

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

for

Synthesis of 6-substituted 6-nitroperhydro-1,4-diazepines *via* novel *tandem* retro-Henry and Mannich/Michael reactions

Jonathan Martinelli, Giuseppe Gugliotta, and Lorenzo Tei*

Dipartimento di Scienze e Innovazione Tecnologica, Università del Piemonte Orientale "A. Avogadro"

Viale T. Michel 11, 15121, Alessandria, Italy

lorenzo.tei@mfn.unipmn.it

Table of contents

1. Materials and Instrumentation.....	S1
2. Experimental Part	S1
3. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR Spectra	S8

1. Materials and Instrumentation

All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co., Alfa Aesar Co. and Bachem Co. and were used without purification unless otherwise stated. "H₂O" refers to high purity water with conductivity of 0.04 μS cm⁻¹, obtained from a "MILLI-Q" purification system. "Petroleum ether" (PetEt) refers to petroleum ether with boiling point in the range 40-60 °C. 6-hydroxymethyl-6-nitroperhydro-1,4-diazepine **1** was synthesized according to the procedure referred to in the text. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on silica plates (silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, Merck 5554) and visualized by UV lamp (254 nm) or stained in KMnO₄ solution. Preparative column chromatography was carried out using silica gel (Merck Silica Gel 60, 230 ± 400 mesh) pre-soaked in the starting eluent. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL Eclipse Plus 400 and on a Bruker AvanceIII spectrometers operating at 9.4 and 11.7 T, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported relative to TMS and were referenced using the residual proton solvent resonances. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm and coupling constants in Hz. Splitting patterns are described as singlet (s), broad singlet (br s), doublet (d), double doublet (dd), triplet (t), quartet (q), or multiplet (m). Electrospray ionization mass spectra (ESI MS) were recorded on a SQD 3100 Mass Detector (Waters), operating in positive or negative ion mode, with 1% v/v HCOOH in methanol as the carrier solvent. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded in the range 4000–400 cm⁻¹ at 4 cm⁻¹ resolution using a Bruker Equinox 55 spectrometer. Elemental analysis were performed on a EuroVector EA 3000 instrument.

2. Experimental Part

Potassium 1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine-6-carbonitrate (**2**)

Hydroxymethyl diazepine **1** (504 mg, 1.42 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (3 ml). *t*-BuOK (191 mg, 1.71 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes. The suspension was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness yielding **2** as a yellow colored wax (499 mg, 97% yield).

ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 324 ([M-K]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3341, 2935, 2814, 1658, 1597, 1565, 1452, 1348, 1167, 1137, 1094, 1053, 1028, 736, 698. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CD₃OD), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.1 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.74 (s, 4H, PhCH₂), 3.69 (s, 4H, CH₂C=N), 2.57 (s, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CD₃OD), δ (ppm): 138.6 (Cⁱ), 128.7 (C^m), 127.8 (C^o), 126.6 (C^p), 121.7 (C=N), 61.7 (CH₂Ph), 55.9 (CH₂C=N), 55.3 (NCH₂CH₂N).

1-Adamantanemethyl acrylate

Acryloyl chloride (0.37 ml, 4.51 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (5 ml) and left stirring on an ice bath. A solution of 1-adamantanemethanol (0.50 g, 3.01 mmol) and dry Et₃N (0.63 ml, 4.51 mmol) in dry THF (5 ml) was added dropwise in 30 min. The mixture was left stirring at room temperature for 15 hours, then it was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was suspended in H₂O (50 ml) and extracted with DCM (4x25 ml). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to yield a yellow oil that was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 95:5). The product was obtained as a white solid in 78% yield (550 mg, 2.35 mmol).

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 95:5): R_f 0.45. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 267 ([M+Na]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 2938, 2860, 1723, 1684, 1638, 1468, 1406, 1370, 1361, 1298, 1054, 1017, 985, 962, 811. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 6.39 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.5 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 17.2 Hz, 1H, CHH^{cis}=CH), 6.13 (dd, ³J_{HH} = 17.2 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 10.3 Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH), 5.80 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.5 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 10.3 Hz, 1H, CHH^{trans}=CH), 3.75 (s, 2H, AdCH₂), 2.0-1.5 (m, 15H, Ad). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 166.6 (C=O), 130.4 (CH₂=CH), 128.8 (CH₂=CH), 74.2 (AdCH₂), 39.3, 37.0, 33.4, 28.1 (Ad). Elemental analysis: calculated C 76.33%, H 9.15%; found C 76.25%, H 9.12%.

N-(1-adamantyl)acrylamide

Acryloyl chloride (5 ml) was dissolved in dry THF (10 ml) and stirred for 10 min on an ice bath. DIPEA (2.78 ml, 15.99 mmol) was added, followed by 1-adamantylamine (1.00 g, 5.33 mmol) portionwise. After addition, the mixture was left stirring at room temperature for 15 hours, then it was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was dissolved in EtOAc (50 ml) and washed with 0.1 M HCl (50 ml) and brine (2x25 ml). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to yield an orange oil that was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 7:3). The product was obtained as a white solid in 55% yield (603 mg, 2.94 mmol).

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 7:3): R_f 0.38. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 228 ([M+Na]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3290, 2933, 2855, 1668, 1624, 1562, 1446, 1409, 1250, 1234, 1098, 974, 710. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 6.50 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.3 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 17.5 Hz, 1H, CHH^{cis}=CH), 6.17 (dd, ³J_{HH} = 17.5 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 11.1 Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH), 6.03 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.51 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.3 Hz, ³J_{HH} = 11.1 Hz, 1H, CHH^{trans}=CH), 2.2-1.0 (m, 15H, Ad). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 164.8 (C=O), 132.2 (CH₂=CH), 125.7 (CH₂=CH), 52.2, 41.5, 36.4, 29.4 (Ad). Elemental analysis: calculated C 76.06%, H 9.33%, N 6.82%; found C 76.01%, H 9.41%, N 6.66%.

General procedure for the synthesis of 6-substituted 1,4-dibenzyl-6-nitroperhydro-1,4-diazepines via tandem retro-Henry and Michael reactions.

Hydroxymethyl diazepine **1** (1 equivalent) was dissolved in dry THF (2 ml/mmol). The acrylic derivative (2 equivalents) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 minutes. *t*-BuOK (1.2 equivalents) was added to the solution, and stirring was continued at room temperature for 3 hours. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was taken up in EtOAc and washed with brine (3x). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness to give the crude product.

6-methoxycarbonyl-ethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (3)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 9:1). Yield (oil): 92%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 9:1): R_f 0.34. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 412 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3026, 2928, 2823, 1721, 1538, 1454, 1357, 1155, 1127, 1054, 952, 837, 738, 697. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.1 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.72 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.60 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.57 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.51 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.96 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.58 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 1.95 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.76 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 172.3 (C=O), 139.0 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.4 (C^o), 127.4 (C^p), 94.0 (CNO₂), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 61.4 (NCH₂CNO₂), 58.8 (NCH₂CH₂N), 51.8 (CH₃), 31.3 (CH₂C=O), 27.7 (CH₂CH₂C=O). Elemental analysis: calculated C 67.13%, H 7.10%, N 10.21%; found C 66.98%, H 7.21%, N 10.18%.

6-(2-methoxycarbonyl)propyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (4)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 9:1). Yield (oil): 92%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 9:1): R_f 0.25. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 426 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3029, 2926, 2824, 1725, 1536, 1452, 1361, 1176, 1124, 1055, 951, 841, 732, 696. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph+Ph'), 3.77 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 1H, PhCH₂H'), 3.76 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 1H, Ph'CH₂H'''), 3.63 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 1H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 3.62 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.58 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 1H, PhCH₂H'), 3.57 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 1H, Ph'CH₂H'''), 3.54 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.9 Hz, 1H, N'CH₂H''''CNO₂), 3.02 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.9 Hz, 1H, N'CH₂H''''CNO₂), 2.96 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 1H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.54 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.33 (m, 2H, CH₂CH), 1.69 (m, 1H, CH), 0.99 (d, ³J_{HH} = 7.0 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 175.9 (C=O), 139.2 (d, Cⁱ), 129.1 (d, C^m), 128.4 (d, C^o), 127.2 (d, C^p), 94.0 (CNO₂), 64.0 (d, CH₂Ph), 62.4 (NCH₂CNO₂), 58.3 (d, NCH₂CH₂N), 51.9 (OCH₃), 40.4 (CH), 34.8 (CH₂CH), 19.2 (CH₃CH). Elemental analysis: calculated C 67.74%, H 7.34%, N 9.87%; found C 67.82%, H 7.29%, N 10.00%.

6-*t*-butoxycarbonyl-ethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (5)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 52%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R_f 0.38. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 454 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3026, 2975, 2927, 2821, 1729, 1536, 1453, 1366, 1150, 1056, 950, 842, 741, 699. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.74 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.59 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.53 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.97 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.61 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 1.95 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.74 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O), 1.42 (s, 9H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 171.1 (C=O), 139.0 (Cⁱ), 129.0 (C^m), 128.2 (C^o), 127.2 (C^p), 93.9 (CNO₂), 80.7 (C_q^{t-Bu}), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 61.8 (NCH₂CNO₂), 58.8 (NCH₂CH₂N), 32.2 (CH₂C=O), 29.7 (CH₂CH₂C=O), 28.6 (CH₃). Elemental analysis: calculated C 68.85%, H 7.78%, N 9.26%; found C 68.78%, H 7.64%, N 9.21%.

6-(1-adamantane)methoxycarbonyl-ethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (6)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 9:1). Yield (oil): 44%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 9:1): R_f 0.41. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 546 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3027, 2924, 2825, 1724, 1534, 1451, 1358, 1164, 1125, 1053, 953, 849, 736, 698. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.72 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.60 (s, 2H, AdCH₂O), 3.58 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.53 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.97 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.61 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.1-1.4 (m, 15H, Ad). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 172.4 (C=O), 140.3 (Cⁱ), 131.0 (C^m), 130.5 (C^o), 129.4 (C^p), 94.9

(CNO₂), 74.2 (CH₂O), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 61.4 (NCH₂CNO₂), 59.0 (NCH₂CH₂N), 39.0, 36.5, 33.0 (Ad). Elemental analysis: calculated C 72.63%, H 7.94%, N 7.70%; found C 72.61%, H 7.79%, N 7.81%.

6-carbamoylethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (7)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, DCM/MeOH 97:3). Yield (oil): 77%.

TLC (DCM/MeOH 97:3): R_f 0.33. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 397 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3415, 3363, 3303, 3199, 2822, 1675, 1634, 1534, 1450, 1409, 1352, 1323, 1122, 1055, 950, 729, 697. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 5.84 (br s, 1H, NHH'), 5.37 (br s, 1H, NHH'), 3.72 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.57 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.51 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.95 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.58 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 1.97 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.62 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 173.6 (C=O), 139.1 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.4 (C^o), 127.4 (C^p), 94.4 (CNO₂), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 61.5 (NCH₂CNO₂), 58.7 (NCH₂CH₂N), 31.8 (CH₂C=O), 29.2 (CH₂CH₂C=O). Elemental analysis: calculated C 66.64%, H 7.12%, N 14.13%; found C 66.74%, H 7.06%, N 14.16%.

6-cyanoethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (8)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 9:1). Yield (oil): 81%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 9:1): R_f 0.37. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 379 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3553, 3119, 3027, 2927, 2820, 1667, 1649, 1539, 1456, 1356, 1288, 1123, 1057, 952, 839, 735, 696. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.73 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.56 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.46 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.87 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.68 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 1.89 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.50 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 138.7 (Cⁱ), 129.3 (C^m), 128.7 (C^o), 127.8 (C^p), 118.2 (C≡N), 93.3 (CNO₂), 63.9 (CH₂Ph), 60.5 (NCH₂CNO₂), 59.3 (NCH₂CH₂N), 31.7 (CH₂C=O), 11.5 (CH₂CH₂C=O). Elemental analysis: calculated C 69.82%, H 6.92%, N 14.80%; found C 69.75%, H 7.07%, N 14.86%.

6-(1-adamantyl)carbamoylethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (9)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 7:3). Yield (oil): 31%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 7:3): R_f 0.64. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 531 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3031, 2926, 2822, 1672, 1614, 1535, 1452, 1439, 1362, 1259, 1127, 1052, 954, 829, 733, 698. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 4.98 (br s, 1H, NH), 3.72 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.59 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCHH'), 3.54 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.98 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCHH'CNO₂), 2.56 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.05, 1.93, 1.66 (m, 15H, Ad), 2.00 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.56 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 169.9 (C=O), 139.1 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.4 (C^o), 127.4 (C^p), 94.7 (CNO₂), 63.9 (CH₂Ph), 61.7 (NCH₂CNO₂), 58.3 (NCH₂CH₂N), 52.0, 41.6, 36.4, 29.5 (Ad), 32.4 (CH₂C=O), 31.0 (CH₂CH₂C=O). Elemental analysis: calculated C 72.42%, H 7.98%, N 10.56%; found C 72.37%, H 7.82%, N 10.64%.

General procedure for the synthesis of 6-substituted 1,4-dibenzyl-6-nitroperhydro-1,4-diazepines via tandem retro-Henry and Mannich reactions.

Hydroxymethyl diazepine **1** (1 equivalent) was dissolved in dry THF (2 ml/mmol). *t*-BuOK (1.2 equivalents), the amine (1.2 equivalents) and paraformaldehyde (1.2 equivalents) were added. The suspension was stirred at 50 °C for 15 hours. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was taken up in EtOAc and washed with brine (3x). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness to give the crude product.

6-*N*-dodecylaminomethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (10)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 68%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R_f 0.40. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 412 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3087, 3063, 3030, 2925, 2853, 1538, 1495, 1455, 1352, 1129, 1066, 1029, 954, 852, 742, 699. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.70 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.59 (d, ²J_{HH} = 12.8 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.47 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 3.00 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.72 (s, 2H, NHCH₂CNO₂), 2.7-2.5 (m, 5H, NCH₂CH₂N + NH), 2.24 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂NH), 1.4-1.1 (m, 20H, CH₃(CH₂)₁₀), 0.88 (t, ³J_{HH} = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 139.3 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.4 (C^o), 127.3 (C^p), 95.3 (CNO₂), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 60.3 (NCH₂CNO₂), 59.1 (NCH₂CH₂N), 54.3 (NHCH₂CNO₂), 50.3 (CH₂CH₂NH), 32-22 ((CH₂)₁₀), 14.2 (CH₃). Elemental analysis: calculated C 73.52%, H 9.64%, N 10.72%; found C 73.56%, H 9.80%, N 10.67%.

6-*N*-(ethoxycarbonylmethyl)aminomethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (11)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 73%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R_f 0.48. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 441 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3025, 2923, 2825, 1728, 1537, 1493, 1451, 1359, 1125, 1064, 1026, 957, 822, 740, 698. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 4.13 (q, ³J_{HH} = 7.0 Hz, 2H, CH₃CH₂), 3.71 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.60 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.2 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.48 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 3.02 (s, 1H, NH), 2.99 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.81 (s, 2H, COCH₂NH), 2.64 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 1.25 (t, ³J_{HH} = 7.0 Hz, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 172.3 (CO), 139.2 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.4 (C^o), 127.4 (C^p), 95.3 (CNO₂), 64.0 (CH₂Ph), 60.8 (CH₃CH₂), 60.2 (NCH₂CNO₂), 59.1 (NCH₂CH₂N), 54.0 (COCH₂NH), 51.3 (NHCH₂CNO₂), 14.3 (CH₃). Elemental analysis: calculated C 65.43%, H 7.32%, N 12.72%; found C 65.39%, H 7.44%, N 12.78%.

6-*N*-(*N'*-(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)aminoethyl)aminomethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (12)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 42%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R_f 0.15. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 498 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3421, 3339, 3026, 2967, 2929, 2820, 1708, 1538, 1496, 1453, 1365, 1257, 1170, 1126, 1063, 1027, 800, 737, 699. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 4.63 (br s, 1H, CONH), 3.72 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.59 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.47 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.96 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.3 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNO₂), 2.94 (t, ³J_{HH} = 5.8 Hz, 2H, CONHCH₂), 2.70 (s, 2H, NHCH₂C), 2.67 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.32 (t, ³J_{HH} = 5.8 Hz, 2H, CONHCH₂CH₂), 1.46 (s, 9H, Bu^t), 1.12, (t, ³J_{HH} = 7.2 Hz, 1H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 156.0 (CO), 139.1 (Cⁱ), 129.2 (C^m), 128.3 (C^o), 127.4 (C^p), 95.0 (CNO₂), 79.1 (C^{t-Bu}), 63.9 (CH₂Ph), 59.7 (NCH₂CNO₂), 59.3 (NCH₂CH₂N), 53.3 (NHCH₂C), 49.3 (CONHCH₂CH₂), 40.0 (CONHCH₂), 28.4 (CH₃). Elemental analysis: calculated C 65.17%, H 7.90%, N 14.07%; found C 65.12%, H 7.98%, N 14.15%.

6-benzylaminomethyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (13)

Method a

Diazepine **13a** was synthesized according to the general procedure described above *via* combined retro-Henry and Mannich reactions, and purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, PetEt/EtOAc 95:5). Yield (oil): 29%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 95:5): R_f 0.21. ESI⁺ MS, m/z: 445 ([M+H]⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3086, 3062, 3028, 2924, 2880, 2825, 1679, 1537, 1495, 1453, 1353, 1125, 1065, 1028, 956, 920, 851, 742, 699. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ

(ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.81 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.1$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.59 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.1$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.53 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 14.2$ Hz, 2H, NCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 3.49 (s, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{NH}$), 3.03 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 14.2$ Hz, 2H, NCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 2.78 (s, 2H, NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 2.64 (m, 4H, NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl $_3$), δ (ppm): 139.9 (C i -NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 139.1 (C i -NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 129.1 (C m -NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 128.32 (C m -NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 128.31 (C o -NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 128.0 (C o -NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 127.3 (C p -NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 127.0 (C p -NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 95.3 (CNO $_2$), 63.9 (NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 60.2 (NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 59.0 (NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$), 53.8 (NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 53.2 (NHCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{C}$). Elemental analysis: calculated C 72.94%, H 7.26%, N 12.60%; found C 72.92%, H 7.21%, N 12.62%.

Method b

Hydroxymethyl diazepine **1** (264 mg, 0.74 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (3 ml). Benzylamine (0.32 ml, 2.96 mmol) was added, followed by paraformaldehyde (27 mg, 0.89 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 15 hours. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO $_2$, PetEt/EtOAc 95:5). Yield (oil): 16%.

See above for characterization.

Method c

Hydroxymethyl diazepine **1** (284 mg, 0.80 mmol) was dissolved in benzylamine (3 ml). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 15 hours. After removal of most benzylamine under high vacuum overnight, the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO $_2$, PetEt/EtOAc 95:5). Yield (oil): 27%.

See above for characterization.

6-(1-piperidyl)methyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (14)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO $_2$, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 73%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R $_f$ 0.41. ESI $^+$ MS, m/z: 423 ([M+H] $^+$). IR (KBr disk), cm $^{-1}$: 3029, 2933, 2926, 2823, 2806, 1534, 1494, 1454, 1443, 1360, 1318, 1147, 1128, 1066, 1025, 957, 860, 853, 741, 697. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl $_3$), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.76 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.4$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.64 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.4$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.54 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 14.3$ Hz, 2H, N $_{\text{Diaz}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 3.06 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 14.3$ Hz, 2H, N $_{\text{Diaz}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 2.65 (s, 2H, N $_{\text{Pi}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 2.53 (m, 4H, NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$), 2.22 (m, 4H, CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$), 1.44 (m, 4H, CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$), 1.32 (m, 2H, CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl $_3$), δ (ppm): 139.4 (C i), 129.0 (C m), 128.4 (C o), 127.3 (C p), 95.3 (CNO $_2$), 64.2 (N $_{\text{Pi}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 64.1 (CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{Ph}$), 61.2 (N $_{\text{Diaz}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 58.4 (NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$), 56.2 (CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$), 26.3 (CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$), 24.0 (CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}_{\text{Pi}}$). Elemental analysis: calculated C 71.06%, H 8.11%, N 13.26%; found C 71.14%, H 8.22%, N 13.31%.

6-(4-morpholino)methyl-6-nitro-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (15)

Purified by column chromatography (SiO $_2$, PetEt/EtOAc 8:2). Yield (oil): 71%.

TLC (PetEt/EtOAc 8:2): R $_f$ 0.37. ESI $^+$ MS, m/z: 425 ([M+H] $^+$). IR (KBr disk), cm $^{-1}$: 3027, 2949, 2927, 2851, 2822, 1534, 1494, 1463, 1455, 1361, 1318, 1142, 1128, 1097, 1027, 955, 851, 835, 743, 698. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl $_3$), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.75 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.4$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.61 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.4$ Hz, 2H, PhCH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'$), 3.52 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.9$ Hz, 2H, N $_{\text{Diaz}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 3.50 (t, J = 4.6 Hz, 4H, OCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$), 3.03 (d, $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 13.9$ Hz, 2H, N $_{\text{Diaz}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}\text{H}'\text{CNO}_2$), 2.61 (s, 2H, N $_{\text{Mor}}$ CH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CNO}_2$), 2.57 (m, 4H, NCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$), 2.18 (t, J = 4.6 Hz, 4H, OCH $\underline{\text{H}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl $_3$), δ (ppm): 139.3 (C i), 129.1 (C m), 128.4 (C o), 127.3 (C p), 94.8 (CNO $_2$), 67.1

(OCH₂CH₂N), 64.2 (CH₂Ph), 63.6 (N_{Mor}CH₂CNO₂), 60.9 (N_{Diaz}CH₂CNO₂), 54.9 (OCH₂CH₂N). Elemental analysis: calculated C 67.90%, H 7.60%, N 13.20%; found C 67.67%, H 7.67%, N 13.26%.

6-amino-6-*t*-butoxycarbonylethyl-1,4-dibenzylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (16)

Nitrodiazepine **5** (104 mg, 0.23 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH (5 ml). Nickel-Raney (21 mg in 1 ml H₂O) was added and the suspension was stirred at room temperature for 15 hours. After filtration through Celite, the residue was dried under vacuum, suspended in Et₂O (2 ml) and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, leading to the desired product as a yellow colored wax (42 mg) that was characterized without further purification.

ESI⁺ MS, *m/z*: 423 (M⁺). IR (KBr disk), cm⁻¹: 3445, 3277, 2978, 2934, 2891, 1727, 1575, 1454, 1415, 1393, 1367, 1257, 1152, 1027, 848, 758, 704. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.4-7.2 (m, 10H, Ph), 3.69 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.59 (d, ²J_{HH} = 13.0 Hz, 2H, PhCH₂H'), 3.38 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.1 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNH₂), 2.71 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.1 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNH₂), 2.35 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.24 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 1.54 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.44 (s, 9H, CH₃), 1.27 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 172.8 (C=O), 139.7 (Cⁱ), 129.1 (C^m), 128.2 (C^o), 127.1 (C^p), 80.2 (C_q^{t-Bu}), 64.5 (NCH₂CH₂N), 60.4 (CH₂Ph), 59.2 (NCH₂CH₂N), 43.2 (CNH₂), 30.4 (CH₃), 21.2 (CH₂C=O), 17.1 (CH₂CH₂C=O).

6-amino-6-*t*-butoxycarbonylethylperhydro-1,4-diazepine (17)

Nitrodiazepine **5** (206 mg, 0.45 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (30 ml), in a flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer and connected to a H₂ cylinder. 10 w% Pd/C (21 mg) and AcOH (78 μl, 1.35 mmol) were added, and the flask underwent 3 times a vacuum-H₂ cycle. The suspension was stirred (2000 rpm) at room temperature for 4 hours. After filtration through Celite, the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure, leading to the desired crude product as a yellow colored wax (78 mg) that was characterized without further purification.

ESI⁺ MS, *m/z*: 244 ([M+H]⁺). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 25 °C, CD₃OD), δ (ppm): 3.0-2.8 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂N), 2.92 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.2 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNH₂), 2.77 (d, ²J_{HH} = 14.1 Hz, 2H, NCH₂H'CNH₂), 1.69 (m, 2H, CH₂C=O), 1.55 (s, 9H, CH₃), 1.39 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂C=O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 25 °C, CD₃OD), δ (ppm): 173.1 (C=O), 81.4 (C_q^{t-Bu}), 54-47 (NCH₂CH₂N + NCH₂CH₂N), 49.6 (CNH₂), 32.1 (CH₃), 23.9 (CH₂C=O), 21.9 (CH₂CH₂C=O).

3. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra



























































