Supporting Information for Organic Letters

Dicobalt Octacarbonyl-Promoted Rearrangement of 4-Isoxazolines to Acylaziridines: Establishment of Dramatic Rate Acceleration with Very High Substrate Tolerance

Teruhiko Ishikawa,* Takayuki Kudo, Juri Yoshida, Ayako Yasuhara, Shinobu Manabe, and Seiki Saito*

Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Faculty of Engineering, Okayama University, Tsushima, Okayama, Japan 700-8530

Experimental Section

General. IR spectra were recorded on a Horiba Fourier transform infrared spectrophotometer Model FT-210 instrument and only typical absorptions were cited. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian VXR-200 (200 MHz for proton and 50 MHz for carbon-13), Varian Mercury-300 (300 MHz for proton and 75 MHz for carbon-13) instrument. The chemical shifts are given in δ unit relative to internal CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm for ¹H) or CDCl₃ (77 ppm for ¹³C). All NMR experiments were performed using deuteriochloroform as a solvent unless otherwise indicated. ¹H NMR spectral data were indicated in the form: δ value of signal (peak multiplicities, integrated number of protons, and coupling constant (if any)). The peak multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br, broad. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck pre-coated silica gel 60 F-254 (0.25 mm thickness). Elemental analyses were made with a Perkin-Elmer 2400 CHN Elemental Analyzer. All reactions, unless otherwise noted, were conducted under nitrogen or argon atmosphere. Liquid reagents were transferred via a dry hypodermic syringe from sure seal bottles to a reaction flask through a rubber septum wired onto the reaction flask. The septum can also serve to permit evacuation to eliminate air and introduce the inert gas by means of a steady stream of inert gas flowing system. Organic extracts were concentrated by evaporation with a rotary evaporator evacuated at around 60 mmHg. Column chromatography, unless otherwise specified, was performed on a Merck silica gel 60 7734 using an appropriate ratio of ethyl acetate (AcOEt)-hexane mixed solvent and abbreviated as CC.

Materials. Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and

reagent grade materials were used without further purification. Dimethylformamide (DMF), acetnitrile (MeCN), toluene, dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2), and triethylamine (Et_3N) were freshly distilled from CaH_2 prior to use. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) purchased from Kanto Chemical Co., Inc is dehydrated and stabilizer-free grade and was used as received.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4-isoxazoline Derivatives (1a—1d). To a solution of a nitrone (2.9 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) was added phenylacetylene (5.8 mmol, 2.0 eq). The reaction mixture was heated at 75 $^{\circ}$ C for 8 h and was concentrated to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give a 4-isoxazoline: for the synthesis of every substrate only one or two runs were conducted, and the yields were not optimized yet.

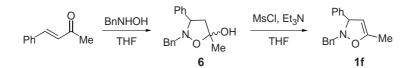
2-Benzyl-3-isopropyl-5-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (**1a**). 63% yield; IR (film) 2958, 1495, 1276, 1024 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.91 (d, 6H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 1.72 (dq, 1H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6.9 Hz, (CH₃)₂CH), 3.71 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 6.6 Hz, NCH), 3.89 and 4.30 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.6 Hz, PhCH₂N), 5.34 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz, OCCH), 7.28–7.59 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 18.3, 18.7, 33.7, 63.8, 76.5, 93.7, 125.5, 127.4, 128.2, 128.3, 128.7, 129.8, 132.0, 136.7, 152.4.

2-Benzyl-3,5-diphenyl-4-isoxazoline (**1b**). 33% yield; IR (KBr) 1495, 1020, 725 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 4.14 and 4.47 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.6 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 5.08 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.0 Hz, BnNC*H*), 5.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.0 Hz, OC=C*H*), 7.24–7.65 (m, 15H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 63.4, 73.5, 95.7, 125.7, 127.1, 127.5, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.7, 129.0, 129.6, 130.0, 136.3, 142.0, 152.8.

2-Benzyl-3-(4-methoxy)phenyl-5-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (**1c**). 13% yield; IR (film) 1609, 1511, 1448, 1303 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 3.79 (s, 3H, *Me*O), 4.13 and 4.45 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.6 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 5.05 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz, BnNC*H*), 5.43 (d, 1H, *J*= 2.5 Hz, OC=C*H*), 6.81–7.64 (m, 14H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 55.2, 63.2, 73.1, 95.8, 113.8, 125.7, 127.5, 128.1, 128.3, 128.7, 129.0, 129.6, 134.1, 136.4, 152.7, 159.0.

2-Benzyl-3-hepthyl-5-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (**1d**). 50% yield; ¹H NMR δ 0.88 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, Me), 1.05–2.80 (m, 12H, CH₃(CH₂)₆CH), 3.88 and 4.29 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.4 Hz, PhCH₂N), 3.92 (m, 1H, BnNC*H*), 5.31 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz, OC=C*H*), 7.28–7.57 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 14.1, 22.6, 25.7, 29.3, 29.4, 31.8, 36.3, 63.2, 70.2, 95.8, 125.5, 127.4, 128.3, 128.7, 129.0, 129.7, 136.6, 152.1.

2-Benzyl-3,3-dimethyl-5-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (1e). To a solution of acetone (4.0 mL) in toluene (4.0 mL) was added *N*-benzylhydroxylamine (220 mg, 1.79 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 1 h. To the reaction was added phenylacetylene (0.59 mL, 5.37 mmol, 3.0 eq), and the mixture was heated at 75 °C for 21 h and concentrated to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give isoxazoline **1e** (61 mg, 13 %) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR δ 1.41 (s, 6H, *MeMeC*), 4.02 (s, 2H, PhCH₂N), 5.32 (s, 1H, OC=CH), 7.25–7.50 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 25.5, 56.0, 68.8, 76.6, 103.6, 125.3, 127.0, 128.2, 128.3, 128.6, 129.2, 138.2, 151.6.



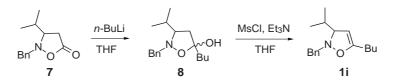
2-Benzyl-5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (**1f**). To a solution of benzalacetone (315 mg, 2.15 mmol) in THF (7 mL) was added *N*-benzylhydroxylamine (217 mg, 1.76 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h and concentrated to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give isoxazolidine **6** (382 mg, 1.42 mmol, 81 %) as a colorless oil. To a solution of **6** (205 mg, 0.76 mmol) in THF (5 mL) were added Et₃N (0.33 mL, 2.33 mmol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.09 mL, 1.16 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 20 min followed by the addition of water. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt, and the combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazoline **1f** (133 mg, 84 % conv.) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR δ 1.90 (s, 3H, OC*Me*), 4.07 and 4.34 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 13.0 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.67 (br, 1H, PhC*H*), 4.87 (br, 1H, OC=C*H*), 7.2–7.4 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 11.6, 63.4, 73.3, 95.8, 126.9, 127.3, 127.4, 128.3, 128.3, 129.4, 136.6, 142.7, 151.4.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4-isoxazoline Derivatives (1g, h). A solution of a nitrone (1.13 mmol) in bis(trimethylsilyl)acetylene (5.73 mmol, 5.0 eq) was heated at 100 \degree for 4 h. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give an oil: the yields were not optimized yet.

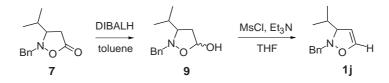
2-Benzyl-3-phenyl-4,5-bis(trimethylsilyl)-4-isoxazoline (**1g**). 70% yield; IR (film) 2957, 1250, 842 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.00 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 0.33 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 3.82 and 4.16 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.6 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 4.80 (s, 1H, PhC*H*), 6.95–7.40 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR

δ-0.6, 0.8, 62.6, 77.5, 116.3, 127.3, 127.6, 128.2, 128.3, 129.7, 136.6, 142.0, 161.7.

2-Benzyl-3-isopropyl-4,5-bis(trimethylsilyl)-4-isoxazoline (**1h**). 87% yield; IR (film) 2958, 1565, 1250, 1073, 832 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.16 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 0.24 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 0.70 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 0.71 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 1.35–1.50 (m, 1H, (CH₃)₂CH), 3.57 and 3.95 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.1 Hz, PhCH₂N), 3.70 (d, 1H, J = 2.5 Hz, BnNCH), 7.22–7.37 (m, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ -0.7, 1.0, 14.9, 20.0, 31.8, 62.7, 78.4, 114.6, 127.2, 128.1, 130.1, 136.7, 161.5.

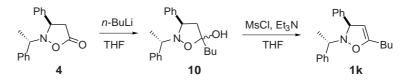


2-Benzyl-5-butyl-3-isopropyl-4-isoxazoline (1i). To a solution of isoxazolidinone **7** (402 mg, 1.84 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.6 M solution in hexane, 1.25 mL, 1.1 equiv) at -78 °C, and the mixture was stirred at -78 °C to room temperature for 7 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of water and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazolidine **8** (191 mg, 38 %) and unchanged **7** (73 mg, 18 %). To a solution of **8** (176 mg, 0.63 mmol) in THF (5 mL) were added Et₃N (0.26 mL, 3.0 equiv) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.07 mL, 1.5 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C to room temperature for 1 h followed by the addition of water. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt, and the combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazoline **1i** (60 mg, 37 %) as a colorless oil and unchanged **8** (46 mg, 26 %). ¹H NMR δ 0.81 (d, 6H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 0.93 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz, CH₂CH₃), 1.20–1.58 (m, 5H, CH₂CH₃, CH₂CH₃, (CH₃)₂CH), 2.06–2.11 (m, 2H, OCCH₂), 3.40 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.77 and 4.14 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.6 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.44 (m, 1H, OCH=C) 7.18–7.40 (m, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 13.8, 18.2, 18.5, 22.2, 25.7, 29.0, 33.8, 63.9, 76.0, 92.3, 127.2, 128.1, 129.6, 137.0, 155.0.



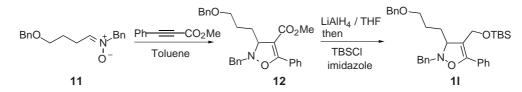
2-Benzyl-3-isopropyl-4-isoxazoline (1j). To a solution of isoxazolidinone 7 (527 mg,

2.40 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added DIBAL-H (1.0 M solution in toluene, 2.6 mL, 1.1 equiv) at –78 °C, and the mixture was stirred at –78 °C for 30 min. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and filtered through a celite pad, the filter cake being thoroughly rinsed with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazolidine **9** (442 mg, 83 %). To a solution of **9** (418 mg, 1.78 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added Et₃N (0.75 mL, 3.0 equiv) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.20 mL, 1.5 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C to room temperature for 1 h followed by the addition of water. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt, and the combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazoline **1** (157 mg, 37 %). ¹H NMR δ 0.83 (d, 3H, *J* = 1.7 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 0.85 (d, 3H, *J* = 1.7 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 1.50–1.63 (m, 1H, (CH₃)₂CH), 3.55–3.58 (m, 1H, (CH₃)₂CCH), 3.79 and 4.15 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.9 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.88 (m, 1H, OC=CH), 6.45 (m, 1H, OCH=C) 7.24–7.45 (m, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 18.1, 18.4, 33.5, 63.8, 74.9, 97.5, 127.3, 128.2, 129.3, 136.8, 141.5.



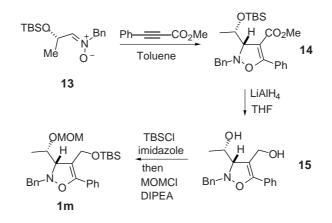
(3*R*)-5-Butyl-3-phenyl-2-[(1*S*)-1-phenyl]ethyl-4-isoxazoline (1k). To a solution of isoxazolidinone **4** (110 mg, 0.41 mmol) in THF (3.0 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.56 M solution in hexane, 0.4 mL, 1.5 equiv) at -40 °C and the mixture was stirred at -45 °C to room temperature for 1.5 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave the mixture of **4** and **10** (95 mg). To a solution of **4** and **10** (95 mg) in THF (5 mL) was added Et₃N (0.33 mL, 2.33 mmol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.09 mL, 1.16 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 20 min followed by the addition of water and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on acreful CC, gave isoxazoline **1k** (28 mg, 22 % for 2 steps) as a colorless oil and unchanged **4** (17 mg, 16 %). $[\alpha]_D^{28}$ +253 (c 0.730, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 0.96 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz, CH₂CH₃), 1.56 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.3 Hz, Ph*Me*CH), 1.37–1.48 (m, 4H, (CH₂)₂CH₃), 2.26–2.31 (m, 2H, CH₂(CH₂)₂CH₃), 4.07–4.13 (m, 2H, Ph*CH*Me), 4.59–4.60 (m, 1H, OC=CH), 4.74 (br,

1H, NC*H*), 6.94–7.35 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 13.8, 21.8, 22.4, 25.7, 29.2, 67.2, 71.7, 95.0, 126.9, 127.0, 127.5, 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 142.4, 143.1, 155.4.



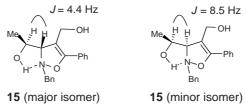
2-Benzyl-3-(3-benzyloxy)propyl-4-(tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)methyl-5-

phenyl-4-isoxazoline (11). A solution of nitrone 11 (501 mg, 1.77 mmol) and methyl 3phenylpropiolate (1.28 g, 5.0 equiv) in toluene (3 mL) was heated at 75 °C for 2 h. The mixture was concentrated to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give isoxazoline 12 (699 mg, 89%). To a solution of 12 (274 mg, 0.618 mol) in THF (14 mL) was added LiAlH₄ (29 mg, 1.0 equiv) at room temperature and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and filtered through a celite pad, the filter cake being thoroughly rinsed with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave an alcohol (250 mg, 97 %). To a solution of the alcohol (95 mg, 0.23 mol) in THF (2 mL) was added imidazole (71 mg, 4.0 equiv) and tertbutyldimethylsilyl chloride (70 mg, 2.0 equiv) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C. The mixture was stirred at 0 $^{\circ}$ C to room temperature for 4.5 h followed by the addition of water. The mixture was extracted with AcOEt, and the combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazoline **11** (118 mg, 97 %). ¹H NMR δ 0.07 (s, 6H, *tert*-BuSiMe₂), 0.93 (s, 9H, (CH₃)₃CSi), 1.5–1.8 (m, 4H, BnOCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.3–3.5 (m, 2H, BnOCH₂), 3.88 and 4.30 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.4 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.02 (m, 1H, NCH), 4.38 and 4.46 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.1 Hz, CH₂OTBS), 4.40 (s, 2H, PhCH₂O), 7.23–7.51 (m, 15H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ –5.3, –5.4, 18.2, 25.7, 25.8, 30.4, 56.7, 62.6, 71.2, 70.9, 72.7, 109.6, 127.3, 127.4, 127.5, 127.8, 128.21, 128.25, 128.9, 129.2, 129.7, 136.5, 138.6, 148.0.



(3S)-2-Benzyl-4-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)methyl-3-[(1S)-1-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl]-5-phenyl-4-isoxazoline (1m). A solution of nitrone 13 (560 mg, 2.05 mmol) and methyl 3-phenylpropiolate (655 mg, 2.0 equiv) in toluene (3 mL) was heated at 75 °C for 2 h. The mixture was concentrated to afford a crude residue, which was purified by CC to give isoxazoline 14 (661 mg, 71 %) as a mixture of diastereomers (major : minor = 9 : 1). To a solution of 14 (160 mg, 0.35 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added LiAlH4 (40 mg, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and filtered through a celite pad, the filter cake being thoroughly rinsed with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave diol 15 (89 mg, 81 %) as a mixture of separable diastereomers. Data for 15 (major isomer): ¹H NMR δ 1.22 (d, 3H, *Me*CH), 3.20–3.55 (br, 2H, CH₂OH, MeCHOH), 3.84–3.78 (m, 1H, MeCH), 3.92 and 4.29 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.9 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.01 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.4 Hz, NCH), 4.22 and 4.41 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.4 Hz, CH₂OH), 4.63 and 4.60 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, MeOCH₂), 7.25–7.61 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 17.8, 57.0, 63.3, 69.4, 77.1, 104.3, 127.7, 128.0, 128.2, 128.4, 128.5, 129.4, 129.6, 129.7, 135.9, 151.8.

The absolute configurations of the each diastereomers of diol **15** were determined by careful analysis of ¹H NMR including J-value.



To a solution of **15** (72 mg, 0.23 mmol) in THF (3 mL) were added imidazole (125 mg, 8.0 equiv) and *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (139 mg, 4.0 equiv) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C and the mixture was stirred at 0 $^{\circ}$ C to room temperature for 2.5 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and

extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave an alcohol (45 mg, 46 %). To a solution of the alcohol (165 mg, 0.39 mmol) in THF (5.5 mL) were added *N*,*N*-diisopropylethylamine (0.8 mL, 12.0 equiv) and chloromethyl methyl ether (0.18 mL, 6.0 equiv) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 24 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water and extracted with AcOEt. The combined organic solutions were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated to give an oil, which, on CC, gave isoxazoline **1m** (133 mg, 73 %) as a colorless oil. $[\alpha]_D^{28}$ –107 (c 1.68, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 0.05 (s, 6H, *tert*-BuSi*Me*₂), 0.91 (s, 9H, (CH₃)₃CSi), 3.26 (s, 3H, *Me*O), 3.76 (m, 1H, MeCH), 3.87 and 4.33 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.4 Hz, PhCH₂N), 4.06 (m, 1H, NCH), 4.42 and 4.46 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.1 Hz, CH₂OTBS), 4.63 and 4.60 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, MeOCH₂), 7.2–7.6 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ –5.4, –5.2, 16.4, 18.3, 25.9, 55.2, 57.0, 63.3, 74.2, 74.4, 95.4, 106.1, 127.6, 127.9, 128.2, 128.3, 128.3, 129.1, 129.9, 136.1, 150.2.

General Procedure for Cobalt Octacarbonyl-Promoted Rearrangement Reactions. To a solution of a 4-isoxazoline (0.410 mmol) in MeCN (8 mL) was added dicobalt octacarbonyl (0.205 mmol, 0.5 eq). The brown solution was stirred at room temperature for 5 min, and the reaction vessel was immersed into an oil bath heated at 75 °C, stirring being continued for 0.5-1.0 h. The solution was left in contact with air for a few hours to induce decomposition of the cobalt reagent. The resulting precipitate was filtered through a celite pad and the filter cake was washed several times with AcOEt. The combined filtrates were concentrated to give an oil, which was purified by CC to give 2-acylaziridines 2 and 3.

 $(2S^*, 3S^*)$ -2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(isopropyl)aziridine (2a). 41% yield (35 mg); IR (KBr) 2955, 1676, 1450, 1228 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.70 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz (CH₃)₂C), 0.91 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 1.4–1.6 (m, 1H, (CH₃)₂CH), 1.92 (dd, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz, 9.6 Hz, (CH₃)₂CCH), 3.13 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz, O=CCH), 3.62 and 3.74 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.5 Hz, PhCH₂N), 7.22–8.05 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 19.9, 20.8, 26.8, 47.8, 56.4, 64.5, 127.2, 128.1, 128.27, 128.29, 128.5, 133.0, 137.3, 137.8, 195.1

 $(2R^*, 3S^*)$ -2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(isopropyl)aziridine (3a). 10% yield (7.3 mg); IR (film) 2959, 1668, 1448, 1227 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.84 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, $(CH_3)_2$ C), 0.91 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz, $(CH_3)_2$ C), 1.37–1.50 (m, 1H, $(CH_3)_2$ CH), 2.38 (dd, 1H, J = 2.8 Hz, 8.0 Hz, (CH₃)₂CCH), 3.44 (d, 1H, J = 2.8 Hz, O=CCH), 3.80 (s, 2H, PhCH₂N), 7.18–7.99 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 19.5, 20.2, 31.8, 43.4, 54.8, 55.5, 127.0, 128.2, 128.3, 128.6, 128.9, 133.1, 138.3, 139.1, 196.0.

(2*S**, 3*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(phenyl)aziridine (2b). 45% yield (28 mg); IR (KBr) 1684, 1450, 1224 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 3.32 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, O=CC*H*), 3.41 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, PhC*H*), 3.82 and 4.04 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 14.0 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 7.10–7.88 (m, 15H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 49.7, 51.1, 63.8, 127.1, 127.4, 127.5, 127.8, 127.9, 128.1, 128.3, 128.4, 132.9, 134.9, 136.9, 137.7, 193.1.

(2*R**,3*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(phenyl)aziridine (3b). 16% yield (10 mg); IR (film) 1668, 1448, 1230 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 3.63–3.67 (m, 2H, PhC*H*, O=CC*H*), 4.01 and 4.17 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 13.7 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 7.12–8.04 (m, 15H, Ar-H).

(2*S**, 3*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(4-methoxy)phenylaziridine (2c). 52% yield (13.2 mg); IR (film) 1687, 1613, 1229, 1032 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 3.28 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, O=CC*H*), 3.37 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, MeO-PhC*H*), 3.70 (s, 3H, *Me*O), 3.79 and 4.03 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 14.0 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 6.70–7.89 (m, 14H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 49.6, 51.1, 55.1, 63.8, 113.4, 126.9, 127.1, 127.8, 128.1 (2C), 128.4, 128.6, 132.9, 137.0, 137.8, 158.8, 193.3.

(2*R**, 3*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(4-methoxy)phenylaziridine (3c). 23% yield (6 mg); ¹H NMR δ 3.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz, O=CC*H*), 3.62 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 4MeO-PhC*H*), 3.79 (s, 3H, *Me*O), 4.01 and 4.17 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 14.0 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 6.82–8.02 (m, 14H, Ar-H).

(2*S**, 3*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(hepthyl)aziridine (2d). 61% yield (44 mg); 3d in 25% yield (17.2 mg); ¹H NMR δ 0.88 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, *Me*CH) , 1.0–1.6 (m, 12H, CH₃(CH₂)₆CH), 2.26 (m, 1H, CH₂CH), 3.14 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, O=CCH), 3.68 and 3.84 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 14.0 Hz, PhCH₂N), 7.25–8.10 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 14.0, 22.5, 27.4, 27.6, 29.0, 29.1, 31.5, 47.4, 49.1, 64.2, 127.1, 128.0, 128.1, 128.3, 128.5, 133.0, 137.2, 138.0, 195.1.

(2*S**)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3,3-(dimethyl)aziridine (2e). 66% yield (15 mg); ¹H NMR δ 1.21 (s, 3H, *Me*MeC), 1.54 (s, 3H, Me*Me*C), 2.93 (s, 1H, Me₂C*H*), 3.86 and 3.94 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 14.6 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 7.19–7.98 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 17.8, 21.7, 46.6, 54.5, 56.2, 126.7, 127.2, 128.0, 128.5, 133.0, 137.3, 139.1, 195.7.

(2S*, 3S*)-2-Acetyl-1-benzyl-3-(phenyl)aziridine (2f). 47% yield (26 mg); ¹H NMR

(300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.72 (s, 3H, O=C*Me*), 2.63 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.1 Hz, O=CC*H*), 3.18 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.1 Hz, PhC*H*), 3.71 and 3.80 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 13.5 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 7.18–7.46 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 28.5, 48.7, 52.8, 63.9, 127.4, 127.5, 127.7, 128.1, 128.2, 128.5, 135.2, 137.9, 205.9.

(2*R*^{*}, 3*S*^{*})-1-Benzyl-3-phenyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)-2-[(trimethylsilyl)carbonyl]aziridine (2g). 56% yield (28 mg); IR (film) 2953, 1626, 1250 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.03 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 0.32 (s, 9H, Si*Me*₃), 3.27 (s, 1H, PhC*H*), 3.49 and 4.54 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.4 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 6.92–7.48 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ - 2.0, 1.2, 54.1, 58.0, 60.7, 126.6, 127.3, 127.7, 127.8, 128.0, 128.5, 137.2, 139.4, 249.2.

(2*R**, 3*S**)-1-Benzyl-3-isopropyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)-2-[(trimethylsilyl)carbonyl]aziridine (2h). 92% yield (67 mg); IR (film) 2955, 1627, 1250, 1069 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 0.23 (s, 18H, Si*Me*₃ x 2), 0.46 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.1 Hz, (C*H*₃)₂C), 0.7–0.9 (m, 4H, (C*H*₃)₂C, (CH₃)₂C*H*), 1.68 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.8 Hz, BnNC*H*), 3.15 and 4.40 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.4 Hz, PhC*H*₂N), 7.27–7.42 (m, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ - 1.6, 1.1, 18.3, 21.2, 30.8, 56.1, 60.6, 60.8, 127.1, 128.2, 128.8, 139.8, 250.4.

(2*S**, 3*S**)-1-Benzyl-3-isopropyl-2-(pentanoyl)aziridine (2i). 63% yield (34 mg); 3i in 4% yield (2 mg); ¹H NMR δ 0.79 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 0.87 (t, 3H, 7.14 Hz, CH₂CH₃), 0.90 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.6 Hz, (CH₃)₂C), 1.21–1.34 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₃), 1.37–1.57 (m, 3H, (CH₃)₂CH, CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.68 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 9.3 Hz, (CH₃)₂CCH), 2.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.0 Hz, O=CCH), 2.39–2.58 (m, 2H, O=CCH₂) 3.43 and 3.60 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 13.2 Hz, PhCH₂N), 7.2–7.4 (m, 5H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 13.8, 19.8, 20.9, 22.3, 25.7, 27.2, 41.9, 49.6, 55.7, 64.6, 127.2, 128.3, 128.4, 138.0, 208.9.

 $(2S^*, 3S^*)$ -1-Benzyl-2-formyl-3-(isopropyl)aziridine (2j). 39% yield (28 mg); ¹H NMR δ 0.95 (d, 3H, J = 6.3 Hz, $(CH_3)_2$ C), 0.95 (d, 3H, J = 6.9 Hz, $(CH_3)_2$ C), 1.58–1.72 (m, 1H, $(CH_3)_2$ CH), 1.84 (dd, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz, 9.9 Hz, $(CH_3)_2$ CCH), 2.24–2.28 (m 1H, O=CCH), 3.50 and 3.74 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.9 Hz, PhCH₂N), 7.32–7.45 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 9.39 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, O=CH); ¹³C NMR δ 19.6, 21.2, 28.9, 49.9, 55.5, 64.1, 127.5, 128.5, 128.5, 137.8, 201.3.

(2S,3S)-2-Pentanoyl-3-phenyl-1-[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]aziridine (2k). 64% yield (18 mg); $[\alpha]_D^{28}$ -42.1 (c 0.78, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 0.73 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz, CH₂CH₃),

0.98–1.13 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_3), 1.15–1.45 (m, 2H, $CH_2CH_2CH_3$), 1.52 (d, 3H, J = 6.3 Hz, Ph*Me*CH), 1.85–1.95 (m, 1H, $CHH(CH_2)_2CH_3$), 2.26–2.36 (m, 1H, $CHH(CH_2)_2CH_3$), 2.62 (d, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz, OC=CH), 2.79–2.85 (m, 2H, PhCHMe), 3.07 (d, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz, NCH), 7.10–7.55 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ 13.7, 22.0, 22.8, 25.1, 40.4, 48.3, 52.5, 69.9, 127.0, 127.2, 127.4, 127.7, 128.0, 128.5, 135.4, 143.5, 208.1.; exact mass, m/z 307.1931 (calcd for $C_{21}H_{25}NO$ m/z 307.1936).

 $(2R^*, 3S^*)$ -2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-3-(3-benzyloxy)propyl-2-[(*tert*-butyldimethyl-silyloxy)methyl]aziridine (21). 90% yield (49 mg); ¹H NMR δ -0.09 (s, 3H, *tert*-BuSiCH₃CH₃) 0.02 (s, 3H, *tert*-BuSiCH₃CH₃), 0.81 (s, 9H, (CH₃)₃CSi), 0.99–1.58 (m, 4H, BnOCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.88–1.92 (m, 1H, NCH), 3.22–3.33 (m, 2H, BnOCH₂), 3.51 and 4.42 (ABq, 2H, J = 12.4 Hz, PhCH₂N), 3.91 and 4.56 (ABq, 2H, J = 11.5 Hz, CH₂OTBS), 4.35 (s, 2H, PhCH₂O), 7.22–8.15 (m, 15H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ -5.8, -5.8, 18.0, 25.7, 27.2, 27.6, 47.9, 55.7, 56.0, 61.7, 69.6, 72.5, 127.0, 127.4, 127.6, 127.8, 128.2, 128.6, 129.0, 129.8, 123.5, 137.2, 138.5, 139.3, 200.3.; exact mass, m/z 529.3017 (calcd for C₃₃H₄₃NO₃Si m/z 529.3012).

(2*S*, 3*S*)-2-Benzoyl-1-benzyl-2-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)methyl-3-[(1*S*)-1-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl]aziridine (2m). 37% yield (7.2 mg); $[\alpha]_D{}^{30}$ +22.0 (c 0.35, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ –0.08 (s, 3H, *tert*-BuSiCH₃CH₃) 0.04 (s, 3H, *tert*-BuSiCH₃CH₃), 0.80 (s, 9H, (CH₃)₃CSi), 1.16 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.3 Hz, *Me*CH), 1.96 (d, 1H, *J* =9.8 Hz, NCH), 3.02 (s, 3H, *Me*O), 3.00–3.07 (m, ¹H, MeCH), 3.50 and 4.43 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 12.9 Hz, PhCH₂N), 3.92 and 4.43 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 11.5 Hz, CH₂OTBS), 3.95 and 4.61 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz, MeOCH₂O), 7.22–7.99 (m, 10H, Ar-H); ¹³C NMR δ -5.8, -5.7, 18.1, 18.2, 25.7, 52.9, 54.3, 54.9, 56.3, 62.0, 73.2, 95.0, 127.2, 127.7, 128.2, 129.2, 129.9, 132.5, 137.2, 138.8, 199.9.; exact mass, m/z 469.2642 (calcd for C₂₇H₃₉NO₄Si m/z 469.2648).

5-Acetyl-1-benzyl-2-phenyl-3-(ethoxycarbonyl)pyrrole (**5**). A solution of **2f** (27 mg, 0.11 mmol) and ethyl propiolate (0.2 mL) in benzene (3 mL) was heated at 80 °C for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated and purified by CC to give **5** (23 mg, 62 %) as a colorless oil. IR (film) 2983, 1705, 1645 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 1.11 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 2.47 (s, 3H), 4.13 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 5.47 (s, 2H), 6.75–6.80 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.42 (m, 8H), 7.59 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 14.0, 27.5, 49.6, 59.9, 114.4, 121.8, 125.9, 127.0, 128.0, 128.3, 129.1, 129.9, 130.2, 138.1, 145.5, 163.7, 188.6.

