

Supporting Information

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Practical Enantioselective Synthesis of β-Lactones Catalyzed by Aluminum Bissulfonamide Complexes

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Experimental

Except as otherwise indicated, all reactions were carried out in oven or flame dried glassware under a positive pressure of argon. Toluene was dried by passage over activated alumina under nitrogen atmosphere. Dichloromethane was purified by distillation and dried by a passage over activated alumina under nitrogen atmosphere. All aldehydes and N,N-diisopropylethylamine (Acros, >99.5%) were distilled from CaH₂ under nitrogen. Aldehydes **4d** and **4g** were prepared from the commercially available alcohols according to published procedures.^[1] Aldehyde **4e** was synthesized from 2-methyl-2-penten-1-ol according to literature procedures. [1,2] Enantiomerically pure 1,2-diaminocyclohexane was generously donated by Reuter Chemische Apparatebau KG (RCA; Freiburg, Germany). Enantiomerically pure 1,2-diamino-1,2-diphenylethane was prepared according to literature. [3] (1S,2S)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(p-toluenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane **5h** (Aldrich, 98%), (1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-bis(trifluoromethylsulfonylamino)cyclohexane 5k (Aldrich, 97%), methanol (Fluka, HPLC grade), pentane (J.T. Baker, UV quality), n-hexane (Fluka, UV quality), cyclohexane (Thommen & Furler), ethyl acetate (Thommen & Furler), diethyl ether (Fluka) and triethylamine (Fluka, >99.5%) were used as purchased. All other laboratory chemicals were purchased from ABCR, Acros, Aldrich, Fluka, J.T. Baker or Merck and were used without purification. For work-up procedures and flash chromatography, distilled technical grade solvents were used. Unless otherwise indicated, all liquids were added via syringe, solids were added neat against an argon flow. Solvents were removed at a heating bath temperature of 40 °C and 800 - 30 mbar pressure by rotary evaporation. Non-volatile compounds were dried in vacuo at 0.01 mbar. Except as otherwise indicated, reactions were magnetically stirred and monitored either by ¹H-NMR spectra or thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates from Merck (silica gel 60 F₂₅₄). Visualization occurred by fluorescence quenching under UV light and by staining with aqueous KMnO₄ / NaOH. Purification by flash chromatography was

performed on silica gel 60 Å, 32-62, provided by Fluka, using a forced flow of eluent at 0.2-0.4 bar pressure. NMR-spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 300 and a Varian Mercury 300 spectrometer operating at 300 MHz (¹H) and 75 MHz (¹³C) or by the NMR service of the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry at ETHZ on a Bruker DRX400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz (¹H) and 100 MHz (¹³C). Chemical shifts δ are referred in terms of ppm and *J*-coupling constants are given in Hz. Abbreviations for multiplicity are as follows: s (singulet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quadruplet), m (multiplet), b (broad signal). IR-spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum One FT-IR with a Universal ATR Sampling Accessory and the signals are given by wave numbers (cm⁻¹). Optical rotation was measured on a Jasco DIP-100 digital polarimeter operating at the sodium D line with a 100 mm path length cell. Melting points were measured using a Büchi 535 melting point apparatus in open glass capillaries and are uncorrected. Mass spectra were obtained from the ETH Zürich MS Service. High resolution EI mass spectra were performed on a Micromass AutoSpec Ultima and were calibrated with perfluorotributylamine (PFTBA) prior to data acquisition. High resolution ESI mass spectra were performed on an *Ion* Spec Ultima 2 FTICR. ESI mass spectra were performed on a Finnigan TSQ7000. Combustion analysis was performed by the Mikroelementaranalytisches Laboratorium at ETH Zürich. Analytical gas chromatography (GC) was performed on a Hewlett Packard HP6890 Series gas chromatograph with a flame ionization detector using a Supelco GammaDexTM 120 Fused Silica Capillary Column (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 mm film thickness). Hydrogen was used as the carrier gas at the indicated pressure. Analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on a Hitachi LaChrom Elite liquid chromatograph equipped with a variable wavelength UV detector (deuterium lamp, 190-600 nm), using a Daicel ChiralcelTM OD-H column (25 x 0.46 cm). HPLC grade isopropanol and hexanes were used as the eluting solvents.

General procedure for the formation of bis(N-sulfonylamino)-1,2-diphenylethane ligands and bis(N-sulfonylamino)cyclohexane-ligands (GP1)^[4]

To a solution of the corresponding diamine (2 mmol, 1 equiv.) in DCM (20 mL) at 0 °C the corresponding sulfonyl chloride (4 mmol, 2 equiv.) and triethylamine (6 mmol, 3 equiv.) were added. The solution was stirred for 30 min at 0 °C. Subsequently, the solution was stirred at ambient temperature until complete conversion as monitored by TLC (typically 20 h). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate).

General procedure for the formation of β -lactones 6 from α -unbranched aldehydes (GP2)

To a mixture of ligand **5d** (0.05 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) in toluene (2 mL) was slowly added at ambient temperature a solution of Dibal (1.0 M in hexane, 0.075 mmol, 0.15 equiv.). The mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. Subsequently, the solution was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature. The catalyst solution was then cooled to -85 °C and α -unbranched

aldehyde **4** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), acetyl bromide (**3**, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv.) and diisopropylethylamine (1.25 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) were successively added. The resulting heterogeneous mixture was stirred at -85 °C until complete conversion as monitored by ¹H-NMR (24-140 h). The reaction mixture was poured into aqueous 1 M HCl (20 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and diethyl ether was removed *in vacuo*. The yield was determined by ¹H-NMR using acetophenone as internal standard.

The crude product mixtures of **6a,f** were purified by flash chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether). The solutions of the crude products were directly added to the column without prior removal of toluene.

General procedure for the formation of β -lactones 6 from α -branched aldehydes (GP3)

To a mixture of ligand **7a** (0.05 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) in toluene (2 mL) was slowly added at ambient temperature a solution of Et₃Al (1.0 M in hexane, 0.075 mmol, 0.15 equiv.). The mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. Subsequently, the solution was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature. The catalyst solution was then cooled to –85 °C and α-branched aldehyde **4** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), acetyl bromide (**3**, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv.) and diisopropylethylamine (1.25 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) were successively added. The resulting heterogeneous mixture was stirred at –85 °C until complete conversion as monitored by ¹H-NMR (25-136 h). The reaction mixture was poured into aqueous 1 M HCl (20 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 15 mL). The

combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and diethyl ether was removed *in vacuo*. The yield was determined by ¹H-NMR using acetophenone as internal standard.

The crude product mixture of **6b** was purified by flash chromatography (pentane/diethyl ether). The solution of the crude product was directly added to the column without prior removal of toluene.

General procedure for the ring opening of β -lactones 4 (GP4)

To a solution of (*S*)-1-phenylethylamine (1.09 mmol, 2 equiv.) in dichloromethane (1.5 mL) at 0 °C was slowly added a solution of trimethylaluminum in hexane (2.0 M, 523 μL, 1.05 mmol, 1.9 equiv.). The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 2 h. A solution of the lactone **6** (0.55 mmol) in DCM (1.5 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature until complete conversion as monitored by TLC (24 h). The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (3 mL) and poured into an ice cooled saturated solution of potassium sodium tartrate (10 mL). The mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and the layers were separated. The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate).

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(4-tert-butyl-2,6-dimethylbenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5a)

Bissulfonamide **5a** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 4-*tert*-butyl-2,6-dimethylbenzene-1-sufonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 4:1) gave title compound **5a** as a white solid (1.07 g, 1.89 mmol, yield: 95%).

C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₄S₂, MW: 562.83 g/mol. Mp: 157-160 °C. [α] $_D^{22.1°C}$ (c = 5.060 , CHCl₃) = +4.5 ± 0.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 7.12 (s, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 4.86 (d, J = 5.9, 2 H, NH); 2.88 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 2.65 (s, 12 H, C_{Ar}CH₃); 1.88 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.55 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.30 (s, 18 H, C(CH₃)₃); 1.11 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 155.1, 138.6, 134.3, 128.5, 56.3, 34.6, 33.1, 30.9, 24.2, 23.5. IR (ATR): 3287, 2956, 2866, 1595, 1558, 1450, 1406, 1315, 1172, 1143, 1052, 895, 870, 751, 646. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [M⁺]: 562.2899. Found: 562.2899. Anal. Calcd. for C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₄S₂: C, 64.02; H, 8.24; N, 4.98; O, 11.37; S, 11.39. Found: C, 64.10; H, 8.25; N, 4.98.

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2,4,6-trimethylbenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5b)

Bissulfonamide **5b** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 2,4,6-trimethylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 8:1) gave title compound **5b** as a white solid (884 mg, 1.85 mmol, yield: 92%).

 $C_{24}H_{34}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 478.67 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 6.95$ (s, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 4.90 (d, J = 5.7, 2 H, NH); 2.82 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 2.61 (s, 12 H, CH₃); 2.30 (s, 6 H, CH₃); 1.85 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.54 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.08 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[5]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2,4,6-triethylbenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5c)

Et
$$O_2$$
S $-NH$ $HN-SO_2$ Et Et

Bissulfonamide **5c** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 2,4,6-triethylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 9:1) gave title compound **5c** as a white solid (913 mg, 1.62 mmol, yield: 81%).

C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₄S₂, MW: 562.83 g/mol. Mp: 136-137 °C. [α] $_D^{22.1°C}$ (c = 5.115 , CHCl₃) = -6.3 ± 0.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 7.01 (s, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 4.75 (d, J = 5.8, 2 H, NH); 3.02 (m, 8 H, C_{Ar}CH₂); 2.86 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 2.63 (m, 4 H, C_{Ar}CH₂); 1.85 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.53 (m, 2 H; (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.27 (m, 18 H, CH₃); 1.07 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 148.6, 145.5, 133.6, 129.4, 56.4, 33.4, 28.5, 28.4, 24.3, 16.9, 14.9. IR (ATR): 3289, 2966, 2934, 2874, 1600, 1562, 1452, 1419, 1312, 1151, 1071, 1048, 954, 903, 875, 658, 632. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [M⁺]: 562.2899. Found: 562.2901. Anal. Calcd. for C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₄S₂: C, 64.02; H, 8.24; N, 4.98; O, 11.37; S, 11.39. Found: C, 64.14; H, 8.01; N, 5.07.

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5d)

$$P_{\Gamma}$$
 $O_{2}S-NH$ $HN-SO_{2}$ P_{Γ} P_{Γ} P_{Γ}

Bissulfonamide **5d** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 12:1) gave title compound **5d** as a white solid (1.23 g, 1.90 mmol, yield: 95%).

 $C_{36}H_{58}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 646.99 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 7.15$ (s, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 5.03 (d, J = 5.7, 2 H, NH); 4.16 (m, 4 H, CH(CH₃)₂); 3.13 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 2.90 (m, 2 H, CH(CH₃)₂); 1.85 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.56 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.27 (d, J = 6.8, 24 H, CH₃); 1.25 (d, J = 6.9, 12 H, CH₃); 1.10 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[5]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(1-naphthylsulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5e)

Bissulfonamide **5e** was prepared according to GP1 using naphthalene-1-sulfonyl chloride, but using 2.50 mmol of (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine in 30 mL DCM. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1) gave title compound **5e** as a white solid (1.14 g, 2.31 mmol, yield: 92%).

 $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 494.63 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 8.52$ (dd, J = 8.5, 0.9, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 8.25 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.3, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 8.08 (d, J = 8.3, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.96-7.94 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.70-7.66 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.63-7.59 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.56-7.52 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 5.07 (d, J = 5.4, 2 H, NH); 2.79 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 1.58 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.36 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 0.99-0.86 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[5]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2-naphthylsulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5f)

Bissulfonamide **5f** was prepared according to GP1 using naphthalene-2-sulfonyl chloride, but using 2.50 mmol of (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine in 30 mL DCM. Purification by flash-chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave title compound **5f** as a white solid (1.06 g, 2.15 mmol, yield: 86%).

 $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 494.63 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 8.45$ (m, 2 H, C H_{Ar}); 7.91 (m, 8 H, C H_{Ar}); 7.63 (m, 4 H, C H_{Ar}); 4.98 (d, J = 6.2, 2 H, NH); 2.82 (m, 2 H, C H_{Ar}); 1.85 (m, 2 H, (C H_2)_{ring}); 1.50 (m, 2 H, (C H_2)_{ring}); 1.17-0.97 (m, 4 H, (C H_2)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[5]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(3,5-trifluoromethylbenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5g)

$$O_2S-NH$$
 $HN-SO_2$
 CF_3 $\mathbf{5g}$ F_3C

Bissulfonamide **5g** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1) gave title compound **5g** as a white solid (1.09 g, 1.64 mmol, yield: 82%).

 $C_{22}H_{18}F_{12}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 666.50 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 8.31$ (s, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 8.08 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 5.06 (s, 2 H, NH); 2.98 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 1.81 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.67 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.30-1.15 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[6]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2-nitrobenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5i)

Bissulfonamide **5i** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1R*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine and 2-nitrobenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash-chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 1:1) gave title compound **5i** as a white solid (1.12 g, 2.30 mmol, yield: 92%).

 $C_{18}H_{20}N_4O_8S_2$, MW: 484.51 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 8.12$ (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.84 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.84 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.84 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 7.85 (m, 2 H, CH_{Ar}); 1.90 (m, 2 H, CH_{2})_{ring}); 1.61 (m, 2 H, CH_{2})_{ring}); 1.36-1.20 (m, 4 H, CH_{2})_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[6]

(1R,2R)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(pentafluorobenzenesulfonylamino)cyclohexane (5j)

$$F O_{2}S - NH HN - SO_{2} F$$

$$F F F F F$$

Bissulfonamide **5j** was prepared according to GP1 using pentafluorobenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride, but using 2.50 mmol (*IR*,2*R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine in 30 mL DCM. Purification by flash-chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 8:1) gave title compound **5j** as a white solid (863 mg, 1.50 mmol, yield: 75%).

 $C_{18}H_{12}F_{10}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 574.41 g/mol. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 5.46$ (m, 2 H, NH); 3.32 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 1.92 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.72 (m, 2 H, (CH₂)_{ring}); 1.44-1.21 (m, 4 H, (CH₂)_{ring}). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[5]

(1S,2S)-1,2,-N,N'-Bis(4-tert-butyl-2,6-dimethylbenzenesulfonylamino)-1,2-diphenylethylendiamine (7a)

Bissulfonamide **7a** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1S*,2*S*)-1,2-diphenylethane-1,2-diamine and 4-*tert*-butyl-2,6-dimethylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 8:1) gave title compound **7a** as a white solid (1.17 g, 1.78 mmol, yield: 89%).

 $C_{38}H_{48}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 660.93 g/mol. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 6.94$ -6.79 (m, 10 H, CH_{Ar}); 6.58 (m, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 5.78 (m, 2 H, NH); 4.36 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 2.48 (s, 12 H, CH_3); 1.23 (m, 18 H, CH_3). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. ^[7]

(1S,2S)-1,2-N,N'-Bis(2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonylamino)-1,2-diphenylethylendiamine (7b)

Bissulfonamide **7b** was prepared according to GP1 from (*1S*,2*S*)-1,2-diphenylethane-1,2-diamine and 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzene-1-sulfonyl chloride. Purification by flash-chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 10:1) gave title compound **7b** as a white solid (1.15 g, 1.55 mmol, yield: 78%).

 $C_{44}H_{60}N_2O_4S_2$, MW: 745.09 g/mol. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 6.99$ -6.87 (m, 10 H, CH_{Ar}); 6.58 (m, 4 H, CH_{Ar}); 5.71 (m, 2 H, NH); 4.47 (m, 2 H, CH-N); 4.00 (m, 4 H,

 $CH(CH_3)_2$); 2.83 (m, 4 H, $CH(CH_3)_2$); 1.18 (m, 24 H, CH_3); 1.05 (d, J = 6.7, 12 H, CH_3). All other analytical data are in accordance with the literature. [8]

(S)-4-Phenylethyl-oxetan-2-one (6a)

β-Lactone **6a** was prepared according to GP2 using aldehyde **4a** (reaction time: 48 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.47 mmol, yield: 93%, *ee* = 88%). The *ee* value was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 97:3 *n*-hexane/*i*PrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm).

To determine the isolated yield, 6a was prepared according to GP2, but using 1.50 mmol aldehyde 4a in 6 mL toluene. Purification by flash chromatography (pentane \rightarrow pentane/ diethyl ether 4:1) gave 6a as colorless oil (230 mg, 1.30 mmol, 87%, ee = 88%).

 $C_{11}H_{12}O_2$, MW: 176.21 g/mol. [a] $_D^{21.1^{\circ}C}$ (c = 0.915, CHCl₃) = -48.8 ± 0.3. Spectral data including the specific optical rotation have been reported earlier for the (*R*)-enantiomer. HNMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 7.25 (*m*, 5 H, CH_{Ar}); 4.50 (*m*, 1 H, CH-O); 3.48 (*dd*, *J* = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.03 (*dd*, *J* = 16.3, 4.3, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 2.77 (*m*, 2 H, CH₂CH₂C_{Ar}); 2.13 (*m*, 2 H, CH₂CH₂C_{Ar}). NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 167.9, 139.9, 128.5, 128.2, 126.3, 70.4, 42.9, 36.4, 31.3. IR (ATR): ν = 3028, 2933, 1817, 1603, 1131, 1110 827, 748, 699. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: Calc. for [M⁺]: 176.0832. Found: 176.0833. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₂O₂: C, 74.98; H, 6.86; O, 18.16. Found: C, 74.84; H, 6.95.

(S)-4-Cyclohexyl-oxetan-2-one (6b)

β-Lactone **6b** was prepared according to GP3 using aldehyde **4b** (reaction time: 25 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.44 mmol, yield: 88%, ee = 90%). The ee value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 145 °C, 2.0 mL/min).

To determine the isolated yield **6b** was prepared according to GP3, but using 1.50 mmol of aldehyde **4b** in 6 mL toluene. Purification by flash chromatography (pentane \rightarrow pentane/diethyl ether 8:1) gave **6b** as colorless oil (209 mg, 1.35 mmol, yield: 90%, ee = 90%).

C₉H₁₄O₂, MW: 154.21 g/mol. [α] $_D^{25.0^{\circ}C}$ (c = 0.605, CHCl₃) = +18.8 ± 1.0. Spectral data including the specific optical rotation have been reported earlier for the (*S*)-enantiomer. ^[10] ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.19 (*ddd*, *J* = 8.2, 5.8, 4.4, 1 H, CH-O); 3.42 (*dd*, *J* = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.10 (*dd*, *J* = 16.3, 4.4, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.93 (*m*, 1 H, CH(CH₂)₂); 1.82-1.54 & 1.23 & 1.00 (3 x *m*, 10 H, 5 x (CH₂)_{ring}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.4, 74.8, 42.0, 41.0, 28.2, 27.1, 26.0, 25.4, 25.2. IR (ATR): v = 2926, 2854, 1818, 1450, 1275, 1117, 948, 866, 853, 833. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: Calc. for [M⁺]: 154.0988. Found: 154.0992. Anal. Calcd. for C₉H₁₄O₂: C, 70.10; H, 9.15; O, 20.75. Found: C, 70.15; H, 9.40.

(S)-4-n-Heptyl-oxetan-2-one (6c)

β-Lactone **6c** was prepared according to GP2 using aldehyde 4c (reaction time: 63 h), but using 1.00 mmol of aldehyde **4c** in 4 mL toluene. **6c** was furnished as solution in toluene (0.82 mmol, yield: 86%, ee = 84%). The ee value was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 95:5 n-hexane/iPrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm) after ring opening with (S)-1-phenylethylamine (vide infra).

C₁₀H₁₈O₂, MW: 170.25 g/mol. [α] $_D^{23.8^{\circ}C}$ (c = 1.660, CHCl₃) = -24.8 ± 0.7. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.50 (m, 1 H, CH-O); 3.50 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.05 (dd, J = 16.3, 4.3, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.93-1.68 (m, 2 H, CH₂CH₂CH); 1.50-1.28 (m, 10 H, (CH₂)₅CH₃); 0.88 (m, 3 H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.2, 71.3, 42.9, 34.7, 31.7, 29.2, 29.1, 25.0, 22.7, 14.2. IR (ATR): v = 2926, 2856, 1822, 1464, 1124, 946, 860, 813. MS (EI) m/z: 43.0 (100), 128.1 [M⁺-C₃H₇] (10). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₈O₂: C, 70.55; H, 10.66; O, 18.80. Found: C, 70.62; H, 10.67.

(R)-4-(2-Trimethylsilanyl-ethyl)-oxetan-2-one (6d)



β-Lactone **6d** was prepared according to GP2 using aldehyde **4d** (reaction time: 62 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.41 mmol, yield: 82%, ee = 84%). The ee value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 100 °C, 2.0 mL/min).

C₈H₁₆O₂Si, MW: 172.30 g/mol. [α] $_D^{25.4^{\circ}C}$ (c = 1.140, CHCl₃) = -13.3 ± 0.4. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.45 (m, 1 H, CH-O); 3.47 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.7, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.03 (dd, J = 16.3, 4.3, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.92-1.64 (m, 2 H, CHCH₂); 0.64-0.41 (m, 2 H, CH₂Si); 0.02 (s, 9 H, 3 x CH₃Si). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.3, 73.0, 42.3, 29.2, 11.1, -1.8. IR (ATR): v = 2954, 2898, 1824, 1739, 1414, 1248, 1124, 834, 762, 691. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [MH⁺]: 173.0998. Found: 173.0993. Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₆O₂Si: C, 55.77; H, 9.36; O, 18.57; Si, 16.30. Found: C, 55.81; H, 9.34.

(S)-4-(3-Methyl-but-3-enyl)oxetan-2-one (6e)

β-Lactone **6e** was prepared according to GP2 using aldehyde **4e** (reaction time: 140 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.46 mmol, yield: 92%, ee = 88%). The ee value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 90 °C, 2.0 mL/min).

C₈H₁₂O₂, MW: 140.18 g/mol. [α] $_D^{24.2^{\circ}C}$ (c = 1.450, CHCl₃) = -23.4 ± 0.7. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.75 (d, J = 18.3, 2 H, CH₂-C); 4.52 (m, 1 H, CH-O); 3.52 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.08 (dd, J = 16.3, 4.3, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 2.23-1.84 (m, 4 H, CH₂CH₂); 1.75 (s, 3 H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.0, 143.5, 111.0, 70.8, 42.9, 33.0, 32.7, 22.4. IR (ATR): v = 2970, 2938, 1819, 1650, 1444, 1132, 1111, 885, 830. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [M⁺]: 140.0832. Found: 140.0831. Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₂O₂: C, 68.55; H, 8.63; O, 22.83. Found: C, 68.72; H, 8.85.

(R)-4-Isobutyl-oxetan-2-one (6f)

β-Lactone **6f** was prepared according to GP3 using aldehyde **4f** (reaction time: 26 h), but using Dibal instead of Et₃Al and ligand **7b**. **6f** was furnished as solution in toluene (0.49 mmol, yield: 98%, *ee* = 85%). The *ee* value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 100 °C, 2.0 mL/min). To determine the isolated yield the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (pentane → pentane/ diethyl ether 4:1) giving **6f** as colorless oil (57 mg, 0.43 mmol, yield: 85%, *ee* = 85%).

C₇H₁₂O₂, **MW**: 128.17 g/mol. [α] $_D^{25.9^{\circ}C}$ (c = 0.920, CHCl₃) = +19.3 ± 0.8. Spectral data including the specific optical rotation have been reported earlier for the (*S*)-enantiomer. [9] ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C)**: δ = 4.58 (m, 1 H, CH-O); 3.54 (dd, J = 16.2, 5.6, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.05 (dd, J = 16.5, 4.2, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.79 & 1.58 (2 x m, 3 H, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂); 0.95 (d, J = 6.6, 6 H, 2 x CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.2, 70.2, 43.6, 43.4, 25.4, 22.8, 22.2. IR (ATR): v = 2960, 2874, 1820, 1118, 881, 805. MS (EI) m/z: 128.1 [M⁺] (6), 43.1 (100). Anal. Calcd. for C₇H₁₂O₂: C, 65.60; H, 9.44; O, 24.96. Found: C, 65.50; H, 9.45.

(S)-4-Cyclopentyl-oxetan-2-one (6g)

β-Lactone **6g** was prepared according to GP3 using aldehyde **4g** (reaction time: 84 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.41 mmol, yield: 90%, ee = 80%). The ee value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 100 °C, 2.0 mL/min).

C₈H₁₂O₂, MW: 140.18 g/mol. [α] $_D^{23.3°C}$ (c = 1.770, CHCl₃) = +27.7 ± 0.5. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.37 (ddd, J = 8.0, 5.8, 4.3, 1 H, CH-O); 3.47 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.07 (dd, J = 16.3, 4.3, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 2.23 (m, 1 H, CH(CH₂)₂); 1.72 & 1.45 & 1.26 (3 x m, 8 H, 4 x (CH₂)_{ring}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.3, 74.2, 43.5, 41.8, 28.4, 27.7, 25.7, 25.6. IR (ATR): v = 2954, 2869, 1816, 1277, 1123, 857. MS (EI) m/z: 140.1 [M⁺] (3), 67.1 (100). Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₂O₂: C, 68.55; H, 8.63; O, 22.83. Found: C, 68.72; H, 8.79.

(S)-4-(1-Ethyl-propyl)-oxetan-2-one (6h)

β-Lactone **6h** was prepared according to GP3 using aldehyde **4b** (reaction time: 136 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.47 mmol, yield: 94%, ee = 80%). The ee value was determined by GC (GammaDexTM, 100 °C, 2.0 mL/min).

C₈H₁₄O₂, MW: 142.20 g/mol. [α] $_D^{26.0^{\circ}C}$ (c = 1.000, CHCl₃) = +13.7 ± 0.7. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 4.37 (ddd, J = 8.3, 5.7, 4.5, 1 H, CH-O); 3.47 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.8, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 3.12 (dd, J = 16.3, 4.4, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.55 + 1.36 (2 x m, 5 H, CH(CH₂)₂); 0.93 (m, 6 H, 2 x CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 168.3, 73.8, 44.7, 41.7, 21.6, 21.0, 11.1, 10.4. IR (ATR): v = 2965, 2878, 1825, 1462, 1277, 1119, 862. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [M⁺]: 142.0988. Found: 142.0987. Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₄O₂: C, 67.57; H, 9.92; O, 22.50. Found: C, 67.52; H, 9.68.

(S)-4-tert-Butyl-oxetan-2-one (6i)

β-Lactone **6i** was prepared according to GP3 using aldehyde **4i** (reaction time: 135 h) and was furnished as solution in toluene (0.42 mmol, yield: 83%, ee = 78%) The ee value was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 97:3 n-hexane/iPrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm) after ring opening with (S)-1-phenylethylamine ($vide\ infra$).

 $C_7H_{12}O_2$, **MW:** 128.17 g/mol. [α] $_D^{24.4^{\circ}C}$ (c = 0.825, CHCl₃) = +18.3 ± 0.8. Spectral data including the specific optical rotation have been reported earlier for the (*S*)-enantiomer. [10] ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C):** δ = 4.25 (*dd*, *J* = 6.0, 4.5, 1 H, C*H*-O); 3.32 (*dd*, *J* = 16.5, 6.0, 1 H, C*H*H-

C(O)); 3.16 (dd, J = 16.5, 4.5, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.00 (s, 9 H, 3 x CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): $\delta = 168.2$, 77.9, 38.2, 32.9, 24.1. IR (ATR): v = 2963, 2875, 1823, 1129, 944, 866. HRMS (EI) m/z: Calc. for [M⁺]: 128.0832. Found: 128.0828. Anal. Calcd. for C₇H₁₂O₂: C, 65.60; H, 9.44; O, 24.97. Found: C, 65.49; H, 9.29.

(S)-3-Hydroxy-decanoic acid ((S)-1-phenyl-ethyl)amide (8c)

Amide **8c** was prepared according to GP4 using 4-*n*heptyl-oxetan-2-one **6c** (0.21 mmol) in DCM (1.2 mL). Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1) gave title compound **8c** as a white solid (54 mg, 0.19 mmol, yield: 89%). The *dr* value of the crude product was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 97:3 *n*-hexane/*i*PrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm).

C₁₈H₂₉NO₂, MW: 291.43 g/mol. MP: 87-88 °C ((*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer). [α] $_D^{25,9^\circ C}$ ((*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer, c = 0.875, CHCl₃) = 57.5 ± 0.5. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C, mixture of (*S*)-and (*R*)-3-hydroxy isomers): δ = 7.37-7.23 (m, 5 H, CH_{Ar}); 6.03 (m, 1 H, N*H*); 5.14 (m, 1 H, C*H*-N); 3.98 (m, 1 H, C*H*-O); 3.53 (m, 1 H, O*H*); 2.40-2.21 (m, 2 H, C*H*₂-C(O)); 1.49 (d, J = 6.8, 3 H, C*H*₃-CH); 1.42-1.26 (m, 12 H, C*H*₂); 0.87 (m, 3 H, C*H*₃-CH₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C, (*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer): δ = 7.36-7.23 (m, 5 H, C*H*_{Ar}); 6.17 (d, J = 7.4, 1 H, N*H*); 5.12 (m, 1 H, C*H*-N); 3.97 (m, 1 H, C*H*-O); 3.58 (d, J = 3.6, 1 H, O*H*); 2.36 (dd, J = 15.3, 2.9, 1 H, C*H*H-C(O)); 2.24 (dd, J = 15.3, 8.9, 1 H, CHH-C(O)); 1.48 (d, J = 6.9, 3 H, C*H*₃-CH); 1.42-1.26 (m, 12 H, C*H*₂); 0.87 (m, 3 H, C*H*₃-CH₂). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C): δ = 171.5, 143.0, 128.7, 127.4, 126.0, 68.7, 48.7, 42.5, 36.9, 31.7, 29.5, 29.2, 25.4, 22.6, 21.9, 14.1. IR (ATR): v = 3292, 3204, 2921, 2851, 1635, 1540, 1470, 1453, 1376, 1129, 1085, 1019, 694. HRMS (ESI)

m/z: Calc. for [MNa⁺]: 314.2091. Found: 314.2087. **Anal. Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₉NO₂**: C, 74.18; H, 10.03; N, 4.81; O, 10.98. Found: C, 74.42; H, 10.07; N, 4.81.

(S)-3-Hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-pentanoic acid ((S)-1-phenyl-ethyl)amide (8i)

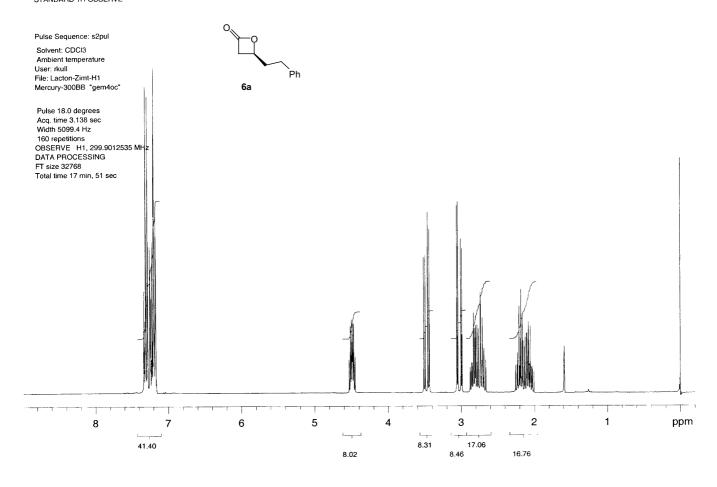
Amide **8i** was prepared according to GP4 using 4-*tert*-butyl-oxetan-2-one (0.55 mmol) **6i** in DCM (3 mL). Purification by flash chromatography (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1) gave title compound **8i** as an amorphous colorless solid (102 mg, 0.41 mmol, yield: 75%, *ee* = 79%). The *dr* value of the crude product was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 97:3 *n*-hexane/*i*PrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm).

C₁₅H₂₃NO₂, MW: 249.35 g/mol. MP: 66-67 °C ((*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer). [α] $_D^{25.7^\circ C}$ ((*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer, c = 0.995, CHCl₃) = 87.3 ± 0.4. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C, (*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer): δ = 7.37-7.23 (*m*, 5 H, CH_{Ar}); 6.18 (*m*, 1 H, N*H*); 5.13 (*m*, 1 H, C*H*-N); 3.66 (*m*, 1 H, C*H*-O); 3.57 (*d*, *J* = 3.1, 1 H, O*H*); 2.34 (*dd*, *J* = 15.3, 2.2, 1 H, C*H*H-C(O)); 2.21 (*dd*, *J* = 14.9, 10.3, 1 H, CH*H*-C(O)); 1.49 (*d*, *J* = 6.9, 3 H, C*H*₃-CH); 0.90 (*s*, 9 H, C*H*₃-C). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, 21 °C, (*S*)-3-hydroxy isomer): δ = 172.0, 142.8, 128.6, 127.3, 126.0, 76.1, 48.8, 37.7, 34.5, 25.7, 21.9. IR (ATR): v = 3466, 3283, 3066, 2962, 2871, 1641, 1623, 1539, 1387, 1375, 1362, 1078, 1013, 761, 697. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calc. for [MNa⁺]: 272.1621. Found: 272.1627. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₂₃NO₂: C, 72.25; H, 9.30; N, 5.62;O, 12.83. Found: C, 72.09; H, 9.33; N, 5.56.

References

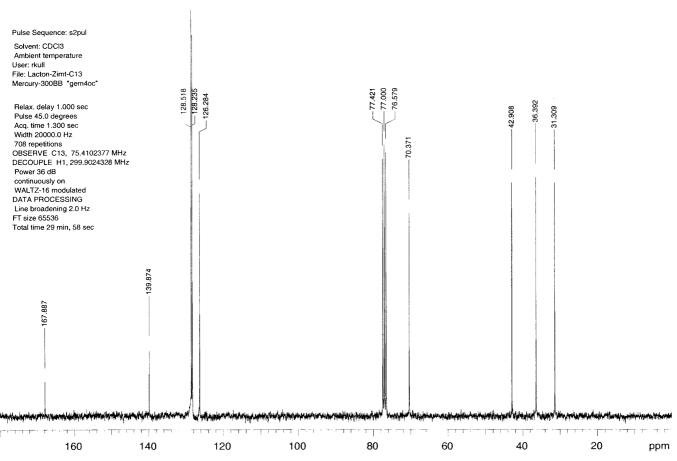
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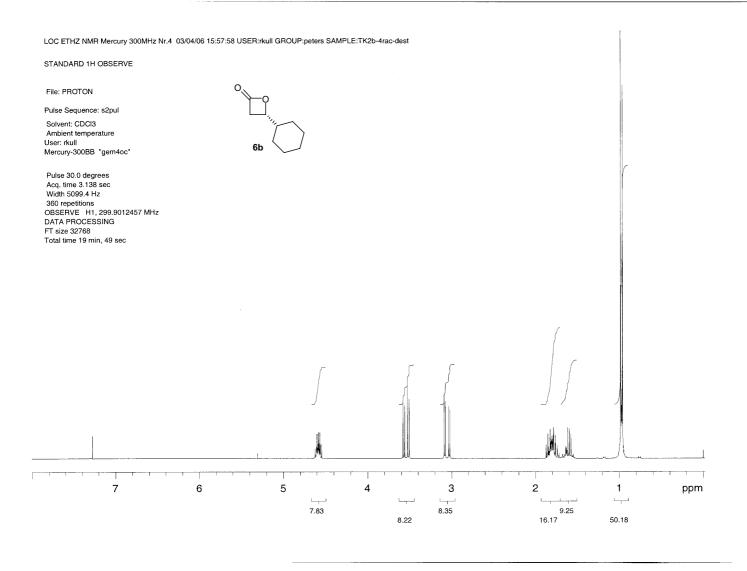
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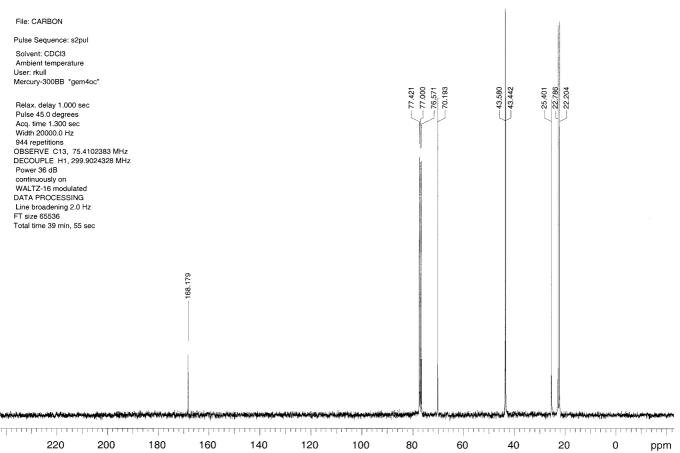
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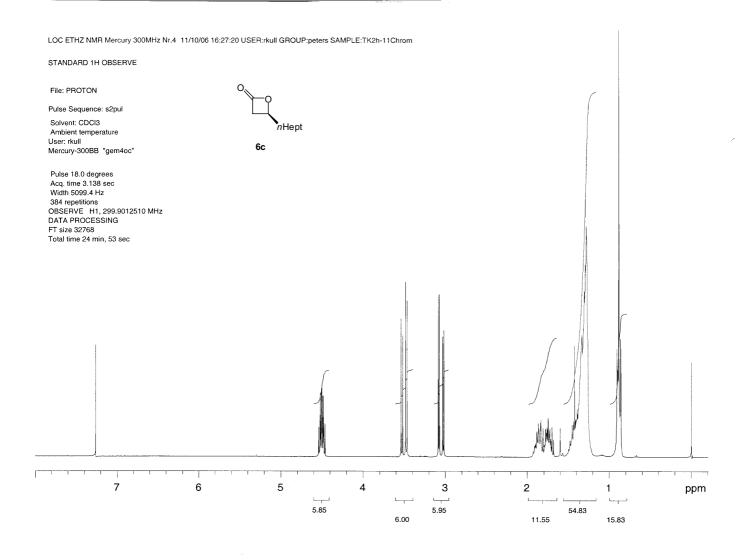




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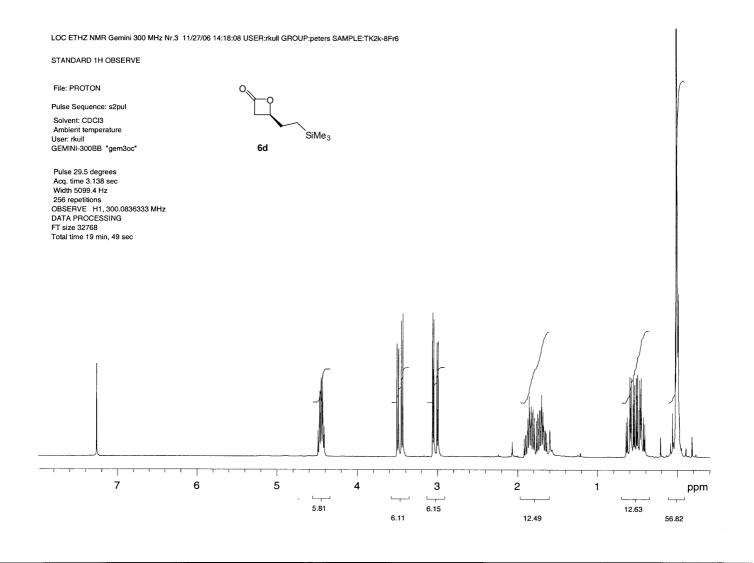
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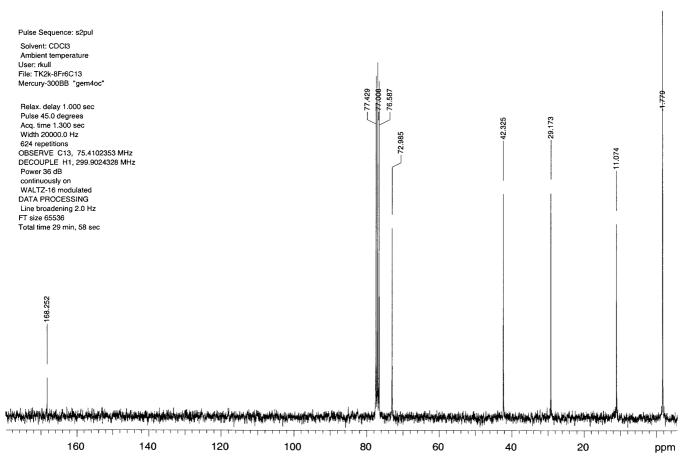
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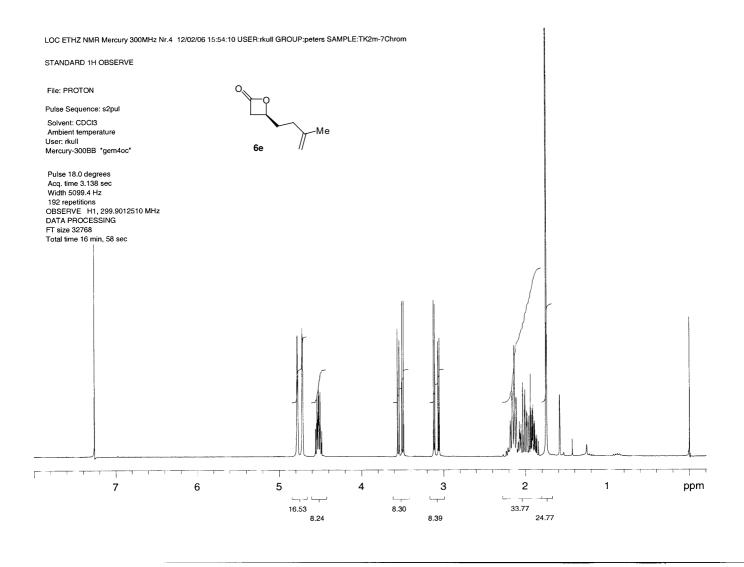
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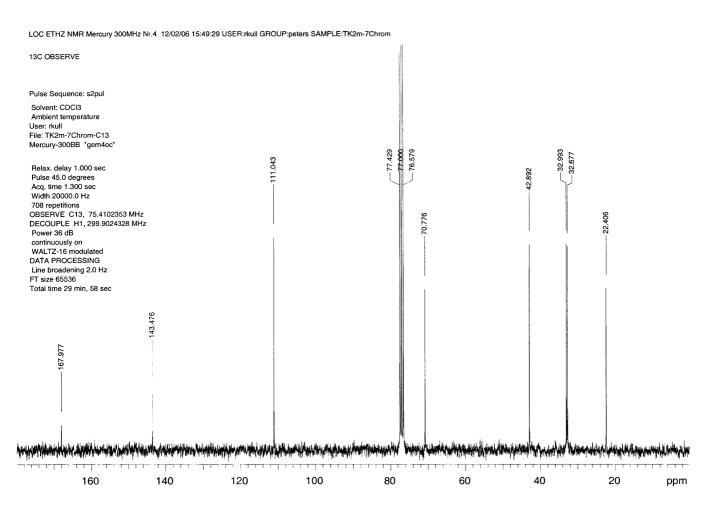


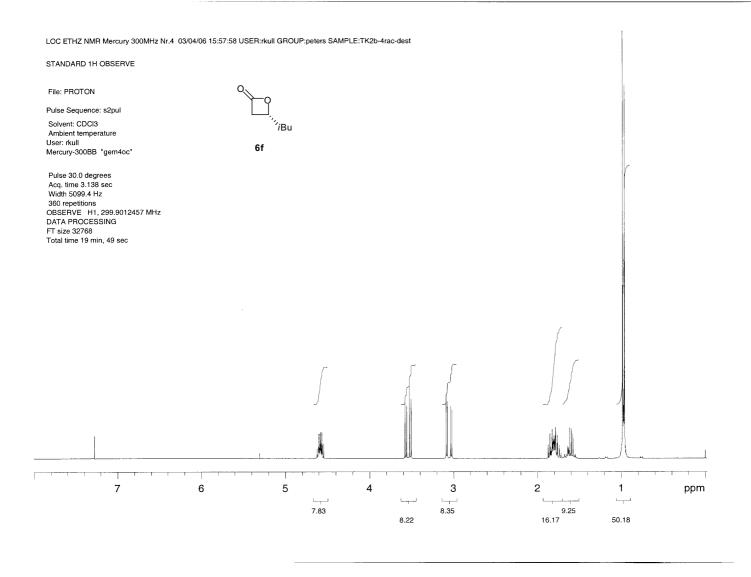
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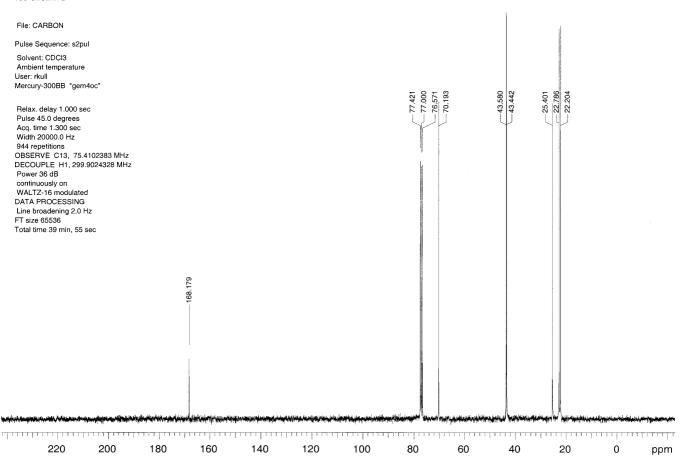




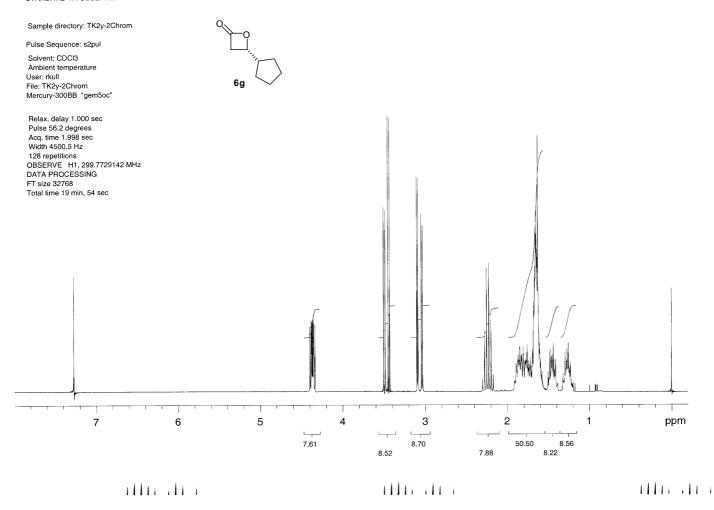


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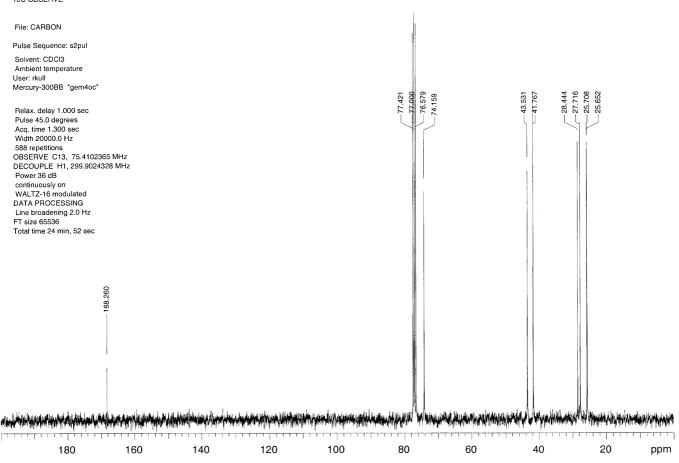






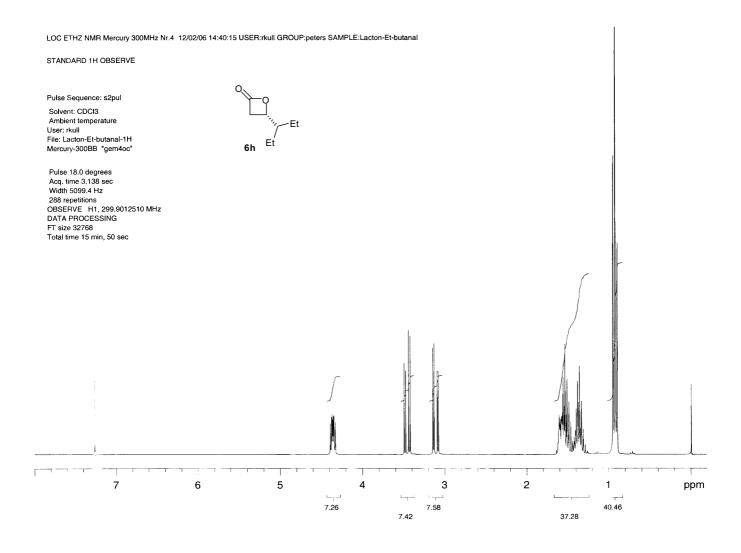
LOC ETHZ NMR Mercury 300MHz Nr.4 11/21/06 14:56:16 USER:rkull GROUP:peters SAMPLE:TK2y-2Chrom

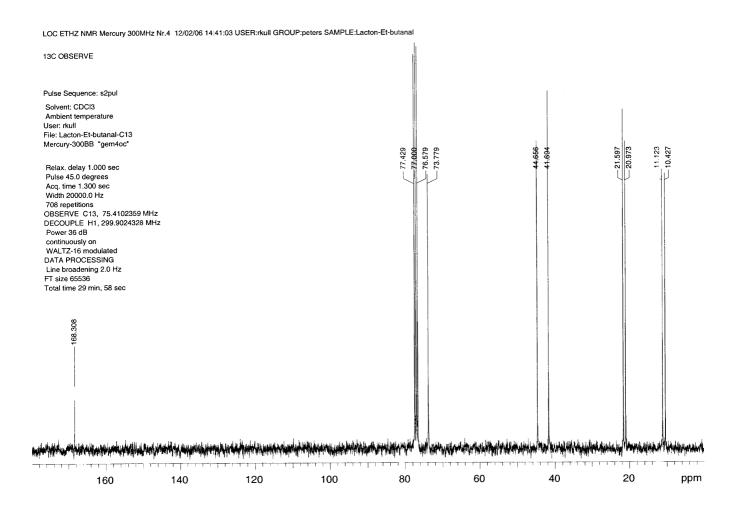
13C OBSERVE

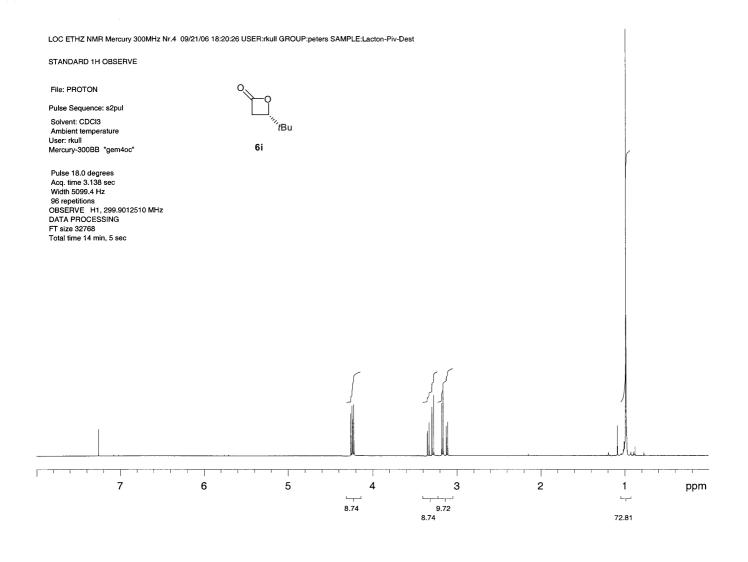


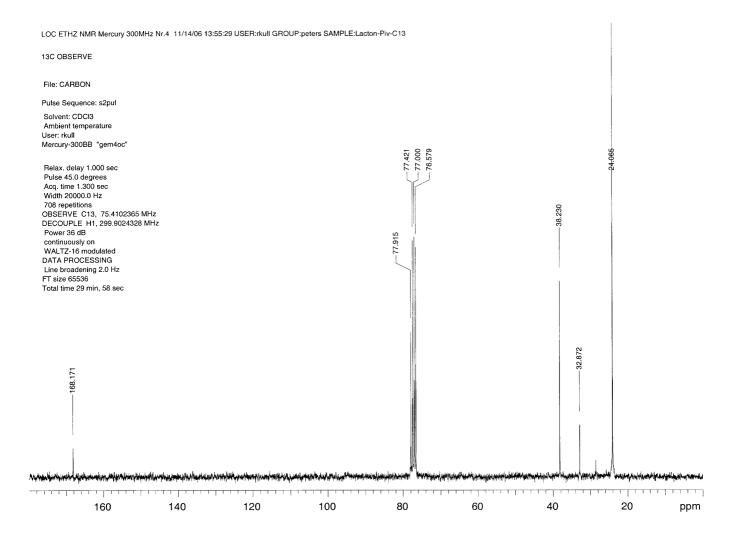
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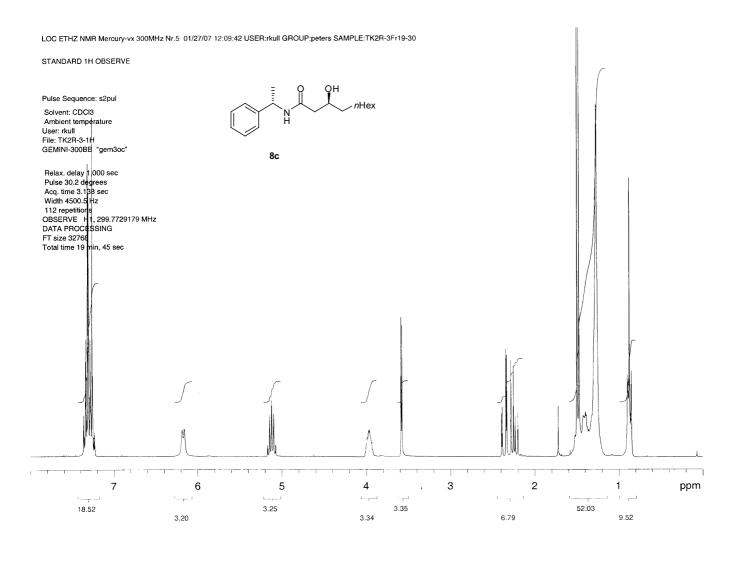
11111 (11)

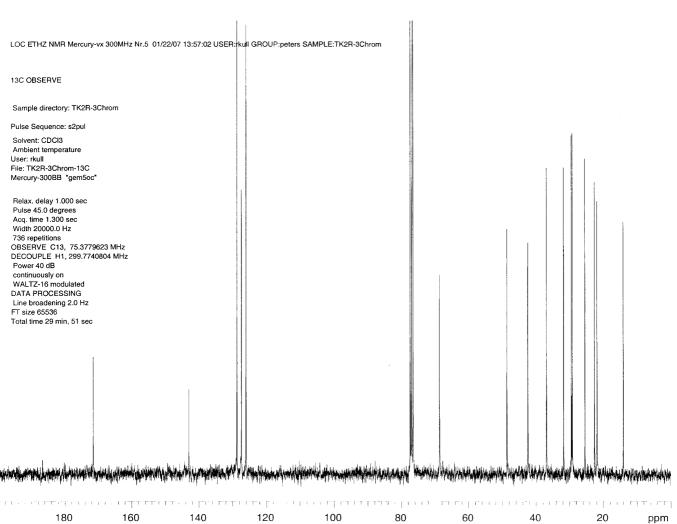


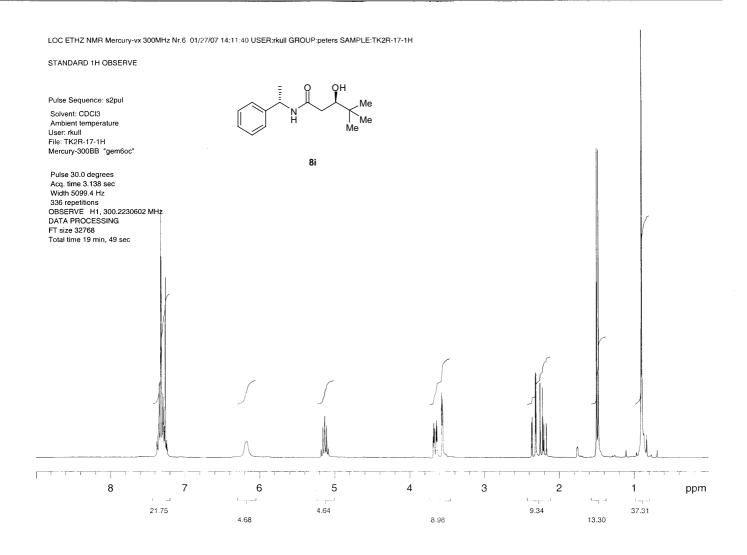












 $LOC\ ETHZ\ NMR\ Mercury-vx\ 300MHz\ Nr.6\ 01/27/07\ 14:08:36\ USER: rkull\ GROUP: peters\ SAMPLE: TK2R-17-13C$

13C OBSERVE

