

Highly Diastereoselective Addition of Ketone Enolates to *N*-Sulfinyl Imines: Asymmetric Synthesis of *syn*- and *anti*-1,3-Amino Alcohol Derivatives

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Abstract: Lithium enolates derived from ketones may be added to *N*-sulfinyl imines with high diastereoselectivity. Diastereoselective reduction gave either the *syn*- or *anti*-1,3-amino alcohol derivative.

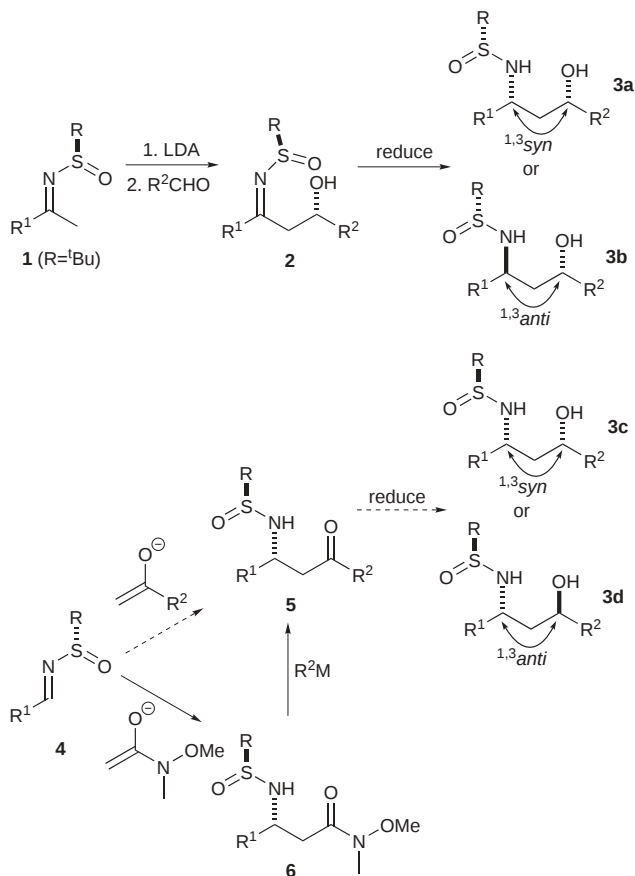
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N-Sulfinyl chiral auxiliaries have been widely exploited in the asymmetric synthesis of amines.¹ In particular, the additions of organolithium and Grignard reagents to *N*-sulfinyl imines are often highly diastereoselective and may be used to prepare α -branched primary amines.²

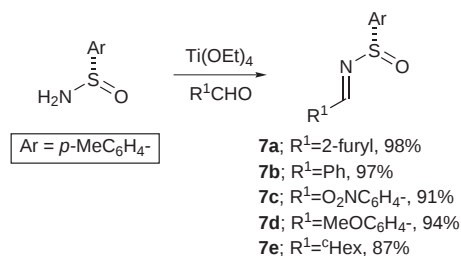
Previously, a convenient asymmetric synthesis of 1,3-amino alcohols has also been developed (Scheme 1). Additions of azaenolates, derived from imines **1** ($R = t\text{-Bu}$), to aldehydes often yield β -hydroxy imines **2** with high diastereoselectivity; the imines **2** may be reduced in either sense to give ^{1,3}*syn*- or ^{1,3}*anti*-amino alcohol derivatives (**3a** or **3b**).³

In this paper, we describe an alternative approach in which a ketone enolate is added to an *N*-sulfinyl imine **4** ($\rightarrow$ **5**);⁴ diastereoselective reduction yields the corresponding 1,3-amino alcohol derivatives (e.g. **3c** or **3d**). This approach is more direct than the addition of ester or Weinreb amide enolates⁵ to *N*-sulfinyl imine (e.g. $\rightarrow$ **6**), followed by reaction with an organometallic reagent, R^2M ($\rightarrow$ **5**) and reduction ($\rightarrow$ **3c,d**).⁶

The *N*-sulfinyl imines **7a–e** were prepared by treatment of a mixture of an aldehyde $R^1\text{CHO}$ and *p*-toluenesulfinamide with 1.5 equivalents of titanium(IV) ethoxide (Scheme 2).⁷ The imines **7** were reacted at -78°C with 1.6 equivalents of lithium enolate, generated by treatment of a ketone (**8**, **10** or **12**) with lithium hexamethyldisilazide (LiHMDS) (Scheme 3 and Table 1). After quenching with methanolic ammonium chloride solution, work-up and purification, the β -amino ketone derivatives **9** and **11** were obtained as single diastereoisomers. Unfortunately, the reaction of the lithium enolate derived from cyclohexanone was less selective, and a mixture of all four possible diastereoisomers (**13**) was obtained (entry 8).



Scheme 1 Alternative strategies for the asymmetric synthesis of 1,3-amino alcohols using *N*-sulfinyl imines



Scheme 2 Preparation of the *N*-sulfinyl imines **7**

The yield of the addition reaction **7** + **8** $\rightarrow$ **9** was dependent on the substituents R^1 and R^2 . Excellent yields of the β -sulfamino ketones **9a** and **9c** were obtained when 1.6

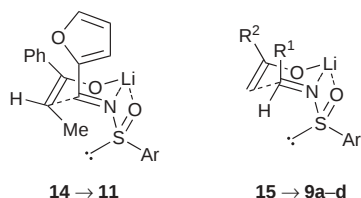


Figure 2 Proposed transition states for the addition reaction

A range of reaction conditions was screened for the reduction of the ketone **9a** (Scheme 4 and Table 2); the diastereoselectivity of each process was determined by analytical HPLC and/or by ^1H NMR (500 MHz) spectroscopy. The reduction of **9a** with NaBH_4 was unselective (entries 1 and 2) and, in THF, competing β -elimination and subsequent reduction ($\rightarrow$ **17**) was observed. We have, however, been able to identify conditions under which the ketone **9a** may be selectively converted into either of the diastereoisomeric 1,3-amino alcohols $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ or $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$. The reductions with Superhydride (entry 3), K-selectride (entry 4) and DIBALH (entries 5a,b) were selective in favour of the alcohol $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$. In contrast, the use of LiAlH_4 (entry 6) gave a 71:29 mixture in favour of $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$.

Table 2 Diastereoselective Reduction of the β -Sulfinamido Ketone **9a**

Entry	Conditions	De $^{1,3}\text{syn}:^{1,3}\text{anti}$
1	NaBH_4 , THF, 25 °C	40:60 ^{a,b}
2	NaBH_4 , EtOH, 25 °C	48:52 ^{c,d}
3	Li BHEt_3 , THF, –78 °C	92:8 ^c
4	$\text{K BH}^t\text{Bu}_3$, THF, –78 °C	79:21 ^c
5a	$i\text{-Bu}_2\text{AlH}$, THF, –78 °C	86:14 ^{c,e}
5b	$i\text{-Bu}_2\text{AlH}$, THF, 25 °C	72:28 ^{c,f}
6	LiAlH_4 , THF, –78 °C	29:71 ^c
7	$\text{Li AlH}(\text{Ot-Bu})_3$	48:52 ^c

^a Determined by ^1H NMR (500 MHz) spectroscopy of the crude reaction mixture.

^b Flash column chromatography gave $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ (12%), $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$ (24%), **17** (51%) and *p*-toluenesulfonamide (63%).

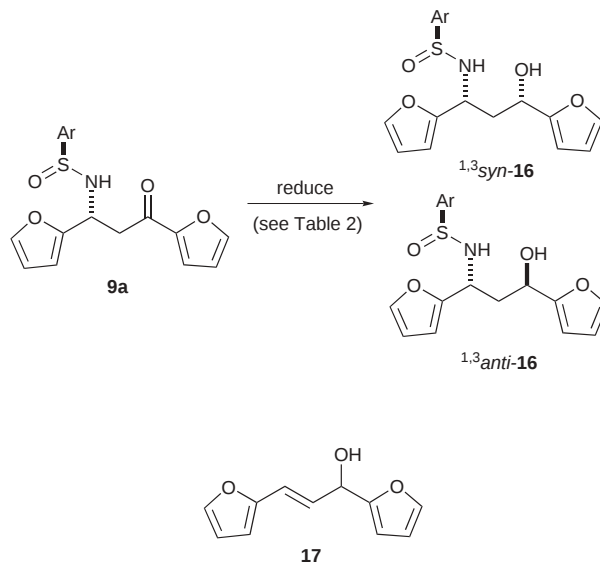
^c Determined by analytical HPLC.

^d A >98% yield of a 48:52 mixture of diastereoisomers was obtained; flash column chromatography gave $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ (44%) and $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$ (46%).

^e Flash column chromatography gave $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ (68%).

^f Flash column chromatography gave $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ (58%).

In conclusion, we have developed an approach to the synthesis of 1,3-amino alcohols which relies on the diastereoselective addition of a ketone enolate to a *N*-sulfinyl imine. The methods have been optimised to avoid competing β -elimination, and have been exploited on a large scale. Complementary reaction conditions have been



Scheme 4 Diastereoselective reduction of the β -sulfinamido ketone **9a**

identified for the stereoselective reduction of **9a** to give the $^{1,3}\text{syn-}$ or the $^{1,3}\text{anti-}$ 1,3-amino alcohol derivatives **16**.

Diastereoselective Addition of Ketone Enolates to *N*-Sulfinyl Imines

Synthesis of 9a: A solution of acetyl furan (151 mg, 1.37 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of LiHMDS (1.37 mL of a 1 M solution in THF, 1.37 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at –78 °C. After 0.5 h, a solution of the imine **7a** (200 mg, 0.859 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added dropwise and the resulting reaction mixture stirred at –78 °C for 1 h. The reaction was quenched at –78 °C by addition of a sat. methanolic NH_4Cl solution (4 mL), warmed to r.t. and poured onto H_2O (10 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL). The layers were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO_4) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a crude product which was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 3:7 EtOAc –petrol ether, to give the ketosulfonamide **9a** (256 mg, 87%) as a colourless oil; R_f 0.7 (EtOAc); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +103.7$ (*c* 1.1 in CHCl_3). IR (thin film): ν_{max} = 3148, 2922, 1671, 1467 and 1089 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.57 (2 H, d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.55 (1 H, dd, J = 1.4 and 0.8 Hz, 3-furyl 5-H), 7.35 (1 H, dd, J = 1.9 and 0.9 Hz, 1-furyl 5-H), 7.27 (2 H, d, J = 8.2 Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 7.15 (1 H, dd, J = 3.5 and 0.8 Hz, 3-furyl 3-H), 6.51 (1 H, dd, J = 3.5 and 1.4 Hz, 3-furyl 4-H), 6.36 (1 H, dd, J = 3.2 and 0.9 Hz, 1-furyl 3-H), 6.32 (1 H, dd, J = 3.2 and 1.9 Hz, 1-furyl 4-H), 5.07 (2-H, m, NH and 1-H), 3.49 (1 H, dd, J = 17.1 and 5.9 Hz, 2-H), 3.37 (1 H, dd, J = 17.1 and 5.2 Hz, 2-H) and 2.39 (3 H, s, Me). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 186.6, 153.7, 152.6, 147.1, 142.7, 142.2, 141.8, 130.0, 126.0, 118.2, 112.8, 110.9, 108.3, 49.1, 43.5 and 21.8. MS (ES): m/z (%) = 344 (85%) [MH^+] and 190 (100) [$\text{M} - \text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{SON}$]. Found: MNa^+ , 366.0760. $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ requires MNa , 366.0776.

Compound **9b**: R_f = 0.1 (3:7 EtOAc –petrol ether); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +84.5$ (*c* 1.51 in CHCl_3). IR (thin film): ν_{max} = 3209, 2922, 1671, 1467, 1089 and 1062 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.58 (2 H, d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.52 (1 H, dd, J = 1.4 and 0.8 Hz, furyl 5-H), 7.46 (2 H, d, J = 7.4 Hz, Ph 2- and Ph 6-H), 7.37 (2 H, t, J = 7.4 Hz, Ph 3-H and 5-H), 7.30 (1 H, t, J = 7.4 Hz, Ph 4-H), 7.27 (2 H, d, J = 8.1 Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 7.11 (1 H, dd, J = 3.4 and 0.8 Hz, furyl 3-H), 6.48 (1 H, dd, J = 3.4 and 1.4 Hz, furyl 4-H), 5.13 (1 H, d, J = 4.8 Hz, NH), 5.03 (1 H, app. q, J = 5.2 Hz, 1-H) 3.39 (1 H, dd, J = 16.7

and 5.2 Hz, 2-H_A), 3.33 (1 H, dd, $J = 16.7$ and 7.5 Hz, 2-H_B) and 2.39 (3 H, s, Me). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 187.1$, 152.7, 147.2, 142.7, 141.8, 141.0, 130.0, 129.2, 128.4, 127.9, 125.8, 118.2, 112.9, 55.0, 46.2 and 21.8. MS (ES): m/z (%) = 707 (100) [M_2H^+] and 354 (42) [MH^+]. Found: MNa^+ , 376.0966. $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{S}$ requires MNa , 376.0983.

Compound **9c**: mp 138.4–139.1 °C (CHCl_3 –Et₂O); $R_f = 0.2$ (colourless needles from 3:7 EtOAc–petrol ether). $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{SO}_5$ requires: C, 60.3; H, 4.55; N, 7.0; S, 8.1%. Found: C, 60.0; H, 4.70; N, 7.0; S, 8.0; $[\alpha]_D^{20} +84.3$ (c 0.56 in CHCl_3). IR (thin film): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3206$, 2923, 1671, 1520, 1347 and 1088 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 8.23$ (2 H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, Ar 2- and 6-H), 7.65 (2 H, d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, Ar 3- and 5-H), 7.58 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.55 (1 H, dd, $J = 1.6$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 5-H), 7.32 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 7.15 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.4$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 3-H), 6.53 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.4$ and 1.6 Hz, furyl 4-H), 5.24 (1 H, d, $J = 6.1$ Hz, NH), 5.08 (1 H, app. q, $J = 6.1$ Hz, 1-H), 3.42 (1 H, d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2-H₂) and 2.39 (3 H, s, Me). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 186.4$, 152.5, 148.8, 147.8, 147.4, 142.3, 141.8, 130.2, 128.7, 125.8, 142.4, 118.4, 113.1, 54.3, 45.6 and 21.8. MS (ES): m/z (%) = 797 (100) [M_2H^+] and 399 (63) [MH^+].

Compound **9d**: mp 91.0–92.7 °C (colourless needles from EtOAc–petrol ether). $R_f = 0.2$ (3:7 EtOAc–petrol ether). $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{NSO}_3$ requires: C, 68.0; H, 5.40; N, 4.0; S, 9.1%. Found: C, 67.8; H, 5.55; N, 3.9; S, 8.9; $[\alpha]_D^{20} +87.5$ (c 0.64 in CH_2Cl_2). IR (thin film): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3189$, 2920, 1683, 1448, 1090 and 1066 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.86$ (2 H, d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, Ph 2- and Ph 6-H), 7.59 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.56 (1 H, t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, Ph 4-H), 7.43 (2 H, t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, Ph 3- and Ph 5-H), 7.35 (1 H, dd, $J = 1.8$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 5-H), 7.27 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 6.38 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.2$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 3-H), 6.33 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.2$ and 1.8 Hz, furyl 4-H), 5.11 (2 H, m, NH and 1-H), 3.66 (1 H, dd, $J = 17.1$ and 5.5 Hz, 2-H_A), 3.52 (1 H, dd, $J = 17.1$ and 5.0 Hz, 2-H_B) and 2.39 (3 H, s, Me). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 198.6$, 153.8, 142.6, 142.3, 141.8, 136.8, 133.9, 130.0, 129.1, 128.5, 126.0, 111.0, 108.4, 49.3, 43.7 and 21.8. MS (ES): m/z (%) = 707 (100) [M_2H^+] and 354 (35) [MH^+].

Compound **11**: mp 120.8–121.5 °C (colourless plates from MeOH–H₂O); $R_f = 0.3$ (3:7 EtOAc–petrol ether); $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{NSO}_3$ requires: C, 68.6; H, 5.75; N, 3.8; S, 8.7%. Found: C, 68.5; H, 5.70; N, 3.7; S, 8.8; $[\alpha]_D^{20} +160$ (c 0.76 in CH_2Cl_2). IR (thin film): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3194$, 2976, 1679, 1448, 1090 and 1066 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.83$ (2 H, d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, Ph 2- and Ph 6-H), 7.54 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.54 (1 H, t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, Ph 4-H), 7.41 (2 H, t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, Ph 3- and Ph 5-H), 7.34 (1 H, dd, $J = 1.7$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 5-H), 7.23 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 6.33 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.1$ and 0.8 Hz, furyl 3-H), 6.29 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.1$ and 1.7 Hz, furyl 4-H), 4.89 (1 H, dd, $J = 6.9$ and 6.9 Hz, 1-H), 4.77 (1 H, d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, NH), 3.98 (1 H, app. qn, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2-H), 2.38 (3 H, s, Me) and 1.22 (3 H, d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2-Me). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 201.6$, 153.2, 142.1, 141.7, 141.4, 135.7, 133.3, 129.5, 128.6, 128.3, 125.6, 110.5, 108.5, 53.1, 44.6, 21.4 and 13.7. MS (ES+): m/z (%) = 735 (100) [M_2H^+] and 368 (73) [MH^+].

Synthesis of $^{1,3}\text{Syn-}$ and $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$: Sodium borohydride (11 mg, 0.292 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of **9a** (50 mg, 0.146 mmol) in EtOH (8 mL). After 1.5 h, the reaction was quenched with H₂O (10 mL), the layers were separated and the aqueous portion was extracted with EtOAc (3 $\times$ 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO_4) and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a crude product. Purification by flash chromatography, eluting with 3:7 EtOAc–petrol ether, gave $^{1,3}\text{syn-16}$ (22 mg, 44%) as a colourless oil, $R_f = 0.7$ (7:3 EtOAc–petrol ether); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +75.6$ (c 0.27 in CHCl_3). IR (thin film): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3306$, 2924, 1596, 1504, 1012 and 737 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3):

$\delta = 7.53$ (2 H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.37 (1 H, br s, 1-furyl 5-H), 7.29 (1 H, br s, 3-furyl 5-H), 7.23 (2 H, d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 6.31 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.0$ and 1.8 Hz, 1-furyl 4-H), 6.27 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.0$ and 1.9 Hz, 3-furyl 4-H), 6.24 (1 H, d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1-furyl 3-H), 6.19 (1 H, d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1-furyl 3-H), 4.90 (1 H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, NH), 4.84 (1 H, ddd, $J = 9.6$, 4.7 and 4.7 Hz, 3-H), 4.77 (1 H, td, $J = 8.5$ and 4.7 Hz, 1-H), 3.81 (1 H, d, $J = 4.7$ Hz, OH), 2.41 (1 H, ddd, $J = 14.0$, 9.6 and 4.7 Hz, 2-H), 2.38 (3 H, s, Me) and 2.21 (1 H, ddd, $J = 14.0$, 8.5 and 4.7 Hz, 2-H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 156.4$, 155.3, 142.7, 142.4, 142.2, 142.1, 130.1, 126.0, 110.7, 110.6, 107.1, 106.4, 64.4, 50.9, 40.3 and 21.8. MS (ES+): m/z (%) = 346 (15) [MH^+], 328 (30) [$\text{M} - \text{OH}$] and 234 (100) [$\text{M} - \text{FuCHOHCH}_2$]. $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ requires MNa , 368.0932. Found: MNa^+ , 368.0938. Also isolated was $^{1,3}\text{anti-16}$ (23 mg, 46%) as a colourless oil, R_f 0.6 (7:3 EtOAc–petrol ether); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +53.3$ (c 0.3 in CHCl_3). IR (thin film): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3306$, 2924, 1596, 1504, 1011 and 736 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.55$ (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2'- and 6'-H), 7.40 (1 H, br s, 1-furyl 5-H), 7.32 (1 H, br s, 3-furyl 5-H), 7.26 (2 H, d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 3'- and 5'-H), 6.35 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.2$ and 1.7 Hz, 1-furyl 4-H), 6.33 (1 H, d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1-furyl 3-H), 6.28 (1 H, dd, $J = 3.0$ and 1.7 Hz, 3-furyl 4-H), 6.21 (1 H, d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 3-furyl 3-H), 4.90 (1 H, d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, NH), 4.82 (2 H, m, 1-H and 3-H), 3.44 (1 H, d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, OH), 2.40 (4 H, m, 2-H and Me), and 2.31 (1 H, ddd, $J = 14.3$, 9.3 and 8.3 Hz, 2-H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 156.4$, 154.6, 142.8, 142.4, 142.2, 141.9, 130.0, 125.9, 110.7, 110.6, 107.8, 106.3, 66.4, 51.8, 41.0 and 21.8. MS (ES+): m/z (%) = 346 (15) [MH^+], 328 (30) [$\text{M} - \text{OH}$] and 234 (100) [$\text{M} - \text{FuCHOHCH}_2$]. $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ requires MNa , 368.0932. Found: MNa^+ , 368.0938.

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