b>12b</b> | 27.72                | 4.41  | 31.10   | 54.72 | 40.32     |
| <b>12c</b> | 74.76                | 43.18 | 22.39   | 38.23 | 9.53      |
| <b>12d</b> | 9.07                 | 14.14 | 64.31   | 79.73 | 41.57     |
| <b>12e</b> | 59.50                | 16.88 | 67.40   | 70.63 | 35.63     |
| <b>12f</b> | 51.40                | 22.66 | 29.92   | 42.25 | 17.58     |
| <b>12g</b> | 30.57                | 19.77 | 56.87   | 40.53 | 30.00     |
| <b>12h</b> | 38.93                | 45.39 | 46.35   | 66.19 | 37.04     |
| <b>12i</b> | 73.76                | 61.87 | 39.36   | 36.22 | 22.27     |
| <b>12j</b> | 74.89                | 72.66 | 10.87   | 35.98 | 1.48      |
| <b>PTX</b> | 66.14                | 67.63 | 57.47   | 77.23 | 38.75     |

<sup>a</sup> Each compound was tested in triplicate; the data are presented as the mean values.

## 10. Experiments for Mechanism Studies

### 10.1 The tracking experiments



#### I. The tracking experiments of the [5+4] cyclization

Five reactions were parallelly carried out following the same operational procedure:

To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** (0.15 mmol) in dry MeCN (1.0 mL) was added.

Then, the five reactions were stirred at 20 °C for 3 hours, 6 hours, 12 hours, 18 hours and 24 hours, respectively. After the corresponding time, the reaction mixture was filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard. The results were listed as follow:

**Table S4.** The results of the tracking experiments I.

| reaction time (h)          | 3  | 6  | 12 | 18 | 24 |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| NMR yield of <b>3a</b> (%) | 22 | 57 | 71 | 85 | 96 |
| NMR yield of <b>4a</b> (%) | <1 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <1 |

#### II. The tracking experiments of the [5+2] cyclization

Six reactions were parallelly carried out following the same operational procedure:

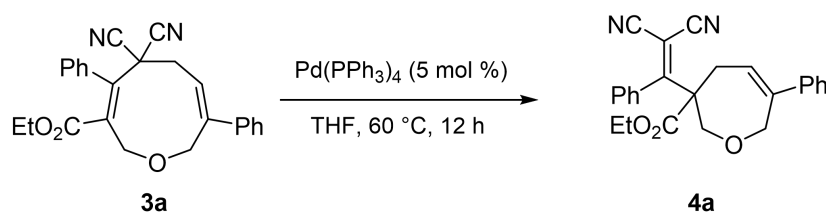
To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** (0.15 mmol) in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added.

Then, the six reactions were stirred at 60 °C for 45 min, 1.5 hours, 3 hours, 6 hours, 9 hours and 12 hours, respectively. After the corresponding time, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR with CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as the internal standard. The results were listed as follow:

**Table S5.** The results of the tracking experiments **II**.

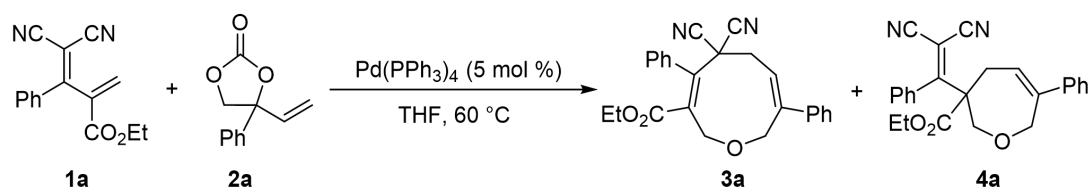
| reaction time (h)          | 0.75 | 1.5 | 3  | 6  | 9  | 12 |
|----------------------------|------|-----|----|----|----|----|
| NMR yield of <b>3a</b> (%) | 87   | 85  | 71 | 60 | 36 | <1 |
| NMR yield of <b>4a</b> (%) | 6    | 8   | 21 | 32 | 55 | 91 |

### 10.2 The transformation from **3a** to **4a**



To an over-dried Schlenk tube was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of nine-membered product **3a** (39.8 mg, 0.10 mmol) in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added *via* syringe and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours. Then the mixture was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford **4a** (38.2 mg) as pale yellow solid in 96% yields.

### 10.3 The effect of the loading of VEC on the regioisomeric ratio



Four reactions were parallelly carried out under the similar operational procedure:

To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (5 mol %), after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** in dry THF (1.0 mL) was added.

The amounts of **2a** in the four reactions respectively refer to 0.15 mmol, 0.25 mmol, 0.35 mmol and 0.45 mmol. Then, the four reactions were stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours, respectively. After then, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR with CH<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub> as the internal standard. The results were listed as follow:

**Table S6.** The results of the control experiments.

| The ratio of <b>1a:2a</b>  | 1:1.5 | 1:2.5 | 1:3.5 | 1:4.5 |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| NMR yield of <b>3a</b> (%) | <1    | 72    | 85    | 92    |
| NMR yield of <b>4a</b> (%) | 91    | 21    | 6     | <1    |

#### 10.4 The effect of the loading of ligand on the regioisomeric ratio



#### **I. Condition: THF, 20 °C**

Five reactions were parallelly carried out under the similar operational procedure:

To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>·CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2.5 mol %) and PPh<sub>3</sub>, after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Then under the protection of argon, dry THF (0.5 mL) was added and stirred at 20 °C for 1 hour. The amounts of PPh<sub>3</sub> in the five reactions respectively refer to 5 mol %, 10 mol %, 20 mol %, 40 mol %, and 80 mol %.

Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidene malononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinyl ethylene carbonate **2a** in dry THF (0.5 mL) was added respectively. Then, the five reactions were stirred at 20 °C for 12 hours. After then, the reaction mixture was filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under



vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard.

## **II. Condition: THF, 60 °C**

Four reactions were parallelly carried out under the similar operational procedure:

To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3\cdot\text{CHCl}_3$  (2.5 mol %) and  $\text{PPh}_3$ , after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Then under the protection of argon, dry THF (0.5 mL) was added and stirred at 20 °C for 1 hour. The amounts of  $\text{PPh}_3$  in the four reactions respectively refer to 5 mol %, 10 mol %, 20 mol % and 40 mol %.

Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidenemalononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinylene carbonate **2a** in dry THF (0.5 mL) was added respectively. Then, the four reactions were stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours. After then, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard.

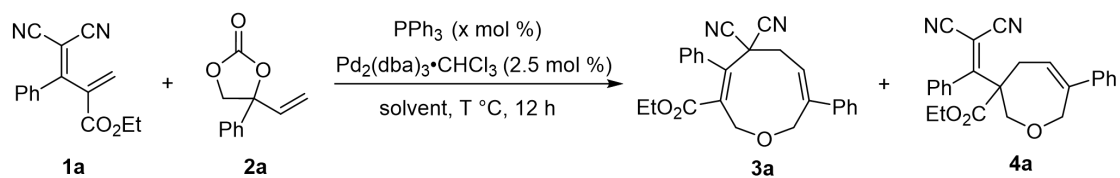
## **III. Condition: MeCN, 60 °C**

Four reactions were parallelly carried out under the similar operational procedure:

To over-dried Schlenk tubes was added  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3\cdot\text{CHCl}_3$  (2.5 mol %) and  $\text{PPh}_3$ , after which the tube was evacuated and back-filled with argon three times. Then under the protection of argon, dry MeCN (0.5 mL) was added and stirred at 20 °C for 1 hour. The amounts of  $\text{PPh}_3$  in the four reactions respectively refer to 5 mol %, 10 mol %, 20 mol % and 40 mol %.

Subsequently, under the protection of argon, a solution of allylidenemalononitrile **1a** (0.10 mmol) and vinylene carbonate **2a** in dry MeCN (0.5 mL) was added respectively. Then, the four reactions were stirred at 60 °C for 12 hours. After then, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a plug of silica (eluting with ethyl acetate) and concentrated, which were dried under vacuum and further analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard.

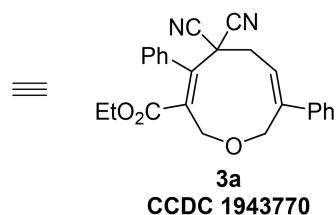
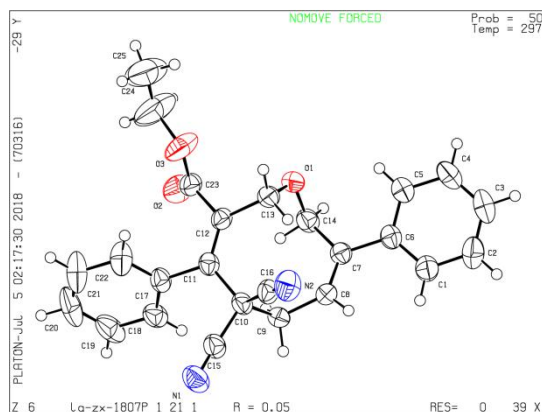
The results were listed as follow:

**Table S7.** The results of effect of the loading of ligand.<sup>a</sup>

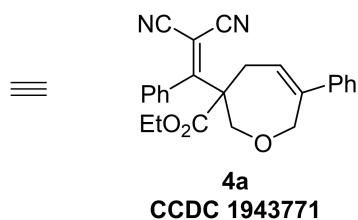
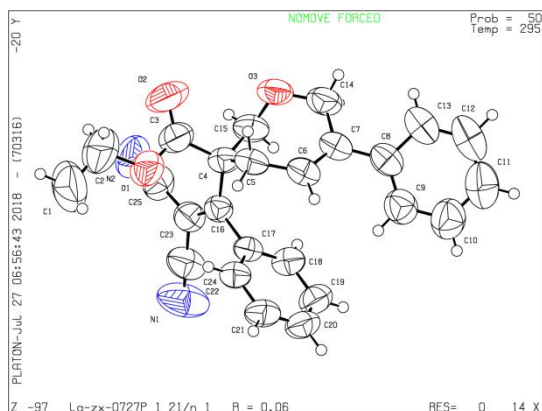
| entry | $\text{PPh}_3$ (x mol%) | solvent | T (°C) | yield (%) <sup>b</sup> | <b>3a:4a</b> <sup>c</sup> |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|--------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | 5                       | THF     | 20     | 18                     | >20:1                     |
| 2     | 10                      | THF     | 20     | 66                     | >20:1                     |
| 3     | 20                      | THF     | 20     | 82                     | 10.5:1                    |
| 4     | 40                      | THF     | 20     | 79                     | 5.7:1                     |
| 5     | 80                      | THF     | 20     | 54                     | 1:1.7                     |
| 6     | 5                       | THF     | 60     | 39                     | >20:1                     |
| 7     | 10                      | THF     | 60     | 96                     | 1.9:1                     |
| 8     | 20                      | THF     | 60     | 89                     | 2.2:1                     |
| 9     | 40                      | THF     | 60     | 96                     | <1:20                     |
| 10    | 5                       | MeCN    | 60     | 69                     | >20:1                     |
| 11    | 10                      | MeCN    | 60     | 90                     | 11.9:1                    |
| 12    | 20                      | MeCN    | 60     | 57                     | 8.2:1                     |
| 13    | 40                      | MeCN    | 60     | 45                     | 2.3:1                     |

<sup>a</sup> Unless noted otherwise, the reactions were carried out with **1a** (0.10 mmol), **2a** (0.15 mmol), and Pd catalyst (5 mol %) in solvent (1.0 mL) for 12 h. And the Pd/ligand complex was pre-prepared with  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$  and  $\text{PPh}_3$  in solvent at rt for 1 h. <sup>b</sup> Yield was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2$  as the internal standard. <sup>c</sup> The ratio of **3a:4a** was determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. <sup>d</sup>

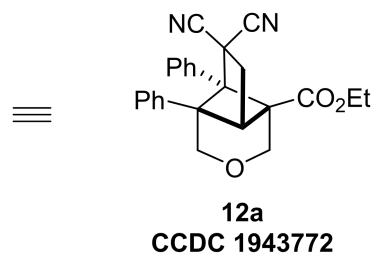
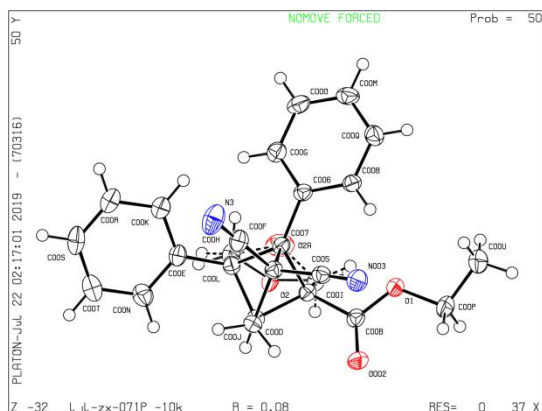
## 11. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement



|   |   |
|---|---|
| Identification code                         | <b>3a</b>   |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 398.44  |
| Temperature/K                               | 296.6(3)  |
| Crystal system                              | monoclinic  |
| Space group                                 | P2 <sub>1</sub>   |
| a/Å   | 9.0919(5)   |
| b/Å   | 9.9836(5)   |
| c/Å   | 11.7719(5)  |
| α/°   | 90  |
| β/°   | 95.822(5)   |
| γ/°   | 90  |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 1063.02(10)   |
| Z   | 2   |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.245   |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 0.662   |
| F(000)                                      | 420.0   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.6 × 0.4 × 0.2   |
| Radiation                                   | CuKα (λ = 1.54184)  |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | 7.548 to 145.832  |
| Index ranges                                | -9 ≤ h ≤ 11, -7 ≤ k ≤ 12, -14 ≤ l ≤ 14                        |
| Reflections collected                       | 6415  |
| Independent reflections                     | 3358 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0288, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0365] |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 3358/1/272  |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.042   |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]                | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0549, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1433             |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0573, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1472             |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.24/-0.29  |



|   |   |
|---|---|
| Identification code                         | <b>4a</b>   |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 398.44  |
| Temperature/K                               | 295.4(4)  |
| Crystal system                              | monoclinic  |
| Space group                                 | P2 <sub>1</sub> /n  |
| a/Å   | 9.6576(5)   |
| b/Å   | 13.2796(9)  |
| c/Å   | 17.3578(10)   |
| α/°   | 90  |
| β/°   | 99.745(5)   |
| γ/°   | 90  |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 2194.0(2)   |
| Z   | 4   |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.206   |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 0.642   |
| F(000)                                      | 840.0   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.6 × 0.4 × 0.3   |
| Radiation                                   | CuKα (λ = 1.54184)  |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | 8.43 to 146.126   |
| Index ranges                                | -11 ≤ h ≤ 11, -16 ≤ k ≤ 16, -21 ≤ l ≤ 21                      |
| Reflections collected                       | 12330   |
| Independent reflections                     | 4284 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0225, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0183] |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 4284/0/272  |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.044   |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]                | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0608, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1748             |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0752, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1940             |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.18/-0.22  |



|   |   |
|---|---|
| Identification code                         | <b>12a</b>  |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 398.44  |
| Temperature/K                               | 225(100)  |
| Crystal system                              | triclinic   |
| Space group                                 | P-1   |
| a/Å   | 7.8691(9)   |
| b/Å   | 9.8641(8)   |
| c/Å   | 13.1840(9)  |
| α/°   | 87.285(6)   |
| β/°   | 85.531(8)   |
| γ/°   | 74.852(9)   |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 984.42(16)  |
| Z   | 2   |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.344   |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 0.715   |
| F(000)                                      | 420.0   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.6 × 0.2 × 0.1   |
| Radiation                                   | CuKα (λ = 1.54184)  |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | 6.728 to 144.716  |
| Index ranges                                | -7 ≤ h ≤ 9, -12 ≤ k ≤ 12, -16 ≤ l ≤ 16                        |
| Reflections collected                       | 10529   |
| Independent reflections                     | 3791 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0750, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0560] |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 3791/0/282  |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.040   |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]                | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0793, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.2132             |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0877, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.2314             |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.71/-0.47  |

## 12. References and Notes

- 1 (a) E. Krell, *Handbook of Laboratory Distillation*, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam-London-New York, 1963; (b) M. J. Rosengart, *The Technique of Distillation and Rectification in the Laboratory*, VEB Verlag Technik, Berlin, 1954; (c) F. Stage, *Angew. Chem.*, 1947, **19**, 175.
- 2 X. Jiang, D. Fu, X. Shi, S.; Wang and R. Wang, *Chem. Commun.*, 2011, **47**, 8289.
- 3 A. Khan, R. Zheng, Y. Kan, J. Ye, J. Xing and Y. J. Zhang, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2014, **53**, 6439.
- 4 K. Ohmatsu, N. Imagawa and T. Ooi, *Nat. Chem.*, 2014, **6**, 47.

### 13. NMR Spectra

