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Synthesis of Indole Analogues of the Natural Schweinfurthins

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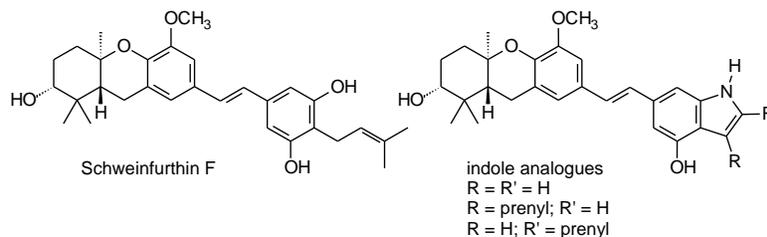
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40 TITLE RUNNING HEAD: Synthetic schweinfurthin indoles.

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44 KEYWORDS. Schweinfurthin, indole, stilbene analogues, phosphonate.
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Table of Contents Graphic:

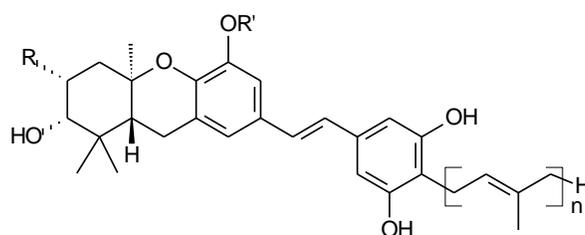


Abstract.

An interest in the schweinfurthins, natural stilbenes with significant anti-proliferative activity, has prompted efforts to prepare a set of indole analogues. To approach the desired compounds through a Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons condensation, new indole derivatives bearing a phosphonomethyl substituent in the B-ring were required. The parent indole system with the necessary substitution pattern was obtained through a Stobbe condensation and cyclization. A prenyl substituent was incorporated at the C-3 position of a 4,6-disubstituted indole through a highly regioselective electrophilic aromatic substitution reaction, while metalation and alkylation provided the C-2 prenylated indole. After introduction of the phosphonate group through classical reactions, the new indole phosphonates were found to undergo the desired condensation with nonracemic aldehydes representing the schweinfurthin left half. This approach gives facile access to new heteroaromatic analogues of the natural schweinfurthins, and should be applicable to many other natural stilbenes as well.

Introduction.

The schweinfurthins (Figure 1), a small group of rare natural products,^{1,2} display a novel pattern of differential activity in the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) 60 cell line screen. Their activity pattern suggests that these compounds act on a novel target or through a new mechanism,¹ and thus these compounds can be viewed as potential leads for further drug development. To alleviate the scarcity of these natural products, to access novel analogues, and to explore the limits of the pharmacophore, we have undertaken the synthesis of both natural schweinfurthins and a range of analogues.³⁻⁹ After an analysis of new compounds of potential interest, we considered the possibility of incorporating an indole in the stilbene system. The indole substructure is so common in both natural products and pharmaceutical agents that it often is considered a privileged scaffold.^{10,11} Incorporation of an indole motif might afford analogues with comparable or improved activity while at the same time increasing bioavailability.^{12,13} Furthermore, the D-ring resorcinol of the natural schweinfurthins may limit the schweinfurthins' stability, and proper placement of an indole system might improve the chemical stability as well. Based on this rationale, synthesis of indole analogues of the schweinfurthins became a goal of our program.



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|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | R = OH, R' = H, n = 2 | Schweinfurthin A |
| 2 | R = OH, R' = CH ₃ , n = 2 | Schweinfurthin B |
| 3 | R = H, R' = CH ₃ , n = 1 | Schweinfurthin F |
| 4 | R = H, R' = H, n = 1 | Schweinfurthin G |
| 5 | R = H, R' = H, n = 2 | 3-Deoxyschweinfurthin A |
| 6 | R = H, R' = H, n = 2 | 3-Deoxyschweinfurthin B |

Figure 1. Some natural schweinfurthins (**1 – 4**) and some synthetic analogues (**5, 6**).

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There are multiple ways that an indole moiety could be superimposed upon the D-ring of the natural schweinfurthins. The pattern pursued in this study would view the indole nitrogen as a replacement for one of the resorcinol oxygens, and incorporate the remainder of the indole ring as a substituent on the position para to the stilbene olefin (Figure 2). These structures would exploit the known flexibility of the para position to modification with preservation of biological activity.^{4,7,8} Furthermore, preparation of intermediates leading to structures **7** and **8** might be readily modified to allow addition of isoprenoid substituents to the 5-membered ring, via electrophilic aromatic substitution (which is favored at C-3 of indole itself¹⁴ and would lead to compound **9**) or via anion chemistry (which can be directed to C-2 in *N*-substituted indoles and would provide compound **10**).^{15,16} Because both compounds **9** and **10** represent modest deviations from the natural products in terms of the position of the prenyl group both series were of interest, and a strategy that could diverge to both isomers at a later stage would be particularly attractive.

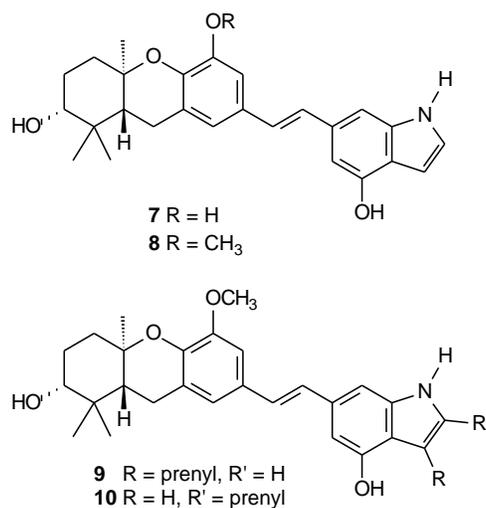
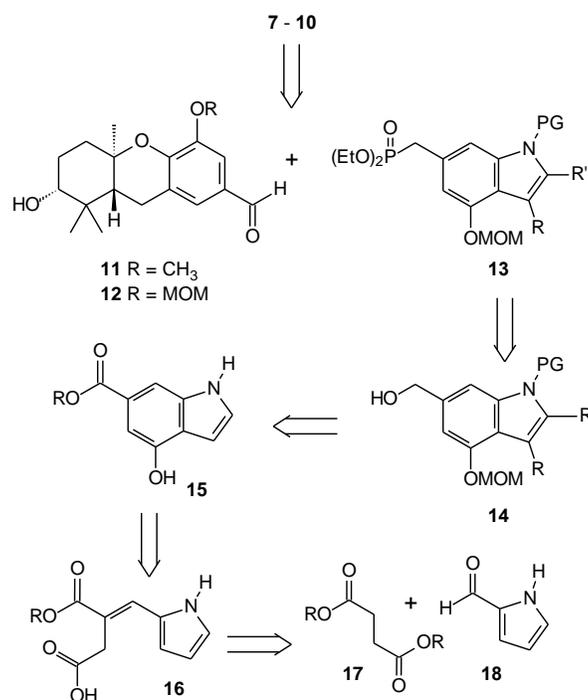


Figure 2. First generation indole targets.

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3 Our foray into schweinfurthin studies began with synthesis of schweinfurthin C,¹⁷ and
4 that early effort established the strategy of a late stage Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons (HWE)
5 condensation for construction of the *trans*-stilbene olefin. To take advantage of intermediates
6 already in hand from previous research, especially the now readily available *R,R,R*-aldehydes **11**
7 and **12** that carry all of the schweinfurthin stereogenic centers (Scheme 1), would require an
8 indole phosphonate such as compound **13**. Given the vast number of known indoles it was
9 somewhat surprising to find that apparently only C-2¹⁸ and C-3¹⁹ phosphonomethyl compounds
10 have been prepared. Based on the assumption that phosphonate **13** could be prepared from the
11 corresponding alcohol **14**, which in turn should be available from the ester **15**, routes to these
12 two potential intermediates were considered. The presence of the “benzylic” alcohol of
13 compound **14** might not be tolerated by many of the classical methods²⁰ for *de novo* indole
14 synthesis because of their reliance on acidic conditions, and the recent Kraus indole synthesis
15 appears to be better suited for preparation of 2-substituted or 2,3-disubstituted compounds.^{21,22}
16
17 However, preparation of the substituted indole **15** has been reported through an approach based
18 on a Stobbe condensation of a succinate diester (**17**) and 2-pyrrole carboxaldehyde (**18**) followed
19 by cyclization of the intermediate acid **16**.²³ While the initial report did not provide a complete
20 characterization of the product, a more recent study from the Vedejs labs placed this approach on
21 a solid foundation and proved that it does afford the desired substitution pattern.²⁴ Therefore we
22 began an effort to obtain the targeted schweinfurthin analogues with preparation of several
23 indoles based on this strategy.
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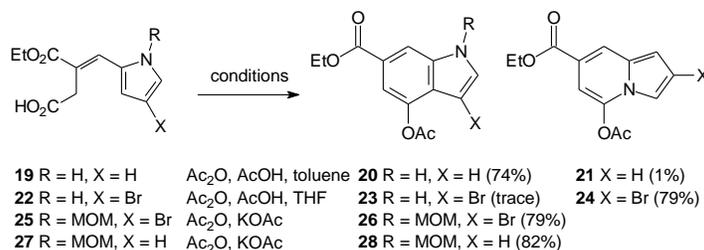


Scheme 1. Retrosynthetic analysis.

Results and Discussion.

The Stobbe condensation of diethyl succinate with 2-pyrrole carboxaldehyde (**18**) smoothly gave the half ester **19** as expected.²⁴ Without extensive purification, this material was treated with a mixture of acetic anhydride and acetic acid (6:1) in refluxing toluene to induce cyclization (Scheme 2). These conditions resulted in formation of the acetate-protected indole **20** (74%) accompanied by small amounts of the indolizine **21** (~1%), also as expected,²⁴ while a parallel reaction in THF at reflux gave a less favorable product ratio (42% and 19%, respectively). Attempts to extend this approach to the brominated pyrrole **22**, which might be useful for elaboration of the final products through halogen-metal exchange or cross coupling reactions,²⁵ were more complex. While the desired half ester **22** was readily prepared by a Stobbe condensation, treatment of compound **22** under standard cyclization conditions gave only trace amounts of the desired indole **23** and afforded the indolizine **24** as the major product

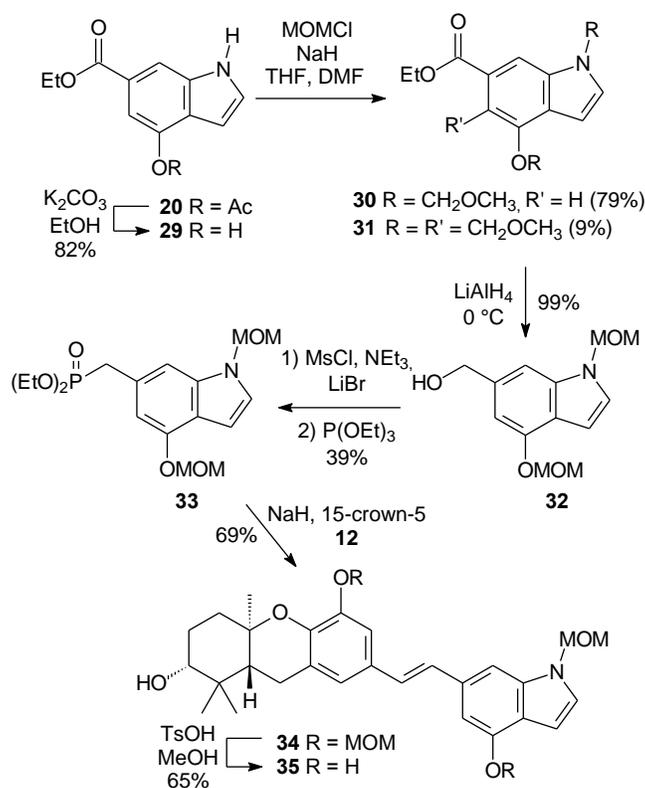
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3 instead. Compound **24** is highly fluorescent and might be useful for synthesis of new types of
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5 fluorescent schweinfurthin analogues.²⁶ However, for the immediate goal, *N*-protection of the
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7 pyrrole aldehyde would circumvent this issue as observed with *N*-methyl pyrrole.²⁷ Because
8
9 previous syntheses of schweinfurthin analogues employed MOM-protected phenols, the half
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11 ester **25** was prepared by Stobbe condensation of the MOM-protected aldehyde. In this case,
12
13 cyclization under the standard conditions afforded only the desired indole product **26**. In a
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15 similar sense, after the pyrrole **18** was protected as its MOM derivative **27**, cyclization of the
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17 Stobbe product now gave only the desired indole **28**. Because a late stage deprotection of the
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19 indole MOM group ultimately proved more difficult than expected (*vide infra*), pyrrole aldehyde
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21 **18** also was protected as its tosyl derivative. However, in this case attempted Stobbe
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23 condensation proved problematic, so introduction of this group at this stage of the sequence was
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25 not pursued further.
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41 Scheme 2. Cyclization to indoles and indolizines

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43 After hydrolysis of the acetate group of indole **20**, treatment of the resulting phenol **29**
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45 with NaH and MOMCl in THF gave the desired MOM-protected indole **30** along with a
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47 significant amount of a C-alkylated product, tentatively assigned as the C-5 isomer **31** (Scheme
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49 3). Addition of DMF to the solvent system improved the ratio of desired to undesired product
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51 from ~1.3:1 to ~9:1. Reduction of ester **30** proceeded in quantitative yield, but attempts at
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53 conversion to the phosphonate were somewhat frustrating. The reaction proceeded via the
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corresponding bromide, although the Arbuzov reaction of that bromide with $(\text{EtO})_3\text{P}$ in refluxing toluene gave the desired phosphonate **33** in modest yield.

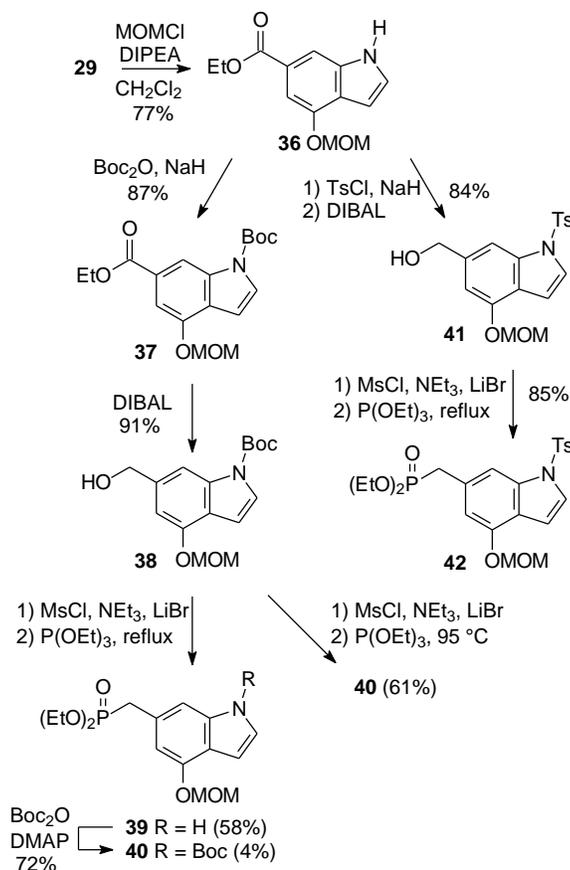


Scheme 3. Synthesis and HWE condensation of indole phosphonate **33**.

The HWE coupling of the hexahydroxanthene aldehyde **12**²⁸ with phosphonate **33** smoothly gave the protected analogue **34**. Unfortunately, attempted hydrolysis of the three MOM groups by treatment with TsOH/MeOH gave compound **35**, where both of the phenolic MOM groups had been cleaved but the indole nitrogen was still protected. Attempts to remove this remaining MOM group under more vigorous conditions²⁹⁻³¹ proved unsuccessful, and gave only decomposition.

To circumvent this difficult hydrolysis, a new strategy based upon early formation of a differentially protected indole was explored. Selective MOM protection of the phenol **29** gave

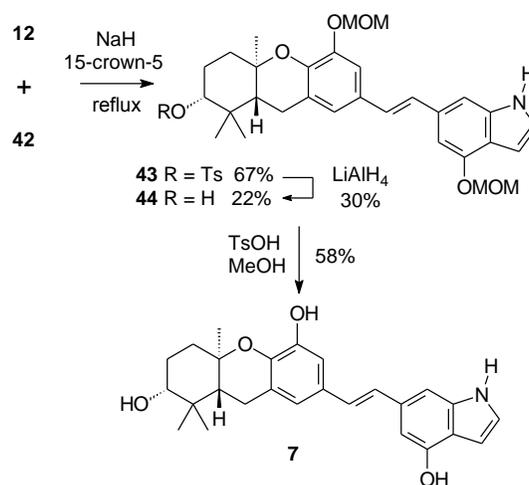
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3 indole **36** (Scheme 4) and different *N*-protecting groups then could be introduced easily. For
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5 example, treatment of compound **36** with base and Boc₂O gave the carbamate **37**, and selective
6
7 reduction of the ethyl ester gave the primary alcohol **38** in good yield. Under standard
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9 conditions for formation of the phosphonates (i.e. initial formation of the mesylate followed by
10
11 treatment with LiBr and then neat (EtO)₃P at reflux), formation of the C-P bond was
12
13 accompanied by cleavage of the Boc group³² to afford phosphonate **39** as the major product. The
14
15 Boc group was easily re-installed through treatment of phosphonate **39** with Boc₂O to give
16
17 phosphonate **40**, or phosphonate **40** could be obtained more directly from the alcohol **38** in a
18
19 reasonable yield (61%) if the Arbuzov reaction were conducted at a lower temperature (~95 °C)
20
21 instead of reflux (~165 °C). Alternatively, a tosylate protecting group could be installed through
22
23 treatment of indole **36** with TsCl and base, and the intermediate carboxylic acid ester was
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25 reduced selectively to the alcohol **41** in good yield. The tosyl group proved stable to standard
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27 conditions for formation of the phosphonate, and compound **42** was obtained smoothly.
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Scheme 4. Synthesis of new indole phosphonates.

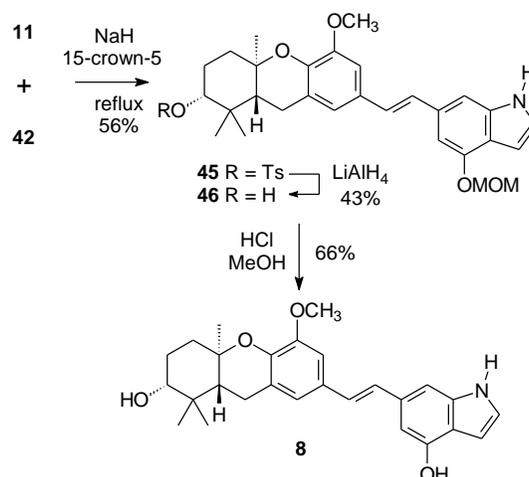
Of the new indole phosphonates **39**, **40**, and **42**, the HWE condensation of compound **39** with an aldehyde representing the schweinfurthin left half would be most advantageous because it would avoid an *N*-deprotection step of the product at a later stage. In the limited number of condensations between an indole phosphonate and an aldehyde, an *N*-protected indole always was employed.³³⁻³⁶ Nevertheless, because aldehyde **12** has been used in similar HWE reactions,^{3,6,13} condensations were attempted between this aldehyde and phosphonate **39**. At best just trace amounts of a possible stilbene product were observed in this case, even though *p*-methoxybenzaldehyde reacted smoothly with phosphonate **39**.³⁷ Attempted condensation of aldehyde **12** with phosphonate **40** also was problematic. In this case, little or no condensation

was observed and TLC analysis suggested that Boc cleavage had taken place instead. Fortunately, the HWE condensation of phosphonate **42** with aldehyde **12** at reflux gave a mixture of stilbene products in very good total yield (Scheme 5). Somewhat to our surprise, analysis of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra showed that the major product **43** carried a tosylate as an A-ring ester, while the minor product **44** did not have an A-ring tosylate, but already had undergone cleavage of the *N*-tosyl group. The hindered tosylate ester **43** proved resistant to standard hydrolysis,³⁸⁻⁴⁵ but reduction with LiAlH_4 ^{46,47} converted the major HWE product (**43**) to the minor product (**44**) in low yield. Final hydrolysis of the MOM groups gave the stilbene **7**, the first schweinfurthin G analogue that incorporates an indole system.



Scheme 5. Synthesis of an indole analogue of schweinfurthin G.

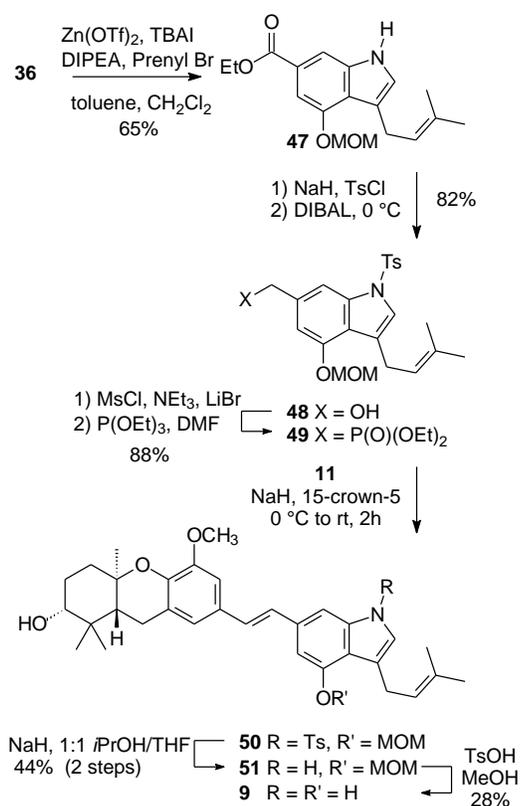
To prepare the analogous schweinfurthin F analogue, phosphonate **42** was allowed to react with aldehyde **11**³ and base (Scheme 6). When the reaction was conducted at reflux in THF, the only stilbene product (56%) again reflected transfer of the tosyl group from the indole nitrogen to the A-ring alcohol. Treatment of this hindered tosylate ester with LiAlH_4 did afford the free alcohol **46** in modest yield. Compound **46** undergoes hydrolysis of the phenolic MOM group under standard conditions to afford the schweinfurthin F analogue **8**.



Scheme 6. Synthesis of an indole analogue of schweinfurthin F.

Because the natural schweinfurthins contain an isoprene chain as a D-ring substituent, installation of an isoprenoid chain on the indole would afford analogues more closely parallel to the natural products. Our original plan had been to incorporate this chain in a regiospecific manner through halogen-metal exchange on a protected indole derived from bromide **26**, but this sequence would become unappealing if the MOM hydrolysis were problematic or the S_N2' product was formed during alkylation with prenyl bromide.⁴⁸⁻⁵² An attractive alternative might be based on an extension of the methodology of Ganesan,⁵³ which relies upon $Zn(OTf)_2$ activation of an allylic halide to bring about only C-3 alkylation through electrophilic aromatic substitution. Among the attractive features of the original study, alkylation of indole itself with prenyl halides generally gave only the C-3 alkylated product, proceeded in ~60% yield, and did not give the products of S_N2' reaction (i.e. “reversed” prenyl substituents) that are frequently observed with other methods.^{48,49} However, it was unclear whether this approach could be applied to access the substituted indole required here, where both C-6 and C-4 groups that might impact reactivity were required. In particular, a C-6 ethoxycarbonyl group would add an electron withdrawing substituent system, while reduction of this group to the corresponding

alcohol might invite polymerization reactions given the known reactivity of benzyl alcohol under these conditions.⁵³ Furthermore, a MOM substituent at the C-4 position might compete with an isoprenoid halide for complexation with the $Zn(OTf)_2$ or introduce a degree of steric hindrance to the C-3 position. Nevertheless, the brevity of this approach led us to study the process with indole **36**. To our delight, the reaction of indole **36** with prenyl bromide in the presence of $Zn(OTf)_2$ gave the desired product **47** in 65% yield (Scheme 7). This yield is comparable to those obtained on indole itself,⁵³ despite the presence of the B-ring substituents.

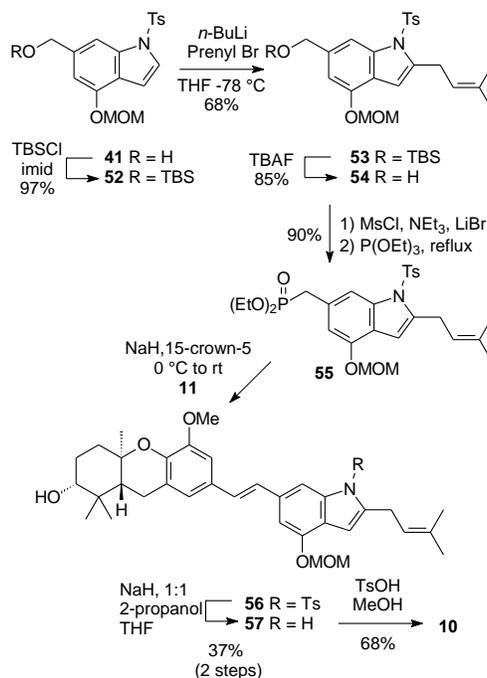


Scheme 7. Synthesis of the prenylated indole schweinfurthin **9**.

Once ester **47** was in hand, the remaining steps in the sequence proceeded in a fashion parallel to those employed for preparation of the earlier analogues. Protection of the indole nitrogen as the tosylate proceeded smoothly. Then, after selective reduction of the carboxylic acid ester with DIBAL, the resulting alcohol **48** was readily converted to phosphonate **49**. An

HWE condensation with aldehyde **11** afforded a mixture of *N*-tosyl intermediate **50** and the free indole **51**. After partial purification, treatment with NaH in a mixture of THF and *i*-PrOH afforded only compound **51**. Final hydrolysis of the MOM group proceeded in low yield, but did afford the desired target compound, the schweinfurthin F analogue **9**.

To access compound **10** from an intermediate already in hand, indole **41** was protected as its silyl ether **52**, and then treated with *n*-BuLi and prenyl bromide. Despite the presence in the B-ring of two substituents that might participate in directed ortho metallation,⁵⁴ this sequence gave a single product identified as the C-2 alkylated indole **53**. After deprotection to the alcohol **54**, and formation of the phosphonate **55** through standard reactions, condensation of phosphonate **55** with aldehyde **11** provided a mixture of the new stilbenes **56** and **57**. After partial purification, treatment with 2-propanol and base completed conversion to compound **57**, and final deprotection gave the desired schweinfurthin analogue **10**.



Scheme 8. Synthesis of the prenylated indole schweinfurthin **10**.

In preliminary bioassays, compounds **7–10** were tested for their activity against the SF-295 cell line, which is one of those more sensitive to the natural schweinfurthins.¹ These new schweinfurthin analogues did show activity in these assays, with EC₅₀'s ranging from ~200 nM to 2.5 μM (Table 1).³⁷ Because the more active compounds show potency comparable to some of the natural schweinfurthins, preparation of additional indole analogues as well as more extensive testing in the 60 cell line assay of the National Cancer Institute would be warranted.

Compound	EC ₅₀ (μM)
7	0.2
8	2.5
9	0.2
10	2.2

Table 1. Preliminary bioassays in the SF-295 cell line

In conclusion, we have developed a strategy for synthesis of indole analogues of the natural schweinfurthins. This effort included preparation of several new indoles by cyclization after a Stobbe condensation, and ultimately led to preparation of the first indoles bearing a phosphonomethyl substituent in the indole B-ring. These B-ring phosphonates have been used in HWE reactions with the complex aldehydes **11** and **12**, and undergo these condensations smoothly as long as the indole nitrogen is securely protected. With a tosyl group on the indole nitrogen, an unexpected transfer of the tosyl group to an unprotected alcohol was observed. While this transfer undoubtedly could be avoided through use of an alcohol protecting group, instead, because this transfer also deprotected the indole nitrogen, the tosylate ester was isolated and cleaved to the free alcohol, which allowed preparation of indole analogues of the schweinfurthin G and F cores. These studies also have shown that the Zn(OTf)₂ mediated alkylation of a 4,6-disubstituted indole is a facile way to introduce a prenyl substituent to C-3 of the indole system, which in turn allowed preparation of a schweinfurthin F analogue complete

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3 with a side chain. In this more hindered prenyl indole, an HWE condensation at room
4 temperature did afford the desired stilbene without transfer of the tosyl group, and reductive
5 cleavage of the *N*-tosyl group was more efficient. Finally, a C-2 prenylated indole was obtained
6 through metalation and alkylation of a tosyl indole intermediate, which allows divergent use of
7 intermediate **35** to obtain either the C-2 or C-3 alkylated compounds. Together these studies
8 have afforded four new indole analogues (**7–10**) of the natural schweinfurthins, and they define
9 procedures that could be used to prepare analogues of many other natural stilbenes including
10 resveratrol,⁵⁵ the chiricanines,⁵⁶ the arachidins and arahypins,⁵⁷ and the pawhuskins.⁵⁸ Further
11 research on the biological activity of the new schweinfurthin analogues is underway, and will be
12 reported in due course.
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26 **Experimental Section**

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29 **General Experimental Procedures.** THF was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone,
30 while CH₂Cl₂ and Et₃N were freshly distilled from CaH₂. All reactions in non-aqueous solvents
31 were conducted in oven dried glassware under a positive pressure of argon with magnetic
32 stirring. All commercial reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise stated.
33
34 NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz for ¹H, and 75 MHz for ¹³C or higher with CDCl₃ as
35 solvent and (CH₃)₄Si (¹H, 0.00 ppm) or CDCl₃ (¹³C, 77.0 ppm) as internal standards unless
36 otherwise noted. High resolution mass spectra were run with magnet detection unless another
37 method is noted. Elemental analyses were performed by a commercial facility.
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48 **2-(1*H*-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-succinic acid 1-ethyl ester (19).** **General Procedure for Stobbe**
49 **Condensations.** According to the procedure of Vedejs²⁴ but in THF (60 mL) instead of benzene,
50 NaH (4.2 g, 105 mmol, 60% dispersion oil) was added slowly to aldehyde **18** (5.01 g, 52.6
51 mmol) and diethylsuccinate (13.3 mL, 80.2 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to
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3 stir overnight and warm to rt. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, quenched by addition of
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5 water and Et₂O was added and then extracted with 5% KOH. The combined aqueous layers
6
7 were acidified with HCl (6 M) and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic extracts were
8
9 washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to afford acid
10
11 **19** (11.2 g, 96%) as a red-brown solid: ¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂CO, 400 MHz) δ 10.83 (br s, 1H), 10.63
12
13 (br s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.07 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.61 – 6.59 (m, 1H), 6.30 – 6.27 (m, 1H), 4.20 (q, *J*
14
15 = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR ((CD₃)₂CO, 400 MHz) δ 172.4,
16
17 168.5, 131.8, 128.8, 123.1, 119.2, 114.4, 111.9, 61.3, 34.4, 14.9; HRMS (TOF MS EI) *m/z* calcd
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19 for C₁₁H₁₃NO₄ (M⁺) 223.0845, found 223.0851.

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22 **4-Acetoxy-1*H*-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (20) and 5-Acetoxy-indolizine-7-**

23
24 **carboxylic acid ethyl ester (21).** To acid **19** (17.1 g, 76.7 mmol) in toluene (800 mL) was
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26 added Ac₂O (48 mL, 506 mmol) and glacial AcOH (4.62 mL, 80.5 mmol) and the reaction was
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28 heated to reflux. The next day the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, quenched by
29
30 addition of K₂CO₃ (sat), washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was
31
32 concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (0 to 50% ethyl
33
34 acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **20** (14.0 g, 74%) as a light brown solid and indolizine **21**
35
36 (201 mg, 1%) as a yellow-brown oil. For indole **20**: ¹H NMR δ 8.98 (br s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H),
37
38 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.20 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.40 (m, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, *J*
39
40 = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR 169.5, 167.0, 142.8, 136.7, 127.9, 124.8, 124.2, 112.6, 111.8, 99.4,
41
42 60.9, 20.9, 14.3. Anal. calcd. for C₁₃H₁₃NO₄: C, 63.15; H, 5.30; N, 5.66. Found: C, 62.97; H,
43
44 5.31; N, 5.61.

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46
47 For indolizine **21**: ¹H NMR δ 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90
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49 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H),
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3 1.39 (t, $J=7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR 166.9, 165.6, 138.8, 133.4, 120.2, 119.2, 115.7, 110.5, 105.6,
4
5 99.0, 60.9, 20.6, 14.3; HRMS (TOF MS EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4$ (M^+) 247.0845, found
6
7 247.0849.
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10 **Alternative route to indole 20 and indolizine 21.** To acid **19** (1.00 g, 4.48 mmol) in THF was
11
12 added Ac_2O (5.4 mL, 57.5 mmol) and glacial AcOH (2.2 mL, 5.76 mmol) and the reaction
13
14 mixture was heated to reflux. The next day the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt,
15
16 poured into Et_2O and water, washed with NaHCO_3 (sat), dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the
17
18 filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (15% to
19
20 50% Et_2O in hexanes) afforded indole **20** (461 mg, 42%) and indolizine **21** (212 mg, 19%).
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24 **2-(4-Bromo-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-succinic acid 1-ethyl ester (22).** According to the
25
26 general procedure, a solution of 4-bromo-2-pyrrolecarboxaldehyde (502 mg, 2.89 mmol) and
27
28 diethyl succinate (0.72 mL, 4.29 mmol) in THF (4 mL) at 0 °C was treated with NaH (266 mg,
29
30 6.65 mmol, 60 % dispersion oil). Standard work-up and final purification by flash column
31
32 chromatography (30% to 40% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded acid **22** (316 mg, 36%) as a
33
34 light brown solid: ^1H NMR ($(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 10.87 (br s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 2.9, 1.4$
35
36 Hz, 1H), 6.63 – 6.62 (m, 1H), 4.21 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C
37
38 NMR ($(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 172.2, 167.9, 130.7, 129.3, 122.5, 121.5, 115.0, 98.8, 61.3, 34.1, 14.5;
39
40 HRMS (TOF MS EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNO}_4$ (M^+) 300.9950, found 300.9954.
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46 **5-Acetoxy-2-bromo-indolizine-7-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (24).** To acid **22** (811 mg, 2.68
47
48 mmol) in THF was added glacial AcOH (0.19 mL, 3.3 mmol), and Ac_2O (3.2 mL 33.8 mmol)
49
50 and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool
51
52 to rt, quenched by addition of Na_2CO_3 (sat), and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined
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54 organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate
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3 was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20% Et₂O in
4 hexanes) afforded indolizine **24** (687 mg, 79%): ¹H NMR δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J*
5 = 1.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H),
6 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 166.6, 165.1, 138.1, 133.3, 120.6, 118.6, 110.3,
7 107.2, 105.4, 99.4, 61.2, 20.6, 14.3. Anal. calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂BrNO₄: C, 47.88; H, 3.71; N, 4.29.
8 Found: C, 48.10; H, 3.73; N, 4.22.
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18 **2-(4-Bromo-1-methoxymethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-succinic acid 1-ethyl ester (25).**

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20 To 4-bromo-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde (1.84 g, 10.6 mmol) in 10:1 THF/DMF (55 mL) at 0
21 °C was added NaH (525 mg, 7.5 mmol, 60% dispersion oil) and the reaction was allowed to stir
22 for 5 min. To the resulting solution was added MOMCl (0.97 mL, 12.8 mmol) and the reaction
23 was allowed to stir for 2 h and then quenched by addition of NH₄Cl (sat), diluted with water, and
24 extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic extracts were washed with water and the brine, dried
25 (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash
26 column chromatography (25% Et₂O in hexanes) afforded the protected aldehyde (1.97 g, 86%)
27 as a white solid: ¹HMR δ 9.53 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 1.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 1.9
28 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 179.0, 131.8, 130.1, 125.8, 98.0, 78.4, 56.3;
29 HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₇H₈BrNO₂ (M⁺) 216.9738, found 216.9740. According to the general
30 procedure, the MOM-protected bromopyrrole aldehyde (1.01 g, 4.63 mmol) in THF (9 mL) at 0
31 °C was treated with diethyl succinate (1.2 mL, 1.54 mmol), followed by NaH (310 mg, 7.75
32 mmol). Standard work-up and final purification by flash column chromatography (25% to 40%
33 ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded acid **25** (425 mg, 27%) as a brown-yellow solid: ¹H NMR δ
34 7.77 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz,
35 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR 175.4, 167.6, 128.3, 128.2,
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3 125.2, 122.1, 116.6, 97.9, 78.1, 61.5, 56.0, 34.0, 14.2. Anal. calcd for C₁₃H₁₆BrNO₅: C, 45.10;
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5 H; 4.66; N, 4.05. Found: C, 45.19; H, 4.69; N, 3.93.
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8 **4-Acetoxy-3-bromo-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (26)**. To acid
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10 **25** (1.084 g, 3.13 mmol) in Ac₂O (20 mL) was added KOAc (0.49 g, 5.0 mmol) and the reaction
11
12 was heated to reflux for 1 h and then allowed to cool to rt. The solution was diluted with ethyl
13
14 acetate, washed with Na₂CO₃ (sat), water, and brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate
15
16 was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20% ethyl
17
18 acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **26** (911 mg, 79%) as a brown solid: ¹H NMR δ 8.14 (d, *J* =
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20 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.28 (s,
21
22 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 179.9, 166.2, 142.9, 137.1, 130.8, 126.1,
23
24 123.1, 115.2, 110.8, 88.2, 77.7, 61.2, 56.4, 21.0 14.4. Anal. calcd for C₁₅H₁₆BrNO₅: C, 48.67; H,
25
26 4.36; N, 3.78. Found: C, 48.84; H, 4.60; N, 3.58.
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31 **2-(1-Methoxymethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-succinic acid 1-ethyl ester (27)**. A solution
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33 of *N*-MOM-2-pyrrolicarboxaldehyde (100 mg, 0.72 mmol) and diethyl succinate (145 mg, 0.84
34
35 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was treated with KO*t*-Bu (120 mg, 1.07 mmol). The solution was allowed
36
37 to warm to rt overnight and the next day was heated to reflux for one h. The solution was cooled
38
39 to 0 °C, quenched by addition of water, diluted with Et₂O, and extracted with 5% KOH. The
40
41 combined aqueous extracts were acidified (6M HCl) and extracted with Et₂O. The combined
42
43 organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and then the filtrate was
44
45 concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatograph (30% ethyl acetate in
46
47 hexanes) afforded acid **27** (60 mg, 31%) as a yellow solid: ¹H NMR δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* =
48
49 2.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.66 (m, 1H), 6.29 – 6.27 (m, 1H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz,
50
51 2H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 176.1, 168.1, 129.3, 127.7,
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3 126.2, 120.0, 115.6, 110.1, 78.0, 61.3, 55.7, 34.2, 14.2. Anal. calcd for C₁₃H₁₇NO₅: C, 58.42; H,
4
5 6.41. Found: C, 58.49; H, 6.43.

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8 **4-Acetoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (28)**. To acid **27** (333
9
10 mg, 1.25 mmol) in Ac₂O (10 mL) was added KOAc (153 mg, 1.56 mol) and the solution was
11
12 heated at reflux until the reaction was complete as judged by TLC analysis. The solution was
13
14 allowed to cool to rt and then poured into NaHCO₃ (sat) and diluted with Et₂O. Once bubbling
15
16 had ceased, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O and the combined organic extracts were
17
18 washed with NaHCO₃ (sat), water, and brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was
19
20 concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (40% ethyl acetate in
21
22 hexanes) afforded indole **28** (298 mg, 82%) as a brown-yellow solid: ¹H NMR δ 8.14 (dd, *J* =
23
24 1.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 3.3, 0.8 Hz,
25
26 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 4.39 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H);
27
28 ¹³C NMR δ 169.0, 166.6, 143.0, 137.2, 131.2, 125.9, 124.9, 113.4, 110.3, 99.7, 77.5, 60.9, 56.0,
29
30 22.0, 14.3; HRMS (TOF MS EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₇NO₅ (M⁺) 291.1107, found 291.1104.

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36 **4-Hydroxy-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (29)**. To a solution of acetate **20** (201 mg,
37
38 0.81 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL) was added K₂CO₃ (210 mg, 1.52 mmol) and the resulting mixture
39
40 was heated to reflux for 90 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, filtered through celite,
41
42 and then concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was dissolved in Et₂O and extracted with
43
44 2N NaOH. The aqueous extracts were acidified and extracted with Et₂O, dried (MgSO₄), and
45
46 filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column
47
48 chromatography (50% Et₂O in hexanes) afforded phenol **29** (136 mg, 82%) as a light brown
49
50 solid: ¹H NMR (CD₃)₂CO δ 10.5 (br s, 1H), 8.60 (br s, 1H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42
51
52 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.36
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(t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 167.8, 150.9, 138.2, 127.2, 125.5, 122.8, 107.0, 104.5, 100.1, 60.9, 14.7. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_3$: C, 64.38; H, 5.40; N, 6.83. Found: C, 64.39; H, 5.49; N, 6.66.

4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (30) and 4-methoxymethoxy-1,5-bis-methoxymethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (31). To a stirring suspension of NaH (800 mg, 20 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) in a 6:1 mixture of THF and DMF (35 mL) at 0 °C was added indole **29** (1.61 g, 7.86 mmol) as a THF solution. Next MOMCl (1.5 mL, 20 mmol) was added dropwise and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 50 min. The reaction was quenched by addition of water and extracted with Et_2O . The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO_4) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (25 to 50% Et_2O in hexanes) afforded indoles **30** (1.82 g, 79%) and **31** (227 mg, 9%). For compound **30**: ^1H NMR δ 7.94 (dd, $J = 0.9$, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, $J = 3.2$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.44 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 167.3, 150.0, 137.1, 129.8, 125.4, 124.0, 106.8, 104.6, 100.2, 94.7, 77.4, 60.8, 56.2, 55.9, 14.4. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5$: C, 61.42; H, 6.53; Found: C, 61.59; H, 6.62. For compound **31**: ^1H NMR δ 7.82 (d $J = 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, $J = 3.3$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (s, 2H), 5.28 (s, 2 H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.42 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 168.4, 150.0, 136.7, 130.1, 126.9, 124.6, 121.1, 109.1, 100.9, 99.5, 77.4, 65.7, 61.0, 58.0, 57.4, 56.0, 14.3. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_6$: C, 60.52; H, 6.87; N, 4.15. Found: C, 60.40; H, 7.00; N, 4.00.

(4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indol-6-yl)-methanol (32). To ester **30** (668 mg, 2.28 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was added LiAlH_4 (190 mg, 5.0 mmol) and the resulting mixture was

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3 allowed to stir for 2 h. The reaction mixture was then quenched by addition of water, acidified,
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5 and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic extracts were washed with water, dried
6
7 (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash
8
9 column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol **32** (566 mg, 99%) as a
10
11 white solid: ¹H NMR δ 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (dd,
12
13 *J* = 3.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2 H), 4.75 (s, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.02 (br
14
15 s, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 150.7, 137.9, 136.6, 127.3, 119.9, 103.7, 102.8, 99.8, 94.7, 77.5, 66.1, 56.1,
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17 55.8; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₇NO₄ (M⁺) 251.1158; found 251.1152.
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22 **(4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1*H*-indol-6-ylmethyl)-phosphonic acid diethyl ester**
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25 **(33)**. To a solution of alcohol **32** (12 mg, 0.048 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) at 0 °C was added
26
27 Et₃N (0.05 mL, 0.38 mmol) and MsCl (0.02 mL, 0.24 mmol) and the reaction was allowed to
28
29 warm to rt. The following day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH₄Cl (sat) and
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31 extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄),
32
33 and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was dissolved in
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35 acetone (5 mL) at rt, LiBr (33 mg, 0.38 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was allowed
36
37 to stir overnight. The following day the reaction mixture was poured into Et₂O, quenched by
38
39 addition of water, and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic extracts were washed with
40
41 brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting
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43 residue was dissolved in P(OEt)₃ (0.5 mL) and toluene (3 mL) and the solution was heated at
44
45 reflux overnight. The following day the solution was allowed to cool to rt, poured into Et₂O, and
46
47 then quenched by addition of water and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic extracts
48
49 were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*.
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51 Final purification by flash column chromatography (80% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded
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phosphonate **33** (7 mg, 39% yield) as an oil: ^1H NMR δ 7.12 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, $J = 1.7, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 4.06 – 3.96 (m, 4H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d, $J_{\text{HP}} = 21.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.26 (td, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 0.3 Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR δ 150.4 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 2.8$ Hz), 138.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 3.0$ Hz), 127.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 1.2$ Hz), 126.4 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 9.2$ Hz), 119.3 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 2.9$ Hz), 106.5 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 5.9$ Hz), 105.5 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 7.7$ Hz), 99.7 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 1.5$ Hz), 94.7, 77.4, 62.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 6.6$ Hz, 2C), 56.1, 55.8, 34.2 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 138$ Hz), 16.3 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 6.1$ Hz, 2C); ^{31}P NMR δ 27.4; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_6\text{P}$ (M^+) 371.1498; found 371.1497.

5-Methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-ol (34). To a suspension of NaH (45 mg, 1.13 mol, 60% dispersion in oil) in THF at 0 °C was added phosphonate **33** (37 mg, 0.10 mmol) as a THF solution followed by aldehyde **12**²⁸ (17.6 mg, 0.052 mmol) as a THF solution and the reaction was allowed to warm slowly to rt. The following day the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50 to 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded stilbene **34** (16 mg, 55%) as an oil: ^1H NMR δ 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.97 (m, 4H), 6.62 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.44 (s, 2H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.25 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.57, (s, 3H) 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.47–3.42 (m, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.75 – 2.72 (m, 2H), 2.13 – 2.08 (m, 1H), 1.91 – 1.64 (m, 5H), 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 150.8, 146.2, 143.6, 138.2, 133.5, 129.5, 127.7, 127.0, 125.5, 123.1, 121.9, 120.1, 113.4, 102.9, 102.5, 100.0, 95.9, 94.8,

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3 78.0, 77.6, 76.9, 56.2, 56.2, 55.9, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9, 14.3; HRMS (EI) m/z
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5 calcd for $C_{32}H_{41}NO_7 (M^+)$ 551.2883 found 551.2891.
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8 **7-[2-(4-Hydroxy-1-methoxymethyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2*R*,4*aR*,9*aR*)-**
9
10 **2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthene-2,5-diol (35).** To MOM-protected compound **34** (16
11 mg, 0.029 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added TsOH (80 mg, 0.42 mmol) and the solution was
12 allowed to stir at rt. The next day the solution was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat), diluted
13 with water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organics extracts were washed with
14 water, dried ($MgSO_4$) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification
15 by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the schweinfurthin
16 analogue **35** (9 mg, 67%) as a yellow oil: 1H NMR (CD_3OD) δ 7.16 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (m,
17 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J =$
18 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, $J = 3.3, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 3.40–3.35 (m,
19 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.75–2.71 (m, 2H), 2.09–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.63 (m, 4H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 1.11
20 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 151.6, 147.0, 142.1, 140.1, 134.9, 131.4, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0,
21 124.0, 120.3, 120.2, 111.1, 103.3, 102.2, 100.5, 78.8, 78.3, 78.2, 56.0, ~49 (obscured by solvent),
22 39.5, 38.9, 29.0, 27.9, 24.0, 20.3, 14.8; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{28}H_{33}NO_5 (M^+)$ 463.2359
23 found 463.2353.
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43 **Preparation of 4-Methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (36).** To a
44 suspension of phenol **29** (1.18 g, 5.74 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL) at rt was added DIPEA (4.0
45 mL, 23.0 mmol) and MOMCl (0.7 mL, 9.2 mmol) and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir
46 overnight. The reaction was quenched by addition of water and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The
47 combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried ($MgSO_4$), and filtered, and the filtrate
48 was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (15 to 25% ethyl
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3 acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **36** (1.10 g, 77%) as a light yellow solid: ^1H NMR δ 8.95 (br
4 s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, $J = 1.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, $J = 3.1, 2.5$ Hz, 1H),
5
6 s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, $J = 1.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, $J = 3.1, 2.5$ Hz, 1H),
7
8 6.69 (m, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 4.38 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C
9
10 NMR δ 167.7, 149.9, 136.5, 126.4, 124.7, 123.0, 108.4, 103.8, 100.0, 94.7, 60.8, 56.2, 14.3.
11
12 Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4$: C, 62.64; H, 6.07; N, 5.62. Found: C, 62.83; H, 6.12; N, 5.42.
13
14

15 **4-Methoxymethoxy-indole-1,6-dicarboxylic acid 1-tert-butyl ester, 6-ethyl ester (37)**. To a
16
17 solution of indole **36** (1.00 g, 4.01 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (200 mg, 5
18
19 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and Boc_2O (960 mg, 4.40 mmol). An additional aliquot of THF
20
21 was added (8 mL) and after 1 h the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat)
22
23 and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried
24
25 (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Final purification of the resulting
26
27 material by flash column chromatography (12.5 to 15% Et_2O in hexanes) afforded indole **37**
28
29 (1.23 g, 87%): ^1H NMR δ 8.54 (br s, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.74
30
31 (dd, $J = 3.7, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 4.39 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 9H), 1.41
32
33 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H) ^{13}C NMR 167.0, 149.8, 149.4, 135.7, 127.5, 127.4, 125.4, 111.6, 107.5, 104.2,
34
35 94.8, 84.4, 60.9, 56.3, 28.1 (3C), 14.4. Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_6$: C, 61.88; H, 6.64; N, 4.01.
36
37 Found: C, 62.00; H, 6.68; N, 4.02.
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43 **6-Hydroxymethyl-4-methoxymethoxy-indole-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester (38)**. To
44
45 ester **37** (434 mg, 1.24 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added DIBAL (4.1 mL, 1M in THF).
46
47 When judged complete by TLC analysis, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat),
48
49 poured into ethyl acetate, acidified, and then extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic
50
51 extracts were washed with NaHCO_3 (sat) and brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate
52
53 was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (25% ethyl
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3 acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol **38** (345 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil: $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 7.84 (s, 1H),
4
5 7.48 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, $J = 3.8, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H),
6
7 4.75 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.16 (br s, 1H), 1.66 (s, 9H) ^{13}C 150.3, 149.7, 138.7, 136.6, 124.8,
8
9 121.0, 108.0, 106.3, 104.1, 94.7, 83.7, 66.0, 56.1, 28.1 (3C). Anal. calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_5$: C,
10
11 62.53; H, 6.89; N, 4.56. Found: C, 62.30; H, 7.13; N, 4.56.
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16 Preparation of (4-Methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indol-6-ylmethyl)-phosphonic acid diethyl ester

17 (39) and 6-(Diethoxy-phosphorylmethyl)-4-methoxymethoxy-indole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-

18
19 butyl ester (40). To LiBr (450 mg, 5.18 mmol) and NEt_3 (0.43 mL, 3.09 mmol) in THF at 0 °C
20
21 was added the benzylic alcohol **38** (312 mg, 1.02 mmol) as a THF solution. The solution was
22
23 stirred for 5 min and then MsCl (0.16 mL, 2.07 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction
24
25 mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h and more LiBr (400 mg, 4.61 mmol) was added. After the
26
27 reaction was judged complete by TLC analysis it was quenched by addition of NaHCO_3 (sat),
28
29 diluted with water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed
30
31 with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. To the
32
33 resulting residue was added $\text{P}(\text{OEt})_3$ (4 mL) and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. The
34
35 next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and extracted with
36
37 ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the
38
39 filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50 to
40
41 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole phosphonate **40** (18 mg, 4%) as an oil and the
42
43 parent indole phosphonate **39** (194 mg, 58%) as an oil.
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52 For phosphonate **39**: $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 9.61 (s, 1H), 7.05 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H),
53
54 6.66 (s, 1H), 6.54, (t, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 4.44 – 3.96 (m, 4H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 3.21 (d, J_{PH}
55
56 = 21.1 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 150.2 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 2.7$ Hz), 137.7 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 2.9$
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3 Hz), 124.8 (d, $J_{CP} = 9.4$ Hz), 123.5, 118.2 (d, $J_{CP} = 2.7$ Hz), 107.1 (d, $J_{CP} = 7.4$ Hz), 105.6 (d, J_{CP}
4 = 5.8 Hz), 98.7, 94.7, 62.1 (d, $J_{CP} = 6.8$ Hz, 2C), 55.9, 33.9 (d, $J_{CP} = 138$ Hz), 16.2 (d, $J_{CP} = 6.1$
5 Hz, 2C); ^{31}P NMR δ 28.2; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_5\text{P}$ (M^+) 327.1236; found
6 327.1229.
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12 **Boc protection of phosphonate 39.** To phosphonate **39** (194 mg, 0.593 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10
13 mL) was added DMAP (8 mg, 0.065 mmol) and Boc_2O (150 mg, 0.69 mmol). The reaction was
14 allowed to stir for 2 h and then checked by TLC analysis. After an additional amount of Boc_2O
15 was added (50 mg, 0.23 mmol), the reaction was allowed to proceed for another hour. The
16 reaction mixture was quenched by addition of water and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined
17 organic extracts were dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*.
18 Final purification by flash column chromatography (80% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the
19 Boc-protected indole **40** (183 mg, 72%) with ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra consistent with material
20 prepared via the route below.
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34 **Preparation of phosphonate 40 at reduced temperature.** To alcohol **38** (147 mg, 0.48 mmol)
35 in THF (10 mL) was added LiBr (250 mg, 2.9 mmol) and NEt_3 (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol), the solution
36 was cooled to 0 °C, and then was allowed to stir. After 10 min, MsCl (0.08 mL, 2.07 mmol) was
37 added dropwise and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. The reaction was then
38 quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat), diluted with water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The
39 combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO_4) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in*
40 *vacuo*. To the residue was added $\text{P}(\text{OEt})_3$ and the resulting solution was heated to 95 °C and
41 allowed to stir overnight. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt, and then
42 concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (1.5% EtOH in Et_2O)
43 afforded phosphonate **40** (125 mg, 61%) as an oil: ^1H NMR δ 7.78 (br s, 1H), 7.48 (d, $J = 3.5$
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3 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.66 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.09–4.00 (m, 4H), 3.51 (s, 3H),
4
5 3.26 (d, $J_{\text{PH}} = 21.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.66, (s 9H), 1.27 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR δ 150.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 2.9$
6
7 Hz), 149.6, 128.7 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 9.5$ Hz), 124.6, 120.3, 110.7 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 7.9$ Hz), 108.9 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 5.7$ Hz),
8
9 104.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 1.6$ Hz), 94.7, 83.6, 62.0 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 6.6$ Hz, 2C), 56.3, 34.3 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 138$ Hz), 28.1
10
11 (3C), 16.3 (d, $J_{\text{CP}} = 6.3$ Hz, 2C); ^{31}P NMR δ 27.3; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}_7\text{P}$ (M^+)
12
13 427.1760; found 427.1757
14
15
16

17 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-methanol (41)**. To indole **36** (805
18 mg, 3.23 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (170 mg, 4.2 mmol, 60% dispersion in
19 oil) followed after 10 min by TsCl (700 mg, 3.61 mmol). After 30 min, DIBAL (1.45 mL, 8.1
20 mmol) was added and the reaction was allowed to stir for an additional 30 min. It then was
21 quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat), poured into ethyl acetate, acidified, and extracted with
22 ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and
23 filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column
24 chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded benzylic alcohol **41** (1.02 g, 87%
25 overall yield): ^1H NMR ($(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 7.84 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz,
26 1H), 7.22, (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.81, (dd, $J = 3.7, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.27 (s, 2H), 4.78 (s,
27 2H), 4.53 (br s, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 151.2, 146.0, 141.8, 136.9, 135.8,
28 130.7 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 126.0, 121.5, 107.2, 106.7, 105.9, 95.2, 65.0, 56.2, 21.3; HRMS (EI) m/z
29 calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ (M^+) 361.0984; found 361.0992.
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48 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl]-phosphonic acid diethyl**
49 **ester (42)**. To alcohol **41** (118 mg, 0.33 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at 0 °C was added LiBr (226
50 mg, 2.62 mmol) and NEt_3 (0.18 mL, 1.30 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir for 5 min and
51 then MsCl (0.06 mL, 0.78 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction was allowed to warm to rt
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3 and after 3 h it was quenched by addition of NaHCO₃ (sat) and extracted with ethyl acetate. The
4
5 organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was
6
7 concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was dissolved in P(OEt)₃ (3 mL) and heated to
8
9 reflux. The next day the reaction was allowed to cool to rt, poured into water, and extracted with
10
11 ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the
12
13 filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (2.5 to
14
15 3% EtOH in Et₂O) afforded phosphonate **42** (133 mg, 85%) as a white solid: ¹H NMR δ 7.78 (d,
16
17 *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 3.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22, (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz,
18
19 2H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 4.05 – 3.95 (m, 4H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.25
20
21 (d, *J*_{PH} = 21.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR δ 150.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 2.9 Hz),
22
23 144.8, 136.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz), 135.1, 129.7 (2C), 129.3 (d, *J*_{CP} = 9.2 Hz), 126.8 (2C), 125.0 (d,
24
25 *J*_{CP} = 1.4 Hz), 120.6 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz), 109.3 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz), 108.6 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.5 Hz), 105.8 (d,
26
27 *J*_{CP} = 1.5 Hz), 94.6, 62.0 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.7 Hz, 2C), 56.2, 34.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 138.1 Hz), 21.5, 16.3 (d, *J*_{CP} =
28
29 6.1 Hz, 2C); ³¹P NMR δ 27.3; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₂H₂₈NO₇PS (M⁺) 481.1324; found
30
31 481.1315.

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34 **Preparation of Toluene-4-sulfonic acid 5-methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1H-**
35
36 **indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-yl**
37
38 **ester (43) and 5-methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1H-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-**
39
40 **trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-ol (44).** To phosphonate **42**
41
42 (40 mg, 0.83 mmol) and aldehyde **12**²⁸ (18 mg, 0.54 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at rt was added NaH
43
44 (60 mg, 1.5 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-crown-5 (3 drops) and the resulting solution
45
46 was heated to reflux. After 30 min the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt and quenched
47
48 by addition of NH₄Cl (sat), diluted with water, and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic
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3 extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in*
4
5 *vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20 to 40% ethyl acetate in hexanes)
6
7 afforded the tosylate **43** (24 mg, 67%) along with the alcohol **44** (5 mg, 22%). For tosylate **43**:
8
9 ¹H NMR δ 8.24 (br s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H) 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 3H),
10
11 6.98 – 6.92 (m, 4H), 6.63 (m, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 5.23 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz,
12
13 1H), 4.33 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.69–2.66 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H),
14
15 2.10–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.82 – 1.60 (m, 4H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ
16
17 150.8, 146.1, 144.7, 143.3, 137.7, 134.3, 133.1, 129.8 (3C), 127.9, 127.7 (2C), 126.5, 123.5,
18
19 122.6, 121.7, 119.1, 113.4, 104.1, 101.9, 100.1, 95.9, 94.8, 88.4, 76.0, 56.2, 56.2, 47.0, 38.2,
20
21 37.4, 27.0, 25.8, 23.1, 21.6, 19.8, 15.1; HRMS (TOF MS ES) *m/z* calcd for C₃₇H₄₄NO₈S
22
23 ((M+H)⁺) 662.2788; found 662.2797.
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25
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27
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29 For alcohol **44**: ¹H NMR δ 8.30 (br s, 1H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.05 – 6.92 (m, 4H), 6.64 (m,
30
31 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.24 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H),
32
33 3.43 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.75 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.11 – 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.90–1.54 (m, 5H),
34
35 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 150.8, 146.1, 143.6, 137.7, 133.2, 129.6,
36
37 127.8, 126.7, 123.5, 123.2, 121.9, 119.1, 113.5, 104.1, 102.0, 100.1, 96.0, 94.8, 78.0, 76.9, 56.2,
38
39 56.2, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9, 14.2; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₀H₃₇NO₆ (M⁺)
40
41 507.2621; found 507.2620.
42
43
44
45

46 **Reduction of tosylate 43.** To the MOM-protected tosylate **43** (19.0 mg, 0.03 mmol) in THF (3
47
48 mL) at 0 °C was added LiAlH₄ (14 mg, 0.40 mmol) and the reaction mixture was allowed to
49
50 warm to rt overnight. The following morning the reaction was quenched by addition of NH₄Cl
51
52 (sat), diluted with water, and extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic layers were washed
53
54 with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and filtered, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Final purification
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3 by preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the desired indole **44** (4.4 mg, 30%)
4
5 along with recovered starting material (2.7 mg, 14%). The ¹H NMR spectra was consistent with
6
7 that of material prepared above.
8
9

10 **7-[2-(4-Hydroxy-1*H*-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2*R*,4*aR*,9*aR*)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-**

11 **hexahydro-1*H*-xanthene-2,5-diol (7)**. To a methanol solution of protected indole **44** (6 mg,
12
13 0.012 mmol) at 0 °C was added TsOH (25 mg, 0.145 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir
14
15 overnight, then quenched by addition of water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined
16
17 organic extracts were dried (Mg₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification of
18
19 the residue by preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded schweinfurthin analogue
20
21 **7** (2.9 mg, 58%): ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 7.09 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 16.2
22
23 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66, (d, *J*
24
25 = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74 – 2.71 (m,
26
27 2H), 2.09 – 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.83 – 1.63 (m, 4H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR
28
29 δ 151.2, 147.0, 141.9, 139.8, 133.9, 131.5, 128.9, 127.2, 124.4, 124.0, 120.2, 119.3, 111.0,
30
31 103.8, 101.8, 99.7, 78.8, 78.2, 39.5, 38.9, 29.0, 27.9, 24.0, 20.3, 14.9; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for
32
33 C₂₆H₂₉NO₄ (M⁺) 419.2097; found 419.2096.
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42 **Toluene-4-sulfonic acid 5-methoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-**
43 **trimethyl-(2*R*,4*aR*,9*aR*)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-yl ester (45)**. To aldehyde
44
45 **11**^{3,28} (63 mg, 0.21 mmol) and phosphonate **42** (156 mg, 0.32 mmol in THF (5 mL) at rt was
46
47 added NaH (80 mg, 2.0 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-crown-5 (3 drops). The reaction
48
49 mixture was slowly heated to reflux for 40 min and then allowed to cool to rt. After the reaction
50
51 was quenched by addition of NaHCO₃ (sat), it was diluted with water, and extracted with ethyl
52
53 acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered,
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3 and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography
4
5 (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the tosylate **45** (73 mg, 56%): ^1H NMR δ 8.25 (br s,
6
7 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 3.2, 2.4$ Hz,
8
9 1H), 7.03 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 16.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J =$
10
11 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 4.36 – 4.31 (m, 1H),
12
13 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.70 – 2.67 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.14 – 2.09 (m, 1H), 2.01 – 1.96 (m,
14
15 1H), 1.87 – 1.68 (m, 3H), 1.56 (br s, 1H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 0.91 (m, 6H); ^{13}C δ 150.8, 148.9, 144.6,
16
17 142.0, 137.7, 134.3, 133.1, 129.8 (2C), 129.6, 127.8, 127.7 (2C), 126.8, 123.6, 122.0, 120.1,
18
19 119.2, 107.0, 104.0, 102.0, 100.1, 94.8, 88.5, 76.0, 56.2, 56.0, 47.0, 38.2, 37.3, 27.1, 25.7, 23.1,
20
21 21.6, 19.7, 15.1; HRMS (TOF MS ES) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{42}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$ ((M+H) $^+$) 632.2682; found
22
23 632.2684.
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29 **Toluene-4-sulfonic acid 5-methoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1H-indol-6-yl)-vinyl]-1,1,4a-**
30 **trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-yl ester (46)**. To the tosylate
31
32 **45** (73 mg, 0.12 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added LiAlH_4 (45 mg, 1.18 mmol) and the reaction
33
34 mixture was allowed to stir overnight. The reaction then was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl
35
36 (sat) and extracted with Et_2O . The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried
37
38 (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash
39
40 column chromatography (30 to 50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) yielded alcohol **46** (24 mg, 43%):
41
42 ^1H NMR δ 8.25 (br s, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 3.1, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H),
43
44 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.63
45
46 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.45 – 3.40 (m, 1H), 2.74 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.15 –
47
48 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.50 (m, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H);
49
50 ^{13}C NMR δ 150.8, 148.9, 142.3, 137.7, 133.2, 129.4, 127.6, 127.0, 123.5, 122.6, 120.2, 119.1,
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3 106.9, 104.0, 102.0, 100.1, 94.8, 78.0, 77.0, 56.2, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9,
4
5 14.3; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{29}H_{35}NO_5$ (M^+) 477.2515; found 477.2512.

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8 **6-[2-(7-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-8,8,10a-trimethyl-(5R,8aR,10aR)5,7,8,8a,9a,10a-hexahydro-**
9
10 **6H-xanthen-2-yl)-vinyl]-1H-indol-4-ol (8)**. To the MOM-protected indole **46** (16.0 mg, 0.033
11 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added HCl (0.15 mL, 6M). The reaction was stirred in a warm
12 water bath for 8.5 h, quenched by dropwise addition of $NaHCO_3$ (sat), and then extracted with
13 Et_2O . The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried ($MgSO_4$), and filtered
14 through basic alumina, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by
15 preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **8** (9 mg, 62%); 1H NMR δ 8.2
16 (br s, 1H), 7.13 (dd, $J = 3.1, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, $J =$
17 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.59 –
18 6.57 (m, 1H), 5.22 (br s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.43 (dd, $J = 11.5, 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.75 – 2.72 (m, 2H),
19 2.16 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.60 (m, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s,
20 3H); ^{13}C δ 149.0, 148.9, 142.4, 138.0, 133.4, 129.4, 127.3, 127.2, 123.5, 122.7, 120.4, 117.4,
21 106.9, 103.1, 102.1, 99.2, 78.1, 77.0, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.6, 28.3, 27.4, 23.2, 19.9, 14.3; HRMS
22 (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{27}H_{31}NO_4$ (M^+) 433.2253; found 433.2245.

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41 **4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid ethyl ester (47)**.

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43 To indole **36** (1.00 g, 4.01 mmol), TBAI (739 mg, 2.00 mmol), and $Zn(OTf)_2$ (878 mg, 2.41
44 mmol) in a 9:2 mixture of toluene and CH_2Cl_2 (22 mL) at rt was added DIPEA (0.77 mL, 4.41
45 mmol). After the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min, prenyl bromide (298 mg, 2.00
46 mmol) was added dropwise. After 3 h the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl
47 (sat) and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with water,
48 dried ($MgSO_4$), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by
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3 flash column chromatography (10 to 15% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded prenylated indole **47**
4
5 (415 mg, 65%) along with recovered starting material **36** (540 mg): ^1H NMR δ 8.47 (br s, 1H),
6
7 7.79 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 1H), 5.46 (m, 1H), 5.35 (s, 2H), 4.37
8
9 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.65 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 1.74 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H),
10
11 1.38 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C δ 167.6, 151.4, 137.4, 131.5, 124.6, 123.8, 123.7, 121.3, 116.7,
12
13 108.2, 102.8, 94.2, 60.7, 56.2, 25.7, 25.4, 17.7, 14.4; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4$ (M^+)
14
15 317.1627; found 317.1631.

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19 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-**

20 **methanol (48)**. To indole **47** (315 mg, 0.99 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was added NaH (50 mg, 1.25
21
22 mmol, 60% dispersion oil) and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. After TsCl
23
24 (230 mg, 1.21 mmol) was added, the solution was stirred for 30 min and then DIBAL (0.71 mL,
25
26 4.0 mmol) was added dropwise. After an additional 30 min the reaction was quenched by
27
28 addition of NH_4Cl (sat), acidified with HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined
29
30 organic extracts were washed with Na_2CO_3 (sat) and brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the
31
32 filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (34% ethyl
33
34 acetate in hexanes) afforded benzylic alcohol **48** (348 mg, 82%): ^1H NMR δ 7.71 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz,
35
36 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.85 (d, $J = 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.41 – 5.39
37
38 (m, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 3.51 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H) 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.37 (br s, 1H), 2.30 (s,
39
40 3H), 1.76 (d, $J = 0.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 151.8, 144.6, 139.1, 137.0, 135.2, 132.9,
41
42 129.7 (2C), 126.6 (2C), 122.7, 121.9, 121.8, 120.2, 105.9, 105.7, 94.1, 65.5, 56.1, 25.7, 25.6,
43
44 21.4, 17.7; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ (M^+) 429.1610; found 429.1609.

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51 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl]-**
52
53 **phosphonic acid diethyl ester (49)**. To alcohol **48** (332 mg, 0.77 mmol) in THF (15 mL) at 0
54
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3 °C was added LiBr (537 mg, 6.18 mmol) and NEt₃ (0.43 mL, 3.09 mmol). The solution was
4
5 stirred for 5 min and then MsCl (0.18 mL, 2.32 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction was
6
7 allowed to warm to rt, and after 2 h it was quenched by addition of NaHCO₃ (sat.) and extracted
8
9 with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and
10
11 filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Without further purification, the resulting
12
13 residue was dissolved in P(OEt)₃ (3 mL) and heated to reflux. The next day the solution was
14
15 allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic
16
17 extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification
18
19 by flash column chromatography (2% EtOH in Et₂O) afforded indole phosphonate **49** (374 mg,
20
21 88%) as a waxy white solid: ¹H NMR δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.1
22
23 Hz, 2H), 7.10, (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (m, 1H), 5.41 – 5.36 (m, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 4.00 (m, 4H),
24
25 3.51 – 3.47 (m, 5H), 3.22 (d, *J*_{PH} = 21.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t,
26
27 *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR δ 151.6 (d, *J*_{CP} = 2.9 Hz) 144.8, 137.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz), 135.4, 133.0,
28
29 129.7 (2C), 129.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 9.3 Hz), 126.8 (2C), 122.7 (d, *J*_{CP} = 1.6 Hz), 121.8, 121.7 (d, *J*_{CP} =
30
31 1.8 Hz), 119.7 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.2 Hz), 108.9 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.9 Hz), 108.7 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.6 Hz), 94.3, 62.1 (d,
32
33 *J*_{CP} = 6.7 Hz, 2C), 56.1, 34.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 138.3 Hz), 25.7, 25.6, 21.4, 17.7, 16.3 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.0 Hz,
34
35 2C); ³¹P NMR δ 26.9; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₃₆NO₇PS (M⁺) 549.1950; found 549.1959.

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43 **5-Methoxy-7-{2-[4-methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1*H*-indol-6-yl]-vinyl}-1,1,4a-**
44
45 **trimethyl-(2*R*,4*aR*,9*aR*)-2,3,4,4*a*,9,9*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-ol (51).** To aldehyde **11** (44
46
47 mg, 0.15 mmol) and phosphonate **49** (100 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (4 mL) at 0 °C was added
48
49 NaH (80 mg, 2.0 mmol, 60% dispersion oil) and 15-crown-5 (2 drops), and the reaction mixture
50
51 was allowed warm to rt. After 2 hrs it was quenched by addition of NH₄Cl (sat) and extracted
52
53 with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and
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3 filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column
4
5 chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded a mixture of the *N*-Ts compound **50** and
6
7 free indole **51** (55 mg) as an oil. This material was dissolved in a mixture of THF and *i*-PrOH (5
8
9 mL, 1:1 mixture) at 0 °C, NaH (150 mg, excess) was added, and the reaction mixture was
10
11 allowed to warm to rt. The following day the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of
12
13 water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine,
14
15 dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by
16
17 flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **51** (35 mg, 44%
18
19 for 2 steps) as an oil: ¹H NMR δ 7.95 (br s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.99 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.92 – 6.90
20
21 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.51 – 5.46 (m, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.62 (d, *J* =
22
23 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.43 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.15 – 2.10 (m,
24
25 1H), 1.89 – 1.56 (m, 11H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 152.1, 148.9,
26
27 142.3, 138.6, 133.0, 131.2, 129.4, 127.6, 126.8, 124.1, 122.6, 120.9, 120.2, 117.5, 116.7, 106.9,
28
29 103.8, 100.9, 94.3, 78.0, 77.0, 56.1, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 25.7, 25.6, 23.2, 19.8, 17.7,
30
31 14.3; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₄H₄₃NO₅ (M⁺) 545.3141; found 545.3135.

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34 **6-[2-(7-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-8,8,10a-trimethyl-(5*R*,8*aR*,10*aR*)-5,7,8,8*a*,9,10*a*-hexahydro-6*H*-**
35
36 **xanthen-2-yl)-vinyl]-3-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1*H*-indol-4-ol (**9**). To compound **51** (31 mg,
37
38 0.057 mmol) in MeOH (2 mL) at rt was added TsOH (75 mg, 0.39 mmol) and the reaction flask
39
40 was wrapped in foil. After 10 h the reaction was quenched by addition to NaHCO₃ (sat) and
41
42 extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with Na₂CO₃ (sat),
43
44 brine, and dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification
45
46 by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded stilbene **9** (8 mg, 28%)
47
48 as a light yellow oil: ¹H NMR δ 7.90 (br s, 1H), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 3H), 6.89 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 6.74
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60**

(s, 1H), 5.91 (br s, 1H), 5.54 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.58 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.44 (dd, $J = 11.6$, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75 – 2.72 (m, 2H), 2.16 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.55 (m, 5H), 1.84 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR δ 150.1, 148.9, 139.2, 135.1, 133.6, 129.8, 129.4, 127.3, 127.1, 125.1, 122.6, 121.0, 120.3, 116.4, 115.2, 106.9, 102.8, 102.8, 78.1, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.4, 25.8, 25.7, 23.2, 19.8, 17.7, 14.3; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{39}\text{NO}_4$ (M^+) 501.2879; found 501.2874.

6-(tert-Butyl-dimethyl-silanyloxymethyl)-4-methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-

indole (52). To alcohol **41** (1.09 g, 3.01 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL) at 0 °C was added imidazole (502 mg, 7.53 mmol) and TBSCl (500 mg, 3.31 mmol), and then the solution was allowed to warm to rt. The next day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH_4Cl (sat) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (8% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded silyl ether **52** (1.39 g, 97%): ^1H NMR δ 7.75 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.20, (dd, $J = 8.5$, 0.6 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.73 (dd, $J = 3.7$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 6H); ^{13}C δ 150.3, 144.8, 139.8, 136.1, 135.3, 129.8 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 124.9, 120.7, 105.8, 105.9, 104.9, 94.7, 65.2, 56.1, 25.9 (3C), 21.5, 18.3, -5.2 (2C); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{33}\text{NO}_5\text{SSi}$ (M^+) 475.1849; found 475.1856.

6-(tert-Butyl-dimethyl-silanyloxymethyl)-4-methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1-

(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indole (53). To the silyl-protected indole **52** (724 mg, 1.52 mmol) in THF was added a few 4 Å molecular sieves and the mixture was cooled to -78 °C. After *n*-BuLi (0.75 mL, 2.3M in hexanes) was added, the mixture was stirred for 20 min and then prenyl bromide (420 mg, 2.82 mmol) was added. The next day the reaction mixture was quenched by

1
2
3 addition of NH_4Cl (sat), and extracted with Et_2O . The combined organic layers were washed
4
5 with brine, dried (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final
6
7 purification by flash column chromatography (5% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the prenyl
8
9 indole **53** (560 mg, 68%) as well as recovered starting material **52** (76 mg, 10%): ^1H NMR δ 7.91
10
11 (d, $J = 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.25, (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.52 (d, $J =$
12
13 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 3.74 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.40
14
15 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H) 1.05 (s, 9H), 0.20 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR δ 149.5, 144.5, 139.9,
16
17 138.7, 138.6, 136.5, 134.5, 129.7 (2C), 126.3 (2C), 119.8, 119.6, 106.5, 106.3, 105.3, 94.8, 65.5,
18
19 56.0, 27.9, 25.9 (3C), 25.7, 21.4, 18.3, 17.7, -5.2 (2C); HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{41}\text{NO}_5\text{SSi}$
20
21 (M^+) 543.2475; found 543.2476.

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27 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-**

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29 **methanol (54)**. To the silyl ether **53** (682 mg, 1.26 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at rt was added
30
31 TBAF (1.88 mL, 1.0 M in THF). After 2 h the reaction was quenched by addition of water and
32
33 extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried
34
35 (MgSO_4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column
36
37 chromatography (30 to 45% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol **54** (461 mg, 85%): ^1H
38
39 NMR δ 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H),
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41 5.38 (m, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 3.64 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.60 (br s, 1H),
42
43 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H); ^{13}C δ 149.5, 144.6, 140.1, 138.5, 138.1, 136.2, 134.7,
44
45 129.7 (2C), 126.2 (2C), 119.9, 119.5, 107.2, 106.7, 105.2, 94.5, 65.7, 56.1, 27.8, 25.7, 21.4, 17.6;
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47 HRMS (TOF MS EI) calcd m/z for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ (M^+) 429.1610; found 429.1622.

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53 **[4-Methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl]-**
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55 **phosphonic acid diethyl ester (55)**. To benzylic alcohol **54** (333 mg, 0.78 mmol) in THF was
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3 added LiBr (540 mg, 6.20 mmol) and NEt₃ (0.44 mL, 3.10 mmol) and the solution was cooled to
4
5 0 °C. After 15 min MsCl (0.19 mL, 2.46 mmol) was added dropwise and the reaction was
6
7 allowed to stir and slowly warm to rt. After 2 h, when the reaction was complete by TLC
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9 analysis, it was quenched by addition of water and extracted with Et₂O. The organic extracts
10
11 were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*.
12
13 To the resulting residue was added P(OEt)₃ (3 mL) and the solution was heated at reflux
14
15 overnight. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and
16
17 extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extract was washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and
18
19 filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column
20
21 chromatography (50 to 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole phosphonate **55** (384 mg,
22
23 90%): ¹H NMR δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H),
24
25 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 5.40 – 5.35 (m, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 4.07 – 3.94 (m, 4H), 3.64 (d, *J* =
26
27 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.26 (d, *J*_{PH} = 21.3 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H),
28
29 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR δ 149.3 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz) 144.6, 140.0 (d, *J*_{CP} = 1.9 Hz), 138.5
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31 (d, *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz), 136.2, 134.7, 129.9 (2C), 128.1 (d, *J*_{CP} = 9.3 Hz), 126.3 (2C), 119.5, 119.4 (d,
32
33 *J*_{CP} = 3.1 Hz), 109.9 (d, *J*_{CP} = 7.4 Hz), 109.5 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.1 Hz), 105.2, 94.8, 62.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 6.9 Hz,
34
35 2C), 56.2, 34.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 137.7 Hz), 27.8, 25.6, 21.4, 17.7, 16.2 (d, *J*_{CP} = 5.9 Hz, 2C); ³¹P NMR δ
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37 27.3; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₃₆NO₇PS (M⁺) 549.1950; found 549.1943.

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39 **5-Methoxy-7-{2-[4-methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-vinyl}-1,1,4a-**
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41 **trimethyl-(2*R*,4*aR*,9*aR*)-2,3,4,4*a*,9,9*a*-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-ol (57).** To phosphonate **55**
42
43 (74 mg, 0.14 mmol) and aldehyde **11** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH
44
45 (50 mg, 1.25 mmol, 60% dispersion oil) and 15-crown-5 (3 drops). The reaction mixture was
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47 allowed to stir for 4 h, then quenched by addition of NH₄Cl (sat) and extracted with ethyl acetate.
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3 The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the
4 filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl
5 acetate in hexanes) afforded a mixture of *N*-tosyl indole **56** and the unprotected indole **57**. To
6 the mixed residue in 1:1 THF and *i*-PrOH (3 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (120 mg, 3.0 mmol)
7 and the reaction mixture allowed to warm to rt overnight. The next day the reaction mixture was
8 quenched by addition of NH₄Cl (sat), diluted with water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The
9 combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, and dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and then
10 the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50%
11 ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole **57** (20 mg, 37% for the 2 steps) as an oil: ¹H NMR δ
12 7.92 (br s, 1H), 7.08 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H),
13 6.89 (m, 1H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.31 (m, 1H), 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H),
14 3.49 – 3.39 (m, 3H), 2.74 – 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.18 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.60 (m, 5H), 1.79 (s, 3H),
15 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 150.1, 148.9, 142.3, 138.3,
16 137.5, 134.6, 132.1, 129.5, 127.8, 126.4, 122.6, 120.1, 120.1, 119.9, 107.1, 106.9, 103.5, 102.3,
17 95.0, 78.1, 77.0, 56.1, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.4, 27.1, 25.7, 23.2, 19.9, 17.8, 14.3; HRMS
18 (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₄H₄₃NO₅ (M⁺) 545.3141; found 545.3135.

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41 **6-[2-(7-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-8,8,10a-trimethyl-(5*R*,8*aR*,10*aR*)-5,7,8,8*a*,9,10*a*-hexahydro-6*H*-**
42 **xanthen-2-yl)-vinyl]-2-(3-methyl-but-2-enyl)-1*H*-indol-4-ol (10)**. To compound **57** (8 mg,
43 0.015 mmol) in MeOH (0.8 mL) in a foil-wrapped flask was added TsOH (25 mg, 0.13 mmol)
44 and the reaction was allowed to stir at rt. After 10 h the reaction was quenched by addition of
45 NaHCO₃ (sat) and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed
46 with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Final
47 purification by radial chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded compound **10** (5
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3 mg, 68%) as a light yellow oil: ^1H NMR (CD_3OD) δ 6.99 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (m, 2H),
4
5 6.90 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.82 (m, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 5.46 – 5.41 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s,
6
7 3H), 3.44 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.37 (dd, $J = 10.8, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.76 – 2.73 (m, 2H), 2.07 – 2.02
8
9 (m, 1H), 1.85 – 1.60 (m, 4H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H);
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11 ^{13}C NMR δ 150.5, 150.1, 143.2, 140.1, 139.4, 134.3, 132.9, 131.4, 129.3, 126.6, 124.0, 122.2,
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13 121.4, 119.4, 108.0, 103.4, 102.0, 96.7, 78.7, 78.1, 56.4, ~49 (obscured by solvent), 39.5, 38.9,
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15 29.0, 28.0, 27.9, 25.9, 24.1, 20.2, 17.8, 14.9; HRMS (TOF MS ES) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{39}\text{NO}_4$
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17 (M+H) $^+$ 502.2957; found 502.2956.
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35 acknowledged.
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42 **Supporting Information Available:** The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra for all new compounds.

43
44 This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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