Supporting information for

Novel spirocyclic scaffold accessed *via* tandem Claisen rearrangement – intramolecular Michael addition

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I. Materials and Methods

All commercial reagents were used without purification. Dichloromethane (DCM) was freshly distilled over P₂O₅. NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker Avance III spectrometer in CDCl₃ or DMSO-d₆ (¹H: 400.13 MHz, ¹³C: 100.61 MHz and 125.73 MHz). All chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm). The residual solvent peak was used as internal standard: CDCl₃(7.26 for ¹H and 77.16 ppm for ¹³C), DMSO- d_6 (2.50 for ¹H and 39.52 ppm for ¹³C). Standard abbreviations were used in the description of resonances. Coupling constants (J) are quoted to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Mass spectra were recorded with a HRMS-ESI-qTOF spectrometer (electrospray ionization mode, positive ion detection). Melting points were determined with a melting point apparatus Stuart SMP 10 in open capillary tubes. Single crystal X-ray data were obtained using an Agilent Technologies SuperNova Atlas and an Agilent Technologies Xcalibur Eos diffractometer at a temperature of 100 K. Analytical thin layer chromatography was carried out on UV-254 silica gel plates using appropriate eluents. Compounds were visualized with short wave length UV light. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel Merk grade 60 (0.040-0.063 mm) 230-400 mesh. Starting diazo compounds 1 were obtained according to a literature procedure. [1] Compounds 5 were obtained by modified previously reported procedure. [2]

II. General procedure (GP1) for the synthesis of 5a-n

To a solution of corresponding phenol (0.35 mmol) and catalyst (2.5 mM Rh₂(esp)₂ in DCM, 200 μ L, 0.1 mol %) in dry DCM (1.8 mL) was slowly added a solution of the diazo compound (0.5 mmol) while cooling to 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15-30 minutes (controlled by TLC). The reaction mixture was diluted with n-hexane (2 mL) and the resulting solution was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent *n*-hexane–DCM) to afford **5**.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-(4-(tert-butyl)phenoxy)-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5a)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 4-*tert*butylphenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 225 mg (61%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 20 to 60% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 175.4-176.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.6, 168.3, 154.5, 146.1, 141.5, 132.8, 131.5, 131.5, 131.2, 129.1, 129.1, 128.8, 126.4, 126.3, 123.6, 117.3, 72.5, 34.3, 31.5. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 412.1907 found 412.1909.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-(4-fluorophenoxy)-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5b)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 4-fluorophenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 285 mg (85%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 90 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 154.0-155.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.47 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 5.83 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 168.1, 158.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 241.7 Hz), 152.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.5 Hz), 141.7, 132.7, 131.4, 131.4, 131.4, 129.2, 129.2, 128.9, 126.3, 123.2, 119.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.2 Hz), 116.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.3 Hz), 73.2. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ - 120.1. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₇FNO₃ [M+H]⁺ 374.1187 found 374.1189.

(*E*)-3-Benzylidene-4-phenoxy-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5c)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 263 mg (46%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 30 to 50% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 163.4-164.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 22.6, 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 8.3 Hz, 4H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 167.7, 156.9, 142.4, 134.6, 132.6, 131.5, 131.5, 130.6 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.0 Hz), 129.7, 129.2, 126.5, 126.2 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 125.0, 123.7 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 273.7 Hz), 122.9, 117.4, 72.2. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₁₇F₃NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 424.1155 found 424.1151.

(E)-3-(4-Fluorobenzylidene)-4-phenoxy-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5d)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 407 mg (81%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 50 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 173.4-174.2 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.21 (d, *J* =

8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.4, 168.0, 164.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 254.7$ Hz), 156.9, 140.1, 133.7 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.9$ Hz), 131.5, 129.7, 129.2, 129.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.4$ Hz), 128.8, 126.3, 123.4, 122.9 (d, $J_{C-F} = 2.4$ Hz), 117.5, 116.4 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.9$ Hz), 72.2. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.8. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₇FNO₃ [M+H]⁺ 374.1187 found 374.1185.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenoxypyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5e)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 397 mg (79%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 80 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 162.1-162.7 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 6H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 168.1, 162.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 249.0 Hz), 156.9, 141.9, 132.7, 131.4, 131.4, 129.6, 129.1, 128.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.8 Hz), 127.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.2 Hz), 123.3, 123.2, 117.5, 116.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.0 Hz), 72.3. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.9. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₇FNO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 374.1187 found 374.1193.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-phenoxy-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5f)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 213 mg (67%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 30 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 169.2-171.0 °C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 6H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.6, 168.2, 156.9, 141.6, 132.7, 131.5, 131.4, 131.3, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 126.3, 123.4, 123.3, 117.6, 72.3. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₈NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 356.1281 found 356.1282.

(E)-1-Benzyl-3-benzylidene-4-phenoxypyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5g)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 331 mg (60%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 30 to 70% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 157.0-158.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.09 (m, 3H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.86 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 168.7, 156.9, 140.6, 135.3, 132.7, 131.3, 131.1, 129.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.1, 123.6, 123.1, 117.3, 72.2, 42.7. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+Na]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1437.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-(3,5-dimethylphenoxy)-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5h)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 3,5dimethylphenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 184 mg (53%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 20 to 70% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 149.1-149.7 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 6.83 (s, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.7, 168.2, 157.1, 141.4, 139.3, 132.8, 131.6, 131.5, 131.2, 129.1, 129.1, 128.8, 126.3, 125.0, 123.6, 115.2, 72.2, 21.5. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 384.1594 found 384.1595.

(E)-3-(4-Methylbenzylidene)-4-phenoxy-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5i)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 261 mg (52%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 30 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 158.2-159.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.6, 168.4, 156.9, 142.2, 141.6, 131.6, 131.6, 130.0, 129.9, 129.6, 129.1, 128.7, 126.3, 123.2, 122.1, 117.6, 72.4, 21.6. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1437.

(E)-Methyl 4-((2,5-dioxo-4-phenoxy-1-phenylpyrrolidin-3-ylidene)methyl)benzoate (5j)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 354 mg (64%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 30 to 70% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 161.2-162.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (m, 3H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.2, 167.7, 166.2, 156.9, 139.9, 136.8, 131.9, 131.3, 131.1, 130.1, 129.7, 129.2, 128.9, 126.3, 125.8, 123.4, 117.2, 72.0, 52.4. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₀NO₅ [M+H]⁺ 414.1336 found 414.1332.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-phenoxy-1-(p-tolyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5k)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 322 mg (65%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 70 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 164.7-165.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.28 (m, 7H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.6, 168.3, 157.0, 141.3, 138.9, 132.8, 131.4, 131.2, 129.8, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 126.1, 123.5, 123.2, 117.6, 72.4, 21.3. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1437.

(E)-3-(2-Methoxybenzylidene)-4-phenoxy-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5l)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and phenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 295 mg (57%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 70 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 141.4-142.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.31 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.12 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.97 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 5.87 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.2, 168.1, 158.2, 157.9, 136.7, 132.6, 131.7, 131.5, 129.4, 129.1, 129.1, 128.6, 126.5, 126.4, 122.8, 120.7, 117.2, 111.0, 73.7, 55.2. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₄ [M+H]⁺ 386.1387 found 386.1386.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-(4-methoxyphenoxy)-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5m)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 4methoxyphenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 259 mg (75%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–DCM (from 50 to 100% of DCM). White solid, m.p. 72.8-74.9 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.41 (m, 6H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 6.88 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 5.78 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.7, 168.2, 155.8, 150.4, 141.6, 132.9, 131.52, 131.51, 131.3, 129.2, 129.2, 128.8, 126.3, 123.5, 119.7, 114.6, 73.4, 55.6. HRMS (ESI), m/z calcd for C24H19NO4 [M+H]⁺ 386.1387 found 386.1391.

(E)-3-Benzylidene-4-(2-methoxyphenoxy)-1-phenylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (5n)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 2methoxyphenol (scale – 1.5 mmol). Yield: 301 mg (58%). Eluent – *n*-hexane–ethylacetate (from 15 to 30% of ethylacetate). White solid, m.p. 160.4-161.7 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 7H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 5.98 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.2, 168.4, 150.6, 145.8, 141.8, 133.0, 131.6, 131.5, 131.0, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 126.3, 124.3, 123.6, 120.9, 119.3, 112.1, 72.9, 55.6. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₄ [M+H]⁺ 386.1387 found 386.1390.

General procedure (GP2) for the synthesis of 6a

To a solution of corresponding phenol (0.35 mmol) and catalyst (2.5 mM Rh₂(esp)₂ in DCM, 200 μ L, 0.1 mol %) in dry DCM (1.8 mL) was slowly added a solution of the diazo compound (0.5 mmol) while cooling to 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15-30 minutes (controlled by TLC). Then DCM was evaporated and reaction mixture was dissolved in toluene (2 mL) and stirred at 140 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with *n*-hexane (2 mL) and the resulting solution was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent *n*-hexane–acetone) to afford **6**.

3-((5-(tert-Butyl)-2-hydroxyphenyl)(phenyl)methyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-2,5-dione (6a)

Prepared according to the general procedure from corresponding diazo compound **1** and 4-*tert*butylphenol (scale – 1 mmol). Yield: 135 mg (47%) Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 7H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 1.25 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.7, 169.4, 151.7, 150.7, 143.8, 138.7, 131.5, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.6, 127.3, 126.5, 125.8, 125.6, 125.4, 115.7, 42.2, 34.1, 31.4. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 412.1907 found 412.1911.

General procedure (GP3) for the synthesis of 7a-l

Compound **5** (0.5 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (2 mL) and stirred at 140 °C (150 °C for **5g**) for 8–24 h (controlled by TLC). Upon cooling to room temperature, to the solution was added DABCO (0.15 mmol, 30 mol %), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 30-45 min (controlled by TLC). Cyclized product as a mixture of diastereomers *syn-***7** and *anti-***7** was isolated by flash column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane–acetone, from 0 to 50% of acetone). Pure major diastereomer was obtained by crystallization from *n*-hexane–acetone. In some cases pure minor diasteromer was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent *n*-hexane–MTBE).

(2R,3R)-5-(Tert-butyl)-1',3-diphenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7a) and (2S,3R)-5-(tert-butyl)-1',3-diphenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (anti-

7*a*): prepared according to the general procedure from compound 5*a* (0.46 mmol). After column chromatography (eluent – *n*-hexane–MTBE, from 10% to 50% of MTBE) two fractions were obtained: pure major diastereomer syn-7a - 140 mg (74%) and pure minor diastereomer anti-7a - 15 mg (8%).

Compound *syn-7a*. Yield: 140 mg (74%). White solid, m.p. 229.6-230.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, *J* = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.2, 172.3, 156.1, 145.5, 137.3, 131.4, 129.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.9, 128.5, 127.6, 126.3, 126.2, 122.5, 109.2, 89.6, 54.2, 38.6, 34.5, 31.7. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 412.1907 found 412.1912.

Compound *anti-7a*. Yield: 15 mg (8%) Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.28 (m, 8H), 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.12 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.56 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 3.63 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.9, 171.4, 157.8, 145.2, 135.3, 130.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1, 121.9, 108.9, 90.8, 60.2, 42.8, 34.5, 31.7. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 412.1907 found 412.1915.

(2R,3R)-5-Fluoro-1',3-diphenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione(syn-7b)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5b** (0.91 mmol). Total yield: 216 mg (64%), dr = 77:23. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7b* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 175.8 – 176.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (td, J = 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (m, 1H), 6.84 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 2.88 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.8, 172.0, 158.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 239.6 Hz), 154.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 1.4 Hz), 136.8, 131.3, 130.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.7 Hz), 129.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.8, 126.2, 115.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 24.5 Hz), 112.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 25.4 Hz), 110.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.5 Hz), 90.1, 53.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 1.7 Hz), 38.4. ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -121.6. HRMS (ESI), *m*/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₁FNO4 [M+MeOH+H]⁺ 406.1449 found 406.1456.

(2R,3R)-3-Phenyl-1'-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7c) and (2S,3R)-3-phenyl-1'-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (anti-7c): prepared according to the general procedure from compound 5c (0.35 mmol). After column chromatography (eluent – *n*-hexane–MTBE, from 10% to 50% of MTBE) two fractions were obtained: pure major diastereomer syn-7c – 66 mg (45%) and pure minor diastereomer anti-7c – 23 mg (16%).

Compound *syn-7c*. Yield: 66 mg (45%). White solid, m.p. 150.2-150.5 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 2.90 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.6, 171.7, 158.1, 137.3, 134.5, 130.8 (q, J_{C-F} = 32.9 Hz), 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.6, 128.3, 126.5, 126.3 (q, J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 125.8 (q, J_{C-F} = 172.7 Hz) 125.6, 122.5, 110.1, 89.4, 53.8, 38.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₁F₃NO₄ [M+MeOH+H]⁺ 456.1417 found 456.1423.

Compound *anti-7c*. Yield: 23 mg (16%) Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.29 (m, 6H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 3.68 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, 101 MHz, 11) MHz, 11) MHz, 110 MHz, 110

CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 170.7, 159.9, 134.9, 133.8, 130.7 (q, J_{C-F} = 33.1 Hz), 129.6, 129.3, 129.2, 128.8, 127.2, 126.4, 126.06 (q, J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 125.0, 125.6 (q, J_{C-F} = 132.3 Hz), 122.2, 109.9, 90.7, 59.9, 42.6. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.8. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₁F₃NO₄ [M+MeOH+H]⁺ 456.1417 found 456.1392.

(2R,3R)-1'-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7d)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5d** (0.56 mmol). Total yield: 112 mg (54%), dr = 75:25. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7d* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 213.5-214.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 7.07 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 2.87 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.9, 172.1, 162.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 249.1$ Hz), 158.2, 137.3, 129.5, 129.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.6, 128.1 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.8$ Hz), 127.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.2$ Hz), 125.6, 122.4, 116.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 23.0$ Hz), 110.1, 89.4, 53.7, 38.4. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ - 111.6. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₁FNO4 [M+MeOH+H]⁺ 406.1449 found 406.1453.

(2R,3R)-3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1'-phenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7e)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5e** (0.28 mmol). Total yield: 62 mg (60%), dr = 82:18. Individual major diastereomer # was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 7.05 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 2.89 (d, J = 18.5 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (d, J = 18.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.9, 172.0, 162.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 248.4$ Hz), 158.2, 133.3 (d, $J_{C-F} = 3.3$ Hz), 131.3, 130.6 (d, $J_{C-F} = 8.2$ Hz), 129.5, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 126.2, 125.5, 122.4, 116.4 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.6$ Hz), 110.2, 89.3, 52.9, 38.4. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.8. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₁FNO₄ [M+MeOH+H]⁺ 406.1449 found 406.1453.

(2R,3R)-1',3-Diphenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7f):

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5f** (0.59 mmol). Total yield: 85 mg (41%), dr = 81:19. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7f* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 196.4-196.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.35 (m, 6H), 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 2.88 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.0, 172.2, 158.3, 137.3, 131.4, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 126.3, 125.6, 122.3, 110.1, 89.4, 53.8, 38.5. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₃H₁₈NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 356.1281 found 356.1289.

(2R,3R)-1'-Benzyl-3-phenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7g):

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5g** (0.56 mmol). Total yield: 106 mg (52%), dr = 73:27. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7g* was obtained by HPLC (eluent – *n*-hexane:MTBE). Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.02 – 6.91 (m, 4H), 5.07 (s, 1H), 4.77 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.9, 172.8, 158.4, 137.1, 135.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 125.5, 122.1, 110.0, 89.2, 53.8, 42.7, 38.3. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1432.

(2R,3R)-4,6-Dimethyl-1',3-diphenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7h)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5h** (0.43 mmol). Total yield: 85 mg (52%), dr = 92:8. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7h* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 224.1-224.6 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.31 (m, 6H), 7.09 (s, 2H), 6.63 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 2H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 2.88 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.1, 172.4, 158.4, 139.5, 138.1, 135.1, 131.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 126.3, 124.9, 124.6, 107.9, 89.1, 52.7, 38.6, 21.5, 18.5. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 384.1594 found 384.1598.

(2R,3R)-3-Phenyl-1'-(p-tolyl)-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7i)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5i** (0.51 mmol). Total yield: 86 mg (46%), dr = 79:21. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7i* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 194.1-194.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 2.86 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.1, 172.3, 158.3, 139.0, 137.3, 129.8, 129.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 126.0, 125.6, 122.2, 110.0, 89.4, 53.8, 38.4, 21.2. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1436.

Methyl 4-((2R,3R)-2',5'-dioxo-1'-phenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidin]-3-yl)benzoate (syn-7j)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5j** (0.68 mmol). Total yield: 83 mg (30%), dr = 67:33. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7j* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 191.1-191.8 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (m, 2H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 2.90 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.6, 171.8, 166.3, 158.2, 142.5, 131.2, 130.6, 130.4, 129.6, 129.2, 128.9, 128.9, 127.9, 126.2, 125.5, 122.5, 110.2, 89.1, 53.4, 52.3, 38.4. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₀NO₅ [M+H]⁺ 414.1336 found 414.1333.

(2R,3R)-1'-Phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7k)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **5k** (0.65 mmol). Total yield: 101 mg (43%), dr = 82:18. Individual major diastereomer *syn-7k* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. White solid, m.p. 225.9-226.3 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 – 6.94 (m, 4H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 2.86 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.2, 172.3, 158.3, 138.4, 134.1, 131.4, 130.1, 129.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 126.3, 125.6, 122.3, 110.0, 89.4, 53.7, 38.5, 21.1. HRMS (ESI), *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺ 370.1438 found 370.1435.

(2R,3R)-3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-1'-phenyl-3H-spiro[benzofuran-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5'-dione (syn-7l)

Prepared according to the general procedure from compound **51** (0.45 mmol). Total yield: 82 mg (47%), dr = 80:20. Individual major diastereomer *syn-71* was obtained by recrystallization from *n*-hexane/acetone. Amorphous solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.03 – 6.94 (m, 3H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.84 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (d, J = 18.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.7, 172.8, 158.9, 157.0, 131.7, 129.5, 129.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 126.5, 126.2, 126.1, 126.0, 121.7, 121.3, 110.4, 109.8, 88.5, 55.5, 47.9, 38.6. HRMS (ESI), *m*/*z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NO₄ [M+H]⁺ 386.1387 found 386.1393.

III. NMR spectra

Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **5a**





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Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **5b**





Copy of 19 F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **5c**





Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **5d**



50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -120 -140 -160 -180 -200 -220 -240



Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of **5e**







Copies of 1 H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and 13 C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **5g**



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Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of 5j



Copies of 1 H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and 13 C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **5**k







Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of **5n**





Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of syn-7a



Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of anti-7a



Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of *syn*-7b

Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of *syn*-7b





Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of *syn*-7c

Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of *syn-*7b





Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of anti-7c

Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of anti-7c





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Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of *syn-*7d





Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of *syn-*7e

Copy of ¹⁹F (376.50 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of *syn-*7e





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Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of syn-7g





Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of syn-7i



Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of syn-7j



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Copies of ¹H (400.13 MHz, CDCl₃) and ¹³C (100.61 MHz, CDCl₃) spectra of syn-7l

IV. X-ray crystallographic data for compound syn-7a

X-ray Single Crystal analysis was performed on RigakuXtaLAB. The crystal was grown by slow evaporation of solution in *n*-hexane-acetone mixture (1:1). The crystal was kept at 100.15 K during data collection. Using Olex2 [3], the structure was solved with the SHELXS [4] structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the SHELXL [5] refinement package using Least Squares minimization. CCDC 2166113 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via <u>https://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/</u>.



Figure S1. ORTEP representation of compound *syn*-**7a** (thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability)

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for syn-7a	
CCDC	2166113
Empiricalformula	C ₂₇ H ₂₅ NO ₃
Formula weight	411.48
Temperature/K	100.15
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P21/c
a/Å	9.8232(2)
b/Å	6.11690(10)
c/Å	35.3601(7)
α/°	90
β/°	97.266(2)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	2107.64(7)
Z	4
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.297
μ/mm ⁻¹	0.670
F(000)	872.0

Crystal size/mm ³	0.08 imes 0.04 imes 0.03
Radiation	$CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54184)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	9.076 to 152.92
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 12, -7 \le k \le 4, -44 \le l \le 43$
Reflections collected	17376
Independent reflections	4379 [$R_{int} = 0.0259, R_{sigma} = 0.0178$]
Data/restraints/parameters	4379/0/283
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.048
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0418, wR_2 = 0.1024$
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.0448, wR2 = 0.1047
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.37/-0.26

V. References

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