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Organocatalytic Michael Addition / Intramolecular Julia – Kocienski Olefination for the Preparation of Nitrocyclohexenes

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ABSTRACT



An asymmetric organocatalytic [3 + 3] annulation strategy based on a Michael addition / intramolecular Julia - Kocienski olefination sequence has been developed for the synthesis of 4- substituted-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene compounds. The strategy is an alternative to the direct reluctant enantioselective Diels-Alder approach. The potential of the methodology has been demonstrated with a concise enantioselective formal synthesis of trandolapril.

Introduction

Six-membered ring structures are widespread in natural and synthetic products. As a consequence, a good deal of interest in developing novel approaches including organocatalyzed strategies for the stereoselective synthesis of cyclohexane¹ and cyclohexene² derivatives have emerged. Particularly, chiral cyclohexyl and cyclohexenylamine moieties are valuable building blocks present in a wide variety of natural and non-natural compounds of interest.³ A rapid direct access to this kind of compounds would be an asymmetric [4 + 2] cycloaddition between a diene and a nitroalkene, followed by the reduction of the nitro group (Scheme 1).⁴ However, the Diels-Alder reaction of non activated dienes with nitroalkenes requires the use of harsh conditions, specially with aliphatic nitroalkenes where yields are low.^{4b}

Scheme 1. Diels-Alder as direct approach to amino cyclohexenes.



As a consequence of the above mentioned problem, in contrast with the plethora of organocatalyzed asymmetric Michael addition reactions,⁵ there are only a few examples for the stereoselective organocatalytic Diels-Alder reactions of nitroalkenes.⁶ To our knowledge, there is only one example of direct cycloaddition and it is limited exclusively to 3-hydroxy-2-pyrones and aliphatic nitroalkenes (A.1, Scheme 2).⁷ Another organocatalytic enantioselective cycloaddition is based on the *in situ* generation of activated dienes from enals *via* trienamine catalysis by chiral amines (A.2, Scheme 2).⁸

Scheme 2. Organocatalytic approaches to chiral nitrocyclohexenes.



Other indirect strategies for the synthesis of these structures, such as the combination of Michael and aldol reactions,⁹ as well as Michael addition-intramolecular Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons olefination,¹⁰ have been also described (B, Scheme 2). But for all these strategies the presence of an

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electronwithdrawing group at different positions is absolutely essential for the processes to occur and remains unavoidably in the molecule at the end of the process.

Although arylsulfones have been used in a wide range of organocatalytic processes,¹¹ that is not the case of heteroaryl sulfones despite the great advantage of the possibility to carry out Julia-Kocienski olefination reactions.^{12,13} We reasoned that the deactivated nucleophile **1** bearing a heretoarylsulfonyl and nitro moieties could provide enantiopure nitrocyclohexenes through a sequential protocol of Michael addition / intramolecular Julia-Kocienski olefination (Scheme 2). The obtained compounds would be the adducts formed from the above mentioned Diels-Alder reaction (See scheme 1).

Regarding the viability of the strategy, it is important to note that both nitro and sulfone moieties will be present in both steps, but only one must react in each step. Whereas the Michael addition of nitromethane to enals *via* iminium activation has been widely employed,¹⁴ the reaction of substituted nitroalkanes with a second nucleophilic unit has been scarcely used.¹⁵ Moreover, since Sylvestre Julia introduced the modified Julia olefination in 1991,^{16a} some adjustments have been introduced, mainly by Kocienski^{16b} and many examples of intermolecular Julia-Kocienski olefination reactions have been hardly explored.¹⁸ Particularly the formation of six-membered rings has only been studied on one substrate bearing *gem*-dimethyl groups,^{18a} which favour the cyclation process¹⁹ because of the Thorpe-Ingold effect.

Results and Discussion

We started our work with the synthesis of pro-bis(nucleophile) **1** bearing a phenyltetrazole moiety, which was easily accessible in a 90% yield from sulfone 2^{13} and nitromethane using NaOH as a base (See table 1).²⁰ Once the nitrocompound **1** had been synthezised, we began our studies to optimize the Michael addition. We tested several proline-type catalysts, using CH₂Cl₂ as solvent and *trans*-2-hexenal as model electrophile. The reaction took place only with some catalysts but exclusively through the carbon bearing the nitro moiety affording adduct **4a** as a 62:38 mixture of diastereomers. The best conversions were obtained with prolinol-type catalysts **I** and **III**, but the enantiomeric excess were poor in both cases (entries 1 and 3). Prolinol **II** and silylprolinols **IV** and **V** turned out sluggish in the absence of additive even using a 30 mol % of catalyst (entries 2, 4 and 5). TBAB, an additive recently developed

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by us,²¹ led to full conversion when used with catalysts **II** and **V**, improving also the enantiomeric excess up to 86% with catalyst **V** (entries 6 and 7). The more hindered catalyst **VI**, with a TBDMS group, was also tested but afforded the Michael adduct with lower conversions (entry 7). A 1:1 mixture of $CH_2Cl_2/EtOH$ provided higher *ee* even using lower charge of catalyst (Entry 9). Finally, basic and acidic additives were also tested (entries 10 and 11). An acidic additive led to lower conversions (entry 10), while a basic additive such as LiOAc afforded very similar results to TBAB with just a slightly lower yield (entry 11). In order to optimize the later intramolecular Julia-Kocienski olefination, we scaled the reaction up to 1 gram of product using conditions of entry 9. Both yield and enantiomeric excess were maintained.

Table 1. Optimization of the Michael addition



Entry	(mol%)	Additive	Solvent	<i>t</i> (h)	Conv. (%)	Yield (%)	ee " (%)
1	I (30)		CH_2Cl_2	24	100	69	44
2	II (30)		CH_2Cl_2	72	23		
3	III (30)		CH_2Cl_2	24	90		- 41
4	IV (30)		CH_2Cl_2	24	68		
5	V (30)		CH_2Cl_2	120	0		
6	II (30)	TBAB ^b	CH_2Cl_2	48	100	68	80
7	V (30)	TBAB ^b	CH_2Cl_2	48	100	69	86
8	VI (30)	TBAB ^b	CH_2Cl_2	48	66		
9	V (20)	TBAB ^c	$CH_2Cl_2\!/EtOH$	48	100	95	90
10	V (20)	BzOH^d	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /EtOH	48	46		
11	V (20)	AcOLi ^d	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /EtOH	48	100	88	89

^{*a*} Determined by HPLC (see SI); ^b(30 mol%); ^c(1 equiv.), ^d(20 mol%);

Since the alpha-hydrogen of the nitro moiety in **4a** is more acidic than the alpha-hydrogen to the sulfonyl group, an excess of base had to be used for the Julia-Kocienski process (Table 2). When KHMDS, the most common base for the Julia-Kocienski olefination^{17a}, was employed, a complex mixture was obtained (entry 1). Fortunately, we could isolate the cyclohexene **5a** using Cs_2CO_3 as a

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base in a moderate yield, and a 71:29 mixture of diastereoisomers, being the *trans* isomer the major one (entry 2). According to our experience, we expected the epimerization of the carbon bearing the nitro moiety towards the most stable *trans* isomer after the cyclization process.^{20b} Therefore we opted to try a stronger and more soluble base to achieve a higher *dr*. Cyclohexene **5a** could also be isolated with a moderate yield in a *dr* of 69:31 using DBU (2 equiv) and CH₃CN as solvent at room temperature (entry 3).²² The diastereoselectivity did not increase significantly at 0 °C, (entry 4), but at - 40 °C the *dr* reached a satisfactory 91:9 ratio (entry 5) although lower yield was obtained. The same *dr* but better yield was obtained when the reaction was carried out at r.t., but quenched at -40 °C (entry 6). We found optimal conditions using: a) Cs₂CO₃ at 70 °C to carry out the olefination reaction followed by b) a treatment of the crude reaction with DBU in CH₃CN and quenched carefully at -40 °C to increase the diastereoselectivity (entry 7).

Table 2. Intramolecular Julia-Kocienski optimization.



En	try Solvent	Base	temp	t (min)	Yield	dr^a
1	DME	KHMDS ^b	-78 °C	15	decomp	-
2	THF/DMF ^c	$Cs_2CO_3^{\ d}$	70 °C	120	57	71:29
3	CH ₃ CN	$\mathrm{DBU}^{\mathrm{b}}$	r.t.	30	51	69:31
4	CH ₃ CN	DBU^b	0 °C	30	51	74:26
5	CH ₃ CN	$\mathrm{DBU}^{\mathrm{b}}$	-40 °C	30	29	91:9
6	CH ₃ CN	DBU^b	r.t. (-40 °C) ^e	30	51	91:9
7	a)THF/DMF ^a b) CH ₃ CN	${{\operatorname{Cs}}_{2}{\operatorname{CO}}_{3}}^{\operatorname{d}}$ DBU ^f	70 °C (-40 °C) ^e	120 15	57	91:9

^{*a*} Determined by ¹H NMR; ^b 2 equivalents; ^c;THF/DMF (3:1);

^d 3 equivalents; ^e quenched at -40 °C; ^f 1 equivalent.

Once both Michael addition and Julia-Kocienski olefination had been optimized, we checked the substrate scope of our strategy. Interestingly, a very different behavior was observed with aliphatic and aromatic enals in both Michael and Julia-Kocienski reactions. The Michael addition worked well using TBAB as additive with aliphatic enals (Table 3, entries 1-7) for a variety of chains containing different functional groups such as a double bond (**3e**) or an acetal (**3k**). The Julia-Kocienski reaction also went

on the right track under conditions of entry 7 in table 2 (conditions **A**). However, Michael addition with aromatic enals presented erratic enantioselectivity when using the same conditions utilized for the aliphatic enals owing to reversibility.²³ Nevertheless, controlling reaction times and using LiOAc as additive, Michael adducts were obtained in good yields and enantioselectivities, both with electrondonating and electronwithdrawing groups (Table 3, entries 8-11). In the case of the Julia-Kocienski olefination with the aromatic substituents we observed aromatization of the cyclohexene under conditions A.²⁴ Therefore milder conditions B, using DBU as base at low temperature, were employed.

Table 3. Scope of the Michael / Julia-Kocienski process.

PTO ₂ S ~ NO ₂	1 ~~-	a) Cat . V (20 mol%), Additive CH ₂ Cl ₂ / EtOH	NO2
1	' O ²	b) Julia-Kocienski Conditions A or B	5a-k

Conditions **A** (R = Aliphatic): i) Cs₂CO₃, THF/DMF, 70 °C, 2h; ii) DBU, CH₃CN, 15 min, -40 °C Conditions **B** (R = Aromatic): DBU, CH₃CN, 0 °C, 30 min, quenching at -40 °C

		Michael Addition				Julia-Kocienski		
Entry	R	Additive	t (h)	Prod	yield (%)	Conditions/ yield (%) $(dr)^{a}$	Prod	ee^{b} $(\%)^{c}$
1	3a Pr	$TBAB^d$	48	4a	95	A / 57 (91:9)	5a	90
2	3b Me	$TBAB^d$	48	4b	92	B ^c / 45 (79:21)	5b	86
3	3c Et	$TBAB^d$	48	4c	94	A / 51 (92:8)	5c	90
4	3d <i>n</i> -Bu	$TBAB^d$	72	4d	93	A / 60 (85:15)	5d	91
5	3e ~~~	$TBAB^d$	72	4 e	92	A / 63 (75:25)	5e	90
6	3f Non	$TBAB^d$	72	4f	90	A / 61 (76:24)	5f	95
7	3g CH ₂ -CH-(OMe) ₂	$TBAB^d$	48	4g	71	A / 60 (90:10)	5g	94
8	3h Ph	LiOAc ^e	8	4h	77	B / 52 (94:6)	5h	92
9	3i <i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	LiOAc ^e	24	4i	83	B / 49 (91:9)	5i	75
10	3j <i>p</i> -Cl-C ₆ H ₄	LiOAc ^e	24	4j	78	B / 50 (91:9)	5j	86
11	3k <i>p</i> - OMe-C ₆ H ₄	LiOAc ^e	4	4k	55	B / 52 (85:15)	5k	89

^a By ¹H NMR, ^b By HPLC; ^c See SI; ^d1 equiv; ^e20 mol%.

In order to illustrate the versatility of our pro-bis(nucleophile) **1**, we carried out a formal synthesis of trandolapril. Trandolapril is the ethyl ester prodrug of trandolaprilat, which is commonly prescribed as cardiovascular drug for controlling hypertension.²⁵ The preparation of trandolapril has been described from cyclohexylamine **6**, which was prepared using a low-yielding Diels-Alder reaction carried out under high temperature and pressure conditions with butadiene and the corresponding nitroalkene as key step, followed by reduction and enzymatic resolution of racemic **6**.²⁶ We envisioned that we could develop the first enantioselective synthesis of trandolapril by preparing enantioenriched intermediate **6**

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using our methodology.²⁷ The combination of the optimized procedure for the Michael addition / Julia-Kocienski olefination followed by simultaneous reduction of the double bond and nitro group using H₂ / Pd(C), allowed the preparation of 6^{28} with a 94% *ee*, 90:10 *dr* and a 38% yield starting from vinylsulfone **2** (Scheme 3).

Scheme 3. Formal synthesis of trandolapril.



Conclusion

In conclusion, we have developed a sequential procedure *via* asymmetric catalytic Michael reaction involving enals and pro-bis(nucleophile) **1** followed by intramolecular Julia-Kocienski olefination to afford nitrocyclohexenes, which are versatile compounds in synthesis. The synthetic potential of this methodology for the enantio and diastereoselective preparation of nitrocyclohexenes and cyclohexylamines was illustrated with an enantioselective formal synthesis of trandolapril.

Experimental section

General Methods and Materials

NMR spectra were acquired using CDCl₃ as the solvent, running at 300 and 75 MHz for ¹H and ¹³C respectively. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to residual solvent signals (CHCl3, 7.26 ppm for ¹H NMR, CDCl₃, and 77.0 ppm for ¹³C NMR). In all ¹H NMR spectra, multiplicity is indicated as follows: bs (broad singlet), s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), quin (quintuplet) or m (multiplet). Coupling constant values (in Hertz) and number of protons for each signal are also indicated.

Melting points were measured using *Gallenkamp melting point apparatus* in open capillary tubes. Optical rotation was recorded in cells with 10 cm path length on a Perkin-Elmer 241 MC polarimeter.

For thin layer chromatography (TLC) *Supelco* silica gel plates with fluorescence indicator 254 nm were used and compounds were visualized by irradiation with UV light and/or by treatment with a **ACS Paragon Plus Environment**

solution of KMnO₄ (1.5 g), K₂CO₃ (10g), and 10% NaOH (1.25 mL) in H₂O (200 mL) or a solution of phosphomolybdic acid (12 g), in EtOH (250 mL) followed by heating. Flash column chromatography (FCC) was performed using Merck pore 60 Å, 40-63 μ m silica gel and compressed air.

Mass spectra were obtained in a *VG AutoSpec Spectrometer* in positive electrospray ionisation (ESI) or electron impact ionisation (EI). Obtained data are expressed in mass/charge (m/z) units. Values between parentheses indicate relative intensities with regard to the base peak.

Enantiomeric excesses (ee) were determined by chiral-phase SFC-HPLC (HPLC in the case of **5**g) using an Agilent-1100 instrument in the indicated column and conditions in each case.

Hexane and EtOAc were supplied by *Scharlau* and were used without previous purification. All the other reactants were bought in *Aldrich*, *Fluka* or *Alfa Aesar* and were also used without any previous treatment.

Enals 3a-3f, and 3h, 3i and 3k are commercially available. Enals 3g and 3j and heteroaryl vinylsulfone 2^{13} were prepared following the literature procedure.

Preparation of aldehyde 3g²⁹

ZnCl₂ (408 mg, 3 mmol) was added to a mixture of 1-trimethylsilyloxy-1,3-butadiene (4.26 g, 30 mmol) and trimethyl orthoformate (3.9 mL, 31 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL). The mixture was stirred vigorously at r.t. for 16 hours whereupon it was poured into water (50 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 100 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane:EtOAc 8:1 to 6:1) to afford 1.81 g (Yield: 42%) of aldehyde **3g** as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz): δ 9.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dt, *J* = 15.7 and 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dd, *J* = 15.7 and 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 6H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 7.0 and 5.5 Hz, 2H) ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz): 193.5 (CHO), 152.1 (CH), 134.9 (CH), 102.6 (CH), 53.2 (2 CH₃), 36.2 (CH₂)

Preparation of aldehyde 3j³⁰

4-Chlorobenzaldehyde (714 mg, 5.1 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (20 mL) and (triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetaldehyde (1.50 g, 5 mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was heated at 80 °C and stirred for 24h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was

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purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane 4:1 EtOAc) to afford 456 mg (Yield: 55%) of aldehyde **3i** as a yellow solid. Spectroscopic and analytical data are in agreement with the literature.

Preparation of pro-bis(nucleophile) 1

Sulfone **2** (1,41g, 6 mmol) was added to a solution of sodium hydroxide in perles (240 mg, 6 mmol) in nitromethane (15 mL). The mixture was stirred for 3 hours, whereupon water (20 mL) was added. The mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and was extracted with EtOAc (2 × 25 mL). The organic layers were combined and were washed with brine (25 mL), dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford pro-bis(nucleophile) **1** as a white solid (1.60 g, yield: 90%), which was used for the next step without further purification. White solid Mp: 81-83 °C ¹H NMR (300 MHz): δ 7.71-7.54 (m, 5H), 4.62 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (quin, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H) ¹³C NMR (75 MHz): δ 153.1 (C), 132.8 (C), 131.6 (CH), 128.8 (2CH), 124.9 (2CH), 72.3 (CH₂), 52.9 (CH₂), 20.4 (CH₂) MS (*ESI*): m/z 298 (M⁺+1, 46), 149 (67), 119 (26), 113 (100). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₀H₁₂N₅O₄S (M⁺+1): 298.0604; found: 298.0615.

General procedure for the Michael Addition

Aliphatic enals (3a-g): Catalyst V (11.9 mg, 0.02 mmol) was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of $CH_2Cl_2 / EtOH$ (0.6 mL) and the corresponding aldehyde **3a-g** (4 mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was stirred for 5 minutes before pro-bis(nucleophile) **1** (29.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) and TBAB (32.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) were sequentially added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature the indicated time for each case (see table 3). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding Michael adducts **4a-g**.

Aromatic enals (3h-k): Catalyst V (11.9 mg, 0.02 mmol) was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of $CH_2Cl_2/$ EtOH (0.6 mL) and the corresponding aldehyde 3h-k (4 mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was stirred for 5 minutes before pro-bis(nucleophile) 1 (29.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) and LiOAc (1.3 mg, 0.02 mmol) were sequentially added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature the indicated time for each case (see table 3). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding Michael adducts 4h-k.

General procedure for the synthesis of racemic compounds 4a-k.

The racemic compounds were obtained following the same procedure above detailed for the Michael addition, using a mixture of (*R*) and (*S*)- α - α -Diphenyl-2-pyrrolidinemethanol (15 mol% (*R*) and 15 mol% (*S*)) and TBAB (1 equiv) as additive.

Determination of enantiomeric excesses

The Michael adducts had to be derivatizated into the corresponding methyl esters or into the corresponding acetals according to methods A or B. **Method A:** Acetalization 0.05 mmol of the corresponding Michael adduct were dissolved in 1 mL of benzene. *p*-Toluenesulfonic acid (1 mg) and ethylenglicol (19 μ L, 0.2 mmol) were added to the solution and the mixture was heated at 80 °C overnight. The solution was allowed to cool to room temperature, whereupon NaHCO₃ (sat) (5 mL) and EtOAc (5 mL) were subsequently added. The mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum to afford the corresponding Michael adduct were dissolved in a 5:1 mixture of MeOH / CH₂Cl₂(1.2 mL) and the solution was stirred for 5 minutes at 0 °C in an ice/water bath, whereupon NBS (13 mg, 0.075 mmol, 1.5 eq) was added to the solution. The flask was left in the bath overnight and allowed to reach r.t. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude was purified by flash column chromatography (Hexane 4:1 EtOAc) to afford the corresponding ester derivative.

(3*S*, 4*S*)-4-Nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)-3-propylhexanal and (3*S*, 4*R*)-4-Nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)-3-propylhexanal (4a)

The title compound was obtained in a 95% yield as yellowish oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB as additive (1 equiv) as a 62:38 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. The procedure to obtain this product has been scaled up until 1 g of nitrocompound **1**. Yield: 1.23 g, 93%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.79 (s, 1H_{major}), 9.77 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.73-7.58 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 4.91-4.77 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.86-3.75 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.84-2.37 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 1.49-1.15 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 0.93 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H_{major}), 0.92 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.6 (CHO), 199.2 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.9 (4CH), 125.0 (4CH), 87.8 (CH), 87.4 (CH), 52.9 (2CH₂), 44.2 (CH₂), 43.9 (CH₂), 35.7 (CH), 35.6 (CH), 32.9 (CH₂), 31.6 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 20.2 (CH₂), 19.9

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(CH₂), 13.8 (2CH₃). MS (*ESI*): m/z 396 (M⁺+1, 56), 254 (45), 236, (54), 147 (38), 80 (35). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₆H₂₂N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 396.1336; found: 396.1353. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding methyl ester following Method B. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 98:2]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 90%, τ_{major} = 7.5 and 8.4 min; τ_{minor} = 7.1 and 9.9 min.

(3*S*, 4*S*)-3-Methyl-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*S*, 4*R*)-3-Methyl-4nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4b)

The title compound was obtained in a 92% yield as a yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 2:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB (1 equiv) as additive, as a 63:37 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (dr) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (Data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.77 (s, 1H_{maior}) 9.74 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.72-7.58 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 4.83-4.70 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.86-3.74 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.88-2.38 (m, 5H_{major}, $5H_{minor}$), 1.09 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, $3H_{minor}$), 1.04 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, $3H_{maior}$) ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): 8 199.3 (CHO), 198.8 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.6 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 124.9 (4CH), 89.4 (CH), 88.4 (CH), 52.7 (2CH₂), 46.9 (CH₂), 46.2 (CH₂), 31.3 (CH), 30.9 (CH), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 16.1 (CH₃), 14.9 (CH₃). MS (*ESI*): m/z 368 (M⁺+1, 100), 338 (31), 147 (19), 119 (12). HRMS (ESI): calculated for $C_{14}H_{18}N_5O_5S$ (M⁺+1): 368.1023; found: 368.1035. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding methyl ester following Method B. The 4 diastereomers could not be completely separated in any of the available HPLC columns. The best conditions were the described below, which allowed to determine the *ee* in one of the diastereomers. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding methyl ester following Method B. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 98:2]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. ee = 86 %, $\tau_{\text{major}} = 15.1$ and 19.5 min; $\tau_{minor} = 15.1$ and 16.5 min.

(3*S*, 4*S*)-3-Ethyl-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*S*, 4*R*)-3-Ethyl-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4c)

The title compound was obtained in a 94% yield as yellowish oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB as additive as a 64:36 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.80 (s,1H_{major}) 9.78 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.73-7.59 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 4.93-4.79 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.86-3.77 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.83-2.39 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}),

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1.57-1.37 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.6 (CHO), 199.2 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 124.9 (4CH), 87.5 (CH), 87.3 (CH), 52.8 (2CH₂), 43.7 (CH₂), 43.5 (CH₂), 37.4 (CH), 37.2 (CH), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.7 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₂), 11.4 (CH₃), 11.0 (CH₃). MS (*ESI*): m/z 382 (M⁺+1, 20), 254 (30), 147 (28), 80 (100). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₅H₂₀N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 382.1179; found: 382.1194. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding methyl ester following Method B. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 98:2]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 90 %, τ major = 8.5 and 8.9 min; τ minor = 8.1 and 9.5 min.

(3*S*, 4*S*)-3-Butyl-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*S*, 4*R*)-3-Butyl-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4d)

The title compound was obtained as yellowish oil in a 93% yield after flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB as additive (1 equiv) as a 64:36 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.78 (s, 1H_{major}), 9.76 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.73-7.56 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 4.92-4.74 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.87-3.71 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.84-2.36 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 1.50-1.12 (m, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 0.97-0.78 (m, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.7 (CHO), 199.2 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 125.0 (4CH), 87.8 (CH), 87.5 (CH), 52.8 (2CH₂), 44.1 (CH₂), 43.9 (CH₂), 35.9 (CH), 35.7 (CH), 30.4 (CH₂), 29.2 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 28.7 (CH₂), 23.8 (CH₂), 23.3 (CH₂), 22.5 (2CH₂), 13.8 (2CH₃). MS (*ESI*): m/z 410 (M⁺+1, 55), 149 (100), 147 (39), 119 (30), 80 (20). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₇H₂₄N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 410.1492; found: 410.1513. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding methyl ester following Method B. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 98:2]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 91%, $\tau_{major} = 7.8$ and 8.7 min; $\tau_{minor} = 7.5$ and 10.1 min.

(3*S*, *6Z*)-3-((1*S*)-1-Nitro-3-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)propylnon-6-enal and (3*S*, *6Z*)-3-((1*R*)-1-Nitro-3-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)propylnon-6-enal (4e)

The title compound was obtained in a 92% yield as yellowish oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc), using TBAB as additive (1 equiv) according to the general procedure. The diastereomeric ratio (dr) could not be properly determined. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the

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mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.79 (s, 1H_{major}), 9.77 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.73-7.57 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 5.52-5.38 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 5.32-5.18 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.94-4.80 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.87-3.75 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.86-2.38 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 2.17-1.92 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 1.60-1.36 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 1.00-0.90 (m, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.6 (CHO), 199.1 (CHO), 153.0 (2C), 133.7 (CH), 133.5 (CH), 132.8 (2C), 131.6 (2CH), 129.9 (4CH), 126.6 (2CH), 125.0 (4CH), 87.5 (CH), 87.2 (CH), 52.8 (2CH₂), 44.0 (CH₂), 43.7 (CH₂), 35.3 (2CH), 30.7 (CH₂), 29.2 (CH₂), 24.3 (CH₂), 24.1 (CH₂), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 20.6 (2CH₂), 14.2 (2CH₃) MS (*ESI*): m/z 436 (M⁺+1, 23), 254 (100), 236 (64), 149 (18). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₉H₂₆N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 436.1649; found: 436.1681. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. The 4 diastereomers could not be completely separated in any of the available HPLC columns. The best conditions were the described below, which allowed to determine the *ee* in one of the diastereomers. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 98:2]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 90%, $\tau_{major} = 15.1$ and 16.2 min; $\tau_{minor} = 16.2$ and 17.3 min.

(3*S*)-3-((*1S*)-1-Nitro-3-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)propyl)dodecanal and (3*S*)-3-((*1R*)-1-Nitro-3-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5ylsulfonyl)propyl)dodecanal (4f)

The title compound was obtained in a 90% yield as yellowish oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 4:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB as additive (1 equiv) as a 61:39 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.77 (s, 1H_{major}), 9.75 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.72-7.56 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 4.90-4.77 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.86-3.74 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 2.83-2.35 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 1.48-1.17 (m, 16H_{major}, 16H_{minor}), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.8 (CHO), 199.3 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.6 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 125.0 (4CH), 87.8 (CH), 87.5 (CH), 52.9 (2CH₂), 44.1 (CH₂), 43.9 (CH₂), 36.0 (CH), 35.8 (CH), 31.8 (CH₂), 30.7 (CH₂), 29.5-29.1 (10CH₂), 27.0 (CH₂), 26.6 (CH₂), 23.8 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 22.6 (2CH₂), 14.1 (2CH₃). MS (*ESI*): m/z 480 (M⁺+1, 22), 254 (100), 236 (69), 80 (12). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₂₂H₃₄N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 480.2275; found: 480.2298. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IB column

 $[CO_2/MeOH = 98:2]$; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. ee = 95%, $\tau_{maior} = 16.9$ and 19.2 min; $\tau_{minor} = 18.1$ and 21.2

min.

(3*R*, 4*S*)-3-(2,2-Dimetoxyethyl)-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*R*, 4*R*)-3-(2,2-Dimetoxyethyl)-4-nitro-6-(1-phenyl-1H-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4g)

The title compound was obtained in a 71% yield as yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 2:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using TBAB (1 equiv) as additive as a 64:36 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC over the cyclohexene derivative. The procedure to obtain this product has been scaled up until 0.9 g of nitrocompound 1. Yield: 969 mg, 71% ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.72 (s, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 7.73-7.56 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 5.00-4.68 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.45-4.33 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.90-3.74 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 3.35-3.27 (m, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 2.91-2.39 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 1.88-1.49 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): 199.5 (CHO), 199.0 (CHO), 153.1 (2C), 132.8 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 125.0 (4CH), 103.3 (CH), 102.9 (CH), 87.8 (CH), 87.3 (CH), 54.0 (2CH₃) 53.7 (2CH₃), 52.8 (2CH₂), 44.6 (CH₂), 44.0 (CH₂), 33.5 (CH₂), 32.5 (CH₂), 32.0 (CH), 31.8 (CH), 23.9 (CH₂), 23.1 (CH₂).MS (*ESI*): m/z 464 (M⁺+23, 91), 410 (20), 338 (15), 186 (25), 149 (36), 135 (17). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₇H₂₃N₅O₇SNa (M⁺+23); 464.1210; found: 464.1205.

(3*R*, 4*S*)-4-Nitro-3-phenyl-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*R*, 4*R*)-4-Nitro-3-phenyl-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4h)

The title compound was obtained in a 77% yield as a pale yellow solid (mp = 57-59 °C) after flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using LiOAc as additive (20 mol %) as a 54:46 mixture of diastereomers (33 mg, 77% yield). The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.70 (s, 1H_{minor}), 9.56 (s, 1H_{major}), 7.71-7.57 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 7.41-7.10 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 5.11-4.94 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.90-3.73 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 3.70-3.59 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.25-3.11 (m, 1H_{minor}), 3.08-2.94 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 2.85-2.74 (m, 1H_{major}), 2.69-2.40 (m, 1H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 2.31-2.16 (m, 1H_{major}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 198.7 (CHO), 197.9 (CHO), 153.1 (C), 152.8 (C), 136.5 (C), 136.1 (C), 132.7 (2C), 131.6 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 129.5 (2CH), 129.1 (2CH), 128.6 (2CH), 128.0 (4CH), 125.0 (2CH), 124.9 (2CH), 89.6 (CH), 89.3 (CH), 52.6 (CH₂), 52.3 (CH₂),

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46.3 (CH₂), 45.3 (CH₂), 43.3 (CH), 42.4 (CH), 24.7 (CH₂), 24.2 (CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 430 (M⁺+1, 31), 368 (19), 254 (100), 236 (64). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₉H₂₀N₅O₅S (M⁺+1): 430.1179; found: 430.1176. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IA column [CO₂/MeOH = 90:10]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 92%, τ _{major} = 6.9 and 13.8 min; τ _{minor} = 10.2 and 11.7 min.

(3*R*, 4*S*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*R*, 4*R*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4i)

The title compound was obtained in a 83% yield as a yellow solid (mp = 56-61 °C) after flash column chromatography (Hexane 2:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using LiOAc as additive (20 mol %) as a 55:45 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.74 (s, 1H_{minor}), 9.53 (s, 1H_{major}), 8.25-8.17 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 7.72-7.58 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 7.46-7.34 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 5.16-5.06 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.06-3.92 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.90-3.73 (m, 2H_{minor}), 2.84-3.62 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.32-3.21 (m, 1H_{major}), 3.15-3.01 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 2.99-2.81 (m, 1H_{major}), 2.72-2.47 (m, 1H_{major}, 22H_{minor}), 2.37-2.19 (m, 1H_{major}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 197.5 (CHO), 196.8 (CHO), 153.0 (C), 152.8 (C), 147.9 (2C), 144.0 (C), 143.7 (C), 132.6 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.9 (4CH), 129.5 (2CH), 129.2 (2CH), 125.0 (2CH), 124.8 (2CH), 124.6 (2CH), 124.3 (2CH), 88.8 (CH), 88.0 (CH), 52.5 (CH₂), 52.3 (CH₂), 46.0 (CH₂), 45.3 (CH₂), 42.6 (CH), 41.9 (CH), 24.8 (2CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 475 (M⁺+1, 11), 242 (100), 149 (20), 147 (23). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₉H₁₉N₆O₇S (M⁺+1): 475.1030; found: 475.1053. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 85:15]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 75%, τ major = 6.8 and 12.1 min; τ minor = 9.7 and 10.7 min.

(3*R*, 4*S*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*R*, 4*R*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4j)

The title compound was obtained in a 78% yield as yellowish oil after Flash column chromatography (Hexane 3:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using LiOAc as additive (20 mol%) as a 55:45 mixture of diastereomers. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.69 (s, 1H_{major}), 9.57 (s, 1H_{minor}), 7.69-7.55 (m,

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5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 7.34-7.25 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 7.17-7.06 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 5.08-4.95 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.90-3.59 (m, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}), 3.24-3.11 (m, 1H_{minor}), 3.05-2.91 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 2.87-2.76 (m, 1H_{major}), 2.68-2.42 (m, 1H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 2.30-2.15 (m, 1H_{major}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 198.3 (CHO), 197.5 (CHO), 153.0 (C), 152.8 (C), 135.1 (C), 134.7 (C), 134.5 (2C), 132.7 (2C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 129.7 (2CH), 129.4 (4CH), 129.3 (2CH), 125.0 (2CH), 124.9 (2CH), 89.3 (CH), 88.2 (CH), 52.6 (CH₂), 52.3 (CH₂), 46.2 (CH₂), 45.3 (CH₂), 42.5 (CH), 41.7 (CH), 24.6 (CH₂), 24.4 (CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 464 (M⁺+1, 48), 149 (23), 147 (100), 119 (89). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₉H₁₉N₅O₅SC1 (M⁺+1): 464.0789; found: 464.0791. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 90:10]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 86%, τ_{major} = 6.3 and 12.1 min; τ_{minor} = 9.0 and 11.0 min.

(3*R*, 4*S*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-metoxyphenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal and (3*R*, 4*R*)-4-Nitro-3-(4-metoxyphenyl)-6-(1-phenyl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-ylsulfonyl)hexanal (4k)

The title compound was obtained as yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 2:1 EtOAc) according to the general procedure, using LiOAc as additive (20 mol%) as a 54:46 mixture of diastereomers (25 mg, 55% yield). The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by HPLC. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (data obtain from the mixture of diastereomers): δ 9.70 (s, 1H_{minor}), 9.56 (s, 1H_{major}), 7.71-7.57 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 7.13-7.01 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 6.89-6.81 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 5.05-4.89 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.82-3.57 (m, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}) 2.40-3.29 (m, 1H_{minor}), 3.03-2.89 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 2.81-2.70 (m, 1H_{major}), 2.67-2.40 (m, 1H_{major}, 2H_{minor}) 2.36-2.17 (m, 1H_{major}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 199.0 (CHO), 198.2 (CHO), 159.6 (C), 159.5 (C), 153.0 (C), 152.8 (C), 132.8 (C), 132.7 (C), 131.7 (2CH), 129.8 (4CH), 129.1 (4CH), 128.1 (C), 127.9 (C), 125.0 (2CH), 124.9 (2CH), 114.5 (2CH), 89.7 (CH), 88.4 (CH), 55.3 (2CH₃), 52.6 (CH₂), 52.4 (CH₂), 46.4 (CH₂), 45.4 (CH₂), 42.6 (CH), 41.8 (CH), 24.6 (CH₂), 24.2 (CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 460 (M⁺+1, 100), 282 (12), 163 (41), 149 (30), 119 (22). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₂₀H₂₂N₅O₆S (M⁺+1): 460.1285; found: 460.1263. The enantiomeric excess was determined by SFC-HPLC over the corresponding acetal following Method A. Chiralpak IB column [CO₂/MeOH = 90:10]; flow rate 3.0 mL/min. *ee* = 80%, τ major = 5.9 and 10.2 min; τ minor = 7.7 and 12.0 min.

General procedure for the intramolecular Julia-Kocienski olefination

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Note: Nitrocyclohexenes with short aliphatic chains (**5b** and **5c**) presented low stability working with them and the isolation was difficult.³²

Method A: The corresponding adduct **4a-g** (0.09 mmol) was dissolved in a 3:1 mixture of THF and DMF (2 mL) and Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv), was added to the solution in one portion under stirring at 70 °C. The reaction was stirred for 2 hours at that temperature, whereupon it was allowed to cool to r.t. The reaction was quenched with a sat. aq. NH₄Cl solution (5 mL) and water (5 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were subsequently added. The mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (10 mL), brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The crude was dissolved in CH₃CN (2 mL) and the flask was put in a CH₃CN / CO₂ bath at -40 °C and DBU (16 µL, 0.1 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction was stirred for 15 minutes at -40 °C whereupon it was carefully quenched dropwise with a sat. aq. NH₄Cl solution (5 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL), were subsequently added and the mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with etoAc (2 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were use the evolution (5 mL) and EtoAc (10 mL) were subsequently added and the mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and extracted with EtoAc (2 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding cyclohexenes **5a-g** indicated in each case.

When method A was used with Michael adduct **4i**, the biaryl by-product derived from loss of the nitro group and subsequent aromatization of the cyclohexene was observed by 1H NMR spectra. Therefore, method B was used for adducts with an aromatic substituent.

Method B: The corresponding adduct **4h-k** (0.09 mmol) was dissolved in CH₃CN (2 mL), and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 minute and DBU (2 equiv) was added. The reaction was stirred for 30 minutes at 0 °C whereupon it was put in a CH₃CN / CO₂ bath at -40 °C, stirred for 15 minutes and carefully quenched dropwise with a sat. aq. NH₄Cl solution (5 mL). Water (5 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were subsequently added and the mixture was transferred into a separatory funnel and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding cyclohexenes **5h-k** indicated in each case.

(4*S*, 5*S*)-5-Nitro-4-propylcyclohex-1-ene (5a)

The title compound was obtained in a 57% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 20:1 EtOAc) as a 91:9 mixture of diastereomers following method A. The diastereomeric ratio

(*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (91:9 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.75-5-58 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 4.72 (td, J = 6.1 and 3.5 Hz, 1H_{minor}), 4.48 (td, J = 10.0 and 5.7 Hz 1H_{major}), 2.77-2.09 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.90-1.74 (m,1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.43-1.20 (4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 0.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 126.1 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 87.8 (CH), 36.6 (CH), 34.2 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 29.4 (CH₂), 19.1 (CH₂), 14.0 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ 125.9 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 83.8 (CH), 36.0 (CH), 31.5 (CH₂), 28.2 (CH₂), 27.1 (CH₂), 20.2 (CH₂), 14.0 (CH₃). MS (*EI*): m/z 122 (M-NO₂⁺, 3), 79 (100), 67 (11). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₉H₁₄ (M-NO₂⁺): 122.1097; found: 122.1096

(4S, 5S)-4-Methyl-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene (5b)

The title compound was obtained in a 45% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 20:1 EtOAc) as a 79:21 mixture of diastereomers. The compound could be isolated to obtain NMR data. However, the reaction and the purification had to be performed carefully because the compound presented low stability⁵. Method B was used, but quenching the reaction at 0 °C after 15 minutes. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (79:21 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.73-5.58 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 4.66 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 5.8 and 3.6 Hz, 1H_{minor}), 4.41 (td, *J* = 10.1 and 5.7 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.79-2.25 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.95-1.79 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.03 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H_{major}), 1.00 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 126.3 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 88.9 (CH), 32.5 (CH₂), 32.4 (CH), 30.4 (CH₂), 17.8 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ 125.3 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 84.4 (CH), 31.4 (CH₂), 30.8 (CH), 25.8 (CH₂), 14.5 (CH₃). MS and HRMS could not be obtained due to the instability of the compound.

(4S, 5S)-4-Ethyl-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene (5c)

The title compound was obtained in a 51% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 20:1 EtOAc) as a 92:8 mixture of diastereomers following method A. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (92:8 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.75-5-57 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 4.75 (td, *J* = 6.2 and 3.2 Hz, 1H_{minor}) 4.50 (td, *J* = 9.9 and 5.5 Hz 1H_{major}), 2.79-2.11 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.91-1.76 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.57-1.32 (2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 126.1 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 87.5 (CH), 38.3 (CH), 30.4 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 24.8 (CH₂), 10.3 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ

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125.9 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 83.2 (CH), 38.1 (CH), 27.8 (CH₂), 27.2 (CH₂), 22.4 (CH₂), 11.6 (CH₃) MS and

HRMS could not be obtained due to the instability of the compound.

(4S, 5S)-4-Butyl-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene (5d)

The title compound was obtained in a 60% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 20:1 EtOAc) as a 85:15 mixture of diastereomers following method A. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (85:15 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.74-5-55 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 4.73 (td, *J* = 6.0 and 3.3 Hz, 1H_{minor}) 4.49 (td, *J* = 9.9 and 5.6 Hz 1H_{major}), 2.78-2.09 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.92-1.73 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.43-1.20 (6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 126.1 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 87.8 (CH), 36.8 (CH), 31.7 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 29.5 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₂) 13.9 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ 125.9 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 83.9 (CH), 36.3 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 30.4 (CH₂), 29.3 (CH₂), 27.1 (CH₂), 22.7 (CH₂) 13.9 (CH₃). MS (*EI*): m/z 136 (M-NO₂⁺, 2), 79 (100), 67 (14). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₀H₁₆ (M-NO₂⁺): 136.1252; found: 136.1248

(4*S*, 5*S*)-4-((3*Z*)-Hex-3-enyl)-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene (5e)

The title compound was obtained in a 63% yield as pale yellow oil after Flash column chromatography (Hexane 20:1 EtOAc) as a 75:25 mixture of diastereomers. Method A. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (75:25 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.76-5-58 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 5.45-5.32 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 5.30-5.19 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.73 (td, *J* = 5.9 and 3.2 Hz, 1H_{minor}) 4.49 (td, *J* = 9.8 and 5.6 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.79-1.95 (m, 8H_{major}, 8H_{minor}), 1.93-1.77 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.48-1.27 (2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 132.6 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 87.6 (CH), 36.4 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 20.2 (CH₂), 29.4 (CH₂), 23.5 (CH₂), 20.5 (CH₂) 14.3 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ 132.7 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 125.8 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 83.7 (CH), 35.6 (CH), 31.6 (CH₂), 28.1 (CH₂), 27.2 (CH₂), 24.5 (CH₂), 22.7 (CH₂) 14.3 (CH₃). MS (*EI*): m/z 232 (M⁺ +23, 36), 179 (47), 163 (100), 149 (42). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₂H₁₉NO₂Na (M⁺ +1): 232.1308; found: 232.1314

(4S, 5S)-5-Nitro-4-nonylcyclohex-1-ene (5f)

The title compound was obtained in a 61% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 30:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 76:24 of diastereomers following method A. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (76:24 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.74-5-

56 (m, $2H_{major}$, $2H_{minor}$), 4.73 (td, J = 3.6 and 6.1 Hz, $1H_{minor}$) 4.49 (td, J = 9.9 and 5.5 Hz $1H_{major}$), 2.78-2.11 (m, $4H_{major}$, $4H_{minor}$), 1.90-1.76 (m, $1H_{major}$, $1H_{minor}$), 1.35-1.19 (m, $16H_{major}$, $16H_{minor}$), 0.89 (t, J =7.2 Hz, $3H_{major}$, $3H_{minor}$). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 126.1 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 87.8 (CH), 36.8 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 31.8 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 29.8-29.1 (5CH₂), 25.9 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₂) 14.1 (CH₃). Minor diastereomer: δ 125.9 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 83.8 (CH), 36.2 (CH), 32.0 (CH₂), 31.8 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 29.8-29.1 (5CH₂), 25.9 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₂) 14.1 (CH₃). MS (*EI*): m/z 276 (M⁺ +23, 40), 207 (24), 163 (55), 149 (43). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₅H₂₇NO₂Na (M⁺ +23): 276.1934; found: 276.1947

(4R, 5S)-4-(2, 2-Dimethoxyethyl)-5-nitrocyclohex-1-ene (5g)

The title compound was obtained in a 60% yield as pale yellow oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 8:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 90:10 of diastereomers following method A. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. The procedure to obtain this product has been scaled up until 300 mg of **4g**, maintaining yield and *dr*. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (90:10 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 5.73-5.55 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 4.75-4.66 (td, *J* = 3.4 and 6.0 Hz, 1H_{minor}), 4.55-4.38 (m, 2H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.30-3.22 (m, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 2.78-2.07 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.99-1.81 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.77-1.57 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.53-1.41 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 125.8 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 101.9 (CH), 87.0 (CH), 53.4 (CH₃), 51.8 (CH₃), 34.8 (CH₂), 33.3 (CH), 30.0 (CH₂), 29.7 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer: δ 125.8 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 102.8 (CH), 83.4 (CH), 53.1 (CH₃), 52.7 (CH₃), 32.5 (CH₂), 32.2 (CH), 28.6 (CH₂), 27.4 (CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 238 (M⁺+23, 81), 153 (29), 137 (61), 105 (100). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₀H₁₇NO₄Na (M⁺+23): 238.1049; found: 238.1055. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC using a Chiralpak IB column [Hexane/¹PrOH = 99:1]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min. *ee* = 94%, τ major = 40.1 and 47.4 min; τ minor = 38.3 and 43.7 min. The *ee* was determined over a 74:26 diastereomers mixture.

(4R, 5S)-5-Nitro-4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-ene (5h)

The title compound was obtained in a 52% yield as colorless oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 10:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 94:6 of diastereomers following method B. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (94:6 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 7.36-7.18 (m, 5H_{major}, 5H_{minor}), 6.02-5.90 (m, 1H_{minor}) 5.88-5.69 (m, 2H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.99-4.82 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.77-3.68 (m, 1H_{minor}) 3.43 (td, *J* = 11.0 and 5.9 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.91-2.26 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) Major diastereomer: δ 139.9 (C), 128.9 (2 CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.4 (2 CH), 126.6 (CH), 122.7

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(CH), 87.4 (CH), 44.2 (CH), 33.2 (CH₂), 31.3 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer could not be assigned due to the small proportion of this diastereomer compared with the major one. MS (*EI*): m/z 226 (M⁺+23, 28), 157 (100), 149 (19), 129 (13). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₂H₁₃NO₂Na (M⁺+23): 226.0838; found: 226.0834

(4R, 5S)-5-Nitro-4-(4-nitro)-phenyl-cyclohex-1-ene (5i)

The title compound was obtained in a 49% yield as colorless oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 8:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 91:9 of diastereomers following method B. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (91:9 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H_{major}), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H_{minor}), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H_{major}) 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H_{minor}), 7.21-7.11 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 6.01-5.94 (m, 1H_{minor}) 5.88-5-73 (m, 2H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 5.07-4.88 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.91-3.81 (m, 1H_{minor}) 3.56 (td, *J* = 11.2 and 6.0 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.92-2.26 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 147.5 (C), 131.0 (C), 128.4 (2CH), 125.9 (CH), 124.2 (2CH), 123.0 (CH), 86.7 (CH), 44.1 (CH), 32.9 (CH₂), 31.1 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer could not be assigned due to the small proportion of this diastereomer compared with the major one. MS (*EI*): m/z 271 (M⁺+23, 13), 202 (16), 169 (18), 149 (61), 113 (16). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₂H₁₂N₂O₄Na (M⁺+23): 271.0689; found: 271.0696

(4R, 5S)-5-Nitro-4-(4-chloro)-phenyl-cyclohex-1-ene (5j)

The title compound was obtained in a 50% yield as colorless oil after flash column chromatography (Hexane 10:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 91:9 of diastereomers following method B. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (91:9 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 7.34-7.24 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 7.21-7.11 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 5.99-5.91 (m, 1H_{minor}) 5.86-5-70 (m, 2H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.99-4.82 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.74 (td, *J* = 6.4 and 4.2 Hz 1H_{minor}) 3.41 (td, *J* = 11.1 and 5.8 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.90-2.23 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 138.5 (C), 132.4 (C), 129.1 (2CH), 128.7 (2CH), 126.3 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 87.3 (CH), 43.8 (CH), 33.1 (CH₂), 31.2 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer could not be assigned due to the small proportion of this diastereomer compared with the major one. MS (*EI*): m/z 191 (M-NO₂⁺, 46), 153 (100), 149 (21), 125 (18). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₂H₁₂Cl (M-NO₂⁺): 191.0622; found: 191.06427 (*4R*, 55)-5-Nitro-4-(4-methoxy)-phenyl-cyclohex-1-ene (5k)

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The title compound was obtained in a 52% yield as colorless oil after Flash column chromatography (Hexane 10:1 EtOAc) as a mixture 85:15 of diastereomers following method B. The diastereomeric ratio (*dr*) was determined by ¹H NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (85:15 Mixture of diastereomers): δ 7.19-7.09 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 6.91-6.80 (m, 2H_{major}, 2H_{minor}), 6.03-5.89 (m, 1H_{minor}) 5.86-5.64 (m, 2H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 4.97-4.80 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}) 3.84-3.70 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}) 3.36 (td, *J* = 11.0 and 5.9 Hz, 1H_{major}), 2.96-2.25 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): Major diastereomer: δ 158.9 (C), 132.0 (C), 129.3 (2CH), 126.7 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 114.2 (2CH), 87.7 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 43.5 (CH), 33.2 (CH₂), 31.2 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer: δ 158.7 (C), 130.0 (C), 129.2 (2CH), 128.8 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 114.0 (2CH), 84.6 (CH), 53.7 (CH₃), 40.1 (CH), 31.9 (CH₂), 31.5 (CH₂). MS (*EI*): m/z 256 (M⁺ +23, 9), 187 (100), 149 (15), 121 (66). HRMS (EI): calculated for C₁₃H₁₅NO₃Na (M⁺ +23): 256.0944; found: 256.0942

General procedure for the reduction of compound 5g

Nitrocyclohexene **5g** (42 mg, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (2 mL), and the flask was charged in open air with Pd/C catalyst (10% w/t, 30 mg). The mixture was stirred for 5 minutes, whereupon the solution was purged with a hydrogen balloon for 10 minutes and was heated at 50 °C under hydrogen atmosphere for 24 h. After this time, the solution was filtered through a short pad of celite washing with MeOH (2 x 10 mL). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford compound **6** (34 mg, yield: 98%) as a colorless oil as a 90:10 mixture of diastereomers. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) (Mixture of diastereomers): δ 4.55-4.41 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 3.31 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 2.40-2.12 (m, 3H_{major}, 3H_{minor}), 2.07 – 1.94 (m, 1H_{major}, 1H_{minor}), 1.92-1.58 (m, 4H_{major}, 4H_{minor}), 1.45-1.07 (m, 6H_{major}, 6H_{minor}), 53.0 (CH₃), 52.1 (CH₃), 41.8 (CH), 36.5 (CH₂), 36.0 (CH₂), 31.6 (CH₂), 25.9 (CH₂), 25.3 (CH₂). Minor diastereomer: δ 103.4 (CH), 52.9 (CH₃), 52.4 (CH₃), 49.8 (CH), 41.7 (CH), 37.0 (CH₂), 36.0 (CH₂), 31.9 (CH₂), 27.1 (CH₂), 24.7 (CH₂). MS (*ESI*): m/z 188 (M⁺+1, 74), 121 (26), 105 (100). HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₁₀H₂₂NO₂ (M⁺+1): 187.1572; found: 187.1581

Acknowledgment

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Supporting Information Available.

Chemical correlation, spectra of compounds **1**, **3g**, **4a-k** and **5a-k** and **6**, as well as chiral SFC-HPLC conditions. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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