## 207. Asymmetric Induction at $C(\beta)$ and $C(\alpha)$ of N-Enoylsultams by Organomagnesium 1,4-Addition/Enolate Trapping

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The 1,4-addition of alkylmagnesium chlorides to conjugated N-enoylsultams and subsequent 'enolate trapping' with aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl or MeI/hexamethylphosphoric triamide generated centers of asymmetry at C( $\beta$ ) and/or at C( $\alpha$ ) with good to excellent  $\pi$ -face differentiation as demonstrated by the conversions  $1 \rightarrow 2$ ,  $1 \rightarrow 4$ , and  $8 \rightarrow 9$ . This holds also for the regioselective 1,4-addition of EtMgCl to a dienoylsultam (15 $\rightarrow$ 16). Reactive conformations  $1^{\neq}$ ,  $8^{\neq}$ , 13, and 14 are postulated in agreement with X-ray evidence which also served for the structure determination of the product 9j.

**Introduction.** – Stereoface-selective 1,4-additions of organometallic nucleophiles to conjugated carbonyl derivatives which carry a chiral auxiliary are among the most reliable approaches to enantiomerically pure  $C(\beta)$ -substituted carbonyl compounds<sup>1</sup>). As part of extensive work on asymmetric  $\beta$ -additions of organocopper reagents to enoates [3] [4], we showed that the same ester auxiliary may also induce chirality at  $C(\alpha)$  in a subsequent deprotonation/electrophilic substitution step [4] [5]. However, a related 'one-pot' formation of two centers of asymmetry (at  $C(\beta)$  and  $C(\alpha)$ ) in an open chain<sup>2</sup>) via



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) Review, see [1]; further references, see [2] [3].

<sup>2</sup>) For previously recorded cases of  $C(\beta), C(\alpha)$  inductions in cyclic systems, see [2].

electrophilic trapping of the enolate intermediate is even more attractive. Recently, this goal has been achieved by alkyllithium addition/alkylation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated iron-acyl complexes [6]. Another example is the tandem hydride addition/C( $\alpha$ )-protonation or methylation III $\rightarrow$ IV (R<sup>2(-)</sup> = H<sup>-</sup>, E<sup>(+)</sup> = H<sup>+</sup> or Me<sup>+</sup>; Scheme 1) [7].

We continued to explore the bis-functionalization III  $\rightarrow$  IV by employing C-nucleophiles  $\mathbb{R}^{2(-)3}$ ). As a complement to preliminary reports [4] [9], we describe here in detail convenient alkylmagnesium-chloride  $\beta$ -addition/enolate-trapping processes III  $\rightarrow$  IV. As usual [4] [10], enoylsultams III were readily obtained by acylation of sultam I with NaH/acyl chlorides II (Y = Cl) or with Me<sub>3</sub>Al/esters II (Y = OMe) and purified by crystallization.

Conjugate Addition of Grignard Reagents to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation. – We first addressed the issue of induction at C( $\beta$ ) (Scheme 2, Table 1). Simple alkylmagnesium chlorides added smoothly in a 1,4-fashion to  $\beta$ -substituted (E)-enoylsultams 1 to give, on subsequent treatment with aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, imides 2/3 in good yields. No 1,2-additions were observed, except with methyl Grignard



Table 1. Conjugate Additions of  $R^2MgCl$  to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Encylsultams and Subsequent 'Enclate' Protonation:  $1 \rightarrow 2 + 3$ 

	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Yield [%] of $2+3$	Ratio 2/3	Configuration of 2
a	 Me	Et	80	94.5:5.5	3 <i>R</i>
b	Me	Pr	90	92.6:7.4	3 <i>R</i>
e	Me	i-Pr	92	86.2:13.8	3.5
d	Me	Bu	78	93.2:6.8	3 <i>R</i>
e	Me	Hexyl	73	91.9:8.1	3 <i>R</i>
ſ	Me	Octyl	81	90.9:9.1	3 <i>R</i>
g	Et	Bu	89	94.7:5.3 <sup>a</sup> )	3 <i>R</i>
a) H	By <sup>1</sup> H-NMR.			- <u>-</u>	

<sup>3</sup>) For a related organocopper addition/transmetallation/Mannich reaction sequence, see [8].

reagents. The extent of diastereoface differentiation was determined by capillary-GC analyses of the crude reaction mixtures. Comparisons (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with authentic samples of 2 [11], 3a, and 3b [7] served to assign the absolute configurations of 2a-f. Imide 2g was shown to possess the (3*R*)-configuration by mild saponification (LiOH, aq. THF) to (3*R*)-3-ethylheptanoic acid, the optical rotation of which was compared with a previously reported value [12]. In all cases listed in *Table 1*, product 2 dominated significantly over its epimer 3. Addition of the sterically more demanding i-PrMgCl to 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ) resulted in a comparatively low diastereoisomeric excess (d.e.) of 2c (72.4%).

Conjugate Addition of Grignard Reagents to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Methylation. – We then explored the possibility of generating, starting from 1, a second chiral center at C( $\alpha$ ) (Scheme 2, Table 2). Treatment of 1 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me) with BuMgCl and methylation of the resulting magnesium 'enolate' by addition of MeI/hexamethylphosphoric triamide (HMPA) afforded a 86.7:4.7:8.6 mixture 4a/6a/7a in 80% yield. Not even a trace of the (2S,3S)-isomer 5a could be detected by

	Ri	دان Yield [%]	Ratio 4/5/6/7	4 (crystallized)					
		4+5+6+7		Yield [%]	Purity [%]	Configu- ration	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (δ [ppm])		
							CH <sub>3</sub> (8')	CH <sub>3</sub> -C(2)	
a	Me	80	86.7:0:4.7:8.6	48	97.5	2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>R</i>	1.19 (s)	1.22 ( <i>d</i> )	
b	Et	58	88.2:0:3.3:8.5	36	98.3	2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>R</i>	1.12(s)	1.13 (d)	

Table 2. Conjugate Additions of BuMgCl to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Methylation:  $1 \rightarrow 4 + 6 + 7$ 

GC. The major product 4a was isolated in 48% yield and 95% d.e. by crystallization and assigned the (2R,3R)-configuration based on the following evidence: sultam I was reacted with a mixture of the minor (2RS,3SR)- and the major (2RS,3RS)-2,3-dimethylheptanoyl chloride [13]; GC analysis of the resulting mixture showed 4 peaks (retention times: 17.73, 17.91, 18.02, 18.28) in a 1:1:1.2:1.2 ratio; accordingly, the last 2 peaks correspond to the (2RS,3RS)-isomers (see Exper. Part). Furthermore, taking into account the preferred formation of the (3R)-center in the 1,4-addition step (Table 1, 2d), it follows that the major 1,4-addition/methylation product (last GC peak by coinjection) has the (2R, 3R)-topicity as represented by structure 4a. Further support for the (2R)assignment of 4a was provided by the general observation that the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of (2R)-2-methyl-substituted acylsultams, derived from (+)-camphor, display the d of  $CH_3$ -C(2) at lower field relative to the s of  $CH_3(8')$  of the bornane moiety<sup>4</sup>). Starting from the homologue 1 with  $R^1 = Et$ , the identical 1,4-addition/methylation conditions furnished a 88.2: 3.3: 8.5 mixture of 3 isomeric products. The major product 4b, obtained in ca. 100% d.e. by crystallization, shows <sup>1</sup>H-NMR data in agreement with the assigned (2R)-configuration<sup>4</sup>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>) This trend seems to be independent of the substitution and configuration at  $C(\beta)$ . Corresponding <sup>1</sup>H-NMR data for (2S)-2-methylacylsultams were observed for **3a** (1.18 (s), 1.16 (d) [7]), **3b** (1.18 (s), 1.16 (d) [7]), and **6a** (1.08 (s), 0.99 (d) [14]).

Conjugate Addition of Grignard Reagents to N-Methacryloylsultam and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation. – As an alternative method to create a chiral center at  $C(\alpha)$  of a carbonyl compound, we then subjected  $\alpha$ -substituted enoylsultams 8 to the alkylmagnesium-chloride addition/protonation sequence. The alkylmagnesium chloride (1–2 M solution in Et<sub>2</sub>O) was added at -80° to a solution of N-methacryloylsultam 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = H) in toluene; warming up to room temperature within 15 min, quenching of the *in situ*-prepared Mg enolate at -95° with an emulsion of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution in THF afforded C-methyl-substituted N-acylsultams 9 (R<sup>1</sup> = H) with high diastereofacial differentiation (Scheme 3, Table 3)<sup>5</sup>).

Even MeMgCl gave conjugate adducts 9a/10a (9:1) although in only 45% yield due to concurrent 1,2-addition. Higher alkyl *Grignard* reagents furnished products 9 ( $\mathbf{R}^1 = \mathbf{H}$ )/ 10 ( $\mathbf{R}^1 = \mathbf{H}$ ) in ratios ranging from 91.5: 8.5 up to 97:3 (80–93% yield) from which the major epimer 9 ( $\mathbf{R}^1 = \mathbf{H}$ ) was routinely isolated in virtually pure form and in good yield by flash chromatography and/or crystallization (see 9b–e). The (2*R*)-configurations of 9





Table 3. Conjugate Additions of  $R^2MgCl$  to N-Methacryloylsultam and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation:  $8(R^1 = H) \rightarrow 9(R^1 = H) + 10(R^1 = H)$ 

	R <sup>2</sup>	Yield [%] 9( = 12) + 10( = 11)	Ratio 9/10	9 (purified)					
				Yield [%]	d.e. [%]	Configu- ration	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (δ [ppm])		
							CH <sub>3</sub> (8')	CH3-C(2)	
a	Me	45	90:10	- <sup>a</sup> )	<sup>a</sup> )	2 <i>R</i>	1.17(s)	1.22(d)	
b	Et	92	95:5	70 <sup>b</sup> )	97.2	2 <i>R</i>	1.16(s)	1.20(d)	
с	Pr	80	97:3	70 <sup>b</sup> )	99.6	2 <i>R</i>	1.14(s)	1.19 (d)	
d	i-Pr	93	95.6:4.4	84 <sup>c</sup> )	98.0	2 <i>R</i>	1.13(s)	1.16(d)	
e	Bu	81	91.5:8.5	62°)	100	2 <i>R</i>	1.13 (s)	1.17(d)	
a)	Not pur	ified.							
b)	Flash chromatography.								
9	Crystallization								

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>) Compared to Table 3, Entry c, significantly lower induction (→(2R)) was observed on protonation of the transient enolate 14 (R<sup>1</sup> = H, R<sup>2</sup> = Pr) with MeOH (52% d.c.) or with 2,6-di(*tert*-butyl)-4-methylphenol (74% d.e.).

agree with their <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra and were confirmed in the case of **9a** and **9b** by comparison with authentic samples [7]<sup>6</sup>). It is interesting to note that the 1,4-addition/ protonation  $8 \rightarrow 9$  (*Tables 3* and 4) reveals a  $\pi$ -face discrimination at C( $\alpha$ ) which is opposite to that of the 1,4-addition/methylation process  $1 \rightarrow 4$ .

Conjugate Additions of Grignard Reagents to  $\alpha,\beta$ -Disubstituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonations. – Encouraged by the excellent stereodifferentiations for  $8 \rightarrow 9$  with  $R^1 = H$ , we then studied the generation of two contiguous centers of chirality by submitting  $\alpha,\beta$ -disubstituted (E)-enoylsultams to similar conjugate addition/ protonation conditions (Scheme 3, Table 4). A solution of an alkylmagnesium chloride (2.2 mol-equiv. in Et<sub>2</sub>O) was added at -80° to a solution of an enoylsultam 8 ( $R^1 = alkyl$ ) in Et<sub>2</sub>O/THF 5:1. To complete the Michael-type reaction, the mixture was slowly warmed to -40° and kept at -40° overnight. Protonation at -70° using again an emulsion of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution in THF provided mixtures of 2-3 of the 4 possible stereoisomeric products 9-12 with isomer 9 largely prevailing. In each case (Table 4), the major isomer 9 was efficiently purified by flash chromatography and crystallization<sup>7</sup>). Mild saponifica-

Table 4. Conjugate Addition of  $R^2MgCl$  to  $\alpha,\beta$ -Disubstituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation:  $8 \rightarrow 9 + 11 + 12$ 

	R <sup>1</sup> R	R <sup>2</sup>	Yield [%] 9 + 10 + 11 + 12	Ratio 9/10/11/12	9 (erystallized)				
					Yield	Purity	Configu- ration	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR ( $\delta$ [ppm])	
					[%]	[%]		CH <sub>3</sub> (8')	CH <sub>3</sub> -C(2)
ſ	Me	Et	90	99.0:0:1.0:0	81	99.7	2 <i>R</i> ,3 <i>R</i>	1.15 (s)	1.18 (d)
g	Me	Bu	73	98.2:0.2:0.9:0.7	66	100	2R,3R	1.19(s)	1.22(d)
ĥ	Me	Ph	-a)	97.0:0:2.4:0.6	48	99.3	2R, 3S	1.10(s)	1.21(d)
i	Et	Bu	90	97.0:0:2.6:0.4	78	100	2R,3R	1.12(s)	1.13 (d)
i	Bu	Et	82	96.5:0:1.4:2.1	60	99.8	2R.3S	1.06(s)	1.07(d)

tion of **9f** furnished sultam auxiliary **I** and (2R,3R)-2,3-dimethylpentanoic acid [15] which exemplifies the overall transformation **II**  $\rightarrow$  **V** and serves as evidence for the (2R,3R)-configuration of **9f**. Products **9g** and **9i** were readily shown to possess also the (2R,3R)-topicity by identifying them with the above described addition/methylation products **4a** and **4b**, respectively. All products **9** display <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra in accord with a (2R)-configuration<sup>4</sup>). This applies also to the 3-phenyl derivative **9h** which has been ascribed the (3S)-configuration based on analogy. Unequivocal proof for the (2R,3S)-chirality of **9j** was obtained by means of an X-ray-diffration analysis (*Figure*) accounting for the known configuration of the camphor-derived sultam moiety as well as for a least-squares refinement of the absolute-structure parameter x [16].

Accordingly, *Table 4* reveals synthetically relevant inductions at  $C(\beta)$  and  $C(\alpha)(\rightarrow (2R))$  of 9 which derive solely from the auxiliary I. The synthesis of 9i and 9j thus exemplify the option to alternate the developing configuration at  $C(\beta)(\rightarrow (3R) \text{ or } (3S))$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>) For comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR), mixtures 9c/10c and 9d/10d were prepared by acylation of sultam I with the corresponding racemic acyl chlorides.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>) The configurations of the minor products were not assigned except for 11f, 11g, 12g, and 12j (= 9i) (GC comparison with authentic samples, see *Exper. Part*).



by permutation of  $\mathbb{R}^1$  and the '*Grignard* substituent'  $\mathbb{R}^2$  independent of the stereochemical outcome at  $C(\alpha)(\rightarrow (2R))$ .

Stereochemical Rationalization, Regio- and Face-Selective Addition of Ethylmagnesium Chloride to [(E,E)-2,4-Hexadienoyl]sultam. – The stereoface differentiations observed throughout this work are consistent with the transition-state topologies presented in Schemes 4 and 5. Focussing this discussion first on the 1,4-additions to  $C(\alpha)$ -unsubstituted enoylsultams 1, it appears that the conformation found in crystalline 1, with  $R^{\dagger} = Me (C=O/SO_2 \text{ antiperiplanar}, C=O/C(\alpha), C(\beta) \text{ s-cis}$ , and a pyramidal N-atom) [17], differs from that of transition state  $1^{*}$  (Scheme 4) which features rather a Mg-chelated SO<sub>2</sub>/C=O synperiplanar disposition.

This explains the need of > 2 mol-equiv. of alkylmagnesium chloride for achieving successful 1,4-additions to enoylsultams 1 and 8. We thus assume delivery of  $R^2$  to  $1^{\neq}$  from the bottom side, opposite to the lone pair on the N-atom<sup>8</sup>) via a 6-membered cyclic



<sup>8</sup>) The possibility of a  $\pi$ -face-directing bias of the pyramidal N-atom on the electrophilic attack of enamines and N,O-ketene acetals was first evoked by *Eschenmoser* and coworkers [18]. Similar stereoelectronic control of nucleophilic 1,4-additions to enoylsultams 1 and 8 may be operational. The above postulate relates even more closely to the stereoface-selective reactions of electrophiles with O-metalated N,O-ketene acetals such as 13 and other reported examples [7] [8] [19]. mechanism [20] which is compatible with the depicted  $C=O/C(\alpha), C(\beta)$  s-*cis* conformation. During this process, the  $C=O/C(\alpha), C(\beta)$  s-*cis* conformation apparently translates into the 'enolate' (Z)-configuration of 13°). To explain the subsequent stereoface-selective methylations 13→4, we propose for 13 the depicted conformation which parallels that of the O-pivaloyl derivative of 13 with  $R^1 = Pr$  and  $R^2 = H$  [9] [22]. Sterically or stereoelectronically<sup>8</sup>) auxiliary-directed electrophilic attack from the bottom side of 13 provides the (2*R*)-products 4 with good  $\pi$ -face differentiation despite the counteracting bias of the C( $\beta$ )-center ( $R^2 > R^1$ ).

Examination of Scheme 3 and Table 4 reveals that Grignard reagents undergo 1,4-additions to  $\alpha,\beta$ - disubstituted (E)-enoyl sultams 8 from the same  $\pi$ -face as they do with the  $\beta$ -monosubstituted (E)-enoyl derivatives 1. We believe that the C=O/SO<sub>2</sub> antiperiplanar and C=O/C( $\alpha$ ),C( $\beta$ ) s-trans conformation of 8, as indicated by X-ray evidence [9] [17], is irrelevant in this reaction series. It is much more plausible to assume again a chelation by Mg (C=O/SO<sub>2</sub> synperiplanar) and the operation of a cyclic transition state C=O··Mg··R<sup>2</sup>··C( $\beta$ ) which enforces the C=O/C( $\alpha$ ),C( $\beta$ ) s-cis conformation of 8<sup>\*</sup>, regardless of the C( $\alpha$ )-methyl/bornane repulsion (Scheme 5).



This reactive s-*cis* conformation of  $8^*$  would entail the stereoselective formation of (*Z*)-enolates  $14^9$ ) which was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and X-ray studies of the *O*-acetyl derivative of 14 and its (*E*)-isomer ( $R^1 = H$ ,  $R^2 = Et$ ) [9] [22]. To rationalize the face differentiation on protonations of (*Z*)-enolates 14 (which is opposite to that of 13), we propose a conformation with the lone electron pair on the N-atom in the nodal plane of the  $\pi$ -system. This geometry, similar to that of the (*E*)-*O*-acetyl derivative of 14 [9] [22], minimizes repulsion between the C( $\alpha$ )-methyl group and the auxiliary unit. Furthermore, chelation of the enolate and the lower SO<sub>2</sub> O-atom by Mg as well as association of the latter with H<sub>2</sub>O complies plausibly with a protonation from the C( $\alpha$ )-*Si*(front) face of 14.

Referring again to the postulated six-membered cyclic transition states  $1^{\pm}$  and  $8^{\pm}$ , experimental support was provided by the regioselective 1,4-addition of EtMgCl to (E,E)-hexadienoylsultam 15 which gave, after crystallization, the (E)-3-ethyl-4-hexenoyl product 16 (69% yield) in *ca.* 100% d.e. (*Scheme 6*). Saponification of 16 (LiOH, aq. THF, r.t.) and hydrogenation of the resulting (E,3R)-3-ethyl-4-hexenoic acid  $(H_2, Rh/Al_2O_3)$  gave the known (3S)-3-ethylhexanoic acid [23] which revealed readily the (3R)-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>) For the influence of  $C(\alpha)$ - and  $C(\beta)$ -substituents on the s-cis/s-trans-conformation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones and their stereoselective conversion to (Z)- or (E)-enolates by conjugate hydride additions, see [21].



configuration of 16. However, it is the obvious preference for  $C(\beta)$ -addition which reflects the steric constraints of a cyclic transition state since attack at  $C(\delta)$  would imply an 8-membered ring containing a *trans*-olefinic bond. In contrast, hydride was delivered by *L-Selectride* (= LiBH(*sec*-Bu)<sub>3</sub>) regioselectively at  $C(\delta)$  of 15 affording *N*-[(*E*)-3-hexenoyl]sultam 17 [9] [14]. It is worth noting that the smooth and selective transformation  $15 \rightarrow 16$  is of interest for organic synthesis in view of possible  $\pi$ -face-selective functionalizations at the olefinic C-atoms and at  $C(\alpha)$ .

**Conclusions.** – The evidence presented here leaves no doubt about the potential of the tandem alkylmagnesium addition/enolate trapping for the synthesis of enantiomerically pure compounds. It exemplifies once more the wide applicability and practical advantages of the sultam I (and its enantiomer) as a chiral auxiliary [4] [9]. Further work on the scope and limitations of this new methodology is in progress.

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## **Experimental Part**

General. All reactions were carried out under Ar with magnetic stirring, unless otherwise specified. Solvents were dried by distillation from drying agents as follows:  $Et_2O$  (Na), THF (Na), toluene (K). MeMgCl (3M in  $Et_2O$ ) and EtMgCl (2M in  $Et_2O$ ) were purchased from *Aldrich*. Solns. (0.8–1.2M) of the other *Grignard* reagents in  $Et_2O$  were prepared from alkyl chlorides and Mg powder (*Merck*, 0.1–0.3 mm). Their concentrations were determined by addition of a measured excess of aq. HCl and 'back-titration' with 0.1N aq. NaOH using phenolphthalein as indicator. 'Workup' denotes extraction with an org. solvent, washing of the org. phase with sat. aq. NaCl soln., drying (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and evaporation (rotatory evaporator). Column flash chromatography (FC): SiO<sub>2</sub> (*Merck* 9385). GC: *Hewlett-Packard* 5790A, integrator HP 3390, capillary column (fused silica, 0.2 mm i.d., 12 m), OV-1, 10 psi

H<sub>2</sub>; A: 150°, 10 min $\rightarrow$ 10°/min $\rightarrow$ 250°; B: 150°, 10 min $\rightarrow$ 7.5°/min $\rightarrow$ 250°; C: 160°, 10 min $\rightarrow$ 7.5°/min $\rightarrow$ 250°; D: 160°, 10 min $\rightarrow$ 10°/min $\rightarrow$ 250°; unless otherwise specified; retention time in min (area %). M.p.: *Kofler* hot stage; uncorrected. [ $\alpha$ ]: *Perkin-Elmer-241* polarimeter; in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, unless otherwise specified. IR: *Perkin-Elmer-257*, CHCl<sub>3</sub> unless otherwise specified. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR at 50 MHz, unless otherwise specified; standard tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm); *J* in Hz. MS: *m/z* (rel.-%).

**N-Encylsultams 1.** -(2 R)-Bornane-10,2-sultam (I). Auxiliary I [4] [9] [17] was prepared from (+)-(1S)-camphor-10-sulfonyl chloride following the procedure described for the preparation of its antipode [24].

N-[(E)-2-Butenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (1,  $R^1 = Me$ ). Prepared according to [10] [24].

N-f(E)-2-Pentenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (I, R<sup>1</sup> = Et). A soln. of I (3.4 g, 15.8 mmol) in toluene (40 ml) was added dropwise at r.t. to a stirred suspension of NaH (23.8 mmol) in toluene (42 ml). After 1 h, (*E*)-2-pentenoyl chloride (3.79 g, 32 mmol) was added slowly, and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 3 h. Workup, FC (hexane/EtOAc 85:15), and crystallization (EtOH) gave I (R<sup>1</sup> = Et; 3.63 g, 78%). GC (A): 14.05. M.p. 130–131°. IR: 2970, 1680, 1640, 1480, 1455, 1415, 1375, 1235. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.94 (*s*, 3 H); 1.06 (*t*, *J* = 7.5, 3 H); 1.16 (*s*, 3 H); 1.3–1.45 (2 H); 1.83–1.96 (3 H); 2.05–2.2 (2 H); 2.23–2.33 (2 H); 3.45 (*d*, *J* = 13.5, 1 H); 3.53 (*d*, *J* = 13.5, 1 H); 3.94 (*dd*, *J* = 8, 5.5, 1 H); 6.56 (*dt*, *J* = 15, 2, 1 H); 7.15 (*dt*, *J* = 15, 6.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 164.20 (*s*); 152.19 (*d*); 119.99 (*d*); 65.09 (*d*); 53.12 (*t*); 48.42 (*s*); 47.75 (*s*); 44.66 (*d*); 38.48 (*t*); 32.80 (*t*); 26.47 (*t*); 25.66 (*t*); 20.84 (*q*); 19.90 (*q*); 12.17 (*q*). MS: 297 (1, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 268 (0.6), 233 (1), 218 (1.5), 204 (7), 83 (100), 55 (24). HR-MS: 297.1411 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 297.1400).

N-(2-Methyl-2-propenoyl) bornane-10,2-sultam (8,  $R^1 = H$ ). Following the procedure for the preparation of 1 ( $R^1 = Et$ ), successive treatment of 1 (500 mg, 2.32 mmol) with NaH (3.48 mmol) and 2-methyl-2-propenoyl chloride (0.46 ml, 4.71 mmol), workup, FC (hexane/EtOAc 85:15), and crystallization (EtOH) furnished 8 ( $R^1 = H$ ; 502 mg, 76%). GC (A): 8.60. M.p. 149–150°. IR: 2970, 1680, 1640, 1455, 1415, 1340. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 1.00 (*s*, 3 H); 1.22 (*s*, 3 H); 1.3–1.5 (2 H); 2.0 (*d*, J = 1.5, 3 H); 1.8–2.1 (5 H); 3.42 (*d*, J = 14, 1 H); 3.55 (*d*, J = 14, 1 H); 4.06 (*dd*, J = 8, 5.5, 1 H); 5.68 (*d*, J = 1.5, 1 H); 5.72 (*s*, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 171.20 (*s*); 138.88 (*s*); 124.27 (*t*); 65.38 (*d*); 53.47 (*t*); 47.95 (*s*); 47.62 (*s*); 45.16 (*d*); 38.27 (*t*); 33.17 (*t*); 26.40 (*t*); 21.27 (*q*); 19.81 (*q*); 18.67 (*q*). MS: 283 (0.3, C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 214 (1.3), 204 (2.4), 191 (3.9), 176 (4.7), 162 (0.9), 150 (1.8), 134 (6.2), 119 (3.1), 108 (8.1), 69 (100). HR-MS: 283.1240 (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 283.1243).

N-[(E)-2-Methyl-2-butenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (8, R<sup>1</sup> = Me). Prepared according to [10].

N-*f* (*E*)-2-*Methyl*-2-*pentenoyl]bornane*-10,2-*sultam* (**8**,  $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{E}t$ ). Following the procedure described previously [10] for the preparation of *N*-[(*E*)-2-hexenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam, (*E*)-2-methyl-2-pentenoic acid (1.14 g, 10 mmol) was converted (oxalyl chloride) into its acyl chloride which served to acylate **I** (1.06 g, 5 mmol), giving after crystallization (hexane), **8** ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{E}t$ ; 1.32 g, 85%). GC (150°, 10°/min→270°): 5.62. M.p. 131–132°. IR: 2970, 1680, 1485, 1460, 1415, 1395, 1375, 1335, 1310, 1290, 1250, 1185, 1170, 1130, 1100, 1060, 1035, 985. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 1.00 (*s*, 3 H); 1.07 (*t*, *J* = 7.5, 3 H); 1.25 (*s*, 3 H); 1.40 (*dt*, *J* = 9, 7.5, 2 H); 1.87 (br. *s*, 3 H); 1.83–2.08 (5 H); 2.13–2.33 (2 H); 3.37 (*d*, *J* = 14, 1 H); 3.47 (*d*, *J* = 14, 1 H); 4.03 (*dd*, *J* = 7.5, 5, 1 H); 6.22 (*dt*, *J* = 9, 1.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 172.44 (*s*); 143.97 (*d*); 129.88 (*d*); 65.37 (*d*); 53.48 (*t*); 47.79 (*s*); 47.65 (*s*); 45.19 (*d*); 38.20 (*t*); 33.17 (*t*); 26.50 (*t*); 21.78 (*t*); 21.29 (*q*); 19.88 (*q*); 12.85 (*q*): 12.75 (*q*). MS: 311 (12, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 247 (7), 232 (7), 218 (29), 204 (7), 190 (8), 152 (9), 97 (100), 69 (40). HR-MS: 311.1544 (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 311.1555).

N-f(E)-2-Methyl-2-heptenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (8, R<sup>1</sup> = Bu). At r.t., 2 M AlMe<sub>3</sub> in hexane (3 ml, 6 mmol) was added dropwise to a soln. of I (961 mg, 4.47 mmol) in toluene (20 ml). After stirring for 15 min, ethyl (*E*)-2-methyl-2-heptenoate (1.08 g, 6.3 mmol) was added, and the resulting mixture was heated at 90° for 6 d. Workup and FC (hexane/EtOAc 82: 18) gave 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = Bu; 651 mg, 42%) which was crystallized (hexane). GC (C): 18.50. M.p. 88°. IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 2950, 2940, 2850, 1675, 1325. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.82 (*t*, *J* = 7, 3 H); 0.90 (*s*, 3 H); 1.16 (*s*, 3 H), 1.2-1.43 (6 H); 1.80 (*d*, *J* = 1.5, 3 H); 1.81-2.0 (5 H); 2.05-2.25 (2 H); 3.34 (*d*, *J* = 14, 1 H); 3.44 (*d*, *J* = 14, 1 H); 4.00 (*dd*, *J* = 7.5, 4.5, 1 H); 6.26 (*dq*, *J* = 7.5, 1.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 172.38 (*s*); 142.65 (*d*); 130.35 (*s*); 65.35 (*d*); 53.47 (*t*); 47.76 (*s*); 47.60 (*s*); 45.17 (*d*); 38.17 (*t*); 33.15 (*t*); 30.49 (*t*); 28.22 (*t*); 26.45 (*t*); 22.36 (*t*); 21.24 (*q*); 19.83 (*q*); 13.84 (*q*); 12.85 (*q*). MS: 339 (3, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 324 (1), 218 (10), 135 (11), 126 (22), 125 (100), 107 (7), 95 (11), 82 (13), 69 (22), 55 (53). HR-MS: 339.1912 (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 339.1916).

N-[(E,E)-2,4-Hexadienoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (15). A mixture of sorbic acid (100 mg, 0.9 mmol) and oxalyl chloride (567 mg, 4.5 mmol) was stirred at r.t. for 12 h and then evaporated. Bulb-to-bulb distillation of the residue (70–75° (bath)/10 Torr) furnished (*E*,*E*)-2,4-hexadienoyl chloride (112 mg, 84%). Following the procedure described for the preparation of 1 (R<sup>1</sup> = Et), acylation of I (178 mg, 0.83 mmol) with (*E*,*E*)-2,4-hexadienoyl chloride (112 mg, 0.75 mmol), workup, FC (hexane/EtOAc 4: 1), and crystallization (hexane) gave 15 (161 mg, 69%). GC (C): 18.67. M.p. 110–111°. IR: 2970, 2920, 2890, 1680, 1640, 1610, 1340, 1270, 1250, 1210, 1160, 1130, 1115, 1060, 1000. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.88 (*s*, 3H); 1.10 (*s*, 3H); 1.23–1.45 (2H); 1.8-1.93 (6H); 1.98–2.15 (2H); 3.41 (*d*,

J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.47 (d, J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.92 (dd, J = 7.5, 5, 1 H); 6.12-6.32 (2 H); 6.50 (d, J = 15, 1 H); 7.35 (dd, J = 15, 10, 1 H). J = 15, 10, 1 H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}: 164.50 (s); 145.87 (d); 141.10 (d); 130.01 (d); 118.21 (d); 65.10 (d); 53.09 (t); 48.36 (s);$   $47.72 (s); 44.62 (d); 38.46 (t); 32.76 (t); 26.45 (t); 20.77 (q); 19.86 (q); 18.74 (q). \text{ MS}: 309 (8, C_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3\text{S}^+), 294$ (2), 135 (3), 95 (100), 67 (70). HR-MS: 309.1369 (C\_{16}\text{H}\_{23}\text{NO}\_3\text{S}^+, \text{calc. 309.1399}).

Conjugate Additions of Grignard Reagents to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation. – General Procedure. At -80° ca. 1-2N alkylmagnesium chloride (2.5 mol-equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O was added dropwise to 0.07 M 1 (1 mol-equiv.) in THF. The mixture was stirred at -80° for 3 h, then quenched at -60° with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln., subjected to workup and FC thereby avoiding a separation of isomeric 1,4-adducts (as controlled by GC).

Addition of EtMgCl to 1 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me). Using the general procedure, 1 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me; 50 mg, 0.176 mmol) furnished **2a/3a** (44 mg, 80%). GC (A): 14.10 (94.55), 14.19 (5.45). The main product **2a** was identified as N-[(3R)-3-methyl-pentanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3-methyl-2-pentenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of PrMgCl to 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ). Using the general procedure, 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ; 26 mg, 0.092 mmol) gave 2b/3b (27 mg, 90%). GC (A): 15.65 (92.6), 15.78 (7.4). The main product 2b was identified as N-[(3R)-3-methylhexa-noyl]bornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3-methyl-2-hexenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of *i*-PrMgCl to 1 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e$ ). Using the general procedure, 1 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e$ ; 21 mg, 0.074 mmol) gave 2c/3c (22 mg, 92%). GC (A): 15.54 (86.2), 15.65 (13.8). The main product 2c was identified as N-*f*( $\mathbb{R}$ )-3,4-dimeth-ylpentanoylJbornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3,4-dimethyl-2-pentenoylJbornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of BuMgCl to  $1 (\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e)$ . Using the general procedure,  $1 (\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e; 100 \text{ mg}, 0.35 \text{ mmol})$  gave 2d/3d (94 mg, 78%). GC (A): 17.21 (93.15), 17.36 (6.85). The main product 2d was identified as  $N-[(3\mathbb{R})-3-methylhepta-noyl]$ bornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3-methyl-2-heptenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of Hexylmagnesium Chloride to 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ). Using the general procedure, 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ; 20 mg, 0.07 mmol) gave 2e/3e (19 mg, 73%). GC (A): 19.93 (91.9), 20.04 (8.1). The main product 2e was identified as N-f(3R)-3-methylnonanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3-methyl-2-nonenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of Octylmagnesium Chloride to 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ). Using the general procedure, 1 ( $R^1 = Me$ ; 20 mg, 0.07 mmol) gave 2f/3f (22 mg, 81%). GC (A): 22.23 (83.1), 22.34 (8.3). The main product 2f was identified as N-f(3R)-3-methylundecanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained by catalytic hydrogenation of N-[(E)-3-methyl-2-undecenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam [11].

Addition of BuMgCl to 1 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{E}t$ ). Using the general procedure, 1 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{E}t$ ; 500 mg, 1.68 mmol) gave N-[(3 R)-3-ethylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (2g; 531 mg, 89%), oil. GC (A): 16.96 (99). 1R: 2960, 2930, 2880, 2860, 1690, 1480, 1460, 1415. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.82 (t, J = 7.5, 6H); 0.92 (s, 3H); 1.12 (s, 3H); 1.14–1.42 (10H); 1.8–2.0 (4H); 2.03–2.1 (2 H); 2.54 (dd, J = 16, 6.5, 1 H); 2.68 (dd, J = 16, 7, 1 H); 3.43 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.50 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.88 (t, J = 7, 1 H); signals at 2.53 (dd, J = 16, 7, 0.05H); 2.69 (dd, J = 16, 7, 0.05H) assigned to isomer 3g. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 171.90 (s); 65.16 (d); 52.95 (t); 48.17 (s); 47.62 (s); 44.59 (d); 39.82 (t); 38.50 (t); 35.98 (d); 32.94 (t); 32.76 (t); 28.56 (t); 26.38 (t); 26.18 (t); 22.92 (t); 20.71 (q); 19.81 (q); 13.99 (q); 10.82 (q). MS: 356 (0.3, [C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 355 (0.14, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 340 (0.17), 326 (0.7), 312 (0.46), 298 (0.77), 257 (25), 151 (7), 135 (60), 107 (11), 93 (11), 71 (61), 57 (100). HR-MS: 355.2186 (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 355.2181).

Conjugate Additions of Grignard Reagents to  $\beta$ -Substituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Methylation. – N-[(2R,3R)-2,3-Dimethylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (4a). At -80°, 1.0 M BuMgCl in Et<sub>2</sub>O (5.0 ml, 5.0 mmol) was added dropwise to I (R<sup>1</sup> = Me; 500 mg, 1.76 mmol) in THF (25 ml). After stirring at -78° for 3 h, a sample was withdrawn and quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln. GC (B): 17.33 (84.3), 17.44 (7.9). Addition of MeI (1.1 ml, 17.7 mmol) and HMPA (1.75 ml, 10.0 mmol) at -80° to the non-quenched reaction mixture, warming up to r.t. within 16 h, and workup afforded a crude oil. GC (B): 17.61 (4.3), 17.79 (7.8), 18.24 (78.9). FC (hexane/EtOAc 9: 1) furnished a mixture of stereoisomeric N- (2,3-dimethylheptanoyl)sultams (500 mg, 80%; GC (B): 17.62 (1.4), 17.82 (8.6), 18.37 (86.1)) from which 4a was isolated by crystallization (hexane; 298 mg, 48%). GC (B): 17.79 (2.5), 18.20 (97.5). M.p. 91-92°. IR: 2970, 2940, 1695, 1460, 1390, 1330, 1265, 1132. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.91 (t, J = 7.5, 3 H); 0.95 (d, J = 6.8, 3 H); 0.99 (s, 3 H); 1.19 (s, 3 H); 1.22 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 1.08-1.62 (8H); 1.8-2.0 (4H); 2.07-2.15 (2H); 2.92 (dq, J = 7, 8.8, 1 H); 3.48 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.55 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.95 (t, J = 6.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.23 (s); 65.02 (d); 53.19 (t); 48.08 (s); 47.66 (s); 45.85 (d); 44.55 (d); 38.41 (t); 34.65 (d); 32.79 (t); 32.37 (t); 28.56 (t); 26.36 (t); 22.91 (t); 20.78 (q); 19.81 (q); 17.76 (q); 16.55 (q); 14.02 (q). MS: 355 (< 1,

 $C_{19}H_{33}NO_3S^+$ ), 340 (1.5), 271 (50), 135 (40), 113 (50), 71 (90), 57 (100). HR-MS: 271.1232 ( $[M - C_6H_{12}]^+$ ,

 $C_{13}H_{21}NO_3S^{+-}$ , calc. 271.1231). N-[(2R,3R)-3-Ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (4b). At  $-85^{\circ}$ , 1.0 M BuMgCl in Et<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 ml, 1.5 mmol) was added dropwise to a soln. of 1 ( $R^1 = C_2H_5$ ; 160 mg, 0.534 mmol) in THF (8 ml). After 2 h at  $-85^\circ$ , the mixture was allowed to warm up to  $-65^{\circ}$  within 3 h. A withdrawn sample was quenched with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln. and examined by GC (B): 16.96 (92.4). Then, MeI (0.24 ml, 3.86 mmol) and HMPA (0.53 ml, 3 mmol) were added to the non-quenched reaction mixture at  $-85^\circ$ . The mixture was slowly (within 16 h) warmed up to r.t. and submitted to workup to give a crude oil. GC (B): 18.31 (12, 2g), 18.51 (2.5), 18.64 (6.5), 18.96 (67.8). FC gave a mixture of stereoisomeric N-(3-ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl)sultams (114 mg, 58%; GC (B): 18.63 (8.1), 18.96 (88.6)) from which 4b (major) was isolated by crystallization (hexane; 72 mg, 36%). GC (C): 19.61 (1.7), 19.94 (98.3). M.p. 91-92°. IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 2960, 2940, 2880, 1700, 1290, 1210. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.82 (t, J = 7.5, 3H); 0.84 (t, J = 7.0, 3H); 0.92 (s, 3H); 1.12 (s, 3H); 1.13 (d, J = 7, 3H); 1.14–1.56 (10H); 1.72 (m, 1H); 1.78–2.0 (3H); 2.02–2.08 (2H); 3.00 (dq, J)J = 8.5, 6, 1 H); 3.42 (d, J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.50 (d, J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.90 (t, J = 6, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.31 (s); 65.02 (d); 53.12 (*t*); 48.08 (*s*); 47.61 (*s*); 44.49 (*d*); 43.24 (*d*); 40.17 (*d*); 38.39 (*t*); 32.72 (*t*); 27.94 (*t*); 27.54 (*t*); 26.36 (*t*); 24.21 (*t*); 23.15 (*t*); 20.73 (*q*); 19.80 (*q*); 16.28 (*q*); 14.04 (*q*); 11.37 (*q*). MS: 369 (0.14,  $C_{20}H_{35}NO_3S^+$ ), 354 (0.5), 340 (0.2), 326 (0.25), 312 (0.14), 290 (0.28), 271 (34), 155 (14), 135 (51), 127 (30), 107 (14), 93 (15), 85 (49), 71 (100), 57 (81). HR-MS: 354.2097 ( $[C_{20}H_{35}NO_3S - CH_3]^+$ , calc. 354.2105).

Conjugate Additions of Grignard Reagents to N-(Methacryloyl)sultam 8 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = H$ ) and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation. – General Procedure. At -80° 1-2*M* alkylmagnesium chloride (2 mol-equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O was added dropwise to 0.07*M* 8 ( $\mathbb{R}^1 = H$ ; 1 mol-equiv.) in toluene. Then, the mixture was allowed to reach r.t. within 15 min. After recooling to -95° (MeOH/liq. N<sub>2</sub>), the reaction was quenched with an emulsion of THF/sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and worked up to give a crude oil (analyzed by GC) which was purified by FC without altering the stereoisomer ratios (GC).

N-f(2R)-2-Methylbutanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9a). Using the general procedure, addition of MeMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = H; 65 mg, 0.23 mmol), subsequent protonation, and FC gave I (25%) and a 9:1 mixture (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) 9a/10a (31 mg, 45%). GC (A): 10.61 (99). The major 9a was identified by comparison (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) with an authentic sample obtained*via*conjugate addition of*L-Selectride*to <math>N-[(E)-2-butenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam followed by methylation (MeI, HMPA) of the intermediate enolate [7] [14]. The minor 10a was identified by comparison with authentic samples obtained either*via*conjugate addition of*L-Selectride*to <math>N-[(E)-2-butenoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam followed by protonation (aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl), or by acylation of I with (+)-(S)-2-methylbutyric acid [7] [14].

N-f(2R)-2-Methylpentanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9b). Using the general procedure, addition of EtMgCl to 8 ( $R^1 = H$ ; 33 mg, 0.12 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave a mixture 9b/10b (31 mg, 92%). GC (A): 12.83 (4.8), 13.11 (93.1). FC furnished the major 9b (26 mg, 70%; GC (A): 12.88 (1.4), 13.10 (98.6)), identified by comparison with an authentic sample obtained *via* addition of *L-Selectride* to *N*-(2-propylacryloyl)bornane-10,2-sultam [7] [14].

N-f(2R)-2-Methylhexanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9c). Using the general procedure, addition of PrMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = H; 629 mg, 2.22 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave 9c/10c (579 mg, 80%). GC (A): 14.32 (2.8), 14.69 (91.8). FC (hexane/EtOAc 14:1) furnished the major 9c (506 mg, 70%). GC (A): 14.32 (0.2), 14.62 (99.8). M.p. 87–88°. IR: 2960, 2940, 2880, 2860, 1695, 1480, 1470, 1460, 1415. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.86 (*t*,*J*= 7.5, 3 H); 0.95 (*s*, 3 H); 1.14 (*s*, 3 H); 1.19 (*d*,*J*= 7, 3 H); 1.2–1.46 (7 H); 1.7–1.96 (4 H); 2.03–2.1 (2 H); 3.06 (*m*, 1 H); 3.44 (*d*,*J*= 14, 1 H); 3.52 (*d*,*J*= 14, 1 H); 3.90 (*t*,*J*= 7, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.34 (*s*); 65.03 (*d*); 53.15 (*t*); 48.19 (*s*); 47.68 (*s*); 44.56 (*d*); 40.25 (*d*); 38.40 (*t*); 32.77 (*t*); 32.32 (*t*); 29.40 (*t*); 26.40 (*t*); 22.69 (*t*); 20.76 (*q*); 19.81 (*q*); 18.97 (*q*); 13.89 (*q*). MS: 328 (1, [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 327 ( < 1, C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>++</sup>), 312 (1), 298 (1), 284 (3), 271 (12), 220 (2), 207 (0.4), 152 (7), 135 (12), 113 (29), 91 (20), 85 (100), 55 (20). HR-MS: 312.1609 (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S - CH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>, calc. 312.1635).

N-[(2R)-2.4-Dimethylpentanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9d). Using the general procedure, addition of i-PrMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = H; 53 mg, 0.187 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave 9d/10d (57 mg, 93%). GC (A): 13.44 (4.4), 13.87 (95.6). FC and crystallization (hexane) furnished the major 9d (51 mg, 84%). GC (A): 13.43 (1), 13.88 (99). M.p. 104–105°. IR: 2960, 2940, 2890, 1695, 1480, 1470, 1460, 1415, 1395, 1375, 1370, 1330, 1270. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.84 (d, J = 6.5, 3 H); 0.88 (d, J = 6.5, 3 H); 0.94 (s, 3 H); 1.13 (s, 3 H); 1.14 (m, 1 H); 1.16 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 1.26–1.45 (2H); 1.56 (m, 1 H); 1.75 (ddd, J = 13.5, 8.2, 6.2, 1 H); 1.8–1.96 (3 H); 2.0–2.08 (2 H); 3.14 (m, 1 H); 3.44 (d, J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.52 (d, J = 13.5, 1 H); 3.89 (t, J = 6.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.20 (s); 65.07 (d); 53.09 (t); 48.20 (s); 47.66 (s); 44.50 (d); 41.59 (t); 38.37 (t); 38.24 (d); 32.73 (t); 26.39 (t); 25.90 (d); 22.81 (q); 20.74 (q); 19.80 (q); 19.39 (q). MS: 328 (0.1, [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S + 1]<sup>++</sup>), 312 (0.4), 284 (2), 271 (12), 220 (2.5), 207 (3), 152 (5), 135 (14), 113 (31), 85 (100), 69 (10), 55 (12). HR-MS: 327.1868 (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>++</sup>, calc. 327.1870). N-f(2R)-2-Methylheptanoyl/bornane-10,2-sultam (9e). Using the general procedure, addition of BuMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = H; 60 mg, 0.21 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave 9e/10e (58 mg, 81 %). GC (A): 15.54 (7.5), 15.88 (80.8). FC and crystallization (hexane) furnished the major 9e (45 mg, 62 %). GC (A): 15.88 (100). M.p. 97–98°. IR: 2960, 2940, 2890, 2880, 2860, 1695, 1480, 1460, 1415. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.84 (t, J = 7, 3 H); 0.94 (s, 3 H); 1.13 (s, 3 H); 1.17 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 1.20–1.44 (9 H); 1.70–1.96 (4 H); 2.0–2.08 (2 H); 3.04 (m, 1 H); 3.44 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.50 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.90 (t, J = 6, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.32 (s); 65.02 (d); 53.13 (t); 48.19 (s); 47.64 (s); 44.54 (d); 40.29 (t); 38.40 (t); 32.75 (t); 32.54 (t); 31.77 (t); 26.88 (t); 26.40 (t); 22.41 (t); 20.77 (q); 19.81 (q); 18.96 (q); 14.00 (q). MS: 342 (0.16, [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 326 (0.3), 284 (1), 271 (26), 152 (8), 127 (21), 99 (23), 57 (100). HR-MS: 284.1329 (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S - C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub><sup>+</sup>, calc. 284.1338).

Conjugate Additions of Grignard Reagents to  $\alpha,\beta$ -Disubstituted (E)-Enoylsultams and Subsequent 'Enolate' Protonation. General Procedure. At  $-80^{\circ}$ , 1-2m alkylmagnesium chloride (2.2 mol-equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O was added dropwise at  $-80^{\circ}$  to 0.07m 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = alkyl, 1 mol-equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O/THF 5:1. Then, the mixture was allowed to warm up to  $-40^{\circ}$  within 1 h and stirred at  $-40^{\circ}$  for 16 h. After recooling to  $-70^{\circ}$ , the reaction was quenched by addition of an emulsion of THF/sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln. and worked up to give a crude mixture which was analyzed by GC and purified as indicated below.

N-f(2R, 3R)-2,3-Dimethylpentanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9f). Using the general procedure, addition of EtMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me; 200 mg, 0.673 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave a mixture of stereoisomers. GC (B): 14.67 (1), 15.13 (99). FC furnished almost pure 9f (198 mg, 90%; GC (B): 14.65 (0.9), 15.09 (99.1)) which was crystallized from hexane (160 mg, 81%). GC (B): 14.78 (0.3), 15.28 (99.7). M.p. 118°. IR: 2970, 2880, 1690, 1520, 1330. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.86 (t, J = 7.5, 3 H); 0.91 (d, J = 6.8, 3 H); 0.95 (s, 3 H); 1.12 (m, 1 H); 1.15 (s, 3 H); 1.18 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 1.28–1.45 (2 H); 1.60 (m, 1 H); 1.78 (m, 1 H); 1.8–2.0 (3 H); 2.04–2.12 (2 H); 2.90 (dq, J = 9, 7, 1 H); 3.45 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.52 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.93 (t, J = 6.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 176.18 (s); 65.00 (d); 53.18 (t); 48.08 (s); 47.66 (s); 45.48 (d); 44.55 (d); 38.42 (t); 36.01 (d); 32.76 (t); 26.38 (t); 25.13 (t); 20.79 (q); 19.81 (q); 17.15 (q); 16.56 (q); 10.67 (q). MS: 328 (0.26, [C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 327 (0.1, C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, 312 (0.8), 298 (0.46), 271 (39), 152 (15), 135 (51), 113 (47), 93 (24), 85 (100), 55 (50). HR-MS: 327.1872 (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, cale. 327.1870).

N-f(2R,3R)-2,3-Dimethylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9g). Using the general procedure, addition of BuMgCl to 8 ( $R^1 = Me$ ; 100 mg, 0.337 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave a mixture of stereoisomers. GC (B): 17.57 (0.9), 17.76 (0.7), 17.87 (0.2), 18.30 (98.2). FC furnished a mixture (87 mg, 73%; GC (B): 17.49 (0.9), 17.68 (0.5), 18.08 (98.6)) from which pure 9g was crystallized (hexane; 79 mg, 66%). GC (B): 18.15 (100). M.p. 91-92°. It was identical with 4a by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and mixed m.p.

N-f(2R,3S)-2-Methyl-3-phenylbutanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9h). Using the general procedure, addition of PhMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me; 100 mg, 0.33 mmol) and subsequent protonation, workup and FC (hexane/EtOAc 8:1) gave unchanged 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = Me) together with a mixture of stereoisomers. GC (D): 13.50 (8, R<sup>1</sup> = Me, 13), 19.37 (2), 19.83 (0.5), 20.41 (80). Crystallization from pentane furnished almost pure 9h (61 mg, 48%). GC (D): 19.45 (0.6), 19.91 (0.1), 20.60 (97.1). M.p. 175–176°. IR: 3070, 1690, 1340, 1190. <sup>1</sup>H–NMR: 0.89 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 0.92 (s, 3 H); 1.10 (s, 3 H); 1.21 (d, J = 7, 3 H); 1.26–1.45 (2 H); 1.82–1.96 (3 H); 2.03–2.13 (2 H); 3.03 (m, 1 H); 3.26 (m, 1 H); 3.48 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.52 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.96 (t, J = 6, 1 H); 7.20–7.34 (5 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 175.89 (s); 144.50 (s); 128.41 (d); 127.74 (d); 126.35 (d); 65.06 (d); 53.21 (t); 18.21 (q). MS: 375 (3, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 271 (14), 161 (12), 133 (67), 105 (100), 91 (70), 77 (22). HR-MS: 375.1870 (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>, calc. 375.1872).

 $N-{(2R,3R)-3-Ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam (9i).$  Using the general procedure, addition of BuMgCl to 8 ( $R^1 = Et$ ; 135 mg, 0.43 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave a mixture of stereoisomers. GC (B): 18.52 (2.5), 18.66 (0.4), 18.99 (95.0). FC furnished 143 mg (90%; GC (B): 17.19 (2), 17.29 (0.9), 17.71 (96.9)) which were crystallized from hexane to give pure 9i (125 mg, 78%). GC (B): 19.05 (100). M.p. 90–91°. It was identical with 4b by comparison (GC, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and mixed m.p.

N-*f* (2R,3S)-3-*Ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultam* (9j). Using the general procedure, addition of EtMgCl to 8 (R<sup>1</sup> = Bu; 99 mg, 0.29 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave a mixture of stereoisomers. GC (B): 18.78 (1.4), 18.82 (96.5), 19.15 (2.1). FC (hexane/EtOAc 6:1) furnished 88 mg (82%; GC (B): 18.91 (99.75), 19.18 (0.25)) which where crystallized from hexane to give 9j (64 mg, 60%). M.p. 88–89°. IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 2980, 2930, 2880, 1695, 1450, 1330. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.73 (*t*, *J* = 7.5, 3 H); 0.77 (*t*, *J* = 7, 3 H); 0.86 (*s*, 3 H); 1.06 (*s*, 3 H); 1.07 (*d*, *J* = 7, 3 H); 1.0–1.4 (9 H); 1.48 (*m*, 1 H); 1.68 (*m*, 1 H); 1.74–1.90 (3 H); 1.94–2.04 (2 H); 2.94 (*dq*, *J* = 9, 1 H); 3.39 (*d*, *J* = 14, 1 H); 3.45 (*d*); 34.51 (*d*); 35.8 (*d*); 38.41 (*t*); 32.73 (*t*); 30.60 (*t*); 29.30 (*t*); 22.84 (*t*); 20.98 (*t*); 20.76 (*q*); 19.82 (*q*); 16.32 (*q*); 14.06 (*q*); 9.38 (*q*). MS: 370 (2,  $[C_{20}H_{35}NO_3S + 1]^+$ ), 354 (4), 271 (70), 155 (70), 135 (98), 127 (75), 107 (55), 85 (100). HR-MS: 369.2371 ( $C_{20}H_{35}NO_3S^+$ , calc. 369.2338).

X-Ray Diffraction Analysis of **9**. The crystals (hexane) are orthorhombic, a = 7.8740 (8), b = 12.3387 (14), c = 21.977 (3) Å; space group  $P2_12_12_1$ , z = 4,  $d_c = 1.150$  g  $\cdot$  cm<sup>-3</sup>. Data were collected at r.t. on a Philips PW1100 diffractometer, (MoK $\alpha$ ). The structure was solved by a direct method (MULTAN 80) and refined by a full matrix least squares analysis. The absolute configuration was confirmed by a least-squares refinement of the enantiomorph-polarity parameter [16] x = 0.18 (25). The final R factor based on 1902 observed reflections ( $|F_0| > 3\sigma(F_0)$  and  $|F_0| > 8.0$ ) was 0.066.

N-f(E, 3R)-3-*Ethyl*-4-hexenoyl/bornane-10,2-sultam (16). Using the general procedure, addition of EtMgCl to 15 (646 mg, 2.09 mmol) and subsequent protonation gave an oil (GC (D): 17.80 (87.7), 17.93 (7.2), 18.08 (5.1)) which was crystallized from pentane at -20° to give pure 16 (488 mg, 69%). GC (C): 17.64 (100). M.p. 55-56°. IR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 2990, 2920, 2890, 1690, 1340. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.73 (t, J = 7, 3 H); 0.85 (s, 3 H); 1.05 (s, 3 H); 1.15-1.35 (4 H); 1.54 (dd, J = 7, 1.5, 3 H); 1.7 1.9 (3 H); 1.9-2.03 (2 H); 2.40-2.56 (2 H); 2.74 (m, 1 H); 3.36 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.43 (d, J = 14, 1 H); 3.80 (t, J = 6.5, 1 H); 5.20 (qdd, J = 15, 8, 1.5, 1 H); 5.41 (dq, J = 15, 6.5, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 171.02 (s); 133.39 (d); 125.72 (d); 65.14 (d); 52.96 (t); 48.19 (s); 47.64 (s); 44.59 (d); 41.29 (t); 40.70 (d); 38.48 (t); 32.76 (t); 27.71 (t); 26.40 (t); 20.74 (q); 19.85 (q); 11.45 (q). MS: 339 (17, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sup>+</sup>), 310 (10), 246 (20), 232 (17), 206 (12), 152 (60), 135 (90), 125 (99), 124 (97), 107 (65), 97 (100), 83 (98), 67 (92), 55 (97). HR-MS: 339.1892 (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>, calc. 339.1916).

Preparations and GC Analyses of Mixtures of N-[(2RS,3SR)- and (2RS,3RS)-2,3-Dialkylalkanoyl]bornane-10,2-sultams. - N-(2,3-Dimethylpentanoyl)bornane-10,2-sultams. A 1:1 mixture of (2RS,3SR)- and (2RS,3RS)-2,3-dimethylpentanal ('syn' and 'anti', resp.; Aldrich) was oxidized with Jones' Reagent. Treatment of the resulting carboxylic-acid mixture with oxalyl chloride and acylation of I with the thus obtained acyl chlorides (as described for the preparation of enoylsultams) gave a mixture of stereoisomeric N-(2,3-dimethylpentanoyl)bornane-10,2-sultams (82%). GC (B): 14.73 (28.2), 15.04 (50.0), 15.13 (21.7).

N-(2,3-Dimethylheptanoyl) bornane-10,2-sultams. A mixture of the minor (2RS,3SR)- and the major (2RS,3RS)-2,3-dimethylheptanoic acids ('syn' and 'anti', resp.) was prepared by addition of BuCu · BF<sub>3</sub> to (E)-2-methyl-2-butenoic acid [13]. Conversion of this mixture to the acyl chlorides (oxalyl chloride) and acylation of I afforded a mixture of stereoisomeric N-(2,3-dimethylheptanoyl)bornane-10,2-sultams (96%). GC (B): 17.73 (22.7), 17.91 (22.5), 18.02 (27.8), 18.28 (26.9).

N-(3-Ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl)bornane-10,2-sultams. A 1:1 mixture of (2RS,3SR)- and (2RS,3RS)-3-ethyl-2methylheptanoic acids ('syn' and 'anti', resp.) was prepared by addition of BuCu · BF<sub>3</sub> [13] to (E)-2-methyl-2-pentenoic acid. Conversion of this mixture to the acyl chlorides (oxalyl chloride) and acylation of I gave a mixture of stereoisomeric N-(3-ethyl-2-methylheptanoyl)bornane-10,2-sultams (70%). GC (B): 18.53 (26.5), 18.60 (23.7), 18.67 (25.9), 18.96 (23.7).

**Saponifications of N-Acylsultams IV** ( $\rightarrow$ V). – (+)-(R)-3-Ethylheptanoic Acid. A 1.3 N aq. soln. of LiOH (11 ml, 14.3 mmol) was added to **2g** (d.e. 82%; 506 mg, 1.42 mmol) in THF (18 ml), and the mixture was vigorously stirred at 50° for 16 h. Evaporation, trituration of the residue with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and evaporation of the dried extracts gave I. Acidification of the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-insoluble residue with 2 N aq. HCl, saturation with NaCl, extraction with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and evaporation of the dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) extracts gave the crude acid which was purified by FC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 7:3) to give an oil (126 mg, 56%). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> = + 2.4°; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>578</sub> = + 2.5°; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>546</sub> = + 2.8°; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>436</sub> = + 4.8° (neat,  $T = 20^\circ$ ; [12]: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> = + 2.94° (neat)). IR: 3520, 3460–3000, 2960, 2860, 1710. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>O): 0.84 (*t*, J = 7.5, 3 H); 0.85 (*t*, J = 7.5, 3 H); 1.15–1.45 (8 H); 1.78 (*m*, 1 H); 2.28 (*d*, J = 7, 2 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 180.55 (*s*); 38.58 (*t*); 36.14 (*d*); 32.89 (*t*); 26.66 (*t*); 26.14 (*t*); 22.82 (*t*); 13.95 (*q*); 10.64 (*q*). MS: 159 (0.7, [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + 1]<sup>+</sup>), 141 (0.4), 129 (14), 98 (35), 69 (26), 57 (100).

(-)-(2 R, 3 R)-2,3-Dimethylpentanoic Acid. A mixture of **9f** (d.e. 99.4%; 150 mg, 0.459 mmol), LiOH  $\cdot$  H<sub>2</sub>O (192 mg, 4.59 mmol) in THF/H<sub>2</sub>O 5:3 (8 ml) was stirred vigorously at 60° for 4 d. Following the above described extraction procedure, I was recovered and the crude acid chromatographed (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 3:1 $\rightarrow$ 1:1) giving an oil (28 mg, 48%).  $[\alpha]_{D} = -20.2^{\circ}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{578} = -21.0^{\circ}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{546} = -24.2^{\circ}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{436} = -43.1^{\circ}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{365} = -72.1^{\circ}$  (c = 1.04, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $T = 20^{\circ}$ ; [15]:  $[\alpha]_{D} = +32.9^{\circ}$  (neat, extrapolated value)). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.85 (t, J = 7.5, 3 H); 0.90 (d, J = 6.5, 3 H); 1.10 (d, J = 7.5, 3 H); 1.16 (m, 1 H); 1.45 (m, 1 H); 1.68 (m, 1 H); 2.38 (*quint.*, J = 7). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 182.83 (s); 44.30 (d); 37.28 (d); 25.77 (t); 16.60 (q); 13.62 (q); 11.27 (q).

(-)-(E,3R)-3-Ethyl-4-hexenoic Acid. A mixture of 16 (862 mg, 2.5 mmol) and LiOH · H<sub>2</sub>O (1.06 g, 25 mmol) in THF/H<sub>2</sub>O 2:1 (15 ml) was stirred at r.t. for 3 d. Following the above described extraction procedure furnished I (474 mg, 88%) and the crude acid which, on bulb-to-bulb distillation (bath 100°/3 Torr), gave an oil (274 mg, 77%).  $[\alpha]_D = -13.44^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{578} = -15.0^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{546} = -17.19^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{436} = -30.55^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{365} = -50.96^\circ$  (neat,  $T = 20^\circ$ ).  $[\alpha]_D = -13.0^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{578} = -13.63^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{546} = -15.6^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{436} = -28.21^\circ$ ;  $[\alpha]_{365} = -47.75^\circ$  (c = 1.41, CHCl<sub>3</sub>,  $T = 20^\circ$ ). IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 3400–2700 (br.), 2980, 2940, 1710, 1450, 1420, 1290, 1030, 910. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.86 (t, J = 7.5, 3

H); 1.24–1.53 (2 H); 1.67 (*dd*, J = 6.5, 1.5, 3 H); 2.25–2.46 (3 H); 5.26 (*ddq*, J = 1.5, 15, 8, 1 H); 5.51 (*dq*, J = 6.5, 15, 1 H); 10.13 (br. *s*, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 179.25 (*s*); 133.07 (*d*); 125.96 (*d*); 40.72 (*d*); 39.99 (*t*); 27.65 (*t*); 17.85 (*q*); 11.44 (*q*). MS: 142 (24, C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+-</sup>), 113 (25), 97 (18), 84 (43), 71 (100), 67 (46), 55 (82). HR-MS: 142.0978 (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, calc. 142.0990).

(-)-(3S)-3-Ethylhexanoic Acid. A mixture of (-)-(E,3S)-3-ethyl-4-hexenoic acid (137 mg, 0.96 mmol) in MeOH (10 ml) and Rh/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (5%; 20 mg, 0.008 mmol) was stirred under H<sub>2</sub> (1 atm) at r.t. for 2.5 h. Filtration, cvaporation of the filtrate, and distillation of the residue (bath 100°/3 Torr) gave an oil (135 mg, 97%).  $[\alpha]_{D} = -2.47^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{578} = -2.57^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{546} = -2.92^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{436} = -4.98^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{365} = -7.90^{\circ} \quad (neat, T = 25^{\circ}).$   $[\alpha]_{1D} = -1.86^{\circ}; [\alpha]_{578} = -1.95^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{546} = -2.27^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{436} = -3.94^{\circ}; \quad [\alpha]_{365} = -6.21^{\circ} (c = 2.45, CHCl_3, T = 25^{\circ};$   $[23]: [\alpha]_{D} = -2.50^{\circ} (neat)$ ). IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): 2970, 2920, 2880, 1710, 1470, 1410, 1290, 940. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 0.87 (t, J = 7, 3 H); 0.89 (dt, J = 2, 7, 3 H); 1.23 - 1.47 (6 H); 1.84 (m, 1 H); 2.29 (d, J = 6.5, 2 H); 11.7 (br. s, 1 H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 180.55 (s); 38.56 (t); 35.96 (d); 35.55 (t); 26.17 (t); 19.63 (t); 14.17 (q); 10.63 (q). MS: 115 (12, [C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub> - C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 101 (18), 85 (40), 84 (45), 69 (28), 61 (29), 60 (100), 55 (48). HR-MS: 115.0748 (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, calc. 115.0758).

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