Supporting Information

Synthesis and Structural Analysis of a New Class of Azaspiro[3.3]heptanes as Building Blocks for Medicinal Chemistry

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GENERAL INFORMATION

All non-aqueous reactions were carried out using oven-dried (90 °C) or heat gun dried glassware under a positive pressure of dry argon unless otherwise noted. CH_2Cl_2 , THF, Et_2O , CH_3CN , and toluene were purified by distillation and dried by passage over activated alumina under an argon atmosphere (H_2O content < 30 ppm, *Karl–Fischer* titration). Triethylamine was distilled from KOH under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen. All other commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Except if indicated otherwise, reactions were magnetically stirred and monitored by thin layer chromatography using Merck Silica Gel 60 F254 plates and visualized by fluorescence quenching under UV light. In addition, TLC plates were stained using ceric ammonium molybdate, potassium permanganate, ninhydrin or Dragendorff's stain. Chromatographic purification of products (flash chromatography) was performed on Brunschwig silica 32-63, 60 Å using a forced flow of eluent at 0.3-0.5 bar. Concentration under reduced pressure was performed by rotary evaporation at 40 °C at the appropriate pressure. Purified compounds were further dried under high vacuum. Yields refer to chromatographically purified and spectroscopically pure compounds, unless otherwise stated.

Melting points: measured on a Büchi SMP-20 or Büchi B-540 apparatus. All melting points were measured in open capillaries and are uncorrected.

NMR spectra: NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 300 spectrometer operating at 300 MHz and 75 MHz for ¹H and ¹³C acquisitions, respectively, or on Bruker DRX400 (or AV400) spectrometers operating at 400 MHz (¹H) and 101 MHz (¹³C). Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm with the solvent resonance as the internal standard relative to chloroform (δ 7.26) or water (δ 4.79) for ¹H, and chloroform (δ 77.0) for ¹³C. All ¹³C spectra were measured with complete proton decoupling. Data are reported as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad signal; coupling constants in Hz.

IR spectra: recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum RX-I FT-IR (as thin film), PerkinElmer Spectrum BX FT-IR (neat) or Varian 800 FT-IR (neat) spectrometer. Absorptions are given in wavenumbers (cm⁻¹).

Mass spectra: recorded by the MS service at ETH Zürich. EI-MS (m/z): VG-TRIBRID spectrometer. ESI-MS (m/z): Varian IonSpec spectrometer. MALDI-MS (m/z): IonSpec Ultima Fourier Transform Mass Spectrometer.

Chemical names: generated with ChemBioDraw Ultra 11.0 (CambridgeSoft) and modified where appropriate.

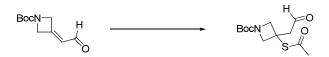
EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES



tert-Butyl 3-(2-oxoethylidene)azetidine-1-carboxylate (2). To a solution of *tert*-butyl 3-oxoazetidine-1-carboxylate (680 mg, 3.97 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (14.6 ml) was added at RT (formylmethylene)triphenyl-phosphorane (1370 mg, 4.37 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 5 h, when it was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 2:1) to afford the pure title compound.

Yield: 735 mg (3.73 mmol, 94%). Colorless oil.

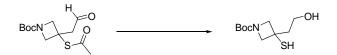
TLC: $R_f = 0.35$ (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1; UV, KMnO₄); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 9.60$ (d, J=6.4, 1H), 6.13-5.95 (m, 1H), 5.00-4.84 (m, 2H), 4.80-4.61 (m, 2H), 1.47 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 188.7$, 157.0, 156.0, 122.5, 80.5, 58.8 (br), 28.3; **IR** (thin film): 2978, 2932, 1697, 1391, 1367, 1155, 1119, 914, 744 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₀H₁₅NNaO₃ ([M+Na]⁺), 220.0944; found 220.0939.



tert-Butyl 3-(acetylthio)-3-(2-oxoethyl)azetidine-1-carboxylate (S-1). To a solution of α,β -unsaturated aldehyde 2 (57 mg, 0.29 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (0.2 ml) was added piperidine (2 µl, 0.02 mmol, 0.07 equiv), when the solution turned slightly yellow. Thioacetic acid (31 µl, 0.43 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added and the mixture was stirred at RT for 6 h. At this point, the mixture was directly purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 2:1) to afford the title compound.

Yield: 66 mg (0.24 mmol, 84%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.32$ (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1; UV, CAM); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 9.67$ (t, *J*=0.8, 1H), 4.06 (q, *J*=10.0, 4H), 3.29 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 198.4$, 195.3, 155.8, 80.1, 61.2 (br), 50.8, 41.4, 30.6, 28.3; **IR** (thin film): 2977, 2887, 1698, 1393, 1367, 1151, 1124, 1087, 633 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₂₃N₂O₄S ([M+NH₄]⁺), 291.1373; found 291.1373.



tert-Butyl 3-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3-mercaptoazetidine-1-carboxylate (3). To a solution of aldehyde S-1 (73 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in Et₂O (4 ml) was added dropwise LiAlH₄ (4 M in Et₂O; 73 μ l, 0.29 mmol, 1.15 equiv), upon which the mixture immediately turned to a colorless suspension. The mixture was stirred at RT for 25 min, then it was diluted with Et₂O (10 ml) and quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 ml). The organic phase was diluted with EtOAc (20 ml) and to the aqueous phase was added a saturated aqueous solution of Rochelle's salt (5 ml), and the phases were separated. The aqueous phase was saturated with NaCl and

extracted with EtOAc (10 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the pure title compound.

Yield: 59 mg (0.25 mmol, quantitative). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.16$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:1; KMnO₄); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.08$ (d, *J*=8.6, 2H), 3.92 (d, *J*=8.6, 2H), 3.86 (t, *J*=6.2, 2H), 2.22 (s, 1H), 2.10 (t, *J*=6.2, 2H), 2.11-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 156.2$, 79.9, 64.9 (br), 59.7, 43.2, 40.7, 28.3; **IR** (thin film): 3416, 2977, 2880, 2543, 1685, 1478, 1416, 1367, 1255, 1155, 914, 744 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₁₀H₂₀NO₃S ([M+H]⁺), 234.1158; found 234.1155.



tert-Butyl 1-thia-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptane-6-carboxylate (S-2). To a solution of diethoxytriphenylphosphorane¹ (59 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in toluene (1 ml) was added at -30 °C a solution of the alcohol 3 (20 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in toluene (1 ml), and the mixture was stirred at -30 °C for 1 h, then it was allowed to slowly warm to RT overnight. After stirring for 13 h, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc (20 ml) and quenched with saturated aqueous NaCl (15 ml). The phases were separated and the organic phase was dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 5:1).

Yield: 11 mg (0.05 mmol, 60%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.42$ (hexanes : EtOAc 3:1; KMnO₄); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.20-4.01$ (m, 4H), 3.21-2.96 (m, 4H), 1.51-1.32 (m, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 155.9$, 79.7, 65.3 (br), 44.4, 39.7, 28.3, 19.3; **IR** (thin film): 3005, 2857, 1702, 1392, 1366, 1172, 913, 773, 744 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₀H₁₀NO₂S ([M+H]⁺), 216.1053; found 216.1049.



tert-Butyl 1,1-dioxo-1-thia-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptane-6-carboxylate (4). To a solution of thioether S-2 (30 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 ml) was added at 0 °C *m*-CPBA (77%; 66 mg, 0.29 mmol, 2.1 equiv), and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min, when it was allowed to warm to RT, and stirring was continued for 3.5 h. It was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 ml) and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (15 ml) was added. The phases were separated, and the organic phase was dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure sulfone was obtained after FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 2:3).

Yield: 33 mg (0.13 mmol, 96%). Colorless solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.24$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:1; ninhydrin); **Melting Point:** 143-144 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4H), 2.49-2.26 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.55$ (dd, J=10.3, 1.3, 2H), 4.15-3.91 (m, 4.15-3.91 (m, 4.15-3.91) (m, 4.15-3.91) (m, 4.15-3.91 (m, 4.15-3.91) (m, 4.15-3.

Prepared from PPh₃, Br₂, then NaOEt; slightly lower yields were obtained when a toluene solution of PPh₃(OEt)₂, generated from PPh₃ and diethyl peroxide, was used. References: (a) Robinson, P. L.; Kelly, J. W.; Evans, S. A. *Phosphorus Sulfur* **1987**, *31*, 59-70. (b) Robinson, P. L.; Barry, C. N.; Kelly, J. W.; Evans, S. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1985**, *107*, 5210-5219.

= 155.6, 80.6, 75.6, 62.5, 55.5 (br), 28.2, 19.6; **IR** (thin film): 2975, 2877, 1701, 1387, 1316, 1201, 1166, 1146, 783 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for $C_{10}H_{18}NO_4S$ ([M+H]⁺), 248.0951; found 248.0948.



Ethyl 2-(1-tosylazetidin-3-ylidene)acetate (7). To a solution of *N*-tosylazetidin-3-one² (9.45 g, 41.95 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (900 ml) was added at 0 °C (carbethoxymethylene)triphenylphosphorane (16.08 g, 46.16 mmol, 1.1 equiv). The mixture was allowed to warm to RT and after stirring for 15 min filtered through silica gel (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1) to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 11.42 g (38.7 mmol, 92%). Colorless crystalline solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.36$ (hexanes : EtOAc 7:3; UV, KMnO₄); **Melting Point:** 114-115 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.76$ (d, *J*=8.2, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J*=8.2, 2H), 5.68 (p, *J*=2.4, 1H), 4.73 (dd, *J*=5.7, 2.4, 2H), 4.54-4.47 (m, 2H), 4.13 (q, *J*=7.1, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, *J*=7.1, 3H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 164.8$, 149.3, 144.5, 131.7, 129.9, 128.4, 114.6, 61.4, 60.5, 59.0, 21.6, 14.2; **IR** (neat): 2992, 2908, 1714, 1688, 1598, 1427, 1373, 1339, 1254, 1217, 1161, 1104, 1027, 918, 815, 710, 671 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₄H₁₈NO₄S ([M+H]⁺), 296.0951; found 296.0946.



1-Benzyl-6-tosyl-1,6-diazaspiro[3.3]heptane (16). To a solution of ethyl 2-(1-tosylazetidin-3-ylidene)acetate (7) (10.5 g, 35.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (70 ml) was added benzylamine (4.66 ml, 42.7 mmol, 1.2 equiv). The resulting mixture was heated at 60 °C under argon atmosphere for 24 h. TLC-analysis of the reaction mixture indicated some unreacted starting material, therefore was added benzylamine (0.78 ml, 7.11 mmol, 0.2 equiv), and it was heated to reflux for 24 h to assure complete conversion. Dry Et₂O (450 ml) was then added to the reaction mixture left to stir for a further 2 h. At this point the reaction was carefully quenched with H₂O (6 ml), aqueous NaOH (15%; 6 ml), and H₂O (18 ml). The formed precipitate was filtered, and the filter cake was thoroughly washed with EtOAc and Et₂O. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and filtered through silica gel (CH₂Cl₂ : MeOH 96:4) to give the crude alcohol **11** (11.92 g).

To a solution of the alcohol **11** (11.92 g, 33.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry CH₃CN (550 ml) was added triphenylphosphine (13.0 g, 49.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), carbon tetrabromide (16.45 g, 49.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), followed by distilled triethylamine (9.3 ml, 66.1 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The mixture was stirred at RT for 60 h, and then at 80 °C for 1 h. Brine (500 ml) and Et₂O (500 ml) were added, the phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (3×500 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 7:3).

Yield: 7.75 g (22.6 mmol, 64% over the three steps). Colorless crystalline solid.

 ^{(2) (}a) Katritzky, A. R.; Cundy, D. J.; Chen J. J. Heterocycl. Chem. 1994, 34, 271-275. (b) Axenrod, T.; Watnick, C.; Yazdekhasti, H. J. Org. Chem. 1995, 60, 1959-1964. (c) Singh, A.; Sikder, N.; Sikder, A. K. Indian. J. Chem. 2005, 44B, 2560-2563.

TLC: $R_f = 0.61$ (hexane : EtOAc 1:1; UV, Dragendorff's reagent); **Melting Point:** 100-101 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.72$ (d, J=8.0, 2H), 7.35 (d, J=8.0, 2H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.16-7.08 (m, 2H), 3.97 (d, J=9.7, 1H), 3.80 (d, J=9.7, 1H), 3.25 (s, 1H), 3.00 (t, J=6.8, 1H), 2.42 (s, 1H), 2.21 (t, J=6.8, 1H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 144.1, 137.4, 131.3, 129.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.1, 63.6, 60.0, 55.5, 49.8, 30.0, 21.6.;$ **IR**(neat): 2936, 2833, 1598, 1496, 1449, 1339, 1161, 1089, 1044, 819, 709, 674 cm⁻¹;**HRMS** $(ESI): exact mass calculated for <math>C_{19}H_{23}N_2O_2S$ ($[M+H]^+$), 343.1475; found 343.1477.



3,3-Dimethoxythietane (S-3). To a solution of 1,3-dibromo-2,2-dimethoxypropane (10.2 g, 38.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DMF (120 ml) was added sodium sulfide (about trihydrate; 6.68 g, *ca.* 50.6 mmol, *ca.* 1.3 equiv), and the mixture was heated to 130 °C and stirred for 24 h (shortly after heating started, the mixture turned darkbrown to black). Then it was cooled to RT and Et₂O (200 ml) was added, upon which a colorless precipitate formed, which was filtered. The filtrate was washed with H₂O (150 ml). The Et₂O-phase was washed with H₂O (2×100 ml), brine (50 ml), then dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give product as yellowish oil (3.54 g). The H₂O/DMF phase from the first washing was extracted with Et₂O (150 ml). The organic phase was washed with H₂O (2×80 ml) and brine (50 ml), dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give product as yellowish oil (0.37 g). The title compound was obtained in good purity, requiring no further purification.

Yield: 3.91 g (29.1 mmol, 75%). Slightly yellowish and low viscous oil.

¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 3.34-3.31 (m, 4H), 3.18-3.15 (m, 6H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 102.3, 48.0, 47.9, 37.1; **IR** (thin film): 2949, 2831, 1437, 1253, 1192, 1114, 1040, 964 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₅H₁₀O₂S (M⁺), 134.0396; found 134.0397.



Thietan-3-one (6). To a solution of 3,3-dimethoxythietane **S-3** (10.6 g, 79.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (590 ml) was added montmorillonite K10 clay (46.7 g), and the mixture was heated to 55 °C and stirred for 3 h. It was cooled to RT, and the solids were filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude title compound as a light yellow solid. The pure title compound was obtained after recrystallization from pentane. *Important: The title compound sublimes readily under reduced pressure, therefore it is recommended to minimize drying under vacuum.*

Yield: 5.15 g (58.5 mmol, 74%). Slightly yellowish crystals.

Melting Point: 63-64 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.30$ (s, 4H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 194.7$, 55.2; **IR** (thin film): 1761, 1220, 773 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₃H₄OS (M⁺), 87.9978; found 87.9977.



Ethyl 2-(thietan-3-ylidene)acetate (8). To a solution of thietan-3-one (6) (1.00 g, 11.35 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (50 ml) was added at RT in portions (carbethoxymethylene)triphenylphosphorane (4.35 g, 12.48 mmol),

and the mixture was stirred at RT for 21.5 h, when it was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 8:1) to afford the pure title compound.

Yield: 1.71 g (10.81 mmol, 95%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.60$ (hexanes : EtOAc 3:1; UV, CAM); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 5.48$ (quint, J=2.5, 1H), 4.35 (dd, J=5.6, 2.5, 2H), 4.14 (quart, J=7.1, 2H), 4.03-3.94 (m, 2H), 1.26 (t, J=7.1, 3H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 165.3$, 159.0, 114.7, 60.0, 37.9, 35.4, 14.2; **IR** (thin film): 2984, 2925, 1713, 1669, 1337, 1216, 1162, 1108, 1036, 773 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₇H₁₀O₂S (M⁺), 158.0396; found 158.0398.

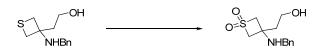


2-(3-(Benzylamino)thietan-3-yl)ethanol (12). Ethyl 2-(thietan-3-ylidene)acetate **8** (438 mg, 2.77 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzylamine (317 μ l, 2.91 mmol, 1.05 equiv) were mixed, and the oil was stirred at RT for 2 d. ¹H-NMR analysis of an aliquot of the reaction mixture showed incomplete conversion, therefore the oil was dissolved in THF (2 ml) and the solution was heated to 60 °C for 1 d. This mixture was directly purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 7:1) to afford pure ethyl 2-(3-(benzylamino)thietan-3-yl)acetate (524 mg, 1.98 mmol; 71% yield), which was directly used for the next step.

To a solution of ethyl 2-(3-(benzylamino)thietan-3-yl)acetate (524 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in Et₂O (25 ml), cooled to 0 °C, was added LiAlH₄ (4 M in Et₂O; 1.98 ml, 7.90 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. At this point, the reaction was quenched by careful addition of H₂O (0.5 ml), aqueous NaOH (15%; 0.5 ml), and H₂O (1.5 ml). The resulting colorless suspension was thoroughly stirred at RT for 10 min, when the solids were filtered off and the filter cake was thoroughly washed with Et₂O. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to yield the pure title compound.

Yield: 400 mg (1.79 mmol, 91%; 67% over the 2 steps). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.18$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:1; UV, CAM); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.47-7.15$ (m, 5H), 3.95-3.83 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 3.33 (d, *J*=10.2, 2H), 3.10 (d, *J*=10.2, 2H), 2.27-2.10 (m, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 138.7$, 128.5, 128.0, 127.2, 64.3, 58.8, 45.9, 37.1, 36.5; **IR** (thin film): 3290, 2399, 2849, 1453, 1175, 1088, 1055, 913, 744 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₈NOS ([M+H]⁺), 224.1104; found 224.1099.

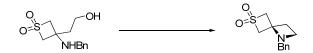


2-(3-(Benzylamino)(*S*,*S*-dioxo-thietan)-3-yl)ethanol (S-4). To a solution of thioether 12 (32 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 ml), cooled to 0 °C, was added titanium(IV)isopropoxide (42 μ l, 0.14 mmol, 1.0 equiv) followed by hydrogen peroxide (30%; 58 μ l, 0.56 mmol, 4 equiv), and the solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. The ice-bath was removed and stirring was continued at RT for 1 h. The mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) and quenched by addition of H₂O (10 ml). The mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) and quenched by addition of H₂O (10 ml). The mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 10 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford a colorless oil, which represented almost pure title compound that can be used for further transformations without purification.

Yield: 34 mg (0.13 mmol, 94%). Colorless oil.

An analytically pure sample can be obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc $1:2 \rightarrow 0:1$ gradient).

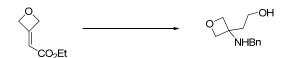
TLC: $R_f = 0.23$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:2; UV, ninhydrin); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.46-7.23$ (m, 5H), 4.08 (s, 4H), 3.85 (t, *J*=5.5, 2H), 3.74 (s, 2H), 2.16 (t, *J*=5.5, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 137.7$, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 72.9, 59.7, 48.2, 47.9, 37.7; **IR** (thin film): 3528, 3322, 3028, 2949, 2876, 1454, 1392, 1311, 1202, 1106, 1074, 742 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₈NO₃S ([M+H]⁺), 256.1002; found 256.1002.



1-Benzyl-6,6-dioxo-6-thia-1-azaspiro[3.3]heptane (17). To a solution of alcohol **S-4** (63 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (5 ml) was added triphenylphosphine (97 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and carbon tetrabromide (123 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and the mixture was stirred at RT for 1.5 h. H₂O (1 ml) was added followed by potassium carbonate (68 mg, 0.49 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and the colorless mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 18 h. The mixture was cooled to RT and concentrated to $^{1}/_{4}$ of the initial volume. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc (20 ml) and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 ml), and the phases were separated. The organic phase was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (5 ml), then dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 3:2).

Yield: 44 mg (0.19 mmol, 75%). Colorless crystalline solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.16$ (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1; UV, ninhydrin); **Melting Point:** 86-88 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.43-7.19$ (m, 5H), 4.53-4.32 (m, 2H), 4.21-3.99 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.16 (t, *J*=6.8, 2H), 2.47 (t, *J*=6.8, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 136.3$, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 71.8, 55.8, 55.5, 50.1, 32.0; **IR** (thin film): 2950, 2833, 1389, 1316, 1219, 1189, 1086, 772 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₆NO₂S ([M+H]⁺), 238.0896; found 238.0895.



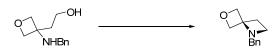
2-(3-(Benzylamino)oxetan-3-yl)ethanol (13). To ethyl 2-(oxetan-3-ylidene)acetate³ (1.47 g, 10.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added benzylamine (1.19 ml, 10.9 mmol, 1.05 equiv), and the now slightly yellowish liquid was stirred at RT for 20 h, then it was heated to 40 °C for 30 min to assure complete conversion. The oil was now dissolved in Et₂O (80 ml) and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. LiAlH₄ (4 M in Et₂O; 10.34 ml, 41.4 mmol, 4.0 equiv) was dropwise added, when after $\frac{4}{5}$ of the addition a yellowish precipitate formed. The addition was completed, THF (20 ml) was added to redissolve the precipitate. The slightly yellowish suspension was further stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. At this point the reaction was carefully quenched with H₂O (1.57 ml), aqueous NaOH (15%; 1.57 ml), and H₂O (3 × 1.57 ml). The resulting mixture was thoroughly stirred at RT for 10 min, when the precipitate was filtered, and the filter cake was thoroughly washed with EtOAc and Et₂O. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; CH₂Cl₂ : MeOH 95:5).

Yield: 1.60 g (7.72 mmol, 75%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.14$ (CH₂Cl₂ : MeOH 96:5; UV, CAM); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.48-7.11$ (m, 5H), 4.55 (d, *J*=6.8, 2H), 4.48 (d, *J*=6.8, 2H), 3.89-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 3.21 (br s, 2H), 2.23-2.03 (m, 2H); ¹³C-

⁽³⁾ Wuitschik, G.; Rogers-Evans, M.; Müller, K.; Fischer, H.; Wagner, B.; Schuler, F.; Polonchuk, L.; Carreira, E. M. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2006, 45, 7736-7739.

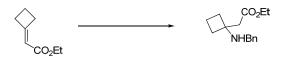
NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 138.8, 128.5, 128.0, 127.3, 81.2, 60.9, 59.3, 47.1, 35.2; **IR** (thin film): 3396, 3305, 2941, 2870, 1454, 1052, 974, 913, 744, 701 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₈NO₂ ([M+H]⁺), 208.1332; found 208.1332.



1-Benzyl-6-oxa-1-azaspiro[3.3]heptane (18). To a solution of alcohol **13** (116 mg, 0.560 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (6 ml) was added at RT triphenylphosphine (220 mg, 0.839 mmol, 1.5 equiv) followed by carbon tetrabromide (278 mg, 0.839 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and the colorless solution was stirred at RT for 2 h. H₂O (1.2 ml) was added followed by potassium carbonate (155 mg, 1.12 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The solution was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 3.75 h, when it was concentrated to $^{1}/_{4}$ of the initial volume. The residue was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml) and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 ml). The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 × 8 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 3:2) to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 87 mg (0.46 mmol, 82%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.19$ (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1; UV, ninhydrin); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.44-7.16$ (m, 5H), 5.00 (dd, J=7.5, 0.7, 2H), 4.64 (dd, J=7.5, 0.7, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.06 (t, J=6.8, 2H), 2.38 (t, J=6.8, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 137.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.1, 81.4, 69.2, 56.3, 49.8, 29.4$; **IR** (thin film): 2944, 2861, 1495, 1453, 1362, 1215, 1120, 974, 913, 746, 696 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₆NO ([M+H]⁺), 190.1226; found 190.1227.



Ethyl 2-(1-(benzylamino)cyclobutyl)acetate (S-5). A mixture of ethyl 2-cyclobutylideneacetate⁴ (162 mg, 1.16 mmol) and benzylamine (253 μ l, 2.32 mmol) was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 2 d. At this point the oil was purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 4:1) to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 203 mg (0.82 mmol, 71%). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.17$ (hexanes : EtOAc 5:1; UV, ninhydrin); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.48-7.10$ (m, 5H), 4.15 (q, *J*=7.1, 2H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 2.72 (s, 2H), 2.20-1.67 (m, 7H), 1.26 (t, *J*=7.1, 3H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 171.8$, 141.0, 128.3, 128.2, 126.7, 60.1, 58.7, 46.8, 41.5, 32.4, 14.3, 13.8; **IR** (thin film): 3028, 2981, 2936, 1729, 1454, 1368, 1245, 1193, 1114, 1029, 699 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₅H₂₂NO₂ ([M+H]⁺), 248.1645; found 248.1643.



1-Benzyl-1-azaspiro[3.3]heptane (19). To a solution of ethyl ester **S-5** (173 mg, 0.70 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in Et₂O (8 ml), cooled to 0 °C, was added LiAlH₄ (4 M in Et₂O; 0.70 ml, 2.80 mmol, 4.0 equiv), and the reaction mixture

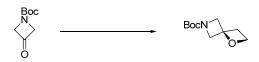
⁽⁴⁾ Afzal, M.; Walton, J. C. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2 1999, 937-945.

was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. The reaction was quenched by addition of H_2O (0.11 ml), aqueous NaOH (15%; 0.11 ml), and H_2O (0.33 ml). The resulting colorless suspension was thoroughly stirred at RT for 15 min, when the solids were filtered off and the filter cake was thoroughly washed with Et_2O . The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to give the pure alcohol **14** (140 mg, 0.68 mmol; 97%), which was directly used for next step without purification.

To a solution of the alcohol **14** (140 mg, 0.68 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₃CN (10 ml) was added triphenylphosphine (268 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and carbon tetrabromide (339 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and the mixture was stirred at RT for 1.5 h. H₂O (2 ml) was added followed by potassium carbonate (188 mg, 1.36 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and the colorless mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 16.5 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to RT and concentrated to $^{1}/_{4}$ of the initial volume. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc (20 ml) and aqueous HCl (1 M; 20 ml) and the phases were separated. To the aqueous phase was added EtOAc (30 ml) and the aqueous layer was basified with aqueous KOH (6 M) until the pH was basic. The phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (10 ml). The combined organic phases from the basic extraction were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; CH₂Cl₂ : MeOH 95:5).

Yield: 95 mg (0.51 mmol, 74%; 72% over the two steps). Colorless oil.

TLC: $R_f = 0.09$ (CH2Cl2 : MeOH 95:5; UV, ninhydrin); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.48-7.11$ (m, 5H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 3.12 (t, *J*=6.9, 2H), 2.43-2.21 (m, 2H), 2.22 (t, *J*=6.9, 2H), 2.09-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.49 (m, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 138.0$, 128.8, 128.3, 126.9, 69.6, 56.1, 49.6, 32.4, 31.5, 13.4; **IR** (thin film): 3027, 2977, 2955, 2823, 1454, 1360, 1273, 1114, 725, 697 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₃H₁₈N ([M+H]⁺), 188.1434; found 188.1435.



tert-Butyl 1-oxa-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptane-6-carboxylate (20). To a suspension of trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (0.643 g, 2.92 mmol, 2.5 equiv) in dry *tert*-BuOH (12 ml) was added at 50 °C potassium *tert*-butoxide (0.328 g, 2.92 mmol, 2.5 equiv), upon which the mixture turned to a cloudy suspension. The mixture was stirred at that temperature for 1.5 h, then was added *tert*-butyl 3-oxoazetidine-1-carboxylate (0.200 g, 1.17 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The suspension was stirred at 50 °C for 48 h. It was cooled to RT and the mixture was partitioned between saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (30 ml) and EtOAc (50 ml). The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (50 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 2:1 \rightarrow 0:1 gradient).

Yield: 95 mg (0.48 mmol, 41%). Colorless oil.

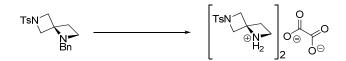
TLC: $R_f = 0.23$ (hexanes : EtOAc 2:1; ninhydrin); ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 4.49$ (t, J=7.5, 2H), 4.07 (q, J=10.9, 4H), 2.80 (t, J=7.5, 2H), 1.40 (s, 9H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 156.0$, 82.5, 79.5, 66.2, 63.8 (br), 31.7, 28.2; **IR** (thin film): 2976, 2893, 1705, 1400, 1366, 1171, 1095, 978, 772 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI): exact mass calculated for C₆H₉NO₃ ([M-C₄H₈]⁺), 143.0577; found 143.0578.



1-(Benzyl-1-aza-6-azoniaspiro[3.3]heptane) oxalate (22). In a 250 ml flask equipped with a condenser, Mg powder (2.84 g, 117 mmol, 10 equiv) was added to a solution of 1-benzyl-6-tosyl-1,6-diazaspiro[3.3]heptane (**16**) (4.0 g, 11.7 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in MeOH (70 ml). After about 30 min, the reaction mixture started to boil violently, and therefore it was cooled down with an ice bath. The crude mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a gray suspension. This was suspended in Et₂O (280 ml) and Na₂SO₄·10 H₂O (*ca.* 36 g) was added. The suspension was vigorously stirred at room temperature for 1 h, then filtered, the filtrate dried (Na₂SO₄), and filtered. To the filtrate was added under stirring a solution of anhydrous oxalic acid (0.526 g, 5.84 mmol, 0.5 equiv) in EtOH (1.2 ml), upon which immediately a precipitate formed. The solid was filtered and dried under reduced pressure to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 1.98 g (4.24 mmol, 73%). Colorless solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.00$ (EtOAc; UV, Dragendorff's reagent); **Melting Point:** 179-181 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 7.60-7.35$ (m, 5H), 4.60 (dd, *J*=11.1, 2.1, 2H), 4.25-4.18 (m, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.31 (t, *J*=7.3, 2H), 2.56 (t, *J*=7.3, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 173.0$, 134.6, 129.4, 129.0, 128.3, 66.3, 55.3, 54.6, 48.9, 28.6; **IR** (neat): 2920, 2834, 2660, 1582, 1438, 1333, 1219, 1137, 760, 710 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for $C_{12}H_{17}N_2$ ([M+H]⁺), 189.1386; found 189.1377.



6-(Tosyl-6-aza-1-azoniaspiro[3.3]heptane) oxalate (23). 1-Benzyl-6-tosyl-1,6-diazaspiro[3.3]heptane **16** (3.0 g, 8.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in methanol (45 ml), and palladium (10% on carbon; 886 mg, 0.832 mmol, 0.095 equiv) was added. A hydrogen atmosphere (balloon) was built up, and the mixture was stirred at RT for 16 h. The crude suspension was filtered over celite and the filter cake thoroughly washed with MeOH. The filtrate was concentrated and then Et₂O (200 ml) was added. To this solution under stirring was added a solution of anhydrous oxalic acid (0.394 g, 4.38 mmol, 0.5 equiv) in EtOH (0.9 ml), upon which immediately a precipitate formed. The solid was filtered and dried under reduced pressure to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 2.29 g (3.85 mmol, 88%). Colorless solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.00$ (EtOAc; UV, Dragendorff's reagent); **Melting Point:** 195-196 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 7.83$ (d, J=7.8, 2H), 7.60 (d, J=7.8, 2H), 4.37 (d, J=10.7, 2H), 4.12 (d, J=10.7, 2H), 3.89 (t, J=8.5, 2H), 2.54 (t, J=8.5, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, D₂O): $\delta = 146.8$, 130.48, 128.48, 128.18, 62.1, 60.2, 41.7, 28.4, 20.8; **IR** (neat): 2909, 2656, 1576, 1341, 1288, 1158, 1092, 1030, 813, 762, 682 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₇N₂ O₂S ([M+H]⁺), 253.1005; found 253.0996.

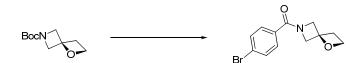


(4-Bromophenyl)(1,1-dioxo-1-thia-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptan-6-yl)methanone (24). To a solution of *tert*-butyl carbamate 4 (20 mg, 0.08 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 ml) was added at RT trifluoroacetic acid (0.2 ml), and the colorless solution was stirred at RT for 20 min. The volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (1 ml), triethylamine (23 µl, 0.16 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added followed by 4-bromobenzoyl

chloride (20 mg, 0.09 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and the mixture was stirred at RT for 3 h. The mixture was directly purified by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 1:3 \rightarrow 0:1 gradient) to give the pure title compound.

Yield: 26.5 mg (0.080 mmol, 99%). Colorless crystalline solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.13$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:2; UV); **Melting Point:** 180-182 °C; ¹**H-NMR** $\delta = 7.71-7.39$ (m, 4H), 4.84 (d, *J*=10.4, 2H), 4.34 (d, *J*=10.4, 2H), 4.07 (t, *J*=8.7, 2H), 2.42 (t, *J*=8.7, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 169.7, 131.9, 130.9, 129.5, 126.4, 75.8, 62.7, 58.6$ (br), 55.1 (br), 19.7; **IR** (thin film): 2940, 2872, 1638, 1589, 1415, 1313, 1206, 1122, 1011, 913, 748 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₃BrNO₃S ([M+H]⁺), 329.9794; found 329.9788.



(4-Bromophenyl)(1-oxa-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptan-6-yl)methanone (25). To a solution of *tert*-butyl carbamate 20 (17.0 mg, 0.085 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (1 ml) was added at 0 °C trifluoroacetic acid (0.4 ml), and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min, when the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The residue (colorless oil) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1 ml), and triethylamine (24 μ l, 0.171 mmol, 2.0 equiv) followed by 4-bromobenzoyl chloride (22.5 mg, 0.102 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min, then it was allowed to warm to RT and stirring was continued for 16 h. At this point, the mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (25 ml) and quenched by addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 ml). The phases were separated and the organic phase was dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; EtOAc : hexanes 2:1).

Yield: 14.0 mg (0.050 mmol, 58%). Colorless crystalline solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.19$ (hexanes : EtOAc 1:2; UV); **Melting Point:** 157-158 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.68-7.36$ (m, 4H), 4.71-4.18 (m, 6H), 2.87 (dd, *J*=13.8, 6.4, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 169.1$, 132.0, 131.7, 129.5, 125.7, 82.8, 67.6 (br), 66.3, 63.5 (br), 31.8; **IR** (thin film): 2931, 2891, 1638, 1418, 958, 913, 748 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₃BrNO₂ ([M+H]⁺), 282.0124; found 282.0125.



(4-Bromophenyl)(6-tosyl-1,6-diazaspiro[3.3]heptan-1-yl)methanone (26). To a suspension of 6-(tosyl-6-aza-1-azoniaspiro[3.3]heptane) oxalate 23 (50 mg, 0.084 mmol, 0.5 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.6 ml) was added triethylamine (35 µl, 0.252 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and then 4-bromobenzoyl chloride (44.3 mg, 0.202 mmol, 1.2 equiv) at RT. The reaction mixture (white suspension) turned immediately to a clear solution. After 30 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (10 ml) and quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (5 ml). The phases were separated, the aqueous phase was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (5 ml), and the combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; hexanes : EtOAc 1:1).

Yield: 50 mg (0.115 mmol, 68%). Colorless crystalline solid.

TLC: $R_f = 0.79$ (CH₂Cl₂ : MeOH 9:1; UV, Dragendorff's reagent); **Melting Point:** 153-154°C; ¹**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.74$ (d, *J*=7.6, 1H), 7.51-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 4H), 4.68 (bs, 2H), 4.07 (t, *J*=7.5, 2H), 3.87 (d, *J*= 9.0, 2H), 2.47 (t, *J*=7.5, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³**C-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 168.2$, 144.1, 132.4, 131.9, 131.6, 129.7, 129.0, 128.3, 125.6, 62.6, 60.3, 49.6, 29.9, 21.6; **IR** (neat): 3060, 2968, 2936, 2888, 1620, 1587, 1414, 1342, 1301, 1161, 1091, 1028, 1008, 839, 814, 744, 689,655 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₉H₂₀BrN₂O₃S ([M+H]⁺), 435.0373; found 435.0364.

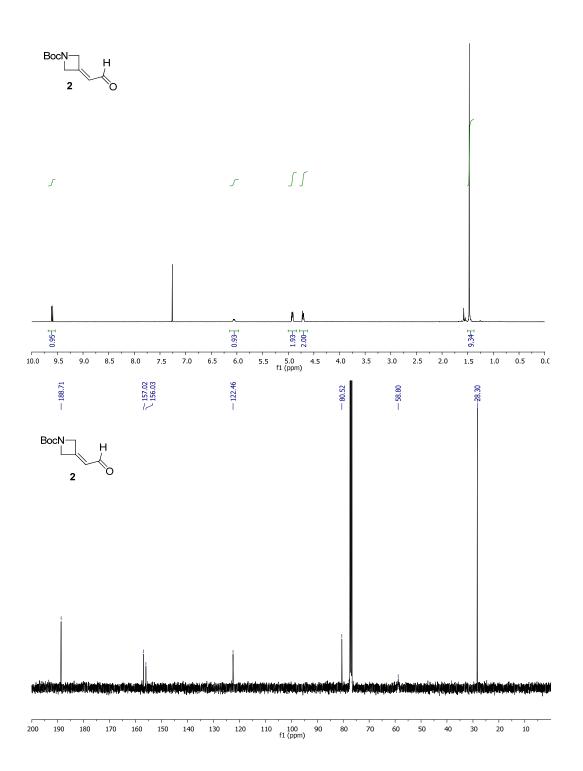


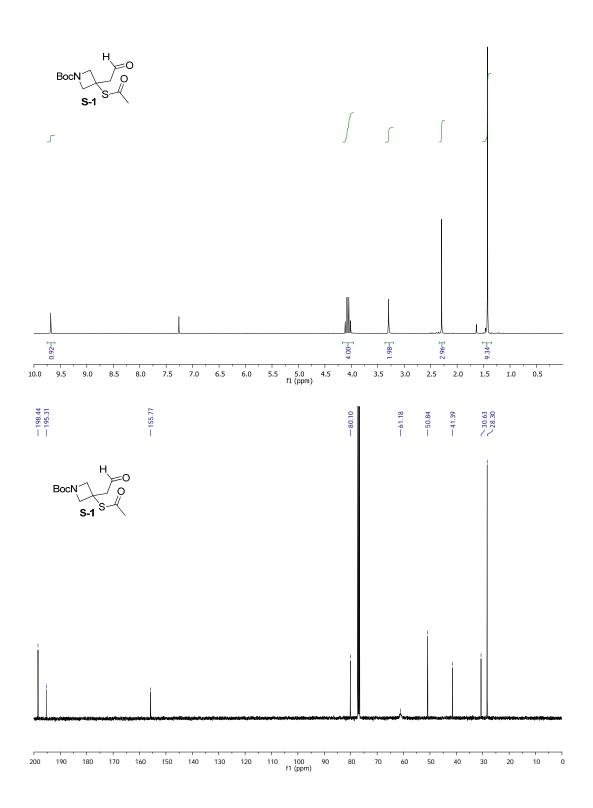
(4-Bromophenyl)(6-oxa-1-azaspiro[3.3]heptan-1-yl)methanone (27). To a solution of benzyl amine 18 (79 mg, 0.42 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in MeOH (4 ml) was added palladium (10% on carbon; 89 mg, 0.083 mmol, 0.2 equiv), and a H₂ atmosphere was built up. The mixture was stirred at RT for 36 h. At this point the mixture was filtered over celite and thoroughly washed with MeOH. The filtrate was co-evaporated with CHCl₃ multiple times and briefly dried under high vacuum. The residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (4 ml), when triethylamine (88 µl, 0.63 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added followed by 4-bromobenzoyl chloride (101 mg, 0.46 mmol, 1.1 equiv), and the mixture was stirred at RT for 18.5 h. It was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 ml) and quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (10 ml). The phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (10 ml). The combined organic phases were dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The pure title compound was obtained after purification by FC (SiO₂; EtOAc).

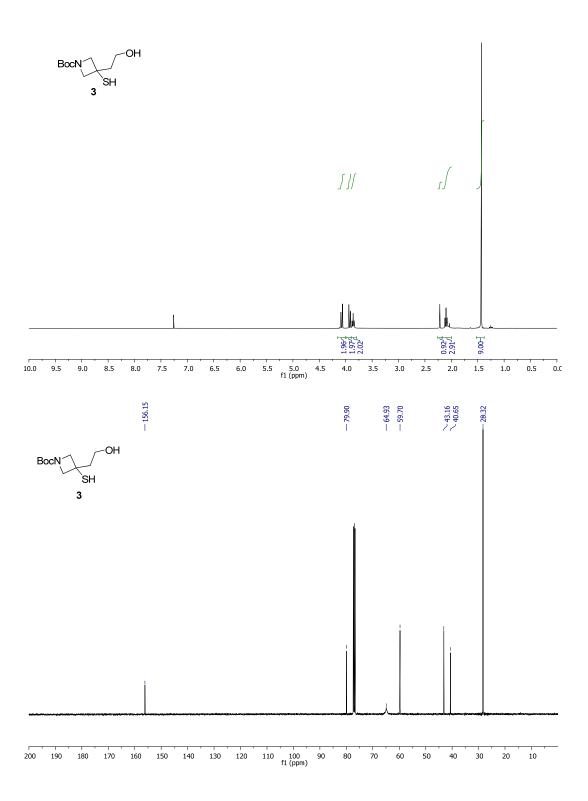
Yield: 56 mg (0.20 mmol, 48%). Colorless crystalline solid.

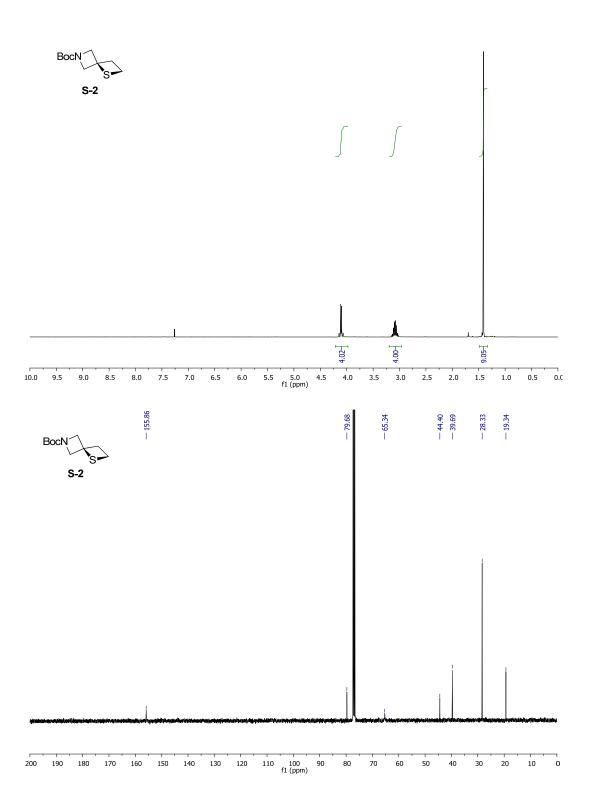
TLC: $R_f = 0.31$ (EtOAc; UV, DNP); **Melting Point:** 158-159 °C; ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 7.71-7.35$ (m, 4H), 5.61 (br s, 2H), 4.63 (d, *J*=7.2, 2H), 4.11 (t, *J*=7.5, 2H), 2.61 (d, *J*=7.5, 2H); ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 167.9$, 132.6, 131.4, 128.8, 125.2, 80.6, 68.5, 49.5, 29.1; **IR** (thin film): 2962, 2870, 1619, 1558, 1416, 970, 913, 851, 748 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESI): exact mass calculated for C₁₂H₁₃BrNO₂ ([M+H]⁺), 282.0124; found 282.0125.

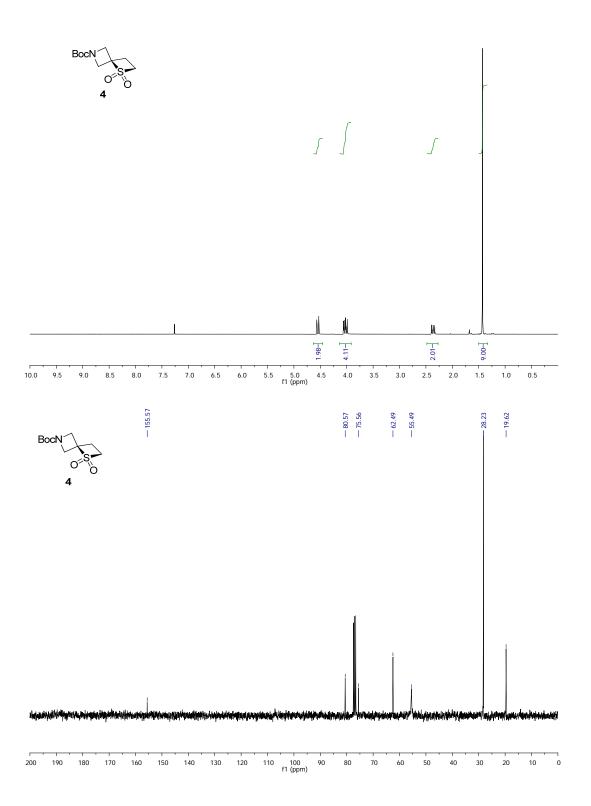
COPIES OF NMR SPECTRA OF NEW COMPOUNDS

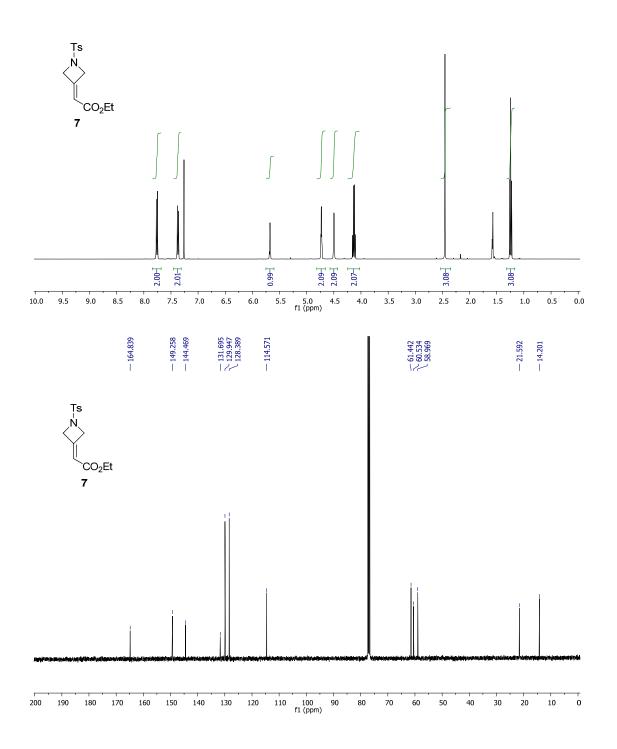


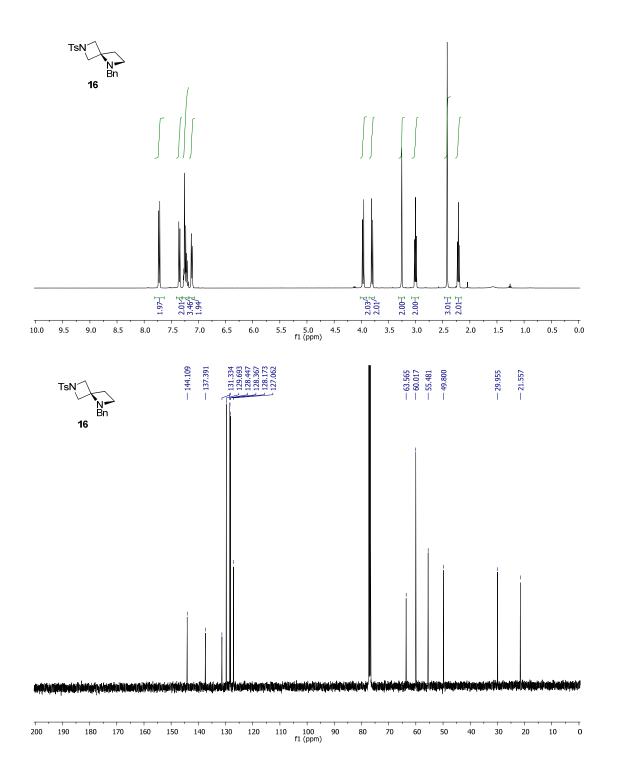


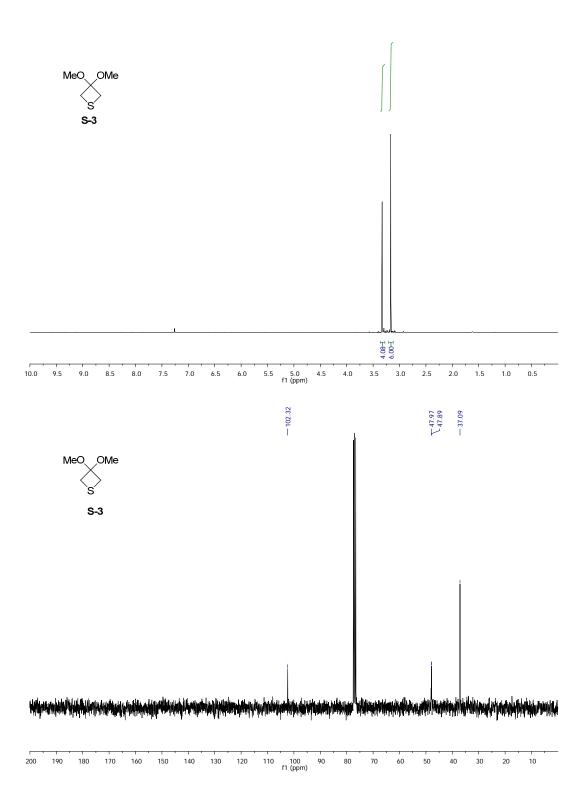


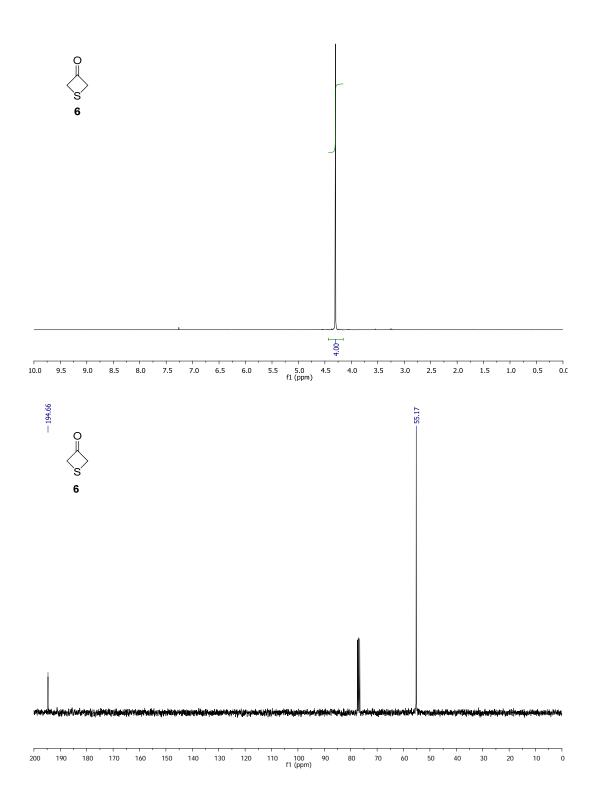


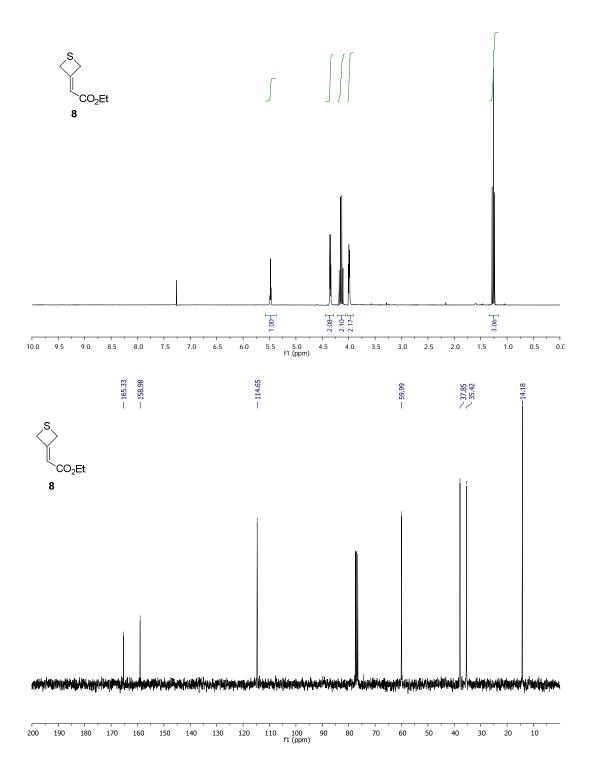




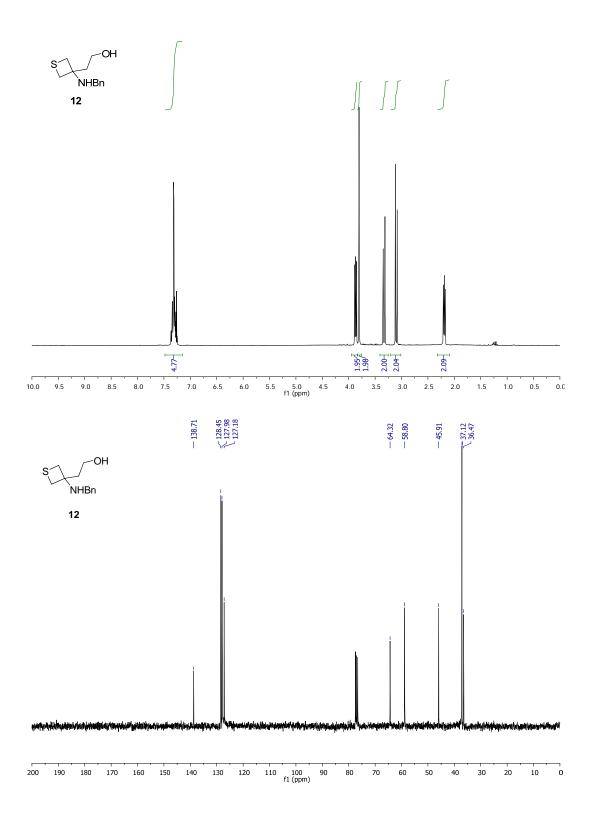


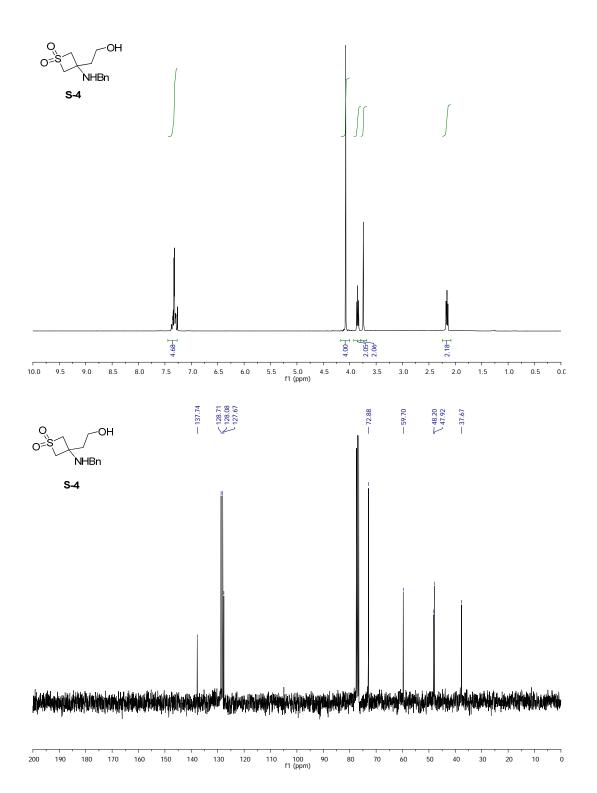


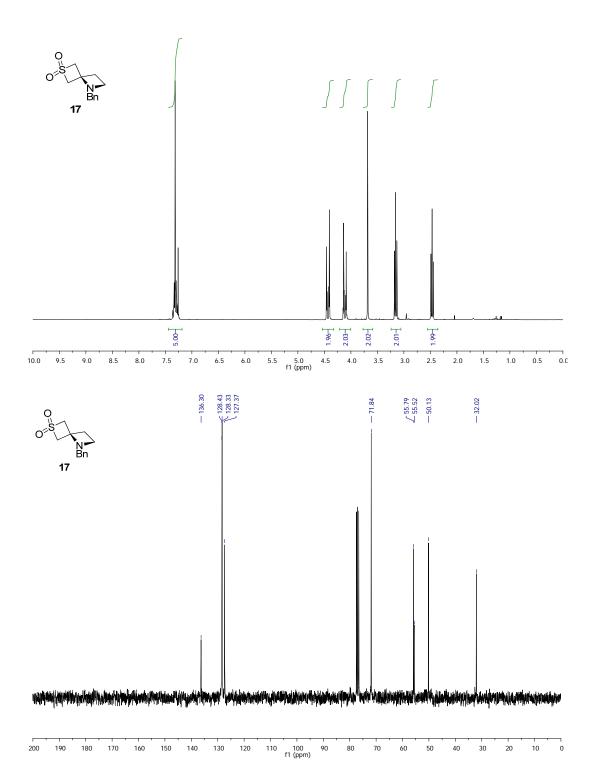


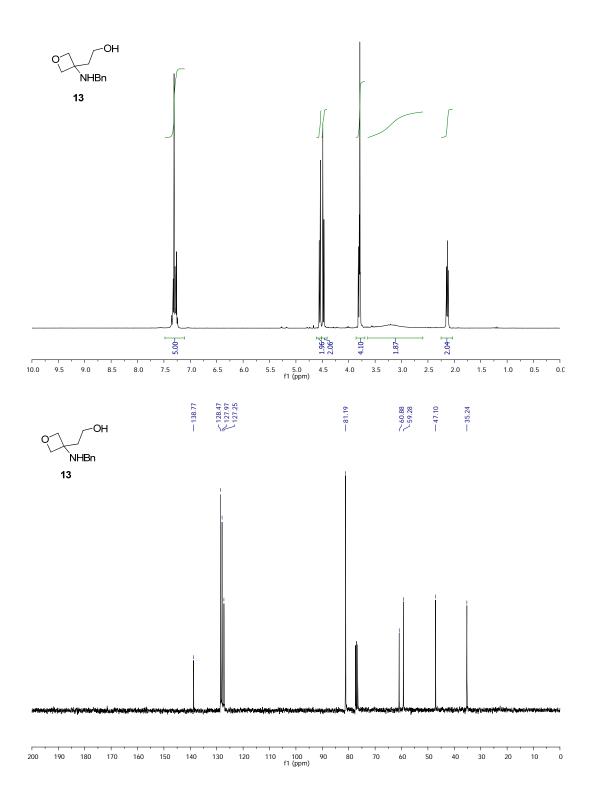


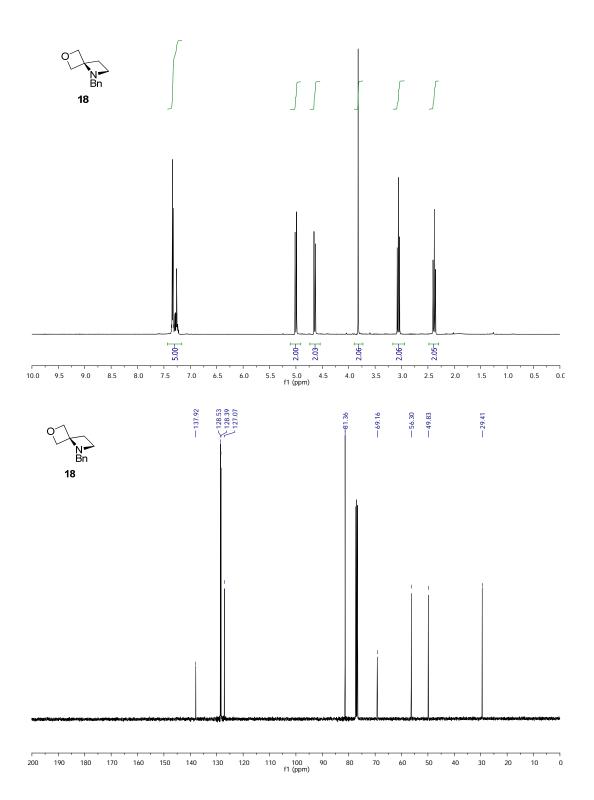
S23

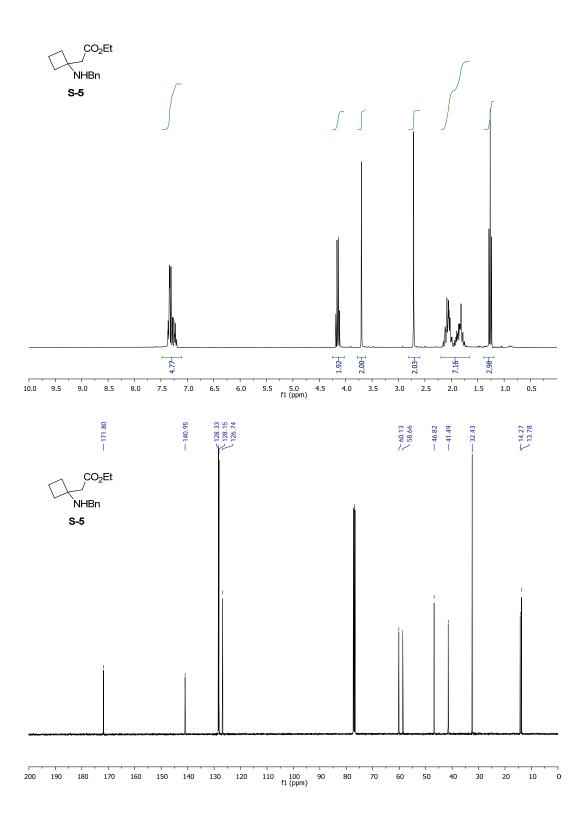


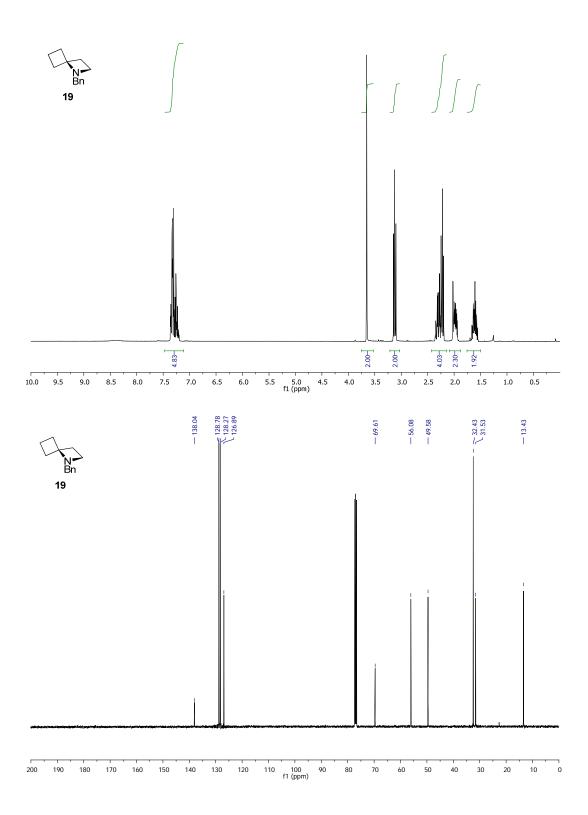


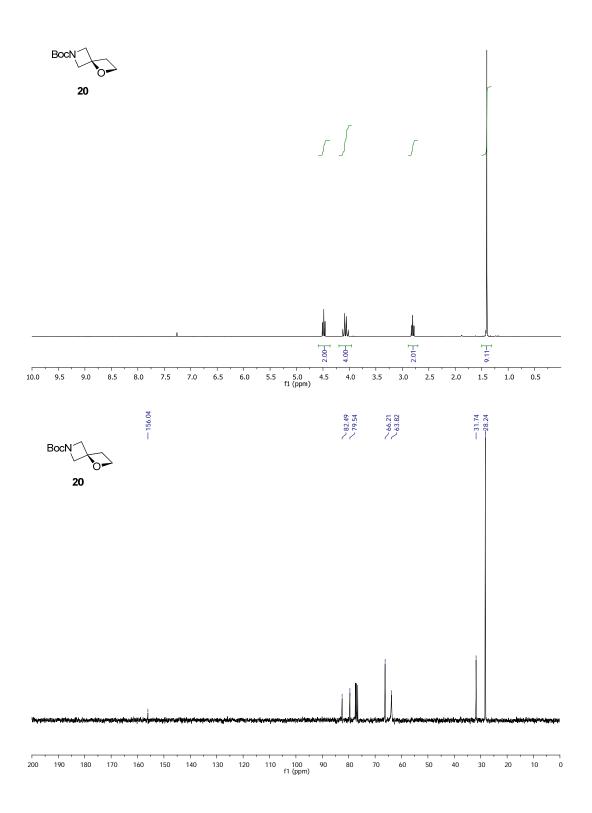


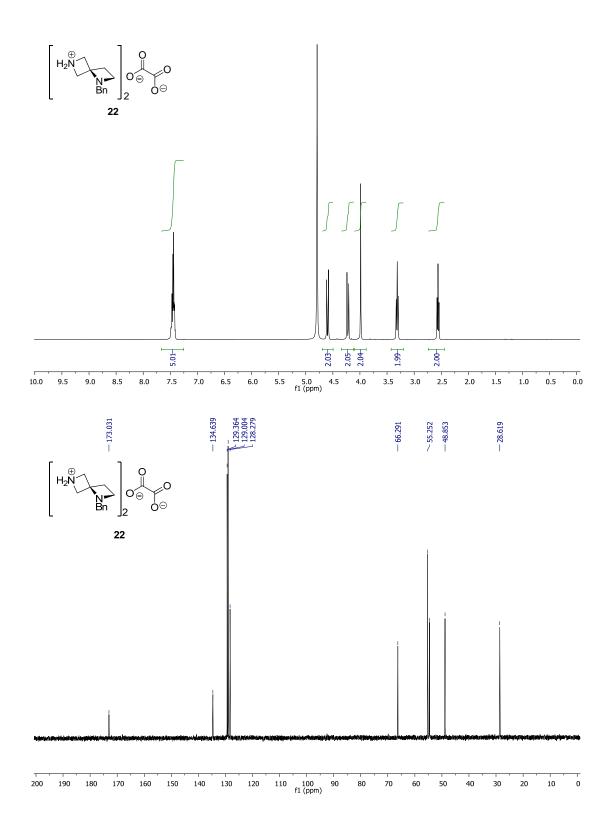


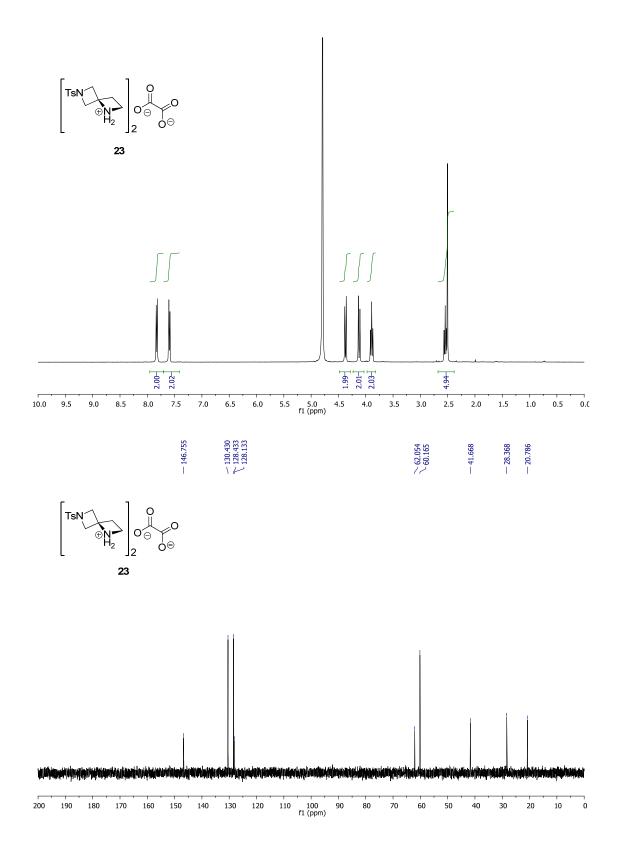




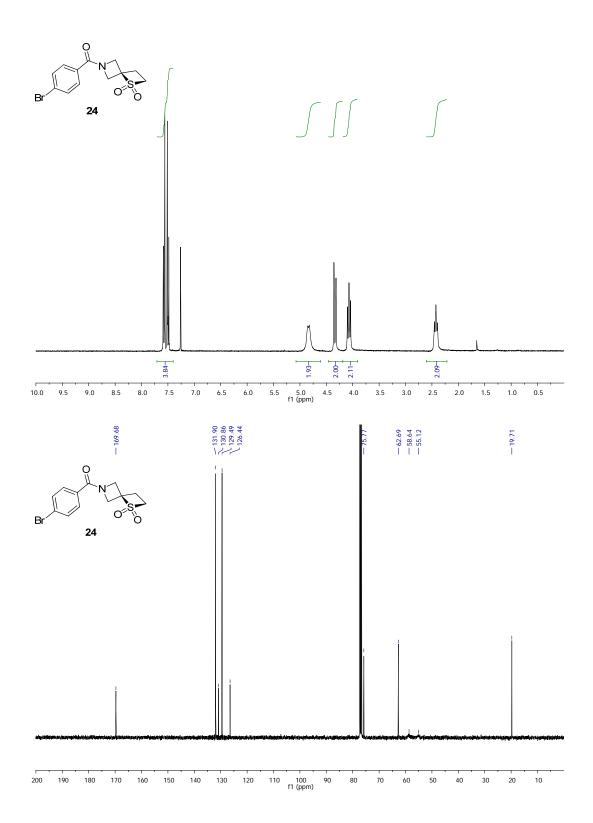


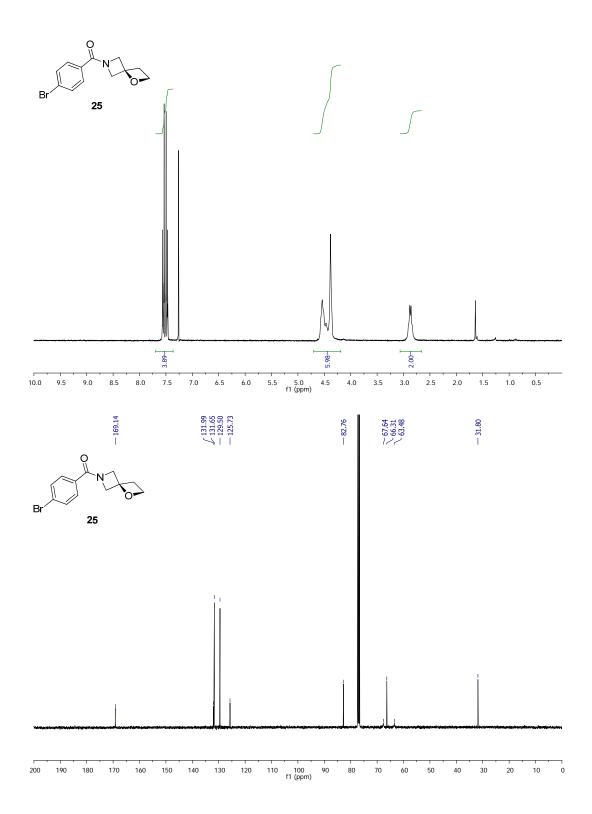


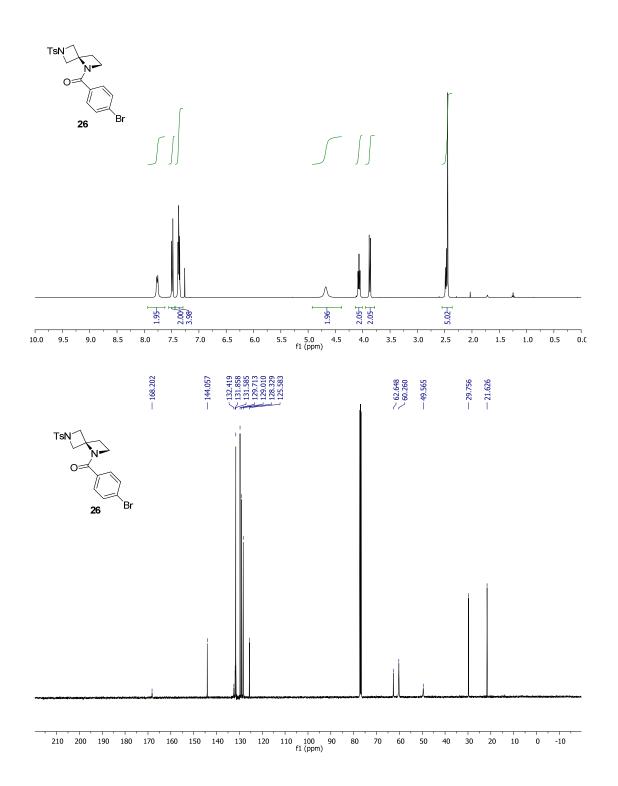


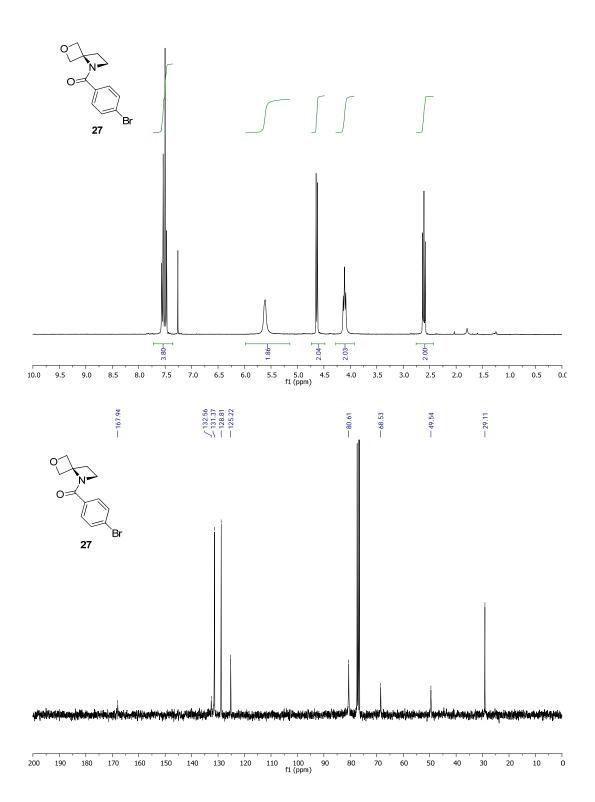


S33



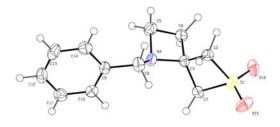






CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC DATA

Crystallographic data of compound 17



Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{12}H_{15}NO_2S\\ C_{12}H_{15}NO_2S\\ M_r = 237.321\\ Monoclinic P2_1/c\\ a = 11.3919 \ (2) Å\\ b = 28.3759 \ (6) Å\\ c = 18.3852 \ (5) Å\\ \alpha = 90.00^\circ\\ \beta = 95.9248 \ (14)^\circ\\ \gamma = 90.00^\circ\\ V = 5911.4 \ (2) Å^3\\ Z = 20\\ F(000) = 2520.0 \end{array}$

Data collection

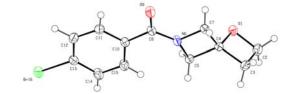
KappaCCD CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: none 29576 measured reflections 12319 independent reflections 6313 observed reflections Criterion: >2sigma(I)

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 fullmatrix least squares refinement R(all) = 0.1633 R(gt) = 0.0725 wR(ref) = 0.2140 wR(gt)= 0.1642 S(ref) = 1.017 12319 reflections 796 parameters 0 restraints $D_x = 1.333 \text{ Mg m}^3$ Density measured by: not measured fine-focus sealed tube Mo K α radiation $\lambda = 0.71073$ Cell parameters from 68275 refl. $\theta = 2.425$ —27.485 ° $\mu = 0.258 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 173 K Cube 0.27 x 0.24 x 0.18 mm Colourless Crystal source: LOC ETH Zurich

 $R_{int} = 0.077$ $\theta_{max} = 27.48 \circ$ $h = -14 \rightarrow 14$ $k = -23 \rightarrow 36$ $l = -23 \rightarrow 23$

Only H-atom U's refined Calculated weights $1/[\sigma^2(I_o)+(I_o+I_c)^2/900]$ $\Delta/\sigma_{max} = 0.024$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.575 eÅ^3$ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.440 eÅ^3$ Extinction correction: none Atomic scattering factors from International Tables Vol C Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4



Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_2\\ C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_2\\ M_r = 282.142\\ Triclinic\\ PT\\ a = 8.02570 \ (10) Å\\ b = 11.3647 \ (2) Å\\ c = 12.6017 \ (2) Å\\ \alpha = 90.2638 \ (6)^{\circ}\\ \beta = 91.1398 \ (7)^{\circ}\\ \gamma = 106.7051 \ (7)^{\circ}\\ V = 1100.61 \ (3) Å^3\\ Z = 4 \end{array}$

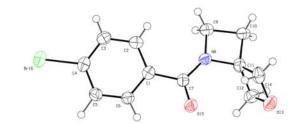
Data collection KappaCCD CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: integration $T_{min} = 0.389$, $T_{max} = 0.631$ 19915 measured reflections 5032 independent reflections 4564 observed reflections Criterion: >2sigma(I)

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 fullmatrix least squares refinement R(all) = 0.0348 R(gt) = 0.0305 wR(ref) = 0.1061 wR(gt)= 0.0994 S(ref) = 0.873 5032 reflections 385 parameters 0 restraints F(000) = 568.0 $D_x = 1.703 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Density measured by: not measured fine-focus sealed tube Mo K\alpha radiation \lambda = 0.71073 Cell parameters from 12925 refl. $\theta = 2.425$ —27.485 ° $\mu = 3.718 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 123 K Cube 0.27 x 0.195 x 0.135 mm Colourless Crystal source: LOC ETH Zurich

 $R_{int} = 0.059$ $\theta_{max} = 27.47 ^{\circ}$ $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$ $k = -14 \rightarrow 14$ $l = -16 \rightarrow 16$

All H-atom parameters refined Calculated weights $1/[\sigma^2(I_o)+(I_o+I_c)^2/900]$ $\Delta/\sigma_{max} = 0.001$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.948eÅ^3$ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.843eÅ^3$ Extinction correction: none Atomic scattering factors from International Tables Vol C Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4



Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_2\\ C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_2\\ M_r = 282.142\\ Orthorhombic\\ Pbca\\ a = 9.9717 \ (3) \AA\\ b = 8.8126 \ (3) \AA\\ c = 25.5594 \ (11) \AA\\ \alpha = 90.00^\circ\\ \beta = 90.00^\circ\\ \gamma = 90.00^\circ\\ V = 2246.07 \ (14) \AA^3\\ Z = 8 \end{array}$

Data collection

KappaCCD CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: integration $T_{min} = 0.451$, $T_{max} = 0.936$ 12140 measured reflections 2565 independent reflections 1701 observed reflections Criterion: >2sigma(I)

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 fullmatrix least squares refinement R(all) = 0.0853 R(gt) = 0.0467 wR(ref) = 0.1472 wR(gt)= 0.1216 S(ref) = 0.886 2565 reflections 193 parameters 0 restraints F(000) = 1136.0 $D_x = 1.669 \text{ Mg m}^3$ Density measured by: not measured fine-focus sealed tube Mo K\alpha radiation \lambda = 0.71073 Cell parameters from 20614 refl. $\theta = 2.425$ —27.485 ° $\mu = 3.644 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 173 K plate 0.3 x 0.15 x 0.009 mm Colourless Crystal source: LOC ETH Zurich

$$\begin{split} R_{int} &= 0.093 \\ \theta_{max} &= 27.49 \ ^{\circ} \\ h &= -12 \ \rightarrow 11 \\ k &= -11 \ \rightarrow 9 \\ l &= -33 \ \rightarrow 31 \end{split}$$

All H-atom parameters refined Calculated weights $1/[\sigma^2(I_o)+(I_o+I_c)^2/900]$ $\Delta/\sigma_{max} = 0.008$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.384eÅ^3$ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.676eÅ^3$ Extinction correction: none Atomic scattering factors from International Tables Vol C Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4



Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_{3}S\\ C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_{3}S\\ M_{r}=330.205\\ Orthorhombic\\ Pna2_{1}\\ a=20.7240\;(8)\text{\AA}\\ b=5.8436\;(2)\text{\AA}\\ c=10.4288\;(4)\text{\AA}\\ \alpha=90.00^{\circ}\\ \beta=90.00^{\circ}\\ \gamma=90.00^{\circ}\\ V=1262.96\;(8)\text{\AA}^{3}\\ Z=4 \end{array}$

Data collection

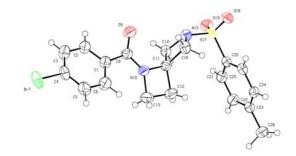
KappaCCD CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: integration $T_{min} = 0.457$, $T_{max} = 0.911$ 4954 measured reflections 2143 independent reflections 2044 observed reflections Criterion: >2sigma(I)

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 fullmatrix least squares refinement R(all) = 0.0333 R(gt) = 0.0313 wR(ref) = 0.0952 wR(gt) = 0.0917 S(ref) = 0.791 2143 reflections 200 parameters 1 restraints All H-atom parameters refined F(000) = 664.0 $D_x = 1.737 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Density measured by: not measured fine-focus sealed tube Mo K\alpha radiation \lambda = 0.71073 Cell parameters from 5158 refl. $\theta = 2.425$ —27.485 ° $\mu = 3.419 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 173 K plate 0.33 x 0.255 x 0.021 mm Colourless Crystal source: LOC ETH Zurich

$$\begin{split} R_{int} &= 0.086 \\ \theta_{max} &= 27.54 \ ^{\circ} \\ h &= -26 \ {\rightarrow} 20 \\ k &= -7 \ {\rightarrow} 5 \\ l &= -11 \ {\rightarrow} 13 \end{split}$$

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Calculated weights $1/[\sigma^2(I_o)+(I_o+I_c)^2/900]$}\\ \Delta/\sigma_{max}=0.000$\\ \Delta\rho_{max}=0.293eÅ^3$\\ \Delta\rho_{min}=-0.727eÅ^3$\\ \mbox{Extinction correction: none}$\\ \mbox{Atomic scattering factors from International Tables Vol}$\\ C Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4$\\ \mbox{Flack parameter}=-0.003 (11)$\\ \mbox{Flack H D (1983), $Acta Cryst. A39, 876-881$} \end{array}$



Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{19}H_{19}BrN_2O_3S\\ C_{19}H_{19}BrN_2O_3S\\ M_r = 435.345\\ Monoclinic P2_1/c\\ a = 16.3389 \ (5) Å\\ b = 17.2034 \ (6) Å\\ c = 6.7010 \ (2) Å\\ \alpha = 90.00^\circ\\ \beta = 100.420 \ (2)^\circ\\ \gamma = 90.00^\circ\\ V = 1852.49 \ (10) Å^3\\ Z = 4\\ F(000) = 888.0 \end{array}$

Data collection

KappaCCD CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: integration $T_{min} = 0.689$, $T_{max} = 0.965$ 16779 measured reflections 4227 independent reflections 3117 observed reflections Criterion: >2sigma(I)

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 fullmatrix least squares refinement R(all) = 0.0721 R(gt) = 0.0466 wR(ref) = 0.1546 wR(gt) = 0.1340 S(ref) = 0.977 4227 reflections 303 parameters 0 restraints Mo K α radiation $\lambda = 0.71073$ Cell parameters from 14007 refl. $\theta = 2.425$ —27.485 ° $\mu = 2.353$ mm⁻¹ T = 173 K needle 0.27 x 0.06 x 0.009 mm Colourless Crystal source: LOC ETH Zurich

Density measured by: not measured

 $\begin{aligned} R_{int} &= 0.12\\ \theta_{max} &= 27.46 \ ^{\circ}\\ h &= -21 \ \rightarrow 21\\ k &= -17 \ \rightarrow 22\\ l &= -8 \ \rightarrow 8 \end{aligned}$

 $D_x = 1.561 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

fine-focus sealed tube

H position refinement mixed Calculated weights $1/[\sigma^2(I_o)+(I_o+I_c)^2/900]$ $\Delta/\sigma_{max} = 0.001$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.482eÅ^3$ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.866eÅ^3$ Extinction correction: none Atomic scattering factors from International Tables Vol C Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4